

Intermediate Macroeconomics 311-1 (Professor Christiano)
Solution to Homework 1

QUESTION 2, Page 56 in Blanchard's text-book

(a)

$$Y_D = Y - T = Y - 100$$

$$\text{Agg. Demand} = Z = C + I + G = 160 + 0.6(Y - 100) + 150 + 150 = 400 + 0.6Y$$

$$\text{Equilibrium: } Z = Y$$

$$Y = 400 + 0.6Y$$

$$Y = 1000$$

(b)

$$Y_D = Y - 100 = 900$$

(c)

$$C = 160 + 0.6 \cdot 900 = 700$$

QUESTION 3, Page 56 in Blanchard's text-book

(a)

From the previous question, aggregate demand is: $Z = 400 + 0.6Y$

When $Y = 900$, $Z = 940$.

So, there is excess demand at that level of production.

(b)

We know from question 2 that Y is the equilibrium level of output. Starting from $Y=940$, as we increase Y by one dollar amounts, demand increases by less than one dollar (ie: by 0.6 dollars). So, excess demand falls as we increase production. Excess demand is 0 at $Y=1000$.

(c)

$$\text{Private savings} = Y_D - C.$$

In equilibrium [from question 1], private savings are equal to 200. Investment is equal 150, so private savings are *higher* than investment.

For the economy, it has to be the case that Total Savings = Investment, where Total Savings = Private Savings + Public Savings.

In this case, Public Savings = $T - G = -50$.

QUESTION 4, Page 56 in Blanchard's text-book

(a)

Share of different components in GDP: question 2 vs data (1998)

Consumption: 70% (68 % in data)

Investment: 15% (15 % in data)

Gov. Expenditure: 15% (18 % in data)

(b)

In the 1990-91 recession, real GDP fell by 2 % (6171 in 90:2 to 6047 in 91:1).

(c)

In terms of c_0 , equilibrium output is equal to:

$$Y^{eq} = (1 / 0.4) (c_0 + 240)$$

If we want to make Y^{eq} equal to 980 (a 2% reduction of the initial equilibrium output = 1000), we have to solve for c_0 in the following equation:

$$980 = (1 / 0.4) (c_0 + 240), \text{ so } c_0 = 0.4 * 980 - 240 = 152. \text{ So, } c_0 \text{ should fall by 8.}$$

(d)

The change in c_0 is lower than the resulting change in output. This is due to the multiplier effect.