Benchmarking Operational Risk

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Use of benchmark models

- Assess performance of primary model
- Provide a complementary independent view
- Calibrate firm's final estimates
- Validation as additional check on primary model and its results

Overview of Benchmark Model

- Main idea: Bank activity generates operational risk
- Two-step model:
 - Step 1: Estimate industry losses at the activity level:
 - o Banking
 - o Corporate Finance
 - Sales & Trading
 - o Other
 - Step 2: Redistribute industry losses according to banks' exposures to each activity
- Example: A bank involved in retail lending will be exposed to the operational risk associated with banking activity as captured by its share of banking activity.

Benchmark Model



Supervisory Model

- Two-step model:
 - Step 1: Industry aggregate operational losses conditional on macroeconomic factors
 - Step 2: Redistribution by firm size



- o Bank-level forecast
- Percentiles of aggregate
 9Q loss distribution as proxy of scenarios
- Tail frequencies and severities are informed by industry history
- Body frequencies and severities are informed by each firm history

Production vs Benchmark

| | Benchmark Model | PRODUCTION MODEL | |
|-----------------------|--|--|---|
| | | REGRESSION MODEL | HISTORICAL SIMULATION |
| Data Structure | • Business line | Observation level (all losses pooled together) | • Event type |
| Bank Loss Forecast | Industry-level forecast Redistribute using activity proxies | Industry-level forecast Redistribute using size | Bank-level forecast Own history driven |
| Scenario Forecast | Empirical distribution Percentile-based scenario forecasts | Macro-based scenario forecasts | Simulated distribution Percentile-based scenario forecasts |
| Main Driver | Activities | Size | History |

Lessons learned



- Very high correlation at the bank level in \$ values and as % of RWAs or assets
- Bank-level differences between supervisory and benchmark model are explained by:

 Impact of modeling assumptions
 Impact of data structure
- Performance testing results of benchmark model are similar to those of supervisory model