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Market power, inflation targeting, and commodity currencies

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Abstract

The 'commodity currency' literature highlights the robust exchange rate response to fluctuations

in global commodity prices that occurs for major commodity exporters. The magnitude of the

response, however, varies widely across countries and over time horizons. This paper examines

the real exchange rates of 51 commodity exporters over the period from 1980 to 2010, and finds

that in the long-run, a higher degree of market power in the world commodity trade can reduce

the exchange rate response, while in the short-run, an inflation targeting regime can amplify it.

These differential impacts across countries and horizons are of particular relevance for monetary

policy-making and for trade strategy in commodity-abundant economies.

Keywords: Commodity price; Inflation targeting; Market power; Panel cointegration; Real

exchange rate

JEL classification: C32; F31; F41; O13

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