Macro Theory – Exercise 2 Edward C. Prescott January 25, 2002

Growth with capital-biased technological change

The stand-in household owns the capital stock and sells capital and labor services to the stand-in firm. The stand-in firm sells the consumption and the investment good to the household. The aggregate technology is specified by the set of period production functions

$$c_t + x_t / (1.04)^t \le k_t^{0.3} l_t^{0.7}$$
.

Non-reversibility requires that capital services satisfy $k_t \ge 0$ and labor services satisfy $l_t \ge 0$.

The stand-in household's preferences are ordered by

$$\sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \beta^{t} \left[\log c_{t} + 1.5 \log(1 - l_{t}) \right],$$

where $l_t \in [0,1]$ and $c_t \ge 0$. Capital services supplied, k_t , is constrained by the household's capital stock, K_t . Thus, $k_t \le K_t$ for all t. The law of motion for the capital stock is

$$K_{t+1} \le .95 K_t + x_t$$
 for all t.

- a Specify the commodity space. Be sure that the norm is such that the aggregate production set, Y, has an interior point. Verify that Y does indeed have an interior point.
- b Define a competitive equilibrium constant growth path.
- c Find this constant growth path.
- d Let $\{p_t\}$ be the nominal price sequence of the consumption good. What is the nominal price sequence of the investment good? What is the nominal value of the beginning of period capital stock?
- e What is nominal and "real" GNP?