

20th June, 2016



# **Aggregate Incomes and Production function**

**Instructor: Xi Wang**

# What is GDP measuring



- Well-beings of a society
- Can we compare GDP of different countries?
- India has 1.877 Trillion Dolloar GDP (2013).
- Iceland 2013 GDP is 15.33 billion

# What is GDP measuring



- Well-beings of a society
- Can we compare GDP of different countries?
- India has 1.877 Trillion Dolloar GDP (2013).
- Iceland 2013 GDP is 15.33 billion

# India V.S Iceland





## Adjust population

- **Income per capita** (per person) or **GDP per capita** : GDP divided by the **total population** in the country.
- India GDP per capita: 1,498.87 USD (2013)
- Iceland GDP per capita: 47,461.19 USD (2013)
- Some tiny issue: Exchange rate! Since we are using different currency!
- Exchange rates convert currencies into the same units: 6.3 RMB/dollar



# Adjust population, Purchasing power

- Exchange rates convert currencies into the same units. 6.5 RMB/dollar
- But It fail to account for the fact that the prices of many goods and services will differ across countries.
- **Purchasing power parity (PPP)** constructs the cost of a representative bundle of commodities in each country and adjusts GDP so that a dollar in each country can purchase this representative bundle. (acts like an exchange rate)
- Example from the book a basket of good would worth \$1 in U.S, and it will also cost you 8.64 Peso in Mexico.

# Adjust population, Purchasing power

- **Purchasing power parity (PPP) “Exchange rate”**
- GDP p.c of Mexico= 116036 peso
- GDP p.c of Mexico (PPP)= \$ 116036/8.64=\$ 13460

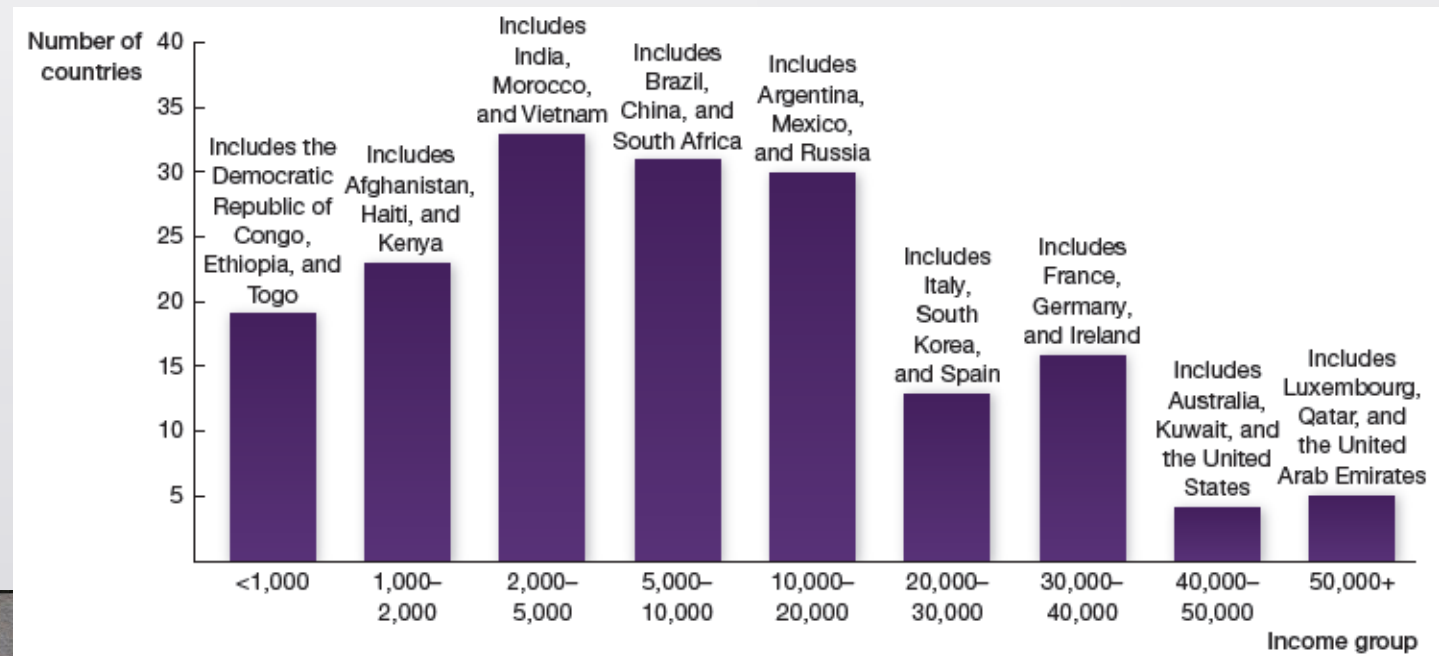
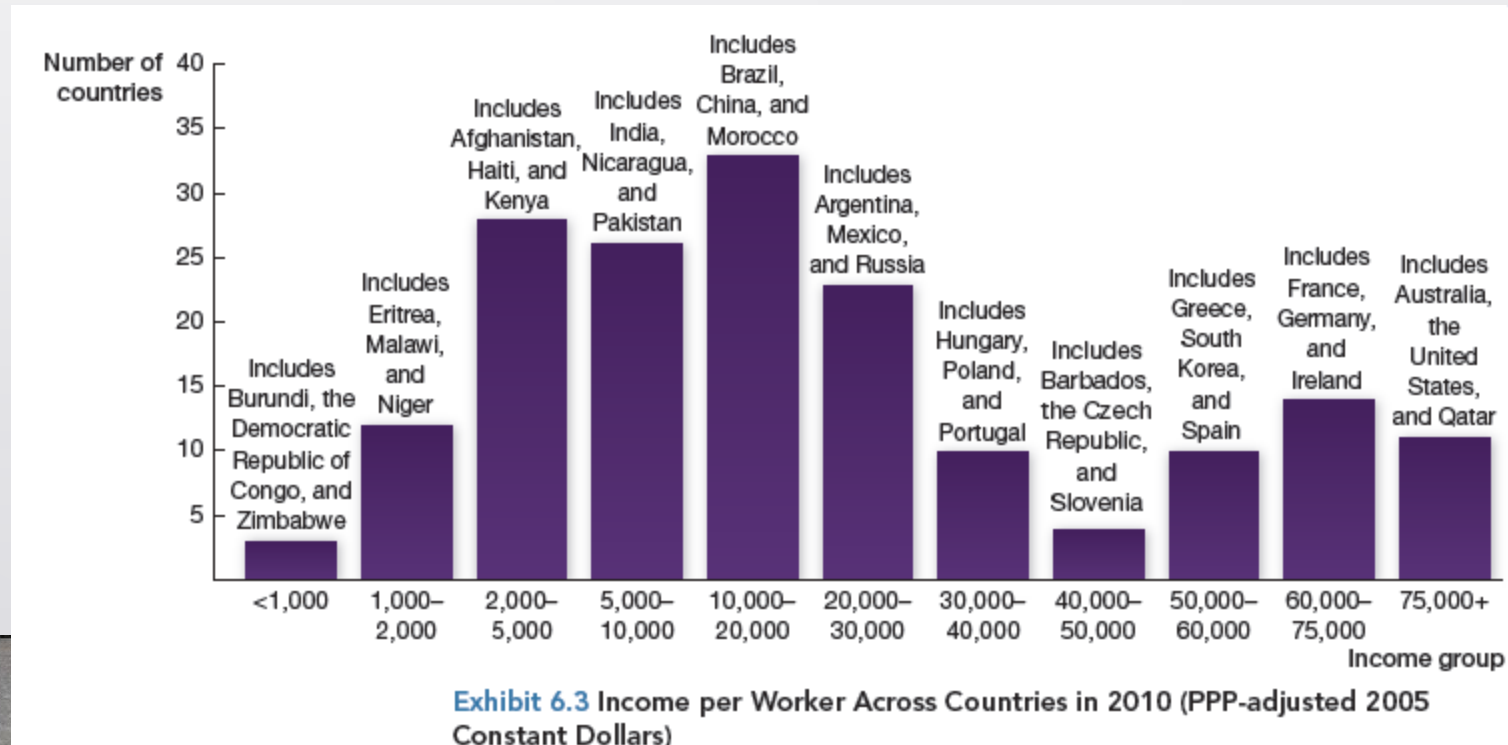


Exhibit 6.1 Income per Capita Around the World in 2010 (PPP-adjusted 2005 Constant Dollars)

# Adjust number of workers, Purchasing power

- **Income (or GDP) per worker**, defined as GDP divided by “number of workers,” meaning those in employment.

**Inequalities!**





---

# Why shall we care income p.c or p.w?

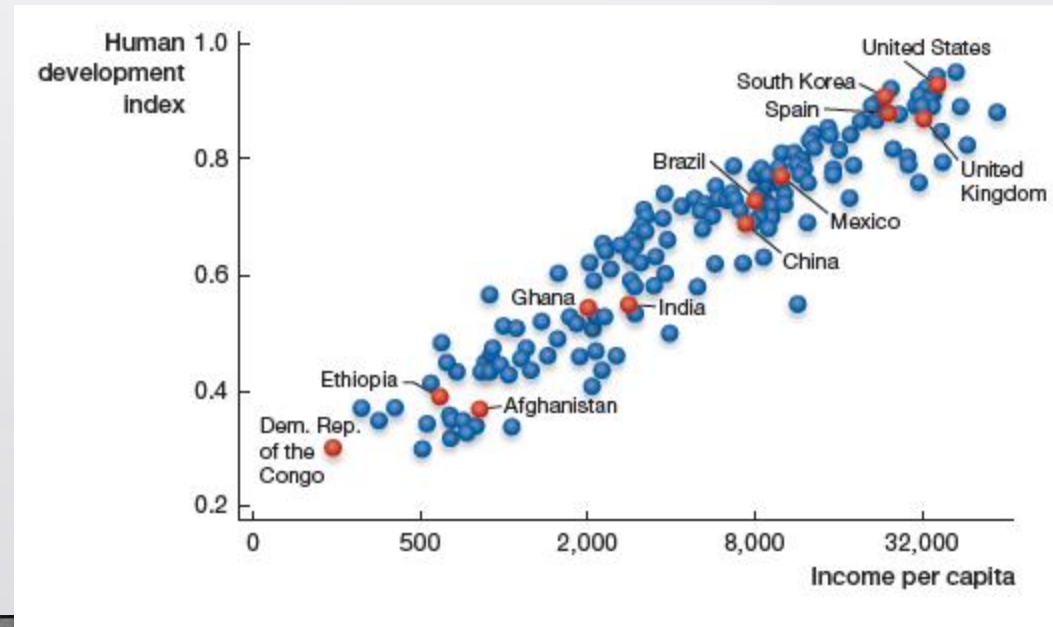
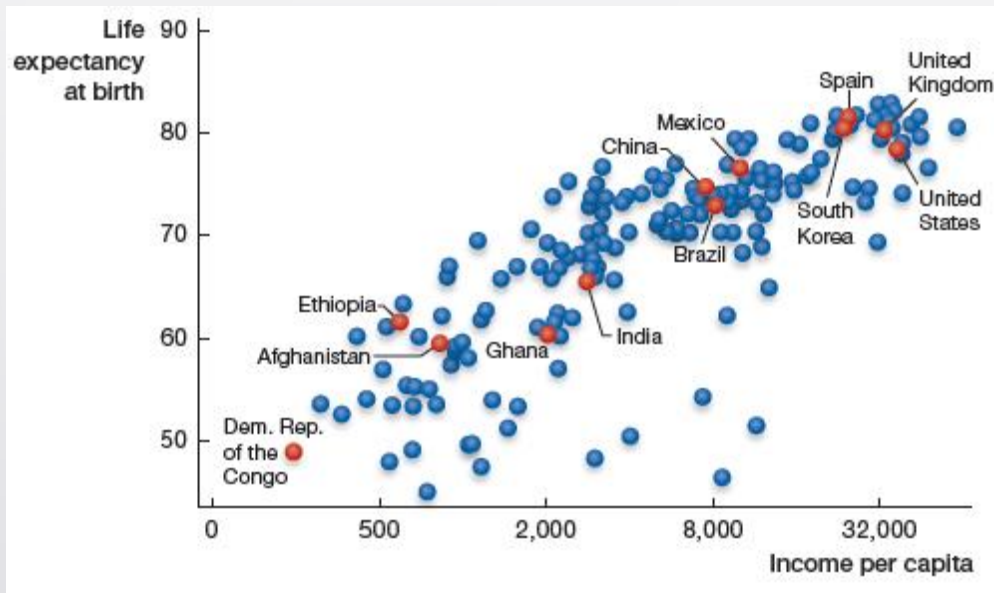
- Since it measures the well-being of this society
- **One dollar a day per person poverty line.**
- I will delete this page after this talk
- I feel very guilty that we cannot save them



Poverty

# Why shall we care income p.c or p.w?

- Since it measures the well-being of this society





# Why income p.c or p.w varies across countries

- **Productivity:** the value of goods and services that a worker generates for each hour of work.
- Varying income p.w = varying Productivity
- (1) Human capital: stock of skills to produce output or economic value;
- (2) Physical capital: Physical capital is any good, including machines (equipment) and buildings (structures), used for production.
- (3) Technology: An economy with better technology uses its labor and capital more efficiently and thus achieves higher productivity.



# Aggregate Production Function

- Generally, what is the input for our GDP?
- Labor, Capital, land and technology
- But Labor is not homogenous, so we need to adjust for its efficiency. **Total efficiency units of labor** is defined as the product of the total number of workers and the average human capital (efficiency) of (employed individuals) workers.  
( $H=L \times h$ )



# Aggregate Production Function

$$Y = A \times F (K, h \times l)$$

- Y stands for GDP.-----**Market Value**
- K is the physical capital stock of the nation.-----**Value**
- ~~Value~~ is the efficiency units of labor that the economy uses in production.--- NOT ~~Value~~
- **The function F** signifies that there is a **relationship between physical capital, labor, and GDP, But not All!**. In particular, GDP is generated through a combination of physical capital and the efficiency units of labor.
- **Anything left? A is an index of technology.** A higher A implies that the economy produces more GDP with the same level of physical capital stock and total efficiency units of labor.



# Aggregate Production Function, Properties

- GDP is *increasing* in both physical capital and labor—put differently, more is better. Holding labor constant, if we have a greater physical capital stock, we will be able to produce more GDP.
- Law of Diminishing Marginal Product: *the marginal contribution of a factor of production to GDP diminishes when we increase the quantity used of that factor of production (holding all other factors of production constant).*

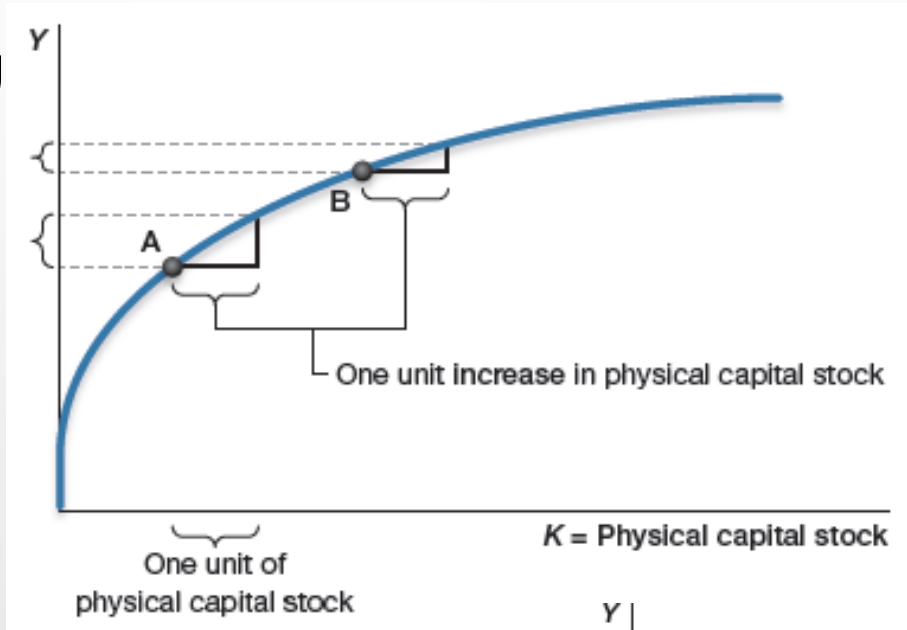


# Aggregate Production

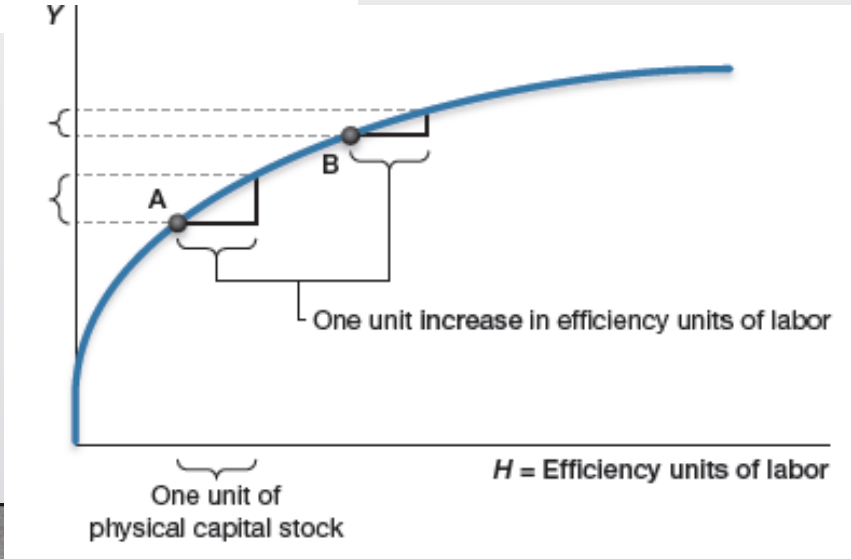
Recall what is marginal

Difference

What if you increase your input one unit?



ties



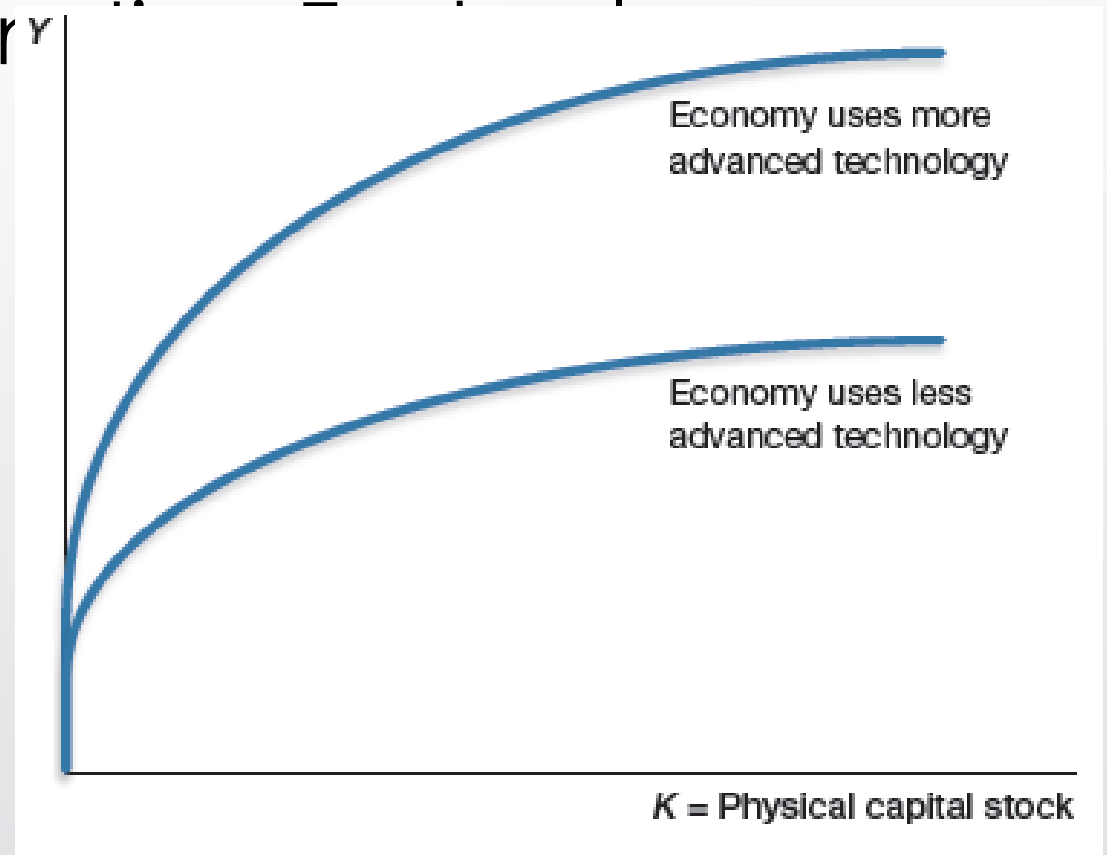


# Aggregate Production Function


• *What if we have a higher level of A?*

• *Shift Up!!!!*

• *A better technology means that the economy can generate more output from the same set of inputs.*








# What is Technology? Can we change our technology?

- Generally, two dimension
- (1) Knowledge: enables us to perform certain tasks more efficiently. i.e I do not need to write a lot on blackboard; *Part of this technology is embeded in human capital, and physical capital!*
- (2) More and better quality goods; Nokia 1100 to Iphone?




# What is Technology? Can we change our technology?

- Generally, two or three dimension
- (1) Knowledge: enables us to perform certain tasks more efficiently. i.e I do not need to write a lot on blackboard; *Part of this technology is embeded in human capital, and physical capital!*
- (2) More and better quality goods; Letters, telegram, phone, cell phone (more and more). Nokia 1100 to Iphone (Better)
- (3) Institution



# What is Technology? Can we change our technology?

- Generally, yes!
- Advances in technology sometimes happen by chance, but more often, they result from the purposeful, optimizing decisions of economic agents.
- **Research and development (R&D)**
- **BTW, why people would like to implement R&D? Property Right**



# What is Technology? Can we change our technology?

- Generally, yes!
- Advances in technology sometimes happen by chance, but more often, they result from the purposeful, optimizing decisions of economic agents.
- **Research and development (R&D)**
- **BTW, why people would like to implement R&D? Property Right**