International Financial and Foreign Exchange Markets

Cross Rates and Bid/Ask Quotations

Balance of Pavments

Exercise Handbook

March 24, 2016



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Exercise I

Fill in the cross rates in the table below:

| | Α | В | С | D | Ε |
|---|-----|-----|---|---|-----|
| Α | — | 5.2 | | | |
| B | | — | | | |
| C | | | — | | 9.5 |
| D | | | 6 | — | |
| E | 4.5 | | | | — |

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Exercise II

Fill in the cross rates in the table below:

| | Α | В | С | D | Ε |
|---|------|-----|---|---|---|
| Α | — | 4.5 | | | |
| B | | | | 2 | |
| C | 3.05 | | — | | |
| D | | | | — | 5 |
| E | | | | | — |

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Exercise III

Given the following bid-ask quote:

| | Bid | Ask |
|---------------|-----|-----|
| $\frac{A}{B}$ | 220 | 240 |

At what exchange rate will:

- Mr. Smith purchase A?
- Mr. Brown sell A?
- Mrs. Green purchase B?
- Mrs. Jones sell B?



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Exercise IV

Consider the following bid-ask quotes:

| | Bid | Ask |
|---------------|------|------|
| $\frac{A}{B}$ | 1.35 | 1.37 |
| $\frac{A}{C}$ | 0.71 | 0.76 |

Please find the $\frac{B}{C}$ bid-ask quote (intermediate computations).

Now suppose that another market maker publishes the following quotes for the $\frac{B}{C}$ rate:

| | Bid | Ask |
|---------------|-------|-------|
| $\frac{B}{C}$ | 0.575 | 0.579 |

Would there be arbitrage opportunities? If so, how would you exploit them (assuming you have 100B at your disposal)?

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Exercise V

Fill in the table below (please, **show all the relevant computations**):

| | Bid | Ask |
|-------------------|---------|--------|
| <u>CZJ</u> GBP | 35.10 | 35.17 |
| DKK GBP | 9.004 | 9.009 |
| <u>EUR</u> GBP | 1.2066 | 1.2069 |
| <u>NOK</u> GBP | 12.1526 | 12.153 |
| DKK EUR | | |
| <u>ĒŪŔ</u> NOK | | |
| <u>GBP</u> CZJ | | |

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Once you have filled in the table above, answer the questions below:

- Find the bid-ask spread for the $\frac{EUR}{GBP}$ quote.
- How much would you lose if you converted 1500 NOK into CZJ, then into EUR and finally back into NOK?

Exercise VI

True or false? Please, explain.

- If a country has a BOP deficit, the total of each BOP sub-account is negative.
- The current account is a record of all trade in goods and services, while the capital account is a record of portfolio investment and unilateral transfers.
- Under a fixed exchange rate regime, if a country's private sector sells abroad more than it purchases, the central bank must sell foreign exchange.
- All errors and omissions in the BOP are a result of black market transactions



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Exercise VII

Multiple choice. **Please, explain**. Assume H = home country, DC = domestic currency, F = foreign country and FC = foreign currency. All else being equal, an increase in income in F leads to:

- 1. an increase in consumption in H, and therefore an increase in imports, resulting in an appreciation of the DC.
- a decrease in consumption in H, and therefore an increase in exports, resulting in a depreciation of the DC.
- 3. an increase in consumption in F, and therefore an increase in imports, resulting in an appreciation of the DC.
- an increase in consumption in F, and therefore an increase in imports, resulting in a depreciation of the DC.

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Exercise VIII

Multiple choice. **Please, explain**. Assume H = home country, DC = domestic currency, F = foreign country and FC = foreign currency. All else being equal, a decrease in prices in F leads to:

- 1. an increase in exports to H, and therefore an appreciation of the DC.
- 2. an increase in exports to H, and therefore a depreciation of the DC.
- 3. an increase in consumption in F, and therefore an increase in imports, resulting in an appreciation of the DC.
- 4. a decrease in consumption in F, and therefore a decrease in imports, resulting in a depreciation of the DC.

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