

Discussion of “Take it to the Limit: The effects of household leverage caps” by Van Bakkum, Gabarro, Irani and Peydro

Paul Willen

Federal Reserve Bank of Boston and NBER

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These notes reflect the views of the author and don't necessarily reflect the official positions of the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston or the Federal Reserve System.

`discussions/VanBakkumDiscussion.tex`

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- When I say “we”, I don’t mean Jay and me.

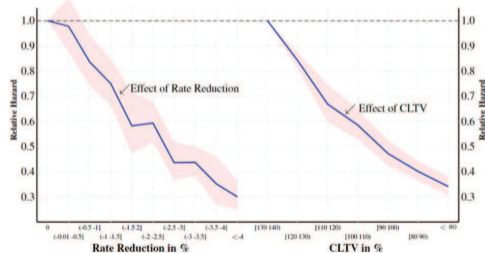


This paper

- Consider a policy to cap LTV ratio.

Figure 3: Estimated effects of rate reduction and CLTV on default hazard

Figure displays hazard ratios for bins of interest rates (relative to loan's original rate) as well as combined loan-to-value (CLTV) ratios in our baseline proportional hazard regressions of 60-day delinquency. Bands are 95 percent confidence intervals (based on standard errors clustered at state level). Regressions controls for a large set of additional variables, as described in Section 2.3. Coefficients and standard errors are shown in column (1) of Table A.1 in the appendix.

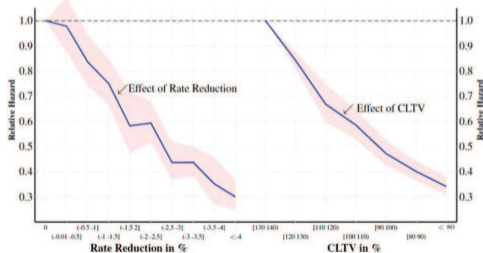


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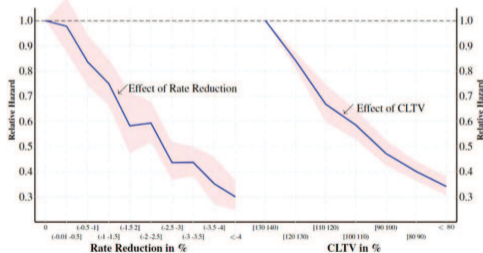


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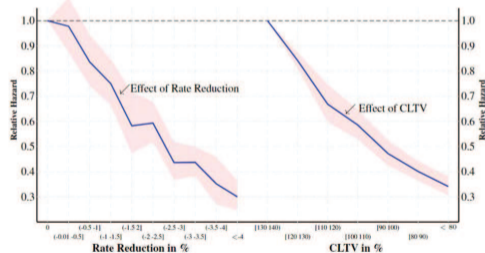


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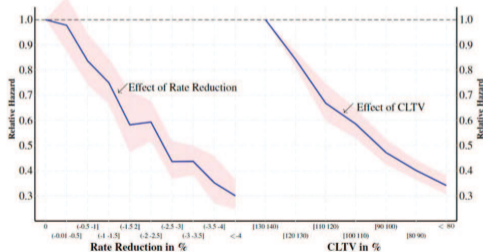


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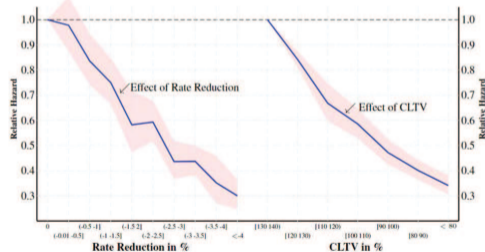


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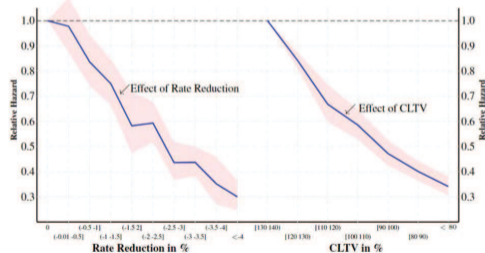


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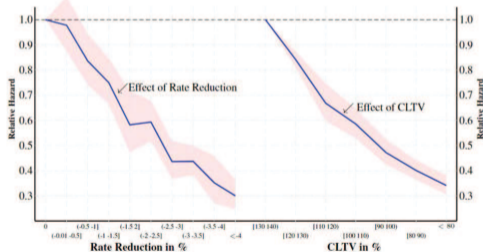


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 4. Liquidity: Higher up-front payment reduces liquidity after closing.

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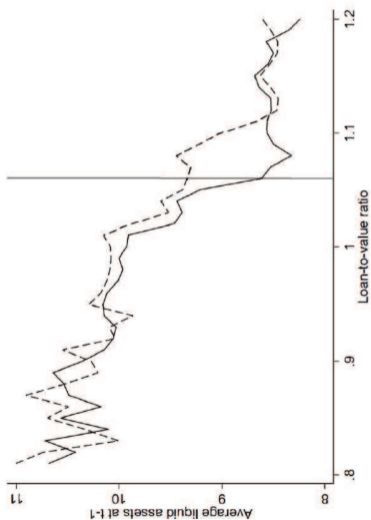


Findings

- Policy: 8/1/2011: > 106 LTV off menu for most borrowers in Netherlands

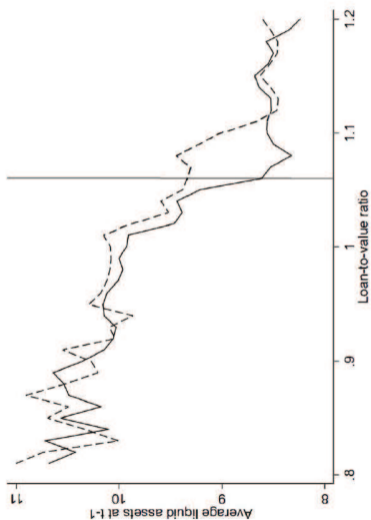
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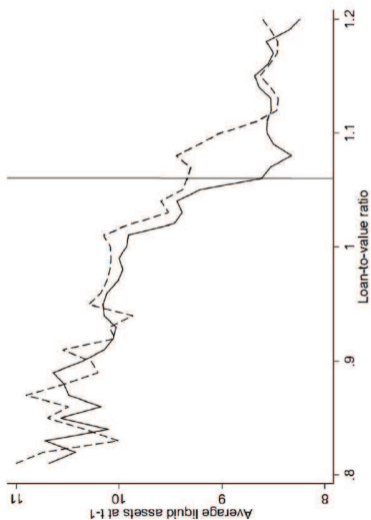
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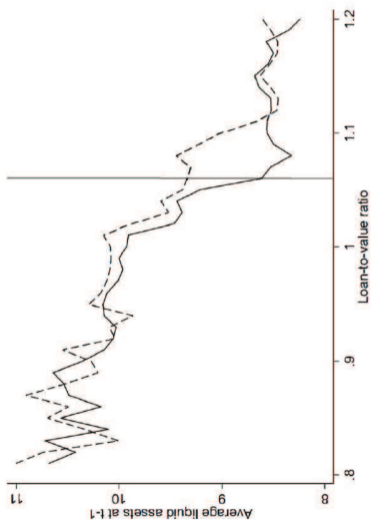
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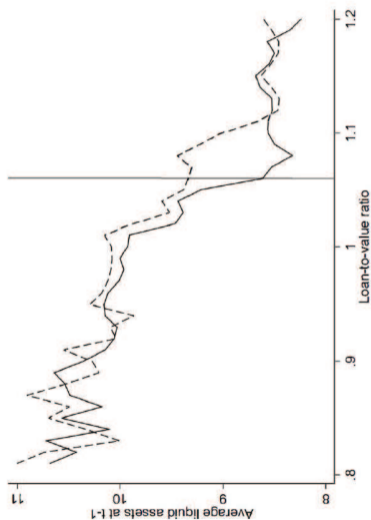


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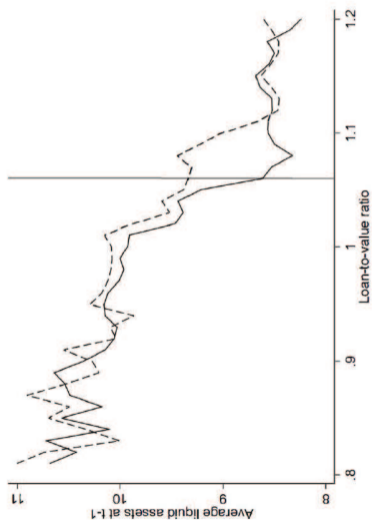


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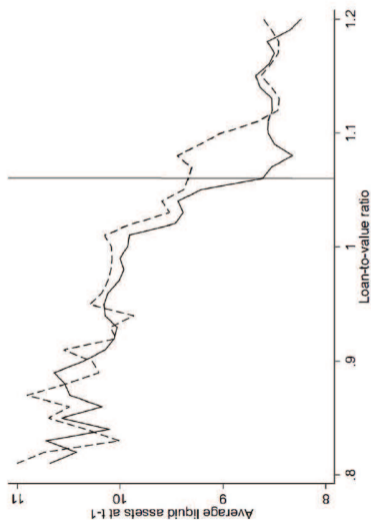
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 - 4.2% less debt
 - 1.8% bigger house
 - 13% less liquid assets (although falls over time)
 - 2 ppt reduction in default probability

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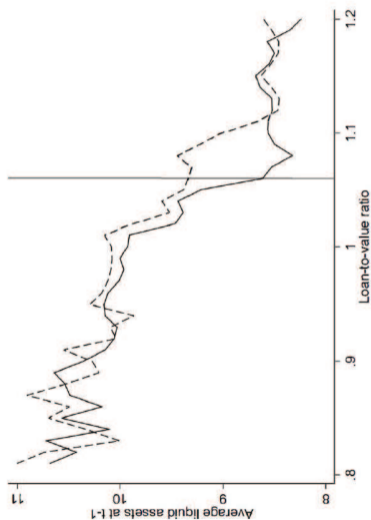
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 - Defaults fall by 2/3

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- Assume no prepayment risk.
1. Reduce default option
 - everyone gets 100 LTV loan
 - randomly balance by \downarrow 5%
 - increase rate so payment stays the same

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3. Selection?

- randomly offer menus
- max 100LTV versus max 95LTV
- same 95 LTV loan after origination
- removal of "risky" borrowers
 - people with low savings are bad financial planners?

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 - Different borrowers?
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- Full recourse \Rightarrow default option in Netherlands
- Selection (RCT 3)? or Treatment (RCT 2, 4)?
 - Different borrowers?
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- Does it matter? Fairness versus financial stability

The slide you've all been waiting for...

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- The end.