

What follows is a more detailed guide to obtaining the numbers in Table 3.4 on p.69 by hand, without a computer. We strongly encourage students to go through the procedure: unless this is properly understood nothing else in the book will be intelligible.

If we start by solving the model for Y , everything will become clear. Thus

$$\begin{aligned} Y &= G + C && \text{line 2} \\ T &= \theta \cdot Y && \text{line 3} \\ YD &= Y - T && \text{line 4} \\ &= Y \cdot (1 - \theta) \\ C &= \alpha_1 \cdot YD + \alpha_2 \cdot H_{-1} && \text{line 5} \end{aligned}$$

Period 1 is the “beginning of the world”, where all variables are zero. In period 2, then, $H_{-1} = 0$ and consumption reduces to

$$C = \alpha_1 \cdot Y \cdot (1 - \theta)$$

We can now substitute this into line 2 viz

$$\begin{aligned} Y &= G + \alpha_1 \cdot Y \cdot (1 - \theta) \\ Y - \alpha_1 \cdot Y \cdot (1 - \theta) &= G \\ Y \cdot [1 - \alpha_1 \cdot (1 - \theta)] &= G \\ Y &= G / [1 - \alpha_1 \cdot (1 - \theta)] \end{aligned}$$

So, when G increases to 20 in period 2, having numbers for $\alpha_1 (= 0.6)$ and $\theta (= 0.2)$, we can calculate Y :

$$Y = 20 / [1 - 0.6 \cdot (1 - 0.2)] = 38.462 \text{ (rounded in the table on p.69 to 38.5)}$$

As soon as you have solved for Y , you can fill in all the remaining numbers in column 2 including ΔH and therefore H

$$\begin{aligned} T &= 0.2 \cdot 38.5 = 7.7 && \text{line 3} \\ YD &= 38.5 - 7.7 = 30.8 && \text{line 4} \\ C &= 0.6 \cdot 30.8 = 18.5 && \text{line 5} \\ \Delta H_s &= 20 - 7.7 = 12.3 && \text{line 6} \\ \Delta H_h &= 30.8 - 18.5 = 12.3 && \text{line 7} \\ H &= 12.3 + 0 = 12.3 && \text{line 8} \end{aligned}$$

You now have all the material you need to solve for Y in period 3 ($H_{-1} = 12.3$) and the whole column in period 3. And so on.

The system reaches a steady state when $\Delta H = 0$ and hence $YD = C$

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