

Bank of Russia



Strong Liquidity Saving Features in the Payment System design

Efficient liquidity saving mechanism and gridlock resolution procedures in RTGS systems

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What is the problem

Despite the fact that RTGS systems can effectively eliminate the credit exposure between the paying bank and the receiving bank at the interbank level by means of fast final and irrevocable money transfer, there is another serious problem associated with these systems.



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Liquidity Demand in Net Settlement Systems

RTGS systems turned out to be liquidity-demanding arrangements, as opposed to net settlement systems.



Liquidity Demand in Gross Settlement Systems



CBR experience of the year 1998

Facts of August 1998

- Central Bank has low international reserves;
- Unfavorable commodity prices for the Russian export products;
- Aggressive government borrowing at domestic market;

Events of August 1998

- Government default on the State Short-Term Bonds;
- Sharp increase of the CBR lending and borrowing rate up to 150%;
- Subsequent failure of several banks;
- The freezing of interbank market;
- Liquidity shortage in the banking system;
- Massive gridlocks in the payment system, resulting in painful payment cancellations of at EOD.



Why does liquidity has to be efficiently managed in RTGS

The efficiency of liquidity management arrangements is the precondition of smooth RTGS operation (especially in tough times when liquidity is a systemic shortage).

If liquidity management is inefficient, the RTGS may stop operating properly by terminating in the grid-lock state brining chaos to the national economy.



The functionality of Liquidity-Saving features in modern RTGS systems is based on the central queue, where the incoming payment instructions are stored in anticipation of settlement.

You may think of the central queue as a simple collection of payment instructions (PI_k). Often (but not always) the payment instructions in the central queue have certain "wealth" function (W) defined on their value, and/or the input time. If defined, this function is used primarily to create the sequential order of payments over the central queue.

Central queue = $\{PI_k\}, k = \overline{1, n};$

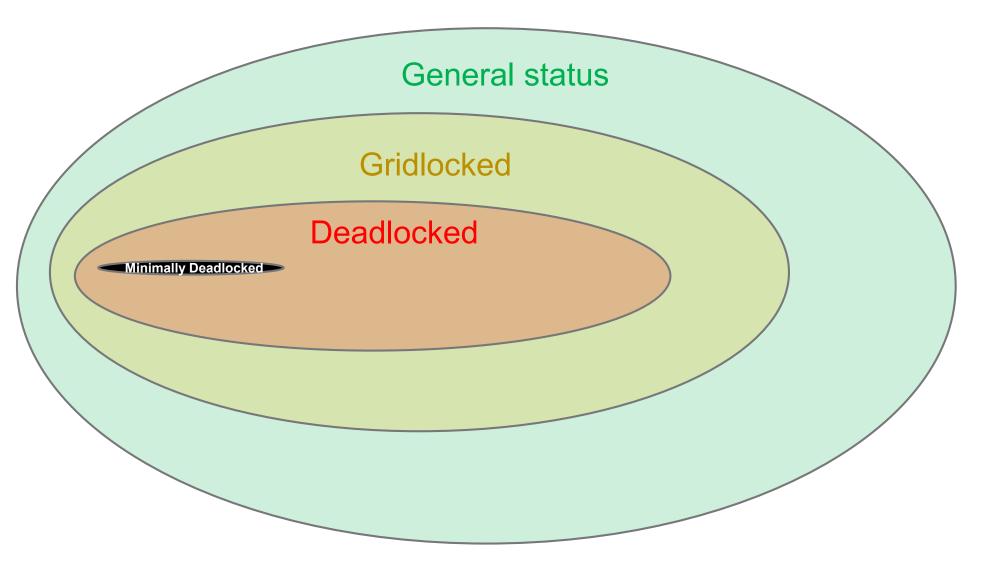


The Liquidity-Saving feature is the function that enables RTGS system to transform the central queue from the general status to some alternative reduced status without noticeable liquidity burden.

The efficiency of this reduction is determined by class of the destination status of the central queue.



Status of the central queue

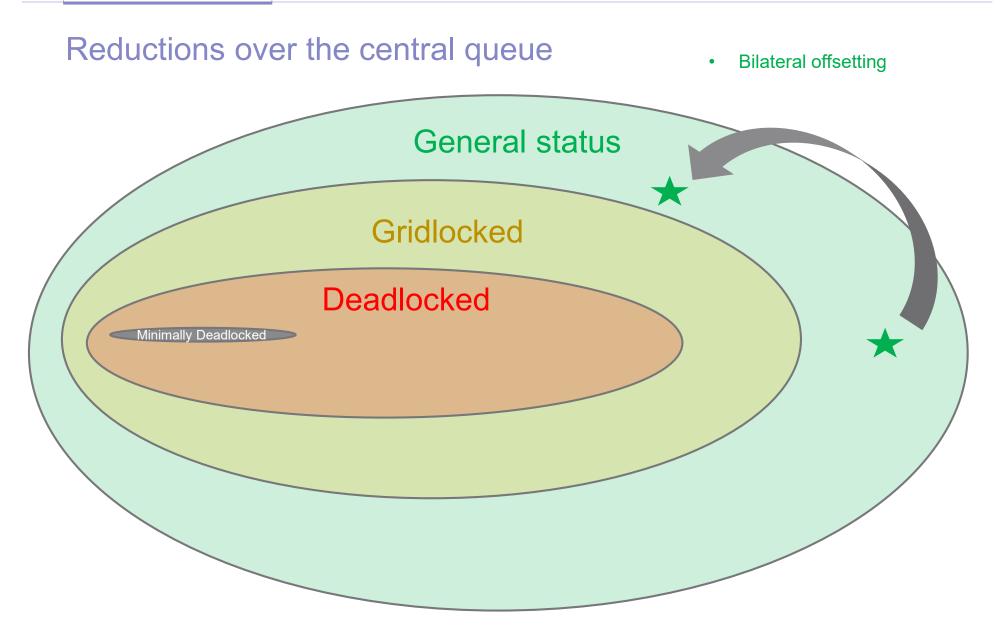




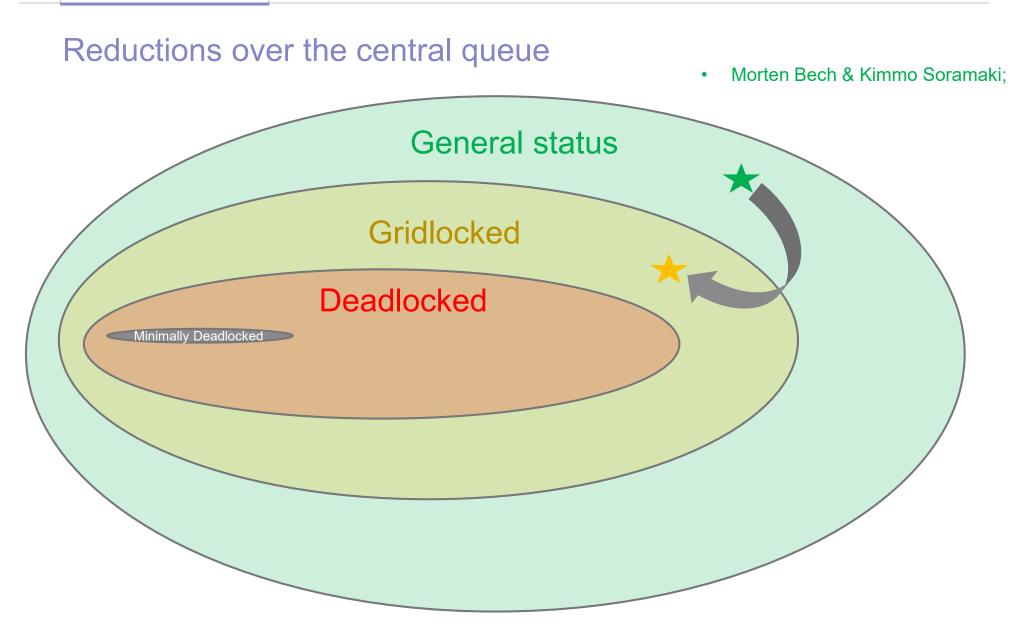
Status of the central queue

N⁰	Status	Description
1	General	Any queue that may be encountered in a payment system during it's operation.
2	Gridlocked	When no collection of payments can be settled under FIFO and priorities restrictions.
3	Deadlocked	When no collection of payments can be settled. under FIFO and priorities restrictions
4	Minimally Deadlocked	The deadlocked queue with minimal aggregate value of payments across all deadlocked queues, to which the initial general status can be reduced.



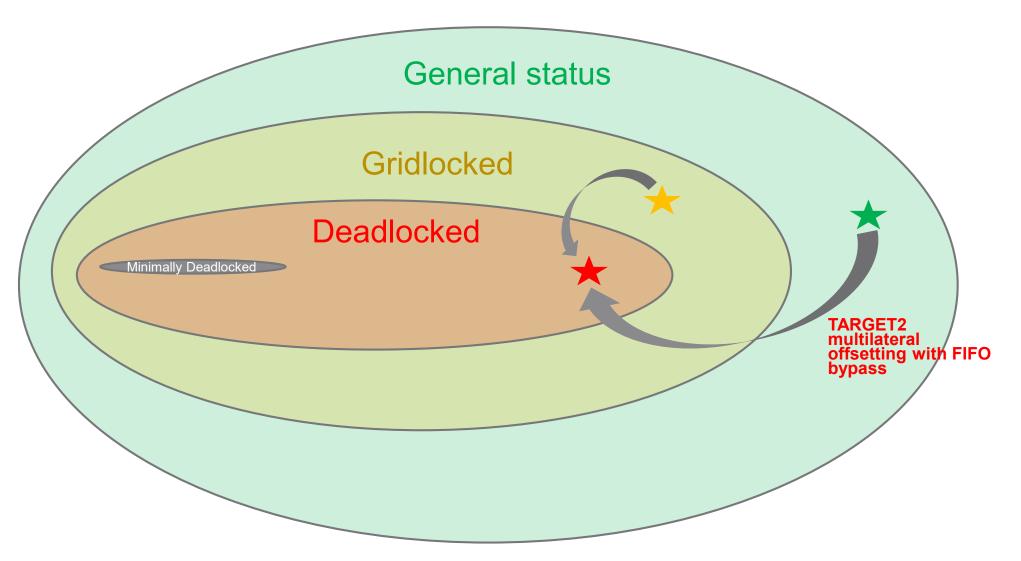






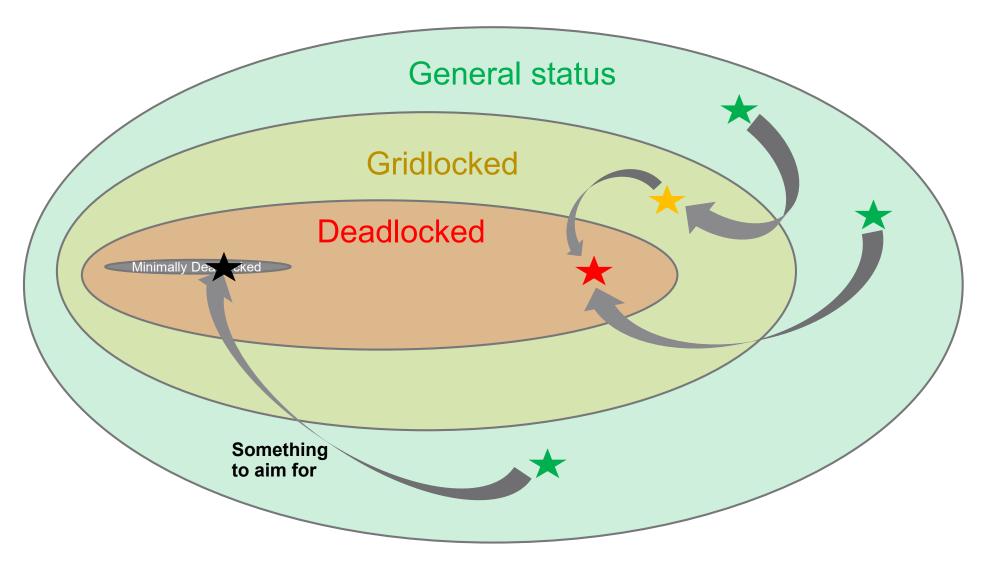


Reductions over the central queue





Reductions over the central queue







Mathematical formalism



Formalism for the Bank clearing problem

$$\begin{cases} 0 \leq x_{ijk} \\ 0 \leq \xi_{ijk} \\ 0 \leq \zeta_i \\ x_{ijk} + \xi_{ijk} = 1 \\ \sum_{jk} a_{ijk} * x_{ijk} - \sum_{pq} a_{piq} * x_{piq} + \zeta_i = B_i \\ x_{ijk} - integer \\ F \rightarrow max \end{cases}$$

$$F = \sum_{ijk} a_{ijk} * x_{ijk}$$

This problem belongs to knapsack-packing sub-class of integer linear programming (ILP). It is known to be NP-hard.



Linear program relaxation

$$\begin{cases} 0 \leq x_{ijk} \\ 0 \leq \xi_{ijk} \\ 0 \leq \zeta_i \\ x_{ijk} + \xi_{ijk} = 1 \end{cases}$$
$$\sum_{jk} a_{ijk} * x_{ijk} - \sum_{pq} a_{piq} * x_{piq} + \zeta_i = B_i \\ \frac{x_{ijk} - integer}{F \rightarrow max} \end{cases}$$

$$F = \sum_{ijk} a_{ijk} * x_{ijk}$$

^{*}Instead of solving the problem we **should** solve, we would solve the problem we **can** solve.



||A||x=B Fx->max

||A||[⊤]y=F By->min

The dual linear problems for the real-world instances of the Bank Clearing Problem are much easier (faster) to solve, compared to direct LP.



What is the duality about?

The direct linear problem for BCP

Start from the point where <u>none</u> of the payments <u>are settled</u>. Try to settle <u>as much</u> value in payments <u>as possible</u> while maintaining the account balances positive.



What is the duality about?

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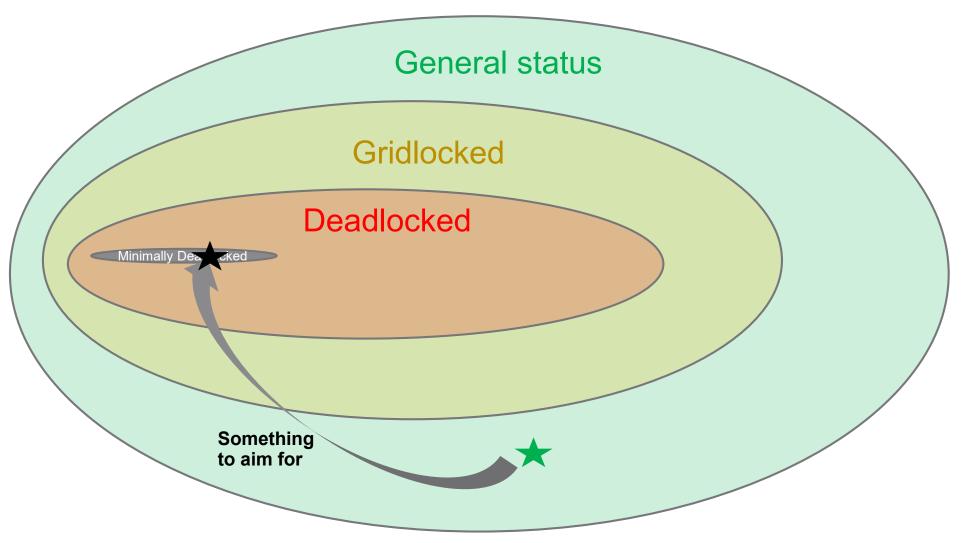
The dual linear problem for BCP

Start from the point where **<u>every</u>** payment **<u>is settled</u>**.

Try to bring the account balances to consistent state (to non-negative balances) while rejecting <u>as less</u> value in payments <u>as inevitable</u>.

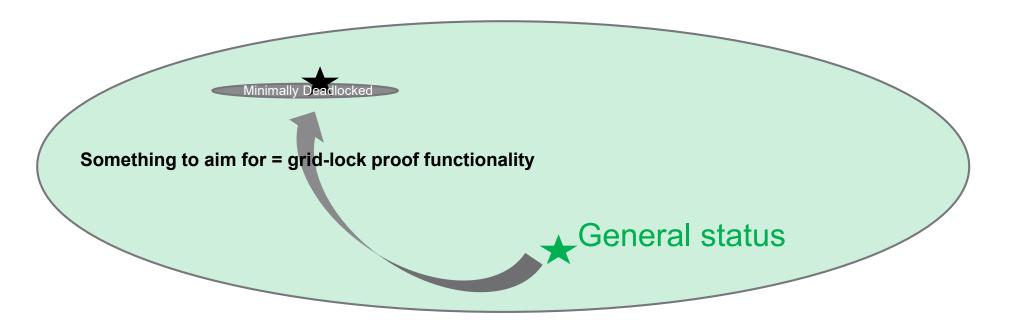


RTGS with liquidity-saving functionality of this kind achieves the desired reduction





These are grid-lock proof RTGS





Let's define the network as the collection of the accounts.

We shall assign emitting capacity to the accounts with negative positions.

We shall assign absorbing capacity to the accounts with positive positions.

We shall assign non-zero capacity to every ordered pair of the accounts, if there is at least one payment from the first account to the second account. Zero direct capacity will be assigned to every ordered pair of the accounts, if there is no one payment from the first account to the second account.



We define the intensity of the flow as the sum of all emission.

We define the price of the flow as the sum of all used capacities.



The flow that meets the emission, absorption and capacity restrictions, is deemed feasible.



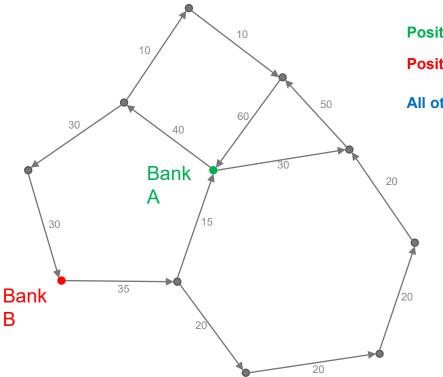
The feasible flow of the least possible price defines the solution of the Dual Linear Problem.



Illustrative example

Decomposition any network flow into Circulation and MaxFlow-MinCost

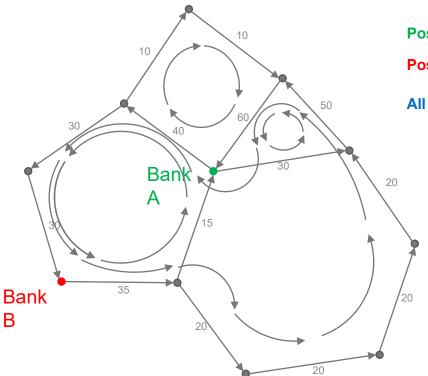




Position(A)=+5

Position(B)=-5

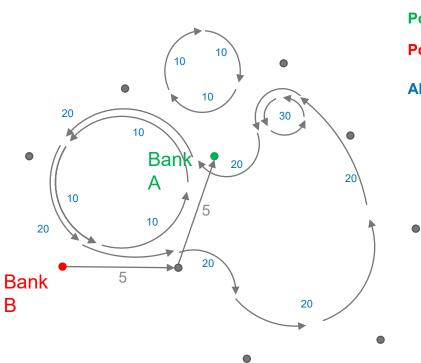




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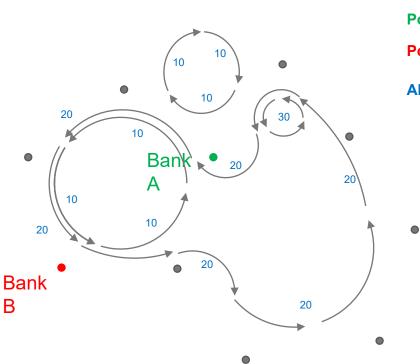




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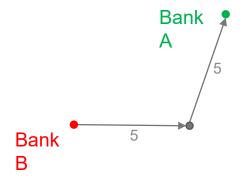
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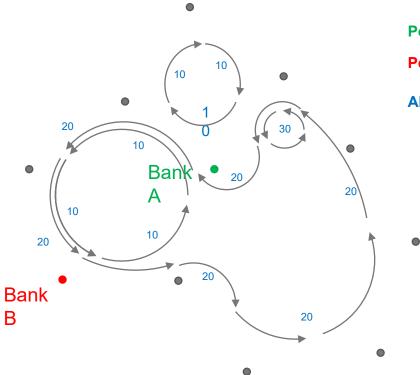


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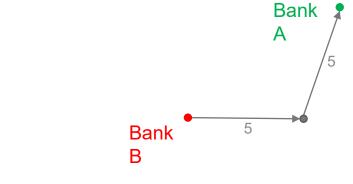




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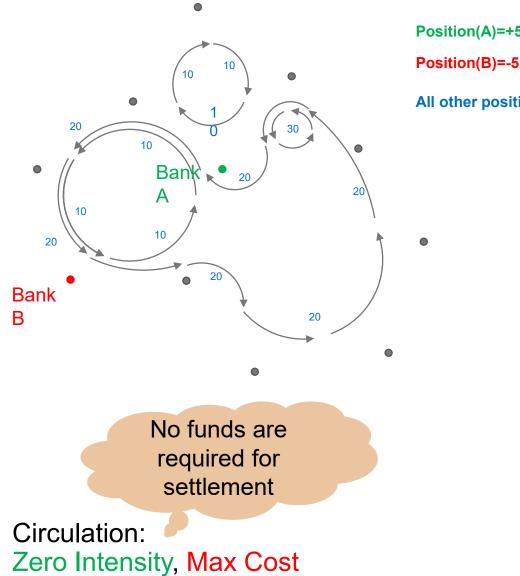
Position(B)=-5

All other positions=0



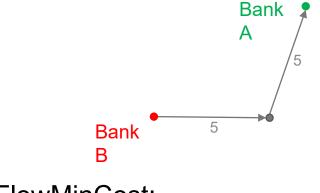
Circulation: Zero Intensity, Max Cost MaxFlowMinCost: Maximum Intensity, Minimal Cost





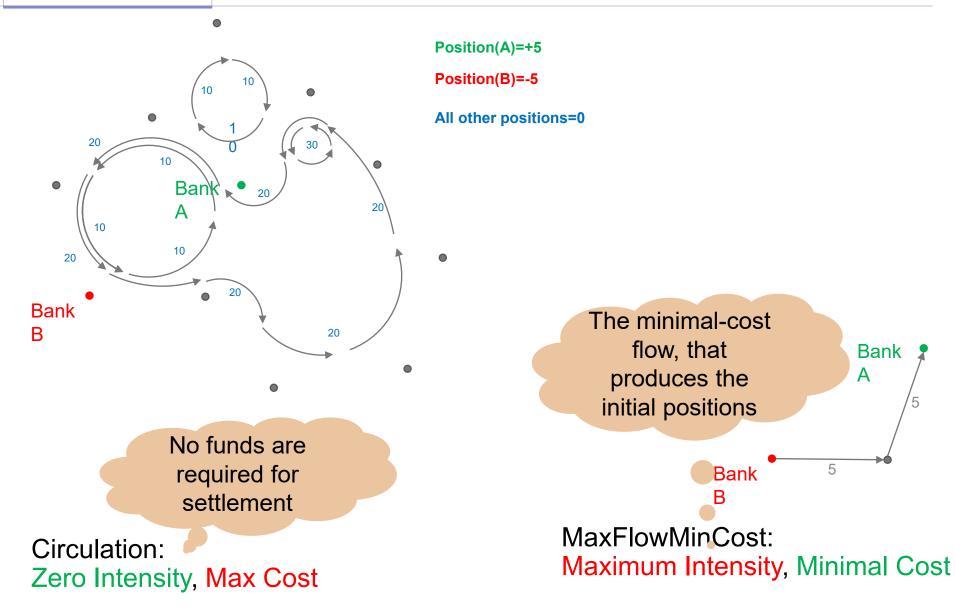
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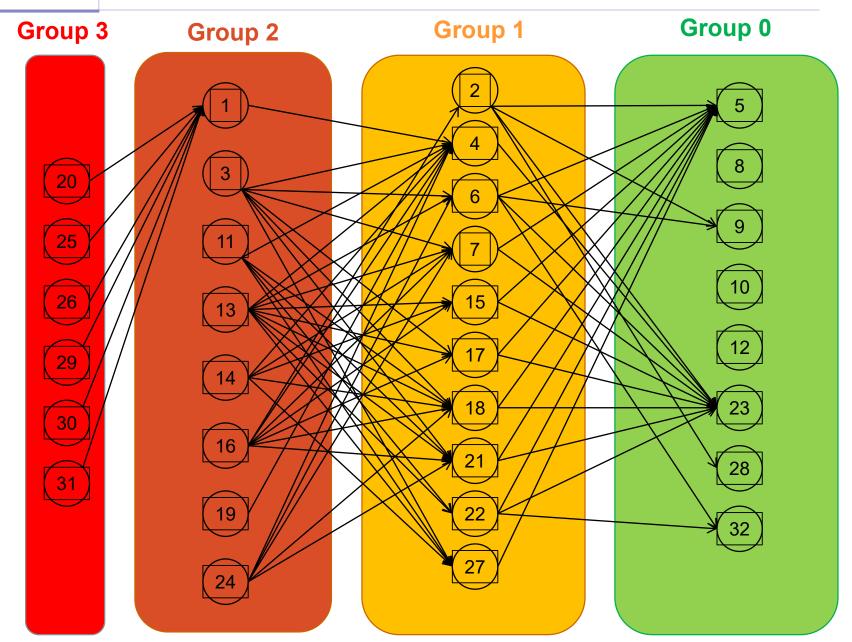


MaxFlowMinCost: Maximum Intensity, Minimal Cost











Analytical properties of the above graphical tool

Immediately diagnosed the severity of economical conditions

Illustrate the real net flow of funds in the banking system

Provide correct and efficient prescriptions for Central bank liquidity interventions

Contribute to find the feasible integer solution to the BCP, in the neighborhood of the optimal solution to Linear Program





Policy implications



Payment System Policy Implications

- The suitable design of the payment system (two distinct services: LSM service and RealTime service)
- Is money really required for settlement to take place?
- In liquidity saving strategy of PS participant, the value of the payment does not matter. What matters, is the direction of the payment.
- Free riding strategy and Incentives for the participant's behavior;
- The dependency of the settlement results on the value of the available liquidity;
- Central bank liquidity interventions;
- The consequences of unwinding;
- Fairness concept suggested by Bech & Soramaki;
- Maintaining the collateral at minimum;



The suitable design of the payment system (two distinct services: LSM service and RealTime service)

Advanced payment system design will consist of two services

LSM Payment Service

Uses little liquidity but settles the vast portion of payments both in terms of volume and value

RealTime Service

Uses almost all liquidity but settles only timecritical payments



Is money really required for settlement to take place?

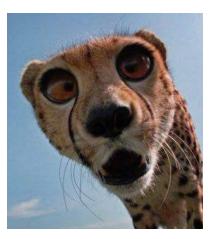
No money is required in LSM Service





What is more important in liquidity-saving strategy of the payment system Participant

The value of the payment does not matter. What matters, is the direction of the payment.





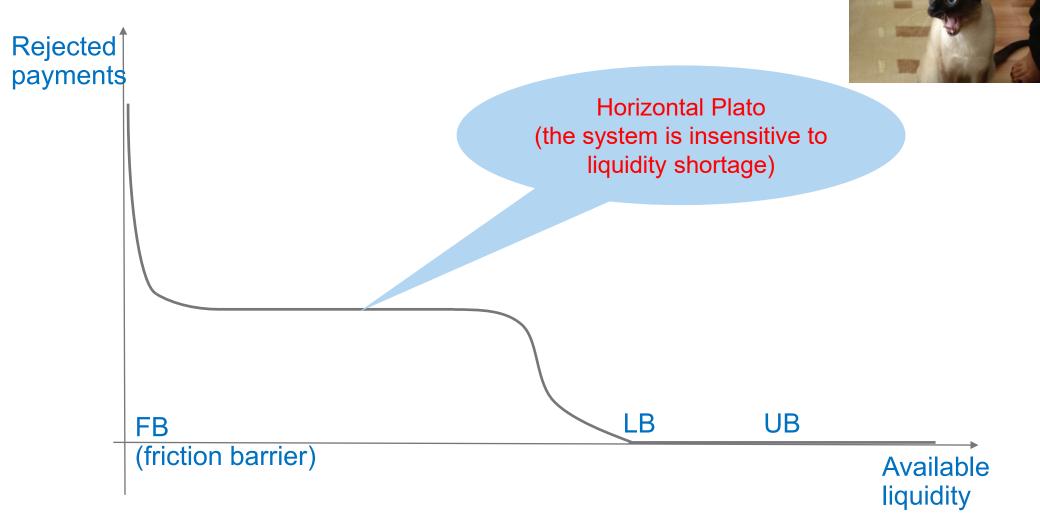
Free-Riding strategy and Incentives for the participant's behavior

In Liquidity-Saving Service, the Free-Riding strategy is something that is supported by the definition. And it turns out to be the most welcome and mutually beneficial behavior.





The dependency of the settlement results on the value of the available liquidity

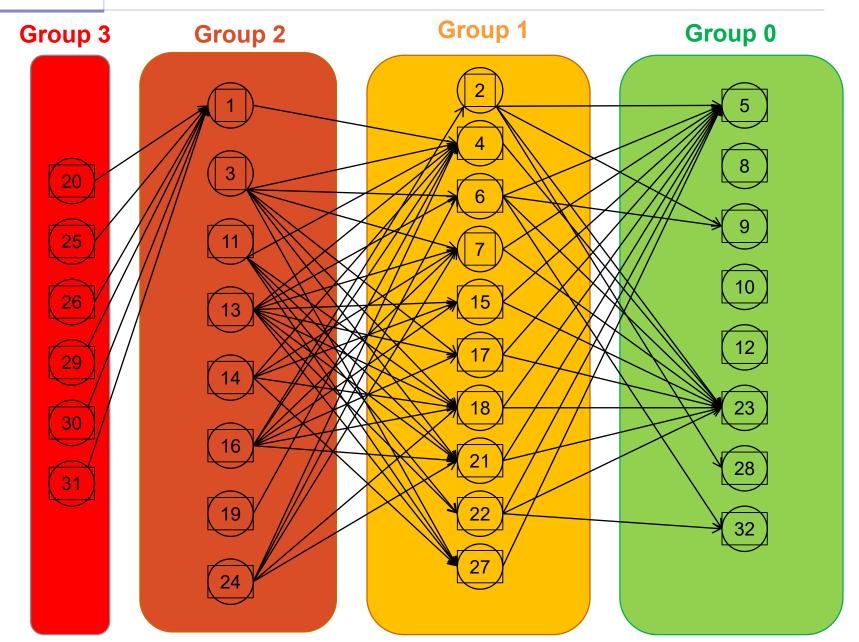




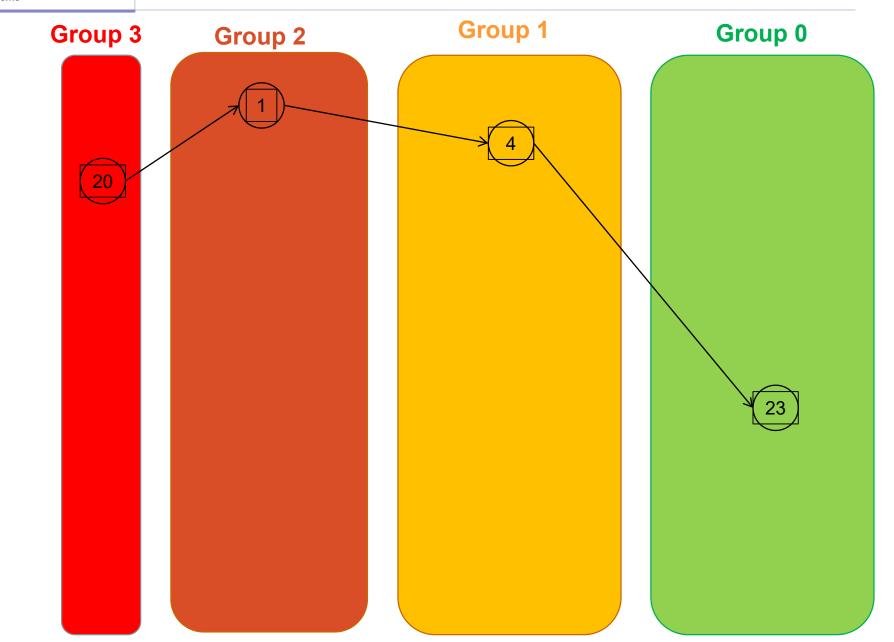
Central Bank liquidity interventions And The consequences of unwinding

Liquidity intervention (or unwinding) trigger a well predicted chain of cascading settlement (or rejection).











Fairness concept suggested by Bech & Soramaki

No fair solution to BCP exists, unless everything is settled.





Maintaining the collateral at minimum

Some 30 bln EUR (as a minimum estimate) can be released from the collateral holdings in Eurosystem, producing no risk.









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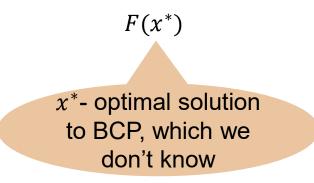


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 $F(x^*)$



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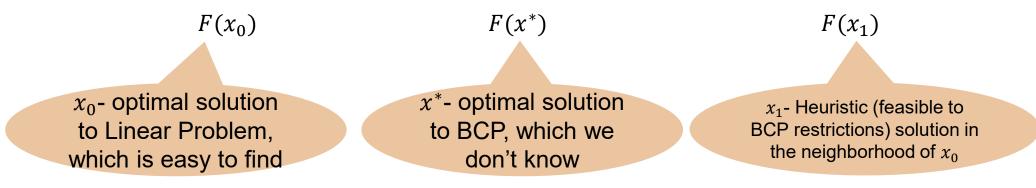
$$\sum_{jk} a_{ijk} * x_{ijk} - \sum_{pq} a_{piq} * x_{piq} + \zeta_i = B_i$$

$$\frac{x_{ijk} - integer}{F \to max}$$

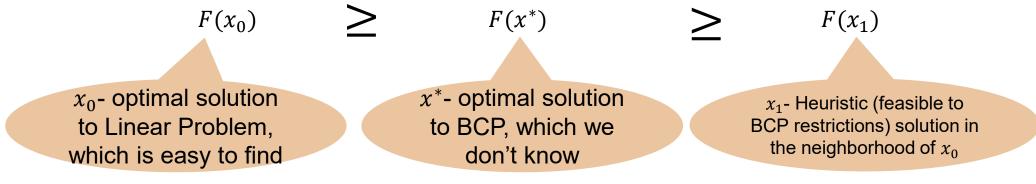
$$F(x_0) \qquad F(x^*)$$

$$x_0\text{- optimal solution}$$
to Linear Problem, which is easy to find
$$x^*\text{- optimal solution}$$
to BCP, which we don't know



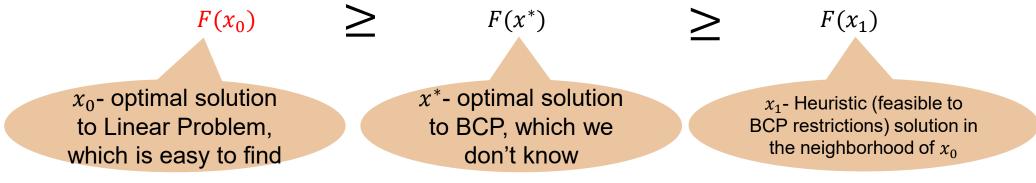






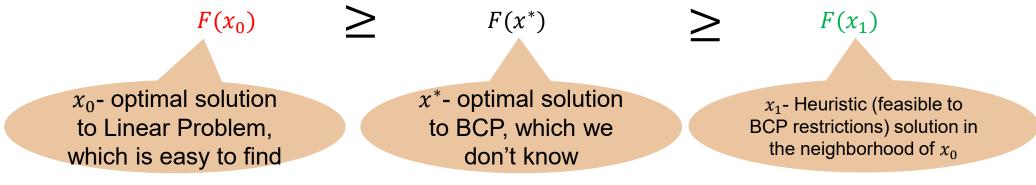




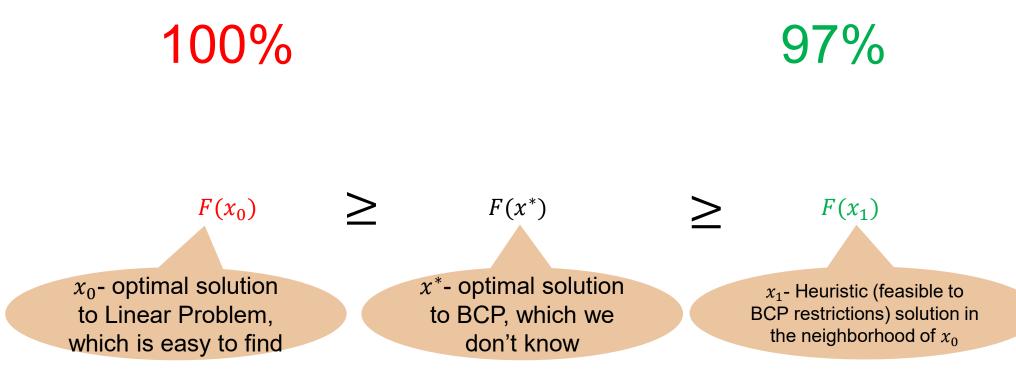




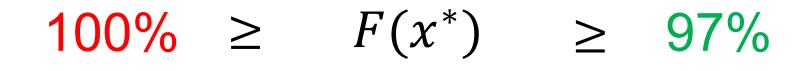












 x_0 - optimal solution to Linear Problem, which is easy to find

 $F(x_0)$

x*- optimal solution to BCP, which we don't know

 $F(x^*)$

 x_1 - Heuristic (feasible to BCP restrictions) solution in the neighborhood of x_0

 $F(x_1)$



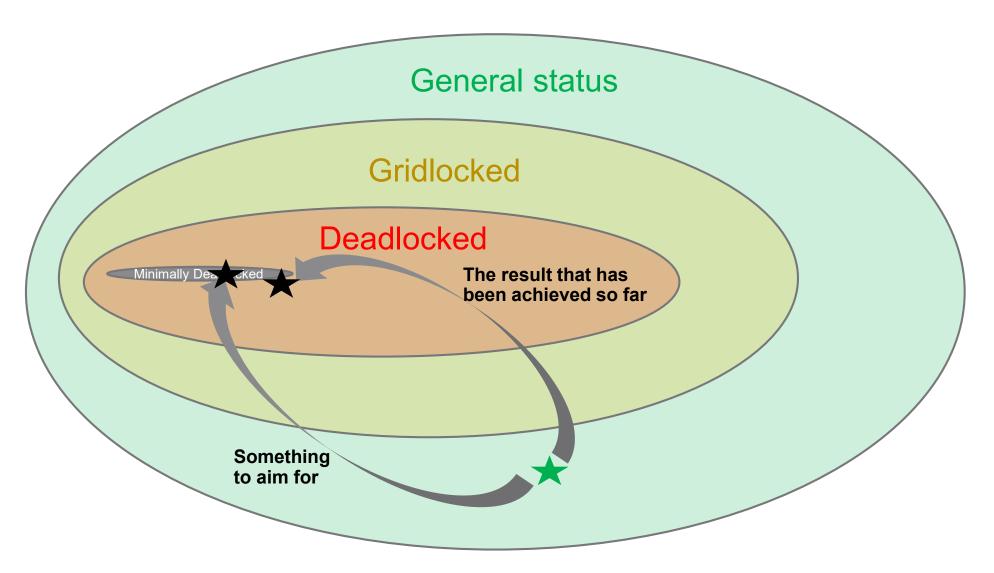
$100\% \geq F(x^*) \geq 97\%$

59

 $F(x_1)$











Thank you for your kind attention