

# R VERSUS EXCEL/VBA

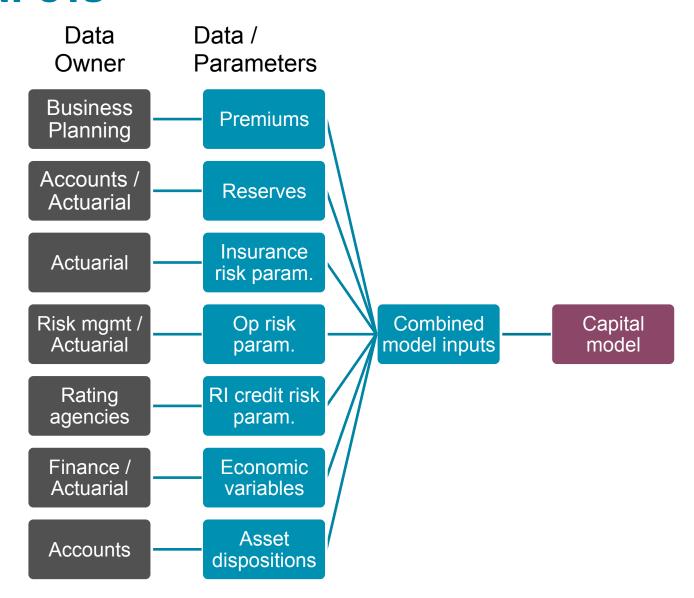
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### **CONTENTS**

- Capital modelling workflow
- Typical challenges
  - On the input side
  - On the output side
- Issues with typical Excel/VBA systems
- Improved systems setup
- Analysis & Reporting Tool

# CAPITAL MODELLING WORKFLOW – INPUTS



### **CAPITAL MODELLING - INPUTS**

- What are the main challenges on the input side?
  - Lots of different data sources and data source systems
  - Lots of data processing & data validation issues
  - Lots of different data versions
  - Team work

# CAPITAL MODELLING WORKFLOW - OUTPUTS

#### Stakeholders

Capital model

Model outputs

Reporting

- Capital requirem't
- Other risk metrics
- Prob. distributions
- Sensitivities
- Risk allocation
- What-if analyses

. . .

**Chief Actuary** 

Board / senior management

Risk management

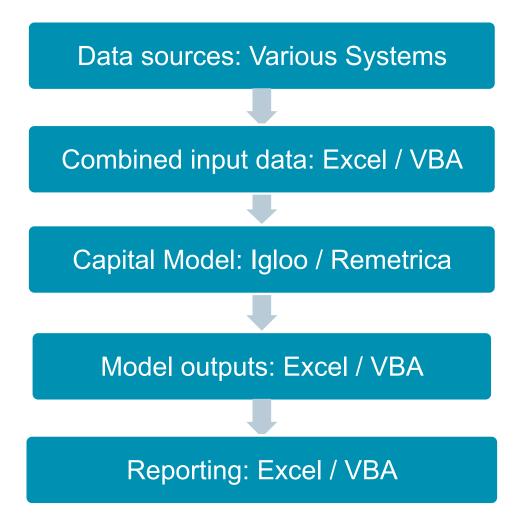
Regulatory authority

Rating agencies

### **CAPITAL MODELLING - OUTPUTS**

- What are the main challenges on the output side?
  - Very high data volumes (Terabytes)
  - Lots of model runs with different versions of data and model configurations (> 1000 in one year)
  - Audit trail from input & model configuration to output
  - Lots of different analyses and reports
  - Team work

# CAPITAL MODELLING TYPICAL SYSTEMS SETUP



# **ISSUES WITH EXCEL / VBA**

- ▶ Disparate data sources ⇒ lots of linked files
  - Updating links in Excel is haphazard
- Updated at different times / lots of different versions
  - Links do not automatically point to new file versions
  - Version numbers in filenames break links
  - Tracking links becomes impossible
- Problems with referential integrity
  - Eg business planning segmentation of business is different from underwriting classes of business
  - Lots of lookup functions very hard to check

## **MORE ISSUES WITH EXCEL/VBA**

- Most common update is moving forward one year
  - Means changing layout of tables
  - Affects references to ranges
  - Potentially makes links obsolete
- No support for team work / multi user environment
  - Only one user can work on a file at any given time.
  - Standard solution is to split files ⇒ more links
  - Or make copies ⇒ problems with combining changes made by different users on different copies.

### **ISSUES WITH VBA**

- VBA and data are typically bound together (although it is possible to have files which only contain VBA and operate on other files)
- VBA Code is duplicated many times over, because a copy is made every time the data is updated and a new version created
- VBA Code changes cannot easily be applied to past data sets
- Software development standards are hard to enforce
  - No formal version control
  - No concept of code releases
  - No concept of deployment
  - No way of going back to earlier releases

**–** ...

## LIMITATIONS OF EXCEL REPORTING

- Can't handle high data volumes
- Disconnect between input data and model outputs lack of audit trail

## **DISADVANTAGES OF R**

- ► Typical business users don't use it
- ► Not suited to disseminating model results to stakeholders

# CAPITAL MODELLING IMPROVED SYSTEMS SETUP

Data sources: Various Systems

Combined input data: Excel / R / version control for data & code

Capital Model: Igloo / Remetrica

**Model outputs: Excel / R** 

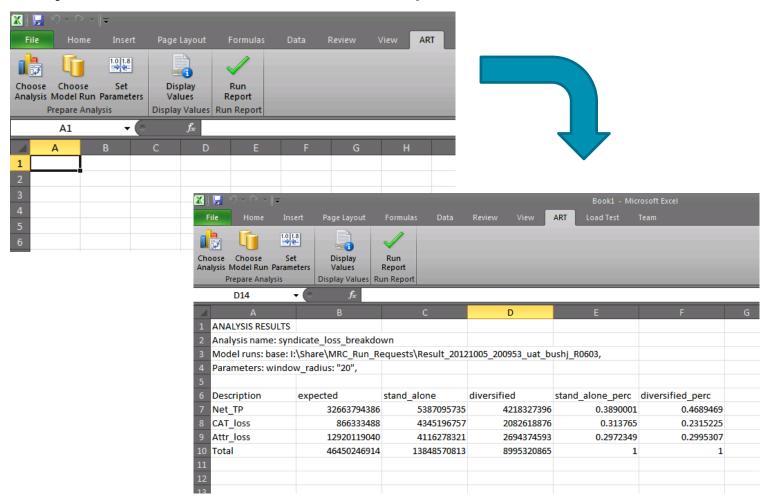
Reporting: Excel / R / version control for reports & code

# **OBJECTIVES OF ANALYSIS & REPORTING TOOL**

- Standardise reporting process for analysts
- Share analyses between analysts
- Make model results accessible to non-analysts
- Produce high quality reports
- Speed up report generation

# REPORTING PROCESS WITH ART: EXCEL ADDIN

Analyses defined in R can be imported into Excel



# REPORTING PROCESS WITH ART: REPORT ELEMENTS

**Report elements** combine an analysis with a method of presentation

#### Specify the analysis

#### Select or specify presentation format

	Expected	Stand Alone	Diversified
Net Technical Provisions	33,208	5,465	4,640
2012 Net Losses	13,233	5,624	5,010
Catastrophe	846	4,416	1,987
Attritional	12,386	4,175	3,023
Total	46,442	14,057	9,651

# REPORTING PROCESS WITH ART: REPORTS

#### Define report by combining report elements

```
1-in-200 Syndicate Loss Breakdown
_____
Notes
 - The results in the table below are the 1-in-200 aggregate
  syndicate losses in excess of the mean.
 - Results are calibrated to Syndicates' 1:200 losses,
  excluding credit for future profits.
  `{r syndicate_loss_breakdown, results='asis'}
report_element(
  analysis = "syndicate_loss_breakdown",
  presentation = "simple_table")
Syndicate Loss Distribution
_____
  {r syndicate_loss_distribution, fig.width=3, fig.height=3}
report_element(
  analysis = "syndicate_loss_distribution",
 presentation = "cumulative_distribution_graph",
  percentile = 0.995)
```

Generate report based on model run(s)



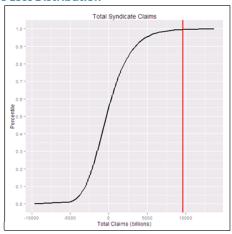
#### 1-IN-200 SYNDICATE LOSS BREAKDOWN

#### Notes

- The results in the table below are the 1-in-200 aggregate syndicate losses in excess of the mean.
- · Results are calibrated to Syndicates' 1:200 losses, excluding credit for future profits.

	Expected	Stand Alone	Diversified
Net Technical Provisions	33,208	5,465	4,640
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#### **Syndicate Loss Distribution**



### **ART BENEFITS**

- Increased confidence in analysis results and reports
- Reproducible and consistent reports
- Improved access and visibility of CCK model data
- Increased focus on analysis
- Extensible by end users (actuaries) via a flexible framework