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Principles of  
**Macroeconomics**  
 Sixth Edition

18

Open-Economy  
 Macroeconomics:  
 Basic Concepts

*Premium  
 PowerPoint  
 Slides by  
 Ron Cronovich*




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*In this chapter,  
 look for the answers to these questions:*

- How are international flows of goods and assets related?
- What's the difference between the real and nominal exchange rate?
- What is "purchasing-power parity," and how does it explain nominal exchange rates?

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**Introduction**

- One of the Ten Principles of Economics from Chapter 1:  
*Trade can make everyone better off.*
- This chapter introduces basic concepts of international macroeconomics:
  - The trade balance (trade deficits, surpluses)
  - International flows of assets
  - Exchange rates

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## Closed vs. Open Economies

- A **closed economy** does not interact with other economies in the world.

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## The Flow of Goods & Services

- **Exports:**  
domestically-produced g&s sold abroad
- **Imports:**  
foreign-produced g&s sold domestically

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### ACTIVE LEARNING 1

#### Variables that affect NX

What do you think would happen to U.S. net exports if:

- A.** Canada experiences a recession (falling incomes, rising unemployment)
- B.** U.S. consumers decide to be patriotic and buy more products "Made in the U.S.A."
- C.** Prices of goods produced in Mexico rise faster than prices of goods produced in the U.S.

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## ACTIVE LEARNING 1

### Answers

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### Variables that Influence Net Exports

- Consumers' preferences for foreign and domestic goods
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- Transportation costs
- Govt policies

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### Trade Surpluses & Deficits

***NX*** measures the imbalance in a country's trade in goods and services.

- **Trade deficit:**
- **Trade surplus:**
- **Balanced trade:**

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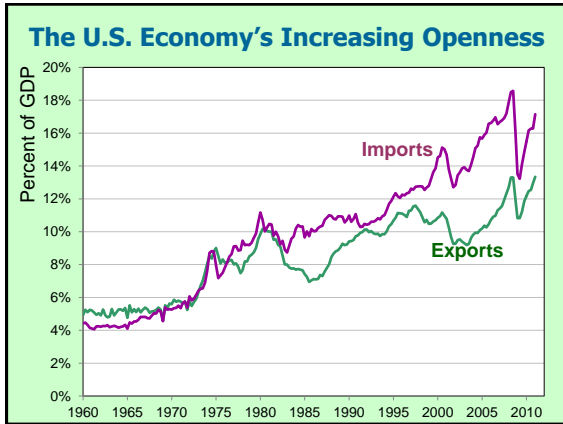
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### The Flow of Capital

- **Net capital outflow (NCO):**
  
- **NCO** is also called

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### The Flow of Capital

The flow of capital abroad takes two forms:

- **Foreign direct investment:**  
Domestic residents actively manage the foreign investment, e.g., McDonalds opens a fast-food outlet in Moscow.
- **Foreign portfolio investment:**  
Domestic residents

12

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## The Flow of Capital

**NCO** measures the imbalance in a country's trade in assets:

- When **NCO** > 0,
- When **NCO** < 0, "capital inflow"  
Foreign purchases of domestic assets exceed domestic purchases of foreign assets.

13

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## Variables that Influence NCO

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- Govt policies affecting foreign ownership of domestic assets

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## The Equality of NX and NCO

- An accounting identity: **NCO** = **NX**
  - arises because
- (and vice versa)
- When a foreigner purchases a good from the U.S.,

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### The Equality of NX and NCO

- When a U.S. citizen buys foreign goods,
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- the U.S. buyer pays with U.S. dollars or assets, so

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### Saving, Investment, and International Flows of Goods & Assets

$Y = C + I + G + NX$       accounting identity  
rearranging terms  
since  $S = Y - C - G$   
since  $NX = NCO$

- When  $S > I$ ,
- When  $S < I$ ,

17

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### Case Study: The U.S. Trade Deficit

- The U.S. trade deficit reached record levels in 2006 and remained high in 2007–2008.
- Recall,  $NX = S - I = NCO$ .  
A trade deficit means
- In 2007, foreign purchases of U.S. assets exceeded U.S. purchases of foreign assets by \$775 million.
- Such deficits have been the norm since 1980...

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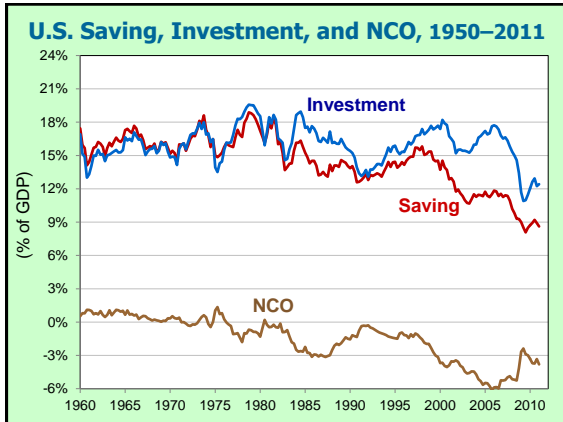
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### Case Study: The U.S. Trade Deficit

Why U.S. saving has been less than investment:

- In the 1980s and early 2000s,
  
- In the 1990s, national saving increased as the economy grew, but

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### Case Study: The U.S. Trade Deficit

- Is the U.S. trade deficit a problem?
  - The extra capital stock from the '90s investment boom may well yield large returns.
  - The fall in saving of the '80s and '00s, while not desirable, at least did not depress domestic investment, since firms could borrow from abroad.
- A country, like a person, can go into debt for good reasons or bad ones. A trade deficit is not necessarily a problem, but might be a symptom of a problem.

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## Case Study: The U.S. Trade Deficit

as of 12-31-2009

People abroad owned \$21.1 trillion in U.S. assets.  
U.S. residents owned \$18.4 trillion in foreign assets.  
U.S.' net indebtedness to other countries = \$2.7 trillion.  
Higher than every other country's net indebtedness:

- So far, the U.S. earns higher interest rates on foreign assets than it pays on its debts to foreigners.
- But if U.S. debt continues to grow, foreigners may demand higher interest rates, and servicing the debt would become a drain on U.S. income.

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## The Nominal Exchange Rate

- **Nominal exchange rate:**
- We express all exchange rates as foreign currency per unit of domestic currency.

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## Appreciation and Depreciation

- **Appreciation** (or "strengthening"):  
  
as measured by the amount of foreign currency it can buy
- **Depreciation** (or "weakening"):  
  
as measured by the amount of foreign currency it can buy
- Examples: During 2007, the U.S. dollar...
  - depreciated 9.5% against the Euro
  - appreciated 1.5% against the S. Korean Won

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## The Real Exchange Rate

- Real exchange rate:

- Real exchange rate =

where

$P$  =

$P^*$  = foreign price (in foreign currency)

$e$  = nominal exchange rate, i.e., foreign currency per unit of domestic currency

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## Example With One Good

- A Big Mac costs \$2.50 in U.S., 400 yen in Japan

- $e$  = 120 yen per \$

- $e \times P$  =

- Compute the real exchange rate:

$$\frac{e \times P}{P^*} = \frac{\text{yen per U.S. Big Mac}}{\text{yen per Japanese Big Mac}}$$

=

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## Interpreting the Real Exchange Rate

"The real exchange rate =

0.75 Japanese Big Macs per U.S. Big Mac"

Correct interpretation:

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## ACTIVE LEARNING 2

### Compute a real exchange rate

$e$  = 10 pesos per \$

price of a tall Starbucks Latte

$P$  = \$3 in U.S.,  $P^*$  = 24 pesos in Mexico

- A. What is the price of a U.S. latte measured in pesos?
- B. Calculate the real exchange rate, measured as Mexican lattes per U.S. latte.

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### The Real Exchange Rate With Many Goods

$P$  =

measures the price of a basket of goods

$P^*$  =

Real exchange rate

=  $(e \times P)/P^*$

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- If U.S. real exchange rate appreciates,

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### The Law of One Price

#### ▪ Law of one price:

- Suppose coffee sells for \$4/pound in Seattle and \$5/pound in Boston, and can be costlessly transported.
- There is an opportunity for \_\_\_\_\_, making a quick profit by buying coffee in Seattle and selling it in Boston.
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## Purchasing-Power Parity (PPP)

- **Purchasing-power parity:**

- based on the law of one price
- implies that

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## Purchasing-Power Parity (PPP)

- Example: The “basket” contains a Big Mac.  
 $P$  = price of U.S. Big Mac (in dollars)  
 $P^*$  = price of Japanese Big Mac (in yen)  
 $e$  = exchange rate, yen per dollar
- According to PPP,
- Solve for  $e$ :

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## PPP and Its Implications

- PPP implies
- If the two countries have different inflation rates, then
  - If inflation is higher in Mexico than in the U.S.,
  - If inflation is higher in the U.S. than in Japan, then  $P$  rises faster than  $P^*$ ,

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### Limitations of PPP Theory

Two reasons why exchange rates do not always adjust to equalize prices across countries:

- - Examples: haircuts, going to the movies
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- - E.g., some U.S. consumers prefer Toyotas over Chevys, or vice versa
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### Limitations of PPP Theory

- Nonetheless, PPP works well in many cases, especially as an explanation of long-run trends.
- For example, PPP implies:

(relative to a low-inflation country like the US).

- The data support this prediction...

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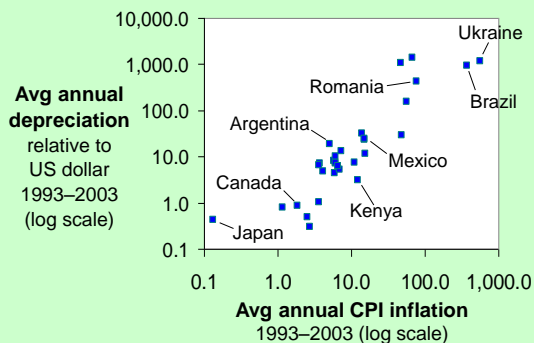
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### Inflation & Depreciation in a Cross-Section of 31 Countries



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ACTIVE LEARNING 3

Chapter review questions

1. Which of the following statements about a country with a trade deficit is not true?
  - A. Exports < imports
  - B. Net capital outflow < 0
  - C. Investment < saving
  - D.  $Y < C + I + G$
2. A Ford Escape SUV sells for \$24,000 in the U.S. and 720,000 rubles in Russia.  
If purchasing-power parity holds, what is the nominal exchange rate (rubles per dollar)?

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