Bank Reputation, Risk Taking, and Bank Runs:

The Effect of Competition*

Koji Asano[†]

January 20, 2013

Abstract

This paper studies bank behaviors when there are fears of bank runs caused by

tainted reputation. We present a model where the threat of the rational withdrawal

can affect the investment strategy ex ante. In a monopolistic deposit market, bank

runs distort bank investments and prevent banks from efficient risk takings. How-

ever, in a competitive deposit market, the competitive pressure can cancel out the

moral hazard problem. Moreover, we also show the relation between lending market

competition and financial stability changes depending on the deposit market struc-

ture.

Keywords: Bank run, Bank risk taking, Deposit market structure

JEL Classification Numbers: G21, G30

*I am especially grateful to Katsuya Takii for beneficial discussions and suggestions. I would also like

to thank Shingo Ishiguro, Junichiro Ishida, and Ryosuke Okazawa. Of course, all remaining errors are

mine.

[†]Graduate School of Economics, Osaka University, 1-7 Machikaneyama, Toyonaka, Osaka 560-0043,

Japan. E-mail: nge002ak@student.econ.osaka-u.ac.jp

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