

# ECO325: Lecture Notes

Advanced Economic Theory: Macro

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## Notes

**Github** [https://github.com/TianyuDu/Spikey\\_UofT\\_Notes](https://github.com/TianyuDu/Spikey_UofT_Notes)

### Color notations

- Important equations for model setup.
- Important equations as results from model.
- Implications of model result.

### Revisions

- Revise October 2, 2018. Midterm 1.

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# 1 Lecture 1. September 6. 2018

**Definition 1.1.** A **growth miracle** are episodes where the growth in a country far exceeds the world average over an extended period of time. Result the country experiencing the miracle moves up the world income distribution.

**Definition 1.2.** A **growth disaster** is an episode where the growth in a country falls short of the world average for an extended period of time. Result the country moves down in the world income distribution.

**Facts** (with corresponding result from Solow growth model.)

1. Real output( $Y$ ) grows at a (more or less) constant rate  $(n + g)$ .
2. Stock of real capital( $K$ ) grows at a (more or less) constant rate  $(n + g)$  (but it grows faster than labor input( $L$ )).
3. Growth rates of real output and the stock of capital are about the same. (both  $n + g$ )
4. The rate of growth of output per capita( $\frac{Y}{L}$ ) varies greatly across countries. ( $g$  varies across countries)

## 1.1 Solow Growth Model (continuous time version)

**Intro.** Solow growth model decomposes the growth in output per capita into portions accounted for by increase in inputs and the portion contributed to increases in productivity.

**Notations** In the baseline model we denote  $K$  as capital,  $L$  as labor and  $A$  as technology.

### 1.1.1 Production Function

**Remark 1.1.** ~~Harrod neutral technology here, refer to Uzawa's theorem.~~

**Definition 1.3.** The **effective labor input** (total units of effective labor) is defined as  $A(t)L(t)$

**Definition 1.4.** The production function is defined as a real-valued mapping from input factor space to an output level.

$$Y(t) = F(K(t), A(t)L(t)) \quad (1)$$

**Example 1.1.** Cobb-Douglas form of production function.

$$Y(t) = K(t)^\alpha (A(t)L(t))^{1-\alpha}, \quad \alpha \in (0, 1)$$

**Assumption 1.1.** The production function is assumed to be constant return to scale in  $K$  and  $AL$ .

$$Y(cK, cAL) = cY(K, AL), \forall c \geq 0$$

This CRS assumption is the result of two separate assumptions.

1. *The economy is big enough that the gains from specialization have been exhausted.*  $\implies$  There is **no** increasing return to scale.
2. *Inputs other than capital, labor, and the effectiveness of labor are relatively unimportant.*  $\implies$  There is **no** decreasing return to scale.

**Definition 1.5.** Define  $c := \frac{1}{AL}$ , the **intensive form** of production function is

$$y(t) = \frac{Y(t)}{A(t)L(t)} = f(k(t))$$

where  $y := \frac{Y}{AL}$  denotes the **output per unit of effective labor** and  $k := \frac{K}{AL}$  denote the capital stock per unit of effective labor.

## 2 Lecture 2 September 13. 2018

### 2.1 Solow Growth Model: Setup

**Definition 2.1. Production function**  $F : \mathbb{R}_+^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  maps input factors:

- $K(t) :=$  aggregate capital stock at time  $t$ .
- $L(t) :=$  aggregate labor supply at time  $t$ .
- $A(t) :=$  labor argument technology<sup>1</sup> (effectiveness of labor) at time  $t$ .

to output values ( $Y(t) :=$  aggregate output at time  $t$ .) The production function takes the form of

$$Y(t) = F(K(t), A(t)L(t))$$

**Assumption 2.1** (Assumptions on Production Function). The production function are assumed to be constant return to scale in  $A(t)L(t)$  and  $K(t)$ .

$$cF(K(t), A(t)L(t)) = F(cK(t), cA(t)L(t)), \forall c > 0$$

**Definition 2.2.** The **intensive form of production function** is defined as the output per unit of effective labor.

Let

$$f(t) := \frac{Y(t)}{A(t)L(t)}$$

---

<sup>1</sup>Harrod-neutral technology

and

$$k(t) := \frac{K(t)}{A(t)L(t)}$$

denote the output and capital per unit of effective labor respectively. By the assumption of *CRS* on *aggregate* production function, take  $c = \frac{1}{A(t)L(t)}$ . The *intensive form* production function can be expressed as

$$y(t) = f(k(t)) \quad (1)$$

**Assumption 2.2** (Assumptions on Intensive Form Production Function). the function  $f(\cdot) : \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  is assumed to satisfy *Inada Conditions*.

1.  $f(0) = 0$ : capital is necessary for production.
2.  $f'(k) > 0, \forall k \in \mathbb{R}_+$ : the marginal return of capital per effective unit of labor is positive.
3.  $f''(k) < 0, \forall k \in \mathbb{R}_+$ : capital per effective unit of labor is experiencing diminishing marginal return.
4.  $\lim_{k \rightarrow 0} f'(k) = \infty$
5.  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} f''(k) = 0$

**Remark 2.1.** The role of assumption 2.2 is to ensure that the path of the economy does not diverge.

**Example 2.1** (Cobb-Douglas Production Function). Consider the Cobb-Douglas production function

$$Y(t) = K(t)^\alpha (A(t)L(t))^{1-\alpha}, \quad \alpha \in (0, 1)$$

*Check.* Let  $c \in \mathbb{R}_+$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} F(cK, cAL) &= (cK)^\alpha (cAL)^{1-\alpha} \\ &= c^\alpha c^{1-\alpha} K^\alpha AL^{1-\alpha} \\ &= cK^\alpha AL^{1-\alpha} = cF(K, AL) \end{aligned}$$

CRS on aggregate form is shown.

Notice that  $f(k) = k^\alpha$

And

1.  $f(0) = 0^\alpha = 0$
2.  $f'(k) = \alpha k^{\alpha-1} > 0, \forall k \in \mathbb{R}_+$
3.  $f''(k) = (\alpha - 1)\alpha k^{\alpha-2} < 0, \forall k \in \mathbb{R}_+$
4.  $\lim_{k \rightarrow 0} \alpha \frac{1}{k^{1-\alpha}} = \infty$

$$5. \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \alpha \frac{1}{k^{1-\alpha}} = 0$$

Inada conditions on intensive form are shown. ■

**Assumption 2.3** (Assumptions on the Economy). Assume the initial values of  $K, A, L$  are given and strictly positive. Labor and Knowledge are assumed to grow at an exogenously given constant rate, denoted as  $n, g$  respective.

$$\dot{L}(t) = nL(t), \quad n > 0 \quad (2)$$

$$\dot{A}(t) = gA(t), \quad g > 0 \quad (3)$$

**Proposition 2.1.** Notice the growth rate of variable  $X(t)$  is given by

$$g_X := \frac{\dot{X}(t)}{X(t)} = \frac{\partial \ln X(t)}{\partial t}$$

*Proof.*

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \ln X(t)}{\partial t} &= \frac{\partial \ln X(t)}{\partial X(t)} \frac{\partial X(t)}{\partial t} \\ &= \frac{1}{X(t)} \dot{X}(t) = \frac{\dot{X}(t)}{X(t)} = g_X \end{aligned}$$

■

**Proposition 2.2.** The functional form of technology and labor at time  $t$  can be found by solving ODEs

$$L(t) = e^{nt} L(0) \quad (4)$$

$$A(t) = e^{gt} A(0) \quad (5)$$

Assume there is *no government* and the Solow economy is a *closed economy*. The output is divided between *consumption* and *investment* as

$$Y(t) = C(t) + I(t)$$

And given  $\delta$  as depreciation rate of capital, in discrete time (let  $\Delta t = 1$ ) we have

$$K(t+1) = (1 - \delta)K(t) + I(t)$$

$$\iff I(t) = K(t+1) - K(t) + \delta K(t)$$

As  $\Delta \rightarrow 0$  (convert to continuous time)

$$I(t) = \dot{K}(t) + \delta K(t)$$

**Assumption 2.4.** Assume investment equals saving and a constant friction  $s \in [0, 1]$  of output is saved at each epoch. The marginal propensity to save,  $s$  is given exogenously.

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} I(t) = sY(t) &\implies \dot{K}(t) + \delta K(t) = sY(t) \\ &\implies \dot{K}(t) = sY(t) - \delta(K(t)) \end{aligned}$$

## 2.2 Dynamics of $k(t)$

For simplicity, assuming  $n, g, \delta > 0$  and the dynamics of capital per effective unit of labor follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{k}(t) &:= \frac{\partial k(t)}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \frac{K(t)}{A(t)L(t)} \\ &= \frac{\dot{K}AL - K(\dot{A}L + A\dot{L})}{(AL)^2} \\ &= \frac{\dot{K}}{AL} - \frac{K\dot{A}L}{(AL)^2} - \frac{KA\dot{L}}{(AL)^2} \\ &= \frac{sY - \delta K}{AL} - \frac{\dot{A}}{A} \frac{K}{AL} - \frac{\dot{L}}{L} \frac{K}{AL} \\ &= sy(t) - (n + g + \delta)k(t) \end{aligned}$$

Where  $sy(t)$  is the **actual investment** per unit of effective labor and  $(n + g + \delta)k(t)$  is the **break-even investment** per unit of effective labor.

**Remark 2.2.** The **convergence speed** is inversely correlated with the value of  $|k(t) - k^*|$ , where  $k^*$  denotes the steady state level of capital stock per effective unit of labor.

**Remark 2.3.** With convex production function ( $f''(k) > 0$ ), then  $k(t) < k^* \implies \dot{k} < 0$  and  $k(t) > k^* \implies \dot{k} > 0$ . The steady state value  $k^*$  is steady but not stable (with  $k(t) \neq k^*$ ,  $k$  does not automatically converge to  $k^*$ ).

## 3 Lecture 3 September 20. 2018

### 3.1 Dynamic Transitions

**Remark 3.1.** For the dynamic transition function of capital per unit of effective labor:

$$\dot{k}(t) = sf(k(t)) - (n + g + \delta)k(t) \quad (1)$$

And dynamic transition and phase diagram can be expressed as

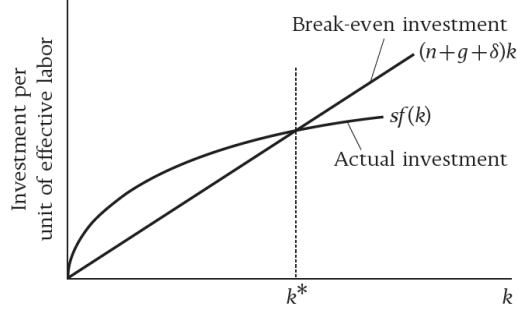


Figure 1: Dynamic Transition of Capital Per Unit of Effective Labor

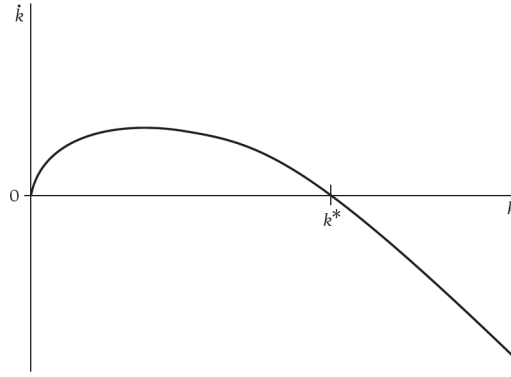


Figure 2: Phase Diagram of Capital Per Unit of Effective Labor

**Definition 3.1. Steady level of capital per unit of effective labor**( $k^*$ ) is defined as the level of capital per unit of effective labor that equates break-even investment per unit of effective labor and actual investment per unit of effective labor. So that  $k$  does not deviate from  $k^*$ .<sup>2</sup>

$$k^* := \{k \in \mathbb{R}_+ : sf(k) = (n + g + \delta)k\}$$

**Remark 3.2.** The values of other endogenous variables at steady state are derived from  $k^*$ .

**Example 3.1.** Find the steady state growth rate of investment, consumption and output per unit of effective labor.

$$y^* = f(k^*) \tag{2}$$

$$i^* = sf(k^*) = (n + g + \delta)k^* \tag{3}$$

$$c^* = y^* - i^* = f(k^*) - (n + g + \delta)k^* = (1 - s)f(k^*) \tag{4}$$

---

<sup>2</sup>The definition can also be expressed as  $k^* := \{k \in \mathbb{R}_+ : \dot{k}(k) = 0\}$



For the growth rate of each endogenous variable (per unit of effective labor).

$$\frac{\partial i(t)}{\partial t} \Big|_{k=k^*} = 0 \quad (5)$$

$$\frac{\partial c(t)}{\partial t} \Big|_{k=k^*} = 0 \quad (6)$$

$$\frac{\partial y(t)}{\partial t} \Big|_{k=k^*} = 0 \quad (7)$$

above relations are equivalent to

$$\text{On steady state} \begin{cases} \dot{i}(t) = 0 \\ \dot{c}(t) = 0 \\ \dot{y}(t) = 0 \end{cases} \quad (8)$$

*Proof.* By definition of consumption per unit of effective labor,

$$c(\cdot) = (1 - s)f(k(t))$$

$$\implies \dot{c}(t) := \frac{\partial c(\cdot)}{\partial t} = (1 - s)f'(k(t))k\dot{t} \text{ by chain rule}$$

Since  $\dot{k}|_{k=k^*} = 0$  and  $(1 - s)f'(k(t)) < \infty$

Thus  $\dot{c}(t)|_{k=k^*} = 0$

And  $i(t) = sf(k(t))$ , which is constant at  $sf(k^*)$  at steady state. ■

## 3.2 Balanced Growth Path

**Definition 3.2.** A **balanced growth path** is a situation where each variable in the model are all growing at a constant rate.<sup>3 4</sup>

### 3.2.1 Growth Rates on Balanced Growth Path

**Population and Technology** By definition of population and technological progress,

$$g_A := \frac{\dot{A}}{A} = g \quad (9)$$

$$g_L := \frac{\dot{L}}{L} = n \quad (10)$$

**Capital per person** Since  $\frac{K(t)}{L(t)} = \frac{k(t)A(t)L(t)}{L(t)} = k(t)A(t)$ , and the growth rate of  $x(t)$  can be found as  $\frac{\partial \ln x(t)}{\partial t}$ . Then

---

<sup>3</sup>Variables are not required to grow at the same rate by this definition.

<sup>4</sup>Variables remaining fixed are also considered as growing at a constant rate ( $g = 0$ ).

*Solution.*

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial \ln \frac{K(t)}{L(t)}}{\partial t} &= \frac{\partial k(t)A(t)}{\partial t} \\ &= \frac{\partial \ln k(t)}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial \ln A(t)}{\partial t} \\ &= \frac{\dot{k}(t)}{k(t)} + g\end{aligned}$$

And at the steady state, by definition,  $\dot{k}(t)|_{k=k^*} = 0$ , therefore

$$g_{\frac{K}{L}}^* = g \quad (11)$$

■

**Output and Consumption per person** Similarly,

*Solution.*

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{Y(t)}{L(t)} &= y(t)A(t) \\ g_{\frac{Y}{L}} &= \frac{\partial \ln y(t) + \ln A(t)}{\partial t} \\ &= \frac{\partial \ln y}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial \ln A(t)}{\partial t} \\ &= g + \frac{\dot{y}}{y}\end{aligned}$$

and for consumption per person,

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{C(t)}{L(t)} &= c(t)A(t) \\ g_{\frac{C}{L}} &= g + \frac{\dot{c}}{c}\end{aligned}$$

Thus, on the balanced growth path,<sup>5</sup>

$$g_{\frac{Y}{L}}^* = g \quad (12)$$

$$g_{\frac{C}{L}}^* = g \quad (13)$$

■

**Proposition 3.1.** Along the balanced growth path, consumption and output per person also grow at rate  $g$ .

---

<sup>5</sup> $g_X^*$  denotes the growth rate of variable  $X$  on the balanced growth path.

**Proposition 3.2.** Along the balanced growth path, aggregate variables,  $Y(t), I(t), C(t)$  are all growing at a rate  $n + g$ .

$$g_Y^* = g_C^* = g_I^* = n + g \quad (14)$$

*Proof.*

$$\begin{aligned} g_K &= \frac{\partial \ln K(t)}{\partial t} \\ &= \frac{\partial \ln A(t)L(t)k(t)}{\partial t} \\ &= \frac{\partial \ln A(t)}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial \ln L(t)}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial \ln k(t)}{\partial t} \\ &= g + n + \frac{\dot{k}}{k} \end{aligned}$$

and at balanced growth path,  $\frac{\dot{k}}{k}|_{k=k^*} = 0$ , therefore

$$g_K^* = n + g \quad (15)$$

and proof for  $C(t)$  and  $I(t)$  follows the same path. ■

**Definition 3.3.** The **golden rule level of capital per unit of effective labor** ( $k_G$ ) is the steady state level of capital per unit of effective labor that maximizes steady state consumption per unit of effective labor.

$$k_G = \operatorname{argmax}_{k^* \in \mathbf{k}^*(\Theta)} \{c^* = f(k^*) - (n + g + \delta)k^*\}$$

**Definition 3.4.** The **golden rule level of saving rate**  $s_G$  is the saving rate such that the golden rule level of capital per unit of effective labor is achieved.

*Proof.* (First Order Necessary Condition for  $k_G$ ).

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial c^*(k^*)}{\partial k^*} &= 0 \\ \implies \frac{\partial f(k^*) - (n + g + \delta)k^*}{\partial k^*} &= 0 \\ \implies f'(k^*) &= (n + g + \delta) \end{aligned}$$

Thus, golden rule level of capital stock per unit of effective labor  $k_G$  can be expressed as <sup>6</sup>

$$k_G = \{k \in \mathbb{R}_+ : f'(k) = (n + g + \delta)\} \quad (16)$$

---

<sup>6</sup>Notice that the zero solution,  $k^* = 0$  is a trivial steady state and we ignore this case during this course. ■

### 3.3 Experiment

#### 3.3.1 Impact of Change in the Saving Rate ( $s_1 > s_0$ )

Suppose at time  $t_0$ , the saving rate parameter increases discretely:  $s_0 \rightarrow s_1$ .

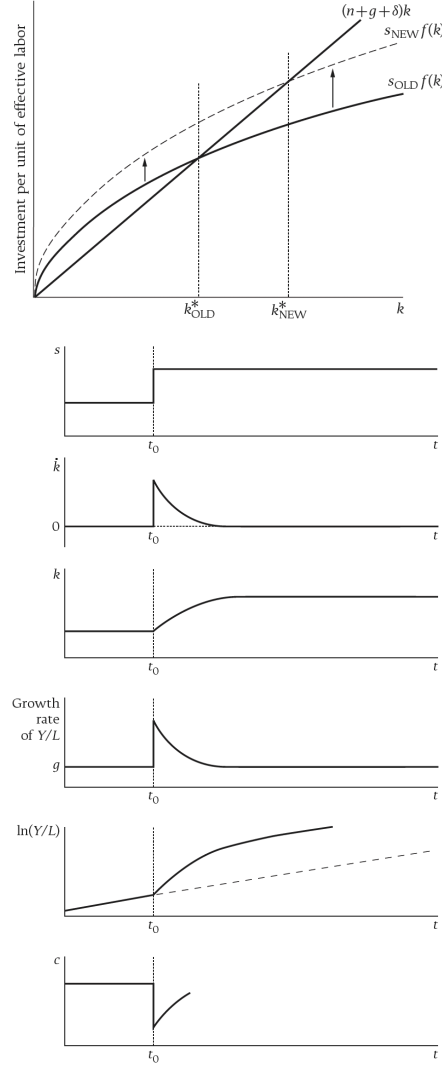


Figure 3: Effect of an Increase in Saving Rate.

**Remark 3.3.** The relation of  $c_0^*$  and  $c_1^*$  depends on the relative position of  $s_1$  and the golden rule level of saving rate  $s_G$ .

### 3.3.2 Derive the Effect of Change in $s$ Mathematically

**Goal** Find  $\frac{\partial k^*}{\partial s}$ . And notice that  $k^*(n + g + \delta) = sf(k^*)$  for any steady state capital level  $k^*$ . And the steady state level of capital per unit of effective labor can be written as a function of parameters, as  $k^*(n, g, \delta, s)$ .

#### Impact on $k^*$

*Solution.* At any steady state level,  $k^*$  satisfies

$$sf(k^*(n, g, \delta, s)) = (n + g + \delta)k^*(n, g, \delta, s)$$

Differentiate both sides with respect to  $s$ ,

We have

$$sf'(k^*)\frac{\partial k^*}{\partial s} + f(k^*) = (n + g + \delta)\frac{\partial k^*}{\partial s}$$

Rearrange and get

$$\frac{\partial k^*}{\partial s} = \frac{f(k^*)}{(n + g + \delta) - sf'(k^*)}$$

Notice that the slope of break-even investment is greater than the slope of the actual investment at the steady state, therefore

$$\frac{\partial k^*}{\partial s} > 0$$

■

#### Impact on $y^*$

*Solution.* Using chain rule we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial y^*}{\partial s} &= \frac{\partial f(k^*)}{\partial s} \\ &= \frac{\partial f(k^*)}{\partial k^*} \frac{\partial k^*}{\partial s} > 0, \forall k^* \in \mathbf{k}^*(\Theta) \end{aligned}$$

■

To get a sense on how much  $y^*$  changes with respect to change in  $s$ , we could look at the elasticity.

$$\eta = \frac{\partial y^*}{\partial s} \frac{s}{y^*} = f'(k^*) \frac{\partial k^*}{\partial s} \frac{s}{f(k^*)} = \frac{f'(k^*)s}{(n + g + \delta) - sf'(k^*)}$$

Recall that  $(n + g + \delta) = \frac{sf(k^*)}{k^*}$  and rearrange the elasticity

$$\begin{aligned}
\eta &= \frac{\partial y^*}{\partial s} \frac{s}{y^*} \\
&= \frac{f'(k^*)s}{(n + g + \delta) - sf'(k^*)} \\
&= \frac{sf'(k^*)}{\frac{sf(k^*)}{k^*} - sf'(k^*)} \\
&= \frac{f'(k^*)}{\frac{f(k^*)}{k^*} - f'(k^*)} \\
&= \frac{f'(k^*) \frac{k^*}{f(k^*)}}{1 - f'(k^*) \frac{k^*}{f(k^*)}} \\
&= \frac{\alpha_K}{1 - \alpha_K}
\end{aligned}$$

**Remark 3.4.**  $\alpha_K$  denotes the elasticity of output per unit of effective unit labor with respect to capital stock per unit of effective labor, along the balanced growth path. And

$$\alpha_K \approx \frac{1}{3}$$

**Remark 3.5.** If the production function is in the Cobb-Douglas form, then  $\alpha_K = \alpha$ .

**Example 3.2.** If  $\alpha_K \approx \frac{1}{3}$  then

$$\eta = \frac{\partial y^*}{\partial s} \frac{s}{y^*} \approx \frac{1}{2}$$

**Impact on  $c^*$**  Notice that on the balanced growth path  $c^* = y^* - i^*$ .

$$c^* = f(k^*) - (n + g + \delta)k^* \quad (17)$$

and differentiate with respect to  $s$

$$\frac{\partial c^*}{\partial s} = [f'(k^*) - (n + g + \delta)] \frac{\partial k^*}{\partial s}$$

And notice that the sign of  $\frac{\partial c^*}{\partial s}$  depends on the relative slope of production function and break-even investment. By the first order condition of golden rule level of capital per unit of effective labor,  $(n + g + \delta) = f'(k_G)$

$$\frac{\partial c^*}{\partial s} = [f'(k^*) - f'(k_G)] \frac{\partial k^*}{\partial s}$$

And

$$\begin{cases} k^* = k_G \implies f'(k^*) = f'(k_G) \implies \frac{\partial c^*}{\partial s} = 0 \\ k^* < k_G \implies f'(k^*) > f'(k_G) \implies \frac{\partial c^*}{\partial s} > 0 \\ k^* > k_G \implies f'(k^*) < f'(k_G) \implies \frac{\partial c^*}{\partial s} < 0 \end{cases}$$

## 4 Lecture 4 September 27. 2018

### 4.1 Speed of Convergence

**Methodology** Look at the change in  $k$  and linearize using first order Taylor's expansion.

**Recall**  $\dot{k}(t)$  is a function of  $k(t)$  since

$$\dot{k}(t) = sf(k(t)) - (n + g + \delta)k(t) \quad (1)$$

And the first order Taylor series approximation of a function  $f(x)$  around the point  $x = x_0$ .

$$f(x) \approx f(x_0) + f'(x_0)(x - x_0)$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{k}(k) &\approx \dot{k}(k^*) + \frac{\partial \dot{k}(k)}{\partial k} \Big|_{k=k^*} (k - k^*) \\ &= 0 + \frac{\partial \dot{k}(k)}{\partial k} \Big|_{k=k^*} (k - k^*) \end{aligned}$$

Differentiating the both sides of equation (1) with respect to  $k$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \dot{k}(k)}{\partial k} \Big|_{k=k^*} &= sf'(k^*) - (n + g + \delta) \\ &= \frac{(n + g + \delta)k^*}{f(k^*)} f'(k^*) - (n + g + \delta) \\ &= (n + g + \delta) \left[ \frac{f'(k^*)k^*}{f(k^*)} - 1 \right] \\ &= (n + g + \delta)(\alpha(k^*) - 1) \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\alpha_k(k^*) = f'(k^*) \frac{k^*}{f(k^*)} \quad (2)$$

denotes the elasticity of  $y$  with respect to  $k$  at steady state. So

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{k}(k(t)) &\approx (n + g + \delta)(\alpha(k^*) - 1)(k(t) - k^*) \\ \implies \frac{\partial(k - k^*(k))}{\partial t} &= \dot{k}(k(t)) \approx (n + g + \delta)(\alpha(k^*) - 1)(k(t) - k^*) \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\lambda := (n + g + \delta)(1 - \alpha(k^*))$  then

$$k(t) - k^* \approx e^{-\lambda t}(k(0) - k^*) \quad (3)$$

**Remark 4.1.** *Derive.* (above equation)

Let  $X(t) := k(t) - k^*$

And since  $\frac{\partial k(t)}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial (k(t) - k^*)}{\partial t}$   
Therefore  $\dot{X}(t) = \dot{k}(t) \approx -\lambda X(t)$   
 $\implies X(t) \approx X(0)e^{-\lambda t}$   
 $\iff k(t) - k^* \approx (k(0) - k^*)e^{-\lambda t}$  ■

Then note that 3

$$\begin{aligned}
y(t) &= f(k(t)) \\
\implies \dot{y}(t) &= f'(k(t))\dot{k}(t) \\
(\text{Take the first order Taylor series approximation around } k = k^*) \\
\implies y(t) &\approx f(k^*) + f'(k^*)(k(t) - k^*) \\
\implies y(t) - y^* &\approx f'(k^*)(k(t) - k^*) \\
\implies \frac{\dot{y}(t)}{y(t) - y^*} &= \frac{f'(k^*)\dot{k}(t)}{f'(k^*)(k(t) - k^*)} = \frac{\dot{k}(t)}{k(t) - k^*} \approx -\lambda \\
\implies y(t) - y^* &\approx e^{-\lambda t}(y(0) - y^*)
\end{aligned}$$

**Example 4.1.** How long does it take to move 1/2 way to the balance growth path. Assuming population growth rate is 2%, growth in output per worker is 2% and depreciation is 2% and  $\alpha_K = \frac{1}{3}$ .

*Solution.*  $\lambda = (1 - \alpha_K)(n + g + \delta)$  Since we know along the balanced growth path,

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{Y(t)}{L(t)} &= y^* A(t) \\
\implies \frac{\partial \ln \frac{Y(t)}{L(t)}}{\partial t} &= g
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $g = 0.02$  and therefore  $\lambda = 0.04$ .

To find the date where we have moved half way we need to solve

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{y(\tilde{t}) - y^*}{y(0) - y^*} &= 0.5 \approx e^{-\lambda \tilde{t}} \\
\implies \ln(0.5) &\approx -\lambda \tilde{t} \\
\implies \tilde{t} &= \frac{-\ln(0.5)}{0.04} \approx 17.33
\end{aligned}$$

■

## 4.2 General Statements

Solow growth model identifies 2 sources of output per worker,

1. Differences in the among of capital per worker.
2. Differences in the effectiveness of productivity of labor  $A$ .



Notice that the output per worker

$$\frac{Y(t)}{L(t)} = \frac{F(K(t), A(t)L(t))}{L(t)} = F\left(\frac{K(t)}{L(t)}, A(t)\right)$$

Notice that in the long run balanced growth path

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{K(t)}{L(t)} &= k(t)A(t) \\ \implies \frac{\partial \ln\left(\frac{K(t)}{L(t)}\right)}{\partial t} &= \frac{\dot{k}(t)}{k(t)} + \frac{\dot{A}(t)}{A(t)} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore along the balanced growth path  $\dot{k}(t) = 0$  so only the growth in  $A$  matters.

### 4.3 Growth Accounting

Consider the growth rate of aggregate output  $Y(t)$ , take the total differential and get

$$\dot{Y}(t) = \frac{\partial Y(t)}{\partial K(t)} \frac{\partial K(t)}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial Y(t)}{\partial L(t)} \frac{\partial L(t)}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial Y(t)}{\partial A(t)} \frac{\partial A(t)}{\partial t} \quad (4)$$

$$\implies \frac{\dot{Y}(t)}{Y(t)} = \frac{\partial Y(t)}{\partial K(t)} \frac{1}{Y(t)} \frac{\partial K(t)}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial Y(t)}{\partial L(t)} \frac{1}{Y(t)} \frac{\partial L(t)}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial Y(t)}{\partial A(t)} \frac{1}{Y(t)} \frac{\partial A(t)}{\partial t} \quad (5)$$

Then express the equation in terms of growth rates in  $K, L, A$  variables,

$$\frac{\dot{Y}(t)}{Y(t)} = \frac{\partial Y(t)}{\partial K(t)} \frac{K(t)}{Y(t)} \frac{\frac{\partial K(t)}{\partial t}}{K(t)} + \frac{\partial Y(t)}{\partial L(t)} \frac{L(t)}{Y(t)} \frac{\frac{\partial L(t)}{\partial t}}{L(t)} + \frac{\partial Y(t)}{\partial A(t)} \frac{A(t)}{Y(t)} \frac{\frac{\partial A(t)}{\partial t}}{A(t)} \quad (6)$$

$$= \alpha_K \frac{\dot{K}(t)}{K(t)} + \alpha_L \frac{\dot{L}(t)}{L(t)} + R(t) \quad (7)$$

where  $R(t)$  is the **Solow Residual** and

$$R(t) = \frac{\partial Y(t)}{\partial A(t)} \frac{A(t)}{Y(t)} \frac{\dot{A}(t)}{A(t)} \quad (8)$$

And  $\alpha_K(t)$  and  $\alpha_L(t)$  denote the elasticity of output with respect to capital and labor respectively.

**Example 4.2.** Assume the output growth is 40% and capital growth is 20% and labor growth is 30%. If  $\alpha_K = 0.3$  and  $\alpha_L = 0.7$ . What's the contribution to output growth of capital?

$$\alpha_K \frac{\dot{K}(t)}{K(t)} = 0.3 \times 20\% = 0.06$$

and the contribution from labor is

$$\alpha_L \frac{\dot{L}(t)}{L(t)} = 0.7 \times 30\% = 0.21$$

and the Solow residual is

$$R(t) = g_Y - 6\% - 21\% = 0.4 - 0.06 - 0.21 = 0.13$$

**Example 4.3.** Let's assume the economy is on its balanced growth path. Assume that a change in medicine increase survival rate during child birth. What would the effect of this be on steady state  $k^*, y^*, c^*, i^*$ . First show the growth that despite break-even investment and actual investment. Label the steady state values.

*Solution.* **The effect would be an increase in  $n$**

Suppose  $n_0 \rightarrow n_1$  with  $n_0 < n_1$ .

Therefore  $k^*$  falls, and  $y^*$  falls.

Since consumption and actual investment are constant fractions of  $y^*$ ,

Therefore both  $c^*, i^*$  falls. ■

