

# Minimization of Systemic Risk as an Optimal Network Reorganization Problem

The Case of Overlapping Portfolio Networks in the European  
Government Bond Market

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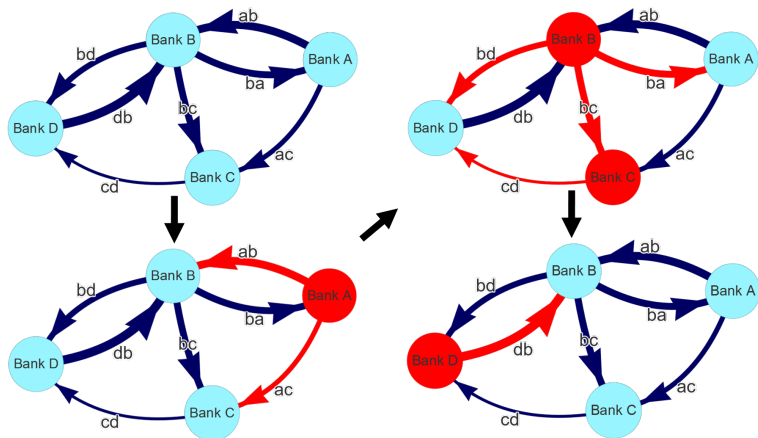
joint work with Sebastian Poledna and Stefan Thurner

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# Motivation

- Financial systems are multi-layer networks → need all layers to understand SR
- Layer of overlapping portfolios relatively little investigated
- Can we think of optimally allocated markets? How do they look like?

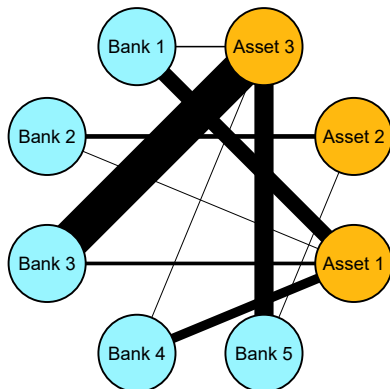
# Measuring Systemic Risk - DebtRank



Battiston et al. (2012), Thurner and Poledna (2013)

# Overlapping Portfolios as Bipartite Network

Example:  $N = 5$ ,  $K = 3$



Simple one-mode projection does not work out

## Model - Liquidity-Adjusted One-Mode Projection

- Assume simple linear price impact wrt to market depth  $D_k$
- $ADV_k$  ... average daily volume

$$\Delta p_k(z) = \alpha \frac{z}{D_k}, \quad D_k = c \frac{ADV_k}{\sigma_k}$$

If bank  $i$  sells  $V_{ki}$  of asset  $k$ , price is depressed by  $\frac{V_{ki}}{D_k}$  (max. impact)  
 If bank  $j$  has  $V_{kj}$  of asset  $k$ , experience loss of  $V_{kj} \frac{V_{ki}}{D_k}$

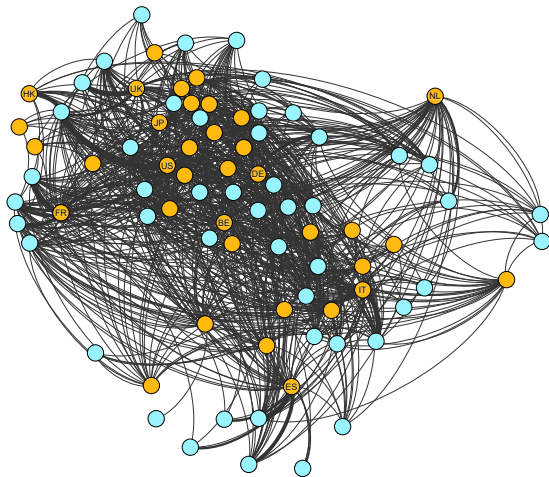
$$w_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^K V_{kj} V_{ki} \frac{1}{D_k} \quad \text{or in matrix form} \quad w = V^T D^{-1} V$$

Cont and Schaanning (2017), Braverman and Minca (2014), Guo et al. (2016)

# Data

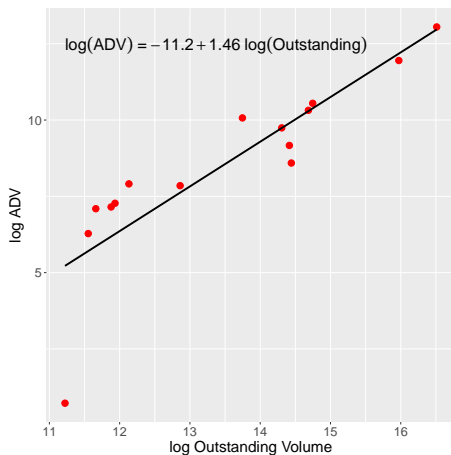
- European Banking Authority (EBA)
- Stress test data from 2016
- 51 major European banks (49 included in analysis)
- 44 sovereign bond investment categories (36 included)

# European Government Bond Network



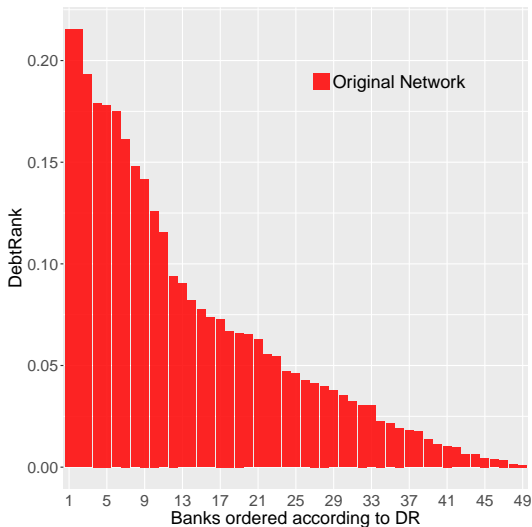
# Estimating Market Depth

$$\log(ADV) = b_0 + b_1 \log(Outstanding) + \xi$$





# SR in the European Government Bond Network



# Reducing an Externality

## SR of Market

$$\bar{R} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N R_i$$

- Keep portfolio volumes and market decomposition constant
- Measure 'risk profile' of portfolio by Markowitz mean-variance approach
- Focus on direct impacts

## Formulating a SR-Minimization problem

$$\begin{aligned}
 \min_{x_{ki} \geq 0 \forall k, i} \quad & f(x) = \sum_i \sum_j \frac{1}{E_j} \sum_k x_{ki} x_{kj} \frac{1}{D_k} \\
 \text{subject to} \quad & V_i = \sum_k x_{ki}, \quad \forall i, \\
 & S_k = \sum_i x_{ki}, \quad \forall k, \\
 & \tilde{r}_i \leq \sum_k x_{ki} r_k, \quad \forall i, \\
 & \tilde{\sigma}_i^2 \geq \sum_k \sum_l x_{ki} x_{li} \sigma_{kl}^2, \quad \forall i,
 \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

## This is a QCQP

$$\begin{aligned}
 \min_{y \geq 0} \quad & \frac{1}{2} y^\top (P_0^\top + P_0) y \\
 \text{subject to} \quad & y^\top P_1 y + c_1 \leq 0 \\
 & A_1 y + c_2 \leq 0 \\
 & A_2 y + c_3 = 0
 \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

- $y = \text{vec}(X)$  is the vectorization of matrix  $X$
- $P_0$  and  $P_1$  are  $(KN \times KN)$ -matrices
- $A_1$  a  $(N \times KN)$ -matrix,  $A_2$  a  $\{(K + N) \times KN\}$ -matrix
- $c_1, c_2, c_3$  are  $KN$ -dimensional vectors
- Difficulty of finding solution depends on definiteness of  $P_0^\top + P_0$

# Solving the Problem

## NEOS Server: State-of-the-Art Solvers for Numerical Optimization

The **NEOS Server** is a free internet-based service for solving numerical optimization problems. Hosted by the [Wisconsin Institute for Discovery at the University of Wisconsin in Madison](#), the NEOS Server provides access to more than 60 state-of-the-art solvers in more than a dozen optimization categories. Solvers hosted by the University of Wisconsin in Madison run on distributed high-performance machines enabled by the [HTCondor software](#); remote solvers run on machines at [Argonne National Laboratory](#), [Arizona State University](#), the [University of Klagenfurt in Austria](#), and the [University of Minho in Portugal](#).

### Extended Mathematical Programming

- DE [GAMS Input]
- JAMS [GAMS Input]

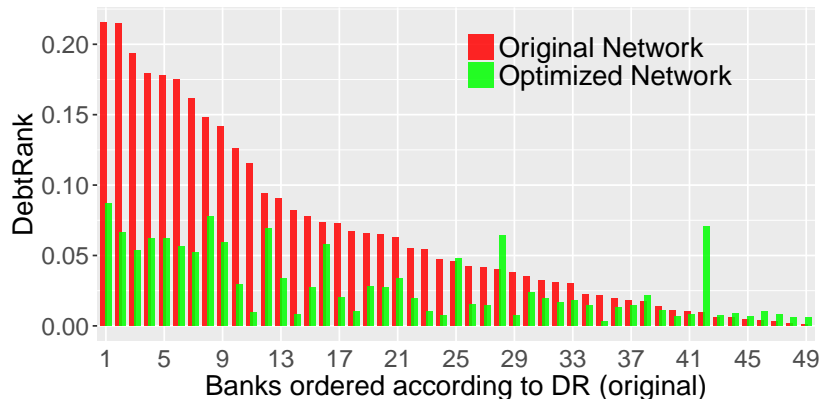
### Global Optimization

- ASA [AMPL Input]
- BARON [AMPL Input][GAMS Input]
- Couenne [AMPL Input][GAMS Input]
- icos [AMPL Input]
- LINDOglobal [GAMS Input]
- PGAPack [AMPL Input]
- PSwarm [AMPL Input]
- scip [AMPL Input][CPLEX Input][GAMS Input][MPS Input][OSIL Input][ZIMPL Input]

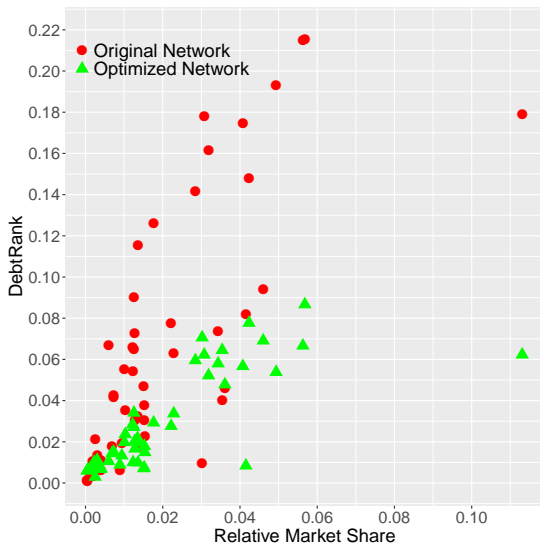
### Linear Network Programming

- RELAX4 [DIMACS Input][RELAX4 Input]

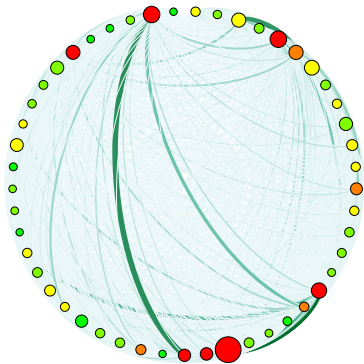
## Results



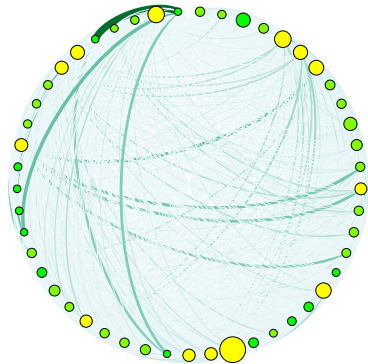
- $\bar{R}^{orig} = 6.67\%$
- $\bar{R}^{optim} = 2.89\%$
- $\max R_i^{orig} = 21.54\%$
- $\max R_i^{optim} = 8.67\%$



Original Network



Optimized Network





# Discussion

- We can reduce SR by reshuffling financial network without changing banks' investment strategies
- Optimization yields a theoretical benchmark
- Optimize direct exposure networks (e.g. interbank liabilities) wrt. SR?

# References

- Stefano Battiston, Michelangelo Puliga, Rahul Kaushik, Paolo Tasca, and Guido Caldarelli. Debtrank: Too central to fail? financial networks, the fed and systemic risk. *Scientific reports*, 2, 2012.
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