

# **Agenda**

- 1 Introduction to Eurex Credit Index Futures
- 2 Eurex Credit Index Futures at a glance
- 3 Understanding the risk and return characteristics of Credit index futures
- 4 Integrating Credit Index Futures in the credit ecosystem
- X Appendix: Bloomberg Indices comparison with other FI Index Benchmarks



# Introduction to Eurex Credit Index Futures



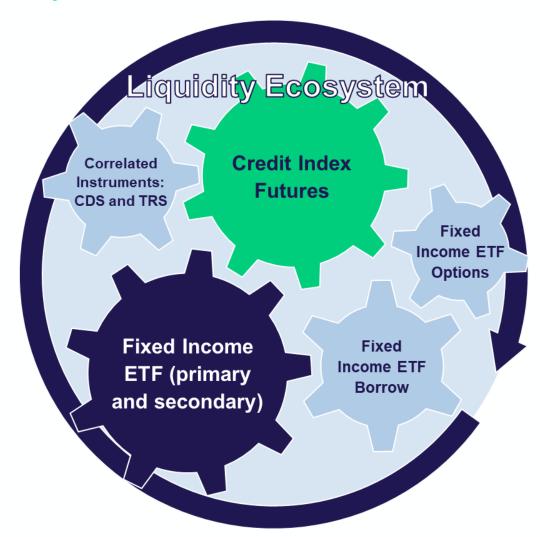
## **Introduction to Eurex Credit Index Futures**

## Timing is right for innovation in the global credit ecosystem

- The global corporate bond market has grown three-fold since 2008 with USD 34 trillion outstanding as of the end of 2023\*
- Changes in market structure, electronification and trading behavior have created an opportunity to introduce a **new tool** that is additive to existing products and liquidity – **Eurex Credit Index Futures**
- The benefits of exchange-traded and CCP-cleared futures add value throughout the entire credit ecosystem for all client types:
  - Increased transparency
  - Standardized products
  - High levels of liquidity
  - Margin efficiency
  - Low tracking error

Source: OECD (2024), Global Debt Report 2024: Bond Markets in a High-Debt Environment, OECD Publishing, Paris, <a href="https://doi.org/10.1787/91844ea2-en">https://doi.org/10.1787/91844ea2-en</a>

Vision: Utilizing a simple index derivatives structure, Eurex makes it as easy to trade credit derivatives as equity derivatives



## **Introduction to Eurex Credit Index Futures**

## Building a global suite of products with a broad range of applications and client appeal

Eurex is the only exchange with a global Credit Index Futures offering

EUR IG USD EM USD IG
EUR HY GBP CORP USH HY

 Credit Index Futures have proven to be useful to a broad range of market participants

Asset Managers
Pensions and endowments
Managed Futures / CTA's

Insurance companies
Hedge Funds
PTG's

 There is a vast range of potential applications for Credit Index Futures with new innovations developing at a rapid pace

Liquidity management
Cash management
Relative value trading

Portfolio hedging Portfolio overlays Tactical positioning

 Eurex Credit Index Futures utilize the familiar Bloomberg family of fixed income indices that is well-established within the marketplace

## **Product Roadmap**



## Q3 2021

 Launch of EUR IG Index Futures as the initial entry point for Eurex in Credit Index Futures







 Launch of USD EM Index and GBP Corporate Index Futures in the first expansion outside the EU



## Q3 2024

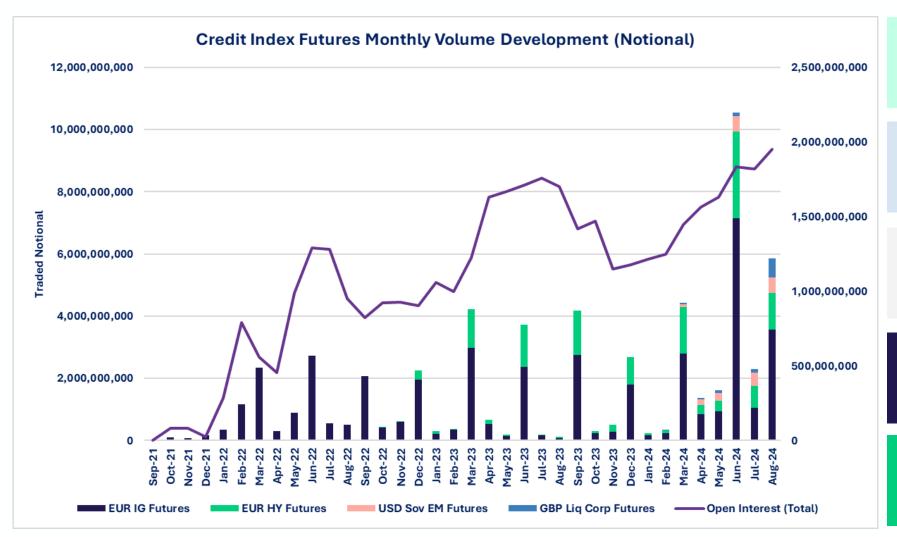
 Launch of USD IG Index and USD HY Index Futures to complete the global offering

**EUREX** 

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## **Introduction to Eurex Credit Index Futures**

## Volume and liquidity growth in 2024 from client adoption and sell side support



**August 2024 Volume** 

85,580 Contacts Traded

€5.8bn Notional Traded

**August 2024 Open Interest** 

22,907 Contracts Open Interest

€2.0bn Notional Open Interest

**Unparalled Liquidity** 

10 Order Book LP's

7 Off-screen LP's

**Buy Side Participation** 

~40 End-users active since launch

U.S. Credit Index Futures
launching on Sept 23
USD IG | USD HY



## Product use cases and credit product comparisons

Eurex Credit Index Futures give market participants standardized, liquid access to the global credit derivatives markets with considerable advantages and low tracking error compared to traditional credit products

#### Product use cases



**Portfolio hedging:** Temporarily reduce market exposure of a portfolio and protect it from market downturns



**Cash & liquidity management:** Take additional exposure to the global credit market utilizing the available cash



**Tactical & RV trading:** Express market views and arbitrage strategies across cash bonds, FI ETFs, CDS and TRS markets



**Portfolio overlays:** Adjust portfolio exposure relative to its actual funded amount

#### Competitive advantages vs. traditional credit products



**Liquidity:** Ample pool of liquidity with wide range of market makers



**Efficient risk management:** Low initial margins and close replication of index



**Alpha generation:** Ability to implement systematic trading strategies without making fundamental portfolio changes

## **How do Credit Index Futures compare to...**

#### iTraxx Europe & Crossover / CDX NA, HY & EM

- o iTraxx and CDX Indices include only a limited number of issuers
- o The issuers are equally weighted
- iTraxx and CDX indices rebalance every 6 months Eurex Credit Index Futures monthly
- o iTraxx indices have higher initial margin charges

#### **Total Return Swaps**

- o Total Return Swaps (TRS) have high margin charges
- TRS are bilaterally cleared
- o All Eurex Credit Index Futures have an open and transparent order-book
- Variation margins ensure Eurex Credit Index Futures are marked-to-market on a daily basis

#### **Fixed Income ETFs**

- o ETFs are fully funded, limiting flexibility and requiring financing
- o Futures allow for leveraged exposure to the total return of the index
- o ETFs charge an annual management fee
- Most liquid ETFs pay dividends, while Eurex Credit Index Futures are based a total return index that reinvests the bonds' coupons

# **Contract specifications**

		EUR IG	EUR HY	USD EM	GBP CORP	USD IG	USD HY	
	Eurex Product Code	FECX	FEHY	FUEM	FGBC	FUIG	FUHY	
	Currency	EUR	EUR	USD	GBP	USD	USD	
	Contract Multiplier	EUR 1,000	EUR 200	USD 200	GBP 200	USD 25	USD 100	
40	Contract Size (est.)	~ EUR 150,000	~ EUR 55,000	~ USD 20,000	~ GBP 25,000	~ USD 75,000	~ USD 50,000	
ons	Tick Size / Tick Value	0.01 / EUR 10	0.02 / EUR 4	0.01 / USD 2	0.01 / GBP 2	0.1 / USD 2.5	0.01 / USD 1	
ati	Minimum Block Trade Size	30 Contracts	100 Contracts	100 Contracts	100 Contracts	60 Contracts	80 Contracts	
sific	MBTS in Notional	~ EUR 5 MM	~ EUR 5 MM	~ USD 2 MM	~ GBP 2.5 MM	~ USD 5 MM	~ USD 5 MM	
Specifications	Trading Hours	8:00 to 19:00 CET	8:00 to 19:00 CET	8:00 to 22:00 CET	8:00 to 19:00 CET	8:00 to 22:00 CET	8:00 to 22:00 CET	
	Expiry Cycle	Quarterly - The three nearest quarterly months of the March, June, September and December cycle						
Contract	Last Trading Day / Final Settlement Day	Third Friday of each maturity month if this is an exchange day; otherwise, the exchange day immediately preceding that day  Final settlement day is the exchange day immediately following the last trading day						
ပိ	Final Settlement Price	The final settlement price is established by Eurex on the final settlement day of the contract and is <b>based on the closing price of the index</b> on the last trading day						
	Daily Settlement Price	Determined from the <b>volume weighted average of all transactions during the minute before 17:15 CET</b> (reference point), provided that more than 5 trades transacted within this period						
	Settlement Type	Cash settlement, payable on the first exchange day after following the expiration day						
	Bloomberg Code	LXYA Index	AHWA Index	XZSA Index	XZRA Index	BBEA Index	BBLA Index	
	Refinitiv Code	0#FECX:	0#FEHY:	0#FUEM:	0#FGBC:	0#FUIG:	0#FUHY:	

## Bloomberg indices provide a reliable benchmark for tracking global fixed income markets

		EUR IG	EUR HY	USD EM	GBP CORP	USD IG	USD HY
Index Methodology	Maturity Threshold	At least 1 year until final maturity	Between 1 year and 15 years until final maturity	At least 1 year until final maturity	At least 1 year until final maturity	At least 1 year until final maturity	Between 1 year and 15 years until final maturity
	Rating	Investment Grade	Below Investment Grade	Investment Grade and High Yield	Investment Grade	Investment Grade	High Yield
	Currency	EUR	EUR	USD	GBP	USD	USD
	Minimum Amount Outstanding	EUR 300 MM	EUR 250 MM	USD 1 BN	GBP 350 MM	USD 300 MM	USD 500 MM
	Caps			Country cap fixed at 5%	Issuer cap fixed at 4%		Issuer cap fixed at 2%

		EUR IG	EUR HY	USD EM	GBP CORP	USD IG	USD HY
ဟ	BBG Ticker	RECMTREU	BEHLTREU	<u>I38156US</u>	<u>I35357GB</u>	<u>LUACTRUU</u>	<u>LHVLTRUU</u>
Stats	Components	3,153	458	611	593	7,938	1,091
Index	Issuers	734	286	108	269	871	585
	Market Value	EUR 2.2 tn	EUR 230 bn	USD 988 bn	GBP 293 bn	USD 6.6 tn	USD 894 bn
Key	Average YTW	3.88%	6.63%	7.98%	5.73%	5.14%	7.49%
	Average OAS	1.45%	3.80%	3.14%	1.18%	0.97%	3.11%
	Average Duration	4.28	2.90	6.79	5.78	6.94	3.24

## **Eurex Credit Index futures offers savings on initial margins compared to CDS Indices**

- o **Bloomberg MSCI Euro Corporate SRI Index Futures** (EURO IG) has the **lowest initial margin** as a % of 100mn notional exposure at **1.63%** for protection on a long position compared to 2.63% for ITRAXX MAIN (EUR IG)
- Bloomberg Liquidity Screened Euro High Yield Bond Index Futures (EURO HY) offers savings in both long and short initial margins compared to ITRAXX CROSSOVER (EUR HY). Sell and Buy Protection for EURO HY index futures are as low as 3.67% and 2.34% compared to 8.27% and 4.56% for ITRAXX CROSSOVER
- Bloomberg Emerging Market USD Sovereign & Sovereign Owned Index Futures (USD EM) and Sterling Liquid Corporate Bond Index Futures (GBP CORP) comparatively offer lower initial margins to ITRAXX CROSSOVER (EUR HY)

### Initial margin levels as % of 100 million notional exposure

ures		Long (Sell Protection)	Short (Buy Protection)
Eurex Credit Index Futures	EUR IG Futures	1.63%	1.58%
dit Ind	EUR HY Futures	3.67%	2.34%
x Cre	USD EM Futures	4.07%	3.08%
Eure	GBP Corp Futures	2.79%	2.65%

		Long (Sell Protection)	Short (Buy Protection)
CDS	ITRAXX MAIN (EUR IG) Series 38	2.63%	1.14%
	ITRAXX CROSSOVER (EUR HY) Series 38	8.27%	4.56%

## Futures and Indices on Bloomberg – availability, analytics and index composition



- The index futures can be found on the terminal by LXYA Index (AHWA Index for Euro High Yield)
- o Price, volume and open interest charts available via <GP>
- Trade and quote recap on the products available via <QR>
- See the contract expiries available via <CT>
- Access the contract specs of the product via <DES>



- Index Underlying can be found on the Terminal by RECMTREU Index (BEHLTREU Index for Euro High Yield)
- Full range of analytics at glance available on <DES>, including Total Return breakdown available on the tab "Returns"
- Full list of index components available via <MEMB>
- Comparative total return analysis vs. futures and ETFs via <COMP>
- Index analytics (OAS, OAD, Duration, etc.) available via <FLDS> and accessible on historical and real-time basis via excel API



- Further analytics offering accessible when loading RECMTREU Index (BEHLTREU Index for Euro High Yield) on <PORT>
- Breakdown the index in its key sector / maturities / ratings and up to single security level (ISIN)
- o Analyse cash flows on single index components historically from tab: Cash Flows
- $\circ$   $\;$  Decompose the index in its  $\mbox{\bf key rates risk}$  components



# Understanding the risk and return characteristics of Credit Index Futures

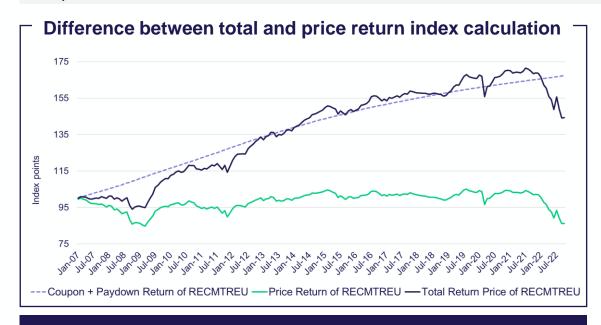
- 1. Total Return Index prices a practical example
- 2. Credit Index Futures price decomposition how are these products priced



# Understanding the risk and return characteristics of Credit Index Futures

# **Total Return Index prices – a practical example**

Total return indices factor in both the "clean" performance of the bonds and the return from re-investing the coupons paid in the index composition



### Total return index calculation

- Total return indices measure the performance of the underlying bonds basket
- It tracks security price returns as well as coupon and paydown returns

## **Key Observations**

- Between 2007 and 2022, the price return of the index is -13.5%,
   whereas the total return increase by 44%
  - This significant difference is due to coupon returns being considered in the total return calculation
- In a total return index, the coupons paid by the underlying bonds are reinvested in the index composition, hence they generate extra return.
- The index is able to replicate the returns of a corporate bond portfolio that re-invests coupons in itself.

## **Price return index calculation**

- Price return indices measure only the rate of return of the underlying bonds basket, relying only on the aspect of capital appreciation or depreciation of the index's components
- Hence, it neglects the income generated by the assets

# Understanding the risk and return characteristics of Credit Index Futures

## **Credit Index Futures price decomposition – how are these products priced?**

The formula for pricing Credit Index Futures is broken down in its single transactions, showing the interactions between financing and lending

## **Pricing formula (Theoretical price)**

LXYA Index Future price = RECMTREU index price + Cost of financing – lending/borrowing income

1 Borrow cash
Cash is borrowed to buy
the underlying bond
basket

The U/L bond basket is lent out until maturity to get additional income

## Keep in mind

Expected coupon payments are not explicitly included in the futures price formula. You get exposure to coupons by holding the future position, as coupon payments are reflected in the index spot price.

- 4 Receive back the bond basket
  The bonds basket is given back
  with a lending commission
- The cash that was borrowed is paid back with an interest

# **Building position**

2 Buy the underlying bond basket

The borrowed cash will be used to buy the bonds basket

# **Closing position**

We receive **coupon** and **price performance** of the underlying index.





- 1. Accessing Eurex Credit Index Futures
- 2. Eurex contact details



## **Accessing Eurex Credit Index Futures – trading models**

Eurex Credit Index Futures can traded via the **transparent**, **liquid order book** or traded **outside the order book** on a bilateral basis and subsequently booked to Eurex Clearing through the use of our Eurex T7 Entry Service

**Order Book** 

- The core element of the Eurex market model is the central limit order book, into which all orders and quotes are entered during the trading day
- Orders and quotes in the central order book are anonymous: A trader never knows the opposite side on a trade participants only see the specific details of their own orders

**Block Trading** 

- Members can enter **bilaterally agreed off-book transactions** into the trading and clearing system. Registered off-book trades are then automatically cleared like regular exchange transactions.
- The Block Trade Entry facility is fully electronic and integrated into members' processes

**Basis Trading** 

- Basis trading can be facilitated by the Exchange for Physicals Index ("EFP-I") functionality. An EFP-I against
  an ETF or a basket of bonds (the "Reference Instrument") can be entered subject to certain criteria regarding
  notional size or correlation.
- Furthermore, Eurex Credit Index Futures can themselves be used as a "Reference Instrument" for and EFP-Fin against a government bond futures trade.

Trade at index Close (TAIC)

- Trade at index Close (TAIC) allow counterparties to agree in advance the price at which to trade a future by applying a basis on the respective index close.
- TAIC trades are entered as the EFP-Index

# **Accessing Eurex Credit Index Futures – disclosed liquidity providers**

Liquidity Providers On-Screen				
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## Total return comparison between BBG EUR HY and iBoxx EUR indices

- A total return comparison between Bloomberg and iBoxx indices shows that they share very similar risk-return characteristics
- The daily returns since 2015 show that the two indices are highly correlated even when looking at the short-term correlation rates (90day window)
- The differences between the two index methodologies / inclusion criteria saw Bloomberg index outperform the Markit iBoxx index at an annualized rate of 4bps since 2018. The annualized tracking error between the two indices amounts at ca. 92bps.



	Jan 2018 to Jul 2024	Bloomberg Euro High Yield Index	iBoxx Euro High Yield Index
stics	Annualized Average Returns (%)	2.24%	2.21%
n Statis	Annualized Average STD (%)	5.72%	5.33%
Fotal Return Statistics	Average Sharpe Ratio Overall	0.24	0.26
Total	Min Daily Return	-3.93%	-3.86%
	Max Daily Return	2.13%	1.96%

## Total return comparison between BBG USD EM Sov and JPM EMBIG Core Indices

- Bloomberg USD EM Sovereign debt index and JP Morgan EMBIG Core Index correlate strongly, including in market distressed scenarios
- The daily returns since 2020 show that the two indices have a correlation rate close to 100% throughout the major distress times experienced over the past 3 years
- The Annual Average Return difference between the two indices is roughly -5bps



	Jan 2020 to Jul 2024	Bloomberg USD EM Index	JPM JPEICORE Index
tics	Annualized Average Returns (%)	-0.59%	-0.57%
n Statis	Annualized Average STD (%)	9.72%	10.44%
Fotal Return Statistics	Average Sharpe Ratio Overall	-0.20	-0.18
Total	Min Daily Return	-4.79%	-5.45%
	Max Daily Return	3.19%	4.05%

## Total return comparison between BBG GBP Corporate and IBXXGLAT Indices

- Bloomberg GBP Corporate debt index and IBXXGLAT Index correlates strongly, including in market distressed scenarios
- The daily returns since 2020 show that the two indices have a correlation rate close to 100% throughout the major distress times experienced over the past 3 years



	Jan 2020 to Jul 2024	Bloomberg GBP Corp Index	IBXXGLAT Index
stics	Annualized Average Returns (%)	-1.08%	-1.33%
n Statis	Annualized Average STD (%)	9.11%	9.10%
Total Return Statistics	Average Sharpe Ratio Overall	-0.27	-0.29
Total	Min Daily Return	-3.71%	-3.05%
	Max Daily Return	2.81%	3.90%

## Total return comparison between BBG USD IG and IBOXIG Indices

- o Bloomberg USD IG debt index and IBOXIG Index correlates strongly even in times of great losses
- Running correlations are usually upwards of 99%, staying stable during times of great stress, such as the 2020 crash



	Jan 2018 to Jul 2024	Bloomberg USD IG Index	IBOXIG Index
stics	Annualized Average Returns (%)	1.98%	1.95%
n Statis	Annualized Average STD (%)	7.75%	9.65%
Total Return Statistics	Average Sharpe Ratio Overall	0.15	0.11
Total	Min Daily Return	-3.85%	-5.03%
	Max Daily Return	2.22%	3.30%

## Total return comparison between BBG USD HY and IBOXHY Indices

- Total return comparison between the USD HY and IBOXHY indices shows that they correlate well even in times of great stress
- o Running correlations are usually upwards of **98%**, staying stable during times of great stress, like the 2020 crash.



	Jan 2018 to Jul 2024	Bloomberg USD HY Index	IBXXHY Index
Total Return Statistics	Annualized Average Returns (%)	4.00%	3.99%
	Annualized Average STD (%)	7.59%	9.05%
	Average Sharpe Ratio Overall	0.42	0.39
	Min Daily Return	-3.39%	-4.00%
	Max Daily Return	3.36%	3.91%

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