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# Chinese Companies Distress Prediction: an application of DEA

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# Introduction

- Financial information

Accounting data and financial ratios in statements (since Beaver, 1966)

Altman (1968): Multiple Discriminant Analysis, Z-score

$$Z = .012X_1 + .014X_2 + .033X_3 + .006X_4 + .999X_5$$

where  $X_1$  = Working capital/Total assets

$X_2$  = Retained Earnings/Total assets

$X_3$  = Earnings before interest and taxes/Total assets

$X_4$  = Market value equity/Book value of total debt

$X_5$  = Sales/Total assets

- Corporate performance

Xu and Wang (2009): in Support Vector Machines (SVMs) and Multiple Discriminant Analysis (MDA)

Yeh et al. (2010): in the integrated Rough Set Theory (RST) with SVM

Paradi et al. (2004): the worst practice DEA



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# Objectives

To predict corporate failures by

- Corporate performance measures

Variable Returns to Scale (VRS) assumption

Return to scale levels

Cross-sectional, panel, and survival models

- Logistic Regression

with efficiencies

without efficiencies

- Comparison with Altman's model



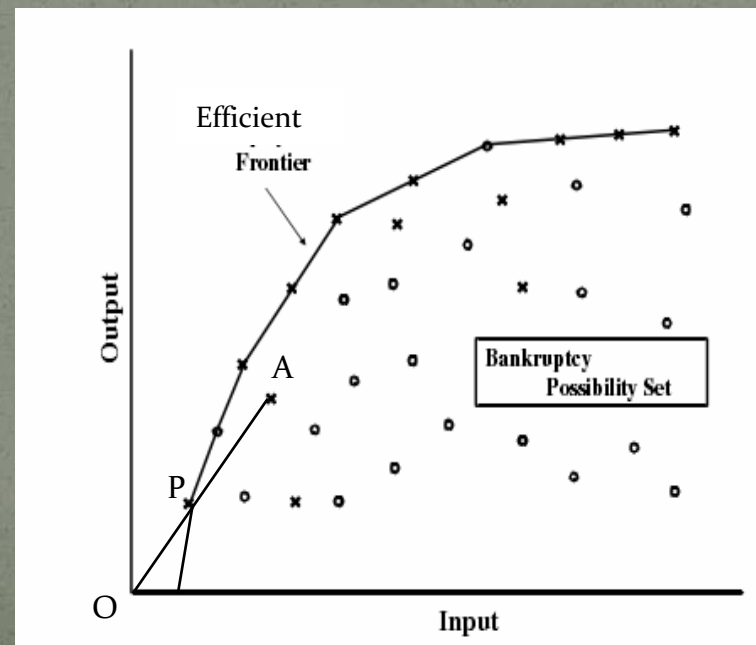
# DEA

- Performance measurement

Performance is commonly measured by  $\frac{\text{Output}}{\text{Input}}$ , called 'efficiency' or 'productivity'

- Data Envelopment Analysis

Data Envelopment Analysis (DEA) is a method to measure 'relative efficiency' of Decision Making Units (DMUs). (Charnes, Cooper & Rhodes, 1978)



$$\text{relative efficiency} = \frac{OP}{OA}$$

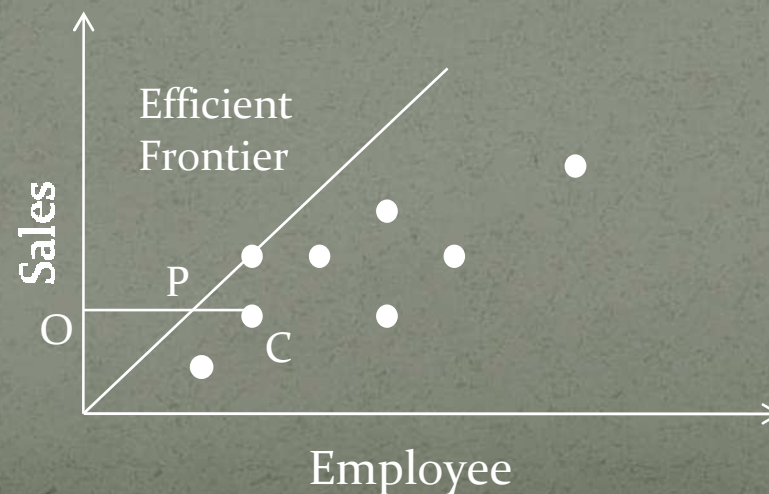


# DEA

## Some simple examples

- One input and one output

Store	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Employee	2	3	3	4	5	5	6	8
Sale	1	3	2	3	4	2	3	5
Efficiency	0.5	1	0.67	0.75	0.8	0.4	0.5	0.625

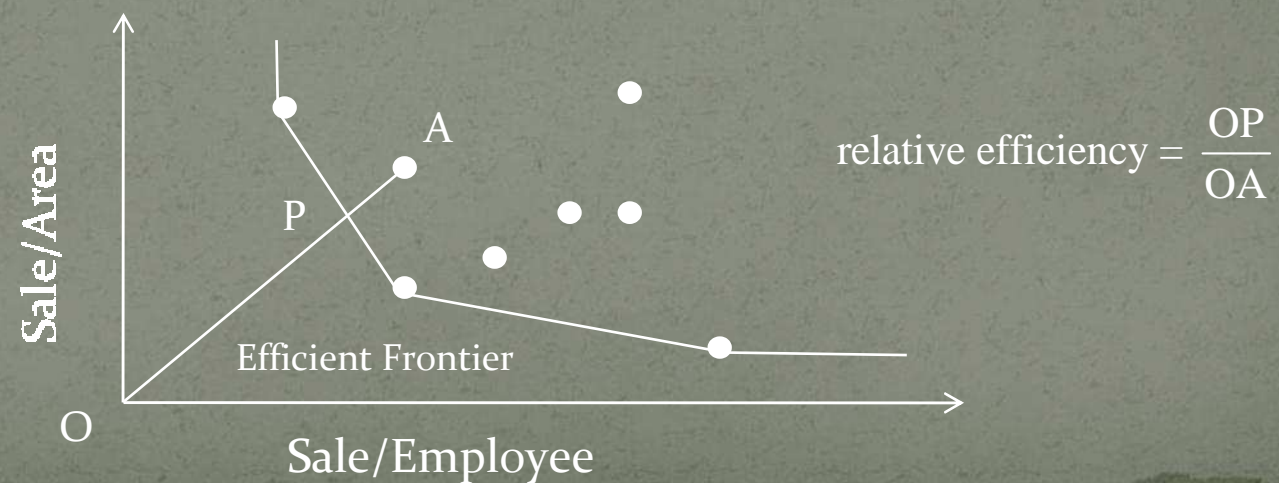




# DEA

- Two inputs and one output

Store	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Employee	4	7	8	4	2	5	6	5
Area	3	3	1	2	4	2	4	2
Sale	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

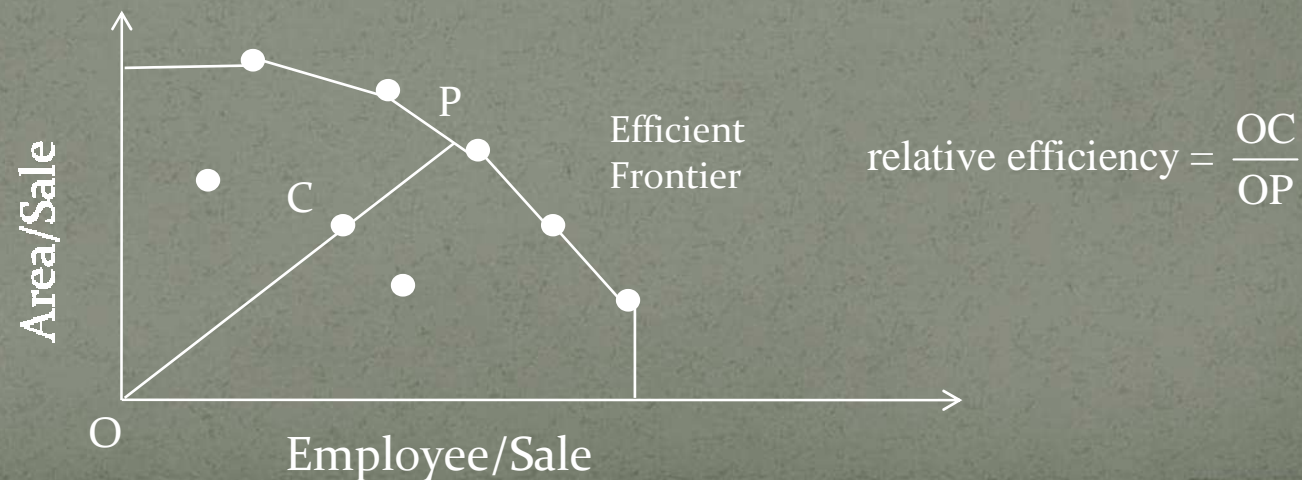




# DEA

- One input and two outputs

Store	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Employee	2	3	3	4	5	5	6	8
Customer Sale	1	2	3	4	4	5	5	6
Sale	1	3	2	3	4	2	3	5





# DEA

- The basic CCR model

CCR is named by Charnes, Cooper & Rhodes (1978)

		1	2	3	...	j	...	n			
Weights of inputs	$v_1$	1	$x_{11}$	$x_{12}$	$x_{13}$	...	$x_{1j}$	...	$x_{1n}$		
	$v_2$	2	$x_{21}$	$x_{22}$	$x_{23}$	...	$x_{2j}$	...	$x_{2n}$		
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	...	$\vdots$		
	$v_i$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$x_{ij}$	...	$\vdots$		
	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	...	$\vdots$		
	$v_m$	m	$x_{m1}$	$x_{m2}$	$x_{m3}$	...	$x_{mj}$	...	$x_{mn}$		
m inputs			$y_{11}$	$y_{12}$	$y_{13}$	...	$y_{1j}$	...	$y_{1n}$	1	$u_1$
			$y_{21}$	$y_{22}$	$y_{23}$	...	$y_{2j}$	...	$y_{2n}$	2	$u_2$
			$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	...	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$
			$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$y_{rj}$	...	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$u_r$
			$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	...	$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\vdots$
			$y_{s1}$	$y_{s2}$	$y_{s3}$	...	$y_{sj}$	...	$y_{sn}$	s	$u_s$
											s outputs

n DMUs

Weights of outputs



# DEA

- The basic CCR model

For each DMU<sub>j</sub>, the efficiency is measured by:

$$\theta_j = \frac{u^T y_j}{v^T x_j} = \frac{\sum_{r=1}^s u_r y_{rj}}{\sum_{i=1}^m v_i x_{ij}}, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

Let the DMU<sub>j</sub> to be evaluated on any trial be designated as DMU<sub>o</sub> where *o* ranges over 1, 2, ..., *n*. We have the fractional programming problem to solve the weights of inputs and outputs.

$$\begin{aligned} (FP_o) \quad \max \quad & \theta = \frac{u_1 y_{1o} + u_2 y_{2o} + \dots + u_s y_{so}}{v_1 x_{1o} + v_2 x_{2o} + \dots + v_m x_{mo}} \\ \text{subject to} \quad & \frac{u_1 y_{1j} + u_2 y_{2j} + \dots + u_s y_{sj}}{v_1 x_{1j} + v_2 x_{2j} + \dots + v_m x_{mj}} \leq 1 \quad (j = 1, \dots, n) \\ & v_1, v_2, \dots, v_m \geq 0 \\ & u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$



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DEA

- Return to Scale

Returns to Scale (RTS) is the term to describe what happens as the scale of production increases when all inputs and outputs are variables.

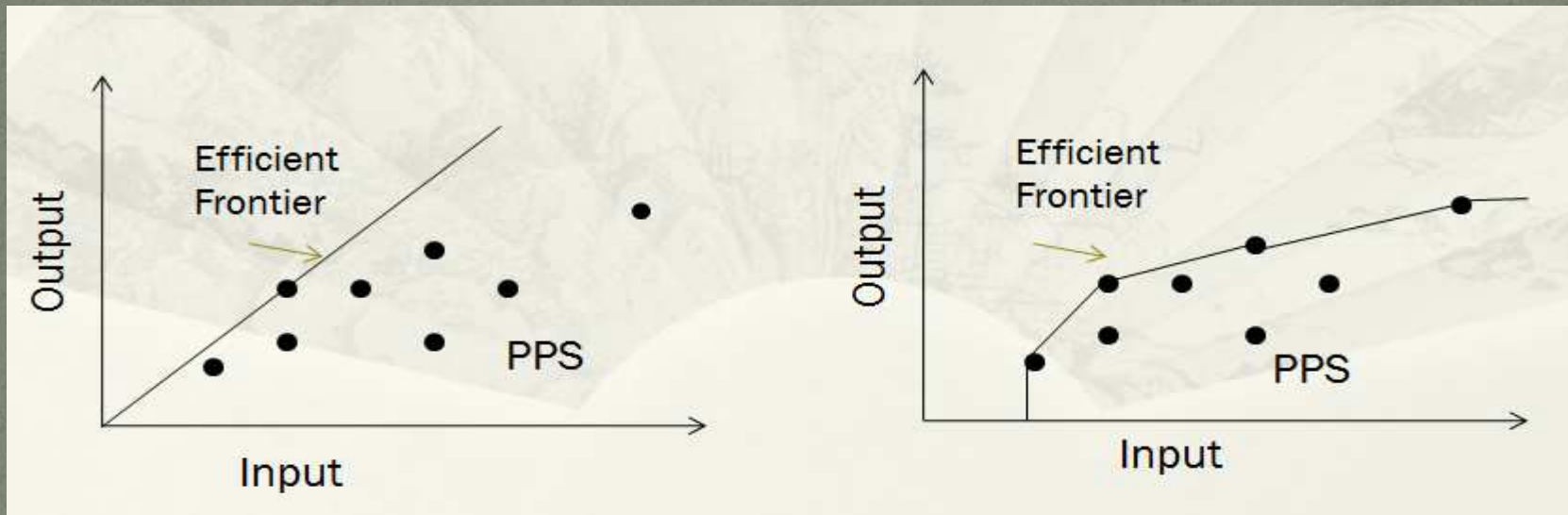
Constant Returns to Scale (CRS): when the relative change in output is the same compared to the relative change in input

Variable Returns to Scale (VRS): If the proportional increase in output is larger (smaller) than the proportional increase of input, it is increasing (decreasing) returns to scale.



# DEA

- BCC model (VRS is assumed, Banker et al., 1984)



$$\begin{aligned}
 (BCC) \quad & \min \theta_B \\
 \text{s.t.} \quad & \theta_B x_o - X \lambda \geq 0 \\
 & Y \lambda \geq y_o \\
 & e \lambda = 1 \\
 & \lambda \geq 0
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \max \quad & z = uy - u_0 \\
 \text{s.t.} \quad & vx_o = 1 \\
 & -vX + uY - u_0 e \leq 0 \\
 & v \geq 0, u \geq 0, u_0 \text{ free in sign}
 \end{aligned}$$



# DEA

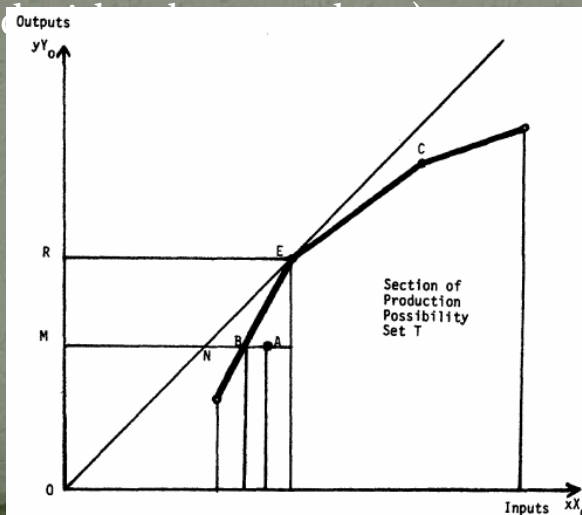
- Four predictors calculated by DEA

Pure Technical Efficiency: the potential productivity which can be achieved by optimization of inputs and outputs, from the technical point of view (the ability to utilize input efficiently).

Scale efficiency: the potential productivity gain from achieving optimal size of a firm.

Overall Technical Efficiency: simply the product of Pure Technical Efficiency and Scale efficiency. (Banker, et al. 1984)

Return to Scale Estimation: an indicator to denote on which stage the company is operating, decreasing, increasing or constant, within the same industrial sector (compare with other firms)



$$\text{Pure Technical Efficiency} = \frac{MB}{MA}$$

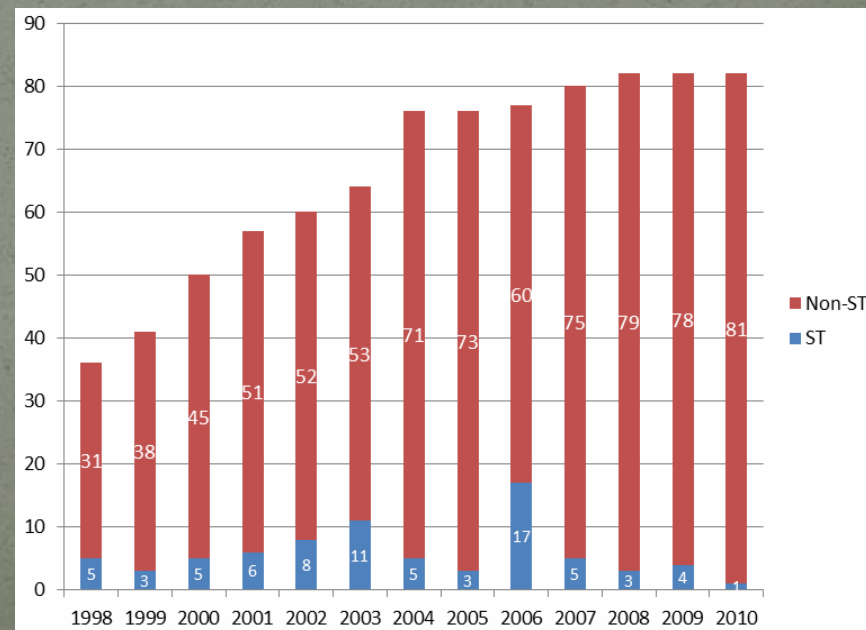
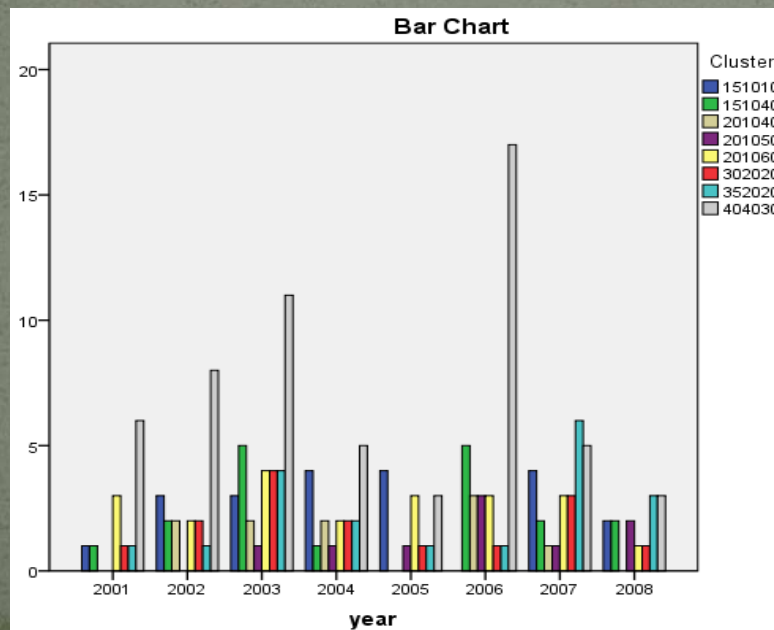
$$\text{Scale Efficiency} = \frac{MN}{MB}$$

$$\text{Overall Technical Efficiency} = \frac{MN}{MA}$$



# Data

- all Chinese listed companies (over 2,000) from 1991 to present.
- Financial distress indicator: Special Treatment (defined by China Securities Regulatory Commission)
- Since DEA requires homogeneity (the same productivity function in the sample), the industry sector Real Estate is found to be the one with most BAD cases.





# Data

- Financial ratios

Ratio groups	In database (89)	After deleting (52)
Indicator per share	15	11
Profitability	20	15
profit composition	5	0
Capital composition	9	8
Liquidity	16	11
Operation capacity	8	3
Cash flow	4	2
Growth rates	12	2



# Data

- DEA inputs and outputs

Year 2001 (N=130)	totalsales (m)	totalcost (m)	totalprofits (m)	totalassets (m)	totaldebts (m)	sharecapital (m)	cashaccrued (m)	staff
Mean	516	489	39	1540	792	285	47	1150
Median	315	302	28	1090	499	219	4	729
Std. Deviation	672	620	123	1470	940	227	158	1570
Minimum	0	14	-538	59	6	54	-330	15
Maximum	4460	4160	502	9690	7380	1870	819	13300
Kurtosis	13.028	13.205	5.923	9.012	18.98	18.103	6.16	28.093
Skewness	3.253	3.266	-0.479	2.555	3.563	3.257	1.979	4.246

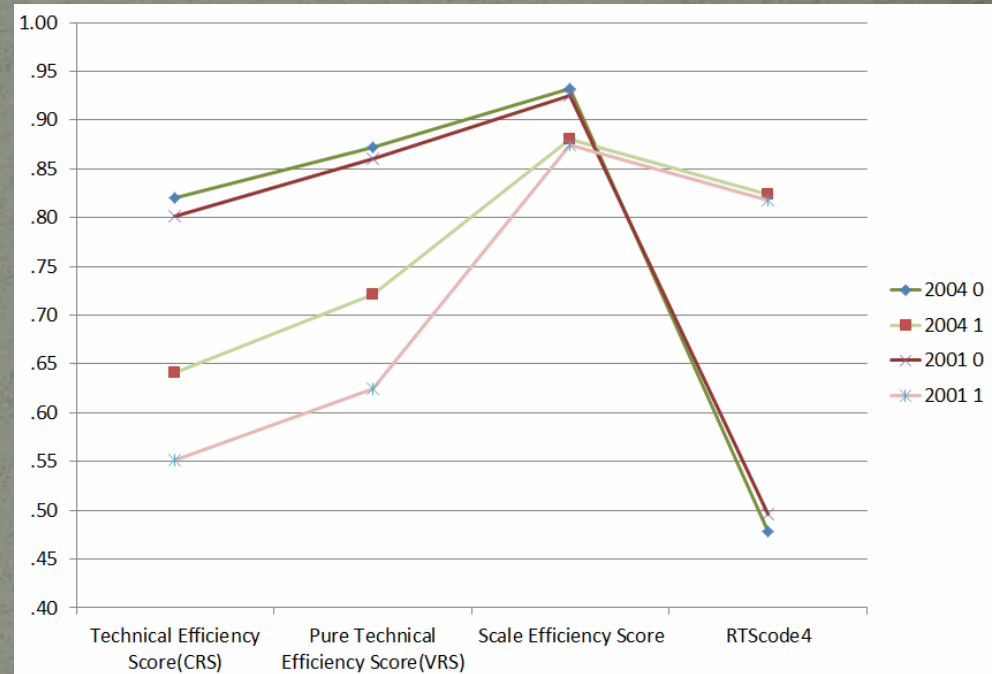
Year 2004 (N=134)	totalsales (m)	totalcost (m)	totalprofits (m)	totalassets (m)	totaldebts (m)	sharecapital (m)	cashaccrued (m)	staff
Mean	732	703	27	2020	1200	328	27	945
Median	438	466	27	1360	789	250	-2	479
Std. Deviation	939	821	229	2100	1280	298	304	1630
Minimum	0	0	-954	120	5	54	-600	24
Maximum	7670	6420	1260	15500	9230	2270	2160	13600
Kurtosis	13.028	13.205	5.923	9.012	18.98	18.103	6.16	28.093
Skewness	3.253	3.266	-0.479	2.555	3.563	3.257	1.979	4.246



# Results

- DEA results

mean score		Technical Efficiency Score(CRS)	Pure Technical Efficiency Score(VRS)	Scale Efficiency Score	RTScore
2004	0	.82	.87	.93	.48
	1	.64	.72	.88	.82
	all	.80	.85	.93	.52
2001	0	.80	.86	.92	.50
	1	.55	.62	.87	.82
	all	.78	.84	.92	.52





# Results

- Training sample

Independent variables: 2001

Distress indicator: 2003 (Good/Bad: 116/11)

Model 1: Stepwise Logistic, ratios only

Model 2: Stepwise Logistic, ratios & efficiencies

Model 3: Enter Logistic, significant ratios in 1 & 2 and efficiencies

Variables in the Equation						
		B	S.E.	Wald	df	Sig.
Step 1a	TechnicalEfficiencyScoreCRS	178.103	98.039	3.300	1	.069
	PureTechnicalEfficiencyScoreVRS	-252.570	126.107	4.011	1	.045
	ScaleEfficiencyScore	-147.702	74.025	3.981	1	.046
	RTScore	-1.538	.911	2.847	1	.092
	EPSatreportdatetotalshare	-3.783	2.122	3.177	1	.075
	equitymultiplier	-2.982	1.936	2.372	1	.124
	netassetsattributabletoequity/investedcapital	-.090	.078	1.317	1	.251
	totalexpensesstosalesratio	-.225	.098	5.291	1	.021
	currentassetturnover	8.716	3.893	5.013	1	.025
	Constant	209.707	95.247	4.848	1	.028



# Results

- Test sample

Independent variables: 2004

Distress indicator: 2006 (Good/Bad: 113/17)

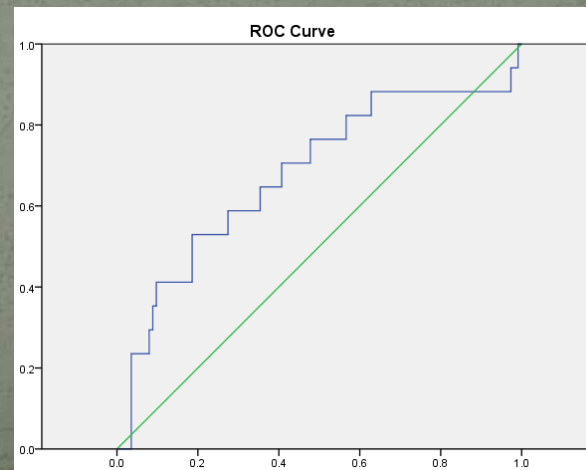
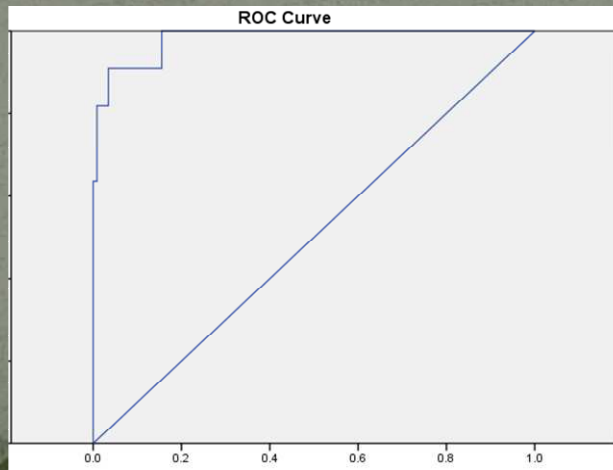
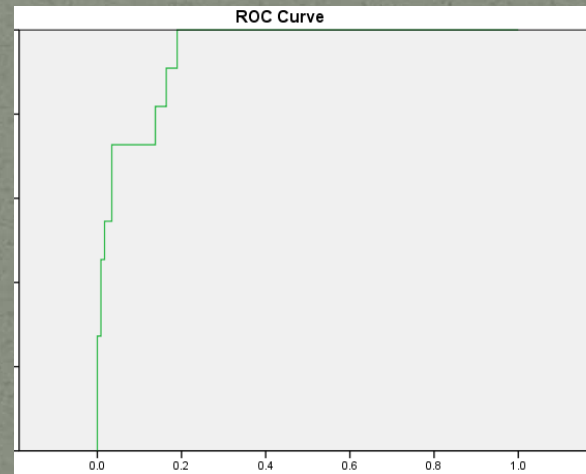
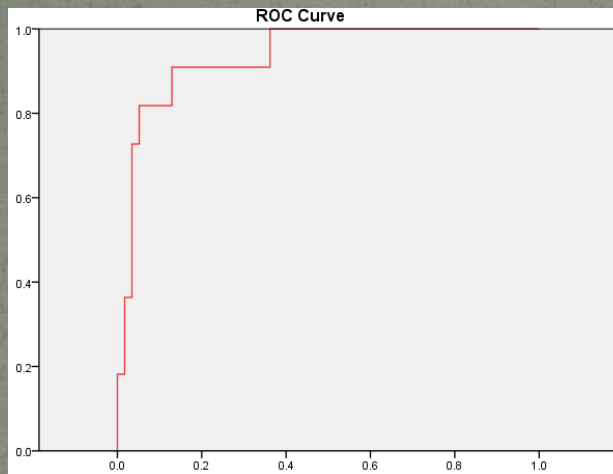
Model 4: Enter Logistic, variables and their coefficients in Model 3.

	-2 Log likelihood	Cox & Snell R Square	Nagelkerke R Square	AUROC
Model 1	42.800	.223	.501	.935
Model 2	38.459	.249	.559	.946
Model 3	24.148	.329	.739	.981
Model 4				.679



# Results

- ROC curve





# Results

- Compare with Altman's Z-score

Model 4					
		Predicted			Percentage Correct
		ST06			
Observed		0	1		
ST06	0	101	12	89%	
	1	10	7	41%	
Overall Percentage				83.08%	

Z-score					
		Predicted			Percentage Correct
		ST06			
Observed		0	1		
ST06	0	101	12	89%	
	1	12	5	29.4%	
Overall Percentage				82.3%	



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# Conclusion

- Conclusion

Corporate performance measurements (efficiencies) improve predictive accuracy when running with financial ratios in Logistic Regression

The more efficient (in the way of optimal operation and scale), the less probability a company goes distressed.

Increasing return to scale is associated to financial distress.

- Future work

Malmquist model

Panel pooled data regression over 10 years

Survival model

Thank you!