

# Growth Theory

## Session 2: The Solow-Swan Model

ECO5021F: Macroeconomics  
University of Cape Town

# Readings

## Required

- ▶ Romer, D. (2019). Advanced Macroeconomics. Chapter 1.

## Recommended

- ▶ EconTalk: Romer on Growth (2007); Spence on Growth (2010)
- ▶ Mankiw, G., D. Romer, and D.N. Weil. (1992) "A Contribution to the Empirics of Economic Growth," Quarterly Journal of Economics, vol.107, p.407-437
- ▶ Solow, R.M. (1994). "Perspectives on Growth Theory," Journal of Economic Perspectives, vol. 8, no. 1, pp. 45-54.

# Contents:

- Precursor to the Solow-Swan model
  - The Harrod-Domar model

- The Solow-Swan model

- The Dynamics of the Model

- The Impact of a Change in the Savings Rate

- Quantitative Implications

- Central questions in Growth Theory

- Empirical Applications

# The Harrod-Domar model

## Assumptions in this model

- ▶ A given technology exhibiting fixed factor proportions ( $K/L$ ).
  - ▶ i.e.,: Leontief/Perfect Complements
- ▶ The national income equation:  $Y_t = C_t + S_t$ .
- ▶ For equilibrium: we require that  $I_t = S_t$
- ▶ The evolution of capital stock is given by  $K_{t+1} = (1 - \delta)K_t + I_t$ , where  $\delta$  is the depreciation rate of capital.
- ▶ The capital output ratio is fixed: ( $K/Y = \Delta K/\Delta Y = v$ ).
- ▶ Making a few substitutions, we can now rewrite our capital accumulation equation as:

$$\begin{aligned}vY_{t+1} &= (1 - \delta)vY_t + sY_t \\Y_{t+1} - Y_t &= (s/v - \delta)Y_t \\ \frac{Y_{t+1} - Y_t}{Y_t} &= (s/v - \delta)\end{aligned}$$

# The Harrod-Domar model

## Fundamental equation & implications

$$\frac{Y_{t+1} - Y_t}{Y_t} = s \cdot \frac{1}{v} - \delta \quad (1)$$

⇒ The growth rate of GDP is primarily determined by the savings ratio ( $s$ ) and capital output ratio ( $v$ ).

- ▶ From (1) it is clear that HD growth theory “sanctioned the overriding importance of capital accumulation in the quest for enhanced growth.” (Shaw, 1992)
- ▶ Conclusion: growth proportional to savings

# The Harrod-Domar model

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- ▶ From (1) it is clear that HD growth theory “sanctioned the overriding importance of capital accumulation in the quest for enhanced growth.” (Shaw, 1992)
- ▶ Conclusion: growth proportional to savings
- ▶ Central development problem was simply to increase resources devoted to investment
- ▶ Implications: since budgetary surpluses could substitute for domestic savings, fiscal policy became identified as the primary growth instrument. Government had a role to play.
- ▶ Empirically: massive failure (think Soviet Union)

# The Harrod-Domar model

Why the epic failure?

- ▶ In this model  $K/Y$  and  $K/L$  is fixed.
- ▶ Solow (1956) major critique of HD: “even for the long run the economic system is at best balanced on a knife-edge of equilibrium growth.”<sup>1</sup>
- ▶ For equilibrium  $K$  and  $Y$ , as well as  $K$  and  $L$ , must always grow at the same rate.

Key:

- ▶ no trade-off between  $K$  and  $L$ ;
- ▶ no diminishing returns to  $K$  and  $L$

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<sup>1</sup>If the magnitudes of the key parameters ( $s$ ,  $K/Y$ ,  $n$ ) were to change  $\rightarrow$  either growing unemployment or prolonged inflation. ( $n$  is the population (labour) growth rate.)

# The Solow-Swan model

## Basic idea

**Goal:** Develop a simple framework for the proximate causes and the mechanics of economic growth and cross-country income differences

**In short:** Endogenizes the capital/labour ( $K/L$ ) ratio in a world with an exogenous savings rate, productivity growth rate. No micro foundations

Solow-Swan model tries to emphasize the fact that output is related in some systematic way to inputs in the production process



# The Solow-Swan model

## Basic idea

- ▶ Model has two underlying principles
  1. Goods and labour markets clear
  2. Diminishing return to capital
  
- ▶ Solow used this model to answer questions related to
  1. The dynamics of growth
  2. The long-term relationship between growth and savings, population growth and technological progress
  3. Convergence in income growth rates

# The Solow-Swan model

Assumptions: Households

- ▶ Closed economy, with unique final good.
- ▶ Economy is inhabited by a large number of households, and for now households *will not* be optimizing.
  - ▶ This is the key difference between the Solow and other neoclassical growth models.
- ▶ Households save a constant exogenous fraction  $s \in (0, 1)$  of their disposable income.

# The Solow-Swan model

Assumptions: Firm

- ▶ The aggregate production function is a function of **capital, labour and technology**

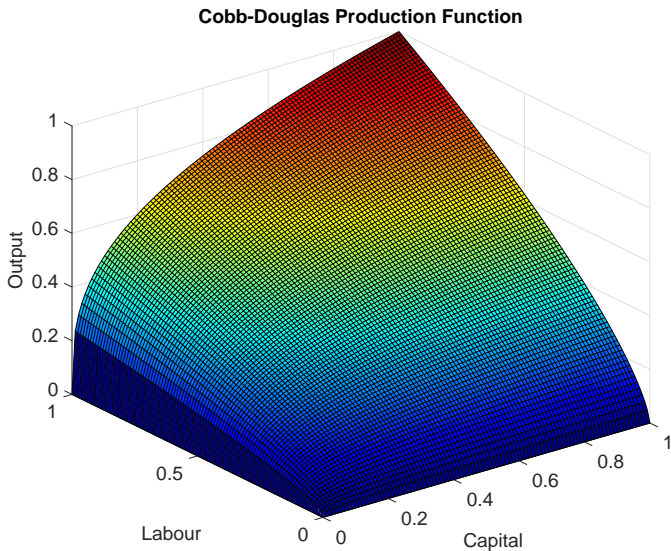
$$Y = F(K, L, A)$$

- ▶ Major assumption is that technology is **free** (publicly available, non-excludable, non-rival)
- ▶ Assume that all firms have access to the same **production function**. This aggregate production function for the unique final good is

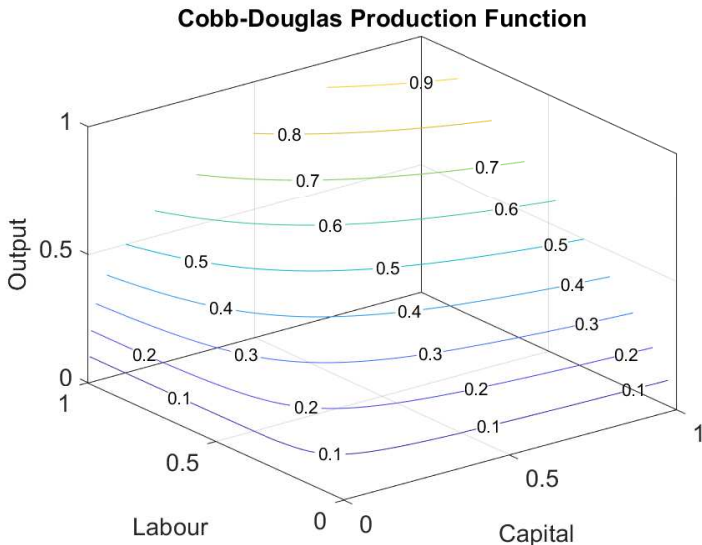
$$Y = K^{\alpha}(AL)^{1-\alpha}$$

- ▶ Referred to as a **Cobb-Douglas production function** with *labour augmenting technology*

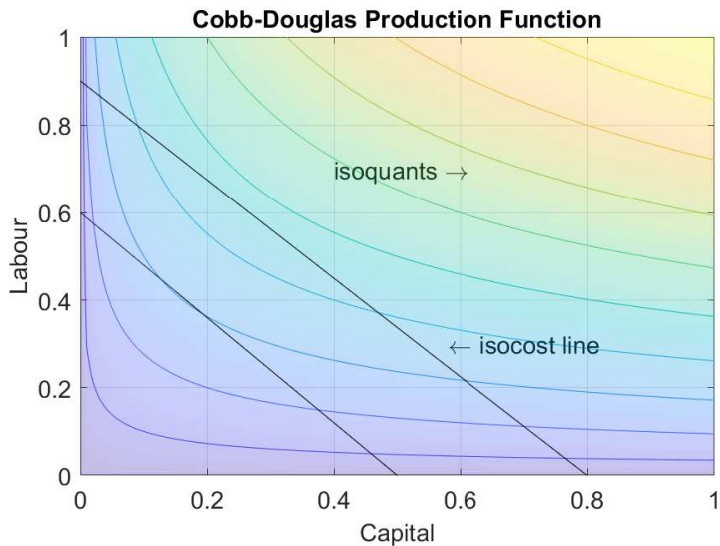
# The Solow-Swan model



# The Solow-Swan model



# The Solow-Swan model



# The Solow-Swan model

Assumptions: Firm

- ▶ With the assumption of constant returns to scale we can write the equation in its intensive form

$$y = f(k) = (K/AL)^\alpha = k^\alpha$$

- ▶ Some assumptions concerning the intensive form are:<sup>2</sup>

$$\text{Concave} = \begin{cases} f(0) = (0)^\alpha & = 0 \\ f'(k) = \alpha k^{\alpha-1} & > 0 \\ f''(k) = \alpha k(\alpha - 1)^{\alpha-2} & < 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Inada} = \begin{cases} \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} f'(k) & = 0 \\ \lim_{k \rightarrow 0} f'(k) & = \infty \end{cases}$$

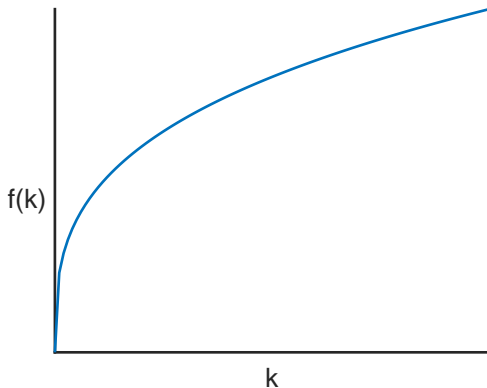
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<sup>2</sup> $\partial y / \partial k = \partial f(k) / \partial k = f'(k) = \alpha(y/k)$

# The Solow-Swan model

Assumptions: Firm

- Intensive form of this production function can be drawn in two dimensional space



Concavity (strict)? Inada conditions?



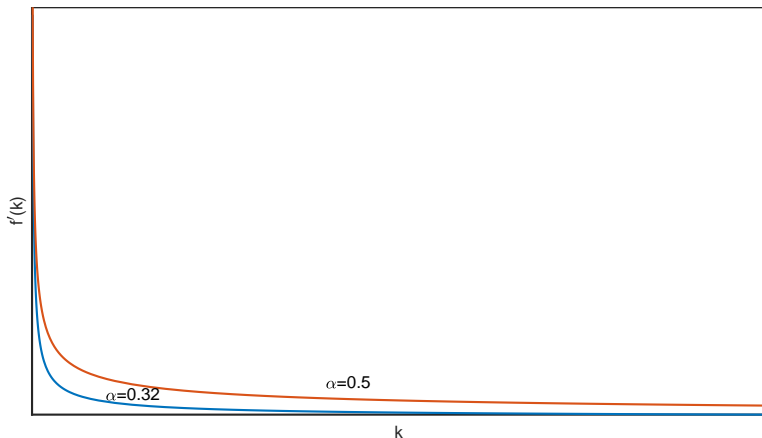
# The Solow-Swan model

Assumptions: Firm

- ▶ The first three assumptions relate to the shape of the function
- ▶ These assumptions tell us the function is concave:  
i.e. increasing ( $f'(\cdot) > 0$ ) at a decreasing rate ( $f''(\cdot) < 0$ )
- ▶ The final two assumptions are known as the **Inada conditions** and are required for stability of the model
- ▶ Inada conditions state the marginal productivity  $f'(\cdot)$  is large for small values of capital per effective labour and *vice versa*

# The Solow-Swan model

Figure: A graph of the effective capital derivative:  $f'(k)$ .



Gives an idea of the limits ...

# The Solow-Swan model

## Discrete v. Continuous

- ▶ Most of us are familiar with discrete time growth rates, namely:

$$g = \frac{Y_{t+1} - Y_t}{Y_t} = \frac{\Delta Y_{t+1}}{Y_t}$$

- ▶ One can represent the Solow model with discrete time dynamics, but Romer uses the continuous version.
- ▶ In discrete time, if output grows by, e.g., 4% then we would have that  $Y_{t+1} = (1 + g)Y_t = (1.04)Y_t$
- ▶ Applying this formula year after year we would have:

$$\text{two periods:} \quad Y_{t+2} = (1 + g)Y_{t+1} = (1 + g)^2 Y_t$$

$$\vdots$$

$$n \text{ periods:} \quad Y_{t+n} = (1 + g)Y_{t+(n-1)} = (1 + g)^n Y_t$$

# The Solow-Swan model

## Discrete v. Continuous

- ▶ If we think about variables as continuous functions of time we can use the methods of calculus and **differential equations**
- ▶ Our notation will be slightly different for continuous time ...  
     $\Rightarrow$  we use  $Y(t)$  instead of  $Y_t$
- ▶ The (instantaneous) change of  $Y$  per unit of time at moment  $t$  is a *time derivative*:

$$\frac{dY(t)}{dt} = \dot{Y}(t) \quad (2)$$

- ▶ Measures the amount of change in a variable as time passes
- ▶ If you look at the previous slide, it is similar to the discrete time first difference equation  $\rightarrow \Delta Y_{t+1} = Y_{t+1} - Y_t$
- ▶ Provides the *amount* of growth in  $Y$ , but *not the rate* of growth
- ▶ To establish a *growth rate* we must divide by the level:

discrete growth rate	$g_Y = \Delta Y_{t+1}/Y_t$
continuous growth rate	$g_Y = \dot{Y}(t)/Y_t$

# The Solow-Swan model

## Discrete v. Continuous

Given the initial value of  $Y$  at time 0 and a generic rate  $g$ , how large will  $Y$  be at some time  $t$  in future:

- ▶ In discrete time:  $Y_t = (1 + g)^t Y_0$
- ▶ Continuous time version  $\rightarrow$  *continuous* compounding
- ▶ Gives the corresponding formula:

$$Y(t) = e^{gt} \cdot Y(0) \tag{3}$$

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- ▶ How long will it take a country to double in size?

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- How long will it take a country to double in size?

**Rule of 70:**  $70/g = t$

$\Rightarrow 70/2\% = 35yrs$  or  $70/4\% = 17.5yrs$

# The Solow-Swan model

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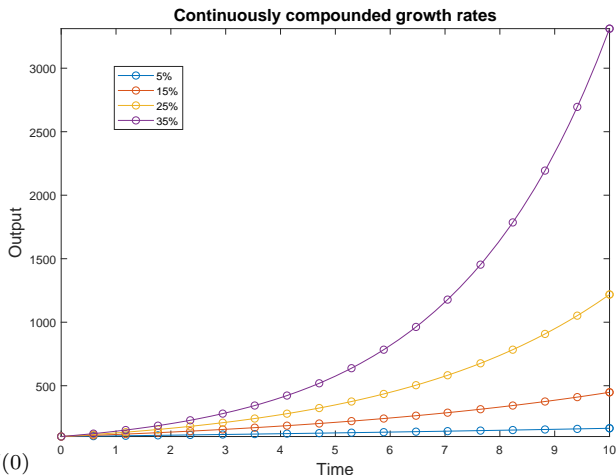
Take natural logarithm (inverse of  $e$ ) of Eq. (3):

$$\begin{aligned} \ln Y(t) &= [\ln Y(0)] + gt \\ \ln(Y(t)/Y(0)) &= gt \\ \ln(2) &= gt \Rightarrow \ln(2)/g = t \Rightarrow 69.3/(100 * g) = t \end{aligned}$$



# The Solow-Swan model

## Discrete v. Continuous



$$Y(t) = e^{gt} \cdot Y(0)$$

More generally,  $e^{gt}$  shows the effects of continuously compounding growth (or interest) over the period  $[0, t]$ .

Analogously, the present value of 1 unit of output at  $t$  is  $e^{-gt}$  (see Romer pp.13-14)

# The Solow-Swan model

## The evolution of the inputs of production

- In the textbook Romer assumes that the labour force ( $L$ ) and stock of “knowledge” or “effectiveness of labour” ( $A$ ) both grow at constant rates:

$$\dot{L}(t) = nL(t),$$

$$\dot{A}(t) = gA(t),$$

where  $n$  and  $g$  are exogenous parameters and where a dot over a variable denotes a derivative wrt time:  $\dot{X}(t) = dX(t)/dt$

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- The growth rate of a variable is equal to the time derivative of the natural log of the variable:

$$\frac{d\ln L(t)}{dt} = \underbrace{\frac{d\ln L(t)}{dL(t)} \cdot \frac{dL(t)}{dt}}_{\text{chain rule}} = \frac{1}{L(t)} \cdot \dot{L}(t)$$

- The same calculations are true for technology, just replace  $L$  with  $A$ , and  $n$  with  $g$ .

# The Solow-Swan model

The evolution of the inputs of production

- ▶ Output is divided between consumption and investment

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

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where the fraction of output devoted to investment ( $s$ ) is exogenous and constant.

- ▶ The equation of motion (or evolution) of the capital stock can be described by the following equation:

$$\dot{K}(t) = sY(t) - \delta K(t),$$

where existing capital depreciates at rate  $\delta$ .

# The Dynamics of the Model

## The dynamics of $k$

- ▶ How do we determine the behaviour of the economy we have just described?
- ▶ The evolution of two of the three inputs into production ( $L$  and  $A$ ) is exogenous ...
- ▶ Because the economy may be growing over time we focus on the capital stock per unit of effective labour:  $k = K/AL$ .
- ▶ We can use the chain rule (for partial differentiation) to derive the evolution of  $k$ :<sup>3</sup>

$$\dot{k}(t) = sf(k(t)) - (n + g + \delta)k(t). \quad (4)$$

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<sup>3</sup>Recall: output per unit of effective labour  $y = f(k)$  and the fraction of output that is saved is  $s$ .

# The Dynamics of the Model

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Where does the  $n + g$  come from? ... Derivation for your tutorial!

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# The Dynamics of the Model

## The fundamental equation

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

Eq. (4) states that the *rate of change* of the the capital stock per unit of effective labour is the difference between actual investment,  $sf(k)$ , and *break-even* investment,  $(n + g + \delta)k$ .

# The Dynamics of the Model

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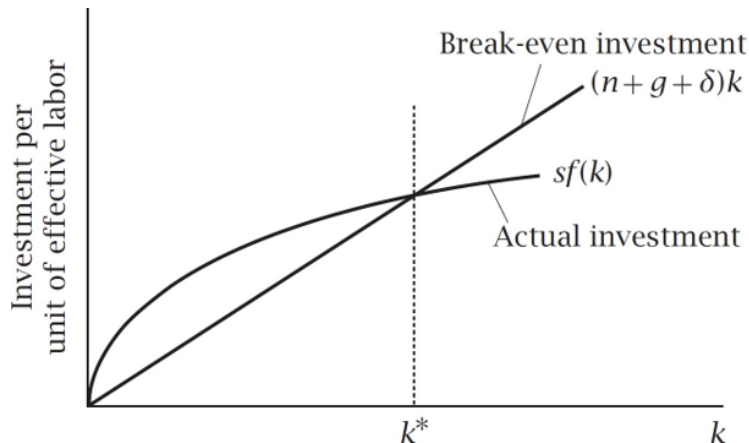
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We can plot the two terms of this equation for  $\dot{k}$  as functions of  $k$  ...

# The Dynamics of the Model

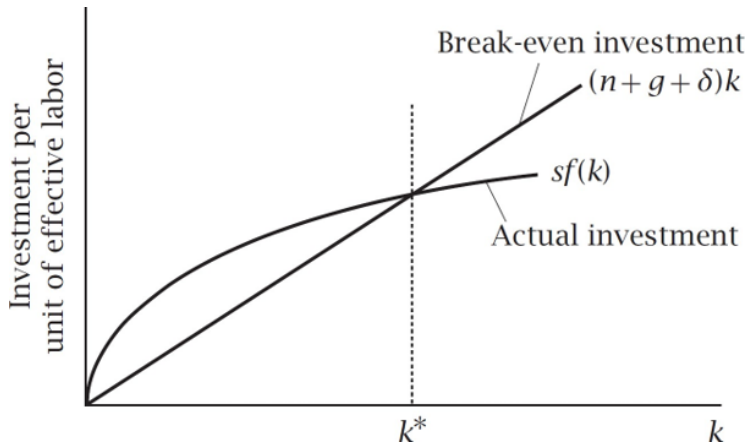
## Phase diagram



Recall the Inada conditions ...  $f'(k) \rightarrow \infty$  as  $k \rightarrow 0$  and  $f'(k) \rightarrow 0$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$  and  $f''(k) < 0$ .

# The Dynamics of the Model

## Phase diagram



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Hint: slopes of the lines are  $sf'(k)$  and  $(n + g + \delta)$ .

# The Dynamics of the Model

Phase diagram

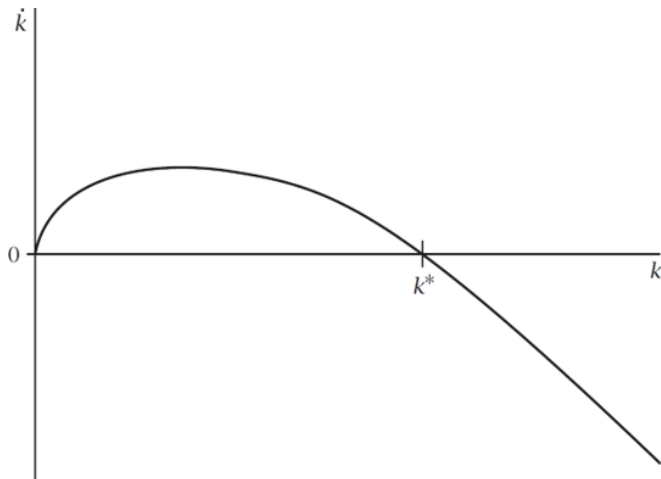


FIGURE 1.3 The phase diagram for  $k$  in the Solow model

Regardless of where  $k$  starts, it converges to  $k^*$  and remains there ...

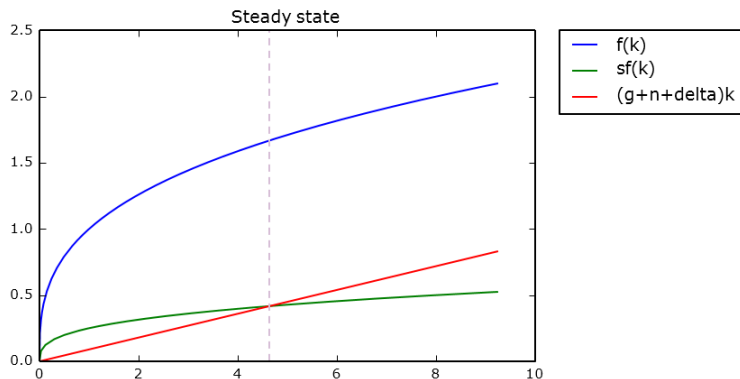
# The Dynamics of the Model

## The Balanced Growth Path (stable equilibrium)

- ▶ This “steady state” does not mean that the economy is stagnating.
- ▶ Instead the economy has reached the *balanced growth path*: each variable of the model is growing at a constant rate. Characteristics of the BGP follow as:
  1. Variables expressed per unit of effective labour ( $k^*, y^*, c^*$ ) remain unchanged
  2. By assumption labour and knowledge (or technological progress) are growing at  $n$  and  $g$ .
  3. Given that capital stock is  $K = kAL$  and we have constant returns to scale:

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{K}/K; \dot{A}L/AL; \dot{Y}/Y &= n + g \\ K/L; Y/L &= g\end{aligned}$$

# The Steady State



Given that  $\dot{k}(t) = 0$  on the *balance growth path*, we can solve for the steady-state levels of capital and output per unit of effective labour

$$k^* = \left( \frac{s}{n + g + \delta} \right)^{\frac{1}{1-\alpha}}$$
$$y^* = \left( \frac{s}{n + g + \delta} \right)^{\frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}}$$

# The Dynamics of the Model

## Consumption in the Steady State

Introducing households into the model raises the issue of welfare from consumption (instead of output)

- ▶ Consumption:  $C = Y - S = Y - I$  in the closed economy
- ▶ In consumption per unit of effective labour terms:

$$c = f(k) - sf(k)$$

- ▶ On the BGP: actual investment  $sf(k^*)$ , equals break-even investment,  $(n + g + \delta)k^*$
- ▶ Therefore,  $c^*$  becomes:

$$c^* = f(k^*) - (n + g + \delta)k^* \tag{5}$$



# The Dynamics of the Model

## Consumption in the Steady State

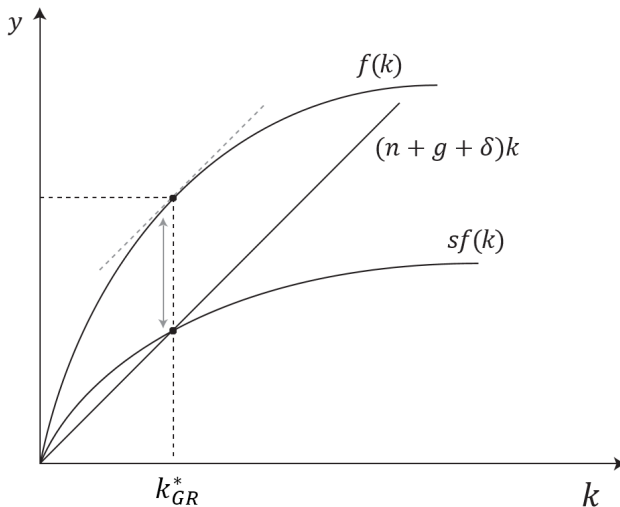
Note: re-writing the fundamental equation in terms of consumption delivers some interesting results:

$$c = f(k) - sf(k)$$

- ▶ The capital-effective labour ratio has two opposing effects on consumption per unit of effective labour
  1. A rise in  $k$  raises income,  $f(k)$ ; and thereby per capita consumption
  2. However, a rise in  $k$  raises the amount of investment required to maintain the capital stock per effective labour, and so lowers the per capita consumption

# The Dynamics of the Model

## Golden Rule Level of Capital Stock



From (5):  $\frac{\partial c^*}{\partial k^*} = f'(k^*) - (n + g + \delta) = 0 \Rightarrow k_{GR}^*$

# The Dynamics of the Model

## Golden Rule Level of Capital Stock

- ▶ This diagram tells us that you cannot raise consumption indefinitely by raising the capital-effective labour ratio
- ▶ There is going to be a **golden rule level of capital stock** which *maximises* consumption per effective unit of output
- ▶ In this model there is *no reason* to expect that the balanced growth path = the golden rule level of capital stock
- ▶ The reason is that the *rate of savings in this model is exogenous*; which means there is no guarantee that the optimum amount of savings is done

# The Dynamics of the Model

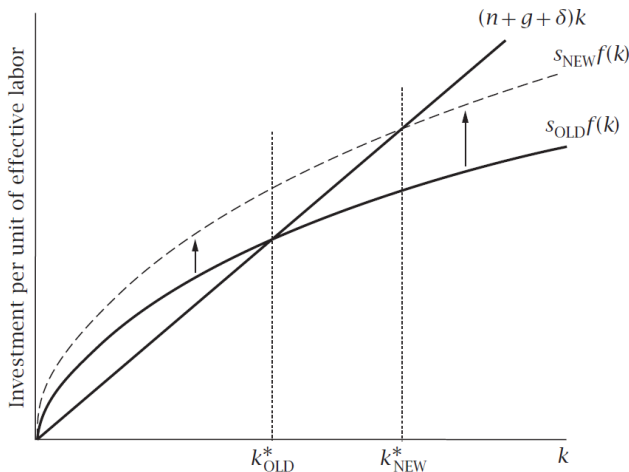
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...back to this in a moment ...

# The Impact of a Change in the Savings Rate

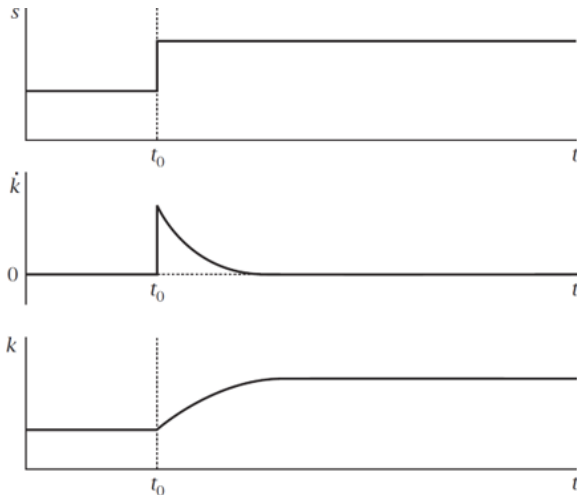
The impact on output



- ▶ A savings rate change does NOT affect long run growth in  $Y/L$
- ▶ Has a *level effect* but not a *growth effect*

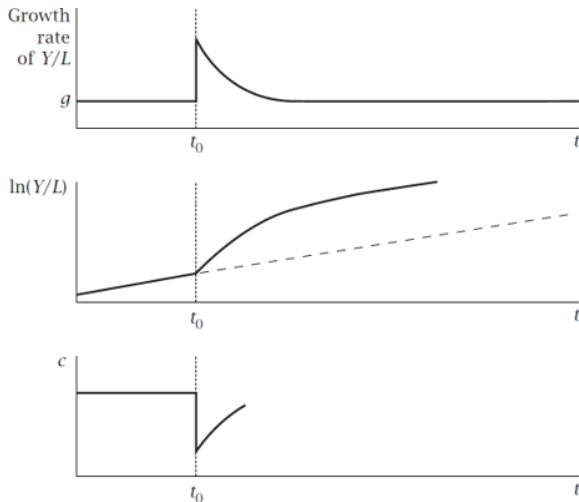
# The Impact of a Change in the Savings Rate

The effects of an increase in the saving rate



# The Impact of a Change in the Savings Rate

The effects of an increase in the saving rate



What happens to consumption?

# The Impact of a Change in the Savings Rate

## The impact on consumption

- Recall: a change in the savings rate has *level effect* but not a *growth effect*

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

Take the partial derivative of steady-state consumption wrt savings:

$$\frac{\partial c^*}{\partial s} = [f'(k^*) - (n + g + \delta)] \frac{\partial k^*}{\partial s} . \quad (6)$$

And recall from (5):

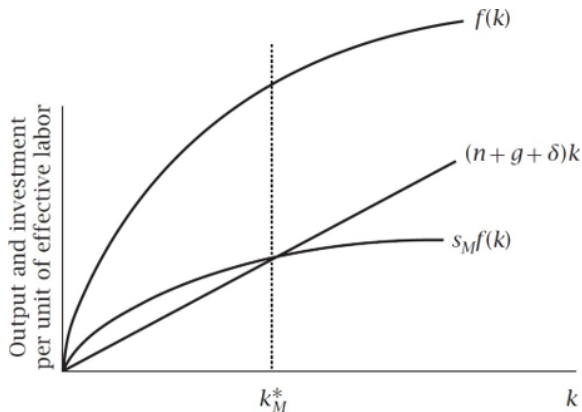
$$\frac{\partial c^*}{\partial k^*} = f'(k^*) - (n + g + \delta) = 0 \Rightarrow k_{GR}^* \dots$$



# The Impact of a Change in the Savings Rate

Case 1: the impact on consumption

Case 1:  $f'(k^*) = (n + g + \delta)$

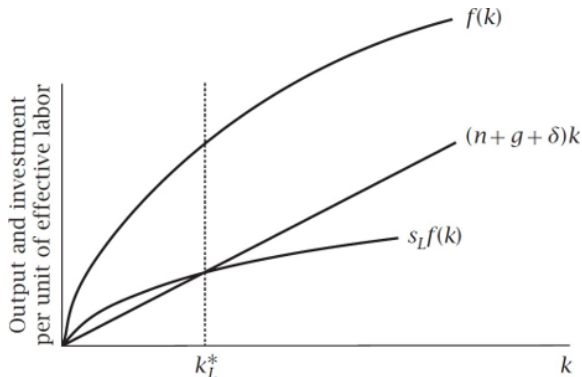


A marginal change in  $s$  has no effect on consumption in the long-run and consumption is at its maximum possible level.  $\frac{\partial c^*}{\partial k^*} = f'(k^*) - (n + g + \delta) = 0 \Rightarrow k_M^* = k_{GR}^*$

# The Impact of a Change in the Savings Rate

Case 2: the impact on consumption

Case 2:  $f'(k^*) > (n + g + \delta)$ ,  $s$  low,  $k^*$  low

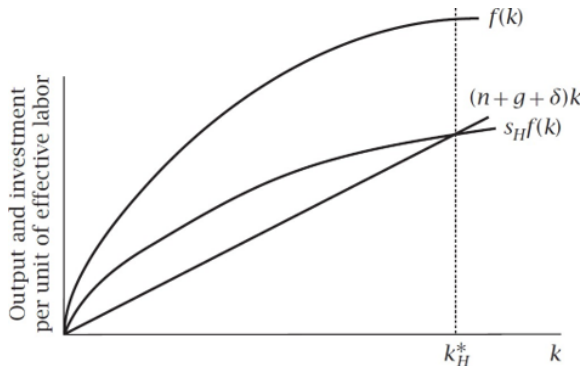


- ▶  $\uparrow s$  raises consumption in the long-run  $\Rightarrow$  implies a higher standard of living in the long run
- ▶ i.e., if the steady state level of capital  $k^*$  does not exceed the golden rule capital stock:  $k_L^* < k_M^*$ .

# The Impact of a Change in the Savings Rate

## Case 3: the impact on consumption

Case 3:  $f'(k^*) < (n + g + \delta)$ ,  $s$  high,  $k^*$  high



- $\uparrow s$  lowers consumption even when the economy has reached its new balanced growth path.

# Quantitative Implications

The effect on output in the long run (see Romer pp.23-26)

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

Substituting in yields:

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

which we can convert into an elasticity by  $\times s/y^*$ :

$$\frac{s}{y^*} \frac{\partial y^*}{\partial s} = \frac{\alpha_K(k^*)}{1 - \alpha_K(k^*)},$$

where  $\alpha_K(k^*) = k^* f'(k^*)/f(k^*)$  is the elasticity of output wrt capital at  $k = k^*$ . [We use the BGP condition:  $sf(k^*) = (n + g + \delta)k^*$ .]

In most countries,  $\alpha = 0.33 \rightarrow$  elasticity of  $y^*$  wrt  $s$  is 0.5. A small value implies a low impact of savings on output.

# Quantitative Implications

## The speed of convergence

- ▶ Not only interested in eventual effect of some change, we also want to know how fast those effects occur (pp. 25).
- ▶ Again, we can use approximations around the long-run equilibrium.
- ▶ Our goal is to determine how rapidly  $k$  approaches  $k^*$
- ▶ Since  $\dot{k}$  is determined by  $k$  (Eq.4):

$$\dot{k}(t) \approx -\lambda[k(t) - k^*]$$

where  $\lambda = -\partial\dot{k}(k)/\partial k|_{k=k^*}$ . When  $k = k^*$ ,  $\dot{k} = 0$ .

- ▶ Since  $\dot{k}$  is positive when  $k$  is slightly below  $k^*$  and negative when it is slightly above,  $\partial\dot{k}(k)/\partial k|_{k=k^*}$  is negative (i.e.,  $\lambda$  is positive).
- ▶ The growth rate of  $k(t) - k^*$  is approximately constant and equal to  $-\lambda$ :

$$k(t) \approx k^* + e^{-\lambda t}[k(0) - k^*],$$

$\lambda = [1 - \alpha_K(k^*)](n + g + \delta) \approx 4\%$  or about a 17-year *half-life* (see p.27)

# Central questions in Growth Theory

Technological progress (productivity growth)

- ▶ Ultimately, the shift in production technology is the only factor of the model that can bring about change in long term output growth to the model
- ▶ i.e., only differences in the effectiveness of labour can account for the vast differences in wealth across time and space
  - ▶ Productivity raises steady-state output in two ways:
    1. Directly, by increasing output for a given  $k$
    2. Indirectly, by raising the steady state  $k^*$
  - ▶ Variations in the accumulation of capital do not account for significant differences:
    1. Directly,  $k$  differs by factor of  $X^{1/\alpha}$
    2. Indirectly, differences in rate of return on capital,  $f'(k) - \delta$ .
- ▶ Problem with Solow model is that it does not try and understand technological advancement (black box)
- ▶ Romer, Chapters 3 and 4 address this.

# Central questions in Growth Theory

## Poverty Traps

What about population growth?

- ▶ Many countries consider high population growth as development problem and try to reduce it with policy measures (e.g. China's "one-child family" policy)
- ▶ However, many counter-arguments to this logic (small population may reduce chance of technological advance)
  - ▶ **Econtalk:** *Spence on Growth* & *Easterly on Growth*
- ▶ There are two types of poverty traps: technologically-induced poverty traps and demographically-induced poverty traps. Both cases involve the inclusion of a non-linearity into the system.<sup>4</sup>
  - ▶ endogenous population growth ( $n = f(y) = n(k)$ )
  - ▶ non-linearities in the production function ( $f''(k) > 0$  &  $< 0$ )
- ▶ Tutorial application. . .

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<sup>4</sup>See Snowdon (2008) *The Solow Model, Poverty Traps and the Foreign Aid debate*

# Empirical applications

## Growth accounting

How much of growth is due to changes in specific factors of production?

- ▶ From the production function,  $Y(t) = F(K(t), A(t)L(t))$  we can derive an expression for the growth rate of output per worker (p. 30)

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\dot{Y}(t)}{Y(t)} &= \alpha_K \frac{\dot{K}(t)}{K(t)} + \alpha_L \frac{\dot{L}(t)}{L(t)} + R(t) \\ \frac{\dot{Y}(t)}{Y(t)} - \frac{\dot{L}(t)}{L(t)} &= \alpha_K \left[ \frac{\dot{K}(t)}{K(t)} - \frac{\dot{L}(t)}{L(t)} \right] + R(t),\end{aligned}\quad (7)$$

where  $R(t)$  is called the *Solow residual*

- ▶ i.e., decompose the growth of output per worker into the contribution of growth of capital per worker and the Solow residual.



## Growth accounting: South Africa

*Table 6 Sources of output growth in South Africa: 1985 – 2004*

Human Capital Treatment	Period	Output growth	Capital contribution	Labour contribution	Total factor productivity
No provision for human capital	1985-1994	0.8	0.45	0.63	-0.28
	1995-2004	3.1	0.62	0.62	1.86
Human capital based on average years of schooling	1985-1994	0.8	0.45	1.11	-0.76
	1995-2004	3.1	0.62	0.88	1.60
Human capital represented by 3 skills levels	1985-1994	0.8	0.45	1.49	-1.14
	1995-2004	3.1	0.62	0.95	1.53

*Table 7 Recent studies on the sources of output growth in South Africa*

Study	Period	Output growth	Capital contribution	Labour contribution	Total factor productivity
Arora (2005)	1980-1994	1.2	0.8	0.7	-0.4
	1995-2003	2.9	0.7	0.9	1.3
Fedderke (2002)	1970s	3.21	2.54	1.17	-0.49
	1980s	2.20	1.24	0.62	0.34
	1990s	0.94	0.44	-0.58	1.07

Source: Du Plessis and Smit (2007)

## Growth accounting: South Africa

*Table 8 Sources of output growth in South Africa: Sectoral: 1985-2004*

	Output Growth		Capital contribution		Labour contribution		Total factor productivity	
	1985-1994	1995-2004	1985-1994	1995-2004	1985-1994	1995-2004	1985-1994	1995-2004
Primary sector	0.47	0.31	0.51	0.32	-0.43	-0.75	0.39	0.74
- Agriculture, forestry and fishing	3.89	0.44	-1.38	-0.18	-0.04	-0.35	2.55	0.61
- Mining and quarrying	-0.58	0.26	1.45	0.50	-1.07	-1.37	-0.96	1.13
Secondary sector	-0.03	2.73	0.21	0.31	-0.50	-1.22	0.26	3.64
- Manufacturing	-0.1	2.78	0.49	0.7	-0.47	-0.67	-0.12	2.75
- Electricity, gas and water	3.95	1.61	-0.29	-0.86	-1.55	-0.92	5.79	3.39
- Construction (contractors)	-2.64	3.48	-0.83	1.65	-0.36	-3.44	-1.45	-1.61
Tertiary sector	1.41	3.79	0.54	0.72	0.24	0.97	0.64	2.10
- Wholesale and retail trade, catering and accommodation	-0.11	4.3	0.48	1.07	0.27	1.18	-0.86	2.05
- Transport, storage and communication	1.58	6.85	0.09	0.97	2.8	-1.6	4.29	7.48
- Financial intermediation, insurance, real estate and business services	1.77	5.16	0.76	0.76	4.11	3.26	-3.10	1.14

Data source: Quantec

Source: Du Plessis and Smit (2007)

# Empirical applications

## Convergence & Savings-Investment

Major empirical implication of the model is the phenomenon of convergence. Do poor countries tend to grow faster than rich countries?

Solow model predicts:

- ▶ If countries converge to their balanced growth paths  $\Rightarrow$  expect poor countries to "catch-up"
- ▶ at higher  $k^*$ ,  $f'(k^*) - \delta$  is lower in rich countries  $\therefore$  capital should flow from rich to poor countries
- ▶ lags in the diffusion of knowledge

pp. 32-35: See discussion of Baumol (1986) and the follow-up by De Long (1988)

Savings-Investment correlation and the Feldstein-Horioka paradox:

- ▶ High  $S - I$  correlation likely not due to barriers to capital mobility; rather
- ▶ underlying forces affecting both  $S$  and  $I$