Macroeconomics II OLG suplemental material Working out the example economy

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Consumption function

• Given the utility function

 $c_t^h(t)c_t^h(t+1)^\beta$

and the lifetime budget constraint

$$c_t^h(t+1) = r_t w_t h_t^h(t) + w_{t+1} h_t^h(t+1) - r_t c_t^h(t),$$

• the maximization problem can be written as

$$c_t^h(t) \left[r_t w_t h_t^h(t) + w_{t+1} h_t^h(t+1) - r_t c_t^h(t) \right]^{\beta}$$

taking the derivative with respect to $c^h_t(t)$ gives

$$\left[r_t w_t h_t^h(t) + w_{t+1} h_t^h(t+1) - r_t c_t^h(t)\right]^\beta = \beta r_t c_t^h(t) \left[r_t w_t h_t^h(t) + w_{t+1} h_t^h(t+1) - r_t c_t^h(t)\right]^{\beta - 1}$$

Consumption function

• This long equation simplifies to

$$r_t w_t h_t^h(t) + w_{t+1} h_t^h(t+1) - r_t c_t^h(t) = \beta r_t c_t^h(t)$$

and we get the consumption function

$$c_t^h(t) = \frac{r_t w_t h_t^h(t) + w_{t+1} h_t^h(t+1)}{(\beta+1) r_t}$$
$$= \frac{w_t h_t^h(t)}{(\beta+1)} + \frac{w_{t+1} h_t^h(t+1)}{(\beta+1) r_t}$$

Savings function

• Savings is defined as

$$s_t^h = w_t h_t^h(t) - c_t^h(t)$$

• so

$$s_t^h = w_t h_t^h(t) - \frac{w_t h_t^h(t)}{(\beta+1)} - \frac{w_{t+1} h_t^h(t+1)}{(\beta+1) r_t} = \frac{\beta w_t h_t^h(t)}{(\beta+1)} - \frac{w_{t+1} h_t^h(t+1)}{(\beta+1) r_t}$$

Aggregate savings

• Summing over the N(t) members of generation t, we get

$$S_{t}(\cdot) \equiv \sum_{h=1}^{N(t)} s_{t}^{h}(\cdot)$$

= $\sum_{h=1}^{N(t)} \left[\frac{\beta w_{t} h_{t}^{h}(t)}{(\beta+1)} - \frac{w_{t+1} h_{t}^{h}(t+1)}{(\beta+1) r_{t}} \right]$
 $S_{t} = \frac{\beta w_{t} H_{t}(t)}{(\beta+1)} - \frac{w_{t+1} H_{t}(t+1)}{(\beta+1) r_{t}}$

Equilibrium

• In equilibrium,

$$S_t = \frac{\beta w_t H_t(t)}{(\beta + 1)} - \frac{w_{t+1} H_t(t+1)}{(\beta + 1) r_t} = K(t+1)$$

and

$$r_t = rental_{t*1}$$

where

$$rental_t = \theta K(t)^{\theta - 1} H(t)^{1 - \theta}$$

and

$$w_t = (1 - \theta) K(t)^{\theta} H(t)^{-\theta}$$

Equilibrium

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• Substituting the wage and rental conditions into the $S_t = K(t+1)$ equilibrium condition gives

$$\frac{\beta (1-\theta) K(t)^{\theta} H(t)^{-\theta} H_t(t)}{(\beta+1)} - \frac{(1-\theta) K(t+1)^{\theta} H(t+1)^{-\theta} H_t(t+1)}{(\beta+1) \theta K(t+1)^{\theta-1} H(t+1)^{1-\theta}}$$

K(t+1)

and this simplifies to

$$K(t+1) = \frac{\theta \beta \frac{H_t(t)}{H(t)^{\theta}}}{\left[\frac{H_t(t+1)}{H(t+1)}\right] + \frac{\theta(1+\beta)}{(1-\theta)}} K(t)^{\theta}$$