Discussion of: Managing Overreaction during a Run Caio Machado

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The Paper

Contributions

- Methodological: How to solve global game model of bank runs (Morris & Shin, 2000) with diagnostic expectations (Bordalo, Gennaioli & Schleifer, 2018) - nests the RE case θ → 0.
- Application: Trading suspensions to attenuate overreaction can be counter-productive.

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- Application: Trading suspensions to attenuate overreaction can be counter-productive.

Why is this important?

- Pervasive evidence of overreaction to news (e.g., Bordalo et al., 2019, Bordalo et al., 2022, de Bondt & Thaler, 1985), with important aggregate implications (Bordalo et al., 2022; Pedmonte et al., 2023)
- Many recent examples of runs on financial markets: Covid-19 mutual funds, MMMF runs during GFC, "circuit breakers", Terra Luna, etc.
- \rightarrow important to study overreaction and financial instability jointly

Key Features:

- Diagnostic expectations overreaction to news or signals (public signal y private signal x_i about fundamental η)
- Second Expectations become rational
- Ommon knowledge ex-ante returns z, common priors

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First contribution, equilibrium uniqueness result:

- Typical threshold condition, ensures uniqueness of equilibrium
- Diagnostic expectations $\theta > 0$ helps with uniqueness

investor runs $x_i < x^*$ investor renews $x_i > x^*$

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- Bad times (low z), marginal investors higher private signal x_i
- Bad public signal (low y) marginal investors believe runs more likely (higher order beliefs)

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(partial) reversion to Rational Expectations:

• Average investors become more optimistic about fundamental

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(partial) reversion to Rational Expectations:

- Average investors become more optimistic about fundamental
- Marginal investor revises expectations down

 \rightarrow suspensions enabling reversion to RE amplify runs following arrival of bad news.

- Great paper, clear and concise
- Thorough treatment several discussions/extensions
- Fun to read, learned a lot
- Important existence, uniqueness results, tractable -> Interesting applications, sets up additional work

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Points for discussion:

- Motivation contribution 2 evidence suspensions and runs
- Clarify mechanism public information
- Section Extensions: mutual funds & swing pricing

- Evidence of suspensions amplifying runs
- Empirical evidence effects of circuit breakers (see, Chen, Petukhov, Wang, & Xing, *forthcoming* JOF) - "magnet effect"
- ECB suspensions of redemptions during the COVID-19 crisis (Grill et al., 2021)

1. Motivation for Application (contribution 2) - MF Flows

Chart 3

Net flows for suspended and non-suspended bond funds before and after March 2020





Sources: Refinitiv Lipper, Morningstar, Financial Times, funds' prospectuses and annual reports, and ECB calculations.

Notes: The first vertical line denotes 9 March 2020 - the day that the first bond funds in the sample suspended redemptions. The second vertical line denotes 27 March 2020 - the day that the last fund in the sample reopened after suspending redemptions.

source: Grill et al., 2021

- Figure 3 nice characterisation z^* and public signal, ex ante returns
- Characterisation of x* less clear (outside limiting case)
- Public information coordinate higher order beliefs interaction with θ ? (formal treatment)
- Generalise more formally the publicity multiplier: compensation in x_i for y for x* constant (Morris & Shin, 2003)

- Open end collective investments like mutual funds particularly susceptible to redemptions (Jin et al., 2022; Coval & Stafford, 2007; Chen et al., 2010)
- Payoffs reflect swing pricing (e.g., Jin et al., 2022, Review of Fin. Stud.)
- Fund liquidity? (Grill et al., 2022, Chen et al., 2010)

- The uniqueness condition decreasing in θ , intuition?
- Mention section B in appendix when introducing linear payoffs.
- Alternative mechanisms: see working paper version Bernardo, Welch (2004) QJE, conjecture their model: circuit-breakers counter-productive

- Great paper, very clean, focused, and concise!
- Exciting to think about applications, future work

Perhaps a bit more work on:

- Motivating empirically the application chosen
- Clarifying and characterising the role of public signal (x*)
- Extensions studying role of swing pricing in open-end funds

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