

BASICS OF FOREX DERIVATIVES

CH – 2 MODULE A BFM BY ASHISH SIR

Any activity you engage in carries **uncertainty** — and this may result in either a **loss**  or a **gain** .

What is Risk in Financial Terms?

In financial parlance, **risk** is associated with a potential **loss** that may arise due to the **occurrence or non-occurrence of specific events**. It refers to an **unplanned situation** that has **financial consequences**, such as reduced earnings or direct losses.

Degree of risk may vary based on:

 Parameter	 Influence on Risk
#1 Area of operation	Risk increases with complexity
#2 Volume of transactions	Higher volume = higher risk
#3 Number of players	More stakeholders = more risk

Why is International Trade & Forex Risky?

International trade and foreign exchange operations are highly vulnerable due to:

-  **Complexity of transactions**
-  **Volatile currency behaviors**
-  **Expansive global operations**

Risks are unavoidable in such global activities.



Common Risks in International Trade:

Type of Risk	Description
#1 Buyer Risk	Buyer defaults or delays payment
#2 Seller Risk	Seller fails to deliver goods or services
#3 Shipping Risk	Goods lost/damaged in transit



Common Risks in Forex Operations:

Type of Risk	Description
¥ Exchange Risk #1	Fluctuation in currency value after trade agreement
⟳ Settlement Risk #2	Failure of one party to deliver the funds or currency
💧 Liquidity Risk #3	Inability to liquidate assets or obtain funds in time
🌐 Country Risk #4	Adverse economic/political changes in the foreign country
👑 Sovereign Risk #5	Government failing to meet obligations (e.g., defaulting on debts)
📈 Interest Rate Risk #6	Loss due to fluctuating interest rates
⚙️ Operational Risk #7	Internal process failures, system issues, or human error



Risk-Return Relationship:

Higher Risk ➔ Higher Return ▲,

But unmanaged risks can exceed acceptable thresholds ⚡.

Need for Risk Management

Risks must be:

- Accepted
- Monitored
- Managed efficiently ✓

👉 This helps **minimize negative impacts** and **maximize profitability** or **strategic goals** of the organization ✅.



Innovative Risk Management: Derivatives

Risks involving **price volatility**, **exchange rates**, and **interest rates** — especially on commodities, currencies, and financial assets — need **smart hedging tools**.

⌚ Derivatives are one such solution.

📅 What Are Derivatives?

A **derivative** is a financial instrument whose **value is derived from an underlying asset** (e.g., currency, commodity, bond, etc.)

🛡️ **Purpose:** To neutralize or reduce the uncertainty or volatility in the exposure.

⭐ Popular Derivative Instruments in Forex:

📘 Instrument	🔍 Purpose
📄 Forward Contracts #1	Lock in exchange rates for future transactions
📊 Options Call put	Right (but not obligation) to buy/sell currency at a set rate
🔄 Swaps Buy sell	Exchange of cash flows between parties (e.g., interest or currency swap)
📅 Forward Rate Agreements	Lock in interest rates for a future period
📅 Futures	Standardized contracts to buy/sell currency at a future date

~~exchange
traded~~

OTC

~~Bilateral
contracts~~

💬 Real-Time Examples

#1 ◆ Example 1 – Exchange Risk:

An Indian exporter secures a USD payment. Due to a drop in USD-INR rates before settlement, the exporter incurs a **conversion loss**.

💡 **Solution:** Use a **forward contract** to lock in rates.

◆ Example 2 – Country Risk:

#2 A bank has exposure in Venezuela. Political turmoil leads to **restrictions on fund repatriation**.

💡 **Solution:** Monitor country credit ratings and limit exposure.

◆ Example 3 – Interest Rate Risk:

#3 A company borrows on a floating interest rate. A sudden spike in interest rates increases its repayment cost.

💡 **Solution:** Use **interest rate swaps** to convert to fixed-rate.

💬 Human Element of Risk

Risk arises from **uncertainty** — humans cannot predict future outcomes with certainty. Hence, the attempt is always to **control the future impact by planning and hedging**.

💡 Managing risk is about ensuring favorable conditions **on a future date** while reducing the harmful effects of potential adversity.



DEFINITION OF RISK & RISKS IN FOREX OPERATIONS



Risk is an unplanned event that results in financial consequences such as **loss or reduced earnings**.

→ If the outcome of an activity is uncertain and may lead to loss, it is termed a **risky proposition**, regardless of the potential for gain.

In Life vs. Business

👉 Life: Illness, disability, death

👉 Business: Profit/loss based on operations management

👉 **In short:** Risk is the **uncertainty of outcomes** — in currencies, commodities, or any object due to **exposure** in that element.

Peculiarities of Forex Markets

Forex markets differ from other commodity markets due to several unique features:

Unique Forex Features	Explanation
24x7 Market	Operates round the clock globally
OTC Market	Over-the-counter, not limited to any location
High Frequency Fluctuations	Rates change every few seconds
Government Interventions	Policies & controls can influence exchange rates
Time Zone Differences	Delayed settlements due to differing business hours

→ These factors expose participants to a **wide range of risks**, requiring **utmost caution and robust risk management**.

⚠ Any laxity in forex operations can lead to significant losses — even business failure.

🔄 Recap of Major Risks in Forex:

📌 Type of Risk	📝 Quick Definition
💹 Exchange Risk	Currency value fluctuations post-trade
🔄 Settlement Risk	Payment/delivery failure
💧 Liquidity Risk	Difficulty in converting assets to cash
🌐 Country Risk	Political/economic instability abroad
👑 Sovereign Risk	Foreign government default
🚩 Interest Rate Risk	Changing interest rates affect profitability
⚙️ Operational Risk	Internal system failures, errors, or fraud

🧩 Summary Table: Key Concepts

🧠 Concept	📌 Description
What is Risk?	Uncertainty leading to financial loss
Why is it unavoidable?	Due to unpredictability in global trade & forex operations
Risks in International Trade	Buyer, Seller, Shipping Risks
Risks in Forex Operations	Exchange, Settlement, Liquidity, Country, Sovereign, Interest, Operational #1 #2 Minimize losses, maximize profits
Risk Management Goal	Minimize losses, maximize profits
Derivative Instruments	Tools like forwards, options, swaps used for hedging
Real-Life Examples	Currency drop, country instability, rising interest rates
Forex Market Characteristics	OTC, 24x7, high volatility, global influences

#1

A. Exchange Risk – Most Common Forex Risk

Exchange risk arises from adverse movements in exchange rates that impact the **value of receivables or payables** in foreign currencies. If not **timely covered**, this can lead to losses.

⌚ How It Works

Dealers are expected to immediately cover transactions (via matching opposite deals). Delay in doing so exposes them to **exchange risk**, as market rates may move against their position.



Understanding Currency Positions

1000s

500s

📌 Position Type	📈 Meaning	💥 Risk Exposure
#1 Overbought (Long) <u>long</u>	Assets + purchase contracts > Liabilities + sales contracts	Loss if currency <u>depreciates</u>
#2 Oversold (Short) <u>short</u>	Liabilities + sales contracts > Assets + purchase contracts	Loss if currency <u>appreciates</u>

👉 The difference between purchase and sale positions is the **open position** — the dealer's exposure to exchange rate movements.

🌐 Why It's Crucial Today

In a **digitally connected world**, currencies are floating against each other 24x7. This makes **open positions highly sensitive** to even small market changes.

India Controls to Manage Exchange Risk

Due to trading lags, market volatility, or strategic views, positions are sometimes left open — but strictly within **RBI-approved limits**, such as:

Limit Type	Purpose
✓ Daylight Limit #1	Max open position allowed during the day
🌙 Overnight Limit #2	Max position to carry forward overnight
💼 Single Deal Limit #3	Exposure cap on individual trades
🔄 Forward Mismatch (Gap) Limit #4	Controls mismatches in delivery/settlement timing
🔴 Stop Loss Limit #5	Caps loss per trade
📦 Volume/Trading Position Limit #6	Restricts total daily exposure

 RBI allows each bank's **Board of Directors** to define their own

exposure limits based on:

- Merchant turnover
- Trading capabilities
- Volume
- Capital base

RBI Limit type
BOD

Types of Exchange Rate Exposures

Exposure Type	Description	Real Example
🔄 Transaction Exposure #1	Arises from day-to-day operations (e.g., sales/purchases in foreign currencies)	An Indian firm invoices \$100,000 in USD. If USD falls before payment, loss occurs.

Translation Exposure 	Occurs when revaluing assets/liabilities during financial reporting	Subsidiary books in USD, but parent co. reports in INR – affects financials
Operating Exposure 	Comes from market changes affecting competitiveness or pricing indirectly	Reduced import duties → more imports → affects local exporter's profitability

B. Settlement Risk – Also Called Herstatt Risk



Settlement risk arises from the **failure of a counterparty** during the final stages of a foreign exchange transaction.

Forex Market Size:

Daily turnover exceeds **US\$ 1.5 trillion** – all traded **without a central clearing house** 😱.

What Makes It Risky?

Each transaction is settled **individually between counterparties**.

Without central clearance, there's a chance that one party pays and the other defaults — leading to **total loss** for the paying party.



Types of Settlement Risk

 Type	 Definition	 Risk Level
 Pre-settlement Risk 	<u>Risk that a counterparty may default before maturity of the contract</u>	Partial (based on market rate difference)
 Settlement Risk 	Risk of default during actual payment due to time zone differences	Total (if currency is delivered but not received)

Real-World Example – Herstatt Risk



What Happened?

Temporal Risk

In 1974, German bank **Bankhaus Herstatt** received Deutsche Marks but failed before releasing US Dollars.

👉 This caused **losses** for global banks in different time zones. The incident coined the term **“Herstatt Risk”**.



Time Zones & Settlement Failure

 Country	 Time	 Scenario
Zone		
 Japan	GMT+9	Sends Yen in early hours
 Germany	GMT+1	Yet to open → fails before sending Euros
 Result	—	Japan loses its Yen without receiving Euros (Total loss!)



How Banks Manage Settlement Risk

Banks apply **credit limits per counterparty** to cap risk:

 Credit Controls	 Description
 Maximum Outstanding Limit	Caps total exposure at any time with a single counterparty
 Daily Delivery Limit	Restricts daily currency delivery to reduce loss in case of failure

Global Solutions:

- **Real-Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) systems**

- **Payment vs. Payment (PvP) frameworks**

- Unified **GMT-based books** to eliminate time lags

Summary Table – Exchange & Settlement Risk

 Risk Type	 Definition	 Potential Impact	 Mitigation Strategy
 Exchange Risk	Currency fluctuation after contract but before settlement	Financial loss on payables/receivables	Immediate covering, RBI limits, stop-loss
 Pre-settlement Risk	Default before contract maturity	Partial loss (market difference)	Counterparty credit assessment
 Settlement Risk	Default during actual fund transfer (time zone issue)	Total loss of funds delivered	PvP systems, RTGS, time zone sync (GMT)

#3

C. Liquidity Risk – When Markets or Funds Dry Up

funding Risk

Liquidity risk arises when a party involved in a forex transaction is

unable to meet its funding requirement or execute a deal at a reasonable price.

 It's also the risk of not being able to **exit or offset a position**

quickly due to market illiquidity.

Market liquidity Risk
Asset liquidity Risk

Real Example – USD Deal

◆ An Indian bank purchases USD against INR. However, its **USD nostro account lacks sufficient funds.**

→ The bank cannot borrow or buy USD at a reasonable rate in time.

⌚ Result: **Liquidity risk is triggered.**

🇮🇹 Key Characteristics of Liquidity Risk

⚠ Risk Scenario	🌟 Consequence
#1 Inability to fund forex settlements	Delayed payments or failed contracts
Market becomes illiquid	Cannot liquidate positions without significant cost
High bid-offer spreads	Reduced profitability or forced losses

🛡️ Managing Liquidity Risk

To mitigate liquidity risk, banks must:

- Maintain **strong cash/funds management**
- Control **asset-liability maturity mismatches**
- Set **maturity mismatch limits and open position limits**

ALM

either
Overbought
Oversold

🔍 Control Measures	🔍 Purpose
✓ Maturity Mismatch Limit	Avoid timing mismatches in cash inflows/outflows
↖ Reduce Open Position	Minimize exposure that can't be exited quickly
⟳ Funds Management System	Ensure real-time funding capability

🌐 D. Country Risk & 🏛️ Sovereign Risk

Part 2 (Y-2 A BM)

Country risk arises when a **foreign entity (private or sovereign)** is **unable or unwilling to fulfill obligations** due to **external, non-commercial factors.**

Key Triggers of Country Risk

 Trigger	 Description
 Exchange Controls  #1	Local government restricts foreign currency flows
 Regulatory Restrictions  #2	Sudden laws or directives block payments
 Economic Instability  #3	Issues like BOP crisis, low forex reserves
 Legal Restrictions  #4	Foreign laws prevent honoring of existing contracts

Real Example – Externalization Risk

A company in Country A wants to repay its USD loan to a bank in India.

However, Country A's central bank imposes **currency controls** restricting outward remittance.

Though the borrower **intends to repay**, it is **legally restricted** – this is **country risk**.

Sovereign Risk – A Special Case

Sovereign risk arises when the **foreign government or its agency** itself is the counterparty.

 Sovereign Risk Features	 Impact
Government has sovereign immunity  #1	No legal recourse available to affected parties
Policy or regime change  #2	Existing contracts may become invalid
No intent to default  #3	But external laws may prohibit compliance

Managing Country/Sovereign Risk

Risk Mitigation Techniques	Description
🌐 Country-wise Exposure Limits #1	Set maximum allowable risk by country
↗ Regular Monitoring of Difficult Countries #2	Continual reassessment of high-risk zones
⚖️ Third-country Jurisdiction Clauses #3	Legal contracts governed by neutral countries
📝 Sovereign Risk Disclaimers in Contracts #4	Limit bank's exposure to unforeseeable foreign legal changes

⌚ E. Interest Rate Risk – The GAP Trap

Also known as **GAP risk**, interest rate risk is the potential **financial loss due to unfavorable movements** in interest rates or rate differentials.

🔍 When & How Does It Occur?

Banks engage in:

4x1

- Spot & forward currency trades 
- Borrowing/lending in foreign currencies 
- Derivative contracts like **swaps, futures, or options** 

→ These activities rarely match perfectly in terms of cash flow timings or interest basis → this **mismatch is called a GAP**.

💡 **Real Example –** A bank borrows at **LIBOR + 1%** and lends at a fixed rate of **5%**.

If LIBOR increases significantly, the cost of borrowing rises,
narrowing or reversing the spread.

Result: Interest rate risk.

$$\text{Spot Rate} \times \text{forward \#} \times \frac{\text{forward points}}{\text{Int'l Rate Diff}} = \frac{360 \times 100}{1.5}$$

Types of Interest Rate Risk

Risk Type	Explanation
Forward Differential Impact #1	Forward rates change with interest rate movement, affecting swap/forward contracts
Cash Flow Mismatches #2	Irregular inflows/outflows due to asset-liability misalignment
Basis Risk #3	Different interest bases (e.g., <u>LIBOR</u> vs <u>SOFR</u>) fluctuate at different rates
Spread Risk #4	Unanticipated narrowing of the spread between borrowing and lending

Managing Interest Rate Risk

Risk Control Strategy	Purpose
Individual & Aggregate GAP Limits #1	Caps total mismatches in exposure
Sensitivity Analysis / Interest Rate Projections #2	Forecast profit/loss scenarios under different rate environments
Value at Risk (VaR) / Interest Rate Sensitivity Test #3	Measure & quantify exposure
Derivatives (Swaps, FRAs, Options) #4	Hedge against adverse rate movements

Summary Table – Liquidity, Country & Interest Rate Risks

 Risk Type	 Definition	 Impact	 Mitigation Tools
 Liquidity Risk <i>#1</i>	Inability to fund obligations or <u>exit positions quickly</u>	Delays, high-cost trades, default	<u>Maturity matching, cash management, position limits</u>
 Country Risk <i>#2</i>	Foreign counterparty unable/unwilling to pay due to external laws/regulations	Blocked payments, legal complications	<u>Country exposure limits, disclaimers, legal clauses</u>
 Sovereign Risk <i>#3</i>	Foreign government itself defaults or changes contract terms	No legal recourse, total loss	<u>3rd country jurisdictions, sovereign disclaimers</u>
 Interest Rate Risk <i>#4</i>	Financial loss from fluctuating interest rates or mismatches (GAP)	Lower spreads, cash flow mismatches	<u>GAP limits, swaps, FRAs, sensitivity testing</u>

F. Operational Risk – Risks from Within

Operational risk arises due to **failures in internal processes, information systems, human errors, or infrastructure deficiencies**, especially within a **dealing room**.

⚠ What Can Go Wrong?

 Source of Risk	 Impact
 Computer system failure <i>#1</i>	Halt in trading, delayed settlements, missed opportunities
 Communication breakdown <i>#2</i>	Inability to confirm or execute trades

 Human error or negligence <i>#3</i>	Incorrect bookings, unauthorized deals, regulatory violations
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 **Real Example:** A dealer enters the wrong amount in a forex trade due to a manual input error. Without system validation or immediate oversight, it leads to a major financial loss and non-compliance with internal limits.



Mitigating Operational Risk

To contain operational risk, banks should implement:

 Control Measures	 Description
 State-of-the-art IT infrastructure <i>#1</i>	Reliable, secure, and fast systems for trade execution
 Back-up systems (Mirroring) <i>#2</i>	Duplication of data & systems at remote sites
 Disaster Recovery & Contingency Plans <i>#3</i>	Plans to resume operations in case of total failure
 Manpower redundancy <i>#4</i>	Alternate staff availability during crises



G. Legal Risk – Risk of Contracts Going Void

Legal risk occurs when a transaction is **not legally enforceable** due to:

-  Lack of legal authority or capacity by the counterparty
-  Violation of legal/regulatory guidelines
-  Misinterpretation of applicable rules/laws

 **Real Example – Invalid Counterparty Deal:** A trader enters a forex swap with a counterparty that is later found to lack regulatory clearance to trade derivatives.

 The contract becomes **unenforceable**, exposing the bank to loss.

Elements of Legal Risk

 Issue Type	 Description
 Incapacity	Counterparty lacks legal status to contract
 Documentation Errors	Missing or flawed clauses leading to disputes
 Regulatory Non-compliance	Breach of laws/guidelines leads to fines or voided agreements
 Dispute over Jurisdiction	Courts disagree on applicable legal authority



Legal Risk Management Measures

Legal Safeguard	 Purpose
 Standardized Legal Documentation	#1 Use templates vetted by legal experts
 Third-party Legal Review	#2 Especially for large/value-based transactions
 Jurisdiction Clauses	#3 Clearly state applicable laws and courts in contracts
 Counterparty Legal Vetting	#4 Verify licenses, registration, and regulatory clearances

Risk Management Framework – Structured Control of Risks

Managing risk begins with **identifying and assessing** the risk.

#1 Identify
#2 Quantification



Can All Risks Be Measured?

Risk	Risk Type	Quantifiable?	Measurement Tools
\$₦ Exchange / ₩ Interest Rate	Yes	Value at Risk (VaR), gap analysis, scenarios	
Country / Operational Risk	Not fully quantifiable	Qualitative assessment, limits, controls	
Legal Risk	No	Legal audits, documentation reviews	

Risk Management: Process & Policy

A robust risk management system involves:

Top-Level Policy Setting

- The **Board of Directors** sets:
 - Detailed risk policy
 - Limit structures
 - Risk appetite vs. reward expectation

Implementation by Management

- Provides:
 - Trained manpower
 - Required tools & tech
 - Monitoring & reporting systems
 - Regulatory compliance assurance

Continual Monitoring & Review

- Risk profiles, limits, and tools must be:

Ultimate responsibility

- ⌚ Regularly reviewed
- 📊 Updated based on changing market dynamics



Core Components of a Risk Management Framework

Component	Function
🧭 Risk Policy #1	Defines goals, roles, acceptable risk levels
📊 MIS (Management Info System) #2	Provides timely, accurate data for decision-making
✓ Risk Measurement Tools #3	VaR, duration analysis, sensitivity analysis
⌚ Risk Limits #4	Set boundaries for acceptable exposures
🔍 Review & Reporting Mechanism #5	Tracks breaches and ensures accountability



Final Summary Table – Operational, Legal & Risk Management

Area	Definition / Purpose	Risk Exposure	Mitigation Tools
Purpose			
⚙️ Operational Risk #1	Internal failures: systems, people, processes	Missed trades, incorrect deals, reputational loss	Backup systems, disaster plans, automation, mirroring
⚖️ Legal Risk #2	Transaction not legally valid or enforceable	Contract disputes, penalties, nullified deals	Legal vetting, proper documentation, jurisdiction clauses
🧭 Risk Management #3	Structured process to identify, measure & manage risk	Inadequate policies lead to uncontrolled risk	Board-set policies, limits, MIS, sensitivity analysis, VaR tools



-  **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**
-  **Foreign Exchange Dealers' Association of India (FEDAI)**

These guidelines aim to ensure **safe and controlled** foreign exchange operations.

RBI's Internal Control Guidelines (ICG)

RBI's **Internal Control Guidelines (ICG)** cover various areas related to **forex dealing room operations**, such as:

-  Code of conduct for dealers and brokers
-  Setup of dealing rooms and back offices
-  Risk control framework and limits



Key Dealing Limits under ICG

12 34  Limit Type	 Description
 Overnight Limit  #1	Maximum exposure a bank can hold after market hours (i.e., overnight)
 Daylight Limit  #2	Maximum exposure allowed during the day for trading or client deals
 Gap Limit  #3	Limits on inter-period/month exposures (unhedged forward positions)

 Counterparty Limit	Max exposure allowed on a single counterparty #3
 Country Risk Limit	Max exposure allowed to a particular country #4
 Dealer Limit #5	Max exposure that an individual dealer can take during operations
 Stop Loss Limit #6	Max adverse rate movement allowed before the position must be exited
 Settlement Risk Limit #7	Max amount maturing with a single counterparty on a specific day
 Deal Size Limit #8	Cap on size of individual forex deals to limit operational risk



Additional Risk Controls

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Banks also implement limits on:

🔍 Control Area	📌 Description
 Value at Risk (VaR) #1	Statistical measure to quantify potential portfolio loss
 Currencies Traded #2	Authorized currencies for trading by bank/dealers
 Nostro Balance Limit #3	Max permissible funds in foreign accounts
 Overdraft Limits #4	Caps on OD facilities in nostro accounts
 Approved Broker Panels #5	Only empaneled brokers allowed for trading



RBI's Master Circular – Risk Management & Interbank Dealings

RBI's Master Circular provides a **comprehensive framework** for:

-  **Risk management tools for residents/non-residents**
-  **Hedging of forex exposures**
-  **Authorized dealer facilities**
-  **Documentation & reporting norms**

🔍 What the Circular Covers

Section	Summary
Forward Contracts #1 <u>Vanilla</u>	Booking allowed based on exposure or past turnover
Interest Rate Swaps / Options #2	Guidelines for structured interest rate hedging
FX Derivatives for ADs #3	Rules for dealers to hedge foreign currency assets/liabilities
Interbank Dealings	Procedures, deal size limits, gap norms, position limits
FCY Accounts / Lending / Borrowing	Norms for foreign currency accounts, loans, borrowings
Reporting to RBI	Mandatory reports on exposures and positions

₹ Settlement Risk Mitigation – Indian Scenario

India has a specialized solution for mitigating **settlement risk in forex and money markets**:

📦 CCIL – Clearing Corporation of India Ltd.

🛡 CCIL acts as a **central counterparty** to interbank deals, especially in:

- 🔄 **Repos**
- 📁 **CBLOs (Collateralized Borrowing and Lending Obligation)**
- 📋 **Government securities (gilts)**
- 💲 **USD/INR forex deals**

🧠 How CCIL Works

🔍 Feature	📝 Explanation
RECEIPT Netted Settlement	Only net amount (payable/receivable) is settled for each participant
👉 Member-only Access	Both parties in a forex deal must be CCIL members
🛡 Settlement Guarantee Fund (SGF)	Covers defaults using a common pooled fund
📁 Deal File Submission	Participants submit trade details for netting and settlement

💡 **Example:** Bank A and Bank B are both CCIL members. Each submits their forex trade files to CCIL.

Instead of settling multiple trades individually, CCIL **nets** them and only one **final INR & USD transfer** is done. This **reduces both liquidity and settlement risk**.

🧩 Summary Table – Risk Guidelines & Settlement Controls

📌 Area	📝 Description	🎯 Risk Mitigation Tool / Limit
🏛️ RBI's ICG	Framework for forex operations & internal control	Deal limits, counterparty/country/position exposure caps
📘 RBI Master Circular	Comprehensive risk & derivative guidelines	Forward contracts, swaps, options, AD permissions
🌰 Settlement Risk	Risk of counterparty failure during transaction closure	CCIL net settlement, SGF, member-only access Gilt Repos CBLO USD/INR

8 Rules

 FEDAI	Operational procedures and best practices	Dealer conduct, market discipline
 Internal Bank Policy	Limits as per risk appetite and capital	Stop loss, VaR, nostro limits, broker panel, jurisdiction rules

What Are Derivatives – History and Development

Derivatives are often viewed with **a sense of mystery or complexity**. However, their foundation is straightforward — a derivative is a **financial instrument whose value is derived from another asset**, known as the **underlying**.

Definition

A **derivative** is a contract whose value depends on the price of an underlying asset, index, rate, or variable.

Relationship with the Underlying

Even if an investor holds no direct interest in the underlying asset, **the price movement of the underlying directly impacts the value of the derivative** — and vice versa.

What Can Be the Underlying?

 Type of Underlying	 Examples
 Commodities #1	Agricultural goods, oil, gas, metals like gold/silver
 Currencies #2	USD, EUR, INR, JPY
 Interest Rates #3	LIBOR, SOFR, Repo rates

 Financial Instruments	Treasury bills, government bonds, corporate debt
 Stock Indices #5	SENSEX, NIFTY, S&P 500
 Equity Shares #6	Individual company stocks

Historical Evolution of Derivatives

Although the formal term "derivative" is modern, the **concept** dates back centuries.

Early Usage

-  **Japan (Edo period)**: Farmers sold rice produce for future delivery.
-  **High Seas Trade**: Merchants priced goods for future delivery.

Major Milestones in Derivatives Development

 Year	 Milestone
1971	Collapse of Bretton Woods System and USD delinking from gold
Early 1970s	 Chicago Mercantile Exchange launches currency futures
1975	 First interest rate futures introduced
1983	 Philadelphia Stock Exchange launches currency options
Early 1980s	 Introduction of interest rate swaps
Mid-1980s	 Surge in commodity, interest rate, and exchange rate derivatives

Trigger for Market Explosion:

Volatility in exchange and interest rates post-Bretton Woods collapse

led to **demand for hedging tools**, igniting global derivative market growth.

⌚ Who Uses Derivatives?

👤 Participant	📌 Purpose
💰 Hedgers	Manage risk in real asset or liability (e.g., exporters, importers)
🧠 Speculators	Take directional bets on market movements
🎲 Arbitrageurs	Profit from mispicing across markets by executing simultaneous trades

💹 Impact on Financial Markets

Derivatives provided **risk management tools** that:

- Boosted **global trade** 🌎
- Enhanced **investment flows**
- Encouraged **financial innovation**
- Expanded market participation

↗️ By **adding liquidity, depth, and pricing efficiency**, derivatives became essential instruments in modern finance.

🌐 Growth Explosion – Derivatives Market Stats (BIS Data)

📅 Time Period	12 34 Market Statistics
April 1988	💰 Daily average derivatives turnover: USD 1.3 trillion
June 1998	⌚ Notional outstanding for OTC contracts: USD 72 trillion
	↗️ Notional outstanding for exchange-traded contracts: USD 14 trillion

💡 Key Drivers of Derivative Market Growth

Factor	Description
↗ Increased Volatility	In FX, interest rates, and commodities → need for hedging tools #1
Oil Shocks (1971 onwards)	Sudden price surges increased market uncertainty #2
🌐 Globalization	Cross-border investments exposed businesses to multi-currency risks #3
🕒 Real-time Trading Platforms	Enabled 24x7 global trading #4
📈 Advanced Pricing Models	Developed using computing power (e.g., Black-Scholes, Monte Carlo methods) #5
👤 Professional Market Participants	Banks, corporates, traders adopted derivatives for risk mitigation #6
🏦 Product Innovation	Rise in futures, swaps, options, and structured derivative products #7

💡 Summary Table – Derivatives: History & Development

Topic	Key Details
🔄 Underlying Assets	Commodities, currencies, interest rates, bonds, stock indices, etc. #1
📦 Historical Use	Futures and options in Japan and maritime trade #2
📅 Key Milestones	<u>Currency futures (1970s)</u> , <u>interest rate swaps (1980s)</u> , <u>options (1983)</u>
📈 Market Participants	<u>Hedgers</u> , <u>speculators</u> , <u>arbitrageurs</u>
🚀 Growth Drivers	Volatility, globalization, tech innovation, market professionalism

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