

# Credit Risk Fundamentals

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## Section 1

# Definition of Credit Risk

# Default Risk

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Default risk is that a counterparty does not honour its obligations. The risk of a payment default is called credit risk

- Default Risk is everywhere, because for every transaction there is a risk that one of two parties involved does not deliver.
- Some examples:
  - Default – An obligation is not honoured
  - Payment default – An obligor does not make a payment when it is due
    - Repudiation – refusal to accept a claim as valid
    - Moratorium – declaration to stop all payments for some period of time
    - Credit default – payment default on borrowed money
  - Insolvency – Inability to pay
  - Bankruptcy – The start of a formal legal procedure

# Credit Loss

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Credit loss, loss due to default of obligor one can express as  $EAD \times LGD$ , while expected credit loss  $ECL = PD \times EAD \times LGD$

- The credit risk could be described by following processes:
  - $1_{\tau}(t)$ : The default indicator process, which equals 1 if there was a default by the time  $t$ , and 0 if the obligor is still alive
  - $E(t)$ : The exposure process – exposure at default (EAD), ie. Total amount of payment obligations of obligor at time  $t$
  - $L(t)$ : The loss process – loss given default, measures a proportion of the exposure to be recovered in bankruptcy proceeding
- The expected credit loss, assuming mutual independency of above processes:
  - $ECL = PD \times EAD \times LGD$
- Modelling of PD and LGD factors it is one of the main tasks of Credit Risk Quants

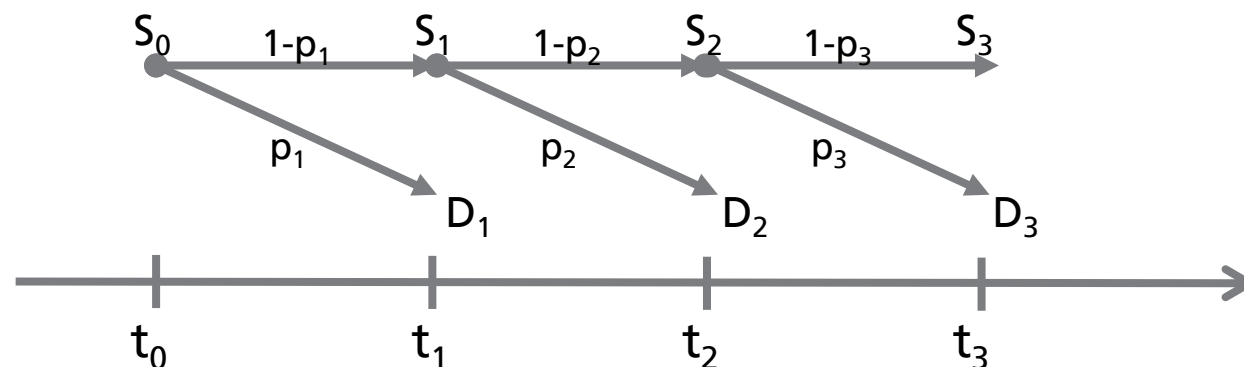
# More details on default probabilities

PD usually is time dependent. It depends on specific properties of borrower and the loan itself, however very often it is influenced by economical situation.

- PD language:

- Cumulative PD :  $P(t) = P(\tau \leq t) = E(\mathbf{1}_\tau(t))$
- Marginal PD:  $P(t_i, t_{i+1}) = P(t_i < \tau \leq t_{i+1}) = P(t_{i+1}) - P(t_i)$
- Forward PD, point in time:  $p(t_i, t_{i+1}) = P(t_i < \tau \leq t_{i+1} \mid t_i < \tau)$

- Multi step default tree –  $p_i = p(t_{i-1}, t_i)$ :



- $P(t_i) = 1 - (1-p_1)(1-p_2)\dots(1-p_i) = 1 - s_1 s_2 \dots s_i$ ,  
where survival probability (pit)  $s_i = 1-p_i$

## Section 2

# Default Probability estimation

# Credit Ratings – Historical DRs

Credit Rating is the assessment of the credit risk of the obligor. Agency rating it is one of the tools to assess likelihood that an obligor defaults based on historical default rates.

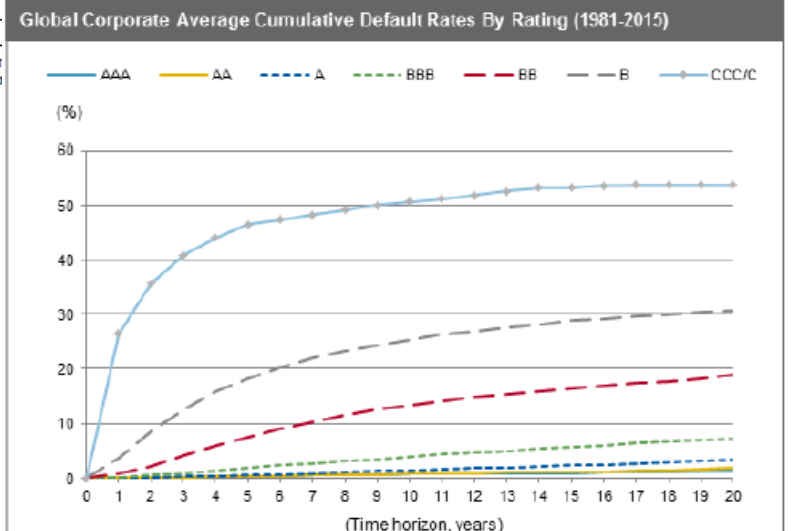


Table 33

Average Multiyear Global Corporate Transition Matrix (1981-2015) (%)

From/to	--One-year transition rates--								
	AAA	AA	A	BBB	BB	B	CCC/C	D	NR
AAA	87.08 (7.14)	9.00 (7.16)	0.53 (0.83)	0.05 (0.25)	0.08 (0.25)	0.03 (0.17)	0.05 (0.35)	0.00 (0.00)	3.18 (2.44)
AA	0.53 (0.52)	86.69 (5.32)	8.06 (4.28)	0.53 (0.69)	0.06 (0.20)	0.07 (0.21)	0.02 (0.07)	0.02 (0.08)	4.02 (1.94)
A	0.03 (0.09)	1.81 (1.02)	87.65 (3.55)	5.39 (2.14)	0.33 (0.39)	0.13 (0.27)	0.02 (0.07)	0.06 (0.11)	4.58 (1.81)
BBB	0.01 (0.04)	0.11 (0.16)	3.55 (1.68)	85.43 (3.80)	3.82 (1.56)	0.52 (0.72)	0.12 (0.23)	0.19 (0.26)	6.24 (1.63)
BB	0.01 (0.06)	0.03 (0.09)	0.13 (0.27)	5.08 (1.89)	76.78 (4.47)	6.96 (3.21)	0.64 (0.77)	0.73 (0.87)	9.63 (2.46)
B	0.00 (0.00)	0.03 (0.09)	0.09 (0.22)	0.21 (0.22)	5.25 (2.07)	74.27 (4.37)	4.39 (2.25)	3.77 (3.37)	11.99 (2.25)
CCC/C									

Note: Numbers in parentheses are from Research and Standard





# Credit Scoring

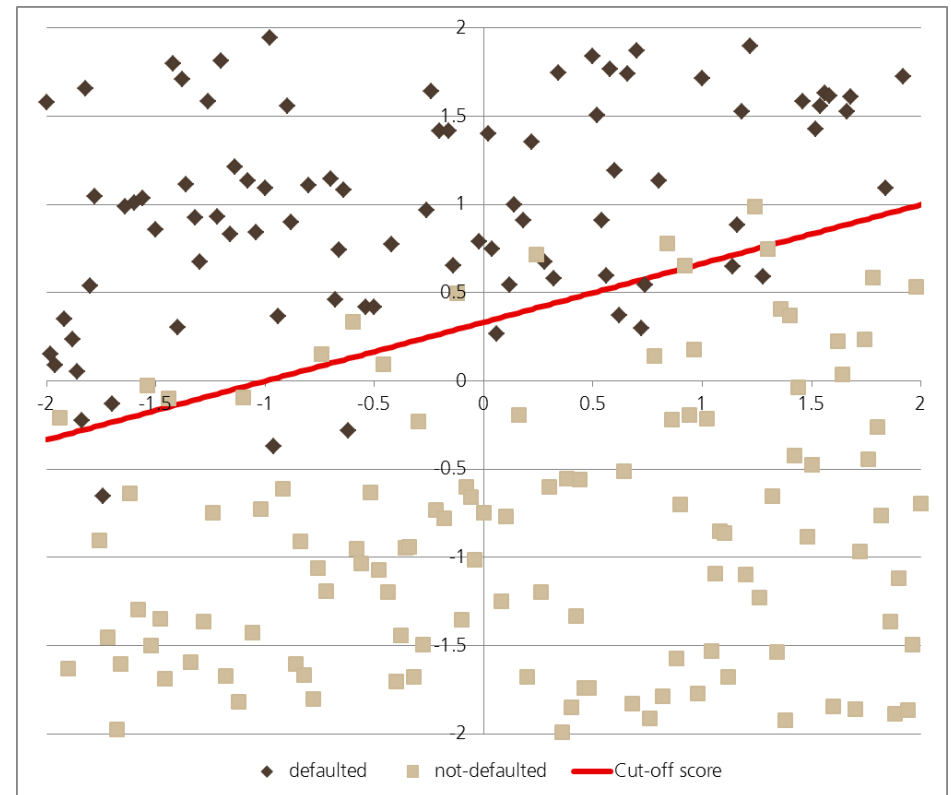
The ratings from agencies are published only for relatively large corporates. Therefore banks need to prepare internal ratings based (IRB) approach for determining PDs for small and medium enterprises as individual clients too .

- Altman's Z-Score

- the first credit scoring models and relies on accounting ratios:
  - Working Capital / Total Assets (A)
  - Retained Earnings / Total Assets (B)
  - Earnings before Interest and Taxes / Total Assets (C)
  - Market Capitalization / Debt (D)
  - Sales / Total Assets (E)
- $Z = 1.2A + 1.4B + 3.3C + 0.6D + E$
- If  $Z < 1.8$  the obligor is likely to default and a loan should be denied.

- Credit score is used also to rank obligors:  
higher score => better credit quality

- Accounting ratios are used to measure:  
indebtedness, cash flow available for debt service, profitability.



# Estimation of PD

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Another way of credit risk measure is the direct default probability estimation via assumed functional relationship:  $p = F(\beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \dots + \beta_n X_n)$

- Probit model:
  - $F(x) = \Phi(x)$ , ie. cumulative normal distribution function
- Logit model:
  - $F(x) = (1 + \exp(x))^{-1}$
- In general, one can use  $F(x)$  function as mapping from something like Z-score into default probability space
- Let  $\varepsilon$  is a standard normally distributed noise component, then we can define the credit index:
  - $-(\beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \dots + \beta_n X_n) + \varepsilon$
  - Assuming that obligor defaults when his credit index drops below zero, the default probability of the obligor is exactly equal to the  $p$  given by probit model

# Structural Model - Merton's Model

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The economic value of default can be measured as a value of put option on the value of firm's asset. Therefore it can be expressed with option-like formula

- Let's define followings:
  - $V(t)$ : value of company's assets
  - $E(t)$ : value of company's equity
  - $D(t)$ : amount of debt interest and principal due to be repaid
  - $\sigma_V(t)=\sigma_V$ : volatility of assets
  - $\sigma_E(t)$ : instantaneous volatility of equity
- If  $V(T)<D(T)$  in theory it means the company should default on debt at time  $T$  and  $E(T)=0$ . If  $V(T)>D(T)$  the value of equity  $E(T)=V(T)-D(T)$  and company should make the debt repayment:

$$E(T) = \max(V(T)-D(T), 0)$$

- Therefore, the loss for the company's lender is:

$$L(T) = \max(D(T) - V(T), 0)$$

- And default probability  $F(-d_2)$ , where  $d_2=\{\ln[V(0)/D(T)]+(r-\sigma_V^2)T\}/(\sigma_V\sqrt{T})$
- And  $\sigma_E(0)E(0)=\Phi(d_1) \sigma_V V(0)$

Section 3

# Summary

# Summary

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Credit Quant role in the bank is to help credit officers decide if a loan should be granted. Then, after positive decision, credit quants prepares a methodology for risk monitoring and estimation of credit losses, what is needed for capital requirements forecasting

- One of crucial tasks for credit quants is to prepare a methodology for estimation of probability of default.
- Latter is used for credit losses estimation via formula:
  - $ECL = PD \times EAD \times LGD$
- PD can be estimate using external ratings or via internal models
- In general internal model try to find the best set of parameters (loan and economical situation related) which fit historical observations

# Contact information

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