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Realistic Tables with Competing Risks

Application to Inception Rates Estimation for Long Term Care Insurance

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Agenda

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Modelisation
- 3 Estimation methods for competing risks
- 4 Numerical Application

Long Term Care Insurance Framework

- In France, LTC insurance provides benefits for elderly people suffering from a loss of mobility and autonomy in their activity of daily living.
- In addition to the social benefits.
- LTC insurance may be individual or collective.
- Payment of benefits depends to the level of dependency.

Long Term Care Insurance Framework

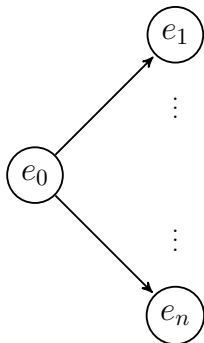
- Pricing, reserving and managing LTC risks strongly depend to the tables selected.
- LTC risks are tricky to estimate:
 - the first french products dates from the early of 80's,
 - only a few insurers have reliable data with sufficient amount (but for higher levels of dependency and not at older ages),
 - definitions and grids are not unique,
 - covariate effects (gender, place, pathology, etc.) are rarely taking into account.
- Forecasting LTC risks (longevity, disability and mortality) are also a very difficult exercise.
- Pratictioners often use empirical methods and expert opinions.

Motivation

- Constructing realistic tables for **inception rates** in dependency is an important challenge in Solvency II perspective.
- Distinguishing entry by pathology is very useful as:
 - waiting periods in contracts depend on the type of disease,
 - pathologies have a major role in the survival of LTC claimants.
- In presence of competing risks, practitioners often use techniques based on latent failure times and arbitrary choices for modelling dependence between them.
- **Aims of our approach:**
 - use a more relevant multistate approach to estimate inception rates with **right censored** data,
 - measure the bias that the common approach used by practitioners comprises.
- **Limits of our approach:**
 - a non-parametric approach requires a significant amount of reliable data and does not permit forecasting to older ages,
 - longitudinal data are required.

Competing Risks Model

- A **competing risks process** models adequately both the entry in dependency according to different pathologies and other exit causes (e.g. death, cancellation).



Example of exit causes with 4 types of pathology.

| | Exit causes |
|-------|------------------------|
| e_1 | Neurologic pathologies |
| e_2 | Various pathologies |
| e_3 | Terminal cancers |
| e_4 | Dementia |
| e_5 | Death |
| e_6 | Cancel |

- Benefits and premiums are paid according to the pattern of states of the policyholder.

Quantities of Interest

We introduce a **Markov** process $(X_t)_{t \geq 0}$ with finite state space $\mathcal{S} = \{e_0, e_1, \dots, e_n\}$ where the state e_j represents the j -th exit cause of the initial state. T represents the survival time in initial state and C the right-censoring time.

- Transition probability

$$\begin{aligned} p_{0j}(s, t) &= \mathbb{P}(X_t = e_j \mid X_s = e_0) \\ &= \mathbb{P}(T \leq t, X_T = e_j \mid T > s). \end{aligned}$$

- Cause-specific hazard

$$\mu_{0j}(t) = \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{p_{0j}(t, t + \Delta t)}{\Delta t}.$$

- Latent failure time

$$T_{0j} = \inf_{t \geq 0} (X_t = e_j).$$

Technical provisions

- Technical provisions correspond to the expectation of future discounted cash-flows relating to the contract.
- With a policyholder aged x years at t_0 , reserves at time $t \geq t_0$ are

$$\sum_{j \neq e_0} \int_{t-t_0}^{\infty} B(t, t_0 + \tau) p_{00}(x, x + \tau) \mu_{0j}(x + \tau) c_j(x + \tau) d\tau$$

$$- \int_{t-t_0}^{\infty} B(t, t_0 + \tau) p_{00}(x, x + \tau) b(x + \tau) d\tau.$$

- Inception rate** $q_j(t)$ appears when we approximate the above formula

$$\approx \sum_{j \neq e_0} \sum_{k=t-t_0}^{\infty} B(t, t_0 + k + 1) p_{00}(x, x + k) q_j(x + k) c_j(x + k)$$

$$- \sum_{k=t-t_0}^{\infty} B(t, t_0 + k) p_{00}(x, x + k) b(x + k).$$

Classical Methods

- A extensive literature is dedicated to infer competing risks model:
 - methods based on latent failure times (e.g. Prentice *et al.* (1978)),
 - proportional hazards models (e.g. Fine and Gray (1999)),
 - multistate approaches (e.g. Andersen *et al.* (2002)).
- Practitioners often use latent failure times approaches (e.g. Deléglise *et al.* (2009)) but:
 - latent failure time variable T_{0j} is artificial,
 - dependence structure between latent failure times is unknown.
- These last estimators may overestimate the inception rates (see Gooley *et al.* (1999)).

Multistate Approach

We aim to estimate inception rates with a **non-parametric multistate approach** (see Andersen *et al.* (1993)).

- We observe continuously M independent policyholders $(\bar{T}^m, V^m)_{m=1, \dots, M}$ where $\bar{T}^m = \min(T^m, C^m)$ and $V = X_T$ the failure cause.
- The cumulative cause-specific hazards are estimated with **Nelson-Aalen** estimator.
- The inception rates are consequently obtained with the **Aalen-Johansen** estimator

$$\hat{q}_j(t) = \sum_{\{m, t < \bar{T}^{(m)} \leq t+1\}} \hat{S}(\bar{T}^{(m)} -) \frac{\mathbb{1}_{\{V^{(m)}=j\}}}{Y_0(\bar{T}^{(m)})}.$$

- These estimators are asymptotically normally distributed.

Latent Failure Times Approach

- Practitioners usually assume latent failure times are **independent** and then we have

$$\mathbb{P}(T_{0j} > t) = \exp\left(-\int_0^t \mu_{0j}(\tau) d\tau\right).$$

- Consequently, the inception rates per event are estimated with **Kaplan-Meier** estimator and noted $q_j^*(t)$.
- Then, arbitrary dependence rule are applied on $q_j^*(t)$ to verify the equality

$$1 - \sum_{j=1}^n q_j(t) = p_{00}(t, t+1).$$

Latent Failure Times Approach

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- The new estimator $\check{q}_j(t)$ has upper and lower bounds

$$b_j^-(t) = \hat{q}_j^*(t) \prod_{k \neq j} (1 - \hat{q}_k^*(t)) \leq \check{q}_j(t) \leq \hat{q}_j^*(t) = b_j^+(t).$$

Estimation with Multistate Approach

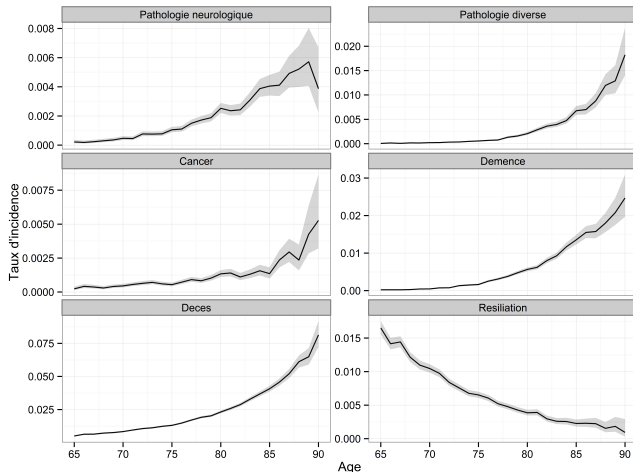


Figure: Inception rates estimate with approximate pointwise 95% confidence intervals

Smoothed Rates

- We smooth the crude inception rates with non-parametric **Whittaker-Henderson** model.
- Smoothing parameters are selected on the basis of residuals analysis and by regarding the following fitting criteria:
 - cross validation and generalized cross validation,
 - AIC and AICC.

Smoothed Rates

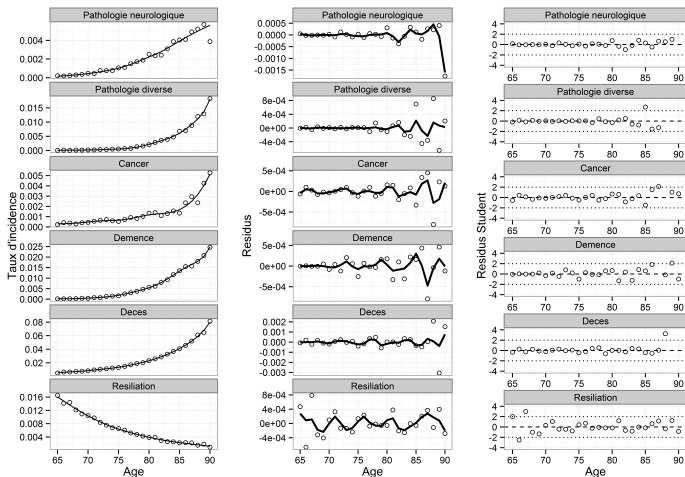


Figure: Smoothed rates, residuals and Student residuals

Measuring Estimation Risk

- We consider systematic risks induced by the construction of such tables and resulting from:
 - estimation of crude rates (due to sampling variation),
 - parameters estimation.
- These risks are taken into account with non-parametric **bootstrap**.

Measuring Estimation Risk

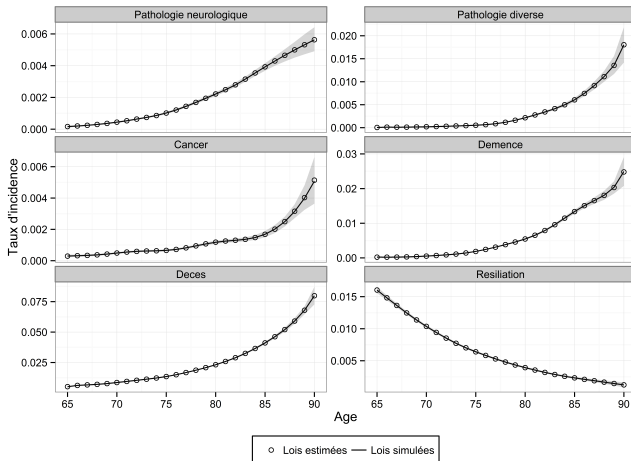


Figure: Simulated rates ($K = 1000$) with 95% simulated confidence intervals

Measuring Estimation Risk

- We compute dispersion coefficients

$$c(\psi_{jx}) = \frac{\sqrt{\sum_{k=1}^K (\tilde{q}_j^k(x) - \tilde{q}_j(x))^2}}{\tilde{q}_j(x)}.$$

- The risk is relatively important and should be considered carefully for technical provisions valuation.

| Exit causes | Average $c(\psi_{jx})$ |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| Neurologic pathologies | 6.01% |
| Various pathologies | 12.12% |
| Terminal cancers | 7.94% |
| Dementia | 6.53% |
| Death | 2.05% |
| Cancel | 3.76% |

Comparing with the latent failure times approach

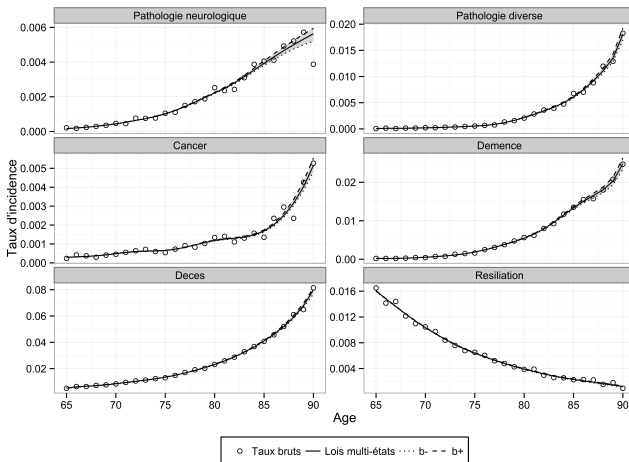


Figure: Comparing multistate and latent failure times approaches

Comparing with the latent failure times approach

- We compare 4 different priority orders.
- At 65 years old, the larger gap measured on technical provisions is around 2.5%.
- Priority orders should be selected soundly!

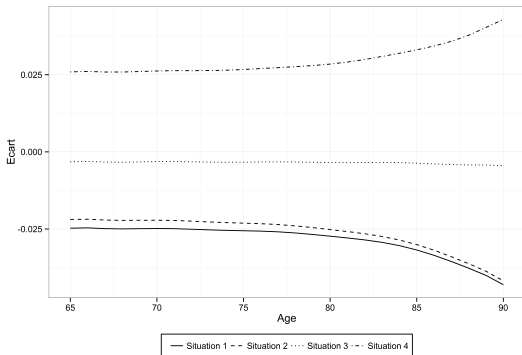


Figure: Gap on technical provisions with the both approaches

Summary

- Multistate approaches are rarely used by practitioners which prefer Kaplan-Meier estimators and marginal approaches for crude rates estimation.
- Multistate approaches are a little more complex but theoretically more appropriate for competing risks as the joint distribution of latent failure times are unobserved.
- A non-parametric approach may be difficult to implement due to the lack of available data but:
 - it provides a realistic fit that one can expect in a Solvency II perspective.
 - it can be used to perform goodness-of-fit tests.
- Bias observed with the latent failure times approach depends on the treatment of priorities applied on each cause. In our application, a sound choice may reduce significantly this bias and justify the use of the latent failure times approach.
- Outlook
 - Extrapolating inception rates to older ages.
 - Taking into account other sources of heterogeneity.

Thank you for your kind attention.

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