

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System

International Finance Discussion Papers

Number 717

January 2002

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COMPOSITION OF CAPITAL INFLOWS

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## DETERMINANTS AND REPERCUSSIONS OF THE COMPOSITION OF CAPITAL INFLOWS

Mark Carlson and Leonardo Hernández\*

**Abstract:** The Mexican, Asian, and Russian crises of the mid- and late 1990s, have renewed the interest among policymakers in the determinants and effects of private capital flows. This paper analyzes whether policies can affect the composition of capital inflows and whether different compositions aggravate crises. We find that, while fundamentals matter, capital controls can affect the mix of capital inflows that countries receive. We find that during the Asian crisis countries with more Yen denominated debt fared worse, while during the Mexican crisis larger short-term debt stocks increased the severity of the crisis.

**Keywords:** Capital Flows, Crisis, Contagion

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## 1. Introduction

There has been enormous growth in capital flows over the 1990s. It is estimated that private capital flows to the developing countries increased –in nominal terms– by 9 times between 1986 and 1996 (the increase is even larger, about 11 times, for the emerging market economies).<sup>1</sup> The emerging market crisis of 1997 caused a sudden drop in capital flows, but they have since partially resumed (World Bank, 2001). Accompanying the increase in inflows has been a change in their source, destination, and composition. Private flows have become increasingly important, increasing six fold between 1990 and 1996, rising even faster than total flows (Alba et. al. 2000), while Asia has become a more popular destination for foreign capital. During the 1980's, 12% of total capital flows went to Asia. Over the course of the 1990's, this share more than tripled rising to 43% of total flows (Alba et. al. 2000). The composition of capital flows has also changed dramatically. There has been a marked expansion of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) as a portion of capital flows (Alba et. al., 2000; Chuhan et. all., 1998; Hausmann and Fernandez-Arias, 2000).

There has been an extensive debate on whether these changes are caused by forces internal or external to the recipient developing countries. Calvo, Leiderman and Reinhart (1993) found that total flows from the developed to developing nations have been mainly driven by growth and interest rates in the developed world (see also Fernández-Arias, 1996). Others have found that the distribution of capital flows within developing countries has responded to country specific factors, such as political stability, creditworthiness, and location (Calvo and Reinhart, 1996; Fernandez-Arias and Montiel, 1995; Hernández and Rudolph, 1997; Hausmann and Fernandez-Arias, 2000; Corbo and Hernández, 2001). Specific types of inflow composition, analyzed in terms of short term flows (short-term debt and portfolio equity) and long term flows (FDI and long term debt), have been found to be affected by internal fundamentals such as GDP growth and interest rate differentials (Chuhan et. all., 1998; Montiel and Reinhart, 1999; Corbo and Hernández, 2001).

While capital flows are an important means of financing investment (Montiel, 1996; McKinnon, 1999), it has become clear in the past decade that the sudden disappearance (or worse, reversal) of capital flows can result in tremendous crises (Ahluwalia, 2000; Calvo and Reinhart, 1996). It has been argued that the composition of capital flows received by a country

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<sup>1</sup> Source: World Economic Outlook

is an important determinant of whether the rise in capital flows is beneficial or detrimental.

Claessens, Dooley, and Warner (1995) indicated that the conventional wisdom is that<sup>2</sup>:

*“short term capital movements are deemed speculative and reversible –hot money– and long term capital flows –cold money– are based on fundamentals and are deemed reversible only when the fundamentals change (p.154).”*

Short-term capital flows are argued to arrive mainly seeking high returns, leave at the first sign of trouble, and be destabilizing (Rodrik and Velasco, 1999). Long-term capital flows are thought to lead to the accumulation of physical capital or the development of human capital and thus encourage economic development (Frankel & Rose, 1996).

Several studies have tested whether the composition of capital flows influences the susceptibility of a country to a crisis. Rodrik and Velasco (1999) looked at crises in the 1990's and found that having more short-term debt increased the likelihood and severity of a crisis. However, Frankel and Rose (1996) examined the crises between 1971 and 1992 and uncovered no evidence that short-term debt had any effect on the likelihood of a crisis. But there are several concerns about these results. The first is that the level of short-term debt may be endogenous. Investors may shorten the duration of their lending because they are concerned about potential crises, thus leading to a buildup of short-term debt prior to a crisis. Second, these studies assume that all crises are the same. If crises differ in nature, then it will be difficult to use long panels to identify factors that affect countries' susceptibility to and severity of crises. Even if it decreases the power of tests, if crises are different, it is important to separate crises to determine their sources.

In this paper we perform an integrated analysis of the composition of capital inflows. We first examine what determines capital inflow composition and then analyze whether such composition *per se* affects countries' experiences during crises. The first part of the paper focuses on the determinants of inflow composition. We divide inflow composition into FDI, short-term debt and portfolio equity flows. We test whether government policies and fundamentals influence the relative shares of each of these flows in the total. Separating types of flows allows us to determine whether specific flows respond to policies in similar ways. In the second part of the paper, we analyze how the inflow composition affects the severity of the crises that countries experience. In particular, focusing on the Mexican and Asian crises, we first test

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<sup>2</sup> Although their own findings challenges the conventional wisdom.

whether inflow composition acts as a channel through which crises spread from country to country. Next, we test whether short-term debt increases countries' severity of crises. Because there is a concern that the amount of short-term debt outstanding is endogenous, we use as instruments the policies and fundamentals found in the first half of the paper to affect the share of short-term debt. Finally, we examine whether the sources of the two crises are the same. We test whether factors that played a role in one crisis played the same role in the other.

Our results indicate that, while certain fundamentals are important, there are indeed policies that governments can adopt to affect the mix of capital flows that they receive. By imposing capital controls governments can increase the share of FDI in the total. Countries that adopt floating exchange rates tend to attract a higher share of their inflows in short-term debt, while countries with fixed exchange rates tend to attract more direct and portfolio investment. Additionally, we find that portfolio equity tends to respond to policies in ways similar to FDI rather than short-term debt. This is contrary to what has been suggested by the literature that tends to treat portfolio flows as short-term debt.

We also find during the Asian crisis that similar trade patterns and capital inflow composition among countries may have affected the severity of their crisis. Countries with more Yen denominated debt and a larger share of exports to Japan generally fared worse. We believe that this is caused by a misalignment between the countries' currency pegs and the denomination of their debt. During the Mexican crisis, we find evidence that short-term debt increased the severity of the crisis, tentatively lending support to the findings that short-term debt increased the susceptibility of countries to the crisis. Interestingly, we do not find that the same factors mattered in both crises. Short-term debt played a role only in the Mexican crisis. Similarly we find some evidence of an effect of fundamentals, such as an appreciation of the real exchange rate and exchange rate coverage of monetary aggregates, only in one crisis. This suggests that crises are aggravated by different factors and that it may be incorrect to treat crises as equal.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows. We discuss the existing literature and the relation of this study to that literature in Section 2. In Section 3, we present the experience of eight countries over the course of the 1990's. We do this to informally illustrate some trends in the composition of capital inflows and to help motivate some of our results. Section 4 presents our formal analysis of the determinants of the composition of capital inflows. In Section 5, we present our analysis of the impact of capital inflow composition on the experience of different

countries during the Mexican and Thai crises. Section 6 discusses our conclusions and some policy implications.

## **2. Related Literature**

### *2.1 Determinants of Capital Inflows*

With the recent rise in importance of capital inflows from developed to developing countries, there has been a corresponding effort in the literature to understand this phenomenon. The central question in the literature is whether capital flows are driven by *push* factors (things that are external to the country) or *pull* factors (domestic forces). Some of the early studies looked at the volume of flows between the developed and developing worlds, but later studies focused more on how these flows were distributed among countries. Recent studies have examined the determinants of particular types of capital flows.

Calvo et. al., (1993) tested whether aggregate capital flows between the developed and developing countries are driven by business cycles in the developed world (*push* factors) or improving economic conditions in the developing world (*pull* factors). Using principal components analysis, they found that capital flows between developed and developing nations are driven largely by cyclical factors in developed nations. They argued that when investment returns in developed nations decline, money flows abroad seeking higher returns. Thus, capital flows tend to move against the business cycle in the developed world, especially the United States.

But aggregate flows have not been evenly distributed amongst developing countries. This has prompted scholars to examine why only some countries receive large capital inflows.<sup>3</sup> It has been argued that while factors in the industrial world may influence the size of capital flows overall, which countries receive these flows is driven by country specific factors (Corbo and Hernández, 2001; Montiel and Reinhart, 1999; Hernández and Rudolph, 1997). Fernandez-Arias and Montiel (1995) showed that a country's creditworthiness is important for capital flows, and that actions by a country that decrease its credit rating may result in large outflows of capital. Montiel (1996) argued that policy can be an important tool for affecting the magnitude of net capital flows. He argued that capital controls have been effective at reducing the size of capital

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<sup>3</sup> The top 18 recipient countries received about 80% of the net private capital flows during 1990-97 (Source: IMF).

inflows to developing nations. Calvo and Reinhart (1996) found that factors specific to a country, but not necessarily within its control, such as regional location, can be important. They showed that capital flows to small countries increase if they are in the same region of a large country that is receiving capital flows.

Recent studies have examined why different types of capital flows go to particular nations. Often flows are classified either as short-term flows, composed of portfolio equity and short-term debt, or long-term flows such as FDI and LT debt.

Studies that examine short term flows generally find that they are driven by market forces that are indicative of the state of the economy in the recipient country. Chohan et. al. (1998), looked at portfolio debt and equity flows. Using data from the United States, they found that portfolio debt flows (bonds) are affected by credit ratings and secondary market prices. Equity flows are affected by price-equity ratios, stock market returns, and GDP growth. They also found that U.S. interest rates affected equity flows, indicating some importance for external factors in equity markets. Montiel and Reinhart (1999) examined short-term flows. They found that sterilization increased both the volume of inflows and the share of short-term flows. Foreign interest rates were also found to affect the share of short-term flows and especially that of portfolio equity. Bohn and Tesar (1998) look at United States portfolio investment in Asia. Focusing particularly on equity trading, they find that market returns in Asia determine net purchases of assets while the return on assets in the United States has no effect.

The studies examining FDI flows have tested whether they have been affected by a broad range of factors. Montiel and Reinhart (1999) found that by imposing capital controls, countries were able to increase the share of FDI. Hausmann and Fernandez-Arias (2000) found that countries that have less developed capital markets tend to have higher levels of FDI. They concluded that FDI often substitutes for alternative means of financing, so that companies facing difficulties accessing domestic capital markets may instead sell part or all of their firm to a foreign company. Goldberg and Klein (1998) look at FDI to Latin America and East Asia from the United States and Japan. They test whether flows of FDI are affected by changes in the recipient countries' bilateral real exchange rates vis-à-vis either country. They find no effect on FDI flows to Latin America from changes in either bilateral real exchange rate. In East Asia, when the real exchange rate depreciates vis-à-vis Japan or appreciates vis-à-vis the United States, flows from Japan increased. Similarly, an appreciation vis-à-vis Japan increased FDI flows from

the United States. They argued that the difference was that flows from Japan were used to develop export industries, while flows from the United States substitute for imports from the United States.

## *2.2 Contagion and Financial Crises*

Three issues in the vast literature on currency and financial crises are of particular interest. The first concerns the transmission of crises. The second is whether different inflows affect the likelihood and severity of crises. The third issue is whether crises are predictable.

An issue that has grown in importance during the 1990's is how crises spread. The literature describes three ways that contagion can occur: the first is through trade linkages (direct and indirect), the second is through financial linkages (direct and indirect), and the third is through macroeconomic similarities, where a country is attacked because its economic fundamentals resemble the fundamentals of another country in crisis.

Glick and Rose (1998) find evidence that trade linkages are a channel through which crises spread. They find that countries that compete with crisis-origin countries in third country markets are more likely to experience a crisis. The rationale for this finding is as follows: if a country's trade competitor devalues, the country will experience a decline in exports if its exchange rate remains constant. The country is faced with a choice between a recession or devaluing its currency. These circumstances increase the likelihood of a crisis as investors foresee the possibility of a devaluation. Glick and Rose argue that trade patterns are a strong candidate for explaining crises because, like crises, trade patterns tend to be regional.

Hernández and Valdes (2001) find evidence of contagion through indirect financial linkages. Looking at the Thai, Russian, and Brazilian crises, they find that countries experience a more severe crisis if they borrow from banks in the same financial center as the other crisis countries. They argue that this linkage could occur either because the financial assets issued by the two countries could look similar (or are treated as equals), because having a common lender promotes herd behavior, or simply because countries compete for a limited pool of funds – having a common lender increases the impact of margin calls or portfolio balancing when a shock occurs. Van Rijckeghem and Weder (1999) find similar results.

The findings of Sachs, Tornell, and Velasco (1996) have been interpreted as support for the third method of transmission. This study focuses on factors responsible for the severity of the Mexican crisis. Sachs, Tornell and Velasco construct an index of crisis severity based on changes



in all three: international reserves, the exchange rate, and the interest rate.<sup>4</sup> They then test whether a variety of fundamentals, such as the rate of monetary growth compared to international reserves, growth of domestic credit, and appreciation of the real exchange rate, affect this index. They find that countries that did poorly on each and every measure of fundamentals were the ones that suffered the most during the Mexican crisis. It can thus be argued that countries that were similar to Mexico, in that they also had relatively poor fundamentals, were the ones that experienced a more severe *tequila* shock.

A second issue in the literature is whether the capital inflows a country receives affect its susceptibility to a crisis. Countries frequently experience a crisis when capital flows suddenly stop (Calvo, 1998). Countries with large amounts of short-term debt that need to be rolled over would be especially vulnerable to this problem. Several studies have tested this hypothesis. Frankel and Rose (1996) studied a panel of countries over the seventies, eighties, and early nineties. They did not find any role for short-term debt relative to GDP. Rodrik and Velasco (1999) examined a different set of countries during the nineties and did find a role for short-term debt, although their results depend on the variable against which short-term debt is measured. They found that during the nineties, countries with more short-term debt relative to reserves were more likely to suffer a crisis, and that the amount of short-term debt affected the severity of a crisis.<sup>5</sup>

A third issue is whether crises are predictable. The Asian crisis has sparked much debate in this area. Goldstein and Hawkins (1998) argue that there were signs of weakness. They show that there were excessive increases in bank credit, large real exchange rate appreciations with respect to the Japanese Yen that were hurting exports, and a substantial currency mismatch in financial assets. However, Radalet and Sachs (1998) argue that the crisis was not predicted. Foreign lending to the crisis countries continued until right up to the crisis. The sovereign rating of the crisis countries also remained high until the crisis took hold. Berg and Patillo (1998) tested whether measures constructed after the Mexican crisis would have been able to predict the Asian crisis. They find modest evidence that a few measures perform better than a naive guess.

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<sup>4</sup> The index is a weighted average of the changes in the three variables, where the weight are inversely proportional to each series' volatility.

<sup>5</sup> There is some concern about the use in Rodrik and Velasco of contemporaneous values of short-term debt. If investors are concerned about the economic health of a country and the possibility of a crisis, then they may shorten the maturity of their lending. Thus, high levels of short term debt are a symptom rather than a cause of crises.

### 3. Country Experiences

Here we present an informal analysis of three of the issues that are considered in this study, namely, how do shares of capital flows change over time and relative to each other, whether policy variables can affect the flow of capital, and whether trade and financing patterns match the regional crisis patterns. This informal analysis is conducted by presenting the experiences of eight countries. We construct three series of charts. Each series traces three or four variables over time for each of the eight countries. This informal analysis is conducted in order to illustrate broad trends and to motivate the more formal analysis of Section 4.

#### *3.1 Data & Methodology*

The countries that are used in this section are Argentina, Brazil, India, Indonesia, Korea, Mexico, Poland, and Thailand. These countries were selected because of being among those that received relatively large amounts of capital inflows during the 1990s.

The data come from several sources: the IMF International Financial Statistics, the IMF Direction of Trade Statistics, the IMF World Economic Outlook, and the World Bank Global Development Finance Report. See Appendix 1 for the detailed information about the source or method of construction of each variable. The data covers the period from 1988 to 1998.

#### *3.2 The Series*

##### Series 1

The first series focuses on how shares of different flows evolve over time and how they move relative to each other. We look at FDI, short-term debt, and portfolio equity flows as a share of total net capital inflows. The latter are total net capital flows as reported by the IMF. The series can be seen in Figure 1(a)-1(h).

Two observations can be made. First, while FDI has grown in importance for some countries, such as India, this is not the case for all countries. Net flows of FDI to Argentina are quite volatile, while the share of FDI flows to Thailand decreased for most of the sample period. Thus, it is important to know why the overall trend of FDI has increased for some countries but not for others. The last two years of the sample, where the share of FDI flows increases for over

half the countries, indicate that FDI flows are less likely to be deterred by a crisis.<sup>6</sup> Second, there are periods when the shares of portfolio equity flows and short-term debt appear to mirror each other, although this does not seem to be a universal occurrence. This suggests that it is important to separate short-term debt and portfolio equity flows in the analysis below.

### Series 2

The second series examines whether the yearly shares of FDI and short-term debt are influenced by real factors, indicated by the percentage change in annual real GDP, and/or policy measures, represented by an index measuring the extent of sterilization.<sup>7</sup> The literature suggests that sterilization increases the share of short-term debt (Montiel and Reinhart, 1999).

There are some correlations between inflows and the other factors included here. From figures 2 (a)-(h), it is clear that large movements in the sterilization index are associated with large movements in short-term debt. The co-movement is less clear for lower levels of the sterilization index. Movements in real GDP do not appear to be related to shares of short-term debt. However, changes in the share of FDI are moderately correlated with changes in real GDP. In both India and Mexico, increases in the rate of growth of real GDP are followed by increases in the share of FDI. More formal analysis, however, will be needed to confirm this observation.

### Series 3

The third series examines whether trade and financing patterns might have played a role in transmitting crises. Trade patterns are indicated by the share of annual exports to the United States and the share of annual exports to Japan. Financing patterns are indicated by the share of long-term debt denominated in Dollars and the share of long-term debt denominated in Yen. The geographical patterns of crises have led scholars to look for regional explanations. Since trade also tends to be geographically concentrated, it has been a strong candidate for explaining crises contagion (Glick and Rose, 1998). Here we examine whether borrowing patterns also display regional preferences. As an assessment of the potential vulnerability of countries in different regions, the average Yen-Dollar exchange rate for the year is also included.

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<sup>6</sup> It can also be noted additionally that during crisis periods, 1994-5 in Mexico and 1997 in East Asia, short-term debt decreases first and most dramatically.

The series show that geography has a significant impact on both debt denomination and trade. Latin American countries tend to denominate more of their debt in Dollars, while East Asian countries denominate a substantial amount of their debt in Yen during the same time period. Geography also matters for trade; Japan is far less important in Latin America than it is in Asia. Further, except for Mexico, the United States seems to be less important for Latin America than Japan is for East Asia. Thus, movements in the Yen-dollar rate are expected to be more important for East Asian than Latin American countries for trade purposes. Exports to Japan move with the exchange rate, but the movements are small. Debt denomination does not appear to respond at all to shifts in the exchange rate.

#### **4. Determinants of the Composition of Capital Inflows**

In the previous section we observed that policies such as large scale sterilization, and real effects such as changes in growth rates, appear to be correlated with the composition of capital inflows. Here we formally test whether policy and real factors affect the shares of private short-term debt flows, portfolio equity flows, and FDI in annual net capital inflows.<sup>8</sup> The policy variables we use are the exchange rate regime, capital controls, as well as the measure of sterilization used previously. In addition to changes in GDP growth rates we test whether other economic variables, such as the countries' interest rate differentials with international rates, affect inflow composition. We also include location dummies to account for regional effects.

##### *4.1 Data and Methodology*

To test whether policy and real factors affect different types of the capital inflows, we will employ a panel data set. The data consist of annual observations from 1991 to 1998, and include the countries of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Thailand, and Turkey. These countries were chosen because they are among the largest recipients during the 1990s.<sup>9</sup> The types of

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<sup>7</sup> The sterilization index is the difference in the dollar value of domestic credit between two years divided by the difference in the dollar value of reserves in the same two years. All this is multiplied by negative one so that a higher positive value of the index indicates a higher level of sterilization.

<sup>8</sup> We also tried unsuccessfully to measure the determinants of long-term debt.

<sup>9</sup> Other large recipients were excluded because of data availability problems.

capital flows we are concerned with are portfolio equity flows, private short-term debt, and FDI.<sup>10</sup>

Data on different capital flows, GDP, interest rates, and the variables used to construct the sterilization measure come from the IMF International Financial Statistics. See Appendix 1 for details. Data on exchange rate regimes come from Levy-Yeyati and Sturzenegger (1999). The exchange rate regime identified by these authors is used because it is the *de facto* exchange rate regime rather than the *de jure* regime. They identified the regime by observing changes in reserves and changes in the nominal exchange rate. If reserves fluctuated but not the nominal exchange rate, then the exchange rate regime was considered fixed. If the nominal exchange rate changed but not reserves then the regime was considered to be floating. If there was moderate movement in both reserves and the exchange rate, the country was considered to be operating a dirty float. If neither moved then the exchange rate regime was said to be indeterminate.<sup>11</sup>

Data on capital controls are from the IMF Exchange Arrangements and Exchange Restrictions. Controls are broken down into two groups: controls that require the surrender of export proceeds and controls that place restrictions on capital transactions.

Here net capital flows consist of the sum of net flows of FDI, portfolio equity, and total debt.<sup>12</sup> It is important to note that inflows and outflows of different types may offset each other so that “shares” of particular types of flows may exceed 100% of net capital flows.<sup>13</sup>

In cases when outflows almost balance inflows significant outliers will result that may bias the results. Thus, we have eliminated all observations in which the share of one of the components exceeded  $\pm 800\%$  of the net capital inflow. In practice, this led us to drop only one observation—Chile in 1991, for all three series.<sup>14</sup>

In the previous section, it appeared that short-term debt and sterilization moved together only when the sterilization index was very large. Thus in the formal analysis below we replace the sterilization index with an indicator of ‘high’ sterilization. This indicator takes on a value of one when the observation is in the top 15% of the values of the index and is zero otherwise.

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<sup>10</sup> Data on portfolio equity investment in Poland is unavailable.

<sup>11</sup> Or in the authors’ terminology “irrelevant”. See footnote 21.

<sup>12</sup> Importantly official debt flows are not included.

<sup>13</sup> Thus our dependent variable is not constrained to be between zero and one.

<sup>14</sup> This is the year when Chile imposed reserve requirements on capital inflows.

We used lagged values of the explanatory variables rather than contemporary ones. This is done for several reasons. The first is that lagged values may be more indicative of the information available to market participants than the contemporaneous variable. For example, the growth rate of the country will not be known until well into the year. Second, by using lagged values, we are able to more clearly ascertain causality. The data are analyzed in two ways. We use a panel data regression with fixed effects for each country and the seemingly unrelated regression technique (SUR) on a pooled sample with country and year dummies.<sup>15</sup> The results are qualitatively the same in both cases. To correct for potential heteroskedasticity, the errors are White standard.

#### *4.2 Foreign Direct Investment*

We find that both policy and real effects tend to influence the share of FDI relative to other components of net capital inflows. The results of the tests can be found in Table 1.

Similar to the results of Montiel and Reinhart (1999), we find that restrictions on capital transactions tend to increase the share of FDI. This may occur because a more restrictive capital account increases the incentives for domestic firms to avoid capital markets altogether, and lead them to seek financing by allowing themselves to be (partly) purchased by a foreign firm (Hausmann and Fernandez-Arias, 2000).

Floating exchange rates tend to discourage FDI. McKinnon (1999) noted that, with floating exchange rates, capital inflows cause the nominal exchange rates to appreciate. This in turn reduces immediately the ability of a country to export, thus making direct investment in the export sector in that country less attractive.<sup>16</sup> Thus, to the extent that the bulk of FDI goes into export industries, firms may prefer to avoid countries where their ability to export is expected to vary more over time.<sup>17</sup>

Countries in East Asia with high (past) growth rates tend to attract more FDI, while growth rates in other parts of the world have no effect. Firms may prefer to establish an equity stake in economies that are expected to grow. Growth rates in Asia were both high and sustained

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<sup>15</sup> The SUR regression with dummies imposes additional restrictions on the residuals' var-cov matrix. Fixed effects are largely associated with regional factors. A Hausmann test rejected, as expected, the random effects models.

<sup>16</sup> With a fixed exchange rate in the presence of capital inflows the real exchange rate moves (appreciates) slowly.

<sup>17</sup> Recall that the alternative to a floating exchange rate is greater stability.

from year to year.<sup>18</sup> Given the stability in growth rates, firms observing high growth one year could reasonably expect high growth in the future. In contrast, growth rates in other parts of the world are more erratic, and thus do not convey as much information to firms about future growth.<sup>19</sup>

#### 4.3 Short-Term Debt

The determinants of short-term debt tend to be the same ones as for FDI, only with opposite sign. The results of tests of the determinants of the share of short-term debt in net capital flows can be found in Table 2.

As expected, having very high levels of the sterilization index increases the share of short-term debt in the mix. Somewhat curiously, this result holds in Latin America and East Asia but not in the other countries. This result is similar to that reported by Montiel and Reinhart (1999).<sup>20</sup>

Having either a dirty float or a free float tends to increase the share of short-term debt. In other words, under a floating exchange rate regime long-term investment becomes –at the margin–less appealing than short-term investments, thus leading to an increase in the share of short-term debt. And higher growth rates in East Asia tend to decrease the share of capital inflows that are composed of short-term debt, while growth rates in other parts of the world do not have any significant effect.

#### 4.4 Portfolio Equity Investment

The effects of the policies, GDP growth, and interest rates on the share of portfolio equity investment are very similar to those of FDI. Only the relationship between exchange rates regime, capital controls, and portfolio equity share are more complicated. This is surprising. In

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<sup>18</sup> The mean growth rate during 1991-98 is 6.8%, the average variance is 2.4 percentage points and the year to year correlation is 0.3.

<sup>19</sup> The mean growth rate during 1991-98 for all other countries –Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Egypt, India, Mexico, Peru, Poland and Turkey– is 4.0%, the average variance is 4.7 percentage points, and the year to year correlation is 0.1.

<sup>20</sup> Also similar to Montiel and Reinhart (1999) we find evidence –*albeit weak*– that imposing restrictions on capital transactions tend to reduce the share of short-term debt in the total (these coefficients attain a marginal significance of about 15 percent; see table 2).

most studies, portfolio equity is thought to behave similarly to short-term debt. The test results are available in Table 3.

Similar to the case of FDI, countries that have a pure floating exchange rate tend to have a smaller share of their capital inflows composed of portfolio equity investment. This may be due to increased uncertainty or concern about exchange rate variability. Investors may be less interested in purchasing equity in a country where they are concerned with exchange rate risk in addition to other risks. Also, if investment is in the export sector, investors may be concerned with the ability of firms to export if the exchange rate were to appreciate because of the capital inflows.

We also find the following relationships. Countries with a fixed exchange rate and restrictions on capital transactions tend to have a smaller share of flows in portfolio equity, while countries that have fixed exchange rates and surrender requirements on export proceeds tend to have larger shares of flows composed of portfolio equity. Countries with floating exchange rates and surrender requirements on export proceeds also have higher shares of portfolio equity. Neither surrender requirements nor restrictions on capital transactions have any effect by themselves.

These results are difficult to interpret<sup>21</sup> and are an area that requires further research. Nonetheless, one plausible hypothesis is that only central banks that are able to credibly commit to a sustainable polar exchange rate regime –either a fixed or pure float– are able to enforce the surrender of export proceeds and other capital controls.<sup>22</sup> This greater enforcement capability is what leads investors to reduce the share of portfolio equity in the case of restrictions on capital transactions, and increase this share –probably as a way to bypass the restriction–in the case of surrender requirements of export proceeds.

Finally, high growth rates in countries in East Asia tend to attract more portfolio equity investment while growth in other countries has no effect. We believe the reasons for this are the

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<sup>21</sup> These results should also be interpreted with caution as the exchange rate regime classification presents some drawbacks. In particular, countries with a clearly defined regime –e.g., Argentina– may be classified as ‘irrelevant’ or indeterminate if there is no pressure in the exchange rate market –if international reserves don’t change.

<sup>22</sup> If capital controls are thought as a mean to create some room to maneuver for monetary policy, without putting in jeopardy the sustainability of the exchange rate regime (i.e., implement monetary policy without depleting reserves under a strict peg, or to contain the volatility of the nominal exchange rate under a pure float), then the central bank must have the capability to enforce the compliance with capital controls. This requirement is less important in a dirty float regime.



same as those for FDI –i.e., that growth rates in East Asia were more stable and therefore easy to forecast.

When responding to growth rates and exchange rate regimes, we find that portfolio equity responds like FDI and in the opposite manner of short-term debt. Previous work usually grouped portfolio equity flows with short-term debt because it was thought that the same factors would affect all highly liquid flows in the same manner. Finding that portfolio equity behaves more like FDI has strong implications for thinking about the motivations of portfolio investors.

#### *4.5 Factors That Did Not Matter*

In a study of the determinants of the composition of capital flows, it is almost as interesting to know what does not affect the composition as what does. Here we mention factors that we tested and found did not affect inflow composition.

External factors did not seem to matter. We experimented by including US interest rates, interest differentials, and US GDP growth in the regression analysis. None had an effect.<sup>23</sup> It is reasonable that the state of the economy in the developed world affects total flows but that the form those investments take depends of the policies and fundamentals in the recipient countries.

Fundamentals such as inflation in the domestic economy and changes in the real exchange rate had no effect. We tried including changes in the inflation rate and percentage changes in the real exchange rate as well as dummies that indicated extreme changes. We also interacted these variables with the exchange rate regime and still found no effect.

Some countries in the sample experience hyperinflation during the sample period. These episodes account for much of the variation in inflation. Hyperinflation would also discourage all forms of investment not just one particular type. Hence, it is not surprising that we do not find any effect of inflation on the shares of inflows.

Our finding that the real exchange rate has no effect is not inconsistent with the findings of Goldberg and Klein (1998) or others as we are concerned with the capital inflow composition as opposed to flows in levels.

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<sup>23</sup> There is marginal evidence that the interest rate differential tends to increase the share of portfolio equity in the total (see the SUR regression in table 3).

## 5. Capital Inflow Composition and Crises

The figures in Section 3 show strong regional patterns in both trade and debt denomination. Glick and Rose (1998) among others, have argued that trade patterns explain the regional nature of crises. The figures in Section 3 also show that during crisis periods, short-term debt flows tend to turn negative. It has been argued that excessive amounts of short-term debt may be indicative of the likelihood<sup>24</sup> as well as contribute to the severity of crisis because if there are signs of trouble these loans may simply not be renewed (Calvo, 1998; Rodrik and Velasco, 1999).

In this section, we test whether similar trade and debt denomination patterns affect the severity of crises and thus may be a means of transmitting crises.<sup>25</sup> In addition, we examine short-term debt and try to assess whether it played a role in the crises. Additionally, we examine the Mexican crisis and the Asian crisis individually to determine whether the same factors played a similar role in both crises, thus implying that crises are to some extent predictable.

### 5.1 Data and Methodology

The methodology we employ in this section follows Sachs, Tornell, and Velasco (1996) [hereafter STV]. We construct a crisis index for each country that is a weighted average of the changes in each country's interest rates, exchange rates, and reserves.<sup>26</sup> We consider changes in these measures for six, nine, and twelve months after the start of the crisis. Results are generally reported using the six month period, although the results are largely the same regardless of the time period considered. The Mexican crisis is taken to start in December 1994, and the Asian crisis is taken to start in July 1997. All exogenous variables are measured at the end of the previous quarter.

We test whether the severity of crises is affected by a variety of factors. We first attempt to replicate the findings of STV by testing the importance of the fundamentals that they identify in their study on our sample of countries. It has been suggested that STV's approach tests a form

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<sup>24</sup> The likelihood argument refers to investors shortening the maturity of loans because they perceive the potential of trouble in the future.

<sup>25</sup> Contagion would occur due to direct or indirect trade linkages and because investors treat all countries that look alike in the same way (the wake-up effect).

<sup>26</sup> This index, due to Girton and Roper (1977), is also used by Eichengreen, Rose, and Wyplosz (1995) and by Frankel and Rose (1996). There are slight variations in the variables used and the weighting systems. Our index most closely follows the one used by Sachs, Tornell and Velasco.

of the *wake-up call* hypothesis because it signals to investors to look at countries that have similarly poor fundamentals.<sup>27</sup> When testing the role of fundamentals, we employ the same ones used in STV, namely, the ratio of M2 to reserves, the expansion of bank credit over last year, and the real exchange rate appreciation over the past year. Following STV, we also try using dummy variables to indicate that a country is in the upper part of the distribution. The indicator for having “excessive” M2 to reserves is equal to 1 if the country has a ratio in the top 75% of the sample and zero otherwise. Countries with a real exchange rate appreciation in the top 66% of the sample are selected to have high rates of appreciation. Countries with bank credit growth in the top 66% of the sample are treated as having high bank credit growth.<sup>28</sup>

Next, we test whether trade linkages or debt-composition similarities were important in transmitting crises by analyzing whether regional trade patterns or debt denomination affect crisis severity. Both direct and third party trade linkages have been identified as channels of crisis transmission. Here we test whether competition in third country markets matters by including exports to the United States during the Mexican crisis and exports to Japan during the Asian crisis. Goldstein (1998) suggests that unhedged foreign currency debt was important in the crises. Regional patterns are one of the motivations for investigating whether trade links influence the spread of crises. We also note strong regional patterns in debt denomination. Therefore, we test the importance of currency composition of debt denomination, in particular, the impact of Dollar denominated debt during the Mexican crisis and that of Yen denominated debt during the Thai crisis.

Third, we examine the role of short-term debt in affecting the severity of the crises. The literature suggests that excessive short-term debt was a factor in the crises. Rodrik and Velasco (1999) found that short-term debt affected the probability and severity of the crisis. To confirm this, we look at the ratios of outstanding short-term debt to reserves. To address problems of endogeneity, the policy and economic variables from Section 4 are used to instrument the ratio of short-term debt to reserves. Although this ratio is different than the one used in Section 4 (net

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<sup>27</sup> Both Mexico and Thailand, the crisis origin countries, displayed relatively poor fundamentals at the time of crisis.

<sup>28</sup> Both Tornell (1999) and Berg and Patillo (1998) perform a similar exercise. We compare our results to theirs below.

flows of short-term debt to total net capital flows), analysis indicates that the variables used as instruments affect these two short-term debt ratios in much the same ways.<sup>29</sup>

Finally, we look at whether the two crises are similar. Most studies group crises together or use a long data panel. This imposes strong assumptions about the behavior of countries across crises and the effects of variables during crises. We examine the Mexican and Asian crises separately and test whether it is appropriate to pool the data—i.e., we test whether the effects of fundamentals and short-term debt are the same for the two crises or whether each crisis is different.

The countries that we use are Argentina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, China, Colombia, the Czech Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Thailand, and Turkey.<sup>30</sup> The data comes from the IMF International Financial Statistics and World Bank Global Development Finance Report. See Appendix 1 for details.

## *5.2 Results Following Sachs, Tornell, and Velasco*

Sachs, Tornell, and Velasco argued that having rapid growth in bank credit or rapid exchange rate appreciation is not bad in itself; rather it is when bank credit is growing rapidly, when money supply vastly exceeds reserves, and the exchange rate is appreciating that the country is in trouble. So they tested each measure individually, and tested each measure jointly with indicators for having “excessively” and/or rapidly changing (deteriorating) fundamentals. We repeat these tests for both the Mexican and Asian crises using our crises indexes. The results are in Table 4.

During the Mexican crisis, we find results that are fairly similar to STV. We find that none of these measures is detrimental by itself; however, having a larger real appreciation, when the country has among the highest bank credit growth and has among the highest appreciations

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<sup>29</sup> We rerun the equation in table 2 replacing the dependent variable with the ST Debt to reserves ratio. It turns out that the RHS variables have explanatory power.

<sup>30</sup> The four additional countries –Bulgaria, China, the Czech Republic and Hungary– could not be included in the analysis of section 4 because of some missing policy variables. Therefore these countries are not included in the results using instrumental variables reported in table 6.

or highest ratios of M2 to reserves, results in a more severe crisis.<sup>31</sup> This exactly follows STV.<sup>32</sup> During the Asian crisis, we find no evidence that either bank credit or real appreciation resulted in a more severe crisis.

We believe that the inclusion of countries from Eastern Europe, which experienced high rates of bank credit growth as the banking sectors were developing after the collapse of communism, is a possible reason why high bank credit growth is not found to matter in either crisis.

Tornell (1999) repeats the STV exercise using both the Mexican and the Asian crisis. He finds that in both crises, countries that had experienced a larger appreciation of the real exchange rate, or had a bank lending boom, had more severe crisis unless they had large amounts of reserves to outstanding short-term debt. The findings regarding the real exchange rate appreciation, however, are not as strong in the Asian crisis. Berg and Patillo (1998) perform a similar exercise using yet another sample of countries. During the Mexican crisis they find a role for the expansion of bank credit but no role for real exchange rate appreciation. They also find no role for either real exchange rate appreciation or bank credit expansion in the Asian crisis.

### *5.3 Transmission of Crises*

When we test for the possibility of transmission of crises through similar trade and debt patterns in the Mexican and Asian crises, we find a role for trade and currency composition of debt in the Asian crisis but not in the Mexican crisis. Because the sample is rather small, we check the robustness of the results by repeating the analysis 20 times dropping a different country each time from the sample. A result is considered to be not robust if dropping six or more of the countries causes the results to become insignificant, moderately robust if dropping between three and five countries causes the results to become insignificant, and is otherwise considered robust. The results, all robust, appear in Table 5.

For the Asian crisis, we find that both currency composition and trade patterns (although in the latter case the result is only marginally significant) affect the severity of the crisis. Countries that had high levels of long-term debt denominated in Yen fared poorly in the crisis,

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<sup>31</sup> To interpret the coefficients in tables 4 thru 6 keep in mind that the crisis index is defined as a negative number (a lower number means a more severe crisis) and an appreciation is measured as a fall in the real exchange rate (a negative number means a larger appreciation).

<sup>32</sup> We do not, however, find that high bank credit growth resulted in a more severe crisis.

and nations that had a larger share of their exports to Japan tended to have more severe crises. Both these results are robust. We believe that the findings regarding currency composition are the result of a mismatch between the currency that debt is denominated in and the exchange rate.<sup>33</sup> Many countries in East Asia were pegging their currency to the dollar (McKinnon, 1999) and denominating their debts in Yen [Figures 3(a)-3(h)]. Over the years prior to the crisis there was a steady drop in the Yen-Dollar rate, thus increasing the cost of servicing foreign debt for countries borrowing in Yen.<sup>34</sup> Finding a marginal role for trade patterns is evidence of the countries' loss of competitiveness during the years immediately preceding the crisis, and also that competitive devaluations were important in transmitting the crisis. A weak Japanese economy may have negatively affected the economies of countries who depended on exporting to the Japanese market, and therefore increased the pressure on countries to devalue to preserve export levels.

We find no effect of either trade or debt composition linkages in the Mexican crisis. During the Mexican crisis the concern was over short-term Dollar-indexed debt. Admittedly, this would not be included in our sample because this debt was not long-term and not actually denominated in Dollars.

#### *5.4 Testing Short Term Debt*

We examine the two crises first using the raw measure of short-term debt to reserves and then using instrumental variables.<sup>35</sup> Results from both the Mexican and Asian crises are in Table 6.

For the Mexican crisis, we find that the amount of short-term debt matters. Having more short-term debt to reserves increases the severity of the crisis. This result is significant using both raw levels of short-term debt to reserves and instrumental variables. Also like Rodrik and Velasco, we find that it is important to use reserves as the denominator. Similar analysis using the ratio of net flows of short-term debt to net capital flows indicated no significant role for short-term debt when instrumental variables were used.

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<sup>33</sup> Note that this argument requires that this mismatch not be hedged. Again, Goldstein (1998) suggests that this was the case.

<sup>34</sup> See figures 3(a) –3(h) in Section 3.

<sup>35</sup> The instrumental variable estimation technique helps reduce the endogeneity problem.

In the instrumental variable estimation for the Mexican Crisis, we find a detrimental effect of a higher level of real exchange rate appreciation.<sup>36</sup> This is the same effect as predicted by the literature. During the Asian crisis, we do not find a role for short-term debt, but there is evidence that a higher stock of M2 over reserves made the crisis worse –countries with a lower reserve coverage of monetary balances fared worse during the crisis.

### *5.5 Are Crises Really the Same*

Above, we examine each crisis individually. Most studies group crises because it increases the number of observations. But grouping crises also imposes that the variables have the same effect in all crises. We test whether this is appropriate. In particular, we focus on whether the effects of short-term debt and fundamentals are the same in the two crises. The test results for both the ordinary least squares and instrumental variables estimation are provided in Table 6.

We find that there are differences in the effects of short-term debt to reserves between the two crises for the six, nine and especially the twelve months horizon. We also find that the real exchange rate appreciation and the ratio of M2 to reserves have different effects during the two crises in the six months horizon when instrumental variables are used and that the effects of economic fundamentals are otherwise not different between the crises. These results suggest that imposing constraints that coefficients are to be the same across crises may be incorrect.

### *5.6 Discussion*

Each result in our study of crises has support in the literature. Our findings that trade linkages may be important fits well with the contagion literature. Glick and Rose (1998) argue that countries with strong trade linkages with crisis countries have an increased likelihood themselves of suffering a crisis. Since Japan was an important trading partner for all the East-Asian countries, competitive devaluations may indeed have been important and contributed to the severity of the Asian Crisis.

Having large share of debt denominated in Yen may have increased the severity of the crisis for several reasons. First, the appreciation of the Yen in the years prior to the crisis increased the cost of servicing the debt, especially given the de facto peg to the dollar. Also,

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<sup>36</sup> See footnote 31.

Goldstein (1998) describes the role of a “wake-up call” where investors become concerned about countries that have economic fundamentals similar to those of the crisis country. Contagion through similarity may also occur when countries have similar compositions of foreign liabilities, in this case long-term Yen denominated debt. This may be especially true in Asia where the “Asian Carry Trade” was popular. Investors would borrow in Japan and lend to other East Asian countries. If this strategy broke down for Thailand, investors may have felt the strategy itself might break down in other countries where the lending pattern was similar.

Our findings regarding short-term debt also fit with the literature. There has been much recent work on the role and impacts of short-term debt. Calvo and Reinhart (1999) discuss the negative effects of sudden stops in short-term debt. They illustrate how this liquidity problem can be transformed into a solvency problem. Rodrik and Velasco (1999) found that insufficient reserves to match short-term debt may increase the likelihood and severity of crises. Our findings using instrumental variables further support the view that there is a role for short-term debt in increasing the severity of crises.

Another important part of our paper is that the factors contributing to the severity of the crises are different. This might be one of the reasons why efforts by Berg and Patillo (1998) to use results from the Mexican crisis to construct warning measures for the Asian crisis prove difficult. An important line of future research is determining both how similar and how different financial crises are.

## **6: Conclusions and Policy Implications**

Financial crises have devastating impacts. Finding that the composition of capital inflows affects the likelihood or severity of financial crises would provide a justification for governments to implement policies that affect the types of capital flows into their country. In this paper, we find that the same factors did not play the same role in the two crises that are examined –Mexico ’94 and Asia ’97–, suggesting that there is no one type of inflow that is the sole cause of crises. Instead, there are a variety of financial linkages that governments may want to monitor. We find that the currency denomination of debt affected the severity of countries’ experiences during the Asian crisis, possibly because debt denomination was not matched to the countries’ exchange rate pegs and the debt was appreciating in value. This suggests that governments should choose their currency pegs carefully and may have an interest in encouraging debt to be denominated in



particular currencies. In the Mexican crisis, we find some evidence that excessive amounts of short-term debt to reserves contributed to the crisis.

Fortunately governments have the ability to influence the types of capital inflows they receive either by imposing capital controls or by establishing a particular exchange rate regime. Letting the exchange rate float tends to increase the share of short-term debt in total capital inflows. Imposing restrictions on capital transactions on the other hand, tends to increase the share of FDI.

We also find evidence that the balance of capital inflows during non-crisis times may be different than the conventional view. Usually short-term debt and portfolio equity are grouped together. We find, however, that portfolio equity flows respond to policies in a manner similar to that of FDI and in a manner opposite to that of short-term debt. It may be that portfolio equity is not of a short-term nature after all. It may be, as suggested by the 2001 Global Development Finance Report (World Bank, 2001), that equity investors are concerned with fundamentals and have longer time horizons than debt holders. Thus, it is a mistake to always group short-term debt and portfolio equity. It may also be that short-term debt and portfolio equity are substitutes. Investors may choose one or the other depending on the incentives created by different government policies. Because this question has important implications for the impacts of government policy, further investigating and resolving this question is an important line of future research.

## Appendix 1 – Data Sources

*GDF = World Bank Global Development Finance Report*

*IFS = IMF International Financial Statistics*

*WEO = IMF World Economic Outlook*

*DTS = IMF Direction of Trade Statistics*

### Economic Fundamentals

- Gross Domestic Product. Reported as millions of units of the domestic currency, reported in current currency units. Obtained from the IFS – line 99b.
- GDP deflator. Reported as an index number. Obtained from the WEO.
- Stock of International Reserves. In Millions of US dollars. Taken from the WEO except for Korea where the GDF values are used.
- Inflation rate. Calculated as the rate of change in the countries CPI. The CPI is obtained from the IFS – line 64.
- Exchange rate. Average for the year. Reported as unit of domestic currency to the dollar. Obtained from the IFS – line rf.
- Stock of domestic credit of the central bank. Millions of units of the domestic currency. Defined as: sum of claims by the central bank on the central government, local government, other public enterprises, private sector, banking institutions, and nonbank financial institutions. Obtained from the IFS – line 32.
- Interest rate paid on deposits. Reported as a rate. Interest rate paid on savings deposits, or the closest substitute. Obtained from the IFS – line 60l.
- LIBOR. 3 month rate on Eurodollar deposits as reported in IFS
- Real exchange rate appreciation. percent change in the real exchange rate. Real exchange rate calculated as  $[\text{Exchange rate with US Dollar}] * [\text{US WPI}_t] / [\text{Country's CPI}_t]$ . All components of the real exchange rate come from the IFS.
- Yield on government bonds in the United States. Obtained from the IFS.
- Growth rate of real GDP in the USA. Real GDP calculated by dividing nominal GDP by the GDP deflator. All components from the IFS.
- Ratio of reserves to M2. Calculated as  $(\text{Reserves} * \text{exchange rate with Dollar}) / (\text{Money} + \text{QuasiMoney})$ . Reserves in US dollars, Money reported in national currency. Construction same as Sachs, Tornell, and Velasco (1996). Reserves from WEO other variables from IFS.
- Expansion of bank credit. Calculated as  $[(\text{BankCredit Year2} - \text{BankCredit Year1}) / (\text{BankCredit Year1})] / [(\text{GDP Year2} - \text{GDP Year1}) / (\text{GDP Year1})]$ . Variables measured in national currency. All Variables from the IFS.
- Real Exchange Rate Appreciation. Calculated as percent changes in real exchange rate. Real exchange rate calculated as  $(\text{nominal e-rate}) * (\text{trade weighted foreign WPI}) / (\text{domestic CPI})$ . Trade weighted WPI calculated as  $(\text{USWPI} * \text{ExUS} / \text{SE} + \text{GerWPI} * \text{ExGer} / \text{SE} + \text{JpnWPI} * \text{ExJpn} / \text{SE})$  where SE = sum exports to Japan, Germany, and the United States. All variables from IFS.

## Trade and Capital Flows

- Net flows of foreign direct investment. In millions of US dollars. Obtained from the GDF.
- Flows of Portfolio Equity into the country. (Believed to be net, however this is not clearly indicated) In millions of US dollars. Obtained from the GDF.
- Net flow of Short Term Debt into the country. In millions of US dollars. Obtained from the GDF. (Note stocks and flows of debts do not necessarily add up – see GDF documentation for reconciliation information).
- Net flow of capital into the country. In millions of US dollars. Obtained from the WEO.
- Calculated Capital Flows. Calculated as the sum of NFfdi, NFpe, and NFtd
- Exports to the United States. Recorded in millions of US dollars. As reported in the DTS.
- Exports to Japan. Recorded in millions of US dollars. As reported in the DTS.
- Exports to the World. Recorded in millions of US dollars. As reported in the DTS.
- Fraction of exports to the United States. Calculated as exports to the USA divided by world exports. Reported in DTS.
- Fraction of exports to Japan. Calculated as exports to the Japan divided by world exports. Reported in DTS.
- Portion of long term debt denominated in Japanese Yen. Recorded as a percent. Obtained from the GDF.
- Portion of long term debt denominated in United States Dollars. Recorded as a percent. Obtained from the GDF.
- Total stock of short-term debt at the end of 1996 (million dollar value). Reported in GDF.
- Stock of foreign assets in the country. Calculated as stock of debt in the country in 1980 + value of the financial account + the value of the errors and omissions from 1981 to 1996. All valued in 1995 US dollars. All variables from the IFS.

## Policy Variables

- Sterilization Index – a measure of sterilization calculated from changes in the dollar value of (exchange rate = XR) domestic credit (DC) and international reserves (IR). Calculated as:  
$$-1 * [(DC \text{ Year}2) / (XR \text{ Year}2) - (DC \text{ Year}1) / (XR \text{ Year}1)] \div [(IR \text{ Year}2) - (IR \text{ Year}1)]$$
- High Sterilization Dummy – 1 if in upper quartile of the sterilization index, 0 otherwise.
- Dummy variable indicating the country has restriction on capital account transactions
- Dummy variable indicating the country has restrictions on the surrender of export proceeds
- Dummy indicating the country used a fixed exchange rate. From Yeyati and Sturzenegger
- Dummy indicating the country used a dirty float exchange rate. From Yeyati and Sturzenegger
- Dummy indicating the country used a floating exchange rate. From Yeyati and Sturzenegger

## Crises Measures

- Crisis Index. Calculated at 6 months, 9 months, and 12 months. Constructed by;
  1. Calculating monthly changes in interest rates and monthly percent change in nominal exchange rates and reserves over the years prior to the crisis and then calculating the variances of these changes. Dates used are January 1990 – October 1994 for the Mexican crisis and January 1996 – June 1997 for the Asian crisis.
  2. Calculating the change in interest rates, nominal exchange rates and reserves for 6, 9 and 12 months after the crisis. These are then added together.
  3. Using the variances of prior changes as weights for the post crisis change in these variables. Weights are calculated as :  $\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) * \left[1 - \frac{\sigma_i^2}{\sum \sigma_i^2}\right]$
  4. The index is then  $(\% \Delta e)(w_e) + (\% \Delta r)(w_r) - (\Delta i)(w_i)$  where (w) indicates a weight.

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Figure 1(a)

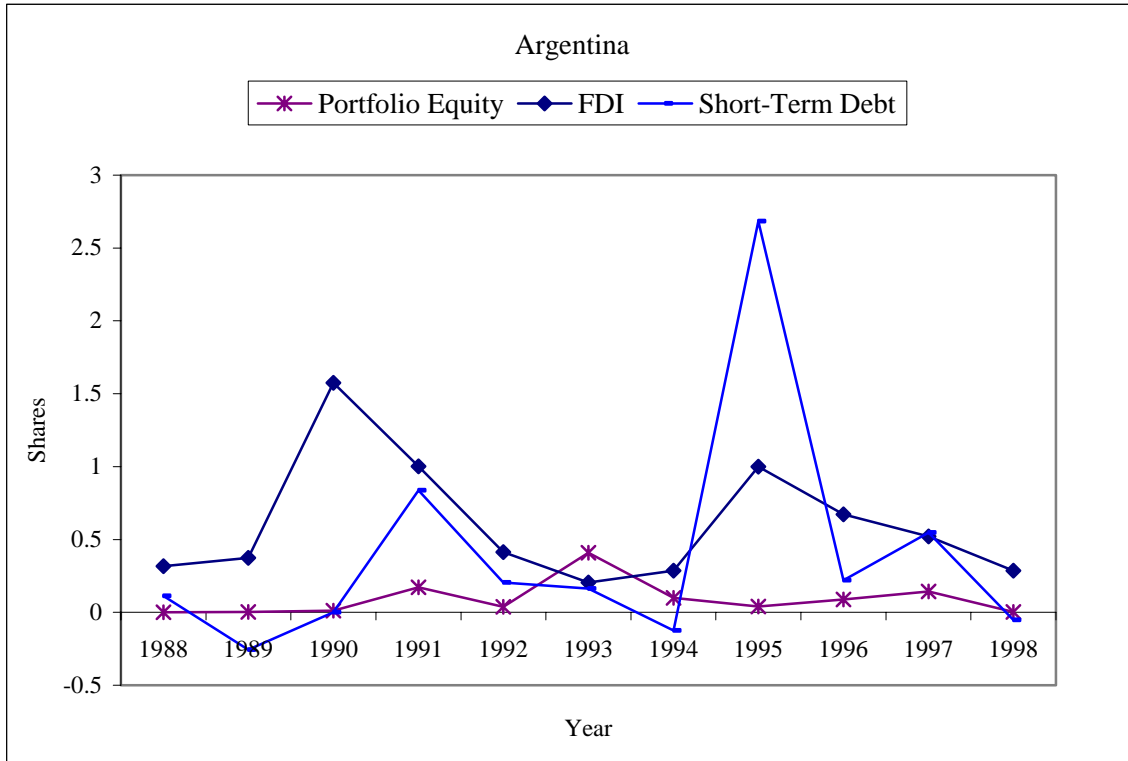


Figure 1(b)

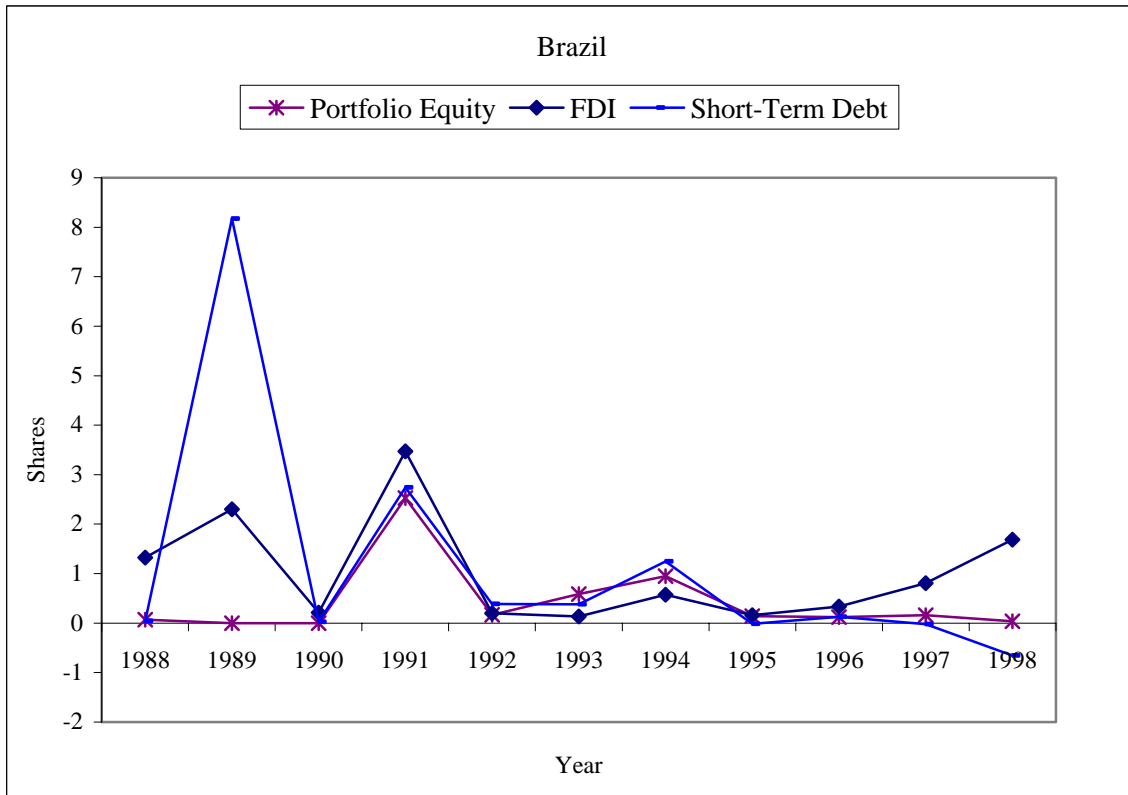




Figure 1(c)

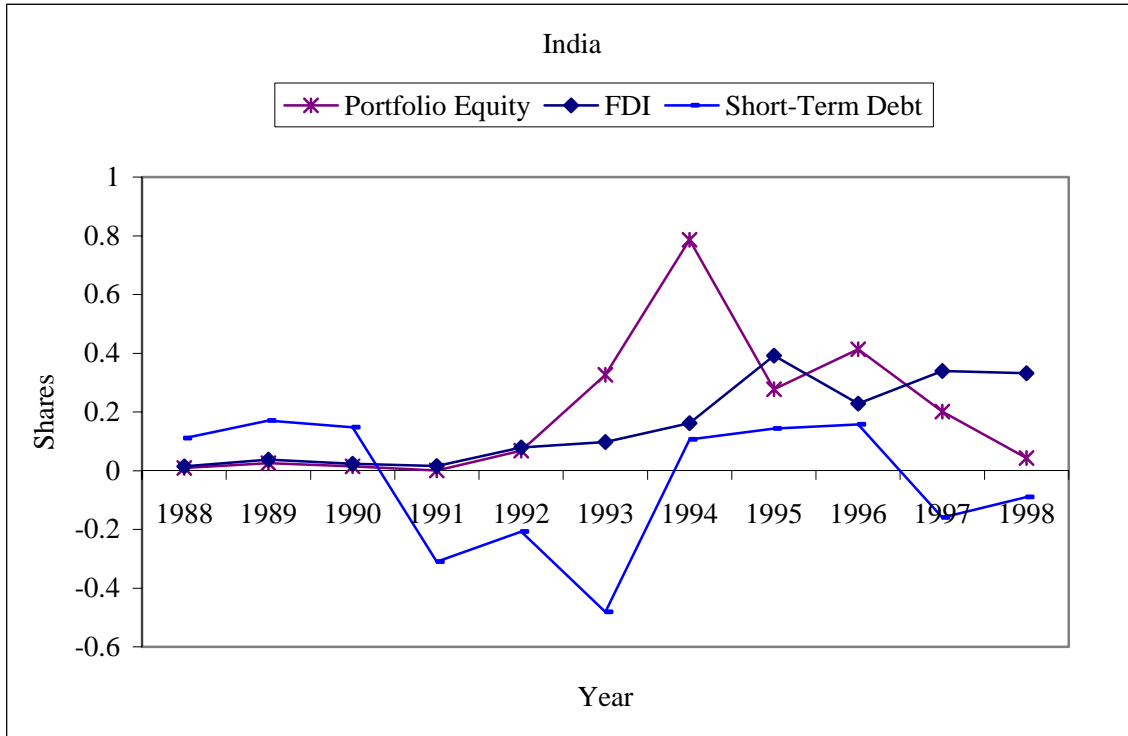


Figure 1(d)

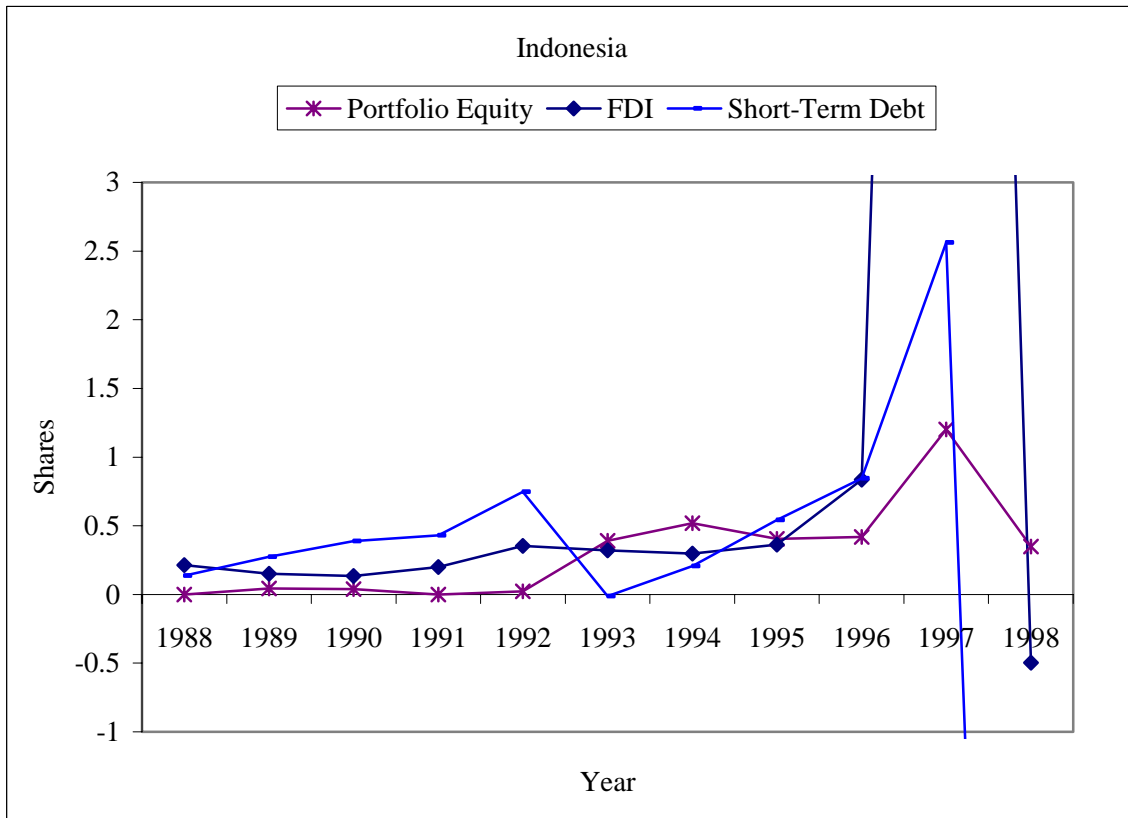


Figure 1(e)

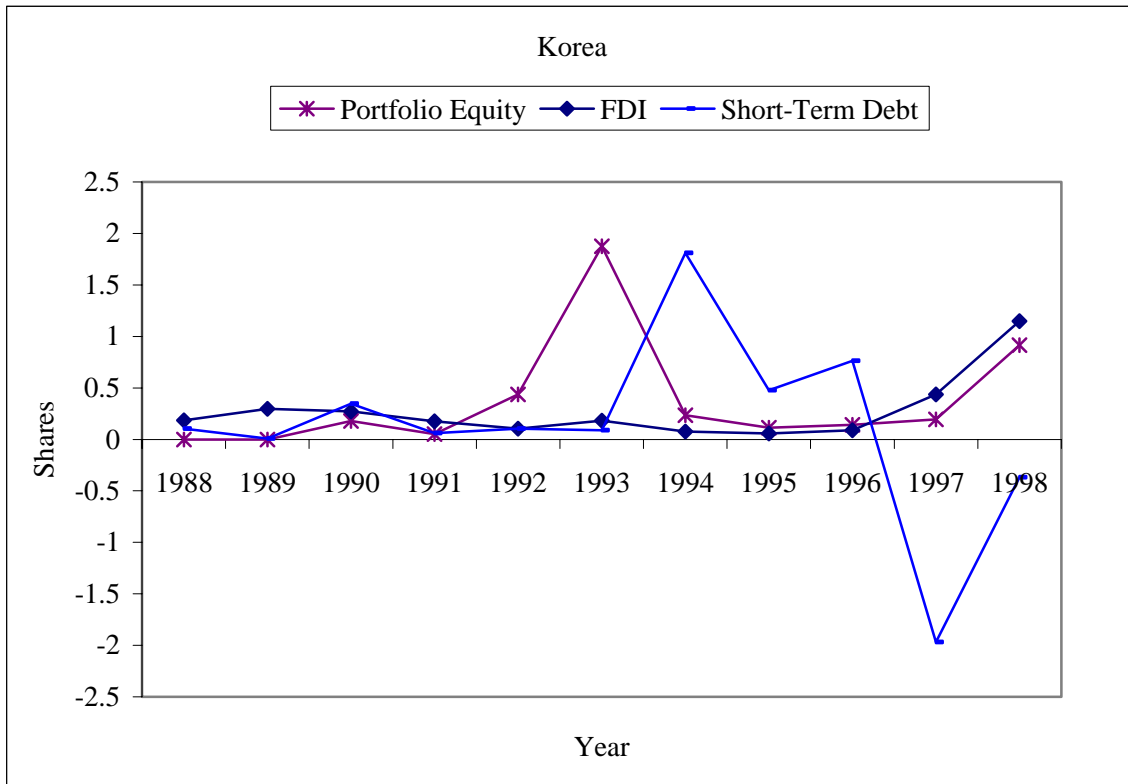


Figure 1(f)

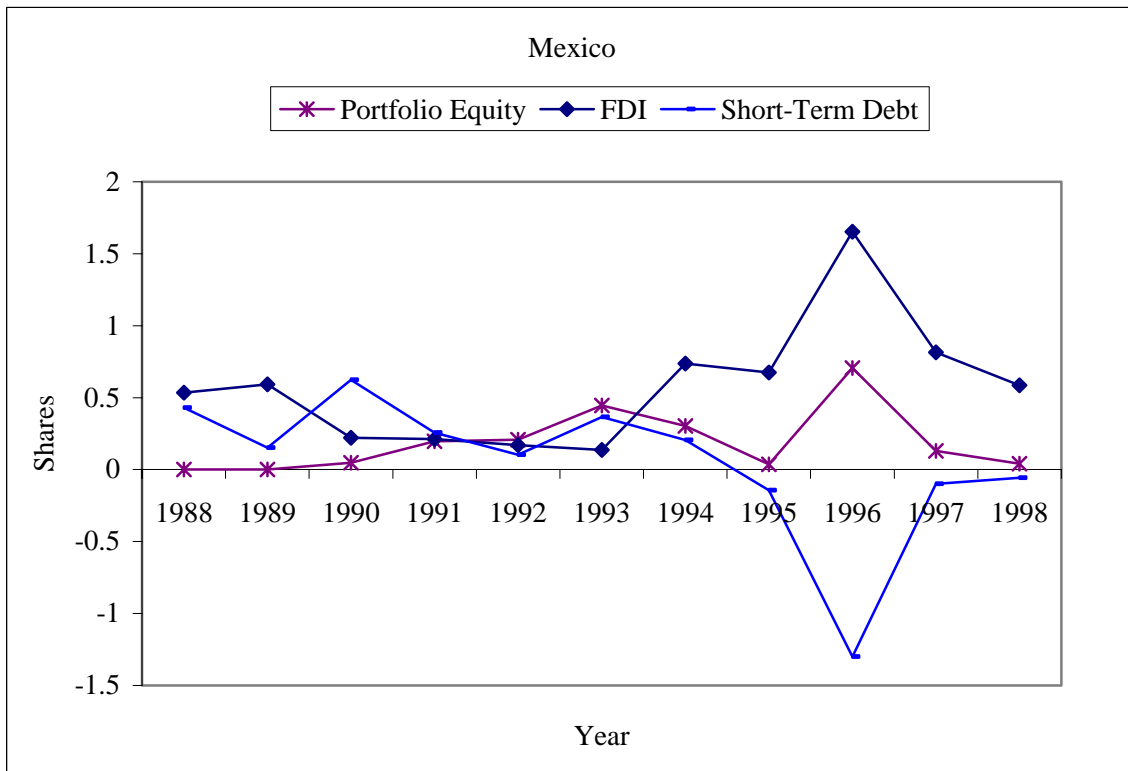


Figure 1(g)

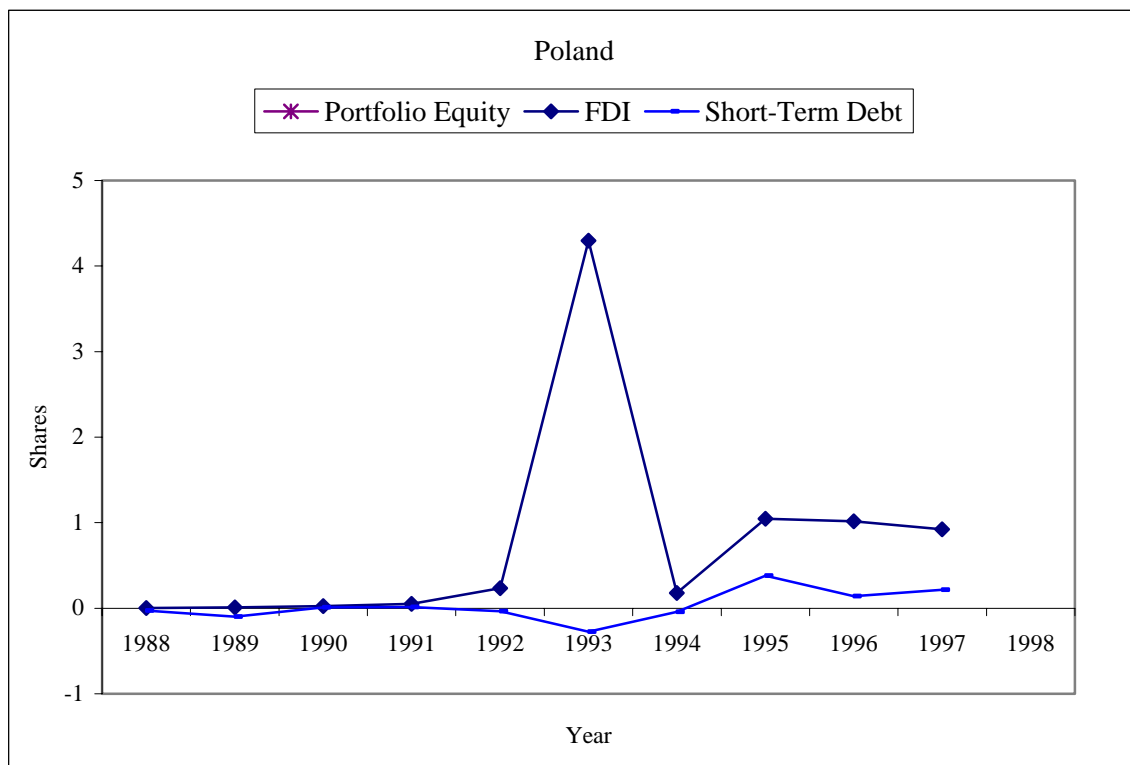


Figure 1(h)

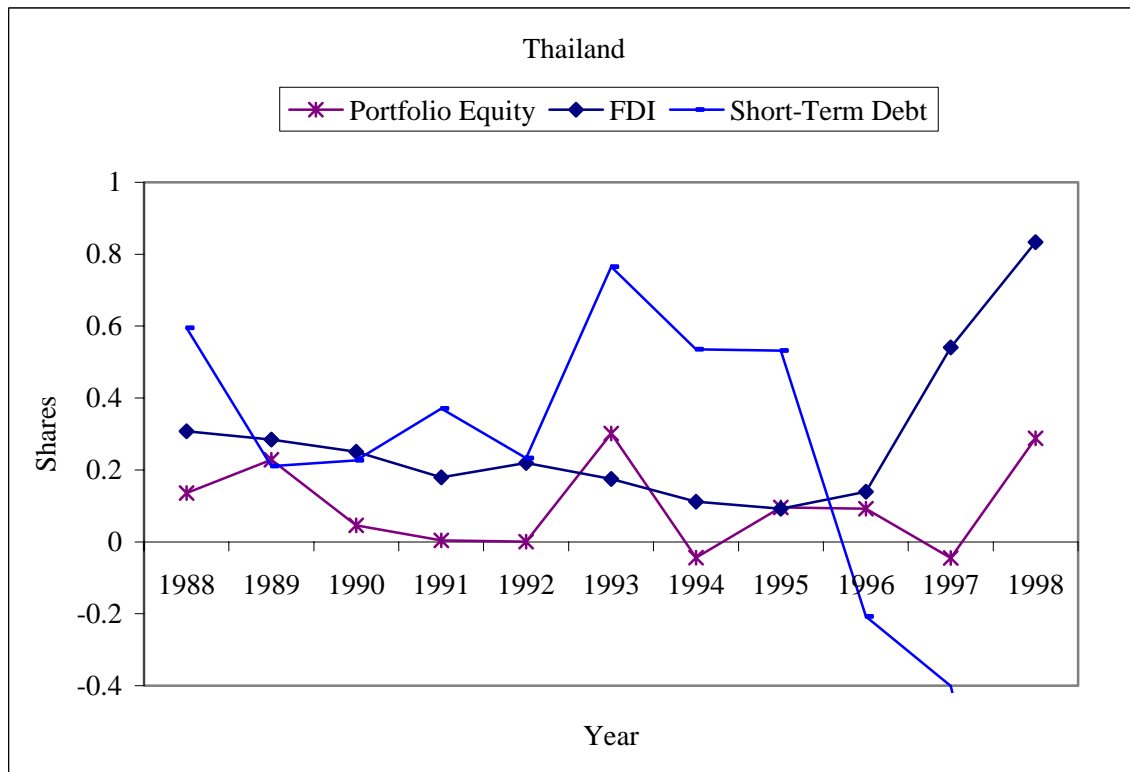


Figure 2(a)

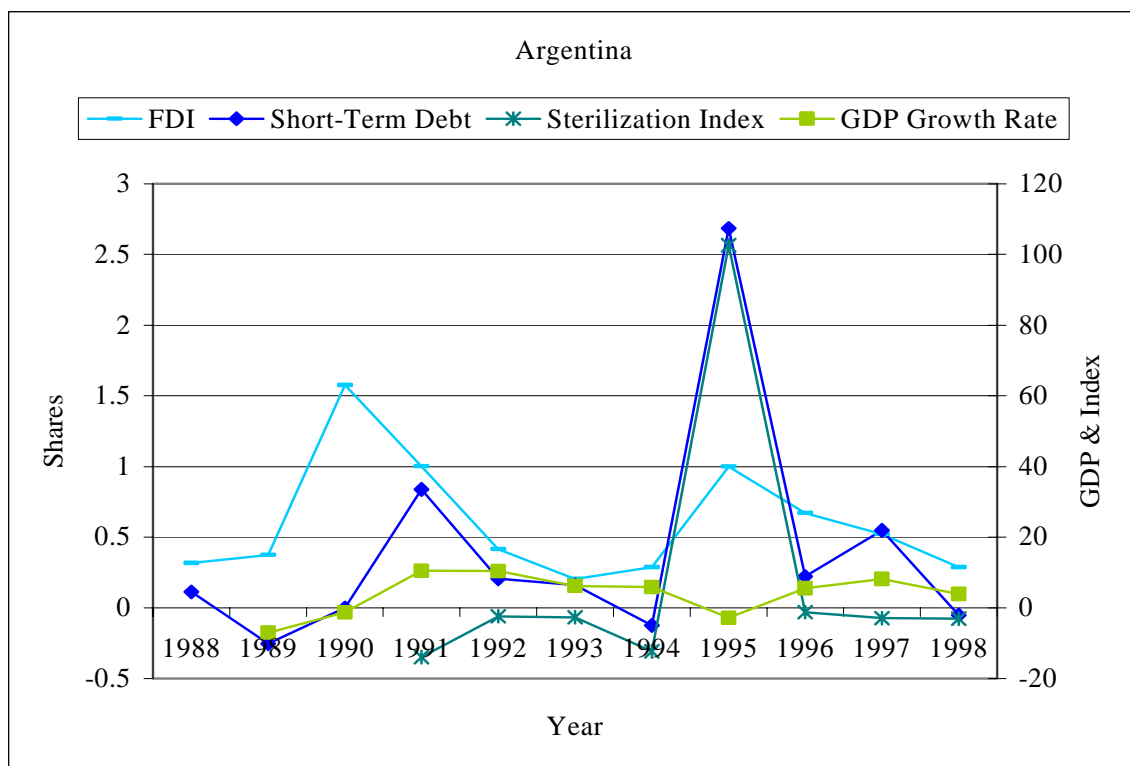


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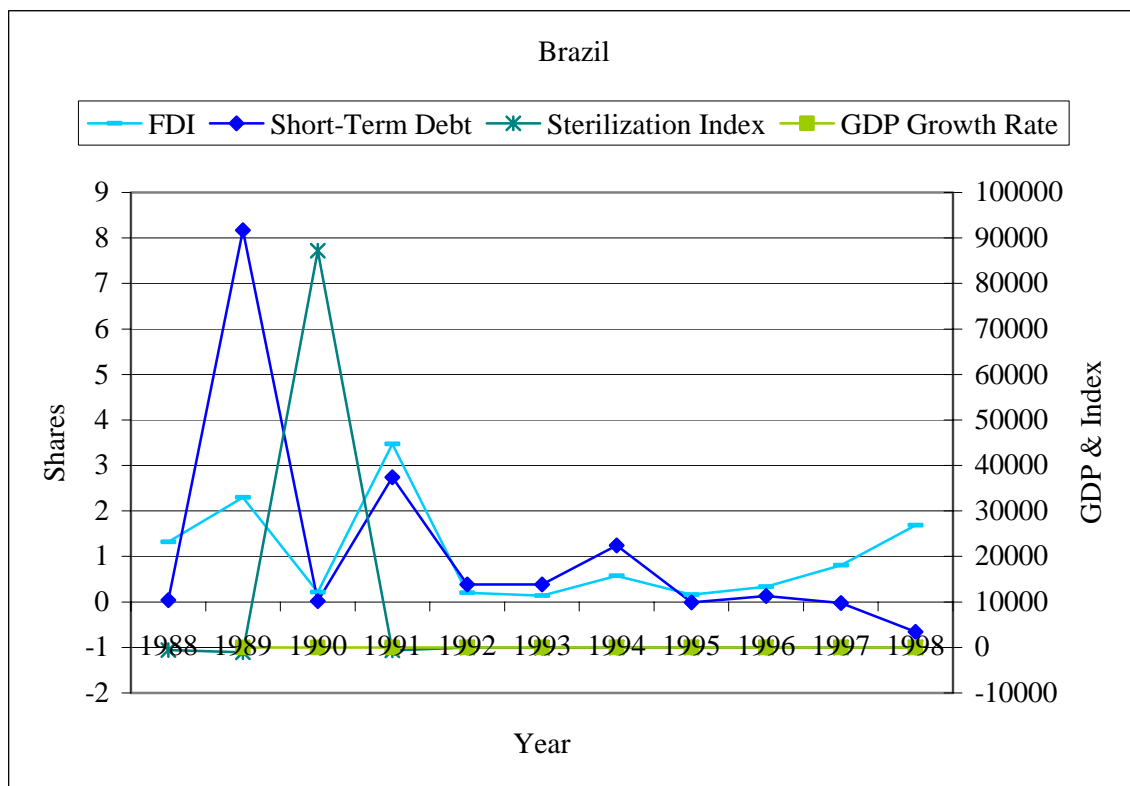


Figure 2(c)

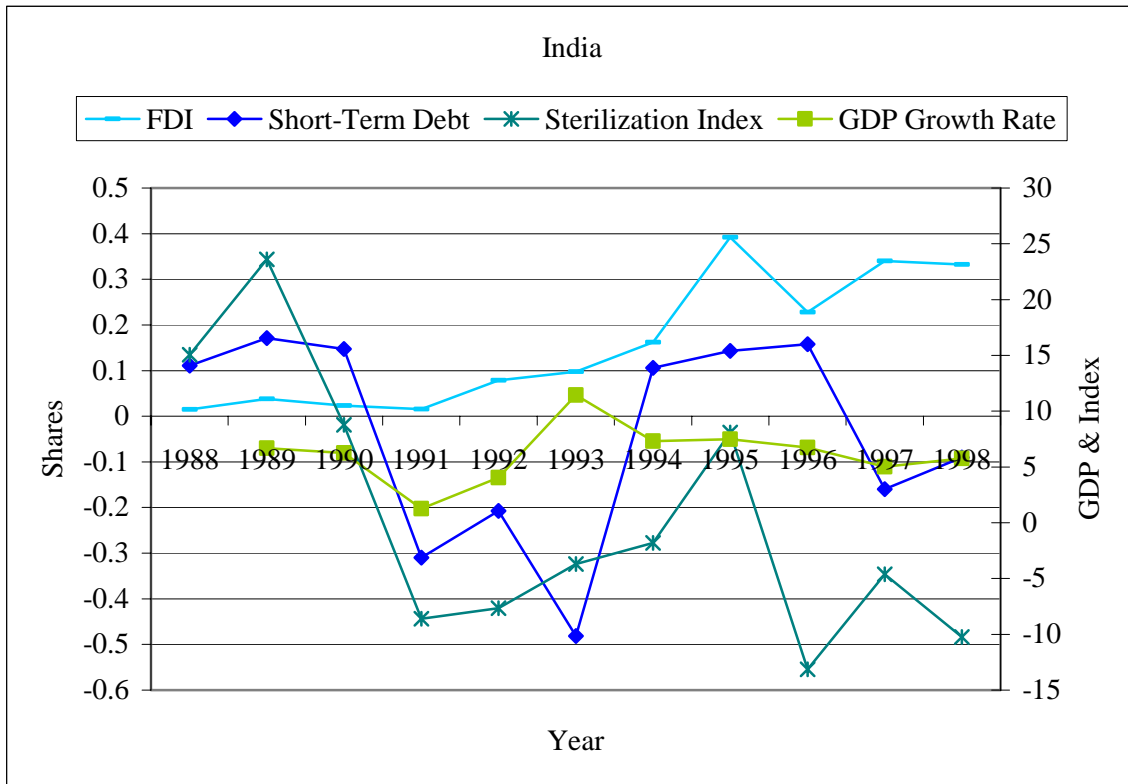


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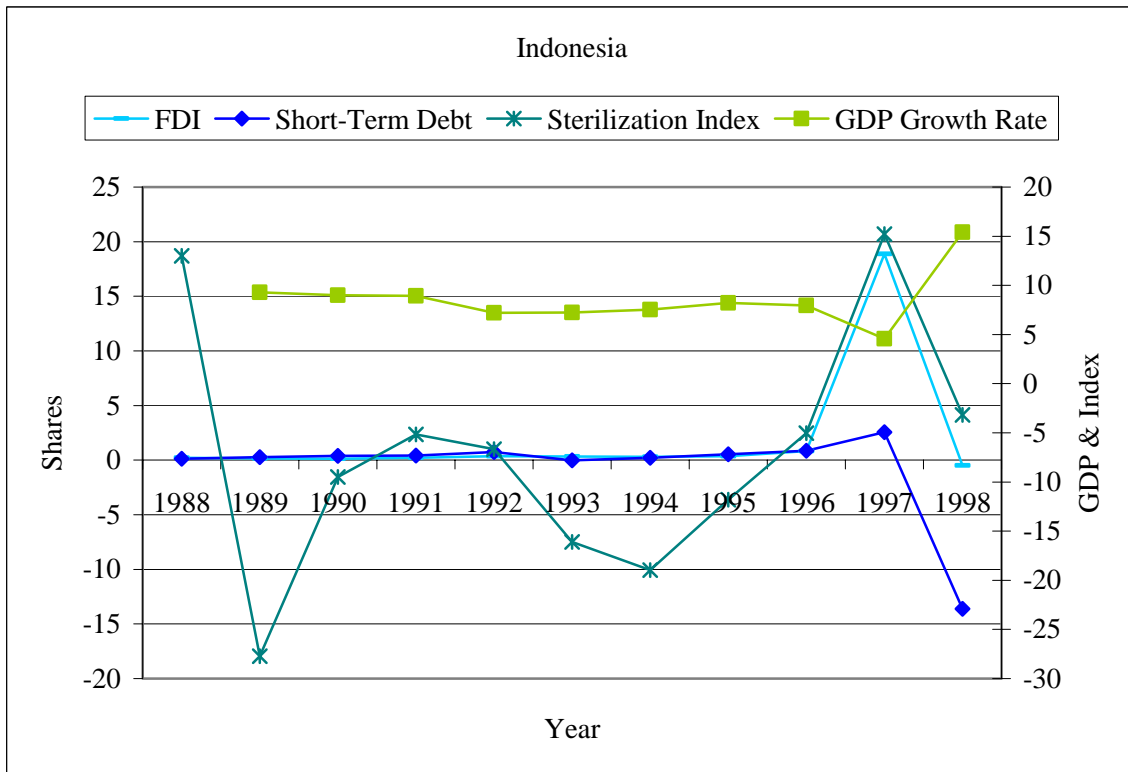


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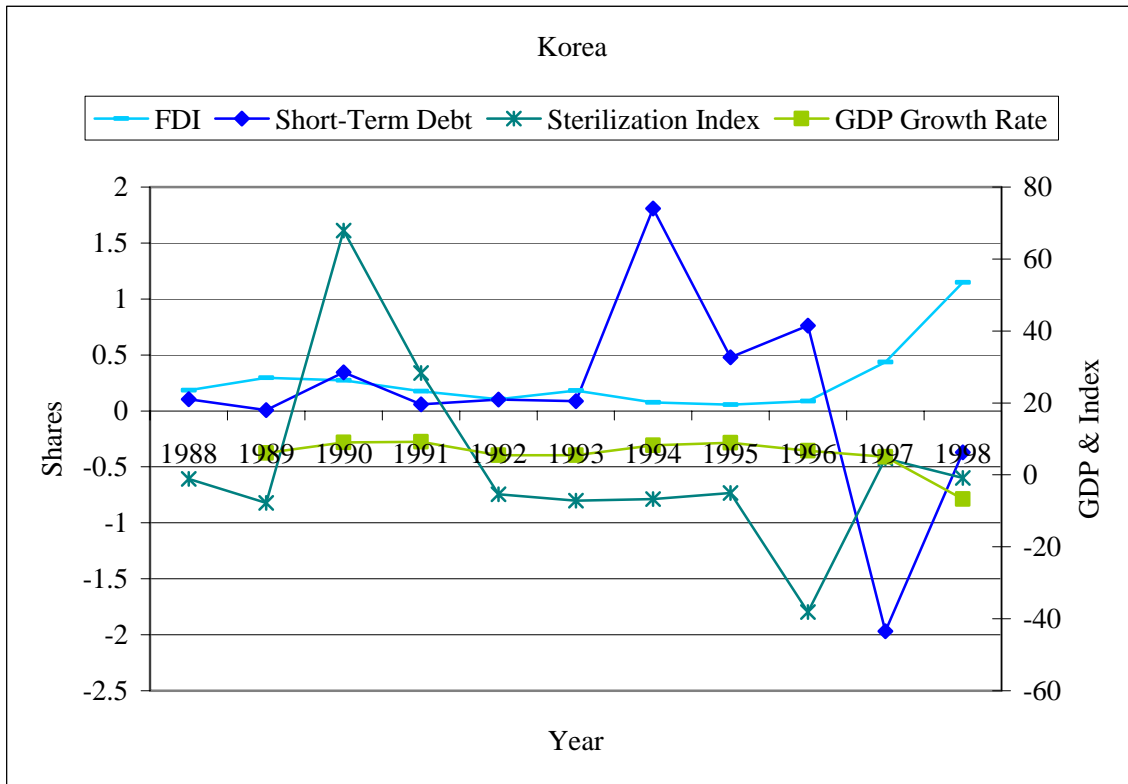


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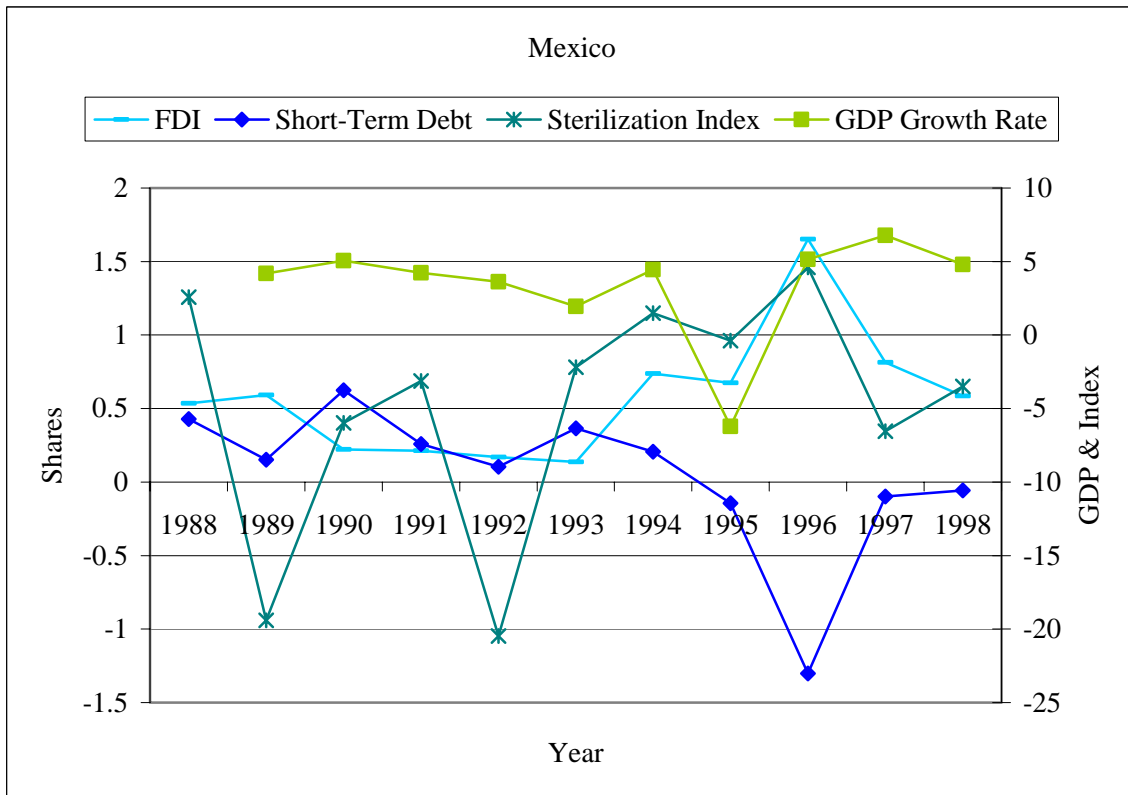


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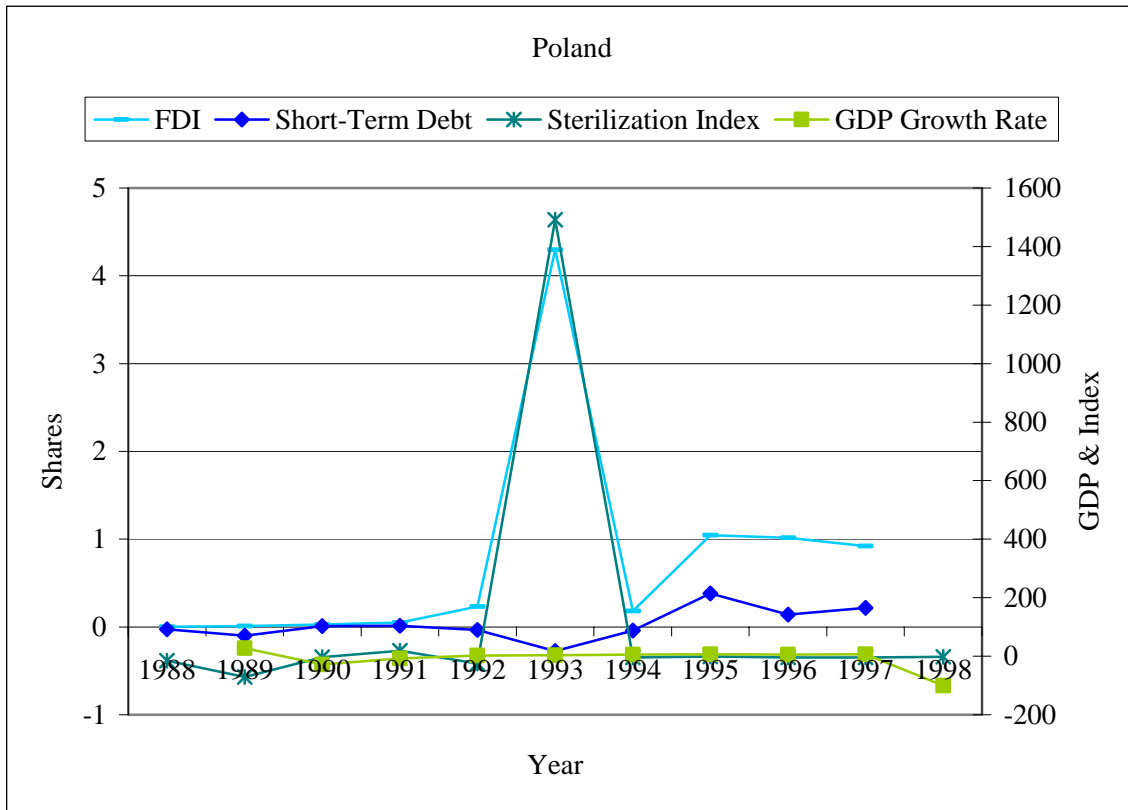


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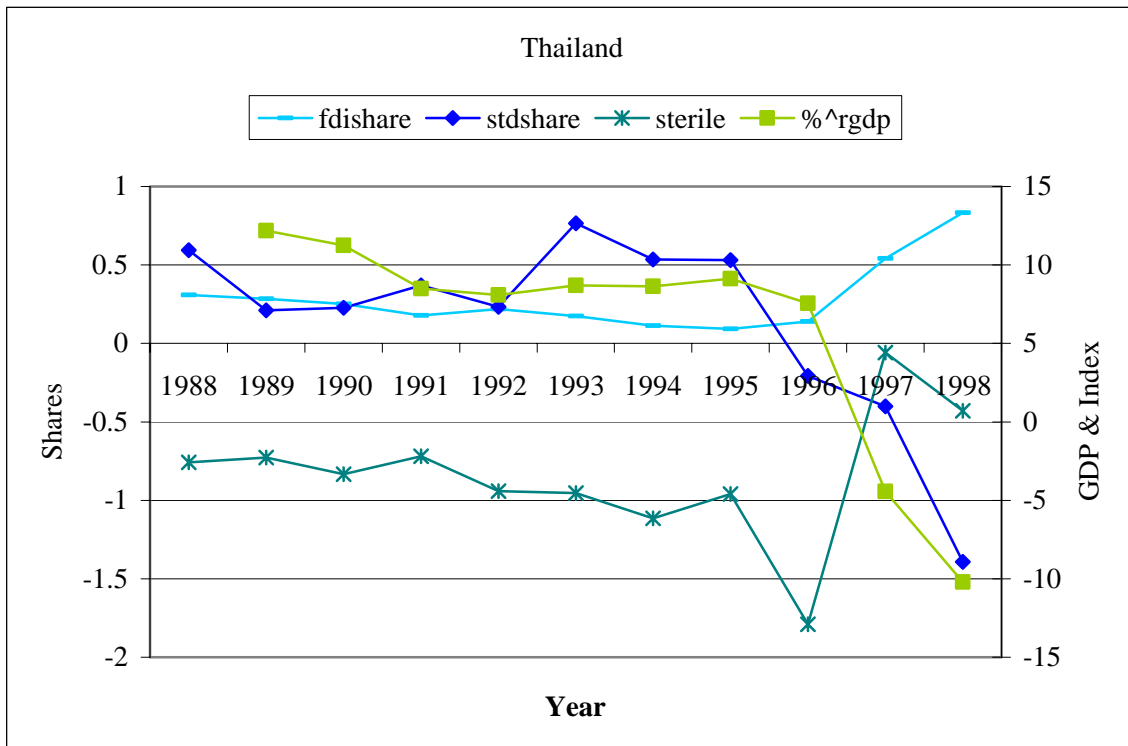


Figure 3(a)

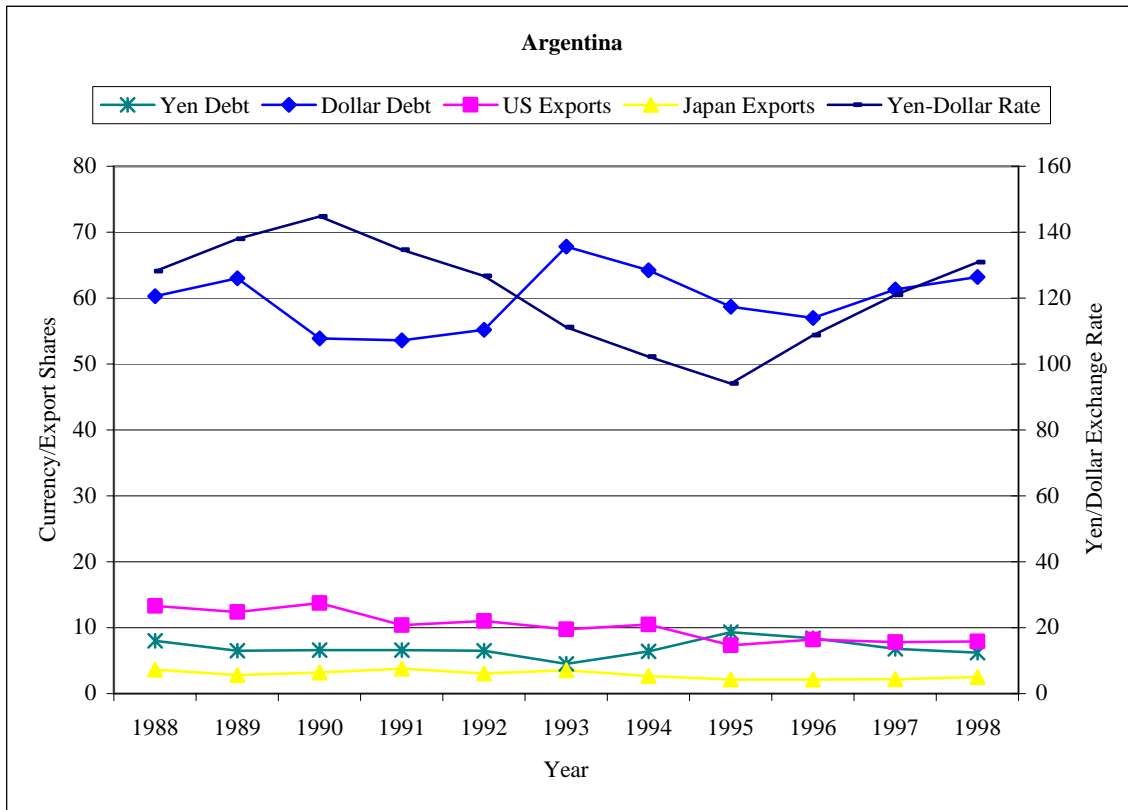


Figure 3(b)

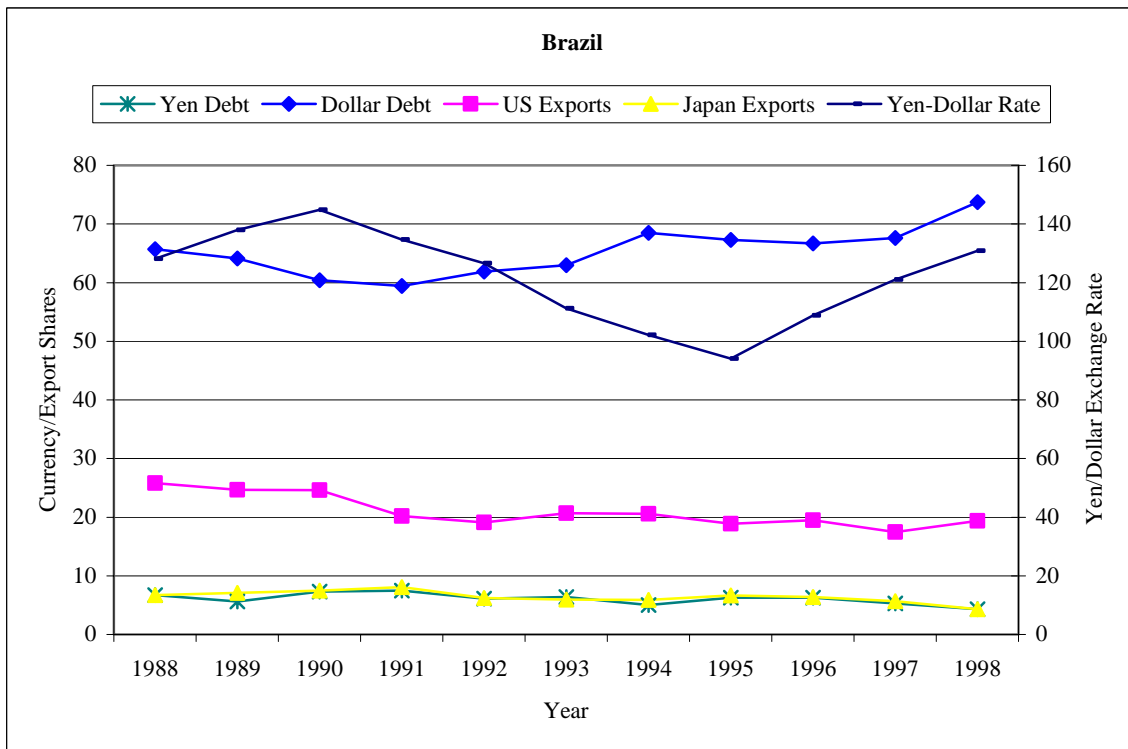




Figure 3(c)

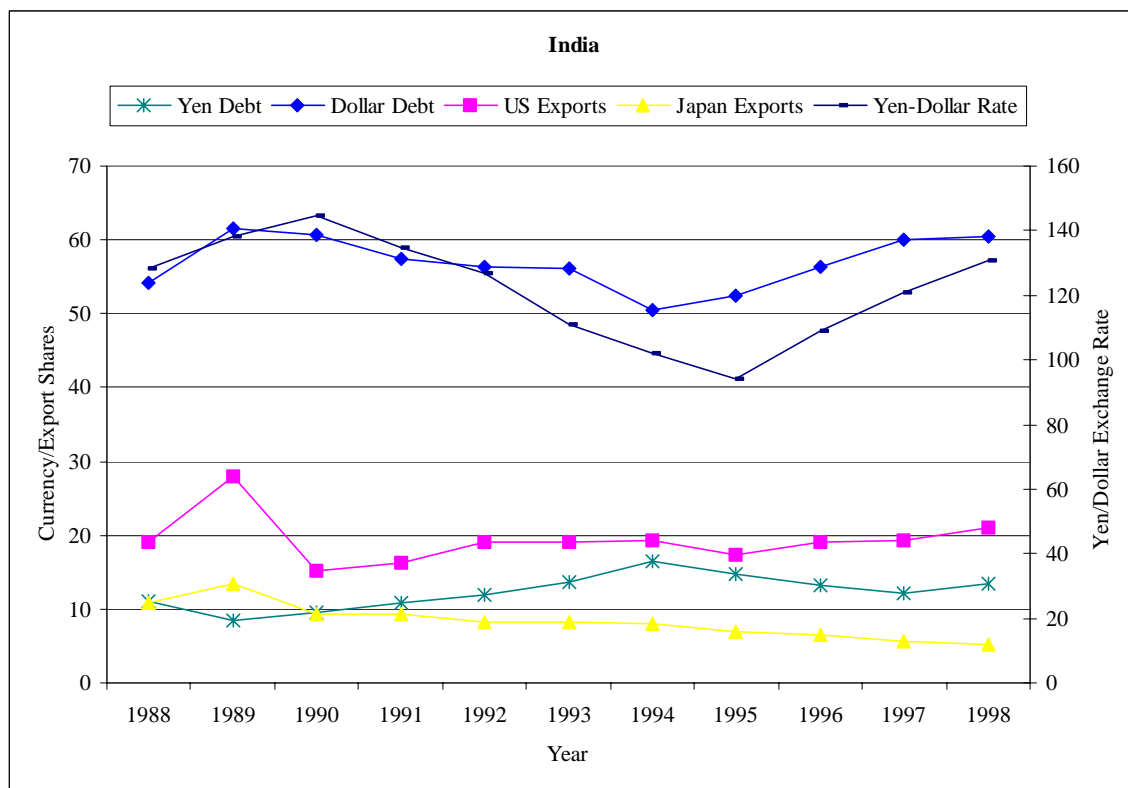


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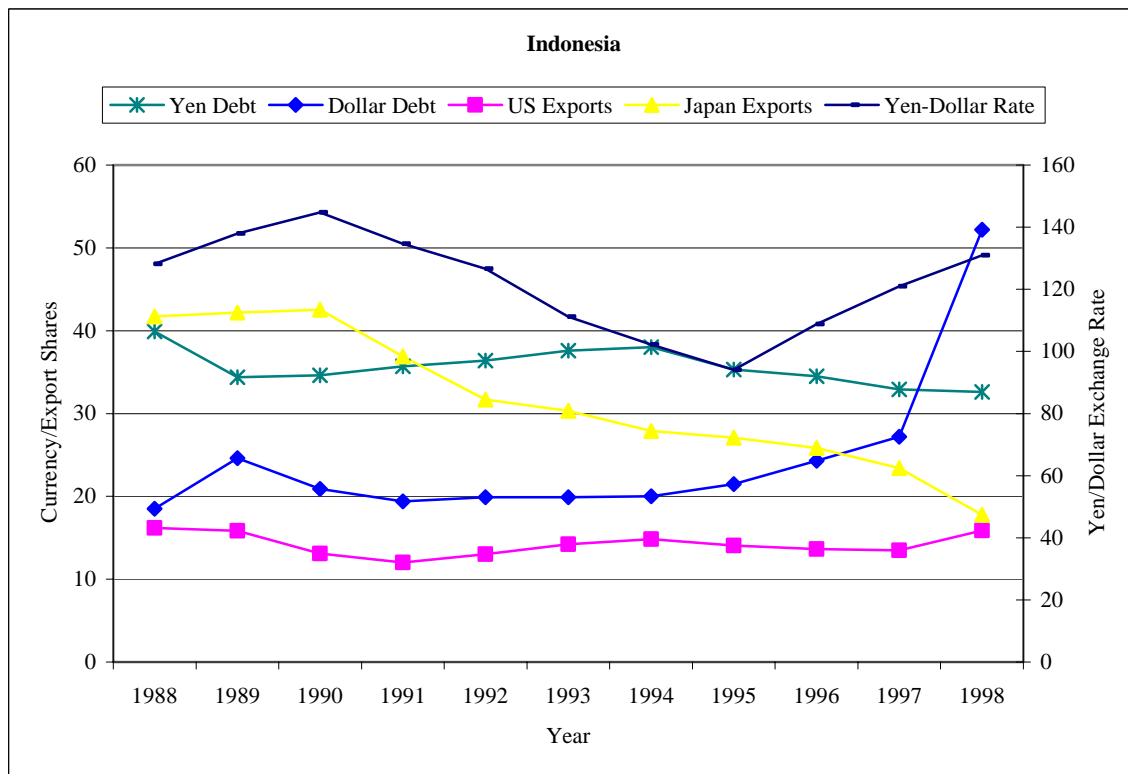


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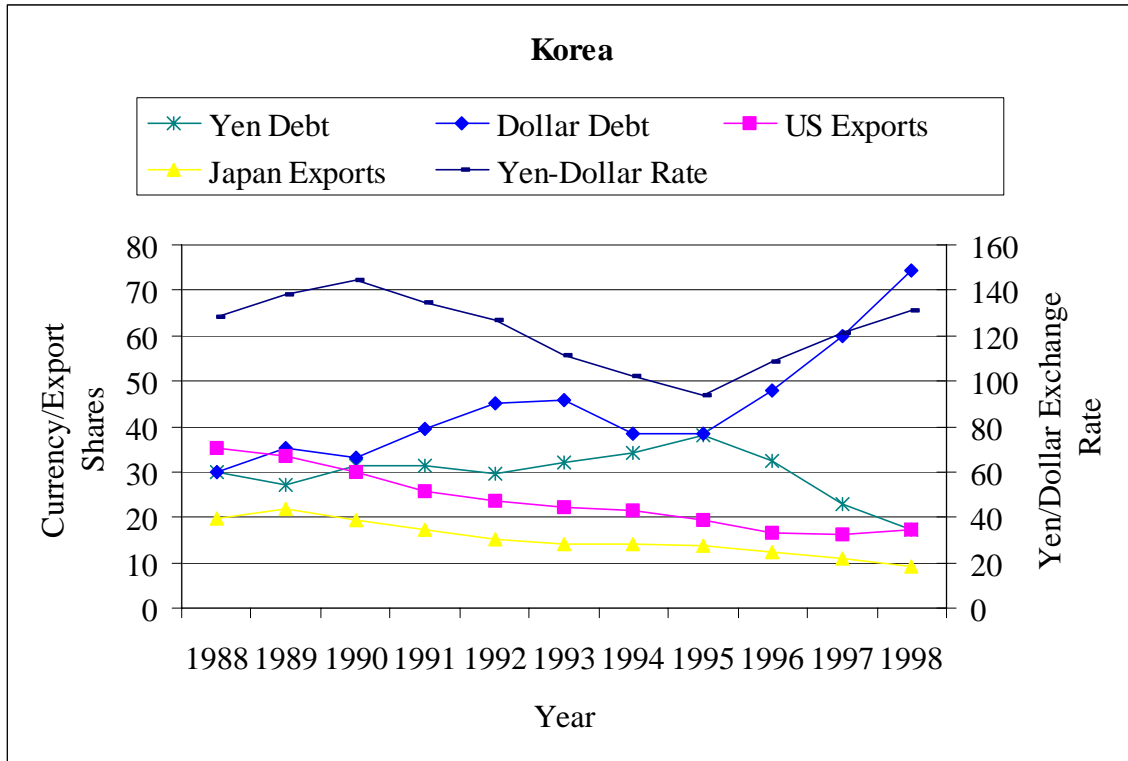


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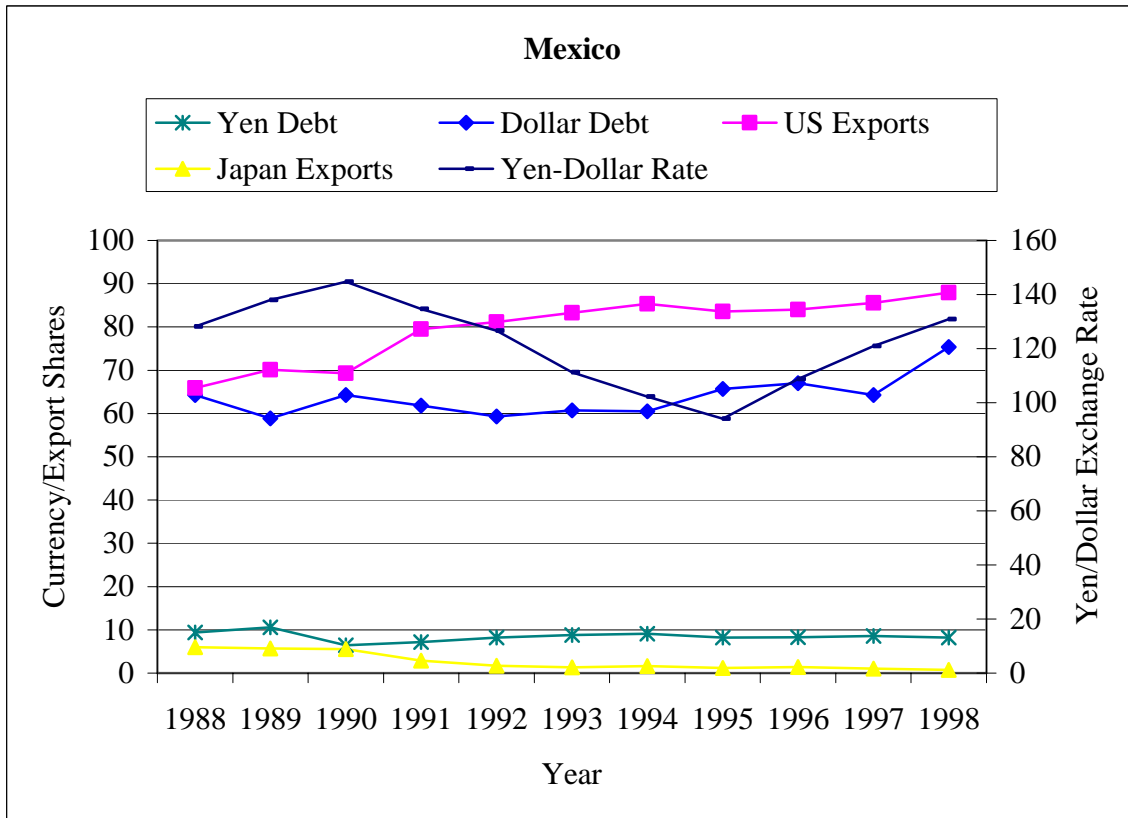


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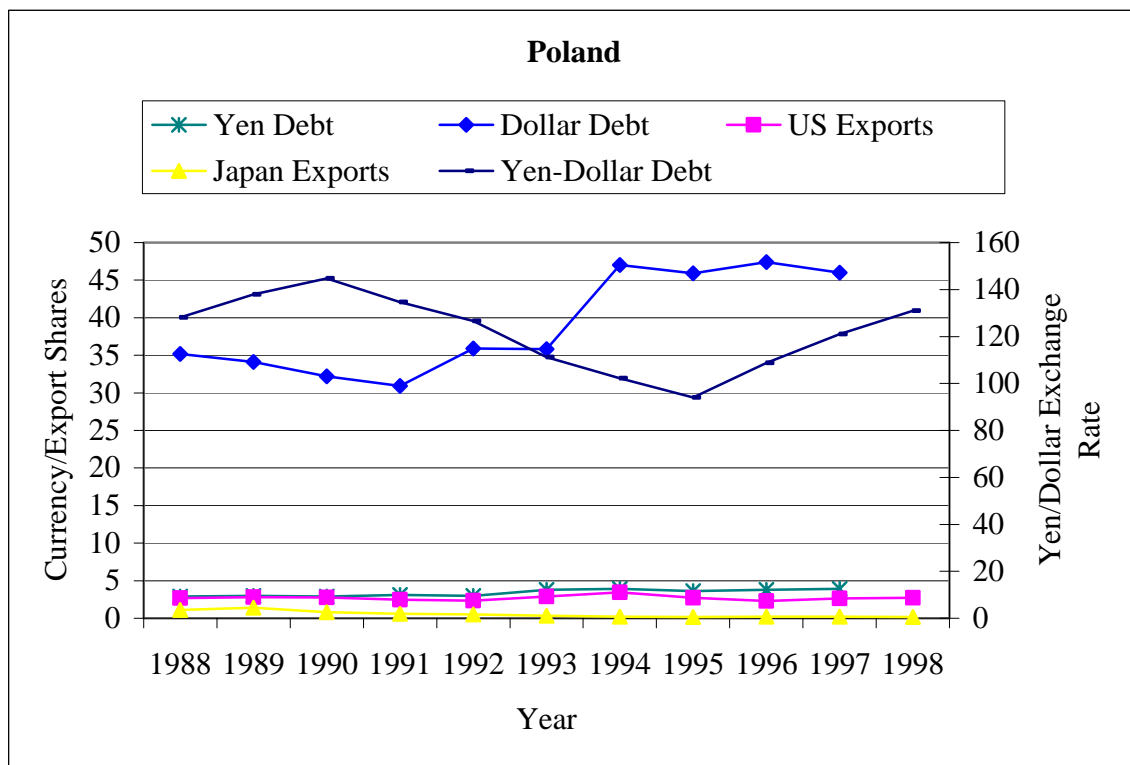


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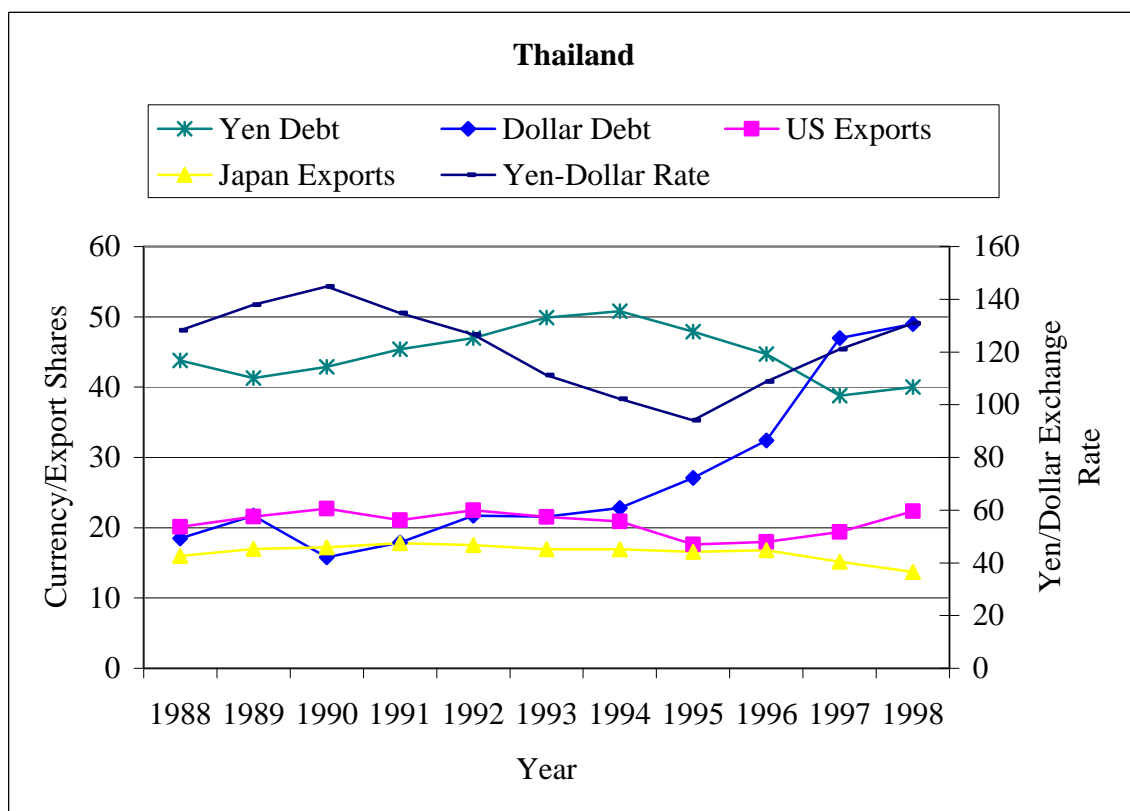


Table 1  
 Determinants of the Share of Foreign Direct Investment  
 Dependent variable: Share of net capital flows consisting of FDI

	Panel			SUR		
	Coef.	t test	Mg sig lev	Coef.	t test	Mg sig lev
Lagged Dependent Variable	-0.168	-2.060	<b>0.042</b>	-0.058	-0.991	0.322
Percent Change in GDP	0.007	0.439	0.661	-0.017	-0.875	0.382
Percent Change in GDP for East Asia	0.135	3.039	<b>0.003</b>	0.172	3.907	<b>0.000</b>
Interest Rate Differential	0.000	0.416	0.678	0.000	0.709	0.478
High Sterilization Indicator	-0.235	-1.022	0.310	-0.348	-1.624	0.104
High Sterilization Indicator outside East Asia and Latin America	0.404	0.998	0.321	0.336	0.783	0.434
Surrender Export Proceed (SEP)	-0.176	-0.735	0.464	-0.079	-0.352	0.725
Capital Transaction Restrictions (CTR)	0.499	2.026	<b>0.046</b>	0.462	1.957	<b>0.050</b>
Fixed Exchange Rate	-0.038	-0.096	0.924	-0.020	-0.057	0.954
Dirty Float Exchange Rate	-0.688	-2.934	<b>0.004</b>	-0.630	-2.993	<b>0.003</b>
Floating Exchange Rate	-0.806	-2.116	<b>0.037</b>	-0.693	-2.023	<b>0.043</b>
CTR*Fixed Exchange Rate	-0.827	-1.384	0.170	-0.738	-1.407	0.160
SEP*Fixed Exchange Rate	0.036	0.064	0.949	-0.006	-0.011	0.991
SEP* Floating Exchange Rate	0.221	0.588	0.558	0.177	0.529	0.597
Constant	0.360	1.173	0.244	0.681	1.813	0.070
N	124			117		
R sqr	0.244			0.363		
F test // Chi-sqr test	2.160			66.13		
Mg sig level	0.015			0.001		

Table 2  
Determinants of the Share of Short-Term Debt  
Dependent variable: Share of net capital flows consisting of short-term debt

	Panel			SUR		
	Coef.	t test	Mg sig lev	Coef.	t test	Mg sig lev
Lagged Dependent Variable	-0.194	-2.404	<b>0.018</b>	-0.084	-1.506	0.132
Percent Change in GDP	0.003	0.163	0.871	0.008	0.302	0.763
Percent Change in GDP for East Asia	-0.232	-4.133	<b>0.000</b>	-0.257	-4.576	<b>0.000</b>
Interest Rate Differential	0.000	-1.259	0.211	0.000	-1.586	0.113
High Sterilization Indicator	0.634	2.188	<b>0.031</b>	0.751	2.745	<b>0.006</b>
High Sterilization Indicator outside East Asia and Latin America	-0.808	-1.587	0.116	-0.886	-1.617	0.106
Surrender Export Proceed (SEP)	0.038	0.128	0.899	-0.045	-0.160	0.873
Capital Transaction Restrictions (CTR)	-0.476	-1.530	0.129	-0.443	-1.471	0.141
Fixed Exchange Rate	-0.168	-0.337	0.737	-0.206	-0.452	0.651
Dirty Float Exchange Rate	0.855	2.818	<b>0.006</b>	0.761	2.800	<b>0.005</b>
Floating Exchange Rate	1.315	2.724	<b>0.008</b>	1.256	2.861	<b>0.004</b>
CTR*Fixed Exchange Rate	1.317	1.748	0.084	1.247	1.863	0.062
SEP*Fixed Exchange Rate	-0.098	-0.137	0.892	-0.022	-0.033	0.974
SEP* Floating Exchange Rate	-0.593	-1.249	0.215	-0.641	-1.502	0.133
Constant	0.396	1.047	0.298	-0.026	-0.054	0.957
N	124			117		
R sqr	0.317			0.414		
F test // Chi-sqr test	3.110			82.0		
Mg sig level	0.001			0.000		

Table 3  
 Determinants of the Share of Portfolio Equity  
 Dependent variable: Share of net capital flows consisting of portfolio equity

	Panel			SUR		
	Coef.	t test	Mg sig lev	Coef.	t test	Mg sig lev
Lagged Dependent Variable	0.252	2.155	<b>0.034</b>	0.274	2.930	<b>0.003</b>
Percent Change in GDP	0.004	0.566	0.573	0.006	1.108	0.268
Percent Change in GDP for East Asia	0.050	3.484	<b>0.001</b>	0.046	3.763	<b>0.000</b>
Interest Rate Differential	0.000	1.297	0.198	0.000	1.867	0.062
High Sterilization Indicator	-0.079	-1.112	0.269	-0.052	-0.881	0.378
High Sterilization Indicator outside East Asia and Latin America	0.078	0.532	0.596	0.040	0.341	0.733
Surrender Export Proceed (SEP)	-0.078	-1.055	0.294	-0.072	-1.167	0.243
Capital Transaction Restrictions (CTR)	0.042	0.559	0.578	0.097	1.492	0.136
Fixed Exchange Rate	0.129	1.062	0.291	0.100	1.022	0.307
Dirty Float Exchange Rate	-0.081	-1.139	0.258	-0.070	-1.234	0.217
Floating Exchange Rate	-0.422	-3.617	<b>0.000</b>	-0.395	-4.223	<b>0.000</b>
CTR*Fixed Exchange Rate	-0.472	-2.578	<b>0.012</b>	-0.386	-2.678	<b>0.007</b>
SEP*Fixed Exchange Rate	0.424	2.442	<b>0.017</b>	0.296	2.071	<b>0.038</b>
SEP* Floating Exchange Rate	0.291	2.511	<b>0.014</b>	0.297	3.231	<b>0.001</b>
Constant	0.076	0.791	0.431	-0.115	-1.125	0.261
N	117			117		
R sqr	0.345			0.595		
F test // Chi-sqr test	3.310			172.6		
Mg sig level	0.000			0.000		

Table 4  
Sachs, Tornell, & Velasco Type Test  
Dependent variable: Crisis Severity Index (six month horizon)

	Mexican Crisis			Asian Crisis		
	Coef.	t	P> t	Coef.	t	P> t
A Real Exchange Rate Appreciation (RER)	-0.045	-0.052	0.959	-0.548	-0.209	0.838
B Expansion of Bank Credit (EBC)	0.019	0.172	0.866	0.072	0.756	0.462
C RER * Indicator of High M2 to Reserves	-4.369	-1.011	0.332	0.252	0.093	0.927
D EBC* Indicator of High M2 to Reserves	1.120	0.918	0.376	0.009	0.014	0.989
E RER * Indicator of High M2 to Reserves * High RER or EBC	5.654	1.375	0.194	0.429	0.294	0.773
F EBC * Indicator of High M2 to Reserves * High RER or EBC	-1.222	-1.004	0.335	-0.171	-0.275	0.787
Constant	-0.071	-0.582	0.571	-0.081	-0.483	0.636
Observations	19			21		
R sqr	0.408			0.197		
F test	1.380			0.570		
Mg sig lev	0.300			0.747		
<b>Null Hypothesis (H<sub>0</sub>)</b>	<b>F test</b>	<b>Mg sig level</b>		<b>F test</b>	<b>Mg sig level</b>	
A + C = 0	1.140	0.307		0.080	0.782	
B + D = 0	0.840	0.377		0.020	0.901	
A + C + E = 0	5.510	<b>0.037</b>		0.020	0.884	
B + D + F = 0	1.210	0.293		0.500	0.491	

Table 5  
 Testing Transmission of Crises  
 Dependent variable: Crisis Severity Index (six month horizon)

	Mexican Crisis			Asian Crisis		
	Coef.	t test	Mg sig lev	Coef.	t test	Mg sig lev
Ratio of M2 to Reserves	-0.008	-0.418	0.683	0.013	0.405	0.692
Percent Expansion of Bank Credit	0.016	0.241	0.813	0.059	1.146	0.271
Real Exchange Rate Appreciation	0.498	1.188	0.256	-0.121	-0.276	0.787
Share Debt Denominated in United States Dollars	-0.001	-0.299	0.770			
Share of Total Exports to the United States	-0.308	-1.061	0.308			
Share Debt Denominated in Japanese Yen				-0.010	-2.365	<b>0.033</b>
Share of Total Exports to Japan				-1.726	-2.038	<b>0.061</b>
Constant	-0.041	-0.254	0.804	0.037	0.256	0.801
N	19			20		
R sqr	0.243			0.630		
F test	0.830			4.770		
Mg sig lev	0.549			0.009		



Table 6  
Comparing the Mexican and Asian Crises  
Dependent variable: Crisis Severity Index  
(Ordinary Least Squares)

<b>Mexican Crisis</b>				<b>6 months</b>			<b>9 months</b>			<b>12 months</b>		
Variable	Estimate	t Value	Pr >  t	Estimate	t Value	Pr >  t	Estimate	t Value	Pr >  t			
Intercept	-0.044	-0.540	0.599	-0.035	-0.280	0.780	0.003	0.020	0.986			
Ratio M2/Res	-0.002	-0.150	0.883	-0.007	-0.440	0.666	-0.014	-0.630	0.542			
Bank Cred expansion	0.034	0.820	0.426	0.037	0.600	0.555	0.010	0.120	0.909			
RER Appreciation	0.193	0.810	0.434	0.352	0.980	0.344	0.208	0.410	0.686			
Ratio ST Debt/Reserves	-0.165	-4.900	<b>0.000</b>	-0.270	-5.360	<b>0.000</b>	-0.259	-3.660	<b>0.003</b>			
R-squared	0.712			0.758			0.600					
Adj. R-Squared	0.630			0.689			0.486					
F-Value	8.670			10.970			5.260					
Pr > F	<b>0.001</b>			<b>0.000</b>			<b>0.009</b>					
<b>Asian Crisis</b>				<b>6 months</b>			<b>9 months</b>			<b>12 months</b>		
Variable	Estimate	t Value	Pr >  t	Estimate	t Value	Pr >  t	Estimate	t Value	Pr >  t			
Intercept	0.133	0.630	0.537	0.241	0.710	0.490	0.122	0.480	0.638			
Ratio M2/Res	-0.058	-1.710	<b>0.108</b>	-0.087	-1.580	0.134	-0.064	-1.560	0.139			
Bank Cred expansion	-0.004	-0.060	0.952	-0.029	-0.250	0.803	-0.020	-0.240	0.813			
RER Appreciation	-0.288	-0.480	0.641	-0.138	-0.140	0.889	0.125	0.170	0.867			
Ratio ST Debt/Reserves	-0.005	-0.050	0.962	0.001	0.010	0.995	0.090	0.760	0.458			
R-squared	0.183			0.149			0.185					
Adj. R-Squared	-0.035			-0.078			-0.033					
F-Value	0.840			0.660			0.850					
Pr > F	0.520			0.631			0.516					
<b>Equality tests across crises</b>												
	F test	Prob > F		F test	Prob > F		F test	Prob > F				
Ratio M2/Res	3.030	<b>0.093</b>		2.380	0.134		1.250	0.273				
Bank Cred expansion	0.180	0.676		0.210	0.651		0.060	0.811				
RER Appreciation	0.580	0.453		0.240	0.631		0.010	0.926				
Ratio ST Debt/Reserves	2.780	<b>0.106</b>		3.110	<b>0.089</b>		6.790	<b>0.014</b>				

**Table 6 cont'd**  
(Instrumental Variables)

<b>Mexican Crisis</b>				<b>6 months</b>			<b>9 months</b>			<b>12 months</b>		
Variable	Estimate	t Value	Pr >  t	Estimate	t Value	Pr >  t	Estimate	t Value	Pr >  t			
Intercept	-0.003	-0.030	0.975	0.057	0.390	0.705	0.163	0.930	0.370			
Ratio M2/Res	-0.008	-0.420	0.685	-0.027	-1.000	0.341	-0.043	-1.320	0.215			
Bank Cred expansion	-0.003	-0.050	0.959	0.020	0.250	0.808	0.011	0.120	0.910			
RER Appreciation	0.892	2.800	<b>0.017</b>	1.175	2.480	<b>0.030</b>	0.769	1.370	0.197			
Instrument for ST Debt/Res	-0.174	-2.900	<b>0.014</b>	-0.326	-3.660	<b>0.004</b>	-0.358	-3.400	<b>0.006</b>			
R-squared	0.715			0.779			0.743					
Adj. R-Squared	0.611			0.698			0.649					
F-Value	6.890			9.660			7.930					
Pr > F	<b>0.005</b>			<b>0.001</b>			0.003					
<b>Asian Crisis</b>				<b>6 months</b>			<b>9 months</b>			<b>12 months</b>		
Variable	Estimate	t Value	Pr >  t	Estimate	t Value	Pr >  t	Estimate	t Value	Pr >  t			
Intercept	0.170	0.520	0.612	0.177	0.290	0.775	-0.077	-0.180	0.859			
Ratio M2/Res	-0.094	-2.490	<b>0.030</b>	-0.135	-1.920	<b>0.081</b>	-0.094	-1.910	<b>0.082</b>			
Bank Cred expansion	-0.006	-0.080	0.935	-0.031	-0.250	0.808	-0.034	-0.390	0.702			
RER Appreciation	-0.630	-0.920	0.376	-0.427	-0.340	0.743	0.125	0.140	0.891			
Instrument for ST Debt/Res	0.077	0.230	0.823	0.251	0.400	0.696	0.444	1.020	0.332			
R-squared	0.425			0.285			0.312					
Adj. R-Squared	0.215			0.025			0.061					
F-Value	2.030			1.090			1.250					
Pr > F	0.160			0.406			0.348					
<b>Equality tests across crises</b>												
	F test	Prob > F		F test	Prob > F		F test	Prob > F				
Ratio M2/Res	4.570	<b>0.044</b>		2.260	0.147		0.780	0.386				
Bank Cred expansion	0.000	0.977		0.100	0.760		0.110	0.738				
RER Appreciation	4.540	<b>0.045</b>		1.600	0.219		0.400	0.536				
Instrument for ST Debt/Res	0.760	0.393		1.280	0.270		3.780	<b>0.065</b>				