



Vulnerability, Uncertainty, and Risk

ANALYSIS, MODELING, AND MANAGEMENT

Proceedings of the
ICVRAM 2011 and ISUMA 2011 Conferences

Edited by
Bilal M. Ayyub, Ph.D., P.E.

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VULNERABILITY, UNCERTAINTY, AND RISK

ANALYSIS, MODELING, AND MANAGEMENT

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
VULNERABILITY AND RISK ANALYSIS AND MANAGEMENT (ICVRAM 2011)
AND THE FIFTH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON UNCERTAINTY MODELING
AND ANALYSIS (ISUMA 2011)

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EDITED BY
Bilal M. Ayyub, Ph.D., P.E., F. ASCE

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Preface

In recent years, significant advances have been made in the areas of risk, vulnerability and uncertainty modeling, analysis and management. The joint International Conference on Vulnerability and Risk Analysis and Management (ICVRAM) and International Symposium on Uncertainty Modeling and Analysis (ISUMA) provided a forum for experts and decision makers involved in vulnerability and risk analysis and management to share information on current and emerging hazards and research results affecting the built environment with means for an appropriate consideration of uncertainty. ISUMA complemented ICVRAM by providing in-depth coverage on uncertainty modeling and analysis that would offer opportunities for cross-pollination. As we make advancements in technology, exploit resources, and step into new realms of human endeavors, we are exposed to new hazards. The novelty of the situation with its attendant uncertainties can pose a challenging situation for experts and decision makers charged with providing technical assistance and policy recommendations. The proceedings of this joint conference contribute towards the transitioning of intellectual discussions into robust frameworks for handling emerging vulnerabilities and risks, and providing analytical bases to prepare for national and international disasters.

The first International Conference on Vulnerability and Risk Analysis and Management was initiated and sponsored by the Council on Disaster Risk Management (CDRM) of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE). This conference was held April 11-13, 2011 at the Marriott Inn & Conference Center of the University of Maryland University College, Hyattsville, Maryland, USA.

All papers in the proceedings were subjected to peer review by qualified engineers or academics working or teaching in fields relating to the paper. This effort by the many reviewers is truly appreciated. Hundreds of hours were volunteered to produce the proceedings. The work of the International Program Committee is indeed noteworthy for its excellence and support throughout the development of the program and the proceedings, particularly Professor Nii Attoh-Okine, Professor William McGill, Professor Qingbin Cui, and Dr. Scott Ferson.

The efforts of the Conference Department and Technical Activities Committee of ASCE, particularly Ms. Barbara Hickman and Ms. Catherine Tehan, are acknowledged for providing much of the conference preparation including scheduling, accommodations, local tours, and the conference program. The University of Maryland, College Park campus provided student helpers for the paper presentations. Special thanks to Ms. Che-yu Chang for her help and support in making this conference successful.

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