# Simplified tools for the risk assessment and classification of existing buildings

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#### Introduction

- In recent decades, the seismic assessment of existing buildings has developed significantly from traditional objectives focusing on ensuring life-safety of buildings to more advanced metrics considering potential economic losses
- Italy has made notable developments in this regard with the introduction of the so-called Sismabonus seismic risk assessment and classification guidelines
- When scrutinized with respect to more exhaustive risk assessment methods, the simplified approaches adopted within *Sismabonus* may possess some limitations and drawbacks
- With some modest adjustments and modifications, these simplified methods can be notably improved without any notable penalties in applicability in a practitioner setting





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#### Italian Seismic Risk Classification Guidelines (Sismabonus)

- Perform a pushover analysis on the building and normalise to Sa-Sd
- Estimate the peak ground acceleration (PGA) of the design spectra needed to reach each limit state
- Additionally, estimate the ratio between PGA<sub>C,SLV</sub> capacity and the actual PGA you would use for a new design (PGA<sub>D,SLV</sub>) to get SI-LS





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#### Italian Seismic Risk Classification Guidelines (Sismabonus)

- Knowing the PGA for each limit state, the MAFE is computed from the hazard curve
- The limit states are given and the EAL is computed as the area under the loss curve

A+

Α

В

С

D

Е

F

G

A+

Α

В

G

• Overall ranking is more critical of two

Life Safety Index

100% < IS-V

 $80\% \le \text{IS-V} \le 100\%$ 

 $60\% \le \text{IS-V} < 80\%$ 

45% ≤ IS-V < 60%

 $30\% \le \text{IS-V} < 45\%$ 

15% ≤ IS-V < 30%

IS-V < 15%





EAL Range

EAL ≤ 0.5%

 $0.5\% < EAL \le 1.0\%$ 

 $1.0\% < EAL \le 1.5\%$ 

 $1.5\% < EAL \le 2.5\%$ 

2.5% < EAL ≤ 3.5%

 $3.5\% < EAL \le 4.5\%$ 

 $4.5\% < EAL \le 7.0\%$ 

EAL ≤ 7.0%

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**D** Rating

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#### **Possible limitations – expected loss**

- O'Reilly et al. (2018) assessed a case study school building at two locations in Italy using the rigorous approach outlined in FEMA P-58 and Sismabonus
- The life safety index was the governing criteria
- EAL computed using Sismabonus was much higher than those computed following the rigorous approach
- The overall trends remain the same
- Suggests that the general method is still a good indicator of relative performance, but may need further refinement



Site Location	High	Medium
EAL	0.84%	0.60%
EAL Classification	A	А
IS-V	0.60	0.79
IS-V Classification	С	В
<b>Overall Classification</b>	С	В
EAL (FEMA P-58)	0.35%	0.28%

O'Reilly, Gerard J., Daniele Perrone, Matthew Fox, Ricardo Monteiro, and Andre Filiatrault. 2018. "Seismic Assessment and Loss Estimation of Existing School Buildings in Italy." Engineering Structures 168 (August): 142–62. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.engstruct.2018.04.056.



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#### **Reasons?**

- One simplification is the fixed loss ratios for each limit state
- O'Reilly *et al.* (2018) by comparing the expected loss ratio at each limit state from detailed analysis
- Especially the case at the SLO and SLD limit states which are weighted more during the EAL integration
- Another issue that is not currently considered is regarding the building occupancy type (i.e., apartment, school or office building)
- Taghavi and Miranda (2003) highlighted the importance of building occupancy type on the distribution of economic loss



Taghavi, Shahram, and Eduardo Miranda. 2003. "Response Assessment of Nonstructural Building Elements." PEER Report 2003/05.



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#### **Possible limitations – collapse safety**

- Another limitation is the lack of uniformity of risk estimates used to determine the collapse safety of structures
- Several SDOF oscillators were designed for two ductility classes for reinforced concrete (RC) frames
- A site with soil class C in L'Aquila was chosen
- A strength modification factor, ζ, was applied to weaken the overall strength capacity of the SDOF systems and act as a proxy for non-code compliant or existing structures







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#### **Possible limitations – collapse safety**

• Multiple stripe analysis was performed using hazard-consistent ground motion records to calculate the risk of failure





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### **Possible limitations – collapse safety**

- The variability between lines shows the inconsistency in risk
- In an ideal world, all lines would coincide
- Notable dispersion in results for code-compliant structures (i.e., *SI-LS* = 1)
- This is well-known as has been shown in projects like RINTC
- Looking horizontally, many different *Sismabonus* risk classes can result for the same  $\lambda_{LS}$  depending on its period and ductility class





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#### **Potential remedies – expected loss**

- Performing detailed analyses with individual repair costs and inventory quantities is beyond the scope of most practical application
- Do we really need to use fixed loss ratios for each limit state?



• We could use a more direct approach like storey-loss functions (SLFs) to estimate losses





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## **Potential remedies – expected loss**

- SLFs have been mainly implemented in the US
- Shahnazaryan et al. (2021) have developed a toolbox for automated production of SLFs
- It allows quick generation of SLFs and can be easily tailored and personalised for users depending on damageable inventories, repair actions and repair costs

https://github.com/davitshahnazaryan3/SLFGenerator



Shahnazaryan, Davit, Gerard J O'Reilly, and Ricardo Monteiro. 2021. "Story Loss Functions for Seismic Design and Assessment: Development of Tools and Application." Earthquake Spectra 37 (4): 2813–39. https://doi.org/10.1177/87552930211023523.



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#### **Potential remedies – expected loss**

- Application to an RC school building in Italy have shown similar outputs with respect to the more rigorous component-based loss assessment described in FEMA P-58
- Good match in EAL and distribution among different performance groups was observed
- Highlights its applicability for accurate and simple loss assessment





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## **Potential remedies – collapse safety**

- A possible improvement for collapse safety is a simple pushover-based methodology *PB-Risk* developed by Nafeh and O'Reilly (2022a)
- It estimates the seismic response using the results obtained from pushover analysis
- It is quick and easy to implement within a practical and code-based setting and could be easily adopted within risk classification guidelines





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## **Potential remedies – collapse safety**

- The *PB-Risk* method was scrutinized with respect to other non-linear static procedure methods for infilled RC frames structures
- The results show a notable difference in the risk when compared to detailed non-linear timehistory analyses



- Capacity spectrum method (CSM)
- N2 method
- Displacement coefficient method (DCM)
- SPO2IDA



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## **Summary**

- Recent years have seen the evolution of seismic risk assessment
- This is especially the case in Italy with the advent of the Sismabonus guidelines
- When scrutinised with respect to rigorous state-of-the-art methods, it can run into some problems
- The overall goal still remains sound and worthwhile
- With some minor adjustments and improvements, the guidelines could be improved greatly and made more tailorable
- This presentation looked at some candidates for this



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