The Collateral Channel versus the Bank Lending Channel: Evidence from a Massive Earthquake[†]

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November, 2018

[†]The authors thank Seow Eng Ong (discussant), Yasuyuki Todo (discussant), Ralph Paprzycki and seminar participants at the Hitotsubashi-RIETI International Workshop, 2018 Spring Japan Economic Association Meeting, 2018 SWET, ADBI, and Kwansei Gakuin University for valuable comments. The authors gratefully acknowledge financial support from the JSPS Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research Nos. 25220502, 15H06619, and 16H02027. Excellent research assistance by Tomohito Honda is gratefully acknowledged.

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Abstract

This paper examines the existence of the collateral and the bank lending channels simultaneously and compare their economic significance, by taking advantage of exogenous shocks to a firm's tangible assets and a bank's net worth caused by the massive Tohoku earthquake in 2011. We obtain the following findings: (1) damages to a firm's tangible assets and to the net worth of its primary banks lead to deterioration in firm's credit availability, which lends support to the existence of both the collateral and the bank lending channels; (2) firms that faced a tighter credit constraint after the earthquake have lower amount of borrowing outstanding and larger fall in the level of production and sales activities; (3) in aggregate, the damage caused by the earthquake and transmitted through the two channels substantially decrease output in the region.

JEL classifications: E22, G18, G21, H84

Keywords: Financial intermediation, Credit constraint, Natural disaster

1. Introduction

It is almost safe to say that the question of whether finance, or more specifically bank credit, matters for real outcome of corporate borrowers has been settled affirmatively. There is also a general consensus on *how* it matters, or what are the channels through which it matters. As two seminal studies of Bernanke (1983) and Bernanke and Gertler (1995) emphasize in the context of the effect of the Great Depression in the 1930s and of the transmission of monetary policy respectively, bank credit matters through two channels: the *firm balance sheet channel* and the *bank lending channel*, and these channels are collectively called as the credit channel.

The first channel, the *firm balance sheet channel*, refers to the dependence of firms' credit availability on the strength of their balance sheet, for example, the amount of net worth (Bernanke and Gertler 1989) or the amount of assets that they can pledge as collateral (Kiyotaki and Moore 1997). The channel through the amount of pledgeable assets is often called the *collateral channel*, and there are many empirical studies that provide supportive evidence for this channel.² The second channel, the *bank lending channel*, focuses on lenders' capacity to provide credit. Banks with weak balance sheet (Stein 1998; Gertler and Kiyotaki 2011), insufficient loanable funds (Bernanke and Blinder 1988; Bernanke and Blinder 1992), or low regulatory capital ratio (Van den Heuvel 2007) would not be able to provide sufficient credit and constrain borrowers' activities. Even more empirical studies report supportive evidence.³

Although these studies highlight the importance of the two individual channels, which of these channels is more important than the other still remains unresolved. In his speech, then-FRB

² See, for example, Gan (2007a), Chaney, Sraer, and Thesmar (2012), Cvijanović (2014), Lin (2015), Adelino, Schoar, and Severino (2015), Schmalz, Sraer, and Thesmar (2017), and Wu, Gyourko, and Deng (2015).

³ Some papers study shocks to banks originating from the monetary policy (Jimenez et al, 2012), from domestic and international financial crises (Chava and Purnanandam, 2010; Schnabl, 2012; Chodorow-Reich, 2014; Paravisini et al., 2015), or from real estate market (Gan, 2007b; Chakraborty, Goldstein, and MacKinlay, 2017; Cuñat, Cvijanović, and Yuan, 2017), and others study other types of shocks such as liquidity shortages and shocks from natural disasters (Khwaja and Mian, 2008; Hosono et al., 2016)

Chairman Bernanke emphasized the relevance of a unified analytical framework to study these channels not only for academic interests but also for practical purposes (Bernanke, 2007). However, there are few studies that incorporate both channels in the same empirical framework. A likely reason for this scarcity of research is the inability to separately identify these channels. As a matter of fact, many of the studies focus on the impact of financial booms and busts, or employ fluctuations in asset prices as a proxy for shocks. However, this approach is susceptible to the fact that the direction of causality is unclear or may run in both directions, because, as highlighted by Kiyotaki and Moore (1997), there should be positive feedback between asset prices and economic activities.

The aim of this study is to overcome this identification issue by explicitly separating the firm balance sheet channel from the bank lending channel, and compare the economic significance of the two channels. For this purpose, we take advantage of a natural experiment in the form of the shocks caused by the massive earthquake in Japan's Tohoku region in 2011, which inflicted damage to borrowers and lenders in an exogenous and heterogeneous manner. We construct a firm-bank matched dataset based on a series of firm surveys and bank balance sheets to obtain detailed information on the damage to individual firms and banks.

Our empirical strategy consists of the following three steps. First, we start from identifying the collateral channel, which is a specific form of the firm balance sheet channel, as well as the bank lending channel. We estimate the effects of the damages caused by the earthquake on firms' credit constraint in order to examine the existence of and compare the magnitude between the collateral and the bank lending channels. Second, we examine whether the tighter credit constraint due to earthquake-related damage, if any, has a negative impact on firms' real as well as financial activities in terms of their production, sales, capital investment, and financing. Third, based on the results of these examinations, we measure the size of the aggregate impact transmitted through both the collateral and the bank lending channels.

By way of preview, we have many interesting findings from our analysis. First, damage to a firm's tangible assets and to the net worth of its primary banks led to a deterioration in the firm's credit availability, providing evidence of the existence of both the collateral and the bank lending channel. More specifically, for the impact transmitted through the collateral channel, we obtain an increase of 2.56 percentage points in the probability of a firm being credit constrained in response to the firm damage of average size (i.e., the amount of damage to a firm's non-land tangible assets being 15.4 percent of its total assets). For the impact through the bank lending channel, we have an increase of 4.99 percentage points in the probability of a firm being credit constrained in response to the average damage to the firm's primary bank (i.e., the amount of the bank's special losses being 0.37 percent of its total assets). Given that the average ratio of constrained firms being 49.3 percent, quantitative impacts through these channels are nonnegligible. Second, firms that faced a tighter credit constraint after the earthquake reduced the amount of borrowing outstanding and saw a fall in the level of production and sales activities. Third, in aggregate, the damage caused by the earthquake and transmitted through the collateral and bank lending channels substantially decreased output in the region, but this decrease was rather short-lived and had no substantial impact on the entire national economy.

In a further analysis, we also examine the effectiveness of various government measures and other arrangements that were actually implemented to alleviate the negative impact transmitted through the collateral and the bank lending channels. On the one hand, in terms of measures and mechanisms relevant for the collateral channel, there were several measures that provided firms with financial assistance. A substantial number of firms had purchased earthquake insurance policies before the earthquake, mitigating the financial impact of the earthquake. In addition, a large number of firms received government subsidies for recovery investment after the earthquake. On the other hand, in terms of measures relevant for the bank lending channel, the government provided banks with financial assistance in the form of capital injections for the purpose of restoring their lending capacity. Finally, in terms of both the collateral and bank lending channels, long-term firm-bank relationships may have successfully alleviated the negative impact transmitted through both channels. We examine the role that each of these measures or arrangements played. From this analysis, we find that some of the financial support measures such as investment subsidies and earthquake insurance payouts helped to alleviate the negative impact.

This study contributes to the literature in the following three respects. First, this is one of the first empirical studies to examine both the collateral and the bank lending channel in a unified framework. To the best of our knowledge, there are only two studies that deal with the two channels simultaneously. Amiti and Weinstein (2018) decompose changes in the amount of loans for listed firms in Japan into time-varying firm fixed effects and time-varying bank fixed effects. Jiménez et al. (2016) examine the relevance of both firms' and banks' balance sheets for Spanish firms' credit availability by controlling for bank-time and firm-time fixed effects in turn and extracting within-firm and within-bank variations. In contrast to these preceding studies, this study does not control for such fixed effects, but instead, exploits the exogenous, heterogeneous, and unexpected nature of the shocks caused by the earthquake to quantitatively measure the extent of propagation of the shocks from the same origin through the two separate channels.

Second, in contrast to many of the studies on the collateral channel and the bank lending channel that measure shocks to firms' balance sheets and banks' net worth indirectly, we directly measure the amount of damage both to firms and banks' balance sheets caused by the earthquake.⁴

⁴ Some studies on the collateral channel such as Chaney, Sraer, and Thesmar (2012) and Cvijanović (2014) measure shocks to the value of firms' collateralizable assets by the fluctuation of real estate prices at the regional level rather than at the firm-level. Some other studies on the bank lending channel such as Gan (2007) and Paravisini et al. (2015) measure the extent of a bank's exposure to a financial crisis by the

Therefore, we are able to quantify the effect of shocks to firms' and banks' balance sheet on firms' credit availability and real activities more accurately than previous studies.

Third, this study also contributes to the literature examining the effects of natural disasters. There are a substantial number of studies that examine the impact of and subsequent recovery from natural disasters at the firm level. Notable examples are the studies by Leiter, Oberhofer, and Raschky (2009), De Mel, McKenzie, and Woodruff (2012), Carvalho et al. (2016), Uchida et al. (2014), and Ono et al. (2014), which mainly focus on real variables such as firms' investment, production, intermediate inputs, relocation, bankruptcies, and business closures. In contrast, similar to the studies by Hosono et al. (2016), Miyakawa et al. (2017), and Uchida et al. (2014), the primary focus of the current study is on the financial aspect. We examine the relevance of financial variables in the transmission of damage caused by a disaster after controlling for other possible transmission channels such as supply chains.

The paper proceeds as follows. Section 2 provides an overview of the Tohoku earthquake. Sections 3 and 4 explain the data and the empirical approach that we use to separate the collateral channel and the bank lending channel. Next, Section 5 presents the estimation results on the existence of the collateral and bank lending channels and on the impact of credit constraints on firms' real activities. Finally, Section 6 concludes.

2. Background

2.1 The Tohoku earthquake in 2011

The Tohoku earthquake occurred on March 11, 2011 and had a magnitude of 9.0 on the Richter scale, making it the fourth strongest earthquake in the world since 1900. The earthquake hit

amount of real estate-related loans (Gan) or by the amount of foreign assets (Paravisini et al.) before the crisis rather than directly measure the extent of damage to its net worth caused by the crisis.

especially the northeastern region of Japan, which was severely affected by both the tremor and the tsunami triggered by the earthquake. Table 1 provides an overview of the damage caused, including the number of casualties and the number of housing units destroyed. As shown in the table, there were more than 19,000 casualties, about 2,600 people remain unaccounted for, and about 120,000 housing units were completely and 280,000 half destroyed. The table also shows that the casualties and the destroyed housing units were concentrated in certain municipalities, which the government officially designated as "earthquake-affected municipalities." Outside these municipalities, the number of casualties and destroyed housing units was small. Furthermore, even inside the affected areas, the damage was mainly concentrated in municipalities that were hit by the tsunami following the earthquake. Outside these tsunami-hit municipalities but within the government-designated municipalities, the ratio of casualties and destroyed housing units was smaller than that in the tsunami-hit regions.

The Tohoku earthquake had a tremendous negative impact on both firms' assets and banks' lending capacity. The total loss of capital stock from the earthquake is estimated to range from 16 trillion to 25 trillion yen according to a report by the government.⁵ The earthquake caused severe damage to the lending capacity of banks in the affected areas and stopped their operations as a result. Shortly after the earthquake, as many as 264 bank branches and headquarters closed and stopped their operations. Even though many resumed their operations soon after, a substantial share remained closed for more than two months after the earthquake. Another non-negligible share of damaged branches were relocated to places distant from their original location. Further, many banks reported special losses mostly caused by the earthquake in the accounting year ending in March 2011.⁶

⁵ Note that some argue that these estimates exaggerate the true damage. Saito, Nakagawa, and Ko (2015) pointed out that incorrect assumptions by the government regarding the damage ratio both inside and outside the tsunami-hit municipalities resulted in the overestimation of the damage.

⁶ In a later table (Table 4), we will see that banks located in the earthquake-affected region tended to report

2.2 Financial support to firms and banks

Firms and banks damaged by the Tohoku earthquake received financial support in various ways, including earthquake insurance payouts, government subsidies for reconstruction investment and government-backed loans. First, firms received insurance payouts for property damage if they had purchased earthquake insurance prior to the Tohoku earthquake. By the end of March 2017, total property insurance payouts related to the earthquake amounted to 1.27 trillion yen in total.⁷ Second, qualifying firms received subsidies for their reconstruction investment after the earthquake. The central and the local government jointly introduced this subsidy program, called the Restoration and Maintenance Subsidy Project for Facilities of Small and Medium Enterprise Groups, shortly after the earthquake. Under the program, which is still ongoing, the government screens applications and, for qualifying groups of firms, finances three-quarters of their reconstruction investment. The government allows each group to include not only firms that were directly damaged by the earthquake but those that were indirectly damaged, since it regards the recovery of the regional economy and supply chains as crucial for the recovery of individual firms that were directly damaged. By the end of 2017, the government had disbursed 501 billion yen of subsidies under this program.

Third, firms that were directly or indirectly affected by the earthquake were able to obtain two types of government-backed loans: loans provided by government-affiliated financial institutions, and loans guaranteed by public credit guarantee corporations. Special programs for both of these types of loans were introduced in the wake of the Tohoku earthquake to offer better conditions than similar programs provided nationwide. Loans by government-affiliated

larger special losses than those not located in the region.

⁷ See page 26 in the annual report (<u>http://www.nihonjishin.co.jp/english/2017/en_disclosure.pdf</u>) released by the Japan Earthquake Reinsurance Co. Ltd. Note that the amount includes insurance payouts not only to firms but also to households.

institutions were provided by the Japan Finance Corporation (JFC) and Shoko Chukin Bank in the case of small and medium enterprises, while the Development Bank of Japan is responsible for extending loans to large firms. By the end of June 2017, the JFC and Shoko Chukin had extended a total 6.15 trillion yen of such government loans to SMEs. Meanwhile, regarding special public credit guarantees following the earthquake, the credit guarantee corporations have provided 100% coverage for loans extended to damaged SMEs. These loans have been provided separately from their usual guarantee program offered nationwide. By the end of June 2017, the total amount of such guarantees stood at 2.73 trillion yen.

The government provided financial assistance to banks in the form of a capital injection program. It relaxed conditions for the capital injections into earthquake-affected financial institutions by revising the Act on Special Measures for Strengthening Financial Functions. From September 2011 to December 2012, five regional banks, four *shinkin* banks, and four credit cooperatives received capital injections by the Deposit Insurance Corporation. The total sum of capital injected into these financial institutions amounted to 250 billion yen.

All of this financial support to firms and banks may have affected the extent to which shocks were transmitted through the collateral and bank lending channels. We will closely examine their impact in later sections.

3. Data

3.1 Data Sources

We employ three data sources in order to construct a firm-bank matched panel dataset. First, we use information collected through a series of firm surveys in the areas severely affected by the earthquake, the Survey on Firms after the Tohoku Earthquake (SFTE) implemented by the Center for Recovery from the Earthquake at the Graduate School of Economics of Tohoku University, as

the primary source.⁸ The Center implemented the survey four times (in July 2012, August-September 2013, August-September 2014, and October-November 2015).

In the first survey wave, questionnaires were sent out to 30,000 firms recorded in the database of Tokyo Shoko Research Incorporated (TSR), one of the largest private credit information companies in Japan, that were located in the three most severely-affected prefectures (Iwate, Miyagi, and Fukushima) plus the adjacent city of Hachinohe in Aomori prefecture and were chosen based on the following criteria. There were 56,101 firms in the TSR database in the area. The Center categorized these firms based on their location (located in a coastal or an inland municipality) and their size (up to 20 employees and more than 20 employees). It sent out questionnaires to all firms in coastal areas and to all sizable firms (with more than 20 employees) in inland areas, while it randomly chose and sent out the questionnaire to about 18% of smaller inland firms (with up to 20 employees) in the database. The Center set these sampling ratios in order to have more accurate and comprehensive information on firms along the coast, which were more heavily damaged than those located inland. Overall, 7,119 firms returned valid questionnaires, for a response rate of 23.7%.

In the second survey wave, the Center divided the 59,880 firms in the area identified in the TSR database at the time of the second wave into two groups. The first group consisted of the firms that responded to the first wave of the SFTE in 2012 and existed at the time of the second wave. There were 6,983 such firms. The questionnaire sent to these firms asked them about their current business environment and performance but not about the damage caused by the earthquake, which is time-invariant and was already included in the questionnaire in the first wave.

The firms in the second group were those that did not respond to the first wave but were

⁸ All of the authors have participated in the SFTE since the outset in 2011 and have drafted papers (in Japanese) that summarize the surveys. See Uchida et al. (2013; in Japanese) and Ishise et al. (2013; in Japanese) for examples.

included in the TSR database. The Center categorized them based on their location and size as in the first wave but applied different extraction rates from the first wave. Specifically, it sent out the questionnaire to all sizable firms in the coastal area (1,989 firm) and inland area (3,475 firms), while it randomly chose and sent out the questionnaire to 2,324 smaller coastal firms and to 15,229 smaller inland firms. The questionnaire for these firms asked not only about their business environment and performance but also about the damage that resulted from the earthquake. 3,971 firms from the first group and 3,510 firms from the second group provided responses, for an overall response rate of 24.9%. In the third and the fourth waves, the Center sent questionnaires to firms that had responded to either the first or the second wave (or both) and received 5,713 and 4,116 responses, respectively.

We use various types of information from the SFTE for our analysis. The first type of information concerns the damage to a firm caused by the earthquake. This information includes not only direct damage to the firm itself but also indirect damage caused by damage to the firm's suppliers and customers, to public infrastructure, and to banks with which the firm transacts. It further includes information on the amount of damage to a firm's land and non-land tangible assets. The second type of information concerns the financial assistance a firm received after the earthquake such as earthquake insurance payouts, government investment subsidies, compensation for damage from the nuclear disaster, and other types of assistance by local municipalities. The third type of information concerns a firm's financing, including whether it had demand for a loan, whether it had applied for new loans and/or whether new loans had been approved, the loan conditions of any new loans, and the total loan amount outstanding. Finally, the fourth type of information consists of firms' attributes (e.g., the legal form a firm takes), activities (e.g., investment, relocation, transaction relationships with suppliers and customers), and business environment (e.g., the diffusion index of business conditions for the firm). In order to supplement the information from the SFTE, we use our second source, the TSR database, which contains information on additional firm attributes such as a firm's geographical location, number of employees, the primary bank and the branch it transacts with, and the industry it belongs to. Our third data source are disclosure documents released by banks and a variety of media reports on damaged banks, which we use to obtain additional information on the attributes of firms' primary bank and branch. Specifically, from banks' disclosure documents, we obtain information on their profits, losses, amount of capital, and the status of each of their branches. When information on damage to a branch is unavailable, we used media reports or made enquiries directly with the bank.

3.2 Observation periods and sample selection

To investigate how the Tohoku earthquake affected firms' financial constraints and their ex-post activities through the collateral and bank lending channels, we set five observations periods: one period before the earthquake, and four after the earthquake corresponding to the waves of the SFTE. Specifically, period 1 covers the period before the earthquake, i.e., before March 11, 2011; period 2 covers the period from March 11, 2011 to July 2012 (when the first wave of the survey was conducted); period 3 covers the period from August 2012 to August-September 2013 (second wave); period 4 covers the period from September-October 2013 to August-September 2014 (third wave); and period 5 the period from September-October 2014 to October-November 2015 (fourth wave).

To select the sample firms used for analysis, we start from all the firms that responded to the SFTE. We then limit the sample to firms that had demand for new loans in each period. For this purpose, we include all firms that fall into one of the following categories: firms that obtained new loans, those that applied for new loans but were rejected, and those that wanted to apply for a loan but did not do so because they expected a rejection. This allows us to separate firms that had demand for loans but could not obtain one from those with no demand for new loans. The number of firms with demand for loans in period 2 was 2,052 firms, that in period 3 was 2,207 firms, that in period 4 was 1,437 firms, and that in period 5 was 1,190 firms. Finally, we dropped firm-year observations for which at least one of our independent variables (explained below) is missing. Our final dataset consists of 1,190 firms for period 2, 953 for period 3, 506 for period 4, and 427 for period 5.

4. Empirical approach

4.1 Empirical model employed for estimation

In order to check for the existence of the collateral and bank lending channels simultaneously and to examine how shocks to firms and banks affect firm activities ex post through these channels, we employ the following treatment regression model for each t=2,3,4, and 5:

$$Constrained^{*}_{it} = \lambda_{1}F_{Damage_{i}} + \lambda_{2}B_{Damage_{i}} + X_{it}\delta + \epsilon_{it},$$

$$Constrained_{it} = 1 \text{ if } Constrained^{*}_{it} > 0; = 0 \text{ if otherwise.}$$

$$(1)$$

$$Activity_{it} = \mu_1 Constrained_{it} + \mu_2 F_D amage_i + X_{it}\theta + \omega_{it}.$$
(2)

In equation (1), whether firm *i* is credit constrained (*Constrained*) is determined by the damage to its tangible assets (*F_Damage*), the damage to the primary bank that the firm transacts with (*B_Damage*), and other firm attributes (X). We employ a probit model and assume that ϵ follows the standard normal distribution. We are interested in the coefficients λ_1 and λ_2 , which respectively represent the existence of the collateral channel and the bank lending channel. If the damage to firms or to banks caused by the earthquake increased the probability that a firm was credit constrained in a specific period, we expect these coefficients to be positive.

In equation (2), $Activity_{it}$ represents the level of firm activities such as production and sales, capital investment, and procurement of funds. We are interested in the coefficient on the dummy variable *Constrained_{it}*, which indicates if firm *i* was credit constrained in period *t*. To allow for the possibility that *Constrained_{it}* is determined endogenously as shown by equation (1) and that the correlation between the disturbance terms in equations (1) and (2) is not zero, we resort to treatment effect regression using the maximum likelihood estimator. We employ the variable for bank damage (*B_Damage*) as an instrument which is correlated with *Constrained*^{*} but not correlated with ω to extract exogenous changes in *Constrained*^{*}_{it}. We also use the same set of other firm attributes X_{it} as in equation (1).

A few remarks on the above empirical strategy with equations (1) and (2) are in order. First, we repeat cross-sectional estimations for each period t=2, 3, 4, and 5 rather than pooling all observations across periods and using them as a panel. The reason is that this allows us to examine the persistence of the impact of F_Damage and B_Damage , which is time-invariant, on credit constraints. If the shocks to firms and banks continue to affect firms' credit constraints through the collateral channel, the bank lending channel, or both even long after the earthquake, the coefficients λ_1 and/or λ_2 will be positive and significant in the estimations for t=3 or later. Second, we consider the possibility that firms in the sample are affected by the earthquake in many more ways other than the collateral and bank lending channels. For example, firms may be indirectly affected through the interruption of supply chains or through damage to public infrastructure nearby. In order to control for such possible impact resulting from the earthquake, we employ a number of control variables for X. Details of the variables included in each estimation will be provided in a later section. Third, note that in equation (2) we include F_Damage but not B_Damage as one of the explanatory variables for firm activities. This is because we assume that damage to firms' tangible assets may affect their activities not only through the collateral channel but also through other routes. For example, damage to a firm's fixed tangible assets may reduce the capacity for production and increase the demand for recovery investment. Hence, we include F_Damage in the second stage estimation in order to incorporate these possibilities.

4.2 Dependent variables

For the dependent variable in equation (1), we measure whether a firm is credit constrained using the variable *Constrained*, which takes a value of 1 if the firm replied that it was not able to obtain the desired amount of loans and 0 otherwise. We use three different variables as the dependent variable *Activity*_{it} in equation (2). The first is *Activity_Level*, which we measure in two different ways: the level of a firm's production or the level of its sales in a particular year relative to the level in the year before the earthquake. Second, we use the ratio of tangible investment to tangible assets at the end of the previous year (*Investment*) in order to measure a firm's capital investment activities. Third, we use the ratio of a firm's loans outstanding to the amount of total assets outstanding at the end of the year (*Loans*) in order to measure firms' loan procurement status. We estimate equation (2) using each of these three variables in turn.

4.3 Explanatory variables

We use three groups of explanatory variables: variables that measure damage to a firm's tangible assets; variables that measure damage to banks and bank branches that a firm transacts with; and other variables. We explain each group of variables below.

4.3.1 Damage to a firm's tangible assets

In order to examine for the existence and size of impact transmitted through the collateral channel,

we use the information on whether a firm experienced damage to its tangible assets and how much. In the SFTE, each firm reports whether it experienced damage to its fixed tangible assets and, if so, it reports the amount of damage to non-land tangibles and to land separately. For non-land tangibles, the firm measures the amount of damage in terms of repurchase prices or in terms of repair costs, while for land it reports the amount of losses in appraisal values. We divide these two variables by the firm's total amount of assets before the earthquake and construct the variables $F_Damage_Tangibles$ and F_Damage_Land .

4.3.2 Damage to a firm's primary banks and their branches

In order to examine for the existence and size of impact through the bank lending channel, we use balance sheet information of the bank with which a firm transacts as the primary bank. The primary bank for a firm is the bank that had extended the largest amount of loans outstanding to the firm before the earthquake. We use the special losses reported by a primary bank divided by its total amount of assets to construct the variable *B_Special_Losses*. The variable measures the extent of damage to the bank's fixed tangible assets caused by the earthquake resulting in a reduction in the net worth of the bank. As an alternative, we use another variable, *dB_CapRatio*, which measures the change in the risk weighted capital ratio from one year prior to the earthquake to the year of the earthquake.

Further, we use information on the damage to bank branches in order to examine if the bank's lending capacity at the branch level is important. The earthquake damaged the structures, equipment, and human resources of a number of bank branches, and many of these branches closed or relocated somewhere else. We collect this information from the disclosure documents of the banks and through direct inquiries to bank officials to construct two variables, *B_Branch_Reloc* and *B_Branch_Closed*. The former takes a value of 1 if the bank branch

relocated from its original location after the earthquake and 0 otherwise, while the latter takes a value of 1 if the branch remained closed for at least one day after the earthquake and 0 otherwise. Also, we aggregate the branch relocation and closure information at the bank level to construct another set of variables, *B_Branch_Reloc_sum* and *B_Branch_Closed_sum*. We use all five variables on bank or bank branch damage to examine how the shocks caused by the earthquake were transmitted through the bank lending channel.

4.3.3 Other types of damage to a firm

We also include a vector of other variables in the estimation. In order to control for other types of adverse impacts caused by the earthquake apart from those through the collateral and bank lending channels, we use a number of variables proxying for various kinds of negative impact. First, we employ two variables that proxy for the damage transmitted through supply chains. Cus Damage and Sup Damage respectively take a value of 1 if a firm is indirectly affected through damage to their customers or suppliers and 0 otherwise. Second, we use three different variables regarding a firm's location in the earthquake-affected areas in order to represent different types of shocks caused by the earthquake. Damaged_Area takes a value of 1 if a firm is located in an area designated by the Act on Special Financial Support to Deal with Extremely Severe Disasters. Of the three geographical definitions of the earthquake-affected area, this is the broadest one. Next, Tsunami Area takes a value of 1 if a firm is located in an area that was inundated by the tsunami. In those areas, the tsunami caused much larger damage to structures and equipment than the tremor of the earthquake. Finally, Evacuation Area takes a value of 1 if a firm was located within a radius of 20 kilometers from the Fukushima Dai-ichi Nuclear Power Plant, the area that was evacuated following the nuclear meltdown at the plant. Although not all firms located in this area were forced to relocate outside the area, there are certain restrictions on

the way firms have been able to operate in the area. Moreover, firms have suffered reputational damage linked to fears that their products may have been exposed to high radiation. These three variables control for the different types of impact caused by the earthquake.

4.3.4 Financial support and firm-bank relationships

In order to examine factors that may have alleviated the adverse shocks transmitted through the collateral and bank lending channels, we introduce several variables. The first two variables represent financial assistance to firms damaged by the earthquake. *Insurance* takes a value of 1 if a firm had taken out earthquake insurance before the earthquake, while *Subsidy* takes a value of 1 if a firm received subsidies for recovery investment. Although these two variables are similar in that they represent the provision of funds to firms, the way insurance payouts and subsidies alleviate credit constraints differs. Insurance payouts are determined based on the amount firms spent on property, plant, and equipment in the past, while investment subsidies were proportional to the amount firms were planning to invest after the earthquake. Therefore, receiving the insurance payout directly alleviated firms' credit constraints by increasing their net worth, while receiving investment subsidies reduced the costs of investment and alleviated the extent to which firms were constrained in financing recovery investment projects. We include each of these two variables and their interaction terms with *F_Damage_Tangibles*.

Second, we employ one variable that represents financial assistance to banks in the form of capital injection by the government. *Injection* takes a value of 1 if the primary bank of a firm received a capital injection after the earthquake. Since the capital injections were aimed at restoring the lending capacity of damaged banks, they alleviated the extent to which the bank was unable to supply sufficient funds to firms due to the damage to its net worth. We include this variable and its interaction term with one of the six bank damage variables (*B_Special_Loss*).

Third, we employ two variables that may possibly be related to the extent of the impact through the collateral and bank lending channels. These are *Num_bank*, which represents the number of banks a firm used to transact with before the earthquake, and *Duration_bank*, which represents the number of years a firm had transacted with the primary bank. Firms that have a close long-term relationship with their banks, in which case *Num_bank* is small and *Duration_bank* is large, may have been more likely to obtain bank loans than those that had no such relationships even when they were damaged by the earthquake.

4.3.5 Control variables

We use several variables to control for firm attributes. *Employment* measures the number of employees, which we employ as a proxy for firm size. *Leverage* is the ratio of liabilities to total assets, which is a proxy for a firm's riskiness. *Business_Conditions* is a subjective measure of the current business conditions of a firm ranging from 1 (very good) to 5 (very bad). Finally, we also use industry dummies.

5. Estimation results

5.1 Baseline results of the credit constraint estimation

In the baseline estimation, we focus on equation (1) in period 2, which measures the instantaneous impact of damage to firms and to banks on firms' credit constraint shortly after the earthquake. By employing different variables for F_Damage and B_Damage , we examine whether damage to firms or banks had a significant impact on firms' credit availability. Specifically, the variables we use are the two variables to represent the damage to a firm's fixed tangible and land assets ($F_Damage_Tangibles$ and F_Damage_Land), the two variables to represent the damage to a bank's lending capacity ($B_Special_Losses$ and $dB_CapRatio$), the two variables

to represent the damage to a bank branch that a firm transacted with (*B_Branch_Reloc* and *B_Branch_Closed*), and the two variables to represent the damage to the branch network of a bank that a firms transacted with (*B_Branch_Reloc_Sum* and *B_Branch_Closed_Sum*). The estimation results are shown in Table 5(a).

We start by looking at the coefficients on the variables that we are most interested in. For the F_Damage variables, we find that the coefficients on both $F_Damage_Tangibles$ and F_Damage_Land are positive and statistically significant. The coefficients on $F_Damage_Tangibles$ are smaller in size but more significant than that on F_Damage_Land . One possible reason for the relatively low statistical significance of the coefficient on F_Damage_Land is measurement errors in land value losses. Unless land owners actually sell their land, it is difficult for them to know the exact amount of losses in land value caused by the earthquake, since they can only rely on its appraisal value. Taking this into consideration, we will solely employ $F_Damage_Tangibles$ for the damage to firms' tangible assets in later estimations.

Turning to the bank damage variables constructed from banks' balance sheet information $(B_Special_Losses$ and $dB_CapRatio)$, we find that the coefficients on $B_Special_Losses$ are significant and positive, while that on $dB_CapRatio$ is significant and negative. Since larger special losses reduce the bank's capital ratio, both of these coefficients indicate that the reduction in banks' lending capacity caused by losses from the earthquake leads to a tightening in firms' credit constraint. It should be emphasized that the coefficients on these bank damage variables are substantially larger than those on the firm damage variables, even though we constructed both sets of damage variables in the same manner (by dividing the amount of damage by the amount of total assets). The size of the coefficients indicates that a one percentage point decline in the net worth of a bank that a firm transacts with increased the probability of the firm being credit

constrained more than 80 times as much as a one percentage point decrease in the firm's own net worth. Note that we will use *B_Special_Losses* rather than *dB_CapRatio* in later estimations, since the former variable more directly represents the damage caused by the earthquake than the latter, which may be confounded by other factors.

Using the above results, we compare the economic significance of the impact of shocks transmitted through the collateral and the bank lending channel, respectively. On the one hand, taking the mean value of the firm damage variable $F_Damage_Tangibles$ (0.1541 from Table 3) and multiplying it by the marginal effect on the variable (0.1662 calculated from Column (1) in Table 5), we obtain the increase in the probability that a firm is credit constrained, which is 2.56 percentage points. This represents the size of the impact of the damage to a firm's tangible assets caused by the earthquake transmitted through the collateral channel. On the other hand, taking the mean value of bank damage variable $B_Special_Losses$ (0.0037 from Table 4) and multiplying it by the marginal effect (13.4988 calculated from Column (1) of Table 5), we obtain the increase in the probability that a firm is credit constrained, which is 4.99 percentage points. This represents the size of the through the bank lending channel. These results suggest that the impact through the bank lending channel is larger and economically more significant than that through the collateral channel.

Turning to the variables on the closure and relocation of bank branches, *B_Branch_Reloc* and *B_Branch_Closed*, we examine if the damage to a bank branch rather than to a bank as a whole had a negative impact on a firm's credit availability. We find that the coefficients on these variables are negative but insignificant. On the other hand, the coefficients on *B_Branch_Reloc_sum* and *B_Branch_Closed_sum* (the ratio of branches relocated or closed to all the branches of a bank), are positive but again insignificant. All these results suggest that the damage to a bank branch that a firm transacted with had no economically significant impact.

Next, we examine the coefficients on the variables that measure damage to suppliers and customers of a firm and damage to the local area where the firm is located. Of the five variables, only *Tsunami_Area* has a marginally significant coefficient, which is positive, indicating that firms located in a *tsunami*-affected area were marginally more likely to face credit constraints. Having examined the impact of both direct and indirect damage in the baseline estimation, we find that only damage to firms' assets and damage to the net worth of a bank that firms transact with seem to have had a statistically significant negative impact on firms' credit availability.

Finally, we look at the coefficients on the firm control variables and find that several have significant coefficients. Specifically, we find statistically significant coefficients on *Employment*, *Business_Conditions*, and *Leverage*, indicating that firms with a smaller number of employees, facing worse business conditions, and/or with higher leverage were more likely to be credit constrained.

5.2 Credit constraint estimation for later periods

Following the baseline estimation, we implement the estimation of equation (1) for the later periods 3, 4, and 5 to see how persistent the impact of damage to firms and banks through the collateral and bank lending channels was. From the specifications shown in Table 5(a) in the previous subsection, we employ the one in Column (1) and implement the estimation for each of the three later periods. While the variables on damage to firms and banks are time invariant, not only the dependent variables but also some of the explanatory variables such as *Business_Conditions* and *Leverage* vary over time. Note that one explanatory variable (*Evacuation_Area*) is dropped in periods 4 and 5 since the variable perfectly predicts the dependent variable in these periods. The results of this estimation are shown in Table 5(b).

We start by looking at coefficients on the variables that represent damage to a firm's fixed

tangibles and damage to a bank's lending capacity. We find that the coefficient on $F_Damage_Tangibles$ is positive and significant in period 2 but becomes successively smaller and statistically less significant thereafter. Thus, damage to a firm's tangible assets had an adverse impact on its credit availability through the collateral channel for about one year and four months after the earthquake, but this negative effect subsequently dissipated. On the other hand, the coefficient on *B_Special_Losses* is positive and significant in both periods 2 and 3 but becomes insignificant in periods 4 and 5. In other words, damage to a bank's lending capacity negatively affected credit availability for its borrower firms at most for two-and-a-half years after the earthquake. The coefficients on the bank branch damage variable, *B_Branch_Reloc,* are negative but insignificant for all periods, and those on *B_Branch_Reloc_Sum* are also always insignificant. In sum, the impact through the collateral and bank lending channels was rather short-lived and did not last more than three years. However, the impact through the bank lending channel.

Next, we examine the coefficients on other damage variables in later periods. The only significant coefficient is the negative coefficient on *Cus_Damage* in period 3, while all other coefficients on firm damage variables are insignificant in all periods. The significant negative coefficient on *Cus_Damage* in period 3 implies that firms whose customers suffered damage were less likely to be credit constrained. One possible explanation is that creditworthy firms that were less likely to be credit constrained had so many customers that at least one of them was damaged by the earthquake.

Finally, looking at the coefficients on the firm control variables, we find that their signs and statistical significance are similar across periods. *Employment*, *Business_Conditions*, and *Leverage* all have statistically significant coefficients in all periods, with the only exception being the coefficient on *Leverage* in period 3.

5.3 The role of financial support and firm-bank relationships

The next issue we examine is the effect of various types of financial support and the role of firmbank relationships in alleviating the negative impact of the earthquake. For this purpose, we use the five variables introduced in Section 4.3.4, namely *Insurance* and *Subsidy* for financial support to firms, *Injection* for financial support to banks, and *Num_Bank* and *Duration_Bank* for close firm-bank relationships. We add these five variables along with their interaction terms with the firm or bank damage variable to the explanatory variables employed in the baseline specification. The results are shown in Table 5(c).

Starting with the variables on financial support to firms, we find that the way earthquake insurance and subsidies for recovery investment affects firms' credit constraint differs. Specifically, the insurance variable has a negative and significant coefficient, while its interaction term with firm damage has a statistically insignificant coefficient. The result suggests that insurance payouts increased a firm's net worth and reduced the probability that a firm was credit constrained. However, the maximum insurance payout was predetermined and the amount was not necessarily correlated with the amount of damage caused by the earthquake. Therefore, while insurance payouts themselves alleviated credit constraints, the amount of damage had no significant impact on the extent insurance money reduced credit constraints. In contrast, the coefficient on *Subsidy* is insignificant, but its interaction term with $F_Damage_Tangibles$ has a marginally significant negative coefficient, indicating that the subsidies helped to alleviate the negative impact of the damage to a firm's tangible assets on its credit availability. The result is consistent with the fact that the scheme provided subsidies in proportion to the amount of recovery investment undertaken, which, in turn, likely reflects the amount of damage suffered by a firm.

Turning to the results for the variables on financial support to banks, the coefficients on both *Injection* and its interaction term with the amount of bank damage are statistically insignificant. Regarding the variables on firm-bank relationships, we find a marginally negative coefficient on the interaction term between Num_Bank and $F_Damage_Tangibles$. We interpret this as indicating that multiple relationships with banks enabled firms to find alternative funding sources and alleviated the negative impact caused by the damage to the value of their collateral.

To summarize the above results, one type of financial support to firms (earthquake insurance) reduced the probability of firms being credit constrained, while the other type of support to firms (investment subsidies) alleviated the impact of shocks transmitted through the collateral channel. Also, multiple bank relationships marginally alleviated the extent to which shocks transmitted through the collateral channel. In contrast, we found no statistically significant evidence that the capital injections to banks alleviated the impact of shocks transmitted through the bank lending channel.

5.4 The impact on firm activities

So far, our examination has focused on the impact of the damaged caused by the earthquake on firms' credit constraints via the collateral and bank lending channels. In this section, our attention shifts to the impact that such credit constraints had on firms' real activities, in particular their sales and production, investment, and financing. We employ the treatment effect estimation procedure described in Section 4.1, which consists of the following two equations: equation (1) for the credit constraint estimation, which we examined in the previous three subsections, and equation (2) for the estimation of the impact on firm activities. In order to control for the endogenous nature of credit constraints, we estimate these two equations simultaneously. In this system of equations,

we include the bank damage variable $B_Special_Losses$ in equation (1) only, since we assume that the variable affects firms' real activities only through firms' credit constraints. On the other hand, we include the variable for the damage to firms tangible assets, $F_Damage_Tangibles$, in both equations (1) and (2), since we assume that this variable affects firms' real activities not only via credit constraints but also through a number of other routes. For example, one possibility is that substantial damage to a firm's tangible assets impaired its production capacity; another is that the damage increased the demand for recovery investment.

With these considerations in mind, we implement treatment effect regressions using the three firm activity variables as the dependent variable in equation (2) in turn. The explanatory variables are almost the same as those in equation (1) in the baseline estimation. We exclude the variables on damage to bank branches from the set of explanatory variables, since all of their coefficients were insignificant in the baseline estimation. We also implement a simple ordinary least squares (OLS) estimation of equation (2) for each of the firm activity variables and compare the results with those using the treatment regression model.

We start with Table 6(a), which presents the results when we employ *Activity_Level* as the outcome variable. Column (1) in the table shows the coefficients from the first-stage estimation using a dummy indicating whether a firm was credit constrained or not as the dependent variable. The results are quite similar to those obtained in the baseline credit constraint estimation in Table 5(a). Column (2) shows the results of the second-stage estimation. The coefficient that we are most interested in is that on *Constrained*, which is negative and significant. Next, Columns (3) and (4) show the results when we employ simple OLS estimation. As can be seen, the coefficients on *Constrained* in this case are also negative but much smaller in size and either insignificant or only marginally significant. The other variable we are interested in is $F_Damage_Tangibles$. This has a significant negative coefficient in Column (2), which indicates that the damage to a firm's tangible assets had a direct impact on its activity level through the impairment of capital inputs.

Next, Table 6(b) shows the results when we employ *Investment* as the outcome variable. Column (1) shows that the coefficients from the first stage estimation are more or less similar to those obtained in the baseline credit constraint estimation in Table 5(a). Note, however, that some variables, such as $F_Damage_Tangibles$, now have an insignificant coefficient, presumably due to the small sample size. In Column (2), the coefficient on *Constrained* is positive but not significant. This differs from the results of the simple OLS estimation in Columns (3) and (4), where the coefficients are positive and significant. These results indicate that if *Constraint* is not instrumented, the variable is contaminated by confounding factors such as the demand for recovery investment, potentially giving rise to significant upward bias in the coefficient estimates. The other variable of interest, $F_Damage_Tangibles$, has a positive coefficient, which indicates that damage to a firm's tangible assets had a direct impact on its investment for recovery.

Finally, Table 6(c) shows the results when we employ $Loan_Ratio$ as the outcome variable. Column (1) shows that the coefficients again are quite similar to those obtained in the baseline credit constraint estimation in Table 5. Next, Column (2) indicates that the coefficient on *Constrained* is negative and significant, implying that firms that faced a tighter credit constraint reduced their amount of borrowing. This contrasts with the result in Columns (3) and (4) obtained using simple OLS estimation, where the coefficients are positive. The other variable of our interest, *F_Damage_Tangibles*, has a positive coefficient, which indicates that damage to a firm's tangible assets increased its loan demand for reconstruction and resulted in a larger loan amount outstanding.

To summarize, we find that the tighter credit constraints caused by the damage to banks' lending capacity and by damage to firms' tangible assets had a negative impact on some firm activities, such as their production and sales as well as their financing.

5.5 Aggregate impact on the economy

In the previous subsections, we showed that the earthquake had an adverse impact not only on firms' credit availability but also on their production and sales activities through the collateral and bank lending channels. However, the scope of this analysis was limited to firms in our sample, which we constructed from the SFTE. Showing that the mechanisms examined affected the activities of firms in the sample does not necessarily mean that they were of significance for the wider economy, for the following two reasons. First, our results may overestimate the impact on the economy of the region included in our analysis, since our sample is limited only to firms that had demand for new loans. Since there were a substantial number of firms that did not require a loan, a simple extrapolation of our results to the entire population of firms in the region may exaggerate the earthquake-affected area that may have been adversely affected by the damage to banks inside the area through bank-firm relationships. Therefore, excluding firms located outside the earthquake-affected area from the sample may result in underestimation of the impact transmitted through the bank lending channel.

Given these possible biases, we attempt to measure the aggregate impact of the Tohoku earthquake on the entire Japanese economy transmitted through the two channels. For this purpose, we use information for all the firms in the TSR database introduced in Section 3.1, while in the previous section we used information only for firms that responded to the SFTE. The TSR database provides information on the geographical location of the headquarters, the number of employees, the amount of sales, and the identity of the primary bank for about 2.38 million firms throughout Japan. Given that, according to firm censuses by the government, there are about 4 million firms in the country, this means that the TSR database covers a substantial portion of the total population of firms. Further, to simplify the analysis, we make the following assumptions: (1) only firms in the region covered by the SFTE suffered substantial damage to their tangible assets, so that the collateral channel is confined to firms located in the area covered by the SFTE; and (2) the extent of the impact transmitted through the bank lending channel is the same inside and outside the areas covered by the SFTE. Details of the procedures for calculating the aggregate impact are provided in the Appendix.

The results of the calculation are shown in Table 7 and indicate that the size of the impact transmitted through the two channels is economically sizable in the region covered by the SFTE. Looking at the impact transmitted through the collateral channel, the number of credit constrained firms is 1,122, and the reduction in sales due to credit constraints is 131 billion yen. Turning to the impact through the bank lending channel in the survey region, the number of credit constrained firms is 2,737, and the reduction in sales due to credit constraints is 351 billion yen. These figures combined indicate that the total number of constrained firms after the earthquake was 3,859, which was 3.7% of the number of firms in the region, and the sales reduction due to the constraints amounted to 482 billion, which was equivalent to 1.1% of the total sales amount in the region.

However, it would be difficult to argue that this adverse regional impact through these channels was long-lasting or large in relation to the national economy overall. The reasons are as follows. First, the results in Table 5(b) indicate no statistically significant impact through the collateral channel two-and-a-half years after the earthquake and no statistically significant impact through the bank lending channel after three-and-a-half years. Hence, the negative impact through both channels decayed rather quickly. Second, when we measure the impact on the national economy in terms of the ratio of the number of credit constrained firms and in terms of the ratio of the ratio of the sales reduction caused by the constraints, both were quite small. We see from Table 7 that

the number of credit constrained firms following the earthquake was 4,726 firms, accounting for only 0.2% of the total number of firms; similarly, the reduction in sales amounted to 716 billion yen, which is equivalent to only 0.04% of the total amount of sales in the economy as whole.

6. Conclusion

This study simultaneously examined for the existence of the collateral and the bank lending channel and compared the economic significance of each channel. For this purpose, we employed a unique firm-bank matched panel dataset and measured the damage to individual firms and banks caused by the massive Tohoku earthquake in 2011. We obtained the following findings: (1) damage to firms' tangible assets and to the net worth of their primary bank led to a deterioration in firms' access to credit, providing evidence of the existence of both the collateral and the bank lending channel; (2) firms that faced a tighter credit constraint after the earthquake experienced a reduction in their amount of borrowing and their level of production and sales; (3) in aggregate, the damage caused by the earthquake and transmitted through the collateral and bank lending channels substantially decreased the sales and production of firms located in the region, but the effect was rather short-lived and had no substantial impact on the national economy overall; and (4) some of the financial support received by affected firms such as investment subsidies and earthquake insurance payouts alleviated the negative impact.

Appendix: Procedures used for calculating the aggregate impact on the economy overall

This appendix presents details of the procedure we employed to calculate the aggregate impact through the collateral and bank lending channels on the economy overall. We first calculate the aggregate impact through the collateral channel, followed by the calculation of the impact through the lending channel.

A1. Aggregate impact through the collateral channel

We start by using the coefficient estimate for F Damage Tangibles obtained in Column (1) of Table 5(a) (0.467) to calculate the average marginal effect for firms located in each of the seven regions (Hachinohe, Coastal Iwate, Inland Iwate, Coastal Miyagi, Inland Miyagi, Coastal Fukushima, and Inland Fukushima), which we denote by a_i , where *i* stands for the region. Next, we multiply the average marginal effects for firms in each region by the ratio of firms that had loan demand (b_i) and the average amount of damage to their tangible assets (c_i) to obtain the marginal increase in the probability that firms were credit constrained (d_i) . The marginal increase in the probability that firms were credit constrained varies across regions from 0.0064 (Inland Fukushima) to 0.0259 (Coastal Miyagi). Finally, multiplying the marginal increase in each region by the total number of firms in the region recorded in the TSR database (e_i) , we obtain the total number of firms that became credit constrained through the collateral channel (h_i) . Further, multiplying the number of constrained firms by a firm's average sales (f_i) and the average rate of sales decrease taken from the coefficient on *Constraint* in Column (2) of Table 6(a) (-27.74% and denoted by g), we obtain the amount of sales decline caused by the impact transmitted through the collateral channel (k_i) . Table A1 shows the values used and obtained in the various steps of the calculation.

As can be seen in the table, the total number of credit constrained firms is 1,122 firms,

while the sales decrease caused by credit constraints amounts to 131 billion yen. Note that the above calculation measures the impact for one-and-a-half years after the earthquake and that the impact of the earthquake transmitted through the collateral channel became insignificant after that.

A2. Aggregate impact through the bank lending channel

To calculate the aggregate impact through the bank lending channel, we start by using the coefficient on *B_Special_Losses* in the estimation in Column (1) of Table 5(a) (37.91) to calculate the average marginal effect for firms located in each of the seven regions (a_i , where *i* stands for the region). For the five areas that are not included in the surveys (Aomori except for Hachinohe, Hokkaido, the rest of Tohoku, Kanto, and the rest of Japan), we use the average marginal effect for the entire sample.⁹ We multiply each of these effects with the ratio of firms with demand for loans (b_i). The values of the above two variables are shown in Table A2.

Next, we employ bank and bank-region level information: the extent of special losses of a bank (c_j , where j stands for the bank) and the number of firms in each region with which a bank transacts (d_{ij}). We find many firms that were located outside the earthquake-affected area but transacted with banks located inside the area. We present these variables in Table A3. By multiplying all these variables – the marginal effect of a bank's special losses (a_i), the extent of a bank's special losses (c_j), the number of firms that transact with the bank (d_{ij}), and the ratio of firms with demand for loans (b_i) – we obtain the number of firms that were credit constrained due to the shock transmitted through the bank lending channel (h_{ij}). Moreover, by multiplying h_{ij} with the average sales amount of a firm (f_i) and with the average rate of sales decrease caused by credit constraints (-27.74% and denoted by g), we obtain the amount of sales decline through the

⁹ Similarly, for b_i and g we take the average values for the survey region and use these for regions outside the survey region.

bank lending channel (k_{ij}) . We sum h_{ij} and k_{ij} across the regions covered by the SFTE, across the regions not covered by the survey, and across the entire country. The results are presented in Table A4.

The above calculations suggest that there were a total of 3,604 constrained firms and the sales decrease caused by credit constraints amounted to 585 billion yen. These figures include not only firms located in the survey region (2,737 firms, accounting for a sales decrease of 351 billion yen), but also firms outside the survey region (867 firms, 234 billion yen). That is, although these firms did not suffer any direct damage from the earthquake, they were still affected indirectly through the damage suffered by their primary bank.

Note that the above calculation measures the impact for one-and-a-half years after the earthquake and that the impact in later periods became smaller. The impact of the earthquake transmitted through the bank lending channel became about 20% smaller in the next period (from July 2012 to August/September 2013). By replacing the marginal effect of 37.91 (in Column (1) of Table 5(b)) with 30.75 (in Column (2) of the same table) and otherwise following the same procedure described in the preceding paragraphs, the number of constrained firms and the resulting sales reduction are 2,220 firms and 284 billion yen in the survey region and 703 firms and 190 billion yen outside the region, respectively. Note further that there is no statistically significant negative impact of the earthquake transmitted through the bank lending channel after this period.

A3. Aggregate impact through the two channels

The above calculations show that the adverse impact of the earthquake transmitted through the collateral channel and the bank lending channel was non-negligible one-and-a-half years after the earthquake and that the impact through the bank lending channel was non-negligible two-and-a-

half years after the earthquake. Next, we evaluate the economic significance of the negative impact transmitted through the collateral and bank lending channels on the regional and on the national economy.

Given the number of firms in the survey region and their annual sales amount (100,000 firms and 45 trillion yen, respectively), the impact in terms of leading firms to be credit constrained one-and-a-half years after the earthquake was sizeable, since 3.7% of firms became credit constrained. The impact on sales was also substantial, with sales being reduced by about 1.1%. The impact was still sizable two-and-a-half years after the earthquake, with the ratio of credit constrained firms being 2.1% of the total number of firms and the resulting decline in sales 0.6% of the total sales in the region.

In contrast, given the number of firms in the entire country and their annual sales (2.38 million firms and 2,037 trillion yen), the impact in terms of credit constraints was not economically sizable, with only 0.2% of firms being credit constrained as a result one-and-a-half years after the earthquake. The impact on sales also was not economically substantial, since the reduction amounted to only 0.04% of total sales.

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Table 1: Overall damage of the Tohoku (Great East Japan) earthquake

	Deaths	People missing	Houses completely destroyed	Houses half destroyed	Houses partially destroyed	Area in square kilometers	Number of residents	Dead+mis sing/popul ation	Completely destroyed houses/100 residents	half	Completely+ half+partially destroyed houses/100 residents
Total	19,575	2,577	121,776	280,326	744,269	92,641	55,555,668	0.0004	0.2192	0.7238	2.0635
Non-designated municipalities	44	0	361	2,964	147,718	57,337	43,854,049	0.0000	0.0008	0.0076	0.3444
Designated+non- tsunami affected municipalities		13	7,876	65,369	286,411	22,832	7,619,719	0.0000	0.1034	0.9613	4.7201
Designated+tsun ami-affected municipalities	19,177	2,564	113,539	211,993	310,140	12,472	4,081,900	0.0047	2.7815	7.9750	15.5729
Most severely dan	naged mun	icipalities in	n terms of h	ouses com	pletely des	troyed					
Onagawa	615	258	2,924	349	661	66	10,051	0.0869	29.0916	32.5639	39.1404
Otsuchi	854	422	3,579	588	208	201	15,276	0.0835	23.4289	27.2781	28.6397
Minami-sanriku	620	211	3,143	178	1,204	164	17,429	0.0477	18.0332	19.0544	25.9625
Rikuzen-takata	1,602	203	3,806	240	3,985	232	23,300	0.0775	16.3348	17.3648	34.4678
Yamada	687	148	2,762	405	202	263	18,617	0.0449	14.8359	17.0113	18.0964
Yamamoto	700	18	2,217	1,085	1,138	64	16,704	0.0430	13.2723	19.7677	26.5805
Higashi-matsush	i 1,132	23	5,519	5,558	3,504	102	42,903	0.0269	12.8639	25.8187	33.9860
Ishinomaki	3,552	425	20,041	13,048	19,948	556	160,826	0.0247	12.4613	20.5744	32.9779
Kesennuma	1,216	215	8,483	2,571	4,761	333	73,489	0.0195	11.5432	15.0417	21.5202
Kamaishi	993	152	2,957	699	1,048	441	39,574	0.0289	7.4721	9.2384	11.8866

"Total" covers all municipalities that experienced damage to humans or structures.

Table 2: Definition of variables

Variable	Definition	Winsorize
Credit constraint variables		
Constrained	1: the firm did not obtain a sufficient amount of funds,	No
Firm activity wariables	0: it obtained a sufficient amount of funds	
Firm activity variables	Level of a firm's activities in a particular year relative to the level in the year	
Activity_Level	before the Tohoku earthquake. 100% if it was the same as in the pre-earthquake	Voc
Activity_Level	year.	163
	Amount of tangible investment (including land and structures) in a year/amount	
Investment	of tangible assets outstanding at the end of the previous year	Yes
	Amount of loans outstanding / amount of total assets outstanding at the end of	
Loan_Ratio	the year	Yes
/ariables on damage		
To a firm's tangible assets		
	Amount of damage to a firm's non-land tangible assets / total amount of the	
F_Damage_Tangibles	firm's assets before the earthquake. The damage is measured in terms of the	Yes
	replacement costs.	
	Amount of damage to a firm's land assets / total amount of the firm's assets	
F_Damage_Land		Yes
	appraisal value of land.	
To a bank or a bank branch that		
B_Special_Losses	Special losses of a firm's primary bank in fiscal 2010 / total assets of the bank at the end of the fiscal year. A firm's primary bank is the bank that has extended	No
D_Special_Losses	the largest amount of loans to the firm.	NO
	Change in the capital ratio of a firm's primary bank from fiscal 2009 to 2010.	
dB_CapRatio	For the ratio, the amount of capital is divided by the amount of risk assets.	No
	1 the branch of the primary bank that a firm used to transact with before the	
B_Branch_Reloc	earthquake was relocated, and 0: otherwise	No
D. Dranah, Dalaa, Gum	Number of relocated branches of the primary bank / total number of branches	Ne
B_Branch_Reloc_Sum	of the bank	No
B_Branch_Closed	1: the branch of the primary bank that a firm used to transact with before the	No
b_branch_crosed	earthquake remained closed for at least one day, and 0: otherwise	NO
B_Branch_Closed_Sum	Number of closed branches of the primary bank / total number of branches of	No
	the bank	
To a firm's transaction partners		
Cus_Damage	1: the firm was indirectly affected by damage to its customers, and 0: otherwise	
Sup_Damage	1: the firm was indirectly affected by damage to its suppliers, and 0: otherwise	No
To specific areas	1: the firm was located in an area designated by the Act on Special Financial	
Damaged_Area	1: the firm was located in an area designated by the Act on Special Financial Support to Deal with Extremely Sever Disasters, and 0: otherwise	No
Tsunami_Area		No
_	1: the firm was located in an area within a 20km radius from the Fukushima	
Evacuation_Area	Dai-ichi Nuclear Power Plant, and 0: otherwise	No
ariables on financial support and fi		
	1: the primary bank of a firm received a capital injection from the government	No
Injection	after the earthquake, and 0: otherwise	No
Insurance	1: the firm had taken out earthquake insurance, and 0: otherwise	No
Subsidy	1: the firm received subsidies for recovery investment from the government, and	No
	0: otherwise	
Num_Bank	•	No
Duration_Bank	Number of years the firm had transacted with its primary bank	No
ontrol variables	The final contraction of a set	N.
Employment		No
Business_Conditions	The firm's assessment of its current business conditions. 1: very good, 2: good,	No
	3: fair, 4: bad, and 5: very bad	
Leverage	Amount of liabilities in the previous year / amount of total assets in the	Yes
	previous year 1: Construction (default), 2: Manufacturing, 3: Utilities, IT, and transportation,	
Industry dummies	4: Wholesale, 5: Retail sales, and 6: Services and other industries	No

Table 3: Summary statistics

	N	mean	sd	min	p25	p50	p75	max
Credit constraint variables								
Constrained	1190	0.4933	0.5002	0	0	0	1	1
Firm activity variables								
Activity_Level	958	93.4438	30.1284	0	80	96	100	300
Investment	504	0.2509	0.4807	0	0.0179	0.0686	0.2719	4.5320
Loan_Ratio	995	0.5978	0.7004	0	0.2336	0.4603	0.7018	5
Damage variables								
F_Damage_Tangibles	1190	0.1541	0.3932	0	0	0.0188	0.1133	3.2787
F_Damage_Land	1190	0.0198	0.0841	0	0	0	0	0.6093
B_Special_Losses	1190	0.0037	0.0033	0.0000	0.0008	0.0027	0.0083	0.0090
dB_CapRatio	1176	-0.0054	0.0102	-0.0291	-0.0160	-0.0040	-0.0002	0.0671
B_Branch_Closed	1190	0.3387	0.4735	0	0	0	1	1
B_Branch_Closed_Sum	1190	0.2330	0.2228	0	0.0734	0.2027	0.3451	1
B_Branch_Reloc	1190	0.1420	0.3492	0	0	0	0	1
B_Branch_Reloc_Sum	1190	0.1021	0.1248	0	0.0690	0.0789	0.1197	0.6667
Cus_Damage	1190	0.4782	0.4997	0	0	0	1	1
Sup_Damage	1190	0.3782	0.4851	0	0	0	1	1
Damaged_Area	1190	0.8319	0.3741	0	1	1	1	1
Ts una mi_Area	1190	0.2059	0.4045	0	0	0	0	1
Evacuation_Area	1190	0.0118	0.1079	0	0	0	0	1
Financial support and firm-ba	ank relationsh	ip variable	es					
Injection	1190	0.3924	0.4885	0	0	0	1	1
Insurance	1190	0.2815	0.4499	0	0	0	1	1
Subsidy	1190	0.2370	0.4254	0	0	0	0	1
Num_Bank	1088	2.5983	1.8493	0	1	2	3	19
Duration_Bank	1067	30.9428	15.9727	0	20	30	40	100
Control variables								
Employment	1190	33.6370	71.8974	1	8	18	35	1637
Business_Conditions	1190	3.2101	1.0709	1	2	3	4	5
Leverage	1190	0.8647	0.6623	0.0002	0.5749	0.7979	0.9657	6.5
Ind=1 (Construction)	1190	0.3025	0.4593	0	0	0	1	1
=2 (Manufacturing)	1190	0.1714	0.3769	0	0	0	0	1
=3 (Utilities, IT, and	1100		0 2774	0	~	0	~	4
transportation)	1190	0.0840	0.2774	0	0	0	0	1
=4 (Wholesale)	1190	0.1437	0.3508	0	0	0	0	1
=5 (Retail)	1190	0.1294	0.3357	0	0	0	0	1
=6 (Services)	1190	0.1689	0.3747	0	0	0	0	1

Table	4:	Damage	to	banl	ΧS
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			B Special	dB_CapRa	B_Branch	_	
Bank name	Bank category	Bank code	_Losses	tio		_Reloc_Su	Injection
<u></u>	C 1.11				um	m	
Fukushima	Second-tier regional	513	0.00900	-0.014	0.2364	0.0727	0
77 Tabalw	Regional	125	0.00825	-0.016	0.3451	0.1197	1
Tohoku	Regional	124		-0.0106	0.1379	0.0690	1
Kitanihon	Second-tier regional	509	0.00538	-0.006	0.1235	0.0864	0 1
Ishinomaki	Shinkin	1172	0.00412	-0.0077			1
Sendai	Second-tier regional	512 123	0.00411	-0.0185 -0.0002	0.1690	0.1268	1
Iwate	Regional		0.00273			0.0734	0
Daito	Second-tier regional	514 2092	0.00264 0.00199	0.0031	0.1111	0.0794 0.2632	1
Iwaki	Credit cooperative			-0.002			
Sen-nan	Shinkin	1174	0.00168	0.0005	0.0625	0.0625	0
Kesennuma	Shinkin	1175	0.00167	-0.0291	0.9167	0.6667	1
Morinomiyako	Shinkin Gradit an an anatiwa	1170	0.00163	0.0025	0.2667	0.2667	0
Soso	Credit cooperative	2095	0.00150	-0.0065	0.8750	0.5000	1
Ishinomaki shoko	Credit cooperative	2061	0.00147	0.0134	0.2500	0.1667	0
Miyako	Shinkin Gradit an an anatiwa	1152		-0.004	0.7778	0.6667	1
Aizu shoko	Credit cooperative	2096	0.00109	0.0016	0		
Sukagawa	Shinkin	1185	0.00108	-0.0008		0.0769	0
Kirayaka	Second-tier regional	508	0.00098	-0.0104	0.0339	0.0254	1
Himawari	Shinkin Gradit an an anatiwa	1186	0.00096	-0.0001	1	0.0625	0
Asuka	Credit cooperative	2060	0.00096	0.0009	0 2070	0 0700	0
Toho	Regional	126	0.00075	-0.0004	0.3070	0.0789	0
Aoimori	Shinkin	1105	0.00072	0.0113	0.0137	0	
Ichinoseki	Shinkin	1153	0.00067	0.0076	0		
Development bank of Japan		9930	0.00063	0.0142	0		
Miyagi Dai-ichi	Shinkin	1171	0.00055	0.0024		0	
Aomori	Regional	117	0.00040	-0.0097	0		
Nihonmatsu	Shinkin	1189	0.00037	0.0014	0	0	
Japan Finance Corporation		9932	0.00037		0.0025	0	0
Fukushimaken Shoko	Credit cooperative	2090	0.00028	0 0000	0.0625	0	
Fukushima	Shinkin	1190	0.00025	0.0028	0.0385	0	
Ashikaga	Regional	129	0.00024	0.0076	0		
Yamanashi Chuo	Regional	142	0.00024	0.0076	0		
Akita	Regional	119	0.00022	-0.0013	0		
Senhoku	Credit cooperative	2063	0.00021	-0.0071			
Joyo	Regional	130	0.00019	-0.0001	0.0400	0.0057	0
Mitsubishi-Tokyo-UFJ	City	5	0.00018	0.0027	0		
Michinoku	Regional	118	0.00017	-0.0103	0		
Risona	City	10	0.00015	0.0074	0		
Norinchukin	Agricultural	3000	0.00014	0.0671	0		
Shonai	Regional	121	0.00012	0.0257	0.1059 0	0.0471	0
Daishi	Regional	140	0.00011	-0.0084	-	-	-
Shokochukin	Government-affiliated Shinkin	2004	0.00011	0.0097	0 0		
Morioka	Regional	1150	0.00010	-0.0051			
Yamagata		122		0.0049		0	
Mitsui-Sumitomo Mizuho	City	9 1	0.00008	0.0317	0 0		
	City			0.0266			
Tokyo Tomin	Regional	137	0.00007	-0.0053	0 0.0526		
Koriyama	Shinkin	1182		0.0077		0.0526	0
Shirakawa Mizuba Carparata	Shinkin	1184		-0.0036			
Mizuho Corporate	City	16		0.0205	0		
Mizusawa	Shinkin	1156	0.00004	0.0073			
Kitakami	Shinkin	1154		0.0001	0		
Aizu Yakabama	Shinkin	1181		0.0077	0		
Yokohama Aomori kon	Regional Credit cooperative	138	0.00003	0.0006	0		
Aomori-ken	Credit cooperative	2030	0.00001	0 0003	0		
Hanamaki	Shinkin Second tier regional	1155	0.00001	0.0093	0		
Kanagawa	Second-tier regional Shinkin	530	0.00001	0.0038			
Abukuma		1188	0.00001	0.0018		0.2143	1
Furukawa	Credit cooperative	2062	0.00000		0	0	0

Table 5: Credit constraint estimation

(a) Baseline

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)			
	Dependent variable=Constrained						
VARIABLES	Probit model	estimation					
F_Damage_Tangibles	0.467***		0.450***	0.479***			
	(0.128)		(0.127)	(0.126)			
F_Damage_Land	()	0.992*	()	()			
_ 0_		(0.509)					
B_Special_Losses	37.91***	38.47***		40.18***			
	(12.04)	(11.99)		(12.22)			
dB_CapRatio			-12.35***				
			(4.077)				
B_Branch_Reloc	-0.0883	-0.0361	-0.0710				
	(0.123)	(0.121)	(0.123)				
B_Branch_Reloc_Sum	0.211	0.318	0.102				
	(0.336)	(0.332)	(0.344)				
B_Branch_Closed				-0.0554			
				(0.0943)			
B_Branch_Closed_Sum				-0.0917			
				(0.193)			
Cus_Damage	-0.0952	-0.0872	-0.0786	-0.0969			
	(0.0838)	(0.0835)	(0.0844)	(0.0839)			
Sup_Damage	0.0790	0.0698	0.0807	0.0738			
	(0.0832)	(0.0829)	(0.0836)	(0.0831)			
Damaged_Area	0.0605	0.0812	0.0552	0.0743			
- · ·	(0.106)	(0.106)	(0.107)	(0.107)			
Tsunami_Area	0.151	0.194*	0.176*	0.166			
For some the set of the set	(0.104)	(0.103)	(0.105)	(0.104)			
Evacuation_Area	-0.0210	-0.159	-0.0243	-0.0152			
Fmaloymont	(0.363)	(0.368) -0.00381***	(0.363)	(0.362) -0.00379***			
Employment	-0.00372***		-0.00349***				
Business Conditions	(0.000956) 0.280***	(0.000958) 0.284***	(0.000943) 0.282***	(0.000965) 0.277***			
Business_conditions	(0.0378)	(0.0377)	(0.0381)	(0.0377)			
Leverage	0.281***	0.299***	0.274***	0.285***			
	(0.0636)	(0.0634)	(0.0634)	(0.0635)			
Manufacturing	0.103	0.117	0.117	0.0963			
	(0.119)	(0.119)	(0.120)	(0.120)			
Utilities, IT, and transportation	-0.0789	-0.0704	-0.108	-0.0905			
	(0.154)	(0.153)	(0.156)	(0.154)			
Wholesale	-0.217*	-0.224*	-0.212	-0.226*			
	(0.129)	(0.128)	(0.129)	(0.128)			
Retail	-0.207	-0.194	-0.224*	-0.207			
	(0.129)	(0.128)	(0.130)	(0.129)			
Services	-0.0245	-0.0210	-0.0313	-0.0286			
	(0.118)	(0.117)	(0.119)	(0.118)			
Constant	-1.269***	-1.298***	-1.201***	-1.232***			
	(0.182)	(0.182)	(0.179)	(0.182)			
Number of observations	1,190	1,190	1,176	1,190			

(b) Different periods

		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
		Dependent va	ariable = Cons	trained	
		Probit model	estimation		
VARIABLES	period=	2	3	4	5
		March 2011-	July 2012-	Oct 2013-	Oct 2014-
		July 2012	Aug/Sep	Aug/Sep	Oct/Nov
			2013	2014	2015
	bloc	0.467***	0 0077	0.0612	0 0029
Damage_Tangi	bies		0.0877	-0.0613	0.0928
Charles Laccor		(0.128) 37.91***	(0.109) 30.75**	(0.131) 7.373	(0.177) -21.64
3_Special_Losses			(13.29)	(19.36)	
Pranch Poloc		(12.04) -0.0883	-0.0892	-0.260	(21.77) -0.146
3_Branch_Reloc			(0.159)	-0.200 (0.213)	
3_Branch_Reloc_	Sum	(0.123) 0.211	0.103	-0.0792	(0.250) 0.619
	<u>-</u> Julli	(0.336)	(0.473)	-0.0792 (0.612)	(0.934)
Cus Damage		-0.0952	(0.473) -0.207**	-0.0650	(0.934) 0.0140
us_Damage		(0.0838)	-0.207 (0.0924)	(0.132)	(0.144)
Sup Damage		0.0790	0.120	-0.0510	-0.0289
bup_Damage		(0.0832)	(0.0917)	(0.129)	(0.139)
Damaged Area		0.0605	-0.0894	-0.0921	0.183
		(0.106)	(0.0986)	(0.144)	(0.151)
sunami_Area		0.151	0.0572	0.00790	0.0841
Sunann_Area		(0.104)	(0.141)	(0.194)	(0.209)
vacuation_Area		-0.0210	0.379	(0.154)	(0.205)
		(0.363)	(0.601)		
Employment		-0.00372***	-0.00355***	-0.0103***	-0.00667**
inproyment		(0.000956)	(0.00101)	(0.00212)	(0.00193)
Business_Conditi	ions	0.280***	0.315***	0.398***	0.344***
Justifiess_contait	10113	(0.0378)	(0.0418)	(0.0674)	(0.0761)
everage		0.281***	0.0869	0.447***	0.284**
eveluge		(0.0636)	(0.0551)	(0.121)	(0.111)
Manufacturing		0.103	-0.0749	0.182	0.122
		(0.119)	(0.133)	(0.201)	(0.205)
Jtilities, IT, and t	ransportation	-0.0789	0.0450	0.260	0.371
, and co, in, and c		(0.154)	(0.186)	(0.254)	(0.287)
Vholesale		-0.217*	-0.361**	-0.0252	-0.193
		(0.129)	(0.145)	(0.199)	(0.222)
Retail		-0.207	0.0346	0.0230	0.0459
		(0.129)	(0.141)	(0.219)	(0.228)
ervices		-0.0245	0.0631	-0.129	-0.103
		(0.118)	(0.131)	(0.188)	(0.196)
Constant		-1.269***	-0.974***	-1.341***	-1.361***
		(0.182)	(0.170)	(0.270)	(0.295)
Number of observ	vations	1,190	953	506	427
tandard errors i			* n<0.05 * n<0		r

(c) Effects of financial support

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
		riable = Const	trained		
/ARIABLES	Probit model				
_Damage_Tangibles	0.470***	0.401***	0.883***	0.952***	0.240
	(0.128)	(0.141)	(0.277)	(0.290)	(0.294)
_Special_Losses	50.63**	39.88***	38.00***	42.97***	43.92***
	(23.81)	(12.11)	(12.07)	(12.56)	(12.65)
_Branch_Reloc	-0.0894	-0.0720	-0.0699	-0.0817	-0.0539
	(0.123)	(0.124)	(0.126)	(0.129)	(0.130)
_Branch_Reloc_Sum	-0.0135	0.209	0.199	0.301	0.199
	(0.424)	(0.339)	(0.338)	(0.356)	(0.352)
s_Damage	-0.0937	-0.0925	-0.0977	-0.0473	-0.0264
	(0.0840)	(0.0844)	(0.0842)	(0.0883)	(0.0892)
o_Damage	0.0823	0.0832	0.0916	0.114	0.0888
	(0.0833)	(0.0834)	(0.0836)	(0.0874)	(0.0885)
naged_Area	0.0612	0.0594	0.0598	0.0464	0.0376
	(0.108)	(0.106)	(0.107)	(0.110)	(0.112)
nami_Area	0.155	0.151	0.152	0.170	0.157
	(0.105)	(0.105)	(0.107)	(0.111)	(0.111)
cuation_Area	-0.0633	0.00245	-0.0389	-0.124	-0.0725
	(0.365)	(0.364)	(0.367)	(0.390)	(0.401)
ployment	-0.00372***	-0.00370***	-0.00358***	-0.00367***	-0.00367***
	(0.000957)	(0.000958)	(0.000949)	(0.00102)	(0.00103)
iness_Conditions	0.280***	0.275***	0.284***	0.269***	0.262***
	(0.0379)	(0.0379)	(0.0379)	(0.0397)	(0.0399)
erage	0.277***	0.283***	0.280***	0.252***	0.223***
	(0.0638)	(0.0636)	(0.0638)	(0.0655)	(0.0650)
ufacturing	0.104	0.0877	0.117	0.0988	0.0839
	(0.119)	(0.120)	(0.120)	(0.123)	(0.124)
ities, IT, and transportation	-0.0743	-0.0889	-0.0682	-0.0431	-0.0646
	(0.154)	(0.154)	(0.154)	(0.166)	(0.171)
lesale	-0.212*	-0.234*	-0.211	-0.217	-0.283**
	(0.129)	(0.129)	(0.129)	(0.133)	(0.136)
il	-0.209	-0.206	-0.213	-0.238*	-0.296**
	(0.129)	(0.129)	(0.130)	(0.137)	(0.139)
ices	-0.0280	-0.0463	-0.0292	0.00897	-0.0390
	(0.118)	(0.118)	(0.118)	(0.122)	(0.123)
ction	0.224	(=====;	(=====;	()	(
	(0.240)				
pecial_Loss*Injection	-38.02				
	(38.84)				
urance	(30.04)	-0.215**			
		(0.0958)			
amage_Tangibles*Insurance		0.283			
		(0.304)			
sidy		(0.504)	-0.0470		
			(0.111)		
amage_Tangibles*Subsidy			-0.520*		
amage_rangines subsidy			-0.320		
n_Bank			(0.310)	0.0266	
II_Ballk					
				(0.0238)	
amage_Tangibles*Num_Bank				-0.216*	
				(0.112)	
ation_Bank					-0.00426
					(0.00284)
Damage_Tangibles*Duration_Banl	:				0.00740
					(0.00899)
nstant	-1.283***	-1.203***	-1.295***	-1.353***	-1.059***
		(0.185)	(0.183)	(0.200)	(0.213)
mber of observations	(0.184) 1,190	(0.183) 1,190	1,190	1,088	1,067

Table 6: Firm activity estimation

(a) Production and sales activity level

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Dependent variable:	Constrained	Activity_Level	Activity_Level	Activity_Level
Esimation method:	Treatme	ent regression	OLS	OLS
	First stage	Second stage		
Constrained		07 74***	2 0 9 7	2 5 4 0 *
Constrained		-27.74***	-3.087	-3.540*
C Damaga Tangiblas	0.383***	(8.464) -5.167**	(1.892) -7.562***	(1.831)
F_Damage_Tangibles	(0.114)	(2.506)	(2.109)	
R Special Losses	37.28***	(2.500)	(2.105)	
B_Special_Losses	(12.07)			
Cus Damage	0.0223	-2.717	-2.717	-3.251*
Cus_Damage	(0.0889)	(2.066)	(1.947)	(1.948)
Sun Damage				
Sup_Damage	-0.00370	-0.656	-0.202	0.184
Democrat Area	(0.0885)	(2.041)	(1.931)	(1.942)
Damaged_Area	0.0439	0.0364	-0.718	-1.241
- · ·	(0.110)	(2.589)	(2.444)	(2.296)
Tsunami_Area	0.135	-2.673	-5.085**	-6.633***
	(0.106)	(2.538)	(2.310)	(2.302)
Evacuation_Area	-0.139	-17.04*	-14.97*	-14.55
	(0.424)	(9.252)	(8.782)	(9.040)
Employment	-0.00353***	-0.00709	0.0121	0.0109
	(0.000976)	(0.0144)	(0.0123)	(0.0125)
Business_Conditions	0.262***	-4.946***	-7.501***	-7.742***
	(0.0395)	(1.219)	(0.869)	(0.856)
Leverage	0.273***	3.285**	0.639	-0.0378
	(0.0654)	(1.595)	(1.328)	(1.214)
Manufacturing	0.115	-9.320***	-10.21***	-8.989***
	(0.130)	(3.015)	(2.852)	(2.762)
Utilities, IT, and transportation	0.0291	-8.314**	-8.044**	-6.610*
	(0.168)	(3.861)	(3.673)	(3.630)
Wholesale	-0.271**	-12.07***	-10.29***	-9.042***
	(0.137)	(3.295)	(3.023)	(2.964)
Retail	-0.121	-10.44***	-8.510***	-8.056***
	(0.138)	(3.246)	(3.045)	(2.973)
Services	0.0406	-8.935***	-8.854***	-7.580***
	(0.121)	(2.810)	(2.650)	(2.534)
Constant	-1.233***	130.3***	129.2***	129.7***
	(0.188)	(4.115)	(3.868)	(3.690)
athrho		0.540***		
		(0.192)		
Insigma		3.411***		
5		(0.0537)		
Observations	1,037	1,037	1,050	1,174
R-squared	,	,	0.146	0.127

Table 6: Firm activity estimation

(b) Investment

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Dependent variable:	Constrained	Investment	Investment	Investment
Estimation method:	Treatmer	nt regression	OLS	OLS
	First stage	Second stage		
Constrained		0.169	0.130***	0.168***
		(0.129)	(0.0451)	(0.0475)
F_Damage_Tangibles	0.151	0.395***	0.403***	
	(0.164)	(0.0575)	(0.0558)	
B_Special_Losses	52.15***			
	(18.12)			
Cus_Damage	-0.0754	0.00241	0.00217	0.00405
	(0.123)	(0.0445)	(0.0457)	(0.0498)
Sup_Damage	-0.104	-0.0437	-0.0520	-0.0431
	(0.122)	(0.0439)	(0.0450)	(0.0490)
Damaged_Area	-0.00289	0.109**	0.112**	0.177***
	(0.150)	(0.0541)	(0.0561)	(0.0573)
Tsunami_Area	0.371**	-0.0298	-0.0358	0.0428
	(0.147)	(0.0567)	(0.0543)	(0.0577)
Evacuation_Area	-0.212	0.139	0.137	0.0874
	(0.631)	(0.217)	(0.225)	(0.251)
Employment	-0.00316***	-0.000524	-0.000618**	-0.000753**
	(0.00112)	(0.000324)	(0.000308)	(0.000335)
Business_Conditions	0.285***	-0.0229	-0.0265	-0.0151
	(0.0545)	(0.0228)	(0.0201)	(0.0216)
Leverage	0.268***	-0.0446	-0.0447	-0.0303
	(0.0899)	(0.0306)	(0.0291)	(0.0321)
Manufacturing	0.121	0.00137	0.0115	-0.0346
	(0.180)	(0.0653)	(0.0675)	(0.0702)
Utilities, IT, and transportation	0.112	0.0883	0.0965	0.0351
	(0.222)	(0.0799)	(0.0830)	(0.0895)
Wholesale	-0.315	0.0759	0.0735	0.00903
	(0.205)	(0.0736)	(0.0751)	(0.0794)
Retail	-0.0384	-0.0219	-0.0144	-0.0537
	(0.198)	(0.0716)	(0.0741)	(0.0803)
Services	0.107	0.0103	0.0283	-0.0141
	(0.170)	(0.0624)	(0.0636)	(0.0657)
Constant	-1.337***	0.177**	0.205**	0.180**
	(0.252)	(0.0855)	(0.0878)	(0.0912)
athrho		-0.0639		
		(0.158)		
Insigma		-0.738***		
		(0.0307)		
Observations	552	552	563	621
R-squared			0.147	0.063

Table 6 Firm activity estimation

(c) Loan ratio

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Dependent variable:	Constrained	Loan_Ratio	Loan_Ratio	Loan_Ratio
Estimation method:	Treatmer	it regression	OLS	OLS
	First stage	Second stage		
Constrained		-0.808***	0.0631	0.116***
constrained		(0.0570)	(0.0400)	(0.0404)
F_Damage_Tangibles	0.469***	0.571***	0.468***	(0.0404)
	(0.101)	(0.0601)	(0.0503)	
B_Special_Losses	25.49***	(0.0001)	(0.0505)	
	(9.520)			
Cus_Damage	0.0283	-0.0400	-0.0500	-0.0374
eas_samage	(0.0848)	(0.0496)	(0.0414)	(0.0432)
Sup_Damage	0.0342	-0.0170	-0.0351	-0.0416
oub_ours80	(0.0850)	(0.0496)	(0.0415)	(0.0435)
Damaged_Area	0.0707	-0.0104	-0.0225	0.0392
	(0.104)	(0.0614)	(0.0516)	(0.0501)
Tsunami_Area	0.107	0.111*	0.0566	0.155***
	(0.103)	(0.0602)	(0.0502)	(0.0518)
Evacuation_Area	-0.637	-0.215	0.00602	-0.0149
	(0.493)	(0.281)	(0.237)	(0.255)
Employment	-0.00317***	-0.00154***	-0.000387	-0.000546
. ,	(0.000837)	(0.000425)	(0.000348)	(0.000365)
Business_Conditions	0.268***	0.152***	0.0625***	0.0723***
-	(0.0385)	(0.0226)	(0.0188)	(0.0192)
Leverage	0.247***	0.553***	0.482***	0.474***
-	(0.0602)	(0.0341)	(0.0286)	(0.0272)
Manufacturing	-0.0400	0.0863	0.0818	0.0400
	(0.125)	(0.0730)	(0.0614)	(0.0627)
Utilities, IT, and transportation	-0.0682	-0.0378	-0.0150	-0.0396
	(0.156)	(0.0922)	(0.0772)	(0.0785)
Wholesale	-0.197	0.0528	0.131**	0.0997
	(0.132)	(0.0768)	(0.0642)	(0.0652)
Retail	-0.186	0.130*	0.185***	0.130**
	(0.132)	(0.0768)	(0.0642)	(0.0654)
Services	0.00395	0.0653	0.0626	0.0503
	(0.113)	(0.0670)	(0.0559)	(0.0560)
Constant	-1.130***	-0.0214	-0.114	-0.137*
	(0.179)	(0.101)	(0.0843)	(0.0834)
athrho		0.998***		
		(0.0592)		
Insigma		-0.302***		
		(0.0295)		
Observations	1,075	1,075	1,087	1,225
R-squared	,	,	0.310	0.245

		Impact through	Impact through	
		collateral	bank lending	Sum
		channel	channel	
Firms located in the	Number of	1122	ברבר	2050
survey area	constrained firms	1122	2737	3859
	Reduction of sales	101	254	402
	(billion yen)	131	351	482
Firms located outside the survey area	Number of constrained firms		867	867
	Reduction of sales (billion yen)		234	234
Sum	Number of constrained firms	1122	3604	4726
	Reduction of sales (billion yen)	131	585	716

Table 7: Aggregate impact of the earthquake through the collateral and bank lending channels

Table A1: Aggregate im	pact through the collateral channel

	Hachinohe	Coastal Iwate	Inland Iwate	Coastal Miyagi	Inland Miyagi	Coastal Fukushima	Inland Fukushima	Sum
Average marginal effect (a_i)	0.1717	0.1684	0.1638	0.1647	0.1662	0.1668	0.1645	0.1659
Ratio of firms that had demand for new loans (b_i)	0.5886	0.5916	0.5584	0.6042	0.5450	0.6115	0.7022	0.6047
Average amount of damage to tangible assets to total tangible assets (c_i)	0.0933	0.2397	0.0228	0.2603	0.0682	0.1346	0.0551	0.1541
Ratio of firms that are credit constrained due to damage to their tangible assets (d_i=a*b*c)	0.0094	0.0239	0.0021	0.0259	0.0062	0.0137	0.0064	0.0155
Number of firms in the TSR database (e_i)	4602	4716	17456	18991	21669	9740	26785	103959
Average sales amount of firms in the TSR database (thousand yen) (f_i)	4.07E+05	2.23E+05	3.81E+05	4.53E+05	6.05E+05	3.02E+05	4.17E+05	4.37E+05
Decline in sales due to credit constraint to total sales (g)	0.2774	0.2774	0.2774	0.2774	0.2774	0.2774	0.2774	0.2774
Number of firms that are credit constrained due to damage (h_i=d*e)	43	113	36	492	134	134	170	1122
Amount of sales reduction among these firms (thousand yen) (k_i=f*g*h)	4900412	6982012	3849323	61873204	22481031	11208293	19734611	131028886

Table A2: Region-level variables for measuring the impact through the bank lending channel

Region (i)	Hachinohe	Aomori not Hachinohe	Coastal Iwate	Inland Iwate		Inland Miyagi	Coastal Fukushim a	Inland Fukushim a	Hokkaido	Rest of Tohoku	Kanto	Rest of Japan
i=	= 21	. 22	31	32	41	42	71	. 72	100	200	300	400
Average marginal effect of a bank's special losses (a_i)	13.96625	13.49148	13.6937	13.3169	13.3918	13.5132	13.56814	13.37406	13.49148	13.49148	13.4915	13.49148
Ratio of firms that had demand for new loans (b_i)	0.5886	0.6047	0.5916	0.5584	0.6042	0.5450	0.6115	0.7022	0.6047	0.6047	0.6047	0.6047
Average sales amount of firms in the TSR database (thousand yen) (f_i)	4.1E+05	3.1E+05	2.2E+05	3.8E+05	4.5E+05	6.1E+05	3.0E+05	5 4.2E+05	3.7E+05	3.0E+05	1.5E+06	5.8E+05
Decline in sales due to credit constraint to total sales (g)	0.2774	0.2774	0.2774	0.2774	0.2774	0.2774	0.2774	0.2774	0.2774	0.2774	0.2774	0.2774

Table A3: Bank-region-level variables for measuring the impact through the bank lending channel

		Number of firms that transact with the bank (d_ij)												
	B_Special		Aomori			Coasta		Coasta	Inland					
Bank	Losses	Hachin		Coasta		I	Inland		Fukush		Rest of	Kanto	Rest of	Total
name	 (c_j)	ohe		l Iwate	Iwate	Miyagi	Miyagi	Fukush	ima	do	Tohoku		Japan	
		i=21	ohe 22	31	32	41	42	ima 71	72	100	200	300	400	
Fukushima	0.00900	1-21	22	51	 1	32	36			100	200	161		3861
77	0.00825	1	2	1		8937				45	92		-	21064
Tohoku	0.00695	148	16	634	2826	320	163		1	1	81	21	3	4214
Kitanihon	0.00538	159	161	838	2739	489	196		90	0	164	55	1	4892
Ishinomaki Sandai	0.00412					833	46		25		2	10	4	879
Sendai Iwate	0.00411 0.00273	184	33	2139	4 6797	1786 322	2919 116		25	6	3 15	-		4785 9654
Daito	0.00275	104		2155	0/5/	1			2841					3671
Iwaki	0.00199	_				1		930			_	2		934
Sen-nan	0.00168					228	649					2		879
Kesennuma	0.00167			113	6	545	4							668
Morinomiya Soso	0.00163 0.00150				1	1286	1210	252	4			2		2499 256
Ishinomaki						791	74		4					865
Miyako	0.00144			386	4	-	, ,							390
Aizu shoko	0.00109								520	5				525
Sukagawa	0.00108								900			2		902
Kirayaka	0.00098			2	1	182	209		94		6535			7382
Himawari Asuka	0.00096	4	6		2	16	21	1075 3			3	8 175		1087 258
Toho	0.00030	4	0		2	108	63				7			13426
Aoimori	0.00072	1136	2199	3								2		3340
Ichinoseki	0.00067			1		2						1		695
Developmen		2	2	1	3				3	39	7	-	-	542
Miyagi Dai-i Aomori		1077	7766	3	22	519	491			105	170	1 27		1011 9582
Nihonmatsu	0.00040 0.00037	1377	7766	5	33	13	40	1	559	195	128	3		563
Japan Finan		47	212	30	45	124	84				81			6707
Fukus hi ma k									711			1		713
Fukushima	0.00025					1	2		-			4	-	1796
Ashikaga	0.00024				1	3	14	1				21218		21458
Yamanashi (Akita	0.00024 0.00022	71	120	3	51	83	68	98	1 275				10453 22	11066 11553
Senhoku	0.00022	/1	120	5	51	8	180		275	250	10400	02	22	11555
Joyo	0.00019		1			116			714	2	3	19809	28	21628
Mitsubishi-	0.00018	9	19	4	28	221	383	21	55	695	51	1E+05	84193	188904
Michinoku	0.00017	914				24				780				8425
Risona	0.00015	0	5 19				122						28745	58825
Norinchukin Shonai	0.00014	8	19	11	22	47 36	26 74				4211		571 11	1273 4385
Daishi	0.00012					50	1		93			-		16963
Shokochukir		51	57	4	41	197								9507
Morioka	0.00010			34							1			1119
Yamagata	0.00008	-			2									8717
Mitsui-Sumi Mizuho	0.00008	5 11										83060 97107	64583 26534	148915 126922
Tokyo Tomir		1		0	3		1				207	7466		7486
Koriyama	0.00007	-			5	1		30				3		1094
Shirakawa	0.00006								728			68		797
Mizuho Corp		3	1	5			22	7	10	37	14			2882
Mizusawa	0.00004				508						4	2		511
Kitakami Aizu	0.00004 0.00003				524		1		834	1	1	1	1	528 835
Yokohama	0.00003		3		5	2	3	4			5	23474		23608
Aomori-ken	0.00001	53				-	0			-				1299
Hanamaki	0.00001				377									377
Kanagawa	0.00001						1		-			1941		1945
Abukuma <u>Furukawa</u>	0.00001					21 1		577	4			1	1	604
TUTUKdWd	0.00000					1	329							330

constrained due to damage (h i) firms (thousand yen) (k i) Bank name Firms in the survey outside the Total survey area Firms in the survey area Firms in the survey area Total survey area Fukushima 303 12 315 33200750 4920062 38120812 T7 1323 20 1343 192761806 4653624 197415430 Tohoku 216 7 223 122274910 981141 32256050 Sendai 150 1 151 2253227 292183 22824410 Ivate 199 2 201 19267372 467144 19730926 Daito 87 2 89 9525666 828842 1035488 Waki 15 0 11 1734426 11240 1745666 Kesennuma 9 0 9 1038676 0 1038676 Jishinomakish 10 0 1318710 0 1318710 Mirakoko 5 0 5 2484822		Number of	firms that were cre	dit	Amount of sales decrease among these				
Bank name the survey outside the Total survey area survey area outside the Total Fukushima 303 12 315 33200750 4920062 381208120 Tohoku 216 7 223 22274910 981141 22256050 Kitanihon 187 17 203 19319175 2205802 2134498 Sendai 150 1 151 2253227 292183 22824410 Iwate 199 2 201 19263782 467144 19745560 Kesennuma 9 0 9 1039676 0 1039676 Morinomiyak 32 0 32 458471 10965 4599437 Sos 3 0 3 269037 0 289375 Kesennuma 9 0 9 1038676 0 13381710 Miyako 5 0 5 613900 46002 618502 s									
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<u>Furukawa 0 0 0 934 0 934</u>									
	Total			3604	350711719				

Table A4: Aggregate impact through the bank lending channel