

BEVERIDGEAN PHILLIPS CURVE

Pascal Michaillat, Emmanuel Saez

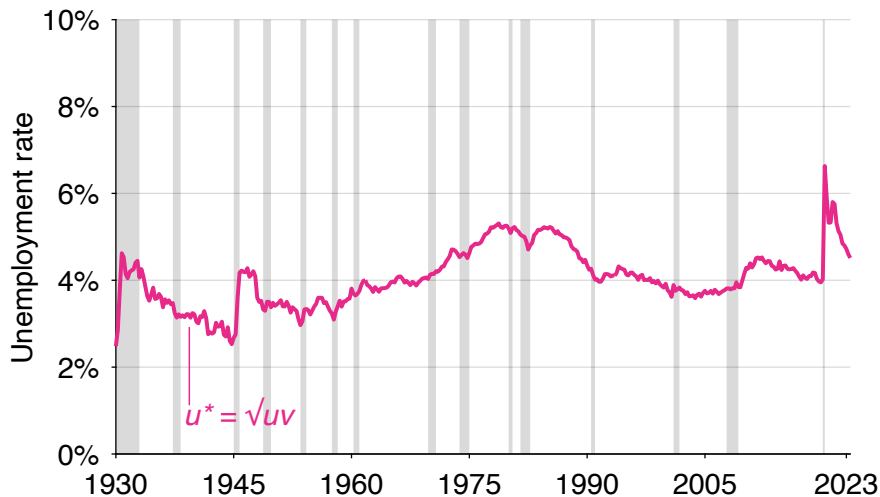
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Available at <https://pascalmichaillat.org/15/>

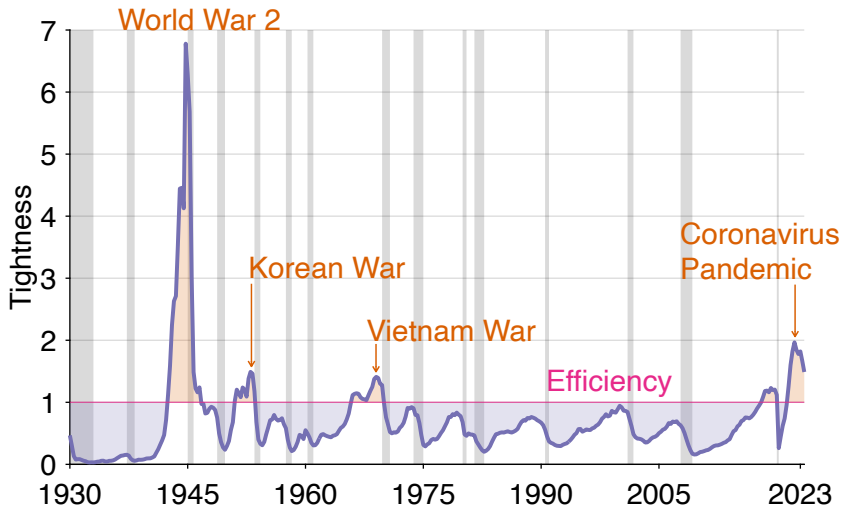
THE FED'S DUAL MANDATE

- Responsibility of the Federal Reserve “to promote effectively the goals of **maximum employment, stable prices**”
 - Federal Reserve Reform Act of 1977
- Stable prices: $\pi^* = 2\%$
 - Statement on Longer-Run Goals & Monetary Policy Strategy (2012)
- Maximum employment: $u^* = \sqrt{uv}, \theta^* = 1$
 - Proposal by Michaillat & Saez (2024)
 - u^*, θ^* maximize social welfare

$u^* = \sqrt{uv}$ AVERAGES 4.1% OVER 1930–2023



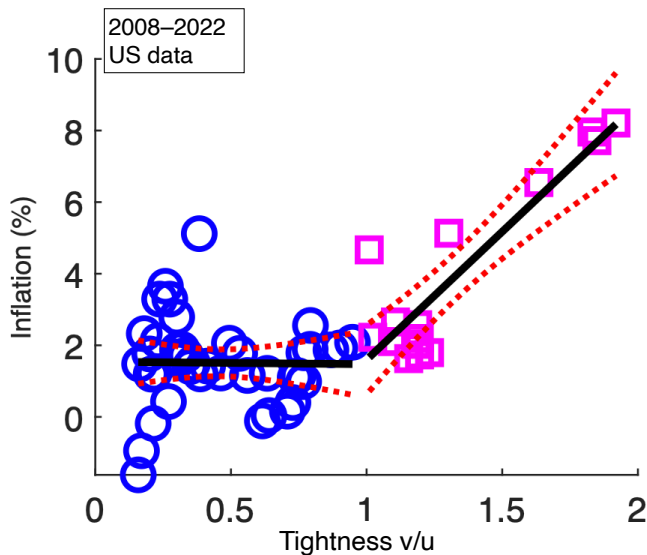
US LABOR MARKET IS GENERALLY INEFFICIENTLY SLACK



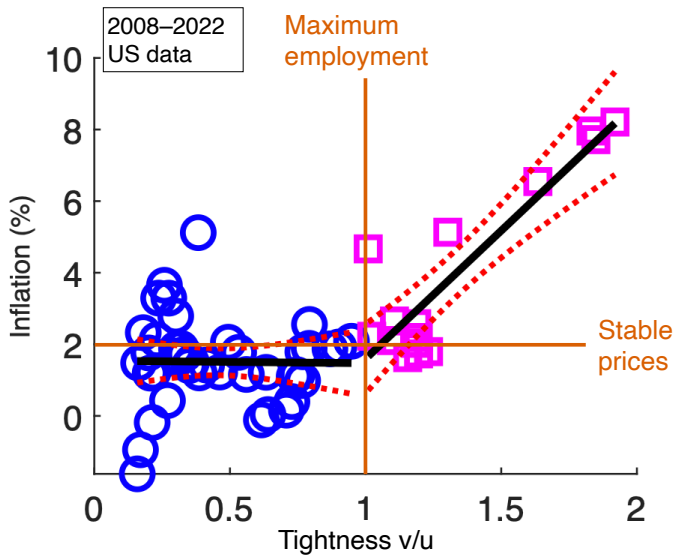
TRADITIONALLY, THE TWO MANDATES ARE NOT CONSISTENT

- Under **traditional Phillips curve**: no guarantee that (u^*, π^*) is on curve
- Under **accelerationist Phillips curve**: no guarantee that the NAIRU maximize social welfare
 - All other unemployment rate are inconsistent with stable inflation
- In **New Keynesian model** with unemployment fluctuations: wage rigidity breaks down divine coincidence
 - Blanchard & Gali (2010) see divine coincidence as unrealistic

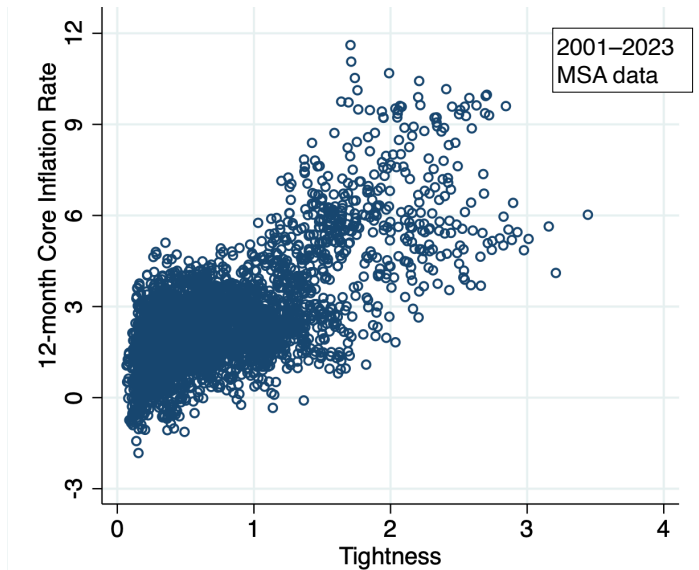
BUT: BENIGNO & EGGERTSSON (2023)



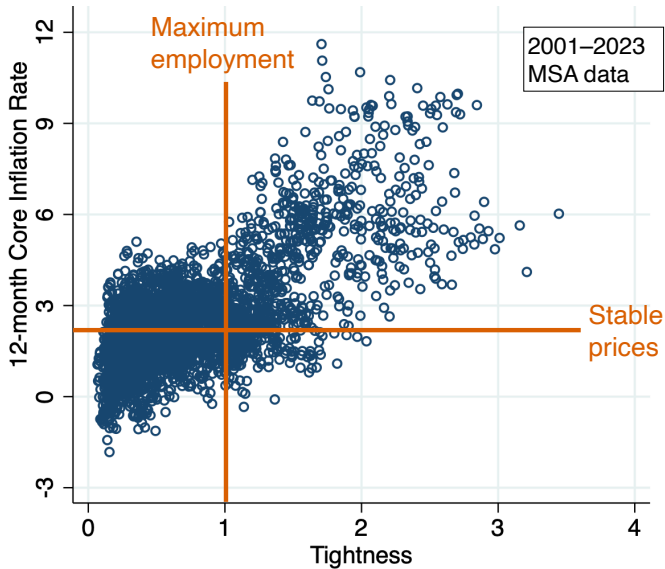
BUT: BENIGNO & EGGERTSSON (2023)



BUT: GITTI (2023)



BUT: GITTI (2023)



DIVINE COINCIDENCE APPEARS NATURALLY IN BEVERIDGEAN PHILLIPS CURVE

- Beveridgean business-cycle model from Michaillat & Saez (2022)
 - Sellers find customers through **matching** \Rightarrow unemployment
 - **Utility from wealth** \Rightarrow nondegenerate aggregate demand
- Price competition through **directed search** (Moen 1997)
- Price rigidity from **quadratic price-adjustment costs** (Rotemberg 1982)

\leadsto Divine coincidence appears: $\pi = \pi^*$ iff $u = u^*$

- Other properties of the model:
 - Permanent zero-lower-bound episodes
 - Fluctuations in unemployment & inflation
 - With kink in Phillips curve: fluctuations in unemployment in bad times but fluctuations in inflation in good times

DESCRIPTION OF THE MODEL

UNEMPLOYED WORKERS AND RECRUITERS

- People are organized in large households
- Services are traded through long-term relationships
 - People are full-time employees in other households
 - Employment relationships separate at rate $s > 0$
- Household k has l_k workers producing services
 - y_{jk} workers work for household j
 - $y_k = \int_0^1 y_{jk}(t) dk$ workers are employed
 - $U_k = l_k - y_k$ **unemployed workers are at shop k**
- Household j sends V_{jk} employees from household k to recruit workers at shop k
 - $V_k = \int_0^1 V_{jk}(t) dj$ **recruiters are at shop k**

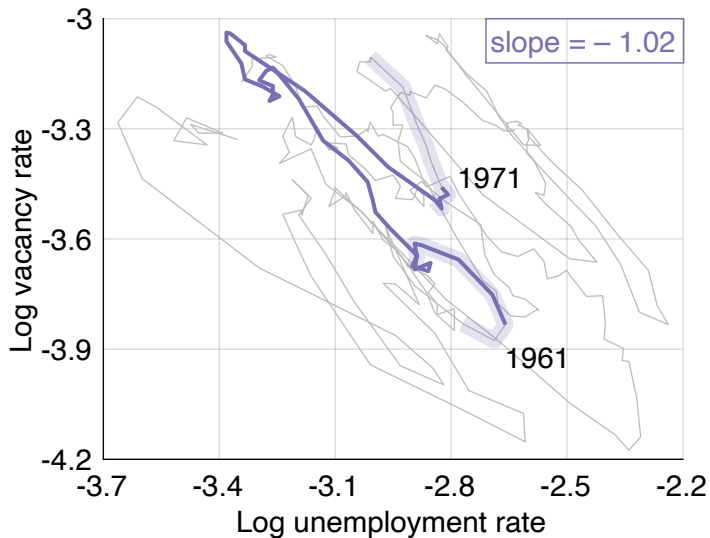
MATCHING BETWEEN WORKERS AND EMPLOYERS

- Matching function determines flow of hires at shop k :

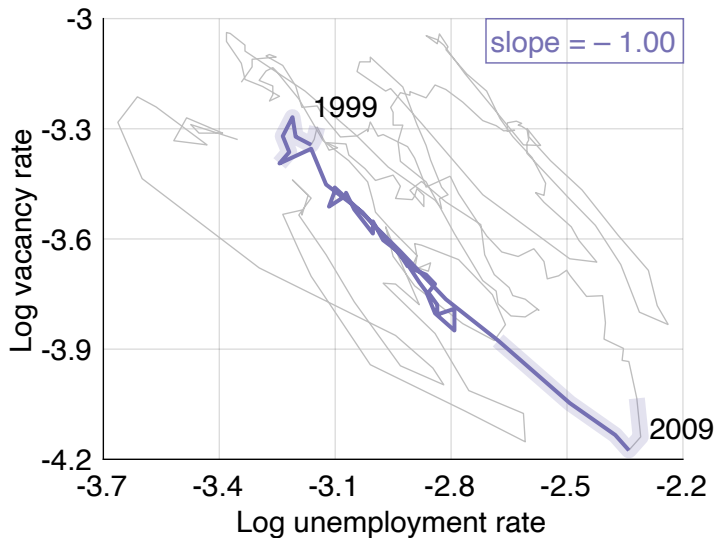
$$h_k = h(U_k, V_k) = \omega \cdot \sqrt{U_k \cdot V_k} - s \cdot U_k$$

- Matching function has standard properties
 - Constant returns to scale
 - $h = 0$ when $U = 0$
 - Increasing in V and U (as long as unemployment $< 50\%$)
 - Concave in V and U
- Market tightness $\theta_k = V_k/U_k$ determines trading rates
 - Job-finding rate: $f(\theta_k) = h_k/U_k = \omega \cdot \sqrt{\theta_k} - s$
 - Recruiting rate: $q(\theta_k) = h_k/V_k = \omega/\sqrt{\theta_k} - s/\theta_k$

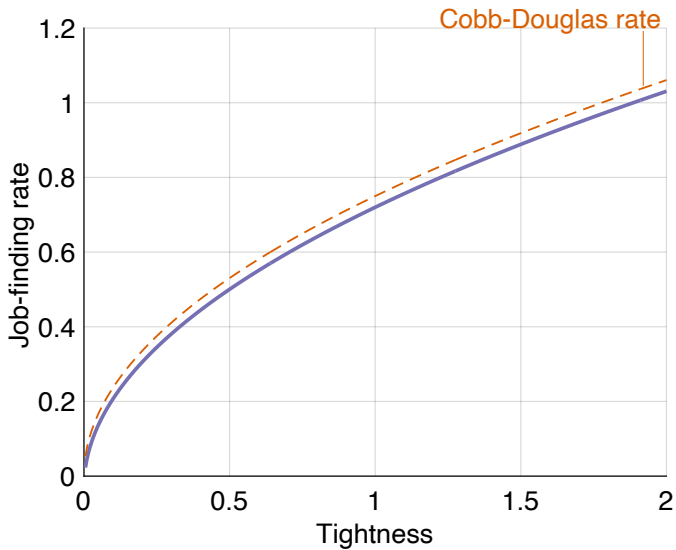
US BEVERIDGE CURVE \approx HYPERBOLA



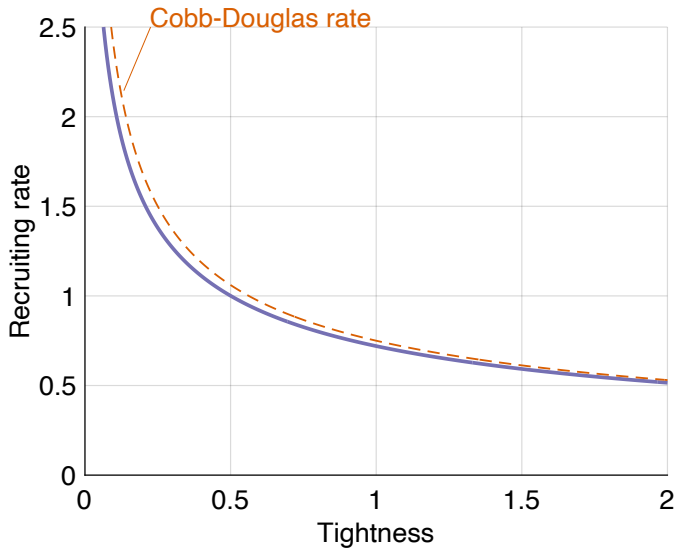
US BEVERIDGE CURVE \approx HYPERBOLA



MATCHING RATES BETWEEN WORKERS AND EMPLOYERS



MATCHING RATES BETWEEN WORKERS AND EMPLOYERS



BALANCED FLOWS AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

- Number of employed workers in household k :

$$\dot{y}_k = f(\theta_k) \cdot U_k - s \cdot y_k = f(\theta_k) \cdot U_k - s \cdot [l_k - U_k]$$

- US labor-market flows are balanced (Michaillat & Saez 2021)
 - Assume that flows are balanced in all (j, k) cells
 - In particular flows are balanced in household k : $\dot{y}_k = 0$
- Local tightness and local unemployment rate are directly related:

$$u(\theta_k) \equiv \frac{U_k}{l_k} = \frac{s}{s + f(\theta_k)}$$

MODEL BEVERIDGE CURVE IS AN HYPERBOLA

- Balanced flows: $u_k = s / [s + f(\theta_k)]$
- Matching function: $f(\theta_k) = \omega \cdot \sqrt{\theta_k} - s$

$$\leadsto u_k = (s/\omega) / \sqrt{v_k/u_k}$$

- Beveridge curve is a rectangular hyperbola, just like in the US:

$$v_k \times u_k = (s/\omega)^2$$

- s/ω : location of the Beveridge curve

BALANCED FLOWS AND RECRUITER-PRODUCER RATIO

- Recruiters from household k employed by household j : V_{jk}
 - Their services do not deliver direct utility
- Producers from household k employed by household j : $c_{jk} = y_{jk} - V_{jk}$
 - Their services deliver direct utility
- Workers from household k employed by household j :

$$\dot{y}_{jk} = q(\theta_k) \cdot V_{jk} - s \cdot y_{jk} = q(\theta_k) \cdot V_{jk} - s \cdot [c_{jk} + V_{jk}]$$

- Flows are balanced in all (j, k) cells: $\dot{y}_{jk} = 0$
- Local tightness determines the local recruiter-producer ratio:

$$\tau(\theta_k) \equiv \frac{V_{jk}}{c_{jk}} = \frac{s}{q(\theta_k) - s}$$

PRODUCTIVE EFFICIENCY AT SHOP k

- Amount of services consumed:

$$c_k = y_k - V_k = l_k - U_k - V_k = l_k \cdot [1 - u_k - v_k]$$

- Maximizing c_k is equivalent to minimizing $u_k + v_k$
- Subject to the Beveridge curve $v_k \times u_k = (s/\omega)^2$
- From Michaillat & Saez (2024), the solution to the maximization is

$$u_k^* = \sqrt{u_k v_k} = s/\omega, \quad \theta_k^* = 1$$

DIRECTED SEARCH AND PRICE/TIGHTNESS COMPETITION

- All workers from household k charge price p_k per unit time
- Expenditure by household j on workers k is

$$p_k \cdot y_{jk} = p_k \cdot [c_{jk} + V_{jk}] = p_k \cdot [1 + \tau(\theta_k)] \cdot c_{jk}$$

- Workers are **perfectly substitutable**
 - Only $c_j = \int_0^1 c_{jk}(t) dk$ enters the utility function
- $p_k \cdot [1 + \tau(\theta_k)]$ must be the same across sellers (Moen 1997)
 - If not, there are cheaper workers available (lower p_k)
 - Or workers that can be hired more easily (lower τ_k)
- There is a price level p so $p_k \cdot [1 + \tau(\theta_k)] = p \cdot [1 + \tau(\theta)]$ for all k

EFFECT OF LOCAL PRICE ON LOCAL TIGHTNESS

- Price chosen by household k determines the tightness it faces:

$$\theta_k = \tau^{-1} \left(\frac{p}{p_k} [1 + \tau(\theta)] - 1 \right)$$

- The function τ^{-1} is increasing, so θ_k is decreasing in p_k
- A high price leads to low tightness, high unemployment
- A low price leads to high tightness, low unemployment

EFFICIENCY WITHOUT PRICE-ADJUSTMENT COSTS

- Seller chooses price to maximize income subject to demand curve
- Subject to demand $\theta_k(p_k)$, seller chooses p_k to maximize:

$$p_k \cdot y_k = p \cdot [1 + \tau(\theta)] \cdot \frac{y_k}{1 + \tau(\theta_k)} = p \cdot [1 + \tau(\theta)] \cdot \frac{1 - u(\theta_k)}{1 + \tau(\theta_k)} \cdot l_k$$

- $\tau(\theta), u(\theta), v(\theta)$ are linked by

$$\frac{1 - u(\theta_k)}{1 + \tau(\theta_k)} = 1 - u(\theta_k) - v(\theta_k)$$

- seller sets local tightness θ_k to minimize $u(\theta_k) + v(\theta_k)$
- ⇔ Sets unemployment rate u_k to minimize $u_k + v(u_k)$
- ⇔ Unemployment rate u_k is efficient (Moen 1997)

PRICE RIGIDITY

- Unexpected price/wage changes **upset customers/workers**
 - Shiller (1996): higher-than-normal price inflation upsets customers, who feel unfairly treated when they go to the store
 - Bewley (1999): lower-than-normal wages damage workers' morale, who feel unfairly treated
- Inflation chosen by household k : $\pi_k = \dot{p}_k/p_k$
- Flow disutility when inflation deviates from norm (Rotemberg 1982):

$$\frac{\kappa}{2} \cdot [\pi_k - \pi^*]^2$$

PEOPLE'S PREFERENCES

- Household j maximizes utility

$$\int_0^{\infty} e^{-\delta t} \left\{ \ln(c_j(t)) + \sigma \cdot \left[\frac{b_j(t)}{p(t)} - \frac{b(t)}{p(t)} \right] - \frac{\kappa}{2} \cdot [\pi_j - \pi^*]^2 \right\} dt$$

- $\delta > 0$: time discount rate
- $\sigma > 0$: status concerns
- $c_j(t) = \int_0^1 c_{jk}(t) dk$: total consumption of services
- $b_j(t)$: saving in government bonds
- $b(t) = \int_0^1 b_j(t) dj$: aggregate wealth

PEOPLE'S BUDGET CONSTRAINT

- Law of motion of government bond holdings for household j :

$$\dot{b}_j = i \cdot b_j - \int_0^1 p_k y_{jk} dk + p_j y_j$$

- Because of matching and directed search, expenditure becomes:

$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^1 p_k y_{jk} dk &= \int_0^1 p_k [1 + \tau(\theta_k)] c_{jk} dk \\ &= p \cdot [1 + \tau(\theta)] \cdot \int_0^1 c_{jk} dk \\ &= p \cdot [1 + \tau(\theta)] \cdot c_j\end{aligned}$$

- Because of matching and directed search, income becomes:

$$p_j \cdot y_j = p_j \cdot [1 - u(\theta_j(p_j))] \cdot l_j$$

SOLUTION OF THE MODEL

SOLVING HOUSEHOLD MAXIMIZATION BY HAMILTONIAN

- Hamiltonian of household j 's maximization is

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{H}_j = & \ln(c_j) + \sigma \cdot \left[\frac{b_j}{p} - \frac{b}{p} \right] - \frac{\kappa}{2} \cdot [\pi_j - \pi^*]^2 \\ & + \mathcal{A}_j \cdot [i \cdot b_j - p \cdot [1 + \tau] \cdot c_j + p_j \cdot [1 - u(\theta_j(p_j))] \cdot l_j] \\ & + \mathcal{B}_j \cdot \pi_j \cdot p_j.\end{aligned}$$

- Control variables: c_j, π_j
- State variables: b_j, p_j
- Costate variables: $\mathcal{A}_j, \mathcal{B}_j$
- Symmetric solution of model: households behave identically

AGGREGATE SUPPLY: PHILLIPS EQUATION

- From optimal pricing by households:

$$\dot{\pi} = \delta \cdot (\pi - \pi^*) - \frac{1}{\kappa} \cdot \left[1 - \frac{u}{v(u)} \cdot \frac{1 - u - v(u)}{1 - 2u} \right]$$

- κ : price-adjustment cost
- $1 - \frac{u \cdot (1 - u - v)}{v \cdot (1 - 2u)}$: inefficiency of the economy
 - Zero $\Leftrightarrow u = v \Leftrightarrow \theta = 1 \Leftrightarrow$ efficiency
 - Positive $\Leftrightarrow v > u \Leftrightarrow \theta > 1 \Leftrightarrow$ inefficiently tight
 - Negative $\Leftrightarrow u > v \Leftrightarrow \theta < 1 \Leftrightarrow$ inefficiently slack
- In steady state ($\dot{\pi} = 0$), Phillips curve:

$$\kappa \cdot \delta \cdot (\pi - \pi^*) = 1 - \frac{u}{v(u)} \cdot \frac{1 - u - v(u)}{1 - 2u}$$

AGGREGATE DEMAND: EULER EQUATION

- From optimal consumption and saving by households:

$$\frac{\dot{u}}{1-u} = \delta - [i(\pi) - \pi + \sigma \cdot (1-u) \cdot l]$$

- $i(\pi) - \pi$: real interest rate, financial return on saving
- $\sigma \cdot y$: MRS between wealth & consumption, hedonic return on saving
 - Discounted Euler equation (McKay, Nakamura, Steinsson 2017)
- In steady state ($\dot{u} = 0$), Euler curve:

$$\pi = i(\pi) - \delta + \sigma \cdot (1-u) \cdot l$$

DIVINE COINCIDENCE APPEARS IN PHILLIPS CURVE

- Phillips curve is given by

$$\kappa \cdot \delta \cdot (\pi - \pi^*) = 1 - \frac{u}{v} \cdot \frac{1 - u - v}{1 - 2u}$$

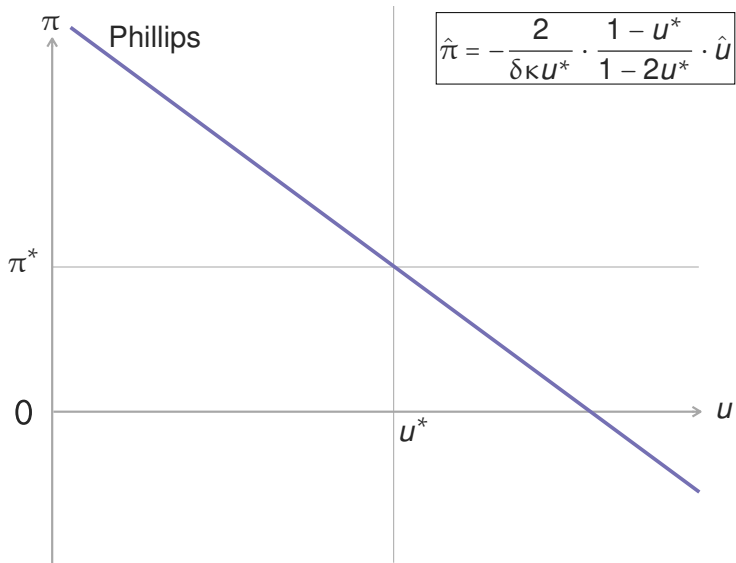
- $\pi = \pi^* \Leftrightarrow u = v \Leftrightarrow \theta = 1 \Leftrightarrow u = u^*$
 - Phillips curve goes through (u^*, π^*) so divine coincidence holds
- ~> If monetary policy is set appropriately, inflation is on target whenever unemployment is efficient
- ~> The price and employment mandates are consistent

MONETARY POLICY SATISFYING THE DUAL MANDATE

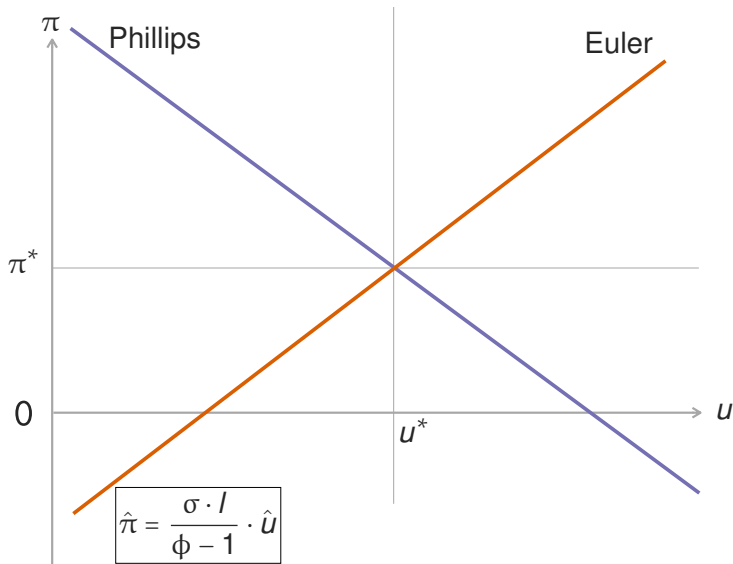
- Nominal interest rate i^* ensures:
 - Inflation is on target: $\pi = \pi^*$
 - Unemployment is efficient: $u = u^*$
- From Euler curve: $i^* = \pi^* + \delta - \sigma \cdot (1 - u^*) \cdot l$
- policy can take different forms:
 - Interest-rate peg: $i(\pi) = i^*$
 - Taylor rule with $\phi > 0$: $i(\pi) = i^* + \phi \cdot (\pi - \pi^*)$
- Dual-mandate policy also maximizes social welfare

DYNAMICS OF THE MODEL

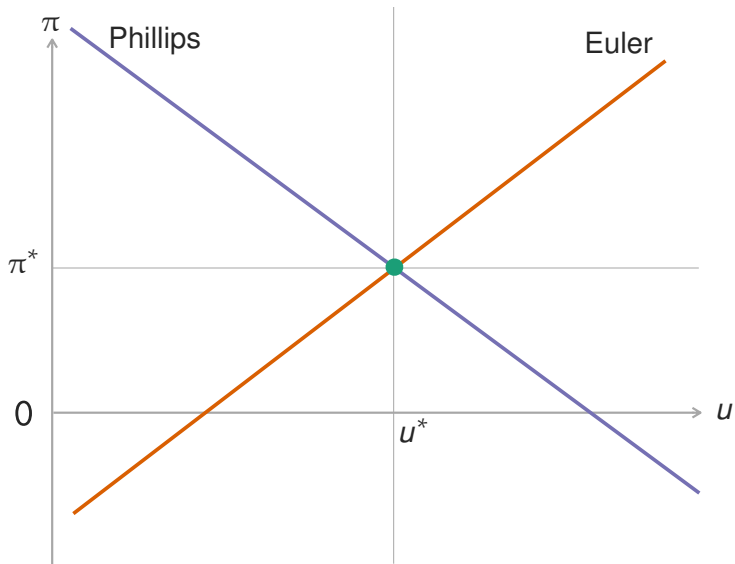
LINEARIZED PHILLIPS CURVE



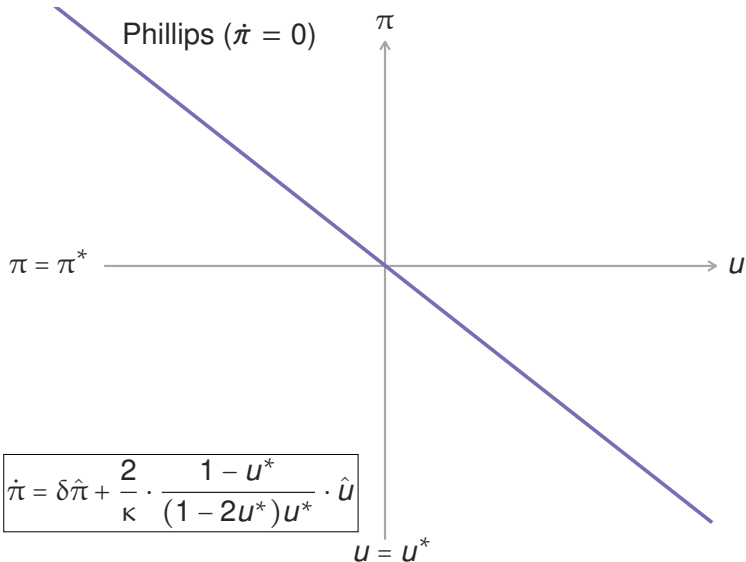
LINEARIZED EULER CURVE



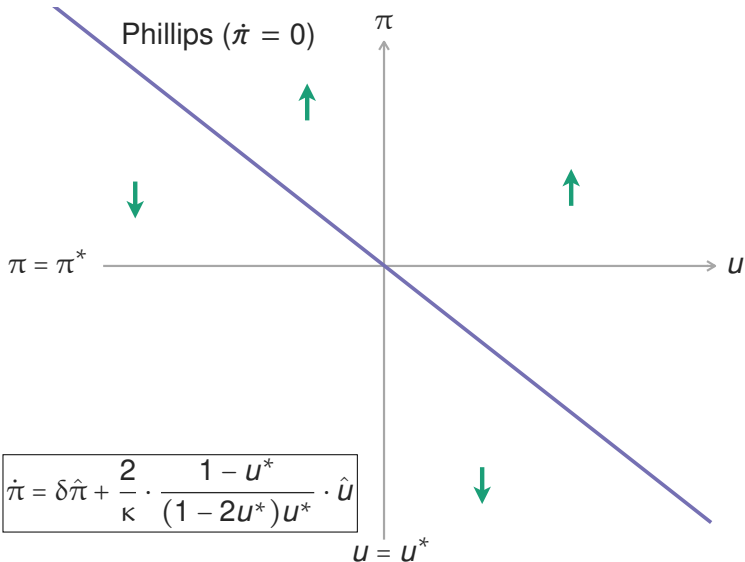
DIVINE COINCIDENCE



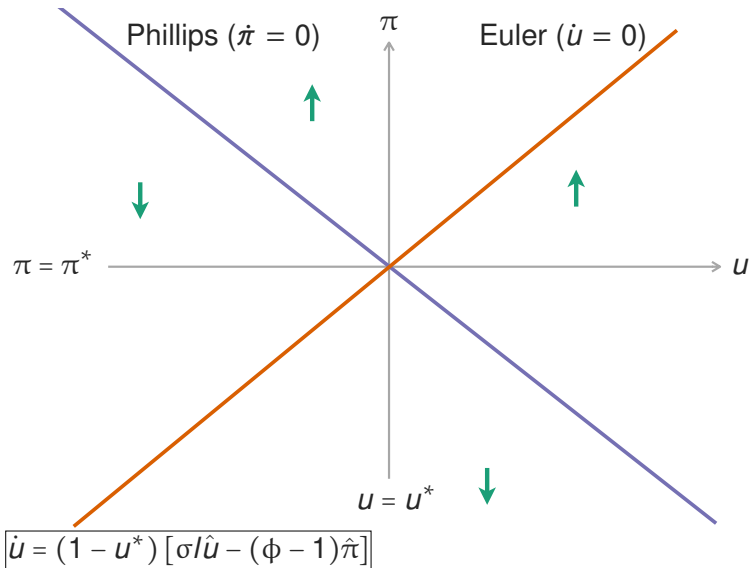
PHASE DIAGRAM



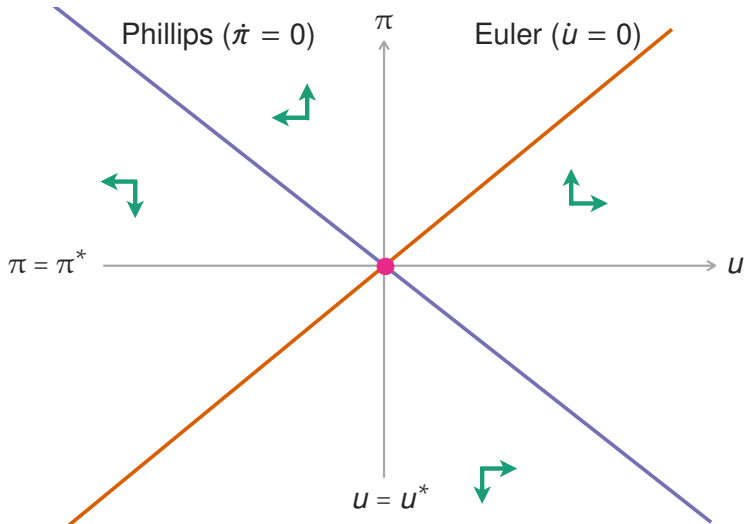
PHASE DIAGRAM



PHASE DIAGRAM (TAYLOR RULE)

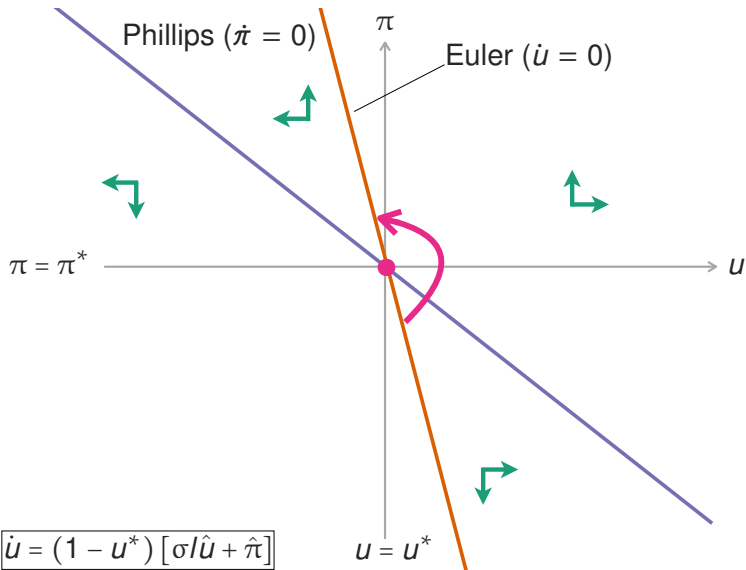


PHASE DIAGRAM (TAYLOR RULE)



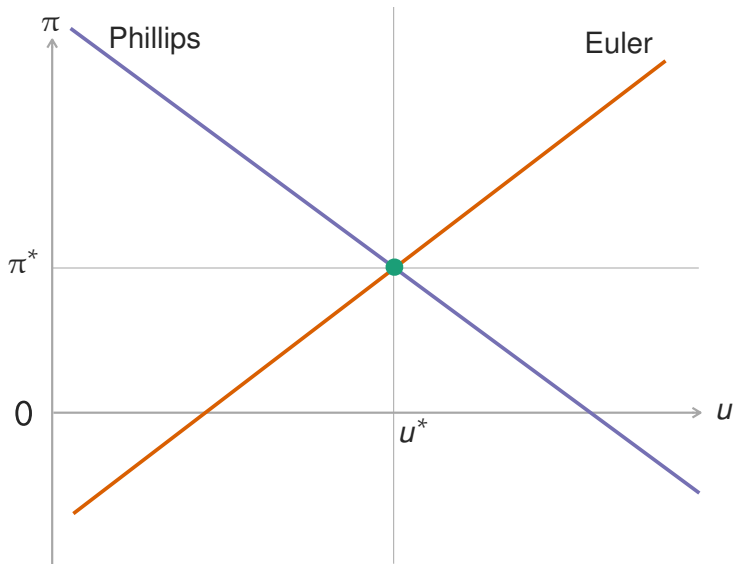
$$\dot{u} = (1 - u^*) [\sigma/\hat{u} - (\phi - 1)\hat{\pi}]$$

PHASE DIAGRAM (PEG)

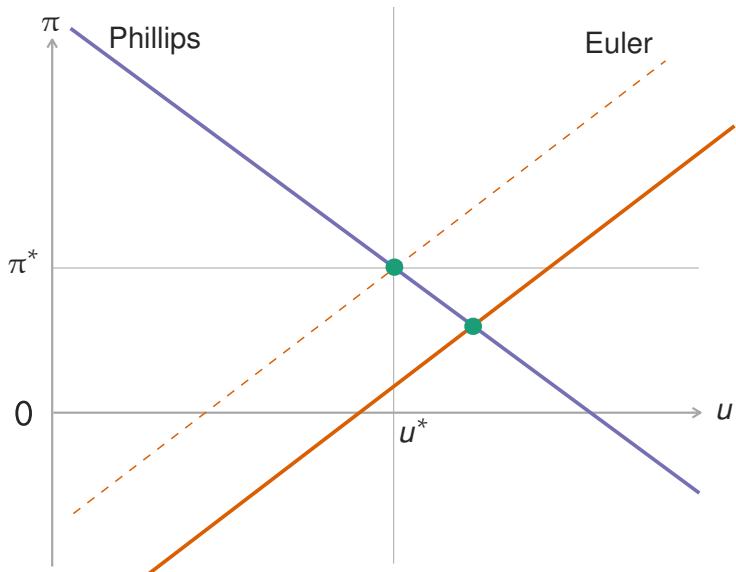


RESPONSE TO DEMAND AND SUPPLY SHOCKS

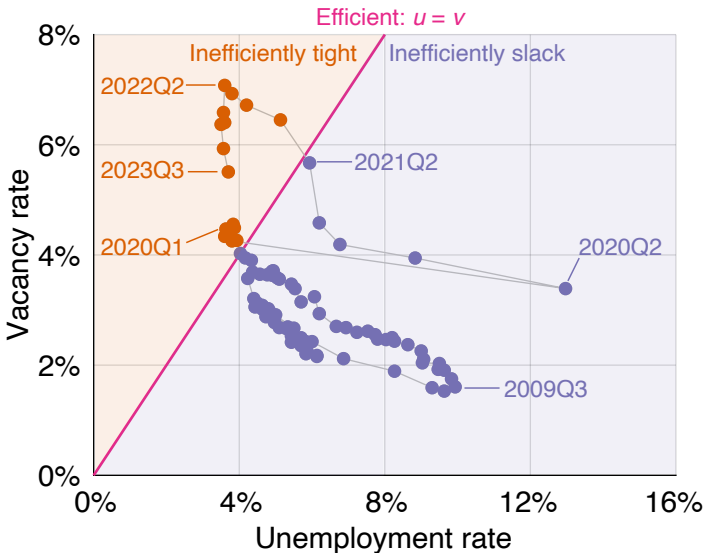
NEGATIVE DEMAND OR MONETARY SHOCK



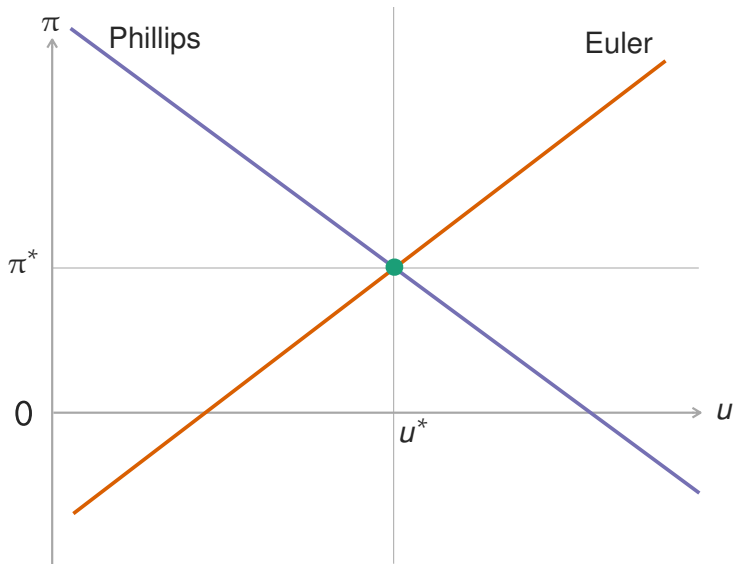
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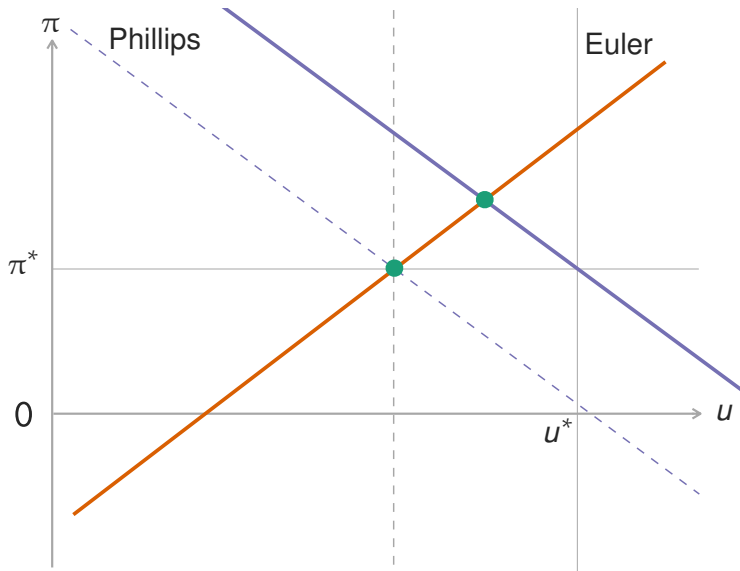
PANDEMIC SHIFT OF THE BEVERIDGE CURVE



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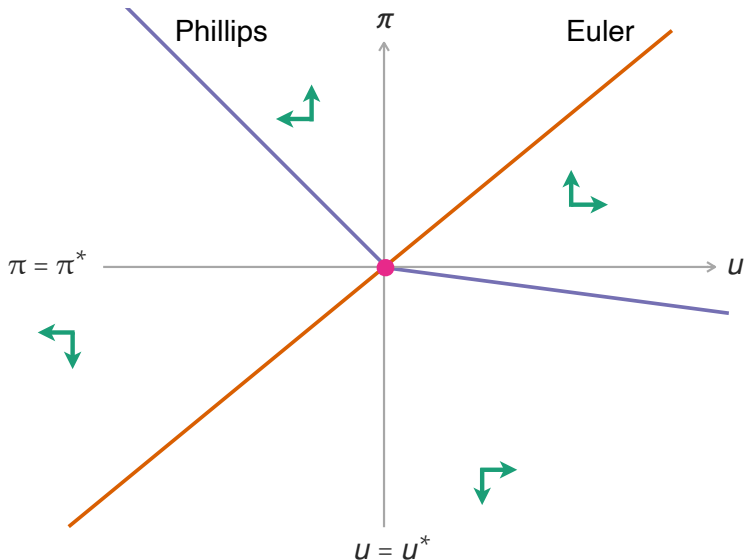


PANDEMIC SHIFT OF THE BEVERIDGE CURVE

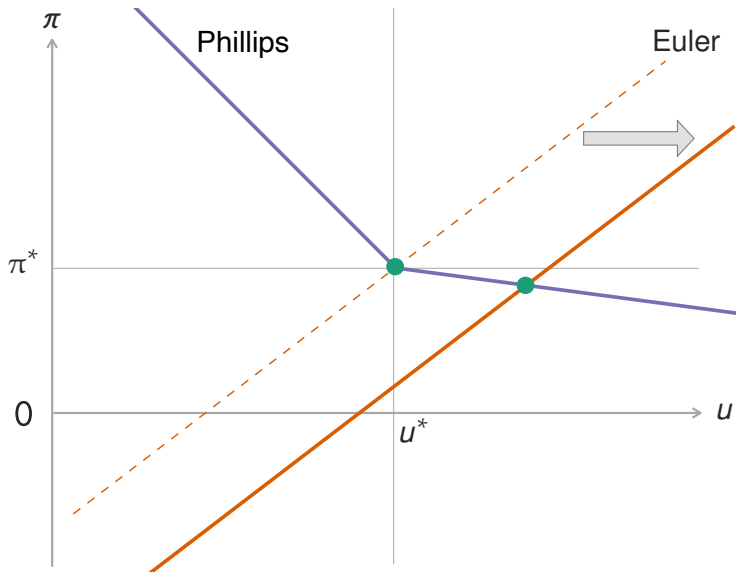


KINK IN THE PHILLIPS CURVE

DOWNWARD WAGE RIGIDITY > UPWARD PRICE RIGIDITY



NEGATIVE DEMAND SHOCK: UNEMPLOYMENT GAP \uparrow



NEGATIVE SUPPLY SHOCK: INFLATION \uparrow

