## Risk – origin of the term...

- The term risk can be traced to several possible origins:
  - Classical Greek, meaning root, stone or cut from firm land.
  - Latin: resicum, riscus.
  - Italian: risico, risco, rischio
  - Spanish: riesgo.
  - French: risque.
- Today, we talk about risk in terms of any deviation from the optimum solution or process, usually described in terms of expected loss.



## Risk – how it began...

### From God to measurement in 400 years...





## Risk – bringing it up to date..

From measurement to precision in only 50 years ...





## Loss versus risk

A loss v risk perspective....

- Categorising risks and losses based on degree of severity and frequency of occurrence.
- Confusion concerning probability and frequency of occurrence.



### Losses

Both expected losses and risks are negligible

Op. Risks Expected losses more important than risks Ordinary Op. Risks

Nominal

Both expected risks & expected losses are significant

## Exceptional Op. Risks

Risks are much more important than expected losses



## **Risk and uncertainty**

### Uncertainty

- The unknown-unknowns
- No probabilities

Risk

- The known-unknowns
- Probabilities exist and are assignable
- Likelihood and frequency of occurrence

**BUT**, are frequency, likelihood and chance the same as probability?





## **Risk and uncertainty**

**Risk managers** Dataflow computing is need to needed to deal with most challenging yet informative understand how modelling situations uncertainty and complexity can be managed. Nondeterministic Model-based Maximum Deterministic models/ complexity models scenario analysis scenario planning is used to identify least Minimum Point Confidence attractive estimates complexity ranges outcomes. Creates huge **Minimum** Maximum uncertainty uncertainty computational requirement.

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### Why use scenario analysis?



### Dynamic response to risk

Link actions and choices to outcomes of uncertain events – be better prepared by evaluating sequential and concurrent events.

### Value of information

Useful perspective on the value of information in decision making – reduced error rate and avoidance of short-termism.

### **Risk management**

Decide proactively and act on those events that should be guarded against and so avoid double counting or missing of risks.



### The scenario analysis process



### **Identify factors**

What are the most important factors that drive the change in value and contribute to the risk. What are the relationships between the factors?

### **Determine number of scenarios**

Convergence, computational cost and time constraints all contribute to determine the acceptable number of scenarios that can be run.

### Compute cash flows/event "payoffs"

Select model to compute cash flows that will generate the changes in value associated with the

### **Assign probabilities**

Estimate objective and/or subjective probabilities and/ or frequencies of occurrence. Assign probabilities to each scenario.



### How will scenario analysis help my portfolio?

Should I invest in the S&P? If so, how much and when? If I invest, how should I protect my investment?



S&P 500 Ind	ex: Valuation Measures		Historical Averages				
Valuation Measure	Description	Latest*	1-year ago	3-year avg.	5-year avg.	10-year avg.	15-year avg.
P/E	Price to Earnings	12.5x	11.8x	12.6x	12.8x	14.2x	16.7x
P/B	Price to Book	2.3	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.5	3.0
P/CF	Price to Cash Flow	8.5	8.1	8.4	8.4	9.7	11.0
P/S	Price to Sales	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.3	1.5
PEG	Price/Earnings to Growth	1.3	1.2	0.9	1.7	1.5	1.5
Div. Yield	Dividend Yield	2.4%	2.3%	2.2%	2.3%	2.1%	1.9%



**Global events** 

## The need for factor coverage

Tsunamis and

hurricanes

Government debt

Macro

factors

economic

Selected Eurozone countries (gross debt as % of GDP)



#### GDP falls in crisis-hit countries

Change in real GDP (%)



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### Rules based algorithmic trading strategies for credit markets



Jul-07 Oct-07 Jan-08 Apr-08 Jul-08 Oct-08 Jan-09 Apr-09 Jul-09 Oct-09 Jan-10 Apr-10 Jul-10 Oct-10 Jan-11 Apr-11 Jul-11 Source: J.P. Morgan.

### Other problems: Deepwater Horizon



- No mechanism for control of riser or BOP at surface → 5,000 ft of pipe in sea and 13,000 ft in the well.
- All 18,00 ft contained combustible fluids when disaster struck.
- Loss of power → loss of dynamic positioning of vessel → disaster.
- Disconnect from riser too slow and BOP failed.
- Blind sheer ram (part of BOP) failed to cut riser, failed to close top of the well, failed to seal pipe.



### A simple example of a start-up

Venture capitalists value start-ups based on exit value using projected earnings and a multiple in the future, then discount the exit value at a target rate.

So, valuing an early-stage firm that is currently losing money, but expected to make profits of, say, \$10m in 5 years time – at which point the earnings multiple (EM) will be  $\sim$ 40x.

VC's often use a very high target discount rate – say 35%, which would value the firm as follows:

Value of firm in 5 years = Earnings in year 5 x EM =  $10 \times 40 = 400$ m Value of firm today = 400m /  $(1 + 0.35)^5 = 89.2$ m





### Loss v risk

Categorising risks and losses based on degree of severity and frequency of occurrence. Confusion concerning probability and frequency of occurrence.



Technologies

Both expected losses and risks are negligible

## What are the commonalities?

- High dimensionality:
  - Many causative factors.
  - Factor interdependence.
- Factor ordering is critical:
  - Can't simply run arbitrary combinations of factors.
  - Permutative approach required to span event space e.g. order of defaults, process failures.
- Need to run large number of scenarios to achieve stable and robust results.
- Very short time available to run computations



## Trading risk

### Credit derivatives risk at JP Morgan – 125x faster American Finance in T

(Runs ~125x end-to-end in production for intraday risk and valuation application)

- PV runs reduced to under 3 seconds/run when running batches of 100 runs.
- Risk runs reduced to under 4 minutes from 8 hours.
- Previously impossible permutative and combinatoric scenarios, run in seconds.
- Run hundreds of thousands of scenarios in the trading day.
- Enabled optimisation of hedging and capital usage.



Technologies

## Exchange risk

- Continuous trading using a real-time auction mechanism.
- Real-time price dissemination, order matching and trading.
- A fully integrated front-to-back solution for matching, clearing, pre-trade credit checks and post-trade risk management.
- Solution now handles hundreds of thousands of orders per second - scalable to millions of orders per second.





## Low latency

# High-frequency trading and risk management at major hedge fund

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### MaxCompilerMPT

- Integrated hardware and software programming
- Dataflow Technology for simple development
- Simulated DFEs for fast delivery

Frading strategies developed, evaluated and deployed rapidly



### **Exchange Interfaces**

- Optimized industry-standard connectivity
- User configurable functionality and formats





### **MPT-10G Trading Platform**

- Multiple 10GE connected hardware DFEs
- Datacenter-ready with simple deployment
- Precision timing support (internal and external)



### Commonality of risk

- Reservoir simulation:
  - Modelling the geology
  - Flow modelling
- Financial modelling
  - Macro-economic
  - Micro-economic pricing
- Dataflow based simulation scales across problems:

Black-Scholes VaR

Portfolio type1,000 optionsMultip factorsAnalytic modelBlack ScholesfactorsNum. Scenarios10,000,000multiple pathsClock Time11.43 secsconsiste speedup DFE v CPU33xspeedup			Multiple		Portfolio type	100,000 swaptions
			factors,		Analytic model	3-factor LMM
			multiple MC		Num. Scenarios	30,000 paths
		consistent		Clock Time	15.01 secs	
		speedup		Speedup DFE v CPU	30x	

Above comparisons are between a Maxeler 1U-node MPC-X Dataflow Engine against a 1U-node Intel Sandybridge EP CPU compiled with AVX and OpenMP



Dataflow can be used to

accelerate Mallinson's work to increase the

number of simulations

within target timescale.

Carlo framework

**Bermudan Swaptions** 

Already developed Monte

### When order matters...

- Many risk managers run scenarios in an attempt to reduce uncertainty.
- Most scenario analysis is ad hoc:
  - Application of arbitrary shifts to perceived "key" variables – simple combinatoric approach.
  - Most scenario analysis is designed to find assumed "worst case" outcomes – minimax/ maximin.
  - But, by using permutation driven scenario analysis, it is possible to span the even space and identify interesting and/or critical cases that may have been missed.



## Maxeler's risk solutions...

Consistent, real-time, valuation and risk management calculations across all major asset classes



### **Maxeler University Program Members**

