Lecture I

Macroeconomic data and policies

... and what is this course about?

Real GDP p.c., 1870 – 2009: F, D, I, UK 1990 International Geary – Khamis dollars, log scale



-France -Germany -Italy -UK

Inflation vs. unemployment, % US, long-term



Gross debt, %GDP



Source: This time is different (www.rheinhartandrogoff.com/data

Lecture II Globalization 1870 – 1913, gold standard

Convergence



On horizontal axis: GDP p.c. in 1870 On vertical axis: average GDP p.c. growth 1871-1913 Correlation coefficient: -0,63

GDP, % yoy 1990 International G-K USD









III. After WWI – Hyperinflations and the Return of Gold Standard

Hyperinflation - Germany: Retail Prices

(log scale, VI/14=100)



Lessons

- Essential stabilization steps: simultaneous (a) creation of independent central bank, that stopped unsecured lending to the state, (b) change of fiscal policies, (c) change in inflationary expectations, (d) stabilization and defense of ExR
- Government could borrow only with private sector and debt was ultimately backed by its ability to collect taxes efficiently
- The main source of hyperinflation: growth of currency that was backed by government bills, unsecured by future state incomes
- This created <u>expectations</u> that further fueled the inflation spiral, unless being broken by newly, generally trusted central bank's policy
- Earlier attempts to stabilize that failed (e.g. Germany): unless accompanied by fiscal reform, doomed to fail

IV. The Great Depression

GNP, USA, 1928-1941



US: real growth and money



time

V Keynesian revolution

Demand for money

- Keynes labeled total demand for money as liquidity preference
- Particular case: at very low rates of interest nobody wants to invest into bonds (everybody expects the interest to increase, so price of bond to decrease) and people hold only money (money demand is infinitely interest elastic – graphically horizontal)
- Demand for money:

$$\frac{M}{P} = L(Y, i) \qquad i$$

$$L_{Y} > 0, L_{i} \le 0$$

$$M/P$$

Why - then - lasting high unemployment?

- Given the reality of Great Depression, Keynes was seeking for an explanation of long-lasting underemployment equilibrium
- In the longer-run, nominal wage assumption not realistic
- BUT: when with flexible wages his model converges to full employment equilibrium, he needed additional assumptions to allow for a theoretical possibility of stable underemployment equilibrium
- He, indeed, claims that two cases arise when underemployment equilibrium exists:
 - Liquidity trap
 - Interest-inelastic investment function

VI. The post-war reconstruction, Bretton Woods system, neoclassical synthesis

Basic numbers

Period: 1948-1951

Total amount: 12,741 MUSD

Α	488
B, L	777
DK	385
F	2296
FRG	1448
GR	366
ICL	43
IRL	133
Ι	1204
NL	1128
N	372
P	70
S	347
СН	250
TR	137
UK	3297



Inflation and unemployment USA, 1950 - 1969



VII Economic policies of 1950s-1960s, crisis of Phillips curve, monetarism



Milton Friedman



- **1912-2006**
- Economist, monetarist
- 1946-1977: University of Chicago
- 1977-2006: Hoover Institution
- Essays in Positive Economics, A Theory of Consumption Function, Capitalism and Freedom, A Monetary History of the United States (1867-1960) - with Anna Schwartz, Free to Choose, etc.
- Nobel Prize in Economics, 1976
- Considered as conservative, in reality liberal economist
- Advisor to President Nixon

VIII. End of post-war miracle and of Bretton-Woods New Classical Economics New Keynesian Economics

Friedman: implications of expectationsaugmented Phillips curve

- Difference from Keynesian approach: there is no permanent trade-off between inflation and unemployment
 - In the short-run yes, but as soon as inflationary expectations adjust, the trade-off disappears → output and unemployment returns to natural levels
- Crucial: how the expectations are formed?
- Both monetarists and neoclassical synthesis adaptive expectation hypothesis (AEH):

$$\mathbf{P}^{e} = \mathbf{P}_{-1} + (1 - \lambda) (\mathbf{P}_{-1}^{e} - \mathbf{P}_{-1}), \quad 0 < \lambda < 1$$

• or

$$\Delta P^{e} = \lambda \left(P - P^{e} \right)$$

IX. Oil shocks and disinflation policies (1973-1985)

Monetary restriction after 1979

- Strong, convincing commitment to monetary restriction, quick change of expectations and quick impact:
 - Real interest \uparrow , Y \downarrow , P \downarrow , real (and nominal) appreciation of USD
 - The credibility problem: most people did not believe that Reagan/Volcker team will be politically strong to reduce inflation quickly
 - Behaviour according rational expectation models: un-anticipated policy → decrease of output and increase of unemployment
 - Whenever credibility established → growth resumed and unemployment started to fall
- Strong monetary contraction and subsequent volatility of macroeconomic parameters → impact on the position of USD
- Originally, very strong commitment towards floating ExR without intervention ("benign neglect")

X. Stabilization policies 1980 - 2007

Very quick stabilization

	Mean 1980-84	1984	1985	
			Jan-Jul	Aug-Dec
СРІ	8.7	15.2	14.0	2.6
ExR \$ off.	8.8	15.9	13.6	0.0
ExR \$ black	x	16.1	13.3	0.0
Nom. Wage	9.0	16.5	11.0	2.1
M3	10.7	15.9	13.3	3.0
Bank credit	9.1	16.8	13.9	3.9
BudgDef %	10.2	15.0	12.0	4.0
Unempl.%	4.9	5.9	6.0	7.5
BoP, M\$	-210.0	-480.0	340.0	

NAIRU

- One possibility: try to specify an unemployment rate that keeps inflation constant
- Remember expectations-augmented Phillips curve: $\pi = \pi_{-1} - \varepsilon(u - u^*)$ or $\pi - \pi_{-1} = -\varepsilon(u - u^*)$
- If $u^* = u$, then inflation is constant ($\pi \pi_{-1} = 0$)
- Possible interpretation of natural rate of unemployment: Non-Accelerating Inflation Rate of Unemployment (NAIRU)

XI. Financial and economic crisis 2008-2009

Growth according IMF: World



Euro zone: growth divergence



XII. The Birth and the Crisis of the Euro

HICP, EU 12 vs. US regions standard deviations



Unit labor costs

Germany vs. peripheral countries

