

Peer Review

Review of: "A Philosophical Theory of Quality Time: The Seneca Model"

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Referee Report

The manuscript proposes an original theoretical extension of the Ramsey growth model by incorporating Seneca's concept of *quality time* as a state variable. The idea is novel and intellectually stimulating, and the paper successfully bridges philosophical reasoning with formal economic growth theory. The analytical framework is sound, and the main results are clearly derived, in particular the finding that the Ramsey golden rule no longer holds under non-separable preferences.

Some parts of the exposition, especially the Introduction and theoretical discussion, are relatively long and could be streamlined to improve clarity and focus on the core contribution. Minor improvements in notation and presentation would also enhance readability.

Methodological comment.

The author may also consider briefly noting that the proposed framework admits a state-space interpretation. In this perspective, *quality time* behaves as a latent (unobservable) state variable evolving dynamically, while consumption and utility act as observable outcomes. This allows a conceptual connection with Kalman-filter-type models, where hidden psychological or behavioral states are inferred from observable variables. Similar latent-state formulations are widely used in applied sciences; for instance, Özbek (2021) employs an adaptive Kalman filter to decompose sleep EEG signals and identify spindles as latent dynamic components of the observed process. Such an interpretation would strengthen the methodological positioning of the paper without altering its theoretical structure.

Overall, the manuscript is conceptually original and **can be considered for publication after minor revisions.**

Reference (to be suggested)

Özbek, L. (2021). *A study on decomposing EEGs during sleep into frequency components and revealing spindles using Kalman filter.*

Chaos, Solitons & Fractals, 144, 110712.

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Declarations

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.