Hurricane Resilience Assessment for Power Distribution System Considering Tree Failure Risk and Topology Jintao Zhang¹, Qin Lu¹, William Hughes¹, Wei Zhang², Amvrossios Bagtzoglou³

- Power distribution systems and communities relying on their services are vulnerable to climatic shocks, especially hurricanes.
- Resilience assessment of power distribution system subjected to wind and tree hazards is conducted using data-driven, physics-based, and hybrid methods



Fig .1: Flow chart describing schematically the process for the proposed resilience assessment methodology

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Tree Identification and Fragility Assessment

- CNN image classifier trained from Google Maps using sliding window technique
- Given the tree height, other tree parameters can be determined by allometric relations
- Tree fragility curves of several common key species (Ash, Maple, Oak) are generated by finite element analysis.







Power distribution system-level fragility

- Demonstration of combined tree and wind load fragility is carried out for demonstration on line in Connecticut
- Assuming a fallen tree on a line can bring down the poles, the failure probability of the pole given the tree loads only can be obtained using series system approach.
- The failure probability of the pole given wind load only can be obtained by finite element analysis, and the system reliability is generated based on the connectivity-based theory.

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Power Distribution System Based on Complex Network Theory

• A hybrid method combining the complex network theory and the physics-based method is applied to perform the resilience analysis based on graph theory using fragility-based adjacency matrix





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Fig. 8: System change after failure occurrence



Power Distribution System Resilience Analysis

- Network efficiency E_g is used to assess the network's behavior. $E_g = \frac{1}{N(N-1)} \sum_{j \neq k \in G} \frac{1}{l_{ik}}$
- Three failure scenarios: random, degree-based, and betweennessbased failure Three hurricane categories are applied in the dynamic resilience analysis considering the power flow characteristics metaphorically.

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Fig. 9. Resilience Analysis of the power distribution system: Static resilience Analysis (left); Dynamic resilience Analysis (right);

Fig. 10. Comparison between static analysis and dynamic analysis(left); Comparison between the traditional method and current study (right)



Summary and Conclusions

- CNN-based image classifier combined with sliding window technique can successfully identify trees along the powerlines from satellite images.
- The fragility curve of the tree varies with tree species.

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- **Defoliated trees are less vulnerable** than trees because of the reduction of the projected crown area.
- Without consideration of fallen trees, the failure probability of the poles and the power distribution system can be **underestimated**.
- A comparison between topology-based and fragility-based resilience indicates the PDS network is more vulnerable to betweenness-based attacks
- Among the static and dynamic analysis of the cascading failure, it could be concluded that the static analysis overestimates the failure consequence.







