Eco 242 Macroeconomic Theory and Policy

The Extended IS-LM Model

with risk premia and nominal versus real interest rates Based on Blanchard, 7th edition, chapter 6

The Fisher Equation

$$r_t = i_t - \pi_{t+1}^e \quad \Longleftrightarrow \quad i_t = r_t + \pi_{t+1}^e$$

Risk and Risk Premia

Let *i* be the nominal interest rate on a riskless bond, and i + x be the nominal interest rate on a risky bond, which is a bond which has probability *p* of defaulting. Call *x* the risk premium. Then, to get the same expected return on the risky bonds as on the riskless bond, the following relation must hold:

$$(1+i) = (1-p)(1+i+x) + p(0).$$

Reorganizing the above gives:

$$x = \frac{(1+i)p}{(1-p)}.$$

An example: Let i = 3%, and p = 5%, then from the above formula we get, x = 5.42%.

Extending the IS-LM

IS relation:

 $Y = C(Y - T) + I(Y, i - \pi^e + x) + G + NX.$ LM relation: $i = \overline{i}$.

However, "although the central bank formally chooses the nominal interest rate, it can choose it in such a way as to achieve the real interest rate it wants". (This ignores the issue of zero lower bound—to be discussed.)

