# Systemic Risk and Resilience Arab Actuarial Conference - May 2023

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True of False?

# Systemic Risk is risk that cannot be eliminated through diversification fully or partially

True or False

# Risk of financial losses in one company, industry sector or country leading to losses in another

#### True or False

Risk of failure of a system due to problems spreading between inter-dependent entities, within the system following a trigger event

### Why is systemic risk hard to define



New types of risks (Emerging Risks)
Continuously evolving Risk drivers

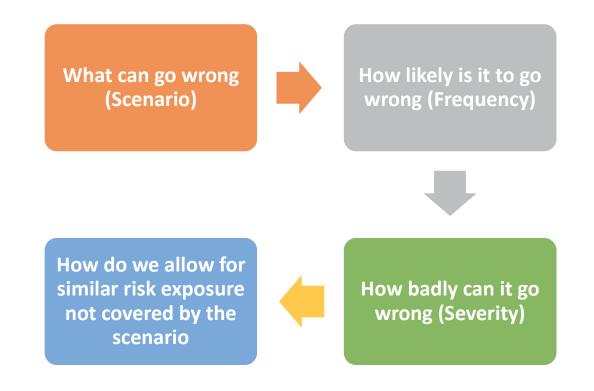


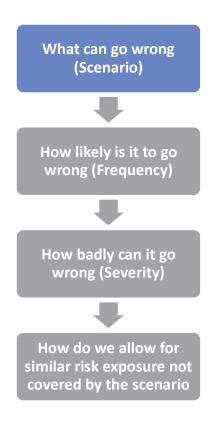
Increased inter-connectedness between elements of the financial system Exposure to emerging risks

Common technological infrastructure

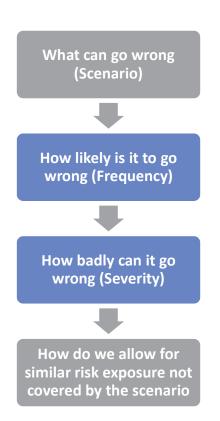


Lack of Empirical data on risk behaviours and interactions (particularly in extreme conditions)

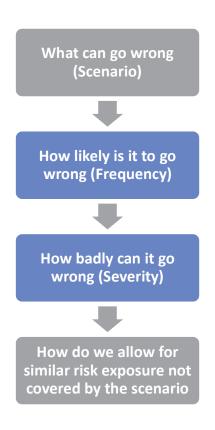




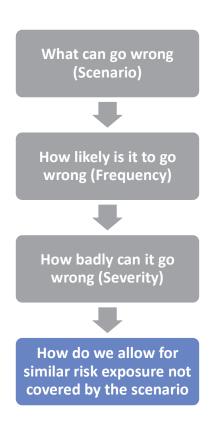
- Plausible and specific scenarios
- Low frequency- high severity
- Triggers for crystallisation are understood
- Current controls not effective mitigation



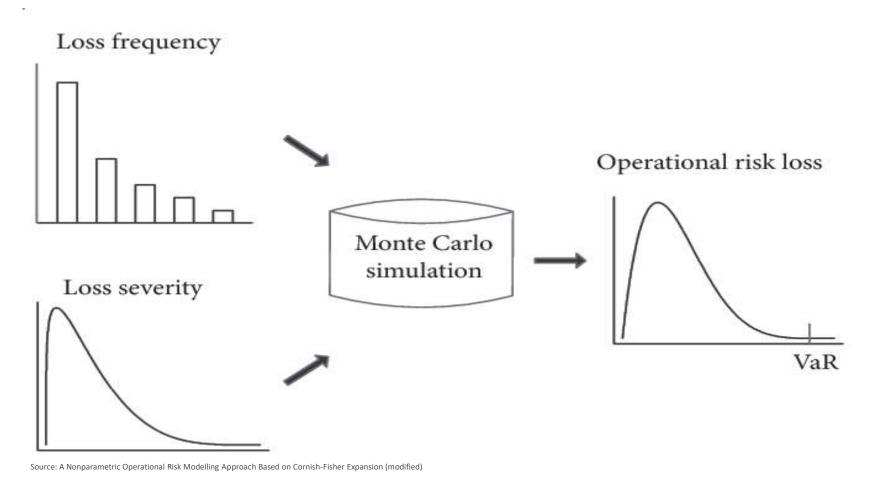
- How often would we expect an event of this nature to happen
- Assuming it has happened, How severe can it be
- Severity can be cross-referenced to frequency, for example:
  - Typical loss (expected every 1 in 2 years represents 50th percentile)
  - Significant loss (expected every 1 in 10 years represents 90th percentile)
- Loss figures based on broken down consideration of expected losses and allow for mitigations in place
- Example frequency distributions: Poisson, binomial
- Example severity distributions: Log-normal



- Subject Matter expert sense check
- Frequency cross-referenced to severity, for example:
  - We would expect an event costing between \$x million (typical) & \$y million (significant) to occur every z years, or
  - There is a z% likelihood that this event will cost between \$x million & \$y million over the next 1 year

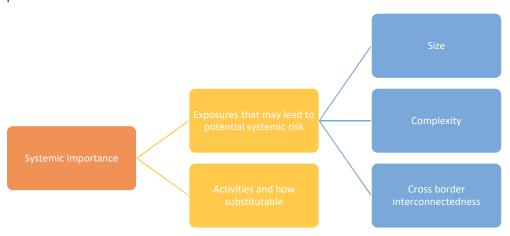


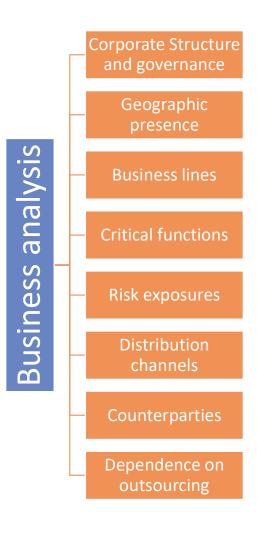
Adjust frequency (i.e. make more likely) to allow for risk exposure that is not considered in the scenario



#### Recovery and Resolution lens

- A recovery plan identifies, in advance, options to restore financial position and viability of a company if it comes under severe stress.
- Requires the consideration of Stress Tests and Scenarios that are idiosyncratic to the institution and systemic to the market and a combination of both.
- Also requires consideration of the speed of materialisation of such stresses
- Pre-emptive rather than preventive (operational risk capital) or corrective (contingency plans)
- Aids the financial institution in understanding its own risks at the extreme spectrum.
   This in turn means shorter reaction time, faster decision making for a more effective response.
- Can help the regulator understand the financial institution and their systemic importance in the market





#### Recovery and Resolution lens

- The scenarios address capital shortfall and liquidity pressure.
- The options to cope with the stress scenarios must be credible
- Each option should be supported by information required to assess and implement each option and should be based on realistic assumptions

#### Strengthening capital position

- Re-capitalisation
- Share issues

#### Capital conservation

- Cost cuts
- Dividend suspension
- Variable payments

#### **Business strategies**

- Underwritings
- Repricing
- De-risking

#### Investment strategies

- Allocation
- Hedging

#### Liquidity

- Contingent capital
- Deferring cashflows

#### Strategic

- Sale of investments or subsidiaries
- Restructuring of liabilities (e.g. debt to equity)

#### Recovery and Resolution lens

- Considering Idiosyncratic and Systemic scenarios
  - Test Credibility of plan
  - Test feasibility of recovery options
  - Calibration of trigger framework
  - Give insight into possible impediments to recovery
  - Uncovering vulnerabilities in business

Example figures for illustration purposes only. A trigger framework should ideally have cascading progress

Viability	Viable			Non-viable
Trigger Escalation Route	Target Risk Appetite	Early Warning	Recovery Trigger	
Example Triggers				
Solvency ( Capital Requirements)	120-150%	105-100%	<100%	
Liquidity (interest Rates)	2.5%	3.5%	4.5%	
Insurance liabilities (interest rates)	4.5%	1.0%	0.5%	
Lapse (Cyber security sentiment)	5%	12%-20%	40%	
<b>Operation Zone</b>	BAU	Recovery		Resolution

#### In conclusion

- The current environment and system in which we operate can give rise to events that are not usually modelled by actuaries and not within observations
- These events are of low frequency but high severity
- The events can be severe or moderate but losses could be incurred to actions taken/ inaction or response time and not only the nature of the risk or event
- In order for senior management to take effective, swift and appropriate decisions in times of crisis, there needs to be
  - An awareness of the risk profile, risk environment, our business vulnerabilities and to approach our analysis of our companies with a critical lens.