



Risk Caused by Catastrophic Downturns of the National Economy

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1. Finnish experience in 1990's:

- The losses of surety (guaranty) insurance
- 2. Economic business cycle
- 3. Model for credit loss cycle
- 4. Simulations and conclusions

1. Finnish experience in 1990's



Surety Insurance of the Statutory Pension System:

- Losses between 1981-2001
- Dark part : final losses
- Provoked by recession:
 - BNP drop 1991-1993 12 per cent



- Average claim size (total/final):
 - Standard deviation has similar pattern
- Claim size distribution changed during recession
- Losses may reach catastrophic dimensions for several years (time dependence)
 Standard models do not fit well!

2. Economic Business Cycle

- Two-state Markov model for business cycle (Hamilton 1989).
 State bc(t):
 - bc(t) = 1, expansion at time t = 2, recession at time t
- Transition probabilities:

 $p(ij) = Prob\{bc(t) = i | bc(t-1) = j \}$

3. Model for credit loss cycle



- Target: Simple and parsimonious model
- A state for deep depression added
 - => Catastrophic depression may occur
- Constrain: Expansions = Hamilton
 - Only one additional parameter b (p)

4. Simulations and Conclusions

• How to find **p** (b)? **p** = Prob{ recession => deep depression} 1) Define suitable limiting distribution $\mathbf{vP} = \mathbf{v}$ (**P** transition matrix) 2) Then pick corresponding **p** p (0.72 0.25 **<u>0.03</u>**) 0.1 0.25 (0.72 0.21 **<u>0.07</u>**) (0.72 0.14 **0.14**) 0.5 $= 0.1 \le p \le 05$

- Simulated: 5000 times **100 years** Probability of ruin **1** per cent
- The source of randomness:
 - Credit loss cycle
 - Expected loss E(bc) varies
- **P** pure risk premium, Uo initial reserve
- E(expansion) = 1, E(recession) = 2, E(depression) = 10:
 - p|0.10.2505P|1.51.82.4Uo|587895

b) p = 0.25:

2	1	6
2	10	6
1.3	1.6	2.4
12	78	62
	2 2 1.3 12	212101.31.61278

CONCLUSIONS

- Simple Markov model captures credit loss cycle
- Catastrophic downturn included in model
 => 1) Premius clearly higher
 2) Reserves much larger
 => Difficult even for statutory system
 Reinsurance?