

Chapter 4

The DHSS model

Neoclassical growth and nonrenewable resource supply: three simple cases





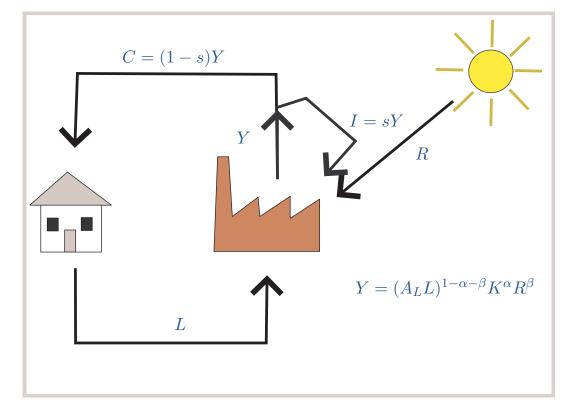
Land (and 'flow renewables')







Land (and 'flow renewables')



The economy with a fixed 'flow' resource.





Land (and 'flow renewables')

$$Y = (A_L L)^{1-\alpha-\beta} K^{\alpha} R^{\beta}$$
$$\dot{A}_L / A_L = g_{A_L}$$
$$\dot{K} = sY - \delta K.$$

Assume balanced growth. Characterize the b.g.p.

The representative final-good producer must hire labour, capital, and land. What happens to the price of land over time?





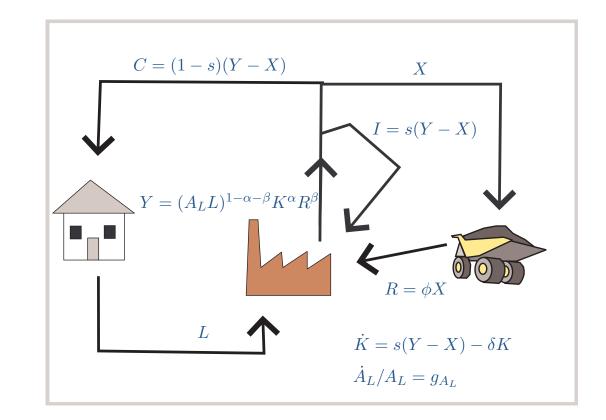
An abundant resource, costly to extract







An abundant resource, costly to extract

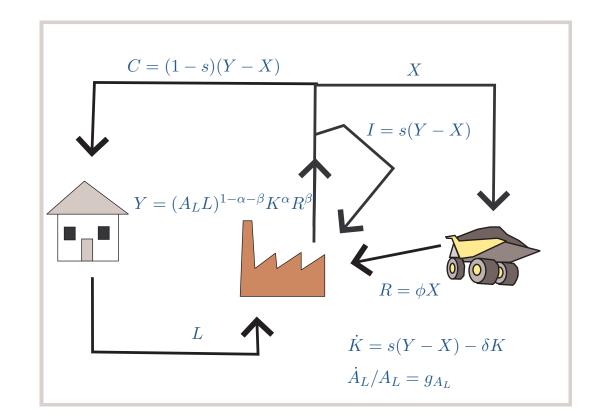


The economy with an unlimited resource, costly to extract.



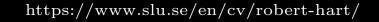


An abundant resource, costly to extract



Solve for growth rates on a b.g.p.



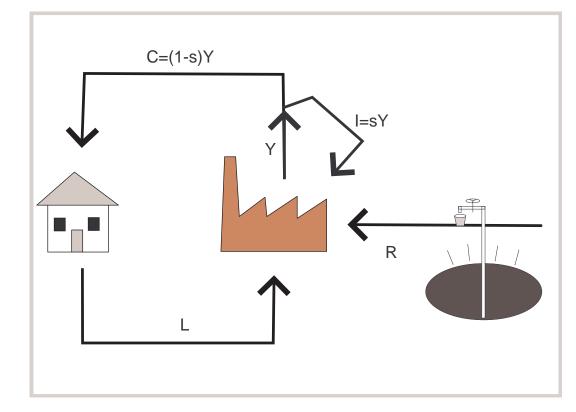






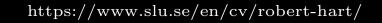






The economy with a limited resource, free to extract.







Assume a social planner who releases a resource flow R which declines over time at rate $\theta.$ (So $-\dot{R}/R=\theta.$)

Solve for growth rates on the b.g.p.

What can we say about the initial rate of resource consumption?





Assume perfect markets and symmetric equilibrium. What can we say about the resource price?

Solve for the b.g.p. in the market economy given that the interest rate is equal to the pure rate of time preference.





The Hartwick rule







The Hartwick rule

If we invest resource rents in capital, this guarantees sustainability?





Historical data



https://www.slu.se/en/cv/robert-hart/



Historical data

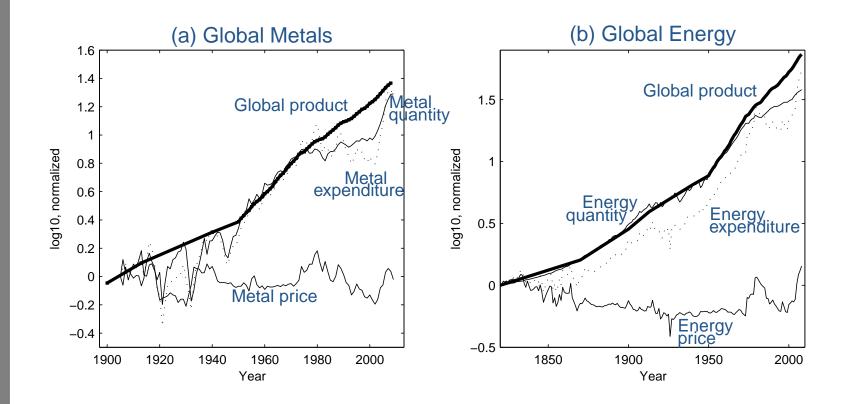


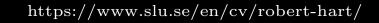
Figure 1: Long-run growth in consumption and prices, compared to growth in global product, for (a) Metals, and (b) Primary energy from combustion.













Non-renewable resources in the long run

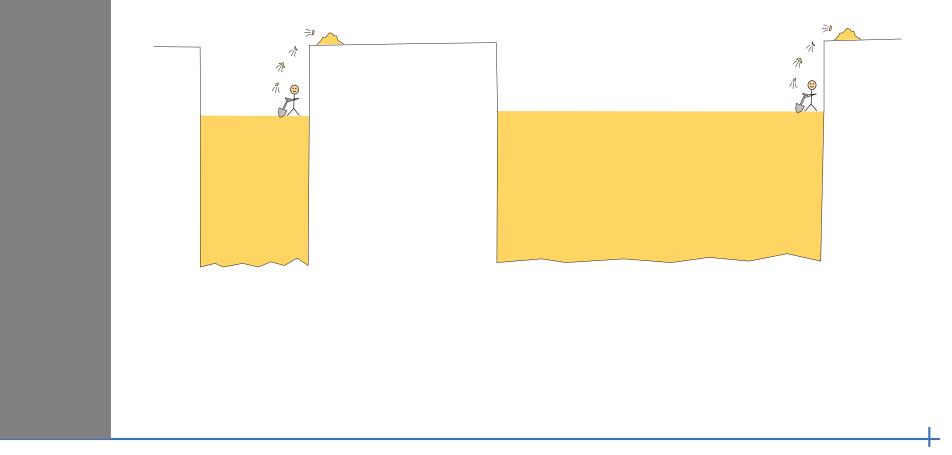


https://www.slu.se/en/cv/robert-hart/



Non-renewable resources in the long run

Consider the picture below, and with its help try to identify as many such factors as you can. Furthermore, categorize them according to whether they should make extraction costs rise or fall over time.



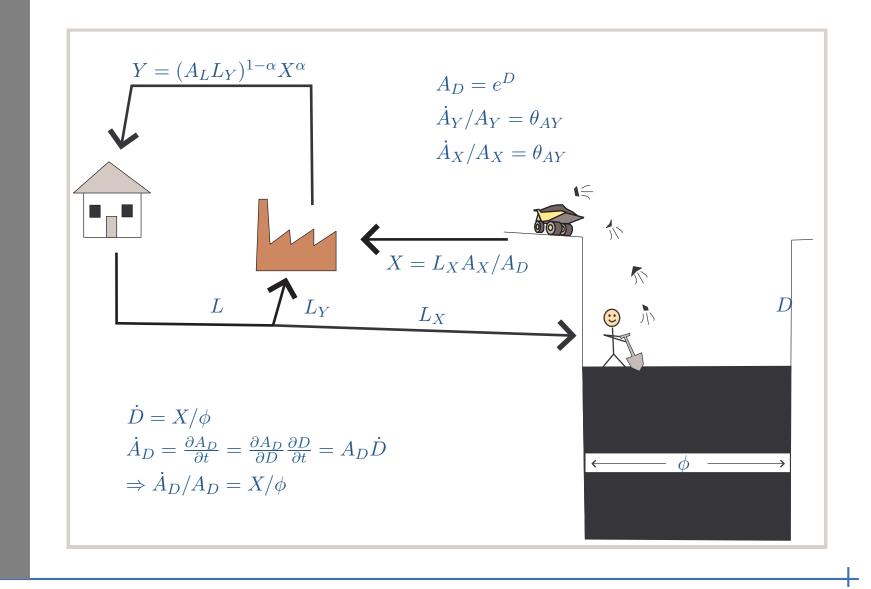












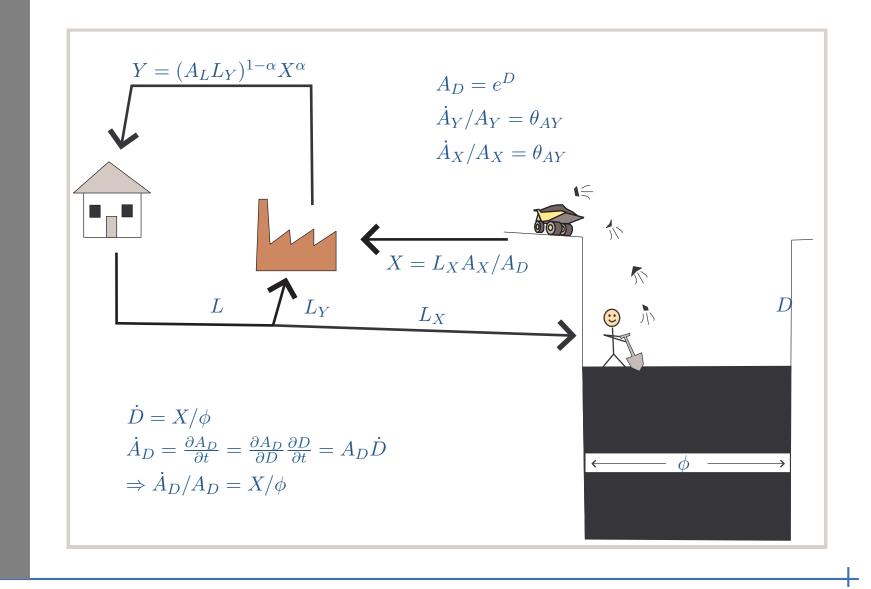




Now assume a *primitive* economy in which A_Y is very small. What happens?

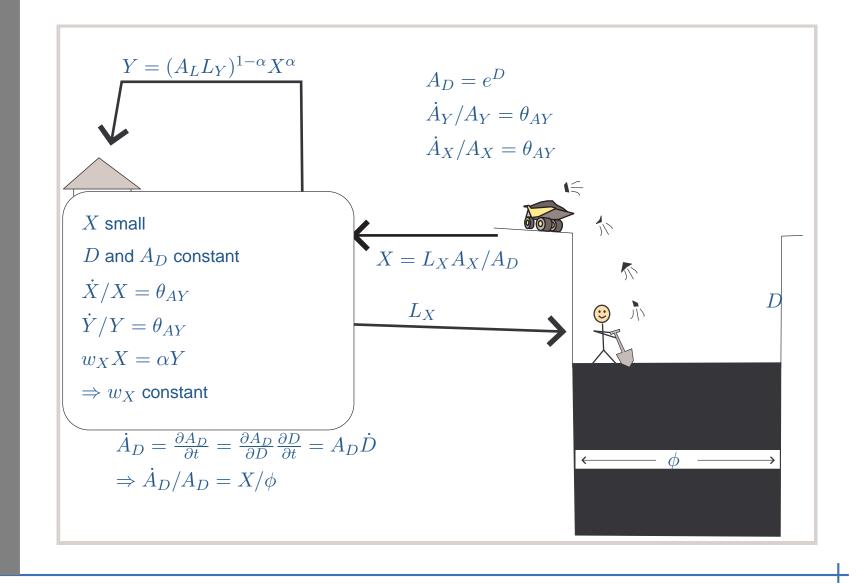












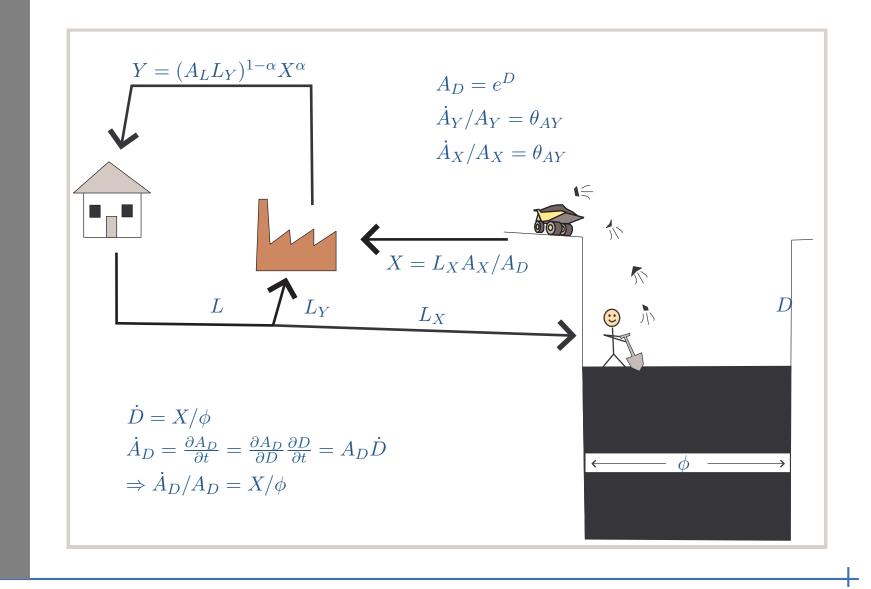




Now assume a *balanced growth path* on which X is constant. Characterize the path.

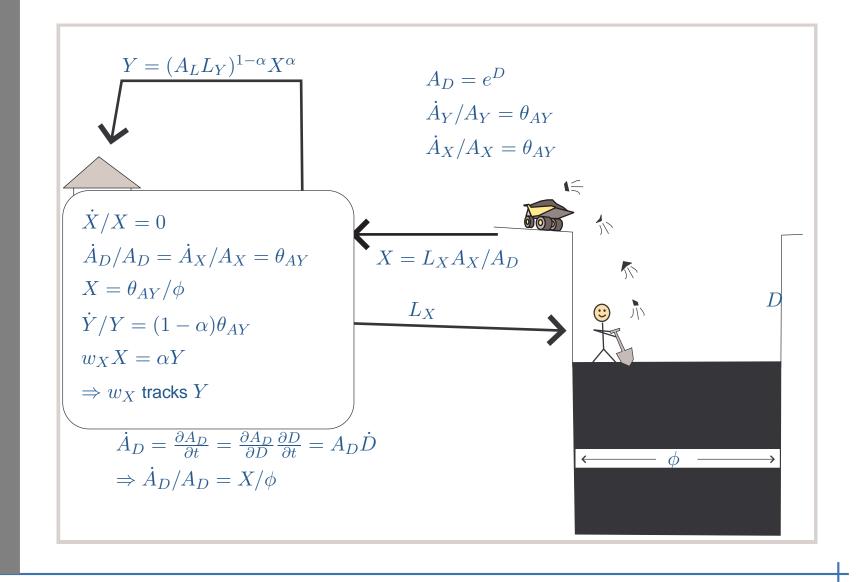














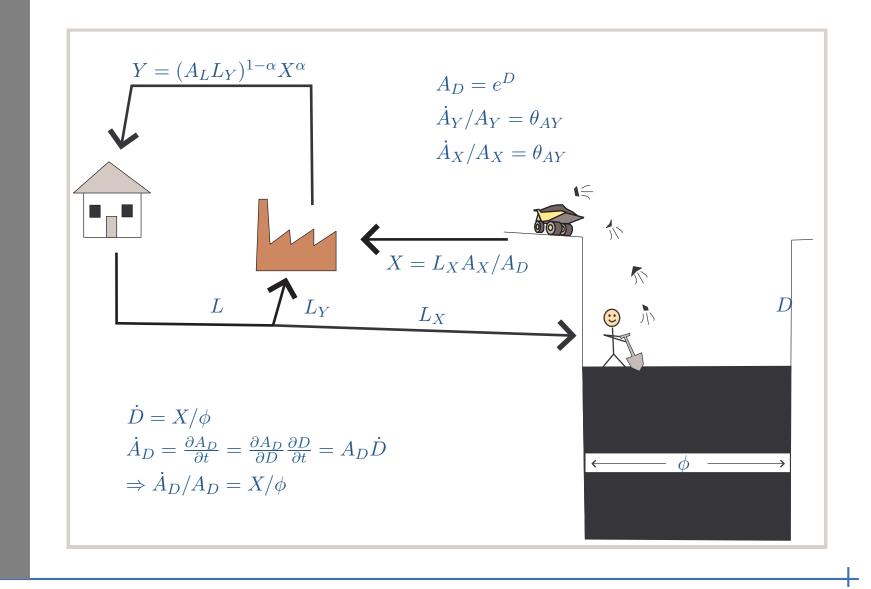
https://www.slu.se/en/cv/robert-hart/



Now assume a *Hotelling economy* in which the resource is running out. Characterize the path.

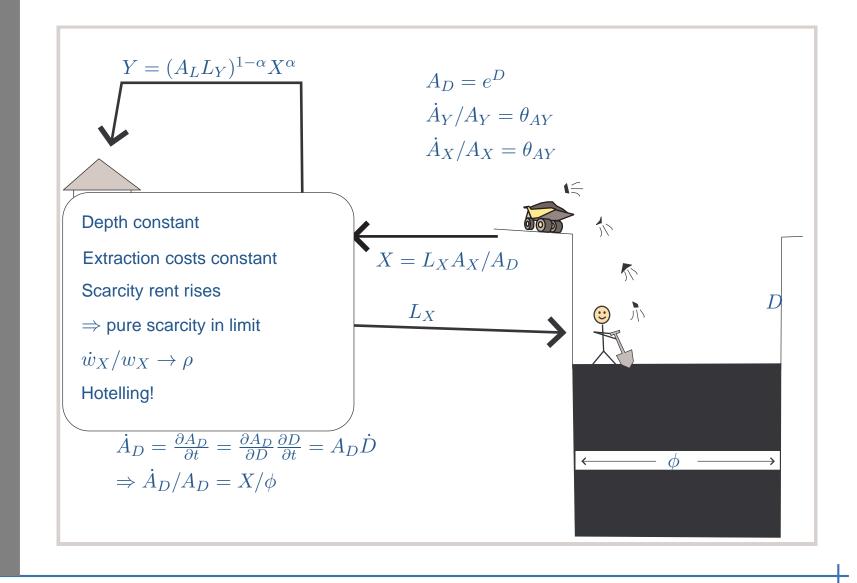
















Empirical application?



https://www.slu.se/en/cv/robert-hart/











We can solve the problems related to resource stocks, extraction costs, and predictions about the price.

I.e. we can solve the problems related to resource supply.

But what about resource demand, and the Cobb–Douglas production function?





Daly (1997):

In the Solow–Stiglitz variant, to make a cake we need not only the cook and his kitchen, but also some non-zero amount of flour, sugar, eggs, etc. This seems a great step forward until we realize that we could make our cake a thousand times bigger with no extra ingredients, if we simply would stir faster and use bigger bowls and ovens.





Solow (1973), 'Solow's three mechanisms':

- 1. Increase—through technological change—resource efficiency in production of one or more product categories;
- 2. Substitute on the consumption side away from product categories in which the production process is resource-intensive.
- 3. Increase—through technological change—the efficiency of an alternative (substitute) resource in production of one or more product categories.





Note that to explain the past using Solow's mechanisms we need to put them into reverse. Then we have three explanations for why resource and energy use has increased (tracking GDP):

- 1. resource-efficient technology has not been developed,
- 2. consumption patterns have shifted towards resource-intensive goods, and
- 3. there has not been substitution on the production side to alternative inputs, such as renewables.

To understand the mechanisms it is useful to look at past data. Then we can apply what we have learnt to predicting the future and designing policy.







Why the focus on capital substituting for resources?





https://www.slu.se/en/cv/robert-hart/

