

Problem Set #4 - 2012

1. Consider an economy described by the following production function $Y = 100 \cdot K^{.3} L^{.7}$ and the remaining equations of Model 1G.
 - a. Rewrite the production function in per worker terms.
 - b. Assuming no population growth or technology growth, find the steady-state levels of income per worker, capital per worker, and consumption per worker.
 - c. Determine the savings rate that yields the highest steady state level of consumption per worker.
 - d. Determine the amounts paid to laborers and capitalists if both labor and capital markets are competitive.
2. Replace the production function in Model 1G with $Y = K^{.5} L^{.7}$. Redo parts a – d of question 1 and indicate whether the results generated for part d are feasible.
3. Technological progress
 - a. Explain why improvements in technological progress might have more influence on the long run economic growth rate than growth in the stock of capital.
 - b. The form of technological progress incorporated in the production function influences the magnitude of its effect on the long run economic growth rate. Explain.
4. Consider a Solow-type growth model with the following production function.
 $Y_t = (K_t)^{1/3} (L_t)^{2/3}$ where t is the time period so K_t – the capital stock in time t
This production function features capital augmenting technical change
 $K_t = \text{Tech}_t \cdot K_0$ and K_0 = initial stock of capital

Assume that the growth rate of labor is endogenous, that technology grows at 2% per year, that the savings rate equals 10%, and that the depreciation rate equals 10%.

- a. Write the production function in terms of output per unit of labor.
- b. Determine the steady-state path of output per unit of labor.
- c. Determine the capital-output ratio for this economy. Does it vary over time?
- d. How fast does output per labor grow in this model? (Explain why.)
- e. If the depreciation rate were to double what would be the impact on output per unit of labor? On output?