

AN APPLICATION OF THE IMPLICIT FUNCTION THEOREM TO
COMPARATIVE STATICS ANALYSIS

ABSTRACT. Comparative statics analysis is concerned with the comparison of equilibri-
ums that are associated with different sets of values of exogenous variables (parameters).

policy implications of economic models are generated by comparative static analysis.

Theorem. [p. 63, 1] Let A be open in \mathbb{R}^n ; let $f : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ be of class C^r , meaning the first r derivatives of f exist and are continuous. If $Df(\vec{x})$ is non-singular at some point \vec{a} in A , then there is a neighborhood U of the point \vec{a} such that f carries U in a one-to-one fashion onto an open set V of \mathbb{R}^n and the inverse function $f^{-1} : V \rightarrow U$ is of class C^r .

at each point of A , it does not imply that f is (globally) one-to-one on all of A .

3. IMPLICIT FUNCTION

Definition. An equation of the form

$$f(x, y) = 0$$

Then there is a neighborhood B of \vec{a} in \mathbb{R}^k and a unique continuous function $g : B \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ such that $g(\vec{a}) = \vec{b}$ and

$$f(\vec{x}, g(\vec{x})) = \vec{0}$$

Moreover,

$$Dg(\vec{x}) = - \left[\frac{\partial f}{\partial \vec{y}}(\vec{x}, g(\vec{x})) \right]^{-1} \cdot \frac{\partial f}{\partial \vec{x}}(\vec{x}, g(\vec{x})).$$

Proof. Define $F : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{k+n}$ by the equation

$$F(\vec{x}, \vec{y}) = (\vec{x}, f(\vec{x}, \vec{y})).$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\det DF(\vec{x}, \vec{y}) &= \det J \\
&= \det J_{11} \\
&= \det J_{22} \\
&= \dots \\
&= \det J_{kk} \\
&\quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_k}
\end{aligned}$$

So that the determinant of Jacobian matrix of function F is non-singular at the point (\vec{a}, \vec{b})

Let $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ be a function. Assume the function f is smooth at the point (\vec{a}, \vec{b}) .

Thus, there exists a continuous function $g : B \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ such that $g(\vec{a}) = \vec{b}$ and

$$f(\vec{x}, g(\vec{x})) = \vec{0} \text{ for all } \vec{x} \in B.$$

~~Therefore, the implicit function theorem is satisfied. The implicit function is~~

$(x_1, \dots, x_k) \in \mathbb{R}^k$ is

$$\begin{aligned} Dp(\vec{x}) &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial x_1}{\partial x_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial x_1}{\partial x_k} \\ \vdots & (I_k) & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial x_k}{\partial x_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial x_k}{\partial x_k} \\ \frac{\partial g_1}{\partial x_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial g_1}{\partial x_k} \\ \vdots & (Dg(\vec{x})) & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial g_m}{\partial x_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial g_m}{\partial x_k} \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} I_k \\ Dg(\vec{x}) \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

Substitute $Df(p(\vec{x}))$ and $Dp(\vec{x})$ to the equation 4.3, we get

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \vec{x}}(p(\vec{x})) & \frac{\partial f}{\partial \vec{y}}(p(\vec{x})) \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} I_k \\ Dg(\vec{x}) \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \frac{\partial f}{\partial \vec{x}}(p(\vec{x})) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial \vec{y}}(p(\vec{x})) \cdot Dg(\vec{x}). \end{aligned}$$

So,

$$Dg(\vec{x}) = - \left[\frac{\partial f}{\partial \vec{y}}(\vec{x}, g(\vec{x})) \right]^{-1} \cdot \frac{\partial f}{\partial \vec{x}}(\vec{x}, g(\vec{x})).$$

□

The Implicit Function Theorem is extremely useful in economics to have a quick analysis

when the real money supply M is equal to the real demand for money, which depends on national income y and the real interest rate r . We assume that the real demand for money would increase if national income increased and the real interest rate decreased (i.e. $\frac{\partial L}{\partial y} > 0$

and $\frac{\partial L}{\partial r} < 0$).

A short summary of our model assumptions is followed

$$(5.1) \quad \begin{aligned} 1 &> \frac{\partial C}{\partial y} > 0 \\ \frac{\partial C}{\partial r} &< 0 \\ \frac{\partial I}{\partial r} &> 0 \\ \frac{\partial L}{\partial y} &> 0 \\ \frac{\partial L}{\partial r} &< 0. \end{aligned}$$

Analysis of this model consists of examining the impact of changes in the exogenous variables C , M on the dependent variables y , r . Deriving the functions of equilibrium, we

So,

$$D_{\mathbf{r}}(\vec{z}) \left[\begin{array}{cc} \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial r} & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial u} \end{array} \right]^{-1} \left[\begin{array}{cc} \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial C} & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial M} \end{array} \right]$$

Then, the function $f = (f_1, f_2)$ from \mathbb{R}^4 to \mathbb{R}^2 describing equilibrium in the goods and money markets is written as

$$\begin{aligned} f_1(G, M, r, y) &= y - C(y, r) - I(r) - G \\ &= y - (a_C y + b_C r + c_C) - (b_I r + c_I) - G \\ &= (1 - a_C)y - (b_C + b_I)r - (c_C + c_I) - G \end{aligned}$$

$$= 0$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} f_2(G, M, r, y) &= L(y, r) - M \\ &= a_L y + b_L r + c_L - M \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

So,

$$(6.1) \quad G = (1 - a_C)y - (b_C + b_I)r - (c_C + c_I)$$

$$(6.2) \quad M = a_L y + b_L r + c_L.$$

To derive r as a function of G and M , we multiply both side of the equation 6.1 with a_L and the equation 6.2 with $(1 - a_C)$

$$\begin{aligned} Ga_L &= (1 - a_C)a_L y - (b_C + b_I)a_L r - (c_C + c_I)a_L \\ M(1 - a_C) &= (1 - a_C)a_L y + (1 - a_C)b_L r + c_L(1 - a_C) \end{aligned}$$

then,

$$\begin{aligned} Ga_L - M(1 - a_C) &= (1 - a_C)a_L y - (b_C + b_I)a_L r - (c_C + c_I)a_L \\ &\quad - (1 - a_C)a_L y - (1 - a_C)b_L r - c_L(1 - a_C) \\ &= -r[(b_C + b_I)a_L + (1 - a_C)b_L] - [(c_C + c_I)a_L + c_L(1 - a_C)]. \end{aligned}$$

So, we can directly derive r as a function of G and M

$$r = \frac{-a_L G - M(1 - a_C) + [(c_C + c_I)a_L + c_L(1 - a_C)]}{-(b_C + b_I)a_L - (1 - a_C)b_L}$$

So, we can explicitly solve for u as a function of G and M

$$b_L \sim (b_G + b_I) \dots (c_G + c_I)b_L - c_L(b_G + b_I)$$

From

$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial r}{\partial G} & \frac{\partial r}{\partial M} \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{\begin{bmatrix} -a_L & (1-a_C) \end{bmatrix}} \begin{bmatrix} \dots \\ \dots \end{bmatrix}$$

means

$$\frac{\partial r}{\partial M} = \frac{-a_L}{a_L(b_C + b_I) + (1-a_C)b_L} < 0$$

$$\frac{\partial r}{\partial M} = \frac{(1-a_C)}{a_L(b_C + b_I) + (1-a_C)b_L} < 0$$

$$\frac{\partial y}{\partial G} = \frac{b_L}{a_L(b_C + b_I) + (1-a_C)b_L} > 0$$

$$\frac{\partial y}{\partial M} = \frac{(b_C + b_I)}{a_L(b_C + b_I) + (1-a_C)b_L} > 0.$$

Indeed, the result derived by the Implicit Function Theorem coincides with the "explicit"

Since we assume $\frac{\partial d}{\partial p} < 0$ and $\frac{\partial s}{\partial p} > 0$, we get

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial p} = \frac{\partial d}{\partial p} - \frac{\partial s}{\partial p} < 0.$$

Case 2. $\frac{\partial d}{\partial p} > 0$ and $\frac{\partial s}{\partial p} < 0$. In this case, we have that the partial derivative of the function with respect to p

Moreover, when the price of new cars is at higher level, a fixed amount of an increase in new cars price would make smaller impact on the demand for used cars. For example, a

price increase from \$20,000 to \$25,000 would have a more significant effect than

price increase from \$40,000 to \$45,000. Therefore, we assume that the effect of change

price of new cars would increase when the price of used car increases, which coincides with

Theorem. *If the demand and supply functions are linear, the relative price ratio is constant on the equilibrium path.*

Proof. Suppose the demand function for used car is

$$D_u(P_n, P_u) = aP_n - bP_u$$

where a, b are positive. The supply function is

$$S_u(P_n, P_u) = -cP_n + dP_u$$

where c, d are positive.

Proof. Suppose the demand function has the form

$$D_u(P_n, P_u) = h(P_n)k(P_u)$$

$$S_u(P_n, P_u) = p(P_n)q(P_u)$$

Since demand and supply function are always positive, without loss of generality, suppose h, k, p, q are positive functions. Then, by the above lemma, since h, k, p, q are homogenous functions of one variable, we can rewrite our demand and supply functions in a specific form,

such as

$$\begin{aligned} D_u(P_n, P_u) &= cP_n^a P_u^b \\ S_u(P_n, P_u) &= dP_n^e P_u^k \end{aligned}$$

where c and d are positive.

Moreover, from the assumption (8.1)

$$\frac{\partial D_u}{\partial P_n} = caP_n^{a-1}P_u^b > 0$$

$$\frac{\partial D_u}{\partial P_u} = cbP_n^a P_u^{b-1} < 0$$

and

$$\frac{\partial S_u}{\partial P_n} = deP_n^{e-1}P_u^k < 0$$

$$\frac{\partial S_u}{\partial P_u} = dkP_n^e P_u^{k-1} > 0$$

We know $a < 0$ and $k < 0$

Let $\alpha(P_n, P_u) = \frac{P_n}{P_u}$ be the function of the relative price ratio. If $\alpha(P_n, P_u)$ is a constant, then substitute $P_n = \alpha P_u$ in our market equilibrium condition, $D_u = S_u$, we get

$$c(\alpha P_u)^a P_u^b = d(\alpha P_u)^e P_u^k$$

Proof. Recall our model

$$\begin{aligned}D_u(P_n, P_u) &= cP_n^a P_u^b \\S_u(P_n, P_u) &= dP_n^e P_u^k\end{aligned}$$

where $a, k, c, d > 0$, and $b, e < 0$.

Then the condition for the market equilibrium $D_u = S_u$ means $cP_n^a P_u^b = dP_n^e P_u^k$ or

$$P_n^{a-e} = \frac{d}{c} P_u^{k-b}.$$

$$d(\partial D_u / \partial P_n) \quad d(\partial D_u / \partial P_u)$$

$$d(\partial D_u / \partial P_u)$$

second part, $\frac{dP_u}{d(P_n/P_u)}$, will be examined below.

Recall that $\frac{\partial D_u}{\partial P_n} = caP_n^{a-1}P_u^b$, then we substitute $P_n = \left(\frac{d}{c}P_u^{k-b}\right)^{\frac{1}{a-e}}$ in equation 8.4 into the function and get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial D_u}{\partial P_n} &= caP_n^{a-1}P_u^b \\ &= ca\left(\frac{d}{c}P_u^{k-b}\right)^{\frac{a-1}{a-e}}P_u^b \\ &= ca\left(\frac{d}{c}\right)^{\frac{a-1}{a-e}}P_u^{\frac{(k-b)(a-1)+b(a-e)}{a-e}} \\ &= ca\left(\frac{d}{c}\right)^{\frac{a-1}{a-e}}P_u^{\frac{ka-ba-k+b+ba-be}{a-e}} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the partial derivative of ∂D_u with respect to P_n is

$$\frac{d(\partial D_u / \partial P_n)}{dP_u} = ca\left(\frac{d}{c}\right)^{\frac{a-1}{a-e}} \frac{ka - k + b - be}{a - e} P_u^{\frac{ka - k + b - be}{a - e} - 1}$$

full proof of the Implicit Function Theorem is presented in section 4. Basically, the Theorem consists of two main parts: conditions (continuity and non-singularity) for the existence and uniqueness of the implicit function, and the formula for its derivative. The proof technique

requires a broad background in mathematics, as we need to use multivariable calculus, lin-

