

Seminário sobre Riscos, Estabilidade Financeira e Economia Bancária do Banco Central do Brasil

Credit Default and Business Cycles: An Empirical Investigation of Brazilian Retail Loans

Arnildo Correa, Jaqueline Marins, Myrian Neves
and Antonio Carlos Magalhães

São Paulo, August 12, 2011

The views expressed here are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Banco Central do Brasil

Motivation

- The 2004 Basel II Accord introduced a menu of approaches for determining capital requirements, including the internal ratings-based (IRB) approach.
 - It allowed banks to compute capital charges based on their own estimates of Probability of Default (PD) and Loss Given Default (LGD).
- Under the IRB approach, capital requirements are an increasing function in the PD and LGD parameters.
- A recent concern with this risk-sensitiveness of regulatory capital is that it might amplify fluctuations in the business cycles.

$$\underbrace{\text{Recession} \Rightarrow \uparrow \text{PD}, \uparrow \text{Corr}, \uparrow \text{LGD} \Rightarrow \uparrow \text{K}, \uparrow \text{VaR}}_{\text{First part}} \Rightarrow \underbrace{\downarrow \$\text{Supply} \Rightarrow \uparrow \text{Recession}}_{\text{Second part}}$$

- Discussion about capital buffers.

This paper

- The paper aims to understand the relationship between credit default and business cycles. In particular, the first part of the argument.
 - To what extent recessions increase credit default.
 - What are the impacts of recessions on the losses of lender institutions.
- We use data from the retail sector.
- We explore the time series and the individual data evidence.
- We take into account the unobserved individual effects.

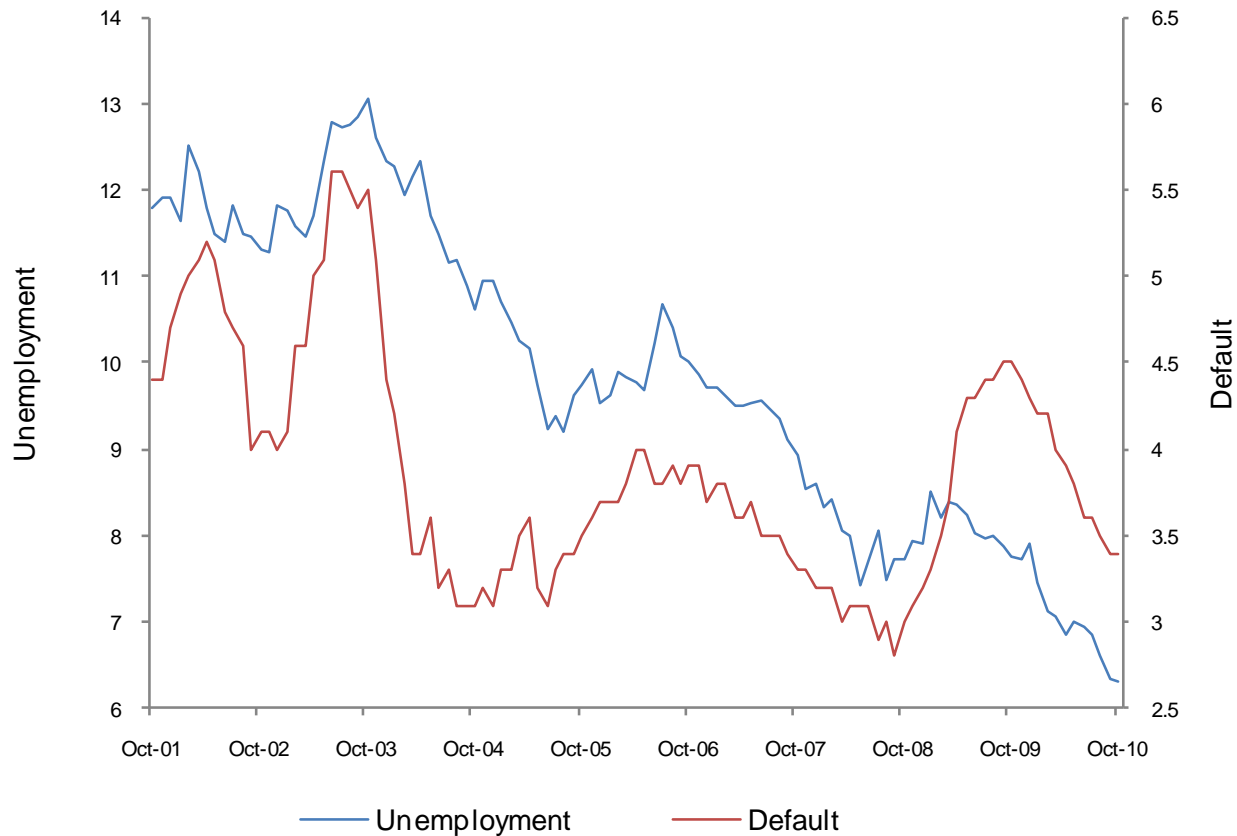
The literature

- Kashyap and Stein (EP, 2004)
- Koopman and Lucas (JAE, 2005)
- Koopman, Lucas and Klassen (JBF, 2005)
- Koopman, Lucas and Monteiro (JE, 2008)
- Repullo and Suarez (2008)
- Repullo, Saurina and Trucharte (2010)
- Andersen (JFS, 2011)

- Cowan and Cowan (JBF, 2004)

Evidence from time series

Figure: Credit default and unemployment rate – 2001:10 - 2010:10



VAR model

- We estimate a Vector Autorregressive (VAR) model:

$$\mathbf{B}\mathbf{y}_t = \mathbf{c} + \sum_{s=1}^P \mathbf{A}_s \mathbf{y}_{t-s} + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_t,$$

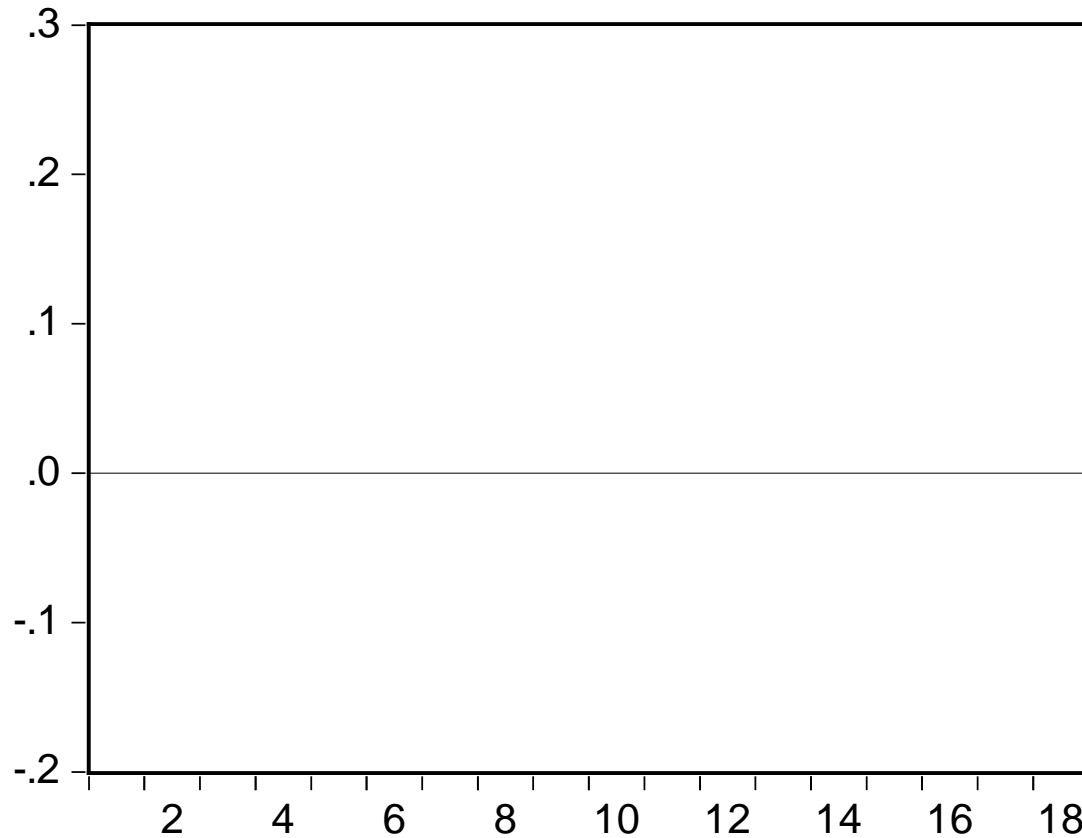
where $\mathbf{y}_t = \begin{bmatrix} u_t \\ i_t \\ D_t \end{bmatrix}$.

- We use Cholesky decomposition with the following ordering:
Unemployment → Selic → Default

VAR (5): Impulse response functions

Response to Cholesky One S.D. Innovations ± 2 S.E.

Response of DEFAULT to UNEMPLOYMENT_SA



Microdata

- Data from the Credit Information System (SCR) of the Central Bank of Brazil.
- Two modalities of retail credit: Consumer Credit and Vehicle Financing.
- Two institutions: A and B.
- They represent 31% of Consumer Credit and 38% of Vehicle Financing.
- Period: 2003 – 2008.
- Frequency: Semi-annually.
- No. of transactions: 730 thousand in Consumer Credit and 2.5 million in Vehicle Financing.

Probit model

- Return or potential wage:

$$y_{i,j,t}^* = \mathbf{x}'_i \boldsymbol{\beta} + \mathbf{m}'_{i,t} \boldsymbol{\gamma} + \mathbf{z}'_{i,t} \boldsymbol{\theta} + c_i + d_j + u_{i,j,t},$$

where $\mathbf{m}'_{i,t}$ are macroeconomic and/or sectoral variables measuring business cycles.

- As usual, we assume that $u_{i,j,t} \sim N(0,1)$

- We observe:
$$y_{i,j,t} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } y_{i,j,t}^* \leq \alpha \\ 0, & \text{if otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Probit model

- The probability of default is given by

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Pr[y_{i,j,t} = 1 \mid \mathbf{w}_{i,j,t}, c_i] &= \Pr[y_{i,j,t}^* \leq \alpha \mid \mathbf{w}_{i,j,t}, c_i] \\
 &= \Pr[\mathbf{x}_i' \boldsymbol{\beta} + \mathbf{m}_{i,t}' \boldsymbol{\gamma} + \mathbf{z}_{i,t}' \boldsymbol{\theta} + c_i + d_j + u_{i,j,t} \leq \alpha \mid \mathbf{w}_{i,j,t}, c_i] \\
 &= \Pr[u_{i,j,t} \leq \alpha - \mathbf{x}_i' \boldsymbol{\beta} - \mathbf{m}_{i,t}' \boldsymbol{\gamma} - \mathbf{z}_{i,t}' \boldsymbol{\theta} - c_i - d_j] \\
 &= \Phi(\alpha - \mathbf{x}_i' \boldsymbol{\beta} - \mathbf{m}_{i,t}' \boldsymbol{\gamma} - \mathbf{z}_{i,t}' \boldsymbol{\theta} - c_i - d_j),
 \end{aligned}$$

where $\Phi(\cdot)$ is the standard normal cumulative distribution function

and $\mathbf{w}_{i,j,t} = (\mathbf{x}_i', \mathbf{m}_{i,t}', \mathbf{z}_{i,t}', d_j)'$

Probit model

- Problem: The parameters c_i appear in the likelihood function and they are unobserved.

- We assume: $c_i | \mathbf{w}_{i,j,t} \sim N(0, \sigma_c^2)$

- Then, we have:

$$f(y_{i,j,1}, \dots, y_{i,j,T} | \mathbf{w}_{i,j}; \Psi) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \left\{ \left[\prod_{t=1}^T f(y_{i,j,t} | \mathbf{w}_{i,j,t}, c_i; \cdot) \right] \left(\frac{1}{\sigma_c} \right) \phi \left(\frac{c}{\sigma_c} \right) \right\} dc,$$

where $\phi(\cdot)$ is the density function of the standard normal distribution and Ψ are the parameters.

Probit model

- Variables measuring business cycles:
 - Aggregate unemployment
 - Regional unemployment
 - GDP

- Other controls:
 - Risk rating;
 - Interest rate;
 - Market size (population);
 - Borrower's gender;
 - Borrower's occupation;
 - Age;
 - Fixed effects for banks.

Consumer credit – Marginal effect

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Regional unemployment	0.0107***		-0.0003	-0.0003	-0.0004
Aggregate unemployment		0.0330***	0.0337***	0.0389***	0.0100***
GDP				-0.0071***	-0.0023***
Rating A	0.1944***	0.2151***	0.2109***	0.2101***	0.0140***
Rating B	0.5041***	0.5257***	0.5182***	0.5173***	0.1653***
Rating C	0.6426***	0.6477***	0.6476***	0.6470***	0.2941***
Rating D	0.9285***	0.9318***	0.9312***	0.9308***	0.6126***
Male	0.0149***	0.0143***	0.0151***	0.0151***	0.0083***
σ_c	0.6285***	0.6111***	0.6067***	0.6039***	0.1888
ρ	0.2832***	0.2719***	0.2690***	0.2672***	0.4356
Percent correctly predicted - Total	83.77	88.81	83.78	83.78	83.78
Percent correctly predicted - Default	76.36	73.47	76.36	76.36	76.24
Percent correctly predicted - Non Default	87.84	97.24	87.86	87.86	87.91
Log-likelihood value	-432515.16	-482208.97	-431699.89	-431657.92	-
No. obs.	1406843	1566423	1406843	1406843	1406843

Vehicle financing – Marginal effect

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Regional unemployment	0.0024***		0.0011***	0.0011***	0.0013***
Aggregate unemployment		0.0059***	0.0048***	0.0067***	0.0062***
GDP				-0.0058***	-0.0061***
Rating A	0.0013***	-0.0008**	-0.0011***	-0.0015***	-0.0054***
Rating B	0.0925***	0.0893***	0.0872***	0.0863***	0.0739***
Rating C	0.2245***	0.2249***	0.2210***	0.2198***	0.1911***
Rating D	0.8106***	0.8105***	0.8112***	0.8124***	0.7427***
Male	0.0024***	0.0023***	0.0024***	0.0024***	0.0032***
σ_c	0.2981***	0.2917***	0.2915***	0.2842***	0.0745
ρ	0.0815***	0.0784***	0.0783***	0.0747	0.1655
Percent correctly predicted - Total	87.85	95.88	87.85	87.85	87.85
Percent correctly predicted - Default	57.96	52.8	57.96	57.96	57.96
Percent correctly predicted - Non Default	90.07	99.08	90.07	90.07	90.07
Log-likelihood value	-254211.74	-283792.62	-253573.23	-252951.29	-
No. obs.	1750841	1928644	1750841	1750841	1750841

Transition probabilities

- We estimate the transition probabilities by the historical method.

Table: Univariate transition probabilities – recession and boom

		Consumer Credit - Recession					Vehicle Financing - Recession					
		Final Rating					Final Rating					
		AA	A	B	C	Default	AA	A	B	C	Default	
Initial Rating	AA	40.03%	35.15%	3.35%	17.41%	4.07%	AA	77.40%	12.62%	6.85%	1.66%	1.47%
	A	2.02%	61.06%	14.84%	8.58%	13.50%	A	0.02%	84.40%	6.50%	3.40%	5.68%
	B	0.13%	9.52%	49.76%	6.44%	34.16%	B	0.11%	22.46%	45.64%	7.59%	24.19%
	C	0.04%	0.74%	1.85%	56.45%	40.92%	C	0.03%	23.45%	8.41%	14.82%	53.30%
	Default	0.00%	0.26%	0.68%	0.32%	98.74%	Default	0.01%	4.08%	1.73%	1.66%	92.52%
		Consumer Credit - Boom					Vehicle Financing - Boom					
		Final Rating					Final Rating					
		AA	A	B	C	Default	AA	A	B	C	Default	
Initial Rating	AA	48.97%	43.36%	2.45%	2.04%	3.17%	AA	88.92%	1.81%	3.05%	2.88%	3.33%
	A	1.25%	77.38%	11.57%	2.30%	7.50%	A	10.28%	75.61%	5.89%	4.06%	4.16%
	B	0.07%	8.77%	60.24%	4.44%	26.48%	B	9.29%	17.95%	44.94%	10.96%	16.87%
	C	0.14%	3.24%	9.03%	46.93%	40.67%	C	10.50%	11.01%	6.37%	35.17%	36.95%
	Default	0.01%	0.52%	2.91%	0.80%	95.76%	Default	2.92%	3.35%	1.81%	2.65%	89.28%

Note: Average of semi-annual transition frequencies from rating i (initial rating) to rating k (final rating) in periods of recession and booming. Period: Jan/2003 to Jul/2008.

Value at Risk experiment

- The model structure is the following:

$$L = \sum_{i=1}^N EAD_i * LGD_i * Y_i$$

where:

- N is the # of transactions (50,000 in our simulation)
- EAD_i is the exposure at default (equal to R\$1 in our simulation)
- LGD_i is the loss given default (See Silva, Marins and Neves (2009))
- Y_i is a Bernoulli variable indicating default

Value at Risk experiment

Table: Simulated credit VaR

Consumer Credit			
Percentiles	95.0%	99.0%	99.9%
Booming	18.85%	18.89%	18.91%
Recession	21.55%	21.61%	21.62%

Vehicle Financing			
Percentiles	95.0%	99.0%	99.9%
Booming	12.27%	12.31%	12.32%
Recession	12.82%	12.88%	12.90%

Note: Percentiles of the simulated potential losses distribution. The VaR experiment is based in a portfolio composed by 50 thousand transactions sampled from portfolios of the two banks. Results are based in one hundred simulations in five runs.

- Difference: 14% in Consumer Credit and 4% in Vehicle Financing.

Conclusions

- VAR estimations suggest that after a positive shock in the unemployment rate credit default increases, but the increase seems to be modest.
- Estimations based on microdata also provide evidence that the impact of an increase in the unemployment rate (both aggregate and sectoral) or in the GDP growth rate lies between 1 and 3 percentage points.
- VaR experiments show that potential losses in recessions are 4%-14% higher when compared to the losses during booming periods.
- There is a relationship between credit default and business cycles, but less strong than suggested in previous studies that use corporate data.