

PREDOC - II

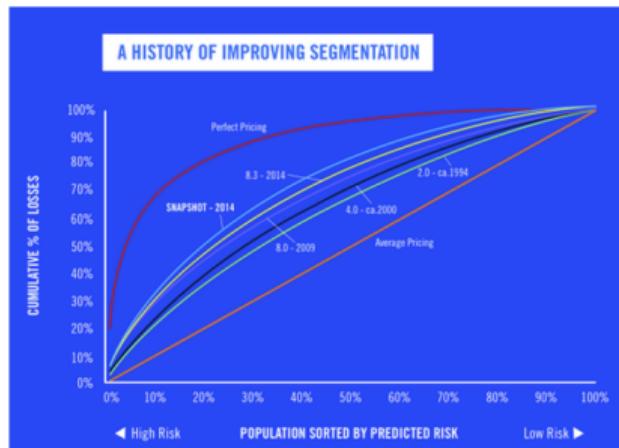
PHILIPP RATZ
DECEMBER 05, 2022



A brief History

ARTHUR CHARPENTIER, ENSAE - ACTUARIAT ASSURANCE NON VIE - 2017

Model Comparison and Lorenz curves



Source: Progressive Insurance

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1. Overview
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 - i. Risk Sharing on Networks
 - ii. Model Competition in Markets
 - iii. Statistics of Deep Learning (time permitting)
3. Discussion

Overview (of the past)

Current progression (1.25 years in)



Overview (of the present)

1

Motivation & global problem statement

2

Existing work in the field, yet-to-be done

3

Insights from research, summary from articles

4

Further research and ideas

Code can be found on
 Ophi-ra (access token required for working papers), illustrations on the  blog

Risk sharing on Networks



Motivation

CMO NETWORK

The Top 5 Industries Most Hated By Customers

Blake Morgan Senior Contributor 

I am a Customer Experience Futurist, Author and Keynote Speaker.

Follow

Source: [Forbes, 2018]

Insurance is among the top-5 hated industries in America according to *Forbes*. Often there is inherent **distrust** between the parties and insurance is looked at as an investment.

In a sense - peer-to-peer (P2P) insurance brings back the roots. Considering insurance less of a gamble, but more as mutual assistance.

Literature I

Important in risk sharing is the concept of conditional mean risk sharing: $g_i^*(S) = \mathbb{E}[X_i|S]$, for $S = \sum_i^n X_i$ where $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$ is a random vector of n risks. This is studied for example in [Denuit and Robert, 2020b] or in [Denuit and Robert, 2020a].

[Abdikerimova and Feng, 2021, Feng et al., 2022] build upon this and derive specific P2P pareto optimal solutions, here specified as an optimization problem. They also introduce heterogeneity in the risk pool.

But these approaches all implicitly impose a structure on the underlying network

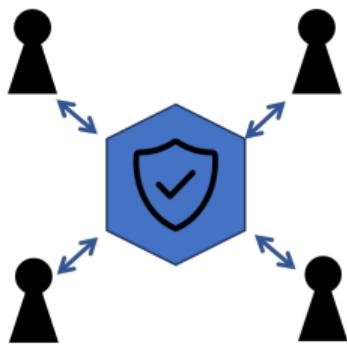
Literature II

Trust and prediction problems have been extensively analysed in P2P *lending*. For example, [Granovetter, 2005, Lin et al., 2013] find that P2P networks have a lot of information about the quality of loan allocation.

It is also shown that P2P can have complementary (rather than substituting) effects within the market [Liu et al., 2020]. But these findings are rarely used in the P2P-insurance case.

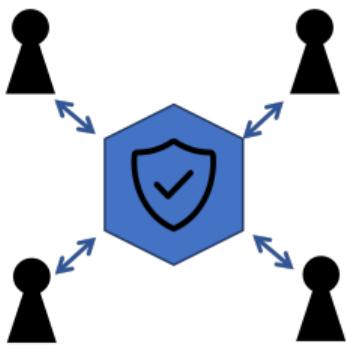
Can this be translated to the insurance case?

A different classification

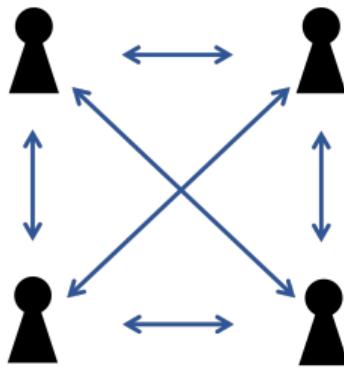


Traditional Model

A different classification

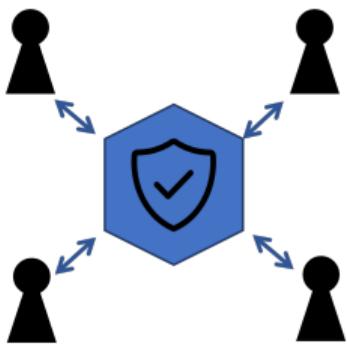


Traditional Model

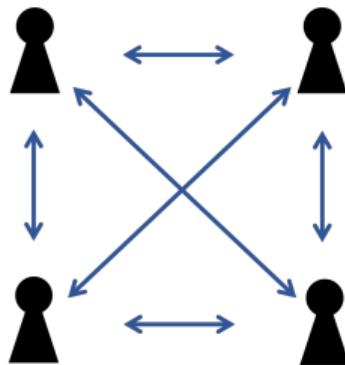


P2P "Classic"

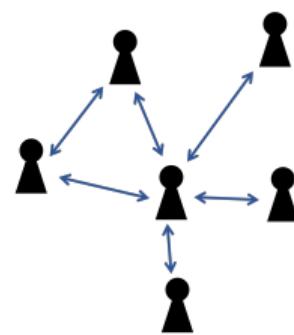
A different classification



Traditional Model



P2P "Classic"



P2P "Network"

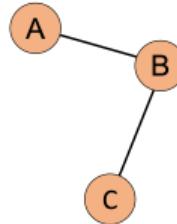
A new approach

1. Consider *arbitrary* networks
 - i. Common language for networks
 - ii. Simulation approaches
2. Set up basic risk-sharing scheme
 - i. Evaluate using simulations
3. Improve mechanism

Presentation based on insights from *Collaborative Insurance Sustainability and Network Structure* [Charpentier et al., 2021]. Submitted and presented at conferences IME, Astin (2021), seminars for AxA and UQAM (2021) and conference CSSC, Informs (2022)

Graph

A graph \mathcal{G} is an ordered pair $(\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E})$, where \mathcal{V} represents a set of vertices (or nodes) and \mathcal{E} a set of edges (or links) such that
$$\mathcal{E} \subseteq \{\{x,y\} | x, y \in \mathcal{V}, x \neq y\}$$

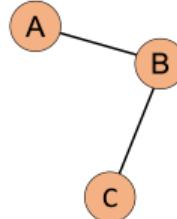


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Adjacency Matrix

The adjacency matrix A for a set of vertices $\mathcal{V} = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ is a matrix of size $n \times n$, such that $A_{i,j} = 1$ if there is an edge from vertex v_i to v_j .



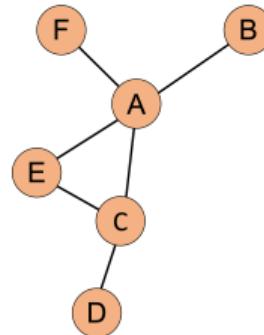
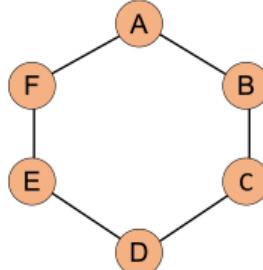
$$\begin{array}{c|ccc} & A & B & C \\ \hline A & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ B & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ C & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{array}$$

Graph Terminology II

Degree distribution

The degree of a vertex is the number of edges that are incident to it. We can construct the degree vector from elements d_i as $d = A\mathbf{1}$. The average degree of a network can be calculated as:

$$\bar{d} = \mathbb{E}[d] = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{V}|} \sum_{v \in \mathcal{V}} d(v) = \frac{2|\mathcal{E}|}{|\mathcal{V}|} = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{V}|} \|d\|_1$$

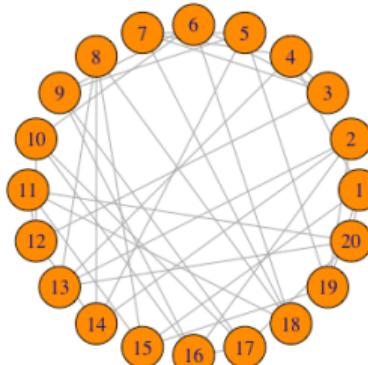


Graph Simulation - I

Regular Network

Every node in \mathcal{V} has degree equal to some constant $k < n$. As a technical condition least one of k and the number of vertices must be even.

$$\mathbb{E}[d] = k$$
$$\mathbb{V}[d] = 0$$

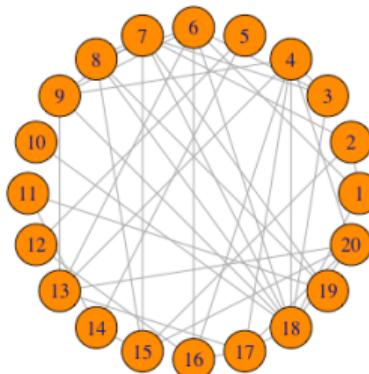


Graph Simulation - II

ErdősRényi Network

Each possible edge $i, j \in \mathcal{V} \times \mathcal{V}$ is included in the network with probability p independent from other edges. The Network then has a degree distribution that follows a binomial distribution $\mathcal{B}(n - 1, p)$. Also, if p not too large but n_V : $p \sim \lambda/n_V, d(v) \sim \mathcal{P}(\lambda)$

$$\mathbb{E}[d] \approx \mathbb{V}[d]$$

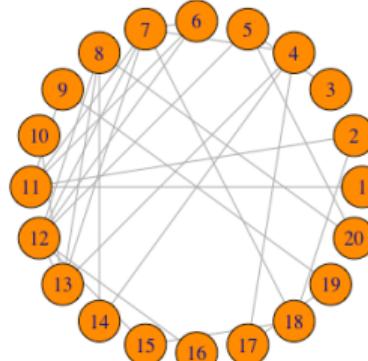


Graph Simulation - III

Preferential attachment Network

Consider starting from a small network and adding new nodes. During every step, a new node is connected to the existing nodes with a probability p that is proportional to the degree of an existing node d_i . This way, every new node is more likely to connect to existing "popular" nodes. Here the degree distribution follows a power law.

$\mathbb{E}[d] = ?$
 $\mathbb{V}[d] = ?$
usually fat tailed

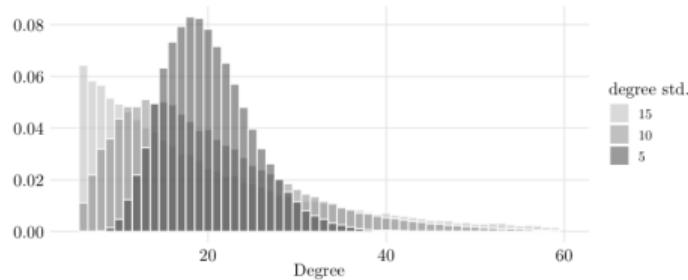


Graph Simulation - IV

Instead of the mentioned algorithms, we use a flexible method:

$$d \stackrel{d}{=} \min\{5 + [\Delta], n - 1\}, \quad \Delta \sim \mathcal{G}(\alpha, \beta)$$

Where we vary $\frac{\alpha}{\beta^2}$ but not $\frac{\alpha}{\beta}$ (fix the mean \bar{d} but change variance $\mathbb{V}[d]$)



The Core: Risk Sharing with Friends

- An agent assumes reciprocally risk from friends and shares their losses

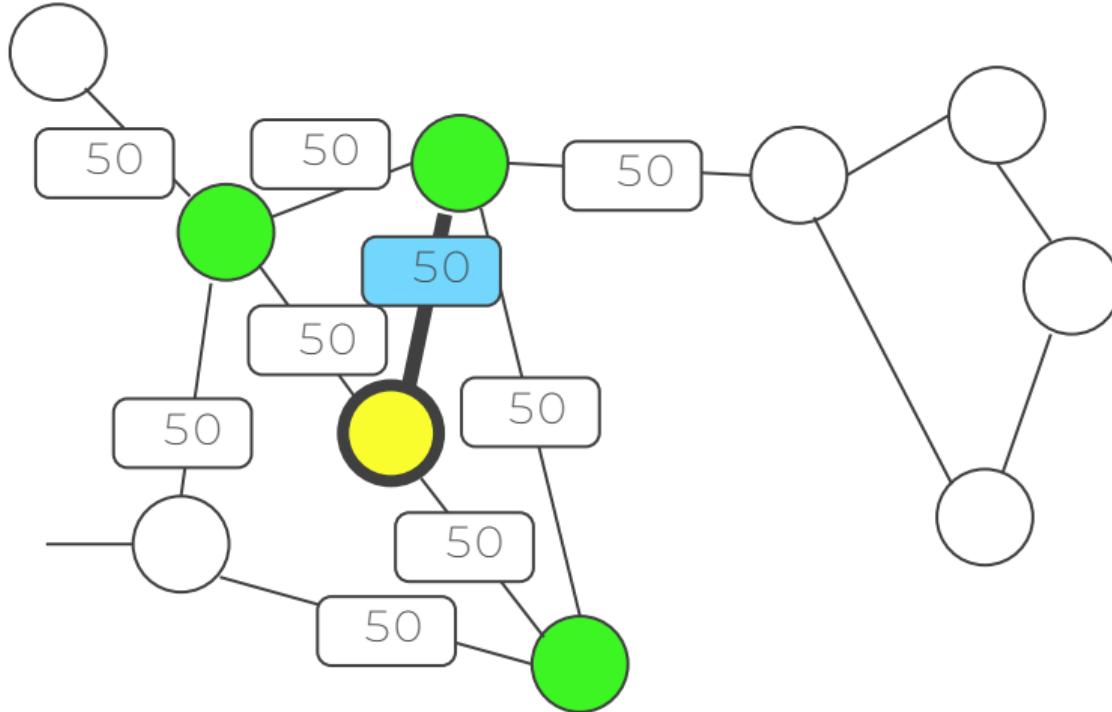
The Core: Risk Sharing with Friends

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- We consider a homogenous population where a risk materialises at most once per period

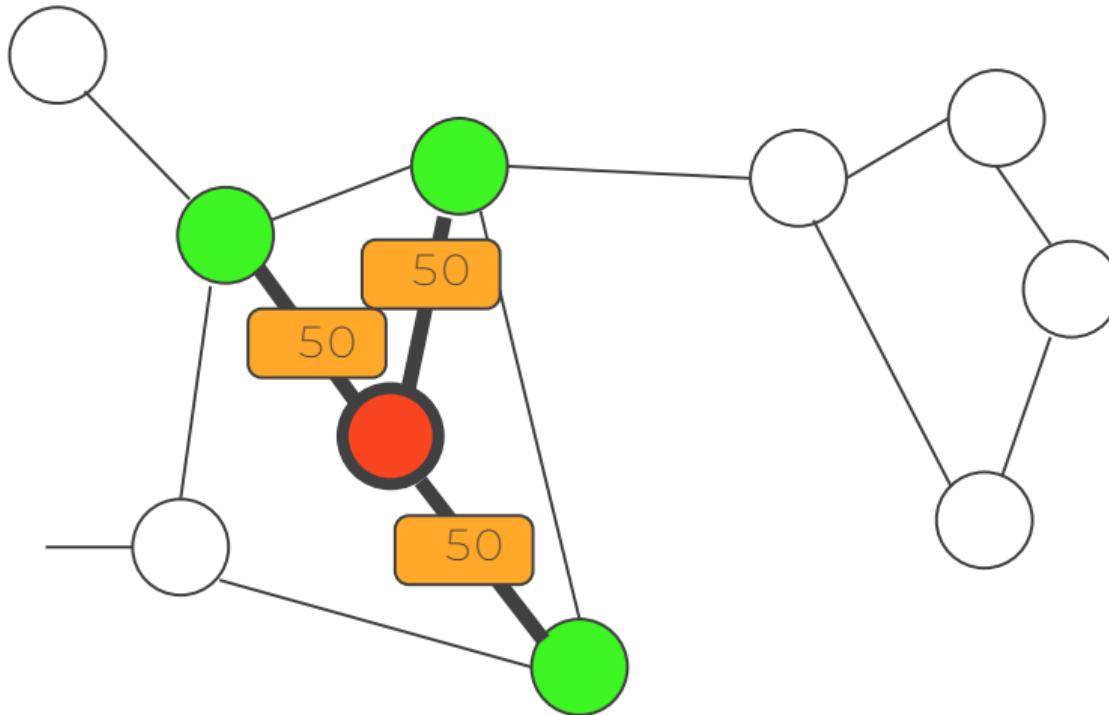
The Core: Risk Sharing with Friends

- An agent assumes reciprocally risk from friends and shares their losses
- We consider a homogenous population where a risk materialises at most once per period
- With homogenous risks usually implies the $\frac{1}{n}$ -rule (and everybody gets the same contract). We refer to the contract amount as γ

Risk Sharing on a network



Risk Sharing on a network



The Core: Risk Sharing with Friends

- Here we consider the case where the homogenous population only wants to insure an amount below a deductible

Deductible:

$$s_i = s \quad \forall i$$

Risk (i.i.d.):

$$Y_i \sim 100 + \mathcal{G}(a, b)$$

Helper:

$$Z_i \sim \mathcal{B}(p)$$

Loss:

$$L_i = Z_i \min\{s, Y_i\}$$

Engagement:

$$\gamma_{(i,j)} = \gamma_{(j,i)} = \frac{s}{d}$$

Single period wealth

Let \mathcal{V}_i denote the set of "friends" of a node i . We denote the wealth after one period:

$$\xi_i = Z_i \min\{s, Y_i\}$$

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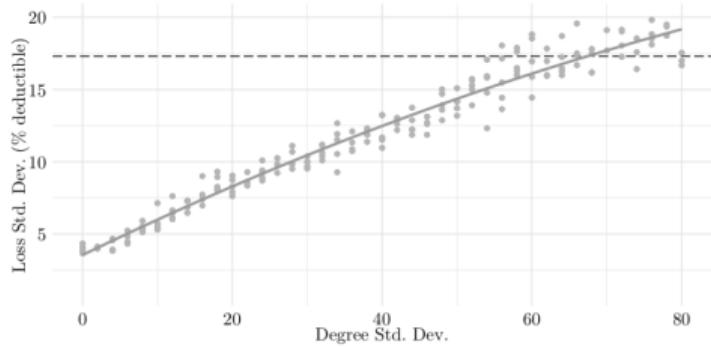
1. **Simulation:** Draw a graph, fix s , draw from \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{G}
2. **Optimization:** $\xi_i = f(s, Y_i, Z_i, d_i, \gamma)$
3. **Compare:** ξ vs. $\min\{s, Y\}$

The simple framework

Consider a network with $\bar{d} = 20$, $s = 1000$, $\mathbb{E}[L] = 4.5\% \times s$,
 $\sqrt{\mathbb{V}[L]} = 17\% \times s$

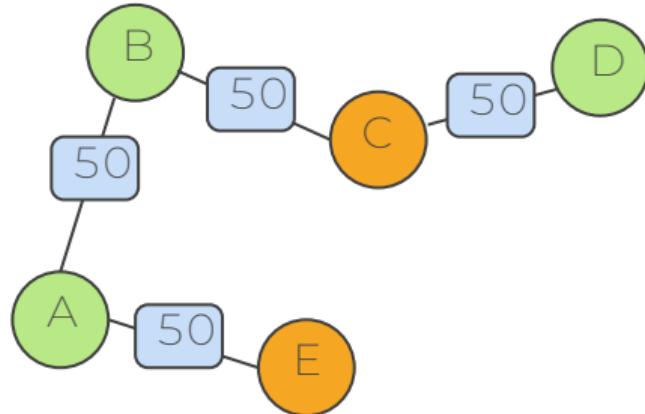
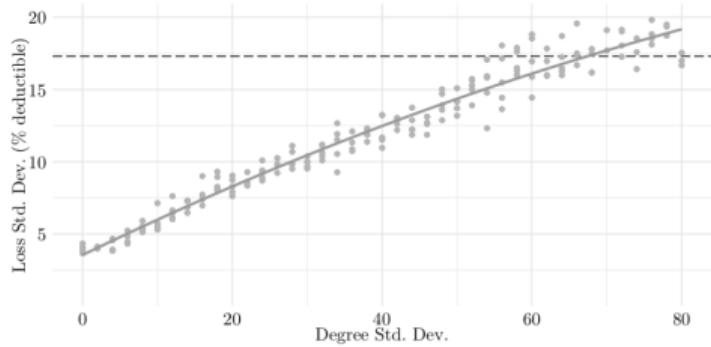
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The simple framework

How did we do?

- Risk sharing works

The simple framework

How did we do?

- Risk sharing works
- Ex-Post fairness

The simple framework

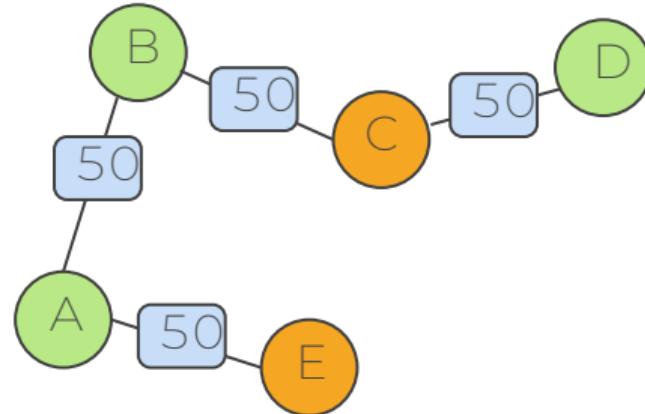
How did we do?

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- Ex-Post fairness
- Works for irregular networks

The simple framework

How did we do?

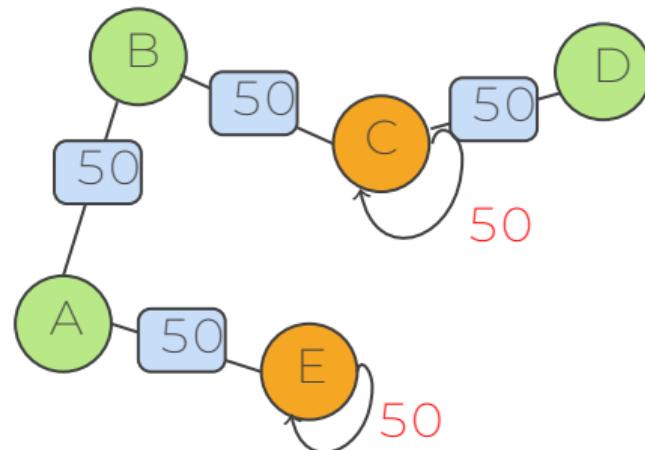
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The simple framework

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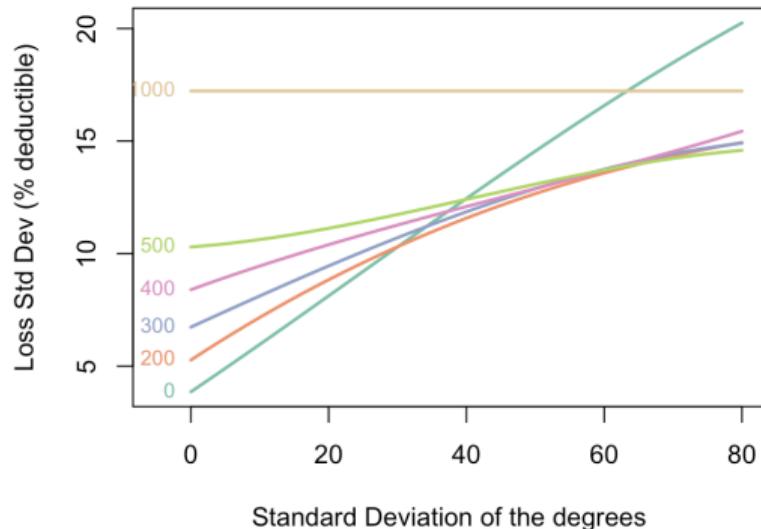
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The simple framework

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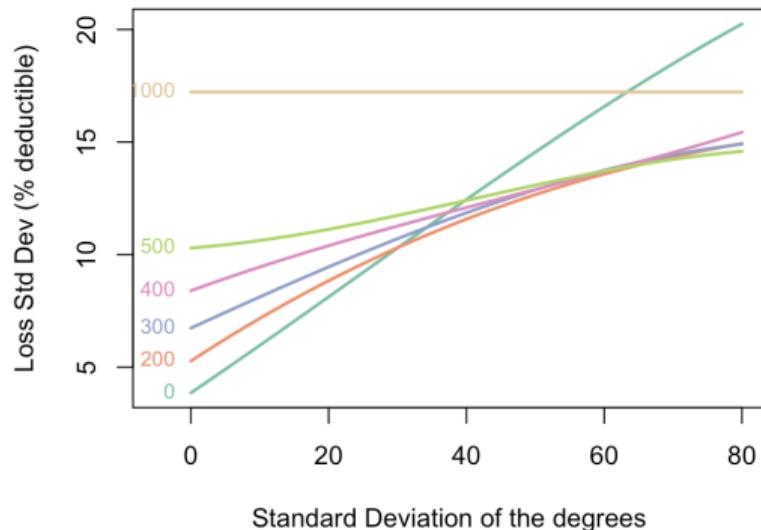
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The simple framework

How did we do?

- Risk sharing works
- Ex-Post fairness
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Optimal reciprocal contributions

- Recall: $\xi_i = f(s, Y_i, Z_i, d_i, \gamma)$

Optimal reciprocal contributions

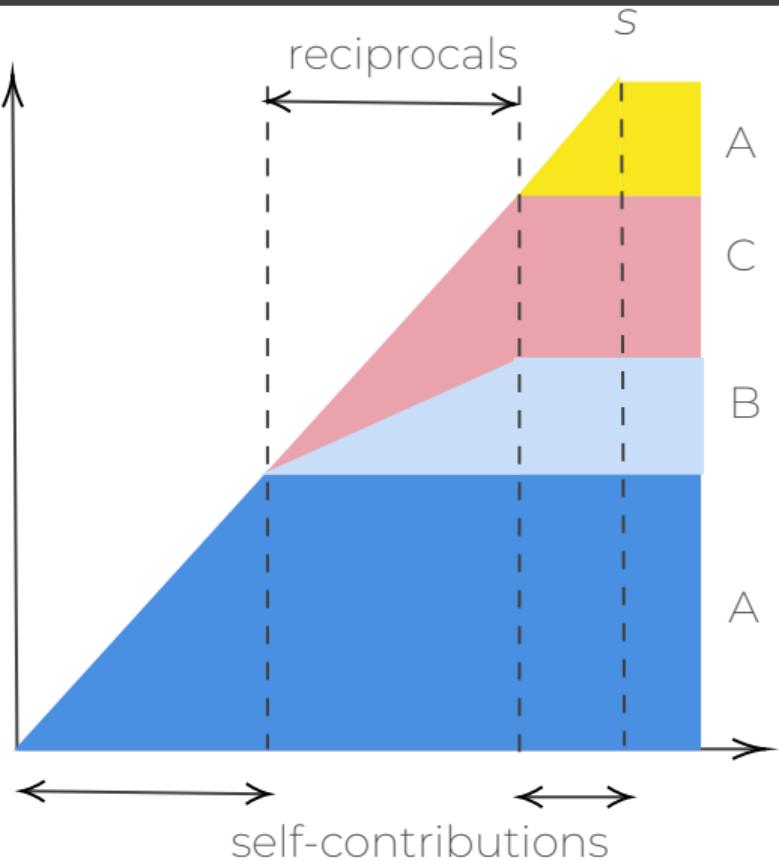
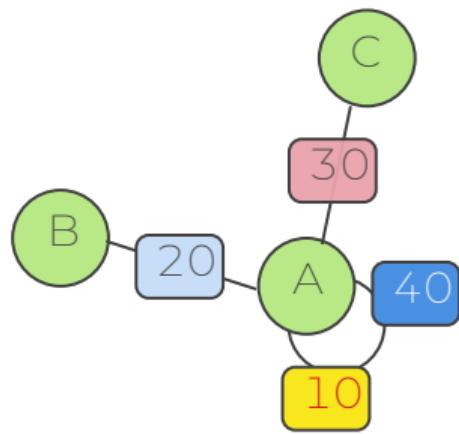
- Recall: $\xi_i = f(s, Y_i, Z_i, d_i, \gamma)$
- Can γ be optimized for any d ?

Optimal reciprocal contributions

- Recall: $\xi_i = f(s, Y_i, Z_i, d_i, \gamma)$
- Can γ be optimized for any d ?
- Here: consider a "global" coverage

$$\begin{aligned}\gamma_1^* &= \operatorname{argmax} \left\{ \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}} \gamma_{(i,j)} \right\} \\ \text{s.t. } \gamma_{(i,j)} &\in [0, \gamma], \forall (i,j) \in \mathcal{E} \\ \sum_{j \in \mathcal{V}_i} \gamma_{(i,j)} &\leq s, \forall i \in \mathcal{V}\end{aligned}$$

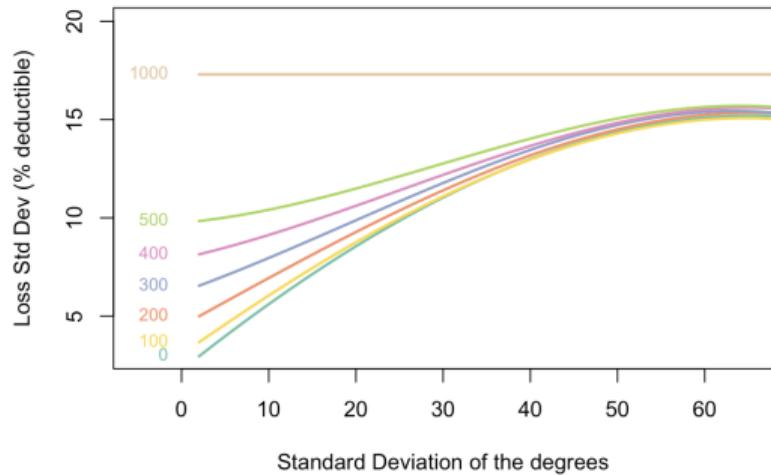
A P2P-Network mechanism



Results

How did we do?

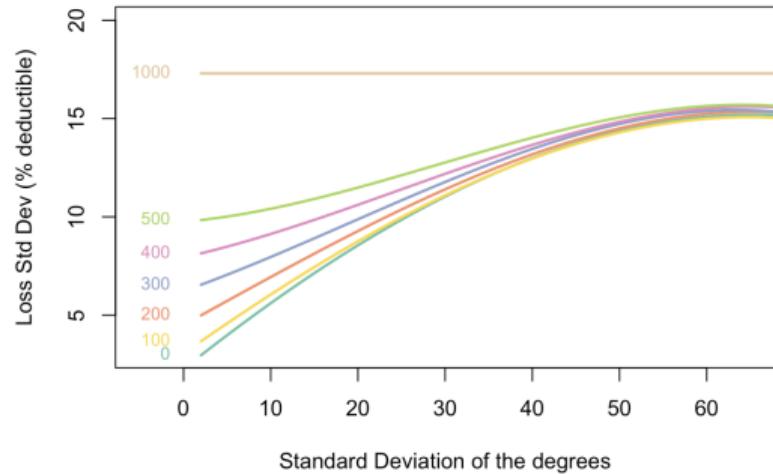
✓ Risk sharing works



Results

How did we do?

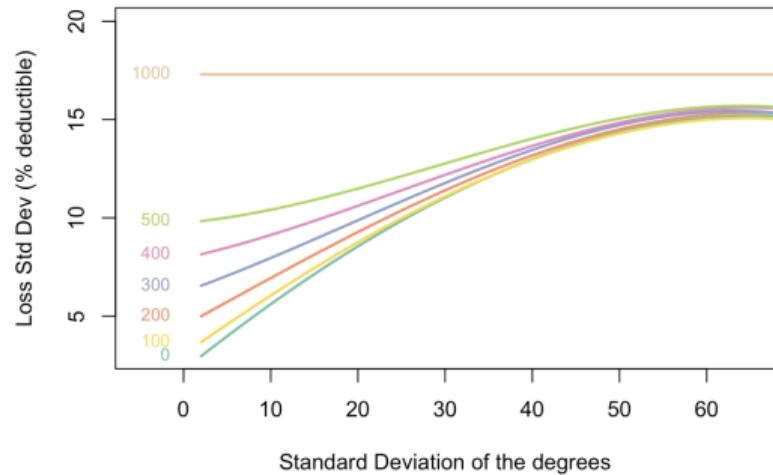
- Risk sharing works
- Ex-Post fairness



Results

How did we do?

- Risk sharing works
- Ex-Post fairness
- Works on arbitrary networks



Optimal reciprocal contributions - II

Why stop at friends?

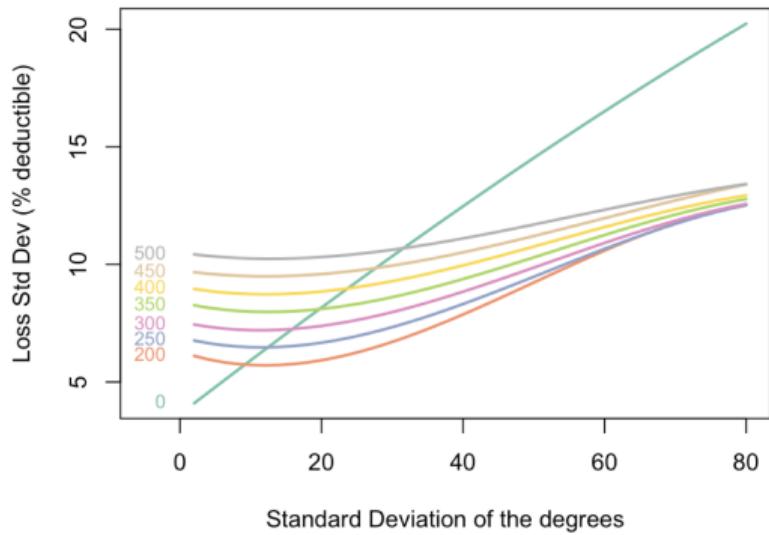
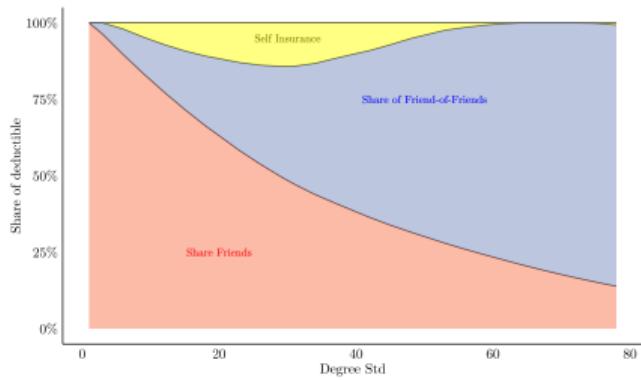
We can also consider friends-of-friends!

$$\gamma_2^* = \operatorname{argmax} \left\{ \sum_{(i,j) \in \mathcal{E}^{(2)}} \gamma_{(i,j)} \right\}$$

s.t. $\gamma_{(i,j)} \in [0, \gamma_2]$, $\forall (i,j) \in \mathcal{E}^{(2)}$, $\mathcal{E}^{(2)}$ from A^2

$$\sum_{j \in \mathcal{V}_i^{(1)}} \gamma_{1:(i,j)}^* + \sum_{j \in \mathcal{V}_i^{(2)}} \gamma_{(i,j)} \leq s, \quad \forall i \in \mathcal{V}$$

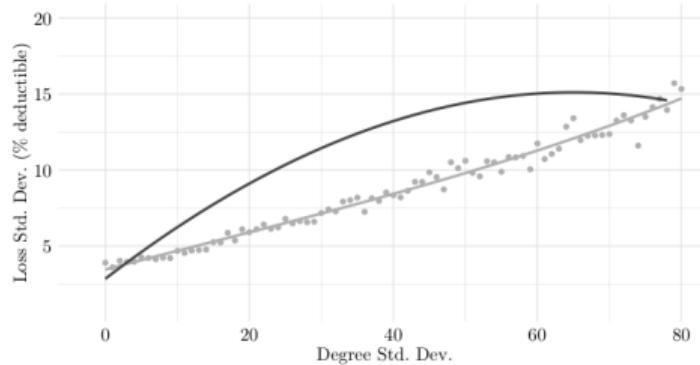
Optimal reciprocal contributions - II



Further Research: Utility based optimization

The mechanism works, but also allows for the incorporation of utility theory (eg. quadratic utility):

$$\min_w w^T Q w$$



This also enables self-insurance or heterogeneous risks! (similar to [Feng et al., 2022], but for arbitrary networks)

Densely connected subgroups I

The independence assumption of connections is not realistic - maybe we can partition the graph somehow? [Feng et al., 2022] propose a mechanism also based on cliques, but:

$$\mathbb{V}[\xi] = \mathbb{V}[X] \left(\frac{j}{n}\right)^2$$

with j the number of cliques in a graph, and n the ideally sized clique, making it a *minimal clique problem*, which is NP-complete

Densely connected subgroups II

Instead we can consider clusters (densely connected subgroups)

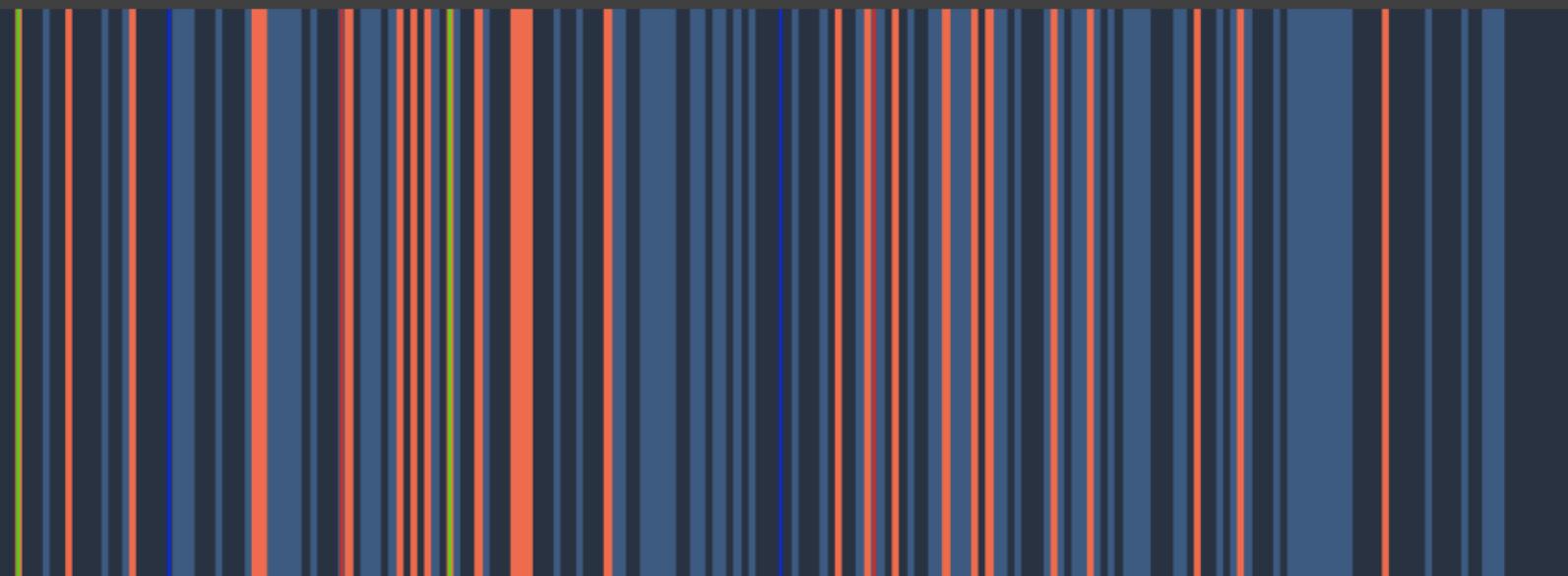


Similarity between models I

Research on cliques is common in the social sciences eg. [Boucher, 2020] works on networks generated by racial homophily - where the sociodemographic covariates cannot explain friendships fully. But does it work when we have incomplete cliques?

- How do rate classes and CMRS based on homophily relate to each other?
- Can we combine "traditional" GLMs and Network approaches?
- Can we use NN-descent ([Dong et al., 2011]) with the target variable y ?

Model Competition in Markets



Motivation I

Introduction of AI has potentially profound impact on markets - with important policy implications - OECD opened up the discussion for AI in insurance and competition [OECD, 2020, OECD, 2021].

Capabilities of ML models get clearer by the year - but effects on markets are still poorly understood.

The Impact of Big Data and Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the Insurance Sector



Source: [OECD, 2020]

Motivation II

Market prices are influenced by availability of new data but also new model types

Effect of machine learning models on a portfolio has been studied
[Denuit et al., 2021,
Wüthrich, 2022]

But usually effects in markets is scarcely studied, as they are notoriously complicated and opaque..



Digitalisation

How Automated Machine Learning is reshaping insurance pricing

Artificial intelligence is changing our lives in many ways. Insurers can use data and algorithms to predict the behaviour of their customers. This also offers new opportunities for underwriting and pricing. Massimo Cavadini, Head of Actuarial Consulting & Data Analytics at Munich Re, explains how automated machine learning (AutoML) puts the pricing expert at the heart of the decision-making process and how clients benefit from this.

14.02.2022

Source: [Munich Re, 2022]

Motivation III

...But we can run a digital field experiment! Together with the CPG (@Imperial College) this was done in 2021.

The idea builds upon [Charpentier et al., 2015] but with more data, better control and more participants. This allows us to **study the impact of new models on consumers, producers and the regulator**.



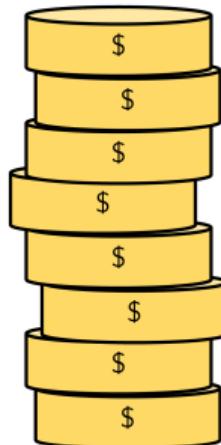
Literature I

For models themselves, there is contradicting evidence to their performance [Noll et al., 2020, Dugas et al., 2003], especially in insurance. But in theory the performance capabilities are quite clear see eg. [Hastie et al., 2009].

In theory, higher pricing precision should mean lower consumer prices, but case studies found *higher* supplier margins [Assad et al., 2020, Vogell et al., 2022]. In general, if there is an analysis that goes beyond a theoretical model, it is usually a single-case studies.

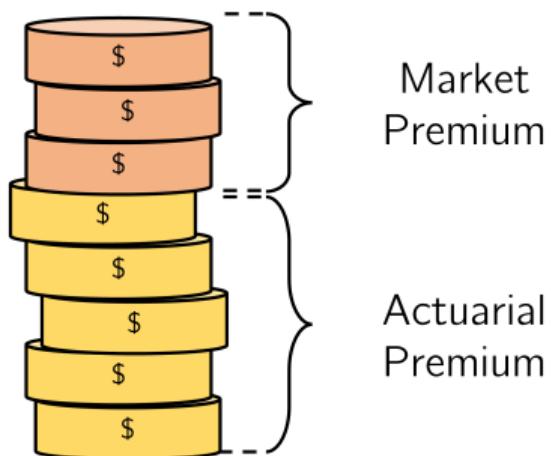
Premium Decomposition & Research Questions

Total Insurance Premium



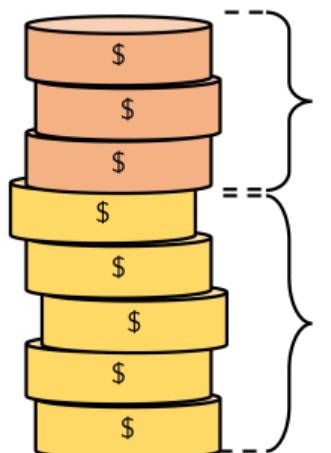
Premium Decomposition & Research Questions

Total Insurance
Premium



Premium Decomposition & Research Questions

Total Insurance Premium



Market Premium

Actuarial Premium



Effect of Pricing-Strategy?



Complex models, better predictions?



How are different segments affected?

Setup I

The screenshot shows the Alcrowd platform interface for a "Motor insurance market simulation" challenge. At the top, there are two green status badges: "Market simulation competition: Completed" and "Bonus round: Ageless dataset: Completed". Below them is a red "Alcrowd" logo with a small icon. The main title "Motor insurance market simulation" is displayed in large blue text. A yellow starburst graphic on the right side indicates "Prizes \$12,000 (USD)". The background features a grid of binary code. Logos for Imperial College London, FRS, Actuarial Society, CAS, Faculty of Actuaries, KPMG, and UQAM are visible. Below the title, social sharing icons show 68.1k views, 2771 likes, 215 comments, 10.5k shares, and 89 hearts. A "Share" button is also present. The navigation bar includes links for Overview, Leaderboard, Notebooks, Resources, Submissions, Pick submission for profit leaderboard, Rules, More, and Create Team. On the left, a sidebar lists navigation items: Overview, Cheapest-Wins Market, Leaderboards, Evaluation Metric, Market Rules, and Weekly Market Feedback. A central callout box contains text about community engagement prizes, office hours on Discord, a discussion forum, Python Starter Notebook, R Starter Notebook, and a code-based starter kit. At the bottom, a green button says "CHAT 128 ONLINE". To the right, a section titled "PARTICIPANTS" shows a grid of user icons.

Market simulation competition: Completed

Bonus round: Ageless dataset: Completed

#supervised_learning #educational #insurance

Alcrowd

Motor insurance market simulation

Imperial College London FRS ACTUARIAL SOCIETY CAS Faculty of Actuaries KPMG UQAM

Prizes \$12,000 (USD)

By Imperial CPG 68.1k 2771 215 10.5k 89 Share

Overview Leaderboard Notebooks Resources Submissions Pick submission for profit leaderboard Rules More Create Team

Announcing our community engagement prizes!

Join the office hours on Discord! (Wednesday 2PM CET)

Have a question? Visit the discussion forum

Python Starter Notebook

R Starter Notebook

</> Code based starter kit

CHAT 128 ONLINE

PARTICIPANTS

aicrowd.com/challenges/insurance-pricing-game

Setup II

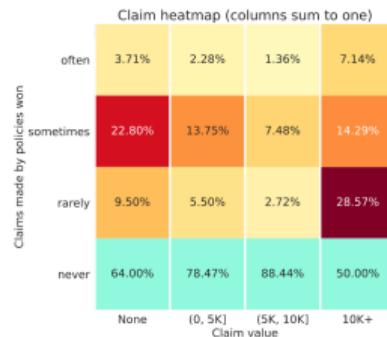
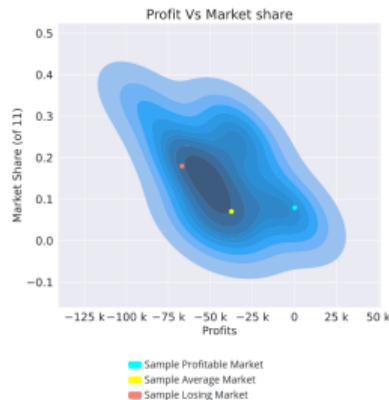
- ✍ Overview
- ▣ **Cheapest-Wins Market**
- 📊 Leaderboards
- ⚖ Evaluation Metric
- 🚗 Market Rules
- 📊 Weekly Market Feedback
- 💾 Dataset
- ✉ How To Submit
- 🏆 Prizes



aicrowd.com/challenges/insurance-pricing-game

Setup III

The competition goes on for 11 weeks, and importantly, there is feedback:



Driver Summaries

Policies won	dm1.win1	dm1.lose1	dm1.lose1c1	dm1.win2	dm1.lose2	dm2.win1	dm2.lose1
often: 54.5 - 100.0%	M(0%)	41.57	35.70	M(7%)	F(6%)	50.00	27.74
sometimes: 18.2 - 54.5%	M(0%)	39.19	36.87	M(7%)	F(6%)	51.05	28.14
rarely: 9.5 - 18.2%	M(0%)	60.52	38.35	M(7%)	F(6%)	51.09	28.12
never:	M(0%)	58.17	36.30	M(5%)	F(6%)	51.16	28.31

or sample profitable market
or sample average market
or sample losing market

M(0%) 87.25 36.31 M(7%) F(6%) 49.25 27.25

M(0%) 47.23 36.49 M(7%) F(6%) 34.43 28.29

M(0%) 61.89 33.47 M(7%) F(6%) 46.79 28.69

Setup IV

Participants compete in against nine other contenders for customers looking for a third party liability insurance (think: a consumer that uses a comparison site)
All possible $\binom{7}{10}$ markets are considered and we can simulate outcomes for visualisations.



Source: [LowestRates.ca, 2022]

Research Plan I

- Get overview of data, analyse statics, reproduce results
- Understand and quantify model complexity (in terms of output complexity)
- Understand market dynamics
 - In simulated environment
 - In competition environment

Then go back to the three research areas

Research Plan II

Other projects that can be accomplished on the data:

- Explore combination of models & incomplete information
 - In a static world
 - In a dynamic world ([Zheng et al., 2020])

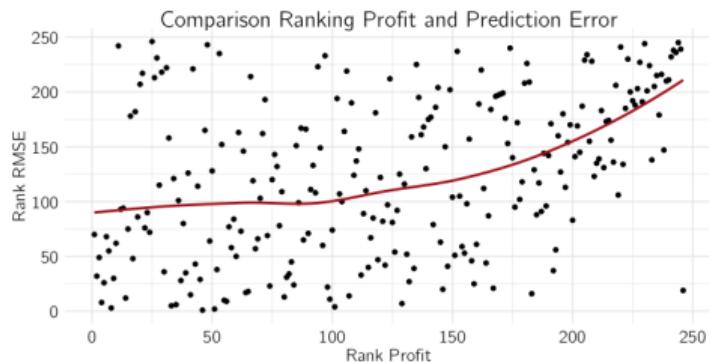
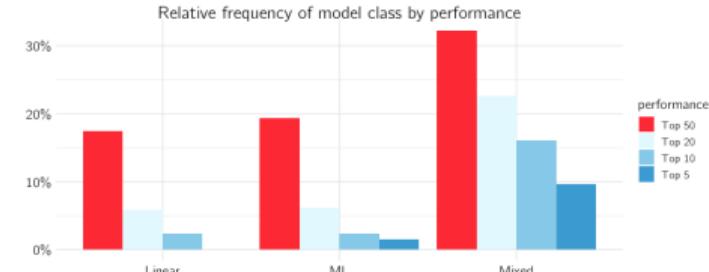
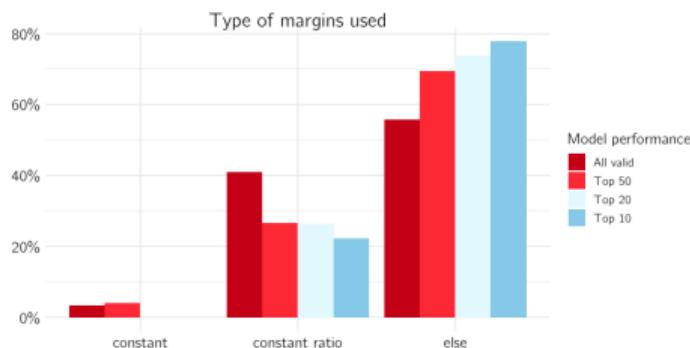
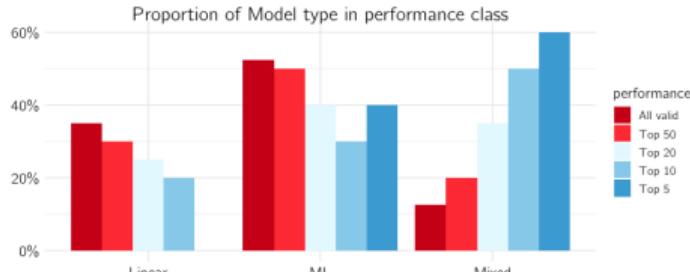
State of play I

Over 11 weeks, \approx 2,000 participants submitted a total of 10,000 models
Over 80% of participants devoted more than two hours weekly to modelling in the first phase. Since we have the model code, we can classify them into Linear, Machine learning or Mixed models.

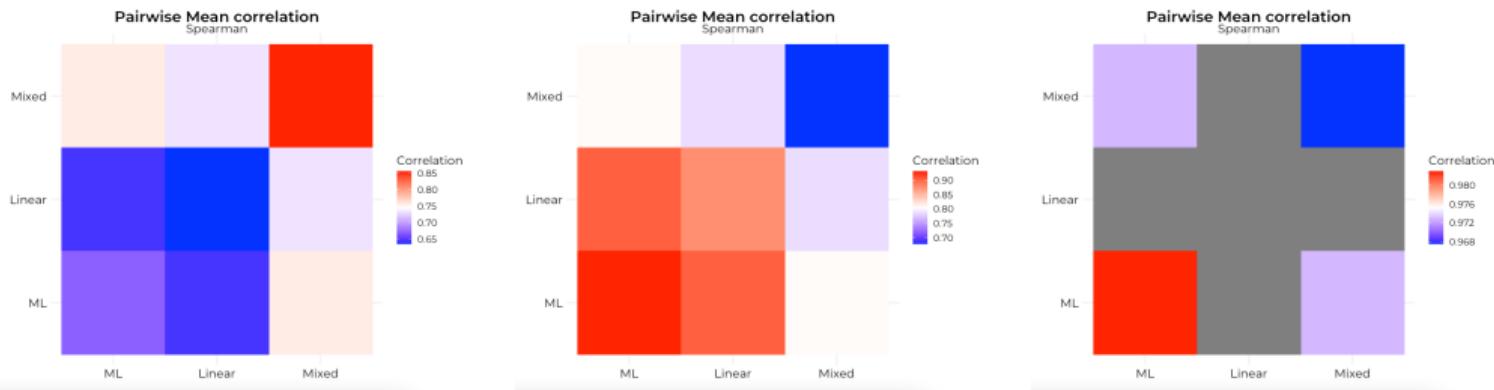
```
root@5fe115483f49:/home/aicrowd# ls -l
total 5068
-rw-r--r-- 1 aicrowd aicrowd    686 Mar  6 2021 Dock
drwxr-xr-x 2 aicrowd aicrowd   4096 Mar  6 2021 __MA
-rw-r--r-- 1 aicrowd aicrowd     26 Mar  6 2021 conf
-rw-r--r-- 1 aicrowd aicrowd   14573 Mar  6 2021 mode
-rw-r--r-- 1 aicrowd aicrowd  162952 Mar  6 2021 mode
-rw-r--r-- 1 aicrowd aicrowd   1309 Mar  6 2021 pred
-rw-r--r-- 1 aicrowd aicrowd 4975992 Mar  6 2021 prev
-rw-r--r-- 1 aicrowd aicrowd    179 Mar  6 2021 requ
-rw-r--r-- 1 aicrowd aicrowd     95 Mar  6 2021 test
-rwxr-xr-x 1 aicrowd aicrowd   107 Mar  6 2021 test
-rw-r--r-- 1 aicrowd aicrowd    571 Mar  6 2021 train
root@5fe115483f49:/home/aicrowd# grep -wns predict_p
324-           y_pred = np.multiply(y_pred, effects)
325-
326-
327-
328-     print("start predict interactions : nb interactio
329-     for var_1 in model["interactionsCoefficients"]:
330-         for var_2 in model["interactionsCoefficients"]:
331-             #print("predicting for interaction between " + var_1 + " and " + var_2)
332-             coeffs_1 = model["interactionsCoefficients"]
333-             coeffs_2 = model["interactionsCoefficients"]
334-             def find_coef(r):
335-                 return coeffs_1[r[var_1]] * coeffs_2[r[var_2]]
336-             effects = X_raw.apply(find_coef)
337-             y_pred = np.multiply(y_pred, effects)
338-
339-             y_pred = y_pred * trending_factor
340-     return y_pred * 1
341-
342-
343-
344:def predict_premium(model, X_raw):
345-     pred = predict_expected_claim(model, X_raw)
346-     flat_margin = 0.25
347-     margin = pred * flat_margin
348-     margin = np.clip(margin, 0.2, 40)
```

State of play II

Here: 250 valid submissions from the final week on test-data

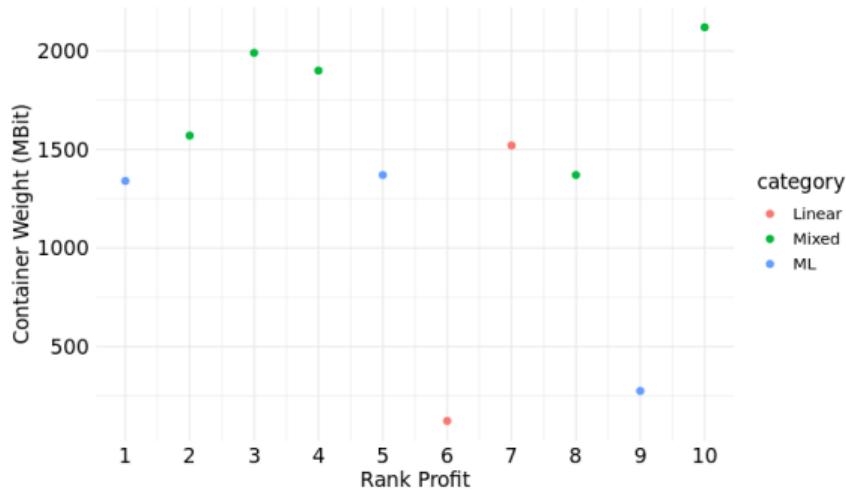


Some insights I



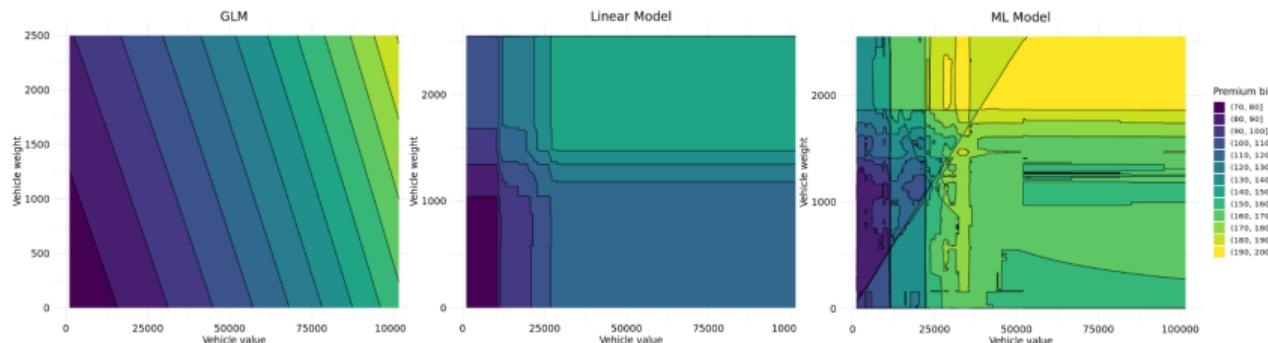
Some insights II

Is (model) complexity really what we are after?



There is currently few existing research on this, especially for the regression case..

Some insights III



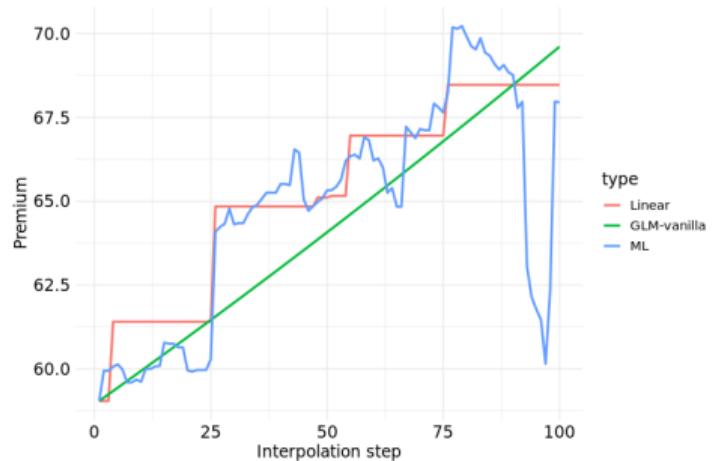
$$\mathbf{x}_i = (x_{i,1}, \dots, x_{i,D}), \quad \forall i \in \mathcal{D}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\mu} = (\mu_1, \dots, \mu_D)$$

$$\mathbf{v}_i = (\mu_1, \dots, \mu_{j-1}, u, \dots, \mu_{l-1}, t, \dots, \mu_D)$$

$$u \in [\min\{x_{\cdot,j}\}, \max\{x_{\cdot,j}\}], t \in [\min\{x_{\cdot,l}\}, \max\{x_{\cdot,l}\}]$$

Some insights IV



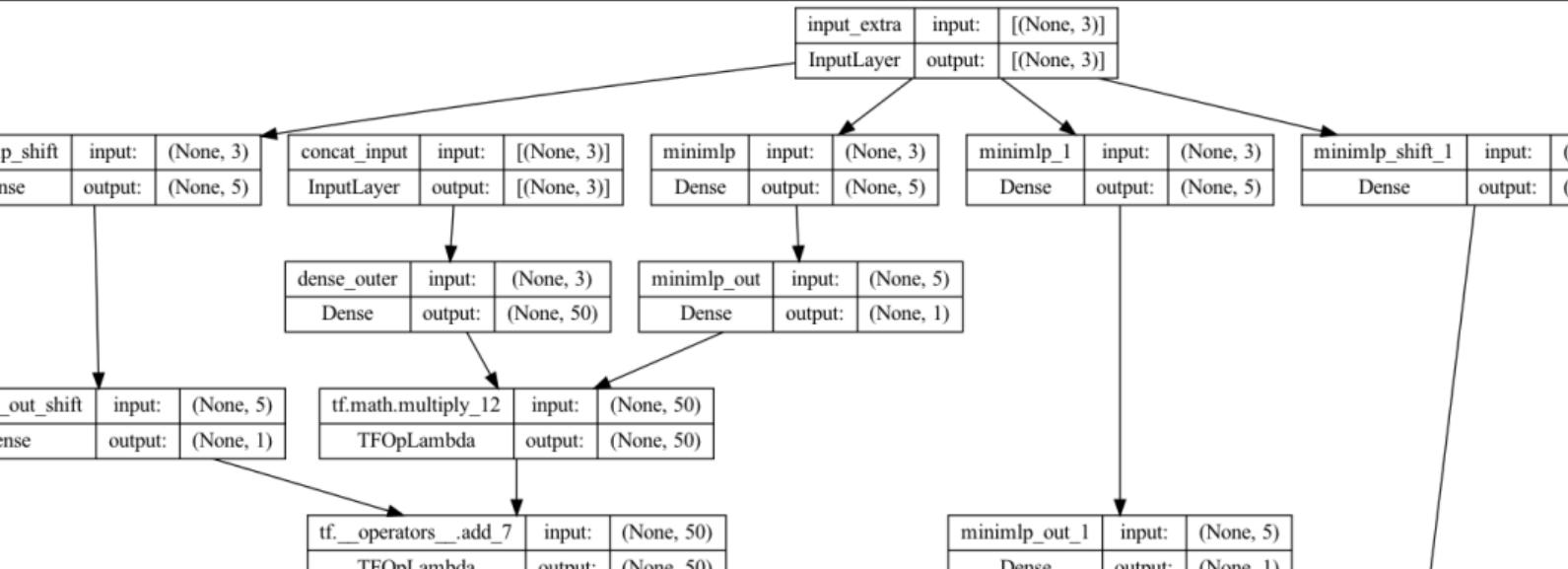
$$\mathbf{v}_i = (1 - \lambda_i)\mathbf{x}_1 + \lambda_i\mathbf{x}_2, \quad \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2 \in \mathcal{D}, \lambda_i \in [0, 1]$$

$$\hat{y}_{\mathcal{M}} = f_{\mathcal{M}}(\mathbf{v}_i)$$

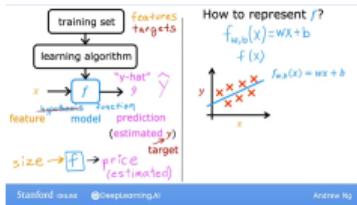
Next Steps

- Model Quantification
 - Expand search beyond a few models
 - Expand into 2d space around points & quantify surface
- Understand market dynamics (in progress)

Statistics of Deep Learning



Motivation



Source: [Coursera, 2022]



Source: [The Economist, 2016]

There is probably some middle ground between linear regression and the fully automatic *Maschinenmensch*. Evidence points to combination of "AI" and "classic" statistics as most successful pairing.

Literature I

Often cited are [Hornik et al., 1989, Leshno et al., 1993], but beyond really specific tasks such as speech and images, deep learning remains a niche product. In general, there is rather mixed evidence from the field and usage of ML-only approaches ie. [Makridakis et al., 2020]. Research and competitions also point in the direction of hybrid approaches as the best performers ie. M4, M5, NFL Big Data Bowl. However, a good mathematical understanding of the problem is key here.

We can look to theoretical approaches for guidance, for example [Bühlmann and Yu, 2003] and stop considering ML as something separate to the "usual" statistics.

Outline

In general, AI is said to transform the world with new models and new data. If we understand how ML algorithms work, we can start to integrate them into more standard models but we can also combine different sources of data.

Insights based on work for *Deep Kaplan-Meier* (2022) - under review, *Nonparametric sieve estimation* [[Ratz, 2022](#)] - presented at [VieCo](#) (2022) and at CFE/CMS (in two weeks) and *Multitask estimation* - working paper.

The approximation view I

Usually, model observations as a random sample from a probability distribution which can be expressed in terms of parameter θ , such that the distribution falls within a family $\{f(\cdot; \theta) | \theta \in \Theta\}$, usually Θ is finite dimensional and the functional form for f is restricted.

$$y = X\beta + \varepsilon, \quad \Theta = \{(\beta, \sigma) : (\beta, \sigma) \in \mathbb{R}^D \times \mathbb{R}^+\}$$

Quite flexible as for real valued, continuous f on $[a, b]$, $\forall \varepsilon > 0$ there exists a polynomial p such that $\forall x \in [a, b], |f(x) - p(x)| < \varepsilon$ (Weierstrass approximation theorem).

The approximation view II

Usually not really efficient though..

Instead consider an estimator of the form:

$$f(x, \theta) = \beta_0 + \sum_{k=1}^m \beta_k G(x^\top \gamma_k), \quad (1)$$

for some function G and $\theta = (\beta_0, \dots, \beta_m, \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m)$. Then for a suitably chosen G , [Hornik et al., 1989] and [Leshno et al., 1993] showed that (1) can approximate any function (for example in $C(\mathbb{R}^D, \mathbb{R})$), arbitrarily well if m is chosen large enough.

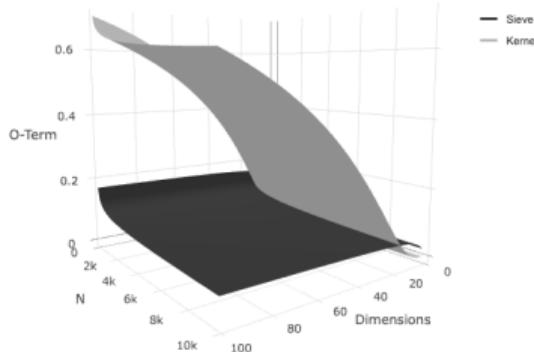
The approximation view III

The issue becomes that we need to optimize some criterion to find the parameters. Now if Θ is an infinite dimensional parameter space, maximizing an optimization criterion is usually no longer well defined. [Grenander, 1981] proposed instead to estimate the problem using a sequence of approximation spaces Θ_n which are dense in Θ . Usually $(\Theta_n \subseteq \Theta_{n+1} \dots)$ such that there is some π_n and metric d , such that $\forall \theta \in \Theta, \exists \pi_n$, s.t. $d(\theta, \pi_n \theta) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$ and π_n a projection mapping from Θ to Θ_n (see eg. [Chen et al., 2001])

TL;DR We can pretend to approximate our true function in a simpler approximation space. This then allows us to treat neural networks as nonparametric estimators.

Rates of convergence

Given that this is an approximation problem, we can derive rates of convergence. This was done for neural networks with "squashing" functions in [Chen et al., 2001] and extended to ReLU functions in [Ratz, 2022]. Usually, this means balancing bias and variance of the approximation and allows us to draw conclusions from the rates:



A flexible Kaplan-Meier Estimator I

We can add flexibility to many models by changing the form slightly. In survival estimation, some work has already been done. For example, [Yu et al., 2011] changed the Cox-PH model to allow a flexible hazard function. [Fotso, 2018] then extended this to include neural networks.

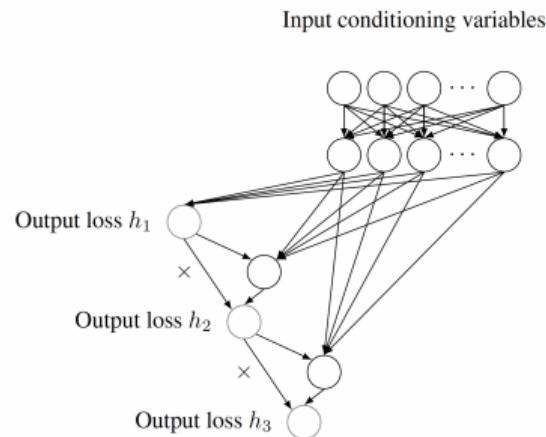
Here we consider a slightly different parametrization, for K discrete time bins:

$$Y_{i,j} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \tilde{\tau}_i < j \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad \forall i, j = 0, 1, \dots, K$$

$$W_{i,j} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } c_i < j \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad \forall i, j = 0, 1, \dots, K$$

A flexible Kaplan-Meier Estimator II

Now instead, assume we try to predict survival up to a point j with a binary regression. But we link their results in a neural architecture



A flexible Kaplan-Meier Estimator III

Then we can set up the Kaplan Meier estimator as the solution to the following weighted likelihood function:

$$\hat{z}_j = \arg \max_{z_j} \prod_{i=1}^n z_j^{w_{i,j} y_{i,j}} (1 - z_j)^{w_{i,j} (1 - y_{i,j})} \quad (2)$$

we can then model z_j with an arbitrary function dependent on covariates and approximate it with a neural network! This leads to a few interesting propositions:

A flexible Kaplan-Meier Estimator IV

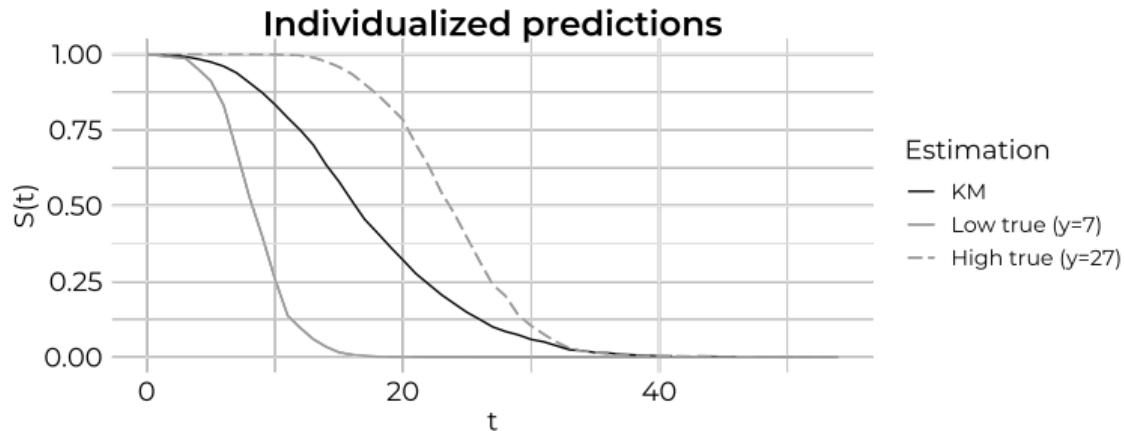
Equivalence to Kaplan-Meier

The Kaplan-Meier estimator is the expected value of the n individual predictions from the model specified by equation (2).

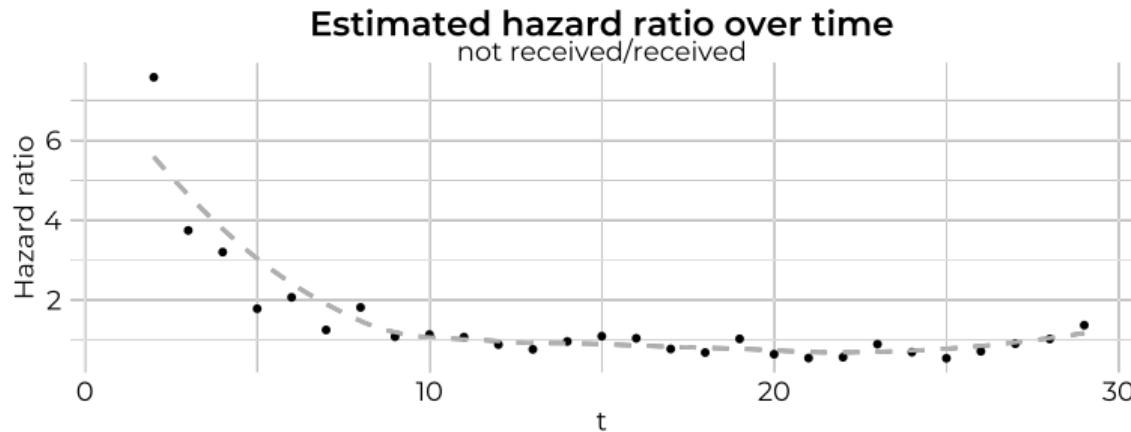
Consistency under informative censoring

If conditional independence between censoring and event time holds, the CKM estimator converges to the true hazard rate, even if censoring and event time are dependent.

A flexible Kaplan-Meier Estimator V



A flexible Kaplan-Meier Estimator VI



Task Combination I

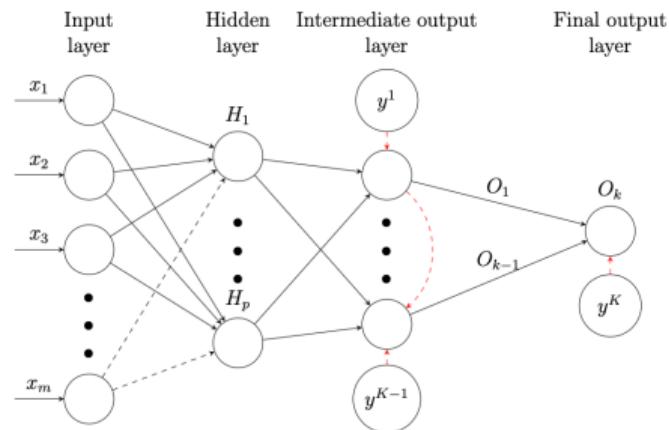
What if we push the universal approximation theorem? It remains valid even for multiple tasks (if we accept some restrictions on discontinuity)

[[Dosovitskiy and Djolonga, 2019](#)] explore multi-task learning when there is an inherent trade-off between the tasks. But what if we instead combine the tasks? - Some preliminary evidence

Task Combination II

An example (premium prediction)
 $A|\mathbf{X} \sim \mathcal{B}(p_{\mathbf{X}})$ and $S|\mathbf{X} \sim \mathcal{G}(\mu_{\mathbf{X}})$

$$\hat{\pi}(\mathbf{x}) = \hat{\mathbb{E}}[A|\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}] \times \hat{\mathbb{E}}[S|\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}]$$



So we are mostly interested in the combination, but divide the tasks as they are more manageable. Can we use this somehow?

Task Combination III

Let $\mathcal{L}^k(\cdot, \cdot)$ be the loss function associated to task k . For n observations and task weights λ_k ,

$$\hat{\theta}^* = \arg \min_{\theta} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^K \lambda_k \mathcal{L}^k(y_{i,k}, f(x_i, \theta, \lambda_k)),$$

where f is approximated with a FFNN

Task Combination IV

Formally, the basis for loss conditioning is based on YOTO
[Dosovitskiy and Djolonga, 2019]

$$\arg \min_{\theta} \mathbb{E}_{x,y} \mathcal{L}(y, F(x, \theta), \lambda) \quad (3)$$

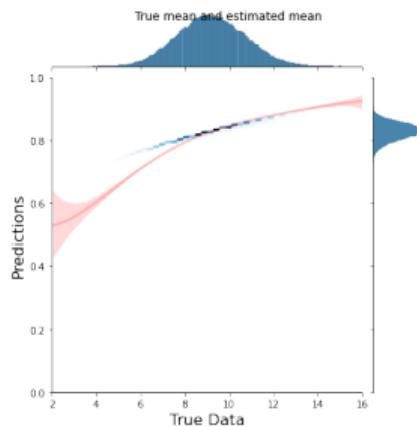
$$\arg \min_{\theta} \mathbb{E}_{x,y} \mathbb{E}_{\lambda} \mathcal{L}(y, G(x, \theta, \lambda), \lambda) \quad (4)$$

Here the model is optimized independent from λ , assume it is fixed and a hyperparameter to tune

This time we make the model "learn" to optimize over a distribution of λ which then allows to condition on it

Task Combination V

In theory, we can recover an arbitrary relationship between the sub-parts of the model, and it seems to work in practice.



Next Steps

- Approximation Results
 - Derive approximation using the theory of sieves
 - Derive Rademacher Inequality
- Rerun graphs and submit :)

Appendix

Conditional Mean Risk sharing details I

Although established as optimal (in the convex order sense), the conditional mean risk sharing of [Denuit and Dhaene, 2012] has an important drawback: it is only guaranteed if $X_i|S$ is known (that is, the joint distribution of $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$ is known).

In eg. [Denuit and Robert, 2020b] this is extended and show preference relations over different risk pools. Further, they show that increasing participants in a pool is always beneficial under conditional mean risk sharing.

[Denuit and Robert, 2020a] is then concerned with modelling the conditional dependence structure, which are represented as a graphical model.

Optimization approach of Feng I

[Feng et al., 2022] then take a similar approach, supposing that $\mathbb{V}[h_i(S)] \leq \mathbb{V}[X_i], \forall i$ is the goal of the sharing mechanism. The novelty here is to consider:

$$\sum_{i=1}^n X_i = \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i, \quad Y_i = h_i(X_1, \dots, X_n)$$

with the special case $h_i(X_1, \dots, X_n) = h_i(S)$. Their results are devised for quota sharing (which is similar to what we consider in our paper as well), that is for weights $\alpha_{i,j}, \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_{i,j} = 1$

Optimization approach of Feng II

[Abdikerimova and Feng, 2021] consider P2P transfer networks. If p_i is the probability that i suffers a loss, one should impose:

$$\alpha_{i,1}p_1 + \cdots + \alpha_{i,n}p_n = p_i$$

Their main results are then centered around specific solutions for different circumstances. Note that this is also similar to our optimization problem.

The Balance property I

In the words of [Wüthrich, 2022], even if individual error is small, the aggregated portfolio level error might be substantial. With the example of a classification problem:

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n y_i = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma(\hat{\beta}_0^{\text{MLE}} + x_i^T \hat{\beta}^{\text{MLE}}) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{p}^{\text{MLE}}(x_i)$$

taking expectations then gives the unbiasedness property on the population level. This holds for GLMs within the exponential family with canonical links. Note though, that this does not hold for not-fully trained ANNs.

Appendix

Image on section title for Risk sharing on Networks from:
[Föhn-Gasser, 1952], Icons not specifically referenced are from
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