

The following question requires you to write MATLAB (*not* pseudo) code. Assume a momentary objective function of the form

$$U(k, k') = \ln(k^\alpha + (1 - \delta)k - k').$$

Write out the computer code using MATLAB syntax for solving the dynamic programming problem

$$V(k) = \max_{k' \in [k_1, k_n]} \{U(k, k') + \beta V(k')\}.$$

In the above dynamic programming problem (to be solved on the computer), the choice variable,  $k'$ , is formulated as *continuous* variable, not discrete one. The value function  $V(k)$  is to be approximated by piecewise linear functions on the grid  $\mathfrak{K} = \{k_1, \dots, k_n\}$ ; i.e., between any two grid points, say  $k_j$  and  $k_{j+1}$ , the function  $V$  is approximated by a *linear* function on the interval  $[k_j, k_{j+1}]$ . Assume  $\alpha = 0.3$ ,  $\delta = 0.1$ ,  $\beta = 0.96$ . Assume that the grid spans 10,001 points centered on the steady-state value for capital,  $k^*$ , spanning the interval  $[k^* - .5k^*, k^* + .5k^*]$ .

*Hint 1:* Suppose one has the values for a function  $V$  on the grid  $\mathfrak{K}$ . Code up the piecewise linear approximation to  $V$ .

*Hint 2:* The following information in MATLAB may help:

FMINBND: finds the minimum of a function of one variable within a fixed interval.

$x = \text{fminbnd}(\text{fun}, x1, x2)$  returns a value  $x$  that is a local minimizer of the function that is described in  $\text{fun}$  in the interval  $x1 < x < x2$ .  $\text{fun}$  is a function\_handle.