

Bayesian portfolio-specific mortality

Discussion

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My reading of the paper

- Bayesian estimation of a multiple population mortality model
 - population level
 - portfolio level
- Findings
 - parameter uncertainty at portfolio level can be significant
 - confidence intervals similar to stochastic population model and *deterministic* portfolio factors
 - thus lower SCR

What I like

- Technically well executed and clearly documented
- Relevant discussion when considering possibility of choosing your pension fund

Bigger questions

- You use independent (over age) priors for population beta-s and only allow dependence at portfolio level
 - Why?
- “... the portfolio-specific factors differ from the frequentist equivalent estimates.”
 - So, how sensitive to priors in terms of SCR consequences?

Smaller questions

- “We use a Poissonian likelihood to account for variability in small portfolios.”
 - but, this is small p , not small n ?
- “Our proposed method to model population mortality and portfolio-specific mortality simultaneously may help to explain the data.”
 - is it the *model* or the *estimation technique*?