# Finance and Insurance: Converging or Diverging?

#### Stephen Mildenhall May 2002

# Overview

#### 1. Underwriting

- What is underwriting?
- Examples of insurance structures
- Examples of securitization

#### 2. Finance and Insurance

- Finance and Insurance compared
- Complete Markets
- Cat Bond Market Pricing

# Overview

#### **3. Insurance within Finance**

- Business Demand for Insurance
- Insurer and non-Insurer Risk Management
- Insurance Company Structures
- State of Insurance Industry
- Investor Reaction to 9/11
- 4. Conclusions

### **Historical Perspective**

- Reform of insurance and banking laws
- Integration of banking and insurance
  - Partnerships (P/C) and Mergers (Life) with banks
  - Banks as P/C intermediaries rather than risk bearers
- Industry over- and under-capitalized
  - Low ROE, very low leverage ratios
    - Conservative rating agency models
    - One-time capital gains
  - But, inability to cope with large cats
  - Industry using capital inefficiently?

## **Historical Perspective**

- Wind-fall capital gains in late 1990s led to savage price war and poor underwriting results 97-2000
- Fragile industry shocked in 2001
  - 9/11 terrorist attacks
  - Enron
  - Re-emergence of asbestos
- Hard market, industry distressed
- Market not embracing securitization solutions

# 1. Underwriting

# What is Underwriting?

- Assess and quantify risks
- Attract capital to support writings
  - Existence of capital demonstrates uw competence to buyer
- Provide infrastructure to issue policies, comply with regulation, adjust claims
- May sound easy, but consider starting from scratch!

## **Insurance Policies**

- Property Casualty focus
  - Auto liability (AL) and physical damage (APD)
  - General liability (GL): Premises and Products
  - Workers Compensation (WC): Statutory cover, unlimited loss potential
  - Homeowners
  - Commercial property: Terrorism
  - Umbrella (over AL, GL)
  - Reinsurance

## Catastrophes

- Independent risks underlies P/C insurance
- Catastrophe (Cat) Risk: catch-all phrase for failure of independence
  - Hurricane, earthquake
  - Tornado, winter storm
  - Terrorist attack
- Property cats monitored by PCS
  - Provide industry wide estimates of losses from cat events over \$25M

#### **Overview of Cat Reinsurance**

- Common catastrophe reinsurance covers
  - Per occurrence excess of loss
    - \$100M xs \$150M per occurrence
  - Reinstatements
    - 1 at 100%, 3 "pro rata as to time and amount"
  - Aggregate excess of loss less common
- Catastrophe Models
  - Per location computation of loss costs and distribution of occurrence and aggregate losses
    - Consider specific location characteristics
      - Soil type, distance to shore
      - Construction type, building characteristics and use
    - 1000's of simulated events applied to each location

### **Overview of Cat Re**

#### Pricing of Cat Contracts

- Expected losses typically determined by models
  - Data quality a key concern
- Premium markup 150% to 500% of expected loss
  - See Froot paper on www.guycarp.com
- Loss ratio = 1 / Markup
- Rate on line (ROL) = premium / line extended
- For a 1:100 year event
  - Loss cost approx. 1% on-line
  - Rate or premium 1.5-5% on line
  - Loss ratio 20% to 66%

### **Overview of Cat Re**

- Retro: reinsurance for reinsurers
  - Greater uncertainty about underlying risks
  - Poorer data quality for modeling
  - Do not want to provide capacity to competitors
- Capacity
  - Industry surplus approx. \$290B
  - Large event: \$100B
  - WTC approx \$30-50B, Andrew approx \$20B
- All risks coverage vs. named peril
  - Key difference in WTC!

# **Overview of Cat Re**

| US Region       | 100 Year<br>Return | 250 Year<br>Return |
|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Florida Wind    | \$30B              | 41                 |
| S California EQ | 15                 | 27                 |
| New Madrid EQ   | 4.5                | 14                 |
| US Multi-Peril  | 59                 | 115                |

-Regional losses on occurrence basis; US total on aggregate basis
-Loss amounts are gross insured loss, net of insured deductibles
-Multi-peril loss includes EQ, fire-following, hurricane, tornado and hail
-AM Best focuses on 250 year returns for EQ and Florida wind, and 100 year returns for non-Florida wind

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Source: RMS

# **Typical Reinsurance Structure**

#### Property

- All individual risks "bought-down" to \$10-20M per risk (location/event)
  - Facultative or Per Risk treaty
  - Typically not considered cat exposed (fire, explosion)
- Treaty occurrence coverage up to 250-1000 year event in several layers (tranches)
- Occurrence coverage harder to quantify
- Market crises after Andrew led to interest in alternative structures and securitization

# Securitization

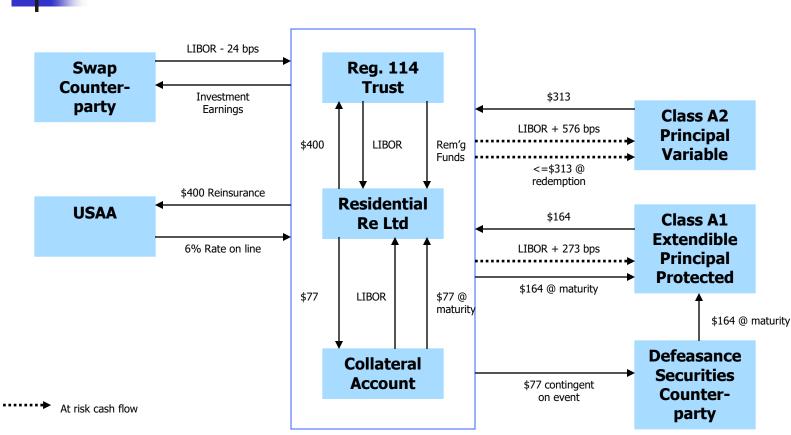
- Bundling or repackaging of rights to future cash flows for sale in the capital markets
  - Transformation of uw cash flows into securities
  - **Transfer** of uw risk to the capital markets
- Advantages to insurers
  - More capacity
  - No counter-party risk
  - More favorable tax treatment (SPV offshore)
  - Consistent capacity through market cycle

# Securitization

- Characteristics of a successful deal
  - High retention, low probability of loss
    - Capacity rather than frequency risk
  - Underlying risk uncorrelated with financial markets
  - Understandable, quantifiable risk
    - Computerized cat models key to development
  - Short exposure period, quickly quantifiable losses
  - BB or better credit rating from Rating Agencies
  - Liquid market

### **USAA** Cat Bond

- First major securitization (June 1997)
  - Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) Residential Re
  - Protection: \$400M part of \$500M xs \$1B retention
    - USAA participates in all lower layers
    - Traditional reinsurance \$400M part of \$550M xs \$450M
  - Two Tranches
    - A1 Principal protected \$164M @ LIBOR + 273 bps (AAA)
    - A2 Principal at risks \$313M
       @ LIBOR + 576 bps (BB)
    - Provides approx. \$400M reinsurance protection
  - USAA writes personal lines for Armed Forces personnel and their families



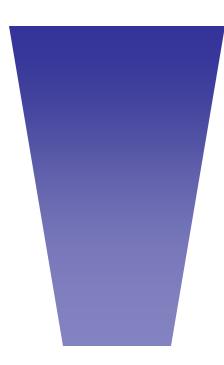
**USAA** Cat Bond

All amounts in \$M

#### **USAA** Cat Bond

- Paying for the spread
  - Income: 6% ROL x \$400M = \$24M
  - Expense: \$23.65M + friction
    - 24 bps on \$477M = \$1.15M
    - 576 bps on \$313M = \$18.0M
    - 273 bps on \$164M = \$4.5M
- Renewal History (unprotected tranche)
  - 1997, LIBOR + 576 bps, \$400M total capacity
  - 1998, LIBOR + 400 bps, \$400M total capacity
  - 1999, LIBOR + 366 bps, \$200M total capacity
  - 2000, LIBOR + 416 bps, \$200M total capacity
  - 2001, ??, \$150M total capacity

# Cat Bonds



#### Purchasers:

- Mutual funds
- Hedge funds
- Reinsurers
- Life Insurers
- Banks
- P/C Insurers

# Cat Bonds

#### SR Earthquake Fund, Ltd.

- Swiss Re Securitized \$112M of California Earthquake for 2 ¼ years
  - Related to reinsurance of CEA (Buffett connection)
  - Trigger based on PCS industry losses

| Tranche | Rate        | ROL   | Trigger / Loss of Principal  | Rating |
|---------|-------------|-------|------------------------------|--------|
| A1      | L + 255 bps | 4.25% | 18.5B 20%; 21B 40%; 24B 60%  | BBB    |
| A2      | L + 280 bps | 4.67% | 18.5B 20%; 21B 40%; 24B 60%  | BBB    |
| В       | L + 475 bps | 4.75% | 18.5B 33%; 21B 67%; 24B 100% | BB     |
| С       | L + 625 bps | 6.25% | 12.0B 100%                   | NR     |

# Cat Bonds

#### SCOR / Atlas Re, 3/16/2000

- \$200M cat bond, multi-year, expires 2003
  - \$100M xs \$200M per event and \$200M in aggregate
- Reference portfolio, ensures data quality
  - Allows better loss modeling
  - Indemnity Payment = Ref. P/f Losses x Adj. Factor
- Retro protection for SCOR, a reinsurer
  - European wind, US EQ, Japanese EQ perils
- Atlas Re based in Ireland
- Class A, \$70M BBB+ @ LIBOR + 270 bps
- Class B, \$30M BBB- @ LIBOR + 370 bps
- Class C, \$100M B
   @ LIBOR + 1400 bps

# Cat Bond Summary (97-2000)

| Deal           | Date       | Spread | Trigger     | Peril      |
|----------------|------------|--------|-------------|------------|
| Res Re I       | 6/9/1997   | 576    | Indemnity   | Various US |
| SR Earthquake  | 7/16/1997  | 475    | Index       | Ca EQ      |
| Parametric Re  | 11/19/1997 | 430    | Parametric  | ; J EQ     |
| Trinity Re     | 2/19/1998  | 367    | Indemnity   | FL wind    |
| HF Re          | 6/4/1998   | 375    | -           |            |
| Res Re II      | 6/8/1998   | 400    | Indemnity   |            |
| Pacific Re     | 6/15/1998  | 370    | -           |            |
| Mosaic Re A    | 7/14/1998  | 440    |             |            |
| XL Mid Ocean A | 8/12/1998  | 412    | Retro       | Swap/Reins |
| Trinity Re II  | 12/31/1998 | 417    | 5 month     | FI Wind    |
| Mosaic Re II   | 2/25/1999  | 400    | Retro       |            |
| Domestic Inc   | 3/25/1999  | 369    |             |            |
| Concentric Ltd | 5/3/1999   | 310    | Parametric  | ;          |
| Res Re III     | 5/25/1999  | 366    | Indemnity   |            |
| Juno Re        | 6/18/1999  | 420    | Indemnity   |            |
| Gold Eagle     | 11/16/1999 | 540    | Model Bas   | ed         |
| Namazu Re      | 11/23/1999 | 450    | Model Bas   | ed         |
| Seismic Ltd    | 3/1/2000   | 450    | Index       |            |
| Atlas Re       | 3/16/2000  | 370    | Ref. Portfo | lio        |

# Cat Bond Summary (00-01)

#### 2000 Insurance Linked Securitization Deals

|  |                   |        |     |         |       | 3/00-3/01 |          |      | -     | Adjusted |        |             |         | Ехр    |         |
|--|-------------------|--------|-----|---------|-------|-----------|----------|------|-------|----------|--------|-------------|---------|--------|---------|
|  | <b>•</b> • •      | Amount | ~~~ |         | -     | Issue     | Maturity | •    | to    | Annual   | •      | Prob of 1st |         | Excess |         |
| SPV                                      | Cedent            | US\$M  | S&P | Moody's | Fitch | Date      | Term     | Term | LIBOR | Spread   | d Loss | Loss        | Exhaust | Return | CEL     |
| Alpha Wind 2000 FRN                      | Arrow Re St Farm  | 52.2   | BB+ |         |       | 1-May-00  | 12       | 12   | 456   | 462      | 0.63%  | 0.0099      | 0.0038  | 399    | 63.64%  |
| Alpha Wind 2000 Pref Shrs                | Arrow Re EW       | 37.5   | BB- |         |       | 1-May-00  | 12       | 12   | 700   | 710      | 1.46%  | 0.0208      | 0.0099  | 564    | 70.19%  |
| Residential Re 2000 USAA                 | USAA              | 200    | BB+ | Ba2     |       | 1-May-00  | 12       | 12   | 410   | 416      | 0.54%  | 0.0095      | 0.0031  | 362    | 56.84%  |
| NeHi                                     | Vesta Fire Ins.   | 41.5   |     |         | BB    | 1-Jul-00  | 36       | 36   | 410   | 416      | 0.70%  | 0.0087      | 0.0056  | 346    | 80.46%  |
| Mediterranean Re Class A                 | AGF               | 41     | BBB | Baa3    | BBB   | 1-Nov-00  | 60       | 59   | 260   | 264      | 0.22%  | 0.0028      | 0.0017  | 242    | 78.57%  |
| Mediterranean Re Class B                 | AGF               | 88     | BB+ | Ba3     | BB+   | 1-Nov-00  | 60       | 59   | 585   | 593      | 1.16%  | 0.0147      | 0.0093  | 477    | 78.91%  |
| PRIME Hurricane                          | Munich Re         | 159    | BB+ | Ba3     | BB    | 1-Nov-00  | 38       | 37   | 650   | 659      | 1.27%  | 0.0146      | 0.0108  | 532    | 86.99%  |
| PRIME EQEW                               | Munich Re         | 129    | BB+ | Ba3     | BB    | 1-Nov-00  | 38       | 37   | 750   | 760      | 1.33%  | 0.0169      | 0.0107  | 627    | 78.70%  |
| Western Capital                          | Swiss Re          | 97     | BB+ | Ba2     |       | 1-Feb-02  | 24       | 23   | 510   | 517      | 0.55%  | 0.0082      | 0.0034  | 462    | 67.07%  |
| Halyard Re                               | Sorema            | 17     |     |         | BB-   | 1-Mar-01  | 12       | 12   | 550   | 558      | 0.22%  | 0.0084      | 0.0004  | 538    | 26.19%  |
| Gold Eagle 2001                          | American Re       | 116.4  | BB+ | Ba2     |       | 1-Mar-01  | 12       | 12   | 550   | 558      | 0.75%  | 0.0118      |         | 483    | 63.56%  |
| SR Wind Class A-1                        | Swiss Re Swiss Re | 58.2   | BB+ |         |       | 1-May-01  | 48       | 48   | 575   | 583      | 0.68%  | 0.0107      | 0.0044  | 515    | 63.55%  |
| SR Wind Class A-2                        | Swiss Re Lehman   | 58.2   | BB+ |         |       | 1-May-01  | 48       | 48   | 525   | 532      | 0.76%  | 0.0113      | 0.0053  | 456    | 67.26%  |
| NeHi                                     | Vesta Fire Ins.   | 8.5    |     |         |       | 1-Jul-00  | 36       | 36   | 450   | 456      | 0.93%  | 0.0100      | 0.0087  | 363    | 93.00%  |
| PRIME Hurricane                          | Munich Re         | 6      |     |         |       | 1-Nov-00  | 38       | 37   |       |          |        |             |         |        |         |
| PRIME EQEW                               | Munich Re         | 6      |     |         |       | 1-Nov-00  | 38       | 37   |       |          |        |             |         |        |         |
| Western Capital                          | Swiss Re          | 3      |     |         |       | 1-Feb-01  | 24       | 23   |       |          | 0.82%  | 0.0082      |         |        | 100.00% |
| Gold Eagle 2001                          | American Re       | 3.6    |     |         |       | 1-Mar-01  | 12       | 12   | 700   | 710      | 1.18%  | 0.0118      | 0.0118  | 592    | 100.00% |
| SR Wind Class B-1                        | Swiss Re Swiss Re | 1.8    | BB  |         |       | 1-May-01  | 48       | 48   | 700   | 710      | 1.07%  | 0.0107      | 0.0107  | 603    | 100.00% |
| SR Wind Class B-2                        | Swiss Re Lehman   | 1.8    | BB  |         |       | 1-May-01  | 48       | 48   | 650   | 659      | 1.13%  | 0.0113      | 0.0113  | 546    | 100.00% |
| CEA                                      |                   | 100    |     |         |       |           | 24       |      |       |          |        |             |         |        |         |
| SAAB AB                                  | SAAB AB           | 1170   |     |         |       | 1-Dec-00  | 180      | 180  |       | 367      |        |             |         |        |         |
| WestLB                                   |                   | 44     |     |         |       | 1-May-00  |          |      |       |          |        |             |         |        |         |
| Tokio marine/St Farm Swap<br>Rolls Royce |                   | 200    |     |         |       | 1-Mar-00  | 60       | 60   |       |          |        | Equal Prob  |         |        |         |

\*\*Deals announted 3/00 to 3/01. All deals converted to 365-day year (LIBOR convention is 360 day, but cat bonds are 365 day years). Source: <u>http://www.lanefinancialllc.com/pub/sec1/Analyzing the Pricing of the 2001 Risk-Linked Securities Transactions.pdf</u>

#### Securitization Prospects: Triggers

| Trigger    | <b>Pros/Cons</b>  | Example                                 |
|------------|---|---|
| Indemnity  | No basis risk<br>Need good under-<br>standing of risk                                   | USAA / Res. Re<br>Trinity Re<br>Juno Re |
| Model      | Minimize Basis Risk<br>Data quality risk borne<br>by insured<br>Fast payout after event | Namazu Re<br>Gold Eagle                 |
| Index      | Simplifies uw'ing<br>Less disclosure<br>Basis Risk<br>Good for retro                    | ILWs<br>SR Earthquake                   |
| Parametric | Very simple uw'ing<br>No disclosure<br>High basis risk                                  | Tokyo Disney<br>Parametric Re           |

#### Securitization Prospects: Triggers

#### **Disclosure v. Risk Continuum**

#### **Indemnity Deal**

No Basis Risk

Significant Disclosure of Business and Underwriting Processes

#### **Index Deal**

Basis Risk Equal to Actual Loss v. Index Result No Disclosure of Business and Underwriting Processes

#### **Modeled Index Deal**

- Cedent describes notional portfolio to modeling firm
- Cedent does not disclose its underwriting practices et cetera
- Cedent may update the notional portfolio every six months, if necessary
- Recovery based upon the notional portfolio using actual event characteristics
- Loss payments are made immediately after the modeled loss is run

#### Exchange Traded Instruments

- CBOT Cat Index
  - Property Claim Services (PCS) loss index
  - I point in index corresponds to \$100M industry losses
  - European options, settled in cash
  - National and various regional zones
  - Typically sold as spreads
    - Layer of reinsurance
- Bermuda Commodity Exchange (BCE)
  - Similar to CBOT but based on Guy Carpenter loss-to-value index
  - Index available at zip code level
    - Allows more accurate hedging, lower residual basis risk
  - Can cover largest loss, second largest loss, aggregate losses
  - Binary options (pay all or nothing), six month term
- Unsuccessful
  - Accounting; out of the ordinary

- Securitization of other lines?
  - Balance desirability to investor with undesirability for insurer
    - Does not make sense for insurer to securitize low volatility, predictable lines
  - Many products (perceived as) too heterogeneous
    - MBS secondary market led to standardization
    - Would standardization be a bad thing for insurance?
  - Credit risk (Gerling/SECTRS) and lease residual value (Toyota/Gramercy Place) have been Securitized

- Contingent Capital
  - Put option arranged prior to event
    - Option on debt or (convertible) preferred shares
  - Provides immediate extra capitalization after large event
    - Gives greater operational flexibility in challenged market place
    - Allows company to capitalize on opportunities
  - Balance sheet protection rather than income statement protection
  - Not limited to insurance companies

#### Contingent Capital

- AON CatEPut<sup>®</sup>
  - RLI \$50M convertible preferred shares through Centre Re (Ca EQ exposure)
  - Horace Mann, \$100M multi year deal (cw cat)
  - LaSalle Re \$55M with Swiss Re
    - Triggered by 9/11 property losses
    - \$55M equity in convertible shares put to Swiss Re
    - LaSalle Re Gross property losses > \$140M
    - Requirements on net worth post-event
    - LaSalle Re now owned by Trenwick Group

I'm not swapping my carefully selected Florida risks with your trash! Problem: All companies believe their underwriters are better than average

#### Risk Swaps

- CATEX internet based market for swapping risks
- E.g. Florida wind and California quake
- Reduces risk for minimal cost
  - No ceded premium
  - Expected loss and probability distributions swapped roughly comparable
  - No event, no cash flow
  - Opposite of mean preserving spread

- Risk Swaps
  - State Farm / Tokio Marine & Fire
    - \$200M Limit
    - Earthquake exposure: Japanese and US New Madrid quake
    - Coverage triggered by magnitude of event, not loss
    - State Farm receives
      - 17.5% of limit for 6.6R quake
      - 100% of limit for 7.1R+ quake
    - Diversifies risk and reduces net exposure
    - No premium outgo, no brokerage
  - Many other opportunities exist, even within US

# 2. Finance and Insurance

## Finance and Insurance

| Paradigm             | Capital<br>Markets   | Insurance<br>Markets                         |
|----------------------|--|--|
| Risk and<br>Return   | Systematic risk  | Price non-<br>systematic risk                |
| Diversification      | CAPM, APT, CIR,<br>Partial & General<br>Equilibrium Models               | Risk Bearing<br>through pooling              |
| Hedging              | Options pricing,<br>Comparables, No-<br>arbitrage                        | Traditionally<br>impossible,<br>Reinsurance! |
| Efficient<br>Markets | Long/short positions,<br>liquid, transparent<br>markets, standardization | Insurable interest,<br>unique products       |

### Finance and Insurance

When it comes to the valuation of Insurance liabilities, the driving intuition behind the two most common valuations approaches – arbitrage and comparables – fails us. This is because, for the vast majority of insurance liabilities, there are neither liquid markets where prices can be disciplined by the forces of arbitrage and continuous trading, nor are there close comparables in the market.

We are left in a predicament, but not an impasse. If we can refocus our attention from "market value" to "present value," progress can be made. In doing so we need not descend the slippery slopes that surround the quagmire of equity valuation. The pseudo-scientific methods typically used there impart only a thin veneer of respectability.

> David F. Babbel Discussion of "Two Paradigms for the Market Value of Liabilities" by Robert Reitano NAAJ 1(4), 1997

### Finance and Insurance

- Complete Markets and Insurance
  - Complete Market: every pattern of cash flows can be replicated by some portfolio of securities that are traded in the market
  - Insurance products are not redundant: they add to the set of available securities
  - Cannot use arbitrage-free pricing techniques to determine price of non-redundant securities
    - Cannot construct replicating / hedging portfolio
  - Incompleteness is a selling point
    - Obvious benefit to insured
    - Creates assets uncorrelated to the market for investor

#### Complete Markets and Insurance

Financial option pricing methodologies since Black and Scholes (1973) define option prices as the hedging cost to set up a riskless hedge portfolio. Financial options are treated as redundant contracts, since they can be replicated by trading the underlying assets. The so-called "relative valuation" method prices financial options in the world of the risk-neutral measure. On the actuarial side, there is no liquid secondary market for insurance contracts; thus, insurance and reinsurance contracts are viewed as non-redundant, primary contracts to complete the market. Actuarial risk models that price insurance liability contracts are not based on an assumption of hedging, instead considering the present value of future losses (loss theory) and the cost of allocated capital. The pricing is done in the world of the objective measure.

> Portfolio-Based Pricing of Residual Basis Risk with Application to the S&P 500 Put Options Sergei Esipov and Dajiang Guo 2000 Discussion Paper Program Casualty Actuarial Society

#### Complete Markets and Insurance

- Econophysics
  - New slant on applying statistics to economics time series
  - Recognize short-comings of Gaussian based models
  - Price options by minimizing non-zero residual basis risk
    - Consider variation in total wealth from writing option
    - Consider impact of "thick-tails"
    - Alternatives to variance based risk measures
    - Alternatives to multivariate normal distribution for correlation
  - Theory of approach more clearly applicable to insurance
    - Fruitful area for future research

In our opinion, mathematical finance in the past decades has over focused on the concept of arbitrage free pricing, which relies on very specific models where risk can be eliminated completely. This leads to a remarkably elegant and consistent formalism, where derivative pricing amounts to determining the risk-neutral probability measure, which in general does not coincide with the historical measure. In doing so, however, many important and subtle features are swept under the rug, in particular the amplitude of the residual risk. Furthermore, the fact that the risk-neutral and historical probabilities need not be the same is often an excuse for not worrying when the parameters of a specific model deduced from derivative markets are very different from historical ones. ... In our mind, this rather reflects that an important effect has been left out of the models, which in the case of interest rates is a **risk premium effect**.

> Back to Basics: historical option pricing revisited J-P Bouchaud and M Potters 1998 xxx.lanl.govcond-mat/9808206 Emphasis added

#### Finance and Insurance: Comparison of Pricing Methods

| Trade to Manage   |                                   | Diversify to Manage                                   |  |  |
|---|-----------------------------------|---|--|--|
| Hedge<br>Black-Scholes<br>idealization<br>Adjust<br>probabilities | Real world<br>financial<br>option | Dual-trigger<br>financial/<br>insurance<br>instrument | <b>Diversify</b><br>Stock<br>Bond<br>Insurance<br>Cat Bond |  |
| No arbitrage /  |                                   | No general theory                                     |  |  |

No arbitrage / comparables determine unique price No general theory to determine unique price

- Comparison of Pricing Methods
  - Insurance shares concepts and structures with finance
    - Swaps and Options  $\leftarrow \rightarrow$  Excess of Loss Insurance
  - Actuarial Pricing
    - No consensus on risk and profit loads
    - Searching for general equilibrium theory
    - Risk-Adjusted interest rates
      - Related to CAPM / APT arguments
      - Correlations with existing book of business
    - Wang and adjusted probabilities
      - Related to risk neutral, no-arbitrage theories
      - Additive in layers
    - Numerous risk-load approaches used in industry
    - Insurers (must) price non-systematic risk
      - Costly for insurers to raise capital
      - Benefit to non-insurers from laying off risk

#### Pricing Cat Bonds

- Relationship to corporate bond pricing and to insurance pricing
- Consistency with financial theories
- Issue of skewness in asset returns
  - Greed: Positive skewness is perceived as good
  - Fear: Negative skewness is perceived as bad
- Insurance returns are negatively skewed
  - You do well, you do OK
  - You do badly, you get killed
- Most asset returns are symmetric or positively skewed

Insurance is

about details!

|                                     | Ba Bonds <sup>1</sup> | <b>Typical Cat Bond</b> |  |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Spread over 1-year<br>Treasuries    | 1.6% <sup>1</sup>     | 2.5-5.8%                |  |
| 1 year default prob                 | 1.4% <sup>2</sup>     | 0.5-2.0%                |  |
| 10 year default prob                | 20.9% <sup>2</sup>    | 8.0-20.0%               |  |
| Expected Recovery Rate              | 47.5% <sup>2</sup>    | 32.0%                   |  |
| Risk / Reward Multiple <sup>3</sup> | 1.14                  | 2.9-7.2                 |  |

<sup>1</sup> Bloomberg BB Composite of Moody's Ba2 and S&P BB; one year data

<sup>2</sup> Moody's 1938-1996 default rates

<sup>3</sup> Excess return above risk free rates as multiple of prob of 1 year default

- Lane introduced concepts of probability of 1<sup>st</sup> \$ loss (PFL) and conditional expected loss (CEL)
  - Expected Excess Return = EER
  - EER = Spread over LIBOR (PFL x CEL)
  - See slide 23 for PFL, EER and CEL

• Lane's model EER =  $\gamma$ (PFL)<sup> $\alpha$ </sup>(CEL)<sup> $\beta$ </sup>

- Lane model pragmatic and provides good fit
- Mainstream finance would suggest either CAPM or adjusted probability approach

#### **Technical Aside**

- Layer Pricing and Adjusted Probabilities
- For loss distribution X, F(x) = Pr(X < x)
- G(x)=1-F(x)=Pr(X>x)=survival function
- Insurance sold in layers

$$L(X,a,b) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } X < a \\ X - a & \text{if } a \le X \le a + b \\ b & \text{if } X > a + b \end{cases}$$

### **Technical Aside**

- Expected value of layer  $EL(X,a,b) = \int G(x) dx$
- Price of short layer (small b)

 $EL(X,a,b) \approx G(a)b$ 

- Relate to market pricing for layers to get adjusted distribution G\*
  - Similar to risk-neutral valuation method used in option pricing

- Wang Two-Factor Model, uses adjustedprobability paradigm
- A relation between physical probability distribution F and risk-neutral probability distribution F\*

$$F^*(y) = Q(\Phi^{-1}(F(y)) + \lambda)$$

Q a student-t distribution

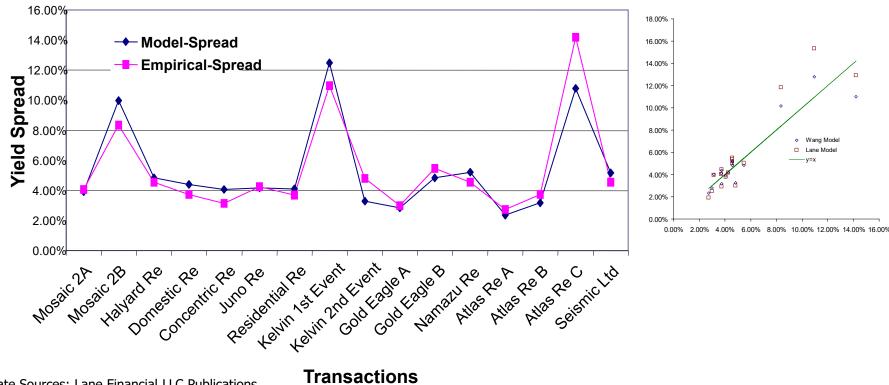
- Wang's approach captures several different risk characteristics
  - Lambda variable equivalent to a Sharpe ratio
  - Use of normal in place of student-t for Q
    - Translates normal to normal and lognormal to lognormal
    - Reproduces CAPM and Black-Scholes
  - Use of student-t distribution for Q captures parameter uncertainty in pricing
    - Works symmetrically for assets and liabilities
    - Correctly captures market reaction to skewness in returns

#### 16 CAT-bond transactions in 1999

- Fitted well to 2-factor model
- Over/under-priced bonds are identified, consistent with Lane study
- 12 CAT bond transactions in 2000
  - Used parameters estimated from 1999 data to price 2000 transactions
  - Remains best-fit: good consistency over time

|                           | Empirical | Wang   |            |
|---------------------------|-----------|--------|------------|
| 1999 Cat Bond Transaction | Spread    | Model  | Lane Model |
| Mosaic 2A                 | 4.06%     | 3.88%  | 3.80%      |
| Mosaic 2B                 | 8.36%     | 10.15% | 11.83%     |
| Halyard Re                | 4.56%     | 4.82%  | 5.01%      |
| Domestic Re               | 3.74%     | 4.36%  | 4.45%      |
| Concentric Re             | 3.14%     | 4.01%  | 3.97%      |
| Juno Re                   | 4.26%     | 4.15%  | 4.16%      |
| Residential Re            | 3.71%     | 4.08%  | 4.03%      |
| Kelvin 1st Event          | 10.97%    | 12.80% | 15.34%     |
| Kelvin 2nd Event          | 4.82%     | 3.25%  | 3.02%      |
| Gold Eagle A              | 2.99%     | 2.81%  | 2.51%      |
| Gold Eagle B              | 5.48%     | 4.82%  | 5.03%      |
| Namazu Re                 | 4.56%     | 5.20%  | 5.52%      |
| Atlas Re A                | 2.74%     | 2.35%  | 1.92%      |
| Atlas Re B                | 3.75%     | 3.15%  | 2.90%      |
| Atlas Re C                | 14.19%    | 11.01% | 12.90%     |
| Seismic Ltd               | 4.56%     | 5.13%  | 5.38%      |
| Sum Squared Error         |           | 0.22%  | 0.41%      |

#### Wang 2-factor model to fit 1999 cat bond data Yield Spread for Insurance-Linked Securities



Date Sources: Lane Financial LLC Publications Chart: Courtesy Shaun Wang

2000 Cat Bond spreads predicted by 1999 parameters

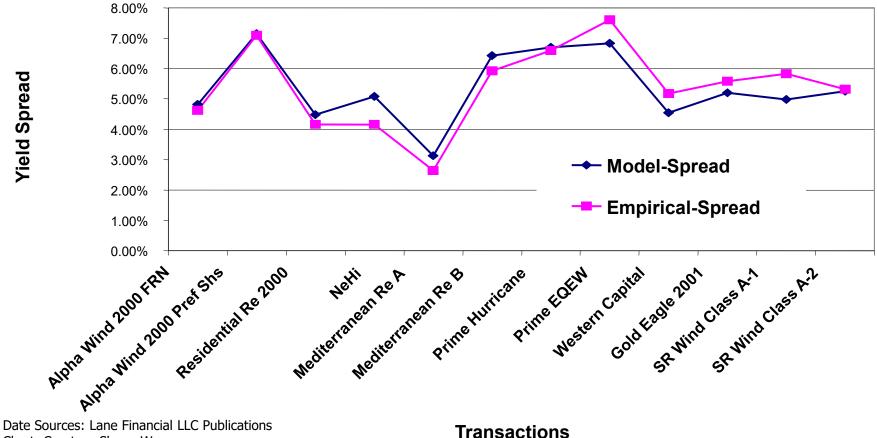


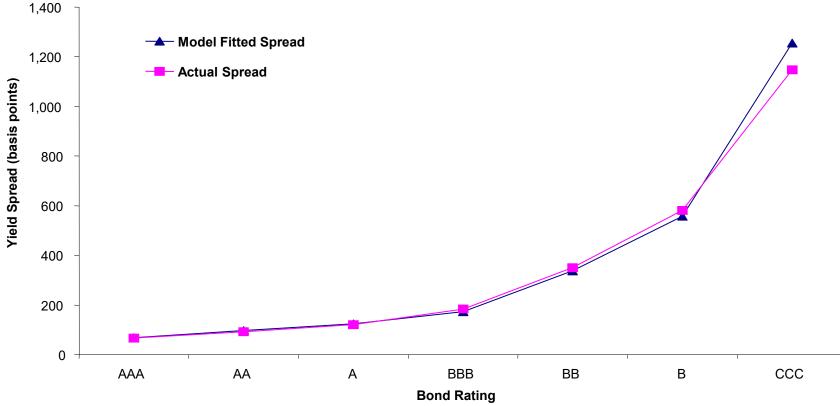
Chart: Courtesy Shaun Wang

**Yield Spread** 

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- Apply same model to corporate bonds
  - Fit yield spreads using historical default probability and yield spread by bond rating
  - Wang 2-factor model fits data well
  - The  $\lambda$  parameter is similar to cat-bond, but Q-degree of freedom less severe
    - Market perceives greater parameter uncertainty in catbonds
      - Reasonable, given huge volume of data on corporate bonds
      - Correlations exist between corporate bonds and between cat bonds

# Wang 2-factor model fit to corporate bond spreads by bond rating



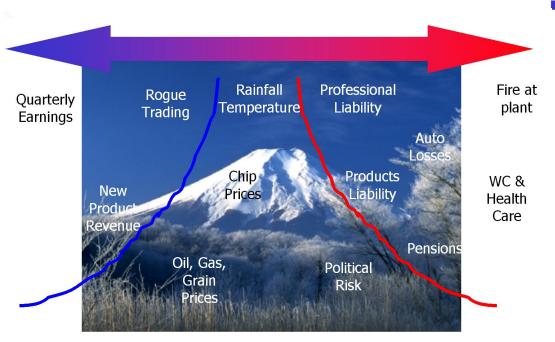
#### 3. Insurance within Finance

- Insurance below economic cost is always a good investment
- Information asymmetries can hinder development of insurance markets
  - Business purchasers have informational advantage or can influence market
    - Weather derivatives and energy companies
    - Lease residual value and original manufacturers
    - Names and Lloyds in 1980s

- Miller-Modigliani
  - Tax
  - Contracting costs
  - Impact of financing policy on firm's investment decisions (!)
- Mayers and Smith
  - Comparative advantage in risk bearing
  - Transaction costs of bankruptcy
  - Real service efficiencies (claims expertise)
  - Monitoring and bonding management decisions
  - Tax

#### Froot, Scharfstein, Stein

- Key to creating corporate value is making good investments
- Need to generate enough cash internally to fund investments
  - Companies tend to cut investments rather than use external capital when they do not raise enough internally
  - Informational opacity of insurer operations makes raising capital expensive
- Managing cash flow becomes key
- Other
  - "Be there when the "market turns"
  - Protecting franchise
    - PV(income from future business)



- Evolution through softmarket
  - Quarterly earnings Reliance, insolvent
  - Weather, rainfall continuing small market
  - Commodity prices
  - Multi-year, multi-line aggregates – still not common

# ERM

- Enterprise Risk Management
- Holistic assessment and management of all risks facing enterprise
- Insurer ERM interesting microcosm of noninsurer ERM
  - How do insurers manage the risks no-one else wants?
- Small risks handle cheaply
- Large risks mitigate effectively and maximize security

#### **ERM: Non-Insurers**

- What are the large events that could impact the company?
  - "Keep you up at night" events
  - Large exposures often first party rather than third party
    - Damage to property
    - Rogue trading
- ERM framework essential for understanding and managing risk
  - You cannot manage what you cannot measure
- Risk to shareholders is from entire enterprise
  - Investors certainly indifferent to arbitrary compartmentalization of risk

#### **ERM: Non-Insurers**

- Operational flexibility
  - Pricing
  - Relative competitive advantage
  - Focus on corecompetencies
- Lower cost of capital
  - Credit enhancement
  - Greater leverage
- Internal capital budgeting and project planning

- Higher stock market valuation multiples
  - Deliver consistent earnings
- Protect franchise value
  - Capitalize on market opportunities
- Tax benefits
- Bonus protection and job security
  - Would you work for an uninsured entity?

# Who is the CRO?

#### Treasury / CFO

- Manage financial risks
- May have more corporate-wide view

#### Risk Manager

- Manages traditional insurance coverages
- Less comfortable with financial risks





Turf-war mentality and interdepartmental nature of problem seen as major stumbling block for ERM. Cited as major obstacle in Honeywell/AIG integrated deal.

#### Earnings Management

- Consistent earnings is one stated goal of ERM
- Is goal consistent with financial theory?
  - CAPM ignores non-systematic risk
  - Myers-Skinner (1998) shows companies on earnings "winning streak" have incentive to continue streak
    - Higher valuation multiples
    - Bigger drop when growth falters
  - Do not comment on why valuations high
- Types of earnings management
  - Demonstrate actual earnings more effectively
  - Match one-time expense and gains
  - Misleading investors on source or level of income

### Earnings Management

- Consistent earnings: good or bad?
  - Until Enron, Global Crossing, consistent earnings were considered good: GE, AIG
- Advantages of consistent earnings
  - Consistent earnings results in virtuous circle of higher credit rating, lower cost to borrow, larger scale (GE Capital)
- Disadvantages
  - Hides true risk in business, lowering required return
  - Confuses and misleads investors and analysts

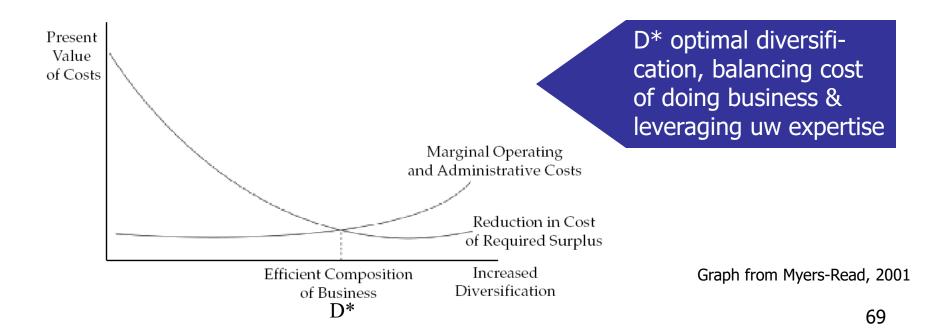
- ERM most common amongst financial companies
- Insurer ERM similar to non-insurer ERM
- ERM clearly essential to insurer:
  - Maintaining strong balance sheet mission-critical
  - Volatile portfolios
- Insurer-reinsurer relations good laboratory for studying enterprise-insurer relations

- Costs of financial distress
  - Rating essential
    - Higher price for more secure product
    - Cost of credit
  - Capital: expensive to replace
    - Asymmetric information in new equity issues
    - Insurer reluctance to release proprietary information
    - Easy to change risk portfolio
    - High costs and taxation discourage dividends
    - Regulation

- Costs of volatility of results
  - Concave tax schedules
  - Hard for analysts to track true performance
  - Prevents company from investing in profitable business opportunities
  - Capital: an expensive way to manage risk
    - Double taxation of investment earnings
    - Lower ROE
    - Perils of corporate bloat, owner-manager agency problem

- Asset Risks
  - Credit, market, interest rate, counter-party, inflation
- Liability / Actuarial Risks
  - Cat, non-cat, reserve development, APMT, ALAE, legal, coverage reinterpretations
- Operating / Management Risks
  - Compliance, systems, business environment, regulation
- Event Risk
  - Front page risk

- Managing asset risk
  - Impossible on risk-adjusted basis?
  - Insurers hold conservative investment portfolios
- Managing total risk of liabilities



### **Insurance Company Structure**

- Different organizational forms in insurance industry correspond to different ERM and agency problem and concerns
- Instructive to review these for different structures
  - Stock
  - Mutual
  - Securitized
- Cummins and Nini (2000)

### **Insurance Company Structure**

- Owners, policyholders and managers have different goals and objectives
- Owners and Managers:
  - Managers do not fully share in residual claim held by owners
  - Have incentive to behave opportunistically
- Owners and Policyholders:
  - Owners have incentive to change risk structure of company to increase value of equity

#### **Insurance Company Structure**

- Owner-Manager conflict
  - Increased leverage reduces conflict
    - Increases probability of insolvency
      - Costly for managers
    - Decreases free cash flow
      - Harder to purchase perquisites
    - For fixed management share of company, increases proportionate ownership

## **Insurance Company Structure**

- Owner-Policyholder conflict
  - Decreased leverage reduces conflict
    - Risky investments more valuable to owners
    - Lower leverage reduces attractiveness to owners
- Optimal capital structure a trade-off between benefits of increased leverage (minimize owner-manager conflict) and decreased leverage (owner-policyholder)

## Insurance Company Structure

Where is Securitized

solution?

#### Hard to quantify risk

• Uw discretion vital

**Stock** 

- Difficult for owners to track and control uw actions
- Sophisticated and knowledgeable policyholders

### Helps minimize owner-manager conflicts

Stock Insurance Companies

Owners and manager interests more effectively aligned

Easy to quantify risk

Little/no need for uw discretion

**Mutual** 

- Easy for owners to track and control uw actions
- Important because mechanisms available for owners to control managers more limited

Solves owner-policyholder conflicts

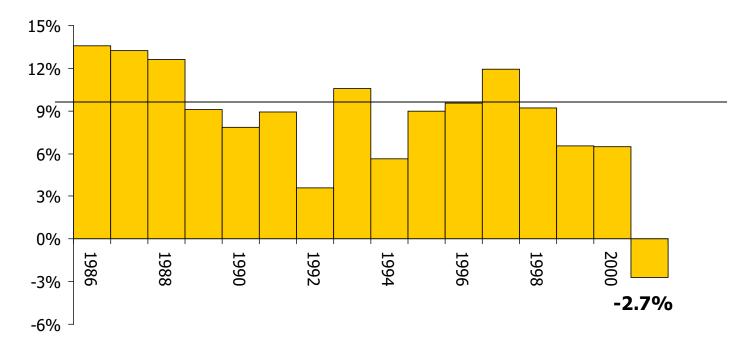
Mutual Insurance Companies

Merge owners and policyholders Good for less sophisticated pol'holders 74

## **Insurance Company Structure**

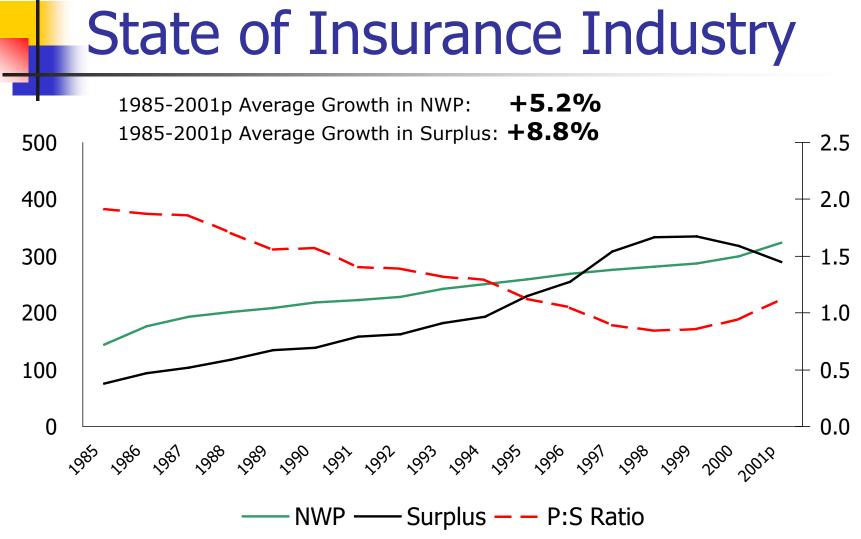
- Mutual companies more common in personal lines, WC
- Stock companies more common in commercial and specialty lines
- Where does securitized solution fit?
  - "UW and done" approach divorces uw decision from results
  - Does not appear to solve owner-manager conflict or ownerpolicyholder conflict
- Cat bonds involve very little or no underwriting judgment
  - Minimize potential owner-manager conflict
  - Similar to mutual fund structure

Property Casualty Statutory Return on Surplus 1986-00 Average: 9.2%



After-tax SAP ROS including capital gains AM Best + Preliminary estimate for 2001 from IS Slide from NCCI AIS Presentation, 2002

- Throughout early to mid-1990s leverage ratios declined and returns moderate to good
- Leverage driven down by one-time capital gains
- Lower leverage ratios not economically justified
- Companies reluctant to dividend gains to investors per standard ERM rationale
- Over-capacity and competition for market share led to effective policy-holder dividend through inadequate pricing
  - Cummins and Nini, 2000



Preliminary 2001 estimates from ISO News Release, April 15, 2002 Source: AM Best Aggregates & Averages Slide from NCCI AIS, 2002

- US P/C Industry combined surplus:
  - **12/31/99:** \$334.3B
  - 2000: \$317.4B (-5%)
  - 2001: \$279.0B\* (-12%)
  - 2002: \$271.5B\* (-3%)

\* AM Best Estimate

- Previous declines since 1970
  - 1983/4: \$56B to \$53B (-6%)
  - 1972/4: \$21.4B to \$14.8B (-30%)

- Contraction of commercial lines capacity
  - A&E, prior year development, WTC
- Operating income crucial
  - Depleted capital base
  - Rating agencies emphasize earnings
  - Apparent investor indifference to existing companies vs Bermuda start-ups
  - Low interest rates

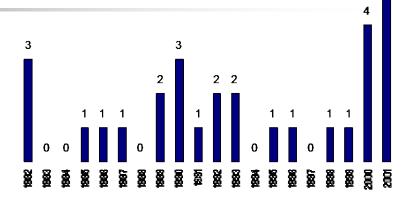
- Low Interest Rates emphasize importance of underwriting result
  - After 1983/4 decline in surplus, net investment income 28% of prior year surplus
  - 2002 net investment income estimated to be 11.5% of prior year surplus, 16.5 ppts lower
- Industry needs combined ratios in high-90%'s for reasonable ROE
  - Last achieved in 1970's

## Aside: Asbestos

- Current estimate: 100 million people occupationally exposed to asbestos
  - Huge increase over 27.5M from 1982 study
- 200,000 asbestos BI claims pending in courts
- 60,000 new claims filed in 2000
  - Average only 20,000 per year from early 1990's
  - 2,000 mesothelioma cases per year
  - 2,000-3,000 cancer cases
  - 54,000 claims for nonmailgnant injuries

### Aside: Asbestos

- Producer
   Bankruptcies
  - Claim deadline to get on creditor list
- Claims against peripheral defendants
  - 300 main defendants in 1980's
  - Now over 2,000 named defendants
  - Move from products liability to premises policies



- Claims filed now in anticipation of legal reforms or statute of limitations
- Plaintiffs attorneys group claims:
  - Multiple defendants (installers, electricians)
  - Range of injuries
  - Increases costs for adjudicating claims
  - Jurisdiction shopping (Mississippi)

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## Aside: Asbestos

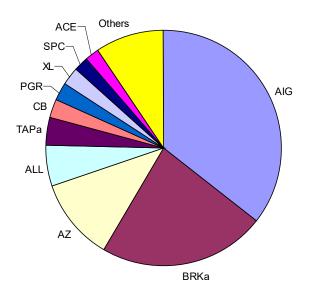
- AAA study estimates ultimate cost to be \$200-275 billion
  - \$60-70 billion borne by US P/C industry
  - At year end 2000:
    - \$22 billion paid
    - \$10 billion reserves
    - \$30-40 billion shortfall
  - Look for 1.5-2.0 point drag on industry combined ratio
- Environmental costs stabilized

### State of Industry: Concentration

#### Winner-takes-all

- AIG (Hank Greenberg) \$177B
- Berkshire (Warren Buffett): \$114B
- State Farm \$38B SAP
- Allstate \$28B
- AZ = Allianz AG, huge
   German insurer

Market Cap of 31 leading P/C & general insurance groups, totaling \$500B Detail shown for top 10



# 9/11: Capital Market Reaction

- Securitization advocates had great expectations
- Market disappointed
- Reaction swift and consistent

| Group                 | Capital Raised | 9/11 Loss | Net New Capital | Pct Total |
|-----------------------|----------------|-----------|-----------------|-----------|
| Bermuda Startups      | 6.3B           | 0.0       | 6.3             | 58%       |
| Existing Bermuda Cos. | 3.5            | 1.8       | 1.7             | 16%       |
| North American Cos.   | 2.3            | 1.1       | 1.2             | 11%       |
| Lloyds/London         | 1.0            | 0.1       | 0.9             | 8%        |
| Other                 | 2.4            | 1.7       | 0.7             | 6%        |
| Total                 | 15.5           | 4.7       | 10.8            | 100%      |

All amounts in \$B Source: IBNR Weekly 1/6/2002

# 9/11: Capital Market Reaction

- Investors utilizing Bermuda companies and start-ups, rather than existing US-based P/C companies
  - No A & E hang-over
  - No reserve development on prior years
  - Tax and accounting benefits
  - New shells a "clean play" for investors to "flip"
  - 75% of net capital went to Bermuda

# 9/11: Capital Market Reaction

- Securitized solution not suited to opportunistic writings and exercise of underwriting judgment
  - Even stock startups have difficulty "putting capital to work"
  - Underwriting and technical talent greater constraint than capital
- Stability and availability arguments for securitization paradoxically not holding
  - General commercial line crunch led to greatly increased capacity
  - Mitigated capacity shortage for property cat

## 4. Conclusions

# Conclusions

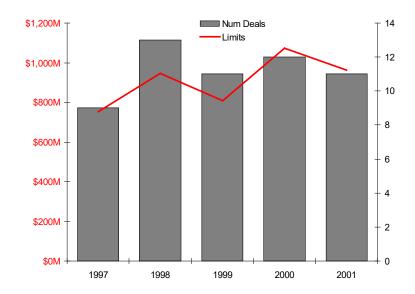
### Underwriting is key

- Must be a close relationship between underwriter and capital
  - Must control owner/manager agency problem
- Solution supports stock insurance structure when underwriter discretion and freedom of action required
- Securitization does not address agency problem

# Conclusions

#### Securitization not taking off

- Great opportunity post-9/11
- Investments almost entirely in (new) stock insurance companies
- Convergence with financial institutions – stepping backwards?
  - Travelers and Citigroup
  - GE and ERC sell-off rumors



# Conclusions

- Insurance companies still best suited to bearing hard-to-quantify risk
  - Special Risk Insurance and Reinsurance, Luxembourg SA (SRIR)
    - Joint venture of Allianz, Hannover Re, Swiss Re, XL Capital, Zurich Financial Services, SCOR
    - \$440M insurance capacity against terrorism
    - Stock companies have ability to allow uw'ing flexibility and "bet taking"
    - Hard for dis-integrated securitized product

## **References and Links**

Links and references are available on my web site, along with a copy of this presentation:

http://www.mynl.com/pptp/bolnick2002.shtml

Please email any comments on this presentation to me at steve@mynl.com