

**Econ 702, Spring 2007**  
**Problem set 4**  
**Due Tuesday Feb. 20th**

**Problem 1.** 1. Consider the growth model with two different social classes as seen in class. Show that if  $g^i(K, a^i), i = \{R, P\}$  (the optimal saving decisions for  $R = \text{rich}$  and  $P = \text{poor}$ ) are linear in their second arguments, then aggregate capital is the only necessary aggregate state variable.

2. Is this the case when utility is quadratic? ( $u(c) = -\frac{1}{2}(c - b)^2$  where  $b$  is a constant )  
When the utility is CRRA? ( $u(c) = \frac{c^{1-\sigma}-1}{1-\sigma}$ )

**Problem 2.** Redo the analysis of the above model (setup and definition of Recursive Competitive Equilibrium) using  $\{K, k^R, k^P\}$  (aggregate capital, capital owned by Rich, capital owned by Poor) as aggregate state variables.

**Problem 3.** (optional) In the growth model with 2 social classes, define steady state. What are the conditions for a Steady State to exist?

**Problem 4.** In the growth model with land, show that condition (5) is redundant from the given definition of equilibrium

**Problem 5.** Take the growth model with government debt (last model seen in class). Show, by way of finding 'wedges', that the competitive equilibrium is inefficient

**Problem 6.** Write recursively a simple growth model with utility from leisure and government, where the government wants to throw a party of size  $\bar{G}$  every period (not valued by the households), financed by either consumption taxes ( $\tau_c$ ) OR labor income taxes ( $\tau_w$ ) (the gov. budget is balanced from period to period). Find the relation between taxes in equilibrium. In terms of utility, when will  $\tau_c$  be preferred over  $\tau_w$ ?