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# Growth: Scale or Market-Size Effects?

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## Abstract

Is the supply of researchers or the demand for technologies more important for innovation? The supply of research labor captures a scale effect, whereas the demand from production labor for technologies captures a market-size effect. We find that both the scale effect and the market-size effect are important for innovation and their relative importance depends on the relative intensity of lab-equipment R&D and knowledge-driven R&D in the innovation process.

*JEL classification:* O30, O40

*Keywords:* innovation, economic growth, scale effects, market-size effects

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# 1 Introduction

In an influential study, Jones (1995) shows that the R&D-based growth model features a scale effect, which implies that a larger labor force causes a higher growth rate of technologies. Intuitively, with a larger labor force, there is more labor for R&D. Acemoglu (2002) shows that the R&D-based growth model also features a market-size effect under which the growth rate of technologies is increasing in the amount of labor that uses the technologies. Therefore, the scale effect and the market-size effect are closely related. Acemoglu (2002) writes, "[s]ince the scale effect is related to the market size effect [...], one might wonder whether, once we remove the scale effect, the market size effect will also disappear."

This study disentangles the scale effect and the market-size effect. The supply of research labor determines the scale effect, whereas the demand from production labor for technologies determines the market-size effect. In a Schumpeterian growth model that features both lab-equipment R&D and knowledge-driven R&D, we find that the growth rate of technologies is generally increasing in both research labor and production labor. Therefore, both the scale effect and the market-size effect matter to innovation. However, their relative importance depends on the relative intensity of lab-equipment R&D and knowledge-driven R&D. Under knowledge-driven R&D that uses research labor as input, only the scale effect matters to innovation. Under lab-equipment R&D that uses final good as input, only the market-size effect matters to innovation. In general, the importance of the scale effect relative to the market-size effect is increasing in the intensity of research labor relative to final good in the innovation process. Extending our analysis to a semi-endogenous growth model, we find that the scale effect and the market-size effect are still present but affect the long-run level of technologies, instead of the long-run growth rate of technologies. We also confirm our results in a hybrid growth model that features both endogenous and semi-endogenous growth.

This study relates to the literature on innovation and economic growth. Romer (1990) develops the seminal R&D-based growth model in which new products drive innovation. Segerstrom *et al.* (1990), Grossman and Helpman (1991a) and Aghion and Howitt (1992) develop the Schumpeterian model in which higher-quality products drive innovation. Jones (1999) shows that these seminal studies feature scale effects and discusses two approaches of removing them. The semi-endogenous growth model originates from Jones (1995),<sup>1</sup> whereas the second-generation model originates from Smulders and van de Klundert (1995), Peretto (1998, 1999) and Howitt (1999) in which the market size of firms is of fundamental importance. Our analysis relates to this literature, which shows how the market-size dynamics at the firm level is able to eliminate the scale effect at the aggregate level.<sup>2</sup> Acemoglu (2002) develops a model of directed technical change and shows that the market-size effect exists even without the scale effect on growth; however, his formulation maintains the scale effect on level. Our study complements Acemoglu (2002) by showing the different determinants of the scale and market-size effects and the importance of the relative intensity of two conventional R&D specifications.

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<sup>1</sup>See also Grossman and Helpman (1991b, p. 75-76) who anticipated the semi-endogenous growth model.

<sup>2</sup>See Laincz and Peretto (2006) and Peretto (2018) for empirical and theoretical justifications for the second-generation model.

## 2 A Schumpeterian growth model

We consider the Schumpeterian model. Previous studies often assume that the R&D sector uses either research labor (i.e., knowledge-driven R&D) or final good (i.e., lab-equipment R&D). We specify a generalized R&D process that uses both research labor and final good.

### 2.1 Household

The representative household has the following utility function:

$$U = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-\rho t} \ln c_t dt, \quad (1)$$

where  $c_t$  denotes consumption at time  $t$  and the parameter  $\rho > 0$  is the discount rate. The household exogenously supplies  $m$  units of manufacturing labor and  $s$  units of research labor. Research labor  $s$  is the supply of an input for innovation and captures the scale effect. Production labor  $m$  uses invented technologies and determines the market size of innovation.

The household maximizes utility subject to the following asset-accumulation equation:

$$\dot{a}_t = r_t a_t + w_{m,t} m + w_{s,t} s - c_t. \quad (2)$$

$a_t$  is the real value of assets (i.e., the share of monopolistic firms).  $r_t$  is the real interest rate.  $w_{m,t}$  and  $w_{s,t}$  are respectively the real wage rates of  $m$  and  $s$ . Dynamic optimization yields

$$\frac{\dot{c}_t}{c_t} = r_t - \rho. \quad (3)$$

### 2.2 Final good

Competitive firms produce final good  $y_t$  using the following Cobb-Douglas aggregator:

$$y_t = \exp\left(\int_0^1 \ln x_t(i) di\right), \quad (4)$$

where  $x_t(i)$  is intermediate good  $i \in [0, 1]$ . Profit maximization yields the following conditional demand function for  $x_t(i)$ :

$$x_t(i) = \frac{y_t}{p_t(i)}, \quad (5)$$

where  $p_t(i)$  is the price of  $x_t(i)$ .

## 2.3 Intermediate goods

There is a unit continuum of monopolistic industries producing differentiated intermediate goods. The production function of the industry leader in industry  $i \in [0, 1]$  is

$$x_t(i) = z^{q_t(i)} m_t(i), \quad (6)$$

where the parameter  $z > 1$  is the quality step size,  $q_t(i)$  is the number of quality improvements that have occurred in industry  $i$  as of time  $t$ , and  $m_t(i)$  is manufacturing labor employed in industry  $i$ . Given the productivity level  $z^{q_t(i)}$ , the marginal cost of the leader in industry  $i$  is  $w_{m,t}/z^{q_t(i)}$ . The profit-maximizing monopolistic price is

$$p_t(i) = \mu \frac{w_{m,t}}{z^{q_t(i)}}, \quad (7)$$

where the markup  $\mu \in (1, z]$  is a policy parameter determined by the government.<sup>3</sup> The wage payment is

$$w_{m,t} m_t(i) = \frac{1}{\mu} p_t(i) x_t(i) = \frac{1}{\mu} y_t, \quad (8)$$

and the monopolistic profit is

$$\pi_t(i) = p_t(i) x_t(i) - w_{m,t} m_t(i) = \frac{\mu - 1}{\mu} y_t. \quad (9)$$

## 2.4 R&D

Equation (9) shows that  $\pi_t(i) = \pi_t$ . Therefore, the value of inventions is the same across industries such that  $v_t(i) = v_t$ .<sup>4</sup> The no-arbitrage condition that determines  $v_t$  is

$$r_t = \frac{\pi_t + \dot{v}_t - \lambda_t v_t}{v_t}, \quad (10)$$

which states that the rate of return on  $v_t$  is equal to  $r_t$ . The return on  $v_t$  is the sum of monopolistic profit  $\pi_t$ , capital gain  $\dot{v}_t$  and expected capital loss  $\lambda_t v_t$ , where  $\lambda_t$  is the arrival rate of innovation.<sup>5</sup>

Competitive entrepreneurs maximize profit by recruiting research labor  $s_t$  and devoting  $R_t$  units of final good to perform innovation. The arrival rate of innovation is

$$\lambda_t = \varphi(s_t)^{1-\alpha} \left( \frac{R_t}{Z_t} \right)^\alpha, \quad (11)$$

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<sup>3</sup>Grossman and Helpman (1991a) and Aghion and Howitt (1992) assume that the markup is equal to the quality step size  $z$ , due to limit pricing between current and previous quality leaders. Here we follow Evans *et al.* (2003) to consider price regulation under which the regulated markup ratio is  $\mu \in (1, z]$ .

<sup>4</sup>We follow the standard approach in the literature to focus on the symmetric equilibrium. See Cozzi *et al.* (2007) for a theoretical justification for the symmetric equilibrium to be the unique rational-expectation equilibrium in the Schumpeterian model.

<sup>5</sup>When the next innovation occurs, the previous technology becomes obsolete. This is known as the Arrow replacement effect; see Cozzi (2007) for a discussion.

where  $\varphi > 0$  is a productivity parameter and  $Z_t$  denotes aggregate technology. The parameter  $\alpha \in [0, 1]$  is the intensity of final good relative to research labor in the innovation process. Knowledge-driven R&D is captured by  $\alpha = 0$ , whereas lab-equipment R&D is captured by  $\alpha = 1$ . The first-order conditions for  $\{s_t, R_t\}$  are  $(1 - \alpha)\lambda_t v_t = w_{s,t} s_t$  and

$$\alpha \lambda_t v_t = R_t \Leftrightarrow \alpha \varphi s^{1-\alpha} \left( \frac{R_t}{Z_t} \right)^{\alpha-1} \frac{v_t}{Z_t} = 1, \quad (12)$$

which uses (11) and the resource constraint  $s_t = s$ .

## 2.5 Economic growth

Aggregate technology  $Z_t$  is defined as

$$Z_t \equiv \exp \left( \int_0^1 q_t(i) di \ln z \right) = \exp \left( \int_0^t \lambda_\omega d\omega \ln z \right), \quad (13)$$

which uses the law of large numbers. Differentiating the log of  $Z_t$  with respect to time yields the growth rate of technology given by

$$g_t \equiv \frac{\dot{Z}_t}{Z_t} = \lambda_t \ln z. \quad (14)$$

Substituting (6) into (4) yields the aggregate production function given by

$$y_t = \exp \left( \int_0^1 q_t(i) di \ln z + \int_0^1 \ln m_t(i) di \right) = Z_t m. \quad (15)$$

Thus, the growth rate of output  $y_t$  is also  $g_t$ , which is determined by  $\lambda_t$  as shown in (14).

From (3) and (10), the balanced-growth value of an invention is

$$v_t = \frac{\pi_t}{\rho + \lambda} = \frac{\mu - 1}{\mu} \frac{Z_t m}{\rho + \lambda}, \quad (16)$$

which uses (9) and (15). Equation (16) shows that  $v_t$  is increasing in production labor  $m$ , capturing the market-size effect in Acemoglu (2002). Substituting (16) into (12) yields

$$\lambda = \alpha \varphi s^{1-\alpha} \left( \frac{R_t}{Z_t} \right)^{\alpha-1} \frac{\mu - 1}{\mu} m - \rho. \quad (17)$$

Substituting the resource constraint  $s_t = s$  into the arrival rate of innovation in (11) yields

$$\lambda = \varphi s^{1-\alpha} \left( \frac{R_t}{Z_t} \right)^\alpha, \quad (18)$$

where  $R_t$  is still endogenous. Combining (17) and (18) yields

$$(\rho + \lambda)^\alpha \lambda^{1-\alpha} = \left( \alpha \frac{\mu - 1}{\mu} \right)^\alpha \varphi s^{1-\alpha} m^\alpha, \quad (19)$$

which determines the unique steady-state equilibrium  $\lambda$ .

Equation (19) shows that the arrival rate  $\lambda$  of innovation is increasing in production labor  $m$  (i.e., the market-size effect) and research labor  $s$  (i.e., the scale effect). Therefore, the equilibrium growth rate  $g$  in (14) is also increasing in  $m$  and  $s$ . The complementarity between  $m$  and  $s$  in (19) implies that how country size affects growth depends on the product of  $m$  and  $s$ . For example, a large country with a low innovation capacity  $s$  (e.g., China in the early reform period) cannot achieve high growth from innovation by simply having a large market size  $m$ .

**Proposition 1** *Economic growth is increasing in production labor  $m$  (i.e., the market-size effect) and research labor  $s$  (i.e., the scale effect).*

Considering a zero discount rate  $\rho \rightarrow 0$ , we simplify (19) to

$$\lim_{\rho \rightarrow 0} \lambda = \left( \alpha \frac{\mu - 1}{\mu} \right)^\alpha \varphi s^{1-\alpha} m^\alpha. \quad (20)$$

Substituting (20) into (14) yields

$$\lim_{\rho \rightarrow 0} g = \left( \alpha \frac{\mu - 1}{\mu} \right)^\alpha \varphi s^{1-\alpha} m^\alpha \ln z, \quad (21)$$

which shows that the importance of the market-size effect  $m$  relative to the scale effect  $s$  on growth is increasing in the intensity  $\alpha$  of final good relative to research labor in the innovation process. Equation (19) shows that this result is robust to  $\rho > 0$ .<sup>6</sup> Intuitively, as  $\alpha$  increases, R&D spending  $R_t$  becomes more important for innovation relative to research labor  $s_t$ ; consequently, the market-size effect, which determines the value of inventions, becomes more important relative to the scale effect in determining innovation. Proposition 2 summarizes this result.

**Proposition 2** *The importance of the market-size effect  $m$  relative to the scale effect  $s$  on economic growth is increasing in the intensity  $\alpha$  of final good relative to research labor in the innovation process.*

Finally, we consider knowledge-driven R&D given by  $\alpha = 0$  and lab-equipment R&D given by  $\alpha = 1$ . Under knowledge-driven R&D, the arrival rate of innovation is  $\lambda^{KD} = \varphi s$  and the growth rate of technology is  $g^{KD} = \varphi s \ln z$ . Therefore, only the scale effect  $s$  matters under knowledge-driven R&D because innovation is solely determined by the supply of research labor in this case.<sup>7</sup> Under lab-equipment R&D, the arrival rate of innovation is  $\lambda^{LE} = \varphi m(\mu - 1)/\mu - \rho$ , and the growth rate of technologies is  $g^{LE} = \lambda^{LE} \ln z$ . Therefore, only

<sup>6</sup>One can apply the approximation  $\ln(X) \approx X - 1$  to (19) to show that  $\partial\lambda/\partial m \approx \alpha$  and  $\partial\lambda/\partial s \approx 1 - \alpha$ .

<sup>7</sup>This result is robust to allowing  $s$  to be allocated between research  $s_r$  and production  $s_x$ . For example, one can modify (6) as  $x_t(i) = z^{q_t(i)} [m_t(i)]^\beta [s_{x,t}(i)]^{1-\beta}$  to confirm that  $g^{KD}$  is still independent of  $m$ .

the market-size effect  $m$  matters under lab-equipment R&D because innovation is determined by the demand for technologies in this case.<sup>8</sup> Proposition 3 summarizes these results.

**Proposition 3** *Under knowledge-driven R&D, only the scale effect  $s$  matters to innovation. Under lab-equipment R&D, only the market-size effect  $m$  matters to innovation.*

### 3 A scale-invariant Schumpeterian growth model

In this section, we allow for population growth and convert the model into a semi-endogenous growth model to examine its implications. In this case, we assume that research labor is  $s_t \equiv sL_t$  and production labor is  $m_t \equiv mL_t$ , where  $s + m \leq 1$  and population  $L_t$  increases at an exogenous growth rate  $n > 0$ . Then, we modify the innovation process in (11) as follows:

$$\lambda_t = \frac{\varphi(s_t)^{1-\alpha}}{Z_t^\phi} \left( \frac{R_t}{Z_t} \right)^\alpha, \quad (22)$$

where the parameter  $\phi > 0$  and the new term  $Z_t^\phi$  capture an increasing-difficulty effect of R&D similar to Segerstrom (1998). The rest of the model is the same as in Section 2. We will show that  $R_t/Z_t$  is proportional to  $m_t$  and increases at the rate  $n$  in the long run. Therefore,  $(s_t)^{1-\alpha}(R_t/Z_t)^\alpha$  also increases at the rate  $n$ . Then, a steady-state arrival rate  $\lambda$  of innovation requires that  $Z_t^\phi$  also grows at the rate  $n$  in the long run. Therefore, the long-run growth rate of aggregate technology  $Z_t$  is  $g = n/\phi$ , and the steady-state arrival rate of innovation is  $\lambda = g/\ln z = n/(\phi \ln z)$ .<sup>9</sup>

Substituting (16) into  $\alpha\lambda_t v_t = R_t$  yields

$$\frac{R_t}{Z_t} = \frac{\mu - 1}{\mu} \frac{\alpha\lambda}{\rho + \lambda} m_t, \quad (23)$$

which shows that  $R_t/Z_t$  is proportional to  $m_t$  in the long run. Substituting (23) into (22) yields the long-run level of technology (per capita) as follows:

$$\frac{Z_t^\phi}{L_t} = \frac{\varphi(s_t)^{1-\alpha} (m_t)^\alpha}{\lambda L_t} \left( \frac{\mu - 1}{\mu} \frac{\alpha\lambda}{\rho + \lambda} \right)^\alpha = \frac{\varphi s^{1-\alpha} m^\alpha}{\lambda} \left( \frac{\mu - 1}{\mu} \frac{\alpha\lambda}{\rho + \lambda} \right)^\alpha, \quad (24)$$

where  $\lambda = n/(\phi \ln z)$  is determined by exogenous parameters. Equation (24) shows that the long-run level of technology is increasing in the market-size effect  $m$  and the scale effect  $s$ . Furthermore, the relative importance of the market-size effect  $m$  and the scale effect  $s$

<sup>8</sup>If we assume that  $s$  can be allocated to production  $s_x$  and specify  $x_t(i) = z^{a_t(i)} [m_t(i)]^\beta [s_{x,t}(i)]^{1-\beta}$ , then  $g^{LE} = [\varphi m^\beta s^{1-\beta} (\mu - 1)/\mu - \rho] \ln z$ . Although innovation is also determined by  $s$  in this case, its effect works through the market size (i.e., the demand from production labor  $s_x = s$  for technologies).

<sup>9</sup>Alternatively, one can achieve long-run endogenous growth despite population growth by replacing  $Z_t^\phi$  in (22) with  $L_t$ , which captures a dilution effect in the spirit of the second-generation model; see Laincz and Peretto (2006). In this case, (19) remains the same except that  $s^{1-\alpha} m^\alpha$  is given by  $(s_t/L_t)^{1-\alpha} (m_t/L_t)^\alpha$ . In Appendix A, we show that a second-generation version of our model also yields (19).



on innovation is determined by the relative intensity  $\alpha$  of final good and research labor in innovation. Under knowledge-driven R&D (i.e.,  $\alpha = 0$ ), only the scale effect  $s$  matters to innovation. Under lab-equipment R&D (i.e.,  $\alpha = 1$ ), only the market-size effect  $m$  matters to innovation. All these results are the same as before, except the effect on innovation is reflected in the long-run level of technology instead of the long-run growth rate of technology.

### 3.1 Labor allocation

In this section, we extend the semi-endogenous growth model by allowing for labor allocation in  $s$  to ensure the robustness of our results when  $s$  can be allocated between research  $s_r$  and production  $s_x$ . Specifically, we modify (6) as follows:

$$x_t(i) = z^{q_t(i)} [m_t(i)]^\beta [s_{x,t}(i)]^{1-\beta}, \quad (25)$$

where  $\beta \in (0, 1)$ . In Appendix B, we derive the long-run level of technology as

$$\frac{Z_t^\phi}{L_t} = \frac{\varphi(s_{r,t})^{1-\alpha} (s_{x,t})^{\alpha(1-\beta)} (m_t)^{\alpha\beta}}{\lambda L_t} \left( \frac{\mu - 1}{\mu} \frac{\alpha\lambda}{\rho + \lambda} \right)^\alpha = \frac{\varphi s^{1-\alpha\beta} m^{\alpha\beta}}{\lambda} \Omega, \quad (26)$$

where  $\lambda = n/(\phi \ln z)$  and the composite parameter  $\Omega$  is defined as

$$\Omega \equiv \frac{\left(\frac{\alpha}{\mu}\right)^\alpha \left(\frac{1-\alpha}{1-\beta}\right)^{1-\alpha} \frac{\lambda(\mu-1)}{\rho+\lambda}}{\left[1 + \frac{1-\alpha}{1-\beta} \frac{\lambda(\mu-1)}{\rho+\lambda}\right]^{1-\alpha\beta}}.$$

Equation (26) shows that technology  $Z^\phi/L_t$  is increasing in the market-size effect  $m$  and the scale effect  $s$ . The importance of  $m$  relative to  $s$  is increasing in  $\alpha$ . The exponent on  $s$  is  $1 - \alpha\beta = 1 - \alpha + \alpha(1 - \beta)$ , where  $1 - \alpha$  captures the scale effect from  $s_r$  and  $\alpha(1 - \beta)$  captures the market-size effect from  $s_x$ . Under knowledge-driven R&D (i.e.,  $\alpha = 0$ ), only the scale effect  $s$  matters to technology because the market-size effect  $m$  does not affect R&D labor  $s_r$ . Under lab-equipment R&D (i.e.,  $\alpha = 1$ ), only the market-size effect  $m^\beta s^{1-\beta}$  matters, where  $s^{1-\beta}$  captures the demand from production labor  $(s_x)^{1-\beta}$  for technologies.

### 3.2 Hybrid innovation

In this section, we extend the Schumpeterian growth model by modifying (22) as follows:

$$\lambda_t = \left( \frac{\theta}{Z_t^\phi} + \frac{1-\theta}{L_t} \right) \varphi(s_t)^{1-\alpha} \left( \frac{R_t}{Z_t} \right)^\alpha, \quad (27)$$

where the parameter  $\theta \in (0, 1)$  captures the importance of semi-endogenous growth relative to endogenous growth. This hybrid specification from Cozzi (2017) allows us to explore our results when the property of long-run growth is endogenously determined. For simplicity, we focus on  $\beta = 1$ . Substituting (23) into (27) yields

$$(\rho + \lambda)^\alpha \lambda^{1-\alpha} = \left( \theta \frac{L_t}{Z_t^\phi} + 1 - \theta \right) \left( \alpha \frac{\mu - 1}{\mu} \right)^\alpha \varphi s^{1-\alpha} m^\alpha. \quad (28)$$

Whether the balanced growth path exhibits semi-endogenous growth or endogenous growth depends on the population growth rate  $n$ .

If  $n$  is below a threshold  $n^*$ , then  $L_t/Z_t^\phi$  converges to zero. In this case, the steady-state arrival rate of innovation is *endogenous* and determined by

$$(\rho + \lambda)^\alpha \lambda^{1-\alpha} = (1 - \theta) \left( \alpha \frac{\mu - 1}{\mu} \right)^\alpha \varphi s^{1-\alpha} m^\alpha. \quad (29)$$

The threshold is defined as  $n^* \equiv \phi \lambda^* \ln z$ , where  $\lambda^*$  is the endogenous  $\lambda$  determined in (29).

If  $n$  is above  $n^*$ , then  $L_t/Z_t^\phi$  converges to a positive steady state in which the innovation arrival rate  $\lambda = n/(\phi \ln z)$  is *semi-endogenous*. The long-run level of technology from (28) is

$$\frac{Z_t^\phi}{L_t} = \left\{ \frac{(\rho + \lambda)^\alpha \lambda^{1-\alpha}}{\theta \varphi s^{1-\alpha} m^\alpha} \left[ \frac{\mu}{\alpha(\mu - 1)} \right]^\alpha - \frac{1 - \theta}{\theta} \right\}^{-1}. \quad (30)$$

We see that  $\lambda^*$  in (29) and  $Z^\phi/L_t$  in (30) are both increasing in the market-size effect  $m$  and the scale effect  $s$ . The importance of  $m$  relative to  $s$  is increasing in  $\alpha$ . Under knowledge-driven R&D (i.e.,  $\alpha = 0$ ), only the scale effect  $s$  matters to innovation. Under lab-equipment R&D (i.e.,  $\alpha = 1$ ), only the market-size effect  $m$  matters to innovation. Thus, our results are robust to hybrid innovation with a new insight that whether the economy features endogenous growth or semi-endogenous growth depends on the population-growth threshold  $n^*$ , which is increasing in  $s^{1-\alpha} m^\alpha$ ; i.e., a larger scale or market-size effect makes endogenous growth more likely by raising  $\lambda^*$  because semi-endogenous growth requires  $\lambda = n/(\phi \ln z) > \lambda^*$ .

## 4 Conclusion

In this study, we find that both the supply of research labor that determines the scale effect and the demand from production labor for technologies that determines the market-size effect matter to innovation. Interestingly, the relative importance of these supply and demand factors depends on the relative intensity of lab-equipment R&D and knowledge-driven R&D in the innovation process. Therefore, this structural parameter has important empirical implications. For example, it determines whether an education policy that increases research labor at the expense of production labor stimulates or stifles economic growth. If the intensity of lab-equipment R&D is high relative to knowledge-driven R&D, then a policy that promotes apprenticeships, such as the European Alliance for Apprenticeships, may be more effective in stimulating economic growth.

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## Appendix A: Second-generation model (not for publication)

In this appendix, we show that the dilution effect mentioned in footnote 9 can be micro-founded in a second-generation model with both quality improvement and variety expansion. We modify the production function in (4) as

$$y_t = N_t \exp \left( \frac{1}{N_t} \int_0^{N_t} \ln x_t(i) di \right), \quad (\text{A1})$$

where  $N_t$  is the endogenous mass of differentiated intermediate goods. Following Howitt (2000), we specify the law of motion for  $N_t$  as

$$\dot{N}_t = \xi L_t, \quad (\text{A2})$$

where  $\xi > 0$  is an exogenous parameter. A stationary  $\dot{N}_t/N_t$  on the balanced growth path implies a stationary ratio  $L_t/N_t$ , which in turn implies that the long-run growth rate of  $N_t$  is also  $n$ . Therefore,  $N_t$  is proportional to  $L_t$  in the long run, such that  $N_t = \xi L_t/n$ . If we use the parameter normalization  $\xi = n$ , then  $N_t = L_t$ .

As for the rest of the model,  $y_t$  in (5), (8) and (9) is replaced by  $y_t/N_t$ . Furthermore, the resource constraints on production labor and research labor become

$$\int_0^{N_t} m_t(i) di = mL_t \Rightarrow m_t(i) = \frac{mL_t}{N_t} = m, \quad (\text{A3})$$

$$\int_0^{N_t} s_t(i) di = sL_t \Rightarrow s_t(i) = \frac{sL_t}{N_t} = s, \quad (\text{A4})$$

where the second set of equations in (A3) and (A4) applies symmetry and uses the long-run condition  $N_t = L_t$ . Aggregate technology in (13) becomes

$$Z_t \equiv \exp \left( \frac{1}{N_t} \int_0^{N_t} q_t(i) di \ln z \right) = \exp \left( \int_0^t \lambda_\omega d\omega \ln z \right), \quad (\text{A5})$$

and the growth rate of  $Z_t$  is  $g_t = \lambda_t \ln z$ . Aggregate production function in (15) becomes

$$y_t = N_t \exp \left( \frac{1}{N_t} \int_0^{N_t} q_t(i) di \ln z + \frac{1}{N_t} \int_0^{N_t} \ln m_t(i) di \right) = Z_t mL_t, \quad (\text{A6})$$

where the last equality uses  $N_t = L_t$ . Therefore, the growth rate of  $y_t$  is  $g + n = \lambda \ln z + n$ . Substituting  $\pi_t(i) = [(\mu - 1)/\mu] y_t/N_t$  into (10) yields (16).<sup>10</sup> Finally, (17) and (18) are the same as before and give rise to the same steady-state equilibrium  $\lambda$  in (19), where  $m$  and  $s$  are now production labor and research labor *per variety*.

## References

- [1] Howitt, P., 2000. Endogenous growth and cross-country income differences. *American Economic Review*, 90, 829-846.

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<sup>10</sup>To obtain (16) in the second-generation model, we redefine utility in (1) such that the real interest rate  $r_t$  in (3) is determined by the growth rate of per capita consumption, instead of aggregate consumption.

## Appendix B: Labor allocation (not for publication)

In this appendix, we generalize the production function in (6) as follows:

$$x_t(i) = z^{q_t(i)} [m_t(i)]^\beta [s_{x,t}(i)]^{1-\beta}. \quad (\text{B1})$$

From cost minimization, the marginal cost of production for the leader in industry  $i$  is

$$MC_t(i) = \frac{1}{z^{q_t(i)}} \left( \frac{w_{m,t}}{\beta} \right)^\beta \left( \frac{w_{s,t}}{1-\beta} \right)^{1-\beta}. \quad (\text{B2})$$

Given  $p_t(i) = \mu MC_t(i)$ , the monopolistic profit and wage payments are respectively

$$\pi_t(i) = \frac{\mu - 1}{\mu} p_t(i) x_t(i) = \frac{\mu - 1}{\mu} y_t, \quad (\text{B3})$$

$$w_{m,t} m_t(i) = \frac{\beta}{\mu} p_t(i) x_t(i) = \frac{\beta}{\mu} y_t, \quad (\text{B4})$$

$$w_{s,t} s_{x,t}(i) = \frac{1-\beta}{\mu} p_t(i) x_t(i) = \frac{1-\beta}{\mu} y_t. \quad (\text{B5})$$

The arrival rate  $\lambda_t$  of innovation is given by (22) with  $s_t$  replaced by  $s_{r,t}$ . The first-order conditions for  $\{s_{r,t}, R_t\}$  are

$$(1 - \alpha) \lambda_t v_t = w_{s,t} s_{r,t}, \quad (\text{B6})$$

$$\alpha \lambda_t v_t = R_t. \quad (\text{B7})$$

Substituting (B1) into (4) yields

$$y_t = Z_t (m_t)^\beta (s_{x,t})^{1-\beta}. \quad (\text{B8})$$

From (3) and (10), the balanced-growth value of an invention is

$$v_t = \frac{\pi_t}{\rho + \lambda} = \frac{\mu - 1}{\mu} \frac{Z_t (m_t)^\beta (s_{x,t})^{1-\beta}}{\rho + \lambda}, \quad (\text{B9})$$

where the second equality uses (B3) and (B8). Substituting (B9) into (B7) yields

$$\frac{R_t}{Z_t} = \frac{\alpha \lambda}{\rho + \lambda} \frac{\mu - 1}{\mu} (m_t)^\beta (s_{x,t})^{1-\beta}. \quad (\text{B10})$$

Substituting (B5) and (B9) into (B6) yields

$$\frac{s_{r,t}}{s_{x,t}} = \frac{1 - \alpha}{1 - \beta} \frac{\lambda(\mu - 1)}{\rho + \lambda}. \quad (\text{B11})$$

Substituting (B10) and (B11) into (22) yields

$$\lambda = \frac{\varphi(s_{x,t})^{1-\alpha\beta} (m_t)^{\alpha\beta}}{Z_t^\phi} \left( \frac{\alpha}{\mu} \right)^\alpha \left( \frac{1-\alpha}{1-\beta} \right)^{1-\alpha} \frac{\lambda(\mu - 1)}{\rho + \lambda}, \quad (\text{B12})$$

which shows that a steady-state equilibrium  $\lambda$  requires  $Z_t^\phi$  to grow at the rate  $n$ . Substituting (B11) into  $s_{x,t} + s_{r,t} = s_t$  yields

$$s_t = \left[ 1 + \frac{1 - \alpha}{1 - \beta} \frac{\lambda(\mu - 1)}{\rho + \lambda} \right] s_{x,t}. \quad (\text{B13})$$

Substituting (B13) into (B12) yields (26).