Network Models for Systemic Risk Monitoring



May 2010.





Content

- I. Motivation
 - a) Relevant concepts
 - b) Related Literature
- II. The network model for systemic risk
 - a) Conceptual model
 - b) Simulation model
- III. Some results
- **IV. Conclusions**





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Definition for Systemic Risk

- Systemic Risk is the risk of experiencing an event that threatens the well functioning of the system of interest (payments, banking, financial)
- 2. Systemic risk consists of two main components (Rochet 2009, Marquez & Martinez-Jaramillo 2009):
 - a) An initial (macroeconomic) shock, and
 - b) A contagion mechanism.



Financial Contagion and Systemic Risk

1. Financial contagion has been used interchangeably with systemic risk, something that is not fully accurate.

- 2. However, as it was shown in the definition, contagion is just one of the components of a systemic event (a very important one though).
- 3. Moreover, the relevance of the (macro)economic environment is crucial.



Network models, financial contagion and systemic risk

Since the influential paper by Allen and Gale (1998), network models have been used to study financial contagion.

Network models are very appealing to study financial contagion and systemic risk for the following reasons:

- They are very intuitive,
- There is a vast amount of knowledge and analytical tools in this area, and
- There are many practical tools, software and interfaces available.

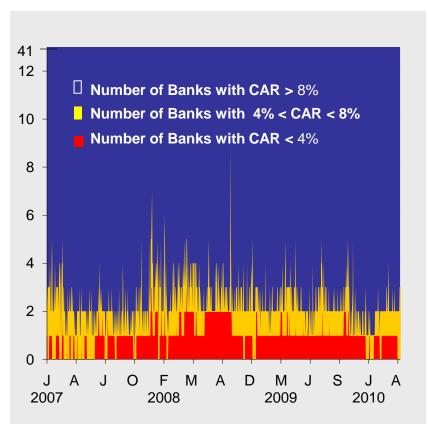


I. Interconnectedness: Contagion Risk

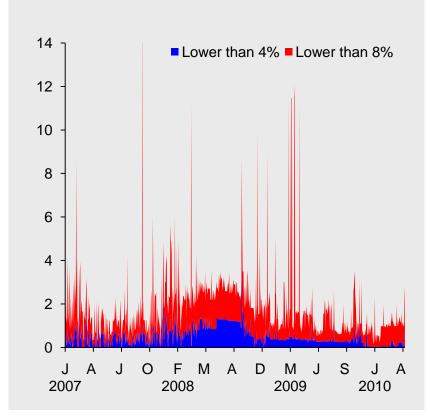
Capital Adequacy Indexes arising from a worst chain of Contagion occurring daily (Number of banks)

Assets of banks whose capital would be affected in the event of a worst chain of contagion occurring daily

(Percentage of total banking assets)











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Financial Contagion.

- 1. Direct contagion in banking systems through the interbank market has been widely studied by central banks in several countries, Upper(2007).
 - Maximum entropy assumption.
 - Individual idiosyncratic failures.
- More recently contagion and systemic risk have been studied recurring to Network Theory, Muller (2006), Nier et al. (2006), Babus (2007), Mistrulli (2007), Markose et al. (2009).



Systemic Risk

- 1. Goodhart et al. (2006) propose a general equilibrium model which includes heterogeneous agents, endogenous defaults and credit and deposit markets.
- 2. Segoviano and Goodhart (2009) infer the multivariate density, which they use to derive relevant measures of distress for individual banks, groups of banks and the distress on the system due to an individual bank.
- 3. Boss et al. (2006) use a simulation model which they use to estimate the distribution of losses for the system as a whole.
- 4. Aikman et al. (2009) put in place a complex simulation model to study financial stability.



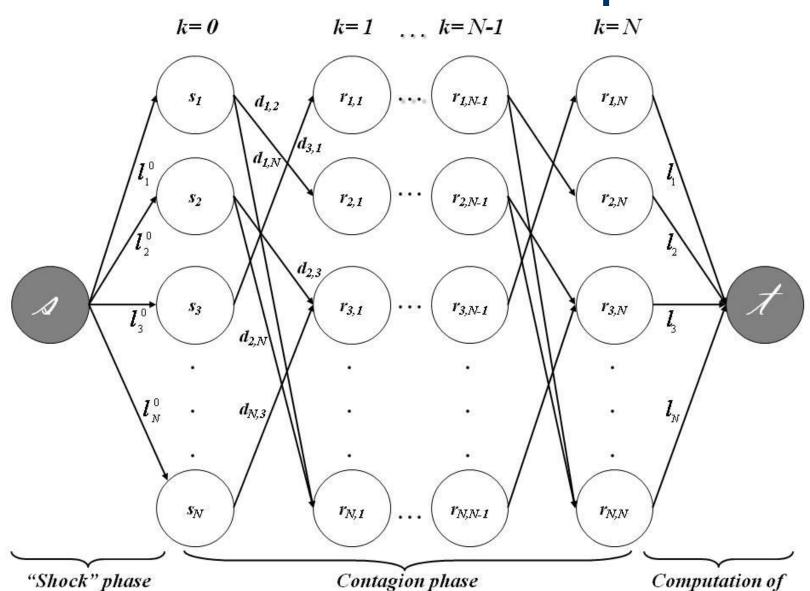
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initial losses

The conceptual model



at most N stages

final losses

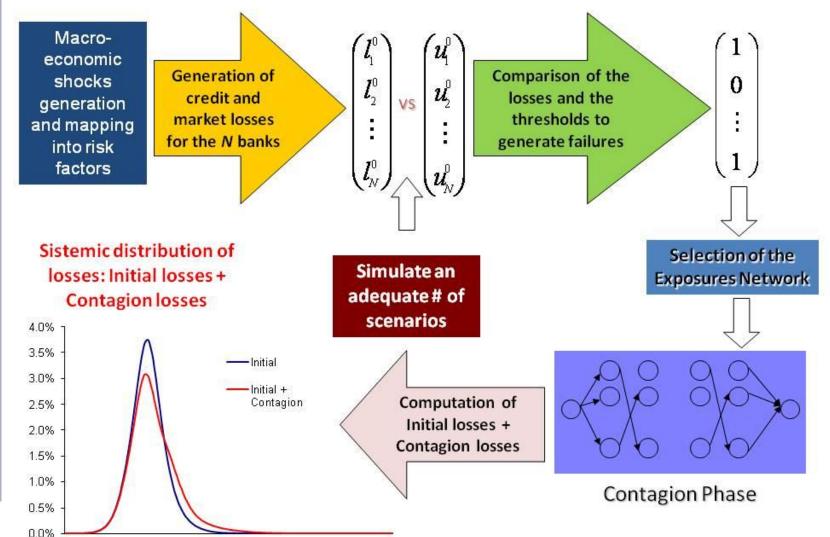


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The simulation model





Data

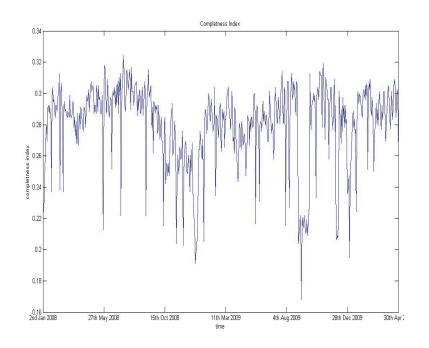
The data used to obtain the systemic distribution of losses for the Mexican banking system consists of:

- 1. The daily interbank exposures,
- 2. The macro economic information used to build the macro models (GDP, interest rates, stock indexes, etc),
- 3. The market portfolio,
- 4. Credit delinquency ratio as a proxy for the evolution of credit losses, and
- 5. The Tier 1 capital.

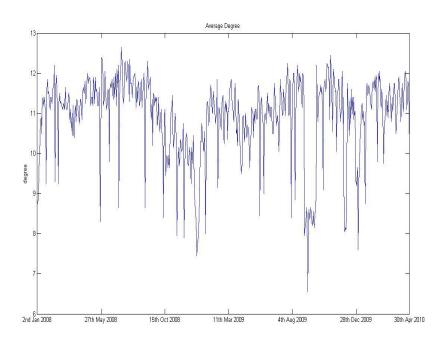


The Interbank Market Network

Completeness index



Daily Average Degree



Source: Banco de México.

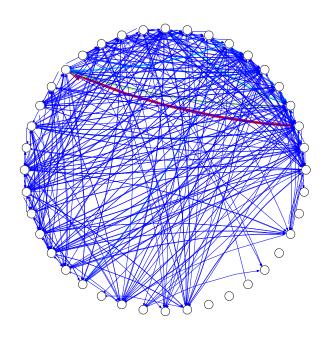
Source: Banco de México

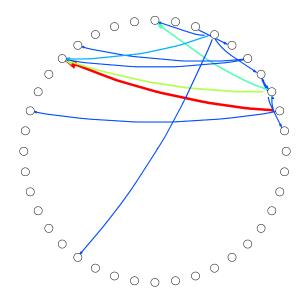


The interbank market

Interbank market January 27th 2008

Interbank market Largest exposures





Source: Banco de México

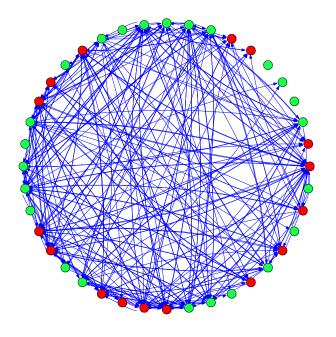
Source: Banco de México



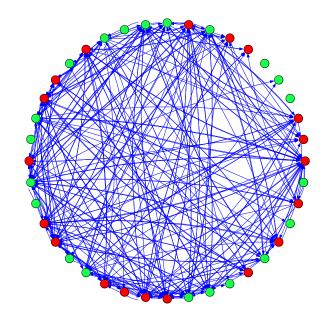
Over-exposed banks

Interbank market January 27th 2008

Interbank marketAfter an initial shock



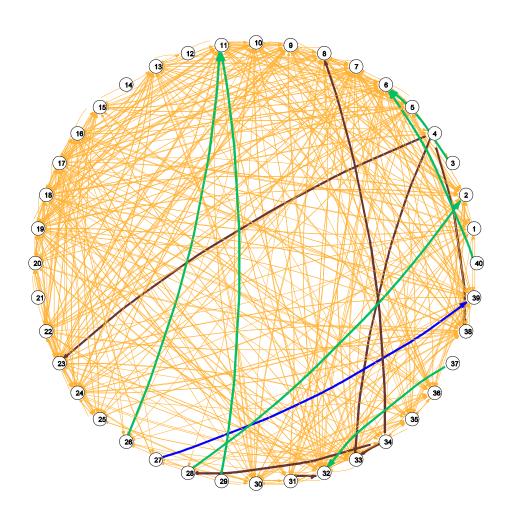
Over-exposed banks: 17



Over-exposed banks: 19

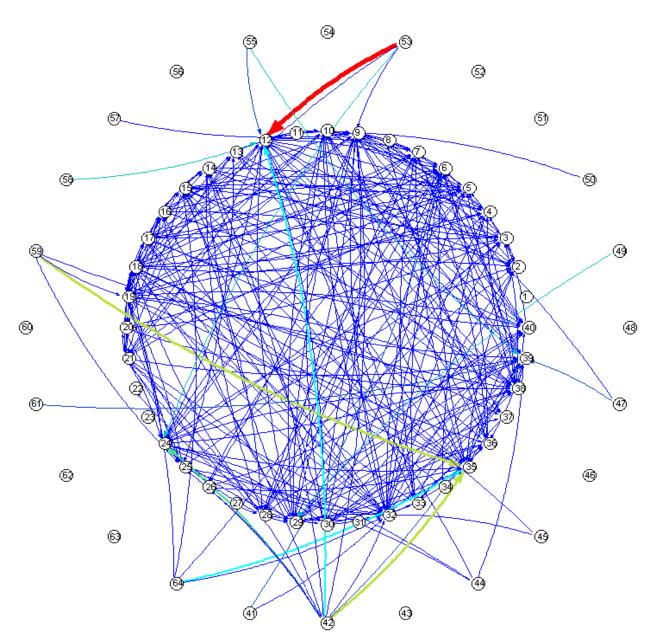


Preference index





International exposures





Link to the economic variables I.

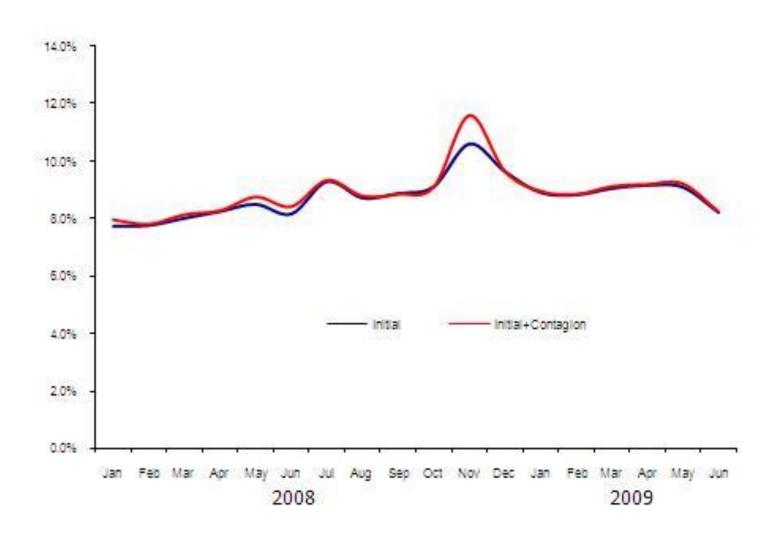
Previous versions of this work, Marquez Martinez-Jaramillo (2009), computed the joint distribution of losses from market and credit operations, and this distribution was used to generate ``losses draws'' and to determine whether those losses trigger a contagion process.

Despite the advantages of this method, behind each shock was the idea that ``something happened" but there was few to say about what that ``something" was.

Hence, to gain in the interpretation and to ease the stress testing procedure one of the aims is having scenarios with an economic interpretation.



A measure of financial fragility: An example





Link to the economic variables II.

To generate these scenarios linked to real economic variables within a consistent framework, a simple structural VAR was estimated:

$$Y_t = \sum_{i=1}^p A_i Y_{t-i} + \sum_{m=1}^{12} \delta_m D_{mt} + e_t.$$
 (1)

National Variables	External Variables	Credit
IGAE (GDP proxy)	Treasury Bills rate	Commercial credit delinquency ratio
Cetes rate	Libor rate	Consumption credit delinquency ratio
INPC (Consumer Price Index)	Dow Jones Index	Mortgate delinquency ratio
FX (peso-dollar)	Bovespa stock index	
IPC (stock index)		
No. Insured workers at IMSS (unemployment		



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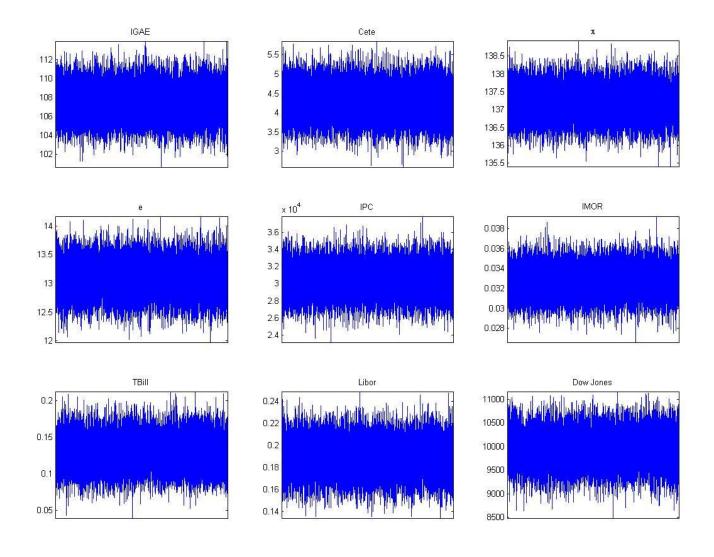
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Normal Scenarios

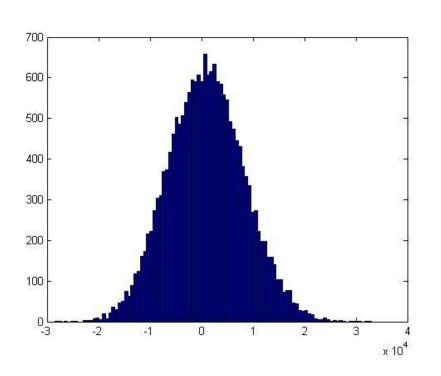


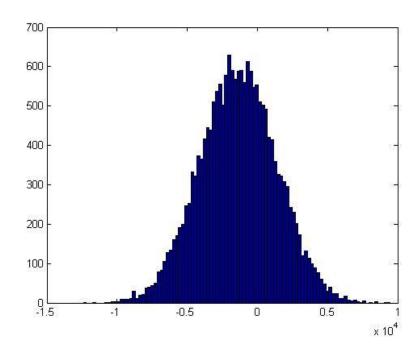


Distribution of losses

Market distribution of losses

Credit distribution of losses





Source: Banco de México

Source: Banco de México



Definition of CoVaR

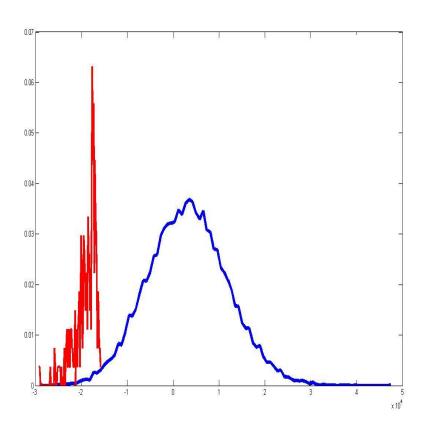
Institution i's CoVaR relative to an institution j (the system) is defined as the VaR of the institution j (or the whole financial sector) conditional on institution i being in distress.

$$Pr(X^{j} \leq CoVaR_{q}^{j|i} \mid X^{i} = VaR_{q}^{i}) = q.$$

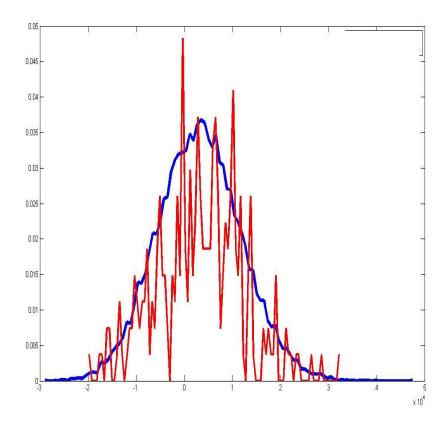
The difference between the CoVaR and the unconditional financial system VaR, $\Delta CoVaR$, captures the marginal contribution of a particular institution to the overall systemic risk.



CoVaR



Distribution of losses for the system and conditional distribution given that the big banks' losses are at their VaR level.



Distribution of losses for the system and conditional distribution given that the medium size banks' losses are at their VaR level.

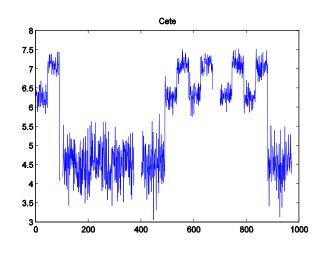


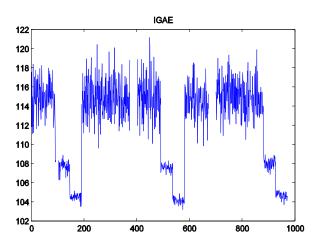
Systemic events

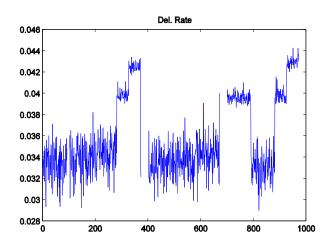
- Contagion did not happen under the previous 20k simulations.
- Contagion did happen under Montecarlo simulation (5m).
- Systemic events are located on the tail.

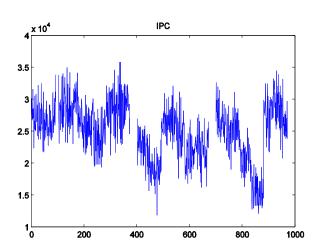


Stress scenarios



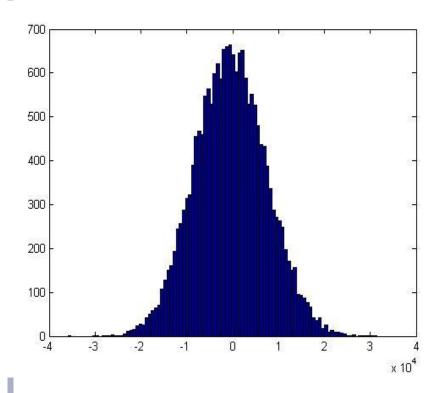






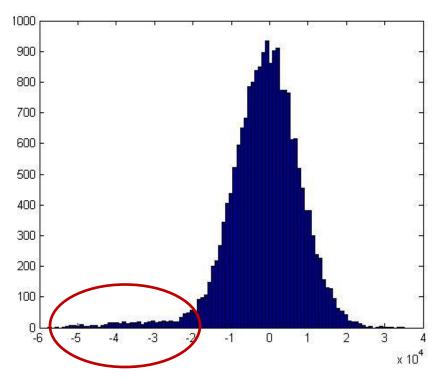


Joint distribution of losses Normal scenarios



Joint tail distribution

Joint distribution of losses Including stress scenarios

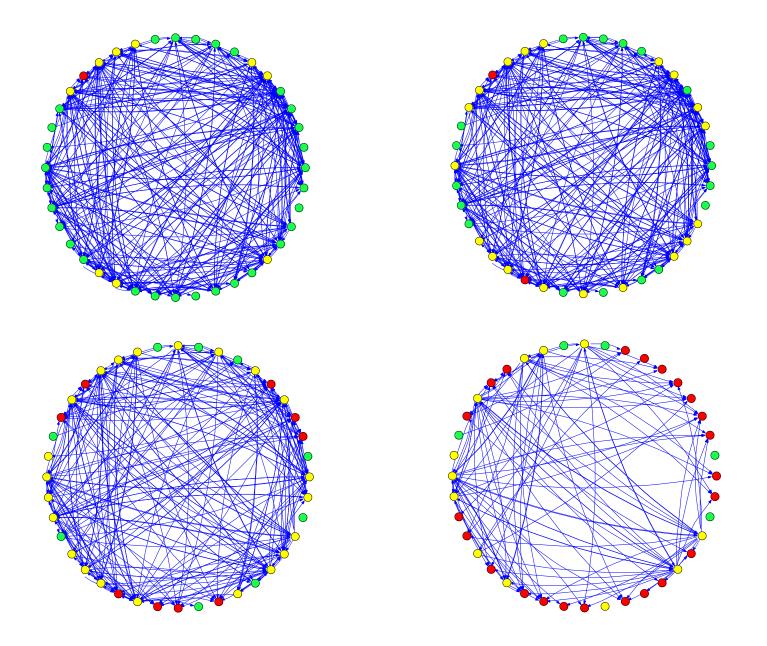


Source: Banco de México

Source: Banco de México



Contagion under stress





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Conclusions

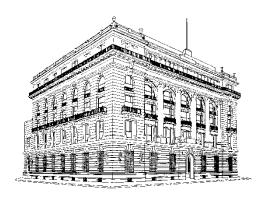
The literature adhered to the belief that the topology of the network was enough to characterize the systemic riskiness of a particular financial system.

The relevance of the initial macroeconomic shock should not be disregarded.

Finally, to concentrate on size and interconnectedness (alone) to determine the systemic importance of institutions could be misleading.

There are another aspects which are very important as well. For example: the size of the losses, the relationship between the capacity of a bank to absorb losses and its exposure on the interbank market.

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