

# An Integrated Credit Risk Based Scenario Approach to Climate Stress Testing

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## Agenda: Integrated Climate Stress Testing ('CST')

- 1. Climate Stress Testing Overview:
  - FYI: Joining Oxford University CGFI as research fellow to collaborate on CST research
  - Foundation: Z-Risk Engine Approach Credit Cycles Matter
  - Climate 'Hockey Stock vs Credit Risk Volatility
  - Key Climate Discussion Points & Suggested Responses
- 2. An Integrated Climate Stress Test Framework
- 3. CST: Climate Risk Models and Methodologies
- 4. CST: E2E CST Implementation
- 5. CST: DRAFT Planning for YE 2024 EU CST Deliverables
- 6. Appendix I: Climate Stress Test Example Sources of High-Level Requirements
- 7. Bibliography: Our Climate Stress Test Research Publications

- 1. ZRE Solution: E2E Python Solution Supports IFRS9 Stress Testing Climate Stress Testing Added to Production ZRE
- Single E2E Python architecture provide full implementation support
- Approved: Basel/IFRS9/Stress Testing
- Runs Credit Risk Scenario Simulations & Deterministic MEV Scenarios
- Climate Stress Test PoC module completed (4 use cases)
- DBS Bank: ZRE Production E2E Corp/Comm IFRS9/Stress Testing Solution:



- 1. Credit Losses Vary Substantially Across the Credit Cycle Z Credit Factor Models Form the Foundation of Projecting Long-Run Climate Scenarios
  - ZRE industry sector & region Zs are modelled with mean reversion & momentum



Source: FRB , Z-Risk Engine Estimates



- 1. ZRE: Examples of Z Credit Cycle Indices Technology by Region 1990 May 2023
- ZRE industry sector & region Zs are *customized* to a bank's portfolio composition
- Industry sector and region Zs are *combined* to determine PIT credit model adjustments



Z-Risk Engine

1. Climate 'Hockey Stick is Well Known – GMT Climate Impacts Are Not Yet Observable Impacting Credit Risk (Credit Risk Variability)



'MM' – Mean Reversion-Momentum Model

## 1. Climate Stress Test ('CST') Key Discussion Points & Suggested Approach

#### **KEY CLIMATE STRESS TEST 'DRIVERS'**

- 'Relatively Smooth' LR Economic Climate Adjustments Possible
- Regulatory CST Infancy
- GMT Climate Trend Impact on Credit Risk not Yet Observable
- Hard to Calibrate Empirical CST Models
- Increasing Volatility, Socio-Economic
   Tipping Point Shocks and Abrupt Carbon
   Policy Changes



- Realistic or Unrealistic ? Climate Impacts
   Manageable ? Big Uncertainty !
- ECB CST Results Suggest Minimal Credit
   Impacts
- Required: 'What If' Climate Scenario,
   Approach
- Need Existing, <u>Solid</u> Credit Risk Factor Model <u>Foundation</u>
- Assess 'Shocks not Trends' Unexpected Climate Credit Risks/Uncertainty Are Key

CST Research in Infancy – No Real Consensus – NGFS Missing Key LR Risk Drivers Banks – Can Lead Thought Leadership – 'Be in the Driver's Seat'



2. Overall Climate Stress Test Framework for Credit Risk – Integrating Different Time Horizons, Methodologies & Risks

## INTEGRATED CLIMATE RISK SOLUTIONS REQUIRE MULTIPLE MODELS/METHODOLOGIES

TRANSITION CLIMATE RISK	SR: APPLY TRANSITION RISK CREDIT ADJUSTMENTS	LR: PORTFOLIO CLIMATE SIMULATION PHYSICAL/TRANSITION RISKS									
	<i>IFRS9</i> CST CLIMATE TRANSITION ADJUSTMENTS (STATIC PORTFOLIO)	CLIMATE SCENARIOS/NARRATIVES APPLIED USING 4 USE CASES:									
PHYSICAL CLIMATE RISK	<b>STRESS TESTING:</b> APPLY SR SHOCKS (DYNAMIC)	<ul> <li>SECTOR/REGION VOLATILITY ADDONS</li> <li>SECTOR/REGION SHOCKS</li> <li>SECTOR/REGION 'TTC DRIFT' (ECB)</li> </ul>									
	<u>CLIMATE-ADJUSTED CREDIT MODELS</u> (PD/LGD) BCBS REQS	• STRATEGIC PORTFOLIO ADJUSTMENTS ('BROWN-TO-GREEN', NET ZERO TARGETS)									
	APPLY PHYSICAL RISK/CARBON MITIGATON ADJUSTMENTS	ANY KIND OF INTERNAL/EXTERNAL SCENARIO (NGFS/CUSTOM)									
		(DYNAMIC PORTFOLIO)									
	SHORT RUN 1-5 YEARS	LONG RUN TO 2050 +									



2. Climate Change: 'Tragedy ('Complexity') of the Horizon' – Requirement: Integrating SR vs LR Horizons



• Variance of Risks Rises Over Time Horizon as it should

2. Consistent Integration of Multiple Climate Stress Test Models & Approaches

- Consistent application of emissions data
- SR financial impacts (ECB) integrated with LR ZRE simulations
- Multiple climate scenarios integrated as aggregate scenario
- Flexibility: Run all kinds of scenarios

#### ZRE RUNS NGFS MEV SCENARIOS



## 3. Overview: ZRE Models/Methodologies for Developing LR CST Scenarios

## • Apply Z Credit Risk Factor Simulations:

- Custom industry sector/region Z credit-cycle indices (CCI)
- Example: Combined Z Ind/Reg CCI UK Machinery/Equipment
- Zs Mean-Reversion Momentum (MM) process
- Quarterly Time-Steps 2023-2050

## • Add Climate-Change Effects to Scenarios:

- Apply various climate CST Use Cases
- Volatility Use Case example: Vol Multiplier approach increases Z vols with NGFS GMT temperature projections
- 'Shocks' Event Use Case adds climate-related events
- Volatility/Shocks represent physical-damage and transition events
- Flexibility to run deterministic NGFS MEV scenarios (although these are missing unexpected credit risk)







3. Future Climate Volatility Increases Tail Credit Losses: ZRE Vol Multipliers Applied in NGFS/GMT Simulations to 2050:

## **Results from Frontiers Paper**

- Industry-Region Monte Carlo (IRMC) model:
  - Run climate-sensitive, industry & region, Z sims
  - Enters the industry-region Z sims into PD, LGD, and EAD models
  - Obtains loss sims
- Results for US C&I portfolio
- Future climate-driven volatility leads to higher credit losses when shocks occur – bigger 'tail risk'



Source: Moody's CreditEdge, NGFS and Z-Risk Engine

#### Est 2050 Credit Losses for US C&I Portfolio

	Credit Losses 2050										
		Relative t	Relative to Baseline								
Statistic	No Climate Effects Baseline	NGFS Net Zero 2050	NGFS Delayed Transition	NGFS Current Policies	NGFS Net Zero 2050	NGFS Delayed Transition	NGFS Current Policies				
99th Percentile	4.55%	5.67%	6.32%	7.53%	1.25	1.39	1.65				
95th Percentile	2.30%	2.75%	3.01%	3.56%	1.20	1.31	1.55				
Expected Value	0.66%	0.75%	0.80%	0.90%	1.13	1.21	1.36				

Source: Moody's CreditEdge, NGFS, and Z-Risk Engine

3. Models/Methodologies: Key Issues With Developing & Applying Climate Scenarios

- Implementing the Usual Stress Test Fixed Portfolio Approach:
  - SR stress testing ('static') assumes: 'constant balance sheet/unchanged business model'
  - But this isn't straight-forward in LR stress test simulations
- Static technology assumptions exclude a central feature of climate change economics
- Some CST Models Rely on Unconventional Assumptions of Less-than-Full Cost Passthrough
- Some CST Approaches **Apply Mostly 'TTC' PD Formulas** as opposed to PIT measures
- Contrary to Empirical Evidence, Models Assume that Credit Losses Occur Due to Changes in Trends (GDP) not Shocks (Unexpected Credit Risk)



## 4. E2E CST Implementation: Overview

- E2E ZRE Python CST Architecture:
  - Customized industry/regions
  - Run MEV (Deterministic or Simulations) or Credit-Factor Simulations
  - Flexible Scenarios: NGFS, Custom, Bank Management
- Integrated SR/LR, Borrower/Industry/Region E2E Model Architecture
- CST Scenario 'Sandbox': Multiple, Flexible Use Cases
- Climate Module Logical Architecture
- Z-Regional Segmentation Flexibility Region Zs Potentially Reflect LR Physical Risk Differences
- Scenario Examples



4. 'What if' Scenario 'Sandbox': Supports Substantial Scenario Flexibility – Multiple Use Cases/Multiple Scenario 'Levers'



# 4. Z-Risk Engine Climate Stress Test Module Logical Architecture

# Z-RISK ENGINE® CLIMATE STRESS TEST LOGICAL ARCHITECTURE



## 4. Examples of NGFS Scenario Credit Portfolio Losses – Volatility & Climate Shocks Use Cases – Preliminary PoC Results

- ZRE industry sector & region Zs are *customized* to a bank's portfolio composition
- Industry sector and region Zs are *combined* to determine PIT credit model adjustments



# 4. Combining Multiple Climate Scenarios – Weighted-Average 90th Percentile Climate Scenarios From 4 Scenarios – Preliminary PoC Results

- No Climate Impact Scenario (30%\*)
- NGFS Current Policies (14%)
- NGFS Delayed Transition (14%)
- 3 Degrees C Net GMT Rise by 2050 (14%)
- NGFS Net Zero + 1.0 sigma shock in 2035 (14%)

User determined loss %'tile

•

Unlike most IFRS9 model scenario aggregation the scenario weights can have some empirical foundation



\* Weights are illustrative ('no climate' = 30% weight, the 4 climate scenarios are equally weighted, 17. 5%)

Source: Z-Risk Engine Climate Simulations using 2k facility US/UK credit portfolio from 2023 c ZRE Climate Research Note Appendix

## Z-Risk Engine

- 5. Implementation Roadmap: Integrated CST Scenario Solution for EU/ECB/EBA
- EU/ECB Roadmap Due Solution: Three-Month PoC Pilot + 1 Year Implementation
- Review & Apply High-Level CST Requirements (See Appendix I for examples)
- Design & Implement Integrated LR Credit-Factor Scenario Approach:
  - LR scenario solution integrated with Bank climate credit-model adjustment approach
  - **Climate Customized** industry/region segmentation
  - Run MEV (Deterministic or Simulations) or Credit-Factor Simulations
  - Flexible Scenarios: NGFS, Custom, Bank Management etc
  - Multiple Scenario Use Case 'Sandbox' Vol, Shocks, ECB/TTC Drift, Strategic Portfolio Repositioning
- Key Task: Enhance 'Brown/Green' Climate Segmentation Industry Sectors
- CST Model Validation ZRE Approach Officially Approved by in Multiple Banks –
   'Jump Start' for CST LR Model Validation
- E2E ZRE Python Code Architecture Integrated With Bank Data Systems & Bank Climate Credit Models

#### 5. ZRE EU CST Implementation – Region Z Proxies for LR Physical Risk?

Extreme Weather Indices Show Current Volatility Has a Regional Dimension Region Factor May Impact Systematic Population Migration/Social Shocks etc



EUROPE SOUTHERN EUROPE UK GERMANY FRANCE SPAIN ITALY NETHERLANDS NORDICS SWEDEN DENMARK TURKEY OTHERS (Benelux, Poland) ?

#### **Climate Change Effects on European Countries**

Based on the scale from 0 to 100. The higher the score, the more the country has been affected.





5. Industry Sector Data Segmentation Concerns: Expand EDF Sector Segments for Better Brown/Green Climate Differentiation

> GOAL: Enhancing Credit-Factor Sector Segmentation – <u>Develop 'Bottom-up' CreditEdge EDF Exercise</u>

ZRE Industry Sectors vs NACE Level 1 Used as a Foundation of Some Climate Segmentations

#### **CURRENT ZRE NDUSTRY SECTORS**

**AEROSPACE & DEFENSE** AGRICULTURE BANKING **BASIC INDUSTRIES BUSINESS & CONSUMER SERVICES CHEMICALS & PLASTIC PRODUCTS** CONSTRUCTION CONSUMER PRODUCTS FINANCE, INSURANCE & REAL **ESTATE MOTELS & LEISURE MACHINERY & EQUIPMENT** MEDIA MEDICAL METALS MINING **MOTOR VEHICLES & PARTS** OIL & GAS **RETAIL & WHOLESALE TRADE** TECHNOLOGY TRANSPORTATION UTILITIES

- 'CPRS' 'Climate Policy Relevant Sectors' – Process for Mapping (Battiston)
- Current CST Research Industry Sectors – No Standards Yet
- Focus is on mapping GHG/Emissions to Sectors
- IAMs Variables 1000s
- NACE 1000s of 4-digit codes
- Need enhanced, climate sectors for CST risk modelling
- CreditEdge 37k EDFs detailed 'risk' source

#### NACE LEVEL 1 INDUSTRY SECTOR CODES\*

AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY & FISHING MINING & QUARRYING MANUFACTURING ELECTRICITY, GAS STEAM & AIR CONDITIONING WATER SUPPLY. SEWAGE & WASTE WATER MANAGEMENT **CONSTRUCTION** WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE **TRANSPORTATION & STORAGE ACCOMODATION & FOOD SERVICE ACTIVITIES INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION** FINANCIAL & INSURANCE ACTIVITIES **REAL ESTATE ACTIVITIES PROFESSIONAL, SCIENTIFIC & TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES** ADMINISTRATIVE & SUPPORT SERVICES **PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION & DEFENSE EDUCATION** HUMAN HEALTH AND SERVICES ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT & RECREATION **OTHER SERVICES** ACTIVITIES OF HOUISEHOLDS AS EMPLOYERS ACTIVITIES OF EXTRETERRESTRIAL ORGANISATIONS

\* Source: Battiston et. al, (2022), 'The NACE – CPRS – IAM mapping: A tool to support climate risk analysis of financial portfolios using NGFS scenarios', October.



## 5. CST PoC Pilot DRAFT Project Plan: Integrated CST Scenario Capability



#### **CST PILOT: PLAN & TASKS**

Pilot Plan & Project Set-up

Review Key ECB CST Regulatory Requirements Conduct Workshops on ZRE Models & Architecture Conduct Workshops on 4 ZRE CST Use Cases Develop Joint CST PoC 'Sandbox' Working Prototype Review Required Bank Data/Systems Integration Assess Bank EU test portfolios – impact analysis Expand Brown/Green Industry Sector Segmentation – Develop Regional Segmentation Linked to Physical Risk Indices

**D**evelop Preliminary Bank Scenario Process & Pilot Deliverables – Integrated with bank borrower climateadjusted models

#### **CST PILOT: EU DELIVERABLES**

Full EU Implementation Plan, Model Val, Test & Go-Live High-Level Business Case & Resource Requirements Proposed Integrated CST Architecture

Bank Data/Source Systems Integration Plan

CST Models/Methodology Overview

**CST** Implementation Data Attributes List

Stakeholder Plan & Syndication Approach

CST PoC 'Sandbox' Prototype With EU Test Portfolio

#### Z-Risk Engine





6. Key Summary Points:

- Current CST Approaches: Can't Project Long-Run Company Financials Well
- Complex Future LR Climate Risk 'Shocks Not Trends'
- Climate Credit Risk Not Observed Empirically: **Need Solid Credit Factor Foundation**
- Climate Stress Testing Infancy **Banks can influence their destiny**
- ZRE CST Implementation:
  - Integrated flexibility: SR, LR, Multi-Scenario, Multiple Use Cases, Bank Developed Borrower Models
  - **Existing Production Architecture:** Minimizes Implementation Risks Clear Migration Path to Global Portfolio Coverage
  - Joint development Bank controls source code & models

## 6. Regulatory Background Documents Examples of High-Level Requirements

- Borrower Climate-Adjusted Credit Models:
  - BCBS (2022), 'Frequently asked questions on climate related financial risks', BIS, December
- Climate Stress Testing General:
  - ECB (2021): 'Climate risk stress test: SSM stress test 2022', October.
  - ECB (2022): '2022 climate risk stress test', July.
  - ECB (2022), 'ECB report on good practices for climate stress testing', December.
  - ECB (2021), 'ECB economy-wide climate stress test Methodology and results' No 281, September
  - BIS, FSI, (2021), 'Stress-testing banks for climate change a comparison of practices', July.
  - BoE (2023), 'Bank of England report on Climate-related risks and the regulatory capital frameworks, March.
  - BoE, (2021), 'Results of the 2021 Climate Biennial Exploratory Scenario (CBES)', May.
  - NGFS (2022), 'Final report on bridging data gaps', July.
  - EBA, (2021), 'Mapping climate risk: Main findings from the EU-wide pilot exercise', May.
  - Battiston et. al, (2022), 'The NACE CPRS IAM mapping: A tool to support climate risk analysis of financial portfolios using NGFS scenarios', October.

## 7. Bibliography: Recent Climate Risk, Stress Test Papers, DBS ZRE Case Study

Aguais, S. and Forest, L. (2023 d), 'Developing Climate Change Scenario Impacts on Credit Models – Applying the ECB Climate Stress Test Approach Through 'TTC PD Drift', Z-Risk Engine, Climate Stress Testing Research Note Num Three, June.

Aguais, S, and L. Forest, (2023, c), 'Climate-Change Scenarios Require Volatility Effects to Imply Substantial Credit Losses–Shocks Drive Credit Risk Not Changes in Economic Trends', <u>Decision Making for the Net Zero Transformation: A Compendium of Best</u> <u>Practice</u>, www.frontiersin.org, April.

Aguais, S. and Forest, L. (2023 b), 'Assessing Climate Related 'Socio-Economic Tipping Point' Risk Impacts by Applying Credit-Factor Shocks, Z-Risk Engine, Climate Stress Testing Research Note Num Two, April.

Aguais, S. and Forest, L. (2023 a), 'The Climate Change 'Hockey Stick' is Observable – But Climate Change Impacts on Economic Risks are Note Yet Observable', Z-Risk Engine, Climate Stress Testing Research Note Num One, March.

Aguais, S, and L. Forest, (2022, a), 'Climate Change Credit Risk Triptych, Paper One: Smooth NGFS Climate Scenarios Imply Minimal Impacts on Corporate Credit Losses', ZRE Working Paper Published at RiskMinds International, November 7.

Aguais, S, and L. Forest, (2022, b), 'Climate Change Credit Risk Triptych, Paper Two: Climate Change Volatility Effects Imply Higher Credit Losses', ZRE Working Paper Published at RiskMinds International, November 7.

Aguais, S, and L. Forest, (2022, c), 'Climate Change Credit Risk Triptych, Paper Three: Climate Change Macro Volatility Effects Imply Higher Credit Losses', ZRE Working Paper Published at RiskMinds International, November 7.

Aguais, Scott, (2022), 'Musings on Long Run Climate Stress Test Modelling for Banks', presentation, Marcus Evans, Climate Stress Testing, June 16, 2022, London, ZRE website.

Z-Risk Engine Case Study, (2022) 'Supporting Integrated IFRS 9 and Stress Testing at DBS Bank', August, https://www.z-riskengine.com/media/myukq4mu/zre\_dbs\_case\_study\_aug22.pdf





1. Why the sudden uptick in loss rates at the beginning few years? Non-climate related factors?

The early sharp rise in the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile loss rate occurs as a result of accumulating shocks, driving projected, tail losses up relative to the last, historical, point estimate based on known, Z values. In that last, historical quarter, the loss distribution is degenerate, reduced to a point, and the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile loss is no different from the mean. As random shocks add risk during future quarters, the loss distribution spreads out (variance increases) and the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile value rises both absolutely and relative to the mean. The skewness in the loss distribution contributes to making this effect large. The tail loss initially rises sharply. But, due to ever declining proportional effects of additional shocks (remember the square root rule), the rate of increase in the tail loss diminishes as the scenarios move out in time. Finally, the tail loss stabilizes as mean reversion attenuates growth in the variance. Any further, slow growth at that point would arise from intensifying effects of climate change.

Secondarily, the early profile of tail losses will reflect any mean reversion and momentum implied by initial credit conditions. But in the examples shown those effects are small.

As one can see below, expected values, which aren't affected by the expanding variance nearly as much as 90<sup>th</sup> percentile values, don't have a big uptick in the early periods.



2. What kind of simulations do you run for each shock scenario? and does the systematic risk factor change when you apply the climate shocks?

All of our simulations involve credit-factor shocks selected at random from a probability distribution derived from past experience. The shocks for industries and regions come either from a normal distribution with variances and covariances determined from the historical record or, more often and in the results presented in the Webinar, from an historical, empirical distribution. In scenarios with future, climate-change effects, we apply to the shocks selected from the historical distribution multipliers with above-unitary values obtained from the assumed, GMT/volatility relationship.

The multipliers vary over time as GMT changes in a climate scenario. However, for each climate scenario, the GMT paths are deterministic, the same for each of the sims. A more general and realistic approach would treat the GMT changes as stochastic, affected by such things as unexpected policy changes, technological breakthroughs, and natural phenomena. We're unaware of any models today that model climate change stochastically.

Z-Risk Engine

Unlocking credit cycles

WEBINAR: Wednesday 7th June 3pm BST (GMT+1) 'An Integrated Credit Risk Based Scenario Approach to Climate Stress Testing'

We also presented an example in which we assumed that, in addition to the randomly selected shocks, a major, climate-change, credit event occurs in a particular quarter. All of the sims in this example include this specified, discrete shock. This is a heuristic case, which illustrates how a shock affects credit losses not only in the quarter in which it occurs but also in subsequent quarters. But shocks are unexpected events. So, it's better to generate them by the random-selection approach.

The systematic factors become more volatile as climate-related events become more important. Otherwise, the factors don't change. We view climate-related shocks as a source of risk on top of unchanging, non-climate shocks.

The systematic risk factors in ZRE consolidate effects of all kinds of credit events, including climaterelated ones. One could select climate and non-climate shocks separately, but, after that, to get credit impacts one would have to consolidate the two kinds of shocks. Thus, deconsolidation would have no big, overall effect on the credit-loss estimates. However, one might deconsolidate in distributing effects differently to climate-sensitive and insensitive sectors. ZRE does this currently by assigning larger volatility increases to more, climate-sensitive industries. Deconsolidation of shocks might provide for more refined allocations of effects.

3. Can you specify what is the reference for the ECB framework that is mentioned across the slides?

Occasional Paper Series, ECB economy-wide climate stress test. Methodology and results Spyros Alogoskoufis, Nepomuk Dunz, Tina Emambakhsh, Tristan Hennig, Michiel Kaijser, Charalampos Kouratzoglou, Manuel A. Muñoz, Laura Parisi, Carmelo Salleo, No 281 September 2021

4. How can we link this model with the macrovariables projections (GDP...) in NGFS or EBA scenarios?

As an option, ZRE includes a module that generates Z and credit loss scenarios on the basis of either user provided or simulated, macroeconomic variable (MEV) paths. You'll find results from MEV-based scenarios in some of our publications.

In running such scenarios, ZRE uses a bridge model that translates MEV paths into industry and region, Z paths, which then produce credit loss projections. We estimate the bridge model on the basis of past data on MEVs and Zs. However, if, as shown in one of our recent publications, the MEVs defining the scenario include only National Account aggregates such as GDP, the projections will show unduly modest effects on credit losses. Again, one need large, adverse shocks to credit-related, PIT indicators to obtain large, credit losses. Thus, one must take care to select MEVs with strong PIT relationships to credit risk. Such MEVs might include stock-price and credit-spread indices.

As with ZRE's standard sims produced by AR(2) models for industry and region Zs, the approach that starts with credit-relevant, MEV sims translated into industry and region, Z sims produces probability distributions for credit losses. Thus, one gets a richer set of results than possible with user-defined, MEV scenarios.

5. Also it will be great to have the list of your publications which create the background of the framework presented.

Please see the presentation.

6. What Is the justification for assuming this mean reversion, as opposed to considering a drift perhaps for extreme physical risk scenarios?

ZRE does allow the user to input a drift in TTC PDs attributable to rising physical risk or other, accreting changes. However, one can argue that businesses would adapt to such, gradually rising risks, by relocating or fortifying facilities or insuring against damage. Costs would likely rise, but, with full passthrough of industry-wide costs, the broad impact on credit losses would be small. Based on past experience, large, portfolio-wide credit losses arise from big, sudden, unexpected events, not slowly accreting ones.

Mean reversion of the factors is a longstanding empirical property. Mostly we see it in recoveries from recessions. We might attribute it to business and governmental, countercyclical actions.

7. Have you looked at any potential correlations between EDF time series and crop production, food prices to investigate 'a hook'

Haven't look for a relationship between PDs and crop production/food prices. Will do so. However, crop production and food prices are notoriously, idiosyncratically volatile. So, while one might well find agribusiness PDs moving together with crop production and food prices, it would be surprising to find a broader relationship.

8. What is the data model that should be in place in order to run in 3 months a pilot as described in slide 22?

ZRE's Required Data:	CONINSTRUMENT ID	T3INST-INST2020	CONFAC00000001FA	C-FAC3FAC-FAC2020	OBLIGORID	PRIMARY COU	N59	<u>SI TICPD</u> 0.	00258 0.516	6399 0.31	0.12	6024000 0.1	0110ZATION 812 0.5074	MATURITY 85817 31/08/2025	
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9. Time series modelling can focus too much in short term prediction (quarters), Would not be more interesting to use macrovariables to predict long term behaviour?

See the previous answer regarding the use of MEVs as the basis for credit-loss projections. We've experimented with both the time-series and selective-MEV-based projections over extended horizons. We get similar results.

Note that the ZRE Zs are MEVs in the sense that they are aggregate indicators. Involving summary data related to business cash flows, asset values, liabilities, and volatility, they are aggregate measures of credit risk and not of something else that might have only a tenuous relationship to credit. Most MEVs other than the ones closely related to the Zs have only tenuous relationships to credit. Further, the Zs involve credit relationships that have been enduring for more than 30 years. Thus, they seem proper for both short- and long-run forecasting. Will the changes in business behaviour and technology over many years upend the longstanding finding that credit risk arises from the volatility in cash flows and asset values relative to liabilities? Probably not, we believe.