

# Collateral Runs\*

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**Abstract:** This paper models an unexplored source of liquidity risk faced by large broker-dealers: *collateral runs*. By setting different contracting terms on repurchase agreements with cash borrowers and lenders, dealers can source funds for their own activities. Cash borrowers internalize the risk of losing their collateral in case their dealer defaults, prompting them to withdraw it. This incentive creates strategic complementarities for counterparties to withdraw their collateral, reducing a dealer's liquidity position and compromising her solvency. Collateral runs are markedly different than traditional wholesale funding runs because they are triggered by a contraction in dealers' assets, and thus mitigating these risks involve different policy recommendations.

*JEL classification:* G23, G33, G01, C72

*Keywords:* runs, repo, rehypothecation, dealer, liquidity, default, collateral

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# 1 Introduction

This paper presents a theoretical model to formally characterize a relatively unexplored risk that can affect large broker-dealers: a run from their collateral providers (cash borrowers). Broker-dealers are unique because they face liquidity risk from both sides of their balance sheet. On the liabilities side, they borrow funds, typically short-term, from cash lenders, using financial securities as collateral. A large literature has noted that financial institutions can face run risk from their secured wholesale funding lenders (see, for example, Gorton and Metrick, 2012; Krishnamurthy, Nagel, and Orlov, 2014; and Copeland, Martin, and Walker, 2014). On the asset side, they extend credit, also typically short-term, against similar collateral provided by cash borrowers. We show that an additional source of liquidity risk can arise from the asset side of the balance sheet when the collateral provided by cash borrowers is simultaneously used to raise funding from cash lenders. Unlike traditional wholesale funding runs where dealers suffer an abrupt withdrawal of funds from cash lenders, in our collateral runs, dealers suffer an abrupt withdrawal of collateral from cash borrowers.

The main set-up of the model considers a dealer providing short-term secured financing, interpreted as repurchase agreements (repos) to a large number of counterparties, called hedge funds.<sup>1</sup> Hedge funds borrow from the dealer because they want to buy an asset using leverage, that is, entering a repo contract. Hedge funds are able to secure their repo by pledging the asset they purchase as collateral. The dealer is able to extend said financing by re-using the collateral she receives to issue secured debt to cash lenders, called money market funds, in the form of a repo. This process is known as rehypothecation and can generate instability if the dealer lends less than what it borrows. Following Infante (2018), Gottardi et al. (2017), and current market practice, we assume that hedge funds cannot contact money market funds directly, that is, dealers are hedge funds' main source of secured financing.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>Repos are secured loans backed by financial assets, where the ownership of the collateral is transferred to the cash lender for the duration of the contract. In the initial leg the cash lender “purchases” the security and the cash borrower promises to “repurchase” the same security at fixed price in the closing leg. Reverse repos are repos from the point of view of the cash lender.

<sup>2</sup>This assumption captures the idea that many hedge funds are small and relatively opaque firms, which wholesale cash lenders will not –or cannot in the case of unrated hedge funds– interact with directly. In effect, in the United States, money market funds can only lend to firms with high credit ratings, which excludes the types of end investors we have in mind. This type of cash and collateral intermediation is consistent with Gottardi, Maurin and Monnet (2017) who show that an optimal rehypothecation chain can arise whenever a dealer is more trustworthy than a hedge fund counterparty. Put differently, dealers are

Figure 1 illustrates a stylized example of dealer intermediation. On the one hand, the dealer is receiving funds from lenders ( $L_1 \dots L_N$ ), denoted by  $X$ , and extends funds to borrowers ( $B_1 \dots B_M$ ), denoted by  $X'$ . On the other hand, the dealer is channeling the (same) collateral, denoted by  $T$ , from borrowers to lenders. The dealer's has incentives to distribute only a fraction of the cash she raises from lenders and use the difference to finance higher yielding risky assets, which may be illiquid. In other words, the dealer has an incentive to set  $X' < X$  in the stylized example in Figure 1 and invest the total liquidity windfall  $\sum_N X - \sum_M X'$  for her own benefit. This funding difference can be thought of as the amount of over-collateralization of the hedge funds' repo relative to the money funds' repo. In case the dealer defaults, money funds have immediate access to the collateral and can sell it to make their claims whole, essentially insulating them from the dealer.<sup>34</sup> In contrast, in this setting hedge funds risk losing their collateral altogether which is more valuable than the initial loan they received. Specifically, hedge funds risk losing the amount of over-collateralization on their repo. This amount is an unsecured claim on the dealer's illiquid asset holdings, which is pooled with the unsecured claims of other hedge funds, creating a first mover advantage for hedge funds that decide to withdraw their collateral. It is important to note that this unsecured claim is markedly different than an unsecured loan extended by a creditor. As we will show, the policy recommendations to alleviate fragility on the asset side are starkly different than those used to alleviate fragility on the liability side.

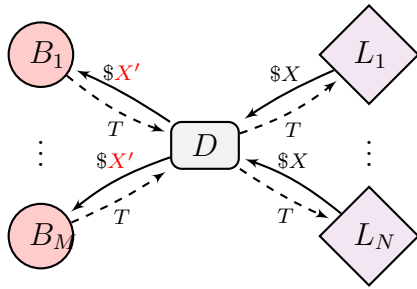
The incentive to withdraw the collateral creates strategic complementarities amongst hedge funds' actions because each hedge fund's optimal action and payoff can depend on what other hedge funds do. For example, if all other hedge funds roll over their repo positions, then the dealer does not need to liquidate any of her illiquid assets, making it optimal for an individual hedge fund to roll over as well. On the contrary, if all other hedge funds withdraw their collateral, then the dealer may need to sell all of her illiquid assets at a

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agents with a better technology to source and distribute collateral, making them the natural intermediary, similar in spirit to the warehouse view of banking in Donaldson et al. (2018). Note that we will use the terms re-use and rehypothecation interchangeably. Strictly speaking, the difference between the two terms is whether the counterparty posting the collateral is a client or just a counterparty, a detail we abstract from.

<sup>3</sup>Although an abrupt withdraw of cash lenders is an important consideration for repo market stability, we purposefully shut down that channel to focus on fragility stemming from an abrupt withdrawal of collateral. In the model this comes naturally because the underlying collateral completely insures the cash lender from any loss.

<sup>4</sup>Money funds have immediate access to the underlying collateral because under U.S. law repos are exempt from automatic stay.



(a) Dealer intermediation

Assets	Liabilities
$\Sigma_N X - \Sigma_M X'$	$\Sigma_N X$
$\Sigma_M X'$	

(b) Dealer's balance sheet

**Figure 1:** Dealer intermediation and Dealer's balance sheet

loss, making it optimal for an individual hedge fund to withdraw their collateral. Hence, an individual hedge fund's payoff not only depends on the dealer's solvency, but also on *its beliefs about the actions/beliefs of other hedge funds*. But there are also cases in which a hedge fund's actions are independent of other hedge funds' actions. For example, if the value of the dealer's illiquid assets are low enough, she will be insolvent, making it individually optimal for a hedge fund to withdraw, independent of others' actions. Conversely, if the value of the dealer's illiquid assets are high enough, she will have ample liquidity to repay all counterparties, making it individually optimal for a hedge fund to roll over, independent of others' actions. We establish when such extreme cases arise and show the existence of intermediate situations where the dealer is solvent but illiquid.

The situation of a solvent but illiquid dealer introduces a coordination problem among hedge funds akin to coordination problems in currency attacks (Morris and Shin, 1998), risky debt rollover and bank runs (Diamond and Dybvig, 1983; Morris and Shin, 2004; Rochet and Vives, 2004; Goldstein and Pauzner, 2005; He and Xiong, 2012; Vives, 2014), credit market freezes (Bebchuk and Goldstein, 2011), and investment funds (Chen, Goldstein, and Jiang, 2010; Liu and Mello, 2011). As is generally the case in coordination games, multiple equilibria may exist. Establishing a unique equilibrium is important because it resolves the uncertainty around the occurrence of a run, allowing agents to determine the equilibrium contracting terms ex-ante. In order to find a unique equilibrium and characterize the optimal contracting terms that give rise to it, we model an incomplete information game (global game), similar to Goldstein and Pauzner (2005), where hedge funds receive noisy signals about the (fundamental) expected value of the dealer's risky investment. Yet, we

extend their framework by introducing a stochastic liquidation value for the risky investment, which is proportional to its fundamental value. This extension allows us to endogenously determine the region of fundamentals where a coordination failure is possible, in contrast to many applications of the Goldstein-Paunzer global game where part of that region is set exogenously. To that extent, our framework is close to Kashyap, Tsomocos and Vardoulakis (2017), who introduce stochastic liquidation values in incomplete information games with one-sided strategic complementarities à la Goldstein-Paunzer. Though in our framework the source of stochastic liquidation values comes from the expected value of the dealer’s risky investment.<sup>5</sup>

Establishing a unique threshold equilibrium shows the existence of a panic-based run. That is, even though fundamentals may not be bad enough to make the dealer insolvent, hedge funds incentives to withdraw early can render the dealer illiquid. This mechanism highlights a novel fragility in the short-term funding intermediation process: a coordination failure amongst collateral providers. The main contribution of this paper is to formalize counterparties’ strategic complementarities and to characterize how these complementarities can lead to a dealer’s endogenous default due to fundamental- or panic-based *collateral runs*. Moreover, we underscore the relationship between the amount of overcollateralization (i.e., repo haircuts), the repo rate, and the dealer’s stability.

Note that the underlying collateral pledged by hedge funds and re-used by the dealer can differ significantly from the risky asset purchased by the dealer. Specifically, the underlying collateral can be extremely safe, yet there can still be a collateral run. The risk that collateral providers face does not come from their own assets, but rather from the dealer’s use of the excess funds she raises with them. Duffie (2013) recognizes that an important source of liquidity for dealers stems from their levered counterparties’ assets pledged as collateral, while Infante (2018) characterizes the optimal contracting terms that lead to a liquidity windfall whenever a dealer intermediates repos from one cash lender to one cash borrower. However, neither of these two papers formalize how such liquidity windfalls can introduce dealer illiquidity, coordination failures, and run risk.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>5</sup>On the one hand, a stochastic liquidation value enables the endogenous derivation of the regions for fundamentals where individual actions are independent of other funds’ actions. These are known as upper and lower dominance regions and are essential for the existence of equilibrium. We derive these regions in Section 3.

<sup>6</sup>Infante (2018) provides a brief discussion of the relevant institutional details surrounding the re-use of

The mechanism of this paper can be easily understood by observing its similarities with traditional bank run models through the following thought experiment. Imagine a world in which the underlying safe collateral the hedge fund posts is considered legal tender (i.e., cash). From this perspective the hedge fund “lends” legal tender to the dealer, who in turn posts some other asset as collateral to back the “loan”. The difference between the value of the legal tender and the posted collateral is an unsecured “loan” from the hedge fund to the dealer. In a setting where many hedge funds “lend” legal tender to a dealer, all of their unsecured claims are pooled together. Therefore, if hedge funds are concerned with the dealers ability to repay, each hedge fund has a first mover advantage to withdraw their legal tender early. This is akin to the set up of a traditional bank run model.

However, it is important to note two key differences between collateral runs and traditional bank runs. The first difference is conceptual. In the model, a withdrawal of hedge funds implies a reduction in the dealer’s assets, not its liabilities. This underscores the importance of understanding bank’s balance sheets and capital structure.<sup>7</sup> The second difference is practical. The vast majority of regulatory efforts since the financial crisis have focused on fragility from the withdrawal of short-term funding. This paper cautions that these efforts may not mitigate fragility from the withdrawal of collateral used in short-term lending. As we argue, this new channel can also compromise the solvency of a dealer which regulators may want to address (see detailed discussion in Section 5).

The necessary ingredients to give rise to a collateral run are three-fold. First, the dealer must raise funds it extends using the same collateral she receives, that is, the collateral must be rehypothecation. Without rehypothecation bankruptcy regimes that earmark collateral upon default would eliminate the pooling of claims and the incentives to run. Second, the dealer needs to be able to set different contracting terms between borrowers and lenders. This enables the dealer to reap the initial cash windfall which pools all of the collateral providers claims. And finally, the dealer must have discretion in using the excess funds for their own activities. The investment in risky and illiquid securities financed with pooled funds creates a first mover advantage amongst collateral providers. We will show that regulatory efforts aimed at curtailing any of these three activities have the ability to mitigate the risks coming from collateral runs.

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collateral in the United States. In particular, in the context of repo, there are no limits to rehypothecation.

<sup>7</sup>This helps avoid confusing and incorrect language such as banks “holding equity”.

An important motivating example of our paper is the demise of Bear Stearns in March 2008. Anecdotally, in the days leading up to its collapse, the firm suffered a large outflow of counterparties that not only pulled their cash but also their collateral from the firm. Using the Federal Reserve Bank of New York’s (FRBNY) weekly survey of primary dealers (FR 2004), we can estimate a lower bound on the total amount of cash that Bear Stearns accessed through rehypothecation. Specifically, the FR 2004 asks primary dealers to report the total amount of secured financing extended (Securities In), the total amount of secured financing received (Securities Out), and their outright positions for different asset classes. Importantly, the survey asks dealers to report the total amount of funds received and distributed through secured financing transactions, not the value of the collateral posted. Therefore, these data can be used to estimate the amount of liquidity obtained through contracting differences. Figure 2 shows Bear Stearns’ repo activity in the months leading up to its default. The difference between Securities Out (green line) and Securities In plus the firm’s net position (red line) is an estimate of a lower bound on the total amount of funds raised through differences in haircuts.<sup>8</sup> From the figure, it can be appreciated that 1) the lion’s share of securities the firm could post in secured financing transactions came from collateral sourced from their counterparties (blue line), and 2) before the sharp drop in activity, the estimated cash stemming from different contracting terms reached \$50 billion, approximately a third of the firm’s entire repo book. A withdrawal of collateral effectively eliminated this additional liquidity windfall. To put this magnitude into perspective, Figure 3 plots the estimated cash windfall as a fraction of the total repo book for both Bear Stearns and the average of the remaining primary dealers. These estimates suggest that, relative to its peers, Bear Stearns relied heavily on differences in contracting terms as a source of liquidity.

Our paper is also related to the theoretical literature that characterizes optimal contracting terms and instability in collateralized short-term funding markets. Fostel and Geanakoplos (2015) derive the optimal haircuts on secured debt. Geanakoplos (2003), Fostel and Geanakoplos (2008)—including a series of subsequent papers—and Simsek (2013) study the

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<sup>8</sup>The lower bound depends on an important restriction that securities dealers face: the box constraint. Broadly speaking, the box constraint is a physical restriction that forces dealers to have access to securities, either by owning them outright or by borrowing them, in order to deliver to a counterparty. Huh and Infante (2017) characterize how this constraint is important for bond market intermediation and how to interpret the data in the FR 2004. Details on the lower-bound calculation and some potential caveats are in subsection C of the Appendix.

interlinkages between asset prices, haircuts and leverage over the cycle as well as the implications for investment and financial stability. Martin, Skeie and Von Thadden (2014) detail the contracting terms that lead to traditional cash-driven repo runs. Ahnert, Anand, Gai and Chapman (2018) study how the over-collateralization of long-term secured debt can affect the incentives of short-term unsecured debt holders to run.<sup>9</sup> We differ from these papers because we examine a distinct source of instability in repo intermediation. In the aforementioned papers, the instability stems from the liability side of the balance sheet; cash lenders may be less willing to provide funding and either require higher margins, leading to borrower deleveraging, or withdraw their funding altogether in a coordinated run episode. In contrast, the instability we study in this paper is borne from the asset side of an intermediaries balance sheet; borrowers may collectively withdraw their collateral even if cash-lenders' claims are safe with stable haircuts and have no incentive to run. Other papers characterizing instabilities arising from the asset side of a lender's balance sheet is Bond and Rai (2009) in the context of micro finance lending and Huang (2017) in the context of borrowers drawing down credit lines from a distressed institution. We differ from these papers by studying fragility in dealer intermediated markets.

The rest of the paper is structured as follows. Section 2 presents the model setup, detailing the economic environment, the main actors, and their incentives. Section 3 characterizes the coordination problem hedge funds face, their threshold strategies, and the regions where fundamental- or panic-based runs can materialize. Section 4 presents the problem the dealer faces given hedge funds' threshold strategies, characterizes the optimal contracting terms, and shows how the equilibria can change with fundamentals. Section 5 gives policy recommendations aimed at mitigating the risks from a collateral run. Finally, section 6 gives some concluding remarks. All proofs are relegated to the Appendix.

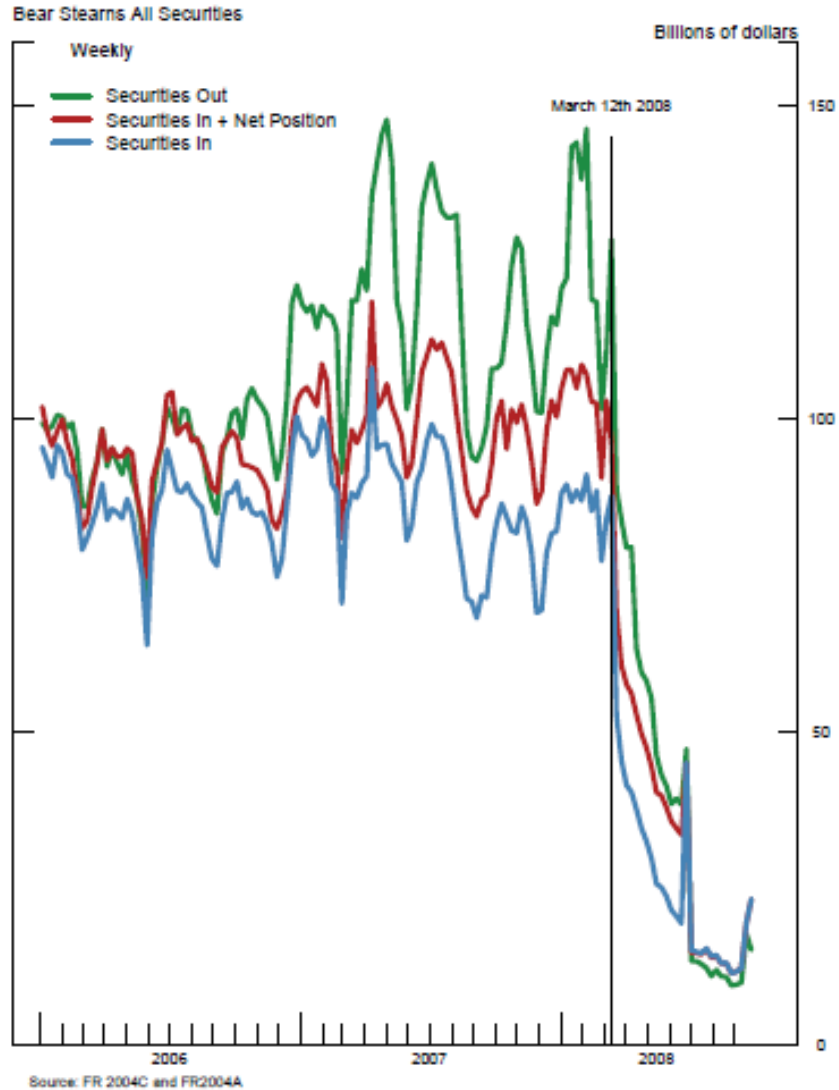
## 2 Model Setup

The model consists of three periods  $t \in \{0, 1, 2\}$  and is populated by three types of agents; a broker-dealer (D), a continuum of hedge funds (H), and a continuum of money market funds

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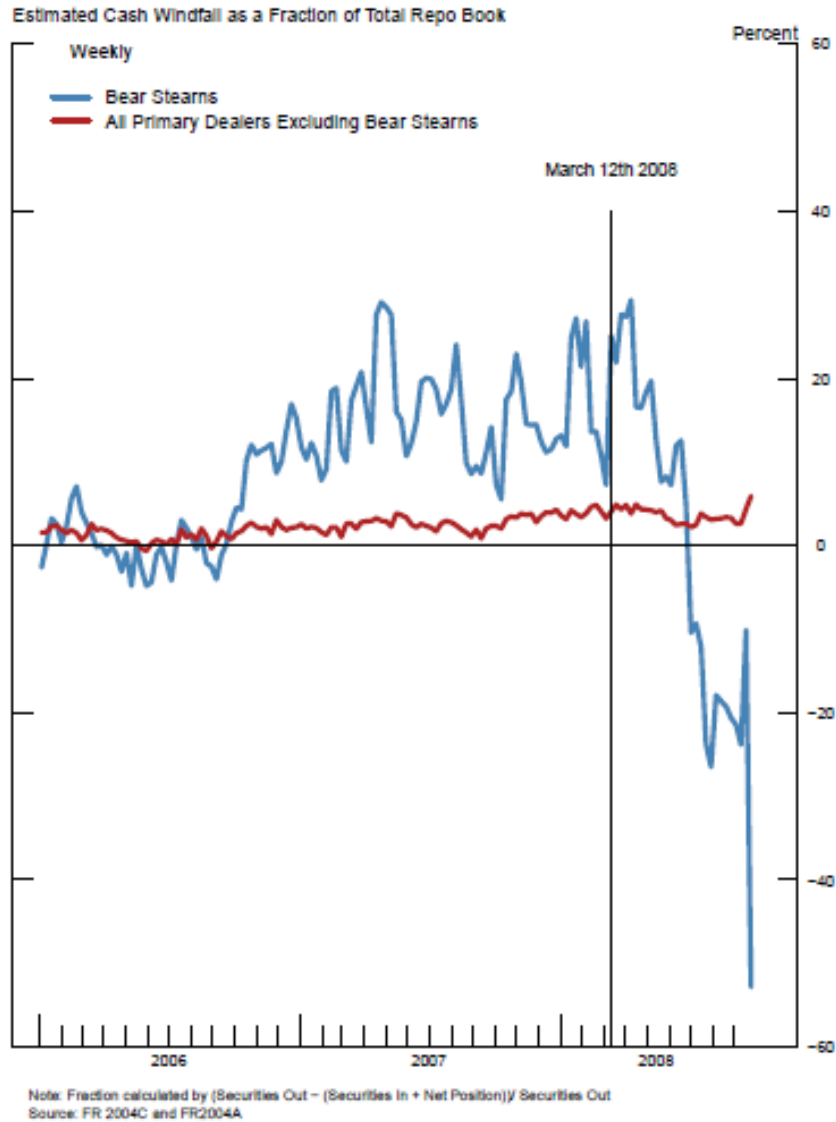
<sup>9</sup>Many other theoretical papers have studied spirals and freezes in short-term funding markets. Some examples are Brunnermeier and Pedersen (2009), Acharya, Gale and Yorulmazer (2011), Diamond and Rajan (2011), and Ahnert (2016). As mentioned, we differ from this literature because we mute the rollover risk of cash lenders positions.



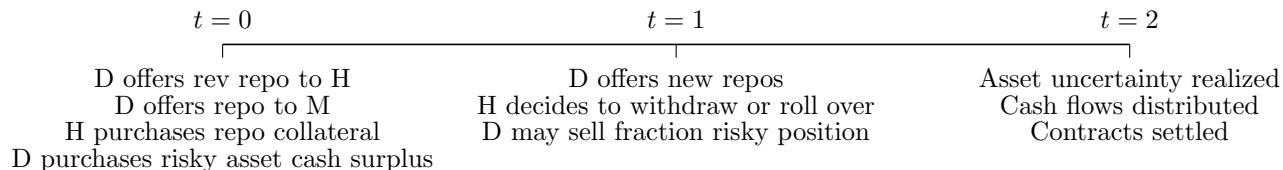


**Figure 2:** Securities Position of a Bear Stearns

Figure shows the total amount of secured financing extended (securities in—blue line), the total amount of secured financing received (securities out—green line), and the sum between securities in and the dealers’ net-securities position (red line). The difference between the green line and the red line proxies for the additional liquidity the dealer reaps from re-using collateral. Source: FR 2004.



**Figure 3:** Liquidity from Rehypothecation as a Fraction of Total Repo Activity  
Figure shows the lower-bound estimate of the liquidity sourced through dealers’ repo activity (securities out minus securities in and net position) as a fraction of their total secured financing (securities out) for both Bear Stearns and average fraction for the rest of the primary dealer community. Source: FR 2004.



**Figure 4:** Model Timeline

(M). The dealer is (potentially) risk averse, with a payoff function  $u$  that satisfies  $u(0) = 0$ , hedge funds are risk-neutral, and money market funds are “very” risk averse.<sup>10</sup> All agents discount the future the same way. The timeline is presented in Figure 4.

Hedge funds would like to borrow to invest in a (safe) asset  $T$ , which is in perfect elastic supply and is worth 1 in every period. Abusing notation,  $T$  will also denote the amount of the asset purchased. Each hedge fund borrows money from the dealer at  $t = 0$  (a reverse repo from the dealer’s point of view), purchases the asset, and pledges it as collateral. Simultaneously, the dealer enters into a repo contract with money market funds, whereby she uses the same collateral posted by the hedge fund, that is, she rehypothecates the pledged collateral. Repo contracts are short term, i.e., they mature after one period, and can be rolled over at  $t = 1$  as we describe further below.

Apart from intermediating funds and collateral between hedge funds and money funds, the dealer can also invest at  $t = 0$  in a risky technology  $\tilde{R}$  which pays off  $R^U$  with probability  $\theta$  and  $R^D$  otherwise in  $t = 2$  per unit purchased, where  $R^U > 1 > R^D \geq 0$ . Throughout the rest of the paper we will refer to this technology as the *risky asset* the dealer invests in. The state of the world  $\theta$  is realized at  $t = 1$  and follows a uniform distribution  $\theta \sim U[0, 1]$ . The risky asset has price of 1, is in perfect elastic supply, and its expected value, conditional on  $\theta$ , is denoted by  $\mathbb{E}_\theta(\tilde{R}) = \bar{R}_\theta$ . Although the risky asset fully pays the random return if it is allowed to mature, it can be liquidated at  $t = 1$  for a discount. The liquidation value is a fraction,  $\lambda \in (0, 1]$ , of  $\bar{R}_\theta$ .<sup>11</sup> We will assume that the unconditional expected liquidation

<sup>10</sup>The assumption that the dealer’s payoff function has  $u(0) = 0$  is merely for simplicity. “Very” risk averse money funds will be useful to focus on the collateral channel, rather than the traditional repo-run channel.

<sup>11</sup>All our results go through even if there is no liquidity discount, i.e.,  $\lambda = 1$ . The reason is that the liquidation value,  $\bar{R}_\theta$ , varies with the realization of fundamentals and for low enough  $\theta$  the dealer will not have enough liquid resources to meet all obligations/withdrawals. However,  $\lambda < 1$  helps justify our assumption that the dealer will first use liquid resources and then liquidate illiquid assets to meet withdrawals from hedge funds that choose not to roll over their positions.

value is higher than the initial price of the asset, i.e.,  $\lambda(R^U + R^D)/2 > 1$ . Thus, there is liquidity risk because liquidation is generally inefficient, but unconditionally the project has a positive net present value even if liquidated. In particular, we impose a stricter version of this condition— $\lambda R^U > 2$ —to also allow  $R^D$  to go arbitrarily close to 0 without altering the other parameters. Note that only the unconditional—ex-ante—liquidation value is higher than one; and the liquidation value conditional on the realization of  $\theta$  can be as low as  $\lambda R^D < 1$ , which introduces illiquidity and creates incentives to withdraw.

At  $t = 1$ , the dealer offers new repo contracts to counterparties, and both hedge funds and money funds decide whether to roll over their positions.<sup>12</sup> Given our assumptions, described in detail later, money funds will always roll over their repos as long as the dealer rehypothecates the safe asset. In other words, the collateral from hedge fund repos that are rolled over are then used to issue repos to money funds.<sup>13</sup> If the repo is rolled over, we assume that the closing leg of existing repos (morning) and the opening leg of new repos (evening) happen simultaneously and, thus, we focus on net flows of funds.

However, an individual hedge fund may decide against rolling over its repo and rather withdraw its collateral at  $t = 1$ . If enough hedge funds withdraw their collateral, the dealer must sell a fraction of its risky asset position at its liquidation value in order to collect the collateral from money funds, which are the property of the withdrawing hedge funds. If asset sales are not enough to recuperate withdrawing hedge funds' collateral, the dealer is liquidated. Upon the dealer's liquidation, money funds that were not repaid keep the collateral, and hedge funds that were not served receive nothing.

At  $t = 2$ , conditional that the dealer survives, the final payoff on the risky investment is realized, cash flows are distributed, and contracts are settled. The payoffs accruing to the three agents will not only depend on the repo contract terms, but also on the realization of  $\theta$  and the portion of hedge funds that withdraw their collateral at  $t = 1$ , which we denote by

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<sup>12</sup>The dealer can either offer new contracting terms bilaterally to each hedge fund or mutual fund, or can post the new terms to all participants publicly. The distinction is inconsequential for our case. But, importantly, funds have perfect foresight about the terms they will get if they decide to roll over their positions. In other words, the contract terms are not contingent on neither the realization of the state of the world nor the number of hedge or mutual funds that decide to roll-over. This is a natural characterization of the way repo markets operate, as most repo markets clear in the early morning.

<sup>13</sup>We intentionally abstract from the dynamics governing the roll over decision of cash providers (money funds), which have received ample attention in the literature, in order to focus on the dynamics governing the roll-over decision of the providers of collateral (hedge funds).

$\mu \in [0, 1]$ . It should be noted that (as we will show) either all hedge funds roll over ( $\mu = 0$ ) or all hedge funds withdraw their collateral ( $\mu = 1$ ) in equilibrium. However, an individual hedge fund will need to form beliefs about the portion of hedge funds withdrawing based on a noisy signal it receives about  $\theta$ . The signal helps the hedge fund to update its beliefs about the fundamental  $\theta$ , but also about the strategies of other hedge funds. These noisy signals will allow hedge funds to coordinate their decisions and a unique equilibrium emerges whereby either all or none hedge funds withdraws their collateral.<sup>14</sup>

But, in order to derive the unique equilibrium, we need to specify all out-of-equilibrium outcomes for conjectured level of fundamentals,  $\theta$ , and conjectured portion of hedge funds withdrawing,  $\mu$ . In section 2.1-2.3 we present the payoffs to the dealer, the money funds, and the hedge funds as function of the contract terms, as well as the level of fundamentals,  $\theta$ , and the portion of hedge funds withdrawing,  $\mu$ .

## 2.1 Dealer

The dealer offers take-it-or-leave-it repo contracts to hedge funds and money funds.<sup>15</sup> The repo contracts issued at time  $t$ , to/from counterparty  $j \in \{H, M\}$ ,<sup>16</sup> have two terms: haircut  $m_t^j$  and repurchase price  $F_t^j$ .<sup>17</sup> It will be useful to introduce some additional notation. Let

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<sup>14</sup>The noisy signals about  $\theta$  induce coordination. Under complete information about  $\theta$  multiple equilibria emerge (see section 3.1). As Atkeson 2000 has pointed out, market prices can aggregate diverse private information and reveal the true state  $\theta$ . Hence, if market prices aggregate information perfectly and are observable by agents when they are deciding whether to withdraw, a unique equilibrium does not obtain. As is typical in the literature, we assume that the withdrawal decision is taken before the dealer sells the risky asset and, hence, before the true value of  $\theta$  is observed (see, for example, Rochet and Vives, 2004, for a similar assumption). In our case this assumption is natural given that repo markets clear very early in the day, before asset prices transmit all the relevant information to market participants. Moreover, the risky asset we have in mind is not traded in a deep, liquid market and should be thought of more as a subprime mortgage-backed security rather than the S&P index. Hence, the asset's true, realized liquidation value may not be readily observable to hedge funds that need to decide whether to roll over their positions early in the day. Another way to address the Atkeson critique is to consider that prices only imperfectly aggregate dispersed private information (see Angeletos and Werning, 2006).

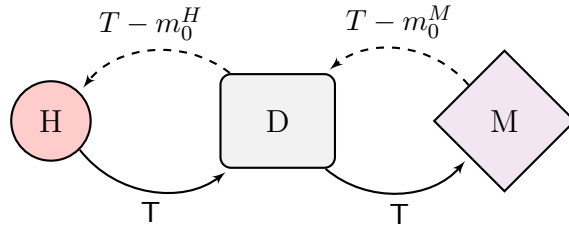
<sup>15</sup>For simplicity we assume that dealers have all the market power. The results are qualitatively similar if hedge funds' have some bargaining power when setting contracting terms. Yet, the dealer needs to have some market power in order to extract some surplus from rehypothecation. Otherwise, collateral runs cannot occur.

<sup>16</sup>Note that repo counterparties are with respect to the dealer.

<sup>17</sup>Hence,  $F_t^H/(T - m_t^H) - 1$  and  $F_t^M/(T - m_t^M) - 1$  are the implied interest rates promised to  $D$  from  $H$  and to  $M$  from  $D$ , when the reverse repo and repo contracts mature, respectively. In addition, the market practice to quote haircuts is 1 minus the loan amount over the collateral value, which in the model translates

$\Delta m_t = (T - m_t^M) - (T - m_t^H) = m_t^H - m_t^M$  be the incremental cash flow the dealer receives from intermediating the initial leg of the repo at  $t$ . Moreover, denote by  $\Delta F_t = F_t^H - F_t^M$  the incremental cash flow that the dealer receives from the closing leg of the repo at  $t$ , paid at  $t + 1$ .<sup>18</sup>

Figure 5 shows the initial leg of the rehypothecation process, with cash coming into the dealer  $T - m_0^M$ , a portion of which is then distributed to the hedge fund  $T - m_0^H$ . Simultaneously, the hedge fund delivers the collateral  $T$  to the dealer, which then passes it on to the money fund. Hence, the net cash flow to the dealer in  $t = 0$  is  $\Delta m_0$ , which is used to purchase the risky asset.



**Figure 5:** Rehypothecation process in  $t = 0$

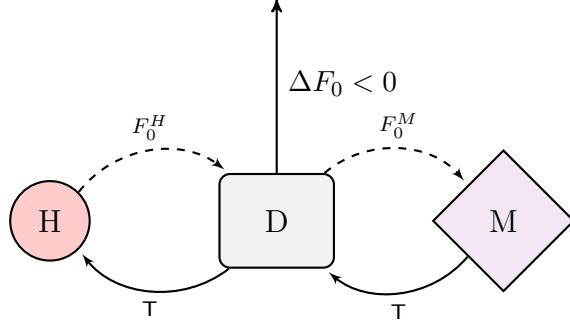
At  $t = 1$ , the dealer needs to unwind the repos for the  $\mu$  hedge funds withdrawing, which is achieved by repurchasing the collateral from each money fund at a price  $F_0^M$  and returning it to each hedge fund at a price  $F_0^H$ . Figure 6 shows the cash flows from closing an individual hedge fund's position. The figure highlights that for an individual hedge fund withdrawal, the dealer will have to find  $-\Delta F_0$  funds in order to return the collateral. Hence, the total net cash flow from these operations is  $\mu\Delta F_0 < 0$ .

The available resources to meet this negative cash flow can come either from collecting additional cash from hedge funds that roll over their repos or from liquidating (part of) the risky asset. Figure 7 shows the cash flows from rolling over an individual hedge fund's position, which is the net amount due from closing the initial repo and opening the new repo. Hence, the first option to meet the liquidity shortfall yields in total  $(1 - \mu)((F_0^H - F_0^M) + (T - m_1^M) - (T - m_1^H)) = (1 - \mu)(\Delta F_0 + \Delta m_1)$ , i.e., the sum of cash owed from repos in  $t = 0$  and cash received from repos in  $t = 1$ , which can be positive or negative.

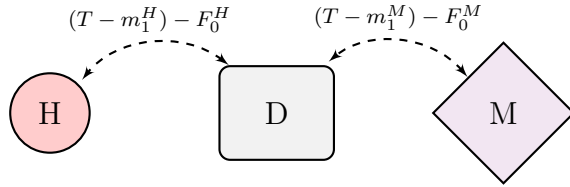
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to  $m_t^j/T$ .

<sup>18</sup>Throughout the paper we will assume that in equilibrium  $\Delta F_t \leq 0$  and  $\Delta m_t \geq 0$ . We prove that this is indeed the case in section 4.



**Figure 6:** Individual Hedge Fund Withdraws



**Figure 7:** Individual Hedge Fund Rolls Over

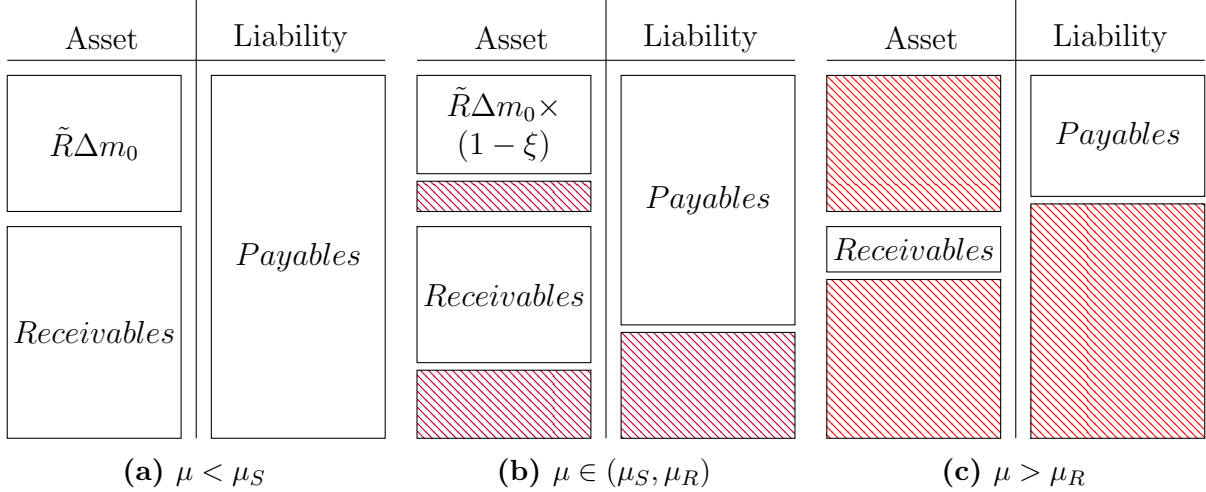
The second option yields  $\xi(\mu, \theta)\lambda\bar{R}_\theta\Delta m_0$ , where  $\xi(\mu, \theta) \in [0, 1]$  is the fraction of the risky asset the dealer liquidates as a function of the portion  $\mu$  of hedge fund withdrawing their collateral.

For the subsequent analysis, we shall consider the case in which the dealer will have a positive net cash flow in the interim period from hedge funds rolling over their position. That is, the positive cash flow from the rehypothecation of collateral at  $t = 1$  is higher than the outflow from closing the existing repo contracts. Given that dealers do not have an initial endowment, this assumption eliminates their incentive to save funds for a liquidity shortfall when all hedge funds rolls over.

$$\text{C0: } \quad \Delta m_1 + \Delta F_0 \geq 0. \quad (1)$$

Depending on the number of hedge funds withdrawing for given  $\theta$ , three outcomes are possible at  $t = 1$  which are defined by two cutoff points of hedge fund withdrawals:  $\mu_S, \mu_R$ . First, for  $\mu \in [0, \mu_S]$ , the dealer can raise additional funds at  $t = 1$  to meet the withdrawals and refrain from selling a fraction of the risky asset. Second, for  $\mu \in (\mu_S, \mu_R]$  the dealer needs to liquidate part of the risky asset to meet the withdrawals of collateral, i.e.  $\xi \in (0, 1)$ .

Third, for  $\mu \in (\mu_R, 1]$  the dealer cannot meet all the withdrawals even if she liquidates all of the risky assets, i.e.  $\xi = 1$ . We have implicitly considered that the dealer will first use all the excess cash she raises from hedge funds that roll over before liquidating the risky asset. Figure 8 illustrates the dealer's balance sheet at the *end* of the refinancing period for these three cases.



**Figure 8:** Dealer Balance Sheet at End of  $t = 1$

In the left panel, only a small fraction of hedge fund withdraw, swapping  $t = 0$ 's outstanding payables and receivables to  $t = 1$  payables and receivables. In the middle panel, an intermediate amount of hedge funds withdraw, implying a reduction in the dealer's balance sheet and partial liquidation of the risky asset position. In the right panel, a large amount of hedge funds withdraw, implying a severe reduction in the dealer's balance sheet and liquidation of the entire risky asset position. *Payables* and *Receivables* consists of the newly created repos and reverse repos from the fraction of hedge funds that rolled over.

The threshold  $\mu_S$  is the maximum number of withdrawals that can be fulfilled by the additional cash collected from  $1 - \mu$  hedge funds, that is,

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \mu \Delta F_0 + (1 - \mu)(\Delta F_0 + \Delta m_1) > 0 \\
 \Rightarrow & \mu < \mu_S \equiv 1 + \frac{\Delta F_0}{\Delta m_1}. \tag{2}
 \end{aligned}$$



Given that  $\Delta m_1 > 0$  and  $\Delta F_0 < 0$ ,  $\mu_S$  is less than one but is strictly positive only if hedge funds that roll over contribute additional cash, i.e.,  $\Delta F_0 + \Delta m_1 > 0$ .

The threshold  $\mu_R$  is the maximum number of withdrawals that can be fulfilled by the additional cash collected plus the liquidation of all the risky holdings, that is,

$$\begin{aligned} & \mu\Delta F_0 + (1 - \mu)(\Delta F_0 + \Delta m_1) + \lambda\bar{R}_\theta\Delta m_0 > 0 \\ \Rightarrow \mu < \mu_R & \equiv 1 + \frac{\Delta F_0 + \lambda\bar{R}_\theta\Delta m_0}{\Delta m_1}. \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

Intuitively,  $\Delta F_0 + \lambda\bar{R}_\theta\Delta m_0 < 0$  implying that  $\mu_R < 1$ , because the liquidation value of the risky holdings cannot satisfy all hedge fund withdrawals. As we will show further on, this is source of the coordination problem in the model.

For  $\mu \in [\mu_R, 1]$ , only a fraction of the hedge funds withdrawing will collect their collateral. That is, a fraction  $f(\mu, \theta)\mu$  of money funds get their repayment back and deliver the collateral to the dealer, which is routed back to the hedge funds that decided to withdraw, following a sequential service constraint.<sup>19</sup> The fraction that gets repaid, whenever all risky assets are sold, is given by

$$\begin{aligned} & f(\mu, \theta)\mu\Delta F_0 + (1 - \mu)(\Delta F_0 + \Delta m_1) + \lambda\bar{R}_\theta\Delta m_0 = 0 \\ \Rightarrow f(\mu, \theta) & = -\frac{\lambda\bar{R}_\theta\Delta m_0 + (1 - \mu)(\Delta F_0 + \Delta m_1)}{\mu\Delta F_0}. \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

Comparing (2) and (3) it is clear that  $\mu_S < \mu_R$ , setting the range for partial liquidation of the dealer's risky asset holdings. The fraction that is liquidated is given by

$$\xi(\mu, \theta) = -\frac{\Delta F_0 + (1 - \mu)\Delta m_1}{\lambda\bar{R}_\theta\Delta m_0}. \quad (5)$$

Having pinned down the relevant cash flows in  $t = 1$  for all levels of hedge fund withdrawals, we can calculate the dealer's payoffs in  $t = 2$ . For  $\mu < \mu_R$ , the dealer survives the collateral withdrawals and can continue to the final period. However, depending on the level of  $\mu$  and the realization of  $\tilde{R}$ , the available resources may not be enough to guarantee

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<sup>19</sup>Sequential servicing is a natural assumption given that repo markets are Over-the-Counter, and the dealer needs to negotiate and settle trades with every hedge fund bilaterally.

repayment of the money funds that rolled over their repos. In that case, the dealer defaults, money funds seize and sell the collateral, and any remaining resources are distributed pro rata to the hedge funds that rolled over their repos at  $t = 1$ .

First, consider the case that the dealer has enough money to serve early withdrawals without liquidating any assets, i.e.,  $\mu \in [0, \mu_S)$ . The cash flow to the dealer in the final period is equal to  $\tilde{R}\Delta m_0 + \Delta F_0 + (1 - \mu)(\Delta m_1 + \Delta F_1)$ . When there is no selling at  $t = 1$ , dealer optimization should result in positive cash flow if  $R^U$  realizes. However, if  $R^D$  realizes, the cash flow may be negative, resulting in dealer default. In that case, the available resources are distributed pro rata to the  $1 - \mu$  hedge funds that rolled over at  $t = 1$ , and each individual hedge fund receives:

$$G_S^D(\mu, \theta) = \frac{R^D \Delta m_0 + \Delta F_0 + (1 - \mu)\Delta m_1}{1 - \mu}. \quad (6)$$

To keep the model interesting, we ensure that after a bad outcome the amount raised in the interim period is not enough to make all money funds whole in the final one; that is,

$$\text{C1: } R^D \Delta m_0 + \Delta F_0 + \Delta m_1 + \Delta F_1 \leq 0. \quad (7)$$

Condition (7) implies that even if all hedge funds roll over in the interim period (i.e.,  $\mu = 0$ ), there is not enough wealth to payoff cash lenders' entire claim if  $R^D$  realizes. This restriction is important to guarantee the existence of a region for fundamentals where an individual hedge fund withdraws its collateral independent of their beliefs about the actions of other hedge funds, i.e., the lower dominance region (see section 3.2 for details). It is also economically meaningful because it generates a fundamental motive for hedge funds to run.

Similarly, condition (8) below implies that the dealer is solvent at  $t = 2$  if  $R^U$  realizes and all funds decide to roll over at  $t = 1$ . This condition will always hold in equilibrium, because the dealer would optimally choose contract terms yielding positive profit in the good state, i.e.,  $R^U \Delta m_0 + \Delta F_0 + \Delta m_1 + \Delta F_1 > 0$ , even if condition (1) binds.

$$\text{C2: } R^U \Delta m_0 + \Delta F_1 > 0. \quad (8)$$

Second, consider the case that the dealer has to liquidate some, but not all, of her assets to serve early withdrawals, i.e.,  $\mu \in [\mu_S, \mu_R)$ . The cash flow to the dealer in the final period

is equal to  $\tilde{R}\Delta m_0(1 - \xi(\mu, \theta)) + (1 - \mu)\Delta F_1$ , where  $\xi(\mu, \theta)$  is given by (5). For realization  $\tilde{R} = R^D$  it is obvious, given condition (7), that the dealer defaults for all  $\mu \in [\mu_S, \mu_R)$ . Hence, what is left in the dealer's portfolio is distributed pro rata to hedge funds that rolled over at  $t = 1$ , and each individual hedge fund receives

$$G_I^D(\mu, \theta) = \frac{R^D \Delta m_0 + \frac{R^D}{\lambda \bar{R}_\theta} (\Delta F_0 + (1 - \mu)\Delta m_1)}{1 - \mu}, \quad (9)$$

or, in other words, they collect the payoff on the risky assets not liquidated at  $t = 1$ , since  $\Delta F_0 + (1 - \mu)\Delta m_1 \leq 0$  for  $\mu \in [\mu_S, \mu_R)$ .

Yet, the dealer may also default when  $\tilde{R} = R^U$ . That is, if a large fraction of the asset has to be liquidated, the portfolio payoff may not cover the costs of returning the collateral to hedge funds that rolled over. Denote by  $\mu_I$  the maximum number of withdrawals after which the dealer default. Then, for  $\mu \in [0, \mu_I)$  the dealer is solvent if  $R^U$  realizes, while for  $\mu \in [\mu_I, \mu_R)$  she defaults. In the latter case, what is left in the dealer's portfolio is distributed pro-rate to hedge funds that rolled over at  $t = 1$ , and each individual hedge fund receives

$$G_I^U(\mu, \theta) = \frac{R^U \Delta m_0 + \frac{R^U}{\lambda \bar{R}_\theta} (\Delta F_0 + (1 - \mu)\Delta m_1)}{1 - \mu}. \quad (10)$$

Therefore, the threshold  $\mu_I$  is determined at the largest  $\mu \in [\mu_S, \mu_R)$ , such that the dealer is just solvent at  $t = 2$  if  $R^U$  realizes, i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned} R^U \Delta m_0 \left( 1 + \frac{\Delta F_0 + (1 - \mu)\Delta m_1}{\lambda \bar{R}_\theta \Delta m_0} \right) + (1 - \mu)\Delta F_1 &\geq 0 \\ \Rightarrow \mu \leq \mu_I \equiv 1 + \frac{R^U (\Delta F_0 + \lambda \bar{R}_\theta \Delta m_0)}{\lambda \bar{R}_\theta \Delta F_1 + R^U \Delta m_1}. \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

**Lemma 1.** *The maximum level of withdrawals that the dealer is solvent in the good state at  $t = 2$  is above the level that she starts liquidating assets and below the level that she is fully liquidated at  $t = 1$ , i.e.,  $\mu_S < \mu_I \leq \mu_R$ .*

Lemma 1 will be useful to show the existence and uniqueness of a run equilibrium in section 3.2. Figure 9 summarizes the different outcomes for given fundamental  $\theta$  depending on the number of hedge funds withdrawing at  $t = 1$ .

$\mu = 0$	$\mu = \mu_S$	$\mu = \mu_I$	$\mu = \mu_R$	$\mu = 1$
No run	No run	No run	Run	
No asset liquidation	Asset liquidation	Asset liquidation	Full liquidation	
No default for $\tilde{R} = R^U$	No default for $\tilde{R} = R^U$	Default for $\tilde{R} = R^U$		
Default for $\tilde{R} = R^D$	Default for $\tilde{R} = R^D$	Default for $\tilde{R} = R^D$		

**Figure 9:** Outcomes as  $\mu$  Varies for Zero to One for Given Fundamental  $\theta$ .

## 2.2 Money Funds

Money funds are the providers of cash and lend funds to dealers at  $t = 0$  and  $t = 1$  via repo contracts. There is a continuum of identical money funds, each providing the dealer with  $T - m_t^M$  at  $t$ , where  $m_t^M$  is the margin that the dealer has to contribute and  $T$  is the value of collateral pledged to money funds. Denote by  $F_t^M$  the repurchase price agreed at  $t$ .

Our focus is on the incentives of collateral providers (cash borrowers) to withdraw their collateral rather than on the incentive of cash lenders to withdraw their funding, which has received a lot of attention in the literature. Hence, we make assumptions such that the cash lenders do not face a coordination problem which prompts a run on the dealer. This will allow us to isolate our mechanism and focus on the run dynamics stemming, instead, from a coordination problem among the providers of collateral. As we will discuss in detail, a run by collateral providers can occur even when repo contracts are over-collateralized and the dealer does not face any funding risk.

Specifically, we assume that money funds are “very risk averse” (i.e., infinitely risk averse) such that they will not tolerate a loss. Thus, they must be covered even if there is a run or dealer default. In other words, the repo contracts between the dealer and money funds are over-collateralized or, equivalently,  $F_t^M \leq T$ . All contracts that satisfy this condition are acceptable because they completely eliminate the money fund’s exposure to the dealer. In case of a run or insolvency of the dealer, the money fund would have immediate access to the collateral (because repo are exempt from automatic stay), selling it onto the market for a value of  $T$ —and possibly returning any surplus above and beyond it was owed. It is in the dealer’s interest to maximize the funds she obtains from money funds at  $t = 0$  and  $t = 1$  rather than receiving some residual cash at  $t = 2$  when she is insolvent and protected by limited liability. In other words, using the safe asset as collateral, the dealer can borrow

(from a competitive money fund market) at zero haircuts, i.e.,  $m_t^M = 0$ , and at repurchase prices  $F_t^M = T$ , which implies that the recovery value from the sale of Treasuries upon a dealer default is zero.

## 2.3 Hedge Funds

There are a continuum of hedge funds, each of which approaches the dealer to finance the purchase of the riskless asset  $T$ , which can be thought of as Treasuries. Hedge funds are ex ante identical and value holding  $T$  above and beyond its fair value. That is, the hedge fund receives non-pecuniary benefits for holding the asset, which potentially accrue from hedging motives, demand for safe assets or other reasons, which magnify its value by  $\eta > 1$ . This extra benefit could accrue from insurance motives, since Treasuries are said to be negative-beta assets and may help hedge funds hedge other (not modeled) exposures in the portfolio. Or it could reflect the specialness of specific Treasuries, which hedge funds want to purchase (see Duffie 1996 for a discussion of specialness).

The role of  $\eta$  in the model is to provide incentives for hedge funds to take leverage in order to invest in  $T$ . This motive generates gains from rolling over one's repo position with the dealer. For a given repurchase price,  $F$ , a levered position yields  $\eta T - F$ , i.e., the hedge fund enjoys the full benefit  $\eta T$  for a price  $F$ . On the contrary, the unlevered position yields,  $\eta(T - F)$ , i.e., the hedge funds can only invest its own funds,  $T - F$ , in the riskless asset. The levered position yields a higher payoff as long as  $\eta > 1$ . Without loss of generality, we assume that hedge funds get the extra valuation for assets held at the final period.<sup>20</sup>

Hedge funds start out with an initial endowment of  $W_0$  which, along with the repo raised from the dealer, allows them to purchase  $T$ . Hedge funds do not initially own  $T$  but the extra benefit  $\eta$  provides incentives to enter into a repo contract with the dealer to purchase as much  $T$  as possible. Thus,  $\eta > 1$  is a simple way to introduce in the model an incentive to take leverage and generate gains-from-trade between the dealer and the hedge fund.<sup>21</sup>

The payoff to an individual hedge fund depends on the realization of  $\theta$ , the number of

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<sup>20</sup>Alternatively, hedge funds could also receive these non-pecuniary benefits for holding the asset between  $t = 0$  and 1. This assumption unnecessarily complicates the model without providing any meaningful insights.

<sup>21</sup>Alternatively, one could motivate trade by assuming heterogeneous beliefs over risky collateral, which would complicate the analysis without providing additional insights, since we have neutralized potential instability from cash lenders.

hedge funds that withdraw,  $\mu$ , and the action that it takes in the roll-over stage. Denote by  $\alpha = \{0, 1\}$  the strategy set of a hedge fund, where  $\alpha = 0$  stands for withdrawing and  $\alpha = 1$  for rolling over. The utility that a hedge fund receives can be expressed by  $U^H(\mu, \theta; \alpha)$ . Note that in equilibrium either all hedge funds will roll over, i.e.,  $\alpha = 1$  implying  $\mu = 0$ , or all hedge funds will withdraw, i.e.,  $\alpha = 0$  implying  $\mu = 1$ . But, in writing the utility payoff for out-of-equilibrium paths, it is important to determine the threshold strategy in the incomplete information game described in section 3.2.

First, consider the case that a hedge fund rolls over at  $t = 1$ , i.e.,  $\alpha = 1$ . The available cash at the end of  $t = 1$  after rolling over, which can be invested in additional Treasuries, is equal to  $W_0 + (T - m_0^H) - F_0^H + (T - m_1^H) - T$ , i.e., what is left of the initial wealth after receiving cash from the starting leg of both repos  $(T - m_0^H) + (T - m_1^H)$ , paying the closing leg of the initial repo  $F_0^H$ , and purchasing the collateral at the onset of the game  $T$ .<sup>22</sup> Note that the new repo terms are not contingent on the realization of fundamentals,  $\theta$ , nor of the portion of hedge funds withdrawing,  $\mu$ . However, the final payoff at  $t = 2$  will depend on  $\theta$  and  $\mu$  as they determine whether a run occurs and the probability that the dealer defaults at  $t = 2$ .

For a given realization of fundamentals  $\theta$  and  $\mu < \mu_S$ , a hedge fund that rolls over can repurchase its collateral at price  $F_1^H$  and enjoy a utility payoff  $\eta T$  if the dealer does not default at  $t = 2$ . This occurs with probability  $\theta$ . On the other hand, if  $R^D$  realizes, the dealer defaults and the hedge fund is repaid its share of the dealer's remaining portfolio:  $G_S^D(\mu, \theta)$  in cash which does not yield the utility benefit  $\eta$ . The expected utility of an individual hedge fund that rolls over is, then,

$$U^H(\mu < \mu_S, \theta; 1) = \theta(\eta T - F_1^H) + (1 - \theta)G_S^D(\mu, \theta) + \eta(W_0 - m_0^H + T - F_0^H - m_1^H). \quad (12)$$

If  $\mu \in [\mu_S, \mu_I)$ , a hedge fund that rolls over can still repurchase its collateral if  $R^U$  realizes at  $t = 2$ , but it receives a cash payment  $G_I^D(\mu, \theta)$  otherwise, which is different than  $G_S^D(\mu, \theta)$  because the dealer had to liquidate some assets at  $t = 1$  to serve early withdrawals. The

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<sup>22</sup>Recall that Treasury holdings at  $t = 2$  yield a utility payoff  $\eta > 1$ , thus a hedge fund will invest all available cash at  $t = 1$  in Treasuries.

expected utility is, then,

$$U^H(\mu_S \leq \mu < \mu_I, \theta; 1) = \theta(\eta T - F_1^H) + (1 - \theta)G_I^D(\mu, \theta) + \eta(W_0 - m_0^H + T - F_0^H - m_1^H). \quad (13)$$

If more hedge funds withdraw, the dealer will default in the good state as well, for  $\mu \in [\mu_I, \mu_R)$ , receiving its share of the dealer's remaining portfolio in either state,

$$U^H(\mu_I \leq \mu < \mu_R, \theta; 1) = \theta G_I^U(\mu, \theta) + (1 - \theta)G_I^D(\mu, \theta) + \eta(W_0 - m_0^H + T - F_0^H - m_1^H). \quad (14)$$

Comparing (12) or (13) to (14), the role of  $\eta$  in the model becomes more clear. A hedge fund will only enjoy the benefit  $\eta$  if the dealer is solvent and, thus, returns the *physical* collateral  $T$  to the hedge fund. If the dealer defaults, the hedge fund receives *cash* payment pro-rata, which does not yield the benefit  $\eta$ . Around the default threshold  $\mu_I$ , the payoff in the good state to a hedge fund that rolls over is  $\eta T - F_1^H$  if the dealer does not default and  $T - F_1^H$  if the dealer defaults.

If the withdrawals continue, the dealer will eventually run out of money and will be fully liquidated at  $t = 1$  for  $\mu \in [\mu_R, 1]$ . In this case, a hedge fund that rolled over at  $t = 1$  will receive utility

$$U^H(\mu_R \leq \mu \leq 1, \theta; 1) = \eta(W_0 - m_0^H + T - F_0^H - m_1^H). \quad (15)$$

In these last two cases, the hedge fund cannot repurchase back its collateral and the utility benefit  $\eta$  applies *only* to the additional Treasuries purchased with the remaining cash at  $t = 1$ .

Next, consider the case that a hedge fund that does not roll over at  $t = 1$ , i.e.,  $\alpha = 0$ . This hedge fund is able to invest  $W_0 - m_0^H$  in Treasuries, plus any incremental cash from closing the initial repo position. The latter will depend on whether the dealer is fully liquidated at  $t = 1$ . If the dealer has enough resources to serve all early withdrawals, a hedge fund that does not roll over can repurchase its collateral at  $t = 1$  at price  $F_0^H$ , receiving a net cash flow  $T - F_0^H$  and final utility equal to

$$U^H(\mu < \mu_R, \theta; 0) = \eta(W_0 - m_0^H + T - F_0^H). \quad (16)$$

If the dealer cannot serve all of the early withdrawals, then a hedge fund that does not roll over will only be able to repurchase its collateral with probability  $f(\mu, \theta)$  given by (4), and the expected utility is equal to

$$U^H(\mu_R \leq \mu \leq 1, \theta; 0) = \eta (W_0 - m_0^H + f(\mu, \theta) \cdot (T - F_0^H)). \quad (17)$$

It is important to note that  $\eta$  plays a dual role. First, it generates gains from trade to induce the hedge fund to participate. But, it also creates incentives for the hedge fund to roll over. Specifically, in equation (12), when the hedge fund rolls over it enjoys the entire benefit of having  $T$ , that is, in the good state it receives  $\eta T - F_1^H$ . From equation (16), if the hedge fund withdraws it uses the net amount of funds to purchase Treasuries, that is, it earns  $\eta(T - F_0^H)$ . This is the effect of leverage: allowing investors to increase their exposure, which in the model creates incentives to roll over.

As derived later in section 3.2, hedge funds will follow a strategy such that all roll over at  $t = 1$  if the realization of fundamentals,  $\theta$ , is above a threshold  $\theta^*$ , and all withdraw their collateral if  $\theta$  is below  $\theta^*$ . Moreover, every individual hedge fund should be willing to enter into a repo contract both at  $t = 0$  and  $t = 1$  given that all other hedge funds follow the equilibrium strategy. An individual hedge fund would not choose to deviate and will enter the repo contract at  $t = 0$  if the following participation constraint is satisfied:

$$PC_0 : \int_{\theta^*}^1 \eta \cdot (T - F_0^H) d\theta + \int_0^{\theta^*} \eta \cdot f(1, \theta) \cdot (T - F_0^H) d\theta - \eta \cdot m_0^H \geq 0, \quad (18)$$

where  $f(1)$  is given by (4) for  $\mu = 1$ . In other words, an individual hedge fund will not deviate from the equilibrium strategy at  $t = 0$  if the expected cash flow at  $t = 1$  is higher than the original margin contribution. Cash flows are scaled by  $\eta$  because the hedge fund can use the cash to invest in Treasuries at  $t = 1$  and, thus, receive the utility benefit by holding them until the final period.

Moreover, an individual hedge fund will not deviate from the equilibrium strategy at  $t = 1$  if for every  $\theta \geq \theta^*$  the following participation constraint is satisfied:

$$PC_1 : \theta(\eta \cdot T - F_1^H) + (1 - \theta)G_S^D(0, \theta) - \eta \cdot m_1^H \geq 0, \quad (19)$$

where  $G_S^D(0, \theta)$  is given by (6) for  $\mu = 0$ . In other words, an individual hedge fund will



only roll over at  $t = 1$  for  $\theta \geq \theta^*$  if the expected benefit is higher than the outside option of investing the margin in Treasuries, which is equal to  $\eta \cdot m_1^H$ . The former is equal to the utility benefit of repurchasing the collateral,  $\eta \cdot T$ , minus the repurchase price,  $F_1^H$  occurring with probability  $\theta$  plus the cash flow received when the dealer defaults,  $G_S^D(0, \theta)$ , occurring with probability  $1 - \theta$ . Given that the left-hand side in (19) is increasing in  $\theta$ , it suffices that the participation constraint is satisfied for  $\theta^*$ . We establish this in Corollary 1 in section 3.2.

Note that the decision to enter a repo at  $t = 0$  is independent of the decision to enter a repo at  $t = 1$ . If  $PC_0$  is not satisfied, but  $PC_1$  is, then an individual hedge fund will deviate from the equilibrium strategy at  $t = 0$ , and vice versa. Hence, both (18) and (19) need to hold in equilibrium, which restricts the ability of the dealer to extract all surplus from hedge fund. As we discuss later, equation (19) will not be binding in equilibrium because hedge funds need to have the proper incentives to roll over in the incomplete information game, while equation (18) will be binding as it restricts the ability of the dealer to set a very high margin,  $m_0^H$ , or repurchase price,  $F_0^H$ . Finally, integrating (19) over  $[\theta^*, 1]$ , and adding (18) as well as  $\eta \cdot W_0$  on both sides yields  $\int_{\theta^*}^1 U^H(0, \theta; 1) d\theta + \int_0^{\theta^*} U^H(1, \theta; 0) d\theta \geq \eta \cdot W_0$ . Hence, under the optimal contracting terms the overall utility of a hedge fund playing the equilibrium strategy is higher than the utility in autarky.  $U^H(\mu = 0, \theta; 1)$  and  $U^H(\mu = 1, \theta; 0)$  which are given by (12) through to (17).

Finally, using the period 0 participation constraint and condition (1), we can prove the following Lemma, which will be useful in later analysis.

**Lemma 2.** *The contract terms are such that:*

1. *The dealer's liabilities at  $t = 0$  are higher than the cash inflow from the rehypothecation of collateral, i.e.,  $-\Delta F_0 > \Delta m_0$ .*
2. *The cash inflow from the rehypothecation of collateral at  $t = 1$  is higher than at  $t = 0$ , i.e.,  $\Delta m_1 > \Delta m_0$ .*

As discussed in section 4, the dealer will choose contract terms that push hedge funds to their period 0 participation constraint *in equilibrium*. Hence, we can rewrite (18) as  $-\Delta F_0 \geq g(\theta^*) \Delta m_0$ , where  $g(\theta^*) > 1$  from Lemma 2 and given by

$$g(\theta^*) = \frac{1 - \lambda \left[ (R^U - R^D) \frac{\theta^{*2}}{2} + \theta^* R^D \right]}{1 - \theta^*}. \quad (20)$$

We should note that equation (20) implies that the dealer needs to offer hedge funds a repurchase price,  $F_0^H$ , that is lower than the amount they borrow,  $T - m_0^H$ , i.e., the interest rate on first period reverse repos is negative.<sup>23</sup> As we will show in Proposition 2, the dealer will be willing to offer a negative rate in order to provide incentives for hedge funds to participate and, thus, use the liquidity windfall  $\Delta m_0$  to invest in the risky asset. In turn, hedge funds require a negative interest rate to participate at  $t = 0$  because of the probability of a run on the dealer in which case they could lose everything. We could have dispensed with negative rates if we had assumed that hedge funds also enjoy a non-pecuniary benefit,  $\tilde{\eta} > 1$ , from holding  $T$  from  $t = 0$  to  $t = 1$  or alternatively, if agents in the model discounted future cash flows. Given that these assumptions would unnecessarily complicate the model, we have opted to proceed without them.

### 3 Collateral Runs and Coordination Failure

This section examines the decision of an individual hedge fund to withdraw its collateral or roll over its repo contract in the intermediate period. The decision not only depends on the hedge fund's belief of the dealer's solvency, but also on its beliefs of other hedge funds' actions/beliefs. Section 3.1 discusses the case that all hedge funds have full knowledge of the fundamental value  $\theta$  and shows how the coordination problem arises for certain regions of the parameter space, giving rise to multiple equilibria. Section 3.2 introduces incomplete information whereby each hedge fund receives a private noisy signal about the realization of  $\theta$ . These signals do not only provide information about  $\theta$ , but also about other hedge funds signals, allowing an inference about their actions. The higher the signal, the higher the posterior belief about  $\theta$  and the smaller is the likelihood that other hedge funds receive low signals urging them to withdraw. Both effects reduce the incentive to withdraw. As a result, incomplete information forces hedge funds to coordinate their actions such that they withdraw only if fundamentals are below a threshold. These incomplete information games are known in the literature as Global Games (see also Carlsson and van Damme, 1993).

In sections 3.1 and 3.2 we derive results assuming that contract terms are pre-determined. Knowing the equilibrium outcome of the global game, in Section 4, we can derive the equi-

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<sup>23</sup>The interest rate is  $F_0^H/(T - m_0^H) - 1 = (\Delta F_0 + \Delta m_0)/(T - m_0^H) = (1 - g(\theta^*))\Delta m_0/(T - m_0^H) < 0$ , using  $T = F_0^M$  and  $m_0^M$  from the money funds problem and (20).

librium contracting terms and show under what conditions they are consistent with the existence of a coordination problem.

### 3.1 Complete Information

Assume that all hedge funds receive a signal that fully reveals the realization of  $\theta$  at  $t = 1$ .<sup>24</sup> The signal provides information about dealer's solvency at  $t = 2$ , i.e., the probability that  $R^U$  realizes, but also about the liquidation value of the dealer's risky investment,  $\lambda \bar{R}_\theta \Delta m_0$ .

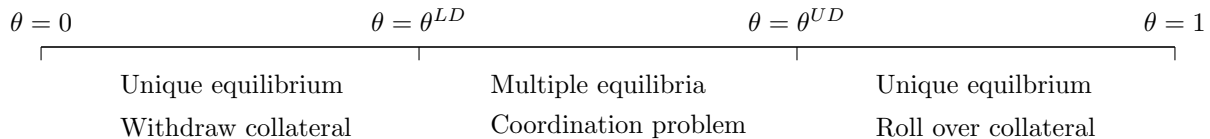
We can establish two regions for fundamentals where the actions of an individual hedge funds are independent of the actions of other hedge funds. The one region, dubbed "lower dominance region" in the literature, is defined by a threshold  $\theta^{LD}$  such that an individual hedge fund withdraws even if no other hedge funds withdraw because it learns that the fundamentals are very bad and that the dealer will not be able to return the collateral in  $t = 2$ . The other region, dubbed "upper dominance region," is defined by a threshold  $\theta^{UD}$ , such that an individual hedge fund will not withdraw its collateral even if all other hedge funds withdraw because it learns that fundamentals are very good to support a high liquidation value of dealer's assets. Lemma 3 below derives the lower and upper dominance thresholds.

**Lemma 3.** *There are two regions of fundamentals defined by thresholds  $\theta^{LD}$  and  $\theta^{UD}$  where the decision of an individual hedge fund to withdraw its collateral is independent of the decisions of other hedge funds. A hedge fund will always withdraw its collateral for  $\theta \leq \theta^{LD} = ((\eta - 1)\Delta m_1 - R^D \Delta m_0 - \Delta F_0) / ((\eta - 1)T - R^D \Delta m_0 - \Delta F_0 - \Delta m_1 - \Delta F_1)$ , and will always roll over for  $\theta \geq \theta^{UD} = -(\Delta F_0 + \lambda R^D \Delta m_0) / (\lambda(R^U - R^D)\Delta m_0)$ . Moreover,  $\theta^{LD}$  and  $\theta^{UD}$  lie in the support of  $\theta$ , i.e.,  $\theta^{LD}, \theta^{UD} \in (0, 1)$ .*

Given that all hedge funds are fully informed about  $\theta$ , they will all withdraw for  $\theta \leq \theta^{LD}$  and all rollover for  $\theta \geq \theta^{UD}$  in equilibrium. However, for intermediate values of fundamental,  $\theta \in (\theta^{LD}, \theta^{UD})$  multiple equilibria are possible, whereby an individual hedge fund's actions depends on its beliefs about the actions of other hedge funds (Figure 10). The intermediate

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<sup>24</sup>Recall that contract terms  $m_t^j$  and  $F_t^j$ , for both  $t = 0, 1$  and  $j = H, M$  are set before the signals arrive and cannot be made contingent of the realization of  $\theta$ . As a result, the decision to withdraw based on the information received takes the contract terms as pre-determined. The dealer and money funds do not adjust their behavior after information arrives, so we focus the analysis on hedge funds and abstract from any information the dealer may receive.



**Figure 10:** Unique and Multiple Equilibria Under Complete Information on  $\theta$ .

region has positive mass as long as  $\theta^{LD} < \theta^{UD}$ , which implies that  $\lambda \bar{R}_\theta \Delta m_0 + \Delta F_0 < 0$  for  $\theta \in (\theta^{LD}, \theta^{UD})$ , i.e., the dealer will surely run out of money if all hedge funds withdraw. This is the source of the coordination problem and the reason why multiple equilibria exist under complete information.

### 3.2 Incomplete Information

In order to resolve the coordination problem described in section 3.1, we introduce incomplete information such that at  $t = 1$ , each hedge fund  $i$  receives a private noisy signal of the state of nature  $x_i = \theta + \epsilon_i$  where the error terms  $\epsilon_i$  are independently and uniformly distributed over  $[-\epsilon, \epsilon]$ . An individual hedge fund's decision to roll over depends on the signal it receives. The signal provides information regarding the quality of the risky asset in the dealer's balance sheet. In other words it helps inform the probability that the dealer will eventually default at  $t = 2$  and the hedge fund will forfeit its collateral. The signal also provides information about other hedge funds' signals, which allows an inference regarding their actions. An individual hedge fund may decide to withdraw its collateral not only because it believes that fundamentals are bad, but also because the conjectured portion of hedge funds withdrawing is high enough to push the dealer into illiquidity.

We seek a symmetric equilibrium characterized by two thresholds  $(x^*, \theta^*)$  such that an individual hedge fund will withdraw its collateral if its private signal realization  $x_i$  is lower than a threshold  $x^*$  and the dealer will be fully liquidated at  $t = 1$  if the fundamentals realization  $\theta$  is lower than a threshold  $\theta^*$ .

Under such a threshold strategy, the portion of hedge funds that withdraw their collateral

at a given level of fundamentals  $\theta$  is

$$\mu(\theta, x^*) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \theta < x^* - \epsilon \\ \text{Prob}(x_i \leq x^* | \theta) & \text{if } x^* - \epsilon \leq \theta \leq x^* + \epsilon \\ 0 & \text{if } \theta > x^* + \epsilon. \end{cases} \quad (21)$$

If the fundamental value  $\theta$  is lower than  $x^* - \epsilon$ , then all hedge funds receives signals  $x_i < x^*$ . Hence, all hedge funds, following a threshold strategy, withdraw and  $\mu(\theta, x^*) = 1$ . The opposite is true for  $\theta > x^* + \epsilon$ , whereby all hedge funds receive signals  $x_i > x^*$  and roll over, thus  $\mu(\theta, x^*) = 0$ . Finally, if fundamentals are not sufficiently higher or lower than  $x^*$ , i.e.,  $\theta \in [x^* - \epsilon, x^* + \epsilon]$ , some hedge funds will receive signals that are lower than  $x^*$  and, thus, will withdraw their collateral; and others will receive a signal higher than  $x^*$  and, thus, will roll over their repo. Given that private noise,  $\epsilon_i$ , is independently and identically distributed, from the law of large numbers the portion of hedge funds withdrawing for a given level of  $\theta$  in the intermediate region is  $\mu(\theta, x^*) = \text{Prob}(x_i \leq x^* | \theta) = (x^* - \theta + \epsilon)/2\epsilon$ .

The signal and fundamentals thresholds are derived in two steps as follows. First, given the threshold strategy  $x^*$ , we can derive the threshold for fundamentals,  $\theta^*$ , which determines whether the dealer is fully liquidated at  $t = 1$  or survives to  $t = 2$ . Because the portion of hedge funds withdrawing is decreasing in  $\theta$  from (21), the dealer is fully liquidated only if  $\theta < \theta^*$ . That is,  $\theta^*$  as a function of  $x^*$  is the solution to  $f(\mu(\theta^*, x^*), \theta^*) = 1$ , which from equation (4) gives:

$$\theta^* = x^* - \epsilon \frac{\Delta m_1 + 2\Delta F_0 + 2\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*} \Delta m_0}{\Delta m_1}. \quad (22)$$

In other words, for threshold strategy  $x^*$ , if  $\theta$  is lower than  $\theta^*$ , then the portion of hedge funds withdrawing is higher than what the dealer can serve by liquidating all of her assets, or  $f(\mu(\theta, x^*), \theta) < 1$ . On the contrary, if  $\theta$  is higher than  $\theta^*$ , fewer hedge funds withdraw, allowing the dealer to decrease asset liquidations and survive to  $t = 2$ .<sup>25</sup>

Second, given the fundamentals threshold  $\theta^*$ , an individual hedge fund can compute the signal threshold  $x^*$ , below which it is optimal to withdraw conditional on its expectation over the portion of hedge funds withdrawing and the private signal it receives. This signal threshold depends on the utility differential between rolling over and withdrawing for a

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<sup>25</sup>The fraction of assets distributed is strictly decreasing in  $\mu$ , i.e.,  $\partial f(\mu, \theta)/\partial \mu = (\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta} \Delta m_0 + \Delta F_0 + \Delta m_1)/(\mu^2 \Delta F_0) < 0$  given condition in equation (1).

given level of  $\theta$  and  $\mu$ . The difference in expected payoff is given by  $U^H(\mu, \theta; a = 1) - U^H(\mu, \theta; a = 0)$  derived from (12)-(17). Given that in equilibrium  $F_t^M = T$  and  $m_t^M = 0$ , the utility differential  $\nu(\mu, \theta)$  is given by the following piecewise function:

$$\nu(\mu, \theta) = \begin{cases} \theta [(\eta - 1)T - \Delta F_1] + (1 - \theta)G_S^D(\mu, \theta) - \eta\Delta m_1 & \mu \in [0, \mu_S) \\ \theta [(\eta - 1)T - \Delta F_1] + (1 - \theta)G_I^D(\mu, \theta) - \eta\Delta m_1 & \mu \in [\mu_S, \mu_I) \\ \theta G_I^U(\mu, \theta) + (1 - \theta)G_I^D(\mu, \theta) - \eta\Delta m_1 & \mu \in [\mu_I, \mu_R) \\ -\eta \frac{\lambda \bar{R}_\theta \Delta m_0 + \Delta F_0 + \Delta m_1}{\mu} & \mu \in [\mu_R, 1] \end{cases} \quad (23)$$

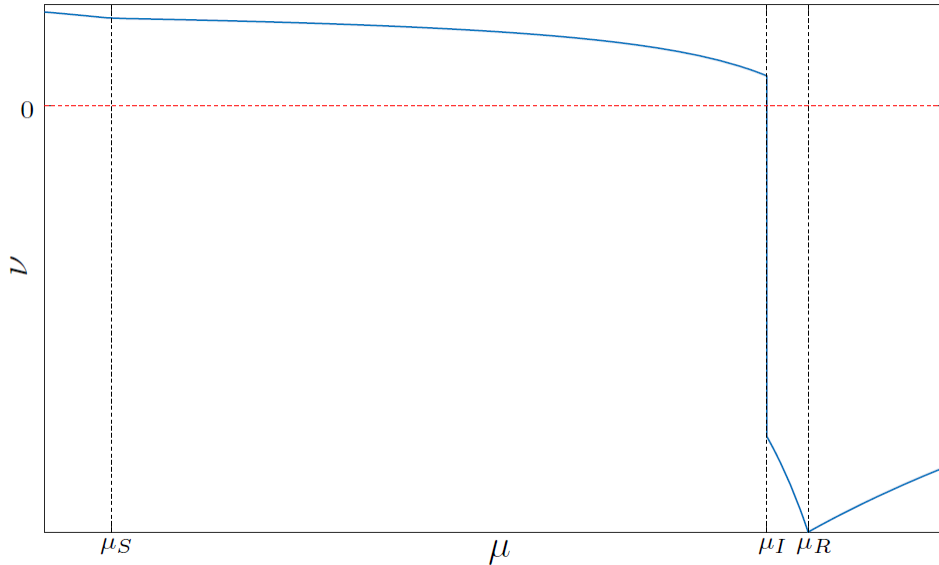
where  $G_S^D(\mu, \theta) = (R^D \Delta m_0 + \Delta F_0 + (1 - \mu)\Delta m_1) / (1 - \mu)$ ,  $G_I^D(\mu, \theta) = (R^D \Delta m_0 + R^D / \lambda \bar{R}_\theta \cdot (\Delta F_0 + (1 - \mu)\Delta m_1)) / (1 - \mu)$ , and  $\theta G_I^U(\mu, \theta) + (1 - \theta)G_I^D(\mu, \theta) = (\bar{R}_\theta \Delta m_0 + 1/\lambda \cdot (\Delta F_0 + (1 - \mu)\Delta m_1)) / (1 - \mu)$  from (6), (9) and (10).

We plot the utility differential  $\nu(\mu, \theta)$  for a certain level of  $\theta$  in Figure 11. Looking at the two first legs, the payment in the bad state for a hedge fund that rolled over is decreasing in  $\mu$  and  $\lim_{\mu \rightarrow \mu_S^-} G_S^D(\mu, \theta) = \lim_{\mu \rightarrow \mu_S^+} G_I^D(\mu, \theta)$ .<sup>26</sup> The third leg is also decreasing in  $\mu$  for  $\lambda \bar{R}_\theta \Delta m_0 + \Delta F_0 < 0$ , i.e., for  $\theta < \theta^{UD}$ . The utility differential is discontinuous at  $\mu_I$  because the hedge fund fails to receive the non-pecuniary benefit  $\eta$  if the dealer defaults. However,  $\lim_{\mu \rightarrow \mu_I^-} \nu(\mu, \theta) - \lim_{\mu \rightarrow \mu_I^+} \nu(\mu, \theta) = \theta(\eta - 1)T > 0$ , and, thus,  $\nu(\mu, \theta)$  is strictly decreasing in  $\mu \in [0, \mu_R)$  for  $\theta < \theta^{UD}$  which is the relevant region where a coordination problem may occur. The final leg in (23) is increasing in  $\mu$  given that  $\lambda \bar{R}_\theta \Delta m_0 + \Delta F_0 + \Delta m_1 > 0$  from the condition in equation (1). Thus, the model features one-sided, rather than global, strategic complementarities as in Goldstein and Pauzner (2005). That is, once the dealer is fully liquidated, a hedge fund has fewer incentives to withdraw as withdrawals increase. Note that  $\nu$  ‘‘crosses’’ zero as  $\mu$  increases from above. That is, depending on the contract terms, this can happen within any of the first two legs or at the jump, but not within the third and fourth legs where  $\nu(\mu, \theta)$  always takes negative values.<sup>27</sup>

Consider an individual hedge fund that receives signal  $x_i$ . The hedge fund will use the signal to update its beliefs about the realization of  $\theta$ . Given that both  $\theta$  and  $\epsilon_i$  are uniformly distributed, the posterior distribution of  $\theta$  given  $x_i$  is  $\theta|x_i \sim U[x_i - \epsilon, x_i + \epsilon]$ . This implies that

<sup>26</sup>  $\partial G_S^D(\mu, \theta) / \partial \mu = (R^D \Delta m_0 + \Delta F_0) / (1 - \mu)^2 < 0$ , because  $R^D < 1$  and  $\Delta m_0 + \Delta F_0 < 0$  from Lemma 2, while  $\partial G_I^D(\mu, \theta) / \partial \mu = R^D / (\lambda \bar{R}_\theta (\lambda \bar{R}_\theta \Delta m_0 + \Delta F_0)) / (1 - \mu)^2 < 0$  for  $\theta < \theta^{UD}$ .

<sup>27</sup>  $\nu(\mu, \theta) < 0$  for  $\mu \in [\mu_I, \mu_R)$  —third leg— requires  $\mu > 1 + (\lambda \bar{R}_\theta \Delta m_0 + \Delta F_0) / \Delta m_1 > \mu_I$ , which is always true.



**Figure 11:** Indifference function  $\nu(\mu, \theta)$  as a function of  $\mu$  for arbitrary  $\theta \in (\theta^{LD}, \theta^{UD})$  and arbitrary Contract Terms.

the utility differential between rolling over and withdrawing for a hedge fund that receives signal  $x_i$  as a function of the cutoff value is

$$\Delta(x_i, x^*) = \frac{1}{2\epsilon} \int_{x_i - \epsilon}^{x_i + \epsilon} \nu(\mu(\theta, x^*), \theta) d\theta. \quad (24)$$

In a threshold equilibrium, a hedge fund prefers to withdraw, i.e.,  $\Delta(x_i, x^*) < 0$ , for all  $x_i < x^*$ , and prefers to roll over, i.e.,  $\Delta(x_i, x^*) > 0$ , for all  $x_i > x^*$ .  $\Delta(x_i, x^*)$  is continuous in  $x_i$  because a change in the signal only changes the limits of integration  $[x_i - \epsilon, x_i + \epsilon]$  and the integrand is bounded. Hence, a hedge fund that receives signal  $x_i = x^*$  is indifferent between rolling over and withdrawing if

$$\Delta(x^*, x^*) = \frac{1}{2\epsilon} \int_{x^* - \epsilon}^{x^* + \epsilon} \nu(\mu(\theta, x^*), \theta) d\theta = 0. \quad (25)$$

Equations (22) and (25) jointly determine the threshold for fundamentals  $\theta^*$  and the threshold strategy  $x^*$ . As in Goldstein-Pauzner, the model features one-sided strategic complementarities. Hence, we follow the steps in Goldstein-Pauzner and make similar assumptions, most importantly that noise is uniformly distributed, to show the uniqueness of a

threshold equilibrium. However, our framework features two additional complications akin to Kashyap et al. (2017).<sup>28</sup> First, due to limited liability, the dealer’s default threshold is endogenous. Second, and most importantly, the liquidation value matters for the payoff in a run and, thus, state monotonicity of  $\nu(\mu, \theta)$  which typically used to find unique equilibria, is not straightforward.

Figure 12 illustrates how the liquidation value in our framework affects the utility differential  $\nu$  for different values of fundamentals,  $\theta'$  and  $\theta''$ , as  $\mu$  varies. The left panel corresponds to the case of a fixed liquidation value, while the right panel corresponds to the case of an uncertain liquidation value, modeled in this paper. Both cases are characterized by one-sided strategic complementarities as  $\nu$  increases in the region where a run occurs. Namely, once a run has materialized, the incentive to withdraw is lower for a higher  $\mu$ . This is akin to Goldstein-Pauzner and is typical in bank-run models. The two cases differ in how liquidation values change with fundamentals. Consider that  $\theta' > \theta''$ . When the liquidation value is fixed (left panel), the utility differential unambiguously increases, because  $\theta$  only affect the probability of getting a high payoff conditional on a run not occurring. Once we allow the liquidation value to vary with  $\theta$  (right panel), the utility differential changes in a non-monotone way: it is increasing in  $\theta$  in the region where a run does not occur, but it is decreasing in the region where a run materializes. This latter effect is because the relative payoff from withdrawing is higher conditional on a run materializing. We employ the same strategy as in Kashyap et al. (2017) to address this issue of non-state monotonicity. Proposition 1 establishes the existence and uniqueness of a threshold equilibrium.<sup>29</sup>

**Proposition 1.** *Given contract terms satisfying  $\theta^{LD} < \theta^{UD}$  in Lemma 3, there exist a threshold,  $x^*$ , such that a hedge fund rolls over if  $x_i > x^*$  and withdraws if  $x_i < x^*$ , and a threshold  $\theta^*$ , such that the dealer does not experience any withdraws if  $\theta \geq \theta^*$  and is fully liquidated if  $\theta < \theta^*$ . Moreover, the thresholds are unique if noise is not too large.*

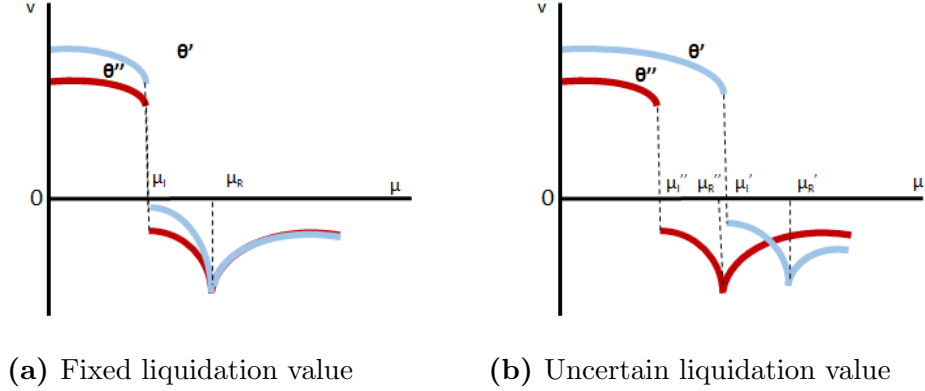
Proposition 1 establishes the existence of a *unique* threshold strategy conditional that

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<sup>28</sup>Our frameworks differ because we consider a different source of stochastic uncertainty. In Kashyap et al. (2017) the liquidation value of the risky assets can vary independently of their expected long-term payoff. In our model, the variation in the liquidation value stems from the variation in the long-term expected payoff. In technical terms, they allow  $\lambda$  to vary keeping  $\theta$  constant, while we allow  $\theta$  to vary keeping  $\lambda$  constant.

<sup>29</sup>To simplify the analysis we have restricted attention to a uniformly distributed probability of a good realization. The difficulty arises from the uncertain liquidation value. Goldstein-Pauzner allow for more general distributions of the probability of a good realization,  $p(\theta)$ , where  $\theta$  is uniformly distributed and  $p'(\theta) > 0$ . In our case,  $p(\theta) = \theta$  and  $p'(\theta) = 1$ .





**Figure 12:** Utility differential for different fundamental values under certain and uncertain liquidation values

there exist equilibrium contract terms such that the lower dominance threshold,  $\theta^{LD}$ , is strictly smaller than the upper dominance threshold,  $\theta^{UD}$ . In the proof of Proposition 2 we actually show that the equilibrium contracting terms are such that  $\theta^{LD} < \theta^{UD}$ . As a result, *collateral runs* accrue from the dealer's optimal behavior in equilibrium.

Hereafter, we focus on the case that the noise goes arbitrarily close to zero. Note that taking the limit  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$  implies that  $x^* \rightarrow \theta^*$  from (22). A hedge fund that receives signal  $x^*$ , the posterior distribution of  $\theta$  is uniform over the interval  $[x^* - \epsilon, x^* + \epsilon]$ . Thus, that hedge fund's belief of the portion of hedge funds withdrawing as a function of  $\theta$ ,  $\mu(\theta, x^*)$ , is uniform over  $[0, 1]$ .<sup>30</sup> In other words, as  $\theta$  decreases from  $x^* + \epsilon$  to  $x^* - \epsilon$ ,  $\mu$  increases from 0 to 1. Changing variables in  $\Delta(x^*, x^*) = 0$  provides the indifference condition that determines the unique value  $\theta^*$ :

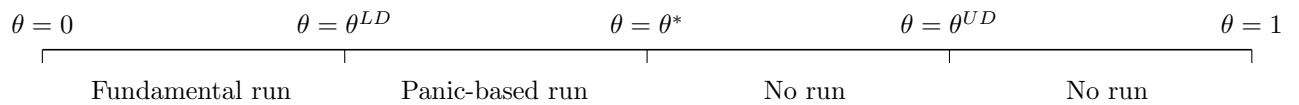
$$V(\theta^*) = \int_0^1 \nu(\mu, \theta^*) d\mu = 0. \quad (26)$$

The detailed expression for  $V(\theta^*)$ , with its derivatives with respect to  $\theta^*$  and the contract terms, are shown in equation (B.28) in Appendix B. Moreover, (26) implies that  $\nu(0, \theta^*) > 0$  given that  $\nu$  is decreasing in  $\mu$  when positive. Because in equilibrium  $\mu$  is zero or one we can establish the following Corollary.

<sup>30</sup>This is true because  $\lim_{x^* \rightarrow \theta^*} \text{Prob}(\mu(\theta, x^*) \leq N) = \text{Prob}(\mu(\theta, \theta^*) \leq N) = 1 - \text{Prob}(\theta \leq \theta^* + \epsilon - 2\epsilon N) = 1 - (\theta^* + \epsilon - 2\epsilon N - \theta^* + \epsilon)/(2\epsilon) = N$ . Hence,  $\mu(\theta, \theta^*) \sim U[0, 1]$ .

**Corollary 1.** *The period 1 participation constraint (19) is always slack for all  $\theta \geq \theta^*$ .*

Contrary to the complete information case, the introduction of noisy private signals eliminates the possibility of multiple equilibria in the intermediate region of fundamentals, i.e.,  $\theta \in (\theta^{LD}, \theta^{UD})$ . The dealer is fully liquidated for  $\theta < \theta^*$ . Figure 13 shows the regions where full liquidation (a “run”) occurs. The region of  $\theta$  below the threshold  $\theta^{LD}$  corresponds to a fundamental run similar to the complete information case. The region between  $\theta^{LD}$  and  $\theta^*$  corresponds to a panic-based run due to dealer illiquidity. The overall run probability is equal to  $Prob(\theta < \theta^*)$ , and can be split between a fundamental run probability,  $Prob(\theta < \theta^{LD})$ , and a panic-based run probability,  $Prob(\theta^{LD} \leq \theta < \theta^*)$ .



**Figure 13:** Unique equilibrium under Incomplete Information on  $\theta$ .

## 4 Threshold Equilibrium

Having characterized hedge funds’ threshold strategy under incomplete information, we turn to see the take-it-or-leave-it contracting terms the dealer chooses, anticipating hedge funds’ optimal strategy. Because a hedge fund’s problem is scalable, we normalize  $T = 1$  for simplicity. This implies that feasible contract terms should satisfy  $\Delta m_t \in [0, 1]$  and  $\Delta F_t \in [-1, 0]$ .

Given threshold for fundamentals  $\theta^*$  defined in (26), all hedge funds withdraw their collateral for  $\theta < \theta^*$ , inducing the dealer to default and receive zero profits. Conversely, if the realization of  $\theta$  is above  $\theta^*$  all hedge funds roll over their repos to period  $t = 2$  and the dealer is exposed to the risky asset’s payoff. With probability  $\theta$ , the good state realizes and the dealer enjoys positive profits. Otherwise, the bad state realizes and the dealer defaults

receiving nothing. Her expected utility is, then, given by:

$$\begin{aligned}
U^D &= \int_0^{\theta^*} u(0)d\theta + \int_{\theta^*}^1 [\theta u(R^U \Delta m_0 + \Delta m_1 + \Delta F_0 + \Delta F_1) + (1 - \theta)u(0)] d\theta \\
&= \frac{(1 - \theta^{*2})}{2} u(R^U \Delta m_0 + \Delta m_0 + \Delta F_0 + \Delta F_1),
\end{aligned} \tag{27}$$

where  $u(\cdot)$  is a concave utility function—not excluding linear utility—with  $u(0) = 0$ .<sup>31</sup>

The dealer will internalize that changing the contracting terms directly affects hedge funds' threshold strategy  $\theta^*$  through the global game condition (26), and, thus, the probability of a collateral run. In many global games applications, the run threshold can be derived in closed-form using a condition similar to (26). Given the complexity herein, we are not able to solve for the threshold in closed-form to substitute into the dealer's problem.<sup>32</sup> Instead, we will explicitly impose (26) as a constraint that the dealer faces and have her optimize also over  $\theta^*$ , respecting its relationship with the other contract terms.

Hence, the dealer chooses  $\{\Delta m_0, \Delta m_1, \Delta F_0, \Delta F_1, \theta^*\}$  to maximize (27) subject to hedge funds' period-0 participation constraint (18), the global game constraint (26), the positive liquidity injection constraint (1), and the bad-state default constraint (7) (see the proof of Proposition 2 for the Lagrangian of the dealer's problem and the first-order optimality conditions, which determine the equilibrium of the model).<sup>33</sup> We have imposed the last constraint in the dealer's problem to guarantee the existence of a lower dominance region, which is essential for the existence of a threshold equilibrium in the incomplete information game. We will elaborate further on the presence of these four constraints below, after we have established the existence of contract terms that give rise to a coordination problem

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<sup>31</sup>It is important to note that a coordination problem can exist only if  $\Delta m_0 > 0$ . If hedge funds do not have an unsecured claim on the dealer, i.e.,  $\Delta m_0 = 0$ , there cannot be an advantage to withdraw early. This situation can be appreciated graphically through Figure 8: if there is nothing hedge funds' can claim, beyond their collateral, there is no reason to withdraw. In this case the dealer would not invest in the risky asset, and the only feasible contracting terms that give dealer non-negative profits are  $\Delta m_0 = \Delta m_1 = \Delta F_0 = \Delta F_1 = 0$ , i.e.,  $u(0) = 0$ . This implies that the dealer is better off setting contracting terms that expose her to a run as long as the profits in the good state are positive and  $\theta^* < 1$ .

<sup>32</sup>A closed-form solution is attainable in Goldstein and Pauzner (2005) because the liquidation value does not depend on fundamentals. In Rochet and Vives (2004), the liquidation value depends on fundamentals, but the payoff structure does not, allowing for a closed-form solution.

<sup>33</sup>Alternatively, the problem can be stated with  $\theta^*$  determined implicitly, and the dealer internalizing how contracting terms change the threshold. These approaches are mathematically equivalent.

and, hence, the possibility of a collateral run.<sup>34</sup>

**Proposition 2.** *For  $\lambda R^U > 2$ ,  $R^D < \eta R^U / (\eta + R^U)$ , and dealer's risk-aversion sufficiently high enough, there exist optimal contracting terms  $\Delta m_t(\theta^*)$  and  $\Delta F_t(\theta^*)$  under which hedge funds adopt a threshold strategy  $\theta^*$ .*

Note that the existence result in Proposition 2 requires a high degree of dealer risk aversion so that the marginal utility of the dealer is low enough to push  $\theta^*$  below its upper bound  $\theta^{UD}$ . In other words, conditional on survival at  $\theta^{UD}$  the dealer would prefer a lower run probability over higher profits in the good state. As we will see later on, this can be true when the dealer is risk-neutral, but under stricter parameter conditions.

The optimal contracting terms of Proposition 2 are only a function of the threshold  $\theta^*$  and given by  $\Delta m_0(\theta^*) = -\theta^*(\eta - 1)\mu_I/f(\theta^*)$ ,  $\Delta m_1(\theta^*) = g(\theta^*)\Delta m_0(\theta^*)$ ,  $\Delta F_0(\theta^*) = -g(\theta^*)\Delta m_0(\theta^*)$ , and  $\Delta F_1(\theta^*) = -R^D\Delta m_0(\theta^*)$ , where  $g(\theta^*)$  and  $f(\theta^*)$  are given by (20) and (A.25), respectively. Finally, the run threshold is the solution to the following optimization condition:

$$\frac{1}{2}(1 - \theta^{*2})u'((R^U - R^D)\Delta m_0(\theta^*))(R^U - R^D) + \frac{\theta^*u((R^U - R^D)\Delta m_0(\theta^*))f(\theta^*)}{\frac{\partial V}{\partial \theta^*} - \Delta m_0(\theta^*)g'(\theta^*)\left(\frac{\partial V}{\partial \Delta F_0} - \frac{\partial V}{\partial \Delta m_1}\right)} = 0, \quad (28)$$

which can be easily interpreted. The first term captures the incremental utility to the dealer from an increase in the initial risky investment while keeping the run probability unchanged. The second term captures the effect on the probability that the dealer suffers a run, and, hence, forfeits any profits in the final period (note that the term is negative). So, the dealer balances the higher profits conditional on a run not occurring, with the associated increase in the probability of a run.

The optimal contracting terms of Proposition 2 are characterized by four binding constraints: the global game constraint, the initial participation constraint, the positive liquidity injection constraint, and the dealer default constraint.<sup>35</sup> The last three constraints allow us

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<sup>34</sup>The participation constraint in period one is always slack from Corollary 1, and the contract terms will be interior. Thus, for the sake of conciseness, we do not include (19),  $0 \leq \Delta m_t \leq 1$  and  $-1 \leq \Delta F_t \leq 0$  in the dealer's optimization problem. The Lagrangian and the first-order optimization conditions are reported in (A.18)-(A.23) in Appendix A.

<sup>35</sup>In a model extension where the dealer can default for reasons outside of the rehypothecation process,

to write the contract terms  $\Delta F_0$ ,  $\Delta m_1$ , and  $\Delta F_1$  as function of  $\Delta m_0$  and  $\theta^*$ . The first one gives  $\Delta m_0$  as a function of  $\theta^*$ . As already mentioned, the global game and initial participation constraints will always be binding. The binding initial participation constraint relates the initial margin with the initial repurchase price, and implies that an individual hedge fund is indifferent between participating initially or waiting to participate in  $t = 1$ . We, now, discuss in more detail the intuition behind the other two binding constraints.

The binding liquidity injection constraint implies that the dealer does not collect any net funds in  $t = 1$ . The intuition behind the tightness of this restriction stems from inspecting  $\theta^*$ 's sensitivity to both  $\Delta m_1$  and  $\Delta F_0$ . To see this, consider contracting terms which do not have a binding  $PC_0$  constraint. In that case, the only difference between  $\Delta m_1$  and  $\Delta F_0$  is how those variables affect  $\theta^*$ . In the proposed equilibrium we have,  $\partial\theta^*/\partial\Delta m_1 - \partial\theta^*/\partial\Delta F_0 > 0$ .<sup>36</sup> Intuitively this is because a hedge fund loss due to an increase in  $\Delta m_1$  only affects hedge funds that roll over. A hedge fund loss due to an increase in  $\Delta F_0$  is mutualized between those that roll over and those that do not. That is, the dealer gets more “bang for her buck” by altering the roll over haircut. Thus, to increase the possibility for hedge funds to rollover (i.e., lower  $\theta^*$ ), it is optimal to reduce hedge funds’ loss via a reduction in  $\Delta m_1$  rather than  $\Delta F_0$ , which in equilibrium is pinned down by the initial participation constraint.

Interestingly, the choice of  $\Delta m_1$  versus  $\Delta F_0$  highlights a tradeoff which can be lost without considering hedge fund’s rollover decision. Given that the sum of these two contracting terms results in the effective net payment from hedge funds that roll over, their direct marginal impact on the dealer’s utility is identical. The difference stems from considering how these contracting terms affect the marginal hedge fund’s decision to roll over or not. In this regard, the contracting terms are very different, because  $\Delta F_0$  is paid by all whereas  $\Delta m_1$  is only paid by those who continue.

The final active constraint is the dealer’s default condition. The intuition behind this

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a threshold equilibrium exists even when the default condition is slack. In that case, we can show that the contracting term  $\Delta F_1$  is an interior solution to the dealer’s optimization problem rather than being pinned down by the binding default constraint. In this version of the model all other contracting terms are determined as in the original model. Given that this extension does not add additional intuition for our mechanism we have decided to omit its exposition. The characterization and proof of this extension is available upon request.

<sup>36</sup>From the implicit function theorem  $\partial\theta^*/\partial\Delta m_1 - \partial\theta^*/\partial\Delta F_0 = (\partial V/\partial\Delta F_0 - \partial V/\partial\Delta m_1)(\partial V/\partial\theta^*)^{-1}$ .  $\partial V/\partial\Delta F_0 - \partial V/\partial\Delta m_1$  pins down the value of the multiplier on the participation constraint (see (A.26)), and thus is positive. Given that  $\partial V/\partial\theta^* > 0$  from the proof of Proposition 1,  $\partial\theta^*/\partial\Delta m_1 - \partial\theta^*/\partial\Delta F_0$  is positive as well.

active constraint is that an increase in  $\Delta F_1$  affects the dealer's payoff directly with a minimal impact on the sensitivity of  $\theta^*$ : It has a small impact on  $\mu_I$ , and only affects the final repayment of hedge funds' that roll over directly, with no effect on the incentives *between* rolling over and withdrawing. This is why in equilibrium the dealer decides to set contracting terms in which she is on the verge of defaulting in the bad state.

Finally, it is important to note that not extracting any liquidity in  $t = 0$  is a feasibly strategy, yet the optimal contracting terms characterized in Proposition 2 call for  $\Delta m_0 > 0$ . This implies that the dealer is willing to expose itself to the possibility of a run in order to gain exposure to the risky asset. One could consider more sophisticated strategies, like for example investing a fraction of the windfall in the risky asset and holding the remaining in the safe asset to safeguard for possible withdrawals. But as long as the value of the risky asset is sufficiently low in the bad state (small  $R^D$ ), to ensure the existence of a lower dominance region, any small positive allocation to the risky asset would generate a coordination problem amongst hedge funds, regardless of the additional liquidity the dealer may have to meet withdrawals. That is, the main mechanism behind the model still holds.<sup>37</sup>

Having a general characterization of the equilibrium in Proposition 2 we focus on a specific case that gives a more precise characterization of the equilibrium outcome, and also allows us to do comparative statics. Specifically, we shall assume that the risky asset payoff is zero in the down state  $R^D = 0$  and the dealer is risk neutral. In this case, we have the following result,

**Corollary 2.** *For  $R^D = 0$ ,  $\lambda R^U \in \left(2, \frac{4+8\sqrt{2}}{7}\right)$ , and risk neutral dealer, there exist optimal contracting terms*

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta m_0(\theta^*) &= \frac{\theta^*(\eta-1)}{\eta g(\theta^*) \left(1 - \ln\left(\frac{\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*}}{g(\theta^*)}\right)\right)}, & \Delta m_1(\theta^*) &= g(\theta^*) \Delta m_0(\theta^*) \\ \Delta F_0(\theta^*) &= -g(\theta^*) \Delta m_0(\theta^*), & \Delta F_1(\theta^*) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

*under which hedge funds adopt a threshold strategy  $\theta^*$  that solves,*

$$2 \left(1 - \theta^* - 3\theta^{*2} + \theta^*(1 + \theta^*) \frac{\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*}}{g(\theta^*)}\right) = \ln \left(\frac{\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*}}{g(\theta^*)}\right) \left(1 - \theta^* - 4\theta^{*2} + \theta^*(1 + \theta^*) \frac{\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*}}{g(\theta^*)}\right)$$

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<sup>37</sup>We omit the formal analysis of this type of strategy because it significantly complicates the analysis without providing any additional insights.

with  $\frac{\partial \theta^*}{\partial R^U} < 0$ .

The optimal contracting terms have the same functional form as in Proposition 2 with many of the expressions simplified because in this case  $\mu_I = \mu_R$ . Because  $R^D = 0$ , the no default condition can be replaced by the reasonable restriction of having the  $\Delta F_1 \leq 0$ . If this were not the case, the dealer would never default.

Note that we present the comparative statics with respect to  $R^U$ , but these are identical to the ones with respect to  $\lambda$ .<sup>38</sup> As the asset becomes more valuable at liquidation, either due to a higher payment on the good state or a lower liquidity discount, the possibility of a run becomes smaller. That is, the dealer would have more funds to pay off hedge funds in case they were to withdraw, reducing their incentives to do so.

Changes in  $\eta$  do not affect the equilibrium threshold, but they do materially change the optimal contracting terms. As hedge funds have higher profits through their preference for holding safe assets, the initial repo margin  $\Delta m_0$  can be higher.

The following subsection presents a numerical example of the model's comparative statics in the more general case when the dealer is risk averse and the asset value is positive in the down state.

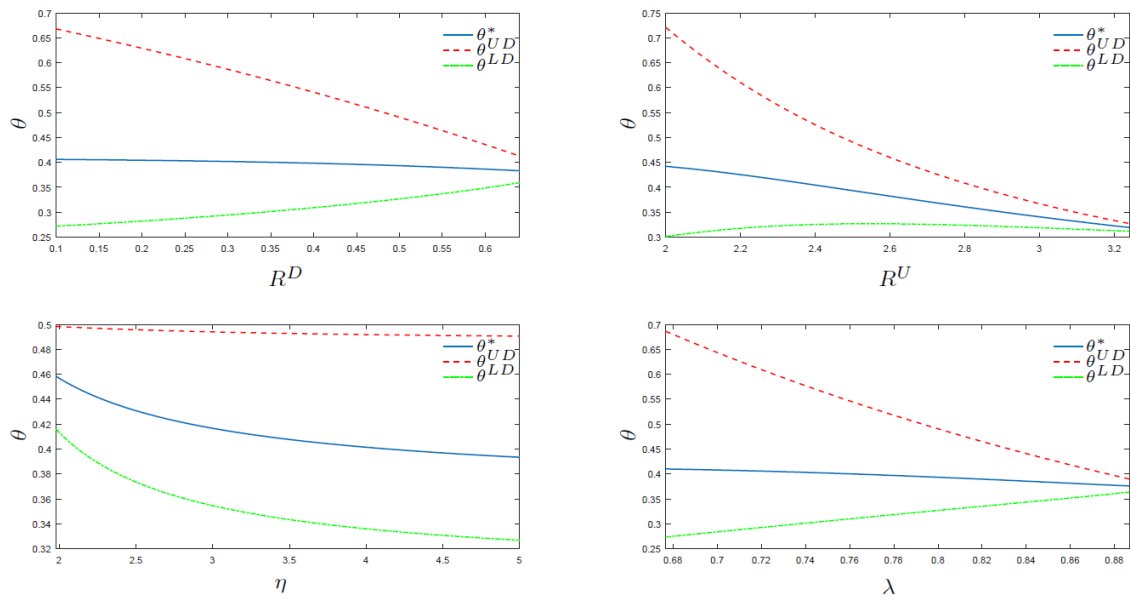
## 4.1 Numerical Example

Proposition 2 characterizes equilibria which we can calculate numerically. As stated in the equilibrium of Proposition 2, it's optimal for the dealer not to collect any additional payments in the interim period  $\Delta m_0 + \Delta F_1 = 0 \implies \mu_S = 0$ . As with all threshold equilibria, we have that  $\mu_I \leq \mu_R < 1$ .

Figure 14 shows how the equilibrium threshold  $\theta^*$ , and its associated upper and lower dominance, change with model parameters. The interpretation of the top two and bottom right panels shows that as the assets unconditional liquidation value increases, the interval for threshold strategies (i.e.,  $(\theta^{LD}, \theta^{UD})$ ) gets smaller. In particular, the interval with panic-based runs (i.e.,  $(\theta^{LD}, \theta^*)$ ) shrinks. This might seem like a beneficial outcome: it is less likely to have a panic based equilibrium. In addition, the range where both panic-based and fundamental runs is also smaller (i.e.,  $(0, \theta^*)$ ).

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<sup>38</sup>With dealer risk aversion this would not be the case, because the dealer's marginal utility is affected by the final payoff (see equation (28)).



**Figure 14:** Changes in  $\theta^*$  for Different Model Parameters

Figure shows how the threshold strategy changes with different underlying parameters (solid blue line). The figure also shows how the upper dominance (dashed red line) and lower dominance (dotted green line) thresholds change. Equilibria are around the initial parameter valuations of  $\eta = 5$ ,  $R^U = 2.5$ ,  $R^D = 0.5$ ,  $\lambda = 0.8$ , and the dealer with CARA utility, risk aversion  $\gamma = 5$ .



But changes in  $\eta$  shows that there are cases where the panic-based equilibrium interval is larger, while both panic-based and fundamental runs are overall smaller. That is, in these cases, the larger coordination problem in fact *decreases* the probability of a run, highlighting the case where coordination can be helpful.

## 5 Policy Analysis

The evidence provided in the Section 1 is suggestive that during the 2007–09 financial crisis some firms did use repo intermediation to source liquidity. In addition, Gorton and Metrick (2012) provide evidence that haircuts in the bilateral repo market increased, while Krishnamurthy et al. (2014) and Copeland et al. (2014) show stable haircuts in the tri-party market. This is consistent with the idea that dealers sourced liquidity by lending less than what they received when intermediating collateral. Infante (2018) also provides evidence suggestive of dealers’ ability to extract a liquidity windfalls from their repo matched book, and shows that this extraction can be sizable. In this paper, we characterize how this activity can generate a coordination failures amongst cash borrowers and introduce a new source of fragility.

This above observation raises a natural question: what policy intervention might mitigate the risks of a collateral run? Since the 2007–09 financial crisis there have been numerous proposals to make the repo market more resilient in time of market stress, but the vast majority have focused on the liability side of the balance sheet. For example, the Financial Stability Board (FSB) has proposed “haircut floors” to limit the amount of leverage a cash borrower can take in a single repo transactions.<sup>39</sup> This type of rule would be an effective way to limit run risk from the point of view repo liabilities.<sup>40</sup> But this paper cautions that this in the context of dealers rehypothecating collateral, imposing haircut floors does nothing to limit dealers ability to extract additional funds from their activity and reinvest those funds in in riskier assets. There are key elements that give rise to the source of instability characterized herein.

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<sup>39</sup>See the FSB, “Strengthening Oversight and Regulation of Shadow Banking: Regulatory framework for haircuts on non-centrally cleared securities financing transactions,” October 14, 2014, [http://www.fsb.org/wp-content/uploads/r\\_141013a.pdf](http://www.fsb.org/wp-content/uploads/r_141013a.pdf). Note however the overcollateralization of secured positions can increase run risk from unsecured claimants, which has been pointed out by Ahnert et al. (2018).

<sup>40</sup>Policy makers have recognized that regulations that impose haircut floors when the economic motive behind the repo is to lend securities are misplaced, as the collateral provider risks losing a valuable asset.

As was mentioned in the introduction, the three necessary ingredients to give rise to fragility from collateral runs are the ability of dealers to rehypothecate collateral, set different contracting terms between borrowers and lenders, and reinvest cash windfalls into risky investments. The last two ingredients seem hard to regulate. In effect, the relative market power between counterparties depends on numerous factors, and implementing regulation that tracks the reinvestment of additional funds seems impractical: regulators would need to know what additional funds came from rehypothecated collateral, and would need to ensure that those funds are not used in risky investments.<sup>41</sup>

However, there exist regulatory rules in the U.S. that, in some cases, limit the ability of dealers to rehypothecated collateral. Specifically, the Securities Exchange Act Rule 15c3-3 allows brokers to rehypothecate up to 140% of a customer’s total loan balance, and prohibits brokers from financing their own activity with clients assets. Currently, these rules do not apply to repo because repo counterparties are not considered to be “clients”, that is, investors who entrust their securities to a dealer.<sup>42</sup> But this type of regulation has the potential to limit and/or eliminate collateral runs altogether. In the context of the model, regulation limiting the dealer to use a fraction  $\psi$  of the loan she extends would imply that only  $\psi(T - m_0^H)$  can be rehypothecated, resulting in a windfall equal to  $(\psi - 1)(T - m_0^H)$ . Thus,  $\psi = 1$  would eliminate the initial cash windfall and the possibility of a collateral run altogether.

Naturally, this type of regulation would have important repercussions on other markets. In effect, the ability to use and reuse securities using repo is said to be crucial for market functioning.<sup>43</sup> However, the introduction of rehypothecation limits would alleviate the financial stability concerns that come with having long “collateral chains”, where much of the risks stems from the withdrawal of collateral, as characterized in this paper.

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<sup>41</sup>However, under risk weighted capital requirements, regulators could place higher risk weights on unwanted activity. This would be an indirect way to curb the excessive risk taking characterized in this paper.

<sup>42</sup>See Mitchell and Pulvino (2012) for a description of broker limits on client asset use and Infante (2018) for how these rules apply to repo.

<sup>43</sup>See the FSB. “Re-hypothecation and collateral re-use: Potential financial stability issues, market evolution and regulatory approaches” January 25, 2017, <http://www.fsb.org/wp-content/uploads/Re-hypothecation-and-collateral-re-use.pdf>. See Infante et al. (2018) for the role of repo in collateral reuse.

## 6 Conclusion

This paper presents a model which highlights fragility that can arise from the re-use of collateral in a short-term collateralized lending context. Specifically, this paper formalizes the idea of a coordination failure that can arise amongst cash borrowers, inducing a panic-based default on an intermediary. In contrast to traditional wholesale funding runs, the model shows that when intermediating secured financing fragility can materialize on the asset side of a dealer's balance sheet. The model delivers a unique threshold equilibria in which panic-based runs can ensue. In addition, the paper shows how different repo contracting terms, specifically the haircut and repurchase price, can have differential effects on collateral providers' incentives to run. Namely, when rolling over short-term contracts new haircuts affect those choosing to roll over, whereas existing repurchase prices affect all those that participated initially. This provides another mechanism in which to disentangle different repo contracting terms.

The results in this paper also pose a challenge for regulators concerned with the fragility of large broker dealers. Much of the regulation introduced since the 2007–09 is designed to monitor and restrict the repo contracting terms to avoid runs from the liability side. This paper cautions that this focus is too narrow. Given that the total amount of collateral received is an important source of liquidity, fragility can present itself on the asset side of the balance sheet, as well.

Policy prescriptions that could address the source of fragility studied in this paper might be to restrict the amount of over-collateralization in dealers' rehypothecation activity, which effectively limits the cash windfall dealers are able to extract, or to restrict dealers' reinvestment of said cash windfall. This type of policy intervention can be implemented using existing rules that limit rehypothecation in other contexts, but the overall impact must also balance the effect these rules may have on market functioning. These are important areas of future research.

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# Appendices

## A Proofs

### *Proof of Lemma 1*

For values of  $\theta$  such that a run of the dealer is possible, i.e.,  $\mu_R < 1$ , or equivalently  $\Delta F_0 + \lambda \bar{R}_\theta \Delta m_0 < 0$ , the default threshold,  $\mu_I$ , is always lower than the run threshold,  $\mu_R$ , if  $\lambda \bar{R}_\theta \Delta F_1 + R^U \Delta m_1 > 0$ . The latter expression can be written as  $\lambda \bar{R}_\theta \Delta F_1 + R^U \Delta m_1 > (R^U \Delta m_0 \Delta m_1 - \Delta F_0 \Delta F_1) / \Delta m_0$  using the fact that  $\Delta F_0 + \lambda \bar{R}_\theta \Delta m_0 < 0$  and  $\Delta F_0, \Delta F_1 < 0$ . Given that  $\Delta m_1 \geq -\Delta F_0$  from condition C0 in (1),  $R^U \Delta m_0 \Delta m_1 - \Delta F_0 \Delta F_1 > -\Delta F_0 (R^U \Delta m_0 + \Delta F_1) > 0$ , using condition C2 in (8). For  $\Delta F_1 = 0$ ,  $\mu_I = \mu_R$ .

Finally, to ensure that the dealer will begin to sell before it comes insolvent, i.e.,  $\mu_S < \mu_I$ , we also need  $R^U \Delta m_1 \Delta m_0 - \Delta F_1 \Delta F_0 > 0$ , which we proved above.

### *Proof of Lemma 2*

From (18), and using  $T = F_0^M$  and  $m_0^M$  from the money funds problem, we get that:

$$-\Delta F_0 \left[ \int_{\theta^*}^1 d\theta + \int_0^{\theta^*} f(1, \theta) d\theta \right] \geq \Delta m_0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad -\Delta F_0 > \Delta m_0, \quad (\text{A.1})$$

because  $\int_{\theta^*}^1 d\theta + \int_0^{\theta^*} f(1, \theta) d\theta < 1$ . This proves claim 1.

Combining (A.1) and (1), we get that  $\Delta m_1 > \Delta m_0$ . This proves claim 2.

### *Proof of Lemma 3*

The lower dominance region is defined by the values of  $\theta$  for which an individual hedge fund chooses to withdraw even if other hedge funds do not. The utility differential between rolling over and withdrawing when  $\mu = 0$  from (12) and (16) is  $U^H(0, \theta; 1) - U^H(0, \theta; 0) = \theta[(\eta - 1)T - \Delta F_1] + (1 - \theta)[R^D \Delta m_0 + \Delta F_0 + \Delta m_1] - \eta \Delta m_1$ , where we have substituted the equilibrium conditions  $F_t^M = T$  and  $m_t^M = 0$  derived in section 2.2. Given that the differential is increasing in  $\theta$  the lower dominance region comprises of values for  $\theta \leq \theta^{LD}$ , where  $\theta^{LD}$  is the solution to  $U^H(0, \theta^{LD}; 1) - U^H(0, \theta^{LD}; 0) = 0$ , i.e.,

$$\theta^{LD} = \frac{(\eta - 1)\Delta m_1 - R^D \Delta m_0 - \Delta F_0}{(\eta - 1)T - R^D \Delta m_0 - \Delta F_0 - \Delta m_1 - \Delta F_1}.$$

The lower dominance threshold  $\theta^{LD}$  is greater than zero because, from Lemma 2 and  $R^D < 1$ ,  $R^D \Delta m_0 + \Delta F_0 < (R^D - 1)\Delta m_0 < 0$ , and from condition (7)  $R^D \Delta m_0 + \Delta F_0 + \Delta m_1 + \Delta F_1 < 0$ . It is also lower than one because  $(\eta - 1)T - \Delta F_1 > \eta \Delta m_1$  from the period 1 participation constraint (19).

The upper dominance region is defined by the values of  $\theta$  for which an individual hedge fund rolls over even if all other hedge funds withdraw. First, we need to guarantee that for  $\theta \geq \theta^{UD}$ , the dealer has enough liquidity to serve all early withdraws, i.e.,  $\lambda \bar{R}_\theta \Delta m_0 + \Delta F_0 \geq 0$ . Given that the last expression is increasing

in  $\theta$ , the upper dominance threshold is the root, i.e.,

$$\theta^{UD} = -\frac{\Delta F_0 + \lambda R^D \Delta m_0}{\lambda(R^U - R^D)\Delta m_0}.$$

The upper dominance threshold  $\theta^{UD}$  is greater than zero because, from Lemma 2 and  $\lambda R^D < 1$ ,  $\Delta F_0 + \lambda R^D \Delta m_0 < (\lambda R^D - 1)\Delta m_0 < 0$ . To show that  $\theta^{UD}$  is lower than one, we impose a binding participation constraint (18), which is always the case *under the equilibrium contract terms*. Then,  $\theta^{UD} = (g(\theta^*) - \lambda R^D)/(\lambda R^U - \lambda R^D)$ , where  $g(\theta^*)$  is given by (20), and is smaller than one if  $g(\theta^*) < \lambda R^U$ . Substituting the expression for  $g(\theta^*)$ , the latter condition can be written as  $\mathcal{X}(\theta^*) \equiv \lambda(R^U - R^D)\theta^{*2} - 2\lambda(R^U - R^D)\theta^* + 2(\lambda R^U - 1) > 0$ .  $\mathcal{X}$  does not have real roots because the discriminant  $4\lambda(R^U - R^D) [\lambda(R^U - R^D) - 2(\lambda R^U - 1)] < 0$  given the restriction  $\lambda(R^U + R^D)/2 > 1$ .

We have shown that for  $\theta \geq \theta^{UD}$ , the hedge fund believes the liquidation price is high enough to avoid a liquidity default. Now we must ensure that the hedge fund in fact wants to roll over. To conclude the proof, we need to show that for  $\theta \geq \theta^{UD}$  and  $\mu \rightarrow 1$ , the utility differential between rolling and withdrawing for an individual hedge fund is positive. Technically, we need to check whether an infinitesimal hedge fund with mass  $\varepsilon$  that deviates from the strategy of other fund that withdraw can repurchase its collateral at  $t = 2$ . In other words, we need to check whether the dealer default on the remaining  $-\varepsilon\Delta F_1$  obligations when  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ . The dealer will not default if the value of her remaining asset is higher than her remaining obligations, i.e.,  $\lim_{\mu \rightarrow 1} G_I^U(\mu, \theta)/(-\Delta F_1) > 1$  with  $G_I^U(\mu, \theta)$  given by (10). Changing variables such that  $\mu = 1 - \varepsilon$  and substituting  $\lambda \bar{R}_\theta \Delta m_0 = \lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^{UD}} \Delta m_0 + \Omega(\theta)\Delta m_0$ , where  $\Omega(\theta) \geq 0$  because  $\theta \geq \theta^{UD}$ , we get that:

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{G_I^U(1 - \varepsilon, \theta)}{-\Delta F_1} &= -\frac{R^U}{\lambda \bar{R}_\theta} \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^{UD}} \Delta m_0 + \Omega(\theta)\Delta m_0 + \Delta F_0 + \varepsilon \Delta m_1}{\varepsilon \Delta F_1} \\ &= -\frac{R^U}{\lambda \bar{R}_\theta} \frac{\Delta m_1}{\Delta F_1} + \frac{\Omega(\theta)\Delta m_0}{\Delta F_1} \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\varepsilon}, \end{aligned}$$

where we used the fact that  $\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^{UD}} \Delta m_0 + \Delta F_0 = 0$  from the definition of  $\theta^{UD}$ . Given that  $\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Omega(\theta)\Delta m_0}{\varepsilon \Delta F_1} \rightarrow \infty$  for  $\theta > \theta^{UD}$ , it suffices to show that for  $\theta = \theta^{UD}$ , i.e.,  $\Omega(\theta) = 0$  irrespective of the value of  $\varepsilon$ , the limit converges to a value higher than 1. Using  $\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^{UD}} \Delta m_0 + \Delta F_0 = 0$ , we get that the limit converges to  $-(R^U \Delta m_1)/(\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^{UD}} \Delta F_1) = R^U \Delta m_0 \Delta m_1/(\Delta F_0 \Delta F_1)$ , which is greater than 1 because, as proved in Lemma 1,  $R^U \Delta m_0 \Delta m_1 - \Delta F_0 \Delta F_1 > 0$ . Hence, the dealer will not default at  $t = 2$  if  $R^U$  realizes and the hedge fund will be able to repurchase its collateral.

If, instead  $R^D$  realizes at  $t = 2$ , the limit is

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{G_I^U(1 - \varepsilon, \theta)}{-\Delta F_1} = -\frac{R^D}{\lambda \bar{R}_\theta} \frac{\Delta m_1}{\Delta F_1} + \frac{\Omega(\theta)\Delta m_0}{\Delta F_1} \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\varepsilon}.$$

Again, for the  $\theta > \theta^{UD}$ , the second term goes to infinity and the dealer does not default. But, for  $\theta = \theta^{UD}$ , the limit goes to  $-(R^D \Delta m_1)/(\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^{UD}} \Delta F_1) = R^D \Delta m_0 \Delta m_1/(\Delta F_0 \Delta F_1)$ . Using conditions (1) and (7) we get that  $R^D \Delta m_0 + \Delta F_1 < 0$  and, hence, the limit is higher than 1 for  $\Delta m_1 > \Delta F_0 \Delta F_1/(R^D \Delta m_0) > -\Delta F_0$



and less than one otherwise. If the former case, the dealer does not default and the hedge fund is able to repurchase its collateral. In the latter case, the dealer defaults and the hedge fund gets  $-R^D \Delta m_1 \Delta m_0 / \Delta F_0$ .

In most cases described above the dealer does not default either in the good or in the bad state and it is straightforward that the hedge fund's period 1 participation constraint (19) is satisfied. Thus, the hedge fund rolls over its collateral. However, for the special cases that  $\theta = \theta^{UD}$  and  $\Delta m_1 \in [-\Delta F_0, \Delta F_0 \Delta F_1 / (R^D \Delta m_0)]$ , the dealer defaults in the bad state. A sufficient condition such that the period 1 participation constraint is satisfied is  $-R^D \Delta m_1 \Delta m_0 / \Delta F_0 \geq G_S^D(0, \theta) = R^D \Delta m_0 + \Delta F_0 + \Delta m_1$ . For the lower bound on  $\Delta m_1 = -\Delta F_0$  the latter relationship becomes  $R^D \Delta m_0 \geq R^D \Delta m_0$ , while for the upper bound on  $\Delta m_1 = \Delta F_0 \Delta F_1 / (R^D \Delta m_0)$  it becomes  $\Delta F_1 < R^D \Delta m_0 + \Delta F_0 + \Delta F_1$ , which is always true because of condition (7). Given that both sides of the inequality are monotonically increasing in  $\Delta m_1$ , we conclude that the repayment in the case of default is higher than  $G_S^D(0, \theta)$  and, thus, the participation constraint is satisfied.

Note that the participation constraint (19) holds for  $\theta \geq \theta^*$ , while in all the aforementioned cases the utility differential is computed for  $\theta^{UD} > \theta^*$ . Hence, the participation constraint is easily satisfied for  $\theta \geq \theta^{UD}$  and an individual hedge fund will always roll over even if all other hedge fund withdraw.

*Proof of Proposition 1*

The proof follows Goldstein and Pauzner (2005), but introduces additional steps and derivations due to the complexity accruing from the limited liability of the dealer and the fact that the liquidation value of the risky asset depends on  $\theta$ .

An equilibrium with threshold  $x^*$  exists only if  $\Delta(x^*, x^*) = 0$  given by (25). Consider a potential threshold  $x'$ . We will show that  $x'$  exists and it satisfies (25) at exactly one point,  $\xi' = \xi^*$ .

By the existence of  $\theta^{LD}$  and  $\theta^{UD}$  in Lemma 3,  $\Delta(x', x')$  is negative for  $x' < \theta^{LD} - \epsilon$  and positive for  $x' > \theta^{UD} + \epsilon$ . Thus, it suffices to show that  $\Delta(x', x')$  is continuous in  $x'$  to establish that a threshold equilibrium exists. It is convenient to write the utility differential  $\Delta(x', x')$  as  $\Delta(\hat{x} + \Delta x, \hat{x} + \Delta x)$  for some  $\hat{x}$  such that  $\Delta x$  is the change in both the signal that the marginal hedge fund receives and the threshold strategy. Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta(\hat{x} + \Delta x, \hat{x} + \Delta x) &= \frac{1}{2\epsilon} \int_{\hat{x} + \Delta x - \epsilon}^{\hat{x} + \Delta x + \epsilon} \nu(\mu(\theta, \hat{x} + \Delta x), \theta) d\theta \\ &= \frac{1}{2\epsilon} \int_{\hat{x} - \epsilon}^{\hat{x} + \epsilon} \nu(\mu(\theta + \Delta x, \hat{x} + \Delta x), \theta + \Delta x) d\theta \\ &= \frac{1}{2\epsilon} \int_{\hat{x} - \epsilon}^{\hat{x} + \epsilon} \nu(\mu(\theta, \hat{x}), \theta + \Delta x) d\theta, \end{aligned} \tag{A.2}$$

because  $\mu(\theta + \Delta x, \hat{x} + \Delta x) = \mu(\theta, \hat{x})$  from (21). In other words, the marginal hedge fund's belief about how many other hedge funds withdraw is unchanged when its private signal and the threshold strategy change by the same amount. Yet, it expects the  $\theta$  to be higher for  $\Delta x > 0$  and lower for  $\Delta x < 0$  which is reflected in the calculation of  $\nu(\mu(\theta, \hat{x}), x + \Delta x)$ . Thus, we need to show that for a given distribution of  $\mu$ 's the integral

in (A.2) is continuous in  $\Delta x$ .

The integrand  $\nu(\mu(\theta, \hat{x}), \theta + \Delta x)$  in (A.2) is a piecewise function such that each sub-function is computed over a distribution of  $\mu$  unaffected by  $\Delta x$ , but the interval for each sub-function depends on  $\Delta x$  apart from  $\mu \in [0, \mu_S]$  in (2). In other words,  $\mu_I$  and  $\mu_R$  given by (11) and (3), respectively, move with  $\theta + \Delta x$ . Note that  $\theta$  always lies between  $\hat{x} - \epsilon$  and  $\hat{x} + \epsilon$ , hence only  $\Delta x$  will matter. Given that the distribution of  $\mu$  is unchanged, we can compute the levels of threshold  $\theta'$ s as functions of  $\Delta x$ , such that  $\mu(\theta_{\mu_S}(\Delta x), \hat{x}) = \mu_S(\theta_{\mu_S}(\Delta x) + \Delta x)$ ,  $\mu(\theta_{\mu_I}(\Delta x), \hat{x}) = \mu_I(\theta_{\mu_I}(\Delta x) + \Delta x)$  and  $\mu(\theta_{\mu_R}(\Delta x), \hat{x}) = \mu_R(\theta_{\mu_R}(\Delta x) + \Delta x)$  as follows:<sup>44</sup>

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(\theta_{\mu_S}(\Delta x), \hat{x}) &= \mu_S(\theta_{\mu_S}(\Delta x) + \Delta x) \\ \Rightarrow \frac{\hat{x} - \theta_{\mu_S}(\Delta x) + \epsilon}{2\epsilon} &= 1 + \frac{\Delta F_0}{\Delta m_1}, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.3})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(\theta_{\mu_I}(\Delta x), \hat{x}) &= \mu_I(\theta_{\mu_I}(\Delta x) + \Delta x) \\ \Rightarrow \frac{\hat{x} - \theta_{\mu_I}(\Delta x) + \epsilon}{2\epsilon} &= 1 + \frac{R^U(\Delta F_0 + \lambda \bar{R}_{\theta_{\mu_I}(\Delta x) + \Delta x} \Delta m_0)}{\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta_{\mu_I}(\Delta x) + \Delta x} \Delta F_1 + R^U \Delta m_1}, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.4})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(\theta_{\mu_R}(\Delta x), \hat{x}) &= \mu_R(\theta_{\mu_R}(\Delta x) + \Delta x) \\ \Rightarrow \frac{\hat{x} - \theta_{\mu_R}(\Delta x) + \epsilon}{2\epsilon} &= 1 + \frac{\Delta F_0 + \lambda \bar{R}_{\theta_{\mu_R}(\Delta x) + \Delta x} \Delta m_0}{\Delta m_1}. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.5})$$

Because the number of hedge funds withdrawing decreases as fundamentals improve for given strategy threshold (see equation (21)), we have  $\theta_{\mu_R}(\Delta x) < \theta_{\mu_I}(\Delta x) < \theta_{\mu_S}(\Delta x)$ , which is the reverse ordering of  $\mu_S$ ,  $\mu_I$  and  $\mu_R$  from Lemma 1. Thus, using (23), (A.2) can be written as:

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta(\hat{x} + \Delta x, \hat{x} + \Delta x) &= \\ \frac{1}{2\epsilon} \int_{\hat{x} - \epsilon}^{\theta_{\mu_R}(\Delta x)} & -\eta \frac{\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta + \Delta x} \Delta m_0 + \Delta F_0 + \Delta m_1}{\mu(\theta, \hat{x})} d\theta \\ + \frac{1}{2\epsilon} \int_{\theta_{\mu_R}(\Delta x)}^{\theta_{\mu_I}(\Delta x)} & [(\theta + \Delta x)G_I^U(\mu(\theta, \hat{x}), \theta + \Delta x) + (1 - (\theta + \Delta x))G_I^D(\mu(\theta, \hat{x}), \theta + \Delta x) - \eta \Delta m_1] d\theta \\ + \frac{1}{2\epsilon} \int_{\theta_{\mu_I}(\Delta x)}^{\theta_{\mu_S}(\Delta x)} & [(\theta + \Delta x)[(\eta - 1)T - \Delta F_1] + (1 - (\theta + \Delta x))G_I^D(\mu(\theta, \hat{x}), \theta + \Delta x) - \eta \Delta m_1] d\theta \\ + \frac{1}{2\epsilon} \int_{\theta_{\mu_S}(\Delta x)}^{\hat{x} + \epsilon} & [(\theta + \Delta x)[(\eta - 1)T - \Delta F_1] + (1 - (\theta + \Delta x))G_S^D(\mu(\theta, \hat{x}), \theta + \Delta x) - \eta \Delta m_1] d\theta. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.6})$$

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<sup>44</sup>Note that for  $\theta^*$  and  $x^*$ , then  $\mu(\theta^*, x^*) = \mu_R(\theta^*)$ , which yields (22).

Then,  $\Delta(\hat{x} + \Delta x, \hat{x} + \Delta x)$  in (A.6) is continuous in  $\Delta x$ , because all the integrands are bounded and continuous,  $\theta_{\mu_I}$  and  $\theta_{\mu_R}$  change continuously with  $\Delta x$  from (A.4) and (A.5) ( $\theta_{\mu_S}$  doesn't move from (A.3)), and the discontinuity in  $\nu$  occurs only at one discrete point,  $\theta_{\mu_I}$ . Hence, a threshold equilibrium exists.

We will now establish that the threshold equilibrium is unique. By implicitly differentiating (A.4) and (A.5) we get:

$$\frac{d\theta_{\mu_I}(\Delta x)}{d\Delta x} = -\frac{2\epsilon\Gamma_{\theta_{\mu_I}}(R^U - R^D)}{1 + 2\epsilon\Gamma_{\theta_{\mu_I}}(R^U - R^D)} < 0 \quad (\text{A.7})$$

because  $\Gamma_{\theta_{\mu_I}} \equiv \lambda R^U (R^U \Delta m_0 \Delta m_1 - \Delta F_0 \Delta F_1) / (\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta_{\mu_I}(\Delta x) + \Delta x} \Delta F_1 + R^U \Delta m_1)^2 > 0$  from Lemma 1, and

$$\frac{d\theta_{\mu_R}(\Delta x)}{d\Delta x} = -\frac{2\epsilon\Gamma_{\theta_{\mu_R}}(R^U - R^D)}{1 + 2\epsilon\Gamma_{\theta_{\mu_R}}(R^U - R^D)} < 0, \quad (\text{A.8})$$

because  $\Gamma_{\theta_{\mu_R}} \equiv \lambda \Delta m_0 / \Delta m_1 > 0$

The derivative of (A.6) with respect to  $\Delta x$  is:

$$\begin{aligned} d \frac{\Delta(\hat{x} + \Delta x, \hat{x} + \Delta x)}{d\Delta x} = & \\ - \frac{1}{2\epsilon} \int_{\hat{x} - \epsilon}^{\theta_{\mu_R}(\Delta x)} \eta \frac{\lambda(R^U - R^D)}{\mu(\theta, \hat{x})} d\theta - \frac{1}{2\epsilon} \frac{d\theta_{\mu_I}(\Delta x)}{d\Delta x} (\theta_{\mu_I}(\Delta x) + \Delta x)(\eta - 1)T &+ \frac{1}{2\epsilon} \int_{\theta_{\mu_R}(\Delta x)}^{\theta_{\mu_I}(\Delta x)} \frac{R^U - R^D}{1 - \mu(\theta, \hat{x})} \Delta m_0 d\theta \\ + \frac{1}{2\epsilon} \int_{\theta_{\mu_I}(\Delta x)}^{\theta_{\mu_S}(\Delta x)} \left[ (\eta - 1)T - \Delta F_1 - G_I^D(\mu(\theta, \hat{x}), \theta + \Delta x) + (1 - \theta - \Delta x) \frac{dG_I^D(\mu(\theta, \hat{x}), \theta + \Delta x)}{d\Delta x} \right] d\theta & \\ + \frac{1}{2\epsilon} \int_{\theta_{\mu_S}(\Delta x)}^{\hat{x} + \epsilon} \left[ (\eta - 1)T - \Delta F_1 - G_S^D(\mu(\theta, \hat{x}), \theta + \Delta x) \right] d\theta. & \quad (\text{A.9}) \end{aligned}$$

The third, fourth and fifth terms in (A.9) are positive  $-dG_I^D(\mu(\theta, \hat{x}), \theta + \Delta x)/d\Delta x = -(R^D(R^U - R^D)(\Delta F_0 + (1 - \mu)\Delta m_1) / (\lambda(1 - \mu)\bar{R}_{\theta + \Delta x}^2) > 0$  in the respective region of fundamentals. The second term in (A.9) represents the utility change from changing the threshold  $\theta_{\mu_I}(\Delta x)$  where default occurs and hedge funds forfeit the extra benefit  $\eta - 1$  and is positive due to (A.7). However, the first term, which correspond to the change in the range that the run occurs, is negative. In order to establish that the positive terms outweigh the negative term we will evaluate (A.9) at a candidate threshold  $\hat{x}$ , which we know that exists. If the derivative is positive at candidate threshold, we can conclude that (A.6) does not cross zero from above and, given continuity, the threshold is unique. Using (A.6), we can derive the following lower bound for

(A.9):

$$\begin{aligned}
& d \frac{\Delta(\hat{x} + \Delta x, \hat{x} + \Delta x)}{d\Delta x} > \\
& \frac{1}{2\epsilon} \int_{\hat{x}-\epsilon}^{\theta_{\mu_R}(\Delta x)} \eta \frac{\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta+\Delta x} \Delta m_0 + \Delta F_0 + \Delta m_1 - \lambda(R^U - R^D) \Delta m_0}{\mu(\theta, \hat{x})} d\theta \\
& - \frac{1}{2\epsilon} \frac{d\theta_{\mu_I}(\Delta x)}{d\Delta x} (\theta_{\mu_I}(\Delta x) + \Delta x) (\eta - 1) T \\
& + \frac{1}{2\epsilon} \int_{\theta_{\mu_R}(\Delta x)}^{\theta_{\mu_I}(\Delta x)} \left[ \eta \Delta m_1 + \frac{R^U - R^D}{1 - \mu(\theta, \hat{x})} \Delta m_0 - \frac{\bar{R}_{\theta+\Delta x} \Delta m_0 + 1/\lambda [\Delta F_0 + (1 - \mu(\theta, \hat{x})) \Delta m_1]}{1 - \mu(\theta, \hat{x})} \right] d\theta \\
& + \frac{1}{2\epsilon} \int_{\theta_{\mu_I}(\Delta x)}^{\theta_{\mu_S}(\Delta x)} \left[ \eta \Delta m_1 - G_I^D(\mu(\theta, \hat{x}), \theta + \Delta x) + (1 - \theta - \Delta x) \frac{G_I^D(\mu(\theta, \hat{x}), \theta + \Delta x)}{d\Delta x} \right] d\theta \\
& + \frac{1}{2\epsilon} \int_{\theta_{\mu_S}(\Delta x)}^{\hat{x}+\epsilon} [\eta \Delta m_1 - G_S^D(\mu(\theta, \hat{x}), \theta + \Delta x)] d\theta. \tag{A.10}
\end{aligned}$$

From the lower dominance region, the last three terms on the right-hand side are positive. The second term is also positive as mentioned above. The first term is always positive if  $(\hat{x} - \epsilon - 1)(R^U - R^D) + R^D > 0$ , which in general would not be true for low values of  $R^D$  and certainly not true for  $R^D = 0$ . Thus, we consider that  $(\hat{x} - \epsilon - 1)(R^U - R^D) + R^D < 0$  and show that the negative part is outweighed by the other positive terms given that noise is not too big. Taking the first and third terms in (A.10) in isolation we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned}
& \frac{1}{2\epsilon} [(\theta_{\mu_I}(\Delta x) - \theta_{\mu_R}(\Delta x)) \eta \Delta m_1 - 2\epsilon(\theta_{\mu_R}(\Delta x) - \hat{x} + \epsilon) \eta \lambda \Delta m_0 (R^U - R^D)] + \Omega \\
& = \eta [(\mu(\theta_{\mu_R}(\Delta x), \hat{x}) - \mu(\theta_{\mu_I}(\Delta x), \hat{x})) \Delta m_1 - 2\epsilon \lambda \Delta m_0 (R^U - R^D) \mu(\theta_{\mu_R}(\Delta x), \hat{x})] + \Omega, \tag{A.11}
\end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
\Omega &= \frac{1}{2\epsilon} \int_{\theta_{\mu_R}(\Delta x)}^{\theta_{\mu_I}(\Delta x)} \left[ \frac{(R^U - R^D) \Delta m_0 - \bar{R}_{\theta+\Delta x} \Delta m_0 - 1/\lambda [\Delta F_0 + (1 - \mu(\theta, \hat{x})) \Delta m_1]}{1 - \mu(\theta, \hat{x})} \right] d\theta \\
&+ \frac{1}{2\epsilon} \int_{\hat{x}-\epsilon}^{\theta_{\mu_R}(\Delta x)} \eta \frac{\lambda \Delta m_0 R^D + \Delta F_0 + \Delta m_1}{\mu(\theta, \hat{x})} d\theta \\
&- \eta \lambda \Delta m_0 (R^U - R^D) (1 - \hat{x} - \epsilon) [1 - \ln(\mu(\theta_{\mu_R}(\Delta x), \hat{x}))] \ln(2\epsilon) > 0. \tag{A.12}
\end{aligned}$$

(A.11) is positive for small enough noise, satisfying

$$\epsilon < \epsilon^A \equiv \frac{(\mu_R(\theta_{\mu_R}(\Delta x) + \Delta x) - \mu_I(\theta_{\mu_I}(\Delta x) + \Delta x)) \Delta m_1}{2\lambda \Delta m_0 (R^U - R^D) \mu_R(\theta_{\mu_R}(\Delta x) + \Delta x)}, \tag{A.13}$$

using (A.4) and (A.5).

The second and third terms in (A.12) are positive given that  $\epsilon < 1/2$ . The first term is unambiguously positive if  $(1 - \theta)(R^U - R^D) - R^D > 0$ . Thus,  $\theta$  should be lower than  $(R^U - 2R^D)/(R^U - R^D)$ . Given that a threshold equilibrium exists, the threshold for fundamentals  $\theta^*$  is between the upper and lower dominance regions and, thus, bounded above by a hypothetical threshold  $\bar{\theta}$ , which solves  $\lambda\bar{R}_{\bar{\theta}} - g(\bar{\theta}) = 0$ , where  $g(\cdot)$  is given by (20). This threshold is given by:

$$\bar{\theta} = 1 - \sqrt{1 - \frac{2(1 - \lambda R^D)}{\lambda(R^U - R^D)}}. \quad (\text{A.14})$$

From (22) the upper bound for the signal threshold is  $\bar{\theta} + \epsilon$ , and a hedge fund that receives threshold signals believes that  $\theta^*$  can be at most  $\bar{\theta}$ . Hence, the first term in (A.12) is positive if

$$\epsilon < \epsilon^B \equiv \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{R^U - 2R^D}{R^U - R^D} - \bar{\theta} \right), \quad (\text{A.15})$$

where  $\epsilon^B > 0$  because  $\lambda R^U > 2$ . In sum, the threshold equilibrium is uniqueness for  $\epsilon < \min(\epsilon^A, \epsilon^B)$  given by (A.13) and (A.13).

To conclude the proof we need to show that the threshold equilibrium is indeed an equilibrium, i.e.,  $\Delta(x_i, x^*)$  in (24) is positive for all  $x_i > x^*$ , and negative for all  $x_i < x^*$ . The steps (and notation) below are the same as in Goldstein and Pauzner (2005).

First, consider that  $x_i < x^*$ . Then we can decompose the intervals  $[x_i - \epsilon, x_i + \epsilon]$  and  $[x^* - \epsilon, x^* + \epsilon]$  into a common part  $c = [x_i - \epsilon, x_i + \epsilon] \cap [x^* - \epsilon, x^* + \epsilon]$ , and two disjoint parts  $d^i = [x_i - \epsilon, x_i + \epsilon] \setminus c$  and  $d^* = [x^* - \epsilon, x^* + \epsilon] \setminus c$ . Thus, (24) and (25) can be written as:

$$\Delta(x_i, x^*) = \frac{1}{2\epsilon} \int_{\theta \in c} \nu(\mu(\theta, x^*), \theta) d\theta + \frac{1}{2\epsilon} \int_{\theta \in d^i} \nu(\mu(\theta, x^*), \theta) d\theta, \quad (\text{A.16})$$

$$\Delta(x^*, x^*) = \frac{1}{2\epsilon} \int_{\theta \in c} \nu(\mu(\theta, x^*), \theta) d\theta + \frac{1}{2\epsilon} \int_{\theta \in d^*} \nu(\mu(\theta, x^*), \theta) d\theta. \quad (\text{A.17})$$

From (23),  $\nu$  is always one over  $d^i$ , thus  $\int_{\theta \in d^i} \nu(\mu(\theta, x^*), \theta) d\theta < 0$ . As a result, it suffices to show that  $\int_{\theta \in c} \nu(\mu(\theta, x^*), \theta) d\theta < 0$ .  $\nu$  only crosses zero once and it is positive for higher values of  $\theta$  and negative for lower values of  $\theta$  in the interval  $[x^* - \epsilon, x^* + \epsilon]$ . Hence, given that (A.17) is zero, we get that  $\int_{\theta \in d^*} \nu(\mu(\theta, x^*), \theta) d\theta > 0$  and  $\int_{\theta \in c} \nu(\mu(\theta, x^*), \theta) d\theta < 0$ , since the fundamentals are higher over  $d^*$  than  $c$ . Essentially, observing a signal  $x_i$  below  $x^*$  shifts probability from positive values of  $\nu$  to negative values of  $\nu$  because noise is uniformly distributed. Note that the argument goes through even if the interval  $c$  is empty. The proof for  $x_i > x^*$  is similar.

*Proof of Proposition 2* In a threshold strategy equilibrium, the dealer's optimization problem has the following

Lagrangian,

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L} = & \frac{1}{2}(1 - \theta^{*2})u(R^U \Delta m_0 + \Delta F_1 + \Delta F_0 + \Delta m_1) \\ & - \xi_0(\Delta F_0 + g(\theta^*)\Delta m_0) + \xi_{PL}(\Delta m_1 + \Delta F_0) - \xi_{DD}(R^D \Delta m_0 + \Delta F_0 + \Delta m_1 + \Delta F_1) + \xi_V V(\theta^*)\end{aligned}\quad (A.18)$$

Taking the first order conditions with respect to the contract terms and the run threshold gives:

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \Delta m_0} = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \theta^{*2})u'(R^U \Delta m_0 + \Delta F_1 + \Delta F_0 + \Delta m_1)R^U - \xi_0 g(\theta^*) - \xi_{DD}R^D + \xi_V \frac{\partial V}{\partial \Delta m_0} = 0, \quad (A.19)$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \Delta m_1} = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \theta^{*2})u'(R^U \Delta m_0 + \Delta F_1 + \Delta F_0 + \Delta m_1) + \xi_{PL} - \xi_{DD} + \xi_V \frac{\partial V}{\partial \Delta m_1} = 0, \quad (A.20)$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \Delta F_0} = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \theta^{*2})u'(R^U \Delta m_0 + \Delta F_1 + \Delta F_0 + \Delta m_1) - \xi_0 + \xi_{PL} - \xi_{DD} + \xi_V \frac{\partial V}{\partial \Delta F_0} = 0, \quad (A.21)$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \Delta F_1} = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \theta^{*2})u'(R^U \Delta m_0 + \Delta F_1 + \Delta F_0 + \Delta m_1) - \xi_{DD} + \xi_V \frac{\partial V}{\partial \Delta F_1} = 0, \quad (A.22)$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \theta^*} = -\theta^* u(R^U \Delta m_0 + \Delta F_1 + \Delta F_0 + \Delta m_1) - \xi_0 g'(\theta^*)\Delta m_0 + \xi_V \frac{\partial V}{\partial \theta^*} = 0, \quad (A.23)$$

where  $g(\theta^*)$  is given by (20) and  $g'(\theta^*) = (g(\theta^*) - \lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*})/(1 - \theta^*)$ .

The global games expression holds always with equality in equilibrium, i.e.,  $\xi_V \neq 0$ . Moreover, we conjecture that the participation constraint in  $t = 0$ , the positive liquidity injection constraint, and the dealer default constraint are all binding in equilibrium, i.e.,  $\xi_0, \xi_{PL}, \xi_{DD} > 0$ .

The last three binding constraints pin down the optimal  $\Delta F_0$ ,  $\Delta m_1$  and  $\Delta F_1$  as functions of  $\theta^*$  and  $\Delta m_0$  such that  $\Delta F_0 = -g(\theta^*)\Delta m_0$ ,  $\Delta m_1 = -\Delta F_0 = g(\theta^*)\Delta m_0$  and  $\Delta F_1 = -R^D \Delta m_0$ . Substituting in the conjectured contract terms, the global game expression  $V(\theta^*) = 0$  (the detailed expression is reported in (B.28) in Appendix B) becomes:

$$\theta^*(\eta - 1)\mu_I + f(\theta^*)\Delta m_0 = 0, \quad (A.24)$$

where  $\mu_I = \lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*}(R^U - R^D)/(g(\theta^*)R^U - \lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*}R^D)$ ,  $\mu_R = \lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*}/g(\theta^*)$ , and

$$\begin{aligned}f(\theta^*) = & \theta^* R^D \mu_I - \eta g(\theta^*) \mu_R + \frac{g(\theta^*)}{\lambda}(\mu_R - \mu_I) + \frac{(\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*} - g(\theta^*))}{\lambda} \ln \left( \frac{1 - \mu_I}{1 - \mu_R} \right) + \eta \lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*} \ln(\mu_R) \\ & + (1 - \theta^*) \frac{R^D}{\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*}} [g(\theta^*)\mu_I - (\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*} - g(\theta^*)) \ln(1 - \mu_I)].\end{aligned}\quad (A.25)$$

Finally, evaluating the first-order conditions (A.20)-(A.23) at the conjectured equilibrium we obtain the

following expressions for the Lagrange multipliers:

$$\begin{aligned}\xi_V &= \frac{\theta^* u((R^U - R^D)\Delta m_0)}{\frac{\partial V}{\partial \theta^*} - \Delta m_0 g'(\theta^*) \left( \frac{\partial V}{\partial \Delta F_0} - \frac{\partial V}{\partial \Delta m_1} \right)}, & \xi_0 &= \xi_V \left( \frac{\partial V}{\partial \Delta F_0} - \frac{\partial V}{\partial \Delta m_1} \right), \\ \xi_{DD} &= \frac{(1 - \theta^{*2})}{2} u'((R^U - R^D)\Delta m_0) + \xi_V \frac{\partial V}{\partial \Delta F_1}, & \xi_{PL} &= \xi_V \left( \frac{\partial V}{\partial \Delta F_1} - \frac{\partial V}{\partial \Delta m_1} \right).\end{aligned}\quad (\text{A.26})$$

Using the derived Lagrange multipliers and the conjectured contract terms the first-order condition (A.19) can be written as:

$$\frac{1}{2}(1 - \theta^{*2})u'((R^U - R^D)\Delta m_0(\theta^*))(R^U - R^D) + \frac{\theta^* u((R^U - R^D)\Delta m_0(\theta^*)) f(\theta^*)}{\frac{\partial V}{\partial \theta^*} - \Delta m_0(\theta^*)g'(\theta^*) \left( \frac{\partial V}{\partial \Delta F_0} - \frac{\partial V}{\partial \Delta m_1} \right)} = 0, \quad (\text{A.27})$$

where we used the fact the  $f(\theta^*) = \frac{\partial V}{\partial \Delta m_0} - g(\theta^*) \left( \frac{\partial V}{\partial \Delta F_0} - \frac{\partial V}{\partial \Delta m_1} \right) - \frac{\partial V}{\partial \Delta F_1} R^D$  when the partial derivatives of  $V(\theta^*)$  are evaluated at the conjectured contract terms (the detailed expressions for these derivatives are reported in (B.29)-(B.33) in Appendix B).  $\Delta m_0(\theta^*) = -\theta^*(\eta - 1)\mu_I/f(\theta^*)$  is given by (A.24).

We have reduced the problem down to one equation (A.27) and one unknown  $\theta^*$ . We proceed to show that a solution  $\theta^* \in (\theta^{LD}, \theta^{UD})$  exists. Recall that  $0 < \theta^{LD}, \theta^{UD} < 1$  from Lemma 3.

As a first step, consider the hypothetical upper bound  $\bar{\theta} = 1 - \sqrt{(\lambda R^U + \lambda R^D - 2)/(\lambda(R^U - R^D))}$ . Recall that we utilized this threshold to show the uniqueness of threshold strategy and derived it in (A.14). Then,  $\Delta m_0(\bar{\theta}) = \bar{\theta}(\eta - 1)/(\eta\lambda\bar{R}_{\bar{\theta}} - R^D)$ , which is strictly positive if  $R^D < \eta R^U/(\eta + R^U)$ .

Next, consider a  $\theta'$  relatively close to  $\bar{\theta}$ . In that case, because  $\Delta m_0(\theta)$  is continuous and  $\Delta m_0(\bar{\theta}) = \bar{\theta}(\eta - 1)/(\eta\lambda\bar{R}_{\bar{\theta}} - R^D)$  is strictly greater than zero,  $\Delta m_0(\theta')$  is strictly positive. In addition,  $(\lambda\bar{R}_{\theta'} - g(\theta'))$  is very close to zero,  $\partial V/\partial \theta$  is finite and positive, and  $f(\theta')$  is negative. Thus for a dealer sufficiently risk averse, i.e.,  $u'$  small enough, the left-hand side of equation (A.27) is negative. Moreover, for  $\theta'' = 0$ ,  $f(0)$  is finite, because  $\lambda R^D < 1$  implying that  $\mu_I, \mu_R \in (0, 1)$ , and therefore  $\Delta m_0(0) = 0$ . Hence, for  $\theta'' = 0$ , the left-hand side of (A.27) becomes  $1/2u'(0)(R^U - R^D) > 0$ . Given that the left-hand side of (A.27) is continuous, there exists  $\theta^*$  between zero and  $\bar{\theta}$ . Given that  $\lambda\bar{R}_{\theta} - g(\theta)$  is an increasing function in  $\theta$ , then  $\lambda\bar{R}_{\theta^*} - g(\theta^*) < 0$ , and hence lower than  $\theta^{UD}$ . To finalize the proof, we need to show that  $\theta^{LD} < \theta^*$ . For any  $\Delta m_0(\theta^*)$  solving (A.24), we know from Corollary 1 that the participation constraint (19) in period 1 is not binding for  $\theta^*$ . Rearranging (19), we get that  $\eta - 1 - \Delta F_1 > (\eta\Delta m_1 - (1 - \theta^*)(R^D\Delta m_0 + \Delta F_0 + \Delta F_1))/\theta^*$ , which implies that  $\theta^{LD} < \theta^*$  by substituting the latter expression in the definition of  $\theta^{LD}$  in Lemma 3.

*Proof of Corollary 2*

With  $R^D = 0$  we have that the proposed equilibrium  $\Delta F_1 = 0$ , therefore  $\mu_I = \mu_R = \frac{\lambda\bar{R}_{\theta^*}}{g(\theta^*)}$  reducing

$f(\theta^*)$  and  $\Delta m_0(\theta^*)$  to,

$$\begin{aligned} f(\theta^*) &= -\eta \lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*} \left( 1 - \ln \left( \frac{\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*}}{g(\theta^*)} \right) \right) \\ \Delta m_0(\theta^*) &= \frac{\theta^* (\eta - 1)}{\eta g(\theta^*) \left( 1 - \ln \left( \frac{\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*}}{g(\theta^*)} \right) \right)} \end{aligned}$$

To find the expression for the first order condition characterized in equation (28), we first observe that,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial V}{\partial \theta^*} &= (\eta - 1) \left( 2 + \frac{\ln \left( \frac{\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*}}{g(\theta^*)} \right)}{1 - \ln \left( \frac{\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*}}{g(\theta^*)} \right)} \right) \frac{\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*}}{g(\theta^*)} \\ \frac{\partial V}{\partial \Delta F_0} - \frac{\partial V}{\partial \Delta m_1} &= \eta \left( 2 - \ln \left( \frac{\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*}}{g(\theta^*)} \right) \right) \frac{\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*}}{g(\theta^*)} \end{aligned}$$

reducing equation (28) to

$$T(\theta^*) := 2 \left( 1 - \theta^* - 3\theta^{*2} + \theta^*(1 + \theta^*) \frac{\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*}}{g(\theta^*)} \right) - \ln \left( \frac{\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*}}{g(\theta^*)} \right) \left( 1 - \theta^* - 4\theta^{*2} + \theta^*(1 + \theta^*) \frac{\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*}}{g(\theta^*)} \right) = 0$$

To ensure the existence of an equilibrium we have to determine under what conditions  $T(\theta^*) = 0$  has a solution. Given that  $T$  is continuous, it suffices to show under what conditions  $T$  is positive and negative for the possible limits of  $\theta^*$ . Recall that from the proof of Proposition 28 we know that  $\theta^*$  must be below  $\bar{\theta}$ , defined by  $\lambda \bar{R}_{\bar{\theta}} = g(\bar{\theta})$ , which in this case equals  $1 - \sqrt{1 - 2/\lambda R^U}$ .<sup>45</sup>

Note that,

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{\theta \rightarrow 0} T(\theta) &= \infty \\ \lim_{\theta \rightarrow \bar{\theta}} T(\theta) &= 2(1 - \bar{\theta} - 3\bar{\theta}^2 + \bar{\theta}(1 + \bar{\theta})) = 2(1 - 2\bar{\theta}^2) \end{aligned}$$

therefore we have to ensure that  $1 < 2\bar{\theta}^2$ , that is,  $7(\lambda R^U)^2 - 8\lambda R^U - 16 < 0$  which holds for  $\lambda R^U < \frac{4+8\sqrt{2}}{7}$ . From Proposition 28 we also know that  $\lambda R^U$  needs to be greater than 2. Therefore, an equilibrium exists if  $\lambda R^U \in \left( 2, \frac{4+8\sqrt{2}}{7} \right)$ .

Finally, comparative statics of the equilibrium are given by taking the implicit derivative of  $T$  with respect to  $R^U$ . For notational purposes, consider  $h(R^U, \theta) = \frac{\lambda R^U \theta}{g(\theta)}$ , therefore we can write  $T$  as,

$$T(\theta) = (2 - \ln(h(R^U, \theta))) (1 - \theta - 4\theta^2 + \theta(1 + \theta)h(R^U, \theta)) + 2\theta^2$$

Taking the partial derivative of  $T$  with respect to  $R^U$  gives,

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<sup>45</sup> $\theta^*$  must be below  $\bar{\theta}$  because  $\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta} - g(\theta)$  is increasing and any feasible threshold equilibria requires that the liquidation value  $\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta} \Delta m_0$  be below  $\Delta F_0$ .



$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\partial T}{\partial R^U} &= \left[ (2 - \ln(h(R^U, \theta)))\theta(1 + \theta) - \frac{1}{h(R^U, \theta)} (1 - \theta - 4\theta^2 + \theta(1 + \theta)h(R^U, \theta)) \right] \frac{\partial h}{\partial R^U} \\
&= \underbrace{\left[ (1 - \ln(h(R^U, \theta)))\theta(1 + \theta) - \frac{1}{h(R^U, \theta)} (1 - \theta - 4\theta^2) \right]}_{>0, \text{ when } \theta=\theta^*} \frac{\partial h}{\partial R^U}
\end{aligned}$$

where the term in brackets is positive in  $\theta^*$  because in the equilibrium  $1 - \theta^* - 4\theta^{*2} = \frac{-2\theta^{*2}}{2 - \ln(h(R^U, \theta^*))} - \theta(1 + \theta^*)h(R^U, \theta^*) < 0$ . Taking the partial derivative of  $T$  with respect to  $\theta$  gives,

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\partial T}{\partial \theta} &= \underbrace{\left[ (1 - \ln(h(R^U, \theta)))\theta(1 + \theta) - \frac{1}{h(R^U, \theta)} (1 - \theta - 4\theta^2) \right]}_{>0, \text{ when } \theta=\theta^*} \frac{\partial h}{\partial \theta} + \\
&\quad \underbrace{(2 - \ln(h(R^U, \theta)))(-1 - 8\theta + (1 + 2\theta)h(R^U, \theta)) + 4\theta}_{>0, \text{ when } \theta=\theta^*}.
\end{aligned}$$

The second line is positive in  $\theta^*$  because in the equilibrium  $2 - \ln(h(R^U, \theta^*)) = \frac{-2\theta^{*2}}{1 - \theta^* - 4\theta^{*2} + \theta^*(1 + \theta^*)h(R^U, \theta^*)}$ , implying that the sign of the second line has the same sign as  $-2\theta^{*2}(-1 - 8\theta^* + (1 + 2\theta^*)h(R^U, \theta^*)) + 4\theta^*(1 - \theta^* - 4\theta^{*2} + \theta^*(1 + \theta^*)h(R^U, \theta^*)) = 2\theta^*(2 - \theta^*) + 2\theta^{*2}h(R^U, \theta^*) > 0$ .

Finally, note that,

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\partial h}{\partial \theta} &= \frac{\lambda R^U}{(1 - \lambda R^U \frac{\theta^2}{2})} \left[ 1 - 2\theta + \lambda R^U \frac{\theta^2}{2} \right] \\
&> \frac{\lambda R^U}{(1 - \lambda R^U \frac{\theta^2}{2})} (\theta - 1)^2 > 0 \\
\frac{\partial h}{\partial \theta} &= \frac{\lambda}{(1 - \lambda R^U \frac{\theta^2}{2})} \theta(1 - \theta) > 0
\end{aligned}$$

where the first inequality holds because  $\lambda R^U > 2$ . Therefore, applying the implicit function theorem we have,

$$\frac{\partial \theta^*}{\partial R^U} = -\frac{\partial T}{\partial R^U} / \frac{\partial T}{\partial \theta^*} < 0$$

## B Detailed expression for $V(\theta^*)$ and its derivatives

Expanding (26), the threshold  $\theta^*$  is the solution to the  $V(\theta^*) = 0$  shown in (B.28) below.

$$\begin{aligned}
V(\theta^*) = & \theta^* [(\eta - 1) - \Delta F_1] \mu_I - \eta \Delta m_1 \mu_R + \frac{\Delta m_1}{\lambda} (\mu_R - \mu_I) + (1 - \theta^*) \Delta m_1 \mu_S \\
& - (1 - \theta^*) \Delta F_0 \ln(1 - \mu_S) + \frac{\Delta F_0 + \lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*} \Delta m_0}{\lambda} \ln \left( \frac{1 - \mu_I}{1 - \mu_R} \right) + \eta (\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*} \Delta m_0 + \Delta F_0 + \Delta m_1) \ln(\mu_R) \\
& + (1 - \theta^*) \frac{R^D}{\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*}} \left[ -\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*} \Delta m_0 \ln(1 - \mu_S) + (\Delta F_0 + \lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*} \Delta m_0) \ln \left( \frac{1 - \mu_S}{1 - \mu_I} \right) + \Delta m_1 (\mu_I - \mu_S) \right].
\end{aligned} \tag{B.28}$$

The derivative of  $V(\theta^*)$  with respect to the contract terms and  $\theta^*$  are shown in (B.29)–(B.33) below.

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial \Delta m_0} = \theta^* (\eta - 1) \frac{\partial \mu_I}{\partial \Delta m_0} + \bar{R}_{\theta^*} \ln \left( \frac{1 - \mu_I}{1 - \mu_R} \right) + \eta \lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*} \ln(\mu_R) + (1 - \theta^*) R^D \left[ -\ln(1 - \mu_S) + \ln \left( \frac{1 - \mu_S}{1 - \mu_I} \right) \right], \tag{B.29}$$

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial \Delta m_1} = \theta^* (\eta - 1) \frac{\partial \mu_I}{\partial \Delta m_1} - \eta \mu_R + \frac{(\mu_R - \mu_I)}{\lambda} + (1 - \theta^*) \mu_S + \eta \ln(\mu_R) + (1 - \theta^*) \frac{R^D}{\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*}} (\mu_I - \mu_S), \tag{B.30}$$

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial \Delta F_0} = \theta^* (\eta - 1) \frac{\partial \mu_I}{\partial \Delta F_0} - (1 - \theta^*) \ln(1 - \mu_S) + \frac{1}{\lambda} \ln \left( \frac{1 - \mu_I}{1 - \mu_R} \right) + \eta \ln(\mu_R) + (1 - \theta^*) \frac{R^D}{\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*}} \ln \left( \frac{1 - \mu_S}{1 - \mu_I} \right), \tag{B.31}$$

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial \Delta F_1} = \theta^* (\eta - 1) \frac{\partial \mu_I}{\partial \Delta F_1} - \theta^* \mu_I, \tag{B.32}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\partial V}{\partial \theta^*} = & \theta^* (\eta - 1) \frac{\partial \mu_I}{\partial \theta^*} + [(\eta - 1) - \Delta F_1] \mu_I - \Delta m_1 \mu_S \\
& + \Delta F_0 \ln(1 - \mu_S) + (R^U - R^D) \Delta m_0 \ln \left( \frac{1 - \mu_I}{1 - \mu_R} \right) + \eta \lambda (R^U - R^D) \Delta m_0 \ln(\mu_R) \\
& - \frac{R^D}{\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*}} \left[ -\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*} \Delta m_0 \ln(1 - \mu_S) + (\Delta F_0 + \lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*} \Delta m_0) \ln \left( \frac{1 - \mu_S}{1 - \mu_I} \right) + \Delta m_1 (\mu_I - \mu_S) \right] \\
& + (1 - \theta^*) R^D \left[ -\Delta F_0 \frac{(R^U - R^D)}{\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*}^2} \ln \left( \frac{1 - \mu_S}{1 - \mu_I} \right) - \Delta m_1 \frac{(R^U - R^D)}{\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*}^2} (\mu_I - \mu_S) \right],
\end{aligned} \tag{B.33}$$

with

$$\frac{\partial \mu_I}{\partial \theta^*} = \frac{\lambda(R^U - R^D)R^U (R^U \Delta m_0 \Delta m_1 - \Delta F_0 \Delta F_1)}{(\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*} \Delta F_1 + R^U \Delta m_1)^2}, \quad \frac{\partial \mu_I}{\partial \Delta m_0} = \frac{R^U \lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*}}{\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*} \Delta F_1 + R^U \Delta m_1},$$

$$\frac{\partial \mu_I}{\partial \Delta m_1} = -\frac{R^U (\Delta F_0 + \lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*} \Delta m_0) R^U}{(\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*} \Delta F_1 + R^U \Delta m_1)^2} = \frac{R^U (1 - \mu_I)}{\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*} \Delta F_1 + R^U \Delta m_1}, \quad \frac{\partial \mu_I}{\partial \Delta F_0} = \frac{R^U}{\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*} \Delta F_1 + R^U \Delta m_1},$$

$$\frac{\partial \mu_I}{\partial \Delta F_1} = -\frac{R^U (\Delta F_0 + \lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*} \Delta m_0) \lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*}}{(\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*} \Delta F_1 + R^U \Delta m_1)^2} = \frac{\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*} (1 - \mu_I)}{\lambda \bar{R}_{\theta^*} \Delta F_1 + R^U \Delta m_1}.$$

## C Interpretation of FRBNY's Primary Dealer Survey

The model's notation is useful to interpret the data from FRBNY's primary dealer survey. The total amount of funds distributed and collected (i.e., Securities In and Securities Out) can be interpreted as loans made to hedge funds  $T_I - m^H$  and loans received from money funds  $T_O - m^M$ , respectively. In this case,  $T_I$  is the total amount of collateral received from hedge funds and  $T_O$  is the total amount of collateral posted with money funds. It is important to note that the total amount of collateral posted with money funds  $T_O$  may not necessarily come from hedge fund counterparties. That is, a fraction of collateral posted in Securities Out can be part of the dealer's own asset position. But when dealing in cash and secured financing markets, dealers have a natural collateral restriction to follow, known as the *box constraint*. This constraint forces dealers to have a non-negative stock of collateral. That is, denoting  $L$  and  $S$  the dealer's long and short position, respectively, the box constraint can be translated into

$$(L - S) + (T_I - T_O) \geq 0.$$

That is, the amount of collateral owned and sourced must be larger than the amount of collateral sold and posted.

In figure 2 we argue that the difference between Securities Out and Securities In plus net position is a lower bound for the amount of liquidity coming from different haircuts. In effect,

$$\underbrace{(T_O - m^M)}_{sec-out} - \underbrace{((T_I - m^H) + (L - S))}_{sec-in} \leq (T_O - T_I) + m^H - m^M + (T_I - T_O) = m^H - m^M$$

where the inequality comes from imposing the box constraint.

An important caveat to this lower bound is that survey asks respondents to also report the total amount of long and short positions in forward contracts.<sup>46</sup> Because forward contracts are derivatives, they do not enter into the box constraint, which is strictly a cash market restriction. Regrettably, we cannot tease out

<sup>46</sup>Forwards are the only derivative contracts that are reported in the FR 2004.

how much the lower bound is attributable to haircut differences and how much is due to large forward positions.

From Figures 2 and 3, we can see that in the last year of Bear Stearn's activity, the estimated amount of liquidity the firm captured through rehypothecation was at least between \$10 and \$50 billion, equivalent to 1/10 or 1/3 of its entire repo activity.