# **Arius**<sup>®</sup> Formula Driven Assumptions



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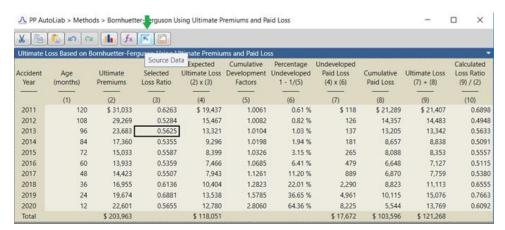
# Formula Driven Assumptions

Formula Driven Assumptions (FDAs) are input objects that help you arrive at final selected assumptions by choosing from among inputs from a number of different techniques.

In one commonly used example, Arius provides an FDA to help select a priori loss ratios from among several different techniques for estimating potential loss ratios. Arius includes exhibits such as Prior Selections, Preliminary Weighted Selections, and Trended Expected Selections to help in your understanding of the related loss ratio data. The FDA table Loss Ratio – BF Method then lets you choose selected loss ratios by exposure period for use in BF methods (and elsewhere). You can weigh the various inputs into your decision, and can set defaults so the selected loss ratios update automatically in future periods.

To explain how to use FDAs we use the "Bornhuetter-Ferguson Using Ultimate Premium and Paid Loss Method" to illustrate. For every Bornhuetter-Ferguson method there is a collection of objects to help you get to your a priori assumption. There is an FDA object for your a priori average loss, loss rate, and loss ratio for each of the BF methods.

#### TRACING DATA TO THE SOURCE



We can determine the source of any column of a table by clicking anywhere within the column and then clicking on the **Source Data** icon found in the object window ribbon. In the illustration above we are seeking the source of the Selected Loss Ratio column of our BF method. Clicking on the **Source Data** icon will open the FDA Loss Ratio – BF Method which is shown in the next section.

2019

2020

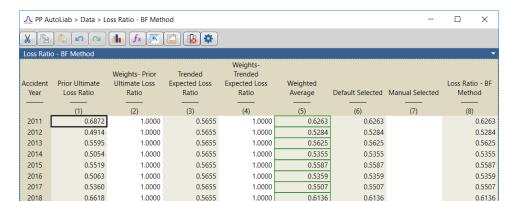
(1) Based on Prior analysis

0.8108

(3) From &[ReferTo Method Trended Expected Loss Ratio]

1.0000

0.5655



#### THE FORMULA DRIVEN ASSUMPTION

Formula Driven Assumptions are found in the Object Library under the Data node in the Assumptions folder and are identified by this icon: ...

1.0000

1.0000

0.6881

0.6881

0.5655

100% -

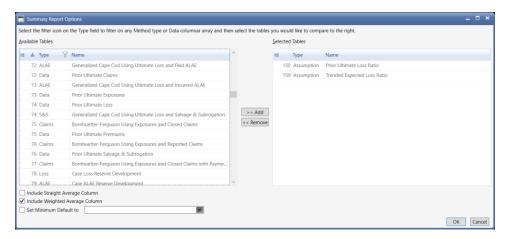
0.6881

0.5655

The table illustrated above uses the final "Loss Ratio – BF Method" column to populate the "Selected Loss Ratio" column of our BF method. This object functions in the same way as the "Comparison of Ultimate ... Estimates" reports. In this case, we are choosing our loss ratio from multiple techniques for arriving at the loss ratio assumption. Here we can choose from the "Prior Ultimate Loss Ratio" technique, "Trended Expected Loss Ratio" technique, or the weighted average of these two techniques.

# **Selecting techniques for Formula Driven Assumptions**

In our example the "Prior Ultimate Loss Ratio" and "Trended Expected Loss Ratio" objects are included as columns in our FDA. We have complete control over which objects are included here. To choose the assumption techniques which you would like to add to this table, click on the gear icon on the FDA ribbon.



On the left of the Options window is a list of the objects available for display as a column in your FDA (including user-defined objects). The list on the right are those objects which have been selected for inclusion in the FDA. Select an object from the list on the left, then click >>Add to move the object to the list on the right. To remove a column from the FDA, click on the object in the list on the right, then click on <<Remove.

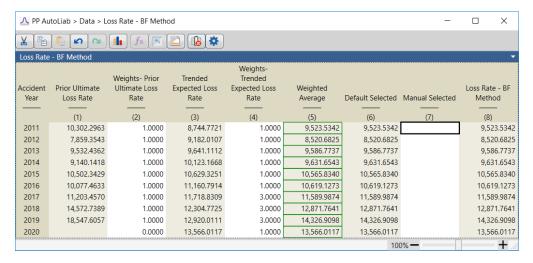
Note that on the bottom left side of this window you can choose to include a weighted average and/or straight average column on your FDA. You can also choose a minimum default from a drop-down list. Within the FDA, if the default selected value is less than the exposure period value in the object selected from the drop-down list, then the exposure period value from the selected object will become the default selected value on your FDA, which you will see enclosed in a blue box.

When you are done selecting your FDA settings, click **OK**. You will have the option of applying these settings for this FDA object across all of your segments if you desire.

#### Weighting your technique columns

If you elect to include a weighted average column on your FDA, then you will see weight columns with white backgrounds beside each of the assumption technique columns. You will use these columns to enter your own weightings by exposure period. These weights do not need to add to 100. For example, in the illustration shown below we have entered 1 for each of our weights in years 2011 through 2016, which results in equal weight given to each assumption technique for those years. In years 2017 through 2019, weight entries of 1 and 3 for our two assumption techniques results in a 25%/75% weighting of these techniques when calculating the weighted average column in our FDA. You can

toggle the view of these weight columns by clicking on the licon in the FDA ribbon.



#### Selecting your default assumption

Picking your Loss Ratio for an exposure year is accomplished by placing a green selection box around your ratio choice or making an entry into the "Manual Selected" column which will override your default selection. To place a green box around your selected assumption, right-click on an individual assumption value or contiguous assumption values from any of the techniques on the average column then choose **Set As Default**, or you can right-click on a column heading to select the entire column then choose **Set As Default**. Note that the values in the green boxes flow into the "Default Selected" column which then flows into the final column "Loss Ratio – BF Method." This is the value which will carry over to your BF method. If desired, you can make an entry into the "Manual Selected" column

which will override your "Default Selected" value to become your final "Loss Ratio – BF Method" selection.

### **Assumption collections**

The system provides collections of all related objects for arriving at your assumptions for average loss, loss rate, and loss ratio. If you would like to add these collections to your Arius project files, click on **Collection Library** from the Arius Home ribbon then select **Open Collection Library**. You will find these under various sub-nodes within the Deterministic node starting with the titles "Selection of Average Loss ...", "Selection of Loss Rate ..." and "Selection of Loss Ratio ..." Simply drag and drop from the Collection Library into the navigation pane of your Arius project.

#### **Creating user-defined Formula Driven Assumptions**

You can create your own FDAs by opening the Object Library from the Arius Home ribbon, then click **NEW** in the Object Library ribbon. Choose **New Input** from the drop-down list. Then choose an Array Type of "Formula-Driven Assumption". You will find your new FDA in the Data node of the Object Library in the "User Defined" folder. Double-click on your new object to open it and use the gear icon as described in the section of this document "Selecting techniques for formula driven assumptions." You can add your new FDA object to a collection in your navigation pane following the Helpful Tips document found from the Arius Home ribbon under HELP | USER DOCUMENTATION | WORKING WITH COLLECTIONS IN ARIUS.

#### FORMULA DRIVEN ASSUMPTIONS AND THE ARIUS API

You can retrieve Formula Driven Assumptions using the Arius API using the "Input" table type. If retrieving a Formula Driven Assumption which includes a weighted average the following algorithm is required to arrive at the correct column count:

NumCols = AriusProject.NumColumns(FullPath, Segment, "Input", TableName, Incremental) NumCols = ((NumCols - 2) \* 2) + 4