

L. KARP 7/16/04

HYPERBOLIC

DISCOUNTING

PART 1

PDV PAYOFF

$$\int_0^{\infty} \phi(t) U(c_t) dt$$

$$r(t) \equiv -\frac{d}{dt} \ln(\phi(t) U'(c_t))$$

$$= \rho(t) + v(c_t) \frac{\dot{c}_t}{c_t}$$

$r(t)$ = SOCIAL DISCOUNT RATE

$\rho(t)$ = PURE RATE OF TIME PREFERENCE, $-\frac{\dot{\theta}}{\theta}$

$$v(c_t) = -\frac{U''}{U'} c$$

EXAMPLE OF DECREASING $\rho(t)$

—
TIME INCONSISTENCY

—
RUBINSTEIN'S CRITICISM

IER '03

—
GOLLIER

JET 02

(WEITZMAN)

$$\pi(t) = \frac{E}{\tilde{r}} e^{-\tilde{r}t}$$

$$r(t) \equiv - \frac{d \ln \pi(t)}{dt}$$

$$r'(t) < 0$$

QUASI-HYPERBOLIC DISCOUNTING

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------|---|----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-----|
| TIME | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | ... |
| DISCOUNT FACTOR | 1 | $\beta \delta$ | $\beta \delta^2$ | $\beta \delta^3$ | $\beta \delta^4$ | ... |

$$0 \leq \delta < 1$$

$$0 \leq \beta \begin{cases} = 1 & \Rightarrow \text{EXPONENTIAL DISCOUNTING} \\ < 1 & \Rightarrow \text{QUASI-HYPERBOLIC DISCOUNTING} \end{cases}$$

STATE EQN.

$$S_{t+1} = \underbrace{\eta}_{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{POLLUTION} \\ \text{STOCK}}} S_t + \underbrace{Z_t}_{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{EMISSIONS}}}$$

$$0 \leq \eta \leq 1 \quad (\text{DECAY FACTOR})$$

$$h \left(\overset{\ominus}{S_t}, \overset{\oplus}{Z_t} \right)$$

SINGLE PERIOD
PAYOFFPDV of Payoffs at t

$$h(S_t, Z_t) + \beta \sum_{\tau=1}^{\infty} \alpha^{\tau} h(S_{t+\tau}, Z_{t+\tau})$$

FIND (DIFFERENTIABLE)

MARKOV PERFECT EQUILIBRIUM, A

FUNCTION $\chi(S_t)$

(HARRIS & LAIBSON)

DEFINE

$$H(s_t) \equiv h(s_t, \chi(s_t))$$

(THE EQUIL. SINGLE PERIOD PAYOFF)

$$z_t = \chi(s_t) \text{ IS SOLUTION TO}$$

$$W(s_t) = \max_z \left\{ h(s_t, z) + \right.$$

$$\left. \beta [W(s_{t+1}) - H(s_{t+1}) (1-\beta)] \right\}$$

$$\text{s.t. } s_{t+1} = \eta s_t + z_t$$

EULER

EQN :

$$h_z(t) = -\beta \left\{ h_s(t+1) - h_z(t+1) \left(\eta + (1-\beta) \chi'(s_{t+1}) \right) \right\}$$

PROP 1 (MONOTONICITY)

(5)

$$h_{sz} - z h_{zz} \geq 0 \Rightarrow$$

(MONOTONIC STATE
TRAJECTORY)

$$z + \chi'(s) \geq 0$$

$$h_{sz} - z h_{zz} \leq 0 \Rightarrow$$

(OSCILLATING STATE
TRAJECTORY)

$$z + \chi'(s) \leq 0$$

$$\chi'(s) < 0$$

CORRESPONDS TO

"STRATEGIC SUBSTITUTES"

$$\chi'(s) > 0$$

STRATEGIC

COMPLEMENTS

(EITHER ARE POSSIBLE)

STEADY STATE CONDITIONS

(6)

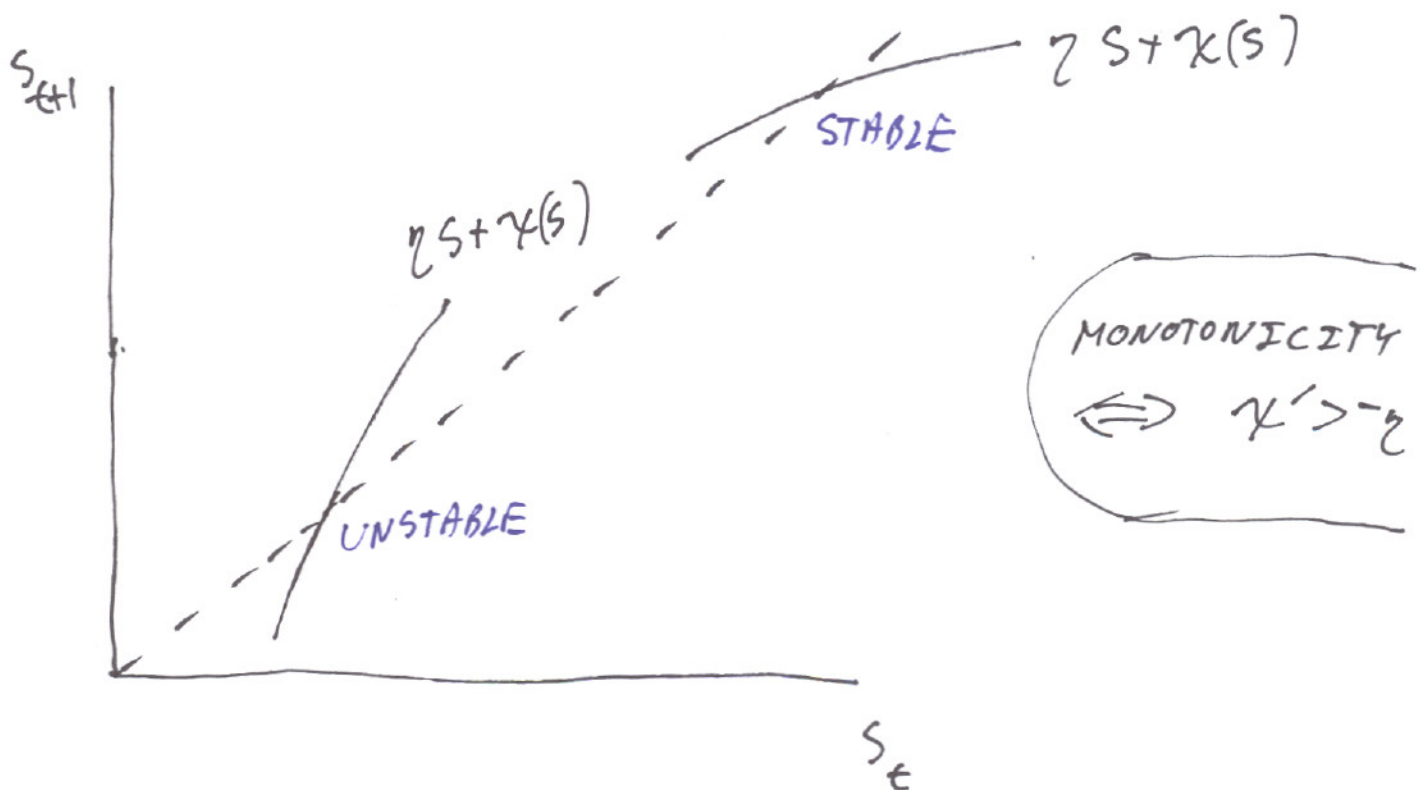
$$h_z(\infty) = -\alpha \left\{ \beta h_s(\infty) - h_z(\infty) (\eta + (1-\beta) \chi'(s_{\infty})) \right\}$$

$$s_{\infty} = \eta s_{\infty} + \chi(s_{\infty})$$

2 EQUATIONS IN
3 UNKNOWNNS $(s_{\infty}, x_{\infty}, \chi'(s_{\infty}))$

STABILITY :

$$-(1+\eta) < \chi'(s_{\infty}) < 1-\eta$$



COMPARE EMISSIONS UNDER MPE
& "FULL COMMITMENT" (F.C.)

ASSUME $h_{sz} = 0$

F.C. BEGINS W/ HIGHER EMISSIONS
& HAS LOWER EMISSIONS IN S.S.

MONOTONIC
COMPARE WELFARE UNDER DIFFERENT POLICIES,

$B(s; s_{\infty}^B)$ AND $C(s; s_{\infty}^C)$
RESPECTIVE EQUIL S.S.'s

$C \geq B$ IF

$$W(s; c) > W(s, B)$$

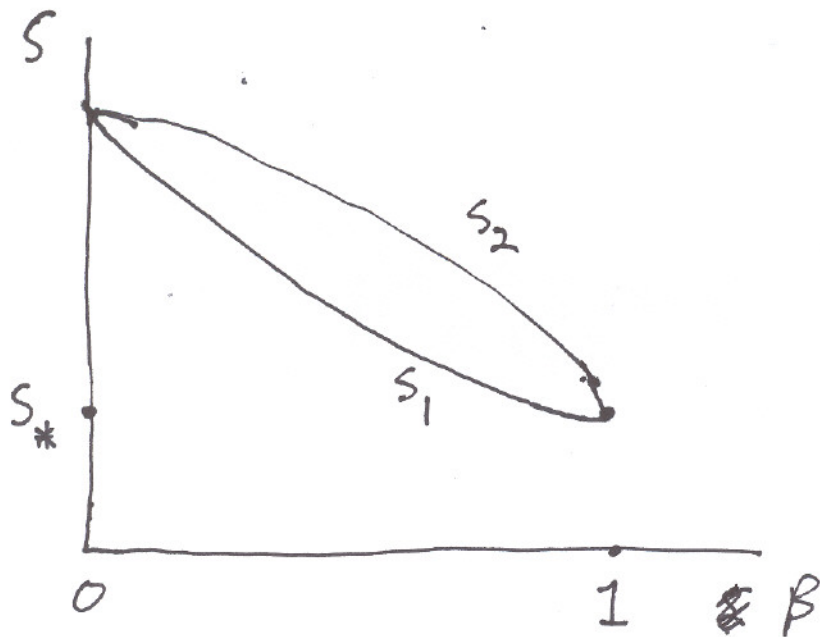
FOR s "BETWEEN" s_{∞}^B & s_{∞}^A

NOTE : $s_{\infty}^C > s_{\infty}^B \Rightarrow C \not\geq B$

(BECAUSE STOCK IS A 'BAD')

STABILITY + MONOTONICITY \Rightarrow

MPE STEADY STATE $\in (s_1, s_2)$



FIX $\beta < 1$

CHOOSE s^a, s^b, s^c

$$s_* < s^a < s_1 < s^b < s^c < s_2$$

$$\chi(s; s^b) \geq \chi(s; s^c)$$

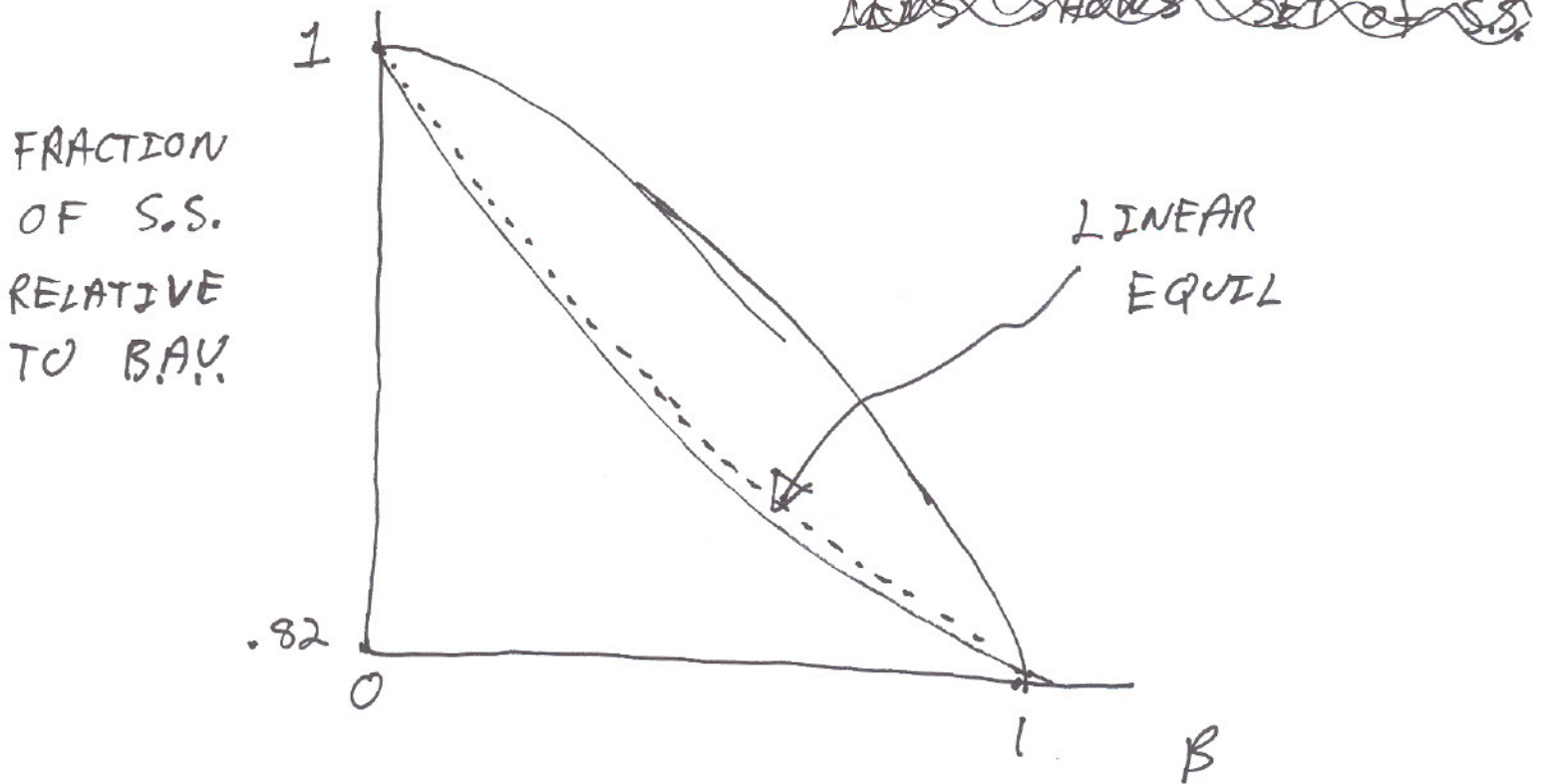
(MORE CONSERVATIVE MPE
DOMINATES LESS CONSERVATIVE MPE)

$$A(s; s^a) \not\geq \chi(s; s_1 - \epsilon), \quad \epsilon \text{ SMALL}$$

(COMMITMENT DOES NOT LEAD TO
PARETO IMPROVEMENT)

GLOBAL WARMING (LINEAR QUADRATIC)

(9)



90 FIRST PERIOD ABATEMENT (RELATIVE TO BAU)

| r/d | .01 | .03 | .05 |
|-------|-----|-----|-----|
| 0 | 25 | 10 | 5 |
| .02 | 21 | 8 | 4 |
| .04 | 17 | 7 | 3 |

$-10d$

$$\alpha = e$$

$$\beta = e^{-10r}$$

GENERALIZATION :

(10)

$$\Theta(t) \equiv \exp\left(-\int_0^t r(z) dz\right)$$

$$r'(z) \leq 0$$

$$r(z) = \bar{r}, \text{ A CONSTANT, FOR } z \geq T$$

$$T \leq \infty$$

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

$$\text{PAYOFF : } \int_0^{\infty} \Theta(t) U(s_{t+\tau}, x_{t+\tau}) dt$$

$\chi(s)$ a MPE POLICY

$$H(s) \equiv U(s, \chi(s))$$

$$K(s) \equiv \int_0^T \Theta(t) (r(t) - \bar{r}) H(s_{t+\tau}) dt$$

$\chi(s)$ IS SOLUTION TO

$$\text{MAX} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-\bar{r}t} \left(U(s_{t+\tau}, x_{t+\tau}) - K(s_{t+\tau}) \right) dt$$

$$\text{s.t. } \dot{s} = f(s, x)$$