# ECB Bond Market Contact Group

Olivier Herregods

# A deep dive into the drivers of inflation linked bond and swap markets

# Disentangling the impact of inflation expectations from risk premia and technical factors



### Introduction



HICP 10Y (Market) vs HICP 10Y (Model)

#### Source: HSBC

Mid Brent Last SX5E Mid EURUSD Mid Bund Mid GAZ	۰ 	Multiple R
	F	R Square
		Adjusted R Square
		Standard Error
		Observations
	_	

#### **Regression Statistics**

Multiple R	0.9774423
R Square	0.9553934
Adjusted R Square	0.9552775
Standard Error	0.1202774
Observations	1931

#### Segmentation

# Short end 0y - 3y sector

Belly

3y - 10y sector

Long End

10y - 50y sector

- Dominated by Hedge funds & couple of dealers
- Thin liquidity & higher volatility give sensitivity to Macro events & shocks
- Distortions are frequent but corrections are quick as economic ٠ data/models and fundamental approach prevails
- All player are active
  - Most liquid part of the curve
  - Limited volatility and distortions. Reaction to shocks is less violent except in case of an important headline
  - Premium is frequent but repricing is relatively prompt
- Real Money client with large liabilities and more uniform/stable views
  - Trades often with larger premium as dealers offers tend to be too elastic given no natural supply
  - Main driver are **depth of the demand** (for real yields for example)

## **Inflation Linked Bonds Market**

- Inflation linked bonds are probably a less accurate measure of Inflation expectations
- Inflation assumptions can be determined by numerous factors associated with bond market

Differential of liquidity between **ILB and Nominal Bond** 

**Issuer credit** 

**Supply / demand dynamics and mismatches** (Auctions, Syndications, or large buying programs that don't coincide with DMO supply events or sizes)

Balance Sheet Constraints, Positioning, as well as bonds dropping out of Indexes

**Convexity, risk off/risk on**. The iota operates as an arbitrage metric used mostly by RV desks (HF mainly)

Systemet U 17,33
-.0051
Mar. All Description Systemet All Reducts I

Systemet U 10,000
-.0051
Mar. All Description Systemet All Reducts I

Systemet U 10,000
-.0051
Mar. All Description Systemet All Systemet All Systemet All Description Systemet All Descriptio

Pure Real Yield demand and buying programs

## **Inflation Linked Swaps Market**

01

02

03

04

Swaps market reflects a **purer pricing of inflation expectations theoretically**; liquidity premium is to be taken into account though

The **liquidity differential between IRS and ILS is not an issue**, because it is its own instrument

But there is a **structural issue** of supply/demand mismatch, that can skew the levels to be too high most often, as there is no natural supply for inflation swaps, and only natural demand

The inflation supply is **created "synthetically" via Asset Swap buying by investors**. But even those flows are dependent on the outright level of Asset Swaps, as well as the level of lotas





5

### Questions

Can the debate about the cost of Linkers segment for the tax payer, and the potential reduction of ILB issuance from the DMOs increase this risk and liquidity premium due to the growing demand/supply mismatch?

2

Is it possible to accurately calculate the risk premium that is embedded in Inflation forwards?

3

What about the role of the growing influence of CTA accounts, and their momentum driven models that can push these risk premia higher?



# Opening up a world of opportunity