Would Order-By-Order Auctions Be Competitive? by Thomas Ernst, Chester Spatt, and Jian Sun

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- Extension 2: heterogeneous assets
- Data: Retail liquidity programs

Baseline model

- Two dates t = 0, 1, no discounting
- Three types of risk neutral agents
- 1. Retail investor: trades for liquidity reasons (no information), fixed scale trade
- 2. Broker: maximizes investor's welfare
- 3. Market Makers: N > 3 ex-ante identical
 - Idiosyncratic liquidity shock and random inventory costs
- \blacktriangleright MMs compete for the investor's order in a first-price, sealed-bid auction, bid s_i
 - Broker's routing: MMs see a signal of their own liquidity shock before bidding
 - Order-by-order: MMs observe their own liquidity shock before bidding

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Information frictions

- ► Asymmetric information ⇒ Winner's curse
- Incomplete information about own liquidity shock \Rightarrow Inefficient allocations

Liquidity and Inventory Costs

Idiosyncratic liquidity shocks

$$y_i \sim U\left[-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right]$$

Random inventory costs



c₁ = 0: Private value auction (no winner's curse)
c₂ = 0: Common value auction

Liquidity and Inventory Costs

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 Winner's curse is more severe when information asymmetry is larger (more precise signals)

Efficiency and Welfare

Allocative efficiency

- Broker's routing Inefficient allocation: MM with lowest inventory cost ex-post may not win
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- ► Two effects on bids in Order-by-Order
- 1. More precise information \Rightarrow More aggressive bids
- 2. Stronger winner's curse \Rightarrow Less aggressive bids "less competition"
- Can have Pareto improvements if
 - signals are precise enough in broker's routing or
 - aggregate liquidity matters a lot or
 - competition among market makers is high

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- 5. What makes a market more competitive? Bid level? Not clear BR is more competitive than BOB.