CHINA'S MONETARY POLICY: WHERE ARE WE NOW?

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OPERATING MECHANISM

❖ PBC IS NOT A LEGALLY INDEPENDENT CENTRAL BANK

- One of the 26 ministerial-level departments of the State Council
- The PBC Law explicitly states that the PBC formulates and implements monetary policy under the State Council
- Some Trump advisers argue that the president should be consulted on interest-rate decision?

POLICY OBJECTIVES

- Maintaining price stability, boosting economic growth, promoting employment, and broadly maintaining balance of payments (Zhou, 2016)
- Like recently "we must not only..., but also..., while still ..., ultimately achieving..."
 - facilitating structural changes and improving social welfare

DECISION-MAKING PROCESS

- Approval from the State Council required to adjust important policy instruments, such as the benchmark deposit and lending rates and RRR
- But enjoys a certain degree of operational autonomy on other policy tools



OPEN MARKET OPERATION

REPURCHASE AGREEMENT

- Repo: The PBC withdraws liquidity from the market
- Reverse repo: The PBC injects liquidity to the market (mainly 7-day)

CENTRAL BANK BILL

- Central bank bills were used as a sterilization instrument for Funds Outstanding for FX
- ❖ Now frequently used in the Hong-Kong off-shore RMB market

OUTRIGHT BOND TRANSACTIONS

Recently the PBC hints it may add treasury transactions to policy toolkit?



LIQUIDITY FACILITIES

| | Introducing Year | Usage of Funding | Banks | Collateral Required | Tenor | Balance, by Mar 2024 |
|--|---------------------|--|--|--|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Standing Lending Facility (SLF) | Early 2013 | - | Policy banks and national commercia I banks | High-quality bonds and credit assets | 1 day – 1 month | 3.42 billion |
| Pledged Supplementary Lending (PSL) | Apr. 2014 | Specific policy targets/progra ms such the shantytown renovation | Policy banks | Adjustable by the PBC | Normally > 3 years | 3,370 billion |
| Medium-term Lending Facility (MLF) | Sep. 2014 | - | Qualified commercia I banks and policy banks | High-quality bonds | 3-12 months | 7,198 billion |
| Targeted Medium-term Lending Facility (TMLF) | Dec. 2018 | Private sector and SMEs | Qualified commercia I banks and policy banks | High-quality bonds | 3 years | 0 |
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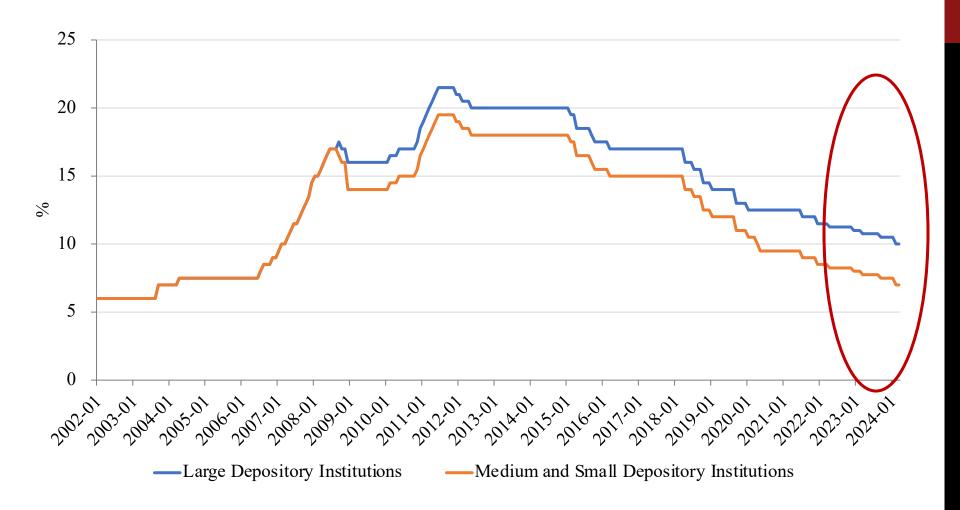


TRANSMISSION OF MONETARY

POLICY Market Benchmark Rates Policy Rates Market Rates DR007, Depository-**Money Market** 7-day repo rate Institutions Everyday repo transactions Repo Rate Anchored by interest rate corridor, excess reserve rate ~ &LF rates MLF transactions per month **LPR** MLF rate Credit Market **PBC** No explicit floating ceiling or floor. Approval from the But implicit floating ceiling for deposit State Council required rates and floor for lending rates Benchmark deposit/lending rate

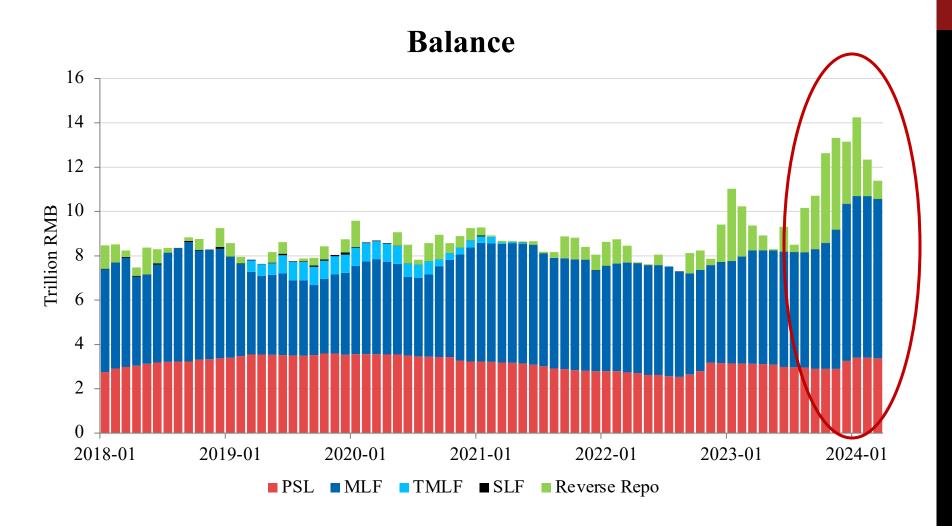


RRR





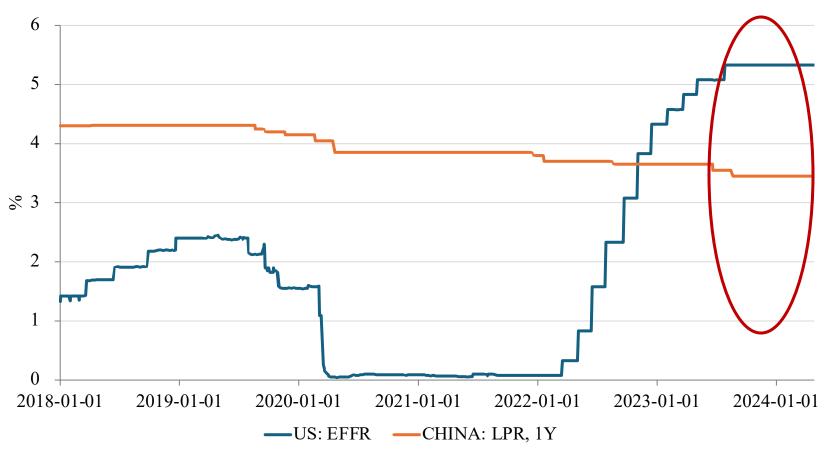
LIQUIDITY FACILITIES AND REVERSE REPO





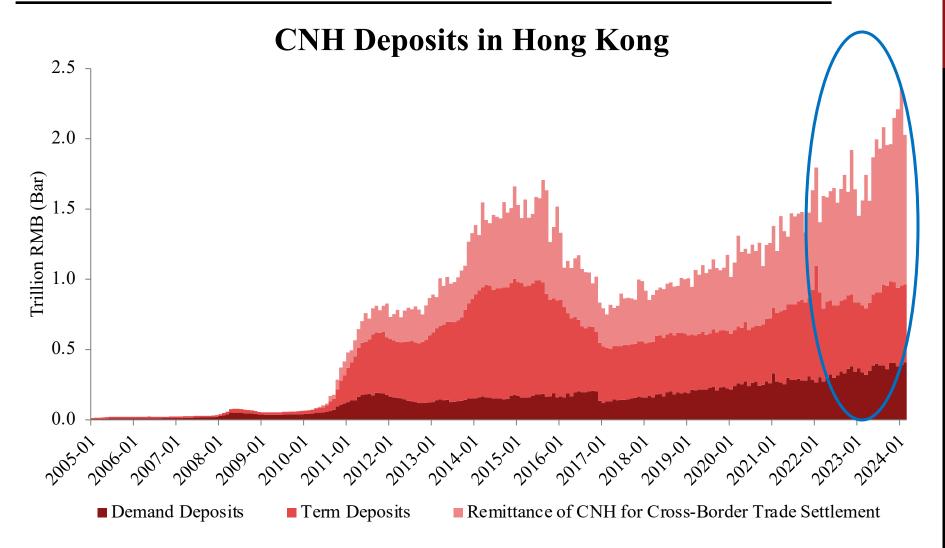
INTEREST RATES







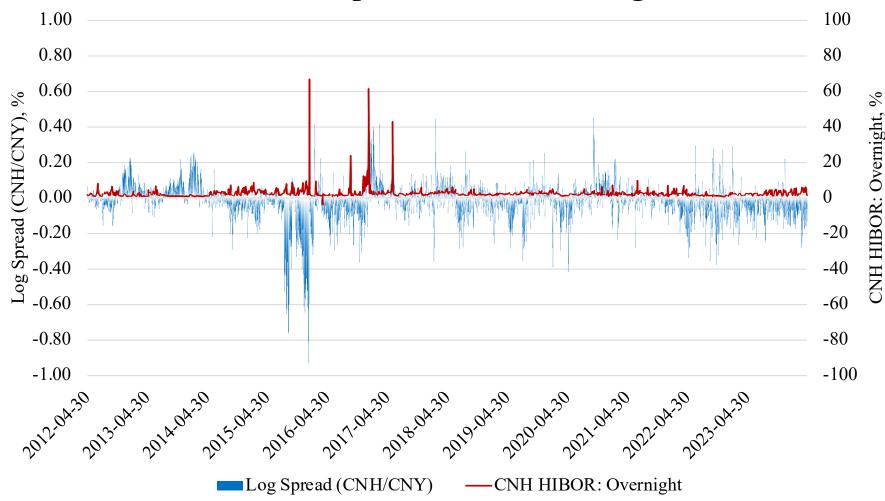
OFF-SHORE MONETARY POLICY





OFF-SHORE MONETARY POLICY

CNH/CNY Spread and Borrowing Cost



Other two tools: CNH reserves and off-shore central bank bills



CONCLUDING REMARKS

* PBC (AND BEIJING) HAS RESPONDED QUITE A BIT IN THE PAST YEAR

PBC has been the most "professional" team in China's bureaucratic agencies

PROFESSIONALS, PRACTITIONERS, AND ECONOMISTS ARE SEEKING MORE

"More" means bigger fiscal policies, like in 2009 four-trillion stimulus!

*** I AM STRONGLY AGAINST IT**

- Not much fiscal capacity at this point
- Monetary responses seem more benign and less overhang for the future
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