

Measuring Liquidity Mismatch in the Banking Sector

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1 Introduction

Liquidity plays an enormous role in financial crises. [Fleming \(2012\)](#) notes that across its many liquidity facilities, the Federal Reserve provided over \$1.5 trillion of liquidity support during the crisis. The number is much higher if one includes other forms of government liquidity support such as lending by the Federal Home Loan Bank – lending to banks peaks at \$1 trillion in September 2008 – or the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation guarantees – insurance limits are increased in the crisis, and the guarantees are extended to \$336 billion of bonds as of March 2009 ([He, Khang, and Krishnamurthy \(2010\)](#)). Recognizing the importance of liquidity in the crisis, the Basel III committee has proposed regulating the liquidity of commercial banks. Yet, despite its importance there is no consensus on how to measure liquidity. Indeed, the only consensus is that liquidity is a slippery concept and is hard to measure.

This paper implements a liquidity measure proposed by [Brunnermeier, Gorton, and Krishnamurthy \(2011, 2012\)](#). Their "Liquidity Mismatch Index" (LMI) measures the mismatch between the market liquidity of assets and the funding liquidity of liabilities, at a firm level. There are many empirical challenges that arise in implementing their theoretical measure. We take up these challenges and design a procedure to implement the LMI that relies on balance-sheet as well as off-balance-sheet information of a given bank and market indicators of liquidity and liquidity premia. We construct the LMI for the universe of bank holding companies (BHCs) in the U.S. and describe features of the time-series and cross-sectional properties of the bank-specific and aggregate LMI.

What makes a good liquidity measure? First, we argue that a liquidity measure should be useful for macro-prudential purposes. It should measure liquidity imbalances in the financial system, offering an early indicator of financial crises. It should also quantitatively describe the liquidity condition of the financial sector, and the amount of liquidity the Fed may be called upon to provide in a financial crisis. The LMI performs well on these metrics. An important aspect of the LMI is that it can be aggregated across banks to measure the liquidity mismatch of a group of banks or the entire financial sector. Liquidity measures which are based on ratios, such as Basel's liquidity coverage ratio, do not possess this aggregation property. Our aggregate LMI as shown in [Figure 3](#) indicates a growing liquidity mismatch over the period from 2002 to 2007. In 2007 Q1, the LMI is near (negative) \$3

trillion. Thus, had the LMI been computed in 2007, the Fed would have expected that in the event of an aggregate liquidity crisis, it may need to provide \$3 trillion of liquidity to completely mitigate the liquidity-run aspect of the financial crisis.¹ Moreover, the LMI reverses course from 2008 to mid-2009, coincident with the Fed's liquidity injections, returning to its 2004 level. Finally, we show that the LMI methodology can naturally be used to administer a liquidity stress test by a regulator, and present the results of such a stress test at various time points.

Our second benchmark arises from micro considerations. We argue that an efficient liquidity measure should describe liquidity risk in the cross-section of banks, identifying which banks carry the most liquidity risk. We show that our measure performs well in this dimension. When market-wide liquidity conditions deteriorate, a firm with a worse LMI should be more negatively affected. We examine the cross-section of banks and show that banks with a worse LMI have lower stock returns during the 2008 financial crisis. We also find that across event dates corresponding to a worsening of liquidity conditions, the low LMI banks experience more negative stock returns. Across event dates corresponding to an increase in Fed liquidity provision, the low LMI banks experience more positive stock returns. Our cross-sectional analysis also reveals interesting patterns in the way that firms manage liquidity. We find that banks with high liquidity mismatch (low LMI value) have high stock returns before and after the crisis, when aggregate liquidity conditions were good. Moreover, we find that the banks that have the lowest LMI (i.e. the most liquidity shortfall) are the largest banks, perhaps suggesting a strategy of exploiting the too-big-to-fail backstop. The LMI thus helps to describe the cross-section of liquidity risk in the financial sector. For regulatory purposes, the cross-sectional LMI can help identify systemically important institutions, but here using a liquidity metric.

These two dimensions, the macro and the micro, appear to us to be the most important dimensions on which to evaluate a liquidity measure. One contribution of the paper is to offer these metrics. This is particularly important going forward because there are in principal many ways to measure liquidity and what is needed are benchmarks that can be used to discriminate across measures.

Related Literature

¹One theoretical rationale to justify liquidity injections by the Fed is an inter-bank market freeze, as modelled in [Acharya and Skeie \(2011\)](#). Another reason is the stigma of borrowing at the discount window. See [Ennis and Weinberg \(2012\)](#) for a signaling model of this stigma. A liquidity injection also prevents coordination failures that can lead to bank insolvency, as in fundamental bank runs models a la [Rochet and Vives \(2004\)](#).

Our paper is related to a small literature on how to measure liquidity. On the practitioner side, there are a number of different metrics that firms use to manage liquidity, ranging from the accounting ‘quick’ ratio to more sophisticated measures. On the policy side, several central bank studies including [Banerjee \(2012\)](#), [de Haan and End \(2012\)](#) investigate measures for bank liquidity regulation in response to Basel III. The pioneering paper in the academic literature is [Berger and Bouwman \(2009\)](#), which is the first paper to recognize the importance of measuring liquidity and propose a theoretically-motivated liquidity measure. [Berger and Bouwman \(2009\)](#) measure the liquidity mismatch at the bank level and explore the cross-sectional and time-series properties of this liquidity mismatch measure. The principal theoretical difference between the LMI and the Berger-Bouwman measure is that the LMI incorporates information from market measures of liquidity and liquidity premia.² In the language of Berger and Bouwman, our liquidity weights are time-varying, while their liquidity weights are only asset and liability specific. Time variation in these liquidity weights is important in capturing liquidity stress during a financial crisis. Another contribution of our paper is in discussing and evaluating the LMI against the benchmarks we have suggested. These benchmarks are important because they help us to calibrate the liquidity weights, which are hard to pin down on purely theoretical grounds.

There is also a banking and corporate finance literature that explores the determinants of liquidity holdings on a firm’s balance sheet, for example, [Heider, Hoerova, and Holhausen \(2009\)](#), [Acharya and Merrouche \(2013\)](#) and [Acharya and Rosa \(2013\)](#). In most of this literature, liquidity is defined as the cash or liquid assets held on the asset side of the balance sheet. In our approach, liquidity is constructed from both asset and liability side of the balance sheet (as in [Berger and Bouwman \(2009\)](#)), and is furthermore dependent on market-wide liquidity conditions. Each asset and each liability contributes to the liquidity position of the bank. We leave it for future work to revisit this literature using our more comprehensive liquidity measure.

In comparing the stock returns of banks that hold more liquidity on their balance sheet to those holding less liquidity, we find that the former underperform during non-crisis periods. This may be because holding liquidity is on average costly, carrying insurance benefits that are only reaped in crisis

²There is an alternative measure in [Berger and Bouwman \(2009\)](#) that sets the weights on bank loans to vary with the amount of securitization. In our paper, the time-varying feature is generalized to every item on and off balance sheet.

periods (as in [Holmstrom and Tirole \(1998\)](#)). It will be interesting to link our findings with a welfare analysis and study the benefits and costs of holding liquidity. It will also be interesting to see if our empirical analysis offers clarity on the optimal regulation of bank liquidity (see e.g., [Stein \(2013\)](#)).

The paper proceeds as follows. The next section builds up a theoretical model for the liquidity mismatch measure and Section 3 constructs the empirical measure. Section 4 evaluates the LMI in the macro dimension while Section 5 evaluates the LMI in the micro dimension. Section 6 concludes the paper and discuss future work.

2 Liquidity Mismatch Index: Theoretical Framework

The Liquidity Mismatch Index (LMI) of [Brunnermeier, Gorton, and Krishnamurthy \(2011, 2012\)](#) provides one approach to measure a bank's liquidity. They define the LMI as the "cash equivalent value" of a firm in a given state assuming that:

- i Counterparties act most adversely. That is, parties that have contracts with the firm act to extract as much cash as possible from the firm under the terms of their contracts. This defines the liquidity promised through *liabilities*.
- ii The firm computes its best course of action, given the assumed stress event, to raise as much cash against its balance sheet as it can to withstand the cash withdrawals. That is, the firm computes how much cash it can raise from asset sales, pre-existing contracts such as credit lines, and collateralized loans such as repo backed by assets currently held by the firm. The computation assumes that the firm is unable to raise unsecured debt or equity. The total cash raised is the *asset-side liquidity*.

The LMI for an entity i at a given time t is the net of the asset and liability liquidity, defined as,

$$LMI_t^i = \sum_k \lambda_{t,a_k} a_{t,k}^i + \sum_{k'} \lambda_{t,l_{k'}} l_{t,k'}^i. \quad (1)$$

Assets ($a_{t,k}^i$) and liabilities ($l_{t,k'}^i$) are balance sheet counterparts, varying over time and by asset or liability class (k, k'). The liquidity weights, $\lambda_{t,a_k} > 0$ and $\lambda_{t,l_{k'}} < 0$, are key items to compute. Points (i)

and (ii) offer some guidance on these weights, but leave considerable latitude. The main contribution of our paper is to propose liquidity weights λ_{t,a_k} and $\lambda_{t,l_{k'}}$, following a derivation based on banks' optimization through choosing their liquidity mismatch.

2.1 Bank Optimization Problem and LMI Derivation for Liabilities

We first focus on computing the liability side LMI, $\sum_{k'} \lambda_{t,l_{k'}} l_{t,k'}^i$. It is easier to explain our methodology by moving to a continuous maturity setting, although we implement the LMI based on a sum of discrete liability classes as in formula (1). We use T to denote the maturity of liability class k' . Thus, let $l_{t,T}^i$ be the liability of the bank i due at time T , where the notation $\{l_{t,T}^i\}$ denotes the stream of maturity-dated liabilities.

We are interested in summarizing the stream $\{l_{t,T}^i\}$ as a single number that captures the liquidity features of the liabilities and how it enters into a bank's decision problem. Denote $V^N(\{l_{t,T}^i\}, t)$ as the value to the bank of choosing liability structure $\{l_{t,T}^i\}$. The bank earns a liquidity premium on its liabilities. In particular, $\pi_{t,T}$ is a liquidity premium the bank earns by issuing a liability of maturity T . The liquidity premium should be thought as the profit on a "carry trade" of issuing liabilities which investor pay a premium $\pi_{t,T}$ and investing the proceeds in long-term assets. Here $\pi_{t,S} > \pi_{t,T}$ for $S < T$, and $\pi_{t,T} = 0$ for large T (i.e. only short-maturity liabilities earn a liquidity premium). Given this liquidity premium structure, the bank is incentivized to issue short-maturity debt. The cost of short-maturity debt is liquidity stress. The bank chooses its liabilities to solve,

$$V^N(\{l_{t,T}^i\}, t) = \max_{\{l_{t,T}^i\}} G(\{l_{t,T}^i\}) + \int_t^\infty l_{t,T}^i \pi_T dT + \psi^i \theta^i LMI(\{l_{t,T}^i\}, t), \quad (2)$$

where the function $G(\cdot)$ represents non-liquidity related reasons for choosing a given liability structure, and the liquidity dimension of liabilities is captured in the remaining terms. Note that in writing this expression, and for all of the derivations that follow, we assume for simplicity that there is no discounting and the interest rate is effectively zero.

For our purposes, the key term in equation (2) is the last one which represents the cost of liquidity stress. We can think of ψ^i as the probability of entering liquidity stress, the LMI (a negative number)

as the dollar liquidity need in the stress event, and θ^i as the cost of acquiring the liquidity needed to cover the stress. For example, one way to think about θ^i is that it reflects the implicit and explicit cost for a bank of going to the discount window. This interpretation is natural for a bank risk manager. We will also think about applying our model for regulatory purposes. In this case, θ^i can be interpreted as the regulator's cost of having a bank come to the discount window for access. We pursue this latter angle later in this section when discussing the case where there are many banks with correlated liquidity shocks. Finally, an alternative interpretation of ψ^i is that it is the Lagrange multiplier in a risk management problem for a bank that maximizes value subject to a risk-management or regulatory constraint that $-LMI(\{l_{t,T}^i\}, t) < \overline{LMI}$, that is, the risk manager imposes a cap on how negative the liquidity mismatch can become.

As an example, if the relevant stress is the failure to rollover \$100 of overnight debt, which happens with probability 20%, and in which case the bank resorts to the discount window paying an explicit and implicit penalty of 1%, then the numbers are $\psi = 20\%$, $\theta = 1\%$, and $LMI = -100$.

In a liquidity stress episode, all contractual claimants on the bank act to maximally extract cash from the bank. This means that overnight debt holders refuse to rollover debt and the bank has to cover the cash shortfall from this loss of funding. A liquidity stress episode is defined by a horizon. If the stress lasts for two days, then holders of two-day debt may also refuse to rollover funding, and so on. We assume that at any t , there is a chance μdt that at date $t + dt$ the stress episode ends and firm has access to free liquidity. The liquidity need function, LMI, can be defined recursively,

$$LMI(\{l_{t,T}^i\}, t) = -l_{t,t}^i dt + (1 - \mu dt)LMI(\{l_{t+dt,T}^i\}, t + dt). \quad (3)$$

As soon as the bank is in a liquidity stress episode, the liquidity $l_{t,t}^i dt$ is extracted from the bank with certainty.

We look for an LMI function that is maturity-invariant, that is, a function where the liquidity cost measured at time t of a liability maturing at time T is only a function of $T - t$. Thus consider the function,

$$LMI(\{l_{t,T}^i\}, t) = \int_t^\infty l_{t,T}^i \lambda_{T-t} dT \quad (4)$$

where λ_{T-t} is a liquidity weight at time t for a liability that matures at time T . It captures the marginal contribution of liability l_T^i to the liquidity pressure on the bank. Substituting the candidate cost function into the recursion equation (3) and solving, we find that,

$$\lambda_{T-t} = -e^{-\mu(T-t)}. \quad (5)$$

So the liquidity weight is an exponential function of the μ and the liability's time to maturity $T - t$. A high μ implies a low chance of illiquidity, and hence high liquidity. The liquidity weights we have constructed embed the expected duration of liquidity needs. This characterization of liquidity weights is consistent with the description of LMI given in [Brunnermeier, Gorton, and Krishnamurthy \(2012\)](#). Their paper considers the following experiment: Suppose that a firm has free access to liquidity (e.g., being able to access equity markets) follows a Poisson process, there is a probability μ that the firm is able to raise equity in any given day. Then, the LMI is based on the expected liquidity outflow going forward. Define the function $f(T, \mu) \in [0, 1]$, where $T = 1$ corresponds to one day and $T = 30$ corresponds to 30 days, as the probability that the firm is unable to access free liquidity by date T . The probability is decreasing in T at a decay rate governed by the parameter μ . Then, the liquidity weight for a given contract $\lambda_{t,L_{t'}}^i$ with maturity T is proportional to $f(T, \mu)$. Furthermore, there may be times, say during a crisis, when the liquidity stress is likely to last longer so that μ is smaller and $f(T, \mu)$ is higher. In these periods we would expect $\lambda_{t,L_{t'}}^i$ to be even lower.

2.2 Measuring μ

A key variable in the construction of the LMI is μ , which measures the expected duration of the stress event. We aim to map μ into an observable asset price. Consider a hypothetical bank which makes its decisions only based on liquidity considerations (i.e. for this bank, $G(\{l_{t,T}^i\}) = 0$). The first order condition for the bank in choosing $l_{t,T}^i$ is:

$$\pi_{t,T} = \psi^i \theta^i e^{-\mu_t T}. \quad (6)$$

The bank earns a liquidity premium on issuing liabilities of maturity T , but at liquidity cost governed by $e^{-\mu_t T}$. The FOC indicates a relation between μ_t and the liquidity premium, which is governed by the market's desire for liquidity.

We propose to measure the liquidity premium using the term structure of OIS-TBill spreads. We assume that $\pi_{t,T}$ is proportional to OIS-TBill spread of the given maturity. This assumption says that when investors have a strong desire to own liquid assets, as reflected in the spread between OIS and T-Bill, any financial intermediary that can issue a liquid liability can earn a premium on this liquidity. There is clear evidence (see [Krishnamurthy and Vissing-Jorgensen \(2013\)](#) and [Nagel \(2014\)](#)), on the relation between the liquidity premia on bank liabilities and market measures of liquidity premia. The OIS-TBill spread is the pure measure of the liquidity premium, as it is not contaminated by credit risk premia. Under this assumption, μ_t is proportional to $\ln(OIS - TBill)/T$. Thus we use time-series variation in the OIS-TBill spread to pin down μ_t .

The derivation above is carried out with the assumption that μ_t varies over time, but is a constant function of T . However, μ itself has a term structure that reflects an uneven speed of exit from the liquidity event (i.e., μ_t is a function of T). The term structure of μ is reflected in the term structure of the liquidity premia, which is observable. It is straightforward to see that in the general case with T -dependent μ , the liquidity premium at maturity T solves:

$$\pi_{t,T} = \psi^i \theta^i e^{-\int_t^T \mu_{t,s} ds}. \quad (7)$$

In our empirical implementation, we assume that this term structure is summarized by two points, a 3-month liquidity spread and a 10 year liquidity spread at every time. Thus we implicitly restrict attention to a two-factor structure for liquidity premia.

2.3 LMI Derivation including Assets

Let us next consider the asset side equation, $\sum_k \lambda_{t,a_k} a_{t,k}^i$. In a liquidity stress event, the bank can use its assets to cover liquidity outflows rather than turning to the discount window (or other sources) at cost θ^i per unit liquidity. The asset side LMI measures the benefit from assets in covering the liquidity

shortfall.

For each asset, $a_{t,k}$, define its cash-equivalent value as $(1 - m_{t,k})a_{t,k}$. Here m_k is most naturally interpreted as a haircut on a term repurchase contract, so that $(1 - m_{t,k})a_{t,k}$ is the amount of cash the bank can immediately raise using $a_{t,k}$ as collateral. Then the total cash available to the bank is,

$$w_t = \sum_k (1 - m_{t,k})a_{t,k}^i \quad (8)$$

The bank can use these assets to cover the liquidity outflow. Define the LMI including assets as, $LMI(\{l_{t,T}^i\}, w_t, t)$, and note that the LMI satisfies the recursion:

$$LMI(\{l_{t,T}^i\}, w_t, t) = \max_{\Delta_t \geq 0} \left(-\max(l_{t,t}^i - \Delta_t, 0)dt + (1 - \mu dt)LMI(\{l_{t+dt,T}^i\}, w_t + dw_t, t + dt) \right) \quad (9)$$

where,

$$dw_t = -\Delta_t.$$

At every t , the bank chooses how much of its cash pool, Δ_t , to use towards covering liability at date t , $l_{t,t}$. Given that there is a chance that the liquidity stress episode will end at $t + dt$, and given that the cost of the liquidity shortfall is linear in the shortfall, it is obvious that the solution will call for $\Delta_t = l_{t,t}$ as long as $w_t > 0$, after which $\Delta_t = 0$. We compute the maximum duration that the bank can cover its outflow, T^* , as the solution to,

$$w_t = \int_t^{T^*} l_{t,T}^i dT. \quad (10)$$

That is, after T^* , the bank will have run down its cash pool. By using the assets to cover liquidity outflows until date T^* , the bank avoids costs of,

$$\psi^i \theta^i \int_t^{T^*} l_{t,T}^i \lambda_{T-t} dT,$$

which is therefore also the value to the bank of having assets of w_t .

In implementing our LMI measure, we opt to simplify further. Rather than solving the somewhat complicated equation (10) to compute T^* as a function of w_t and then computing, $\int_t^{T^*} l_{t,T}^i \lambda_{T-t} dT$, we

instead assume that the cost avoided of having w_t of cash is simply $\psi^i \theta^i w_t$. This approximation is valid as long as T^* is small, so that λ_{T^*-t} is near one, in which case, $\int_t^{T^*} l_{t,T}^i \lambda_{T-t} dT \approx \int_t^{T^*} l_{t,T}^i dT = w_t$. For example, in the case where T^* is one day, the approximation is exact since effectively the cash of w_t is being used to offset today's liquidity outflows one-for-one, saving cost of $\psi^i \theta^i w_t$.

Furthermore, we categorize the liabilities into maturity buckets rather than computing a continuous maturity structure since in practice we only have data for a coarse categorization of maturity. Putting all of this together, the LMI is,

$$LMI_t^i = \sum_k \lambda_{t,a_k} a_{t,k}^i + \sum_{k'} \lambda_{t,l_{k'}} l_{t,k'}^i.$$

where, the asset-side weights are

$$\lambda_{t,a_k} = 1 - m_{t,k}, \quad (11)$$

and the liability-side weights are

$$\lambda_{t,l_{k'}} = -e^{-\mu T_{k'}}. \quad (12)$$

2.4 Aggregation and Correlated Shocks

Suppose there is a unit measure of banks, indexed by i , each choosing assets and liabilities in a market equilibrium. We can define the aggregate LMI as,

$$\widetilde{LMI}_t = \int_0^1 LMI_t^i di \quad (13)$$

We want to capture the idea that running a liquidity mismatch for a given bank at a time when many banks are running a large liquidity mismatch is more costly than when many banks are running a small mismatch. For example, a regulator or a risk manager may want to penalize the LMI more in the case of aggregate shocks than idiosyncratic shocks. To this end, we penalize the liquidity weights in simple way to capture the aggregate dependence. We assume that,

$$\lambda_{t,l_{k'}} = -e^{-\mu T_{k'}} e^{-\gamma \widetilde{LMI}_t} \quad (14)$$

This dependence can be thought as follows:

$$\lambda_{t,l_{k'}} = -e^{-\hat{\mu}T_{k'}} \quad \text{with,} \quad \hat{\mu} = \mu + \gamma \frac{\widetilde{LMI}_t}{T}.$$

As $\widetilde{LMI}_t < 0$, the effective duration parameter, $\hat{\mu}$ is lower, which translates to a longer duration of the liquidity event. We can think of our modeling as capturing a risk-adjustment to the probability of a liquidity stress, similar to change of measure common in asset pricing. The parameter γ (“risk aversion”) captures the extent of the risk-adjustment. We likewise assume that,

$$\lambda_{t,a_k} = (1 - m_{t,k})e^{-\gamma\widetilde{LMI}_t}, \quad (15)$$

since asset side liquidity is more valuable for a bank facing a more costly liquidity need.

Note that this approach requires us to solve a fixed point problem: \widetilde{LMI}_t is a function of the λ s by the definition of the LMI, and the λ s are a function of \widetilde{LMI}_t . We solve the following equation at every t :

$$\widetilde{LMI}_t = e^{-\gamma\widetilde{LMI}_t} \int_0^1 \left(\sum_k (1 - m_{t,k}) a_{t,k}^i + \sum_{k'} e^{-\mu T_{k'}} l_{t,k'}^i \right) di. \quad (16)$$

2.5 Equilibrium

The preceding subsections describe a decision problem that pins down \widetilde{LMI} , the aggregate quantity of liquidity supplied by the banking sector. Theoretically, the bank supplied liquidity is part of a general equilibrium in the market for liquidity. Although it is not essential for our measurement exercise, being more explicit in describing this equilibrium may help in providing academic context for the exercise. Following Holmstrom and Tirole (1998), there is a demand for liquidity from the non-financial sector $D(\pi_T)$, which is a function of the liquidity premium. The supply of liquidity is comprised of private supplied liquidity $\int_0^1 LMI_t^i$ and government supplied liquidity S_t . Thus the market clearing condition is,

$$D(\pi_T) = S_t + \widetilde{LMI}_t \quad (17)$$

which, along with $\pi_T = \psi^i \theta^i e^{-\mu T}$, pins down the price π_T and the aggregate liquidity \widetilde{LMI} . The γ parameter captures the market risk aversion, and the $e^{-\gamma \widetilde{LMI}_t}$ in aggregate LMI can be seen as a change of measure on μ .

3 Liquidity Mismatch Index: Empirical Design

Following our theoretical model, we need to collect assets and liabilities for each bank and define their liquidity weights correspondingly. The asset-side liquidity weights are driven by haircuts of underlying securities, while the liability-side weights are determined by liabilities' maturity structure and easiness of rollover ('stickiness'). Both are affected by the expected stress duration, which is pinned down by market liquidity premium.

[Table 1 about here]

We construct the LMI for U.S. bank holding companies (BHC). The key source of balance sheet information of BHCs comes from the FRY-9C *Consolidated Report of Condition and Income*, which is completed on a quarterly basis by each BHC with at least \$150 million in total assets before March 2006 or \$500 million since then.³ The sample period is from 2002:Q1 to 2013:Q1. The dataset includes 2870 BHCs throughout the sample period, starting with 1884 firms in 2002:Q1 and ending with 1176 firms in 2013:Q1. Among 2870 BHCs, there are 41 U.S. subsidiaries of foreign banks, such as Taunus corp (parent company is Deutsche Bank) and Barclays U.S. subsidiary. Table 1 lists the summary statistics for these BHCs, including Total Assets (in \$mil), Leverage (the ratio of total liability to total asset), Foreign to Total Deposit ratio, Risk adjusted asset (in \$mil), Tier 1 Risk-based Capital Ratio, Total Capital Ratio, and Tier 1 Leverage Ratio (all three are Basel regulatory measures), as well as return on assets (ROA) and return on equity (ROE). Panel B provides a snapshot of the top 50 BHCs, ranked by their total asset values as of March 31, 2006. The top 50 BHCs together have a total asset of 10.58 trillion US dollars, comprising a large fraction of total industry assets.

³The Y-9C regulatory reports provide data on the financial condition of a bank holding company, based on the US GAAP consolidation rules, as well as the capital position of the consolidated entity. The balance sheet and income data include items similar to those contained in SEC filings; however, the regulatory reports also contain a rich set of additional information, including data on regulatory capital and risk-weighted assets, off-balance sheet exposures, securitization activities, and so on.

3.1 Asset-side Liquidity Weight

The assets of a bank consist of cash, securities, loans and leases, trading assets, and intangible assets. Under a liquidity shock, a bank can raise cash by borrowing against a given asset or by selling that asset. Asset liquidity weight defines the amount of cash a bank can raise over a short-term horizon for a given asset. A good weight spectrum across assets should comply with two criteria: i) reflecting the market price in real time, ii) capturing the liquidity ranks across assets in a consistent way. For example, assets like cash, and federal funds are ultra liquid and hence should have a fixed sensitivity weight value of one, the highest rank. Assets like fixed and intangible assets are extremely difficult or time-consuming to convert into liquid funds and hence should have a fixed weight value of zero. The challenge is to find a measure which can be applied to various types of in-between assets and also reflect their time-varying market prices.

Implied from our theoretical model, we construct asset liquidity weights from haircut data on repo transactions. (Appendix A shows the details.) One minus the haircut in a repo transaction directly measures how much cash a firm can borrow against an asset, so that the haircut is a natural measure of asset liquidity sensitivity. In addition, the haircuts change over market conditions and hence can reflect the real-time market prices. The haircut is also known to vary with measures of asset price volatility and tail risk for a given asset class, which are commonly associated with market liquidity of the asset. Thus, the haircut is particularly attractive as a single measure of asset liquidity.

We collect haircut data based on repo transactions reported by the Money Market Fund (MMF) sector, which is the largest provider of repo lending to banks and dealers.⁴ According to the Flow of Funds data of September 2011, US Money Market Funds have \$458 billion of holdings in repo contracts, representing 46% of the total volume of repo lending in the US. The list of the 145 largest

⁴The MMF data measures haircuts in what is known as the tri-party repo market (see [Krishnamurthy, Nagel, and Orlov \(2014\)](#) for details). It is apparent that haircuts in the tri-party market were much more stable than in the bilateral repo market (see [Copeland, Martin, and Walker \(2010\)](#) and [Gorton and Metrick \(2012\)](#)), which leads to the concern that tri-party haircuts may not accurately capture market liquidity conditions. We conduct a robustness check by calculating the asset-side liquidity sensitivity using the bilateral repo haircuts recovered from our tri-party repo data and the differences of haircut between bilateral and tri-party repo documented in [Copeland, Martin, and Walker \(2011\)](#). (We thank the authors for providing the data on the differences of bilateral and tri-party repo haircuts.) The resulting liquidity sensitivity weights remain almost unchanged for high-quality assets such as Treasury and agency bonds, but become more variable during the crisis for low-quality assets such as asset-backed securities, corporate debt, and foreign debt. However, when using the bilateral repo haircuts, the impact on the calculation of liquidity mismatch index is not much different from that using the tri-party repo data.

prime institutional Money Market Funds is obtained from Peter Crane intelligence. Our approach follows [Krishnamurthy, Nagel, and Orlov \(2014\)](#). For each fund, we further parse forms N-Q, N-CSR and N-CSRS from the SEC Edgar website. We obtain the following details for each repo loan at the date of filing: collateral type, collateral fair value, notional amount, repurchase amount at maturity, and the identities of borrower and lender. Using this information, we compute the haircut from the collateral fair value P and the notional amount D as $m = 1 - P/D$.

[Table 2 about here.]

Between the extreme liquid (cash) and illiquid (intangible) assets, two main categories, securities and trading assets, share the same components. These components resound with the collateral classes in repo transactions: Treasuries, agencies, commercial paper, municipals, corporate debt, foreign debt, structured Finance, and equity. Table 2 shows the distribution of haircut rates across collateral types in our sample. It is clear that Treasury bills and bonds have the lowest haircuts when serving as collateral, with an average rate of 2.3%. Agency bonds have the second lowest haircut, on average of 2.6%. Commercial paper and municipal bonds have relatively lower liquidity, and hence slightly higher haircuts, with an average of 2.9% and 3.9% respectively. Structured finance assets, corporate debt and foreign debt have higher haircuts around 5%.

Though sharing similar components, different categories serve as different purposes on the balance sheet. For example, securities categories can be further divided into held-to-maturity securities and available-for-sale securities. Together with securities in trading assets category, these securities should claim different liquidity sensitivity weights depending on their purposes. When facing a liquidity shock, securities in the trading assets category are often the first to be sold, whereas similar securities in the available-for-sale category are the second in the selling consideration, and those in the held-for-maturity category are often untouched unless in an emergency. To accommodate this concern, we assign a constant that scales the liquidity sensitivity weights depending on the purpose a security serves on the balance sheet. The scale coefficient is one for securities in the Trading Assets category, 0.75 for Available-for-Sale Securities, and 0.50 for Held-to-Maturity Securities.

One remaining category undiscussed yet important is bank loans. Ideally, we should use the loan

transaction data to compute loan liquidity weights. However, we hesitate to do so for two reasons. First, although our repo market data does not include the collateral class of loans — rather we use the haircut of structural finance repo contract to capture the liquidity of loans secured by real estates, and use the maximum of haircuts across all collateral classes to capture the liquidity of commercial & industry loans — our haircuts for loans match the number as shown in [Copeland, Martin, and Walker \(2011\)](#) (category ‘Whole Loans’ in Table 2). More importantly, even if we derive liquidity sensitivity from loan transaction data, there is a challenge on how to match this weight to the weights from other assets. Overall, we need measures that maintain the relative liquidity rankings across asset categories and it is easier to do this using a single liquidity measure such as haircuts.

Clearly, there are subjective judgments that goes into the weights, although this is a general feature of this type of exercise (e.g., the liquidity measures in Basel III are also based on judgment). In particular, the constant scales assigned to different asset categories are ad-hoc. This raises the concern that the sensitivity of the scale may affect the calculation of liquidity mismatch index. We do robustness checks by allowing the scale to change 25 percent lower and higher and recalculated the LMI. These checks result in similar time-series and cross-sectional performance of LMI.

3.2 Liability-side Liquidity Weights

Whereas the asset-side is liquidity inflow, with an exposure to liquidity equal to one minus the haircut, the liability-side is liquidity outflow, carrying negative weights. Liability-side liquidity depends on contract maturity and liability’s easiness of rollover. The goal of a bank’s liquidity risk management is to balance liquidity inflow and outflow in order to achieve an optimal firm value by minimizing the liquidity stress cost.

We implement the theoretical derivation of liquidity weights as follows, with the details shown in [Appendix A](#). According to our model, the liability-side liquidity weights (putting aside the γ feedback for now) are determined jointly by $\{\mu, T_k\}$:

$$\lambda_{T-t} = -e^{\mu T_k}.$$

The parameter μ captures the expected stress duration and we estimate it through the combination of short-term and long-term market liquidity premium:

$$\mu_{T_{k'}} = \mu_{ST} \min(T_{k'}, 1) + \mu_{LT} T_{k'} \mathbb{1}_{T_{k'} > 1}. \quad (18)$$

The literature has considered many proxies to measure the liquidity premium, so that there is no uniformly accepted candidate to measure μ . The main drawback of proposed measures such as the Libor-OIS spread and the Treasury-Eurodollar spread is that they are contaminated by credit risk (see [Smith \(2012\)](#) for a detailed discussion). We choose to use the spread between OIS swap rates and Treasury bills as our measure, as such a spread is likely to be minimally affected by credit risk. Yet, as Treasury bills are more liquid than overnight federal funds loans, this measure will capture any time variation in the valuation of liquid securities. Furthermore, as opposed to other measures of liquidity premium, say micro-structure measures drawn from stocks or bonds, TOIS is more closely aligned with the funding conditions of financial intermediaries. In equation (18), we use the logarithm of 3-month and 10-year OIS-TBill spreads to measure the short-term and long-term liquidity premium, μ_{ST} and μ_{LT} . [Figure 1](#) plots the two spreads at daily frequency. We observe that TOIS was volatile and strikingly large since the subprime crisis starting from the summer of 2007, suggesting the deterioration of funding liquidity. It became stable and close to zero since the summer of 2009, reflecting the normalization of liquidity conditions.

[[Figure 1](#) about here]

The parameter $T_{k'}$ indicates the maturity of liability. For example, overnight financing (federal funds and repo) has a maturity of 0, commercial paper has a maturity of 0.25 year, debt with maturity less or equal than one year has $T = 1$, debt with maturity longer than one year has $T = 5$, subordinated debts have $T = 10$, equity has a maturity of 30 years. For insured deposit, we assign its maturity proxy as $T = 10$ while uninsured deposit is more vulnerable to liquidity withdraw hence has a much shorter maturity proxy, say $T = 1$. For trading liabilities, we follow the rule for trading assets and use the haircut rates to define corresponding liquidity weights.

[Figure 2](#) shows the liability-side liquidity weight with respect to the maturity parameter $T_{k'}$,

conditional on scenarios of market liquidity premium. The left panel shows the case for a longer maturity $T_{k'} \in (0, 15]$ years, and the right panel shows a snapshot for $T_{k'} \in [0, 1]$. In normal times when the OIS-Tbill spread is small (dash blue line, OIS-TBill=0.01), only the very short-term liabilities have high weights. In liquidity crisis (solid black line, OIS-Tbill=0.9), all types of liabilities have significantly larger weights except the very long-duration securities such as equity.

[Figure 2 about here]

We also examine the liquidity sensitivity of off-balance-sheet securities.⁵ We label these off-balance-sheet data as *contingent liabilities*, which include unused commitments, credit lines, securities lend and derivative contracts. Contingent liabilities have played an increasingly important role in determining a bank's liquidity condition, especially during the financial crisis of 2007 - 2009. Given their relative stickiness to rollover in normal times, we assign a maturity proxy of $T = 5$ or 10 years.

Sharing the concern in asset-side liquidity weight, we also do the sensitivity analysis on the maturity parameter $T_{k'}$. The performance of LMI in next two sections remain unchanged for different sets of reasonable maturity setup.

4 Macro-Variation in the LMI

4.1 LMI as a Macro-Prudential Barometer

The LMI can be aggregated across firms and sectors. This is a property that is not shared by Basel's liquidity coverage measure which is a ratio and hence cannot be meaningfully aggregated. Summed across all BHCs, the aggregate LMI equals the supply of liquidity provided by the banking sector to the non-financial sector. We suggest that this aggregate LMI is a useful barometer for a macro-prudential assessment of systemic risk, which is a principal advantage of our method in measuring liquidity. When the aggregate LMI is low, the banking sector is more susceptible to a liquidity stress ("runs"). Indeed, the macro aspect of the aggregate LMI has already played a role in our construction: in the previous section, we computed the funding liquidity stress via a feedback that depends on the

⁵The off-balance-sheet securities are based on Schedule HC-L (Derivatives and Off-Balance-Sheet Items) and HC-S (Servicing, Securitization, and Asset Sales Activities) in Y-9C report.

aggregate LMI, relying on the notion that the aggregate LMI is a macro-prudential stress indicator.

Figure 3 plots the aggregate liquidity mismatch over the period from 2002 to 2013. Recall that a negative value of LMI at the firm level indicates a balance sheet that is more vulnerable to liquidity stress (i.e. liability illiquidity is greater than the liquidity that can be sourced from assets). Consistent with Diamond and Dybvig (1983) and Gorton and Pennacchi (1990), we find that the banking sector carries a negative liquidity position (that is, the banking sector provides more liquidity than it consumes, hence the banking sector creates liquidity) throughout our sample. The magnitude of the LMI is important as it indicates whether our calibration of the liquidity weights are in the right ballpark. The LMI right before the crisis is about 5.5 trillion dollars which is of the same magnitude as the Fed and other government liquidity provision actions in the crisis.

[Figure 3 about here.]

The liquidity position evolves markedly over time. At the beginning of our sample, 2002Q1, the total liquidity mismatch was about -0.84 trillion dollars. There was a pronounced increase in the LMI afterwards and an acceleration in 2007. The LMI hit its trough in 2008Q1 when the total mismatch achieved -5.54 trillion dollars, prefacing the financial crisis. The liquidity mismatch reversed with the Fed's liquidity injections and as the crisis faded and recovered to the pre-crisis level by 2009Q1. The trough of the liquidity mismatch occurred two quarters before the Lehman Brothers' bankruptcy and four quarters before the stock market reached its nadir. This suggests that the LMI can serve as a barometer or an early warning signal of a liquidity crisis. The evolution of the LMI is also related to the liquidity intervention by government, which we will discuss further in the next subsection.

Figure 3 also plots the time-series of aggregate LMI summed over top 50 BHCs. These BHCs were the primary users of the Fed's liquidity facilities from 2007 to 2009. The aggregate LMI of the top 50 BHCs is very close to that of the universe of BHCs, in terms of both the pattern and the magnitude. This evidence suggests that in dollar amount, the US banking sector's liquidity condition is overwhelmingly determined by large banks represented by the top 50 BHCs. The remaining banks have a small impact totaling about 0 ~ 300 billion dollars over time.

[Figure 4 about here.]

To understand further the composition of aggregate LMI, we present in Figure 4 the liquidity mismatch on and off balance sheet. Clearly, the off-balance-sheet liquidity pressure has been alleviated since the end of 2007. The change seems closely related to regulatory rules such as the Dodd-Frank Act on structured financial products.

4.2 LMI and Federal Reserve Liquidity Injection

We next discuss the impact of the government's liquidity injection on the U.S. banking sector's liquidity mismatch during the crisis. The Fed launched a range of new programs to the banking sector in order to support overall market liquidity. Appendix B provides the background on these programs. The liquidity support began in December 2007 with the Term Auction Facility (TAF) and continued with other programs. It is apparent from Figure 3 that the improvement in the aggregate liquidity position of the banking sector coincides with the Fed's liquidity injection. While we cannot demonstrate causality, it is likely that the liquidity injection has played a role in the increase of the aggregate LMI.

We study the effect of the Fed injections on the cross-section of LMI. There are 559 financial institutions receiving liquidity from the Fed,⁶ among them there are 87 bank holding companies (those submit Y-9C regulatory reports). These BHCs on average borrowed 95.8 billion dollars, with a median value of 0.7 billion dollars. The bank-level borrowing amount ranges from \$5 million to \$2 trillion. The ten bank holding companies which have received the most liquidity are Citigroup, Morgan Stanley, Bear Sterns, Bank of America, Goldman Sachs, Barclays U.S. subsidiary, JP Morgan Chase, Wells Fargo, Wachovia and Deutsche Bank's US subsidiary, Taunus.

[Figure 5 about here.]

Figure 5 plots the relation between the Fed liquidity injection and the change in LMI, cross-sectionally. The liquidity injection is measured by the log of the dollar amount of loans received by a given BHC, and the change in LMI is measured by the log of the difference in LMI between the

⁶One parent institution may have different subsidiaries receiving the liquidity injection. For example, AllianceBearnStein is an investment asset management company. Under this company, there are seven borrowers listed in the Fed data such as AllianceBearnStein Global Bond Fund, Inc, AllianceBearnStein High Income Fund, Inc, AllianceBearnStein TALF Opportunities Fund, etc.

post-crisis and the pre-crisis period (Panel A) and between the post-crisis and the crisis period (Panel B). Both panels document a strong positive correlation between the change in LMI and the level of the Fed liquidity injection. This evidence confirms the effect of the Fed's liquidity facilities on improving the banking sector liquidity.⁷

4.3 LMI Decomposition: Asset, Liability, and Liquidity Weights

The LMI depends on assets, liabilities, and liquidity weights. Panels A and B in Figure 6 show the asset- and liability-side liquidity, scaled by total assets, for top 50 BHCs.⁸ The scale of the y-axis is in the same order across two panels (asset-side is [0,1] whereas liability-side is [-1,0]), in order to facilitate a comparison of the relative movement in asset and liability liquidity. The red line is the median value while the shade area depicts the 10th to 90th percentiles. Both asset-side and liability-side liquidity contribute to the movement in the LMI, yet the liability side seems to play a bigger role. During 2008–2013, banks slightly increase their asset liquidity while have largely reduced liquidity pressure from the liability side. Panel C in Figure 6 plots the ratio of asset liquidity to liability liquidity (in absolute value) for the top 50 BHCs. The movement in the median ratio is consistent with our findings of the time-series pattern in the aggregate LMI.

[Figure 6 and 7 about here.]

We next turn to explaining how the changing liquidity weights contribute to movements in the LMI. Figure 7 plots the LMI under three weighting schemes: the blue line is our baseline case with time-varying weights; the green dashed line uses a fixed set of weights as of 2006Q1 (before the financial crisis); and the red dashed line uses weights as of 2008Q1 (the trough of the LMI). All three lines use the same contemporaneous balance sheet information. The three variations show that the time-varying weights contribute to a difference in liquidity of approximately 3 trillion dollars in the trough of 2008Q1, compared with using the pre-crisis weight as of 2006Q1. This figure also highlights

⁷Berger, Bouwman, Kick, and Schaeck (2013) shows that capital injections and regulatory interventions have a costly persistent effect on reducing liquidity creation. Taken together, their result and our result advocate for liquidity injections in crisis times as a desirable policy intervention.

⁸The result remains robust if we extend the analysis to the universe of BHCs. For brevity, we here only report the results for Top 50 banks, given the fact that they dominate the aggregate LMI and hence should be the target of our research.

the importance of adopting a time-varying weight linked to market conditions in terms of accurately delineating the banking sector liquidity.

4.4 Liquidity Stress Test

The Federal Reserve has recently engaged in liquidity stress tests which are designed to examine banks' ability to withstand a given liquidity stress event. The liquidity stress test is an addition to the Supervisory Capital Assessment Program (SCAP), which has become a standard process to test if a bank has sufficient capital to cover a given stress event. The decomposition of Figure 7 indicates a simple methodology to run a liquidity stress test within our measurement framework. The only difference across the three lines in Figure 7 are the liquidity weights, which in turn are determined by the time-varying repo haircuts m_t and the funding liquidity factor (μ_t). We suggest that a liquidity stress test can be implemented as a set of realizations of the funding liquidity factor or repo haircut, and these realizations can be traced through the liquidity weights to compute the stress effects on the liquidity of a given bank.

[Table 3 about here.]

We run a liquidity stress test at three time points: 2006Q1 (before the crisis), 2008Q1 (liquidity trough) and 2012Q4 (Fed's first liquidity stress test). Table 3 reports the results. Consider the first column corresponding to 2008Q1. The first row in the benchmark, denoted as "T", corresponds to the LMI value as of 2008Q1. The next line, denoted as "[0,T]", reports the historical average LMI up to this time point. We then compute the LMI under stress scenarios. The first line of the funding liquidity scenario reports the LMI based on assets and liabilities as of 2008Q1, but using liquidity weights that are based on one standard deviation (1-sigma) from the historical mean value of the funding liquidity state variable. We similarly report numbers over the next few rows based on weights when funding liquidity factor μ_t or haircut \bar{m}_t is 1, 2, and 6 sigmas away from historical mean values.

The numbers reflect that during the severe liquidity dry-up in 2008Q1 the aggregate liquidity condition was between 2 to 6 sigmas from historical average values. In contrast, in 2012Q4, a six-sigma deviation from its historical average value, either under the funding liquidity or haircut stress

scenarios, does not result in an LMI as low as the 2008Q1 scenario. That is, the banking sector currently has a better liquidity profile than when it enters the financial crisis.

5 LMI and the Cross-Section of Banks

The previous section presented one benchmark for evaluating the LMI, namely its utility from a macro-prudential viewpoint. We now consider another benchmark for evaluating the LMI. If the LMI contains information regarding the liquidity risk of a given bank, then changes in market liquidity conditions will affect the stock returns of banks differentially depending on their LMI. That is, as market liquidity conditions deteriorate, a firm with a worse liquidity position (lower LMI) should experience a more negative stock return.

We begin this section descriptively. We first show how the LMI of different banks varies over time, and what characteristics of banks correlate with their LMI. Then we examine the stock returns of banks with different LMIs under various liquidity events.

5.1 Cross-Sectional LMI

Figure 8 plots the cross-sectional distribution of the LMI over the universe of BHCs, with Panel A for the LMI scaled by total assets and Panel B for the LMI in absolute dollar amount. The red solid line is the median value while the shade area depicts the 10th to 90th percentiles.

[Figure 8 about here.]

The median value of the scaled LMI in Panel A follows the aggregate pattern in Figure 3. The shaded region (10th and 90th percentiles) is also stable suggesting that bank holding companies tend to have a stable cross-sectional distribution of liquidity. The version in Panel B, where LMI is not scaled rather in dollar amount, tells a different story and indicates a vast heterogeneity across banks' liquidity condition. The figure suggests that bank size (as measured by total assets) plays an important role in differentiating the absolute amount of liquidity mismatch across banks. At the beginning of the sample, the BHCs have a small dispersion in their liquidity conditions. The dispersion widens noticeably after 2007, likely because of the development of structured financial products. After the

financial crisis, the dispersion narrowed again as some of these products are unwound, but remains wider than in the early 2000s.

We plot the time-series LMI for twelve representative banks in Figure 9, with Panel A for LMI scaled by total assets and Panel B for LMI in dollar amount. The LMI is negative for most of the bank holding companies, illustrating the pervasive liquidity mismatch of the banking sector during the crisis. For banks such as JPMorgan Chase, Bank of America, Wells Fargo, the LMI dramatically deteriorated during the crisis, but improved steadily from 2009 onwards, yet remained negative throughout the sample. For other banks like Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley, the LMI was also negative but much smaller in magnitude.⁹ For banks like Citibank and Northern Trust, the LMI was negative in the beginning but switched the sign after the crisis, indicating a liquidity-surplus condition.

[Figure 9 about here.]

The absolute level of the LMI may be useful as an indicator of systemic importance (i.e. "SIFI" status). For this purpose, we plot the bank-level LMI in dollar amount in Panel B, with the same y-axis scale to allow comparison. In the cross-section, banks have strikingly different liquidity levels. Banks like JP Morgan Chase, Bank of America, and Citigroup have large liquidity shortfall during the crisis whereas banks like State Street Corp, Northern Trust have a far smaller liquidity shortfall.

We report the top 15 banks with the most significant liquidity mismatch in Table 4, based on the average absolute LMI level over the whole sample. Banks with the most liquidity shortfall also correspond with common notions of the "too-big-to-fail" banks: Bank of America, Citigroup, JP Morgan Chase, Wachovia, and Wells Fargo taking the top positions. These banks experience their most stressed liquidity conditions in 2008Q1. American Express (ranked tenth) had the largest liquidity shortfall in the first quarter of 2009. The mortgage-related financial institution, Countrywide, saw its biggest liquidity mismatch in 2006Q2, one year before the subprime crisis. We also report the top 5 banks with the best average liquidity condition. They are smaller banks, although still among the top 50 BHCs.

⁹The data for Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley begin in 2009Q1 given that these investment banks converted to bank holding companies after the Lehman event in September 2008.

[Table 4 and 5 about here.]

We investigate the relationship between the LMI and bank characteristics for the universe of BHCs. Table 5 shows the results of regressing scaled-LMI and absolute LMI (in dollar amount), on a set of bank characteristics, which are collected from the Y-9C reports. The univariate specifications suggest that banks tend to have lower scaled LMI (worse liquidity condition) when they have larger risk-weighted assets, or more profitability (measured by return on asset (ROA)), or lower capital ratio. The multivariate specification (4) shows that these results are robust after the inclusion of other BHC characteristics. Specifications (5)-(8) show the similar results using the absolute LMI as dependent variable. Among all bank characteristics, risk-adjusted asset has the most explanatory power on bank liquidity condition.

5.2 LMI and Market Performance

We first investigate the correlation between LMI and stock market performance.¹⁰ To this end, we sort BHCs and construct two portfolios: LMI High and LMI Low, based on their scaled LMI values averaged over the episode up to 2006Q1. Note that the unscaled LMI is driven almost entirely by bank size, hence it is less suitable when we study the relationship between bank liquidity and stock market performance (although as we have shown, the scaled LMI also correlates positively with size). The High LMI portfolio contains 100 BHCs with the highest LMI (best liquidity condition), and the Low LMI portfolio contains 100 BHCs with the lowest LMI (worst liquidity condition), in the universe of public BHCs during the pre-crisis period. Table 6 describes the summary statistics of the banks forming each of the two portfolios.

[Table 6 and Figure 10 about here.]

Figure 10 presents the cross-section of market performance, where equity market performance is measured by the market capitalization of the portfolio normalized by its level as of 2006Q1. As shown in the figure, the Low LMI portfolio of BHCs outperformed the High LMI portfolio before the crisis.

¹⁰Given that the balance sheet information of foreign banks' U.S. subsidiaries cannot match their parent companies' stock market price, we exclude all foreign banks' U.S. subsidiaries in this analysis.

This pattern reversed in the crisis, when banks with a larger liquidity shortfall (the Low LMI portfolio) experienced lower stock returns. The gap between Low and High portfolios continued widening till 2009Q1 (the episode when stock market tumbled to record low point), then narrowed down. The pattern reversed again with the better performance of the Low LMI portfolio in the post-crisis period, though the reverse lasts shortly.

One possible explanation for our finding is that hoarding liquidity is costly, and only generates benefits in crises periods. Thus the low LMI banks are systematically more risky and more exposed to crises than the high LMI banks. [Berger and Bouwman \(2009\)](#) show that banks which are the most active in liquidity creation are rewarded by the stock market. We show that this correlation is dramatically reversed in crisis times. This result provides support to the hypothesis that the banking sector actively creates liquidity in good times (pre-crisis) but at the expense of building fragility, an idea that is tested in the aggregate by [Berger and Bouwman \(2012\)](#). Our cross-sectional approach identifies that the banks that create the most liquidity are the most vulnerable to financial crises.

5.3 Event Study: LMI and Liquidity Shock

The LMI is intended to measure the the exposure of a bank to a liquidity stress event. If the LMI is informative in this dimension then we should observe differential performance of banks with different LMI across market-wide liquidity events. In particular, we expect that the banks with low LMI (poor liquidity) to perform worse under a negative liquidity shock whereas it performs better under a positive liquidity shock. We follow an event study methodology to test this hypothesis.

We sort the public BHCs and construct two portfolios according to their LMI values at the end of previous quarter, LMI High and LMI Low. Each portfolio contains value-weighted 100 banks with the highest/lowest LMI value. We use the Fama-French three-factor model to compute expected returns within the estimation window of $[t-180, t-30]$, where t denotes the event day of a liquidity shock.

We then choose significant liquidity events in the sample. These events are chosen based on considering a large move in the TOIS spread as well as economic news such as the announcement of Fed liquidity facilities. Note that events cluster in the crisis and hence obscure the effect of liquidity shock. To identify a clean event, we choose the first event over any consecutive 30 days when the

TOIS makes a significant negative jump or when the Fed announces the creation of a liquidity-related facility. We end-up with three events on positive liquidity shocks, PDCF (March 17, 2008), CPFF (October 7, 2008), and TALF (November 25, 2008), as well as three events on negative liquidity shocks, $\Delta TOIS = -59\text{bps}$ (August 20, 2007), $\Delta TOIS = -30\text{bps}$ (October 10, 2008), and $\Delta TOIS = -53\text{bps}$ (September 17, 2008).

[Figure 11 about here.]

Figure 11 show the cumulative abnormal returns (CAR) during the $[-2, 5]$ event window, with a normalization on the event date $t = 0$. We observe that the Low LMI portfolio underperforms the High LMI portfolio in days after a negative liquidity shock, whereas it overperforms the High LMI portfolio after a positive liquidity shock, confirming our hypothesis.

6 Conclusion

This paper implements the liquidity measure, LMI, which evaluates the liquidity of a given bank under a liquidity stress event that is parameterized by liquidity weights.

Relative to the Liquidity Coverage Ratio (LCR) of Basel III (which is conceptually closer to our liquidity measurement exercise than the Net Stable Funding Ratio), the LMI has three principal advantages. First, the LMI, unlike the LCR, can be aggregated across banks and thereby provide a macro-prudential liquidity parameter. Second, the LCR uses an arbitrary liquidity horizon of 30 days. Our implementation of the LMI links the liquidity horizon to market based measures of liquidity premia as well as the aggregate LMI. Thus our measurement has the desirable feature that during a financial crisis when liquidity premia are high, the LMI is computed under a longer-lasting liquidity scenario. Likewise, when the aggregate LMI of the financial sector is high, indicating fragility of the banking sector, the LMI is computed under a longer-lasting scenario. Third, the LMI framework provides a natural methodology to implement liquidity stress tests.

The LMI has a close precedent, the [Berger and Bouwman \(2009\)](#) liquidity creation measure. The primary change relative to the Berger-Bouwman measure is that the LMI is based on time- and state-dependent liquidity weights. This is an important modification because it naturally links

bank liquidity positions to market liquidity conditions, and thus is better suited to serving as a macroprudential barometer (and a stress testing framework). We have shown that the LMI performs well relative to our macroprudential benchmarks. We have also shown that the LMI contains important information regarding the liquidity risks in the cross-section of banks.

We do not view the LMI measures of this paper as a finished product. We have made choices regarding the liquidity weights in computing the LMI. These weights play a central role in the performance of the LMI against our macro and micro benchmarks. It will be interesting to bring in further data to better pin down liquidity weights. Such data may be more detailed measures of security or funding liquidity drawn from financial market measures. Alternatively, such data may be balance sheet information from more banks, such as European banks, which will offer further data on which to calibrate the LMI. In either case, the approach of this paper can serve as template for developing a better liquidity measure.

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Table 1: Summary Statistics of Bank Holding Companies in Y9-C Reports during 2006-2013

Panel A

	Universe (N=1507)		Public (N=509)		Public US (N=481)		TOP 50 US	
	mean	std	mean	std	mean	std	mean	std
Total Asset (\$Mil)	14.89	120.84	35.30	204.39	34.13	205.30	360.85	619.11
Leverage	0.91	0.04	0.91	0.03	0.91	0.03	0.90	0.02
Foreign/Total Deposit	0.01	0.05	0.01	0.07	0.01	0.07	0.11	0.21
Risk-adj. Asset (\$Mil)	9.60	74.83	22.65	126.90	22.30	127.90	233.65	380.80
Tier1 Capital Ratio	12.59	5.66	12.30	4.01	12.35	3.96	11.19	2.63
Total Capital Ratio	14.20	5.56	13.89	3.84	13.93	3.79	14.04	2.54
Tier1 Leverage Ratio	9.24	3.50	9.21	2.47	9.26	2.42	8.50	1.94
ROA (annualized)	1.24	4.30	0.96	3.93	0.97	3.95	1.42	3.36
ROE (annualized)	18.57	49.95	16.26	44.89	16.41	45.18	19.71	33.31

Panel B: Top 50 BHCs (rank is based on total asset values as of 2006:Q1)

Rank	Company	Size(\$Bil)	Leverage	Tier1 Lev. Ratio	Tier1 Risk-based Capital Ratio
1	CITIGROUP	1884.32	0.93	5.16	8.59
2	BANK OF AMER CORP	1463.69	0.91	6.36	8.64
3	JPMORGAN CHASE	1351.52	0.91	6.19	8.66
4	WACHOVIA CORP	707.12	0.90	6.01	7.42
5	METLIFE	527.72	0.93	5.55	9.51
6	WELLS FARGO	482.00	0.90	7.89	8.95
7	HSBC NORTH AMER HOLD	478.16	0.93	5.90	8.13
8	TAUNUS CORP	430.40	0.99	-0.82	-3.97
9	BARCLAYS GROUP US	261.22	0.99	1.08	10.96
10	US BC	219.23	0.90	8.16	8.75
20	BANK OF NY CO	103.46	0.89	6.67	8.19
30	UNIONBANCAL CORP	52.62	0.91	8.44	8.68
40	SYNOVUS FC	31.89	0.88	10.64	10.87
50	WEBSTER FNCL CORP	17.10	0.89	7.68	9.21
Total		10581.94	0.92	6.07	8.04

Table 2: Haircuts by Collateral type

Collateral	Mean	Std	P5	P25	P50	P75	P95
Treasuries	.023	.021	.020	.020	.020	.020	.029
Agencies	.026	.030	.020	.020	.020	.029	.033
CommPaper	.029	.010	.020	.020	.029	.033	.048
Municipals	.039	.021	.020	.020	.038	.048	.091
StrucFinance	.046	.036	.020	.020	.032	.071	.091
CorporateDebt	.048	.033	.020	.029	.048	.056	.085
ForeignDebt	.055	.036	.021	.030	.048	.053	.106
Equities	.063	.020	.048	.048	.048	.077	.094
Average	.030	.030	.020	.020	.020	.029	.074

		T=2008Q1			T=2006Q1			T=2012Q4
		LMI			LMI			LMI
Benchmark			Benchmark			Benchmark		
	T	-5.54		T	-2.81		T	-0.29
	$[0, T]$	-2.49		$[0, T]$	-1.71		$[0, T]$	-1.95
Stress Scenarios			Stress Scenarios			Stress Scenarios		
	$\mu_{[0,T]} - \sigma_{[0,T]}$	-8.34		$\mu_{[0,T]} - \sigma_{[0,T]}$	-3.84		$\mu_{[0,T]} - \sigma_{[0,T]}$	-0.98
μ	$\mu_{[0,T]} - 2\sigma_{[0,T]}$	-13.8	<i>FL</i>	$\mu_{[0,T]} - 2\sigma_{[0,T]}$	-5.33	<i>FL</i>	$\mu_{[0,T]} - 2\sigma_{[0,T]}$	-1.91
	$\mu_{[0,T]} - 6\sigma_{[0,T]}$	-52.3		$\mu_{[0,T]} - 6\sigma_{[0,T]}$	-16.4		$\mu_{[0,T]} - 6\sigma_{[0,T]}$	-15.0
	$\mu_{[0,T]} + \sigma_{[0,T]}$	-5.69		$\mu_{[0,T]} + \sigma_{[0,T]}$	-2.88		$\mu_{[0,T]} + \sigma_{[0,T]}$	-0.32
\bar{m}	$\mu_{[0,T]} + 2\sigma_{[0,T]}$	-5.84	\bar{m}	$\mu_{[0,T]} + 2\sigma_{[0,T]}$	-2.96	\bar{m}	$\mu_{[0,T]} + 2\sigma_{[0,T]}$	-0.40
	$\mu_{[0,T]} + 6\sigma_{[0,T]}$	-6.46		$\mu_{[0,T]} + 6\sigma_{[0,T]}$	-3.27		$\mu_{[0,T]} + 6\sigma_{[0,T]}$	-0.71

Table 3: Liquidity Stress Test using LMI. The table reports the aggregate LMI (in \$trillion) over all BHCs under stress scenarios when the funding liquidity factor or the cross-collateral average haircut deviate 1-, 2-, 6- σ away from the historical mean up to each time point T . All time-series start on 2002q1.

Table 4: Banks with the most Significant Liquidity Mismatch

This table shows the LMI summary statistics for selected banks. Panel A presents the summary for banks with the most negative LMI in dollar amount out of the Top 50 banks, ranked by the average LMI values across the sample of 2006Q1 to 2012Q1; Panel B presents the results for banks with the most positive dollar LMI out of the Top 50 banks, that is, with the best liquidity condition. BHC with only one quarterly observation are excluded from the list. **Time** indicates the quarter at which the absolute LMI is the lowest for a given BHC.

Panel A: Banks with the most negative dollar LMI (mean)

Name	Net LMI	LMI (in \$bil)				
		Mean	Median	Std	Min	Time
1. Metlife	-0.66	-337	-346	117	-512	2008Q1
2. JPMorgan Chase	-0.28	-305	-211	242	-865	2008Q3
3. Bank of America	-0.19	-289	-206	224	-856	2008Q1
4. Citigroup	-0.14	-210	-197	309	-949	2008Q1
5. Wachovia	-0.19	-111	-107	73	-280	2007Q4
6. Wells Fargo	-0.15	-88	-74	67	-295	2008Q4
7. Morgan Stanley	-0.10	-65	-65	12	-87	2013Q1
8. Goldman Sachs	-0.07	-52	-47	18	-87	2009Q1
9. US BC	-0.18	-47	-43	25	-107	2008Q1
10. Bank of NY	-0.42	-41	-36	25	-76	2006Q4
11. Countrywide	-0.28	-36	-33	20	-65	2005Q4
12. Capital One	-0.24	-33	-29	23	-85	2007Q4
13. National City	-0.23	-32	-31	13	-59	2008Q1
14. American Express	-0.22	-32	-31	5	-44	2012Q2
15. Suntrust	-0.15	-26	-17	20	-71	2008Q1

Panel B: Banks with the most positive dollar LMI (mean)

Name	Net LMI	LMI (in \$bil)				
		Mean	Median	Std	Min	Time
1. E Trade	0.16	8	8	2	6	2013Q1
2. IMB	0.21	5	5	0	5	2012Q1
3. Northern Trust	0.02	5	-1	15	-18	2007Q2
4. Commerce	0.06	1	1	2	-7	2007Q4
5. First Niagara	0.02	1	1	1	-1	2011Q3

Table 5: The Relationship of LMI with Bank Characteristics

This table presents the results of pooled cross-sectional regression for the universe of public bank holding companies during 2006Q1 to 2012Q1. The standard errors are robust and clustered by bank. All variables are adimensional (ratios) except Total Assets, Risk-adjusted Assets and Unscaled LMI are in billion dollars.

	Depend variable: Scaled LMI				Depend variable: Unscaled LMI			
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Risk-adj. Assets	-0.19*** (0.06)			-0.14 (0.60)	-0.29*** (0.04)			-0.48 (0.58)
Tier1 Capital Ratio		1.36*** (0.35)		1.81* (0.93)		0.14** (0.06)		-0.45 (0.33)
ROA (annualized)			-0.53*** (0.11)	-0.60*** (0.12)			-0.04** (0.02)	-0.02* (0.01)
Total Assets				-0.03 (0.41)				0.12 (0.37)
Total Capital Ratio				0.88 (0.87)				0.46 (0.33)
Tier1 Leverage Ratio				-2.54*** (0.70)				0.16* (0.10)
ROE (annualized)				-0.02** (0.01)				-0.00 (0.00)
Constant	-0.08*** (0.01)	-0.25*** (0.04)	-0.08*** (0.01)	-0.18*** (0.05)	-0.00 (0.00)	-0.02** (0.01)	-0.01** (0.00)	-0.02 (0.02)
N	6055	6055	6057	6055	6055	6055	6057	6055
R-squared	0.02	0.11	0.02	0.22	0.53	0.01	0.00	0.54

* p<0.10, ** p<0.05, *** p<0.01

Table 6: Characteristics of LMI High/Low Portfolios

This table tracks the bank characteristics of two portfolios, LMI High and LMI Low, in the pre-crisis, the crisis, and the post-crisis period. All public BHCs are sorted based on their scaled LMI values averaged over the pre-crisis episode (2006Q1-2007Q2). The LMI High portfolio contains 100 BHCs with the highest LMI (best liquidity condition), and the LMI Low portfolio contains 100 BHCs with the lowest LMI (worst liquidity condition).

	All Public US BHCs (Top100/Bottom100)											
	Pre-Crisis (2006Q1:2007Q2)				Crisis (2007Q3:2009Q2)				Post-Crisis (2009Q3:2012Q1)			
	Low		High		Low		High		Low		High	
	mean	std	mean	std	mean	std	mean	std	mean	std	mean	std
Total Asset(\$Mil)	46.36	175.69	2.14	6.00	58.42	240.65	2.64	8.15	74.26	309.68	3.27	10.09
Leverage	0.91	0.03	0.90	0.03	0.91	0.04	0.90	0.03	0.90	0.04	0.90	0.03
Foreign/Total Deposit	0.01	0.04	0.01	0.07	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.07	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.06
Risk-adj. Asset(\$Mil)	35.32	127.49	1.45	3.99	44.90	177.93	1.80	5.38	51.20	206.42	2.05	6.09
Tier1 Cap Ratio	10.60	2.74	14.16	4.70	10.59	4.36	13.11	3.52	12.77	4.38	14.20	3.81
Total Cap Ratio	12.41	2.45	15.37	4.57	12.51	4.13	14.36	3.41	14.82	4.16	15.62	3.71
Tier1 Leverage	8.97	1.78	9.79	2.26	9.01	2.80	9.61	2.40	9.60	3.09	9.45	2.17
ROA (annualized)	2.41	1.70	2.04	1.76	-0.29	6.33	1.48	3.04	-0.55	4.55	0.96	3.75
ROE (annualized)	31.12	23.76	24.81	22.82	8.72	48.58	19.37	31.20	0.73	55.58	14.26	42.75

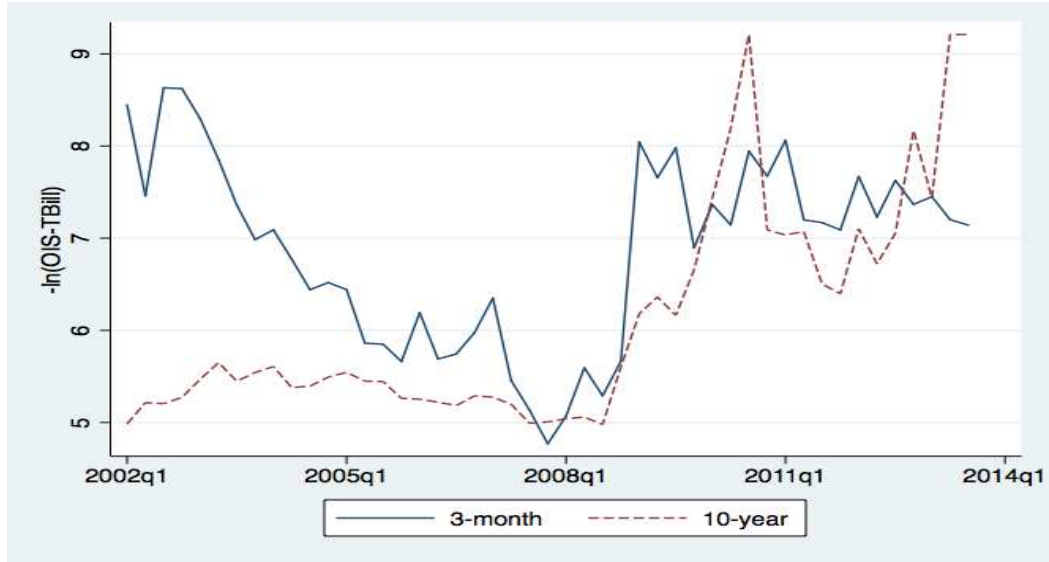


Figure 1: Funding Liquidity Proxy

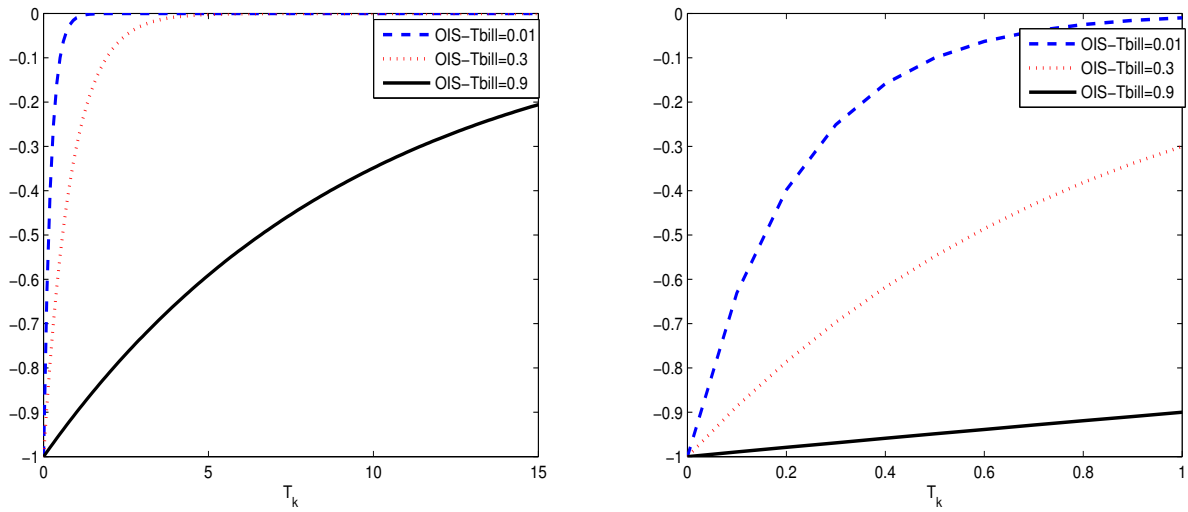


Figure 2: Liability Liquidity Weights as a function of Maturity: $\lambda_{L_k} = -\exp(-\ln(\text{OIS} - \text{Tbill})T_k)$.

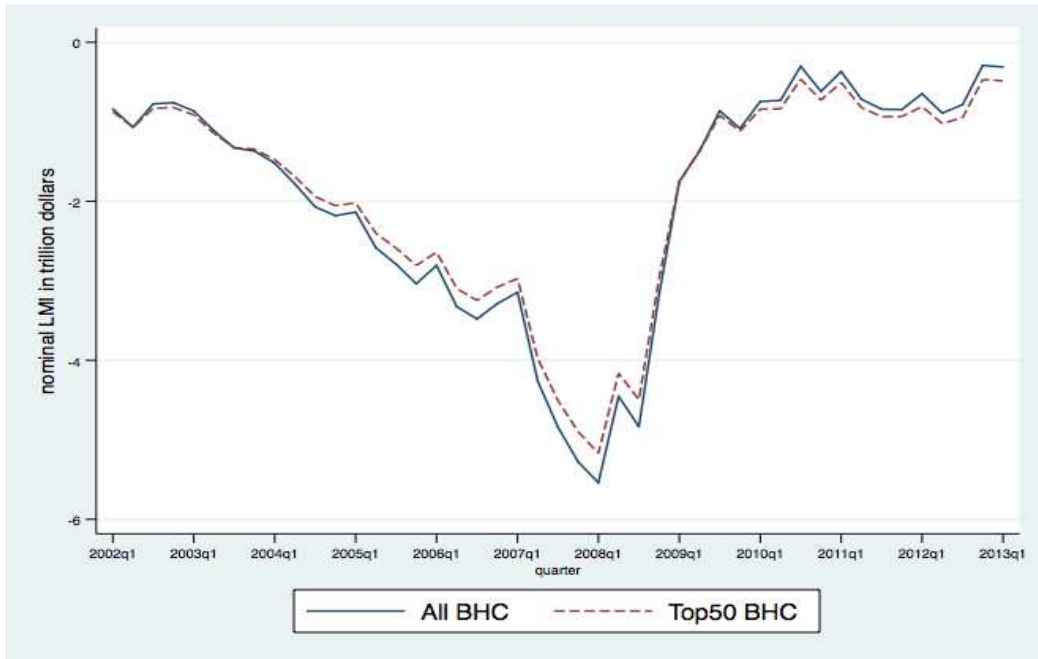


Figure 3: Aggregate Liquidity Mismatch (\$trillion) for Top 50 and All BHCs

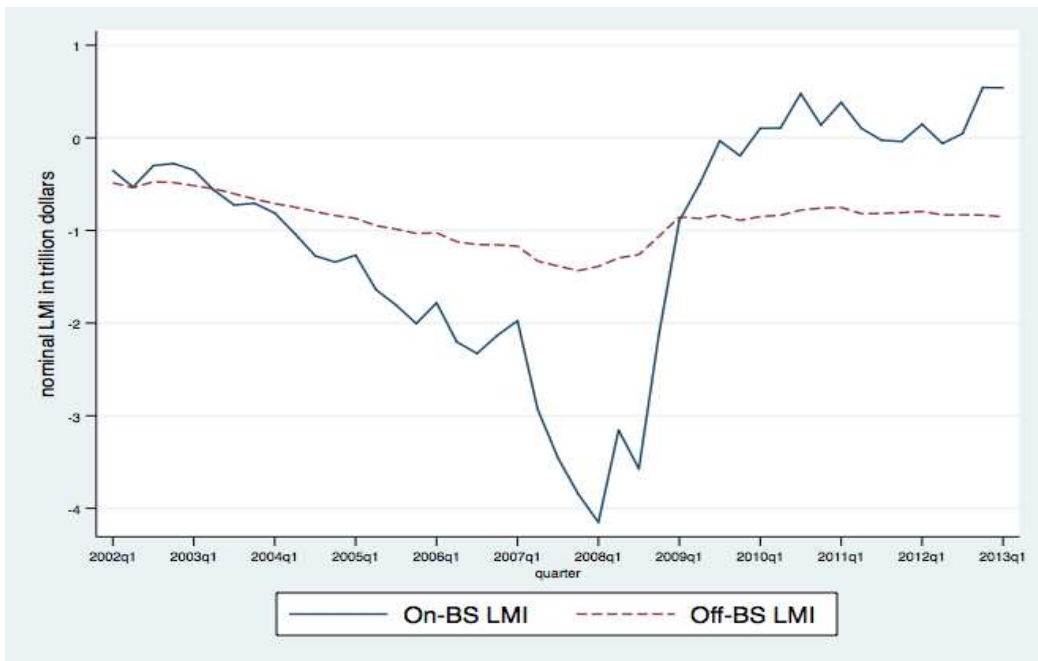
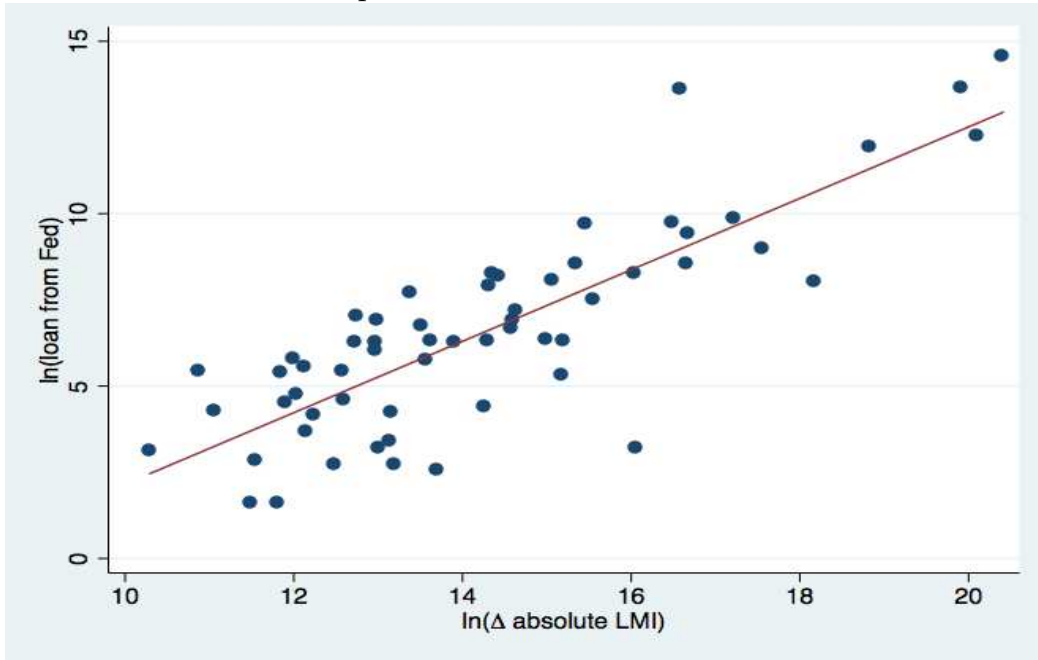


Figure 4: Liquidity Mismatch On and Off Balance Sheet

A: LMI post-crisis minus LMI in the crisis



B: LMI post-crisis minus LMI pre-crisis

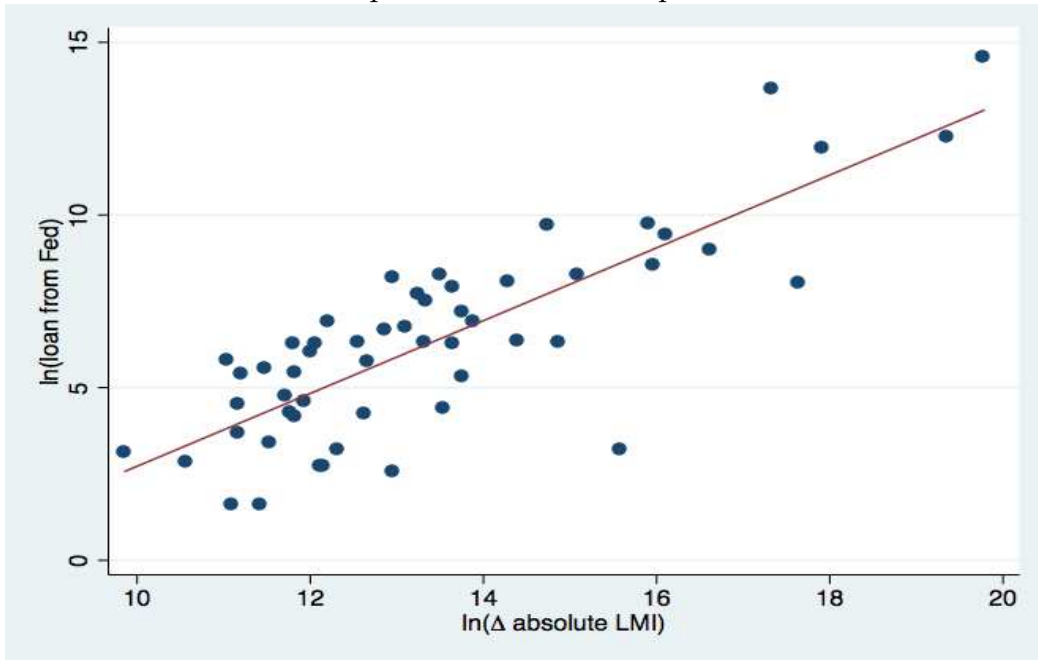


Figure 5: Correlation between Fed Injections and the Change of LMI (in dollar amount)

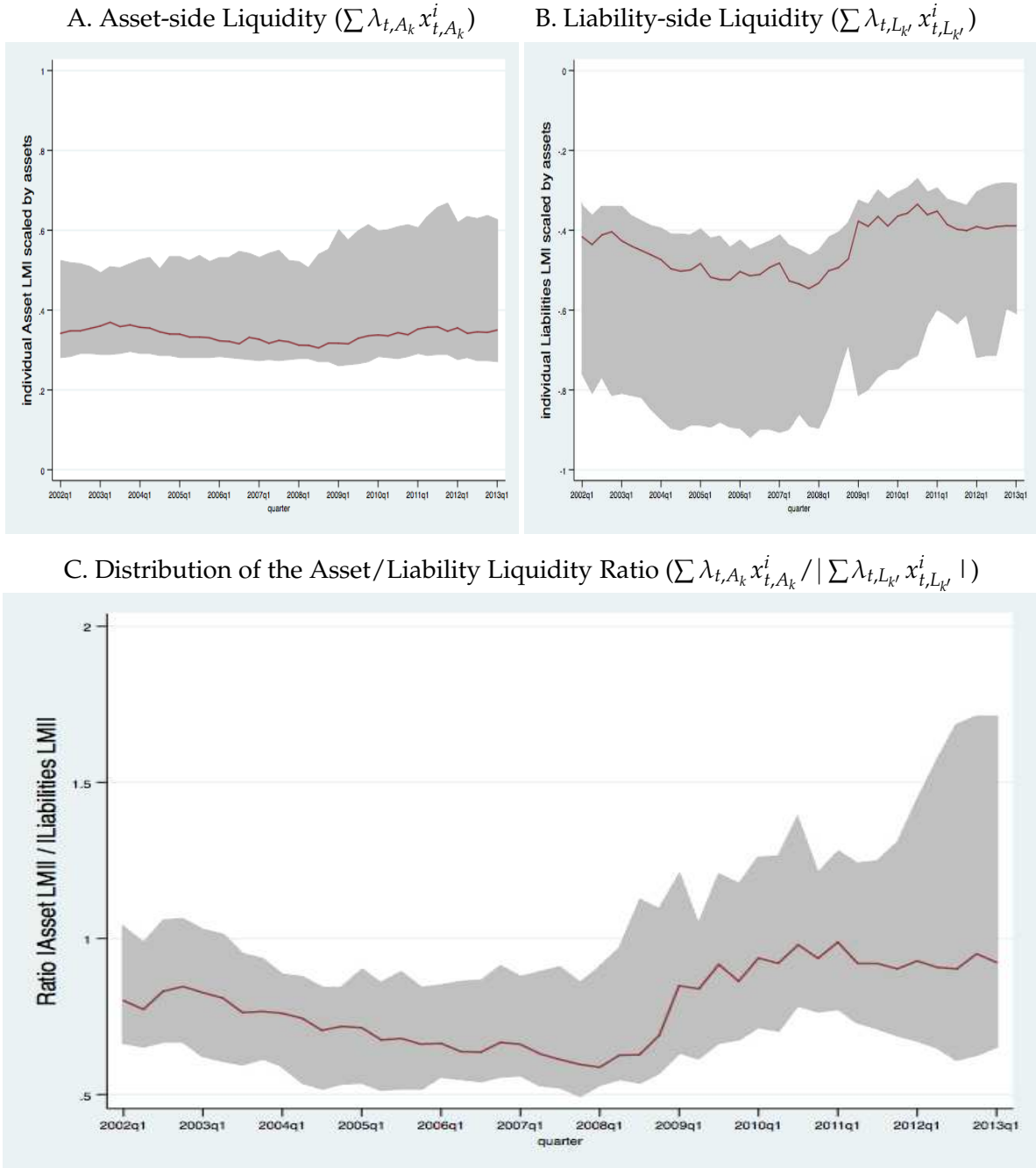


Figure 6: Decomposition of LMI by Assets and Liabilities for Top 50 BHCs. The red solid line is the median value while the shade area depicts the 10th to 90th percentile.

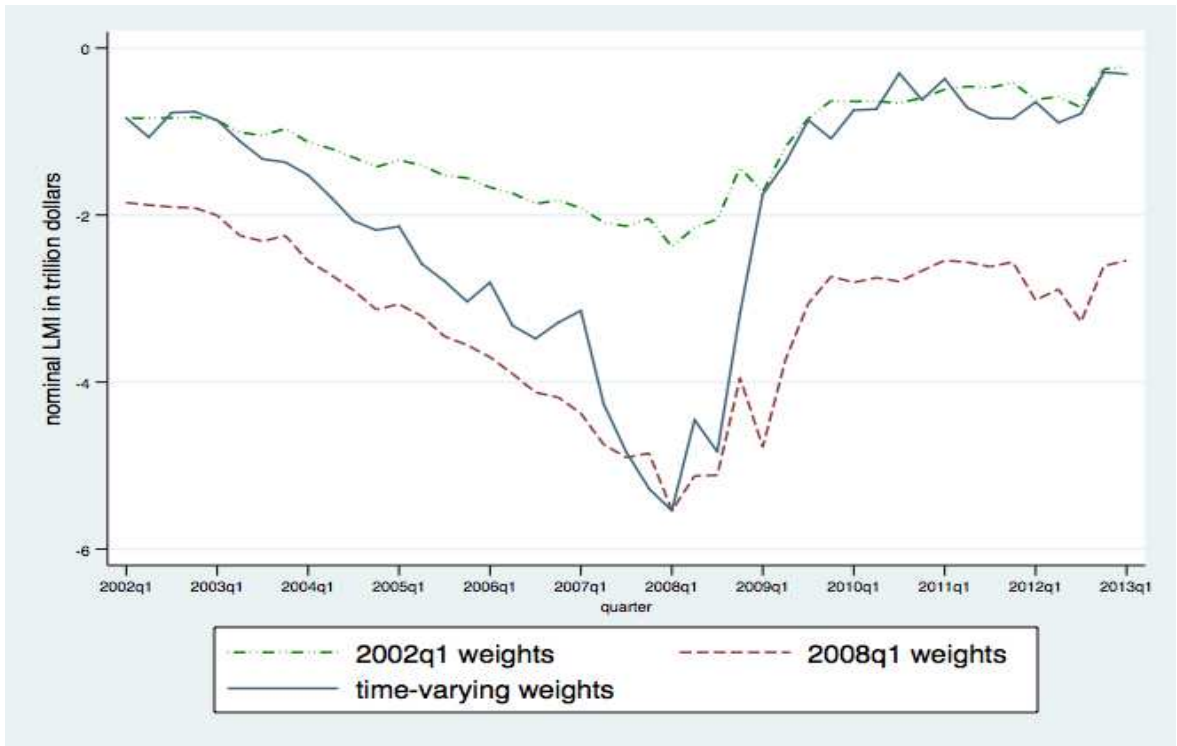
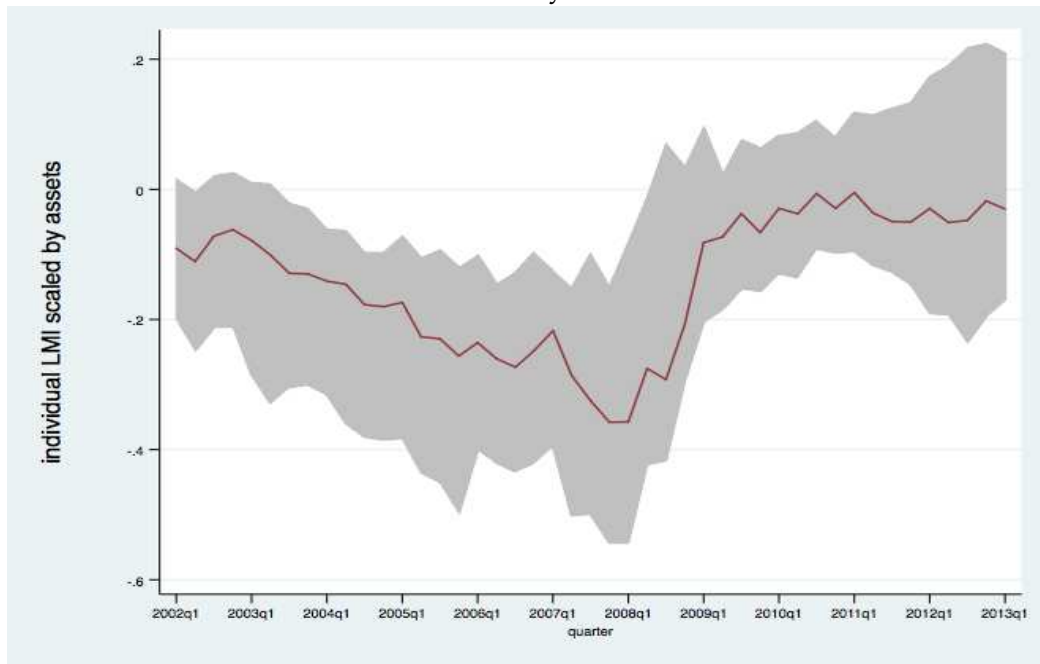


Figure 7: LMI under various Liquidity Weights

A: LMI Scaled by Total Asset



B: LMI in Absolute Dollar Amount (\$Billion)

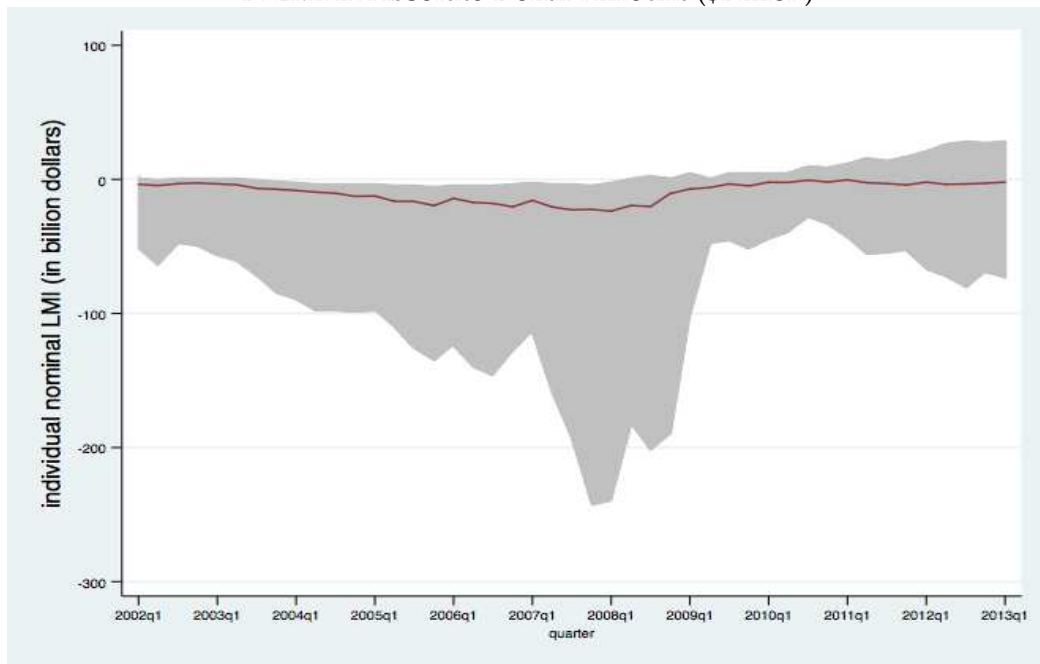


Figure 8: Cross-sectional Distribution of Scaled and Dollar LMI for All BHCs. The red solid line is the median value and the shade area depicts the 10th to 90th percentile. The sample is the universe of BHCs filling Y-9C reports.

Panel A: LMI scaled by Total Assets

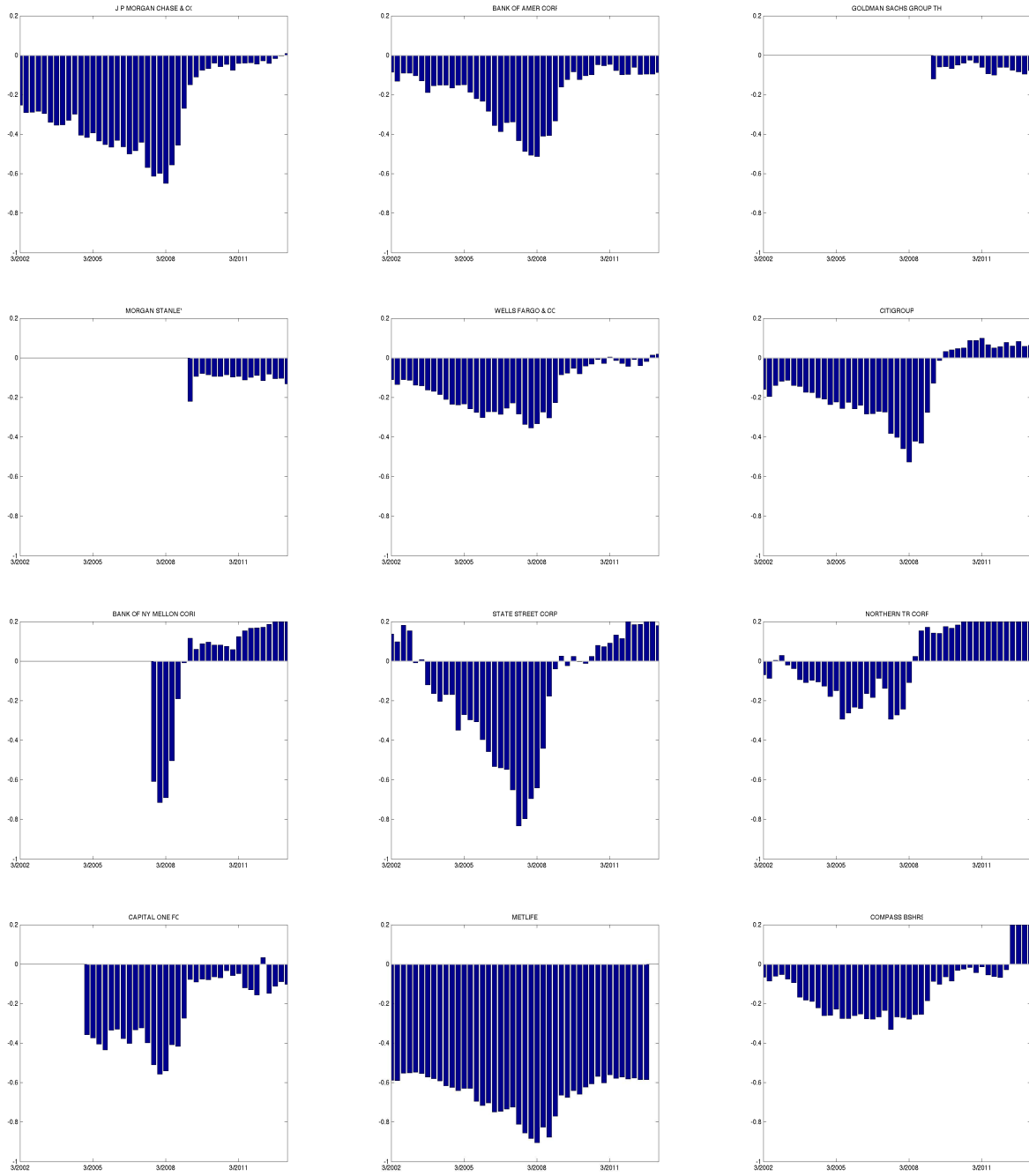


Figure 9: Selected Bank-Level Liquidity Mismatch

Panel B: LMI in dollar amount (\$Thousand)

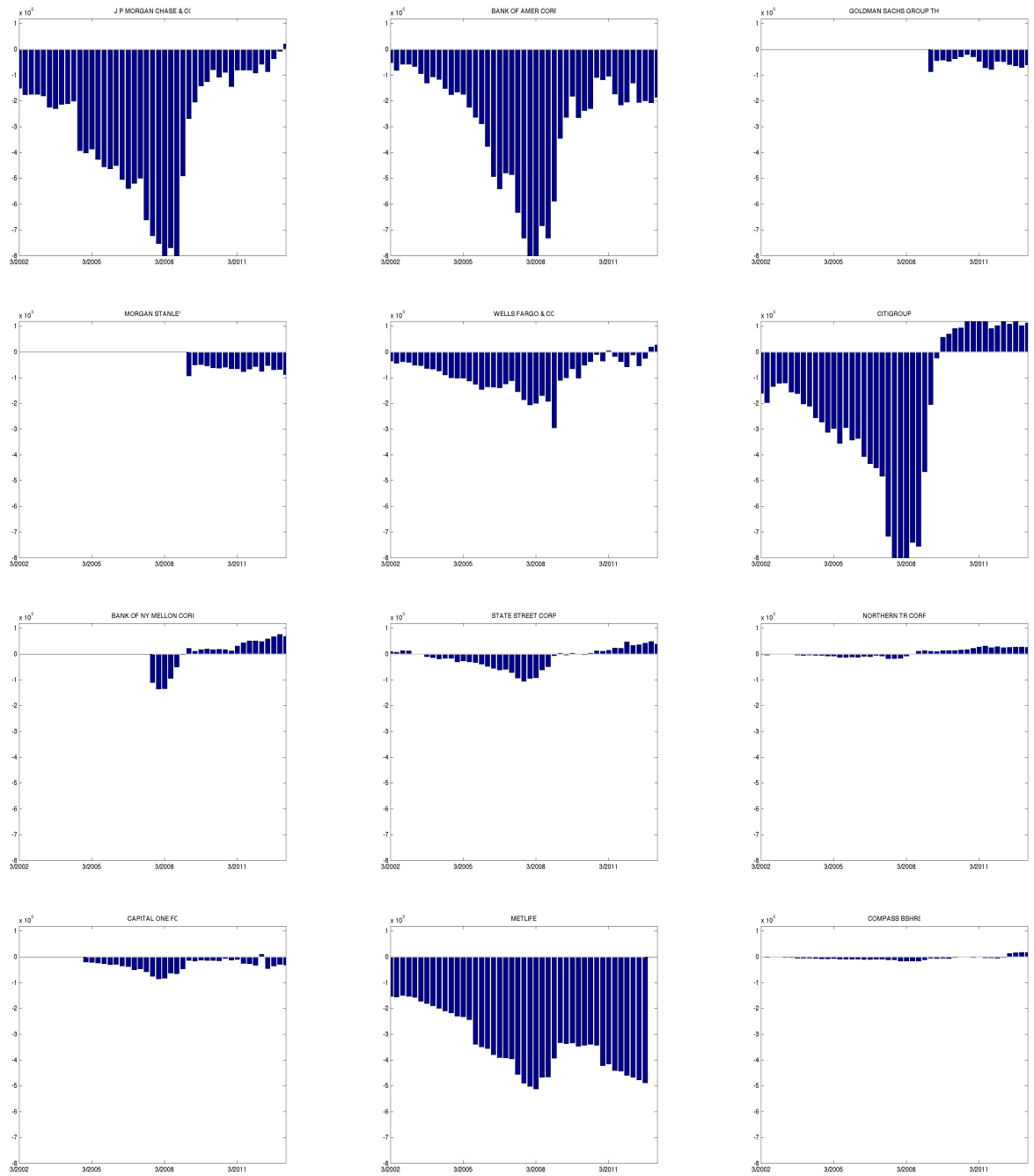


Figure 9 (Cont'd) Selected Bank-Level Liquidity Mismatch

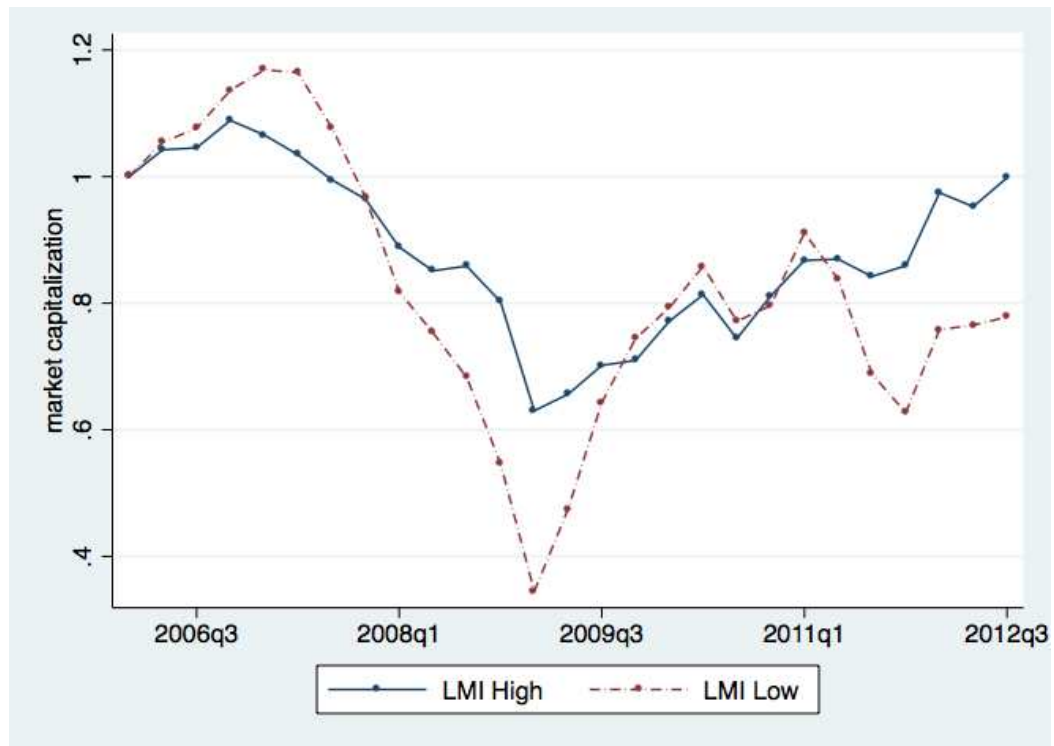


Figure 10: Equity Market Capitalization by ex ante LMI Portfolios. The figure shows the market capitalization scaled by the level as of 2006Q1 for the Low (bottom 100 banks) and High (top 100 banks) portfolios sorted by the average LMI during the pre-crisis period: 2006Q1 - 2007Q2, across all public BHCs. For consistency of balance sheet information and stock market performance, we exclude the U.S. subsidiaries of foreign banks.

Negative Shock

Positive Shock

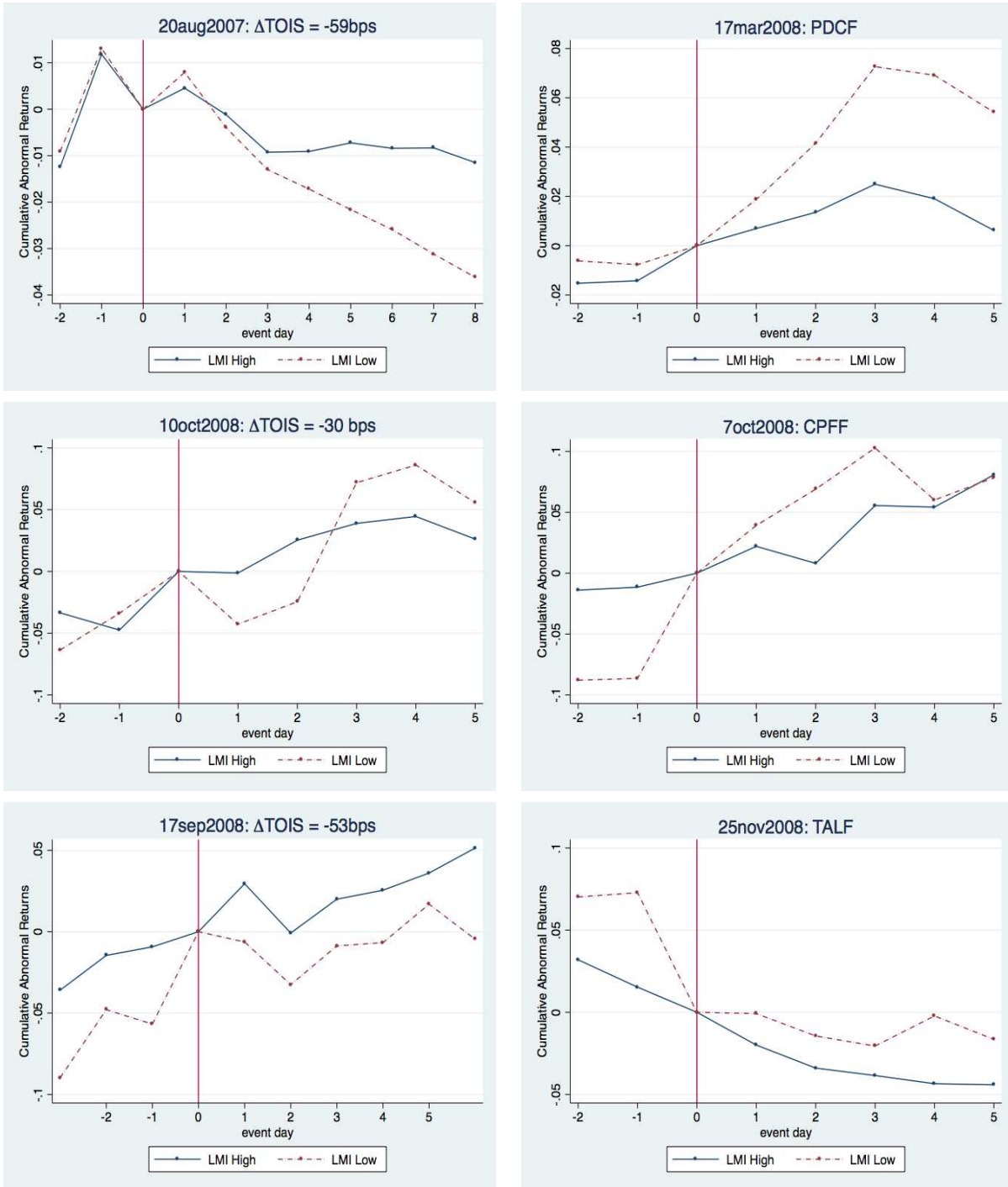


Figure 11: Event Study: LMI and Liquidity Shock. The figure shows the cumulative abnormal return for LMI low (bottom 100 banks) and LMI high (top 100 banks) portfolios sorted by the LMI at the end of previous quarter before an event. Negative events are selected based on the daily change of Tbill-OIS spread, and positive events are selected based on the announcement of Federal Reserve Liquidity facilities.

Appendix

A Computing the LMI

We propose an integrated measure of the Liquidity Mismatch undertaken by individual banks. We factor in *all* the balance sheet information and account for the effect of each balance sheet entry on the liquidity pressure faced by a bank. The implementation of the LMI is parsimonious yet captures the key degrees of liquidity variability (balance-sheet item heterogeneity and time-series variation). Moreover, the methodology developed in this paper is flexible and can be improved on in future research. For instance, the $\beta_{L'_k}$ sensitivity parameters can be refined and could be estimated, for example, by regressing the corresponding-maturity bond yield on the funding liquidity factor.

ASSETS

Category	A_k	λ_{A_k}
Cash	cash and balances due from depository institutions	1
	federal funds sold	1
	securities purchased under agreements to resell	1
Trading Assets	Treasury securities	$(1 - m_{Trsy})$
	agency securities, excluding MBS	$(1 - m_{Agency})$
	residential MBS guaranteed by FNMA, FHLMC, or GNMA	$(1 - m_{Agency})$
	securities Issued by States and U.S. Pol. Subdivisions	$(1 - m_{Muni})$
	non-agency MBS	$(1 - m_{StrucFin})$
	structured product	$(1 - m_{StrucFin})$
	corporate debt	$(1 - m_{CorporateDebt})$
Available for Sale	Treasury securities	$0.75(1 - m_{Trsy})$
	agency securities, excluding MBS	$0.75(1 - m_{Agency})$
	residential MBS guaranteed by FNMA, FHLMC, or GNMA	$0.75(1 - m_{Agency})$
	securities Issued by States and U.S. Pol. Subdivisions	$0.75(1 - m_{Muni})$

	non-agency MBS	$0.75(1 - m_{StrucFin})$
	structured product	$0.75(1 - m_{StrucFin})$
	corporate debt	$0.75(1 - m_{CorporateDebt})$
	foreign debt	$0.75(1 - m_{ForeignDebt})$
	equity securities	$0.75(1 - m_{Equity})$
Held for Maturity	Treasury securities	$0.50(1 - m_{Trsy})$
	agency securities, excluding MBS	$0.50(1 - m_{Agency})$
	residential MBS guaranteed by FNMA, FHLMC, or GNMA	$0.50(1 - m_{Agency})$
	securities Issued by States and U.S. Pol. Subdivisions	$0.50(1 - m_{Muni})$
	non-agency MBS	$0.50(1 - m_{StrucFin})$
	structured product	$0.50(1 - m_{StrucFin})$
	corporate debt	$0.50(1 - m_{CorporateDebt})$
	foreign debt	$0.50(1 - m_{ForeignDebt})$
Loans	loans secured by real estates	$0.25(1 - m_{StrucFin})$
	commercial & Industry Loans	$0.50(1 - Max\{m_k\})$
	other Loans	$0.50(1 - Max\{m_k\})$
	lease financing receivables	$0.50(1 - Max\{m_k\})$
Fixed Assets	premises and fixed assets	0
	other real estate owned	0
	investment in unconsolidated subsidiaries	0
Intangible Assets	goodwill and other intangible assets	0
Other Assets		0

LIABILITIES: $\lambda_L = -\exp(-\mu T_{k'})$

Category	$L_{k'}$	$T_{k'}$
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Fed Funds	overnight federal funds purchased	0
Repo	securities sold under repo	0
Deposits ¹	insured	10
	uninsured	1
Trading Liabilities	trading liabilities	$(1 - m_k)$
Other Borrowed Money	commercial paper	0.25
	with maturity ≤ 1 year	1
	with maturity > 1 year	5
Other Liabilities	subordinated notes and debenture	10
	other liabilities	10
Total Equity Capital	equity	30
Contingent Liabilities ²	unused commitments	5
	Credit Lines	10
	Securities Lent	5
	Collateral Values	10

Notes: 1. A bank's deposit can be decomposed into multiple categories: insured and uninsured deposits, interest-bearing and noninterest-bearing deposits, domestic and foreign deposits, time deposits and broker deposits, and so on. Among them, insured and uninsured category directly relates to a bank's liquidity condition. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) provides deposit insurance in order to guarantee the safety of deposits in member banks. Such deposits, since fully guaranteed by the FDIC, should have little influence on a bank's liquidity. However, the insured and uninsured category are not clearly broken down in the Y9C report. We collect such data instead from the Call Report FFIEC 031 Schedule RC-O – Other Data for Deposit Insurance and FICO. The Call Report data are for banks that are subsidiaries of the BHCs which file the Y9C. Therefore we manually merge the call reports data back to their highest holding company. The deposits at the BHC level is thus the sum of deposits of all its subsidiary commercial banks.

Based on the FDIC insurance limits and the call report decomposition data, we calculate the insured deposit as the combination of i) all deposit lower than the FDIC limit K and ii) the first K dollar amount in the accounts above the limit multiplying the number of such deposit accounts. There are two insurance coverage changes in our sample period. First, the

FDIC increased insurance limits from \$100,000 to \$250,000 per depositor on October 3, 2008. Yet this change is not reflected in the Call Report RC-O until 2009:Q3. We follow the data availability and change our definition for insured/uninsured deposit beginning in 2009:Q3. Second, the FDIC increased the insurance for retirement accounts from \$100,000 to \$250,000 on March 14, 2006. This change is reflected in the 2006:Q2 call reports and our definition reflects this change beginning in 2006:Q2.

2. We study four types of contingent liabilities that may exert a pressure on bank's liquidity. Many banks carry *unused commitments*, including revolving loans secured by residential properties, unused credit card lines, commitments to fund commercial real estate, construction, and land development loans, securities underwriting, commitments to commercial and industrial loans, and commitments to provide liquidity to asset-backed commercial paper conduits and other securitization structures. The second type are *credit lines*, including financial standby letters of credit and foreign office guarantees, performance standby letters of credit and foreign office guarantees, commercial and similar letters of credit.¹¹ A third type of contingent liability is *securities lent*. The last type of contingent liability in our study is the *derivative* contract. Item 7 in Schedule HC-L lists the gross notional amount of credit derivative contracts, including credit default swaps, total return swaps, credit options and other credit derivatives. However, such gross notional amount does not reflect the contracts' liquidity. What matters in a credit derivative contract in terms of liquidity impact is the additional collateral or margin required in a stress event. We therefore use Item 15 to collect the fair value of collateral posted for over-the-counter derivatives.¹²

B Background on Federal Liquidity Injection

The Federal Reserve System (Fed) undertook numerous measures to restore economic stability from the financial crisis of 2007 - 2009. Beyond its conventional monetary policy tools, the central bank, citing "unusual and exigent circumstances," launched a range of new programs to the banking sector in order to support overall market liquidity.

Conventionally, the Fed uses open market operations and the discount window as its principal tools to manage reserves in the banking sector. During the crisis, however, the effectiveness of the discount window was limited because of a *sigma* effect. Banks were reluctant to approach the discount window since such action could cause market participants to draw

¹¹Berger and Bouwman (2009) consider unused commitments and standby letters of credit as asset-side liquidity whereas we treat them as liability-side liquidity. It's true that unused commitments and credit lines are similar to loans and hence can be treated as assets, yet they become assets only when used. In terms of liquidity, they belong to potential liquidity outflow as other liability classes. Therefore we treat them in line with liabilities given the common feature that they all exert liquidity pressure.

¹²The collateral type contains U.S. Treasury securities, U.S. government and government-sponsored agency debt securities, corporate bonds, equity securities, and other collateral. The collateral value is further divided into groups by the counterparty, for example, a) bank and security firms, b) Monoline financial guarantors, c) hedge funds, d) sovereign governments, and e) corporations and all other counterparties.

Data under item 15 is required to be completed only by the bank holding companies with total assets of 10\$billion or more, and such requirement starts only since the second quarter of 2009. Not surprisingly, we only find such data for large BHCs such as J.P. Morgan Chase, Bank of America, etc.

adverse inference about the bank's financial condition (see, for example, [Peristiani \(1998\)](#), [Furfine \(2003\)](#), [Armantier, Ghysels, Sarkar, and Shrader \(2011\)](#)).

Given the borrowing stigma and inflexibility of open market operations, the Fed proceeded to introduce additional facilities increase liquidity, including the Term Auction Facility (TAF), Term Securities Lending Facility (TSLF), Primary Dealer Credit Facility (PDCF), Asset-Backed Commercial Paper Money Market Mutual Fund Liquidity Facility (AMLF), Commercial Paper Funding Facility (CPFF), Money Market Investor Funding Facility (MMIFF), and Term Asset-Backed Securities (TALF). [Fleming \(2012\)](#) provides a summary on these lending facilities. We summarize their key features in the following table.

Facility	Announcement	Expiration	Participants	Term
TAF	Dec12, 2007	Mar08, 2010	Depository Inst.	28 or 84 days
TSLF	Mar11, 2008	Feb01, 2010	Primary dealers	28 days
PDCF	Mar17, 2008	Feb01, 2010	Primary dealers	overnight
AMLF	Sep19, 2008	Feb01, 2010	BHCs and branches of foreign banks	<120 days for D* <270 days for non-D
CPFF	Oct07, 2008	Feb01, 2010	U.S. CP issuers	3 months
MMIFF	Oct21, 2008	Oct30, 2009	Money Mkt Funds	90 days or less
TALF	Nov25, 2008	Jun30, 2010	U.S. eligible banks	<5 years

*: D denotes depository institutions; non-D is non-depository institutions.

The Fed announced the first facility, Term Auction Facility (TAF) on December 12, 2007 to address the funding pressure in short-term lending markets. Through the TAF, the Fed auctioned loans to depository institutions, typically for terms of 28 or 84 days. Later, to address liquidity pressures in the term funding markets, the Fed introduced the Term Securities Lending Facility (TSLF) on March 11, 2008. Through TSLF, the Fed auctioned loans of Treasury securities to primary dealers for terms of 28 days. Another related facility, the Primary Dealer Credit Facility (PDCF), was announced on March 16, through which the Fed made overnight loans to primary dealers. The bankruptcy of Lehman Brothers on September 15, 2008 led to unparalleled disruptions of the money market. On September 19, the Fed announced created the Asset-Backed Commercial Paper Money Market Mutual Fund Liquidity Facility (AMLF). It provided loans to U.S. bank holding companies, and U.S. branches and agencies of foreign banks to purchase eligible asset-backed commercial paper from money market mutual funds. On October 7, the Fed further announced the creation of the Commercial Paper Funding Facility (CPFF), through which the Fed provided credit to a special-purpose vehicle (SPV) that, in turn, bought newly issued three-month commercial paper. Two weeks later on October 21, the Fed established the Money Market Investor Funding Facility (MMIFF). All three money market-related facilities expired on February 1, 2010. Lastly, the Fed introduced the Term Asset-Backed Securities (TALF) on November 25, 2008, through which the Fed made loans to borrowers with eligible asset-backed securities as collateral.