The Officials

The Benchmark Publication



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Market Summary

The Bigger Barf...Dubai

The Brent/Dubai is spiking, meaning Brent is up, and Dubai is down. Many people we know got caught in the B/D spread widening/massive underperforming of the Dubai leg. Rumors fly fast with questions like, what is Aramco doing? Vitol? How come PetroChina looks so worried? Yes, sources are talking about the traders in Singapore. We are trying to piece together why Dubai underperformed. PetroChina is on a bull play and picked up two additional sour cargoes from the Dubai window. But, as you go into the details, the sellers continue to be majors and Chinese refiners. We asked PetroChina if they got caught in the spread, and we will wait for their answer. As we look at the numbers, Dubai physical fell by a minor 9c more than Brent, but that was enough to send everyone into a frenzy. Note that the Brent/Dubai has widened from \$0.65/bbl to \$0.74/bbl in two days. (Figure 1) Murban is also being sold off as people are expecting OPEC members to release more crude come October.

As expected, WTI front spreads have dropped substantially, falling by over 50c since yesterday to \$1.12/bbl. The fall in flat price could be supportive for refiners. Cushing 321 cracks have started to reverse, gaining \$1.67/bbl since July 17. Continued strengthening of margins could offer some support to crude structures. Brent intermonth spreads will be the next to correct hard. It is almost as if markets are taking turns. Markets are busier than normal!

In India, Modi presented his annual budget with \$24 billion allocated to employment, upskilling workers, and defending small businesses and the middle class. The budget also details intentions, fiscal consolidation, and better debt controls, bringing the fiscal deficit to 4.9% of GDP for the current financial year and below 4.5% of GDP for next year. India's 10-year bond yield fell to the lowest since April 2022. Corporate tax on foreign companies has also been cut by 5% to 35%. Good. But capital gains taxes have been increased. Bad.

Markets were also abuzz with rumors regarding Biden's health as he has not been seen for several days, and he cancelled a meeting with Israel's leader. We hope he makes a swift recovery.

Summary				
Physical and Futures		23-Jul-24	1-Day Change	7-Day Change
Brent Sep (fut)	(\$/bbl)	82.690	-0.340	-1.430
WTI Sep (fut)	(\$/bbl)	78.620	-0.320	-1.460
Dubai Sep (phys)	(\$/bbl)	81.950	-0.430	-1.890
Crude Swaps Aug				
Brent	(\$/bbl)	81.660	-0.270	-1.510
DFL	(\$/bbl)	0.920	-0.180	-0.080
WTI	(\$/bbl)	78.230	-0.300	-1.500
Dubai	(\$/bbl)	80.890	-0.480	-2.000
Tenor		Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24
Crude Futures				
Brent (fut)	(\$/bbl)	82.690	81.690	80.910
WTI (fut)	(\$/bbl)	78.620	77.530	76.670



In detail

Trading activity remained high in the Asian window this morning after traders grappled with weakening structures in WTI and further moderation in flat price. And, of course, the strengthening in the Brent/Dubai curve.

September Brent and WTI continued to fall by over 30c each to \$82.69/bbl and \$78.62/bbl, respectively. Physical Dubai collapsed likewise to \$81.95/bbl. Physical premiums for September Dubai eased by 5c to \$1.66/bbl. PetroChina continued its buying frenzy in the window, with Exxon seen selling again more partials. But they are not the only ones; others are selling and converging. Two convergences were declared to PetroChina, one of Upper Zakum from P66 and another of Al-Shaheen from Hengli.

Deflation and an uninspiring manufacturing sector provide little hope for the macro-outlook in China. However, flights have shown a strong resurgence, offering hope amidst a gloomy oil demand picture. 7 day average miles flown including both domestic and international flights were 13.6% above their pre-covid, 2019 level as of July 21, according to data from Airportia. A disproportionately large number of these miles flown were domestic travel.

The CCP continues to develop its high-speed rail infrastructure, offering domestic travellers a more cost-effective substitute for domestic flights. In 2023, an additional 3000km of rail was added, and the CCP is aiming to expand the 45000 km network by a further 25000km before 2035. The expansion could offset some jet fuel demand in the long run. Planes are also getting increasingly efficient, requiring less kerosene per mile flown. Jet demand may have a limited future as the glimmer of hope for China's oil demand.

Two tropical storms are currently on track to hit China. Tropical cyclone Prapiroon is projected to make landfall near China's western border with Vietnam. Gaemi, the second system, has already led to flight cancellations in the Philippines and is on course to blast Taiwan. China has been facing increasingly severe flooding, with at least 26 fatalities across the country following severe flooding and a bridge collapse.

According to China's National Mine Safety Administration, the severe weather poses risks to coal mines and offshore oil platforms. Currently, neither system looks on track to hit major oil infrastructure.

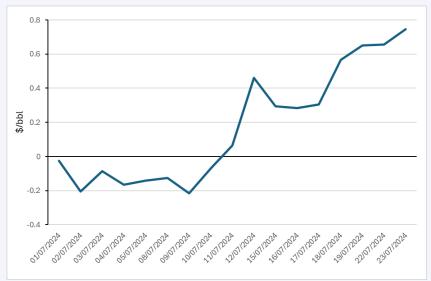


Figure 1: September Brent futures versus Dubai Physical, Onyx Flux and author's calculations

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Front Month Out	rignts			
August Swaps		23-Jul-24	1-Day Change	7-Day Change
Crude				
Brent	(\$/bbl)	81.660	-0.270	-1.510
WTI	(\$/bbl)	78.230	-0.300	-1.500
Dubai	(\$/bbl)	80.890	-0.480	-2.000
Distillates				
Gasoil 0.1 NWE	(\$/mt)	752.020	+4.160	-14.990
NWE Jet	(\$/mt)	801.520	+3.160	-17.660
Singapore 10ppm	(\$/bbl)	97.520	+0.460	-1.900
Sing Kero	(\$/bbl)	96.420	+0.500	-1.970
Gasoline				
RBOB	(c/gal)	242.560	+0.420	-1.810
EBOB	(\$/mt)	806.990	-1.080	-12.140
Singapore 92	(\$/bbl)	89.590	+0.160	-0.690
Singapore 95	(\$/bbl)	94.090	+0.160	-0.540
Naphtha				
US C5 ENT	(c/gal)	151.490	-0.320	-3.910
NWE Naphtha	(\$/mt)	664.830	+0.890	-6.500
MOPJ Naphtha	(\$/mt)	680.990	+1.550	-8.840
Fuel Oil				
3.5% barges	(\$/mt)	460.760	+1.340	-15.490
Singapore 380	(\$/mt)	480.510	+3.340	-14.740
Singapore 180	(\$/mt)	486.880	+3.210	-14.870
0.5% barges	(\$/mt)	544.000	-0.700	-7.370
Singapore 0.5%	(\$/mt)	585.090	+0.700	-7.870
NGLs				
US Propane LST	(c/gal)	78.279	-0.040	-1.848
NWE Propane	(\$/mt)	562.830	+0.790	-2.630
Saudi Propane CP	(\$/mt)	581.830	+1.790	-1.130
Asian Propane FEI	(\$/mt)	631.250	+5.210	-1.210
US Butane ENT	(c/gal)	97.140	+0.200	+0.130
Saudi Butane CP	(\$/mt)	572.750	+2.710	+4.790



Long Tenor S	Swaps	s						
	•	Balmo	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Q4-24	Q1-25
Crude		2420		SOP 21	000 = 1	1.07 21	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Brent	(\$/bbl)	82.560	81.660	80.890	80.320	79.830	79.850	78.703
WTI	(\$/bbl)		78.230	77.280	76.450	75.790	75.817	74.310
Dubai	(\$/bbl)		80.890	80.290	79.690	79.150	79.167	77.987
Distillates	(7/001)	01.740	00.030	00.230	73.030	73.130	73.107	77.507
Gasoil 0.1 NWE	(\$/mt)	751 000	752 020	753.430	751 220	746 830	747 407	730 030
NWE Jet	(\$/mt)		801.520		803.390			
Singapore 10ppm	(\$/bbl)		97.520	97.640	97.510	97.120	97.133	96.510
Sing Kero	(\$/bbl)	96.220	96.420	96.670	96.740	96.540	96.547	96.037
Gasoline	(4/201)	30.220	50.420	50.070	30.740	70.340	50.547	50.037
RBOB	(246 500	242 560	223.440	217 440	212 260	214 152	210 520
EBOB			806.990		748.990		731.073	
	(\$/mt) (\$/bbl)		89.590	88.270	87.130	86.230	86.347	85.233
Singapore 92			94.090		91.430	90.430	90.480	88.833
Singapore 95	(\$/bbl)	95.290	94.090	92.720	91.430	90.430	90.460	00.033
Naphtha	(= / = = 1)	150 610	151 400	150 110	150 610	150 720	150 600	151 000
US C5 ENT				152.110				
NWE Naphtha	(\$/mt)			655.830				
MOP-Japan Naphtha	(\$/Mt)	686.990	680.990	673.490	667.740	662.240	662.323	646.573
Fuel Oil	(*							
3.5% barges	(\$/mt)			454.760				
Singapore 380	(\$/mt)			468.010				
Singapore 180	(\$/mt)			475.880				
0.5% barges	(\$/mt)			537.000				
Singapore 0.5%	(\$/mt)	591.090	585.090	578.340	572.340	567.090	567.257	554.090
NGLs								
=	_	77.399			80.279			79.196
-				558.830				
				583.330				
Asian Propane FEI								
US Butane ENT		96.640	97.140		98.020	98.400	98.190	95.320
Saudi Butane CP	(\$/mt)	572.750	572.750	579.250	588.250	595.750	594.750	585.417



Front Month S	preads			
Aug/Sep		23-Jul-24	1-Day Change	7-Day Change
Crude				
Brent	(\$/bbl)	0.770	-0.040	+0.020
WTI	(\$/bbl)	0.950	-0.020	+0.080
Dubai	(\$/bbl)	0.600	-0.100	-0.150
Distillates				
Gasoil 0.1 NWE	(\$/mt)	-1.410	+0.470	-0.710
NWE Jet	(\$/mt)	-1.410	+0.470	+0.220
Singapore 10ppm	(\$/bbl)	-0.120	+0.020	-0.050
Sing Kero	(\$/bbl)	-0.250	+0.010	-0.020
Gasoline				
RBOB	(c/gal)	19.120	+0.080	+0.540
EBOB	(\$/mt)	13.250	+0.250	+0.250
Singapore 92	(\$/bbl)	1.320	+0.050	+0.170
Singapore 95	(\$/bbl)	1.370	+0.050	+0.120
Naphtha				
US C5 ENT	(c/gal)	-0.620	+0.000	-0.120
NWE Naphtha	(\$/mt)	9.000	+0.250	+1.250
MOP-Japan Naphtha	(\$/mt)	7.500	+0.500	-0.500
Fuel Oil				
3.5% barges	(\$/mt)	6.000	+0.500	-2.500
Singapore 380	(\$/mt)	12.500	+1.500	-3.000
Singapore 180	(\$/mt)	11.000	+1.500	-3.250
0.5% barges	(\$/mt)	7.000	+0.250	+1.500
Singapore 0.5%	(\$/mt)	6.750	+0.750	+0.500
NGLs				
US Propane LST	(c/gal)	-0.880	+0.000	+0.000
NWE Propane	(\$/mt)	4.000	-0.500	+0.000
Saudi Propane CP	(\$/mt)	-1.500	+0.000	+1.500
Asian Propane FEI	(\$/mt)	0.500	+1.000	+2.000
US Butane ENT	(c/gal)	-0.500	+0.000	+0.000
Saudi Butane CP	(\$/mt)	-6.500	+0.000	+4.500



Front Month Cracks and Diffs			
August	23-Jul-24	1-Day Change	7-Day Chang
Crude			
Brent/Dubai (\$/bbl)	0.770	+0.220	+0.48
WTI/Brent (\$/bbl)	-3.430	-0.040	+0.01
Distillates			
Gasoil 0.1 NWE crack (\$/bbl)	19.280	+0.830	-0.52
NWE Jet crack (\$/bbl)	20.060	+0.670	-0.72
NWE Jet Diff (\$/mt)	49.500	-1.000	-2.50
Gasoil E/W (\$/bbl)	-25.500	-0.750	+1.00
Regrade (Sing Kero vs Sing 10ppm) (\$/bbl)	-1.100	+0.040	-0.0
Gasoline			
TA Arb (RBOB vs EBOB) (c/gal)	11.900	+0.700	+1.65
EBOB crack (\$/mt)	15.230	+0.150	+0.08
Singapore 92 crack (\$/bbl)	7.930	+0.430	+0.83
Gasoline E/W (Sing 92 vs EBOB) (\$/bbl)	-7.290	+0.290	+0.76
European Gasnaph (EBOB vs Naphtha) (\$/mt)	142.070	-1.920	-5.73
Asian Gasnaph (Sing 92 vs MOPJ) (\$/mt)	65.110	-0.220	+2.91
Naphtha			
US C5 ENT vs WTI Crack	-14.610	+0.160	-0.16
NWE Naphtha Crack (\$/bbl)	-6.950	+0.370	+0.80
MOPJ Naphtha Crack (\$/bbl)	-5.120	+0.460	+0.55
Naphtha E/W (NWE vs MOPJ) (\$/mt)	16.250	+0.750	-2.25
Fuel Oil			
3.5% barges crack (\$/bbl)	-9.080	+0.490	-0.90
Singapore 380 crack (\$/bbl)	-5.970		
Singapore 180 crack (\$/bbl)	-4.950		
Visco (180-380) (\$/mt)	6.500		+0.00
HSFO E/W (380 vs 3.5% barges) (\$/mt)	19.750	+2.000	
0.5% barges crack (\$/bbl)	4.050	+0.200	+0.40
Singapore 0.5% crack (\$/bbl)	10.500	+0.400	+0.30
VLSFO E/W (Sing 0.5% vs 0.5% barges) (\$/mt)	40.960	+1.270	-0.63
European Hi5 (0.5% barges vs 3.5% barges) (\$/mt)	83.380	-1.840	+8.26
Asian Hi5 (Sing 0.5% vs 380) (\$/mt)	104.580	-2.570	+6.8
0.5% barges/gasoil (\$/mt)	-207.800	-4.640	+7.6
Sing 0.5% vs Sing 10ppm (\$/mt)	-141.190	-2.420	+6.16
NGLs			
US Propane LST vs NWE Propane (\$/mt)	-155.000	-1.000	-7.00
US Propane LST vs Asian Propane FEI (\$/mt)	-223.500		
Asian Propane FEI vs NWE Propane (\$/mt)	68.500		
Asian Propane FEI vs Saudi Propane CP (\$/mt)	49.500		
European Pronap (NWE Propane vs NWE Naphtha) (\$/mt)	-101.810		
Asian Pronap (FEI vs MOPJ) (\$/mt)	-99.020		



Long Tenor Cracks / Diffs							
	Balmo	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Q4-24	Q1-25
Crude	Darmo	nag 24	Sep 24	000 24	NOV 24	Ž1 21	Q1 23
Brent/Dubai (\$/bbl)	0.820	0.770	0.600	0.630	0.690	0.687	0.71
WTI/Brent (\$/bbl)	-3.940	-3.430		-3.870			
Distillates	0.010	0.100	0.020	0.0.0			
Gasoil 0.1 NWE crack (\$/bbl)	18.25	19.28	20.24	20.51	20.41	20.47	20.6
NWE Jet crack (\$/bbl)	19.60	20.06		21.61			
NWE Jet Diff (\$/mt)	54.00	49.50					57.5
Gasoil E/W (\$/bbl)	-25.97			-24.76			
Regrade (Sing Kero vs Sing 10ppm) (\$/bbl)		-1.10					-0.4
Gasoline			0.0.	••••	0.00	0.00	
TA Arb (RBOB vs EBOB)(c/gal)	15.060	11.900	-3.440	3.340	4.970	5.177	14.80
EBOB crack (\$/mt)	14.700	15.230		9.590			
Singapore 92 crack (\$/bbl)	8.230	7.930		6.810			
Gasoline E/W (Sing 92 vs EBOB) (\$/bbl)	-6.450	-7.290		-2.780			
European Gasnaph (EBOB vs Naphtha) (\$/mt)		142.070		97.570			
Asian Gasnaph (Sing 92 vs MOPJ) (\$/mt)	69.110	65.110		57.870	55.880	56.763	63.24
Naphtha		551225	021020	011010	00.000		00121
US C5 ENT vs WTI Crack	-15.380	-14.610	-13.390	-12.360	-11.640	-11.687	-10.480
NWE Naphtha Crack (\$/bbl)	-6.330	-6.950		-7.130			
MOPJ Naphtha Crack (\$/bb1)	-5.360			-5.280			
Naphtha E/W (NWE vs MOPJ) (\$/mt)	8.750	16.250		16.500			
Fuel Oil							
3.5% bgs crack (\$/bbl)	-9.430	-9.080	-9.260	-10.160	-10.730	-10.607	-10.68
Singapore 380 crack (\$/bb1)	-5.960	-5.970					
Singapore 180 crack (\$/bb1)	-5.150	-4.950		-6.930			
Visco (180-380) (\$/mt)	5.250	6.500		10.000			
HSFO E/W (380 vs 3.5% bgs) (\$/mt)	22.000	19.750		10.500			
0.5% bgs crack (\$/bbl)	3.700	4.050		3.340			
Singapore 0.5% crack (\$/bbl)	10.540	10.500					
VLSFO E/W (Sing 0.5% vs 0.5% bgs) (\$/mt)		40.960		41.210			
European Hi5 (0.5% bgs vs 3.5% bgs) (\$/mt		83.380		85.630			
Asian Hi5 (Sing 0.5% vs 380) (\$/mt)	104.830			116.330			
0.5% bgs/gasoil (\$/mt)				-220.190			
Sing 0.5% vs Sing 10ppm (\$/mt)				-154.240			
NGLs							
US Propane LST vs NWE Propane (\$/mt)	-165.09	-155	-146.42	-137.58	-133.35	-134.803	-121.89
US Propane LST vs Asian Propane FEI (\$/mt		-223.5		-215.83		-214.887	
Asian Propane FEI vs NWE Propane (\$/mt)	67	68.5	72	78.25			76.16
Asian Propane FEI vs Saudi Propane CP (\$/		49.5		42.75			2
European Pronap (\$/mt)	-109.81	-101.81		-95.31			-97.72
Asian Pronap (FEI vs MOPJ) (\$/mt)	-105.02	-99.02		-76.27			-57.7



Inter-month Crack Spreads			
Aug/Sep	23-Jul-24	1-Day Change	7-Day Change
Crude			
Brent/Dubai (\$/bbl)	0.170	+0.060	+0.150
WTI/Brent (\$/bbl)	0.180	+0.010	+0.060
Distillates			
Gasoil 0.1 NWE crack (\$/bbl)	-0.960	+0.110	-0.120
NWE Jet crack (\$/bbl)	-0.940		+0.030
NWE Jet Diff (\$/mt)	0.000		+1.000
Gasoil E/W (\$/bbl)	0.510		+0.400
Regrade (Sing Kero vs Sing 10ppm) (\$/bbl)	-0.130	-0.010	+0.030
Gasoline			
TA Arb (RBOB vs EBOB) (c/gal)	15.340	+0.010	+0.490
EBOB crack (\$/mt)	0.830	+0.060	+0.030
Singapore 92 crack (\$/bbl)	0.550	+0.080	+0.160
Gasoline E/W (Sing 92 vs EBOB) (\$/bbl)	-0.270	+0.020	+0.140
European Gasnaph (EBOB vs Naphtha) (\$/mt)	4.250	+0.000	-1.000
Asian Gasnaph (Sing 92 vs MOPJ) (\$/mt)	3.490	-0.090	+1.910
Naphtha			
US C5 ENT vs WTI Crack	-1.220	+0.010	-0.120
NWE Naphtha Crack (\$/bbl)	0.230	+0.060	+0.120
MOPJ Naphtha Crack (\$/bbl)	0.080	+0.110	-0.050
Naphtha E/W (NWE vs MOPJ) (\$/mt)	-1.500	+0.250	-1.750
Fuel Oil			
3.5% barges crack (\$/bbl)	0.180	+0.120	-0.390
Singapore 380 crack (\$/bbl)	1.210	+0.290	-0.460
Singapore 180 crack (\$/bbl)	0.970	+0.290	-0.510
Visco (180-380) (\$/mt)	-1.500	+0.000	-0.250
HSFO E/W (380 vs 3.5% barges) (\$/mt)	6.500	+1.000	-0.500
0.5% barges crack (\$/bbl)	0.330	+0.070	+0.230
Singapore 0.5% crack (\$/bbl)	0.300	+0.160	+0.090
VLSFO E/W (Sing 0.5% vs 0.5% barges) (\$/mt)	-0.250	+0.500	-1.000
European Hi5 (0.5% barges vs 3.5% barges) (\$/mt)	1.000	-0.250	+4.000
Asian Hi5 (Sing 0.5% vs 380) (\$/mt)	-5.750	-0.750	+3.500
0.5% barges/gasoil (\$/mt)	8.250	-0.690	+1.970
Sing 0.5% vs Sing 10ppm (\$/mt)	7.650	+0.610	+0.880
NGLs			
US Propane LST vs NWE Propane (\$/mt)	-8.580	+0.510	+0.010
US Propane LST vs Asian Propane FEI (\$/mt)	-5.080	-0.990	-1.990
Asian Propane FEI vs NWE Propane (\$/mt)	-3.500	+1.500	+2.000
Asian Propane FEI vs Saudi Propane CP (\$/mt)	2.000	+1.000	+0.500
European Pronap (NWE Propane vs NWE Naphtha) (\$/mt)	-5.000	-0.750	-1.250