

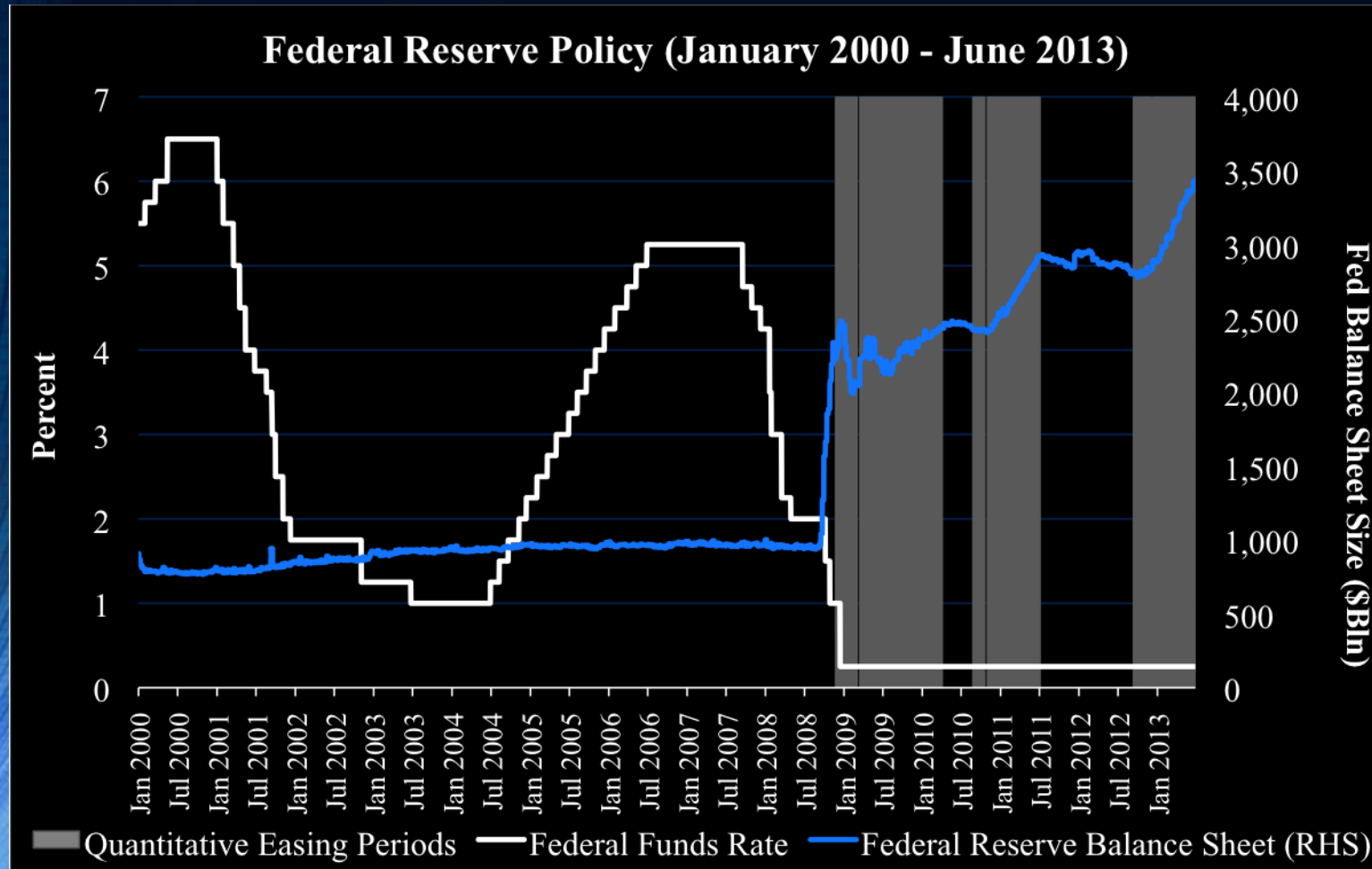


New Tools for a New Era:
An Analysis of the Federal Reserve's
Influence on Emerging Market Interest
Rates Under Varying Risk Regimes

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Recent changes in U.S. monetary policy strategy

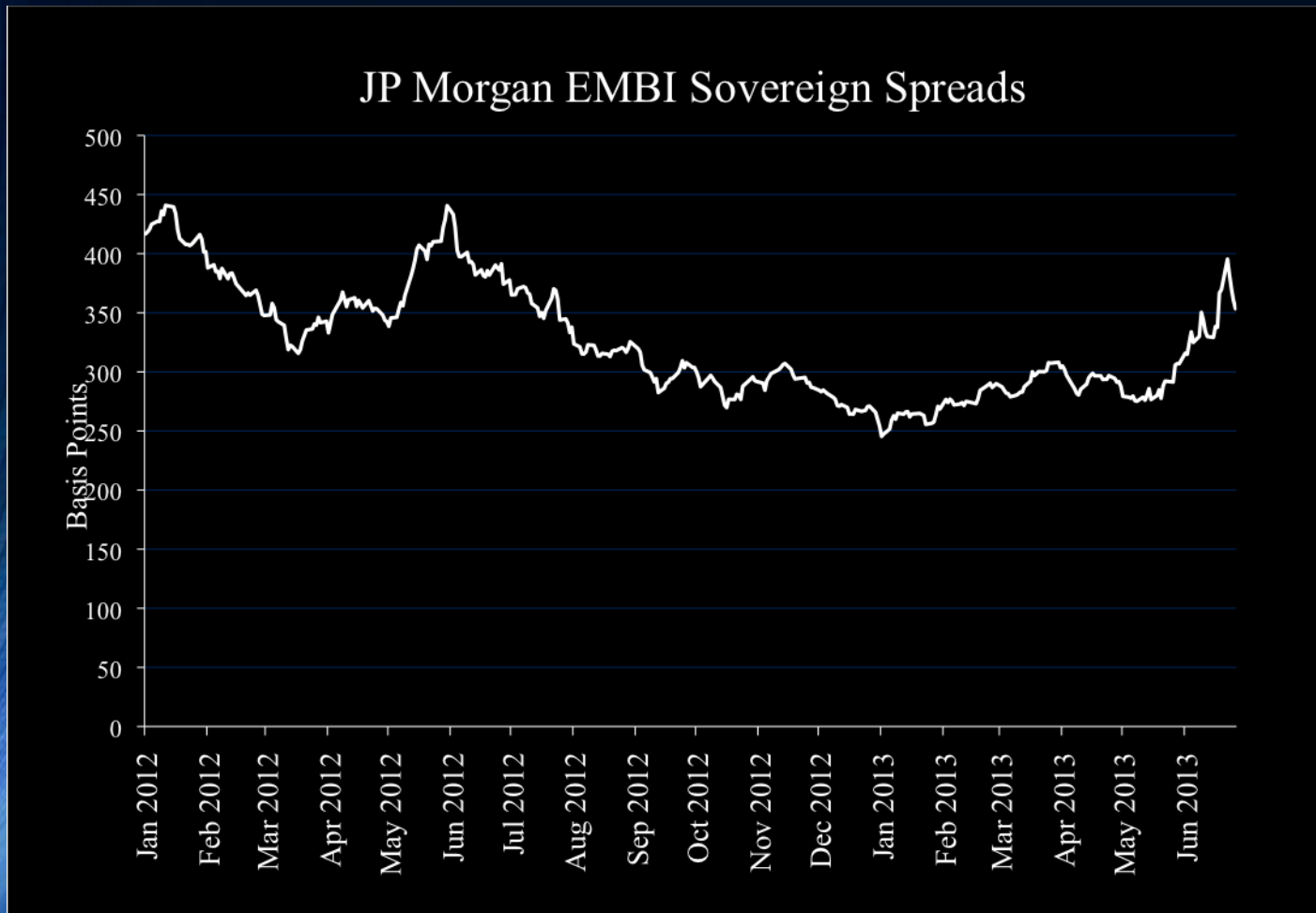


- Federal funds rate hit its lower bound in Dec. 2008
- Began the so-called “quantitative easing” in late 2008 as well
- The markets expected loose U.S. monetary policy

Federal Reserve policy announcements affect U.S. financial markets



Emerging markets' sovereign spreads tightened to record levels



- Issuance became cheap for emerging markets (EMs) and brought many new names to the market
- How can EMs defend themselves from the effects of the Fed policy?

Capital controls as a means of protection

- Emerging markets use a variety of capital controls to protect themselves from external influences
- During the global financial crisis, the IMF called capital controls “an essential feature of the monetary policy framework.”
 - Limiting market access on inflows (China and India)
 - Placing taxes on foreign investors (Thailand, Chile, and until recently Brazil)
 - Restrictions on settlement process (Russia, prior to this year)
- How effective are these in protecting EMs from external influences such as the Fed?

This study...

- Analyzes the impact of U.S. monetary policy on emerging market interest rates.
 - Robust panel estimation which
 - examines 13 emerging markets,
 - incorporates the period during and following the global financial crisis,
 - proposes a method for measuring recent Federal Reserve policies, and
 - corrects for cross-sectional dependence.
- Examines the role capital controls play in protecting domestic interest rates from external shocks
- Allows for global risk sentiment to vary over the period examined
- Demonstrates the relative equivalence of two different country-specific risk measures

Previous work on the subject of capital controls

- Miniane and Rogers (2007)
 - 26 countries from 1975-1998
 - Capital controls ineffective against external interest rate shocks
- Edwards and Rigobon (2009)
 - Focus on Chilean economy in the 1990s
 - Capital controls helped to depreciate the currency
- Edwards (2012)
 - 7 countries from Latin America and Asia
 - Capital controls are ineffective against shocks from Fed policy

Considering the effect of the global risk environment

- Garcia-Herrero and Ortiz (2006)
 - 8 Latin American countries from 1994-2006
 - Global risk positively related to sovereign spreads
 - Stronger effect after Enron scandal
- Forbes and Warnock (2012)
 - 1985-2010
 - Finds high (low) global risk related to capital outflows (inflows)

A Simple Model of Interest Rate Parity

- In its most basic form:
 - $i_t - i_t^f = E_t\{\Delta e_{t+1}\}$
 - Gains from higher interest rates are eroded by currency depreciation
 - EX: US interest rate = 3%, Brazil interest rate = 10%; investors would expect Brazilian currency to depreciate by 7%.
- Assumptions
 - (1) Freely mobile capital
 - (2) Risk-neutrality (securities are not perfect substitutes)
- Assumptions of the model are generally not valid...

A Simple Model of Interest Rate Parity

- These assumptions are relaxed when specified as follows:
 - $\tilde{i}_t = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 i_t^f + \alpha_2 \delta_t + \alpha_3 \rho_t + \omega_t$
 - δ_t = Expected currency depreciation
 - ρ_t = Country-risk premium
 - ω_t = Error term
- The model extends easily to panel data with additional regressors:
 - $\tilde{i}_{i,t} = \alpha_i + \alpha_1 i_t^f + \alpha_2 \delta_{i,t} + \alpha_3 \rho_{i,t} + \alpha_4 m_{i,t} + \alpha_5 g_t + \alpha_6 (m_{i,t} * g_t) + \alpha_7 Q_t + \omega_i$
 - $m_{i,t}$ = Capital mobility
 - g_t = Global risk
 - Q_t = Quantitative easing periods

Methodology and Data Overview

- Weekly data spanning 643 weeks from January 7, 2000 through April 27, 2012 for 13 emerging markets
- Three periods of analysis:
 - Full Sample Period
 - Pre-Lehman – January 7, 2000 through September 12, 2008
 - Post-Lehman – September 19, 2008 through April 27, 2012
- Period chosen by data availability in the IMF's AREAER
- Fixed effects regressions are appropriate in all but one model

Countries included in the Sample

- Latin America
 - Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Peru
- Asia
 - South Korea, Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand
- Europe
 - Poland, Romania and Turkey
- Africa
 - South Africa
- Data availability limits the sample to 11 in all but the Post-Lehman period

Dependent Variable

- Three-month certificate of deposit (CD) rate
 - Available at a high frequency
 - Money market instrument
 - Stationary in levels

Key Independent Variables

- Federal Reserve (U.S. monetary policy):
 - Effective Federal Funds Rate
 - Fed Balance Sheet Size
- Expected Currency Depreciation
- Capital Mobility
 - Calculated using IMF classification of capital controls
- Country-Specific Risk
 - EMBI and CDS Spreads
- Global Risk
 - VIX (implied volatility in S&P 500)

Descriptive Statistics

Descriptive Statistics for Entity-Constant Variables by Sub-Period					
	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Median	St. Dev.
Pre-Lehman Period (454 Observations)					
Official Federal Funds Rate (%)	1.00	6.50	3.35	3.26	1.84
Effective Federal Funds Rate (%)	0.96	6.86	3.35	3.06	1.84
Volatility Index (%)	10.02	42.66	19.69	18.99	6.63
Federal Reserve Balance Sheet (\$bln)	768.16	1,002.34	906.90	937.16	69.04
Post-Lehman Period (189 Observations)					
Official Federal Funds Rate (%)	0.25	2.00	0.33	0.25	0.30
Effective Federal Funds Rate (%)	0.04	1.48	0.17	0.15	0.17
Volatility Index (%)	14.47	79.13	27.65	23.95	12.39
Federal Reserve Balance Sheet (\$bln)	1,042.28	2,957.62	2,490.72	2,450.40	323.27
Full Period (643 Observations)					
Official Federal Funds Rate (%)	0.25	6.50	2.46	1.75	2.08
Effective Federal Funds Rate (%)	0.04	6.86	2.41	1.74	2.12
Volatility Index (%)	10.02	79.13	22.03	20.13	9.44
Federal Reserve Balance Sheet (\$bln)	768.16	2,957.62	1,372.44	959.44	745.24

Methodology and Data Overview

- All specifications are tested for:
 - Autocorrelation using test from Wooldridge (2002)
 - Cross-sectional dependence using Lagrange multiplier proposed by Breusch and Pagan (1980).
 - Heteroskedasticity using test from Greene (2000).
- To be included in the sample, countries must:
 - Be classified as an emerging market by JP Morgan
 - Have a floating exchange rate for the majority of the period
 - Have sufficient data available for estimation

Cross-Sectional Dependence

- Occurs when the cross-sections experience similar shocks
 - Likely in the case of the financial crisis
 - Leads to poorly estimated standard errors
- Driscoll and Kraay (1998) standard error adjustment
 - Similar to Newey-West correction for heteroskedasticity and autocorrelated (HAC) standard errors, but adjusts errors for cross-sectional dependence

Results from the Pre-Lehman Period

- Specifications (1) and (2) replicate Edwards (2012) samples
 - Signs are comparable though significance varies
 - Capital mobility effects vary, but controls are not consistently effective in insulating domestic interest rates against U.S. monetary policy shocks across a broad set of emerging markets.

Specification	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Effective Federal Funds Rate	0.462* (0.183)	0.715*** (0.021)	0.616*** (-0.066)	0.530*** (-0.053)
EMBI	0.001 (0.001)	0.006* (0.003)	0.002** (-0.001)	0.003*** (-0.001)
Expected Depreciation	0.219** (0.041)	0.406** (0.055)	0.277*** (-0.041)	0.564*** (-0.037)
Capital Mobility	2.445*** (0.245)	0.353 (0.518)	2.251*** (-0.284)	-0.041 (-0.232)
EFFR*Capital Mobility	-0.058 (-0.044)	-0.109* (-0.030)	-0.095*** (-0.024)	0.039*** (-0.014)
EMBI*Capital Mobility	0.001** (0.000)	-0.006 (-0.002)	0.0008*** (0.000)	0.0008*** (0.000)
Depreciation*Capital Mobility	-0.026 (-0.017)	-0.041 (-0.052)	-0.035*** (-0.012)	-0.060*** (-0.016)
Inflation	0.454** (0.116)	0.210 (0.120)	0.356*** (-0.036)	0.331*** (-0.040)
GDP	-0.308** (-0.090)	0.0577 (0.082)	-0.124** (-0.049)	-0.006 (-0.052)
VIX (Logged)	0.864*** (0.088)	-0.111 (-0.524)	1.093*** (-0.233)	0.306 (-0.267)
VIX*Capital Mobility	-0.780*** (-0.106)	0.271 (0.205)	-0.654*** (-0.078)	-0.041 (-0.079)
Observations	1,784	1,130	2,914	4,699
Number of Countries	4	3	7	11
R-Squared (Within)	0.759	0.795	0.722	0.859
F-Statistic	109.0	--	135.9	222.9

Results from the Pre-Lehman Period

- Specifications (3) aggregates the two subsamples
 - Capital controls
 - Associated with higher rates
 - Worsen the effects of higher global risk and interest rate differentials
 - Mitigate effect of heightened country-specific risk
 - Help offset currency depreciations

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Results from the Pre-Lehman Period

- Specification (4) includes all countries in the sample
 - Capital controls appear to help weaken the effect of Fed policy and country specific risk
 - Though strengthen the effect of currency expectations and global risk sentiment

Specification	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
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Number of Countries	4	3	7	11
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Results from the Full Sample Period (N=11, T=643)

*GDP and QE Binary Variables not reported

- Specification (1) examines Fed balance sheets growth
 - Fed funds rate remains significant
 - Fed balance sheet growth insignificant
 - Capital mobility turns negative
 - Global risk has a negative effect, but capital controls help mitigate

Specification	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Effective Federal Funds Rate	0.568*** (-0.045)	0.585*** (-0.060)	0.584*** (-0.060)	0.450*** (-0.053)
EMBI	0.003*** (-0.001)	0.003*** (-0.001)	0.003*** (-0.001)	0.003*** (-0.001)
Expected Depreciation	0.619*** (-0.036)	0.622*** (-0.038)	0.622*** (-0.038)	0.599*** (-0.038)
Capital Mobility	-0.578** (-0.232)	-0.581** (-0.234)	-0.554** (-0.232)	-0.453** (-0.190)
EFFR*Capital Mobility	-0.009 (-0.015)	-0.009 (-0.015)	-0.009 (-0.015)	0.045*** (-0.016)
EMBI*Capital Mobility	0.0008*** (0.000)	0.0008*** (0.000)	0.0008*** (0.000)	0.0009*** (0.000)
Depreciation*Capital Mobility	-0.062*** (-0.013)	-0.063*** (-0.013)	-0.063*** (-0.013)	-0.058*** (-0.012)
Inflation	0.347*** (-0.039)	0.346*** (-0.040)	0.346*** (-0.040)	0.343*** (-0.040)
VIX (Logged)	-0.652** (-0.264)	-0.711** (-0.281)	-0.686** (-0.275)	0.086 (-0.236)
VIX*Capital Mobility	0.151** (-0.074)	0.150** (-0.074)	0.140* (-0.073)	0.004 (-0.068)
Fed Balance Sheet Growth	3.793 (-2.304)	4.317* (-2.396)	0.407 (-1.793)	2.790 (-1.983)
QE*Fed Balance Sheet Growth	--	-4.614 (-4.626)	-4.864 (-4.553)	-7.951* (-4.296)
Post-Lehman Period (Binary)	--	0.217 (-0.276)	0.213 (-0.276)	0.332 (-0.430)
Post-Lehman*EMBI	--	--	--	-0.005*** (-0.001)
Post-Lehman*Cap Mobility	--	--	--	0.360*** (-0.078)
Balance Sheet Growth*Cap Mob	--	--	1.397*** (-0.354)	1.024*** (-0.253)
R-Squared (Within)	0.872	0.872	0.872	0.877
F-Statistic	193.6	312.9	321.9	386.8

Results from the Full Sample Period (N=11, T=643)

*GDP and QE Binary Variables not reported

- Specification (3) adds interaction between Fed balance sheet growth and capital mobility
 - Coefficients stable in the regression
 - Fed balance sheet loses significance
 - But interaction term with capital mobility is positive and significant
 - Capital controls may have helped to limit the effect of Fed policy on domestic interest rates

Specification	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Effective Federal Funds Rate	0.568*** (-0.045)	0.585*** (-0.060)	0.584*** (-0.060)	0.450*** (-0.053)
EMBI	0.003*** (-0.001)	0.003*** (-0.001)	0.003*** (-0.001)	0.003*** (-0.001)
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Results from the Full Sample Period (N=11, T=643)

*GDP and QE Binary Variables not reported

- Specification (4) adds additional interaction terms with the global financial crisis binary term
 - Both interactions are significant
 - EMBI spreads were lower in the post-Lehman era
 - Capital controls were more effective in the post-Lehman era

Specification	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Effective Federal Funds Rate	0.568*** (-0.045)	0.585*** (-0.060)	0.584*** (-0.060)	0.450*** (-0.053)
EMBI	0.003*** (-0.001)	0.003*** (-0.001)	0.003*** (-0.001)	0.003*** (-0.001)
Expected Depreciation	0.619*** (-0.036)	0.622*** (-0.038)	0.622*** (-0.038)	0.599*** (-0.038)
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R-Squared (Within)	0.872	0.872	0.872	0.877
F-Statistic	193.6	312.9	321.9	386.8

Results from the Post-Lehman Period

- Specifications (1) and (2) compare the EMBI and CDS results
 - Results are strikingly similar using two different measures of country-specific risk
 - Interaction between Fed balance sheet growth and capital mobility is significant and positive
 - More mobile capital no longer helps guard against depreciation effects
 - Capital controls have mixed effects

Specification	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
EMBI	0.003*** (-0.001)			
CDS		0.003*** (-0.001)	0.005*** (-0.001)	0.006*** (-0.001)
Capital Mobility	-0.226** (-0.095)	-0.143 (-0.089)	-0.725*** (-0.207)	-0.732*** (-0.210)
EMBI*Capital Mobility	0.0005*** (-0.000)			
CDS*Capital Mobility		0.0003*** (-0.000)	-0.0002 (-0.000)	-0.0002 (-0.000)
Expected Depreciation	0.199*** (-0.050)	0.181*** (-0.050)	0.186*** (-0.048)	0.183*** (-0.049)
Depreciation*Capital Mobility	-0.012 (-0.008)	0.006 (-0.006)	0.005 (-0.006)	0.007 (-0.006)
Inflation	0.243*** (-0.056)	0.278*** (-0.059)	0.271*** (-0.058)	0.247*** (-0.052)
GDP	-0.115*** (-0.019)	-0.121*** (-0.012)	-0.123*** (-0.012)	-0.117*** (-0.011)
Fed Balance Sheet Growth	2.192 (-2.912)	2.01 (-2.857)	2.955 (-3.230)	8.967*** (-1.624)
Bal Sheet Growth*Capital Mobility	0.898*** (-0.190)	1.294*** (-0.190)	0.994*** (-0.220)	0.919*** (-0.211)
VIX (Logged)			-0.803*** (-0.210)	-1.019*** (-0.262)
VIX*Capital Mobility			0.205*** (-0.057)	0.200*** (-0.057)
Quantitative Easing (Binary)				-0.267 (-0.777)
QE*Fed Balance Sheet Growth				-16.48*** (-3.361)
Observations	2,079	2,457	2,457	2,457
Number of Countries	11	13	13	13
R-Squared (Within)	0.657	0.682	0.686	0.696
F-Statistic	123.2	219.3	192.9	216.5

Results from the Post-Lehman Period

- Specification (3) adds in VIX and interaction with capital mobility
 - Results show a stronger negative sign on capital mobility sign
 - Fed balance sheet has a weaker positive sign
 - Both VIX measures are significant; greater mobility makes a nation more susceptible to higher rates in response to higher global risk

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EMBI	0.003*** (-0.001)			
CDS		0.003*** (-0.001)	0.005*** (-0.001)	0.006*** (-0.001)
Capital Mobility	-0.226** (-0.095)	-0.143 (-0.089)	-0.725*** (-0.207)	-0.732*** (-0.210)
EMBI*Capital Mobility	0.0005*** (-0.000)			
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VIX*Capital Mobility			0.205*** (-0.057)	0.200*** (-0.057)
Quantitative Easing (Binary)				-0.267 (-0.777)
QE*Fed Balance Sheet Growth				-16.48*** (-3.361)
Observations	2,079	2,457	2,457	2,457
Number of Countries	11	13	13	13
R-Squared (Within)	0.657	0.682	0.686	0.696
F-Statistic	123.2	219.3	192.9	216.5

Conclusions

- The federal funds rate has influenced interest rates in emerging markets.
- Capital controls have varying effects
 - Generally helped to guard against country-specific risk and quantitative easing periods
 - Also, helped weaken the effects of global risk aversion in the post-Lehman period
 - Worsened the effects of expected depreciation in pre-Lehman and full sample periods; no effect post-Lehman era
- EMBI and CDS spreads explain similar variation
- There appears to be a structural break around the crisis
- Quantitative easing pushed down interest rates for EMs

Future Extensions

- Earlier findings regarding capital controls are sensitive to sample selection
- Identify capital control indices that measure the intensity of these policies in emerging markets
- Determine structural breaks endogenously
- Analyze the mechanisms Fed policies flow through to emerging markets

Takk fyrir!

Caveats to the Analysis

- Capital controls need more precise measurement
- Does not necessarily extend to fixed exchange rate regimes
- Sample is limited
- Exogenous break date assumed
- Large degree of non-entity varying variables
- Potential endogeneity

Summary of Variables

Variable Predictions and Definitions				
Variables of Interest	Measurement	Source	Expected Sign	Stationary?
Certificate of Deposit Rate	Percentage	Bloomberg	N/A	Yes - Levels
Effective Federal Funds Rate	Percentage	Bloomberg	(+)	Assumed - Levels
EMBI Global	Basis points	Bloomberg	(+)	Yes - Levels
CDS Spread	Basis points	Bloomberg	(+)	Yes - Levels
Expected Depreciation	Percentage	Bloomberg	(+)	Yes - Levels
Capital Mobility	Index value	IMF/Fraser Institute	(o/+)	No - Little variation
Volatility Index	Percentage	Bloomberg	(+)	Yes - Logged
Federal Reserve Balance Sheet	\$USD	Bloomberg	(-)	Yes - Logged Diff.
Controls	Measurement	Source	Expected Sign	Stationary?
Agricultural Commodity Index	\$USD	Bloomberg/JP Morgan	(+)	Yes - Logged Diff.
Energy Commodity Index	\$USD	Bloomberg/JP Morgan	(+)	Yes - Logged Diff.
Metals Commodity Index	\$USD	Bloomberg/JP Morgan	(+)	Yes - Logged Diff.
Gross Domestic Product	Annualized growth rate	Bloomberg	(+)	Yes - YoY Growth
Inflation	Annualized growth rate	Bloomberg	(+)	Yes - YoY Growth
Primary Budget Balance	Annualized growth rate	Fitch Ratings	(-)	No - Little variation
Government Debt	As a share of GDP	Fitch Ratings	(+)	No - Little variation
Current Account Balance	As a share of GDP	Bloomberg	(-)	No - Little variation

Results from the Full Sample Period (N=11, T=643)

*GDP and QE Binary Variables not reported

- Specifications (2) adds QE variables and GFC binary
 - Results generally stable to prior specification
 - Fed balance sheet now significant with positive sign

Specification	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Effective Federal Funds Rate	0.568*** (-0.045)	0.585*** (-0.060)	0.584*** (-0.060)	0.450*** (-0.053)
EMBI	0.003*** (-0.001)	0.003*** (-0.001)	0.003*** (-0.001)	0.003*** (-0.001)
Expected Depreciation	0.619*** (-0.036)	0.622*** (-0.038)	0.622*** (-0.038)	0.599*** (-0.038)
Capital Mobility	-0.578** (-0.232)	-0.581** (-0.234)	-0.554** (-0.232)	-0.453** (-0.190)
EFFR*Capital Mobility	-0.009 (-0.015)	-0.009 (-0.015)	-0.009 (-0.015)	0.045*** (-0.016)
EMBI*Capital Mobility	0.0008*** (0.000)	0.0008*** (0.000)	0.0008*** (0.000)	0.0009*** (0.000)
Depreciation*Capital Mobility	-0.062*** (-0.013)	-0.063*** (-0.013)	-0.063*** (-0.013)	-0.058*** (-0.012)
Inflation	0.347*** (-0.039)	0.346*** (-0.040)	0.346*** (-0.040)	0.343*** (-0.040)
VIX (Logged)	-0.652** (-0.264)	-0.711** (-0.281)	-0.686** (-0.275)	0.086 (-0.236)
VIX*Capital Mobility	0.151** (-0.074)	0.150** (-0.074)	0.140* (-0.073)	0.004 (-0.068)
Fed Balance Sheet Growth	3.793 (-2.304)	4.317* (-2.396)	0.407 (-1.793)	2.790 (-1.983)
QE*Fed Balance Sheet Growth	--	-4.614 (-4.626)	-4.864 (-4.553)	-7.951* (-4.296)
Post-Lehman Period (Binary)	--	0.217 (-0.276)	0.213 (-0.276)	0.332 (-0.430)
Post-Lehman*EMBI	--	--	--	-0.005*** (-0.001)
Post-Lehman*Cap Mobility	--	--	--	0.360*** (-0.078)
Balance Sheet Growth*Cap Mob	--	--	1.397*** (-0.354)	1.024*** (-0.253)
R-Squared (Within)	0.872	0.872	0.872	0.877
F-Statistic	193.6	312.9	321.9	386.8

Results from the Post-Lehman Period

- Specification (4) adds in QE binary measures
 - Previous regression results hold up
 - Evidence that QE policies put downward pressure on emerging market interest rates

Specification	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
EMBI	0.003*** (-0.001)			
CDS		0.003*** (-0.001)	0.005*** (-0.001)	0.006*** (-0.001)
Capital Mobility	-0.226** (-0.095)	-0.143 (-0.089)	-0.725*** (-0.207)	-0.732*** (-0.210)
EMBI*Capital Mobility	0.0005*** (-0.000)			
CDS*Capital Mobility		0.0003*** (-0.000)	-0.0002 (-0.000)	-0.0002 (-0.000)
Expected Depreciation	0.199*** (-0.050)	0.181*** (-0.050)	0.186*** (-0.048)	0.183*** (-0.049)
Depreciation*Capital Mobility	-0.012 (-0.008)	0.006 (-0.006)	0.005 (-0.006)	0.007 (-0.006)
Inflation	0.243*** (-0.056)	0.278*** (-0.059)	0.271*** (-0.058)	0.247*** (-0.052)
GDP	-0.115*** (-0.019)	-0.121*** (-0.012)	-0.123*** (-0.012)	-0.117*** (-0.011)
Fed Balance Sheet Growth	2.192 (-2.912)	2.01 (-2.857)	2.955 (-3.230)	8.967*** (-1.624)
Bal Sheet Growth*Capital Mobility	0.898*** (-0.190)	1.294*** (-0.190)	0.994*** (-0.220)	0.919*** (-0.211)
VIX (Logged)			-0.803*** (-0.210)	-1.019*** (-0.262)
VIX*Capital Mobility			0.205*** (-0.057)	0.200*** (-0.057)
Quantitative Easing (Binary)				-0.267 (-0.777)
QE*Fed Balance Sheet Growth				-16.48*** (-3.361)
Observations	2,079	2,457	2,457	2,457
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