

1. (30 points) A proposed Math 116 stimulus package consists of the government giving \$100 billion to individuals in the U.S. via a tax cut. We suppose that all those receiving a tax cut spend 80% of the money they get and save 20% of it. The 80% that they spend is then going to other people (shop owners, employees, etc.). These other people then spend 80% of what they receive and save 20%. This continues on indefinitely. Calculate the total additional spending created by this \$100 billion tax cut.

Total spending is $100(0.8) + 100(0.8)^2 + 100(0.8)^3 + 100(0.8)^4 + \cdots$.

To compute total, We will examine the sum of the first n terms.

$$S_n = 100(0.8) + 100(0.8)^2 + 100(0.8)^3 + 100(0.8)^4 + \cdots + 100(0.8)^n$$

So $(0.8)S_n = 100(0.8)^2 + 100(0.8)^3 + 100(0.8)^4 + \cdots + 100(0.8)^{n+1}$ and

$S_n - (0.8)S_n = 100(0.8) - 100(0.8)^{n+1}$ which, after some algebra, yields

$$S_n = \frac{100(0.8) - 100(0.8)^{n+1}}{0.2}. \text{ Take the limit as } n \text{ goes to infinity, and } S_\infty = \frac{100(0.8)}{0.2} = 400$$

billion dollars.