

Goal To write code that can generate graphs to show how a country's relative autarky prices change with changes in its factor supplies, its technologies, and its preferences.

Country i 's Data Country i 's data consists of its factor supplies, its technologies and its preferences.

1) The factor supplies of Country i :

$$\bar{L}^i \text{ and } \bar{K}^i.$$

2) The (CRS) technologies of Country i :

$$\begin{aligned} q_x &= A_x^i (L_x)^{\alpha_x^i} (K_x)^{1-\alpha_x^i} \text{ for } A_x^i \geq 0 \text{ and } \alpha_x^i \in [0, 1] \\ q_y &= A_y^i (L_y)^{\alpha_y^i} (K_y)^{1-\alpha_y^i} \text{ for } A_y^i \geq 0 \text{ and } \alpha_y^i \in [0, 1]. \end{aligned}$$

3) The (homothetic) preferences of Country i :

$$U^i = (c_x)^{\beta^i} (c_y)^{1-\beta^i} \text{ for } \beta^i \in [0, 1].$$

The Graphs Choose any allowable values for all of the parameters $(\bar{L}^i, \bar{K}^i, A_x^i, \alpha_x^i, A_y^i, \alpha_y^i, \beta^i)$, that is, Country i 's factor supplies, its technology parameters, and its preference parameters (we won't calibrate these parameters to fit actual data, but in principle we could). Then, with x on the horizontal axis and y on the vertical axis, generate a graph of Country i 's Production Possibilities Frontier (PPF). Recall that the PPF is defined as the solution to the problem, for each $\bar{q}_x \in [0, A_x^i (\bar{L}^i)^{\alpha_x^i} (\bar{K}^i)^{1-\alpha_x^i}]$,

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Max } q_y \\ & \text{s.t.} \\ & q_x = A_x^i (L_x)^{\alpha_x^i} (K_x)^{1-\alpha_x^i} = \bar{q}_x \\ & q_y = A_y^i (L_y)^{\alpha_y^i} (K_y)^{1-\alpha_y^i} \\ & L_x + L_y \leq \bar{L}^i \\ & K_x + K_y \leq \bar{K}^i. \end{aligned}$$

Next, with x on the horizontal axis and y on the vertical axis, generate a graph of a few of Country i 's indifference curves.

And finally, with x on the horizontal axis and y on the vertical axis, generate a graph of Country i 's PPF and the indifference curve that is tangent to the PPF. Label the line that reflects the common slope of the PPF and the indifference curve, whose slope defines country i 's relative autarky prices, with the label

$$- \left(\frac{p_x}{p_y} \right)_a^i.$$

Then change some of Country i 's parameters and repeat the steps above, to see how changes in Country i 's factor supplies, its technologies and its preferences would alter $-\left(\frac{p_x}{p_y}\right)_a^i$ and hence its comparative advantage.