

Comptroller of the Currency Administrator of National Banks

Validation of Credit Rating and Scoring Models

Closing Session

The Finish Line



What conclusions should you take away from two days on Validation of Credit Rating and Scoring Models?

Opening Remarks: Model Validation as a Process

- "Model risk" from logic, execution, and use
- Model risk is managed through a validation process as part of risk management
 - Not a "pass-fail" test
 - Done by the bank as part of sound management
- OCC Bulletin 2000-16 as a general framework
- Many "stubbornly difficult" elements

Session 1: Building and Validating Credit Rating and Scoring Models

- Developmental evidence and performance evaluation
 - Model development is a process
 - Models should be developed using sound modeling practices
 - Model verification is an integral part of the model development process
- Validation tools must suit the use and design of the model

Session 2: Evaluating Discriminatory Power and Forecast Performance

- Models can be built to different objectives
 - Models should be evaluated according to how they meet both design and use objectives
- Accuracy and precision are different and each may be desirable in particular business uses of models
- Tools exist (or can be developed) to assess both accuracy and precision of forecasts, in addition to discriminatory power

Session 3: Examples of Model Design and Quantification

- Illustration using a corporate rating model
- Validation as a central aspect of model development
 - Integral to every stage of development
 - Validation should be planned as part of design process, not put off until model implementation
- Example focused on corporate rating
 - Retail differs in details and terminology, but not in fundamentals

Session 4: Process Verification and Data Maintenance

- General principles of independence, documentation, and cost-benefit trade-off
- Validate inputs and processing, not just outputs
 - Inputs: output from other models, internal raw data, external raw data, constructed variables
 - Processing: validating code and validating theory
- Probably not as glamorous as other parts of validation, but vital to the overall process

Session 5: Monitoring and Benchmarking

- Close linkage of monitoring and benchmarking
- Effective monitoring/benchmarking requires:
 - Continuous assessment of borrower characteristics in development sample versus current portfolio
 - Trend analysis of various performance metrics
 - Comparison against alternative models
 - Application of a variety of quantitative and statistical tools

Panel Discussion

- Key validation questions
- Reasons for validation
 - Transparency and the role of markets
- Special thanks to:
 - Sean Keenan
 - Partha Sen
 - Larry Cordell
 - Kesav Kesavan

Comptroller's Remarks

- Validation is part of sound business practice for banks and other model users
- Bank supervisors emphasize validation because it is central to their statutory responsibilities
- The OCC integrates review of models and validation into the normal supervisory process
- Incentives of banks and regulators often are aligned, but sometimes differ

Session 6: Validation as a Control Function Under Basel II

- Validation is a process, not an event
- Consider validation strategies early
 - Build validation into the development process
- Validation should be set in the context of other controls around an IRB system
- Need for new tools and data



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http://www.occ.gov/vcrsm.htm