

- (a) Write down the choice problem face by a young person (write out the budget constraint in terms of l and c_2)

$$\begin{aligned} \max U &= \ln(l) + \beta c_2 \\ \text{s.t. } \begin{cases} n + l = T \\ c_2 \leq \frac{v_{t+1}}{v_t} \omega n + a_{t+1} \end{cases} &\implies l + c_2 / [\omega \frac{v_{t+1}}{v_t}] \leq T + a_{t+1} / [\omega \frac{v_{t+1}}{v_t}] \end{aligned}$$

- (b) What happens to real GDP in this economy as inflation rate rises? Explain?

$$\begin{aligned} \max U &= \ln(l) + \beta c_2 \\ \text{s.t. } l + z c_2 / \omega &\leq T + z a_{t+1} / \omega \\ a_{t+1} &= (1 - \frac{1}{z}) v_{t+1} M_{t+1} = (1 - \frac{1}{z}) \omega n_{t+1} \\ \implies l + z c_2 / \omega &\leq T + (z - 1) n_{t+1} \\ \max \ln(l) + \beta [T + (z - 1) n_{t+1} - l] \frac{\omega}{z} \end{aligned}$$

F.O.C

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{l} - \beta \omega / z &= 0 \\ l &= \frac{z}{\beta \omega} \\ y = \omega n = \omega(T - l) &= \omega T - \frac{z}{\beta} \end{aligned}$$

y decreases with higher inflation. Here we assume $\frac{z}{\beta \omega} \leq T$, otherwise people will choose not to work.

- (c) How to interpret the welfare cost of inflation in this economy?

$$\ln(l) + \beta [T + (z - 1) n_{t+1} - l] \frac{\omega}{z} = \ln(z) - \ln(\beta \omega) + \beta (\omega T - \frac{z}{\beta}) = \ln(z) - z + C$$

which decreases with z when $z \geq 1$. Inflation is costly since it distorts the rate of return for money, driving the economy out of first-best allocation.