

Monday, April 10, 2017

FX Themes/Strategy/Trading Ideas - The week ahead

- Despite disappointing March NFP numbers (headline +98k; Feb revised lower to +219k, but unemployment rate dropped to 4.50%), the greenback eventually pulled higher to end stronger on the day (note firmer UST curve with front to belly underperforming) against its counterparts following comments from the Fed's Dudley. The NY Fed President noted that Fed balance sheet reduction might only prompt only a "little pause" in rate hikes. He also reiterated that rates would remain a primary tool of monetary policy. Overall, Dudley's latest comments continue to gel with our view that potential balance sheet reduction would not detract substantially from the Fed's projected rate trajectory.
- With regards to the global calendar, the Bank of Canada is expected to stand pat at 0.50% on Wednesday, Australian March labor market numbers are due Thursday, while the Bank of Korea is also expected to remain static at 1.25% also on Thursday. Fed speak includes Bullard (0305 GMT) and Yellen (2000 GMT) today, Kashkari on Tuesday, and Kaplan and Wednesday.
- Elsewhere, the Xi-Trump meeting did not yield unduly negative headlines with all eyes to turn to the US Treasury Report due this week. In a nutshell, we expect the US Treasury to hold off on labelling China as a currency manipulator. On other fronts, China's foreign reserves continued to stabilize and rose slightly to USD3.009tn from USD3.005tn the previous month. This however, will not preclude the USD-CNY mid-point from reacting to a firmer broad USD. On the data front, look also to March monetary aggregates due this week while March CPI data is due Wed and trade numbers are due on Thursday.
- On the CFTC front, large non-commercial accounts pared their net implied long dollar bias in the latest week but leveraged accounts increased their net implied long dollar bias. Meanwhile, asset managers also pared their net implied short dollar bias in the latest week.
- Going ahead, geopolitical tensions surrounding Syria may continue to circulate in the background, with a US carrier group moving towards the Korean peninsula. Post Dudley, the USD is expected to start the week on a firm footing, especially if geopolitical concerns lend additional support. To this end, note that the **FXSI (FX Sentiment Index)** inched higher for a second consecutive session on Friday to end higher on the week.

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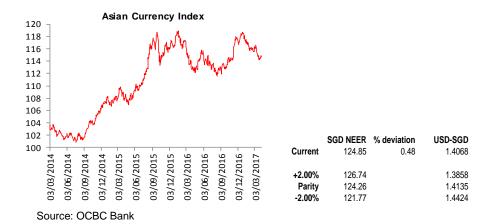
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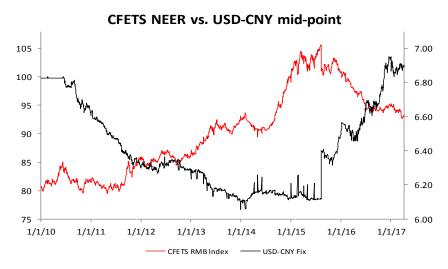


Asian FX

- On the EPFR front, data continued to show healthy implied net inflows into regional (ex-JPN, China) equities, albeit moderating slightly from the previous week. Implied net inflows into regional bonds also picked up significantly from the previous week. Although this augers well for Asian FX resilience, we think implicit USD resilience (on the back of Fed rate hike arguments) may take precedence at the beginning of the week. Expect therefore the ACI (Asian Currency Index) to continue to eye firmer levels.
- SGD NEER: This morning, with the broad dollar on a higher ledge, the SGD NEER starts the week lower on the day around +0.47% above its perceived parity (1.4135). NEER-implied USD-SGD thresholds are firmer on the day with +0.50% estimated at 1.4065 and the NEER may be expected to hover at current levels pending external risks. USD-SGD meanwhile is expected to start the week flat to biddish, with the 55-day MA (1.4098) the nearest resistance.



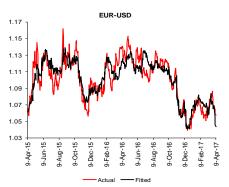
• **CFETS RMB Index**: The USD-CNY mid-point came in at a lower than expected 6.9042 on Monday from 6.8949 on Friday. However, this left the **CFETS RMB Index** higher (as largely expected) at 93.39 from 93.22.



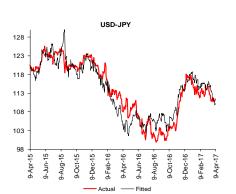
Source: OCBC Bank, Bloomberg



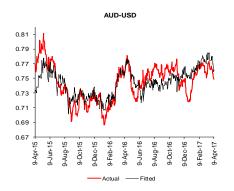
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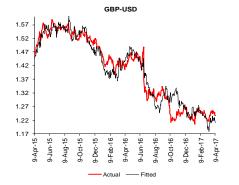
Source: OCBC Bank



Source: OCBC Bank



Source: OCBC Bank

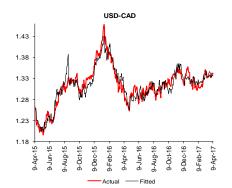


Source: OCBC Bank

- EUR-USD Apart from dollar dynamics, the EUR may also be increasingly weighed by caution ahead of the French Presidential elections on 23 Apr 17, with short-end riskies also moving to favor EUR puts significantly. Short term implied valuations are also sliding, opening up further leeway on the downside ahead of Constancio (1300 GMT) today. Technically, if 1.0585 is lost, look towards 1.0520/50.
- USD-JPY USD-JPY lifted past 111.00 post-Dudley (and briefly above 111.50 this morning) while policy dichotomy may continue to be brought into focus with the BOJ's Kuroda on Monday morning reiterating a commitment to expansionary monetary policy. However, we note that potential risk aversion remains a wildcard, with short-end riskies implying a heavy profile for the pair since late last week. Overall, expect a supported tone within 110.00-112.00 in the interim.
- AUD-USD AUD-USD has also reacted to a firmer dollar environment with the pair tripping below 0.7500 early Monday with soft iron ore an added weight. Pending labor market numbers this week, short term implied valuations remain suppressed and 0.7450/70 may continue to attract.

• GBP-USD GBP-USD sank below 1.2400 on Friday on a mixture of disappointing February industrial production/ trade deficit numbers and a subsequent climb in the broad dollar. Key data points this week include March CPI readings on Tuesday while the BOE's Carney speaks on Wednesday (remains to be seen if he will parrot Vlighe's dovish comments last week). Short term implied valuations have also turned south, the support level at 1.2345 goring increasingly conspicuous ahead of 1.2300.

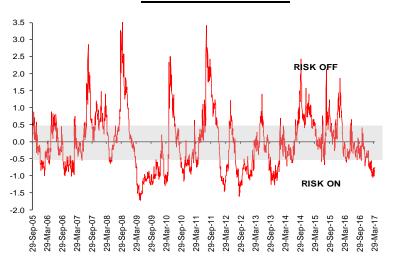




Source: OCBC Bank

• USD-CAD In spite of broad USD gains, the USD-CAD eased slightly by late NY as WTI jumped above 52.00 on the back of the US missile strikes in Syria and better than expected March Canadian labor market numbers. Contravening forces in the interim therefore may continue to keep the short term implied valuations fairly retrained and static ahead of the BOC policy meeting this week. USD-CAD may orbit 1.3400 pending further news flow.

FX Sentiment Index



Source: OCBC Bank

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Security	DXY	USGG10	CNY	SPX	MSELCA	CRY	JPY	CL1	VIX	ITRXEX	CNH	EUR
DXY	1.000	0.512	0.877	0.572	-0.420	0.034	0.593	0.421	-0.237	-0.488	0.736	-0.894
CHF	0.962	0.331	0.763	0.458	-0.287	0.215	0.435	0.570	-0.137	-0.448	0.770	-0.948
CNY	0.877	0.702	1.000	0.754	-0.498	-0.139	0.804	0.081	-0.435	-0.546	0.524	-0.642
SGD	0.822	0.761	0.739	0.364	-0.675	-0.371	0.767	-0.005	-0.110	-0.470	0.699	-0.598
MYR	0.810	0.686	0.866	0.572	-0.679	-0.289	0.778	-0.004	-0.167	-0.566	0.419	-0.557
KRW	0.780	0.750	0.826	0.520	-0.757	-0.353	0.820	-0.073	-0.177	-0.587	0.472	-0.499
TWD	0.774	0.827	0.854	0.563	-0.760	-0.442	0.877	-0.157	-0.232	-0.514	0.438	-0.479
CNH	0.736	0.354	0.524	0.199	-0.097	0.125	0.345	0.368	-0.110	-0.318	1.000	-0.742
IDR	0.664	0.800	0.736	0.610	-0.811	-0.532	0.851	-0.231	-0.342	-0.597	0.286	-0.337
CCN12M	0.654	0.857	0.792	0.517	-0.755	-0.569	0.922	-0.391	-0.326	-0.412	0.459	-0.287
CAD	0.602	0.297	0.379	-0.079	-0.364	-0.206	0.336	0.141	0.133	-0.132	0.722	-0.526
JPY	0.593	0.963	0.804	0.687	-0.804	-0.599	1.000	-0.402	-0.516	-0.488	0.345	-0.223
THB	0.586	0.923	0.825	0.577	-0.825	-0.621	0.935	-0.380	-0.320	-0.520	0.298	-0.210
USGG10	0.512	1.000	0.702	0.609	-0.790	-0.670	0.963	-0.522	-0.497	-0.468	0.354	-0.131
PHP	0.226	0.541	0.285	0.068	-0.749	-0.680	0.532	-0.486	0.153	0.043	-0.003	-0.025
INR	0.163	0.783	0.389	0.331	-0.824	-0.847	0.769	-0.713	-0.278	-0.118	0.000	0.215
AUD	-0.565	0.058	-0.136	0.238	0.144	-0.193	0.041	-0.587	-0.371	0.129	-0.616	0.693
GBP	-0.779	-0.848	-0.869	-0.640	0.729	0.458	-0.896	0.151	0.452	0.482	-0.519	0.432
NZD	-0.834	-0.425	-0.536	-0.245	0.378	-0.014	-0.439	-0.427	0.055	0.461	-0.789	0.793
EUR	-0.894	-0.131	-0.642	-0.346	0.093	-0.385	-0.223	-0.719	0.005	0.341	-0.742	1.000

Source: Bloomberg

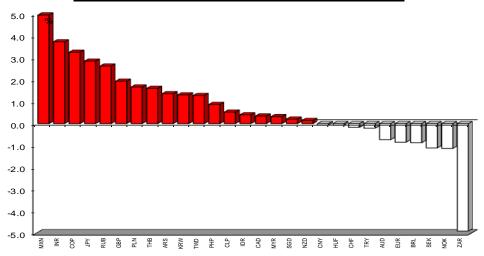


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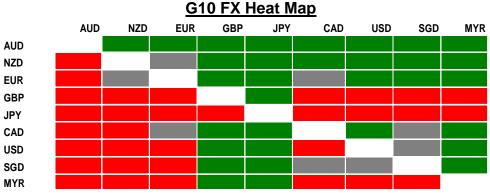
	S2	S 1	Current	R1	R2
EUR-USD	1.0500	1.0554	1.0576	1.0600	1.0663
GBP-USD	1.2241	1.2300	1.2379	1.2400	1.2413
AUD-USD	0.7450	0.7482	0.7485	0.7500	0.7549
NZD-USD	0.6900	0.6913	0.6927	0.7000	0.7082
USD-CAD	1.3279	1.3400	1.3421	1.3455	1.3500
USD-JPY	110.11	111.00	111.50	112.00	112.68
USD-SGD	1.3927	1.4000	1.4075	1.4076	1.4092
EUR-SGD	1.4804	1.4816	1.4885	1.4900	1.5008
JPY-SGD	1.2492	1.2600	1.2624	1.2700	1.2734
GBP-SGD	1.7200	1.7400	1.7424	1.7476	1.7500
AUD-SGD	1.0500	1.0512	1.0535	1.0600	1.0738
Gold	1211.12	1234.12	1251.10	1262.18	1269.10
Silver	17.79	17.90	17.96	18.00	18.17
Crude	52.18	52.30	52.32	52.40	52.59

Source: OCBC Bank

FX performance: 1-month change agst USD

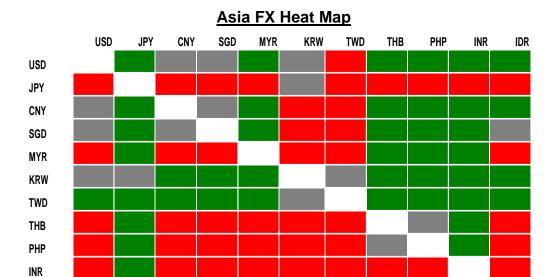


Source: Bloomberg



Source: OCBC Bank





Source: OCBC Bank

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FX Trade Ideas

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	Inception		B/S	Currency	Spot	Target S	top/Trailing Stop	Rationale	
	TACTICAL								
1	01-Mar-17		В	USD-CAD	1.3326	1.3605	1.3185	BOC static in March, sharp contrast with Fed's recent posture	
2	17-Mar-17		s	USD-SGD	1.4029	1.3800	1.4145	Vulnerable USD, positive risk appetite, tolerant MAS	
3	22-Mar-17		s	USD-JPY	111.62	108.40	113.25	Trump trade unwind, mild risk aversion	
4	05-Apr-17		s	AUD-USD	0.7580	0.7405	0.7670	Fragile risk appetite, slightly apprehensive RBA	
	STRUCTURA	AL							
5	22-Nov-16		В	USD-JPY 110.81 123.40 104.50 Potential for a more static BOJ		Potential for a more activist Fed, static BOJ			
6	14-Feb-17				JSD-CAD Put 055; Strikes: 1		Underlying growth theme in spite of the Trump/FOMC trade		
7	22-Feb-17				UD-USD 1X1.: 588; Strikes: (Global reflation trade, Fed expected to hike later rather than sooner	
	RECENTLY (CLOSED TRAD	E IDEA	s					
	Inception	Close	B/S	Currency	Spot		Close	Rationale	P/L (%
1	12-Jan-17	08-Mar-17	s	USD-JPY	114.63		113.91	Downward consolidation post- Trump press conference	+0.3
2	22-Feb-17	10-Mar-17	s	EUR-USD	1.0548		1.0695	Potential near term USD strength, brewing EZ political risks	-1.30
3	10-Mar-17	15-Mar-17	s	AUD-USD	0.7519		0.7605	Compression in cyclicals vs. USD strength	
4	25-Oct-16	20-Mar-17	В	USD-SGD	1.3919		1.3984	Bullish dollar prospects, negative space for SGD NEER	+0.5
5	03-Mar-17	20-Mar-17	s	GBP-USD	1.2253		1.2435	Sustained Brexit risks vs. recent USD resilience	-1.4
6	28-Nov-16	27-Mar-17	s	EUR-USD	1.0641		1.0843	USD in ascendance, poiltical risk premium in EZ	-1.0
7	27-Mar-17	29-Mar-17	В	GBP-USD	1.2570		1.2390	Spillover from buoyant EUR-USD, GBP shorts wrong footed	-1.4
8	17-Mar-17	03-Apr-17	В	EUR-USD	1.0766		1.0645	Dutch election news flow, abating le Pen concerns, weakend USD	-1.1
	* realized								

Source: OCBC Bank



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