

SOFR So Good

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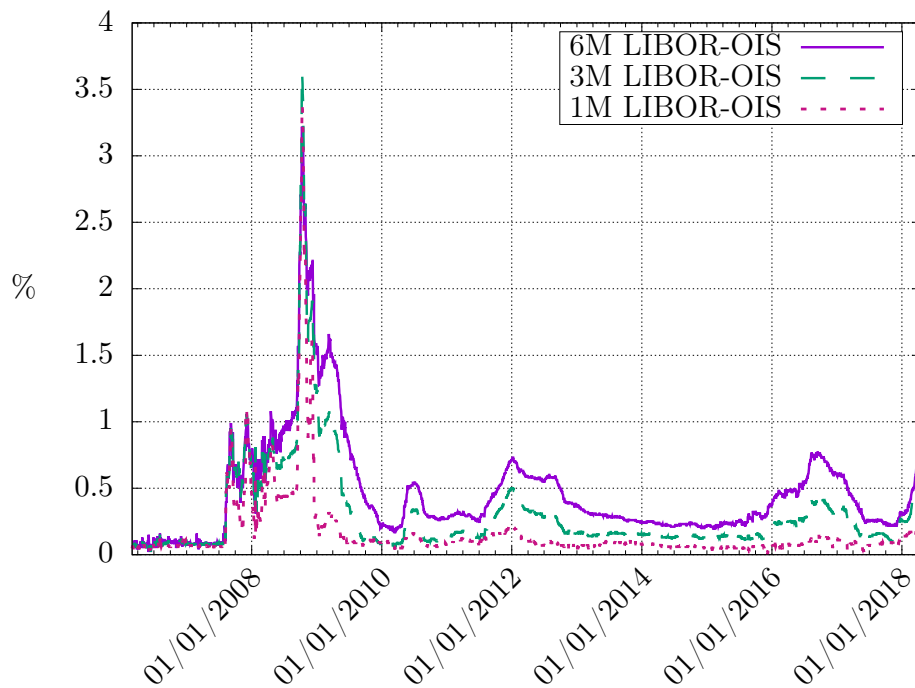
Idiós Libor!

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but...why?

Libor is not risk-free

LIBOR-OIS spread



Libor is not transaction-based

- Just before 11 a.m, the ICE Benchmark Administration (IBA) sends an email:

At what rate could you borrow funds, were you to do so by asking for and then accepting interbank offers in a reasonable market size just prior to 11 a.m. London time?

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Note:

- Libor is a bank's perception of its funding cost. It does not represent the actual funding cost.
- Libor can be easily manipulated.

It was indeed manipulated



Figure 1: “Done...for you big boy”

SOFR so good!

Farewell Libor. But, SOFR so good!

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Table 1: Reference Rates (Bloomberg, 2020)

Currency	IBOR	RFR
USD	Libor	SOFR
EUR	Libor/EURibor	€STR
GBP	Libor	SONIA
JPY	Libor/Tibor/Euroyen Tibor	TONA
HKD	Hibor	HONIA
CAD	CDOR	CORRA
AUD	BBSW	RBA Cash Rate
CHF	Libor	SARON

Err...what happen to existing contracts...?

Fallback calculation

All Libor-type rates should be replaced by its Fallback Rate (FR) as follows:

$$FR_t := ARR_t + SA_t \quad (1)$$

$$ARR_t \approx \prod_{u \in AP_t} (1 + \tau_u RFR_u) - 1 \quad (2)$$

$$SA_t \approx \text{Median}(\{L_u - ARR_u \mid u \in MP_t\}), \quad (3)$$

where RFR represents the risk-free rate, e.g., SOFR in the case of USD Libor. In (3), the Median Period (MP) is approximately 5 years. Once SA_t is set prior to the fixing date, it then is fixed, i.e., $SA_t = SA_{t-1}$. For the detail, you may want to refer to ISDA & Bloomberg (2020).

Concerned Products: FRN, IRS, CRS, Unfunded BtB, CMS note

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Therefore, some issues arise:

- booking OIS in MyNury
- curve change (swap curve to OIS curve)
- P&L impact

Overnight Index Swap (OIS)

Definition

OIS is a derivative that swaps the geometric sum of an overnight rate with a fixed interest rate.

Example

Let K be the fixed rate, $\{T_1, \dots, T_n\}$ be the payment date, $\{r_t\}_{t \geq 0}$ be the overnight rate. Then the cash-flow of the payer OIS at T_i becomes:

$$\left[\prod_{T_{i-1} \leq t_i < T_i} (1 + \tau_i r_{t_i}) - 1 \right] - K \quad (4)$$

Notice that OIS sets the floating amount in-arrears, while typical Libor-IRS sets that in advance.

Remark

- OIS curve is 10 ~ 20bp below the IRS curve. There should be an impact on P&L when the risk-free rate is converted to OIS curve.
- For now, the most liquid OIS in USD markets swaps with the *Effective Federal Funds Rate* (EFFR) not with SOFR.

Bloomberg. (2020). Ibor fallback rate adjustments. *Retreived from*
<https://data.bloomberglp.com/professional/sites/10/Frequently-Asked-Questions-on-IBOR-Fallback-Adjustments1.pdf>.

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