
International Association for Structural Safety and Reliability
Committee on Stochastic Methods in Structural Engineering
Subcommittee 1: Computational Stochastic Mechanics (SC1)

Minutes of Annual Meeting
(minutes recorded by G. Deodatis)

Date: Sunday, July 25, 2004, 4:30pm – 5:00pm

Place: Alvarado Room F at the Sheraton Old Town Hotel in Albuquerque, New Mexico, during the 9th ASCE Joint Specialty Conference on Probabilistic Mechanics and Structural Reliability

1. Welcome from the chair.
2. The subcommittee is actively involved in the organization of ICOSSAR 2005. Its members are organizing/co-organizing a significant number of sessions, including:
 - Session on "Environmental Load Modeling and Simulation" organized by Massimiliano Gioffre.
 - Session on "Advanced Monte Carlo Methods for Reliability" organized by Jim Beck and Ivan Au.
 - Session on "Multipurpose Structural Reliability Software" organized by Gerhart Schueller and Manuel Pellissetti.
 - Three Sessions on "Risk Assessment and Management of the Infrastructure Subjected to Natural and Technological Hazards" organized by Anne Kiremidjian, George Deodatis and Howard Kunreuther.
 - Session on "Fire-Structural Engineering and Probabilistic Aspects of the World Trade Center Twin Towers Collapse Investigation" organized by Emil Simiu.
 - Session on "Computational aspects of random micromechanics" organized by Lori Graham.
 - Possible co-sponsorship with ASCE's Geo-Institute Risk Assessment & Management (GI-RAM) committee of 1-3 sessions on "Geotechnical Reliability" organized by K.K. Phoon.

We therefore have at this moment a total of 9-11 sessions in Rome. It appears that the 3 sessions on "Risk Assessment and Management of the Infrastructure Subjected to Natural and Technological Hazards" will form a mini-symposium.

3. Three new working groups have been formed with the following tentative participation from committee members:

- Analysis of Stochastic Structural Systems with Very Large Number of Degrees-of-Freedom: Jim Beck, Joel Conte, Dan Chiocel.
- Computational Challenges in Random Micromechanics (with the participation of subcommittee SC4 under its chair Professor Sobczyk): Sanjay Arwade, Massimiliano Gioffre, Lori Graham, Steve Koutsourelakis.
- Risk Assessment of Civil Infrastructure Systems Subjected to Multiple Hazards and Mitigation Through Various Financial Instruments: Jim Beck, George Deodatis, Anne Kiremidjian, Howard Kunreuther.

The main objective of each working group is to write a state-of-the-art report that will be submitted for publication in a technical journal as was done in the past.

4. As only a few members of SC1 were present in this meeting, all SC1 members are invited to participate and contribute to one or more of the above three new working groups. Interested members should send an email indicating their willingness to participate to George Deodatis (deodatis@civil.columbia.edu). If a member knows someone who is not a member and could contribute to one of the working groups, this person should be nominated to become a member of SC1. Please send nominations to George Deodatis at the above email address. Although the option to participate and contribute to the working groups will remain open throughout the duration of the groups' activities, members are encouraged to express their interest within the following four weeks. One or two persons will then be selected to coordinate the activities of each group.
5. General nominations for new members are welcome. Please send them to George Deodatis.
6. There are currently four existing working groups. Their status is as follows:
 - WG1 Development of Design Codes (coordinator R. Ghanem): this group has a long-term objective and is not expected to produce a report in the immediate future.
 - WG2 Parallel Computation (coordinators L. Bergman and B. Spencer): work finalized in June 2003.
 - WG3 Fragility Curves (coordinator G. Deodatis): the activities of this group will be incorporated in those of the new working group "Risk Assessment of Civil Infrastructure Systems Subjected to Multiple Hazards and Mitigation Through Various Financial Instruments."
 - WG4 Monte Carlo Simulation - Efficient Algorithms (coordinator G. Schueller): final report is coming up soon.
7. Next year's meeting will take place in Rome during ICOSSAR.
8. Adjourn.