

Seismic Fragility of Flood Control Levee Systems

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- Other collaborators: Les Harder, Vlad Perea, Ariya Balakrishnan, Craig Davis, Curt Schmutte, Steve Deverel, Atsushi Mikami

Levees

Definition: man-made or natural embankments along rivers or water bodies

Purpose: flood protection

Can be *intermittently* loaded



American River, Sacramento

Levees

Definition: man-made or natural embankments along rivers or water bodies

Purpose: flood protection

Can be *intermittently* or *continuously* loaded



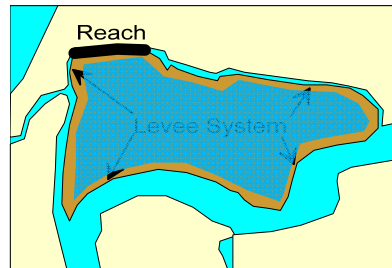
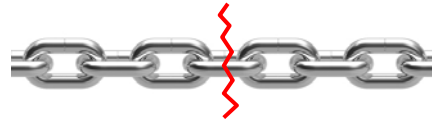
Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta

Levee Taxonomy

Series system when impounding water

Failure of any link constitutes system failure

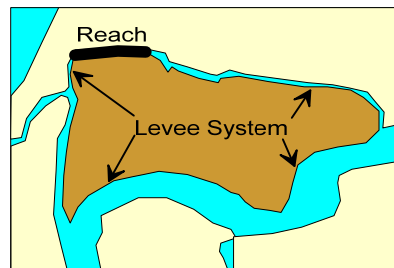
System: assemblage of levees providing flood protection



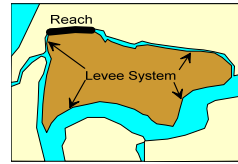
Levee Taxonomy

Reach: length of levee with uniform capacity and demand distributions

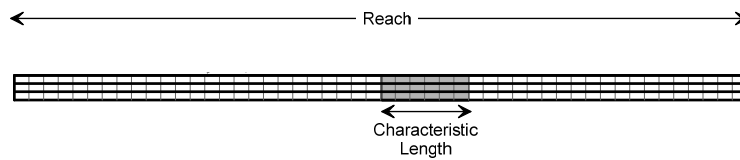
Physics-based vs legal/jurisdictional



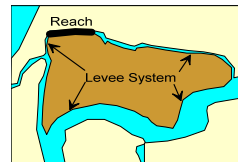
Levee Taxonomy



Characteristic length: length of levee system components between which statistical independence may be assumed (unknown *a priori*)

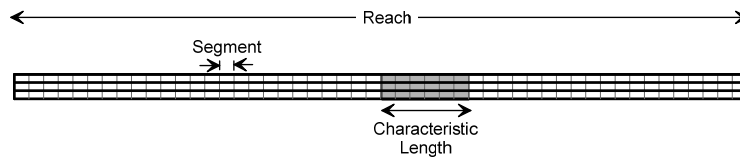


Levee Taxonomy



Characteristic length: length of levee system components between which statistical independence may be assumed (unknown *a priori*)

Segment: length of levee with uniform capacity (represented by cross-section)



Question addressed here:

How to assess seismic risk for levee systems?

Current & recommended practices

Key concepts

Outline

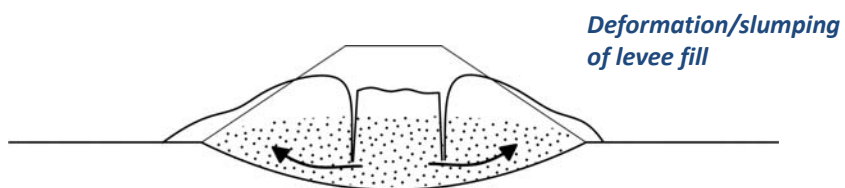
- Levee system taxonomy
- Segment risk
- System risk
- Summary

Segment

- Deformation mechanisms
- Consequent risk
- International guidelines
- Empirical fragility model

Segment

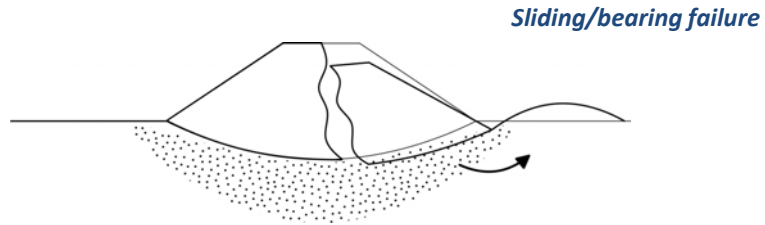
Deformation Mechanisms



*Miller and Roycroft 2004
Sasaki 2009
Sasaki et al. 2012
Green et al. 2011
Kwak et al., 2016a*

Segment

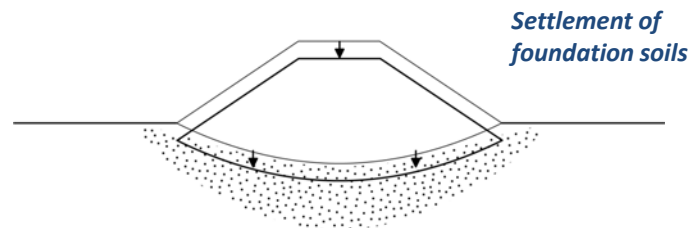
Deformation Mechanisms



*Miller and Roycroft 2004
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Segment

Deformation Mechanisms



*Miller and Roycroft 2004
Sasaki 2009
Sasaki et al. 2012
Green et al. 2011
Kwak et al., 2016a*

Segment

Performance data

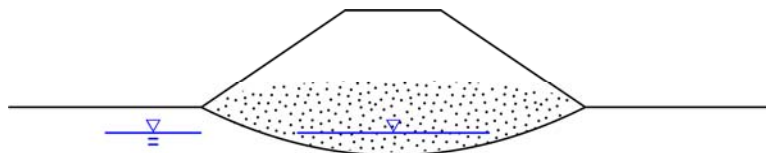


MLIT-SWO 2008

Segment

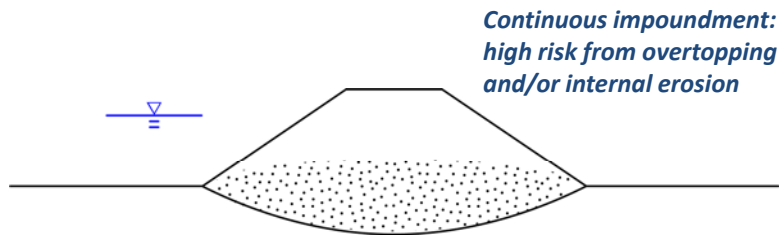
Consequent Risk

*Intermittent impoundment:
potentially low risk*



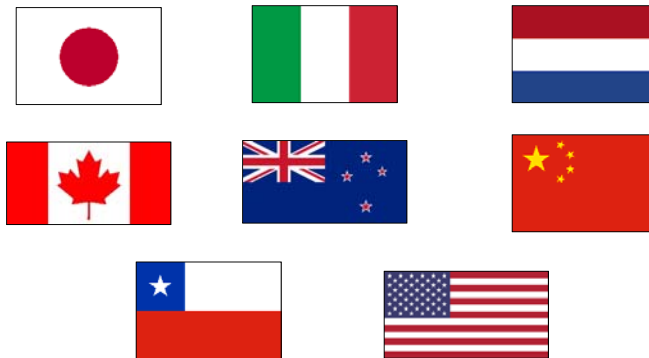
Segment

Consequent Risk



Segment

International Guidelines



EQS paper describes provisions in various guidelines, using consistent framework.

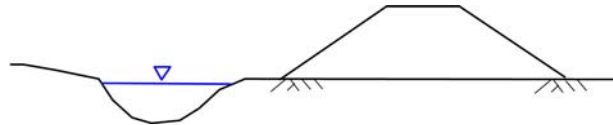
Recommended best practices summarized here...

Zimmaro et al. 2017a

International Guidelines

Framework (segments):

Screening

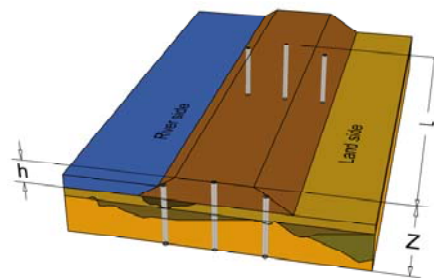


International Guidelines

Framework (segments):

Screening

Site characterization



International Guidelines

Framework (segments):

Screening

Site characterization

Ground motion hazard

PSHA or DSHA

Site response

Flood return period

International Guidelines

Framework (segments):

Screening

Site characterization

Ground motion hazard

Strength loss potential

Liquefaction

Cyclic softening

International Guidelines

Framework (segments):

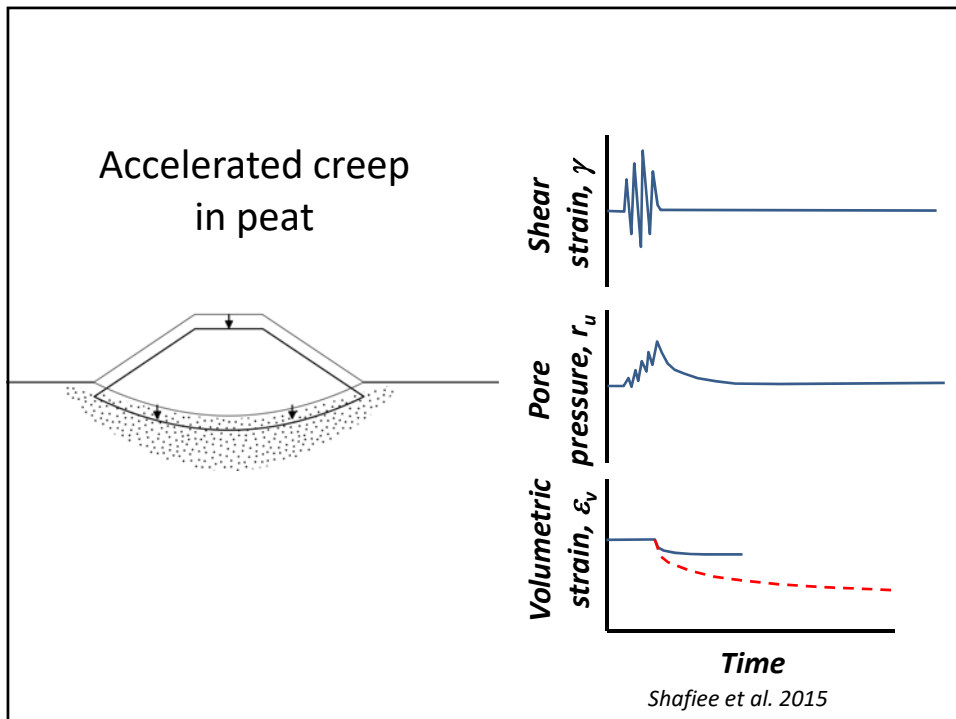
- Screening
- Site characterization
- Ground motion hazard
- Strength loss potential
- Flow slides and ground deformations

Flow slide: limit equilibrium

Deformations: Newmark or similar

Seismic compression

Accelerated creep (peat)



International Guidelines

Framework (segments):

Screening

Site characterization

Ground motion hazard

Strength loss potential

Flow slides and ground deformations

Risk mitigation

Prepare for post-event repair

Pre-event repair

International Guidelines

Framework (segments):

Screening

Site characterization

Ground motion hazard

Strength loss potential

Flow slides and ground deformations

Risk mitigation

Hazard is computed at location of segment

Variability / uncertainty in ground motion

International Guidelines

Framework (segments):

Screening

Site characterization

Ground motion hazard

Strength loss potential

Flow slides and ground deformations

Risk mitigation

**Predicted using
geotechnical models**

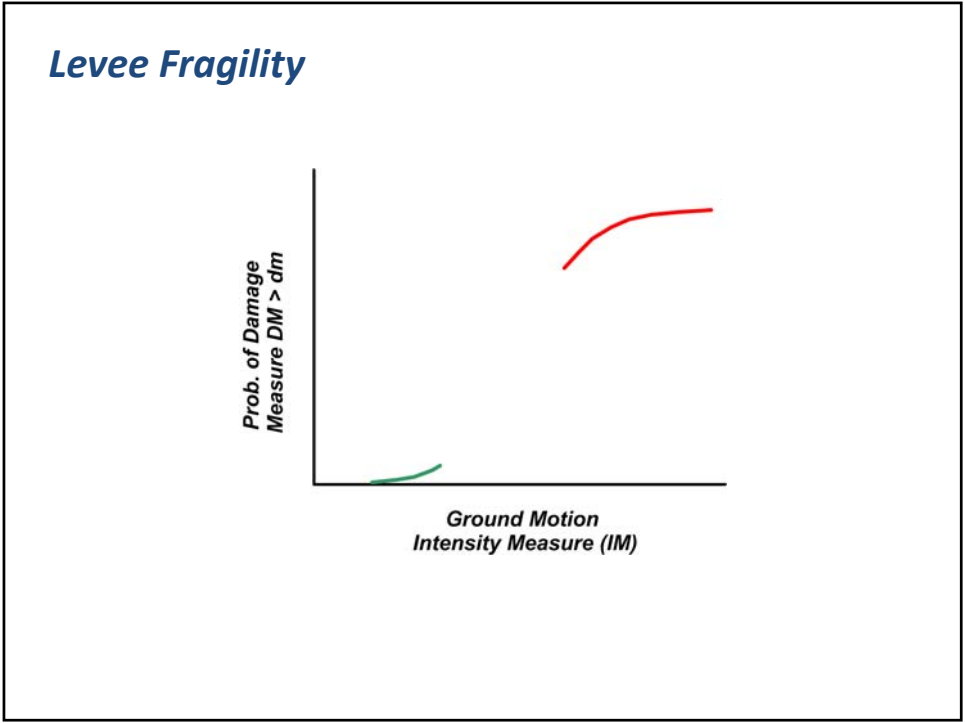
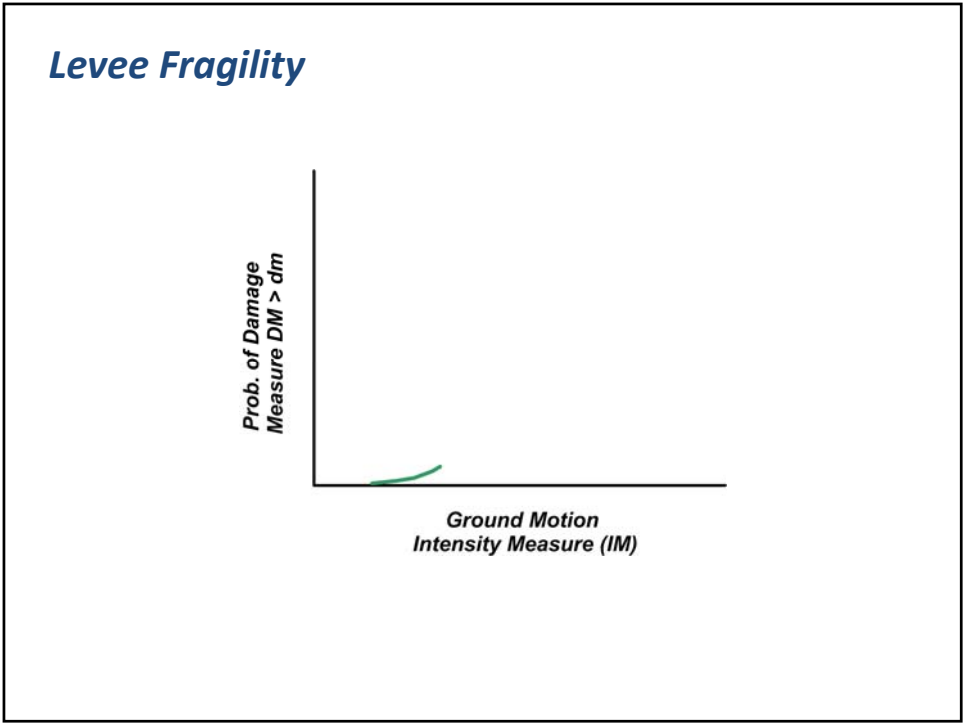
**Uncertainty often
undefined**

**Fragility poorly
quantified**

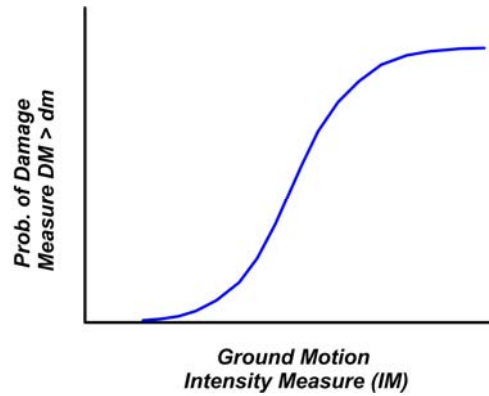
Levee Fragility

**Prob. of Damage
Measure $DM > dm$**

**Ground Motion
Intensity Measure (IM)**



Levee Fragility



Segment

Empirical Fragility Model

Observed damage following
2004 and 2007 events

Model conditioned on
ground motion, water level,
geology

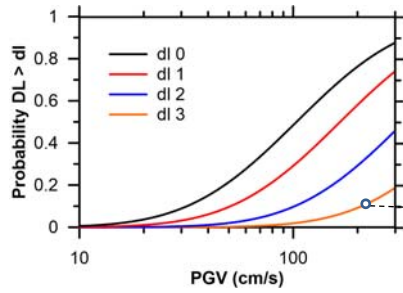
Fragility conditioned on
damage level (DL)



MLIT-SWO 2008

Segment

Empirical Fragility Model

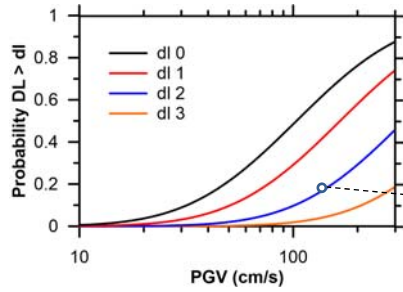


High water
Poorly consolidated sediments

Kwak et al. (2016a)

Segment

Empirical Fragility Model

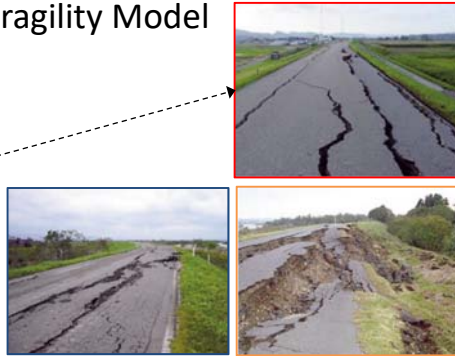
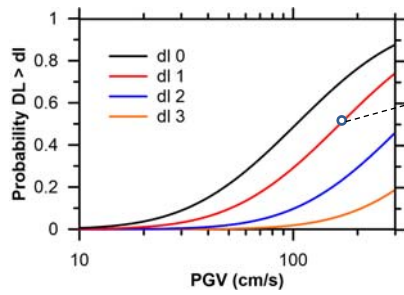


High water
Poorly consolidated sediments

Kwak et al. (2016a)

Segment

Empirical Fragility Model

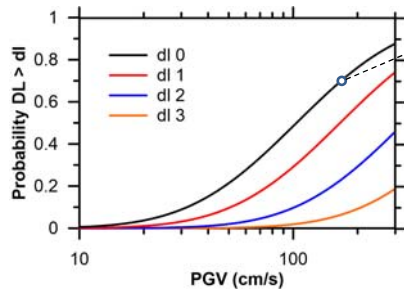


High water
Poorly consolidated sediments

Kwak et al. (2016a)

Segment

Empirical Fragility Model

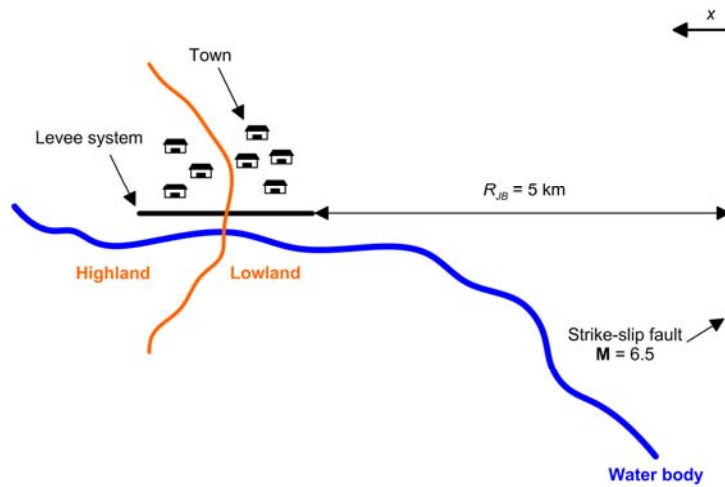


Applicability: Intermittently loaded levees with predominantly granular foundation soils (not soft clays or peats)

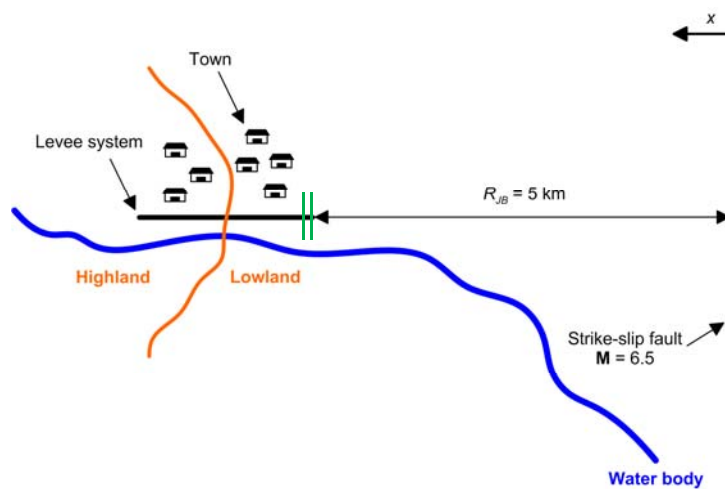
Curves represent capacity distributions in PGV space

Kwak et al. (2016a)

Example: Segment Fragility

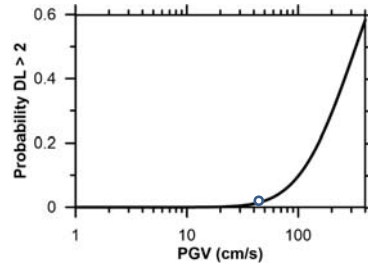


Example: Segment Fragility



Example: Segment Fragility

Fragility from model
 Fixed median IM of PGV =
 46 cm/s, $P_f | E = 0.016$

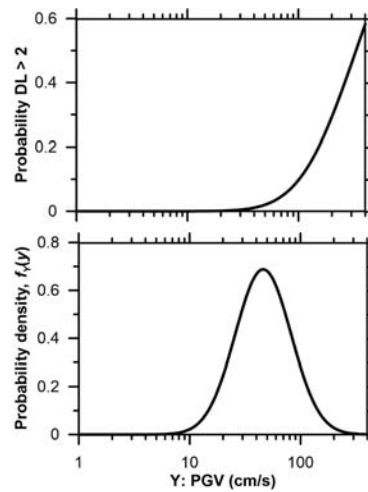


Example: Segment Fragility

Fragility from model
 Fixed median IM of PGV =
 46 cm/s, $P_f | E = 0.016$
 Variable IM – convolve
 fragility with IM distribution

$$P_f | E = \int_y f_Y(y | E) P_f(y) dy$$

$$P_f | E = 0.035$$

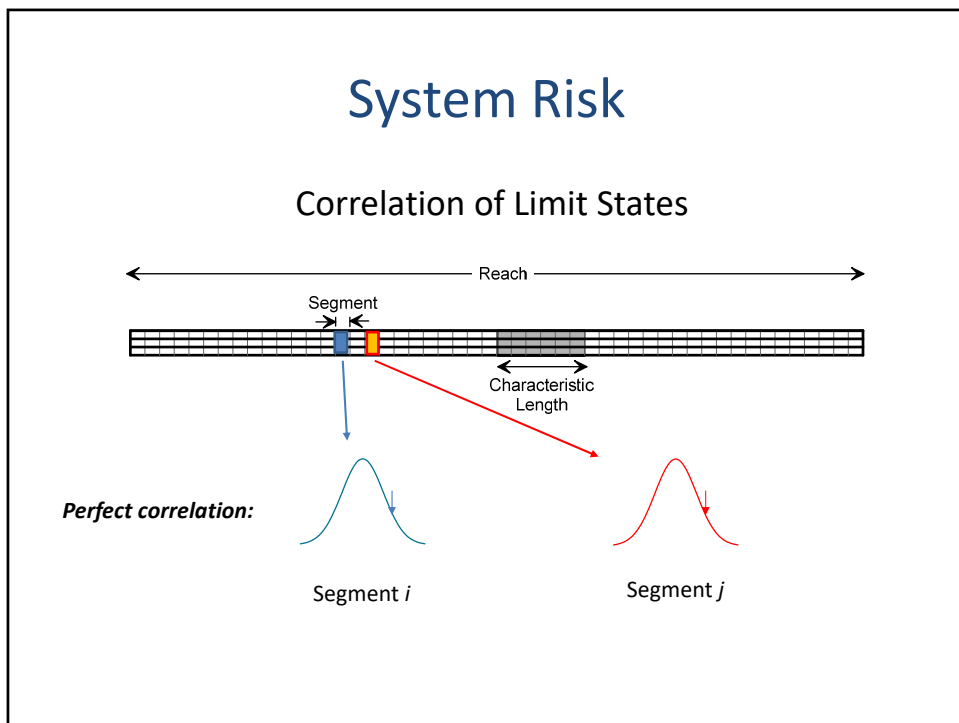
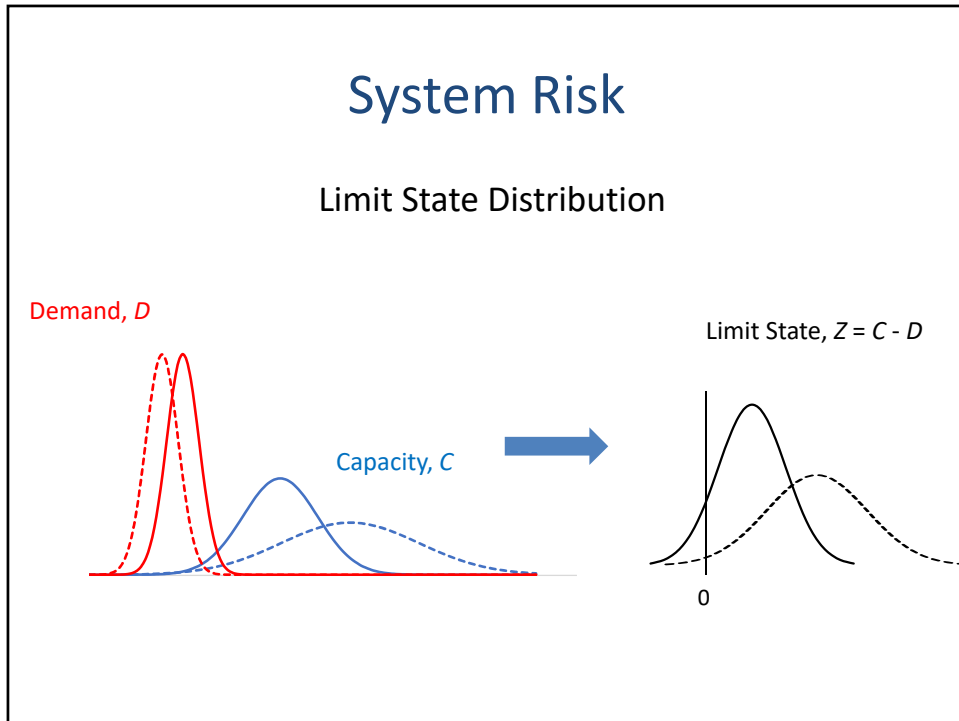


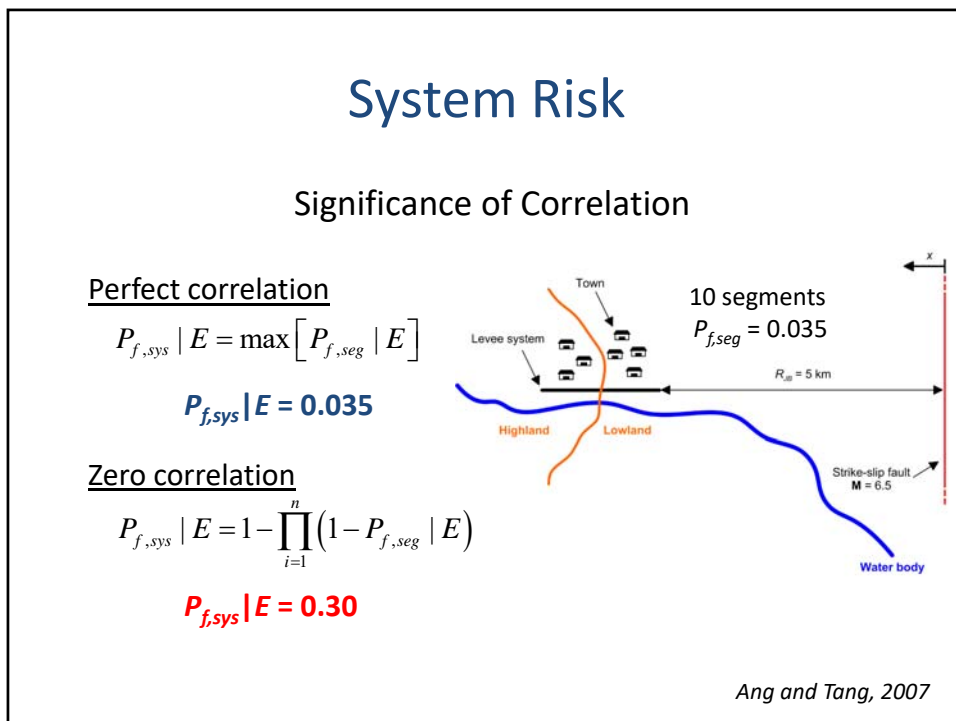
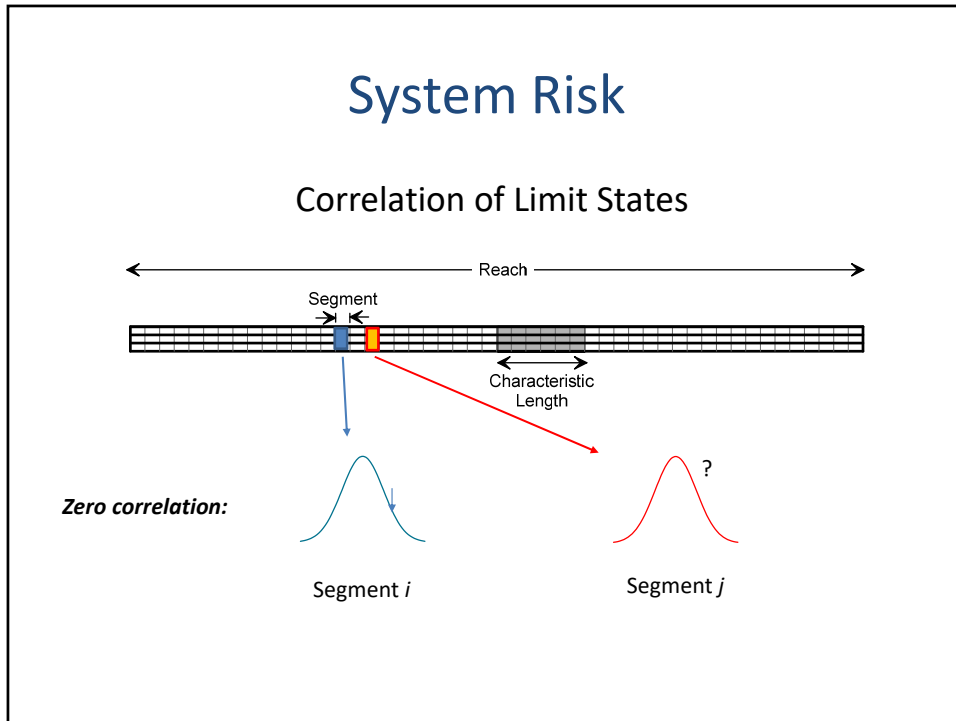
Outline

- Levee system taxonomy
- Segment risk
- **System risk**
- Summary

System Risk

- Concepts of *limit state* and *spatial correlation*
- Past practice
- Recommended approaches



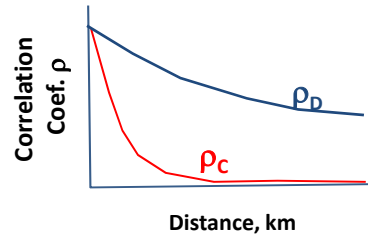


System Risk

Correlation Models

Demand, ρ_D :

Derived from ground motions
Depends on geologic conditions



Capacity, ρ_C :

Derived from field performance (or assumed)
Depends on damage level

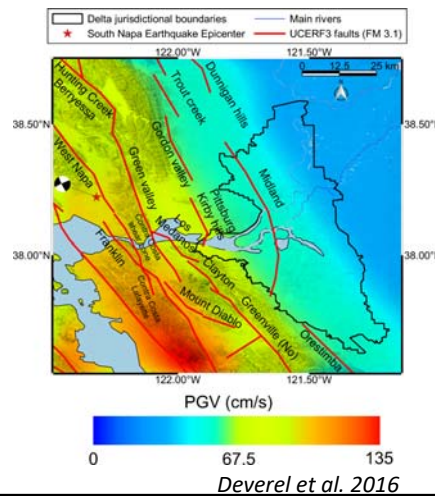
Jayaram and Baker, 2009
Kwak et al., 2016b

System Risk

Previous Approaches, Seismic Applications

Demand taken from hazard maps

- Assumes essentially perfect correlation



Deverel et al. 2016

System Risk

Previous Approaches, Seismic Applications

Demand taken from hazard maps

$$\rho_D < 1$$

- Assumes essentially perfect correlation

System Risk

Previous Approaches, Seismic Applications

Demand taken from hazard maps

- Assumes essentially perfect correlation

Capacity taken from analysis of representative section within reach

- Perfect correlation within reaches
- Zero correlation between reaches

Bias: Depends on

L_{Reach} vs. L_{Char}

Unknown variability

Zimmaro et al. 2017a

System Risk

Recommended Approaches

Monte Carlo Simulation

Segment-specific demand and capacity models

Correlation Models

Cholesky decomposition

System fails if any segment has $Z < 0$

Repeat N times, evaluate $P_{f,sys}$

Kwak et al. 2016b

System Risk

Recommended Approaches

Level Crossing Statistics (LCS)

Used previously in Netherlands for flood applications

Reach-specific limit state function

FORM to evaluate segment failure probabilities

LCS to evaluate ρ_z and $P_{f,reach} | E$

If $L_{Char} < L_{Reach}$, combine reaches with zero correlation

*Vrouwenvelder, 2006
Jongejan and Maaskant, 2016
Zimmaro et al. 2017b*

System Risk

Recommended Approaches

Both approaches require event conditioning. Why?

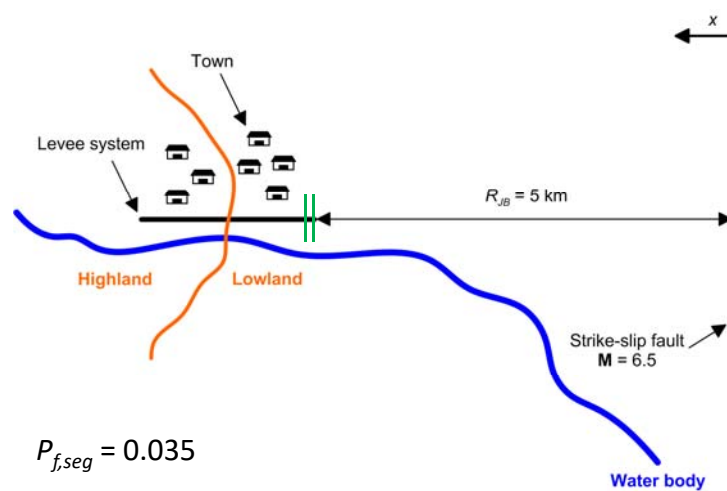
Earthquakes occur one at a time

PSHA maps: many sources for each site, with strong spatial correlation

\therefore system risk should be computed at the event level

Can be repeated across multiple events

Example



$$P_{f,seg} = 0.035$$

$$P_{f,sys} = 0.24$$

Summary

- Risk of distributed systems requires models for hazard, fragility, and spatial correlations (of demands and capacities)
- Most previous work for seismic applications uses *ad hoc* approximations and judgement
- Application requires scenario-based demands
- $\rho_D > \rho_C$
- Two recommended procedures: LCS more computationally efficient

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- Zimmaro, P, JP Stewart, SJ Brandenburg, DY Kwak, R Jongejan (2017b). ["System reliability of flood control levees,"](#) *Proc. 3rd Int. Conf. on Performance-Based Design in Earthquake Geotechnical Engineering*, M Taiebat, D Wijewickreme, A Athanasopoulos-Zekkos, and RW Boulanger (editors), Paper No. 432, Vancouver, BC.