

Foreign Exchange Intervention and Monetary Policy Design: A Market Microstructure Analysis

Carlos Montoro and Marco Ortiz

Discussion: Santiago, 26 April 2013

by Paolo Vitale

Ud'A



Overview

- Contribution: Mix a **GE** approach with a **market microstructure** component to analyze FX intervention and monetary policy:
 - ★ Within a **DSGE** model for a small open economy with nominal rigidities;
 - ★ FX transactions are completed via risk-averse dealers;
 - ★ the **CB** follows a Taylor rule and undertakes FX intervention to either lean against the wind or reduce exchange rate volatility;
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- ★ Paper very interesting (mixing a GE approach with a market microstructure component is *unprecedented and very ambitious*)

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- ★ Welfare analysis is possible within a GE formulation;
- ★ The GE formulation allows for normative analysis;
- ★ FX intervention and monetary policy can be coordinated;
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- **General Equilibrium:**

- ★ households' preferences over leisure and consumption of domestic and foreign goods;
- ★ labor is the input of competitive intermediate goods firms;
- ★ monopolistic competitive firms produce domestic and foreign final goods.

- FX market microstructure:

- ★ risk-averse dealers absorb capital inflows from investors and central bank;
- ★ market clearing yields modified UIP:

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Monetary Policy and FX Intervention

- Monetary policy follows simple **Taylor rule**: $i_t = f(\Pi_t) + \eta_t$.
 - * As FX intervention is sterilized, monetary policy is autonomous.
 - * FX intervention can be:
 - * discretionary
 - * pre-announced: $w_t^{\text{FX}} = \phi_1 \Delta s_t + \epsilon_t$, or $w_t^{\text{FX}} = \phi_1 \text{res}_t + \epsilon_t$
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- The **GE formulation** allows to see the impact of monetary policy and FX intervention on macro-variables.
- FX intervention *stabilizes* the economy and *reduces* volatility.
- The impact of **discretionary** FX intervention is larger than that of **pre-announced** FX intervention.
- FX intervention *reduces* the impact of monetary policy.
- FX intervention *reduces* the impact of capital inflows.
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- Paper shows plenty of results: some need economic intuition.
- Show **moments** of macro-variables at different **leads**.
- Consider **sensitiveness analysis** to parametrization. Could choose calibration specific to Latin-American countries.
- Compare the impact of FX intervention on existence of **equilibria** (Figure 2) with Vitale (2011).
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The **GE formulation** allows for **welfare analysis**.

- Numerical methods could permit:

- normative analysis;
- analysis of monetary and FX intervention and monetary policy;
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Comments

The **trade account** makes **dynamics** and **welfare analysis** richer.

- In the FX market customers' orders correspond to **capital and commercial flows**, but in the model

- the capital flows are **exogenous**
- the commercial flows **depend on the trade account balance**

$$\frac{B_t}{P_t} - \frac{B_{t-1}}{P_{t-1}} = \frac{pdf}{P_t} Y_t - C_t + \left(\frac{1+r_{t-1}}{1+R_t} - 1 \right) \frac{B_{t-1}}{P_{t-1}} + REST_t$$

- An important interaction between the macro-economy and the FX market is shut down
- While analytically challenging, investigating it could be fruitful



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