

Computing Tarski Fixed Points in Financial Networks

STACS 2026

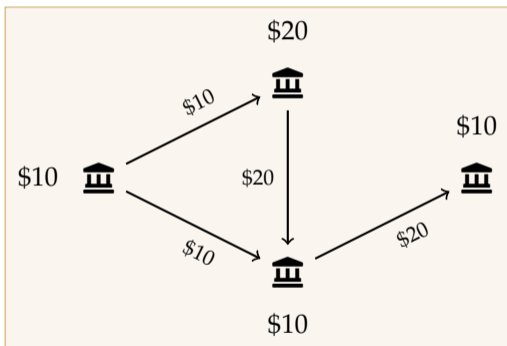
Leander Besting, Martin Hoefer, Lars Huth

Department of Computer Science, RWTH Aachen University

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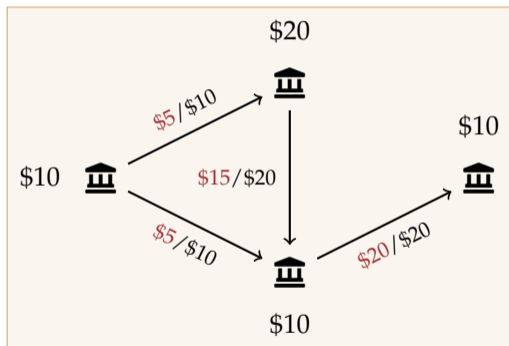
Financial Networks

Financial Networks



- ▶ Banks with Debts and Assets

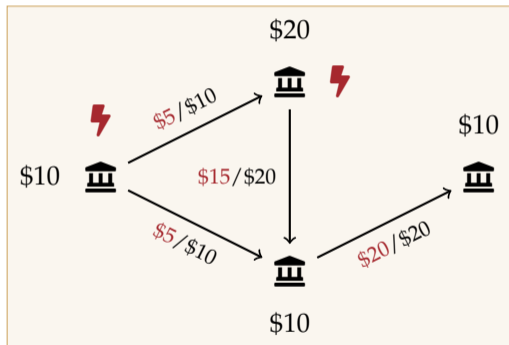
Financial Networks



► Banks with Debts and Assets

► Flow of Payments

Financial Networks



- ▶ Banks with Debts and Assets
- ▶ Flow of Payments
- ▶ Some Banks are in Default

Clearing States

- ▶ Banks V , Debts E
- ▶ External Assets a_v^x , Amounts of Debt ℓ_e
- ▶ Payment Strategies $p_e(x)$: How much the debtor pays on e if he has x money

Definition

A clearing state is a consistent assignment a_v of gross assets for each bank:

$$a_v = a_v^x + \sum_{(u,v) \in E} p_{(u,v)}(a_u)$$

Payment Strategies

- ▶ Valid Amount:

$$p_e(x) \in [0, \ell_e]$$

- ▶ Monotonic:

$$x \leq y \implies p_e(x) \leq p_e(y)$$

- ▶ No Fraud and Limited Liability:

$$\sum_{(u,v) \in E} p_e(x) = \min\{x, \sum_{(u,v) \in E} \ell_{(u,v)}\}$$

Payment Strategies – Proportional

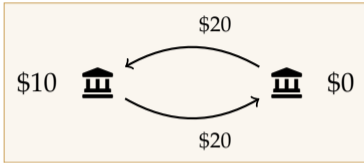
Definition

A bank's assets are divided among its liabilities proportional to their amount of debt

$$p_{(u,v)}(x) = x \cdot \frac{\ell_{(u,v)}}{\sum_{(u,w) \in E} \ell_{(u,w)}}$$

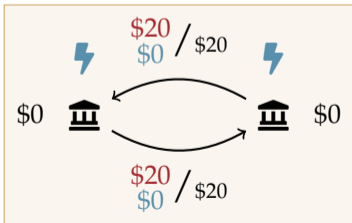
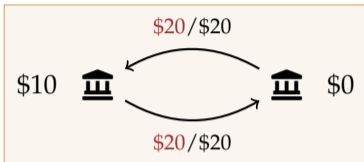
- ▶ Used in the original version of the model

Cycles



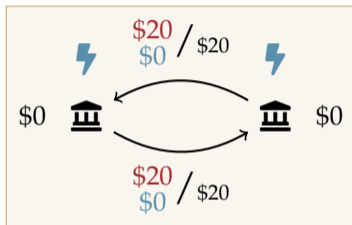
► What about cycles?

Cycles



- ▶ What about cycles?
- ▶ Clearing states are fixed points of a monotone operator which locally adjusts payments
- ▶ These always exist and form a lattice via the Knaster-Tarski theorem
- ▶ Ambiguity: **least** vs. **greatest** clearing states

Clearing States – Uniqueness



Lemma

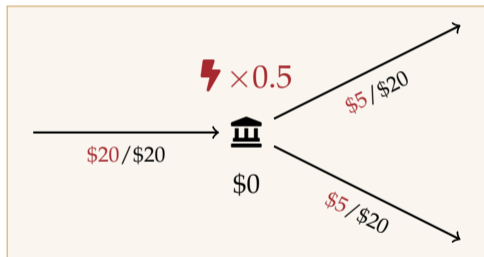
In this model, if the least and greatest Clearing State differ somewhere, the least Clearing State's payments are zero.

The Model

- ▶ Proposed by Eisenberg & Noe in 2001
- ▶ Used by the ECB for analyzing the Banking Sector

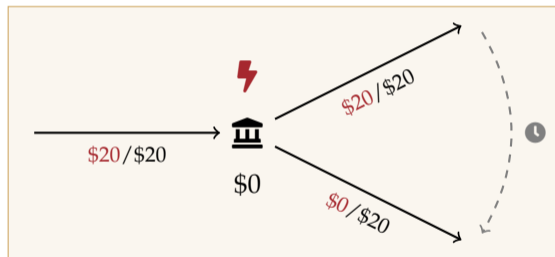
Model Extensions

Extensions – Default Rates



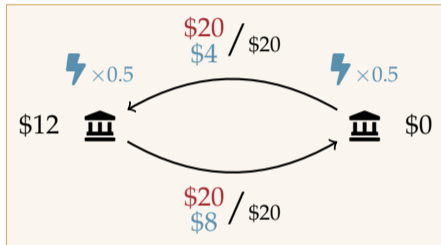
- ▶ Proposed by Rogers and Veraart in 2011
- ▶ Assumes that a defaulting bank calling in its loan will only realize some fraction immediately
- ▶ Modeled by multiplying each defaulting banks assets with some factor

Extensions – Priorities



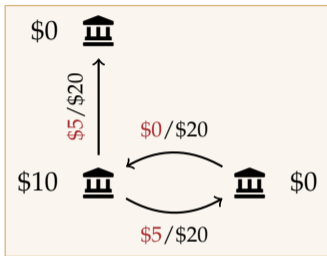
- ▶ Models the different maturity dates of debts
- ▶ Debt with higher priority is paid of fully before debt with lower priority starts to get paid

Least vs. Greatest Clearing States

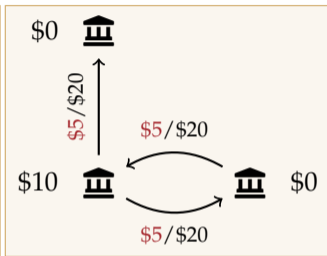


- ▶ With these extensions the least clearing state can differ a lot from the greatest one

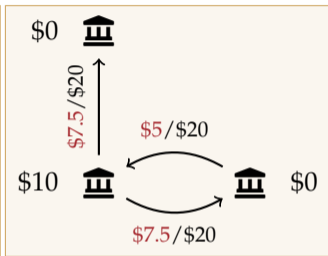
Decentralized Clearing



1st Step



2nd Step

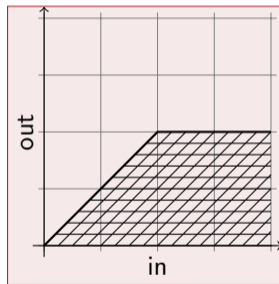
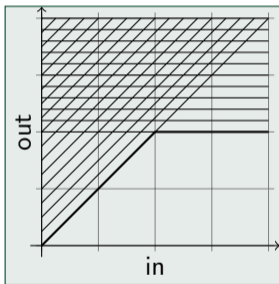


3rd Step

- ▶ The least clearing state represents the outcome of a decentralized clearing process

Computing Clearing States

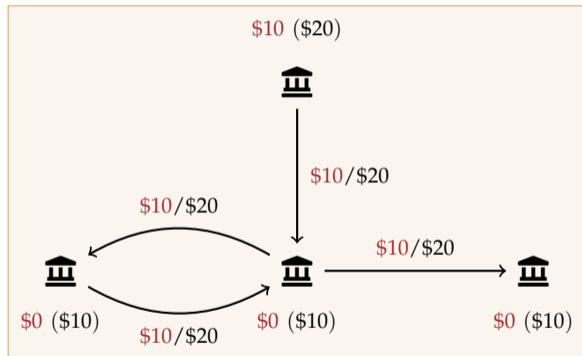
- ▶ Greatest clearing state can be found with a LP



- ▶ This does not work for the least clearing state

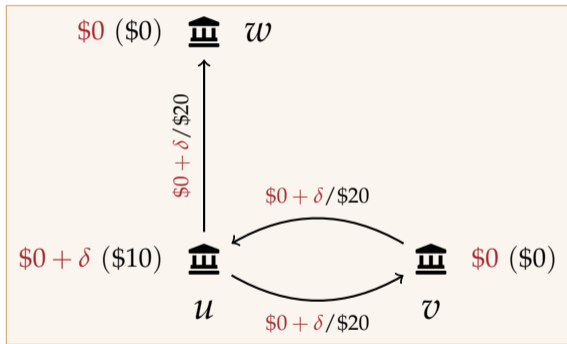
Our Algorithm

Reduced Assets



- ▶ Each step of the algorithm gives the banks a reduced amount of external assets b_v^x
- ▶ We track the clearing state w.r.t. these reduced assets
- ▶ Each step increases these reduced assets until they match the actual assets

Linear Increase

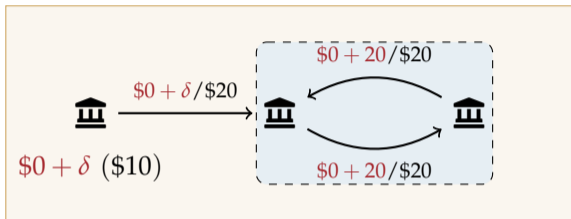


This increase works for $\delta \leq 10$

- Perform a small increase of reduced assets that doesn't cross any nonlinearities

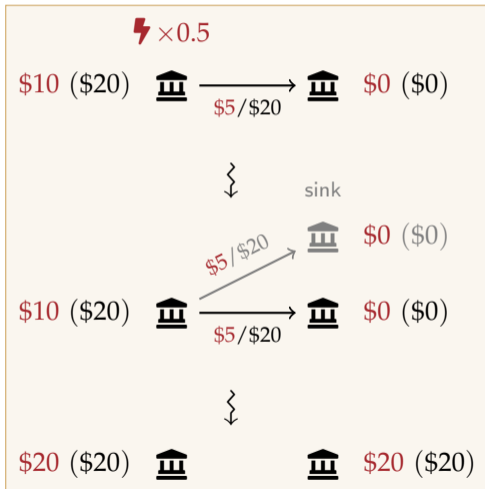
$$\begin{aligned} \max. \quad & \delta \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & d_u = \delta + d_v \\ & d_i = \frac{d_u}{2} \quad i \in \{v, w\} \\ & d_u \leq 40 \\ & d_i \leq 20 \quad i \in \{v, w\} \\ & \delta \leq 10 \\ & d_i \geq 0 \quad i \in V \end{aligned}$$

Flooding



- ▶ Happens when payments enter a strongly connected component with no outgoing edges
- ▶ Payments keep flowing until some edges are saturated
- ▶ Leads to non-linear (constant) increase of clearing state

Default Costs



- ▶ Preprocessing: Replace default costs with sink banks
- ▶ On Solvency: Transform network by deleting out-edges of solvent bank and replacing payments with assets

Our Clearing Algorithm

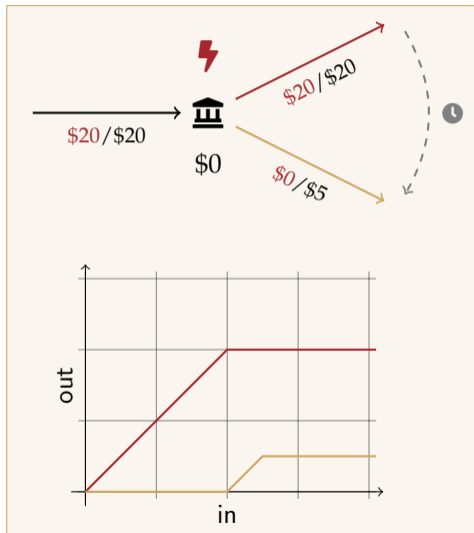
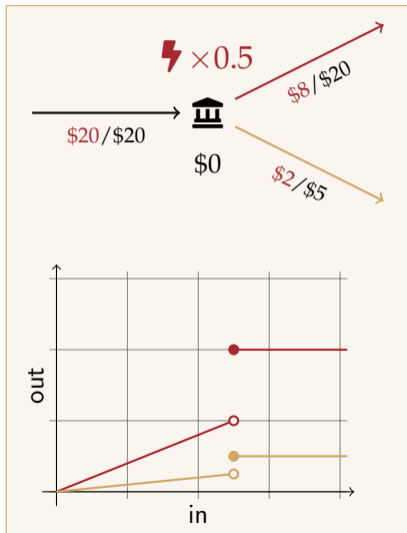
1. Choose bank v with reduced assets
2. Compute reachable SCCs from v
3. Use LP for flow increase in flooded SCCs
4. Use LP for linear effects of increasing v 's assets
5. Deal with new solvencies
6. Repeat

Runtime

- ▶ The algorithm has runtime $\mathcal{O}((n + k) \cdot (n + m)^3)$
(where k is the total number of priority levels)

Further Results

Piecewise Linear Payment Functions



Further Results

- ▶ This clearing algorithm works for all piecewise linear payment strategies whose pieces are $[a, b)$ intervals
- ▶ We can compute not just the least but any clearing state
- ▶ We adapted some results about claims trading from the greatest clearing state to the least clearing state (Claims trading: Preprocessing of the network to improve the clearing state)

Thank you for your
attention!