

Feeling the Credit Squeeze



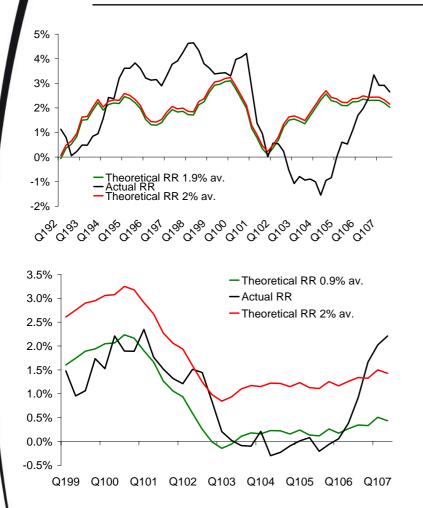
Professor Jagjit S. Chadha University of Kent 5th February 2008

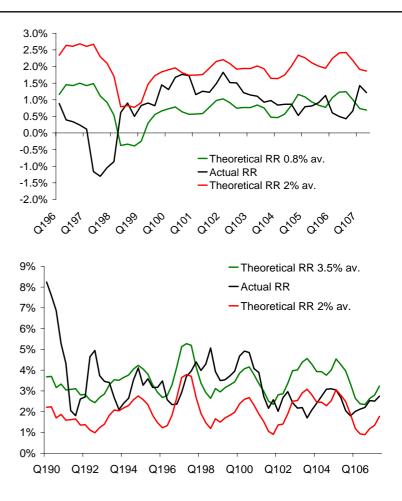


- Growth generated savings to be cycled around the world
- Low interest rates stimulated liquidity
- Asset prices and debt levels bid up
- Impact of real economy on credit performance yet to show
- Risk has been re-priced to more sensible levels
- Policy dilemma: (i) offset shock to credit and money markets; (ii) manage reorganisations of bank supervision; (iii) resuscitate money markets.



Policy Stimulus

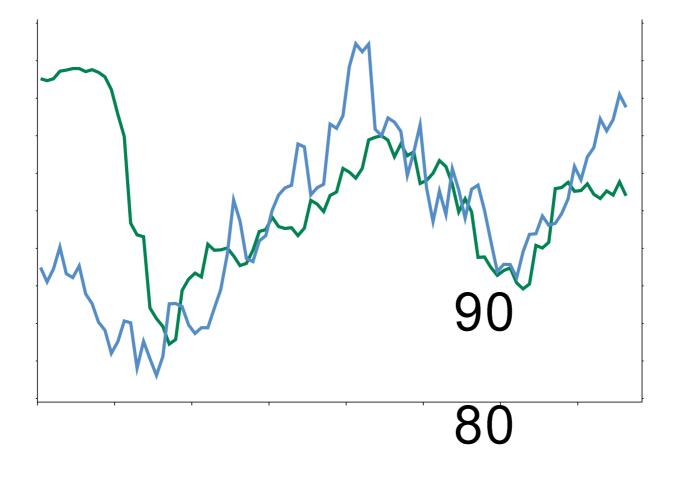




- Policy rates loose in USA (top lhs) compared to equilibrium in mid-00s
- Japan loose policy (top rhs)
- EMU tensions clear (bottom lhs)
- UK also somewhat loose (bottom rhs)



Liquidity Creation

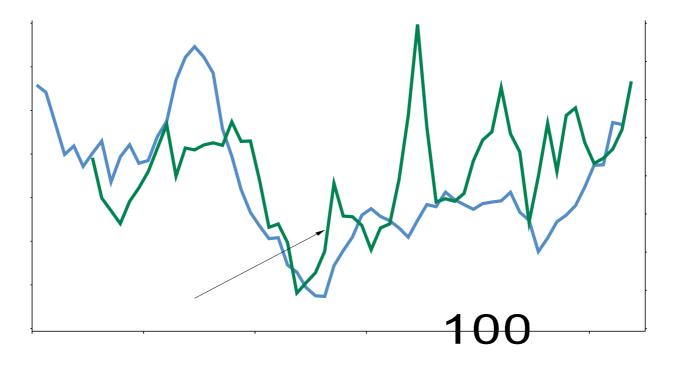


- Many measures. From FX reserves to weighted M3 growth
- Growth has been high from 2006 onwards
- No strong connection to CPI...but to risk appetite



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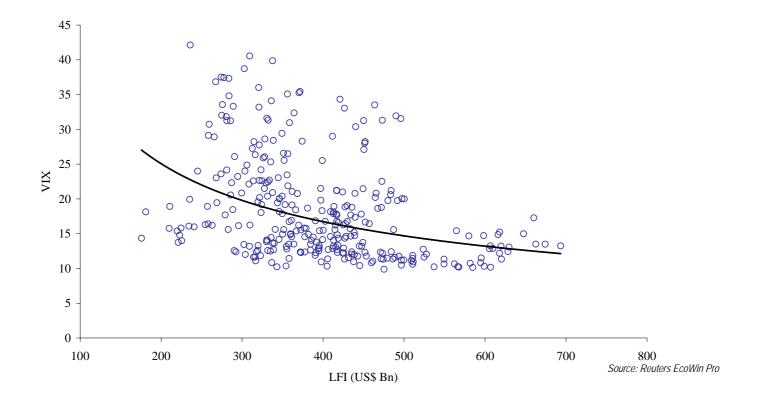
AC

Clear link between global liquidity and primary dealer financing of loan book

Gearing now going into reverse...

Gearing of central bank liabilities by investment banks

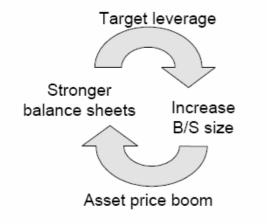


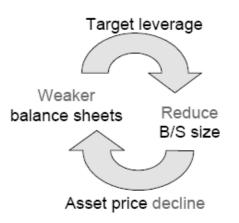


- Financing also related to reduction in expected volatility
- …if volatility increases then so will financing and liquidity.

...tighter times ahead







Liquidity boosts asset prices

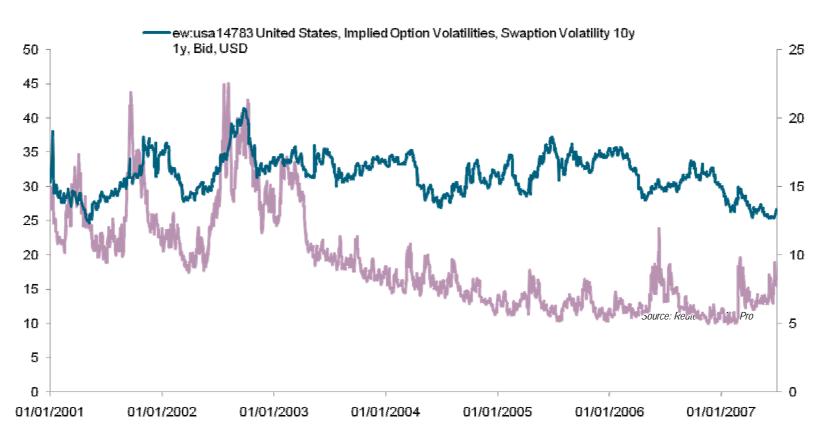
Allows a feed back from asset prices to further liquidity creation

..amplification of business cycle



Falling Price of Risk

ew:usa40450 United States, CBOE, Volatility Index (VIX), Close, USD

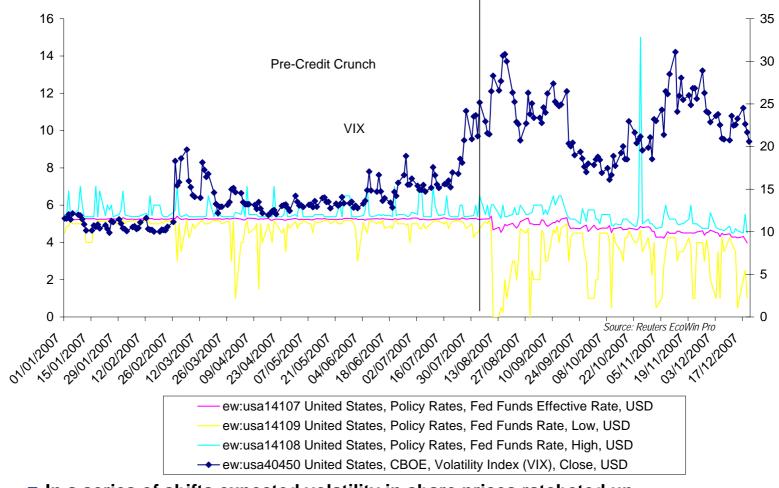


• The Great Moderation reduced expected cyclical volatility across advanced economies

- Liquidity was created
- Asset prices were supported by reduction in expected risk



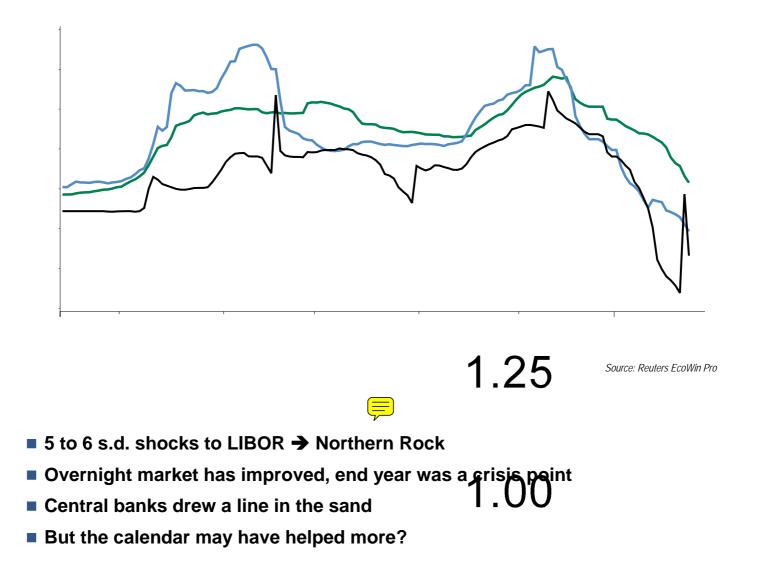
Financial Markets Uncertainty Spillovers



- In a series of shifts expected volatility in share prices ratcheted up
- Expected policy rate started to drift down after August 2007
- Central banks discounted paper and flooded the markets with liquidity

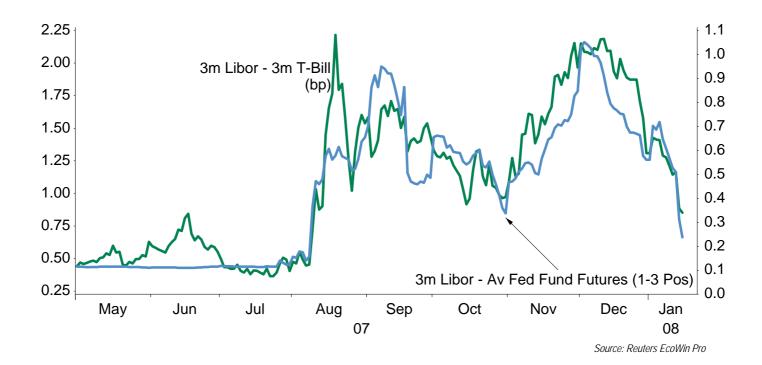


Money Market - Interbank



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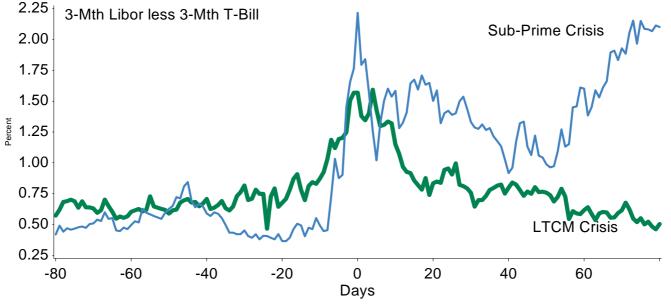
US: Measures of Financial Stress



- While things have improved, since mid-December, we are far from normal
- What is needed is transparency about where the dead bodies are buried
- ...and that will take time, with substantial risks first
- Meanwhile credit spreads are widening, showing spread to real economy



US: 3m Libor - 3m T-Bill Spread - Sliced

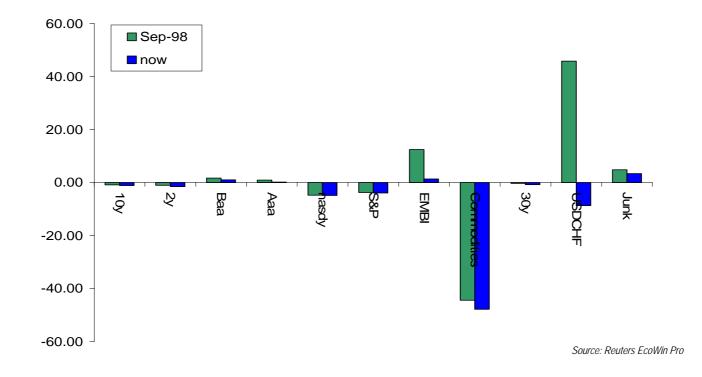


Source: Reuters EcoWin Pro

- **LTCM** crisis saw spread blow-out. Unwound after around a month
- Almost four months since start of subprime crisis...
- ...and TED spread remains at an exceptionally elevated level



US: Asset Class Response LTCM vs August 2007

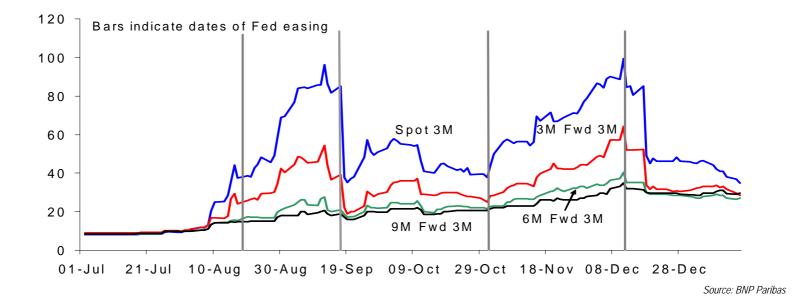


- LTCM crisis saw spread blow-out
- Commodities/Equities fell
- ...but Emerging and Swiss have not reacted in the same way

This one has got legs



Money Market - BOR/OIS Spreads

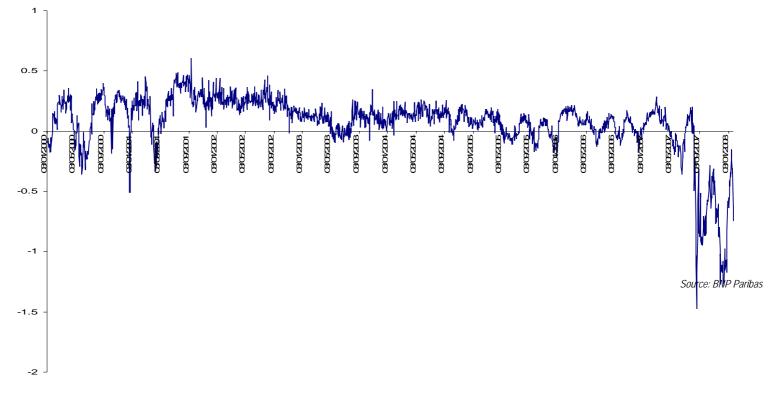


- The spreads between interbank rates and overnight index swap rates have widened since the crisis started
- This reflects the higher counterparty risk and increased preference for term liquidity
- The spreads came down since late December
- Market still sees some permanency to the crisis



Money Market – Returns from Fixed Income Arb

Daily Return from Fixed Income Arbitrage



- This trade gauges the return from supplying liquidity
- Swap CMS for LIBOR and short Treasury Bond for 3-month T-Bill
- The trade looks dead!



Subprime Losses So Far

US&Canada

Date	Company		Loss (USDbn)
Jan	atigraup	Wittedowns and consumer credit losses in Q4	18.10
Dec	Morgan Stanley	Wittedbwrs due to subprime losses	9.40
Dec	Freddie Mac	Losses expected in Q4	10.00
Dec	abc	Wite down of investments linked to the US mortgage market & expected subprime-related witedowns in 2008	298
Dec	Bankof America	Provision expense for loan losses and witedowns expected	3.30
Ot	Morgan Stanley	Losses over the last two months on portfolio of mortgage-related investments	370
Ot	Merrill Lynch	Witedown an martgage backed securities	7.90
Ot	Otigroup	Writedowns related to credit losses	6.50

Europe

Dec	LBS	Further witedown of subprime investments	10.00
Dec	RBS	Charge related to subprime exposure	300
Nbv	KfW-IKB	Set æide to cover losses at IKB Deutsche Industriebank	3.40
Nov	HSBC	Set æide for bæd debts in its US consumer finance business	340
Ot	LBS	Losses and witedowns on trading positions in the US subprime residential mortgage-backed securities	360

Other	20.10
-	

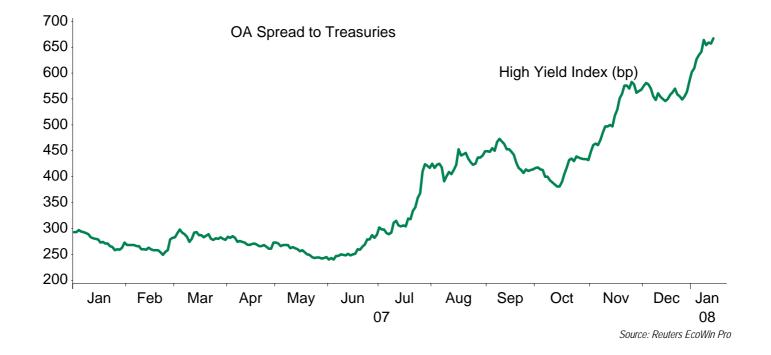
Total	105.4
<u> </u>	

Source: Earnings and press releases, FT, Forbes, Boomberg, Daily Telegraph, Times, Nikkei, BNP Paribas

- Losses have intensified further since the start of the crisis
- Nearly 70% of the realized losses concentrated in the US
- There is still a few hundred billion losses to come



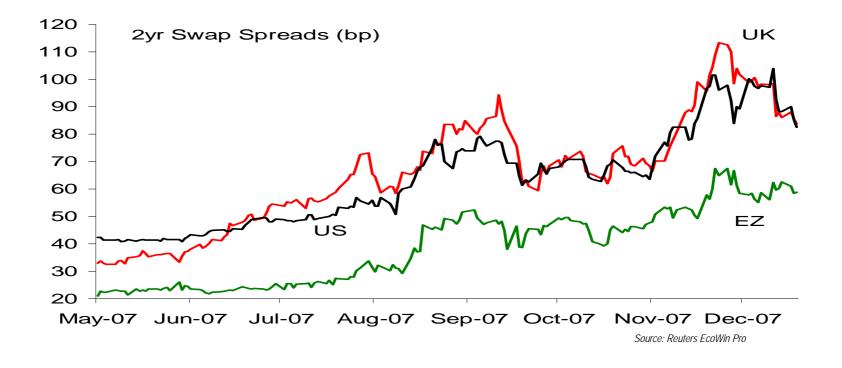
US: High Yield Spreads



- Corporate spreads the best bellwether of a recession
- Spreads have been rising at an alarming pace



Swap Spreads Rising



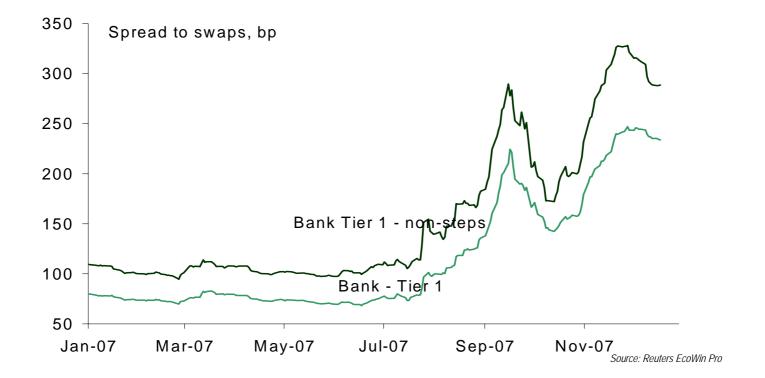
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EZ: High Yield Spreads



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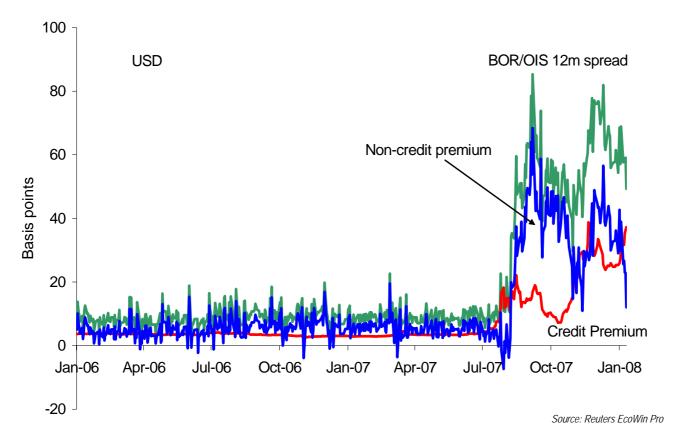




- Corporate spreads the best bellwether of a recession
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Decomposing US BOR/OIS Spread



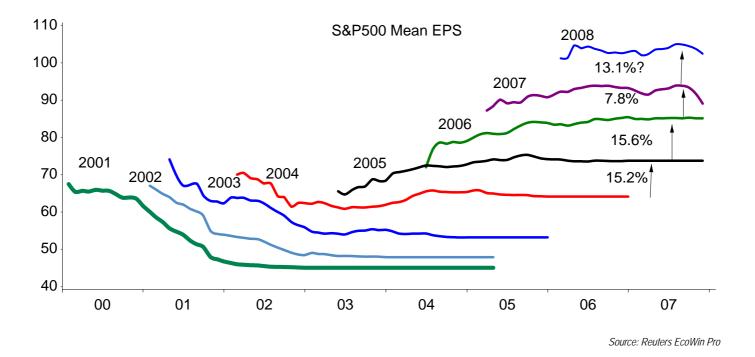
• We can decompose the spread into a credit and a non-credit (ie liquidity) part

- The credit premium is rising as worries about the real economy increase
- Liquidity is as good as it has been since the crisis started

Liquidity Crisis metamorphoses into CREDIT CRUNCH



Priced For Perfection



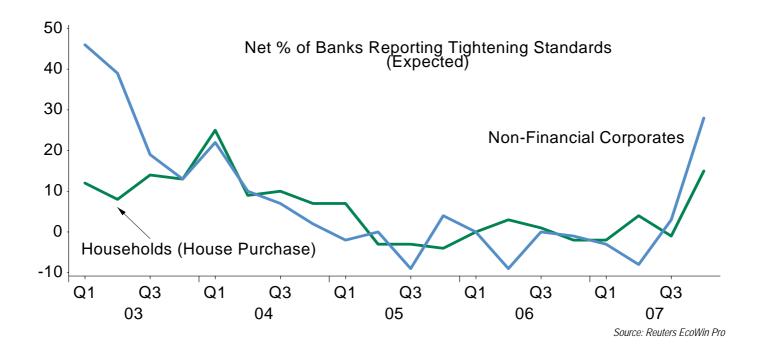
Earnings estimates continue to look too high even allowing for buybacks

- EPS growth of nearly 7.1% this year followed by 13% next year??
- Downward surprise not supportive for investment

Forward Earnings Estimates Too High



E.g. Eurozone: BLS – Tighter Credit Conditions



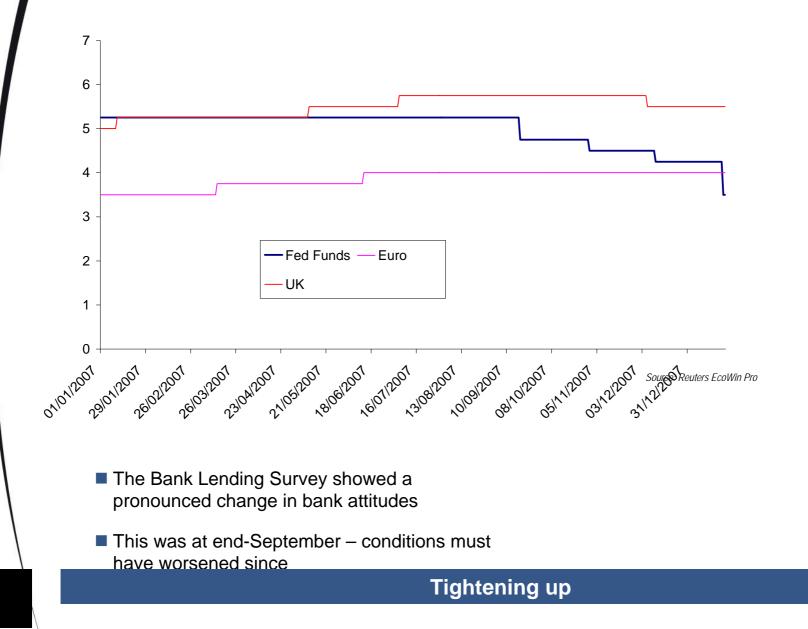
The Bank Lending Survey showed a pronounced change in bank attitudes

This was at end-September – conditions must have worsened since

Tightening up

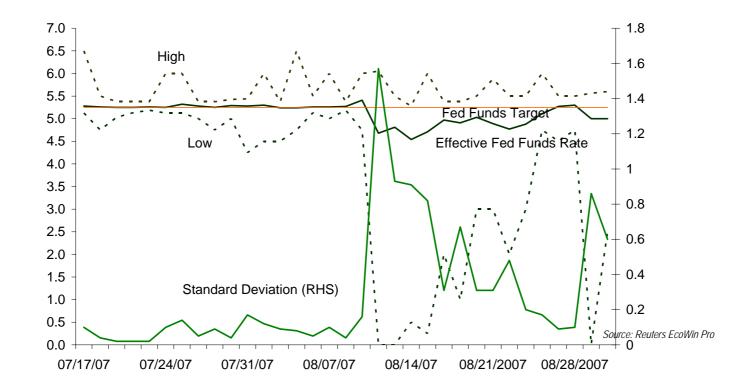


Policy path – US, Euro and UK





US Fed: Interaction of money markets and policy



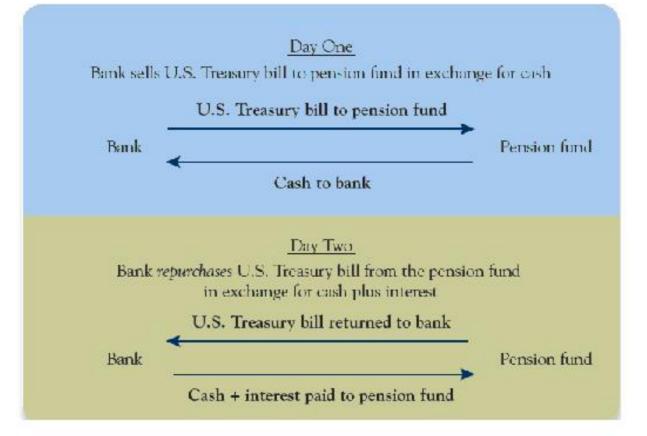
Heavy discounting and leading to primary brokers after August 7th

Effective Fed Funds fell far below the target...

Tightening up



US Fed: Mechanics of a Repo

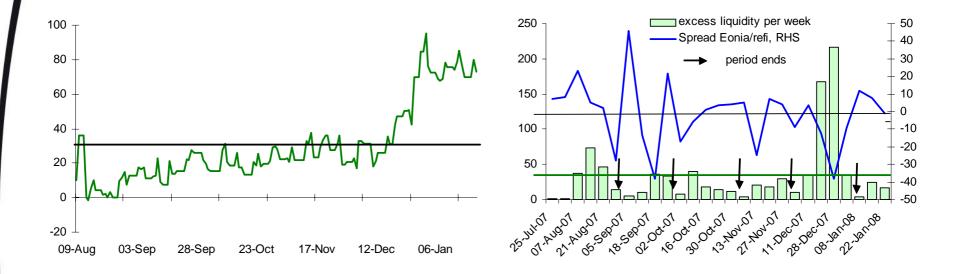


Central banks or banks themselves can smooth asset-liability positions

At what interest rate and what if the collateral "stinks"...

Market can seize...





LHS: Fed Net Cash Accumulated

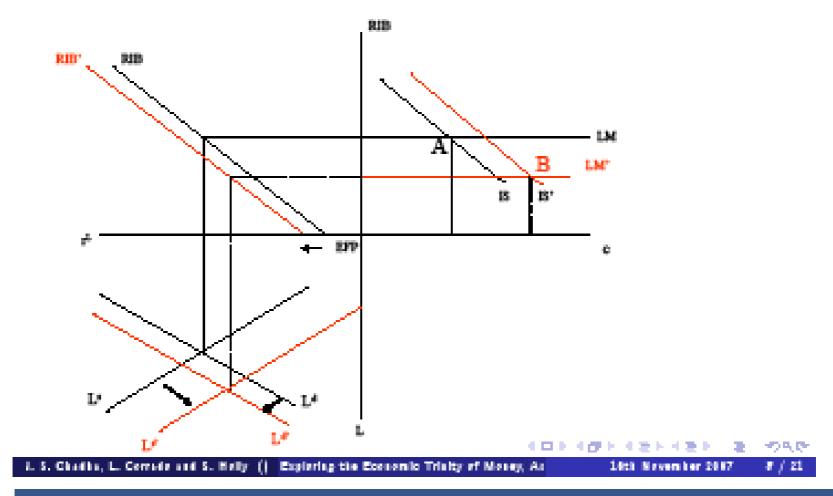
RHS: ECB excess liquidity supplied

A purge for the money markets...

Productivity Shock: An IS-LM-LR Perspective

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A Productivity Shock – Inflation Targeting

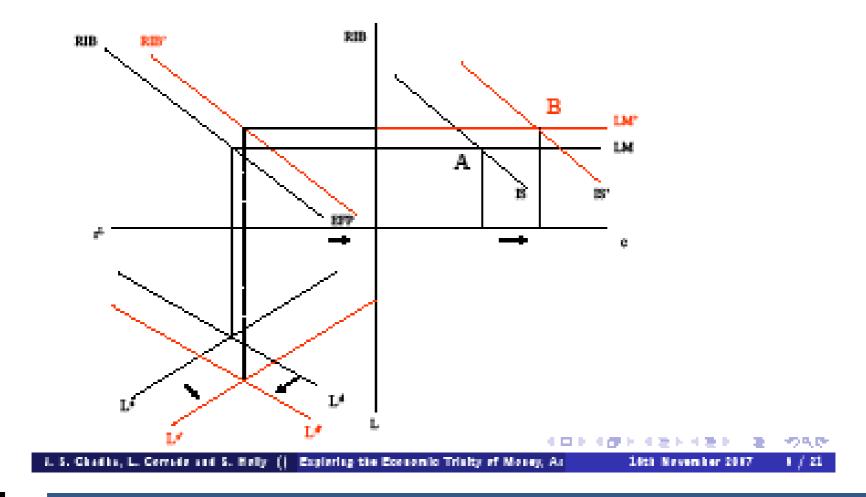


Retail and Credit market rates set in lower lhs quadrant



Monitoring Shock: An IS-LM-LR Perspective

A Monitoring Shock – Inflation Targeting



...disconnected from policy



Potential Solutions

- Increase transparency of who has taken losses
 - Reluctance to take such big losses immediately
 - Losses are mounting
- Avoid fire sale liquidations that impose losses on financial system and impair capital
 - Super SIV problems lack of critical mass, pricing of assets, distrust of motives, 'vultures' want cheaper assets
 - Super SIV has not arrived
- Central bank action
 - Supply plentiful liquidity
 - Cut rates and steepen yield curve
 - Exactly what has happened in US and UK
- Capital injections into banks e.g. from Asia
 - Exactly what has happened in US and UK