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NEW-KEYNESIAN ECONOMICS: AN AS-AD VIEW

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ABSTRACT

A simple New-Keynesian model is set out with AS-AD graphical analysis. The model is consistent with modern central banking, which targets short-term nominal interest rates instead of money supply aggregates. This simple framework enables us to analyze the economic impact of productivity or markup disturbances and to study alternative monetary and fiscal policies. The impact of the fiscal multipliers on output and the output gap can be quantified showing that a short-run increase in public spending has a multiplier less than one on output and a much smaller multiplier on the output gap, while a decrease in short-run taxes has a positive multiplier on output, but negative on the output gap. In the AS-AD graphical view, optimal policy simplifies to nothing more than an additional line, IT, along which the trade-off between the objective of price stability and that of stabilizing the output gap can be optimally exploited. The framework is also suitable for studying a liquidity-trap environment and possible solutions.

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