

Discussion of “Safe Assets in Emerging Market Economies”

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An important paper

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- What does safely mean?
- Just the right questions

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- Convenience yield

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- Modeled the right way at the get go

Operationalizing convenience yield

$$E \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} \beta^t u(c_t + \nu(\theta_t^i, \text{GDP}_t^i))$$

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- Why does CY go up with policy rates?
 - Perhaps because of scarcity of safe assets
 - Or perhaps because monetary tightening itself increases risk and its pricing (Bekaert and Hoerova)

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- Also need to think about safe USTs that gain in value when the debt ceiling is about to bind

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- Time variance in discount window collateral, useful identification

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- Study spread between local Treasuries and UST as well
- What is happening to the safe/safe spread?
- That completes the analysis

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- What is safety?
- Are there safe assets in emerging markets?
- How does the safety/convenience premium change over time?
- All are partially answered
- Continuing this analysis is important both for macroprudential and for monetary policy purposes