

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT

INCOME SMOOTHING IN THE BANKING INDUSTRY

by

CARL GEORGES HADDAD

A project
submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements
for the degree of Master of Arts in Financial Economics
to the Department of Economics
of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences
at the American University of Beirut

Beirut, Lebanon
June 2012

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT

INCOME SMOOTHING IN THE BANKING INDUSTRY

by
CARL GEORGES HADDAD

Approved by:

Dr. NisreenSalti, Assistant Professor
Economics

Advisor

Dr. Yassar Nasser, Assistant Professor
Economics

Member of Committee

Date of project defense: June 11, 2012

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF BEIRUT

PROJECT RELEASE FORM

I, Carl Georges Haddad

authorize the American University of Beirut to supply copies of my project to libraries or individuals upon request.

do not authorize the American University of Beirut to supply copies of my project to libraries or individuals for a period of two years starting with the date of the project defense.

Signature

Date

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Special thanks are for my advisor Professor NisreenSalti for her patience, kindness and valuable assistance throughout the whole project especially with regards to econometric techniques.

AN ABSTRACT OF THE PROJECT OF

Carl Georges Haddad for Master of Arts
Major: Financial Economics

Title: Income Smoothing In The Banking Industry

In this study, I investigate some of the possible correlates of income smoothing. I try to find a relation between the provision for loan losses and some variables used in the related literature. I try to contribute to the literature by adding the change in stock price as a motivator for income smoothing. The volatility of a company's stock price is not desirable by investors. This is why a change in stock price motivates firms to smooth income using loan loss provisions in order to give an image of stability. I use a sample of 79 of the largest banks listed in the New York Stock Exchange by market capitalization as of end of 2009 during the period of 1993-2009. The results show no significant relation between the change in stock price and loan loss provisions, but the other variables remain more or less consistent with the literature with a strong level of significance.

TABLES

Summary Table 1	11
Regression 1	12
Regression 2	14
Regression 3.....	16
Regression 4	18
Regression 5	20
Regression 6	22
Regression 7	26
Summary Table 2	27
Regression 9	28

CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.....	v
ABSTRACT	vi
LIST OF TABLES	vii
Chapter	
I. INTRODUCTION	1
II. LITERATURE REVIEW	3
A. Theoretical Literature	3
B. Empirical Literature	5
1. Cross Sectional Studies.....	5
2. Panel Data Studies	6
III. EMPIRICAL ANALYSIS	9
A. Description of Data.....	9
B. Regression Analysis.....	11
IV. CONCLUSION.....	30
REFERENCES.....	32
APPENDIX	34

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Financial statements do not always represent the true performance of a company. Managers use accounting techniques to stabilize income fluctuations from one period to another, a practice called income smoothing. When earnings in a period are above a certain level, it is common practice for managers to record some of those earnings into another period where earnings might not be as high, thus showing a smoother income stream and creating an image of stability for the firm.

There are a lot of reasons why a firm would smooth income. Some people argue that managers' job security is the main motivation for giving a better image of performance. Others say that the propensity for a firm to smooth income is mainly due to managers' personal motivations and ambitions since their end of year bonus is directly related to the firm's performance. Since earnings variability is used as a measure of risk, firms may engage in income smoothing practices in order to attract more investors.

In this paper I try to focus on that last aspect of income smoothing and more specifically in the banking industry. Banking is typically one of the least risky industries since it has to do with the investment of people's money. However this image could be in part due to managers' income smoothing activities which create a false image of stability in an industry that requires a high degree of public confidence. I will try to investigate the relationship between the provision for loan losses and the change in the company's stock price at the close of the calendar year. Loan loss provisions are the bank's estimation of the value of outstanding loans that will default. It is an expense

that accounts for the feebleness of the bank's loan portfolio. Since it is a discretionary variable, managers can use it as a tool for market signaling. A company's stock price is an important indicator of the ease a company would have in raising capital. When the stock price increases, money can be brought into the company more easily. Generally, firms with a smoother income stream are the ones that are most desired by investors who are afraid of volatility. This is why I suspect a change in the stock price may be a motivator for income smoothing.

Using data from the Compustat Database, I investigate the effect of the change in stock price at the close of the calendar year on banks' loan loss provisions. I use a sample of 79 of the largest banks in the United States by market capitalization as of the end of 2009, with data ranging from 1993 to 2009 to construct a panel data set. The variables used in the model are the same or proxies for the ones used in the related literature except for the addition of changes in the stock price.

In an era of great financial instability and debate about bank deregulation, the subject of income smoothing is as current as ever. Information asymmetry, where managers have a better idea than investors about the bank's true performance, has become one of the main concerns of regulators.

In the next section I will review the literature related to the subject, then I will conduct my own empirical analysis followed by a conclusion.

CHAPTER II

LITERATURE REVIEW

A lot of literature has been written on the subject of income smoothing in the banking as well as other industries. Studies show different reasons why banks would smooth income. Some of the literature is purely theoretical while some adopt a more empirical approach.

A. Theoretical Literature

Fudenberg and Tirole (1995) construct a theoretical economic model that explains reasons behind income smoothing and earnings management. The model is based on the assumption that managers are compensated depending on the performance of the units they are managing. The manager is assumed to earn a private benefit from the firm and is risk averse when it comes to income. The firm itself will take action anytime it feels the manager is underperforming by either firing him, closing down the business or both. In case of bad performance, the manager's own private benefits are reduced. This creates an incentive for the manager smooth earnings to maximize his tenure and compensation. The model takes into consideration information decay which states that more recent information is more valuable than old information. Therefore, in a three period model, the manager will reduce income in during good times in anticipation of future bad performance. This way, the performance in the last period will be optimal for the manager. The model also makes a distinction between earnings reports and dividends. The latter can be used as a powerful signaling device for investors and debt holders. Finally, the authors suggest an extension to their model by

suggesting smoothing in hierarchies rather than a simple principle agent framework. This can be done by studying the model of many units within a firm reporting to a corporate headquarters which in turn reports to investors.

Dye (1988) raises the issue of asymmetric information and uses an overlapping generation model to try to describe the situations that are most favorable for income smoothing and to show the costs and benefits of income smoothing to shareholders. There is an internal and external demand for earnings management. Once stockholders have decided which dynamic in the firm they seek their management to implement, they must design a compensation plan to encourage management to choose that action. External demand for earnings management in contrast is when shareholders can improve contractual terms with outsiders by smoothing income. Managers are unable to divulge the full information to shareholders, and investors cannot completely reveal the manager's compensation schemes, this is a form of asymmetric information.

Trueman and Titman (1988) have shown that managers always have an incentive to smooth income. Some industries are more prone to smoothing income than others. Trueman and Titman assume that risk-averse investors always prefer a smooth income stream which affects the share price of the firm. Managers have the goal to increase the cash flows accruing to investors. Firms' future stakeholders are adversely affected by the volatility of earnings. The volatility increases the cost of firms' future debt and in turn the financing of future projects. This is because the price that a firm pays for debt is directly related to the perceived risk of bankruptcy which is influenced by the volatility of earnings. Income smoothing reduces the perceived risk of bankruptcy to investors. For these reasons, managers try to decrease the variance of the firm's earnings. This is an agency theory approach to the problem. The authors propose

some extensions to their literature. The model used assumes that all firms sell securities to debtors, which is not the case in the real world and a separate model could be constructed to account for this. The variance of earnings is assumed to be unknown to investors and the mean known. The model can be constructed in a way that variance is known and the mean unknown. In this case, managers always have an incentive to increase reported earnings thus giving investors higher expectations of future income. This also increases the price of the securities sold.

B. Empirical Literature

1. Cross Sectional Studies

Ma (1988) tries to find evidence of income smoothing in the United States banking industry through the use of loan loss provisions. Characteristics of the best smoothing devices are defined in his paper. It should not commit a firm to any future actions, it should be consistent with the generally accepted accounting principle, it shouldn't require any real transaction and it must be used over consecutive time periods. He states that like any other company, a bank has an incentive to smooth income and the principal agent problem is exacerbated. The bank needs to show an even greater image of stability since the deposits of the customers are at stake. The loan loss provision is a discretionary accounting value which leaves room for some flexibility on the managers' side. The econometric model in this paper shows that loan loss provisions are not related to the quality of the outstanding loans but rather to the operating income. When income is high (low) provisions are increased (decreased).

Eckel (1981) talks about two types of income smoothing. Artificial smoothing is where firms use accounting manipulations, which can involve shifting costs and

revenues into another period. Real smoothing on the other hand is done by undertaking actual transactions in order to change income. This might include selecting projects based on its smoothing effect. In his study, Eckel finds no concrete evidence of income smoothing, 97 percent of the firms in his sample were either unsuccessful in smoothing their income or were not even attempting to do so.

Koch (1981) performed an experiment where he showed that widely held corporations (i.e publicly traded) are more likely to smooth than closely held corporations (i.e small corporations with one shareholder). Artificial variables are more likely to be used as smoothing instruments than real variables.

Liberty and Zimmerman (1986) hypothesize that firms are most likely to smooth income during labor contract negotiations. Management are said to reduce earnings during these periods in order to better negotiate in their favor. For this study, a sample of firms from unionized and not unionized companies was used during the period from 1968 to 1981. The results however are not conclusive because during the sample period, earnings were already low leaving little incentive for smoothing.

2. Panel Data Studies

Healy (1985) states that managers tend to choose accounting procedures depending on their bonus and compensation contracts. He analyzed a bonus scheme where managers do not earn a bonus if earnings are below a certain level, a fixed bonus beyond a certain level and a discretionary bonus when earnings are somewhere between the upper and lower levels. A sample of the 250 largest industrial firms in the United States is used where bonus plans are commonly discussed during the companies' annual meetings. The test results show that bonus schemes do indeed create an incentive for

managers to smooth income since there is a high correlation between changes in accounting procedures and individual bonus contracts.

DeFond and Park (1997) further support this by showing that concerns about job security create an incentive for managers to smooth income using expected future performance to increase current operating income or, conversely, if current income is above the required level, to project it to another period in anticipation of bad future performance. A large sample of firms from different industries is used in order to test for this. It is an extension of a model by Jones (1991) who tries to find a relation between income smoothing and import protection.

Fonseca and Gonzalez (2008) use a panel econometric model to see the extent of income smoothing through loan provisions. With a sample of 4,546 banks across 41 countries, they try accounting for many different variables such as the amount of investor protection, regulation... The paper finds no consistent reason for income smoothing across countries as they are numerous and varied. Investor protection and regulation seems to be the best way to reduce income smoothing.

Cavallo and Majnoni (2001) take into consideration the level of institutional development with loan loss provisioning practices as well as the assertiveness of outsiders such as fiscal authorities and small shareholders. Their empirical analysis shows that the agency problem is greatly reduced when there is more governmental control.

Kanagaretnam et al. (2004) introduce a new approach to the subject by using an indicator of the value of the firm. Loan loss provisions are more likely to be used as a signaling device in firms that are undervalued. To show this, firms were categorized

into subgroups in order to isolate the ones that are most likely to smooth. This proved that the incentive to smooth is not uniform across the whole banking industry.

Greenawalt and Sinkey (1988) find evidence of income smoothing by using a GLS model and a sample of 106 of the largest U.S bank holding companies during the period of 1976 to 1984. Loan loss provisions are considered the main tool for income smoothing. Their research finds that regional banks are more likely to smooth than money-center banks.

In this study, I focus mainly on the interaction between the stock price at the close of the calendar year and the loan loss provisions. The empirical model used will be presented in the next section.

CHAPTER III

EMPIRICAL ANALYSIS

A. Description of Data

I use a sample of the 79 largest banks in the United States as of the end of 2009 ranked by market capitalization. The observations span from 1993 to 2009, taken from the Compustat database. Following are the variables used:

LLP: Loan Loss Provisions, my dependent are considered as the main tool for income smoothing. They represent an allowance set aside from the profit account in order to account for bad loans. This variable is usually estimated by the management based on historical loan defaults, however, there is some flexibility which allows for earnings management in order to stabilize income.

CPC: The change in the stock price at the end of a calendar year closing. In this study, it is considered as the main item influencing LLP. I investigate the role of the stock price variation from year to year in LLP variation.

Cash: Cash and Equivalents represent the ending balance of cash and its equivalents. They are the most liquid items on the balance sheet and the most readily convertible into cash. They include short-term assets such as short-term government bonds, commercial paper...

DIV: Dividends Cash Common are the total amount of cash dividends paid on common stock.

GDP: Gross Domestic Product. It allows us to account for the macroeconomic environment and business cycles.

GP: Gross Profit, the difference between Sales and the Cost of Goods Sold.

INT: Intangibles are any non-monetary asset on the balance sheet, they might include patents, licenses, operating rights, trade secrets and job know-how...

INV: Investments and advances other represent mainly real estate investments and investments in unconsolidated companies in which it is hard to verify the validity of the numbers. It might include for example real estate investments that companies can report as earnings that no one can verify accurately.

LIAB: Total liabilities represent all current as well as long term liabilities present on the bank's balance sheet.

NIL: Net Income (Loss) of the company is expenses and losses subtracted from revenues and gains.

OI: Operating Income before depreciation represents income from normal business operations

OIA: Operating Income After Depreciation is operating income that includes depreciation amortization

Plant: Plant Property and Equipment (Net) is the net cost or valuation of fixed assets less depreciation

REC: Receivables Total (Net) is the total amount of money the bank expects to receive from its customers.

Below is a table summarizing some descriptive statistics regarding the variables:

Variable	Mean	Median	Maximum	Minimum	Std. Dev.	Sum	Sum Sq. Dev.	Observations
CASH	6422.45	393.84	368149	0.08	25063.26	8426255.	8.24E+11	1312
CPC	0.02	0.01	7.51	-1	0.40	22.51	206.84	1294
CPC_GDP	8.91E-07	0	0	0	1.07E-05	0	1.53E-07	1343
DIV	322.91	37.71	11301	0	1068.16	423653.7	1.50E+09	1312
CPC_TA	2.03E-05	1.33E-08	0.01	-0.01	0	0.02	0	1313
GDP	36244.12	35898	46971	25327	7073.99	48675850	6.72E+10	1343
GP	6494.35	400.63	1600000.	-2,070.49	59816.91	8520590.	4.69E+12	1312
INT	2475.42	137.78	118114.0	0	9468.43	2935844.	1.06E+11	1186
INV	20176.87	2134.37	891148.0	1.35	79046.53	26472056	8.19E+12	1312
LIAB	21025.10	665.31	1900000.	0	105092.50	27605951	1.45E+13	1313
LLP	489.56	17.50	48570.00	-47.00	2583.33	642298.20	8.75E+09	1312
NIL	621.26	90.66	21133.00	-34,414.60	2308.92	815718.50	6.99E+09	1313
OI	1750.32	220.45	44319.00	-3,739.18	5127.70	2296422.	3.45E+10	1312
TA	83818.13	9395.43	3800000.	87.50	299887.6	1.10E+08	1.18E+14	1313
RET	3356.86	443.07	116416.00	-3,105	10468.22	4407552.	1.44E+11	1313
REC	44491.08	5476.95	2100000.	1.33	151595.20	58372300	3.01E+13	1312
PLANT	967.90	136.05	37205.60	0.000000	3151.03	1270858.	1.30E+10	1313
OIA	1553.70	198.87	41450.00	-4,180.79	4609.44	2038461.	2.79E+10	1312

Summary Table 1

Most of the literature related to the subject uses the above variables or variables close to them except for CPC.

B. Regression Analysis

Regression 1:

I start by running a simple constant coefficients model with LLP being the dependent variable. The results of this regression are listed in TABLE (1). Following is the regression equation:

$$LLP = \alpha + \beta_1 CASH + \beta_2 CPC + \beta_3 DIV + \beta_4 GDP + \beta_5 GP + \beta_6 INT + \beta_7 INV + \beta_8 LIAB + \beta_9 NIL + \beta_{10} OI + \beta_{11} TA + \beta_{12} RET + \beta_{13} REC + \beta_{14} PLANT + \beta_{15}$$

Below is the regression result which includes Year Dummy variables that are shown in TABLE (1) of the appendix:

Dependent Variable: LLP_?
Method: Pooled Least Squares
Date: 05/17/12 Time: 23:09
Sample: 1993 2009
Included observations: 17
Cross-sections included: 79
Total pool (unbalanced) observations: 1163
WARNING: estimated coefficient covariance matrix is of reduced rank

Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
C	-1867.831	1.54E+09	-1.21E-06	1.0000
CASH_?	0.000617	0.003816	0.161778	0.8715
REC_?	0.008433	0.002756	3.059616	0.0023
PLANT_?	-0.186395	0.027825	-6.698811	0.0000
INV_?	-0.011268	0.002673	-4.215197	0.0000
INT_?	0.122143	0.009677	12.62211	0.0000
TA_?	0.010114	0.002698	3.749317	0.0002
LIAB_?	0.004790	0.001960	2.444282	0.0147
RET_?	0.174934	0.009323	18.76351	0.0000
GP_?	-0.038592	0.001602	-24.08615	0.0000
OI_?	-0.015609	0.090858	-0.171799	0.8636
OIA_?	0.071938	0.098233	0.732326	0.4641
NIL_?	-0.709862	0.038496	-18.43971	0.0000
DIV_?	-2.036045	0.065880	-30.90544	0.0000
CPC_?	-40.43321	69.98150	-0.577770	0.5635
GDP	0.034580	33216.15	1.04E-06	1.0000
R-squared	0.905637	Mean dependent var	539.3037	
Adjusted R-squared	0.903051	S.D. dependent var	2737.656	
S.E. of regression	852.4159	Akaike info criterion	16.36116	
Sum squared resid	8.22E+08	Schwarz criterion	16.50035	
Log likelihood	-9482.012	Hannan-Quinn criter.	16.41367	
F-statistic	350.1492	Durbin-Watson stat	1.550939	
Prob(F-statistic)	0.000000			

Regression 1

The results show an R-squared of 0.90 which bodes well for the model. The variable CPC has a very large coefficient of -40.43, however, with a very high p-value (0.56), it is not significant, so the change in stock price at the close of the calendar year does not have a significant effect on the Loan Loss Provisions. The remaining variables are more or less consistent with the literature: DIV has a coefficient of -2.06 and is

significant at the 1% level, this means that when dividends increase, LLP decreases. GP has a low coefficient of -0.04 and is significant at the 1% level, this means that when profits increase by 1 unit, LLP decreases by four percentage points. This is consistent with the literature and it makes sense because an increase in profits allows a company to reduce their provisions. INT has a coefficient of 0.12 and is significant at the 1% level. This means that when INT increases by 1 unit, LLP increases by 12 percentage points. INV has a coefficient of -0.01 and is significant at the 1% level, so a 1 unit increase in INV decreases LLP by 1%. INV mostly represent real estate investments that cannot be verified accurately which allows managers to use it as a smoothing device; any decrease in INV can be recorded as an increase in LLP. LIAB has a coefficient of 0.004 and is significant at the 1% level; it is positively related to LLP which is consistent with the literature. NIL has a coefficient of -0.71 and is significant at the 1% level. A 1 unit increase in NIL reduces LLP by 71 percentage points, so when income increases, managers decide to carry less provisions. PLANT has a coefficient of -0.19 and is significant at the 1% level so a 1 unit increase in PLANT value decreases provisions by 19 percentage points. REC has a coefficient of 0.008 and is significant at the 1% level. A 1 unit increase in REC increases LLP by 0.8. This is a relatively weak relation considering that REC represents all the money owed to the bank by customers. Finally, TA has a coefficient of 0.01 and is significant at the 1% level, which means that a 1 unit increase in TA increases LLP by 1 percentage point. The rest of the variables are insignificant. As we can see, most of the variables are consistent with the literature on the subject. However, my variable of interest, CPC, is not significant.

Regression 2:

I run another regression with the same variables only this time using bank fixed effects. Results are reported in Table (5). Following is the regression equation:

$$LLP = \alpha + \beta_1 CASH + \beta_2 CPC + \beta_3 DIV + \beta_4 GDP + \beta_5 GP + \beta_6 INT + \beta_7 INV + \beta_8 LIAB + \beta_9 NIL + \beta_{10} OI + \beta_{11} TA + \beta_{12} RET + \beta_{13} REC + \beta_{14} PLANT + \beta_{15}$$

Below is the regression result which includes Year Dummy variables and bank fixed effects that are shown in TABLE (5) of the appendix:

Dependent Variable: LLP_?
 Method: Pooled Least Squares
 Date: 05/17/12 Time: 23:09
 Sample: 1993 2009
 Included observations: 17
 Cross-sections included: 79
 Total pool (unbalanced) observations: 1163
 WARNING: estimated coefficient covariance matrix is of reduced rank

Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
C	-218.9155	6.83E+08	-3.20E-07	1.0000
CASH_?	0.015068	0.004308	3.497588	0.0005
REC_?	0.006945	0.002754	2.521430	0.0118
PLANT_?	-0.119710	0.041496	-2.884848	0.0040
INV_?	-0.000932	0.003432	-0.271678	0.7859
INT_?	0.093034	0.011363	8.187312	0.0000
TA_?	0.007849	0.003039	2.582913	0.0099
LIAB_?	0.006400	0.002179	2.936674	0.0034
RET_?	0.149768	0.011180	13.39561	0.0000
GP_?	-0.039303	0.001931	-20.34963	0.0000
OI_?	0.149615	0.118953	1.257771	0.2088
OIA_?	-0.067672	0.123783	-0.546699	0.5847
NIL_?	-0.733429	0.037179	-19.72711	0.0000
DIV_?	-1.879766	0.066040	-28.46391	0.0000
CPC_?	-55.61428	66.78755	-0.832704	0.4052
GDP	-0.002326	14723.48	-1.58E-07	1.0000

Effects Specification

Cross-section fixed (dummy variables)			
R-squared	0.924152	Mean dependent var	539.3037
Adjusted R-squared	0.916301	S.D. dependent var	2737.656
S.E. of regression	792.0246	Akaike info criterion	16.27687
Sum squared resid	6.61E+08	Schwarz criterion	16.75534
Log likelihood	-9354.999	Hannan-Quinn criter.	16.45738
F-statistic	117.7074	Durbin-Watson stat	1.617687
Prob(F-statistic)	0.000000		

Regression 2

The R-squared is 0.92 which is again a good indicator of the strength of the model. CPC has a high coefficient of -55.61 but it is insignificant with a p-value of 0.41. I will highlight some important results in this regression that are again consistent with the related literature. GP has a coefficient of -0.04 and is significant at the 1% level. DIV has a coefficient of -1.88 and is significant at the 1% level. So again, DIV is negatively related to Loan Loss Provisions as shown in the first regression and in the literature. INT has a coefficient of 0.09 and is significant at the 1% level. LIAB has a coefficient of 0.006 and is significant at the 1% level. NIL has a coefficient of -0.73 and is significant at the 1% level. PLANT has a coefficient of -0.12 and is significant at the 1% level. REC has a coefficient of 0.006 and is significant at the 5% level. TA has a coefficient of 0.01 and is significant at the 1% level. The results of this regression are the same as the first in terms of significance with the coefficients of the variables varying only slightly. Since CPC is still insignificant I run a series of regressions described in the following subsections.

Regression 3:

I run a standard OLS regression with a linear term in CPC and the interaction term CPC_TA which allows for the effect of the change in stock price to vary by bank size (Results in Table 2). The following is the regression equation:

$$LLP = \alpha + \beta_1 CASH + \beta_2 CPC + \beta_3 DIV + \beta_4 GDP + \beta_5 GP + \beta_6 INT + \beta_7 INV + \beta_8 LIAB + \beta_9 NIL + \beta_{10} OI + \beta_{11} TA + \beta_{12} RET + \beta_{13} REC + \beta_{14} PLANT + \beta_{15}$$

Below is the regression result which includes Year Dummy variables that are shown in TABLE (2) of the appendix:

Dependent Variable: LLP_?
Method: Pooled Least Squares
Date: 05/17/12 Time: 23:10
Sample: 1993 2009
Included observations: 17
Cross-sections included: 79
Total pool (unbalanced) observations: 1163
WARNING: estimated coefficient covariance matrix is of reduced rank

Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
C	-1782.438	1.55E+09	-1.15E-06	1.0000
CASH_?	0.000620	0.003817	0.162508	0.8709
REC_?	0.008435	0.002758	3.058664	0.0023
PLANT_?	-0.186450	0.027839	-6.697546	0.0000
INV_?	-0.011268	0.002674	-4.213208	0.0000
INT_?	0.122127	0.009682	12.61424	0.0000
TA_?	0.010112	0.002699	3.746715	0.0002
LIAB_?	0.004793	0.001961	2.444645	0.0147
RET_?	0.174951	0.009327	18.75736	0.0000
GP_?	-0.038591	0.001603	-24.07441	0.0000
OI_?	-0.015440	0.090895	-0.169867	0.8651
OIA_?	0.071842	0.098272	0.731055	0.4649
NIL_?	-0.709871	0.038516	-18.43052	0.0000
DIV_?	-2.036259	0.065915	-30.89227	0.0000
CPC_?	-44.27570	72.25695	-0.612753	0.5402
CPC_TA_?	14189.15	66180.69	0.214400	0.8303
GDP	0.032728	33459.64	9.78E-07	1.0000
R-squared	0.905641	Mean dependent var	539.3037	
Adjusted R-squared	0.902969	S.D. dependent var	2737.656	
S.E. of regression	852.7757	Akaike info criterion	16.36283	
Sum squared resid	8.22E+08	Schwarz criterion	16.50638	
Log likelihood	-9481.988	Hannan-Quinn criter.	16.41699	
F-statistic	338.9224	Durbin-Watson stat	1.550908	
Prob(F-statistic)	0.000000			

Regression 3

The results show an R-squared of 0.92 which is a good indicator of the regression's strength. CPC has a large coefficient of -44.27 but the p-value is 0.54 which makes it statistically insignificant. The variable DIV has a coefficient of -2.03 and is significant at the 1% level. GP has a coefficient of -0.04 and is significant at the 1% level so a 1 unit increase in GP reduces LLP by 4 percentage points. INT has a coefficient of 0.12 and is significant at the 1% level. INV has a very small coefficient of 0.01 and is significant at the 1% level. LIAB has a coefficient of 0.005 and is significant

at the 5% level. NIL has a coefficient of -0.71 and is significant at the 1% level. PLANT has a coefficient of -0.19 and is significant at the 1% level. REC has a coefficient of 0.008 and is significant at the 1% level. TA has a coefficient of 0.01 and is significant at the 1% level. CPC_TA has a large coefficient of 14189.15 and is insignificant with a p-value of 0.83.

Regression 4:

I run a standard OLS regression with a linear term in CPC and the interaction term CPC_GDP which allows the effect of the change in stock price to depend on the macroeconomic environment (Results in Table 3). Following is the regression equation:

$$LLP = \alpha + \beta_1 CASH + \beta_2 CPC + \beta_3 DIV + \beta_4 GDP + \beta_5 GP + \beta_6 INT + \beta_7 INV + \beta_8 LIAB + \beta_9 NIL + \beta_{10} OI + \beta_{11} TA + \beta_{12} RET + \beta_{13} REC + \beta_{14} PLANT + \beta_{15}$$

Below is the regression result which includes Year Dummy variables that are shown in TABLE (3) of the appendix:

Dependent Variable: LLP_?
Method: Pooled Least Squares
Date: 05/17/12 Time: 23:11
Sample: 1993 2009
Included observations: 17
Cross-sections included: 79
Total pool (unbalanced) observations: 1163
WARNING: estimated coefficient covariance matrix is of reduced rank

Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
C	-1780.008	1.54E+09	-1.15E-06	1.0000
CASH_?	0.000609	0.003817	0.159532	0.8733
REC_?	0.008415	0.002758	3.051535	0.0023
PLANT_?	-0.186258	0.027835	-6.691590	0.0000
INV_?	-0.011275	0.002674	-4.216612	0.0000
INT_?	0.122049	0.009682	12.60591	0.0000
TA_?	0.010121	0.002698	3.750593	0.0002
LIAB_?	0.004800	0.001960	2.448330	0.0145
RET_?	0.174994	0.009326	18.76309	0.0000
GP_?	-0.038591	0.001603	-24.07806	0.0000
OI_?	-0.016518	0.090895	-0.181729	0.8558
OIA_?	0.073608	0.098303	0.748787	0.4541
NIL_?	-0.710150	0.038514	-18.43886	0.0000
DIV_?	-2.037631	0.065959	-30.89253	0.0000
CPC_?	-228.8933	339.0039	-0.675194	0.4997
CPC_GDP_?	7395757.	13017271	0.568150	0.5700
GDP	0.032531	33230.82	9.79E-07	1.0000
R-squared	0.905664	Mean dependent var		539.3037
Adjusted R-squared	0.902992	S.D. dependent var		2737.656
S.E. of regression	852.6712	Akaike info criterion		16.36259
Sum squared resid	8.22E+08	Schwarz criterion		16.50613
Log likelihood	-9481.846	Hannan-Quinn criter.		16.41674
F-statistic	339.0141	Durbin-Watson stat		1.550002
Prob(F-statistic)	0.000000			

Regression 4

The results show a high R-squared of 0.91. CPC has a very large coefficient of -228.89 but again is highly insignificant with a p-value of 0.50. DIV has a coefficient of -2.04 and is significant at the 1% level. GP has a coefficient of -0.04 and is significant at the 1% level which means that a 1 unit increase in profits reduces the Loan Loss Provisions by 4 percentage points. INT has a coefficient of 0.12 and is significant at the 1% level. INV has a coefficient of -0.01 and is significant at the 1% level. LIAB has a coefficient of 0.005 and is significant at the 5% level. LIAB has a small influence her on Loan Loss Provisions since a 1 unit increase in liabilities increases provisions by 0.5

percentage points. NIL has a coefficient of -0.71 and is significant at the 1% level. PLANT has a coefficient of -0.19 and is significant at the 1% level. REC has a coefficient of 0.008 and is significant at the 1% level. TA has a coefficient of 0.01 and is significant at the 1% level. CPC_GDP has a coefficient of 7395757 and is largely insignificant with a p-value of 0.57.

Regression 5:

I run a standard OLS regression with a linear term in CPC and the interaction terms CPC_GDP and CPC_TA (Results in Table 4). Below is the regression equation:

$$LLP = \alpha + \beta_1 CASH + \beta_2 CPC + \beta_3 DIV + \beta_4 GDP + \beta_5 GP + \beta_6 INT + \beta_7 INV + \beta_8 LIAB + \beta_9 NIL + \beta_{10} OI + \beta_{11} TA + \beta_{12} RET + \beta_{13} REC + \beta_{14} PLANT + \beta_{15}$$

Below is the regression result which includes Year Dummy variables that are shown in TABLE (4) of the appendix:

Dependent Variable: LLP_?
Method: Pooled Least Squares
Date: 05/17/12 Time: 23:12
Sample: 1993 2009
Included observations: 17
Cross-sections included: 79
Total pool (unbalanced) observations: 1163
WARNING: estimated coefficient covariance matrix is of reduced rank

Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
C	-1792.436	1.53E+09	-1.17E-06	1.0000
CASH_?	0.000609	0.003819	0.159611	0.8732
REC_?	0.008415	0.002759	3.050140	0.0023
PLANT_?	-0.186269	0.027849	-6.688536	0.0000
INV_?	-0.011275	0.002675	-4.214480	0.0000
INT_?	0.122048	0.009685	12.60114	0.0000
TA_?	0.010120	0.002700	3.748475	0.0002
LIAB_?	0.004800	0.001961	2.447405	0.0145
RET_?	0.174995	0.009331	18.75415	0.0000
GP_?	-0.038591	0.001604	-24.06646	0.0000
OI_?	-0.016478	0.090947	-0.181180	0.8563
OIA_?	0.073564	0.098359	0.747918	0.4547
NIL_?	-0.710146	0.038534	-18.42910	0.0000
DIV_?	-2.037633	0.065987	-30.87911	0.0000
CPC_?	-226.0850	352.5042	-0.641368	0.5214
CPC_GDP_?	7263897.	13779736	0.527143	0.5982
CPC_TA_?	2037.374	70101.06	0.029063	0.9768
GDP	0.032800	32990.47	9.94E-07	1.0000
R-squared	0.905664	Mean dependent var	539.3037	
Adjusted R-squared	0.902907	S.D. dependent var	2737.656	
S.E. of regression	853.0484	Akaike info criterion	16.36431	
Sum squared resid	8.22E+08	Schwarz criterion	16.51220	
Log likelihood	-9481.845	Hannan-Quinn criter.	16.42010	
F-statistic	328.4503	Durbin-Watson stat	1.550009	
Prob(F-statistic)	0.000000			

Regression 5

The regression has a large R-squared of 0.91. CPC again has a very large coefficient of -226.08 but is insignificant with a p-value of 0.52. DIV has a coefficient of -2.03 and is significant at the 1% level. GP has a coefficient of -0.04 and is significant at the 1% level, so a 1 unit increase in gross profits reduces loan loss provisions by 4 percentage points. INT has a coefficient of 0.12 and is significant at the 1% level. INV has a coefficient of -0.01 and is significant at the 1% level. LIAB has a coefficient of 0.004 and is significant at the 5% level. NIL has a coefficient of -0.71 and

is significant at the 1% level. PLANT has a coefficient of -0.19 and is significant at the 1% level. REC has a coefficient of 0.008 and is significant at the 1% level. TA has a coefficient of 0.01 and is significant at the 1% level. CPC_GDP has a very high coefficient of 7263897 but is insignificant with a p-value of 0.59. CPC_TA also has a high coefficient but is also insignificant with a p-value of 0.97.

Regression 6:

I run a fixed effects regression with a linear term in CPC and the interaction term CPC_TA (Results in Table 6). Below is the regression equation:

$$LLP = \alpha + \beta_1 CASH + \beta_2 CPC + \beta_3 DIV + \beta_4 GDP + \beta_5 GP + \beta_6 INT + \beta_7 INV + \beta_8 LIAB + \beta_9 NIL + \beta_{10} OI + \beta_{11} TA + \beta_{12} RET + \beta_{13} REC + \beta_{14} PLANT + \beta_{15}$$

Below is the regression result which includes Year Dummy variables and bank fixed effects that are shown in TABLE (6) of the appendix:

Dependent Variable: LLP_?
Method: Pooled Least Squares
Date: 05/17/12 Time: 23:10
Sample: 1993 2009
Included observations: 17
Cross-sections included: 79
Total pool (unbalanced) observations: 1163
WARNING: estimated coefficient covariance matrix is of reduced rank

Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
C	-350.0768	6.78E+08	-5.17E-07	1.0000
CASH_?	0.015072	0.004310	3.496640	0.0005
REC_?	0.006948	0.002756	2.521325	0.0118
PLANT_?	-0.119768	0.041516	-2.884890	0.0040
INV_?	-0.000927	0.003433	-0.270092	0.7871
INT_?	0.093043	0.011368	8.184304	0.0000
TA_?	0.007843	0.003040	2.579752	0.0100
LIAB_?	0.006405	0.002180	2.937735	0.0034
RET_?	0.149780	0.011186	13.38982	0.0000
GP_?	-0.039299	0.001932	-20.33783	0.0000
OI_?	0.149960	0.119017	1.259988	0.2080
OIA_?	-0.067992	0.123848	-0.548995	0.5831
NIL_?	-0.733387	0.037197	-19.71639	0.0000
DIV_?	-1.879957	0.066075	-28.45167	0.0000
CPC_?	-59.58331	69.03852	-0.863044	0.3883
CPC_TA_?	14888.50	65004.30	0.229039	0.8189
GDP	0.000487	14604.97	3.34E-08	1.0000

Effects Specification

Cross-section fixed (dummy variables)

R-squared	0.924156	Mean dependent var	539.3037
Adjusted R-squared	0.916226	S.D. dependent var	2737.656
S.E. of regression	792.3812	Akaike info criterion	16.27854
Sum squared resid	6.61E+08	Schwarz criterion	16.76136
Log likelihood	-9354.970	Hannan-Quinn criter.	16.46069
F-statistic	116.5328	Durbin-Watson stat	1.617656
Prob(F-statistic)	0.000000		

Regression 6

We have a strong R-squared of 0.92. CPC has a high coefficient of -59.58 but is insignificant with a p-value of 0.39. DIV has a coefficient of -1.87 and is statistically significant at the 1% level. GP has a coefficient of -0.04 and is significant at the 1% level. INT has a coefficient of 0.09 and is significant at the 1% level. INV has a coefficient of -0.0009 and is not significant with a p-value of 0.79 which is inconsistent with the other regressions. LIAB has a coefficient of 0.006 and is significant at the 1%

level. NIL has a coefficient of -0.73 and is significant at the 1% level. PLANT has a coefficient of -0.12 and is significant at the 1% level. REC has a coefficient of 0.007 and is significant at the 5% level. TA has a coefficient of 0.008 and is significant at the 1% level. CPC_TA has a coefficient of 14888.50 and is insignificant with a p-value of 0.82.

Regression 7:

I run a fixed effects regression with a linear term in CPC and the interaction term CPC_GDP (Results in Table 7). Below is the regression equation:

$$LLP = \alpha + \beta_1 CASH + \beta_2 CPC + \beta_3 DIV + \beta_4 GDP + \beta_5 GP + \beta_6 INT + \beta_7 INV + \beta_8 LIAB + \beta_9 NIL + \beta_{10} OI + \beta_{11} TA + \beta_{12} RET + \beta_{13} REC + \beta_{14} PLANT + \beta_{15}$$

Below is the regression result which includes Year Dummy variables and bank fixed effects that are shown in TABLE (7) of the appendix:

Dependent Variable: LLP_?
Method: Pooled Least Squares
Date: 05/17/12 Time: 23:11
Sample: 1993 2009
Included observations: 17
Cross-sections included: 79
Total pool (unbalanced) observations: 1163
WARNING: estimated coefficient covariance matrix is of reduced rank

Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
C	-329.9633	6.78E+08	-4.86E-07	1.0000
CASH_?	0.015070	0.004310	3.496270	0.0005
REC_?	0.006945	0.002755	2.520290	0.0119
PLANT_?	-0.119690	0.041515	-2.883065	0.0040
INV_?	-0.000932	0.003433	-0.271350	0.7862
INT_?	0.093025	0.011368	8.182724	0.0000
TA_?	0.007846	0.003040	2.580799	0.0100
LIAB_?	0.006402	0.002180	2.936523	0.0034
RET_?	0.149801	0.011186	13.39182	0.0000
GP_?	-0.039295	0.001933	-20.33233	0.0000
OI_?	0.149111	0.119031	1.252711	0.2106
OIA_?	-0.066898	0.123893	-0.539968	0.5893
NIL_?	-0.733545	0.037198	-19.71981	0.0000
DIV_?	-1.880457	0.066149	-28.42755	0.0000
CPC_?	-123.7315	325.1314	-0.380558	0.7036
CPC_GDP_?	2672135.	12482735	0.214066	0.8305
GDP	1.12E-05	14617.13	7.67E-10	1.0000

Effects Specification

Cross-section fixed (dummy variables)

R-squared	0.924156	Mean dependent var	539.3037
Adjusted R-squared	0.916225	S.D. dependent var	2737.656
S.E. of regression	792.3837	Akaike info criterion	16.27854
Sum squared resid	6.61E+08	Schwarz criterion	16.76137
Log likelihood	-9354.974	Hannan-Quinn criter.	16.46070
F-statistic	116.5320	Durbin-Watson stat	1.617218
Prob(F-statistic)	0.000000		

Regression 7

We have a strong R-squared of 0.93. CPC has a high coefficient of -123.73 but is insignificant with a p-value of 0.70. DIV has a coefficient of -1.88 and is statistically significant at the 1% level. GP has a coefficient of -0.04 and is significant at the 1% level. INT has a coefficient of 0.09 and is significant at the 1% level. INV has a coefficient of -0.0009 and is not significant with a p-value of 0.79 which is inconsistent with the other regressions. LIAB has a coefficient of 0.006 and is significant at the 1%

level. NIL has a coefficient of -0.73 and is significant at the 1% level. PLANT has a coefficient of -0.12 and is significant at the 1% level. REC has a coefficient of 0.007 and is significant at the 5% level. TA has a coefficient of 0.008 and is significant at the 1% level. CPC_GDP has a coefficient of 2672135 and is insignificant with a p-value of 0.83.

Regression 8:

I run a fixed effects regression with a linear term in CPC and the interaction terms CPC_GDP and CPC_TA. (Results in Table 8)

$$LLP = \alpha + \beta_1 CASH + \beta_2 CPC + \beta_3 DIV + \beta_4 GDP + \beta_5 GP + \beta_6 INT + \beta_7 INV + \beta_8 LIAB + \beta_9 NIL + \beta_{10} OI + \beta_{11} TA + \beta_{12} RET + \beta_{13} REC + \beta_{14} PLANT + \beta_{15}$$

Below is the regression result which includes Year Dummy variables and bank fixed effects that are shown in TABLE (8) of the appendix:

Dependent Variable: LLP_?
Method: Pooled Least Squares
Date: 05/17/12 Time: 23:13
Sample: 1993 2009
Included observations: 17
Cross-sections included: 79
Total pool (unbalanced) observations: 1163
WARNING: estimated coefficient covariance matrix is of reduced rank

Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
C	-284.3064	6.83E+08	-4.16E-07	1.0000
CASH_?	0.015072	0.004312	3.495053	0.0005
REC_?	0.006947	0.002757	2.519812	0.0119
PLANT_?	-0.119741	0.041535	-2.882884	0.0040
INV_?	-0.000928	0.003435	-0.270142	0.7871
INT_?	0.093034	0.011374	8.179684	0.0000
TA_?	0.007842	0.003042	2.578267	0.0101
LIAB_?	0.006406	0.002181	2.936687	0.0034
RET_?	0.149801	0.011193	13.38396	0.0000
GP_?	-0.039294	0.001934	-20.32256	0.0000
OI_?	0.149517	0.119110	1.255284	0.2097
OIA_?	-0.067358	0.123980	-0.543295	0.5870
NIL_?	-0.733480	0.037220	-19.70661	0.0000
DIV_?	-1.880416	0.066181	-28.41340	0.0000
CPC_?	-108.2268	338.0436	-0.320156	0.7489
CPC_GDP_?	1942963.	13217302	0.147002	0.8832
CPC_TA_?	11565.29	68854.09	0.167968	0.8666
GDP	-0.000968	14719.72	-6.57E-08	1.0000

Effects Specification

Cross-section fixed (dummy variables)

R-squared	0.924158	Mean dependent var	539.3037
Adjusted R-squared	0.916148	S.D. dependent var	2737.656
S.E. of regression	792.7499	Akaike info criterion	16.28024
Sum squared resid	6.61E+08	Schwarz criterion	16.76741
Log likelihood	-9354.958	Hannan-Quinn criter.	16.46403
F-statistic	115.3758	Durbin-Watson stat	1.617312
Prob(F-statistic)	0.000000		

Regression 8

We have a strong R-squared of 0.92. CPC has a high coefficient of -108.22 but is insignificant with a p-value of 0.75. DIV has a coefficient of -1.88 and is statistically significant at the 1% level. GP has a coefficient of -0.04 and is significant at the 1% level. INT has a coefficient of 0.09 and is significant at the 1% level. INV has a coefficient of -0.0009 and is not significant with a p-value of 0.79 which is inconsistent

with the other regressions. LIAB has a coefficient of 0.006 and is significant at the 1% level. NIL has a coefficient of -0.73 and is significant at the 1% level. PLANT has a coefficient of -0.12 and is significant at the 1% level. REC has a coefficient of 0.007 and is significant at the 1% level. TA has a coefficient of 0.008 and is significant at the 5% level. CPC_GDP has a coefficient of 1942963 and is insignificant with a p-value of 0.88. CPC_TA has a coefficient of 11565.29 but is insignificant with a p-value of 0.87.

The results regarding CPC and the interaction terms are summarized in the table below:

Regression	Variable	Coefficient	P-value	Significance level	R-squared
1	CPC	-40.43	0.56	Insignificant	0.91
2	CPC	-55.61	0.41	Insignificant	0.92
3	CPC	-44.28	0.54	Insignificant	0.91
3	CPC_TA	14189.15	0.21	Insignificant	0.91
4	CPC	-228.89	0.50	Insignificant	0.91
4	CPC_GDP	7395757	0.57	Insignificant	0.91
5	CPC	-226.08	-0.52	Insignificant	0.91
5	CPC_GDP	7263897	0.60	Insignificant	0.91
5	CPC_TA	2037.37	0.97	Insignificant	0.91
6	CPC	-59.6	0.38	Insignificant	0.92
6	CPC_TA	14888.5	0.81	Insignificant	0.92
7	CPC	-123.73	0.70	Insignificant	0.92
7	CPC_GDP	2672135	0.83	Insignificant	0.92
8	CPC	-108.23	0.74	Insignificant	0.92
8	CPC_GDP	1942963	0.88	Insignificant	0.92
8	CPC_TA	11565	0.87	Insignificant	0.92

Summary Table 2

Although the coefficients are high, they all have a very high p-value which makes them insignificant. Therefore the change in stock price does not seem to have an effect on the loan loss provisions. I did however find results that are consistent with the literature related to the subject especially when it comes to variables like REC, GP and NIL. My results are those of a more recent time period (1993-2009).

As for CPC I can conclude from this model that it is not a motivator for income smoothing through loan loss provisions. However, it could be a motivator for earnings management through another tool, and the discretion in setting loan loss provisions is probably motivated by several managerial goals, income smoothing being only one of them.

Robustness checks:

Finally, I run a regression with the same original variables only this time using random effects. Results are show in the table below:

llp	Coef.	Std. Err.	z	P> z	[95% Conf. Interval]	
cash	.0006095	.0038169	0.16	0.873	-.0068714	.0080904
rec	.0084153	.0027576	3.05	0.002	.0030106	.0138201
plant	-.1862689	.0278371	-6.69	0.000	-.2408286	-.1317092
inv	-.0112752	.0026741	-4.22	0.000	-.0165163	-.0060342
int	.1220483	.0096814	12.61	0.000	.1030731	.1410236
ta	.0101204	.0026985	3.75	0.000	.0048314	.0154094
liab	.0048002	.0019605	2.45	0.014	.0009577	.0086426
ret	.1749952	.0093266	18.76	0.000	.1567153	.193275
gp	-.0385906	.0016028	-24.08	0.000	-.041732	-.0354493
oi	-.0164776	.0909056	-0.18	0.856	-.1946493	.161694
oia	.0735641	.0983145	0.75	0.454	-.1191287	.2662569
nil	-.7101462	.0385142	-18.44	0.000	-.7856327	-.6346597
div	-2.037633	.0659586	-30.89	0.000	-2.16691	-1.908357
cpc	-226.085	352.479	-0.64	0.521	-916.9312	464.7612
cpc_ta	2037.373	70075.3	0.03	0.977	-135307.7	139382.4
cpc_gdp	.004044	.0074704	0.54	0.588	-.0105978	.0186858
gdp	7263898	1.38e+07	0.53	0.598	-1.98e+07	3.43e+07
_Ivar1_1994	-39.3754	169.0236	-0.23	0.816	-370.6555	291.9047
_Ivar1_1995	-74.6	169.0221	-0.44	0.659	-405.8773	256.6773
_Ivar1_1996	-57.36302	155.7039	-0.37	0.713	-362.5371	247.811
_Ivar1_1997	-80.13863	153.0671	-0.52	0.601	-380.1446	219.8673
_Ivar1_1998	-112.5276	144.048	-0.78	0.435	-394.8564	169.8013
_Ivar1_1999	-52.65052	137.3118	-0.38	0.701	-321.7767	216.4757
_Ivar1_2000	-123.2361	132.2893	-0.93	0.352	-382.5183	136.0462
_Ivar1_2001	-8.097121	130.4998	-0.06	0.951	-263.8721	247.6778
_Ivar1_2002	-91.98866	126.7396	-0.73	0.468	-340.3937	156.4163
_Ivar1_2003	-78.97526	128.5222	-0.61	0.539	-330.8741	172.9236
_Ivar1_2004	-397.9096	126.0502	-3.16	0.002	-644.9634	-150.8558
_Ivar1_2005	-201.5916	128.776	-1.57	0.117	-453.988	50.80482
_Ivar1_2006	-250.8892	135.4955	-1.85	0.064	-516.4554	14.67708
_Ivar1_2007	-378.3104	138.7977	-2.73	0.006	-650.3489	-106.2719
_Ivar1_2009	87.80587	139.9253	0.63	0.530	-186.4426	362.0544
_cons	-79.6724	296.6069	-0.27	0.788	-661.0112	501.6664
sigma_u	0					
sigma_e	792.37305					
rho	0	(fraction of variance due to u_i)				

Regression 9

A Hausman test clearly shows that a fixed effects regression is more suitable for this model. When results differ greatly between the fixed effects regression and the random effects, we go for the safer choice which is the fixed effects.

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION

My model shows that income smoothing is still being practiced through the use of loan loss provisions. I note the clear relation between my dependent variable and Net Income and Gross Profit and Investment and Advances Other. The model used fails to show a strong relationship between loan loss provisions and the change in stock price. However, this does not mean that the stock price is not a motivator for smoothing; it could be that it is a motivator through another variable. The strength of the model could also be limited by the size of the sample which can be considered as relatively small. The use of the largest banks by market capitalization in the sample could bring some limitations to the model since they are the ones that are more closely watched by regulators and investors. This will cause these banks to be less prone to income smoothing. I could have also used a sample containing banks from different countries to account for the strictness of the regulation, something which other papers have clearly shown to be a factor in earning manipulation. The limitation of the data could also be considered as a strong point since it allows us to hold everything constant (banking regulations, accounting practices...) within the sample used. A possible extension to the econometric model could include using the variance of the stock price over three years as a measure of volatility rather than the change in stock price as I did in my empirical analysis. This may be a more direct test of the motivation to smooth income for the purposes of reducing volatility to better attract investors, which was one of the incentives for smoothing we had discussed in the review of the theoretical literature.

This paper uses loan loss provisions as the main tool for income smoothing. However, provisions are an accounting variable particular to the banking industry and there are many other tools that can be used for the same purpose in the banking as well as other industries as shown in the literature review. I study income smoothing from a signaling point of view where firms use accounting manipulations in order to show a certain image to the market. Income smoothing can be practiced for other reasons as stated by Trueman and Titman, Dye and Fudenberg and Tirole who advocate the idea of earnings manipulations by managers for their own personal motivations regarding job security, end of year bonuses and compensation. The data used in this paper remains limited to the banking industry and fails to test other hypotheses such as information asymmetry and real smoothing versus artificial smoothing (mentioned in Eckel (1981)).

Bank regulators could use the research on income smoothing to implement policies to prevent it especially when it comes to provisions for bad loans thus reducing the problem of asymmetric information.

REFERENCES

- Asteriou, Dimitrios, and S. G. Hall. *Applied econometrics*. 2nd ed. Basingstoke [England: Palgrave Macmillan, 2011. Print.
- Beaver, William H., and Ellen E. Engel. "Discretionary behavior with respect to allowances for loan losses and the behavior of security prices." *Journal of Accounting and Economics* 22.1-3 (1996): 177-206. *Econ Papers*. Web. 29 Sept. 2011.
- Cavallo, Michele, and Giovanni Majnoni. "Do Banks Provision for Bad Loans in Good Times? Empirical Evidence and Policy Implications." *JEL* 1 (2001): n. pag. *World Bank*. Web. 5 Oct. 2011.
- DeFond, Mark L., and Chul W. Park. "Smoothing income in anticipation of future earnings." *Journal of Accounting and Economics* 23.2 (1997): 115-139. *Econ Papers*. Web. 29 Sept. 2011.
- Dye, Ronald. "Earnings Management in an Overlapping Generations Model." *Journal of Accounting Research* 26.2 (1988): 195-235. *JSTOR*. Web. 2 Apr. 2012.
- Eckel, Norm. "The Income Smoothing Hypothesis Revisited." *Abacus* 17.1 (1981): 28-40. *Wiley Online Library*. Web. 3 Apr. 2012.
- Fonnesca, Anna Rosa, and Francisco Gonzalez. "Cross-country determinants of bank income smoothing by managing loan-loss provisions." *Journal of Banking and Finance* 2.32 (2008): 217-228. *ideas*. Web. 5 Oct. 2011.
- Fudenberg, Drew, and Jean Tirole. "A Theory of Income and Dividend Smoothing Based on Incumbency Rents." *Journal of Political Economy* 103.1 (1995): 75-93. *DASH*. Web. 4 Mar. 2012.
- Greenawalt, Mary Brady, and Joseph F. Sinkey. "Bank loan-loss provisions and the income-smoothing hypothesis: An empirical analysis, 1976–1984." *Journal of Financial Services Research* 1.4 (1988): 301-318. *Springer Link*. Web. 6 Oct. 2011.
- Healy, Paul. "The Effect of Bonus Schemes on Accounting Decisions." *Journal of Accounting and Economics* 7 (1985): 85-107. *Yuntech*. Web. 26 Oct. 2011.
- Jones, Jennifer. "Earnings Management During Import Relief Investigations." *Journal of Accounting Research* 29.2 (1991): 193-228. *JSTOR*. Web. 27 Oct. 2011.
- Kanagaretnam, Kiridaran, Gerald Lobo, and Dong-Hoon Yang. "Joint Test of Signaling and Income Smoothing Through Bank Loan Loss Provisions." *Contemporary Accounting Research* 21.4 (2004): 843-884. *Social Science Research Network*. Web. 2 Apr. 2012.

- Koch, Bruce. "Income Smoothing: An Experiment." *The Accounting Review* 56.3 (1981): 574-586. *JSTOR*. Web. 2 Apr. 2012.
- Liberty, Susan, and Jerold Zimmerman. "Labor Union Contract Negotiations and Accounting Choices." *The Accounting Review* 61.4 (1986): 692-712. *JSTOR*. Web. 3 Apr. 2012.
- Ma, Christopher K. "Loan Loss Reserves and Income Smoothing: The Experience in the U.S Banking Industry." *Journal of Business Finance and Accounting* 15.4 (1988): 487-497. *Wiley Online Library*. Web. 4 Oct. 2011.
- Mishkin, Federic. *The Economics of Money, Banking, and Financial Markets*. Boston: Pearson , 2007. Print.
- Trueman, Brett, and Sheridan Titman. "An Explanation for Accounting Income Smoothing." *Journal of Accounting Research* 26 (1988): 127-139. *JSTOR*. Web. 2 Oct. 2011.
- Wahlen, James M.. "The Nature of Information in Commercial Bank Loan Loss Disclosures." *The Accounting Review* 69.3 (1994): 455-478. *JSTOR*. Web. 6 Oct. 2011.

APPENDIX

Table 1:

Dependent Variable: LLP_?

Method: Pooled Least Squares

Date: 05/17/12 Time: 23:09

Sample: 1993 2009

Included observations: 17

Cross-sections included: 79

Total pool (unbalanced) observations: 1163

WARNING: estimated coefficient covariance matrix is of reduced rank

Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
C	-1867.831	1.54E+09	-1.21E-06	1.0000
CASH_?	0.000617	0.003816	0.161778	0.8715
REC_?	0.008433	0.002756	3.059616	0.0023
PLANT_?	-0.186395	0.027825	-6.698811	0.0000
INV_?	-0.011268	0.002673	-4.215197	0.0000
INT_?	0.122143	0.009677	12.62211	0.0000
TA_?	0.010114	0.002698	3.749317	0.0002
LIAB_?	0.004790	0.001960	2.444282	0.0147
RET_?	0.174934	0.009323	18.76351	0.0000
GP_?	-0.038592	0.001602	-24.08615	0.0000
OI_?	-0.015609	0.090858	-0.171799	0.8636
OIA_?	0.071938	0.098233	0.732326	0.4641
NIL_?	-0.709862	0.038496	-18.43971	0.0000
DIV_?	-2.036045	0.065880	-30.90544	0.0000
CPC_?	-40.43321	69.98150	-0.577770	0.5635
GDP	0.034580	33216.15	1.04E-06	1.0000
DV1993_?	1014.453	7.00E+08	1.45E-06	1.0000
DV1994_?	932.4778	6.59E+08	1.42E-06	1.0000
DV1995_?	896.2828	6.26E+08	1.43E-06	1.0000
DV1996_?	864.7074	5.86E+08	1.48E-06	1.0000
DV1997_?	800.2595	5.36E+08	1.49E-06	1.0000
DV1998_?	701.6476	4.89E+08	1.44E-06	1.0000
DV1999_?	712.3058	4.34E+08	1.64E-06	1.0000
DV2000_?	597.0288	3.76E+08	1.59E-06	1.0000
DV2001_?	685.5840	3.49E+08	1.96E-06	1.0000
DV2002_?	572.4717	3.19E+08	1.79E-06	1.0000
DV2003_?	544.5073	2.73E+08	2.00E-06	1.0000
DV2004_?	159.3609	2.03E+08	7.87E-07	1.0000
DV2005_?	289.4052	1.29E+08	2.25E-06	1.0000
DV2006_?	172.3811	57895756	2.98E-06	1.0000
DV2009_?	484.0672	21524068	2.25E-05	1.0000
DV2008_?	358.6206	18767127	1.91E-05	1.0000
R-squared	0.905637	Mean dependent var		539.3037
Adjusted R-squared	0.903051	S.D. dependent var		2737.656
S.E. of regression	852.4159	Akaike info criterion		16.36116
Sum squared resid	8.22E+08	Schwarz criterion		16.50035
Log likelihood	-9482.012	Hannan-Quinn criter.		16.41367
F-statistic	350.1492	Durbin-Watson stat		1.550939
Prob(F-statistic)	0.000000			

Table 2:

Dependent Variable: LLP_?

Method: Pooled Least Squares

Date: 05/17/12 Time: 23:10

Sample: 1993 2009

Included observations: 17

Cross-sections included: 79

Total pool (unbalanced) observations: 1163

WARNING: estimated coefficient covariance matrix is of reduced rank

Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
C	-1782.438	1.55E+09	-1.15E-06	1.0000
CASH_?	0.000620	0.003817	0.162508	0.8709
REC_?	0.008435	0.002758	3.058664	0.0023
PLANT_?	-0.186450	0.027839	-6.697546	0.0000
INV_?	-0.011268	0.002674	-4.213208	0.0000
INT_?	0.122127	0.009682	12.61424	0.0000
TA_?	0.010112	0.002699	3.746715	0.0002
LIAB_?	0.004793	0.001961	2.444645	0.0147
RET_?	0.174951	0.009327	18.75736	0.0000
GP_?	-0.038591	0.001603	-24.07441	0.0000
OI_?	-0.015440	0.090895	-0.169867	0.8651
OIA_?	0.071842	0.098272	0.731055	0.4649
NIL_?	-0.709871	0.038516	-18.43052	0.0000
DIV_?	-2.036259	0.065915	-30.89227	0.0000
CPC_?	-44.27570	72.25695	-0.612753	0.5402
CPC_TA_?	14189.15	66180.69	0.214400	0.8303
GDP	0.032728	33459.64	9.78E-07	1.0000
DV1993_?	978.3911	7.05E+08	1.39E-06	1.0000
DV1994_?	896.5456	6.63E+08	1.35E-06	1.0000
DV1995_?	860.7682	6.31E+08	1.36E-06	1.0000
DV1996_?	831.2269	5.90E+08	1.41E-06	1.0000
DV1997_?	769.9678	5.40E+08	1.43E-06	1.0000
DV1998_?	675.0087	4.92E+08	1.37E-06	1.0000
DV1999_?	688.4387	4.37E+08	1.57E-06	1.0000
DV2000_?	576.4090	3.79E+08	1.52E-06	1.0000
DV2001_?	666.4306	3.52E+08	1.90E-06	1.0000
DV2002_?	554.9641	3.22E+08	1.73E-06	1.0000
DV2003_?	530.2130	2.75E+08	1.93E-06	1.0000
DV2004_?	148.6394	2.04E+08	7.29E-07	1.0000
DV2005_?	282.6041	1.30E+08	2.18E-06	1.0000
DV2006_?	169.8507	58320150	2.91E-06	1.0000
DV2009_?	483.0994	21681846	2.23E-05	1.0000
DV2008_?	359.7288	18904696	1.90E-05	1.0000
R-squared	0.905641	Mean dependent var		539.3037
Adjusted R-squared	0.902969	S.D. dependent var		2737.656
S.E. of regression	852.7757	Akaike info criterion		16.36283
Sum squared resid	8.22E+08	Schwarz criterion		16.50638
Log likelihood	-9481.988	Hannan-Quinn criter.		16.41699
F-statistic	338.9224	Durbin-Watson stat		1.550908
Prob(F-statistic)	0.000000			

Table 3:

Dependent Variable: LLP_?

Method: Pooled Least Squares

Date: 05/17/12 Time: 23:11

Sample: 1993 2009

Included observations: 17

Cross-sections included: 79

Total pool (unbalanced) observations: 1163

WARNING: estimated coefficient covariance matrix is of reduced rank

Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
C	-1780.008	1.54E+09	-1.15E-06	1.0000
CASH_?	0.000609	0.003817	0.159532	0.8733
REC_?	0.008415	0.002758	3.051535	0.0023
PLANT_?	-0.186258	0.027835	-6.691590	0.0000
INV_?	-0.011275	0.002674	-4.216612	0.0000
INT_?	0.122049	0.009682	12.60591	0.0000
TA_?	0.010121	0.002698	3.750593	0.0002
LIAB_?	0.004800	0.001960	2.448330	0.0145
RET_?	0.174994	0.009326	18.76309	0.0000
GP_?	-0.038591	0.001603	-24.07806	0.0000
OI_?	-0.016518	0.090895	-0.181729	0.8558
OIA_?	0.073608	0.098303	0.748787	0.4541
NIL_?	-0.710150	0.038514	-18.43886	0.0000
DIV_?	-2.037631	0.065959	-30.89253	0.0000
CPC_?	-228.8933	339.0039	-0.675194	0.4997
CPC_GDP_?	7395757.	13017271	0.568150	0.5700
GDP	0.032531	33230.82	9.79E-07	1.0000
DV1993_?	978.4928	7.00E+08	1.40E-06	1.0000
DV1994_?	903.8795	6.59E+08	1.37E-06	1.0000
DV1995_?	840.3874	6.26E+08	1.34E-06	1.0000
DV1996_?	823.3142	5.86E+08	1.40E-06	1.0000
DV1997_?	757.3851	5.36E+08	1.41E-06	1.0000
DV1998_?	685.2414	4.89E+08	1.40E-06	1.0000
DV1999_?	698.2788	4.34E+08	1.61E-06	1.0000
DV2000_?	577.7098	3.76E+08	1.54E-06	1.0000
DV2001_?	669.6113	3.49E+08	1.92E-06	1.0000
DV2002_?	560.1447	3.19E+08	1.75E-06	1.0000
DV2003_?	533.1819	2.73E+08	1.95E-06	1.0000
DV2004_?	154.1347	2.03E+08	7.61E-07	1.0000
DV2005_?	287.0677	1.29E+08	2.23E-06	1.0000
DV2006_?	177.1224	57921325	3.06E-06	1.0000
DV2009_?	484.5753	21533573	2.25E-05	1.0000
DV2008_?	362.2503	18775415	1.93E-05	1.0000
R-squared	0.905664	Mean dependent var		539.3037
Adjusted R-squared	0.902992	S.D. dependent var		2737.656
S.E. of regression	852.6712	Akaike info criterion		16.36259
Sum squared resid	8.22E+08	Schwarz criterion		16.50613
Log likelihood	-9481.846	Hannan-Quinn criter.		16.41674
F-statistic	339.0141	Durbin-Watson stat		1.550002
Prob(F-statistic)	0.000000			

Table 4:

Dependent Variable: LLP_?

Method: Pooled Least Squares

Date: 05/17/12 Time: 23:12

Sample: 1993 2009

Included observations: 17

Cross-sections included: 79

Total pool (unbalanced) observations: 1163

WARNING: estimated coefficient covariance matrix is of reduced rank

Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
C	-1792.436	1.53E+09	-1.17E-06	1.0000
CASH_?	0.000609	0.003819	0.159611	0.8732
REC_?	0.008415	0.002759	3.050140	0.0023
PLANT_?	-0.186269	0.027849	-6.688536	0.0000
INV_?	-0.011275	0.002675	-4.214480	0.0000
INT_?	0.122048	0.009685	12.60114	0.0000
TA_?	0.010120	0.002700	3.748475	0.0002
LIAB_?	0.004800	0.001961	2.447405	0.0145
RET_?	0.174995	0.009331	18.75415	0.0000
GP_?	-0.038591	0.001604	-24.06646	0.0000
OI_?	-0.016478	0.090947	-0.181180	0.8563
OIA_?	0.073564	0.098359	0.747918	0.4547
NIL_?	-0.710146	0.038534	-18.42910	0.0000
DIV_?	-2.037633	0.065987	-30.87911	0.0000
CPC_?	-226.0850	352.5042	-0.641368	0.5214
CPC_GDP_?	7263897.	13779736	0.527143	0.5982
CPC_TA_?	2037.374	70101.06	0.029063	0.9768
GDP	0.032800	32990.47	9.94E-07	1.0000
DV1993_?	984.4591	6.95E+08	1.42E-06	1.0000
DV1994_?	909.1099	6.54E+08	1.39E-06	1.0000
DV1995_?	845.6756	6.22E+08	1.36E-06	1.0000
DV1996_?	828.0315	5.82E+08	1.42E-06	1.0000
DV1997_?	761.8343	5.32E+08	1.43E-06	1.0000
DV1998_?	689.0431	4.86E+08	1.42E-06	1.0000
DV1999_?	701.6164	4.31E+08	1.63E-06	1.0000
DV2000_?	580.7366	3.74E+08	1.55E-06	1.0000
DV2001_?	672.3818	3.47E+08	1.94E-06	1.0000
DV2002_?	562.6386	3.17E+08	1.77E-06	1.0000
DV2003_?	535.4223	2.71E+08	1.98E-06	1.0000
DV2004_?	155.7264	2.01E+08	7.74E-07	1.0000
DV2005_?	288.0622	1.28E+08	2.26E-06	1.0000
DV2006_?	177.5430	57502390	3.09E-06	1.0000
DV2009_?	484.7502	21377825	2.27E-05	1.0000
DV2008_?	362.0632	18639616	1.94E-05	1.0000
R-squared	0.905664	Mean dependent var	539.3037	
Adjusted R-squared	0.902907	S.D. dependent var	2737.656	
S.E. of regression	853.0484	Akaike info criterion	16.36431	
Sum squared resid	8.22E+08	Schwarz criterion	16.51220	
Log likelihood	-9481.845	Hannan-Quinn criter.	16.42010	
F-statistic	328.4503	Durbin-Watson stat	1.550009	
Prob(F-statistic)	0.000000			

Table 5:

Dependent Variable: LLP_?

Method: Pooled Least Squares

Date: 05/17/12 Time: 23:09

Sample: 1993 2009

Included observations: 17

Cross-sections included: 79

Total pool (unbalanced) observations: 1163

WARNING: estimated coefficient covariance matrix is of reduced rank

Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
C	-218.9155	6.83E+08	-3.20E-07	1.0000
CASH_?	0.015068	0.004308	3.497588	0.0005
REC_?	0.006945	0.002754	2.521430	0.0118
PLANT_?	-0.119710	0.041496	-2.884848	0.0040
INV_?	-0.000932	0.003432	-0.271678	0.7859
INT_?	0.093034	0.011363	8.187312	0.0000
TA_?	0.007849	0.003039	2.582913	0.0099
LIAB_?	0.006400	0.002179	2.936674	0.0034
RET_?	0.149768	0.011180	13.39561	0.0000
GP_?	-0.039303	0.001931	-20.34963	0.0000
OI_?	0.149615	0.118953	1.257771	0.2088
OIA_?	-0.067672	0.123783	-0.546699	0.5847
NIL_?	-0.733429	0.037179	-19.72711	0.0000
DIV_?	-1.879766	0.066040	-28.46391	0.0000
CPC_?	-55.61428	66.78755	-0.832704	0.4052
GDP	-0.002326	14723.48	-1.58E-07	1.0000
DV1993_?	204.1044	3.10E+08	6.58E-07	1.0000
DV1994_?	170.5489	2.92E+08	5.84E-07	1.0000
DV1995_?	172.5084	2.77E+08	6.22E-07	1.0000
DV1996_?	168.7682	2.60E+08	6.50E-07	1.0000
DV1997_?	159.0775	2.37E+08	6.70E-07	1.0000
DV1998_?	105.7498	2.17E+08	4.88E-07	1.0000
DV1999_?	193.2401	1.92E+08	1.00E-06	1.0000
DV2000_?	177.5993	1.67E+08	1.07E-06	1.0000
DV2001_?	289.9631	1.55E+08	1.87E-06	1.0000
DV2002_?	194.8083	1.41E+08	1.38E-06	1.0000
DV2003_?	213.5390	1.21E+08	1.77E-06	1.0000
DV2004_?	-77.87552	89769029	-8.68E-07	1.0000
DV2005_?	90.33079	57009296	1.58E-06	1.0000
DV2006_?	115.3655	25663017	4.50E-06	1.0000
DV2009_?	396.8747	9540812.	4.16E-05	1.0000
DV2008_?	279.1290	8318764.	3.36E-05	1.0000
Fixed Effects (Cross)				
01--C	-73.28932			
02--C	167.4586			
03--C	-57.39416			
04--C	-278.1953			
05--C	-1251.235			
06--C	478.8376			
07--C	78.49187			
08--C	92.18590			
09--C	91.86921			
10--C	162.7519			
11--C	128.0554			
12--C	16.84304			

13--C	142.3679
14--C	-1527.396
15--C	357.0400
16--C	-84.43405
17--C	-10.74846
18--C	-279.2128
19--C	-216.2078
20--C	200.8779
21--C	1167.841
22--C	-65.70319
23--C	-1433.537
24--C	-540.3564
25--C	309.5257
26--C	923.6434
27--C	22.78495
28--C	946.1480
29--C	-29.89837
30--C	-464.5773
31--C	163.2376
32--C	186.5070
33--C	157.8099
34--C	131.5281
35--C	217.0004
36--C	109.0507
37--C	99.06846
38--C	90.08834
39--C	112.7461
40--C	110.2054
41--C	111.1182
42--C	116.0776
43--C	105.0585
44--C	176.8992
45--C	142.1871
46--C	92.61170
47--C	112.7781
48--C	199.2163
49--C	98.86345
50--C	110.0504
51--C	110.6625
52--C	178.5757
53--C	123.3812
54--C	134.1697
55--C	203.9232
56--C	147.5735
57--C	110.4935
58--C	168.5391
59--C	-1854.152
60--C	117.3597
61--C	161.5027
62--C	140.2366
63--C	131.5499
64--C	167.0328
65--C	135.1830
66--C	108.3553
67--C	108.7608
68--C	145.5116
69--C	127.1424
70--C	145.7464
71--C	123.3056

72--C	115.0952
73--C	-5790.790
74--C	502.6391
75--C	100.0046
76--C	156.4409
77--C	148.4196
78--C	136.1445
79--C	-276.0886

Effects Specification

Cross-section fixed (dummy variables)

R-squared	0.924152	Mean dependent var	539.3037
Adjusted R-squared	0.916301	S.D. dependent var	2737.656
S.E. of regression	792.0246	Akaike info criterion	16.27687
Sum squared resid	6.61E+08	Schwarz criterion	16.75534
Log likelihood	-9354.999	Hannan-Quinn criter.	16.45738
F-statistic	117.7074	Durbin-Watson stat	1.617687
Prob(F-statistic)	0.000000		

Table 6:

Dependent Variable: LLP_?

Method: Pooled Least Squares

Date: 05/17/12 Time: 23:10

Sample: 1993 2009

Included observations: 17

Cross-sections included: 79

Total pool (unbalanced) observations: 1163

WARNING: estimated coefficient covariance matrix is of reduced rank

Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
C	-350.0768	6.78E+08	-5.17E-07	1.0000
CASH_?	0.015072	0.004310	3.496640	0.0005
REC_?	0.006948	0.002756	2.521325	0.0118
PLANT_?	-0.119768	0.041516	-2.884890	0.0040
INV_?	-0.000927	0.003433	-0.270092	0.7871
INT_?	0.093043	0.011368	8.184304	0.0000
TA_?	0.007843	0.003040	2.579752	0.0100
LIAB_?	0.006405	0.002180	2.937735	0.0034
RET_?	0.149780	0.011186	13.38982	0.0000
GP_?	-0.039299	0.001932	-20.33783	0.0000
OI_?	0.149960	0.119017	1.259988	0.2080
OIA_?	-0.067992	0.123848	-0.548995	0.5831
NIL_?	-0.733387	0.037197	-19.71639	0.0000
DIV_?	-1.879957	0.066075	-28.45167	0.0000
CPC_?	-59.58331	69.03852	-0.863044	0.3883
CPC_TA_?	14888.50	65004.30	0.229039	0.8189
GDP	0.000487	14604.97	3.34E-08	1.0000
DV1993_?	266.4241	3.08E+08	8.65E-07	1.0000
DV1994_?	227.3005	2.90E+08	7.85E-07	1.0000
DV1995_?	225.0978	2.75E+08	8.18E-07	1.0000
DV1996_?	217.7102	2.58E+08	8.45E-07	1.0000
DV1997_?	204.1702	2.35E+08	8.67E-07	1.0000
DV1998_?	148.0261	2.15E+08	6.89E-07	1.0000
DV1999_?	230.6052	1.91E+08	1.21E-06	1.0000
DV2000_?	209.8152	1.65E+08	1.27E-06	1.0000
DV2001_?	319.8327	1.53E+08	2.08E-06	1.0000
DV2002_?	222.1604	1.40E+08	1.58E-06	1.0000
DV2003_?	237.5812	1.20E+08	1.98E-06	1.0000
DV2004_?	-60.11654	89046481	-6.75E-07	1.0000
DV2005_?	101.6241	56550431	1.80E-06	1.0000
DV2006_?	121.0022	25456457	4.75E-06	1.0000
DV2009_?	398.9783	9464018.	4.22E-05	1.0000
DV2008_?	277.6229	8251806.	3.36E-05	1.0000
Fixed Effects (Cross)				
01--C	-72.80839			
02--C	167.3063			
03--C	-57.12338			
04--C	-277.7638			
05--C	-1251.280			
06--C	478.6976			
07--C	78.76415			
08--C	92.52915			
09--C	92.14972			
10--C	163.0942			
11--C	128.2855			
12--C	17.33228			
13--C	142.4618			

14--C	-1526.890
15--C	356.8888
16--C	-84.45897
17--C	-11.12748
18--C	-278.8229
19--C	-215.7995
20--C	200.6927
21--C	1167.715
22--C	-65.71323
23--C	-1433.271
24--C	-540.1493
25--C	309.6895
26--C	923.8865
27--C	22.80721
28--C	946.1837
29--C	-29.67730
30--C	-464.1624
31--C	164.7998
32--C	186.5210
33--C	157.8635
34--C	131.7299
35--C	216.9771
36--C	108.6595
37--C	99.06522
38--C	90.05589
39--C	112.3057
40--C	110.1483
41--C	111.2864
42--C	116.2827
43--C	105.2303
44--C	177.0240
45--C	142.0493
46--C	92.10783
47--C	111.8964
48--C	199.5286
49--C	99.01064
50--C	109.7221
51--C	110.8308
52--C	178.3383
53--C	123.5239
54--C	133.9934
55--C	203.4935
56--C	147.8338
57--C	110.4775
58--C	168.5699
59--C	-1853.970
60--C	112.3451
61--C	161.6181
62--C	140.0988
63--C	129.1837
64--C	167.1203
65--C	134.3733
66--C	123.3872
67--C	108.8472
68--C	145.4542
69--C	127.0845
70--C	144.9069
71--C	123.7997
72--C	114.9623

73--C	-5791.571
74--C	502.6550
75--C	100.3626
76--C	156.6029
77--C	148.4182
78--C	129.2659
79--C	-275.8205

Effects Specification

Cross-section fixed (dummy variables)

R-squared	0.924156	Mean dependent var	539.3037
Adjusted R-squared	0.916226	S.D. dependent var	2737.656
S.E. of regression	792.3812	Akaike info criterion	16.27854
Sum squared resid	6.61E+08	Schwarz criterion	16.76136
Log likelihood	-9354.970	Hannan-Quinn criter.	16.46069
F-statistic	116.5328	Durbin-Watson stat	1.617656
Prob(F-statistic)	0.000000		

Table 7:

Dependent Variable: LLP_?

Method: Pooled Least Squares

Date: 05/17/12 Time: 23:11

Sample: 1993 2009

Included observations: 17

Cross-sections included: 79

Total pool (unbalanced) observations: 1163

WARNING: estimated coefficient covariance matrix is of reduced rank

Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
C	-329.9633	6.78E+08	-4.86E-07	1.0000
CASH_?	0.015070	0.004310	3.496270	0.0005
REC_?	0.006945	0.002755	2.520290	0.0119
PLANT_?	-0.119690	0.041515	-2.883065	0.0040
INV_?	-0.000932	0.003433	-0.271350	0.7862
INT_?	0.093025	0.011368	8.182724	0.0000
TA_?	0.007846	0.003040	2.580799	0.0100
LIAB_?	0.006402	0.002180	2.936523	0.0034
RET_?	0.149801	0.011186	13.39182	0.0000
GP_?	-0.039295	0.001933	-20.33233	0.0000
OI_?	0.149111	0.119031	1.252711	0.2106
OIA_?	-0.066898	0.123893	-0.539968	0.5893
NIL_?	-0.733545	0.037198	-19.71981	0.0000
DIV_?	-1.880457	0.066149	-28.42755	0.0000
CPC_?	-123.7315	325.1314	-0.380558	0.7036
CPC_GDP_?	2672135.	12482735	0.214066	0.8305
GDP	1.12E-05	14617.13	7.67E-10	1.0000
DV1993_?	256.0306	3.08E+08	8.31E-07	1.0000
DV1994_?	221.1583	2.90E+08	7.63E-07	1.0000
DV1995_?	210.3042	2.75E+08	7.63E-07	1.0000
DV1996_?	208.1028	2.58E+08	8.07E-07	1.0000
DV1997_?	193.2701	2.36E+08	8.20E-07	1.0000
DV1998_?	145.1252	2.15E+08	6.75E-07	1.0000
DV1999_?	228.4222	1.91E+08	1.20E-06	1.0000
DV2000_?	205.4735	1.66E+08	1.24E-06	1.0000
DV2001_?	316.5353	1.54E+08	2.06E-06	1.0000
DV2002_?	219.9893	1.40E+08	1.57E-06	1.0000
DV2003_?	234.7706	1.20E+08	1.96E-06	1.0000
DV2004_?	-60.97635	89120618	-6.84E-07	1.0000
DV2005_?	101.4319	56597512	1.79E-06	1.0000
DV2006_?	122.4717	25477651	4.81E-06	1.0000
DV2009_?	399.0869	9471898.	4.21E-05	1.0000
DV2008_?	278.7538	8258676.	3.38E-05	1.0000
Fixed Effects (Cross)				
01--C	-75.46286			
02--C	167.5074			
03--C	-57.99686			
04--C	-277.8288			
05--C	-1250.177			
06--C	479.1045			
07--C	78.86011			
08--C	91.30274			
09--C	92.26066			
10--C	163.0062			
11--C	128.7107			
12--C	17.99976			
13--C	142.2529			

14--C	-1525.109
15--C	356.3061
16--C	-83.68929
17--C	-9.619475
18--C	-279.2892
19--C	-216.3044
20--C	200.5101
21--C	1165.940
22--C	-65.40916
23--C	-1433.261
24--C	-540.9054
25--C	308.7697
26--C	923.2084
27--C	21.45514
28--C	946.7050
29--C	-31.55400
30--C	-464.5785
31--C	169.5877
32--C	187.1192
33--C	157.8137
34--C	132.7097
35--C	218.1909
36--C	107.9231
37--C	99.73725
38--C	89.90610
39--C	110.4514
40--C	110.1462
41--C	110.9792
42--C	117.6610
43--C	106.1342
44--C	177.1436
45--C	142.3006
46--C	89.64057
47--C	113.1191
48--C	200.1432
49--C	98.80471
50--C	109.3165
51--C	111.5805
52--C	177.4536
53--C	123.3834
54--C	134.3422
55--C	202.1664
56--C	148.3296
57--C	109.9945
58--C	169.1426
59--C	-1852.563
60--C	115.3284
61--C	162.7559
62--C	138.4978
63--C	129.6326
64--C	166.9701
65--C	134.8501
66--C	110.2877
67--C	108.7625
68--C	145.9710
69--C	127.2231
70--C	144.4336
71--C	124.7628
72--C	115.5067

73--C	-5789.168
74--C	502.5305
75--C	97.26544
76--C	157.3319
77--C	148.0074
78--C	134.6918
79--C	-276.3837

Effects Specification

Cross-section fixed (dummy variables)

R-squared	0.924156	Mean dependent var	539.3037
Adjusted R-squared	0.916225	S.D. dependent var	2737.656
S.E. of regression	792.3837	Akaike info criterion	16.27854
Sum squared resid	6.61E+08	Schwarz criterion	16.76137
Log likelihood	-9354.974	Hannan-Quinn criter.	16.46070
F-statistic	116.5320	Durbin-Watson stat	1.617218
Prob(F-statistic)	0.000000		

Table 8:

Dependent Variable: LLP_?

Method: Pooled Least Squares

Date: 05/17/12 Time: 23:13

Sample: 1993 2009

Included observations: 17

Cross-sections included: 79

Total pool (unbalanced) observations: 1163

WARNING: estimated coefficient covariance matrix is of reduced rank

Variable	Coefficient	Std. Error	t-Statistic	Prob.
C	-284.3064	6.83E+08	-4.16E-07	1.0000
CASH_?	0.015072	0.004312	3.495053	0.0005
REC_?	0.006947	0.002757	2.519812	0.0119
PLANT_?	-0.119741	0.041535	-2.882884	0.0040
INV_?	-0.000928	0.003435	-0.270142	0.7871
INT_?	0.093034	0.011374	8.179684	0.0000
TA_?	0.007842	0.003042	2.578267	0.0101
LIAB_?	0.006406	0.002181	2.936687	0.0034
RET_?	0.149801	0.011193	13.38396	0.0000
GP_?	-0.039294	0.001934	-20.32256	0.0000
OI_?	0.149517	0.119110	1.255284	0.2097
OIA_?	-0.067358	0.123980	-0.543295	0.5870
NIL_?	-0.733480	0.037220	-19.70661	0.0000
DIV_?	-1.880416	0.066181	-28.41340	0.0000
CPC_?	-108.2268	338.0436	-0.320156	0.7489
CPC_GDP_?	1942963.	13217302	0.147002	0.8832
CPC_TA_?	11565.29	68854.09	0.167968	0.8666
GDP	-0.000968	14719.72	-6.57E-08	1.0000
DV1993_?	237.0169	3.10E+08	7.64E-07	1.0000
DV1994_?	201.3391	2.92E+08	6.90E-07	1.0000
DV1995_?	193.2268	2.77E+08	6.97E-07	1.0000
DV1996_?	190.8367	2.60E+08	7.35E-07	1.0000
DV1997_?	178.2319	2.37E+08	7.51E-07	1.0000
DV1998_?	130.0346	2.17E+08	6.00E-07	1.0000
DV1999_?	214.8167	1.92E+08	1.12E-06	1.0000
DV2000_?	194.2810	1.67E+08	1.17E-06	1.0000
DV2001_?	305.9396	1.55E+08	1.98E-06	1.0000
DV2002_?	210.0888	1.41E+08	1.49E-06	1.0000
DV2003_?	226.9112	1.21E+08	1.88E-06	1.0000
DV2004_?	-67.19610	89746104	-7.49E-07	1.0000
DV2005_?	97.39306	56994737	1.71E-06	1.0000
DV2006_?	120.5076	25656464	4.70E-06	1.0000
DV2009_?	398.4802	9538375.	4.18E-05	1.0000
DV2008_?	279.1136	8316639.	3.36E-05	1.0000
Fixed Effects (Cross)				
01--C	-74.49617			
02--C	167.3758			
03--C	-57.62206			
04--C	-277.5936			
05--C	-1250.500			
06--C	478.9229			
07--C	78.97113			
08--C	91.81037			
09--C	92.37174			
10--C	163.2027			
11--C	128.7106			
12--C	18.06415			

13--C	142.3572
14--C	-1525.339
15--C	356.3889
16--C	-83.91187
17--C	-10.22197
18--C	-278.9655
19--C	-215.9608
20--C	200.4666
21--C	1166.361
22--C	-65.49719
23--C	-1433.130
24--C	-540.5947
25--C	309.1032
26--C	923.5160
27--C	21.83531
28--C	946.5808
29--C	-30.93049
30--C	-464.2559
31--C	169.0684
32--C	186.9631
33--C	157.8543
34--C	132.5440
35--C	217.8479
36--C	107.9269
37--C	99.55224
38--C	89.93062
39--C	110.7355
40--C	110.1180
41--C	111.1478
42--C	117.3882
43--C	105.9741
44--C	177.1738
45--C	142.1626
46--C	90.05993
47--C	112.3412
48--C	200.1329
49--C	98.93508
50--C	109.2617
51--C	111.4607
52--C	177.5754
53--C	123.4937
54--C	134.1581
55--C	202.3121
56--C	148.3255
57--C	110.1182
58--C	169.0018
59--C	-1852.856
60--C	111.9874
61--C	162.5036
62--C	138.8652
63--C	128.3177
64--C	167.0551
65--C	134.3119
66--C	121.4370
67--C	108.8292
68--C	145.8010
69--C	127.1561
70--C	144.1398
71--C	124.7490

72--C	115.2912
73--C	-5790.217
74--C	502.5724
75--C	98.29101
76--C	157.2146
77--C	148.1188
78--C	129.7450
79--C	-276.0949

Effects Specification

Cross-section fixed (dummy variables)

R-squared	0.924158	Mean dependent var	539.3037
Adjusted R-squared	0.916148	S.D. dependent var	2737.656
S.E. of regression	792.7499	Akaike info criterion	16.28024
Sum squared resid	6.61E+08	Schwarz criterion	16.76741
Log likelihood	-9354.958	Hannan-Quinn criter.	16.46403
F-statistic	115.3758	Durbin-Watson stat	1.617312
Prob(F-statistic)	0.000000		
