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Research on Information Asymmetry in Securitization

资产证券化中的 信息不对称问题研究

○本书主要针对资产证券化中的信息不对称问题展开研究,对资产证券化设计与信息不对称的关系、资产证券化过程中是否存在逆向选择和道德风险问题、资产证券化信息不对称问题在危机中的体现、危机后相应的监管改革、我国信贷资产证券化发展与信息不对称问题进行了深入分析与讨论,并结合资产证券化实践现状,提出合理的应对策略与政策建议。

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资产证券化中的信息不对称问题研究

Research on Information Asymmetry in Securitization

李丽君 著



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次贷危机发生以来,资产证券化市场发生了重大变化,无论是市场状况的转变,还是相应监管制度的改革,都引起了国际范围内的广泛关注。特别是在次贷危机中,资产证券化中的信息不对称问题急剧恶化,被认为是引发次贷危机的重要因素,如何解决这些问题也成为次贷危机后监管改进的关注重点。

本文主要针对资产证券化中的信息不对称问题展开研究,对五大相关问题进行了深入讨论,具体包括:资产证券化设计与投资者信心、资产证券化过程中的逆向选择与道德风险、资产证券化信息不对称问题在次贷危机中的体现、次贷危机后的资产证券化监管改革、我国信贷资产证券化发展与信息不对称问题。全文采用定性分析与定量分析相结合的方法,对这些问题进行了理论和实证的分析与检验,并结合资产证券化实践,提出合理的应对策略与政策建议。

本文对资产证券化设计对金融市场信息不对称的作用机制进行了分析,发现资产证券化设计的根本作用是应对金融市场中的信息不对称问题,以减少投资者对资产的折价效应,增加资产的流动性。研究发现,投

资者信心是连接资产证券化设计与资产证券化流动性的重要环节,即当资产证券化设计所传递的基础资产质量信号能够有效提升投资者信心时,投资者就会提高对资产支持证券的定价、增加对资产支持证券的投资,从而达到增加资产证券化流动性的目的。在资产证券化实践中,资产证券化设计所传递出的信号集中体现于资产证券化信用评级,从而对投资者信心产生显著影响。本文采用美国资产支持证券交易数据,通过事件研究的方法,证明了随着信用评级的上调,投资者对资产支持证券定价会出现显著的超额收益。这说明在资产证券化交易中,信用评级变动确实会对投资者信心产生显著的影响。进一步推论可以发现,在次贷危机发生前,过高的信用评级提升了投资者信心,促生了市场的迅速膨胀;次贷危机发生后,信用评级暴露出严重问题,导致投资者信心大幅降低,成为引发资产证券化市场流动性迅速枯竭的重要原因。

在对资产证券化过程中产生的信息不对称问题的分析讨论中,本文主要从资产证券化发起人的行为动机着手,对发起人行为可能引发的逆向选择和道德风险问题进行了分析与实证。本文采用次贷危机后 2011 年至2015 年美国银行层面的季度数据,结合宏观经济因素,使用差分 GMM 估计方法对银行不良贷款率与银行证券化资产之间的关系进行了实证研究,并据此判断银行的资产证券化过程中是否存在逆向选择和道德风险。研究结果显示,中小型银行不良贷款率与证券化资产总额存在显著负相关,表明中小银行更倾向于选择低质贷款进行证券化,说明了逆向选择的存在;大型银行不良贷款率与证券化资产总额存在显著正相关,表明大型银行可能在证券化的过程中降低了对贷款的筛选,说明了道德风险的存在。依据这一结论,本文认为,在资产证券化监管的过程中,需要对不同规模的银行实施有区别、有针对性的监管措施。

基于上述分析结果,本文对资产证券化信息不对称问题在次贷危机中的体现进行了深入的探讨。分析结果表明,资产证券化中的信息不对称问题确实在次贷危机爆发中起到了不可忽视的破坏性作用。第一,与投资者信心密切相关的资产证券化信用评级在次贷危机中出现了明显问题,严重地打击了投资者信心,进而导致资产支持证券需求大幅降低。第二,次贷危机中大量

住房抵押贷款的违约,很可能说明在资产证券化的条件下,发起人确实放松 了对贷款的筛选标准,从而为次贷危机的爆发埋下了伏笔。第三,次贷危机 中的资产证券化逆向选择问题并未完全如理论预期,而是显现出一定的发起 人行为扭曲。针对这些问题,本文也提出了有针对性的应对策略与政策建议。

结合资产证券化信息不对称问题的原理及其在次贷危机中的表现,本文还对金融监管改革对资产证券化信息不对称问题的改进进行了讨论。研究表明,次贷危机后的金融监管改革确实能在一定程度上解决资产证券化信息不对称问题,包括缓解资产证券化过程中存在的道德风险与逆向选择问题,增强整个资产证券化市场的信息透明度,构造简单、透明、可比的资产证券化结构,减少信用评级过程中的利益冲突等。但是,监管改革依然未能完全解决许多根源性问题,例如,未能确立更具参考价值的信用评估指标,难以消除评级依赖问题;未能打破评级机构"发行人支付模式",难以从根本上降低利益冲突发生的可能性;相应的行为准则实施存在一定阻碍,实施效果还不够明确。次贷危机后进行的资产证券化监管改革是大势所趋,但鉴于其中依然存在的种种问题,未来很可能还将面临进一步的改进。

在对资产证券化信息不对称问题对我国启示的讨论中,本文基于前文资产证券化信息不对称问题的理论与实践分析结果,结合我国信贷资产证券化发展的现状与特征,对我国信贷资产证券化中的信息不对称问题进行了深入分析。研究发现,相比国际成熟市场,我国信贷资产证券化的运知,相对简单、透明,信用评级相关的问题也未出现明显的恶化,因而在短期内不会引发投资者信心大幅降低。但是,由于相关市场机制和监管制度的不完善,以及次贷危机对投资者心理的影响,使投资者信心不足,二级市场表现并不活跃。我国目前的信贷资产支持证券的基础资产质量也并未出现恶化的迹象,但不排除作为发起人的大型银行在一定条件下出现道德风险问题。结合国际资产证券化实践经验,本文认为,我国信贷资产证券化发展需要在保障发展的同时,关注危机预防与监管改革,从而更好地应对资产证券化中的信息不对称问题。

关键词:资产证券化 信息不对称 道德风险 逆向选择 投资者信心

Abstract

Ever since subprime crisis, the securitization market has changed dramatically both in market mechanism and regulations, which has caused broad concern worldwide. Especially during the crisis, the information asymmetry problems in securitization experienced rapid deterioration, which was seen as a key driver of the crisis. How to fix such problems became the key issue in the reform of regulation after crisis.

This research mainly focuses on securitization related issues in the perspective of information asymmetry, and consists of five topics; what the relation is between securitization design and investor confidence, whether adverse selection or moral hazard exists in the process of securitization, how information asymmetry problems affect securitization market during crisis, what the reform of securitization regulation is about, and what the effects of information asymmetry are to securitization in China. The research applies both qualitative and empirical analysis methods to analyze such issues and test the results. Considering securitization practice, the research also provids some

related policy advice.

The research analyzes the mechanism of the effects of securitization design to the information asymmetry in financial market, and finds that the purpose of securitization design is basically to mitigate information asymmetry in financial market, decrease the lemon - discount effects and increase liquidity of asset backed securities. Investor confidence is the key factor linking the securitization design to asset - backed securities liquidity. That means, when the signals originated from securitization design effectively increase investor confidence, investors would raise the valuation of the asset - backed securities and enlarge the trading volume. In securitization practice, the signals originated from securitization design are mostly reflected on securitization credit ratings, so credit ratings are expected to have significant effects on investor confidence. The research also conducts an empirical analysis with event study method and the US MBS trading data. The results of the empirical analysis show that, when the credit ratings are raised, the investors' bid price shows significant excess earnings. That means, the credit ratings do have significant effects on investor confidence. That explains, before the crisis, the overvalued ratings of securitization increased investor confidence, which stimulated the booming of the markets; after the crisis, investors realized that problems exist in credit rating process, which obviously hurts investor confidence, then led to the drying up of liquidity of the whole market.

Under the study of the information asymmetry problems in securitization process, the research starts from the incentives of originators, and focuses on the analysis and empirical test of adverse selection and moral hazard in originators' behaviors. The research applies the US bank – level data and several macroeconomic factors to the diff – GMM estimation to test the correlation between non – performing loans (NPLs) ratio and managed securitized assets off – balance – sheet, which could provide the evidence of adverse selection and moral hazard in securitization. The empirical analysis results show that the NPLs

ratios of the mid and small size banks in the sample are negatively correlated with the amount of securitized assets, which means, the mid and small size banks are more likely to securitize bad quality loans, indicating that adverse selection do exist in securitization; the NPLs ratios of the large size banks in the sample are positively correlated with the amount of securitized assets, which means, the large banks might lower the screening, indicating that moral hazard do exist in securitization. Based on the results, the research suggests that the regulation standards to securitization should be different to different sized banks.

Based on the results mentioned above, the research takes a deepanalysis on the information asymmetry problems in securitization during subprime crisis. The results show that the information asymmetry problems in securitization took non – negligible effects on the explosion of crisis. Firstly, credit ratings, which are significantly related with investor confidence, exposed severe problems, which hurts the investor confidence, and leads to the dramatically decreasing of demand of securitization investment. Secondly, lots of mortgages defaulted during crisis, which probably results from the lax screening from originators, and seeds the crisis. Thirdly, the adverse selection in securitization process does not follow the theoretical expectation, but shows the behavior disorder of originators or issuers. The research also provides some related policy advice.

Considering the mechanism of information asymmetry problems in securitization and its reflection in crisis, the research also conducts a study on the reform of regulation in securitization. The results show that the reform of regulation after crisis can improve information asymmetry in securitization to some extent, including ease the adverse selection and moral hazard exist in securitization process, increase the transparency of securitization market, build simple, transparent, and comparable securitization structure, and decrease the conflict of interest in the credit rating process. However, the reform of regulation still cannot solve some key issues. The reform did not build new credit risk indicator to solve the problem of over reliance on credit ratings; the reform did

not change the issuer – pay model in credit rating agencies, which may lead to serious conflict of interst; some of the new principles are not adopted properly, and the effects of implementation are still unclear. Carring on the reform of regulation after crisis is the main trend, and considering the drawbacks exist in current regulation, the securtization related regulation probably is confronted with further reform in the future.

In the study of the effects of information asymmetry in securitization and the securitization market development in China, considering China's market features and current situation, based on the theory and practice analysis mentioned above, the research carries on the analysis of the information asymmetry in China's securitization market. The results show that, compared with the mature market, the securitization design in China's market is relatively simple and transparent, and the credit ratings issues are not significant, so the serious deterioration of investor confidence would not appear in China's market in the short term. But since the market machenism and regulation are still under development and the crisis significantly affects investors' sentiment, the investor confidence in China's market is still insufficient, which leads to the inactive trading in secondary market. The qualities of the underlying assets of securitization are not under serious deterioration in China's market, but adverse selection may exist under some specific situations when the originators are mid and small sized banks, and moral hazard may exist when the originators are large sized banks. Combined with the practice experience of securitization in mature markets, the research indicates that, during the process of the development of securitization in China's market, it is important to focus on crisis prevention and reform of regulation, to solve the information asymmetry related problems in securitization.

Keywords: securitization, information asymmetry, adverse selection, moral hazard, investor confidence

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美国住房抵押贷款违约指数

资产证券化信用评级流程

美国住房抵押贷款与证券化增长率

资产证券化发行量与投资者信心

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图 5-2

图 5-3

图 5-4

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