

# Dynamic Models in Economics

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- The Ramsey models (1928)

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- The Overlapping Generations (OG) models (1947, 1958, 1965)

- The Ramsey model in continuous time

$$\max \int_0^{\infty} e^{-\theta t} u(c_t) dt$$

subject to the budget constraints (market economy)

$$\dot{k}_t + \delta k_t + c_t \leq r_t k_t + w_t l_t$$

or to the resource constraints (central planner)

$$\dot{k}_t + \delta k_t + c_t \leq f(k_t)$$

- The Ramsey model in discrete time

$$\max \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \beta^t u(c_t)$$

subject to the budget constraints (market economy)

$$k_{t+1} - k_t + \delta k_t + c_t \leq r_t k_t + w_t l_t$$

or to the resource constraints (central planner)

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# Overlapping Generations (OG) models

- The program

$$\max U(c_t, d_{t+1})$$

subject to the budget constraints (market economy)

$$\frac{K_{t+1}}{N_t} + c_t \leq w_t l_t$$
$$d_{t+1} \leq R_{t+1} \frac{K_{t+1}}{N_t}$$

- Ramsey + heterogeneity

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- Bridge Ramsey and OG

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- Bridge Ramsey in CT and in DT

- Introduce a degree of altruism

$$\begin{aligned}U_t &= u(c_t, d_{t+1}) + \alpha n_t U_{t+1} \\ &= \alpha^T U_{t+T} \prod_{s=0}^{T-1} n_{t+s} + u(c_t, d_{t+1}) + \sum_{s=1}^{T-1} \alpha^s u(c_{t+s}, d_{t+s+1}) \prod_{\tau=1}^s n_t\end{aligned}$$

Let

$$n_t = n \text{ and } \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \alpha^T U_{t+T} \prod_{s=0}^{T-1} n_{t+s} = 0$$

Ramsey-like objective:

$$U_t = \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} (\alpha n)^s u(c_{t+s}, d_{t+s+1})$$

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- How to pass from CT to DT?
- Is CT a pertinent representation for economic transaction?
- Is an economic variable in CT backward or forward?

# Forward and backward variables: an example

- Taylor rules:

$$i = \rho(\pi)$$

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- Take the limit for  $\theta \rightarrow +\infty$  to define  $\pi$  backward.
- A similar formula holds forward.



- Delay equations.

# Passing from CT to DT

- Delay equations.
- Discretizations.

- How to mix CT and DT?

# Difference-differential equations

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- Machines depreciate suddenly after  $T > 0$  units of time.
- The depreciation rate depends on delayed investment, which shows the vintage capital nature of the model.

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- But equivalent models can behave differently.
- Other representations (other bases in the function space).

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- Does the discretization (approximation) degree play a role in (local) dynamics?
- To plot a CT phase diagram, one usually uses Euler discretization.
- But, use this method to compare bifurcations.

- System:

$$\dot{x} = f(x)$$

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- Pick a regular sequence of time values:

$$\begin{aligned}(t_n)_{n=0}^{\infty} &= (nh)_{n=0}^{\infty} \\ x_n &\equiv x(t_n)\end{aligned}$$

where  $h$  is the discretization step.

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- Focus on the  $i$ th component of the vector  $x \in \mathbb{R}^m$  and integrate the time derivative on the right or on the left:

$$x_{in+1} - x_{in} = \int_{nh}^{nh+\sigma} \dot{x}_i dt \Big|_{\sigma=h} = \int_{nh}^{nh+\sigma} f_i(x(t)) dt \Big|_{\sigma=h}$$
$$x_{in+1} - x_{in} = \int_{nh+\tau}^{nh+h} \dot{x}_i dt \Big|_{\tau=0} = \int_{nh+\tau}^{nh+h} f_i(x(t)) dt \Big|_{\tau=0}$$

- Define

$$x_{in+1} - x_{in} = \varphi_i(\sigma) \equiv \int_{nh}^{nh+\sigma} f_i(x(t)) dt$$

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- Approximate  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$  with a polynomial (Taylor).

$$x_{in+1} - x_{in} = \varphi_i(h) \approx \sum_{p=0}^q \frac{(h-0)^p}{p!} \varphi_i^{(p)}(0)$$

$$x_{in+1} - x_{in} = \psi_i(0) \approx \sum_{p=0}^q \frac{(0-h)^p}{p!} \psi_i^{(p)}(h)$$



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- The most popular approximation is the Euler discretization :  $q = 1$ .

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- RHS derivative.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{x(t+h) - x(t)}{h} &\approx \dot{x}(t) \\ \frac{x(t_n+h) - x(t_n)}{h} &\approx f(x(t_n)) \\ \frac{x_{n+1} - x_n}{h} &\approx f(x_n) \\ x_{n+1} &\approx x_n + hf(x_n)\end{aligned}$$

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- The smaller the discretization step  $h$ , the more accurate the approximation.

- LHS derivative.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{x(t) - x(t-h)}{h} &\approx \dot{x}(t) \\ \frac{x(t_n) - x(t_n-h)}{h} &\approx f(x(t_n)) \\ \frac{x_n - x_{n-1}}{h} &\approx f(x_n) \\ x_{n+1} &\approx x_n + hf(x_{n+1})\end{aligned}$$

# One-dimensional Taylor discretizations (backward-looking)

- 1th order (Euler):  $x_{n+1} \approx x_n + f(x_n) h$ .

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- 3rd order:  $x_{n+1} \approx x_n + f(x_n) h + f(x_n) f'(x_n) h^2 / 2 + \left[ f(x_n) f'(x_n)^2 + f(x_n)^2 f''(x_n) \right] h^3 / 6$ .



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- A hybrid discretization is backward-looking for some components of vector  $x$  and forward-looking for other components.

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  - 3rd:  $x = x + hf(x) + \frac{h^2}{2}f(x)f'(x) + \frac{h^3}{6}\left[f(x)f'(x)^2 + f(x)^2f''(x)\right] \Rightarrow f(x) = 0$ .

## Theorem

*(backward-looking discretization) Consider  $h > 0$ .*

*(1) Let the steady state be a sink in continuous time (figure 1).*

*(1.1) If  $T_0^2 < 4D_0$ , then the steady state is a sink in discrete time if  $h < h_{H1}$  and a source if  $h_{H1} < h$ .*

*(1.2) If  $T_0^2 > 4D_0$ , then the steady state is a sink if  $0 < h < h_{F1}$ , a saddle if  $h_{F1} < h < h_{F2}$  and source if  $h_{F2} < h$ .*

*(2) If the steady state is a saddle in continuous time, then the steady state is a saddle in discrete time if  $0 < h < h_{F2}$  and source if  $h_{F2} < h$  (figure 2).*

*(3) If the steady state is a source in continuous time, then the source property is preserved whatever  $h > 0$  (figure 3). The system generically undergoes a Hopf bifurcation at  $h_{H1}$  and flip bifurcations at  $h_{Fi}$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ .*

# Topological equivalence: stability issue

- Backward-looking discretization:

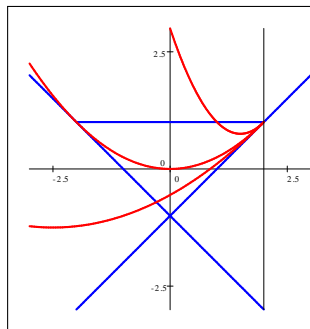


Fig. 1: Sink in CT

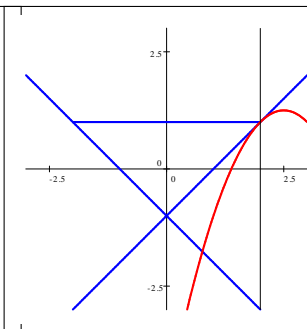


Fig. 2: Saddle in CT

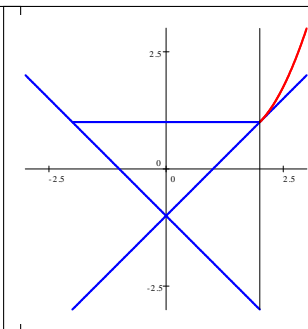


Fig. 3: Source in CT

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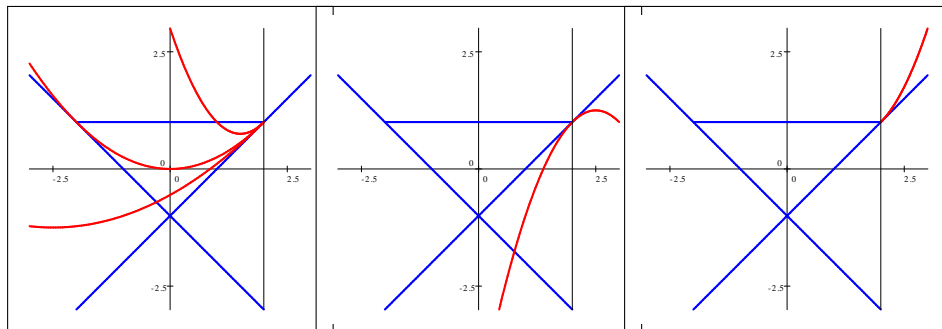


Fig. 1: Sink in CT

Fig. 2: Saddle in CT

Fig. 3: Source in CT

- Similar results hold in the case of a forward-looking or hybrid discretization.

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  - No room for flip.
- One or two-dimensional analysis (Center Manifold Theorem).

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- Continuous time:

$$\dot{x}_1 = f_1(x_1, x_2)$$

$$\dot{x}_2 = f_2(x_1, x_2)$$

# Two-dimensional systems

- Two-dimensional systems (no loss of generality).
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$$x_{1n+1} \approx x_{1n} + hf_1(x_{1n}, x_{2n}) \equiv g_1(x_{1n}, x_{2n})$$

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$$J_0 \equiv \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_{1n}} & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_{2n}} \\ \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial x_{1n}} & \frac{\partial f_2}{\partial x_{2n}} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad J_1 \equiv \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial g_1}{\partial x_{1n}} & \frac{\partial g_1}{\partial x_{2n}} \\ \frac{\partial g_2}{\partial x_{1n}} & \frac{\partial g_2}{\partial x_{2n}} \end{bmatrix}$$

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- Linearity:

$$J_1 = I + hJ_0$$

- $I$ , identity,  $J_0$  does not depend on  $h$ ,  $J_1$  depends linearly on  $h$ .

- Trace and determinant of  $J_0 : (T_0, D_0)$ .

# Local analysis

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- Links:

$$T_1 = 2 + hT_0$$

$$D_1 = 1 + h(T_0 + hD_0) = T_1 - 1 + h^2D_0$$

## Theorem

*A saddle-node bifurcation generically occurs in CT if and only if it arises under a Euler-Taylor discretization, whatever the discretization step  $h$ .*

- Sketch of the proof:  $D_0 = 0 \Leftrightarrow D_1 = T_1 - 1$  whatever  $h$ .



## Theorem

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- Sketch of the proof:  $D_0 = 0 \Leftrightarrow D_1 = T_1 - 1$  whatever  $h$ .
- Even a rough discretization (large  $h$ ) preserves the bifurcation at the same parameter value.

- Conditions for Hopf bifurcation in ET "tend" to conditions in CT as the distance  $h$  between the systems vanishes.

## Theorem

*Assume  $f(x, p) \in C^2$  and  $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0^+} |\det J_0 / H_p| < \infty$ , where the ratio is evaluated in the steady state corresponding to a Hopf bifurcation value  $p_H$  in discrete time (under a positive discretization degree:  $h > 0$ ). A Hopf bifurcation in continuous time generically requires  $T_0 = 0$  and  $D_0 \geq 0$ . In discrete time, a Hopf bifurcation needs  $T_0 = -hD_0$  and  $D_0 \geq T_0^2/4$ : these conditions "converge" to the corresponding conditions in continuous time (i.e. the right-hand sides  $-hD_0$  and  $T_0^2/4$  go to zero) as  $h$  goes to zero.*

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# Flip bifurcation

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- Order two.

- Dimension one:

$$-2 = hf_x(x(p), p) + \frac{h^2}{2} \left[ f_x(x(p), p)^2 + f(x(p), p) f_{xx}(x(p), p) \right]$$

# Discretization threshold (order one).

## Theorem

Let  $f \in C^1$  and  $Y \equiv f_x(X(P))$ , where  $X(P)$  is the graph of the steady states correspondence. If  $-\infty < \inf Y$ , there exists a nonempty discretization range  $(0, h^*)$  with  $h^* \equiv |-2/\inf Y|$ , where no flip bifurcation arises.

## Corollary

Let  $f \in C^1$  and  $Z \equiv f_x(S \times P)$ , where  $S$  is the domain of  $x$ . If  $-\infty < \inf Z$ , then there exists a discretization range  $(0, h^*)$  with  $h^* \equiv |-2/\inf Z|$  with no flip bifurcation.

- Lower boundedness required.

# Discretization threshold (order two)

## Theorem

*Let  $f \in C^3$  on  $S \times P$  and  $f, f_x, f_{xx}$  be bounded over  $X(P)$ . Then there exists a nonempty discretization range  $(0, h^*)$ , where generically no flip bifurcation arises.*

## Theorem

*If  $P$  is compact and, for every  $(x, p) \in S \times P$ ,  $f \in C^2$  and  $f_x$  is nonzero, then there are no flip bifurcations in the interval  $(0, h^*)$ .*

- Hint. Compactness + IFT.

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## Theorem

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- Hint. Compactness + IFT.
- Order three: same lines.

- Continuous time (original system):

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{K}_t &= sF(K_t, L_t) - \delta K_t \\ \dot{L}_t &= n_0 L_t\end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}K_{t+1} - K_t &= sF(K_t, L_t) - \delta K_t \\ L_{t+1} - L_t &= n_1 L_t\end{aligned}$$

# Solow: intensive laws

Solow	intensive law
continuous time	$\dot{k}_t = sf(k_t) - (\delta + n_0) k_t$
discrete time	$k_{t+1} = \frac{1-\delta}{1+n_1} k_t + \frac{s}{1+n_1} f(k_t)$
lin. discr. OS	$k_{n+1} \approx \frac{1-h\delta}{1+hn_0} k_n + \frac{hs}{1+hn_0} f(k_n)$
lin. discr. RF	$k_{n+1} \approx k_n + h[sf(k_n) - (\delta + n_0) k_n]$
quadr. discr. OS	$k_{n+1} \approx \frac{k_n + \left(h + \frac{h^2}{2} [sf'(k_n) - \delta]\right) [sf(k_n) - \delta k_n] + \frac{h^2}{2} sn_0 [f(k_n) - k_n f'(k_n)]}{1 + hn_0 + \frac{(hn_0)^2}{2}}$
quadr. discr. RF	$k_{n+1} \approx k_n + [sf(k_n) - (\delta + n_0) k_n] \left(h + \frac{h^2}{2} [sf'(k_n) - (\delta + n_0)]\right)$



# Steady state in Solow models

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- The steady state:
  - in continuous time,
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  - under a linear or quadratic discretization of the intensive law,
- is always given by

$$\frac{f(k)}{k} = \frac{n + \delta}{s}$$

(with  $n_0 = n_1 \equiv n$ ).

Solow	bifurcations
continuous time	no
discrete time	no
linear discretization original system	$h_F = \frac{2}{(1-a)(\delta+n_0)}$
linear discretization intensive law	$h_F = \frac{2}{(1-a)(\delta+n_0)}$
quadratic discretization original system	no flip
quadratic discretization intensive law	no flip

# Solow with negative externalities

- Richer dynamics (flip).



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$$\dot{K}_t = sAK_t^a L_t^{1-\alpha} \left[ m - (K_t/L_t)^{1-a} \right] - \delta K_t$$

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- Discrete time:

$$K_{t+1} = K_t + sAK_t^a L_t^{1-\alpha} \left[ m - (K_t/L_t)^{1-a} \right] - \delta K_t$$

$$L_{t+1} = (1 + n_1) L_t$$

# Laws of motion

Solow + extern.	intensive law
continuous time	$\dot{k}_t \equiv sAk_t^a (m - k_t^{1-a}) - (\delta + n_0) k_t$
discrete time	$k_{t+1} = \frac{1-(\delta+sA)}{1+n_1} k_t + \frac{sA}{1+n_1} m k_t^a$
lin. discr. OS	$k_{n+1} \approx \frac{1-h(\delta+sA)}{1+hn_0} k_n + \frac{hsA}{1+hn_0} m k_n^a$
lin. discr. RF	$k_{n+1} \approx k_n + h [sAk_n^a (m - k_n^{1-a}) - (n_0 + \delta) k_n]$
quadr. discr. OS	$k_{n+1} = \frac{k_n + \left( h + \frac{h^2}{2} [asAk_n^{a-1} m - (\delta+sA)] \right) [sAk_n^a m - (\delta+sA)k_n] + \frac{h^2}{2} n_0}{1+hn_0 + \frac{(hn_0)^2}{2}}$
quadr. discr. RF	$k_{n+1} \approx k_n + [msAk_n^a - (\delta + n_0 + sA) k_n] \left( h + \frac{h^2 [amsAk_n^a}{2} \right)$

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$$k_1^* = \left( \frac{sA}{n + \delta + sA} m \right)^{\frac{1}{1-a}}$$

# Local bifurcations in Solow models with negative externalities

Solow + externalities	bifurcations
continuous time	no
discrete time	$A_F \equiv \frac{1}{s} \left[ \frac{2}{1-a} (1 + n_1) - (n_1 + \delta) \right]$
linear discretization OS	$A_F \equiv \frac{1}{s} \left[ \frac{2}{1-a} \frac{1+hn_0}{h} - (n_0 + \delta) \right]$
linear discretization RF	$A_F = \frac{1}{s} \left[ \frac{2}{(1-a)h} - n_0 - \delta \right]$
quadratic discretization OS	no flip
quadratic discretization RF	no flip

- Continuous time:  $\int_0^{\infty} \beta_t u(c_t) dt$ .

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- Discrete time:  $\sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \beta_t u(c_t)$ .

- System with multiplier:

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{k}_t &= f(k_t) - \delta k_t - c_t(\lambda_t) \\ \dot{\lambda}_t &= -\lambda_t [f'(k_t) - \delta]\end{aligned}$$

where  $\lambda_t = \beta_t u'(c_t)$ .

- System with consumption:

$$\begin{aligned}k_{t+1} - k_t &= f(k_t) - \delta k_t - c_t \\ \frac{u'(c_t)}{u'(c_{t+1})} &= \frac{\beta_{t+1}}{\beta_t} [1 + f'(k_{t+1}) - \delta]\end{aligned}$$

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- $h = 1 \Rightarrow$  discrete-time form.
- The added value is Euler.

- Equivalent equations:

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{\lambda}_t &= -\lambda_t [f'(k_t) - \delta] \\ \dot{\mu}_t &= \mu_t [\rho_t + \delta - f'(k_t)]\end{aligned}$$

where  $\mu_t = u'(c_t)$ .

# The equivalence issue

- Euler equations:

Euler	looking	discretization
$\lambda$ -type	F	$\frac{\mu_t}{\mu_{t+h}} \approx \frac{\beta_{t+h}}{\beta_t} (1 + h [f'(k_{t+h}) - \delta])$
	B	$\frac{\mu_t}{\mu_{t+h}} \approx \frac{\beta_{t+h}}{\beta_t} \frac{1}{1 - h[f'(k_t) - \delta]}$
$\mu$ -type	F	$\frac{\mu_t}{\mu_{t+h}} \approx 1 + h [f'(k_{t+h}) - \delta] - \frac{\beta_t - \beta_{t+h}}{\beta_{t+h}}$
	B	$\frac{\mu_t}{\mu_{t+h}} \approx \frac{1}{1 - h[f'(k_t) - \delta] + \frac{\beta_t - \beta_{t+h}}{\beta_t}}$



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	B	$\frac{\mu_t}{\mu_{t+h}} \approx \frac{1}{1 - h[f'(k_t) - \delta] + \frac{\beta_t - \beta_{t+h}}{\beta_t}}$

- If  $h = 1$ :  $\lambda$ -type + forward-looking Euler-Taylor = discrete time.

# Second-order discretization

- For simplicity, hybrid.

BL resource constraint + FL  $\lambda$ -type Euler.

$$\begin{aligned}k_{t+h} - k_t &\approx h [f(k_t) - \delta k_t - c_t] + h^2 \frac{[f'(k_t) - \delta](f(k_t) - \delta k_t - c_t)[1 + \varepsilon(c_t)]}{2} \\ \frac{\mu_t}{\mu_{t+h}} &\approx \frac{\beta_{t+h}}{\beta_t} \left( 1 + h [f'(k_{t+h}) - \delta] + \frac{h^2 ([f'(k_{t+h}) - \delta]^2 - [f(k_{t+h}) - \delta k_{t+h} - c_t])}{2} \right)\end{aligned}$$

- Could we think a DT second-order Cass-Koopmans model?

- Could we think a DT second-order Cass-Koopmans model?
- Set  $h = 1$ :

$$\begin{aligned}k_{t+1} - k_t &\approx f(k_t) - \delta k_t - c_t + \frac{[f'(k_t) - \delta](f(k_t) - \delta k_t - c_t [1 + \varepsilon(c_t)])}{2} \\ \frac{\mu_t}{\mu_{t+1}} &\approx \frac{\beta_{t+1}}{\beta_t} \left( 1 + f'(k_{t+1}) - \delta + \frac{[f'(k_{t+1}) - \delta]^2 - [f(k_{t+1}) - \delta k_{t+1} - c_{t+1}]}{2} \right)\end{aligned}$$

- MGR:  $f'(k) = \rho + \delta$  under constant  $\rho_t = -\ln \beta$ .

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- Focus on  $\mu$ -type CT:

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{k}_t &= f(k_t) - \delta k_t - u'^{-1}(\mu_t) \\ \dot{\mu}_t &= \mu_t [\rho_t + \delta - f'(k_t)]\end{aligned}$$

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- Hybrid discretization:

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  - BL resource constraint,

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  - $\lambda_t = \beta_t \mu_t$  decreasing.
- Focus on  $\mu$ -type CT:

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{k}_t &= f(k_t) - \delta k_t - u'^{-1}(\mu_t) \\ \dot{\mu}_t &= \mu_t [\rho_t + \delta - f'(k_t)]\end{aligned}$$

- Hybrid discretization:
  - BL resource constraint,
  - + FL  $\mu$ -type Euler.

$$\begin{aligned}k_{t+h} - k_t &\approx h[f(k_t) - \delta k_t - c_t] \\ \frac{\mu_t}{\mu_{t+h}} &\approx \frac{\beta_{t+h}}{\beta_t} (1 + h[f'(k_{t+h}) - \delta])\end{aligned}$$

- Jacobian matrix:

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- $\rho = 0$ : Ramsey (bliss point).

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# Cass-Koopmans model with externalities

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- This "ethical" undiscounted utility functional in Ramsey (1928) is replaced in the Cass-Koopmans (1965) by a weighted average of future felicities (discounting).
- Utility functional

$$\int_0^{\infty} [u(c_t) - u(c)] dt$$

subject to the resource constraint

$$\dot{k}_t + \delta k_t + c_t \leq f(k_t)$$

given the initial endowment  $k_0$ .

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- Dynamic system

$$\dot{k}_t = f(k_t) - \delta k_t - c(\mu_t) \quad (1)$$

$$\dot{\mu}_t = -\mu_t [f'(k_t) - \delta] \quad (2)$$

+ TC.

- The planner maximizes the intertemporal utility

$$\sum_{t=0}^{\infty} [u(c_t) - u(c)]$$

subject to the sequence of resource constraints:

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

where  $c$  is the bliss point defined above.

- The optimal dynamical system is:

$$k_{t+1} - k_t = f(k_t) - \delta k_t - c(\mu_t) \quad (3)$$

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- Yes, if hybrid discretization.
- The discrete-time Ramsey model comes from a first-order hybrid Euler discretization of the continuous-time model, that is a backward-looking discretization of the resource constraint (1) and a forward-looking discretization of the Euler equation (2).

## DT Ramsey (1928) (cont.)

- Backward-looking linear discretization of the continuous-time resource constraint (1):

$$k_{t+h} - k_t \approx h [f(k_t) - \delta k_t - c(\mu_t)]$$

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- The forward-looking discretization of (2) is more adapted to capture the saving decision, the expected productivity (interest rate) matters in the current trade-off between consumption and saving.

## DT Ramsey (1928) (cont.)

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- The associated Jacobian matrix  $J_1$  of the hybrid Euler discretization

$$J_1 \equiv \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ h\mu f''(k) & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -h/u''(c) \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & hAk/\mu \\ hB\mu/k & 1 + ABh^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

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# Conclusions

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- These examples illustrate the equivalence theorems.