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Mundell-Fleming Lecture: Federal Reserve Policy in an International Context

Ben Bernanke Brookings Institution

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A SIMPLE MODEL OF CURRENCY WARS

$$(1) i = i_{US} + e$$

Interest-rate parity

$$(2) Y = -ai + bX$$

EME IS curve

$$(3) X = -ce + fY_{US}$$

EME exports

$$(4) L = \frac{\theta}{2} Y^2 - X$$

EME loss function

EME POLICYMAKERS' SOLUTION

(5)
$$Y^* = c/[\theta(a+bc)] > 0$$
 Overheating bias

(6)
$$e^* = -k_0 - k_1 i_{US} + k_2 Y_{US}$$
 Exchange rate determination

where the k_i are positive constants:

$$k_0 = c/[\theta(a+bc)^2], k_1 = a/(a+bc), k_2 = bf/(a+bc).$$

THE GLOBALLY OPTIMAL SOLUTION

$$(7) Y_{US} = -gi_{US} + hX_{US}$$

IS curve for the US

(8)
$$X_{US} = je$$

US exports

(9)
$$L = \frac{\theta}{2} Y^2 - X + \frac{\delta}{2} Y_{US}^2$$

Global loss function

(10)
$$Y_{US} < 0$$
 and $0 < Y < Y^*$

Social optimum

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