# Reading

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■ Chapter 30: Short-run economic fluctuations

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- Chapter 30: Short-run economic fluctuations
- Chapter 31: Keynesian Economics (p655 664 only)

It is usual to distinguish between the long-run growth and short-run fluctuations around the trend

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  - Boom and bust

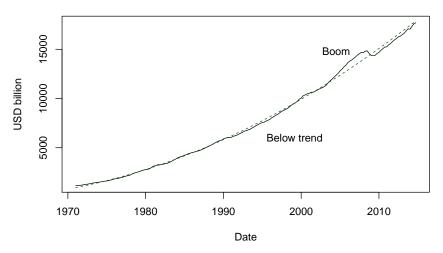
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  - Efficiency
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- **Short-run** determined by fluctuations in aggregate demand
  - Boom and bust
  - Expansion, recession (2 quarters of negative growth)

March 8, 2015

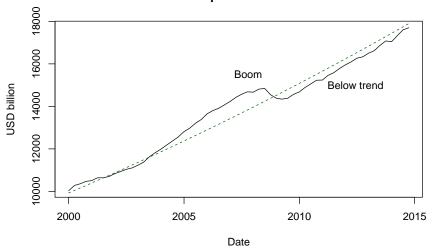
# GDP growth and its potential 1

US GDP and potential: 1970 to 2014



# GDP growth and its potential 2





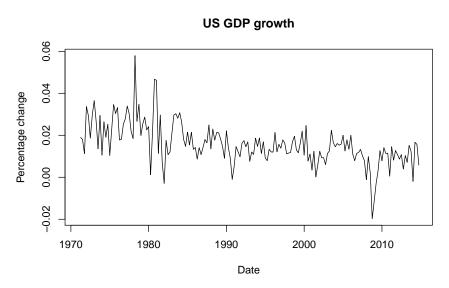
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- There may be *Deterministic* and Stochastic trends
- Data may be *Pro-cyclical* and *Counter-cyclical*

## GDP growth



There are a number of explanations for the business cycle

Household decisions

- Household decisions
- Firm decisions

- Household decisions
- Firm decisions
- Government decisions

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- Firm decisions
- Government decisions
- External decisions

- Household decisions
- Firm decisions
- Government decisions
- External decisions
- Confidence and expectations

### Business cycle models

■ Supply side (new classical)

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- Supply side (new classical)
- Keynesian model

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- Supply side (new classical)
- Keynesian model
- Real business cycle

# Keynesian economics

The long run is a misleading guide to current affairs. In the long run we are all dead. Economists set themselves too easy, too useless a task if in tempestuous seasons they can only tell us that when the storm is long past, the ocean will be flat

J.M. Keynes

There are a number of key Keynesian concepts

■ Planned spending, saving or investment

- Planned spending, saving or investment
- Actual spending, saving or investment

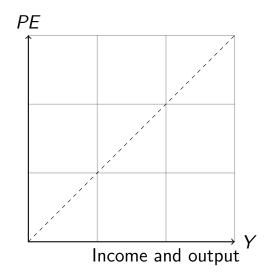
- Planned spending, saving or investment
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- Actual spending, saving or investment
- Autonomous spending or expenditure
- Inflationary, deflationary or output gap
- Equilibrium (not Keynesian)

# Keynesian cross 1





- 45 degree is equilibrium
- Planned spending = income and output

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- MPC is the *Marginal propensity to consume*

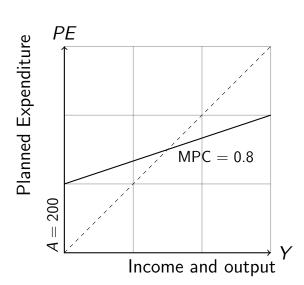
- $\blacksquare$  PE = C + I
- I is an *exogenous* variable that is determined by interest rates and business confidence
- C is a endogenous variable that partly determined by income (Y)
- MPC is the *Marginal propensity to consume*
- Assume that MPC is 0.8

#### Consumption function

How is consumption determined?

$$C = A + MPC \times Y$$

Where A is autonomous consumer spending



$$PE = A + MPC \times Y$$

- Assume A = 200
- A is the intercept
- MPC is the slope

## Finding equilibrium

#### For equilibrium

$$Y = PE$$

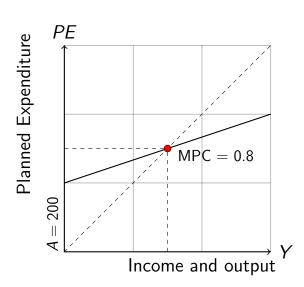
$$PE = 200 + 0.8Y$$

This is the point where the two lines meet

## Finding equilibrium 2

#### Substitute Y for PE

$$Y = 200 + 0.8Y$$
  
 $Y - 0.8Y = 200$   
 $Y(1 - 0.8) = 200$   
 $Y = 200/1 - 0.8$   
 $Y = 1000$ 



- Equilibrium where PE = Y
- This is where Y is equal to 1000

#### If business investment is added

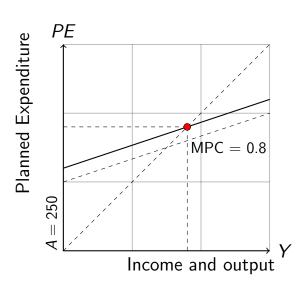
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- Let I = \$50m
- Now PE = 200 + 0.8Y + 50
- Or PE = 250 + 0.8Y
- This is a parallel shift to previous line



- There is a parallel shift in the PE function
- A is now 200 + 50 = 250
- MPC and slope remains 0.8

#### If government spending is added

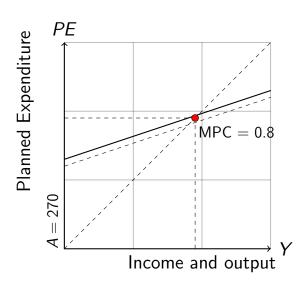
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- Now PE = 250 + 0.8Y + 20

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- Or PE = 270 + 0.8Y

- It is assumed to be exogenous and therefore not affected by Y
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- Now PE = 250 + 0.8Y + 20
- Or PE = 270 + 0.8Y
- This is a parallel shift to previous line



- There is a parallel shift in the PE function
- A is now 250 + 20 = 270
- MPC and slope remains 0.8

■ Equilibrium was £1000 when there was just consumer spending

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- What is the equilibrium when business investment is added?

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- Equilibrium was £1000 when there was just consumer spending
- What is the equilibrium when business investment is added?
- What is the equilibrium when government spending is added?
- What is the relationship between an increase in autonomous spending and equilibrium output, income and expenditure?

#### The multiplier 1

An increase in autonomous spending (Business investment or government) will *multiply* through the economy.

$$\Delta Y = A + MPC \times A + MPC^2 \times A + MPC^3 \times A \dots$$

This is equivalent to

$$\Delta Y = \frac{A}{1 - MPC}$$

### The multiplier 2

MPS is the marginal propensity to save

$$1 - MPC = MPS$$

Therefore,

$$\Delta Y = \frac{A}{MPS}$$

# Multiplier 3

A £10m increase in autonomous spending (I or G)

$$\Delta Y = \frac{A}{MPS}$$
$$= \frac{10}{0.2}$$
$$= 50$$

Leads to a £50m increase in economic activity.