



# What Have the Catastrophe Modeling Firms Learned About Hurricane Modeling Since Katrina?

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Casualty Actuarial Society Spring Meeting 2009  
General Session 1: Discussion of Post-Catastrophe  
Landscape  
New Orleans, LA May 4, 2009



# Agenda

- Impact of climate on hurricane activity
- Model validation
- Causes of loss
- Exposure data quality
- Extreme events
- Real-time events

# Climate Change: Projections Point to Less Frequent, but More Severe Tropical Cyclones

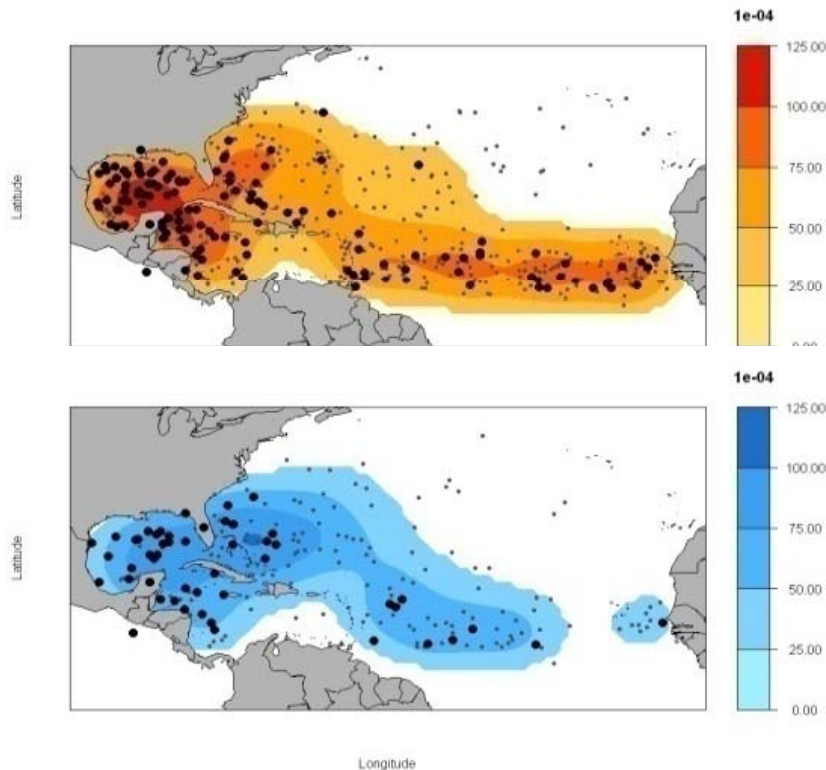
Source	Decrease in Overall Frequency	Increase in Most Intense Storms	Increase in Precipitation Intensity
IPCC	More likely than no (>50%)	Likely (>66%)	Likely (>66%)
Latest Research	Confirms Trend	Confirms Trend	Confirms Trend

- The response to forcing is not uniform across the globe
- Regional differences within ocean basins exist
- How much of this variability translates into landfall activity is not known, thus this is an active area of research

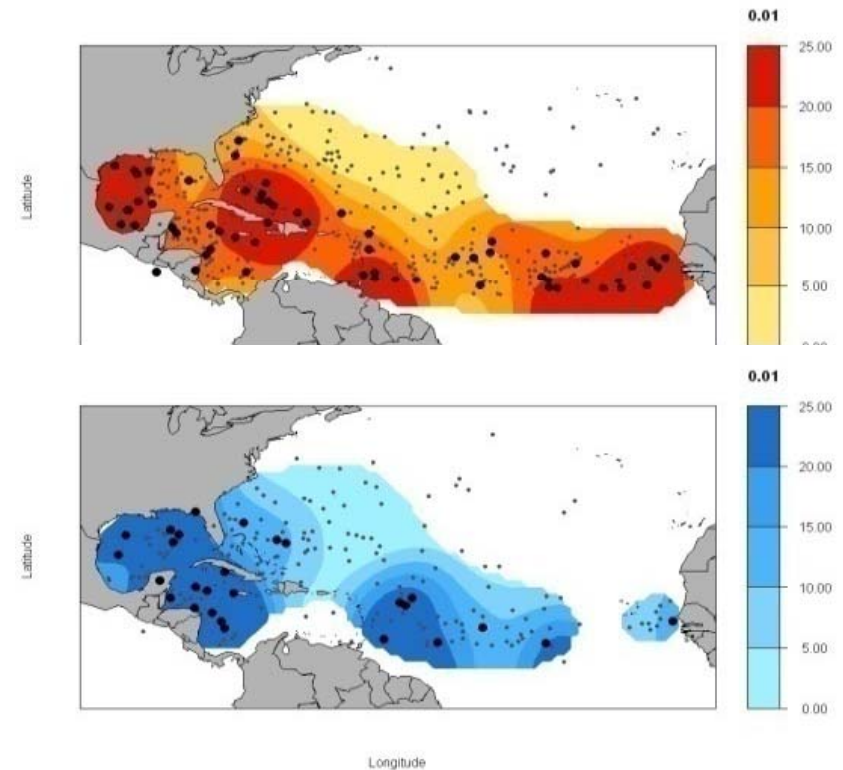
# Research on the Impact of Climate Anomalies on Hurricanes has Influenced Modeling Advances

- Major modeling firms have released alternative hurricane models based on their views of risk under “**warm sea surface temperature**” conditions, such as those observed since 1995
- Some modelers have used a “**near-term**” approach based on a forecast of SSTs over next five years, others a “**conditioned**” approach based on climatology under only warmer-than-average years
- Some modelers have done original peer-reviewed research on **landfalling** hurricane risk under warm SST conditions
  - Conclusions are not as simple as
    - More or stronger basinwide storms → More damage from landfalls
  - Probabilistic catastrophe models are not forecasts of future activity, however a climate conditioned model can be used to estimate the impact of persistent climate conditions

# Key to Estimating Future Changes of Landfall Risk Is Understand its Current Variability



Genesis Density

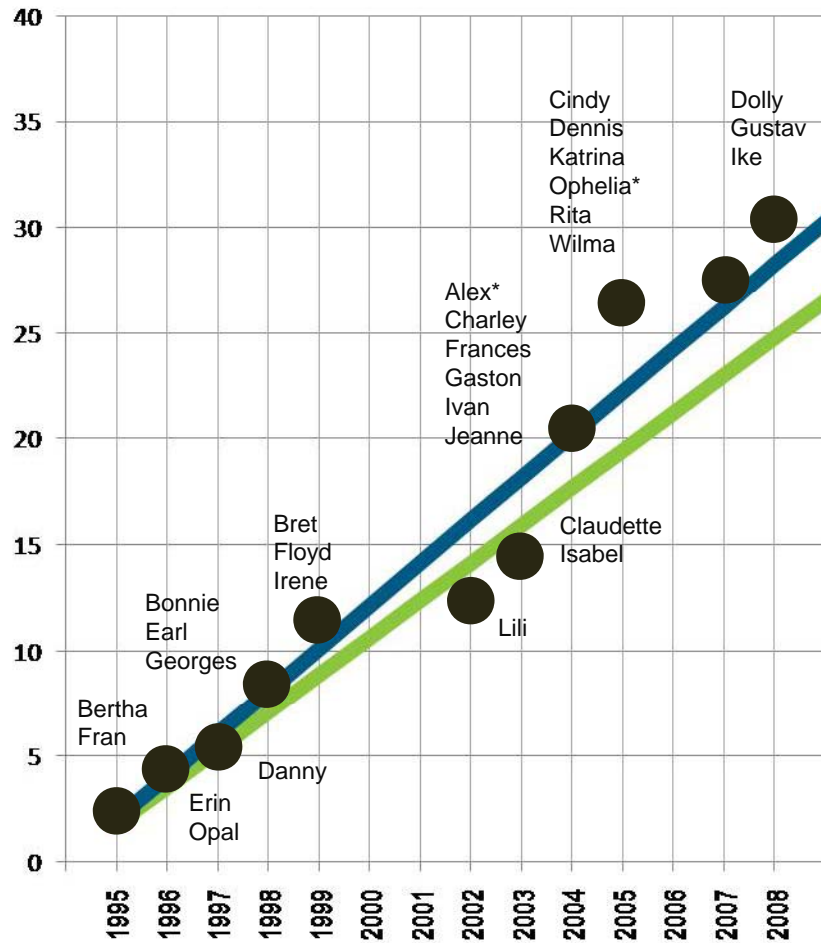


US Hurricane Landfall Probability

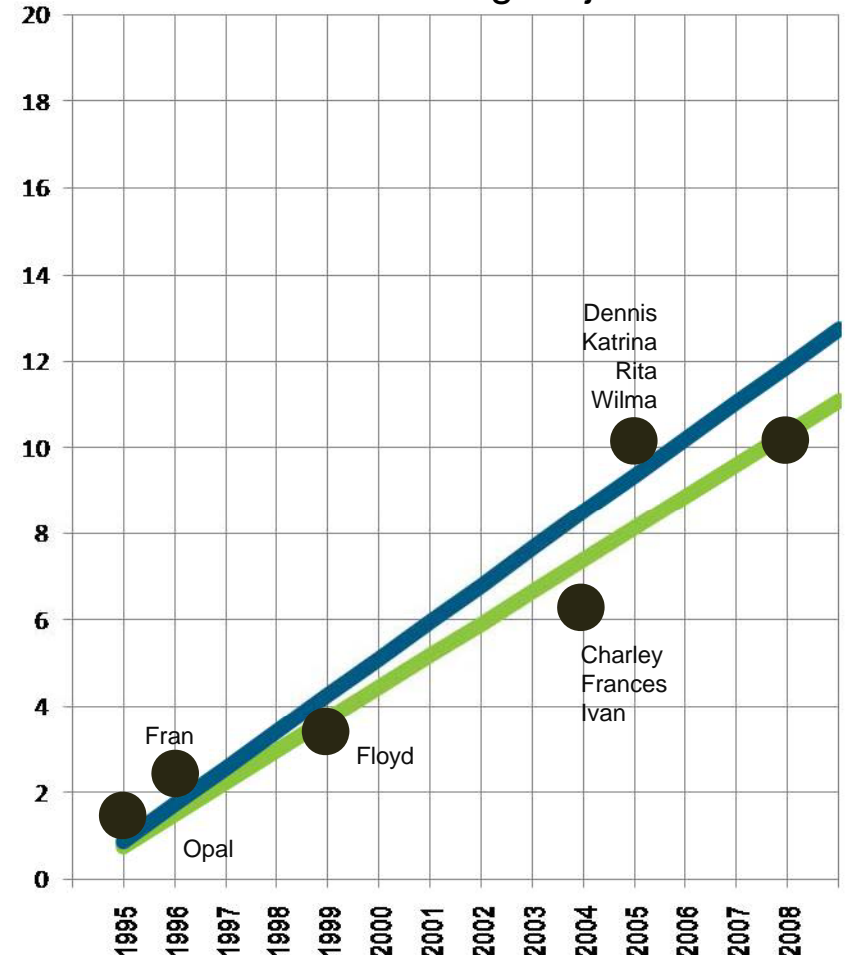
- Dailey et al., 2009, "On the Relationship between North Atlantic Sea Surface Temperatures and U.S. Hurricane Landfall Risk", Journal of Applied Meteorology and Climatology, vol.8, pp.111-129.

# Probabilistic Models Estimate the Impact of Climate Conditions that Persist for a Significant Number of Seasons

## U.S. Loss Producing Hurricanes



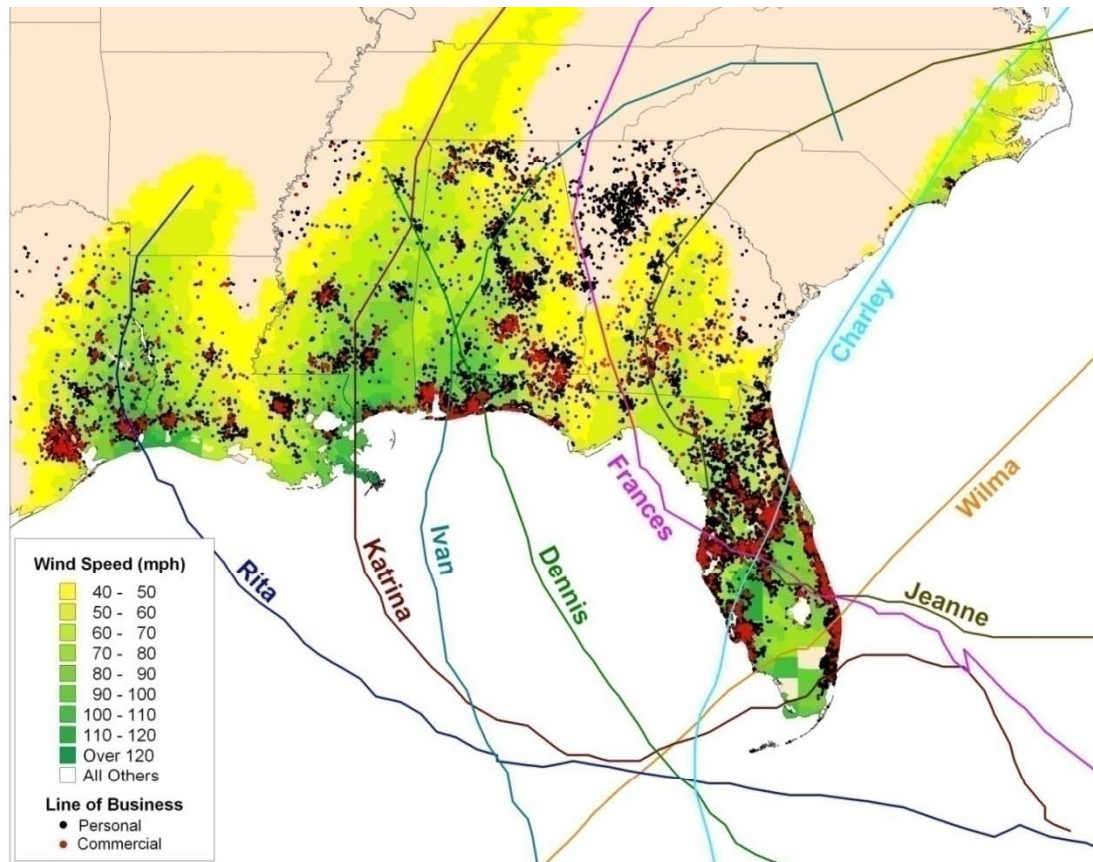
## U.S. Loss Producing Major Hurricanes



■ AIR US Hurricane Model Standard Catalog  
■ AIR US Hurricane Model Warm SST Catalog  
● Observed

\*Bypassing hurricane (no landfall but produces loss)

# Validation: The 2004/2005 Hurricanes Provided Unprecedented Quantities of Detailed Claims Data



- Modeling firms review **actual** insurer claims data against **modeled** damage for same locations for given events and examine results by coverage, construction, and occupancy type
- Example: validation for inland loss potential of model vs. real claims

## Pool Enclosure Damage Was a Significant Loss Driver in the 2004 and 2005 Hurricanes

- ❑ Pool enclosures are common in Florida and can cost between \$10K to \$50K
- ❑ About 15-20% of losses were attributed to pool enclosure damage for 2004 and 2005 hurricanes
- ❑ Average claim per unit of exposure was reported to be as high as **35% higher** for homes with pool enclosure

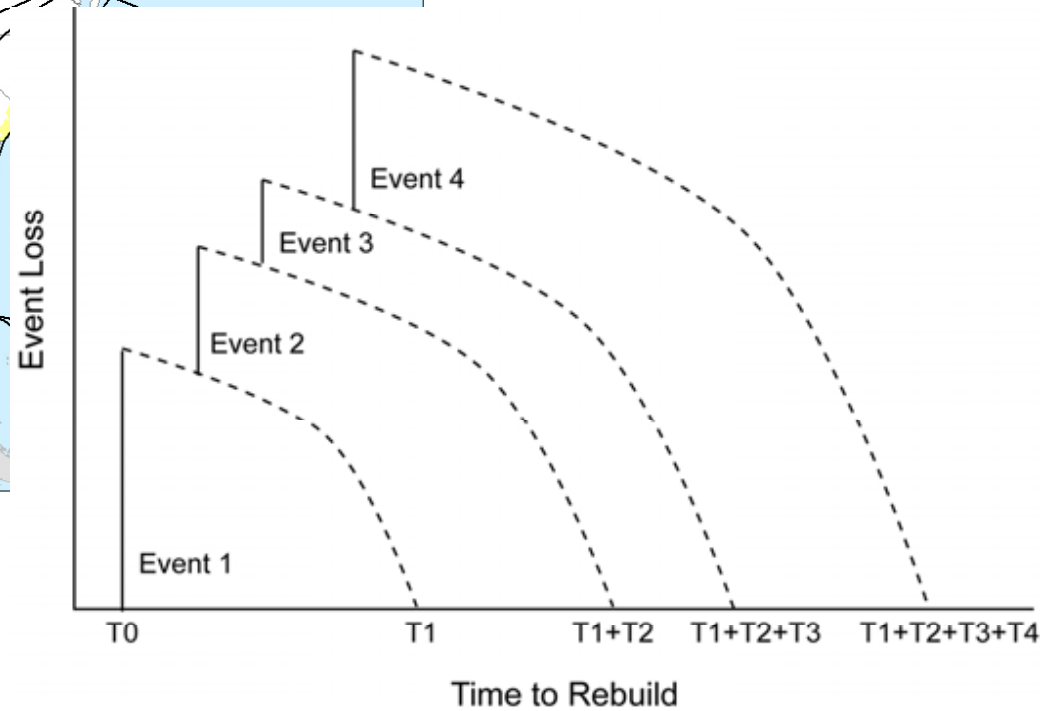
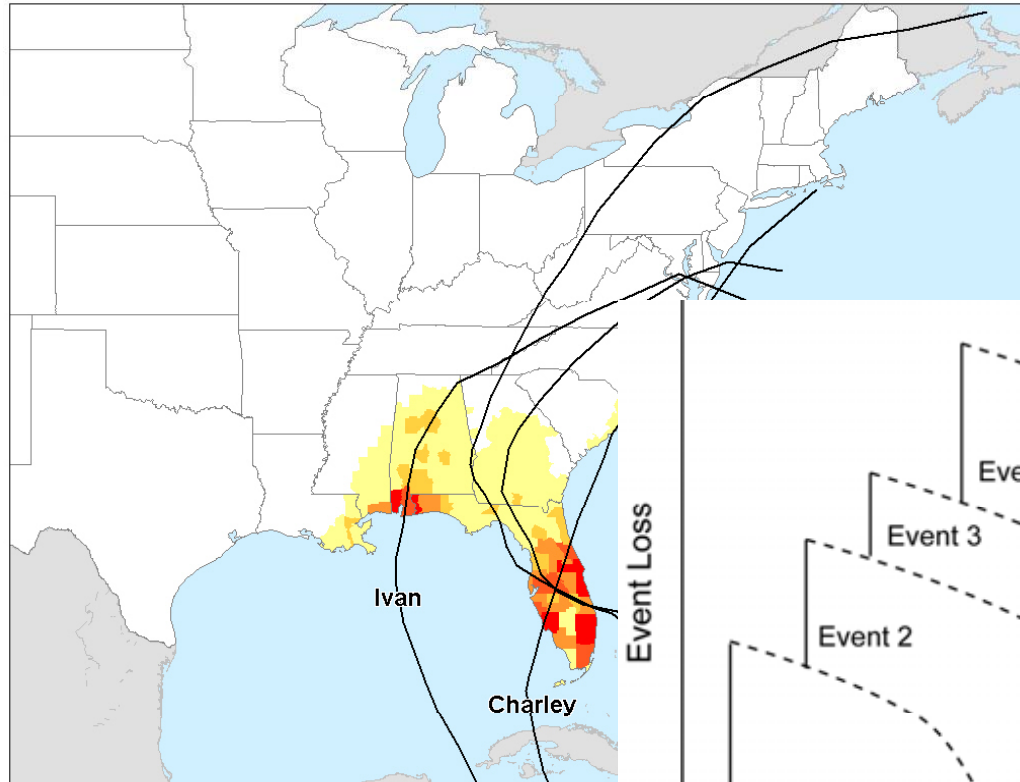




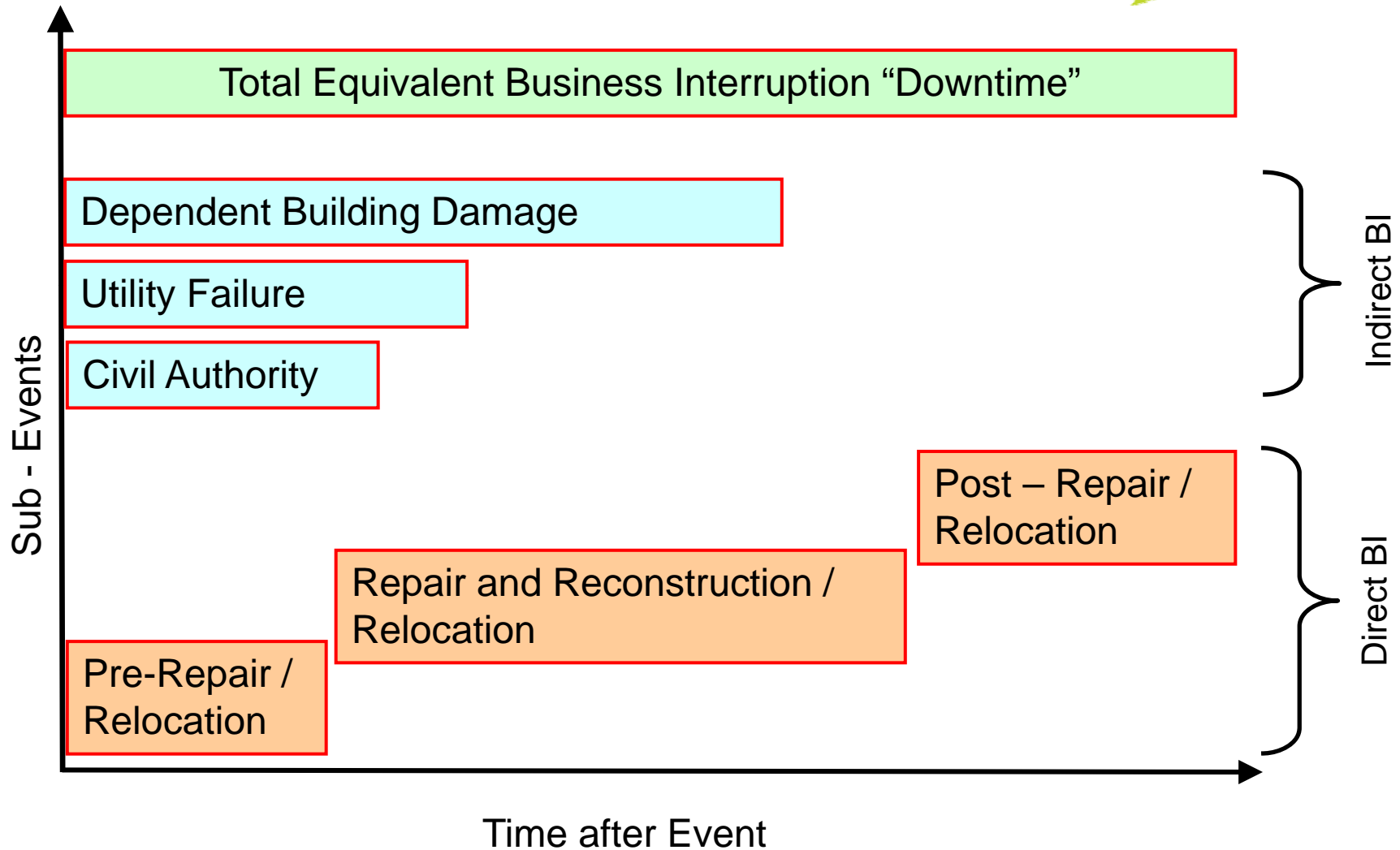
## Causes of Loss: Demand Surge

- Demand surge functions consider the sudden and usually temporary increase in the cost of materials, services, and labor following a catastrophe
- Demand surge can be related to the size of the **industry insurable loss** as well as to the number and location of events in a given year
- While significant uncertainty surrounds demand surge estimation, functions may be based on:
  - Historical data
  - Client claims data
  - Statistical analysis
  - Component level cost data

# Demand Surge from Aggregation of Events Should Also Be Considered



# Causes of Loss: Modeling Direct and Indirect Business Interruption

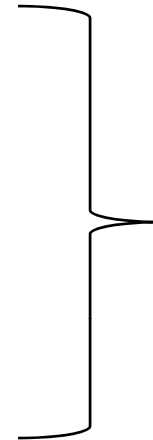


# Exposure Data Quality: Paramount to Model Results, Yet Often Needs Improvement

- Location information
  - Geographic resolution of the data – getting to an exact latitude and longitude
- Risk characteristics
  - Vulnerability functions have been developed to account for many building characteristics in the calculation of damage
- Replacement values
  - The full cost to replace the building in the event of a total loss

# Vulnerability Varies for Each Collection of Risk Characteristics

- Construction type
- Occupancy class
- Year built
- Number of stories
- Additional risk characteristics

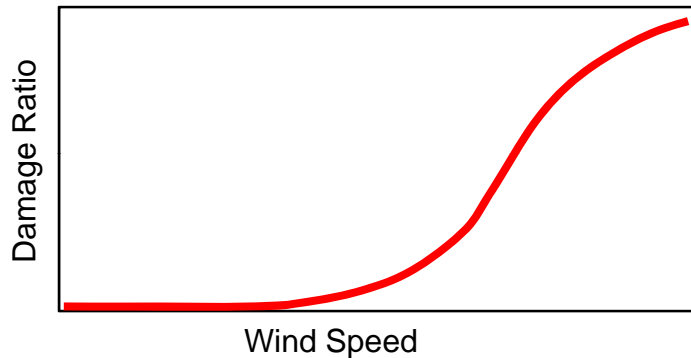


Vulnerability  
of the Risk

- Damage to buildings and their contents is a function of **construction** type and **occupancy** class
- For a given construction type, occupancy provides insight into some of the key characteristics of a building, e.g. shape, window area and type of contents likely to be present

# Valuation Is a Key Driver of Accurate Loss Estimates

- Estimated loss is calculated directly from the **replacement** value



Ground-Up Loss =  
Damage Ratio x Replacement Value

- Reported replacement values are often lower than actual values
  - Portfolios don't always keep pace with changes in construction costs
  - Limits are being reported instead of replacement values
  - Replacement values are just wrong (e.g. \$10,000 on a commercial building)

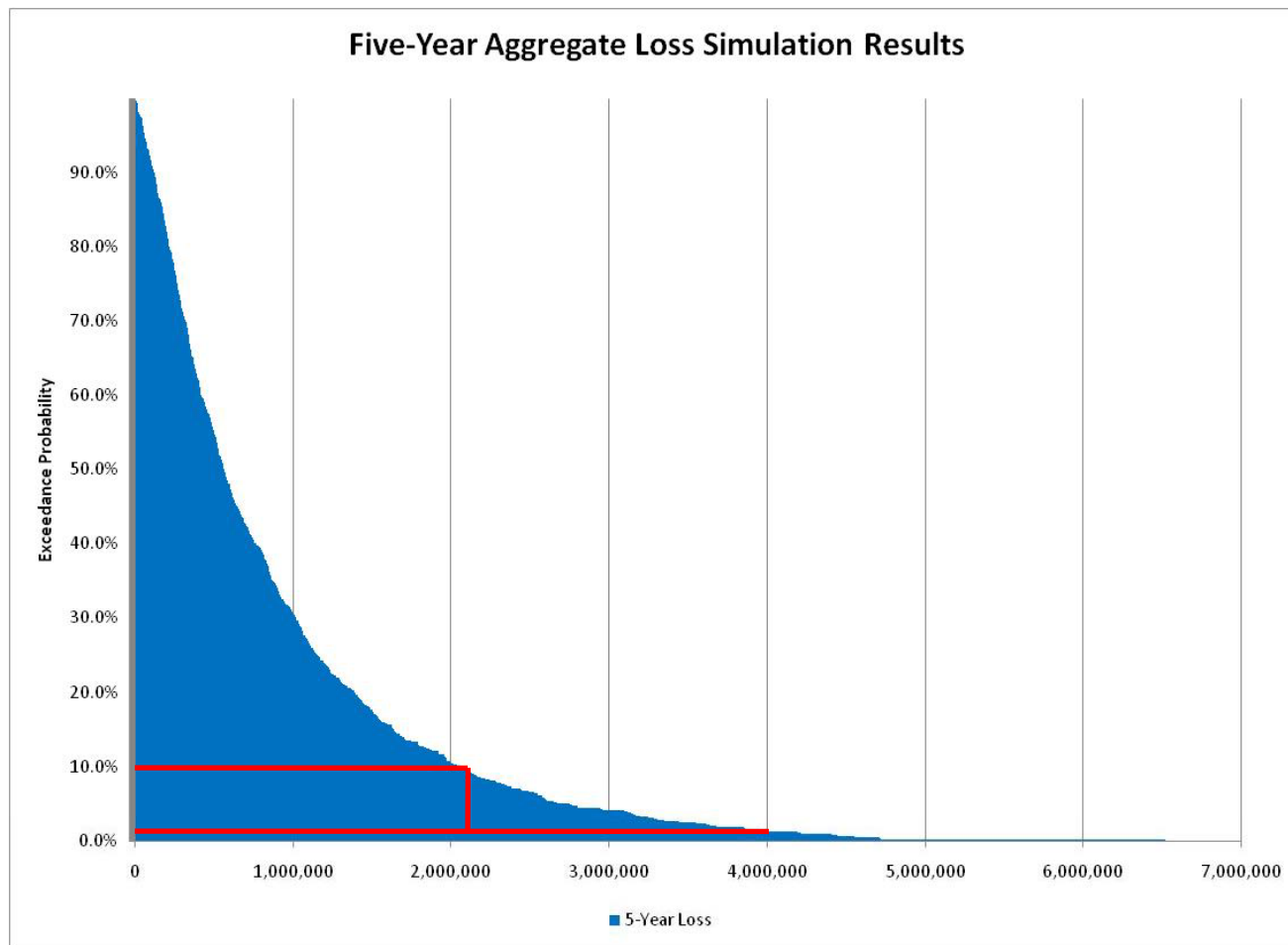
# Modelers are in a Unique Position to Help Companies Address Exposure Data Challenges

- Deliver commercial and residential property specific data including replacement value
- Provide data **analytics** to assess and evaluate exposure data against the industry
  - Validation
  - Scoring
  - Benchmarking
  - Insurance to value
- Enhance the **capture** and use of quality exposure data at the point of underwriting
- Facilitate transfer of exposure data throughout the insurance value chain by supporting **open and standardized** industry data formats



# Extreme Events: Model Users and Stakeholders Must Closely Examine the Impact on Decisions

- Enterprise risk management uses of models have focused on “tail” or less frequent events, sometimes over multi-year simulations, since 2005





# Ratings Agencies are Now Focusing on More Sophisticated Measures of “Tail” Risk

- Fitch is using model results directly in its economic capital model evaluating financial strength
- A.M. Best requires “tail value at risk” (average of extreme event values) in its Supplemental Rating Questionnaire
  - Modeling firms have facilitated the calculation in software

Indicated CAT Risk Exposure		2006 Per Occurrence Gross Losses (I)				2006 Per Occurrence Pre-Tax Net Losses (II)			
		(01) Probable Maximum Loss (PML) (\$000s)	(02) % of 2006 Group PHS	(03) TVAR or TCE* (\$000s)	(04) % of 2006 Group PHS	(05) PML (Including Reinstatement Costs (\$000))	(06) % of 2006 Group PHS	(07) TVAR or TCE* (Excluding Reinstatement Costs (\$000s))	(08) % of 2006 Group PHS
Loss Return Period (Annual Probability)									
1.	50 Years (2.0%)								
2.	100 Years (1.0%)								
3.	250 Years (0.4%)								
4.	500 Years (0.2%)								
5.	1,000 Years (0.1%)								

\*TVAR (Tail Value at Risk) or TCE (Tail Conditional Expectation)

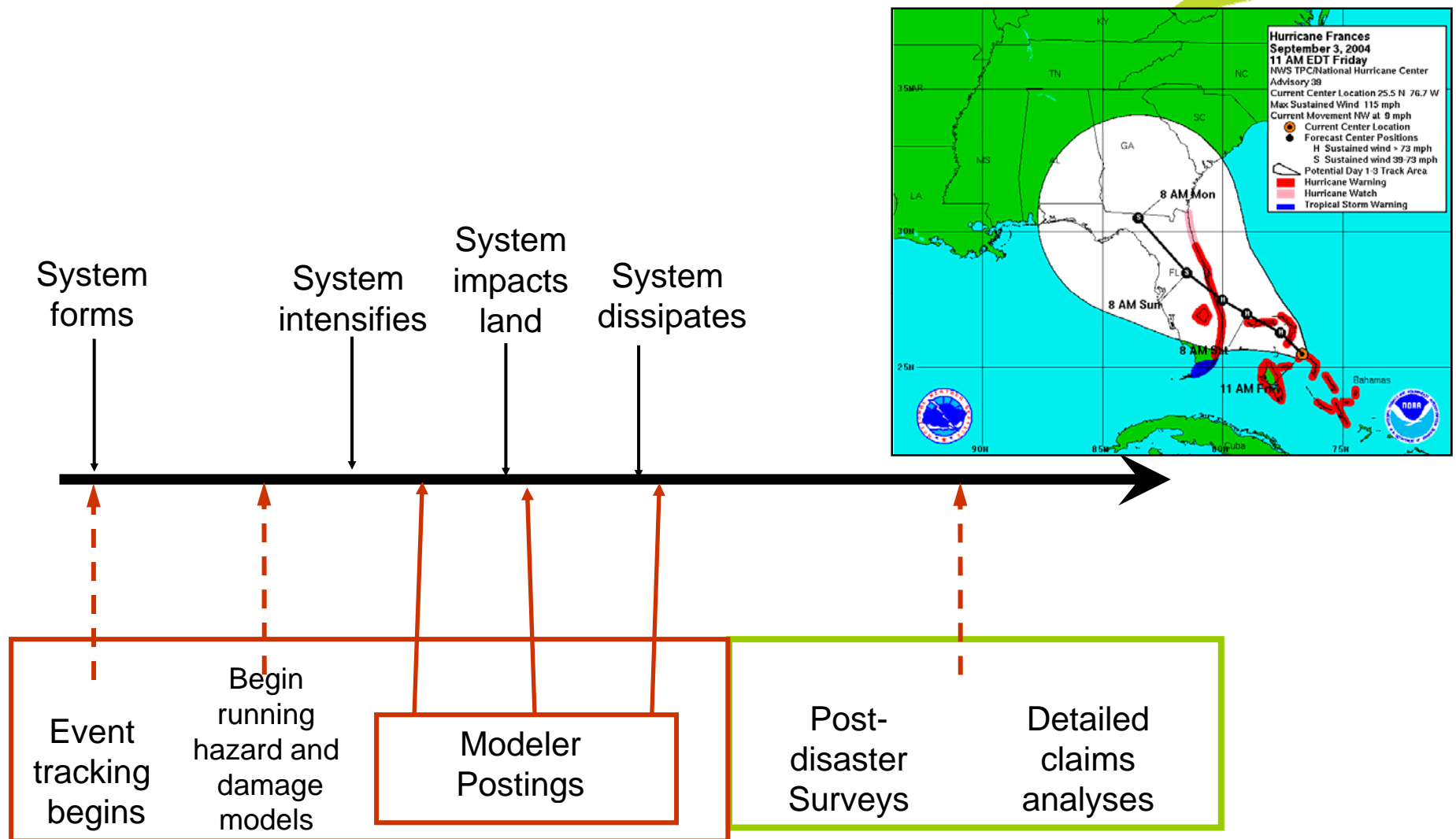


# Real-Time Loss Estimates: Increasingly Important for Catastrophe Planning

- Modeling firms all provide some assistance in estimating the impact of “live” hurricanes, but take different technical approaches
  - Some use the parameters of the **actual** event in real-time as reported by weather observations to simulate scenarios for that event
  - Others identify “**like events**” in previously simulated catalogs of possible hurricanes
- While the technology predates Katrina, clients are making increasingly advanced use of the services for
  - **Informing owners** and stakeholders of the impact
  - **Claims** and disaster response planning
  - **Financial/liquidity** planning and **reinsurance** notices



# Typical Real Time Loss Estimation Process



## Summary: What Have We Learned Since Katrina?

- **Climate Conditions** – incorporation of climate conditions such as warm sea surface temperatures, which may lead to less frequent, but more severe tropical cyclones
- **Model Validation** – the 2004/2005 hurricanes provided unprecedented quantities of detailed claims data for validating, refining and incorporating additional vulnerability functions
- **Causes of Loss** – improvements to the modeling of demand surge, losses from multiple-event seasons, and indirect business interruption
- **Property Exposure Data** – tools and services to address exposure data challenges through data analytics such as validation, scoring, benchmarking and insurance-to-value
- **Extreme Event Results** – more scrutiny of the “tail” of the loss possibilities in catastrophe model results
- **Real-Time Modeling** – advancements to provide a probabilistic approach that incorporates the uncertainty inherent in real-time parameters



Thank You

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