

# **Tropical Lending:**

International Prices, Strategic Default and Credit Constraints among Coffee Washing Stations

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**April 2015**

## Motivation

Ability to enter into binding agreements is an essential ingredient of economic growth (Greif (2005)) and international trade (Rauch (2001))

- Distance, higher monitoring costs and different institutional regimes

Contractual parties limit opportunism by combining **formal** contract terms and **informal** relational mechanisms (e.g., reputation) (McLeod (2007))

Many models of opportunism/moral hazard – but limited empirical evidence (particularly on large firms)

This paper:

1. Can we detect (and distinguish) *a* form of moral hazard ?
2. How does it affect contract choice and efficiency ?

# Two broad classes of MH

## Ex-Ante MH

## Ex-Post MH

### Credit

### Loan Diversion

### Strategic Default

*Holmstrom and Tirole (1997),  
Burkart and Ellingsen (2004)*

*Townsend (1979), Lacker and  
Weinberg (1989)*

### Commercial

### Costly Quality Provision

### Side-Selling

*Shapiro (1982)*

*Olstrom (1990)*

## Why is it **important** to distinguish ?

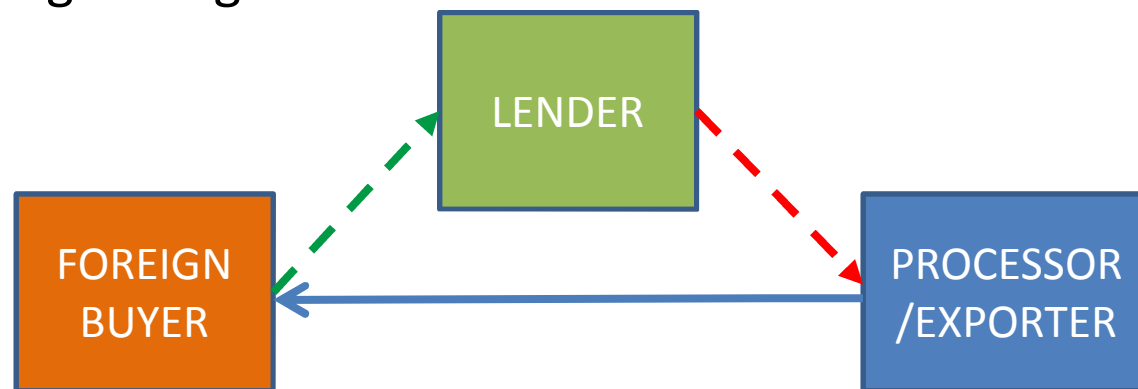
1. Optimal remedy depends on source of opportunism
  - Loan diversion → **Trade credit** (Burkart and Ellingsen (2004))
  - Strategic Default → Optimality of **Debt** (Townsend (1979))
2. Differently affected by changes in environment
  - E.g., market structure or technology
3. Different welfare implications:
  - **Direct:** Deadweight loss vs. transfers
  - **Indirect:** Contract Choice → Which Market is Missing

## Why is it **difficult** to distinguish ?

- We need:
  1. Contract-level data with terms and default
  2. Exogenous changes in incentives when unobserved action is taken

## This Paper

- This paper provides evidence for strategic default (ex-post MH) and its consequences in the international coffee market.
- We use data on  $\approx 800$  sale and working capital loans contracts to  $\approx 300$  coffee mills in  $\approx 25$  developing countries
  - Intrinsic interest
  - Methodological advantages
- Pre-financing arrangements



- Sales contract (*fixed price vs. differential price*) used as **collateral**

## Why is it **difficult** to distinguish ?

- **Advantages** of our setting:
  1. Contract-level data with terms and default: data on
    - Loans contracts: default is observed
    - Sales contracts: *fixed price vs. differential contracts*
  2. Exogenous changes in incentives when unobserved action is taken
    - Observed unanticipated fluctuations in international prices
      - a. When production decisions are made: **ex-ante MH**
      - b. At the time of contract execution: **ex-post MH**

# Summary of Results

1. Test for strategic default:
  - Unanticipated  $\uparrow$  international coffee price  $\uparrow$  defaults (for fixed price contracts)
2. Strategic default implies a trade-off between *price* and *counterparty* risk:
  - High relationship value  $\rightarrow$  fixed price contract
  - Low relationship value  $\rightarrow$  differential contract
3. Strategic default is quantitatively important
  - RDD evidence of credit constraints
    - Additional funds used to purchase inputs (not substitute other loans)
  - Model Calibration
    - date consistent with strategic default being source of credit constraint



## Related Literatures

### (Relational) Contracts:

- **Macchiavello and Morjaria** (*forthcoming*), **Banerjee and Duflo** (2000), **Antras and Foley** (2014), McMillan and Woodruff (2000), Lerner and Schoar (2002)

### Credit Constraints (on larger firms), Credit and Exports, Trade Credit, ...:

- **Banerjee and Duflo** (2015), Banerjee and Munshi (2004)
- Paravisini et al. (2011), Manova (2013a, 2013b), Amiti and Weinstein (2010)
- Klapper (2006), Klapper et al. (2011)
- Rampini and Viswanathan (2010, 2011)

### Industrial Organization of Agricultural Sector:

- De Janvry et al. (2014), Dragusano and Nuun (2014), Macchiavello and Morjaria (2014), Casaburi and Reed (2013), Ghani and Reed (2014), Banerjee et al. (2001), Mullhainathan and Sukhatankar (2014), Fafchamps (et al., various)

### Empirics of Contracts

- Chiappori and Salanié (2002), Karlan and Zimman (2010), Adams et al. (2009), Townsend (et al., various)

## Contribution

**Banerjee and Duflo** (2000) and **Antras and Foley** (2014): reputational forces shape contract terms

→ Direct test for moral hazard + Quantify inefficiency

**Macchiavello and Morjaria** (*forthcoming*): relational capital/reputation a quantitatively important determinant of trade

→ Interaction between formal and informal contracts enforcement, richer understanding of (endogenous) market failures

**Banerjee and Duflo** (2015): evidence of credit constraints on Indian SMEs

- Evidence of high/heterogeneous  $F_K$  consistent with imperfect *credit* markets –mostly from *microenterprises* (De Mel et al. (2008, 2009), Fafchamps et al. (2011), Karlan et al. (2012, 2013), Kremer et al. (2011), Banerjee et al. (2015))

→ Source of credit (and insurance) constraints

# The Plan

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- 1. Context**
- 2. Theoretical Framework**
- 3. Strategic Default**
- 4. Credit Constraints and Model Calibration**
- 5. Discussion of Policy Implications & Conclusions**

# Context

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## What do Coffee Washing Stations do?



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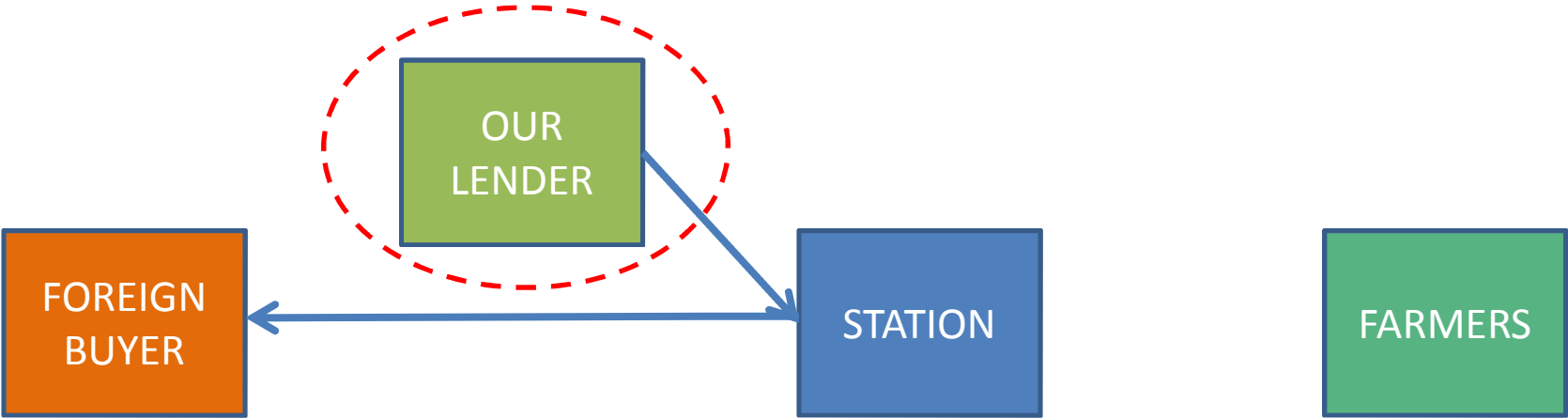




## What do Coffee Washing Stations do?



# Data Source

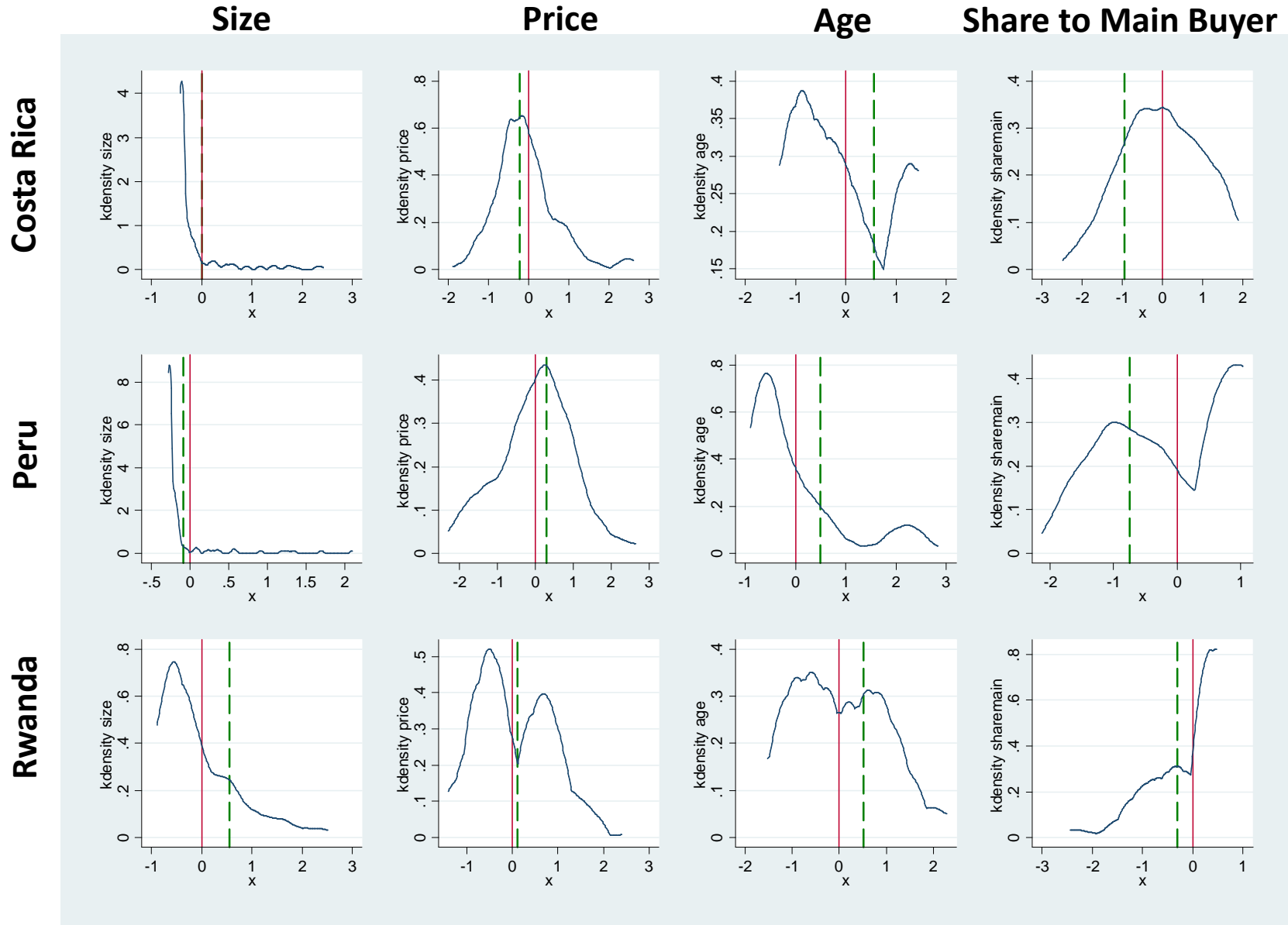


| Variable                                     | Observations | Median | Mean | St. Dev. |
|--|--------------|--------|------|----------|
| <b><i>Panel A: Mills Characteristics</i></b> |              |        |      |          |
| Total Assets (in 1,000,000\$)                | 136          | 1.09   | 2.43 | 3.52     |
| Sales (in 1,000,000\$)                       | 136          | 1.36   | 2.64 | 4.38     |
| Cherries Purchases (in 1,000,000\$)          | 136          | 1.01   | 2.20 | 3.90     |
| Sales / Cherries Purchases                   | 136          | 0.66   | 0.71 | 0.39     |
| Permanent Employees                          | 136          | 10     | 18   | 22       |
| Seasonal Employees                           | 136          | 12     | 105  | 266      |
| Growers Supplying Coffee                     | 136          | 434    | 1076 | 1575     |
| Number of Loans from Lender                  | 136          | 5.00   | 5.38 | 2.82     |
| Loan Amount (in 1,000,000\$)                 | 136          | 0.46   | 0.58 | 0.47     |
| Share Purchases Financed by Lender           | 136          | 0.46   | 0.59 | 0.47     |
| Number of Loans from Lender (full sample)    | 317          | 2.00   | 3.20 | 2.56     |
| Loan Amount (in 1,000,000\$) (full sample)   | 317          | 0.33   | 0.47 | 0.44     |
| <b><i>Panel B: Contracts &amp; Loan</i></b>  |              |        |      |          |
| Loan Amount (in 1,000,000\$)                 | 781          | 0.33   | 0.47 | 0.52     |
| Interest Rate                                | 781          | 0.10   | 0.10 | 0.01     |
| Length Loan (days)                           | 781          | 257    | 251  | 69.7     |
| Renewal (=1), First Loan (=0)                | 781          | 1.00   | 0.72 | 0.45     |
| Default (Write-Off, Restructured, Delay), %  | 781          | 0.00   | 0.04 | 0.17     |
| Price Surprise                               | 781          | 1.05   | 1.09 | 0.29     |
| Africa                                       | 781          | 0.00   | 0.12 | 0.33     |
| Central America                              | 781          | 0.00   | 0.36 | 0.48     |
| Latin America                                | 781          | 0.00   | 0.49 | 0.51     |
| Fixed Price Contract                         | 598          | 1.00   | 0.59 | 0.49     |
| Numerical Score                              | 455          | 3.61   | 3.59 | 0.25     |

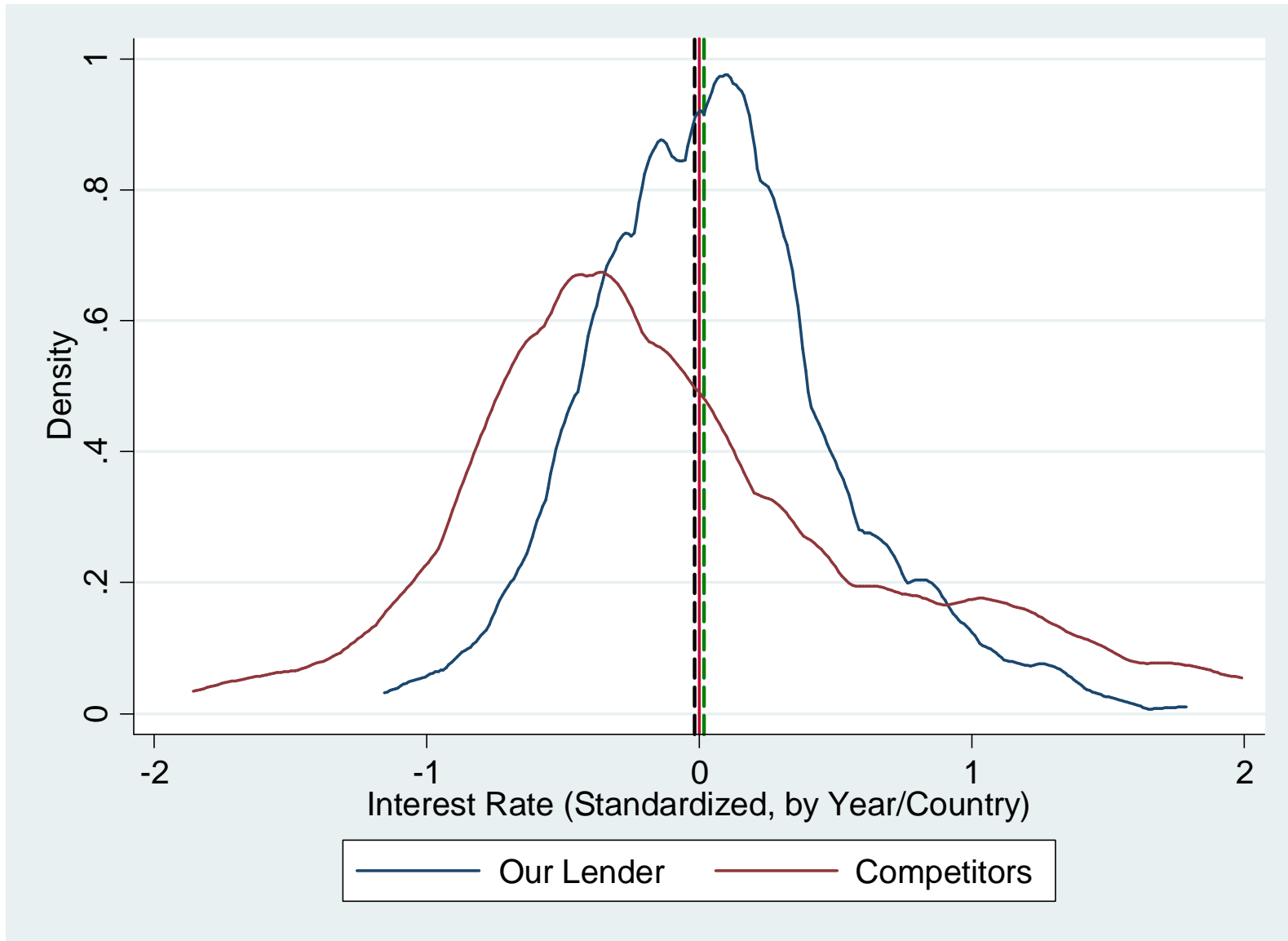
# Lending Model

1. Similar to working capital loans based on account receivable:
  - Primary source of SME financing in US (Klepper (2004)) – even more important in developing countries (Demirguc-Kunt and Maksimovic (2001))
2. Extremely common practice in this (and related) industry:
  - “Processors and exporters engage in pre-financing to secure future supplies of coffees” (*Coffee’s Exporter Guide, ITC*)
  - “Exporters often enter into pre-financing arrangements with importers ... However, pre-financing credit arrangements tend to be very short-term and restrict marketing options as well” (Larson and Varangis (2006), *WB*)
3. One of two main sources of working capital finance for:
  - **Rwandese** coffee washing stations (main source for  $\approx$  40% of stations)
  - **Peruvian** coffee exporters (approx. 30% of export transactions )

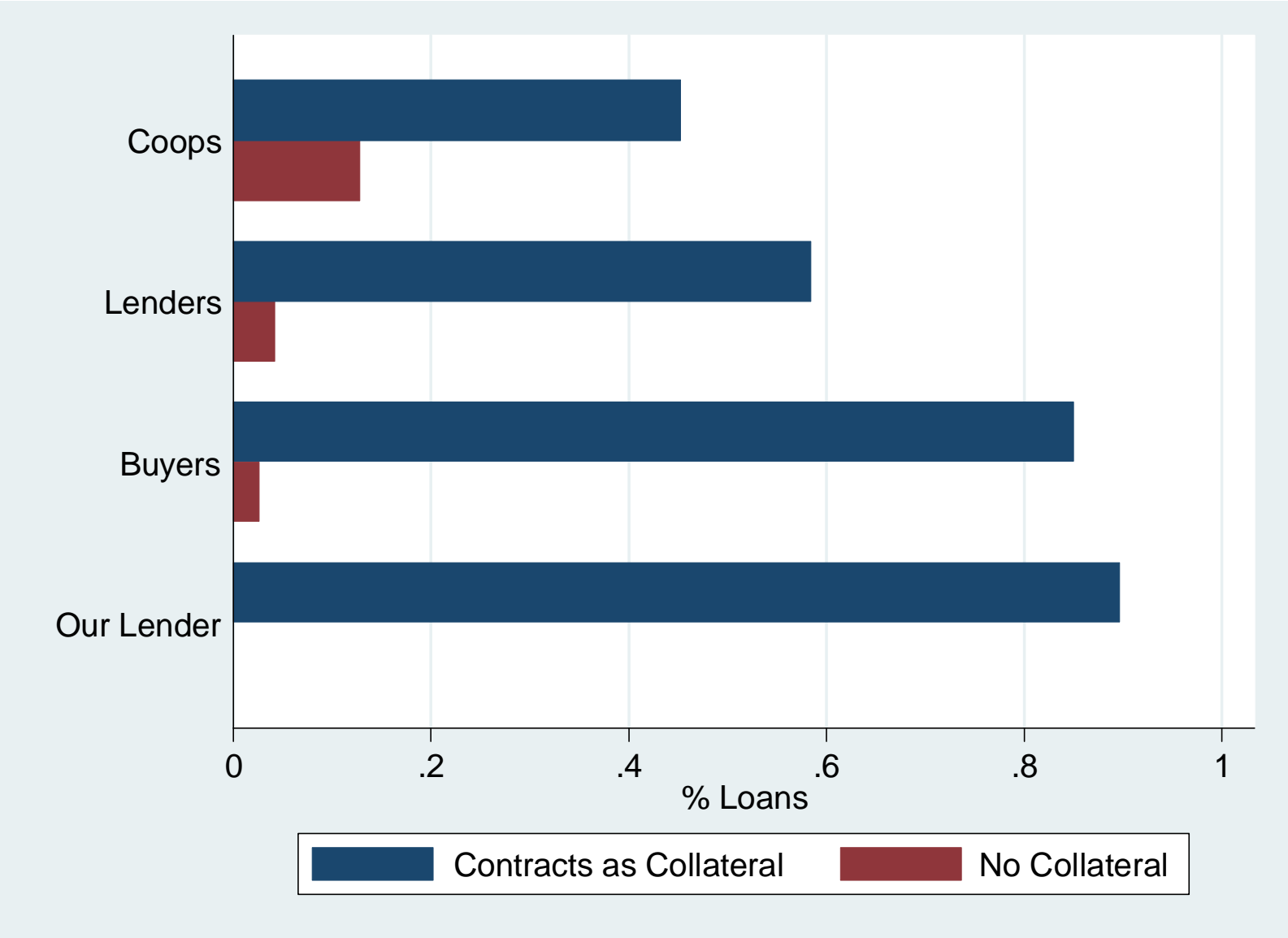
# Representativeness of Lender's Portfolio



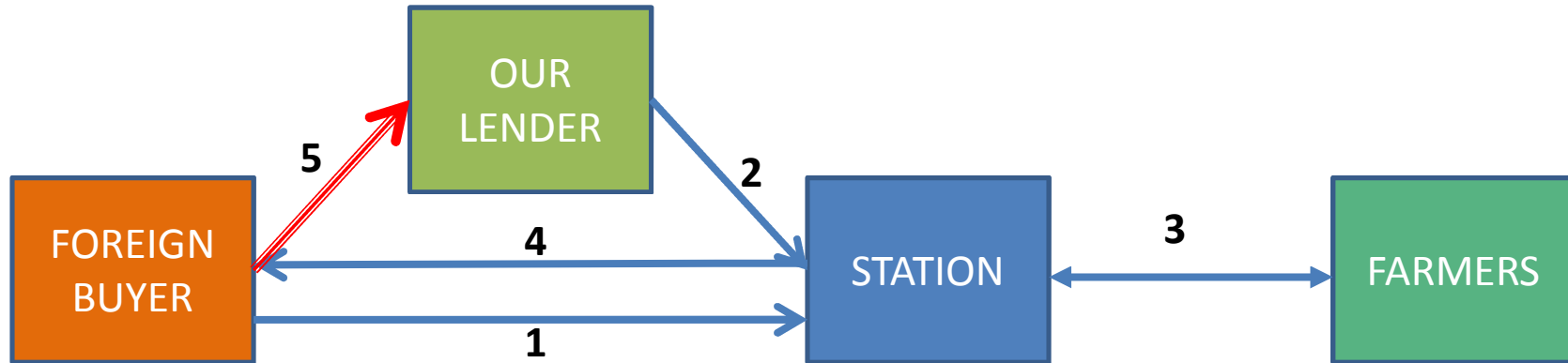
# Representativeness of Lender's Interest Rates



# Use of Collateral



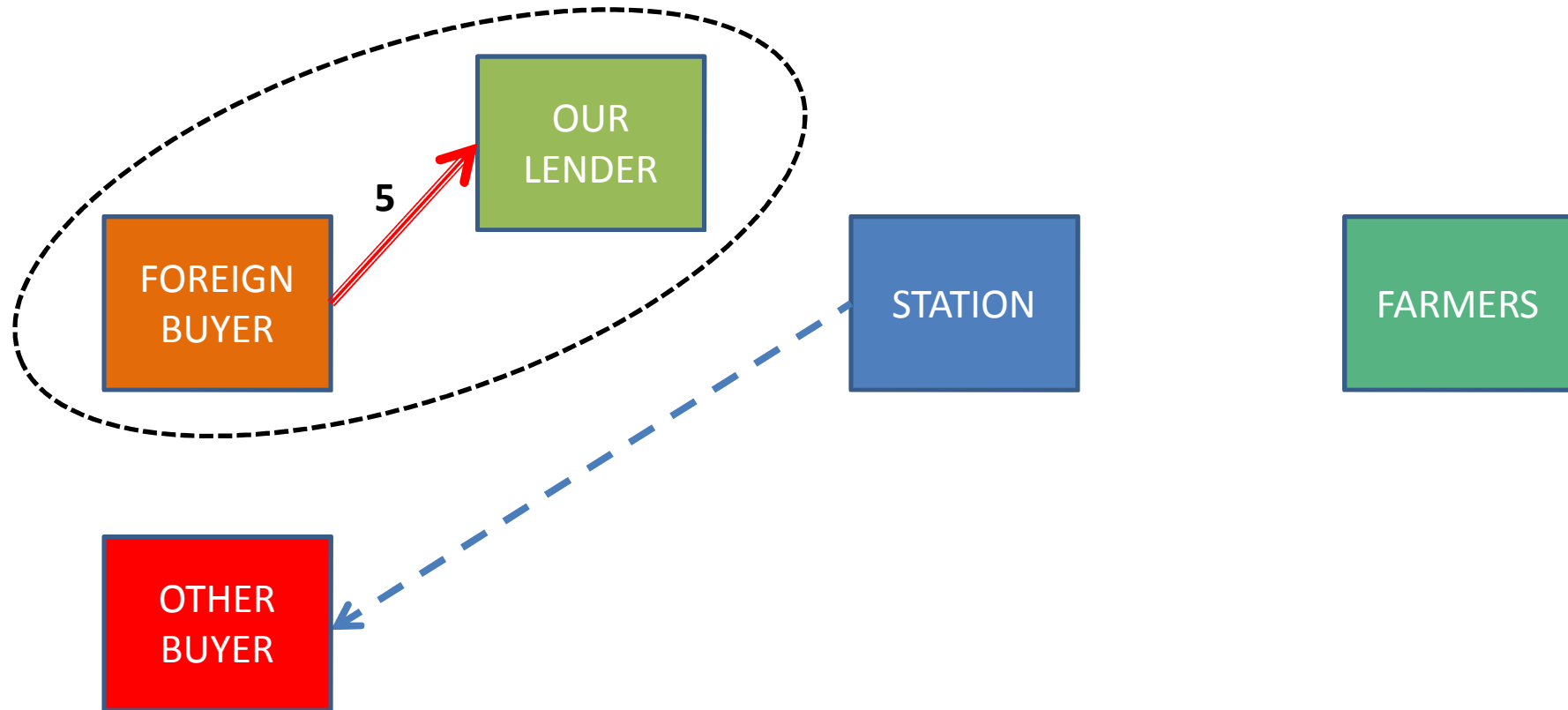
# Lending Model



1. Buyer and station negotiate a contract
2. Lender extends loan to station (formula + value of the contract)
3. Station purchases cherries during harvest time.
4. After harvest station delivers coffee to buyer
5. **Lender is paid directly by buyer**

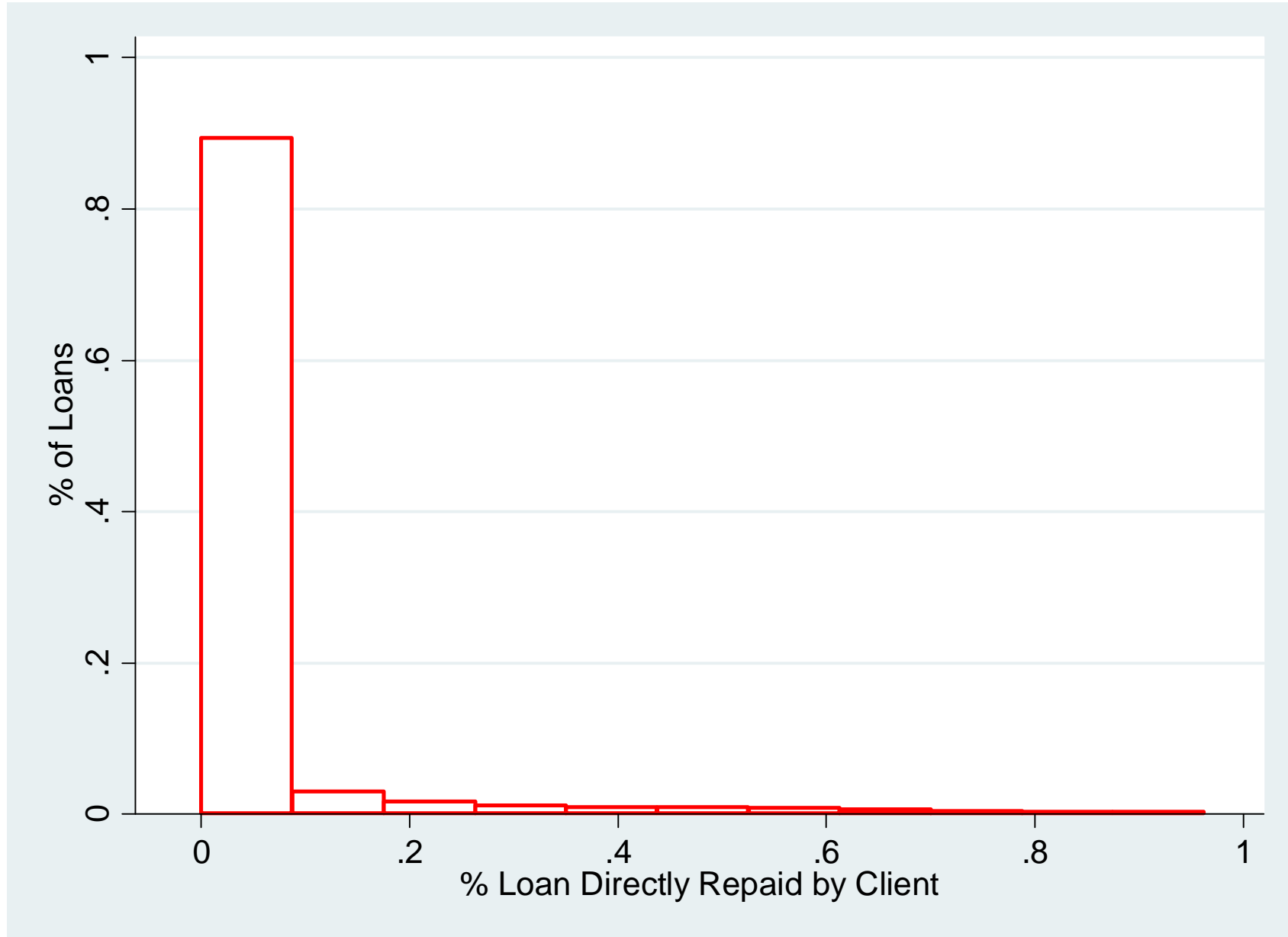


# Default

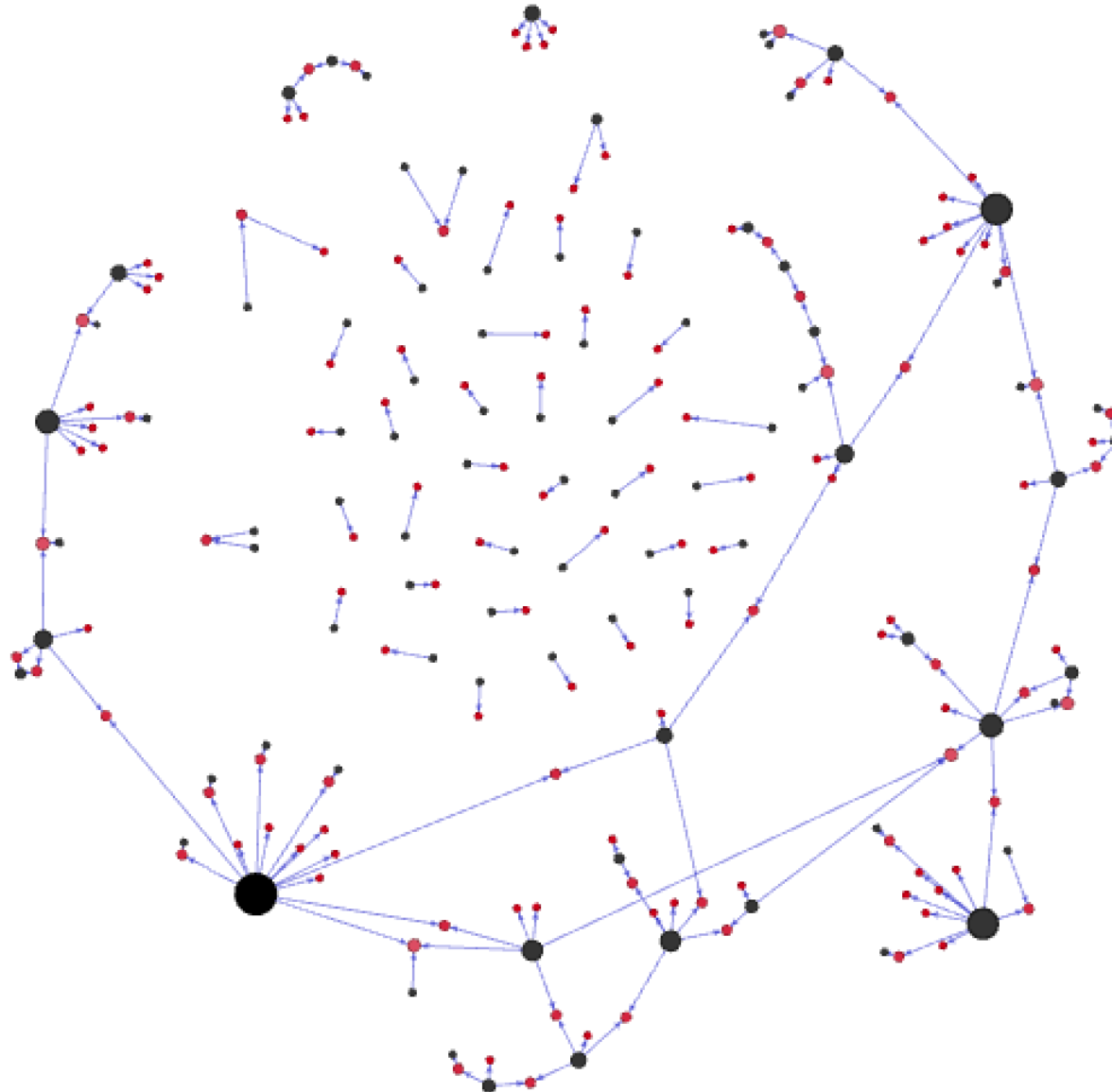


- To default on the loan a client must default on the buyer (and vice-versa)

**As per contract, *most* loans are indeed repaid by buyer**



# Buyer – Lender Relationships



# Theory

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## Theoretical Framework: Remarks

### Two goals:

1. Derive *qualitative* predictions
  - Test for (ex-post) moral hazard, other testable predictions
2. Guide *quantitative* exercise
  - Can ex-post moral hazard generate credit constraints?

## Theoretical Framework: Set-Up

- A (risk-averse) washing station (station) and a risk-neutral buyer-lender
- Cost of producing  $q$  units of coffee

$$C(q) = q \times p_0 = q \times q^\varepsilon$$

# Timing of Events

**Negative Cash Flows:  
Ex-ante MH constraint**

**Positive Cash Flows  
Ex-post MH constraint**

*t = 0*

Contract is  
negotiated

*t = 1*

Loan disbursed,  
stations purchases  
inputs or diverts

*t = 2*

international  
price drawn from  
 $F(p)$  is realized

*t = 3*

Station repays  
or side-sells (default)

## Theoretical Framework: Set-Up

- A (risk-averse) washing station (station) and a risk-neutral buyer-lender
- Cost of producing  $q$  units of coffee

$$C(q) = q \times p_0 = q \times q^\varepsilon$$

- Station has all ex-ante bargaining power and cash  $W$
- Contract  $C^{BL} \equiv \{q^c, p^c \vee \Delta^c, L, D\}$  maximizes expected utility s.t.
  - i. Buyer-Lender (expected) zero profit constraints
  - ii. Incentive constraints (if any)
  - iii. Limited Liability



## Contracts (and zero profit constraints)

- **SALE CONTRACT:** two types

*Fixed Price* :  $p^c$  is fixed at time of contracting

$$[E[p|delivery] - p^c] \times q^c \geq 0$$

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$$\begin{aligned} [E[p|delivery] - E[p^c|delivery]] \times q^c &= \\ &= \Delta^c \times \Pr(delivery) \times q^c \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

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- **LOAN CONTRACT:** standard debt contract

$$L \leq \int_p \mathbf{I}[p] \times \min\{D, p^c q^c\} dF(p)$$

## Ex – Post IC Constraint

$$q^c p^c - D + \delta \mathbf{V} \geq \mu [p q^c + \delta \mathbf{U}^D] + (1 - \mu) [q^c p^c - D + \delta \mathbf{U}^L]$$

Contract
Continuation Value if *repay*
Value of *defaulting*
Contract
Continuation Value if *late*

**Assumptions:**  $\mathbf{U}^D = \mathbf{U}$  and  $\mathbf{U}^L = \sigma \mathbf{V} + (1 - \sigma) \mathbf{U}$

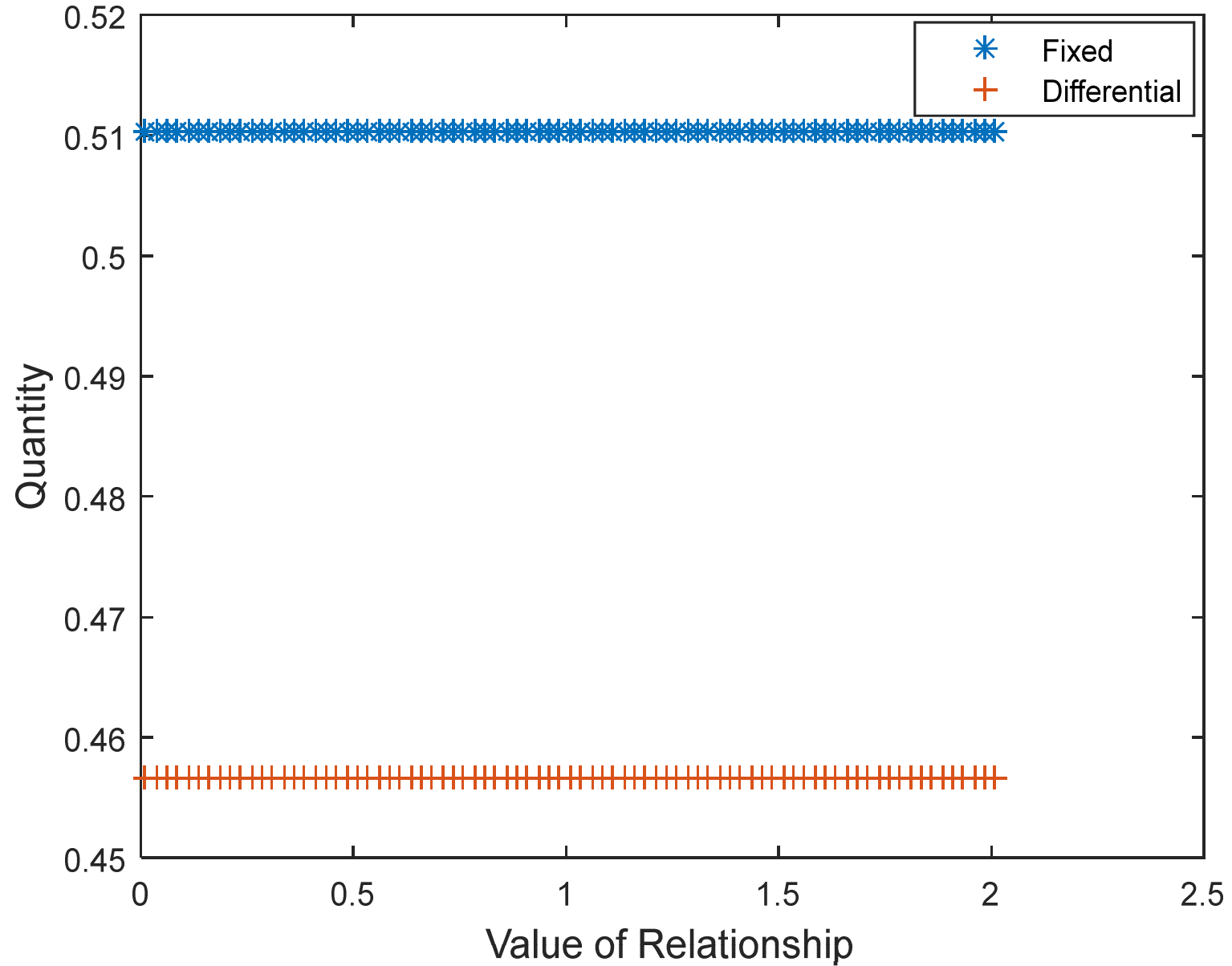
Let  $\varphi = \frac{\mu}{1 - \sigma(1 - \mu)}$

Rewrite as:

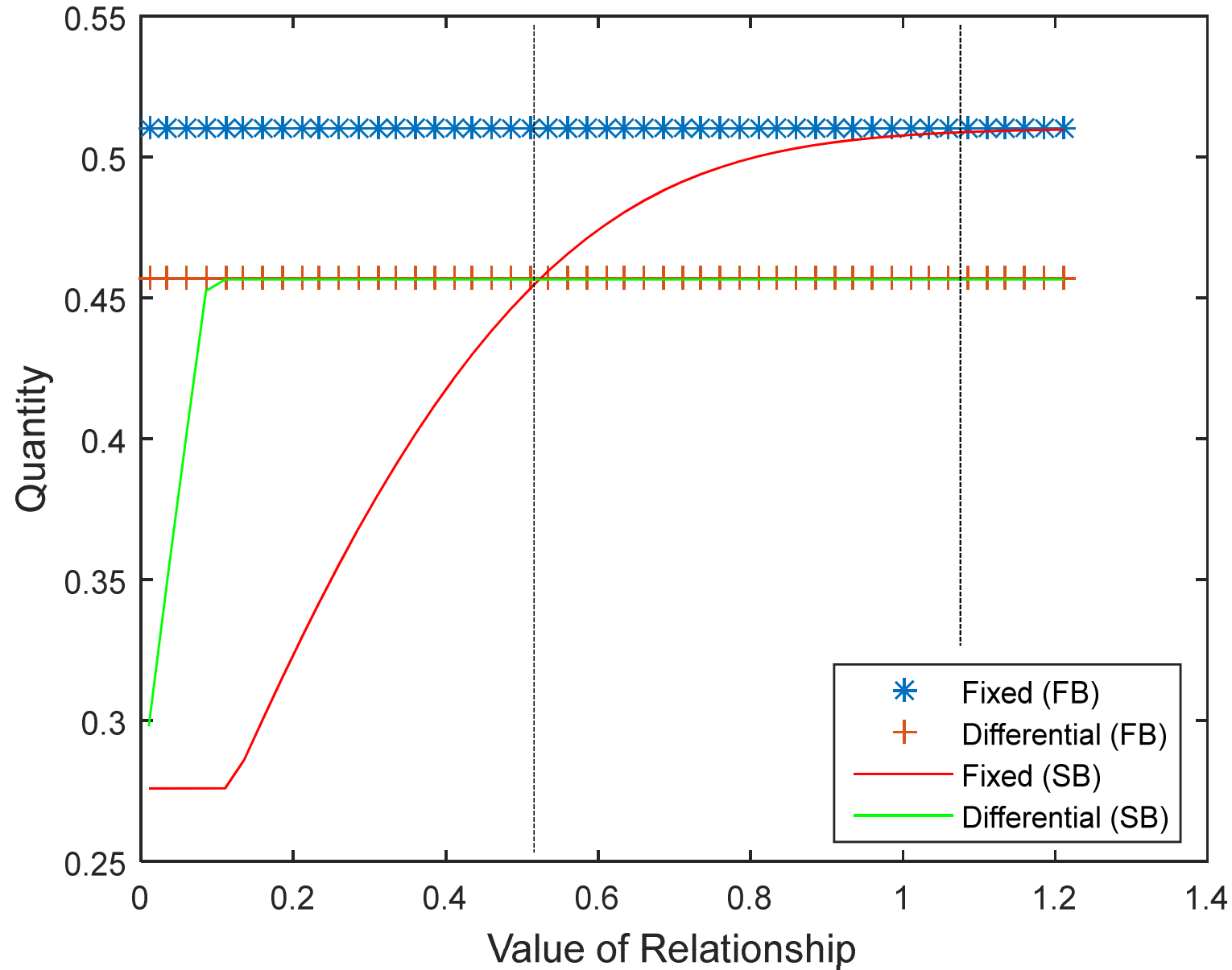
$$\delta(\mathbf{V} - \mathbf{U}) \geq \varphi \times (D + (p - p^c)q^c)$$

Value of Informal Enforcement  $\mathbf{V}$ 
Temptation to Deviate

# First Best: Perfect Contract Enforcement



## Second Best: Insurance vs. Enforcement Trade-Off



## Qualitative implications

Rewrite as:  $V \geq \varphi \times (D + (p - p^c)q^c)$

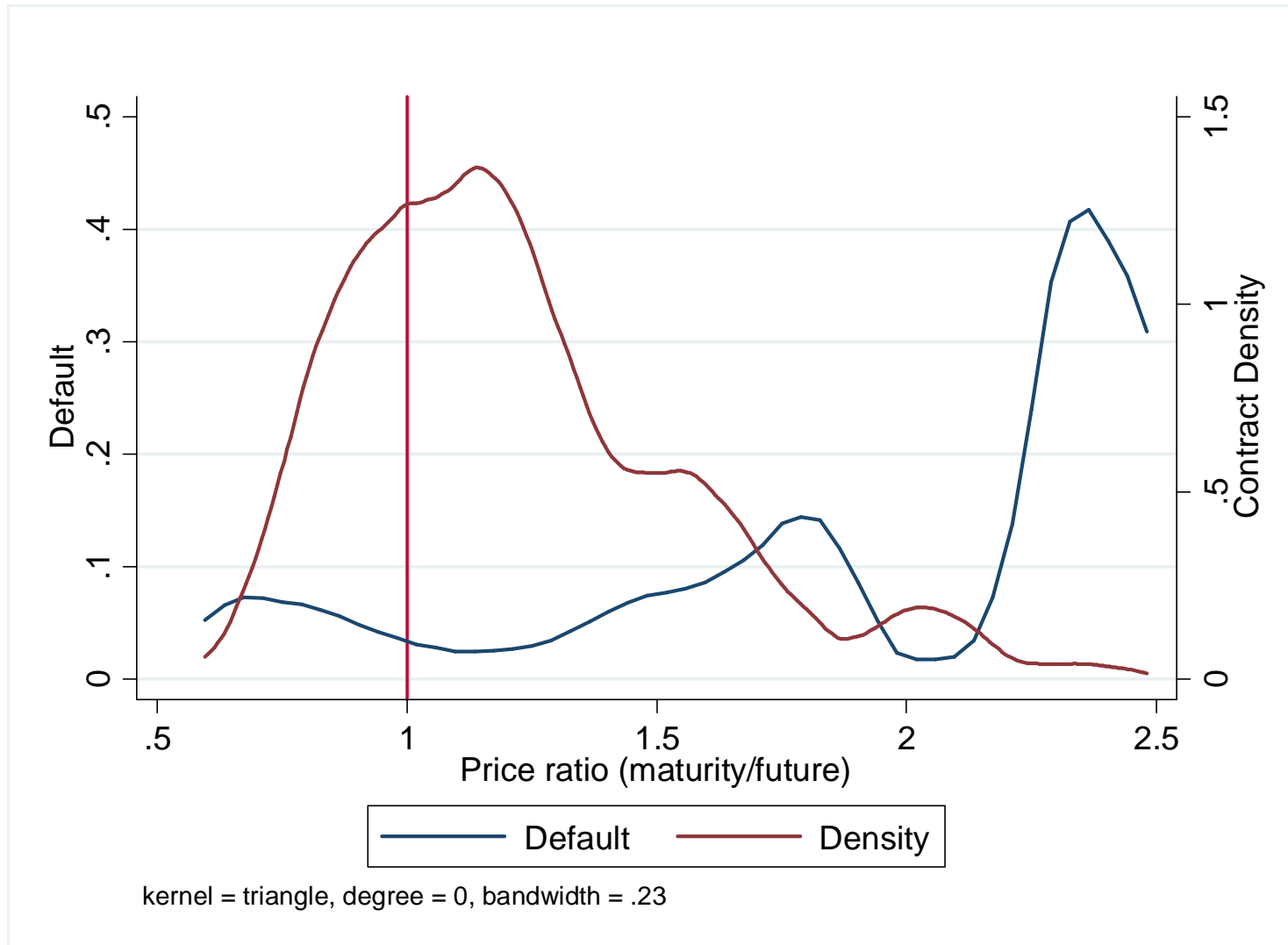
1. **(ex-post MH)** Unanticipated price increases lead to higher default:
  - a. for fixed price contracts
  - b. but *not* for differential price contracts
  
2. **(Contract Sorting)**: clients with higher  $V$  get fixed contracts
  
3. **(ex-post MH, heterogeneity)**
  - More default with lower relationship value (*omitted*)

# **Detecting Strategic Default**

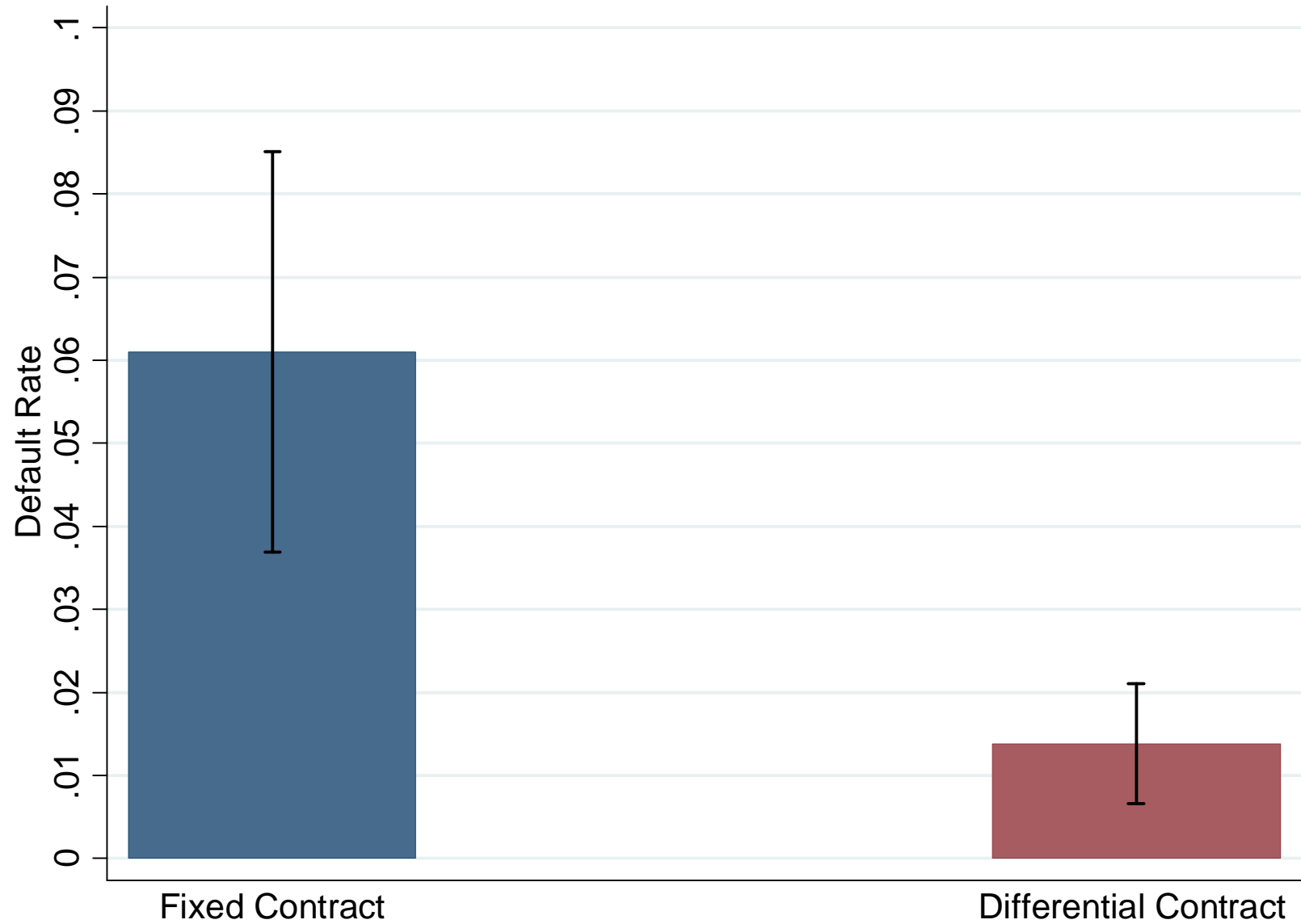
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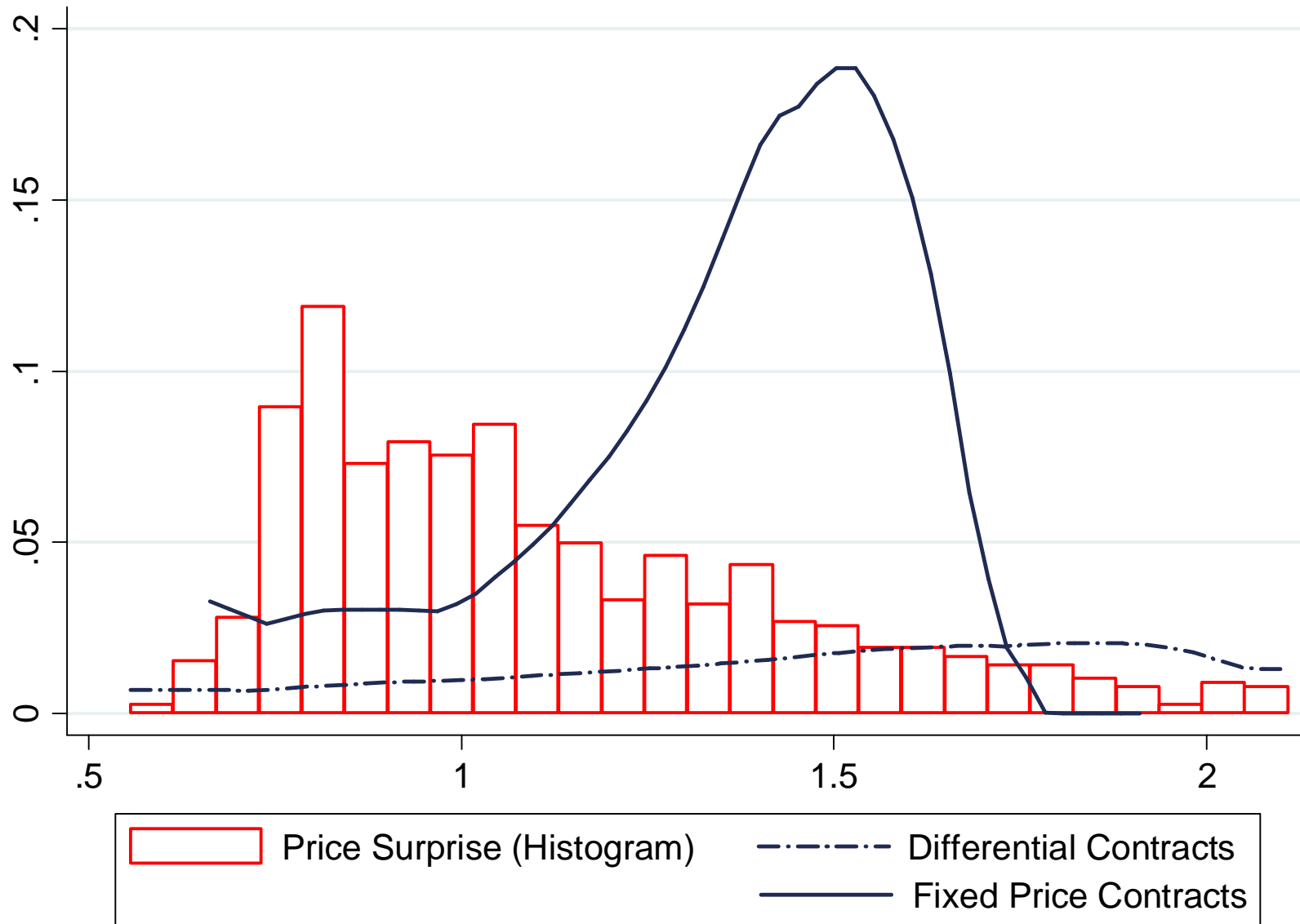
# Prices and Default



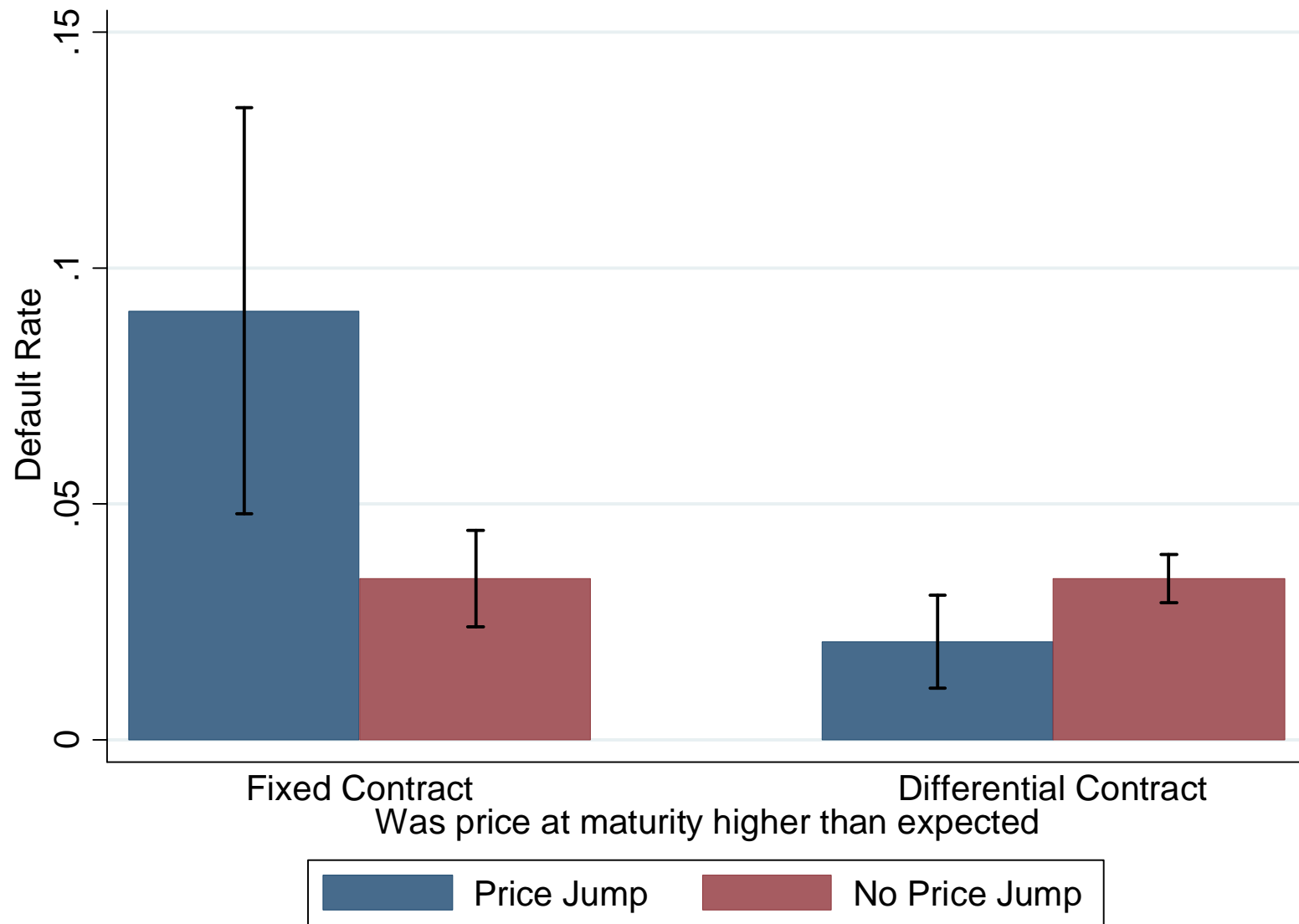
## Prices and Default: Heterogeneity



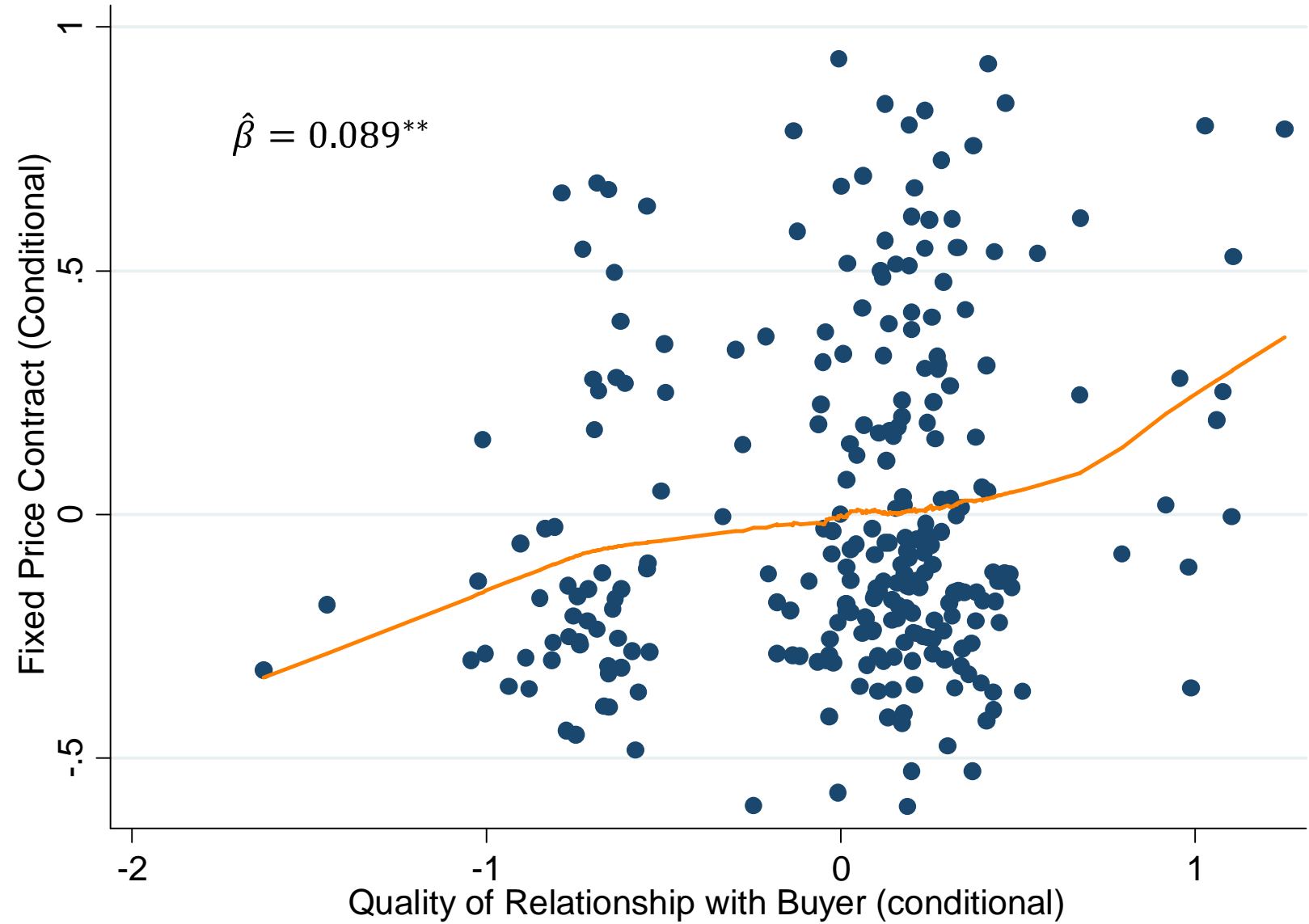
# Prices and Default: Heterogeneity



## Prices and Default (event study): [Heterogeneity](#)



# Selection into Contract Type



# **Strategic Default and Credit Constraints?**

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## **Quantitative** implications

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We have documented strategic default. Does it matter?

**Step 1: RDD** design to test for credit constraints

**Step 2:** Model's calibration

## Credit Constraints: Definition, Strategy and Test

**Test** (Banerjee and Duflo (2012)):

A firm is credit constrained if additional supply of loan (at same  $r$ )

1. *is used to expand input purchases and sales,*
2. *without (completely) substituting for existing more expensive loans*

### **Strategy**

% of contract that is pre-financed (at the same  $r$ ) depends on a score:

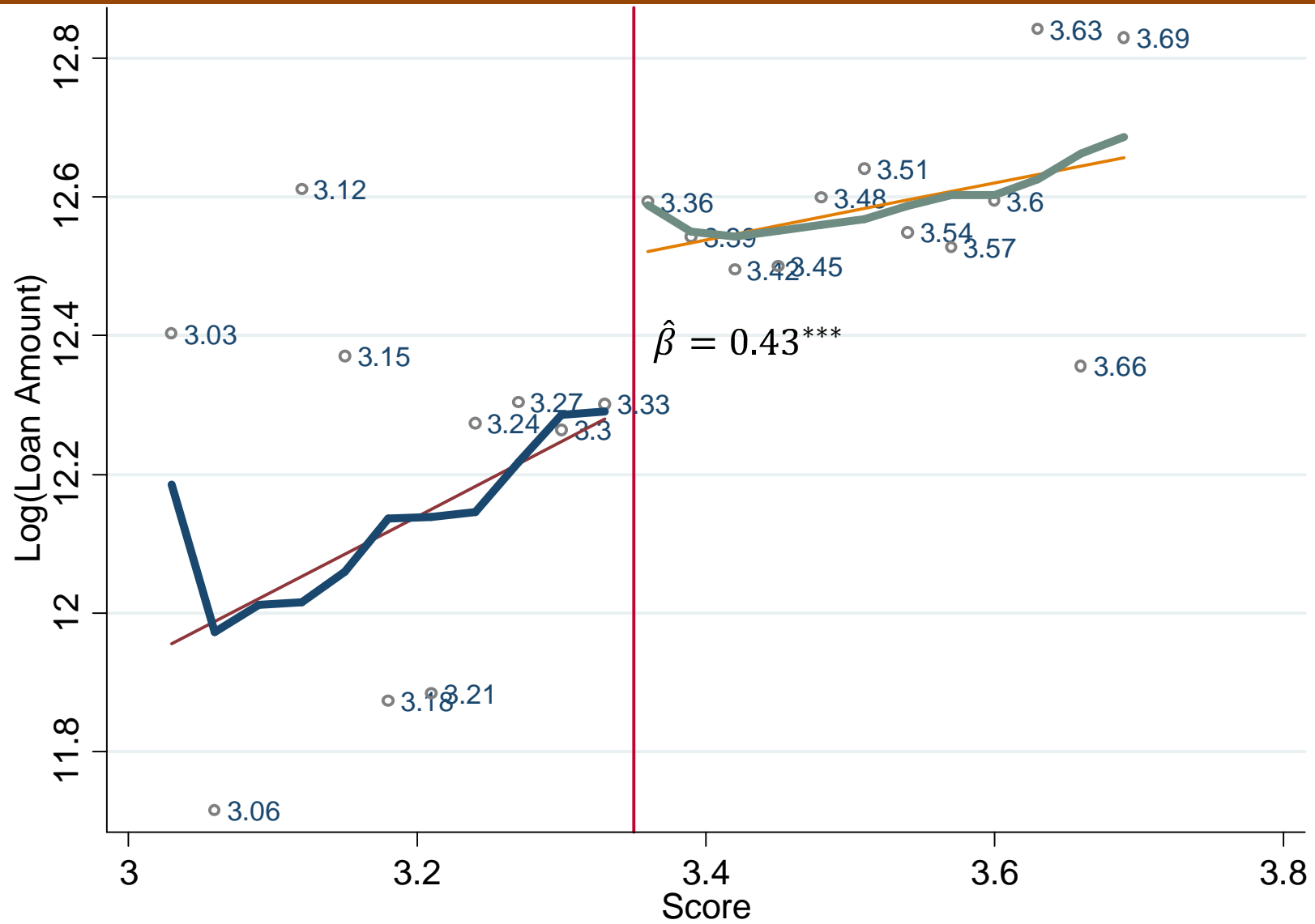
- **A** (score > 3.35): 60% of value of contract is pre-financed
- **B** (score < 3.35): 40% of value of contract is pre-financed

### **Remarks:**

- Decision at the margin
- Other loans can be substituted.



# RD on Loan Size (logs)



**NOTE:**  $\Delta\text{Loan} \approx 0.6 \times 500\text{K} - 0.4 \times 500\text{K} = 100\text{K} \approx 90\text{K}$

## RD on Loan Size, Interest Rate (and Other Loans)

Table 7: Contract information associated with larger loan amounts

|                        | Loan Amount |     | Other Loans |     | Interest Rate |     |
|------------------------|-------------|-----|-------------|-----|---------------|-----|
|                        | (1)         | (2) | (3)         | (4) | (5)           | (6) |
| Optimal Bandwidth      | 84,383***   |     | 31,441      |     | -0.00516      |     |
|                        | (23,553)    |     | (43,916)    |     | (0.00917)     |     |
| 75% Optimal Bandwidth  | 113,709***  |     | 1,501       |     | 0.00534       |     |
|                        | (41,027)    |     | (114,677)   |     | (0.00565)     |     |
| 125 %Optimal Bandwidth | 88,017***   |     | 2,520       |     | -0.0127       |     |
|                        | (4,632)     |     | (27,893)    |     | (0.0109)      |     |
| Observations           | 575         |     | 575         |     | 575           |     |

**Loan increases  
by 85K**

**Other Loans  
are *not* reduced**

**Same  
*r***

# RD on Cherries Purchases and Prices

Table 8: Purchases associated with larger loan amounts

|                        | Purchases |     | log(Purchases) |     | log(Purchase Volume) |     | log(Purchases Price) |     |
|------------------------|-----------|-----|----------------|-----|----------------------|-----|----------------------|-----|
|                        | (1)       | (2) | (3)            | (4) | (5)                  | (6) | (7)                  | (8) |
| Optimal Bandwidth      | 113,941** |     | 0.110**        |     | 0.175**              |     | 0.0391**             |     |
|                        | (50,712)  |     | (0.0473)       |     | (0.0828)             |     | (0.0195)             |     |
| 75% Optimal Bandwidth  | 193,371   |     | 0.0882         |     | 0.0808***            |     | 0.0436*              |     |
|                        | (140,641) |     | (0.0649)       |     | (0.0311)             |     | (0.0247)             |     |
| 125% Optimal Bandwidth | 101,440** |     | 0.202**        |     | 0.230**              |     | 0.0413**             |     |
|                        | (48,886)  |     | (0.0916)       |     | (0.101)              |     | (0.0205)             |     |

**Cherry Purchases**  
**↑ by 113K ( ≈85K),**  
**≈11%**

**Prices paid to farmers ↑**

## RD on Sales and Profits

Table 9: Returns associated with larger loan amounts

|                       | log(Sales) |     | log(Profit) |     |
|-----------------------|------------|-----|-------------|-----|
|                       | (1)        | (2) | (3)         | (4) |
| Optimal Bandwidth     | 0.136***   |     | 0.0821**    |     |
|                       | (0.0277)   |     | (0.0324)    |     |
| 75% Optimal Bandwidth | 0.153***   |     | 0.115***    |     |
|                       | (0.0578)   |     | (0.0362)    |     |
| 75% Optimal Bandwidth | 0.182***   |     | 0.0322      |     |
|                       | (0.0465)   |     | (0.0506)    |     |

**Sales ↑ by ≈13%**

**Implied MPK ≈20-30% >  $r$**

2

(Unreported):

1. Sales to buyers other than those on the contract increase
2. Not much on sale prices

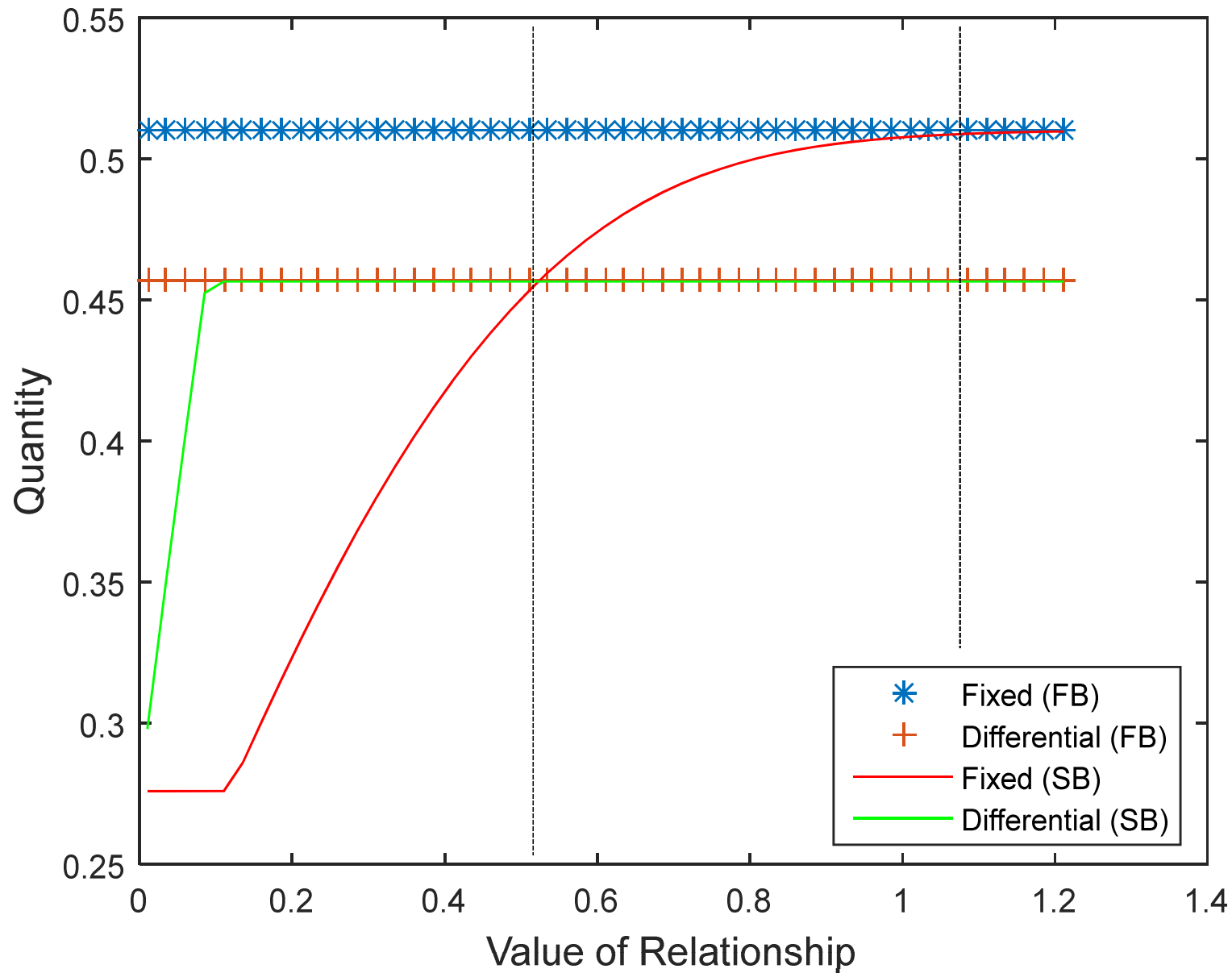
## Could credit constraints be due to strategic default ?

**Step 1: RDD** design to test for credit constraints

**Step 2:** model's calibration

|                      | Parameters                 |   | Source |
|----------------------|----------------------------|---|--------|
| World Prices         | $F(p)$                     | Data                                      |        |
| Local Supply         | $\epsilon$                 | RDD                                       |        |
| Search & Punishment  | $\mu, \sigma$              | Data                                      |        |
| “Wealth”             | $W$                        | % Financed (matched)                      |        |
| <b>Risk Aversion</b> | <b><math>\alpha</math></b> | <b><math>\alpha \in [0.1, 0.9]</math></b> |        |

# Model Calibration $\alpha = 0.1$



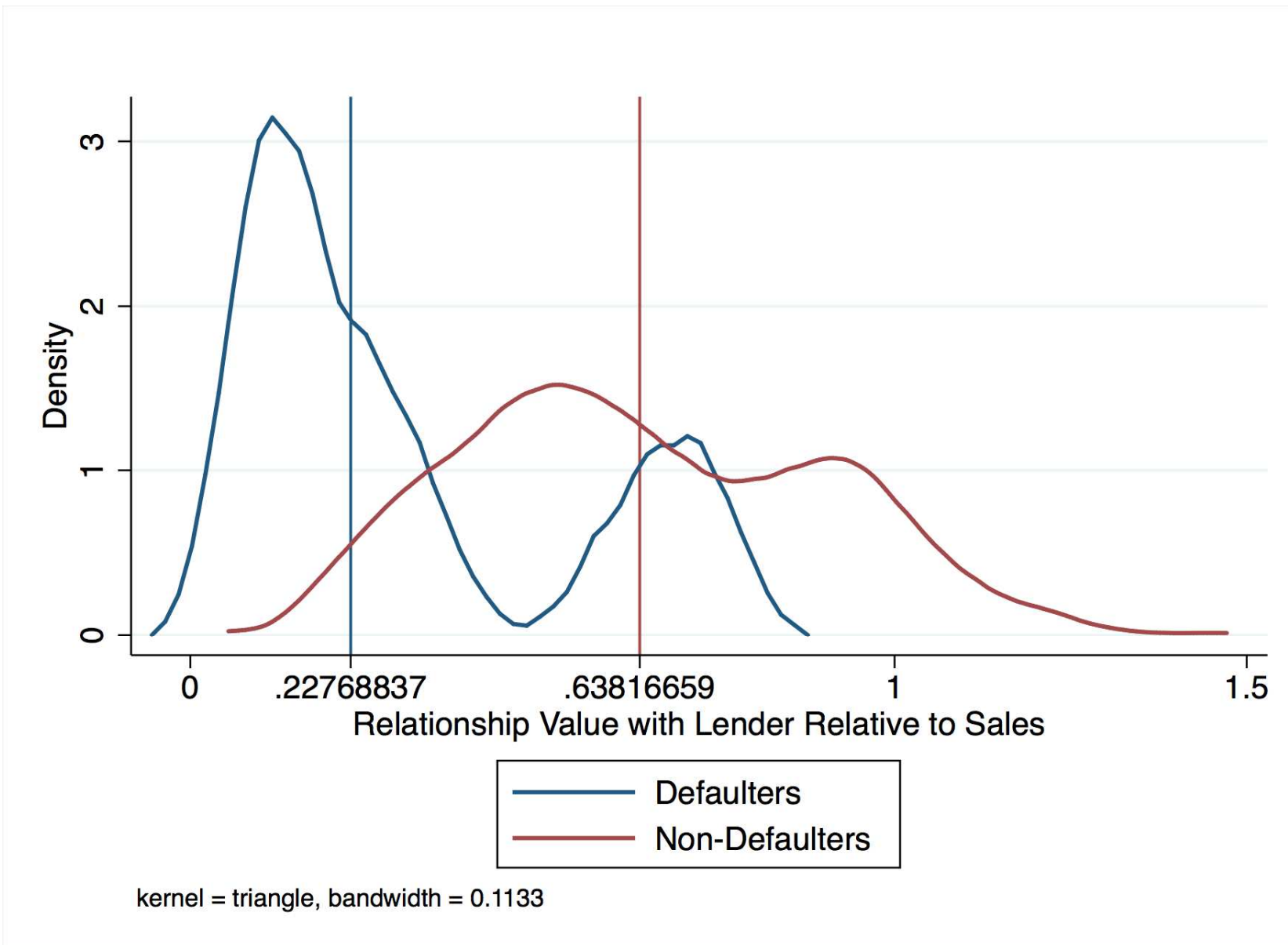
## Quantitative implications

**Step 1: RDD** design to test for credit constraints

**Step 2:** model's calibration

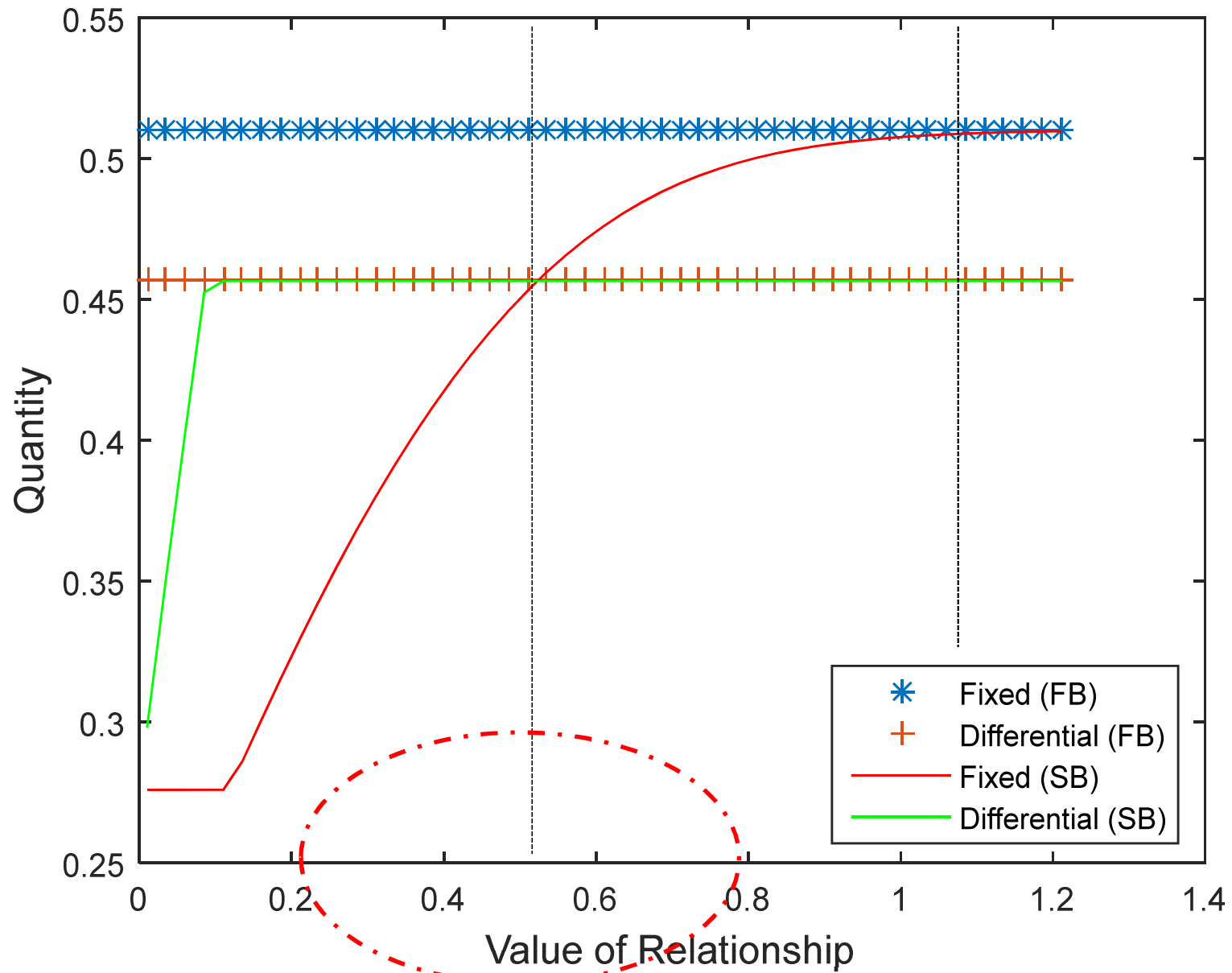
|                              | Parameters            |  | Source                  |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|--|-------------------------|
| World Prices                 | $F(p)$                |  | Data                    |
| Local Supply                 | $\epsilon$            |  | RDD                     |
| Search & Punishment          | $\mu, \sigma$         |  | Data                    |
| “Wealth”                     | $W$                   |  | % Financed (matched)    |
| Risk Aversion                | $\alpha$              |  | $\alpha \in [0.1, 0.9]$ |
| <b>Value of Relationship</b> | <b><math>V</math></b> |  | <b>Data (bounds)</b>    |

**Value of Informal Enforcement  $V \geq \varphi \times (D + (p - p^c)q^c)$**





# Model Calibration



# Conclusions

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## Policy Implications

- We have studied a **common** problem in a specific context.
- Many developing countries heavily rely on export revenues generated in few, highly volatile, mineral/agricultural markets. Yet access to risk-management tools is limited
- Counterparty risk one of the key constraints
  - financing and risk management are linked: both involve promises to pay that are limited by collateral constraints
- In our context, collateral is **Relational capital** (V) → structure of formal contract → endogenous determination of which market is missing

# Policy Implications

Table 6: Barriers to commodity price risk management in developing countries by commodity group

|                                       | <i>Lack of Know how</i> | <i>Counter Party Risk</i> | <i>Intermediation issues</i> | <i>Basis Risk</i>  | <i>Lack of Local Price Discovery</i> | <i>Low Liquidity</i>                                 |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|--|
| <i>Petroleum</i>                      | Some cases              | Maybe for some countries  | No                           | No   | No                                   | No   |
| <i>Precious Metals</i>                | Some cases              | Maybe for some countries  | No                           | No   | No                                   | No   |
| <i>Base Metals</i>                    | Some cases              | Maybe for some countries  | No                           | No (copper, alum.), possibly some basis risk with others           | No                                   | No (copper, alum.). Could be an issue for others     |
| <i>Agriculture: Mainly Exports</i>    | Moderate                | Yes                       | Yes                          | For some (e.g. cotton) less for others (e.g. coffee, cocoa, sugar) | Moderate                             | moderate (less of an issue for coffee, cocoa, sugar) |
| <i>Agriculture: for Local Markets</i> | Yes                     | Yes                       | Yes                          | Yes  | Yes                                  | moderate (but not for grains and soybeans)           |

## Policy Implications

- Can't exporters insure against price fluctuations buying **options**?
  - **Strategic default**
    - station can't credibly promise to pay back when price is high.
  - OK. But, why not just buy a put option against low prices?
    - This already happens: *fair trade* contract
  - However:
    - counterparty risk on the buyer side (see de Javry et al. (2014))
    - willingness to pay should be low: due to limited liability the station's manager **likes risk** over low price realizations

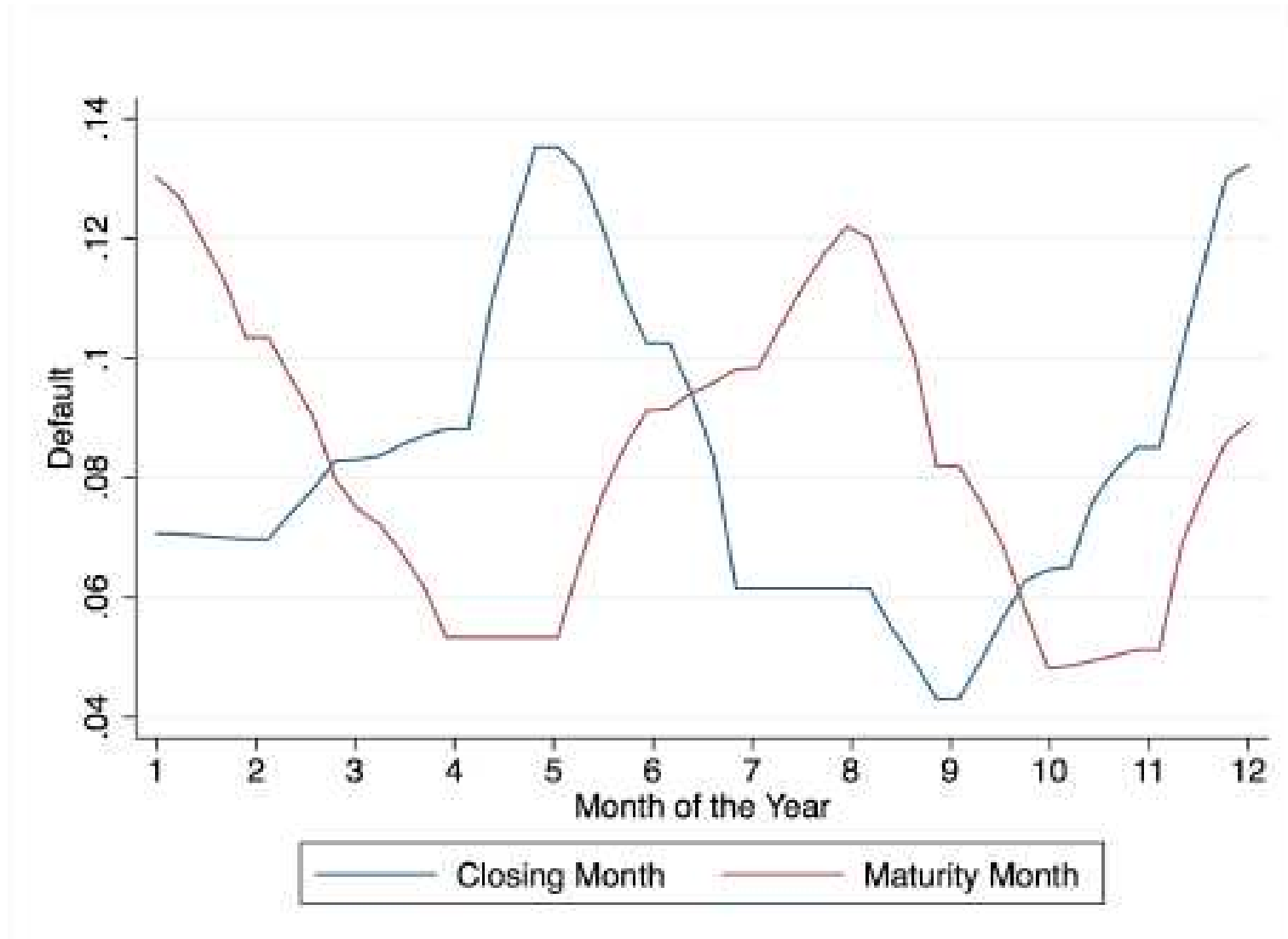
## Conclusions: What have we learned ?

1. This paper provided a test for strategic default (ex-post MH)
  - Strategic default implies a trade-off between *price* and *counterparty* risk (or between *insurance* and *enforcement*)
2. Friction is quantitatively important:
  - Large enough to generate credit (or insurance) constraints
  - Imposes externality on farmers upstream
  - Many valuable trade opportunity are lost
3. Scarce relational capital is leveraged to *adapt* formal contracts
  - Heterogeneity across firms on which markets are missing

**Appendix!**

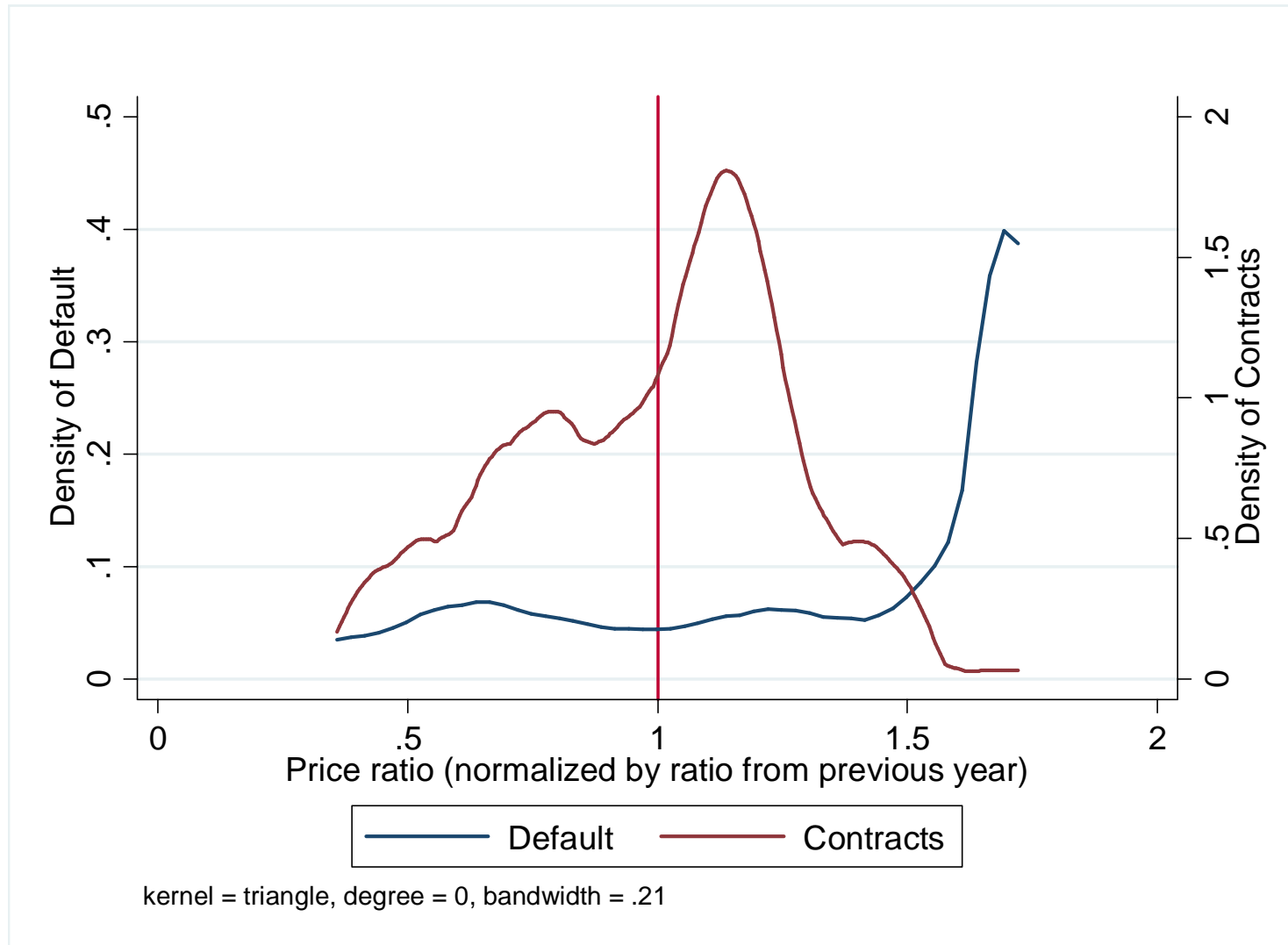
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## Timing of Contracts: Closing and Maturity Dates

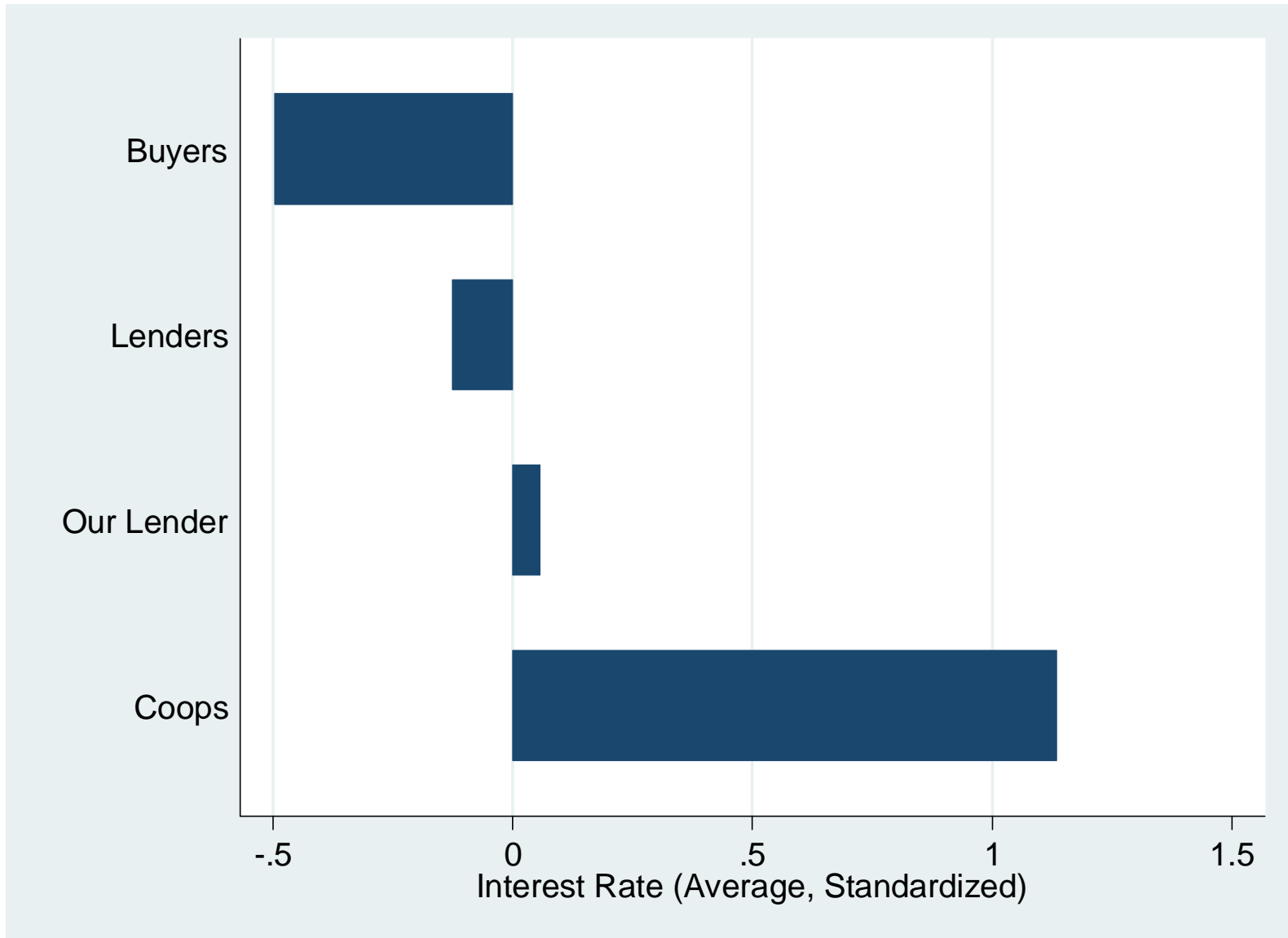




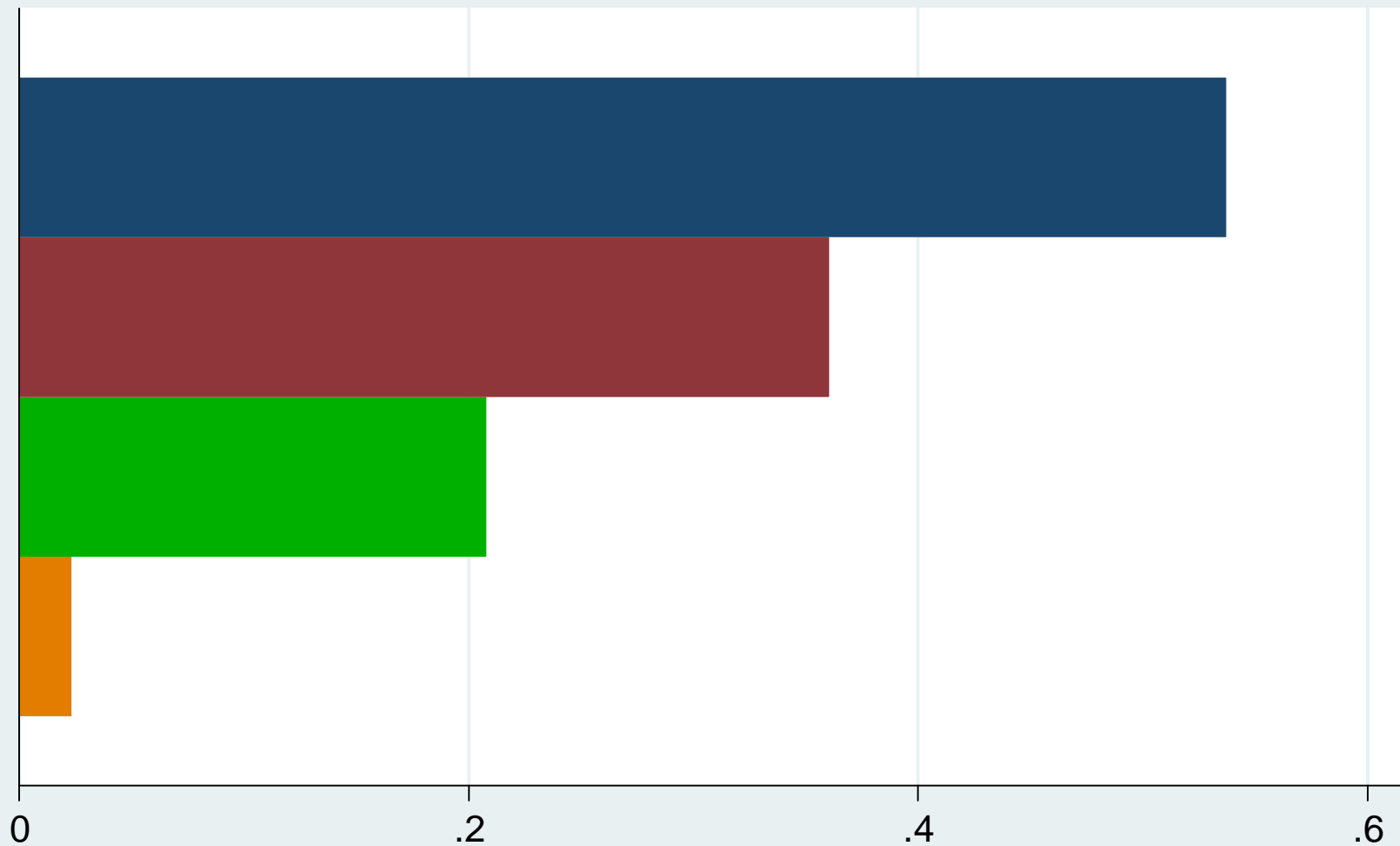
# Prices and Default



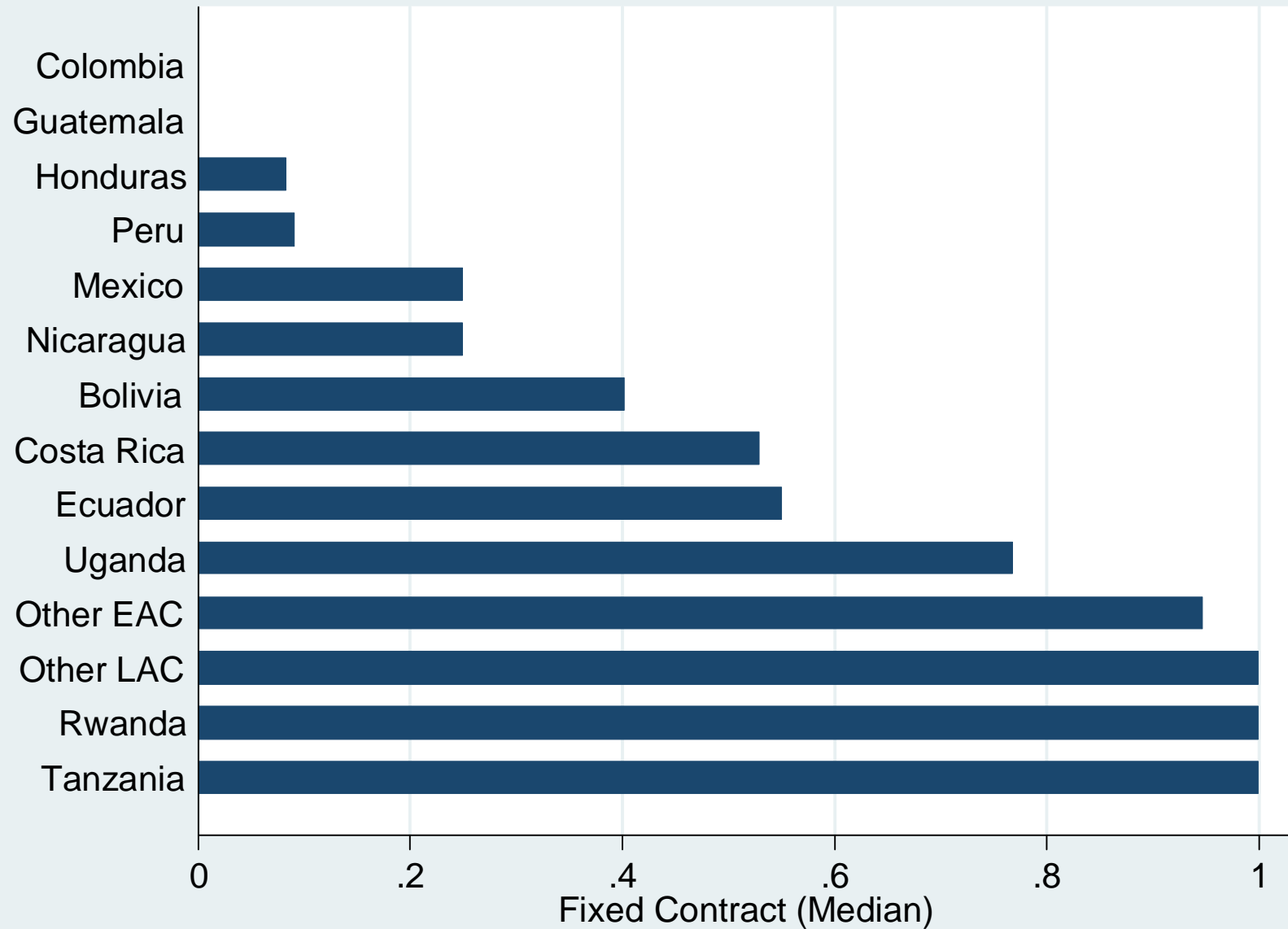
## Representativeness of Lender's Interest Rates



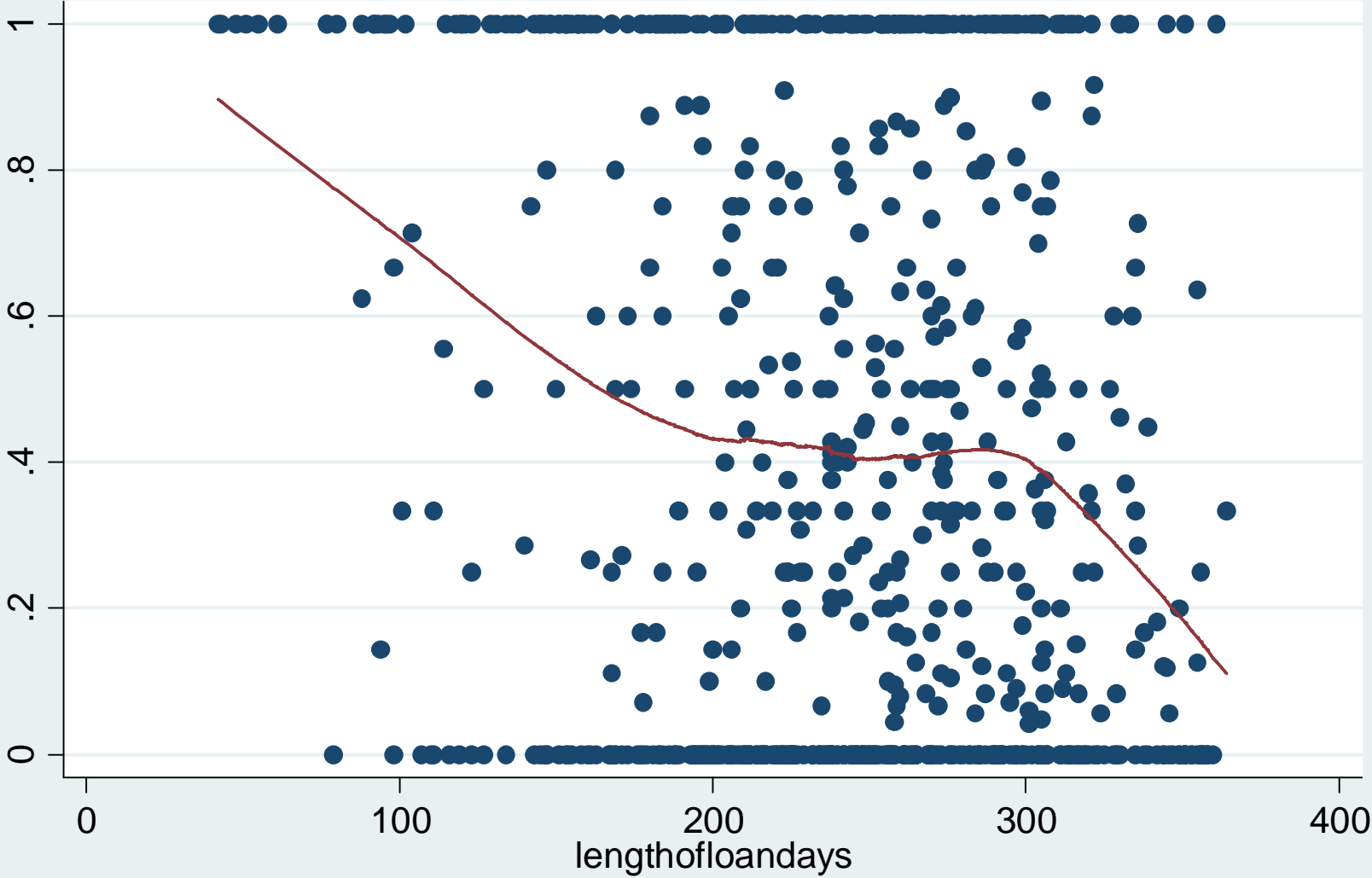
## Sources of Finance (Rwanda)



## Contract Type by Country

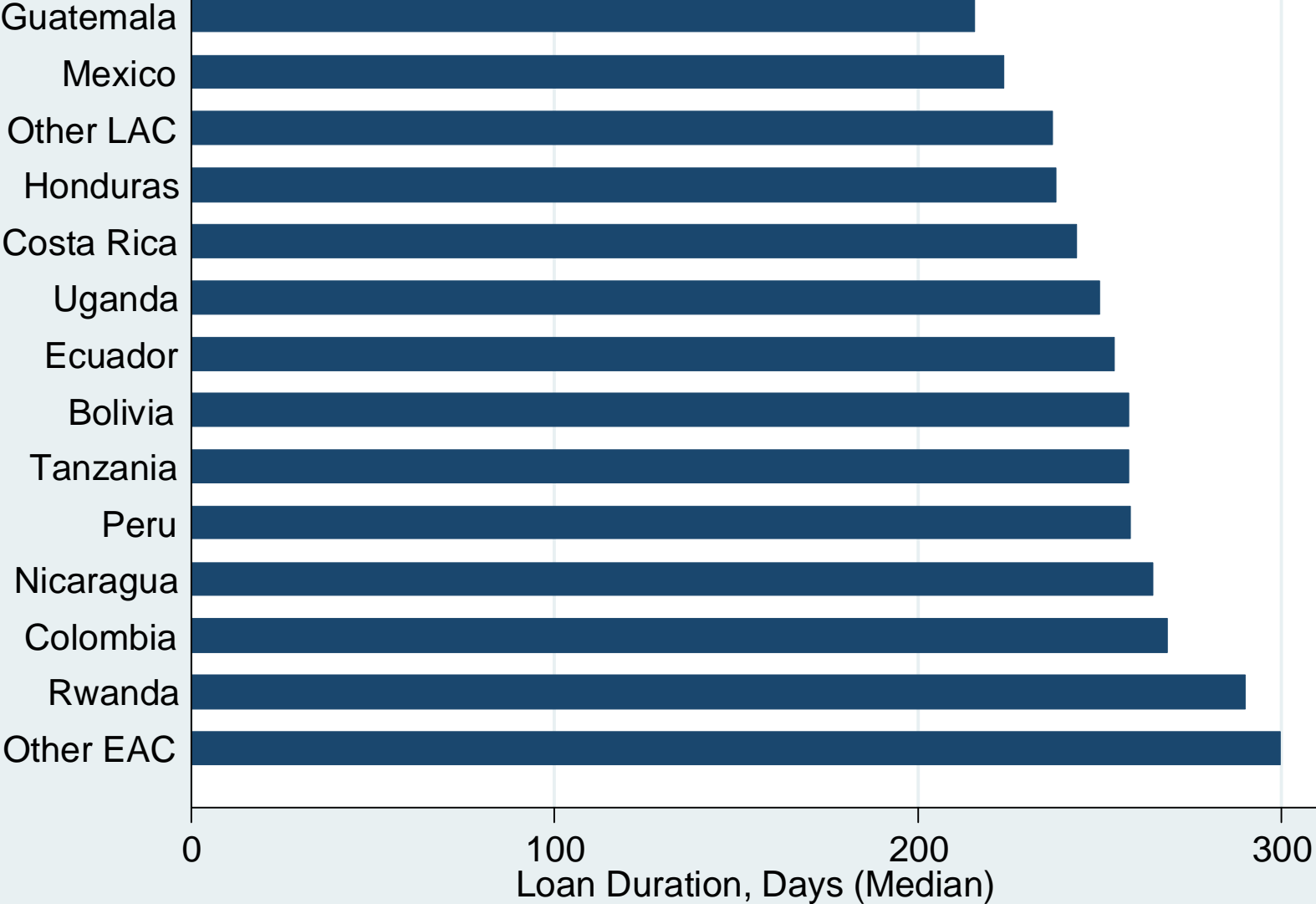


# Contract Type and Length

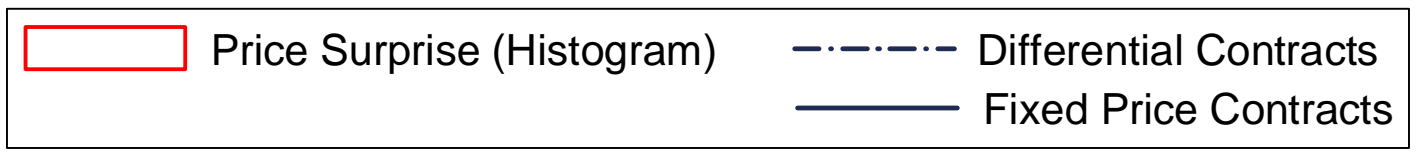
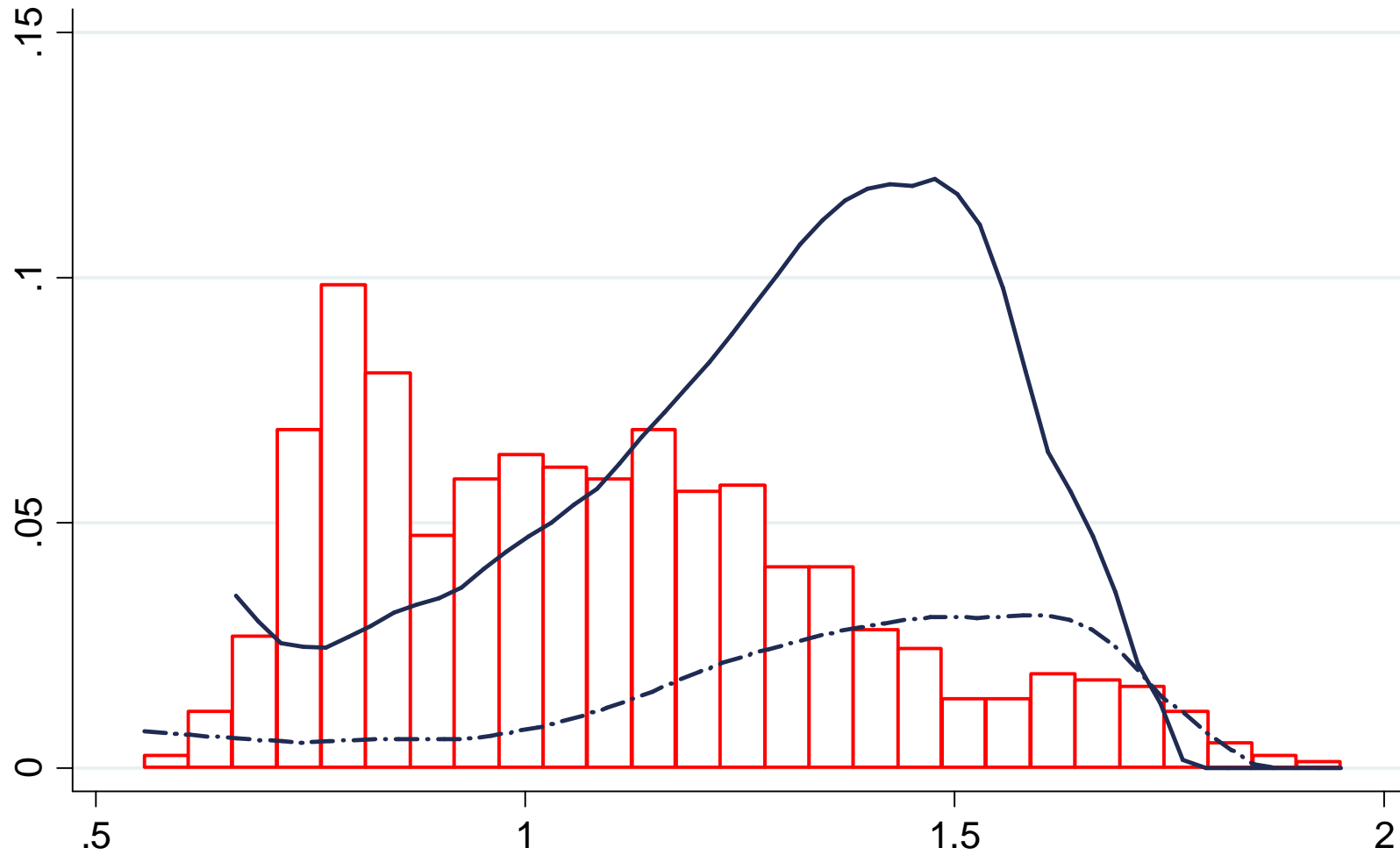


● % Contract on Fixed Terms      — Length of Loan, Days

# Contract Type



# Prices and Default: Heterogeneity



## Prices and Default: Regression Analysis

|                              | (1)             | (2)              | (3)              | (4)               | (5)               | (6)                |
|------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| <i>Dependent Variable:</i>   |                 |                  |                  |                   |                   | <b>Default</b>     |
| Price Surprise               | 0.44*<br>(0.23) | 0.62**<br>(0.25) | 1.82**<br>(0.78) | 2.81***<br>(0.86) | 8.08***<br>(3.13) | 0.045**<br>(0.021) |
| Loan Controls                | no              | yes              | yes              | yes               | yes               | yes                |
| Month & Year of Closing FE   | no              | no               | yes              | yes               | yes               | yes                |
| Price at Closing             | no              | no               | yes              | yes               | yes               | yes                |
| Month & Year of Maturity FE  | no              | no               | yes              | yes               | yes               | yes                |
| Alternative Surprise Measure | no              | no               | no               | yes               | yes               | no                 |
| Numerical Score (Sample)     | no              | no               | no               | no                | yes               | no                 |
| Probit vs. OLS               | Probit          | Probit           | Probit           | Probit            | Probit            | OLS                |
| Number of observations       | 781             | 781              | 781              | 781               | 455               | 781                |



## Prices and Default: An Event Study

Table 2: Out of Season Price Increases and Default Robustness

|                       | (1)       | (2)                       | (3)          |
|-----------------------|-----------|---------------------------|--------------|
|                       | Write-Off | Write-Off or Restructured | 90 days Late |
| t-test: 4 week window | 0.0222*   | 0.0396**                  | 0.0514*      |
|                       | (0.0152)  | (0.0187)                  | (0.0228)     |
| Observations          | 539       | 539                       | 322          |
| t-test: 6 week window | 0.0234*   | 0.0399**                  | 0.0509**     |
|                       | (0.0150)  | (0.0183)                  | (0.0306)     |
| Observations          | 566       | 566                       | 327          |
| t-test: 8 week window | 0.0268**  | 0.0306*                   | 0.0575**     |
|                       | (.0137)   | (.0173)                   | (.0234)      |
| Observations          | 641       | 641                       | 352          |

## Prices and Default: Further Heterogeneity

Table 5: Heterogeneity 2 - International Prices and Default by Score and Relationship

|                        | Dep Variable: Default, Restructured or 90+ days late |                             |                             |                       |                        |
|------------------------|--|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
|                        | By Score   |                             |                             | By Relationship       |                        |
|                        | Below<br>1st thresh.<br>(1)                          | Above 1st<br>thresh.<br>(2) | Above 2nd<br>thresh.<br>(3) | no<br>rel.<br>(4)     | rel.<br>(5)            |
| Optimal Bandwidth      | 0.143**<br>(0.0701)                                  | 0.0463**<br>(0.0205)        | -0.0741<br>(0.0654)         | 0.0665***<br>(0.0196) | 0.00475<br>(0.00341)   |
| 75% Optimal Bandwidth  | 0.144**<br>(0.0705)                                  | 0.0463**<br>(0.0205)        | -0.0291<br>(0.0338)         | 0.0667***<br>(0.0196) | 0.000887<br>(0.000681) |
| 125% Optimal Bandwidth | 0.143**<br>(0.0700)                                  | 0.0459**<br>(0.0203)        | -0.0684<br>(0.0620)         | 0.0664***<br>(0.0195) | 0.00668<br>(0.00474)   |
| Observations           | 69   | 347                         | 434                         | 483                   | 146                    |

## Prices and Default: Further [Heterogeneity](#)

Table 8: Heterogeneity 3 - Default by Ability of Lender to Punish the Station

|                        | Dep. Variable: Default, Restructured or 90 days late |                    |                               |                     |
|------------------------|--|--------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|
|                        | Financial Development                                |                    | Importance of Buyer to Lender |                     |
|                        | High<br>(1)  | Low<br>(2)         | High<br>(3)                   | Low<br>(4)          |
| Optimal Bandwidth      | 0.0969***<br>(0.0279)                                | 0.0475<br>(0.0337) | 0.0475<br>(0.0340)            | 0.118**<br>(0.0576) |
| 75% Optimal Bandwidth  | 0.0972***<br>(0.0286)                                | 0.0476<br>(0.0336) | 0.0476<br>(0.0340)            | 0.118**<br>(0.0571) |
| 125% Optimal Bandwidth | 0.0965***<br>(0.0278)                                | 0.0473<br>(0.0337) | 0.0474<br>(0.0338)            | 0.117**<br>(0.0569) |
| Observations           | 464  | 375                | 103                           | 104                 |

# **(No) Ex-Ante Moral Hazard**

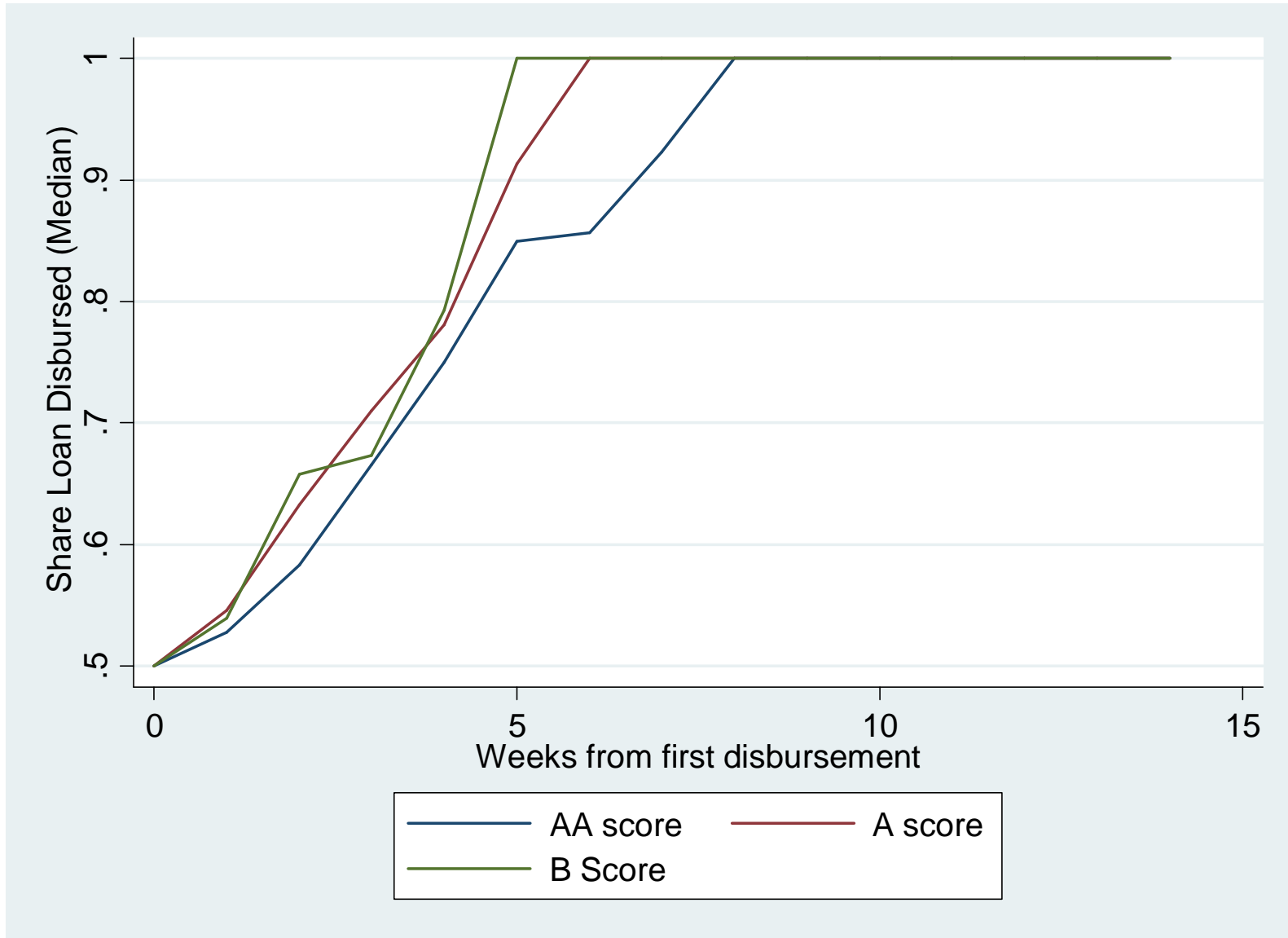
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## Prices and Default: Ex-Ante Moral Hazard

Table 13: Relationship between futures price at maturity changes during contract and default: Ex-Ante MH2

|  | Dependant Variable: Default or lateness |                         |                         |                       |                         |
|--|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
|  | Default                                 | Restructured            | 90 Days Late            |                       |                         |
|  | (1)                                     | (2)                     | (3)                     | (4)                   | (5)                     |
| Futures Price 3 months after closing       | -0.000126<br>(0.000238)                 | -1.73e-06<br>(0.000275) | -9.29e-05<br>(0.000311) | -0.00507<br>(0.00312) | -0.000325<br>(0.000343) |
| Futures price At closing                   | Y                                       | Y                       | Y                       | Y                     | Y                       |
| Closing Price                              | Y                                       | Y                       | Y                       | Y                     | Y                       |
| Maturity Price                             | Y                                       | Y                       | Y                       | Y                     | Y                       |
| Price Ratio ( $\frac{Maturity}{Closing}$ ) | Y                                       | Y                       | Y                       | Y                     | Y                       |
| Letter Score Fixed Effects                 | Y                                       | Y                       | Y                       | Y                     | Y                       |
| Country Fixed Effects                      | Y                                       | Y                       | Y                       | Y                     | Y                       |
| Closing Month Fixed Effects                | Y                                       | Y                       | Y                       | Y                     | Y                       |
| Model                                      | OLS                                     | OLS                     | OLS                     | Probit                | OLS                     |
| Sample                                     | Full                                    | Full                    | Full                    | Full                  | Numerical<br>Score Only |
| Observations                               | 713                                     | 713                     | 713                     | 713                   | 432                     |
| $R^2$                                      | 0.139                                   | 0.135                   | 0.139                   |                       | 0.115                   |

# Prices and Default: Ex-Ante Moral Hazard



# **Buyer – Lender Relations and Seller's Behaviour**

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## Buyer – Lender Relationship

Relational enforcement rests on the idea that **buyer** and **lender** act together.

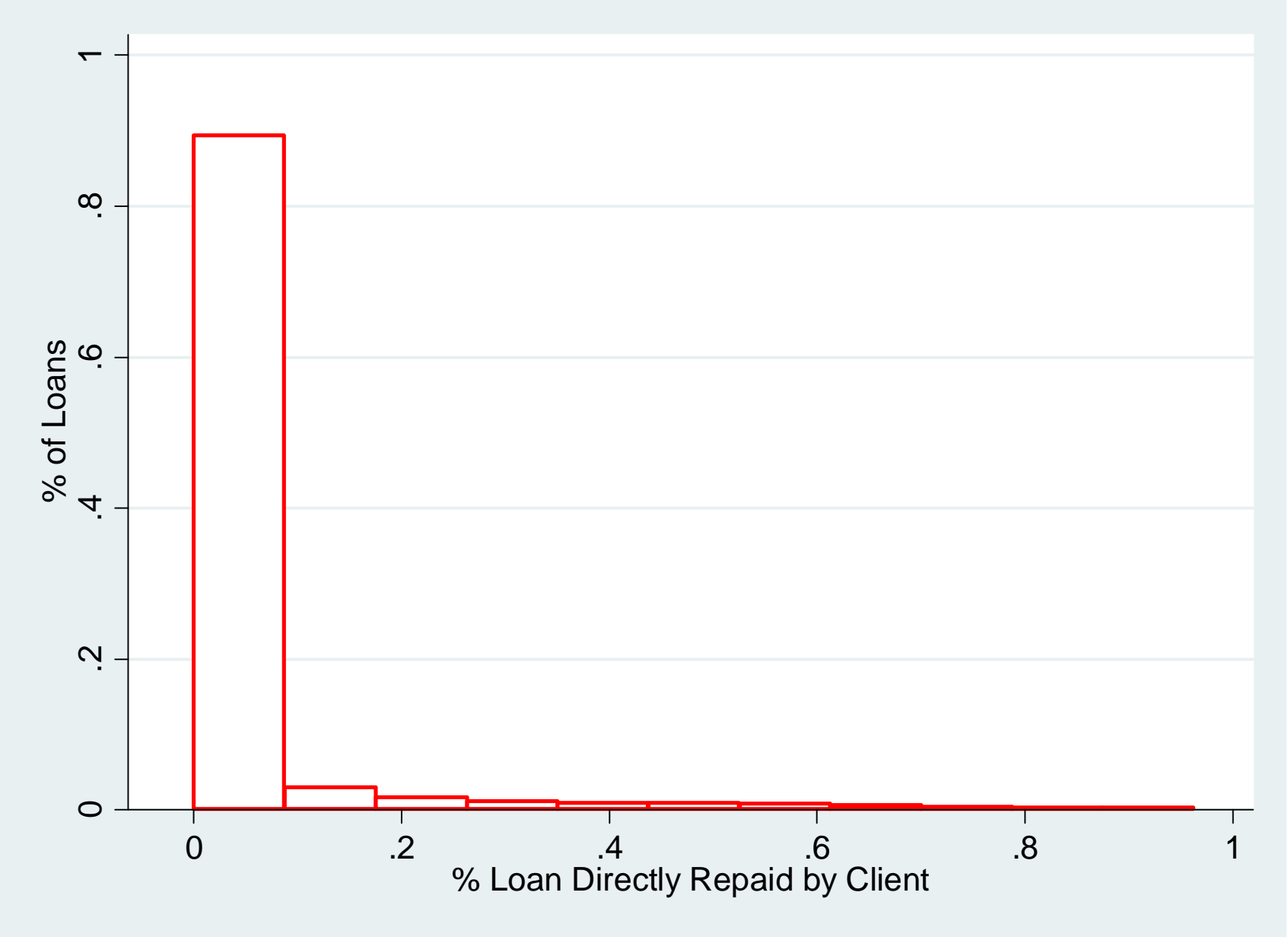
When relationship between buyer and the lender is weaker, seller/borrower might still default on the sale contract but not on the loan (and vice-versa).

When this happens, we should observe:

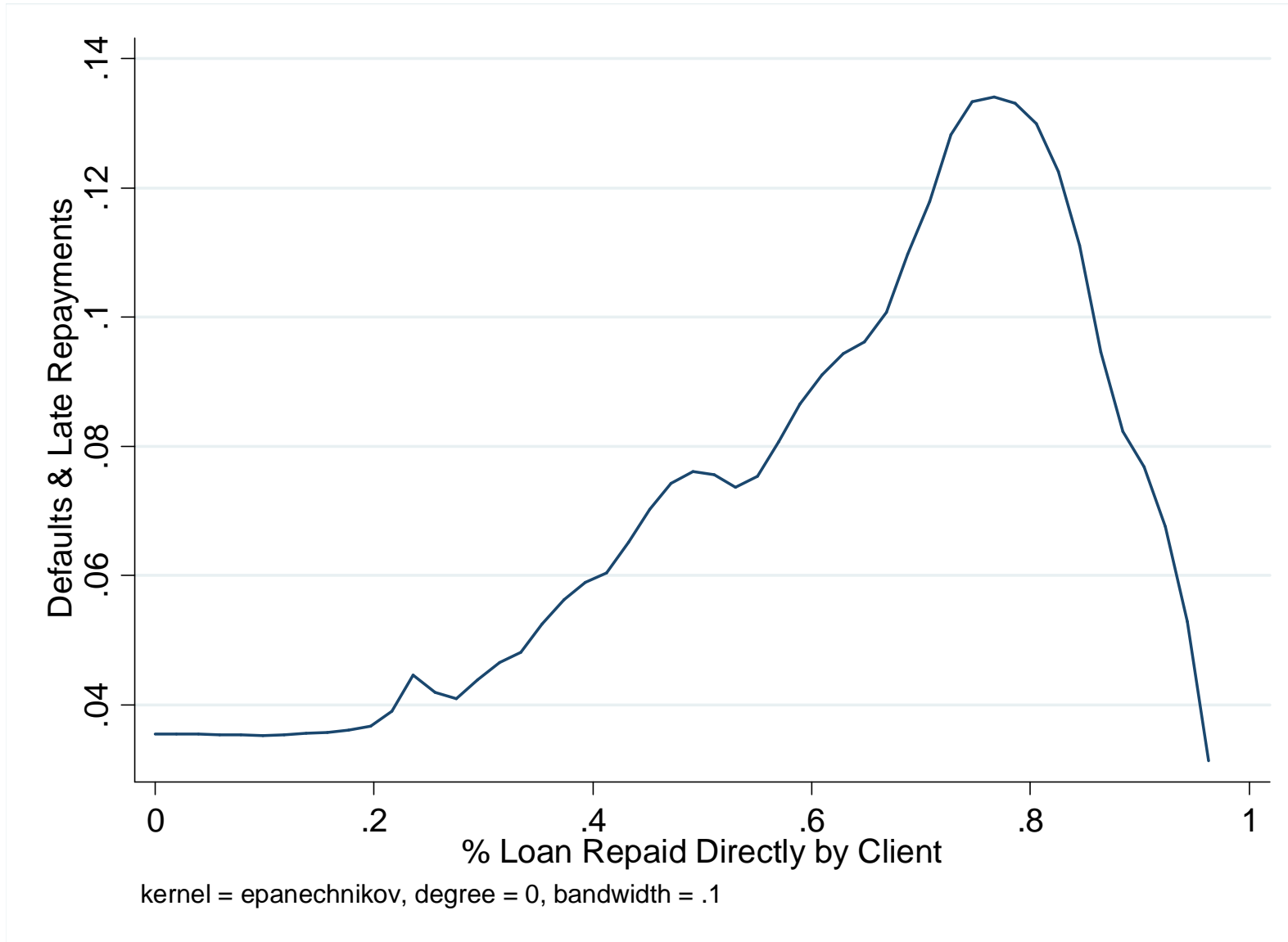
1. Repayment is made directly by the seller/borrower (not by the buyer as per contract)
2. Relationship between buyer and lender is compromised
3. Less likely to happen with important buyers (i.e., those with which lender has numerous relationships)



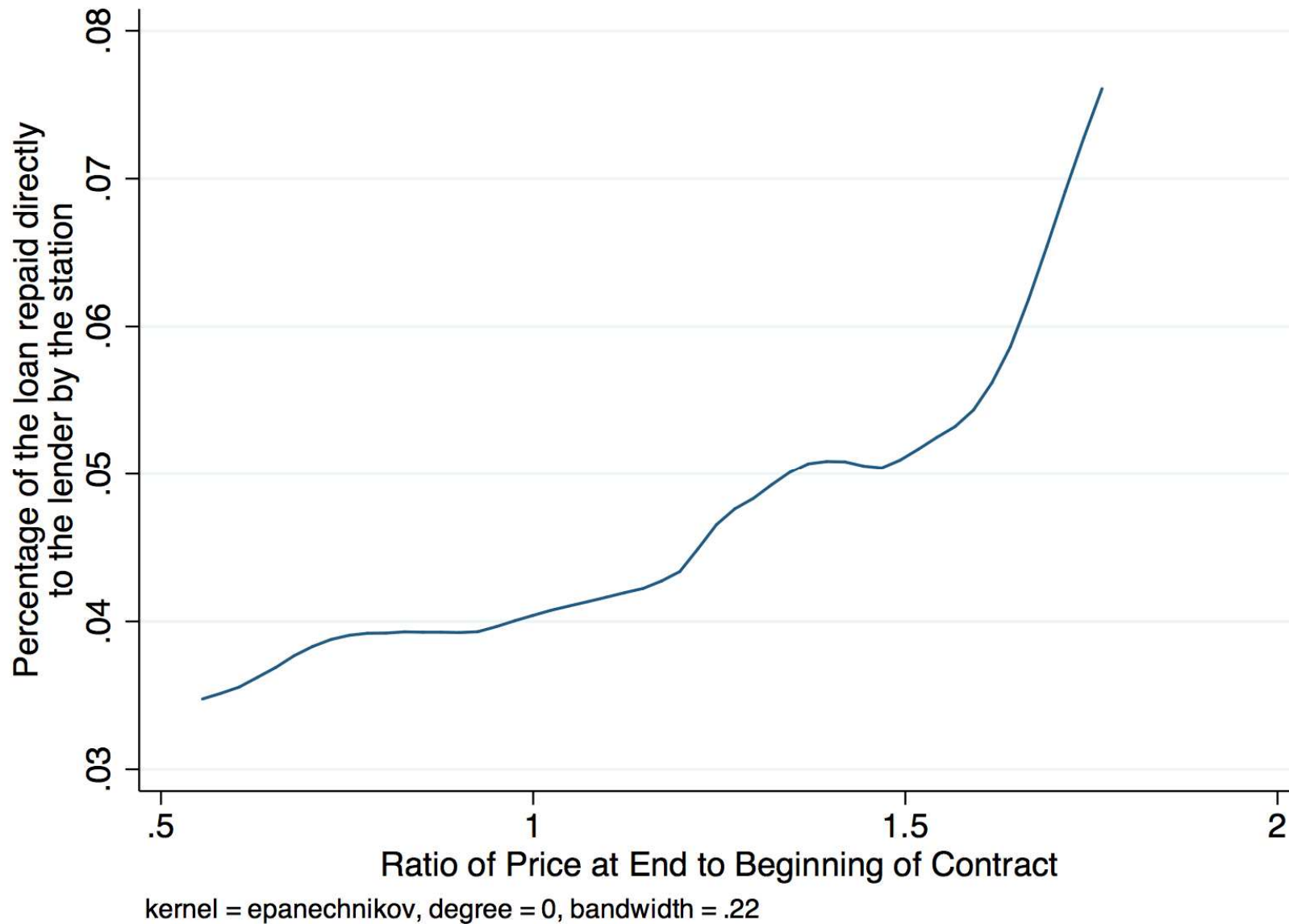
**As per contract, *most* loans are indeed repaid by buyer**



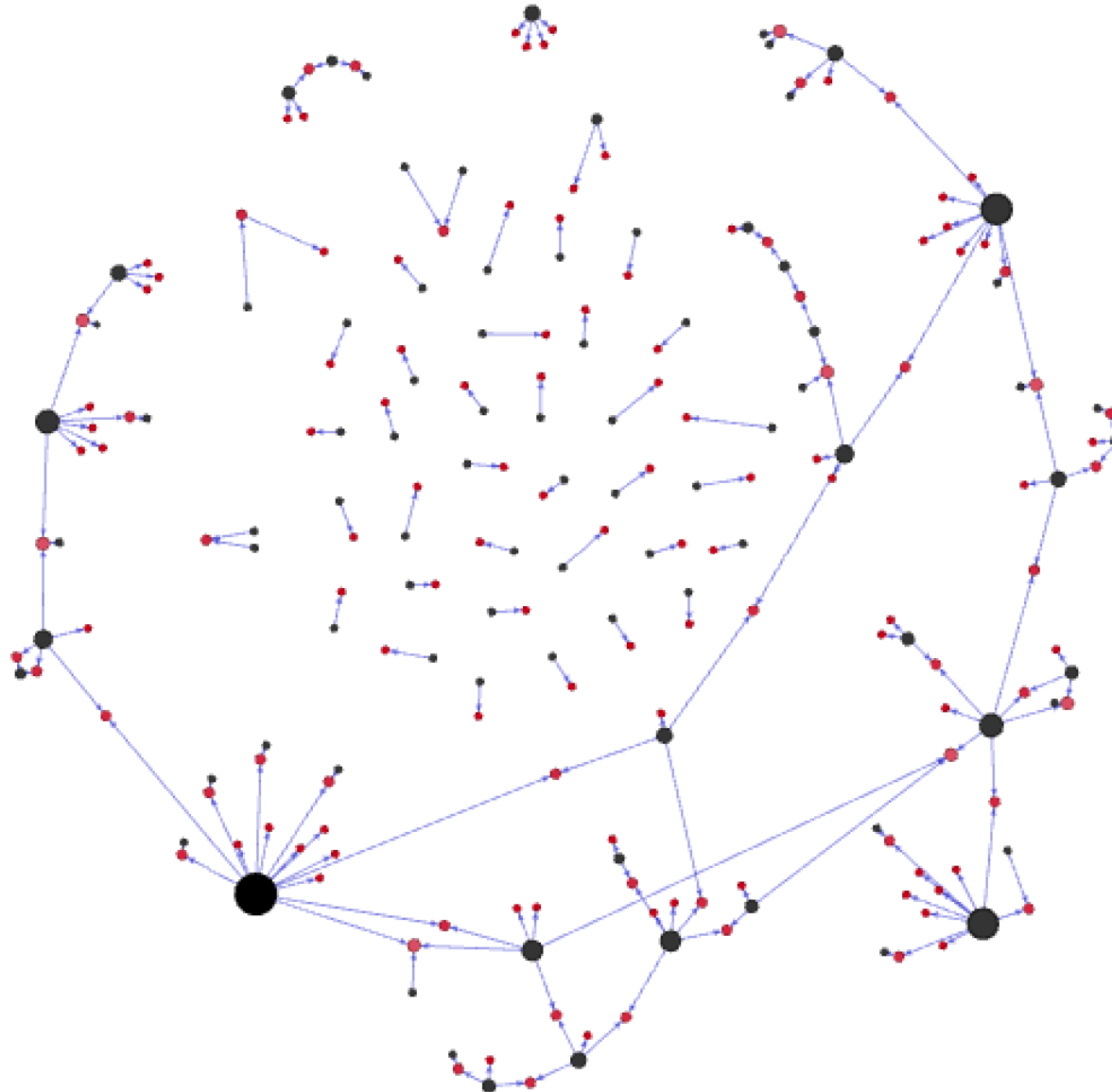
# Repayment from client is associated with default ...



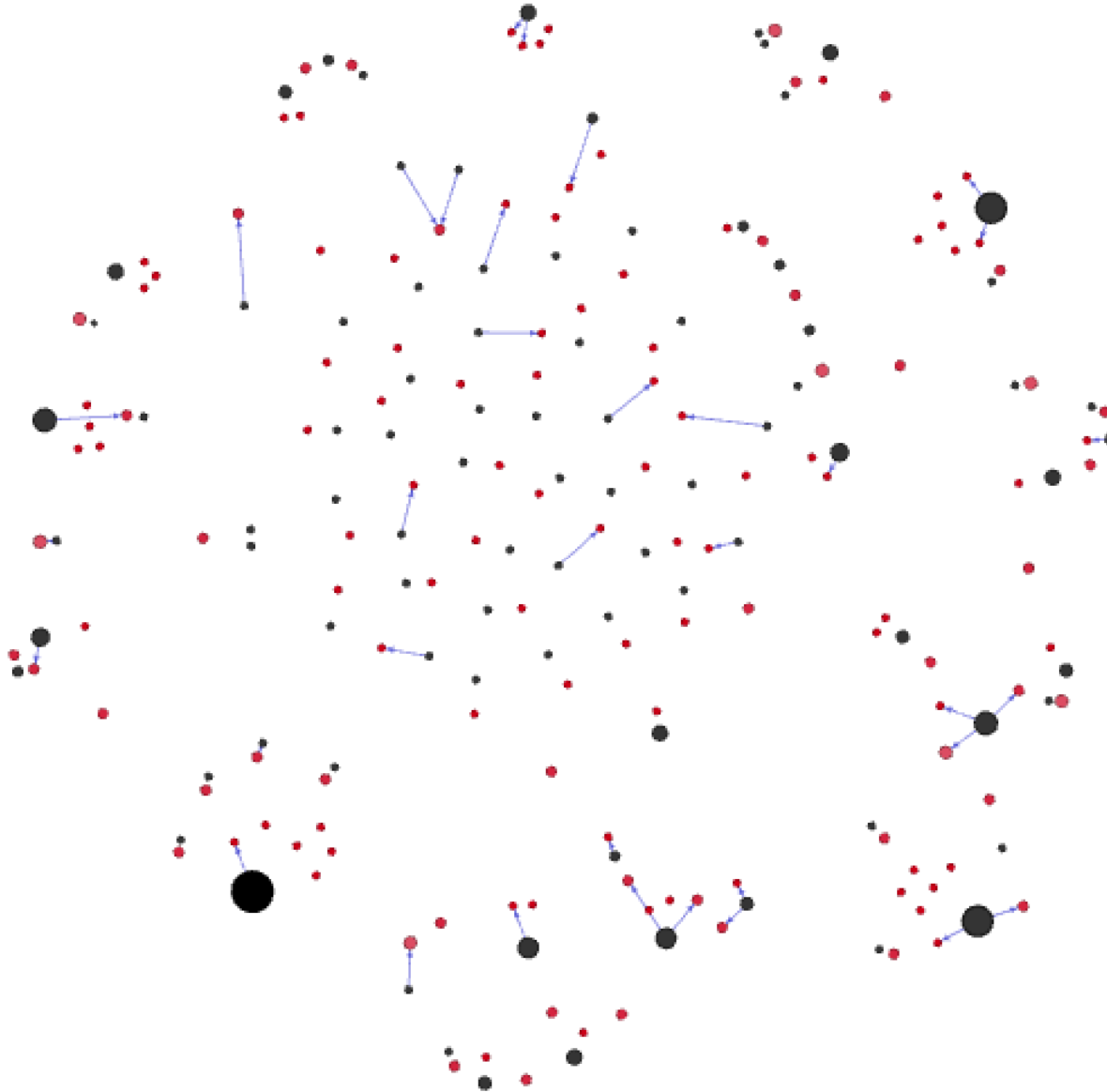
## ... and with (unanticipated) price increases



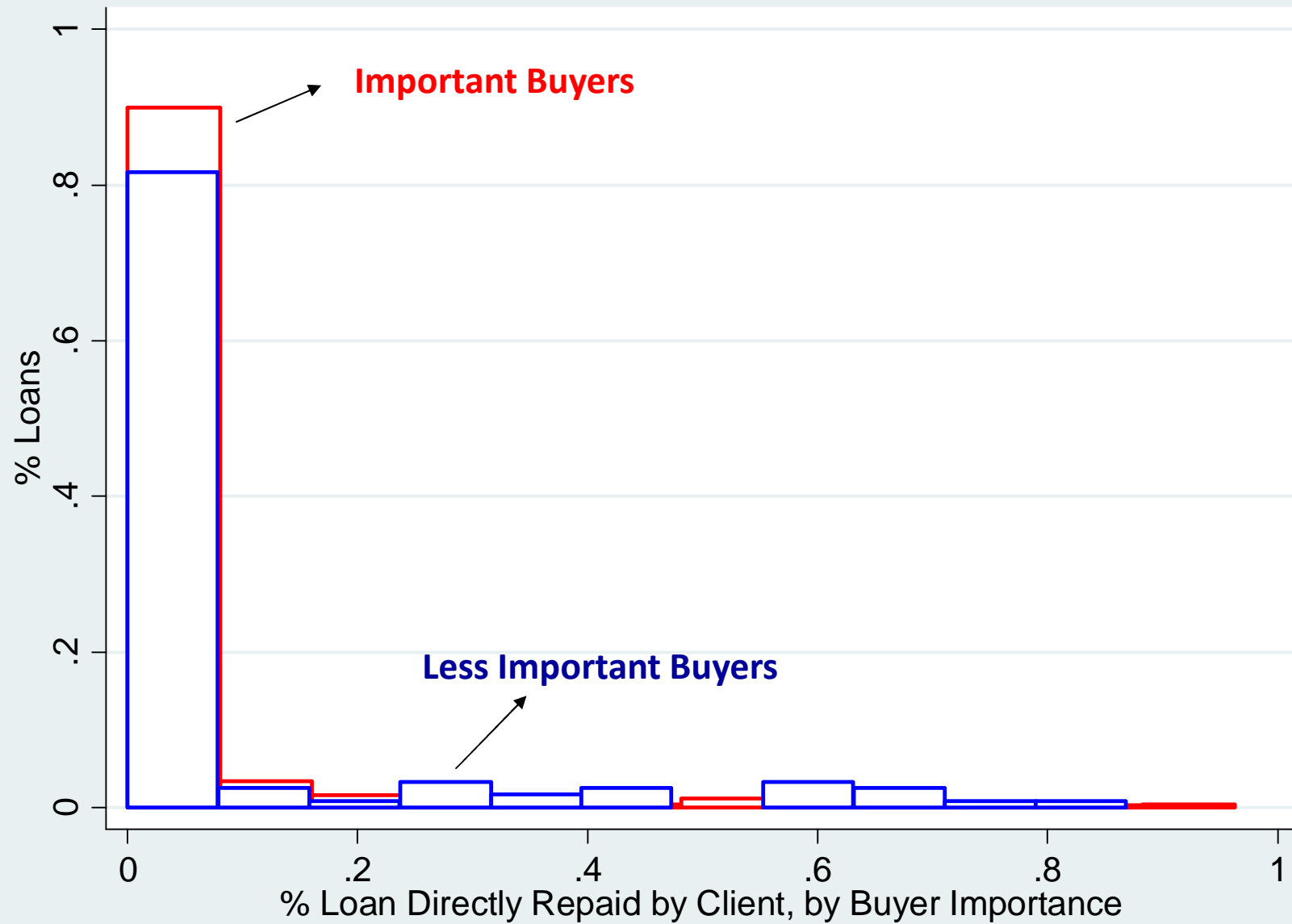
For which kind of buyers does this happen?



For which kind of buyers does this happen?



# Buyer-Lender Relations & Borrower/Seller's Behaviour



## Buyer-Lender Relations & Borrower/Seller's Behaviour

Table 6: Buyer-Lender relationship and Direct Payments to the Lender

|  | Station Paid Lender Directly |                      |                        |                       |                       |
|--|------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
|  | (1)                          | (2)                  | (3)                    | (4)                   | (5)                   |
| Price ratio x Buyer Importance                       |                              |                      |                        | -0.0560**<br>(0.0222) | -0.0569**<br>(0.0243) |
| Buyer Share of Lender Portfolio                      | -0.0345***<br>(0.00949)      |                      | -0.0443***<br>(0.0126) | 0.0177<br>(0.0210)    | 0.0187<br>(0.0241)    |
| Price ratio $\frac{\text{maturity}}{\text{closing}}$ |                              | 0.0712**<br>(0.0324) | 0.168*<br>(0.0916)     | 0.231**<br>(0.107)    | 0.225**<br>(0.104)    |
| Country Fixed Effects                                | Y                            | Y                    | Y                      | Y                     | Y                     |
| Month-Year Fixed Effects                             | Y                            | Y                    | Y                      | Y                     | Y                     |
| Price at Closing                                     | Y                            | Y                    | Y                      | Y                     | Y                     |
| Futures price at maturity at closing                 | Y                            | Y                    | Y                      | Y                     | Y                     |
| Numerical Score                                      | N                            | N                    | Y                      | N                     | Y                     |
| Observations   | 283                          | 485                  | 218                    | 218                   | 218                   |
| R-squared  | 0.199                        | 0.102                | 0.176                  | 0.181                 | 0.182                 |

## Buyer-Lender Relationship and Direct Lender

Table 11: Buyer punishment of lender for receiving direct payments

|                                   | Buyer Returns in Sample |                       |                       |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
|                                   | (1)                     | (2)                   | (3)                   |
| Station Paid Direct to Lender     | -0.197***<br>(0.0722)   | -0.155**<br>(0.0737)  | -0.147*<br>(0.0758)   |
| Station Defaulted on Loan         |                         | -0.365***<br>(0.0794) | -0.357***<br>(0.0789) |
| Unexpected Price Jump At Delivery |                         |                       | -0.0792<br>(0.145)    |
| Buyer Fixed Effects               | Y                       | Y                     | Y                     |
| Year Fixed Effects                | Y                       | Y                     | Y                     |
| Observations                      | 684                     | 684                   | 684                   |
| R-squared                         | 0.395                   | 0.403                 | 0.403                 |

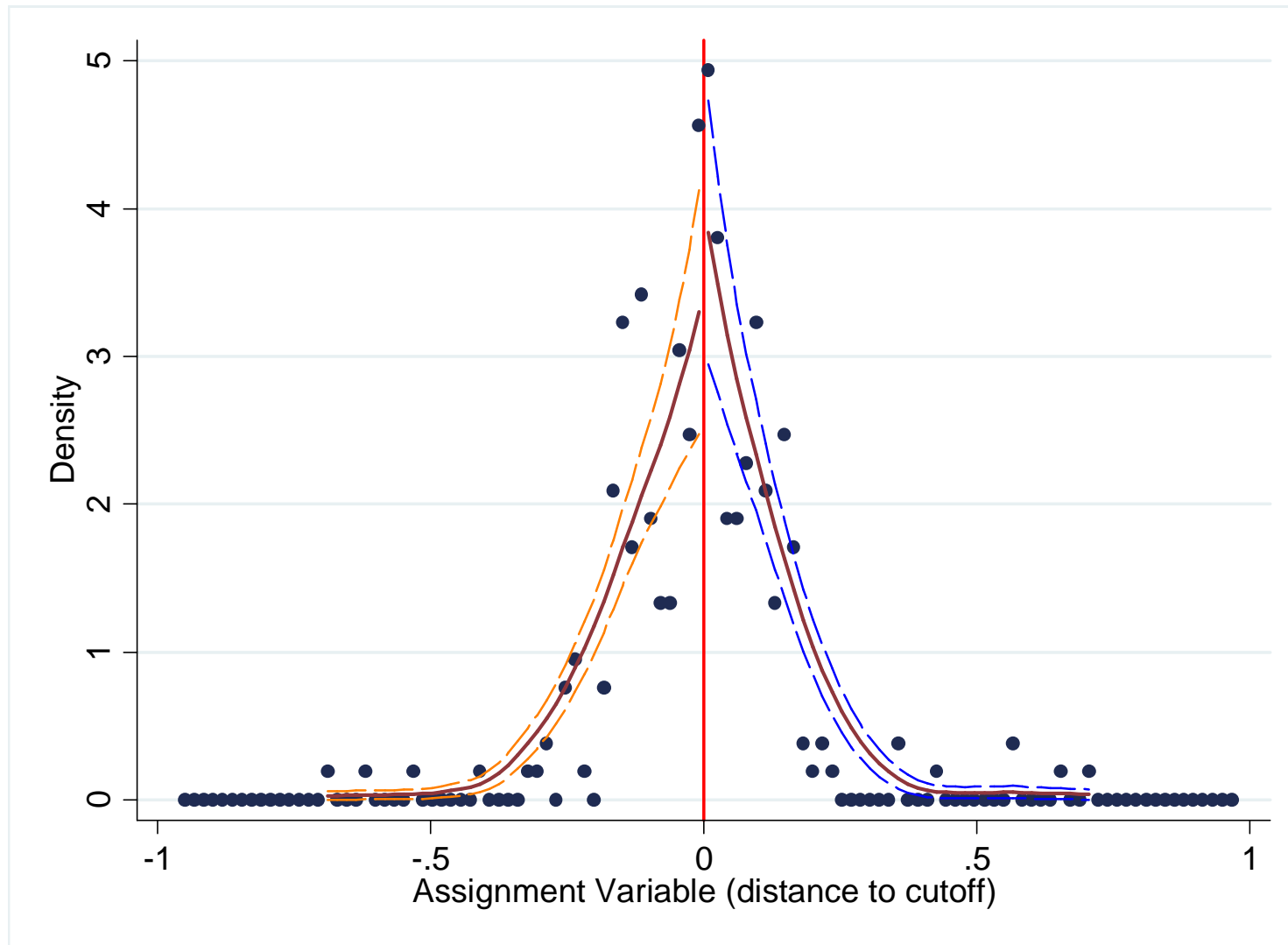


## Defaults, Delays and Future Loans

Table 10: Punishment for Default

|                                      | Default<br>(1)       | Restructured<br>(2)   | 90 Days Late<br>(3)   |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Differential Prob. of Future Loan    | -0.520***<br>(0.130) | -0.460***<br>(0.0983) | -0.329***<br>(0.0575) |
| Futures Price (mat.) at closing date | Y                    | Y                     | Y                     |
| Price at Closing                     | Y                    | Y                     | Y                     |
| Letter Score Fixed Effects           | Y                    | Y                     | Y                     |
| Country Fixed Effects                | Y                    | Y                     | Y                     |
| Closing Month Fixed Effects          | Y                    | Y                     | Y                     |
| Observations                         | 907                  | 907                   | 907                   |
| $R^2$                                | 0.334                | 0.331                 | 0.323                 |

## RD Design on Score: no sorting



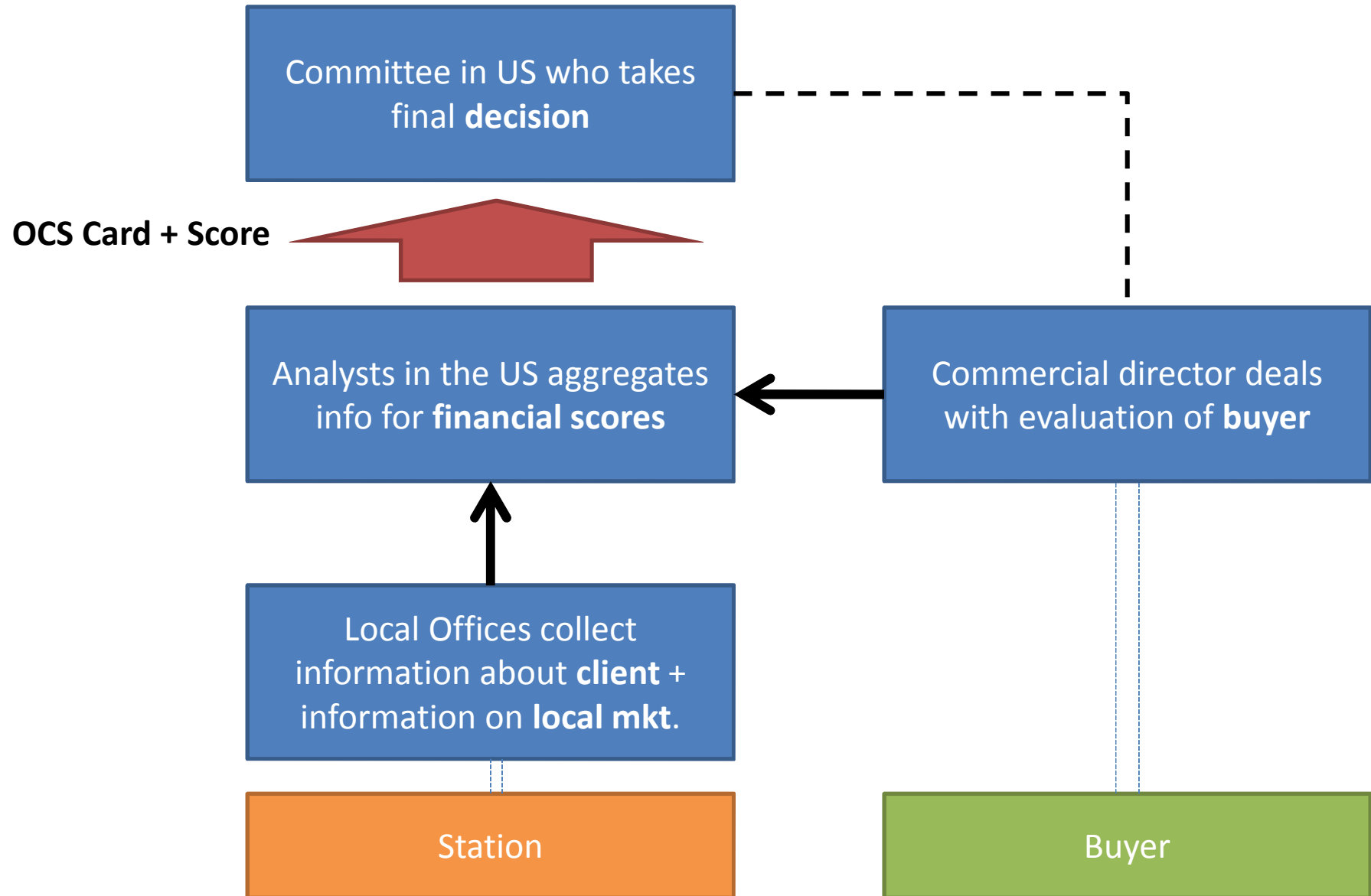
## RD Design on Score: no manipulation

| Dependent Variable     | Estiamte | Standard Error | Observations |
|------------------------|----------|----------------|--------------|
| Entity Score           | 0.108    | (0.109)        | 315          |
| Accounting Quality     | 0.221    | (0.226)        | 315          |
| Planning Systems       | 0.250    | (0.156)        | 315          |
| Liquidity Risk         | -0.0561  | (0.206)        | 315          |
| Leverage               | 0.156    | (0.178)        | 315          |
| Profitability          | 0.0934   | (0.189)        | 315          |
| Credit History (RC)    | 0.155    | (0.203)        | 312          |
| Asset Quality          | 0.205    | (0.168)        | 303          |
| Product Score          | 0.0407   | (0.0960)       | 315          |
| Processing             | 0.156    | (0.131)        | 315          |
| Supply Security        | -0.0630  | (0.103)        | 315          |
| Management Score       | 0.0176   | (0.114)        | 315          |
| General Manager        | -0.0649  | (0.168)        | 315          |
| Finance Accounting     | 0.0795   | (0.190)        | 315          |
| Internal Controls      | 0.156    | (0.169)        | 314          |
| Marketing Sales        | -0.132   | (0.162)        | 315          |
| Staff Retention        | 0.142    | (0.170)        | 303          |
| Report Quality         | 0.00691  | (0.142)        | 314          |
| Report Punctuality     | 0.00318  | (0.151)        | 302          |
| Email Promptness       | 0.130    | (0.168)        | 314          |
| Email Quality          | 0.0682   | (0.158)        | 302          |
| Buyer Score            | 0.116    | (0.0901)       | 315          |
| Buyer Quality          | 0.158    | (0.119)        | 315          |
| Buyer Relationship     | 0.170    | (0.165)        | 315          |
| Buyer Mix              | 0.607**  | (0.288)        | 315          |
| Type of Contract       | 0.114    | (0.160)        | 300          |
| Context Score          | -0.0328  | (0.0473)       | 315          |
| Weather                | -0.0422  | (0.146)        | 315          |
| Country Stability      | 0.0621   | (0.128)        | 314          |
| Sales Price Volatility | 0.0897   | (0.222)        | 300          |

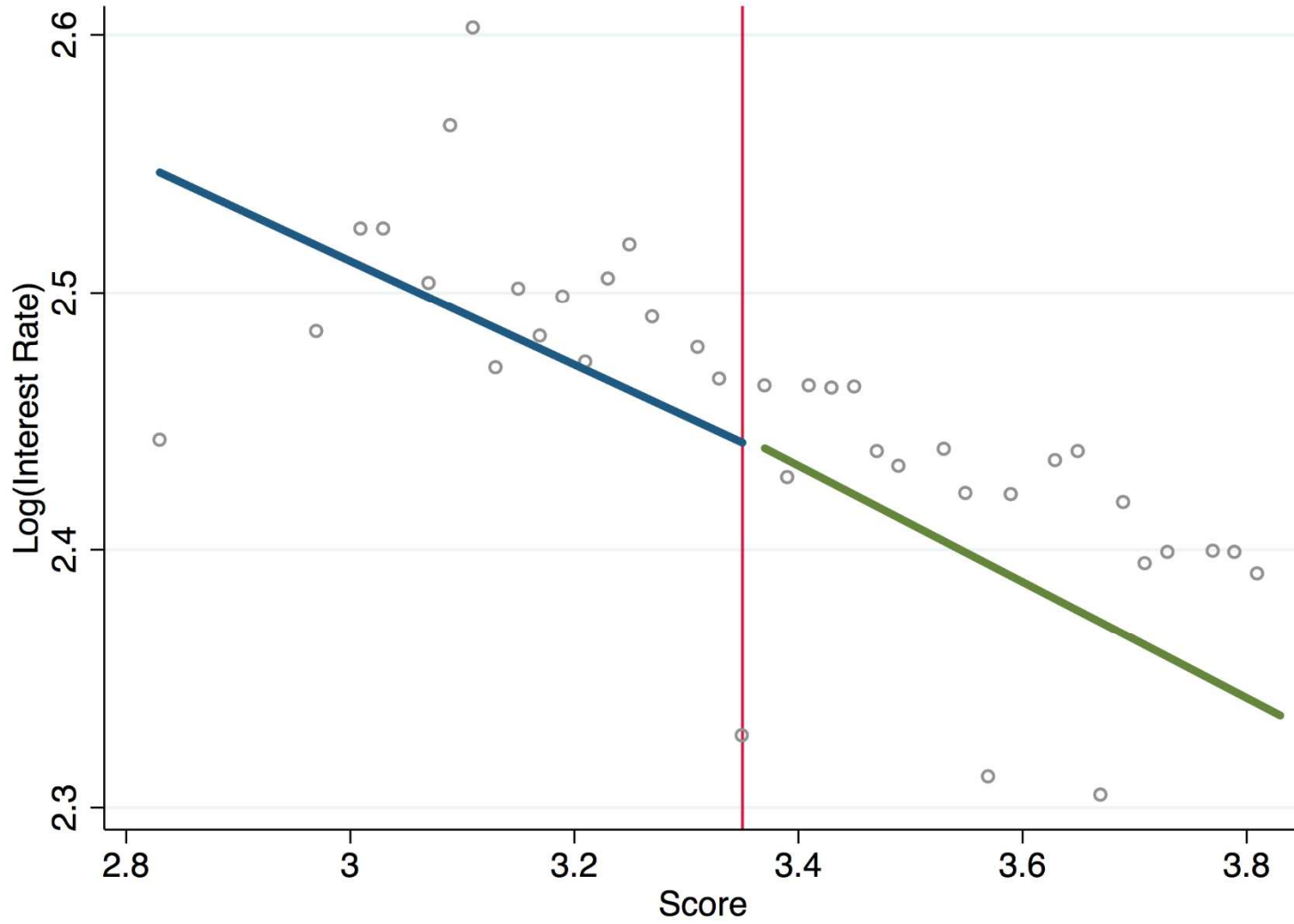
## RD Design on Score: no manipulation

|                                       | No. of sig. estimates for score |                 |                 |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                                       | 10% significance                | 5% significance | 1% significance |
|                                       | (1)                             | (2)             | (3)             |
| 11 Station Characteristics            |                                 |                 |                 |
| 3.25 threshold                        | 0                               | 0               | 0               |
| 3.35 threshold (B-A)                  | 1                               | 1               | 0               |
| 3.45 threshold                        | 1                               | 0               | 0               |
| 3.71 threshold                        | 1                               | 1               | 0               |
| 3.81 threshold (A-AA)                 | 0                               | 0               | 0               |
| 3.91 threshold                        | 1                               | 1               | 0               |
| Observations per sub-score regression | 575                             | 575             | 575             |
| 34 Subscores                          |                                 |                 |                 |
| 3.25 threshold                        | 1                               | 0               | 0               |
| 3.35 threshold (B-A)                  | 5                               | 3               | 0               |
| 3.45 threshold                        | 11                              | 5               | 0               |
| 3.71 threshold                        | 1                               | 0               | 0               |
| 3.81 threshold (A-AA)                 | 4                               | 1               | 0               |
| 3.91 threshold                        | 5                               | 1               | 0               |
| Observations per sub-score regression | 575                             | 575             | 575             |

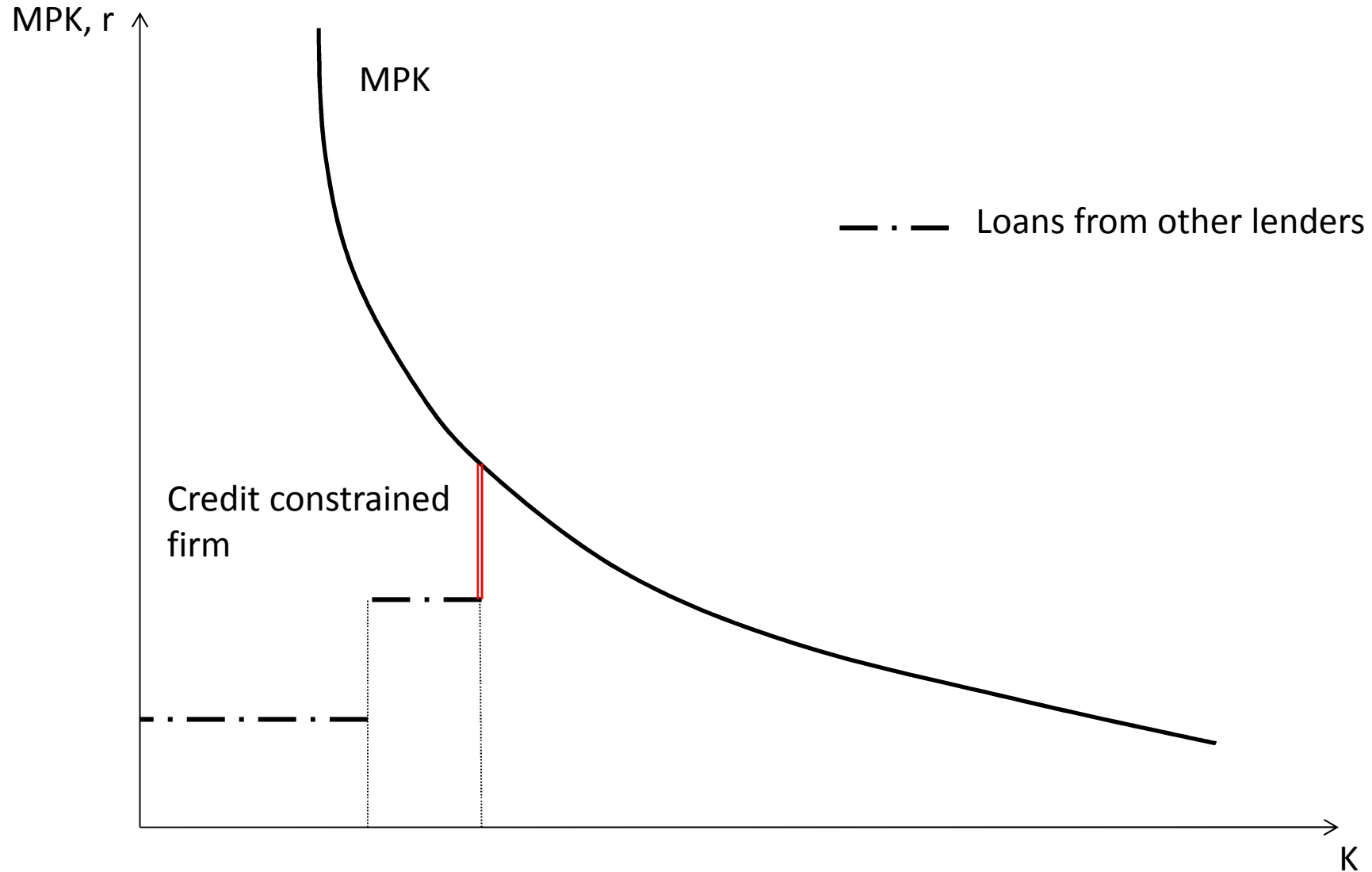
# Decision Process



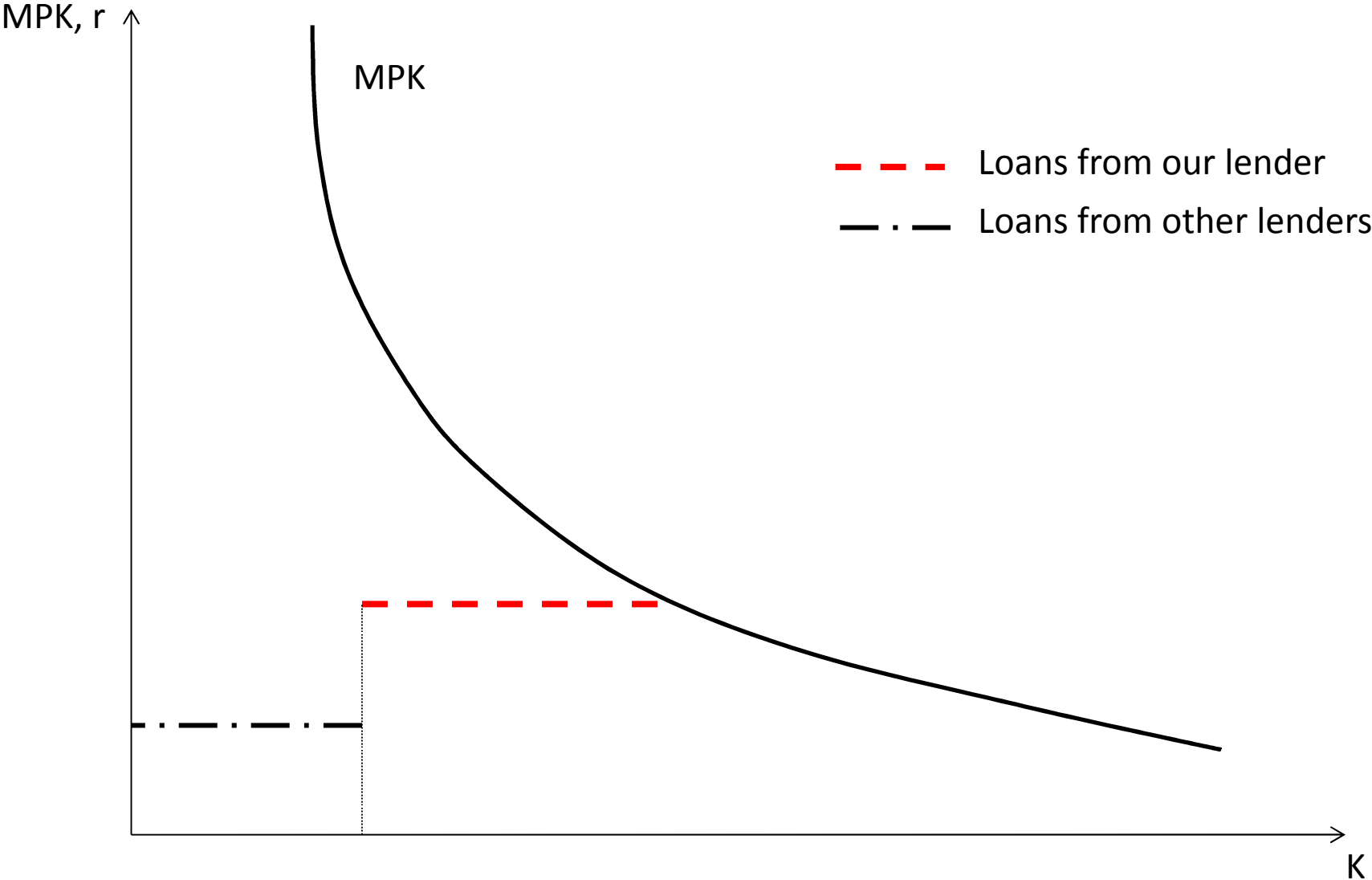
# RD on interest rate



# Are Firms Credit Constrained? [Definition](#)

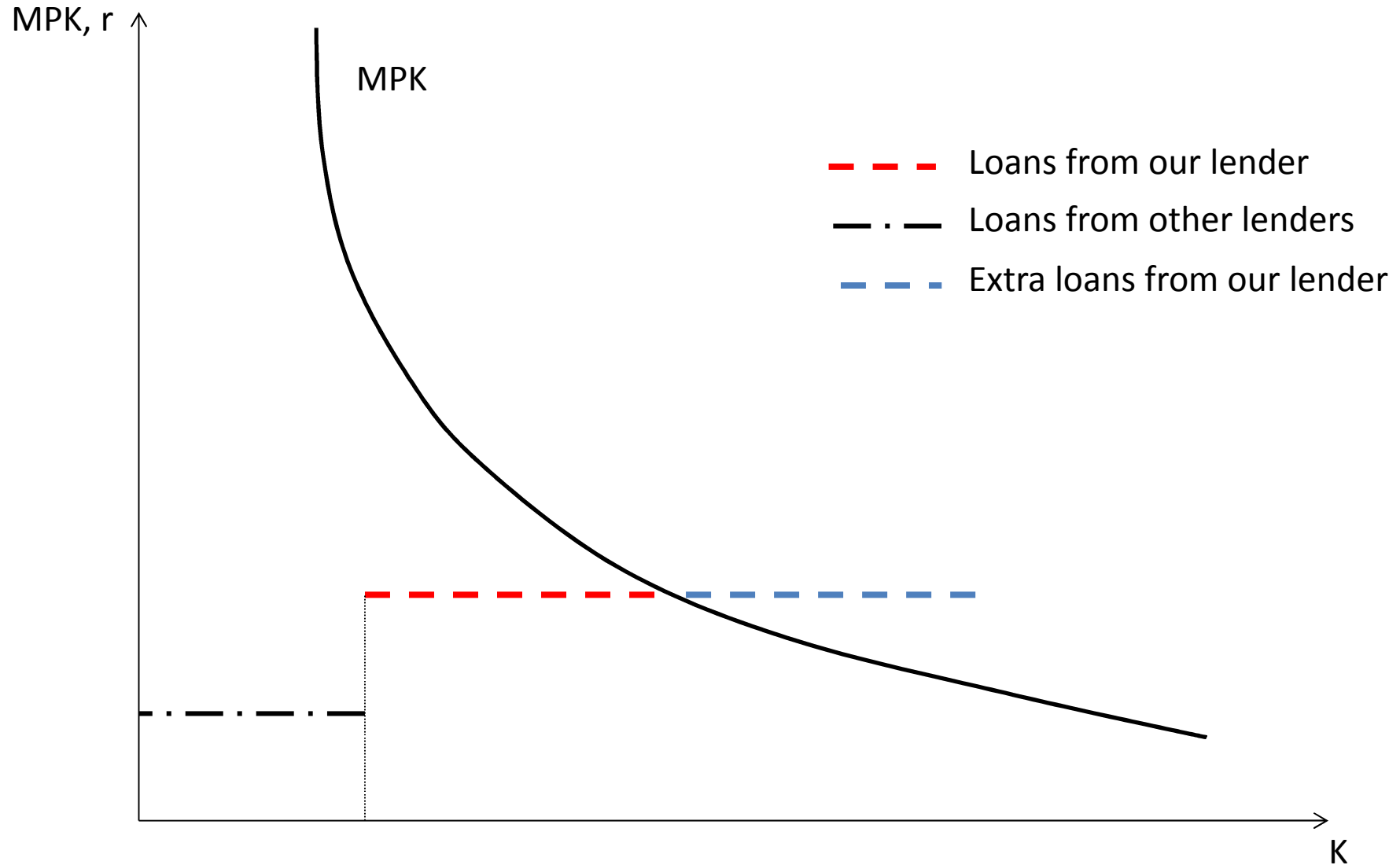


# Case 1: Our Lender is Mg.

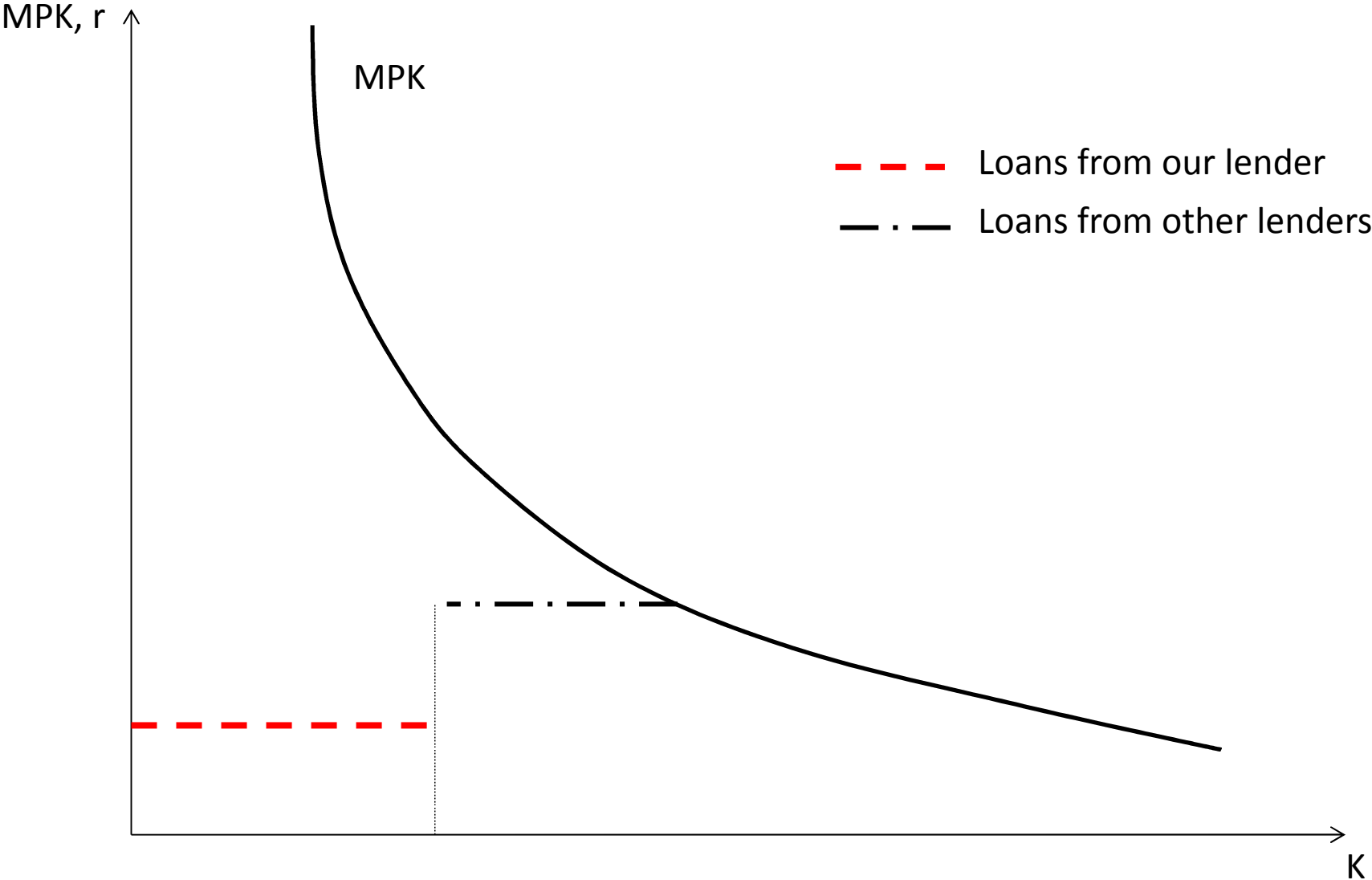




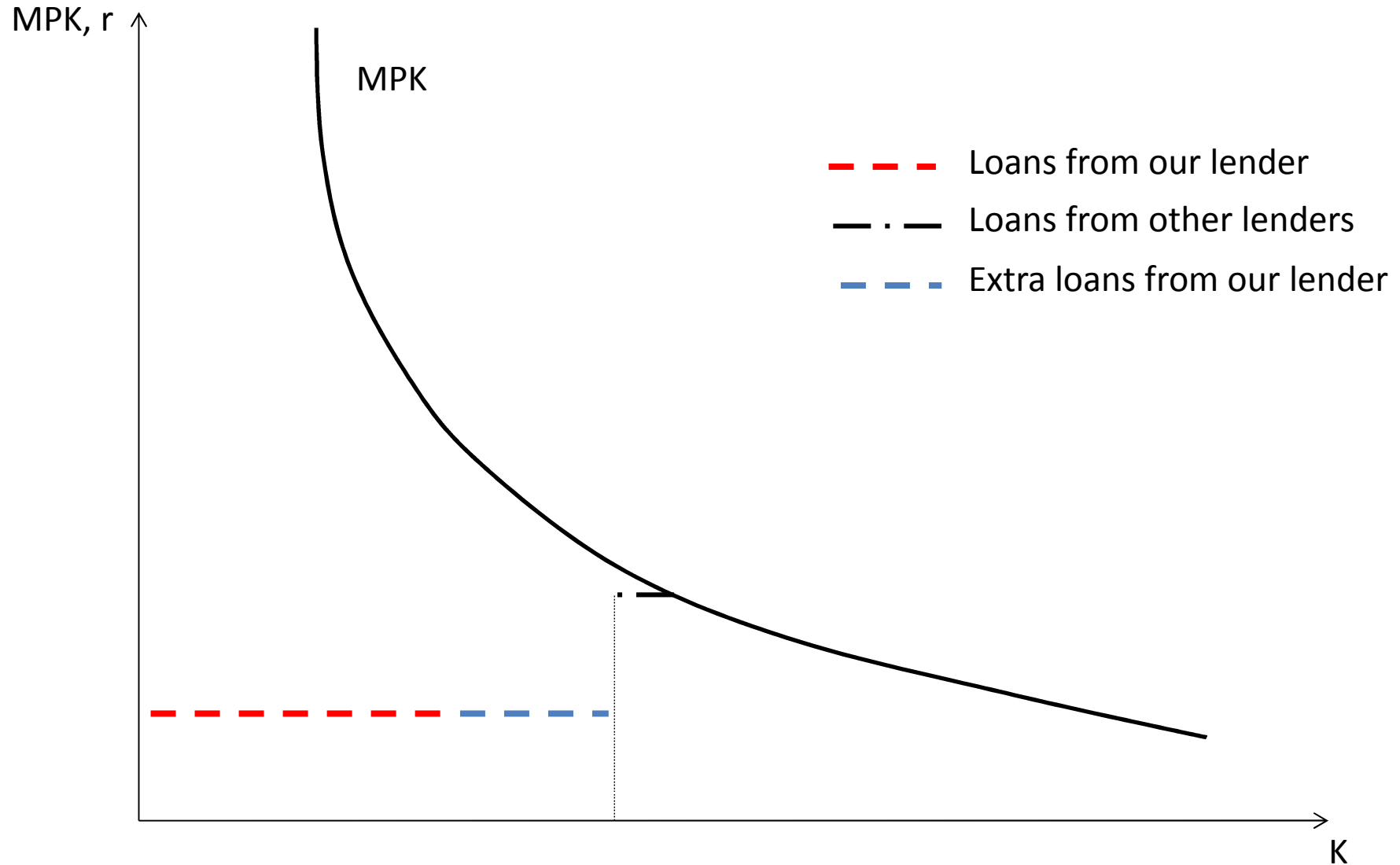
# Case 1: Our Lender is Mg.



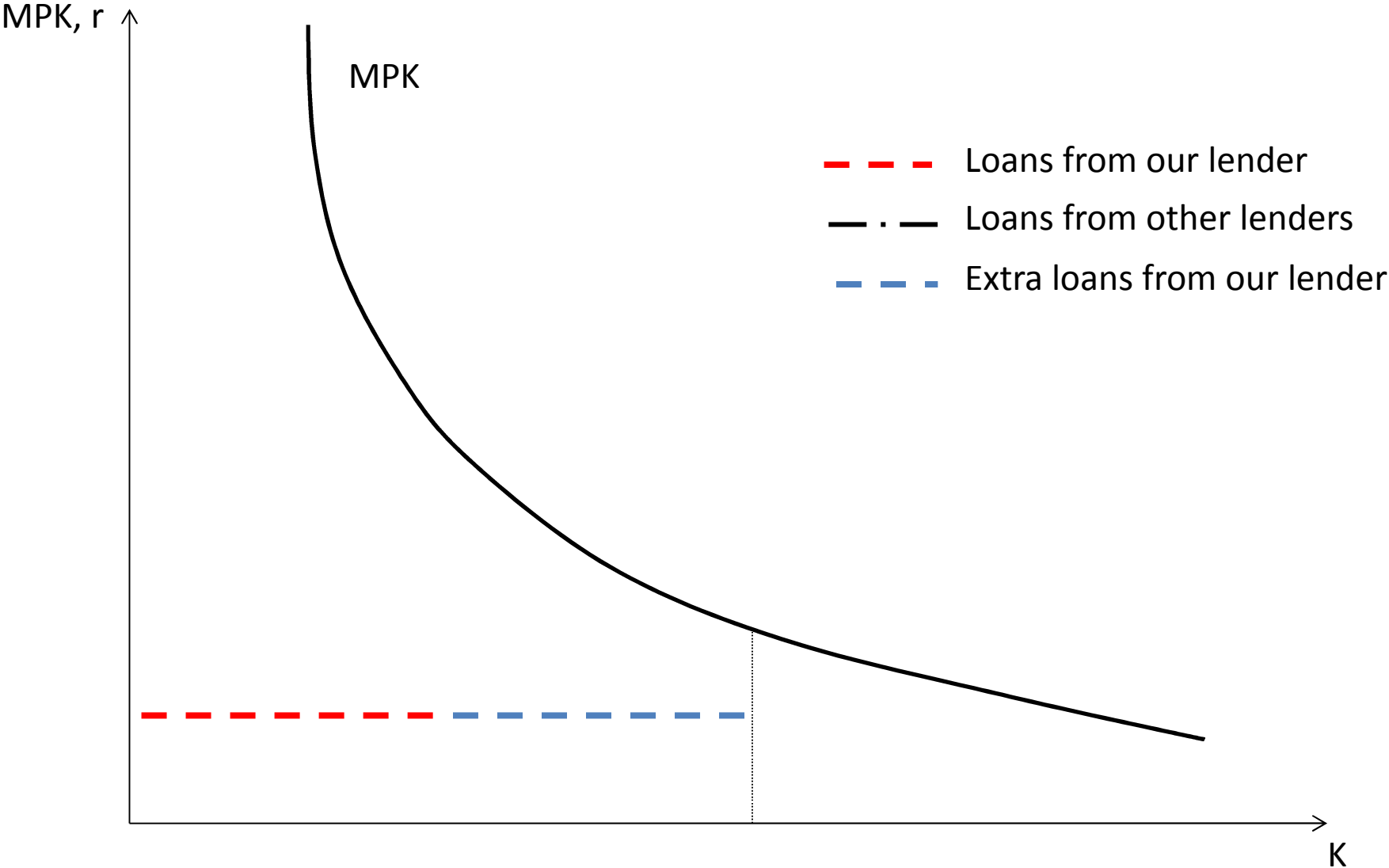
# Case 2: Our Lender is Infra-Mg.



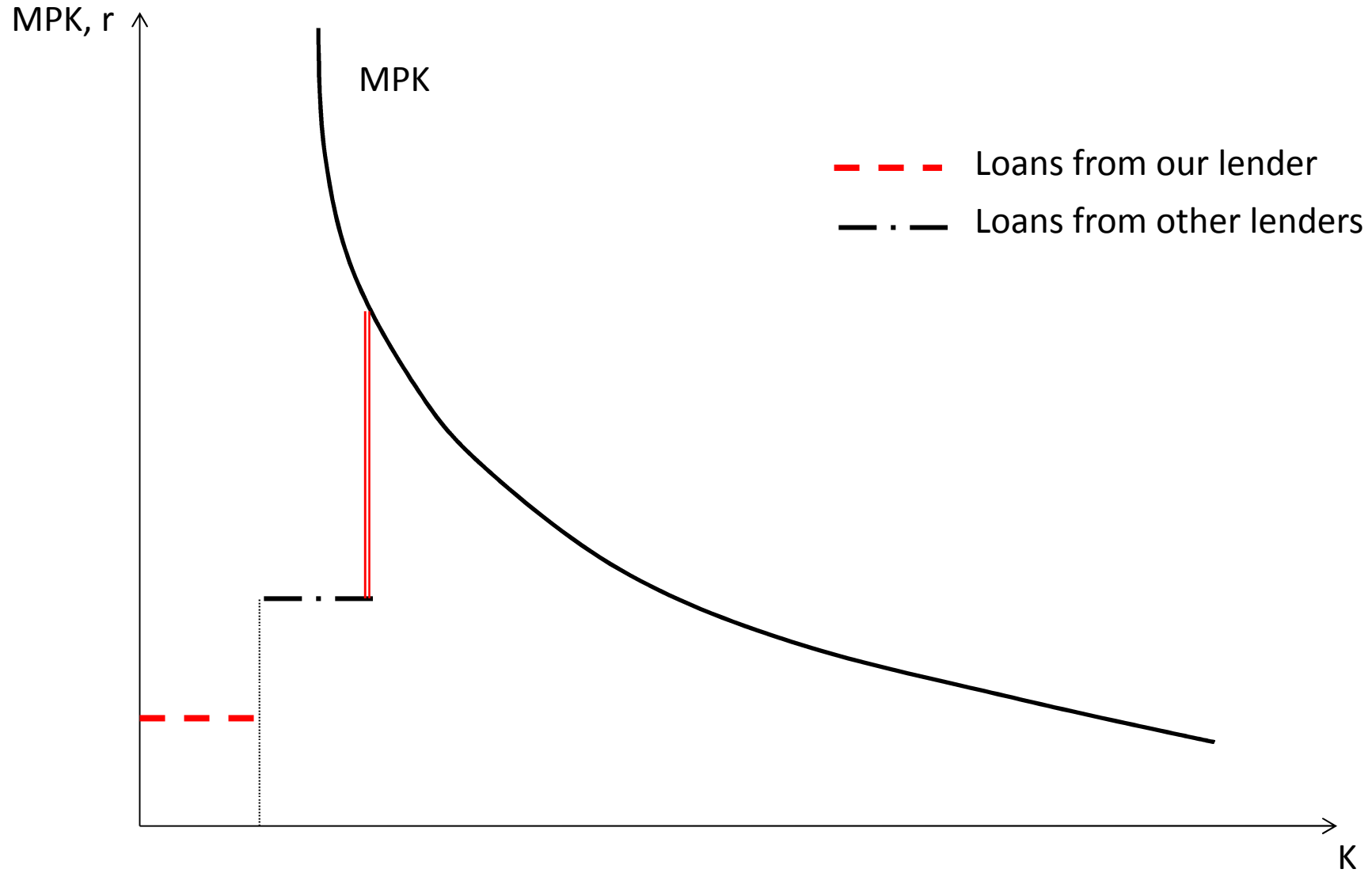
## Case 2: Our Lender is Infra-Mg.



# Case 2: Our Lender is Infra-Mg.



# A Credit Constrained Firm



# A Credit Constrained Firm

