Syllabus and References

This course is dedicated to the analysis of infinite horizon stochastic economies with finitely many long-lived agents. Time and uncertainty are discrete. Trade occurs sequentially, markets are competitive and information is symmetric.

This course is divided into two parts. We first study the standard model with full commitment and then analyze models with limited commitment and self-enforcing debt. In the second part, we analyze two default punishments: autarky (exclusion from saving and borrowing) and exclusion from borrowing only.

The material presented is closely related to the following references: (Kehoe and Levine 1993), (Alvarez and Jermann 2000), (Bulow and Rogoff 1989b), (Hellwig and Lorenzoni 2009), (Kocherlakota 2008) and (Chien and Lustig 2010).

1. Full-commitment environment

- (a) Static Arrow–Debreu equilibrium
- (b) Sequential trading of one period contingent bonds with non-binding debt limits
 - i. Ponzi schemes
 - ii. Natural debt limits
 - iii. Euler equations and transversality conditions

2. Limited commitment

(a) Autarky:

- i. Constrained efficiency
- ii. Arrow–Debreu markets with participation constrains
- iii. Sequential trading of one period contingent bonds with self-enforcing debt limits

(b) Exclusion from borrowing only:

- i. Sovereign debt literature with complete markets
- ii. Sovereign debt literature with incomplete markets

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