

This may be rewritten as follows:

$$r(t) = \frac{D_0 e^{\pi(t-g)} e^{\gamma t} \int_0^g w(x) e^{\gamma(x-g)} r(t-g+x) e^{\alpha(g-x)} dx}{D_0 e^{\gamma t} e^{\pi t} \int_0^g w(x) e^{-\pi x} dx}$$

$$r(t) = \frac{e^{g(\alpha-\gamma-\pi)} \int_0^g w(x) e^{-(\alpha-\gamma)x} r(t-g+x) dx}{\int_0^g w(x) e^{-\pi x} dx}. \quad (3.8)$$

After defining $K = \alpha - \gamma$ we rewrite and rearrange (3.8):

$$0 = r(t) \int_0^g w(x) e^{-\pi x} dx - e^{g(K-\pi)} \int_0^g w(x) e^{-Kx} r(t-g+x) dx$$

$$0 = \int_0^g w(x) e^{-Kx} \{ r(t) e^{(K-\pi)x} - e^{(K-\pi)g} r(t-g+x) \} dx. \quad (3.9)$$

We have a solution if the term in braces in (3.9) is zero for every x . This implies

$$\begin{aligned} r(t) e^{(K-\pi)x} &= e^{(K-\pi)g} r(t-g+x) \\ r(t) &= e^{(K-\pi)(g-x)} r(t-g+x). \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$r(t) = R_0 e^{(K-\pi)t} \quad (3.10)$$

is a function that solves (3.9), (3.7), and (3.3) (with appropriate initial conditions).

More significantly, it can be shown that any set of initial conditions will determine a tax rate schedule $r(t)$ that satisfies the following inequalities:

$$R_L e^{(K-\pi)t} \leq r(t) \leq R_U e^{(K-\pi)t} \quad (3.11)$$

where

$$R_L \leq R_U.$$

This result has applied implications. Recall that $K = \alpha - \gamma$, so that $K - \pi = \alpha - \gamma - \pi$. If $\alpha > \gamma + \pi$ then $K - \pi > 0$. If this inequality holds then $R_L e^{(K-\pi)t}$ will increase exponentially and eventually surpass any finite upper limit. Since $r(t) \geq R_L e^{(K-\pi)t}$, $\alpha > \gamma + \pi$ implies that $r(t)$ will increase without bound. Hence, $\alpha > \gamma + \pi$ is inconsistent with the stability constraint.

By a symmetric argument it is apparent that if $\alpha < \gamma + \pi$ then $K - \pi < 0$ and $R_U e^{(K-\pi)t}$ will asymptotically approach zero. Since $r(t) \leq R_U e^{(K-\pi)t}$, this implies that collection rates and benefits will eventually become trivially small. While this might be consistent with absolutely increasing benefits, it remains probable that $\alpha < \gamma + \pi$ is inconsistent with the social adequacy requirement. Thus our model strongly suggests that the only appropriate longrun rate of interest is

$$\alpha = \gamma + \pi. \quad (3.12)$$