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# Are credit ratings valuable information?

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## Abstract

Credit ratings are commonly used by lenders to assess the default risk, because every credit is connected with a possible loss. If the probability of a default is above a certain threshold, a credit will not be provided. The purpose of this study is to test whether

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## Acknowledgements

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# Notes

<sup>1</sup>The special issue of the Journal of Banking and Finance, Vol. 25, pp. 1-270 (January 2001), deals with the new Basle Capital Accord in more detail.

<sup>2</sup> See the special issue of the Journal of Banking and Finance, Vol. 29, pp. 2565–867 (November 2004), for recent research on credit rating, in particular Altman and Rijken (2004) and Löffler (2004).

<sup>3</sup> Including operating costs for a bank or any other institution does not alter this result as long as the costs are a ratio of the credit or of the interest rate multiplied with the credit.

<sup>4</sup> For example, see discussions on the paradigms of the ‘liability of newness’ and the ‘liability of adolescence’ (cf. Singh et al. , [1986](#) or Brüderl and Schüssler, [1990](#)). Another frequently discussed factor for survival is entry size (see Agarwal and Audretsch, [2001](#), for a recent study).

<sup>5</sup> Cf. for an empirical study on the effects of limited liability for growth and survival Harhoff et al . (1998).

<sup>6</sup> Actually, the first time I saw it was on December 10, 2017.

<sup>7</sup> Excluding Hamburg and Saarland

8 The  as with  $\text{InL}_0$   
being the contrast to  
 $\text{InL}$  as the

<sup>9</sup> The Ve observations.

10 Accord

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