

#### **Identifying Banking Crises**

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#### Consequences of banking crises

#### **Consequences are severe**, according to Reinhart & Rogoff:

- 1. Contraction in bank lending
- 2. Deep, persistent recessions
  - Avg. GDP decline = -9.6%, avg. time to recovery = 7.3 years
  - Avg. unemployment rise = 7 percentage points
  - Across 63 crises in adv. economies
- 3. Sharp decrease in asset prices
  - Stocks slump 55% and house prices decline 35%
- 4. Increase in government debt by 86%
  - Mostly due to decreased tax revenues, not from bank recapitalization costs

### Previous approaches

- 1. *Narrative-based* approaches:
  - Bordo et al. (2001)
  - Reinhart & Rogoff (2009)
  - Schularick & Taylor (2012)
- 2. Approaches based on *policy responses*:
  - Caprio & Klingebiel (2003)
  - Demirguc-Kunt & Detragiache (2005)
  - Laeven & Valencia (2013)

# Limitations of previous approaches

1. They disagree with each other

## Disagreement about banking crises

#### Banking crises in Germany

Reinhart Rogoff	Schularick Taylor	Romer Romer	Laeven Valencia	Bordo	Caprio Klingebiel	Demirguc-Kunt & Detragiache
0	1873					
1880	0					
1891	1891			0		
1901	1901			1901		
0	1907			0		
1925	0			0		
1929	1931			1931		
0	0	1974q2	0	0	0	
1977	0	0	0	0	late 1970s	
0	0	2003q1	0		0	
2008	2008	2007q2	2008			

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<u>Legend</u>:

YYYY = starting year of banking crisis
```

0 = "no crisis"

[blank] = outside of sample

## Limitations of previous approaches

- 1. They disagree with each other
- 2. Limitations of narrative approaches:
  - Biased to pick out most sensationalized and salient crises
    - Can overlook important but forgotten historical events
  - Biased to pick out crises that have the worst macroeconomic outcomes
- 3. Limitations of policy-based approaches:
  - Sometimes governments don't respond
  - Limited sample period (1970 present)
- 4. Romer and Romer (2016)
  - OECD info is subjective and overlooks some major crises (Spain 1977)
  - Limited sample of countries and times (1967 onward for OECD countries)

### This paper

We revise the historical chronology of banking crises in 46 countries from 1870 to 2016 using new historical data on **bank equity prices** 

- 1. We refine existing approaches using more objective data
  - Combine "hard" data (bank equity-based measures)
  - With "soft" information (from previous chronologies, plus a wealth of new primary and secondary narrative sources)
- 2. We develop measures of the severity of banking crises based on the decline in the country's bank equity index
  - Objective, real-time, quantitative
  - Theoretically motivated: captures market-perceived undercapitalization or insolvency of the banking sector
- 3. Monthly stock returns data allows us **precisely date turning points** for banks vs. nonfinancials
  - Modern banking crises: bank stocks fall before nonfinancial stocks
  - 19th century banking crises: nonfinancial stocks fall first

#### Practical advantages of bank equity returns

- 1. Abundance of historical bank equity data in 46 countries
  - Available from ~1870:
    - Developed countries
      - Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg,
         New Zealand, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, U.K., U.S.
    - Emerging economies
      - Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Egypt, Greece, Hong Kong, Hungary, India, Mexico, Imperial Russia, South Africa, Ottoman Turkey
  - Available from early 1900s:
    - Colombia, Czechoslovakia, Finland, Norway, Peru, Venezuela

#### Practical advantages of bank equity returns

- 1. Abundance of historical bank equity data in 46 countries
- 2. Natural way of doing things
  - Currency crisis lit defines crisis based on currency price crashes
  - Reinhart and Rogoff (2009) approve:

With regard to banking crises, our analysis stresses events. The main reason we use this approach has to do with the lack of long-range time series data that would allow us to date banking or financial crises quantitatively along the lines of inflation or currency crashes. For example, the relative price of bank stocks (or financial institutions relative to the market) would be a logical indicator to examine. However, doing this is problematic, particularly for the earlier part of our sample and for developing countries, where many domestic banks do not have publicly traded equity.

- 3. Accurate at picking up many aspects of the crisis
  - Macroeconomic consequences
  - Other dimensions of crisis: panics, bank failures, government intervention, etc.
- 4. Monthly stock returns data allows us **precisely date turning points** for banks vs. nonfinancials

# New historical data sources

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## Annual/Monthly, 46 countries, 1870-2016

- Bank equity declines (peak-to-trough)
  - a) Real bank total returns
  - b) Abnormal returns = (bank returns nonfin returns)
  - c) Bank market-cap returns =(bank real price returns + bank new equity issuance)
- 2. Macroeconomic variables
  - Real GDP growth, unemployment, credit contraction, etc.
- 3. Database of crisis symptoms and policy responses
  - Depositor runs? NPLs? Major bank failures? Liquidity support?
     Nationalizations? etc.
  - Backed up by 400+ pages of detailed narrative documentation
- 4. Other financial variables
  - Nonfinancial equity returns, credit spreads, etc.

#### Roadmap

- 1. The informativeness of bank equity returns
  - a. Evidence on forecasting long-run output gaps

- 2. Turning points of banking crises
  - a. Timing of bank vs. nonfinancial crashes

- 3. A revised chronology of banking crises
  - a. Revisiting the global Great Depression
  - b. New estimates of the average severity of crises

# 1. THE INFORMATIVENESS OF BANK EQUITY RETURNS

# The "joint list" of bank crises

<b>D</b> I ·	•	•	
Ranking	Crises	ın	Germany
Darrig			Cermany

Rordo '	Laeven Valencia	Romer Romer	Schularick Taylor	Reinhart Rogoff
			1873	0
			0	1880
0			1891	1891
1901			1901	1901
0			1907	0
0			0	1925
1931			1931	1929
0 0	0	1974q2	0	0
0 late 1970s	0	0	0	1977
0 0	0	2003q1	0	0
008	2008	2007q2	2008	2008

### Methodology

$$y_{i,t} = \alpha_i + \beta r_{i,t} + \gamma 1_t^{postwar} + \varepsilon_{i,t}$$

- $y_{i,t} = 1$ . Symptoms of banking crises (panics, bank failures, interventions)
  - 2. Macroeconomic outcomes (real GDP peak-to-tr. decline, etc.)

 $\mathbf{r}_{i,t}$  = 3 measures of bank equity declines (peak-to-tr.)

- 1. Bank real total returns
- 2. Abnormal returns = (bank returns nonfin returns)
- 3. Bank market cap returns = (bank real price returns + new bank equity issuance)

# Symptoms of banking crises

	Major or	Significant	Significant	Peak	Significant	Deposit	Change in
	systemic	liability	Liquidity	liquidity	bank	runs	deposits
	crisis	guarantees	Support	support	closures		(pre-war only)
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Bank equity decline	-1.575***	-0.357	-0.768***	0.395*	-0.199	-0.683***	0.273**
	[-5.867]	[-1.438]	[-3.504]	[1.967]	[-1.352]	[-3.774]	[2.480]
Post-1945 dummy	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Adj. R <sup>2</sup> (within)	0.287	0.111	0.151	0.074	0.062	0.106	0.089
N	87	127	136	37	150	105	54

	Banks nationalized	Govt equity injections	Net cost of recapitaliz.	NPL at peak	Fiscal cost (% of GDP)	Failed banks (% of total	Largest bank
						bank assets)	failing
	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)
Bank equity decline	-0.678***	-1.424***	-0.201	-0.166*	-0.135	-0.457**	-0.432*
	[-2.646]	[-4.893]	[-1.510]	[-1.914]	[-0.827]	[-2.422]	[-1.715]
Post-1945 dummy	✓	✓	✓	$\checkmark$	✓	$\checkmark$	✓
Adj. R <sup>2</sup> (within)	0.24	0.32	0.037	0.026	-0.01	0.136	0.013
N	104	88	34	65	34	64	126

$$y_{i,t} = \alpha_i + \beta r_{i,t} + \gamma 1_t^{postwar} + \varepsilon_{i,t}$$

#### Bank equity decline predicts severity of crisis

#### Real GDP measures:

	Real GDP (peak- to-trough decline)	Real GDP growth (pctagept. decline, peak-to-trough)	Real GDP growth (max deviation from trend)
	(1)	(2)	(3)
Bank equity decline	0.129***	0.116***	0.085***
	[5.800]	[5.989]	[5.203]
Post-1945 dummy	✓	✓	✓
Adj. R <sup>2</sup> (within)	0.141	0.145	0.108
N	207	208	209

#### Other macroeconomic indicators:

	Real consumption per capita	Investm. to GDP	Broad money	(minus) Govt debt to GDP	Total loans	Total mortgages	House prices
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Bank equity decline	0.097**	0.045*	0.268***	0.234**	0.202***	0.264***	0.112
	[2.355]	[1.970]	[3.541]	[2.575]	[3.351]	[3.870]	[1.346]
Post-1945 dummy	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Adj. R <sup>2</sup> (within)	0.241	0.047	0.146	0.054	0.161	0.123	0.036
N	123	118	119	152	113	115	100

$$y_{i,t} = \alpha_i + \beta r_{i,t} + \gamma 1_t^{postwar} + \varepsilon_{i,t}$$

#### Alternative measures of bank equity declines

#### 2. Abnormal returns = (bank returns - nonfin returns)

	Real GDP (peak- to-trough decline)	Real GDP growth (pctagept. decline, peak-to-trough)	Real GDP growth (max deviation from trend)
	(1)	(2)	(3)
Abnormal bank decline	0.056***	0.051***	0.042***
	[3.738]	[3.804]	[3.742]
Post-1945 dummy	✓	✓	✓
Adj. R <sup>2</sup> (within)	0.069	0.063	0.057
N	199	201	201

#### 3. Bank market cap returns = (real bank price returns + new bank equity issuance)

	Real GDP (peak- to-trough decline)	Real GDP growth (pctagept. decline, peak-to-trough)	Real GDP growth (max deviation from trend)
	(1)	(2)	(3)
Bank market cap decline	0.100***	0.071***	0.071***
	[4.964]	[3.941]	[4.610]
Post-1945 dummy	✓	✓	✓
Adj. $R^2$ (within)	0.238	0.223	0.187
N	93	94	94

$$y_{i,t} = \alpha_i + \beta r_{i,t} + \gamma 1_t^{postwar} + \varepsilon_{i,t}$$

# BANKING CRISES AND LONG-RUN OUTPUT GAPS

## Jorda (2005) local projections

Response conditional on a banking crisis

Interacted with **magnitude** of bank equity decline

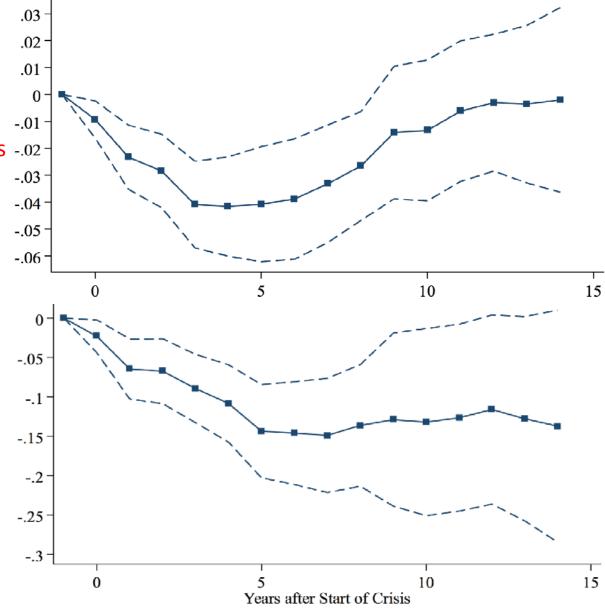
$$y_{i,t+h} - y_{i,t-1} = \sum_{j=0} \left[ \beta_{0,j}^h * BC_{i,t-j} \right] + \left[ \beta_{BE,j}^h * BC_{i,t-j} * r_{it-j} \right] + \left[ \delta_j^h * \Delta y_{t-j-1} \right] + \alpha_i^h + \alpha_t^h + \epsilon_{it}^h$$

- y<sub>i,t</sub> = real GDP
- BC<sub>i,t</sub> = banking crisis indicator (from the "joint list")
- r<sub>i,t-j</sub> = bank equity real total return

# Long-run output gaps

Response conditional -.01 - on the "average" banking crisis -.02 -

Interaction term using **magnitude** of bank equity decline



# 2. TURNING POINTS OF CRISES: BANK VS. NONFINANCIALS

### Timing of banking crises

Monthly data was collected around banking crises

#### – Countries:

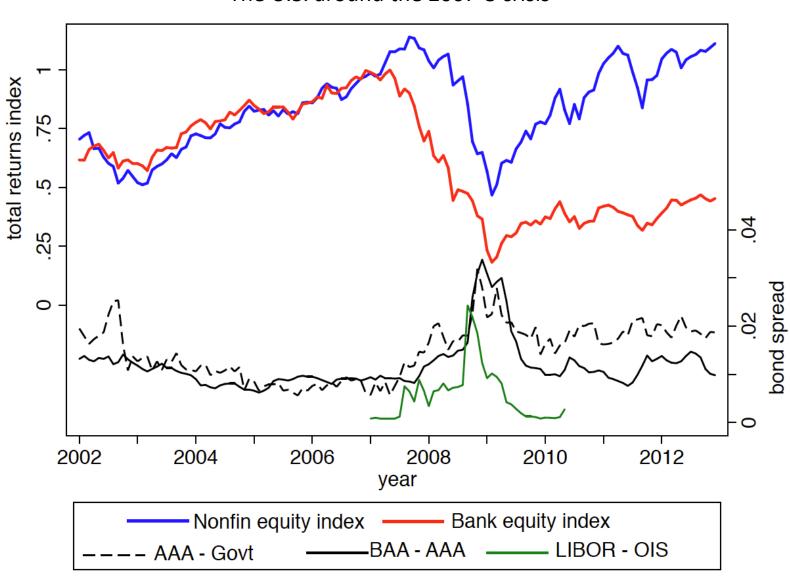
- 1870-2016: ~16 countries
- ~1970-2016: the other 30 countries

#### Variables

- Bank equity total returns
- Nonfin equity total returns
- Bank & nonfinancial credit spreads

# A typical financial crisis

The U.S. around the 2007-8 crisis



## Dynamics of bank equity returns

- 1. Bank equity drops substantially more than nonfin equity
  - Even though, unconditional on a crisis, bank equity has a beta of 0.8
- 2. Bank equity declines are "permanent" (in contrast to nonfinancial equity declines)
  - Presumably reflecting permanent credit losses, not discount rate effect
- 3. For modern crises: bank equity prices pick up the impending crisis first
  - Before non-financial equity and credit spreads
    - Bank shareholders take first losses, should be most sensitive
    - Creditors care about tail risk (or may have guarantees), so may not be sensitive to initial information about credit losses
- 4. However, the bank equity decline tends to unfold gradually over more than a year (no sudden Minsky Moment)

# Timing of banking crises

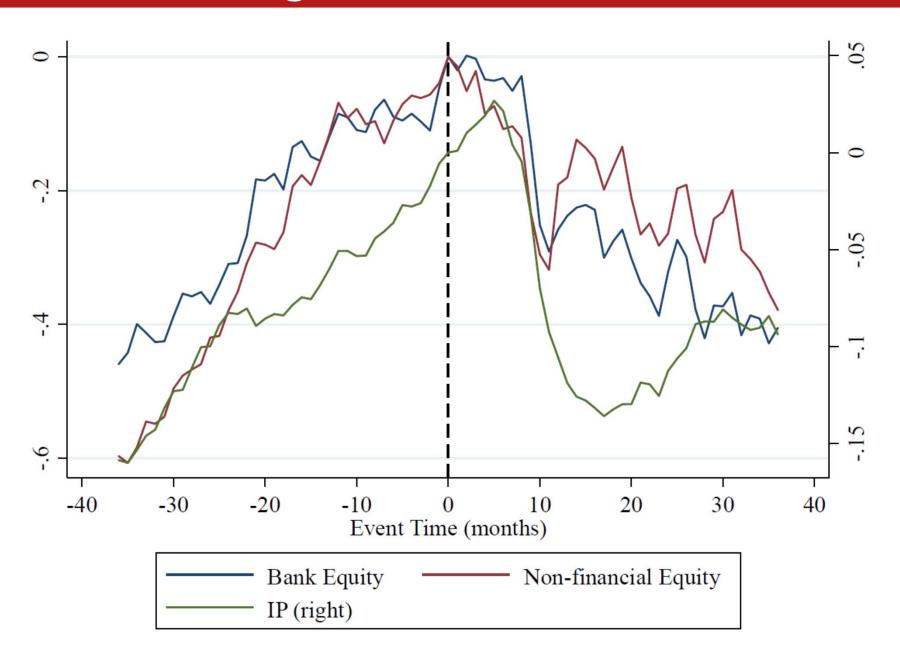
Bank equity declines of -30% pick up the crisis first before...

	Before Joint Crisis List date	Before Reinhart-Rogoff start date	Before Romer-Romer start date	Before non- fin. eq. decline	Before 2% spike in bank credit spread	Before 2% spike in corp credit spread
Avg. (in months, signed)	0.81	2.38***	4.41***	2.78***	6.18***	10***
t-stat	1.39	2.86	4.16	4.43	5.83	5.59
N	84	69	47	77	62	26
Pos	27	29	26	42	46	24
Zero	38	29	13	18	8	0
Neg	19	11	8	17	8	2
Pos / (Pos + Neg)	58.7%*	72.5%***	76.5%***	71.2%***	85.2%***	92.3%***
p-value	0.092	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

# Crisis unfolding through equity prices

	Bank equity peak before	Duration of
	nonfin equity peak	bank equity decline
Avg. (in months, signed)	1.37***	18.82***
t-stat	3.51	20.36
N	70	74
Pos	29	Duration $\geq$ 12 mo. = 62 episodes
Zero	31	
Neg	10	Duration < 12 mo. = 12 episodes
Pos / (Pos + Neg)	74.4%***	% Duration ≥ 12 mo. = 83.8%***
p-value	0.001	0.000

# Prewar banking crises



# Postwar banking crises



# 3. A REVISED CHRONOLOGY OF BANKING CRISES

# Constructing a revised chronology

- 1. Our approach uncovers newly-identified banking crises
  - We add a new banking crisis to our list if:
    - 1. Bank equity decline < -30%, AND
    - 2. Overwhelming narrative evidence of widespread bank panics or failures

- 2. Our approach deletes spurious banking crises
  - Typos, historical errors, monetary or currency crises that did not involve bank panics or failures
  - We delete a banking crisis from our list if:
    - 1. Bank equity decline > -30%, AND
    - 2. Narrative evidence of *lack of widespread* bank panics or failures

3. We finally present a revised chronology of banking crises

# Newly-uncovered banking crises

Country	Starting year	Bank equity	Iceland	1920	-0.875
	of crisis	return		1930	
Austria	2011	-0.509	Ireland	2011	-0.908
Belgium	1876	-0.565	Israel	2002	-0.442
C	2011	-0.755	Italy	1926	-0.328
Chile	1878			2011	-0.601
	1931	-0.356	Japan	1922	-0.404
Colombia	1931	-0.675		2001	-0.619
Czech	1923		Luxembourg	2012	-0.914
Denmark	2011	-0.444	Netherlands	1931	-0.418
Egypt	1914	-0.407		2011	-0.523
France	2011	-0.512	Peru	1914	-0.612
Germany	1914			1931	-0.373
J	2011	-0.419	Portugal	1876	
Greece	2010	-0.961		2011	-0.725
Hong Kong	1891	-0.565		2014	-0.799
	1965	-0.197	Spain	2010	-0.411
Hungary	1873	-0.518	Switzerland	1914	
<i>U</i> ,			Turkey	1914	-0.654
			Average		-0.539

# Spurious banking crises

Country	Starting year of crisis	Bank equity return	Coun	try Startin of cr		Bank equireturn
Argentina	1885	0	India	19	80	0
	1985			19	29	
Australia	1931	-0.230		19	47	
	2008	-0.422	Israel	19	77	0
Belgium	1870	-0.031	Italy	19	35	
	1925	-0.193		19	97	0
Brazil	1897	0	Japan	. 18	71	
	1926	0		19	14	-0.232
	1963			19	17	-0.239
	1985		Korea	n 19	86	0
Canada	1873	0	Mexic	eo 19	92	0
	1905	-0.081	Nethe	erlands 18	93	0
	1912	-0.002		18	97	0
	2008	-0.401	Norw	ay 19	14	
Chile	1890	-0.254		19	27	0
Czech	1931	-0.099		19	36	-0.209
Denmark	1902	0		20	800	-0.651
	1914	-0.296	Portu	gal 19	86	
	1931	-0.102	Singa	pore 19	82	-0.275
Finland	1939	-0.111	South	Africa 18	377	-0.004
	2008	-0.487		19	77	-0.153
France	1871	-0.364		19	89	0
	1904	0	Swed	en 18	97	-0.183
	1907	-0.049	Switz	erland 19	10	0
	1939	-0.121	Turke	ey 19	91	-0.634
	1991	-0.263	UK	19	80	-0.011
Germany	1880	0		19	84	0
	1891	-0.230		19	91	-0.147
	1907	-0.051		19	95	-0.159
	1974	-0.276	US	19	14	-0.158
	1977	-0.117		19	98	-0.158
			Avera	age	_	-0.145
			Aver	age (excl. 2008)		-0.118

# A revised chronology of banking crises

Country	Starting year	Bank equity	
	of crisis	return	
Argentina	1890	-0.307	
	1914	-0.473	
	1931	-0.819	
	1934	-0.563	
	1980		
	1989		
	1995	-0.305	
	2001	-0.656	
Australia	1893	-0.469	
	1989	-0.281	
Austria	1873	-0.715	
	1924	-0.240	
	1929	-0.566	
	2008	-0.673	
	2011	-0.509	
Belgium	1876	-0.565	
_	1885	0	
	1914		
	1929	-0.831	
	1939	-0.511	
	2008	-0.842	
	2011	-0.755	
Brazil	1890	-0.275	
	1900	0	
	1914	-0.374	
	1923	-0.131	
	1929	-0.038	
	1990		
	1994		
Canada	1923	-0.426	
	1983	-0.164	
Chile	1878		
	1898	-0.003	
	1907		
	1914		
	1925		
	1931	-0.356	
	1976	0.000	

Country	Starting year	Bank equity
,	of crisis	return
Chile (cont.)	1981	-0.837
Colombia	1931	-0.675
	1982	-0.831
	1998	-0.813
Czech	1923	-0.074
	1991	****
	1996	-0.715
Denmark	1877	-0.207
	1885	-0.043
	1908	-0.269
	1921	-0.347
	1987	-0.425
	2008	-0.739
	2011	-0.444
Egypt	1907	-0.132
C5 1	1914	-0.407
	1931	-0.608
	1980	
	1990	
Finland	1877	
	1900	
	1921	-0.569
	1931	-0.252
	1991	-0.814
France	1882	-0.456
	1889	-0.106
	1914	-0.475
	1930	-0.571
	1994	-0.246
	2008	-0.640
	2011	-0.512
Germany	1873	-0.371
	1901	-0.050
	1914	
	1925	-0.420
	1929	-0.489
	2003	-0.570
	2008	-0.728

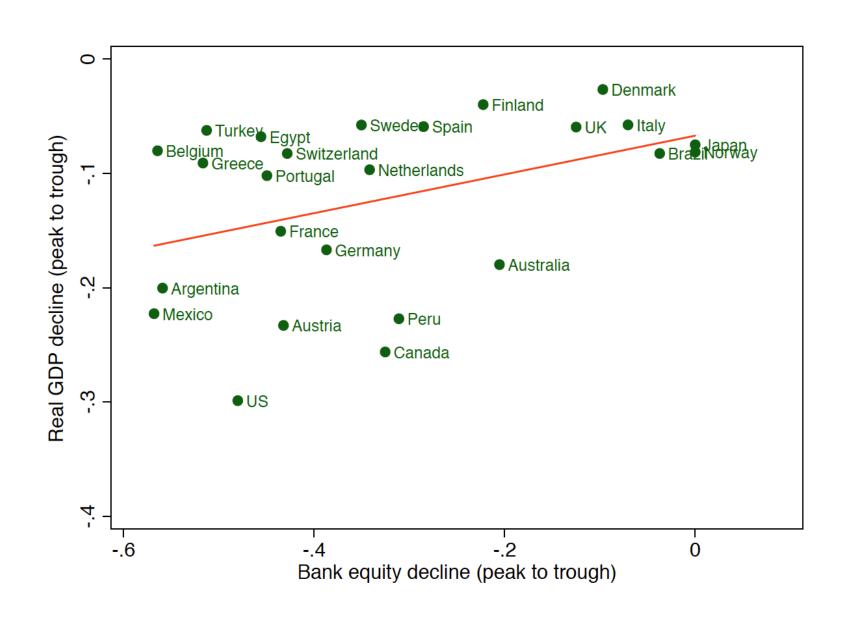
Country	Starting year	Bank equity
Country	of crisis	return
Germany (cont.)	2011	-0.419
Greece	1931	-0.727
Gicco	1991	-0.391
	2008	-0.671
	2010	-0.961
Hong Kong	1891	-0.565
riong riong	1965	-0.197
	1982	-0.445
	1998	-0.464
Hungary	1873	-0.518
	1931	****
	1991	-0.398
	2008	-0.671
Iceland	1920	-0.875
10014114	1930	0.075
	1985	
	1993	
	2007	-0.963
India	1913	-0.249
	1921	-0.495
	1993	-0.561
Indonesia	1992	-0.659
	1997	-0.880
Ireland	2007	-0.918
	2011	-0.908
Israel	1983	-0.499
	2002	-0.442
Italy	1873	-0.237
	1887	-0.348
	1891	-0.453
	1907	-0.240
	1914	-0.333
	1921	-0.550
	1926	-0.328
	1930	-0.073
	1990	-0.397
	2008	-0.575
	2011	-0.601
Japan	1882	
	1890	

#### Examples

- Newly-uncovered banking crises (added)
  - 1. Belgium, 1876
  - 2. Japan, 1922
  - 3. Portugal, 1876

- Spurious banking crises (deleted)
  - 1. Argentina, 1985
  - 2. Germany, 1977
  - 3. Netherlands, 1893 and 1897

### Revisiting the global Great Depression



# Comparison to Reinhart-Rogoff

Panel B: Comparison of Reinhart and Rogoff episodes with Revised Chronology episodes

	<u> </u>	<i>UJ</i> 1			
	Reinhart	Difference with		Differen	ce with
	Rogoff	Revised Chronology		Revised Chronology	
				(Bank equity	
				decline	< -30%
Bank equity decline	-0.288	0.063	[7.05]	0.160	[18.44]
Abnormal bank equity decline	-0.310	0.045	[3.23]	0.129	[8.38]
Bank market cap decline	-0.326	0.104	[5.48]	0.203	[10.59]
Doel CDD doeling (plr to tr)	0.045	0.006	[2.05]	0.012	[2.57]
Real GDP decline (pk to tr)	-0.045	0.006	[2.05]	0.012	[3.57]
Real GDP growth decline (pk to tr)	-0.080	0.004	[1.56]	0.007	[2.65]
Real GDP growth (max dev from trend)	-0.055	0.004	[1.83]	0.008	[3.03]
Significant liability guarantees	0.504	-0.043	[-1.39]	-0.127	[-3.66]
, ,					
Significant liquidity support	0.681	-0.069	[-2.55]	-0.136	[-4.51]
Deposit runs	0.868	-0.082	[-4.17]	-0.110	[-4.72]
NPL at peak	0.144	-0.008	[-0.84]	-0.006	[-0.54]
Decline in deposits (pre-war only)	-0.164	0.032	[2.28]	0.035	[2.35]

## Comparison to Romer-Romer

Panel C: Comparison of Romer and Romer episodes with Revised Chronology episodes

	<u> </u>				
	Romer	Difference with Revised Chronology		Differen	ce with
	Romer			Revised Chronology	
		-		(Bank equity	
				decline <	< -30%
Bank equity decline	-0.417	0.018	[1.38]	0.050	[4.14]
Abnormal bank equity decline	-0.406	0.051	[1.74]	0.080	[2.64]
Bank market cap decline	-0.509	0.033	[1.35]	0.083	[3.46]
Real GDP decline (pk to tr)	-0.035	-0.004	[-1.04]	0.000	[0.01]
Real GDP growth decline (pk to tr)	-0.066	-0.009	[-2.81]	-0.006	[-1.91]
Real GDP growth (max dev from trend)	-0.049	-0.006	[-2.15]	-0.005	[-1.66]
Significant liability guarantees	0.909	0.052	[1.11]	0.004	[0.1]
Significant liquidity support	0.913	0.051	[1.13]	-0.042	[-1.09]
Deposit runs	0.600	-0.400	[-3.92]	-0.400	[-2.94]
NPL at peak	0.088	-0.018	[-1.17]	-0.025	[-1.53]
Decline in deposits (pre-war only)	N/A				

#### Conclusions

- Banking crises are characterized by large declines in the bank equity index
- 2. The severity of the bank equity decline forecasts the extent of the long-run output gap
- 3. We precisely date the turning points of banking crises
  - Modern banking crises: bank stocks fall before nonfinancial stocks
  - 19th century banking crises: nonfinancial stocks fall first
- 4. We use bank stock prices to create a revised chronology of historical banking crises



# New estimates on the avg crisis severity

Panel A: Summary statistics of added, deleted, and Revised Chronology episodes

	Added	Deleted	Revised	Revised Chronology
			Chronology	(Bank equity
				decline < -30%)
Bank equity decline	-0.539	-0.145	-0.351	-0.448
Abnormal bank equity decline	-0.381	-0.159	-0.355	-0.439
Bank market cap decline	-0.516	-0.135	-0.431	-0.529
Real GDP decline (pk to tr)	-0.066	-0.024	-0.051	-0.057
Real GDP growth decline (pk to tr)	-0.079	-0.055	-0.084	-0.087
Real GDP growth (max dev from trend)	-0.065	-0.037	-0.059	-0.062
Significant liability guarantees	1.000	0.367	0.547	0.631
Significant liquidity support	0.750	0.333	0.750	0.817
Deposit runs	1.000	0.556	0.950	0.979
NPL at peak	0.113	0.035	0.152	0.149
Decline in deposits (pre-war only)	-0.143	-0.057	-0.195	-0.199