

New Multi-Hazard and Multi-Risk Assessment Methods for Europe (MATRIX) project

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OSCE Workshop “Sharing Best practices to Protect Electricity Networks from Natural Disaster”
Vienna, Austria, 2nd July, 2014

Multi-type interactions (1)

At the hazard level, multi-type interactions include:

- An initial event triggering (cascade, domino) other (possibly worse) events.
e.g., earthquakes and tsunamis.

2011 Tōhoku earthquake and tsunami (Wikipedia)



- Simultaneous or near-simultaneous unrelated events.
e.g., an earthquake and major storms.

- An event may lead to the increased likelihood of another.
e.g., heavy rains and landslides,
drought and wildfires.

2009 Victoria bushfire (Wikipedia)



Multi-type interactions (2)

Multi-type assessments also need to confront the dynamics of hazards.

Of these, climate change is perhaps the most obvious, especially extreme events.

e.g., the effect increased frequency and length of droughts have on hydro- (no water) and nuclear (cooling problems) power.



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Multi-type interactions (3)

On the vulnerability level, multi-type interactions have an effect on the physical, social and economic sectors.

- Variety of exposed elements (e.g., population, buildings etc.). Each target has a different vulnerability to different hazards, hence requiring their own prevention and coping strategies.
- On the physical level, a given event increases the vulnerability of a system to future events.

e.g., earthquakes weaken buildings, increasing their vulnerability to future earthquakes or other hazards (e.g., windstorms).

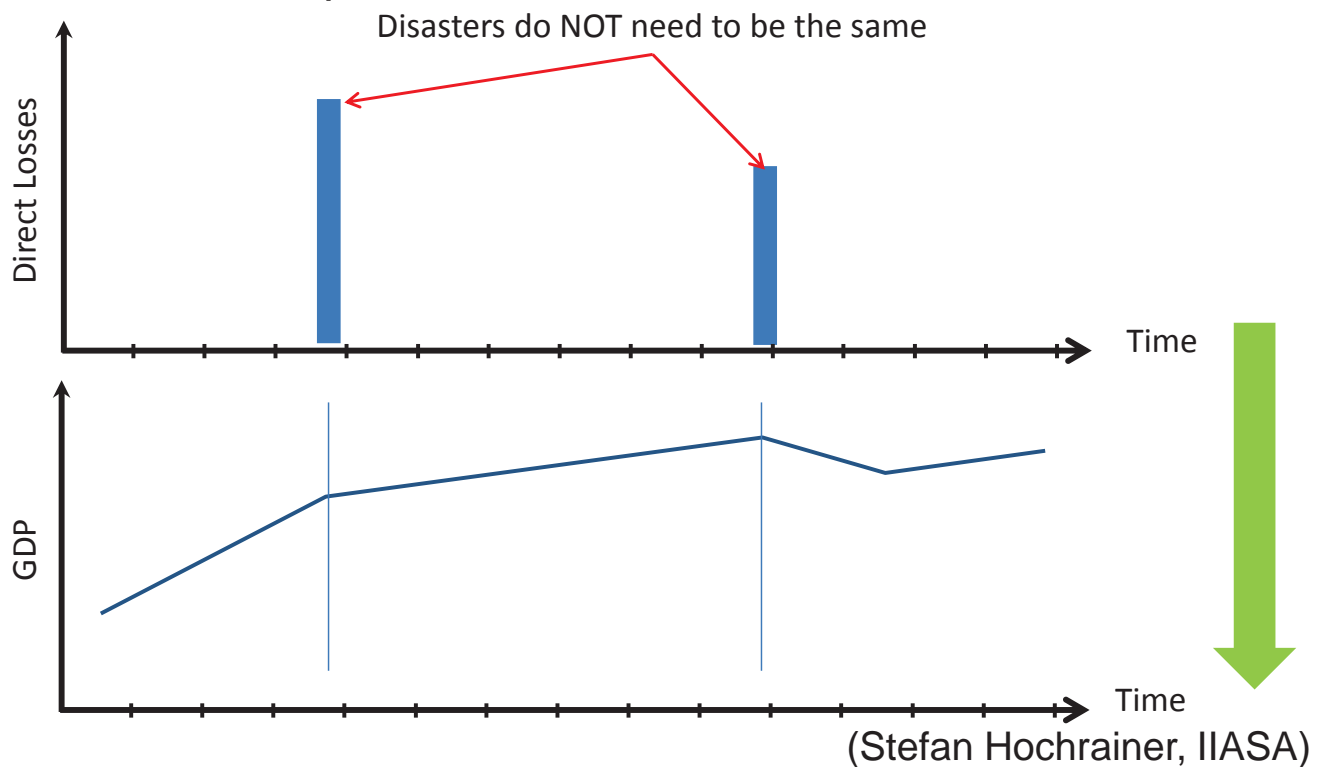
Baptist Church after the 2010 Canterbury earthquake, later destroyed in an aftershock (Wikipedia)



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Multi-type interactions (4)

- On the social-economic level, a population may have the resources to cope with 1 disaster, but not more.



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Multi-type interactions (5)

On the exposure level, interactions include changes in the extent and nature of human populations.

e.g., expansion of mega-cities, rural depopulation.



Istanbul (Wikipedia)



Abandoned rural building,
Russia (Wikipedia)

These may also act back onto the hazard and vulnerability levels.

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Multi-type interactions (6)

A multi-hazard and risk perspective needs to also consider how mitigating one risk may affect others.

e.g., In Kobe, Japan, older buildings with heavy roofs were fine for annual typhoons BUT not so for much rarer earthquakes.



Destroyed houses, Kobe, Japan, 1995 (Wikipedia)

e.g., In drought affected areas of Iran, government assistance tended to benefit the richer farmers.

This led to them modernizing their farms, reducing their need to employ poorer farmers who were denied this source of income, hence further exasperating their troubles.

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Some problems with multi-type frameworks

- Comparability of hazardous events with each other.
Different return periods, effects, measures of intensity, extent.
- Comparison of the vulnerability of exposed elements, different measures of vulnerability.
- Different metrics for different end-users, different hazards.
- Weighting the relevance of hazards or exposed elements.
Conflicting views between decision makers/stakeholders.
- Accounting for difficulties in collecting data, information, and knowledge in a coherent and easily accessible way.
Includes harmonizing data from single-risk assessments.

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The “New Multi-Hazard and Multi-Risk Assessment Methods for Europe” project

MATRIX was a FP7 Collaborative project under the Environment theme “New Methodologies for multi-hazard and multi-risk assessment”.

Coordinated by Prof. Dr. Jochen Zschau of GFZ.

- 12 partners
- 10 countries (including Canada)
- 10 research institutions
- 1 end-user (DKKV, Germany)
- 1 industry (Aspinall, UK)

MATRIX ran from the 1st October 2010 to 31st December 2013

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Core objective of MATRIX

“to develop methods and tools to tackle multiple natural hazards in a common framework “

Develop new methodologies for multi-type hazard and risk assessment

Compare new multi-type methods with state-of-the-art probabilistic single-risk analysis.

Establish an IT framework for test case analysis within a multi-risk environment

Disseminate the results to multiple communities

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Hazards of interest

The “usual suspects” for Europe.

→ Earthquakes

→ Landslides

→ Volcanic eruptions

Tsunamis

→ Wildfires

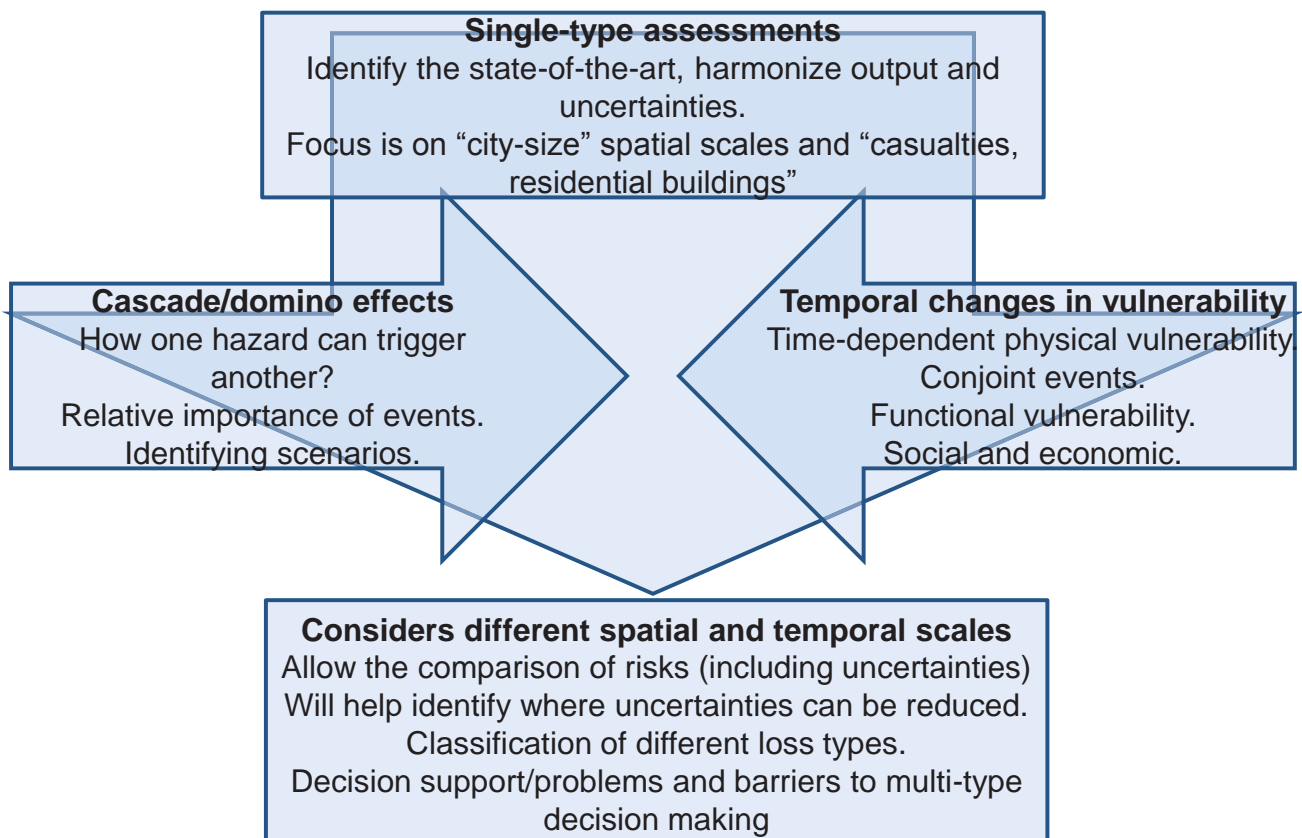
→ Winter storms

Cold and heat waves

→ Fluvial and coastal flooding

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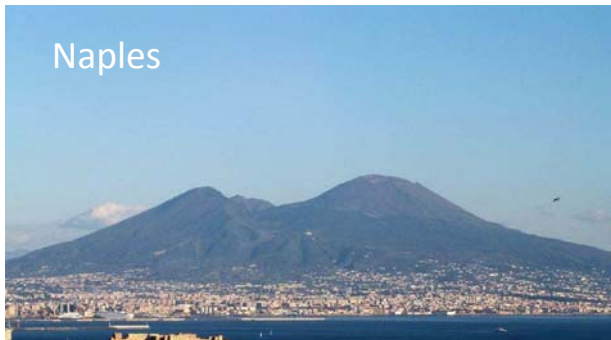
General work scheme



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MATRIX Test Cases

The new methodologies will be evaluated at three test cases

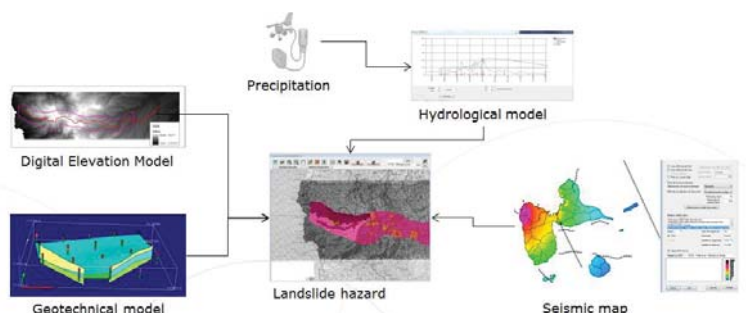
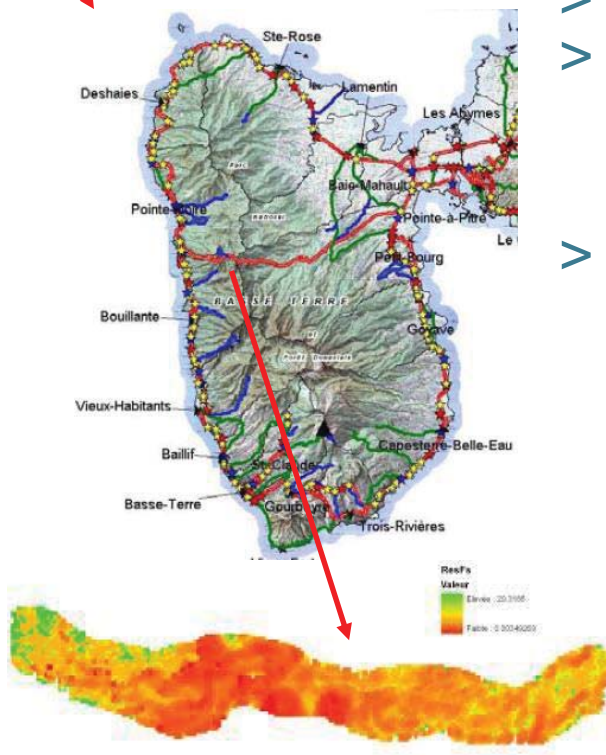


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Scenario for Guadeloupe



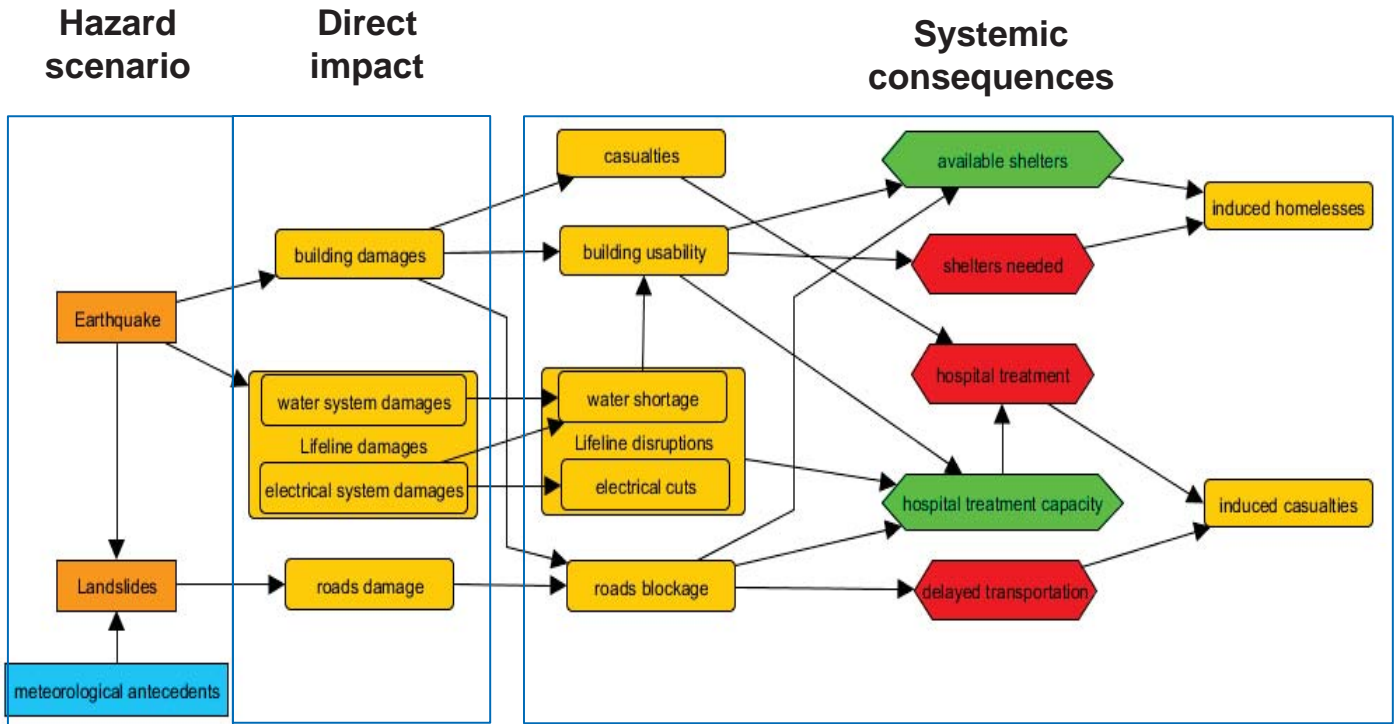
- > An earthquake occurs
- > Due to meteorological conditions, the earthquake causes landslides in mountainous areas, potentially affecting road network
- > Focus on the RD23 due to its importance:



(Nicolas Desramaut, BRGM)

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General Approach

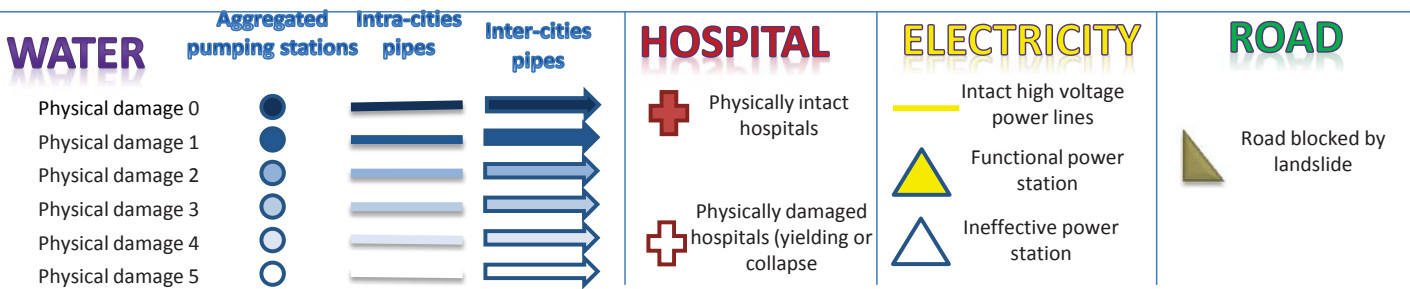
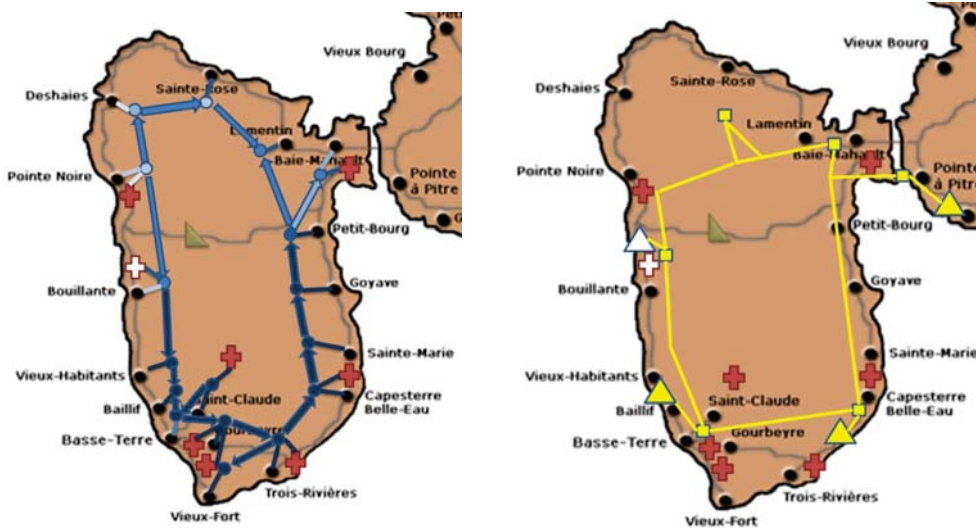


(Daniel Monfort, BRGM)

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Effect on lifelines



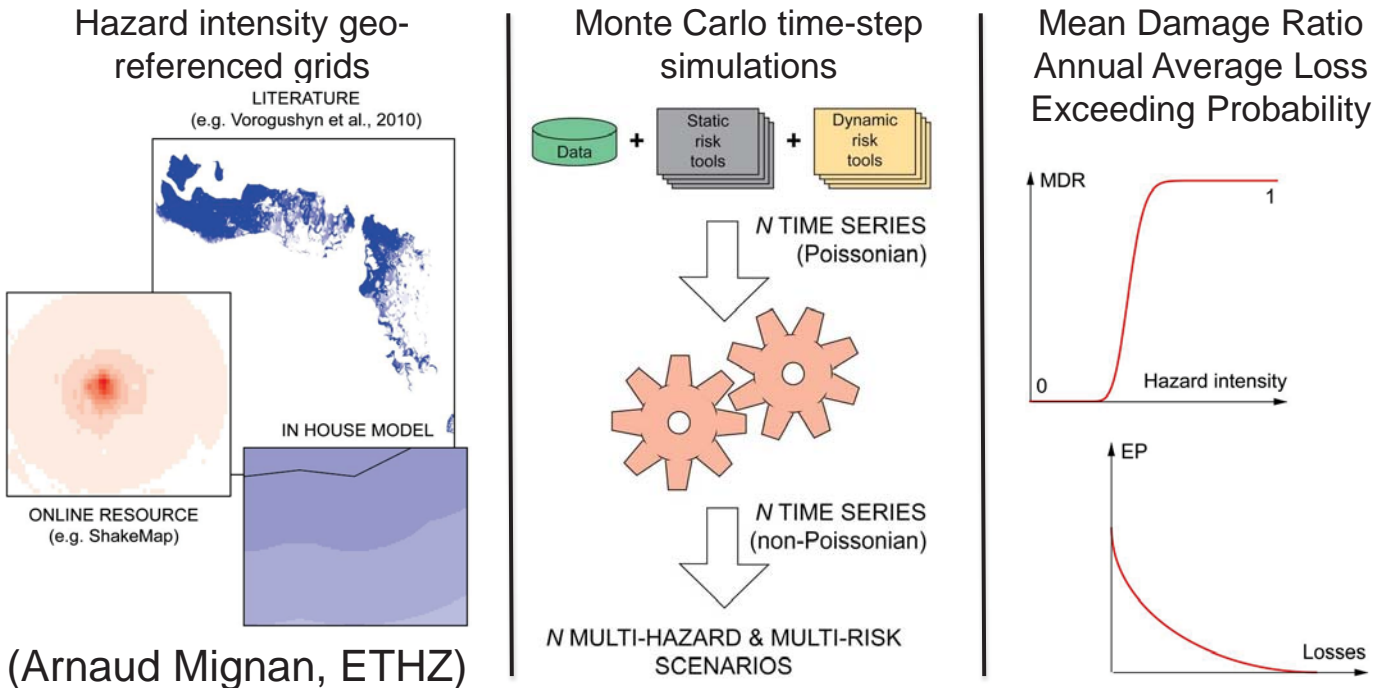
(Daniel Monfort, BRGM)

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“MATRIX-CITY” IT Platform

- Implement common data models, data exchange procedures (harmonization) and hazard and risk calculations.
- Modules act as black boxes.
- Visualization.

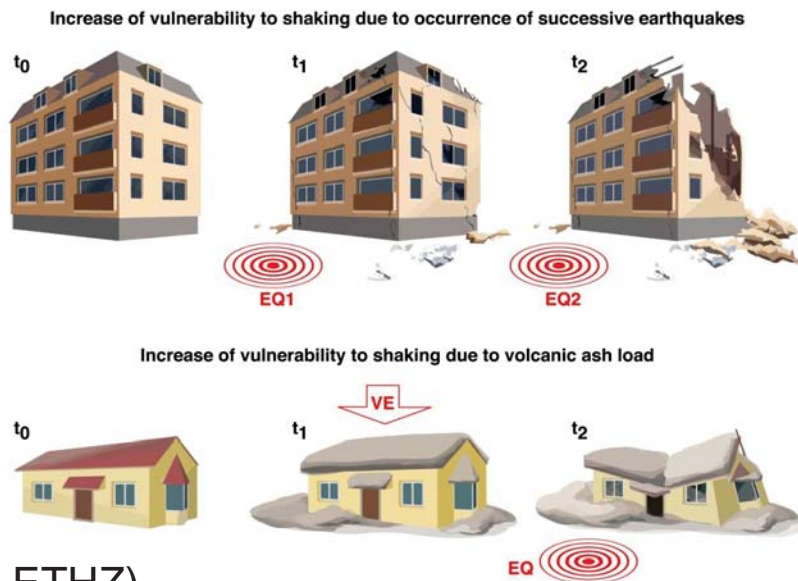


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“MATRIX-CITY” IT Platform

MULTI-HAZARD + MULTI-RISK = DYNAMIC RISK FRAMEWORK

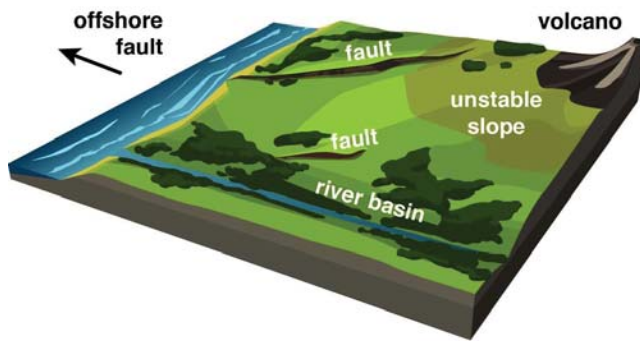
1. Event interactions, cascade effects
2. Time-dependent exposure (related to clustering of events)
3. Time-dependent vulnerability (related to clustering of events)



(Arnaud Mignan, ETHZ)

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“Virtual City”



Concept of “**Virtual City**”: From abstract concepts to a simplified reality

- Playground for multi-risk testing
- Controlled environment
- Blueprint for site-specific analyses

Examples of perils considered

AI: Asteroid impact

EQ: Earthquake

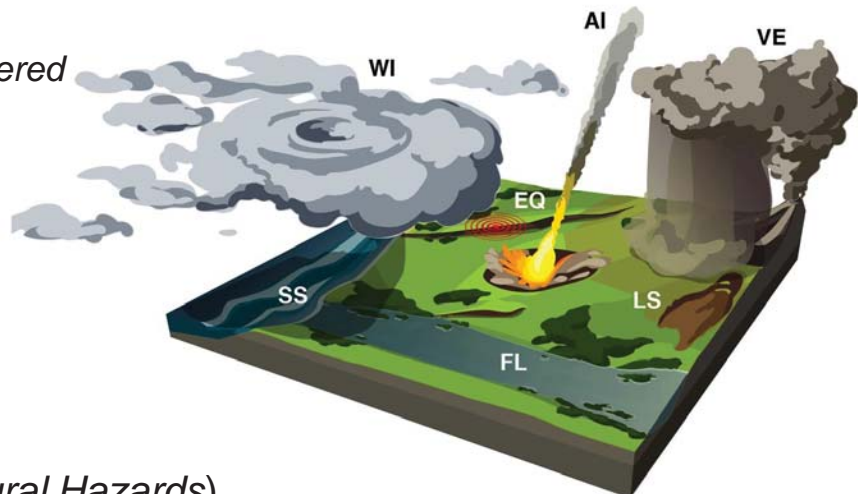
FL: Fluvial flood

LS: Landslide

SS: Sea submersion

VE: Volcanic eruption

WI: Wind



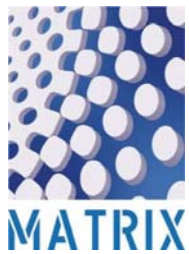
(Mignan et al., 2014, *Natural Hazards*)

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Some “long way to go” statements

- Terminology is still something of an issue.
e.g., do all experts use the “same language”.
- Question of uncertainties are still unresolved.
 - How to deal with them technically/scientifically?
 - How to communicate them not only to professionals but to the broader community.
 - How could uncertainties influence decision making?
 - Is there willingness to spend money to reduce uncertainty?
(cost effectiveness of acquiring additional information)
- Multi-hazard and risk assessment is very difficult BUT I believe we have no choice, but to eventually adopt such a approach to properly deal with the complexities of hazards and risks.

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MATRIX began on 1.10.2010, and ran until 31.12.2013.

MATRIX website

<http://matrix.gpi.kit.edu/>

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GFZ German Research Centre for Geosciences