



**THE BASELINE RBC MODEL:
THEORY AND COMPUTATION**

JANUARY 8, 2018

STYLIZED MACRO FACTS

- **Foundation of (virtually) all DSGE models (e.g., RBC model) is Solow growth model**
- **So want/need/desire business-cycle models to be consistent with basic growth facts**

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- **Kaldor's (1957) Stylized Growth Facts (time averages)**
 1. **Output per worker exhibits ~constant growth**
 2. **Capital per worker exhibits ~constant growth**
 3. **Rate of return on capital is ~constant**
 4. **Capital-output ratio is ~constant**
 5. **Factor shares (i.e., payments to capital and payments to labor as fraction of GDP) are ~constant**

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- **How to construct/extract long-run trend?**
 - **Most common procedure: HP filter**
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 - **Most common procedure: HP filter**
 - **Eliminates (if data were stationary) fluctuations at frequencies lower than eight years**
 - **An alternative: band pass (BP) filter – allows specifying upper and lower frequencies to be eliminated**

} Cooley volume, Chapter 1

STYLIZED MACRO FACTS

1947:Q1-1996:Q4

	Standard Deviation (%)	Relative Std Deviation	First-order Autocorr.	Corr(X, GDP)
GDP	1.84	1	0.83	1
PCE	1.33	0.73	0.79	0.82

STYLIZED MACRO FACTS

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	PCE	1.15	0.64	0.73	0.84

STYLIZED MACRO FACTS

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	PCE	1.15	0.64	0.73	0.84
1984:Q1-2006:Q4 "Great Moderation" Good Luck? Or Good Policy?	GDP	0.91	1	0.87	1
	PCE	0.78	0.85	0.83	0.86

STYLIZED MACRO FACTS

- **Kaldor's Stylized Facts:**
 1. Output per worker exhibits ~constant growth
 2. Capital per worker exhibits ~constant growth
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- **Some basic cyclical volatilities – SD% (i.e., time-series SD of HP-filtered component)**

GDP: 1.47% (1974Q1-2009Q4)	C: 1.16% (1974Q1-2009Q4) CNDUR: 1.05% CSERV: 0.74% CDUR: 3.82%
I: 7.03% (1974Q1-2009Q4)	TOTAL HOURS: 1.59% (K&R) AVG HOURS: 0.63% (K&R)
WAGE: 0.76% (K&R)	

WHAT DO WE WANT TO MODEL?

- **Relative volatilities**
- **Persistence (i.e., first-order serial correlation) of various series**
- **Business cycle comovements**
 - **Corr(C, Y)**
 - **Corr(I, Y)**
 - **Corr(HOURS, Y)**
 - **Corr(WAGE, Y)**
 - **Others?...**
- **Labor markets?**
 - **Extensive margin – movements of individuals in and out of employment (i.e., work $H = 0$ hours or $H > 0$ hours)**
 - **Intensive margin – how many hours to work given an individual already works (i.e., work $H = 39$ hours or $H = 40$ hours or $H = 41$ etc...)**
 - **The basic RBC model blurs the difference**
 - **Prescott: “LS elasticity of 3 is right...”**

THE THREE MACRO MARKETS

- **Goods Market(s)**
- **Labor Market(s)**
- **Asset/Savings Market(s)**

- **Consumers**
 - Demand goods
 - Supply labor
 - Supply assets/savings

- **Firms**
 - Produce goods
 - Demand labor
 - Demand assets/savings (capital)

- **Government:** auxiliary in the basic model

BUILDING BLOCKS

- **Consumers**
 - Maximize **lifetime** utility (i.e., a **dynamic** problem)

- **Firms**
 - Maximize profits

- **Prices adjust to clear all markets**
 - Hence a **general equilibrium** model

- **Unpredictable fluctuations in total factor productivity (TFP) are the driving source of business cycles in baseline RBC model**
 - Identify TFP as the Solow residual
 - $y(t) = z(t) * f(k(t), n(t))$

HOUSEHOLDS

- Maximize **lifetime** utility (i.e., a **dynamic** problem) subject to sequence of budget constraints:

$$\max E_0 \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \beta^t u(c_t, n_t) \quad \text{s.t.} \quad c_t + k_{t+1} - (1 - \delta)k_t = w_t n_t + r_t k_t$$

- Set up Lagrangian; optimality conditions

- Consumption-Leisure Optimality Condition:** MRS between consumption and labor equals real wage

$$-\frac{u_n(c_t, n_t)}{u_c(c_t, n_t)} = w_t$$

- Consumption-Savings Optimality Condition (Euler equation):** MRS between present and future consumption equals real return on savings (a difference equation)

$$u_c(c_t, n_t) = \beta E_t \{u_c(c_{t+1}, n_{t+1})(1 + r_{t+1} - \delta)\}$$

THE REST OF THE MODEL

- **Firms: maximize profits period-by-period** $\max_{n_t, k_t} z_t f(k_t, n_t) - w_t n_t - r_t k_t$
 - **FOCs yield factor-pricing conditions:** $w_t = z_t f_n(k_t, n_t), r_t = z_t f_k(k_t, n_t)$

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- **Government: omit from baseline RBC model**
- **Resource constraint:** $c_t + k_{t+1} - (1 - \delta)k_t = z_t f(k_t, n_t)$

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- **Government: omit from baseline RBC model**
- **Resource constraint:** $c_t + k_{t+1} - (1 - \delta)k_t = z_t f(k_t, n_t)$
- **Exogenous process**

$$\ln z_{t+1} = (1 - \rho_z) \ln \bar{z} + \rho_z \ln z_t + \varepsilon_{t+1}^z$$
 - **TFP follows AR(1) (satisfies Markov property), with persistence ρ_z**
 - **Average productivity \bar{z} ; white noise process $\varepsilon \sim N(0, \sigma_z^2)$**
 - **Specification in logs implies fluctuations are in deviations of TFP from the average \bar{z}**

PUTTING THE MODEL TOGETHER: EQUILIBRIUM

INDIVIDUALS' DECISIONS ARE OPTIMAL

- **Consumer decisions:**
 - Taking as given the real wage and the rental price of capital, choices of consumption, investment, and labor solve utility maximization
- **Firm decisions:**
 - Taking as given the real wage and the rental price of capital, choices of labor and capital solve profit maximization

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ALL MARKETS CLEAR

- **Prices in goods, labor, and asset/savings markets adjust**
 - Price of consumption normalized to one in every period
 - Prices (and thus decisions) depend on how TFP (and any other exogenous processes) evolves over time

THE MODEL DETERMINES:

Allocations: consumption, labor, savings/investment

Prices: real wage, rental rate of capital

THE EQUATIONS AND VARIABLES

- **Equilibrium Conditions for $t = 0 \dots \infty$**

$$-\frac{u_n(c_t, n_t)}{u_c(c_t, n_t)} = w_t$$

$$u_c(c_t, n_t) = \beta E_t \{u_c(c_{t+1}, n_{t+1})(1 + r_{t+1} - \delta)\}$$

$$c_t + k_{t+1} - (1 - \delta)k_t = z_t f(k_t, n_t)$$

$$w_t = z_t f_n(k_t, n_t), \quad r_t = z_t f_k(k_t, n_t)$$

$$\ln z_{t+1} = (1 - \rho_z) \ln \bar{z} + \rho_z \ln z_t + \varepsilon_{t+1}^z$$

- **Exogenous variables (the inputs to the model):** $\{z_t\}_{t=0}^{\infty}$
- **Endogenous variables (the outputs of the model):** $\{c_t, n_t, k_{t+1}, w_t, r_t\}_{t=0}^{\infty}$
 - Easy to express wage and rental rate as functions of z , k , and n

THE EQUATIONS AND VARIABLES

Equilibrium Conditions

$$-\frac{u_n(c_t, n_t)}{u_c(c_t, n_t)} = z_t f_n(k_t, n_t)$$

Consumption-Labor
Efficiency Condition

$$u_c(c_t, n_t) = \beta E_t \{ u_c(c_{t+1}, n_{t+1}) (1 + z_{t+1} f_k(k_{t+1}, n_{t+1}) - \delta) \}$$

Consumption-
Investment
Efficiency Condition

$$c_t + k_{t+1} - (1 - \delta)k_t = z_t f(k_t, n_t)$$

Resource Constraint

$$\ln z_{t+1} = (1 - \rho_z) \ln \bar{z} + \rho_z \ln z_t + \varepsilon_{t+1}^z$$

Law of motion for
TFP

- **Exogenous variables (the inputs to the model):** $\{z_t\}_{t=0}^{\infty}$
- **Endogenous variables (the outputs of the model):** $\{c_t, n_t, k_{t+1}\}_{t=0}^{\infty}$

HOW TO USE THE MODEL?

- **Need to specify/solve for FUNCTIONS (aka “decision rules”) that describe how:**
 - **Consumers make choices based on prices and policies**
 - **Firms make choices based on prices and policies**
 - **Prices depend on state variables (capital, TFP, and all other exogenous variables)**
- **Except for very special cases, must turn to quantitative (i.e., numerical) methods**
 - **Because of the difference (differential) equation in the model:**

Euler equation

APPROXIMATIONS

- Looking for an equilibrium in which endogenous variables are **time-invariant functions of the state of the model** $S_t \equiv [k_t; z_t]$
 - State describes the dynamic position of the model
 - So looking for $c(S_t), n(S_t), k(S_t)$

APPROXIMATIONS

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 - State describes the dynamic position of the model
 - So looking for $c(S_t), n(S_t), k(S_t)$

- Cannot solve difference equations analytically in general
 - These solutions are **unknowable** in general
 - Hence need to approximate – so look for

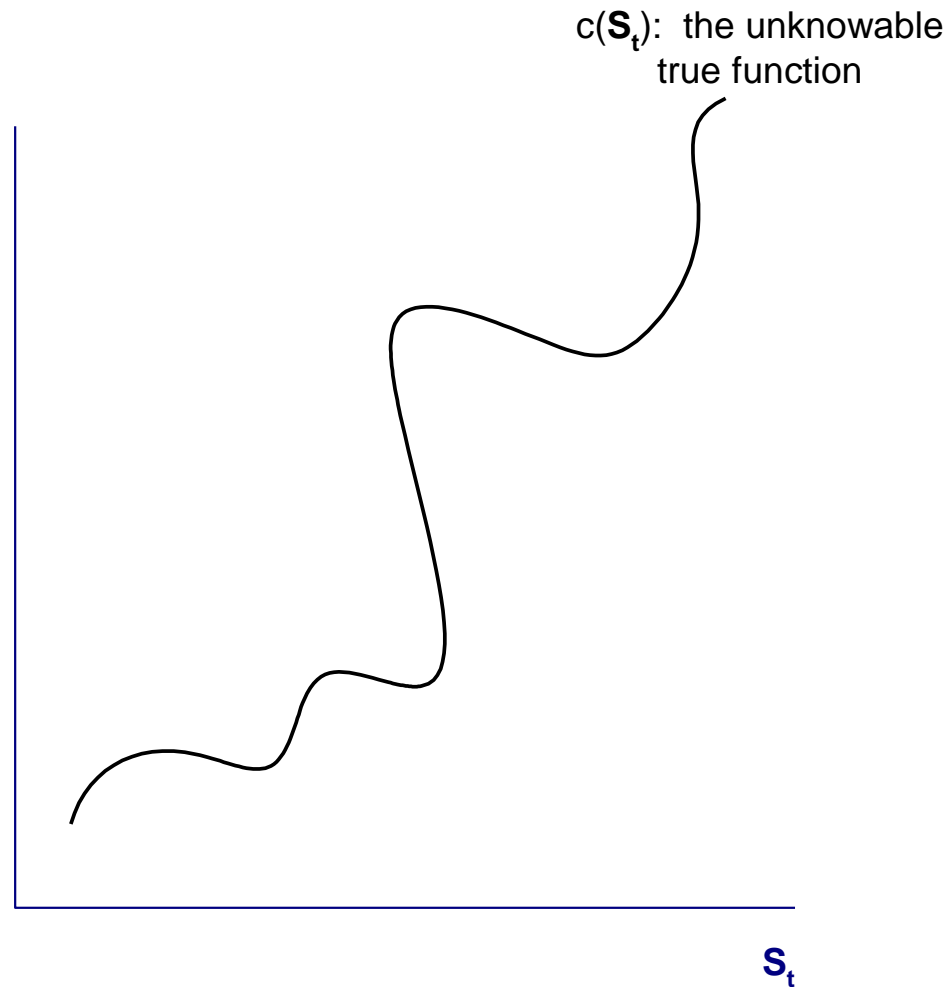
$$c^{approx}(S_t), n^{approx}(S_t), k^{approx}(S_t)$$

which are **hopefully** near the (unknowable...) truth...

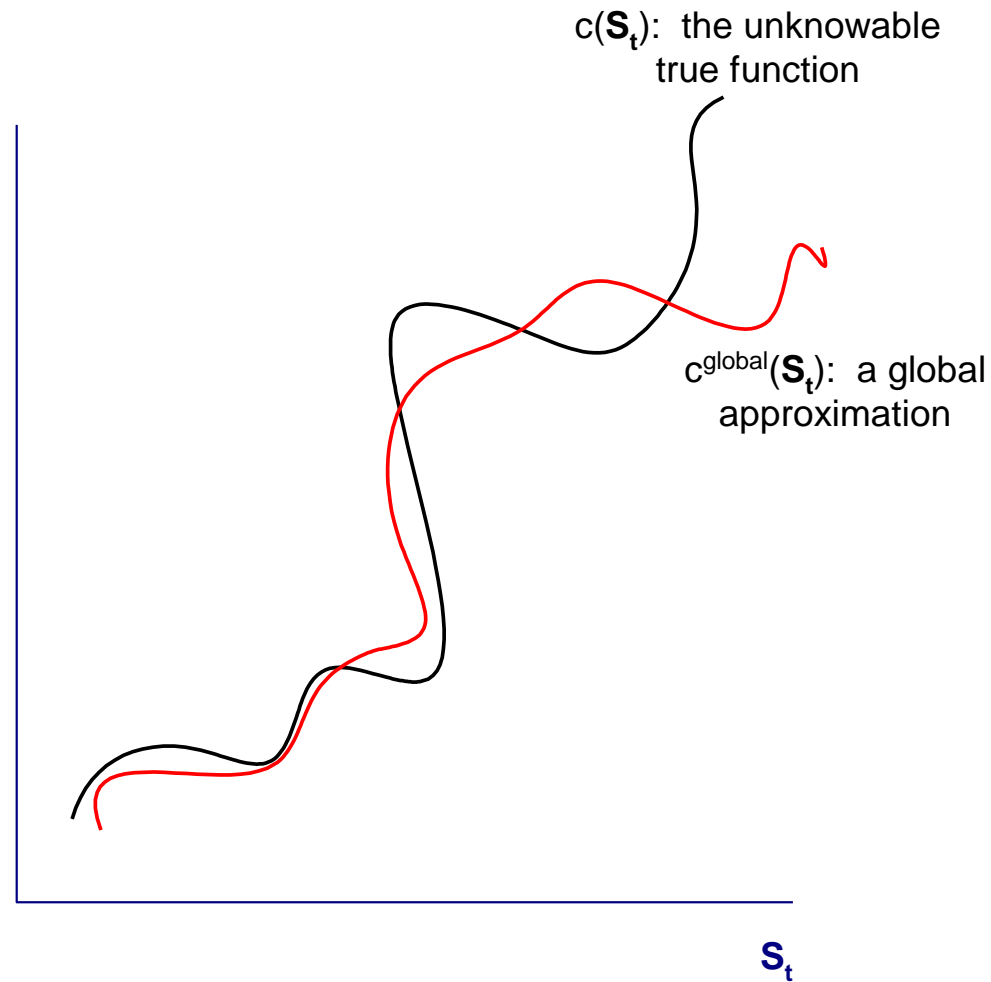
TYPES OF APPROXIMATIONS

- **Global:** approximated functions are close to true functions “everywhere” (over a very broad range of states)
 - Hard to implement for medium- and large-scale models given current hardware capacity
 - Several popular methods
 - Chebyshev polynomials
 - Finite-element methods
 - Value function iteration
- **Local:** approximated functions are close to true functions only in a relatively small range of the state space
 - Much easier to implement
 - Based on Taylor approximations
 - Linear (first-order)
 - Quadratic (second-order)
 - Etc.

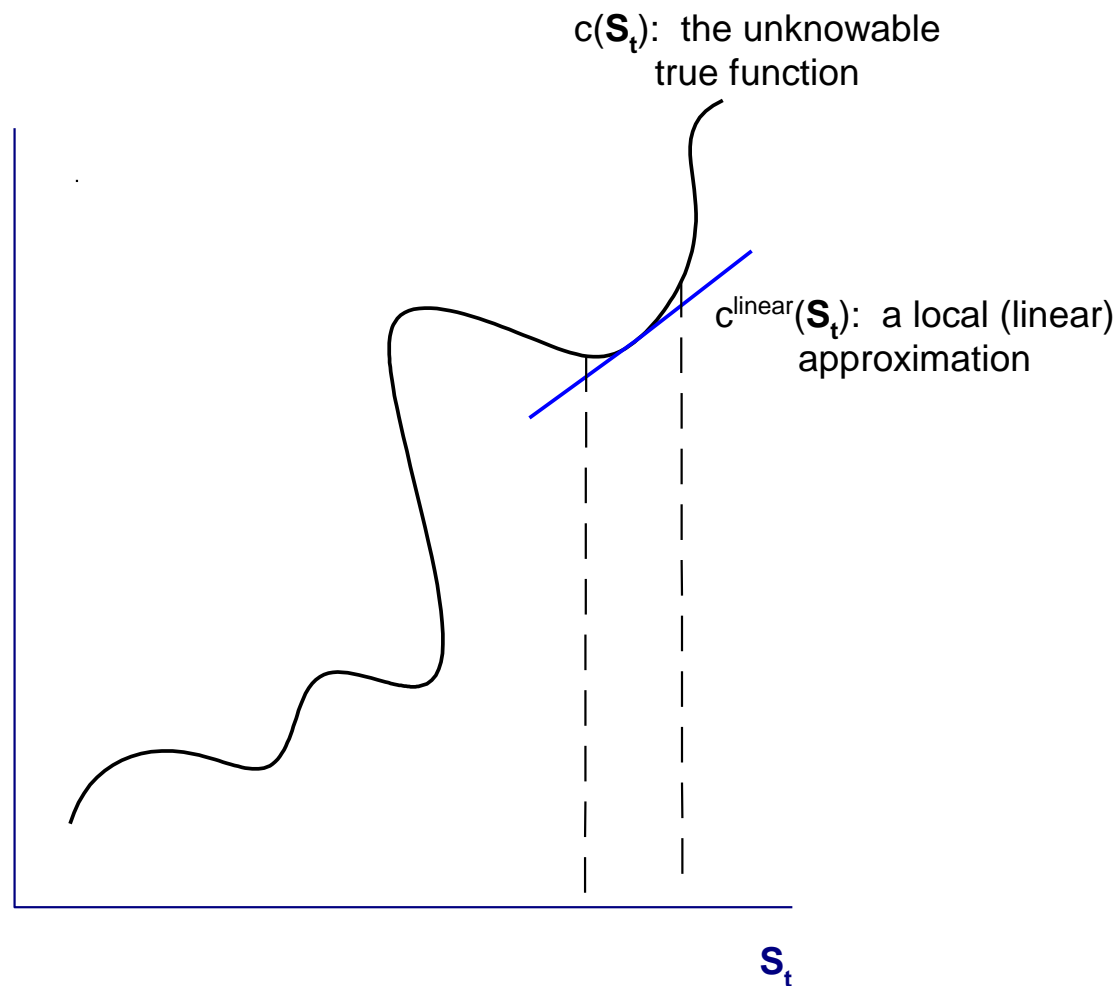
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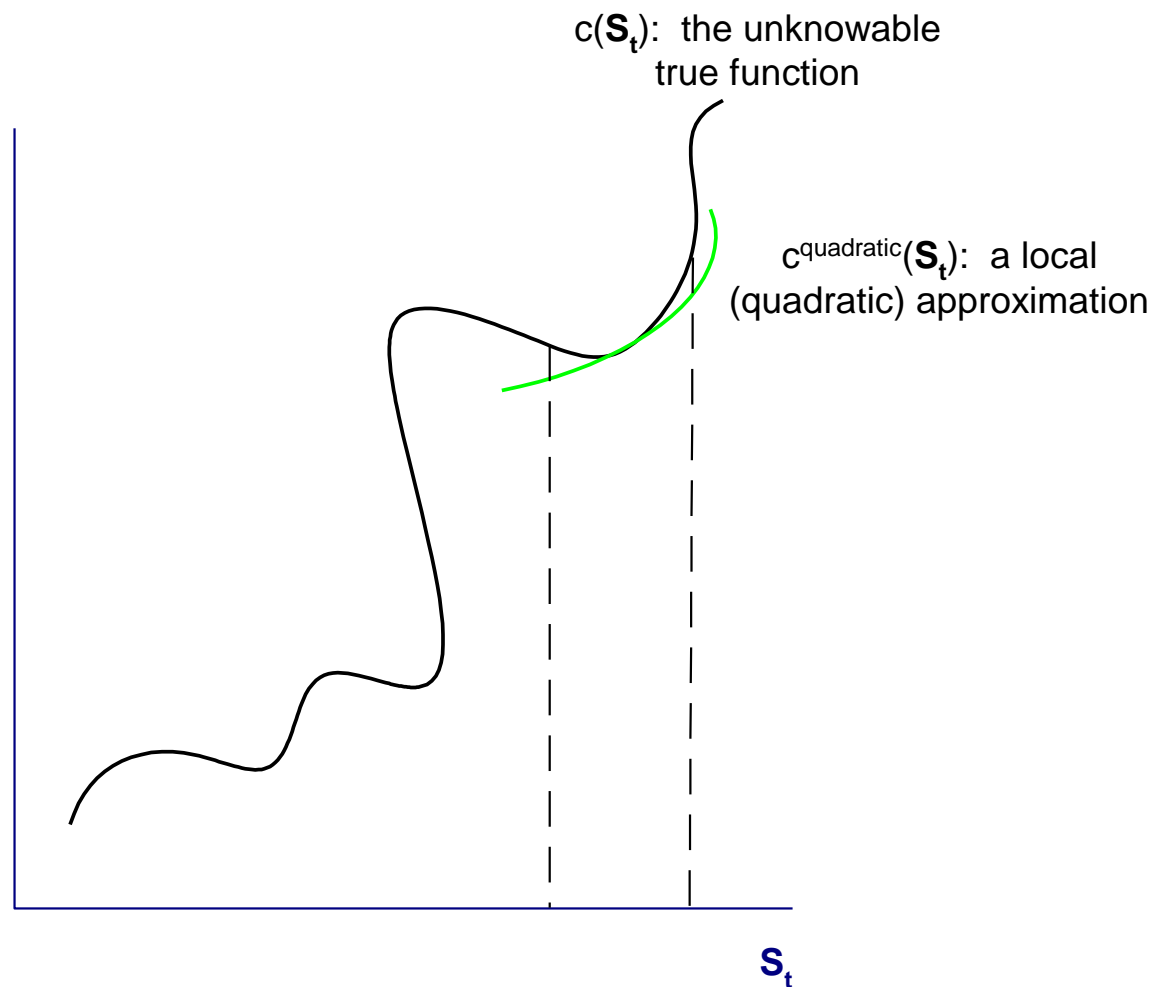
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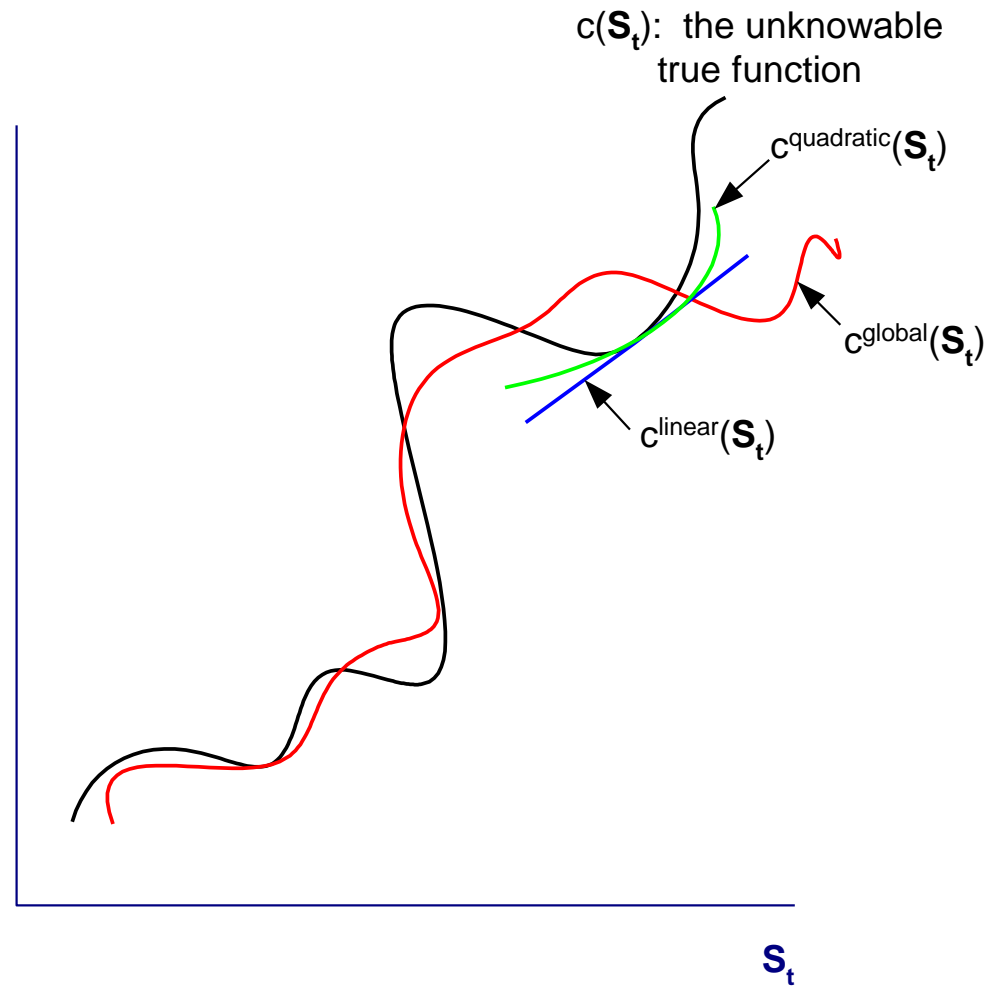
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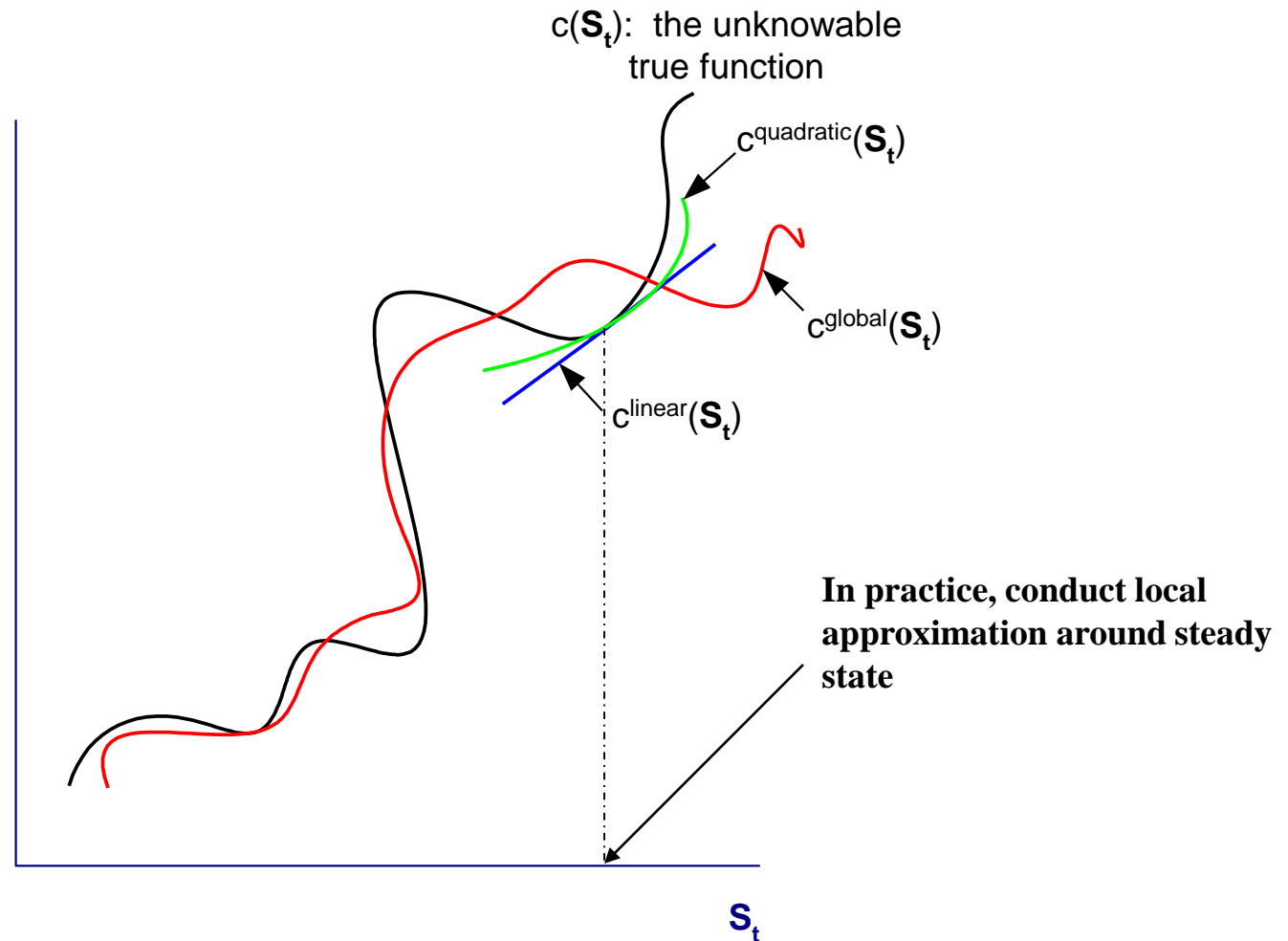
APPROXIMATIONS



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APPROXIMATIONS



STEADY STATE

- Shut down all shocks and set exogenous variables at their means
- Let model economy run for many (infinite) periods
 - Time eventually “doesn’t matter” any more
 - Drop all time indices

$$-\frac{u_n(c, n)}{u_c(c, n)} = \bar{z}f_n(k, n)$$

$$u_c(c, n) = \beta u_c(c, n)(1 + \bar{z}f_k(k, n) - \delta)$$

$$c + \delta k = \bar{z}f(k, n)$$

- (c, n, k) is a triple of **scalars** that are the **deterministic** steady state (aka long run) outcomes of the model economy
- Given functional forms and parameter values, solve for (c, n, k)
 - **Conduct local approximation around this point**



**LINEAR APPROXIMATION OF THE
BASELINE RBC MODEL**

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LINEARIZATION

- For $f(x, y, z) = 0$, multivariable Taylor linear expansion around $(\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z})$

$$f(x, y, z) \approx f(\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z}) + f_x(\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z})(x - \bar{x}) + f_y(\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z})(y - \bar{y}) + f_z(\bar{x}, \bar{y}, \bar{z})(z - \bar{z})$$

(Illustrative example
in scalars)

LINEARIZATION OF THE RBC MODEL

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- Four equations describe the dynamic solution to RBC model

(Illustrative example
in scalars)

- Consumption-leisure efficiency condition

$$-\frac{u_n(c_t, n_t)}{u_c(c_t, n_t)} = z_t m_n(k_t, n_t)$$

- Consumption-investment efficiency condition

$$u_c(c_t, n_t) = \beta E_t \left[u_c(c_{t+1}, n_{t+1}) (1 - \delta + z_{t+1} m_k(k_{t+1}, n_{t+1})) \right]$$

- Aggregate resource constraint

$$c_t + k_{t+1} - (1 - \delta)k_t = z_t m(k_t, n_t)$$

- Law of motion for TFP

$$\ln z_{t+1} = (1 - \rho_z) \ln \bar{z} + \rho_z \ln z_t + \varepsilon_{t+1}^z$$

STEADY STATE

- **Deterministic** steady state the natural local point of approximation
- Shut down all shocks and set exogenous variables at their means
- **The Idea:** Let economy run for many (infinite) periods
 - Time eventually “doesn’t matter” any more
 - Drop all time indices

$$-\frac{u_n(\bar{c}, \bar{n})}{u_c(\bar{c}, \bar{n})} = \bar{z}m_n(\bar{k}, \bar{n})$$

$$u_c(\bar{c}, \bar{n}) = \beta u_c(\bar{c}, \bar{n}) [m_k(\bar{k}, \bar{n}) + 1 - \delta]$$

$$\bar{c} + \delta\bar{k} = \bar{z}m(\bar{k}, \bar{n})$$

$$\ln \bar{z} = (1 - \rho_z) \ln \bar{z} + \rho_z \ln \bar{z} \Rightarrow \bar{z} = \bar{z} \quad (\text{a parameter of the model})$$

- Given functional forms and parameter values, solve for (c, n, k)
 - **The steady state of the model**
 - **Taylor expansion around this point**

LINEARIZATION ALGORITHMS

- Schmitt-Grohe and Uribe (2004 *JEDC*)
 - A **perturbation** algorithm
 - A class of methods used to find an **approximate** solution to a problem that cannot be solved exactly, **by starting from the exact solution of a related problem**
 - Applicable if the problem can be formulated by adding a “small” term to the description of the exactly-solvable problem
 - (Matlab code available through Columbia Dept. of Economics web site – **DO NOT USE IN THIS CLASS!**)

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- **Uhlig (1999, chapter in *Computational Methods for the Study of Dynamic Economies*)**
 - Uses a generalized eigen-decomposition
 - Typically implemented with Schur decomposition (Sims algorithm)
 - Matlab code available at
<http://www2.wiwi.hu-berlin.de/institute/wpol/html/toolkit.htm>

LINEARIZATION OF THE RBC MODEL

Define **co-state** vector and **state** vector

$$y_t = \begin{bmatrix} c_t \\ n_t \end{bmatrix} \quad x_t = \begin{bmatrix} k_t \\ z_t \end{bmatrix}$$

LINEARIZATION OF THE RBC MODEL

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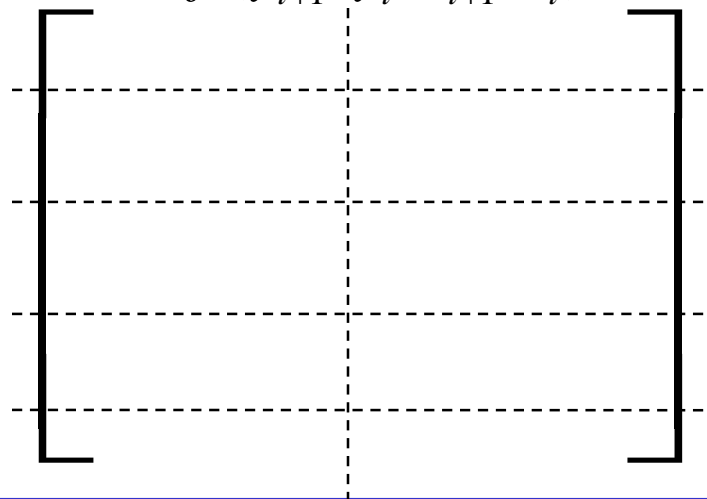
Order model's dynamic equations in a **vector** $\equiv f(y_{t+1}, y_t, x_{t+1}, x_t) = 0$

Consumption-leisure efficiency condition

Consumption-investment efficiency condition

Aggregate resource constraint

Law of motion for TFP



LINEARIZATION OF THE RBC MODEL

Need four **matrices** of derivatives

1. Differentiate $f(y_{t+1}, y_t, x_{t+1}, x_t)$ with respect to (elements of) y_{t+1}

First derivatives with respect to:

	c_{t+1}	n_{t+1}	
Consumption-leisure efficiency condition			
Consumption-investment efficiency condition			
Aggregate resource constraint			
Law of motion for TFP			

$= f_{y_{t+1}}$

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Aggregate resource constraint			
Law of motion for TFP			

$= f_{y_t}$

LINEARIZATION OF THE RBC MODEL

Need four **matrices** of derivatives

3. Differentiate $f(y_{t+1}, y_t, x_{t+1}, x_t)$ with respect to (elements of) x_{t+1}

First derivatives with respect to:

	k_{t+1}	z_{t+1}	
Consumption-leisure efficiency condition			
Consumption-investment efficiency condition			
Aggregate resource constraint			
Law of motion for TFP			

$= f_{x_{t+1}}$

LINEARIZATION OF THE RBC MODEL

Need four **matrices** of derivatives

4. Differentiate $f(y_{t+1}, y_t, x_{t+1}, x_t)$ with respect to (elements of) x_t

First derivatives with respect to:

	k_t	z_t	
Consumption-leisure efficiency condition			
Consumption-investment efficiency condition			
Aggregate resource constraint			
Law of motion for TFP			

$= f_{x_t}$

LINEARIZATION OF THE RBC MODEL

The model's dynamic **expectational** equations

$$E_t [f(y_{t+1}, y_t, x_{t+1}, x_t)] = E_t \begin{bmatrix} f^1(y_{t+1}, y_t, x_{t+1}, x_t) \\ f^2(y_{t+1}, y_t, x_{t+1}, x_t) \\ f^3(y_{t+1}, y_t, x_{t+1}, x_t) \\ f^4(y_{t+1}, y_t, x_{t+1}, x_t) \end{bmatrix}$$

Consumption-leisure efficiency condition
Consumption-investment efficiency condition
Aggregate resource constraint
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Consumption-leisure efficiency condition
Consumption-investment efficiency condition
Aggregate resource constraint
Law of motion for TFP

Conjecture equilibrium decision rules

Note: $g(\cdot)$ and $h(\cdot)$ are time invariant functions!

$$y_t = g(x_t, \sigma)$$

$$x_{t+1} = h(x_t, \sigma) + \eta \sigma \varepsilon_{t+1}$$

“Perturbation parameter”:
governs size of shocks

Matrix of standard deviations of state variables

LINEARIZATION OF THE RBC MODEL

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Substitute decision rules
into dynamic equations

“Perturbation parameter”:
governs size of shocks

Matrix of standard
deviations of state
variables

LINEARIZATION OF THE RBC MODEL

The model's dynamic **expectational** equations

$$\begin{aligned} E_t [f(y_{t+1}, y_t, x_{t+1}, x_t)] &= 0 \\ &= E_t [f(g(x_{t+1}, \sigma), g(x_t, \sigma), h(x_t, \sigma) + \eta\sigma\varepsilon_{t+1}, x_t)] \\ &= E_t [f(g(h(x_t, \sigma) + \eta\sigma\varepsilon_{t+1}, \sigma), g(x_t, \sigma), h(x_t, \sigma) + \eta\sigma\varepsilon_{t+1}, x_t)] \\ &\equiv F(x_t, \sigma) \end{aligned}$$

LINEARIZATION OF THE RBC MODEL

The model's dynamic **expectational** equations

$$\begin{aligned}
 E_t [f(y_{t+1}, y_t, x_{t+1}, x_t)] &= 0 \\
 &= E_t [f(g(x_{t+1}, \sigma), g(x_t, \sigma), h(x_t, \sigma) + \eta\sigma\varepsilon_{t+1}, x_t)] \\
 &= E_t [f(g(h(x_t, \sigma) + \eta\sigma\varepsilon_{t+1}, \sigma), g(x_t, \sigma), h(x_t, \sigma) + \eta\sigma\varepsilon_{t+1}, x_t)] \\
 &\equiv F(x_t, \sigma)
 \end{aligned}$$



$$F_x(x_t, \sigma) = 0 \quad F_\sigma(x_t, \sigma) = 0$$

LINEARIZATION OF THE RBC MODEL

The model's dynamic **expectational** equations

$$\begin{aligned}
 E_t [f(y_{t+1}, y_t, x_{t+1}, x_t)] &= 0 \\
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Using chain rule and
suppressing arguments

$$F_x(x_t, \sigma) =$$

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Using chain rule and
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$$F_x(x_t, \sigma) = f_{y_{t+1}} \cdot g_x \cdot h_x$$

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 &\equiv F(x_t, \sigma)
 \end{aligned}$$



Using chain rule and
suppressing arguments

$$F_x(x_t, \sigma) = f_{y_{t+1}} \cdot g_x \cdot h_x + f_{y_t} \cdot g_x$$

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$$F_x(x_t, \sigma) = f_{y_{t+1}} \cdot g_x \cdot h_x + f_{y_t} \cdot g_x + f_{x_{t+1}} \cdot h_x$$

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LINEARIZATION OF THE RBC MODEL

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Using chain rule and
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 &= 0
 \end{aligned}$$

Setting $\sigma = 0$ shuts
down shocks

Holds, in particular, at the **deterministic** steady state $(\bar{x}, 0)$

$$F_x(\bar{x}, 0) = f_{y_{t+1}} \cdot g_x \cdot h_x + f_{y_t} \cdot g_x + f_{x_{t+1}} \cdot h_x + f_{x_t} = 0$$

Each term is evaluated at
the steady state – just as
Taylor theorem requires

LINEARIZATION OF THE RBC MODEL

- A **quadratic** equation in the elements of g_x and h_x evaluated at the steady state

$$F_x(\bar{x}, 0) = f_{y_{t+1}}(\bar{x}, 0) \cdot g_x(\bar{x}, 0) \cdot h_x(\bar{x}, 0) + f_{y_t}(\bar{x}, 0) \cdot g_x(\bar{x}, 0) + f_{x_{t+1}}(\bar{x}, 0) \cdot h_x(\bar{x}, 0) + f_{x_t}(\bar{x}, 0) = 0$$

- Solve numerically for the elements of g_x and h_x (use `fsolve` OR conduct an eigenvalue decomposition in Matlab)

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- Recall conjectured equilibrium decision rules

$$y_t = g(x_t, \sigma)$$

$$x_{t+1} = h(x_t, \sigma) + \eta\sigma\varepsilon_{t+1}$$

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- **First-order approximation is**

$$y_t = g(x_t, \sigma) \approx g(\bar{x}, 0) + g_x(\bar{x}, 0)(x_t - \bar{x}) + g_\sigma(\bar{x}, 0)\sigma$$

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LINEARIZATION OF THE RBC MODEL

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LINEARIZATION OF THE RBC MODEL

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- **DONE!!!**

- Now conduct impulse responses, tabulate business cycle moments, write paper

CERTAINTY EQUIVALENCE

- Displayed by a model if decision rules do **not** depend on the standard deviation of exogenous uncertainty
- For **stochastic** problems with **quadratic objective function** and **linear constraints**, the decision rules are identical to those of the nonstochastic problem

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- Here, we have

$$y_t = g(x_t, \sigma) \approx g(\bar{x}, 0) + g_x(\bar{x}, 0)(x_t - \bar{x}) + \overset{= 0}{g_\sigma(\bar{x}, 0)\sigma}$$

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- **SGU Theorem 1: $g_\sigma = 0$ and $h_\sigma = 0$**
 - First-order approximated decision rules do not depend on the size of the shocks, which is governed by σ
 - Not the same thing as “**exact CE,**” but refer to it as CE

LINEARIZING THE RBC MODEL

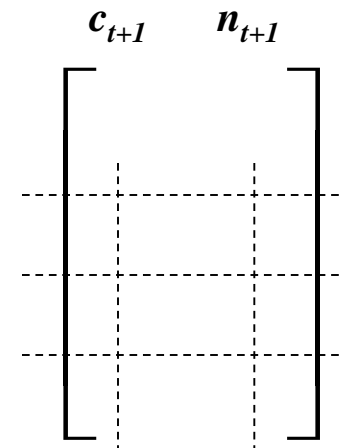
- Assume $u(c_t, n_t) = \ln c_t - \psi \ln n_t$ and $m(k_t, n_t) = k_t^\alpha n_t^{1-\alpha}$
- \therefore consumption-leisure efficiency condition is $\frac{\psi c_t}{n_t} - (1 - \alpha) z_t k_t^\alpha n_t^{-\alpha} = 0$

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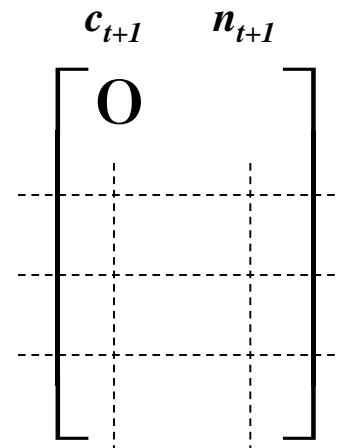
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- Compute first row of matrix f_{yt+1}
 - Consumption-leisure efficiency condition
 - Consumption-investment efficiency condition
 - Aggregate resource constraint
 - Law of motion for TFP



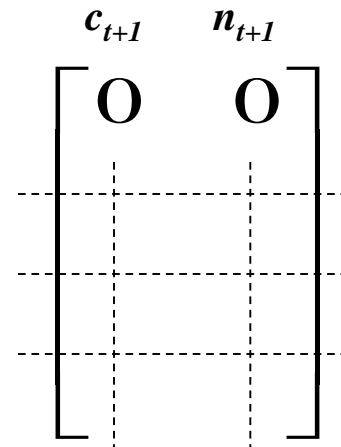
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	c_t	n_t
Consumption-leisure efficiency condition	$\frac{\psi}{n_t}$	$-\frac{\psi c_t}{n_t^2} + \alpha(1 - \alpha) z_t k_t^\alpha n_t^{-\alpha-1}$
Consumption-investment efficiency condition	-----	-----
Aggregate resource constraint	-----	-----
Law of motion for TFP	-----	-----

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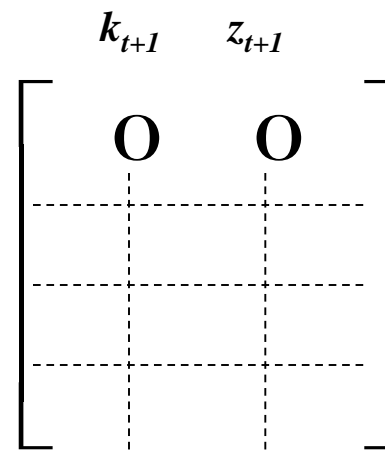
- Compute first row of matrix f_{xt+1}

Consumption-leisure efficiency condition

Consumption-investment efficiency condition

Aggregate resource constraint

Law of motion for TFP



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- Compute first row of matrix f_{xt}

Consumption-leisure efficiency condition

Consumption-investment efficiency condition

Aggregate resource constraint

Law of motion for TFP

$$\begin{bmatrix} k_t & & z_t & \\ -a(1-a)z_t \frac{k_t^{a-1}}{n_t^a} & & -(1-a) \frac{k_t^a}{n_t^{a+1}} & \\ \hline & & & \\ \hline & & & \\ \hline & & & \end{bmatrix}$$

LINEARIZING THE RBC MODEL

- In deterministic steady state, the first rows of $f_{yt+1}, f_{yt}, f_{xt+1}, f_{xt}$ are

$$\begin{array}{rcc}
 f_{yt+1} & 0 & 0 \\
 f_{yt} & \frac{\psi}{\bar{n}} & -\frac{\psi \bar{c}}{\bar{n}^2} + \alpha(1-\alpha)\bar{z}\bar{k}^\alpha \bar{n}^{-\alpha-1} \\
 f_{xt+1} & 0 & 0 \\
 f_{xt} & -\alpha(1-\alpha)\bar{z}\frac{\bar{k}^{\alpha-1}}{\bar{n}^\alpha} & -(1-\alpha)\frac{\bar{k}^\alpha}{\bar{n}^{\alpha+1}}
 \end{array}$$

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 f_{xt} & -\alpha(1-\alpha)\bar{z}\frac{\bar{k}^{\alpha-1}}{\bar{n}^\alpha} & -(1-\alpha)\frac{\bar{k}^\alpha}{\bar{n}^{\alpha+1}}
 \end{array}$$

- How to compute derivatives $f_{yt+1}, f_{yt}, f_{xt+1}, f_{xt}$?
 - By hand (feasible for small models)
 - Schmitt-Grohe and Uribe Matlab analytical routines
 - Your own Maple or Mathematica programs
 - **MuPad**
 - Dynare package

CALIBRATION?

- **Solving for the steady state?**
- **Choosing parameter values?**
- **Next: calibration of the baseline representative-agent (RBC + growth) model**