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Objective Resilience

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Objective Resilience

Objective Processes

Sponsored by the
Objective Resilience Committee of the
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Mohammed M. Ettouney, Ph.D., P.E.



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DEDICATION

This objective resilience manual of practice is dedicated to the essential workers who are exposed daily to the dangers of the COVID-19 pandemic. Included among the many groups of workers are the following: healthcare personnel, first responders, public safety officers, correction facility workers, food and agriculture, grocery store workers, teachers, US postal service workers, public transit workers, and many more people who work tirelessly to maintain a sense of normalcy in these unprecedented times.

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CONTENTS

BLUE RIBBON PANEL	xiii
AUTHORS	xvii
PREFACE	xxi
INTRODUCTION.....	xxiii
1. UNCERTAINTY QUANTIFICATION IN OBJECTIVE RESILIENCE	1
<i>George Deodatis</i>	
1.1 Introduction.....	1
1.2 Monte Carlo Simulation.....	2
1.3 Spectral Representation Method	3
1.4 Recommended Practices and Examples.....	8
References.....	13
2. RELIABILITY AND RESILIENCE MODELING AND QUANTIFICATION	17
<i>Elsayed A. Elsayed, Yao Cheng, Xi Chen</i>	
2.1 Introduction.....	17
2.2 Multi Hazards	21
2.3 System Resilience.....	26
2.4 System Recovery	37
2.5 Illustrative Example	44
2.6 Application of Resilience in Different Fields.....	52
2.7 Summary.....	53
2.8 Recommendations	54

Bibliography.....	54
References.....	73
3. FROM SUSTAINABILITY TO RESILIENCE: A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO ENVISION	81
<i>Fariborz M. Tehrani, Denise Nelson</i>	
3.1 Introduction.....	81
3.2 Resilience through Sustainability.....	89
3.3 Applications	108
3.4 Implementation.....	111
3.5 Conclusions	116
3.6 Recommendations	117
Bibliography.....	118
References.....	122
4. QUANTITATIVE MODELS FOR INTERDEPENDENT FUNCTIONALITY AND RECOVERY OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE SYSTEMS.....	127
<i>Wenjuan Sun, Paolo Bocchini, Brian D. Davison</i>	
4.1 Introduction.....	127
4.2 Fundamental Concepts and Background.....	129
4.3 Contemporary Practical Models for Dependency and Interdependency	135
4.4 Application of the Interdependency Model in Community Resilience Assessment	187
4.5 Discussion.....	204
4.6 Recommended Practice.....	205
4.7 Concluding Remarks.....	206
Acknowledgments	207
References.....	207
5. MACHINE LEARNING: THE ROLE OF MACHINES FOR RESILIENT COMMUNITIES	231
<i>Omar Kammouh, Gian Paolo Cimellaro</i>	
5.1 Introduction.....	231
5.2 Model Identification.....	235
5.3 Emergency Detection	238
5.4 Solution Generation and Decision Making.....	243
5.5 Discussion and Conclusions	245
5.6 Recommendations	247
Acknowledgments	247
References.....	248

6. TOWARD CITY RESILIENCE: COMPLEX SYSTEMS' RESILIENCE, INTERDEPENDENCE, AND SIMULATION	253
<i>May Haggag, Mohamed Ezzeldin, Wael El-Dakhakhni</i>	
6.1 Extreme Events: Types, Causes, and Consequences.....	253
6.2 System Resilience: Importance and Characteristics	255
6.3 The Concept of Resilience	256
6.4 Resilience, Risk, and Vulnerability.....	259
6.5 Resilience Quantification.....	261
6.6 Infrastructure Systems: Definitions and Interdependence	262
6.7 Resilient Infrastructure System Modeling and Simulation	264
6.8 Chapter Best Practices and Takeaways.....	273
References	274
7. COMMUNITY RESILIENCE LIFELINE SYSTEMS METHODOLOGY	283
<i>Zackary Kennett, Milagros Nanita-Kennett</i>	
7.1 Introduction.....	283
7.2 FEMA Resilience Framework.....	285
7.3 Community Resilience Lifeline Systems Methodology	288
7.4 Methodology Approach.....	311
7.5 Examples	326
7.6 Conclusion	330
Acknowledgments	337
References	337
INDEX	339

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PREFACE

Engineering is a balance between analysis and design. Objectivity forms, mostly, the basis of mathematics and science, which form, mostly, the basis of analysis. Subjectivity forms, mostly, the basis of art, intuition, and imagination, which form, mostly, the basis of design (see [Figure 1](#)). Achieving a proper balance between subjectivity and objectivity during

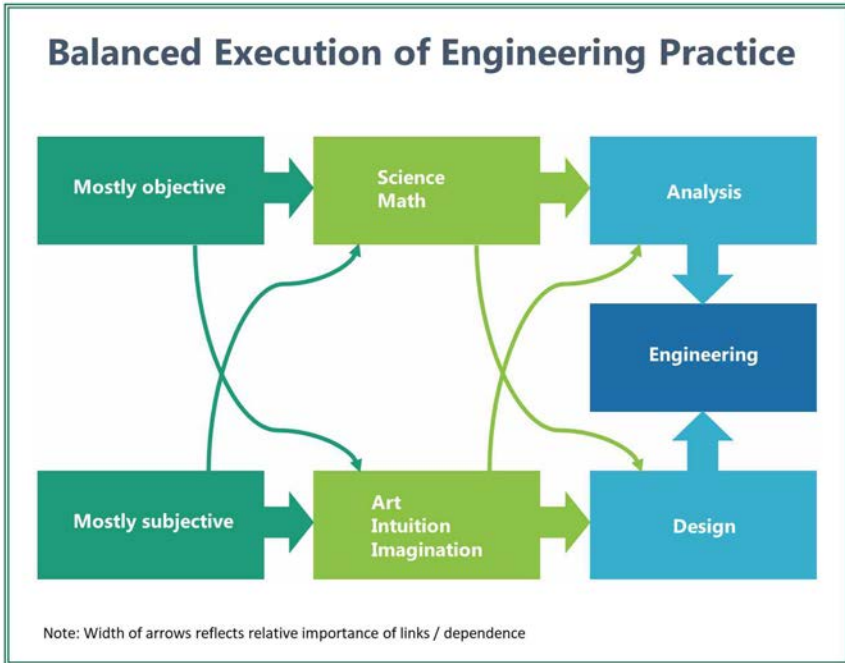


Figure 1. *Balanced Execution of Engineering Practice.*

the engineering process will ensure an optimal product. This is true especially for complex products that have multitudes of different types of components. Admittedly, community and asset resilience is a complex issue, and as such dealing with it from the engineering viewpoint will require a proper balance between objective and subjective processing.

The Objective Resilience Committee (ORC) of the Engineering Mechanics Institute (EMI) of ASCE was formed in 2015 to help achieve a balanced resilience treatment, especially from an objective viewpoint. Soon after its formation, the ORC initiated the development of an Objective Resilience Manual of Practice (OR-MOP) in 2016. The main objective of the OR-MOP is to provide a comprehensive basis of recommended practices that can help enhance community and asset resilience, while emphasizing the objective side of such practices. The developers of the OR-MOP quickly realized that because of the wide-ranging extent of community and asset resilience, the OR-MOP needed to split its focus into four basic categories: (1) Policies and Strategies, (2) Objective Processes, (3) Technology, and (4) Applications.

This book examines objective processes related to community and asset resilience. It aims at providing a comprehensive set of practices, after presenting and discussing the basis for those practices. It is recognized that this OR-MOP is limited, given the limiting factors of space and time, especially in view of the aforementioned wide-range extent of resilience. However, the developers hope that the OR-MOP can be used as a guide in developing additional MOPs that would address additional aspects of resilience.

The development of the OR-MOP took almost five years. Many worked tirelessly on this project. This includes the authors of the contributing chapters, the external Blue Ribbon Panel, which independently reviewed the manuscript, and the ASCE Publications editors who provided valuable insights and feedback. Special thanks to Dr. Amar Chaker, the EMI director, for his efforts and help, without which this OR-MOP could not have been possible.

*Mohammed M. Ettouney, Ph.D., P.E., F.AEI, Dist.M.ASCE
February 2021. West New York, New Jersey*

INTRODUCTION

There are several popular definitions for resilience, including NIAC (2009), NSC (2011), or Office of the Press Secretary (2013). For example, NIAC (2009), defines infrastructure resilience as follows:

Infrastructure resilience is the ability to reduce the magnitude and/or duration of disruptive events. The effectiveness of a resilient infrastructure or enterprise depends upon its ability to anticipate, absorb, adapt to, and/or rapidly recover from a potentially disruptive event.

As defined, resilience represents a major issue for society, given the magnitude of disaster costs of different kinds. Recognizing the needs of society to build and sustain resilient assets and communities, stakeholders (for example, federal, state, and local officials, business owners, professionals, educators, and researchers) devoted considerable effort, time, and expense examining asset and community resilience. Given the wide range of factors that affects resilience, knowledge gaps of the subject are still significant. Similar to most important topics, treatment, handling, and communicating resilience-related matters started with a subjective basis. Objective developments lagged behind their subjective counterparts; however, these developments have been gaining momentum in the last few years. One primary reason for the elevated interest in resilience-related objective processes is that without adequate objectivity, it will remain difficult to provide optimal policies and strategies that aim at delivering practical asset and community resilience at reasonable costs.

Recognizing the need for comprehensive and practical objective views of asset and community resilience, the Objective Resilience Committee (ORC) of the Engineering Mechanics Institute (EMI) ASCE embarked on developing an Objective Resilience Manual of Practice (OR-MOP). The

MOPs of ASCE aim at providing discussions, overviews, developments, and/or best practices concerning different topics. To better attain the stated goals, the OR-MOP endeavors to explore and discuss some of the many issues regarding objective resilience. The OR-MOP also strives to provide best practices sections in all the resilience-related subjects it covers. The OR-MOP attempts to address the intersection of three different areas: resilience (*Re*), civil infrastructure (*CI*), and objective processes (*OP*) (Figure 1). In a set-theory formalism, we can express OR-MOP as follows:

$$\text{OR-MOP} \equiv Re \cap CI \cap OP \quad (1)$$

Owing to the different nature of the chapters of the OR-MOP, we expect that the extent of their treatment of *OP* would vary.

To cast as wide a net for resilience-related objective issues as possible, which is not an easy task in itself, the OR-MOP is subdivided into four books. Each book examines objective resilience from different viewpoints. Figure 2 illustrates the general subjects of the four books.

Providing for resilient assets and communities requires multitudes of types of objective processes. These objective processes are the focus of this book. In particular, we are interested in two resilience objective attributes:

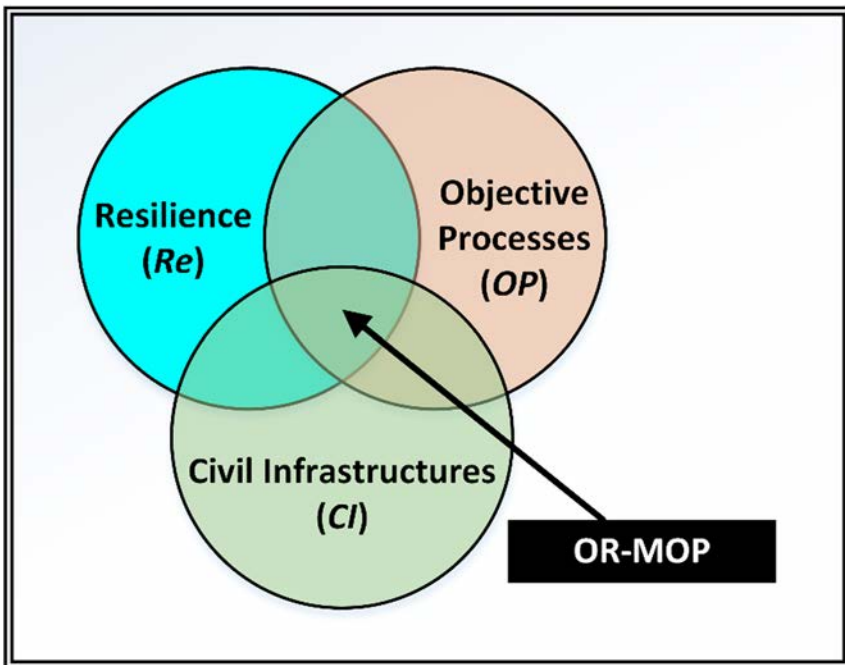


Figure 1. Confluence of domains of the OR-MOP.



Figure 2. Composition of the OR-MOP.

uncertainties and complexity. Recognizing this, the chapters of this book address these two attributes from different perspectives. Chapter 1 offers comprehensive discussions of different methods that address uncertainties of resilience and its components. Chapter 2 explores the relationships between resilience and reliability while highlighting the fact that reliability is a subset of resilience. Similarly, Chapter 3 provides a comparison between resilience and sustainability. The chapter argues that resilience and sustainability, although having several similarities, are different paradigms that need different treatments. Chapters 4 through 7 offer discussions of resilience complex modeling techniques. Chapter 4 studies the interdependent functionality and recovery. Chapter 5 looks at applying the emerging machine learning processes to objective treatment of resilience. Chapter 6 offers an objective application for achieving resilient cities. Finally, Chapter 7 describes a new method for resilience assessment of regions via considerations of their lifeline systems. All chapters propose

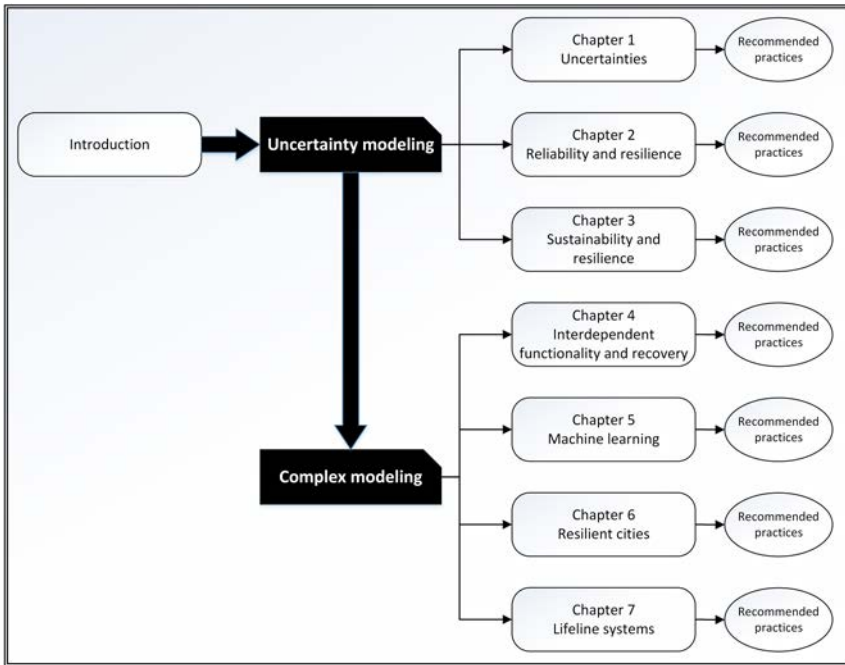


Figure 3. Map of this book (objective processes).

a set of recommended practices at the conclusion of each chapter. See Figure 3 for a map of the organization of the book.

The intended readers of this OR-MOP include all civil infrastructure stakeholders, who may broadly include the following:

- Public and private civil infrastructure organizations (transportation, water resources, bridges, healthcare);
- City, county, and state officials;
- Emergency managers;
- Public safety personnel;
- Facility managers;
- Security consultants;
- Engineers, architects, and other design professionals;
- Educators; and
- Researchers.

Although a wide range of objective complexities are covered in the chapters, a deep knowledge of these objective topics is not required to achieve familiarity and benefit from the content. For readers who may not have the time to go in depth into each subject matter, it is suggested that they initially become familiar with the “recommended practices” at the

end of each chapter. Each reader can then look at the chapter in depth to learn the reasonings/sources of these recommended practices.

Note that ASCE Manuals of Practice (MOPs) are developed by ASCE technical committees, such as the ORC, under the direction of an ASCE sponsor such as the Engineering Mechanics Institute (EMI). The distinguishing characteristic of an MOP, including this one, is that each one undergoes a peer review by a Blue Ribbon Panel of experts before final approval is sought from the appropriate executive committee. Thus, the peer review by the Blue Ribbon Panel gives added weight to the MOP.

Mohammed M. Ettouney, Ph.D., P.E., F.AEI, Dist.M.ASCE

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CHAPTER 1

UNCERTAINTY QUANTIFICATION IN OBJECTIVE RESILIENCE

George Deodatis

1.1 INTRODUCTION

Uncertainties are extremely common when studying the civil infrastructure. Civil engineering infrastructure systems exhibit uncertainties as we do not know their various properties (e.g., strength) with sufficient accuracy. To complicate the problem further, these system properties are not constant in time, because the civil infrastructure undergoes continuous aging and deterioration. Furthermore, the excitations/loads acting on structures involve a high degree of uncertainty, especially in cases of extreme disturbances (e.g., natural and technological hazards).

The natural consequence of all these uncertainties is the introduction of risk. Resilience is intimately related to risk, as it is, in general, considered to be a subset of risk. As resilience is, in general, dealing with the time necessary for an infrastructure system to return to an acceptable operational state following a disturbance of its operation, it becomes immediately clear that all the aforementioned sources of uncertainty play an importance role in resilience. This chapter mentions that resilience is directly connected to the commonly known 4Rs: robustness, resourcefulness, recovery, and redundancy. All 4Rs exhibit various degrees of uncertainty.

Virtually every chapter in this manual of practice makes reference directly or indirectly to the various uncertainties involved in the problem of resilience and provides guidance on how to account for them.

The chapter on “Quantitative Models for Interdependent Functionality and Recovery of Critical Infrastructure Systems” makes reference to the random dependence of failures of different infrastructure components and to discrete-event simulation models such as fault tree analysis and event