

# Money and Modern Bank Runs

David Skeie  
Federal Reserve Bank of New York

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# Traditional vs. “Modern” Banking

## Does Money Effect Bank Run Theory?

### “Real World”

### Theory

#### Traditional Banking

“It’s a Wonderful Life”

- Currency withdrawn from banking system

Diamond-Dybvig

- Demand deposits paid in goods

*Depletion from banks ⇒ Bank Runs*

#### **Introduce:**

#### “Modern” Banking

“Wheelbarrow Lending”

- Wire transfers
- Same day electronic payment systems

■ Clearinghouse model

- Deposits paid with inside money

*Interbank market lending ⇒ No Bank Runs*

# Outline of Results

Results show how modern banking avoids traditional bank runs.

Bank Runs Model: Two innovations

I. Clearinghouse

- ⇒ No panic “Redeposit Runs”
  - Due to interbank lending

II. Demand deposits paid in *money*

- ⇒ No “Purchase Runs”
  - Monetary prices for goods adjust
  - Money as unit of account

# Bank Run Literature

## Models of interbank lending with goods:

- Bhattacharya and Gale (1987), Bhattacharya and Fulghieri (1994), Allen and Gale (2000a).

## Models of interbank lending with money:

- Allen and Gale (1998, 2000b), Chang and Velasco (2000), Gale and Vives (2002), Freixas et al. (2000, 2003), Freixas and Holthausen (2001), Rochet and Vives (2002).
- Bank runs because money withdrawn from banks and economy.

## Diamond and Rajan (2003b):

- Money in general equilibrium.
- Traditional currency withdrawal from banking system  $\Rightarrow$  Bank runs.
- Heterogeneous asset shocks  $\Rightarrow$  Bank runs.

# Real Model Setup

- Three periods:  $t = 0, 1, 2$ .
- Consumers have total endowment of 1 good at  $t=0$ .
- Privately observed types at  $t=1$ :
  - $\lambda$  early:  $u(C_1)$ .
  - $1-\lambda$  late:  $u(C_2)$ .
- Storage returns 1 over a period.
- Investment at  $t=0$  returns:
  - $R > 1$  at  $t=2$
  - or—  $r < 1$  at  $t=1$  if liquidated.

# Real Model Results

**First Best:**  $\max_{C_1, C_2, \alpha} \lambda u(C_1) + (1-\lambda)u(C_2)$   
s.t.: feasibility constraints  
 $\alpha \leq 1$  is amount of goods invested.

FOCs:  $C_1^*$ ,  $C_2^*$  and  $\alpha^*$ .

- $\lambda C_1^* = 1 - \alpha^*$
- $(1 - \lambda)C_2^* = \alpha^* R$

**Spot Market:**

$t=0$ : Consumers choose  $\alpha$  to invest and store  $1-\alpha$ .

$t=1$ : Early and late consumers trade.

$\Rightarrow$  Outcome:  $\alpha$ ,  $C_1=1$ ,  $C_2=R$  generally not first best.

**Lemma 1:** *Enforced storage of  $1-\alpha^*$*   
 $\Rightarrow$  *First best  $C_1^*$ ,  $C_2^*$ .*

**Bank with Real Contracts (Diamond-Dybvig):**

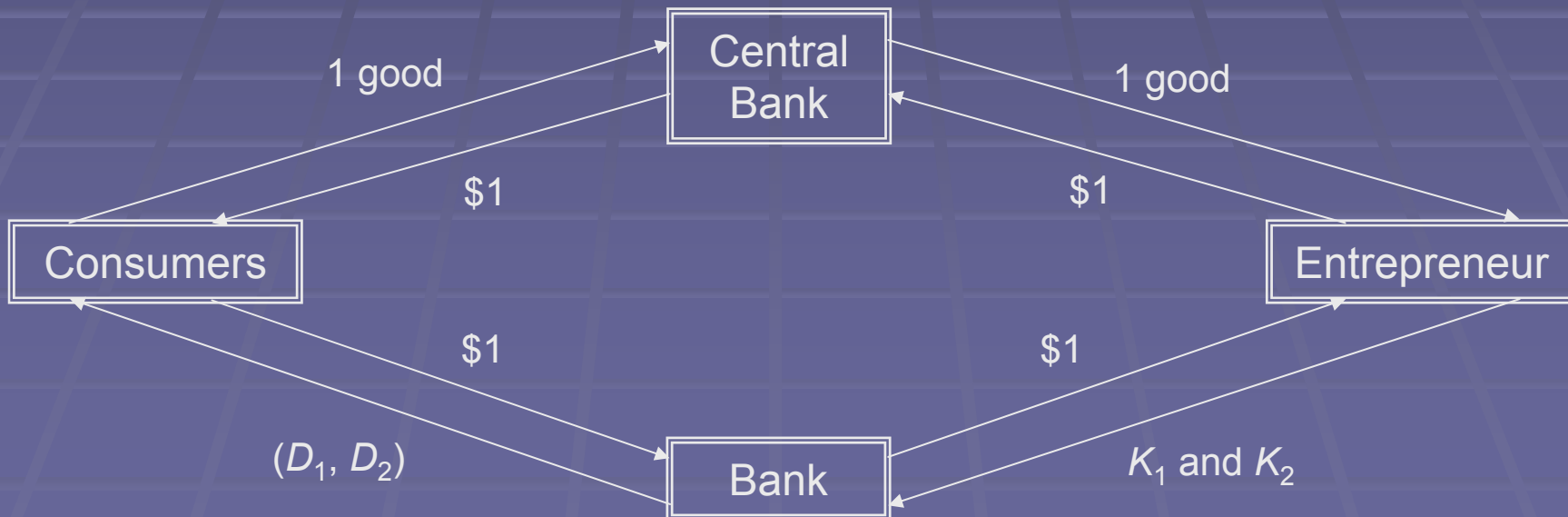
- Real demand deposits  $(C_1^*, C_2^*)$ : Multiple equilibria.

# Bank with Money and Nominal Contracts

Add to Diamond-Dybvig (real banking) model:

1. Entrepreneur: Store & invest goods to sell.
  - Bank ensures entrepreneur stores  $1-\alpha^*$ .
2. Money and nominal contracts.
  - $t=0$ : Central Bank sets  $P_0=1$ .

## Money Introduced at $t=0$



## II. Single Bank: Money Deposits

Consumers:

$t=1$ :  $\lambda^p \geq \lambda$  withdraw  $D_1$  and purchase goods.

$t=2$ :  $1-\lambda^p$  “  $D_2$  “ “ “

- Bank run  $\equiv \lambda^p > \lambda$  (“Purchase Run”).

Prices: Market clearing condition

- $P_1 = \frac{\lambda^p D_1}{Q_1}$        $P_2 = \frac{(1-\lambda^p) D_2}{Q_2}$
- Entrepreneur sells  $Q_t$  goods at time  $t$ .

Assumptions

- Bank pays on  $t=1$  to  $t=2$  deposits competitive  $D_{1,2} = \frac{D_2}{D_1}$
- $CRRA \geq 1 \Rightarrow D_{1,2} \leq R$ 
  - Bank provides insurance, not lottery ticket.
- Sequential-service constraint or pro-rata.



# Results: No “Purchase Runs”

Step 1. Bank’s choice of contracts.

Step 2. Entrepreneur’s maximization problem and choice of  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$ .

Step 3. Late consumer’s decision whether to run the bank.

# Step 1. Bank

Bank:

- Chooses Contracts:

$$D_1 = C_1^*$$

$$D_2 = C_2^*$$

$$K_1 = \lambda D_1 (= 1 - \alpha)$$

$$K_2 = (1 - \lambda) D_2 (= \alpha R)$$

$$\alpha = \alpha^*.$$

# Step 2. Entrepreneur

$t=1$ :

- Chooses  $Q_1$  goods to sell.
  - May liquidate investments or store good till  $t=2$ .
- Repays  $K_1$  if possible.
- Excess revenues  $(P_1 Q_1 - K_1)^+$  deposited for return  $D_{1,2}$ .

$t=2$ :

- Chooses  $Q_2$  goods to sell.
- Repays  $K_2$  if possible.
- Consumes excess goods  $\pi_2$ .

Optimization:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \max_{Q_1, Q_2} & [\pi_2 \mid \lambda^p] \\ \text{s.t.} & \text{feasibility constraints.} \end{array}$$

## Step 2. Entrepreneur (Cont'd)

$$\blacksquare P_1 = \frac{\lambda^p D_1}{Q_1} \quad P_2 = \frac{(1-\lambda^p) D_2}{Q_2}$$

**Result: *Entrepreneur never defaults.***

$$t=1: \text{Revenues} = P_1 Q_1 = \lambda^p D_1 \geq \lambda D_1 = K_1$$

$$\begin{aligned} t=2: \text{Revenues} &= P_2 Q_2 + (P_1 Q_1 - K_1) D_{1,2} \\ &= (1-\lambda) D_2 = K_2 \end{aligned}$$

**Result: *Entrepreneur provides optimal goods at  $t=1$  and  $t=2$ .***

- FOCs  $\Rightarrow$  Liquidation only if  $P_1 > \frac{P_2}{D_{1,2}}$ .
- Key: Bank enforces optimal storage at  $t=0$ .

## Step 3. Late Consumers

Suppose there is a “Purchase Run”:  $\lambda^p > \lambda$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Requires: } \frac{D_1}{P_1} \geq \frac{D_2}{P_2} \Rightarrow P_1 \leq \frac{P_2}{D_{1,2}} < P_2$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{No liquidation: } Q_1 = \lambda D_1 = 1 - \alpha$$

$$\Rightarrow P_1 = \frac{\lambda^p D_1}{\lambda D_1} > 1, \quad P_2 = \frac{(1 - \lambda^p) D_2}{(1 - \lambda) D_2} < 1$$

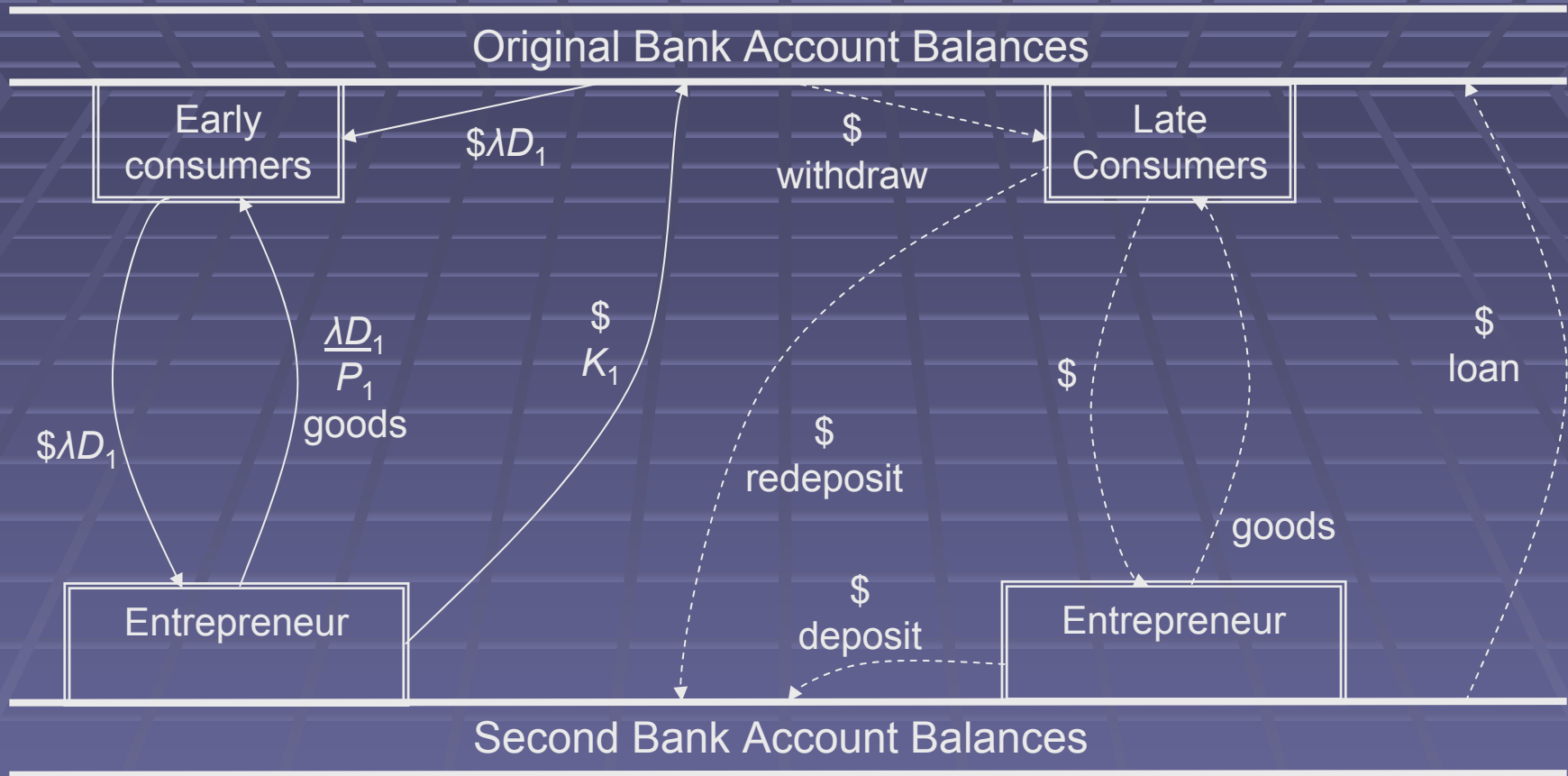
$$\Rightarrow P_1 > P_2 \Rightarrow \text{Contradiction}$$

**Result:** *There is never a “Purchase Run”*

- $\lambda^p = \lambda.$

# I. Clearinghouse

## Transactions at $t=1$



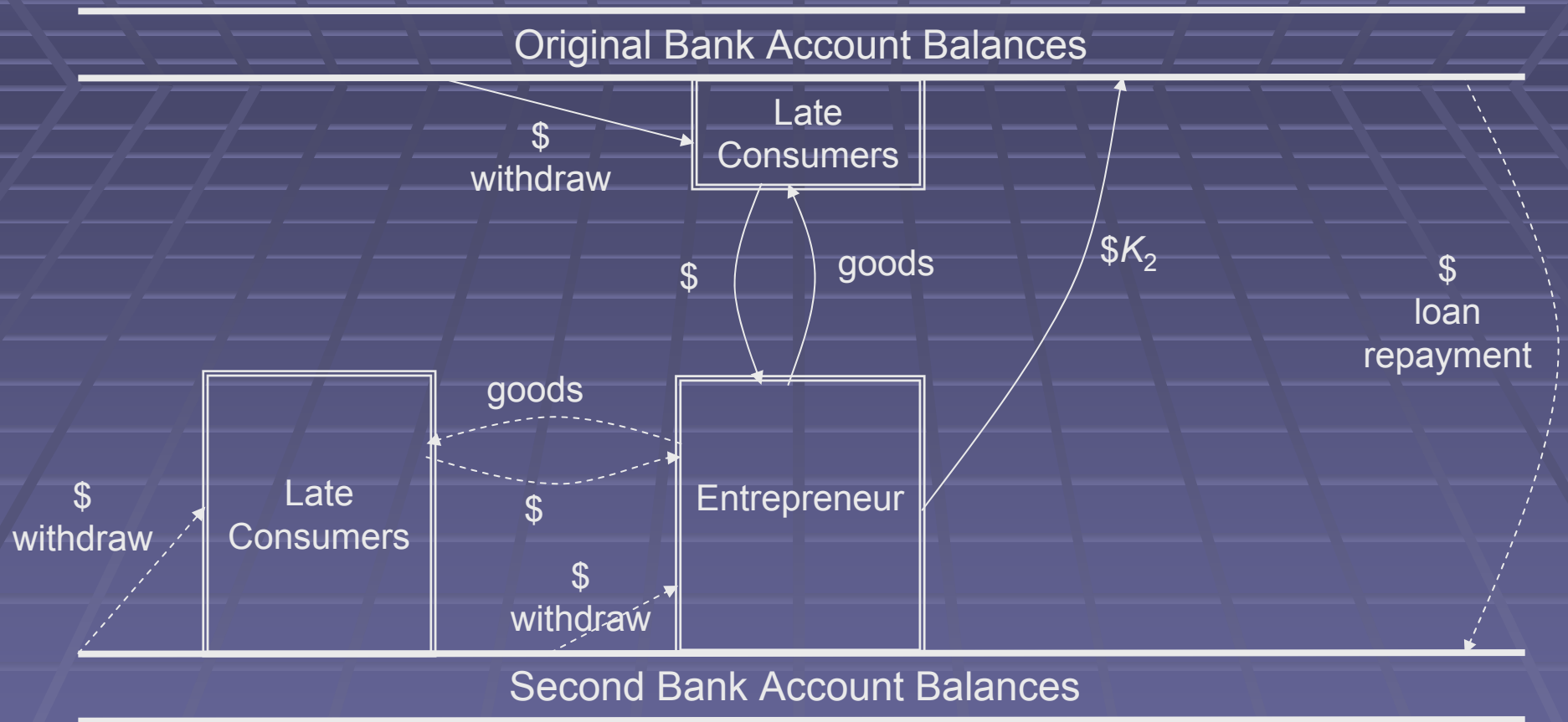
### Innovation:

- Payment-in-the-Same-Period Constraint
- $\$ \text{Paid}_t \leq \$ \text{Rec'd}_t$  instead of  $\$ \text{Paid}_t \leq \$ \text{Rec'd}_{t-1}$

Off-equilibrium  $\equiv$   $\cdots \rightarrow$   
 Bank Run  $\equiv$   
 Late consumers  
 withdraw at  $t=1$

# I. Clearinghouse

## Transactions at $t=2$



- Money is a flow, not a stock

Off-equilibrium  $\equiv$  ---->  
Bank Run  $\equiv$   
Late consumers  
withdraw at  $t=1$

# Assumptions

Second Bank makes Take-It-Or-Leave-It loan offer to Original.

Bank has special relationship ability to collect on its loans.

If Original Bank defaults:

- Calls in  $K_2$  loan.
- Demand deposits senior to interbank loans.

Prices are analogous to those above.



# Results: No “Redeposit Runs”

Step 1. Original Bank’s budget constraint and choice of contracts.

Second Bank’s interbank lending decision.

Step 2. Entrepreneur: Same choice as in “Purchase Runs.”

Step 3. Late consumer’s decision whether to run the bank.

# Step 1. Banks

Original Bank chooses same contracts as above.

Second Bank lends fully at return  $\frac{D_2}{D_1}$ .

Original Bank: Budget Constraint holds for  $t=1$  and  $t=2$ .

- All funds net owed by Original at  $t=1$  are available to borrow from Second Bank.
- Original then owes one-period return  $\frac{D_2}{D_1}$  to Second Bank instead of to late consumers who run.

**Lemma 2: *Original Bank does not default even if all consumers withdraw early.***

- Key: Second Bank (interbank market) lends efficiently.

# Step 3. Late Consumers

Suppose there is a “Redeposit Run”:

⇒ Requires either:

i. Original Bank is expected to default.

⇒ Contradiction

ii. 
$$\frac{D_1 D_{1,2}}{P_2} > \frac{D_2}{P_2} \quad \Rightarrow \quad D_{1,2} > \frac{D_2}{D_1}$$

⇒ Contradiction

**Result:** *There is never a “Redeposit Run”*

# Unique First Best Outcome

Consumption is uniquely determined:

- $C_1 = \frac{D_1}{P_1} = C_1^*$

- $C_2 = \frac{D_2}{P_2} = C_2^*$

**Proposition 1: *Unique equilibrium is the first best outcome with no bank runs.***

# New Bank Run Mechanism

Breakdown in interbank lending  $\Rightarrow$  Runs and Contagion

- Original Bank liquidation  $\Rightarrow$  Deflation:  $P_1 \downarrow$ 
  - $\Rightarrow$  Sub-optimal risk sharing for all consumers.
  - $\Rightarrow$  All banks lose liquidity.
  - $\Rightarrow$  Monetary prices cause contagion.
- Lender of Last Resort

# Conclusion

Model of Banking with Money:

1. Deposits paid in money  
⇒ No “purchase runs”
2. Clearinghouse payment system:
  - Interbank lending ⇒ No “redeposit runs”

Lack of bank runs in U.S. post-Great Depression

- Flexible value of money
- Modern electronic clearinghouse