## SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

## Midterm Exam

01-I

BUS 418

International Financial Management

**Rules for Submitting Assignments:** Answers to questions are to be typed, single spaced, of length no more than 1 page for each of the four questions selected, with 1" margins and type point not less than 12. (This exam is typed in 11 point.) Violations will be subject to deductions. Assignment is due in class on Thurs., Apr.1.

## **Answer all parts each of the four questions** (25 points each):

- 1.a) Explain the possible motivations for using currency swaps, being sure to identify the gains to be realized by both counterparties to the swap. Also, be sure to discuss whether each of these potential rationales is consistent with the rapid growth in currency swap trading in the last decade.
- b) Explain the relationship between a N-period fully hedged borrowing and a N-period fixed-to-fixed currency swap (N > 1)? (Be sure that your answer examines the transactions underlying the N-period hedged borrowing and compare cash flows with the currency swap.) Under what conditions will a fully hedged borrowing be preferred to a currency swap?
- 2.a) Explain the arbitrage underlying the forward-forward covered interest parity theorem. What assumptions are being made about the underlying securities? Explain how the forward-forward arbitrage relates to an arbitrage between a N period and T period foreign exchange swap?
- b) Will covered interest parity hold for all types of money market securities? How does covered interest arbitrage differ for money market securities and securities with greater than one year to maturity?
- 3.a) On Feb 19, 2001, the bid/offers for \(\frac{1}{2}\)/US\\$ and C\(\frac{1}{2}\)/US\(\frac{1}{2}\) spot to six month exchange rates were:

<u>Maturity</u>	¥/US\$ Bid	¥/US\$ Offer	C\$/US\$ Bid	C\$/US\$ Offer
Spot	115.94	116.04	1.5342	1.5352
3 month	114.54	114.64	1.5336	1.5346
6 month	113.17	113.27	1.5330	1.5340

Calculate bid/offers for the associated \$\$/C\$ foreign exchange rate. Given the information about LIBOR and LIBID, also calculate the implied bid/offer for the interest rates which would be consistent with covered interest parity.

- b) On Feb. 19, 2001, the spot and <u>one to five year</u> forward rates for the Canadian dollar/US dollar exchange rate were \$1.5347, 1.5320, 1.5280, 1.5233, 1.5176 and \$1.5119 and the US dollar/EuroFX exchange rate were 0.9218, 0.9271, 0.9343, 0.9390, 0.9467, and 0.9390. Using interest rate information provided in the attached Table derive the "arbitrage free" (i.e., consistent with long term CIP) term structure of spot interest rates out to 5 years for zero coupon Euro FX and US\$ instruments?
- 4. Derive the profit functions for a one-to-one currency spread, a tailed currency spread, and a currency

tandem. What factors determine the profitability of these three types of spreads? When will the profit for a one-to-one spread be approximately the same as a tailed spread?

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