GIMF – Conventions with Mnemonics and Data

Some Naming Conventions

Note 1: All prices are relative to the CPI.
Note 2: All volumes are economy wide measures, NOT per capita.
Note 2: Real GDP is deflated by CPI, not PGDP.

freq is the frequency of the model (4 for quarterly, 1 for annual)

P is for prices
  • H and F are for home and foreign, respectively, when used in the names of prices or volumes
W or V are for wages
R or INT are for interest rates
R as a prefix, indicates real (i.e., RR is the real interest rate; RW is the real wage)
E is for exchange rates
REER is real effective exchange rate

B is domestic-denominated bonds (government debt B, or corporate debt BT, BN)
F is foreign-denominated bonds (net foreign assets, NFA)
FW is financial wealth
HW is human wealth

N is for nontradables
T is for tradables
X is for oil (or raw materials)

K is for utilized capital
KK is for physical capital
L is for labor

G is for government expenditures
TAU is for tax rates
TAXREV is for tax revenues (the level)

CONS is for consumption which breaks into
  • C - private consumption (plus housing)
  • XC - energy consumption
INV is for investment
G is for government spending, which breaks into
  • GOVCONS – government consumption spending
  • GOVINV - government investment in fixed capital
EXPORTS is for exports
IMPORTS is for imports

LIQ is for liquidity-constrained agents (cannot hold any debt or capital)
OLG is overlapping generations agents, who are the forward-looking agents (can hold debt and/or capital)
PRI is for a first-order derivative of a variable
GDPSIZE is the economic size in the world of a country (all add to one)
POPSIZE is the labour force size in the world of a country

PHI is for all parameters associated with real adjustment costs and nominal rigidities (always a prefix)
BBETA is the discount factor (inverse of the rate of time preference)
ETA is the inverse of the Frisch elasticity for labor
GAMMA is the inverse of the intertemporal elasticity of substitution

E_ is for the error term in the stochastic process for a stochastic shock
RHO_ is for the AR(1) root in the stochastic process for a stochastic shock

TARGET is for a target
_SS or STAR is for the steady state (always a suffix)
_RAT is most frequently a share of nominal GDP (always as a suffix)

ZZ_ is for “reporting variables”
_annual indicates the variable is reported in an annual form, regardless of the frequency of the model

**Conventions when Reporting Data**
*Note: All ZZ variables are annualized in their natural units (i.e. 3 for the real interest rate ZZ_RR).*

Interest Rates – 5% annual is 1.012466 (INT)
Inflation Rates – 2% quarterly at annual rates is 1.004963 (PIE)
Inflation Rates – 2% year-on-year is 1.02 (PIE4 and PIE4STAR)
Prices – all relative – 2% higher than CPI is 1.02 (PN, PTF, PTH plus wages W, V)
Tax rates – 15% is 0.15 (TAU, TAU_L, TAU_K)
Rate of time preference – 1% is 0.9975 as BETA (BETA = RTP**(-1/4))
Ratio to GDP – 25% is 0.25 (i.e. ZZ_MA_GDP_SHAR)

For the quarterly model:
All flows are quarterly at annualized levels (i.e. GDP, CONS, INV, G, EXPORTS, IMPORTS, TBAL, etc).
All stocks are annualized (K, KK, B, BT, BN, F, FW, HW)
  • i.e. the capital-to-output ratio K_RAT is 150.