

## 1. Debt collection management strategies are tailored to individual behaviour

### Predictive Sequential Debt Collection Management with $z$ -similarities

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This is a project within the *Quantitative Financial Risk Management Centre*  
<http://www.imperial.ac.uk/mathsinstitute/quantfinrisk>

e.g. Might have casework teams:

paid

missed

AWOL

## 2. Decision support tools use most recent information to determine actions

e.g. to predict

**1** RISK of missed payment next month

**2** conditional upon ACTION this month

## 3. Some problems constructing risk-management models for debt-collection management

### **1** SCOPE FOR REGRESSION

- type of debt often better predictor than individual characteristics

### **2** POPULATION DRIFT

- Rapidly changing environment, e.g. changing economic, competition, market and regulatory factors

#### 4. Predictive sequential management involves tracking the individual sequentially and adjusting predictions

To predict we consider

##### 1 INDIVIDUAL'S HISTORY

- e.g. repayment history, letters sent, telephone calls received

##### 2 OTHERS in portfolio

#### 5. Approach through simple example: monthly repayment histories

$i$  - debtor

$\mathbf{D}_i$  - repayment history

$\hat{u}_i$  - proportion paid to date

$i$	$\mathbf{D}_i$	$\hat{u}_i$
1	1 1 0 0 1	3/5
2	1 1 0	2/3
3	1	1

#### 6. Approach through example: others with similar histories

Define 'similarity' between  $i$  and  $j$  as

$$z_{ij} = \frac{\rho(\mathbf{D}_i | \hat{u}_j)}{\sum_{k=1}^n \rho(\mathbf{D}_i | \hat{u}_k)} \quad (1)$$

$\mathbf{D}_i$  data

$\mathbf{u}$  parameters

$\rho(\mathbf{D} | \mathbf{u})$  likelihood

#### 7. Approach through example: similarity calculation with binomial model for likelihood

$z_{ij}$	$j$		
$i$	1	2	3
1	0.512	0.488	0.000
2	0.493	0.507	0.000
3	0.265	0.294	0.441

e.g.

$$z_{11} = \frac{\binom{3}{5}^3 \left(\frac{2}{5}\right)^2}{\binom{3}{5}^3 \left(\frac{2}{5}\right)^2 + \binom{2}{3}^3 \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^2 + (1)^3 (0)^2} = 0.512$$

## 8. Approach through example: predict payment next month $C$

$$p_e(C|\mathbf{D}_i) = \sum_{j=1}^n z_{ij} p(C|\mathbf{D}_i, \hat{u}_j) \quad (2)$$

$$P_e(D_{16} = 1|\mathbf{D}) = (0.512 \times 3/5) + (0.488 \times 2/3) + (1 \times 0) \\ = 0.633$$

$$P_e(D_{24} = 1|\mathbf{D}) = 0.634$$

$$P_e(D_{32} = 1|\mathbf{D}) = 0.796$$

Population mean =  $2/3$

## 10. Approach can be extended for actions: will the debtor pay next month?

Model: hazard for month  $s$  since last payment

$$h_s = \rho^{1+(s-1)^u}, \quad (3)$$

$u > 0$  is a parameter, and

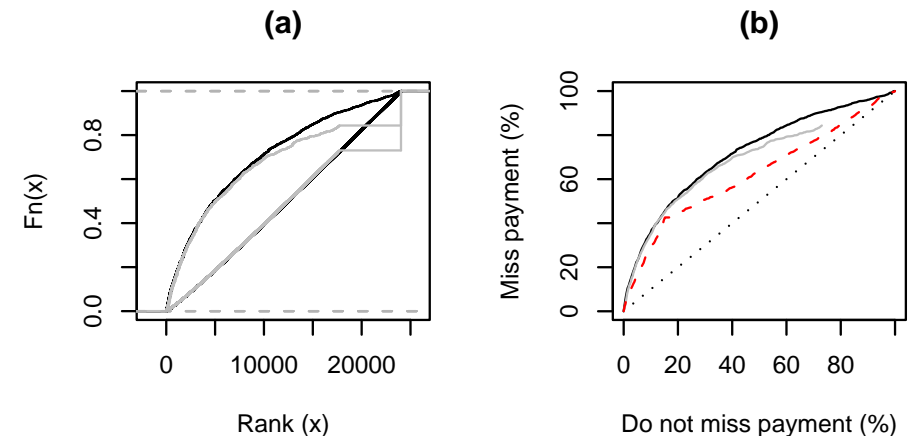
$$\rho = \frac{\exp(w_1 + w_2 a_s)}{1 + \exp(w_1 + w_2 a_s)} \quad (4)$$

action level  $a_s$  (number of phone calls);  $w_1$  and  $w_2$  unconstrained parameters.

## 9. Interpretation of sequentially applying this approach

- 1 Initially predictions based on portfolio average
- 2 As more data is gathered about the individual, predictions down weight those with different histories

## 11. Will the debtor pay next month?



black -  $z_{ij}$  predictions, grey - individual, red - population.

## 12. How late is late? Probability $q$ pay in next week, given not paid in last 32 days

Model: logistic regression

$$q = \exp(u_1 + u_2 a_{39}) / \{1 + \exp(u_1 + u_2 a_{39})\} \quad (5)$$

Alternative, hazard model:

$$h_s = \exp(u_3 + u_4 a_s) / \{1 + \exp(u_3 + u_4 a_s)\} \quad (6)$$

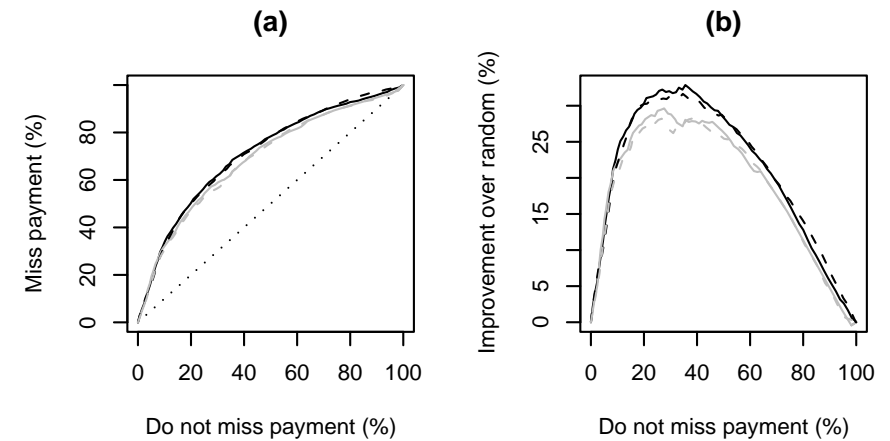
for  $32 < s \leq 39$ ,  $\mathbf{u}$  unconstrained parameters,  $a_s$  action level to day  $s$ .

## 14. Predictive sequential risk management with likelihood-based similarities

Sequentially:

- 1 Use individual history
- 2 Take into account others
- 3 Predict

## 13. How late is late? Probability $q_i$ pay in next week, given not paid in last 32 days



black -  $z_{ij}$  predictions, grey - individual; solid - logit, dashed - hazard

## 15. Thank you

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