Measuring Stress in Money Markets: The CDSS Index

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November 19/20, 2012 - ECB workshop "The post-crisis design of the operational framework for the implementation of monetary policy" <

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Money Market Stress

- The money market is part of the financial market for low-risk, highly liquid short-term assets, that used to function smoothly.
- On August 9, 2007, money market conditions changed notably, with an abrupt jump in rates and risk spreads marking the beginning of a remarkably long period of turbulance.

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- For the real economy and financial system, there exist indices that summarize a wide range of data. No such index has been developed specifically for the money market.
- Policy makers would like to monitor conditions in the money markets closely so that they can act to relieve funding stress when needed.

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- The key rates and spreads have a tendency to move together with the degree of general money market stress.
- Combine information from various segments of the money market to measure funding stress at any point in time.
- Utilize co-movement in the money market to extract a common latent factor that reflects the condition of the broader market, filter out the idiosyncratic variation.

Brief Overview of the Literature

- Aruoba, Diebold, Scotti (2009): ADS Business Conditions Index
- Hakkio and Keaton (2009): Kansas City Financial Stress Index (KCFSI)
- Oet, Eiben, Bianco, Gramlich, Ong (2011): The Cleveland Financial Stress Index
- Carlson, King, Lewis (2011): Financial Stress Index and Economic Activity

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 Hollo, Kremer, Lo Duca (2012): CISS-A Composite Indicator of Systemic Stress in the Financial System

Why Money Markets?

- Narrow focus to rule out fluctuations in general financial markets
- Money markets could be a good leading indicator of broader stress
- Recessions caused by financial crises may be different from other recessions

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Key Variables of Money Market Stress

- Libor-OIS Spread
- FRA-OIS Spread
- Treasury GC Repo-Fed Funds
- TED Spread: 3-month Libor-T-bill rate

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Key Variables of Money Market Stress

- Fed Funds Volume
- Fed Funds Rate Volatility
- Commercial Paper Spreads
 - A2/P2 spread: A2P2-AA 30-day nonfinancial CP
 - AA unsecured financial CP nonfinancial CP
 - Asset backed CP AA unsecured nonfinancial CP
- Fraction of unsecured financial CP maturing in 1-4 days
- Foreign Exchange Swap Implied Basis

Constructing the CDSS index

- Express all variables in same units by standardization.
- Construct a dynamic factor model that serves as a signal extractor.
- Cast the model in state space form.
- Estimate the model using Kalman Filter.

Common Dynamic Factor Model of Money Market Stress

Measurement equation:

$$Z_{it} = \beta_i F_t + u_{it}, \quad u_{it}$$

Transition equation:

$$F_t = \phi_1 F_{t-1} + v_t, \quad v_t \sim NID(0, \sigma_v^2)$$

$$u_{it} = \psi_i u_{i,t-1} + \varepsilon_t, \quad \varepsilon_t \sim NID(0,\omega_i^2)$$

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- Z_{it} : all observable variables for i = 1, ..., 11
 - β_i : Factor loadings
 - uit: Idiosyncratic components
 - F_t: unobservable common factor

Estimates of the Dynamic Factor Model of MM Stress

Parameter	Estimate	Parameter	Estimate
ϕ_1	0.97	β ₇	1.00
	(82.51)		(14.84)
β_2	0.52	β ₈	1.41
	(8.95)		(16.65)
β_3	0.86	β ₉	1.55
	(7.85)		(19.48)
β_4	1.24	β ₁₀	0.28
	(22.24)		(2.64)
β_5	0.18	β_{11}	1.16
	(2.03)		(9.79)
β_{6}	1.14	σ_{v}	0.16
	(12.65)		(21.41)
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Estimates of the Dynamic Factor Model of MM Stress

Parameter	Estimate	Parameter	Estimate
σ_{u1}	0.12	ψ_1	0.97
	(23.11)		(81.51)
σ_{u2}	0.19	ψ_2	0.97
	(31.59)		(98.78)
σ_{u3}	0.73	ψ_3	0.51
	(32.21)		(13.27)
σ_{u4}	0.12	ψ_4	0.93
	(19.63)		(47.97)
σ_{u5}	0.31	ψ_5	0.95
	(32.49)		(67.42)
σ_{u6}	0.62	ψ_6	0.36
	(31.58)	-	(8.04)
σ_{u7}	0.19	ψ_7	0.93
	(28.95)		(51.62)
σ_{u8}	0.35	ψ_8	0.55
	(28.39)		(9.77)
σ_{u9}	0.18	ψ_9	0.71
	(22.21)		(12.65)
σ_{u10}	0.37	ψ_{10}	0.94
	(32.46)		(60.29)
σ_{u11}	0.38	ψ_{11}	0.89
	(31.01)		(41.87)

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Introduction

CDSS Index - Jan. 2002-Dec. 2006



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CDSS Index - Jan. 2007 - Dec. 2008



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CDSS Index - Jan. 2009 - Dec. 2009



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CDSS Index - Jan. 2010 - Jan. 2012



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Modeling Cyclical Phases of the Money Market: Markov-switching Factor Analysis

Measurement Equation : $Z_{it} = \beta_i F_t + u_{it}, u_{it} \sim NID(0, \sigma_{u_i}^2)$

Transition Equation : $F_t = \alpha_{S_t} + \phi_1 F_{t-1} + v_t$, $v_t \sim ND(0, \sigma_v^2)$

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where $S_t \in \{1, \dots, N\}$: discrete-state homogeneous Markov chain

 $p_{ij} = Pr(S_t = j | S_{t-1} = i), i, j \in \{1, \dots, N\}$

Probability of Degree of Financial Stress: Crisis Period



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Probability of Degree of Financial Stress: Post-Crisis



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Money Market Stress and Bank Performance

Fama-French Three-Factor Framework:

$$\Delta \ln(SP_{bank,t}) - r_{f,t} = \alpha + \beta_1 (\Delta \ln(SP_{bank,t}) - r_{f,t}) + \beta_2 SMB_t$$

$$+\beta_3 HML_t + \gamma_1 (\Delta \ln(SP_{bank,t}) - r_{f,t})I_t$$

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$$+\gamma_2 SMB_t I_t + \gamma_3 HML_t I_t + \epsilon_t.$$

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		Full sample 1/9/02-2/1/12	Pre-crisis 1/9/02-7/25/07	Crisis I 8/1/07-10/15/08	Crisis II 10/22/08-6/24/09	Crisis III 7/1/09-2/1/12
1.	β_1	1.23**	0.98**	2.09**	1.09**	1.17**
		(15.62)	(3.79)	(6.68)	(2.03)	(10.45)
2.	β_2	-0.16**	-0.28	0.10	0.48	0.16
		(-1.95)	(-0.75)	(0.24)	(0.77)	(0.93)
3. β ₃	β_3	1.12**	0.26	2.60**	2.70	0.45
		(5.3)	(0.51)	(5.8)	(2.78)	(1.58)
4.	γ_1	-0.17**	0.10	-0.34**	-0.13	0.12
		(-3.17)	(0.12)	(-4.78)	(-0.52)	(0.20)
5.	γ_2	0.05**	-0.35	-0.10	0.09	0.91
		(0.62)	(-0.29)	(-0.76)	(0.24)	(1.17)
6.	γ_3	0.35	0.55	0.04	-0.60	-1.10
		(1.41)	(0.35)	(0.22)	(-1.32)	(-1.06)
7.	α	-0.23**	-0.01	-0.53	-0.37	-0.10
		(-2.21)	(-0.16)	(-1.51)	(-0.47)	(-0.62)
	Adjusted R ²	0.66	0.66	0.73	0.76	0.72
	No. of obs.	526	290	64	36	136

The CDSS Index and Rolling Regression Results of the Fama-French Three-Factor Model



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CDSS index versus the KC financial stress index



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Concluding Remarks

- CDSS index reflects funding stress in the money market and matches the cyclical phases of stress.
- Turning points of money market stress cycles are associated with most of the Fed policy actions.
- Banking industry dynamics becomes more idiosyncratic when funding stress is high.

In progress and future work

- Comparison with broad financial stress indices.
- Funding stress and bank credit channel of monetary policy.

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• Contagion in hedge fund industry and funding liquidity channel.