

Model risk and industrialisation

4th Seminar on Enterprise Risk Management

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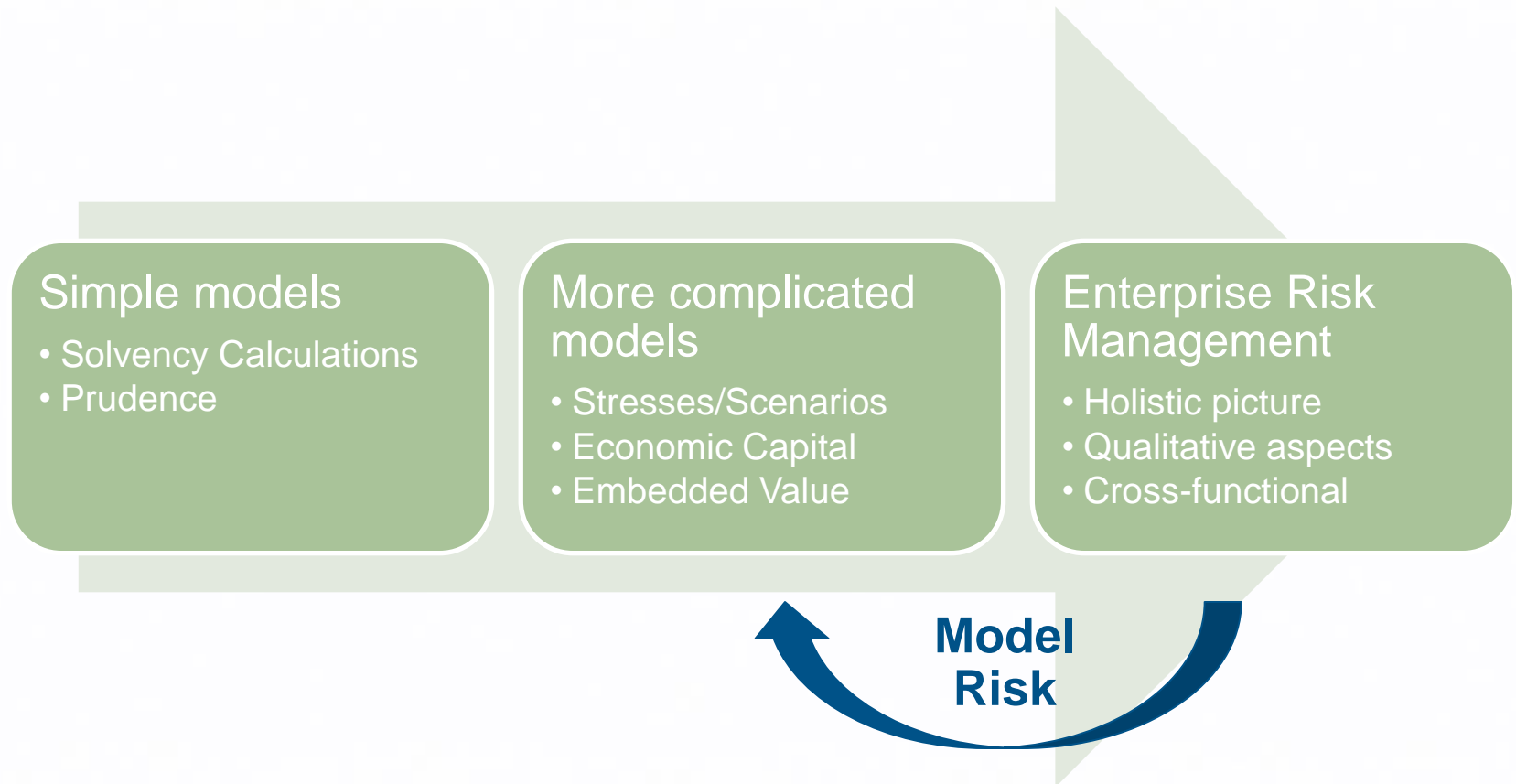


Introduction

- Introduction to model risk
- Model maintenance
- Industrialisation case study

Model Risk

Setting the stage within an ERM framework



Model Risk – Incorrect or inappropriate uses

“Then the model fell apart. Cracks started appearing early on, when financial markets began behaving in ways that users of Li's formula hadn't expected. The cracks became full-fledged canyons in 2008—when ruptures in the financial system's foundation swallowed up trillions of dollars and put the survival of the global banking system in serious peril.”

wired.com/2009/02/wp-quant/

RECIPE FOR DISASTER: THE FORMULA THAT KILLED WALL STREET



In the mid-'80s, Wall Street turned to the quants—brainy financial engineers—to invent new ways to boost profits. Their methods for minting money worked brilliantly... until one of them devastated the global economy. Photo: Jim

Model Risk

- The use of models invariably presents model risk, which is the potential for **adverse consequences** from **decisions** based on **incorrect or misused** model outputs and reports.
- Model risk can lead to financial loss, poor business and strategic **decision making**, or damage to a bank's **reputation**.
- Model risk occurs primarily for two reasons:
 - The model may have **fundamental errors** and may produce inaccurate outputs when viewed against the **design objective** and intended business uses. [...]
 - The model may be used **incorrectly or inappropriately**.

Model Risk – Indian Context

The past

- High product turnover & diverse product mixes
- Rapid regulatory change
- Start-up phase – compromises to be made, expense overruns, up-skilling

The future

- Risk-based capital
- Embedded Value Disclosures & IPOs: Speed of production
- IFRS
- Consistency across all models
- Best-estimate not prudent

Model maintenance



Model maintenance

An example of International Best Practice (1/2)

- Best practice model maintenance is split into two key phases :
 - Development of a new feature including documentation and review. This includes 4 key phases as outlined below in the table
 - Integration of the new feature(s) into a new production version of the model

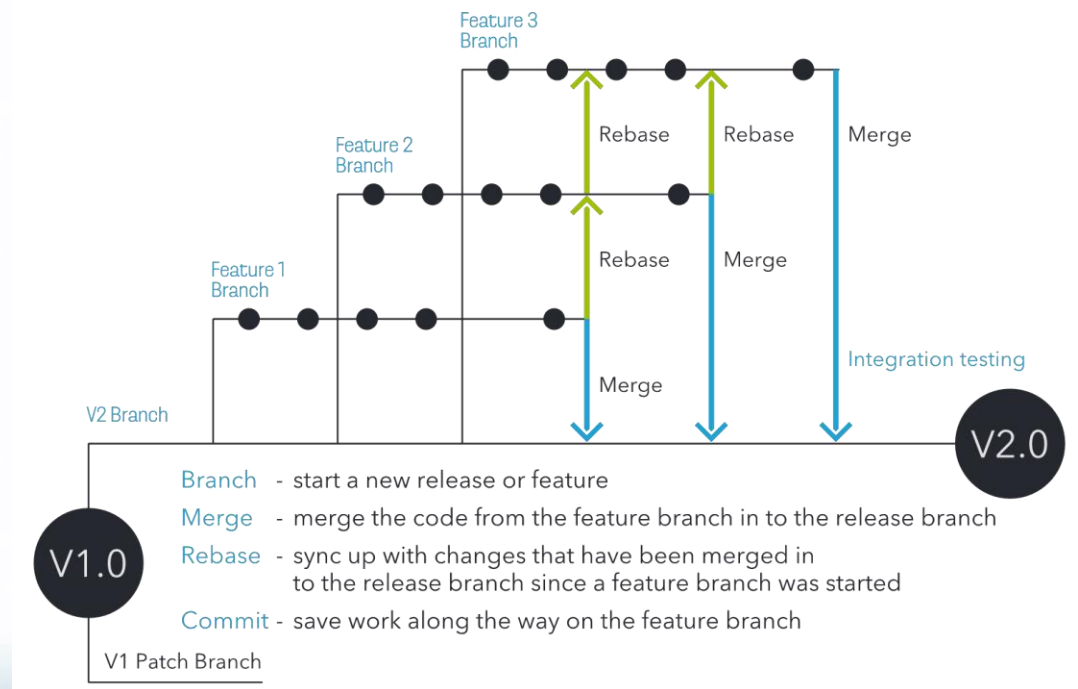
Stage	Name	Description
Requirements	Write requirements	Create the requirements document
Requirements	Review requirements	Review the requirements
Requirements	Sign-off	Confirm sign-off of requirements through governance process
Design	Write specs	Write the implementation specifications. Include all dependencies on changes to data, assumptions and runs
Design	Review specs	Peer review of the implementation specifications
Implement	Write code	Make the necessary changes to the code and adjust specs if necessary
Implement	Review code	Review the coding changes
Test	Write test plan	Create the test plan for the feature
Test	Execute feature testing	Test the feature
Test	Sign-off testing	Confirm review and sign-off of the feature testing

- An important step is to ensure a review and sign-off at each step within the process
- This process ensures that the code is sufficiently tested before being available for inclusion in production version

Model maintenance

An example of International Best Practice (2/2)

- It is not uncommon for several features to be developed simultaneously. The diagram below outlines a best practice approach.
- Once a feature is signed-off, it is merged into the Production version.
 - Changes to the production version can only be made by the designated “Model Owner”
 - A “light” integration testing is performed at this stage
- Simultaneously the merged version is reflected in the other Feature Branches
 - The reflection in feature branches helps reduce time between final feature development and new version release
- The final integration testing before a new release should be full re-run of the previous production results



Model maintenance

Our recommendations

- The approach laid out is a very governance heavy approach to model maintenance. Although we believe this is industry best practice, we understand that it is not always practical to have such a detailed framework.

- Our view is that minimum governance requirements are :
 - Inclusion of 4 steps in the feature development phase
 - Independent sign-off / review of each feature development
 - Designation of “model owner” who is solely responsible for changes to production version
 - Full integration testing prior to version release

Case study : Industrialisation of actuarial processes



Industrialisation project & case study

The context and our objectives

Context

- Company was required to produce annual EV reports with typical analysis of change
- In addition, company needed to provide management with a detailed source of earning reporting on a monthly basis

Issues

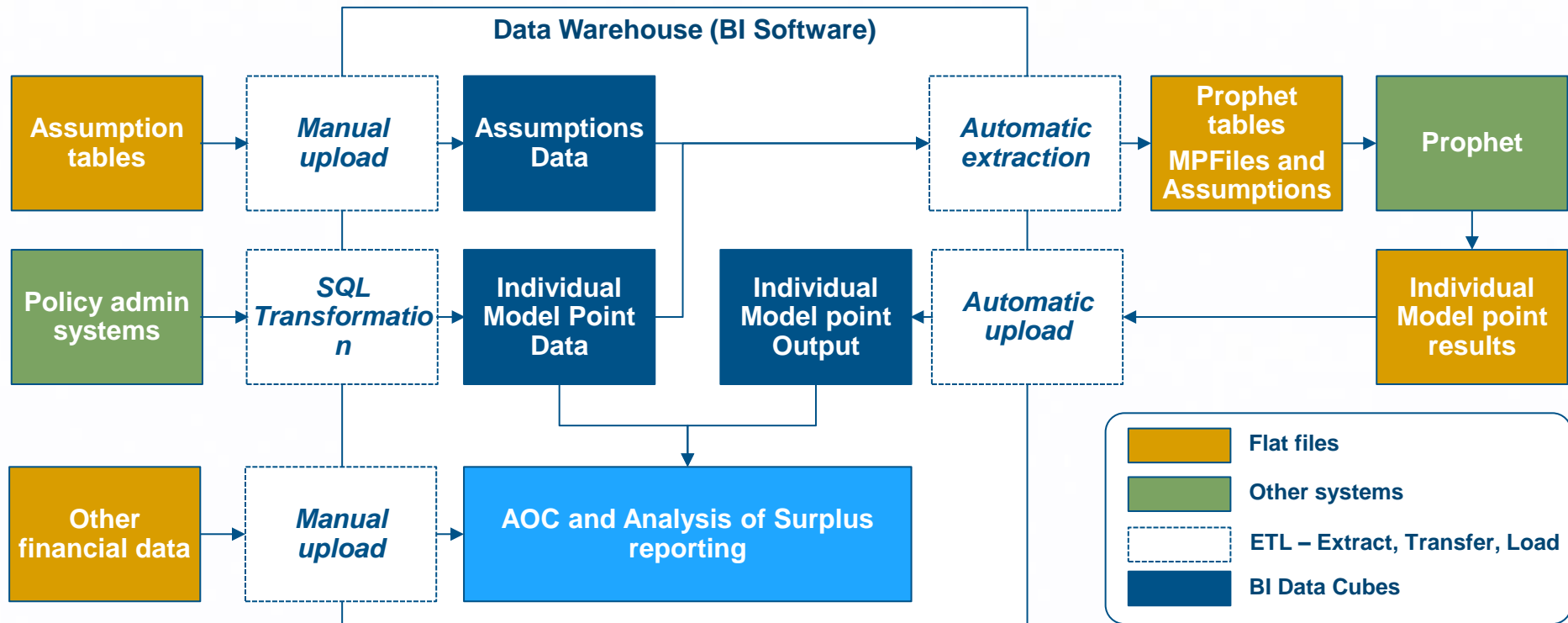
- Company had problems being able to produce accurate results in a timely manner
- Viability of the incoming data was a major concern
- Had difficulties in explaining in detail the results

Objectives

- Automatic production of MPFs and validation of datasets coming from source systems
- Centralisation and control of assumptions
- Improved AOC and sources of surplus analysis

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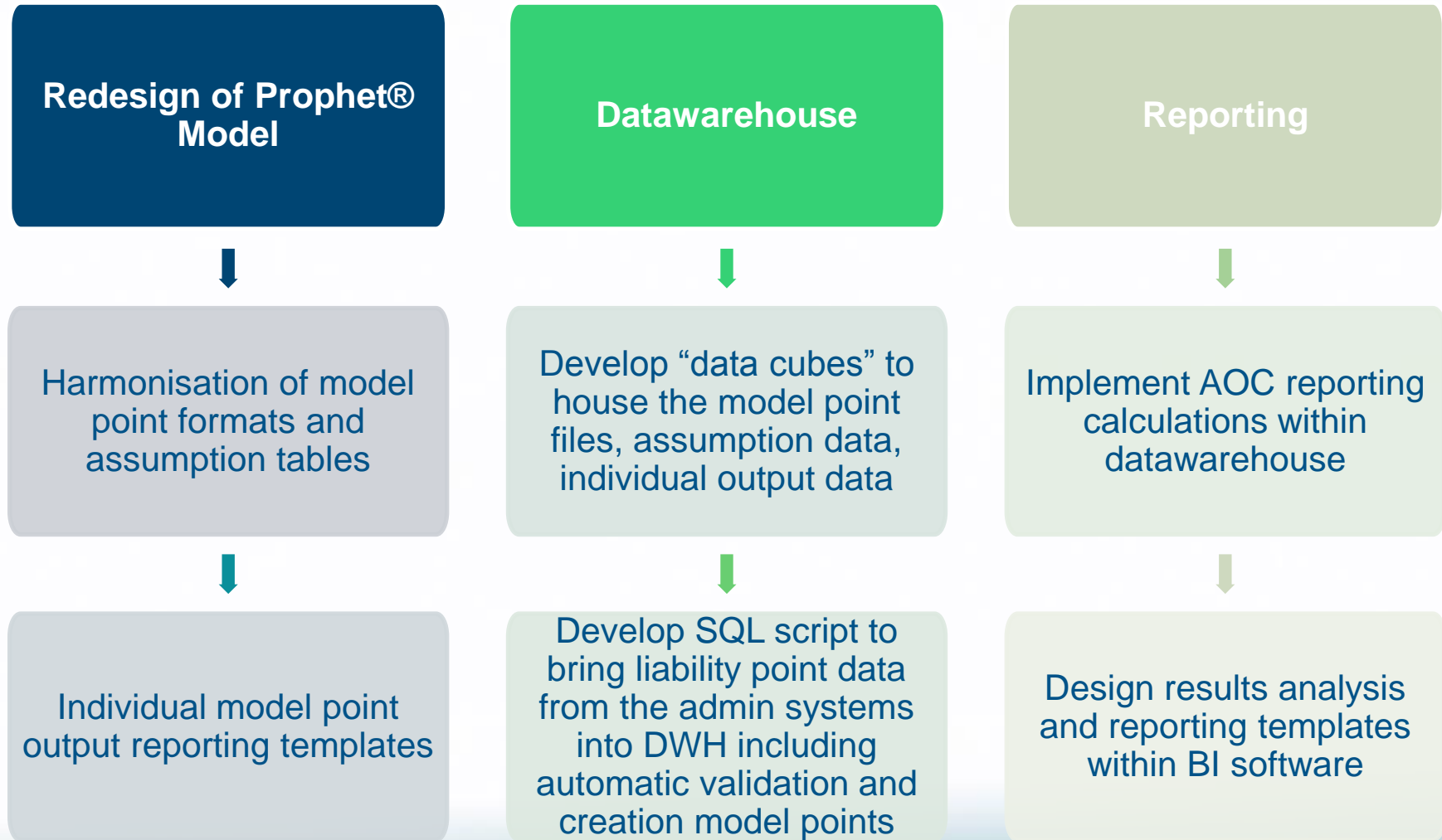
The datawarehouse is a central component of the industrialisation process



- Matching of individual model point data with individualised model point data enables detailed and accurate AOC and Analysis of surplus reporting

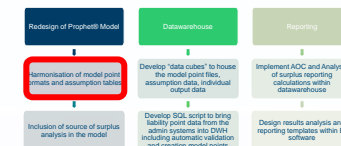
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High level project plan

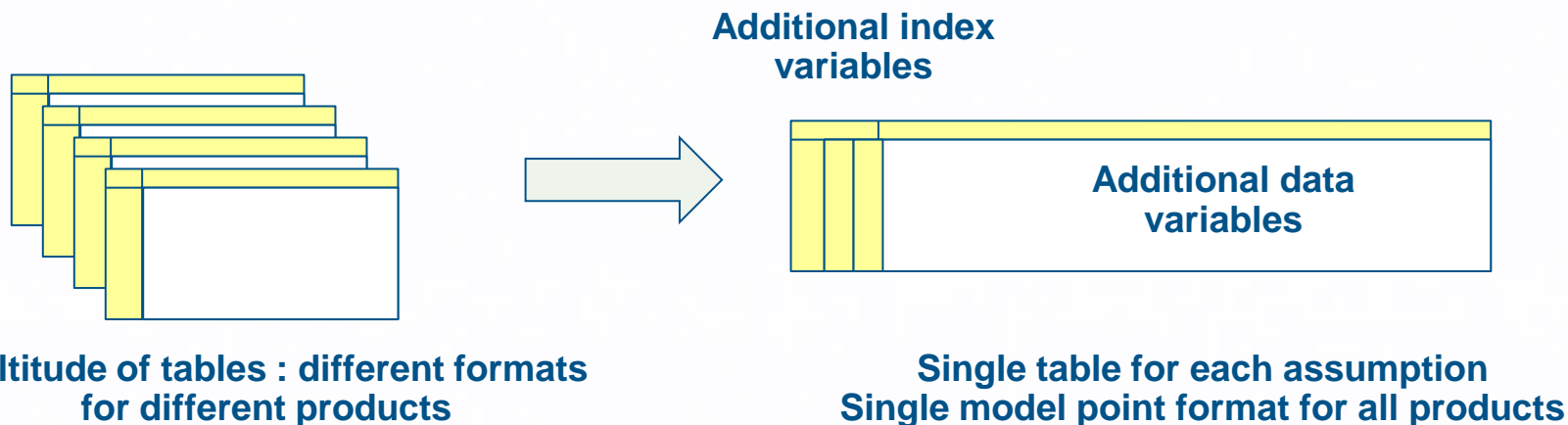


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Model point and assumption table harmonisation is recommended to facilitate industrialisation



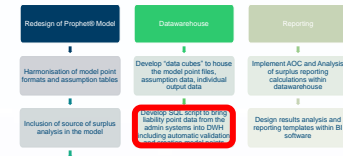
- Model point and assumption table harmonisation



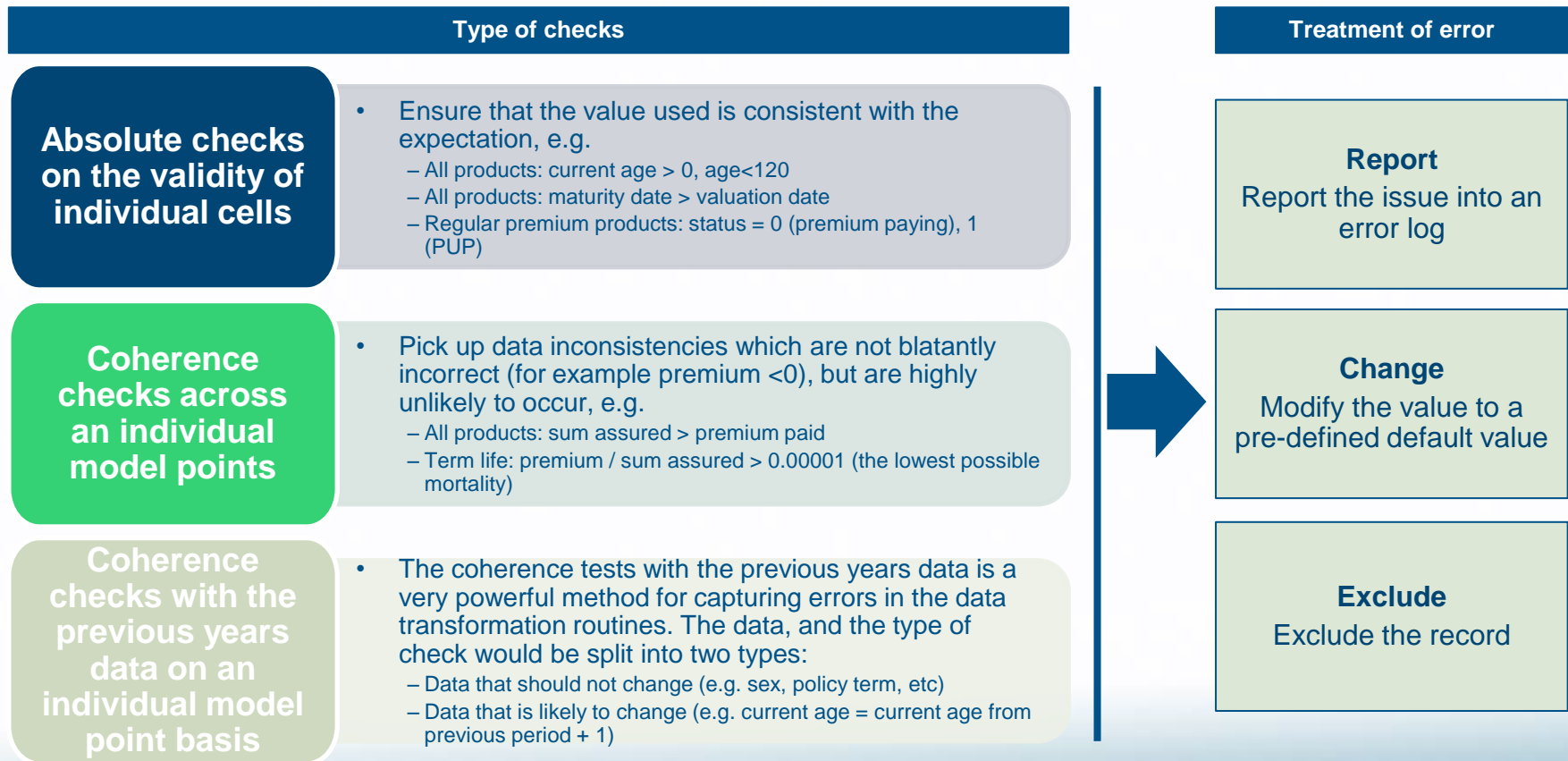
- Key advantages
 - Simplifies creation of data cubes in datawarehouse
 - Enables easy cross product analysis on both individual model points data and assumptions data
 - Due to industrialisation process, size of input tables into Prophet is less of a concern

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Validation of model point data

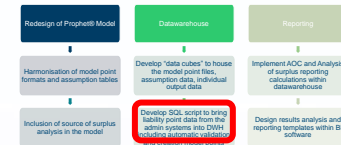


- The SQL scripts were designed to both transform the data and check the validity of the data at the moment the upload is performed

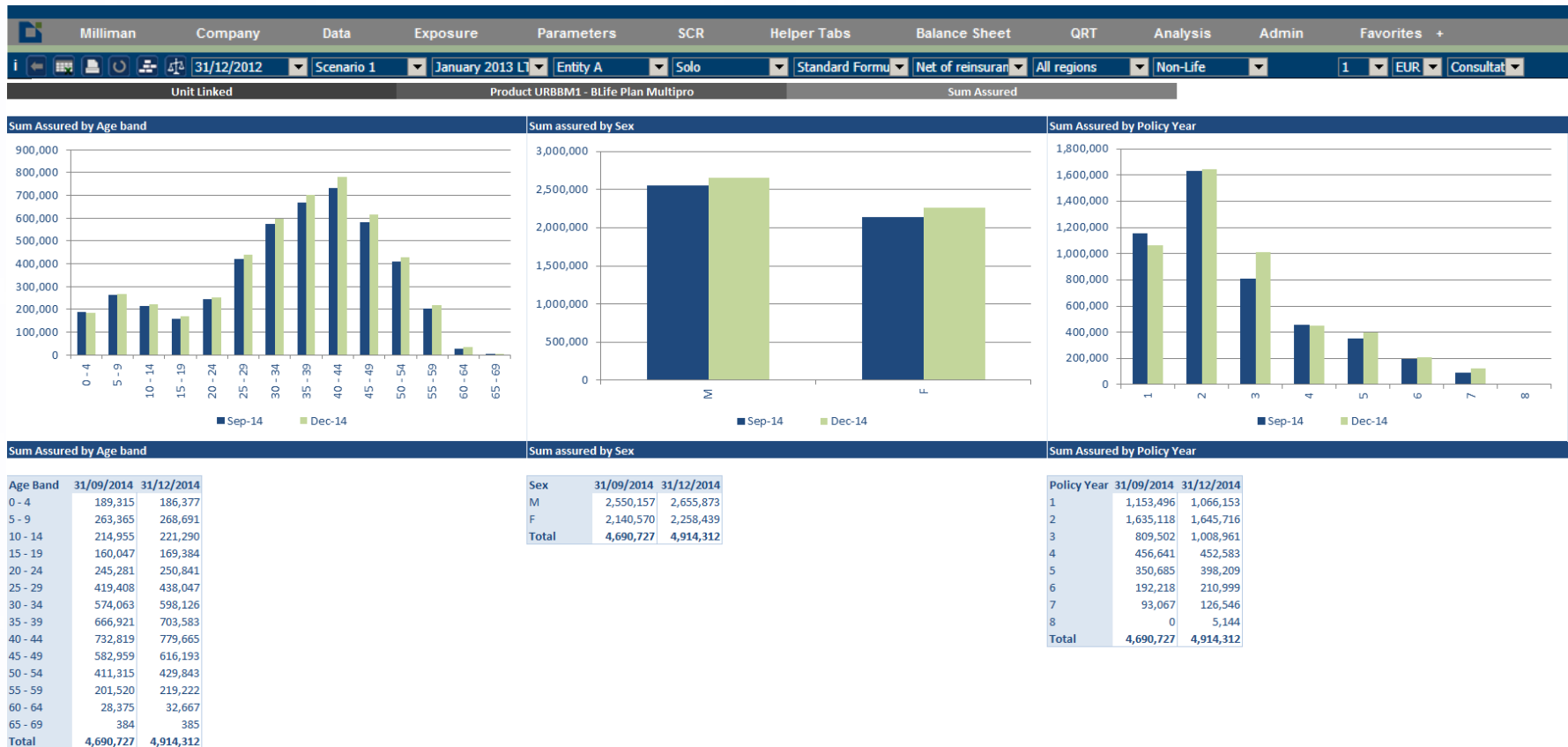


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Validation of model point data

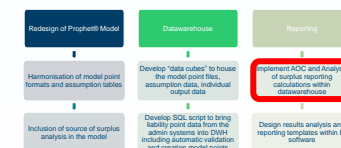


- Business intelligence software enables easy drill into model point data



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Typical AOC reporting template



- A typical Analysis of Change template contains the following :

	ANAV	VIF	EV
Opening EV (n-1)			
Opening adjustment			
New Business Value			
Unwind		$x (1+RDR)$	
Transfer to ANAV	+Profit(n)	-Profit (n)	0
Operating Experience Variances	ExpProfit(n) -		
Investment Experience Variances	ActProfit(n)		
Operating Assumption Changes			
Economic Assumption Changes			
Dividend Paid / Capital Injected			
Closing EV (n)			

Initial EV after adjustments

Value of new business sold during the year

Unwind the discount rate

Transfer of first year profit to ANAV from VIF

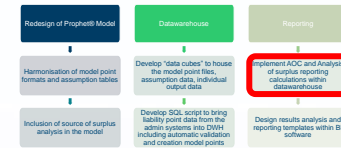
Impact on Profit(n) and VIF(n) of actual experience versus expected experience

Impact on VIF(n) of change in future assumptions (no impact on ANAV)

Final EV

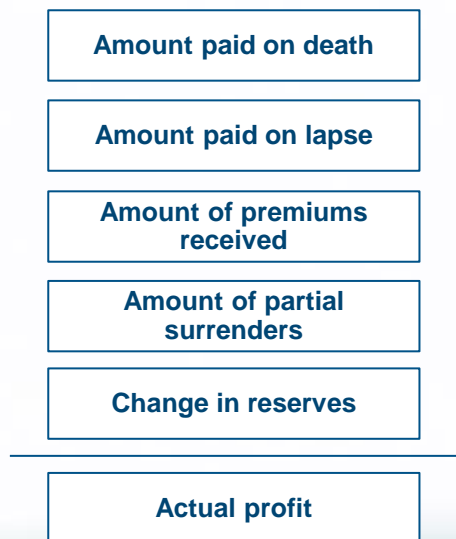
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Industrialised solution to experience variances – Unit Linked example



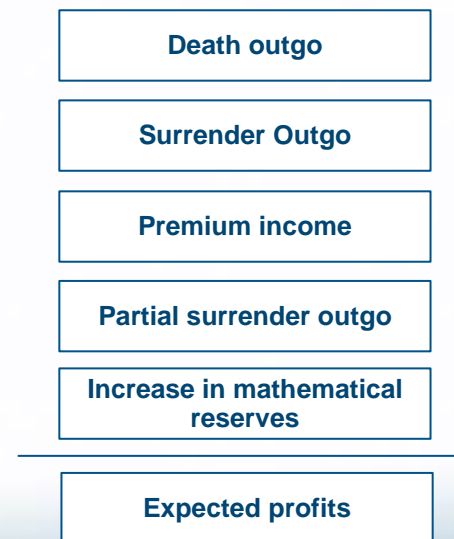
- A typical process for experience variances involves running the model many times, updating the “actual” assumptions one by one.
- Under the industrialised solution, only two runs are needed (start of period and end of period) as the results can be analysed on an individual basis. However, additional data is required at the individual model point data level. In particular, for those policies that exited over the period, we need to get additional data from the administration systems

Actuals : from the admin systems



Individual model point comparison makes the identification of sources of profit relatively simple

Expected : from BOP actuarial run



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The outcome – Unit Linked example

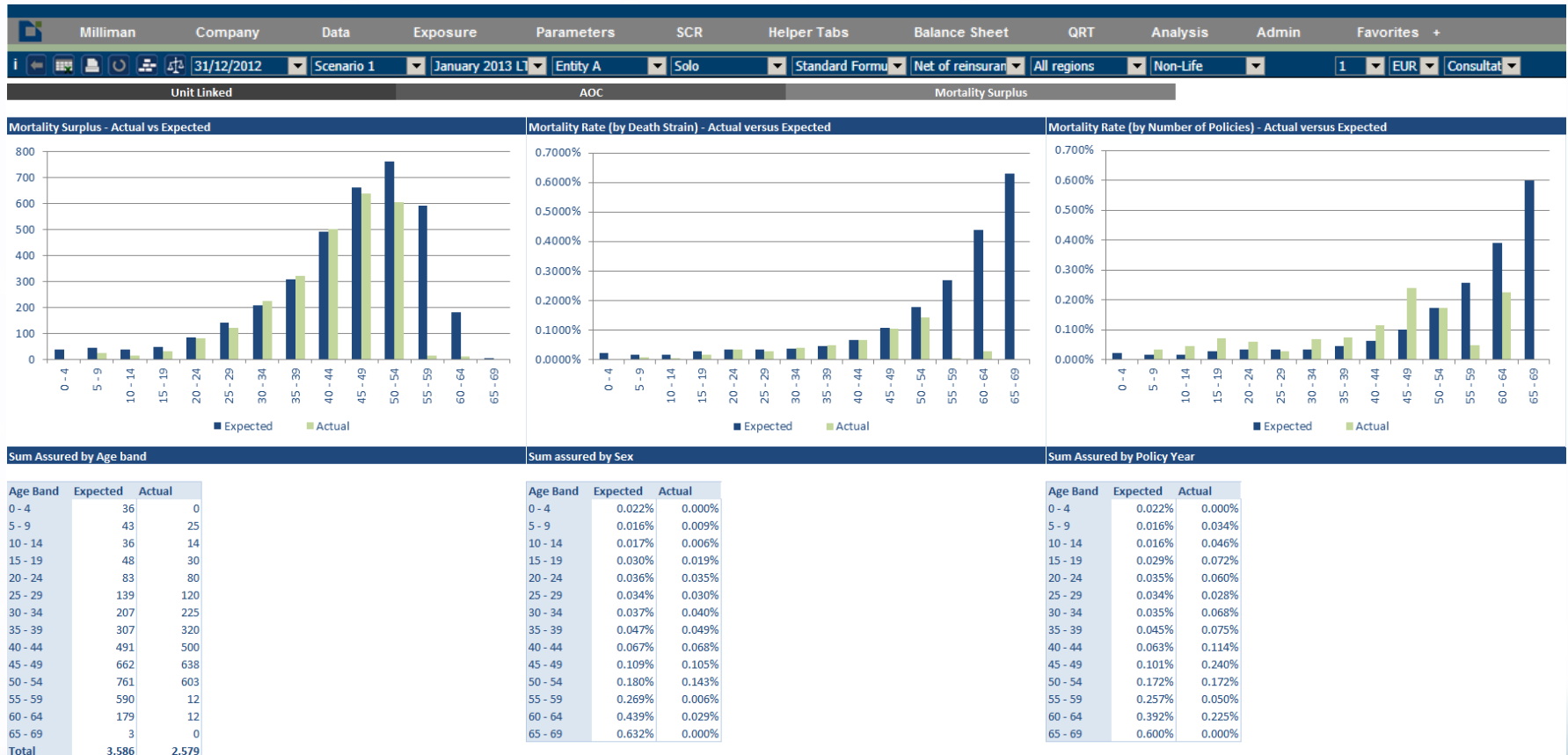
- The results are very good – unexplained is very small
- Global results can hide some underlying trends



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The outcome – Mortality Surplus

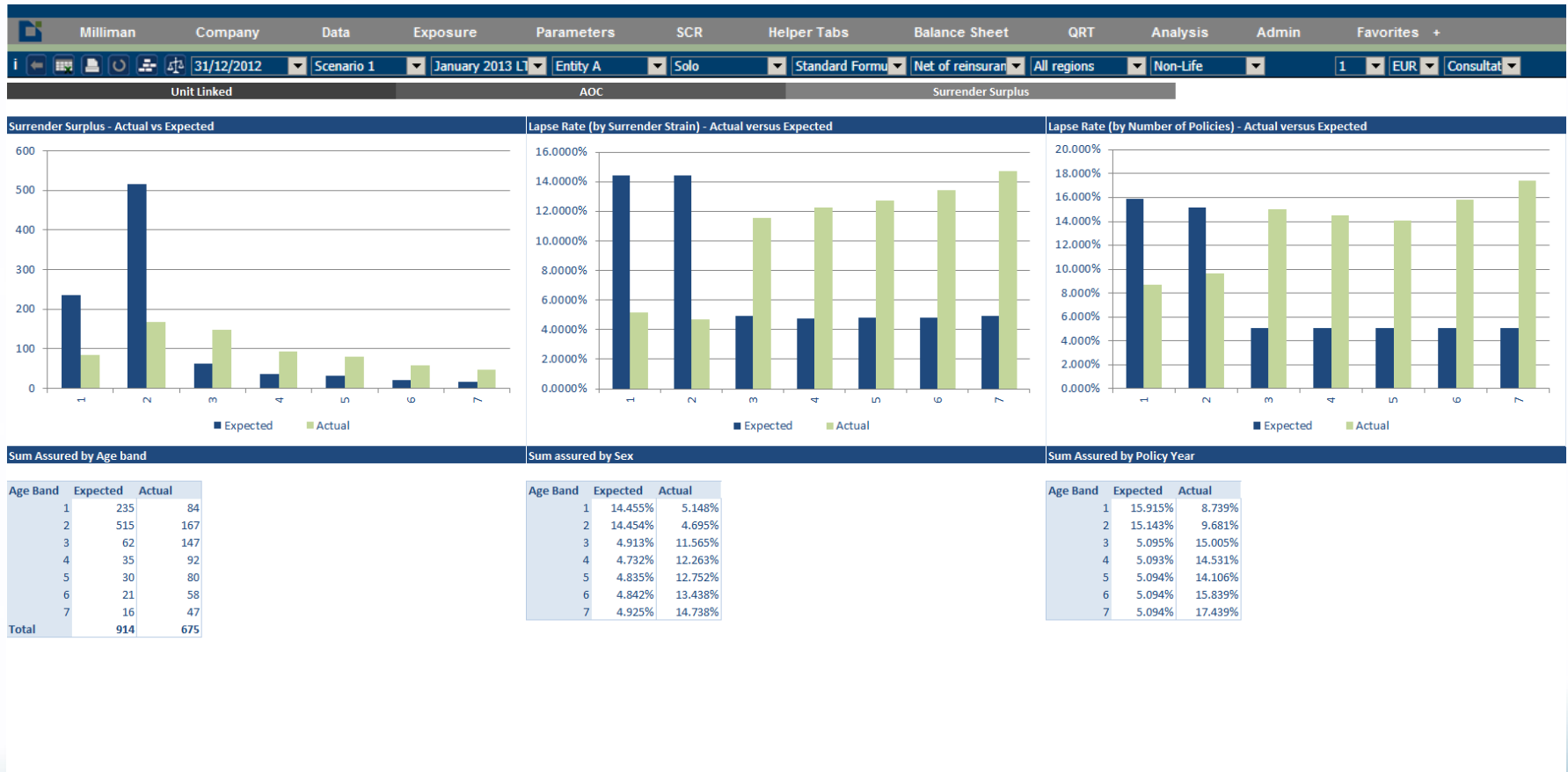
- Lower deaths focused in the high ages.



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The outcome – Surrender Surplus

- Total surplus is relatively close but distribution very different from expected



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Operational results

AOC production timescales significantly reduced (3 weeks to 4 days)

Accuracy significantly improved (unexplained around 1%)

Early detection of underlying trends – lapse experience was tightly followed post-implementation

Much greater confidence in results from management – in particular, confidence that no hidden data errors are coming through

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Key takeaways

Modification of Actuarial Models

- Harmonisation of input formats - model points & assumption tables is a key phase to simplify Data Warehouse design and make future proof
- Inclusion of additional output variables deemed necessary

Design of Data Warehouse

- Don't overreach – initial reaction is to try to put everything in the datawarehouse; resisting this temptation ensures IT elements are delivered
- Focus on key reporting elements and work backwards – AOC was the key reporting output ; solution focused on AOC with other elements being “nice to have”
- Adaptive design important to ensure future updates can be made easily
- Do not underestimate the volume of the SQL phase – data conversion and validation is always more difficult than you think

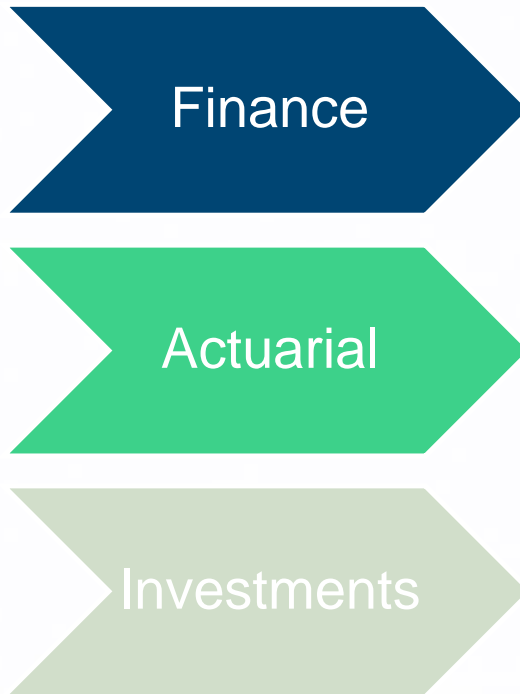
Reporting

- Get the first two phases right - once the data is in the system, a myriad of reports can be produced

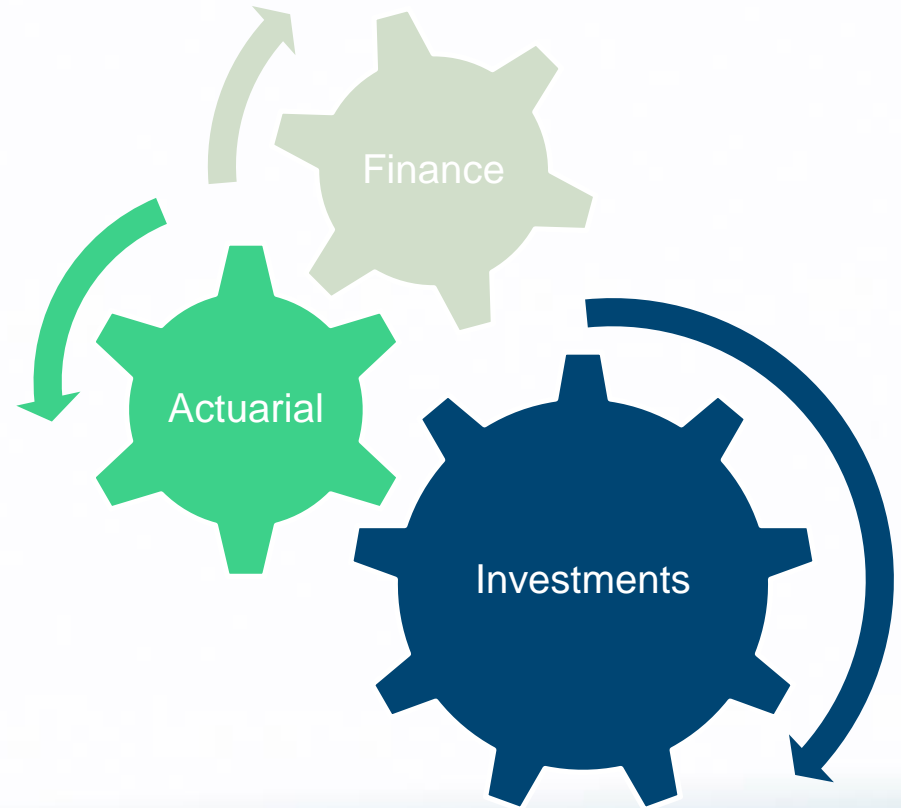
Conclusion

Industrialisation will be a growing trend...

Traditional reporting process



Future reporting process (IFRS / RBC / Economic capital)



...and reduction of model risk will become a key focus