## Accepted Manuscript

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 PII:
 S0304-405X(17)30290-8

 DOI:
 10.1016/j.jfineco.2017.11.002

 Reference:
 FINEC 2826

To appear in:

Journal of Financial Economics

Received date:8 March 2016Revised date:1 November 2016Accepted date:22 November 2016

Please cite this article as: Ralph S.J. Koijen, Tobias J. Moskowitz, Lasse Heje Pedersen, Evert B. Vrugt, Carry, *Journal of Financial Economics* (2017), doi: 10.1016/j.jfineco.2017.11.002

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## Carry☆

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#### Abstract

We apply the concept of carry, which has been studied almost exclusively in currency markets, to any asset. A security's expected return is decomposed into its "carry," an ex-ante and model-free characteristic, and its expected price appreciation. Carry predicts returns cross-sectionally and in time series for a host of different asset classes, including global equities, global bonds, commodities, US Treasuries, credit, and options. Carry is not explained by known predictors of returns from these asset classes, and it captures many of these predictors, providing a unifying framework for return predictability. We reject a generalized version of Uncovered Interest Parity and the Expectations Hypothesis in favor of models with varying risk premia, in which carry strategies are

 $<sup>^{\</sup>diamond}$ We are grateful for helpful comments from John Y. Campbell (referee) as well as Cliff Asness, Jules van Binsbergen, Peter Christoffersen, John Cochrane, Pierre Collin-Dufresne (discussant), Kent Daniel (discussant), Lars Hansen, John Heaton, Antti Ilmanen, Ronen Israel, Andrea Frazzini, Owen Lamont (discussant), John Liew, Francis Longstaff, Hanno Lustig (discussant), Yao Hua Ooi, Lubos Pastor, Anna Pavlova, Maik Schmeling (discussant), Stijn Van Nieuwerburgh, Andrei Shleifer, Dimitri Vayanos, Moto Yogo, and a referee, as well as from seminar participants at AQR Capital Management, the 2012 American Finance Association Conference meetings (Chicago, Illinois), University of Chicago, Booth School of Business, the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, the University of Exeter, NOVA University of Lisbon (Portugal), State Street Global Markets, the 2012 National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) Asset Pricing Summer Institute, the First Foreign Exchange Markets Conference at Imperial College, the 2012 Red Rock Finance Conference, and the fifth annual Paul Woolley Centre conference. We thank numerous people at AQR Capital Management for insights on markets, institutions, and data, including Cliff Asness, John Liew, Ari Levine, Lars Nielsen, and Ashwin Thapar. Further, we thank Tarek Hassan, Rui Mano, and Adrien Verdelhan for their help with the currency data and Rui Cui, Laszlo Jakab, and Minsoo Kim for excellent research assistance. Ralph Koijen gratefully acknowledges support from the European Research Council (ERC grant no. 338082). Lasse Heje Pedersen gratefully acknowledges support from the European Research Council (ERC grant no. 312417) and the Center for Financial Frictions (FRIC, grant no. DNRF102).

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