

Firm Bankruptcy with Fire Sales

Alex von Hafften

UW-Madison

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Big Picture

- During some crises, government interventions aim to preserve distressed—and possibly insolvent—firms and reorganize their debt (e.g., PPP during COVID)
- In other crises, government policies encouraged firm liquidation (e.g., Takenaka Plan)
- What frictions distort private incentives of firms and banks to encourage policy intervention?
- *Pecuniary fire-sale externality* (Shleifer and Vishny, 1992)
 - ▶ Constrained agents sell their assets below discounted value of cashflows
 - ▶ More aggregate liquidations lower recoveries for all firms
 - ▶ Private agents do not internalize effect of their decisions on aggregates
- **Goal:** Add fire-sale externality into structural GE firm dynamics model w/ entry and exit

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- Antill and Clayton (2022) is pen-and-paper two-period model with fire-sale externality and collateral constraints for lenders and derive conditions when tax on liquidations is optimal
- *Relative Contributions:*
 - ▶ Add rich firm dynamics model as supply side of liquidated capital
 - ▶ Bring to data \implies quantitative statements about optimal policy
- Corbae and D'Erasmus (2021) is GE firm dynamics model with endogenous entry and exit where firm choose Ch. 7 liquidation and Ch. 11 reorganization bankruptcy instead of repaying debt [More](#)
 - ▶ In Ch. 7, capital is sold at "fire-sale" price $s_7 = 0.4$ (or "liquidation recovery rate")
 - ▶ $s_7 = 0.4$ is estimate from bankruptcies in AZ and NY 1995-2001 (Bris et al, 2006)
 - ▶ *Lucas critique:* s_7 does not change w/ aggregate quantity of liquidated capital K_7
- *Relative Contributions:*
 - ▶ Endogenize $s_7 \implies$ market for liquidated capital with quantity K_7 and price s_7
 - ▶ *Key new ingredient:* What is elasticity of demand for liquidated capital?

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Two-Period Model: Environment and Default Decision

- Trade-off theory (Myers, 1984): interest is tax deductible but debt raises probability of bankruptcy
- Investment period ($t = 1$) and production/default/repayment period ($t = 2$) (no discounting)
- Three agents: Firms, lenders, and liquidators (all risk neutral)
- Firm has project w/ initial cost small κ and stochastic return $v \sim U(0, 1)$ realized at $t = 2$
- κ is small enough so project is NPV positive and project is irreversible for firm
- Firm borrows w/ noncontingent defaultable discount bonds w/ face value b , pays proportional corporate income tax τ , and enjoys tax rebate on interest
- If firm defaults, firm walks away and gets zero and lender pay deadweight cost of bankruptcy c_7 and sell project to liquidators at price s_7

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Firm Problem

- In period 2, firm defaults iff

$$\underbrace{(1 - \tau)(v - b)}_{\text{no default pay-off}} < \underbrace{0}_{\text{default pay-off}} \implies v < b$$

- In period 1, firm continuation value is

$$E_v[V(v, b)] = E_v[(1 - \tau)(v - b)^+] = (1 - \tau) \left[\underbrace{\frac{1}{2}}_{\text{expected project return}} - \underbrace{b}_{\text{repayment}} + \underbrace{\frac{b^2}{2}}_{\text{option value of default}} \right]$$

- In period 1, firm borrows b at price $q(b)$ and gets tax rebate on interest

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{b, l} \quad & \underbrace{E_v[V(v, b)]}_{\text{continuation value}} - \underbrace{l}_{\text{equity investment}} \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \kappa = \underbrace{q(b)b}_{\text{borrowing}} + l \end{aligned}$$

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Lender Problem

- In period 1, firms face menu of bond prices pinned down by lender profit condition

$$\begin{aligned}
 0 &= \underbrace{-q(b; s_7)b}_{\text{loan}} + \underbrace{Pr(\text{firm default}) (s_7 - c_7)}_{\text{liquidation value}} + \underbrace{Pr(\text{no firm default}) b}_{\text{repayment}} \\
 \implies q(b, s_7) &= Pr(v < b) \frac{s_7 - c_7}{b} + Pr(v > b) \\
 &= b \frac{s_7 - c_7}{b} + (1 - b) \\
 &= \underbrace{1 - b}_{\text{probability of not default}} + \underbrace{s_7}_{\text{collateral}} - \underbrace{c_7}_{\text{deadweight loss of liquidation}}
 \end{aligned}$$

- Combining firm and lender problems $\implies b(s_7) = \frac{\tau + s_7 - c_7}{1 + \tau}$
- Aggregate capital liquidated is equal to default threshold, which equals $b(s_7)$

$$K_7^s(s_7) = \int_0^{b(s_7)} 1 dv = b(s_7) = \frac{\tau + s_7 - c_7}{1 + \tau}$$

- Logic: $\uparrow s_7 \implies$ higher bond price $\uparrow q \implies$ more borrowing $\uparrow b \implies \uparrow K_7^s$

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 &= \underbrace{1 - b}_{\text{probability of not default}} + \underbrace{s_7}_{\text{collateral}} - \underbrace{c_7}_{\text{deadweight loss of liquidation}}
 \end{aligned}$$

- Combining firm and lender problems $\implies b(s_7) = \frac{\tau + s_7 - c_7}{1 + \tau}$
- Aggregate capital liquidated is equal to default threshold, which equals $b(s_7)$

$$K_7^s(s_7) = \int_0^{b(s_7)} 1 dv = b(s_7) = \frac{\tau + s_7 - c_7}{1 + \tau}$$

- Logic: $\uparrow s_7 \implies$ higher bond price $\uparrow q \implies$ more borrowing $\uparrow b \implies \uparrow K_7^s$

Liquidators

- Project is irreversible to firm but liquidators have technology to convert project capital into final good (Antill and Clayton, 2022)

$$f_7(k_7) = B \frac{k_7^{1-\xi_7}}{1-\xi_7}$$

- Liquidator use project capital in own production process, so tech. does not depend on realization of v (Eisfeldt and Rampini, 2006)
- Liquidators buy liquidated capital at price s_7 following inverse demand

$$s_7^d(K_7^s) = B(K_7^s)^{-\xi_7}$$

so ξ_7 is elasticity of demand for liquidated capital

- Market clearing $K_7^d(s_7) = K_7^s(s_7)$

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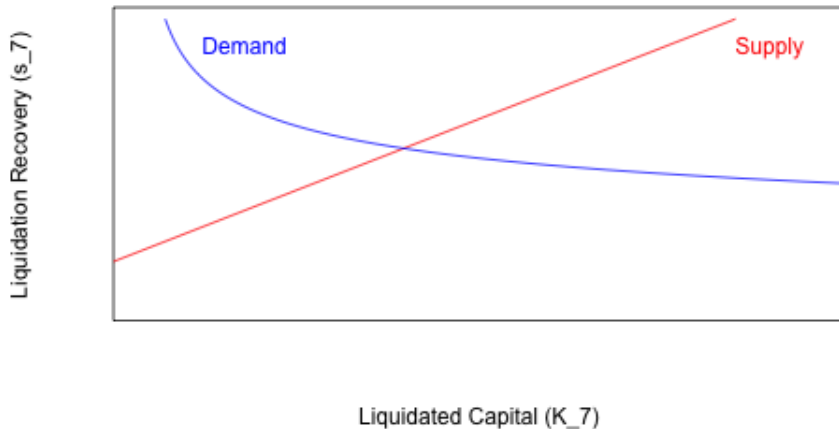
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Market for Liquidated Capital



Add Aggregate Uncertainty \implies Supply Shocks

- At beginning of $t = 2$, aggregate state ω is also realized w/ probability π_ω
- Firm idiosyncratic project return $v \sim U(0, 1)$ is scaled by A^ω , so supply of liquidated capital is

$$K_7^s(s_7; \omega) = \frac{b(s_7)}{A_\omega}$$

where $b(s_7) = [(1 + \tau) \sum_{\hat{\omega}} \frac{\pi_{\hat{\omega}}}{A_{\hat{\omega}}}]^{-1} \sum_{\hat{\omega}} \pi_{\hat{\omega}} [\frac{\tau A_{\hat{\omega}} + s_7 - c_7}{A_{\hat{\omega}}}]$

- Liquidators productivity also depend on ω

$$s_7^d(K_7^s) = B_\omega (K_7^s)^{-\xi_7}$$

- Simplification:

- ▶ Partition into high and low states $\omega \in \Omega_L$ and $\omega \in \Omega_H$ where $\Omega_H \cap \Omega_L = \emptyset$
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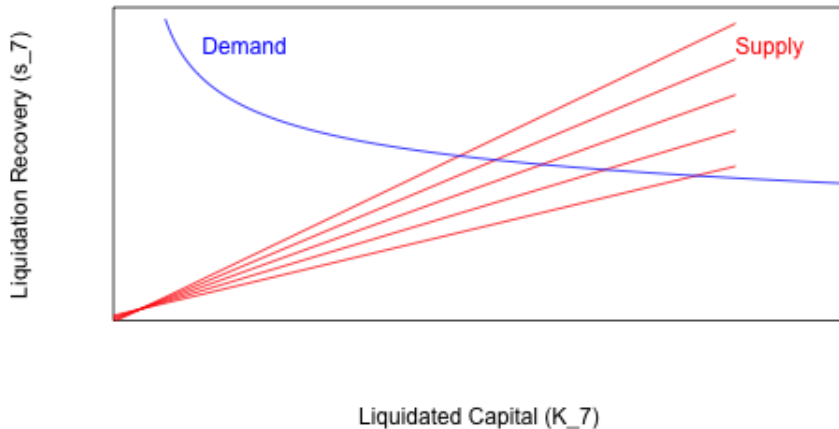
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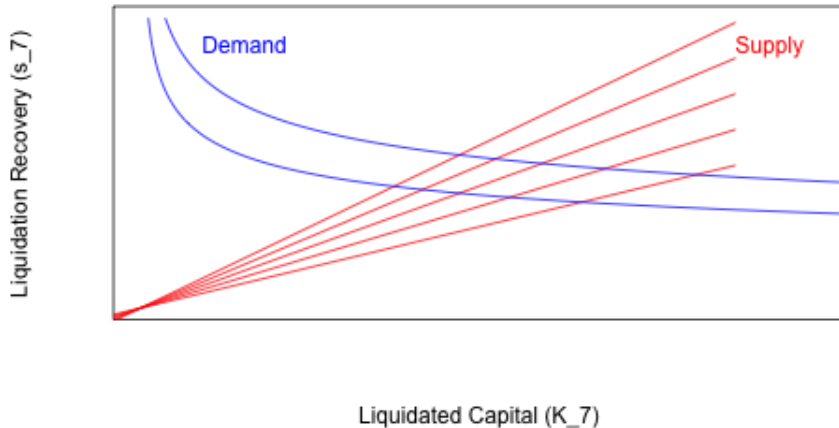
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Market for Liquidated Capital w/ Supply Shocks



Market for Liquidated Capital w/ Supply and Demand Shocks



Today's Experiment

- Reduced-form semi-estimate of elasticity of demand for liquidated capital
- *Data*: Large public firm bankruptcies between 1979-2022
- *Approach*: Regress proxy for s_7 on proxy for K_7 , firm controls, and recession dummy
- *Finding*: Recovery rates are lower when more assets are liquidated w/ semi-elasticity ≈ 0.25
- *Interpretation*: \$1 billion \uparrow in aggregate liquidated capital \iff %0.25 \downarrow in recovery rate
- Today's experiment is demonstration of concept w/ unaddressed confounding factors:
 - ▶ Not random sample with only large public bankruptcies
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Data

- Florida-UCLA-LoPucki Bankruptcy Research Database

- Comprehensive dataset on bankruptcies of public large firms between 1979 and 2022
- “Large” means assets of \$100 million in 1980 dollars (\$314 million in current dollars) or more
- 1,218 observations in total. Throwing out service and finance sectors \implies 903 observations
- Proxy for s_7 :

$$\tilde{s}_7 = \frac{\text{Distributions to (Unsecured and Secured) Creditors and Equity-Holder} + \text{Bankruptcy Fees}}{\text{Assets Quarter Before Bankruptcy}}$$

- Proxy for K_7 :

$$\tilde{K}_7 = \text{sum of assets of other firms liquidated 30 to 1 day before disposal date}$$

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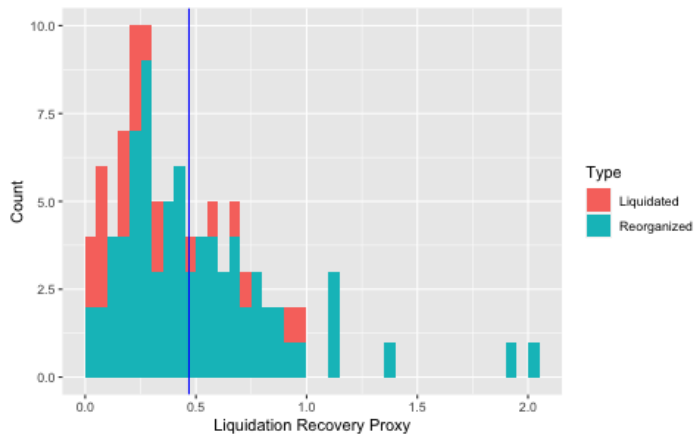
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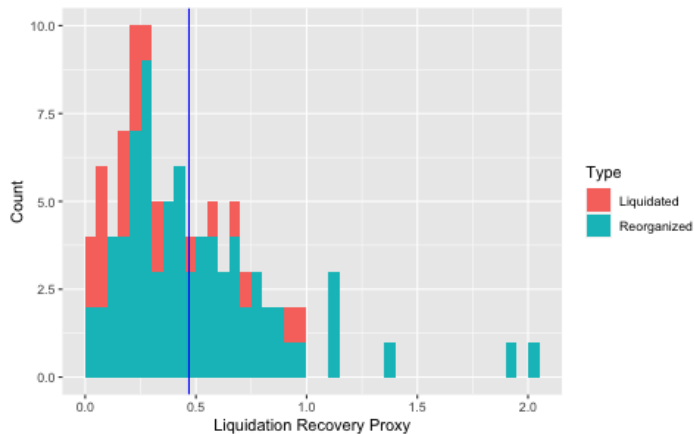
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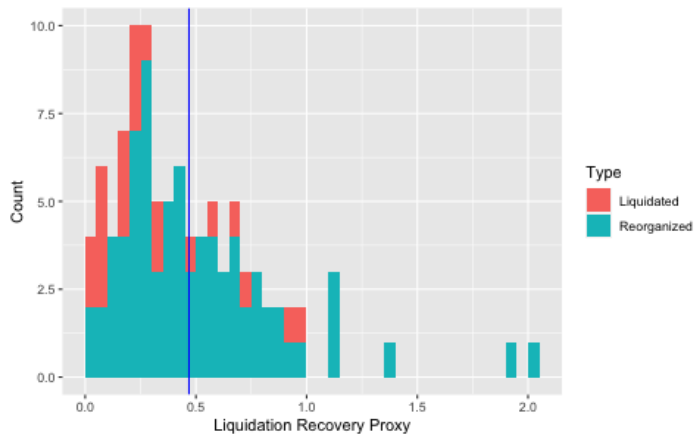
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|---------|------|
| Min. | 0.00 |
| 1st Qu. | 0.23 |
| Median | 0.38 |
| Mean | 0.47 |
| 3rd Qu. | 0.66 |
| Max. | 2.03 |

- Few observations \implies use both recoveries from liquidations and reorganization
- \tilde{s}_7 distribution is relatively spread out
- For six reorganizations, proxy is larger than one



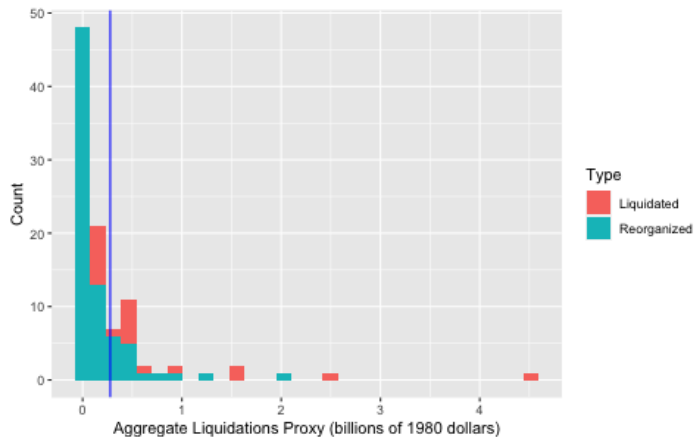
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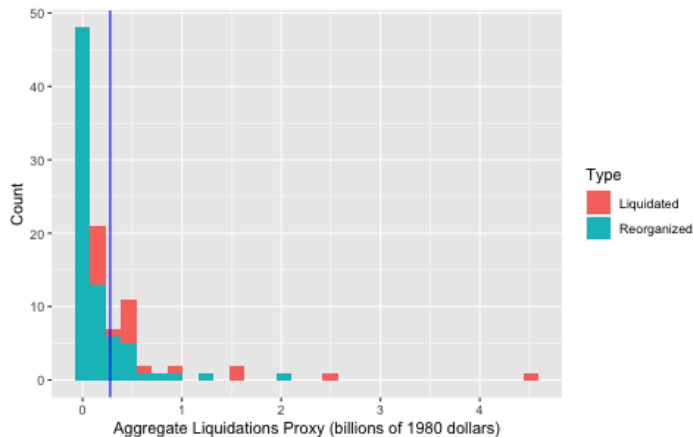
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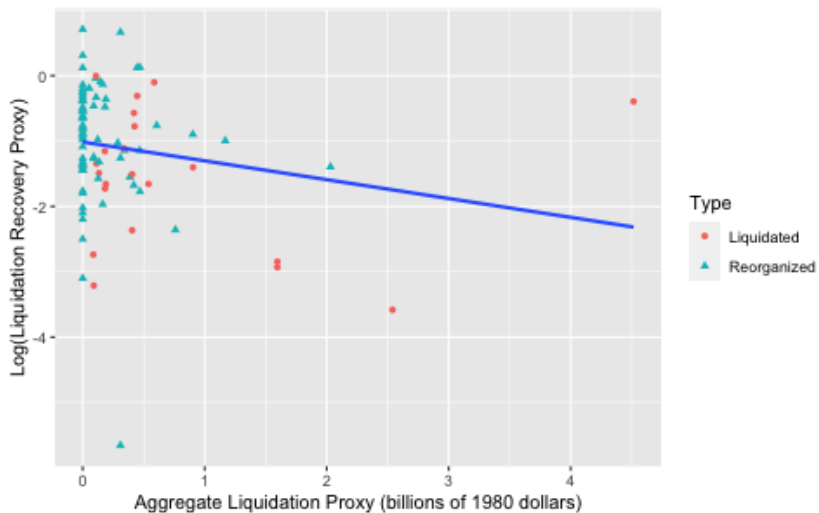
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- 47 out of 98 bankruptcies were not preceded by any liquidations
- Elasticities drop zeros \implies estimates are insignificant \implies focus on semi-elasticities



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- More aggregate liquidations correlates with lower liquidation recoveries

Regression Specification

- Run the following regression

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where X includes following firm characteristics 1 quarter before filing for bankruptcy

- ▶ 1-digit SIC code
- ▶ Return on assets (= EBIT / assets)
- ▶ Leverage (= liabilities / assets)
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Regression Specification

- Run the following regression

$$\log(\tilde{s}_7) = \xi_7 \tilde{K}_7 + \alpha \mathbb{1}\{\text{Bankruptcy is Liquidation}\} + \beta \mathbb{1}\{\text{Disposal during Recession}\} + \gamma' X + \varepsilon$$

where X includes following firm characteristics 1 quarter before filing for bankruptcy

- ▶ 1-digit SIC code
- ▶ Return on assets (= EBIT / assets)
- ▶ Leverage (= liabilities / assets)
- ▶ $\log(\text{no. of employees})$
- ▶ Prepackaged bankruptcy dummy

Table: Liquidation Recovery Proxy vs. Aggregate Liquidation Proxy

| | Dependent variable: | | | |
|--|---------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| | log(Liquidation Recovery Proxy) | | | |
| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| Aggregate Liquidation Proxy (1980 billion dollars) | −0.288* (0.158) | −0.226 (0.172) | −0.309* (0.158) | −0.227 (0.172) |
| Liquidated | | −0.217 (0.260) | | −0.244 (0.262) |
| Recession | | | −0.683 (0.485) | −0.559 (0.599) |
| Firm Controls? | No | Yes | No | Yes |
| Observations | 98 | 98 | 98 | 98 |
| Adjusted R ² | 0.023 | 0.143 | 0.033 | 0.141 |

Note:

* $p < 0.1$; ** $p < 0.05$; *** $p < 0.01$

- $\hat{\xi}_7$ is significantly negative; liquidation recovery proxy seems lower in recession

[Full Table](#)

[w/o outliers](#)

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 - ▶ Mergers and acquisitions as used capital reallocation (Javonovic and Rousseau, 2001)
 - ▶ Cost of reallocation over business cycle countercyclical (Eisfeldt and Rampini, 2006)
- Why are there fire-sales? Why distressed agents sell assets trade below par value?
 - ▶ Misallocation to less productive agents (Shleifer and Vishny, 1992)
 - ▶ Specificity and thin markets (Ramey and Shapiro, 2001) (Acharya et al, 2007)
 - ▶ Asymmetric information and lemons problem (Kurlat, 2016)
 - ▶ Quality and deferred maintenance (Franks et al, 2022)
- Theory of fire sales determine normative implications (Davila and Korinek, 2018) (Kurlat, 2022)
 - ▶ Distributive pecuniary externalities are ambiguous in general
 - ▶ Collateral pecuniary externalities lead to over-investing
 - ▶ Asymmetric information lead to under-investing

Other Related Research (2 of 2)

- Recovery rates in corporate bonds issued by public firms
 - ▶ Recovery rates and default rates negative correlated (Altman et al, 2005)
 - ▶ Recovery rates lower when industry of defaulted firm is in distress (Acharya et al, 2007)
 - ▶ Recovery rates are uncertain and pricing implies recovery risk premium (Schlafer et al, 2014)
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Appendix

3 Corbae and D'Erasmus (2021)

4 Data

Key Ingredients of CD (2021)

- Firms produce with capital k and labor with productivity z following idiosyncratic exogenous Markov transition G

- Firms can borrow using one-period noncontingent defaultable discount bonds $b > 0$

► Bonds are noncontingent in the sense that prices depend on k' , b' , and z but not z'

Interest is tax deductible \implies tax advantage of debt

- Firms can also retain earnings (with $b < 0$) and issue costly equity or pay dividends
- Firms can exit or default on debt and go either through Ch. 7 liquidation or Ch. 11 reorganization
- Firms maximize expected value of dividend stream
- What breaks MM? Bankruptcy costs, taxes, and transaction costs (i.e., costly equity issuance)

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Key Equilibrium Objects in CD (2021)

- Given bond prices, wages, and taxes, we can solve for firm decisions including
 - $\Lambda(b', k', z)$ is probability of default of firm z that chooses b' and k'
 - $D_7(k, b)$ is set of z given k and b that choose Ch. 7 liquidation
 - $D_{11}(k, b)$ is set of z given k and b that choose Ch. 11 reorganization
- In Ch. 7 liquidation, capital is liquidated at fire-sale price s_7 , productivity-specific bankruptcy costs $c_7(z)$ are paid, and lenders are paid up to the face value of the bond b'

$$R(b', k', z; s_7) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } s_7 k' - c_7(z) < 0 \\ s_7 k' - c_7(z) & \text{if } 0 \leq s_7 k' - c_7(z) < b' \\ b' & \text{if } b' \leq s_7 k' - c_7(z) \end{cases}$$

Importantly, in CD (2021), $s_7 = 0.4$ is fixed parameter so it does not change w/ counterfactuals

- In Ch. 11 reorganization, firms and lenders Nash bargain over amount of debt to repay \implies bargain problem engenders lender repayment fraction of $\phi(z', k', b')$

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How is debt priced in CD (2021)?

- Bonds are priced (bond-by-bond) using condition that lender in expectation makes zero profit

$$\begin{aligned} 0 = \Omega(b', k', z) \equiv & \underbrace{-q(b', k', z)b'}_{\text{loan}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{1+r}[1 - \Lambda(b', k', z)]b'}_{\text{expected repayment}} \\ & + \underbrace{\frac{1}{1+r}R(b', k', z; s_7) \sum_{z' \in D_7(k', b')} G(z'|z)}_{\text{expected recovery from Ch. 7 liquidations}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{1+r} \sum_{z' \in D_{11}(k', b')} \phi(z', k', b')b' G(z'|z)}_{\text{expected recovery from Ch. 11 reorganizations}} \end{aligned}$$

where r is risk-free rate

- Computation: Guess $q \implies$ solve firm and bargaining problems (i.e., $\Lambda, D_7, D_{11}, \phi$) \implies update guess of q using lender zero-profit condition

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Computation

- Computation boils down to adding an extra outer loop:

- ▶ Guess s_7

- ★ Guess $q \implies$ Solve firm and bargaining problems (i.e., $\Lambda, D_7, D_{11}, \phi$) \implies Update guess of q using lender zero-profit condition

- Update guess of s_7 based on clearing condition for liquidated capital market

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Appendix

3 Corbae and D'Erasmus (2021)

4 Data

Chapter Filing vs. Actual Liquidated in Bankruptcy

| Chapter | Company Liquidated in Bankruptcy? | No. Obs | % of Sample |
|---------|-----------------------------------|---------|-------------|
| 7 | Liquidated | 3 | 0.3 |
| 11 | Liquidated | 211 | 23.4 |
| 11 | Reorganized | 689 | 76.3 |

- **Problem:** Dataset focuses on large firms \implies Ch. 11 are over represented compared to Ch. 7.
- For comparison, Ch. 11 accounts for 80 percent of all public firm bankruptcies (CD, 2021)
- **Solution:** Some firms who filed for Ch. 11 didn't emerge from bankruptcy and were liquidated
- Thus, classify bankruptcies as
 - ▶ "Liquidations" as firms who either filed for Ch. 7 or filed for Ch. 11 but did not emerge
 - ▶ "Reorganizations" as firms who filed for Ch. 11 and emerged
- Reorganizations are larger, more levered, and more profitable before bankruptcy than liquidations (consistent sample of all public firms from CD, 2021) [More](#)

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Constructing Proxy for Liquidation Recovery Rate \tilde{s}_7

- **Problem:** Data do not have the direct measure of proceeds from liquidating a firm
- **Solution:** Use distributions to creditors and equity-holders over assets in quarter before bankruptcy filing

$$\tilde{s}_7 = \frac{\text{Unsecured and Secured Creditor Distribution} + \text{Equity-holder Distribution} + \text{Legal Fees}}{\text{Assets in Quarter Before Bankruptcy}}$$

- **Problem:** This proxy is missing for a lot of observations

| Bankruptcy Type | Has Proxy? | No. Obs | % of Sample |
|-----------------|------------|---------|-------------|
| Liquidated | No | 193 | 21.4 |
| Liquidated | Yes | 21 | 2.3 |
| Reorganized | No | 612 | 67.8 |
| Reorganized | Yes | 77 | 8.5 |

- Coverage better for 1980s and 2000s, but largely missing for most observations in 1990s [More](#)
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| Reorganized | No | 612 | 67.8 |
| Reorganized | Yes | 77 | 8.5 |

- Coverage better for 1980s and 2000s, but largely missing for most observations in 1990s [More](#)
- **Solution:** Include observations of both bankruptcy types in regressions w/ dummy for liquidated

Constructing Proxy for Liquidation Recovery Rate \tilde{s}_7

- **Problem:** Data do not have the direct measure of proceeds from liquidating a firm
- **Solution:** Use distributions to creditors and equity-holders over assets in quarter before bankruptcy filing

$$\tilde{s}_7 = \frac{\text{Unsecured and Secured Creditor Distribution} + \text{Equity-holder Distribution} + \text{Legal Fees}}{\text{Assets in Quarter Before Bankruptcy}}$$

- **Problem:** This proxy is missing for a lot of observations

| Bankruptcy Type | Has Proxy? | No. Obs | % of Sample |
|-----------------|------------|---------|-------------|
| Liquidated | No | 193 | 21.4 |
| Liquidated | Yes | 21 | 2.3 |
| Reorganized | No | 612 | 67.8 |
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- Coverage better for 1980s and 2000s, but largely missing for most observations in 1990s [More](#)
- **Solution:** Include observations of both bankruptcy types in regressions w/ dummy for liquidated

Constructing Proxy for Aggregate Liquidated Capital \tilde{K}_7

- Recap about data:
 - ▶ 98 observations have proxy for liquidation recovery (*dataset A*)
 - ▶ 214 observations of liquidations (*dataset B*)
- For each observation with proxy for liquidation recovery (from *dataset A*)
 - ▶ Look at disposal date
 - ▶ Subset liquidations (in *dataset B*) with disposal dates between 30 and 1 days before
 - ▶ Sum assets from 1 quarter before of this subset
- Proxy measures assets of other liquidated firms in prior 30 days

Back

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Back

Table: Firm Characteristics and Bankruptcy Type (Probit Coefficient Estimates)

| | Dependent variable: | | | |
|---|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | Liquidation = 1 | | | |
| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| Recession | 0.066 (0.189) | -0.006 (0.191) | -0.132 (0.194) | -0.040 (0.198) |
| roa | -0.482*** (0.175) | -0.503*** (0.169) | -0.548*** (0.178) | -0.515*** (0.190) |
| leverage | -0.755*** (0.149) | -0.774*** (0.148) | -0.623*** (0.149) | -0.593*** (0.151) |
| log(EmplBefore) | -0.032 (0.031) | | | |
| log(AssetsBefore) | | -0.188*** (0.046) | -0.161*** (0.047) | -0.164*** (0.048) |
| Prepackagednot applicable | | | 4.987 (83.192) | 5.292 (132.743) |
| Prepackagedprenegotiated | | | -0.649*** (0.137) | -0.633*** (0.139) |
| Prepackagedprepackaged | | | -1.188*** (0.225) | -1.174*** (0.227) |
| sicB: Mining | | | | 4.762 (127.338) |
| sicC: Construction | | | | 4.330 (127.338) |
| sicD: Manufacturing | | | | 4.617 (127.338) |
| sicE: Transportation, Communications, Electric, Gas | | | | 4.759 (127.338) |
| sicF: Wholesale Trade | | | | 4.842 (127.338) |
| sicG: Retail Trade | | | | 4.955 (127.338) |
| Constant | 0.241 (0.271) | 1.260*** (0.342) | 1.143*** (0.343) | -3.606 (127.338) |
| Observations | 880 | 882 | 882 | 882 |
| Log Likelihood | -467.566 | -459.655 | -429.729 | -424.785 |
| Akaike Inf. Crit. | 945.131 | 929.310 | 875.459 | 877.570 |

Note:

* p<0.1; ** p<0.05; *** p<0.01

- Reorganizations tend to be larger, more profitable, and more levered than liquidations

[Back](#)

Table: Firm Characteristics and Missing Liquidation Recovery (Probit Coefficient Estimates)

| | <i>Dependent variable:</i> | | | |
|---|------------------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| | Missing Liquidation Recovery | | | |
| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| Recession | 0.250 (0.254) | 0.249 (0.255) | 0.286 (0.255) | 0.453* (0.270) |
| Liquidated | 0.048 (0.138) | 0.064 (0.138) | 0.112 (0.142) | 0.069 (0.145) |
| roa | −0.662* (0.393) | −0.784** (0.389) | −0.744* (0.386) | −0.420 (0.378) |
| leverage | −0.014 (0.114) | −0.005 (0.107) | −0.041 (0.107) | −0.012 (0.112) |
| log(EmplBefore) | −0.056 (0.038) | | | |
| log(AssetsBefore) | | 0.026 (0.051) | 0.020 (0.051) | 0.014 (0.054) |
| Prepackagednot applicable | | | 3.748 (133.411) | 3.887 (131.983) |
| Prepackagedprenegotiated | | | 0.257* (0.153) | 0.244 (0.157) |
| Prepackagedprepackaged | | | 0.206 (0.187) | 0.143 (0.193) |
| sicB: Mining | | | | 1.503* (0.800) |
| sicC: Construction | | | | 1.543* (0.898) |
| sicD: Manufacturing | | | | 0.846 (0.773) |
| sicE: Transportation, Communications, Electric, Gas | | | | 1.106 (0.782) |
| sicF: Wholesale Trade | | | | 1.029 (0.812) |
| sicG: Retail Trade | | | | 1.406* (0.789) |
| Constant | 1.627*** (0.338) | 0.989*** (0.377) | 0.978*** (0.377) | −0.052 (0.850) |
| Observations | 880 | 882 | 882 | 882 |
| Log Likelihood | −302.427 | −303.572 | −301.544 | −292.092 |
| Akaike Inf. Crit. | 616.853 | 619.143 | 621.087 | 614.185 |

Note: * p<0.1; ** p<0.05; *** p<0.01

- More likely to miss liquidation recovery rate for less profitable firms and from a few sectors

[Back](#)

Table: Liquidation Recovery Proxy vs. Aggregate Liquidation Proxy

| | <i>Dependent variable:</i> | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| | log(Liquidation Recovery Proxy) | | | |
| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| aggregate_liquidations | −0.288* (0.158) | −0.226 (0.172) | −0.309* (0.158) | −0.227 (0.172) |
| Liquidated | | −0.217 (0.260) | | −0.244 (0.262) |
| sicB: Mining | | 0.011 (0.991) | | −0.474 (1.119) |
| sicC: Construction | | 0.237 (1.306) | | −0.327 (1.439) |
| sicD: Manufacturing | | −0.440 (0.920) | | −0.948 (1.069) |
| sicE: Transportation, Communications, Electric, Gas | | −0.225 (0.930) | | −0.763 (1.095) |
| sicF: Wholesale Trade | | −0.449 (0.991) | | −0.978 (1.143) |
| sicG: Retail Trade | | −0.429 (0.978) | | −0.961 (1.132) |
| roa | | 0.715 (0.637) | | 0.450 (0.698) |
| leverage | | 0.261 (0.174) | | 0.279 (0.175) |
| log(EmplBefore) | | 0.234*** (0.087) | | 0.227** (0.087) |
| Prepackagedprenegotiated | | 0.435 (0.278) | | 0.433 (0.278) |
| Prepackagedprepackaged | | 0.851** (0.335) | | 0.806** (0.338) |
| Recession | | | −0.683 (0.485) | −0.559 (0.599) |
| Constant | −1.015*** (0.106) | −2.952*** (1.066) | −0.981*** (0.108) | −2.370* (1.235) |
| Observations | 98 | 98 | 98 | 98 |
| Adjusted R ² | 0.023 | 0.143 | 0.033 | 0.141 |

Note:

* p<0.1; ** p<0.05; *** p<0.01

- More levered, larger firms w/ pre-negotiated bankruptcy \iff higher liquidation recovery rates

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Table: Liquidation Recovery Proxy vs. Aggregate Liquidation Proxy (No Outliers)

| | <i>Dependent variable:</i> | | | |
|--|---------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | log(Liquidation Recovery Proxy) | | | |
| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| Aggregate Liquidation Proxy (1980 billions of dollars) | −0.575 (0.434) | −0.579 (0.485) | −0.673 (0.436) | −0.628 (0.488) |
| Liquidated | | 0.113 (0.270) | | 0.090 (0.271) |
| Recession | | | −0.663 (0.443) | −0.568 (0.566) |
| Firm Controls? | No | Yes | No | Yes |
| Observations | 86 | 86 | 86 | 86 |
| Adjusted R ² | 0.009 | 0.094 | 0.023 | 0.094 |

Note:

*p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01

- Drop obs w/ \tilde{s}_7 over 1 and \tilde{K}_7 over 1 billion $\Rightarrow \hat{\xi}$ is insignificant but larger

Back

Table: Different Windows Before Disposal Date

| | <i>Dependent variable:</i> | | | |
|--|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | log(Liquidation Recovery Proxy) | | | |
| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| Aggregate Liquidation Proxy over 90 Days | −0.147 (0.109) | | | |
| Aggregate Liquidation Proxy over 60 Days | | −0.160 (0.142) | | |
| Aggregate Liquidation Proxy over 30 Days | | | −0.227 (0.172) | |
| Aggregate Liquidation Proxy over 7 Days | | | | −0.124 (0.183) |
| Recession | −0.637 (0.602) | −0.612 (0.603) | −0.559 (0.599) | −0.544 (0.603) |
| Liquidated | −0.254 (0.258) | −0.268 (0.262) | −0.244 (0.262) | −0.334 (0.255) |
| Firm Controls | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Number of Zeros | 24 | 36 | 47 | 62 |
| Observations | 98 | 98 | 98 | 98 |
| Adjusted R ² | 0.142 | 0.136 | 0.141 | 0.128 |

Note:

* $p < 0.1$; ** $p < 0.05$; *** $p < 0.01$

- Tighter windows have more zeros \implies larger standard errors
- Coefficient estimate larger for tighter windows

Back

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|---|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | log(Liquidation Recovery Proxy) | | | |
| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| Aggregate Liquidation Proxy over 90 Days | −0.156 (0.102) | | | |
| log(Aggregate Liquidation Proxy over 60 Days) | | −0.133 (0.133) | | |
| log(Aggregate Liquidation Proxy over 30 Days) | | | −0.111 (0.164) | |
| log(Aggregate Liquidation Proxy over 7 Days) | | | | −0.098 (0.188) |
| Recession | −0.593 (0.597) | −0.569 (0.601) | −0.566 (0.604) | −0.539 (0.605) |
| Liquidated | −0.222 (0.261) | −0.295 (0.257) | −0.319 (0.265) | −0.330 (0.272) |
| Firm Controls | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Number of Zeros | 23 | 30 | 46 | 64 |
| Observations | 98 | 98 | 98 | 98 |
| Adjusted R ² | 0.147 | 0.134 | 0.128 | 0.126 |

Note:

* $p < 0.1$; ** $p < 0.05$; *** $p < 0.01$

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- Tighter windows have more zeros \implies larger standard errors
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Back

Observations by Sector

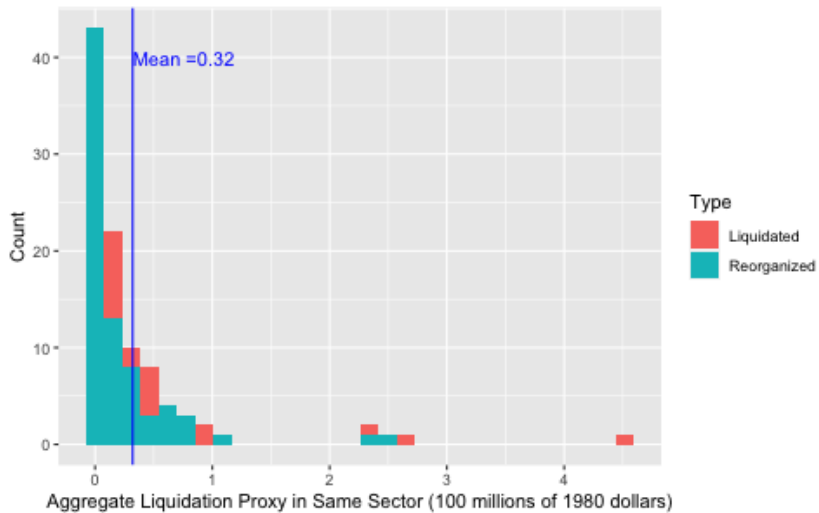
| 1-Digit SIC Code | Count - Recovery Proxies | Count - Liquidations |
|--|--------------------------|----------------------|
| A: Agricultural Production Crops | 1 | 3 |
| B: Mining | 5 | 131 |
| C: Construction | 1 | 23 |
| D: Manufacturing | 57 | 362 |
| E: Transportation, Communications, Electric, Gas | 20 | 197 |
| F: Wholesale Trade | 5 | 40 |
| G: Retail Trade | 9 | 147 |

- Majority of firms are in manufacturing; then transportation, then retail trade
- These sectors are relatively capital intensive [Back](#)

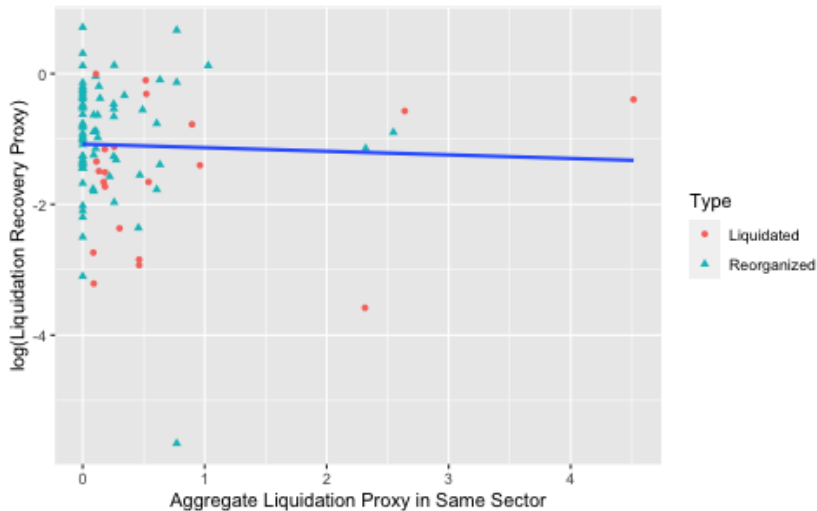
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- Majority of firms are in manufacturing; then transportation, then retail trade
- These sectors are relatively capital intensive [Back](#)



Back



- More liquidations *in same sector* does not correlate with lower liquidation recoveries [Back](#)

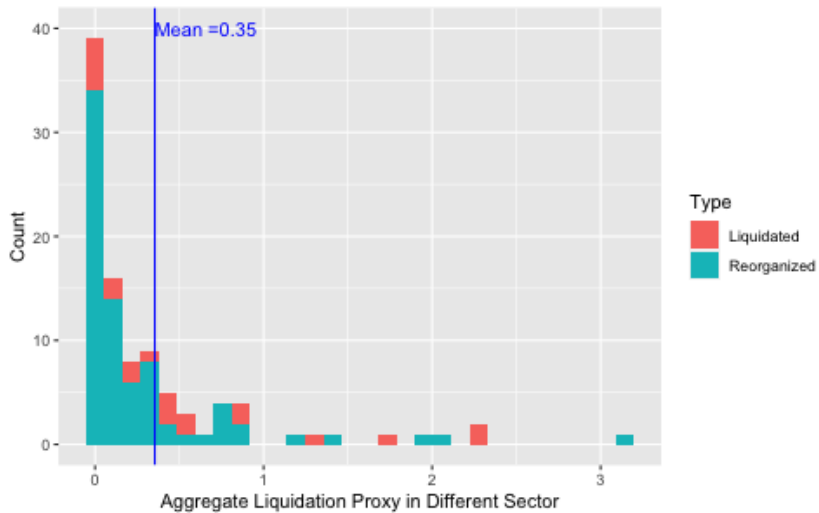
Table: Liquidation Recovery Proxy vs. Aggregate Liquidation Proxy in Same Sector

| | <i>Dependent variable:</i> | | | |
|--|---------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | log(Liquidation Recovery Proxy) | | | |
| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| Aggregate Liquidation Proxy (1980 billions of dollars) | −0.055 (0.146) | −0.026 (0.159) | −0.072 (0.146) | −0.029 (0.159) |
| Liquidated | | −0.357 (0.255) | | −0.382 (0.257) |
| Recession | | | −0.616 (0.494) | −0.556 (0.605) |
| Firm Controls? | No | Yes | No | Yes |
| Observations | 98 | 98 | 98 | 98 |
| Adjusted R ² | −0.009 | 0.125 | −0.003 | 0.124 |

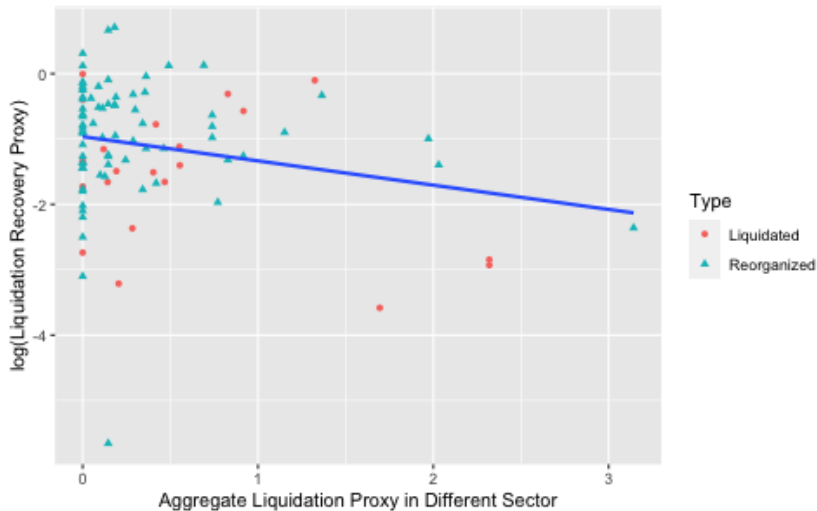
Note:

* $p < 0.1$; ** $p < 0.05$; *** $p < 0.01$

- Smaller coefficients and insignificant [Back](#)



[Back](#)



- More liquidations *in different sector* correlates with lower liquidation recoveries

[Back](#)

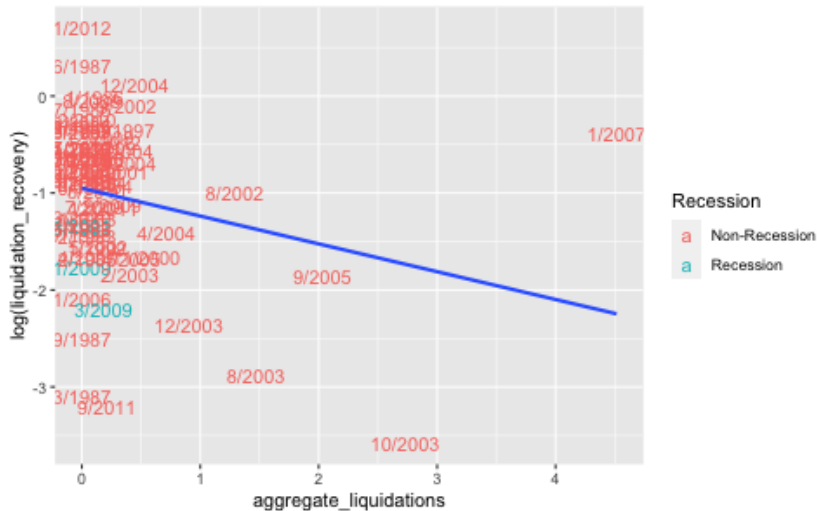
Table: Liquidation Recovery Proxy vs. Aggregate Liquidation Proxy in Different Sector

| | <i>Dependent variable:</i> | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| | log(Liquidation Recovery Proxy) | | | |
| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| Aggregate Liquidation Proxy | −0.371** (0.163) | −0.296* (0.167) | −0.403** (0.164) | −0.324* (0.168) |
| Liquidated | | −0.260 (0.238) | | −0.285 (0.239) |
| Recession | | | −0.742 (0.481) | −0.713 (0.598) |
| Firm Controls? | No | Yes | No | Yes |
| Observations | 98 | 98 | 98 | 98 |
| Adjusted R ² | 0.041 | 0.156 | 0.055 | 0.161 |

Note:

*p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01

- Larger magnitude than baseline results [Back](#)



- More liquidated assets in a month correlates with lower average liquidation recovery

Back

Table: Calendar Month Level

| | <i>Dependent variable:</i> | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| | log(Liquidation Recovery Proxy) | |
| | (1) | (2) |
| Aggregate Liquidation Proxy | −0.287** (0.137) | −0.307** (0.135) |
| recession | | −0.745* (0.402) |
| Constant | −0.951*** (0.099) | −0.905*** (0.101) |
| Observations | 74 | 74 |
| Adjusted R ² | 0.045 | 0.076 |

Note:

*p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01

- Magnitude of coefficients similar to baseline results [Back](#)

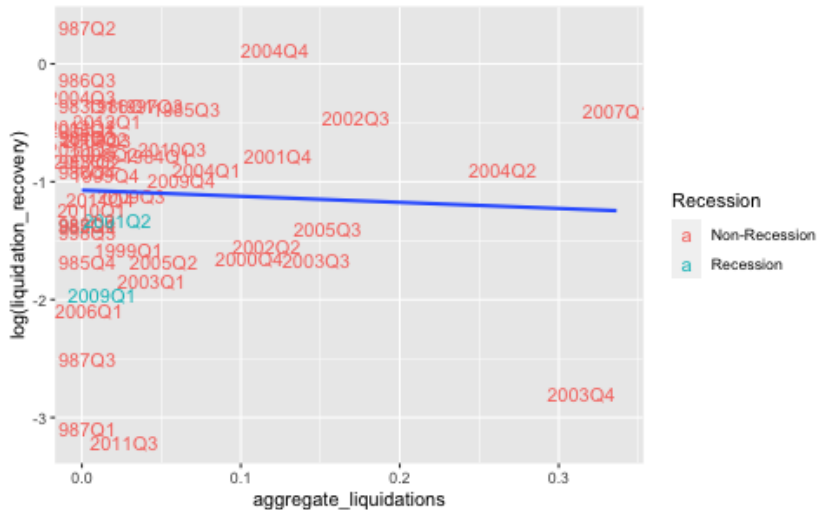


Table: Calendar Quarter Level

| | <i>Dependent variable:</i> | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| | log(Liquidation Recovery Proxy) | |
| | (1) | (2) |
| Aggregate Liquidation Proxy | −0.516 (1.374) | −0.707 (1.381) |
| recession | | −0.511 (0.461) |
| Constant | −1.072*** (0.129) | −1.031*** (0.134) |
| Observations | 50 | 50 |
| Adjusted R ² | −0.018 | −0.013 |
| <i>Note:</i> | *p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01 | |

- Similar to firm-level 90-day-window results [Back](#)