

On Optimal Labor Allocation Policy for Technological Followers

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International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis

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Knowledge absorption

Optimal labor allocation

Catching up the leader

Overtaking the leader

Leader

R&D



Production

Leader

R&D



Production

Follower

R&D



Production

Leader

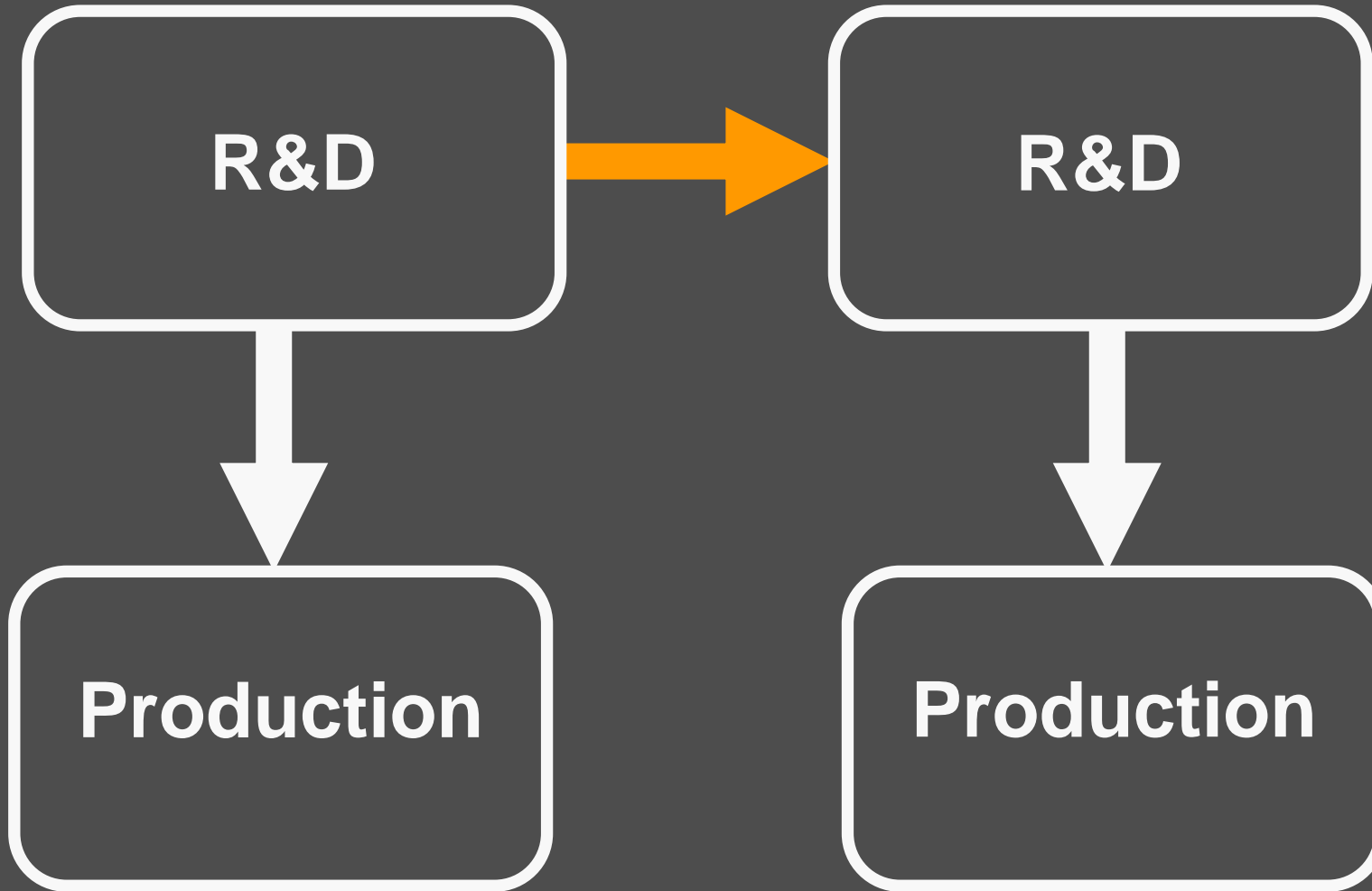
Follower

R&D

R&D

Production

Production



Leader

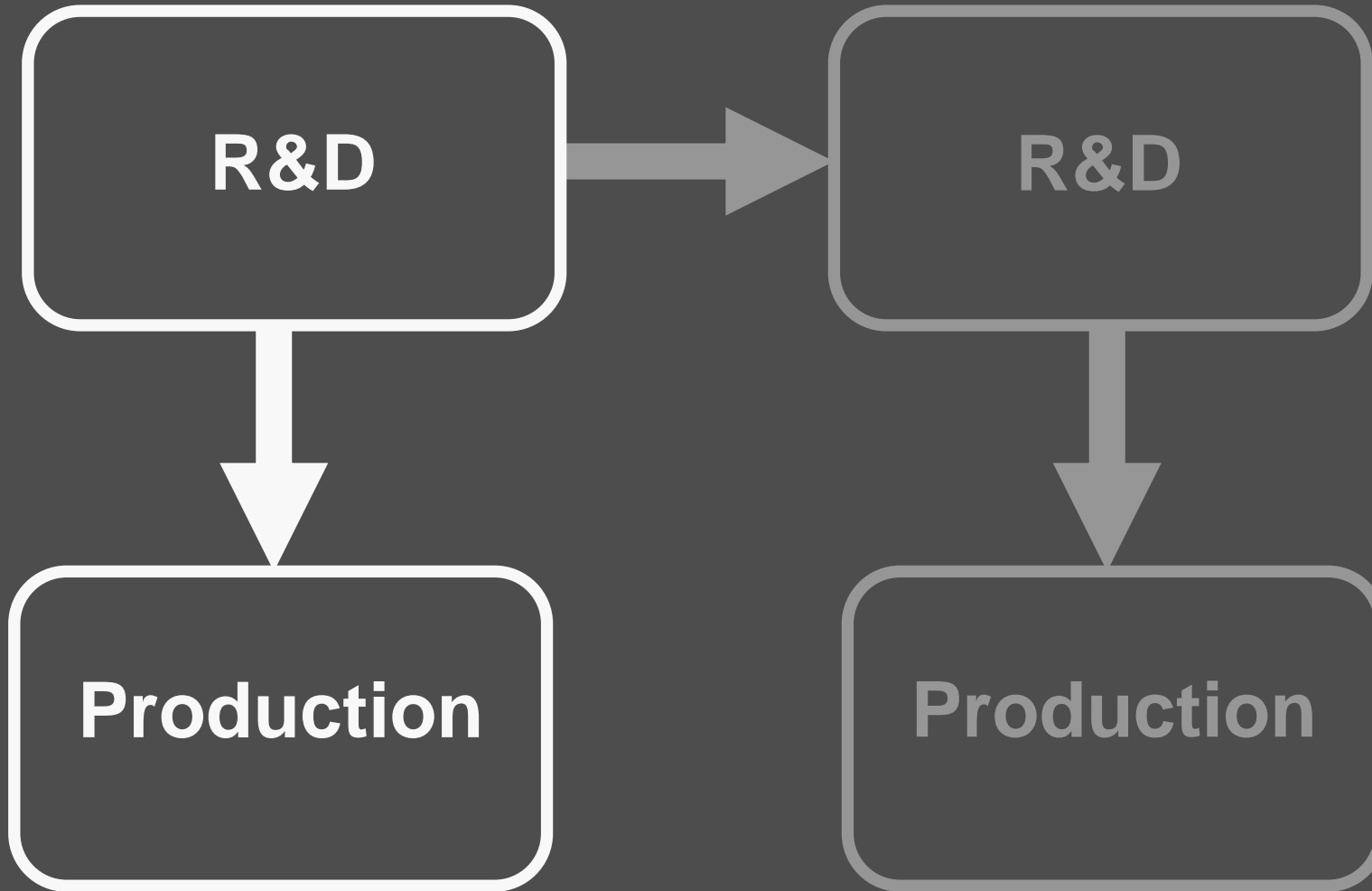
Follower

R&D

R&D

Production

Production

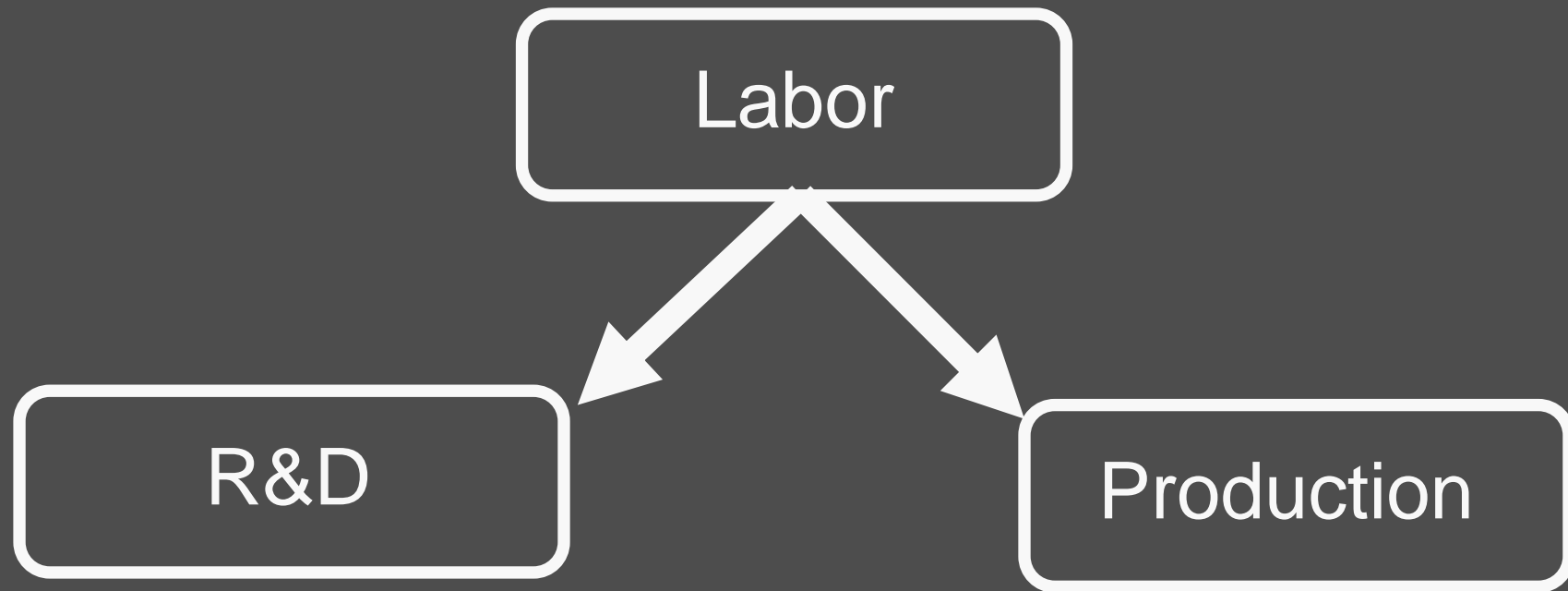


Leader

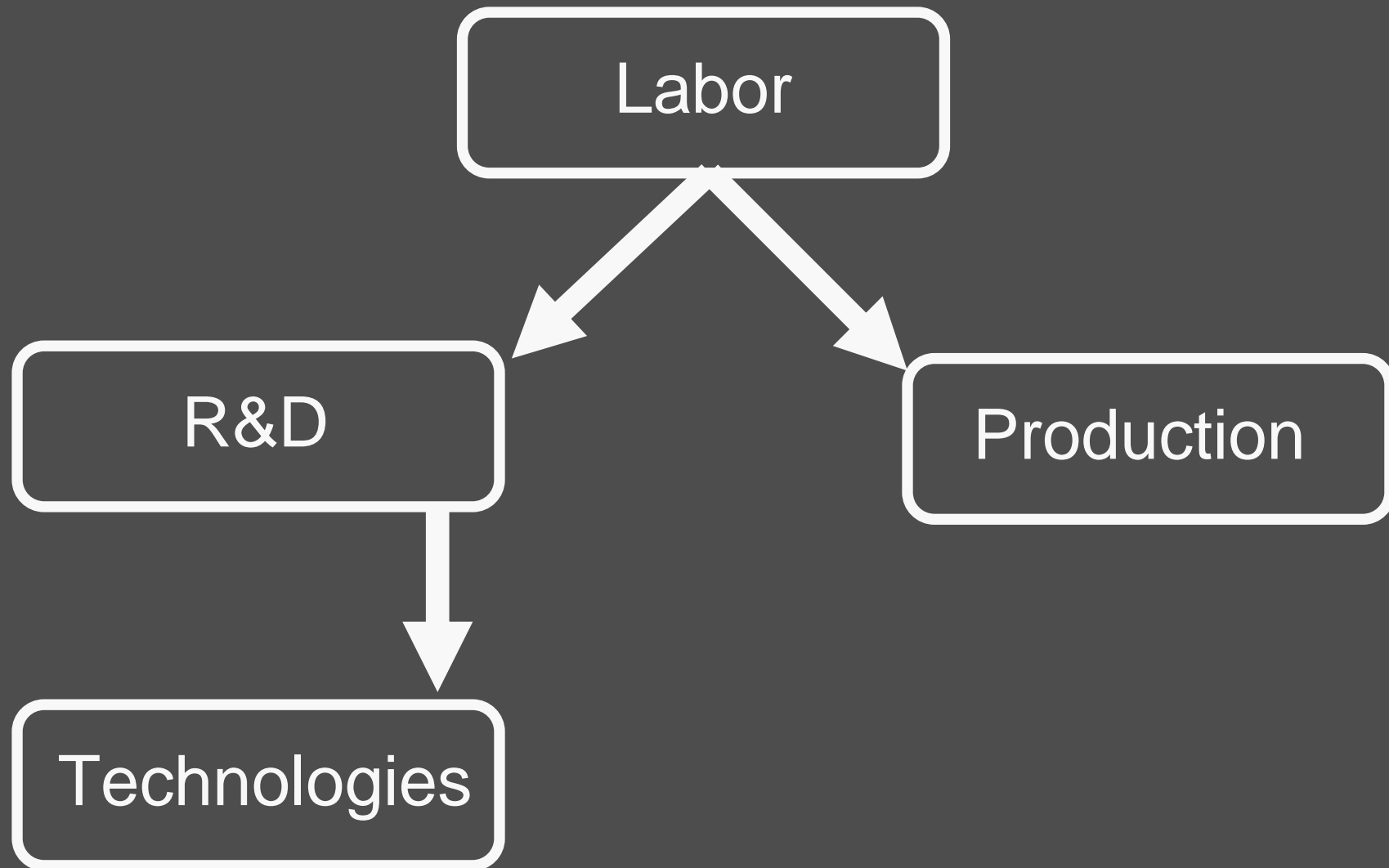
Leader

Labor

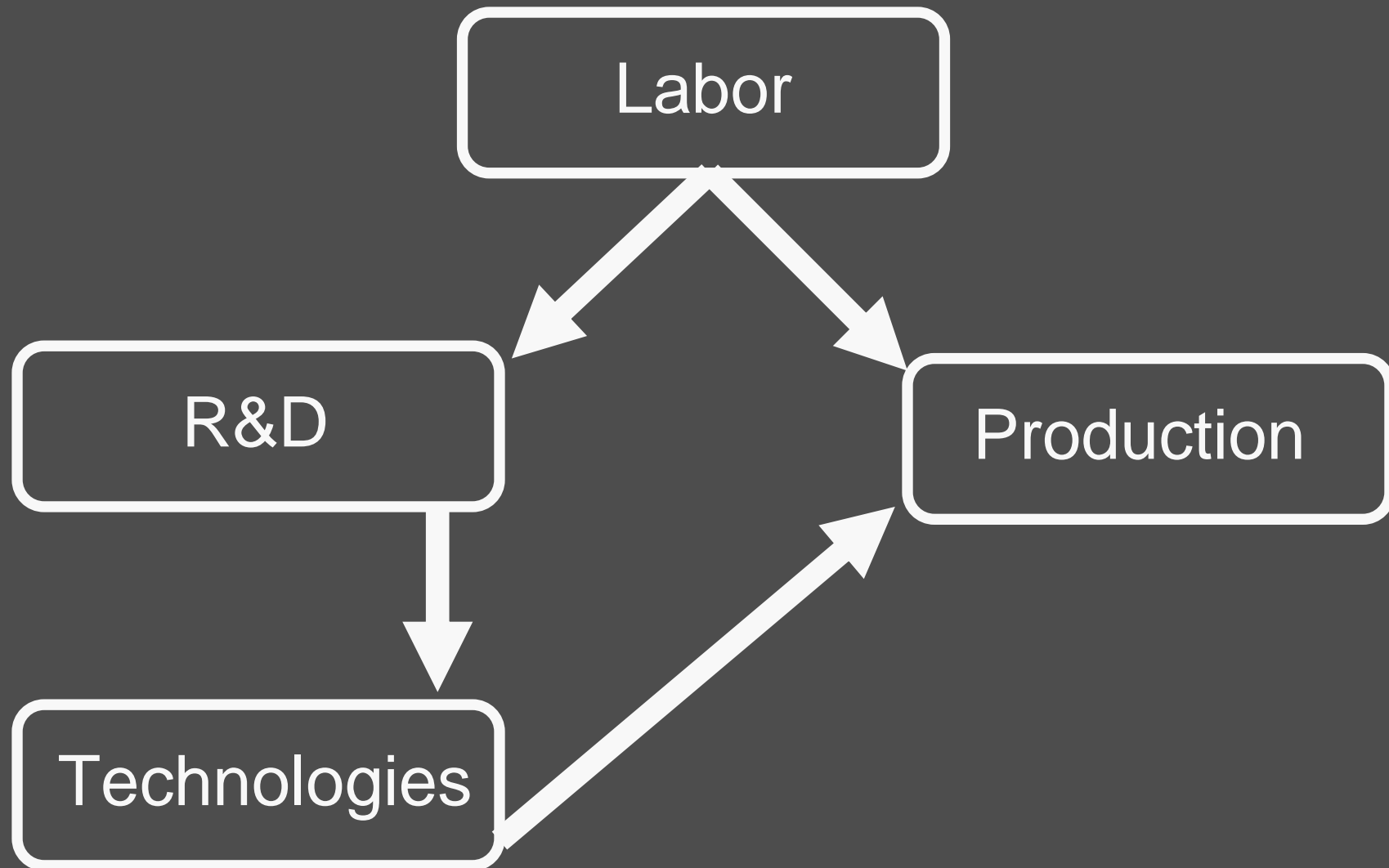
Leader



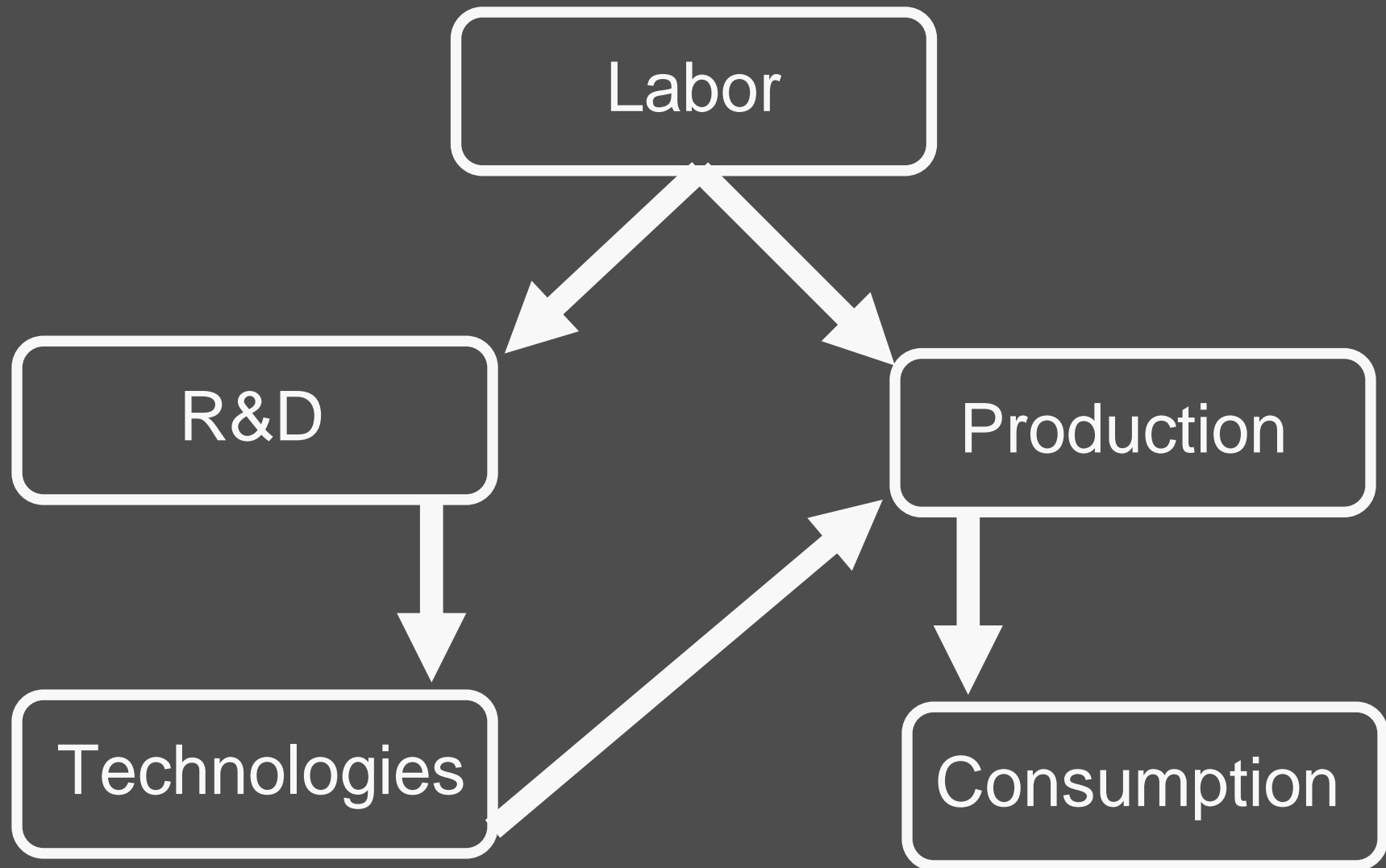
Leader



Leader



Leader



Leader

Annual growth in technology $\approx \frac{\text{Labor in R\&D}}{\text{Technology stock}}$

$$T_{i+1} - T_i = L_i^{R\&D} T_i / a$$

Leader

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$$C_i = (\bar{L} - L_i^{R\&D}) T_i^{1/\alpha - 1}$$

Leader

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Utility

$$U = \sum_i (1 - \rho)^i [(1/\alpha - 1) \log T_i + \log(\bar{L} - L_i^{R\&D})]$$

Leader

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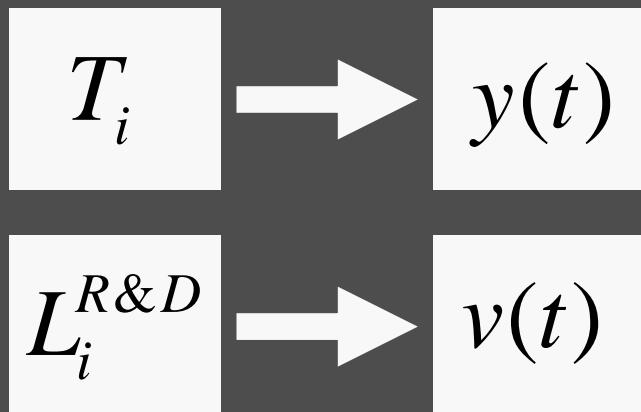
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Leader



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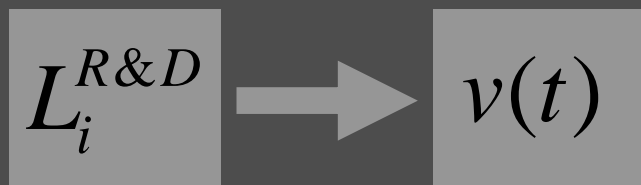
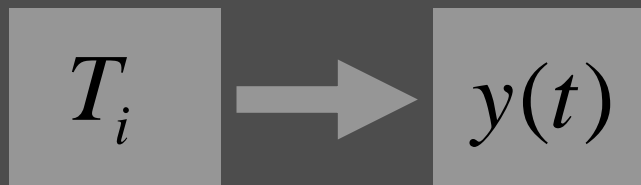
maximize

$$\bar{J} = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-\rho t} [\kappa \log y(t) + \log(\bar{L} - v(t))] dt$$

$$\dot{y}(t) = v(t) y(t) / a$$

$$y(0) = y^0$$

$$v(t) \in [0, \bar{L}]$$



Leader

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Leader

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$$\dot{y}(t) = v y(t)$$

$$v = \bar{v}$$

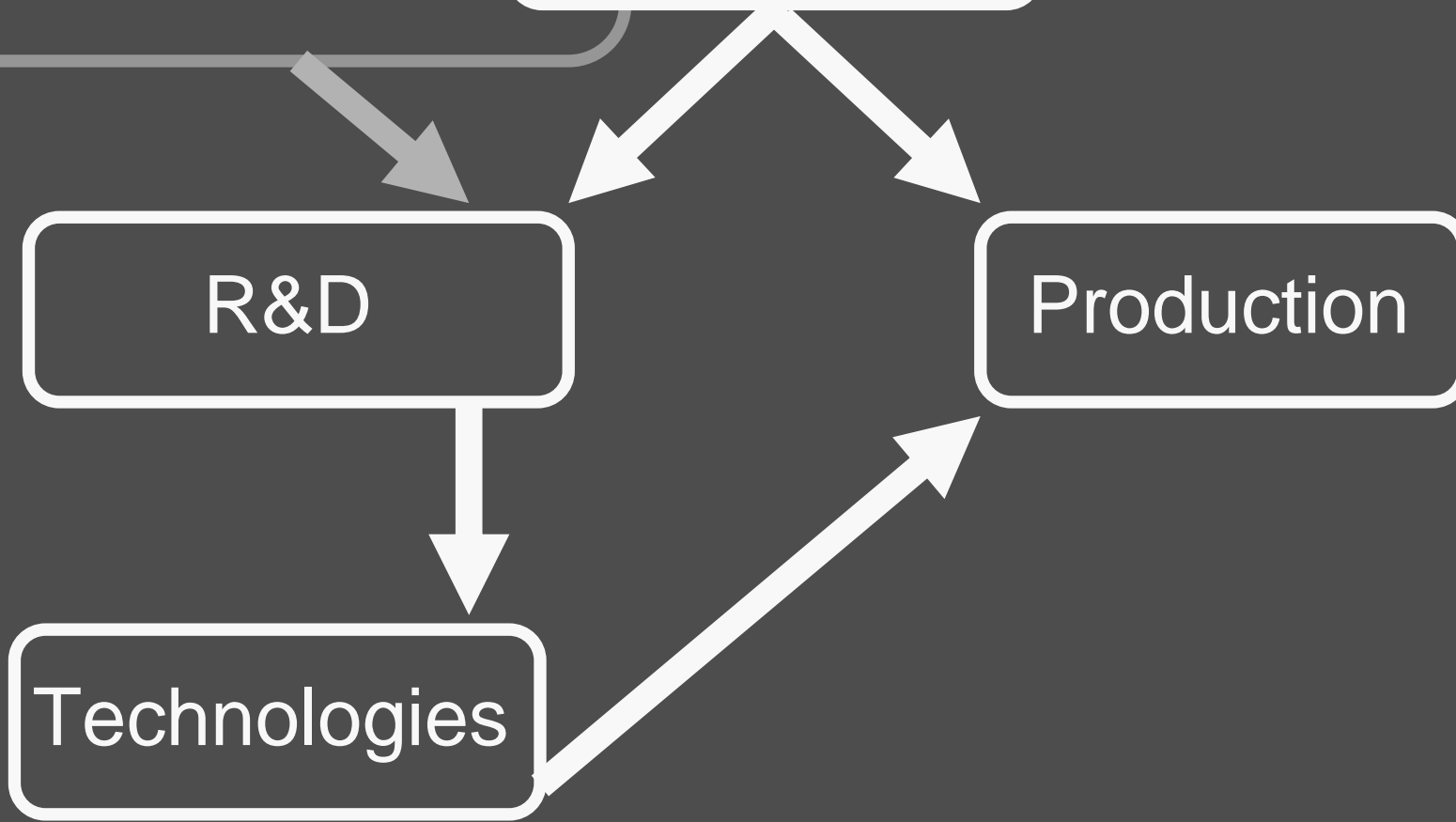
Leader

Labor

R&D

Production

Technologies



Leader

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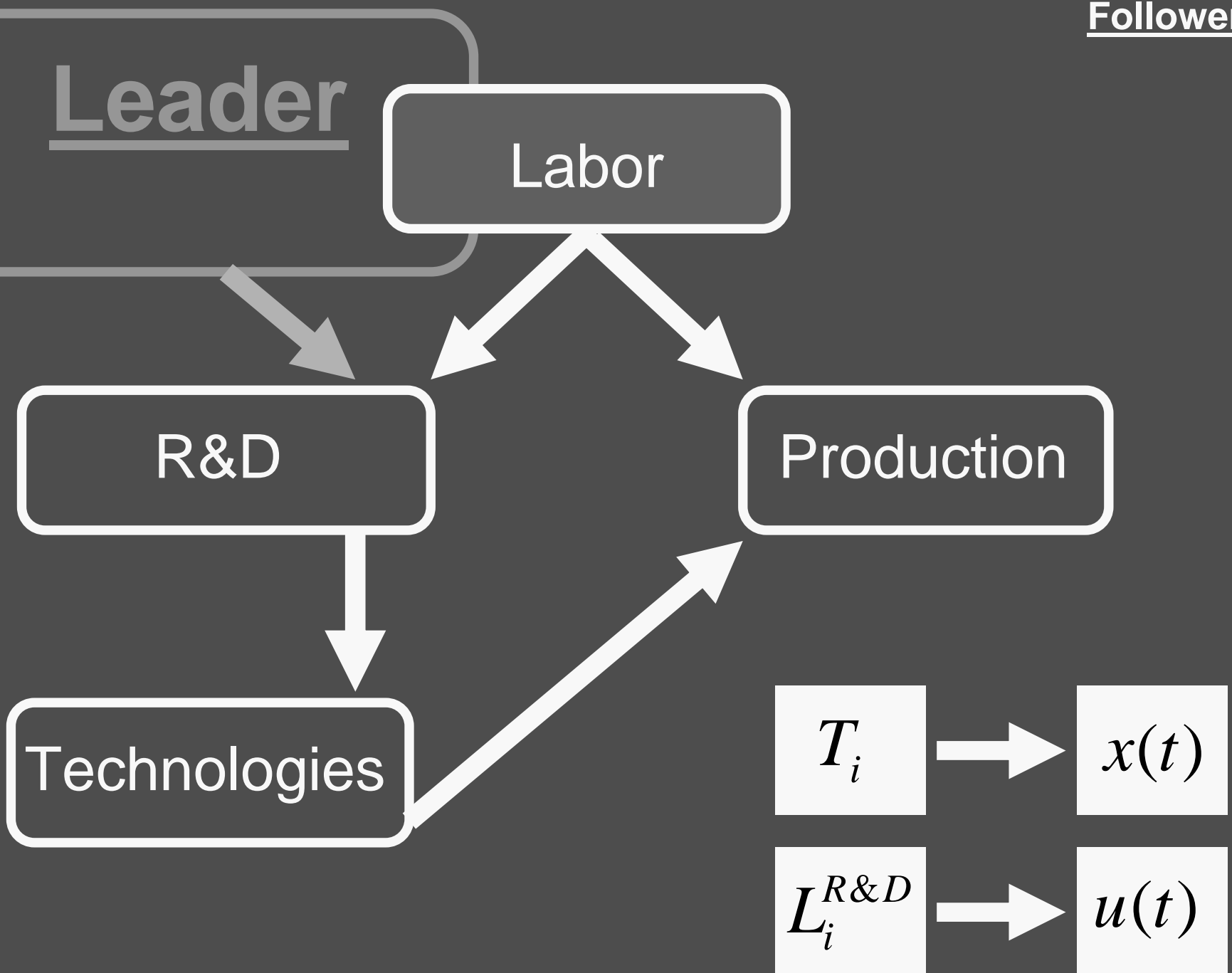
Technologies

T_i

$x(t)$

$L_i^{R\&D}$

$u(t)$



maximize

$$J = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-\rho t} [\kappa \log y(t) + \log(b - u(t))] dt$$

$$\dot{x}(t) = u(t)[x(t) + \gamma y(t)]$$

$$x(0) = x^0$$

$$u(t) \in [0, b)$$


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absorption capacity

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absorption capacity

$$\dot{y}(t) = \nu y(t)$$

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$$x(0) = x^0$$

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$$z(t) = x(t) / y(t)$$

$$z(0) = x^0 / y^0$$

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$\tilde{M}(z(t), p(t), u)$ current Hamilton-Pontryagin function

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$$\dot{z}(t) = \varphi_1(z(t), p(t))$$

$$\dot{p}(t) = \varphi_2(z(t), p(t))$$

Hamiltonian system



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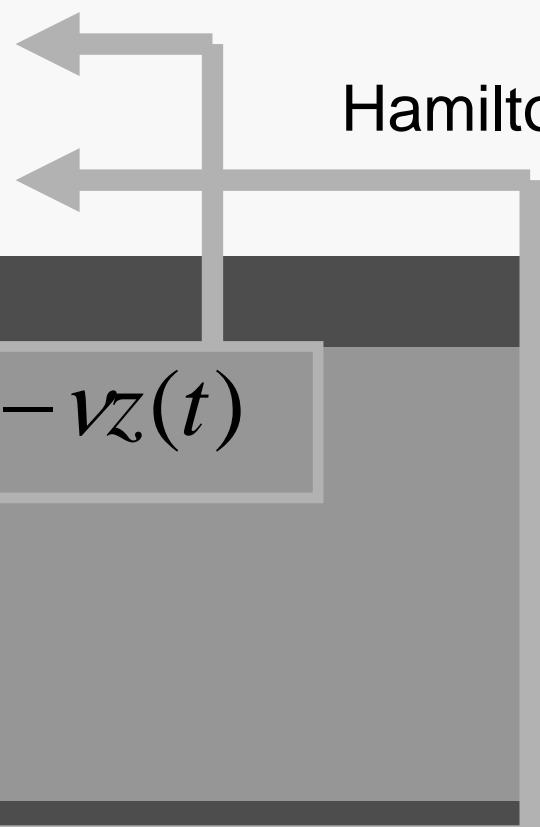
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$$\tilde{M}(z(t), p(t), u) \quad \text{current Hamilton-Pontryagin function}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{z}(t) &= \varphi_1(z(t), p(t)) \\ \dot{p}(t) &= \varphi_2(z(t), p(t))\end{aligned}$$

Hamiltonian system



The diagram shows a feedback loop. A thick grey line starts from the right side of the 'Hamiltonian system' equations, goes down, then left, then up, and finally left again to point at the equations. There are two arrowheads on this line, one pointing to the $\dot{z}(t)$ equation and another pointing to the $\dot{p}(t)$ equation.

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Hamiltonian system

Pontryagin maximum principle

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Hamiltonian system

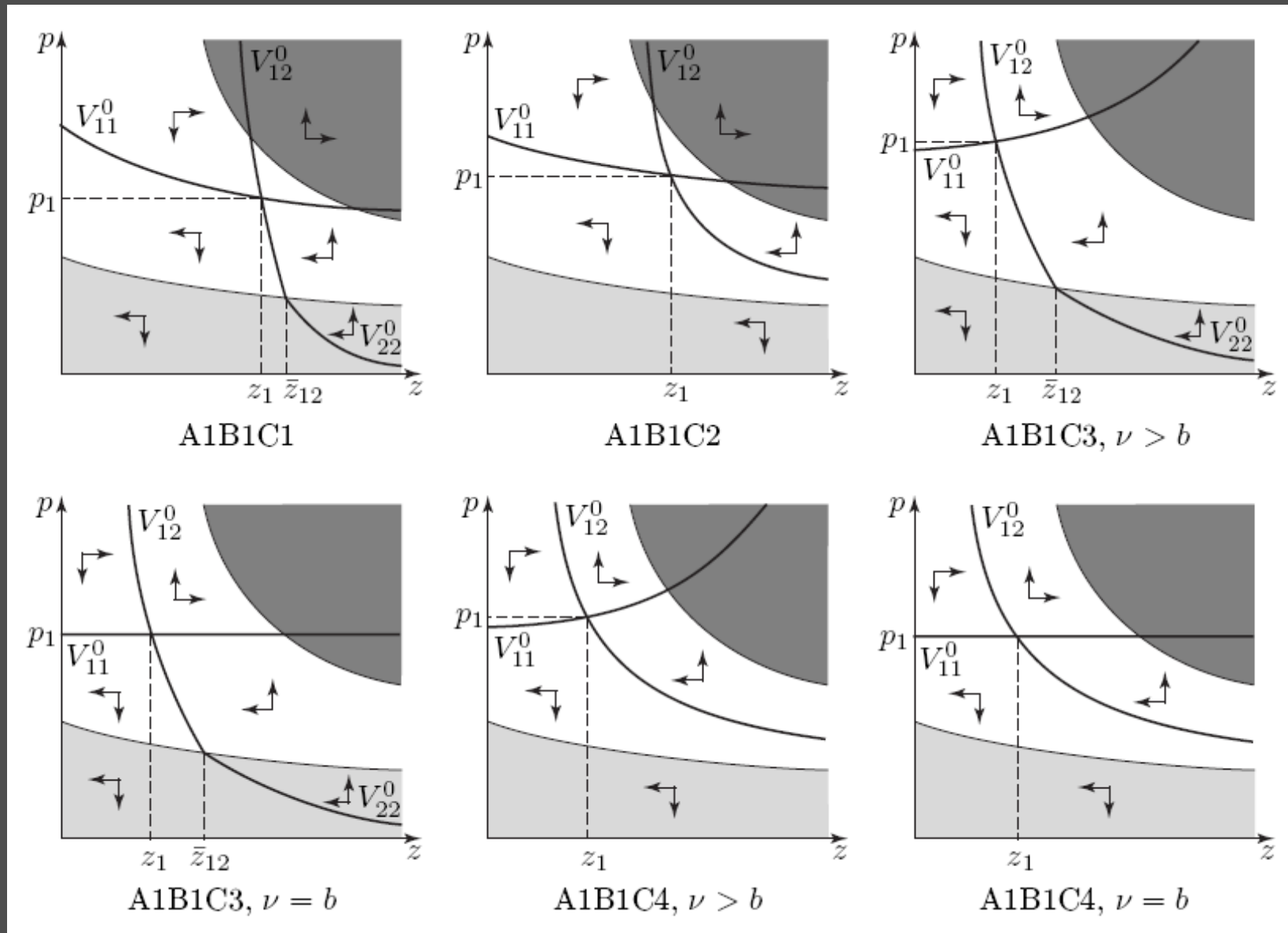
Pontryagin maximum principle

If $z(t)$ is optimal, then there is a positive $p(t)$ such that $(z(t), p(t))$ solves the Hamiltonian system and

$$z(t)p(t) \leq \frac{\kappa}{\rho}$$

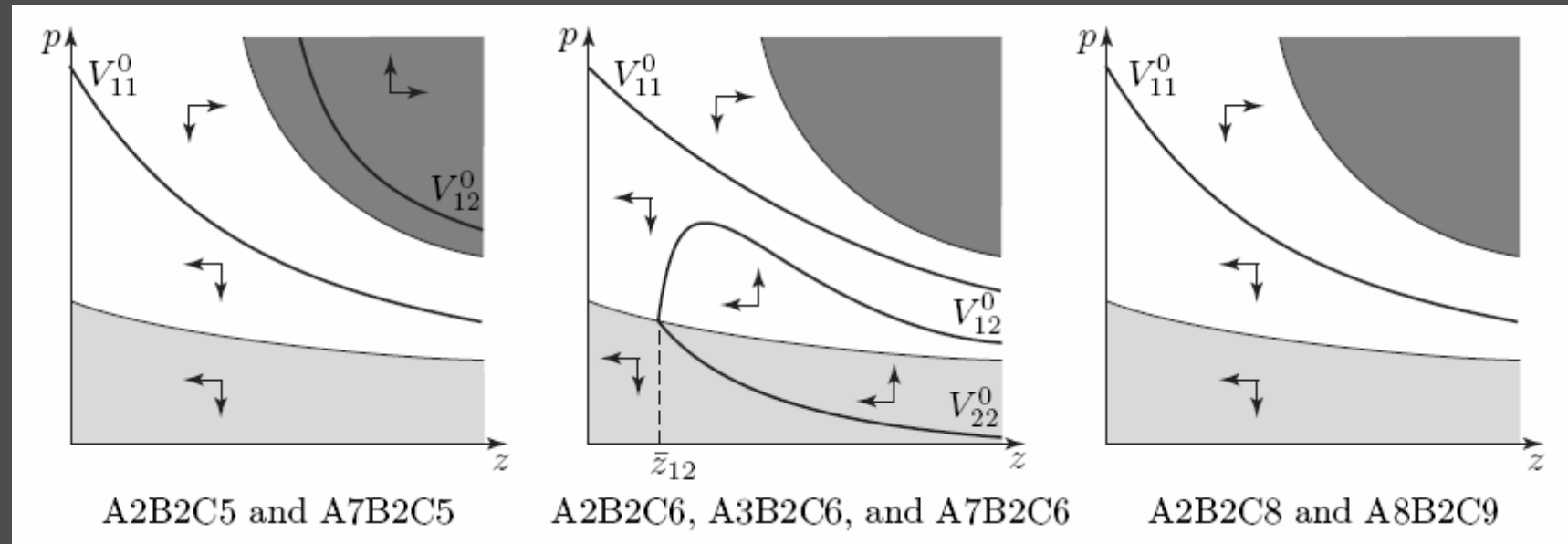
Vector field of the Hamiltonian system

Vector field of the Hamiltonian system



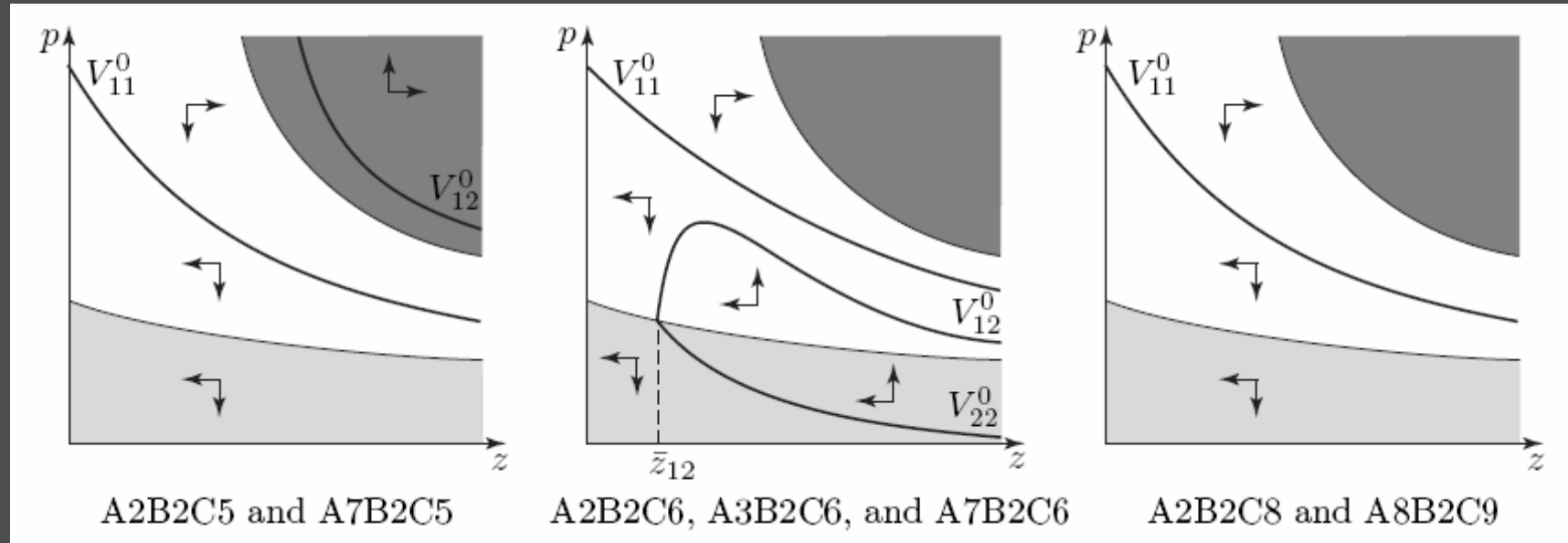
Regular non-degenerate cases

Vector field of the Hamiltonian system

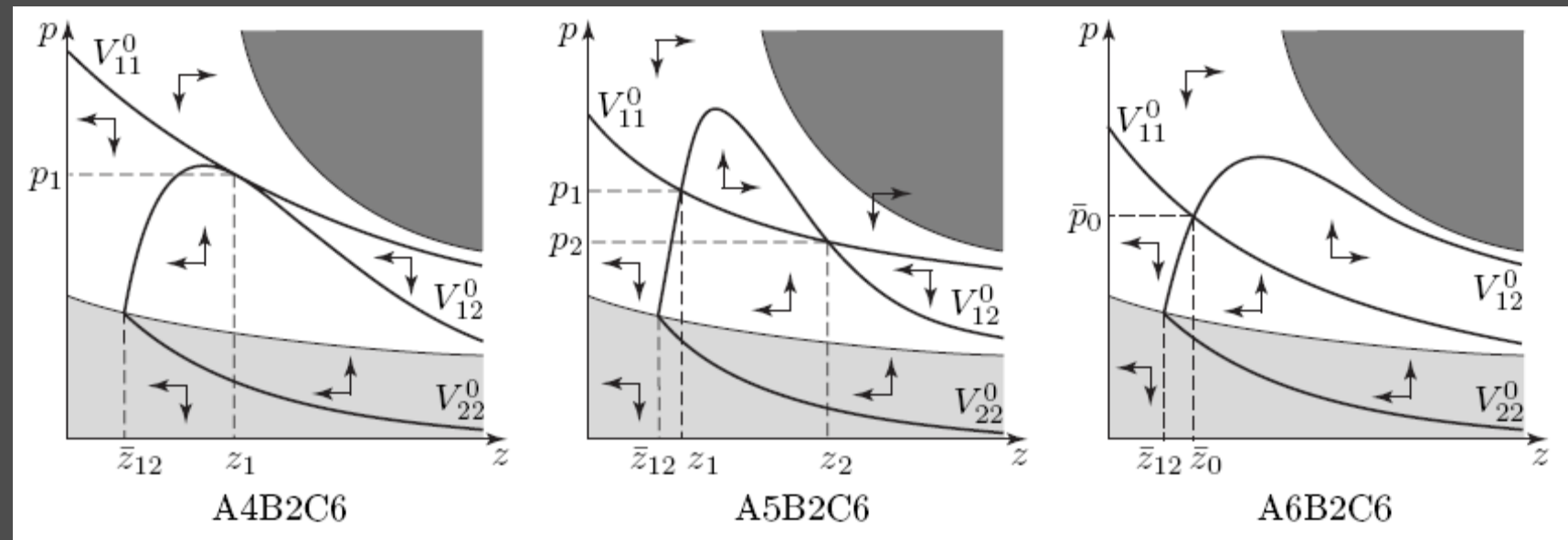


Degenerate cases

Vector field of the Hamiltonian system



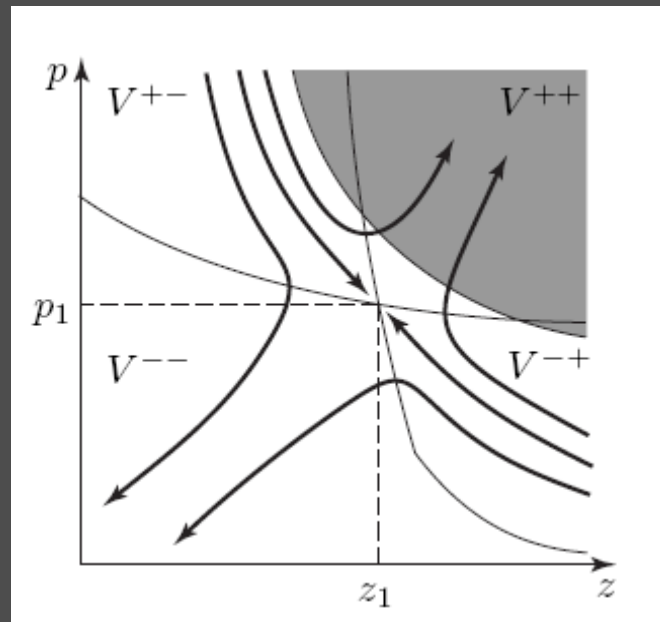
Degenerate cases



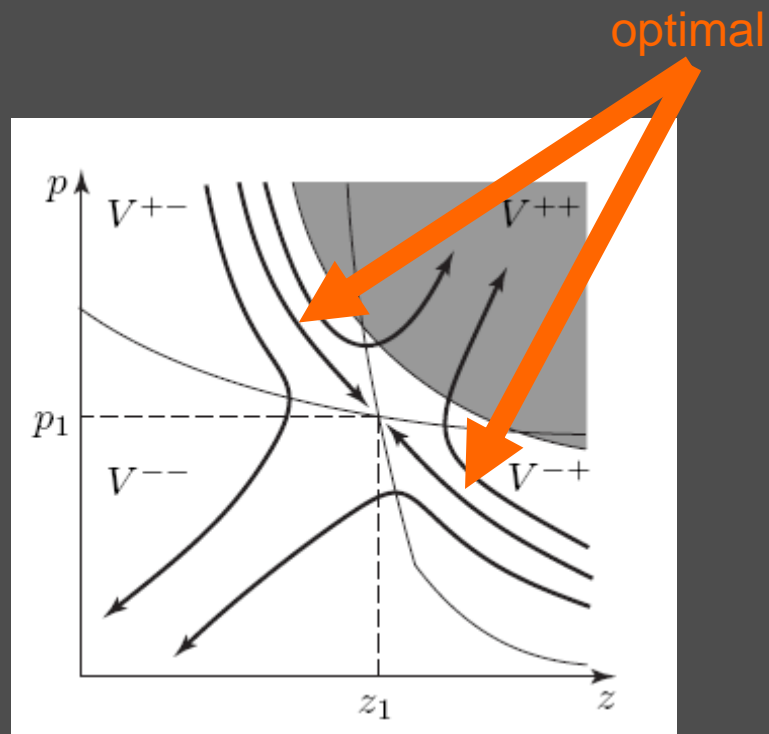
Singular non-degenerate cases

Solutions in regular non-degenerate cases

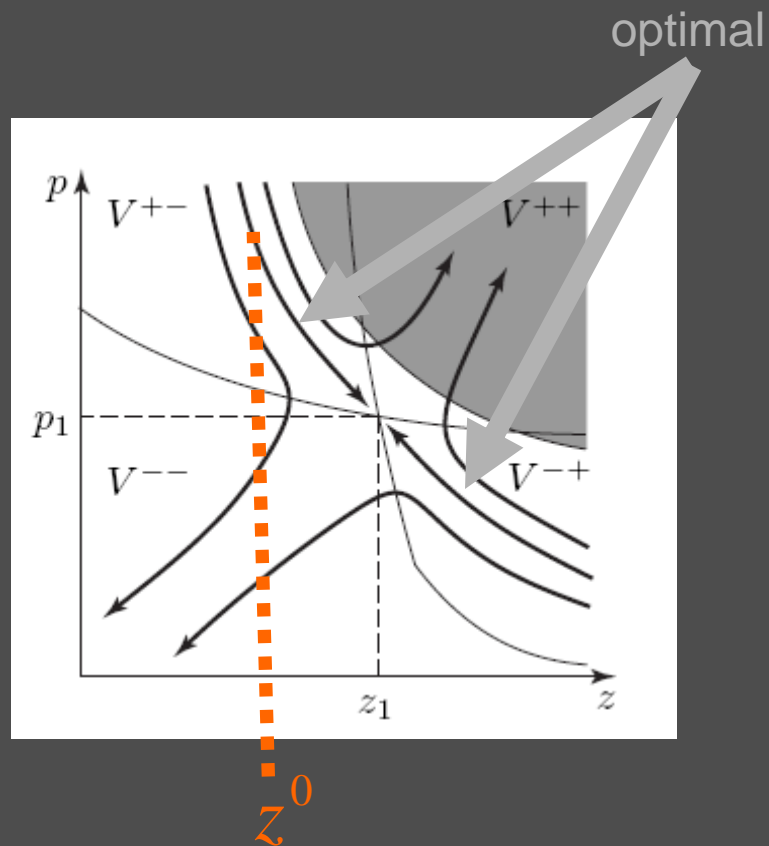
Solutions in regular non-degenerate cases



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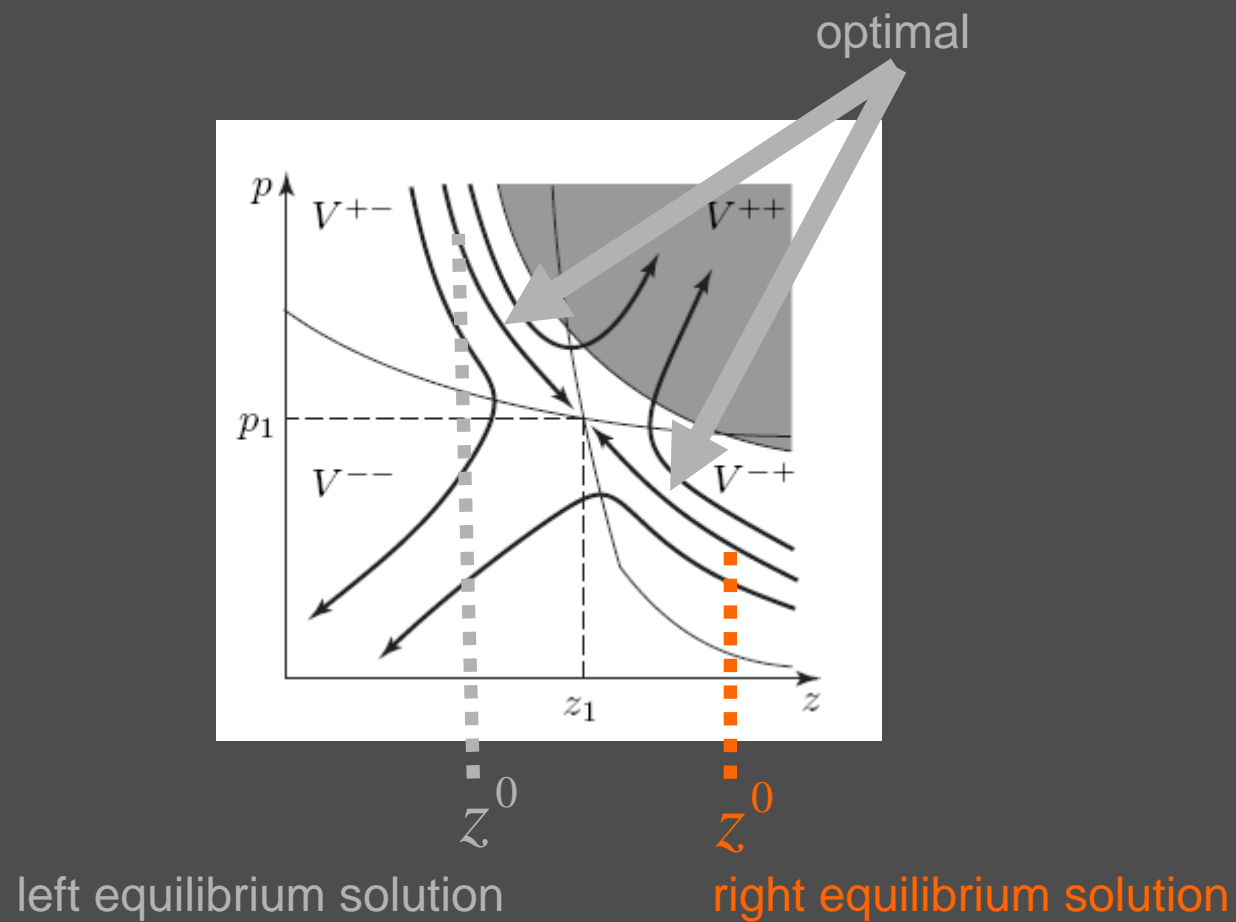


Solutions in regular non-degenerate cases



left equilibrium solution

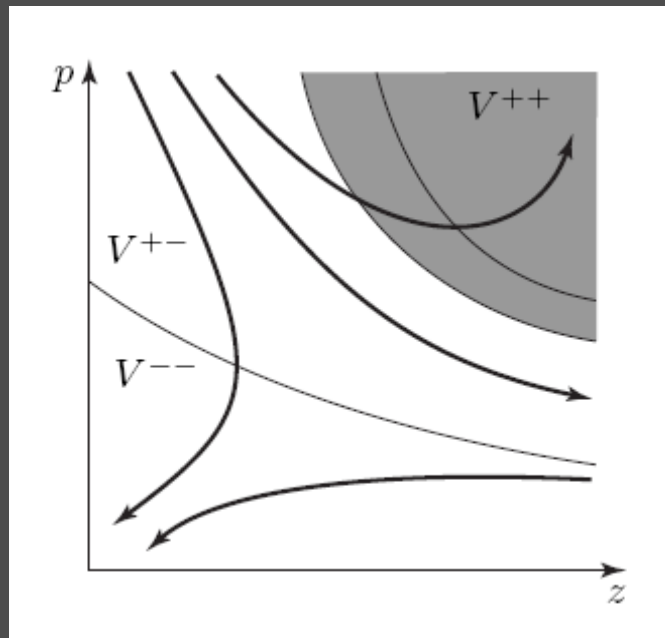
Solutions in regular non-degenerate cases



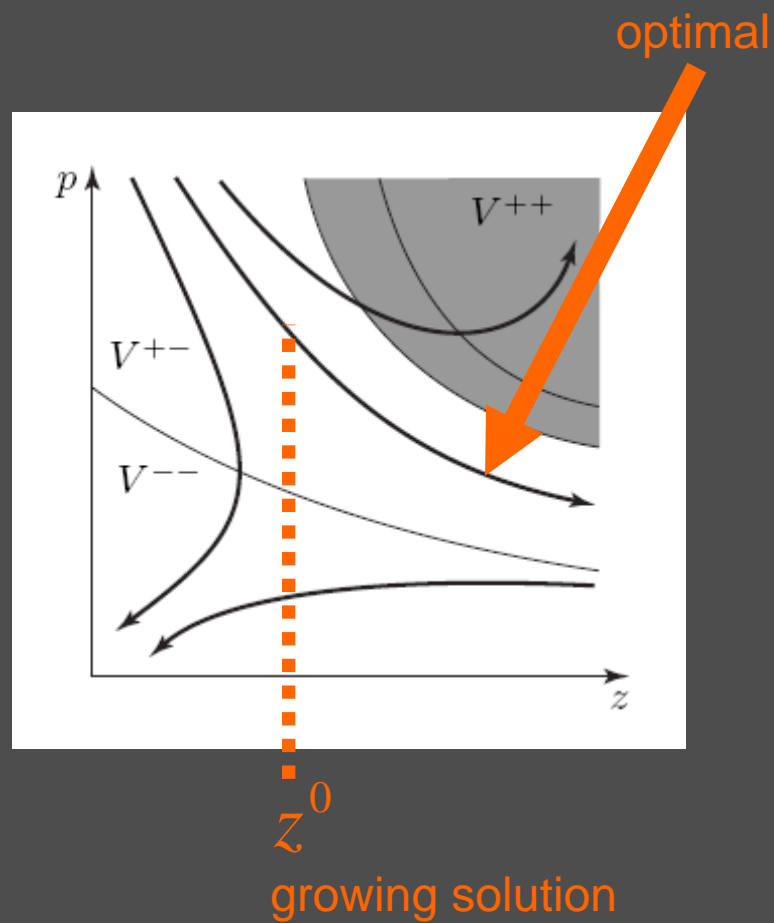
Solutions in degenerate cases

Solutions in degenerate cases

Follower

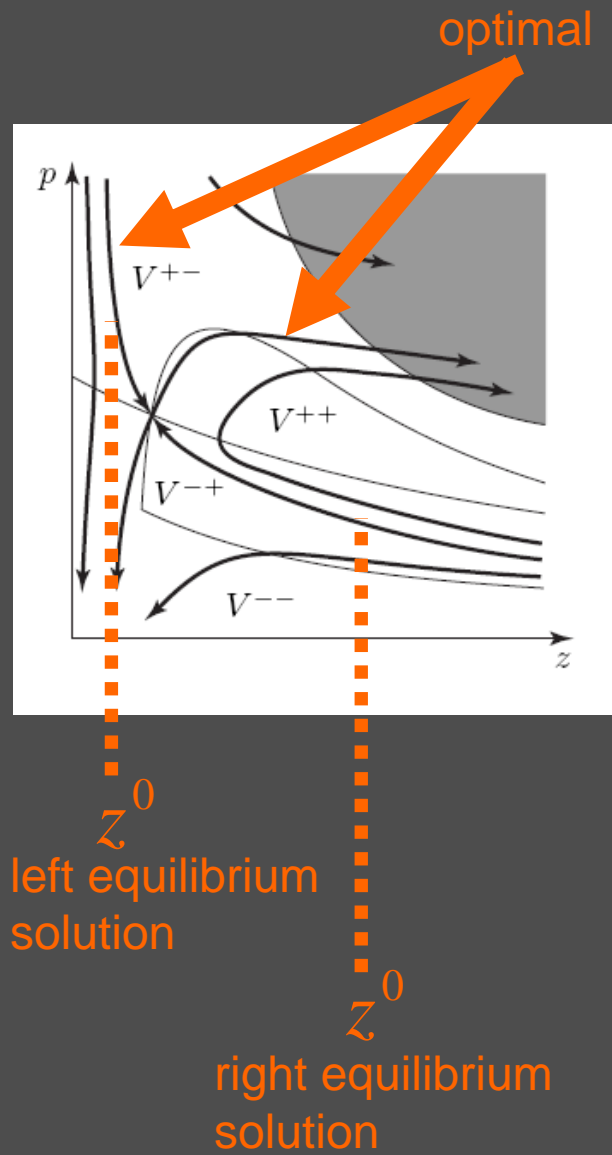


Solutions in degenerate cases

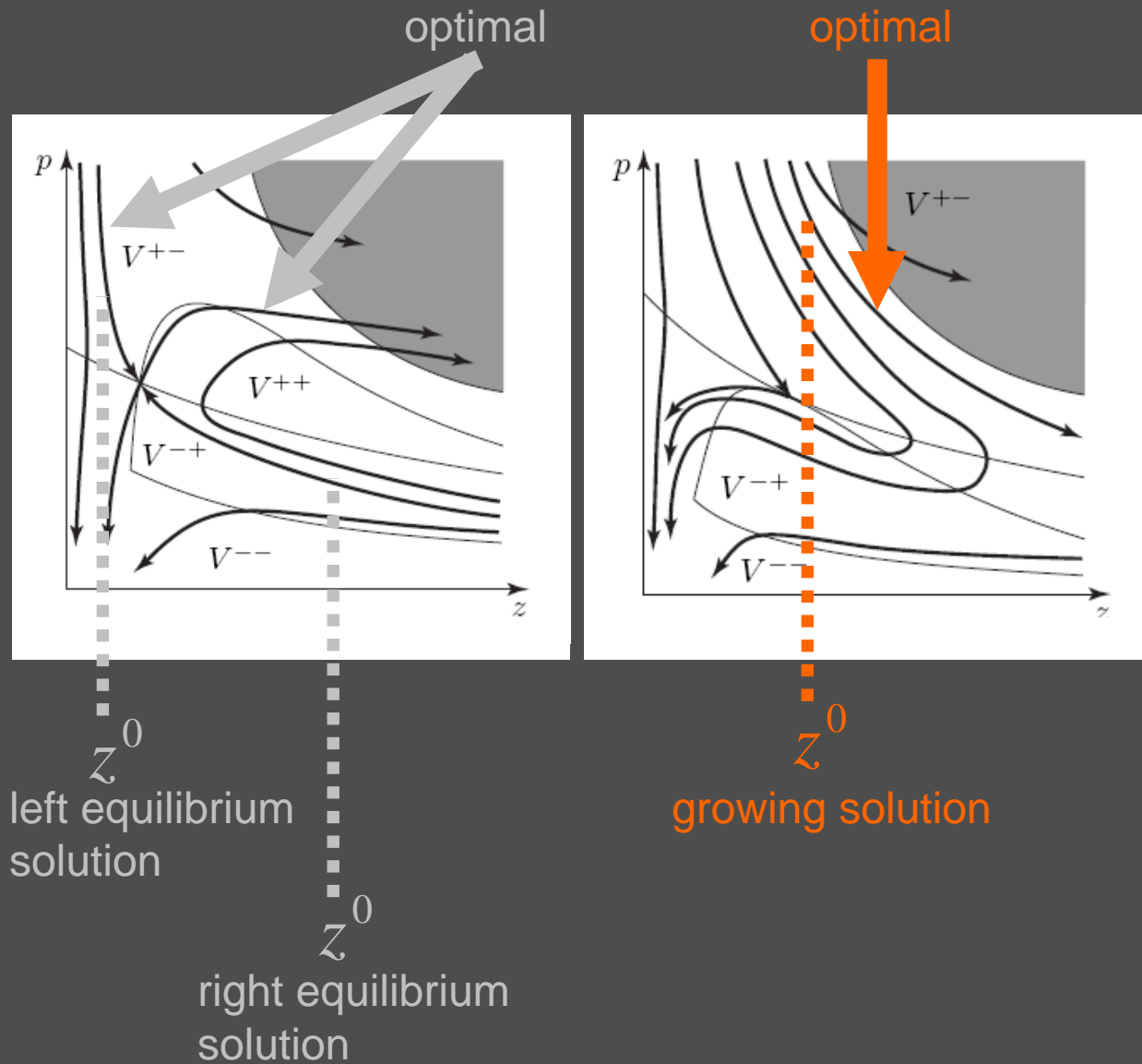


Solutions in singular non-degenerate cases

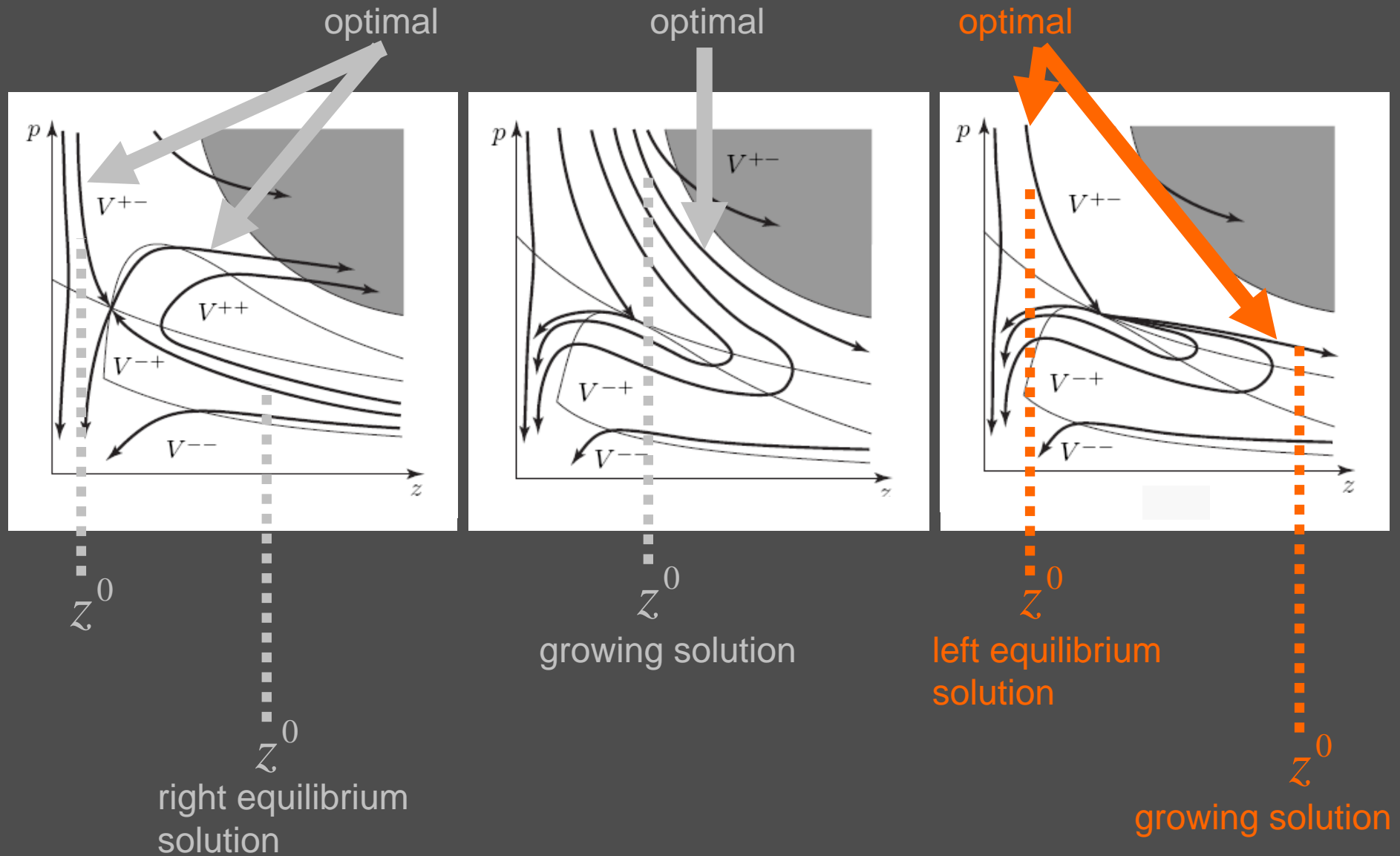
Solutions in singular non-degenerate cases



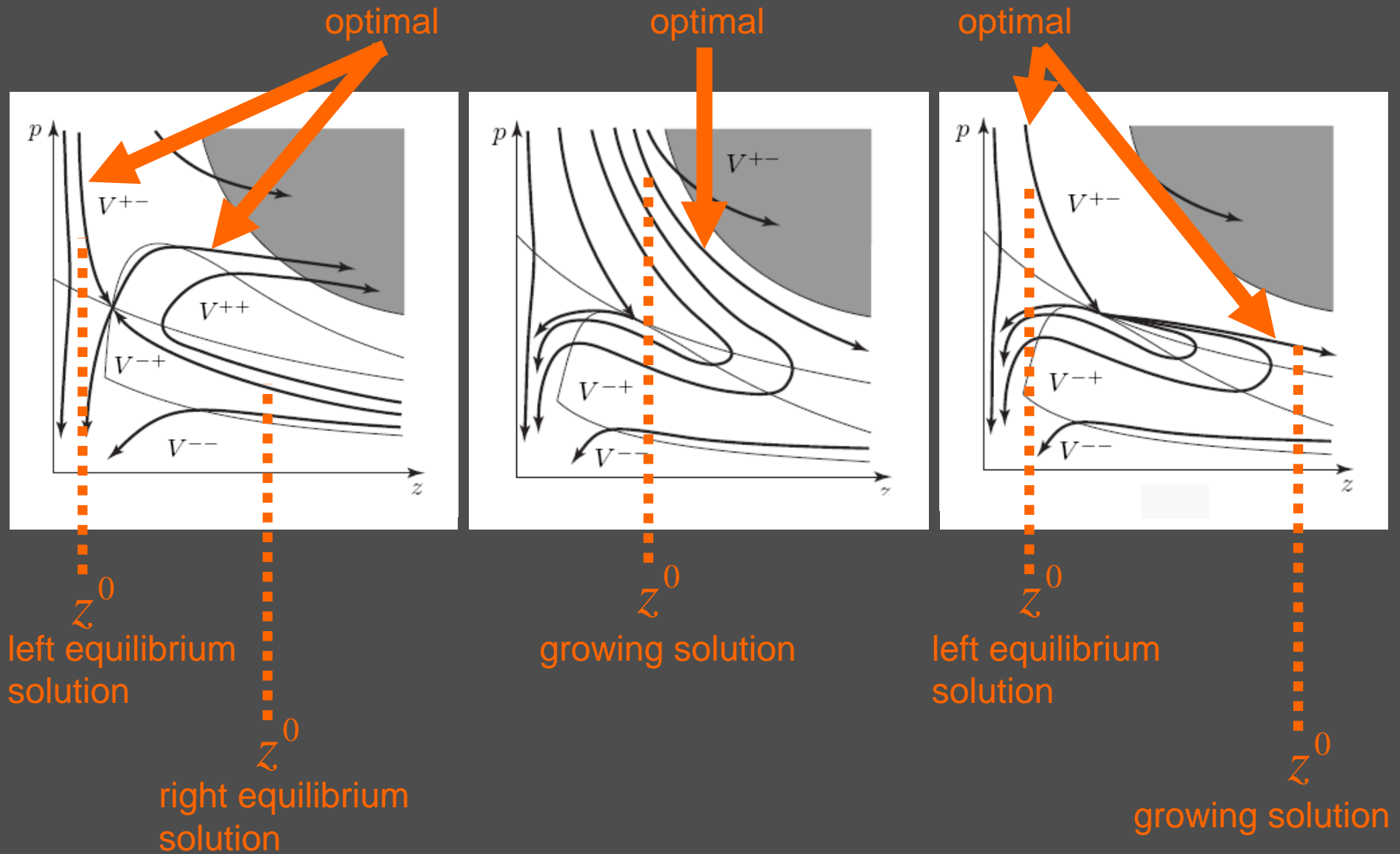
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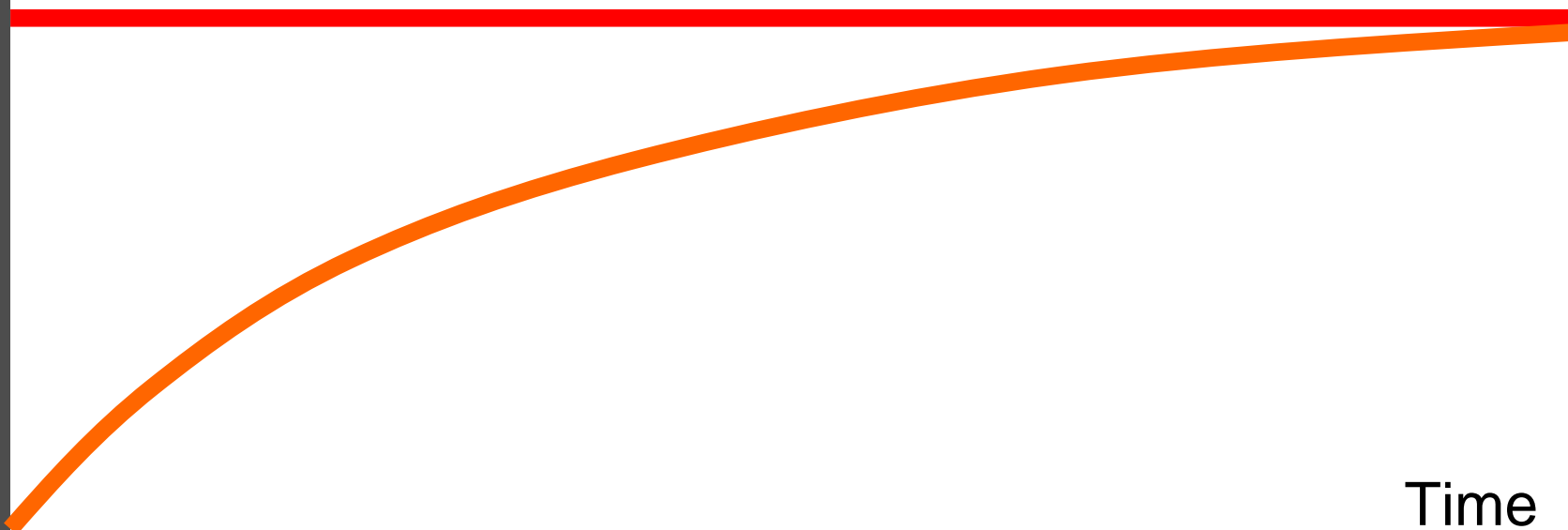
Solutions in singular non-degenerate cases



Equilibrium solution: catching up

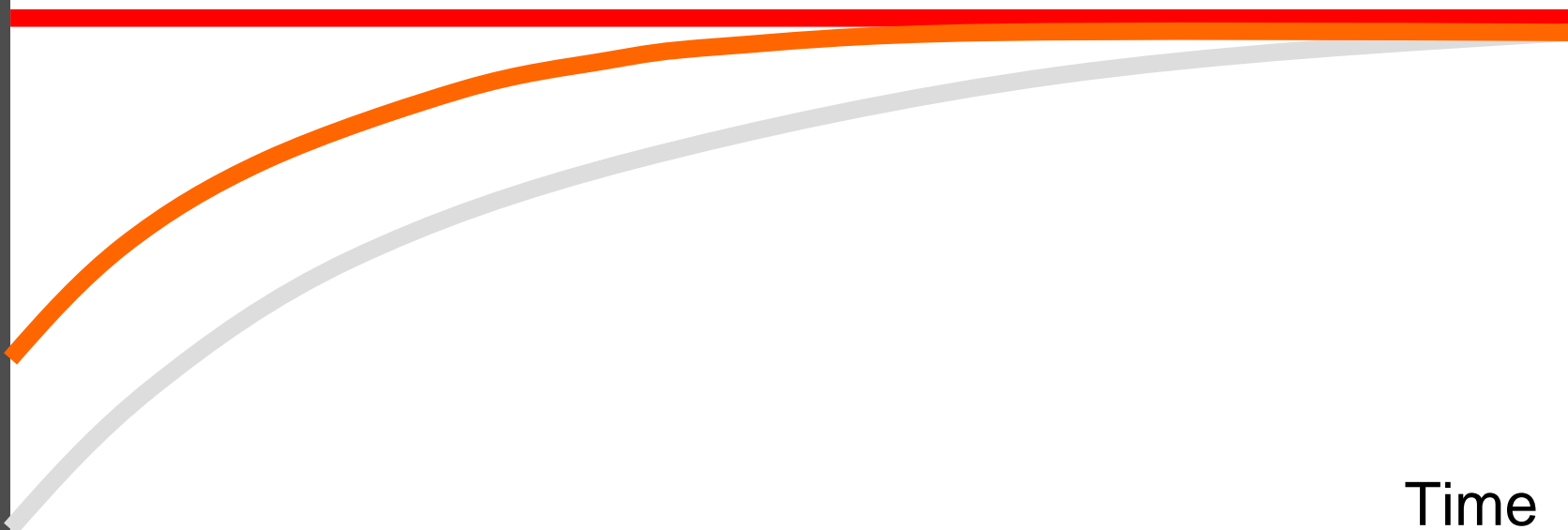
Equilibrium solution: catching up

Technological ratio $z(t)$



Equilibrium solution: catching up

Technological ratio $z(t)$

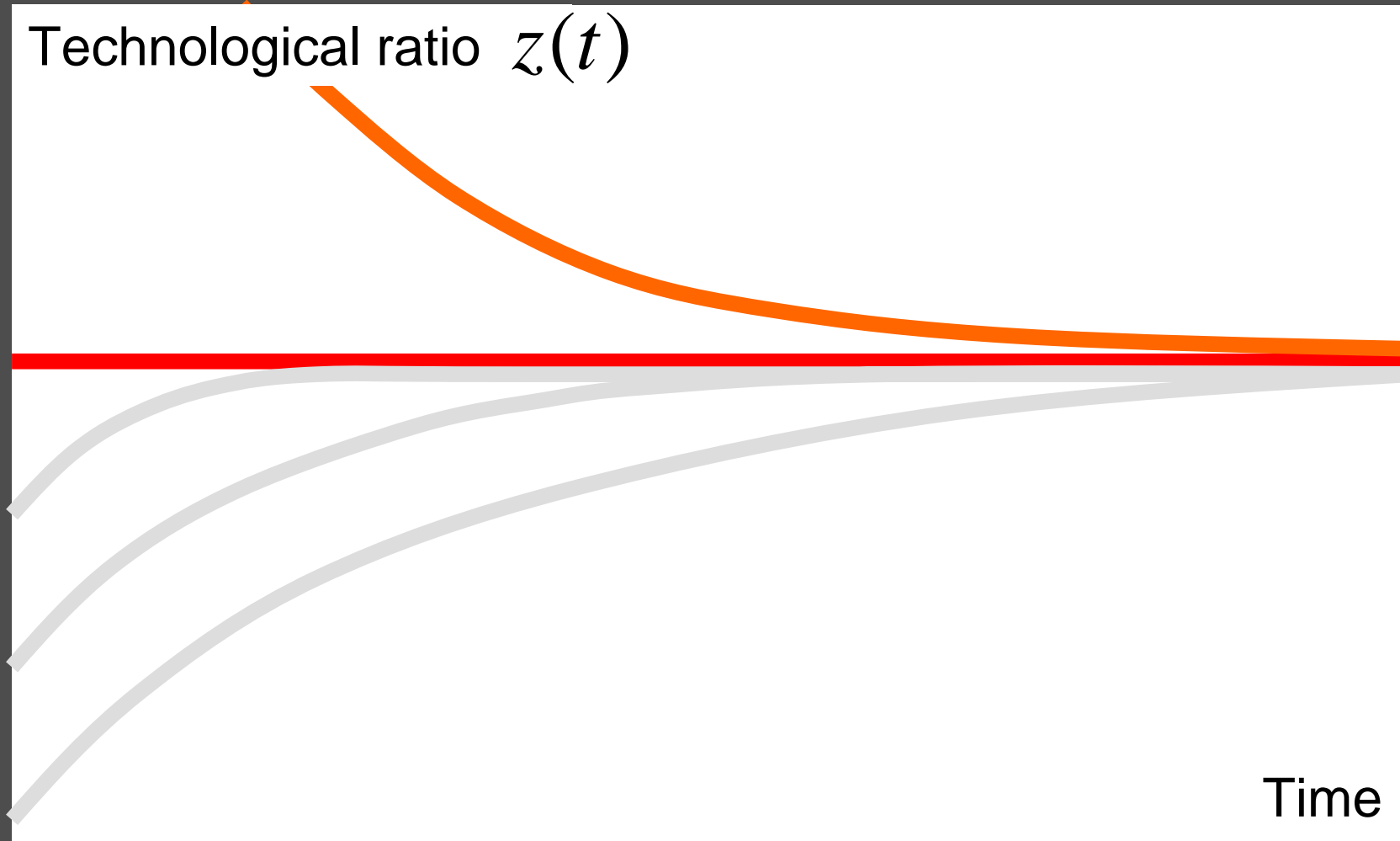


Equilibrium solution: catching up

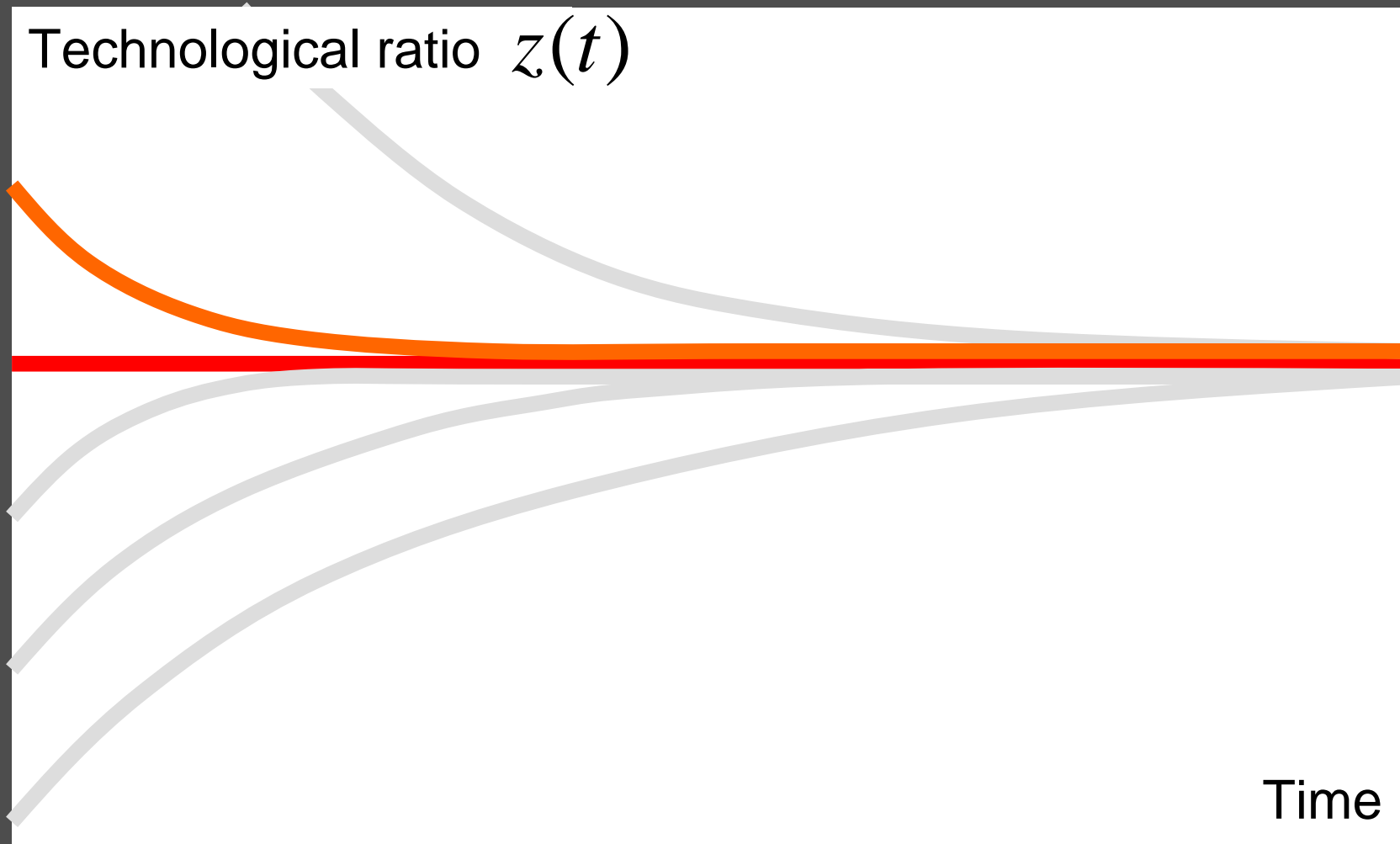
Technological ratio $z(t)$



Equilibrium solution: catching up

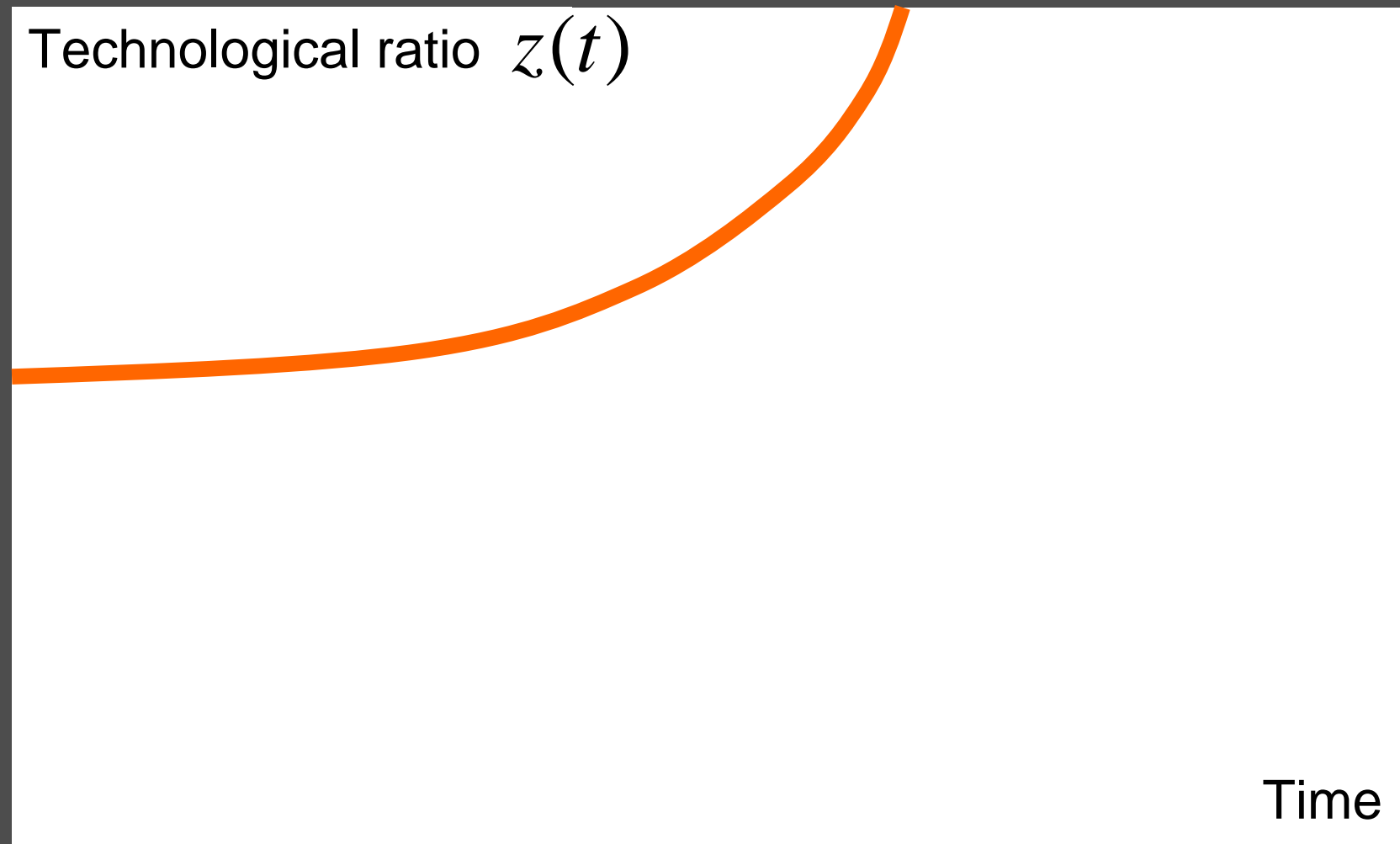


Equilibrium solution: catching up

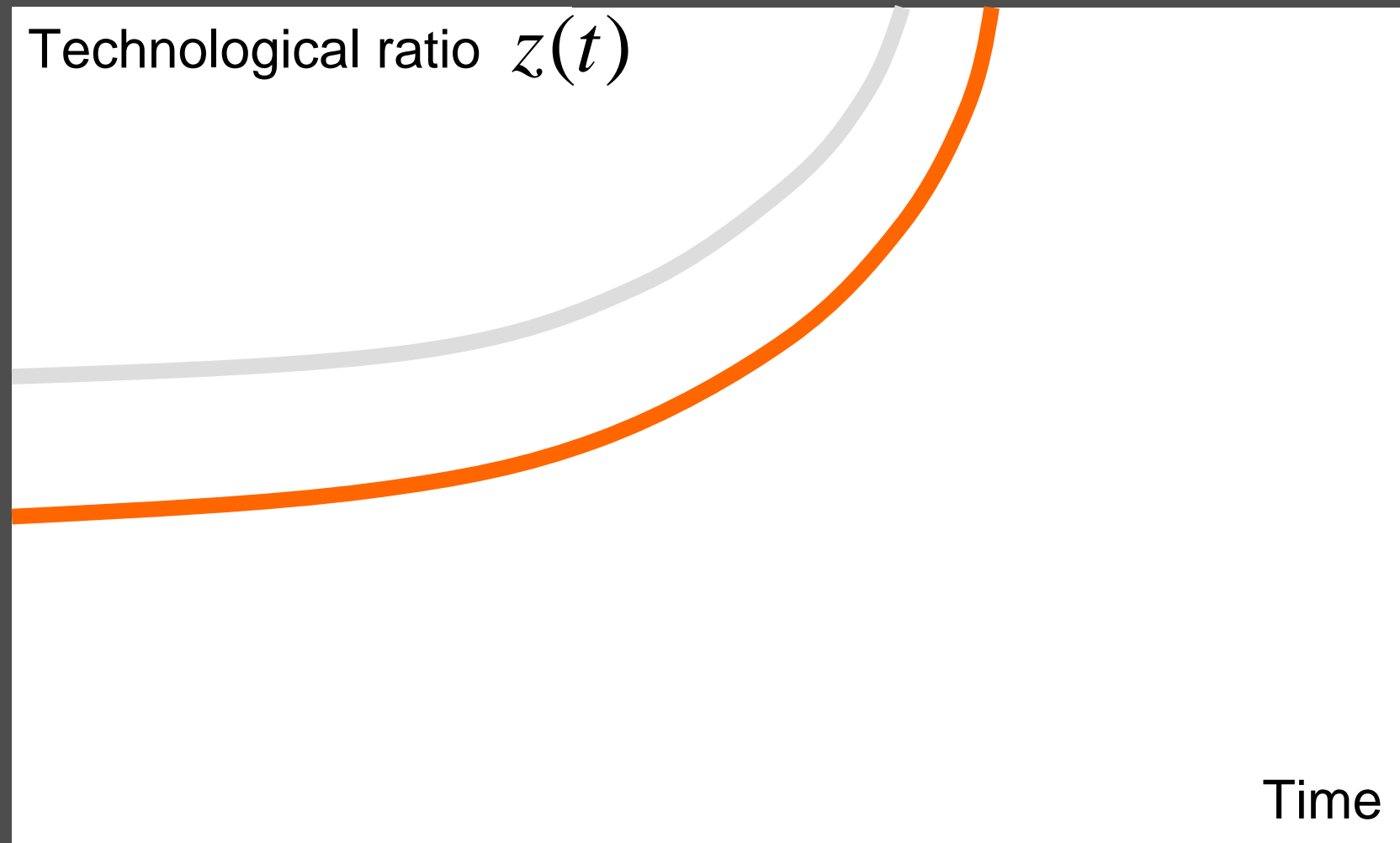


Growing solution: overtaking

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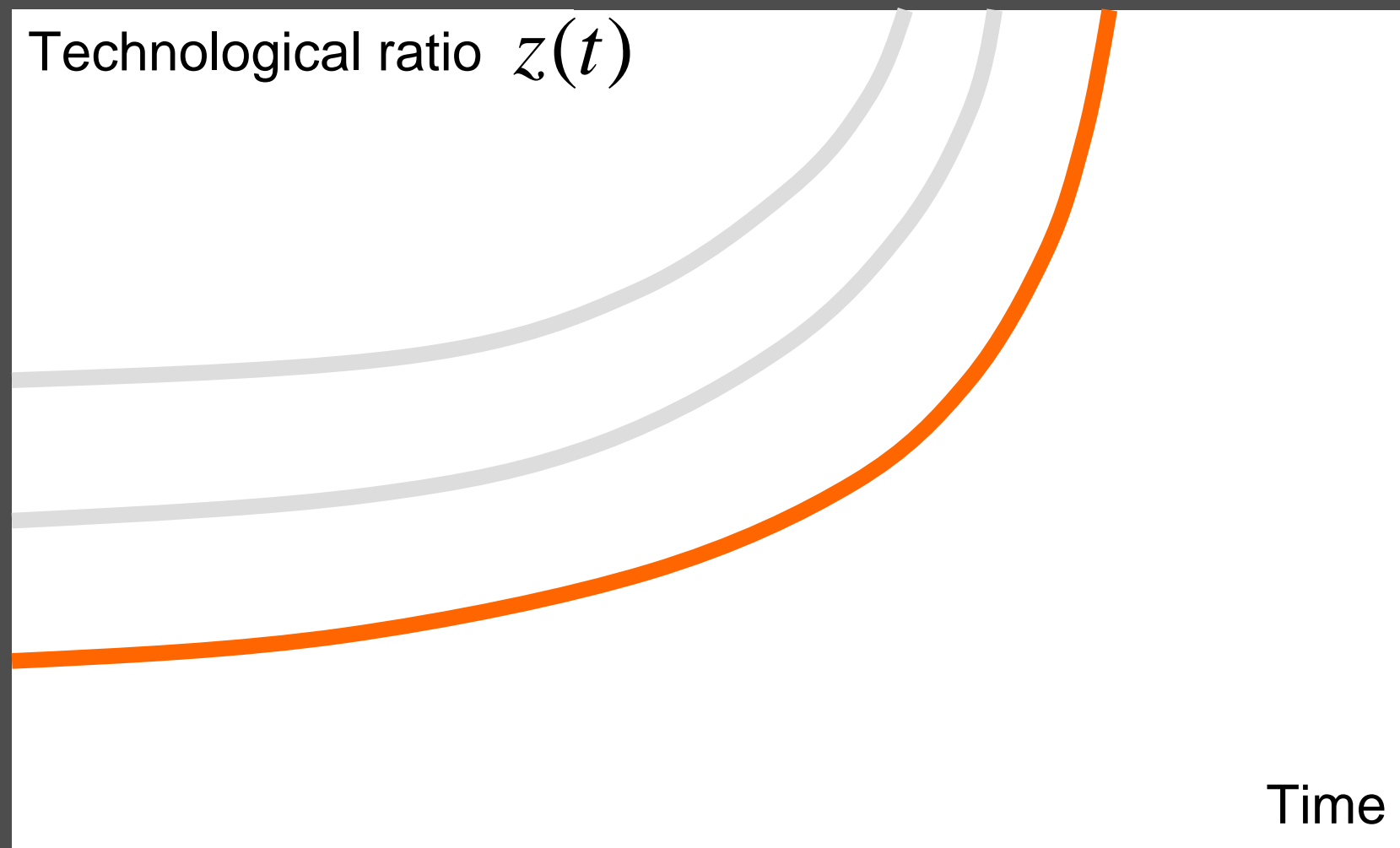


Growing solution: overtaking



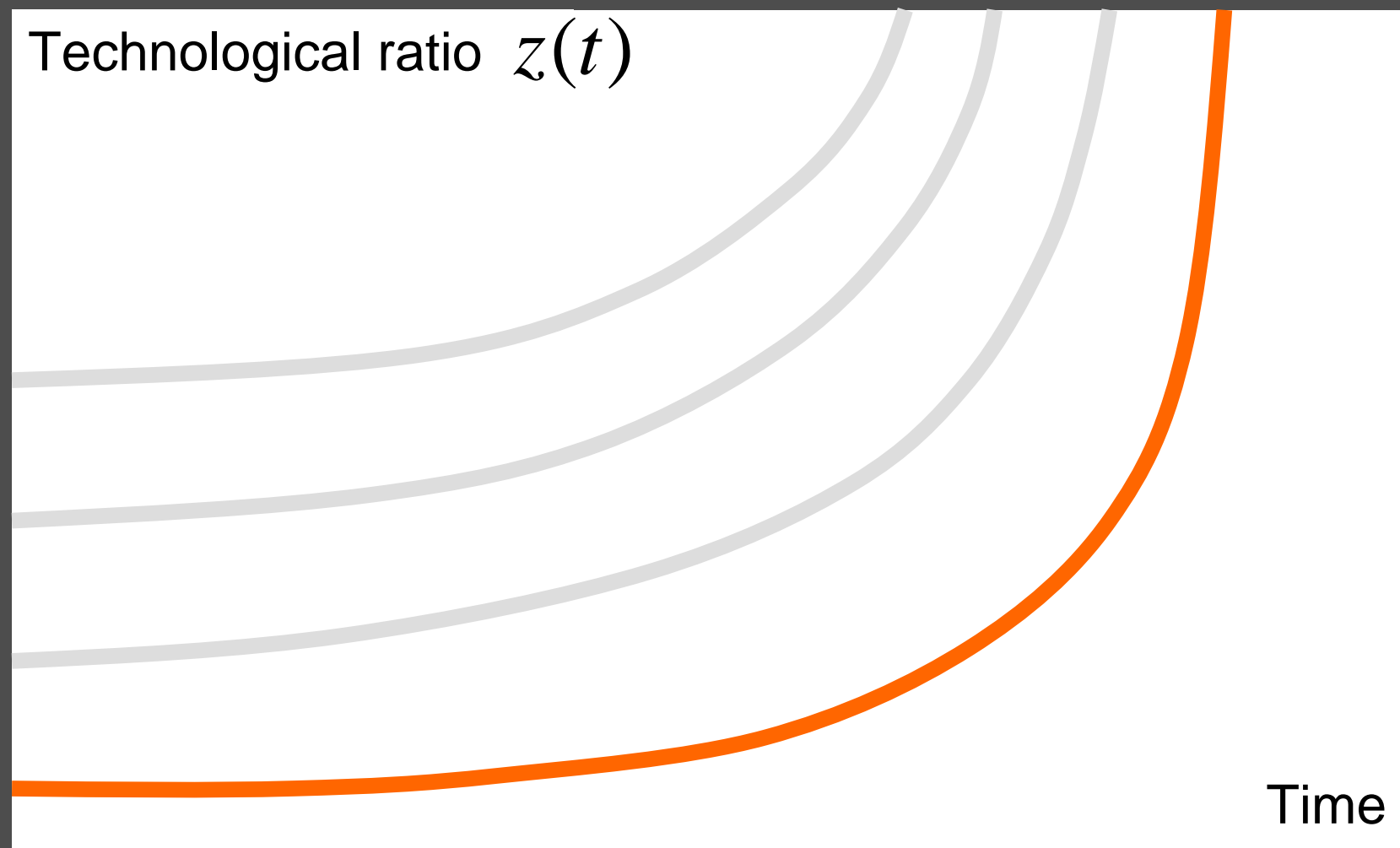
Growing solution: overtaking

Follower



Growing solution: overtaking

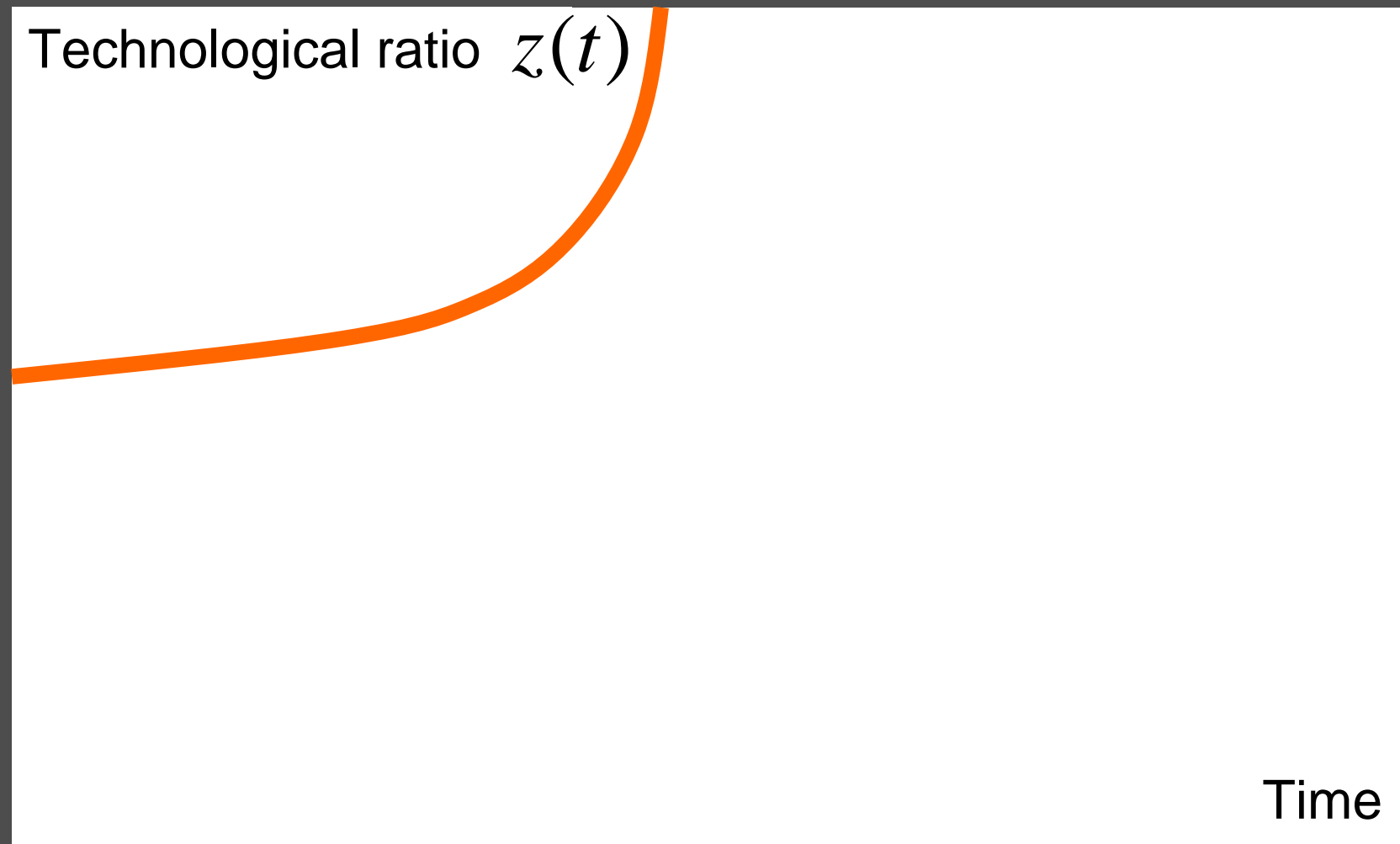
Follower



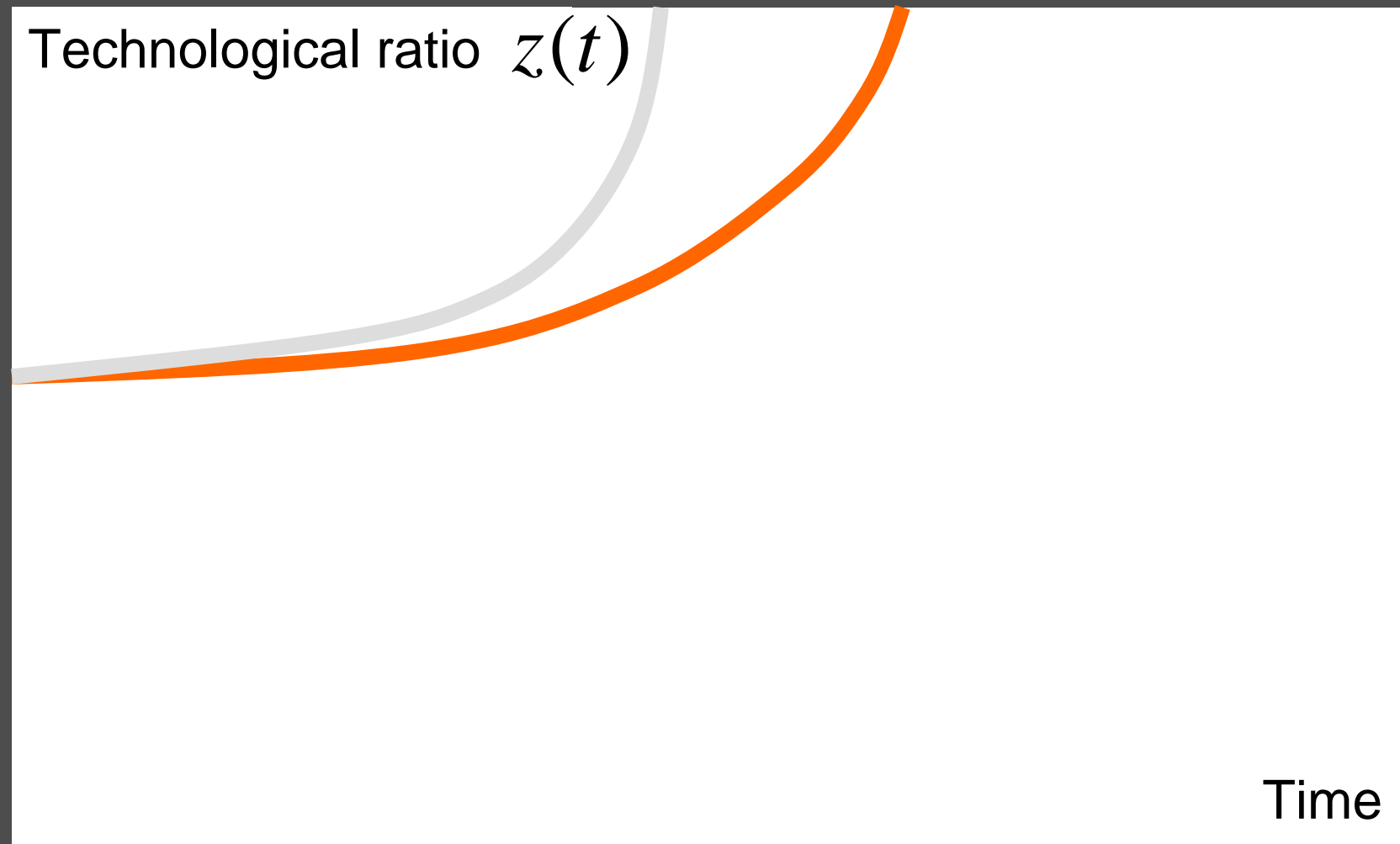
Sensitivity in ρ

$$J = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-\rho t} [\kappa \log y(t) + \log(b - u(t))] dt$$

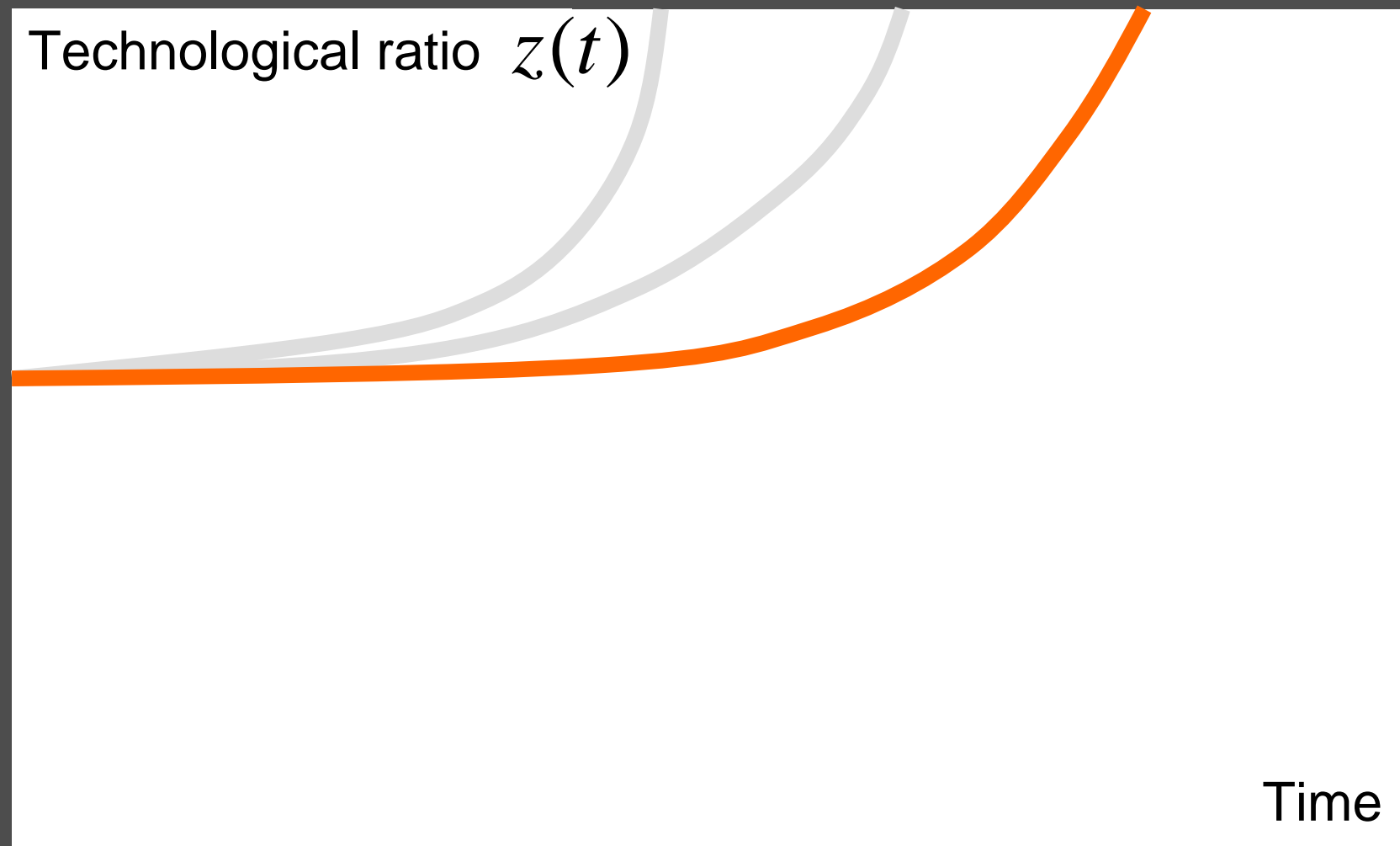
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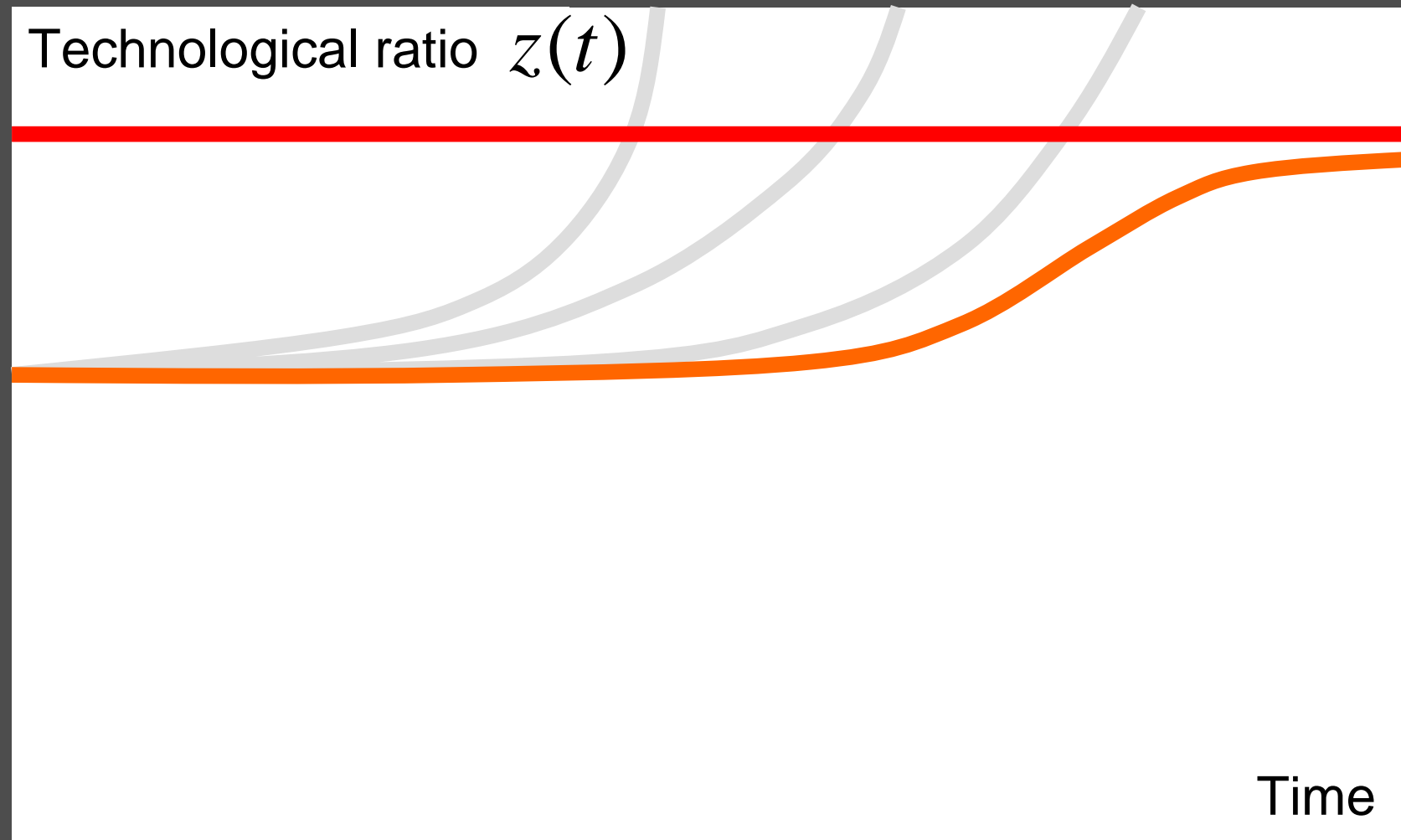
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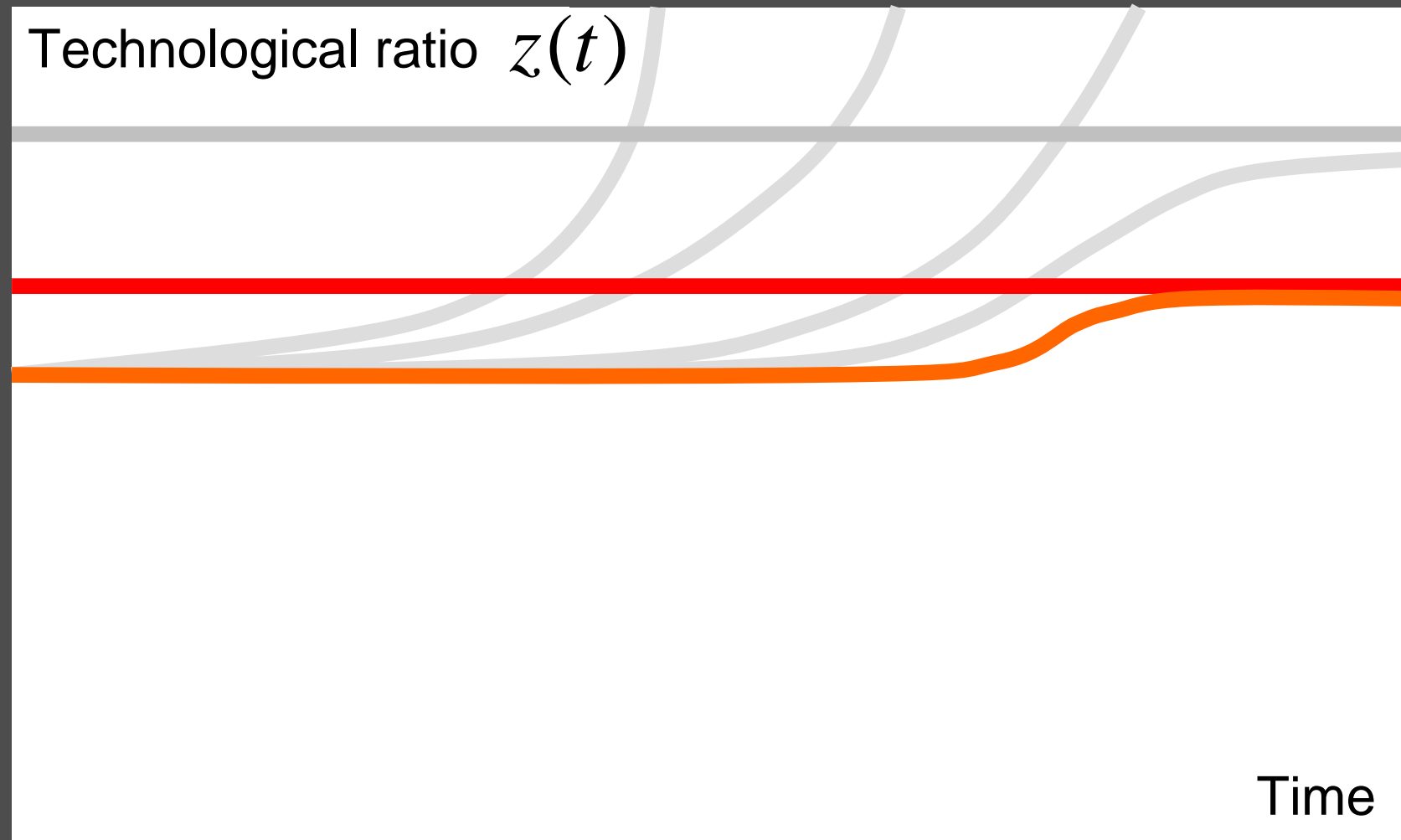
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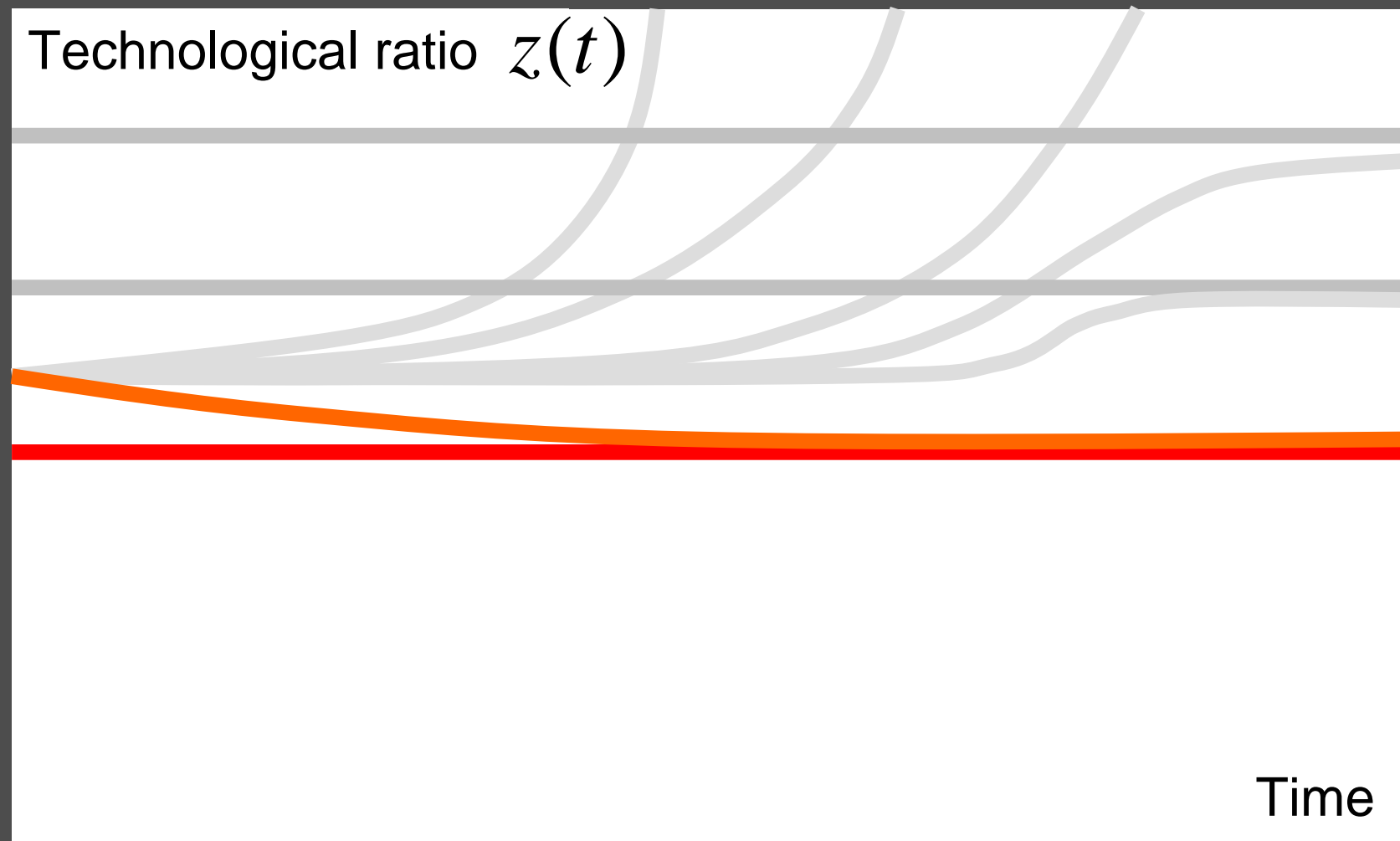
Sensitivity in ρ



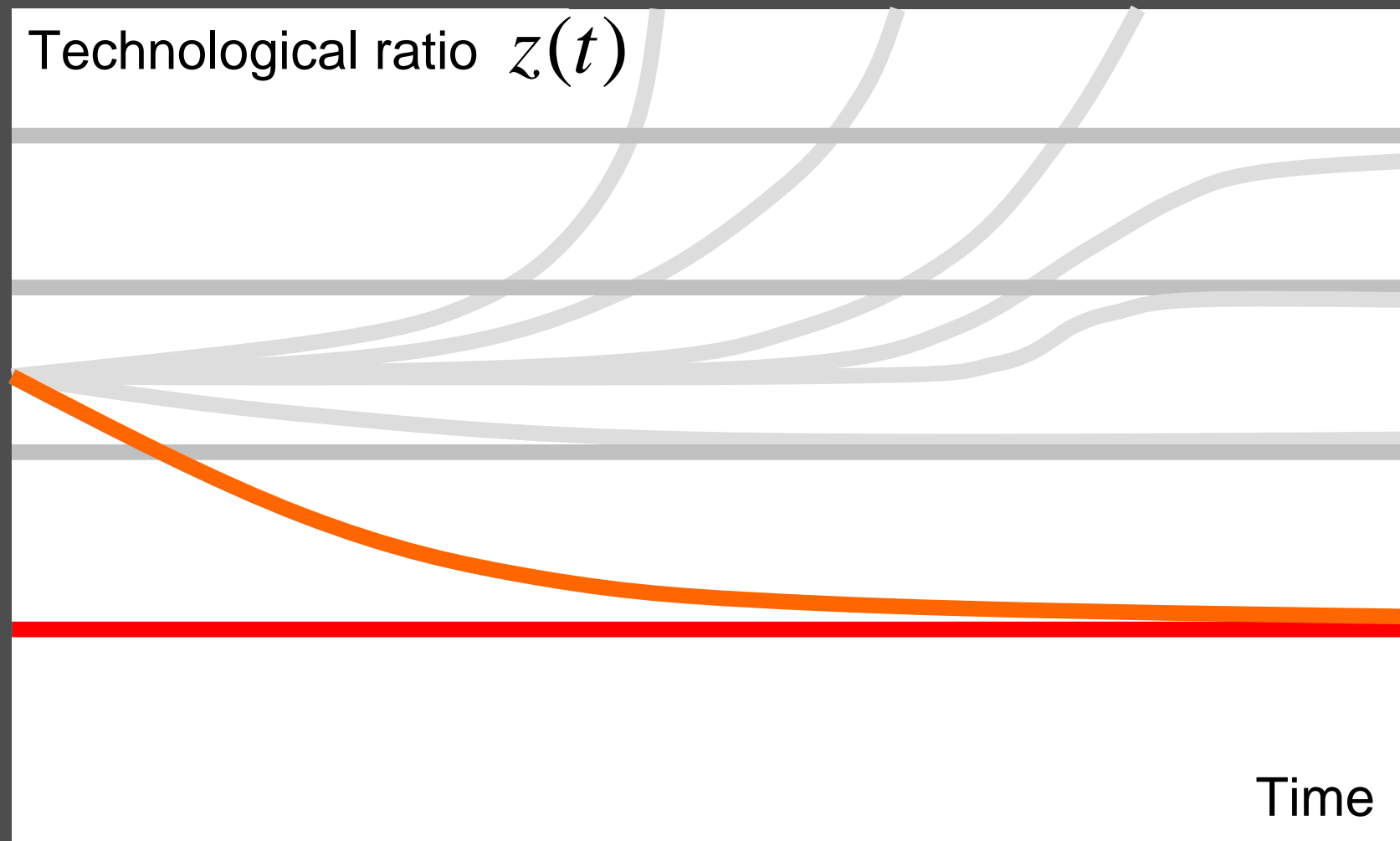
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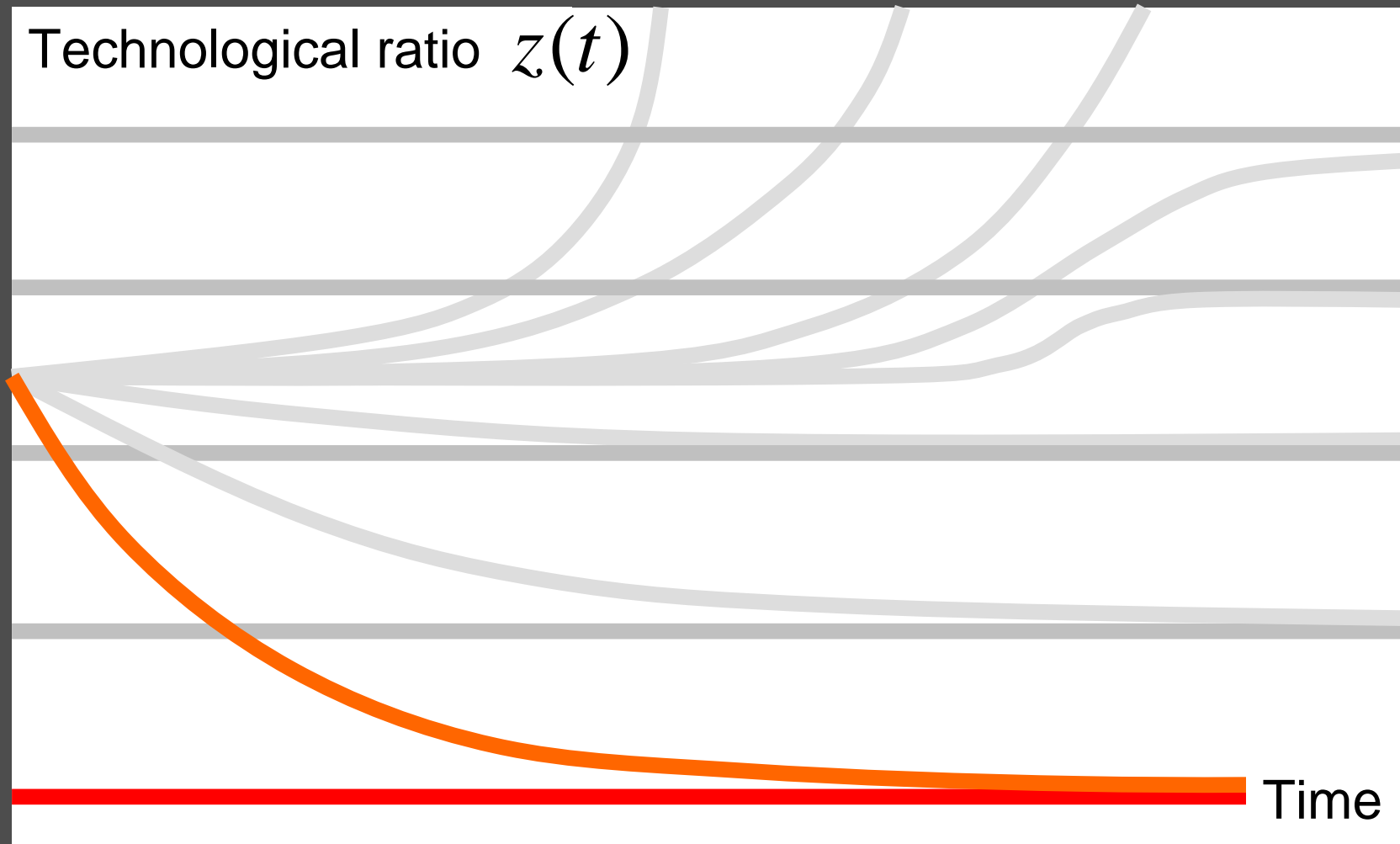
Sensitivity in ρ



Sensitivity in ρ



Sensitivity in ρ



Acknowledgements

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Tapio Palokangas, *Helsinki University*