

# Long-term multi-risk assessment: statistical treatment of interaction among risks

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1 **Abstract** Multi-risk approaches have been recently proposed to assess and com-  
2 pare different risks in the same target area. The key points of multi-risk assess-  
3 ment are the development of homogeneous risk definitions and the treatment of  
4 risk interaction. The lack of treatment of interaction may lead to significant bi-  
5 ases and thus to erroneous risk hierarchization, which is one of primary output  
6 of risk assessments for decision makers. In this paper, a formal statistical model  
7 is developed to treat interaction between two different hazardous phenomena in  
8 long-term multi-risk assessments, accounting for possible effects of interaction at  
9 hazard, vulnerability and exposure levels. The applicability of the methodology  
10 is demonstrated through two illustrative examples, dealing with the influence of  
11 (i) volcanic ash in seismic risk and (ii) local earthquakes in tsunami risk. In these  
12 applications, the bias in single-risk estimation induced by the assumption of in-  
13 dependence among risks is explicitly assessed. An extensive application of this  
14 methodology at regional and sub-regional scale would allow to identify when and  
15 where a given interaction has significant effects in long-term risk assessments, and  
16 thus it should be considered in multi-risk analyses and risks hierarchization.

17 **Keywords** multi-risk · multi-hazard

## 18 1 Introduction

19 In most of the areas in the world, more than one hazard may act in the same  
20 time frame, leading to different risks. Until recent years, risks were often assessed  
21 with different definitions/approaches/assumptions, making them substantially not  
22 comparable (e.g., [24]). Recently, different analyses and case studies have been  
23 proposed in order to make comparable assessments, with the goal of comparing and

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24 ranking the different risks (e.g., [15,17,13]). Very recently, the analysis of cascade  
25 (or domino) effects highlighted the importance of the interaction among different  
26 risks, demonstrating that in multi-risk approaches the different risks should not  
27 only be compared, but also made interact [6,24,23].

28 Classical risk assessments are based on the independence of risks, and thus  
29 may be substantially biased due to the fact that this assumption is not always  
30 and/or everywhere true. For example, the assessment of expected damages due  
31 to a given hazard is commonly made through vulnerability assessments based on  
32 fragility models of the target assets. The structural analyses usually adopted to  
33 develop fragility curves are based on the assumption of not perturbed structures,  
34 that is, only one specific hazard acts on the structure at the same time (e.g., [29]).  
35 In this case, it is evident that the possible simultaneous action of two hazards is  
36 not considered at all. Such interactions are of course in many case statistically ir-  
37 relevant. However, on one hand, many times the eventuality of two hazards acting  
38 at the same time is not unlikely at all, like for example when one hazard increases  
39 the probability of occurrence of a second hazard (e.g., earthquakes during vol-  
40 canic eruptions) or the two hazards may share a common source (e.g., seismic  
41 and tsunami hazards), or when the action of one hazard covers quite large time  
42 windows (e.g., snow on roofs of buildings). On the other hand, the consequence of  
43 simultaneous hazards may be so catastrophic that their impact on risk assessments  
44 may be significant, even in case of a rare simultaneous events.

45 Focusing on one specific hazard, the mechanism leading to losses in case of  
46 single or simultaneous events is the same. For example, focusing on seismic risk,  
47 inter-story drift may be used as leading criterium for damages in case of ground  
48 shaking (e.g., [32]), both in presence or in absence of volcanic ash on roofs. There-  
49 fore, each specific mitigation action (e.g., retrofit, land-use plans, etc) decreases  
50 the total risk, that is, both single- and multi- risk components. Thus, a complete  
51 and coherent risk comparison is meaningful only when such interactive effects are  
52 accounted for. In other words, the bias of single-risk assessments (without inter-  
53 action) may lead to erroneous assessments of risks hierarchy and actions' priority.

54 A quantitative analysis of this possible bias in long-term risk assessments is  
55 still lacking. Indeed, the treatment of interaction among risks is still a quite open  
56 field, in which several case studies of cascade effects have been developed [22,42,  
57 24], while a complete formalization of the problem is not available. Recently, such  
58 interaction at hazard level (multi-hazard) have been treated by [23], where the for-  
59 mal distinction between single non-interacting hazard and complete multi-hazard  
60 assessment is proposed. However, the interaction of risks may act also at levels  
61 other than hazard, fact that deserves a specific treatment. Indeed, in several case  
62 studies, it has been shown how the contemporaneous action of different hazards  
63 may significantly either change the response of assets to the hazards (vulnerability  
64 interaction, e.g., [22,42]), or induce changes to the distribution of 'goods', as for  
65 example when people moves from their original 'standard' position (exposure in-  
66 teraction, e.g., [20,38]). Even restricting to natural hazards only, such interaction  
67 is conceivable in many realistic cases, such as for earthquakes striking areas in  
68 which are present volcanic ash, snow, or even floods (different fragility, as in appli-  
69 cation 1); tsunami striking shortly after an earthquake (different exposure, as in  
70 application 2); generic events striking pre-damaged (and not repaired) structures  
71 by, for example, earthquakes (different fragility and exposure). In other words,  
72 significant interaction is possible at both vulnerability and exposure level.

73 In this paper, a formal procedure is developed to account for interaction in risk  
 74 assessments at all levels (hazard, vulnerability and exposure), in the case of two  
 75 interacting hazardous phenomena. In this framework, the effect of interaction on  
 76 single loss/risk assessment can be quantitatively evaluated, and the assumption  
 77 of complete independence of risks verified. Two illustrative applications are then  
 78 presented, demonstrating the practical applicability of the methodology in real  
 79 case studies.

## 80 2 Interaction in multi-risk assessment

81 The risk curve due to a generic event  $E1$  for a given asset in a given exposure time  
 82  $\Delta T$  represents the probability that a given loss value  $l$  is overcome in a target  
 83 area and in the exposure time  $\Delta T$ . By use of the total probability rule, it can be  
 84 written

$$\mathcal{R}c^{(E1)}(l) = \int_d \int_x \mathcal{E}(l|d) \cdot d\mathcal{F}(d|x) \cdot d\mathcal{H}(x) \quad (1)$$

85 where  $l$  is a loss measure in a specific metrics,  $d$  a given damage measure,  $x$  a given  
 86 hazard intensity measure, and

- 87 –  $\mathcal{H}(x)$  represents the cumulative hazard assessment (survivor function), in terms  
 88 of its intensity  $x$
- 89 –  $\mathcal{F}(d|x)$  represents the fragility of the target asset, that is, the probability that  
 90 the damage level  $d$  is overcome due to an intensity  $x$  [13]
- 91 –  $\mathcal{E}(l|d)$  is the probability that a given loss level  $l$  is reached or overcome, given  
 92 the damage level  $d$ . Since  $\mathcal{E}(l|d)$  accounts for the consequence of damage  $d$  with  
 93 its specific metrics (economic loss, casualties, dead), hereinafter it is referred  
 94 to as the ‘exposure’ term.

95 The formulation in Eq. 1 represents a generalization for a generic  $\Delta T$  of the Pacific  
 96 Earthquake Engineering Research (PEER) formula [10,12], it may be used as a  
 97 general formulation for any kind of natural risks [23], and formally it holds for  
 98 small probabilities for the hazardous phenomenon [34]. Given the large number  
 99 of symbols used throughout the paper, in Tab. 1 a complete list of symbols is  
 100 reported.

101 In case of non-systemic risk assessments (e.g., [7]), losses due to different assets  
 102 in the target area can be assessed independently and then summed up over all the  
 103 present assets (e.g., damages to buildings in seismic risk [40]). Commonly, damages  
 104  $d$ , for each single asset, are expressed through a discrete number of damage states  
 105  $d_i$  (e.g., [29]). In addition, also the hazard assessment is commonly approximated  
 106 for discrete intervals of intensity  $x_j$  (e.g., [4]). With these simplifications and using  
 107 the notations in Tab. 1, Eq. 1 becomes

$$\mathcal{R}c^{(E1)}(l) \approx \sum_i \left\{ \mathcal{E}^{(E1)}(l|d_i) \cdot \left[ \sum_j \delta\mathcal{F}^{(E1)}(d_i|x_j) \cdot \delta\mathcal{H}^{(E1)}(x_j) \right] \right\} \quad (2)$$

108 where the symbol  $\delta$ , instead of  $d$ , is used, to highlight the discretization. The  
 109 superscript  $(E1)$  indicates that all the quantities refer to the specific hazardous  
 110 phenomenon  $E1$  (e.g., ground shaking). The term into square brackets is often  
 111 referred to as *physical vulnerability* (e.g., [14]), and it represents the probability

112 that a damage state  $d_i$  is observed for the asset in the exposure time. In its  
113 cumulative form reads

$$\mathcal{P}V^{(E1)}(d_i) = \sum_j \mathcal{F}^{(E1)}(d_i|x_j) \cdot \delta\mathcal{H}^{(E1)}(x_j) \quad (3)$$

114 A quite special case, but very common for most of natural hazards, occurs when  
115 the hazard term  $\mathcal{H}^{(E1)}(x_j)$  is assumed Poissonian, with annual rate  $\lambda_{\geq x_j}^{(E1)}$ . In this  
116 case, also the physical vulnerability is Poissonian (from [9]), with annual rates

$$\lambda_{\geq d_i}^{(E1)} = \sum_j \mathcal{F}^{(E1)}(d_i|x_j) \cdot \delta\lambda_{\geq x_j}^{(E1)} \quad (4)$$

117 which is numerically equivalent to Eq. 3 for small  $\lambda_{x_j}^{(E1)}$  [12]. This formulation al-  
118 lows to automatically account for the repeatability of the hazardous phenomenon  
119 (many earthquakes in the exposure time), problem that should be specifically ad-  
120 dressed in Eq. 3 in case of significant probability of multiple events in the exposure  
121 time [34].

122 In many areas, two hazardous events ( $E1$  and  $E2$ ) can act on the same structure  
123 in the exposure time  $\Delta T$  (e.g., ground shaking and snow). Interaction among the  
124 consequent risks occurs when  $E1$  acts in a temporal windows in which  $E2$ , or  
125 its consequence, is still acting (e.g., ground shaking occurs when snow is present  
126 on roofs). If the effects of  $E2$  may influence the expected losses due to  $E1$ , either  
127 through the exposure  $\mathcal{E}^{(E1)}$  and/or the vulnerability  $\mathcal{F}^{(E1)}$ , their consequences are  
128 completely neglected whenever  $E1$  risk is assessed through Eq. 2. In other words,  
129 to account for the interaction between  $E1$  and  $E2$  in losses/risk assessment of  $E1$ ,  
130 it must be considered that for limited time windows (e.g., snow is present on roofs)  
131 the expected losses due to the event  $E1$  are modified by  $E2$ , potentially influencing  
132 the overall long-term assessment. In other words, following the reported example,  
133 in assessing the probability of damages due to ground shaking in the exposure  
134 time  $\Delta T$ , it must be considered that (i) the presence of snow on roofs alters the  
135 fragility  $\mathcal{F}^{(E1)}$  [22], and (ii) the snow is present only in limited time windows.

136 To account for this interaction, the different contributions to damages due to  
137  $E1$  in presence or not of  $E2$  should be factorized. The probability of  $E1$  in  $\Delta T$  in  
138 presence of the effects of  $E2$  can be defined as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{H}^{(E1,E2)}(x_j) &= pr(\geq x_j \text{ at time } t \text{ in } \Delta T \ \& \ t - t_{E2} < \Delta T_p) \\ &= pr(\geq x_j; \Delta T_p | E2) \cdot pr(E2, \Delta T) = \\ &= \mathcal{H}^{(E1|E2)}(x_j; \Delta T_p) \cdot pr(E2, \Delta T) \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

139 which represents the probability that, during the exposure time  $\Delta T$ ,  $E1$  is preceded  
140 by  $E2$  within a time window  $\Delta T_p$ . In the second row, this probability is factorized  
141 in conditional probabilities, where  $\mathcal{H}^{(E1|E2)}$  represents the probability of  $x \geq x_j$  in  
142 a time window  $\Delta T_p$ , given that  $E2$  has occurred. Note that this does not necessary  
143 imply a cause-effect relationship between  $E1$  and  $E2$ , but possibly just a temporal  
144 coincidence. The term  $pr(E2, \Delta T)$  represents the probability of  $E2$  in the exposure  
145 time  $\Delta T$ . For sake of simplicity, just at this stage, the secondary event  $E2$  is  
146 assumed Boolean (yes/no), but this restriction will be overcome in paragraph 2.2.  
147 The time window  $\Delta T_p$ , herein referred to as *persistence time window*, represents  
148 for how long the effect of  $E2$  will be active after the occurrence of the event  $E2$ ,

149 so potentially influencing  $E1$  vulnerability or exposure terms. The length of  $\Delta T_p$   
 150 strongly varies for different  $E2$ . To better understand the meaning of all terms  
 151 in 5, we can follow the example reported above ( $E1$  is 'ground shaking',  $E2$  is  
 152 'snow on roofs'):  $pr(E2, \Delta T)$  is the probability of significant snow in  $\Delta T$ ,  $\Delta T_p$  is  
 153 the time window in which snow melts, and  $\mathcal{H}^{(E1, E2)}$  represents the probability of  
 154 significant ground shaking in presence of snow.

155 Since the events  $x \geq x_j$  within  $\Delta T_p$  after  $E2$  represent a subset of the events  
 156  $x \geq x_j$  in  $\Delta T$ , the hazard  $\mathcal{H}^{(E1, E2)}$  is only a part of the total  $E1$  hazard  $\mathcal{H}^{(E1)}$ ;  
 157 thus

$$\mathcal{H}^{(E1)}(\geq x_j) = \mathcal{H}^{(E1, E2)}(\geq x_j) + \mathcal{H}^{(E1, \overline{E2})}(\geq x_j) \quad (6)$$

158 where  $\mathcal{H}^{(E1, E2)}$  is the same of Eq. 5, and  $\mathcal{H}^{(E1, \overline{E2})}$  represents the probability  
 159 of  $x \geq x_j$  in  $\Delta T$  not preceded by an event  $E2$  in  $\Delta T_p$ . Following the reported  
 160 example,  $\mathcal{H}^{(E1, \overline{E2})}$  represents the probability of ground shaking in  $\Delta T$  when snow  
 161 is not present on roofs. Hereinafter,  $\mathcal{H}^{(E1, E2)}$  and  $\mathcal{H}^{(E1, \overline{E2})}$  will be referred to as  
 162 co-active and isolated-hazard factors, respectively. Note that this factorization is  
 163 similar to the one proposed by [23] for multi-hazard assessments. The fundamental  
 164 difference is that this factorization specifies a temporal limit  $\Delta T_p$  for interaction.  
 165 Without this specification, none of the following developments would be possible.

166 The probability of damages  $\geq d_i$  due to any  $x_j$  is evaluated by assessing the  
 167 physical vulnerability through Eq. 3. However, the two complementary (to the  
 168 total hazard) hazard factors now must be kept separated, that is:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{P}V^{(E1)}(\geq d_i) &= \sum_j \mathcal{F}^{(E1, E2)}(\geq d_i | x_j) \cdot \delta \mathcal{H}^{(E1, E2)}(x_j) \\ &+ \sum_j \mathcal{F}^{(E1, \overline{E2})}(\geq d_i | x_j) \cdot \delta \mathcal{H}^{(E1, \overline{E2})}(x_j) \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

169 where different symbols for the fragility terms are reported, to highlight that they  
 170 should be evaluated in condition of occurrence and non-occurrence of  $E2$ , respec-  
 171 tively. Following the reported example,  $\mathcal{F}^{(E1, E2)}$  represents the fragility to ground  
 172 shaking assuming snow on roofs, while  $\mathcal{F}^{(E1, \overline{E2})}$  assumes no snow on roofs. These  
 173 two fragilities, as discussed above, may significantly differ in these two different  
 174 conditions.

175 To complete the risk analysis, the consequences of damages should be consid-  
 176 ered through the exposure term, as in Eq. 2. The expression for the  $\mathcal{P}V^{(E1)}$  can  
 177 be substituted in Eqs. 3 and 2, obtaining

$$\mathcal{R}c^{(E1)}(\geq l) = \mathcal{R}c^{(E1, E2)}(\geq l) + \mathcal{R}c^{(E1, \overline{E2})}(\geq l) \quad (8)$$

178 where

$$\begin{cases} \mathcal{R}c^{(E1, E2)}(\geq l) = \sum_i \mathcal{E}^{(E2)}(l | d_i) \sum_j \delta \mathcal{F}^{(E1, E2)}(d_i | x_j) \cdot \delta \mathcal{H}^{(E1, E2)}(x_j) \\ \mathcal{R}c^{(E1, \overline{E2})}(\geq l) = \sum_i \mathcal{E}^{(\overline{E2})}(l | d_i) \sum_j \delta \mathcal{F}^{(E1, \overline{E2})}(d_i | x_j) \cdot \delta \mathcal{H}^{(E1, \overline{E2})}(x_j) \end{cases} \quad (9)$$

179 and, as for fragilities above, different symbols for the exposure terms are reported,  
 180 in condition of occurrence or non-occurrence of  $E2$ .

181 In Eqs. 8 and 9, the contributions to the total risk of the co-active and the  
 182 isolated-risk factors result completely separated. With this formulation, the effects  
 183 of interaction on damaging are accounted for whenever risk is assessed. Since only  
 184 in this case a complete risk assessment in a multi-risk perspective is made,  $\mathcal{R}c^{(E1)}$   
 185 will be referred to as *multi-risk* for  $E1$ .

186 The co-active risk factor  $\mathcal{R}c^{(E1,E2)}$  represents the risk posed by the event  $E1$   
 187 in the time lapses  $\Delta T_p$ , in which it is active the hazard  $E2$ . The effects of  $E2$  in  
 188 both fragility and exposure are accounted for in this term. Considering Eq. 5, the  
 189 co-active risk factor reads

$$\begin{cases} \mathcal{R}c^{(E1,E2)}(\geq l) = \sum_i \mathcal{E}^{(E2)}(l|d_i) \cdot \delta\mathcal{P}V^{(E1|E2)}(d_i) \cdot pr(E2; \Delta T) \\ \mathcal{P}V^{(E1|E2)}(d_i) = \sum_j \delta\mathcal{F}^{(E1,E2)}(d_i|x_j) \cdot \delta\mathcal{H}^{(E1|E2)}(x_j) \end{cases} \quad (10)$$

190 where the physical vulnerability  $\delta\mathcal{P}V^{(E1|E2)}$  is highlighted. This vulnerability is  
 191 exactly as a canonical physical vulnerability, but it is conditioned to the occur-  
 192 rence of the event  $E2$  and it is referred to a time window  $\Delta T_p$ . Following the  
 193 reported example, this risk term refers to losses occurring when ground shaking  
 194 strike structures covered by snow.

195 The isolated risk factor  $\mathcal{R}c^{(E1,\overline{E2})}$  represents the residual risk posed by  $E1$ ,  
 196 when this is not influenced by the occurrence of  $E2$ . To better understand its  
 197 meaning, it can be rewritten in light of Eq. 6, so that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}c^{(E1,\overline{E2})}(\geq l) &= \sum_i \mathcal{E}^{(\overline{E2})}(l|d_i) \sum_j \delta\mathcal{F}^{(E1,\overline{E2})}(d_i|x_j) \cdot \delta\mathcal{H}^{(E1,\overline{E2})}(x_j) = \\ &= \mathcal{R}c^{(E1,s)}(\geq l) - \mathcal{R}c^{(E1,v)}(\geq l) \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

198 where the two terms identified have a clear physical meaning. Indeed, the first  
 199 term

$$\begin{cases} \mathcal{R}c^{(E1,s)}(\geq l) = \sum_i \mathcal{E}^{(\overline{E2})}(l|d_i) \cdot \delta\mathcal{P}V^{(E1,s)}(d_i) \\ \delta\mathcal{P}V^{(E1,s)}(d_i) = \sum_j \delta\mathcal{F}^{(E1,\overline{E2})}(d_i|x_j) \cdot \delta\mathcal{H}^{(E1)}(x_j) \end{cases} \quad (12)$$

200 represents the risk evaluated considering the isolated fragility  $\delta\mathcal{F}^{(E1,\overline{E2})}$  and ex-  
 201 posure  $\mathcal{E}^{(\overline{E2})}$  factors, and the total hazard  $\delta\mathcal{H}^{(E1)}(\geq x_j)$ . This is what it is usu-  
 202 ally done in the literature, whenever the hazard is assessed from undifferentiated  
 203 catalogs [23]. For this reason,  $\mathcal{R}c^{(E1,s)}$  will be referred to as *single-risk* for  $E1$ .  
 204 Following the reported example, this risk term considers fragility and exposure  
 205 evaluated assuming no snow on roofs, while hazard is assessed independently from  
 206 the fact that snow is present on roofs.

207 The second term in Eq. 11 reads

$$\begin{cases} \mathcal{R}c^{(E1,v)}(\geq l) = \sum_i \mathcal{E}^{(\overline{E2})}(l|d_i) \cdot \delta\mathcal{P}V^{(E1|E2,v)}(d_i) \cdot pr(E2; \Delta T) \\ \delta\mathcal{P}V^{(E1|E2,v)}(d_i) = \sum_j \delta\mathcal{F}^{(E1,\overline{E2})}(d_i|x_j) \cdot \delta\mathcal{H}^{(E1,E2)}(x_j) \end{cases} \quad (13)$$

208 and it represents the risk that would have been forecast in case of occurrence  
 209 of  $E2$ , if no changes to fragility and exposure were expected. Since the physical  
 210 vulnerability term  $\delta\mathcal{P}V^{(E1|E2,v)}$  has the same meaning of  $\delta\mathcal{P}V^{(E1|E2)}$  in Eq. 10, it  
 211 is used the same symbol with the addition of  $v$ , to highlight that the fragility term  
 212 here is the isolated one, instead of the coactive one.  $\mathcal{R}c^{(E1,v)}$  will be referred to as  
 213 *virtual* risk factor, and it is fundamental to compensate the coactive-risk factor in  
 214 Eq. 10. Indeed, if both fragility and exposure are not affected by the occurrence  
 215 of  $E2$  (fragility and exposure to ground shaking are equal, with or without snow),  
 216  $\mathcal{R}c^{(E1,E2)}$  equals  $\mathcal{R}c^{(E1,v)}$ , for all  $l$ , and thus, from Eq. 8,

$$\mathcal{R}c^{(E1)}(\geq l) = \mathcal{R}c^{(E1,s)}(\geq l) \quad (14)$$

217 meaning that the multi-risk assessment  $\mathcal{R}c^{(E1)}$ , in this case, is exactly equal to  
 218 the single-risk assessment  $\mathcal{R}c^{(E1,s)}$ , for all  $l$ .

219 In practice, the multi-risk analysis can be performed through Eqs. 8 and 9.  
 220 The coactive-risk factor  $\mathcal{R}c^{(E1,E2)}$  is assessed though Eq. 10. The assessment of  
 221 the isolated risk factor  $\mathcal{R}c^{(E1,\overline{E2})}$  is based either on a direct assessment through  
 222 Eq. 11, first row, or through the evaluation of the two further risk factors, that is,  
 223 the single risk factor  $\mathcal{R}c^{(E1,s)}$  (Eq. 12) and the virtual risk factor  $\mathcal{R}c^{(E1,v)}$  (Eq.  
 224 13).

225 All physical vulnerability terms share the same functional form, that is:

$$\mathcal{P}V^{(*)} = \sum_j \mathcal{F}^{(*)}(\geq d_i|x_j) \cdot \delta\mathcal{H}^{(*)}(x_j) \quad (15)$$

226 which is identical to the classical assessment, as reported in Eq. 3. In case of  
 227 Poissonian hazards, they can also be assessed through 4, as commonly reported  
 228 in the literature (e.g., [14]). However, it is worth noting that  $\mathcal{P}V^{(E1,s)}$  (single-risk  
 229 factor, Eq. 12) is referred to the hazard of  $E1$  in the exposure time  $\Delta T$ . On the  
 230 contrary, both  $\mathcal{P}V^{(E1|E2)}$  (co-active risk factor, Eq. 10) and  $\mathcal{P}V^{(E1|E2,v)}$  (virtual-  
 231 risk factor, Eq. 13) are referred to time windows  $\Delta T_p$  just after the occurrence of  
 232  $E2$  in  $\Delta T$ . During these periods, all terms (including the hazard term  $\mathcal{H}^{(E1,E2)}$ )  
 233 may be largely influenced [23].

## 234 2.1 Single-risk assessment and its bias

235 In the literature, sometimes only one of the two hazard factors in Eq. 6 is assessed,  
 236 but more commonly they are assessed jointly like, for example, when hazard is  
 237 assessed from undifferentiated catalogs [23]. On the contrary, just one fragility  
 238 term is usually assessed (the isolated one), that is, the one in absence of external  
 239 influences (e.g., [29]). The same is valid for the exposure term, for which either  
 240 the variability due to external factors (day/night, summer/winter) or a averaged  
 241 value is assumed, but in any case not considering the effects of  $E2$ . Since, in case  
 242 of occurrence of  $E2$ , one or more of these terms may be potentially significantly  
 243 influenced, single-risk assessment may result significantly biased.

244 To evaluate the effective strength of the interaction among risks, in the fol-  
 245 lowings single and multi-risk assessments are compared, as assessed through Eqs.  
 246 8 and 12, respectively. In the single-risk formulation, the assessment is based on  
 247 the isolated fragility  $\mathcal{F}^{(E1,\overline{E2})}$  and exposure  $\mathcal{E}^{(\overline{E2})}$  terms, and the total hazard  
 248  $\mathcal{H}^{(E1)}(\geq x_j)$ . This is the case in most of applications, even though sometimes  
 249  $\mathcal{H}^{(E1,\overline{E2})}$  is assessed instead. In these cases, the single-risk assessment is equal to  
 250 the isolated risk factor  $\mathcal{R}c^{(E1,\overline{E2})}$  in Eq. 8.

251 In order to allow a simpler comparison among the same risk in different areas,  
 252 as well as, different risks in the same area, a single risk index is often considered,  
 253 instead of using the whole risk curve (e.g., [24]). As risk index, the average (mean)  
 254 of losses in the target area in the exposure time is considered, which reads:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}^{(*)} &= \int_l l \cdot d\mathcal{R}c^{(*)}(\geq l) = \int_l \int_d \int_x l \cdot d\mathcal{E}(l|d) \cdot d\mathcal{F}(d|x) \cdot d\mathcal{H}(x) = \\ &\approx \sum_i l_{ave}^{(*)}(d_i) \cdot \delta\mathcal{P}V^{(*)}(\geq d_i) \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

255 where  $l_{ave}^{(*)}(d_i)$  is the average loss caused by the damage state  $d_i$  for the generic  
 256  $(*)$  risk factor (e.g., [5]). The risk index  $\mathcal{R}^{(*)}$  is often expressed for  $\Delta T = 1$  year  
 257 and, in the case of earthquakes, referred to as Average Annual Earthquake Losses  
 258 (AEL in [28]). The average in Eq. 16 applies to both the single-risk assessment,  
 259 and to all the factors of the multi-risk assessment, so that

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \mathcal{R}^{(E1,s)} = \sum_i l_{ave}^{(\overline{E2})}(d_i) \cdot \delta \mathcal{P}V^{(E1,s)}(\geq d_i) \\ \mathcal{R}^{(E1)} \equiv \mathcal{R}^{(E1,E2)} + \mathcal{R}^{(E1,s)} - \mathcal{R}^{(E1,v)} = \\ = \sum_i l_{ave}^{(E2)}(d_i) \cdot \delta \mathcal{P}V^{(E1|E2)}(\geq d_i) \cdot pr(E2; \Delta T) \\ + \sum_i l_{ave}^{(\overline{E2})}(d_i) \cdot \delta \mathcal{P}V^{(E1,s)}(\geq d_i) \\ - \sum_i l_{ave}^{(\overline{E2})}(d_i) \cdot \delta \mathcal{P}V^{(E1|E2)}(\geq d_i) \cdot pr(E2; \Delta T) \end{array} \right. \quad (17)$$

260 The bias that a single-risk assessment introduces, since it does not account for  
 261 the effects of  $E2$ , reads:

$$\begin{aligned} \delta \mathcal{R}^{(E1)} &= \mathcal{R}^{(E1)} - \mathcal{R}^{(E1,s)} = \mathcal{R}^{(E1,E2)} - \mathcal{R}^{(E1,v)} = \\ &= \sum_{ij} \left[ l_{ave}^{(E1,E2)}(d_i) \delta \mathcal{F}^{(E1,E2)}(d_i|x_j) - l_{ave}^{(\overline{E2})}(d_i) \delta \mathcal{F}^{(E1,\overline{E2})}(d_i|x_j) \right] \delta \mathcal{H}^{(E1,E2)}(x_j) = \\ &= \sum_j \left[ \mathcal{L}^{(E1,E2)}(x_j) - \mathcal{L}^{(E1,\overline{E2})}(x_j) \right] \delta \mathcal{H}^{(E1,E2)}(x_j) \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

262 and, normalized by the single-risk:

$$\delta \mathcal{R}^{(E1)} / \mathcal{R}^{(E1,s)} = \frac{\sum_j \left[ \mathcal{L}^{(E1,E2)}(x_j) - \mathcal{L}^{(E1,\overline{E2})}(x_j) \right] \delta \mathcal{H}^{(E1,E2)}(x_j)}{\sum_j \mathcal{L}^{(E1,\overline{E2})}(x_j) \delta \mathcal{H}^{(E1)}(x_j)} \quad (19)$$

263 This means that the bias depends, for each level of intensity  $x_j$ , on two factors:  
 264 (i) how strong the interaction at damaging level is (the term in brackets), and (ii)  
 265 how probable it is the occurrence of the event  $E1$ , within the persistence time  
 266 window  $\Delta T_p$ , just after  $E2$  in  $\Delta T$ .

267 In many cases, the bias of single-risk assessments will be negligible. In particu-  
 268 lar, this is certainly true whenever (i)  $pr(E2) \approx 0$  (approximately no  $E2$  hazard),  
 269 that is,  $\delta \mathcal{H}^{(E1,E2)} \approx 0$ , or (ii) the damaging term is not influenced by  $E2$ , that is,  
 270  $\mathcal{L}^{(E1,E2)}(x_j) = \mathcal{L}^{(E1,\overline{E2})}(x_j)$ , for all  $x_j$ .

271 In other cases, a more specific analysis of both terms is necessary. A quite  
 272 common situation is when  $E1$  and  $E2$  are two independent and rare events, that  
 273 is

$$\delta \mathcal{H}^{(E1,E2)} = pr(E1; \Delta T_p) \cdot pr(E2; \Delta T) \quad (20)$$

274 due to their independence, and

$$\delta \mathcal{H}^{(E1,E2)} = pr(E1; \Delta T_p) \cdot pr(E2; \Delta T) \ll pr(E1; \Delta T) = \delta \mathcal{H}^{(E1)} \quad (21)$$

275 due to the fact that  $pr(E2; \Delta T) \ll 1$  and  $pr(E1; \Delta T_p) < pr(E1; \Delta T)$ , for all  
 276 intensity levels  $x$ . This means, in practice, that the possibility of concomitant  
 277 events  $E1$  and  $E2$  is quite rare. However, this can be sufficient to neglect the bias  
 278 only assuming that this difference in probability is sufficient to compensate the



279 increase in vulnerability due to  $E2$ . This is valid only if  $\mathcal{L}^{(E1, \overline{E2})}$  is smaller, but  
 280 approximately of the same order of magnitude, of  $\mathcal{L}^{(E1, E2)}$ , at all intensity levels  
 281  $x$ . In general, this can be the case, but a careful assessment of both isolated and  
 282 coactive-vulnerability factors should be preferable.

283 Whenever the events  $E1$  and  $E2$  effectively interact, that is, the occurrence  
 284 of  $E2$  increases the probability of  $E1$ , it is surely necessary a careful evaluation  
 285 of both terms. Indeed,  $\delta\mathcal{H}^{(E1|E2)}$  may be close to 1 and then  $\delta\mathcal{H}^{(E1, E2)} \sim$   
 286  $pr(E2; \Delta T)$ , that is, all the hazard terms have the same order of magnitude. In  
 287 this case,  $\mathcal{R}^{(E1)}$  and  $\mathcal{R}^{(E1, s)}$  may actually significantly differ.

## 288 2.2 From Boolean to discrete intensity values

289 In most of cases, the secondary event  $E2$  cannot be considered as Boolean, since  
 290 different intensities for  $E2$  may lead to different levels of interaction with the  $E1$   
 291 risk terms.

292 The influence of the different levels of intensity of  $E2$  must be considered in  
 293 both the co-active (all terms) and the virtual-risk (hazard term) factors. Starting  
 294 from the co-active risk factor  $\mathcal{R}^{(E1, E2)}$  in Eq. 10, it is noted that the event  $E2$  can  
 295 lead to different levels of intensity  $y_k$ , with probability  $pr(y_k|E2)$ . By definition,  
 296 the  $y_k$ , for all  $k$  and given the occurrence of  $E2$ , represent a complete and mutually  
 297 exclusive set of events ( $\sum_k pr(y_k|E2) = 1$ ), and thus:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}c^{(E1, E2)}(l) &\equiv \sum_i \mathcal{E}^{(E2)}(l|d_i) \sum_j \delta\mathcal{F}^{(E1, E2)}(d_i|x_j) \delta\mathcal{H}^{(E1, E2)}(x_j) \equiv \\ &\equiv pr(\geq l|E2) pr(E2; \Delta T) = \\ &= \left[ \sum_k pr(\geq l|E2) pr(y_k|E2) \right] pr(E2; \Delta T) = \\ &= \sum_{i,k} [\mathcal{E}^{(E2, y_k)}(l|d_i) \sum_j \delta\mathcal{F}^{(E1, y_k)}(d_i|x_j, y_k) \delta\mathcal{H}^{(E1|y_k)}(x_j, y_k)] \delta\mathcal{H}^{(E2)}(y_k) = \\ &= \sum_{i,k} \mathcal{E}^{(E2, y_k)}(l|d_i) \delta\mathcal{P}V^{(E1|y_k)}(d_i|y_k) \delta\mathcal{H}^{(E2)}(y_k) \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

298 where

- 299 – each  $y_k$  represents a specific interval of values for the intensity of  $E2$ , and the
- 300 index  $k$  covers all possible values for the intensity, so that  $\sum_k pr(y_k|E2) = 1$
- 301 – in the second row, all probability terms are highlighted using the symbol  $pr(e)$ ,
- 302 which generically indicates the probability of the event  $e$
- 303 – for each of the original terms (first row), symbols are modified to highlight
- 304 their potential dependence on the value  $y_k$ . Hazard, fragility and exposure
- 305 may all theoretically depend on  $y_k$ . In practical applications, exposure is often
- 306 not dependent on  $y_k$  and can exit from the sum in  $k$ .
- 307 – the term  $\delta\mathcal{H}^{(E1|y_k)}(x_j)$  represents the (discrete) non-cumulative hazard curve
- 308 for the primary event  $E1$  in the persistence time window  $\Delta T_p$  after an event
- 309  $E2$  with intensity  $y_k$  in  $\Delta T$ . This conditional hazard term, combined to the
- 310 fragility, allows the assessment of the conditional physical vulnerability  $\delta\mathcal{P}V^{(E1|y_k)}(d_i|y_k)$ ,
- 311 as identified in the last row. This physical vulnerability is equivalent to the one
- 312 in Eq. 3, in its cumulative version, and it can be assessed as the ordinary one,
- 313 but it is conditioned to the occurrence of  $E2$  with intensity  $y_k$  (one separate
- 314 assessment for each  $k$ ), and relative to the time window  $\Delta T_p$ .
- 315 – the term  $pr(y_k|E2) pr(E2)$  is identified as the (discrete) non-cumulative hazard
- 316 curve for the secondary event  $E2$ , in the exposure time  $\Delta T$ , i.e.,  $\delta\mathcal{H}^{(E2)}(y_k)$ .

317 The formulation in Eq. 22 allows accounting for the effects on hazard, fragility  
 318 and exposure of the different intensities of  $E2$ . Of course, all these additional terms  
 319 need specific assessments, strongly increasing the effort necessary for a complete  
 320 multi-risk assessment. However, on one side, not necessarily both vulnerability and  
 321 exposure depend on  $y_k$ , on the other side, the width of  $E2$  intensity intervals (the  
 322 number of  $y_k$ ) can be rather large (i.e., few  $k$ s), depending on the sensitivity on  $y$   
 323 of the  $E1$  risk terms.

324 The same development is necessary for the virtual-risk factor, in Eq. 13. The  
 325 result is exactly the same, but in this case neither fragility nor exposure terms do  
 326 depend on  $E2$ , and consequently on  $y_k$ , that is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}c^{(E1,v)}(l) &= \sum_{i,k} [\mathcal{E}^{(\overline{E2})}(l|d_i) \sum_j \delta \mathcal{F}^{(E1,\overline{E2})}(d_i|x_j) \delta \mathcal{H}^{(E1|y_k)}(x_j, y_k)] \delta \mathcal{H}^{(E2)}(y_k) = \\ &= \sum_{i,k} \mathcal{E}^{(\overline{E2})}(l|d_i) \delta \mathcal{P}V^{(E1|y_k,v)}(d_i|y_k) \delta \mathcal{H}^{(E2)}(y_k) \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

327 where in each physical vulnerability term (one for each  $k$ ), there is a dependence  
 328 on  $y_k$  only at the hazard level, if any. In any case, as for  $\mathcal{P}V^{(E1|y_k)}(d_i|y_k)$  in Eq.  
 329 22, each one of these terms is equivalent to the one in Eq. 3. Thus, as above,  
 330 it can be assessed as the ordinary physical vulnerability, but it is conditioned to  
 331 the occurrence of  $E2$  with intensity  $y_k$  (one separate assessment for each  $k$ ), and  
 332 relative to the time window  $\Delta T_p$ .

333 Equations 22 and 23 contain the hazard terms in both  $x_j$  and  $y_k$ . The total  
 334 (discrete) non-cumulative hazard curve for the primary event  $E1$ , in case of  
 335 occurrence of  $E2$ , can be derived by marginalizing with respect to  $y_k$ , that is:

$$\delta \mathcal{H}^{(E1,E2)}(x_j) = \sum_k \delta \mathcal{H}^{(E1|y_k)}(x_j) \delta \mathcal{H}^{(E2)}(y_k) \quad (24)$$

336 Note that, if there is not a specific dependence between the intensity of primary  
 337 and secondary events, as in most of real cases, this expression again collapses to  
 338 the formulation in Eq. 5, since  $\delta \mathcal{H}^{(E1|y_k)}$  does not depend on  $y_k$  and can exit from  
 339 the sum, and thus the sum simply becomes the probability of the event  $E2$  in  $\Delta T$ .

### 340 3 Applications

#### 341 3.1 Case study 1: fragility dependence in ground-motion/ash-fall interaction

342 This application focuses in assessing the long-term seismic risk ( $E1 \equiv$  ground  
 343 shaking) related to economic loss, in presence ( $E2$ ) and in absence ( $\overline{E2}$ ) of previous  
 344 volcanic eruptions with significant ash fall (loading  $> 3$  kPa) [42]. In particular, it  
 345 is discussed here the effect of a possible increase of the vulnerability to earthquakes  
 346 when buildings' roofs are loaded by significant ash. This increase is discussed in  
 347 [42] and it is reported here as illustrative example of interaction at the fragility  
 348 level.

349 This illustrative analysis is indicatively located in the area of Naples (Italy).  
 350 This area is subject to seismic hazard due to both tectonic earthquakes located  
 351 the Apennines chain, and to seismic events located in the nearby volcanic areas  
 352 (e.g., [8]). In addition to this, this area is subject to significant volcanic hazard due  
 353 to the three active volcanoes in the Neapolitan area, Mt. Vesuvius, Campi Flegrei

and Ischia (e.g., [3]). For this application, an exposure time  $\Delta T$  of 50 years is selected, in agreement with the official seismic hazard for Italy [18]. For simplicity, it is considered as target just one specific building, of a specific class.

The seismic fragility curves adopted are the ones in [42] for a class  $B_s$  building, that is, good masonry with iron beam floor. Such fragility curves change for various levels of ash load on the roof. The fragility in presence of significant ash loading ( $\mathcal{F}^{(E1, y_k)}$ ) can be deduced from the one in absence of loading ( $\mathcal{F}^{(E1, \overline{E2})}$ ), with the relationship proposed in Tab. 8 of [42] with loading variable from 3 to 20 kPa, at intervals of 1 kPa. No significant changes to fragilities are expected for  $y < 3$  kPa. The seismic intensity adopted for seismic hazard ( $x_j$ ) is macro-seismic intensity EMS92. Such fragility curves consider 5 damage states, ranging from minor to complete damages.

The exposure  $\mathcal{E}(l|d_i)$  is assumed not dependent on the presence or absence of ash loading. For simplicity, the uncertainty on the losses due to each  $d_i$  is not considered (e.g., [39, 5]), in which case the distribution  $\mathcal{E}(l|d_i)$  can be modelled as a step function  $\theta$  centered on an average value  $l_{ave}(d_i)$ . The average loss  $l_{ave}$  is set as  $RC \cdot CDF_i$ , that is, the 'replacement cost'  $RC$  of the structure multiplied by the 'cost damage factor'  $CDF_k$ , which represents the fraction of  $RC$  to repair the  $k$ -th damage state [39], that is

$$\begin{cases} l_{ave}^{(E2, y_k)}(d_i) = l_{ave}^{(\overline{E2})}(d_i) = RC \cdot CDF_i \\ \mathcal{E}^{(E2, y_k)}(l|d_i) = \mathcal{E}^{(\overline{E2})}(l|d_i) = \theta(RC \cdot CDF_i - l) \end{cases} \quad (25)$$

In order to provide numerical results,  $RC$  is set to 10 million Euro (MEuro), and  $CDF_i$  is set as in Tab. 2. These values are reliable and not critical, since in common for both single and multi-risk assessments.

### 3.1.1 Single-risk assessment

The single-risk assessment is performed implementing Eq. 12. As total seismic hazard, the annual rates for the city of Naples (LAT 40.8322, LON 14.2832, ID: 33201) provided by the official Italian hazard map [18, 41] are taken, where  $PGA$  values are transformed to macroseismic EMS92 intensity values as in [27]. For simplicity, epistemic uncertainties are neglected, and only the best guess curve is considered. This hazard assessment formally includes also volcanic sources and it is produced starting from an undifferentiated seismic catalogue. This hazard is in the Poissonian form, and reads

$$\mathcal{H}^{(E1)}(x_j) = 1 - \exp\{-\lambda_{x_j}^{(E1)} \cdot \Delta T\} \quad (26)$$

where the annual rates  $\lambda_{x_j}^{(E1)}$  are available online [21]. The obtained seismic hazard curve for  $\Delta T = 50$  years is reported in Figure 1.

Since  $\mathcal{H}^{(E1)}$  is Poissonian, the physical vulnerability  $\mathcal{P}V^{(S1; s)}(\geq d_i)$  can be assessed through Eq. 4, that is

$$\begin{cases} \mathcal{P}V^{(S1; s)}(\geq d_i) = 1 - \exp\{-\lambda_{\geq d_i}^{(E1, s)} \Delta T\} \\ \lambda_{\geq d_i}^{(E1, s)} = \sum_j \mathcal{F}^{(E1, \overline{E2})}(\geq d_i | x_j) \times \delta \lambda_{x_j}^{(E1)} \end{cases} \quad (27)$$

where the fragility models for  $B_s$  building are available in [42]. The single-risk curve is then evaluated by substituting in Eq. 12, that is

$$\mathcal{R}c_{\geq l}^{(E1,s)} = \sum_i \theta(RC \cdot CDF_i - l) \cdot \delta PV^{(S1;s)}(\geq d_i) \quad (28)$$

and it is reported in Figure 2 (black line).

### 3.1.2 Multi-risk assessment

The multi-risk assessment is performed through Eqs. 8 and 9, as modified in Eqs. 22 and 23 for non Boolean  $E2$ .

The co-active risk factor is evaluated through Eq. 10. To assess the volcanic hazard  $\mathcal{H}^{(E2)}(y_k)$ , ash loadings  $\geq 3$  kPa, up to 10 kPa, with intervals of 1 kPa, are considered. Under the assumption of independence of time intervals, this hazard can be set as

$$\mathcal{H}^{(E2)}(\geq y_k) = 1 - [1 - pr_{(ER)} \cdot pr(\geq y_k|ER)]^{12 \cdot \Delta T} \quad k=1,2,\dots,10 \quad (29)$$

where  $pr_{(ER)}$  is the probability of eruption per month, whose a reliable order of magnitude for the volcanoes in the Napolitan area is  $1 \cdot 10^{-3}$  per month [25, 26, 35], and  $pr(\geq y_k|ER)$  represents the probability to have ash loading  $\geq y_k$  given the occurrence of an eruption. To set this probability, a target point 4 km eastward of eruptive vent is selected and the hazard is modelled as in COMBO1 analysis in [36] (in which the Bayesian Event Tree method is set for the Campi Flegrei caldera). The COMBO1 analysis considers 4 possible eruption's sizes for 1 specific eruptive vent, typical configuration of most of central volcanoes, and it is used here to derive the entire hazard curve for all the  $y_k$  values. For simplicity, also in this case, epistemic uncertainties are neglected and only the best guess curve is considered. The obtained hazard curve is reported in Figure 3. The distance of 4 km is reasonable in the Napolitan area, since it represents approximately the distance between Naples (central area) and the most likely vent position for the Campi Flegrei caldera [37]. Of course, the results will strongly depend on this distance and here only one representative value is selected. Indeed, the quantification in all the urbanized areas around the volcano is important, but it is beyond the goals of this illustrative application.

The seismic hazard, conditioned to the occurrence of  $E2$ , is assumed to not depend on  $y_k$ , meaning that it is assumed to be equal for all eruptions. To set reliable values for  $\mathcal{H}_{E1|E2}(x_j)$ , it is noted that (i) the persistence time is quite long and, for this application,  $\Delta T_p$  is set to 3 months [8], (ii) it is quite unlikely concomitant earthquakes and volcanic eruptions, except for the case of earthquakes occurring during the eruptive dynamics. As first approximation, the syn-eruptive seismicity is assumed Poissonian, that is

$$\mathcal{H}^{(E1|E2)}(x_j) = 1 - \exp\{-\lambda_{x_j}^{(E1|E2)} \cdot \Delta T_p\} \quad (30)$$

The annual rates are calculated from the 1982-84 seismicity at Campi Flegrei [11]. Macro-seismic intensities are estimated from  $M_s$  and attenuated for distances of 4 km as in [42]. The resulting non cumulated monthly rates,  $d\lambda_{x_j}^{(E1|E2)}$  are reported in Figure 4, with maximum expected intensities at site equal to 7 (epicentral intensity

8). Note that, a rather spread seismicity is expectable, so that the attenuation selected might underestimate peak intensities at the target site. On the other hand, it is noted that the 1982-84 did not lead to eruptions. On one side, higher intensities are expected during crises leading to eruptions (e.g., the maximum macroseismic intensity registered during the last eruption, Monte Nuovo 1582 AD, is 10 [19]). On the other side, most of those seismic events are expected before the actual eruption. However, the eruption sizes that contribute more to the hazard are quite large (classes 3 and 4 in [31]), for which a complex eruptive dynamics is expected, with several eruptive phases [30]. For comparison with the total hazard reported above ( $\mathcal{H}^{(E1)}$ , as used in the single-risk assessment), the combined seismic hazard curve, as computed applying Eq. 24, is reported in Figure 1 (grey dots).

The physical vulnerability of the co-active risk factor is then assessed through Eq. 4, so that

$$\begin{cases} \mathcal{P}V^{(E1|y_k)}(\geq d_i|y_k) = 1 - \exp\{-\lambda_{\geq d_i}^{(E1|y_k)} \cdot \Delta T_p\} \\ \lambda_{\geq d_i}^{(E1|y_k)} = \sum_j \mathcal{F}^{(E1, y_k)}(\geq d_i|x_j, y_k) \cdot \delta\lambda_{x_j}^{(E1|E2)} \end{cases} \quad (31)$$

in which fragility functions are set as in Table 8 of [42], and the hazard is set as in Eq. 30. The co-active risk factor can be evaluated by substituting in Eqs. 22 and 10, that is

$$\mathcal{R}c^{(E1, E2)}(\geq l) = \sum_i \theta(RC \cdot CDF_i - l) \sum_k \delta\mathcal{P}V^{(E1|y_k)}(d_i|y_k) \delta\mathcal{H}^{(E2)}(y_k) \quad (32)$$

where the volcanic hazard term is assessed as in Eq. 29. The obtained co-active risk factor is reported in Figure 2 (dashed line).

The isolated risk factor is assessed through Eq. 11, from the single-risk and virtual-risk factors. The single-risk term is exactly the one assessed above, for the single-risk assessment, as reported in Figure 2 (black line). The virtual-risk factor can be assessed directly from Eq. 13, since there is not dependence of the  $E1$  hazard on  $y_k$ . The physical vulnerability, as above, is assessed through Eq. 4, that is

$$\begin{cases} \mathcal{P}V^{(E1|E2, v)}(\geq d_i) = 1 - \exp\{-\lambda_{\geq d_i}^{(E1|E2, v)} \cdot \Delta T_p\} \\ \lambda_{\geq d_i}^{(E1|E2, v)} = \sum_j \mathcal{F}^{(E1, \overline{E2})}(\geq d_i|x_j) \cdot \delta\lambda_{x_j}^{(E1|E2)} \end{cases} \quad (33)$$

where the fragilities are exactly the same adopted above for the single-risk assessment (Eq. 27), while the annual rates are the ones adopted to assess the co-active risk factor (Eq. 31). The virtual-risk factor is then evaluated by substituting in Eq. 13 (or, equivalently, Eq. 23), that is

$$\mathcal{R}c^{(E1, v)}(\geq l) = \sum_i \theta(RC \cdot CDF_i - l) \delta\mathcal{P}V^{(E1|E2, v)}(d_i) \mathcal{H}^{(E2)}(\geq y_1) \quad (34)$$

and it is reported in Figure 2 (dotted line).

The final multi-risk curve, as obtained through Eqs. 8 and 11, is reported in Figure 2 (grey line).

### 3.1.3 Single vs Multi-risk assessments

The bias between single (black) and multi-risk (grey) curves is evident in Figure 2. A more quantitative evaluation of this bias is given by average losses (risk index). By substituting in Eq. 17, the single-risk assessment reads:

$$\mathcal{R}^{(E1,s)} = RC \cdot \sum_i CDF_i \cdot \delta \mathcal{P}V^{(S1;s)}(\geq d_i) = 1.2003 \text{ MEuro} \quad (35)$$

and for the multi-risk assessment:

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}^{(E1)} &= \mathcal{R}^{(E1,E2)} + \mathcal{R}^{(E1,s)} - \mathcal{R}^{(E1,v)} = \\ &= RC \cdot \sum_{i,k} CDF_i \cdot \delta \mathcal{P}V^{(E1|y_k)}(d_i|y_k) \delta \mathcal{H}^{(E2)}(y_k) \\ &\quad + RC \cdot \sum_i CDF_i \cdot \delta \mathcal{P}V^{(S1;s)}(\geq d_i) \\ &\quad - RC \cdot \sum_{i,k} CDF_i \cdot \delta \mathcal{P}V^{(E1|y_k,v)}(d_i|y_k) \delta \mathcal{H}^{(E2)}(y_k) = \\ &= 1.3389 \text{ MEuro} \end{aligned} \right. \quad (36)$$

that is, the bias of single-risk assessment results:

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} \delta \mathcal{R}^{(E1)} &= 0.13859 \text{ MEuro} \\ \delta \mathcal{R}^{(E1)} / \mathcal{R}^{(E1,s)} &= 0.115 \approx 10\% \end{aligned} \right. \quad (37)$$

These results are based on very first-order, but reasonable values, and they show that the single-risk assessment underestimates the actual risk by about 10 percent. It is important to note that this results strongly depend on the selected position, since the long-term volcanic hazard decays quite quickly with distance (e.g., [36]). Therefore, this bias could strongly vary also at urban scale, affecting in a non-uniform manner the total multi-risk assessment. This bias, together with the intrinsic epistemic uncertainties associated to any risk assessment [1], could have large effects on the resulting risk hierarchization presented to decision makers, at least in specific areas.

### 3.2 Case study 2: exposure dependence in tsunami/earthquake interaction

This application focuses in assessing the tsunami risk ( $E1 \equiv$  tsunami) related to human life losses, in presence and in absence of a previous seismic event ( $E2$  is a significant earthquake) that can influence the exposure in coastal areas. In particular, it is investigated here the effect on tsunami risk of changes in the exposure to tsunamis due to local strong earthquakes striking the target area. Indeed, such local earthquakes may significantly modify the exposure to tsunamis, either increasing it (e.g., concentration in seaside areas of people escaping from damaged buildings), or decreasing it (spontaneous evacuation of seaside areas of adequately informed population). This effect is here reported as illustrative example of interaction at the exposure level. For significant earthquakes, events strong enough to generate significant damages in the target area are considered, so that such damages could induce changes to the tsunami exposure. It is set, as risk metrics, the number of deaths and, for simplicity, only direct effects of tsunami are considered. An exposure time of 1 year ( $\Delta T = 1 \text{ yr}$ ) is considered.

With these choices, only one damage state contribute to the loss assessment ( $d_1 \equiv d$  means 'death'). The fragility (mortality) of persons exposed to tsunami

490 waves is independent from the occurrence/non-occurrence of significant earth-  
 491 quakes in the area. In this application, the formulation in [33] is assumed, where  
 492 the rates of deaths (and injuries) as functions of water depth are assessed by us-  
 493 ing information from both the survey and prior events for the 17 July 2006 Java  
 494 tsunami. This fragility function reads:

$$\mathcal{F}^{(E1, \overline{E2})}(d = 1|x_j) = \mathcal{F}^{(E1, E2)}(d = 1|x_j) = \mathcal{F}(d = 1|x_j) \approx \frac{0.4}{10} x_j \quad (38)$$

495 where  $x_j$  is expressed in meter. In this formulation, differences (e.g., age, sex, etc.)  
 496 among the people exposed to the tsunami waves are not considered.

497 As regards the exposure, each person counts as one in the risk assessment.  
 498 The total risk should consider the total number of people exposed to tsunamis  
 499 in the target area. While an explicit formulation for the total risk curve is more  
 500 complicated, under the assumption of identical and independent individuals and  
 501 identical capability in movements at all times (day/night, summer/winter), the  
 502 risk index can be written as

$$\mathcal{R}^{(*)} = \int_d \int_x \langle N^{(*)} \rangle_t \cdot d\mathcal{F}(d|x) \cdot d\mathcal{H}(x) \quad (39)$$

503 where  $\langle N^{(*)} \rangle_t$  is the average number (in time) of exposed people to tsunamis of  
 504 intensity  $x$ , and it plays the role of  $l_{ave}^{(*)}$  in Eq. 16. For simplicity, this application  
 505 is then limited to the assessment of risk indexes, in order to quantify the bias  
 506 between single- and multi-risk assessments.

507 In general, in case of non occurrence of  $E2$ , the number of exposed people  
 508 strongly varies through time, in particular for day/night as well as summer/winter  
 509 changes, and its average reads

$$l_{ave}^{(\overline{E2})} = \frac{1}{\Delta T} \int_0^{\Delta T} N(t) dt \equiv N_{ave} \quad (40)$$

510 In case of occurrence of  $E2$ , the number of exposed persons may drastically  
 511 vary. Indeed, it may be extremely high if the population is not correctly informed  
 512 about tsunamis, since many people can move to the seaside in order to escape  
 513 from falling buildings (e.g., Lisbon 1755, Messina 1908). If, on the opposite, the  
 514 population has been adequately prepared to the risk of tsunamis, the exposure to  
 515 tsunamis may be very low (provided that they have sufficient time to evacuate),  
 516 since the informed population runs toward less exposed areas (e.g., Padang 2009).  
 517 In either case, in first approximation, it does not depend on time, so that

$$l_{ave}^{(E2)} = N_{EQ} \quad (41)$$

518 which can be, for limited time windows, very different from  $N_{ave}$ .

519 To assess the single-risk index, the total hazard curve for a given location is con-  
 520 sidered. In Fig. 5, for example, it is reported the tsunami hazard curve  $\delta\mathcal{H}^{E1}(x_j)$   
 521 for a representative location offshore Seaside, Oregon, as obtained by [16]. Note  
 522 that this hazard curve is not obtained for inundation, and also it is relative to a  
 523 completely different environment with respect to fragilities. Thus, the risk assess-  
 524 ment obtained by combining this hazard curve with the fragility reported above

525 is only really indicative, with the solely goal of illustrating a complete analysis.  
 526 Applying Eq. 17, first row, single-risk indexes can be assessed as

$$\mathcal{R}^{(E1,s)} = \sum_i N_{ave} \cdot \delta\mathcal{F}(d=1|x_j) \cdot \delta\mathcal{H}^{(E1)}(x_j) = N_{ave} \times 1.4 \cdot 10^{-3} \quad (42)$$

527 where  $\delta\mathcal{H}^{(E1)}(x_j)$  is the non-cumulative hazard curve relative to the target coast-  
 528 line area.

529 To assess the multi-risk index, the hazard factor  $\mathcal{H}^{(E1,E2)}(\geq x_j)$  must be  
 530 defined, that is, the probability in  $\Delta T$  that a significant seismic event  $E2$  occurs,  
 531 followed within  $\Delta T_p$  by a tsunami with intensity  $\geq x_j$ . The persistence time  $\Delta T_p$   
 532 can be approximately set to few hours, that is the time after which people start  
 533 moving back to cities, and/or emergency actions start taking place. The probability  
 534 to have a tsunami within few hours after an earthquake that causes large damages  
 535 in the target coastline is surely very low, unless the tsunami is caused by the  
 536 earthquake itself or by close in time aftershocks. Thus, the term  $\mathcal{H}^{(E1,E2)}(x_j)$   
 537 essentially refers to the tsunami caused by earthquakes close enough to the target  
 538 area to cause significant damages to structures. This allows a more quantitative  
 539 definition of significant earthquakes, since such events must be strong enough  
 540 to generate significant tsunami ( e.g.,  $M > 7$ ), and close enough to generate  
 541 significant damages due to seismic waves (e.g., at distances  $< 100$  km). Note that  
 542 all the other possible tsunamis, due to either distant earthquakes or non-seismic  
 543 sources, for which no significant seismic damages are experienced at the target  
 544 site, will contribute through the isolated hazard term  $\mathcal{H}^{(E1,\overline{E2})}$ .

545 In Figure 5, the contribution to the hazard curve of near seismic sources (green  
 546 line), and the one of the other (only seismic, in this case) sources (red lines)  
 547 are individuated [16], allowing the identification of  $\delta\mathcal{H}^{(E1,E2)}(x_j)$ . This allows an  
 548 explicit assessment of the multi-risk factors, since the co-active risk factor reads

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}^{(E1,E2)} &= N_{EQ} \sum_j \delta\mathcal{F}(d=1|x_j) \cdot \delta\mathcal{H}^{(E1,E2)}(x_j) = \\ &= N_{EQ} \times 1.6 \cdot 10^{-4} \end{aligned} \quad (43)$$

549 where  $\delta\mathcal{H}^{(E1,E2)}(x_j)$  is the hazard related to the near seismic sources. The virtual-  
 550 risk factor reads

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}^{(E1,v)} &= N_{ave} \sum_j \delta\mathcal{F}(d=1|x_j) \cdot \delta\mathcal{H}^{(E1,E2)}(x_j) = \\ &= N_{ave} \times 1.6 \cdot 10^{-4} \end{aligned} \quad (44)$$

551 that is, obviously, equal to co-active risk factor, a part for the number of exposed  
 552 persons.

553 The multi-risk index can finally be computed:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}^{(E1)} &= \mathcal{R}^{(E1,E2)} + \mathcal{R}^{(E1,s)} - \mathcal{R}^{(E1,v)} = \\ &= [0.16 \cdot N_{EQ} + 1.24 \cdot N_{ave}] \cdot 10^{-3} \end{aligned} \quad (45)$$

554 and the bias between single and multi-risk assessed:

$$\begin{cases} \delta\mathcal{R}^{(E1)} = 0.16 \cdot (N_{EQ} - N_{ave}) \cdot 10^{-3} \\ \delta\mathcal{R}^{(E1)}/\mathcal{R}^{(E1,s)} = 0.11 \cdot (\frac{N_{EQ}}{N_{ave}} - 1) \end{cases} \quad (46)$$

555 Note that, in this illustrative application, a significant bias ( $> 0.05$ , that is,  
 556 5%) is obtained already for an increase of 50% of the exposure in presence of  $E2$



557 ( $N_{EQ} = 1.5 \cdot N_{ave}$ ), which is a rather small increase in case of significant local  
558 earthquakes. Note also that  $\delta\mathcal{R}$  also quantifies the long-term benefit (decrease of  
559 risk) in case of correct education of people and/or management plan about the  
560 possibility of tsunamis just after a large local earthquake, in which case  $N_{EQ} \approx$   
561 0. In this case, indeed, the earthquake works as an efficient precursor for local  
562 tsunamis, reducing the long-term tsunami risk by  $\approx 10\%$ .

#### 563 4 Final Remarks

564 The presented method allows a full assessment of one specific long-term risk, con-  
565 sidering the interaction that its terms may have with other hazards and/or external  
566 events. Beside considering interaction at the hazard level (e.g., [23]), the method  
567 focuses to the possibility that one secondary hazard triggers changes to the vul-  
568 nerability and exposure terms relative to the primary hazard (e.g., [42]). To do  
569 that, the method (i) makes use of interacting (sometimes called time-dependent)  
570 vulnerability and exposure terms, in which the effect on the target assets of com-  
571 bined hazards is accounted for, and (ii) it introduces the concept of persistence  
572 time window for the hazard that triggers the interaction. Combining such terms  
573 with the hazard assessments, the presented method allows an explicit quantifica-  
574 tion (eqs. 8 and followings) of the long-term risk associated to the primary hazard  
575 in a multi-risk perspective, that is, considering risk interactions at all levels. This  
576 quantification finally allows an explicit estimate (eqs. 18 and 19) of the bias that  
577 it is induced by neglecting risk interactions (as in single-risk analyses), and thus  
578 an explicit assessment of the statistical significance in long-term risk assessments  
579 of any conceivable interaction among two risks.

580 In assessing risk, the method makes use of fully aggregated hazard assessments.  
581 This characteristic makes it applicable in systematic analyses of the strength of  
582 interactions in extended target areas, since it does not imply large computational  
583 efforts. This is of primary importance, since only such systematic analyses (i) al-  
584 low identifying if and where a specific interaction is significant and thus when it is  
585 important to consider strictly multi-hazard/risk procedures, and (ii) may help im-  
586 plementing effective multi-risk mitigation actions, focusing to specific interactions  
587 and selected areas.

588 This method is limited to applications with only two interacting risks. In sev-  
589 eral case studies, however, more than two hazards may potentially interact in the  
590 same area. In theory, the developed method could be recursively extended to more  
591 than two hazards, but this further development would lead to an explosion in the  
592 number of the terms necessary to the analysis (e.g., all terms could eventually  
593 depend on three or more intensity measures). On the other side, the presented  
594 method may be applied to each couple of hazards, and it may be used to filter  
595 out interactions that lead to statistically non significant effects in long-term risk  
596 assessments. In alternative, other methods considering combinations of single sce-  
597 narios (cascade events) may be applied (e.g., [2]). However, the large number of  
598 scenarios to be considered in long-term risk assessments may limit their effective  
599 applicability.

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**Fig. 1** Complete (black) and co-active (grey) Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Assessment in the area of Naples (Italy), with an exposure time  $\Delta T = 50$  years. The co-active hazard factor considers only seismic event occurring in presence of significant ash loading ( $> 3$  kPa) on roofs, within a persistence time window  $\Delta T_p = 3$  months.

**Fig. 2** Seismic risk curves in the area of Naples (Italy), with an exposure time  $\Delta T = 50$  years. Single (black) and multi-risk (grey) assessments are reported, together with multi-risk factors, i.e., the co-active (dashed grey line) and the virtual (dotted grey line) ones.

**Fig. 3** Probabilistic Volcanic Hazard Assessment for ash fall in the area of Naples (Italy), with an exposure time  $\Delta T = 50$  years. This hazard curve is assessed assuming a target area 4 km eastward of a possible eruptive vent, with 4 possible eruption sizes typical of the Campi Flegrei caldera, Italy (see text for more details).

**Fig. 4** Annual rates of macroseismic intensity at site (attenuated at 4 km) during the 1982-1984 unrest episode in Campi Flegrei, Italy. See text for more details.

**Fig. 5** Probabilistic Tsunami Hazard Assessment offshore Seaside, Oregon, as obtained by [16]. With different colours, the distinct contributions to the hazard of near (green) and other (red) sources are highlighted.

**Table 1** List of the symbols used in the paper.

Symbol	Description
$x$	Intensity measure for the hazard of the primary event ( $E1$ )
$y$	Intensity measure for the hazard of the secondary event ( $E2$ )
$d$	Damage state
$l$	Loss
$\Delta T$	Exposure time window
$\Delta T_p$	Persistence time window
$\mathcal{H}^{(*)}(x)$	Cumulative hazard, i.e., $pr(\geq x; \Delta T)$
$\mathcal{F}^{(*)}(d x)$	Fragility curve, i.e., $pr(\geq d x)$
$\mathcal{P}V^{(*)}(d)$	Physical vulnerability, i.e., $pr(\geq d; \Delta T)$
$\mathcal{E}^{(*)}(l)$	Cumulative 'exposure' term, i.e., $pr(\geq l d)$
$l_{ave}^{(*)}(d)$	Mean losses caused by damages $d$
$\mathcal{L}^{(*)}(x)$	Mean losses caused by intensity $x$
$\mathcal{R}c^{(*)}(\geq l)$	Cumulative risk curve, i.e., $pr(\geq l; \Delta T)$
$\mathcal{R}^{(*)}$	Risk index, i.e., herein mean loss in $\Delta T$
for the generic cumulative $F$	
$dF$	non-cumulative function
$\delta F$	non-cumulative function, for discrete intervals

**NOTES:**

\* may stand for: ' $E1, E2$ ' (co-active factor); ' $E1, \overline{E2}$ ' (isolated factor); ' $E1, s$ ' (single factor, only for risk); ' $E1, v$ ' (virtual factor, only for risk)

**Table 2** Cost damage factors ( $CDFs$ ) for each damage state in Application 1.  $CDF_k$  represents the fraction of the replacement cost ( $RC$ ) to repair the  $k$ -th damage state.

$d_i$	Description	$CDF_i$
0	No damages	0
1		0.1
2		0.2
3		0.6
4		0.8
5	Complete	1.0

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