

# Macroeconomics

Week 4. Economic Growth:

The Role of Technological Progress

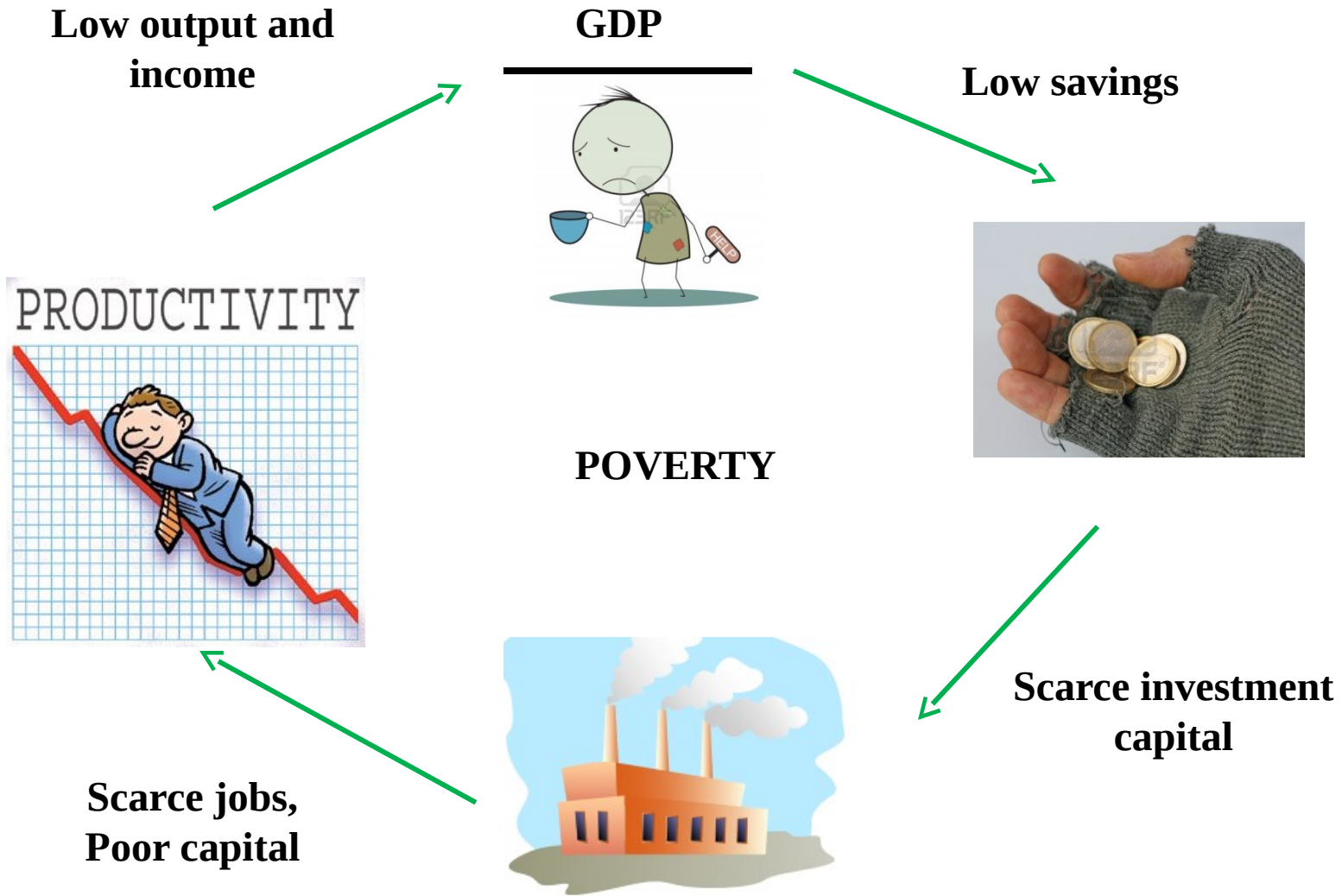
March 12th, 2014

# Class Outline

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- The Solow model: Deriving steady state
- The Solow model and technological progress
- Growth accounting

# The Vicious Circle of Poverty



# Breaking the Cycle

Better institutions



Higher output

GDP



ECONOMIC GROWTH



Investment capital



Better jobs, Technology



# Low-Swan Model of Economic Growth(1956)

- Overview

**Production function**  $Y = F(K_{(+)}, L_{(+)})$

- **Diminishing returns** to factor inputs

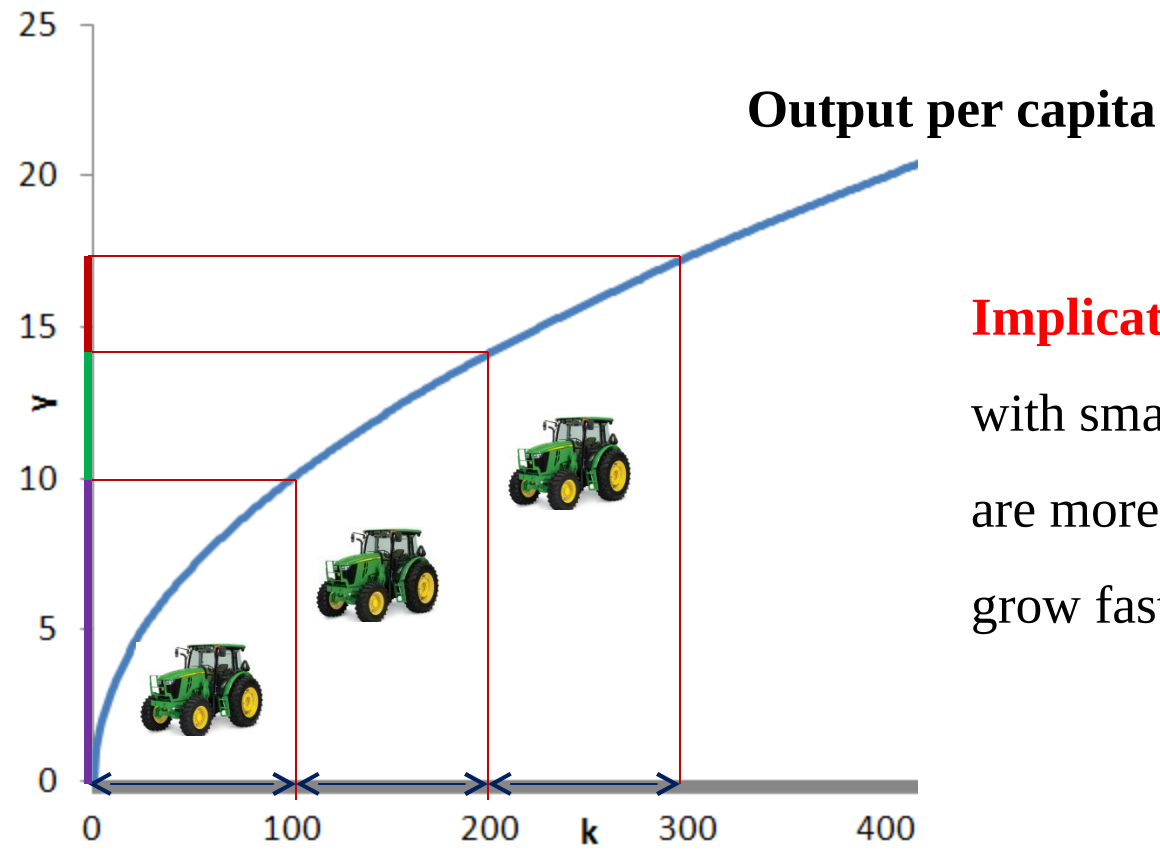
GDP per capita  $\frac{Y_t}{L} = F\left(\frac{K_t}{L}, 1\right) = F\left(\frac{K_t}{L}\right)$

$$y_t = f(k_t)$$

$$y_t = \sqrt{k_t}$$

# Diminishing Returns to Factor Inputs

$$y = f(k) = \sqrt{k}$$



**Implication:** Countries with small capital stock are more productive => grow faster

# Economic Growth and Capital Accumulation

Increase in capital stock (K)

**Investments of firms**



New additions  
to the capital stock

Replacement of the  
worn-out capital  
(**depreciation**)

**Net investment = Total savings – Replacement of the depreciated capital**

$$K_{t+1} = I_t + (1 - \delta)K_t$$

$$\Delta K = sY - \delta K$$

$$K_{t+1} = sY_t + (1 - \delta)K_t$$

**Savings of households** provide investment funds to firms

**s** - **exogenous** savings rate

# Economic Growth and Capital Accumulation (Cont

Increase in capital stock (K)

**Investments of firms**



New additions  
to the capital stock

Replacement of the  
worn-out capital  
(**depreciation**)

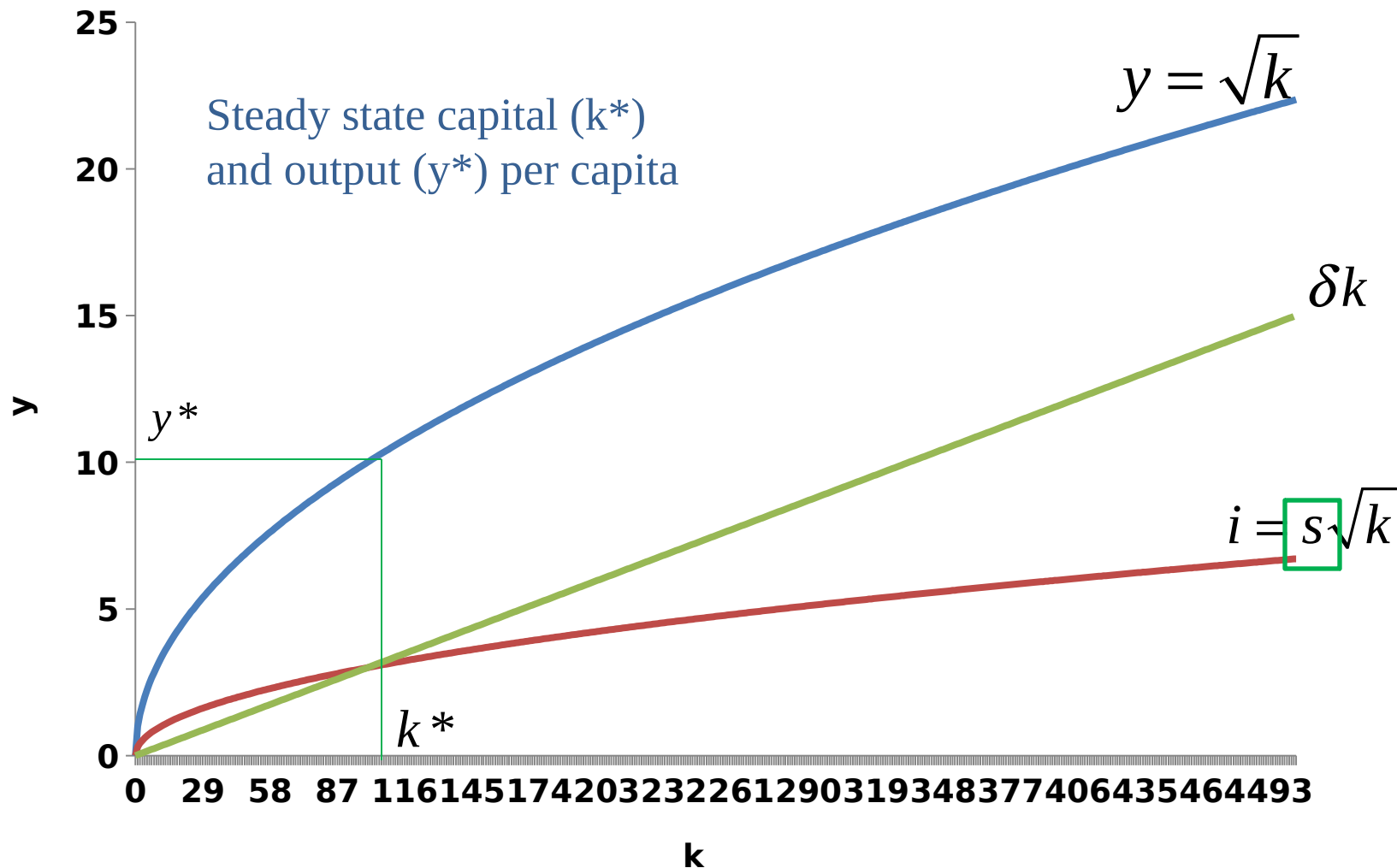
$$\Delta K = sY - \delta K$$

- If  $sY > \delta K$  capital stock is growing
- If  $sY < \delta K$  capital stock is shrinking
- Break-even investment  $sY = \delta K$



# Steady State Level of Capital

- The economy would grow as long as  $sf(k) > \delta k$



$$I = \delta K \rightarrow \Delta K = 0 \rightarrow \Delta k = 0$$

# e Solow-Swan Model: Steady State

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- **Steady state:** the **long-run** equilibrium of the economy
  - Savings are just sufficient to cover the depreciation of the capital stock
- ❖ In the long run, capital per worker reaches its steady state for an **exogenous s**
- ❖ Increase in **s** leads to higher capital per worker and higher output per capita
- ❖ Output grows only during the transition to a new steady state (**not sustainable**)
- ❖ Economy will **remain** in the steady state (no further growth)

**N!B!** Savings rate is a fraction of wage, thus is bounded by the interval **[0, 1]**

# the Solow-Swan Model: Numerical Example

Production function  $Y = F(K, L) = K^{0.5} L^{0.5}$

Production function in **per capita terms**  $\frac{Y}{L} = \frac{K^{0.5} L^{0.5}}{L} = \frac{K^{0.5}}{L^{0.5}}$

$$k = \frac{K}{L}; \quad y = \frac{Y}{L}$$

**GDP per capita:**  $y = \sqrt{k}$

**Savings rate:**  $s = 30\%$

**Depreciation rate:**  $\delta = 10\%$

**Initial stock of capital per worker:**  $k_0 = 4$

# Solow-Swan Model: Numerical Example (Cont)

Year	k	y	i	c	$\delta k$	$\Delta k$
1	4					
2						
...						

**Consumption:**  $C = (1-s)Y$

Consumption **per capita**  $C/Y = c$

Steady state capital/labor ration:

$$s\sqrt{k} = \delta k \rightarrow k^* = \frac{s^2}{\delta^2}$$

Year	$k$	$y$	$c$	$i$	$\delta k$	$\Delta k$
1	4.000	2.000	1.400	0.600	0.400	0.200
2	4.200	2.049	1.435	0.615	0.420	0.195
3	4.395	2.096	1.467	0.629	0.440	0.189
4	4.584	2.141	1.499	0.642	0.458	0.184
5	4.768	2.184	1.529	0.655	0.477	0.178
.						
.						
.						
10	5.602	2.367	1.657	0.710	0.560	0.150
.						
.						
.						
25	7.321	2.706	1.894	0.812	0.732	0.080
.						
.						
.						
100	8.962	2.994	2.096	0.898	0.896	0.002
.						
.						
$\infty$	9.000	3.000	2.100	0.900	0.900	0.000

# Solow-Swan Model: Convergence to Steady State

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**N!B!** Regardless of  $k_0$ , if two economies have the same  $s$ ,  $\delta$ ,  $N$ , they will reach the **same** steady state

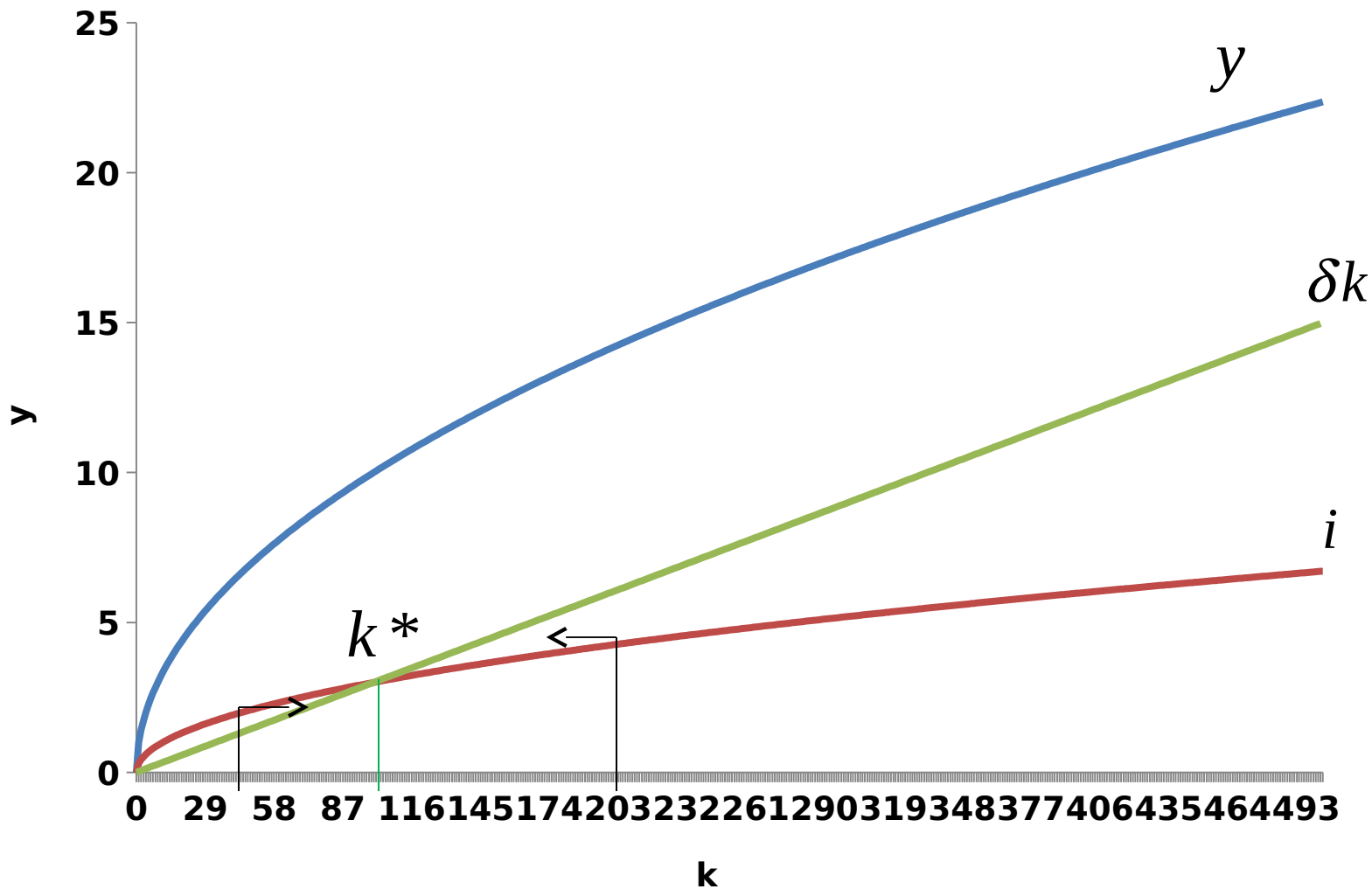
- If countries have the same steady state, poorest countries grow faster
- Not much convergence worldwide

Different countries have different **institutions and policies**

- **Conditional convergence:** comparison of countries with similar savings rates

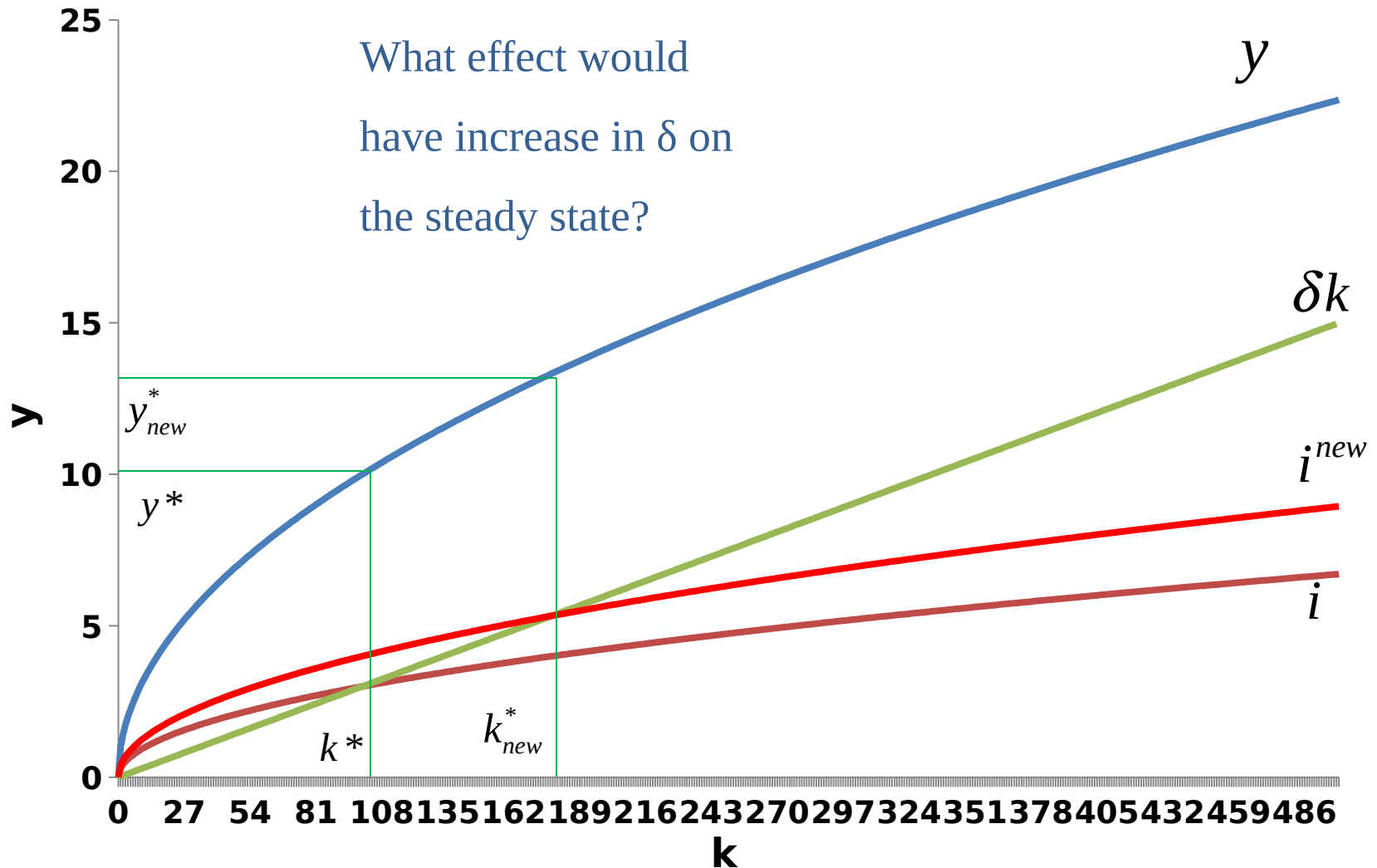
# Low Model: Convergence to Steady State

- Convergence to steady state



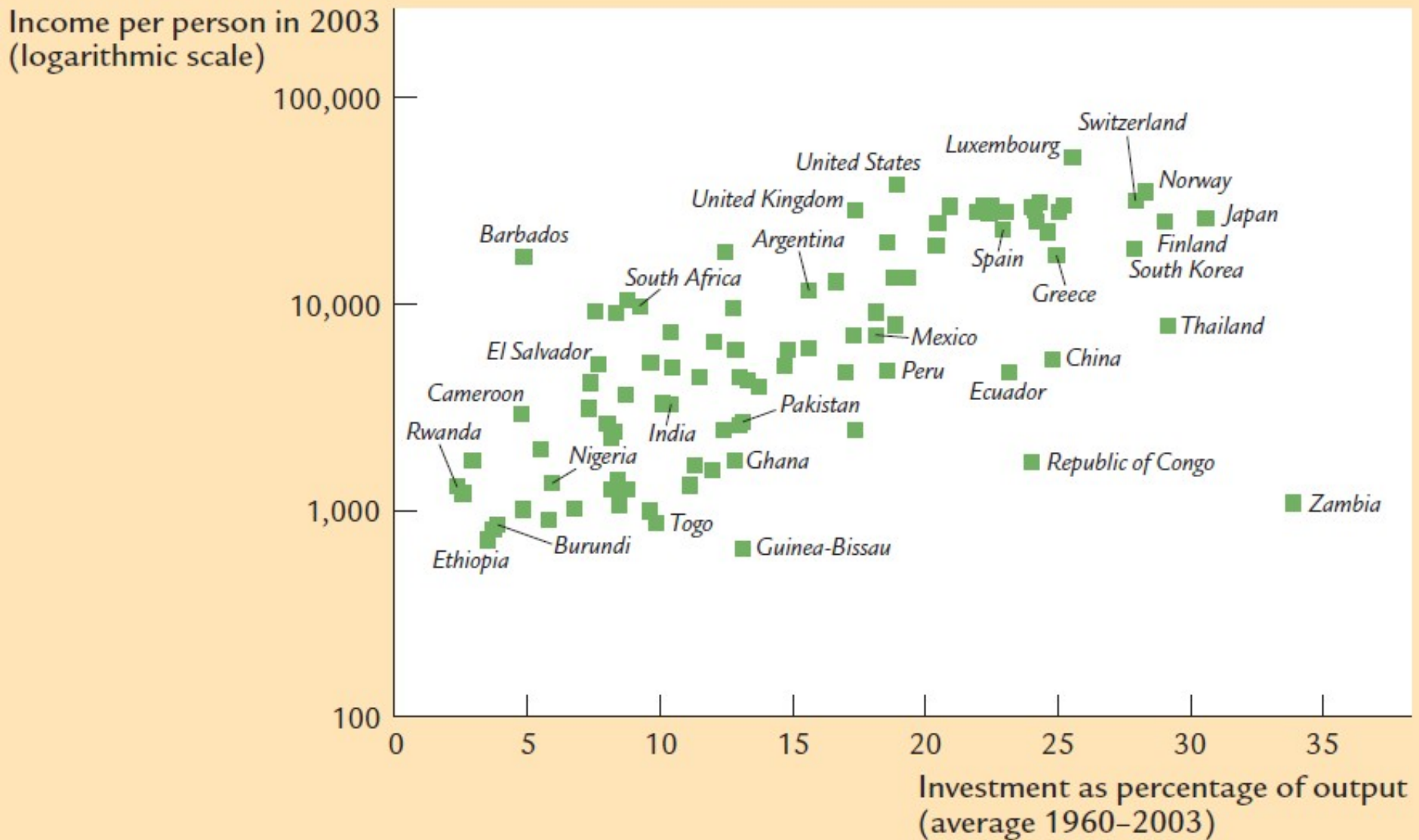
# ow Model: Increase in Savings Rate

- Savings rate increases from 30 % to 40 %



- Economy moves to a **new steady state** => Higher capital and output per capita

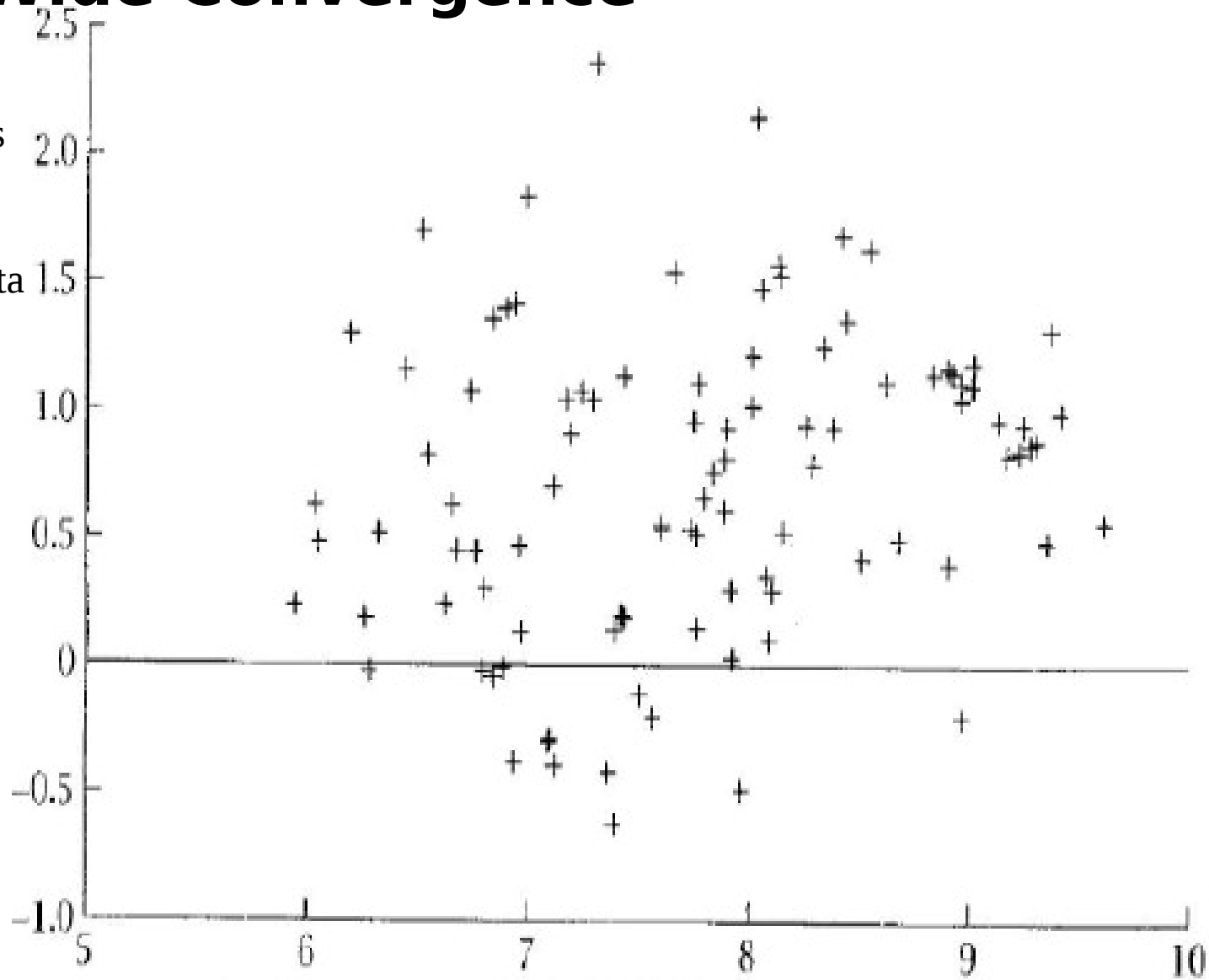




Source: Mankiw (2009)

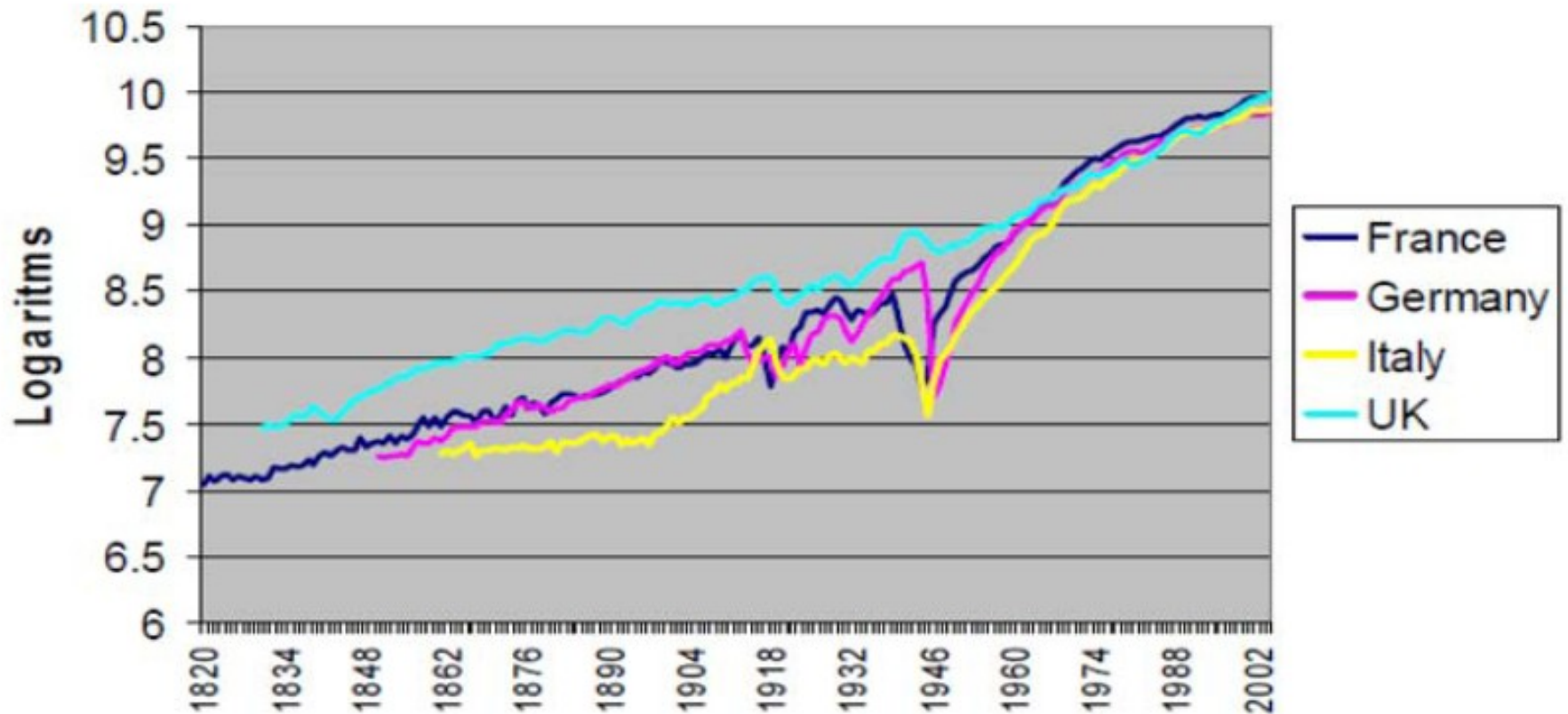
# World Wide Convergence

Changes  
in Log  
**income**  
per capita  
in 1960  
-1990



Log income per capita in 1960 (100=1996)

## Catch up amongst Europe's big 4



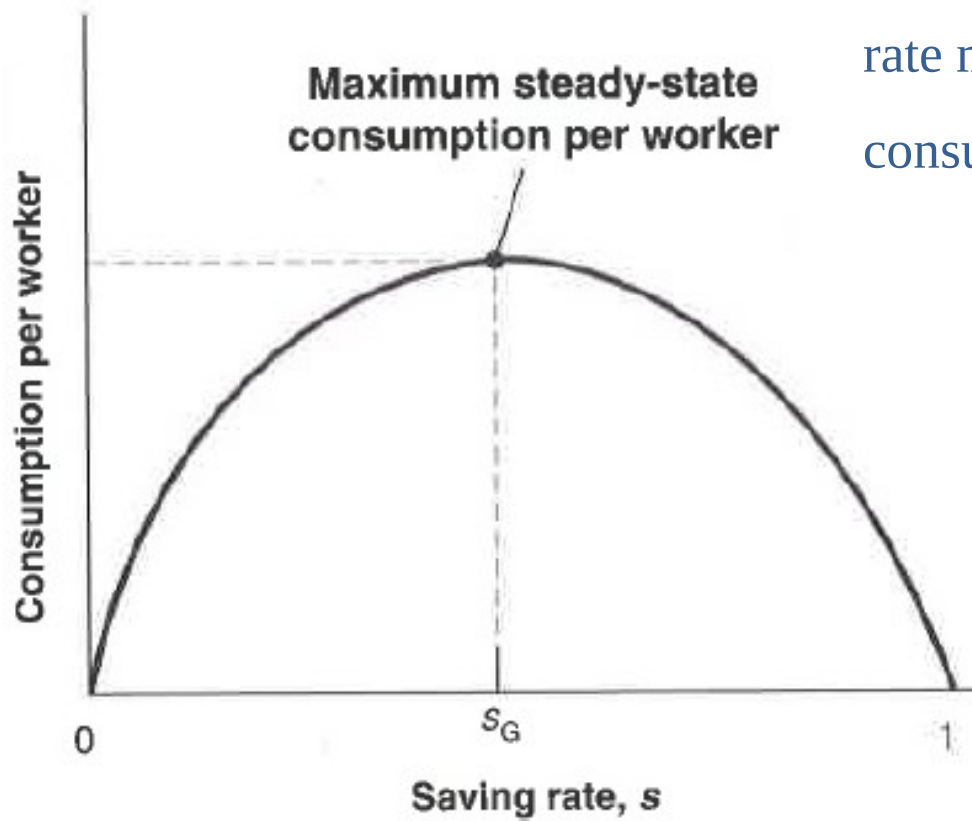
Output per head (US \$ 1990)

Source : Maddison and GGDC

# The Golden Rule Level of Capital

- Increasing savings rate means less present consumption

What is the optimal savings rate?



N!B! Optimal savings rate maximizes consumption per capita

$$c^* = \sqrt{k^*} - \delta k^* \rightarrow \max$$

# Solow-Swan Model: Population Growth

- Labor force is growing at a constant rate  $n = 10\%$

$$Y_t = F(K_t, L_t)$$

$$\Delta k = sy - (\delta + n)k$$

- **Per capita capital** stock is affected by *investment*, *depreciation*, and *population*

*growth*

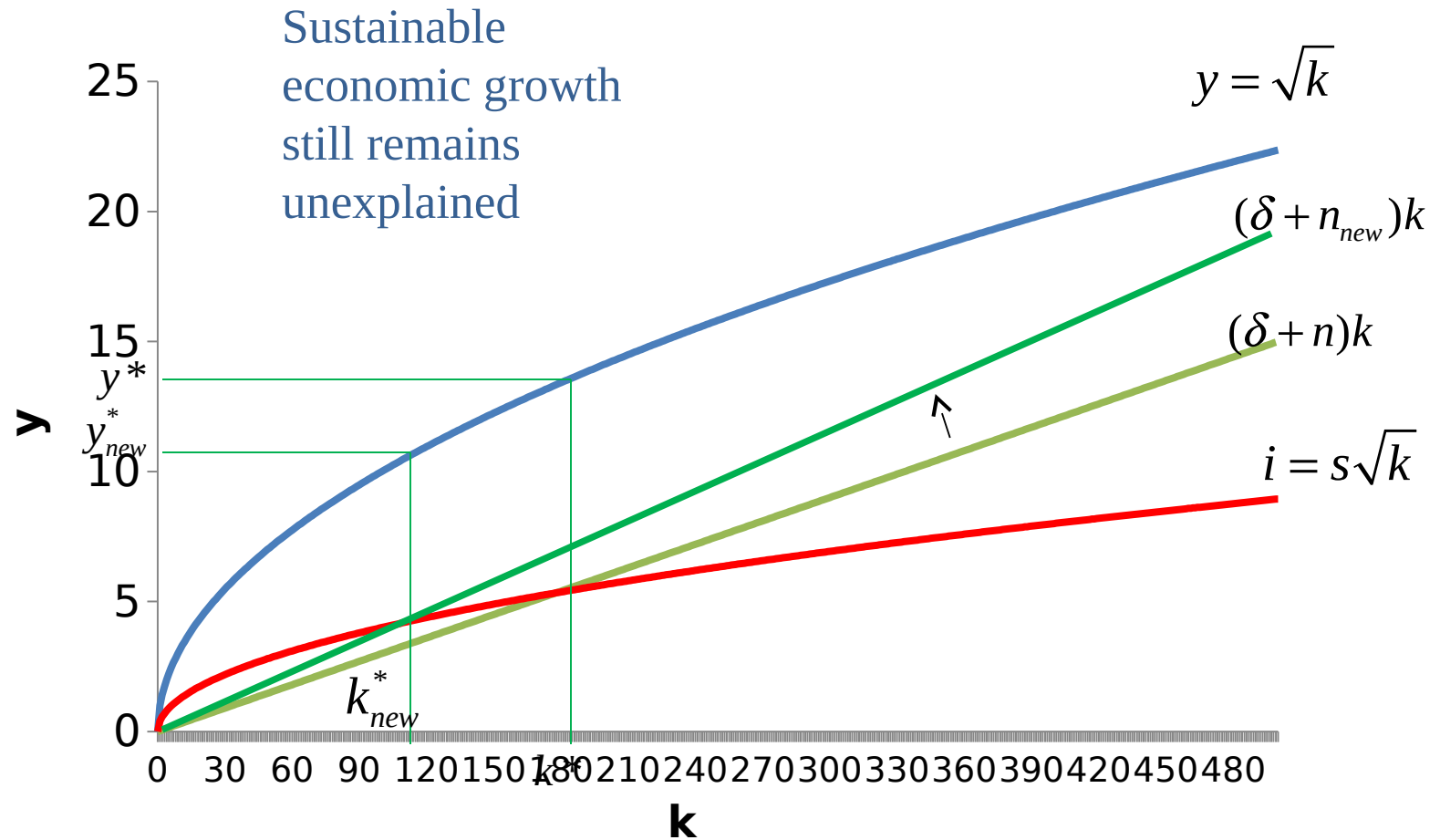
- **Steady state:**

$$s\sqrt{k} = (\delta + n)k \rightarrow k^* = \frac{s^2}{(\delta + n)^2}$$

- Population growth **increases**  $Y$  (level effect)
- Population growth **reduces**  $k^*$  and  $y^*$

# Swan Model: Population Growth (Cont.)

Economies with high rates of population growth will have **lower** GDP per capita



**Government policy response?**

Income per person  
in 2003 (logarithmic scale)

100,000

10,000

1,000

100

0

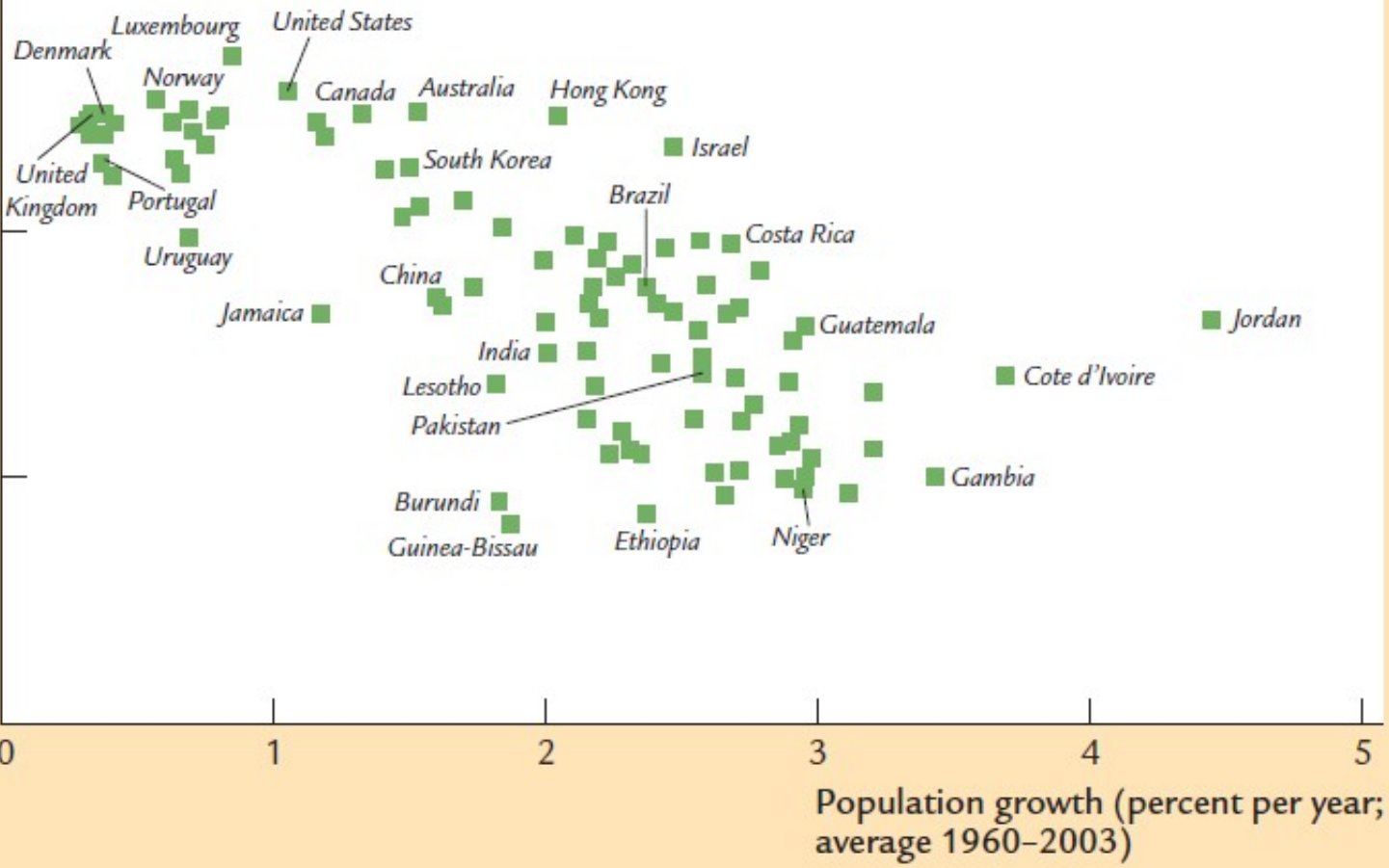
1

2

3

4

5



# Role of Technological Progress

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- Technological change, increase in factor productivity
  - ✓ Larger output with given quantities of capital and labor

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

- **State of technology (A)**

*How does technological progress translates into larger output?*

**Labor-augmenting** technological progress

$$Y = F(K, \boxed{A \times L}) \quad \text{Effective labor}$$

- **A as labor efficiency**
- TP reduced number of workers needed to produce the same output
- TP increases output using the same number of workers



# Solow-Swan Model with Technological Progress

$$Y = F(K_{(+)}, L_{(+)}, A_{(+)})$$

- Technology is improving every year at the **exogenous rate** ( $g$ )

$$\frac{A_{t+1} - A_t}{A_t} = g$$

Production function: **GDP per effective labor**

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

$$\frac{Y_t}{A_t L_t} = F\left(\frac{K_t}{A_t L_t}\right)$$

# Dolow-Swan Model with Technological Progress

- From **GDP per effective labor** to the **GDP per capita**?

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

$$\frac{Y_t}{A_t L_t} = F\left(\frac{K_t}{A_t L_t}, \dot{j}\right)$$

**GDP per  
effective  
labor**

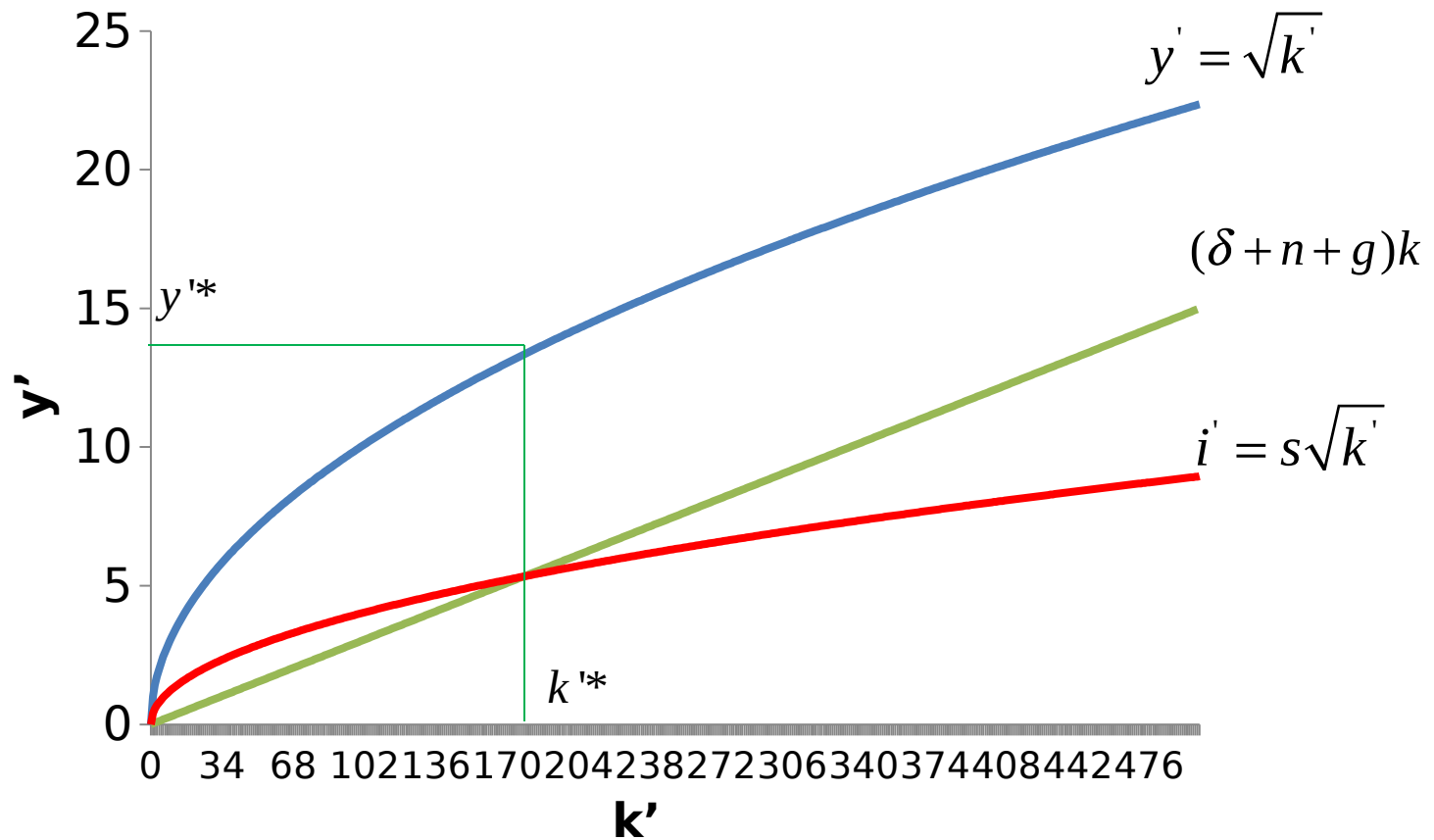
$$\longrightarrow y_t' = f(k_t')$$

**Capital per  
effective labor**

- We are interested in **GDP per capita**  $y = \frac{Y_t}{L_t} = A_t \times F\left(\frac{K_t}{A_t L_t}, \dot{j}\right) = A_t \times f(k_t')$

# low-Swan Model with Technological Progress

**Steady state:** Constant levels of capital and output **per effective worker**



# Solow-Swan Model: Technological Progress (Co

- Capital and output per effective worker are constant in steady state
- **What about per capita variables?**

$$y^* = A_t \times f(k_*)$$

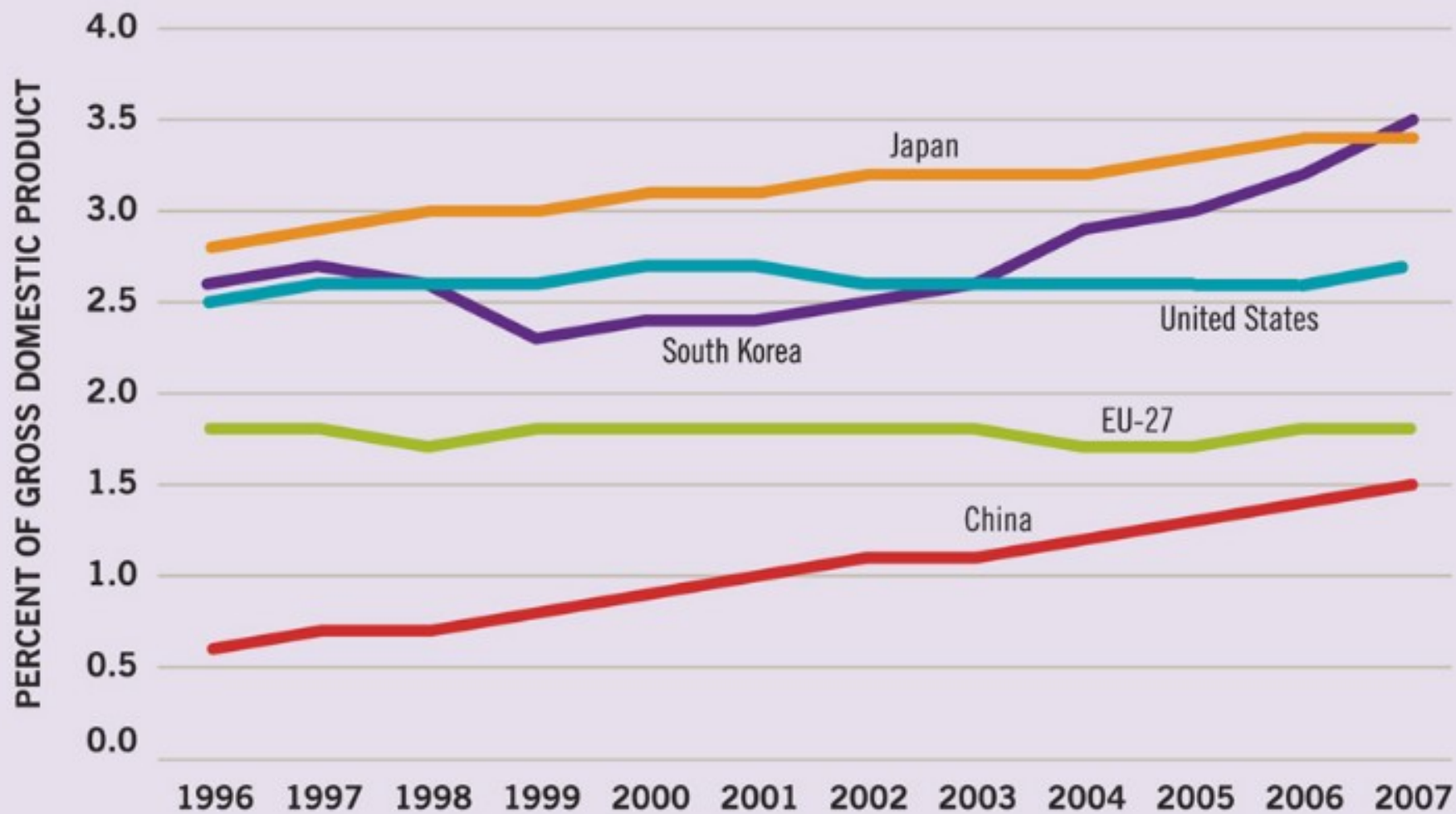
GDP per capita grows at the rate **of technological progress (sustainable growth)**

**Balanced growth path:** growth of variables at the same rate

- Per **capita variables** (capital, output and consumption) grow at a constant rate **g**
- **Per effective labor** variables are **not growing** in the steady state

Solow model explains 60 % of cross-country variation of the GDP per capita by differences in savings rate and population growth

## R&D expenditures as share of economic output for selected countries: 1996–2007



# Growth Accounting

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- Real GDP per capita growth rate for **Czech Republic** in 2011 was **1.7 %**
- Real GDP per capita growth rate for the **USA** in 2012 was **2.2 %**

*How much of this growth is due to the factors' accumulation and/or technology?*

**Growth accounting:** breakdown of observed growth of GDP into changes in inputs and technology

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

$$\Delta Y = \Delta A + \Delta K + \Delta L$$

**Contribution of technology as a residual**

$$\Delta A = \Delta Y - \Delta K - \Delta L$$

# Growth Accounting (Cont.)

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- **Capital (K)** increases by 1 unit

*What is the effect on output Y?*

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

$$F(A, K + 1, L) - F(A, K, L)$$

**Marginal product of capita (MPK)**

**TE** Capital stock increased by 10 units and MPK = 0.1. What is the impact on GDP?

$$\text{unit } \Delta Y = 0.1 \times 10 = 1$$

# Growth Accounting (Cont.)

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- **Labor (L)** increases by 1 unit

*What is the effect on output Y?*

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

$$F(A, K, L + 1) - F(A, K, L)$$

**Marginal product of labor (MPL)**

**TE** Labor force increases by 10 units and  $MP_L = 0.3$ .

$$\text{units } \Delta Y = 0.3 \times 10 = 3$$



# Solow Residual

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- Accounting for the increase in all components

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

$$\Delta Y = \boxed{MP_A \times \Delta A} + MP_K \times \Delta K + MP_L \times \Delta L$$

*How to account for the technological change?*

Calculate it as a **residual**

$$MP_A \times \Delta A = \Delta Y - MP_K \times \Delta K - MP_L \times \Delta L$$

**Solow Residual:** the left-over growth of output when growth attributed to the changes in labor and capital is subtracted

# Solow Residual (Cont.)

- Where do we get marginal products of capital and labor?

$$\Delta Y = MP_A \times \Delta A + MP_K \times \Delta K + MP_L \times \Delta L$$

Mathematical manipulations

- Transforming changes to growth rates

**GDP  
growth  
rate**

$$\frac{\Delta Y}{Y} = MP_A \times \frac{\Delta A}{Y} + MP_K \times \frac{\Delta K}{Y} + MP_L \times \frac{\Delta L}{Y}$$

**Unobservable  
technological  
change (g)**

$$\frac{\Delta Y}{Y} = g + \frac{F_k K}{Y} \frac{\Delta K}{K} + \frac{F_L L}{Y} \frac{\Delta L}{L}$$

# Solow Residual (Cont.)

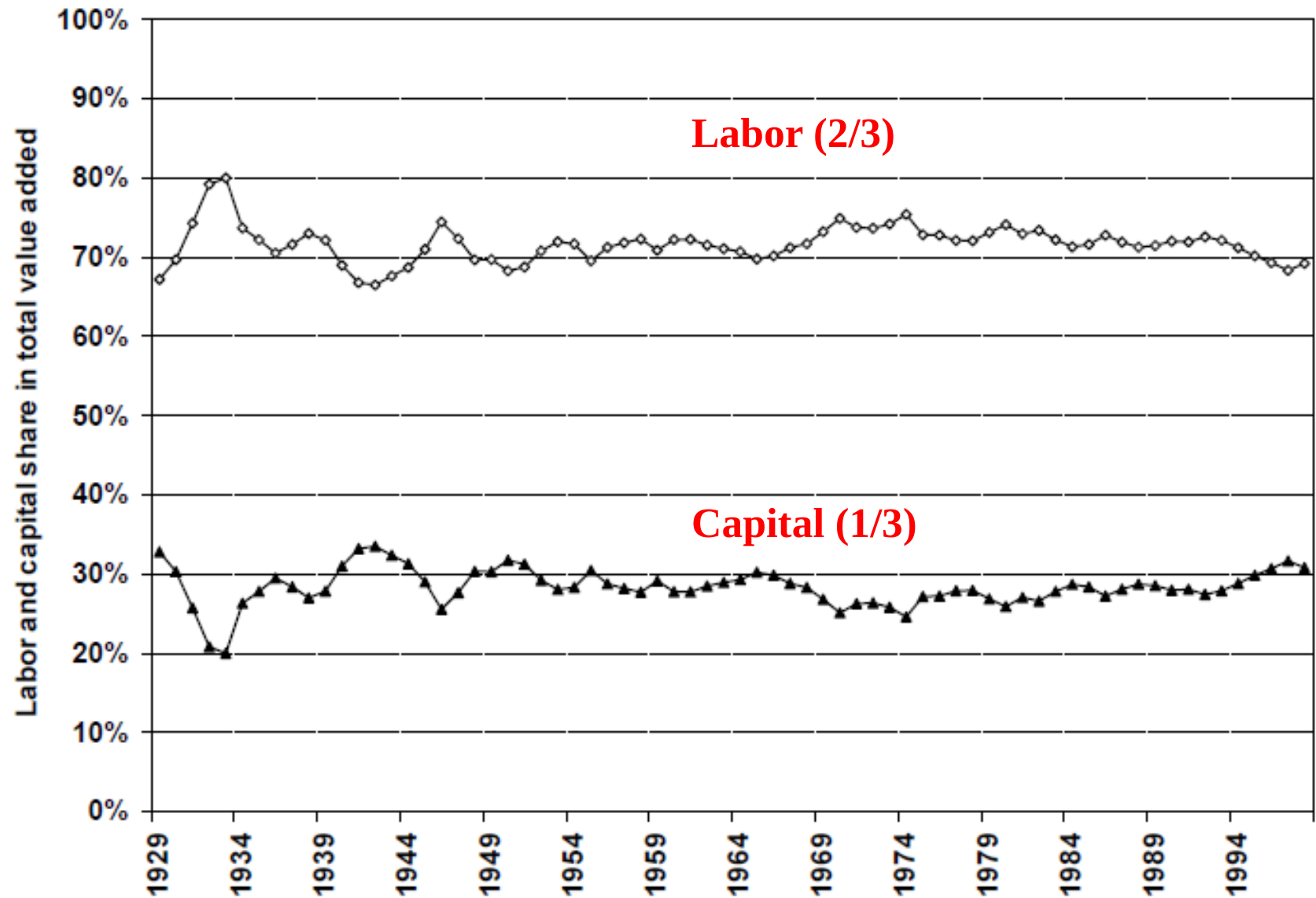
$$\frac{\Delta Y}{Y} = g + MP_K \times \frac{\Delta K}{Y} + MP_L \times \frac{\Delta L}{Y}$$
$$\boxed{\frac{\Delta Y}{Y}} = g + \underbrace{\frac{MP_K \cdot K}{Y}}_{\text{Share of capital in output}} \cdot \boxed{\frac{\Delta K}{K}} + \underbrace{\frac{MP_L \cdot L}{Y}}_{\text{Share of labor in output}} \cdot \boxed{\frac{\Delta L}{L}}$$

**N!B! Key assumption:** Factors of production are **paid marginal product**

- **Wages** and **rental rate** of capital reflect productivity of factors

$$\frac{\Delta Y}{Y} = g + \alpha \times \frac{\Delta K}{K} + \beta \times \frac{\Delta L}{L}$$

# Historical Factor Shares



## Accounting for Economic Growth in the United States

Years	Output Growth $\Delta Y/Y$	=	SOURCE OF GROWTH				
			Capital $\alpha \Delta K/K$	+	Labor $(1 - \alpha) \Delta L/L$	+	Total Factor Productivity $\Delta A/A$
			(average percentage increase per year)				
1948–2007	3.6		1.2		1.2		1.2
1948–1972	4.0		1.2		0.9		1.9
1972–1995	3.4		1.3		1.5		0.6
1995–2007	3.5		1.3		1.0		1.3

Country	(1) Growth Rate of GDP	(2) Contribution from Capital	(3) Contribution from Labor	(4) TFP Growth Rate
<b>Panel A: OECD Countries, 1947-73</b>				
<b>Canada</b> ( $\alpha = 0.44$ )	0.0517	0.0254 (49%)	0.0088 (17%)	0.0175 (34%)
<b>France<sup>a</sup></b> ( $\alpha = 0.40$ )	0.0542	0.0225 (42%)	0.0021 (4%)	0.0296 (54%)
<b>Germany<sup>b</sup></b> ( $\alpha = 0.39$ )	0.0661	0.0269 (41%)	0.0018 (3%)	0.0374 (56%)
<b>Italy<sup>b</sup></b> ( $\alpha = 0.39$ )	0.0527	0.0180 (34%)	0.0011 (2%)	0.0337 (64%)
<b>Japan<sup>b</sup></b> ( $\alpha = 0.39$ )	0.0951	0.0328 (35%)	0.0221 (23%)	0.0402 (42%)
<b>Netherlands<sup>c</sup></b> ( $\alpha = 0.45$ )	0.0536	0.0247 (46%)	0.0042 (8%)	0.0248 (46%)
<b>U.K.<sup>d</sup></b> ( $\alpha = 0.38$ )	0.0373	0.0176 (47%)	0.0003 (1%)	0.0193 (52%)
<b>U.S.</b> ( $\alpha = 0.40$ )	0.0402	0.0171 (43%)	0.0095 (24%)	0.0135 (34%)
<b>Panel B: OECD Countries, 1960-95</b>				
<b>Canada</b> ( $\alpha = 0.42$ )	0.0369	0.0186 (51%)	0.0123 (33%)	0.0057 (16%)
<b>France</b> ( $\alpha = 0.41$ )	0.0358	0.0180 (53%)	0.0033 (10%)	0.0130 (38%)
<b>Germany</b> ( $\alpha = 0.39$ )	0.0312	0.0177 (56%)	0.0014 (4%)	0.0132 (42%)
<b>Italy</b> ( $\alpha = 0.34$ )	0.0357	0.0182 (51%)	0.0035 (9%)	0.0153 (42%)
<b>Japan</b> ( $\alpha = 0.43$ )	0.0566	0.0178 (31%)	0.0125 (22%)	0.0265 (47%)
<b>U.K.</b> ( $\alpha = 0.37$ )	0.0221	0.0124 (56%)	0.0017 (8%)	0.0080 (36%)
<b>U.S.</b> ( $\alpha = 0.39$ )	0.0318	0.0117 (37%)	0.0127 (40%)	0.0076 (24%)

# The Asian Growth Miracle?

A. Young (1995) QJE

Country	Period	Avg growth in per capita income (%)
Honk-Kong	1966-1991	5.7
Singapore	1966-1990	6.8
South Korea	1966-1990	6.8
Taiwan	1966-1990	6.7

Exceptional growth due to changes in TFP or factor accumulation?

# The Asian Growth Miracle?

Country	Period	TFP growth
Asian Tigers		
Honk-Kong	1966-1991	2.3
Singapore	1966-1990	0.2
South Korea	1966-1990	1.7
Taiwan	1966-1990	2.1
Other Countries		
Canada	1960-1989	0.5
France	1960-1989	1.5
Germany	1960-1989	1.6
Italy	1960-1989	2.0
Japan	1960-1989	2.0
UK	1960-1989	1.3
US	1960-1989	0.4
Brazil	1960-1985	1.6
Chile	1960-1985	0.8
Mexico	1960-1985	1.2

The miracle  
was bound to  
stop

Exceptional growth due to the factors accumulation? Conclusion?



## Growth Breakdown 1966-90 for Asian Dragons

