

1. Two individuals agree at date 0 to a forward contract that matures at date 2. The contract is written on an underlying asset that pays a dividend at date 1 equal to  $D_1$ . Let  $f_2$  be the date 2 random payoff (profit) to the individual who is the long party in the forward contract. Also let  $m_{0i}$  be the stochastic discount factor over the period from dates 0 to  $i$  where  $i = 1, 2$ , and let  $E_0[\cdot]$  be the expectations operator at date 0. What is the value of  $E_0[m_{02}f_2]$ ? Explain your answer.

Let  $P_i$  = Price of asset at date  $i$

$$\begin{aligned} P_0 &= E_0[m_{01}D_1] + E_0[m_{02}P_2] \\ &= D_0 + E_0[m_{02}P_2] \quad \text{--- } \textcircled{1} \end{aligned}$$

Let  $F_{02}$  = forward price

$$\text{then } f_2 = P_2 - F_{02}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Thus, } E_0[m_{02}f_2] &= E_0[m_{02}(P_2 - F_{02})] \\ &= E_0[m_{02}P_2] - E_0[m_{02}F_{02}] \end{aligned}$$

From  $\textcircled{1}$

$$\begin{aligned} E_0[m_{02}f_2] &= P_0 - D_0 - E_0[m_{02}F_{02}] \\ &= P_0 - D_0 - E_0[m_{02}]F_{02} \\ &= P_0 - D_0 - \frac{1}{R_f^2} F_{02} \end{aligned}$$

with the absence of arbitrage,

$$F_{02} = R_f^2 (S_0 - D_0)$$

$$\text{Then } E_0[m_{02}f_2] = 0$$



2. Assume that there is an economy populated by infinitely-lived representative individuals who maximize the lifetime utility function

$$E_0 \left[ \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} -\delta^t e^{-ac_t} \right]$$

where  $c_t$  is consumption at date  $t$  and  $a > 0$ ,  $0 < \delta < 1$ . The economy is a Lucas (1978) endowment economy having multiple risky assets paying date  $t$  dividends that total  $d_t$  per capita. Write down an expression for the equilibrium per capita price of the market portfolio in terms of the assets' future dividends.

By Lucas (1978) model,

$$P_0 = E_0 \left[ \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} \frac{U_c(c_t, t)}{U_c(c_0, 0)} d_t \right]$$

$$= E_0 \left[ \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} \frac{a \delta^t e^{-ac_t}}{a e^{-ac_0}} d_t \right]$$

$$= E_0 \left[ \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} \delta^t e^{a(c_0 - c_t)} d_t \right]$$

$$P_0 = E_0 \left[ \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} \delta^t e^{a(d_0 - d_t)} d_t \right]$$

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3. For the Lucas model with labor income, show that assumptions (6.25) and (6.26) lead to the pricing relationship (6.27) and (6.28).

$$P_t = E_t \left[ \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \delta^j \left( \frac{c_{t+j}^*}{c_t^*} \right)^{\gamma-1} d_{t+j} \right]$$

$$\frac{P_t}{d_t} = E_t \left[ \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \delta^j \left( \frac{c_{t+j}^*}{c_t^*} \right)^{\gamma-1} \frac{d_{t+j}}{d_t} \right]$$

$$= E_t \left[ \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \delta^j e^{(\gamma-1) \ln \left( \frac{c_{t+j}^*}{c_t^*} \right) + \ln \left( \frac{d_{t+j}}{d_t} \right)} \right]$$

$$= E_t \left[ \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \delta^j e^{\underbrace{(\gamma-1)(j\mu_c + \sigma_c \sum_{i=1}^j \eta_{t+i}) + j\mu_d + \sigma_d \sum_{i=1}^j \varepsilon_{t+i}}_{\text{''}}}} \right]$$

$$j[(\gamma-1)\mu_c + \mu_d] + \sum_{i=1}^j [(\gamma-1)\sigma_c \eta_{t+i} + \sigma_d \varepsilon_{t+i}]$$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} e^{j \ln \delta} \cdot e^{j[(\gamma-1)\mu_c + \mu_d + \frac{1}{2}(1-\gamma)^2 \sigma_c^2 + \frac{1}{2}\sigma_d^2 - (1-\gamma)\sigma_c \sigma_d \rho]}$$

$$\ln \left( \frac{c_{t+j}^*}{c_t^*} \right) = j\mu_c + \sigma_c \sum_{i=1}^j \eta_{t+i}$$

$$\ln \left( \frac{d_{t+j}}{d_t} \right) = j\mu_d + \sigma_d \sum_{i=1}^j \varepsilon_{t+i}$$

$$= \sum_1^{\infty} e^{j [\ln \delta + (r-1)\mu_c + \mu_d + \frac{1}{2}(1-r)^2 \sigma_c^2 + \frac{1}{2}\sigma_d^2 - (1-r)\sigma_c \sigma_d \rho]}$$

$$= \sum_1^{\infty} e^{j [\ln \delta - (1-r)\mu_c + \mu_d + \frac{1}{2}(1-r)^2 \sigma_c^2 + \sigma_d^2 - (1-r)\sigma_c \sigma_d \rho]}$$

let  $\alpha = \ln \delta - (1-r)\mu_c + \mu_d + \frac{1}{2}(1-r)^2 \sigma_c^2 + \sigma_d^2 - (1-r)\sigma_c \sigma_d \rho$

$$= \sum_1^{\infty} e^{j\alpha}$$

$$= \frac{1}{1 - e^{\alpha}} - 1$$

$$= \frac{1}{1 - \delta e^{\alpha}} - 1$$

$$= \frac{\delta e^{\alpha}}{1 - e^{\alpha}}$$

where  $\alpha^* = - (1-r)\mu_c + \mu_d + \frac{1}{2}(1-r)^2 \sigma_c^2 + \sigma_d^2 - (1-r)\sigma_c \sigma_d \rho$



4. Consider a special case of the model of rational speculative bubbles discussed in this chapter. Assume that infinitely-lived investors are risk-neutral and that there is an asset paying a constant, one-period risk-free return of  $R_f = \delta^{-1} > 1$ . There is also an infinitely-lived risky asset with price  $p_t$  at date  $t$ . The risky asset is assumed to pay a dividend of  $d_t$  which is declared at date  $t$  and paid at the end of the period, date  $t + 1$ . Consider the price  $p_t = f_t + b_t$  where

$$f_t = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{E_t [d_{t+i}]}{R_f^{i+1}} \quad (1)$$

and

$$b_{t+1} = \begin{cases} \frac{R_f}{q_t} b_t + e_{t+1} & \text{with probability } q_t \\ z_{t+1} & \text{with probability } 1 - q_t \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

where  $E_t [e_{t+1}] = E_t [z_{t+1}] = 0$  and where  $q_t$  is a random variable as of date  $t - 1$  but realized at date  $t$  and is uniformly distributed between 0 and 1.

4.a Show whether or not  $p_t = f_t + b_t$  subject to the specifications in (1) and (2) is a valid solution for the price of the risky asset.

Check if (2) satisfy  $E_t[b_{t+1}] = R_f b_t$

$$E_t[b_{t+1}] = \frac{R_f}{q_t} b_t q_t + E_t[e_{t+1}] q_t + (1-q_t) E_t[z_{t+1}]$$

$$= b_t R_f \quad \checkmark \text{ sol'n} \quad *$$

4.b Suppose that  $p_t$  is the price of a barrel of oil. If  $p_t \geq p_{solar}$ , then solar energy, which is in perfectly elastic supply, becomes an economically efficient perfect substitute for oil. Can a rational speculative bubble exist for the price of oil? Explain why or why not.

$$\lim_{j \rightarrow \infty} E_t[b_{t+j}] = \begin{cases} +\infty & \text{if } b_t > 0 \\ -\infty & \text{if } b_t < 0 \end{cases}$$

We cannot have negative bubble path, so we consider only when  $b_t > 0$ .

It can be seen from the equation, bubble component must increase infinitely for a bubble to exist.

However, it cannot be a rational expectation if oil price has an upper bound, as is the case of perfect substitute in perfectly elastic supply.

So,  $b_t$  cannot rise above  $p_{solar} - p_t^*$  and, thus, the bubble path cannot exist.

4.c Suppose  $p_t$  is the price of a bond that matures at date  $T < \infty$ . In this context, the  $d_t$  for  $t \leq T$  denotes the bond's coupon and principal payments. Can a rational speculative bubble exist for the price of this bond? Explain why or why not.

No, it cannot. At final period  $T$ , its price must be  $P_T = d_T$ , zero after  $T$ .

This cannot satisfy the equation and increase infinitely.

Therefore, bubble path does not exist and the only rational price is  $P_t^*$ .

5. Consider an endowment economy with representative agents who maximize the following objective function:

$$\max_{C_s, \{\omega_{is}\}, \forall s, i} E_t \left[ \sum_{s=t}^T \delta^s u(C_s) \right]$$

where  $T < \infty$ . Explain why a rational speculative asset price bubble could not exist in such an economy.

At final date  $T$ ,  $p_T = f_T = d_T$ .

From  $p_t = f_t + b_t$ , it will be the case when  $b_t = 0$ ; thus,  $b_t = 0$  is certain.

Then, the bubble process implies  $E_{T-1}[b_T] = \delta^{-1} b_{T-1} = E_{T-1}[0]$ ,  $b_{T-1} = 0$ .

Therefore, for all  $t < T-1$ ,  $b_t = 0$ .