

Economics D11-1
Christiano
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Model Introduced in Lecture #1 and in Recitation

1. The Growth Model

The simple growth model we developed in class last time:

$$\max_{\{c_t, k_{t+1}\}_{t=0}^{\infty}} \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \beta^t u(c_t),$$

$0 < \beta < 1$, subject to

$$c_t + k_{t+1} - (1 - \delta)k_t \leq f(k_t), \quad 0 < \delta < 1,$$

and

$$c_t \geq 0, \quad k_{t+1} \geq 0, \quad \text{for all } t = 0, 1, \dots$$

and

$$k_0 > 0, \quad \text{fixed.}$$

Assumptions: u, f increasing, differentiable, concave.

2. Canonical Model

$$\max_{\{x_t\}_{t=0}^{\infty}} \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \beta^t F(x_t, x_{t+1})$$

subject to:

$$\begin{aligned} x_t &\in X \subseteq R^l \\ x_{t+1} &\in \Gamma(x_t), \quad t = 0, 1, \dots \\ \Gamma &: X \rightarrow X \\ F &: A \rightarrow R \\ A &= \{(x, y) : x \in X, y \in \Gamma(x)\} \\ x_0 &\in X, \quad \text{given.} \end{aligned}$$

3. Assumptions:

A4.3 : X convex subset of R^l , Γ non-empty, compact, continuous.

A4.4 : $F : A \rightarrow R$ bounded, continuous, $0 < \beta < 1$.

A4.5 : for each y , $F(\cdot, y)$ is strictly increasing for each fixed y .

A4.7 : F strictly concave.

A4.9 : F continuously differentiable on interior of A .

Result. Suppose $x_{t+1}^* \in \text{int}(\Gamma(x_t^*))$, $x_0^* = x_0$ and:

$$\begin{aligned} E & : F_2(x_{t-1}^*, x_t^*) + \beta F_1(x_t^*, x_{t+1}^*) = 0, \quad t = 0, 1, 2, \dots \\ TV & : \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \beta^t F_1(x_t^*, x_{t+1}^*) x_t^* = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Then,

$$\sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \beta^t F(x_t^*, x_{t+1}^*) \geq \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \beta^t F(x_t, x_{t+1}),$$

for all other feasible x_t , $t = 0, 1, 2, \dots$, where an infinite sum is interpreted as the limit of the following sequence:

$$\lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{t=0}^T \beta^t F(x_t, x_{t+1}).$$