

The (i, j) th entry in the table is the debt owed by bank i to bank j . Then, the i th row of the matrix can be summed to give the total value of debt of bank i , while the i th column of the matrix can be summed to give the total assets of bank i . We can give the index $i + 1$ to the outside creditor sector (households, pension funds, mutual funds etc.), so that $x_{i,n+1}$ denotes bank i 's liabilities to the outside claimholders. Deposits would be the prime example of a liability that a bank has directly to outside creditors.

	bank 1	bank 2	...	bank n	outside	debt
bank 1	0	x_{12}	...	x_{1n}	$x_{1,n+1}$	x_1
bank 2	x_{21}	0		x_{2n}	$x_{2,n+1}$	x_2
...	
bank n	x_{n1}	x_{n2}	...	0	$x_{n,n+1}$	x_n
end-user loans	y_1	y_2	...	y_n		
total assets	a_1	a_2		a_n		

From balance sheet identity (2), we can express the vector of debt values across the banks as follows, where Π is the $n \times n$ matrix where the (i, j) th entry is π_{ij} .

$$[x_1, \dots, x_n] = [x_1, \dots, x_n] \begin{bmatrix} \Pi \end{bmatrix} + [y_1, \dots, y_n] - [e_1, \dots, e_n] \quad (3)$$

or more succinctly as

$$x = x\Pi + y - e \quad (4)$$

Solving for y ,

$$y = e + x(I - \Pi)$$

Define the leverage of bank i as the ratio of the total value of assets to the value of its equity. Denote leverage by λ_i . That is,

$$\lambda_i \equiv \frac{a_i}{e_i} \quad (5)$$

Since $x_i/e_i = \lambda_i - 1$, we have $x = e(\Lambda - I)$, where Λ is the diagonal matrix whose i th diagonal entry is λ_i . Thus

$$y = e + e(\Lambda - I)(I - \Pi) \quad (6)$$

Thus, the profile of total lending by the n banks to the end-user borrowers depends on the interaction of three features of the financial system - the distribution of equity e in the banking