

Local Resilience of Community Water Systems and Severe Weather Patterns

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Roadmap of Discussion

- Abstract
- Acknowledgements
- Outline
- Methodology
- Results
- Summary

Abstract

Natural disasters and changing patterns of severe weather events are presenting mounting challenges for communities who need to define and agree upon a resilience plan.

To respond to this need, an on-line decision support system tool for deliberative risk ranking was tested on the Community Water Systems of two coastal communities in the US. This tool, by breaking down the risk ranking process into phases, reconciles local experiences with recorded hazard scenarios.

Water system risks defined and prioritized qualitatively in a first phase, are recursively compared to the effects that past local hazards had on the local community. The process enables communities to prepare for climatologically induced changes and to prioritize the actions they can take locally to protect valuable systems and resources.

Acknowledgements

- Vulnerability Assessment Support System:
 - Brent Yarnal, Penn State University
 - Peter Howe, QCNR-Utah State University
- Semantic Vulnerability Upper Model:
 - Chunn-kit Ngan, Penn State
 - Antonio De Nicola, ENEA –Italy
- Supported by:
 - NOAA 's Climate Program Office
 - SM Resources
 - Syneren Technologies Corp

Outline

➤ Focus Group Methodology

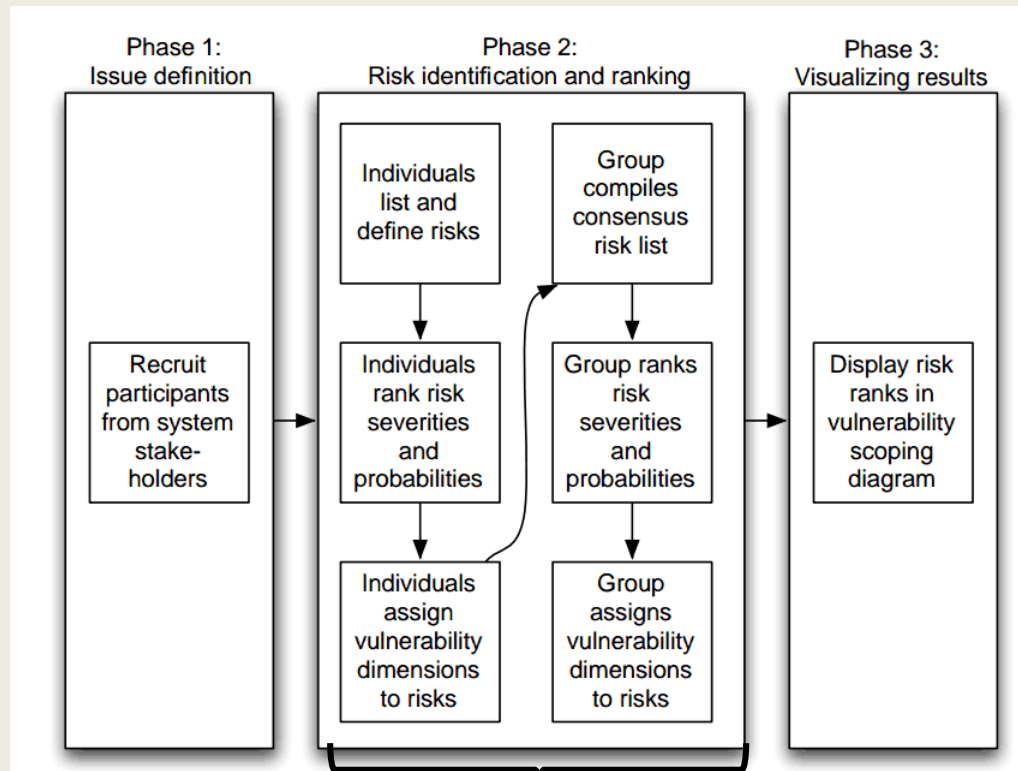
➤ Vulnerability Assessment Experiment

➤ Process Model Quality Parameters
(complete, transferrable, verifiable)

➤ CWS Risks in Relation to Weather and
Climate

➤ Vulnerability Assessment Collaborative
Environment: Key features of fact based
decision making

Focus Group Methodology



Hurricane disrupts water distribution system and ability to deliver water to end user	Sensitivity	Very Low (likely every 11-100 years)
Natural hazard causes damage to well-head and affects ability to obtain sufficient raw water supply	Exposure	Very Low (likely every 11-100 years)
Natural hazard interrupts water distribution system and delivery of water to end user	Sensitivity	Frequency of Occurrence

Focus Group Output

Risks are prioritized according to:

- Probability
- Severity



Probability and Severity provide transferrable information on local experiences.

Risks are categorized by vulnerability dimensions

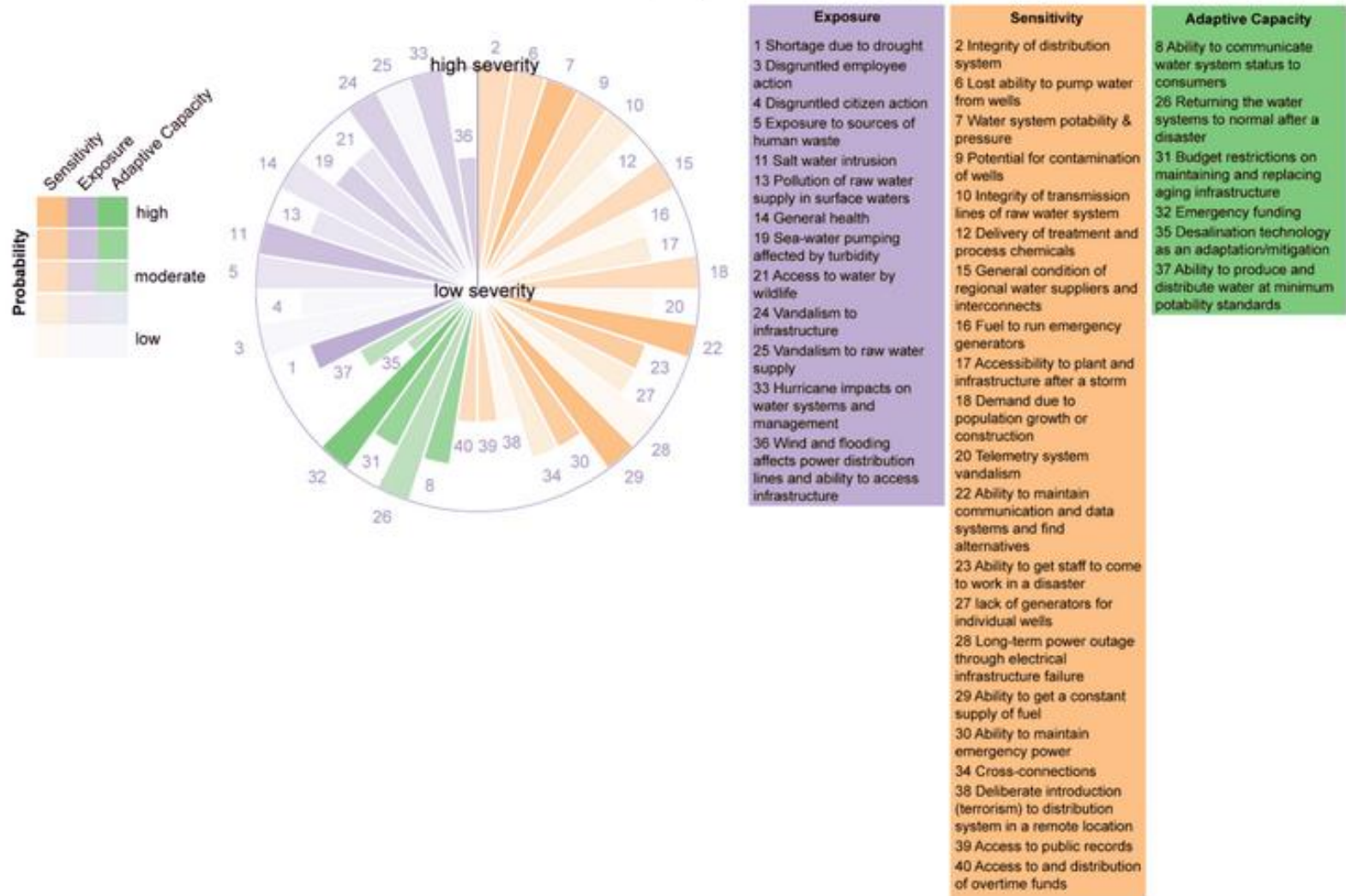
- Exposure
- Sensitivity
- Adaptive Capacity



Vulnerability dimensions facilitate the compilation of a complete list of risks by the focus group and describe how risks are perceived.

Scoping Diagram (P-VSD)

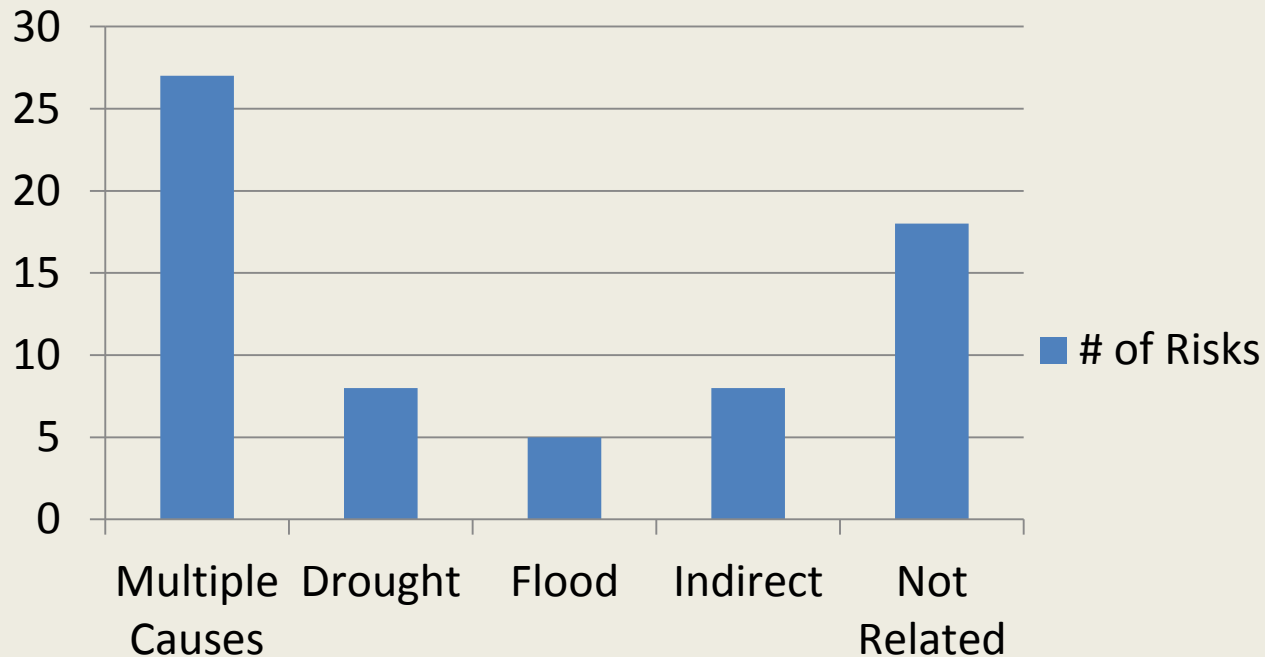
County A (U.S. Gulf Coast)



Risks in Relation to Severe Weather

Weather accounts for 2/3 of the vulnerabilities to community water systems

Total Risk Factors 66



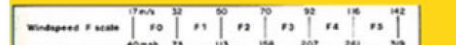
Data Output Visualization

Vulnerability Assessment Support System

Home Scope Input Risks(TBS) Risks and Severities
 Hazards Analysis Hazards View Risk-Hazard Match Risk-Hazard View
 Generate Report Other Sources Help FAQ

History of Local Hazards

Prioritize by:
 Date Type Severity N. Deaths (n.) Injuries (n.)
 Losses (\$) Crop Damage (\$)

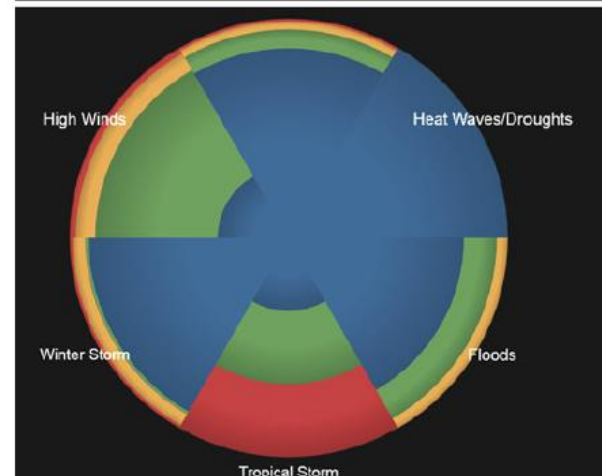
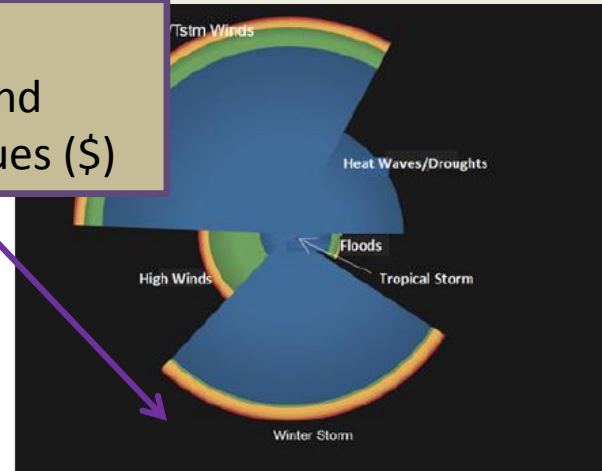


Date	Location	Type	MAG	an.	DTH	INJ	PRD	CRD
2000-1-13	VA, 2021	High Wind	73	kts.	0	229000	0	
2008-3-5	South Washington	Thunderstorm Wind	64	kts.	0	0	0	
2011-7-3	Bacraft	Thunderstorm Wind	61	kts.	0	1000	0	
2011-7-3	Bacraft	Thunderstorm Wind	61	kts.	0	5000	0	
2011-7-3	Bacraft	Thunderstorm Wind	61	kts.	0	1000	0	
2010-11-17	Arlington	Thunderstorm Wind	61	kts.	0	15000	0	
2011-7-3	Bacraft	Thunderstorm Wind	61	kts.	0	5000	0	
2010-8-5	Roslyn	Thunderstorm Wind	61	kts.	0	35000	0	
2010-8-5	Roslyn	Thunderstorm Wind	60	kts.	0	15000	0	
2004-7-14	Arlington	Tornado	60	kts.	0	3000	0	
2004-6-1	Arlington	Tornado	60	kts.	0	2000	0	

Monthly Maximum Temperatures

Year	Y90	Y91	Y92	Y93	Y94	Y95
J	69	59	65	65	61	70
F	73	72	62	57	68	62
M	89	79	73	69	83	78
A	93	87	85	81	90	91
M	85	99	91	89	92	88
J	97	98	90	96	101	93
J	100	101	99	100	98	99
A	93	97	93	96	93	98
S	93	96	88	96	91	95
O	86	85	82	80	81	85
N	79	77	73	83	79	73
D	71	71	67	62	71	67

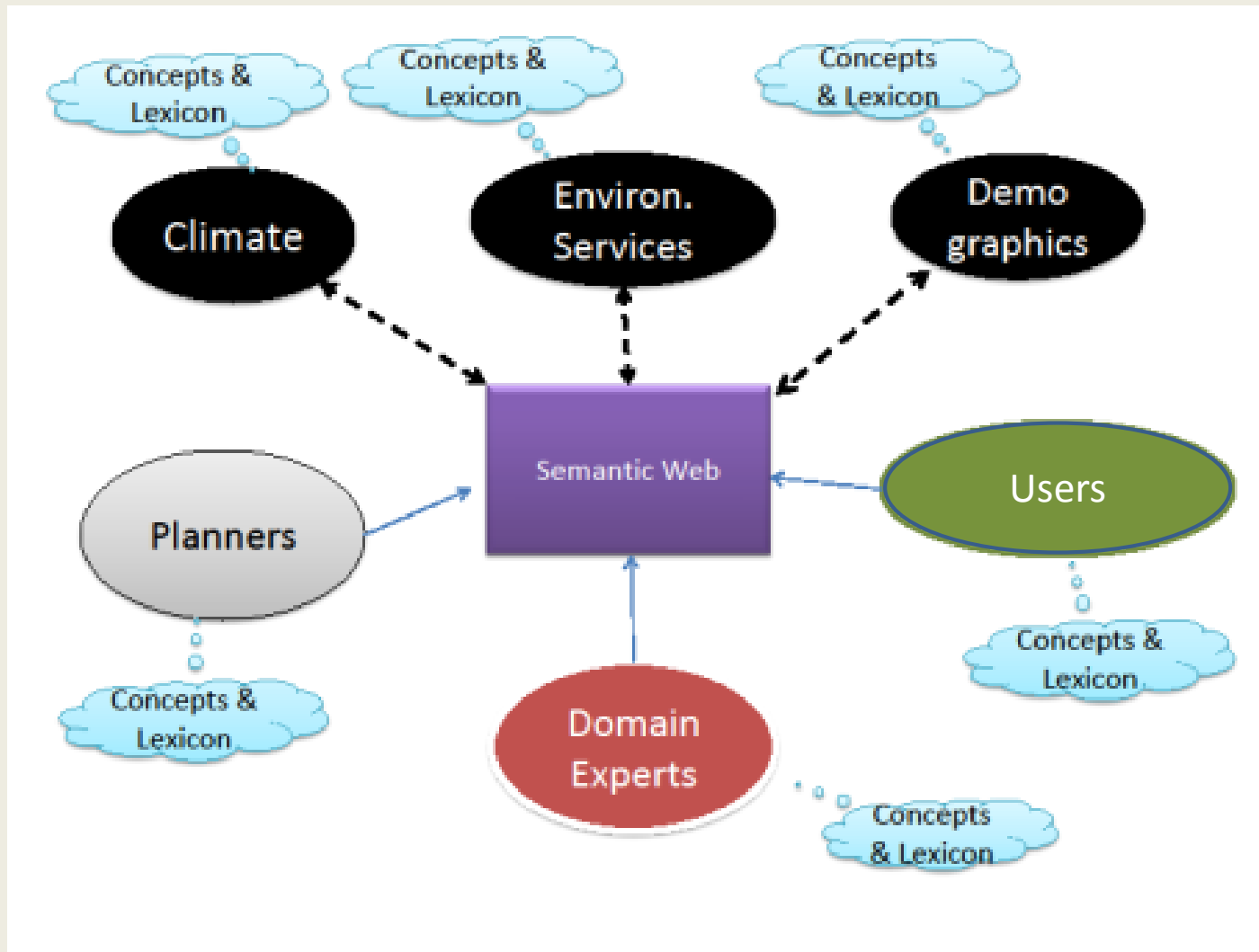
Hazards by Frequency and Damage Values (\$)



Dates, Events, Severity, Damages

Local Station Historical Records (temp, Precipitation)

Semantic Web Service



Fact Finding for Planning

Example of Risk Scenario: flood water enters drink water system

Vulnerability Type	Definition and Use Case Scenario
Sensitivity	Design requirements fail under unfavorable conditions (e.g. Water contamination exceed filtration ability, Flood level tops water source barriers)
Exposure	Identify points of entry into system (e.g. Flood water enters one or more of the system intakes)
Adaptive capacity	Sensitivity and exposure define range of available actions (e.g. Access alternate water system , Boil water)

Summary

- Vulnerability assessment protocols can be adapted to web-based tools
- Web-based Vulnerability Assessments can be complete and transferrable
- Critical to define verification methods are needed to reconcile viewpoints of multiple stakeholders (expert knowledge, planners, users)
- Semantic Web and Recommendation Algorithms Provide Viable Solutions to Verification and Planning

“Even in a world too complex to fully describe,
rules that express learnable regularities
can be acquired”

*(Leslie Valiant “PAC: Nature’s Algorithms for
Learning and Prospering in a Complex World”)*