

# International Macroeconomics

## Lecture 3: Nominal Exchange Rates

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Feb 18th, 2016

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## Why Have Money?

- Typical reasons
  1. Unit of account
  2. Medium of exchange
  3. Store of value
- Other, less discussed reasons
  1. Alternative source of government finance (seignorage)
  2. Ability to control nominal exchange rate/interest rate to
    - Smooth adverse domestic or foreign shocks
    - Stabilize prices

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where  $\eta$  is the *semielasticity of real money demand with respect to inflation*

- Set  $M_t^s = M_t^d = M_t$  and take logs to get

$$m_t - p_t = -\eta [p_{t+1} - p_t]$$

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Price level today depends on

1. Money in circulation
  2. Expected prices tomorrow
- Expression holds for  $p_{t+1}$  as well; substitute to get

$$p_t = \frac{1}{1 + \eta} m_t + \frac{\eta}{1 + \eta} \left[ \frac{1}{1 + \eta} m_{t+1} + \frac{\eta}{1 + \eta} p_{t+2} \right]$$

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- Expand to the infinite horizon

$$p_t = \frac{1}{1+\eta} \sum_{s=t}^{\infty} \left( \frac{\eta}{1+\eta} \right)^s m_s + \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \left( \frac{\eta}{1+\eta} \right)^T p_{t+T}$$



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- If price growth less than exponential, second term = 0

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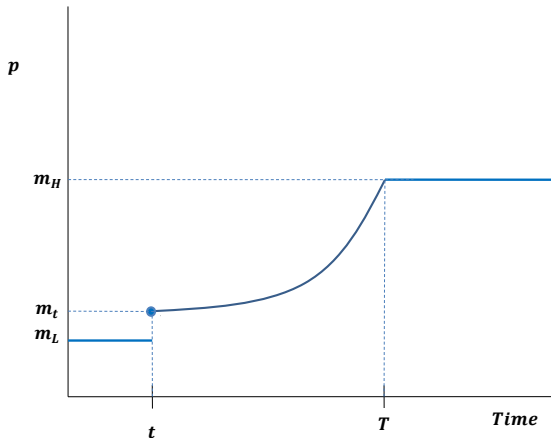
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$$p_t = \begin{cases} m_L, & s < t \\ m_L + \left(\frac{\eta}{1+\eta}\right)^{T-t} (m_H - m_L), & t \leq s < T \\ m_H, & s \geq T \end{cases}$$

# Anticipated Increase in Future Money Supply





## Seignorage

- Since money is demanded by the economy, money supply can be used to generate revenue for government. This is called **Seignorage**
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- What are the trade-offs associated with Seignorage?
  - Issue more money  $\rightarrow$  Collect more
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  - Implies growth rate of price level:  $\frac{P_t}{P_{t-1}} = 1 + \mu$

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$$Rev = \mu(1 + \mu)^{-\eta-1}$$

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- Episodes of hyperinflation typically much greater than this
- Could be
  1. Speculation (crazy cases; seen before)
  2. Lack of credibility/commitment

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or in logs

$$p_t = e_t + p_t^*$$

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- NOTE: These are *nominal interest rates*; could bounce around with prices even if  $r$  constant
- In logs,

$$i_{t+1} = i_{t+1}^* + e_{t+1} - e_t$$

## Solving the Modified Cagan Model

- Use PPP and UIP to eliminate  $i_{t+1}$  and  $p_t$  from Cagan equation

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- Again, the weights imply full neutrality for the impact of *all variables* on the exchange rate

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  4. Decreases with foreign price
    - Mechanical! Foreign currency depreciates: Easier for home residents to purchase it

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- Implies that  $E_t \mu_{t+1} = \rho \mu_t$ , and  $E_t \mu_s = \rho^{s-t} \mu_t$

## Example: ER Volatility

- To solve, note that

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- Cagan model here boils down to:  $m_t - e_t = -\eta(E_t e_{t+1} - e_t)$ 
  - Follows from setting  $\eta i^* - \phi y - p^* = 0$



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- Plug in  $E_t \mu_s = \rho^{s-t} \mu_t$

$$e_t = m_t + \frac{\eta}{1+\eta} \left[ \sum_{s=t}^{\infty} \left( \frac{\eta \rho}{1+\eta} \right)^{s-t} \mu_t \right]$$

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- Geometric series implies

$$e_t = \underbrace{m_t}_{\text{Initial Shock}} + \underbrace{\frac{\eta \rho}{1+\eta - \eta \rho} (m_t - m_{t-1})}_{\text{Expectations of Future High Shocks}}$$

## Example: ER Volatility

- Plug  $E_t e_{t+1} - e_t$  into Cagan model to get

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- ER moves *more* than money initial shock: Expectations of future money growth

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  - Even domestic goods produced often require traded intermediate inputs at some point in supply chain
  - Volatility in ER can cause large volatility in prices/production/income
- Government has interest in stabilizing ER: Called **Pegging the Exchange Rate**

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Need only fix money supply to constant level!

## Stabilizing the ER: II

- With foreign objects and output moving around, we have

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- Money supply must respond 1:1 to movements in endogenous variables to offset their impact
  - *Relinquish control of money supply/monetary policy!* (More on this later)



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- Further difficulty: Prone to *Speculative Attacks*

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- $B_{F,t} \geq 0$ , since one can't issue foreign debt, only purchase foreign assets

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  7. Typically abandon peg to not lose reserves

## Timing of the Attack

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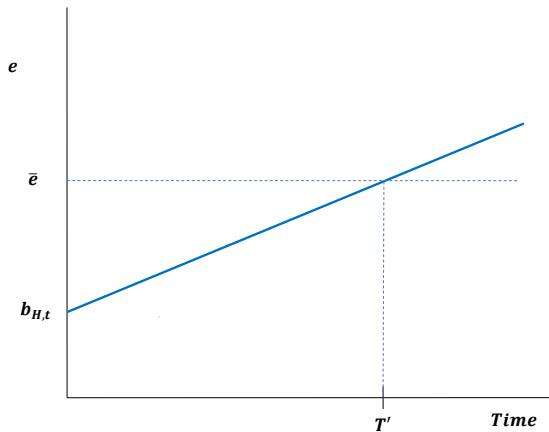
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# Speculative Attack



## Speculative Attacks: Intuition

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- If foreign investors waited until  $T$ , they would suffer a loss in trying to sell off assets in home, since currency will collapse  
i.e.  $\varepsilon \uparrow$

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- If foreign investors waited until  $T$ , they would suffer a loss in trying to sell off assets in home, since currency will collapse i.e.  $\varepsilon \uparrow$ 
  1. Investors know that things will get really bad in time  $T$ : Get out before time  $T$
  2. In doing so, cause the collapse to happen earlier:  $T' < T$
  3. Implies *massive* and *rapid* loss of foreign reserves for home country ('Sudden Stop')

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1. Contrary to popular belief, currency attacks can be rational and foreseen
2. Less likely with large stockpiles of foreign reserves
3. Less likely when fiscal authority behaves i.e. runs surpluses and has no need of seignorage revenue/debt deflation
4. Won't happen with floating currency (no need to fix  $M_t$ )

## Real and Nominal ER

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- (1) Convert currency,  $E$ , and (2) Account for real exchange rate differences,  $R$ ; to arrive at the true price ratio
- In log-differences, can derive real-exchange rate movements:

$$\hat{R} = \hat{P} - \hat{P}^* - \hat{E}$$

- $\hat{P}$ : Domestic inflation
- $\hat{P}^*$ : Foreign inflation

## ER and Price Volatility

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  - Causes a strong correlation between real/nominal ER
- What are the implications of this stickiness?
  - Shocks to economy tend to be absorbed by ER rather than prices
  - Mundell-Fleming-Dornbusch Model: Exchange rate *overshoots* in response to shocks since prices move little

## Mundell-Fleming-Dornbusch Model

- Start with Cagan model (keep foreign objects constant)
  1. UIP:  $i_{t+1} = i^* + e_{t+1} - e_t$
  2. Money Demand:  $m_t - p_t = -\eta i_{t+1} + \phi y_t$

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- Note that  $q_t = -\log(R_t)$  i.e. currency weak when  $q_t$  is large

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- Assume that demand for home production is *increasing* in  $q_t$

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- Currency weak when  $q_t$  high: More world demand for exports
- In short-run though,  $q_t$  will be tied to  $e_t$  (why in second)

$$y_t^d = \bar{y} + \delta(e_t + p^* - p_t - \bar{q})$$

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- Plug in to derive

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## Solving the MFD Model: Money Demand

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- Substitute in
  1.  $p_t = e_t - q_t$  (RER Definition)
  2.  $i_{t+1} = e_{t+1} - e_t$  (UIP)
  3.  $y_t = \delta(q_t - \bar{q})$  (Output Determination)

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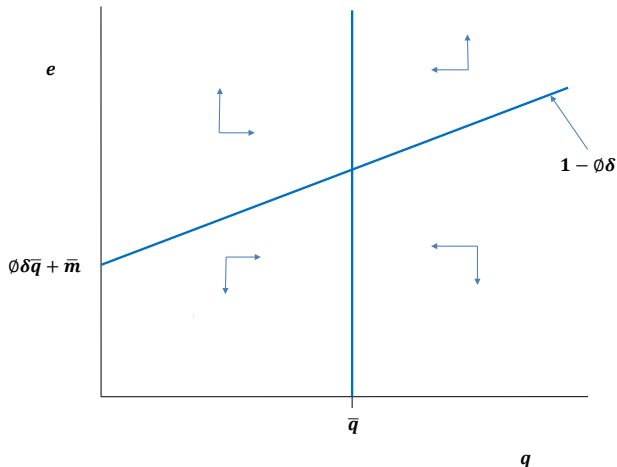
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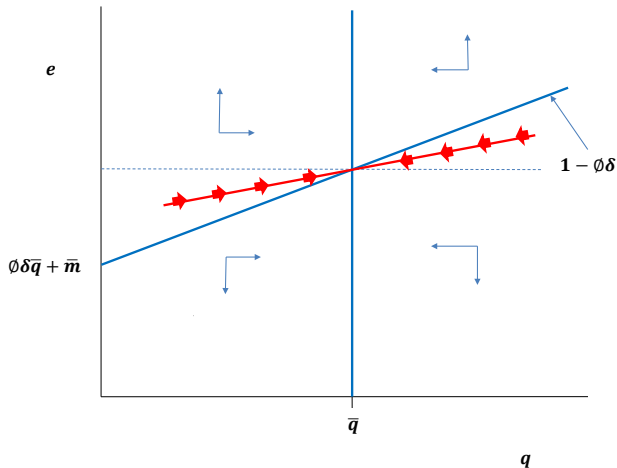
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# Steady-States and Trajectories in MFD Model



# Saddle-Path Trajectory in MFD Model



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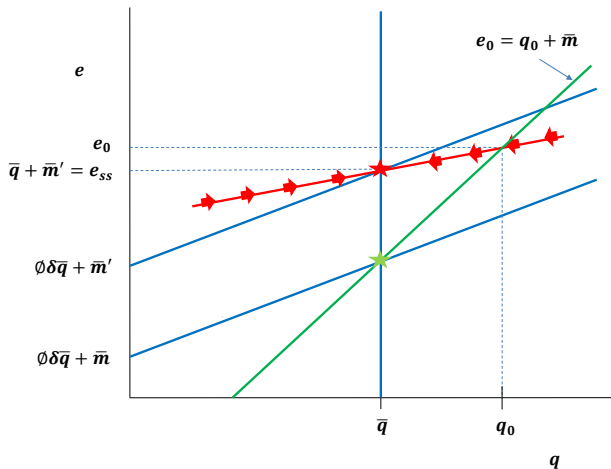
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# Overshooting in MFD Model



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