

Aggregate Demand and Aggregate Supply

A review

Aggregate Demand



Aggregate demand (AD) curve: A curve that shows the relationship between the price level and the quantity of real GDP demanded by households, firms, and the government (both inside and outside of the country).

Aggregate Demand

It is determined by real GDP. Real GDP (Y) has four components:

- Consumption (C)
- Investment (I)
- Government purchases (G)
- Net exports (NX)

Y = C + I + G + NX

Most of the variables (C, I, & NX) are determined by the price level; government purchases (G) is an exception and normally determined by the decisions of policymakers.

Aggregate Demand

There are several channels that prices can use to affect real GDP and aggregate demand (AD). They are:

- The Wealth Effect
- The Interest-rate Effect
- The International-trade Effect

The Wealth Effect

The way a change in the price level affects consumption (C)

- While income affects household consumption the most, but wealth does as well.
- Some household wealth is held in *nominal assets*, so as price levels rise, the real value of household wealth declines. This results in less consumption. (Example: Price of oranges goes up; you cannot buy as many oranges as before assuming your wealth has not changed.)
- Implication: higher price level leads to lower consumption.

The Interest-rate Effect

The way a change in the price level affects investment (I)

- As prices rise, households & firms need more money to finance their buying and selling.
- Households & firms can borrow & withdraw funds from banks and/or they can sell
- financial assets such as bonds. They do this to have more funds available.
- With this though, there is an increase in the demand for money. This causes the interest rate (the price/cost of holding money) to increase and this discourages firm investment.
- Implication: higher price level leads to lower investment.

The International-trade Effect

The way a change in the price level affects net exports (NX)

- When domestic price levels increase, domestic exports become more expensive and imports become relatively cheaper.
- Fewer exports and more imports means net exports falls.
- Implication: higher price level leads to lower net exports.

Aggregate Demand



All three effects show that higher price levels lead to lower values of consumption, investment, and net exports (three of the four components of real GDP). This means that the aggregate demand curve slopes downward.

Shifts of the Aggregate Demand Curve vs. Movements along It

The aggregate demand curve shows the relationship between the price level and real GDP demanded, *holding everything else constant*.

- A movement along the AD curve will occur when the price level changes and the change in prices is *not* caused by a component of real GDP changing.
- A shift of the AD curve will occur when some component (C, I, G, & NX) of real
 GDP changes; for example, a change in government purchases.

Variables That Shift the Aggregate Demand Curve

- 1. <u>Monetary policy</u>: The actions the Federal Reserve takes to manage the money supply and interest rates to pursue macroeconomic policy objectives.
- 2. <u>Fiscal policy</u>: Changes in federal taxes and purchases that are intended to achieve macroeconomic policy objectives.
- **3.** <u>Households' or Firms' attitudes about the economy:</u> Their optimism (or pessimism) about the future increases (or decreases) consumption and/or investment.
- 4. <u>Foreign incomes:</u> If theirs rise more slowly than ours, their imports of our goods fall; if ours rise more slowly, *our* imports fall. If our *exchange rate* (the value of the \$US) rises, our exports become more expensive, so foreigners buy less of them (and we buy more imports, also) and vice versa.

Variables That Shift the Aggregate Demand Curve: Monetary Policy

An increase in	shifts the aggregate demand curve	because
interest rates	Price level AD_2 AD_1 0 Real GDP	higher interest rates raise the cost to households and firms of borrowing, reducing consumption and investment spending.
	shifts the aggregate	
A decrease in	demand curve	because
interest rates Price level 0 Real GDP		lower interest rates lower the cost to households and firms of borrowing, increasing consumption and investment spending.

Variables That Shift the Aggregate Demand Curve: Fiscal Policy - Government Purchases



A decrease in ...shifts the aggregate
demand curve ...because ...government purchasesPrice
levelPrice
levelQovernment purchases are a
component of aggregate demand.
(If G decreases, then Y does as well
since Y = C + I + G + NX).

Variables That Shift the Aggregate Demand Curve: Fiscal Policy - Personal Income Taxes

An increase in	shifts the aggregate demand curve	because
personal income taxes	Price level AD_2 AD_1 0 Real GDP	personal income decreases and consumption does as well.
	shifts the aggregate	
A decrease in	demand curve	because
personal income taxes	Price level	personal income increases and consumption does as well.

NOTE: The government can also alter its *level of government purchases*. It could also alter *business taxes*, affecting the level of investment spending.

Variables That Shift the Aggregate Demand Curve: Fiscal Policy – Attitudes of Households and Firms



Variables That Shift the Aggregate Demand Curve: Foreign Incomes

the growth rate of domestic GDP relative to the growth rate of foreign GDP decreases and/or the exchange rate (the value of the dollar) relative to foreign currencies decreases



exports will increase faster than imports, increasing net exports and/or exports will rise and imports will fall, increasing net exports.

the growth rate of domestic GDP relative to the growth rate of foreign GDP increases and/or the exchange rate (the value of the dollar) relative to foreign currencies increases



imports will increase faster than exports, reducing net exports and/or imports will rise and exports will fall, decreasing net exports.

Aggregate Supply

Aggregate supply refers to the quantity of goods and services that firms are willing and able to supply.

The relationship between this quantity and the price level is different in the long and short run. So we will have two curves:

- Long-run aggregate supply (LRAS) curve: A curve that shows the relationship in the long run between the price level and the quantity of real GDP supplied.
 - Short-run aggregate supply (SRAS) curve: A curve that shows the relationship between the price level and the quantity of goods and services firms are willing to supply, holding constant all other variables that affect the willingness of firms to supply goods and services.

Aggregate Supply



Long-run Aggregate Supply



In the long run, the level of real GDP is determined by the number of workers, the level of technology, and the capital stock (factories, machinery, etc.).

None of these elements are affected by the price level, so LRAS does not depend on the price level; it is a vertical line.

LRAS occurs at the level of potential or full-employment GDP, which typically advances each year.

NOTE: In theory it could decrease, but this would be highly unusual for a developed economy.

Short-run Aggregate Supply

The SRAS is upward-sloping. Why?

- As prices of final goods and services rise, prices of inputs—such as the wages of workers or the price of natural resources—rise more slowly.
- A secondary reason is that some firms are slow to adjust their prices when the price level rises or falls.

Economists tend to believe that some firms and workers fail to accurately predict changes in the price level. This gives three potential explanations for why the SRAS curve is upwardsloping:

- Contracts make some wages and prices "sticky".
- Firms are often slow to adjust wages.
- Menu costs make some prices sticky.

Short-run Aggregate Supply: Contracts

- Contracts make some wages and prices "sticky." Prices and wages are said to be "sticky" when they do not respond quickly to changes in demand or supply.
- Some firms and workers fail to predict price level changes, and hence do not correctly build them into long-term contracts.

Short-run Aggregate Supply: Wage Adjustment

- Firms are often slow to adjust wages
- Salary reviews typically only happen annually.
- Also, firms dislike cutting wages—it's bad for morale.

Short-run Aggregate Supply: Menu Costs

- Firms have menu costs: the costs to firms of changing prices.
- A small "optimal" change in price may not be worth the hassle for a firm to perform.

Shifts of the Short-run Aggregate Supply Curve vs. Movements along It

The short-run aggregate supply curve describes the relationship between the price level and the quantity of goods and services firms are willing to supply, holding constant all other variables that affect the willingness of firms to supply goods and services.

- A change in the price level not caused by factors that would otherwise affect short-run aggregate supply results in a movement along a stationary SRAS curve.
- But some factors (labor force, capital stock, productivity, expected future price level, workers & firms adjusting to incorrect estimations of price level, & supply shocks) cause the SRAS curve to shift.

Variables That Shift the SRAS Curve: Labor force or Capital Stock



Variables That Shift the SRAS Curve: Productivity



Variables That Shift the SRAS Curve: Expected Future Price Level



Variables That Shift the SRAS Curve: Workers & Firms adjusting to incorrect estimation of price

	shifts the short-run aggregate		
An increase in	supply curve		because
workers and firms adjusting to having previously underestimated the price	Price level	SRAS ₂ SRAS ₁	workers and firms increase wages and prices.
level		/7	
	0	Real GDP	

shifts the short-run aggregate					
An decrease in	supply curve	because			
workers and firms adjusting		workers and firms decrease			
to having previously overestimated the price level (rare)	Price level	wages and prices.			
	0 Real GD	P			

Variables That Shift the SRAS Curve: Supply shocks

	shifts the short-run aggregat	e
An increase in	supply curve	because
the expected price of an important natural resource	Price level SRAS ₂ SRAS ₁	costs of producing output rise.
	0 Real GDP	e
An decrease in	supply curve	because
the expected price of an important natural resource (rare)	Price level 0 Real GDP	costs of producing output fall.

Short-run Equilibrium



Long-run Equilibrium



Short-Run Effects of a Decrease in Aggregate Demand



Short-Run and Long-Run Effects of a Decrease in Aggregate Demand



Short-Run Effects of a Increase in Aggregate Demand



Short-Run and Long-Run Effects of a Increase in Aggregate Demand



Short-Run Effects of a Negative Supply Shock (stagflation)



Short-run and Long-run Effects of a Negative Supply Shock (stagflation)

Long-run Effect Short-run Effect 1. The recession caused by 2.... moving short-run the supply shock eventually equilibrium to point B, with leads to falling wages and lower real GDP and a higher prices, shifting SRAS back price level. to its original position. Price level LRAS Price level LRAS (GDP deflator, SRAS₂ (GDP deflator, SRAS₂ 2009 = 100)SRAS1 2009 = 100)SRAS₁ В В 112 1. An increase in 112 2. Equilibrium moves from oil prices shifts 110 point B to potential GDP 110 SRAS to the left ... at the original price level. AD AD \$16.7 17.0 Real GDP 0 \$16.7 17.0 Real GDP 0 (trillions of 2009 dollars) (trillions of 2009 dollars)