

# STRESS TESTING

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## Main points we want to get across today

- The crisis has highlighted the shortcomings in stress testing frameworks, particularly in how they are generated and how they are used by management
- Generating effective scenarios requires a robust data driven process and lateral thinking, e.g. reverse stresses – expert insight is essential to ensure business relevance
- Scenario-based goes beyond risk management and should support business decision making and contingency planning – as well as a wide range of management processes
- Senior management and business buy-in remains key to derive maximum use of stress testing frameworks and planning

Section 1 | **Lessons learned from the crisis**

# Stress and scenario testing is highlighted by many as a gap in banks' risk management frameworks

## Need for stress-testing highlighted

- Industry difficulties attributed in part to misunderstanding the impact of “events”
  - Appropriate stresses not considered
  - Impact of stresses not well understood
- Stress-testing near the top of the agenda for regulators, rating agencies and analysts
  - Recent BIS and UK FSA publications
  - Government support design/execution
  - Broker reports and valuations
- Economic outlook particularly uncertain, with uncertainty underscoring the need for stress testing insights
  - Characteristics of the current recession unclear (deflation, hyper-inflation...?)
  - Post crisis regulatory and competitive landscape unclear



## Many institutions fall short of requirements

- Few executives regularly utilise stress/scenario results in decision making
  - Limited value realised from current capabilities
- Most institutions lack elements of analytical “technology”
  - Most have some siloed models (e.g. liquidity stresses)...
  - ...though few meaningfully model the impact of scenarios
  - Many miss a holistic view of all risks/products/businesses
- Substantial ambiguity about required or best practice
  - Regulatory requirements
  - Processes and what to do with the insights provided

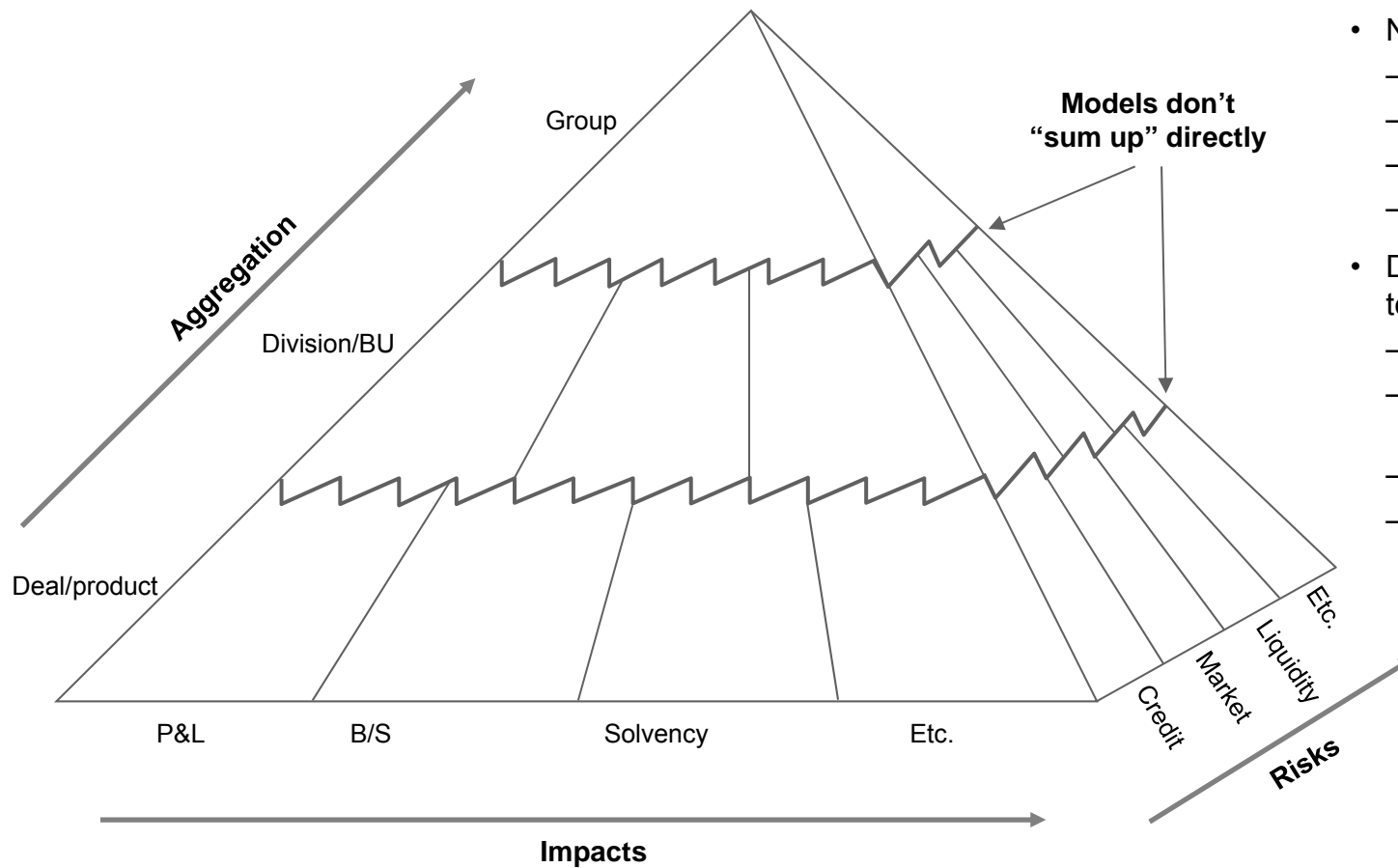
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Lower recent defaults/losses in many of the Asia Pacific portfolios in recent years highlights the importance of forward looking, rather than backward looking, metrics

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# Challenge: There is significant ambiguity over issues that stress testing should cover, and the role in the organisation

## Illustrative stress testing framework

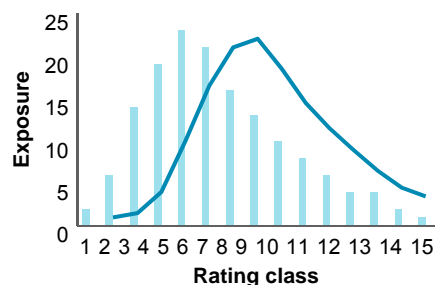


- Numerous interpretations of
  - “Sensitivity analysis”
  - “Stress testing”
  - “Scenario planning”
  - Etc.
- Differing views over stress testing’s role in
  - Risk management
  - Strategic/business management
  - Regulatory compliance
  - Target setting...

# It is important to get the “big picture” right beyond the individual scenario methodology and definitions

## Sensitivity tests

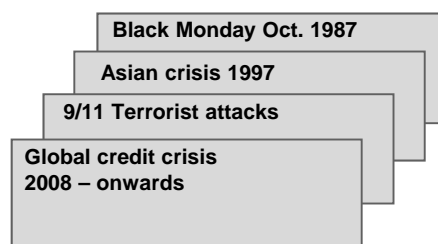
- Defined by shift in underlying variable
- Relatively easy to define and implement
  - Often used at trading desk and business line level
- Shifts in several variables have to be used in order to “simulate” historical events
- Correct use of stressed correlations between risk types is crucial
  - Difficult to parameterise



## Scenario tests

### Historical scenarios

- Choice of different scenarios that are most relevant for different parts of the portfolio
- Coverage at least of major risks in the portfolio



### Hybrid scenarios

- Hypothetical scenarios that are based on historical scenarios
  - Adjusted historical scenarios
  - Price sensitivities are set using historical events
  - Effects of events on market liquidity are set using historical scenarios

### Hypothetical scenarios

- More relevant to portfolio and current market environment than historical scenarios
- Labour intensive
- Involve more judgement
  - Usually created with input from experts
  - Management
  - Business level
  - Macro-economic models

- Get high level estimate of likelihood of each scenario
- Ensure coverage of all risk types that the bank faces
- Ensure coverage of major portfolios by dedicated elements in each stress scenario

Trade-off of comprehensibility vs. realism is crucial – get the “big picture” of scenarios right

# The industry has begun to address challenges across four key areas

## Past stress testing framework vs. emerging framework

### Historical stress testing framework

- **Range of scenarios considered**
  - Often based on statistical intervals (“1 in 25”)
  - Consideration of historical events (“1990’s recession”)
  - Sets of events deemed by management to be severe but plausible
- **Scope**
  - Siloed approach to addressing each risk type
  - “Mechanical” approach taken by Risk Management, often based on historical relationships and events
- **Governance and use**
  - Risk management the primary audience, with the aim of meeting Basel II/Pillar II challenges
  - Limited use in business processes or decision making
- **Practical approach**
  - Ad hoc analysis by Group Risk
  - Conducted in isolation from many other risk management processes



### Emerging stress testing framework

- **Range of scenarios considered**
  - Less focus on statistical/historical relationships
  - Focus on forward-looking and creative challenges
  - Reverse stress-tests (i.e. scenarios that break the business model)
- **Scope**
  - Holistic view of risks, business and threat types, with particular focus on liquidity and reputation
  - Focus on “contagion”, both within the Group and across the broader industry
  - Increased input from experts across a range of business disciplines
- **Governance and use**
  - Board level issue for debate
  - Consideration of scenario impacts across a broad range of processes (e.g. contingency planning)
- **Practical approach**
  - Business-as-usual process, embedded in regular reporting and strategy development

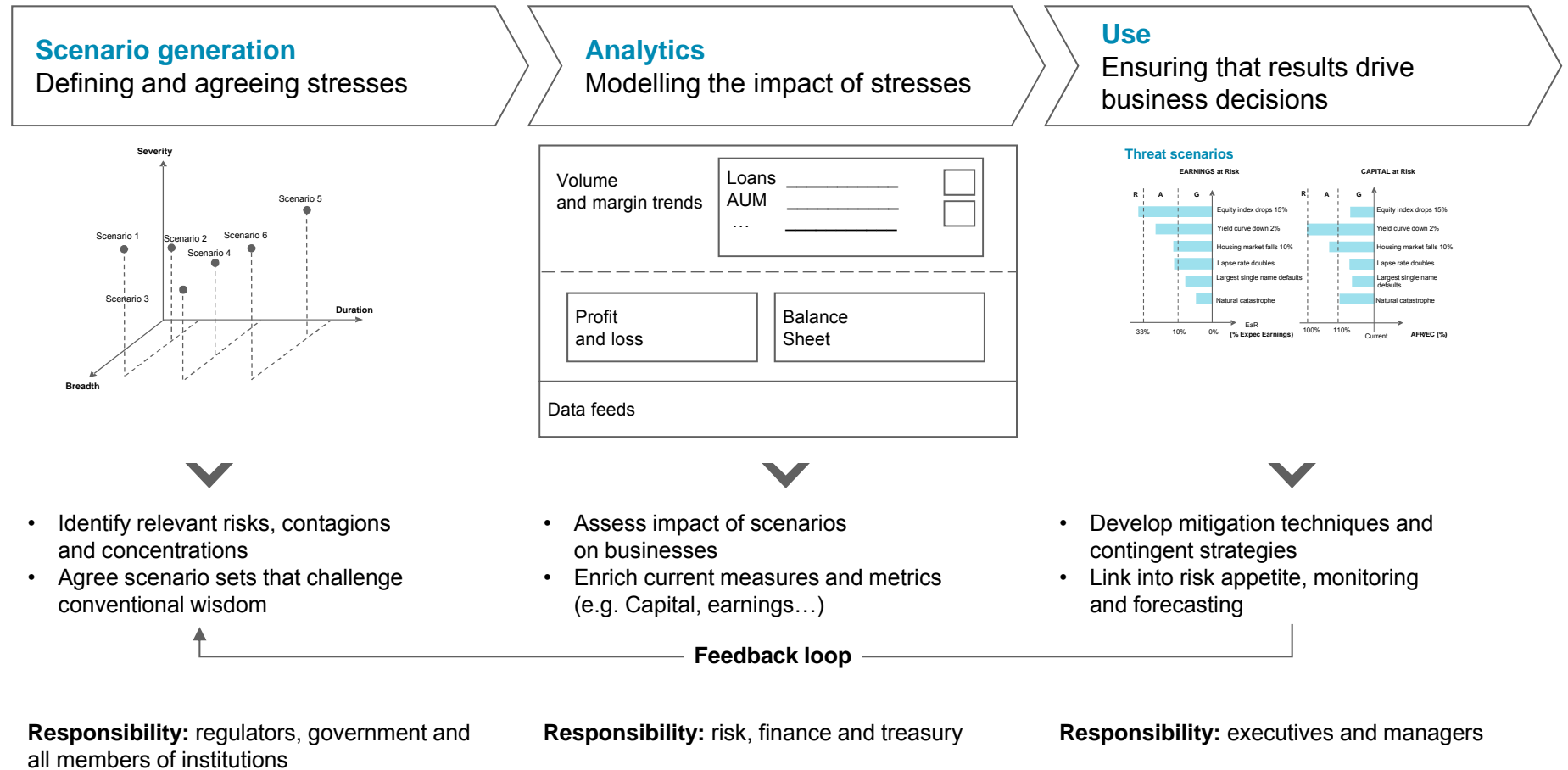
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# To create real impact from stress testing while meeting compliance goals, processes and analytics must be addressed simultaneously...

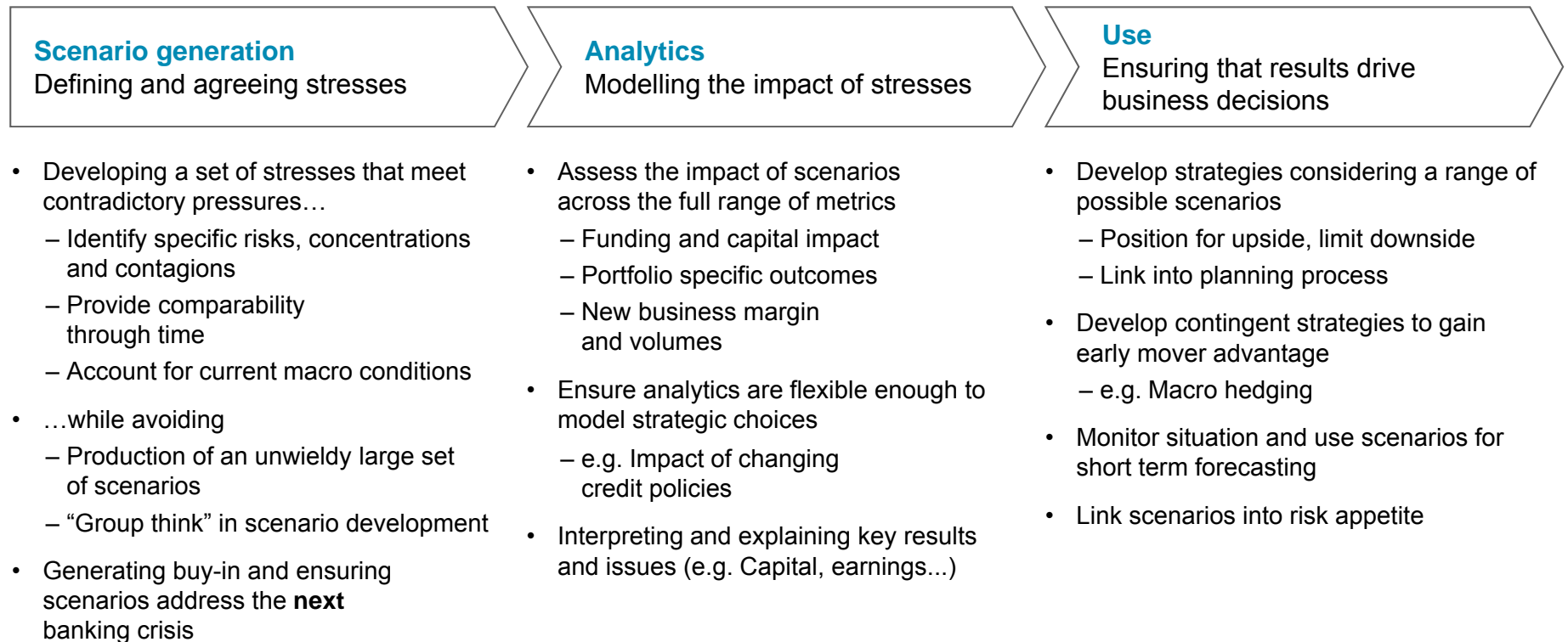
## Stress testing framework



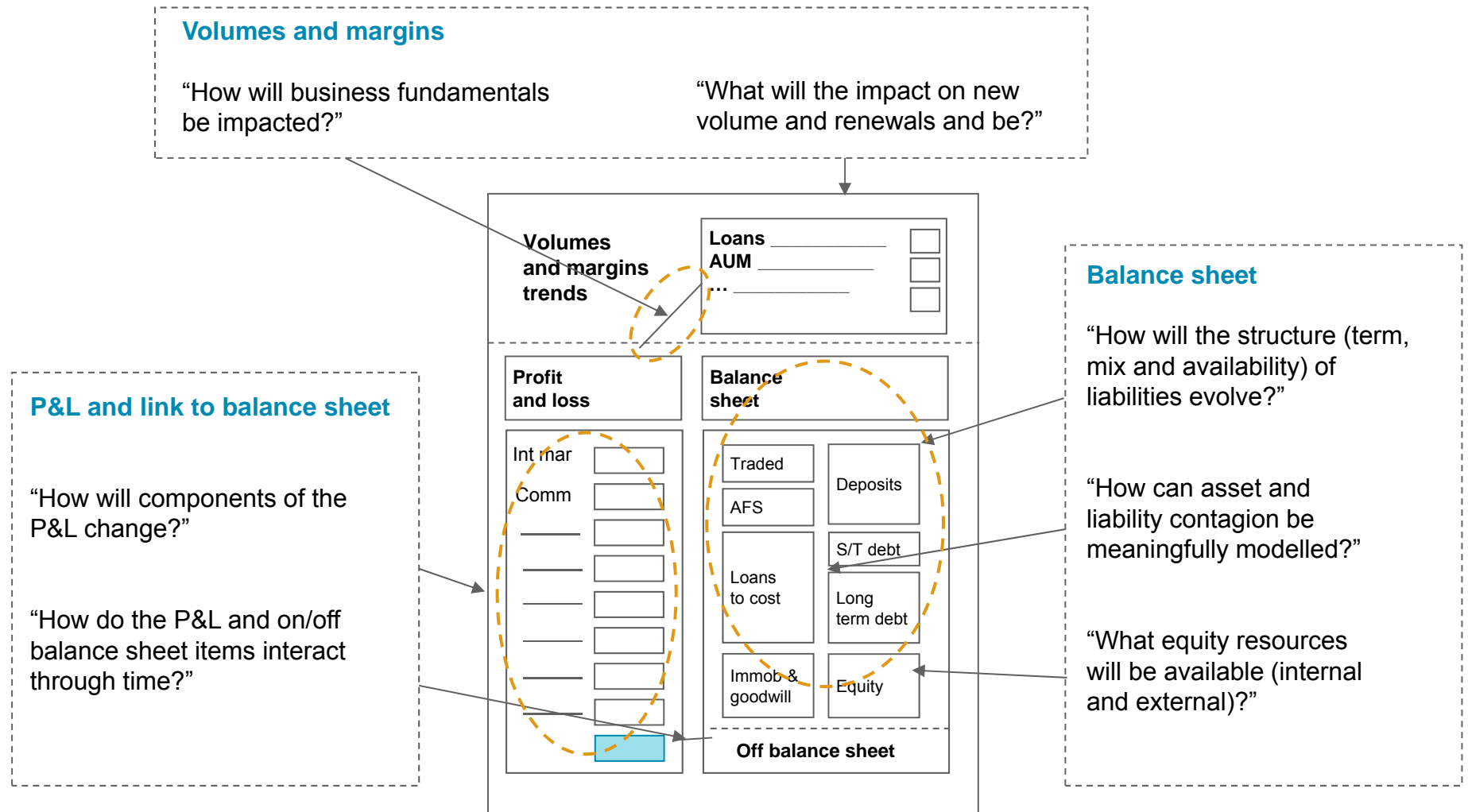


...However, this is not without challenges along each step of the way

## Major challenges of stress testing



# Methodology should provide comprehensive output covering P&L, balance sheet, volumes and margins on (re-) underwriting



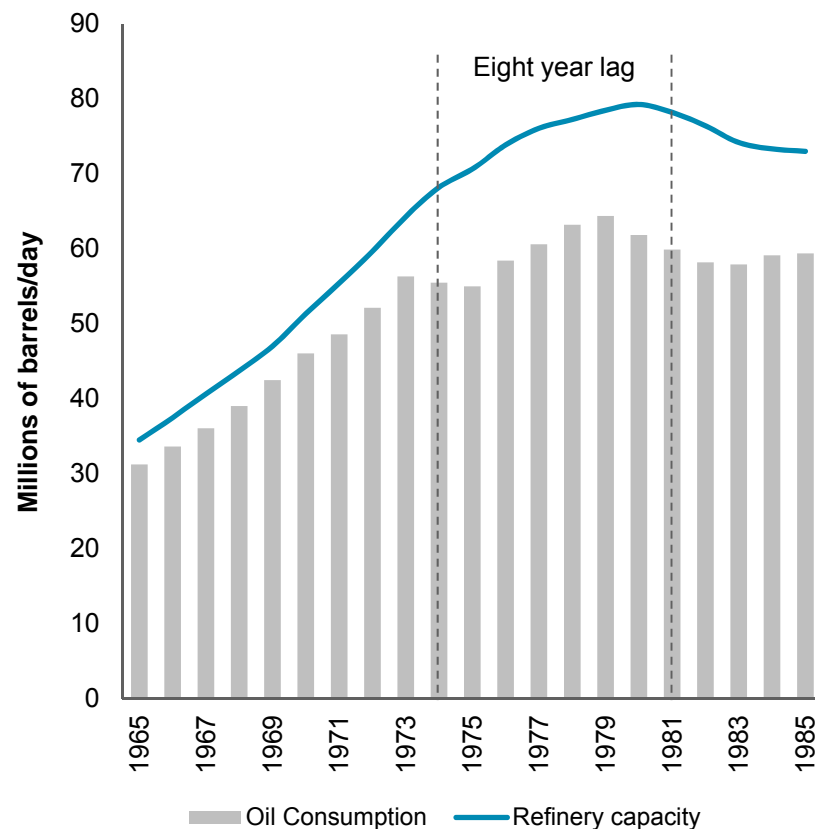
Section 2

Generating scenarios

## Few Financial Services companies have fully realised the benefit of scenario based planning, though in other industries benefits have been made clear

### Oil Capacity and Demand 1965–1985

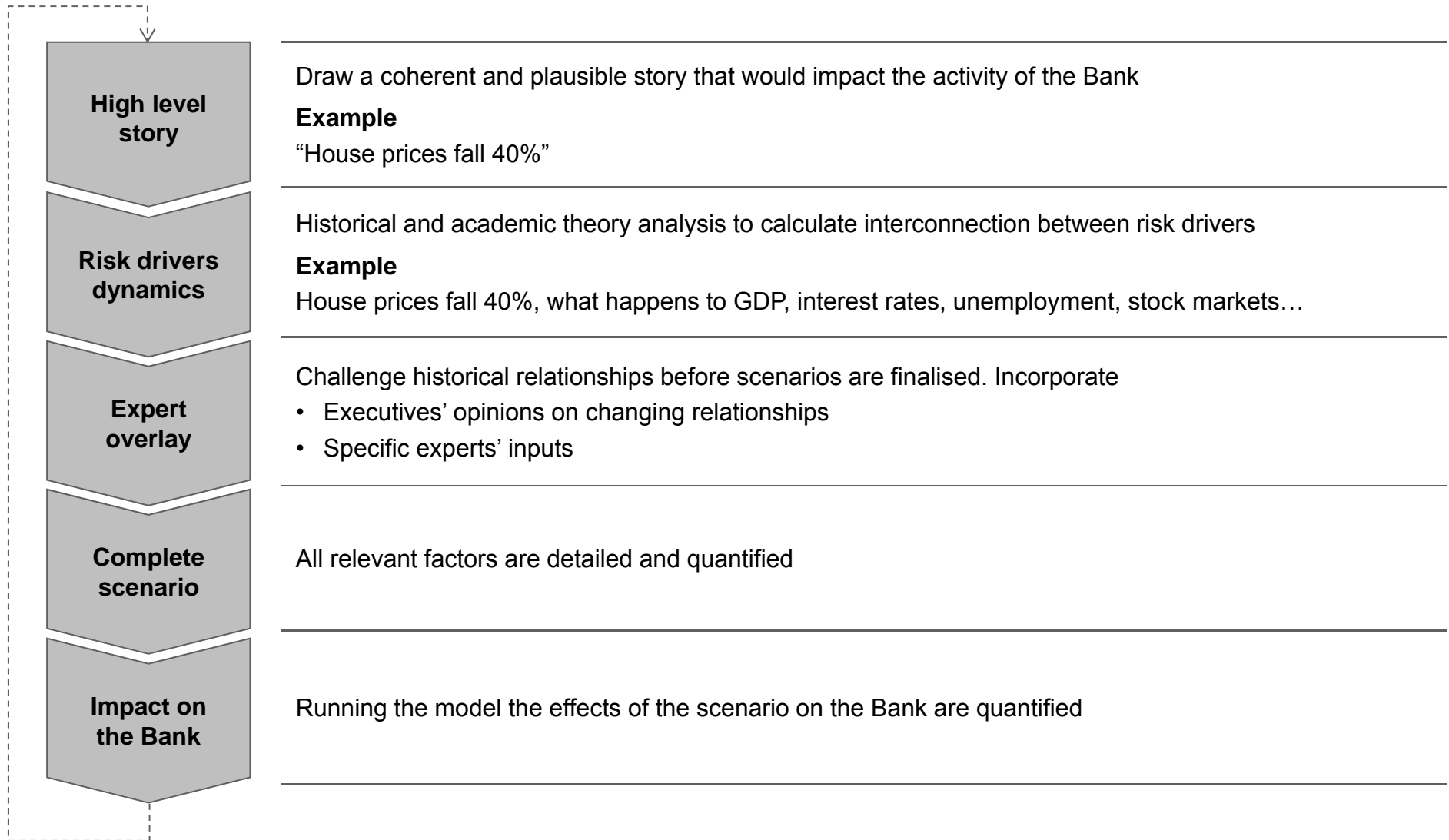
Industry slow to react to paradigm change



- Shock in early 1970s resulted in over-supply from Oil companies
  - Steady 6% p.a. growth of 1960s built into supply plans
  - Slow to react to paradigm change
- Shell had begun to use scenarios in the 1960s, including a scenario that simulated a lasting reduction in demand and Middle Eastern political interference
- As a result, when the macro-economy began to mirror this scenario, it was able to change its plans ahead of the rest of the market
  - Avoided over-supply problems of its competitors
- Shell continues to use scenario planning as a steering tool
  - Current scenarios include significant political shift towards renewable energy
  - Scenarios have a tangible impact on the business strategies developed, leaving it better prepared for macro changes

Source: BP Statistical Review 2008

# To maximize the value of stress testing, we propose using a five step iterative process



## Scenario definition – Key insights

Draw a coherent high level story, make it severe, make it complete

- Stress scenarios should be coherent big picture “stories” and forecast all relevant risk drivers
- One should operate a library of standard stress tests complemented with a few, ad hoc scenarios and reverse stress tests indicating at which severity the bank breaks
- Scenarios should be generated starting from a blend of historical and hypothetical scenarios: Key is to parameterize all relevant risk drivers
- Reverse Stress testing provides the reference point what “we’re betting the bank on” – Regulators are pushing it as it avoids the tedious compromises on the appropriate severity of a scenario
- Non-financial risks should also be considered: both as standalone scenarios and as part of the broader scenario

# Best practice scenario generation is an iterative process, including a range of sources of scenarios that aligned to business and economic uncertainties

- Scenarios taxonomy must cover relevant threats and opportunities
  - Constant issues (to allow through-time comparison)
  - Confidence interval based (reg. requirement)
  - “Ad hoc” investigation of specific current concerns
  - Reverse stress tests
  - Etc.
- Scenario discovery should include feedback from regular processes (e.g. planning/budgeting rounds, risk appetite setting etc.)
- Numerous stakeholders included (Group Economics, Risk, Finance, Business leaders etc.)
- Scenarios reconsidered/re-designed after each round



## Scenario taxonomy and examples

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### Economic scenarios

- Macro economic possibilities
- Economic “shock” impacts
- Deflation/hyper inflation
- Currency collapse

### External changes

- Regulatory initiatives
- Market/competitive changes
- Capital increase
- Ban on short selling

### Market events

- Key markets shut down
- Volatility in specific areas
- FX market halts
- Gold market

### Internal sensitivities

- Known concentrations, issues and sensitivities
- One off events
- Default of largest name
- Drop in real estate market

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**Aim is not to predict the future. Instead to highlight a set of issues and facilitate preparation for the unexpected**

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# Three different types of scenario are seen in the market – best practice organisations combine all three types

## Scenarios considered for stress testing – Three types

### 1 Industrialised “Scenario libraries”

- **Description**
  - Small set of generic scenarios that remain constant through time – one-off exercise based on historical scenarios
  - Focused on 3/4 main macro-economic factors
- **Aim, role and benefit**
  - Provide a consistent view of the risk profile through time
  - Avoid undue focus on short term conditions
- **Examples (typically 2–3 run)**
  - Early’ 90s downturn
  - Mild recession
  - Property price fall
  - Equity market crash (dotcom)
  - Bird flu epidemic

### 2 “Ad hoc” scenarios

- **Description**
  - Forward looking scenarios addressing current macro-economic concerns
  - Regularly updated
  - Consider a wider range of macro-economic factors
- **Aim, role and benefit**
  - Show potential impact of macro-economic concerns on the Group
- **Examples (typically 5–10)**
  - UK government downgrade
  - Eastern European government default
  - Deflation
  - Sustained inflation and rising interest rates

### 3 Bottom up/ Reverse scenarios

- **Description**
  - Identification of very specific events that might cause a large loss – or threaten the bank – in a specific area
  - Not necessarily linked to macro-economic factors
  - Updated constantly
- **Aim, role and benefit**
  - Risk identification and mitigation: do not necessarily trigger a full stress test/capital plan calculation
  - Foster creativity and buy-in through the Group
  - Potential feed into FSA “reverse stress testing”
- **Examples (number depends on business complexity)**
  - Hedging strategy breakdown
  - Default of large single counterparty
  - Institution-specific liquidity crisis



# The quantity and complexity of scenarios can differ based on size and sophistication of the institution

# 1

## No scenarios considered

- Stress test is a mere sensitivity test without linkage to macro-economic factors

# 2

## One scenario considered

- A single macro-economic stress scenario is considered
  - usually the scenario provided by the regulator

# 3

## Two to four scenarios considered

- Various scenarios considered, covering general economic stresses
  - Base case
  - Downturns of different severities
- Scenario provided by regulator may be amongst them
- A probability of occurrence may be associated to each scenario (e.g. 1-in-25, 1-in-10)

# 4

## Five or more scenarios considered

- A variety of scenarios, including general macro-economic ones...
  - Mild recession
  - Sever recession
- ...and specific, event-driven stresses; e.g.
  - Pandemic
  - Regulatory changes
  - Decline in property prices
  - Rising commodity prices
- Other risks are stressed (market, operational, business, etc.) in consistency with credit risk scenarios

However, following generation, scenarios should remain forward-looking and subjected to regular reviews to ensure they stay relevant under changing conditions...

### Methodology for scenario generation

1

#### Historical scenarios

- Scenarios linked to historical data – assume future crises will have impact similar to past
- Frequently use scalars (e.g. peak-to-average)
- May be linked to confidence intervals (1-in-25, 1-in-10)

2

#### Forward-looking scenarios

- Future crises may differ from past ones
- Econometric approaches are combined with expert judgment
- e.g. – FSA approach for scenario generation
  - Average of market forecasts
  - Adjusted by forecasting error on the “bad” side



Market/Best practice

### Scenario review processes

1

#### No process established

- No process established for coming up/ reviewing scenarios
- Rather than a recurrent process, stress test is considered a one-off exercise derived from
  - Crisis in financial sector
  - Punctual regulatory request

2

#### Regular process for generating/reviewing scenarios

- Stress scenarios are reviewed regularly to
  - Update information
  - Consider inclusion of additional scenarios



Market/Best practice

# ...whilst being realistic about what is achievable given intrinsic challenges in stress testing

## Intrinsic challenges

- 1 Scenarios may be different to the past
  - As such, inferences from past experience may not be relevant to forward looking scenario periods
- 2 Lack of available data
  - Shortage of historical time series
  - Little or none of this will be similar to the scenarios considered
- 3 Human judgement element of rating tools difficult to predict
  - Error around expert predictions of qualitative factors
- 4 Re-rating behaviour is unpredictable and subject to change
  - Differences in re-rating behaviour more likely during downturns

## Implications

**Expert understanding is essential**

**Realistic expectations should temper desire for sophistication**

## To ensure business relevance – Stress scenarios should be based on true economic drivers rather than the parameters of the calculation engine

Topic	Basic practice	Best practice
<b>Credit risk – PD calculation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undifferentiated rating stress (e.g. 2-grade shift for all obligors)</li> <li>• Limited use of historical regression or well-thought out expert view</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Model considers historical data with explicit link between PD and scenario factors</li> <li>• Supplement with expert judgment to discuss and challenge different scenarios used in the model</li> </ul>
<b>Credit risk – LGD calculation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use downturn LGD from RWA calculation</li> <li>• No linkage to scenario factors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Model that link scenario factors to LGDs (either Bottom-up or Top-down)</li> <li>• Differentiates between point-in-time loss rate and LGD used in RWA calculation</li> </ul>
<b>Market risk</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ad hoc process exists</li> <li>• Stress testing covers parts but not all of market risk factors (interest rates, equity prices, exchange rates, credit spreads, volatility)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tool to test positions in financial instruments in the trading/loan books under various stressed conditions across all relevant factors</li> </ul>
<b>Other risks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No formal process to quantify the effect of other risks (liquidity, reputational)</li> <li>• Considers these risks as an afterthought in the framework</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Framework to assess and quantify effects of shocks to funding (liquidity risk)</li> <li>• Considers non-financial risk (reputational) on both standalone (impact on reputation of a scenario) and as part of inter-connected risk framework (how reputational risk may effect share prices, etc.)</li> </ul>

# To ensure comprehensiveness, non-financial risks should also be considered: Both as standalone scenarios and as part of big picture

## Standalone scenarios

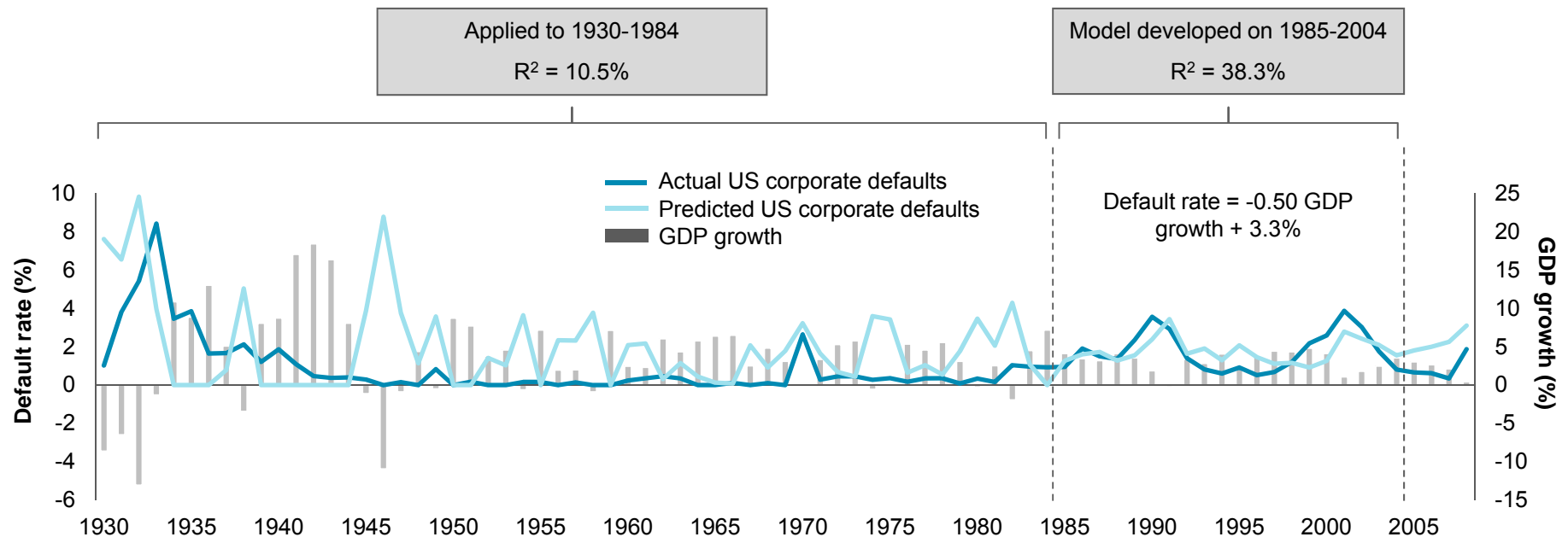
- Typical “top 10” operational risks largely uncorrelated to other risk events
  - Rogue trader
  - Systems failure
  - Fraud
- These scenarios should be considered standalone with causality fully considered
  - Impact on reputation
  - Impact on funding position
- For more stringent stress, may be combined with broader stress scenario
  - Impact of operational risk event may be greater during times of stress



## Connected risks

- Reputational risk
  - Scenario has impact on reputation
  - Reputational damage further impacts on the position of the bank in the crisis
- Reputational damage has wide-ranging and lasting damage
  - Long-term damage to share price
  - Impact on employees, clients, business partners
- Should be considered in context of scenario planning/stress-testing
  - Are there any aspects of the scenario that impact on reputation?
  - Does change to reputation impact on the effect of the scenario?

To ensure a forward-looking view, historical time series should be combined with forward-looking experts opinions during scenario generation



## Implications

- Macro factors affect credit risk differently at different periods in time
- It is essential to fully understand the scenarios considered
- Expert judgement is key, and should complement stress testing models

1. Analysis is shown only for illustrative purposes – the model may not be ideally formed even with a single factor (at least lag and factor transformations could be considered)  
Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis, Moody's

# Example: Using a combination of approaches to triangulate stress scenario, with a significant role for expert judgement

## Triangulated PD projections

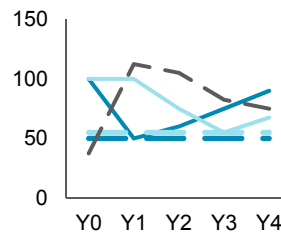
“Core” methodology

### Bottom-up risk driver analysis

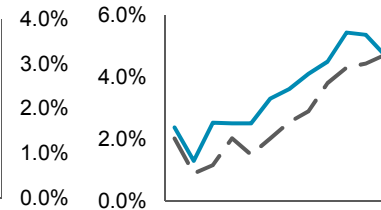
- Relationships defined between macro factors and individual model factors
  - Based on historical regression and expert judgement
  - Pragmatism required
- Split by industry as far as practical

### Impact of rating system

#### Lag on financials

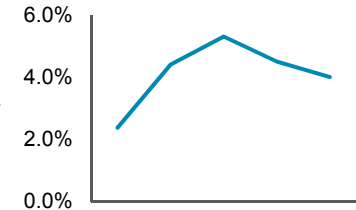


#### Overrides



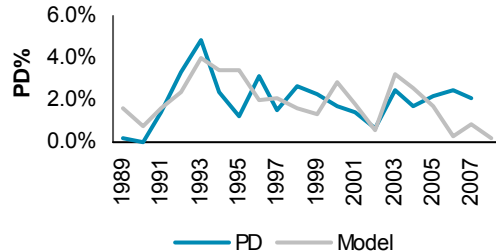
### Rating system overlay

#### Core projection



Triangulation points

### Regression model for default rates

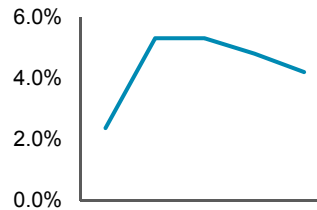


- Regressions to link scenarios to PD experience (may need to be recreated)

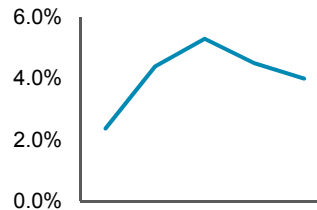
### External benchmarks

- Compare results to external benchmarks as a sanity check on results
  - E.g. Historical rating agency migrations

### Triangulation projection 1



### Triangulation projection 2



### Final projection based on directed expert judgement

- Understand dynamics of the scenarios considered
- Consider core projection against triangulation points
- Understand reasons for differences between projections
- **Justify final PD projection**

## In summary: The ideal stress scenario

- Defines a clear “big picture”
  - e.g. liquidity crunch, world recession, stagflation
- Is relevant
  - Scenarios specifically designed keeping in mind the risks the Bank is exposed to
- Is plausible
  - Stress tests must be realistic and be based off scenarios that are extreme and yet have a chance of happening
- Is complete
  - A scenario must articulate the “big picture” by forecasting ALL necessary risk drivers
- Is consistent
  - Forecasting of risk drivers must be done coherently accounting also for conjoint dynamics
- Is up-to-date
  - Stress scenarios must be updated regularly ensuring consistency with market events



## Section 3 | Using the results

# The most common mistake is to regard scenario planning as a regulatory exercise only

1

## Regulator only

- Stress test results do not inform any business decisions
  - exercise is performed solely for compliance purposes

2

## Risk function

- Results are reported to/signed-off by head of risk function
- Main purpose is gain understanding of sensitivity of Economic Capital numbers

3

## (Senior) Business management

- Conclusions of Stress test results are reported to/signed-off by senior management
  - CEO, CFO, CRO
  - Board
- Results are discussed and used to drive capital and business planning



Common practice



Common practice

# Best practice peers are using stress testing to inform risk identification and mitigation, as well as for business planning

## Uses of stress testing

<b>Planning</b>	Contingency planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Determine impact of specific stress scenario and build contingency plan (e.g. hedge/sale/business reduction etc.)</li> <li>Assess validity of existing contingency plans</li> </ul>
	Limit new business/renewals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Set new capital/balance sheet constraints if adverse loss scenarios are outside risk appetite</li> </ul>
	Budgeting/Capital management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Forecast loan losses to feed into P&amp;L budget, with impact on future business volumes and cost base</li> </ul>
	Workout capacity management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Determine likely flow of files to workout, to enable development of resources and capabilities in advance</li> </ul>
	Risk appetite assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assess risk exposures against risk appetite</li> </ul>
<b>Risk identification</b>	Trigger more detailed stress-testing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify high-risk portfolios/names to be investigated further</li> </ul>
	Add deals to watch list	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify names to be added to watch list</li> </ul>
<b>Risk mitigation</b>	Macro-hedging/portfolio sale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify risk hot-spots outside risk appetite</li> <li>Build business case for purchase of macro hedge/portfolio sale</li> </ul>
	Single-name hedging/asset sale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify name-level risks for hedging/sale</li> </ul>
	Transfer to Workout and recovery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify names to be transferred directly to workout for restructuring/recovery</li> </ul>

# The extent of embedding often depends on the management processes and the scenario type

## Use of stress test results – by type of scenario

Section	1. Industrialised “Scenario libraries”	2. “Ad hoc” scenarios	3. Bottom up scenarios
Planning	Contingency planning	✓	✓
	Limit new business/renewals		✓
	Budgeting/Capital management		✓
	Risk appetite assessment	✓	✓
	Workout capacity management		✓
Risk ident.	Trigger more detailed stress-testing		✓
	Add deals to <b>watch list</b>		✓
Risk mitig.	Macro-hedging/portfolio sale	✓	✓
	Single-name hedging/asset sale		✓
	Transfer to Workout and recovery		✓
<b>Addressee</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business unit management</li> <li>• Executive board</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Executive board</li> <li>• Business unit management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Product/segment level management</li> <li>• Escalated where appropriate</li> </ul>
<b>Frequency</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quarterly</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quarterly at least</li> <li>• Carried out “ad hoc”/ when needed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On-going/“ad hoc”</li> </ul>

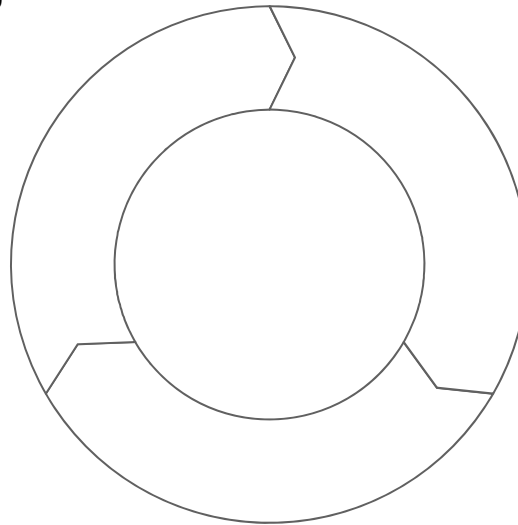
## Effective use of scenarios in decision making requires senior buy-in and supporting processes

- **Senior team with wide range of business buy-in**
  - Central team close to the board
  - Embedded at all levels of the organisation where strategic decisions are taken
- **Embedded modelling**
  - Risk projection models linked to scenarios
  - Finance models linked to scenarios
  - Growth, pre-payment and other business models linked to scenarios
- **Scenario development processes**
  - Plausible forward looking scenarios
  - Regularly reviewed/updated scenario suite
- **Strategic planning processes**
  - Planning cycle that generates new scenarios frequently
  - Economic monitoring reports as early warning signals
  - Creation of contingent strategies and policies that change dynamically

# Risk appetite, limit setting and stress testing are all closely interlinked and required in conjunction with each other

## 1 Strategy and risk appetite setting

- Formulating the strategy, including embedding explicit consideration of risk-reward trade offs
- Providing the business with a philosophical view of acceptable and unacceptable sources of risk
- Steering the portfolio and coordinating risk taking activities across the bank



## 2 Limit setting

- Cascading exposure/capital from the Group to the BU level
  - Individual large exposures
  - Industries
- Setting limits across additional risk dimensions
- Communicating risk appetite in actionable format

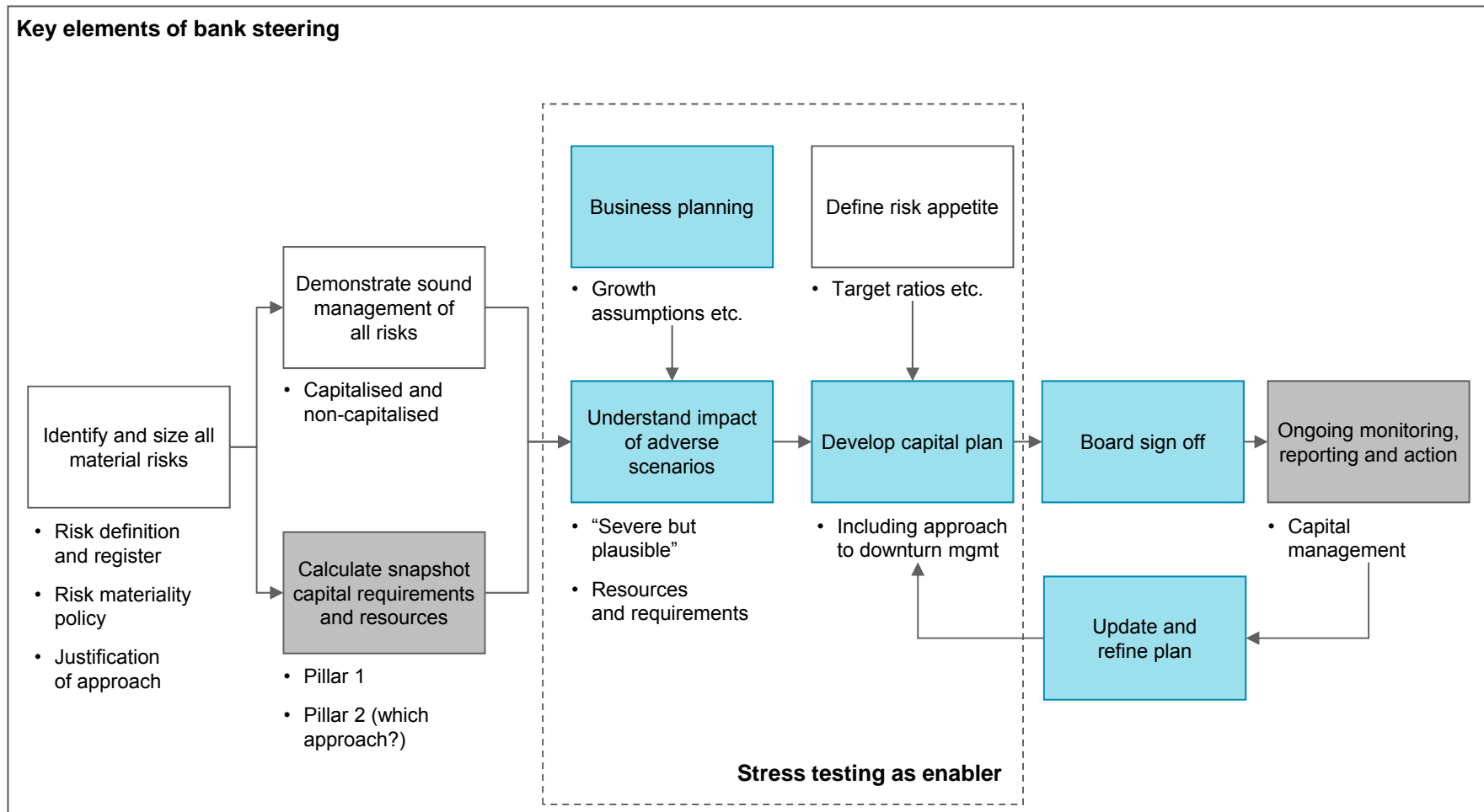
## 3 Stress testing analysis

- Define a set of stress scenarios and relevant scenario parameters
  - Depends on the stress testing approach, senior management involvement at this stage can be critical
- What do the implied limits mean under the stress scenarios?
  - P&L and capital impact
- Profitability analysis ideally taken into account to provide a full picture

## Example: Embedding stress-testing and scenario planning into risk appetite frameworks

<b>Constraint</b>	<b>Traditional risk appetite statement</b>		<b>Additional scenario-based statements</b>
Target debt rating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We will maintain our AA rating even in a 1 in 10 event</li> </ul>	➤	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plans must ensure we remain AA under any core scenarios</li> </ul>
Capital adequacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We will maintain our regulatory capital adequacy even in a 1 in 50 event</li> </ul>	➤	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We will remain out regulatory capital adequacy under any considered scenario</li> </ul>
Earnings volatility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We will not miss consensus earnings forecasts by more than 25% more often than 1 year in 10</li> </ul>	➤	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Scenario-based plans should ensure we stay within 25% of communicated earnings projections</li> </ul>
Liquidity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We will ensure that liquidity resources are sufficient to meet a 1 in 100 liquidity event</li> </ul>	➤	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We will have sufficient liquidity to continue doing business under any or our planning scenarios</li> </ul>
Concentrations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We will not have more than 5% of the bank's RWA at risk to one counterparty</li> <li>The top 10 customers will not account for more than 20% of total RWA</li> </ul>	➤	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We will not have more than 20% of the bank's RWA at risk to a 1 in 25 movement in any single macro factor</li> </ul>
Operational risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Operational losses will not exceed 5% of revenue in any year</li> <li>Top 10 risks will be managed with escalation procedures</li> </ul>	➤	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We will plan to survive a top 10 operational risk event together with any of our planning scenarios</li> </ul>

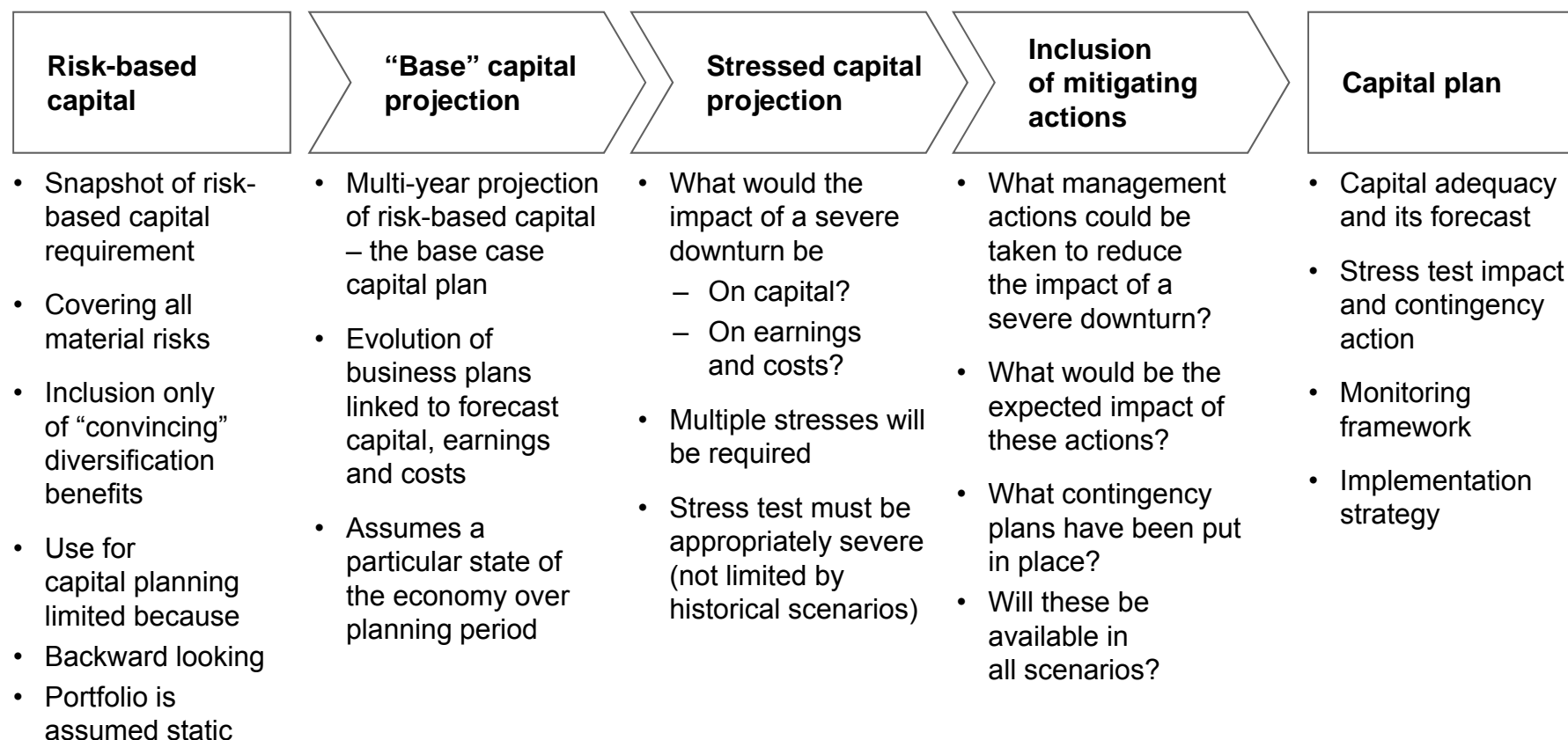
# Example: Stress testing is an important enabler for central bank steering processes...



Key:  One off/ as needed exercise     (At least) annual process     Monthly/ quarterly process



## Example: ...and should play a central role in the management of capital adequacy through establishing a forward-looking view



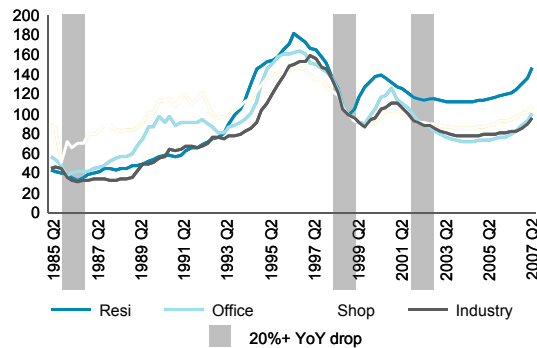
# Example: Stress testing is a critical tool to estimate concentration limits

Illustrative

## Setting bottom-up Risk Appetite for real estate exposures using stressed scenarios

### Design stress scenario

Singapore property price indices 1985-present



- Design macro or industry-specific scenario
- Analyse historical real estate price movements

### Parameterise losses

#### Price drops

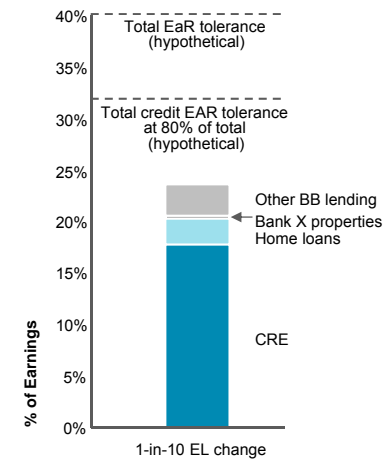
	CRE	Resi	Equity
SG	-20%	-30%	-35%
MY	-15%	-20%	-25%
Others	-20%	-20%	-30%

#### Loss parameters

	CRE	Resi
PD	▲ 6%	▲ 4%
LGD	▲ 25%	▲ 35%

- Scenario driven into loss estimates through
  - Prices
  - PD
  - LGD

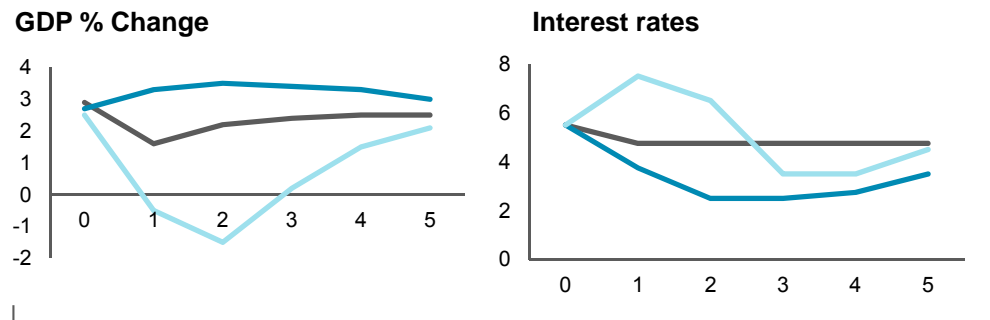
### Estimate impact



- Impact on earnings and/or capital
- Decide whether acceptable to Bank

# Example: An institutionalised approach to scenario-based planning also facilitates use of outputs in practical decision-making such as contingency planning

## Pre-considered planning scenarios



## Monitoring of external market developments

Factor	Current best estimate (full year)
GDP growth	-0.2%
Interest rates	3.5%
Etc.	

## Early warning signals

- Current scenario appears like scenario 2
  - Under this scenario the market will develop as XX
  - This suggests a change in strategy of XX

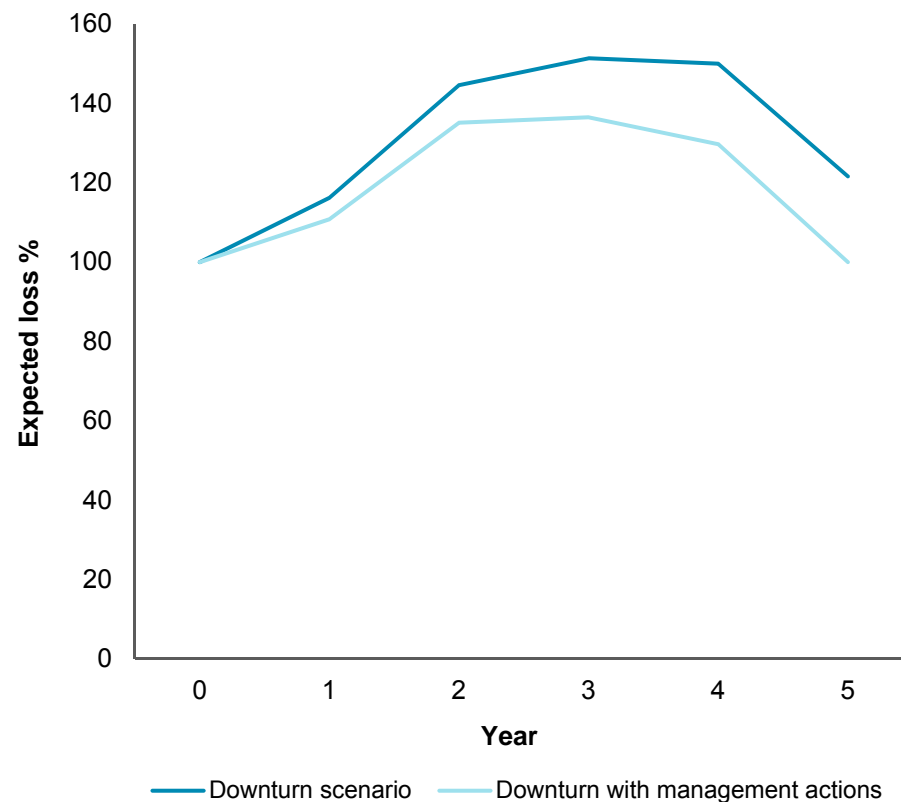
## Comments

- **Economic conditions monitored on a regular basis**
  - Best estimates updated regularly along key dimensions (house prices, GDP growth, unemployment, interest rates, etc.)
- **Economic conditions can be compared against pre-test scenarios**
  - Check for the emergence of stories that fit pre-tested scenarios
  - Check emergence of results compared to scenarios
- **Acts as “early warning system”**
  - Early signs point to other developments as described in the scenario
- **Provides first mover advantage**
  - Spotting early means reacting early

# Example: Designing scenario planning over medium-term also supports mitigating management action – which may be slow to take effect

## Effect of mitigating actions

Disguised client example



## Approach

- **Mitigating actions slow to have any impact**
  - e.g. Tighter lending criteria
  - Usually little action possible against in-force business
  - Portfolio churn often slow
- **Some actions can be taken to increase scope for management action**
  - Shorter maturity requirements
  - Increase capital/liquidity buffers
- **Strategic business decisions often slow to bear fruit**
  - New country, product, etc.
  - Changes in HR model

# Beyond immediate decision making, stress-testing can benefit a range of management processes

- Cultural and behavioural challenges remain for almost all firms
  - “That will never happen”
  - “We’ll all be dead anyway”
  - Etc.
- Short term aims include
  - Board education
  - Visible actions (e.g. hedging, reduction of exposure)
- Long term aim is to incorporate in a broad range of processes (see RHS)

## Example processes benefiting from stress testing thought

	<b>Stress testing aims</b>
<b>Strategic planning and management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of strategy mindful of opportunities and threats, shaping the profile of the organisation</li> <li>• Engage in meaningful analysis of threats/opportunities from specific businesses</li> </ul>
<b>Budgeting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scenario Input into targets and budgets</li> </ul>
<b>Loss emergence forecasting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Short term estimation of (generally credit) loss forecasts</li> </ul>
<b>ICAAP/regulation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meet evolving requirements and expectations</li> </ul>
<b>Deal/ product design</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Include the impact of unexpected in designing balance sheet items</li> </ul>
<b>Macro hedging</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Purchase of specific instruments to hedge against extreme losses in some exposures</li> </ul>
<b>Investor communication</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide IR with a fact base to help allay analyst/ investor fears</li> </ul>
<b>Risk appetite</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Using stress testing to define elements of the risk appetite</li> </ul>
<b>Reporting/MI</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inclusion of result and impacts in standard reporting packs</li> </ul>

# Example: A coherent stress testing framework leads to more effective, informative risk reports, which can be used by management to steer the risk profile

Disguised client example

## Typical defects of stress test reporting

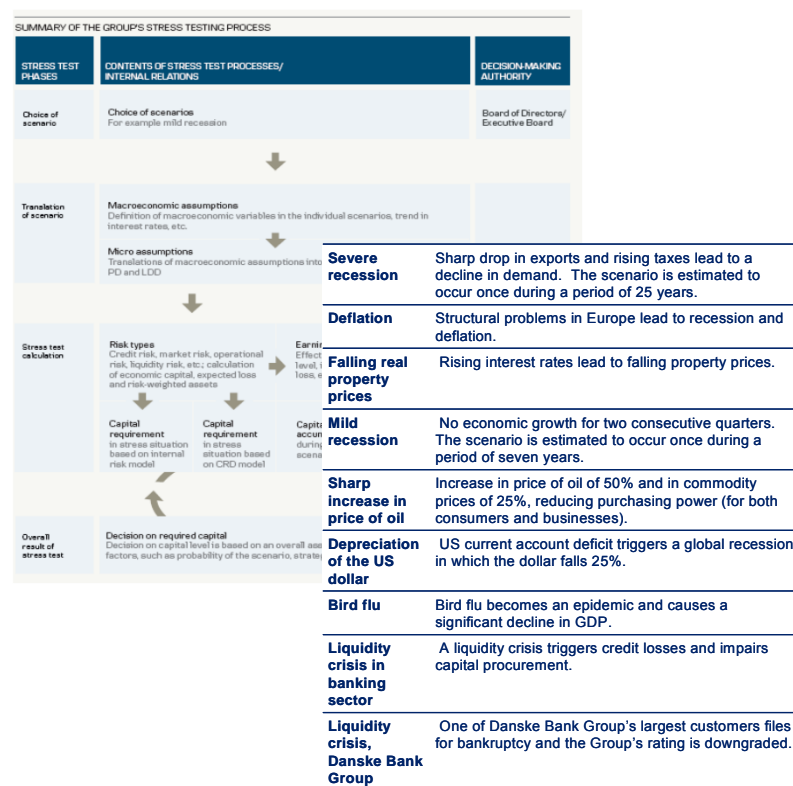
- Information is not appropriate for target audience
  - Not easy to read and interpret
  - Focused on review and analysis, lack of action-oriented comments “so what”
  - Reports are too long and contain too much irrelevant information
- Unclear positioning within the overall reporting architecture
  - Numbers/analysis partly inconsistent with other reports
  - No reconciliation with other important metrics
  - Not comprehensive and self-contained to allow conclusions on business issues
- Insufficient standardisation
  - Every area uses their own templates, focus areas, terminology etc. (compare, e.g. credit risk vs. natural-catastrophe risk)
  - Reporting format is not stable



- Action-oriented, relevant analytics with informative comments
- Focus is on future trends and developments – past reviewed only to infer views about the future
- Clear positioning within financial and risk reporting
- Consistent structure, starting from aggregate risk profile, with drill down into individual risk drivers

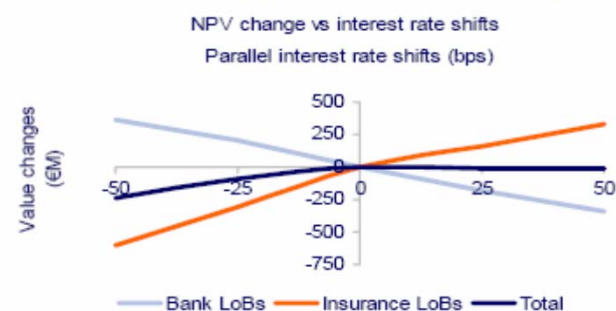
# Example: Emerging industry trend to disclose selected stress test results as part of investor communication – pre-empting analysts’ outside-in views

## Danske Bank<sup>1</sup> – Detailed description of the framework and scenarios considered

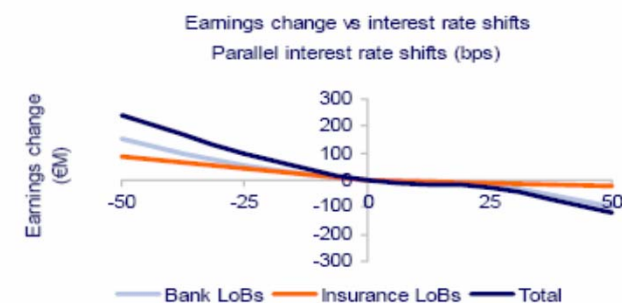


## ING<sup>2</sup> – Specific quantitative results for risks of concern

### Value sensitivity (YE 06, Eurozone)



### Earnings sensitivity (YE 06, Eurozone)



1. Danske Bank, 2007, P85
2. ING Investor Day, 9 September 2007, P30