

Risk Willingness in Non-Life Insurance

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View of the Supervision Authority

150 years ago: insurance business **very risky**
many insurance companies went bankrupt

legislative provisions and
mathematical methods changed this

e.g. in Austria:

1860: first legislative measures

1909: sixth ICA in Vienna: presentation of the
mathematical model by **Filip Lundberg**

in Europe:

1973: European Council Directive

Solvency of a company measured by the
equity capital (Eigenkapital)

two Problems:

1. only one key figure
2. accuracy of the technical provisions

The relation between technical provisions and equity capital is in many cases something like 10:1

a change of the provisions of +/- 5 %

means a change of the solvency margin by -/+ 50 %

“Slightly manipulate the technical provisions and you can make an insolvent company solvent and vice versa!”

equity capital (Eigenkapital)

Proposal: additional key figures

unbalancedness of the risk

(Unausgeglichenheit der Risiken)

generated by the fluctuations of the claims costs

premium loading (Sicherheitszuschlag)

retention (Eigenbehalt)

risk willingness (Risikobereitschaft)

measuring the risk behavior of the entrepreneur

relationship between the items:

risk willingness will be

high if “retention” and “unbalancedness” is high

low if “capital” and “premium loading” is high

heuristic conclusion:

$$\text{risk willingness} = \frac{\text{retention} * \text{unbalancedness}}{\text{capital} * \text{premium loading}}$$

for the **quantification** of the five items:

a few denotations:

u equity capital

Z(t) the **gross total claims costs** in the year t

S(t) the **net total claims costs** in the year t

P(t) the **net premiums** (retention premiums) in the year t

$Y(t) = P(t) - S(t)$ the **net result** of the company in the year t

quantification of the items:

unbalancedness of the risk (Unausgeglichenheit der Risiken):

$$v[Z] = \frac{Var[Z]}{E^2[Z]} = \text{square of the coefficient of variation of } Z$$

a measure for the fluctuation of the claims costs

premium loading (Sicherheitszuschlag):

$$\frac{E[Y]}{E[Z]} = \text{a measure of the premium loading}$$

retention (Eigenbehalt):

$$\frac{Var[S]}{Var[Z]} = \text{a measure for the efficiency of the applied reinsurance program}$$

equity capital (Eigenkapital):

$$\frac{u}{E[Z]} = \text{a measure for the equity equipment}$$

our marvelous formula:

$$\text{risk willingness} = \frac{\text{retention} * \text{unbalancedness}}{\text{capital} * \text{premium loading}}$$

becomes:

$$\text{risk willingness} = \frac{\frac{\text{Var}[S]}{u} * \frac{\text{Var}[Z]}{E[Z]}}{\frac{E^2[Z]}{E[Z]} * \frac{E[Y]}{E[Z]}} = \frac{\text{Var}[S]}{u * E[Y]}$$

the risk willingness will become

high if the variance of the net claims costs is high, and

low if the equity equipment is high and

low if the expected value of the net result is high

the main entrepreneurial decisions:

the extend of the involved equity capital u

the retention program, measured by $\frac{Var[S]}{Var[Z]}$

the premium loading, measured by $\frac{E[Y]}{E[Z]}$

they describe the risk willingness of the entrepreneur.

$$risk\ willingness = \frac{Var[S]}{u * \frac{E[Y]}{E[Z]}} = \frac{Var[S]}{u * E[Y]}$$

sophisticate approach to a quantification of the **risk behavior**:

the risk process could be described by:

$$Y(t) = u + P(t) - S(t)$$

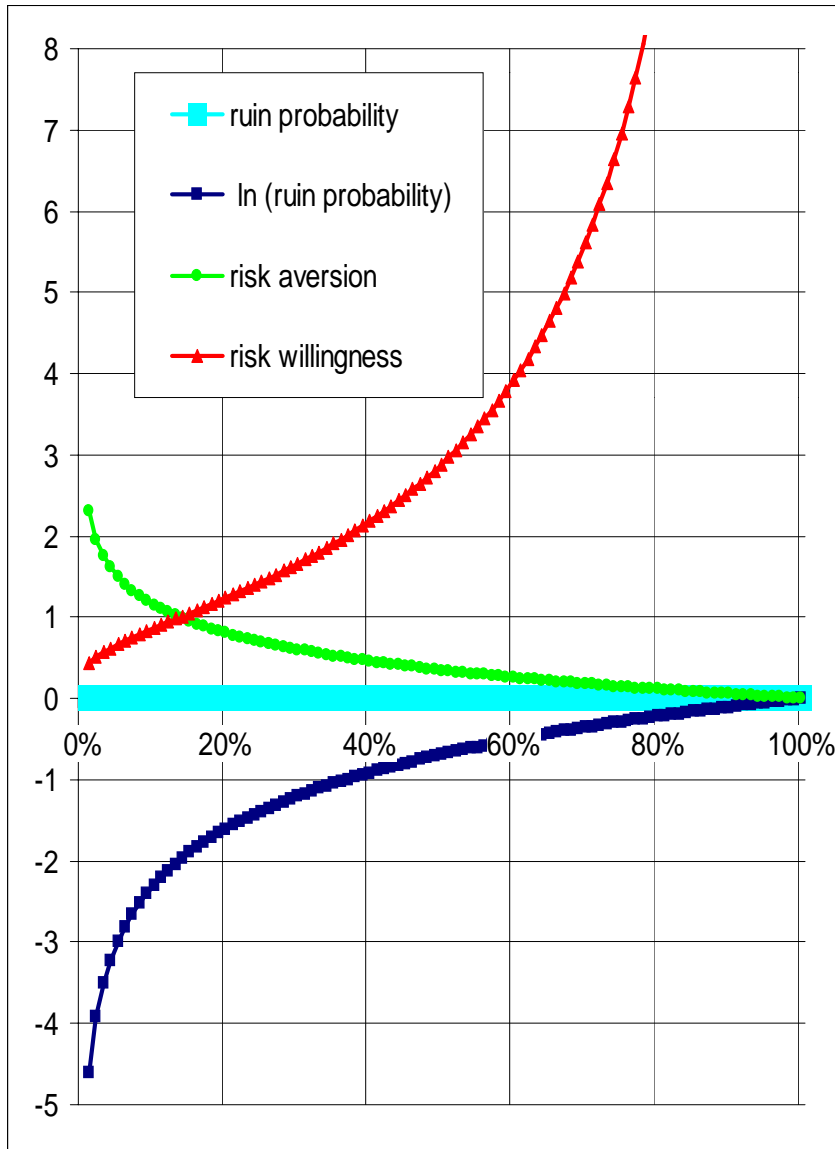
$$\psi(u) = \text{Prob}[Y(t) < 0 \text{ for any } t \mid \text{equity capital } u]$$

this probability (usually called ruin probability) is bounded:

$$\psi(u) \leq e^{-\kappa u} \text{ where } \kappa \text{ satisfies } \ln E[e^{-\kappa Y}] = 0$$

taking the first terms of power expansion we obtain: $\kappa \approx \frac{2 * E[Y]}{\text{Var}[S]}$

finally by putting equality in the inequality (as it is correct in the Erlang case) we obtain: $\psi(u) \approx e^{-\frac{2 * u * E[Y]}{\text{Var}[S]}}$



ruin probability:

$$\psi(u) \approx e^{-\frac{2 * u * E[Y]}{Var[S]}}$$

the linear scale dose not describe the tremendous increase of afford to come closer to the value 0 %.

So use another scale:

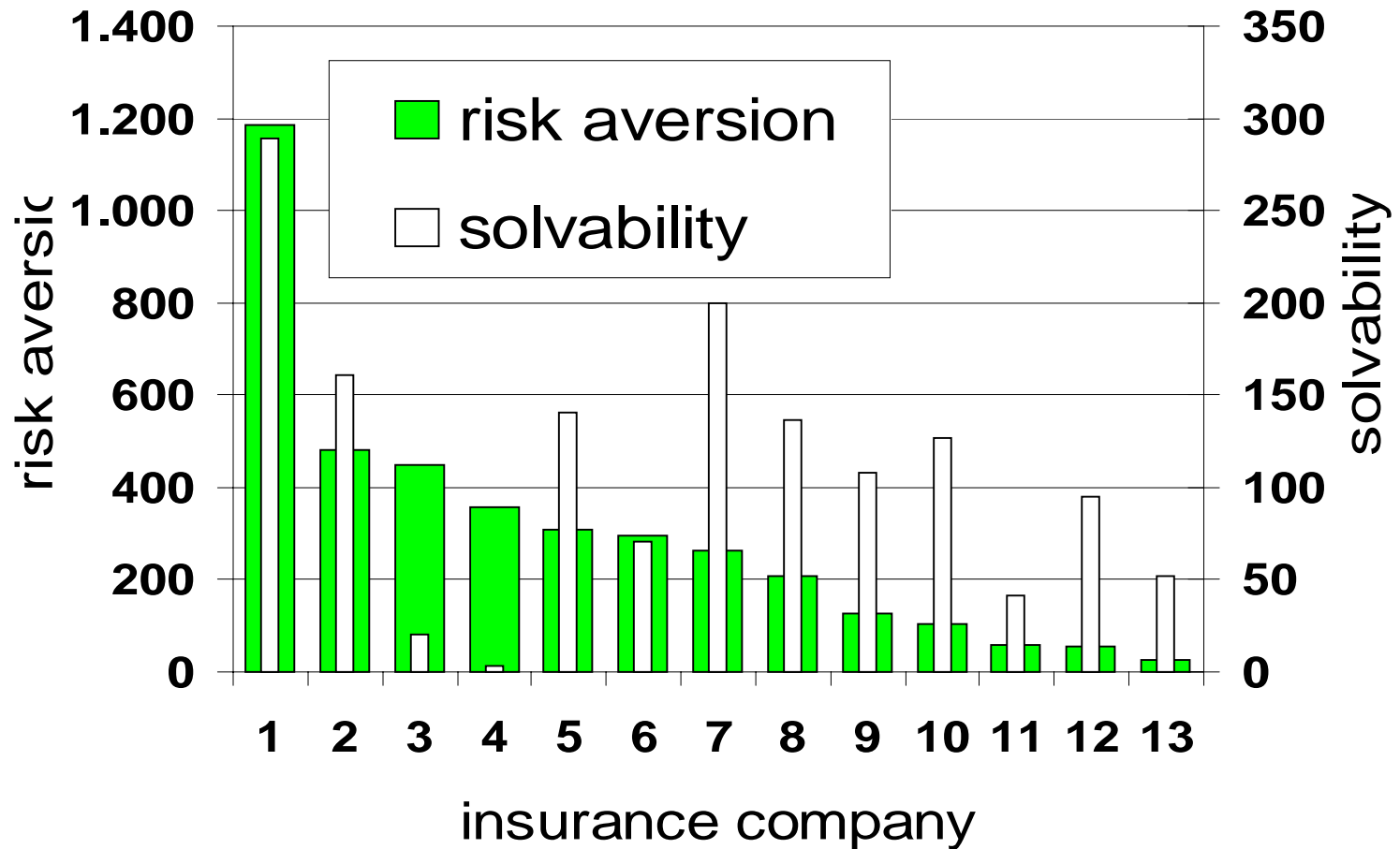
approaching 0 % asymptotically:

$$\ln \psi(u) \approx -\frac{2 * u * E[Y]}{Var[S]}$$

$$\text{risk aversion} = -\frac{1}{2} \ln \psi(u) = \frac{u * E[Y]}{Var[S]}$$

$$\text{risk willingness} = 1/\text{risk aversion}$$

risk aversion and solvability for 13 companies, period 1987 - 1996



proposal:

have a look on **more than one key figure**

but don't forget the **relationship between the figures!**

The challenge is to **improve the quantification** of the observed key figures!

for example by assuming a distribution for Z
(e.g. gamma distribution or a fat tailed distribution)

or by taking an additional term in the power expansion,
that means taking in account the skewness of Z .