

NBER WORKING PAPER SERIES

SHORT-RUN INDEPENDENCE OF MONETARY
POLICY UNDER PEGGED EXCHANGE RATES
AND EFFECTS OF MONEY ON EXCHANGE
RATES AND INTEREST RATES

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Working Paper No. 4517

NATIONAL BUREAU OF ECONOMIC RESEARCH
1050 Massachusetts Avenue
Cambridge, MA 02138
November, 1993

This paper is part of NBER's research program in International Finance and Macroeconomics. Any opinions expressed are those of the authors and not those of the National Bureau of Economic Research.

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ABSTRACT

Economists generally assert that countries sacrifice monetary independence when they peg their exchange rates. At the same time, central bankers frequently assert that pegging an exchange rate does not eliminate the independence of monetary policy. This paper examines the effects of money-supply changes on exchange rates, interest rates, and production in an optimizing two-country model in which some sectors of the economy have predetermined nominal prices in the short run and other sectors have flexible prices. Money-supply shocks have liquidity effects both within and across countries and induce a cross-country real-interest differential. The model predicts that liquidity effects are highly non-linear and are not likely to be captured well empirically by linear models, particularly those involving only a single country. The most striking implication of the model is that countries have a degree of short-run independence of monetary policy even under pegged exchange rates.

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1 Introduction

This paper examines the effects of money-supply changes in a two-country world in which some sectors of the economy have nominal prices that are sticky in the short run and other sectors have flexible prices. We examine the short-run effects of changes in the money supply on the exchange rate, home and foreign real and nominal interest rates, and production in each sector and in each country. We show that money-supply changes have liquidity effects (a fall in the money supply raises the real and nominal interest rate) both within and across countries, and introduce a cross-country real-interest differential. We also show how a country can exercise independent monetary policy, in the short run, while it pegs its exchange rate to another country. Similarly, the model shows why a credible target zone for the exchange-rate provides much less of a short-run constraint on monetary policy than is commonly believed.

Our closed-economy paper examined the questions of how a change in the money supply affects nominal prices in the flexible-price sectors. It discussed the conditions under which those nominal prices overshoot their long-run equilibrium levels in the short run, and when they undershoot those levels. It also showed that a only a small sector of the economy need be subject to sluggish nominal-price adjustment for a money-supply change to generate a liquidity effect of the size found in most estimates. It provided an alternative model of liquidity effects to the model developed in Feurst [8], Lucas [12], and Christiano and Eichenbaum [4] (following earlier related work by Grossman and Weiss [10] and Rotemberg [18]).

Economists currently lack an empirically satisfactory model of exchange rates. Many

theoretical models assign a large role to monetary disturbances, operating through mechanisms closely related to that expounded in the classic contribution of Dornbusch [6]. Other theoretical models (e.g. [23] and [13]) assign a larger role to real disturbances that affect equilibrium relative prices and induce exchange-rate changes to create them. Recent empirical evidence suggests that exchange rates may contain a mean-reverting component with a half-life of approximately three years (e.g. [11], [5], and [14]). Yet current theoretical models that connect changes in money, interest rates and international interest-differentials, and exchange rates have not successfully explained these short-term changes in exchange rates. Similarly, equilibrium models of exchange rates have not been successful in explaining the observed differences in relative-price behavior across alternative exchange-rate systems (see [22], [15], and [1]). Moreover, none of the current theoretical models can explain the apparent short-run independence of monetary policy that countries can exercise under pegged exchange rates, or under systems of limited exchange-rate flexibility such as the EMS.

This paper develops an alternative theoretical framework in which monetary disturbances may play an important role in affecting interest rates and exchange rates. Unlike most previous research on the real effects of monetary shocks that has focused on a one-sector macroeconomic model (such as [6] and [16]), we examine a two-sector model and allow the two sectors to have different degrees of price flexibility. (We examine the simple case in which one sector's price is completely sticky in the short run and the other sector's price is completely flexible.)

Our interest in this two-sector model follows from the empirical finding that nominal price flexibility varies considerably across different goods. For example, there appear to be certain goods with prices that change very infrequently, as documented by Blinder, Carlton,

Cechetti, Kashyap, and Kindahl and Stigler. Alternatively, there are goods with prices that change often, such as relatively homogeneous goods sold on near-auction markets, food, gasoline, automobiles (transaction prices), and computers. The two-sector model presented in this paper generates substantially different predictions than one-sector models about the connections between changes in money, interest rates, international interest-rate differentials, and exchange rates. In addition, the model predicts that credible limits on exchange-rate changes create less stringent constraints on short-run monetary policy than is implied by previous models. The model suggests a re-assessment of the questions of whether exchange-rate changes are caused mainly by monetary or real disturbances and how exchange rates are connected with changes in interest rates or international interest-rate differentials, the balance of trade, output, and employment. The model can be used for positive analysis as well as welfare analysis of alternative exchange rate systems and of alternative monetary policies within each system. The model suggests new channels through which monetary policy is transmitted internationally and the differences in international transmission under different exchange-rate systems.

There has been much discussion of sterilization of international reserve flows under pegged exchange rates or systems of limited exchange-rate flexibility. But there has been little analysis of the process through which sterilization occurs or its implications for other economic variables. Similarly, despite a large literature on the economics of target zones for exchange rates, there has been little analysis of the short-run effects of monetary policy under a target-zone system. These issues are connected because the same forces that give countries the ability to conduct independent monetary policies in the short run under pegged exchange rates allows them to do so under a system of target zones, even when the exchange

rate is at the edge of that zone. Stockman [19] finds empirical evidence that countries were able to conduct independent monetary policies under the Bretton-Woods System of pegged exchange rates – policies that had liquidity effects on home nominal and real interest rates, that created international real-interest differentials, and that had temporary effects on the home rate of inflation (and so resulted in short-run differences in inflation across countries under pegged exchange rates). Svensson [25] similarly finds evidence of short-term monetary independence within the EMS.

While neither existing sticky price nor equilibrium exchange rate models are consistent with this evidence, the current paper presents a model in which a country can use monetary policy to create short-run changes in its real and nominal interest rates (creating an international real-interest differential) and short-run changes in its inflation rate at the same time it pegs its exchange rate. We show that countries, at times, have an entire set of monetary policies from which to choose, and that each choice has different implications for other real and nominal economic variables. The set consists of an interval of money-supply changes: as long as the money-supply change is within the interval, the exchange rate remains pegged

As in [17], we treat price stickiness in these sectors as a black box because there is no well-established theory to explain the evidence that many nominal prices adjust slowly. In this paper we concentrate on the effects of negative monetary shocks.¹ Positive monetary shocks would have the opposite effects, assuming that output is determined by the quantity demanded (as it would be if we begin from a situation of excess supply, as in a model with monopolistic competition such as [3]).

¹We do this to avoid taking a stand on whether output is determined by the quantity supplied or the quantity demanded when there is excess demand. Our closed-economy paper discusses this issue further.

This paper does not attempt to match the implications of the model with actual data. Nor do we deal with dynamics or with uncertainty and risk, or with the issues of industrial organization and imperfect competition that have played major roles in recent closed-economy models of the effects of money and the effects of price-sluggishness. Instead, we keep the model as simple as possible to examine the new channels of economic interaction that can occur in a two-country, two-sector model.

2 The Model.

2.1 A Closed Economy

We outline here the closed-economy model from [17]. Consider a closed economy with two goods, X and Y , money introduced through cash-in-advance constraints, and complete asset markets. A representative household maximizes discounted expected utility:

$$\max \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \beta^t \left[\frac{1}{(1-\rho)} (\alpha x_t^{(\sigma-1)/\sigma} + (1-\alpha) y_t^{(\sigma-1)/\sigma})^{(\sigma/(\sigma-1)) \cdot (1-\rho)} - v(L_{Xt} + L_{Yt}) \right] \quad (1)$$

subject to the sequence of constraints

$$P_{X,t-1} k_{X,t-1} L_{X,t-1}^{\delta} + P_{Y,t-1} k_{Y,t-1} L_{Y,t-1}^{\delta} + \nu_t (q_t + d_t) + \tau_t - \nu_{t+1} q_t - M_t = 0 \quad (2)$$

and

$$M_t - P_{Xt} X_t - P_{Yt} Y_t = 0, \quad (3)$$

where (2) is a budget constraint for period- t asset markets and (3) is the cash-in-advance constraint which applies to period- t product markets (which immediately follow period- t asset markets as in [13]).

The terms x and y refer to consumption of goods X and Y , L_X and L_Y refer to labor hours producing goods X and Y , P_X and P_Y are nominal prices, k_X and k_Y are exogenous productivity parameters, $0 \leq \delta \leq 1$ is a parameter of the production function, ν_t is a vector of assets the household owns at the beginning of period t with dividend vector d_t and ex-dividend price-vector q_t , τ_t is a lump-sum transfer of money to the household from the government at the beginning of period t , and M_t is the nominal money the household has as it leaves period- t asset markets and enters period- t product markets. We assume that momentary utility is of the CES form, with $\sigma =$ the elasticity of substitution between the two goods, x and y , and $\rho =$ the coefficient of relative risk aversion. For the special case $\sigma = \rho = 1$, we obtain log utility: $U = \alpha \log(x) + (1 - \alpha) \log(y)$.

Assume that the cash-in-advance constraint (3) binds as an equality, that $k_X \equiv k_Y \equiv 1$, and that $\tau \equiv 0$ for all t . It is easy to see that the *flexible-price perfect foresight* equilibrium for this simple production economy satisfies

$$M_t^e = P_{X_t} L_{X_t}^\delta + P_{Y_t} L_{Y_t}^\delta, \quad (4)$$

$$P_{X_t} \lambda_t = (\alpha x_t^{(\sigma-1)/\sigma} + (1 - \alpha) y_t^{(\sigma-1)/\sigma})^{(1-\rho\sigma)/(\sigma-1)} \alpha k_{X_t} L_{X_t}^{-\delta/\sigma}, \quad (5)$$

$$P_{Y_t} \lambda_t = (\alpha x_t^{(\sigma-1)/\sigma} + (1 - \alpha) y_t^{(\sigma-1)/\sigma})^{(1-\rho\sigma)/(\sigma-1)} (1 - \alpha) k_{Y_t} L_{Y_t}^{-\delta/\sigma}, \quad (6)$$

$$v = \beta P_{X_t} \delta k_{X_t} L_{X_t}^{\delta-1} \lambda_{t+1}, \quad (7)$$

and

$$v = \beta P_{Y,t} \delta k_{Y,t} L_{Y,t}^{\delta-1} \lambda_{t+1}, \quad (8)$$

where M_t^s is the (exogenous and constant, because $\tau = 0$) money supply at the end of period- t asset markets and λ is the current-value Lagrange multiplier on constraint (3). (Note that $\lambda = \gamma$, the multiplier on (2), because of the first-order condition for the choice of M_t .) Moreover, we can solve for the nominal interest rate on a one-period nominal asset using the pricing formula:

$$i = \frac{\lambda_t}{\beta \lambda_{t+1}} - 1, \quad (9)$$

2.1.1 Closed-Economy Equilibrium when Some Prices are Sticky

Suppose there are high costs of changing the nominal price P_X except at the end of each period, so sellers choose P_X at the end of period $t - 1$. The nominal price P_Y , however, is perfectly flexible. Begin with a nonstochastic steady-state equilibrium with a constant money supply, and consider a small unanticipated, permanent change in M_t at the beginning of period t . Real variables dated at $t + 1$ and later are unaffected by this change in the money supply, but real variables at date t change because $P_{X,t}$ is predetermined.

A permanent fall in money creates excess-supply for good X in the short run because $P_{X,t}$ is above its new equilibrium level, and as a result, output of X is demand-determined. So equation (7) (describing the supply of X) does not hold in the short run. Instead, we have equations (4)-(6) and (8) in the four variables $L_{X,t}$, $L_{Y,t}$, $P_{Y,t}$, and λ_t , (with λ_{t+1} taking its new steady state value). Because a change in the money supply has no steady-state effect on x , y , or L_X , equation (5) implies it also leaves $P_{X,t+1} \lambda_{t+1}$ unchanged. Since the percentage fall in money lowers $P_{X,t+1}$ by the same percentage, it also must raise λ_{t+1}

by that percentage.

In [17] we also discuss the excess-demand case after the money supply rises, starting from an equilibrium. In the excess-demand case, output of the sticky-price good X is supply-determined. In this paper we will concentrate on excess-supply situations, following a fall in the money supply from equilibrium. The results can be re-interpreted to give the effects of an increase in the money supply, *starting from a position of excess supply*. We show in our other paper that the sign of the cross-derivative in utility takes the sign of $(1 - \rho\sigma)$, that a fall in the money supply causes a *smaller* percentage fall in P_Y if the elasticity of substitution in consumption, σ , exceeds one, and a larger fall in P_Y if $\sigma < 1$, and that a fall in the money supply raises the one-period interest rate if and only if the degree of relative risk aversion, ρ , exceeds one. Numerical results in that paper showed that fairly large liquidity effects occur even if only a small fraction of GDP has sticky nominal prices. A fall in money raises nominal and real interest rates, reduces aggregate GDP, and has different effects on output in the sticky- and flexible-price sectors.

2.2 A Two-Nation World Economy

Now consider a two-country version of the model. Each country is identical to the closed economy described above. Each produces and consumes two internationally-tradable goods, X and Y , using only labor as an input. Now there are two moneys introduced through cash-in-advance constraints with the usual convention in which the money used is that of the seller's country (see e.g. [13]). Because the two countries are identical *ex ante*, we describe only the domestic country. As before, a representative household in the home country

maximizes

$$E_0 \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \beta^t \left[\frac{1}{(1-\rho)} (\alpha x_t^{(\sigma-1)/\sigma} + (1-\alpha) y_t^{(\sigma-1)/\sigma})^{(\sigma/(\sigma-1)) \cdot (1-\rho)} - v(L_{X_t} + L_{Y_t}) \right]. \quad (10)$$

Now, however, the household is subject to the sequence of budget constraints

$$P_{X,t-1} k_{X,t-1} L_{X,t-1}^{\hat{\epsilon}} + P_{Y,t-1} k_{Y,t-1} L_{Y,t-1}^{\hat{\epsilon}} + \nu_t(q_t + d_t) + \tau_t - \nu_{t+1} q_t - M_t - e_t N_t = 0 \quad (11)$$

and sequences of the *two* cash-in-advance constraints,

$$M_t - \min\{\bar{x}_t, x_t\} P_{X_t} - \min\{\bar{y}_t, y_t\} P_{Y_t} = 0, \quad (12)$$

and

$$N_t - \max\{x_t - \bar{x}_t, 0\} P_{X_t}^* - \max\{y_t - \bar{y}_t, 0\} P_{Y_t}^* = 0, \quad (13)$$

where (11) is a budget constraint for period- t asset markets and (12) and (13) are the cash-in-advance constraints that apply to period- t product markets.

The terms x_t and y_t now refer to *total* home consumption of goods X and Y , regardless of where the goods were purchased, \bar{x}_t and \bar{y}_t refer to home production of the two goods, M_t is the home household's stock of home money at the beginning of the product market, and N_t is its stock of foreign money, used for purchasing imports (if imports are positive).

We now abandon the complete-markets assumption. We assume assets *cannot* be traded conditional on monetary transfers or taxes (positive or negative τ). So any decrease in the home money supply is financed by lump-sum taxes (negative τ) on households in the home country only, and analogously any decrease in the foreign money supply directly affects foreign households only.

Assume as before that $\tau \equiv \tau^* \equiv 0$, where τ^* is the transfer or tax in the foreign country, and $k_{X,t} = k_{X^*,t} = k_{Y,t} = k_{Y^*,t} = 1$ for all t . It is easy to see that one flexible-price equilibrium is the same as in the closed economy, with no international trade or foreign-money holding (by the home country). (The other equilibria involve higher levels of wealth in one country than in the other.) In the equal wealth equilibrium that we will focus on, relative prices and allocations are identical in each country.

2.3 World Equilibrium When Some Prices Are Sticky

Now consider the world equilibrium when P_X and P_X^* (the foreign-currency nominal price of X produced and sold in that country) are chosen one period in advance. The nominal prices P_Y and P_Y^* , are completely flexible. We initially consider a situation of flexible exchange rates, and hold constant the foreign money supply N^S as we vary the home money supply M^S unexpectedly. As in the closed-economy model, we begin at a nonstochastic steady-state equilibrium with constant money supplies, and consider a small unanticipated, permanent fall in M_t^S .

Since we no longer have a representative household (the absence of markets to share the risk of taxes and transfers to change the money supply can lead such transfers or taxes to redistribute wealth internationally), we need to specify a *rationing rule* stating which buyers (foreign or domestic) are able to buy what number of goods when there is excess demand in a market, and from which sellers they buy if there is excess supply. (In each case, we treat all buyers *from* a single country as identical – they all buy the same amount, and we treat all sellers from a single country as identical – they all sell the same amount. In that sense we ignore results in the literature which show that in situations like this, a

distribution of prices and sales can arise ex post even if sellers are identical ex ante.) We assume that if there is excess supply, buyers always purchase goods from the sellers in the country with the lowest price (after adjusting for the current exchange rate), and that if the price is the same in both countries, they buy first from sellers in their own country. (They also may buy *some* of the product from sellers in the other country; we will see later that this is what can *make* the price the same across countries.) We assume that in situations of excess demand for a good in country *A*, buyers who live in country *A* are first in line, and buyers from the other country are last in line to buy the good. Places in line may not be traded. There is also no cost of waiting in line (no transactions costs of rationing).

Despite the simplicity of our model economy, there are a number of possible cases that can arise in this two-country world. We now consider these cases in turn.

2.3.1 Case 1: Excess Supply in the Home Country and Excess Demand in the Foreign Country

First consider situations in which there is excess supply of *X* in the home country and excess demand for *X* in the foreign country. Since we begin from a nonstochastic steady-state equilibrium (in which the law of one price holds for each good), this situation arises if the domestic money appreciates, raising the *relative* price of *X*-in-the-home-country in terms of *X*-in-the-foreign country. Denoting by *e* the exchange rate (in units of home money per unit of foreign money), we have $P_X > eP_X^*$. There are three possible sub-cases within this situation (and in which good *X* continues to be produced in the home country). First, foreigners may buy *all* the good *X* offered for sale in their country, and may be unwilling to buy *any* good *X* from the home country at the higher price there). Residents of the home

country, being unable to import good X by definition of the rationing rule, must purchase the good from sellers in their own country. There is *no trade* in good X in this case. All the necessary conditions(5), (6), (7), (8), and their foreign counterparts hold, *except* the corners in this situation imply

$$P_{X_t}^* \lambda_t^* < (\alpha x_t^{*(\sigma-1)/\sigma} + (1-\alpha) y_t^{*(\sigma-1)/\sigma})^{(1-\rho\sigma)/(\sigma-1)} \alpha L_{X_t}^{*\sigma-\delta/\sigma}, \quad (14)$$

which says that foreign marginal utility of consumption of X exceeds the foreign price times the marginal utility of foreign wealth (meaning that foreigner buyers are rationed in buying X),

$$(P_{X_t}/e_t) \lambda_t^* > (\alpha x_t^{*(\sigma-1)/\sigma} + (1-\alpha) y_t^{*(\sigma-1)/\sigma})^{(1-\rho\sigma)/(\sigma-1)} \alpha L_{X_t}^{*\sigma-\delta/\sigma}, \quad (15)$$

which says that foreign buyers choose not to buy any X from the home country, because the price there is too high (after adjusting for the exchange rate), and

$$v < \beta P_{X_t} \delta k_{X_t} L_{X_t}^{\delta-1} E \lambda_{t+1}, \quad (16)$$

which says that there is excess supply of X at home, so home sellers are rationed (they cannot sell all they would like to produce at the existing price).

In the second possible sub-case, foreigners may buy all the good X offered for sale in their country, and may also be willing to buy some good X from the home country, even at the higher price there. Residents of the home country, being last in line in the foreign country and so unable to import good X , buy it from sellers in their own country. Again $P_X > eP_X^*$ and all the necessary conditions(5), (6), (7), (8), and their foreign counterparts hold *except* that the corners now imply (14), (??) and

$$(P_{X_t}/e_t) \lambda_t^* = (\alpha x_t^{*(\sigma-1)/\sigma} + (1-\alpha) y_t^{*(\sigma-1)/\sigma})^{(1-\rho\sigma)/(\sigma-1)} \alpha L_{X_t}^{*\sigma-\delta/\sigma} \quad (17)$$

which says that foreign buyers choose an internal optimum (rather than a corner solution) for buying X from the home country. Notice that in contrast to the first sub-case, there is international trade: the home country exports good X .

In the third sub-case, foreigners may be unconstrained in buying good X in their own country. Then home residents, who are last in line there, are able to purchase some good X from the foreign country, where it is cheaper because $P_X > eP_X^*$, and buy the rest from sellers in their own country. Again all the necessary conditions(5), (6), (7), (8), and their foreign counterparts hold, in addition to (17) and

$$e_t P_{X_t}^* \lambda_t < (\alpha z_t^{(\sigma-1)/\sigma} + (1-\alpha) y_t^{(\sigma-1)/\sigma})^{(1-\rho\sigma)/(\sigma-1)} \alpha k_{X_t} L_{X_t}^{-\delta/\sigma}, \quad (18)$$

which says that home residents are constrained from buying more good X at the lower foreign price. Notice that in this case the home country *imports* good X .

In *each* of these three sub-cases, we also have (9) and an analogous equation for a foreign-currency one-period nominal interest rate. We also have the law of one price for good Y , $P_Y = eP_Y^*$, and interest-parity (covered and uncovered interest parity are the same in this nonstochastic model):

$$e_t = e_{t+1} \frac{\lambda_t^*}{\lambda_{t+1}^*} \frac{\lambda_{t+1}}{\lambda_t}, \quad (19)$$

where λ^* is the multiplier on the foreign representative household's current-period budget constraint. Equation (19) follows directly from the usual expression of interest parity ($e'/e = (1+i)/(1+i^*)$) and (9) and its foreign counterpart. In addition, we need the separate budget constraints for home and foreign households. The home household can buy (or sell) one-period nominal bonds B at the price $1/(1+i)$.

In this ex-ante equal wealth world, we assume that *initially there is no international*

indebtedness. But after the change in the money supply in one of the countries (or both), B can become non-zero, in which case it turns out to remain non-zero in the new steady state. If B is positive in the new steady state, (which corresponds to the second sub-case with the home country exporting x in the short run), the home country consumes the interest $iB/(1+i)$ each period in that new steady state. So during the period (t) in which the money supply first changes, the budget constraint for the home household states that *total* spending on the two goods (which will occur at two different prices if $P_X \neq eP_X^*$), plus spending on bonds equals total nominal labor income (from the prior period's production and sales of goods) minus the decrease (or plus the increase) in the home money supply, M_t^S at date t . For example, in the third sub-case discussed above, the home household spends

$$P_{Y,t}y_t + P_{X,t}\bar{x}_t + eP_{X,t}^*(x_t - \bar{x}_t),$$

on goods because it buys some X from home sellers and the rest from the (lower-price) foreign sellers. This spending, plus spending on bonds $B_t/(1+i_t)$, must be financed by labor income $P_{X,t-1}k_{X,t-1}L_{X,t-1}^\ell + P_{Y,t-1}k_{Y,t-1}L_{Y,t-1}^\ell$ minus the fall (or plus the increase) in the home money supply. The household's budget constraint for subsequent periods $t+j$, $j \geq 1$ (in the new steady state) allows it to spend on goods $i_{t+j}B_t/(1+i_{t+j})$ more than its labor income each period. (The household can also buy or sell more bonds in the future, but does not do so in equilibrium.)

2.3.2 Case 2: Excess Demand in the Home Country and Excess Demand in the Foreign Country

We have discussed situations in which there is excess supply for X in the home country and excess demand in the foreign country. We now turn to the other possible situations. There

may be excess demand for X in the home country and excess supply in the foreign country; this situation is symmetric to the situation already discussed, and so can arise in the three sub-cases that are described above. Another possible case involves excess demand for X in both countries. This can also arise in three possible sub-cases.

In the first sub-case, the home household may be at a corner solution in buying X at home, so that

$$P_{X_t} \lambda_t < (\alpha x_t^{(\sigma-1)/\sigma} + (1-\alpha) y_t^{(\sigma-1)/\sigma})^{(1-\rho\sigma)/(\sigma-1)} \alpha L_{X_t}^{-\delta/\sigma}$$

and an analogous condition may hold for the foreign household in buying X in the foreign country. In that case, there is no international trade (because domestic residents in each country are first in the rationing lines). In the second sub-case, the home household may be at an interior solution for buying X from home sellers, but the foreign household may be at a corner in buying from foreign sellers,

$$P_{X_t}^* \lambda_t^* < (\alpha x_t^{*(\sigma-1)/\sigma} + (1-\alpha) y_t^{*(\sigma-1)/\sigma})^{(1-\rho\sigma)/(\sigma-1)} \alpha L_{X_t}^{*-\delta/\sigma},$$

and also at a corner in buying from home sellers (see equation 17). In this case, the home country exports good X . The third possible sub-case is symmetric to the second sub-case: the foreign household is at an interior optimum for buying X from foreign sellers, but there is excess demand for X in both countries because the home household is at a corner solution in buying from both home and foreign sellers.

Foreign Country

The final disequilibrium situation that is possible consists of excess supply for good X in both countries. This requires $P_X = \epsilon P_X^*$, otherwise buyers would raise the quantity demanded in the lower-price market. This situation can occur if, for example, the money supply falls unexpectedly by the *same percentage* in each country; the equilibrium would then be identical to the closed-economy case, with no international trade. But this situation can also arise in a much more interesting case: if the money supply falls by a larger percentage in the home country than in the foreign country, one might expect the domestic money to appreciate and for both countries to have excess supply of good X , which is subject to the short-run nominal-price sluggishness. But that would make X cheaper in the foreign country than in the home country, and would lead buyers to substitute out of home purchases of X toward foreign purchases. At the same time, buyers can substitute out of foreign purchases of Y toward home purchases of Y . This occurs until the extra demand for X in the foreign country raises its price relative to home X . Since the foreign-money price of X in the foreign country is sticky in the short run, as is the home-money price of X at home, this relative price change alters the exchange rate. (The mechanism is analogous to the effects of real shocks on the real and nominal exchange rate in equilibrium models of exchange rates, such as [23] and [13]— see Stockman [21].) The striking aspect of this disequilibrium situation is that (because P_X and P_X^* do not change in the short run), it results in a *fixed exchange rate* in the short run. We will use this fact to show how countries can have short-run independence of monetary policy — affecting real and nominal variables

– even under pegged exchange rates.

3 Short-Run Effects of a Fall in Home Money

We now turn to the implications of the two-country model, which we obtain from numerical calculations (using a non-linear equation solver). This is necessary because we generally cannot obtain analytic solutions to the model with the CES utility function. Our previous paper on the closed-economy case ([17]) showed that a one-time unexpected fall in the money supply raises real and nominal interest rates in the short run (if the coefficient of relative risk aversion exceeds one), reduces output of goods in the sticky-price sector, and reduces P_Y in percentage terms by more or less than the money-supply fall depending on whether the elasticity of substitution in consumption is less than or greater than one.

Consider a permanent, unexpected 2% fall in the home country's money supply (from 10 to 9.8), starting from a steady-state equilibrium with a constant money supply and price level. We hold fixed the foreign money supply in this initial exercise. Table 1 shows the results when (in each country) $\alpha = .5$, $\sigma = 0.5$, $\delta = .9$, $v = 1$, $\beta = .99$, $\rho = 2$, and each money supply is initially 10. This means half of GDP in each country consists of output of good Y , the relative price of Y in terms of X is initially unity, the exchange rate is initially one, and the real (and nominal) interest rate is $1/\beta - 1$. Since $\sigma < 1$, the two goods are relatively poor substitutes. We also assume there is no initial international indebtedness, so initially the countries are identical and there is no international trade. The first column of Table 1 shows the endogenous variables: the nominal price of Y in the home and foreign countries (p_Y and p_{Yf}), the nominal interest rate (in percent) in the home and foreign

countries (i and if), the exchange rate (e), the real exchange rate (ep^*/p) labor inputs in the x industry in the home and foreign countries (lx and lxf), labor inputs in the y industries in the home and foreign countries (ly and lyf), GNP in the home and foreign countries evaluated at the equilibrium prices and production shares (GNP and $GNPf$) and total labor supply in the home and foreign countries (n and nf). The second column, "Old SS," shows the old steady-state levels of the variables (before the change in money) from which the analysis begins. The "SR" column shows the short-run effects of the fall in money (while the nominal price of X is fixed at its previous level for one period). The "New SS" column shows the new steady state, and the column labeled "percent" shows the percentage by which a variable falls short of or exceeds its new steady state level. For the interest rate, this column presents the difference between interest rates in the short-run and in the new steady state.

The 2% fall in money leads, in the long run ("New SS" column) to a 2% fall in the nominal prices of goods X and Y , from 7.333 to 7.187. (The new steady state relative price of Y in terms of X is one, so the new price of X is also 7.187.) The interest rate is unaffected in the long run by the one-time change in the level of money, and the exchange rate falls 2% from 1.00 to 0.98 in the long run. Long-run levels of employment in each industry in the home country (lx and ly) are unaffected, as are foreign employment levels in each industry (lxf and lyf) and long-run levels of output in each industry and in each country ($prod-x$, $prod-y$, $prod-xf$, and $prod-yf$). The negative level of bonds indicates that the home country borrows in the short run and becomes a net debtor in the new steady state, though the level of the interest on this debt is sufficiently small that (to a four-decimal-point approximation) consumption in each country is the same as its domestic production in the

long run.

While the unexpected change in money is almost neutral in the long run ("almost" because it redistributes wealth and so has permanent effects), it is not neutral in the short-run. The impact effect of the unexpected fall in home money is to raise the home-country nominal interest rate by 53 basis points. If one interprets this as a quarterly model (since the discount parameter is .99 per period), with one-quarter nominal price stickiness in the *X* industry, then the steady state interest rate is 1.01% per quarter, or 4.04% per year. Then the 2% fall in home money raises the annualized home nominal interest rate by 211 basis points, to 6.15% per year. The *foreign* nominal interest rate also rises, by 47 basis points on a per-period basis, which is 188 basis points on an annualized basis with this interpretation. The home nominal interest rate is then 20 basis points above the foreign rate on an annualized basis. This is reflected also in a slight *overshooting* of the exchange rate in the short run (it falls five one-hundredths of a percent below .98) followed by a small expected (and actual) appreciation of home currency. Output and employment in the home country fall in both industries, but production falls significantly in the *X* industry with sticky prices. Overall output is unchanged in the foreign country, though there is a small sectoral reallocation of production from the *X* industry to the *Y* industry. As noted previously, the home country borrows in the short run from the foreign country, and it imports *both* goods on net, running a balance of trade deficit to smooth consumption, which falls less than output in each industry. Table 1 also shows a slight rise in momentary utility, or felicity, in the home country: this occurs because households in the home country get more current utility from the increased leisure they have than from the fall in consumption (because international borrowing allows them to decrease current consumption by less than

output falls), though there is a slight fall in present-value utility (which appears unchanged at the accuracy shown in the table) as the home country exports goods in the new steady state and its future consumption is slightly smaller than it would otherwise have been.

Notice that, in the short run, the appreciation of home currency combined with the stickiness of both the home-money price of X sold at home and the foreign-money price of X sold abroad implies that X is cheaper in the foreign country than in the home country. There is, in the short run, *excess demand* for X in the foreign country and *excess supply* in the home country. Foreigners are unconstrained in buying good X in their own country and home residents, who are last in line there, import X and buy the rest from sellers in their own country. (This is the third sub-case discussed in section 2.3.1 that can result in excess supply in the home country and excess demand in the foreign country, with the corner solution represented by equation (18).)

The intuition behind the results in Table 1 is easier to understand by first considering the case in which *both* countries reduce their money supplies by the same percentage. The result is the same in each country as in a closed economy, and there is no international trade in either the short run or in the new steady state. Table 2 shows the effects of an unexpected, permanent 2% fall in money in *both* countries. This has identical effects in the two countries, so we can discuss only the home country. The fall in money reduces aggregate *nominal* spending, which reduces the nominal price of good Y . Because P_X is fixed in the short run, this increases the *relative* price of X , so consumers substitute good Y for good X , which further reduces output of X and works against the fall in spending on Y . If the elasticity of substitution in consumption, σ , were one, output in the Y sector would remain unchanged, and the nominal price of Y would fall by 2%. With $\sigma < 1$ (as

Tables 1 and 2 assume), output of Y falls along with output of X and P_Y overshoots its long-run fall. (If $\sigma > 1$, output of Y rises and its nominal price undershoots its long-run fall.) Table 2 shows that the marginal utility of income measured in *nominal* terms ("lambda") rises by about 3% in the short run, though its long-run increase is naturally only 2%. This occurs because households would like to smooth consumption over time – to borrow from the (higher) steady-state level of consumption to offset partly the fall in current consumption. The marginal utility of one "dollar" is higher currently than it will be in the future. The attempts to borrow raise the nominal interest rate in the short run. (Notice the closed-economy liquidity effect is about twice the size of the liquidity effect in Table 1.) Of course, since the nominal price of X is expected to fall next period (to its new long-run equilibrium level), and the nominal price of Y is not expected to change much, there is overall expected deflation, which means the overall *real* interest rate rises even more than the nominal rate. Our closed-economy paper discusses these issues in further detail.

Now return to the results in Table 1, where only the home money supply falls. If these were two closed economies, the results for the home country would be identical to those in Table 2, and *no changes* would occur in the foreign country. One can imagine a "shadow exchange rate" for that case: since the law of one price for good Y applies, the fall in P_Y and the constancy of P_Y^* imply that the home currency would appreciate. This would make good X cheaper in the foreign country than in the home country and lead consumers in the home country to try to import good X (further increasing the excess supply for X in the home country). Home consumers are last in line for foreign output when it is in excess demand, but this creates excess demand for X in the foreign country. Consumers in the home country want to borrow to buy both X and Y , so the real interest rate measured in

terms of each good rises. Since the expected change in the nominal price of either good in the foreign country is negligible, this rise in the real rate occurs through a rise in the nominal rate of interest in the foreign country. The law of one price for good Y and the facts that P_Y^* does not change much, and P_Y falls roughly 2% (see Table 2) guarantee that the exchange rate falls about 2%. This means that the expected change in the exchange rate is very small (there is not much overshooting), so interest-parity implies that the home nominal interest rate rises about as much as the foreign rate. Home consumers face a higher relative price for good X than do foreign consumers, so home consumption of X drops by more than foreign consumption of X , while the home and foreign countries both reduce consumption of Y by about the same amount (home consumption falls slightly more because of complementarity of X and Y in home utility).

Table 3 shows the effects of a 2% fall in the home money supply when $\sigma = 2$. The other parameters are the same as in Table 1, and again the fall in money is unexpected and permanent. The results are similar to those in Table 1, but a few important differences emerge when the elasticity of substitution between x and y exceeds one. First, the nominal price of Y undershoots its new long-run equilibrium level. This occurs because the larger is σ , the greater the extent to which consumers try to substitute out of consumption of X and into consumption of the relatively cheaper good Y . This leads to a higher demand for Y and raises its price (as compared to Table 1). Given that the price of x is fixed, and that the price of y undershoots, it appears that the overall price level is "sticky" in this economy. The exchange rate also undershoots its new long-run equilibrium level. (To see why, consider what would happen to the shadow exchange rate if the two economies were closed: it would fall by the same proportion as P_Y .) The undershooting of the exchange

rate, combined with interest parity, implies that the foreign nominal interest rate rises *more* than the home nominal interest rate. The other main difference when $\sigma > 1$ is that home output in the Y sector rises somewhat; this is caused by the greater degree of substitution by consumers away from X when P_Y falls. Table 4 shows the effects of changing the utility parameter α : it sets $\alpha = .6$ rather than $.5$ as before. This raises the fraction of overall employment in the sticky-price sector from $1/2$ as before to about $2/3$. A 2% fall in home money has quantitatively larger real effects than when the share of the sticky-price sector was smaller; the table provides an idea of the size of those effects. Similarly, Table 5 shows the effects of the fall in money when $\alpha = .4$, which implies the share of total labor working in the sticky-price sector is about $1/3$.

4 Pegged Exchange Rates and Short-Run Monetary Independence

We have already discussed the effects of permanent changes in the money supply in one country. We now consider the effects of changes in the money supplies of *both* countries, and we focus on monetary policies in the foreign country that peg the exchange rate, or that lead to sufficiently small changes in the exchange rate that for all practical purposes it is pegged. One way for the foreign country to peg its exchange rate (in the absence of any other shocks) is to change its money supply in proportion to the change in the home money supply; call this the baseline path of foreign money. We will see that *temporary* changes in the foreign money supply around this baseline path can also result in a pegged exchange rate, but cause changes (relative to the baseline path) in output, real and nominal interest

rates, relative prices, and international trade.

Suppose the home country's money supply falls by 2% as in Tables 1 and 2, and suppose the foreign country pegs its exchange rate (at unity). Suppose also that the foreign government can *credibly commit* to a future path for the money supply. Because nominal prices are set one period in advance, for only one period, anticipated future changes in money can be fully incorporated into price-setting behavior.

One way for the foreign government to peg the exchange rate is to follow the baseline path for money, with results as in Table 2. But Tables 6a-6d show that there are also *other* ways to peg the exchange rate. Table 6a shows the results of a foreign monetary policy that reduces the foreign money supply 3%, from $M^{S^*} = 10$ to $M^{S^*} = 9.7$ in the short run (while the home money supply falls from 10 to 9.8), and then changes M^{S^*} to 9.80098 in the long run, assuming that $\alpha = .5$, $\sigma = 0.5$, $\delta = .9$, $v = 1$, $\beta = .99$, $\rho = 2$, as in Table 1. The exchange rate remains at exactly one, the rise in world interest rates of 203 basis points exceeds the 100-basis-point rise that occurs along the baseline path, there is a greater fall in output of the Y -sector in both countries (a 0.93% fall rather than a 0.47% fall), a larger fall in output in the X -sector in the foreign country (2.98% rather than 1.49%), a smaller fall in output in the X -sector in the home country (0.97% rather than 1.49%), a slightly smaller fall in labor in the home country (1.06% rather than 1.09%), and a much greater fall in labor in the foreign country (2.18% rather than 1.09%). In contrast to the baseline case, the foreign country imports good X , importing about 1% of its consumption of X , and financing these imports mainly by borrowing (and only to a very small extent by exporting good Y). The foreign trade deficit in the short run creates a (small) long-run trade surplus, as the country pays interest on its debt each period in the long run.

If the 3% fall in the foreign money supply were permanent, the foreign currency would appreciate. However, the temporary nature of the fall, followed by a return to something close to the baseline path, implies that the exchange rate will remain fixed. To see why, consider what would happen were the foreign currency to appreciate. Because nominal prices in the X industry are predetermined, good X would be cheaper in the home country than in the foreign country. Foreign consumers would try to import good X rather than buying it in their own country. Originally, there was excess supply of X in each country; now there is smaller excess supply of X in the home country and greater excess supply in the foreign country. The increased demand for X cannot raise P_X , which is predetermined. But it raises the value of home currency on the foreign exchange market – until the relative price of good X across countries is again unity. (If the fall in the foreign money supply is large enough, excess demand is created in the home country and the relative price never reaches unity; this happens, for example, if the foreign money supply falls to 9.6 in this example.) Foreign consumers import just enough X to assure that the price is unity: if they imported less, it would be cheaper to buy X in the home country and imports would rise; if they imported more, it would be cheaper to buy X in the foreign country, and imports would fall.

The exchange rate adjusts to assure the "right" relative price of goods just as in equilibrium models of exchange rates (see Stockman, 1980, 1988). In this case, the exchange rate adjusts to get the "right" relative price of X across countries, and international trade in that good adjusts accordingly. Because the foreign country runs a current-account deficit in the short run, there is a permanent effect on the distribution of wealth across countries, and given that long run monetary policy is chosen to keep the exchange rate unchanged,

the money supply does not return *exactly* to the baseline path in the new steady state.

Table 6b shows the results when the foreign money supply falls *less* than the baseline case: it falls from 10 to 9.85 for one period and then permanently goes to 9.79952 (while home money falls to 9.8). We continue to consider the case in which $\alpha = .5$, $\sigma = 0.5$, $\delta = .9$, $v = 1$, $\beta = .99$, and $\rho = 2$. If the fall to 9.85 were permanent, foreign currency would depreciate and X would be cheaper in the foreign country. This would add to excess supply for X in the home country and reduce excess supply of X in the foreign country; this occurs up to the point at which the relative price is unity, i.e. at an unchanged exchange rate. In this case the rise in world interest rates is smaller (49 basis points) than in the baseline case, the foreign country *exports* X , home output of X falls more and foreign output of X falls less than in the baseline case, while output of Y falls less in both countries.

Table 6c shows the results when the foreign money supply falls even less in the short run – from 10 to 9.9, before permanently going to 9.79904. In this case the exchange rate continues to be pegged, but there is no liquidity effect on the world nominal interest rate. The foreign country runs a trade surplus by exporting X as in Table 6b, and it is larger than in that table, but now the only good whose output is affected (much) is X in the home country. The fall in foreign money has virtually no effect on foreign output in the short run.

Table 6d shows the results when the foreign money supply falls even less – from 10 to 9.95, before permanently going to 9.79857. In this case the exchange rate remains constant, and nominal interest rates in each country *fall* rather than rise, despite the fall in money supplies in each country. As in Tables 6a-6c, there is excess supply for X in both countries. As in Tables 6b-6c, the foreign country has a trade surplus mainly connected with exports

of X . In contrast to these other tables, while output of X in the home country falls, output of X in the foreign country rises, and output of Y rises slightly in both countries.

These tables illustrate three important points. First, there is an entire range of money supplies from which the foreign country can choose in *the short run* even as it maintains a pegged exchange rate. In contrast to existing theoretical models of exchange rate determination, pegging the exchange rate does *not* prevent the government from exercising monetary independence in the short run.

Second, each choice from this range has different consequences for real and nominal variables. Production, consumption, the pattern of international trade and borrowing on international financial markets, and real and nominal interest rates differ depending on the choice. Moreover, the *direction* of changes in many of these variables, not just the magnitude of the changes, depends on the choice of the money supply in the short run.

Third, one should not expect the relation between changes in the money supply and (say) nominal interest rates to depend solely on domestic monetary policy. The short-run responses of variables such as nominal interest rates depend heavily on foreign as well as home money-supply shocks. And the *sign* of the effect (as well as its size) depends partly on how similar or dissimilar are the money-supply changes across countries. The high degree of non-linearity in the response of nominal interest rates to changes in the money supply, illustrated by these tables, suggests that linear vector-autoregressions are likely to miss key features of the relations between money and interest rates.

The results in the previous tables do not imply that the ability of a country to peg its currency in the short run depends on its choosing the "right" level of the money supply in the long run. That long-run choice of money is essential only for *permanent* pegging of

the exchange rate. Table 7 illustrates this point. It shows the effects of a *permanent* 1% fall in the foreign money supply when the home money supply falls by 2%. The failure of the foreign country to adjust its new steady-state money supply appropriately prevents the exchange rate from remaining pegged in the long run. But the exchange rate nevertheless remains pegged in the short run. Notice also that although the foreign money supply falls permanently by *less* than the home money supply, in the short-run its interest rate rises *more*.

The ability of the foreign country to choose its money supply independently while pegging the exchange rate does, however, depend on the behavior of the home money supply. In the absence of excess supply for X in the home country, the foreign country's independence vanishes. Table 8 illustrates this fact. Here, the home money supply remains fixed at 10 while the foreign money supply falls permanently to 9.9. This creates foreign-currency appreciation in the short run as well as the long run. Similarly, Table 9 shows the effects of a *temporary* fall in foreign money to 9.9 while it chooses long-run money to peg the long-term exchange rate at unity. Despite the long-run pegging, the short-run fall in the money supply is not consistent with a short-run exchange-rate peg because there is not excess supply in the home country.

Our experiments with altering relative country size indicate that the main difference in the results when one country is much larger than the other concern the size of the liquidity effect of a change in money in the small country. While the small country maintains a high degree of short-run monetary independence under pegged exchange rates, it can have only a small effect on its own (and the world) nominal interest rate.

5 Extensions

The goods produced in each country are *perfect substitutes* in the model discussed above. We generalized the model to study the robustness of our results with respect to this assumption. First, we replaced the assumption that good X produced in the home country is a perfect substitute for good X produced in the foreign country. We now treat X as a composite of two goods, r and q , produced in the home and foreign countries, where

$$x_t = (\lambda q_t^{(\psi-1)/\psi} + (1-\lambda)r_t^{(\psi-1)/\psi})^{\psi/(\psi-1)}$$

is a CES aggregator of goods q and r , the sticky-price goods produced in the home and foreign countries. By varying the elasticity of substitution between these goods, ψ , we can study the consequences of less-than-perfect substitutability between home and foreign goods.

The results, in Tables 10a-10c, are striking. We assume the share parameter λ equals one-half and the elasticity of substitution ψ equals 2. Table 10a shows the results when the money supply falls 2 percent in each country, as in Table 2. Tables 10b and 10c show the results when the foreign country reduces money permanently by 2 percent, as does the home country in the long run, but when the home country holds money fixed in the short run or reduces money by 4 percent in the short run. The exchange rate is no longer *exactly* fixed at unity, but when the home country keeps its money supply fixed in the short run the exchange rate rises (home currency depreciates) less than *three-tenths of one percent* in the short run. Similarly, when the home country reduces its money supply by four percent in the short run (and two percent in the long run), its currency appreciates by less than

three-tenths of one percent. Although the exchange rate is not *exactly* fixed, it changes very little in the short run. Since countries with pegged exchange rates always permit the exchange rate to change over a small band, this result indicates that the assumption of perfect substitutability between foreign and domestic goods is *not* required to obtain a degree of short-run monetary independence under pegged exchange rates.

Second, we generalized this model by adding another good, z , which has a small expenditure share, is produced in both countries, has a sticky price in the short run (as q and r do), and for which z produced in either country is a perfect substitute. This good is intended to capture the fairly standardized goods produced around the world for which there is evidence of sticky nominal prices. We modified the utility function and added the utility of this good, $\Omega z^{(1-\xi)/(1-\xi)}$, to the utility function above. We then equated ξ and ρ and varied Ω to vary the expenditure share on good z . The results are even more striking. Regardless of how small is the share of expenditure on good z , we reproduce the qualitative results of the previous section: there is a range of money supplies for one of the countries (holding fixed the money supply in the other country) that results in an *exactly* pegged exchange rate. The smaller Ω , the smaller the expenditure share of good z , and the smaller the band of money supplies (the smaller the range of short-term monetary independence). Suppose the foreign country reduces its money supply permanently by 2 percent, from 10 to 9.8. If the expenditure share on z is *one percent*, the home money supply can fall anywhere between 9.74 and 9.86 in the short run while maintaining an exactly-pegged exchange rate. If the expenditure share on z is two percent, the range is 9.7 to 9.9; if the expenditure share on z is ten percent, the range widens to 9.35 to 10.22. (The home country can even *raise* its money supply in the short run and maintain an exactly-pegged exchange rate.) In our

experiments, the size of the band in percentage points is about ten times the size of the expenditure share on good z . These generalizations of our model indicate that our results regarding short-term independence of monetary policy are robust to several assumptions of the model.

6 Conclusions

One of the oldest debates in international monetary economics concerns the ability of countries to sterilize international reserve flows under regimes of pegged exchange rates or systems of limited exchange rate variability, such as the EMS. While central bankers typically assert that they have this flexibility, and empirical evidence is supportive of this claim, existing theoretical models of exchange rate determination, including sticky price models (e.g. Dornbusch), and equilibrium models (e.g. Stockman, Lucas), are silent on this issue. This paper developed an optimizing two-country, two good model in which the degree of price flexibility varies across different sectors of the economy, and uses the model to investigate the effects of money supply changes on the exchange rate, home and foreign nominal and real interest rates, sectoral production in each country, and the pattern of international trade. We demonstrated how monetary shocks can have liquidity effects on interest rates both within and across countries, and can introduce a cross-country interest differential. Unexpected changes in money affect sectoral production as well as overall GDP. An important new result of our two-sector model is that a country can peg its exchange rate while maintaining a high degree of short-term independence of monetary policy.

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