



Exchange Rates, Interest Rates, & Interest Rate Parity

Interest Rate Parity

Exchange Rates, Interest Rates, & Inflation

Exchange Rates & The Term Structure of Interest Rates



Interest Rate Parity

- An investor has ¥1
- invest in Japan
 - have (1+i_{ia}) yen at maturity

invest in U.S.

- 1. buy \$ and receive 1/E dollars per yen where E is ¥/\$
- 2. buy \$ bond worth (1+i_{us})(1/E) dollars at maturity
- 3. sell \$ proceeds forward so dollar proceeds at maturity equal (1+i_{us})(F/E)



Derivation of IRP

If dollar and yen investments are alike in every way except currency of denomination, then covered interest arbitrage will yield the interest rate parity (IRP) condition:

or

or



Example of IRP

- Suppose 1 year Eurodollar gives i_{us}=.05, 1 year Euroyen gives i_{ja}=.04, E=100, what is F you quote?
 - F = ((.04-.05)/(1.05))100 + 100 = 99.0476
 - interest differential = -.0095
 - forward premium = -.0095



Annualization and IRP

- Suppose these were not 1 year interest rates but 3 month interest rates?
 - $[(i_{ja}-i_{us})/4]/[1+(i_{us}/4)] = ((F-E)/E)$
- Now what is forward rate you would quote?
 - I [(.04-05)/4]/[1+(.05/4)]*100 + 100 = F = 99.7531
- Must adjust forward premium for fraction of year



Deviations from IRP

Why might actual deviations from IRP occur?

- transactions costs
- capital controls
- political risk
- Spurious deviations from IRP could be due to:
 - taxes
 - timing
 - noncomparable assets



Exchange Rates, Interest Rates, & Inflation

- 🔮 i = r + π
 - i = nominal interest rate
 - r = real interest rate
 - π = expected inflation rate
- Let's use the approximate IRP formula:
 - ⊠ i_{ja}-i_{us} = (F-E)/E
- If real interest rates are equal, then
- $i_{ja}-i_{us} = \pi_{ja}-\pi_{us} = (F-E)/E$
- interest rates, inflation expectations, and forward premiums or discounts are all jointly determined



The Term Structure of Interest Rates

- Expectations
- Liquidity premium
- Preferred habitat



Expectations & the Term Structure

- Since i_{ja}-i_{us} = (F-E)/E, then differences between interest rates over term structure will reflect expected exchange rates
- *without a forward market, can infer expected change in exchange rate
- Uncovered IRP: