



# Measuring and Managing Operational Risk Under Basel II

Constantinos Stephanou  
The World Bank

Risk Management Workshop Colombia  
February 17, 2004

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## Outline of Presentation

- Introduction to Operational Risk (OR)
- The Basel II OR framework
- Measuring OR under the AMA
- Latest QIS OR Results
- OR Management
- Evaluation, Implications and Conclusions

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## What is OR?

- Applies to all firms (financial and non-financial)
- Used to be a catch-all phrase for non-financial risks
- Current Basel II definition is *“the risk of loss resulting from inadequate or failed **internal processes, people and systems** or from **external events**”*
  - Includes both internal and external event risk
  - Legal risk is also included, but strategic, reputational and systemic risks are not
  - Direct losses are included, but indirect losses (opportunity costs) and near misses are not
    - How many of the costs associated with 9/11 would be captured?

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## Scope of Application for OR

- Primarily intended for internationally active banks and banks with significant OR exposures
- Applied, on a fully consolidated basis, at holding company and lower levels within a banking group
  - Insurance activities are excluded
- Supervisory approval required for banks to revert to simpler approach once approved for more advanced one

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## Pillar I – Approach 1

- Basic Indicator
  - Corresponds to the Standardized Approach for credit risk
  - Capital charge is 15% ('alpha') of bank's average annual gross income over previous 3 years
    - Gross income should exclude provisions, insurance income, realized profits/losses from sale of securities in banking book, and extraordinary or irregular items
  - No specific criteria/requirements for its use
    - Banks are encouraged to comply with Basel Committee's guidance on 'Sound Practices for the Management and Supervision of Operational Risk' (February 2003)

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## Pillar I – Approach 2

- Standardized / Alternative Standardized
  - Bank's activities divided ('mapped') into 8 business lines
  - Capital charge is sum of specified % ('beta') of each business line's average annual gross income over previous 3 years\*
  - Beta varies by business line (12%-18% range)
  - General criteria required to qualify for its use
    - Active involvement of Board and senior management in OR management framework
    - Existence of OR management function, reporting and systems
    - Systematic tracking of OR data (including losses) by business line
    - OR processes and systems subject to validation and regular independent review by internal and external parties

\* Subject to national supervisory discretion, the Alternative Standardized Approach (ASA) can be chosen. It uses volume of loans and advances (instead of gross income) as the exposure indicator for the retail and commercial banking business lines

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## Alternative AMA Approaches

- Given embryonic state of OR measurement, Basel II lets ‘a thousand flowers bloom’ in the AMA
- (At least) three types of approaches identified
  - Internal Measurement Approaches (IMA)
    - PD/EAD/LGD-type framework, where capital charge (UL) is a fixed function ‘gamma’ (calculated by bank itself) of EL
  - Loss Distribution Approaches (LDA)
    - Capital from modeling loss frequency and severity distributions
  - Scorecard approaches
    - ‘Base level’ top-down OR capital is allocated to business lines based on risk profile and control environment indicators
- This does not preclude the use of a combination of the above approaches, or indeed of others

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## AMA ‘Toolkit’

- Internal loss event data
- External loss data
- Scalars / Exposure Indicators
- Scenario analyses
- Key Risk/Performance Indicators (KRIs/KPIs)
  - Quantitative measures serving as early warning indicators
- Control and Risk Self Assessments (CRSAs)
  - Qualitative assessments of inherent risks and controls
- Others, e.g. external environmental assessments, audit scores, management strategic plans etc.

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## AMA – Some Practical Issues

Topic	Issues
Internal loss event data collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Selecting minimum materiality threshold</li> <li>▪ Determining frequency and severity of loss events</li> <li>▪ Mapping to supervisory event types/business lines</li> <li>▪ Identifying and leveraging existing historical loss databases</li> <li>▪ Establishing an automated process of collection, validation, attribution and reporting that aligns with incentives</li> <li>▪ Setting the boundary between OR and other risk types</li> </ul>
Scorecard development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Determining which KRIs and CRSA scores will be included</li> <li>▪ Adjusting scores to make them objective and consistent</li> </ul>
Capital modeling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Using scenarios, external loss data, assumptions and data extrapolation techniques to derive loss distribution</li> <li>▪ Incorporating insurance and correlations</li> <li>▪ Determining granularity of modeling by line/event type</li> </ul>

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## Example: Internal Loss Capture



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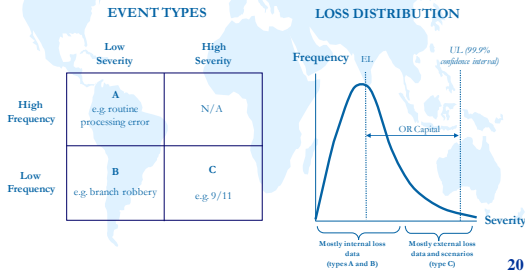
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## Example: Loss Modeling

- Populating the loss distribution for a specific business line and event type



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## Pillars II and III

- Pillar II**
  - The four key principles mentioned also apply for OR
  - 2003 paper on 'Sound Practices for the Management and Supervision of OR' to form basis for Pillar 2 evaluation
- Pillar III**
  - Qualitative disclosures
    - OR capital approach, including AMA description (if applicable)
    - Various OR management objectives and policies
  - Quantitative disclosures
    - OR capital charge at the top consolidated level of banking group
    - For banks using the AMA, OR charge before and after the reduction in capital from the use of insurance

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## Example: OR Control and Mitigation

- OR control and mitigation measures
  - Aimed at both center and tail of OR loss distribution
  - Can be both preventive (ex ante) and mitigating (ex post)
  - Increasingly based on cost-benefit analysis
- There exists a variety of alternative measures
  - Operational excellence initiatives, e.g. six-sigma, TQM etc.
  - Service Level Agreements with vendors/service providers
  - Contingency planning and disaster recovery
  - Capital
  - Risk transfer
    - Insurance, e.g. blanket bond, D&O liability, contingent capital etc.
    - Capital markets, e.g. cat bonds, weather derivatives

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## Evaluation of Basel OR Framework

- Pros
  - Forces banks to focus on growing OR issue
  - Encourages industry efforts for pooling of loss data etc.
  - Allows AMA flexibility and offers simple alternative for smaller banks
- Cons
  - Weak risk sensitivity of non-AMA approaches
  - Arbitrary rules for Basic and Standardized Approaches
    - One-size-fits-all exposure indicators and alpha/beta factors
    - Ad hoc cap on mitigation from insurance
  - High compliance costs vs. unproven business benefits for AMA
    - Relatively few perceived incentives for banks to move to AMA
    - "An exercise in capital allocation and loss data gathering?"\*
  - Unclear OR loss classifications and AMA methodologies

\* Taken from sub-title of 'Bank Operational Risk Management' (Moody's, June 2002).

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## Likely Impact of OR Capital Charge

- Calibrated to produce minimal change at system level
- Some redistribution of capital requirements towards banks with large specialized processing businesses
  - Examples: brokerage, custody and asset management
  - May incentivize some of these institutions to de-bank
- Smaller domestic banks will opt for the Basic or Standardized/Alternative Standardized approach
- Avoidance of AMA is not an option for most large, internationally active banks
  - A few large domestic banks may 'opt in' for reputational and rating considerations

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## Implications for Emerging Markets

- Similar themes to Basel II's credit risk framework
  - OR framework should not be examined in isolation

Issue	Questions
Scope of application	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Is AMA adoption a realistic prospect?</li> <li>▪ Will Basel II apply on a fully consolidated basis at group level?</li> </ul>
Calibration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Aren't the current alpha and beta factors calibrated too high?</li> <li>▪ Will the capital charges encourage foreign banks to move out?</li> </ul>
Home-host recognition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ How do you ensure coordination in cross-border supervision?</li> <li>▪ How to level playing field between domestic and foreign banks?</li> </ul>
Transition to Basel II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Isn't adherence to Basel Core Principles a necessary precondition?</li> <li>▪ Shouldn't customization be based on national circumstances (bank capabilities and supervisory preparedness) and priorities?</li> <li>▪ Isn't a longer/more flexible timeframe required?</li> </ul>

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## Conclusions

- Basel II has made OR a distinct and important discipline in its own right
- Industry-wide convergence to OR standards will continue to evolve for the foreseeable future
  - Loss definitional issues, data collection techniques and quantification methodologies still under discussion
- No one right answer on how to proceed
  - Approach based on strategic priorities, organizational culture, practical (cost-benefit) considerations and market/regulatory developments

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## Appendix

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## Classification of Loss Events

EVENT TYPE CATEGORY (LEVEL 1)	DEFINITION	CATEGORIES (LEVEL 2)	ACTIVITY EXAMPLES (LEVEL 3)
Internal Fraud	Losses due to acts of a type intended to defraud, misappropriate property or circumvent regulations, the law or company policy, excluding identity/discrimination events, which involves at least one internal party	Unauthorized Activity  Theft and Fraud	Transactions not reported (retirement) Time-type unauthorized (w/ monetary loss) Misrouting of position (financial)  Fraud, credit fraud/worn - check deposits Theft (cash on hand/embodiment/robbery) Misappropriation of assets Malicious destruction of assets Forgery Check kiting Smuggling Account take-over/impersonation/etc. Tax non-compliance/evasions (withholding) Bribes/kickbacks Insider trading (not on firm's account)
External Fraud	Losses due to acts of a type intended to defraud, misappropriate property or circumvent the law, by a third party	Theft and Fraud  System Security	Theft/Robbery Forgery Check kiting  Hacking/damage Theft of information (w/ monetary loss)

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## Classification of Loss Events (cont.)

EVENT TYPE CATEGORY (LEVEL 1)	DEFINITION	CATEGORIES (LEVEL 2)	ACTIVITY EXAMPLES (LEVEL 3)
Employment Practices and Workplace Safety	Losses arising from acts inconsistent with employment, health or safety laws or agreements, from payment of personnel or any claims or from diversity/discrimination events	Employee Relations  Safe Environment  Diversity & Discrimination	Compensation, benefit, termination issues Organizational activity  General liability (slip and fall, etc) Employee health & safety risks events Workers' compensation All discrimination types
Client, Products & Business Practices	Losses arising from an unintentional or negligent failure to meet a professional obligation to specific clients (including fiduciary and suitability requirements), or from the misuse or design of a product	Suitability, Disclosure & Fiduciary  Improper Business or Market Practices  Product Flaws  Selection, Sponsorship & Espousal  Advisory Activities	Fiduciary breaches/gaflakes/violations Suitability/disclosure issues (KYC, etc) Retail or consumer disclosure violations Breaches of privacy Aggressive sales Account churning Misuse of confidential information Lender Liability  Arbitrage Improper trade/market practices Market manipulation Insider trading (on firm's account) Undisclosed activity Money laundering  Product defects (unauthorized, etc) Model errors  Failure to investigate client per guidelines Exceeding client exposure limits Disparities over performance of advisory activities

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## Classification of Loss Events (cont.)

EVENT TYPE CATEGORY (LEVEL 1)	DEFINITION	CATEGORIES (LEVEL 2)	ACTIVITY EXAMPLES (LEVEL 3)
Damage to Physical Assets	Losses arising from loss or damage to physical assets from natural disaster or other events	Disasters and other events	Natural disaster losses  Human losses from external sources (terrorism, vandalism)
Business Disruption and System Failures	Losses arising from disruption of business or system failures	Systems	Hardware  Software Telecommunications Utility outage/downtime
Execution, Delivery & Process Management	Losses from failed transaction processing or process management, from relations with trade counterparties and vendors	Transaction Capture, Execution & Maintenance  Misinformation and Reporting  Customer Intake and Discontinuance  Customer/Clear Account Management  Trade Counterparties  Vendors & Suppliers	Miscommunication  Data entry, maintenance or loading error Misled disclosure or responsibility Market/system manipulation Accounting error/faulty attribution error Other risk misperformance Delivery failure Collateral management failure Reference Data Maintenance  Failed mandatory reporting obligation Inaccurate external report (loss incurred)  Client permissions/declarations missing Legal documents missing/incorrect  Unauthorized access given to accounts Incorrect client records (loss incurred) Negligent loss or damage of client assets New client onboarding misperformance Misc. non-client counterparty disputes  Outsourcing Vendor disputes

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## Monetary Loss Types

Loss Type	Causes	Monetary Loss
Legal and Liability	Lost legal suit	External legal and other related costs in response to an operational risk event
Regulatory, Compliance and Taxation Penalties	Penalties paid to the regulator	Fines or the direct cost of any other penalties, such as license revocation-associated costs (excludes lost/forgone revenues)
Loss or Damage to Assets	Neglect, accident, fire, earthquake	Reduction in the value of the firm's non-financial assets and property
Restitution	Interest claims (note: excludes legal damages that are addressed under Legal and Liability costs)	Payments to third parties of principal and/or interest, or the cost of any other form of compensation paid to clients and/or third parties
Loss of Recourse	Liability to enforce a legal claim on a third party for the recovery of assets due to an operational error	Payments made to incorrect parties and not recovered; includes losses arising from incomplete registration of collateral and inability to enforce positions
Write Downs	Fraud, mis-represented market and/or credit risks	Direct reduction in value of financial assets as a result of operational events

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