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Work Unit 4.1: Projection of evacuation zones under climate change

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General Methodology for the Work Unit



Evacuation Zoning in the Literature vs. Our Methodology

-We emphasize the idea of figuring out how long the roads will maintain their full capacity and safely and efficiently evacuating people under full capacity (by developing **capacity profiles**), rather than solely calculating how long it will take to evacuate a certain percentage of the population (by developing **response curves**). Studies such as *Schnebele et al. (2013)* assessed road damage after Sandy in NYC but not in combination with evacuation simulation models. Some studies such as *Fonseca et al. (2013*), *Edara et al. (2010*), *Robinson et al. (2008)* investigated impacts of incidents on evacuation time based on simulation of incident occurrence.

-We adjust our macroscopic evacuation simulation model parameters to account for stormrelated incidents due to not only storm surge but also **climate change**, and then use our model results to make recommendations for future updates to the evacuation zones and evacuation process In the literature, **SLOSH** maps are used as the basis of determining the evacuation zones.

-We utilize **actual incident records** to evaluate existing zoning as well as to plan for the future storms and efficiently manage the emergency evacuation process.







Main Collaboration with SBU

- Get storm specific, time-dependent sea level data (=water level + tide + storm surge +climate change effects)
- Below is an example of SBU data (**predicted** from a surge model, driven by a tidal model and a best-prediction hindcast of the winds and air pressure for the storm, Sandy in this case):









How to Utilize SBU Database

- Compare this **time-dependent** data with NWS's SLOSH maps which are the basis for the current evacuation zones
- Combine this data with actual incident data collected by TRANSCOM for Sandy (shown below):



How to Utilize SBU Database (2)

- Using the combination of SBU data with actual incident database from TRANSCOM => Prepare Capacity Profiles for major links in the transportation system
- Below is a hypothetical example of a Capacity Profile for a certain road for certain storm and risk factors for a certain geographic region (e.g. LA vs NY=> an evacuation notice of 50 hours, staged as 50,40,30 hrs, vs 24 hours):



We need to note:

-when does capacity loss start?
-when does the hurricane make a landfall?
-when does capacity recovery start?







Time-Dependent Capacity Profiles (More Realistic Example)



Future Work: How to Utilize Developed Storm Dependent Capacity Profiles

- Determination of **non-viable links** and adjusting evacuation model parameters accordingly in WU1.2
- Comparison of the effectiveness of the storm specific zone determination methodology based on the evacuation times estimated using the "proposed methodology in WU1.2"
- Determination of the **most vulnerable evacuation zones** in terms of the functionality of the transportation system
- **Phasing** of evacuation warnings (based on the knowledge of how long the full capacity will be maintained on major roads in critical areas) for future storm **Emergency Planning** efforts
- Based on the storm-specific information from SBU, Near Real-Time Adjustment of Evacuation Zones as shown in the General Methodology flowchart on Slide#2







How to Utilize Incident Models for Developing Capacity Profiles (A Realistic Example)



Step 1: Generate incidents in evacuation routes from incident frequency models







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Thank You!