Changing Monetary Transmission Mechanism in Thailand

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Plan of Presentation

- What is Transmission Mechanism?
- Transmission mechanism in Thailand
 - under fixed exchange rate regime
 - under floating exchange rate regime
- Inflation targeting and effectiveness of the transmission mechanism

Chain of Developments

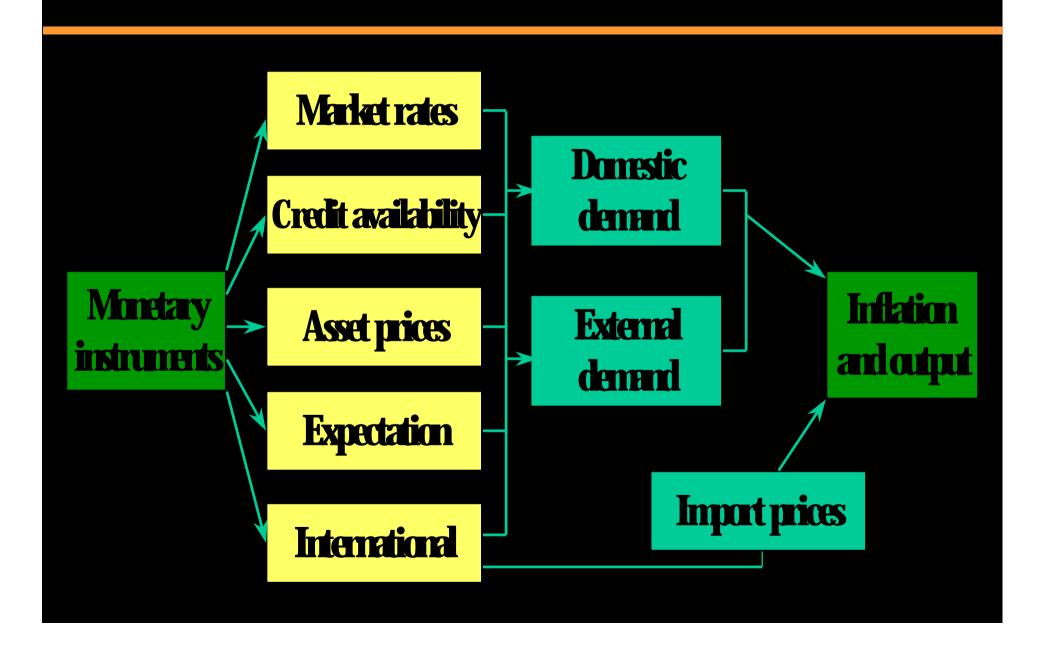
1 BOT

2 Financial Markets

3 Aggregate Spending

Inflation and Output

Transmission Mechanism in General



Transmission Mechanism under Fixed Exchange Rate Regime

- Monetary policy was not effective
- Domestic interest rates were influenced by external interest rates
- Continued credit expansion was the impetus responsible for economic growth before 1997

Figure 1: Domestic Interest Rate and LIBOR 1M

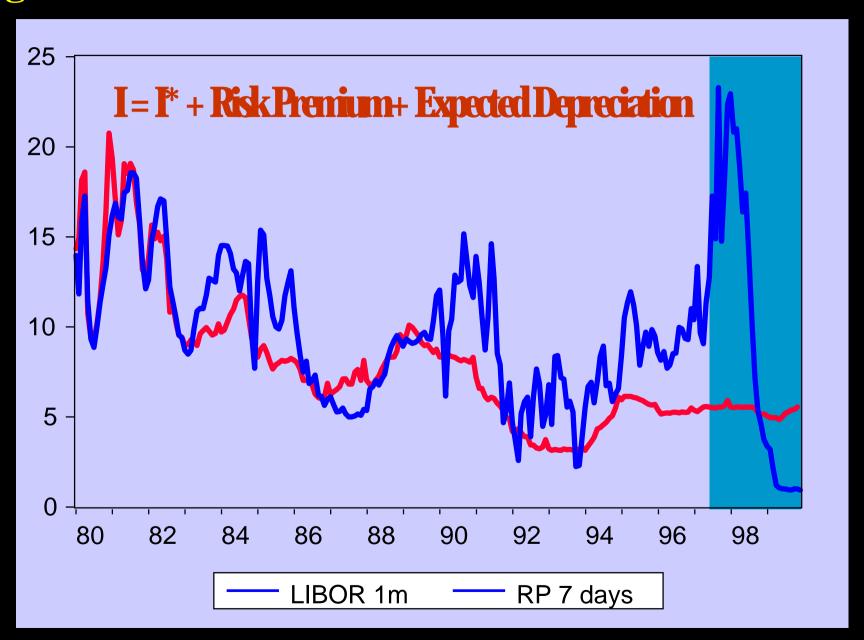


Figure 2: Impulse-Responses Functions

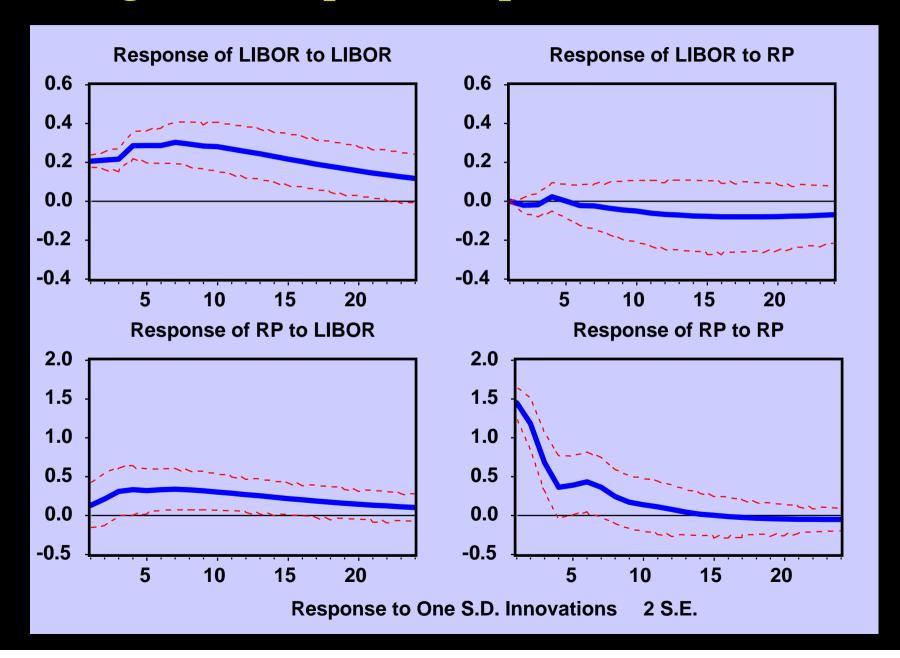


Figure 3: Credit Growth and Private Investment Index

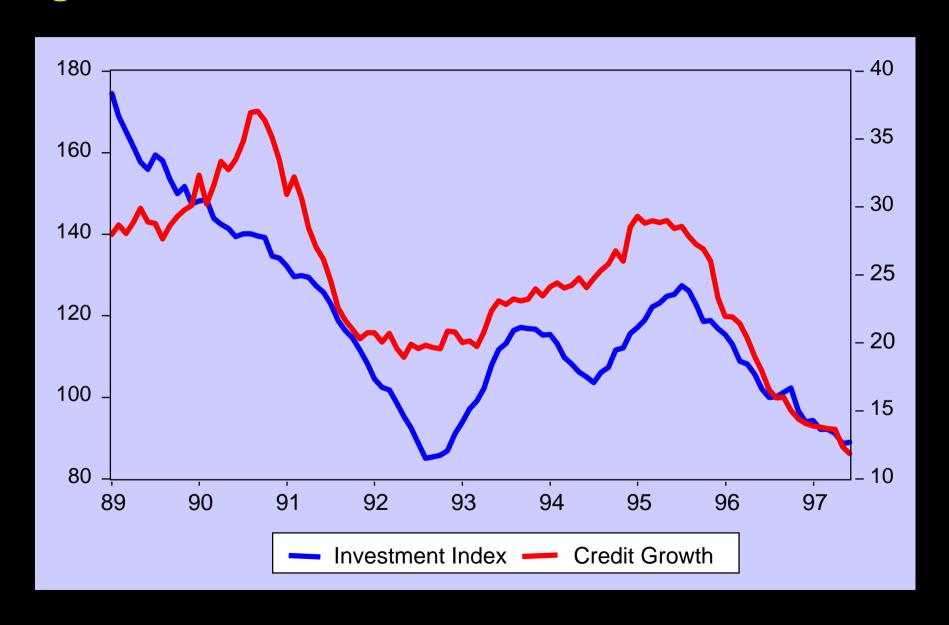
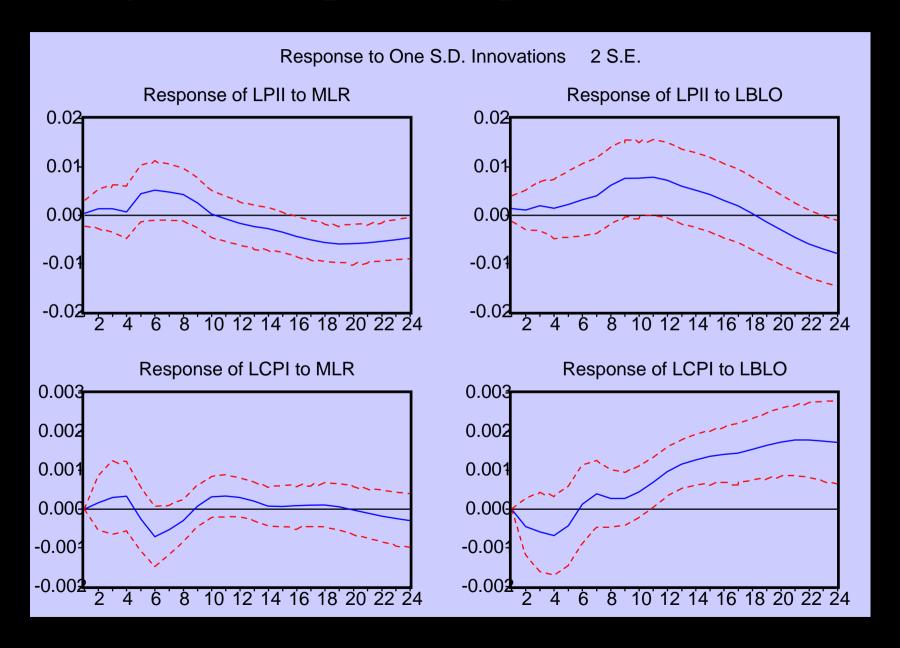


Figure 4: Impulse-Responses Functions



Transmission Mechanism under Floating Exchange Rate Regime

- Thailand has regained autonomy over her monetary policy
- Short-term domestic interest rates can now move more freely
- Interest rate channel will become a critical channel of the monetary transmission mechanism

Short-Term Interest Rates under Floating Exchange Rate Regime

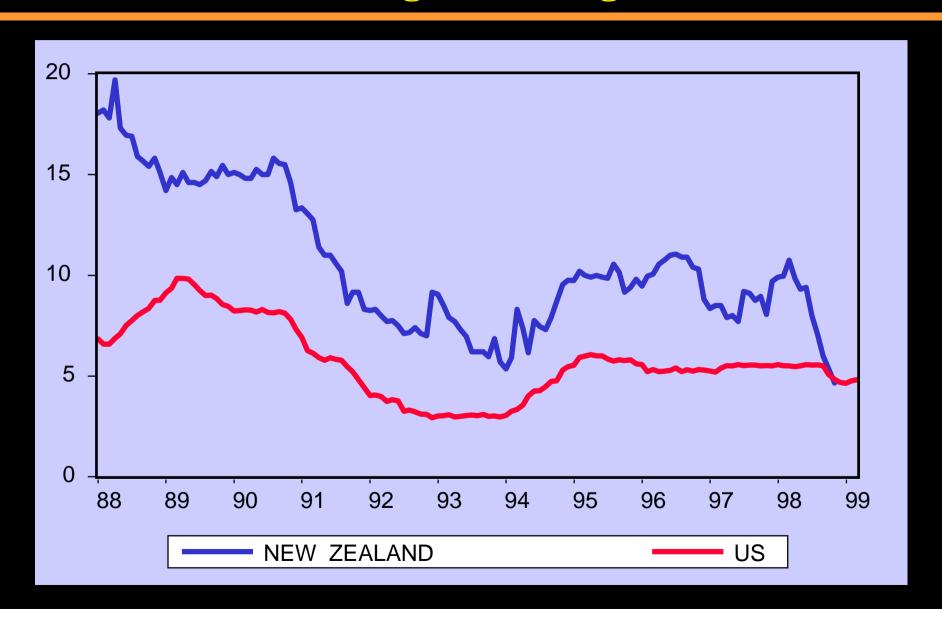
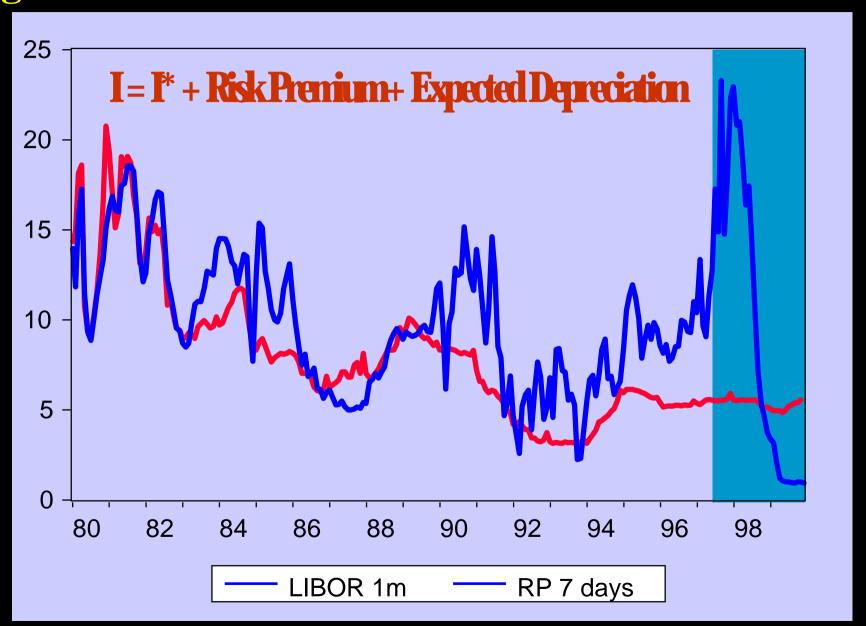
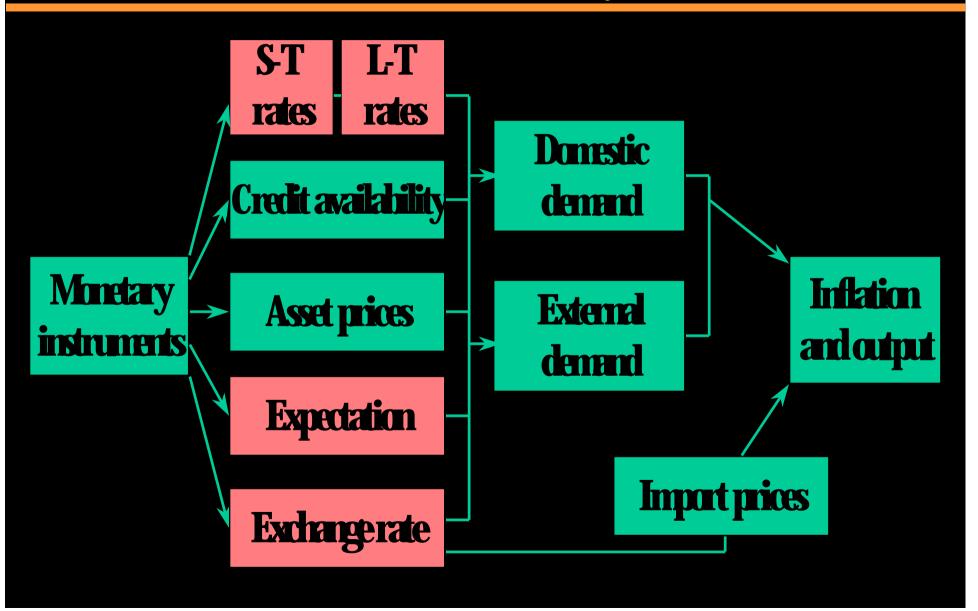


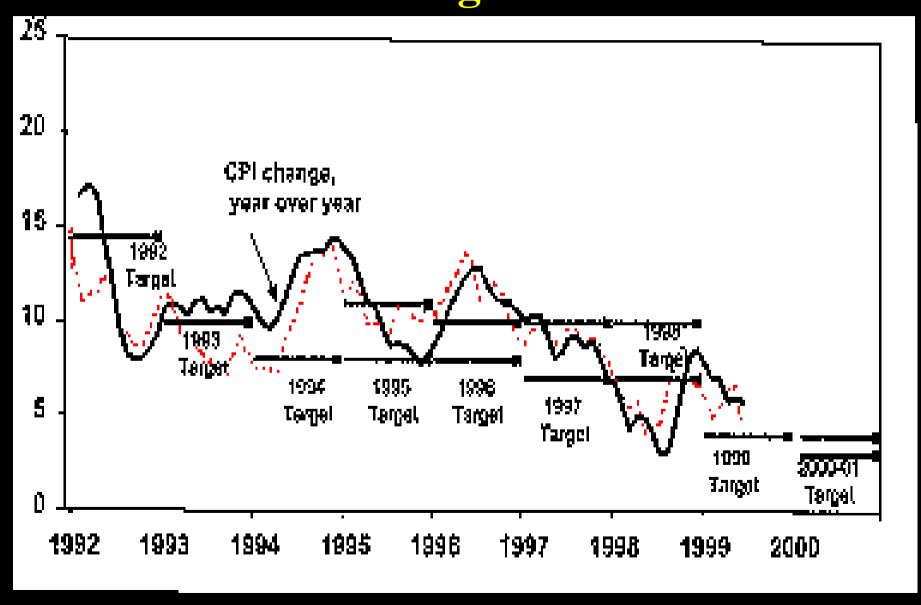
Figure 5: Domestic Interest Rate and LIBOR 1M



New and Improved Channels of Transmission Mechanism after July 1997



Inflation expectation and Actual inflation in Israel during 1992-1999



Inflation Targeting Framework and Effectiveness of Transmission Mechanism

Features

- Using short-term rates as policy rate
- Announced inflation target and forecast
- Greater transparency of monetary policy

Benefits

- Closer linkagesbetween interest rates
- An anchor for inflation expectation
- Reduction in policy uncertainty

Conclusion

- The structure of monetary transmission mechanism has changed following the switch of the exchange rate regime
- Domestic short-term interest rates can now move more freely <u>and</u> interest rate channel will become a critical component of the transmission mechanism
- Greater transparency under inflation targeting framework will increase efficiency of the transmission mechanism