

It is also to be noted that Harrod's model is most suitable for developed economies.

Various modifications of the model has been done one of which was by P.C. Mahalanobis to make it more realistic and in line with developing economies. (refer lecture note)

Soleo Model (Neo Classical model)

Assumptions

(a) Single homogeneous commodity is produced (say GDP can be treated as one)

One important implication is that there will be no international exchange.

(b) Technology is exogenous.

that is tech available to firms in this simple world is unaffected by the actions of the firms including R&D.

(c) We save a constant fraction s of the income $S = sY$ which goes to investment.

$$\Rightarrow C = Y - sY = (1-s)Y$$

$$= cY$$

(d) We devote a constant fraction of time for acquiring skills and a constant fraction for production.

why price is kept const and @.

The basic solow model

We have 2 main equations

- (i) Production fn (ii) Capital Accumulation eqn.

Note that: - it is a neo-classical model.
it is perf competition.
Price is constant

Price of Y, L, K is constant

Take $P=1 \Rightarrow$ real wage $= w > w$.
rental cost of capital $= r$.

Assume, the prod fn is Cobb Douglas

$Y = f(K, L)$ \Rightarrow with only 2 ^{inputs}
(simplification).

\Rightarrow assumed to exhibit CRS.

$Y = K^\alpha L^{1-\alpha}$ \Rightarrow linearly homogeneous
 $\alpha + (1-\alpha) = 1$

where α is output elasticity wrt capital.
 $(1-\alpha)$ is " " " " " " " " labor.

$0 < \alpha < 1$.

Optimization exercise

$$\max_{K, L} F(K, L) - C$$

$$\max_{K, L} \Pi = K^\alpha L^{1-\alpha} - \omega L - rK$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial Y}{\partial K} - r = 0 \Rightarrow r = MPK$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial Y}{\partial L} - \omega = 0 \Rightarrow \omega = MPL$$

ie firms will hire labor and capital until the point where the MPK and MPL equals the cost of the input.

Further, the FOC means

$$r = MPK \text{ i.e. } \alpha K^{\alpha-1} L^{1-\alpha} = \alpha Y/K$$

$$\omega = MPL \text{ i.e. } (1-\alpha) K^\alpha L^{-\alpha} = (1-\alpha) \frac{Y}{L}$$

From Euler's theorem

$$f_K \cdot K + f_L \cdot L = Y \quad (\text{since } Y = K^\alpha L^{1-\alpha})$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{MPK \cdot K + MPL \cdot L} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$= \alpha \cdot \frac{Y}{K} \cdot K + (1-\alpha) \cdot \frac{Y}{L} \cdot L$$

$$= \alpha Y + (1-\alpha) Y$$

$$\boxed{= 1 \cdot Y}$$

Thus α and $1-\alpha$ are also the share of capital & labor ^{output paid to}.

And for Π max in this case $MPK = r$
 $MPL = \omega$

$$\text{Thus (1) becomes } rK + \omega L = Y$$

ie payments to the inputs ie factor

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payments completely exhaust the value of output produced so that there are no economic profits to be earned.

This important result is a general property of production for constant returns.

This is the product exhaustion theorem.

Now, we are interested in output per worker and capital per worker.

Take $y = \frac{Y}{L}$ and $k = \frac{K}{L}$

$$Y = K^\alpha L^{1-\alpha}$$

$$\frac{Y}{L} = k^\alpha L^{-\alpha}$$

$$\frac{Y}{L} = \left(\frac{K}{L}\right)^\alpha$$

$$\Rightarrow y = k^\alpha$$

$$k > 0$$
$$\alpha \in (0, 1)$$

$$\frac{\partial y}{\partial k} = \alpha k^{\alpha-1}$$

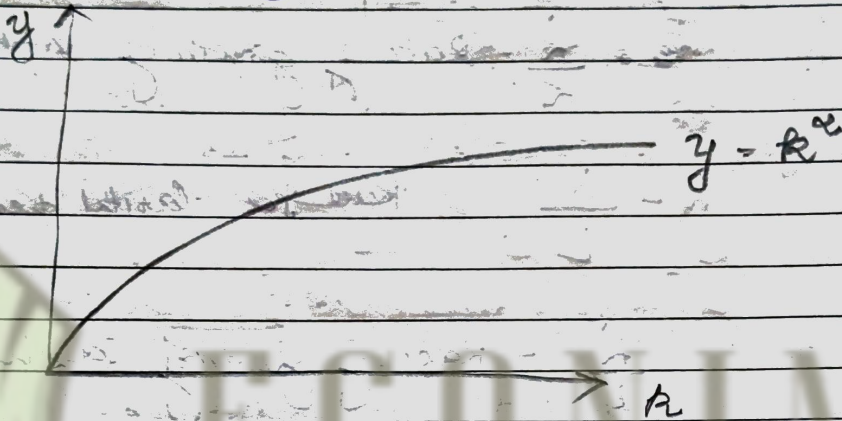
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial k} k^{\alpha-1} > 0$$

ie as $k \rightarrow 0$

$$\frac{\partial y}{\partial k} \rightarrow 0$$

and vice versa

This type of production function exhibits Diminishing returns to capital per worker, each additional unit of capital we give to a single worker ↑ the output but by a lesser and lesser rate.



Diminishing returns to capital per worker.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dy}{dK} &= \frac{dy}{dY} \cdot \frac{dY}{dK} \cdot \frac{dK}{dL} \\ &= \frac{f'(Y/L)}{dy} \cdot MP_L \cdot dK \\ &= \frac{1}{L} \cdot MP_L \cdot \frac{1}{1/L} \Rightarrow MP_L = \frac{dy}{dK} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dy}{dK} = \frac{1}{L} \cdot MP_L \cdot \frac{1}{1/L} \Rightarrow MP_L = \frac{dy}{dK}$$

Hence DRS to capital per worker $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{and we already know} \\ \text{that as } \frac{dy}{dK} \rightarrow 0 \\ \text{and } \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial K^2} < 0 \end{array} \right\}$

Capital Accumulation equation

Remember:- K - capital stock

$$\dot{K} = \frac{dK}{dt} \quad \text{change in capital stock per period}$$

$$\frac{\dot{K}}{K} \quad \text{Rate of growth of capital stock}$$

$$\bar{k} = \frac{K}{L} \quad \text{Rate per capital per worker}$$

$$\frac{\dot{\bar{k}}}{\bar{k}} \quad \text{Rate of growth of capital per worker}$$

Now, capital accumulation equation is given by

$$\dot{K} = sY - dK$$

$$0 < s < 1 \\ 0 < d < 1$$

Thus there are 2 channels for change in capital stock:-

(a) Savings and Gross Investment (sY)

Following Solow we assumed that constant fraction of 's' will be saved and since Economy is closed it goes directly into investment and the only use of invest in this economy is to accumulate capital.

(b) Depreciation (dK)

We assume that a const fraction d of the cap stock depreciates every period regardless of how much output is produced.

⑩

Now to rewrite this equation in capital per worker terms

We know $k = \frac{K}{L}$

⑪ $\ln k = \ln K - \ln L$

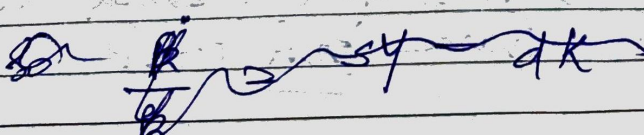
diff w.r.t T : $\frac{\dot{k}}{k} = \frac{\dot{K}}{K} - \frac{\dot{L}}{L}$ (1)

We already know $\frac{\dot{K}}{K} = \frac{sY}{K} - d$

what about $\frac{\dot{L}}{L}$? Growth rate of labor force.

The growth rate of labor force $\frac{\dot{L}}{L}$ is assumed to be constant - by parameter n .

The exponential growth can be seen from the relationship $L(t) = L_0 e^{nt}$.



So $\dot{K} = sY - dK$

~~So~~ $\frac{\dot{K}}{K} = \frac{sY}{K} - d$

from (*) $\frac{\dot{K}}{K} = \frac{\dot{K}}{K} - \frac{\dot{L}}{L}$

$\frac{\dot{K}}{K} = \frac{sY}{K} - d - n$

$\Rightarrow \dot{K} = sY$

$\frac{\dot{K}}{K} = \frac{sY/L}{K/L} - d - n$

(Y in per labor term similarly k)

$\Rightarrow \frac{\dot{K}}{K} = \frac{sY}{K} - d - n$

$\Rightarrow \dot{K} = sY - (n+d)K$

So when it comes to capital per worker there are 3 channels of accumulation

Other than gross investment via savings and depreciation we have nK' term.

$$k \uparrow \quad \frac{k}{L} \uparrow$$

Each period there are nL new workers around who were not there during last period. Other par, capital per worker would decline because of the increase in labor force.

⊛ often it is convenient describing new model to assume that labor force participation rate is unity i.e. every member of population is a worker.

We have

$$y = k^\alpha$$

$$\text{and } \dot{k} = sy - (n+d)k$$

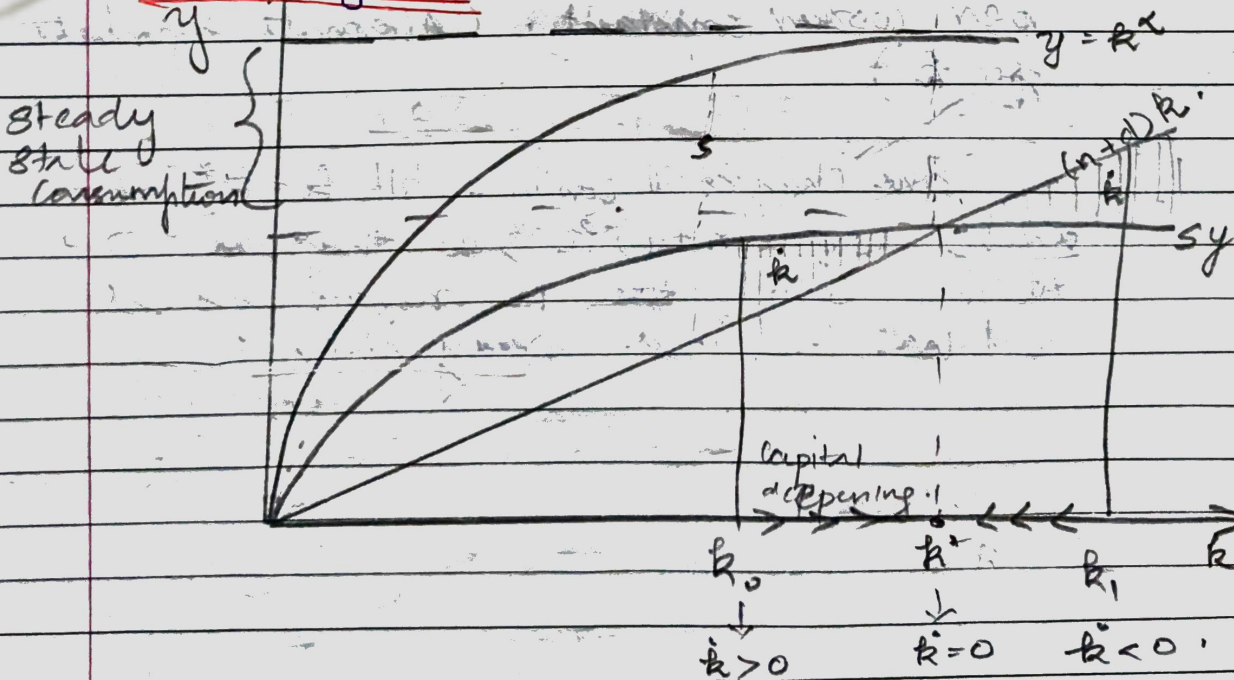
$$= sk^\alpha - (n+d)k$$

parameters: n, d, s, α

endogenous: y

exogenous: k, L

Solow diagram

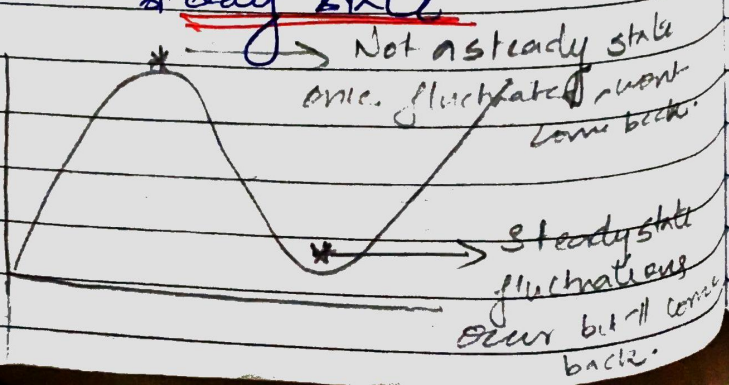


The Solow diagram consists of mainly 2 curves (here I incorporated the prod fn as well). The first curve is the amt of invest per person, $sy = sk^\alpha$. This curve has the same shape as that of prod function with translated down by a factor of s .

The second curve is the line $(n+d)k$ which represents the amt of new invest per person required to keep the amt of capital per worker constant -

The diff b/w the two curves is the change in the amt of capital per worker. When this change is positive and the economy is increasing its k , we say capital deepening is occurring. Movement from k_0 to k_1 as at k_0 of $k_1 > 0$ i.e. amt of invest per worker exceeds the amt needed to keep capital per worker constant. (Alternate arguments for k_1)

The changes will continue till $k = k^*$ at which $sy = (n+d)k$, so that $\dot{k} = 0$. At this pt, ~~the~~ k remains constant and we call it a steady state.



Note:-

When this per worker change is zero ($\dot{k}=0$) but the actual capital stock k is growing (because of population growth) we say only capital widening is happening.

$$\dot{k} = \frac{\dot{K}}{K} - \frac{\dot{L}}{L}$$

$$\dot{k} = 0 \Rightarrow 0 = \frac{\dot{K}}{K} - \frac{\dot{L}}{L} \Rightarrow \frac{\dot{K}}{K} = \frac{\dot{L}}{L}$$

$$\text{Then } \frac{\dot{K}}{K} = \frac{\dot{K}'}{K'} = \frac{\dot{L}}{L}$$

Also note from the diagrams that steady state consumption is given by the diff. b/w y curve and s_y curve at corresponding k in steady state -

$$\dot{k} = s k^\alpha - (n+d)k$$

At steady state ~~$\dot{k} = 0$~~ $k = k^*$, $\dot{k} = 0$

$$\Rightarrow s k^{*\alpha} = (n+d)k^*$$

$$k^{*\alpha-1} = \frac{n+d}{s}$$

$$k^{*1-\alpha} = \frac{s}{n+d}$$

$$\text{Then } y = k^{*\alpha}$$

$$y = \left(\frac{s}{n+d} \right)^{\frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}}$$

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

We can solve for k_t using diff. eqn.

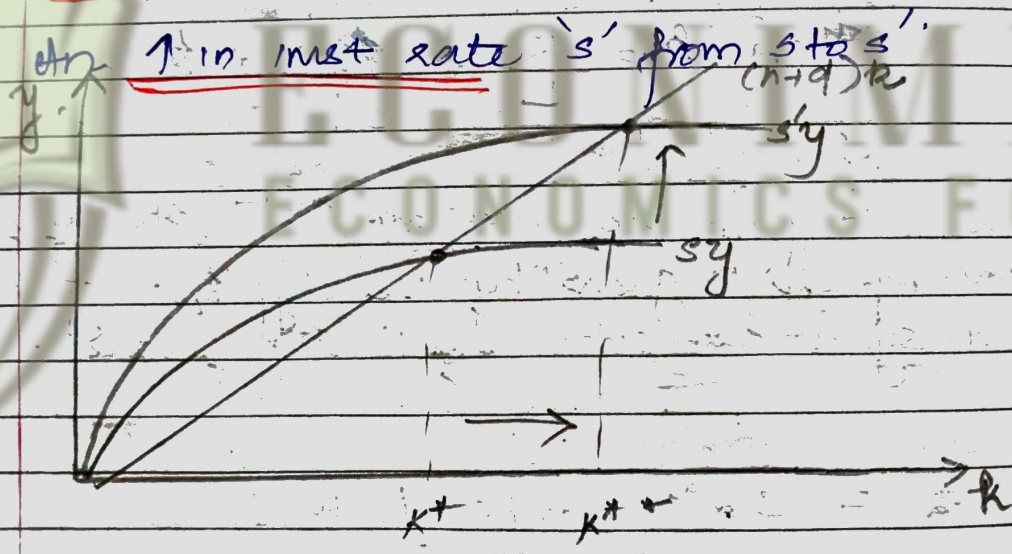
$$k_t = \left[(1 - e^{-\lambda t}) \frac{s}{n+d} + k_0^{1-\alpha} e^{-\lambda t} \right]^{\frac{1}{1-\alpha}}$$

where $\lambda = (1-\alpha)(n+d)$

As $t \rightarrow 0$ $k_t \rightarrow k_0$

$t \rightarrow \infty$ $k_t \rightarrow k^*$

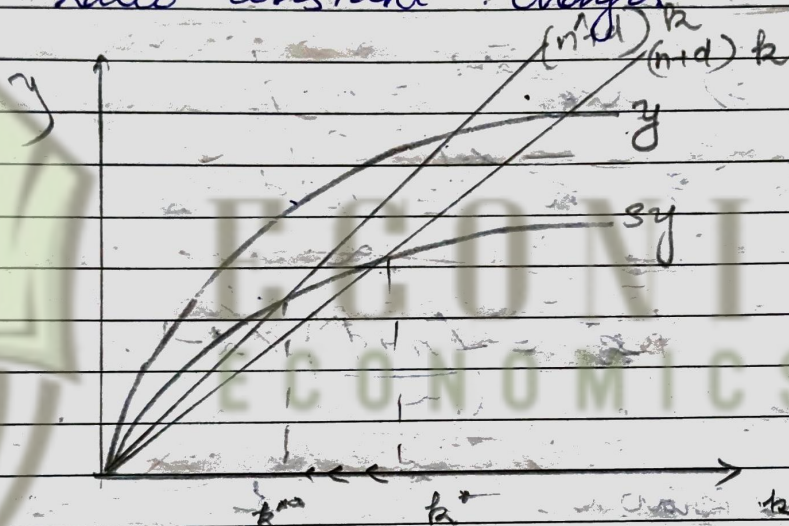
Comparative Statics



Increase in inst rate shifts the inst curve upward to sy' . At the current value of capital k^* , invest per worker now exceeds the amt required to keep capital per worker constant and therefore the economy begins capital deepening. Changes continue till k^{**} . Higher k^* means higher output. Economy is richer than before.

Increase in population growth:

If popln rises to n' from n . The $(n+d)k$ curve rotates up and to the left. At the current value of the capital stock k^* , investment per worker is now no longer high enough to keep the capital-labor ratio constant. Changes continue till k^{**} .



So the ultimate question of why are some countries richer and some poorer lies in the fact that: Higher s , lower n (and d) would make countries richer as higher would be their y and k .

Note:- If α is higher growth rate of output will be higher

But a higher s to any extent desirable? We know $c+s=1$ and hence we should know that there exist a finite value b/w 0 and 1 for s where optimum consumption must also be met.

Golden rule steady state:

$$c^* = k^{\alpha+d} - (n+d)k^{\alpha}$$

FOC: $\frac{\partial c^*}{\partial k^*} = \alpha k^{\alpha+d-1} - (n+d)$

$$\frac{\partial c^*}{\partial k^*} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha k^{\alpha+d-1} = n+d$$

$$\Rightarrow k^{\alpha+d-1} = \frac{n+d}{\alpha}$$

$$k^* = \left(\frac{n+d}{\alpha} \right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha-1}}$$

Now we know

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

$$= \left(\frac{n+d}{s} \right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha-1}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(\frac{n+d}{s} \right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha-1}} = \left(\frac{n+d}{\alpha} \right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha-1}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{s = \alpha}$$

Economic Growth in the simple model.

We know $\dot{y} = \frac{dy}{dt}$ and rate of growth of $y = \frac{\dot{y}}{y}$.

$$y = k^\alpha$$

$$\ln y = \alpha \ln k$$

$\frac{\dot{y}}{y} = \alpha \frac{\dot{k}}{k}$ ie growth rate of output is some fraction of the \dot{k} capital per worker.

$$\text{Also } y = \frac{Y}{L}$$

$$\alpha \ln y = \alpha \ln Y - \ln L$$

$$\Rightarrow \alpha \frac{\dot{k}}{k} = \frac{\dot{y}}{y} = \frac{\dot{Y}}{Y} - \frac{\dot{L}}{L}$$

We know $\dot{k} = sy - (n+d)k$.

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\dot{k}}{k} = \frac{s}{k^{1-\alpha}} - (n+d)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\dot{y}}{y} = \alpha \frac{\dot{k}}{k}$$

$$\frac{\dot{y}}{y} = \alpha \left[\frac{s}{k^{1-\alpha}} - (n+d) \right]$$

$$\text{slope} = \frac{-s(1-\alpha)}{k^{1-\alpha}}$$

when $k \rightarrow 0$
slope $\rightarrow \infty$
and vice versa

$$\frac{\dot{k}}{k} = 0 \Rightarrow sk^{1-\alpha} = n+d$$

Output per worker (y) [same as output per person] - since we assumed labor force participation rate is constant @ g growth of popln] is constant in the steady state.

Y is growing but at the rate of population growth

At the steady state $\dot{k} = 0$ and $\dot{y} = 0$ and they all grow @ g or [the popl growth]

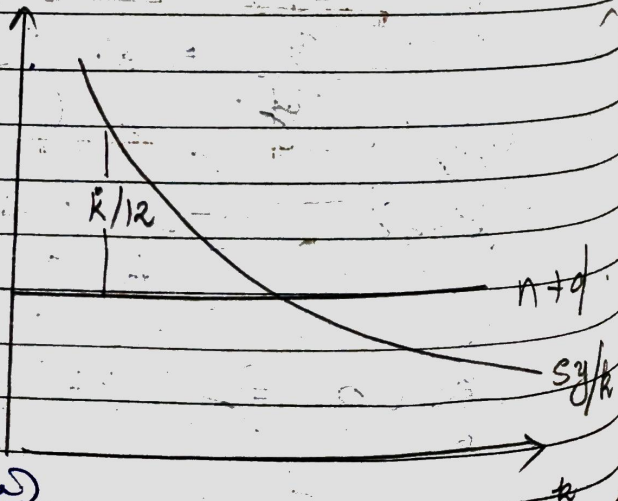
In this model the economies may grow for a while, but not forever.

If $k < k^*$, then the economy will experience growth in k and y along the transition path to the steady state. Over time however growth slows down as economy approaches steady state and eventually growth stops altogether.

REMEMBER :- Level changes; growth doesn't.

Transition dynamics

The further an economy is from the steady state (below) faster its growth.



(To see the behaviour of the lines read pg 36 first para)

Technology and Solow Model

To generate 'sustained growth', we must follow Solow and introduce technological progress. This is done by adding the tech variable A to our prod function Q .

$Y = F(K, L)$ with tech A can be represented in three ways:

- (i) $Y = A F(K, L)$ aka ^{prod fn with} Hicks-neutral technology.
- (ii) $Y = F(AK, L)$ aka ^{prod fn with} capital augmenting or Solow-neutral technology.
- (iii) $Y = F(K, AL)$ aka ^{prod fn with} labor augmenting or Harrod-neutral technology.

is We choose (iii). why?

$$\text{Taking } Y = F(AL, K) = K^\alpha (AL)^{1-\alpha}.$$

$$= \frac{Y}{L} = \frac{K^\alpha}{L^\alpha} \cdot A^{1-\alpha}.$$

$$y = K^\alpha A^{1-\alpha}.$$

Assume the exogenous technological variable is growing constant at the rate g .

$$\text{ii } \frac{\dot{A}}{A} = g \Leftrightarrow A(t) = A_0 e^{gt}$$

We know that $\frac{\dot{y}}{y} = \frac{d \ln y}{dt}$

$$y = k^\alpha A^{1-\alpha}$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln y = \alpha \ln k + (1-\alpha) \ln A$$

$$\frac{\dot{y}}{y} = \alpha \frac{\dot{k}}{k} + (1-\alpha) \frac{\dot{A}}{A} \quad \text{--- } (*)$$

Capital accumulation equation

$$\text{is } \frac{\dot{K}}{K} = \frac{sY}{K} - d$$

and $\frac{\dot{k}}{k} = \frac{sY}{K} - (n+d)$

Let $\frac{\dot{y}}{y} = \frac{\dot{k}}{k} = n$

$$\Rightarrow (*) \text{ becomes } n = \alpha \cdot n + (1-\alpha) \cdot g$$

$$\text{ie } g_Y = g_K = g_A = g \quad \text{--- } (**)$$

Remember that $\frac{k}{k}$ is constant.

iff y and k are constant $\frac{y}{k}$ is constant.

If $\frac{y}{k}$ is constant then $\frac{y/L}{k/L}$ is constant

so $\frac{k}{k}$ also be constant.

A situation in which capital, output, consumption and population are growing at constant rates is called balanced growth rate path.

Now (H) indicates that along a balanced growth path in the Solow model, y and k both grow at the rate of exogenous technological change g .

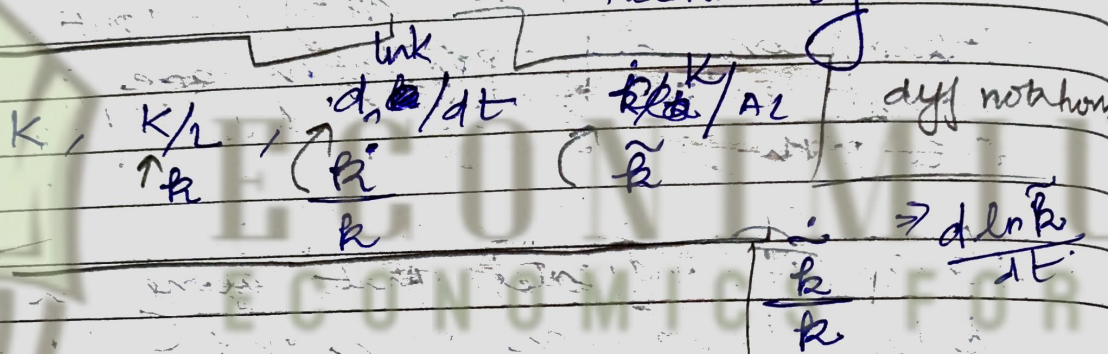
The simple model ~~does~~ with no tech progress and thus with no long run growth in y or k (i.e. y or k didn't experience sustained growth) was a special case of this model. with $\frac{\Delta y}{y} = 0$ hence $\frac{\Delta y}{y} = 0$ and $\frac{\Delta k}{k} = 0$.

Solow Diagram with technology.

Here the variable k is no longer constant in the long run, so we have to write

This new state variable \tilde{k} be $\tilde{k} = \frac{k}{AL}$

Then $\tilde{y} = \frac{Y}{AL}$ i.e. Ratio of capital (output) per worker to technology



$$\tilde{k} = \frac{k}{AL}$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln \tilde{k} = \ln k - \ln A - \ln L$$

$$\frac{\dot{\tilde{k}}}{\tilde{k}} = \frac{\dot{k}}{k} - \frac{\dot{A}}{A} - \frac{\dot{L}}{L}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\dot{\tilde{k}}}{\tilde{k}} = \frac{sY}{k} - d - g - n$$

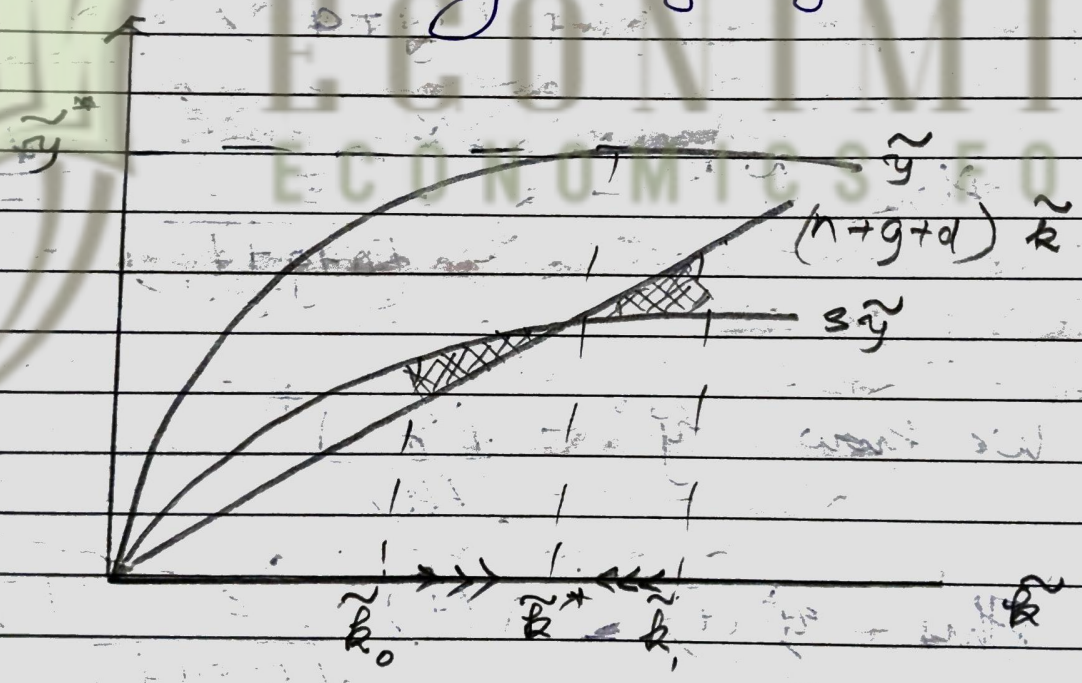
$$\Rightarrow \frac{\dot{\tilde{k}}}{\tilde{k}} = \frac{sY}{k} - (n + g + d)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\dot{\tilde{k}}}{\tilde{k}} = \frac{s \tilde{y}/AL}{\tilde{k}/AL} - (n+g+d)$$

$$= \frac{s \tilde{y}}{\tilde{k}} - (n+g+d)$$

$$\Rightarrow \dot{\tilde{k}} = s \tilde{y} - (n+g+d) \tilde{k}$$

So here there are 4 channels. The new one included is that of technological growth g .



Why the curves are so (refer previous sections' expl - same).

of the economy is \tilde{k} , then $\dot{\tilde{k}}$ will
 be over time as the amt of investment
 being undertaken (shown by $\tilde{s}y$ curve)
 exceeds the amt needed to keep
 \tilde{k} constant. Change continues till $\tilde{k} = \tilde{k}^*$.

At steady state $\dot{\tilde{k}} = 0$.

$$\Rightarrow s \tilde{k}^{1-\alpha} = (n+g+d) \tilde{k}$$

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

$$\text{Also } \tilde{y}^* = \tilde{k}^{*\alpha} = \left[\frac{s}{n+g+d} \right]^{\frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}}$$

$$\text{We know } \tilde{y}^* = \left(\frac{y}{A(t)} \right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha}}$$

$$\text{Thus } y^*(t) = A(t) \cdot \left[\frac{s}{n+g+d} \right]^{\frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}}$$

With special case of $g=0$ and $A(t)=1$
 we will get the limits of the
 simple Solow model.

$$y(t) = \left(\frac{s}{n+g+d} \right) (1 - e^{-\lambda t}) + \left(\frac{y_0}{A_0} \right)^{\frac{1-\alpha}{\alpha}} e^{-\lambda t} \frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha} \lambda (1-\alpha)$$

CLASSTIME Pg. No. _____
Date / / $\lambda = (1-\alpha)(n+g+d)$

So at balanced growth $\dot{\tilde{y}} = \dot{k} = 1 - g$.
(This was 0 in steady state \tilde{y} \dot{k} $1 - g$)
(State of simple model)

We know $\tilde{y} = B^{\alpha} k^{1-\alpha}$

$$\Rightarrow \ln \tilde{y} = \alpha \ln k$$

$$\frac{\dot{\tilde{y}}}{\tilde{y}} = \alpha \left[\frac{\dot{k}}{k} \right] \quad \text{--- (8)}$$

i.e. growth rate of output per worker is some fraction of that of capital per worker.

We also know that in this model $y(t) = A(t) \cdot \tilde{y}$

i.e. $y = A \cdot \tilde{y}$

$$\Rightarrow \ln y = \ln \tilde{y} + \ln A$$

$$\frac{\dot{y}}{y} = \frac{\dot{\tilde{y}}}{\tilde{y}} + \frac{\dot{A}}{A} \quad \text{--- (9)}$$

put (8) in (9)

$$\Rightarrow \alpha \cdot \frac{\dot{k}}{k} = \frac{\dot{\tilde{y}}}{\tilde{y}} + \frac{\dot{A}}{A}$$

OR

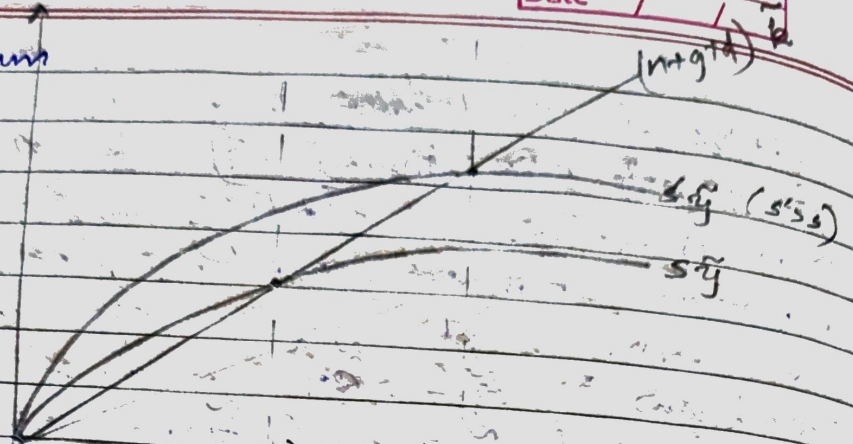
Take $y = B^{\alpha} A^{1-\alpha} k^{\alpha}$

$$\Rightarrow \ln y = \alpha \ln k + (1-\alpha) \ln A$$

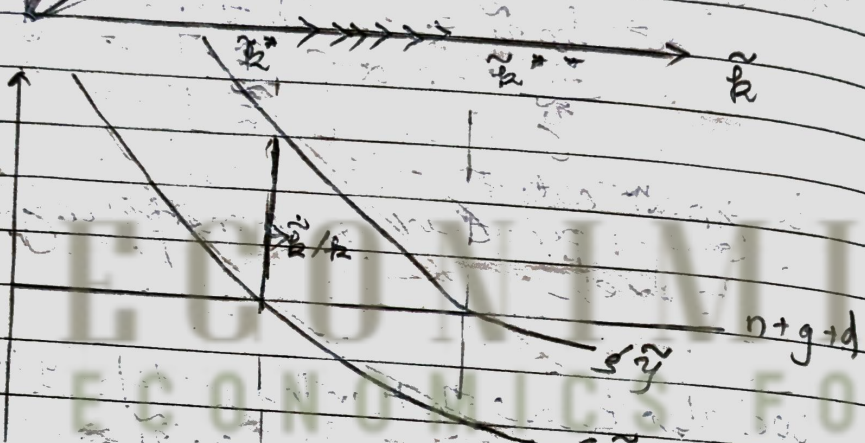
$$\Rightarrow \frac{\dot{y}}{y} = \alpha \frac{\dot{k}}{k} + (1-\alpha) \frac{\dot{A}}{A}$$

Increase in savings or invest rate

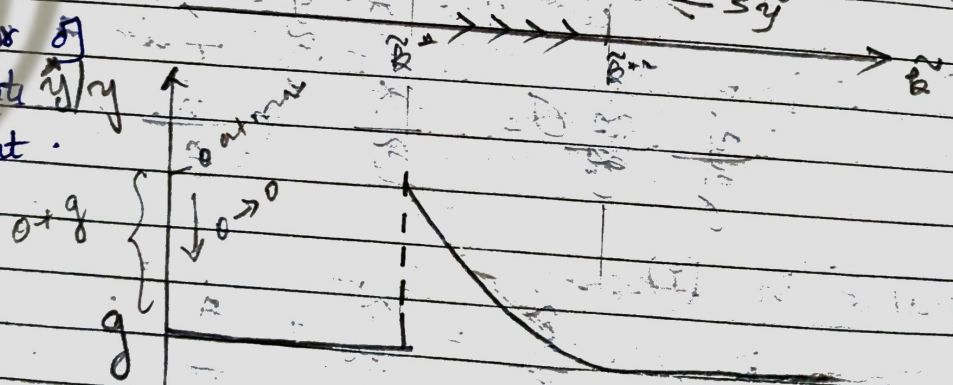
Solow diagram



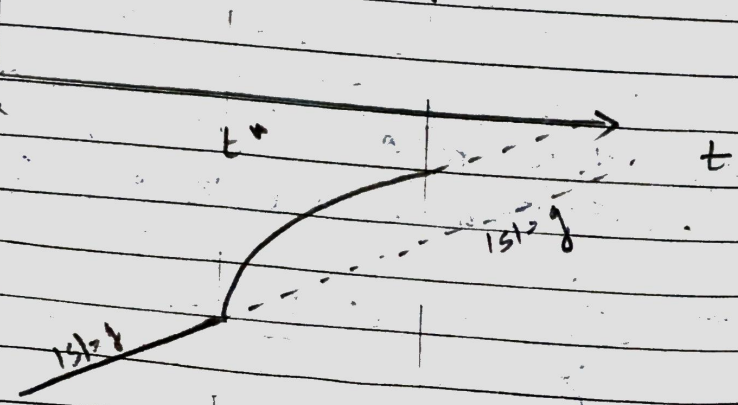
Transition Dynamics



Behavior of Growth rate of output



Behavior of (log) level of output



Suppose an economy begins in steady state with investment rate s and then \uparrow to s' forever.

So as seen from the initial Solow diagram, at the initial capital technology ratio \tilde{k}^* , investment exceeds the amt needed to keep the capital-tech. ratio const so \tilde{k}^* rises till it reaches new steady state \tilde{k}^{**} .

The transition diagram shows that \uparrow in s to s' raises the growth rate temporarily as the economy converges to the new steady state \tilde{k}^{**} . Since g is constant, faster growth in \tilde{k} along the transition path implies that output per worker increases more rapidly than technology, i.e. $\dot{y} > \dot{g}$ rather than $\dot{y} = \dot{g}$. This behaviour is shown in the third figure.

The last figure shows how this affects the level of output per worker over time. Prior to the policy growth was at g , then we jump with $\dot{y} > g$ and the value of $\dot{y} \rightarrow 0$ and as we reach \tilde{k}^{**} , $\dot{y} = 0$, $\dot{y}/y = g$ and again the growth rate is at g but we reached a higher level of output.

Thus we can see that policy changes have no long run growth effect but only level effect. With tech. (growth rate of g) or not (grow at 0 due steady state) a permanent policy change can permanently raise (or lower) the 'level' of per capita output.

Evaluating the Solow Model.

Solow model appeals to differences in invest rates and population growth rate and to exogenous diff in tech.

Acc to Solow model, $\downarrow n, \downarrow d$ and $\uparrow s$ etc can help us accumulate more K and thus \uparrow labor productivity.

Why do economies exhibit sustained growth in Solow model? It is due to tech progress. Without tech progress, per capita growth will eventually cease as diminishing returns to capital set in. Tech. progress can offset the tendency of MPK to fall and in long run exhibit per capita growth at the rate of tech progress.

~~If it's cost~~

Growth as we saw via transition ~~two~~ dynamics can happen either by a k further away from k^* pushed to the left of k^* or the steady state itself getting pushed right (say) to k^{**} . The first one (reason) is true for the growth spurt in countries like Japan and Germany after world war and second reason is suitable for NIC like South Korea and Taiwan.

Growth Accounting

Prod function: — $Y = BK^\alpha L^{1-\alpha}$ where B is a Hicks Neutral productivity term.

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\dot{Y}}{Y} = \alpha \frac{\dot{K}}{K} + (1-\alpha) \frac{\dot{L}}{L} + \frac{\dot{B}}{B}$$

This growth accounting equation shows that output growth equals weighted avg. of capital and labor plus growth rate of B .

$\frac{\dot{B}}{B}$ is known as Total Factor productivity or Multi factor productivity (TFP/MFP).

$$\text{Now } \frac{\dot{Y}}{Y} = \frac{\dot{Y}}{Y} - \frac{\dot{L}}{L}$$

$$= \alpha \frac{\dot{K}}{K} + \frac{\dot{B}}{B} \quad //$$

Analysis of this eqn w.r.t US economy over the years — Read text —

Convergence and Principle of transition dynamics

Why do we see convergence among some sets of countries and lack of it for the world as a whole? (For context read 63-65).

Consider the key diff eqn of neo-classical growth model

$$\frac{\dot{\tilde{k}}}{\tilde{k}} = \alpha \frac{\tilde{y}}{\tilde{k}} - (n+g+d)$$

Remember $\tilde{y} = \tilde{k}^\alpha \Rightarrow$ Average product of capital is $\frac{\tilde{y}}{\tilde{k}} = \alpha \tilde{k}^{\alpha-1}$

APK \downarrow as $\tilde{k} \uparrow$ because of diminishing returns to capital accumulation

So countries that have same steady state holds the convergence hypothesis that poor countries grow fast on average.

This was true for many models of growth hence we have the principle of transition dynamics:-

The further an economy is below its steady state, the faster the economy should grow. The further an economy is above its steady state, the slower the economy should grow.