NONHOMOTHETIC PREFERENCES, GROWTH, TRADE AND LAND*

Cristina Echevarría**

WP-AD 97-14

Correspondence to: Cristina Echevarria

Department of Economics University of Saskatchevan

9 Campus Drive Saskatoon, SK S7N 5AS Canada

E-mail: echevarr@duke.usak.ca

Editor: Instituto Valenciano de Investigaciones Económicas, S.A.

First Edition April 1997 ISBN: 84-482-1492-7

Depósito Legal: V-1431-1997

IVIE working-papers offer in advance the results of economic research under way in order to encourage a discussion process before sending them to scientific journals for their final publication.

^{*}I thank the University of Saskatchewan, the Instituto Valenciano de Investigaciones Económicas and the Dirección General de Enseñanza Superior for financial support; the Universidad de Alicante for its hospitality; Ed Prescott and Neil Wallace for comments on a previous paper which lead to this one; participants at the seminars of the Universities of Saskatchewan, the Basque Country and Alicante, Dave Cushman, Antonia Díaz, Mª Dolores Guilló and specially Tim Kehoe for helpful comments and suggestions. The final product is all my responsibility.

^{**}C. Echevarria: University of Saskatchewan and University of Alicante.

NONHOMOTHETIC PREFERENCES, GROWTH, TRADE AND LAND

Cristina Echevarría

ABSTRACT

Nonhomothetic preferences with minimums of subsistence imply rates of investment that increase with the level of income, and thus a positive correlation between growth rates and the level of income, at low levels of income. The existence of this positive correlation for a closed economy was already shown in a previous paper. The purpose of this paper is to show that, if we introduce land -a scarce resource that cannot be accumulated- in the model, this positive correlation exists for an open economy as well.

KEYWORDS: Subsistence Minimums; Investment Rates.