V. The international monetary and financial system

The suitable design of international monetary and financial arrangements for the global economy is a long-standing issue in economics. Putting in place mechanisms that facilitate the achievement of sustained, non-inflationary and balanced growth has proved elusive. In the wake of the Great Financial Crisis, the issue has again gained prominence on the international policy agenda.

Just as in the past, however, there is little agreement on what the key shortcomings of the current international monetary and financial system (IMFS) are, let alone on what to do about them. A common diagnosis has been that the system is unable to prevent the build-up of unsustainable current account imbalances and that this, in turn, has induced a contractionary bias: surplus countries have no incentive to adjust, while deficit countries are forced to do so. Indeed, current account imbalances have been a focus of G20 cooperative efforts.

This chapter provides a different perspective, by arguing that the main shortcoming of existing arrangements is that they tend to compound the weaknesses of domestic monetary and financial frameworks ("regimes"). In particular, the IMFS tends to heighten the risk of financial imbalances – that is, unsustainable credit and asset price booms that overstretch balance sheets and can lead to financial crises and serious macroeconomic damage. These imbalances occur simultaneously across countries, deriving strength from global monetary ease and cross-border financing. Put differently, the system exhibits "excess financial elasticity": think of an elastic band that can be stretched out further but that, as a result, eventually snaps back all the more violently.¹

The chapter is structured as follows. After outlining the key features of the IMFS, the first section explains and documents how the interaction of domestic monetary and financial regimes increases financial imbalances. It highlights several factors: (i) the role of monetary areas that for the key international currencies (notably the US dollar) extend well beyond national borders; (ii) the limited insulation properties of exchange rates, which induce policy responses designed to avoid large interest rate differentials vis-à-vis the main international currencies; and (iii) the powerful waves generated by freely mobile financial capital and global liquidity, which wash across currencies and borders, carrying financial conditions across the globe. The second section considers possible solutions. It highlights the need to adjust domestic policy frameworks and to strengthen international cooperation, going beyond the own-house-in-order doctrine.

The IMFS: main elements and weaknesses

Main elements

The IMFS comprises the arrangements governing transactions in goods, services and financial instruments among countries. Today, it consists of a set of domestically

¹ See C Borio, "The international monetary and financial system: its Achilles heel and what to do about it", *BIS Working Papers*, no 456, August 2014; and C Borio, H James and H S Shin, "The international monetary and financial system: a capital account historical perspective", *BIS Working Papers*, no 457, August 2014.

The international monetary and financial system, then and now

| | Bretton Woods | Current |
|------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Monetary anchor | External: ultimately gold | Internal: domestic mandates (eg price stability) |
| Exchange rates | Fixed but adjustable | Hybrid (floating at the centre) |
| Key currencies | De facto, US dollar | Dollar dominance (less exclusive) |
| Capital mobility | Restricted | Hybrid (unrestricted at broad centre) |

Table V.1

oriented policies in a world of largely free capital flows. Domestic monetary regimes focus mainly on price stability, while currencies are allowed to float to varying degrees: free floating among the principal international currencies coexists with greater or lesser management of other currencies. Financial regimes generally allow funds to move freely across currencies and borders, although some countries still impose restrictions. The main restraint on financial transactions takes the form of prudential regulation and supervision, in part based on internationally agreed standards.

Current arrangements differ markedly from the previous system, Bretton Woods (1946–73). At the time, the US dollar's convertibility into gold served as an external monetary anchor, and currencies were tied together through fixed but adjustable exchange rates (Table V.1). Domestic monetary regimes in general gave less priority to price stability and more to external balance and demand growth. While the anchor ultimately did not prove that strong, the arrangements contrast with present ones, in which the aggregation of monetary policies pursued under domestic mandates acts as the only overall constraint. During the Bretton Woods era, the leading international currency was the dollar, which now shares this role to some extent with others, mainly the euro. And international capital mobility was quite limited, reflecting a myriad of restrictions on "repressed" domestic financial systems.

The performance of the two systems has differed markedly as well. Bretton Woods did not see major episodes of financial instability, but eventually proved unable to ensure lasting global monetary stability. It broke down once the United States formally abandoned gold convertibility and exchange rates were allowed to float. Current arrangements have succeeded in promoting price stability more than financial stability.

Arguably, this is no coincidence. The *84th Annual Report*, as further elaborated in other chapters of this Annual Report, explored why domestic monetary and financial regimes have so far been unable to ensure lasting financial stability. But their interaction through the IMFS has also played a role, by compounding rather than limiting the weaknesses of domestic regimes. Consider, in turn, the interaction of monetary and financial arrangements.

Interaction of domestic monetary regimes

The interaction of monetary regimes spreads easy monetary conditions from core economies to the rest of the world. The international use of reserve currencies does so directly, and the strategic conduct of monetary policy does so indirectly. Take each in turn.

The reliance on a single global currency has diminished slowly since Bretton Woods, but the US dollar continues to play a dominant role in international trade and finance, alongside the euro. As a means of exchange, the dollar is on one side

Selected indicators for the international use of key currencies

| As a percentage of world total | | | | | | Table V.2 |
|--|-----------|------|-------------------|------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| | US dollar | Euro | Pound sterling | Yen | Renminbi | Total (USD trn) |
| Forex market turnover, ¹ daily, April 2013 | 87.0 | 33.4 | 11.8 | 23.0 | 2.2 | 5.3 |
| Foreign exchange reserves, ² Q4 2014 | 62.9 | 22.2 | 3.8 | 4.0 | 13 | 11.6 |
| International bank deposits by non-banks, ⁴ Q4 2014 | 57.3 | 22.7 | 5.2 | 2.9 | 1 .9 ⁵ | 9.8 |
| Outstanding international debt securities, ⁴ Q4 2014 | 40.4 | 40.9 | 9.6 | 2.0 | 0.6 | 21.9 |
| International trade invoicing/settlement, 2010–12 | 50.3 | 37.3 | | | 1.4 | |

¹ The shares sum to 200% because each transaction involves two currencies. ² Shares are based on allocated data from IMF COFER. ³ Rough BIS estimate based in part on People's Bank of China, *Report on renminbi internationalisation* (in Chinese), June 2015. ⁴ Broad measure, including intra-euro area outstandings. ⁵ Minimum share based on renminbi-denominated international bank deposits reported by a subset of BIS reporting countries.

Sources: H Ito and M Chinn, "The rise of the 'redback' and the People's Republic of China's capital account liberalization: an empirical analysis of the determinants of invoicing currencies", *ADBI Working Paper*, no 473, April 2014; IMF; BIS international banking statistics and international debt securities statistics; BIS calculations.

of no less than 87% of foreign exchange market transactions (Table V.2), with an even higher share of forward and swap transactions. Its dominance in foreign exchange markets makes the dollar the sole intervention currency outside Europe and Japan, which supports its high share in foreign exchange reserves. More than half of world trade is invoiced and settled in dollars, pointing to the greenback's pre-eminent role as a unit of account.

Remarkably, the advent of the euro and the dollar's trend depreciation since the 1970s have not materially challenged the dollar's role as a store of value (Graph V.1, left-hand panel). At 63%, it maintains almost three times the share of the euro in foreign exchange reserves. Its share in both official reserves and private portfolios is sustained by the scale of what can be termed the "dollar zone" of economies whose currencies move more closely with the dollar than with the euro (Box V.A). At half or more of world GDP, the dollar zone is far larger than the US economy, which is less than a quarter.

Monetary policy settings for key international currencies influence financial conditions outside these currencies' home jurisdictions directly through their impact on interest rates and the valuation of assets or liabilities denominated in these currencies but held or owed by non-residents. In particular, dollar and euro credit to non-bank borrowers outside the United States and euro area stood at \$9.5 trillion and €2.3 trillion (\$2.7 trillion), respectively, at end-2014. The dollar debt represents a seventh of global GDP outside the United States (Box V.B).

The large stocks of dollar- and euro-denominated credit extended to borrowers outside the United States and the euro area, respectively, mean that Federal Reserve and ECB policies are transmitted directly to other economies. The impact depends on the characteristics of the instrument in question, notably its maturity and the flexibility of the corresponding interest rate. For instance, in the case of bank loans priced off of dollar Libor or Euribor, changes in short-term policy rates pass through within weeks. Over half of dollar and euro credit to borrowers outside the United States and euro area remains in the form of bank loans.







¹ Before 1999, "euro" aggregates available predecessor currencies. ² The shares sum to 200% because each transaction involves two currencies. 2014 is estimated based on CLS trading data for April. ³ Includes bank deposits of non-banks and debt securities. Bank deposits are proxied by all bank liabilities before 1995. For the euro area, bank deposits exclude deposits vis-à-vis euro area banks. Debt securities are based on BIS international debt securities statistics before 1999 and the ECB's narrow measure of euro bonds since 1999, which excludes euro area residents' euro issues. ⁴ Estimated as each economy's share of PPP GDP, plus the elasticity-weighted share of all other economies' PPP GDPs; see Box V.A.

Sources: ECB; IMF; CLS; Datastream; national data; BIS international debt securities statistics; BIS calculations.

The pass-through is slower for bonds, given their generally fixed rates and longer maturity, but then quantities can respond too. In particular, some stocks of dollar bonds have changed quite markedly in response to unconventional monetary policy (Chapter IV). Low yields reflecting the Federal Reserve's large-scale purchases of Treasury and agency bonds, among other factors, led US and global investors to seek yield in lower-quality bonds. The impact was especially pronounced for non-US borrowers, who between 2009 and 2014 ramped up their dollar bond issuance by \$1.8 trillion (Graph V.2, left-hand panel). Investor demand for such bonds proved highly responsive to the compression of the term premium, as measured by the spread between Treasury bond yields and expected bill yields: the lower the premium, the faster the growth of dollar bonds issued by non-US borrowers (hence the negative relationship after the first quarter of 2009 seen in the right-hand panel of Graph V.2).

By the same token, the recent ECB large-scale bond purchases and compression of term premia on euro-denominated bonds raise the question of whether borrowers outside the euro area will take advantage of the funding opportunity. In fact, by the end of 2014 the stock of euro bonds issued by such borrowers was already growing as fast as its dollar counterpart.

Post-crisis, offshore dollar credit has grown fastest in those jurisdictions where it has been cheapest relative to local funding, especially emerging market economies (EMEs).² Authorities around the world use capital controls or macroprudential policy to raise the cost of dollar borrowing at home, but their policy reach does not extend to activities of multinational firms, which can borrow dollars (or euros) offshore to sidestep tight domestic funding conditions. This is one reason for the rapid growth in various quantitative measures of "global liquidity", which denotes the ease of financing in global financial markets (Box V.B).

²

See R McCauley, P McGuire and V Sushko, "Global dollar credit: links to US monetary policy and leverage", *Economic Policy*, vol 30, issue 82, April 2015, pp 189–229.

Mapping the dollar and euro zones

This box uses simple regression methods to place currencies in three zones of influence corresponding to the main international currencies based on the currencies' degree of co-movement. The three reference currencies are the dollar, the euro (before 1999, the Deutsche mark) and the yen, consistent with their status as the three most transacted currencies in the world in the BIS Triennial Central Bank Survey. Thus defined, the dollar zone accounts for nearly 60% of world GDP, far more than the US share in world GDP, which is between 20 and 25%.

The dollar share is calculated in two steps. First, each currency is placed in or between zones. Each currency's weekly percentage change against the dollar is regressed on the weekly percentage change of the euro/dollar and yen/dollar rates. The dollar zone weight is calculated as 1 minus the corresponding regression coefficients. For example, the Hong Kong dollar is pegged to the US dollar, so the coefficients are zero and the dollar zone weight is 1. For the intermediate case of sterling, in 2013 the pound's estimated coefficient is 0.60 on the euro/dollar rate and 0.09 on the yen/dollar, making the currency's dollar weight 1 - 0.60 - 0.09, or 0.31. The results in Graph V.A show the dollar to be more global, the euro to be more regional and the yen to lack much external influence. The dollar weights can thus be read in reverse as euro weights, eg with the dark blue area representing over 95% euro weight.

Second, the dollar share is calculated across currencies using (PPP) GDP weights. The dollar zone weight for each of the 40 economies (50 before the euro) is multiplied by the respective GDP, and the product is added to the US GDP. This sum is then expressed as a share of the total GDP of the 43 major economies analysed, including those of the United States, the euro area and Japan. Graph V.1 plots these aggregate zone shares of global GDP.

There is strong cross-sectional evidence that a currency's co-movement with the dollar shapes the currency composition of its external portfolio, both official and private. For the two dozen economies that disclose the currency composition of official reserves, the dollar zone weight accounts for about two thirds of the variation in the dollar share across countries. And in larger samples, the dollar zone weight is also strongly linked with the dollar share of cross-border bank deposits or loans and international bonds. The underlying motivation is the same for the official and private sectors: matching the portfolio weights to the co-movements of the domestic currency with major currencies serves to minimise the volatility of portfolio returns when measured in domestic currency.



D R McCauley and T Chan, "Currency movements drive reserve composition", BIS Quarterly Review, December 2014, pp 23–36.

Monetary regimes also interact indirectly, through central bank responses to each other's policies. Central banks seem to set their policy rates with an eye on those of the Federal Reserve or ECB. This behaviour is sometimes explicitly noted, as in the cases of the Central Bank of Norway and the Swiss National Bank with reference to ECB policy, but appears to be widespread.

One reason is to limit exchange rate movements. Exchange rate flexibility has often been described as insulating the domestic economy from external developments, but this insulation is often overstated. In particular, appreciation can lead lenders to consider firms with debts denominated in foreign currency as better capitalised and therefore more creditworthy, reducing perceived risks associated with lending and increasing the availability of credit.³ Through this and other mechanisms, such as carry trades and momentum trading, currencies can overshoot, shrinking the traded goods sector and leaving the economy vulnerable to a turn in the ease of global financing. Then, depreciation can lead to financial distress among firms with foreign currency debt. During the dollar's downswing from 2002 to 2011 (with an interruption in late 2008), many central banks resisted unwelcome appreciation against the dollar, in setting their own policy rates and by intervening in the currency market.

Indeed, many countries – not only EMEs but also advanced economies – appear to have kept interest rates below those that traditional domestic benchmarks would indicate, partly in response to low rates in core currencies. In the 1990s, policy rates were broadly in line with the Taylor rule, a simple interest rate rule prescribing a mechanical reaction to the output gap and the deviation of inflation from target. In



Federal Reserve spurs dollar bond issuance by non-US borrowers

¹ Response of the quarterly growth in the stock of US dollar bonds issued outside the United States to the (lagged) change in the real term premium, estimated from 16-quarter rolling regressions that also include the lagged VIX to control for overall financial market conditions; see R McCauley, P McGuire and V Sushko, "Global dollar credit: links to US monetary policy and leverage", *Economic Policy*, vol 30, issue 82, April 2015, pp 189–229. The vertical line indicates end-Q1 2009. The 10-year real term premium is estimated using a joint macroeconomic and term structure model; see P Hördahl and O Tristani, "Inflation risk premia in the euro area and the United States", *International Journal of Central Banking*, September 2014, pp 1–47.

Sources: Federal Reserve; Bloomberg; BIS international debt securities statistics; BIS calculations.

³ See V Bruno and H S Shin, "Cross-border banking and global liquidity", *Review of Economic Studies*, vol 82, issue 2, April 2015, pp 535–64.

Graph V.2

Global liquidity as global credit aggregates

Over the past several years, the BIS has developed indicators to track global liquidity conditions. The term global liquidity is used to mean the ease of financing in global financial markets. Total credit outstanding is one of its main footprints, as it shows the extent to which bond markets and banks have led to the build-up of exposures.^① In covering US dollar and euro credit, this box focuses on the two largest components of global credit through which the monetary policies of the respective currency areas directly influence financial conditions in the rest of the world.

Global credit can be extended through bank loans or bonds, and each has a domestic and an international component. Graph V.B shows dollar- and euro-denominated debt, broken down by the location of the borrower. Some 80% of global non-financial dollar debt at end-2014 was incurred by US residents (top left-hand panel). Their liabilities include US public debt, US household debt and US corporate debt. But \$9.5 trillion (19%) of dollar credit was extended to non-bank borrowers located *outside* the United States, and these entities are as exposed to the



¹ At constant end-Q4 2014 exchange rates. ² Credit to the non-financial sector in the United States/euro area, excluding identified credit to borrowers in non-domestic currencies (ie cross-border and locally extended loans and outstanding international bonds in non-domestic currencies). ³ Outstanding debt securities issued outside the United States/euro area by non-bank issuers. ⁴ Cross-border and locally extended loans to non-banks outside the United States/euro area. For China, locally extended loans are derived from national data on total local lending in foreign currencies on the assumption that 80% are denominated in US dollars. For other non-BIS reporting countries, local US dollar/euro loans to non-banks are proxied by all BIS reporting banks' gross cross-border US dollar/euro loans to banks in the country, on the assumption that these funds are then extended to non-banks. See R McCauley, P McGuire and V Sushko, "Global dollar credit: links to US monetary policy and leverage", *Economic Policy*, vol 30, issue 82, April 2015, pp 189–229.

Sources: National financial accounts; Datastream; BIS international debt securities statistics and locational banking statistics.

Box V.B

US monetary policy stance as US residents are. At 13% of non-US GDP, the stock of offshore dollar credit exceeds its euro counterpart worth \$2.7 trillion (bottom left-hand panel). Compared with borrowing in US dollars, a larger share of overall borrowing in euros takes place from inside the same currency area (92%).

The international credit component tends to be more procyclical and volatile. International bank lending in both dollars and euros outpaced domestic credit in the boom that preceded the Great Financial Crisis, and contracted once the crisis broke out (Graph V.B, right-hand panels). Bond markets partly substituted for impaired bank lending in the immediate aftermath of the crisis, and increased demand for funding went hand in hand with higher yield spreads. Since 2010, the search for yield has enabled a surge in issuance at compressed spreads that has helped to push the share of bonds in international credit to 46%. In this second phase of global liquidity, bond markets and the asset management industry have taken centre stage in shaping global liquidity conditions.

© See BIS, "Highlights of global financing flows", BIS Quarterly Review, March 2015, pp 13–29; and www.bis.org/statistics/gli.htm.

the early 2000s, however, actual policy rates drifted persistently below the levels implied by the Taylor rule, suggesting that monetary policy became systematically accommodative (Graph V.3). Many advanced economies apparently hesitated to raise interest rates during the boom, and have maintained them near zero since the crisis. For their part, EME authorities appear to have set policy rates low out of concern over capital flows and appreciation (Graph V.3, right-hand panel). The empirical significance of US interest rates in influencing policy rates elsewhere provides additional evidence for follow-the-leader behaviour (Box V.C). While this simple exercise has important limitations, it points to competitive easing as a way of sustaining external demand. More than 20 central banks have eased monetary policy since December 2014, some explicitly responding to external conditions (Chapter IV).

Resistance to appreciation has also taken the form of currency intervention, which itself feeds back into global monetary ease. Many central banks have intervened directly in the foreign exchange market, typically buying dollars, and then investing the proceeds in bonds issued by the major governments. Unlike major central banks' large-scale domestic bond purchases, reserve managers have not sought to lower yields in the bond markets in which they invest. Nevertheless, the secular reserve accumulation and balance sheet policies of major central banks have combined to push estimated official bond holdings to more than \$12 trillion out of the \$31 trillion in US, euro area, Japanese and UK government bonds (Graph II.9, left-hand panel). Such holdings account for over half of the outstanding stock of US Treasury securities and more than 40% of the combined stock of Treasury and agency securities (Graph II.9, right-hand panel).

As a result, monetary policies of advanced and emerging market economies have reinforced each other. Easy monetary conditions at the centre have led to easy monetary and financial conditions in the rest of the world: there, firms and governments have boosted dollar and euro borrowing and authorities have resisted unwelcome currency appreciation. In turn, their foreign exchange intervention has raised official investment in major bond markets, further compressing bond yields there. With central banks and reserve managers bidding for duration shoulder to shoulder with pension funds and life insurers, bond yields have declined to record lows and the term premium has turned negative (Chapter II).

Interaction of financial regimes

Financial market integration has allowed common global factors to drive capital flows and asset prices. The common factors have partly shifted between the two phases of global liquidity, pre- and post-crisis.

International monetary spillovers

Over recent years, interest rates in EMEs and advanced economies moved closely together with interest rates in large advanced economies, particularly the United States. This close correlation could reflect the response to common macroeconomic developments affecting all countries. But it could also reflect global interest rate spillovers from large advanced economies. Interest rate spillovers can result from explicit exchange rate policies or attempts to contain exchange rate and capital flow pressures resulting from yield differentials vis-à-vis key currencies, and from global investor arbitrage tying capital market rates together.

To shed light on this question, a panel of 30 emerging market and advanced economies over the period 2000– 14 is investigated in a regression analysis. The analysis shows a strong relationship between changes in interest rates prevailing in these economies and changes in US interest rates, even after controlling for domestic macroeconomic conditions and the global business and financial cycle. For short-term interest rates, a 100 basis point change in US rates is associated with an average 34 basis point change in emerging market and small advanced economies (Table V.C, first column). For long-term interest rates, the effect is stronger: a 100 basis point change in the US bond yield is associated with an average 59 basis point change in the yields of these economies (second column). Besides US interest rates, the degree of global investor risk aversion, as measured by the VIX, also consistently emerges as an important driver of these interest rates.

Interest rate spillovers¹

Table V.C

| | | Dependent | variable | |
|---|--|--|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Explanatory variable | Change in 3-month rate ² | Change in 10-year bond yield ² | Policy rate deviation ³ | Policy rate level ⁴ |
| US rate | 0.34*** | 0.59*** | 0.43*** | 0.70*** |
| VIX | 0.51*** | 0.21** | 1.99*** | 1.54*** |
| F-stat US output and inflation⁵ | 0.24 | 2.35* | 20.80*** | 6.80*** |
| F-stat domestic output and inflation ^₅ | 17.18*** | 2.09 | | 12.60*** |
| R ² | 0.25 | 0.26 | 0.45 | 0.82 |

¹ Results from unbalanced fixed effects panel regressions for 30 emerging market and advanced economies (Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Chinese Taipei, Colombia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Hong Kong SAR, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Israel, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Russia, Singapore, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey and the United Kingdom) for the sample period Q1 2000–Q4 2014. ***/**/* denotes results significant at the 1/5/10% level based on cluster-robust standard errors. ² Panel estimation of $\Delta r_t^{i} = \beta_0 + \alpha_0^i + \beta_1 \Delta r_t^{us} + \beta_2 X_t^i + \varepsilon_t^i$ where Δr_t^i indicates the quarter-on-quarter change in economy *i*'s three-month money market rate and 10-year bond yield and Δr_t^{us} is the change in the corresponding US rate; *X* includes the change in US real GDP growth and inflation, the log change in the VIX and the change in domestic real GDP growth and inflation. ³ Panel estimation of $i_t^i - Taylor_t^i = \beta_0 + \alpha_0^i + \beta_1 i_t^{us} + \beta_2 X_t^i + \varepsilon_t^i$, where i_t^i is the policy rate, *Taylor_t* is the policy rate implied by a normative Taylor rule (calculated following B Hofmann and B Bogdanova, "Taylor rules and monetary policy: a global 'Great Deviation'?", *BIS Quarterly Review*, September 2012, pp 37–49), $i_t^{us} + \beta_2 X_t^i + \varepsilon_t^i$ where *X* includes US real GDP growth, US inflation and the (log) VIX. ⁴ Panel estimation of $i_t^i = \beta_0 + \alpha_0^i + \beta_1 i_t^{us} + \beta_2 X_t^i + \varepsilon_t^i$ where *X* includes US real GDP growth, US inflation and the (log) VIX as well as domestic inflation and the domestic output gap (calculated using a standard Hodrick-Prescott filter). ⁵ F-test of the null hypothesis that coefficients of the variables equal zero.

Furthermore, the persistently low global policy rates relative to Taylor rule-implied levels since the early 2000s (Graph V.3) reflect, at least in part, the effect of low policy rates prevailing in the United States over this period. Specifically, a 100 basis point cut in the US federal funds rate is found to lower EME and other advanced economy policy rates by 43 basis points relative to the levels implied by a standard normative Taylor rule (Table V.C, third column). When estimating a descriptive Taylor rule, the estimated impact of the US policy rate is even higher: some 70 basis points (fourth column). In sum, the results suggest an economically significant causal relationship from US interest rates to interest rates in emerging market and other advanced economies.

1 See B Hofmann and E Takáts, "International monetary spillovers", BIS Quarterly Review, forthcoming.

Box V.C

Policy rates have been low compared with Taylor rates¹





The Taylor rates are calculated as $i = r^* + \pi^* + 1.5(\pi - \pi^*) + 0.5y$, where π is a measure of inflation, y is a measure of the output gap, π^* is the inflation target and r^* is the long-run real interest rate, here proxied by real trend output growth. The graph shows the mean and the range of the Taylor rates of different inflation/output gap combinations, obtained by combining four measures of inflation (headline, core, GDP deflator and consensus headline forecasts) with four measures of the output gap (obtained using Hodrick-Prescott (HP) filter, segmented linear trend and unobserved components techniques, and IMF estimates). π^* is set equal to the official inflation target/objective, and otherwise to the sample average or trend inflation estimated through a standard HP filter. See B Hofmann and B Bogdanova, "Taylor rules and monetary policy: a global 'Great Deviation'?", *BIS Quarterly Review*, September 2012, pp 37–49.

¹ Weighted averages based on 2005 PPP weights. "Global" comprises all economies listed here. Advanced economies: Australia, Canada, Denmark, the euro area, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States. EMEs: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, China, Chinese Taipei, Colombia, the Czech Republic, Hong Kong SAR, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Israel, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Singapore, South Africa and Thailand.

Sources: IMF, International Financial Statistics and World Economic Outlook; Bloomberg; CEIC; Consensus Economics; Datastream; national data; BIS calculations.

The bank flows that dominated in the first, pre-crisis, phase of global liquidity drew on easy leverage, predictable policy rates and low volatility, as proxied by the VIX.⁴ These flows enabled domestic credit booms, freeing them from the constraint of the domestic funding base. In a sample of 31 EMEs between early 2002 and 2008, a rise in the share of cross-border bank funding, extended both directly to domestic non-banks and indirectly through banks, helped boost the ratio of bank credit to GDP (Graph V.4, left-hand panel). Banks found non-core liabilities abroad to fund booming credit at home.⁵

Analysis of a broader sample of 62 countries and a more inclusive measure of international capital flows points to a similar dynamic. Here, the larger the net debt inflows, including both portfolio and bank flows, the larger the increase in an economy's ratio of bank credit to GDP (Graph V.4, right-hand panel). The inclusion of Ireland, Spain and the United Kingdom shows that a domestic credit boom's reliance on external financing is not a symptom of financial underdevelopment. In

⁴ See H Rey, "Dilemma not trilemma: the global financial cycle and monetary policy independence", in *Global dimensions of unconventional monetary policy*, proceedings of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City Jackson Hole symposium, August 2013, pp 285–333.

⁵ See J-H Hahm, H S Shin and K Shin, "Noncore bank liabilities and financial vulnerability", *Journal of Money, Credit and Banking*, vol 45, issue s1, April 2013, pp 3–36.

Capital flows contributed to domestic credit growth during the boom ...





BR = Brazil; CN = China; DE = Germany; ES = Spain; FR = France; GB= United Kingdom; ID = Indonesia; IE = Ireland; IN = India; JP = Japan; KR = Korea; MX = Mexico; RU = Russia; SA= Saudi Arabia; TR = Turkey; US= United States; ZA = South Africa.

¹ Q1 2002–Q2 2008. "Total bank credit" adds to domestic credit (IFS line 32) the stock of cross-border bank credit to non-banks in the country (using the BIS locational banking statistics). "Cross-border share of bank credit" is the share of total bank credit to non-banks received cross-border through direct lending to non-banks and through net lending to banks in the country (if positive). Based on S Avdjiev, R McCauley and P McGuire, "Rapid credit growth and international credit: challenges for Asia", *BIS Working Papers*, no 377, April 2012. ² Domestic credit from IFS line 32, end-2002 to end-2008. The x-axis shows balance of payments net debt inflows as a share of GDP, cumulated over 2003–08. Net debt flows are calculated by aggregating changes in net portfolio debt assets, net other investment and reserve assets, all expressed as inflows. Extends P Lane and P McQuade, "Domestic credit growth and international capital flows", *Scandinavian Journal of Economics*, vol 116(1), January 2014, pp 218–52.

Sources: IMF, International Financial Statistics and World Economic Outlook; BIS international banking statistics; BIS calculations.

fact, in the subsample of 23 advanced economies the reliance on capital inflows is greater than among EMEs, as the steeper fitted line suggests.

In the second, post-crisis, phase of global liquidity, the term premium on sovereign bonds has become a more important driver of funding conditions. Although cross-border bank credit has continued to expand strongly in EMEs, it has contracted sharply among advanced economies, while bond financing has surged across the board. Even as bond flows have gained prominence, the term premium has emerged as the salient global price of risk in integrated financial markets.

Studies of the spillovers across global bond markets around official large-scale bond purchase announcements have highlighted the strong co-movement of bond yields. If investors treat bonds denominated in different currencies as close substitutes, purchases in one market also depress yields elsewhere. Table V.3 illustrates this point, summarising several studies that estimate the basis point moves in various advanced bond markets that correspond to a 100 basis point move in the US Treasury market. In addition, local currency EME bonds have also co-moved much more closely with Treasuries than a decade ago.⁶

Heretofore, the relationship across even major bond markets appeared asymmetric, with US bond yields driving those elsewhere, but in the past year this

⁶ Compare R McCauley and G Jiang, "Diversifying with Asian local currency bonds", *BIS Quarterly Review*, September 2004, pp 51–66 and the following: K Miyajima, M Mohanty and J Yetman, "Spillovers of US unconventional monetary policy to Asia: the role of long-term interest rates", *BIS Working Papers*, no 478, December 2014; Q Chen, A Filardo, D He and F Zhu, "Financial crisis, US unconventional monetary policy and international spillovers", *BIS Working Papers*, no 494, March 2015; and Box V.C.

Estimates of spillovers of US bond yields to mature bond markets

Basis points per 100 basis points on the US Treasury bond

| | | | ~ | | | |
|----------------|---|---|-------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Bond market | Gerlach-Kriste Japanese interv Government | en et al (2012): ention, 2003–04 Swap | Neely (2015): LSAP1 events | Bauer and Neely (2014): LSAP1 events | Rogers et al (2014): intraday data | Obstfeld (2015): long-term levels, monthly data 1989–2014 |
| AU | | | 67 | 37 | | 74 |
| CA | | | 53 | 54 | | 129 |
| СН | 53 | 45 | | | | 88 |
| DE | 46 | 41 | 41 | 44 | 36 | 115 |
| ES | 50 | 41 | | | | 111 |
| FR | 46 | 41 | | | | 118 |
| GB | 59 | 45 | 46 | | 48 | 137 |
| IT | 46 | 41 | | | 16 | 158 |
| JP | 44 | 54 | 19 | 12 | 20 | 69 |

AU = Australia; CA = Canada; CH = Switzerland; DE = Germany; ES = Spain; FR = France; GB = United Kingdom; IT = Italy; JP = Japan.

LSAP1 = first Federal Reserve large-scale asset (ie bond) purchase programme.

Sources: P Gerlach-Kristen, R McCauley and K Ueda, "Currency intervention and the global portfolio balance effect: Japanese lessons", *BIS Working Papers*, no 389, October 2012; C Neely, "The large-scale asset purchases had large international effects", *Journal of Banking and Finance*, vol 52, 2015, pp 101–11; M Bauer and C Neely, "International channels of the Fed's unconventional monetary policy", *Journal of International Money and Finance*, vol 44, June 2014, pp 24–46; J Rogers, C Scotti and J Wright, "Evaluating asset-market effects of unconventional monetary policy: a cross-country comparison", *Economic Policy*, vol 29, issue 80, October 2014, pp 749–99; M Obstfeld, "Trilemmas and trade-offs: living with financial globalisation", *BIS Working Papers*, no 480, January 2015; BIS calculations.

seems to have changed. In particular, there are signs that the euro area bond market has been moving its US counterpart. Anticipation of ECB large-scale bond purchases put downward pressure on French and German bond yields and, through co-movement of term premia, on US bond yields as well, despite the expected divergence in policy rates (Graph V.5, right-hand panel). This contrasts with the experience in early 1994, which epitomises previous patterns. At the time, the Federal Reserve was raising the policy rate while the Bank of France and the Deutsche Bundesbank were reducing theirs, but the backup in US bond yields was transmitted to Europe (Graph V.5, left-hand panel).⁷

Current concerns

To summarise, the workings of the IMFS post-crisis have spread easy monetary and financial conditions from the reserve currency areas to the rest of the world, just as they did pre-crisis. Global financial conditions have consequently loosened to an extent that may not prove consistent with lasting financial and macroeconomic stability. Credit booms in EMEs and some advanced economies less affected by the crisis have built up tell-tale financial imbalances. In the short run, the IMFS has tilted conditions towards expansion. But in the longer run, financial busts, were they to materialise, would tilt them towards contraction.

⁷ See C Borio and R McCauley, "The economics of recent bond yield volatility", *BIS Economic Papers*, no 45, July 1996. Table V.3

Transatlantic waves: from policy rates to bond yields





¹ Decomposition of the 10-year nominal yield according to an estimated joint macroeconomic and term structure model; see P Hördahl and O Tristani, "Inflation risk premia in the euro area and the United States", *International Journal of Central Banking*, September 2014, pp 1–47. Yields are expressed in zero coupon terms; for the euro area, French government bond data are used.

Sources: Bloomberg; national data; BIS calculations.

Monetary policy divergence across key currencies and renewed dollar appreciation pose risks. Ease in the euro area might prolong global ease, if firms and governments around the world can substitute euro funding for dollar funding. However, the large stock of dollar debt outstanding means that a tightening of dollar credit is likely to prove consequential. Thus, renewed dollar strength could expose vulnerabilities (Chapter III), especially in those firms that have collectively borrowed trillions of dollars. Admittedly, it is well known that the US economy has a short position in the dollar that funds a long position in other currencies. And by the same token, the rest of the world must hold more dollar assets than dollar liabilities and thus enjoy valuation gains in aggregate when the dollar appreciates. But even in a country with a long dollar position, the distribution of currency positions across sectors matters greatly for the outcome. For example, in many EMEs the official sector has a long dollar position whereas the corporate sector carries a short one (Box V.D). Absent transfers from the (gaining) official sector to the (losing) corporate sector, the economy may well be hurt by dollar strength.

Dollar strength, monetary policy divergence and heavy official holdings in the global bond market could lead to volatility. Were EMEs to draw down reserves substantially, their selling bonds in the key currencies could create unprecedented cross-currents in global bond markets. ECB and Bank of Japan bond purchases, EME selling and, eventually, the Federal Reserve's not rolling over maturing bonds could confront the remaining private investors with a difficult and shifting problem of bond pricing.

Limits and prospects in international policy coordination

Policies to address the issues raised in this chapter require more than each country managing its inflation and business cycle. A broader notion of keeping one's house

Valuation effects of dollar appreciation

Korea's external assets and liabilities, end-2014¹

This box uses the example of Korea to illustrate that dollar appreciation can deliver wealth gains to non-US residents as a whole, while still representing a tightening of financial conditions for non-US firms that have funded themselves in the dollar. The Korean official sector can gain from dollar appreciation but need not adjust its spending, while the Korean corporate sector can lose net worth and face tighter credit.

It is by now well known that dollar appreciation boosts US net international liabilities. This is because US residents have dollar-denominated liabilities to the rest of the world that exceed their corresponding assets to the tune of 39% of GDP. With the appreciation of the dollar in 2014, the US net international investment position declined from -\$5.4 trillion to -\$6.9 trillion, as US assets stopped growing in dollar terms despite rising local currency valuations. This \$1.5 trillion difference was more than three times the current account of \$410 billion. Accordingly, the rest of the world's wealth increased.

Typical of the rest of the world, Korea's net international investment position as a whole gained from dollar appreciation. Still, Korean firms that have borrowed dollars can still see their net worth fall. Overall, the country's modestly positive (\$82 billion in Table V.D) external position shows net foreign currency assets of \$719 billion, with over half held by the official sector (official reserve assets of \$364 billion) and substantial holdings by institutional investors (portfolio assets of \$204 billion). A substantial fraction of portfolio and other foreign currency liabilities (\$348 billion), and \$65 billion of foreign currency loans booked by banks in Korea, are owed by the corporate sector. Moreover, BIS data show an additional \$7 billion of mostly dollar bonds issued by offshore affiliates of Korean non-financial firms, and there is also offshore bank credit. Dollar appreciation leads to official gains that are not conveyed to firms that lose net worth.

Much analysis of international balance sheets, in general, and the insurance afforded by foreign exchange reserve holdings, in particular, implicitly suffers from a fallacy of division, according to which what is true of the whole is true of the parts. In the absence of transfers made when the domestic currency depreciates – which would themselves be fraught with moral hazard – the gains in the public sector do not offset corporate losses. Firms need to adjust their spending and hiring. And if the authorities eventually deploy international reserves to provide dollar liquidity to banks and firms, the intervention may follow disruptions that have already exacted a price.

| | Assets | Liabilities | Net asset |
|-------------------------|--------|-------------|-----------|
| Domestic currency | 13 | 650 | -637 |
| Direct investment | | 182 | -182 |
| Portfolio | 2 | 441 | -439 |
| Other ¹ | 10 | 27 | -17 |
| Foreign currency | 1,068 | 348 | 719 |
| Direct investment | 259 | | 259 |
| Portfolio | 204 | 149 | 55 |
| Other ¹ | 242 | 199 | 42 |
| Official reserve assets | 364 | | 364 |
| Total | 1,080 | 998 | 82 |

© See C Tille, "The impact of exchange rate movements on US foreign debt", Federal Reserve Bank of New York, *Current Issues in Economics and Finance*, vol 9, no 1, January 2003.

Table V.D

in order suggests policymakers deploy monetary, prudential and fiscal policies to manage financial cycles to ensure lasting monetary, financial and macroeconomic stability (Chapters I and IV). The resulting reduction in the frequency and depth of credit booms and busts would greatly reduce negative cross-country spillovers.

In addition, policymakers could give more weight to international interactions, including shared exposures, spillovers and feedbacks, with a view to keeping the global village in order. Policies could either seek to prevent crises, through measures to restrain the build-up of financial imbalances, or to strengthen crisis management, including through safety nets. An ounce of crisis prevention is worth a pound of crisis management: there are clear welfare benefits from reducing the incidence and severity of crises and clear limits of foresight and moral hazard in designing effective safety nets.

International policy coordination can occur at various depths. Enlightened selfinterest takes international spillovers into account to the extent that they spill back on one's own economy. However, even if countries did their best individually, this would still fall short of the mark if there were significant international spillovers, as in today's era of global liquidity. Moving towards a more efficient outcome would require greater cooperation, including ad hoc joint action, and possibly even agreement on rules of the game that constrain domestic policies.

Obstacles present themselves in terms of both analysis and cooperation. There is the difficulty of agreeing on a diagnosis of what ails the IMFS. And even if a common understanding of international spillovers and their causes emerged, it would remain challenging to forge and to maintain a common approach among multiple actors of varying sizes subject to differing domestic constraints.

Such possibilities and obstacles are evident in the discussion concerning crisis management. During the Great Financial Crisis, central banks proved able to make swift joint adjustments to their policy stances and to coordinate closely in extending foreign exchange swaps to each other. Funding extended under dollar swaps reached almost \$600 billion (and, under euro swaps, €6 billion). The dollar swap lines supported financial stability by allowing the funding of foreign banks with limited access to Federal Reserve facilities. In turn, they also restored the monetary transmission mechanism after banks had been bidding up dollar Libor relative to the federal funds rate.

Today, proposals to modify and extend safety nets face obstacles. One reason is deep analytical disagreement. Is reserve accumulation a by-product of exchange rate management, or a form of self-insurance against domestic and external crises? Should international liquidity facilities, including currency swap lines between central banks, be broadened, and what is their best design? Would enhanced safety nets lead to smaller foreign exchange reserves? And, even if agreement were reached, many aspects of international risk-sharing would remain problematic. Despite the room for improvement, the status quo may well persist.

All this reinforces the case for crisis prevention. Here, central banks could seek to internalise the effects of their own policies. An improved exchange of information would help authorities to reach a better understanding of international spillovers and spillbacks. For instance, if the major central banks' monetary policies have indeed induced competitive easing among EMEs, the resulting financial imbalances may ultimately hurt the advanced economies. What is more, such spillbacks may be stronger than in the past, in line with EMEs' growing weight in the world economy (Chapter III). Similarly, the outsize official role in major bond markets points to the need for policymakers to pay attention to global effects. However, while global reserve managers might collectively benefit from taking into account the effect of their investment behaviour on global bond yields, their individual incentive is to ignore international spillovers.

Consolidating the US external balance sheet

Much of international macroeconomics assumes that national borders delimit currency zones and decision-making units. Just as the national accounts do, it assumes that those borders define the relevant economic territory: different currencies do not compete within a given country and firms operate exclusively within national borders. In reality, neither is the case. Not only does the domain of major currencies extend outside their country of issue (Boxes V.A and V.B), but multinational firms, be they financial or non-financial, operate across borders. Management focuses on group-wide profits and risks, and balance sheets span national boundaries. A consolidated perspective better reflects the reach of multinational firms and the extent of global integration.

This box uses the US example to illustrate how such a consolidated view of foreign assets and liabilities differs from the official international investment position (IIP) recorded on a residence basis – the defining criterion of the national accounts and balance of payment statistics. These are denoted "locational" in the first two columns of Table V.E. The process of consolidation aligns balance sheets with the nationality of ownership rather than with the location where the assets and liabilities are booked. This amounts to redrawing the US border to include the foreign balance sheets of US-owned firms, and to exclude the US balance sheets of foreign firms. This consolidation is performed here for the banking sector and the non-bank business sector (multinational companies).

US international investment position: from locational to consolidated

In billions of dollars at end-2012

Locational Consolidated Assets Liabilities Assets Liabilities Bank-reported Cross-border positions 3,898 3,633 Consolidated US banks¹ 2,958 3,330 Foreign banks² 2,465 3,150 Direct investment Cross-border positions 5,078 3,057 20,250 15,173 US multinational companies³ Foreign multinationals⁴ 6,863 9,920 Portfolio investment 7,531 8,446 7,531 8,446 Non-bank reported⁵ 657 782 845 1,491 US currency 454 454 Official assets and liabilities 666 5,692 666 5,692 Total⁶ 18,018 21,940 42,596 46,575 39,957 89,171 Memo: Sum of assets and liabilities

¹ US banks' foreign claims are from the BIS consolidated banking statistics on an ultimate risk basis (Table 9D); their foreign liabilities are estimated as the sum of US banks' local liabilities in all currencies booked outside the United States, and their cross-border liabilities to unaffiliated parties, excluding those to US residents, and excluding liabilities to official monetary institutions booked in the US (which are already included in "official liabilities"). ² The local liabilities of foreign-owned banks operating in the United States appear on the asset side, being owed to US residents. Conversely, their claims on US residents are US liabilities. Thus, consolidated US assets are foreign banks' local liabilities in local currency to US residents. And consolidated US liabilities are foreign banks' local claims in local currency on US residents. ³ Total assets of US foreign affiliates abroad, all industries excluding banking. Imputed liabilities equal total assets less direct investment position. ⁴ Total assets of foreign-owned US affiliates, all industries excluding banking. Imputed liabilities equal total assets less direct investment position. The affiliates' assets appear as a US foreign liability, and vice versa. ⁵ Financial assets and liabilities reported by non-banks, including trade credit. "Consolidated" columns also contain assets and liabilities banks in the United States hold in custody for domestic non-bank entities. ⁶ Excludes financial derivatives.

Sources: US Bureau of Economic Analysis; BIS international banking statistics; BIS calculations.

Table V.E

The first step replaces the banks' external positions with consolidated BIS data (three rows under "bankreported" in Table V.E). This removes all cross-border claims of, say, BNP Paribas New York on the rest of the world (these being French assets), and adds JPMorgan's consolidated foreign claims, yielding a total of \$3.330 trillion for reporting US banks combined. Similarly, on the liabilities side, out goes any cross-border liability of BNP Paribas New York, and in comes JPMorgan's global foreign liabilities, to give an estimated \$2.958 trillion for US banks. Moreover, foreign banks' local operations in the United States, which are not part of the US external position, further add to US consolidated assets and liabilities, respectively, to the extent that US residents provide funding (\$2.465 trillion) to, or receive credit (\$3.150 trillion) from, the US offices of foreign banks. Consolidating banks raises the sum of US foreign assets and liabilities from \$40 trillion (IIP) to \$45 trillion.

The second step consolidates foreign-owned multinational companies (excluding banks) in an analogous, though coarser, way (owing to data limitations). The cross-border direct investment positions of non-banks, assets and liabilities, are replaced by the (larger) total assets of US multinationals outside the United States and by those of foreign multinationals in the United States, respectively (rows under "direct investment" in Table V.E). Out goes General Electric's equity position in its French subsidiary, and in comes that subsidiary's total assets, resulting in \$20,250 billion for all US-owned multinationals combined. These assets exceed the corresponding ownership claims (consisting of \$5,078 billion worth of equity and equity-like inter-affiliate debt in the IIP) because US multinationals also borrow abroad; these liabilities (an estimated \$15,173 billion) in turn add to US foreign liabilities. As for foreign multinationals, French firm Total's stake in its US subsidiary is removed, and its US assets are added – yielding \$9,920 billion for foreign multinationals. Foreign multinationals' liabilities (\$6,863 billion) count as a US foreign asset. This step sextuples directly held corporate assets and liabilities, but leaves US net assets unchanged.

Together, consolidating banks and multinational companies more than doubles the gross foreign position of the United States. US external assets and liabilities combined jump from \$40 trillion on a residence basis (IIP) to an estimated \$89 trillion when measured on a consolidated basis. The example reveals that the US economy is more open, and its foreign balance sheet larger, than is apparent from the external position derived from the balance of payments. The calculation of the US current account, on the other hand, should not be affected by consolidation, since foreign earnings are included in net investment income whether they are repatriated or not.

It may be difficult to go beyond enlightened self-interest and to revisit rules of the game more broadly.⁸ Many reject a global perspective in the realm of monetary policy. Accordingly, domestic mandates ask major reserve-issuing central banks to set policy for a smaller economic domain than that occupied by their currencies.

This interpretation of domestic mandates contrasts sharply with successful international cooperation in the realm of financial regulation and supervision. There, national mandates have not precluded extensive international cooperation and the development of global rules.

A better understanding of the shortcomings of the current IMFS would already be a big step forward. A widely held view is that the main problem is the IMFS's apparent inability to prevent large current account imbalances. This view of imbalances is the prevailing one in international forums and implies specific adjustment policies, such as those associated with the G20 Mutual Assessment Process.⁹

- ⁸ The case for change has been put forward by R Rajan, "Competitive monetary easing: is it yesterday once more?", remarks at the Brookings Institution, 10 April 2014. For more sceptical views on policy coordination, see eg S Fischer, "The Federal Reserve and the global economy", Per Jacobsson Foundation Lecture at the IMF/World Bank Annual Meetings, 11 October 2014; and B Cœuré, "Domestic and cross-border spillovers of unconventional monetary policies", remarks at the Swiss National Bank-IMF conference "Monetary policy challenges in a changing world", 12 May 2015. See also J Caruana, "The international monetary and financial system: eliminating the blind spot", remarks at the IMF conference "Rethinking macro policy III: progress or confusion?", 16 April 2015; and W Dudley, "US monetary policy and emerging market economies", remarks at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York roundtable discussion "Three decades of crises: what have we learned?", 27 March 2014.
- ⁹ The European Commission's Macroeconomic Imbalance Procedure goes further in complementing its surveillance of external imbalances with indicators on internal financial imbalances.

The focus on current accounts and the corresponding net resource flows, however, arguably glosses over the IMFS's fundamental weakness. The aim of rebalancing global demand reduces the notion of imbalances to net flows in goods and services between countries, and neglects the greater risk of *financial* imbalances building up within and across countries. To be sure, large current account deficits often point to underlying problems, but financial booms and busts can and do develop in surplus countries as well. An aggregate surplus position may well conceal such vulnerabilities. Financial imbalances are more closely linked to domestic and international gross positions, and need not leave a mark on crossborder net flows – what current accounts represent.¹⁰ Indeed, financial imbalances may not show up in a country's balance of payments at all if multinationals issue debt offshore for their use abroad, for instance. This, in turn, raises the question of the appropriate unit of analysis in international finance, with consequences for how one should measure the risks (Box V.E). Making progress on the design of the IMFS thus calls for a new diagnosis that accounts for financial imbalances as a basis for broad adjustments to domestic policy regimes and their international interaction.

¹⁰ See C Borio and P Disyatat, "Global imbalances and the global crisis: link or no link?", *BIS Working Papers*, no 346, May 2011.