

Internationalization of Chinese Yuan and its implications on Global Finance



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Introduction

- 'People's currency' in Chinese
- The official currency of China.
- The yuan is the basic unit of the renminbi ¥
- One yuan is subdivided into 10 jiao, and 1 jiao subdivided into 10 fen.
- Official users: Mainland China (but not Hong Kong nor Macau), Zimbabwe
 - 1 Chinese Yuan = 0.11 British Pound = 0.15 US Dollar



China and internationalisation

International Currenc		
Characteristics		
Medium of exchange	Microeconomics	Macroeconomics
Unit of Accounting	International trade	Currencies
Store of Value	Trade invoicing and settlement	Exchange rates
	Financial markets	Reserves

Frankel (2011)
• Three fundamental strengths of the economy
• The size of the home economy
• The confidence in the value of the currency
• The development of its financial markets
• Depth
• Openness
• Liquidity
• Dependability

Wu and Di (2010)
• Triple A concept
• Ancestry
• Acceptability
• Availability

Ben Cohen (2012)
• A well integrated economy
• A broad transactional network

International Currencies

Characteristics

	Microeconomics	Macroeconomics
Medium of exchange	International trade	Currency intervention
Unit of Accounting	Trade invoicing and settlement	Exchange-rate anchor
Store of Value	Financial markets	Reserve currency

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China and Internationalisation

Should China want an international currency?

- Frankel (2011)
 - The Internationalisation of three currencies
 - US Dollar
 - Deutsche Mark
 - Japanese Yen
 - None pushed for the internationalisation of the currency.
- The costs of issuing an internationalised currency
 - Competitiveness
 - When foreigners buy and hold currency, they increase its value.
 - This harms the competitiveness of the country's exports.
 - The control of the financial system
 - An internationalised RMB means that the China's financial market must be free and deregulated to allow free movement of capital.
 - The loss of cheap capital.
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Does China want an international currency?

- YES.
 - 'The Timing, Path and Strategies of RMB Internationalisation' (PBOC, 2006)
 - The internationalisation of the yuan is an official goal of Beijing.
- Why?
 - The benefits outweigh the costs.
 - The danger of a US dollar-denominated international financial system.
 - Mallaby and Wethington (2011)
 - Recent global crisis
 - China as the largest exporter and biggest trading nation, China is highly vulnerable.
 - Hyoung-kyu (2013)
 - Beijing's massive dollar-denominated foreign reserve
 - Insidious threat