

Problem Set #3: Question 3 • What indicators do you recommend? • How is the economy doing?

Problem Set #3

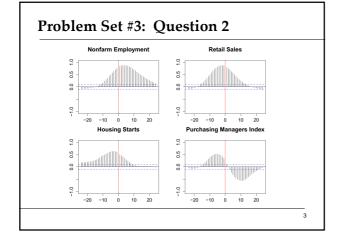
• Answers will be posted after class

2

Demand - AND supply

- Unifying framework
- First half
- AS/AD model: the industry standard
- · Second half:
 - What changed, supply or demand?
 - What should we do about it?

5



Roadmap

- Where we've been...
- Aggregate supply
- Aggregate demand
- Aggregate supply AND demand
- Applications

Where we've been...

- Where we've been: business cycle data
 - Properties: some things are more cyclical than others
 - Indicators: procyclical and countercyclical, leading and lagging
- Where we're headed: business cycle theory
 - Adapt supply/demand diagram to whole economy
 - Why does the economy fluctuate?
 - What should we do about it?

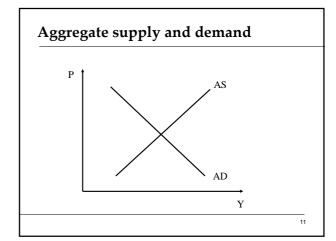
7

Aggregate supply and demand

- Adapt supply/demand diagram to whole economy
- Axes
 - P is price level
 - Y is real GDP
 - Usually interpreted as inflation and GDP growth
- Curves
 - Supply is about **production** of goods
 - Demand is about **purchases** of goods

10

Aggregate supply & demand



Two perspectives ("Field of dreams" version)

- Supply is what matters
 - If you build it, people will buy it
 - All we had prior to 1930
- Demand is what matters
 - If there's demand, someone will build it
 - Response to Depression (John Maynard Keynes and others)
 - Paul Krugman?
- What we do
 - Supply AND demand

9

Aggregate supply

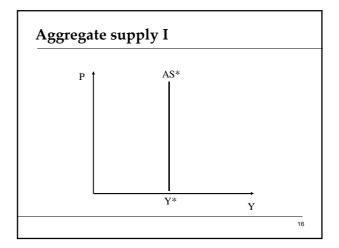
Aggregate supply I

- Supply is about production
- Classical version ["long run"]
- Production function

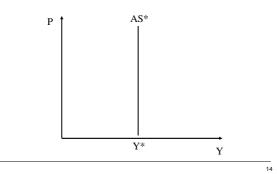
$$Y = A K^{\alpha} L^{1-\alpha}$$

- At any point in time
 - A is given [but may change over time]
 - K is given [but may change over time]
 - L reflects "equilibrium" in labor market
- Y must therefore be "given" [and AS* vertical]

13



Aggregate supply I



Aggregate supply I

- Oil prices
- An increase is like a drop in TFP
- Why?
 - Think about total payments to capital, labor, and oil producers
 - If more goes to oil producers, there's less for capital and labor
 - Our measure of output is payments to capital and labor, so it's gone down
 - If oil producers are local the lost revenue would show up there, but if they're abroad, local output falls
 - $\,-\,$ That's just like a fall in productivity: AS shifts left

17

Aggregate supply I

• Reminder:

$$Y = A K^{\alpha} L^{1-\alpha}$$

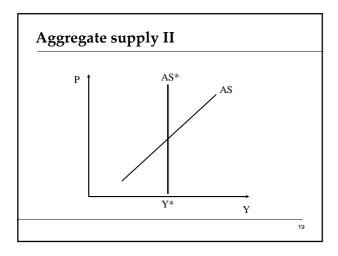
- Over time, what happens when these change?
 - A?
 - K?
 - L?
- How do we represent this in the diagram?

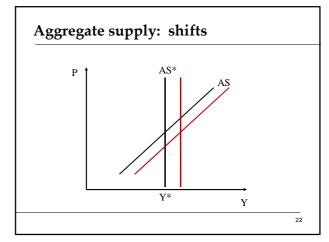
Aggregate supply II

- Keynesian version ["short run"]
- Production function

 $Y = A K^{\alpha} L^{1-\alpha}$

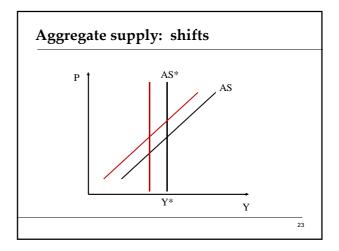
- At any point in time
 - A, K given
 - Simple version: nominal wage "sticky"
 - Increase in P reduces real wage, firms hire more workers
 - More L implies more $Y \Rightarrow AS$ curve slopes upward
- Wage eventually adjusts, bringing us back to AS*

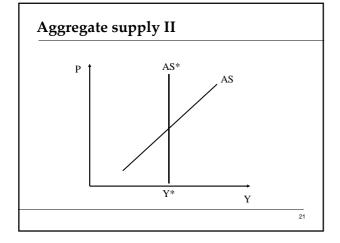


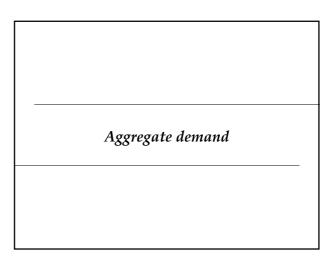


Aggregate supply: shifts

- What happens to aggregate supply if we
 - Change A or K?
 - Change price of oil?
- Note: both AS and AS* shift and by same amount [the last part is a short cut, you can thank me later]







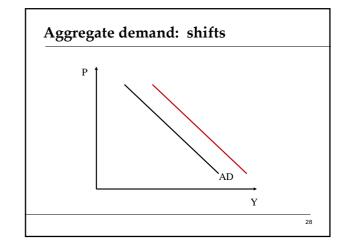
Review: quantity theory

• Recall our production function for transactions

$$MV = PY$$

- M = stock of money in circulation (quantity of currency)
- V = velocity (how often a unit of currency is used in a year)
- P = price level (the GDP deflator or other price index)
- Y = real GDP

25



Aggregate demand

- Basic version
 - Quantity theory generates inverse relation between P and Y

$$MV = PY$$

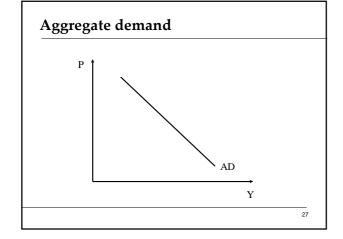
$$P = MV/Y$$

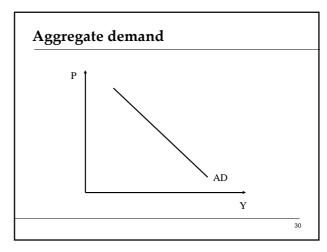
- Given (M,V), high Y associated with low P
- What happens if M rises?

26

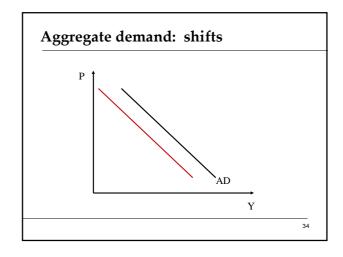
Aggregate demand

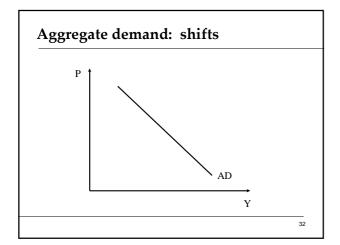
- Sophisticated version (more than we need)
 - Increase in money supply drives down interest rate
 - At lower interest rate, demand rises for interest-sensitive products: cars, houses, plant and equipment
 - More on the interest rate next week
 - Other demand increase also shift AD to the right (government spending, optimism of firms and consumers)

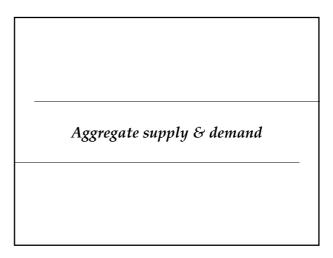


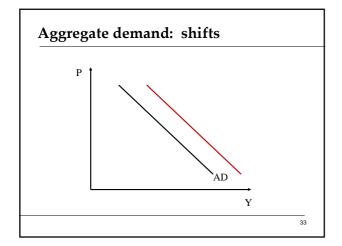


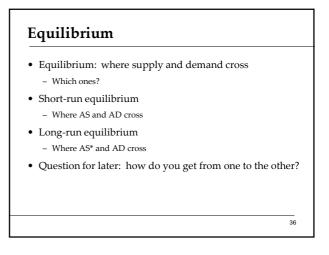
• What happens to aggregate demand if we - Increase M? - Increase G? - Increase something that changes consumption or investment demand ("confidence"? "animal spirits"?)

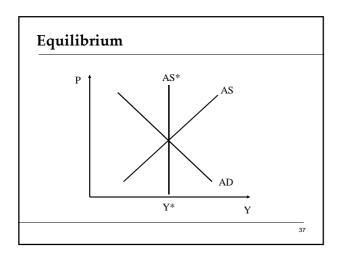


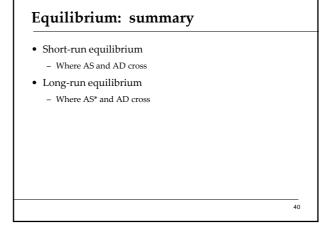


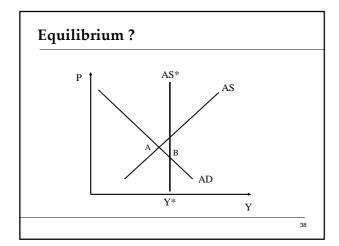


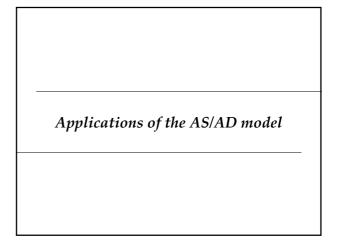












Equilibrium

- Start at A
 - At A, real wage is too high [How do we know that? Y is below Y*]
- End at B but how do we get there?
 - Wage too high, so let's say it falls
 - That moves AS to the right until it crosses AS* at B
 - Wages "sticky," not stuck forever
 - At lower wage, firms hire more workers, output rises

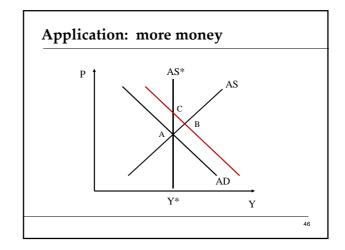
Applications

- Increase money supply M
- Increase government purchases G
- Increase productivity A
- Increase price of oil

Applications

- Action plan
 - Start somewhere: curves (AS*, AS, AD)
 - Where are the short-run and long-run equilibria?
 - Suggest an application which curve shifts?
 - What are the new short-run and long-run equilibria?
 - What happens to Y and P?

43



Application: more money

- Increase supply of money
- Which curve shifts? Which way?
- What happens to Y and P?

44

Application: more money

- Start at A: short run and long run equilibrium
- More money: AD shifts right
- New short-run equilibrium at B
 - Higher prices, higher output
- New long-run equilibrium at C
 - Higher prices, output unchanged (!)
- Why? Does this make sense to you?

47

Application: more money

- How does this compare to our analysis of hyperinflations?
- Hyperinflation
 - More money generates higher prices
- AS/AD
 - $\,$ $\,$ Short run: higher prices AND higher output
 - Long run: only higher prices

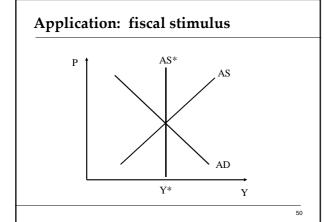
Application: fiscal stimulus

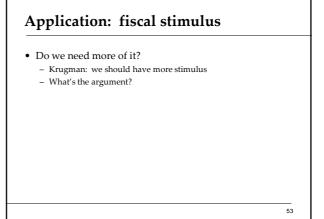
- Increase government purchases
- Which curve shifts? Which way?
- What happens to Y and P?

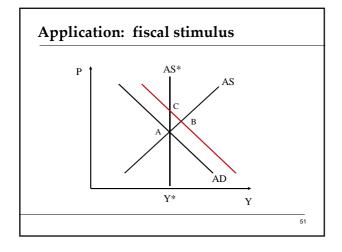
49

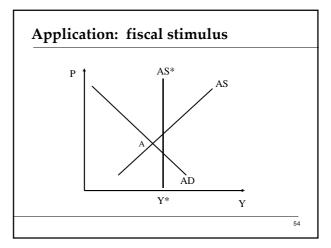
Application: fiscal stimulus

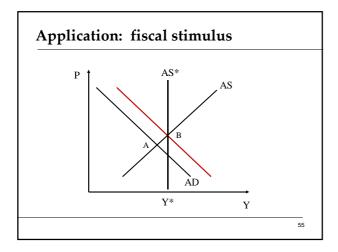
- Analysis same as previous one
 - AD shifts right
 - Short run impact: Y and P both rise
 - Long run impact: only P rises

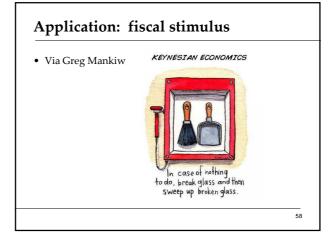












Application: fiscal stimulus

- How powerful is fiscal stimulus?
 - The "multiplier" m: if G goes up \$1, Y goes up \$m
 - Estimates range from 0 to 2
 - Best guess: multiplier around one, maybe a little less
 - Takes 1-2 years to implement
- What about tax cuts?
 - Estimate 70-75% of temporary tax cuts are saved
 - Hence: not much of an increase in demand
- Where does this leave Krugman?

56

Application: fiscal stimulus

- David Cameron @ NYU, March 16, 2012
 - Q: Is Keynesianism dead?
 - A: I don't think there's a huge difference between our approaches [stimulus in the US, austerity in the UK]. We both want growth. We both want to deal with our deficits.
 - As for Keynes: Of course government can stimulate economic activity. But when you're borrowing around 10% of your GDP, as we were in 2010, when the markets are beginning to ask, are you going to pay your debts? In that case, stimulus could raise interest rates and slow the economy. So I think you need to be practical.

59

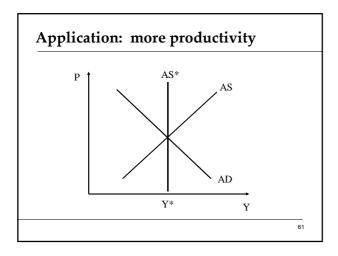
Application: fiscal stimulus

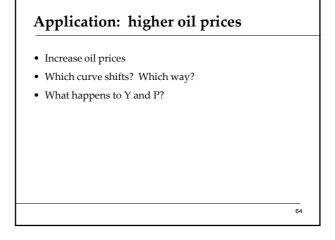
- Should we hire people to do nothing?
 - Pro argument: generates value through multiplier
 - Con argument: it's a waste of resources

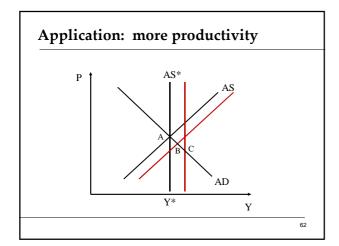
Application: productivity

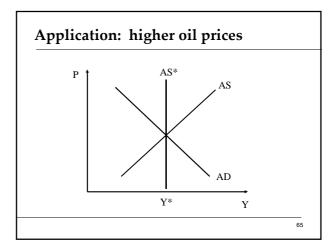
- · Increase productivity A
- Which curve shifts? Which way?
- What happens to Y and P?

60



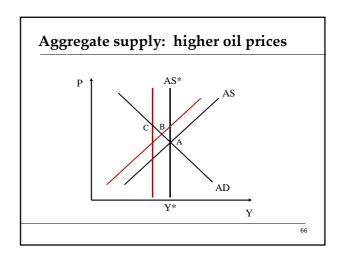






Application: more productivity

- Start at A: short-run and long-run equilibrium
- More productivity: AS and AS* shift right
- New short-run equilibrium at B
 - Lower prices, higher output
- New long-run equilibrium at C
 - Even lower prices, higher output
- Why? Does this make sense to you?



Application: higher oil prices

- Start at A: short run and long run equilibrium
- Higher oil prices: AS and AS* shift left
- New short-run equilibrium at B
 - Higher prices, lower output
- $\bullet\;$ New long-run equilibrium at C
 - Even higher prices, lower output
- Why? Does this make sense to you?

67

Midterm

- 110 points total
- Mean: 85
- Approximate A range (35%): 92 to 103
- Solid B: 70 and above
- Don't panic, but could use improvement: below 70

70

What have we learned?

- Aggregate supply and demand is the analyst standard
 - Supply refers to production, affected by productivity, oil prices, etc.
 - Demand refers to purchases, affected by money supply, government purchases, etc
- Summary
 - In the long run, output is determined by the production function (the first half of the course)
 - In the short run, things like the money supply and government purchases also matter (this part of the course)

68

The idea

- Most countercyclical policies affect demand
- If the problem is with supply, we're out of luck [although lots of things increase productivity over time]

71

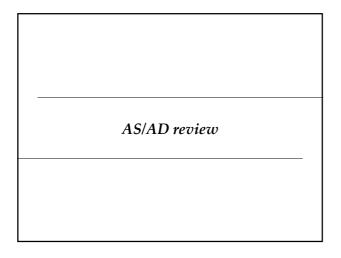
The Global Economy

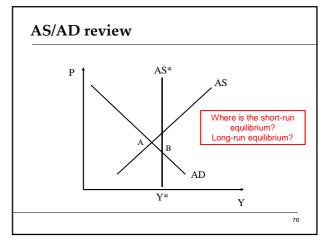
Policy in the AS/AD Model

nyu**\$**Stern

Roadmap

- AS/AD review
- Crisis of confidence
- Where do business cycles come from?
- Policy goals and responses
- What happened?





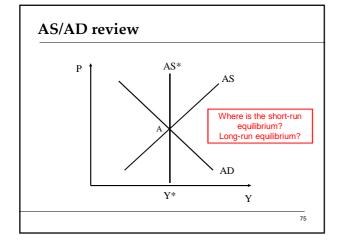
AS/AD review

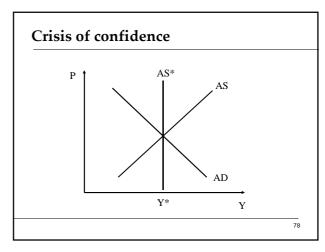
- Aggregate supply and demand
 - Supply concerns the production of goods
 - Demand concerns purchases of goods
- · How to use them
 - Short-run equilibrium: where AS and AD cross
 - Long-run equilibrium: where AS* and AD cross
- What shifts them
 - AD: money supply, government purchases, "optimism"
 - AS & AS*: productivity, capital stock, oil prices
 - Rule of thumb: AS and AS* shift left/right by the same amount

74

Crisis of confidence

- Where are we now?
- Do Feroli's channels affect supply or demand?
- If demand, which way does AD shift? What is the impact on growth and inflation?
- What would you add or do differently?





Where do business cycles come from?

Inflation and growth

- Would you expect to see high growth associated with high or low inflation? Why?
- How would inflation and growth be related if
 - Most shifts were in aggregate demand?
 - Most shifts were in aggregate supply?
- Where do you see demand "shocks"?
- Where do you see supply "shocks"?

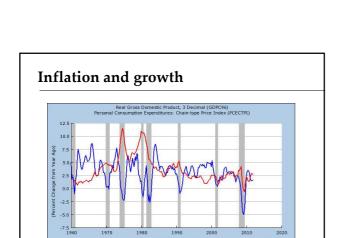
82

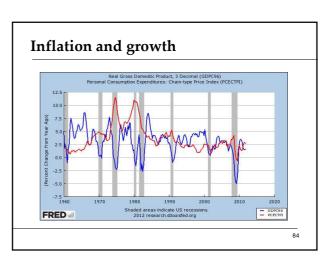
Inflation and growth

- Why do inflation and growth change?
- Shifts in AS and AD?

FRED

• Which one? How can you tell?





Inflation and growth

• Do we see mostly supply or demand shocks?

Policy goals and responses

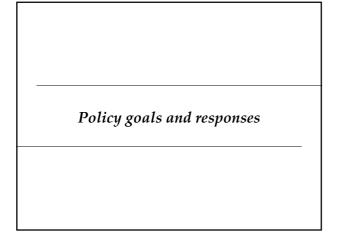
- The idea
 - Monetary policy should respond differently to changes in output that result from supply and demand shifts
 - Accommodate one, offset the other
 - Intuitive only when you understand it not before!

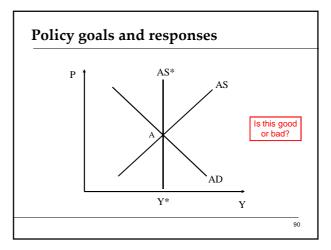
88

Inflation and growth Inflation 14.0 12.0 10.0 8.0 6.0 4.0 2.0 0.0 -2.0 GDP growth 86

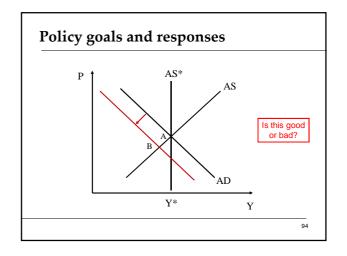
Policy goals and responses

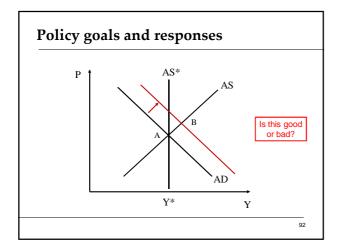
- What are our policy goals?
 - Low inflation or stable prices [why?]
 - Output at or near Y* [invisible hand again]
- How would we reach them?
 - Typically monetary policy, which shifts AD
 - Could use fiscal policy, too, but it takes longer to implement

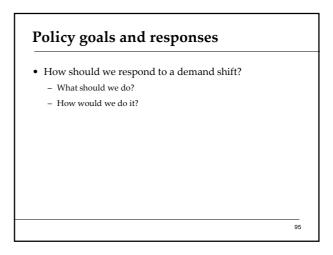


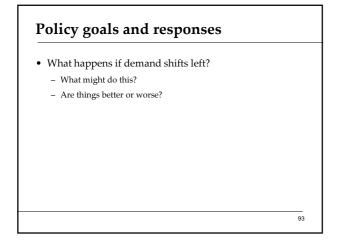


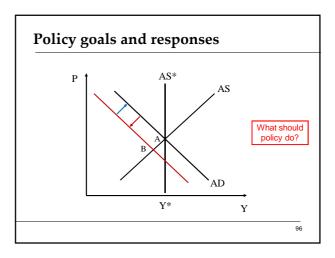
Policy goals and responses • What happens if demand shifts right? - What might do this? - Are things better or worse?











Policy goals and responses

- How should we respond to a demand shift?
 - Reverse it: use (say) monetary policy to shift demand back to A
- Does this make sense to you?

97

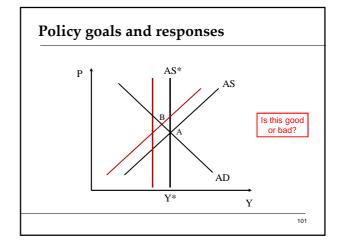
Policy goals and responses

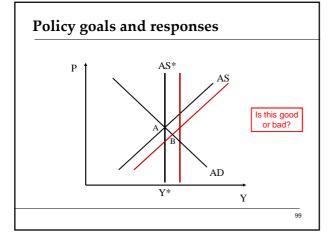
- What happens if supply shifts left?
 - What might do this?
 - Are things better or worse?

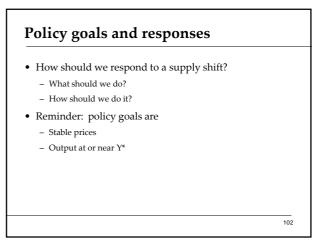
100

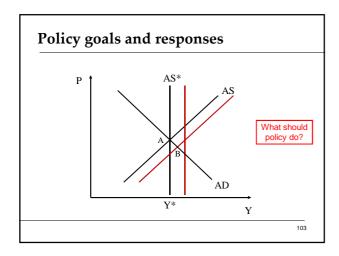
Policy goals and responses

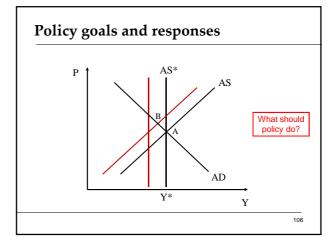
- Now do the same thing with supply shifts
- Same logic, but keep your eyes open for something new
- What happens if supply shifts right?
 - What might do this?
 - Are things better or worse?

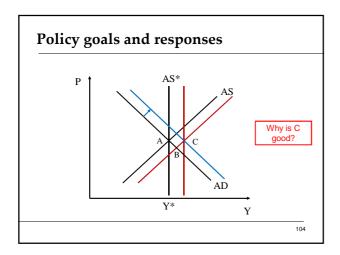


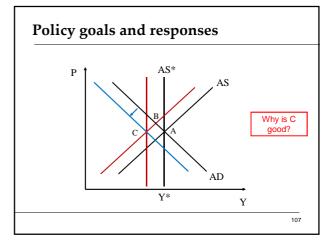












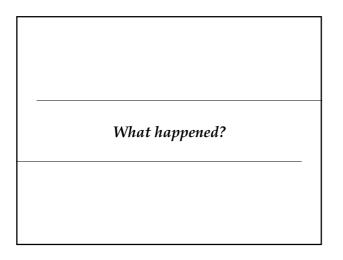
Policy goals and responses

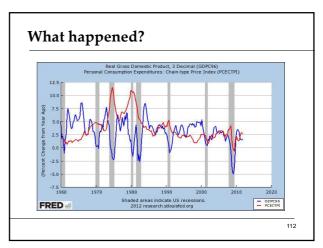
- How should we respond to a supply shift?
 - Reinforce or "accommodate" it: shift AD in same direction as AS $\,$
- Does this make sense?

105

Policy goals and responses

- How should we respond to a supply shift?
 - Reinforce or "accommodate" it: shift AD in same direction as AS
- Does it make sense to lower output further?



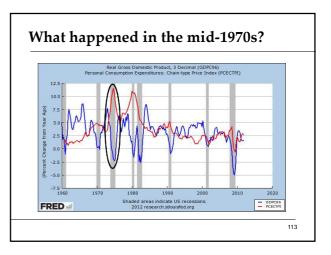


What happened?

• Our mission

- Identify source of shock: supply or demand?
- Recommend the appropriate policy

110

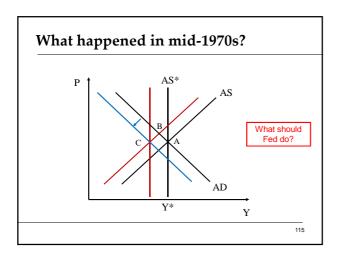


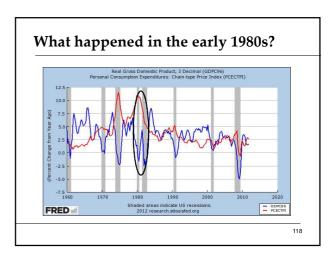
What happened?

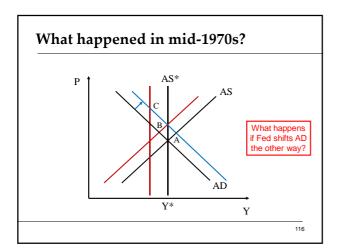
- In the mid 1970s?
 - GDP growth low, inflation jumped up
- In the early 1980s
 - Double-dip recession, inflation fell sharply
- In the late 1990s?
 - GDP growth high, inflation remained low
- In the early 2000s?
 - Fear of deflation, aggressive monetary expansion

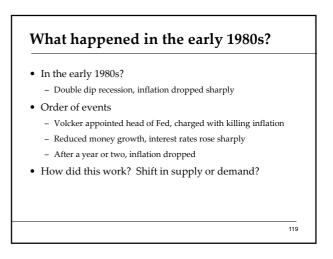
What happened in the mid-1970s?

- In the mid 1970s?
 - GDP growth low, inflation jumped up
- Order of events
 - OPEC raised oil prices from \$15 to \$30 $\,$
 - Output fell
 - Inflation soared and stayed up
- How did this work? Shift in supply or demand?

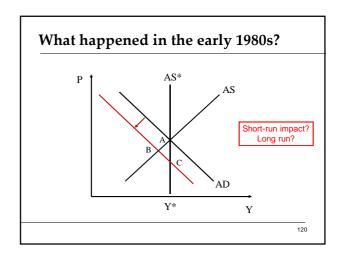








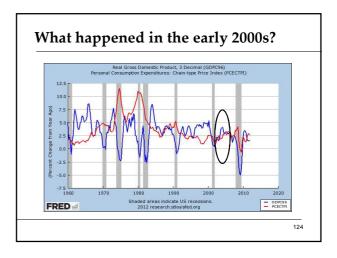
What happened in the mid-1970s? • Standard interpretation of 1970s inflation - OPEC was a shift left in AS/AS* - Fed should therefore accommodate, shift AD left - If so, we would have seen a drop in Y but stable prices - But the Fed shifted AD right, raising inflation sharply - Long-run output response the same in both cases

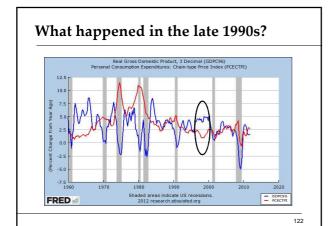


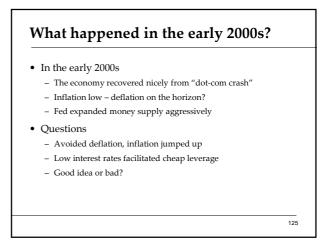
What happened in the early 1980s?

- · Standard interpretation
 - Fed shifted AD back sharply
 - Short run impact: recession, lower inflation (A to B)
 - Long-run impact: much lower inflation (B to C)
- Why do some find prospect of inflation so painful?

121







What happened in the late 1990s?

- In the late 1990s
 - The economy is booming
 - Is it "overheating"?
 - What should the Fed do?
- Recall:
 - If high demand, Fed should reverse it
 - If high supply, Fed should accommodate
 - Which was it? How can you tell?

123

Deflation summary

- Deflation = negative inflation (falling prices)
- Evidence
 - Deflation associated with bad economic performance: US in 1930s in the US, Japan in 1990s
 - $\,$ $\,$ Also with good performance: US in 1880s, many others
- Theoretical mechanism
 - Unexpected deflation benefits lenders, hurts borrowers
 - Therefore bad?

What have we learned?

- Shifts to supply and demand move GDP growth and inflation around
- AS/AD model suggests we should
 - "Offset" demand shifts
 - "Accommodate" supply shifts
- How can we tell them apart?
 - Ask yourself whether inflation and GDP growth are moving in the same direction or not

127

For the ride home

- Should Fed continue aggressive expansion of money supply ("quantitative easing")?
- Or slow down?
- Why or why not?