

MEDIUM-TERM ADJUSTMENT AND THE INFLATION DYNAMIC: PART II

Kittichai Saelee

EE312

Thammasat university

AGENDA THIS PART!

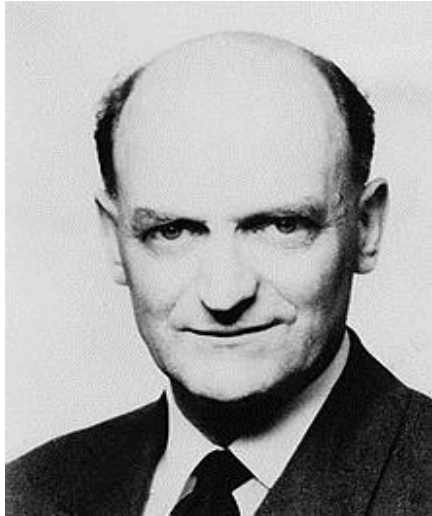
- Labor market in details
- **Phillips curve and inflation dynamic**
- **Policy implications**
- Current state-of-the-art of inflation dynamic model

PHILLIPS CURVE AND INFLATION DYNAMIC

- **History of Phillips curve**

- Expectation-augmented Phillips curve: monetarism and new classical
- Implications for policy design

HISTORY OF PHILIPS CURVE



Alban William Phillips (1914-1975),
the London School of Economics.

- Comovement between **inflation** and **real economic activities** was first mentioned in economics in 1958 by A.W. Phillips
- He discovered the inverse relationship between the rate of unemployment and the rate of increase in money wages.
 - **Wage inflation** decreases with **unemployment rate** . .
 - Studies based on the UK data for 1861-1957.
 - The relation has been highly stable.

HISTORY OF PHILIPS CURVE

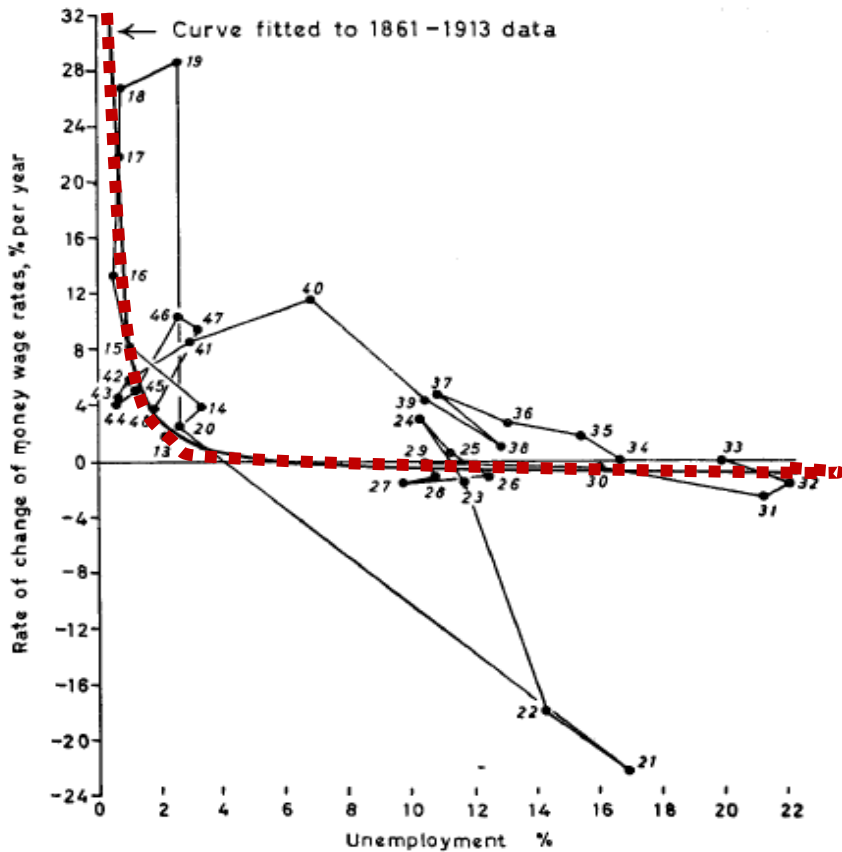


Fig. 9 1913-1948

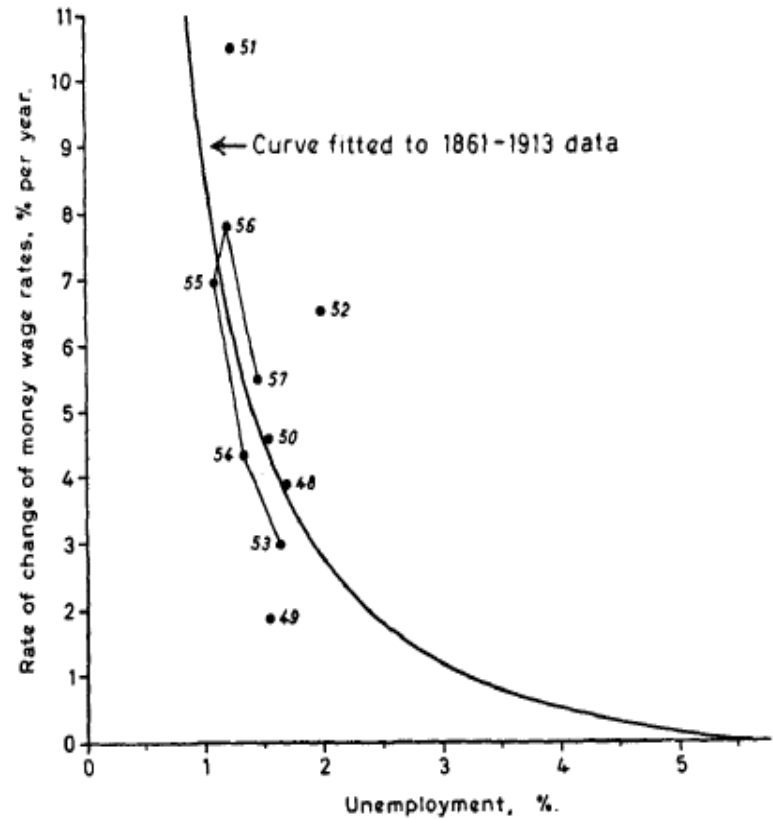


Fig. 10. 1948-1957

THE NAME 'PHILLIPS CURVE'



- 1960 Paul Samuelson and Robert Solow found a similar relation in the US data for 1900-1960.
 - To give the credit to Phillips, the relation is dubbed '**the Phillips curve**'.
- Subsequently, economists uncovered a similar relation when looking into the comovement between the **CPI inflation** and the **unemployment rate**.

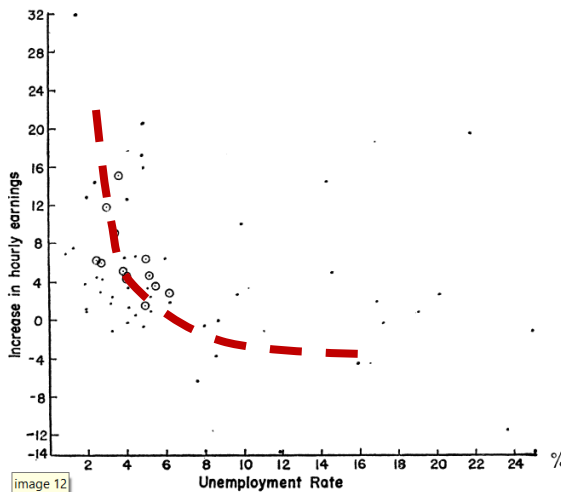
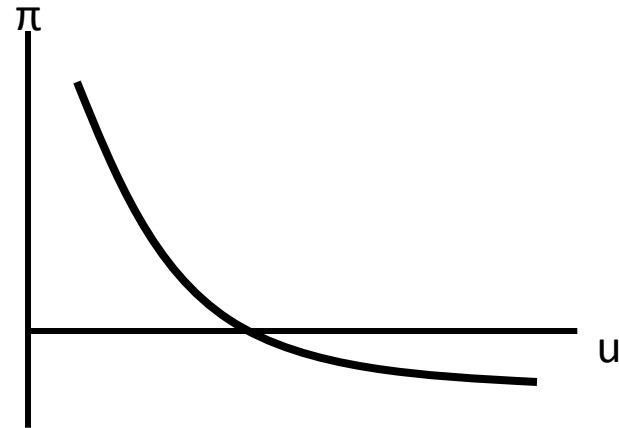


FIGURE 2
MODIFIED PHILLIPS CURVE FOR U.S.
This shows the menu of choice between different degrees of unemployment and price stability, as roughly estimated from last twenty-five years of American data.

VERSIONS OF THE PHILLIPS CURVE

Non-linear Phillips curve

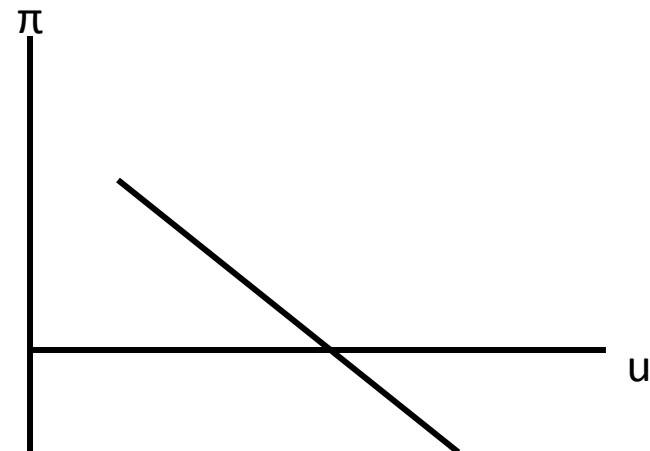
$$\pi_t = \varepsilon \left(\frac{1}{u_t} \right); \quad d\pi / du = -\varepsilon \frac{1}{u_t^2}$$



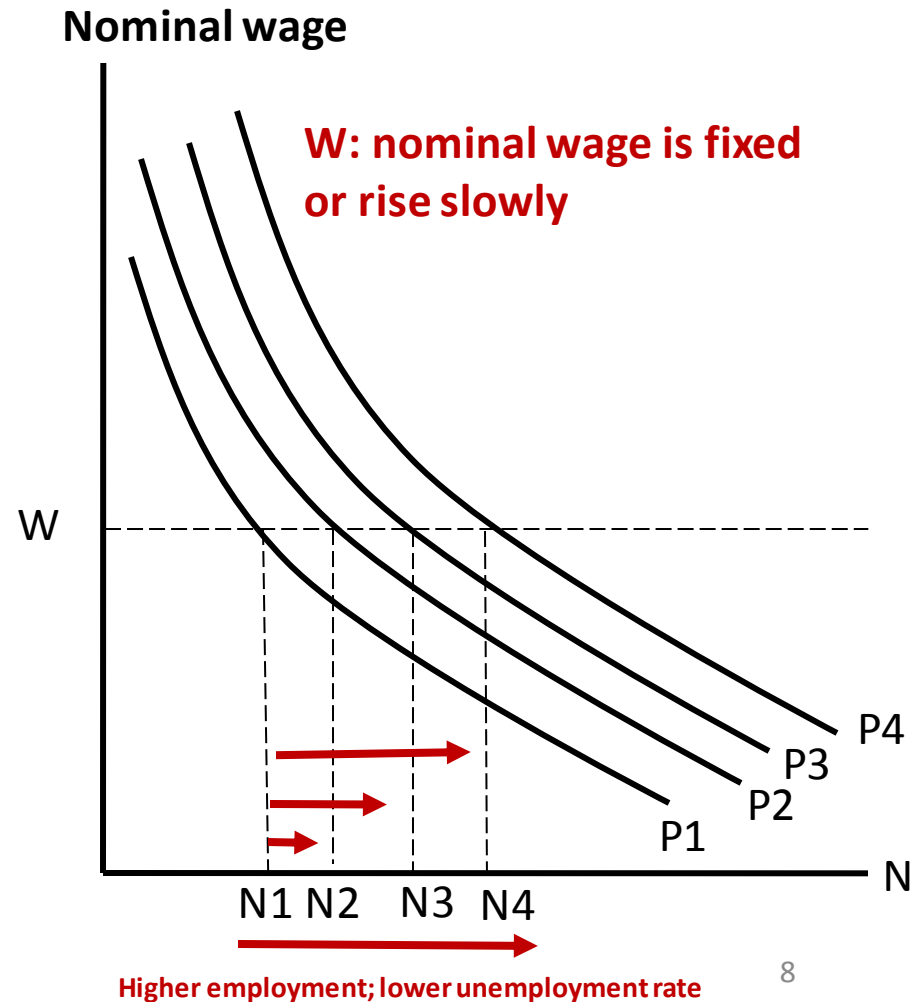
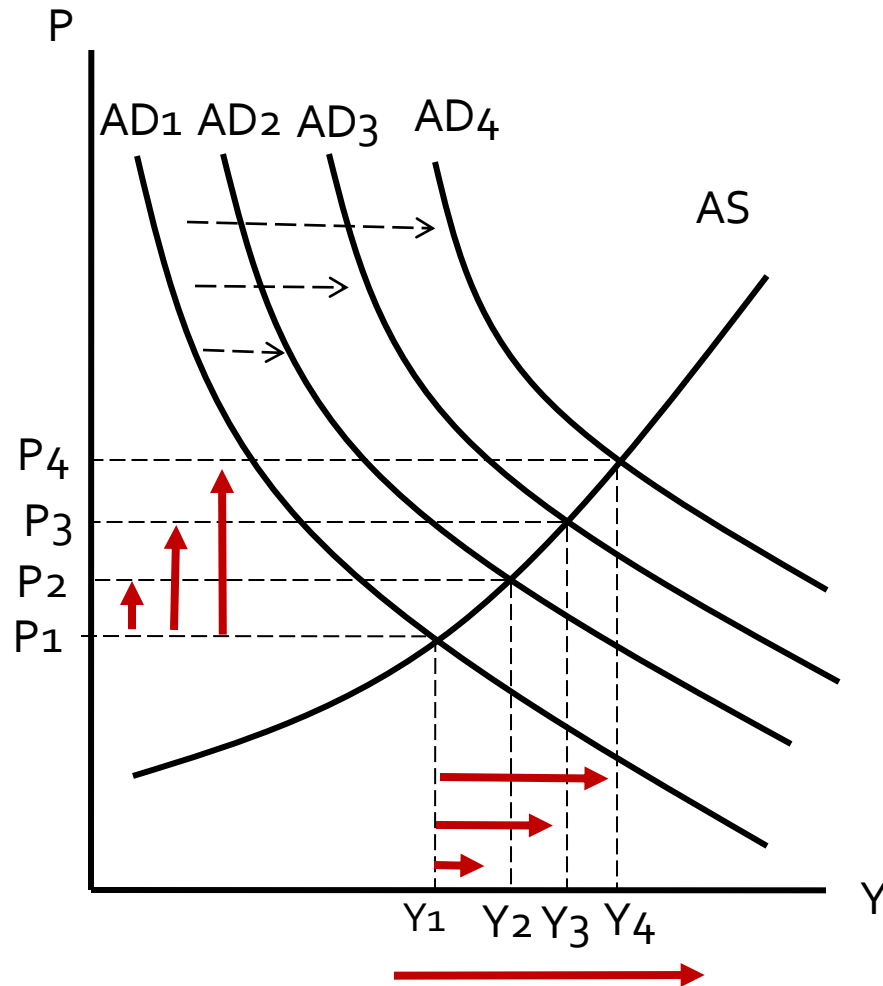
- π = the rate of inflation.
- u = the rate of unemployment.
- ε = the strength of the effect of u_t on π_t .

Linear Phillips curve

$$\pi_t = -\varepsilon(u_t); \quad d\pi / du = -\varepsilon$$



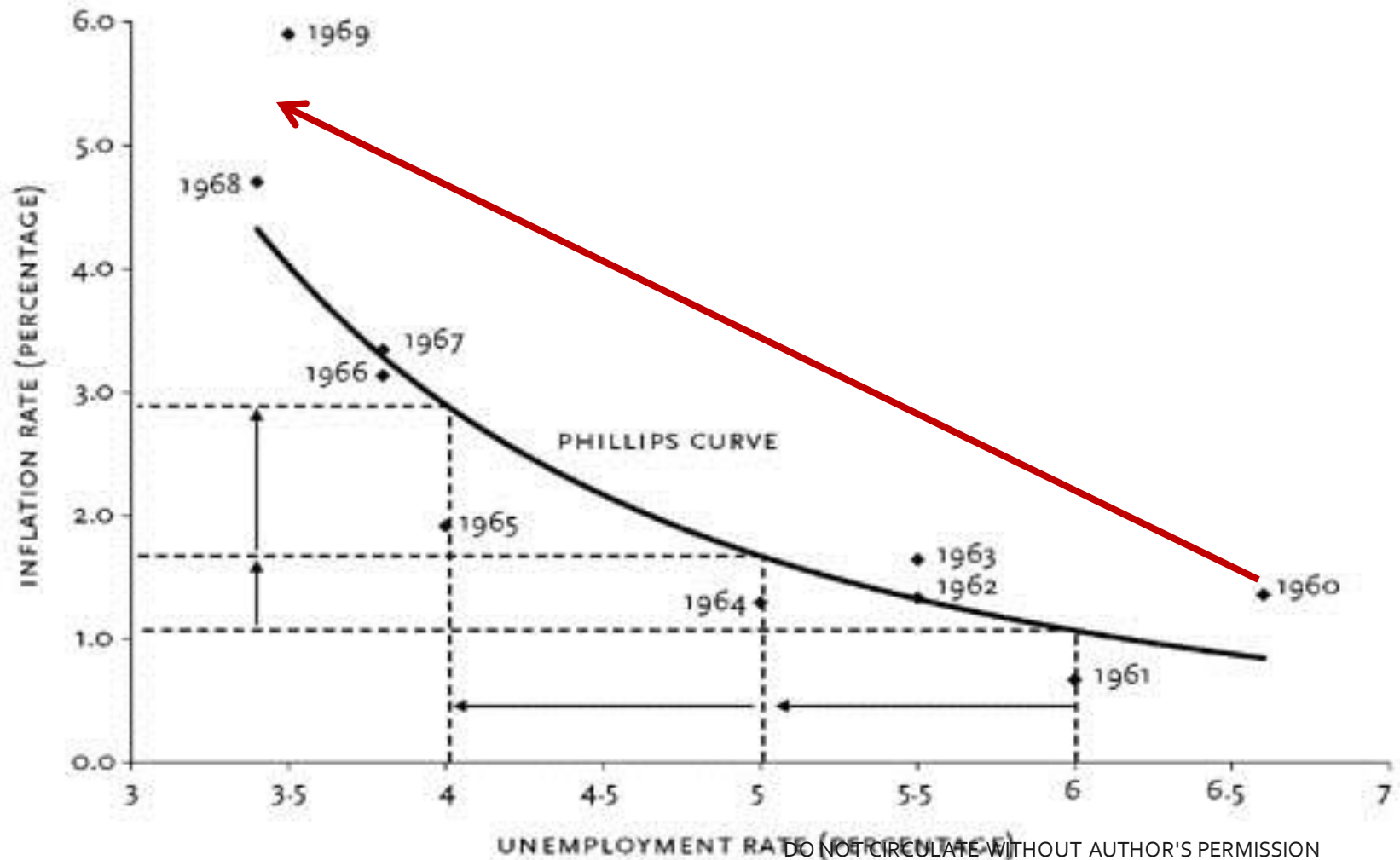
KEYNESIAN INTERPRETATION: NOMINAL WAGE



POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- The *trade-off* between inflation and unemployment; it is thought to be a permanent one!
- Active intervention works, i.e. **interventionist!**
- Policymakers can choose between different **combinations of inflation and unemployment**, based on **preferences**.
 - (observed) Outcomes determined by **preference**.

Inflation and unemployment outcome between 1960 – 1969:



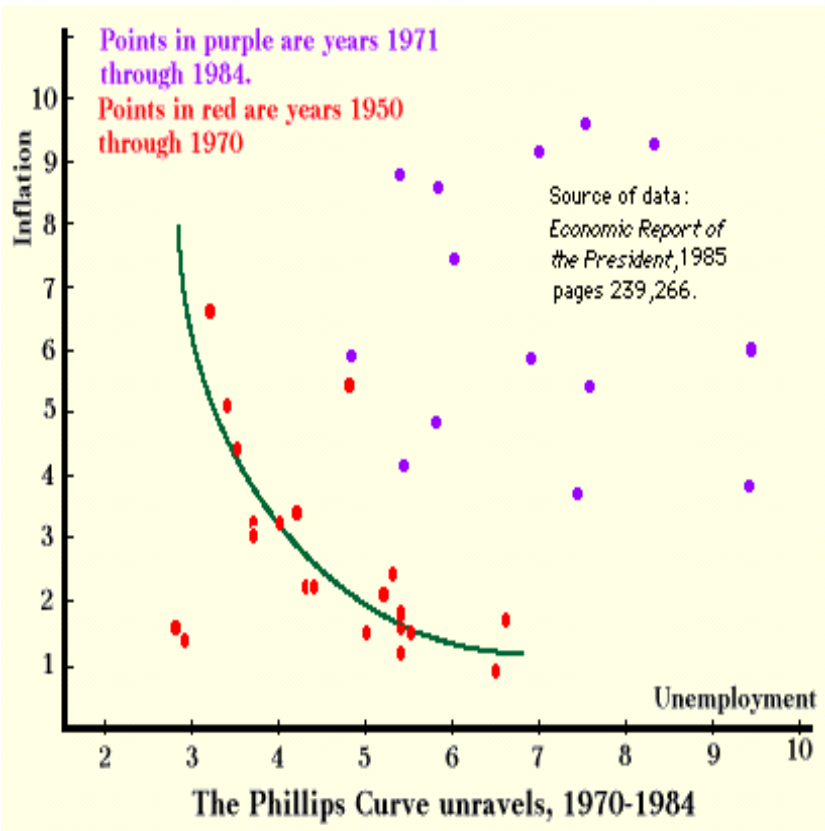
PHILLIPS CURVE AND INFLATION DYNAMIC

- **History of Phillips curve**

- **Expectation-augmented Phillips curve: monetarism and new classical**

- Implications for policy design

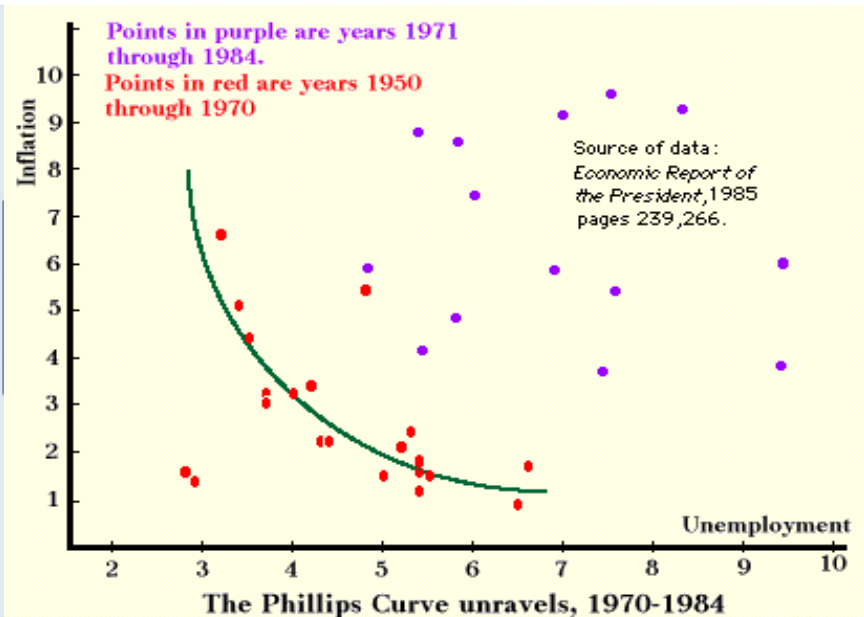
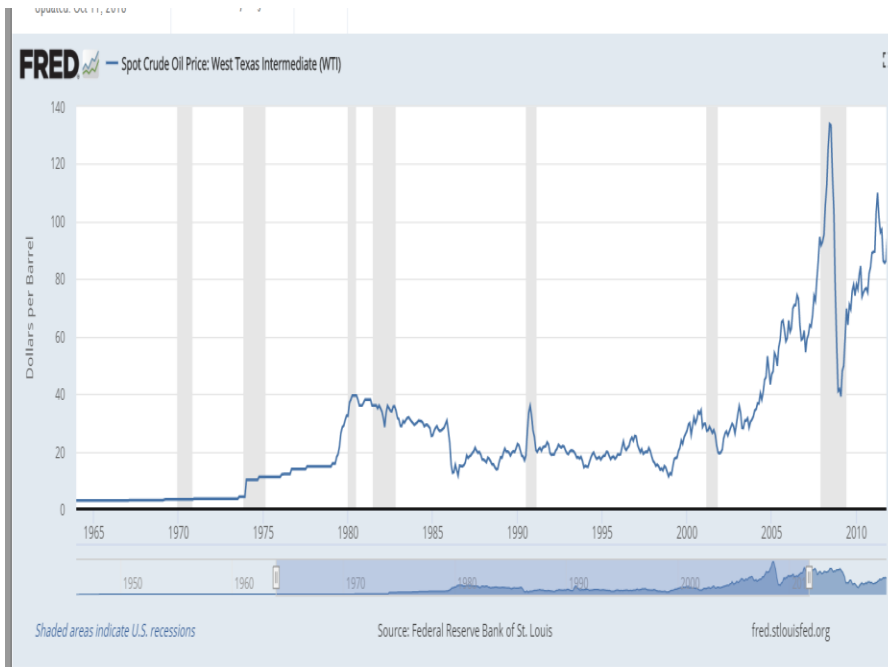
THE BREAKDOWN OF PHILIPS CURVE



- In the 1970s, the Phillips curve broke down.
- High inflation and high unemployment --- **stagflation**.
 - Oil price hikes by the OPEC.
 - Inflation rises and high unemployment
- Shouldn't this be obvious? The Stagflation? Why break down?

THE BREAKDOWN OF PHILIPS CURVE

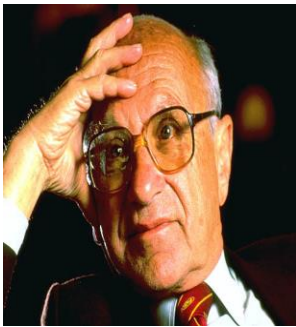
- **Puzzle:** why inflation did not come down even the oil price has reached its new stable high.
 - Why did the CPI price keep rising further despite that the increase in oil price had already paused.



THE BREAKDOWN OF PHILIPS CURVE

- **Puzzle:** why inflation did not come down even the oil price has reached its new stable high.
 - Why did the CPI price keep rising further despite that the increase in oil price had already paused.
- One might resolve the puzzle by relating to delay hypothesis
 - Shouldn't be the delay as inflation seems to sustain at a new high level!
- Later on, economists found that we had completely misunderstood about what drives the inflation – inflation dynamic
 - This misconception lead to the wrong prescription of the policy actions, and further made the problem bigger.

CRITIQUE BY FRIEDMAN AND PHELPS: THE RISE OF EXPECTATION-AUGMENTED PHILIPS CURVE



Milton Friedman (1912-2006),
University of Chicago Nobel Prize
1976.

- Many economists had earlier warned that the Keynesian-based Phillips relation may be **superficial**;
 - No one listened; "*Theory ahead of the measurement*"
- Lead by two proponents in **monetarists**, Phelps and Friedman developed a notion of expectation-augmented Phillips curve.

$$\pi_t = \pi_t^e - \varepsilon(u_t - u_t^n)$$

π_t = the inflation rate at period t.

π_t^e = the **expected inflation** rate for period t.

u_t = the unemployment rate at period t.

u_t^n = the **natural rate of unemployment** at period t



Edmund S. Phelps, Jr. (b1933),
Columbia University

Nobel Prize 2006.

EXPECTATION-AUGMENTED PHILLIPS CURVE: THE NATURAL RATE OF UNEMPLOYMENT

- Recall wage setting equation: $W_t = P_t^e F(u_t, z_t)$
 - W = nominal wage W , set by wage setters
 - P_t^e = expected price
 - u_t = *unemployment rate*
 - z_t = *other factors that affect* wage determination – unemployment benefits or bargaining power

- Recall price setting equation: $P_t = (1 + m) \frac{W_t}{A_t}$
 - $(1+m)$ = mark-up
 - A is productivity

EXPECTATION-AUGMENTED PHILLIPS CURVE: THE NATURAL RATE OF UNEMPLOYMENT

- Combining the two wage-price setting equations yields us,

$$P_t = (1 + m) \frac{P_t^e F(u_t, z_t)}{A_t}$$

- If worker can perfectly anticipate the CPI price, we yield that

$$1 = (1 + m) \frac{F(\mathbf{u}_t, \mathbf{z}_t)}{A_t}$$

- The level of unemployment rate is determined by the above condition is called the “**natural rate of unemployment (u_t^n)**” – the level of unemployment under an ideal environment

EXPECTATION-AUGMENTED PHILLIPS CURVE: THE NATURAL RATE OF UNEMPLOYMENT

- Notice that $u_t^n = G(A_t, z_t, m)$
 - z_t and $(1 + m)$ positively relates to u_t^n
 - Higher $z_t \rightarrow$ higher bargaining power to worker (recall the search friction theorem)
 - Higher $(1 + m) \rightarrow$ higher monopoly to firm; firms choose the lower quantity to seek for higher price.
 - A_t negatively relates to u_t^n
 - Higher productivity makes it more profitable for firm to hire more people; natural rate of unemployment drops.
- Fundamentally, the natural rate level is determined by real factors or real frictions

EXPECTATION-AUGMENTED PHILLIPS CURVE

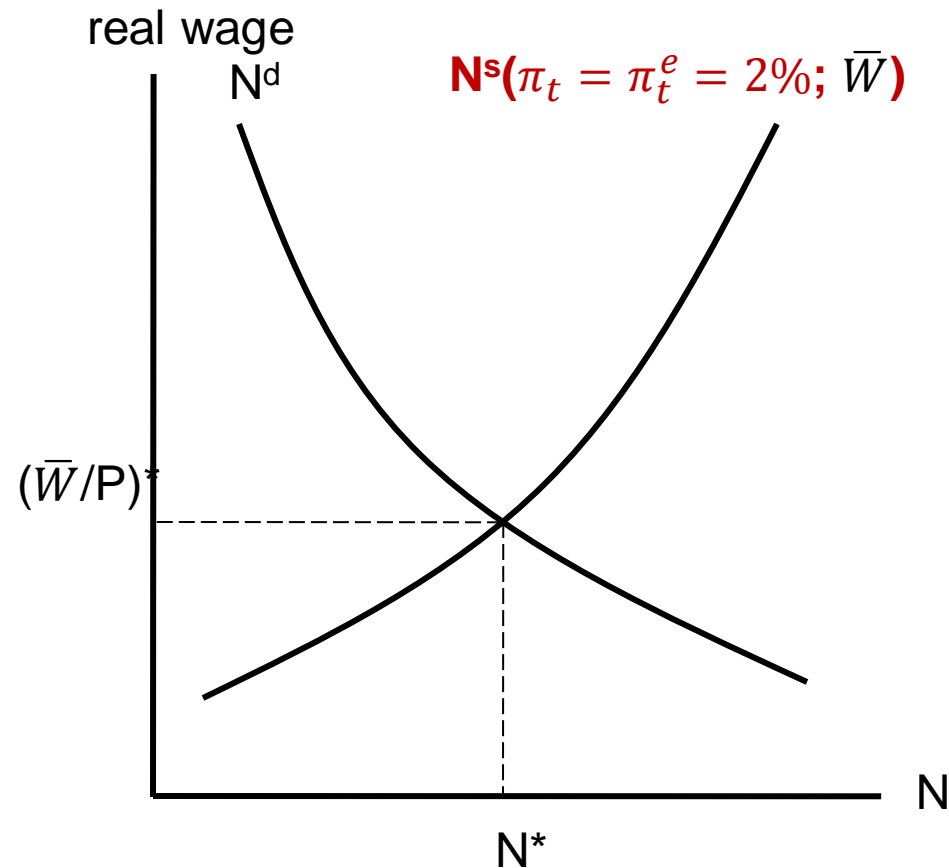
- What is the intuition behind the expectation-augmented Phillips curve?

$$\pi_t = \pi_t^e - \varepsilon(u_t - u_t^n)$$

- Note first, worker sets “wage \bar{W} ” before observing the “price”
 - Given the expected inflation, worker demands higher nominal wage payments
 - Actual inflation closely keep track with expected inflation
- Now suppose worker can correctly guess the actual inflation, the pre-determined wage \bar{W} will be exactly equal to the level that would prevail under flexible adjustment
 - Actual real wage will be equal to the equilibrium real wage (under flexible adjustment)
- As a result, the economy attains the full-employment equilibrium, and hence natural rate of unemployment

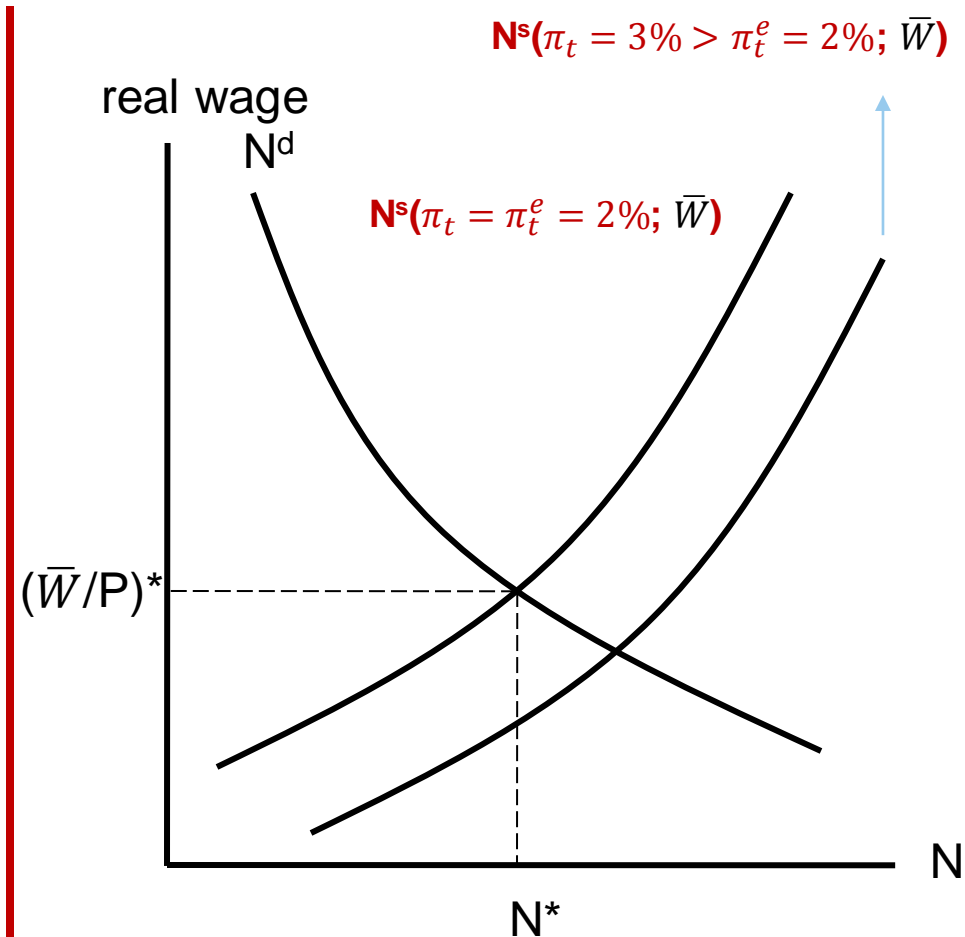
EXPECTATION-AUGMENTED PHILLIPS CURVE

- Suppose that workers guess that inflation will be 2%, each sets their pre-determined wage equal to \bar{W}
- Then, supply the labor based on the given $N^s(\pi_t = \pi_t^e = 2\%; \bar{W})$
- If they correctly guess the inflation, the pre-determined wage is matched with the same level of wage that would arise under perfect foresight – **ideal labor market condition**.
- The labor supplied is then optimal compared to the one under ideal labor market condition.
- Hence, equilibrium employment, as well as unemployment, reflects the natural level.



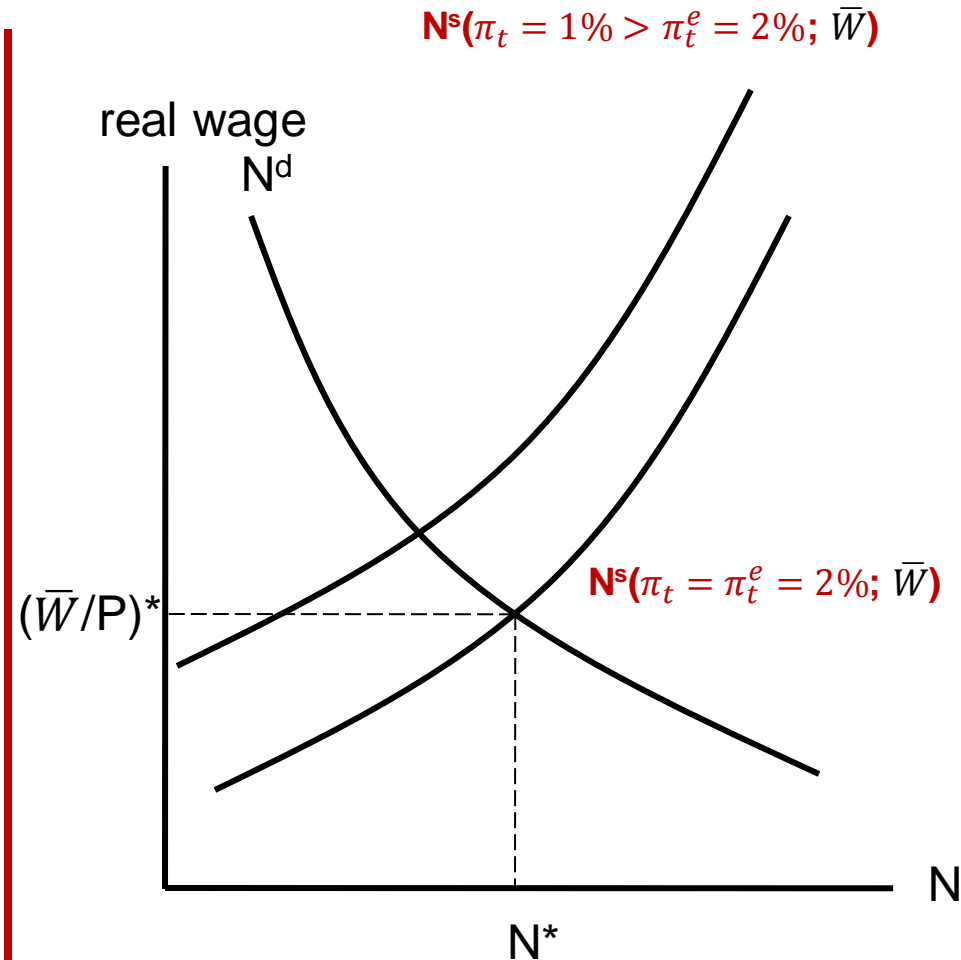
EXPECTATION-AUGMENTED PHILLIPS CURVE

- Suppose that workers guess that inflation will be 2%, each sets their pre-determined wage equal to \bar{W}
- Then, supply the labor based on the given $N^s(\pi_t = 3\% > \pi_t^e = 2\%; \bar{W})$
- They've under predicted the inflation, and hence setting nominal wage to be too low.
- They are supply too much labor that the optimal one under ideal labor market condition
- Employment is too high, unemployment is too low comparing to the ideal one.



EXPECTATION-AUGMENTED PHILLIPS CURVE

- Suppose that workers guess that inflation will be 2%, each sets their pre-determined wage equal to \bar{W}
- Then, supply the labor based on the given $N^s(\pi_t = 1\% > \pi_t^e = 2\%; \bar{W})$
- They've over predicted the inflation, and hence setting nominal wage to be too high.
- They are supply too low of labor, compared to the optimal one under ideal labor market condition
- Employment is too low, unemployment is too high comparing to the ideal one.



EXPECTATION-AUGMENTED PHILLIPS CURVE: WORKS AND MUTATION?

- Why did the economists get lured to believe that the relationship between “inflation” and “output” can be captured by the Phillips curve -- permanent trade off?
- The trade-off works if *inflation is near zero*.
 - Prior to the oil-shock, inflation was low.
 - Moreover, people were slow to adjust their inflation expectation
 - Workers did not bother asking for a higher pay often.
 - This made it look like that the Phillips relation did exist.

EXPECTATION-AUGMENTED PHILLIPS CURVE: WORKS AND MUTATION?

- The trade-off DOES not work if *inflation starts to rise*.
 - As the oil shocks happened, people starts to realized the impact of inflation.
 - They are quickly to adjust their inflation
 - *Rising inflation expectation persists even if the oil price became stable afterwards*
 - The previously existed trade-off relationship turned out to be no longer true.

EXPECTATION-AUGMENTED PHILLIPS CURVE: WORKS AND MUTATION?

- It appears that the reasoning provided by Friedman and Phelps makes sense if we can rationalize the way people form their expectation in such a way.
 - Ignoring and slow to adjust → quickly incorporate → Keep fearing as a stigma
- Friedman and Phelps argued for the form of the *adaptive expectation*

EXPECTATION-AUGMENTED PHILLIPS CURVE: THE ADAPTIVE EXPECTATION

$$\pi_t^e = \theta \pi_{t-1}$$

$$0 \leq \theta \leq 1$$

$$\pi_t = \theta \pi_{t-1} - \varepsilon(u_t - u_t^n)$$

- Adaptive expectation: The agent predicts current inflation based on *past inflation* -- a behavioral-based expectation

EXPECTATION-AUGMENTED PHILLIPS CURVE: THE ADAPTIVE EXPECTATION

- The UK and US economies before 1960 had very low inflation
 - Agents are sometime inattentive.
 - So, when inflation is closed to zero, they don't bother --- θ is near zero.
 - So the **traditional Phillips curve** was valid, given u_t^n .

$$\pi_t = \pi_t^e - \varepsilon(u_t - u_t^n)$$

$$\pi_t^e = 0$$

$$\pi_t = -\varepsilon(u_t - u_t^n) = \varepsilon u_t^n - \varepsilon u_t$$

EXPECTATION-AUGMENTED PHILLIPS CURVE: THE ADAPTIVE EXPECTATION

- The UK and US economies before 1970 had moderate inflation
 - Agents are still inattentive, but become more concerned.
 - θ is slowly changing from zero to positive.
 - So the **traditional Phillips curve** was valid, given u_t^n .

$$\pi_t^e = \theta \pi_{t-1}$$

$$0 \leq \theta \leq 1$$

$$\pi_t = \theta \pi_{t-1} - \varepsilon(u_t - u_t^n)$$

- $\theta > 0$: current inflation depends on past inflation and unemployment.

EXPECTATION-AUGMENTED PHILLIPS CURVE: THE ADAPTIVE EXPECTATION

- The case for augmented-expected inflation began to receive the support in 1970s.
- People change the way they form **inflation expectations**.
 - The value of θ was rising quickly and finally close to 1.
 - This-year inflation is expected to be the same as last-year inflation.
 - The original Phillips curve (and trade-off) broke down.

$$\pi_t = \theta\pi_{t-1} - \varepsilon(u_t - u_t^n)$$

$$\theta = 1$$

$$\pi_t - \pi_{t-1} = -\varepsilon(u_t - u_t^n)$$

- $\theta = 1$, the unemployment rate affects the rate of change in the inflation rate, given u^* .
 - If $u_t > u_t^n$, decelerating (decreasing) inflation.
 - If $u_t < u_t^n$, accelerating (increasing) inflation.

NEW CLASSICAL PHILIPS CURVE: SHORT-COMINGS?

- During the 1970s, oil shock was the catalyst!
 - Inflation jumps
- Inflation expectation jumped up, and remained at a highly sustained level – people stigmatized the inflation acceleration.
 - Behavioral-based explanation; nowadays so popular to explain why Japan has been trapped under deflation or low inflation.
- Then, why they have kept thinking that inflation will remain high even that oil shock was temporarily.
 - Shouldn't they learned that ignorance on inflation forecast will hurt them as they were hurt before.

EXPECTATION-AUGMENTED PHILLIPS CURVE: CRITICISM TO THE ADAPTIVE EXPECTATION

- To understand this, one to think about another version of expectation-augmented Phillips curve.
- The version is the one in which expectation is formed upon **the rational expectation!** – replacing the adaptive expectation.
- The idea of rational expectation is commonly discussed among those who classify themselves as **New classical economists**

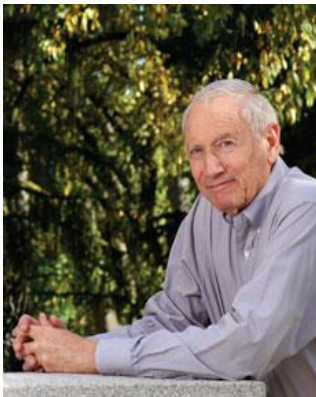
NEW CLASSICAL ECONOMICS



Thomas Sargent



Robert Lucas



Neil Wallace



Robert Barro

➤ The heritage of the Monetarism school.

- Developed around early of 1970s: **Lucas, Sargent and Wallace.**
- Emphasize at the role of "**Rational expectation**" in macroeconomics
- Developed notion of **rational expectation-augmented Phillips curve.**
- Developed a famous proposition: **The irrelevant of anticipated policy.**
- Provide a good framework for understanding the **medium-term adjustment**

AUGMENTED-RATIONAL EXPECTATION PHILLIPS CURVE

- The curve is often called “**New Classical Phillips curve**”.
- Consider as the extension of **Phelps-Friedman Philips** curve.
- Agents instead form their forecast using the *rational expectation*, rather than the *adaptive expectation*.
- Why rational expectation?

RATIONAL EXPECTATION

- Expectation is so pervasive in economics decision making.
- Form of expectation: *adaptive v.s. rational expectation*.
- The expectation formed under the adaptive hypothesis has ignored some information in the forecasting.
 - Previous inflation is high; current is expected to be high.
 - The expected rate will NOT be higher than the past experience.
- Adaptive expectation is often called a **backward looking expectation**.

RATIONAL EXPECTATION

- Workers that incorporate only past information into wage bargaining tend to **systematically under-predict** the inflation rate: hurting themselves.
 - **Why would all the workers allow this to happen?**
 - **Why don't they behave as a *forward-looking* agent?**
- Rational expectation that makes use all relevant information might be welfare-improving to agents.

RATIONAL EXPECTATION

- John Muth (1952) adopted this notion in his classical work “**Rational expectation and the theory of price movements**”
 - Agents can make more profit if their forecasts are *more accurate*.
- Rational expectation-based forecast is the **optimal forecast** from the statistical point of view.
 - Let $Y_t^e = E(Y_t | \Omega_t)$ be optimal forecast of Y_t where Ω_t is information set.
 - Unbiased: $E(Y_t - Y_t^e) = 0$
 - Efficient: $E(Y_t - Y_t^e)^2$ is minimum

RATIONAL EXPECTATION IN MACROECONOMICS

- In 1971 and 1972, Robert Jr. Lucas provided two elaborative frameworks that argue for the *neutrality of money* under the *rational expectation*.
 - Strong neutrality of money: *money does not cause the change in output*. (Classical dichotomy)
- Classical dichotomy: the *separation between real and nominal variable*.

RATIONAL EXPECTATION IN MACROECONOMICS

- Neutrality of money under Lucas's concept is less strong
 - Surprise in the level of money creation can **affect output** *whereas* anticipated money creation **is neutral** under the rational expectation.
- The notion is developed under the model commonly known as "Money surprise model"
 - Phelps-Friedman-Lucas money surprise model

PHELPS-FRIEDMAN-LUCAS MONEY SURPRISE MODEL: MODEL ENVIRONMENT

1. Labor can renegotiate a new **wage scheme** every period; however, **(fixed/variable) wage must be set one-period in advance.**

- **fixed wage contract**: fixed nominal wage; irrelevant to the number of hours worked

- **variable wage contract**: fixed nominal wage, but nominal wage is rising as the number of hours worked increase

PHELPS-FRIEDMAN-LUCAS MONEY SURPRISE MODEL: MODEL ENVIRONMENT

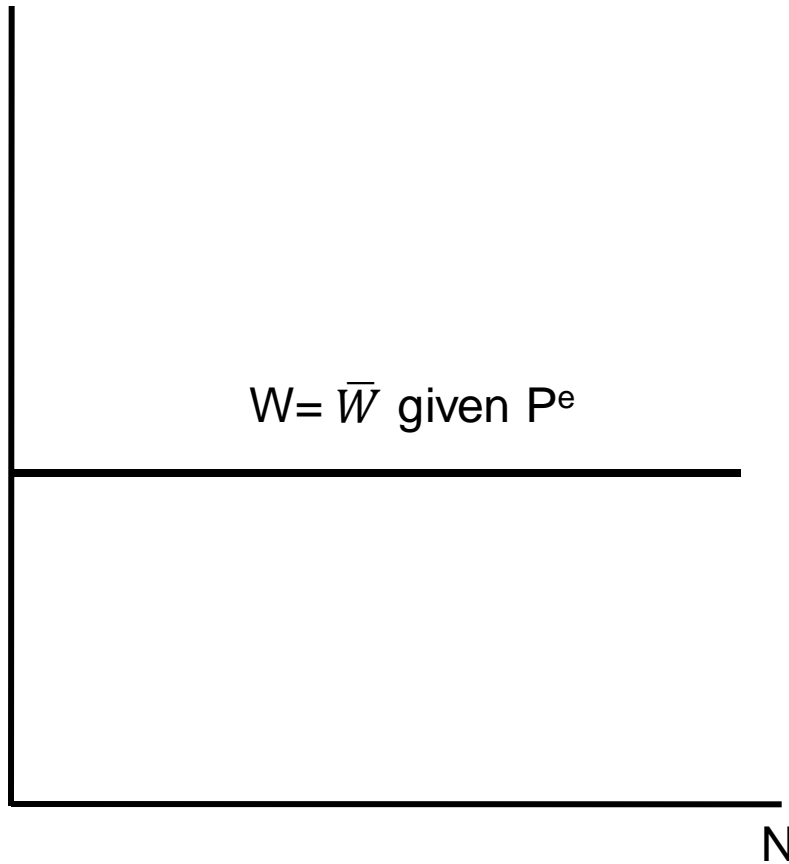
2. When labor engages in wage bargaining activity, laborers take into account all relevant and available information in the market.

- Labor uses the **most up-to-date information** to make a best forecast in the level of **price and inflation**, namely **expected price and expected inflation**.

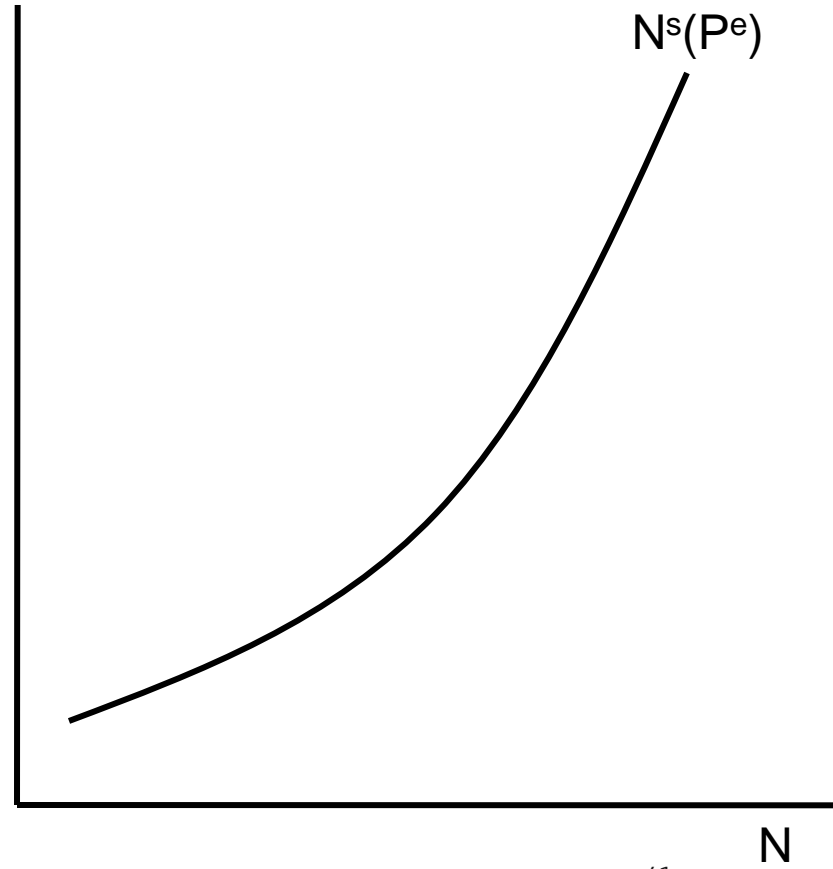
- Then, labor demand for the predetermined nominal wage and supply the amount of labor hours at given wage contract agreed.

PHELPS-FRIEDMAN-LUCAS MONEY SURPRISE MODEL: MODEL ENVIRONMENT

W (nominal wage)

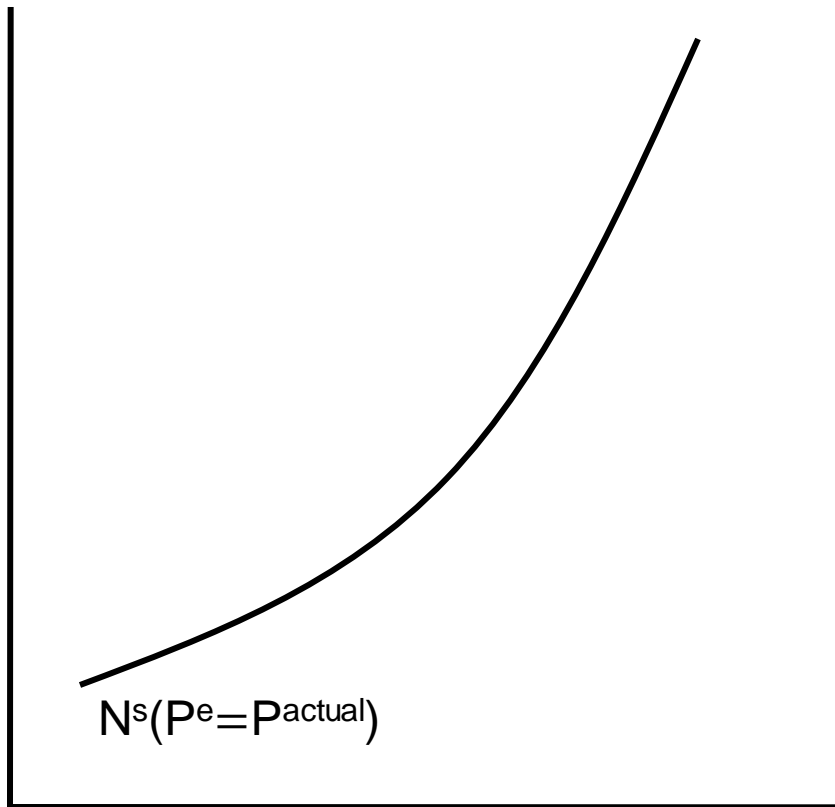


W (nominal wage)



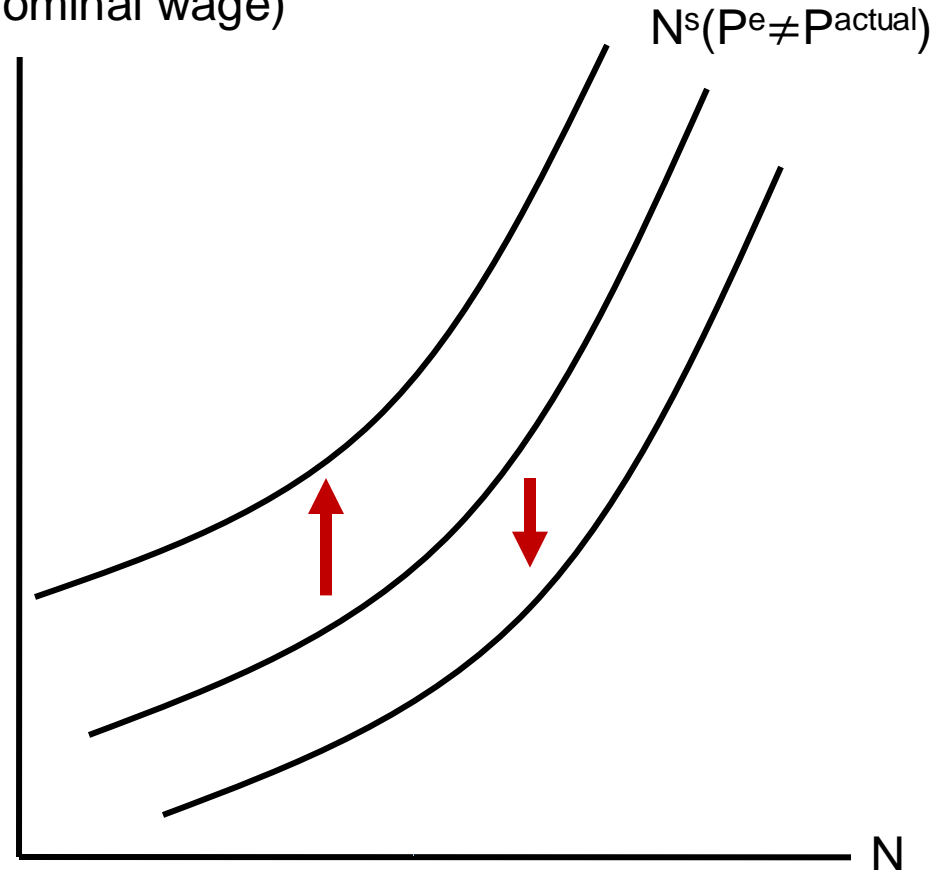
CLASSICAL WAGE SCHEME: PERFECT FORESIGHT AND FULL INDEXATION

W (nominal wage)



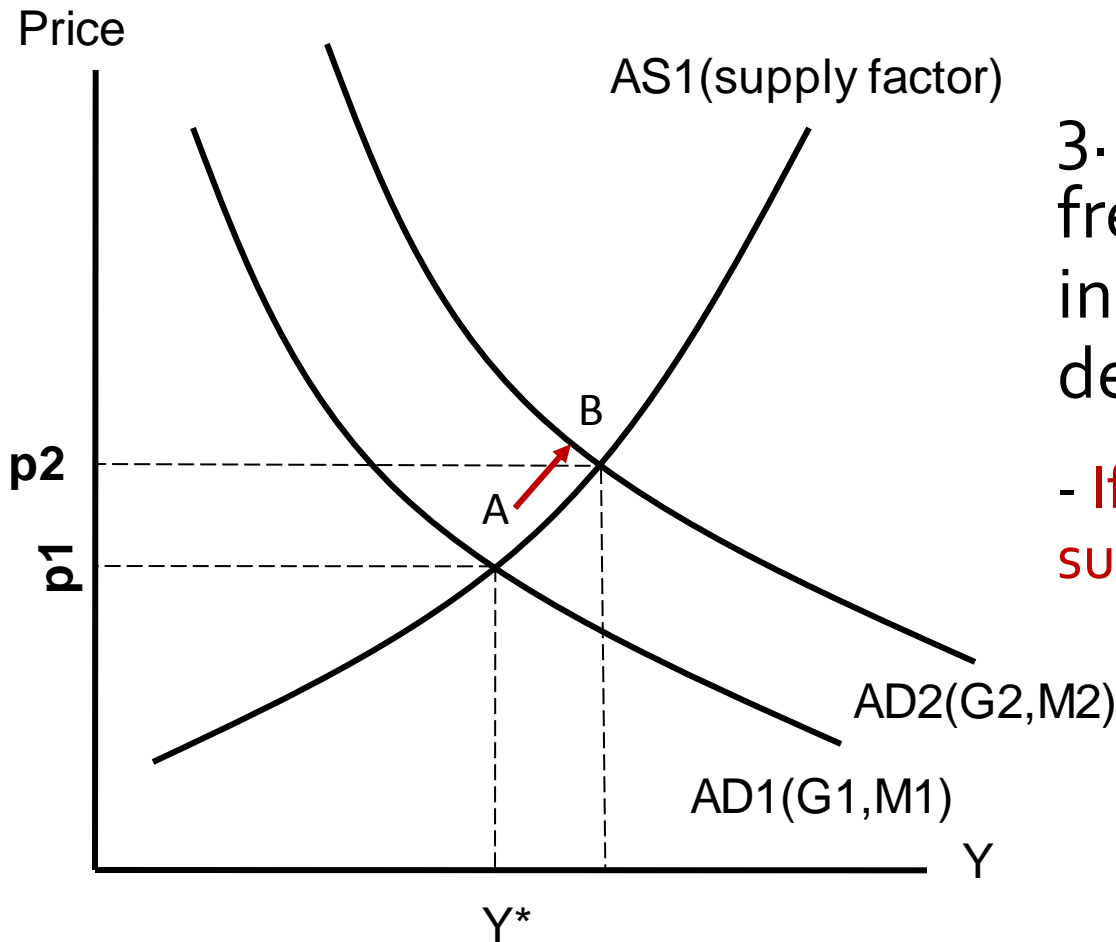
Perfect foresight: 100% forecast correct.

W (nominal wage)



Fully indexation of wage to actual inflation

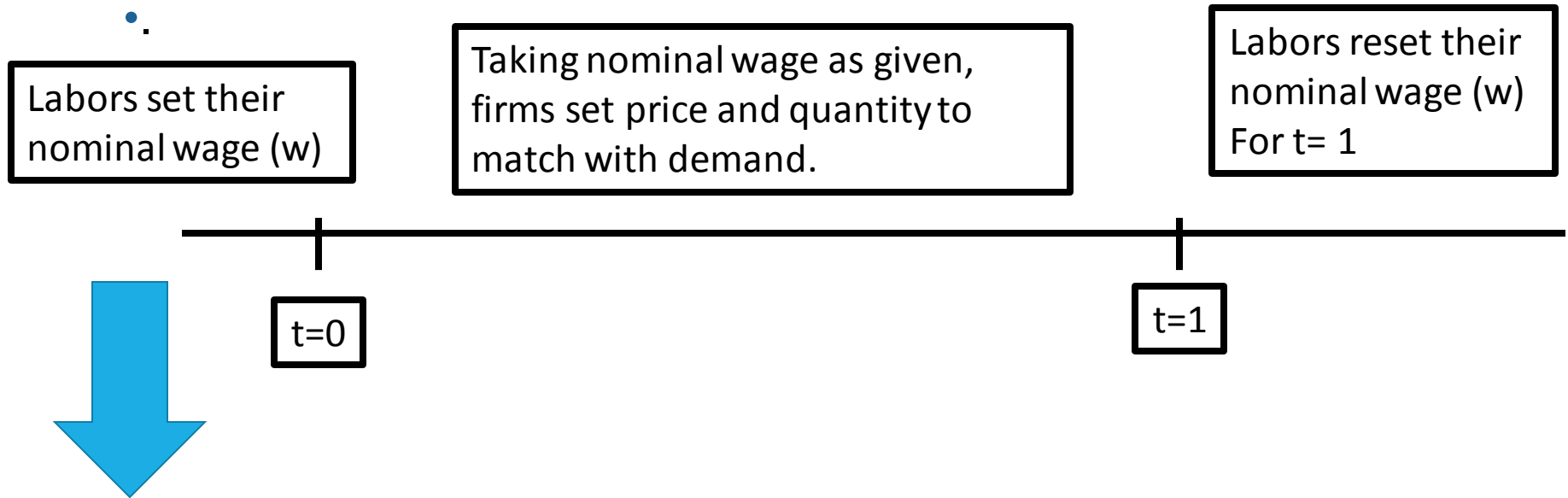
PHELPS-FRIEDMAN-LUCAS MONEY SURPRISE MODEL: MODEL ENVIRONMENT



3. Firms can set price freely; price is adjusted instantaneously to demand conditions.

- If demand rises, firms can suddenly raise their price.

TIMELINE OF DECISION/ACTION



Rational expectation: Based on all relevant information.

Future events; behavior of governments shocks; (anticipation in oil price/labor market conditions) → setting wage in the way that benefits worker most.

TIMING OF DECISION MATTERS

➤ The Phelps-Friedman-Lucas money surprise model:

- Workers do not perceive the actual price/inflation --- **expected price/inflation**.
- Workers' perception lags behind *actual* inflation. (no perfect foresight / no indexation)

➤ The delay in wage adjustment (lag behind) has lead to a real effect of monetary surprise.

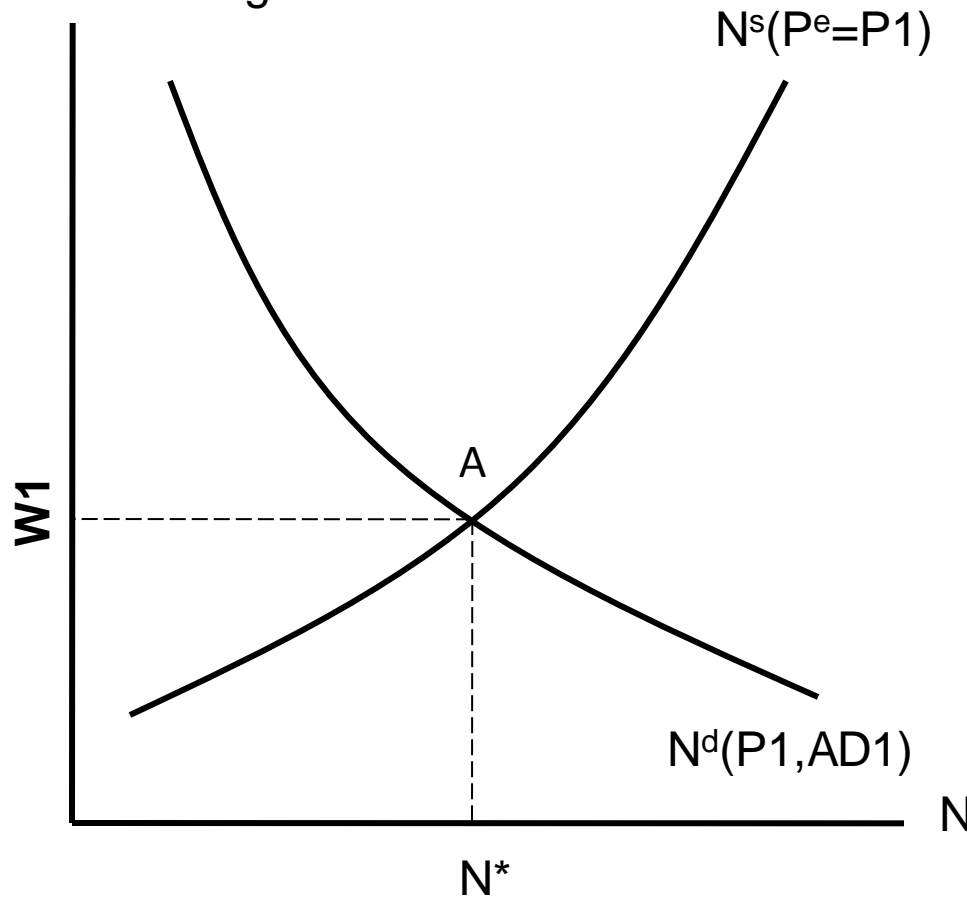
- *The effect should be temporary*

MECHANISM TOWARD THE NEUTRALITY RESULT

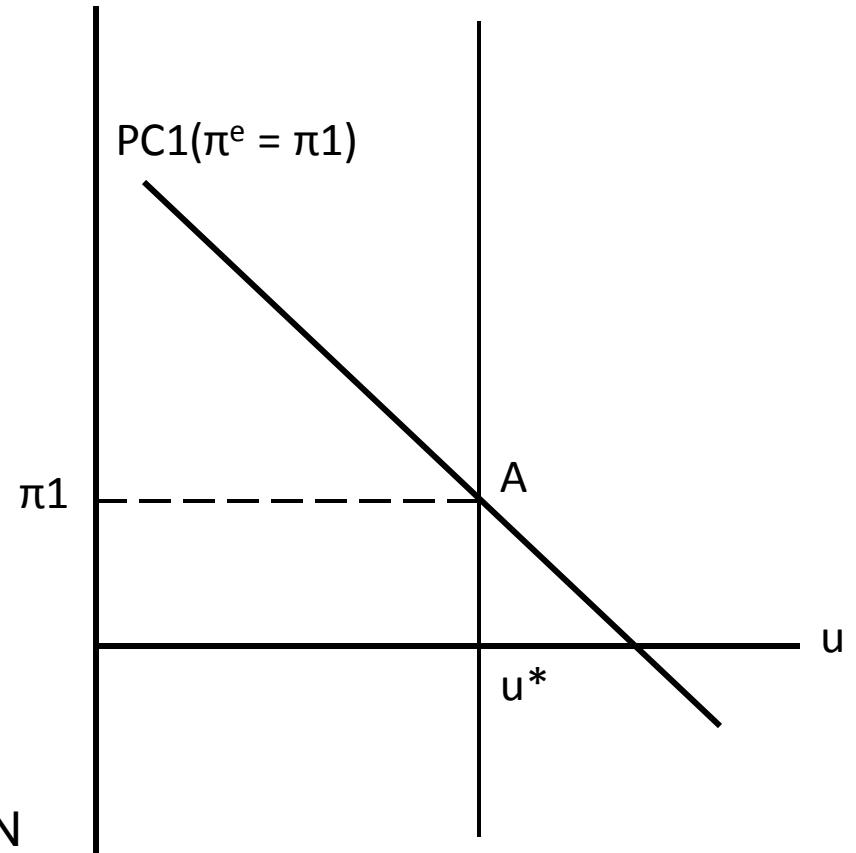
- Suppose we start from a natural rate equilibrium (N^*).
 - Natural unemployment rate is u^* (output is Y^*)
- Actual price is P_1 ; labor perfectly anticipates this. ($P^e = P_1$)
- Actual inflation is π_1 ; labor perfectly anticipates the correct value ($\pi^e = \pi_1$)
- At the P_1 and π_1 , aggregate demand condition is equal to AD_1 .
 - Suppose that central bank adopts a 10% money growth rule.

WORKERS' EXPECTED PRICE AND BARGAINED WAGE SETTING

Nominal wage



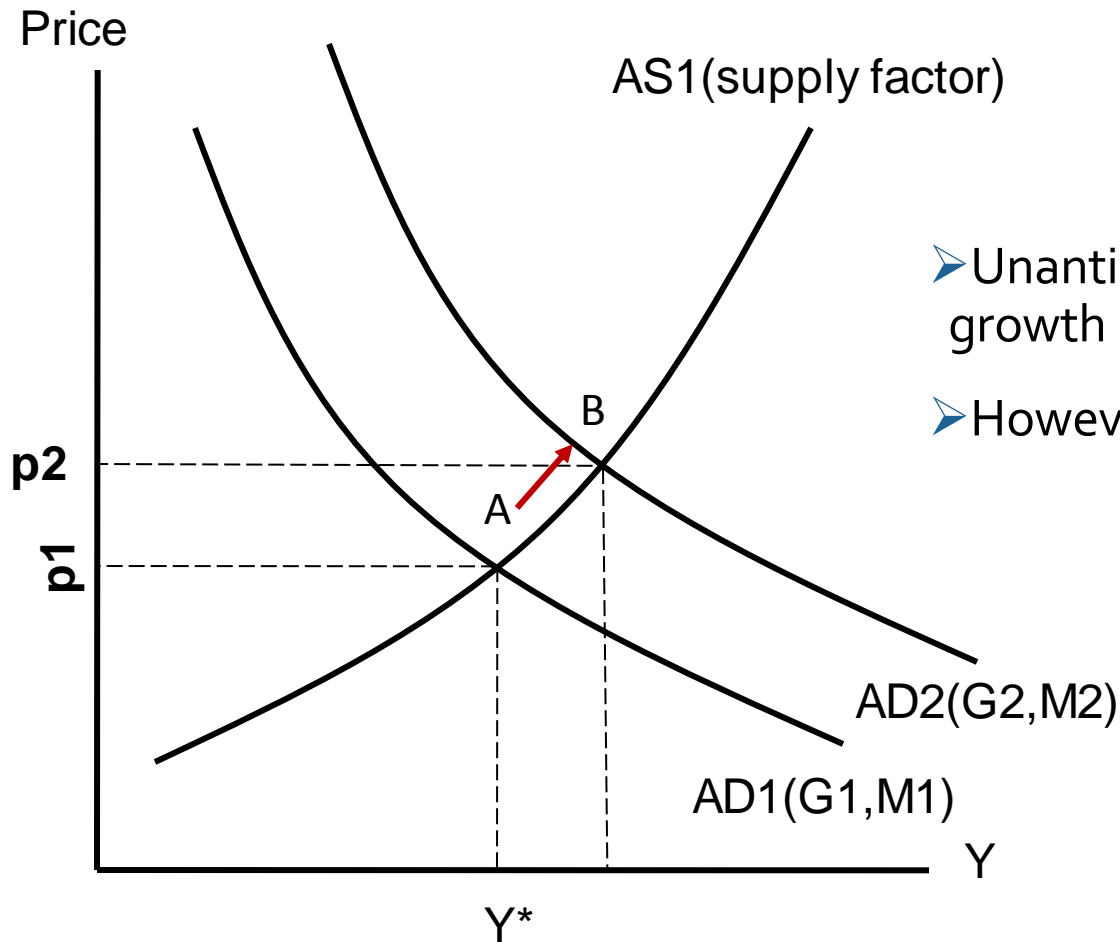
π



MONEY SURPRISE....

- The central bank temporarily increases the money-supply growth rate (*unanticipated* money growth), i.e. $x_1\% \rightarrow x_2\%$ ($x_2 > x_1$)
 - Product prices increase **faster** than money wages (under both fixed and variable wage contract).
 - The actual **real wage (W/P) falls** and firms **demand more labor**.
 - With the given wage contract, labor must supply as they've agreed with the employer.
 - Alternative interpretation could be that workers **mistakenly** see higher money wages as higher real wages at the previous price level.
 - Workers supply more labor; employment/output increases.

ACTUAL PRICE RISES...



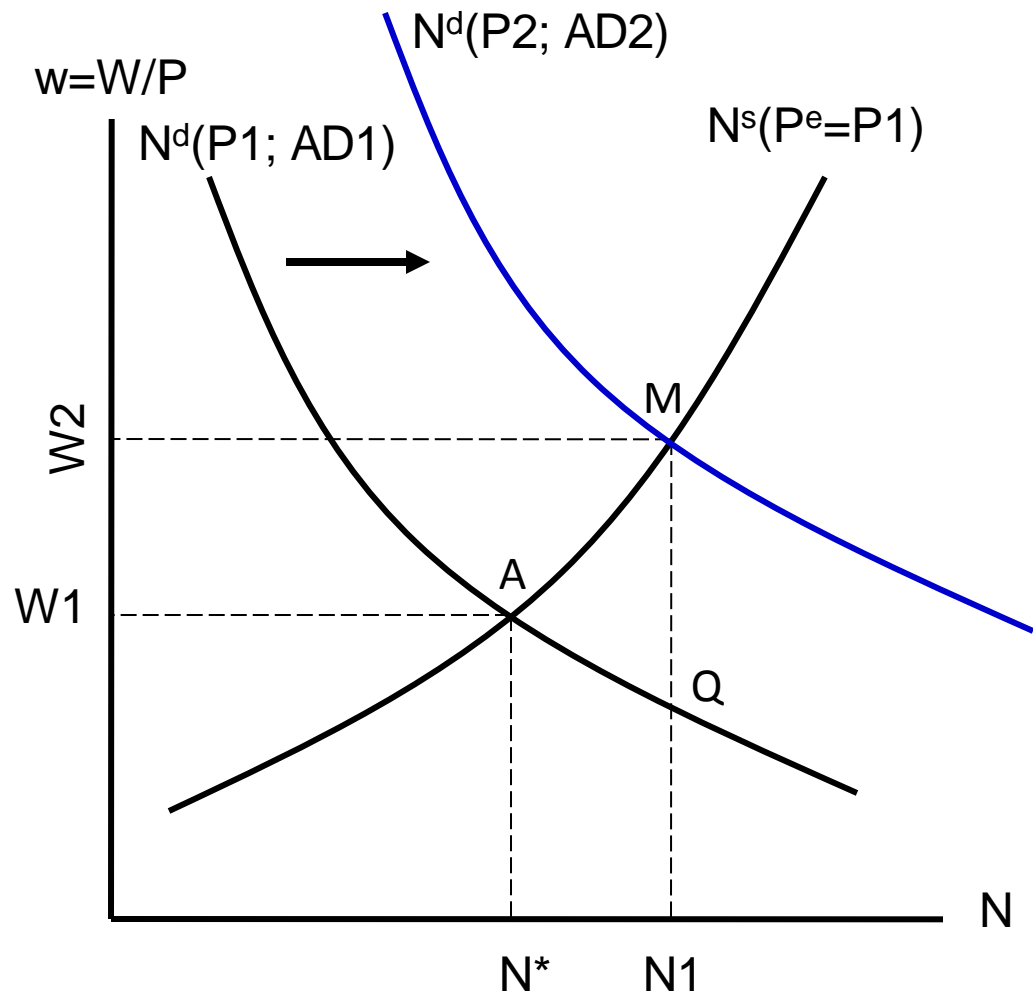
- Unanticipated increase in money growth causes AD shift.
- However, AS is still fixed.

EXPECTED P^E LAGS BEHIND ACTUAL P

➤ Money wages increase from W_1 to W_2 and the price from P_1 to P_2 .

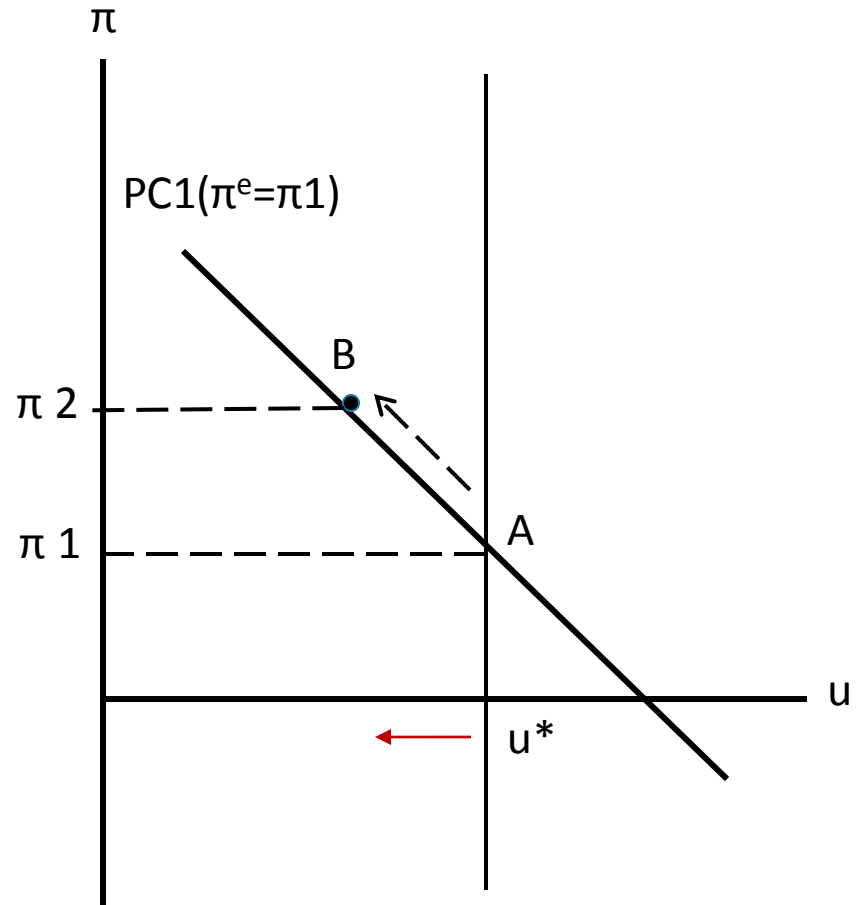
- $\Delta P/P > \Delta W/W$

➤ Labor supply and employment increase.



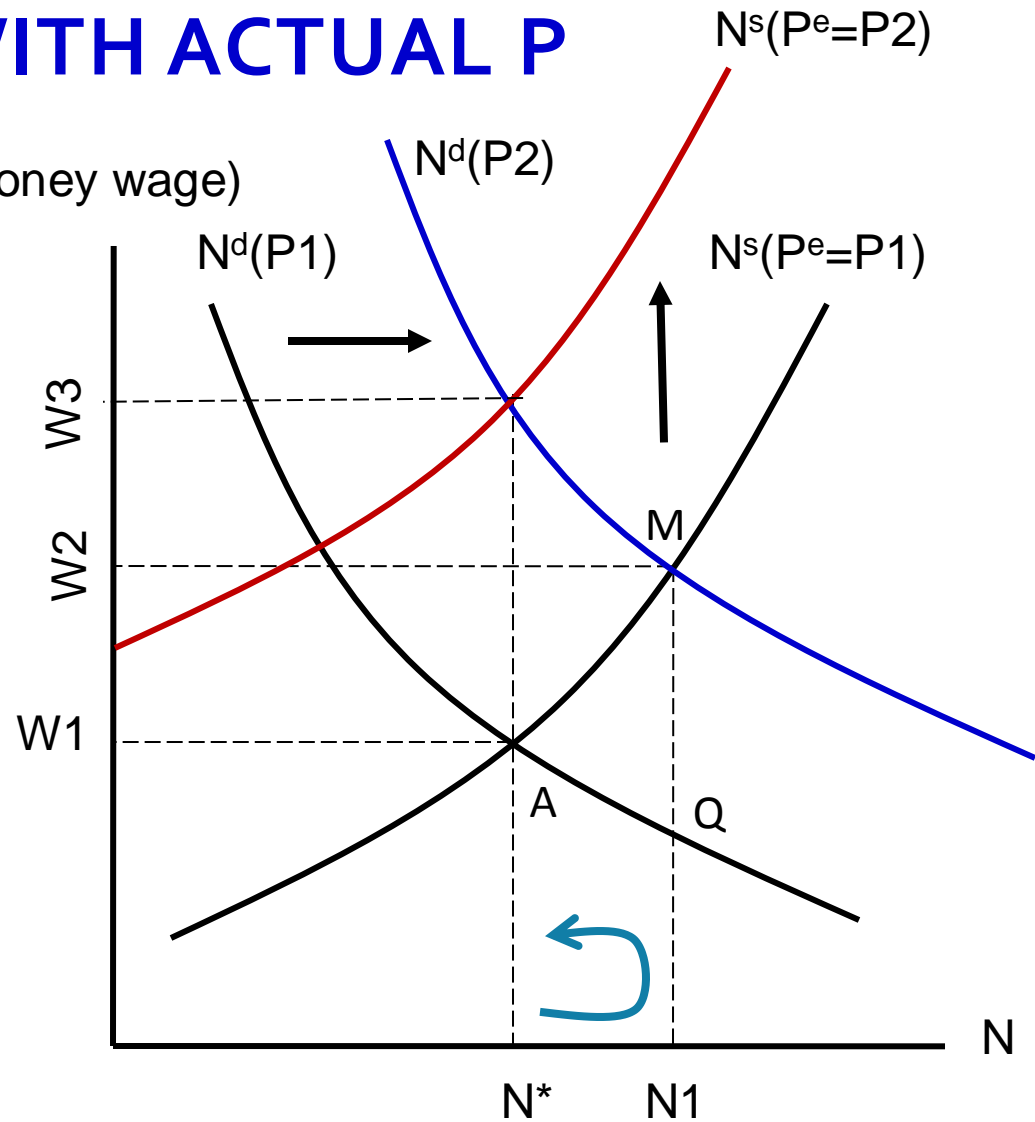
FALLING U AND RISING π

- Higher money growth means higher inflation.
- Unemployment falls below u^* .
- The economy moves from A to B.
- Unanticipated error in the price and inflation expectation (due to the surprise) causes worker to supply more labor; if nominal wage can be fully indexed with the actual price and inflation rate, they would not have done that.



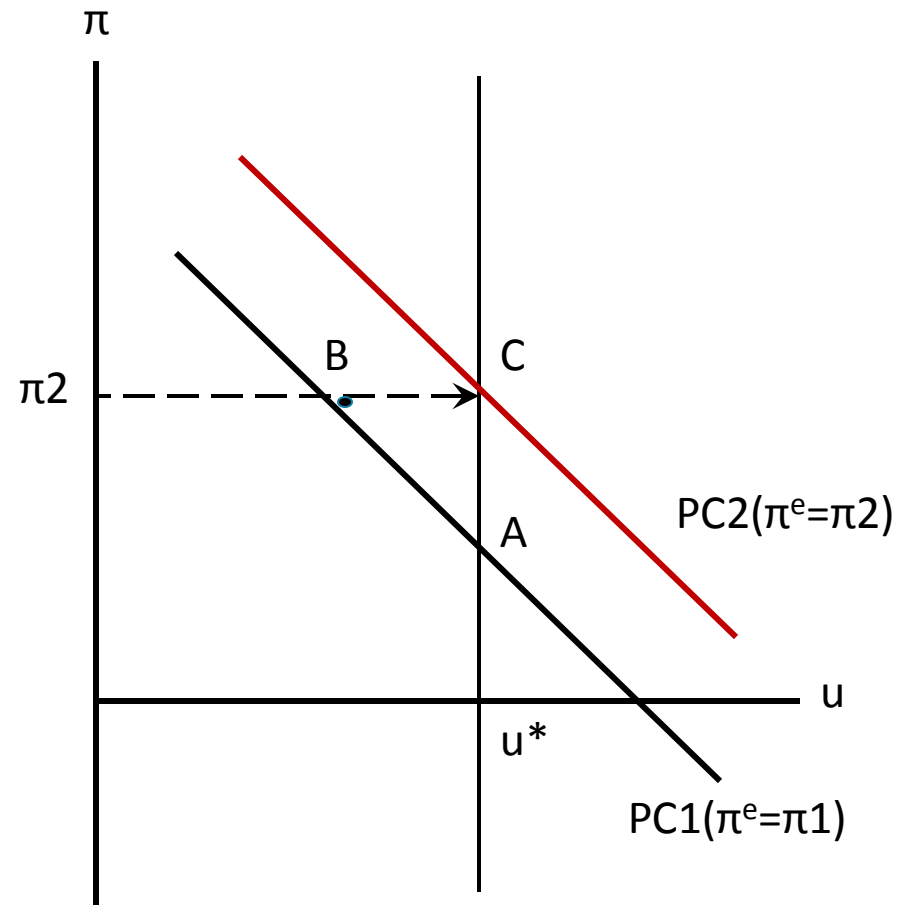
P^E CATCHES UP WITH ACTUAL P

- Finally, workers realize that the actual price is P_2 and “suddenly” demand higher money wages in the next period.
- Employment drops to the natural rate.



ACTUAL U RETURNS TO U^*

- Workers adjust their expected inflation upwards.
- Unemployment returns to u^* .
- PC_1 shifts to PC_2 because of **higher expected inflation**.
- The economy moves from B to C.



MEDIUM-TERM ADJUSTMENT

- The proposition on neutrality sheds some light on the medium-term adjustment process.
- Without shock, output remains at full-employment level, as well as the unemployment that will remain at the natural level.
 - We now refer to both the natural level and full-employment level as “long-term trend”
- With shock hitting the economy, output, as well as unemployment deviates from the trend in the same way that a “surprisingly” higher money growth causes the expansionary deviation.

MEDIUM-TERM ADJUSTMENT

- Based on the New Classical economics, the deviation occurs temporarily.
- Worker will renegotiate for the new contract which reflects the current status of macroeconomy – currently updated information set.
- The previously existing trade-off (temporary deviation) will soon be offset by the change in inflation expectation and the adjustment in the labor market.

PHILLIPS CURVE AND INFLATION DYNAMIC

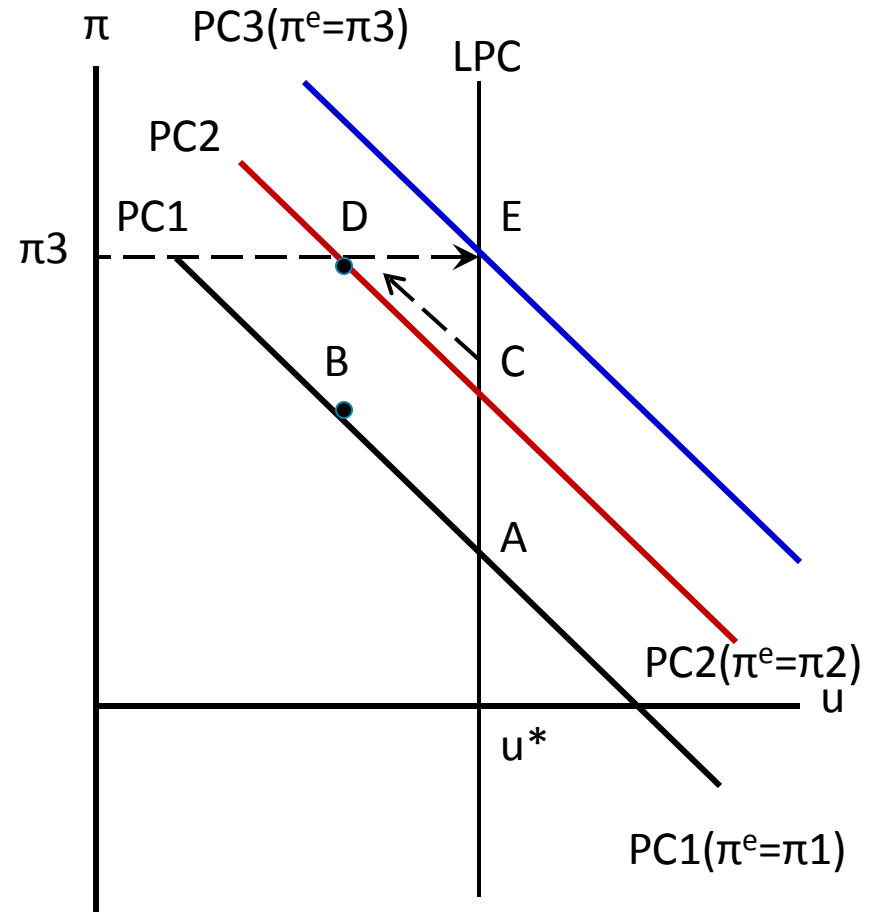
- **History of Phillips curve**
- **Expectation-augmented Phillips curve: monetarism and new classical**
- **Implications for policy design**

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- Don't try to be too ambitious --> Set policy in a rule-based fashion
 - Surprise will eventually hurt
 - Anticipated surely hurts

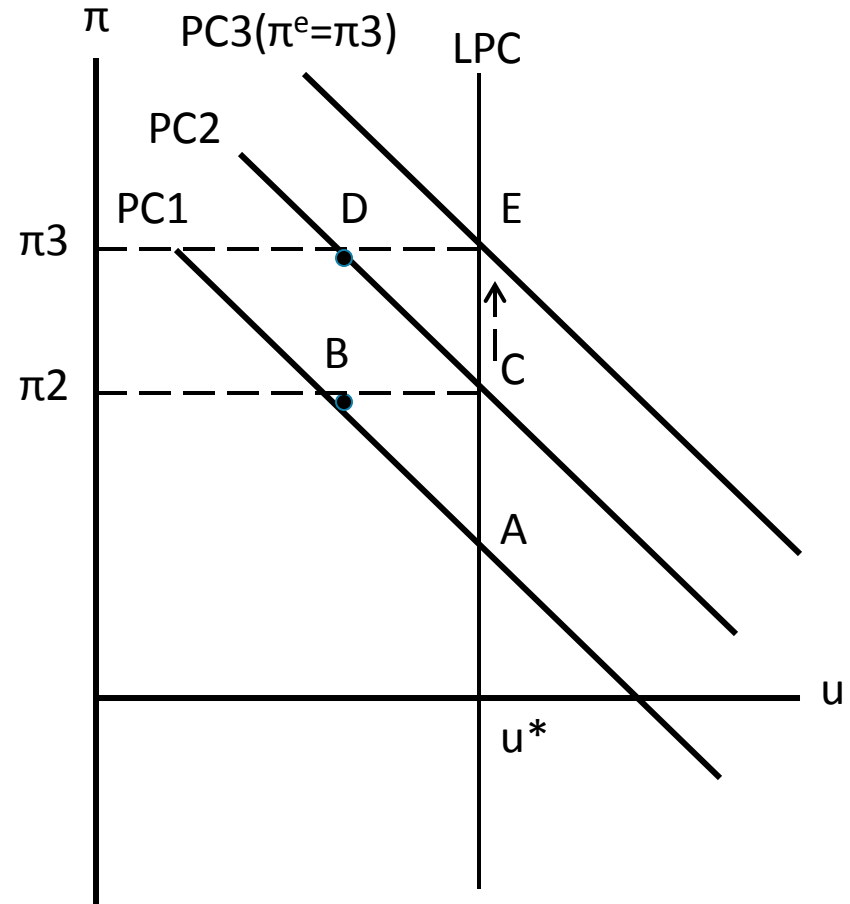
DON'T TRY TO BE TOO AMBITIOUS: SURPRISE WILL HURT!

- Attempt to surprise the market would end up badly; **wage-price-inflation spiral will occur.**
- The central bank repeats the ambitious policy; opportunistic approach and surprise the market.
- The economy moves from C to D in the short run, but to E in the long run with higher expected inflation.



DON'T TRY TO BE TOO AMBITIOUS: ANTICIPATED WILL HURT TOO!

- At C, higher money growth is anticipated.
- Workers adjust their P^e and π^e immediately.
- The real wage is the same, so employment and output are the same.
- Only higher inflation; no real effects.

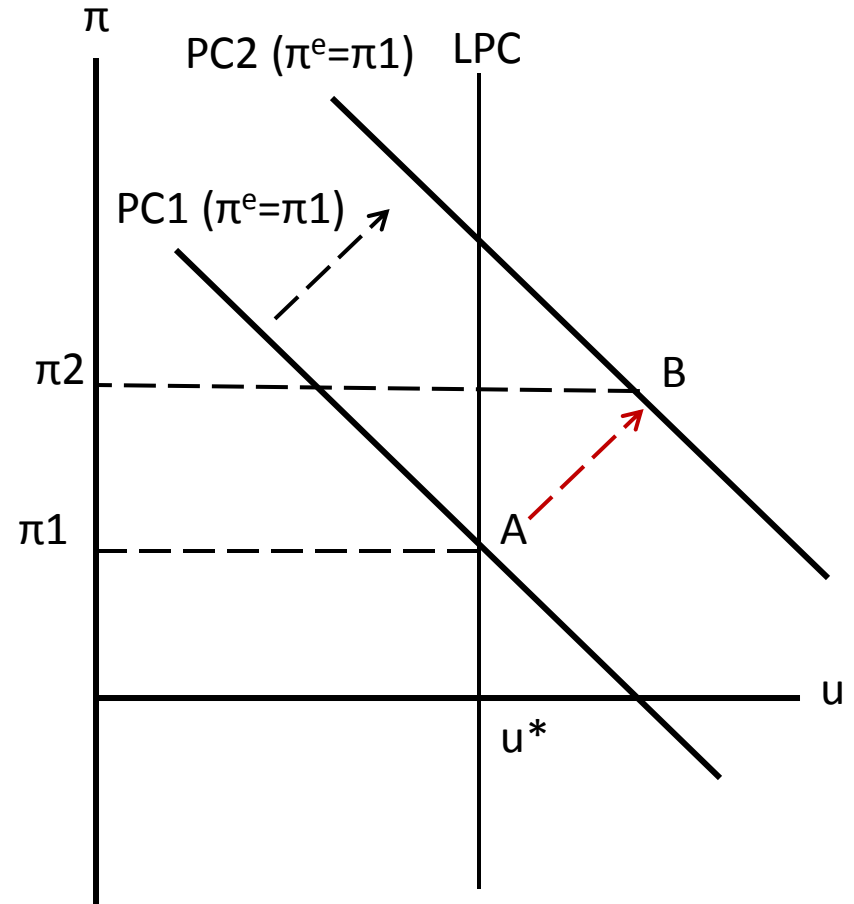


POLICY DESIGN

- As we have no real gain in the long-term, monetary policy should be a rule-based – avoiding be another source of shock
- What should be a good characteristic of the rule-based?
- Rule-based central bank should set low inflation as its primary objective – **inflation targeting!**
 - A number of studies have found a huge benefit from anchoring the inflation expectation -- keeping inflation in check or controlled
 - To successfully anchoring inflation, central bank should act tough to build the reputation
 - This will be rewarding as it helps mitigate the impact of negative supply shock

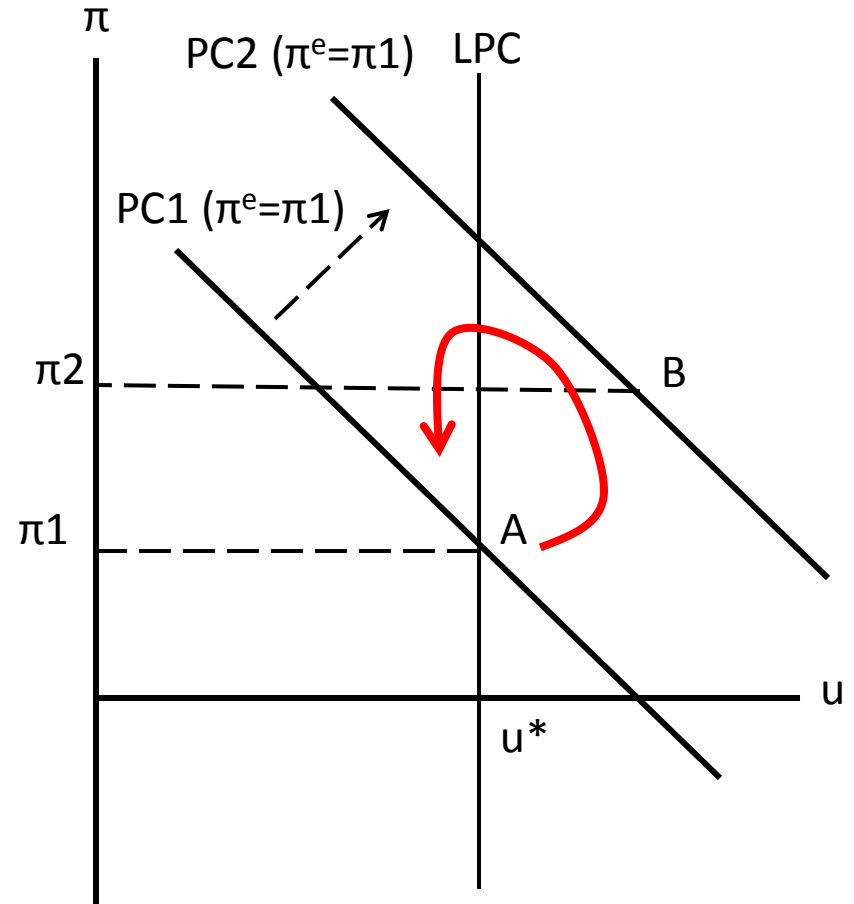
WHY ANCHORING LOW INFLATION CAN HELP MITIGATING THE EFFECT OF NEGATIVE SUPPLY SHOCKS?

- Negative shocks temporarily hit the economy (oil shock)
 - Phillips curve will temporarily shift up to PC2 ($\pi^e = \pi_1$).
- Responding to negative shocks, central bank raises the interest rate to show their commitment in keeping inflation low.
 - Stagflation problem → equilibrium is B.
 - Actual inflation rises, but not rapidly.
- Good thing: **Inflation expectation remains anchored at π_1 even the actual inflation is π_2 .**



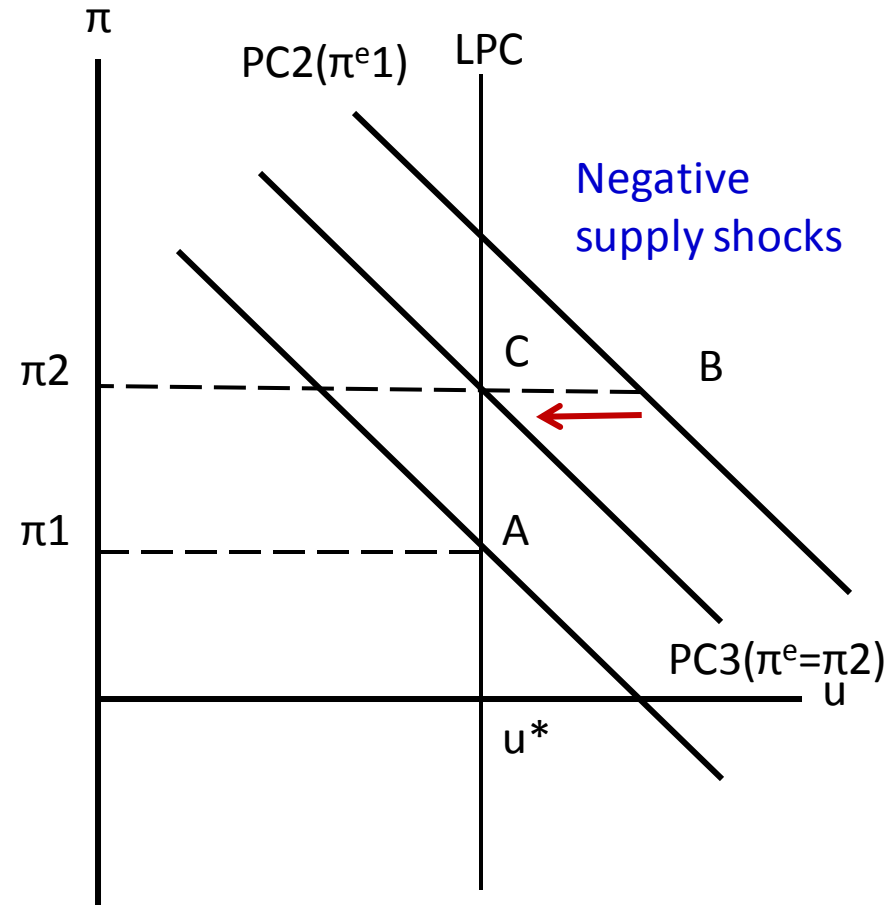
WHY ANCHORING LOW INFLATION CAN HELP MITIGATING THE EFFECT OF NEGATIVE SUPPLY SHOCKS?

- Consider **next period** when shocks have been gone; everything is back to PC1 ($\pi^e = \pi_1$)
 - This is because the inflation expectation remains anchored at π_1 , not being revised to π_2 .
 - **Return to natural equilibrium with the same level of inflation as before → A**
- Benefit from anchoring the low inflation expectation makes the transition path less painful.
 - **Benefit from a temporary stagflation**



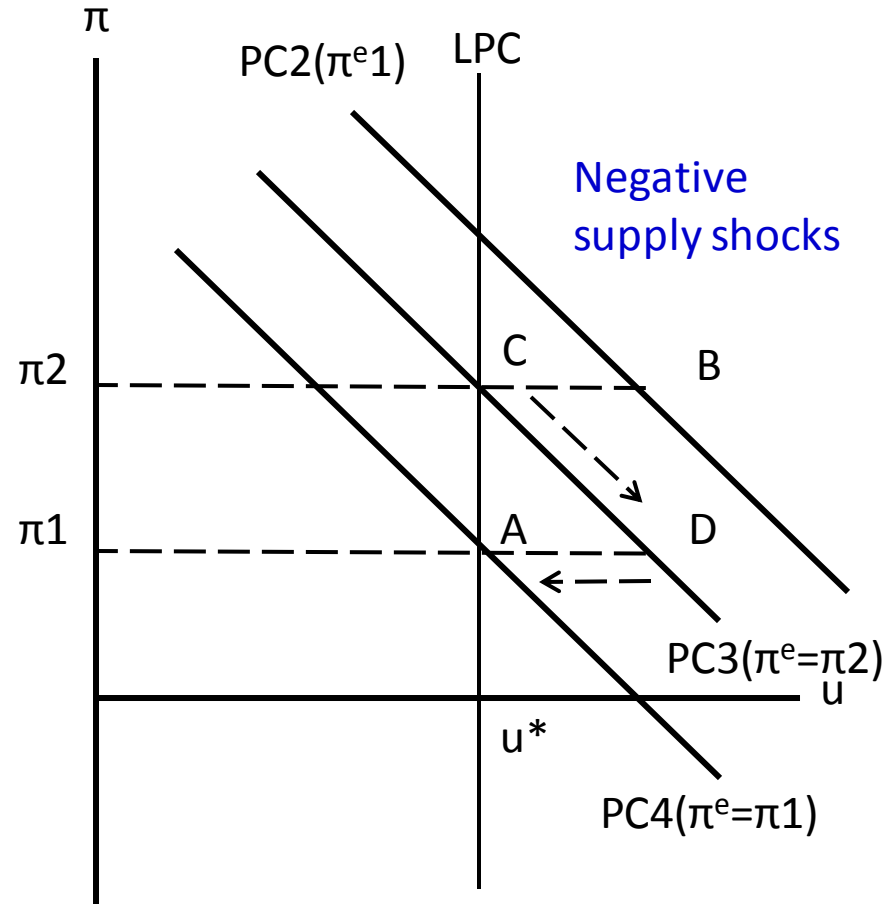
WHY ANCHORING LOW INFLATION CAN HELP MITIGATING THE EFFECT OF NEGATIVE SUPPLY SHOCKS?

- Instead, if the central bank does not commit to a low inflation, the effect of negative shocks will last, and cause high inflation economy.
- Even if the period of shocks have passed by, economy would still remain at "C" when we have high inflation ($\pi^e = \pi_2$).
- The attempt to bring down inflation would require another stagflation, i.e. require a strong medicine.



WHY ANCHORING LOW INFLATION CAN HELP MITIGATING THE EFFECT OF NEGATIVE SUPPLY SHOCKS?

- To fight the inflation, central bank must aggressively raise interest rate and show their intention to create the disinflation come down; equilibrium stagflation occurs at D
- Once public starts to believe this, inflation expectation will gradually come down, given by $PC_4(\pi^e = \pi_1)$
- However, it is more painful transition.



WHY INFLATION HAD REMAINED HIGH AFTER OIL SHOCK

- Back to the story posted earlier, why inflation had remained high after oil shock?
 - Following the Adaptive expectation, people get stigmatized with high inflation, and create high expectation.
 - Following the rational expectation, high inflation expectation occurs because of the behavior of the central bank – CB does not show a strong signal to bring the inflation down.

SUBOPTIMAL RESPONSE TO INFLATION MAKE INFLATION PERSISTS TOO LONG AND INSTABILITY

$$i_t = \text{constant} + \text{beta} * \text{inflation} + \text{gamma} * (\text{output gap})$$

	beta	Gamma
1970s (Pre-Volcker)	0.83	0.27
After 1980s (Volckey-Greenspan)	2.15	0.93

TABLE I
AGGREGATE VOLATILITY INDICATORS

	<i>Standard Deviation of:</i>			
	Inflation		Output	
	<i>Level</i>	<i>hp</i>	<i>Gap</i>	<i>hp</i>
Pre-Volcker	2.77	1.48	2.71	1.83
Volcker-Greenspan	2.18	0.96	2.36	1.49
<i>post-82</i>	1.00	0.79	2.06	1.34