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Bank productivity growth and convergence in the European Union during the financial crisis

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**Highlights**

- Bank productivity growth and integration process for the 28 EU countries during the financial crisis.
- Innovative methodological framework based on the Malmquist Productivity Index extended by an additive two-stage DEA model.
- $\beta$ -convergence and  $\sigma$ -convergence of the two-stage Productivity Index.
- Loss of competitiveness of the European banking system due to the drop in growth of the performance stage and technical change.
- Strong convergence pattern during the financial crisis.

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