

# Interactive macroeconomics

## a pluralist simulator

### An interactive model simulator for macroeconomics

- We are developing an interactive online textbook with an integrated model simulator for macroeconomics.
- Competing economic theories and their economic policy recommendations are presented in a controversial way.
- The assignment of different theoretical and economic policy concepts to different theoretical schools provides an overview of competing macroeconomic paradigms.



### Understanding macroeconomic models actively

- Students can take on the role of economic policy: they decide on monetary, fiscal and wage policy.
- In different model worlds their decisions have different effects.
- The theoretical basics are explained step by step in the accompanying online text.
- Starting with simple macroeconomic models, which are gradually extended, students can understand the theoretical foundations of economic policy discussions.

### Our motivation

In recent years, the use of digital instruments in macroeconomic education has increased significantly. A number of interactive applications have been developed by universities, central banks and other institutions. In such platforms, users are encouraged to play an active role in economic decisions, where the outcome and consequences of the measures taken are immediately displayed numerically and graphically.

The direct simulation of the consequences of macroeconomic decisions facilitates the learning process and provides a practical representation of the discipline, its instruments and objectives. Although they are easy to use and quick to understand for the general public, the macroeconomic simulators available so far lack a clear discussion of the economic theory behind their construction and present the results obtained by the users as an univocal and thus unavoidable outcome.

**In contrast, the aim of our project is to present an innovative interactive tool for macroeconomic education at the bachelor and master level. We exploit the capabilities of a digital learning platform to present and explore the model-theoretic foundations of controversies in macroeconomic policy .**

### The project

We explicitly present competing economic paradigms and their respective economic policy recommendations with interactive graphs and charts that respond and update to the user's actions. Mainly, we introduce two schools of thought: the New Keynesian and the post-Keynesian school.

Our work consists of two building blocks. The platform itself, where the graphs are shown and where the user has full control over model parameters and economic policy, and the interactive textbook, where parallel to the explanation, interactive applications for selected components of the full model are available.

Several interactive scenarios will also be playable (e.g. recession, financial crisis, ecological targets, etc.). In the scenarios, the user will take control over different economic policy instruments and will be guided through a set of problems that require appropriate actions. Which measures are appropriate depends, of course, always on the underlying theory.

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[mgwk.de](http://mgwk.de)

Questions or suggestions? Please feel free to contact us.  
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