Uncertainty Modeling in Health Risk Assessment and Groundwater Resources Management

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subjective interpretation of available info.

Human health risk assessment –

simultaneous probabilistic & possibilistic uncertainty propagation



Probabilistic-fuzzy health risk modeling







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The Possibility and The Necessity Measures



Any evidence that supports P → Poss (P) = 1 (dotted sections)

Evidence that supports impossibility of **not** $P \rightarrow \text{Nec}(P) = 1-\mu(\mathcal{C}_{comp})$ (shaded sections)

Currently recommended

 Comé et al. (1997) suggested → possibility measure necessity measure conservative Human health risk assessment
 Only necessity measure → some valuable information lost more informative

Combined measure

Compliance for Possibilistic RA

Guideline: the fuzzy risk R should not exceed 2.0x10⁻⁵ for a possibility/necessity measure of 0.6





$$T(\mathbf{P}) = \begin{cases} 0 & C_{comp} \leq L_{\tilde{R}}(0) \\ \frac{1}{2} \left(\beta Poss(\mathbf{P}) + \gamma Nec(\mathbf{P})\right) & L_{\tilde{R}}(0) < C_{comp} < U_{\tilde{R}}(0) \\ 1 & C_{comp} \geq U_{\tilde{R}}(0) \end{cases}$$



The risk tolerance measure

$$T(\boldsymbol{P}) = \begin{cases} 0 & C_{comp} \leq L_{\tilde{R}}(0) \\ \frac{1}{2} \left(\beta \boldsymbol{P}oss(\boldsymbol{P}) + \gamma Nec(\boldsymbol{P}) \right) L_{\tilde{R}}(0) < C_{comp} < U_{\tilde{R}}(0) \\ 1 & C_{comp} \geq U_{\tilde{R}}(0) \end{cases}$$





The risk tolerance measure

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both areas are defined for $U_{\tilde{R}}(\mu_{\tilde{R}}(C_{comp})) = C_{comp}$

Coefficient for Necessity

$$\gamma = \frac{A_{nec_l}}{A_{nec_T}}$$

$$A_{nec_l} = \begin{cases} 0 & L_{\tilde{R}} \left(M_{\tilde{R}} \left(C_{comp} \right) \right) = C_{comp} \\ \int_{0}^{\mu_{\tilde{R}}(C_{comp})} \alpha [C_{comp} - L_{\tilde{R}}(\alpha)] d\alpha & U_{\tilde{R}} \left(M_{\tilde{R}} \left(C_{comp} \right) \right) = C_{comp} \end{cases}$$

$$A_{nec_T} = \int_{0}^{\mu_{\tilde{R}}(C_{comp})} \alpha [U_{\tilde{R}}(\alpha) - L_{\tilde{R}}(\alpha)] d\alpha$$

Effect of membership function on the measures







$$Poss\left(\widetilde{R_{1}} \leq \widetilde{C'}\right) = Poss\left(\widetilde{R_{2}} \leq \widetilde{C'}\right) = \mu_{\widetilde{R}}\left(C_{comp}\right)$$

Degree of compliance of $\overline{R_{1}}$
Nec $\left(\widetilde{R_{1}} \leq \widetilde{C'}\right) = Nec \left(\widetilde{R_{2}} \leq \widetilde{C'}\right) = \Theta$
is greater than that of $\overline{R_{2}}$
 $T\left(\widetilde{R_{1}} \leq \widetilde{C'}\right) > T\left(\widetilde{R_{2}} \leq \widetilde{C'}\right)$

Effect of membership function on the measures





Reasonable Minimum Risk Tolerance Value





To have a RT of 0.75 only this shaded region is allowed to lie on the right of the design criteria

A minimum risk tolerance value of 0.5 seems reasonable

Conclusions for Risk Tolerance Measure

- To make decisions about compliance of a fuzzy risk with respect to a crisp guideline
- Include all available information: possibility measure & necessity measure
- Establishment of a standard procedure needs careful examination of the results of real case possibilistic and hybrid risk assessment studies. For ex., necessity measure might be preferable for decision making in a school district.