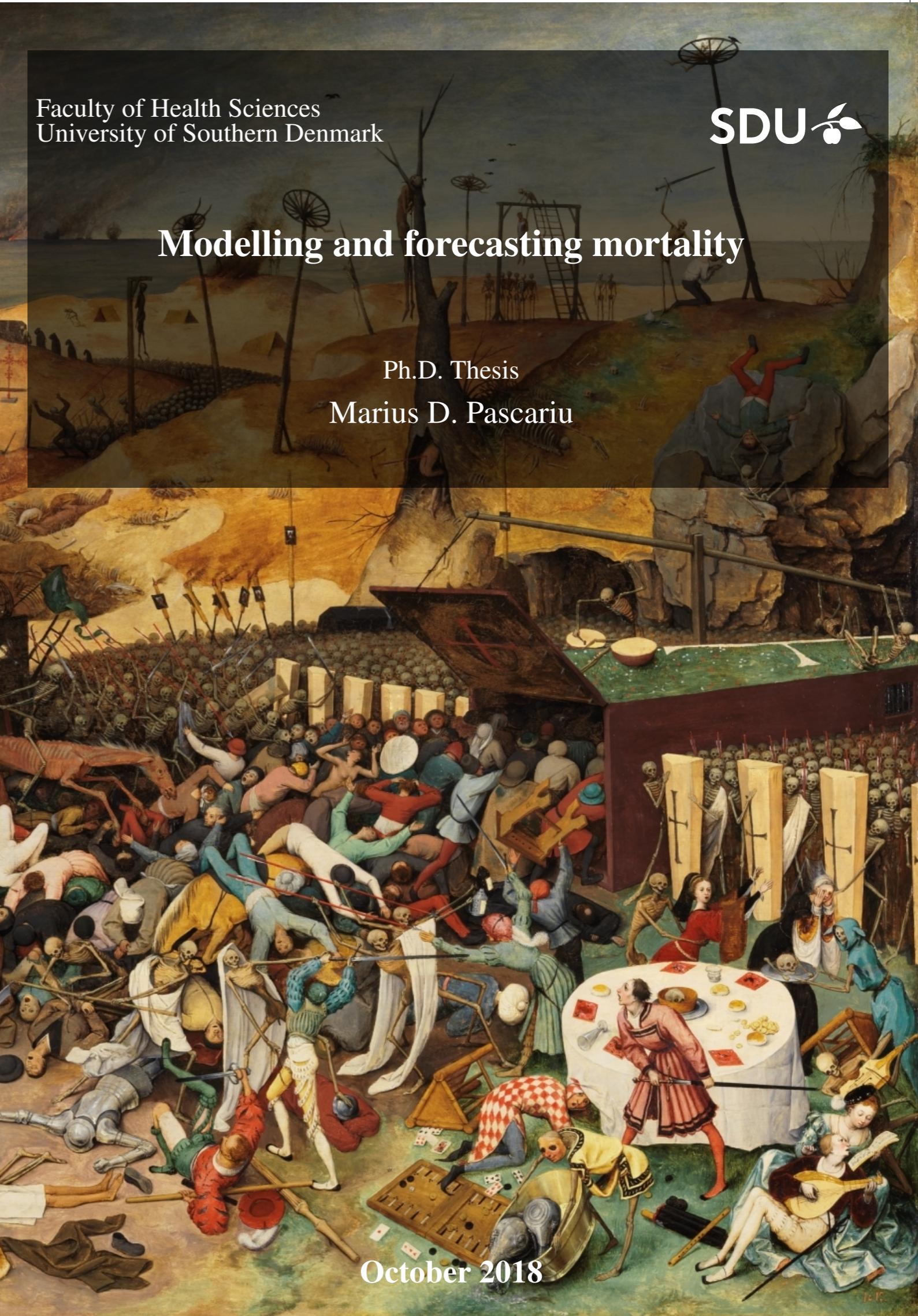




SDU

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PH.D. Thesis – MODELLING AND FORECASTING MORTALITY



The Triumph of Death

Bruegel "the Elder" Pieter. 1562 – 1563. Oil on panel.

Museo del Prado. Madrid. Spain.

The painting on the cover depicts a customary theme in medieval literature: the dance of Death. All of the social institutions are included in this composition and neither power nor devotion can save them. It is just a matter of time. Some attempt to struggle against their inevitable destiny while others are resigned to their fate. Only a pair of lovers, at the lower right, seem to remain unmoved by the current course of events. One might wonder: "for how long?"