

The Modelling of Reinsurance Credit Risk

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R A Shaw
Guy Carpenter

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Topics

- Reinsurance Credit Risk
- The Loss Process
- Diversification and Correlation
- Rating Agency Studies
- Modelling Reinsurance Credit Risk Loss
- Numerical Examples
- Modelling Issues

Reinsurance Credit Risk

What is Reinsurance Credit Risk

- Definition:
 - "The risk of loss if another party fails to perform its obligations or fails to perform them in a timely manner."
 - Key counterparties include reinsurers, brokers, insureds, and reinsureds
- Examples of Risk Factors:
 - Reinsurance Failure (of individual reinsurers)
 - Credit Deterioration (of individual reinsurers)
 - Bad Debt provision inadequacy
 - Reinsurance Recovery exposure
 - Correlation in extreme loss scenarios
 - Credit Concentration
 - Duration of Recoveries
 - Willingness to Pay / Dispute Risk
 - Treatment of intra-group reinsurance
 - Non-reinsurance related credit risk

Reinsurance Credit Risk

Why it is important to Understand

- Regulatory Capital Requirements
 - ICA Capital – VaR (@99.5%) over 12-months
 - SCR (Solvency II) Capital – same risk measure and probability
- Economic Capital Modelling
 - As above but reflecting say assumptions for a desired credit rating
- Minimising the risk of insolvency
 - Related to the above
- Risk Management Best Practices
 - An understanding of risks and issues might translate into better practices
 - e.g. Regular aged debt analysis → highlight future potential issues with certain reinsurers ('Willingness to Pay')
- Capital Markets Solutions
 - Securitisation and risk transfer products
 - e.g. Aspen Re Credit Wrap and Merlin (Hannover Re) transactions (2007)

Reinsurance Credit Risk

Why it is important to Understand

- Reinsurance Purchasing decision making:
 - Can play a part in determining the optimal reinsurance structure
 - Modification in the NPV of the net loss and underwriting profit distributions
 - Impact greatest at the highest loss percentiles
 - More relevant for longer-tail lines:
 - Reserves take a few years to run-off (albeit declining exposure)
 - Not a big number in year 1 – highly rated companies
 - Yesterday's 'A' rated companies suffer downgrades over time
 - In addition at the extreme loss percentiles
 - Very Large Property Cat Loss → increase in reinsurance default rates
- Reinsurance Panel Evaluation:
 - Given a new reinsurance program how should it be placed
 - 100% with one reinsurer
 - Smaller shares with others (Rating ?)
 - Benefits of Diversification → Credit Risk
 - Similar considerations when making reinsurance purchasing decisions

Reinsurance Credit Risk

Managing Reinsurance Counterparty Risk

- Risk Management Practices of ways to manage the Risk :
 - Greater risk retention – i.e. reinsure less
 - Establishment of an established credit risk committee, which reviews the credit ratings of reinsurers, brokers and coverholders on a regular basis.
 - Focus on reinsurer's 'Willingness to Pay' and not just credit rating
 - The instigation of formal procedures for reinsurance purchasing
 - Having a formal policy and procedures for the evaluation, usage and monitoring of new and existing reinsurance security.
 - As above but the process to embrace new and existing brokers.
 - Regular review of concentrations within individual custodians, group companies, or geographic locations.
 - The monitoring and reporting of historical accumulated exposures
 - Regular aged debt analysis and reporting
 - Regular internal audit reviews of controls over third party credit risk
 - Downgrade clauses in reinsurance treaties.

Topics

- Reinsurance Credit Risk
- The Loss Process
- Diversification and Correlation
- Rating Agency Studies
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- Modelling Issues

The Loss Process

Expected Loss ("EL") and Unexpected Loss ("UL")

- Let Y_i be a binary variable for obligor i at time 1 year.
 - Y_i takes values - 1 (Default) or 0 (No Default) given non-default state at $t=0$.
- $EL_i = PD_i \times EAD_i \times LGD_i$
- $UL_i = [PD_i \times (1 - PD_i)]^{1/2} \times EAD_i \times LGD_i$ (EAD_i and LGD_i constant)
 - EAD = Exposure at Default
 - LGD = Loss Given Default (i.e. severity per unit of exposure)
 - PD = Probability of Default
- Otherwise:

$$UL_i = [PD_i^2 \times EAD_i^2 \times \sigma_{LGD_i}^2 + EAD_i^2 \times LGD_i^2 \times \sigma_{PD_i}^2 + LGD_i^2 \times PD_i^2 \times \sigma_{EAD_i}^2 + PD_i^2 \times \sigma_{EAD_i}^2 \times \sigma_{LGD_i}^2 + EAD_i^2 \times \sigma_{LGD_i}^2 \times \sigma_{PD_i}^2 + LGD_i^2 \times \sigma_{PD_i}^2 \times \sigma_{EAD_i}^2 + \sigma_{PD_i}^2 \times \sigma_{EAD_i}^2 \times \sigma_{LGD_i}^2]^{0.5}$$
 - This further assumes that PD_i , EAD_i and LGD_i are independent

The Loss Process

Expected Loss ("EL") and Unexpected Loss ("UL")

Obligor	PD	LGD	EAD	EL	UL
Obligor 1	2.0%	40%	2,000	16.0	131.7
Obligor 2	5.0%	60%	2,000	60.0	283.5
Portfolio	3.80%	50%	4,000	76.0	319.8

Asset Correlation	25%
Joint Default Prob	0.28%
Default Correlation	6.03%

Diversification Benefit as % of (UL ₁ + UL ₂)	95.5 23.0%
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PD = Probability of Default
LGD = Loss Given Default (%)
EAD = Exposure at Default
EL = Expected Loss
UL = Unexpected Loss

$$UL_i = EAD_i \times [LGD_i^2 \times PD_i \times (1 - PD_i) + PD_i \times LGD_i \times (1 - LGD_i) / 4]^{0.5}$$

$$UL_T = (UL_1^2 + UL_2^2 + 2 \times \rho_d \times UL_1 \times UL_2)^{0.5}$$

ρ_d = Default correlation between obligor 1 and obligor 2

$$\sigma_{PD_i}^2 = PD_i \times (1 - PD_i)$$

$$\sigma_{LGD_i}^2 \sim LGD_i \times (1 - LGD_i) / 4 \text{ (and assuming a Beta Distribution)}$$

EAD_i = constant

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The Loss Process

Probability of Default

- Actuarial Model
 - Based on historical default probabilities over time (e.g. rating agency studies)
 - Do not infer an underlying causal or default process
 - Default probabilities assigned to each rating class
- Merton Model ('Structural Model')
 - Based on the firm's capital structure and asset return volatility
 - Firm defaults when value of assets < value of liabilities at maturity
 - Equity is a call option on the asset of firm – Black-Scholes framework
- Conditioning on the State of the Economy
 - Default probabilities based on an econometric model
 - Conditional on the state of the economy
 - Similar to the actuarial model
- Market Prices of Traded Debt ('Reduced Form Models')
 - Default probabilities and Loss amount derived from traded debt
 - If constructed properly can be used to extract implied parameters from
 - Debt prices, Subordinated prices and Credit Derivative prices

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The Loss Process

Loss Severity

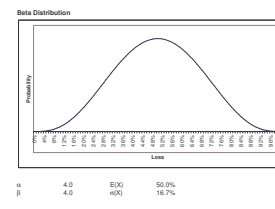
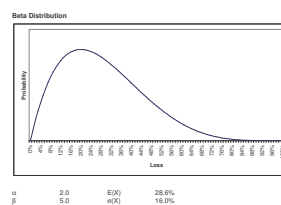
- Two ways of modelling loss severity
 - Recovery % amount is known with certainty
 - Recovery % amount is uncertain
- Recovery % amount is uncertain
 - Beta Distribution is often used to model Loss Severity

$$f(x) = \frac{x^{\alpha-1} (1-x)^{\beta-1}}{B(\alpha, \beta)} \quad \text{for } 0 < x < 1$$

$$0 \quad \text{for } x < 0 \text{ and } x > 1$$

$$\mu = \alpha / (\alpha + \beta)$$

$$\sigma^2 = (\alpha \times \beta) / [(\alpha + \beta)^2 \times (\alpha + \beta + 1)]$$



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The Loss Process

Credit Exposure

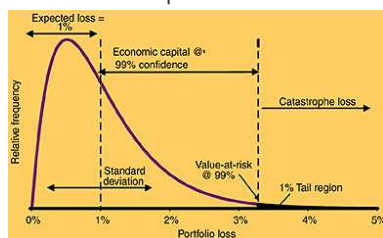
- Banking – financial assets e.g. fixed-income, equities, derivatives
 - Crucial assumptions for volatilities, dependencies and correlation
- Reinsurance Exposures are Stochastic
 - NPV of Reinsurance Recoveries – Amount (~ Gross) and Payment patterns
 - Interest rates – could be stochastic (NPV - Economic Value)
 - Prior year and Current year – different loss dynamics
- Reinsurance – Current Year Exposure
 - More accurate modelling of Stochastic Gross → Net process
 - Gross – Attritional and Large (Frequency / Severity)
 - Detailed knowledge of current reinsurance structures
 - Sampling error could be an issue
 - High minimum rating criteria (say 'A-' and above) – very low default rates
- Reinsurance – Prior Year Exposure
 - Mix of reinsurers different to Current year
 - Average credit rating likely to be lower (rating downgrades)
 - Gross to Net Process – less accuracy
 - Typical 'Actuarial' Reserving techniques (approx methods)
 - Typical Reserve Volatility techniques (e.g. Bootstrap)

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The Loss Process

Loss Paradigms and Economic Capital

- **Default Loss Paradigm**
 - A loss is only recognised on default
- **Mark-to-Market Loss Paradigm**
 - A loss (or gain) also occurs if there is a change in the credit quality
 - Values being determined by the discounting of cash flows using credit curve
- **Mark-to-Model Loss Paradigm**
 - A slight variation on the Mark-to-Market paradigm
 - None or limited secondary market – Value estimated by model
- **Economic Capital**



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The Loss Process

Credit Risk Modelling Challenges (vs Market Risk)

- **The lack of a liquid market**
 - Makes it difficult to price products
 - Time horizon tends to be longer than for market risk
 - Requirement for more refined simulation techniques (evolution of exposures)
- **“True” probabilities cannot be observed - need to be estimated**
 - Historical experience of credit ratings
 - Market Prices
 - Subjective assessment criteria
- **Default Correlation are difficult to measure (Risk Aggregation)**
 - Sparse data
- **Capital Adequacy calculations**
 - Tails of asymmetric fat-tailed distributions
- **Reinsurance Credit Risk Modelling**
 - As above but additional issues

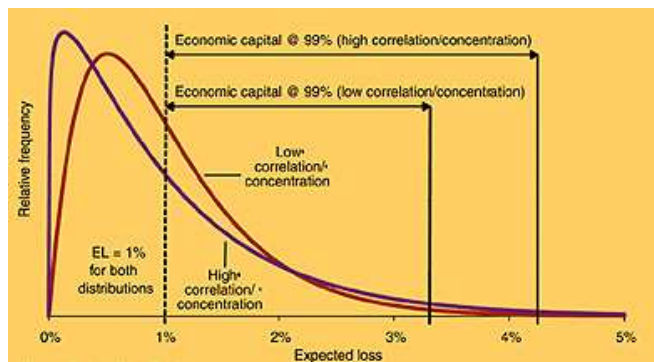
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Diversification and Correlation

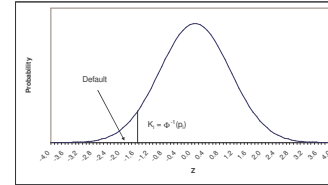
Asset Return vs Default Correlation



- Higher default correlation will significantly increase the probability of abnormally large losses due to multiple “bad” credit events
- Correlations mostly influenced by macroeconomic factors - state of the economy.

Diversification and Correlation

Asset Return and Default Correlation relationship



$$Y_i = 1 \Leftrightarrow X_i \leq D_i \Leftrightarrow AR_i \leq K_i$$

Where:

X_i = Value of the Assets for obligor i at the end of time t .

D_i = Value of the Asset Threshold (or cut-off level) for obligor i at the end of time t .

AR_i = Asset Return for obligor i over time t .

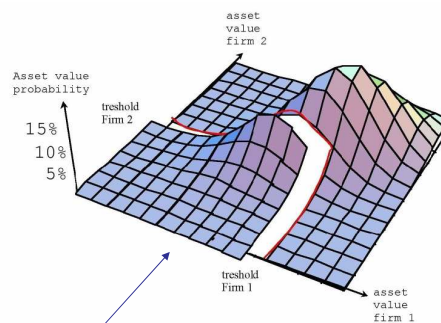
K_i = Asset Return threshold for obligor i over time t

$$\text{Number of defaults within a portfolio of } M \text{ obligors} = \sum_{i=1}^M Y_i$$

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Diversification and Correlation

Asset Return and Default Correlation relationship



Assume that the joint asset return distribution is bi-variate normal

- Joint Default Probability = Probability that value of their assets jointly falls below their respective thresholds at the same time
 - Bottom left corner of the bi-variate normal distribution

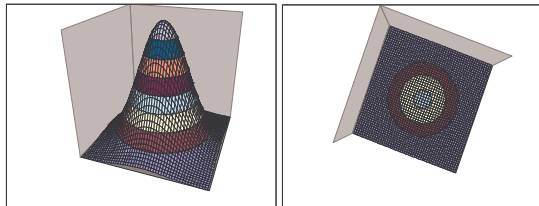
$$PD_{12} = \int_{-\infty}^{K_1} \int_{-\infty}^{K_2} (1/(2\pi(1-\rho_A^2)^{0.5}) \exp(-(x_1^2 + x_2^2 - 2x_1x_2\rho_A)/(2(1-\rho_A^2)))) dx_1 dx_2$$

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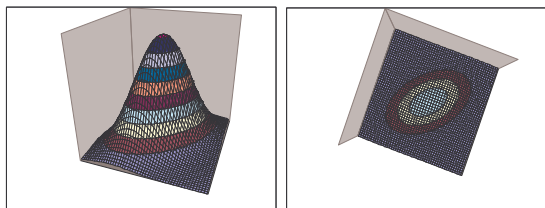
Diversification and Correlation

Asset Return and Default Correlation relationship

Joint Default Probability Distribution for $\rho_A = 0\%$



Joint Default Probability Distribution for $\rho_A = 50\%$



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Diversification and Correlation

Asset Return and Default Correlation relationship

$$\rho_d = (PD_{12} - PD_1 \times PD_2) / (PD_1 \times (1 - PD_1) \times PD_2 \times (1 - PD_2))^{0.5}$$

Where:

$$PD_1 = P(Y_1 = 1) = P(X_1 \leq D_1) \text{ and}$$

$$PD_{12} = P(Y_1 = 1, Y_2 = 1) = P(X_1 \leq D_1, X_2 \leq D_2)$$

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Diversification and Correlation

Asset Return and Default Correlation relationship

PD ₁ and PD ₂	Asset Corr	Joint Def Prob	Default Corr
0.2%	10.0%	0.00%	0.31%
0.2%	30.0%	0.00%	2.05%
0.2%	50.0%	0.01%	6.93%
0.2%	70.0%	0.04%	18.61%
1.0%	10.0%	0.02%	0.95%
1.0%	30.0%	0.06%	4.64%
1.0%	50.0%	0.13%	12.12%
1.0%	70.0%	0.27%	26.06%
10.0%	10.0%	1.32%	3.54%
10.0%	30.0%	2.14%	12.67%
10.0%	50.0%	3.21%	24.58%
10.0%	70.0%	4.64%	40.47%

- Implied default correlation is much lower than the asset correlation
 - Values - VBA routine for the numerical approximation to the integral

Diversification and Correlation

One-Factor Modelling alternative

$$AR_i = [R^2_i]^{0.5} \times X + [1 - R^2_i]^{0.5} \times \epsilon_i$$

Where:

ϵ_i = Obligor Specific (Non-Systematic) component

X = State of the Economy

R^2_i = Obligor asset return correlation with the Economy

$$\rho_A = \text{Corr}(AR_1, AR_2) = [R^2_1]^{0.5} \times [R^2_2]^{0.5}$$

Example:

$$R^2_1 = 50\% \text{ and } R^2_2 = 25\% \text{ then } \rho_A = 35.4\%$$

- Values of R^2 can vary from 15% or so for (SME) up to 60% for large multinationals
- Can also consider multi-factor models – country, industry indices etc.
- Large Portfolio - Obligor-specific part can be diversified away

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Rating Agency Studies Cumulative Probability of Default

Cumulative Average Default Rates By Rating (1981-2006) (%)										
Rating	Time Horizon (Years)									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
AAA	0.00%	0.00%	0.09%	0.19%	0.29%	0.43%	0.50%	0.62%	0.66%	0.70%
AA+	0.00%	0.07%	0.07%	0.14%	0.21%	0.29%	0.37%	0.37%	0.37%	0.37%
AA	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.09%	0.21%	0.29%	0.39%	0.53%	0.65%	0.78%
AA-	0.02%	0.09%	0.21%	0.34%	0.48%	0.65%	0.81%	0.95%	1.07%	1.20%
A+	0.05%	0.10%	0.26%	0.47%	0.63%	0.80%	1.02%	1.18%	1.38%	1.57%
A	0.07%	0.19%	0.32%	0.44%	0.63%	0.85%	1.06%	1.29%	1.52%	1.85%
A-	0.06%	0.22%	0.35%	0.53%	0.79%	1.11%	1.57%	1.87%	2.14%	2.33%
BBB+	0.16%	0.50%	1.00%	1.43%	1.92%	2.46%	2.86%	3.23%	3.74%	4.14%
BBB	0.25%	0.59%	0.93%	1.52%	2.14%	2.72%	3.25%	3.84%	4.34%	4.90%
BBB-	0.33%	1.11%	1.94%	3.04%	4.07%	5.04%	5.77%	6.47%	7.00%	7.67%
BB+	0.57%	1.54%	3.12%	4.62%	5.94%	7.36%	8.65%	9.25%	10.32%	11.18%
BB	0.86%	2.67%	4.92%	6.99%	9.02%	10.92%	12.36%	13.73%	14.81%	15.70%
BB-	1.54%	4.47%	7.62%	10.72%	13.39%	15.86%	17.76%	19.68%	21.34%	22.57%
B+	2.70%	7.46%	12.04%	15.91%	18.75%	20.87%	22.86%	24.53%	25.95%	27.41%
B	7.10%	14.23%	19.47%	23.21%	25.77%	28.03%	29.45%	30.56%	31.48%	32.48%
B-	10.11%	18.61%	24.89%	29.10%	32.20%	34.48%	36.44%	37.67%	38.44%	38.94%
CCC/C	26.29%	34.73%	39.96%	43.19%	46.22%	47.49%	48.61%	49.23%	50.95%	51.83%

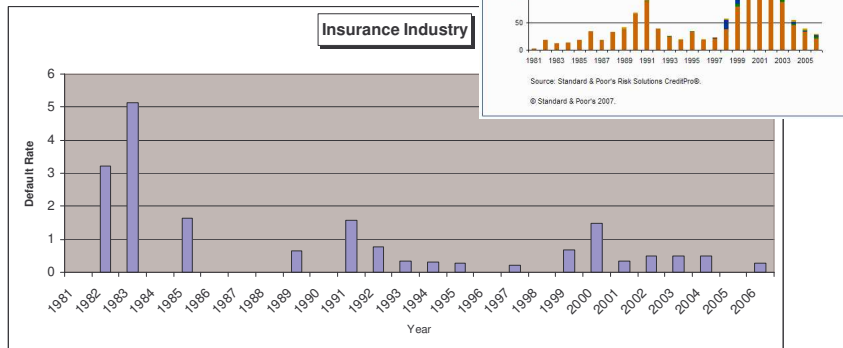
Sources: Standard & Poor's Global Fixed Income Research & Standard & Poor's CreditPro

- There are some inconsistencies by rating within term
 - Top-left: Higher rating, shorter time horizon
 - There are also some zero entries
 - Function of the methodology - Static Pool Methodology
- Default Rates need to be smoothed (See later)
- Corporate Debt – Adaptability for reinsurance default process ?

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Rating Agency Studies Annual Corporate Default Rates

- Default Rates are very cyclical
- There is no obvious relationship between the pattern of Insurance industry defaults and those of other industry groupings.



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Rating Agency Studies Transition Matrices

Global Average Transition Rates (1981-2006) (%) - 1 Year									
From/To	AAA	AA	A	BBB	BB	B	CCC/C	D	NR
AAA	88.34	7.84	0.47	0.09	0.09	-	-	-	3.17
AA	0.59	87.31	7.54	0.57	0.06	0.10	0.02	0.01	3.79
A	0.05	2.00	87.39	5.47	0.40	0.15	0.02	0.06	4.46
BBB	0.01	0.15	3.98	84.17	4.14	0.73	0.16	0.24	6.42
BB	0.03	0.06	0.22	5.18	75.71	7.20	0.84	1.07	9.69
B	-	0.05	0.18	0.30	5.78	72.77	4.10	4.99	11.83
CCC/C	-	-	0.26	0.39	1.10	11.15	47.49	26.29	13.34

Global Average Transition Rates (1981-2006) (%) - 3 Years									
From/To	AAA	AA	A	BBB	BB	B	CCC/C	D	NR
AAA	68.39	18.98	2.55	0.40	0.12	0.03	0.03	0.09	9.41
AA	1.41	66.46	18.06	2.38	0.41	0.25	0.02	0.10	10.92
A	0.10	4.57	67.34	12.21	1.52	0.62	0.11	0.32	13.21
BBB	0.04	0.47	9.09	60.55	8.06	2.33	0.43	1.32	17.72
BB	0.05	0.10	0.81	11.33	43.82	11.87	1.54	5.92	24.57
B	0.01	0.07	0.45	1.30	11.01	37.08	4.34	17.04	28.71
CCC/C	-	-	0.30	1.06	2.43	14.25	13.57	42.61	25.78

- Largest values are along the diagonal
 - Values fall off very quickly moving off the diagonal
- Investment Grade companies tend to exhibit lower ratings volatility
- Transition matrices are based on historical rating changes
 - There is volatility in transition rates from year to year – macroeconomic etc.

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Rating Agency Studies

Transition Matrices – Conditional vs Unconditional

Comparison Of Conditional Versus Unconditional Transition Matrices—One Year (1981-2006) (%)																			
From / To	AAA	AA+	AA	AA-	A+	A	A-	BBB+	BBB	BBB-	BB+	BB	BB-	B+	B	B-	CCC/C	D	
AAA	0.30	0.91	1.58	1.15	2.59	0.94	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	0.00	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	
AA	0.00	0.36	0.94	1.34	2.31	1.49	4.34	0.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	N.A.	N.A.	0.00	0.00	N.A.	
AA-	0.00	1.30	0.51	0.89	1.63	2.25	1.30	0.75	1.30	0.00	0.00	N.A.	N.A.	0.00	5.22	0.00	N.A.	0.00	
A+	N.A.	0.00	0.29	0.37	0.92	1.59	1.74	3.04	1.52	4.45	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.23	0.00	0.00	N.A.	3.71	
A	0.00	0.00	0.80	1.34	0.56	0.92	1.84	2.18	0.87	2.15	2.41	0.80	1.21	1.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.01	
A-	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.61	0.37	0.68	0.93	1.38	1.94	2.15	1.43	2.64	5.36	0.00	4.29	0.00	0.00	2.15	
BBB+	N.A.	0.00	0.00	1.25	2.63	0.30	0.38	0.91	1.61	2.61	3.39	3.25	1.25	0.36	1.36	0.00	1.25	1.50	
BBB	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.89	0.95	0.32	0.95	2.09	1.57	2.44	3.33	1.17	0.67	0.00	5.59	4.14	
BBB-	0.00	N.A.	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.17	1.41	0.63	0.45	0.89	2.12	2.59	2.03	2.33	2.35	0.73	1.85	1.55	
BB+	1.75	7.02	N.A.	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.81	0.00	0.44	0.48	0.99	1.59	1.72	1.87	1.53	4.21	1.65	3.90	
BB	N.A.	N.A.	3.12	N.A.	N.A.	0.00	2.34	1.04	1.20	0.17	0.51	0.93	1.49	1.22	3.74	4.21	2.27	3.21	
BB-	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	22.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.23	2.60	0.82	0.74	0.91	0.84	1.53	2.20	1.67	2.82	3.01	
B+	N.A.	0.00	N.A.	0.00	N.A.	2.77	1.39	2.22	4.44	0.00	0.85	0.74	0.60	0.91	1.57	1.79	2.06	1.91	
B	N.A.	N.A.	0.00	5.26	N.A.	1.32	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.32	0.29	0.50	0.46	0.90	1.67	2.05	1.92		
B-	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	0.00	2.01	N.A.	1.34	2.01	0.00	0.00	3.22	0.31	0.67	0.68	0.81	1.76	2.25	
CCC/C	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	2.24	N.A.	2.24	0.00	1.12	0.00	2.24	2.24	0.93	0.71	0.78	0.56	0.79	1.59	

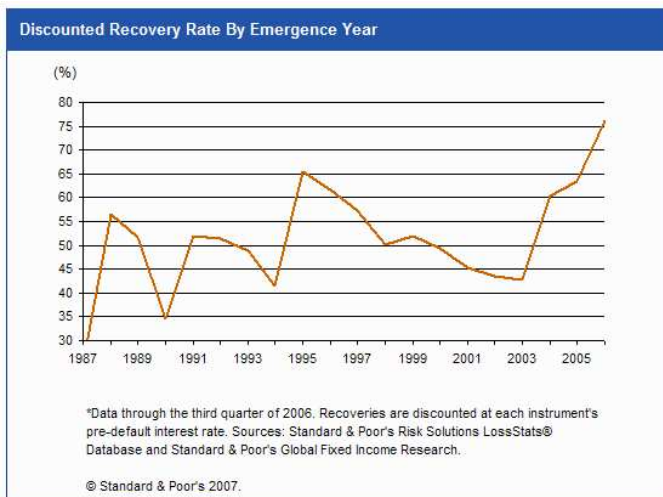
Conditional transition matrix generated using entities that experienced downgrade in prior year. N.A.—Not available. Sources: Standard & Poor's Global Fixed Income Research and Standard & Poor's CreditPro®.

- Conditional – Experienced a ratings downgrade in prior period
 - Value = 1.0: Transitions conditioned on prior downgrade are no different
 - Value > 1.0: Future ratings depends on Current AND Prior ratings

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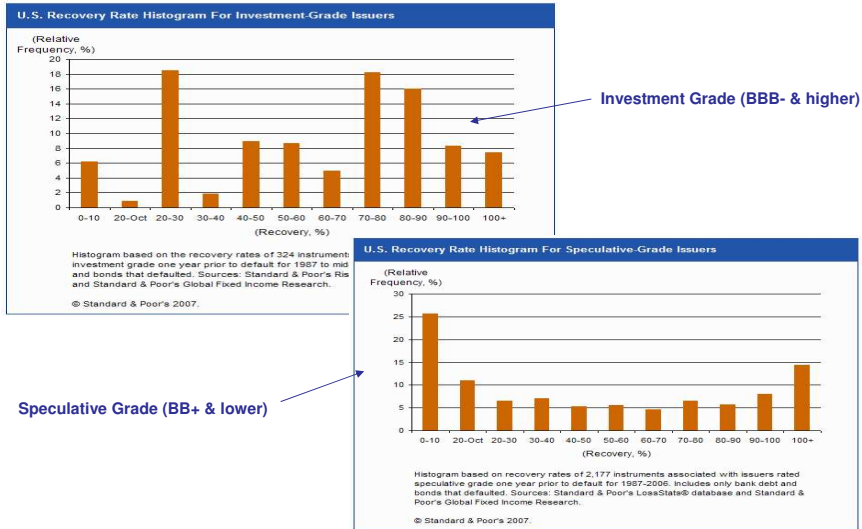
Rating Agency Studies

Recovery Rates



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Rating Agency Studies Recovery Rates



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Rating Agency Studies Recovery Rates

Ultimate Recovery Rates			
Original Rating	Recovery	Standard Deviation	Observations
Bank Debt	77.5	30.9	1,204
Senior Secured Bonds	62.0	33.3	301
Senior Unsecured Bonds	42.6	34.8	769
Senior Subordinated Bonds	30.3	33.3	469
Subordinated Bonds	29.2	34.2	394
Junior Subordinated Bonds	19.1	30.6	49

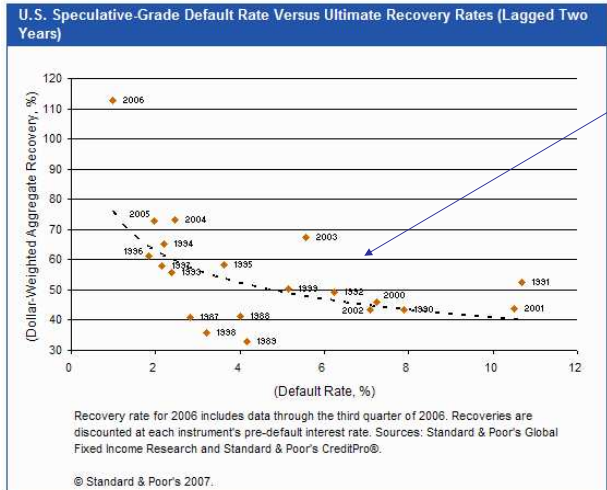
Standard & Poor's Global Fixed Income Research & Standard & Poor's CreditPro

- Recovery rates are conditional on the level of debt seniority
- Higher security → greater expected recovery
- Standard deviation High
 - Measurement does not 'neutralise' impact of economic cycle

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Rating Agency Studies

Default Rate vs Recovery Rate



Inverse relationship between Probability of Default and Recovery Rate

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Rating Agency Studies

Impairment Rates – A.M. Best Studies

- A.M. Best rated U.S. domiciled insurance companies
- General Corporate Bond Default Rates are inappropriate for insurance:
 - Unique regulatory and accounting environments
 - Relatively few insurers issue public debt
- Impairment is a wider category of financial duress than default
 - Impairment often occurs when insurer able to meet policyholder obligations
 - Regulators sufficiently concerned about future solvency to intervene
 - → Impairment rates > Default rates for a given rating
- Definition of Impairment
 - Financially Impaired Company ("FIC") - First official regulatory action taken
 - Ability to conduct normal insurance operations is adversely affected
 - Capital and Surplus inadequate to meet legal requirements
 - General financial condition has triggered regulatory concern
 - State Actions include:
 - Regulatory Supervision, Rehabilitation, Liquidation, Receivership etc.
 - and any other action that restricts a company's freedom to conduct its insurance business as normal

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Topics

- Reinsurance Credit Risk
- The Loss Process
- Diversification and Correlation
- Rating Agency Studies
- Modelling Reinsurance Credit Risk Loss
- Numerical Examples
- Modelling Issues

Modelling Reinsurance Credit Risk Loss

Assumptions – For the numerical examples

- Loss Process
 - Loss only due to default
- Time Horizon – 12-months
 - Modelling of losses arising in a 12-month calendar year period
 - Same principles for 12-month intervals multi-year modelling (rating migration)
- Monte Carlo Simulation
 - Not an analytical solution (as per Solvency II, Vasicek)
- Probability of Default
 - Rating Agency ("S&P") default rates
 - Two durations:
 - 12-months (per Solvency II and multi-year modelling using 12-month intervals)
 - Mean-term of liabilities (as per some ICA submissions)
 - 'Stressed' Default rates – Adjustments to base rates :
 - Allowance for Impairment / Dispute / Willingness to Pay risk
 - Non-linear loadings - Allowance for 'critical' ratings, say 'A-' below which premium volumes and earnings fall → momentum leading to further downgrades
 - Allowance for position in economic / insurance cycle
 - *However for modelling purposes have assumed zero loadings*

Modelling Reinsurance Credit Risk Loss

Assumptions – For the numerical examples

- Loss Given Default
 - Not easy to determine – see sample from Final Dividend % (London Market)
 - Use of E(LGD) values (by Rating) in “GDV Solvency II paper (Dec 05)”
 - Assumed to be variable with a Beta Distribution (Standard Deviation 15%)

Examples of Paid Recoveries - Finalised Settlements

Name	Final Dividend
Andrew Weir	49.7%
Anglo American	100% +
BNIB	100.0%
Fremont (UK)	38.3%
Hawk	23.0%
ICS Re	88.8%
Pine Top	24.9%
RMCA Re	93.0%
Scan Re	80.5%
Stockholm Re	36.4%
NEMGIA	37.6%

Source:
Bulmer R. et al; Reinsurance Bad Debt Provisions for GI companies Party -
Supplementary Advisory Note of Oct 2005 (Appendix 3); GIRO WP, (Jan 2000)

- Probability of Default and Loss Given Default – Independent
- Reinsurer Asset Returns are Multi-variate Normal

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Modelling Reinsurance Credit Risk Loss

Data Inputs – Information at individual Reinsurer level

No. of Reinsurers	16
Recoveries	10,000,000
Expected Loss	158,027

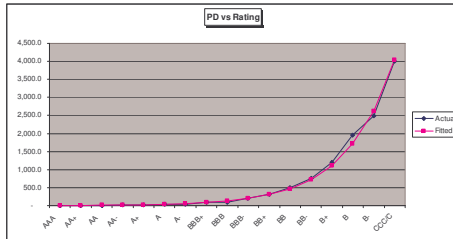
INPUT DATA			Years	Prior	Severity		Variable	Yes
Reinsurer	Recoveries	Rating		PD	E(Loss)	SD(Loss)	Alpha (α)	Beta (β)
Reinsurer A	100,000	A-		0.530%	55.0%	15.0%	5.50	4.50
Reinsurer B	200,000	BBB		1.520%	58.0%	15.0%	5.70	4.13
Reinsurer C	300,000	BB		6.990%	60.0%	15.0%	5.80	3.87
Reinsurer D	400,000	A-		0.530%	55.0%	15.0%	5.50	4.50
Reinsurer E	200,000	A-		0.530%	55.0%	15.0%	5.50	4.50
Reinsurer F	400,000	BBB		1.520%	58.0%	15.0%	5.70	4.13
Reinsurer G	600,000	BB		6.990%	60.0%	15.0%	5.80	3.87
Reinsurer H	800,000	A-		0.530%	55.0%	15.0%	5.50	4.50
Reinsurer I	300,000	A-		0.530%	55.0%	15.0%	5.50	4.50
Reinsurer J	600,000	BBB		1.520%	58.0%	15.0%	5.70	4.13
Reinsurer K	900,000	BB		6.990%	60.0%	15.0%	5.80	3.87
Reinsurer L	1,200,000	A-		0.530%	55.0%	15.0%	5.50	4.50
Reinsurer M	400,000	A-		0.530%	55.0%	15.0%	5.50	4.50
Reinsurer N	800,000	BBB		1.520%	58.0%	15.0%	5.70	4.13
Reinsurer O	1,200,000	BB		6.990%	60.0%	15.0%	5.80	3.87
Reinsurer P	1,600,000	A-		0.530%	55.0%	15.0%	5.50	4.50

- Exposure (assumed to be Constant) – Separate for Prior and Current Year
- Credit Rating
 - Probability of Default (duration)
 - Loss Given Default
 - Variable (No) – LGD Fixed %
 - Variable (Yes) – LGD Beta Distribution(α, β)

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Modelling Reinsurance Credit Risk Loss

Data Inputs – Default Probabilities (after Smoothing)



- Curve $y = \exp(a + b.RC)$ – Rating given values from 1 to 17. (Similar to Solvency II calibration)
- Curve Fitting only for shorter durations. Often omitting highest ratings → use implied 'smoothed' values.
- Adjusted R ~ 98%. t-distribution statistics OK. Standardised Residuals ?

Term	3	Curve y = exp(a+b.RC)					SUMMARY OUTPUT								
Rating	RC	Actual	Fitted	Log-Actual	Log-Fitted	Weights	Regression Statistics								
AAA	1	9.0	4.1	2.1972	1.4186	0	R Square	98.812%							
AA+	2	7.0	6.4	1.9459	1.8489	0	Adjusted R Sq	98.713%							
AA	3	0.1	9.8	-2.3026	2.2791	0	SE	20.640%							
AA-	4	21.0	15.0	3.0445	2.7094	1	Observations	14							
A+	5	26.0	23.1	3.2581	3.1397	1	ANOVA								
A	6	32.0	35.5	3.4657	3.5700	1		df	SS	MS	F	Significance F			
A-	7	35.0	54.6	3.5553	4.0002	1	Regression	1	42.1188	42.1188	998.3019	6.36671E-13			
BBB+	8	100.0	84.0	4.6052	4.4305	1	Residual	12	0.5963	0.0492					
BBB	9	93.0	129.1	4.5326	4.8608	1	Total	13	42.6251						
BBB-	10	194.0	198.6	5.2679	5.2911	1	Coefficients					t Stat	P-value	2.5%	97.5%
BB+	11	312.0	305.3	5.7430	5.7213	1	Intercept	0.9883	15.317%	6.4525	3.1405E-05	0.6544	1.3220		
BB	12	492.0	469.5	6.1985	6.1516	1	X Variable 1	0.4303	1.362%	31.5959	6.36671E-13	0.4006	0.4599		
BB-	13	782.0	721.9	6.6359	6.5819	1									
B+	14	1,204.0	1,110.1	7.0934	7.0122	1									
B	15	1,947.0	1,706.9	7.5740	7.4424	1									
B-	16	2,489.0	2,624.7	7.8196	7.8727	1									
CCC/C	17	3,996.0	4,036.0	8.2930	8.3030	1									
Units	10,000														

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Modelling Reinsurance Credit Risk Loss

Correlation – Cholesky Matrix decomposition

CORRELATION MATRIX

	No.	1	2	3	4	5	6
Reinsurer A	1	1.00	0.50	0.50	0.25	0.25	0.25
Reinsurer B	2		1.00	0.50	0.25	0.25	0.25
Reinsurer C	3			1.00	0.25	0.25	0.25
Reinsurer D	4				1.00	0.25	0.25
Reinsurer E	5					1.00	0.25
Reinsurer F	6						1.00

The pair-wise correlations between 1,2 and 3 are higher (50%) than the others (25%)

CHOLESKY MATRIX

No.	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	0.50	0.87	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	0.50	0.29	0.82	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	0.25	0.14	0.10	0.95	0.00	0.00
5	0.25	0.14	0.10	0.16	0.94	0.00
6	0.25	0.14	0.10	0.16	0.14	0.93

Cholesky Matrix is used to generate 'correlated' standard normals from 'independent' standard normals

Original Matrix needs to be 'Positive Definite' – not all matrices work

TRANSPOSE CHOLESKY MATRIX

No.	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1.00	0.50	0.50	0.25	0.25	0.25
2	0.00	0.87	0.29	0.14	0.14	0.14
3	0.00	0.00	0.82	0.10	0.10	0.10
4	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.95	0.16	0.16
5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.94	0.14
6	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.93

Product of the Cholesky Matrix and its Transpose equals the Original Matrix

ORIGINAL MATRIX - CHECK

No.	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	1.00	0.50	0.50	0.25	0.25	0.25
2	0.50	1.00	0.50	0.25	0.25	0.25
3	0.50	0.50	1.00	0.25	0.25	0.25
4	0.25	0.25	0.25	1.00	0.25	0.25
5	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	1.00	0.25
6	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	1.00

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Modelling Reinsurance Credit Risk Loss

Multi-year Modelling considerations

- Default Probabilities vary over time – ‘Probability Drift’
 - Good credit rating → higher probability of downgrade than upgrade
 - Over time higher rated companies have larger probability of transitioning to lower ratings than is the case over 12-months only.
 - Mean reversion in credit ratings

Global Average Transition Rates (1981-2006) (%) - 1 Year									
From/To	AAA	AA	A	BBB	BB	B	CCC/C	D	NR
AAA	88.34	7.84	0.47	0.09	0.09	-	-	-	3.17
AA	0.59	87.31	7.54	0.57	0.06	0.10	0.02	0.01	3.79
A	0.05	2.00	87.39	5.47	0.40	0.15	0.02	0.06	4.46
BBB	0.01	0.15	3.98	84.17	4.14	0.73	0.16	0.24	6.42
BB	0.03	0.06	0.22	5.18	75.71	7.20	0.84	1.07	9.69
B	-	0.05	0.18	0.30	5.78	72.77	4.10	4.99	11.83
CCC/C	-	-	0.26	0.39	1.10	11.15	47.49	26.29	13.34

Global Average Transition Rates (1981-2006) (%) - 3 Years									
From/To	AAA	AA	A	BBB	BB	B	CCC/C	D	NR
AAA	68.39	18.98	2.55	0.40	0.12	0.03	0.03	0.09	9.41
AA	1.41	66.46	18.06	2.38	0.41	0.25	0.02	0.10	10.92
A	0.10	4.57	67.34	12.21	1.52	0.62	0.11	0.32	13.21
BBB	0.04	0.47	9.09	60.55	8.06	2.33	0.43	1.32	17.72
BB	0.05	0.10	0.81	11.33	43.82	11.87	1.54	5.92	24.57
B	0.01	0.07	0.45	1.30	11.01	37.08	4.34	17.04	28.71
CCC/C	-	-	0.30	1.06	2.43	14.25	13.57	42.61	25.78

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Modelling Reinsurance Credit Risk Loss

Multi-year Modelling considerations

- Stochastic exposures becomes more important
 - Variance of the underlying variables increase over time
- Ratings Momentum exist
 - Markov Process for transition rates – a convenient modelling approach
 - i.e. conditional probability distribution of future states depends only on the current state and not prior states.
 - Often used for multi-year modelling of future states - $M_T = (M_1)^T$
 - Where M_T = T-year transition matrix
 - Empirical evidence suggests otherwise
- Correlated Credit migration
 - Can use Asset Return correlation framework to determine future ratings of a company
 - i.e. the rating changes of any two reinsurers are more likely to move together either upwards or downwards - rather than being independent processes
 - A convenient mathematical representation of economic or insurance cycle impacts on reinsurers
 - Consistent with the loss default process (assuming asset correlation)

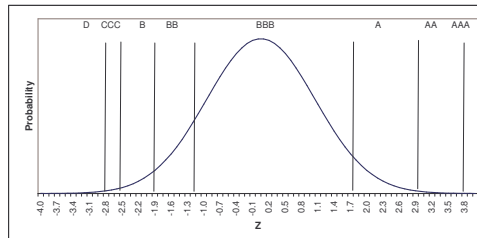
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Modelling Reinsurance Credit Risk Loss

Multi-year Modelling considerations

- Correlated Credit migration

Credit Migration Thresholds



Current	BBB							
t=1	D	CCC	B	BB	BBB	A	AA	AAA
Z	-2.82	-2.51	-2.00	-1.19	1.73	2.95	3.72	+ Infinity
$\Phi(\cdot)$	0.24%	0.60%	2.27%	11.69%	95.86%	99.84%	99.99%	100.00%

		Adjusted Transition Matrix (re-spreading of NR)							
		1 Year							
From To		AAA	AA	A	BBB	BB	B	CCC/C	D
AAA		88.34%	7.84%	2.76%	0.53%	0.53%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
AA		0.59%	87.31%	11.00%	0.83%	0.09%	0.15%	0.03%	0.01%
A		0.05%	2.00%	87.39%	9.51%	0.70%	0.26%	0.03%	0.06%
BBB		0.01%	0.15%	3.96%	84.17%	9.42%	1.66%	0.36%	0.24%
BB		0.03%	0.06%	0.22%	5.18%	75.71%	15.88%	1.85%	1.07%
B		0.00%	0.05%	0.18%	0.30%	5.78%	72.77%	15.93%	4.99%
CCC/C		0.00%	0.00%	0.26%	0.39%	1.10%	13.68%	58.28%	26.29%

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Topics

- Reinsurance Credit Risk
- The Loss Process
- Diversification and Correlation
- Rating Agency Studies
- Modelling Reinsurance Credit Risk Loss
- Numerical Examples
- Modelling Issues

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Numerical Examples

Some Results – 16 Reinsurers as previously described

OUTPUTS

Exposure	10,000,000	10,000,000	10,000,000	10,000,000	10,000,000	10,000,000
No. Reinsurers	16	16	16	16	16	16
Average Rating	As Given	As Given	As Given	As Given	As Given	As Given
Correlation	0%	25%	50%	0%	25%	50%
Mean Term	4	4	4	1	1	1
No. Simulations	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Stress Load	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	CreditLoss	CreditLoss	CreditLoss	CreditLoss	CreditLoss	CreditLoss
EC(VaR 99.5%)	1,218,583	1,675,993	2,329,250	742,709	839,581	963,792
as % Exposure	12.2%	16.8%	23.3%	7.4%	8.4%	9.6%
EC(TVaR 99.5%)	1,395,832	2,045,597	3,130,242	910,275	1,093,465	1,453,602
as % Exposure	14.0%	20.5%	31.3%	9.1%	10.9%	14.5%
Minimum	0	0	0	0	0	0
Maximum	2,255,585	3,152,566	4,798,956	1,706,195	1,912,611	3,578,554
Expected	157,230	156,978	156,381	21,107	22,135	23,110
Std Dev	287,674	340,268	422,968	107,820	119,783	143,783
10.0 %ile	0	0	0	0	0	0
20.0 %ile	0	0	0	0	0	0
30.0 %ile	0	0	0	0	0	0
40.0 %ile	0	0	0	0	0	0
50.0 %ile	0	0	0	0	0	0
60.0 %ile	0	0	0	0	0	0
70.0 %ile	134,494	0	0	0	0	0
80.0 %ile	338,950	252,720	124,527	0	0	0
90.0 %ile	604,829	640,051	608,555	0	0	0
95.0 %ile	786,723	886,391	990,414	51,578	0	0
99.0 %ile	1,192,029	1,530,445	2,036,799	637,558	676,659	728,219
99.5 %ile	1,375,812	1,832,972	2,485,631	763,816	861,717	986,902
99.9 %ile	1,644,649	2,494,736	3,968,448	994,438	1,281,578	1,737,091
100.0 %ile	2,255,585	3,152,566	4,798,956	1,706,195	1,912,611	3,578,554

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Numerical Examples

Some Results – 16 Reinsurers 'A' rated – 1 year and 4 years

OUTPUTS

Exposure	10,000,000	10,000,000	10,000,000	10,000,000	10,000,000	10,000,000
No. Reinsurers	16	16	16	16	16	16
Average Rating	A	A	A	A	A	A
Correlation	0%	25%	50%	0%	25%	50%
Mean Term	4	4	4	1	1	1
No. Simulations	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000
Stress Load	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
	CreditLoss	CreditLoss	CreditLoss	CreditLoss	CreditLoss	CreditLoss
EC(VaR 99.5%)	766,342	858,361	1,091,418	189,134	191,624	122,406
as % Exposure	7.7%	8.6%	10.9%	1.9%	1.9%	1.2%
EC(TVaR 99.5%)	955,221	1,143,465	1,596,704	442,287	478,171	435,931
as % Exposure	9.6%	11.4%	16.0%	4.4%	4.8%	4.4%
Minimum	0	0	0	0	0	0
Maximum	1,338,558	1,976,112	3,021,969	1,180,514	1,016,423	1,281,835
Expected	22,977	24,764	24,881	2,490	2,617	2,273
Std Dev	109,581	125,224	153,297	35,241	38,463	36,404
10.0 %ile	0	0	0	0	0	0
20.0 %ile	0	0	0	0	0	0
30.0 %ile	0	0	0	0	0	0
40.0 %ile	0	0	0	0	0	0
50.0 %ile	0	0	0	0	0	0
60.0 %ile	0	0	0	0	0	0
70.0 %ile	0	0	0	0	0	0
80.0 %ile	0	0	0	0	0	0
90.0 %ile	0	0	0	0	0	0
95.0 %ile	142,524	128,863	0	0	0	0
99.0 %ile	627,190	700,237	799,973	0	0	0
99.5 %ile	789,319	883,125	1,116,299	191,624	194,242	124,679
99.9 %ile	1,113,006	1,340,567	2,002,843	560,834	663,513	637,175
100.0 %ile	1,338,558	1,976,112	3,021,969	1,180,514	1,016,423	1,281,835

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Modelling Issues Issues (and Solutions)

- Assumptions for:
 - Probability of Default (setting “Stressed levels”)
 - Loss Given Default
 - Asset (or Default Correlation)
 - Dependencies
 - Amongst the above e.g. PD and LGD; or Value of Asset Return and LGD
 - Other variables – insurance loss and default rate
- Monte Carlo Sampling error:
 - Problem for highly rated portfolios and for high loss percentiles (~Capital)
 - e.g. probability of default = 0.05% → average one default per 2,000 simulations
 - Especially for very lumpy exposures
 - Error term decreases as $N^{-0.5}$ (N – No. of simulations)
 - Need to either:
 - Run a very large number of simulations
 - Use Monte Carlo acceleration methods (i.e. ‘variance reduction techniques’)
 - Methods:
 - Stratified Sampling, Low-Discrepancy sequences, Control Variates etc.

Modelling Issues Issues (and Solutions)

- Multi-variate Normal distribution:
 - May be reasonable for non-financial corporate sector
 - Could be issue for the insurance sector:
 - Correlation between lines of business
 - Interdependence within the industry - reinsurance
 - Shared exposures to aggregate industry losses (Large Cats, Systemic issues)
 - Multi-variate t-distribution → 'Fatter' Tails (perhaps more realistic)
- VaR as a Risk Measure
 - An issue – linked to the Monte-Carlo sampling error
 - Especially lumpy exposures
 - TVaR a better risk measure