

Breaking Parity: Equilibrium exchange rates and currency premia

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Presented by Robin Li

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- Research question: **What drives exchange rate?**
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 - ⇒ ER must correlate strongly w CIP and UIP wedges (capture demand and supply)
 - ⇒ *Regardless of shifts are driven by fundamental or non-fundamental shocks*
 - ⇒ **Provide a unifying theory that explains joint dynamics of UIP, CIP, spot/fwd ER**

Findings

- (log-linear) **UIP**: $\mathbb{E}_t[e_{t+1}] - e_t = i_t - i_t^*$; **CIP**: $f_t^{t+1} - e_t = i_t - i_t^*$; $e_t \equiv$ per USD

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 - ⇒ CIP premia variations driven by global financial condition
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- ⇒ **Currency net demand volatile $\Rightarrow$ ER “excess” volatile from frictional interm.**

Model of Currency Intermediation

Model - Global Intermediary Bank's Balance Sheet

Table 1: International Bank: the Balance Sheet

Assets		Liabilities	
$B_t^* \geq 0 : \underline{R}_t^*$	\$ reserves	net worth	$W_t^* :$
$H_t^* \geq 0 : \tilde{R}_{t+1}^*$	\$ risky investment	borrowing in \$	$D_t^* : R_t^*$
$A_t^* : R_t \frac{\mathcal{E}_t}{\mathcal{E}_{t+1}}$	LC investment (\$ value)		

Off balance sheet (zero-wealth positions)			
$F_t^* : \frac{R_t \mathcal{E}_t}{\mathcal{F}_t} \left(\frac{\mathcal{F}_t}{\mathcal{E}_{t+1}} - 1 \right)$	currency forward		
$S_t^* : R_t^* - R_t \frac{\mathcal{E}_t}{\mathcal{S}_t}$	currency swap		

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- $F_t^* > 0 \equiv$ **sell** \$ fowards at $\mathcal{F}_t$; for every \$ at t; earns $\frac{R_t \mathcal{E}_t}{\mathcal{E}_{t+1}} - \frac{R_t \mathcal{E}_t}{\mathcal{F}_t}$ in t+1

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- $S_t^* > 0 \equiv$ swaps \$ for $\mathcal{E}_t$ LC at t; swap cash flow + principal $(R_t^* - R_t \frac{\mathcal{E}_t}{S_t})$ at t+1

Model - Global Intermediary Bank's Net Worth

- Bank's period $t + 1$ net worth (in \$)

$$W_{t+1}^* = \underline{R}_t^* B_t^* + \tilde{R}_{t+1}^* H_t^* + R_t \frac{\mathcal{E}_t}{\mathcal{E}_{t+1}} A_t^* - R_t^* D_t^* + R_t \frac{\mathcal{E}_t}{\mathcal{F}_t} \left(\frac{\mathcal{F}_t}{\mathcal{E}_{t+1}} - 1 \right) F_t^* + \left(R_t^* - R_t \frac{\mathcal{E}_t}{S_t} \right) S_t^*$$

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⇒ UIP premium: risk of the LC depreciation (an increase in $\mathcal{E}_{t+1}$)

Model - Bank's Problem

- **Bank's pb:** for given $\{\underline{R}_t^*, R_t^*, R_t, \tilde{R}_{t+1}^*, \mathcal{E}_t, \mathcal{F}_t\}$, maximize PDV of net worth

$$\max_{\{B_t^* \geq 0, H_t^* \geq 0, X_t^*, Z_t^*\}} \mathbb{E}_t \Theta_{t+1} W_{t+1}^*$$

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$$\text{(balance-sheet constraint - BSC) } B_t^* \geq a_t H_t^* + b_t |Z_t^*| + \delta |X_t^*|$$

$$\text{where } a_t = \frac{\alpha}{2} \frac{H_t^*}{W_t^*}, \quad b_t \equiv \frac{\gamma}{2} \frac{\sigma_t |Z_t|}{W_t^*}, \quad \sigma_t^2 \equiv R_t^2 \cdot \text{var}_t(\mathcal{E}_t / \mathcal{E}_{t+1}), \quad |X_t^*| \leq \bar{X}^*$$

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- Coefficients $\alpha, \gamma, \delta > 0$ reflect regulation and value-at-risk considerations
 - Required reserves: costly when $\underline{R}_t^* < R_t^*$; more when higher $H^* > 0$ and $|Z_t^*|$
 - **value-at-risk:** pass-through of ER vol on net worth vol $\frac{\partial (W_{t+1}^* / W_t^*)}{\partial (\mathcal{E}_t / \mathcal{E}_{t+1})} = R_t \frac{Z_t^*}{W_t^*}$
 $\Rightarrow$ additional exposure $|Z_t^*| \Rightarrow \uparrow$ contribution to vol. $W_{t+1}^* \Rightarrow \uparrow \propto \left\{ \frac{H_t^*}{W_t^*}, \sigma_t \frac{|Z_t^*|}{W_t^*} \right\}$
 - $|X_t^*|$ carries only counterparty risk $\Rightarrow$ value at risk $\uparrow$ linearly with exposure

Model - Bank's Problem continued

- **Assumption 1:** $\underline{R}_t^* < R_t^*$ and $\mathbb{E}_t[\Theta_{t+1}\tilde{R}_{t+1}] > 1$, $\frac{\mu_t}{R_t^*} :=$ Lag. multiplier on BSC

Proposition 1: Under A1, $\mu_t = R_t^* - \underline{R}_t^* > 0$, then BSC is binding

- $\Rightarrow$ swap exchange rate equals the forward exchange rate $\mathcal{S}_t = \mathcal{F}_t$;
- $\Rightarrow$ supply schedules for spot and forward currency are:

$$\overline{\text{UIP}}_t \equiv \mathbb{E}_t \left[\frac{\Theta_{t+1}}{\mathbb{E}_t \Theta_{t+1}} \text{UIP}_{t+1} \right] = \gamma \mu_t \frac{\sigma_t Z_t^*}{W_t^*}; \quad \text{CIP}_t = \delta \mu_t \cdot \text{sign}(X_t^*) \quad \text{for } |X_t^*| \leq \bar{X}^*$$

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- Shadow cost of $\uparrow$ exposure $|Z_t^*| \Rightarrow B_t^*$ convex in $|Z_t^*|$, $\overline{\text{UIP}}$ linear in $\frac{\sigma_t Z_t^*}{W_t^*}$
 - $\Rightarrow A_t^*, F_t^*$ need $\overline{\text{UIP}} \equiv R_t \frac{\mathcal{E}_t}{\mathcal{E}_t} - R_t^*, \frac{1}{\mathcal{E}_t} = \left(\mathbb{E}_t \frac{\Theta_{t+1}}{\mathbb{E}_t \Theta_{t+1}} \mathcal{E}_{t+1}^{-1} \right)$ risk-neutral expt. future spot
 - $\Rightarrow F_t^*$ require additional CIP premium $\Rightarrow \text{return} = \overline{\text{UIP}}_t + \text{CIP}_t = R_t \mathcal{E}_t \left(\frac{1}{\mathcal{E}_t} - \frac{1}{\mathcal{F}_t} \right)$

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- Shadow cost of expanding $|X^*|$ (requiring one \$ reserves B_t^*) = μ_t
 - $\Rightarrow$ only counterparty risk $\Rightarrow$ reserves $\uparrow \propto |X_t^*| \Rightarrow$ CIP constant per $|X_t^*|$ & same sign
 - $\Rightarrow X_t^* = \bar{X}^* \cdot \text{sign}(\text{CIP}_t)$, when $|\text{CIP}_t| > \delta \mu_t$; $X_t^* = 0$ when $|\text{CIP}_t| < \delta \mu_t$

Model - Currency Market Equilibrium

- Bank i with exogenous BSC parameters $\{\gamma_{i,t}, \delta_{i,t}\}$, endo. $\{W_{i,t}^*, X_{i,t}^*, Z_{i,t}^*\}$.
- Denote Z_t^* and X_t^* agg. demand to sell currency risk and buy currency swaps
 - $Z_t^* \equiv A_t^* + F_t^*$; $F_t^* :=$ demand buy \$ forwards; $A_t^* :=$ excess demand LC invest.
 - $X_t^* \equiv F_t^* + S_t^*$; $S_t^* :=$ demand to swap dollars for local currency
- In equilibrium, dealer banks clear/intermediate the currency market

$$Z_t^* = \sum_i (A_{i,t}^* + F_{i,t}^*) \quad (\text{unhedged}) \quad \text{and} \quad X_t^* = \sum_i (F_{i,t}^* + S_{i,t}^*) \quad (\text{hedged})$$

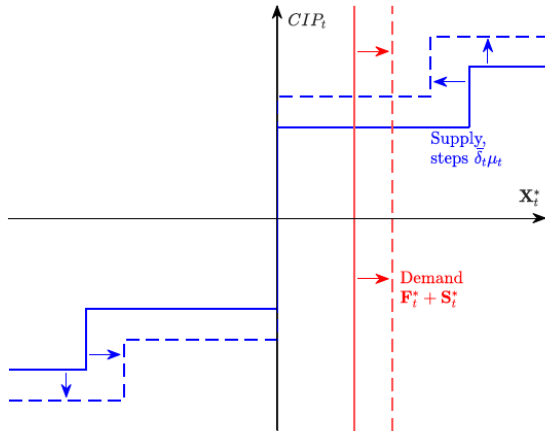
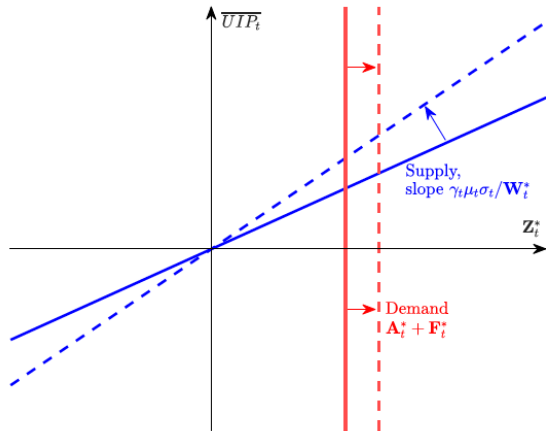
- **Proposition:** Eqm UIP & CIP premia as functions of agg. FX demand $\{Z_t^*, X_t^*\}$

$$\overline{\text{UIP}}_t = R_t \frac{\varepsilon_t}{\varepsilon_t^*} - R_t^* = \bar{\gamma}_t \mu_t \sigma_t \cdot \frac{Z_t^*}{W_t^*}; \quad \text{CIP}_t = R^* - R_t \frac{\varepsilon_t}{\varepsilon_t^*} = \bar{\delta}_t \mu_t \text{sign}(X_t^*)$$
 - $W_t^* = \sum_i W_{i,t}^*$ agg. NW of banks; $\bar{\gamma}_t \equiv (\sum_i \frac{W_{i,t}^* / \gamma_{i,t}}{W_t^*})^{-1}$; $\bar{\delta}_t = \delta_{i,t}$ tightness BCS
 - $\mu_t :=$ overall tightened funding constraints; $\bar{\delta}_t \mu_t :=$ agg. financial condition

Model - Currency Market Eqm Illustration

$$\overline{UIP}_t = \bar{\gamma}_t \mu_t \sigma_t \cdot \frac{Z_t^*}{W_t^*}$$

$$CIP_t = \bar{\delta} \mu_t \text{sign}(X_t^*)$$



Model - Summary & Testable Implications

- **Panel** of currencies k : recall $\mu_t = R_t^* - \underline{R}_t^* > 0$, common across currencies

$$\overline{\text{UIP}}_{kt} = R_{kt} \frac{\mathcal{E}_{kt}}{\hat{\mathcal{E}}_{kt}} - R_{kt}^* = \bar{\gamma}_{kt} \mu_t \sigma_{kt} \cdot \frac{\mathbb{Z}_{kt}^*}{\mathbb{W}_{kt}^*}; \quad \text{CIP}_{kt} = R^* - R_{kt} \frac{\mathcal{E}_{kt}}{\mathcal{F}_{kt}} = \bar{\delta} \mu_t \cdot \text{sign}(\mathbb{X}_{kt}^*)$$

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- **Cross section:** currencies w excess supply of LC savings $\mathbb{A}_{kt}^* < 0$, e.g. JPY
 - **(A2)** in the long run, $\mathbb{E}\left\{\frac{\mathcal{E}_{kt}}{\mathcal{E}_{kt+1}}\right\} \approx 1 \Rightarrow$ NER follows martingale $\Rightarrow$ interest rate
 - **(A3)** currency with systematic local-currency funding abundance i.e. $\mathbb{A}_{kt}^* < 0$
 (a) $R_{kt} < R_t^*$; (b) x-demand LC forward $\mathbb{F}_{kt}^* < 0$; (c) x-demand \$ swaps $\mathbb{S}_{kt}^* < 0$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbb{E}\{\overline{\text{UIP}}_{kt}\} = \mathbb{E}\{R_{kt} - R_t^*\} < 0; \quad \text{CIP}_{kt} = R_t^* - R_{kt} \frac{\mathcal{E}_{kt}}{\mathcal{F}_{kt}} < 0 \Rightarrow \frac{\mathcal{F}_{kt}}{\mathcal{E}_{kt}} < \frac{R_{kt}}{R_t^*} < 1$$

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- **Panel** of currencies k : recall $\mu_t = R_t^* - \underline{R}_t^* > 0$, common across currencies

$$\overline{\text{UIP}}_{kt} = R_{kt} \frac{\mathcal{E}_{kt}}{\hat{\mathcal{E}}_{kt}} - R_{kt}^* = \bar{\gamma}_{kt} \mu_t \sigma_{kt} \cdot \frac{\mathbb{Z}_{kt}^*}{\mathbb{W}_{kt}^*}; \quad \text{CIP}_{kt} = R^* - R_{kt} \frac{\mathcal{E}_{kt}}{\mathcal{F}_{kt}} = \bar{\delta} \mu_t \cdot \text{sign}(\mathbb{X}_{kt}^*)$$

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- **Time series** small LC demand shock $df_{kt}^* \equiv$ purchase \$ $\Rightarrow \frac{d\mathbb{Z}_{kt}^*}{df_{kt}^*} > 0, \frac{d\mathbb{X}_{kt}^*}{df_{kt}^*} > 0$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d\overline{\text{UIP}}_{kt}}{df_{kt}^*} > 0, \frac{d\text{CIP}_{kt}}{df_{kt}^*} = 0; \quad + \text{ shock } d\mu_t > 0 \Rightarrow \frac{d|\overline{\text{UIP}}_{kt}|}{d\mu_t} > 0 \propto \mathbb{A}_{kt}^*, \frac{d|\text{CIP}_{kt}|}{d\mu_t} > 0$$

Empirical Results

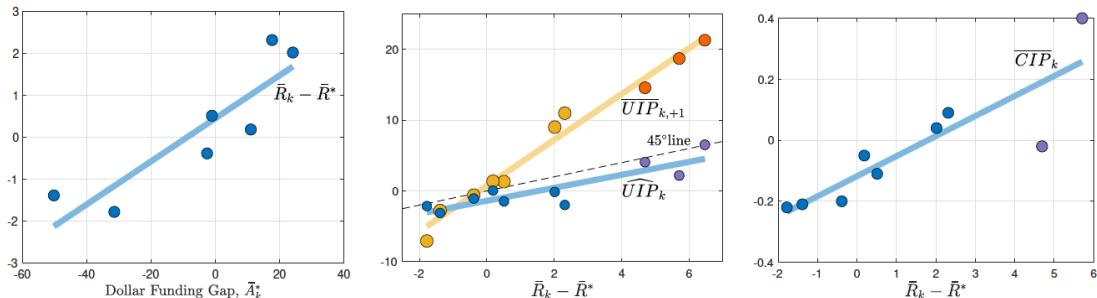
Empirics - Data

- Dealer banks' net FX futures position from CFTC's TFF weekly report (CME)
 - G7 (JPY, CHF, EUR, GBP, CAD, AUD, NZD) + & 4 EMs (MXN, ZAR, BRL, RUB)
 - Dealer, Asset Manager, Leveraged Funds, and Other (e.g. corporate treasurers)
 - Coverage: June 2006 to August 2024
- Dealers' net futures position, scaled by market size: t = month; k = currency

$$f_{kt}^* = 100 \cdot \frac{\text{Dealer Net Position}_{kt}}{\frac{1}{12} \sum_{j=0}^{11} \text{Open Interest}_{k,t+1}}, \quad \text{std}(\Delta f_{kt}^*) \approx 20$$

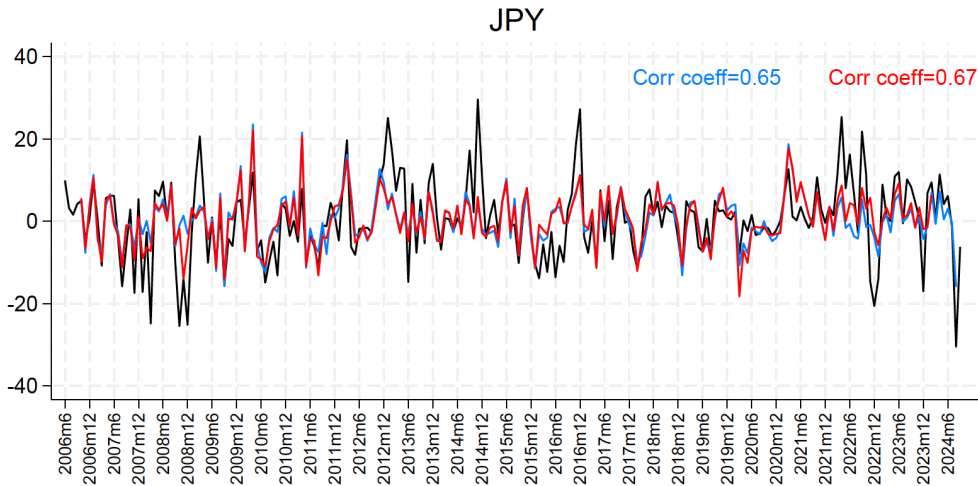
- $f_{kt}^* > 0$ mean dealer banks long FX currency k futures and short \$ futures;
 - variation in f_{kt}^* from net position in numerator
- Various conventional measures of financial and dollar cycles:
 - interest rates, VIX, broad dollar index, treasury basis, intermediary wealth

Empirics - Cross-section of Currency Returns



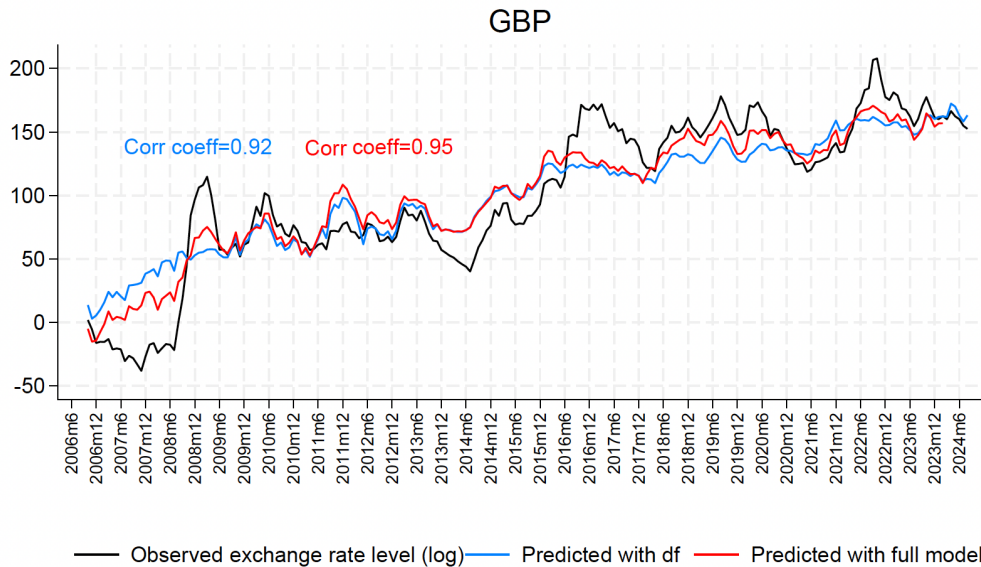
- Countries with excess supply of LC savings have low nominal interest rate
- Countries with high LC rates, feature UIP deviations $\propto$ interest rate differential
- Same is true for CIP deviations $\Rightarrow$ +ve correlation with interest rate differential
- Average CIP deviations $\gg$ average UIP deviations (20 vs 200 bps).

Empirics - Exchange Rates Fit (change): JPY



— Observed exchange rate change — Predicted with df — Predicted with full model

Empirics - Exchange Rates Fit (level): GBP



Empirics - Exchange Rates Dynamics

Dep.var: $\Delta \log \mathcal{E}_{kt}$	JPY	CHF	EUR	GBP	CAD	AUD	NZD	MXN	G7+ Panel	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Δf_{kt}^*	0.071*** [9.04]	0.061*** [12.65]	0.103*** [9.71]	0.060*** [7.63]	0.050*** [11.63]	0.062*** [11.79]	0.069*** [15.87]	0.045*** [4.00]	0.068*** [26.81]	0.056*** [26.48]
$\Delta f_{k,t-1}^*$	0.006 [0.97]	-0.005 [1.17]	0.007 [0.98]	-0.005 [1.16]	-0.003 [0.54]	0.004 [0.55]	-0.002 [0.46]	0.006 [0.86]	-0.002 [0.50]	-0.006 [1.54]
$\Delta f_{k,t-2}^*$	0.015** [2.21]	0.018*** [5.11]	0.027*** [4.35]	0.004 [0.90]	0.003 [0.73]	0.008 [1.04]	0.015*** [2.71]	0.010 [1.65]	0.013*** [4.61]	0.010*** [3.94]
$\Delta(i_{kt} - i_t^*)$	-1.739** [2.31]	-0.004 [0.00]	-2.906*** [3.14]	-2.875*** [3.95]	-2.942*** [3.72]	-3.793*** [3.60]	-2.908*** [4.46]	-1.362 [1.59]	-2.563*** [4.40]	-2.887** [2.09]
$\Delta T\text{-basis}_t$	0.851 [1.00]	-1.802* [1.90]	-1.533 [1.55]	-1.052 [1.31]	-2.591*** [2.78]	-3.104*** [3.24]	-2.089** [2.03]	-3.336** [2.43]	-1.608*** [2.91]	
$\Delta \log \text{VIX}_t$	-0.014* [1.68]	-0.004 [0.44]	-0.006 [0.72]	0.001 [0.18]	0.010* [1.86]	0.034*** [4.07]	0.019** [2.17]	0.034** [2.40]	0.005 [0.97]	
$\Delta \log \mathbb{W}_t^*$	0.011 [0.44]	-0.030 [1.64]	-0.074*** [5.31]	-0.098*** [3.26]	-0.086*** [4.17]	-0.084*** [3.16]	-0.104*** [2.82]	-0.115*** [2.81]	-0.067*** [3.79]	
$\log \mathcal{E}_{k,t-1}$	0.007 [0.84]	-0.017 [1.58]	0.017 [1.50]	-0.002 [0.17]	-0.002 [0.18]	0.004 [0.39]	-0.004 [0.36]	-0.005 [0.66]	-0.001 [0.09]	-0.009 [1.27]
Observations	209	209	209	209	209	209	209	209	1,463	1,463
# currency FE									7	7
Time FE										✓
R^2	0.450	0.436	0.473	0.485	0.592	0.606	0.607	0.444	0.464	0.700
Due to Δf_{kt}^* :										
share of R^2	0.812	0.890	0.686	0.636	0.515	0.416	0.628	0.352	0.776	0.602
std of innovation (%)	1.32	1.30	1.16	1.09	0.93	1.23	1.61	0.91	1.29	0.87
half-life (months)	8	6	∞	6	6	13	6	7	8	6

Conclusion

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- Time series, CIP across currencies driven by common financial shocks
- UIP and exchange rates respond to currency-specific demand shocks
- Does not identify primitive drivers of currency demand
macro news shocks, pure financial shocks, or their combination