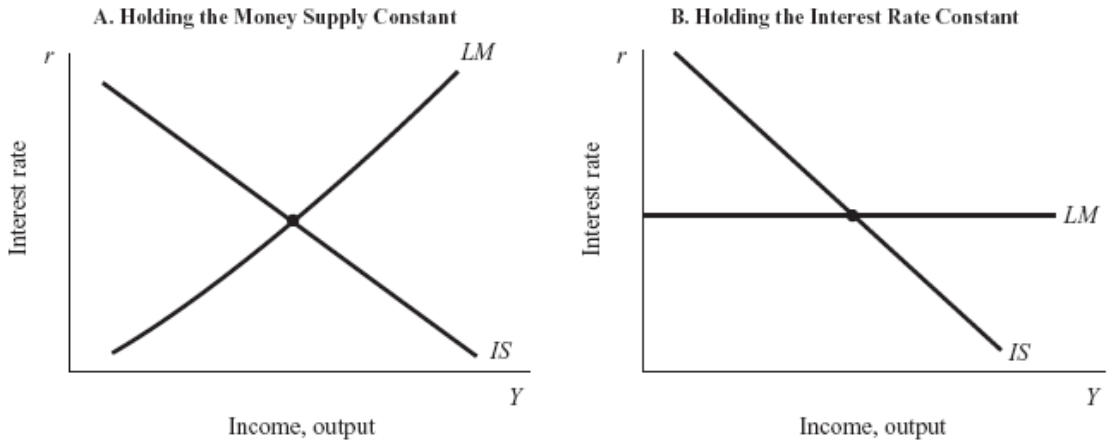
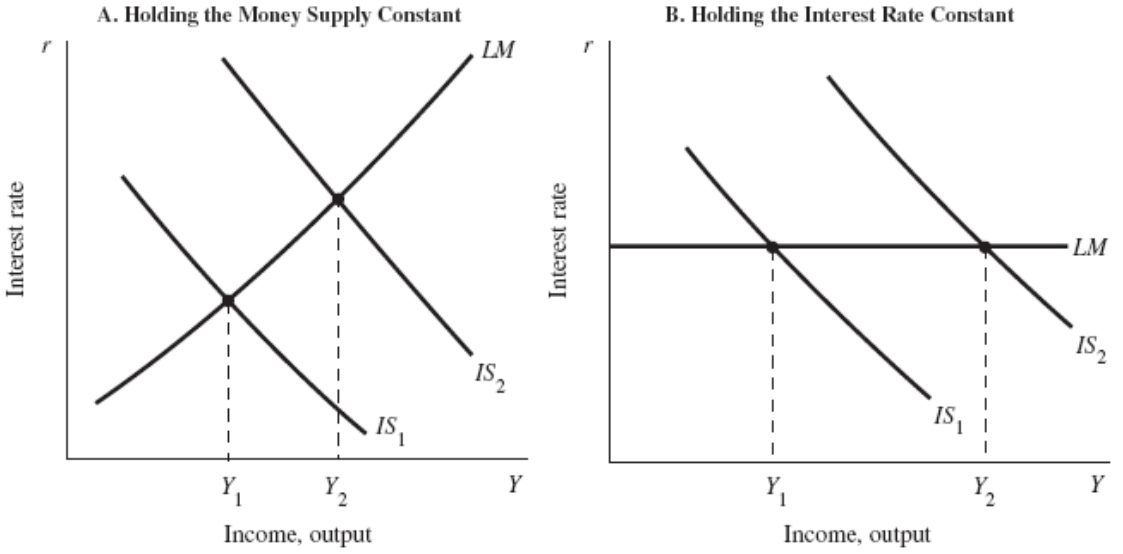
7. Figure 11–25(A) shows what the *IS–LM* model looks like for the case in which the Fed holds the money supply constant. Figure 11–25(B) shows what the model looks like if the Fed adjusts the money supply to hold the interest rate constant; this policy makes the effective *LM* curve horizontal.

Figure 11–25



a. If all shocks to the economy arise from exogenous changes in the demand for goods and services, this means that all shocks are to the *IS* curve. Suppose a shock causes the *IS* curve to shift from IS_1 to IS_2. Figures 11–26(A) and (B) show what effect this has on output under the two policies. It is clear that output fluctuates less if the Fed follows a policy of keeping the money supply constant. Thus, if all shocks are to the *IS* curve, then the Fed should follow a policy of keeping the money supply constant.

Figure 11–26



b. If all shocks in the economy arise from exogenous changes in the demand for money, this means that all shocks are to the *LM* curve. If the Fed follows a policy of adjusting the money supply to keep the interest rate constant, then the *LM* curve does not shift in response to these shocks—the Fed immediately adjusts the money supply to keep the money market in equilibrium. Figures 11–27(A) and (B) show the effects of the two policies. It is clear that output fluctuates less if the Fed holds the interest rate constant, as in Figure 11–27(B). If the Fed holds the interest rate constant and offsets shocks to money demand by changing the money supply, then all variability in output is eliminated. Thus, if all shocks are to the *LM* curve, then the Fed should adjust the money supply to hold the interest rate constant, thereby stabilizing output.

Figure 11–27