

Macroeconomics, PhD core

Lecture #12

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Intro

- Variety models deal with horizontal innovation but typically innovations:
 - improve the quality of the good
 - lowers the cost of production
- Endogenous growth: schumpeterian models
 - price competition
 - replacement of old vintages and business stealing effects (entrants)
- Aghion-Howitt (1992-1998), Grossman and Helpman (1991).



Environment

- Representative household with CRRA preferences, constant population and inelastic labor supply L .
- Resource constraint:

$$C(t) + X(t) + Z(t) = Y(t)$$

- R&D, $Z(t)$, investment $X(t)$ and consumption $C(t)$
- Production of final good

$$Y(t) = \frac{1}{1-\beta} L(t)^\beta \left(\int_0^1 q(v, t) x(v, t | q)^{1-\beta} dv \right)$$

$x(v, t | q)$ quantity of machines of vintage v of quality $q(v, t)$.

- Source of growth: quality improvements



Environment

- $q(v, t)$ quality of machine of vintage v at time t
- "Quality ladder" for each machine type

$$q(v, t) = \lambda^{n(v, t)} q(v, 0)$$

for $\lambda > 1$, and $n(v, t)$ the number of innovations up to t .

- At any point in time, only one quality of any machine v is used.
- Creative destruction: an invention of a higher-quality machine "destroys"/replaces and older machine.
- Once a machine of quality $q(v, t)$ is invented, any quantity can be produced at cost $\psi q(v, t)$
- Innovation is driven by entrants (arrow's replacement effect: incumbents have weaker incentives to innovate, i.e. destroy its own profits)



Environment

- Innovation requires investment
- $Z(v, t)$ units of the final good are used for research in line v with quality $q(v, t)$.
- Rate of innovation

$$z(v, t|q) = \eta \frac{Z(v, t)}{q(v, t)}$$

- Free entry into research
- Firm that innovate has a perpetual patent.



Allocation

Definition

An allocation in this economy is a time path for

- consumption levels, aggregate spending on machines and aggregate R&D spending $\{C(t), X(t), Z(t)\}_{t=0}^{\infty}$
- machine qualities $\{q(v, t)\}_{t=0}^{\infty}$ for $v \in [0, 1]$
- prices and quantities of each machine and the NPV of profits from each machine $\{p^x(v, t|q), x(v, t|q), V(v, t|q)\}_{t=0}^{\infty}$ for $v \in [0, 1]$
- and interest rates and wages for $\{r(t), w(t)\}_{t=0}^{\infty}$



Equilibrium characterization

- Final good producer

$$\max_{L, x(v)} \frac{1}{1-\beta} L(t)^\beta \left(\int_0^1 q(v, t) x(v, t|q)^{1-\beta} dv \right) - w(t)L(t) - \int_0^1 p^x(v, t) x(v, t|q) dv$$

- Optimal machine demand

$$x(v, t|q) = \left(\frac{q(v, t)}{p^x(v, t|q)} \right)^{\frac{1}{\beta}} L$$

- Two regimes:
 - ① Drastic innovation, firm charge monopoly prices
 - ② Limit prices
- For now on we assume drastic innovations, i.e. λ large

$$\lambda \geq \left(\frac{1}{1-\beta} \right)^{\frac{1-\beta}{\beta}}$$



Innovator

- Normalize $\psi = 1 - \beta$

$$\pi(v, t) = \max_x p^x(v, t|q)x(v, t|q) - \psi q(v, t)x(v, t|q)$$

$$\max_x q(v, t)L^\beta x(v, t|q)^{1-\beta} - \psi q(v, t)x(v, t|q)$$

- Profit maximizing-monopoly

$$x(v, t|q) = L$$

$$p^x(v, t|q) = q(v, t)$$

$$\pi(v, t) = \beta q(v, t)L$$



Aggregates

- Total output

$$Y(t) = \frac{1}{1-\beta} Q(t)L$$

$$Q(t) = \int_0^1 q(v, t) dv$$

- Aggregate spending in machines

$$\int_0^1 p^x(v, t|q) x(v, t|q) = Q(t)L$$

- Equilibrium wage rate

$$w(t) = \frac{\beta}{1-\beta} Q(t)$$



Innovation ctn'd

- Value function for the monopolist of variety v and quality $q(v, t)$

$$r(t)V(v, t|q) - \dot{V}(v, t|q) = \pi(v, t|q) - z(v, t|q)V(v, t|q)$$

where $z(v, t|q)$ is the rate of arrival of innovations to variety v

- Last term "Schumpeterian growth"
 - when an innovation occurs, the monopolist loses its monopoly and is replaced by a higher quality producer
 - From then on, it has zero value
 - $z(v, t|q)$ is the rate of of replacement of incumbents in variety/sector v
- Entrants (free entry)

$$\eta V(v, t|q) \leq \frac{q(v, t)}{\lambda} \text{ with equality if } Z(v, t|q) > 0$$



Innovation ctn'd

- Consumer maximization problem, i.e. Euler equation

$$\frac{\dot{C}(t)}{C(t)} = \frac{1}{\theta}(r(t) - \rho)$$

- Transversality condition:

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \exp\left(-\int_0^t r(s) ds\right) \int_0^1 V(v, t|q) dv = 0$$

for all q .



Equilibrium

- $V(v, t)$ is nonstochastic:

Definition

An equilibrium is an allocation that

- 1 satisfies the aggregate feasibility constraint for goods, machines and the TVC
- 2 the value of a firm and the average quality satisfy optimality of the monopolist and machine demands, and free entry
- 3 prices and quantities of machines are as described in the monopolist problem
- 4 interest rate and wages are consistent with the euler equation and feasibility in labor markets.



BGP

- Given that consumption grows at a constant rate in a BGP, feasibility implies that output grows at constant rate
- From the euler equation, the interest rate is constant
- If there is positive growth, there must be research in at least a sector.
- Homogeneity of the value of the firm and innovation costs on quality implies free-entry holds for all varieties
- If free entry holds in every period, $\dot{V}(v, t|q) = 0$
- R&D for each machine type has the same productivity, $z(v, t) = z(t) = z^*$



BGP ctn'd

- Firm value

$$V(v, t|q) = \frac{\beta q(v, t)L}{r^* + z^*}$$

- Effective discount, $r^* + z^*$.
- By Free entry

$$r^* + z^* = \eta \lambda \beta L$$

- Through the euler equation

$$g^* = \frac{(r^* - \rho)}{\theta}$$

$$r^* = g^* \theta + \rho$$



BGP ctn'd

- From the definition of output

$$\frac{\dot{Y}(t)}{Y(t)} = \frac{\dot{Q}(t)}{Q(t)}$$

- Dynamics

$$Q(t + \Delta t) = \lambda Q(t)z(t)\Delta t + (1 - z(t)\Delta t)Q(t) + o(\Delta t)$$

- Note: measure of varieties experiences more than one innovation is second order in Δt , $\frac{o(\Delta t)}{\Delta t} \rightarrow 0$

$$\dot{Q}(t) = (\lambda - 1)z(t)Q(t)$$

$$g^* = (\lambda - 1)z^*$$

- Equilibrium growth rate

$$g^* = \frac{\eta\lambda\beta L - \rho}{\theta + (\lambda - 1)^{-1}}$$

