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Author(s)	Sato, Aki-Hiro; Nishimura, Maiko; Hołyst, Janusz A.
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Fluctuation scaling of quotation activities in the foreign exchange market

Aki-Hiro Sato^{a,*} Maiko Nishimura^a Janusz A. Hołyst^b

^a*Department of Applied Mathematics and Physics, Graduate School of Informatics,
Kyoto University, Kyoto 606-8501, Japan*

^b*Faculty of Physics and Center of Excellence for Complex Systems Research,
Warsaw University of Technology, Koszykowa 75, PL-00-662 Warsaw, Poland*

Abstract

This study investigates scaling behavior of quotation activities in the foreign exchange market. The power-law relationship between a mean of quotation activities and their standard deviation for each currency pair is found, and the dependence of the scaling exponent α on the time window Δt is calculated. It is found that the scaling exponent fluctuates temporally in a range from 0.8 to 0.9 at $\Delta t = 1$ [min], depending on observation days. The extraction between specific fluctuations and a common fluctuation from quotation activities is conducted. It is concluded that quotation activities in the foreign exchange market are not independently Poissonian, and that temporally or mutually correlated activities of quotations happen. We propose a stochastic model for the foreign exchange market based on a bipartite graph representation. The components' centrality on a bipartite graph is estimated from multiple time series and visualized on a currency pair network. Consequently, the scaling exponents can be used to quantify market participants' states based on information flows in the foreign exchange market. We found that as increasing the window length market participants are affected by exogenous field.

Key words:

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Econophysics, The foreign exchange market, power law scaling, Taylorism, quotation activities

1. Introduction

Recently many researchers have paid considerable attention to both economically and socially motivated problems in the literature of complex systems [1–8]. Collective be-

* corresponding author.

Email address: aki@i.kyoto-u.ac.jp (Aki-Hiro Sato).

havior among interacting agents shows different properties from particles governed by Newtonian laws. However, intriguing properties could be found and mathematical models should be considered. This movement, called socio/econo-physics, is expected to bridge a gap between physics and our societies [9].

Financial markets are complex systems which consist of many interacting agents. The progress of understanding information flows among agents sheds the light on states of financial markets, i.e. states of market participants. The recent accumulation of a massive amount of data about financial markets due to both the development and spread of information and communication technology, allows us to quantify the states of financial markets in detail [10,11]. In fact, the correlation structure of high-frequency financial time series are exhaustively and quantitatively investigated [12,13], however, it becomes more difficult to compute cross-correlations and to recognize their numerical results as the dimension of multiple time series increases further.

On the other hand, several pieces of research in both socio/econo-physics and engineering have a remarkable interest in both the structure of complex networks [14,15] and the flows of the constituents on them. Several studies investigate social or artificial constructions from a viewpoint of complex networks. Menezes and Barabási studied the scaling behavior of constituents' flows on several constructions such as river networks (water flows), transportation systems (car flows), and computer networks (information flows) [16,17]. As a result, scaling properties are found for flow fluctuations in such systems. This relationship is known as fluctuation scaling or Taylor's power law [21,22]. The Taylor's power law is known as the scaling-relationship between the mean of populations and their standard deviation in ecological systems. The ubiquity of Taylor's power-law slopes of between $1/2$ and 1 suggests that there exists an underlying fundamental mechanism affecting the transportation of constituents.

Eisler and Kertész reported that there is such a power-law relationship between a mean of traded volumes of stocks and their standard deviation in the New York Stock Exchange, and that the power-law exponent takes a nontrivial value between $1/2$ and 1 [23]. Jian *et al.* investigated trade volumes of stocks in the Chinese stock market [24]. They found that they show a non-universal scaling exponent of fluctuations different from $1/2$ and 1 . We think that their results provide a method to quantify the states of agents with multiple time series in the financial markets. This method is also useful to quantify the states of market participants from the viewpoint of information flows in the financial markets.

The aim of this article is to investigate into information flows in the foreign exchange market (FX market) by means of quotation activities, measured as arrival rates of quotations on broking systems. We investigate the fundamental properties of quotation activities in the FX market and quantify the total states of the market participants through fluctuation scaling.

The organization of this article is as follows. In Sec. 2 analyzed high-frequency financial data of the FX market is presented. In Sec. 3 a brief explanation of a power-law relationship between a mean of constituents' flow in complex networks and their standard deviation is shown. In Sec. 4 empirical analysis of quotation activities is conducted. In Sec. 5 the dependence of scaling exponents on a time window is examined, and the relationship between the states of market participants in the FX market and the scaling exponents is discussed. Sec. 6 is devoted to concluding remarks and shows future works.

2. Foreign exchange market

The foreign exchange market is the largest financial market in the world. It is a network consisting of brokers, bank traders, and investors. Recent developments in Information and Communication Technology have led to the spread of electronic trading systems all over the world. As a result, many market participants can directly access to the FX market by using computer terminals. Moreover, trading activities are recorded in the server computers, which conduct the matching operations among quotations from the market participants, and we can analyze a large amount of data about market activities with a high resolution.

In the analysis we use Time & Sales (T&S) data provided by CQG Inc. [25]. The data contains time stamps, rates, and indicators to show ask or bid quotations with a 1 minute resolution. The database includes 45 currency pairs ¹ consisting of 24 currencies.

Quotation activities for each currency pair are extracted from the database. Since the two-way quotation is adopted in the FX market, it is enough to count the number of the bid or ask quotations.

Let $X_{i,\Delta t}(t)$ ($i = 1, \dots, N; t = 0, \Delta t, 2\Delta t, \dots, (Q - 1)\Delta t$) denote the number of all incoming ask quotations for a period between $t\Delta t$ and $(t + 1)\Delta t$ for the currency pair i . $\Delta t (> 0)$ denotes the time window to compute the number of quotations. Examples of quotation activities for EUR/JPY, USD/JPY and EUR/USD are shown in Fig. 1. We shall treat the FX market as a complex system consisting of 45 sites i with unknown number of internal variables, where every site i is a corresponding currency pair from our database and its internal activity is given by the number of quotations $X_{i,\Delta t}(t)$. It is confirmed that the quotation activities exhibit an intraday pattern related to the rotation of the earth, so that they have a strong regional dependence due to entering and leaving of market participants. We focus on short-term behavior of quotation activities under the assumption of local stationarity. In the context of financial markets the number of quotations or transactions is known to represent a proxy variable of the latent number of information arrivals in the system [26], where the term ‘‘information’’ is defined as ‘‘a difference which makes a difference’’ [27].

3. Theory

3.1. Fluctuation Scaling

In a complex network in which constituents are transmitted between nodes, we focus on the number of constituents which arrive on the node i during Δt , which is denoted as $X_{i,\Delta t}(t)$. In the context of financial markets the number of quotations or transactions is known to represent a proxy variable of the latent number of information arrivals in

¹ The database contains AUD/CHF, AUD/JPY, AUD/NZD, AUD/SGD, AUD/USD, CAD/CHF, CAD/JPY, CHF/JPY, EUR/AUD, EUR/CHF, EUR/CZK, EUR/GBP, EUR/HUF, EUR/JPY, EUR/NOK, EUR/PLN, EUR/SEK, EUR/TRL, EUR/USD, GBP/AUD, GBP/CAD, GBP/CHF, GBP/INR, GBP/JPY, GBP/NZD, GBP/USD, NZD/USD, USD/BRL, USD/CAD, USD/CHF, USD/DKK, USD/HKD, USD/HUF, USD/INR, USD/JPY, USD/KRW, USD/MXN, USD/NOK, USD/PKR, USD/PLN, USD/SEK, USD/SGD, USD/THB, USD/TRL, and USD/ZAR. These currency names are described based on ISO 4217.

the system [26], where the term “information” is defined as “a difference which makes a difference” [27].

It is known that the mean of $X_{i,\Delta t}(t)$

$$\langle X_{i,\Delta t} \rangle = \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{j=0}^{Q-1} X_{i,\Delta t}(j\Delta t), \quad (1)$$

and its standard deviation

$$\sigma_{i,\Delta t} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{Q} \sum_{j=0}^{Q-1} \left(X_{i,\Delta t}(j\Delta t) - \langle X_{i,\Delta t} \rangle \right)^2}, \quad (2)$$

follow a power-law relationship

$$\sigma_{i,\Delta t} = C \langle X_{i,\Delta t} \rangle^\alpha, \quad (3)$$

where C is a positive constant, and α ($1/2 \leq \alpha \leq 1$) denotes a scaling exponent. This power-law relationship is referred to as the fluctuation scaling, or Taylors’ law [21,22].

The situations where α takes 1/2 for every time window size are as follows. (1) The first possibility can correspond to standard fluctuations observed in equilibrium statistical physics where dispersion of volume of the total magnetization scales of the size of the system as the power 1/2. (2) The second possibility can be a Poissonian like process with very low activity where one can neglect the square of the mean of activity comparing to the mean activity itself. On the other hand the situations where α takes 1 for every time window size are as follows. (1) One case corresponds to the situation when every node i is driven by universal(common) random variable. $\langle V_i(t) \rangle$ are mean values of $V_i(t)$ is the same for every node i but the individual activity of every node is dependent also on some constants F_i , i.e. $f_i(t) = F_i < V_i(t) >$, $\langle f_i \rangle = f_i \langle V_i \rangle$. (2) The possible scenario can be the case where the activity for every node i is the some of the activities of identical completely synchronized constituents. As another scenario that α takes from 1/2 to 1, the Hurst exponents’ heterogeneity is known [22].

3.2. Specific fluctuations and common fluctuation

According to Ref. [17] we can separate specific and common fluctuations of complex systems as follows. This can be based on the assumption that a common fluctuation may be originated from exogenous factors of elements and that specific ones come from endogenous factors. Of course a common fluctuation is not always originated from a common exogenous factor. It is known that synchronization can be happened due to interaction among elements [18,19]. We assume that we can separate the two contributions by writing

$$X_{i,\Delta t}(t) = X_{i,\Delta t}^{\text{spe}}(t) + X_{i,\Delta t}^{\text{com}}(t). \quad (4)$$

It is proposed that a time independent fraction A_i of the total quotation is determined by the component’s centrality [20]. We can write A_i as the ratio of the total quotations that have arrived on matching engines for the currency pair i in the time interval $t \in [0, Q-1]$, and the total quotations over all observed components during the same time interval

$$A_i = \frac{\sum_{j=0}^{Q-1} X_{i,\Delta t}(j\Delta t)}{\sum_{j=0}^{Q-1} \sum_{i=1}^N X_{i,\Delta t}(j\Delta t)}. \quad (5)$$

Therefore, the common fluctuation that contributes to the activity of the currency pair i is expected to be

$$X_{i,\Delta t}^{\text{com}}(t) = A_i \sum_{i=1}^N X_{i,\Delta t}(t). \quad (6)$$

The scaling exponent of $X_{i,\Delta t}^{\text{com}}(t)$ always takes 1 from the direct consequence of its definition.

From Eqs. (4) and (6) the specific fluctuations are given by

$$X_{i,\Delta t}^{\text{spe}}(t) = X_{i,\Delta t}(t) - \left(\frac{\sum_{j=0}^{Q-1} X_{i,\Delta t}(j\Delta t)}{\sum_{j=0}^{Q-1} \sum_{i=1}^N X_{i,\Delta t}(j\Delta t)} \right) \sum_{i=1}^N X_{i,\Delta t}(t). \quad (7)$$

Furthermore, by means of Eqs. (6) and (7), we can determine whether the fluctuations observed in a system are synchronous or asynchronous, so that they may be affected by endogenous or exogenous contributions. From each currency pair we calculate the standard deviations of both specific fluctuations and a common fluctuation,

$$\sigma_{i,\Delta t}^{\text{spe}} = \sqrt{\langle X_{i,\Delta t}^{\text{spe}}(t)^2 \rangle - \langle X_{i,\Delta t}^{\text{spe}}(t) \rangle^2}, \quad (8)$$

$$\sigma_{i,\Delta t}^{\text{com}} = \sqrt{\langle X_{i,\Delta t}^{\text{com}}(t)^2 \rangle - \langle X_{i,\Delta t}^{\text{com}}(t) \rangle^2}, \quad (9)$$

and their ratio

$$\eta_i = \frac{\sigma_{i,\Delta t}^{\text{com}}}{\sigma_{i,\Delta t}^{\text{spe}}}. \quad (10)$$

From definition $\langle X_{i,\Delta t}^{\text{com}} \rangle = 0$. If $\eta_i > 1$, the common fluctuation is dominant in the dynamics of the currency pair i . Otherwise, the specific fluctuations are dominant. Moreover, it is known that the common fluctuation scales as a power law with the exponent $\alpha = 1$, when we plot a standard deviation $\sigma_{i,\Delta t}^{\text{com}}$ as a function of a mean $\langle X_{i,\Delta t} \rangle$. The scales of the specific fluctuation provide us with a more detailed understanding of the system's dynamics.

4. Data Analysis

For each currency pair, quotation activities are extracted from a T&S database. We calculate a mean of the quotation activities and their standard deviation for each currency pair following Eq. (1) and (2). As shown in Fig. 2 a power-law relationship between a mean and standard deviation in log-log plots is found. In order to estimate C and α we used the least square method for $\log \langle X_{i,\Delta t} \rangle$ and $\log \sigma_i$. From a double logarithmic form of Eq. (3) the fitting function is set as

$$\log \sigma_{i,\Delta t} = \alpha \log \langle X_{i,\Delta t} \rangle + \log C. \quad (11)$$

Following this procedure, the power-law exponent is estimated as 0.8 at $\Delta t = 1$ [min], as 0.85 at $\Delta t = 10$ [min], and as 0.876 at $\Delta t = 120$ [min] for a period from the 2nd to 6th July, 2007.

Furthermore, the dependences of the α on Δt are computed for 4 periods in July 2007. One can see that the exponent α is almost constant for longer time windows, $\Delta t > 100$ [min], see Fig. 3 (top). On the other hand for shorter time scales this exponent

increases proportionally to $\log \Delta t$ up to $\Delta t = 10$ [min]. Slopes of this increase are almost independent of observation days.

As shown in Fig. 4, the α value varies temporally in a range from 0.8 to 0.9 at $\Delta t = 1$ [min]. This temporal variation can be related to the temporal dependence of the synchronous and desynchronous activities of the quotation for each currency pair arriving on brokerage systems on trading days. Furthermore as Δt increases the common fluctuation has a tendency to become dominant. This result is consistent with the dependences of α on Δt , as shown in Fig. 3.

Following Eq. (5) we calculated the centrality of each currency pair for $T = 1440$ [min] and drew the currency pair network with links corresponding to its centrality as shown in Fig. 5. From Fig. 5 we can find that USD/CHF, AUD/JPY, CHF/JPY, EUR/AUD, EUR/GBP, EUR/JPY, EUR/USD, GBP/AUD, GBP/CAD, GBP/CHF, GBP/JPY, GBP/USD, USD/CHF, USD/DKK, USD/NOK, USD/SEK have a large value as its centrality.

As shown in Fig. 6 η_i are distributed dependently on the time window. As Δt increases, the distribution shift from the negative side of $\log \eta_i$ to its positive side. Tab. 1 shows the values of $\log \eta_i$ for each Δt . From this table we find that some currency pairs are dominated by the specific fluctuations, and that others by the common fluctuation. The currency pairs in which the specific fluctuations are dominant are EUR/CZK, GBP/INR, USD/BRL, USD/HKD, USD/INR, USD/KRW, USD/MXN, USD/PKR, USD/SGD, USD/THB, USD/TRL, and USD/ZAR. The currency pairs in which a common fluctuation is dominant are USD/CHF, AUD/JPY, CAD/CHF, CHF/JPY, EUR/AUD, EUR/GBP, EUR/JPY, EUR/USD, GBP/AUD, GBP/CAD, GBP/CHF, GBP/JPY, GBP/NZD, GBP/USD, USD/CHF, USD/DKK, USD/HUF, USD/JPY, USD/PLN, and USD/SEK. Consequently, rare currency pairs tend to be subject to the specific fluctuations, while hard currency pairs tend to be subject to the common fluctuation. It is confirmed that quotations of currency pairs with a high centrality commonly fluctuate from Figs. 5 and 6.

Moreover the relationship between α and Δt shown in Fig. 3 is consistent with the results that the mean value of η_i moves to a positive direction as Δt increases (See. Fig. 6).

By plotting for each currency pair, the standard deviations σ_i^{com} and σ_i^{spe} as a function of the average $\langle X_{i,\Delta t} \rangle$, we can understand the dynamics of these fluctuations. As shown in Fig. 7 the common fluctuations scale with $\alpha = 1$. By using Eq. (11) it is found that the specific fluctuation scales with $\alpha = 0.687$ at $\Delta t = 1$ [min], $\alpha = 0.684$ at $\Delta t = 10$ [min], and $\alpha = 0.656$ at $\Delta t = 120$ [min]. Hence, $X_{i,\Delta t}^{\text{spe}}(t)$ for all the currency pairs do not independently fluctuate.

5. Discussion

According to [23] when calculated for systems with strong temporal correlations α can become time scale dependent. Specifically if Hurst exponents are inhomogeneous in terms of Δt then the α values depend on the time window.

Since α takes values in the range from 0.8 to 0.9 at $\Delta t = 1$ [min], the quotation activities of the FX market may be mutually correlated due to both internal and external factors. In order to check the dependence of the Hurst exponents on the time window we calculate

the standard deviations $\sigma(\Delta t)$ for various window size Δt . As shown in Fig. 8 we do not confirm the Hurst exponent inhomogeneity in terms of Δt but confirm its inhomogeneity in terms of currency pairs. On the other hand we confirm logarithmic increases of α in terms of Δt for several observation weeks.

Therefore the possibility that the dependence of α on Δt comes from the Hurst exponent inhomogeneity may be small. In addition to it α increases proportionally to $\log \Delta t$ up to $\Delta t = 10$ [min]. Hence monotonically increases of α in terms of Δt may be related to synchronous behavior among quotation activities. Specifically, since several market participants in the FX market conduct arbitrage operations among several currency pairs, it is thought that its synchronous behavior among currency pairs easily happens.

As shown in Fig. 3, it is found that α monotonically increases and has a tendency to converge into a certain value. Noting that the cut-off of a function of α in terms of Δt is around $\Delta t = 10$ to 20 [min]. As Δt increases, the quotation activities may become more temporally correlated or mutually synchronous than small Δt . This implies that for a large time scale the market participants synchronously behave and may be driven by a common factor other than internal factors. Consequently, since both the temporal and mutual correlation structure among quotation activities is related to α 's value, the average of the correlation increases/decreases as α tends toward be unity/one-half. At least the average of the correlation for small Δt seems to be smaller than that for large Δt .

These nontrivial values of α may imply that the market participants are affected by information both from different origins relating to microscopic dynamics and from common sources relating to macroscopic dynamics, or may imply that market participants have strong interaction. In other words the arrival rates of quotations on the brokerage systems are not independently Poissonian.

The market participants communicate via electronic broking systems and perceive both endogenous and exogenous information through electrical communication (e-mails, telephones, video-chat systems, and so on). Therefore, it is natural that they are affected by both internal and external fluctuations and/or have strong interactions with one another. When α descends toward $1/2$, the the quotations arriving on the brokerage system tends to be random. On the other hand, when α ascends toward 1 , the arrival tends to be synchronous. Therefore, values of α are useful to evaluate the states of information flows in the whole FX market.

It is known that the degree centrality is related to the degree of the component if constituents move randomly with the same probability on a network [20]. Even though the probability of the random walk is not same this assumption can be justified if multiple linkage between nodes is possible. In the FX market the relationship among market participants and currency pairs based on conveyance of quotations can be described as a bipartite network. If we can accept the assumption that quotations are randomly created by market participants then the component's centrality estimated by Eq. (5) is related to the number of market participants connected to that one.

This intuitive understanding of the FX market would be able to be mathematically written as follows. Let N and M denote the number of currency pairs and the number of market participants, respectively. C_{jk} gives an adjacency matrix of a bipartite graph and represents a link from the j -th market participant to k -th currency pair. Then the total number of outgoing links which the j -th market participant has, is given by $K_j =$

$\sum_{k=1}^N C_{jk}$. We assume that the j -th market participant generates a quotation to the k -th currency pair with the same probability $1/K_j$. Since asymmetric dynamics of quotations on a homogeneous incidence relationship can be translated into homogeneous random walk on a heterogeneous incidence relationship, we assume that the adjacency matrix can take non-negative integer values, so that $C_{jk} = 0, 1, 2, \dots$. Then the k -th currency pair's centrality may be approximated as

$$A_k = \sum_{j=1}^M \frac{C_{jk}}{K_j} q_j / \left(\sum_{j=1}^M q_j \right), \quad (12)$$

where q_j is a probability for the j -th market participants to enter a quotation during Δt . Since we can assume that q_j is a function of t and the agent j and the bipartite network structure of the financial markets is also time-dependent, A_k given by Eq. (5) is also a function of time t . Therefore under the assumption of local stationarity we should quantify importance of currency pairs in the FX market by means of time-dependent A_k .

6. Conclusions

The power-law relationship between a mean of quotation activities and their standard deviation was found in the FX market. We confirmed that the scaling exponents α take values in a range from 0.8 to 0.9 at $\Delta t = 1$ [min], and that the scaling exponents vary in time depending on observation days. We separated the common fluctuation and the specific fluctuations. It was found that the common fluctuation dominates the dynamics of hard currency pairs, while the specific fluctuations dominate that of rare currency pairs. The standard deviations of the specific fluctuations scale with $\alpha \neq 1/2$ as a function of means. These nontrivial values imply that the market participants may be affected by both endogenous and exogenous factors, or that they behave with a strong temporal correlation. It was found that there are groups in which currency pairs are associated with the internal/external fluctuations. Furthermore, this variation is thought to be related to synchronous and desynchronous states of information transmission in the FX market.

Observing the values of the scaling exponent α and the ratio between amplitude of common and specific fluctuations for different values of Δt we found that for short time scale $\Delta t \approx 1$ [min] the dynamics of the FX market is mostly given by the internal processes while for Δt around 1 [hour] the external factors start to be important. This observation is consistent with results of [31] on the stock market fluctuations. It means that in the stock markets and the FX market incoming news show finite time diffusion on the short time scale. On the other hand since the coherent response can be observed collective decisions occur at longer time scale.

The power-law relationship between means and standard deviations is expected to become a useful tool to quantify the total similarity among multiple time series of the FX market both massively and persistently.

As for future works, more careful analysis including relationship between auto-correlation and cross-correlation is needed. In addition to it, the persistent investigation using exhaustive data for long periods, and the mathematical modeling of the FX market from an information transmission point of view, should be conducted. One candidate for an adequate model is that of the stochastic processes [21,16] and another is that of agent-based models in the financial markets [8,29,30]. It is inferred that the total similarity

among behavioral parameters of agents is related to a value of the power-law exponent α .

The understandings of the power-law relationships found in the financial markets will provide us with deeper insights on the herding behavior and economical activity via heterogeneous agents. Detailed investigations with exhaustive data sets may allow us to deeply understand them.

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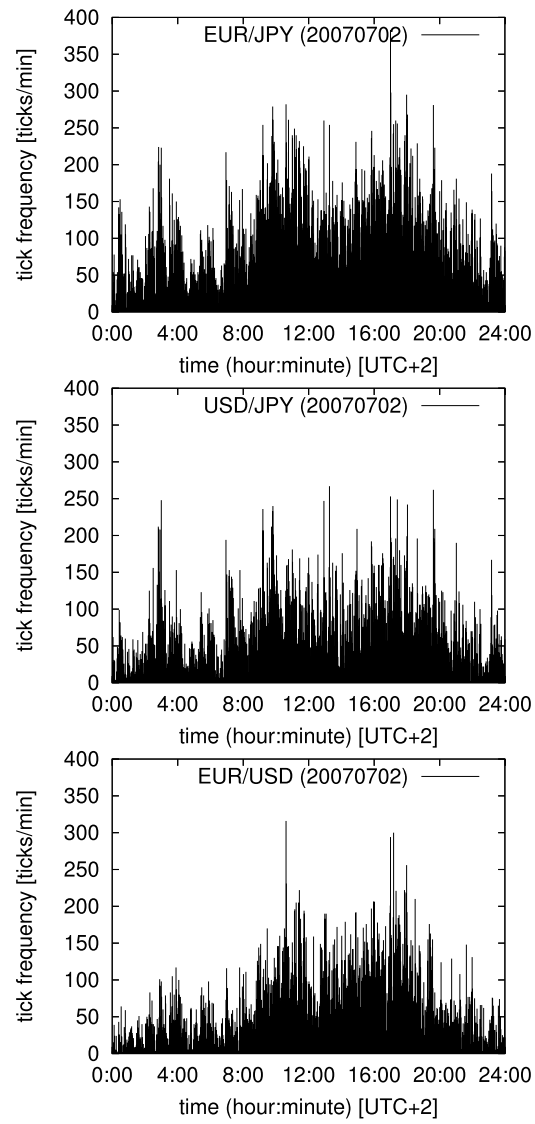


Fig. 1. Time series of quotation activities at $\Delta t = 1$ [min] for EUR/JPY, USD/JPY, and EUR/USD in 2nd July 2007.

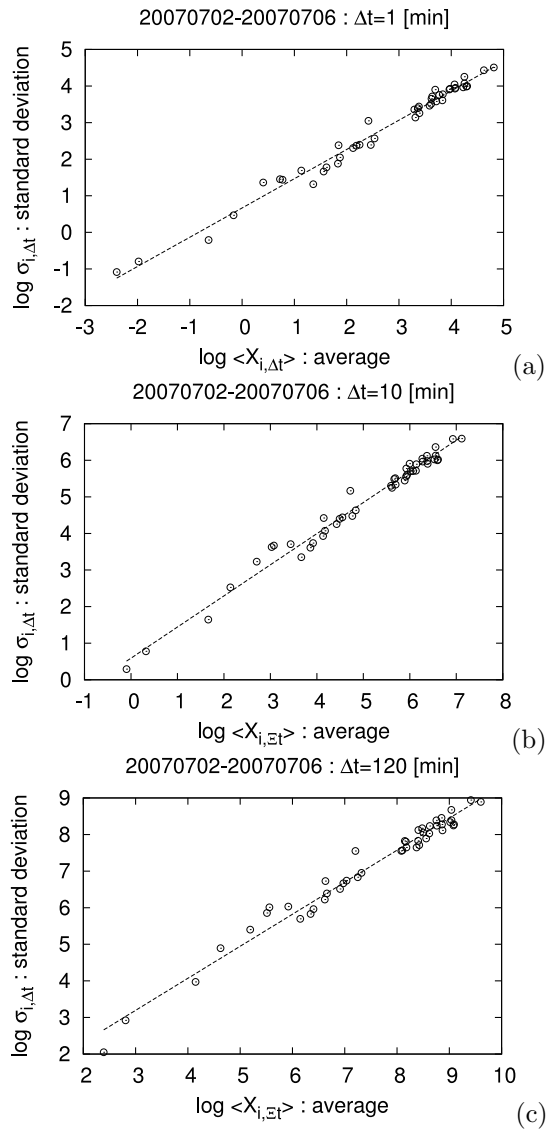


Fig. 2. Log-log plots of a mean of quotation activities and their standard deviation for each currency pair at $\Delta t = 1$ [min] (a), $\Delta t = 10$ [min] (b), and $\Delta t = 120$ [min] (c) for a period from 2nd to 6th July 2007. The x-axis represents a mean value, and the y-axis a standard deviation. The straight line is estimated by using the ordinary least squares. $\log C = 0.667$ and $\alpha = 0.800$ at $\Delta t = 1$ [min], $\log C = 0.591$ and $\alpha = 0.851$ at $\Delta t = 10$ [min], and $\log C = 0.568$ and $\alpha = 0.876$ at $\Delta t = 120$ [min].

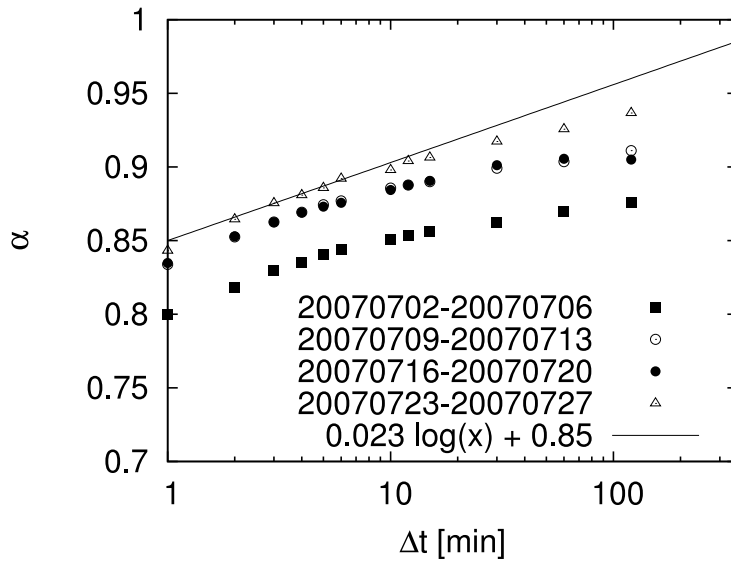


Fig. 3. A semi-log plots (bottom) of a relation between α and Δt for a period from 2nd to 6th (filled square), 9th to 13th (unfilled circle), 16th to 20th (filled circle), and 23rd to and 27th (unfilled triangle) July 2007.

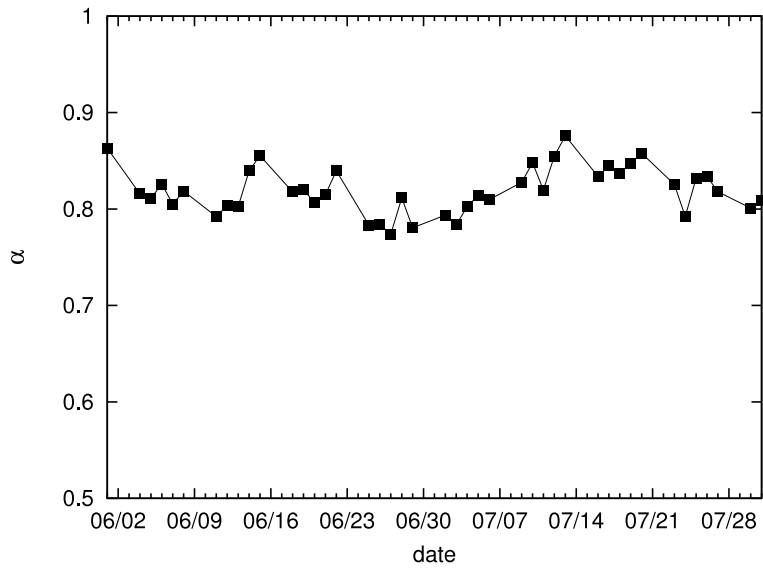


Fig. 4. Temporal variation of the scaling exponents α at $\Delta t = 1$ [min] for periods from 1st June to 31st July 2007.

2007/07/02 (UTC+2)

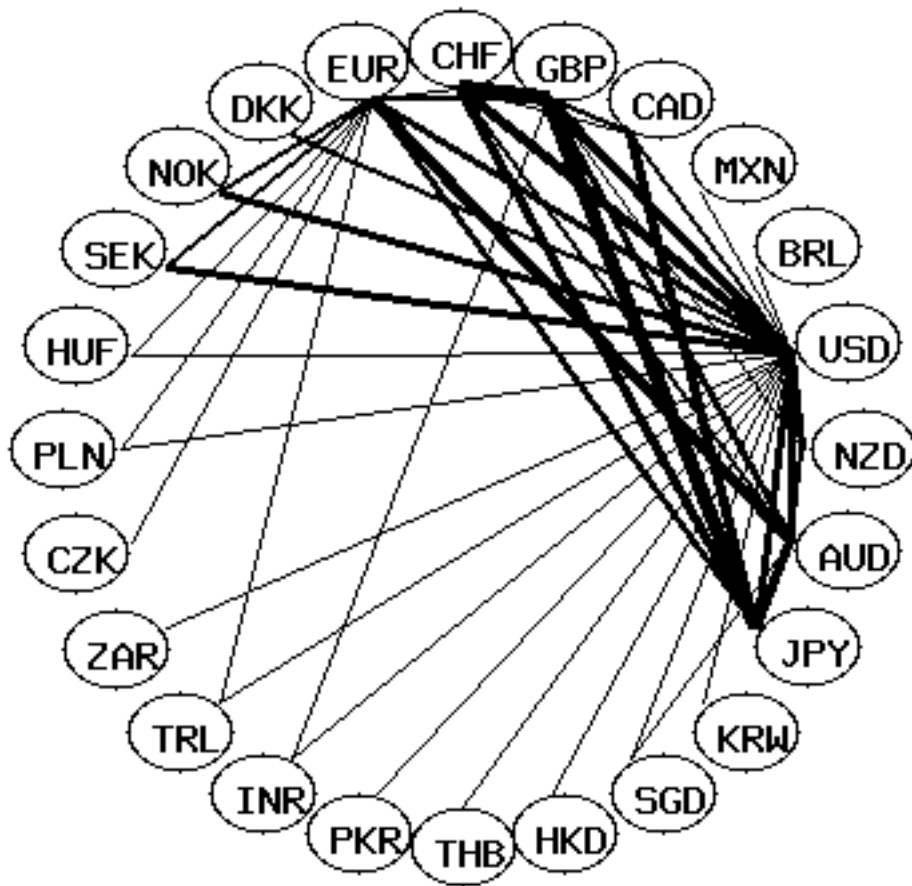


Fig. 5. Graphical illustration of 45 currency pairs in the foreign exchange market. Each node represents currency, and link between two nodes currency pairs. The link width corresponds to its centrality at 2nd July 2007.

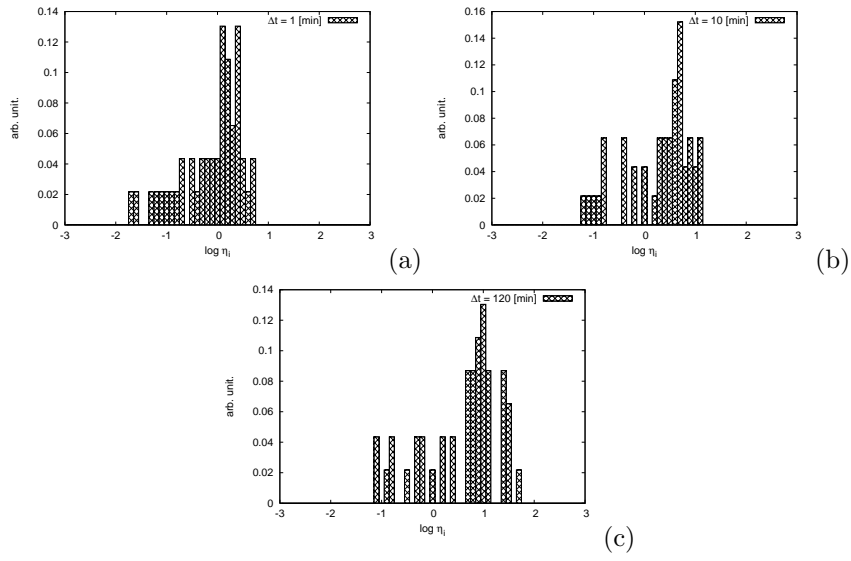


Fig. 6. Histograms of contribution of internal and external fluctuations ($\log \eta_i$) at $\Delta t = 1$ [min] (a mean = -0.113, a standard deviation = 0.627) (a), $\Delta t = 10$ [min] (a mean = 0.358, a standard deviation = 0.634)(b), and $\Delta t = 120$ [min] (a mean = 0.807, a standard deviation = 0.763) (c) on 2nd July 2007.

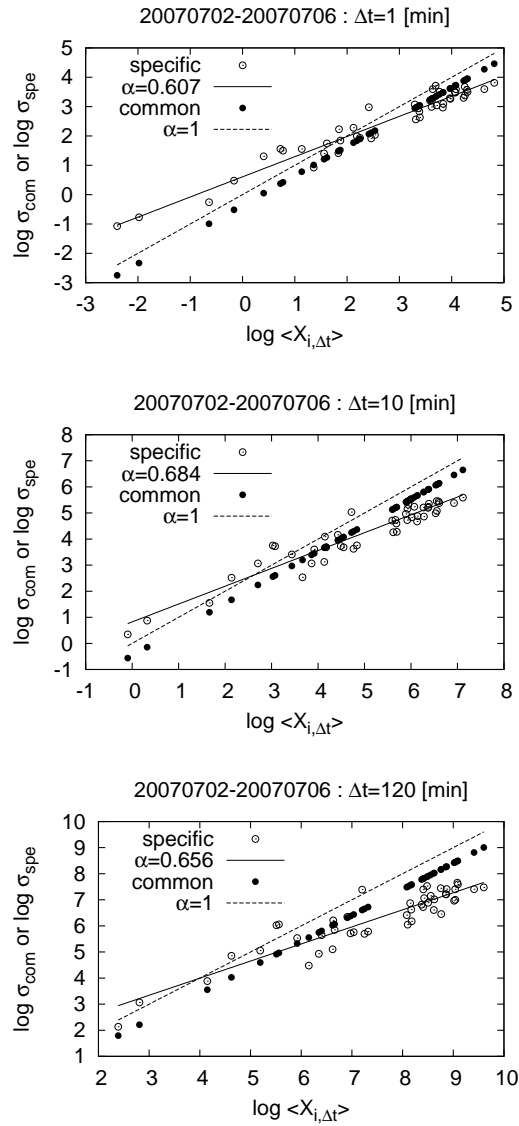


Fig. 7. Log-log plots of a mean of the specific fluctuation (unfilled circle) and of that of the common fluctuation (filled circle) and their standard deviation for each currency pair at $\Delta t = 1$ [min] (a), $\Delta t = 10$ [min] (b), and $\Delta t = 120$ [min] (c) for a period from 2nd to 6th July 2007. The x-axis represents a mean value, and the y-axis a standard deviation. By using the ordinary least squares the straight line is estimated as $\log C = 0.607$ and $\alpha = 0.687$ at $\Delta t = 1$ [min], $\log C = 0.825$ and $\alpha = 0.684$ at $\Delta t = 10$ [min], and $\log C = 1.376$ and $\alpha = 0.656$ at $\Delta t = 120$ [min]. The slope of the dashed line is unity.

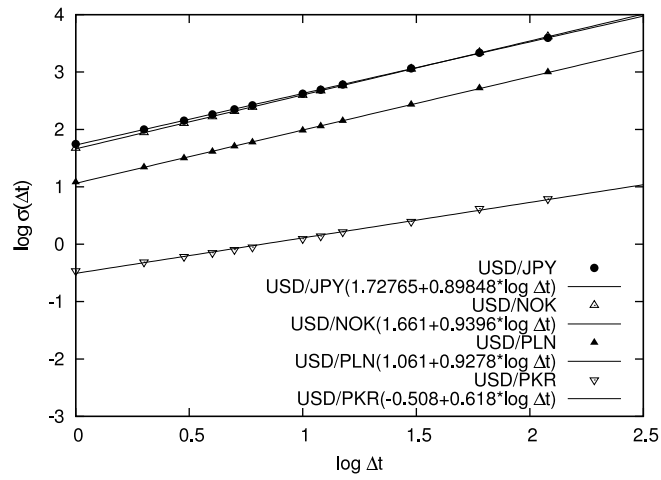


Fig. 8. A semi-log plots of a relation between standard deviation $\sigma(\Delta t)$ and Δt of USD/JPY (unfilled circle), USD/NOK (filled circle), USD/PLN (unfilled triangle), and USD/PKR (filled triangle) for a period from 2nd to 8th July 2007.

Table 1

The decending order of contribution of specific and common fluctuations ($\log \eta_i$) for each currency pair at $\Delta t = 1$ [min], 10 [min], and 120 [min], respectively. For $\eta_i \gg 1$ the common fluctuation is dominant, and for $\eta_i \ll 1$ the specific fluctuation is dominant.

currency pair	η_i		centrality	currency pair	η_i		centrality
	$\Delta t = 1$ [min]	$\Delta t = 10$ [min]			$\Delta t = 10$ [min]	$\Delta t = 120$ [min]	
GBP/CHF	1.968670	2.932370	0.073483	USD/HUF	1.069590	1.723470	0.003848
GBP/JPY	1.921390	2.880750	0.083473	EUR/SEK	1.056040	1.342030	0.018920
CHF/JPY	1.788030	2.927300	0.050316	AUD/NZD	1.027500	1.575420	0.027027
EUR/AUD	1.687810	2.742090	0.045738	EUR/PLN	0.964241	1.490540	0.007835
GBP/AUD	1.665740	2.690220	0.025256	AUD/USD	0.914931	1.440190	0.030047
EUR/JPY	1.567680	2.139110	0.058396	EUR/CHF	0.879273	1.522200	0.021515
AUD/CHF	1.501580	2.585130	0.018153	EUR/HUF	0.854864	1.333680	0.005011
GBP/NZD	1.488660	2.432650	0.019091	AUD/SGD	0.821126	1.384470	0.003037
USD/NOK	1.480580	2.212470	0.027128	NZD/USD	0.724408	1.023540	0.024964
AUD/JPY	1.449240	1.991590	0.048812	USD/CAD	0.690279	1.001620	0.027763
EUR/USD	1.431830	2.580360	0.037189	USD/HKD	0.618552	0.859312	0.003615
USD/SEK	1.391260	1.802250	0.028913	USD/SGD	0.600880	0.812786	0.005496
GBP/CAD	1.380080	2.044050	0.023929	GBP/INR	0.479731	0.699536	0.000071
EUR/GBP	1.321160	2.059820	0.029086	USD/ZAR	0.479609	0.661205	0.005222
CAD/JPY	1.273120	1.956630	0.038632	USD/TRL	0.460390	0.642635	0.002803
USD/CHF	1.260280	2.016300	0.046142	USD/MXN	0.400749	0.456217	0.010174
GBP/USD	1.256070	1.873100	0.048574	USD/INR	0.370464	0.428502	0.000626
USD/DKK	1.218130	1.857580	0.016821	USD/BRL	0.341083	0.327208	0.002162
CAD/CHF	1.212150	1.947910	0.009310	USD/KRW	0.305093	0.302344	0.000662
USD/PLN	1.156600	1.843390	0.009219	EUR/CZK	0.285527	0.436140	0.001291
USD/JPY	1.148990	1.757520	0.039418	USD/THB	0.210386	0.361743	0.000073
EUR/TRL	1.088990	1.936500	0.002623	USD/PKR	0.187039	0.402792	0.000050
EUR/NOK	1.071960	1.584290	0.018088				