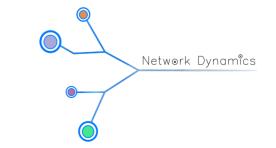


Contagion in Financial Networks

Leonardo Massai, Fabio Fagnani, Giacomo Como

leonardo.massai@polito.it

Department of Mathematical Sciences (DISMA), Politecnico di Torino





Outline

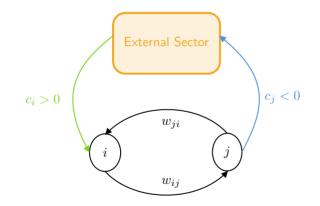


- The Financial Network Model
 - Introduction
- Uniqueness of Clearing Vectors
 - Existence and Uniqueness
 - The Out-Connected Case
 - The Stochastic Irreducible Case
 - The General Case

• Critical Transitions

- The Dependence of Clearing Vectors on the Shock
- Jump Discontinuity
- Results and Ongoing Research



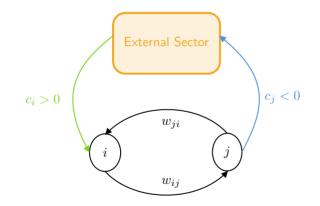


- w_{ij} inter-bank liability;
- $c_i > 0$ positive money inflow;
- $c_j < 0$ outside debt.

Everything is fine

In normal conditions, every bank i can meet its total liability: $w_i = \sum_j w_{ij}.$

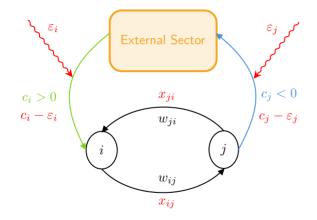




- w_{ij} inter-bank liability;
- $c_i > 0$ positive money inflow;
- $c_j < 0$ outside debt.

Everything is fine

In normal conditions, every bank i can meet its total liability: $w_i = \sum_j w_{ij}.$





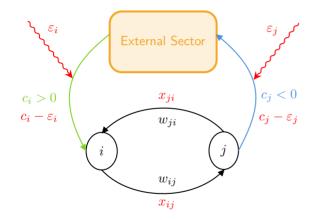
- Shocks ε hit the network by reducing c;
- Nodes may default and not be able to pay their liabilities (direct effect);
- Shocks propagate across the network because of reduced payments (indirect effect).

Clearing Vectors

x is a set of consistent payments after the shock:

$$x = \mathcal{S}_0^w (P'x + c - \varepsilon)$$

where $(P)_{ij} = \frac{w_{ij}}{w_i}$ and \mathcal{S}_0^w is a saturation:





• Shocks ε hit the network by reducing c;

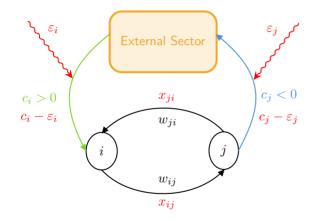
- Nodes may default and not be able to pay their liabilities (direct effect);
- Shocks propagate across the network because of reduced payments (indirect effect).

Clearing Vectors

x is a set of consistent payments after the shock:

$$x = \mathcal{S}_0^w (P'x + c - \varepsilon)$$

where $(P)_{ij} = \frac{w_{ij}}{w_i}$ and \mathcal{S}_0^w is a saturation: $\begin{array}{c} S_0^w \\ w \end{array}$





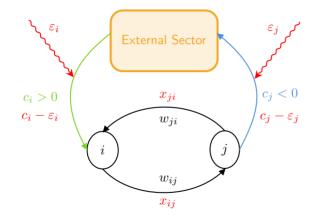
- Shocks ε hit the network by reducing c;
- Nodes may default and not be able to pay their liabilities (direct effect);
- Shocks propagate across the network because of reduced payments (indirect effect).

Clearing Vectors

x is a set of consistent payments after the shock:

$$x = \mathcal{S}_0^w (P'x + c - \varepsilon)$$

where $(P)_{ij} = \frac{w_{ij}}{w_i}$ and \mathcal{S}_0^w is a saturation:





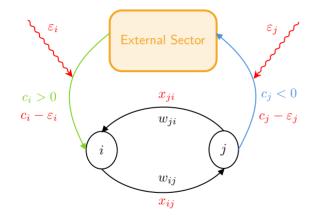
- Shocks ε hit the network by reducing c;
- Nodes may default and not be able to pay their liabilities (direct effect);
- Shocks propagate across the network because of reduced payments (indirect effect).

Clearing Vectors

x is a set of consistent payments after the shock:

$$x = \mathcal{S}_0^w (P'x + c - \varepsilon)$$

where $(P)_{ij} = \frac{w_{ij}}{w_i}$ and S_0^w is a saturation:





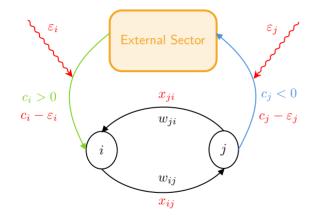
- Shocks ε hit the network by reducing c;
- Nodes may default and not be able to pay their liabilities (direct effect);
- Shocks propagate across the network because of reduced payments (indirect effect).

Clearing Vectors

 \boldsymbol{x} is a set of consistent payments after the shock:

$$x = \mathcal{S}_0^w (P'x + c - \varepsilon)$$

where $(P)_{ij} = \frac{w_{ij}}{w_i}$ and S_0^w is a saturation: S_0^w w \vdots 0 w





- Shocks ε hit the network by reducing c;
- Nodes may default and not be able to pay their liabilities (direct effect);
- Shocks propagate across the network because of reduced payments (indirect effect).

Clearing Vectors

 \boldsymbol{x} is a set of consistent payments after the shock:

$$x = \mathcal{S}_0^w (P'x + c - \varepsilon)$$

where $(P)_{ij} = \frac{w_{ij}}{w_i}$ and S_0^w is a saturation: $\begin{array}{c} S_0^w \\ w \\ \hline \\ 0 \\ w \end{array}$



- Existence of clearing vectors follows from Brower fixed point Theorem.
- One can prove that it always exist a maximal and a minimal solution \bar{x} and \underline{x} respectively.

In general however the solution will not be unique:

Example

Consider the network consisting of two nodes only depicted below with $P = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$, $w = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ and $c = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$.



It is immediate to check that any vector of the form $x = \begin{bmatrix} t \\ t \end{bmatrix}, t \in [0,1]$ is a clearing vector.



- Existence of clearing vectors follows from Brower fixed point Theorem.
- One can prove that it always exist a maximal and a minimal solution \bar{x} and \underline{x} respectively.

In general however the solution will not be unique:

Example

Consider the network consisting of two nodes only depicted below with $P = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$, $w = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ and $c = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$.

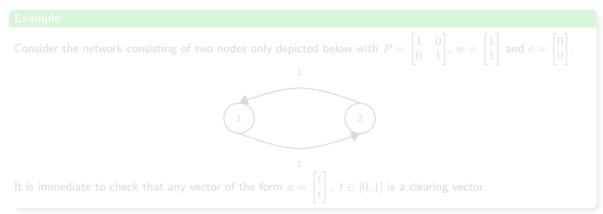


It is immediate to check that any vector of the form $x = \begin{bmatrix} t \\ t \end{bmatrix}$, $t \in [0,1]$ is a clearing vector.



- Existence of clearing vectors follows from Brower fixed point Theorem.
- One can prove that it always exist a maximal and a minimal solution \bar{x} and \underline{x} respectively.

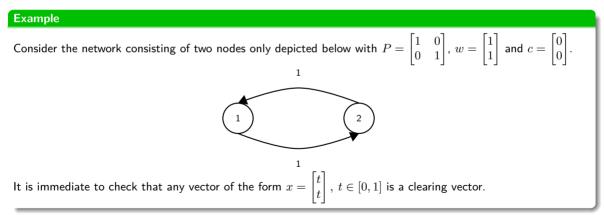
In general however the solution will not be unique:





- Existence of clearing vectors follows from Brower fixed point Theorem.
- One can prove that it always exist a maximal and a minimal solution \bar{x} and \underline{x} respectively.

In general however the solution will not be unique:





Let P be an out-connected matrix, then the clearing vector is unique.

- We can partition any graph in a transient part T and trapping sets U. I.e. $\mathcal{V} = T \cup (\cup_k \mathcal{U}_k)$;
- $P_{\mathcal{T}}$ is out-connected \implies the solution $x_{\mathcal{T}}$ is unique.





Let P be an out-connected matrix, then the clearing vector is unique.

• We can partition any graph in a transient part T and trapping sets U. I.e. $V = T \cup (\cup_k U_k)$;

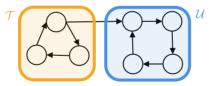
• $P_{\mathcal{T}}$ is out-connected \implies the solution $x_{\mathcal{T}}$ is unique.





Let P be an out-connected matrix, then the clearing vector is unique.

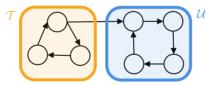
- We can partition any graph in a transient part T and trapping sets U. I.e. $V = T \cup (\cup_k U_k)$;
- $P_{\mathcal{T}}$ is out-connected \implies the solution $x_{\mathcal{T}}$ is unique.





Let P be an out-connected matrix, then the clearing vector is unique.

- We can partition any graph in a transient part T and trapping sets U. I.e. $V = T \cup (\cup_k U_k)$;
- $P_{\mathcal{T}}$ is out-connected \implies the solution $x_{\mathcal{T}}$ is unique.

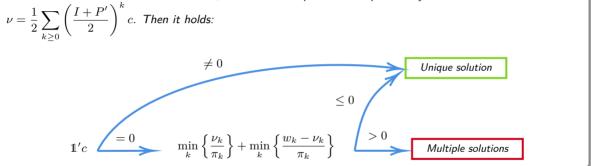


Uniqueness of Clearing Vectors The Stochastic Irreducible Case



Theorem (Uniqueness for the stochastic irreducible case)

Let P be an irreducible stochastic matrix; let π be its unique invariant probability measure and



• In case we have multiple solutions, we have that:

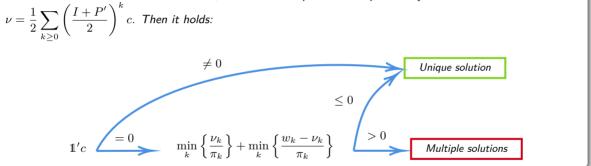
$$\mathcal{X} = \left\{ x = \nu + \alpha \pi : -\min_{k} \left\{ \frac{\nu_k}{\pi_k} \right\} \le \alpha \le \min_{k} \left\{ \frac{w_k - \nu_k}{\pi_k} \right\} \right\}$$

Uniqueness of Clearing Vectors The Stochastic Irreducible Case



Theorem (Uniqueness for the stochastic irreducible case)

Let P be an irreducible stochastic matrix; let π be its unique invariant probability measure and



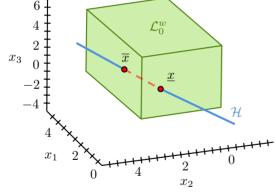
• In case we have multiple solutions, we have that:

$$\mathcal{X} = \left\{ x = \nu + \alpha \pi \ : \ -\min_k \left\{ \frac{\nu_k}{\pi_k} \right\} \le \alpha \le \min_k \left\{ \frac{w_k - \nu_k}{\pi_k} \right\} \right\}$$

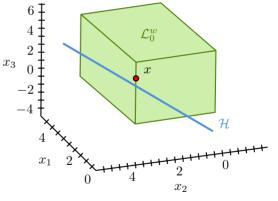
Uniqueness of Clearing Vectors A geometrical Interpretation



When 1'c = 0, we have multiple solutions when the line $\mathcal{H} = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : x = \nu + \alpha \pi\}$ intersects non trivially the lattice \mathcal{L}_0^w .



(a) Multiple solutions (the red dots and segment). $\min_{k} \left\{ \frac{\nu_k}{\pi_k} \right\} + \min_{k} \left\{ \frac{w_k - \nu_k}{\pi_k} \right\} > 0$



(b) Unique solution (the red dot). $\min_{k} \left\{ \frac{\nu_{k}}{\pi_{k}} \right\} + \min_{k} \left\{ \frac{w_{k} - \nu_{k}}{\pi_{k}} \right\} \leq 0$

Uniqueness of Clearing Vectors The General Case



The Out-Connected Case Unique solution. External Sector

The Stochastic-Irreducible Case

Uniqueness depends on *c*, i.e. on what is coming from and going to the external environment.



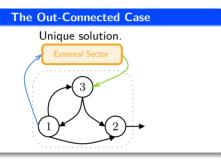
The General Case



- $x_{\mathcal{T}}$ is unique;
- For every trapping set \mathcal{U} , we use the Theorem;
- To do so, we also need to consider the input coming from T: $h_{\mathcal{U}} := c_{\mathcal{U}} + P_{\mathcal{U}T}x_{\mathcal{T}}$

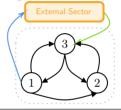
Uniqueness of Clearing Vectors The General Case





The Stochastic-Irreducible Case

Uniqueness depends on c, i.e. on what is coming from and going to the external environment.



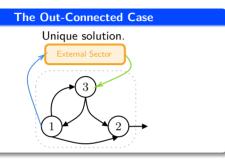
The General Case



- $x_{\mathcal{T}}$ is unique;
- For every trapping set \mathcal{U} , we use the Theorem;
- To do so, we also need to consider the input coming from T: $h_{\mathcal{U}} := c_{\mathcal{U}} + P_{\mathcal{U}T}x_{\mathcal{T}}$

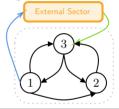
Uniqueness of Clearing Vectors The General Case



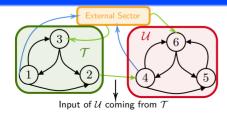


The Stochastic-Irreducible Case

Uniqueness depends on c, i.e. on what is coming from and going to the external environment.



The General Case



g

• $x_{\mathcal{T}}$ is unique;

- For every trapping set U, we use the Theorem;
- To do so, we also need to consider the input coming from \mathcal{T} : $h_{\mathcal{U}} := c_{\mathcal{U}} + P_{\mathcal{UT}}x_{\mathcal{T}}$

Critical Transitions The Dependence of Clearing Vectors on the Shock



Dependence of \boldsymbol{x} on \boldsymbol{c}

- The uniqueness ultimately depends on the input \setminus output vector c.
- There exists a set of critical vectors c^* such that we have multiple solutions, namely: $\mathcal{M} = \left\{ c \in \mathbb{R}^n : \ \mathbb{1}'c = 0, \ \min_k \left\{ \frac{\nu_k}{\pi_k} \right\} + \min_k \left\{ \frac{w_k - \nu_k}{\pi_k} \right\} > 0 \right\}$

What happens to the solutions when c approaches a critical $c^* \in \mathcal{M}$?

Let $\mathcal{A} = \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \mathcal{M}$ be the set where the solution is unique. Then:

- The map $c \mapsto x(c)$ is continuous on \mathcal{A} .
- One can prove that for every $c^* \in \mathcal{M}$,

$$\liminf_{\substack{c \in \mathcal{A} \\ c \to c^*}} x(c) = \underline{x}(c^*) , \qquad \limsup_{\substack{c \in \mathcal{A} \\ c \to c^*}} x(c) = \overline{x}(c^*) .$$

• This means that the clearing vector undergoes a jump discontinuity at c^* .

Critical Transitions The Dependence of Clearing Vectors on the Shock



Dependence of \boldsymbol{x} on \boldsymbol{c}

- The uniqueness ultimately depends on the input \setminus output vector c.
- There exists a set of critical vectors c^* such that we have multiple solutions, namely: $\mathcal{M} = \left\{ c \in \mathbb{R}^n : \mathbb{1}'c = 0, \min_k \left\{ \frac{\nu_k}{\pi_k} \right\} + \min_k \left\{ \frac{w_k - \nu_k}{\pi_k} \right\} > 0 \right\}$

What happens to the solutions when c approaches a critical $c^* \in \mathcal{M}$?

Let $\mathcal{A} = \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \mathcal{M}$ be the set where the solution is unique. Then:

- The map $c \mapsto x(c)$ is continuous on \mathcal{A} .
- One can prove that for every $c^* \in \mathcal{M}$,

$$\liminf_{\substack{c \in \mathcal{A} \\ c \to c^*}} x(c) = \underline{x}(c^*) , \qquad \limsup_{\substack{c \in \mathcal{A} \\ c \to c^*}} x(c) = \overline{x}(c^*) .$$

• This means that the clearing vector undergoes a jump discontinuity at c^* .



Jump discontinuity as a financial breakdown

A jump discontinuity means that even a slight change in the asset/shock value c may lead to a catastrophic aggregated loss and to sudden defaults of several nodes.

Loss function • Consider shock ε that lowers the value of the external asset from c to $c - \varepsilon$;

• Loss function is: $l = \mathbb{1}'(\varepsilon + w - x)$

Jump size of the loss function at $c^* \in \mathcal{M}$

$$\Delta l(c^*) = \liminf_{\substack{c \in \mathcal{A} \\ c \to c^*}} l(c) - \limsup_{\substack{c \in \mathcal{A} \\ c \to c^*}} l(c) = \mathbb{1}' \left(\bar{x}(c^*) - \underline{x}(c^*) \right) = \min_k \left\{ \frac{\nu_k}{\pi_k} \right\} + \min_k \left\{ \frac{w_k - \nu_k}{\pi_k} \right\}$$

$$\max_{c \in \mathbb{R}^n} ||\bar{x}(c) - \underline{x}(c)||_p^p = \left(\min_k \frac{w_k}{\pi_k}\right)^p ||\pi||^p$$



Jump discontinuity as a financial breakdown

A jump discontinuity means that even a slight change in the asset/shock value c may lead to a catastrophic aggregated loss and to sudden defaults of several nodes.

Loss function

- Consider shock ε that lowers the value of the external asset from c to $c \varepsilon$;
- Loss function is: $l = 1'(\varepsilon + w x)$

Jump size of the loss function at $c^* \in \mathcal{M}$

$$\Delta l(c^*) = \liminf_{\substack{c \in \mathcal{A} \\ c \to c^*}} l(c) - \limsup_{\substack{c \in \mathcal{A} \\ c \to c^*}} l(c) = \mathbb{1}' \left(\bar{x}(c^*) - \underline{x}(c^*) \right) = \min_k \left\{ \frac{\nu_k}{\pi_k} \right\} + \min_k \left\{ \frac{w_k - \nu_k}{\pi_k} \right\}$$

$$\max_{c \in \mathbb{R}^n} ||\bar{x}(c) - \underline{x}(c)||_p^p = \left(\min_k \frac{w_k}{\pi_k}\right)^p ||\pi||^p$$



Jump discontinuity as a financial breakdown

A jump discontinuity means that even a slight change in the asset/shock value c may lead to a catastrophic aggregated loss and to sudden defaults of several nodes.

Loss function

- Consider shock ε that lowers the value of the external asset from c to $c \varepsilon$;
- Loss function is: $l = 1'(\varepsilon + w x)$

Jump size of the loss function at $c^* \in \mathcal{M}$

$$\Delta l(c^*) = \liminf_{\substack{c \in \mathcal{A} \\ c \to c^*}} l(c) - \limsup_{\substack{c \in \mathcal{A} \\ c \to c^*}} l(c) = \mathbb{1}' \left(\bar{x}(c^*) - \underline{x}(c^*) \right) = \min_k \left\{ \frac{\nu_k}{\pi_k} \right\} + \min_k \left\{ \frac{w_k - \nu_k}{\pi_k} \right\}$$

$$\max_{c \in \mathbb{R}^n} ||\bar{x}(c) - \underline{x}(c)||_p^p = \left(\min_k \frac{w_k}{\pi_k}\right)^p ||\pi||^p$$



Jump discontinuity as a financial breakdown

A jump discontinuity means that even a slight change in the asset/shock value c may lead to a catastrophic aggregated loss and to sudden defaults of several nodes.

Loss function

- Consider shock ε that lowers the value of the external asset from c to $c \varepsilon$;
- Loss function is: $l = 1'(\varepsilon + w x)$

Jump size of the loss function at $c^* \in \mathcal{M}$

$$\Delta l(c^*) = \liminf_{\substack{c \in \mathcal{A} \\ c \to c^*}} l(c) - \limsup_{\substack{c \in \mathcal{A} \\ c \to c^*}} l(c) = \mathbb{1}' \left(\bar{x}(c^*) - \underline{x}(c^*) \right) = \min_k \left\{ \frac{\nu_k}{\pi_k} \right\} + \min_k \left\{ \frac{w_k - \nu_k}{\pi_k} \right\}$$

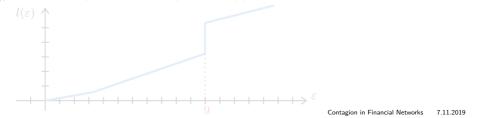
$$\max_{c \in \mathbb{R}^n} ||\bar{x}(c) - \underline{x}(c)||_p^p = \left(\min_k \frac{w_k}{\pi_k}\right)^p ||\pi||^p$$



Example

Consider the network below with $P = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0.75 & 0.25 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0.3 & 0.7 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ and $w = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$.

Consider an initial asset c = [5, 2, 2]' and a total shock magnitude $\varepsilon \in [0, 12]$ that hits all nodes uniformly, i.e. $c(\varepsilon) = c - \varepsilon [\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}]'$. We expect a jump discontinuity when $\mathbb{1}'c(\varepsilon) = 0 \implies \varepsilon = 9$.





Example

Consider the network below with $P = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0.75 & 0.25 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0.3 & 0.7 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ and $w = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$.

Consider an initial asset c = [5, 2, 2]' and a total shock magnitude $\varepsilon \in [0, 12]$ that hits all nodes uniformly, i.e. $c(\varepsilon) = c - \varepsilon [\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}]'$. We expect a jump discontinuity when $\mathbb{1}'c(\varepsilon) = 0 \implies \varepsilon = 9$.

$$l(\varepsilon)$$

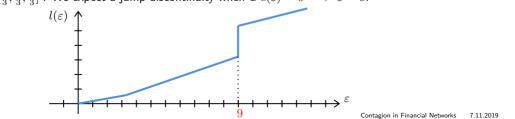


Example

12

Consider the network below with $P = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0.75 & 0.25 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0.3 & 0.7 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ and $w = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$.

Consider an initial asset c = [5, 2, 2]' and a total shock magnitude $\varepsilon \in [0, 12]$ that hits all nodes uniformly, i.e. $c(\varepsilon) = c - \varepsilon [\frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{3}]'$. We expect a jump discontinuity when $\mathbb{1}'c(\varepsilon) = 0 \implies \varepsilon = 9$.



Results and Ongoing Research Main Results and Future Goals



Main Results

- Sufficient and necessary condition for Uniqueness of clearing vectors;
- Systemic risk measures and existence of critical shocks;
- Structure of solutions with respect to the topological properties of the network.

- Optimal policies for risk reduction;
- Analytical results on particular topologies and random graphs;
- Continuous Model.
- Model extensions (fire sales, bankruptcy costs, cross holdings, etc...);



- Sufficient and necessary condition for Uniqueness of clearing vectors;
- Systemic risk measures and existence of critical shocks;
- Structure of solutions with respect to the topological properties of the network.

- Optimal policies for risk reduction;
- Analytical results on particular topologies and random graphs;
- Continuous Model.
- Model extensions (fire sales, bankruptcy costs, cross holdings, etc...);



- Sufficient and necessary condition for Uniqueness of clearing vectors;
- Systemic risk measures and existence of critical shocks;
- Structure of solutions with respect to the topological properties of the network.

- Optimal policies for risk reduction;
- Analytical results on particular topologies and random graphs;
- Continuous Model.
- Model extensions (fire sales, bankruptcy costs, cross holdings, etc...);



- Sufficient and necessary condition for Uniqueness of clearing vectors;
- Systemic risk measures and existence of critical shocks;
- Structure of solutions with respect to the topological properties of the network.

- Optimal policies for risk reduction;
- Analytical results on particular topologies and random graphs;
- Continuous Model.
- Model extensions (fire sales, bankruptcy costs, cross holdings, etc...);



- Sufficient and necessary condition for Uniqueness of clearing vectors;
- Systemic risk measures and existence of critical shocks;
- Structure of solutions with respect to the topological properties of the network.

- Optimal policies for risk reduction;
- Analytical results on particular topologies and random graphs;
- Continuous Model.
- Model extensions (fire sales, bankruptcy costs, cross holdings, etc...);



- Sufficient and necessary condition for Uniqueness of clearing vectors;
- Systemic risk measures and existence of critical shocks;
- Structure of solutions with respect to the topological properties of the network.

- Optimal policies for risk reduction;
- Analytical results on particular topologies and random graphs;
- Continuous Model.
- Model extensions (fire sales, bankruptcy costs, cross holdings, etc...);



- Sufficient and necessary condition for Uniqueness of clearing vectors;
- Systemic risk measures and existence of critical shocks;
- Structure of solutions with respect to the topological properties of the network.

- Optimal policies for risk reduction;
- Analytical results on particular topologies and random graphs;
- Continuous Model.
- Model extensions (fire sales, bankruptcy costs, cross holdings, etc...);



Thank you!