

## Compound and Cascading Hazards and their impacts on critical infrastructure systems

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## **Coastal Flooding**

**Compound Ocean-Fluvial Flooding** 

Compound Ocean-Fluvial (terrestrial)-Pluvial (local rain) Flooding











For a given system/infrastructure design lifetime of T the failure probability ( $\check{P}_T$ ) is calculated as:

Univariate

 $p_F = 1 - (1 - p)^T$ 

Multivariate

(Moftakhari, et al., 2017, PNAS)

$$p_F = 1 - P(X_1 \in S_1^C, \dots, X_T \in S_T^C) = 1 - (C_X(F_1(\tilde{x}_1), F_2(\tilde{x}_2)))^T$$





#### **Compound Coastal Flooding**



Moftakhari, et al., 2017, PNAS







Linking **Statistical Failure** Probability to **Physical Failure** (Bridging the Gap between Climate Science and Engineering)

Vahedifard, et al., 2020, JGGE

In the United States, there are at least 400 federal facilities identified as being at risk from rising sea levels and compound coastal floods. The list includes thirteen executive agencies, including Departments of Defense military bases.



Source: Bloomberg Law

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Neighborhood Disadvantage Index

(a) Aggregation of parcel level data at municipal levels in Los Angeles considering exposed population (bubble size), flood hazard (y-axis), and neighborhood disadvantage index (x-axis). Flood Exposure Representativeness (FER), including communities with high (>1.2) FER for (b) Black, (c) Hispanic and (d) Asian populations.

High resolution modeling reveals severe flood risks that are disproportionately higher for Black, Hispanic and disadvantaged populations

Sanders, et al., Nature Sustainability



# **Typology of Compound Events**



#### **Temporally Compounding (Cascading) Events**



#### **Preconditioned Compound Events**



Zscheischler, et al. 2020, Nature Reviews Earth & Environment



Zscheischler, et al. 2020, Nature Reviews Earth & Environment

## Multivariate Copula Analysis Toolbox (MvCAT) Multi-hazard Scenario Analysis Toolbox (MhAST)

### http://amir.eng.uci.edu/software.php





**Generalized Multi-Hazard Scenarios for Compound Extremes** 

Sadegh, et al., 2018, GRL

http://amir.eng.uci.edu/software.php



# **Environmental Risk Assessment and Non-stationarity**







Considering the *N* largest precipitation extremes in an *N*-year record, under the assumption of stationarity, we expect no significant trend (i.e., on average one extreme per year). Analysis of 8,730 records shows evidence of change in the frequency of extreme precipitation around the world.

AghaKouchak et al., 2020, Annu Rev Earth Planet Sci

### **Process-informed Nonstationaty Extreme Value Analysis (ProNEVA)**



Ragno et al., 2019, Advances in Water Resources http://amir.eng.uci.edu/downloads/ProNEVA.zip







ASCE Manual of Practice 140: Methodology recommended to quantify changes in statistics of extreme rainfall for infrastructure design and risk assessment.





# **Cascading Hazards**



Zscheischler, et al. 2020, Nature Reviews Earth & Environment









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https://www.nature.com/articles/s41612-021-00218-2/figures/3

Martinez et al., 2021, PhD Dissertation



Martinez et al., 2021, PhD Dissertation





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https://www.nature.com/articles/s41612-021-00218-2/figures/3



Martinez et al., 2021, PhD Dissertation





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https://www.nature.com/articles/s41612-021-00218-2/figures/3



# **Snow-Temperature-Fire Dynamics**

## Mountain Snowpack Response to Different Levels of Warming





Huning & AghaKouchak, 2020, PNAS

Huning & AghaKouchak, 2018, PNAS





2 After fires, water supplies can be affected if soot and fewer trees alter where snow builds up and when it melts.



AghaKouchak et al., 2018, Nature



#### **MORE FIRES, MORE SNOWMELT**

Natural blazes in the western United States are (1) scorching larger areas and (2) spreading to higher altitudes than they did in the 1980s.



After fires, water supplies can be affected if soot and fewer trees alter where snow builds up and when it melts.



AghaKouchak et al., 2018, Nature

### **Climate Drivers of Wildfires**







## **Final Remarks**

- Ignoring the compounding effects of fluvial and ocean flooding leads to underestimation of coastal flood risk.
- Droughts have warmed faster than the average climate in the southern and northeastern U.S., affecting snow drought and wildfires.
- Current models developed for compound events, often fail when used for modeling cascading hazards.
- We are exploring bottom-up learning concepts for analysis of cascading hazards, and methods for evaluating infrastructure risk and performance in a warming climate.



### **Questions?**

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