Can Exchange Rate Volatility Explain Persistence in the Forward Premium?

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Abstract

The persistence of the forward premium has been cited both as evidence of the failure of the unbiasedness hypothesis and as rationale for the forward premium anomaly. This paper examines the recent proposition that forward premium persistence can be explained solely by the conditional variance of the spot rate. We provide theoretical and empirical evidence to challenge this proposition. Our empirical results are shown to be robust to the presence of structural breaks. A corollary of the results is that the 'true' risk premium contains a long memory component. This is non-standard and has implications for the construction of rational expectations models of the foreign exchange market.

JEL classification: C14, C22, F31, G14

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1. Introduction

The issue of whether the foreign exchange market is efficient has produced a voluminous literature. Market efficiency is based on the principle that asset prices reflect all publicly available information (Fama, 1970). Under the joint assumptions of risk neutrality and rational expectations, the expected returns to speculative activity in an efficient market should be zero. Therefore, in a forward or futures market the current price of an asset for delivery at a specified date should be an unbiased predictor of the future spot rate. Interestingly, recent literature has found evidence of long memory (see Baillie and Bollerslev, 1994, and Choi and Zivot, 2005) or unit root (see Kellard *et al.*, 2001) behaviour in the forward premium, suggesting a rejection of this unbiasedness hypothesis. In a similar vein, Maynard and Phillips (2001) propose that the literature should subsequently explore why the forward premium might display such time series characteristics.

Possible determinants of the time series behaviour of the forward premium include persistent inflation differentials (Roll and Yan, 2000) and peso problems (Evans and Lewis, 1995). Baillie and Bollerslev (2000) also show, under certain assumptions, that international CAPM (ICAPM) implies that the conditional variance of the spot rate (CVSR), possibly in combination with a 'true' risk premium (TRP)¹, provides an alternative rationale. Indeed, Baillie and Bollerslev (2000) exploit this possibility by simulating a model of the foreign exchange market where the assumed long memory behaviour of the conditional variance is inherited by the forward premium. Interestingly, the simulated results are broadly consistent with the empirical features of the forward

¹The true risk premium differs in definition from the standard or rational expectations risk premium. See section 2 for more details.

premium puzzle. Subsequently, both Maynard and Phillips (2001) and Baillie *et al.* (2002) note, but do not test, that the forward premium and the conditional variance possess similar time series characteristics.

The motivation for this paper is to examine whether the time series properties of the forward premium are solely inherited from the conditional variance of the spot rate. To our knowledge this has not been hitherto attempted in the literature. Firstly, we present a brief proof to show that ICAPM does not imply a uni-causal link between the CVSR and the forward premium. Secondly, we provide empirical support for our theoretical conjecture. Employing daily data from five major currencies, and in contrast to the supposition of Baillie and Bollerslev (2000), it is shown that the forward premium and the CVSR are not fractionally cointegrated. Our empirical results are shown to be robust to the presence of structural breaks in the forward premium and CVSR.

Finally, we discuss the main implications of our findings. Given that exchange rate volatility cannot uniquely explain the persistence of the forward premium, ICAPM posits the existence of a non-stationary and fractionally integrated TRP. This is an interesting notion given the general assumption of a stationary risk premium in the literature (see Engel, 1996) and suggests, most obviously, that rational expectations models of the foreign exchange market should be capable of producing long memory in the TRP. Presently, it should be noted that asset pricing models have been typically unable to provide risk premia with properties that generate the forward premium anomaly. The recent work by Maynard and Phillips (2001) provides theoretical evidence that the anomaly is in fact, a statistical artefact driven by long memory in the forward premium. Our results provide evidence that these two strands of literature may be joined. We posit that long memory in the TRP helps explain the time series behaviour of the

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forward premium, the subsequent forward premium anomaly and failure of the unbiasedness hypothesis.

The paper is divided into six sections. Section 2 describes the theoretical foundations and Section 3, the empirical methodology to be adopted. Section 4 describes the data and the results, whilst section 5 provides a discussion. Finally, section 6 concludes.

2. Theoretical foundations

Following Zivot (2000), the unbiasedness hypothesis under rational expectations and risk neutrality is given by

$$f_{t-1} = E_{t-1}(s_t)$$
(1)

where s_t and f_t are the natural logarithms of the spot and forward rates at time t and $E_t(.)$ is the expectations operator conditional on information available at time t. Moreover, equation (1) is commonly expressed as the levels relationship

$$s_t = f_{t-1} + \varepsilon_t \tag{2}$$

where ε_t is a random, zero-mean variable. From (2) and considering that spot and forward prices are generally found to be non-stationary (see Meese and Singleton, 1982), a necessary condition for market efficiency is the existence of cointegration between spot and lagged forward rates. The cointegrating regression can be specified as

$$s_t = \beta_0 + \beta_1 f_{t-1} + u_t \tag{3}$$

Clearly, the unbiasedness hypothesis requires $\beta_0 = 0$, $\beta_1 = 1$ and that u_t is not serially correlated. Tests for cointegration generally confirm that spot and lagged forward rates

are cointegrated, often with the required coefficients (see Kellard et al., 2001).

An equivalent approach for assessing the unbiasedness hypothesis comes from noting that the residual term in (2) can be expressed as

$$\varepsilon_t = s_t - f_{t-1} = (s_t - s_{t-1}) - (f_{t-1} - s_{t-1})$$
(4)

Given the stationary behaviour of the spot return $(s_t - s_{t-1})$, the order of integration of the forecast error $(s_t - f_{t-1})$ is determined solely by the lagged forward premium $(f_{t-1} - s_{t-1})$. Thus Maynard and Phillips (2001) note that inclusion of the spot return introduces unnecessary noise that may cause finite sample bias. Additionally they suggest that this finite sample bias is of particular significance because, as reported by Newbold *et al.* (1998), the forward premium is so small in magnitude that the time series properties of the forecast error can be easily dominated by those of the much larger spot return. However, as with evidence from the forecast error, cointegration and unit root tests on the forward premium have provided conflicting results. Hai *et al.* (1997), Horvath and Watson (1995) and Barnhart and Szakmary (1991) reject the presence of a unit root in forward premia series. However, Crowder (1994, 1995), Kuersteiner (1996) and Kellard *et al.* (2001) provide evidence to the contrary.

Inconsistent evidence has led some to suggest that neither short memory nor unit root models are entirely appropriate to model the data. Specifically, Maynard and Phillips (2001) and Baillie and Bollerslev (1994) find that a fractionally integrated model fits the forward premium adequately and reason that this provides an explanation for the dichotomy in the literature. Of course, long memory or unit root behaviour in the forward premium imply persistence in the forecast error, allowing it to be predictable from past values. This provides a rejection of the unbiasedness hypothesis. Thus, Maynard and Phillips (2001) propose that the literature should subsequently explore why the forward premium might display such time series characteristics.

A generalisation of (1) can be achieved by noticing that under the assumptions of constant relative risk aversion (CRRA) and log normality, the international CAPM simplifies to

$$E_{t-1}(s_t) = f_{t-1} - \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{var}_{t-1}(s_t) + \operatorname{cov}_{t-1}(p_t, s_t) + \rho \operatorname{cov}_{t-1}(s_t, c_t)$$
(5)

where c_t , p_t and ρ denote the logarithm of consumption, price level and degree of relative risk aversion (see Obstfeld and Rogoff, 1996). Under rational expectations, equation (5) can be expressed as the levels relationship

$$s_{t} = f_{t-1} - \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{var}_{t-1}(s_{t}) + \operatorname{cov}_{t-1}(p_{t}, s_{t}) + trp_{t-1} + \varepsilon_{t}$$
(6)

where $trp_{t-1} = \rho \operatorname{cov}_{t-1}(s_t, c_t)$, is a time dependent TRP². Subtracting s_{t-1} from both sides of (6), ignoring the covariance term due to very small size (see Engel, 1996) and rearranging leads to

$$(s_{t} - s_{t-1}) - (f_{t-1} - s_{t-1}) = -\frac{1}{2} \operatorname{var}_{t-1}(s_{t}) + trp_{t-1} + \varepsilon_{t}$$
(7)

Given the short memory of the spot return process³ and assuming, as the literature often does, a similar process for the TRP, it is therefore possible that the time series properties of the forward premium are inherited solely from the CVSR. As recent literature has

²In the literature the term risk premium (rp_{t-1}) is often defined as $rp_{t-1} = f_{t-1} - E_{t-1}(s_t) = \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{var}_{t-1}(s_t) - \operatorname{cov}_{t-1}(p_t, s_t) - \rho \operatorname{cov}_{t-1}(s_t, c_t)$. Engel (1996) refers to this as the rational expectations risk premium.

³Engel (1996) notes that numerous studies have established that the spot return is I(0).

suggested the forward premium and conditional variance are fractionally integrated⁴, (7) implies the stationary cointegrating vector $-(f_{t-1} - s_{t-1}) + \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{var}_{t-1}(s_t)$. In other words, the forward premium will be fractionally cointegrated with the conditional variance of the spot rate. Exploiting this possibility, Baillie and Bollerslev (2000) simulate (7), adopting a fractionally integrated (d = 0.75) GARCH model of $\operatorname{var}_{t-1}(s_t)$. As noted earlier, the simulated results were broadly consistent with the empirical features of the forward premium puzzle.

Baillie and Bollerslev (2000), Maynard and Phillips (2001) and Baillie *et al.* (2002) have all used (6) and (7) to suggest that the CVSR may explain the behaviour of the forward premium. However, it is important to stress that (6) is derived from the Euler equation for a *home* household's allocation problem. There is, of course, an equivalent Euler equation for *foreign* households

$$s_{t} = f_{t-1} + \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{var}_{t-1}(s_{t}) + \operatorname{cov}_{t-1}(p_{t}^{*}, s_{t}) - tr p_{t-1}^{*} - \varepsilon_{t}^{*}$$
(8)

Subtracting s_{t-1} from both sides of (8), ignoring the covariance term due to very small size and rearranging leads to

$$(s_{t} - s_{t-1}) - (f_{t-1} - s_{t-1}) = \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{var}_{t-1}(s_{t}) - trp_{t-1}^{*} - \varepsilon_{t}^{*}$$
(9)

Again, assuming a stationary spot return and risk premium, (9) implies the stationary cointegrating vector $-(f_{t-1} - s_{t-1}) - \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{var}_{t-1}(s_t)$. However, $-(f_{t-1} - s_{t-1}) + \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{var}_{t-1}(s_t)$ is

⁴There are several other explanations for the persistence in exchange rate volatility and the forward premium aside from fractionally integrated long memory; for example, mean-breaks (see Sakoulis and Zivot, 1999), non-linear behaviour (see Sarno *et al.*, 2005) or local-to-unity processes (see Liu and Maynard, 2004). Moreover, there appears to be little agreement in the literature as to which might be the most appropriate. However, fractionally integrated long memory is perhaps the most commonly applied recent explanation for both variables (see Baillie *et al.*, 2002).

implied by (7). Clearly, both cannot be stationary and there must be a fractionally integrated risk premium to balance the model⁵. The following simple proposition can now be stated

Proposition Given the validity of equation (7) and its foreign counterpart (9), and allowing for a stationary spot return, then a fractionally integrated true risk premium must exist.

An empirical corollary of the above proposition is that the forward premium will *not* be fractionally cointegrated with the CVSR as a bi-variate pair.

3. Empirical methodology

To test whether the forward premium and the CVSR are *or are not* fractionally cointegrated, we use both the Hassler *et al.* (2004) semi-parametric methodology and a conventional parametric approach. However, it is important to note that recent literature has suggested that occasional structural breaks may induce a spurious long memory effect in time series processes (see Granger and Hyung, 2004, and Diebold and Inoue, 2001). In particular, Choi and Zivot (2005), after testing for long memory in the forward premium, use the Bai and Perron (1998, 2004) procedure in an attempt to identify possible structural breaks. After any required demeaning, they repeat the long memory tests on the forward premium. We propose to follow a similar methodology and the test statistics to be applied are described in more detail below.

⁵We thank Charles Engel for this point.

(i) Testing for long memory

The introduction of the autoregressive fractionally integrated moving average (ARFIMA) model by Granger and Joyeux (1980) and Hosking (1981) allows the modelling of persistence or long memory where 0 < d < 1. A time series y_t follows an ARFIMA (p,d,q) process if

$$\Phi(L)(1-L)^{d} y_{t} = \mu + \Theta(L)\varepsilon_{t}, \quad \varepsilon_{t} \sim iid(0,\sigma^{2})$$
(10)

where $\Phi(L) = 1 - \phi_1 L - ... - \phi_p L^p$ and $\Theta(L) = 1 - \theta_1 L - ... - \theta_q L^q$. Such models may be better able to describe the long-run behaviour of certain variables. For example, when 0 < d < 1/2, y_t is stationary but contains long memory, possessing shocks that disappear hyperbolically not geometrically. Contrastingly, for 1/2 < d < 1, the relevant series is non-stationary, the unconditional variance growing at a more gradual rate than when d = 1, but mean reverting.

The memory parameter d can be estimated by a number of different techniques. The most popular, due to its semi-parametric nature, is the log periodogram estimator (Geweke and Porter-Hudak, 1983; Robinson, 1995a) henceforth known as the GPH statistic. This involves the least squares regression

$$\log I(\lambda_j) = \beta_0 - d \log \{4\sin^2(\lambda_j/2)\} + u_j, \ j = l + 1, l + 2, ..., m$$
(11)

where $I(\lambda_j)$ is the sample spectral density of y_t evaluated at the $\lambda_j = 2\pi j/T$ frequencies, T is the number of observations and m is small compared to T. Inter alia, Pynnönen and Knif (1998) and Hassler *et al.* (2004), note that the least-squares estimate of d can be used in conjunction with standard t-statistics. For the stationary range, -1/2 < d < 1/2, Robinson (1995a, 1995b) demonstrated that the GPH estimate is consistent and asymptotically normally distributed. Additionally, Velasco (1999a, 1999b) shows that when the data are differenced, the estimator is consistent for 1/2 < d < 2 and asymptotically normally distributed for 1/2 < d < 7/4.

Fractional cointegration can be defined by supposing y_t and x_t are both I(d), where *d* is not necessarily an integer and the residuals, $u_t = y_t - \beta x_t$, are $I(\delta = d - b)$. When b < d, where *b* is also not necessarily an integer, series are fractionally cointegrated. Testing for fractional cointegration can be accomplished using a multi-step methodology (see Hassler *et al.*, 2004) where (i) the order of integration of the constituent series are estimated and tested for equality and (ii) the long-run equilibrium relationship is estimated⁶ and the residuals examined for long-memory. Alternative methodologies include the joint estimation of memory parameters of the constituent series, the cointegrating residuals and the equilibrium relationship (see Velasco, 2003) or the use of bootstrap methods (see Davidson, 2003).

A frequently used approach is to adopt a multi-step methodology where the concluding step estimates the GPH statistic, δ , for the least squares residual of the equilibrium relationship (see Dittman, 2001). Inter alia, Tse *et al.* (1999) experimentally noted that t-statistics associated with δ might not be normally distributed. Hassler *et al.* (2004) demonstrate that δ has a limiting normal distribution provided the very first harmonic frequencies are trimmed. Specifically, this entails setting l > 0 in (11). Of course, given asymptotically normal estimators, standard inference procedures can be

⁶The long-run equilibrium relationship itself could be approximated by OLS, a fractional version of the Fully Modified method suggested by Kim and Phillips (2001), Gaussian semi-parametric estimation developed by Velasco (2003) or narrow band spectral estimates (see Robinson and Marinucci, 1998).

legitimately applied.

Agiakloglou, Newbold and Wohar (1992) note that GPH type estimation may suffer from finite sample bias in the presence of strongly autoregressive short memory. Thus, for comparative purposes, we also compute ARFIMA (p, d, q) models by exact maximum likelihood (ML)⁷. These estimates are less robust in a large sample but explicitly modelling the autoregressive and moving average terms in (10), less susceptible to finite sample bias.

(ii) Testing for structural breaks

A commonly used procedure to identify multiple structural breaks is due to Bai and Perron (1998, 2003a, 2003b, 2004). They consider the m-breaks in mean model below

$$y_t = \beta_j + \varepsilon_t \tag{12}$$

where j = 1,...,m+1 and β_j is the mean level of y_t in the *jth* regime. Additionally, the *m*-partition $(T_{1,...,}T_m)$ are the breakpoints for the different regimes and conventionally, $T_0 = 0$ and $T_{m+1} = T$. As Choi and Zivot (2005) discuss, such breaks in the mean can be usefully interpreted as the direct impact of an economic shock. To estimate the breakpoints, the following objective function is employed

$$(\hat{T}_1,...,\hat{T}_m) = \arg\min_{T_1,...,T_m} S_T(T_1,...,T_m)$$
 (13)

where for each *m*-partition $(T_{1,...,}T_m)$, the least squares estimates of β_j are generated by minimising the sum of the squared residuals

⁷Applied to the first differenced series to satisfy the stationarity/invertibility condition -0.5 < d < 0.5 and again the resulting estimate of *d* was then increased by 1. Following Davidson (2003), the model order was chosen by minimizing the SBC.

$$S_T(T_1,...,T_m) = \sum_{i=1}^{m+1} \sum_{t+T_{i-1}+1}^{T_i} (y_t - \beta_j)^2$$
(14)

In other words, the breakpoint estimators correspond to the global minimum of the sum of the squares objective function. To solve the minimization problem in (13), Bai and Perron (2004) suggest the use of a specific dynamic programming algorithm. Clearly, after estimating the breakpoints, it is easy to obtain the counterpart least-squares regression parameter estimates $\hat{\beta}(\hat{T}_1,...,\hat{T}_m)$.

Bai and Perron (1998) propose a group of test statistics to choose the number of mean breaks (m). To begin, let $SupF_T(b)$ be the F-statistic for testing the null hypothesis of no structural breaks (m = 0) against the alternative that there are breaks (m = b). Subsequently, two "double maximum" statistics can be developed, both testing the null hypothesis of no structural breaks versus the alternative of an unknown number of breaks (where M is an upper bound). First, $UD \max = \max_{1 \le m \le M} SupF_T(m)$ and second, $WD \max$, which applies differing weights to the individual $SupF_T(b)$ so that the marginal p-values are equal across values of m. Lastly, Bai and Perron (1998) define $Sup_T(m+1|m)$ to test the null hypothesis of m breaks against the alternative of m+1 and derive critical values for each test statistic.

As far as estimation strategy is concerned, after several Monte Carlo simulations, Bai and Perron (2004) recommend the following approach. Examine the double maximum statistics to determine if any structural breaks are present. Next, if the double maximum statistics are significant, examine the $SupF_T(m+1|m)$ statistics to decide on the number of breaks, selecting that which rejects the largest value of m.

A useful characteristic of the Bai and Perron (1998, 2003a) method is that test

statistics can be calculated under reasonably general specifications. In particular, specifications can allow for autocorrelation and heteroscedasticity in the regression model residuals, in addition to different moment matrices for the regressors in the different regimes. To allow for all these features, we adopt the most general Bai and Perron (1998, 2003a) specification⁸.

4. Data and results

Daily time series of spot rates, one-month interest rate differentials⁹ and CVSRs were constructed for the period January 1991 to March 2001¹⁰. The data for spot exchange rates and eurocurrency rates¹¹ were obtained from Datastream and calculated as the closing (London time) average of bid and ask quotes for five currencies: US Dollar/Sterling, Yen/US Dollar, Deutschmark/US Dollar, Deutschmark/Sterling and Deutschmark/Yen¹². Finally, the CVSR is proxied by the square of `traded' implied volatilities which measure the market's expectations about the future volatility of the spot

⁸Specifically, using the notation of Bai and Perron (2004), we set $cor_u = 1$, het_u = 1 and $\pi = 0.15$. Following Choi and Zivot (2005), we set M = 5. Note that the Bai and Perron (1998, 2003a,b) statistics are computed using the GAUSS program available from Pierre Perron's home page at http://econ.bu.edu/perron/.

⁹Under covered interest parity (CIP) the forward premium is equal to the interest rate differential. Maynard and Phillips (2001) demonstrate that the differential is a much cleaner series than the forward premium and thus is preferred for use in empirical analysis.

¹⁰The choice of start date was governed by the availability of implied volatility data.

¹¹Eurocurrency rates are annualized rates so that a quoted interest rate of 5 per cent typically translates to a thirty-day rate of 0.05(30/360). The calculations assume that annualized rates for the dollar, Mark and Yen refer to a 360-day year, whereas annualized rates for Sterling refer to a 365-day year.

¹²Specifically, for the US Dollar/Sterling and Yen/US Dollar, the data run from 2nd January 1991 to 16th March 2001 and total 2594 observations. Due to the introduction of the Euro, the Deutschmark/US dollar, Deutschmark/Yen and Deutschmark/Sterling series run from 2nd January 1991 to 31st December 1998 and total 2023 observations.

exchange rate¹³.

The more common approach in the literature (see, inter alia, Baillie and Bollerslev, 2000) has been to generate the CVSRs using a GARCH-type process. This approach has a number of disadvantages including that recent work has demonstrated that implied volatility outperforms GARCH models in forecasting future currency volatility (see, for example, Jorion, 1995; Dunis *et al.*, 2000; Dunis and Huang, 2002). However, as currency volatility has now become a traded quantity in financial markets, it is therefore directly observable on the marketplace. The data used are at-the-money, one-month forward, market quoted volatilities at close of business in London, obtained from brokers by Reuters. The databank is maintained by CIBEF at Liverpool Business School. Since these data are directly quoted from brokers, they avoid the potential biases associated with the backing out of implied volatilities from a specific option-pricing model¹⁴.

Tables 1 and 2 report the GPH statistics¹⁵ for the forward premium and CVSR respectively, estimated using differenced data¹⁶ and Ox version 3.33 (see Doornik, 1999). GPH statistics for the spot return were estimated using levels data and are shown in Table 3.

[Insert Table 1]

¹³Implied volatilities are also annualized rates so that a quoted volatility of 5 per cent typically translates to a monthly variance rate of $(0.05^2)(21/252)$. The calculations assume that annualized rates refer to a 252 trading day year.

¹⁴This traded volatility data has also been employed in another recent study by Sarantis (2005).

¹⁵Note that the GPH statistic was estimated at $m = T^{0.75}$ following Maynard and Phillips (2001). The estimated standard error of *d* is that derived by Geweke and Porter-Hudak (1983) and shown in equation (4) of Hassler *et al.* (2004), who show it to be more appropriate than the conventional and Robinson (1995a, 1995b) alternatives.

¹⁶The resulting estimate of d was then increased by 1. Also note that in (11) l is set equal to zero, indicating no trimming of the harmonic frequencies.

Table 1 contains some interesting results. Firstly, the GPH point estimates of fractional differencing in the forward premia are spread over the range 0.84 to 0.98. These point estimates are similar to Maynard and Phillips (2001) but much higher than those of Baillie and Bollerslev (1994), whose values range from 0.45 to 0.77. Despite the closeness of their point estimates to unity, Maynard and Phillips (2001) concur with Baillie and Bollerslev that the forward premium is a fractionally integrated series. Table 1 indicates that when the standard errors of the GPH point estimates are considered this conclusion can be considered reasonable. Specifically, three out of the five series reject the null of a unit root. However, it should be noted that the point estimates from the estimated ARFIMA models typically lie slightly closer to unity than their semi-parametric counterparts.

[Insert Table 2]

Table 2 shows the GPH point estimate for the CVSR range from 0.63 to 0.85. Generally speaking, these values are not untypical when compared with those previously noted (see Baillie *et al.*, 1996). Tests for d = 1 show that, in particular, the traded volatility series are fractionally integrated with 0.5 < d < 1. Similar conclusions can be drawn from the estimated ARFIMA models. Finally, Table 3 confirms previous literature, both the GPH and ARFIMA tests finding the spot return¹⁷ is *I*(0).

[Insert Table 3]

It is interesting to note that the GPH point estimates are closer to unity for the forward premium than for the CVSR for all currencies. To examine this in more detail we test that

¹⁷Following Maynard and Phillips (2001), Table 3 shows the k = 1 daily spot return because allowing k > 1, the overlapping data problem will generate upward bias in d. However, it should be noted that the one period spot return using monthly spaced data also generated results similar to those in Table 3 (available on request).

the fractional orders of the constituent variables are equal by applying the homogenous restriction

$$H_0: PD = 0 \tag{15}$$

where $D = \begin{bmatrix} d_y \\ d_x \end{bmatrix}$ and $P = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$. Robinson (1995a) noted the relevant Wald test statistic

could be expressed as

$$\hat{D}'P' \Big[(0,P) \Big\{ (Z'Z)^{-1} \otimes \Omega \Big\} (0,P)' \Big]^{-1} P \hat{D}$$
(16)

where Ω is residual variance-covariance matrix from (11), $Z = \begin{bmatrix} Z_{l+1} & \dots & Z_m \end{bmatrix}'$ and $Z_j = \begin{bmatrix} 1, -\log \{4\sin^2(\lambda_j/2)\} \end{bmatrix}'$. Table 4 contains the Wald test results.

[Insert Table 4]

For the Mark/US Dollar, Yen/US Dollar, US Dollar/Sterling and Mark/Yen, the test indicates different fractional orders for the two variables of interest. Only for the Mark/Sterling does the Wald test assert equivalence. Theoretically, for currencies with unequal orders of integration, fractional cointegration cannot hold. However, for the reasons discussed in the section on methodology, it can be difficult to estimate the d parameter with precision. Therefore we will adopt a cautious approach and examine the fractional differencing parameter of the possible cointegrating relationship¹⁸ for all five currencies.

[Insert Table 5]

¹⁸The cointegrating vector is estimated by OLS. Ng and Perron (1997) examine the normalization issue in two-variable models. They demonstrate that the least squares estimator may possess poor finite sample properties when normalized in one direction but can be well behaved when normalized in the other. As a practical suggestion, they advise using as regressand, the variable that is less integrated. Thus, we use conditional variance of the spot rate as the dependent variable.

Table 5 shows the estimation of the memory parameter δ for the possible cointegrating vectors using (i) the Hassler *et al.* (2004) methodology with l = 1 in (11) and (ii) the conventional ARFIMA methodology discussed previously. Interestingly, the point estimate of δ is almost exactly the same as the fractional parameter d of constituent series. So far, the results provide no evidence of fractional cointegration between the forward premium and the CVSR for any of the five exchange rates.

Tables 6 and 7 present the Bai and Perron (1998, 2003a) statistics for tests of multiple structural breaks in the forward premium and CVSR respectively.

[Insert Tables 6 and 7]

For every series, the UD max and WD max statistics indicate the presence of mean breaks. For the forward premium, the $SupF_T(m+1|m)$ statistics suggest a selection of between 3 and 5 breaks, depending on the currency; for the CVSR the range is lower, the $SupF_T(m+1|m)$ statistics suggesting the presence of 1 to 3 breaks¹⁹.

As noted earlier, the presence of structural breaks may cause the detection of spurious long memory. Following the methodology of Choi and Zivot (2005), we demean each series using the estimates $\hat{\beta}_j$ from the least squares regression of equation (12), conditional on the estimated break points $(\hat{T}_1,...,\hat{T}_m)$. Both the estimated coefficients and break points for each series are shown in Tables 8 and 9.

[Insert Tables 8 and 9]

We then repeat the tests for long memory. Results for the demeaned forward premium and CVSR are given in Tables 10 and 11.

¹⁹Choi and Zivot (2005) also find evidence of multiple structural breaks in the forward premium. We are not aware of any other study that has attempted to detect breaks in traded implied volatility.

[Insert Tables 10 and 11]

The demeaned results, taken as a whole, show little difference from their original counterparts. The GPH point estimates for the forward premium are now spread over the slightly lower range of 0.79 to 0.95. Notably, the corresponding ARFIMA estimates are now spread over a similar range of 0.81 to 0.94. GPH and ARFIMA point estimates for the CVSR have likewise decreased marginally. In summary, fractional differencing estimates for all series are still comfortably in the non-stationary region. It would appear that the time series behaviour of the daily forward premium and CVSR can be characterised by both long memory and structural breaks²⁰.

[Insert Tables 12 and 13]

Table 12 contains the Wald test results for equal memory in the demeaned forward premium and CVSR. Now, only for the US Dollar/Sterling is equivalence suggested. However, persisting with a cautious approach, Table 13 reports estimation of the cointegrating vector memory parameter δ using all the demeaned series. Unsurprisingly, given the small memory changes reported in Tables 10 and 11, the results again provide no evidence of fractional cointegration between the forward premium and the CVSR.

5. Discussion

The proposition given in section 2 suggests that a fractionally integrated foreign

²⁰Choi and Zivot (2005) examined the time series behaviour of 5 one-month forward premium series (Deutschmark, French Franc, Italian Lira, Canadian Dollar and British Pound, all relative to the US Dollar) using monthly data over the period 1976:1 to 1999:1. Similarly to the results reported above, they find that after accounting for breaks, long memory can still be detected in all series. However, the fractional differencing parameter moves from the non-stationary to the stationary region. This divergence in the results of the two studies may have occurred through the use of a different data period or frequency. Additionally, as noted earlier, we employ the 'cleaner' interest rate differential as a proxy for the forward premium.

exchange TRP exists. The empirical corollary being that the forward premium is not fractionally cointegrated with the CVSR as a bi-variate pair. The results in the previous section find exactly this and therefore give some credence to our proposition.

Given the common assumption of a stationary risk premium in the literature, evidence for a fractionally integrated TRP has a number of implications. For example, our results help shed more light on the failure of the forward rate unbiasedness hypothesis, over both the long and short-run. In the long run, we posit that it is the forward premium, the CVSR *and the* unobserved TRP that are fractionally cointegrated as a tri-variate group. In other words, it is a joint long memory component that is transferred to the forward premium. This component is highly correlated with the past and therefore partly forecastable.

In the short-run, the failure of the unbiasedness hypothesis is most often observed via the so-called forward premium puzzle. Given the short-run version of (3) below

$$s_t - s_{t-1} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 (f_{t-1} - s_{t-1}) + u_t$$
(17)

the forward premium puzzle relates to the preponderance of negative coefficients for $\hat{\beta}_1$ estimated in the literature (see Chinn and Meredith, 2004). A negative coefficient indicates that an expected appreciation in the exchange rate is typically followed by a depreciation and vice-versa. In other words, market forecasts of the spot return are not only sub-optimal, they are perverse.

There have been a number of attempts to explain the puzzle. For example, Engel (1996) surveys the literature and concentrates on time-varying rational expectations risk premia. On the other hand, Maynard and Phillips (2001) suggest that standard asymptotic theory is inappropriate in the presence of long memory in the forward premium. They

derive non-standard limiting distributions for β_1 with long left tails. It is these long left tails that are posited as being responsible for the puzzle.

Our results provide further evidence that the economic and statistical explanations of the puzzle may be combined. The ICAPM implies that long memory in the TRP and CVSR explains analogous time series behaviour in the forward premium; the induced long memory in the forward premium then resulting in the long tailed distributions that help produce the large number of negative slope coefficients in $(17)^{21}$.

Finally, it should be stressed that as the TRP is unobserved, our conclusions clearly follow from the adoption of a rational expectations approach. If a rational expectations story is to be maintained, theoretical models of the TRP that assume rational expectations (see inter alia, Engel, 1999) should be capable of producing long memory²². This requires that one or more of the variables that explain the TRP should also contain long memory. Evans and Lewis (1995) have argued that because the variables that explain the risk premium are stationary, the risk premium is also stationary. However, as a first step, we suggest that the time series properties of these explanatory variables could be usefully re-examined for long memory. Clearly, any finding of long memory would provide further evidence as to the existence of the TRP. If long memory cannot be found this would suggest (i) the current models of the risk premium are inadequate or (ii) that the rational expectations hypothesis does not hold. We suggest this as an avenue for further research.

²¹This explanation, comprising both economic and statistical rationale, is congruent with new work that suggests long memory behaviour in the forward premium may not be able to explain all the forward premium puzzle (see Maynard, 2005).

²²Several studies have attempted to produce models of the foreign exchange risk premia that account for other empirically inferred time series properties (for example, Bekaert *et al.*, 1994; and Backus *et al.*, 1993).

6. Conclusions

The extant foreign exchange literature has reported evidence of long memory behaviour in the forward premium of several currencies. This is important because the long memory component motivates a rejection of the unbiasedness hypothesis as well as providing a statistical rationale for the forward premium anomaly. Given this context, a key question is what causes the time series behaviour of the forward premium?

Adopting a rational expectations framework, this paper provides theoretical and empirical evidence that the fractionally integrated behaviour of the forward premium can be jointly explained by similar behaviour in the true risk premium (TRP) and the conditional variance of the spot rate. This provides a new channel for the risk premium to play a part in explaining the empirical biases typically found in foreign exchange markets. Specifically, the long memory in the TRP helps explain the analogous time series behaviour in the forward premium; the induced long memory in the forward premium then resulting in the failure of the unbiasedness hypothesis and contributing to the forward premium anomaly.

Finally, it is important to note that in this paper the TRP is unobserved and the above conclusions are dependent on the rational expectations framework. In particular, to provide further evidence for a rational expectations view of the foreign exchange market, similar long memory properties should be present in the explanatory variables indicated by models of the TRP. Further work along these lines is encouraged.

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	$d_{\scriptscriptstyle GPH}$	$ au_{d=1}$	$d_{_{ML}}$	(<i>p</i> , <i>q</i>)
DM/US\$	0.970	-0.769	0.982	(1,0)
	(0.039)		(0.021)	
US\$/UK£	0.980	-0.571	0.934	(1,0)
	(0.035)		(0.020)	
Yen/US\$	0.843	-4.486	1.010	(1,1)
	(0.035)		(0.053)	
DM/Yen	0.849	-3.872	0.993	(3,0)
	(0.039)		(0.031)	
DM/UK£	0.882	-3.026	0.934	(1,0)
	(0.039)		(0.020)	

Table 1: GPH/ARFIMA Tests for the Forward Premium

Note: numbers in parentheses below the estimates for d_{GPH} and d_{ML} are standard errors (σ_d) . Numbers in the third column represent the test statistic $(d_{GPH} - 1)/\sigma_d$.

	$d_{\scriptscriptstyle GPH}$	$ au_{d=1}$	$d_{\scriptscriptstyle ML}$	(<i>p</i> , <i>q</i>)
DM/US\$	0.832	-4.308	0.789	(1,0)
	(0.039)		(0.034)	
US\$/UK£	0.779	-6.314	0.768	(1,0)
	(0.035)		(0.031)	
Yen/US\$	0.632	-10.51	0.741	(3,0)
	(0.035)		(0.035)	
DM/Yen	0.692	-7.897	0.686	(0,2)
	(0.039)		(0.027)	
DM/UK£	0.853	-3.769	0.883	(0,0)
	(0.039)		(0.019)	

Table 2: GPH/ARFIMA Tests for the CVSR

Note: numbers in parentheses below the estimates for d_{GPH} and d_{ML} are standard errors (σ_d) . Numbers in the third column represent the test statistic $(d_{GPH} - 1)/\sigma_d$.

	$d_{\scriptscriptstyle GPH}$	$ au_{d=0}$	$d_{\scriptscriptstyle ML}$	(<i>p</i> , <i>q</i>)
DM/US\$	0.045	1.154	0.007	(0,0)
	(0.039)		(0.018)	
US\$/UK£	0.029	0.829	0.038	(0,0)
	(0.035)		(0.016)	
Yen/US\$	0.0008	0.023	0.014	(0,0)
	(0.035)		(0.016)	
DM/Yen	0.002	0.051	0.036	(0,0)
	(0.039)		(0.018)	
DM/UK£	0.004	0.103	0.00009	(0,0)
	(0.039)		(0.017)	

Table 3: GPH/ARFIMA Tests for the Spot Return

Note: numbers in parentheses below the estimates for d_{GPH} and d_{ML} are standard errors (σ_d) . Numbers in the third column represent the test statistic $(d_{GPH})/\sigma_d$.

Table 4: Wald Tests for the Equality of the GPH Estimates for the ForwardPremium and the CVSR

DM/US\$	US\$/UK£	Yen/US\$	DM/Yen	DM/UK£
6.223 [0.013]	15.70 [0.000]	18.21 [0.000]	8.460 [0.004]	0.267 [0.605]

Note: the Wald statistic has a $\chi^2(1)$ distribution. The figures in square brackets are p-values.

	$d_{\scriptscriptstyle GPH}$	$\tau_{d=0.5}$	$d_{_{ML}}$	(<i>p</i> , <i>q</i>)
DM/US\$	0.852	8.80	0.789	(1,0)
	(0.040)		(0.034)	
US\$/UK£	0.823	8.97	0.797	(0,1)
	(0.036)		(0.023)	
Yen/US\$	0.635	3.75	0.743	(3,0)
	(0.036)		(0.035)	
DM/Yen	0.683	4.58	0.702	(0,2)
	(0.040)		(0.031)	
DM/UK£	0.872	9.30	0.883	(0,0)
	(0.040)		(0.883)	

Table 5: Hassler et al./ARFIMA Tests for the Cointegrating Vector

Note: numbers in parentheses below the estimates for d_{GPH} and d_{ML} are standard errors (σ_d) . Numbers in the third column represent the test statistic $(d_{GPH} - 1/2)/\sigma_d$.

	UDmax ^a	WDmax(5%) ^b	$F(1 0)^{c}$	$F(2 1)^{d}$	$F(3 \mid 2)^{e}$	$F(4 3)^{f}$	$F(5 4)^{g}$
DM/US\$	2109.21***	4628.20**	262.84***	15.57***	13.39**	12.70**	3.34
US\$/UK£	244.29***	351.68**	128.73***	18.43***	24.45***	13.29**	1.65
Yen/US\$	374.01***	391.77**	374.01***	62.66***	19.00***	1.45	1.99
DM/Yen	204.78***	341.60**	16.83***	43.66***	2.67	1.15	92.38**
DM/UK£	68.31***	127.06**	11.85**	62.92***	35.19**	1.34	-

Table 6: Bai and Perron Statistics for Tests of Multiple Structural Breaks in the Forward Premium

Table 7: Bai and Perron Statistics for Tests of Multiple Structural Breaks in the CVSR

	UDmax ^a	WDmax(5%) ^b	$F(1 0)^{c}$	$F(2 1)^{d}$	$F(3 \mid 2)^{\mathrm{e}}$	$F(4 3)^{f}$	$F(5 \mid 4)^{\mathrm{g}}$
DM/US\$	23.81***	31.61**	23.81***	6.89	6.93	8.93	1.41
US\$/UK£	44.58***	44.58**	44.58***	2.71	7.96	0.81	-
Yen/US\$	10.53**	17.09**	8.43*	12.14**	3.76	7.41	-
DM/Yen	13.88***	18.58**	13.44***	12.40**	11.22**	1.62	-
DM/UK£	69.34***	82.41**	44.55***	4.53	7.30	2.32	-

^a 10, 5 and 1 per cent critical values are 7.46, 8.88 and 12.37, respectively. ^b Critical value is 9.91.

^c 10, 5 and 1 per cent critical values are 7.04, 8.58 and 12.29, respectively. ^d 10, 5 and 1 per cent critical values are 8.51, 10.13 and 13.89, respectively. ^e 10, 5 and 1 per cent critical values are 9.41, 11.14 and 14.80, respectively. ^f 10, 5 and 1 per cent critical values are 10.04, 11.83 and 15.28, respectively.

^g 10, 5 and 1 per cent critical values are 10.58, 12.25 and 15.76, respectively. *** significant at the 1% level; **significant at the 5% level; *significant at the 1% level.

Table 8: Bai and Perron Regime Means and End Dates for the Forward Premium				-
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	Regime 1	Regime 2	Regime 3	Regime 4	Regime 5	Regime 6
DM/US\$	0.296 (0.026)	0.458 (0.022)	0.182 (0.007)	-0.101 (0.022)	-0.179 (0.004)	
End Date	3/11/92	7/16/93	9/26/94	12/6/95		
US\$/UK£	-0.495 (0.018)	-0.215 (0.030)	-0.043 (0.006)	-0.115 (0.019)	0.029 (0.008)	
End Date	10/30/92	5/18/94	7/1/97	6/9/99		
Yen/US\$	0.082 (0.028)	-0.176 (0.025)	-0.416 (0.003)	-0.489 (0.016)		
End Date	9/15/93	3/29/95	9/17/99			
DM/Yen	0.165 (0.008)	0.414 (0.007)	0.304 (0.020)	0.258 (0.019)	0.225 (0.002)	0.254 (0.002)
End Date	3/11/92	6/3/93	8/12/94	1/30/96	10/9/97	
DM/UK£	-0.182 (0.048)	0.050 (0.033)	-0.202 (0.017)	-0.308 (0.006)		
End Date	3/20/92	1/18/95	5/1/97			

Note: The first number in each cell is the estimated mean for the regime; standard errors are reported in parentheses. The end date for each regime is shown below the estimated mean.

	Regime 1	Regime 2	Regime 3	Regime 4
DM/US\$	0.132 (0.01)	0.075 (0.006)		
End Date	1/4/96			
US\$/UK£	0.148 (0.012)	0.061 (0.004)		
End Date	11/9/93			
Yen/US\$	0.097 (0.009)	0.215 (0.025)	0.119 (0.013)	
End Date	11/11/97	5/28/99		
DM/Yen	0.093 (0.008)	0.137 (0.011)	0.073 (0.008)	0.186 (0.024)
End Date	9/9/92	5/10/94	10/20/97	
DM/UK£	0.015 (0.001)	0.061 (0.007)		
End Date	8/28/92			

Table 9: Bai and Perron Regime Means and End Dates for the CVSR

Note: The first number in each cell is the estimated mean for the regime; standard errors are reported in parentheses. The end date for each regime is shown below the estimated mean.

	$d_{\scriptscriptstyle GPH}$	$ au_{d=1}$	$d_{\scriptscriptstyle ML}$	(<i>p</i> , <i>q</i>)
DM/US\$	0.952	-1.231	0.909	(0,0)
	(0.039)		(0.017)	
US\$/UK£	0.787	-6.086	0.812	(0,0)
	(0.035)		(0.015)	
Yen/US\$	0.910	-2.571	0.829	(0,0)
	(0.035)		(0.015)	
DM/Yen	0.890	-2.821	0.811	(0,0)
	(0.039)		(0.017)	
DM/UK£	0.926	-1.897	0.941	(1,0)
	(0.039)		(0.025)	

Table 10: GPH/ARFIMA Tests for the Demeaned Forward Premium

Note: numbers in parentheses below the estimates for d_{GPH} and d_{ML} are standard errors (σ_d) . Numbers in the third column represent the test statistic $(d_{GPH} - 1)/\sigma_d$.

	$d_{\scriptscriptstyle GPH}$	$ au_{d=1}$	$d_{\scriptscriptstyle ML}$	(<i>p</i> , <i>q</i>)
DM/US\$	0.813	-4.795	0.786	(1,0)
	(0.039)		(0.035)	
US\$/UK£	0.787	-6.086	0.757	(1,0)
	(0.035)		(0.033)	
Yen/US\$	0.606	-11.26	0.735	(3,0)
	(0.035)		(0.037)	
DM/Yen	0.660	-8.718	0.563	(0,3)
	(0.039)		(0.035)	
DM/UK£	0.814	-4.769	0.661	(0,3)
	(0.039)		(0.019)	

Table 11: GPH/ARFIMA Tests for the Demeaned CVSR

Note: numbers in parentheses below the estimates for d_{GPH} and d_{ML} are standard errors (σ_d) . Numbers in the third column represent the test statistic $(d_{GPH} - 1)/\sigma_d$.

Table 12: Wald Tests for the Equality of the GPH Estimates for the DemeanedForward Premium and the CVSR

DM/US\$	US\$/UK£	Yen/US\$	DM/Yen	DM/UK£
6.706 [0.001]	1.8×10^{-6}	36.17 [0.000]	15.74 [0.000]	3.884 [0.049]
	[0.9989]			

Note: the Wald statistic has a $\chi^2(1)$ distribution. The figures in square brackets are p-values.

Table 13: Hassler *et al.*/ARFIMA Tests for the Cointegrating Vector - Demeaned Series

	$d_{\scriptscriptstyle GPH}$	$\tau_{d=0.5}$	$d_{\scriptscriptstyle M\!L}$	(<i>p</i> , <i>q</i>)
DM/US\$	0.828	8.20	0.786	(1,0)
	(0.040)		(0.035)	
US\$/UK£	0.813	8.69	0.761	(1,0)
	(0.036)		(0.033)	
Yen/US\$	0.625	3.47	0.733	(3,0)
	(0.036)		(0.037)	
DM/Yen	0.664	4.10	0.564	(0,3)
	(0.040)		(0.035)	
DM/UK£	0.820	8.00	0.659	(0,3)
	(0.040)		(0.030)	

Note: numbers in parentheses below the estimates for d_{GPH} and d_{ML} are standard errors (σ_d) . Numbers in the third column represent the test statistic $(d_{GPH} - 1/2)/\sigma_d$.