

1 Problem 1

Suppose that in Japan the interest rate is 8% and inflation is expected to be 3%. Meanwhile, the expected inflation rate in France is 12%, and the English interest rate is 14%. To the nearest whole number (in % terms), what is the best estimate of the one-year forward premium (discount) at which the pound will be selling relative to the Euro?

2 Problem 2

Download the data on return to excess returns on currency portfolios from here:

<http://web.mit.edu/adrienv/www/CurrencyPortfolios.xls>

Which is based on: Lustig, Hanno, Nikolai Roussanov and Adrien Verdelhan, “Common Risk Factors in Currency Markets”, Review of Financial Studies, November 2011, Vol. 24 (11), pp. 3731-3777.

Use the data in “Developed currencies(net)” tab

- a. Construct a portfolio that shorts the first portfolio and goes long in the fifth portfolio. Plot the cumulative return of this strategy over time.
- b. Estimate the loading of this strategy on equity market volatility.
- c. How has this strategy has performed since 2010? Can you think of any reason for that?

3 Problem 3

Construct the PPP spot rate and the real exchange rate for at least 5 exchange rates. CPI data are available from the OECD database (<https://stats.oecd.org/>) while exchange rate data from Global Financial Database (<https://finaeon.globalfinancialdata.com/>) and Datastream.

Pick one exchange rate. Is it mean-reverting? (Hint: use an AR(1) model.)