

Money, Growth, and Welfare in a Schumpeterian Model with the Spirit of Capitalism*

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October 23, 2021

Abstract

According to Schumpeter (1934), entrepreneurs are driven to innovate not just for the fruits of success but also for success itself. This description of entrepreneurship echoes Weber's (1904-05, German; 1958) description of the "spirit of capitalism," which states that people enjoy the accumulation of wealth regardless of its effect on smoothing consumption. This paper explores the implications of the spirit of capitalism on monetary policy, growth, and welfare in a Schumpeterian growth model. Different from the existing literature, we show that money is not superneutral in the long run and it could promote economic growth when the spirit of capitalism is strong. Furthermore, we show the optimal nominal interest rate decreases with the strength of the spirit of capitalism, potentially supporting a negative interest rate.

JEL Classification Numbers: E52 O42 O47.

Keywords: spirit of capitalism; cash-in-advance; Schumpeterian model; monetary policy; growth and welfare

*We thank the Editor and the Reviewers for their thoughtful comments and constructive suggestions. The views expressed here are the opinions of the authors only and do not necessarily represent those of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City or the Federal Reserve System. All remaining errors are our responsibility.

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1 Introduction

Since the pioneering work by Aghion and Howitt (1992), Schumpeterian growth theory has developed into a key framework for understanding long-run economic growth. This theory formulates Schumpeter’s (1942) notion of “creative destruction”—the process by which new innovations replace old technologies—and shows that innovations resulting from entrepreneurial investments are crucial to long-run economic growth.

But what drives entrepreneurs to innovate? Schumpeter (1934) refutes the traditional and hedonistic assumption that defines entrepreneurs’ utility on consumption and instead emphasizes the “psychology of entrepreneurs”: the entrepreneur is strongly motivated by the “dream and the will to found a private kingdom, usually, though not necessarily, also a dynasty.”

“Then there is the will to conquer, the impulse to fight, to prove oneself superior to others, to succeed for the sake, not of the fruits of success, but of success itself, from this aspect, economic action becomes akin to sport. . . . The financial result is a secondary consideration, or, at all events, mainly valued as an index of success and as a symptom of victory, the displaying of which very often is more important as a motive of large expenditure than the wish for the consumers’ goods themselves.” (p.93)

This description of entrepreneurship is very similar to Max Weber’s description of the “spirit of capitalism”:¹

“In fact, the summum bonum of his ethic, the earning of more and more money, combined with the strict avoidance of all spontaneous enjoyment of life, is above all completely devoid of any eudaemonistic, not to say hedonistic, admixture. It is thought of so purely as an end in itself, that from the point of view of the happiness of, or utility to, the single individual, it appears entirely transcendental and absolutely irrational. Man is dominated by the making of money, by acquisition as the ultimate purpose of his life. Economic acquisition is no longer subordinated to man as the means for the satisfaction of his material needs. This reversal of what we should call the natural relationship, so irrational from a naive point of view, is evidently as definitely a leading principle of capitalism as it is foreign to all peoples not under capitalistic influence.” (p.53)

The theoretical literature on the spirit of capitalism—enjoying the accumulation of wealth regardless of its effect on consumption smoothing — shows that it has important implications on

¹See Weber (1958). The German edition was published in 1904-05.

economic growth and asset pricing in non-Schumpeterian growth frameworks (Zou 1994; Bakshi and Chen 1996). These findings are consistent with the empirical evidence provided by Barro (2004) and McCleary and Barro (2006, 2019) which show beliefs and religion do matter for economic activity. However, little research has explored how the spirit of capitalism would influence innovation and long-run growth in a Schumpeterian growth model.

More importantly, incorporating the spirit of capitalism could also have significant implications for the effects of monetary policy on growth and welfare. In a Schumpeterian model with money, Chu and Cozzi (2014) show that an increase in the nominal interest rate reduces both R&D and economic growth, and that the optimal monetary policy features a positive nominal interest rate (thereby violating the Friedman rule (Friedman 1969), which says the optimal non-negative nominal interest rate is zero). The key intuition behind their results is that a higher interest rate raises the borrowing cost of entrepreneurial investment that is subject to a cash-in-advance (CIA) constraint, which helps mitigate the possible overinvestment issue in Schumpeterian models (see Aghion and Howitt 1992, 1998).² However, the spirit of capitalism introduces a new channel for monetary policy to influence R&D investment, labor allocation, and consumption-leisure decisions; therefore, whether these new findings on monetary policy still hold requires a careful analysis.

To fill these gaps in the literature, we formalize Schumpeter’s idea of the “psychology of entrepreneurs” by introducing the spirit of capitalism into a stylized Schumpeterian model with money based on the work of Aghion et al. (2013) and Chu and Cozzi (2014). Specifically, we model the spirit of capitalism through a direct preference for wealth. See Luo et al. (2020) for a detailed review of a long line of sociological and economic literature to justify why this modeling strategy is consistent with Weber’s original work on the spirit of capitalism. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first paper to provide a unified framework to investigate (both theoretically and quantitatively) the implications of the spirit of capitalism for the effects of monetary policy on long-run growth and welfare.

Our analysis delivers three main findings. First, we show that introducing the spirit of capitalism into the Schumpeterian growth framework yields novel insights into the effects of monetary policy on long-run growth. Specifically, we theoretically prove that money is not superneutral in this framework and that the effect of higher nominal interest rates on long-run growth depends on the strength of the spirit of capitalism in an economy. When the spirit of capitalism is small or absent, a higher interest rate reduces growth. However, when the spirit of capitalism is strong

²As explained in Aghion and Howitt (1992), due to the “business-stealing” effect (i.e., the private business does not internalize the loss to the previous monopolist caused by an innovation), economic growth could be excessive relative to the optimal level (in which case the social planner takes into account the loss to the previous monopolist caused by an innovation).

enough (relative to the elasticity of labor and taste for leisure), higher nominal interest rates could promote growth.

The key intuitions of this finding are as follows. Without the spirit of capitalism, an increase in the nominal interest rate reduces long-run growth through two channels. The first channel is that, due to an elastic labor supply and the CIA constraint on consumption, higher nominal interest rates encourage households to choose leisure over consumption, leading to lower labor supply in the R&D sector and therefore lower long-run growth (this is the market size effect highlighted in Aghion et al. 2013). The second channel is that, due to the CIA constraint on R&D, higher nominal interest rates also increase borrowing costs for entrepreneurs, shifting labor away from R&D toward manufacturing and reducing long-run growth (a negative labor reallocation effect).³

In contrast, with the spirit of capitalism, an increase in the nominal interest rate could promote long-run growth. Specifically, in the presence of the spirit of capitalism, a higher nominal interest rate induces consumers (who have a direct preference for wealth) to increase their savings, thereby lowering the real interest rate and raising the value of innovations for entrepreneurs.⁴ We show that a stronger degree of the spirit of capitalism could amplify this positive effect of a higher nominal interest rate on R&D.⁵ Therefore, when the spirit of capitalism is strong enough, the positive effect could dominate the two negative effects described in the previous paragraph, causing long-run growth to increase with the nominal interest rate.

Second, we theoretically and quantitatively show that the optimal nominal interest rate decreases with the degree of the spirit of capitalism, suggesting the Friedman rule—that the optimal non-negative interest rate is zero—is likely to be valid. This finding is in contrast to the main finding in Chu and Cozzi (2014) which shows that the optimal nominal interest rate is positive in a similar Schumpeterian growth model. It also provides theoretical support for negative interest rates, which have been discussed intensively in recent years.

Third, we calibrate our model to the U.S. economy and quantify the contribution of the spirit of capitalism to long-run growth. Our analysis suggests that the spirit of capitalism explains one-third of long-run growth in the U.S. (0.6 percent out of 1.8 percent annually), which is substantial. To the best of our knowledge, this is the first study to quantify the growth contribution of the spirit of capitalism. In this sense, our analysis enriches Aghion and Howitt (1992) and provides a more complete view of Schumpeterian growth models in understanding long-run growth.

³As the second channel works in the same direction as the first channel, it is not required for generating our key finding. We include it in our quantitative analysis to be comparable with the literature.

⁴The value of innovation is higher or the opportunity cost of innovation is lower when the real interest rate is lower. This will be more clear when we derive the innovation process in section 2.4.

⁵This will be more clear after we derive the consumption Euler equation which shows the nominal interest rate interacts with the marginal rate of substitution between wealth and consumption in determining saving decision.

Our paper contributes to a large literature studying the implications of the spirit of capitalism or the quest for status on economic growth (Zou 1994; Futagami and Shibata 1998; Smith 1999; Corneo and Jeanne 2001), savings (Cole, Malaith and Postlewaite 1992; Zou 1995; Carroll 2000; Luo et al. 2009), asset pricing (Bakshi and Chen 1996; Smith 2001; Gong and Zou 2002), wealth distribution (Luo and Young, 2009; Corneo and Jeanne, 2001), business cycles (Karnizova 2010; Michailat and Saez 2015, 2019), secular stagnation (Michau 2018; Ono and Yamada 2018), money (Gong and Zou 2001), taxation (Saez and Stantcheva 2018), comparison with recursive utility (Alaoui and Sandroni 2018), expansion of variety (Hof and Prettnner 2019), and industrialization (Chu et al. 2020). Different from the existing literature, our paper investigates the wealth and long-run growth implications of the spirit of capitalism for monetary policy. In addition, in contrast with most of these studies which focus on the theory side, we conduct quantitative analysis based on a calibrated model and also provide empirical evidence to support the key mechanism.

Our paper also adds to the literature on the effect of monetary policy on long-run growth and welfare (Sidrauski 1967; Stockman 1981; Gomme 1993; Akerlof, Dickens and Perry 1996; Dotsey and Sarte 2000; Akyol 2004; Benigno and Ricci 2011; Brunnermeire and Sannikov 2016; Arawatari et al. 2018; Chu et al. 2019; Eyster et al. 2020). Challenging the seminar work by Sidrauski (1967) which argues for superneutrality of money in the long run (i.e., changes in the inflation rate or nominal interest rate have no effects on long-run growth), most recent studies show money could influence long-run output growth or steady-state levels through various channels. For example, Jones and Manuelli (1994) adopt an endogenous growth model with human capital and Marquis and Reffett (1994), Funk and Kromen (2010), and Chu and Cozzi (2014) focus on R&D-driven growth models. A recent paper by Eyster et al. (2020) introduces customers' concerns for pricing fairness to the New Keynesian model, and shows that monetary policy is not neutral in the long run. Most of these studies show a negative relationship between the inflation rate and growth in the long run.⁶ The novel contribution of our paper is to show that the relationship between the inflation rate (or the nominal interest rate) and growth depends on the strength of the spirit of capitalism.

The remainder of this paper is organized as follows. Section 2 describes the monetary Schumpeterian model with the spirit of capitalism. Section 3 presents theoretical results and intuitions. Section 4 conducts quantitative analysis. Section 5 provides general discussions. Section 6 concludes.

⁶One exception is Eyster et al. (2020) which shows a positive correlation between the inflation rate and the steady-state employment level in the long run. But they do not directly study the implications of monetary policy on long-run growth.

2 A Monetary Schumpeterian Model with the Spirit of Capitalism

We introduce the spirit of capitalism (henceforth the SOC)—a direct preference for wealth—into a Schumpeterian growth model with money. In particular, we introduce money demand via CIA constraints on both consumption (Clower, 1967; Lucas, 1980) and R&D (Chu and Cozzi, 2014). We employ a standard framework which combines Aghion et al. (2013) and Chu and Cozzi (2014) to study the SOC effects.

2.1 Households

We assume there is a unit continuum of identical households in the economy. The population size of each household is fixed at L . Each household has a lifetime utility function as follows:

$$U = \int_0^\infty e^{-\rho t} \left[\ln(c_t) + \theta \ln(a_t) - \eta \frac{l_t^{1+1/\sigma}}{1+1/\sigma} \right] dt, \quad (1)$$

where c_t is per capita real consumption of final goods at time t , a_t is per capita wealth, l_t is per capita labor supply at time t , and ρ is the discount rate. Furthermore, we follow Aghion et al. (2013) to use η to denote the disutility of labor and σ to measure the Frisch elasticity of labor supply. A larger η means that the agent has a stronger preference for leisure, while a larger σ means a lower elasticity of labor supply or people are less responsive to wage changes.⁷

$\theta \geq 0$ captures the preference for wealth or the strength of the SOC. A larger θ refers to a stronger preference for wealth or a stronger SOC.⁸ Notice that in a representative-agent framework, introducing the SOC in the household sector can be considered as a general way to model the “psychology of entrepreneurs” described by Schumpeter’s entrepreneurship. This can be rationalized by assuming internal division of labor within households—some household members specialize in making consumption/savings decisions, while the rest are responsible for entrepreneurial decisions (Angeletos and Panousi, 2009).

⁷As a comparison, Chu and Cozzi (2014) focuses on the taste for leisure (similar to the η parameter in our specification) but assume a log-utility form on leisure. In Online Appendix F, we show that our main predictions hold when we use an alternative utility function $U = \int_0^\infty e^{-\rho t} \left[\ln(c_t) + \theta \ln(a_t) + \eta \frac{(1-l_t)^{1-\sigma}}{1-\sigma} \right] dt$ that nests Chu and Cozzi (2014) as a special case with $\sigma = 1$ (and $\theta = 0$).

⁸Wealth in utility can also be used to study other motivations such as bequests and inter vivos. See Kaplow (2009) for a discussion. We use absolute wealth in the utility to measure the spirit of capitalism. Using relative wealth (such as a_{it}/\bar{a}_t where i refers to individual wealth and \bar{a}_t is the average wealth in the economy) in the utility does not change our main results as the log utility will treat the average wealth level as a constant and thus does not alter the optimal decisions.

Each household maximizes its lifetime utility given in equation (1) subject to the following asset-accumulation equation:

$$\dot{e}_t + \dot{m}_t = r_t e_t + w_t l_t - c_t - \pi_t m_t + i_t b_t + \tau_t, \quad (2)$$

where e_t is the real value of assets (i.e., the real value of equity shares in monopolistic intermediate-goods firms), r_t and w_t are the rates of real interest and the wage, respectively, m_t is the real money balance holding, π_t is the cost of holding money (or the inflation rate), and b_t refers to the cash borrowed by entrepreneurs to finance the wage bill of R&D workers which incurs an interest payment, $i_t b_t$. Following the standard literature, we assume households receive a lump-sum transfer of seigniorage revenue, τ_t (which will be defined below).

Given the budget constraint, we define wealth a_t as the sum of the real equity value and the real money balance: $a_t \equiv e_t + m_t$. The CIA constraint is given by $c_t + b_t \leq m_t$.⁹ Using the Hamiltonian function, the first-order condition for consumption can be written as:

$$\frac{1}{c_t} = \mu_t (1 + i_t), \quad (3)$$

where μ_t is the Hamiltonian co-state variable on (2). (See Appendix 7.1 for the derivation.) The optimal condition for labor supply is:

$$\eta l_t^{1/\sigma} = w_t \mu_t. \quad (4)$$

Combining (3) and (4) leads to the optimal condition for labor supply:

$$l_t = \left(\frac{w_t}{\eta c_t (1 + i_t)} \right)^\sigma, \quad (5)$$

which shows that a higher nominal interest rate or a stronger taste for leisure reduces labor supply.

The Euler equation for real assets (e_t) is:

$$-\frac{\dot{\mu}_t}{\mu_t} = r_t - \rho + \frac{\theta}{\mu_t a_t}. \quad (6)$$

Combining (3) and (6) yields the following consumption Euler equation:

$$\frac{\dot{c}_t}{c_t} = r_t - \rho + \theta (1 + i_t) \frac{c_t}{a_t}. \quad (7)$$

Note that $\theta = 0$ gives the monetary Schumpeterian model without the SOC, which says that a higher real interest rate would lead to more savings and less consumption (i.e., leading to higher

⁹We include the CIA constraint on both consumption and R&D borrowing so our model results can be directly compared to Chu and Cozzi (2014). But as we will explain in later, our key results do not rely on the CIA constraint on R&D.

marginal utility of consumption); in contrast, when the discount rate (ρ) is higher, it encourages more consumption (i.e., leading to lower marginal utility of consumption). When $\theta > 0$, the preference for wealth accumulation tends to lower consumption by introducing a third term on the right side of equation (7). In general, this equation shows that, when people have the SOC, consumption-savings choices depend not only on the real return on wealth, $r_t - \rho$, but also on the marginal rate of substitution between wealth and consumption. In other words, similar to the discussion in Michailat and Saez (2019), people become less forward-looking and future interest rates have less impact on today's consumption than in the standard model. The modification of the Euler equation due to wealth in the utility in equation (7) has also been pointed out by a few other recent studies including Michailat and Saez (2015, 2019), Michau (2018), Michau et al. (2018), and Ono and Yamada (2018).¹⁰

2.2 Monetary Authority

Let the nominal money stock at the beginning of time t be M_t . For convenience, we assume that the monetary authority controls the nominal interest rate i_t (through controlling the growth rate of money stock \dot{M}_t/M_t) and rebates the seigniorage revenue back to households. The per capita seigniorage revenue is $\tau_t = \dot{M}_t/(P_t L)$. The per capita real money balance is $m_t = M_t/(P_t L)$, where P_t is the price level of the final goods and the inflation rate is given by $\dot{P}_t/P_t = \pi_t$. Thus, $\dot{m}_t/m_t = \dot{M}_t/M_t - \pi_t$ and $\tau_t = (\dot{m}_t/m_t + \pi_t) m_t = \dot{m}_t + \pi_t m_t$.

If we substitute the Fisher equation $i_t = \pi_t + r_t$, the equilibrium result $\dot{m}_t/m_t = \dot{c}_t/c_t$, and $\dot{M}_t/M_t = \dot{m}_t/m_t + \pi_t$ into the consumption Euler equation (7), we have:

$$\frac{\dot{M}_t}{M_t} = i_t - \rho + \theta (1 + i_t) \frac{c_t}{a_t}. \quad (8)$$

The existence of the SOC slightly complicates the relationship between the nominal interest rate i_t and the money supply growth rate \dot{M}_t/M_t by introducing an extra term on the right side of (8). Fixing the consumption-to-wealth ratio c_t/a_t , it is easy to see higher nominal interest rates also lead to higher money supply growth. However, as we will derive later, the consumption-to-wealth ratio is also a function of nominal interest rate. In Online Appendix C, we numerically confirm that the positive relationship is well maintained in the presence of the SOC.

As a note, our model is designed to focus on long-run growth and not about studying exogenous shocks during business cycles or government countercyclical/stabilization policies. In our model,

¹⁰If we assume no CIA on consumption and only a CIA constraint on R&D, the nominal interest rate could still influence households' saving decision through influencing the consumption-wealth ratio. We have shown this in Online Appendix A.

the nominal interest rate is deterministically controlled by the government and we are interested in how it affects the long-run growth and welfare of the economy. In addition, it makes no difference whether the inflation or the nominal interest rate (or the nominal money growth rate) is chosen as the policy instrument in our deterministic model. We use the nominal interest rate as the math notations are simpler and the model is easier to solve analytically.

2.3 Production Side

We follow Chu and Cozzi (2014) who rewrite the Schumpeterian model of Aghion and Howitt (1992) to remove the scale effect (explained later). First, there is a perfectly competitive final goods sector in which the final-goods sector which has the following production function:

$$y_t = \exp \left(\int_0^1 \ln x_t(\epsilon) d\epsilon \right), \quad (9)$$

where $x_t(\epsilon)$ denotes differentiated intermediate goods $\epsilon \in [0, 1]$. Perfect competition means firms take the price of each intermediate good ϵ , $p_t(\epsilon)$, as given. Firms' profit maximization leads to the demand function for $x_t(\epsilon)$:

$$x_t(\epsilon) = y_t/p_t(\epsilon). \quad (10)$$

Second, there is a monopolistic intermediate goods sector, with a unit continuum of manufacturing industries producing differentiated intermediate goods. Each industry produces one intermediate good for the final goods sector. Within each monopolistic industry ϵ , an industry leader with the highest level of productivity dominates and produces intermediate good ϵ with labor as the only input:

$$x_t(\epsilon) = \gamma^{N_t(\epsilon)} L_{x,t}(\epsilon), \quad (11)$$

where $L_{x,t}(\epsilon)$ is the production labor in industry ϵ , $\gamma > 1$ is the step size of innovation, and $N_t(\epsilon)$ is the number of innovations that have occurred in industry ϵ as of time t .

The marginal cost of production for the leader in industry ϵ is $mc_t(\epsilon) = w_t/\gamma^{N_t(\epsilon)}$. $\gamma > 1$ means each vertical innovation allows a worker to produce one unit of intermediate good with less time. When the next innovation arrives, its owner has a lower marginal cost: $mc_t(\epsilon)/\gamma$. Bertrand price competition leads to a profit-maximizing price $p_t(\epsilon)$ equal to the marginal cost of the previous innovation $w_t/\gamma^{N_t(\epsilon)-1}$, which is a markup γ over its own marginal cost. Therefore, the labor income from the manufacturing sector is:

$$w_t L_{x,t}(\epsilon) = \left(\frac{1}{\gamma} \right) p_t(\epsilon) x_t(\epsilon) = \left(\frac{1}{\gamma} \right) y_t, \quad (12)$$

and the monopolistic profit of each industry's leader is given by:

$$\Pi_t(\epsilon) = \left(1 - \frac{1}{\gamma}\right) p_t(\epsilon) x_t(\epsilon) = \left(\frac{\gamma - 1}{\gamma}\right) y_t. \quad (13)$$

2.4 Innovation Process

Within each industry ϵ , there is a unit continuum of R&D firms $j \in [0, 1]$ that conduct innovations to achieve the positive monopolistic profit given in (13). The value of each innovation (i.e., the value of the monopolistic firm in industry ϵ) is denoted $v_t(\epsilon)$. In a symmetric equilibrium, $v_t(\epsilon) = v_t$.¹¹ There is free entry into R&D which means free labor mobility – the cost of innovation equals the foregone wage rate.

To capture the strength of the CIA on R&D, we assume that entrepreneurs borrow cash to finance $\beta \in [0, 1]$ fraction of the wage bills of R&D workers. So the total cost of R&D for firm j would be $(1 - \beta) w_t L_{r,t}(j) + \beta (1 + i_t) w_t L_{r,t}(j) = (1 + \beta i_t) w_t L_{r,t}(j)$, and the zero-expected-profit condition of R&D firm j in each industry is:

$$\lambda_t(j) v_t = (1 + \beta i_t) w_t L_{r,t}(j), \quad (14)$$

where $L_{r,t}(j)$ is the amount of labor hired by R&D firm j , and $\lambda_t(j)$ is the firm-level innovation rate per unit time: $\lambda_t(j) = \varphi (L_{r,t}(j)/L)$, where φ is a constant which measures the productivity of R&D labor in conducting innovation activities. Note that $\lambda_t(j)$ is scaled by total population L , which eliminates the scale effects to yield the scale-invariant model as the labor share rather than total population matter for growth. (See Laincz and Peretto (2006) and Segerstrom (1998) for discussions on the scale effect.)

The aggregate arrival rate of innovation can be written as:

$$\lambda_t = \int_0^1 \lambda_t(j) dj = \frac{\varphi}{L} L_{r,t} = \varphi l_{r,t}, \quad (15)$$

where $l_{r,t}$ is the share of labor employed in the R&D sector. Similarly, the share of labor in production/manufacturing is $l_{x,t} = L_{x,t}/L$. The no-arbitrage condition for v_t is:

$$v_t = \frac{\Pi_t + \dot{v}_t - \lambda_t v_t}{r_t}, \quad (16)$$

which means that the value of an innovation equals the discounted value of the sum of the flow profit of innovation (Π_t) and potential capital gain (\dot{v}_t) less the expected capital loss ($\lambda_t v_t$) (λ_t is the arrival rate of the next innovation). Another way to understand this equation is that the opportunity cost $r_t v_t$ of holding an innovation equals the sum of the flow profit of innovation (Π_t) and potential capital gain (\dot{v}_t) less the expected capital loss ($\lambda_t v_t$). In either explanation, a decline in r_t increases the value of innovation.

¹¹See the justifications provided in Cozzi et al.(2007) for this equilibrium.

2.5 Labor Market and the Final Goods Market Clearing Condition

Labor is used in both manufacturing (producing intermediate goods) and R&D activities. The labor market clearing condition is:

$$L_{x,t} + L_{r,t} = l_t L, \quad (17)$$

where $L_{x,t}$ and $L_{r,t}$ are the total employment in manufacturing and R&D, respectively.

To derive the final goods market clearing condition, we first plug $\tau_t = (\dot{m}_t + \pi_t m_t)$ into (2) which yields the resource constraint of the economy: $\dot{e}_t = r_t e_t + w_t l_t - c_t + i_t b_t$. Then, using $v_t = e_t L$ and $l_t = l_{x,t} + l_{r,t}$, we can rewrite the resource constraint as $\dot{v}_t/L = r_t v_t/L + w_t (l_{x,t} + l_{r,t}) - c_t + i_t b_t$. Since the amount of cash borrowed by entrepreneurs satisfies $b_t L = \beta w_t L_{r,t}$, we have $\dot{v}_t/L = r_t v_t/L + w_t l_{x,t} + (1 + \beta i) w_t l_{r,t} - c_t$. Finally, using (12) to replace $w_t l_{x,t}$ and substituting (13), (14), and (16) into the previous equation to replace $(1 + \beta i) w_t l_{r,t}$, we get

$$\frac{\dot{v}_t}{L} = \frac{r_t v_t}{L} + \frac{y_t}{\gamma L} + \frac{(1 - 1/\gamma) y_t + \dot{v}_t - r_t v_t}{L} - c_t,$$

which implies that the final goods market clearing condition is $c_t = y_t/L$.

2.6 Equilibrium Balanced Growth

Plugging equation (63) into (9), we have:

$$y_t = \exp\left(\int_0^1 N_t(\epsilon) d\epsilon \ln \gamma\right) L_x = \exp\left(\int_0^t \lambda_v dv \ln \gamma\right) L_x \equiv Z_t L_x, \quad (18)$$

where the law of large numbers has been applied and $Z_t \equiv \exp\left(\int_0^t \lambda_v dv \ln \gamma\right)$ is the level of aggregate technology. The growth rate of Z_t is then:

$$g_z = \lambda_t \ln \gamma = \varphi l_{r,t} \ln \gamma. \quad (19)$$

The general equilibrium for our model is defined as follows:

Definition *Given a nominal interest rate i_t and an initial condition Z_0 , a dynamic equilibrium for the model is a time path of prices $\{p_t(\epsilon), r_t, w_t, i_t, \pi_t, v_t\}$ and allocations $\{c_t, e_t, m_t, y_t, x_t(\epsilon), L_{x,t}(\epsilon), L_{r,t}(j)\}$ such that: given prices, the households maximize utility, competitive final-goods firms maximize profit, monopolistic intermediate-goods firms choose $\{L_{x,t}(\epsilon), p_t(\epsilon)\}$ to maximize profit, and R&D firms choose $\{L_{r,t}(j)\}$ to maximize expected profit; all markets clear, that is, the labor market clears ($L_{x,t} + L_{r,t} = l_t L$), and the final goods market clears ($y_t = c_t L$); the CIA constraint binds: $c_t + b_t = m_t$, and the amount of cash borrowed by entrepreneurs satisfies $b_t L = \beta w_t L_{r,t}$; the value of monopolistic firms adds up to the value of households' assets (i.e., $v_t = e_t L$).*

As shown in Kurz (1968), multiple steady-state equilibria will emerge when capital enters the utility function. In our model, we find that the dynamics of the model remains similar to that in Chu and Cozzi (2014).¹² That is, the economy immediately jumps to a unique and saddle-point stable balanced-growth path on which each variable grows at a constant rate, as summarized in Proposition 1 below.

Proposition 1 *Given a nominal interest rate (i.e., $i_t = i$), the dynamics of the economy is that the economy immediately jumps to unique and saddle-point stable balanced growth path on which each variable grows at a constant rate.*

Proof. See Appendix 7.2 for the derivation. ■

On the balanced growth path, the output market clearing condition implies that c_t and y_t must grow at the same rate: $g_c = g_y$ (we use g to denote the growth rate). Equation (18) yields $g_y = g_z$. The binding CIA constraint delivers $g_c = g_m$. Therefore, the balanced growth rate g_t (the growth rate of per capita consumption or output) is the one given in (19).

Because the balanced growth rate is uniquely pinned down by the share of labor employed by R&D firms, we solve for the equilibrium labor allocation at the nominal interest rate i . Using equations (7) and (12)-(15), we can derive the following two equations regarding optimal labor allocation and the consumption-wealth ratio, respectively (see Appendix 7.3 for details):

$$(\gamma - 1) l_{x,t} = (1 + \beta i) \left(l_{r,t} + \rho/\varphi - \frac{\theta (1 + i) c_t}{\varphi a_t} \right), \quad (20)$$

$$\frac{c_t}{a_t} = \frac{\gamma w_t L_{x,t}}{(1 + \beta i) w_t L_{r,t}/\lambda + \gamma w_t L_{x,t} + \beta w_t L_{r,t}} = \frac{\gamma l_{x,t}}{(1 + \beta i)/\varphi + \gamma l_{x,t} + \beta l_{r,t}}. \quad (21)$$

Combining $c_t = y_t/L$ with (12), we have $c_t = \gamma w_t l_{x,t}$. Now the labor market clearing condition becomes:

$$l_{r,t} + l_{x,t} = l_t = \left(\frac{1}{\eta \gamma l_{x,t} (1 + i)} \right)^\sigma. \quad (22)$$

Using (21) to substitute out the consumption wealth ratio in (20), we have

$$(\gamma - 1) l_{x,t} = (1 + \beta i) \left(l_{r,t} + \rho/\varphi - \frac{\theta (1 + i) \gamma l_{x,t}}{(1 + \beta i) + \varphi \gamma l_{x,t} + \varphi \beta l_{r,t}} \right). \quad (23)$$

For a given i , the labor market clearing condition (22) and the free labor mobility condition (23) pin down the stationary equilibrium labor allocation $\{l_r, l_x\}$ on a balanced growth path.

¹²Hof and Prettnner (2019) also show that there exists a unique saddle-point stable balanced growth path in a Romer-type expanding varieties model (Romer, 1990) with capital accumulation.

3 Main Theoretical Results and Intuitions

We provide two propositions regarding the effects of the SOC on long-run growth and welfare in this section. As the key mechanism does not rely on the CIA constraint on the R&D, we assume the CIA constraint only applies to consumption in this section, which allows us to more clearly explain the key intuitions using our analytical results. In the next section, we include the CIA constraint on the R&D when presenting the quantitative analysis to better compare with recent findings in the literature.

3.1 Growth

The following proposition summarizes our key result on growth which shows monetary policy's effects on growth (including both the size and the direction) crucially depend on the strength of the SOC:

Proposition 2 *With the CIA constraint on consumption and elastic labor supply (i.e., $\eta > 0$), if $[\eta\gamma(1+i)]^{-\sigma/(1+\sigma)} \leq 1$, whether a higher nominal interest rate leads to higher long-run economic growth depends on the relative sizes of the elasticity of labor supply (σ) and the taste for leisure (η) versus the degree of the SOC (θ). In particular, when the degree of the SOC is strong enough, higher nominal interest rates promote growth; when the elasticity of labor supply or the taste for leisure is large enough, higher nominal interest rates reduce growth.*

Proof. See Appendix 7.4 for the derivation. ■

As Proposition 2 presents the main results of our model, we provide some explanations to help understand the results. First, the optimal labor allocation between the production sector and the R&D sector plays a crucial role in understanding this proposition. Like in Chu and Cozzi(2014), on the balanced growth path, the growth rate of the economy in our model is a linear function of the R&D labor share given in (19). Two conditions pin down the equilibrium labor allocation in our model: (i) the labor market clearing condition described by (22) which gives the total amount of labor resource, and (ii) the free labor mobility condition described by (23) which determines the optimal labor allocation between production and R&D by equating the wage rates between the two sectors. Graphically, putting manufacturing labor $l_{x,t}$ on the horizontal axis, (22) is a downward-sloping curve (the L curve in Figure 1), while (23) is an upward-sloping curve (the M curve in Figure 1). The intersection of the two lines shows the equilibrium labor allocation.¹³

¹³Note that a larger η means the agent has a stronger preference for leisure which decreases labor supply. Similarly, a lower elasticity of labor supply (a larger σ) means people are less responsive to wage changes which also tends to decrease total labor supply. In Figure 1, a larger η or σ tends to shift the L curve leftward and reduce the

Second, let's explain the key mechanisms for monetary policy to affect growth with and without the SOC. Without the SOC, an increase in the nominal interest rate reduces total labor supply l_t and therefore lowers both manufacturing and R&D labor, leading to lower long-run growth (we can name it the *consumption-leisure choice effect*). Graphically, an increase in the nominal rate leads the L curve to shift downward but does not change the M curve.¹⁴

In contrast, the presence of the SOC creates a new channel—the labor reallocation channel—for monetary policy to positively affect the optimal R&D labor input and long-run growth. This channel operates through altering the saving behavior of households which affects the real interest rate r_t . We can see this in two ways. The first way is to compare the Euler equations with and without the SOC:

$$\frac{\dot{c}_t}{c_t} = r_t - \rho + \theta(1 + i_t) \frac{c_t}{a_t}, \text{ with the SOC,} \quad (24)$$

$$\frac{\dot{c}_t}{c_t} = r_t - \rho, \text{ without the SOC.} \quad (25)$$

It is clear from (24) that an increase in the nominal interest rate will amplify the effect of marginal rate of substitution between wealth and consumption ($\frac{c_t}{a_t}$) on consumption-saving decision, which increases savings and thus leads to a decline in the real interest rate (r_t). This raises the value of innovations which attracts more labor in the R&D sector (we therefore call this effect the *labor reallocation effect*). Thus, with the SOC, an increase in the nominal interest rate generates a positive effect on R&D labor and long-run growth through the labor reallocation effect. Without the SOC, this effect does not exist as shown by equation (25).

We can also use Figure 1 to provide a graphical explanation. An increase in the nominal interest rate shifts the M curve upward and a stronger SOC tends to amplify the upward shift. Without the SOC, an increase in the nominal interest rate cannot shift the M curve (also seen from the free labor mobility condition (23) under $\beta = 0$ and $\theta = 0$). Thus, the existence of the SOC creates a new channel for monetary policy to positively affect R&D labor and thereby long-run growth. In particular, when the degree of the SOC is large enough, the positive labor reallocation effect (i.e., the upward shift in the M curve) may outweigh the negative consumption-leisure choice effect (i.e., the downward shift in the L curve), leading the equilibrium R&D labor to increase in response to a rise in the nominal interest rate. In contrast, without the SOC, R&D labor will always fall when the nominal interest rate rises because the positive labor reallocation channel does not exist.

equilibrium level of labor input in the R&D sector and thus the long-run growth rate.

¹⁴This can be seen by equation (23) when $\beta = 0$ and $\theta = 0$. Notice that a larger Frisch elasticity of labor supply (σ) or a stronger taste for leisure (η) would strengthen the negative consumption-leisure choice effect, as shown by equation (22).

Corollary 1 Under the assumptions of an elastic labor supply and a CIA constraint on consumption only, the consumption-wealth ratio is a decreasing function of the nominal interest rate and the strength of the SOC.

Proof. The consumption to wealth ratio in (21) shows that it is increasing in the manufacturing labor l_x when the CIA on R&D is absent (i.e., $\beta = 0$). Based on Proposition 2 and its proof, we have

$$\frac{\partial (c_t/a_t)}{\partial i} = \frac{\partial (c_t/a_t)}{\partial l_x} \frac{\partial l_x}{\partial i} < 0 \text{ and } \frac{\partial (c_t/a_t)}{\partial \theta} = \frac{\partial (c_t/a_t)}{\partial l_x} \frac{\partial l_x}{\partial \theta} < 0.$$

$\begin{matrix} (+) & (-) \\ (+) & (-) \end{matrix}$

■

3.2 Welfare

Before we show our key proposition on welfare implications, we first derive our welfare function. As Proposition 1 shows, given a change in the nominal interest rate, the economy will jump immediately to a new balanced growth path. This makes welfare comparison easier as we only need to focus on the initial levels (of consumption and wealth) and the balanced growth rate. Let's denote a variable with a subscript 0, such as $l_{x,0}$, $l_{r,0}$, to be its initial value when the economy reaches the balanced growth path. Then, we can explicitly derive a welfare function based on (1) on the balanced growth path:

$$\begin{aligned} U &= \frac{1}{\rho} \left[\ln(c_0) + \theta \ln(a_0) + \frac{(1+\theta)g}{\rho} - \eta \frac{l_0^{1+1/\sigma}}{1+1/\sigma} \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{\rho} \left[(1+\theta) \ln(c_0) - \theta \ln\left(\frac{c_0}{a_0}\right) + \frac{(1+\theta)g}{\rho} - \eta \frac{l_0^{1+1/\sigma}}{1+1/\sigma} \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{\rho} \left[(1+\theta) \ln(Z_0 l_{x,0}) - \theta \ln\left(\frac{\gamma l_{x,0}}{1/\varphi + \gamma l_{x,0}}\right) + \frac{(1+\theta)g}{\rho} - \eta \frac{l_0^{1+1/\sigma}}{1+1/\sigma} \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{\rho} \left[\ln(l_{x,0}) + \theta \ln\left(\frac{1}{\varphi} + \gamma l_{x,0}\right) + \frac{(1+\theta)g}{\rho} - \eta \frac{l_0^{1+1/\sigma}}{1+1/\sigma} - \theta \ln \gamma \right], \end{aligned} \quad (26)$$

where $l_0 = l_{x,0} + l_{r,0}$, and $g = \varphi l_{r,0} \ln \gamma$. Note that the second to the last equality uses the final goods market clearing condition to replace c_0 and the consumption-wealth ratio in (21) (imposing $\beta = 0$) to replace c_0/a_0 ; the last equality normalizes Z_0 (the aggregate technology at time 0) to 1.

Expression (26) shows that welfare depends on growth (which is a linear function of the R&D labor l_r), manufacturing labor $l_{x,0}$ (which drives the initial level of consumption and wealth on the balanced growth path), and labor supply l_0 (or leisure $1 - l_0$). The following proposition provides a general characterization of the effect of the SOC on optimal monetary policy:

Proposition 3 *When the SOC is relatively low, the optimal nominal interest rate is a decreasing function of the degree of the SOC.*

Proof. See Appendix 7.5 for the derivation. ■

Note the condition “the SOC is relatively low” is to ensure that higher nominal interest rates reduce growth (based on Proposition 2). The intuition behind Proposition 3 is as follows. According to (26), the effect of a higher nominal interest rate on welfare can be decomposed in two parts:

$$\frac{\partial U(\theta)}{\partial i} = \frac{1}{\rho} \left[\underbrace{\left(\frac{1}{l_{x,0}} + \frac{\varphi\gamma\theta}{1 + \varphi\gamma l_{x,0}} \right) \frac{\partial l_{x,0}}{\partial i} + \frac{(1 + \theta)}{\rho} \frac{\partial g}{\partial i}}_{\text{MWL}} - \underbrace{\eta l_0^{1/\sigma} \frac{\partial l_0}{\partial i}}_{\text{MWG}} \right], \quad (27)$$

The first part of (27) represents the marginal welfare loss (MWL) from a higher nominal interest rate which includes the negative effect on consumption and wealth (the first term) and the negative effect on growth (the second term). Note that we have used the result (in Proposition 2) that when the SOC is relatively low, a higher nominal interest rate reduces growth. The second part represents the marginal welfare gain (MWG) from a higher nominal interest rate due to an increase in leisure (or a decline in labor supply).

When the SOC increases, it will immediately increase the absolute value of the MWL (i.e., making it more negative) while it doesn’t move the MWG.¹⁵ To force the MWL to equal to the MWG, the nominal interest rate needs to decline which reduces the absolute value of the MWL while increasing the MWG. Therefore, the optimal nominal interest rate is a decreasing function of the SOC.

It’s worth noting that the condition “when the SOC is relatively low” is a sufficient condition but not a necessary condition for Proposition 3 to hold. When the SOC is high, the effect of a higher nominal interest rate on growth becomes positive, making the overall effect of SOC on the MWL ambiguous and therefore it’s more difficult to prove this result theoretically. However, our quantitative analysis based on the calibrated model in the next section suggests that Proposition 3 could still hold even when the SOC is strong (such that a higher nominal interest rate promotes growth). The reason is that, even when a higher SOC promotes growth, it lowers optimal labor input and output in the manufacturing sector. Thus, when the second effect dominates the first one, a higher SOC still increases the absolute value of the MWL and therefore still requires the nominal interest rate to reduce to equalize the MWL to the MWG.

¹⁵The unchanged MWG can also be seen from Figure 1. That is, an increase in θ will only shift the M curve but does not change the L curve. The result is a re-allocation of labor (between the manufacturing sector and the R&D sector) while leaving the total labor supply unchanged.

4 Quantitative Analysis and Empirical Evidence

In this section, we use a calibrated version of the model to quantitatively show how monetary policy’s effect on long-run growth and welfare could crucially depend on the strength of the SOC. There are three purposes of such a quantitative analysis. First, this numerical example complements the theoretical results by providing results with the CIA constraint also applying to R&D. This also allows us to directly compare the results with Chu and Cozzi (2014) and show that the presence of the SOC could alter the main results in Chu and Cozzi (2014). Second, the calibration provides an opportunity to numerically examine if the condition in Proposition 2 holds under the calibrated parameter values. We also use the calibrated model to show the results can hold under more general conditions (as we comment in the discussion of Proposition 2). Third, we can also use the calibrated model to quantify the contribution of the SOC to long-run growth, which is missing in the literature on the growth effects of the SOC.

4.1 Calibration

We calibrate the model in two steps. In the first step, we pin down a few parameters’ values directly from the data or the values commonly used in the literature. Our first group consists of 3 parameters. We set the labor elasticity parameter $\sigma = 0.5$ according to the macro literature (see Aghion et al. 2013). We set the discount rate $\rho = 0.04$, a standard value used in the literature. We set the parameter on the CIA constraint $\beta = 0.05$ which means 5% of R&D investment faces the CIA constraint.¹⁶

In the second step, we jointly calibrate other key parameters (which are difficult to directly assign values) to match a few key moments. This consists of 4 parameters: the degree of the SOC (θ), the taste of leisure parameter (η), and the two innovation parameters (φ , γ). As these parameters are difficult to directly measure, we jointly calibrate them to four data moments: (1) U.S. long-run economic growth (from the FOMC’s published long-run growth projection); (2) the consumption to wealth ratio;¹⁷ (3) the real interest rate;¹⁸ and (4) total labor supply $l = 1/3$

¹⁶We provide sensitive analysis in Section 4.2.4 and show this parameter has little effects on our calibration results.

¹⁷The aggregate consumption to wealth ratio is constructed based on its formula $c/a = c/(e + m) = (c/y)/(y/(e + c))$ where we used $m = c$ as in the model. c/y is measured by the U.S. consumption-GDP ratio and e/y is measured by the U.S. market-cap to GDP ratio (<https://www.longtermtrends.net/market-cap-to-gdp/>).

¹⁸The real interest rate is calculated by subtracting inflation from the nominal interest rate. The normal interest rate is based on the average level of 1-year Treasury yield in 1960-2019, which is 5.04%. We use core PCE inflation (the measure used by the Federal Reserve to set monetary policy) as our measure of inflation and set $\pi = 3.25\%$ which is the average level in 1960 – 2019. As report in Table 1, the resulting real interest rate is 1.79%.

(i.e., 8 hours out of 24 hours). Parameter values are reported in Table 1. It is worth noting that our calibrated value of the degree of the SOC (0.09) is slightly smaller but comparable to that obtained in Bakshi and Chen (1996). In a model with the SOC and CRRA preferences, they find that when the relative weight of the degree of the SOC compared to the degree of risk aversion to consumption is about $1/3 - 1/2$, the model can explain the joint behavior of aggregate consumption and the equity return observed in the U.S. economy. As we will show in the next section, using a larger value of θ will strengthen our new findings.

Under these parameter values, we can first check if the condition in Proposition 2 $[\eta\gamma(1+i)]^{-\sigma/(1+\sigma)} \leq 1$ is satisfied. Indeed, plugging in the parameter values, $[\eta\gamma(1+i)]^{-\sigma/(1+\sigma)} = 0.32 < 1$. In general, as $\sigma > 0$, we only need $\eta\gamma \geq 1/(1+i)$ to satisfy $[\eta\gamma(1+i)]^{-\sigma/(1+\sigma)} \leq 1$. As the key data moment to pin down the labor supply elasticity η is fixed at $1/3$ (i.e., eight hours per day), our calibration suggests that the value of η is around 25 and therefore this condition is likely to hold quite generally.

4.2 Quantitative Results

We present three sets of results on implications of the SOC on monetary policy, growth, and welfare.

4.2.1 Growth Implications

We revisit Proposition 2 using our calibrated model which assumes the CIA constraint applies to both consumption and R&D. Figure 2 shows how growth changes with the nominal interest rate at different degrees of the SOC. The solid line is based on our calibrated value of θ . It shows that monetary policy has very little effect on long-run growth as the flatness of the curve suggests (the slope is only slightly negative). When the SOC is absent, this curve (the blue dashed line) is more downward sloping, meaning that an increase in the nominal interest rate reduces growth. This is consistent with the finding in Chu and Cozzi (2014). However, when the degree of the SOC increases, the slope could become positive, such as the two green dashed and dotted lines show. This suggests that an increase in the nominal interest rate could promote long-run economic growth when the degree of the SOC is strong.

This finding is important as the degree of the SOC could differ significantly across countries. Weber (1958) uses the emergence of the SOC in western countries to explain why capitalism developed in western countries rather than in China. Weber refutes the fact that only westerners love accumulating wealth by arguing that people in ancient China also loved accumulating wealth. The difference, according to our understanding, is that the Protestant Reformation tries to instill

the SOC into every secular person such as through the intergenerational transmission and shaping of children’s religious preference by their parents (as highlighted in Doepke and Zilibotti, 2008). Therefore, unlike ancient China where the preference for wealth was not spread to the majority of the population, western countries have the SOC in secular Protestants who account for a large fraction of total population. From this point of view, the influences of different religions/culture may lead to the differences in the SOC across countries.

The different effects of monetary policy on growth are mainly through the labor-allocation channel. As the top left panel in Figure 3 shows, the relationship between R&D labor (l_r) and the nominal interest rate displays the same pattern as the relationship between growth and the nominal interest rate: when there is no SOC, it is a downward sloping curve; but, when the SOC is strong enough it becomes an upward sloping curve. The change in the relationship between nominal interest rate and R&D labor is a result of three competing forces. Specifically, there are two forces producing negative effects of nominal interest rates on R&D labor: (a) higher nominal interest rates reduce total labor supply via the consumption-leisure choice, which reduces both R&D labor and manufacturing labor; and (b) higher nominal interest rates also increase the borrowing cost of entrepreneurs through the CIA constraint on R&D, thereby reducing demand for R&D labor. On the other hand, the presence of the SOC also leads to a positive effect. Specifically, (c) higher nominal interest rates increase savings (see household’s Euler equation (7)) and thus lowers the real interest rate (r), leading to lower borrowing costs for entrepreneurs. This raises the value of innovations, as seen from the no-arbitrage condition, (16), and thus attracts more labor into the R&D sector (which can be seen in (14)). Overall, the positive effect becomes larger when the SOC is stronger and could dominate the two negative effects, causing the total effect to be positive on R&D labor. That is exactly what we see in the top left panel in Figure 3.

Decomposing the effects of the nominal interest rate on labor into the above three effects also helps us to understand the role of the CIA constraint on the R&D activity. Specifically, the effect of the CIA constraint on R&D is mainly through (b). In other words, the presence of the CIA constraint magnifies the negative forces of nominal interest rates on R&D labor, but it does not materially influence the positive channel (c). Therefore, our key result that the SOC could change the effect of a higher nominal interest rate on growth from negative to positive does not rely on the assumption of the CIA constraint on R&D. This also explains why Proposition 2 captures the key mechanisms of our new findings.

4.2.2 Welfare Implications

Figure 4 shows that the SOC also has important implications for optimal monetary policy. Specifically, as the figure shows, the optimal nominal interest rate (represented by circles on each line) shifts to the left as the degree of the SOC increases. For example, the optimal nominal interest rate is positive in a model without the SOC (blue dashed line). However, in our calibrated model (the blue solid line), the optimal nominal interest rate is either zero (if we set zero as a lower bound for the nominal rate) or negative (if we allow the nominal rate to fall into the negative territory).

These findings generate two implications. First, it suggests that the existence of the SOC could make the Friedman rule more likely as the optimal. That is, a zero inflation rate could maximize welfare due to the existence of the SOC, altering the recent finding by Chu and Cozzi (2014). Second, if we allow the nominal interest rate to fall into the negative territory, such as what several advanced countries are using now, the existence of the SOC provides a possible justification on why a negative interest rate could be the optimal one. This result echoes the finding in Michaillat and Saez (2015, 2019) which shows that (in a New Keynesian model) the natural rate of interest decreases with the marginal utility of wealth and therefore the natural interest rate can be negative in steady state.

It's important to note that the optimal nominal interest rate that maximizes welfare may not be the one that maximizes the long-run growth, which is a typical result in the Schumpeterian growth framework, including our model and Chu and Cozzi (2014). Let's explain why this is the case in our model using the welfare expression (26). In general, the welfare depends on long-run growth, initial level of consumption and wealth, and labor supply. There is generally a trade-off between the balanced-growth rate and the initial consumption level (when reaching the balanced growth path).¹⁹ For example, when the nominal interest rate increases growth, it raises labor input in the R&D sector but reduces manufacturing labor $l_{x,0}$, leading to lower initial consumption. Therefore, whether a higher nominal interest that raises growth will improve welfare is ambiguous. In addition, a higher nominal interest rate also reduces total labor supply, leading to higher leisure which improves welfare. So, the overall effect of the nominal interest rate on welfare is not necessarily in line with the effect on growth. This helps explain why under a stronger SOC, higher nominal interest rates promote growth while the optimal nominal interest rate also decreases with the SOC.

¹⁹The initial consumption level positively depend on manufacturing labor (or final output).

4.2.3 Quantifying the Overall Growth Effect of the SOC

Figure 2 shows that a stronger SOC leads to higher long-run growth, which is consistent with the existing findings in the literature (Zou 1994; Futagami and Shibata, 1998; Smith, 1999; Corneo and Jeanne, 2001; Hof and Prettnner, 2019). Further adding to this literature, we use our calibrated model to quantify the contribution of the SOC to the US long-run growth. Table 2 reports growth rates and other key variables in our model economy (which is calibrated to the US economy) and in an economy without the SOC. As the first column of Table 2 shows, the long-run growth would decline from 1.8 percent to 1.2 percent if the SOC is absent. In other words, the presence of the SOC helps explain about one-third of US long-run growth.

The decline in growth can be explained by the decline in R&D labor as the second column of Table 2 shows. In particular, l_r is about one-third lower in the economy without the SOC than in the calibrated economy. Though labor in the production sector (l_x) increases 3.7%, total labor supply still drops 1.8%.

4.2.4 Sensitivity Analysis

In the calibration, we have assumed $\beta = 0.05$ for the CIA constraint on R&D. We conduct robustness checks to show our calibration results are not sensitive to this value. In particular, we set two alternative values for β , 0.1 and 0.2, and recalibrate our model. We find that the calibration results are very close to our benchmark economy. In addition, the key patterns in Figures 2-4 do not change, which are shown in Figures 5-9. These comparisons also uncover one finding that, as the CIA constraint on R&D becomes tighter (i.e., a larger β), the optimal nominal interest rate shifts to the right and therefore is more likely to be positive. As discussed, the welfare function depends on long-run growth, initial levels of consumption and wealth, and labor supply, generating a trade-off between long-run growth and initial consumption. When the nominal interest rate increases, it shifts more labor from R&D to manufacturing under a larger β , leading to lower growth but higher initial consumption. The welfare gain from higher initial consumption dominates the welfare loss from lower growth on the balanced growth path when the CIA constraint on R&D becomes tighter, leading to a higher optimal nominal interest.

5 General Discussions

Our model shows that the SOC provides a new channel through which monetary policy can promote long-run growth in a Schumpeterian model. The key channel relies on the interaction between the nominal interest rate and the SOC which drives the real interest rate and long-run

R&D. In this section, we provide discussions on the real effects of monetary policy, the relationship between the nominal and the real interest rates, and the robustness of the results in alternative growth models.

5.1 Real Effects of Monetary Policy

Our paper connects with the literature on the real effect of monetary policy. In discussing the real effects of monetary policy, it's useful to distinguish two strands of separate but also related literature: the research focusing on the short-run fluctuations and the research focusing on long-run growth or levels. Our paper contributes to the second group of the literature but also sheds light on the first group of research.

There is a long debate regarding whether monetary policy has real effects in the long run. Most of early studies show money does not influence long-run growth. The debate goes back to the seminal studies by Sidrauski (1967) and Lucas (1972) which argue that monetary policy has no real effects in the long run. Sidrauski (1967) introduces money to the Ramsey capital accumulation model by assuming money in the utility function and shows money growth doesn't alter either long-run capital stock or consumption (this is called "superneutrality" of money). Lucas (1972) introduces money to an overlapping generation model where money is required for transaction of goods between the old generation and the young generation and shows that an increase in money supply only results in increases in prices while leaving real variables unchanged (this is called "neutrality" of money). Stockman (1981) introduces money to the Ramsey capital accumulation model through CIA constraints and shows that the superneutrality result holds when the CIA constraint only applies to consumption, while it could generate real effects on output if the CIA constraint is applied to investment. Dotsey and Sarte (2000) show that money is superneutral with a CIA constraint on consumption in the AK growth model.²⁰ Overall, the reason for why monetary policy in these models cannot generate long-run real effects is because a money expansion causes one-for-one change in the price level, leaving the real interest rate unchanged. The balanced growth in these models is determined by the standard consumption Euler equation $\frac{\dot{c}_t}{c_t} = r_t - \rho$ while the real interest rate r_t is not influenced by monetary policy.²¹ That is, in the long-run $\frac{\dot{M}_t}{M_t} = \pi_t$, and there is a one-for-one relationship between the nominal interest rate and inflation based on the Fisher equation $i_t = r_t + \pi_t$.

Introducing money to R&D-based endogenous-growth models based on either Romer (1990) or

²⁰They also show that the presence of inflation uncertainty could reduce long-run growth. But this is through the uncertainty channel.

²¹Notice that in the Ramsey capital accumulation model long-run growth is zero in which cases monetary policy does not influence long-run output levels.

Aghion and Howitt (1992) enables monetary policy to have real effects on long-run growth, though most models show that monetary policy has a negative impact on long-run growth. Marquis and Reffett (1994) introduce money (with a CIA constraint) to the Romer growth model with a transaction-service sector and shows that monetary expansion causes factor inputs to reallocate from R&D and production to transaction services, reducing long-run growth. Funk and Kromen (2010) incorporate sticky prices into a R&D-based Schumpeterian model and find that inflation has growth effects in the short-run. As we have mentioned earlier, Chu and Cozzi (2014) introduce money to a Schumpeterian model and show a higher nominal interest reduces long-run growth through both the CIA on consumption that reduces labor supply and the CIA on R&D investment that shifts labor away from R&D to production.

Relative to the above models emphasizing long-run effects of monetary policy, we introduce a new channel which can generate a positive growth effect of monetary policy. Our key innovation is introducing the SOC to a Schumpeterian model which alters households' consumption Euler equation. In particular, the SOC brings the marginal rate of substitution between wealth and consumption to the consumption Euler equation and allows the nominal interest rate to interact with it. In this way, a higher nominal interest rate could amplify the SOC effect on encouraging savings and reducing the real interest rate which in turn promotes R&D and long-run growth. Though we are the first to investigate this mechanism's new implications of monetary policy on long-run growth, a similar approach (i.e., wealth in utility) has been taken by Michaillat and Saez (2015, 2019) to study business cycles in New Keynesian models. Michaillat and Saez (2019) show that the modified Euler equation due to wealth in the utility function can help to resolve a few anomalies in the New Keynesian model. Michaillat and Saez (2015) further show that, with the modified Euler equation, unconventional monetary and fiscal policy (such as a helicopter drop of money, a wealth tax, or budget-balanced government purchases) can stabilize the economy in a liquidity trap. These papers suggest the new channel brought by the SOC could be applied to different models as its mechanism is through altering the agent's consumption Euler equation.

Turning more generally to the literature focusing on monetary policy's effects on short-run fluctuations, such as the widely used DSGE models, these models naturally generate real effects of monetary policy in the short run by incorporating nominal rigidities. That is, if prices cannot adjust fully in the short run, a monetary expansion could drive up demand and stimulate economic activity. The mechanism here is straightforward, just like what Sidrauski (1967, p. 544) explains: "In the short run, an increase in the rate of monetary expansion is equivalent to a rise in government transfers to the private sector. It therefore results in an increase in consumption and a fall in the rate of capital accumulation." However, the existence of nominal rigidities in the short run also leads to a positive correlation between the nominal interest rate and the real

interest rate which can be seen by the Fisher equation ($i = r + \pi$) – when prices are rigid in the short run, an increase in nominal interest rate tends to raise the real interest rate as inflation adjusts slowly. This is not necessarily true in the long run, as we will explain in the next section.

5.2 Relationship between Nominal and Real Interest Rates

As discussed in the previous section, our paper suggests monetary policy can influence long-run growth through interacting with the SOC. This theory’s new channel shows that a higher nominal interest rate could raise long-run growth by pushing down real interest rate and promoting R&D activity. This suggests a negative correlation between the nominal and the real interest rates in the long run. This seems to be different from what we observe in the short run.²² We thus provide more discussions on this relationship from both theoretical and empirical perspectives in this section.

Theoretically, similar to our model, most endogenous-growth models which generate negative impact of monetary policy on long-run growth (e.g., Marquis and Reffett, 1994; Chu and Cozzi, 2014) lead to a negative correlation between the nominal and the real interest rates. This is a result of two facts. First, in these models, the long-run growth rate is positively correlated with the real interest rate, which can be seen by a typical consumption Euler equation. Second, in the long run, higher money growth means higher nominal interest rates.²³ These two together suggest that, if a higher nominal interest rate reduces long-run growth, it must lead to a negative correlation between nominal and real interest rates. So, our model’s prediction regarding the negative correlation between the nominal and the real interest rates is consistent with that obtained in the above papers. What’s different is that our model shows that a higher nominal interest rate could promote long-run growth if the SOC is sufficiently strong. In other words, our model does not necessarily imply a positive correlation between long-run growth and the real interest rate though the model is consistent with previous paper in generating a negative correlation between the nominal and the real interest rates.²⁴

Empirically, the relationship between the nominal and the real interest rates could differ in the short run and in the longer run. In the short run, due to nominal rigidities, prices adjust

²²It’s worth noting the short-run relationship has also changed over time. As Mishkin (1981) pointed out, the correlation between nominal and real interest rates was negative in the US during 1953-1979 (see also Summers, 1982), whereas it has changed to be positive after October 1979 (see Huizinga and Mishkin, 1984).

²³In this literature, monetary authority either controls money growth or sets nominal interest rates, which are equivalent.

²⁴Specifically, when the SOC is strong and a higher nominal interest rate promotes long-run growth, long-run growth and the real interest rate is negatively correlated; when the SOC is low and a higher nominal interest rate reduces long-run growth, long-run growth and the real interest rate is positively correlated.

gradually following an increase in money supply, causing inflation to move slowly and thus the nominal interest rate moves in the same direction of the real interest rate (which can be seen from the Fisher equation). In the long run, as inflation could increase with higher money growth, the correlation between nominal and real interest rate could be negative.

To empirically examine this relationship, we estimate the accumulative impulse response of real interest rate to a positive monetary shock (i.e., an exogenous increase in the federal funds rate) using the local projection method (Jordà, 2005; Olea and Plagborg-Møller, 2021). In particular, the accumulative impulse of the real interest rate to the monetary policy shock is estimated through the following regression:

$$\Delta r_{t,h} = \alpha(h) + \beta(h) \cdot r_{t-1} + \gamma(h) \cdot mpshock_t + \epsilon_t(h), \quad (28)$$

where $\Delta r_{t,h} \equiv r_{t+h} - r_t$ is the h -month ahead accumulative change in the real interest rate and $mpshock_t$ is the Romer-Romer monetary policy shock in month t .²⁵ We control the lag of the real interest rate, r_{t-1} , in the regression equation as Olea and Plagborg-Møller (2021) show that lag-augmented local projections are more robust. As Figure 11 shows, the estimated accumulative impulse response is positive and statistically significant in the short run (i.e., within the first two years) while becoming negative and statistically significant in the longer run (e.g., after eight years), suggesting that the correlation between the nominal and the real interest rates tends to change from positive in the short run to negative in the long run. This is consistent with our model’s prediction and also reconciles the positive correlation between nominal and real interest rates implied by the short-run business cycle models and the negative correlation implied by the long-run growth models (including the current paper).

5.3 Robustness of the Results in Alternative Growth Models

Our study may beg the question of whether our results are unique to the Schumpeterian model. In this section, we explain why our key results do not hinge on the unique feature of the Schumpeterian model. To help illustrate this, in Appendix 7.6, we replace the Schumpeterian model with a Romer (1990) type variety-expanding growth model, which is a competing growth framework of the Schumpeterian R&D growth model, and shows the key results still hold.²⁶

The driving forces behind these findings can be summarized as follows. Under the CIA constraint on R&D, higher nominal interest raise the borrowing cost of entrepreneurs, which tends to reduce R&D and growth. However, with the CIA constraint on consumption, the positive effect

²⁵We take the monthly Romer-Romer monetary policy shocks estimated in Wileland and Yang (2020) which extends the original estimation in Romer and Romer (2004) to include more recent years.

²⁶In Online Appendix E, we also show the key results hold in an AK growth model.

due the existence of the SOC still works through the consumption Euler equation, which causes a higher nominal interest rate to increase savings and push down the real interest rate, spurring R&D and growth.²⁷ Thus, when the positive growth-promoting effect through the channel of the SOC dominates the negative growth effect due to the CIA on R&D, higher nominal interest rates would raise long-run growth.

In general, our results could be robust to alternative model specifications because the key mechanism still works. First of all, the existence of the SOC always increases savings and lowers the real interest rate, which may generate positive growth effects (in R&D growth models). This growth-enhancing effect of the SOC arises from the household-side of the economy. The variety-expanding model of Romer (1990) and the Schumpeterian quality-ladder model of Aghion and Howitt (1992) differ in the production-side of the economy. In other words, the existence of the SOC tends to promote growth in both models. The negative effect of higher nominal interest rates on growth in the R&D-based models of either Romer (1990) or Aghion and Howitt (1992) could come from different channels. It could come from decreasing labor supply (due to the consumption-leisure choice effect from the elastic labor supply) under the CIA on consumption. It could also come from dampened R&D incentives due to the CIA on R&D.

Other specifications on the CIA constraint can also be analyzed. For instance, when the CIA constraint applies to the manufacturing sector in Romer's model, higher nominal interest rates will also have an additional negative effect on long-run growth. When the CIA constraint applies to the manufacturing sector in Aghion and Howitt's Schumpeterian model, monetary expansion will have an additional positive effect on growth by shifting labor away from manufacturing to R&D. We can also introduce money through the money-in-the-utility-function (MIUF) approach, an alternative approach to introduce money in the long-run growth models, and show the key mechanism still exists (see Online Appendix G for an example).

To summarize, the positive growth-enhancing effect due to the SOC always exists in these models, while the negative effects of monetary expansion could come from many sources. Therefore, when the degree of the SOC is small or absent, the negative effects dominate the positive effect, and thus higher interest rates reduce growth; when the SOC is strong enough, the positive effect dominates the negative effects, and thus higher interest rates promote growth.

²⁷Please note that the CIA on consumption is crucial in this version of the Romer model. Under the CIA on consumption, the positive consumption-portfolio effect increases with the nominal interest rate. By contrast, in the Schumpeterian model, even without the CIA on consumption, higher nominal interest rates still generate the positive labor reallocation effect through the CIA on R&D.

6 Conclusions

In this paper we formalize Schumpeter’s idea of “psychology of entrepreneurs” —entrepreneurs innovate for the sake of success itself, not only for the fruits of success—by introducing the spirit of capitalism (or a direct preference on wealth) into a Schumpeterian growth model with money. We show that the existence of the spirit of capitalism creates a new channel for monetary policy to impact growth and welfare and generates new implications for monetary policy. In particular, unlike recent research which shows that higher nominal interest rates always lead to lower long-run growth, we show a higher nominal interest rate could promote long-run growth when the spirit of capitalism is strong.

In addition, we show that a stronger SOC also pushes the optimal nominal interest rate lower, making the Friedman rule (the optimal non-negative nominal interest rate is zero) more likely to hold, contrasting with the finding in a recent paper study by Chu and Cozzi (2014) which uses a similar Schumpeterian model to demonstrate that the optimal nominal interest rate is positive. This finding also provides support to the adoption of a negative interest rate which has been intensively discussed by policymakers in recent years. Finally, when calibrating the model to the US economy, we show the SOC can help explain a substantial part (about one-third) of long-run growth in the US.

Finally, our model is designed to focus on long-run growth and not about studying exogenous shocks during business cycles or government countercyclical/stabilization policies such as inflation targeting. In our model, the nominal interest rate and inflation are deterministically controlled by the government. However, it is very interesting for future research to consider exogenous shocks (such as inflation shocks) in a stochastic model and discuss the role of inflation targeting under the presence of the SOC and R&D (please see the New Keynesian model with the SOC but without R&D in Michailat and Saez, 2015; 2019).

7 Appendix

7.1 Solving the Household’s Optimization Problem

The household’s Hamiltonian function can be written as:

$$H_t = \ln c_t + \theta \ln (a_t) - \eta \frac{l_t^{1+1/\sigma}}{1+1/\sigma} + \mu_t (r_t e_t + w_t l_t - c_t - \pi_t m_t + i_t b_t + \tau_t) + \xi_t (m_t - c_t - b_t),$$

where μ_t is the co-state variable on (2), ξ_t is the Lagrangian multiplier for the CIA constraint, and $a_t = e_t + m_t$.

The first-order conditions are:

$$\frac{\partial H_t}{\partial c_t} = \frac{1}{c_t} - \mu_t - \xi_t = 0, \quad (29)$$

$$\frac{\partial H_t}{\partial l_t} = -\eta l_t^{1/\sigma} + \mu_t w_t = 0, \quad (30)$$

$$\frac{\partial H_t}{\partial b_t} = \mu_t i_t - \xi_t = 0, \quad (31)$$

$$\frac{\partial H_t}{\partial e_t} = \frac{\theta}{a_t} + \mu_t r_t = \rho \mu_t - \dot{\mu}_t, \quad (32)$$

$$\frac{\partial H_t}{\partial m_t} = \frac{\theta}{a_t} - \mu_t \pi_t + \xi_t = \rho \mu_t - \dot{\mu}_t. \quad (33)$$

Combining (32) and (33) yields $\xi_t = \mu_t (r_t + \pi_t)$. Further combining with (31) yields $i_t = r_t + \pi_t$. Plugging this condition into (29) yields:

$$\frac{1}{c_t} = \mu_t (1 + i_t), \quad (34)$$

which is (3) in the main text. Rewriting (30) we get the optimal condition for labor supply:

$$\eta l_t^{1/\sigma} = w_t \mu_t, \quad (35)$$

which is (4) in the main text. Rewriting (32) as:

$$-\frac{\dot{\mu}_t}{\mu_t} = r_t - \rho + \frac{\theta}{\mu_t a_t} \quad (36)$$

yields the intertemporal optimality condition (6) in the main text.

7.2 Proof of Proposition 1

For convenience, we define the ratio of final output to the value of the monopolistic firms y_t/v_t as a new variable Θ_t (i.e., $\Theta_t = y_t/v_t$). The law of motion of Θ_t is:

$$\frac{\dot{\Theta}_t}{\Theta_t} = \frac{\dot{y}_t}{y_t} - \frac{\dot{v}_t}{v_t}. \quad (37)$$

Given a fixed nominal interest rate i , combining (57) and (58) yields $\dot{c}_t/c_t = r_t - \rho + \theta(1+i)c_t/a_t$. From the final goods market clearing condition $c_t = y_t/L$, we then have $\dot{y}_t/y_t = \dot{c}_t/c_t$.

Equation (16) gives $\dot{v}_t/v_t = r_t + \lambda_t - \Pi_t/v_t$. Equation (15) delivers $\lambda_t = \varphi l_{r,t}$. Using (13), we have $\Pi_t/v_t = [(\gamma - 1)/\gamma] \Theta_t$. Plugging these into (37), we have:

$$\frac{\dot{\Theta}_t}{\Theta_t} = \frac{(\gamma - 1)}{\gamma} \Theta_t - \varphi l_{r,t} - \rho + \frac{\theta(1+i)c_t}{a_t}. \quad (38)$$

Combining (12), (14) and (15) yields $l_{x,t} = (1 + \beta i) \Theta_t / (\varphi \gamma)$. From (22), we have $l_{r,t} + l_{x,t} = l_t = [\eta \gamma l_{x,t} (1 + i)]^{-\sigma}$. Therefore,

$$l_{r,t} = \left(\frac{\varphi}{\eta \Theta_t (1 + \beta i) (1 + i)} \right)^\sigma - \frac{(1 + \beta i) \Theta_t}{\varphi \gamma}.$$

Plugging the above expression of $l_{x,t}$ into (21) yields:

$$\frac{c_t}{a_t} = \frac{(1 + \beta i) \Theta_t}{(1 + \beta i) (1 + \Theta_t) + \varphi \beta \left[\left(\frac{\varphi}{\eta \Theta_t (1 + \beta i) (1 + i)} \right)^\sigma - \frac{(1 + \beta i) \Theta_t}{\varphi \gamma} \right]}.$$

Plugging these results into (38), we have:

$$\frac{\dot{\Theta}_t}{\Theta_t} = \left[\begin{aligned} & 1 - \left(\frac{1}{\eta (1 + \beta i) (1 + i)} \right)^\sigma \left(\frac{\varphi}{\Theta_t} \right)^{1 + \sigma} + \frac{\beta i}{\varphi \gamma} \\ & + \frac{\theta (1 + i) (1 + \beta i)}{(1 + \beta i) (1 + \Theta_t) + \varphi \beta \left[\left(\frac{\varphi}{\eta \Theta_t (1 + \beta i) (1 + i)} \right)^\sigma - \frac{(1 + \beta i) \Theta_t}{\varphi \gamma} \right]} \end{aligned} \right] \Theta_t - \rho. \quad (39)$$

Because $\Theta_t > 0$, equation (39) shows that Θ_t is saddle-point stable, meaning that Θ_t jumps immediately to its interior steady state given by the univariate equation:

$$\frac{\rho}{\Theta_t} = 1 + \frac{\beta i}{\varphi \gamma} - \left(\frac{1}{\eta (1 + \beta i) (1 + i)} \right)^\sigma \left(\frac{\varphi}{\Theta_t} \right)^{1 + \sigma} + \frac{\theta (1 + i) (1 + \beta i)}{(1 + \beta i) (1 + \Theta_t) + \varphi \beta \left[\left(\frac{\varphi}{\eta \Theta_t (1 + \beta i) (1 + i)} \right)^\sigma - \frac{(1 + \beta i) \Theta_t}{\varphi \gamma} \right]}.$$

This equation can be rewritten as:

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{1}{\eta (1 + \beta i) (1 + i)} \right)^\sigma \left(\frac{\varphi}{\Theta_t} \right)^{1 + \sigma} &= \frac{\varphi \gamma + \beta i}{\varphi \gamma} \\ + \frac{\theta (1 + i) (1 + \beta i)}{(1 + \beta i) [1 + (1 - \beta/\gamma) \Theta_t] + \beta \varphi^{1 + \sigma} \Theta_t^{-\sigma} / [\eta (1 + \beta i) (1 + i)]^\sigma} &- \frac{\rho}{\Theta_t}. \end{aligned} \quad (40)$$

With $\Theta_t > 0$ and Θ_t on the horizontal axis, the LHS (left-hand-side) of (40) is a downward-sloping curve with the vertical and horizontal axes as the asymptotes. The RHS is a hyperbola with the vertical asymptote as the vertical axis, and the horizontal asymptote is $y = (\varphi \gamma + \beta i) / \varphi \gamma$ when θ is small (we are considering reasonable values of θ ; it is clear this holds when $\theta = 0$). Therefore, the two lines intersect once at Θ_t^* . When $\Theta_t > \Theta_t^*$, $\dot{\Theta}_t > 0$; when $\Theta_t < \Theta_t^*$, $\dot{\Theta}_t < 0$. Therefore, given a fixed nominal interest rate i , the dynamics of Θ_t show saddle-point stability: Θ_t jumps immediately to its interior steady state that is stationary and unique. Given $l_{x,t} = (1 + \beta i) \Theta_t / (\varphi \gamma)$ and $l_{r,t} = (\varphi / [\eta \Theta_t (1 + \beta i) (1 + i)])^\sigma - l_{x,t}$, we know that l_r , l_x and l must be stationary and unique as well.

7.3 Derivation of Equations (20) and (21)

Dividing both sides of equation (16) by v_t , we have $r_t = \Pi_t / v_t + g_t - \lambda_t$, where we have used $\dot{v}_t / v_t = g_t$. We rewrite this equation as $\Pi_t = (r_t + \lambda_t - g_t) v_t$, which is equivalent to

$$\lambda_t \Pi_t = (r_t + \lambda_t - g_t) \lambda_t v_t. \quad (41)$$

Using the Euler equation (7), we have $g_t = r_t - \rho + \theta(1+i_t)(c_t/a_t)$, which gives $r_t - g_t = \rho - \theta(1+i_t)(c_t/a_t)$. The free entry condition (14) can be written as $\lambda_t v_t = (1 + \beta i_t) w_t L_{r,t}$. Plugging these two conditions into (41) to replace $(r_t - g_t)$ and $\lambda_t v_t$, we have:

$$\lambda_t \Pi_t = [\rho + \lambda_t - \theta(1+i_t)c_t/a_t](1 + \beta i_t) w_t L_{r,t}. \quad (42)$$

Using (12) and (13), we have $\Pi_t = (\gamma - 1) w_t L_{x,t}$. Plugging this condition into (42) to replace Π_t yields:

$$\lambda_t (\gamma - 1) l_{x,t} = [\rho + \lambda_t - \theta(1+i_t)(c_t/a_t)](1 + \beta i_t) l_{r,t}, \quad (43)$$

where we have used $l_{x,t} = L_{x,t}/L$ and $l_{r,t} = L_{r,t}/L$. Using (15), (43) becomes:

$$(\gamma - 1) l_{x,t} = \left(\frac{\rho}{\varphi} + \frac{\lambda_t}{\varphi} - \frac{\theta(1+i_t)c_t}{\varphi a_t} \right) (1 + \beta i_t).$$

Using $\lambda_t = \varphi l_{r,t}$, we obtain equation (20) in the main text.

The derivation for equation (21) is as follows:

$$\frac{c_t}{a_t} = \frac{c_t L}{a_t L} = \frac{y_t}{e_t L + m_t L}, \quad (44)$$

where we have used the output market clearing condition $c_t = y_t/L$ and $a_t = e_t + m_t$.

The CIA constraint binds: $c_t + b_t = m_t$, where $b_t L = \beta w_t L_{r,t}$. We also have $e_t = v_t/L$. Therefore, (44) can be written as:

$$\frac{c_t}{a_t} = \frac{y_t}{v_t + c_t L + b_t L} = \frac{y_t}{v_t + y_t + \beta w_t L_{r,t}}. \quad (45)$$

Using (12), we have $y_t = \gamma w_t L_{x,t}$. Combining (14) and (15), we have $v_t = (1 + \beta i_t) w_t L_{r,t}/\varphi l_{r,t} = (1 + \beta i_t) w_t L/\varphi$, where we have used $l_{r,t} = L_{r,t}/L$. Therefore, (45) can be rewritten as:

$$\frac{c_t}{a_t} = \frac{\gamma w_t L_{x,t}}{(1 + \beta i_t) w_t L/\varphi + \gamma w_t L_{x,t} + \beta w_t L_{r,t}} = \frac{\gamma l_{x,t}}{(1 + \beta i_t)/\varphi + \gamma l_{x,t} + \beta l_{r,t}}, \quad (46)$$

which is equation (21) in the main text.

7.4 Proof of Proposition 2

We resort to the graphical proof presented in Aghion and Howitt (1998, ch. 2). Two conditions pin down the equilibrium labor allocation: the labor market clearing condition in (22) and the free labor mobility condition in (23). We rewrite the labor market clearing condition (22) as:

$$l_{r,t} = [\eta \gamma (1 + i_t)]^{-\sigma} l_{x,t}^{-\sigma} - l_{x,t}. \quad (47)$$

We have the constraint $l_{r,t} + l_{x,t} = l_t \leq 1$ and $\lim_{l_{x,t} \rightarrow 0} l_{r,t} = \infty$. Therefore, the labor market clearing condition becomes $l_{r,t} + l_{x,t} = 1$ when $l_{x,t}$ is smaller than a threshold \underline{l}_x . We also have $l_{x,t} = [\eta\gamma(1+i)]^{-\sigma/(1+\sigma)}$ when $l_{r,t} = 0$. Therefore, we impose the restriction on the parameters: $[\eta\gamma(1+i)]^{-\sigma/(1+\sigma)} \leq 1$. Using (47), we have:

$$\frac{\partial l_{r,t}}{\partial l_{x,t}} = -\sigma \left(\frac{1}{\eta\gamma(1+i_t)} \right)^\sigma l_{x,t}^{-\sigma-1} - 1 < 0, \quad (48)$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 l_{r,t}}{\partial l_{x,t}^2} = \sigma(\sigma+1) \left(\frac{1}{\eta\gamma(1+i_t)} \right)^\sigma l_{x,t}^{-\sigma-2} > 0. \quad (49)$$

Therefore, the labor market clearing condition shows that, with the manufacturing labor ($l_{x,t}$) on the horizontal axis, the R&D labor share ($l_{r,t}$) is a downward-sloping convex function of $l_{x,t}$ when $l_{x,t} \in [\underline{l}_x, 1]$. We denote this curve as the L curve in Figure 1. Imposing $\beta = 0$, we rewrite the free labor mobility (23) as:

$$l_r = (\gamma - 1)l_x - \rho/\varphi + \frac{\theta(1+i)\gamma l_x}{1 + \varphi\gamma l_x}. \quad (50)$$

We have $l_{r,t} = -\rho/\varphi$ when $l_{x,t} = 0$. Taking derivatives, we have

$$\frac{\partial l_{r,t}}{\partial l_{x,t}} = (\gamma - 1) + \frac{\theta(1+i)\gamma}{(1 + \varphi\gamma l_x)^2} > 0, \quad (51)$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 l_{r,t}}{\partial l_{x,t}^2} = -\frac{2\theta\varphi(1+i)\gamma^2 l_x}{(1 + \varphi\gamma l_x)^3} < 0. \quad (52)$$

Thus, the free labor mobility condition shows that $l_{r,t}$ is an upward-sloping concave function of manufacturing labor $l_{x,t}$ (with $l_{x,t}$ on the horizontal axis). We denote this curve as the M curve in Figure 1.

The two lines intersect once, meaning there is a unique solution (a unique balanced growth path). Two properties follow. First, the SOC only shifts the M curve, with an increase in θ rotating the M curve counter-clockwise around $(0, -\rho/\varphi)$, thereby leading to higher R&D labor l_r and lower manufacturing labor l_x , all else equal. Thus, a stronger degree of the SOC raises the balanced growth rate, all else equal (i.e., the equilibrium would move from O to A). Second, both the taste for leisure η and the Frisch elasticity of labor supply σ only shift the L curve, with a larger η or σ shifting the L curve leftward, thereby decreasing both R&D labor l_r and manufacturing labor l_x , all else equal. So, either an increase in the taste for leisure η or an increase in the Frisch elasticity of labor supply σ would decrease the balanced growth rate (i.e., the equilibrium would move from O to B), all else equal.

Using (47) and (50), an increase in the nominal interest rate shifts both curves: it rotates the M curve counter-clockwise around $(0, -\rho/\varphi)$, and the degree of rotation depends on the size

of θ . Additionally, it shifts the L curve to the left with the size of the shift depending on the magnitudes of both η and σ (i.e., the equilibrium would move from O to E). Therefore, as the nominal interest rate increases, when growth-enhancing effect of the SOC dominates (i.e., with a relatively large θ), the M curve shifts more than the L curve does, yielding a larger R&D labor l_r and thereby higher long-run growth; when the growth-reducing effects of the taste for leisure η or the Frisch elasticity of labor supply σ dominate (it is more likely with a larger η or σ), the L curve shifts more than the M curve does, producing a smaller R&D labor l_r and thereby lower long-run growth.

By contrast, without the SOC ($\theta = 0$), an increase in the nominal interest rate shifts the L curve to the left. The new equilibrium will move along the M curve (i.e., the equilibrium would move from O to B), yielding a lower R&D labor l_r and thereby lower long-run growth.

7.5 Proof of Proposition 3

Using Figure 1 and the proof of Proposition 2, we have

$$\frac{\partial l_{x,0}}{\partial i} < 0, \frac{\partial l_0}{\partial i} < 0, \text{ and } \frac{\partial l_{r,0}}{\partial i} \begin{matrix} \leq \\ > \end{matrix} 0 \iff \frac{\partial g}{\partial i} \begin{matrix} \leq \\ > \end{matrix} 0,$$

where $l_{x,0}$, $l_{r,0}$, and l_0 refer to the initial values of labor inputs in the manufacturing sector, the R&D sector, and the whole economy when the economy reaches the balanced growth path.

For a given $\theta_1 > 0$, let i^* be the optimal nominal interest rate. Denote i^{**} to be the optimal interest rate under $\theta_2 = \theta_1 + \Delta\delta$, where $\Delta\delta$ is very small. We will show that $i^{**} < i^*$. Taking the derivative of U in (26) with respect to i , we have

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial i} = \frac{1}{\rho} \left[\left(\frac{1}{l_{x,0}} + \frac{\varphi\theta}{1 + \varphi\gamma l_{x,0}} \right) \frac{\partial l_{x,0}}{\partial i} + \frac{(1 + \theta)}{\rho} \frac{\partial g}{\partial i} - \eta l_0^{1/\sigma} \frac{\partial l_0}{\partial i} \right]. \quad (53)$$

Evaluating (53) at i^* and using the definition of i^* , we have

$$\frac{\partial U(\theta_1)}{\partial i} \Big|_{i=i^*} = \frac{1}{\rho} \left[\underbrace{\frac{\varphi\gamma\theta_1}{1 + \varphi\gamma l_{x,0}} \frac{\partial l_{x,0}}{\partial i} + \frac{\theta_1}{\rho} \frac{\partial g}{\partial i}}_{\text{Part A}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{l_{x,0}} \frac{\partial l_{x,0}}{\partial i} + \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial g}{\partial i} - \eta l_0^{1/\sigma} \frac{\partial l_0}{\partial i}}_{\text{Part B}} \right] = 0. \quad (54)$$

Note that when θ is small, we have $\partial l_{x,0}/\partial i < 0$ and $\partial g/\partial i < 0$ (which are from Proposition 2). Therefore, when θ_1 increases by a sufficiently small level $\Delta\delta$, Part A declines (i.e., becomes more negative) while Part B does not change. In other words, starting from an economy with (θ_1, i^*) , when θ_1 starts to increase, Part A starts to decline while Part B does not change. Thus we have

$$\frac{\partial U(\theta_2)}{\partial i} \Big|_{i=i^*} < \frac{\partial U(\theta_1)}{\partial i} \Big|_{i=i^*} = 0 = \frac{\partial U(\theta_2)}{\partial i} \Big|_{i=i^{**}}. \quad (55)$$

Therefore, we have $i^{**} < i^*$. In other words, both i^* and i^{**} are on the right side of a concave function.²⁸

7.6 The Romer (1990) Model with the SOC

We incorporate the SOC into the Romer (1990) variety-expanding model.²⁹ In the variety expanding model, each innovation represents a new variety that corresponds to an intermediate good. The economy consists of a final goods sector, an intermediate goods sector, households, and a monetary authority. Entrepreneurs conduct innovations, and the cost of each innovation (the cost of R&D) is a fixed amount (η units of final goods). Each innovation is owned by a monopolistic entrepreneur, and there is free-entry into R&D.

Households. As the key results do not rely on the labor-supply choice, here we assume that labor supply is inelastic. The population size of each household is fixed at L and each household has a lifetime utility function as follows:

$$U = \int_0^\infty e^{-\rho t} [\ln(c_t) + \theta \ln(a_t)] dt, \quad (56)$$

where the notations are defined in the same way as in the benchmark model. Each household maximizes its lifetime utility given in equation (56) subject to the asset-accumulation equation (2).

The policy instrument of the monetary authority is assumed to be the nominal interest rate i_t . The monetary authority rebates the seigniorage revenue $\tau_t = \dot{m}_t + \pi_t m_t$ to households as a lump-sum transfer. The CIA constraint is given by $c_t + b_t \leq m_t$, where b_t is the amount of money borrowed from each member of households by entrepreneurs to finance R&D (i.e., η), and its return is i_t .

We rewrite the optimality condition for consumption and Euler equations as follows:

$$\frac{1}{c_t} = \mu_t (1 + i_t), \quad (57)$$

$$-\frac{\dot{\mu}_t}{\mu_t} = r_t - \rho + \frac{\theta}{\mu_t a_t}. \quad (58)$$

$$\frac{\dot{c}_t}{c_t} = r_t - \rho + \theta \frac{c_t (1 + i_t)}{a_t}. \quad (59)$$

²⁸Here we assume the welfare function is well-behaved and leads to unique optimal interest rate. Indeed, our calibrated model confirms this, which can also be seen in the previous studies that use the Schumpeterian framework, such as Aghion, Akcigit, and Fernández-Villaverde, 2013, and Chu and Cozzi, 2014).

²⁹See Barro and Sala-i-Martin (2004, ch. 6).

Note that these equations come from the household's optimal decisions, which hold in both the Schumpeterian model and the Romer-type model. Therefore, the consumption-portfolio effect due to a higher nominal interest rate that tends to increase growth is present in either type of R&D-based models.

The Final Goods. There is a competitive final goods sector. A representative final good firm i has the following production function:

$$y_i = \sum_{j=1}^N X_{ij}^\alpha L_i^{1-\alpha}, \quad (60)$$

where X_{ij} is the amount of the input of intermediate good j , L_i is the amount of labor used by final good firm i , and N is the number of intermediate goods (innovations/varieties).

Perfect competition means that final goods firms take the wage rate (w_t) and prices of intermediate goods (P_j) as given when maximizing their profits. Using the first-order condition associated with X_{ij} , we obtain the aggregate demand for the j -th intermediate good X_j :

$$X_j = \sum_i X_{ij} = L \left(\frac{\alpha}{P_j} \right)^{1/(1-\alpha)}. \quad (61)$$

The optimal condition for labor demand of final goods firms yields: $w_t = (1 - \alpha)(Y/L)$, where $Y = \sum_i y_i$ is the total amount of final output.

The Intermediate Goods. Intermediate goods firms transform one unit of final goods into one unit of intermediate goods. We have normalized final goods' price to unity. The marginal/unit cost for the intermediate good firm (i.e., the manufacturing firm) would be 1. When an entrepreneur obtains a patent on one intermediate good (one variety), he would be the monopolistic supplier to the final goods sector. Therefore, the j -th intermediate good firm's optimizing problem can be written as:

$$\max_{P_j} \Pi_j = (P_j - 1) X_j = (P_j - 1) L \left(\frac{\alpha}{P_j} \right)^{1/(1-\alpha)}, \quad (62)$$

where the last equality uses (61). The optimal price of the j -th intermediate goods is $P_j = 1/\alpha$. Therefore, $X_j = \alpha^{2/(1-\alpha)}L$ and the monopoly profit of the j -th intermediate goods firm is:

$$\Pi_j = \left(\frac{1}{\alpha} - 1 \right) \alpha^{2/(1-\alpha)}L. \quad (63)$$

Research Arbitrage. We denote $v_t(j)$ as the value of the monopolistic firm specializing in intermediate good j . In this version of the monetary Romer model, the R&D sector uses final goods as the factor input (i.e., the lab-equipment R&D process). Because entrepreneurs have to borrow cash from households to finance the R&D expenditure, the cost of R&D becomes $\eta(1 + i_t)$.

Free-entry into R&D yields an expected profit of zero for entrepreneurs:

$$v_t(j) = \eta(1 + i_t). \quad (64)$$

The asset equation for $v_t(j)$ is:

$$r_t v_t(j) = \Pi_j + v_t(j). \quad (65)$$

The equilibrium can be defined in a similar way as in the benchmark model:

Definition *Given the nominal interest rate i_t , a dynamic equilibrium for the model is a time path of prices $\{P_j, r_t, w_t, i_t\}$ and allocations $\{c_t, e_t, b_t, m_t, y_t, X_j\}$ such that given prices, the households maximize utility, competitive final-goods firms maximize profit, monopolistic intermediate-goods firms choose $\{P_j\}$ to maximize profit; the final goods market clears (i.e., $Y_t = c_t L + \eta \dot{N} + \sum_j X_j$); the value of monopolistic firms adds up to the value of households' assets (i.e., $v_t N = \eta(1 + i) N = e_t L$); the amount of cash borrowed by entrepreneurs is $b_t L = \eta \dot{N}$.*

We focus on the balanced growth path along which allocation variables such as c_t, m_t, Y_t , and N all grow at the same constant rate. In equilibrium, we have $v_t(j) = v_t$ and $\dot{v}_t = 0$. Therefore, using (58), (59), (64), and (65), the balanced growth rate g can be written as:

$$g = \frac{\Pi_j}{\eta(1 + i_t)} - \rho + \theta \frac{c_t(1 + i_t)}{a_t}. \quad (66)$$

The Growth Effect of Monetary Policy. Substituting out Π_j using (63) in (66), we obtain

$$g = \frac{(1/\alpha - 1) \alpha^{2/(1-\alpha)} L}{\eta(1 + i_t)} + \frac{\theta c_t(1 + i_t)}{a_t} - \rho, \quad (67)$$

where the consumption-wealth ratio is solved as follows. Under symmetry, we have

$$c_t L = Y_t - \eta \dot{N} - N X_j = N \left[\alpha^{2\alpha/(1-\alpha)} (1 - \alpha^2) L - g\eta \right],$$

where $g = \dot{N}/N$. Using $m_t L = c_t L + b_t L = c_t L + \eta \dot{N}$, we have $a_t L = e_t L + m_t L = \eta(1 + i) N + c_t L + \eta \dot{N}$. Using the final goods market clearing condition, we have $c_t L + \eta \dot{N} = Y_t - N X_j = N \left[\alpha^{2\alpha/(1-\alpha)} (1 - \alpha^2) L \right]$. Therefore, the consumption-wealth ratio is:

$$\frac{c_t}{a_t} = \frac{\alpha^{2\alpha/(1-\alpha)} (1 - \alpha^2) L - g\eta}{\alpha^{2\alpha/(1-\alpha)} (1 - \alpha^2) L + (1 + i) \eta}. \quad (68)$$

Proposition 4 *The balanced growth rate is a decreasing function of the nominal interest rate when there is no SOC (i.e., $\theta = 0$). The balanced growth rate could be an increasing function of the nominal interest rate when the SOC is strong.*

Proof: Differentiating the balanced growth rate in (67) with respect to i yields:

$$\frac{\partial g}{\partial i} = -\frac{(1/\alpha - 1) \alpha^{2/(1-\alpha)} L}{\eta (1 + i_t)^2} + \frac{\theta c_t}{a_t} + \theta (1 + i_t) \left[\frac{\partial (c_t/a_t)}{\partial g} \frac{\partial g}{\partial i} + \frac{\partial (c_t/a_t)}{\partial i} \right]. \quad (69)$$

Using (68), we have $\partial (c_t/a_t) / \partial g = -\eta / [\alpha^{2\alpha/(1-\alpha)} (1 - \alpha^2) L + \eta]$. Therefore, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left(1 + \frac{\eta \theta (1 + i_t)}{\alpha^{2\alpha/(1-\alpha)} (1 - \alpha^2) L + \eta} \right) \frac{\partial g}{\partial i} &= \frac{\theta c_t}{a_t} \left(1 - \frac{(1 + i_t) \eta}{a_t} \right) - \frac{(1/\alpha - 1) \alpha^{2/(1-\alpha)} L}{\eta (1 + i_t)^2} \\ &= \frac{\theta c_t}{a_t} \left[1 + \alpha^{2\alpha/(1-\alpha)} (1 - \alpha^2) \frac{L}{a_t} - \frac{L}{N_t} \right] - \frac{(1/\alpha - 1) \alpha^{2/(1-\alpha)} L}{\eta (1 + i_t)^2}, \end{aligned} \quad (70)$$

where we have used $(1 + i_t) \eta / a_t = L / N_t - \alpha^{2\alpha/(1-\alpha)} (1 - \alpha^2) (L / a_t)$.

When there is no SOC (i.e., $\theta = 0$), (70) shows that $\partial g / \partial i = - (1/\alpha - 1) \alpha^{2/(1-\alpha)} L / [\eta (1 + i_t)^2] < 0$. When θ is large, it is possible that the right-hand-side (RHS) of (70) is positive. Given $g = \dot{N}_t / N_t > 0$, the number of varieties will approach infinity as time goes by. Therefore, we have $\partial g / \partial i > 0$ if $\theta (c_t/a_t) [1 + \alpha^{2\alpha/(1-\alpha)} (1 - \alpha^2) (L/a_t) - L/N_t] > (1/\alpha - 1) \alpha^{2/(1-\alpha)} L / [\eta (1 + i_t)^2]$, which is more likely to hold when θ is larger.

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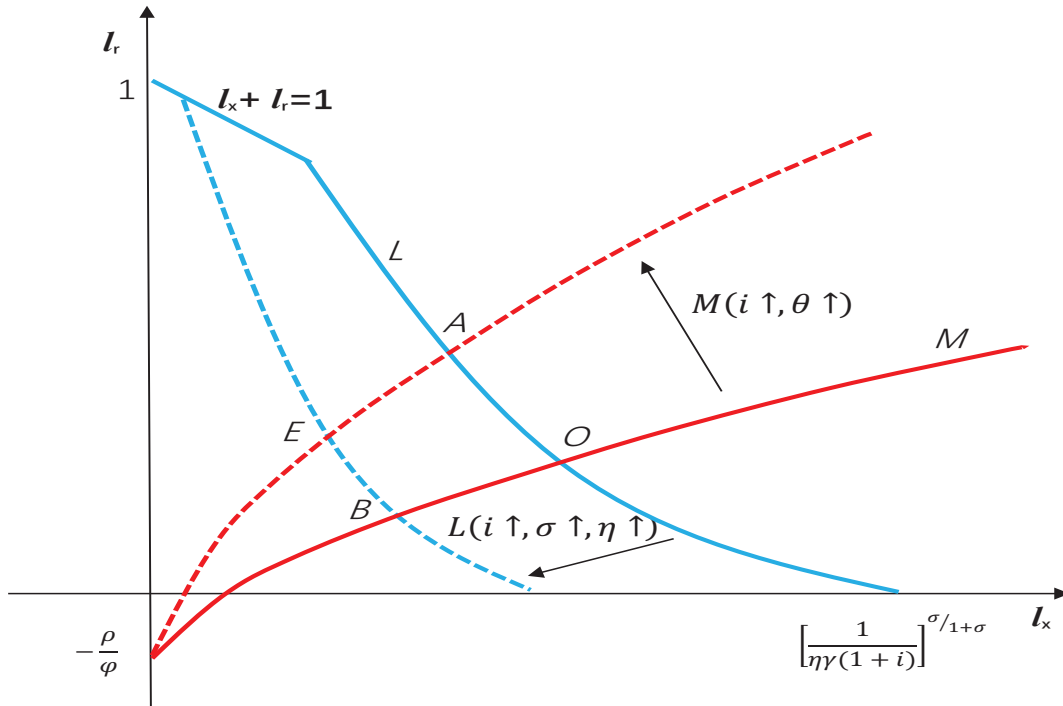


Figure 1: **Equilibrium Labor Allocation under a CIA Constraint on Consumption**

This graph shows the determination of equilibrium labor allocation in the R&D sector and the production sector. The L is the labor-market clearing condition (equation (22)) and the M curve is the labor mobility condition (equation (23)).

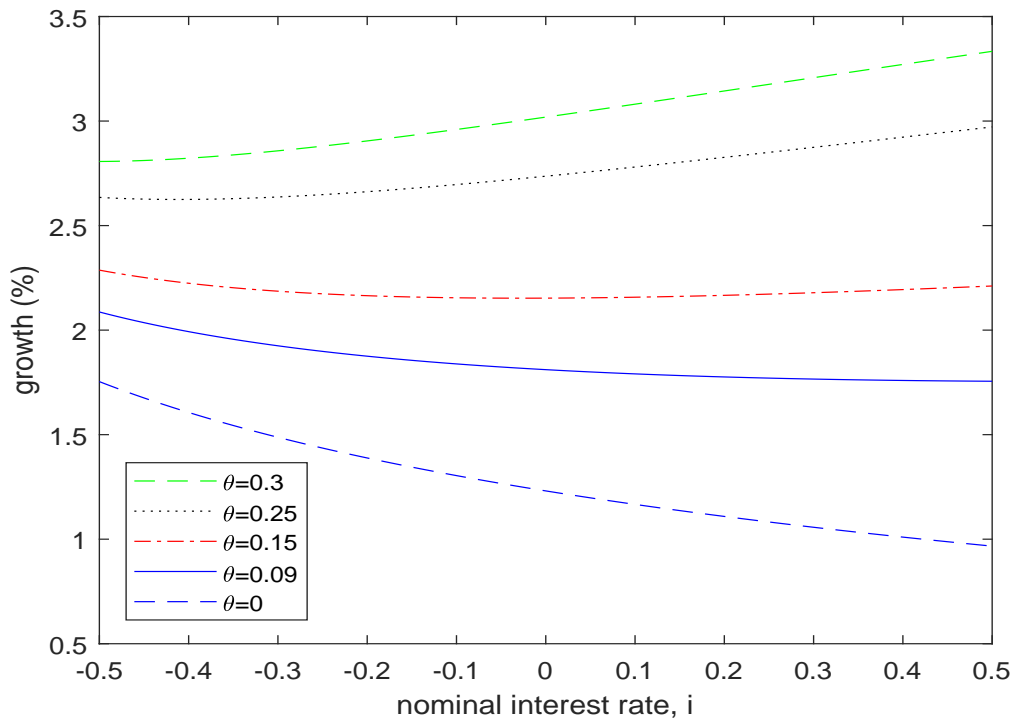


Figure 2: **Effect of the Nominal Interest Rate on Growth at Different Degrees of the SOC ($\beta = 0.05$)** The three lines show how long-run growth changes with the nominal interest rate at different degrees of the SOC. The solid line is based on the U.S. calibration. The green dashed line represents a country with a stronger SOC, while the blue dashed line shows the case without the SOC.

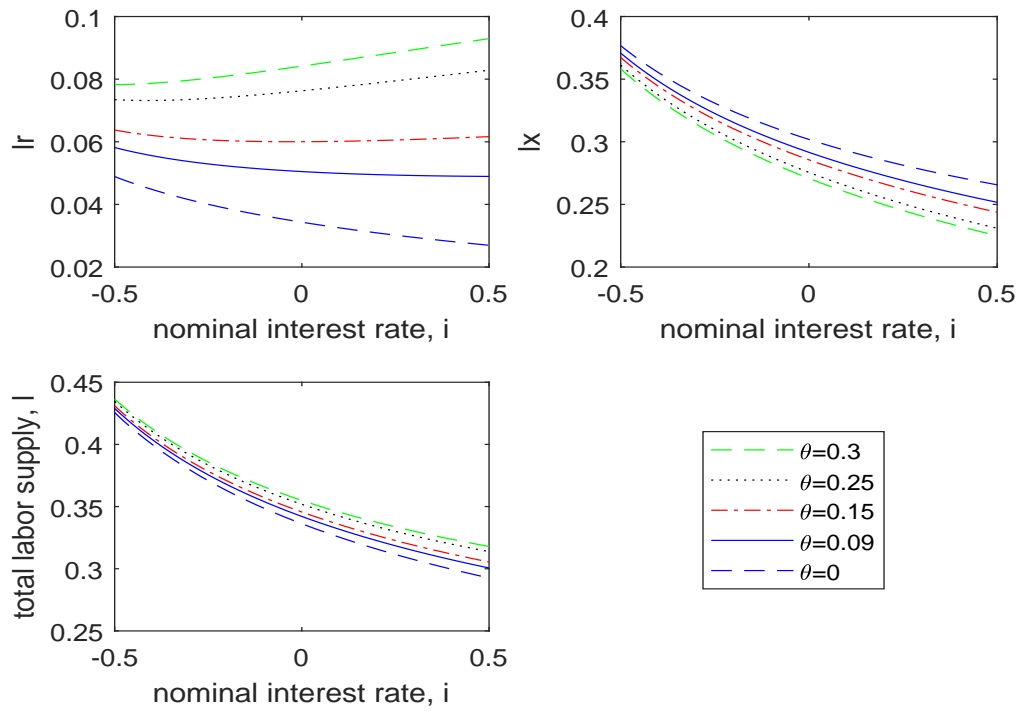


Figure 3: **Effect of the Nominal Interest Rate on Labor Allocation at Different Degrees of the SOC ($\beta = 0.05$)** The three lines show how labor input in each sector changes with the nominal interest rate at different degrees of the SOC. The solid line is based on the U.S. calibration. The green dashed line represents a country with a stronger SOC, while the blue dashed line shows the case without the SOC.

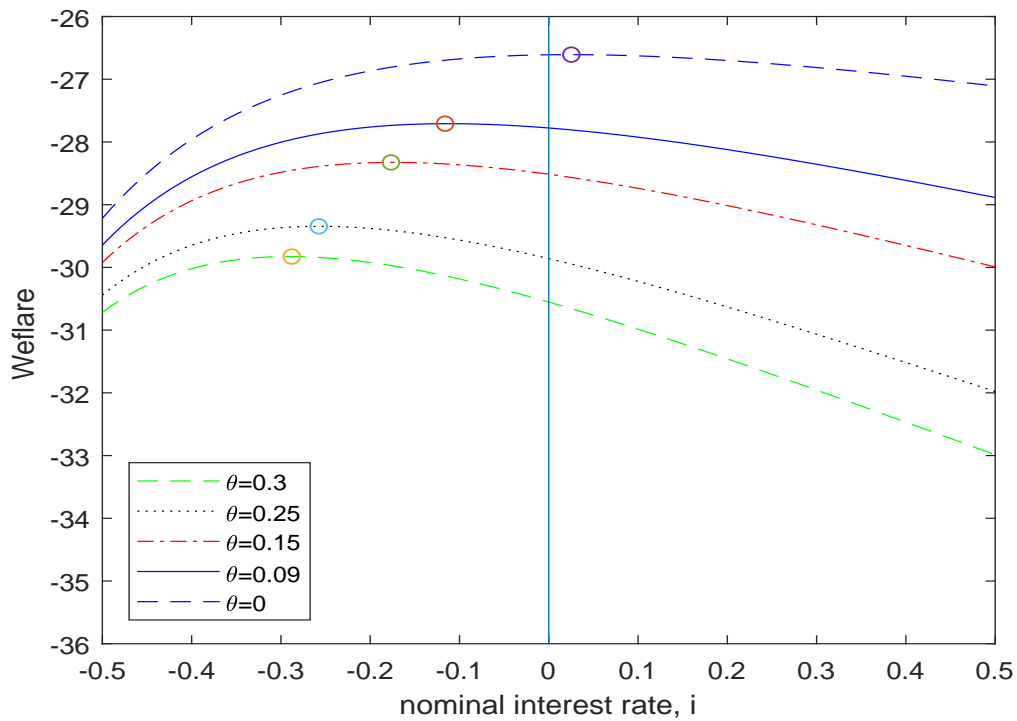


Figure 4: **Optimal Nominal Interest Rate at Different Degrees of the SOC ($\beta = 0.05$)**

The three lines show how welfare changes with the nominal interest rate at different degrees of the SOC. The circle on each line represents the maximum. The solid line is based on the U.S. calibration. The green dashed line represents a country with a stronger SOC, while the blue dashed line shows the case without the SOC.

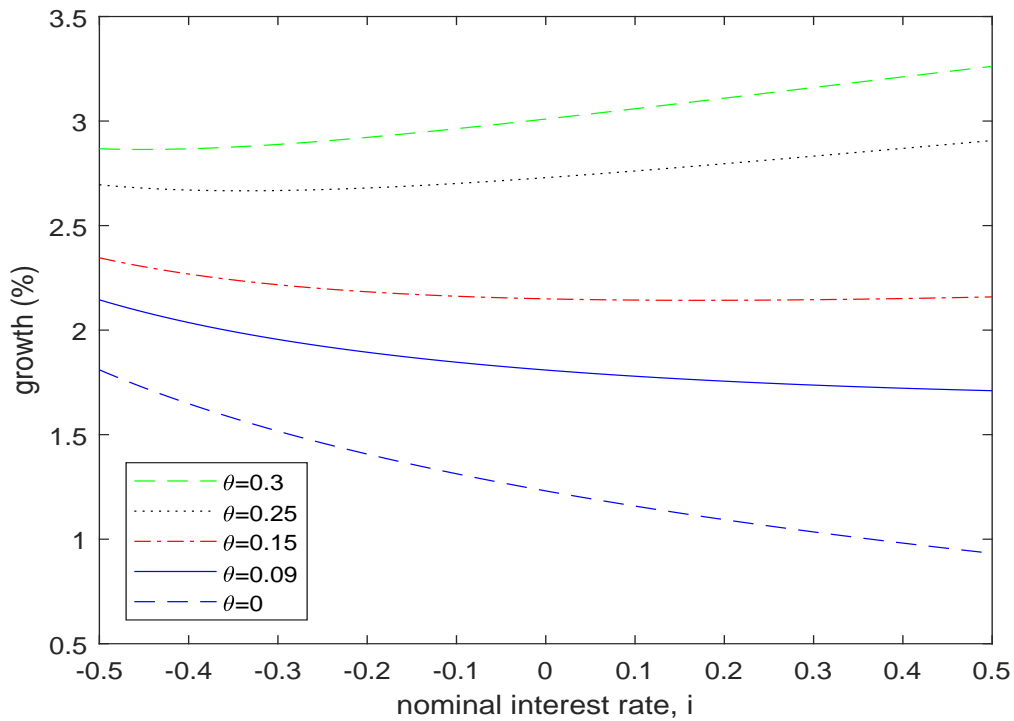


Figure 5: **Robustness Check ($\beta = 0.1$): Effect of the Nominal Interest Rate on Growth at Different Degrees of the SOC** The three lines show how long-run growth changes with the nominal interest rate at different degrees of the SOC. The solid line is based on the U.S. calibration. The green dashed line represents a country with a stronger SOC, while the blue dashed line shows the case without the SOC.

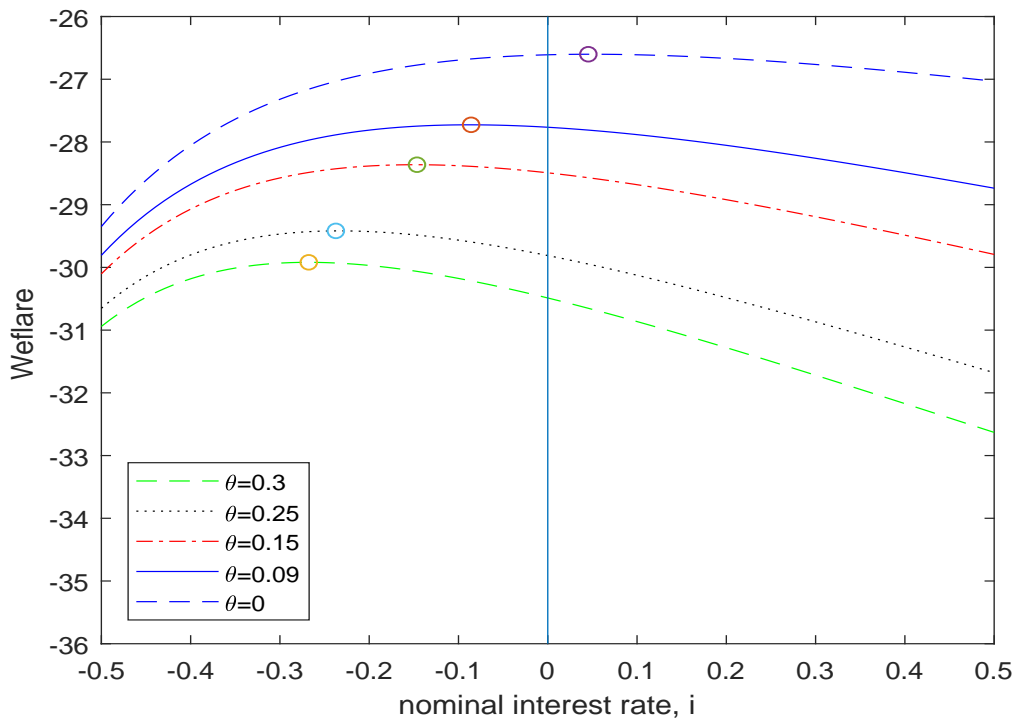


Figure 6: **Robustness Check ($\beta = 0.1$): Optimal Nominal Interest Rate at Different Degrees of the SOC** The three lines show how welfare changes with the nominal interest rate at different degrees of the SOC. The circle on each line represents the maximum. The solid line is based on the U.S. calibration. The green dashed line represents a country with a stronger SOC, while the blue dashed line shows the case without the SOC.

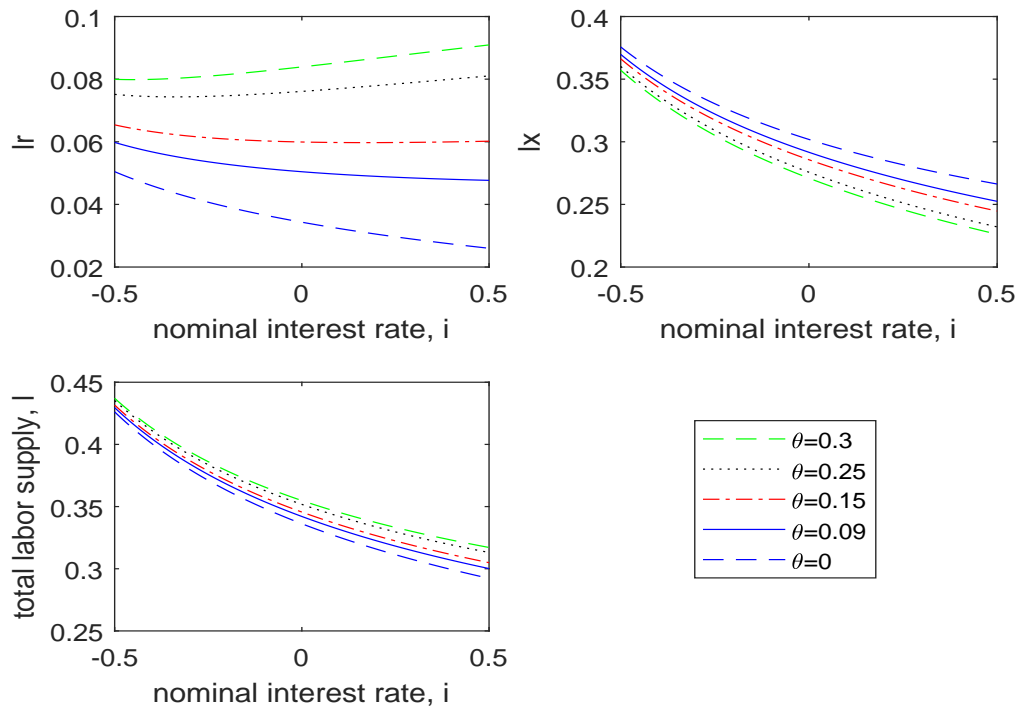


Figure 7: **Robustness Check ($\beta = 0.1$): Effect of the Nominal Interest Rate on Labor Allocation at Different Degrees of the SOC** The three lines show how labor input in each sector changes with the nominal interest rate at different degrees of the SOC. The solid line is based on the U.S. calibration. The green dashed line represents a country with a stronger SOC, while the blue dashed line shows the case without the SOC.

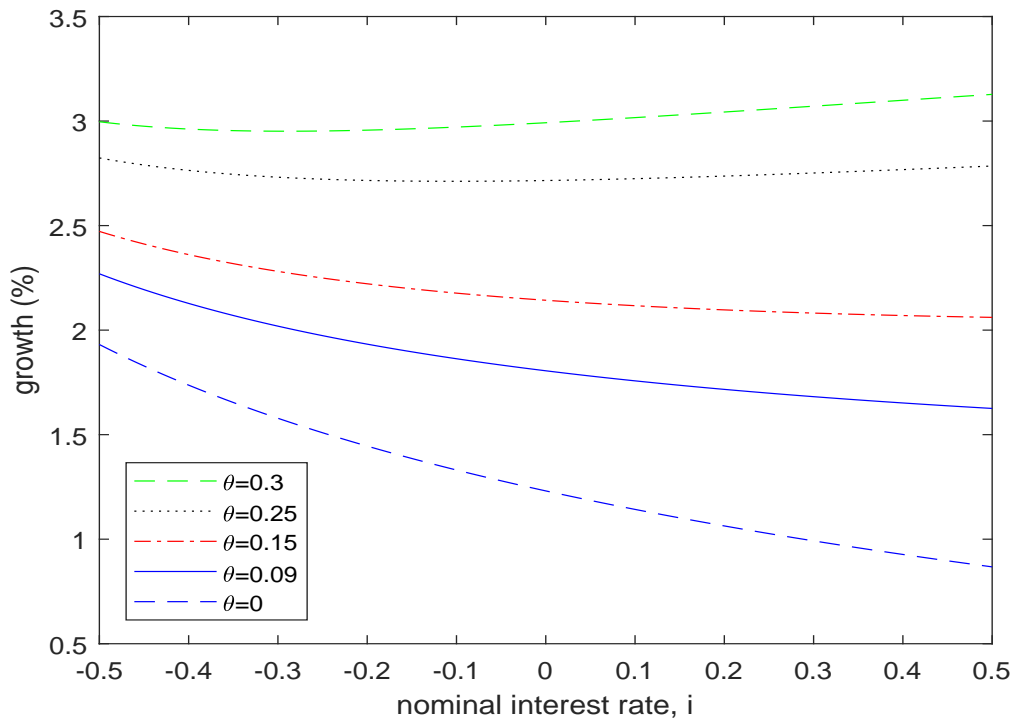


Figure 8: **Robustness Check ($\beta = 0.2$): Effect of the Nominal Interest Rate on Growth at Different Degrees of the SOC** The three lines show how long-run growth changes with the nominal interest rate at different degrees of the SOC. The solid line is based on the U.S. calibration. The green dashed line represents a country with a stronger SOC, while the blue dashed line shows the case without the SOC.

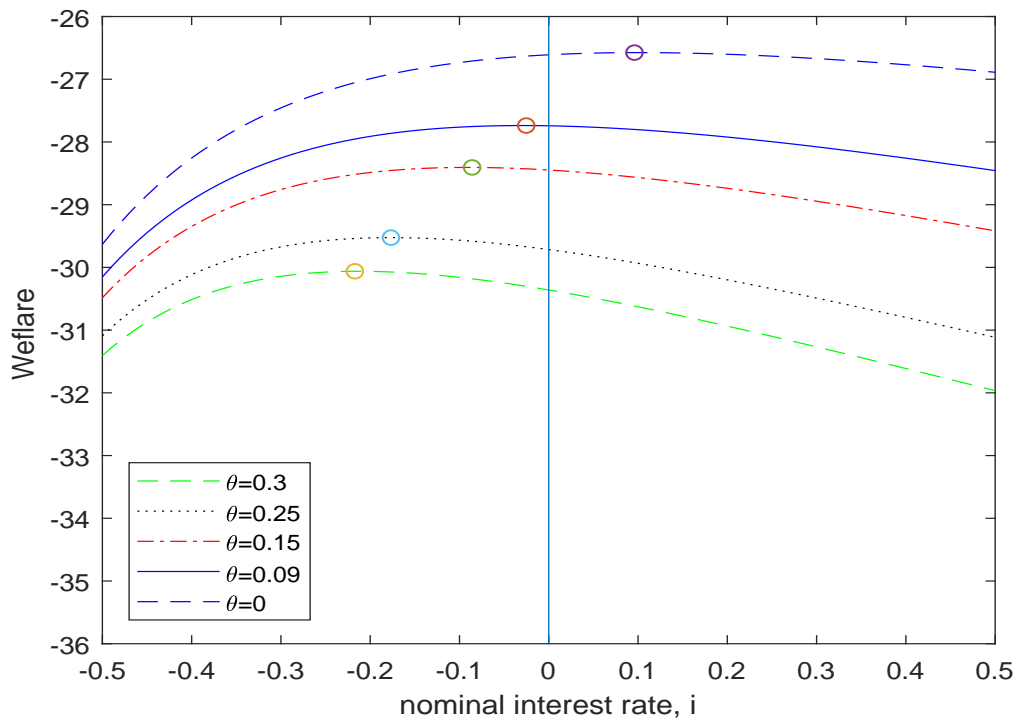


Figure 9: **Robustness Check ($\beta = 0.2$): Optimal Nominal Interest Rate at Different Degrees of the SOC** The three lines show how welfare changes with the nominal interest rate at different degrees of the SOC. The circle on each line represents the maximum. The solid line is based on the U.S. calibration. The green dashed line represents a country with a stronger SOC, while the blue dashed line shows the case without the SOC.

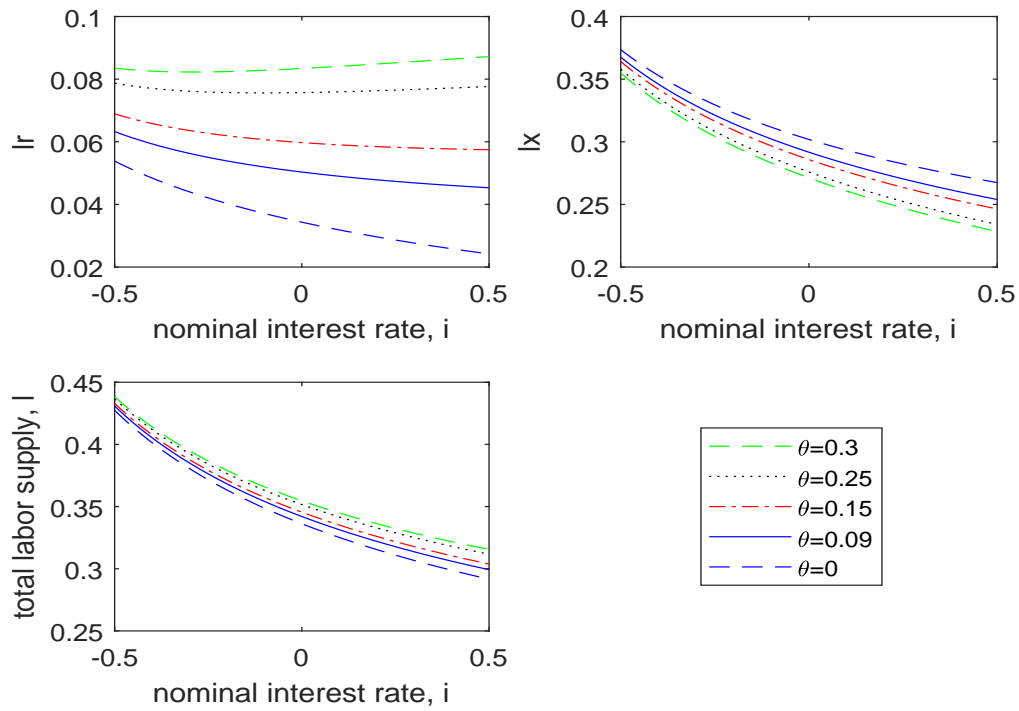


Figure 10: **Robustness Check ($\beta = 0.2$): Effect of the Nominal Interest Rate on Labor Allocation at Different Degrees of the SOC** The three lines show how labor input in each sector changes with the nominal interest rate at different degrees of the SOC. The solid line is based on the U.S. calibration. The green dashed line represents a country with a stronger SOC, while the blue dashed line shows the case without the SOC.

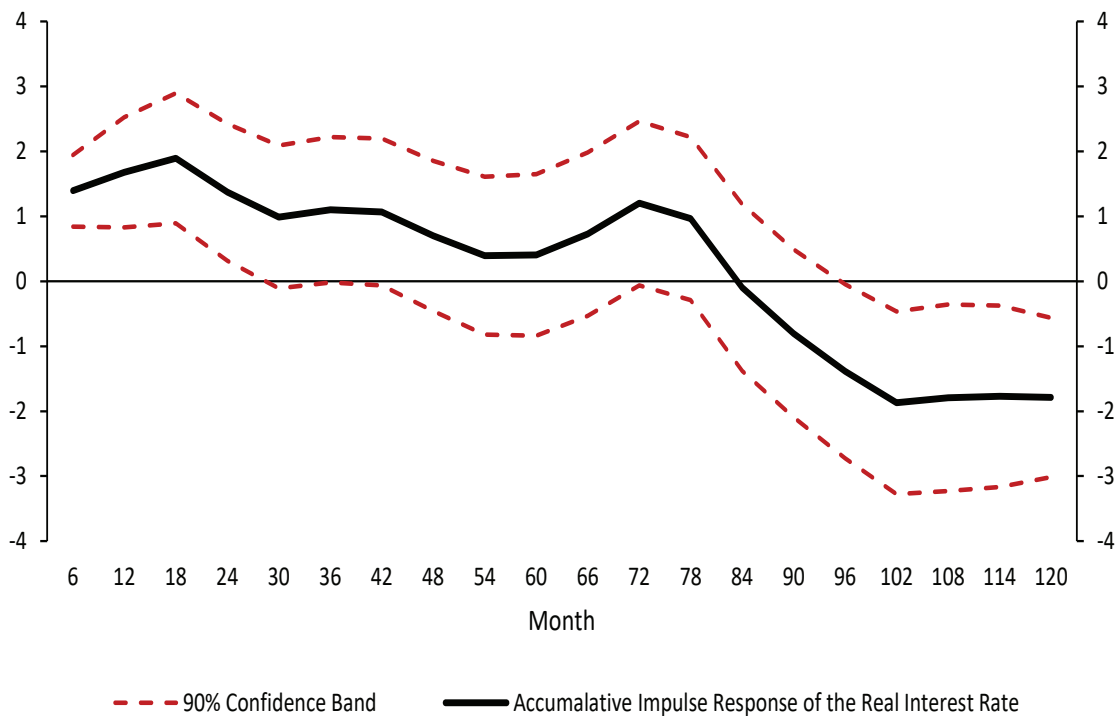


Figure 11: **Real Interest Rate’s Response to Monetary Policy Shock** The solid line shows the accumulative impulse response of the real interest rate to Romer-Romer monetary policy shock. The estimation is based a lag-augmented local projection method using data in 1982-2007.

Table 1: Parameters and Moments in the Joint Calibration

	Parameter	Value	Joint Targets	Data	Model
SOC	ϑ	0.09	FOMC long-run projection	1.8%	1.8%
Taste of leisure	η	25	total labor supply	1/3	1/3
Innovation param.	φ	2.25	real interest rate	1.8%	1.8%
Innovation param.	γ	1.17	consumption to wealth ratio	0.43	0.43

Table 2: Effects of SOC on Growth and Labor Allocations

	long-run growth	labor in R&D	labor in production	total labor supply
	g	l_r	l_x	l
Benchmark Economy	1.8%	0.050	0.287	0.337
Economy without SOC	1.2%	0.033	0.297	0.331
Change	-0.6 (ppt.)	-33.5%	3.7%	-1.8%