



HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

HETERODOX MACROECONOMICS

Stockholm, March 23-24 2023



Some disclaimer

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

The views expressed in this presentation are not my own, they represent the work of the most important economists in history. But, the research work leading to this presentation is my own and not related to any of the entity with which I have been, am now, or will be affiliated.

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Outline I

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

1 Macro fundamentals

- Orthodox and Heterodox
- Sectoral Balances

2 Money Theories and Regimes

- Money Theories
- Money and Money Things
- Monetary Regimes



Outline II

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

3 Sovereign Government and Fiscal Policy

- Fiscal policy for a sovereign country
- Spending, taxation, deficit
- Government Deficit policies

4 Modern Monetary System

- Money creation and Reserves
- Treasury - Central Bank coordination

5 Financial Stability

- Financial Instability Hypothesis
- Financial deregulation and real crisis



Macro fundamentals

- Orthodox and Heterodox
- Sectoral balances

The Neoclassical Economics (Mainstream)

The study of the allocation of scarce resources among unlimited wants.

- Natural (individualistic) human behaviour
- Individuals are *rational*: maximise own utility under constraints
- Equilibrium: set of *prices* that clear the markets; these prices constitute an invisible hand that leads individuals toward maximum utility
- Trade-off in resources allocation
- Government has secondary or no role



Heterodox economics

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

The Heterodox Economics (Real World)

The study of social creation and social distribution of society's resources.

- Social human behaviour: cooperation is key to survival
- Equilibrium: prices reflect many non-rational and non-economic factors
- Resources are socially created and distributed
- The government has a central role



Macroeconomics theories (overview) I

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Orthodox macroeconomics

- Neoclassical approach
 - New Classical (Lucas, Phillips, 70s)
 - Real Business Cycle (Chicago, 80s)
 - Supply Side Economics (M. Thatcher, R. Regan)
 - Austrian (F. Hayek, L. von Mises)
- Neoclassical Keynesian
 - New Keynesian (P. Samuelson, R. Solow)
 - New Monetary Consensus (M. Friedman)



Macroeconomics theories (overview) II

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Heterodox macroeconomics

- Institutional (T. Veblen, J. K. Galbraith, J. T. Commons)
- Keynes and Post-Keynes (M. Kalecki, J. Robinson, P. Davidson, H. Minsky, J. Kregel)
- Marx Approach (K. Marx, V. Lenin, M. H. Dobb, P. Sweezy)
- Modern Monetary Theory (W. Mosler, R. Wray, S. Kelton)

We and the System



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Outline

Macro
fundamentals

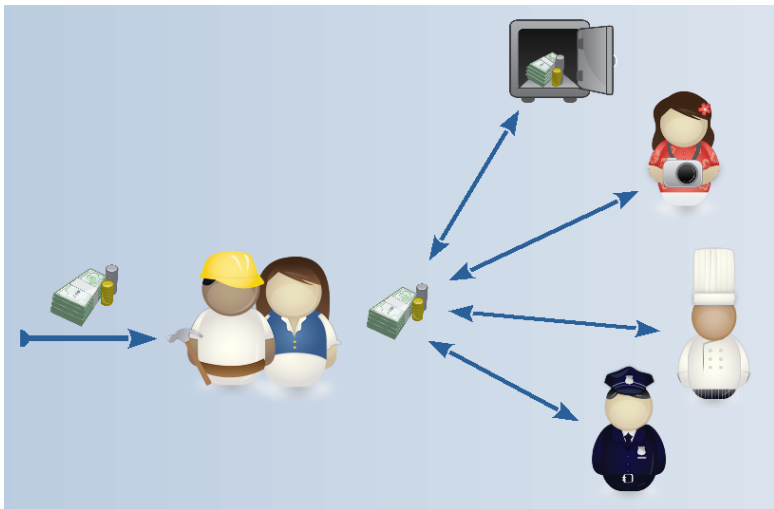
Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References



Macroeconomics sectors I



HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

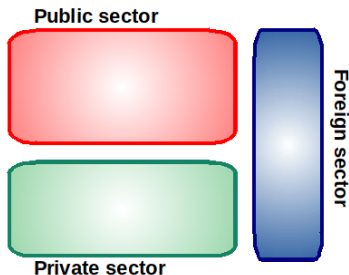
Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

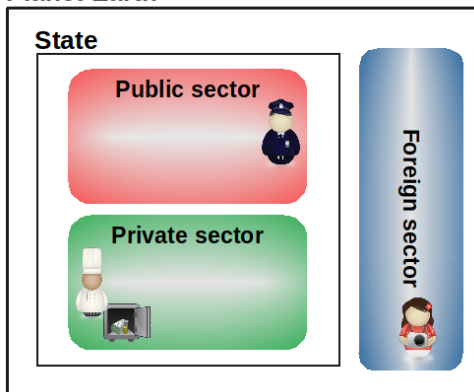
- **Domestic Public**
 - Central government
 - Local government
 - Public authorities/agencies
- **Domestic Private**
 - Households
 - Firms
 - No-Profit organisations
- **Foreign**
 - Import/Export by foreign public and private entities



Macroeconomics sectors II

This 3 sectors environment is a **close** system.

Planet Earth

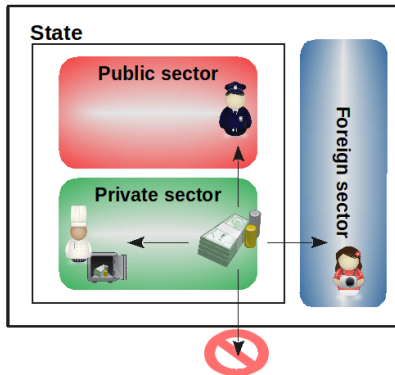


Macroeconomics sectors III

This 3 sectors environment is a **close** system.

- Everything that moves from one sector has to go to **at least** one of the other two

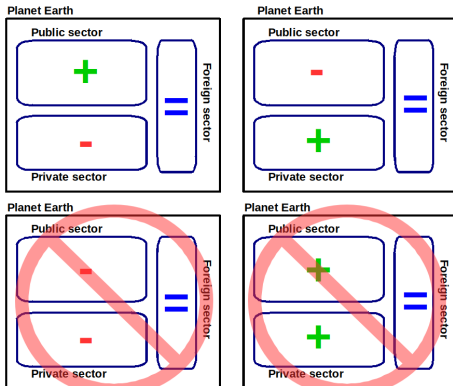
Planet Earth



Macroeconomics sectors IV

This 3 sectors environment is a **close** system.

- One sector **loss** corresponds to a *win* for at least one of the other two





Gross Domestic Product

The output (or the product) of a nation is the Gross Domestic Product:

- **Expenditure approach:** Sum of all expenditures by the different economic sectors
- **Income approach:** Sum of the income earned by all the factors of production

Gross Domestic Product

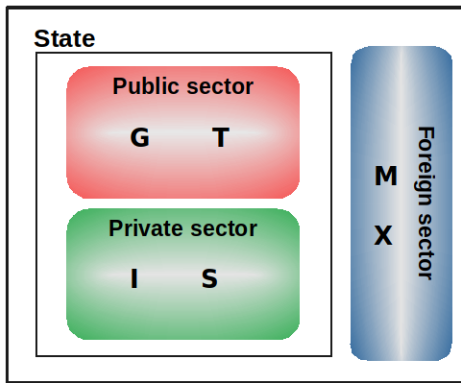
$$\mathbf{GDP} = C + I + G + X - M \Rightarrow$$
$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{C} + \mathbf{I} + \mathbf{G} + \mathbf{X} - \mathbf{M}$$

⇒ **C**onsumption + **I**ntermediate consumption + **G**overnment Expenditure + **X**port - **M**port

GDP and Macro Sectors I

$$\text{GDP} = C + I + G + X - M \equiv T - G + S - I + M - X = 0$$

Planet Earth



GDP and Macro Sectors II

The 3 balance identities:

Domestic Public Balance \Rightarrow Public Revenue - Public Expenditure
 $\Rightarrow T - G$

Domestic Private Balance \Rightarrow Private Saving - Private Investment
 $\Rightarrow S - I$

Foreign Balance \Rightarrow Import - Export
 $\Rightarrow M - X$



Government Net Lending $\Rightarrow (G - T)$

Private Sector Net Financial Wealth $\Rightarrow (S - I)$

Foreign Net Lending $\Rightarrow (X - M)$



GDP and Macro Sectors III



HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

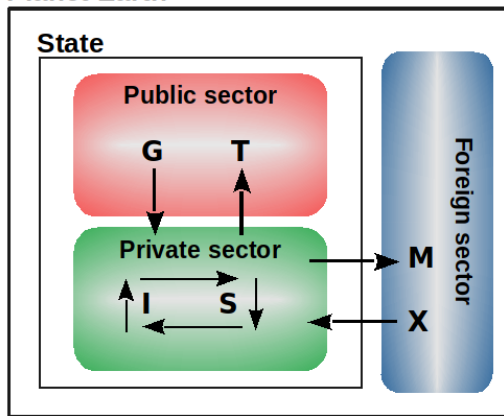
Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Planet Earth



Sectoral Balances and Stock-Flow consistency I



HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

"... Borrowing flows build up as debt stocks."

"... household borrowing must reach 14 percent of G.D.P. by 2010."

"... wildly implausible. More likely, borrowing would level off"

"... foresaw a looming recession but significantly underestimated its depth (2007)"



Wynne Godley

Full article, The New York Times, September 10, 2013:

<https://www.levyinstitute.org/publications/>

[embracing-wynne-godley-an-economist-who-modeled-the-crisis](https://www.levyinstitute.org/publications/embracing-wynne-godley-an-economist-who-modeled-the-crisis)

Sectoral Balances and Stock-Flow consistency II



HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Stock-Flow consistent model

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{Domestic Private Balance} + \\ &\text{Domestic Public Balance} + \\ &\text{Foreign Balance} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

≡

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{Government Net Lending} = \\ &\text{Private Sector Net Financial Wealth} + \\ &\text{Foreign Net Lending} \end{aligned}$$

≡

$$(G - T) = (S - I) - (X - M)$$



Sectoral Balances and Stock-Flow consistency III

Extract from Business Insider - Goldman's Top Economist Explains The World's Most Important Chart, And His Big Call For The US Economy

"...every dollar of government deficits has to be offset with private sector surpluses purely from an accounting standpoint, because one sector's income is another sector's spending, so it all has to add up to zero. That's the starting point. It's a truism, basically. Where it goes from being a truism and an accounting identity to an economic relationship is once you recognize that cyclical impulses to the economy depend on desired changes in these sector's financial balances."

Jan Hatzius - Chief economist of global investment research at Goldman Sachs

Full interview at Business Insider:

<http://www.businessinsider.com/goldmans-jan-hatzius-on-sectoral-balances-r=US&IR=T&IR=T>

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

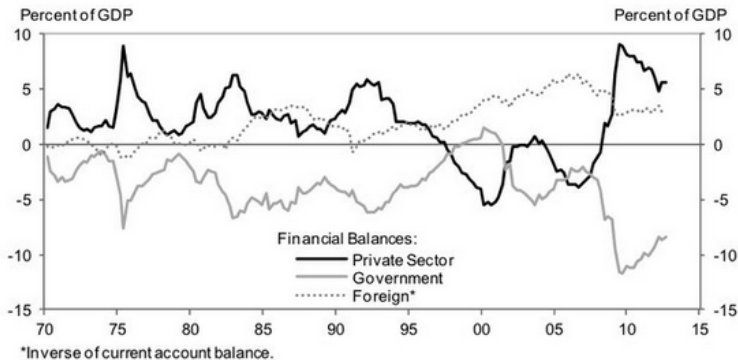
Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Sectoral Balances and Stock-Flow consistency IV

Exhibit 1: Private Sector Surplus Offsets Government Deficit



Source: Department of Commerce.

Goldman Sachs

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References



Sectoral Balances and Stock-Flow consistency V

Basic accounting principles:

- **One's Financial Asset is someone else's Financial Liability:**
For every financial asset there must be an offsetting financial liability
- **Net financial wealth of the private sector (Inside Wealth) is zero:**
The private sector can only accumulate through Outside Wealth
- **Private Net Wealth = Private Real Asset Value:**
After offsetting financial assets and liabilities what is left is the Real economy
- **Net Private Financial Wealth = Public Debt:**
Outside wealth provided by the Public sector allows the accumulation of (Private) financial wealth
- **Foreign Liabilities are Domestic Financial Assets:**
The foreign sector is a source of Outside wealth

Sectoral Balances and Stock-Flow consistency VI



HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Flow	Stock
Balance Surplus \Rightarrow Saving Flow	\Rightarrow Financial Wealth accumulation
Balance Deficit \Rightarrow Indebtedness Flow	\Rightarrow Financial Wealth reduction

If one sector runs a surplus, at least one other sector must run a deficit.

How can a sector run a deficit?

- Run down accumulated financial assets \rightarrow Dissaving
- Acquire new IOU \rightarrow Borrowing



Stocks and Flows - Causation

Causation (at individual level):

- Income \rightarrow Individual Spending
The private sector spending is mostly determined by its income
- Deficit \rightarrow Financial Wealth
The decision of deficit spending initiates the creation of financial wealth (the will of an entity to accumulate financial wealth depends on the will of another entity to run a deficit).
An entity (household, firm or government) can decide to spend more than its income by issuing liabilities. By identity, these liabilities are accumulated by other entities as financial wealth.

Causation (at aggregate level):

- Aggregate Spending \rightarrow Aggregate Income
- Deficit Sector X \rightarrow Surplus Sector Y
See *sectoral balances...*

Sweden - Sectoral Balances I



HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

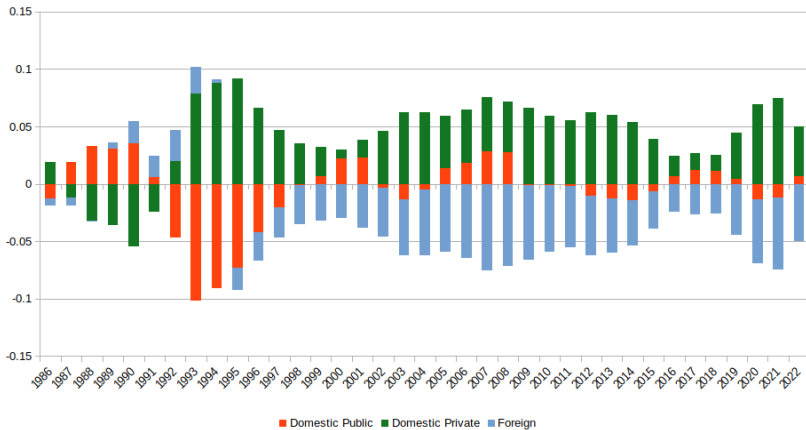
Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Sweden - Sectoral Balances (% GDP) - Year



Sweden - Sectoral Balances II



HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

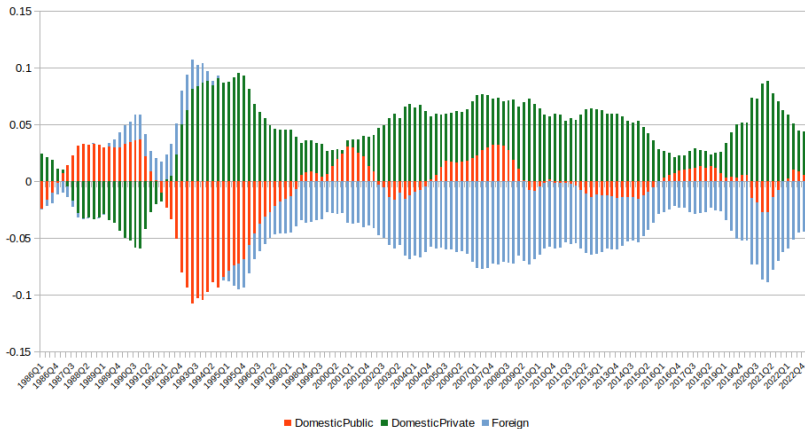
Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Sweden - Sectoral balances (% GDP) - Quarter



USA - Sectoral Balances I



HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

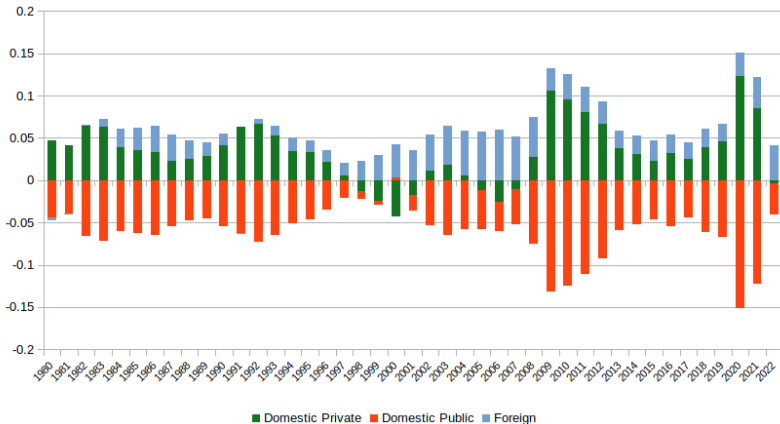
Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

USA - Sectoral Balances (% GDP) - Year



USA - Sectoral Balances II



HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

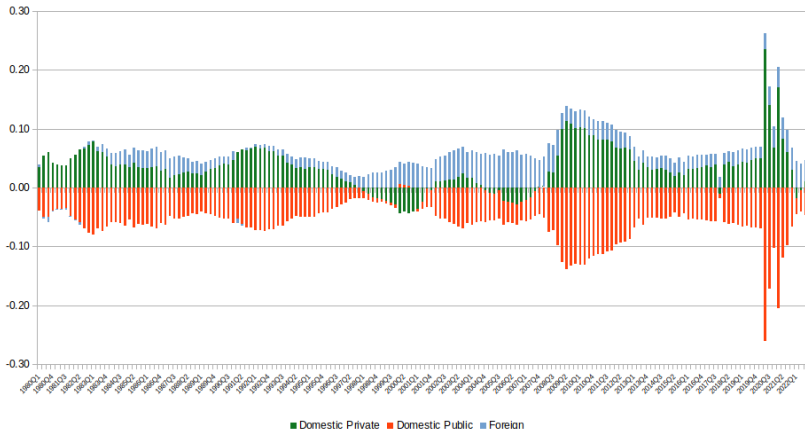
Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

USA - Sectoral Balance (% GDP)



Play & Learn: Monopoly revisited



HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Monopoly under a Budget Surplus regime

No money outflows from the Bank.

- Remove all Chance / Community Chest cards that allow a player to receive money from the Bank.
- Pay 200\$ when passing Go instead of receiving them.



There will be only the same amount of money flowing around the players.

New money is created only by indebtedness.

The game won't last longer...



Money and Money Things

- The Evolution Of Money
- Money Theories
- Money and Money Things
- Money Regimes



HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

] Evolution of Money



The Evolution Of Money: Traditional view I

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Nature of money as a *medium of exchange*

- 1 The barter
- 2 Gold and Goldsmiths
- 3 Banks and Governments



The Evolution Of Money: Traditional view II

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

The barter.

- 1 It starts in a primitive society (subsistence society)
- 2 Barter is the only type of exchange
- 3 Barter became inefficient with the society advancement
 - Mismatching preferences of goods
 - Difficult to operate between groups
- 4 Find an alternative, efficient, way to run a market economy



The Evolution Of Money: Traditional view III

Gold and Goldsmiths.

- 1 The society increasingly find metals to be suitable for the exchanges
- 2 Gold becomes the preferred metal
 - Attractive
 - Very valuable in very small quantity
 - Divisible
- 3 People begins to make small pieces out of gold, the coins
- 4 Government starts producing the coins in a more convenient and efficient way
- 5 Gold has a major problem, it needs to be protected
- 6 Goldsmiths step in as safe-keepers of the gold



The Evolution Of Money: Traditional view IV

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Banks and Governments.

- 1 Goldsmiths issue a receipt as proof of the gold deposit
- 2 They start to issue more receipts than held gold deposits
- 3 Receipts become a medium of exchange
- 4 Banks arise
 - Multiply amount of money
- 5 Government steps in as a lender of last resort to stabilise the system.

Main problem with this system is the inflation, too many receipts can lead to inflation.



The Evolution Of Money: Modern Money view I

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Money as a social unit of account

This view is supported by historical and anthropological evidence while there is no evidence supporting the *barter* and *efficiency* view.

- 1 The groups
- 2 The *Centre*
- 3 Modern money

For the past 4000 years, at least, we have had Modern Money.
(J. M. Keynes, "A Treatise on Money", 1930)



The Evolution Of Money: Modern Money view II

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

The groups.

- 1 It starts in a primitive society where barter is the only type of exchange
- 2 Society advances and people start to live in groups
- 3 The group survival depends on people contributions
 - Harvesting
 - Military services
 - Building/Maintenance activities
- 4 Contributions are made in kind since there is no unit of account and no liquidity
- 5 The leader of the group gives out tokens when contributions are made ahead of time

The Centre.

- 1 Who fulfils a duty on *centre's* demand receives a token
- 2 The token can be given back to the centre and it will grant exemptions from that duty
- 3 Alternatively, the token can be passed through other members of the group in exchange of goods
- 4 The tokens issued by the centre is a unit of account that everyone recognises (1 token = 1 duty)



The Evolution Of Money: Modern Money view IV

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Modern Money.

- 1 The tokens create liquidity (exchange for goods)
- 2 Before the tokens come back to the centre they are used to convey value between people (medium of exchange)
- 3 The centre issues tokens by spending and retires them by taxing
- 4 Money is created!

The Evolution Of Money: Key features



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MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Traditional view

money is a natural invention of people society

it arises from exchanges of private actors

it is a commodity (gold) or a convention (bank notes)

the government has a secondary role, technical service

Modern Money view

money arises from the centre as a constitutional project

it is a legal institution

it is a debit or a credit

the government has a primary role, issuing power

For the past 4000 years, at least, we have had Modern Money.
(J. M. Keynes, "A Treatise on Money", 1930)



What is Money?

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Money is a creature of the State

Government IOUs denominated in the national currency.

Fundamentals features of Money:

- Creation
- Acceptance
- Redemption



Why is Money accepted?

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Why does the private sector accept the currency issued by the government?

The government currency is accepted because it can be used in exchange for something...

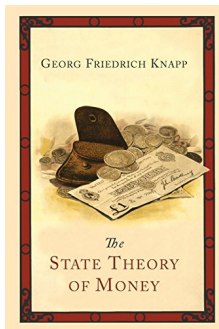
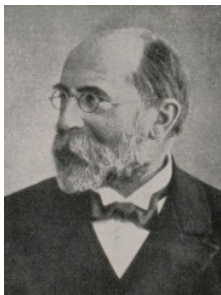
What backs up *modern money* (sovereign money)?

- Reserves of metal
- Reserves of foreign currencies
- Nothing (**Fiat**)
 - Legal tender laws
 - Tax liabilities

Taxes drive money!

Chartalism I

Georg Friedrich Knapp: "The State Theory of Money" (1924)



Money has no intrinsic value (in contrast to Metallism), it is accepted because it can be used in tax payments.



HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References



Chartalism II

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

- **Alfred Mitchell-Innes:** “Credit Theory of Money” (1914), integration State Theory of Money and Credit Theory of Money
- **Johan M. Keynes:** “A Treatise on Money” (1930), money and money-of-account
- **Hyman Minsky:** “Stabilizing an Unstable Economy” (1986), Endogeneity of money
- **Abba Lerner:** “Money as a Creature of the State” (1947), Functional Finance
- **Geoffrey Ingham:** “The Nature of Money” (2004), Credit Money and capitalism development
- **Charles Goodhart:** “Two concepts of money: implications for the analysis of optimal currency areas” (1998), *One nation one currency*



Chartal Money

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

The Central Government has a central role in the creation of Chartal money:

- 1 It *chooses* a Money of Account
- 2 It *imposes* a tax liability (in the same account)
- 3 It *issues* a currency that becomes the social unit of account
- 4 The currency is the government's *liability* (IOU)
- 5 The government accepts the currency for tax payments
- 6 Domestic stocks and flows are denominated in the national currency



Money and Money Things I

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Money → IOUs issued by the Central Government

Money Things → IOUs issued by the Non-Government sector

- Government IOUs are not convertible.
- Private IOUs are convertible to government IOUs.
- **Leveraging** → small amount of government IOUs (Money) generates a wide range of Private IOUs (Money Things).
- Central Bank is the *Lender of Last Resort*.

Money and Money Things II



HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

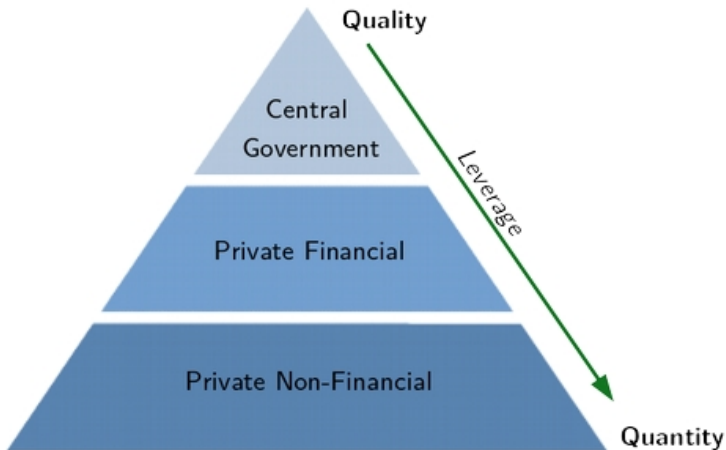
Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References



Money and Money Things III



Clearing example: Money - Government IOU

Person 1			
Assets		NW & Liabilities	
Checking Account	£200	Net worth	£200

Company 1			
Assets		NW & Liabilities	
Goods	£1,000	Net worth	£1,000

Person 1 settles using Government IOUs - Money

Person 1			
Assets		NW & Liabilities	
Checking Account	£100	Net worth	£100
Goods	£100		

Company 1			
Assets		NW & Liabilities	
Goods	£900	Net worth	£1,000
Cash	£100		

Money and Money Things IV



HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Clearing example:

Money Things - Private Financial IOU

Person 1			
Assets		NW & Liabilities	
Checking Account	£200	Net worth	£200

Company 1			
Assets		NW & Liabilities	
Goods	£1,000	Net worth	£1,000

Person 1 settles using Bank Transfer - Money Thing

Person 1			
Assets		NW & Liabilities	
Checking Account	£100	Net worth	£100
Goods	£100		

Company 1			
Assets		NW & Liabilities	
Goods	£900	Net worth	£1,000
Checking Account	£100		

Money and Money Things V



HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Clearing example:

Money Things - Private Non-Financial IOU

Person 1			
Assets		NW & Liabilities	
Checking Account	£200	Net worth	£200

Company 1			
Assets		NW & Liabilities	
Goods	£1,000	Net worth	£1,000

Person 1 settles issuing a debit - Money Thing

Person 1			
Assets		NW & Liabilities	
Checking Account	£200	Net worth	£200
Goods	£100	Debit	£100

Company 1			
Assets		NW & Liabilities	
Goods	£900	Net worth	£1,000
Credit	£100		



Monetary regimes

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Pegged exchange rate:

A country promises to redeem its currency for a commodity (usually gold) or another currency at a fixed exchange rate.

Managed exchange rate:

A country promises to redeem its currency at a floating exchange rate which is contained in a fixed exchange rate band.

Floating rate:

A country does not promise to redeem its currency at a fixed exchange rate.

Monetary regimes and Policy Space



HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Floating rate:

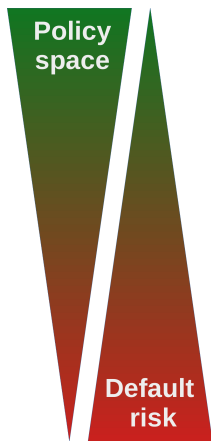
- Most policy space
- No default risk on its own currency
- Unlimited spending possibility
- Inflation and depreciation arbitrary

Managed float:

- Less policy space
- Spending can affect exchange rate

Pegged exchange rate:

- Least policy space
- Spending constrained by exchange rate
- Default risk greater than 0.





Countries and monetary regimes

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Floating rate

United States of America
United Kingdom
Sweden
Japan
Norway
Iceland
Mexico
Canada
Russia
India
Euroland*

Managed exchange rate

China
Switzerland
Singapore

Pegged exchange rate

Euro countries*
Saudi Arabia
United Arab
Emirates
Denmark
Hong Kong
Many African countries



Sovereign Government and Fiscal Policy

- Fiscal policy for a *sovereign* country
- Spending, taxation, deficit



Sovereignty and Money I

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Sovereignty scale

Full Sovereign country:

A country whose central government **issues** its own *unpegged* and *non-convertible* currency which is used as *domestic unit of account*.

Sovereign Country:

A country whose central government **issues** its own currency which is used as *domestic unit of account*.

Non-Sovereign Country:

A country whose central government **uses** as *domestic unit of account* a currency issued by a foreign entity.



Sovereignty and Money II

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Issuer vs User

Central Government	⇒ Issuer
Private Sector (households and companies)	⇒ Users
Local Governments	⇒ False Users



Wrong approach to Sovereign Countries

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

- Spending
 - Government has budget constraints, like households and firms
 - Government spending must be funded through taxation or borrowing (bond sales)
 - Spending comes after taxation
- Taxation
 - Taxes finance government spending
 - Taxation has to come before spending
- Deficit
 - Government deficit is the private sector burden
 - Deficit drives interest rates up, takes away private saving and generates inflation
 - Today's deficit is the future generations' burden



Correct approach to Sovereign Countries

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

■ Spending

- The government can always afford to buy what is on sale in its own unit of account
- As the sole manufacturer of currency the government can never become insolvent
- Spending comes before taxation

■ Taxation

- Taxes cannot finance government spending
- Taxation occurs after spending
- Taxes exist for a monetary purpose not for financing (same applies for bond sales)

■ Deficit

- Government deficit is the private sector net wealth
- Today's deficit are the future generations' savings



Spending and Taxation I

Spending is the process through which the Central Government introduces **liquidity** in the system.

It **spends money into existence** by crediting bank **reserves** (printing money or **keystroke**).

The money comes from **nothing**, it cannot come from taxation or other financing vectors (like treasury bonds sales), the government simply creates it.

Ben Bernanke interviewed by Scott Pelley: *Bernanke explains where the money came from for the 2008 bailouts of the banks. It's not taxpayer's money, they just printed it.*

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U_bjDAZazWU

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References



Spending and Taxation II

As the **sole manufacturer** of money, the Sovereign Government can never run out of money and never become **insolvent** on liabilities denominated in its money of account (national currency).

⇒ **default probability** of the government on an exposure denominated in **domestic currency** is **zero**.

Alan Greenspan vs Paul Ryan on USA solvency:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DNCZHAQnfGU>

From the St. Louis Fed:

“As the sole manufacturer of dollars, whose debt is denominated in dollars, the U.S. government can never become insolvent, i.e., unable to pay its bills. In this sense, the government is not dependent on credit markets to remain operational.”

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References



Spending and Taxation III

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Taxation cannot precede spending: money is made available to the private sector by the government spending.

The government introduces money in the private sector (spending) and only successively it may, eventually, drain some of this money (taxation).

The private sector cannot pay any taxes if it haven't received any money yet!



The Role of Taxation

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Taxation is primarily a monetary operation and not a financing source for a sovereign government.

Real purposes of taxation:

- 1 **Taxes drive money:** taxation ensures a demand for the national currency
- 2 Control of inflation
- 3 Reallocation of national wealth
- 4 Constrain over-accumulation of wealth



Taxes drive money

The imposition by the government of a **tax liability** to be paid in the national currency ensures a demand for this currency. The key link between **Taxation** and **Money Demand** is **Unemployment**.

Spending

⇒ Taxation

⇒ **Unemployment**

⇒ Money Demand



Interactive Example...

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References



Government Borrowing

Link between the Central Bank interest rate target and the government spending:

- 1 Government deficit spending adds extra reserves to the banking system
- 2 Interest rate declines (under the CB target) as the quantity of reserves increases
- 3 Government drains excess reserves by selling securities → Borrowing
- 4 Interest rate re-aligns with the Central Bank target

Government borrowing is a monetary operation (support interest rate) and not a financing (fiscal) operation.



Control of Inflation

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Taxation sets an implicit floor to the value of domestic currency, a minimum level of demand that keeps the *price* above 0. Should the inflation reach extremely high levels (hyperinflation), money's value will fall very quick and the population could refrain from holding the domestic currency as unit of account.

Taxation and inflation:

- Higher taxes → lower inflation
 - the government drains more money from the private sector
 - the private sector has less money in circulation
 - prices tend to decrease
- Lower taxes → higher inflation
 - the government spends more in the private sector
 - money circulation in the private sector increases
 - prices tend to increase

Fiscal policy is much more effective for controlling the inflation than the monetary policy.



About inflation I

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Mainstream view	Modern Money view
Inflation \Rightarrow Demand side	Inflation \Rightarrow Supply side
Stagnation \Rightarrow Supply side	Stagnation \Rightarrow Demand side

- Weimar
- Zimbabwe
- Usa 70s
- USA/Europe 2022



About inflation II

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Supply chain disruption

- Covid-19 disruptions
 - Careless response
 - China 0-Covid policy
 - Just-in-time production flaws
 - Neoliberal supply chain disrupted
- Nato-Russia war
 - Raw materials price

About the latest inflation?

- Oil, Food, Shelter and raw materials
- Price gauging and rising markups
- No evidence of Wage-Price spiral
- Raising rates counterproductive: affect supply but not demand, cost feed-through, devalue banks assets, interest income



Government Deficit policies

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

The Government budget policy:

- Deficit → private sector net wealth is positive → the private sector is saving
- Balanced → private sector net wealth is zero → the private sector gets nothing
- Surplus → private sector net wealth is negative → the private sector goes into deficit

Sectoral balances - foreign sector in balance

Government Net Lending = Private Sector Net Financial Wealth

OR

Public Deficit = Private Surplus

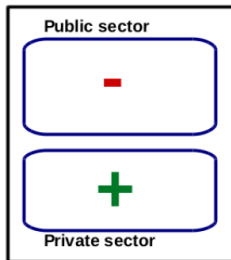
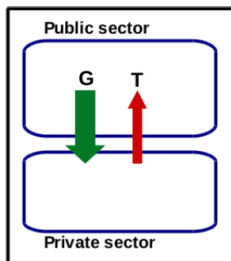
Government Deficit - Optimal

Stage 1:

- 1 government spends money into the system
- 2 the government goes into deficit
- 3 the private sector gets the money and goes in surplus

Stage 2 - optimal:

- 1 government claims only part of the money it had spent
- 2 the government remains into deficit
- 3 the private sector stays in surplus
- 4 the private sector accumulates net wealth (net saving)



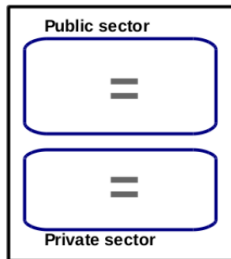
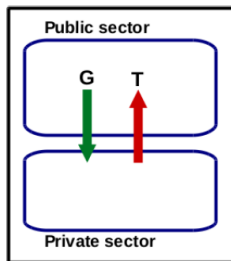
Government Deficit - Bad

Stage 1:

- 1 government spends money into the system
- 2 the government goes into deficit
- 3 the private sector gets the money and goes in surplus

Stage 2 - bad:

- 1 government claims all the money it had spent
- 2 the government balances its budget
- 3 the private sector gets nothing



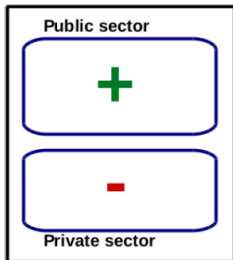
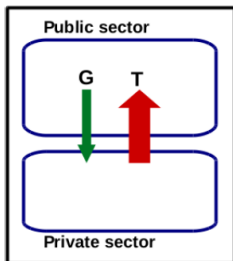
Government Deficit - Worst

Stage 1:

- 1 government spends money into the system
- 2 the government goes into deficit
- 3 the private sector gets the money and goes in surplus

Stage 2 - worst:

- 1 government claims more money than it had spent
- 2 the government goes into surplus
- 3 the private sector needs to either *borrow* or *dissave* in order to pay taxes
- 4 the private sector goes into deficit
- 5 the private sector accumulates debt (wealth destruction)





Full employment

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Full Employment \Rightarrow Main target in any "civilised" country.

A sovereign government that issues its own fiat currency has the maximum **policy space**, both fiscal and monetary policy. It can spend enough to steer the economy towards **full employment** (and price stability) and it can set the interest rate target where it wants.

Affordability and **solvency** are not an issue since spending occurs by crediting bank accounts with its own currency.

The government should act as an **Employer of Last Resort**.



Functional and Sound finance

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Contrasting policy approaches:

- Functional finance → target full employment
- Sound finance → target inflation



Functional Finance

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Abba Lerner (“Functional Finance and the Federal Debt”, 1943)
⇒ two principles of *functional finance*:

- 1 If domestic income is too low, the government needs to increase its spending. Unemployment is a sufficient evidence of this condition, if the economy is operating below full employment the government is not spending enough (or it is taxing too much)
- 2 If domestic interest rate is too high, the government needs to provide more liquidity (money) through bank reserve in order to lower the interest rate.



Sound Finance

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Mainstream economics (1970s) \Rightarrow Government Budget constraint:

- The government must run its finance like a household or a firm, hence its budget is constrained
- Government spending is constrained by tax revenue and ability to borrow
- Printing money is very bad (highly inflationary)
- Inflation becomes the main target at the expense of unemployment

The superstition of the balanced budget \Rightarrow ... *scare people by sometimes what might be regarded as myths into behaving in a way that the long-run civilized life requires (P. Samuelson, 1995).*



Government Deficit policies and Foreign Sector

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Sectoral balances - foreign sector positive/negative

Government Net Lending = Private Sector Net Financial Wealth
 \pm Foreign Net position

OR

Public Deficit = Private Surplus \pm Current account

The Foreign Sector (Current Account) role:

- to support the private sector when the government runs a budget surplus (or balanced)
- to increase budget deficit when the private sector is in surplus



HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

]Exchange rate



Deficit spending and the exchange rate

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

A full sovereign government can achieve *full employment*.

Problem:

Full employment can, through the Exchange Rate effect, affect the current account (Import/Export) of the state.

↑ *Employment*

↑ *Consumption (incl. Imports)*

↑ *Trade Deficit (Import > Export)*

↓ *Currency value*

↑ *Currency depreciation*

↑ *Inflation (pass – through)*

Unemployment, and thus *poverty*, is the price for low inflation and stable value of the domestic currency.

Import and Export



HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

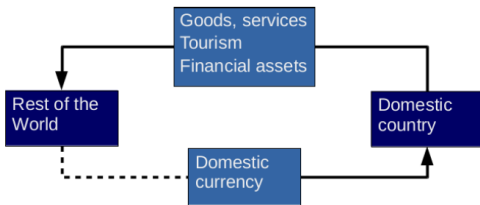
Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References



Export:

- Rest of the World desires a product/asset held from another country
- The importer (ROW) gets the product/asset
- The exporter (domestic country) gets domestic currency

Why export:

- Drain liquidity from RoW
- Accumulate foreign reserves



Export Issues

A domestic government wants to run a **balance budget** and a **trade surplus**. The **positive current account** would allow to get liquidity from RoW and not penalise excessively the domestic private sector.

Possible issues:

- 1 The domestic country doesn't have goods/services the ROW wants
- 2 Domestic financial assets are too risky for international investors

Possible solutions:

- 1 Start to produce what the RoW wants
- 2 Peg domestic currency (or adopt currency board) in order to decrease riskiness of financial assets → swap *currency* risk with *default* risk
- 3 Develop internal capacity to produce and consume, by running a government deficit → Political issues

USA trade deficit myth



HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

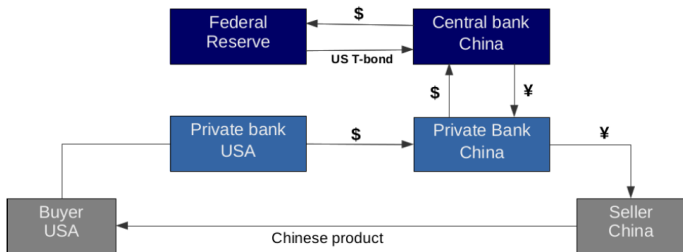
Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

China is financing US government deficit by accumulating US Treasuries... → **Wrong**





Modern Monetary System

- Money creation and Reserves
- Treasury - Central Bank coordination

Money and Interest Rate I



HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

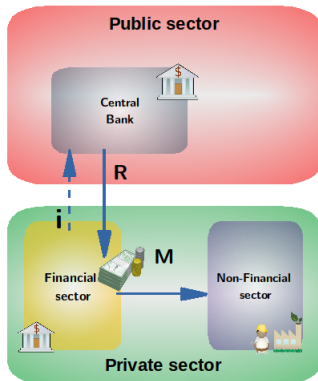
Financial
Stability

References

Fixed exchange regime

Ex. gold standard.

M	Quantity of money is <i>limited</i>
R	The quantity of reserves is <i>fixed</i> , determined by the Central Bank
I	Interest rate is determined by the <i>market</i> competing for a fixed amount of available reserves
	Exogenous money → Verticalism



Money and Interest Rate II



HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro fundamentals

Money Theories and Regimes

Sovereign Government and Fiscal Policy

Modern Monetary System

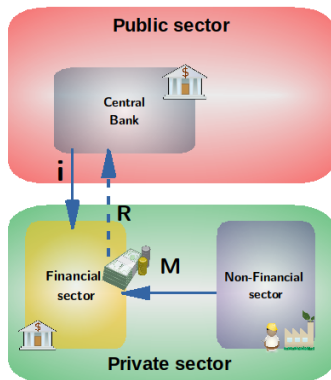
Financial Stability

References

Floating exchange regime

Ex. fiat currency

M	Quantity of money is <i>unlimited</i>
R	Quantity of reserves determined by the market, Central Bank <i>accommodates</i> the demand for reserves
I	Interest rate fixed by the <i>Central Bank</i>
	Endogenous money → Horizontalism



The Monetary Base: Definition



Central Bank balance sheet

<i>Assets</i>	<i>Liabilities & Net Worth</i>
A1: Credit market instruments	L1: Vault cash and cash in circulation
A2: Loans to domestic banks	L2: Reserves balances
A3: Gold, foreign exchange and SDR certificates	L3: Checking account due to Treasury and Banknotes held by Treasury
A4: Treasury currency	L4: Checking account due to Foreigners and other Banknotes held by Foreigners and others
A5: Other assets	L5: Other liabilities

Monetary Base

$$L_1 + L_2 = A_1 + A_2 + A_3 + A_4 + A_5 - L_3 - L_4 - L_5$$

The Monetary Base: Changes



HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Creation of monetary base:

Increase in Central Bank assets → Central Bank buys a treasury bond from a private bank.

Assets variations	Liabilities & Net Worth variations
$\Delta A_1 = +100$ Treasury bond	$\Delta L_2 = +100$ Reserves

Destruction of monetary base:

Increase in Central Bank liabilities → Private actor pays due taxes.

Assets variations	Liabilities & Net Worth variations
	$\Delta L_2 = -100$ Reserves
	$\Delta L_3 = +100$ Treasury account



The balance sheet of a bank

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

<i>Assets</i>	<i>Liabilities & Net Worth</i>
Loans	Checking accounts
Securities	Saving accounts
Reserve balances	Other liabilities
Other assets	Net Worth

Checking and Saving accounts are the **money things** or banks IOUs.

Reserve balances are *deposit accounts* at the Central Bank (L2: Reserves balances).



Banks and Money Creation - Simple

Bank X opens its business and no banking activities have performed yet.

Bank X Initial balance sheet

Assets	Liabilities & Net Worth
Equipment = 500	Net Worth = 500

The bank obtains its first customer, company One, which would like to borrow 500 to finance a new machinery.

Bank X balance sheet

Assets	Liabilities & Net Worth
Equipment = 500	Net Worth = 500
Loan to company One = 500	Checking account of company One = 500

Bank X created 500 of money things.

Banks and Money Creation - Functioning I



HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

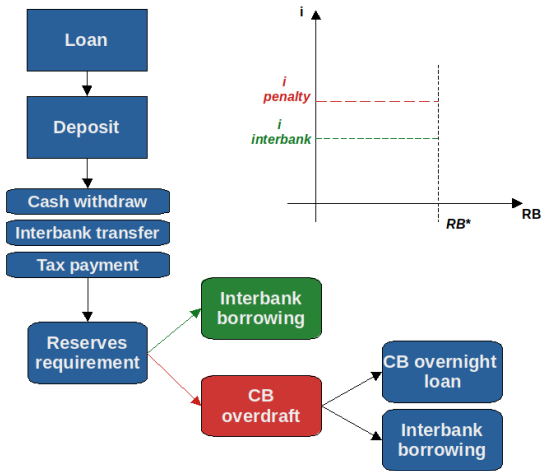
Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References





Banks and Money Creation - Functioning II

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Reserve balances do NOT affect banks ability to make loans.

Constraints:

- 1 Borrower crediworthines
- 2 Profitability (customer deposits vs interbank/CB borrowing)
- 3 Capital requirements



The Money Multiplier - theory

Reserve balances according to the Money Multiplier model \Rightarrow *reserve balances finance banks balance sheet expansion by increasing the Excess Reserves.*

$$M = m * MB$$

$\uparrow RB \rightarrow \uparrow ER \rightarrow Loans \& Deposits \uparrow$

$\Rightarrow Credit Expansion$

- 1 The Central Bank increases the supply of reserve balances
- 2 Banks excess reserves increase
- 3 Banks can create more loans (and deposits).

This is how it works in theory..

The Money Multiplier - real world

but in the real world...

The money multiplier (m) works the other way around.

⇒ *Credit Expansion*

Loans → *Deposits* → ↑ *RB*

$$MB = M/m$$

- 1 Banks create Loans which create Deposits independent of reserve positions
- 2 Banks acquire reserves in the *money market* if:
 - Banks have reserve requirements to meet
 - Banks have to settle a payment (interbank settlement)
 - Cash withdraw
- 3 The Central Bank accommodates the demand of reserves whatever this is

Example on interbank settlement ↓↓



Banks and Money Creation - Reserves I



HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

The case of interbank settlements:

company One pays 500 to the supplier of the new machinery which has a bank account in another bank, Bank Y.

Bank X balance sheet

Assets	Liabilities & Net Worth
	Checking account company One = -500
	Reserves due to bank Y = +500

Bank Y balance sheet

Assets	Liabilities & Net Worth
Claim on Bank X Reserves = +500	Checking account supplier = +500

Banks and Money Creation - Reserves II



HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Bank X needs to acquire reserves in order to settle its debt with Bank Y.

The reserves are obtained from the Central Bank.

Bank X balance sheet

Assets	Liabilities & Net Worth
Reserves = +500	Debt to Central Bank = +500

Central Bank balance sheet

Assets	Liabilities & Net Worth
Reserve loan to Bank X = +500	Reserves = +500

Banks and Money Creation - Reserves III



HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Once the reserves are obtained, Bank X settles the debt with Bank Y.

Bank X balance sheet

Assets	Liabilities & Net Worth
Reserves = -500	Reserves due to Bank Y = -500

Bank Y balance sheet

Assets	Liabilities & Net Worth
Claim on Bank X = -500	
Reserves = +500	

Banks and Money Creation - Reserves IV

Final position of Bank X, Bank Y and the Central Bank.

Bank X balance sheet

Assets	Liabilities & Net Worth
Equipment = 500	Debt to Central Bank = 500
Loan to One = 500	Net Worth = 500

Bank Y balance sheet

Assets	Liabilities & Net Worth
Reserves = 500	Checking account supplier = 500

Central Bank balance sheet

Assets	Liabilities & Net Worth
Reserves Loan to Bank X = 500	Reserves = 500





Banking and Reserves

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

- Banks use reserve balances to settle payments (consistently high GDP % in modern economy)
- The Central Bank sets an interest rate target
- The Central Bank has to accommodate the demand for reserves in order to guarantee the correct functioning of the payment system (both intra-day and overnight)
- Reserve requirements do not affect supply/demand of reserve balances
- Interbank lending does not change the total amount of reserves, it just changes the distribution of reserves
- Only the Central Bank can increase (or decrease) the amount of reserves at macro level.

The Central Bank has no control over the quantity of reserves, it controls only the price.

Treasury and Central Bank coordination: Balanced budget I



Step 1 → Government buys asset from the private sector:

Government		Private Banks		Private Company	
Assets	Liabilities	Assets	Liabilities	Assets	Liabilities
+ Truck	+ Reserves	+Reserves	+DD	+DD	+Tax liability
+Tax liability	+Net worth			-Truck	-Net worth

Step 2 → Private sector pays tax liability:

Government		Private Banks		Private company	
Assets	Liabilities	Assets	Liabilities	Assets	Liabilities
-Tax liability	-Reserves	-Reserves	-DD	-DD	-Tax liability

Treasury and Central Bank coordination: Balanced budget II



HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Final position:

Government	
Assets	Liabilities
+Truck	+Net worth

Private company	
Assets	Liabilities
-Truck	-Net worth

In the case of a balanced budget, the government simply transfers, using the monetary system, resources from the private sector to the public.

The government increases its assets and the private company decreases its net worth.

Treasury and Central Bank coordination: Deficit Spending I



HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Step 1 → Government buys asset from the private sector:

Government	
Assets	Liabilities
+ Truck	+ Reserves

Private Banks	
Assets	Liabilities
+Reserves	+DD

Private Company	
Assets	Liabilities
+DD	
-Truck	

Step 2 → Government sells bond (to hit overnight interest rate target - monetary policy):

Government	
Assets	Liabilities
	-Reserves
	+Bond

Private Bank	
Assets	Liabilities
-Reserves	
+Bond	

Treasury and Central Bank coordination: Deficit Spending II



HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Final Position:

Government	
Assets	Liabilities
+ Truck	+ Bond

Private Bank	
Assets	Liabilities
+Bond	+DD

Private Company	
Assets	Liabilities
+DD	
-Truck	

The government increases its assets but the *deficit spending* allows a net financial assets to be created and accumulated by the private sector.

Treasury and Central Bank coordination: Deficit Spending - One constraint I

Constraint: Requirement to sell the bond before deficit spending

Step 1 → Government sells bond before spending:

Government	
Assets	Liabilities
+ DD	+ Bond

Private Bank	
Assets	Liabilities
+Bond	+ DD Government

Step 2 → Government buys asset from the private sector:

Government	
Assets	Liabilities
-DD	
+Truck	

Private Bank	
Assets	Liabilities
	-DD Gov.
	+DD Priv.

Private Company	
Assets	Liabilities
-Truck	
+DD	

Treasury and Central Bank coordination: Deficit Spending - One constraint II



HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Final Position:

Government	
Assets	Liabilities
+ Truck	+ Bond

Private Bank	
Assets	Liabilities
+Bond	+DD

Private Company	
Assets	Liabilities
+DD	
-Truck	

Same conclusion as for the case without constraint...

Treasury and Central Bank coordination: Deficit Spending - Two constraints I

Further constraint: Government can only write checks on its account at the central bank

Step 1 → Treasury uses its central bank account:

Treasury		Private Bank	
Assets	Liabilities	Assets	Liabilities
+ DD Private Bank	+Bond	+Bond	+ DD Treasury

Step 2 → Treasury moves deposit to central bank account:

Treasury		Central Bank		Private Bank	
Assets	Liabilities	Assets	Liabilities	Assets	Liabilities
-DD Priv. bank		Loan. Res.			-DD Treasury
+DD Cent. Bank			+DD Treasury		+Borr. Res.

Treasury and Central Bank coordination: Deficit Spending - Two constraints II



HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Step 1 → Treasury buys asset from the private sector:

Treasury	
Assets	Liabilities
-DD	
+Truck	

Private Bank	
Assets	Liabilities
	+DD
	-Borrowed Res.

Central Bank	
Assets	Liabilities
- Loan. Res.	- DD Treasury

Private Company	
Assets	Liabilities
+DD	
-Truck	

Treasury and Central Bank coordination: Deficit Spending - Two constraints III



HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Final Position:

Government	
Assets	Liabilities
+ Truck	+ Bond

Private Bank	
Assets	Liabilities
+Bond	+DD

Private Company	
Assets	Liabilities
+DD	
-Truck	

Same conclusion as for the case without constraint and with 1 constraint...



Financial Stability

- Financial Instability Hypothesis
- The road to the Global Financial Crisis

Capitalism and Innovation



HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

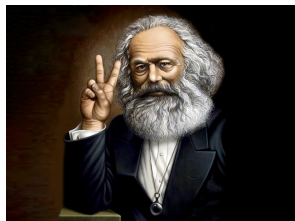
Financial
Stability

References

Capitalism is a Money production
process (Karl Marx)

$$M - C - M'$$

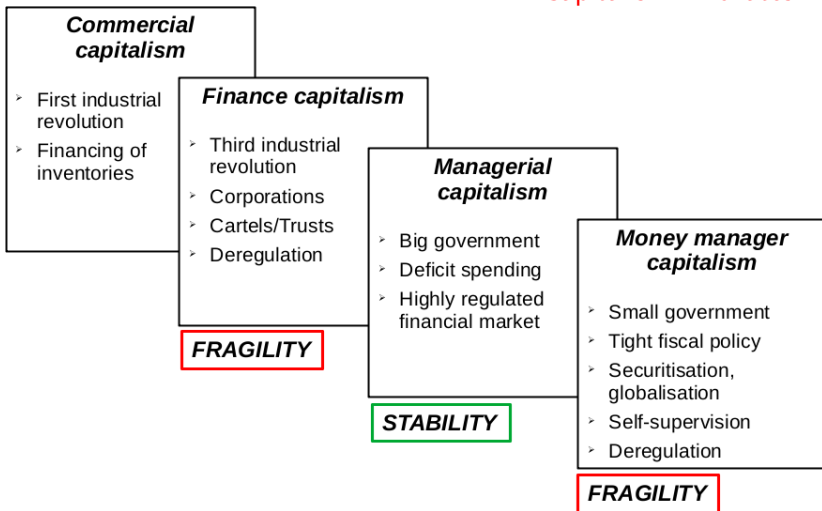
The process starts with **Money**
which is exploited to produce a
Commodity, in order to generate
more **Money**.



Karl Marx

Historical evolution of Capitalism

Capitalism Innovates!



HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Financial stability studies



Hyman Minsky

Financial instability hypothesis



Joseph Shumpeter

Innovation and economic development



John M. Keynes

Role of government in economic stability



Michal Kalecki

Link between aggregate profits and investment

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

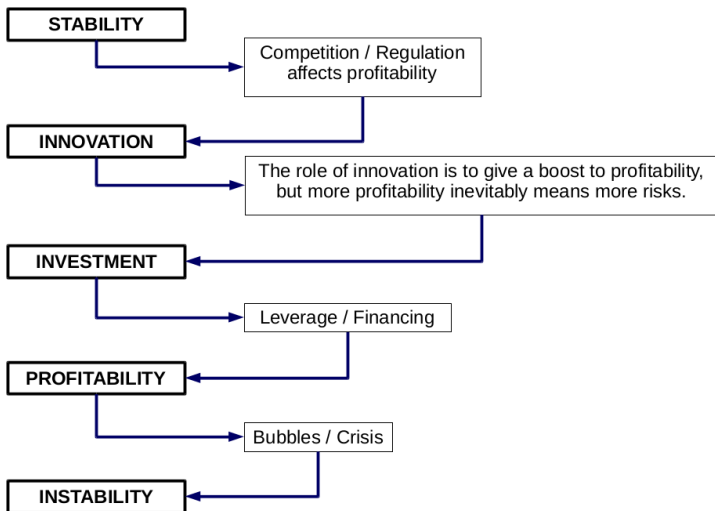
Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Financial Instability Hypothesis





From deregulation to destabilising regulation

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Micro-regulation:

- Basel
 - Market risk requirement internally calculated to link Capital and Risk
 - Banks pressure towards development of own models
 - Extension to Credit Risk
 - More advanced internal model to take over regulation
- Perverse Incentive set up by higher capital requirements:
 - Competitive pressures force banks with higher capital ratios to seek higher returns in order to increase Return On Equities;
 - Given that risk weightings do not eliminate the higher net returns to overly risky assets, all things equal, banks with more capital need higher returns and thus riskier positions.
- Short term prospective, no protection against systemic crisis.



From deregulation to stabilising regulation

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Macro-regulation:

- Capital ratios (micro-regulation) offer short term stability Fiscal policy is the main stabiliser
 - Contain profit volatility, long term stability
 - Government intervention against Unexpected Losses generated by major systemic financial crisis.
- Tighten coordination between Financial and Real economy
 - Discrepancy between growth of banks assets and the growth of nominal GDP brings fragility
- Introduce Diversity in regulation and supervision.



Macro effects of the wrong policies

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Financial instability

- Micro vs macro stability
- Financial Instability Hypothesis

Global financial crisis (2007)

- Volcker interest rate rise (80's)
- Clinton budget surplus (1996)

Private sector distress

- Wrong price of credit.

Government Deficit - USA Sectoral Balances and the Global Financial Crisis



HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

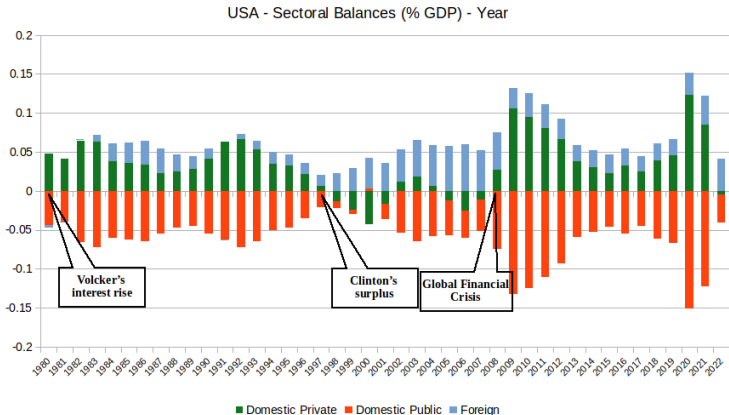
Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References





References and External Materials



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HETERODOX MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro fundamentals

Money Theories and Regimes

Sovereign Government and Fiscal Policy

Modern Monetary System

Financial Stability

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HETERODOX MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro fundamentals

Money Theories and Regimes

Sovereign Government and Fiscal Policy

Modern Monetary System

Financial Stability

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HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

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HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

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References V

HETERODOX MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro fundamentals

Money Theories and Regimes

Sovereign Government and Fiscal Policy

Modern Monetary System

Financial Stability

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References VI

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

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References VII

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

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References VIII

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

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MMT vs. Austrian School Debate

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Modern Money & Public Purpose 2: Governments Are Not Households

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References IX

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

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Modern Money & Public Purpose 8: Economic Rights
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Lecture 1: Keynes General Theory, Before and After
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZIsV7kXHN1c>

Lecture 2: Post-War Macroeconomics
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2E0u2PsjSsU>

Lecture 3: Introduction to Minsky: Foundations in Early Work
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6xUmUVXGLOA>

Lecture 4: Minsky's Development of an Alternative Approach
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zdv5aEW_Z0



References X

HETERODOX
MACROECONOMICS

Outline

Macro
fundamentals

Money
Theories and
Regimes

Sovereign
Government
and Fiscal
Policy

Modern
Monetary
System

Financial
Stability

References

Lecture 5: Heterodox approaches to Theory and Policy (Part 1)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yVW3ff5XFt0>

Lecture 5: Heterodox approaches to Theory and Policy (Part 2)

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Lecture 6: Stabilizing an Unstable Economy

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