

Eaton, Jonathan; Turnovsky, Stephen J.

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Covered Interest Parity, Uncovered Interest Parity, and Exchange Rate Dynamics

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ECONOMIC GROWTH CENTER

YALE UNIVERSITY

Box 1987, Yale Station
New Haven, Connecticut

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COVERED INTEREST PARITY, UNCOVERED INTEREST
PARITY, AND EXCHANGE RATE DYNAMICS

Jonathan Eaton
Yale University

and

Stephen J. Turnovsky
Australian National University and University of Illinois

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COVERED INTEREST PARITY, UNCOVERED INTEREST
PARITY, AND EXCHANGE RATE DYNAMICS*

ABSTRACT

A number of macroeconomic models of open economies under flexible exchange rate assume a strong version of perfect capital mobility which implies that currency speculation commands no risk premium. If this assumption is dropped a number of important results no longer obtain. First, the exchange rate and interest rate cannot be in steady state unless both the government deficit and current account equal zero, not simply their sum. Second, even in steady state the domestic interest rate can deviate from the foreign interest rate by an amount that depends upon relative domestic asset supplies. Finally, introducing risk aversion on the part of speculators reduces the response on impact of the exchange rate to changes in domestic asset supplies. In this sense rational speculators, if they are less risk averse than other agents, can *destabilize* exchange markets.

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I. INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY

The advent of floating rates among the major currencies has led to the development of increasingly sophisticated models of open economies in which exchange rates are market determined. As was pointed out in the early work of Fleming (1962) and Mundell (1963) the degree of international capital mobility is crucial in determining the response of an economy to both monetary and fiscal actions. And while the Fleming-Mundell analysis is based on the traditional static short-run model, the importance of the degree of capital mobility applies to the long-run response as well.

Perhaps because capital does seem to be very mobile among the major industrial countries, the polar assumption of perfect capital mobility has received most attention. This assumption may be interpreted in two different ways, however. The first, weaker version is that bonds which are free of default risk domestically are also free of default risk abroad; in Aliber's (1973) terminology, there is no 'political' risk. When capital mobility of this degree obtains, foreign bonds on which forward cover has been obtained are perfect substitutes for domestic bonds and arbitrage brings the domestic interest rate (R) into equality with the foreign interest rate (R^*) plus the forward premium on foreign exchange (F). Thus *covered* interest parity (CIP) obtains

$$R = R^* + F \quad (1.1)$$

where R , R^* and F are defined over the same time interval. In fact, empirical evidence suggests that among the major industrial nations, deviations from CIP are not significant; see e.g. Aliber (1973), Frenkel and Levich (1975, 1977).

A stronger definition of capital mobility is one that adds to the criterion for the first the requirement that attitudes towards exchange risk be characterized by risk neutrality, either because there exist a sufficient number of risk neutral speculators, or because exchange risk is perfectly diversifiable. In this case, speculation will bring the forward premium on foreign exchange into equality with the expected rate of appreciation of the foreign currency; that is

$$F = (\dot{E}/E)^e \quad (1.2)$$

where E denotes the price of foreign currency in terms of domestic currency, and where for any variable X , we define $\dot{X} \equiv dX/dt$ and X^e denotes the expectation of X . Substituting (1.2) into (1.1) yields the condition

$$R = R^* + (\dot{E}/E)^e \quad (1.3)$$

a condition which is referred to as *uncovered* interest parity (UIP) and which requires both (1.1) and (1.2) to hold.¹

However, the empirical evidence in support of (1.2) is not as strong as it is for (1.1). Levich (1978), Bilson (1978) and Hansen and Hodrick (1980) report some systematic deviations for several exchange rates over long periods. These findings are consistent with financial models of foreign investment which suggest that risk aversion among rational, fully informed speculators will create a risk premium, thereby causing (1.2) to break down. Solnik (1973), Kouri (1976), Adler and Dumas (1977), Frankel (1979) and Eaton and Turnovsky (1980) derive various expressions for this premium based on expected utility maximization.

But despite the lack of theoretical justification for UIP and the empirical evidence against it, most well-known results about the behaviour of macroeconomic models with perfectly mobile capital require this stronger definition to apply. This paper develops a model of a small open economy under the more general assumption that the forward premium on foreign exchange is determined by risk averse speculative behaviour. Capital is still perfectly mobile in the weaker sense that CIP obtains and a special case of our model is one in which the degree of risk aversion tends to zero, in which case UIP applies as well. We use this model to examine several propositions about the behaviour of a small open economy with a flexible exchange rate. These pertain to: the effects of changes in domestic asset supplies and foreign interest rate on the steady-state levels of the domestic interest rate and exchange rate; the effects of ongoing government deficits; and the dynamic behaviour of the exchange rate between steady states.

In Section 2 which follows, we develop a dynamic model of an open economy in which the exchange rate, interest rate, and forward premium are

determined at each instant by money market and forward market equilibrium conditions, together with CIP. At any moment, the price of nontraded goods and asset supplies are predetermined, while we treat the foreign interest rate and price level as exogenous. Over time, the price of nontraded goods adjusts gradually to the price of traded goods; the supplies of domestic assets change through the government deficit, while the balance of payments on current account determines the change in foreign asset supplies. With risk averse speculative behaviour, exchange rate and price dynamics on the one hand, become inherently linked with asset supply dynamics on the other. For the system as a whole, and the exchange rate and interest rate in particular, to be in steady state, all asset accumulation must cease and for this to occur, *both* the budget deficit *and* the balance of payments on current account must equal zero.

In the limiting case in which speculators are risk neutral, the conditions for the exchange rate and price level to attain steady state may be relaxed. For example, with a bond-financed government deficit, it is necessary only for the budget deficit and current account surplus to *sum* to zero. Thus the exchange rate and price level can be in steady state even if the government deficit is perpetually unbalanced, as long as it is offset by an appropriate imbalance on the current account. If, in addition, asset supplies do not affect the demand for money, the exchange rate and the price level evolve independently of the government deficit and the balance of payments on current account. In this case, the exchange rate and price level can be in steady state even if these two quantities do not sum to zero.²

These observations are of relevance to a number of recent studies of exchange rate dynamics (e.g. Dornbusch (1976), Gray and Turnovsky (1979a), and Wilson (1979)) who specify models of exchange rate and price dynamics in which domestic and foreign bond supplies play no explicit role. This exclusion is legitimate only under the strong assumption of UIP (an assumption all these authors make). Furthermore, Bell's (1963) finding that under flexible rates a government *debt* will not disturb the steady

state exchange rate or interest rate (because its effect on the total bond supply is offset by the current account) also requires UIP to hold.

In Section 3 we examine the properties of the steady state itself. An important aspect of the income determination models of Mundell (1963) and Fleming (1962) and of the exchange rate dynamics of Dornbusch (1976) et al. is that, in steady state, the domestic interest rate equals the foreign interest rate and is independent of domestic asset supplies.³ In addition, the steady-state exchange rate and domestic price level are homogeneous of degree one in the domestic money supply. None of these results is preserved when speculators are risk averse. Thus, even if CIP obtains, the domestic interest rate *can* be affected by domestic policies in steady state, something that is not possible under UIP. Also, the exchange rate and domestic price level are homogeneous of degree one, and the interest rate homogeneous of degree zero, in the supplies of *both* domestic assets taken together, and not just money.⁴

Sections 4 and 5 examine the transition between steady states, a subject which has been receiving extensive treatment recently. In Section 4 we show that once-and-for-all proportional increases in the supplies of money and domestic bonds introduced simultaneously can, on impact, cause either a smaller than, or greater than, proportional response in the exchange rate. This result contrasts with the previous models in which, under similar assumptions but with UIP holding, the exchange rate necessarily 'overshoots' its steady state value.⁵ The change in the exchange rate on impact varies inversely with the degree of risk aversion. Our model thus suggests a sense in which speculation (or more properly, less risk averse speculation) *destabilizes* exchange rates; this is in the sense of increasing their short-run sensitivity to changes in domestic asset supplies.

In Section 5 we consider the dynamic effects of once-and-for-all changes in the money supply alone. Since this type of change affects the number of foreign bonds held in steady state, the dynamics are considerably more complicated, with asset accumulation playing a more central role.

2. A DYNAMIC MACRO MODEL

We consider a small open economy in which private agents may hold as assets domestic money, domestic bonds, and foreign bonds, all of which, we assume, they regard as components of their net wealth. The first two assets are denominated in domestic currency, and the third in foreign currency. Thus, at any moment, private nominal wealth W is given by

$$W = M + A^d + EB^d \quad (2.1)$$

where M denotes the supply of domestic money (which we assume is held only domestically), A^d the number of domestic bonds held domestically, B^d the number of foreign bonds held domestically, E is the spot rate measured as the price of a unit of foreign exchange in terms of domestic currency.

We assume that there is no perceived risk of default on domestic or foreign bonds so that CIP obtains

$$R = R^* + F. \quad (2.2)$$

Since our analysis is in continuous time, F measures the instantaneous rate of forward premium on foreign exchange and is defined formally by

$$F(t) \equiv \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{E^f(t, t+h) - E(t)}{hE(t)} \right) \quad (2.3)$$

where $E^f(t, t+h)$ is the price at time t of one unit of foreign exchange in period $t+h$. Since as the time unit $h \rightarrow 0$, the spot and forward rates must converge, $E(t) = E^f(t, t)$, in which case the limit in (2.3) may be expressed by the following partial derivative

$$F(t) = E_2^f(t, t) / E^f(t, t). \quad (2.3')$$

Since domestic and covered foreign bonds are perfect substitutes we shall assume that all domestic bonds are held domestically. Thus we let $A^d = A$, where A denotes the total supply of domestic bonds. We allow B^d to assume negative values when domestic agents issue liabilities denominated in foreign currency.

Individuals consume both traded and nontraded goods, which are imperfect substitutes. Perfect goods arbitrage ensures that the prices of traded goods are determined by the law of one price. We assume that because of long term contracts, the prices of nontraded goods at any instant are fixed at P , say. An index of the domestic cost of living C is therefore

$$C = P^\delta (EP^*)^{1-\delta} \quad 0 \leq \delta \leq 1 \quad (2.4)$$

where δ denotes the share of nontraded goods in consumption and P^* is the exogenously given foreign price level (i.e. the foreign price of traded goods). For notational simplicity we set $P^* = 1$.

We assume a demand for money function of the form

$$\frac{M}{C} = L(Y, R, H) \quad L_Y \geq 0, \quad L_R \leq 0, \quad 0 \leq L_H \leq 1, \quad (2.5)$$

where Y is real income, assumed to be fixed, and $H \equiv W/C$ denotes real wealth. Note that we have deflated by C , reflecting the fact that real wealth depends upon the price of both traded and nontraded goods in accordance with their shares in consumption.

Together, equations (2.1), (2.2), (2.4) and (2.5) determine, at any moment, equilibrium values of C , R , F , and W as functions of P , E , A , B^d , M , and the exogenous foreign variables R^* and P^* .

We now turn to the dynamic equations of the system. First, consider forward market equilibrium. Participation in the forward market may be for two reasons, speculation and arbitrage.⁶ We assume that the real demand for speculative foreign exchange forward, denoted by J , is an increasing function of the expected rate of return on speculation, given by the difference between the expected rate of depreciation of the domestic currency $(\dot{E}/E)^e$ and the forward premium F . We shall assume expectations are realized on average. Since we suppress stochastic elements in our model this is equivalent to assuming perfect foresight, so that $(\dot{E}/E)^e = \dot{E}/E$.⁷ Forward market equilibrium requires that J equal the supply of foreign exchange forward for arbitrage; i.e., that which is sold to cover domestic holdings of foreign bonds:

$$\frac{EB}{C} = J\left(\frac{E}{E} - F\right) \quad J' \geq 0. \quad (2.6)$$

As shown by previous authors, J embodies attitudes to risk taking. In particular, J' varies inversely with the degree of risk aversion, with $J' \rightarrow \infty$ in the limiting case of risk neutrality, when DIP obtains.

By appropriate choice of units, the steady-state price of nontraded goods can be equated to the domestic price of traded goods. We assume that the price of nontraded goods is determined by long term contracts, so that the nontraded goods price cannot jump instantaneously to its equilibrium level, but can adjust only continuously over time, as contracts expire. This adjustment is specified by the relationship

$$\dot{P} = G(E/P) \quad G' > 0, \quad G(1) = 0. \quad (2.7)$$

The rate of change in the supply of domestic assets is determined by the government budget constraint

$$\dot{M} + \dot{A} = PG_d + EG_m - T + RA \equiv g \quad (2.8)$$

where G_d and G_m represent real government expenditures on nontraded and traded goods respectively, and T denotes nominal tax revenues. The rate of change in the domestic holdings of foreign assets is equal to the balance of payments on current account

$$EB^d = EX(.) - EG_m + R^*EB^d \equiv b \quad (2.9)$$

where $X(.)$ denotes real net exports of the private sector.

Together with an assumption about how the government finances its expenditures, equations (2.6), (2.7), (2.8) and (2.9) determine the evolution of E , P , A , M , and B^d . From the description of the system it might appear that the spot rate E is constrained always to move continuously. This is not so. Because of the assumption of perfect foresight embodied in (2.6), the dynamics will generally involve (at least) one unstable root. Following the rational expectations methodology, this root may be eliminated by allowing the exchange rate to undergo an endogenously determined initial jump at points where the system is subject to an exogenous disturbance. Simple examples of this are given in Sections 4 and 5 below.

Define total nominal bond holdings B as

$$B \equiv A + EB^d.$$

Adding (2.8) and (2.9) and using the CIP condition (2.2), we obtain

$$\dot{M} + \dot{B} = PG_d - T + EX + RB + (\dot{E}/E - F)EB^d. \quad (2.10)$$

From this equation it is evident that in general the evolution of the system depends upon the breakdown of B between domestic and foreign bonds. Thus, for example, if $\dot{M} = 0$ (the deficit is bond-financed), E, P and B cannot assume their steady state values unless $\dot{B}^d = \dot{A} = 0$; that is, unless *both* the government deficit (g) and the balance of payments on current account (b) are zero.

And the same applies in the case of money financing.

Consider, however, the limiting case in which $J'(\cdot) \rightarrow \infty$, i.e. the speculative demand for foreign exchange forward becomes infinitely elastic. In order for the speculative demand to remain bounded, (1.2) must hold. In this case (2.2) and (2.6) reduce to the UIP condition (1.3), so that (2.10) becomes

$$\dot{M} + \dot{B} = PG_d - T + EX + RB. \quad (2.10)$$

Writing (2.1) as

$$H = (M + B)/C \quad (2.1)$$

equations (2.1'), (2.4), (1.3), (2.5), (2.7), (2.10') constitute a dynamic system in which A and B^d do not appear (assuming of course that A and B^d do not enter separately in the specifications of G_d , G_m , T, or X). If the government deficit is bond-financed $\dot{M} = 0$. The dynamics depend only upon the *sum* of the government deficit and the current account deficit ($g + b$) and not the separate components. Steady state now only requires that $\dot{B} = \dot{E} = \dot{P} = 0$. The government may sustain a deficit in steady state as long as it is offset by a current account deficit of equal size, since the steady state requirement $\dot{B} = 0$ is equivalent to $\dot{A} = -E\dot{B}^d$. With money financing, both components must be zero.

A special case widely adopted in the literature, and therefore of importance, arises if the demand for money is assumed to be independent of real wealth H. Consider first the limiting case of infinitely elastic

speculative balances. If the government deficit is bond-financed, the dynamics of P and E become *independent* of $g + b$ and these variables can attain steady-state equilibrium with wealth, in the form of bonds, being accumulated indefinitely.⁸ With a money-financed deficit, steady state for E and P requires only that the government deficit be zero; the current account balance can be non-zero, with domestic residents continually accumulating (or decumulating) foreign bonds. In the general case where J' is finite, no variable can be in steady state unless $g=b=0$. However, under bond financing E and P can attain steady state with only $b = 0$, provided one imposes the additional restriction that net exports be independent of H .⁹

In formulating dynamic macro models such as the one above, it is often convenient to specify real savings behaviour directly. Thus, if one postulates

$$\dot{H} = S(.) \quad (2.11)$$

it follows from (2.1), (2.8), and (2.11) that the rate of net capital inflow $E\dot{B}^d$ can be derived as

$$\begin{aligned} E\dot{B}^d &= CS(.) + W[\delta\dot{P}/P + (1-\delta)\dot{E}/E] - B^d\dot{E} - (\dot{M} + \dot{A}) \\ &= CS(.) + W[\delta\dot{P}/P + (1-\delta)\dot{E}/E] - B^d\dot{E} - [PG_d + EG_m] + T - RA. \end{aligned} \quad (2.12)$$

By comparing (2.9) and (2.12) it is clear that $S(.)$ and $X(.)$ cannot be specified independently.

These observations about the appropriate specification of dynamic models under perfect capital mobility have important implications for various models appearing in the literature. First, the model of exchange rate dynamics introduced by Dornbusch (1976) and studied by other authors ignores the balance of payments and savings behaviour in analyzing the dynamics of the exchange rate. This is possible only because they assume UIP and that there are no asset supply effects on money demand. Under the less restrictive condition of CIP, however, the dynamic adjustment of the exchange rate, on the

one hand, and asset accumulation, on the other, are jointly determined, even in the absence of wealth effects in the demand for money.

Second, a well known result of Mundell (1968) is that a government deficit has no effect on the steady state of a small open economy under conditions of perfect capital mobility and flexible exchange rates. This is certainly true under the conditions of UIP when any change in the deficit will be offset by a change in the current account deficit, leaving the system unchanged. However, it is not generally true under CIP, when indeed steady state requires the deficit to be zero.

3. STEADY-STATE PROPERTIES

Models of exchange rate determination based on the assumption of UIP and the absence of an ongoing inflation yield the following steady-state relationship

$$\tilde{R} = R^* \quad (3.1)$$

where $\tilde{}$ is used to denote the steady-state value of a variable. Thus the domestic interest rate is completely tied to the world rate, from which we immediately infer:

- (i) Changes in the foreign interest rate yield equal changes in the domestic interest rate;
- (ii) the domestic interest rate is independent of the supply of domestic money or domestic bonds.

Other steady-state properties depend upon the policy specification and the dynamic system so generated. If one adopts the frequently postulated savings function¹⁰

$$S = \phi(\bar{H}(Y, R^*) - H) \quad (3.2)$$

where \bar{H} is some long-run desired level of real wealth, the steady-state monetary equilibrium relationship becomes

$$\frac{M}{E} = L(Y, R^*, \bar{H}(Y, R^*)). \quad (3.3)$$

From this equation, two further propositions follow:

- (iii) A given change in the domestic money supply leads to a proportionate change in the exchange rate;
- (iv) the exchange rate is independent of the supply of domestic bonds.

None of properties (i) - (iv) characterizes the steady state of the model presented in Section 2, except in the limiting case when the speculative demand for foreign exchange forward is perfectly elastic.¹¹

We adopt the savings function (3.2) and assume, for simplicity and without essential loss of generality, that \bar{H} is exogenous and independent of the interest rate. The steady state of the model presented in Section 2 is attained when $\dot{E} = \dot{P} = \dot{A} = \dot{M} = \dot{B}^d = 0$. Imposing these conditions yields the equations

$$\bar{H} = \frac{\bar{M} + \bar{A}}{\bar{E}} + \bar{B}^d \quad (3.4a)$$

$$\bar{R} = R^* + \bar{F} \quad (3.4b)$$

$$\frac{\bar{M}}{\bar{E}} = L(Y, \bar{R}, \bar{H}) \quad (3.4c)$$

$$\bar{B}^d = J(-\bar{F}) \quad (3.4d)$$

$$\bar{E}(G_d + G_m) - \bar{T} + \bar{R}\bar{A} = 0. \quad (3.4e)$$

Given \bar{H} , these five equations involve the 7 variables, \bar{M} , \bar{A} , \bar{B}^d , \bar{E} , \bar{R} , \bar{F} , \bar{T} .

we shall assume initially that the monetary authorities peg $M = \bar{M}$ and $A = \bar{A}$, continuously adjusting T to balance the budget.

Thus \bar{M} , \bar{A} , along with R^* , may be treated as exogenous parameters.

Totally differentiating the system with respect to these variables we obtain the following effects on the domestic interest rate \bar{R}

$$\frac{d\bar{R}}{d\bar{M}} = - \frac{\bar{A}}{\bar{E}\Delta} < 0 \quad (3.5a)$$

$$\frac{d\bar{R}}{d\bar{A}} = \frac{\bar{M}}{\bar{E}\Delta} > 0 \quad (3.5b)$$

$$\frac{d\bar{R}}{dR^*} = \frac{J'\bar{M}}{\Delta} \begin{cases} > 0 \\ < 1 \end{cases} \quad (3.5c)$$

where $\Delta \equiv J'\bar{M} - L_R(\bar{M} + \bar{A}) > 0$.

Thus a once-and-for-all increase in the domestic money supply reduces the steady-state domestic interest rate, while an increase in the domestic supply of bonds increases it. An increase in the foreign interest rate leads to a reduction in the forward premium, causing the domestic interest rate to rise by a less than proportional amount. In the limiting case when $J' \rightarrow \infty$, the response becomes proportional and in this extreme case changes in \bar{M} and \bar{A} have no effect on R . Thus, unless speculators are risk neutral or perceive no exchange risk, the domestic interest rate is not totally determined by the interest rate abroad and responds to domestic asset supplies in the manner indicated.

Multiplying (3.5a) by \bar{M} and (3.5b) by \bar{A} and summing yields an expression equal to zero. Thus an increase in the domestic money supply accompanied by a proportional increase in the domestic bond supply is neutral in its effect on the steady-state domestic interest rate.

Changes in \bar{M} and \bar{A} have the following proportional effects on the steady-state spot rate E

$$\frac{d\bar{E}}{d\bar{M}} \cdot \frac{\bar{M}}{\bar{E}} = \frac{\bar{M}(J' - L_R)}{\Delta} \begin{cases} > 0 \\ < 1 \end{cases} \quad (3.6)$$

$$\frac{d\bar{E}}{d\bar{A}} \cdot \frac{\bar{A}}{\bar{E}} = - \frac{\bar{A}L_R}{\Delta} \begin{cases} > 0 \\ < 1 \end{cases} \quad (3.6)$$

Both elasticities are positive and less than one, while summing to unity. Thus, contrary to propositions (iii) and (iv), an increase in the money supply leads to a less than proportional increase in the exchange rate, while the supply of domestic bonds also affects the exchange rate. Proportional increases in the supplies of the two nominal assets together leads to proportional increases in the exchange rate and the domestic price level. As $J \rightarrow \infty$, (3.6a) tends to unity and (3.6b) tends to zero. Thus only in this limiting case do propositions (iii) and (iv) hold.

Fiscal policy involves changing \bar{A} . A well-known proposition of Mundell (1965) and Fleming (1962) is that under flexible rates and perfect capital mobility fiscal policy has no effect on the steady state of a small open economy. It is evident from our analysis that again for this result to apply, perfect capital mobility must be interpreted to mean that UIP obtains; i.e. that foreign exchange speculation requires no risk premium.

The same general characteristics of the steady state described by (3.4a) - (3.4e) obtain under alternative policy specifications. If, for example, tax receipts are held at a constant real level, say τ , and the government finances its deficit with bonds, the steady-state relations (3.4a) - (3.4e) will continue to determine the steady-state values of \bar{B}^d , \bar{R} , \bar{F} , \bar{E} , and \bar{A} . Now, however, (3.4e) requires the stock of domestic bonds to adjust in proportion to the exchange rate, since $\bar{T} = \bar{E}\tau$. Under UIP propositions (i) and (iv) still obtain but if UIP does not hold these propositions will be violated as before. The responses of \bar{R} and \bar{E} to changes in R^* and \bar{M} can be calculated (A is now endogenous) and will generally differ from the expressions given in (3.5), (3.6) above because of the difference in policy specification.

We conclude this discussion with a further comment on (3.5c), which asserts that an increase in R^* leads to a fall in the forward premium, thereby leading to a less than proportionate rise in the domestic interest rate. This result turns out to depend upon the specification of the savings

function and under an alternative specification the domestic interest rate may actually increase *more* than proportionately. To illustrate this, suppose that instead of specifying a savings function as we have done, we specify a net export function

$$X = X(E/P) \quad X' > 0.$$

The steady state of the system now consists of (3.4a) - (3.4e), together with the steady state of (2.9)

$$X(1) - G_m + R^* \bar{B}^d = 0. \quad (3.4f)$$

Since in steady state $\bar{E} = \bar{P}$, X is now fixed. \bar{H} is now endogenous and, given \bar{A} and \bar{M} , is determined together with \bar{B}^d , \bar{E} , \bar{R} , \bar{F} , and \bar{T} .

Consider an increase in R^* . Since in steady state $X - G_m$ is independent of R^* it follows from (3.4f) that in order for the balance of payments on current account to remain in equilibrium, \bar{B}^d must fall. If \bar{B}^d falls, forward market equilibrium condition (3.4d) requires the forward premium to rise, in which case the CIP condition (3.4b) implies a *more* than proportionate increase in the domestic interest rate.

4. EXCHANGE RATE DYNAMICS: PROPORTIONAL INCREASES IN MONEY AND DOMESTIC BOND SUPPLIES

We now consider an economy in which steady state is disturbed by once-and-for-all increases in the money supply and domestic bond supply of equal proportion and examine the behaviour of the exchange rate during its transition to the new steady state. For convenience, we assume a log-linear version of the model developed in Section 2. Other simplifications are introduced not only to expedite the dynamic analysis, but also to make our results as comparable as possible with the existing literature.

Following, for example, Driskill (1980), we take the following log-linear approximation to wealth

$$h = \mu_1 a + \mu_2 (e + b^d) + (1 - \mu_1 - \mu_2) m - c \equiv w - c \quad (4.1)$$

where μ_1 is the share of domestic bonds in domestic wealth and μ_2 is the

share of foreign bonds. We denote $r \equiv R - \bar{R}_0$, $f \equiv F - \bar{F}_0$ and for all other variables let $x \equiv \ln X - \ln \bar{X}_0$, where for any variable \bar{Z}_0 denotes the value of Z in the initial steady state. Thus x is the percentage deviation in X from its initial steady state value.

Assuming that the foreign interest rate remains unchanged at R^* , the interest rate parity condition (expressed in deviation form) is

$$r = f \quad (4.2)$$

while the price index now becomes

$$c = \delta p + (1-\delta)e. \quad (4.3)$$

Following Dornbusch (1976), Gray and Turnovsky (1979a) and Wilson (1979) we make the assumption that income remains constant, an assumption that has been shown to be of some importance for exchange rate dynamics. Thus an approximation to money market equilibrium is given by

$$m - c = -\alpha_1 r + \alpha_2 h \quad \alpha_i \geq 0 \quad (4.4)$$

Imposing the assumption of perfect foresight, the log-linear approximation to the condition for forward market equilibrium becomes

$$e + b^d - c = \gamma(\dot{e} - f) \quad \gamma \geq 0 \quad (4.5)$$

where γ is the elasticity of speculative demand for foreign exchange forward with respect to the risk premium. γ varies inversely with the degree of risk aversion with $\gamma \rightarrow \infty$ as risk neutrality is approached. The adjustment of prices is specified by ¹²

$$\dot{p} = \theta(e - p) \quad \theta > 0. \quad (4.6)$$

As discussed in Section 2, under the more general assumptions we make about speculative behaviour the dynamics of exchange rates and domestic prices are interdependent with those of assets. In order to keep the analysis tractable, the simplest possible assumptions will be made with respect to the dynamics of asset accumulation. First, we assume that the fiscal authority adjusts government expenditure and taxes to ensure that a

balanced budget obtains continuously. Thus, except at the moment when the monetary disturbance is introduced, $\dot{A} = \dot{M} = 0$. Second, we assume that individuals adjust their holdings of foreign bonds towards their steady-state level, i.e.

$$\dot{b}^d = -\rho b^d = \rho(B - \bar{B}_0) \quad \rho > 0. \quad (4.7)$$

The forms of $X(\cdot)$ and $S(\cdot)$ implied by (4.7) may be derived from (2.9) and (2.12) above. Portfolio adjustment costs may provide some justification for the accumulation equation (4.7). But the main advantage of this formulation for our purposes is its tractability; together with the balanced budget assumption it minimizes the role of asset accumulation dynamics, thus simplifying our analysis enormously.

Equations (4.1) to (4.7) constitute a complete dynamic system. Equations (4.1) through (4.4) determine at any moment values of h , c , r , and f as functions of e , p , and b^d , whose dynamic behaviour is described by equations (4.5) through (4.7).

For the special case in which $\alpha_2 = 0$ (zero wealth effects in the demand for money) and $\gamma \rightarrow \infty$ (currency speculation requires no risk premium) the model outlined in equations (4.1) to (4.7) reduces in essence to the one examined by Dornbusch (1976) et al. As we mentioned in Section 2, when $\gamma \rightarrow \infty$, exchange rate dynamics are independent of B^d and A . For this reason these earlier studies did not require any assumptions about the bond-financed component of the government deficit or about savings behaviour.

Dornbusch et al. consider the effects of a once-and-for-all change in the money supply on the path of the exchange rate and price level. As we pointed out in Section 3, in the special case they consider the *steady-state* effect of such a change is a proportional change in the exchange rate and the price level, with the domestic interest rate remaining unchanged. To maintain this long-run neutrality in our more general model, the change in the money supply must be accompanied by a proportional change in the supply of

domestic bonds. This policy is a once and for all transfer of money and bonds and is considered in this section.

Consider an initial steady state in which all variables in equations (4.1) through (4.7) are zero (i.e. $\ln X = \ln \bar{X}_0$, etc.) and assume that the supplies of money and domestic bonds are both increased once-and-for-all by \bar{m} per cent.¹³ In the new steady state, $\bar{e} = \bar{p} = \bar{c} = \bar{m}$, while all other variables return to their *initial* (zero) levels. In particular, it is important to note that $\bar{b}^d = 0$, i.e., there is no change in the number of foreign bonds held in the new steady state. Hence, by equation (4.7), $\dot{b}^d = b^d = 0$ throughout the transition, so that this equation can be ignored.¹⁴

Thus, given the assumptions we have made, the dynamics can be reduced to a consideration of \dot{e} and \dot{p} . Rearranging (4.5) and recalling (4.6) we may write

$$\dot{e} = f + \frac{\delta(e - p)}{\gamma} \quad (4.5)$$

$$\dot{p} = \theta(e - p) \quad (4.6)$$

and using equations (4.1) through (4.4) to solve for f , we obtain the following second order system of differential equations in e and p

$$\begin{pmatrix} \dot{e} \\ \dot{p} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ \theta & -\theta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} e \\ p \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} k \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad (4.8)$$

$$a_1 \equiv \frac{\delta}{\gamma} + \frac{(1-\alpha_2)(1-\delta) + \alpha_2\mu_2}{\alpha_1}; \quad a_2 \equiv -\frac{\delta}{\gamma} + \frac{(1-\alpha_2)\delta}{\alpha_1}$$

$$k \equiv \frac{-[1 - \alpha_2(1-\mu_2)]\bar{m}}{\alpha_1}$$

where in defining h we have used the fact that $da = dm = \bar{m}$. Letting

$$x_1 \equiv e - \bar{e}, \quad x_2 \equiv p - \bar{p}$$

where $\bar{e} = \bar{p} = \bar{m}$, we may write the non-homogeneous system (4.8) in homogeneous form

$$\begin{pmatrix} \dot{x}_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ \theta & -\theta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (4.9)$$

which has as its solution

$$e(t) = \bar{m} + A_1 \exp(\lambda_1 t) + A_2 \exp(\lambda_2 t) \quad (4.9)$$

$$p(t) = \bar{m} + A_1 \frac{\lambda_1 - a_1}{a_2} \exp(\lambda_1 t) + A_2 \frac{\lambda_2 - a_1}{a_2} \exp(\lambda_2 t) \quad (4.9)$$

where λ_1, λ_2 , are the solutions to the characteristic equation of (4.8')

$$\lambda^2 + (\theta - a_1)\lambda - \theta(a_1 + a_2) = 0. \quad (4.1)$$

From the definitions of a_1 and a_2 we observe

$$a_1 + a_2 = \frac{1 - \alpha_2 + \alpha_2 \mu_2}{\alpha_1} > 0 \quad (4.1)$$

if and only if $\alpha_2 < 1/(1 - \mu_2)$. This condition will certainly be met if the wealth elasticity of the demand for money does not exceed unity, a condition that seems reasonable to impose. Thus (4.11) implies that the system (4.8') has one negative and one positive eigenvalue, which we shall identify as $\lambda_1 < 0$, $\lambda_2 > 0$, respectively.

To complete the solution requires the determination of the arbitrary constants A_1, A_2 . First, we shall impose the requirement that the system converges to its steady state, i.e. ¹⁵

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} e(t) = \bar{e}; \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} p(t) = \bar{p}.$$

For this to be so the coefficient of the unstable root $A_2 = 0$. The other constant is obtained from an initial condition. In keeping with the literature on exchange rate dynamics, we assume that, while discontinuous jumps in the exchange rate are possible, the price of nontraded goods is constrained to move continuously. The fact that the exchange rate is determined by virtually continuous trading in an auction market while the prices of nontraded goods are determined mainly by a large number of longer-term contracts makes this assumption plausible. Thus, imposing the condition that p start from its initial steady state value of zero, i.e., that

$$p(0) = A_1 \frac{\lambda_1 - a_1}{a_2} + \bar{m} = 0,$$

implies that

$$A_1 = \frac{-a_2}{\lambda_1 - a_1} \bar{m}. \quad (4.12)$$

Substituting the values for A_1 , A_2 into (4.9a), (4.9b), recalling that $\tilde{e} = \tilde{p} = \bar{m}$, yields the following solutions for the exchange rate and price of nontraded goods

$$e(t) = \left[1 + \frac{a_2}{a_1 - \lambda_1} \exp(\lambda_1 t) \right] \bar{m} \quad (4.13)$$

$$p(t) = [1 - \exp(\lambda_1 t)] \bar{m}. \quad (4.15)$$

Consider now the value of the exchange rate immediately after the increase in the money and bond supplies at $t = 0$. This value, denoted by $e(0+)$ is given by

$$e(0+) = \left[1 + \frac{a_2}{a_1 - \lambda_1} \right] \bar{m}. \quad (4.14)$$

It can be established from (4.10) that the smaller root λ_1 satisfies

$$\lambda_1 < a_1 - \theta < a_1$$

so that $e(0+) \gtrless \bar{e}$ ($= \bar{m}$) as $a_2 \gtrless 0$ or, equivalently, as

$$\gamma(1-\alpha_2) - \alpha_1 \gtrless 0. \quad (4.15)$$

The exchange rate overshoots or undershoots its new steady-state value as $e(0+) \gtrless \bar{m}$ and (4.15) provides a simple criterion for determining which of these two cases occurs. In the limiting case of the Dornbusch model, $\alpha_2 = 0$, $\gamma \rightarrow \infty$, ensuring that overshooting takes place. More generally, a reduction in the wealth elasticity of the demand for money α_2 or an increase in the elasticity of speculation γ raises the likelihood of overshooting.¹⁶ Furthermore, differentiating $e(0+)$ with respect to γ indicates that as long as $\alpha_2 < 1$, $de(0+)/d\gamma > 0$; an increase in the elasticity of speculation raises the impact effect on the exchange rate of a change in nominal asset supplies.

The phenomenon of overshooting has been cited as a reason for the observed volatility of exchange rates; changes in asset supplies create movements in exchange rates which *exaggerate* the implications of these changes for steady state. According to this interpretation, speculation acts to destabilize the foreign exchange market. As risk aversion on the part of speculators falls, making the supply of speculative funds more elastic, the exchange rate reacts more sharply to changes in asset supplies. ¹⁷

To understand this result observe that since the prices of nontraded goods are sticky, changes in nominal asset supplies constitute, on impact, changes in real asset supplies. The exchange rate and interest rate must adjust to restore asset market equilibrium. An increase in the nominal supplies of money and domestic bonds increase both the supply of and demand for money, the second via a wealth effect. Taking the likely case $\alpha_2 < 1$, the net impact on the money market is to create an excess supply. To maintain equilibrium in the money market during the adjustment period requires a lower domestic interest rate, which in turn requires a lower forward premium on foreign exchange, f .

When speculation is perfectly elastic, $f = \dot{e}$. In this case, a lower domestic interest rate requires a continuous *appreciation* ($\dot{e} < 0$) during the adjustment period. If the exchange rate is to appreciate to its new, higher, steady-state value it must initially depreciate to a value *above* \bar{e} ; that is, the exchange rate must overshoot.

When speculation is less than perfectly elastic, ($\gamma < \infty$), however, an exchange rate depreciation also impinges on forward market equilibrium by revaluing domestic holdings of foreign bonds. This revaluation creates an excess supply of foreign exchange forward which acts to bid down the forward premium on foreign exchange f . If the drop in f required to restore

forward market equilibrium exceeds the drop required to restore money market equilibrium, then a continuous *depreciation* ($\dot{e} > 0$) is needed to maintain equilibrium in both markets. For this continuous depreciation to converge to the new steady state exchange rate, the depreciation on impact must be less than the steady state depreciation; that is, undershooting of the exchange rate must occur.

5. EXCHANGE RATE DYNAMICS: INCREASE IN MONEY SUPPLY ALONE

In section 4 we analyzed a change in nominal asset supplies which was neutral in the sense that it generated proportional changes in the steady-state domestic price level and exchange rate with no change in the steady-state domestic interest rate. Using the model of Section 4, consider now a once-and-for-all change in the money supply alone of \bar{m} per cent.

Starting from initial zero levels, the effects on the steady-state exchange rate, price level, and forward premium are given by

$$\tilde{e} = \tilde{p} = \left(\frac{\alpha_1(1-\mu_1-\mu_2) + \gamma\mu_2}{\alpha_1(1-\mu_2) + \gamma\mu_2} \right) \bar{m} < \bar{m} \quad (5.1a)$$

$$\tilde{f} = \frac{-\mu_1 \bar{m}}{\alpha_1(1-\mu_2) + \gamma\mu_2} < 0. \quad (5.1b)$$

respectively, while domestic holdings of foreign bonds change by

$$\tilde{b}^d = \frac{\gamma\mu_1 \bar{m}}{\alpha_1(1-\mu_2) + \gamma\mu_2} > 0 \quad (5.1c)$$

Thus an increase in the money supply leads to a less than proportional increase in the exchange rate, accompanied by a reduction in the forward premium, while the number of foreign bonds held in steady state increases. The economy must therefore on average run a current account *surplus* during the transition between steady states. The reason is that the increase in the money supply raises the price level. The real value of outstanding domestic bonds is reduced and a larger number of foreign bonds are required

to maintain real wealth at \bar{H} .

The dynamics of the system can be described by the differential equations

$$\begin{pmatrix} \dot{e} \\ \dot{p} \\ \dot{b}^d \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ \theta & -\theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -\rho \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} e \\ p \\ b^d \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} k' \\ 0 \\ \rho \tilde{b}^d \end{pmatrix} \quad (5.2)$$

where a_1 and a_2 are defined as before,

$$a_3 \equiv \frac{1}{\gamma} + \frac{\alpha_2 \mu_2}{\alpha_1}$$

$$k' \equiv \frac{-[1 - \alpha_2(1 - \mu_1 - \mu_2)]\bar{m}}{\alpha_1}$$

Note that because \tilde{b}^d is disturbed by the policy, the dynamics of foreign bond accumulation must now be taken into account.

Solving (5.2) along with the terminal condition

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} e(t) = \tilde{e} = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} p(t) = \tilde{p} \quad (5.3)$$

and the initial conditions

$$p(0) = 0, \quad b^d(0) = 0 \quad (5.4)$$

yields

$$e(t) = A_1 \exp(\lambda_1 t) - \frac{a_3 \tilde{b}^d (\theta - \rho)}{(\rho + \lambda_1)(\rho + \lambda_2)} \exp(-\rho t) + \tilde{e} \quad (5.5)$$

$$p(t) = \left[\frac{\lambda_1 - a_1}{a_2} \right] A_1 \exp(\lambda_1 t) - \frac{a_3 \tilde{b}^d \theta}{(\rho + \lambda_1)(\rho + \lambda_2)} \exp(-\rho t) + \tilde{p} \quad (5.6)$$

$$b^d(t) = \tilde{b}^d [1 - \exp(-\rho t)] \quad (5.7)$$

where λ_1 and λ_2 are as defined in Section 4 and

$$A_1 \equiv \left[\frac{a_3 \tilde{b}^d \theta}{(\rho + \lambda_1)(\rho + \lambda_2)} - \tilde{p} \right] \frac{a_2}{\lambda_1 - a_1}$$

Substituting for A_1 , \tilde{p} , and \tilde{b}^d into (5.5a) at time $t = 0$, the criterion for the initial overshooting or undershooting of the exchange rate is given by the expression

$$\frac{a_3 \gamma \mu_1}{(\rho + \lambda_1)(\rho + \lambda_2)} [a_2 \theta - (\theta - \rho)(\lambda_1 - a_1)] - a_2 [\alpha_1 (1 - \mu_1 - \mu_2) + \gamma \mu_2] \gtrless 0 \quad (5.6)$$

This is a rather complicated function of the underlying parameters and it does not appear that the phenomenon can be characterized by any simple condition. Thus, during the transition between steady states the economy runs a current account *surplus*, while either $\dot{e} > 0$ or $\dot{e} < 0$ is possible. Any relationship between the direction of the movement of the exchange rate and the current account may therefore exist.

6. CONCLUSION

The assumption that speculative foreign exchange positions require a risk premium has implications for a number of propositions about open economies with flexible exchange rates. In particular, propositions about the impotence of fiscal policy and the equality in steady state between domestic and foreign interest rates based on the assumption of perfect capital mobility require the strong version of this assumption -- uncovered interest rate parity -- to hold. They do not obtain if only the weaker assumption of covered interest rate parity holds.

Furthermore, introducing risk aversion along with wealth effects in the demand for money has implications for exchange rate dynamics. It tends to reduce the presumption of overshooting of the exchange rate in response to monetary disturbances, both the likelihood that it happens at all and the amount by which it occurs if it does occur. To the extent that the major sources of disturbances are changes in nominal asset supplies, factors encouraging currency speculation, such as an increase in the number of speculators, are likely to reduce the overall risk aversion exhibited by the market and increase the volatility of the exchange rates. In this sense speculators destabilize the market.

1. Other authors draw the distinction between perfect capital mobility between countries and perfect substitutability between domestic and foreign bonds. The former term corresponds to the weaker definition of CIP, while the latter describes the stronger definition of UIP: see Frankel (1981).
2. Steady states possessing varying degrees of stationarity are familiar from the literature; see, e.g., Dornbusch (1976), Turnovsky (1977).
3. This proposition is of course based on the presumption that the world is not characterized by conditions of secular inflation, an assumption madethroughout this analysis. Under secularly inflationary conditions, the steady-state relationship between the domestic and foreign interest rates under UIP is $R = R^* + e$, where e is the secular rate of inflation. It is clear that through e domestic policies *are* able to influence the domestic nominal rate of interest even if UIP obtains.
4. This result has also been obtained by Harris and Purvis (1979).
5. We stress that this statement refers to models based on similar assumptions to those we shall introduce. A good deal of attention has been devoted in the literature to establishing the robustness of the overshooting phenomenon and many models in which it does not occur now exist. Factors tending to eliminate overshooting, but *not* incorporated in our analysis include: (i) variable output, (ii) instantaneous price adjustment, (iii) sufficiently low substitutability between domestic and foreign securities.
6. We find it analytically convenient to separate forward market participation into pure speculation and pure arbitrage. We implicitly treat the acquisition of an amount of *uncovered* foreign bonds as combining a *covered* investment of x in foreign bonds and a *speculative purchase* of foreign currency forward in amount x . In a portfolio model of foreign investment we identify a third motive for participating in the forward market as hedging against domestic inflation. Forward positions for hedging purposes depend upon the relative variability of the domestic and foreign price levels and do not respond to the variables we are concerned with here. Thus we may treat the forward position due to hedging as a constant absorbed in J_t ; see Eaton and Turnovsky (1980).
7. The notion of a "risk premium" on forward exchange in a non-stochastic model is somewhat awkward, although no more so than having different rates of return on different securities as is commonplace in conventional deterministic macroeconomics. Our main reason for doing this is to preserve analytical tractability and also to enable us to preserve comparability with the existing literature, which is also deterministic. One interpretation of our approach is that while expectations are on average realized, nevertheless the returns are subject to risk, the magnitude of which will affect the function J_t ; see Eaton and Turnovsky (1980).

8. To see this, observe that with bond financing the dynamics of E , P involve only equations (2.4), (1.3), (2.5) and (2.7). With a money-financed deficit equation (2.8), with $\dot{A} \equiv 0$, must be considered as well. The fact that bond accumulation may continue in steady state in the absence of wealth effects in relevant demand functions is familiar from the simple IS-LM model; see e.g. Turnovsky (1977, Chapter 4).
9. Another policy worth noting is the balanced budget. As long as H enters the money demand function, steady state always requires $g = b = 0$; irrespective of the elasticity of the speculative demand for forward exchange with respect to the risk premium. The same applies if L is independent of H , as long as J' is finite. The limiting case of infinitely elastic speculation, steady state requires only that $g = 0$.
10. This type of specification is used, for example, by Tobin and Buiter (1976) for a closed economy.
11. Even in this limiting case, propositions (iii) and (iv) do not necessarily hold under alternative, plausible specifications of asset supply and asset accumulation behavior. Consider the case in which taxes are maintained at a constant level in real terms. If the government deficit is *bond*-financed and if the demand for money is independent of H propositions (iii) and (iv) do still hold. However, if the deficit is *money*-financed an increase in the stock of domestic bonds *causes* a proportionate change in E , which through the deficit leads to an eventual proportionate change in M . This contradicts proposition (iv), while the causality of (iii) is reversed. With a balanced budget the exchange rate is homogeneous of degree one in money *and* domestic bonds.
12. This specification deviates slightly from that adopted by Dornbusch et al, in which prices are assumed to adjust in proportion to excess demand, as a result of which the domestic interest rate appears in (4.6) as well. We have chosen our specification not only for reasons of its simplicity, but also because it follows directly from a model based on long-term contracts.
13. In interpreting this initial steady-state in which all variables equal zero it should be recalled that all variables are measured in deviation form.
14. According to our assumption about asset accumulation, then, a change which has only nominal effects on the steady state has no effect on the balance of payments on current account during the transition. While an alternative specification of savings behaviour could allow a non-zero current account balance at any moment during the transition, the integral of the current account balance between two such steady states must equal zero. For instance, if the impact of debt expansion is to create a deficit, the current account balance must at some later stage be in *surplus* before the new steady state is reached.
15. Convergence may follow by appealing to transversality conditions from appropriate optimizing models which, provided that the underlying utility function satisfies suitable restrictions, ensure that price movements remain bounded.
16. Allen and Kenen (1980) also find that introducing wealth effects in the money demand function can reduce or reverse overshooting. Their model differs substantially from ours, however, especially in that it does not assume perfect foresight.

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17. On the other hand, $d|\lambda_1|/d\gamma > 0$ as well; a reduction in the risk aversion of speculators increases the *speed* with which the exchange rate and domestic price level attain their new equilibrium values.

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