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Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Systems Engineering

## Allocating resources to enhance resilience, with application to Superstorm Sandy

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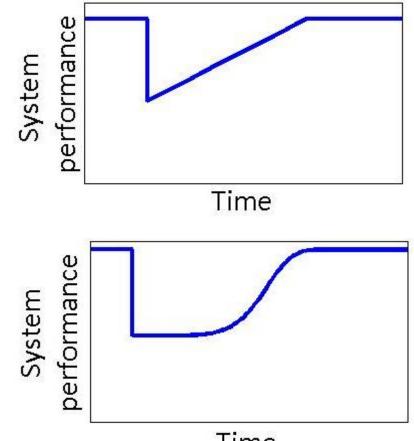
Christopher Zobel, Pamplin College of Business, Virginia Tech

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## **Disaster resilience**

- Disaster resilience is the ability to (Bruneau et al. 2003)
  - Reduce the chances of a shock
  - Absorb a shock if it occurs
  - Recover quickly after it occurs
- Nonlinear disaster recovery (Zobel 2014)

Bruneau, M., Chang, S.E., Eguchi, R.T., Lee, G.C., O'Rourke, T.D., Reinhorn, A.M., Shinozuka, M., Tierney, K., Wallace, W.A., & von Winterfeldt, D. (2003). A framework to quantitatively assess and enhance the seismic resilience of communities. *Earthquake Spectra*, 19(4), 733-752.uni





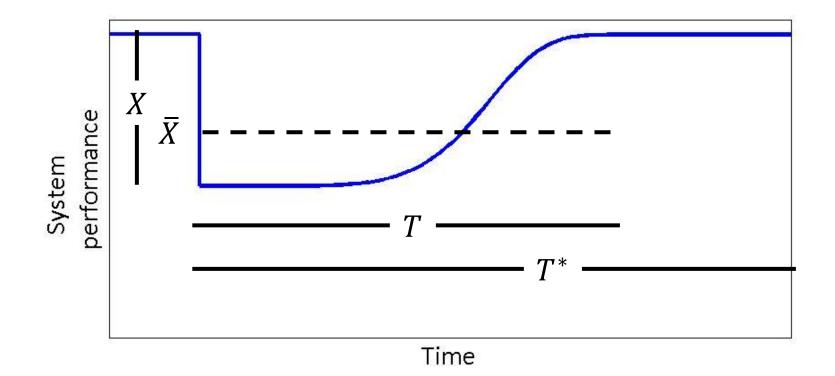
Zobel, C.W. (2014). Quantitatively representing nonlinear disaster recovery. *Decision Sciences*, 45(6), 687-710.

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## Quantifying disaster resilience

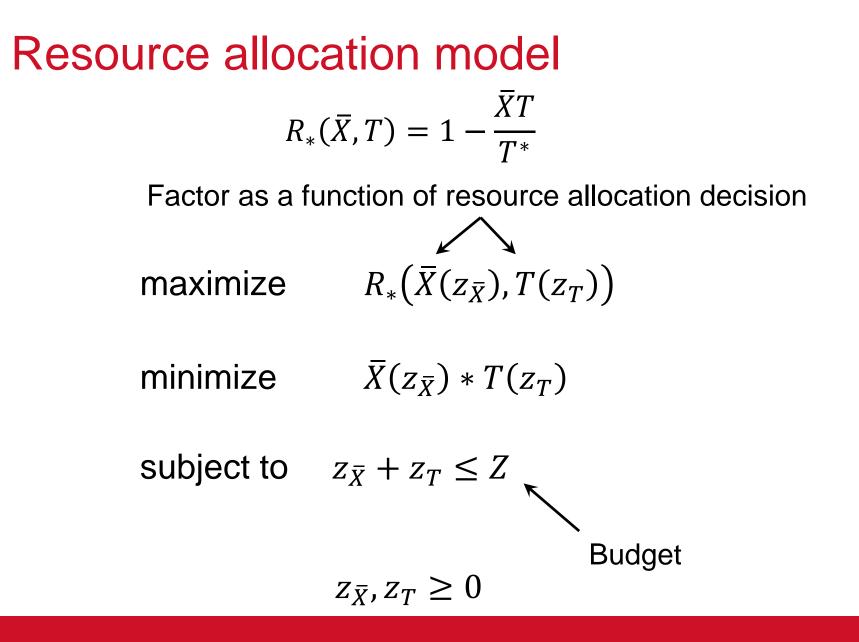
$$R_*(\bar{X},T) = 1 - \frac{\bar{X}T}{T^*}$$



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## **Research questions**

- How should a decision maker allocate resources between reducing loss and decreasing time in order to maximize resilience?
- 2. How should the allocation change based on the assumptions in the allocation functions?
- 3. Does the optimal decision change when there is uncertainty?
- 4. How can this theoretical model be applied to a real-world disruption?



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## **Allocation functions**

- $\overline{X}(z_{\overline{X}})$  and  $T(z_T)$  describe ability to allocate resources to reduce each factor of resilience
- Requirements
  - Factor should decrease as more resources are allocated:  $\frac{d\bar{X}}{dz_{\bar{X}}}$  and  $\frac{dT}{dz_T}$  are less than 0
  - Constant returns or marginal decreasing improvements as more resources are allocated:  $\frac{d^2 \bar{X}}{dz_{\bar{X}}^2}$  and  $\frac{d^2 T}{dz_T^2}$  are greater than or equal to 0

## Four allocation functions

- 1. Linear
- 2. Exponential
- 3. Quadratic
- 4. Logarithmic

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## Linear allocation function

$$\overline{X}(z_{\overline{X}}) = \widehat{X} - a_{\overline{X}} z_{\overline{X}}$$
$$T(z_T) = \widehat{T} - a_T z_T$$

- Decision maker should only allocate resources to reduce one resilience factor based on max  $\left\{\frac{a_{\bar{X}}}{\hat{X}}, \frac{a_T}{\hat{T}}\right\}$
- Focuses resources on the factor whose initial parameter is already small and where effectiveness is large

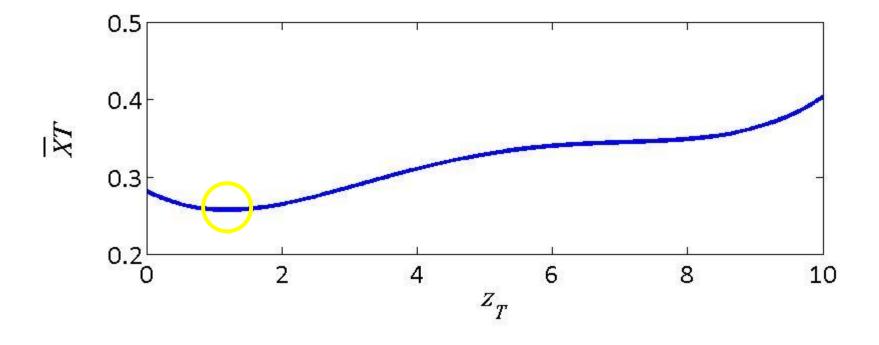
## **Exponential allocation function**

$$\overline{X}(z_{\overline{X}}) = \widehat{X} \exp(-a_{\overline{X}} z_{\overline{X}})$$
$$T(z_T) = \widehat{T} \exp(-a_T z_T)$$

- Decision maker should only allocate resources to reduce one resilience factor based on max{a<sub>x̄</sub>, a<sub>T</sub>}
- Decision depends only the effectiveness and not the initial values

## **Quadratic allocation function**

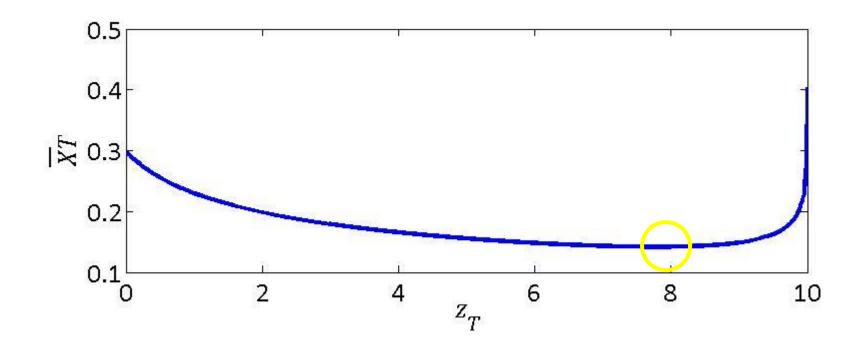
$$\overline{X}(z_{\overline{X}}) = \widehat{X} - b_{\overline{X}} z_{\overline{X}} + a_{\overline{X}} z_{\overline{X}}^2$$
$$T(z_T) = \widehat{T} - b_T z_T + a_T z_T^2$$



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## Logarithmic allocation function

$$\overline{X}(z_{\overline{X}}) = \widehat{X} - a_{\overline{X}}\log(1 + b_{\overline{X}}z_{\overline{X}})$$
$$T(z_T) = \widehat{T} - a_T\log(1 + b_T z_T)$$



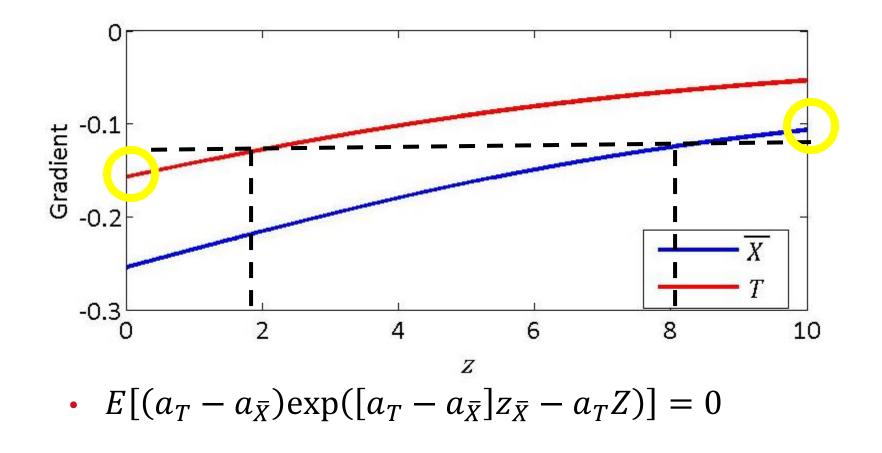
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## Uncertainty with independence

- Assume  $\hat{X}$ ,  $\hat{T}$ ,  $a_X$ ,  $b_X$ ,  $a_T$ ,  $b_T$  have known distributions
- Assume independence
- Maximize expected resilience  $E[R_*(\bar{X}, T)]$
- Linear, quadratic, and logarithmic allocation functions: May be optimal to allocate to both factors

## Exponential allocation, uncertainty

Always a convex optimization problem



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## Uncertainty without probabilities

- Each parameter is bounded above and below,
   i.e. <u>X</u> ≤ X ≤ X and <u>a<sub>x̄</sub> ≤ a<sub>x̄</sub> ≤ a<sub>x̄</sub>
  </u>
- Maximin approach

```
maximize min R_*(\overline{X}(z_{\overline{X}}), T(z_T))
```

• Same rules as the case with certainty but choose worst-case parameters to determine allocation, i.e.  $\overline{\hat{X}}$  and  $\underline{a}_{\overline{X}}$ 

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# Superstorm Sandy

- October 2012
  - East coast of the U.S.
  - Second costliest hurricane in U.S. history
- ConEdison Electric Utility
  - 670,000 New York city customers without electricity
  - Approximately 1/5 of ConEdison's customers
  - Duration: 13 days





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## ConEdison's Post-Sandy Plan

- \$1 billion over 4 years to increase resilience of electric power network
- Hardening activities (reduce  $\overline{X}$ )
  - Trimming trees around power lines
  - Building higher flood plains
  - Backup power for substations
- Restoration activities (reduce *T*)
  - Smart-grid technologies
  - Preemptively shutting down steam plants
  - Deploying advance teams before the storm

Consolidated Edison Co. of New York. (2013). Post-Sandy enhancement plan. Orange and Rockland Utilities.

## Model parameters

• From Zobel (2014) and Johnson (2005)

	Most likely	Minimum	Maximum
$\widehat{X}$	0.073	0.030	0.22
$\widehat{T}$	13	3	26

Assume triangular distribution

Zobel, C.W. (2014). Quantitatively representing nonlinear disaster recovery. *Decision Sciences*, 45(6), 687-710. Johnson, B.W. (2005). After the disaster: Utility restoration cost recovery. Report prepared for the Edison Electric Institute.

## Model parameters

Effectiveness parameters for different allocation functions from

- Brown, R. (2009). Cost-benefit analysis of the deployment of utility infrastructure upgrades and storm hardening programs. Report prepared for the Public Utility Commission of Texas. Quanta Technology.
- Consolidated Edison Co. of New York. (2013). Post-Sandy enhancement plan. Orange and Rockland Utilities.
- Terruso, J., Baxter, C., & Carrom, E. (2012). Sandy recovery becomes national mission as countless workers come to N.J.'s aid. *The Star-Ledger* (Newark). November 11.

## Allocation results

Optimal amount (in millions of dollars) to allocate to increase hardness from a \$1 billion budget

	Allocation function	Amt		Allocation function	Amt
Certainty	Linear	0		Linear	0
	Expon	1000	Uncertainty	Expon	1000
	Quadratic	762	with dependence	Quadratic	840
	Logarith	648		Logarith	470
Uncertainty with inde- pendence	Linear	0		Linear	0
	Expon	1000	Robust	Expon	0
	Quadratic	556	allocation	Quadratic	21
	Logarith	494		Logarith	286

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## **Resilience results**

Resilience given optimal allocation from a \$1 billion budget

	Allocation function	Resi- lience		Allocation function	Resi- lience
Certainty	None	0.963	Uncertainty with	None	0.937
	Linear	0.986		Linear	0.965
	Expon	1.000		Expon	0.999
	Quadratic	0.986	dependence	Quadratic	0.976
	Logarith	0.989		Logarith	0.969
Uncertainty with inde- pendence	None	0.943		None	0.784
	Linear	0.974		Linear	0.788
	Expon	1.000	Robust allocation	Expon	0.786
	Quadratic	0.985	anocation	Quadratic	0.786
	Logarith	0.987		Logarith	0.832

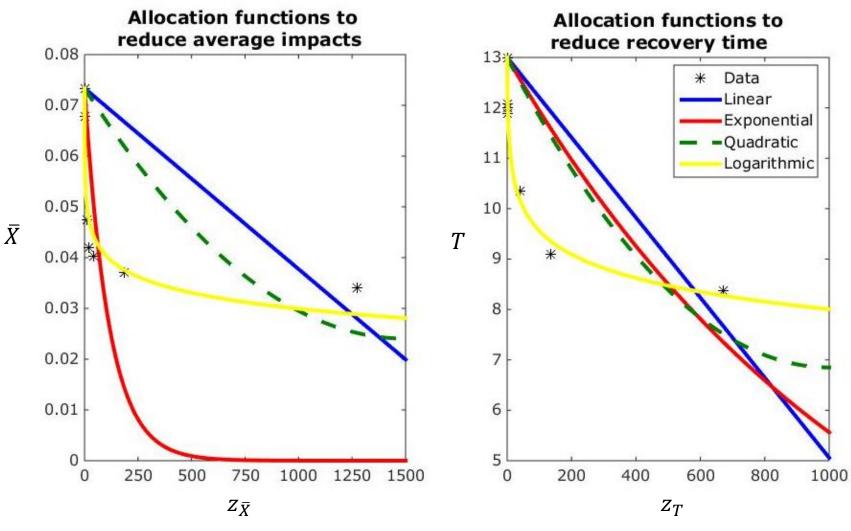
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# Resilience in terms of customers and duration

Allocation function	Allo- cation to increase hard- ness (\$ million)	Allo- cation to improve recovery (\$ million)	Resi- lience	Average number of custo- mers without power	Duration (days)
No efforts			0.963	232,000	13
Linear	0	1000	0.986	232,000	5.1
Exponential	1000	0	1.000	36	13
Quadratic	762	238	0.986	114,000	10.4
Logarithmic	648	352	0.989	101,000	8.7

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## Best fit for allocation functions



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## What if logarithmic is wrong?

Allocation function	logarith	otimal alloc mic function nd $z_T = $35$ Ave- rage custo- mers without power	on ( $z_{\overline{X}}$ =	Optimal resi- lience	Ave- rage custo- mers with-out power	Du- ration (days)
Logarith	0.989	101,000	8.7			
Linear	0.980	159,000	10.2	0.986	232,000	5.1
Expon	1.000	36	13	1.000	36	13
Quadratic	0.986	114,000	10.4	0.989	101,000	8.7

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## **Recommendations for ConEdison**

- Logarithmic allocation function seems most appropriate
  - Approximates data well
  - Allocation performs well even if another function is correct
- Allocate between 50 and 65% of budget to reduce number of customers who lose power and 35 to 50% to improve recovery

# Conclusions

- Assumptions impact optimal allocation
  - Linear or exponential allocation function with certainty → allocate entire budget to reduce one factor
  - Quadratic or logarithmic  $\rightarrow$  may allocate to reduce both factors
- Heuristics
  - Focus resources on small initial value and large effectiveness
  - Uncertainty: divide resources approximately equal manner if marginal benefits decrease rapidly
- Future work
  - Apply allocation model to specific projects
  - Resources can improve both factors simultaneously

MacKenzie, C.A., & Zobel, C.W. (2015). Allocating resources to enhance resilience, with application to the electric power network. *Risk Analysis*. In press. DOI: 10.1111/risa.12479

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