

Monday, June 03, 2019

Market Themes/Strategy/Trading Ideas

- Investors essentially fled the dollar last Friday, with the greenback in the red against all G10 counterparts save the CAD. The JPY and CHF outperformed as further Trump-tariff sparked off risk-off sentiments. The US Treasury rally further extended, sinking the 10y yields to 2.12% and the US3/10s curve deeper into inversion territory. The FXSI (FX Sentiment Index) spiked higher to reach the Risk-Off boundary, as bond-related indicators within the Index continued to flash red.
- Investor discomfort to persist. Sino-US trade issues swirls in the background, as
 the net of the Trump-driven trade war spreads globally. Expect the dollar to be
 pulled on both sides at the start of week, with the haven aspects of the dollar
 squaring with Fed rate cut expectations and rate differential arguments. Expect
 some consolidation for the dollar in the interim, pending headline data releases
 later today. Meanwhile, stay heavy on the USD-JPY and JPY-crosses as the
 cleanest play for risk aversion and the slumping in UST yields.
- US data will remain in focus, as investors contemplate whether the recent dislocation in UST yields is justifiable by macro-fundamentals. Watch Markit PMI and ISM manufacturing prints later today (1345 GMT and 1400 GMT), and a slew of labour market prints, headlined by the NFP, later in the week. Any signs of further softening, especially in the labour market, may further entrench Fed rate cut expectations, and continue to cut down the dollar on rate differential arguments.
- Elsewhere on the calendar, keep tabs on the RBA (Tue) and ECB (Thu) meetings.
 Watch for any shifts in their inclinations, especially under the soft economic prints and the ongoing trade war. The RBA, in particular, may open the door for rate cuts.

Treasury Research & Strategy

Emmanuel Ng

+65 6530 4037 ngcyemmanuel@ocbc.com

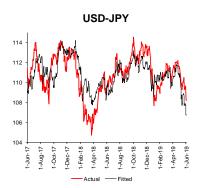
Terence Wu

+65 6530 4367 TerenceWu@ocbc.com

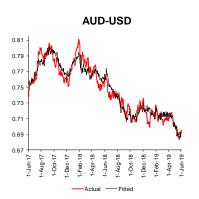


Heavy setup still in play. The EUR-USD bounced on broad dollar concerns, but the posture continues to be heavy for now. Short term implied valuations dipped slightly. Intraday, prefer to sell on bounces towards 1.1200, targeting 1.1140.

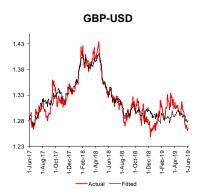




Accelerating lower. Stay heavy on the USD-JPY for now, as the JPY remain the main beneficiary for heightened risk and softer US yields. Note that short term implied valuations dislocated lower, strengthening the pull lower for the pair. Any bounces should be capped at 109.00, while 107.70 may be the next target on the downside if 108.00 is taken out.



Risk of testing lower. Despite ongoing rejection of 0.6900, and supportive short term implied valuations, it may be too early to rule out the downside bias for this pair. Expect resistance at 0.6960 in the interim, but keep an eye on further downside possibility towards 0.6820.



The sinking feeling. Near term political uncertainties will not see a resolution, and will continue to stack against the GBP-USD. With short term implied valuations also not providing much support, prefer to sell on rallies towards 1.2670 for now, targeting 1.2600 then 1.2560.

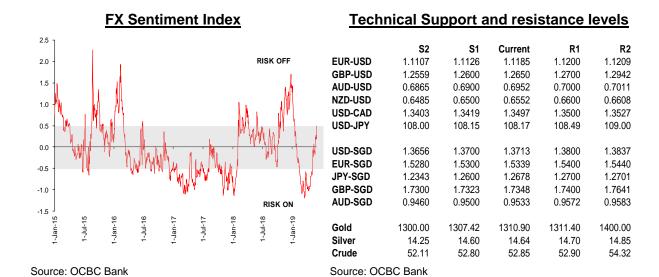


Upside bias. The CAD may still be on the backfoot due to fallout from US-Mexico trade issues and a softer crude complex. Expect any dips to be limited by 1.3500 for now.



Asian Markets

- USD-Asia: Tracking the broad dollar for now. Despite trade jitters and softer global equities, EM FX remains supported on Friday. Inherent dollar weakness may depress USD-Asia at the start of the week, with the USD-CNH (and USD-IDR) leading the way lower. Overall, expect USD-Asia to take cues from the dollar front in the immediate horizon. Nevertheless, the spectre of worsening Sino-US trade war cannot be discounted. On this front, note that the latest White Paper from China regarding trade retains a firm tone, although it comes across as less aggressive than the recent rhetoric on state media.
- Asia flow environment: Implied equity outflows abating. Latest EPFR readings reveal that the
 bleeding of implied equity flows from Asia (ex. JP, CN) may be slowing. In particular, implied equity
 outflows from South Korea and Taiwan flipped into a slight net inflow balance. Nevertheless, note that
 this runs in contradiction to actual equity flows tracked on a daily basis, which continues to show a
 worsening outflow momentum. An easing of implied bond outflows was also noted.
- USD-SGD: Downside may be cushioned at 1.3700. The USD-SGD tracked the broad dollar lower on Friday, swiftly taking out support at 1.3780. Nevertheless, we do not think the upside bias is negated for now, and prefer to buy on dips to 1.3700/20 levels. Meanwhile, the SGD NEER spiked higher to +1.23% above the perceived parity (1.3883), with NEER-implied USD-SGD thresholds significantly softer.



Trade Ideas



	Inception		B/S	Currency	Spot/Outright	Target Stop/Trailing Stop	Rationale	
	TACTICAL							
1	14-May-19		s	AUD-JPY	76.12	73.90 77.20	Escalating Sino-US trade tensions	
STRUCTURAL								
2	19-Mar-19 Long 2M USD-SGD 25-delta strangle Spot ref: 1.3508; Strikes: 1.3618, 1.3371; Exp: 16/05/19; Cost: 0.41%						Relatively depressed vol surface ahead of imminent global headline risks	
RECENTLY CLOSED TRADE IDEAS								
	Inception	Close	B/S	Currency	Spot	Close	Rationale	P/L (%)*
1	15-Apr-19	24-Apr-19	В	AUD-USD	0.7167	0.7055	Near term recovery in global macro sentiment	-1.61
2	24-Apr-19	03-May-19	s	GBP-USD	1.2933	1.3155	Sutained Brexit uncertainty and pressure to oust PM May	-1.64



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