Post-Keynesian Growth Theory and the Supply Side

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Introduction

- PK macrodynamics renowned for models of demand-led growth
- ▶ BUT canonical models little more than 'moving IS' relationship (or moving XM relationship in case of Kaldorian variants)

Introduction (cont.)

Two key criticisms:

- Kregel (1985) 'Hamlet without the Prince': models real-side only
- Cornwall (1972) 'Say's law in reverse' supply side always fully and automatically accommodating of demand-led growth

Introduction (cont.)

- Premises of lecture:
 - 'Say's law in reverse' not always appropriate
 - Even when it is, attention to supply side can prove important
 - So either way, supply side merits closer attention in demand-led growth theory
- Original intention 'laundry list' of topics that leaned towards issues of gender

Introduction (cont.)

- ► BUT learning by doing!
- ▶ Result new H₀: feminist-structuralist macro theory as a 'general framework' for integration of AD and AS in theory of long-run growth and furtherance of longstanding debate about influence of distribution on growth
- Purpose of lecture: motivate interest, rather than provide complete analyses of issues
 - 'focus on the forest rather than the trees'

Plan of lecture

- ▶ Where to begin?
 - ans: with supply-side detail that's already implicit in PK growth models
- ▶ Where to go next?
 - ans: avenues of research that usefully and more explicitly integrate supply-side considerations into demand-led models
 - in particular, three seemingly unrelated literatures that (inter alia):
 - point to possible reconciliation of AD and AS in theory of long-run growth ...
 - ... and provide new insights into relationship between distribution and growth
- Summary and conclusions
 - 'we all should be feminist-structuralist macro modellers now'

The Dame Julie Andrews principle

Let's start at the very beginning A very good place to start

Dame Julie Andrews (aided and abetted by Rodgers and Hammerstein)

- ▶ In this case, 'starting at the beginning' involves a brief review of what's already present (if only implictly) in demand-led growth models
 - theory of production
 - potential output growth
 - theories of technical change
 - Verdoorn law
 - induced, factor-biased technical change



Theory of production

$$Y_p = min\left[\frac{K}{v}, \frac{N_{max}}{a}\right]$$

where $N_{max} = (1 - U_{min})L$

- ► Choice of Leontieff technology no accident:
 - realism rooted in observed history of technology (Rosenberg, 1976) ...
 - ... and as such, consistent with PK concerns with historical vs. logical time (Harris, 2022) (in this case, w.r.t. analysis of long-term growth and technical change)



Potential output growth

From production technology:

$$Y_p = \frac{K}{V}$$

$$Y_p = \frac{N_{max}}{a}$$

- ► Can be thought of in terms of distinction between Lewis-type and labour-constrained economy
- ► Latter characteristic of advanced capitalism (and will be focus here) (see also Skott (2020))



Potential output growth (cont.)

$$Y_p = \frac{N_{max}}{a} = \frac{(1 - U_{min})L}{P} \frac{P}{a}$$

where P denotes total population

$$\Rightarrow y_p = -\hat{a} + n = q + n$$

where $q = \hat{Q}$, $Q = \frac{1}{a}$, and labour force participation rate $(\frac{L}{P})$ assumed constant in long run

Potential output growth (cont.)

- ► Harrod's natural rate of growth
 - maximum rate of growth that can be achieved in the long run
- Growth ceiling, derived independently of (demand-determined) actual rate of growth

Technical change

Verdoorn law:

$$q = \alpha + \beta g$$

Induced, factor biased technical change:

$$q = \gamma \omega$$

Link technical change to growth (g) and distribution (the wage share, ω), respectively

A menu of topics

Various issues merit exploration, including (but not limited to):

- Path-dependency and the supply side
- Reconciling AD and AS in demand-led growth theory
- 'Paying' for technical change
- Segmented labour markets: high- and low-skill workers; gender-based job segregation
- Human capital formation
- Social reproduction of the household
- Distribution and growth: the role of the supply side
 - capital widening versus capital deepening
 - distribution and potential output growth



E.g., Palley (2002); Dutt (2006a); Setterfield (2006)

Why bother?

$$y_p = q + n$$

$$g = g(Z)$$

Hence in general:

$$g = g(Z) \neq q + n = y_p$$

First Harrod Problem: equality of equilibrium and natural rates of growth possible, but not likely.

So what?

First, note that:

$$Y = \frac{Y}{N}N$$

$$\Rightarrow g = q + e$$

$$\Rightarrow e = g(Z) - q$$

where e denotes the rate of growth of employment



Now note that:

$$\eta = \frac{N}{L}$$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{\eta} = e - n$$

$$\Rightarrow e = n$$

in the steady state, because $0 \le \eta \le 1$.



Hence upon substitution:

$$g(Z) - q = n$$

$$\Rightarrow g(Z) = q + n$$

$$\Rightarrow g = y_p$$

In short, steady state requires absence of First Harrod Problem



Two solutions:

- Abandon steady state framework, or assume Lewis-type economy. BUT
 - second proposal already set aside
 - equilibrium method pervasive
- \triangleright Seek reconciliation between g and y_p
 - preferrable in and of itself because of practical implication: constant rate of employment (in other words, forces recognition of labour constraint in advanced economies)

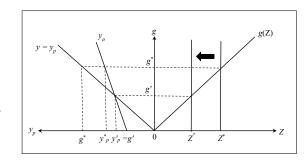
Approach #1:

$$y_p = q + n$$

$$g = g(Z)$$

$$\dot{Z} = -\gamma(g - y_p)$$

- ► E.g., Palley (2002)
- Supply-side 'rules the roost'



Approach #2:

$$y_p = q + n$$

$$g = g(Z)$$

$$\dot{q} = \delta(g - y_p)$$

$$\dot{n} = \phi(g - y_p)$$



For example:

$$y_p = q + n$$

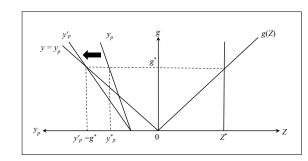
$$\mathbf{q} = \alpha + \beta \mathbf{g}$$

$$\beta = \beta(\eta)$$
 , $\beta' > 0$

Rationale: propensity of any given rate of growth to induce productivity-enhancing technical change depends on accompanying degree of macroeconomic 'slack'

- ▶ low η : $\uparrow g$ induces smaller $\uparrow q$ (low β)
- ▶ high η : $\uparrow g$ induces larger $\uparrow q$ (high β)
- ► Lamfalussy (1961, 1963) 'defensive' (capacity maintaining) investment vs. 'enterprise' investment (R&D, 'Kaldorian' investment embodying technical change)

- ► Demand-side 'rules the roost'



- Adjustment mechanisms not mutually exclusive
- Empirics (focused on BPCG model) Soukiazis et al. (2017);
 Cordeiro and Romero (2021); Ozcelik (2022)

Human capital formation

E.g., Lima et al. (2021); Serra (2021)

(See also Dutt and Veneziani (2018, 2020) for similar developments in classical-Marxian context)

In PK framework, investment in human capital constitutes both:

- An autonomous, non-physcial-capacity-creating expenditure;
 and
- ► A source of productive capacity on the supply-side (increases size of labour force in efficiency units)

Production function (after Lima et al. (2021); Serra (2021)):

$$Y_p = min\left[\frac{K}{v}, \frac{N_{max}}{(1 - U_{min})} \frac{h}{a_H}\right]$$

where:

- $ightharpoonup a_H = rac{H}{Y}$ is the (constant) human capital (H) to output ratio
- ▶ $h = \frac{H}{I}$ denotes human capital per worker

Then:

$$Y_p = \frac{N_{max}}{(1 - U_{min})} \frac{h}{a_H} = \frac{(1 - U_{min})L}{(1 - U_{min})} \frac{h}{a_H} = \frac{Lh}{a_H}$$

$$\Rightarrow y_p = g_h + n$$

and since:

$$g_h = gH - n$$

then:

$$y_p = gH$$



Meanwhile, since:

$$g_H = \frac{\dot{H}}{H} - \frac{I_H}{H}$$

this brings us to investment in human capital (I_H) and hence to the *demand side*: who pays (and thus generates AD) and how?

Lima et al. (2021): I_H publicly funded by tax (τ)

$$I_H = \tau Y$$

$$\Rightarrow g_H = \frac{\tau Y}{H} = \frac{\tau}{a_H}$$



Serra (2021): I_H privately funded by household debt accumulation (after Dutt (2006b))

$$I_{H} = \theta \dot{D} + \mu \omega Y$$

$$\Rightarrow g_{H} = \theta \frac{\dot{D}}{K} \frac{K}{K_{u}} \frac{K_{u}}{Y} \frac{Y}{H} + \mu \omega \frac{Y}{H}$$

$$\Rightarrow g_{H} = \frac{\theta v}{a_{H} u} \frac{\dot{D}}{K} + \frac{\mu \omega}{a_{H}}$$

Meanwhile:

$$\dot{D} = \lambda(\omega Y - iD)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\dot{D}}{K} = \lambda \left(\frac{\omega u}{v} - id \right)$$

Hence:

$$g_{H} = \frac{\theta v \lambda}{\mathsf{a}_{H} u} \left(\frac{\omega u}{\mathsf{v}} - i d \right) + \frac{\mu \omega}{\mathsf{a}_{H}}$$

$$\Rightarrow g_H = \frac{\omega}{a_H}(\theta \lambda + \mu) - \frac{\theta v \lambda}{a_H u} id$$



Demand-side differences matter:

- Lima et al. (2021):
 - human capital publicly funded by taxes (balanced budget); no public debt accumulation, but fiscal policy becomes policy concern
 - raising taxes to fund human capital accumulation has ambiguous effect on employment rate (supply of highly-educated workers does not create its own demand)
- Serra (2021):
 - human capital privately funded by workers borrowing from rentiers; household debt accumulation (financial fragility of household sector) becomes an issue, student debt relief becomes policy concern
 - student loan cancellation has only short-term macroeconomic effects; reducing loan interest rates has long-term effects



But in either case, we have both:

$$y_p = g_H$$

and:

$$g = g(g_H, Z)$$

Human capital accumulation contributes directly to demand-led actual rate of growth and potential rate of growth

Extensions (Serra, 2021):

- Segmented education market
 - 'high' and 'low' skill workers accumulating 'primary' and 'secondary' human capital
 - 'low' skill workers motivated (in part) by wage gap accumulate human capital in effort to 'keep up with the high-skill Joneses'
- Reconciling AD and AS again
 - ightharpoonup as noted, g_h contributes directly to both g and y_p
 - variation in g_H can therefore bring about reconciliation of g and y_p and so solve the First Harrod Problem



Social reproduction of the household

Some notes on terminology:

- ▶ Both market (e.g., day spa) and non-market (e.g., caring for sick relative) care services (Elson, 1995), plus human capital narrowly defined (as formal education and training), contribute to human capacities:
 - "features that make human beings more economically effective (such as emotional maturity, patience, self-confidence, and the ability to work well with others, as well as standard human capital measures such as skills and education)" (Braunstein et al., 2011, pp.9-10)
 - or simply "individual attributes that improve productive contributions" (Heintz and Folbre, 2022, p.150)



Social reproduction of the household (cont.)

- So defined, human capacities:
 - are acquired rather than innate;
 - are equivalent to human capital broadly defined (as as acquired attributes of individuals that enahnce their (marginal) productivity)
 - include unpaid care in the home, which is closely related to the Marxist-feminist notion of the social reproduction of labour (Folbre, 1994)
 - ► are accumulated through processes that are *gendered* (Braunstein et al., 2011, p.8)



- Clear implications for demand formation e.g., Seguino and Setterfield (2010)
 - composition of expenditures matters in BPCG framework
 - Specifically, expenditures on domestically-produced services (for social reproduction) versus imported luxuries ⇒ different income elasticities of M ⇒ different rates of BPCG
 - result: distribution of income between men and women matters, given disproportional role of latter in social reproduction of household
- But what about demand and supply?
- ▶ Braunstein et al. (2011) (Kaleckian framework) to the rescue! (see also Braunstein et al. (2020, 2021) for empirical counterparts)



Demand side – here, we encounter investment spending on marketed services that contribute to human capacities (H_c):

$$I = I_K + I_{H_c}$$

where:

$$I_{H_c} = I_{H_c}(o^e(\pi, u))$$
 , $I'_{H_c} > 0$

and:

- o^e denotes expected opportunities, $o_{\pi}^e < 0, o_u^e > 0$
- size of I'_{Hc} depends on 'caring spirits'
- Caring spirits greater in altruistic than selfish societies
 - (key results emanate from this distinction e.g., different effects of raising female wage in selfish vs altruistic society)



Note that:

$$dI_{H_c} = I'_{H_c}(o_{\pi}^e d\pi + o_u^e du)$$

- ► Since $I'_{H_c} > 0, o_u^e > 0$...
- \blacktriangleright ... and size of I'_{H_c} depends on 'caring spirits' ...
- ▶ ... then size of accelerator effect on total investment in this model $(dI = I_{K_u}du + I'_{H_c}o_u^edu)$ depends on caring spirits
- Importance: per Marglin and Bhaduri (1990); Bhaduri and Marglin (1990), size of accelerator effect influences character of demand regime (wage- versus profit-led)

Supply side – here, we encounter unpaid care-giving (social reproduction of labour) in the household:

$$H_c = H_c(f(u), m(u))$$

where:

- ▶ m' > f' > 0: male wages (m) and female wages (f) increasing in u, but men have more bargaining power (gender segmentation of labour market)
- $H_{c_m} < H_{c_f} < 0$: unpaid care-giving decreasing in wages and to greater extent for men (gendered social reproduction of labour)



Hence:

$$Q = \frac{1}{a} = Q[f(u), m(u), H_c(f(u), m(u))]$$

where:

- $ightharpoonup Q_f, Q_m > 0$: classical induced, factor biased technical change
- $ightharpoonup Q_{H_c} > 0$: productivity increasing in unpaid care-giving

Result: higher economic activity (u) and hence wages (f, m) has positive 'direct' effect and negative 'indirect' effect (via H_c) on Q.

Note that H_c independent of I_{H_c} , because of short-run structure of model, and H_c modelled exclusively in terms of labour inputs. In other words:

- ▶ Unpaid care-giving affects H_c and hence Q, without generating demand for output
- ▶ Investment in marketed services that contribute to human capacities generates demand for output, without affecting H_c and hence Q
- ▶ In short: short-run structure means care-giving has demandand supply-side effects that are independent of one another



Also, no explicit production function, but this easy to remedy:

$$Y_p = min\left[\frac{K}{v}, N_{max}Q[f(u), m(u), H_c(f(u), m(u))]\right]$$

Then:

$$Y_p = N_{max}Q[f(u), m(u), H_c(f(u), m(u))]$$

$$\Rightarrow Y_p = (1 - U_{min})LQ[f(u), m(u), H_c(f(u), m(u))]$$

But note this isn't the whole story:

- ► This is effectively a two-sector model, with the household sector producing a flow of non-market services that use labour and (arguably) marketed output as inputs
- ▶ This second production function not fully captured by the $H_c = H_c(.)$ function

Moreover, and returning to expression for Y_p , expression for potential *rate of growth* more complicated:

$$y_p = q(.) + n$$

... but specification of q(.) requires further thought:

- ▶ Derivation of q(.) from Q[.] function?
- Introduction of g_{Hc} as a result of I_{Hc} into Q[.] and hence q(.) (i.e., allow stock of human capacities to depend on flow of investment in human capacities in long run)
 - ▶ this problem 'solved' in neoclassical model of Heintz and Folbre (2022), but by treating H_c and g_{H_c} as exogenously given



Nevertheless, there clearly is (or can be) *some* expression for q such that $q=q(g_{H_c})$, so that we can (or should eventually be able to) write:

$$y_p = q(g_{H_c}) + n$$

and (recalling structure of demand side):

$$g = g(g_{H_c}, Z)$$

So that:

- Human capacity accumulation (including, but not limited to, the results of unpaid labour in the home) contributes directly to demand-led actual rate of growth and potential rate of growth ...
- ightharpoonup ... and a la Serra (2021), variation in g_{H_c} may contribute to solving the First Harrod Problem

Human capital and human capacities literatures: possibility for easy and/or fruitful cross-fertilization?

- ► How could there not be? As noted, broadly defined, human capital and human capacities are the same thing.
- ▶ But at present, there are subtle differences between these literatures, suggestive of 'gains from trade'

For instance:

- ► Human capacities literature shows there's something broader than human capital narrowly defined, that includes whole new sphere of production (social reproduction in the household)
 - this also means that unlike human capital narrowly defined, the flow of human capacities is not fully accounted for as part of the single composite commodity Y
 - example of where explicit use of SFC methods might be useful in these literatures?

- ► Human capital literature shows that financing of accumulation matters as does (contra Braunstein et al., 2011, EN 5) the interest rate
- Human capital literature based on 'tight' connection between demand and supply, in which any expenditure on human capital augments the stock of human capital available on the supply side
 - this tight connection broken in human capacities literature by short run assumption
 - ▶ also, no connection between unpaid time devoted to H_c and size/composition of household expenditures (e.g., on inputs needed to complement unpaid labour in the domestic production of H_c)



- Technical change can connect distribution to potential rate of growth:
 - potential rate of growth (Harrodian natural rate) affected by labour productivity growth
 - ▶ labour productivity growth affected by distribution if technical change is induced (by profit squeeze) and factor biased (labour-saving)

- If g = y_p in the steady state, this connects distribution to actual rate of growth, but via supply side rather than traditional PK demand-side channel (Petach and Tavani, 2020; Luzuriaga and Tavani, 2021; Rada et al., 2021; Michl and Tavani, 2021; Rada et al., 2022)
- ▶ May give rise to growth that is profit-led in medium run, but wage-led in long-run steady state (see, e.g. Rada et al., 2021)

Suppose that:

$$g = g^s$$

$$g^s = s_{\pi} r$$

$$r = \frac{1}{v}(1 - \omega)$$

Then $\uparrow w \Rightarrow \uparrow \omega = wa = \frac{w}{Q} \Rightarrow \downarrow r \Rightarrow \downarrow g$ – growth profit-led



Note:

- No formal principle of effective demand (PED) in this model − essentially classical Marxian
- ▶ BUT this just an abstraction for the sake of simplicity
 - think of profit-led growth scenarios in Bhaduri-Marglin model, or neo-Goodwinian model, in both of which PED is alive and well

Now write:

$$y_p = -\hat{a} + n = q + n$$
 $q = \gamma \omega = \gamma \frac{w}{Q} \quad , \quad \gamma > 0$ $\hat{w} = q + \delta(g - y_p)$

Note that in the steady state:

$$g = y_p$$

(constant rate of employment)

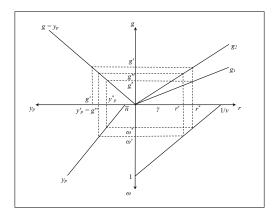
$$\Rightarrow \hat{w} = q$$

which renders the wage share $(\omega = wa = \frac{w}{Q})$ constant

BUT – now assume $\downarrow s_{\pi} \Rightarrow \uparrow g \Rightarrow g > y_p$ initially. Two effects:



- $\hat{w} > q \Rightarrow \uparrow \omega = wa =$ $\frac{w}{Q} \Rightarrow \downarrow r \Rightarrow \downarrow g \text{ (profit-led growth effect)}$
- $\hat{w} > q \Rightarrow \uparrow \omega = wa = \frac{w}{Q} \Rightarrow \uparrow q \Rightarrow \uparrow y_p$ (induced, factor-biased technical change effect)



- ► RESULT steady-state equilibrium restored when $g'' = y'_p$, such that $g' > g'' = y'_p > y^*_p = g^*$
- ► In other words,
 - ▶ although growth profit-led in medium run (g'' < g') due to $\uparrow \omega$...
 - ... steady-state rate of growth *increases* in response to $\uparrow \omega$ $(g'' = y'_p > y^*_p = g^*)$ wage-led!
- ▶ Note consistency with Blecker (2016): growth more likely to be wage-led in long run

Some complications

- Zamparelli (2022) does profit squeeze elicit increase in productivity growth?
 - if not, key mechanism making for wage-led long-run growth undermined
 - Zamparelli (2022) result obviously has implications far beyond the core (Rada et al., 2021) result

- The Verdoorn law
 - ► falling actual rate of growth would *retard* productivity growth and so *reduce* the natural rate through this channel
 - ▶ natural rate may experience net decline as a result
 - system may become unstable and, even if not, steady-state growth will be profit-led
 - ► the old controversy reappears, the supply side now the 'battleground'!

Now note the link between this literature and the human capacities (and hence human capital) literature:

- ▶ Rada et al. (2021): $\Delta \pi$ affects steady-state g via g and y_p
- ▶ Braunstein et al. (2011): ditto, but with bells on!
 - \blacktriangleright $\Delta \pi$ affects I_k , I_{H_c} on demand side ...
 - ... and Q=Q[.] on supply side, both through traditional channel (induced, factor-biased technical change) and new channel (quantity of unpaid care-giving in the home)
 - indeed, effects of $\Delta \pi$ may vary depending on its effects on f and m and hence division of wage income between men and women, given gendered structure of the second channel



- ▶ Result: Braunstein et al. (2011) as a (WIP) extension of Rada et al. (2021)
 - ▶ WIP because Braunstein et al. (2011) is a short-run model whereas Rada et al. (2021) is a fully-realized model of short-run Goodwin dynamics and long-run steady-state trend growth outcomes
 - ▶ \$64K question: how does redistribution affect (steady-state) growth in this extended framework?

Summary and conclusions

- On the face of it, this has been a discussion of four essentially unrelated topics:
 - one old established theme (reconciliation of AD and AS in the long run) ...
 - ... and three new and small (but important in their own right) literatures, on human capital, the social reproduction of labour, and the supply-side link between distribution and growth

Summary and conclusions (cont.)

- ▶ BUT in addition to primary topics of interest in the three new literatures (education, gender and care, the distribution-growth-technical change nexus), all three serve a secondary purpose:
 - ▶ they relate back to the old (AD-AS reconciliation) theme, by showing how we might get $g = y_p$ through new mechanisms ...
 - ... and provide new insights into (even older) theme debate over wage- versus profit-led growth
- Moreover, feminist-structuralist macro theory seems to provide a general framework for further (and integrated) exploration of all this

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