

Impact **databases** application for natural and technological risk management

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Abstract. Impact databases development and application for risk analysis and management promotes the usage of self-learning computer systems with elements of artificial intelligence. Such systems learning could be successful when the databases store the complete information about each event, parameters of the simulation models, the range of its application and residual errors. Each new description included in the database could increase the reliability of the results obtained with application of simulation models. The calibration of mathematical models is the first step to self-learning of automated systems. The article describes the events' database structure, and examples of calibrated computer models as applied to the impact of expected emergencies and risk indicators assessment. Examples of database statistics usage in order to rank the subjects of the Russian Federation by the frequency of emergencies of different character, as well as risk indicators are given.

1 Introduction

Analysis of the natural and technological emergencies consequences gives an evidence that natural hazards and technological disasters pose an increasing threat to the safety of citizens and the economy of the Russian Federation. The increasing severity of the impact indicates the need to improve the effectiveness of measures aimed at risk reduction. The Ministry of Emergency Situations (EMERCOM) of the Russian Federation considers preventive measures as the priority. They are based on application of information systems (IS) that provide reliable forecasts, including a reliable assessment of a spatially distributed indicator that characterizes the safety of a region, which makes it possible to rationally distribute forces and resources in order to reduce risk.

Another important task, which may be solved with IS usage, is to enhance the efficiency of rescue operations. This could be achieved by higher reliability of the operational forecast of situations based on the data contained in the database of events (DB). Examples of successful rescue operations accumulated in DB facilitate the decision-making process and reduce the time when people stay in the affected area, which results in decreasing the fatality likelihood.

30 The article focuses on increasing the reliability of expected emergency impact through calibration of IS mathematical models (Ranguelov, Frantzova, 2017).

The considered event DB (Kachanov et al., 2011; Kachanov et al., 2014) is interdepartmental and since 1992 it has been maintained by the resources of the National Center for Crisis Management EMERCOM of Russia. Information about events and their impact comes from the EMERCOM departments and different agencies, including the system 112. Currently, the DB includes more than 30,000 records with a detailed description of emergency situations, rescue operations, and an assessment of their effectiveness.

For seismic events that occur quite rarely in the Russian Federation, the list has been expanded retrospectively with records of earlier years from other sources. Archival data are used, the relevance of which is supported by the efforts of researchers at the Russian Academy of Sciences (RAS) and various international organizations. First of all, the following DB are used as the “Extremum” DB, the “Strong and Felt Earthquakes of the Northern Eurasia” DB, the “EM DAT” DB of the Brussels Center for Epidemiology of Disasters, as well as the DB of SwissRE and MunichRe reinsurance companies. Important sources of information also include the “CATNAT” database, which is used to calibrate the “PAGER” IS (Allen et al., 2009) and the Cambridge Earthquake Impact Database (www.ceqid.org) (So, 2014; Spence et al., 2011), used for calibration of vulnerability functions for buildings and structures of various types when calculating seismic risk. Extensive macroseismic information is of great importance as well. It is available as reconnaissance team reports, scientific papers, Earthquake Atlases of individual countries (Kalmetieva et al., 2009; Babayan, 2006), and in the form of electronic DBs (Rovida et al., 2016; Varazanashvili et al., 2018).

The article gives examples of calibrated models as applied in near real time earthquake loss estimation practiced at the EMERCOM of Russia. The results of EMERCOM DB statistical data analysis for visualization of statistical information in the Russian Federation with different levels of emergency frequency and various values of risk indicators are also listed.

2 Structure of the EMERCOM database of events

The EMERCOM database about events title partially describes its content, namely, data “about events”, and accurately corresponds to the structure of the records. It allows retrieval of the time and location of an event; operations carried out and their effectiveness; used forces and resources, their sufficiency and estimation of the operations, as well as the reported social and economic losses.

Each DB entry is, to some extent, an event passport which is characterized as an emergency situation. A unique number is assigned to DB entries, which allows connection to entries in the databases belonging to different agencies interested in sharing and obtaining the information in order to normalize the emergency situation. Due to the uniqueness of entry number and the event standard description corresponding to the regulatory documentation, event entry can become part of the state or international spatial data infrastructure (<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.3406127>) (LODGD 2019).

The DB is part of the EMERCOM IS data storage developed and maintained up to date within of the Ministry information program. Besides the data storage, the EMERCOM IS includes software consisting of a set of blocks and interfaces. The system was developed using modern Web-technologies (Izmalkov, 2017a; Izmalkov, 2017b).

65 The structure of the DB about events, which is part of the EMERCOM IS data storage primarily aim at providing management automation and solving the following tasks with the system application:

- inventory of hazards sources and elements at risk;
- forecast of the level of hazard and preparation of data for warning, including the information for mass media;
- monitoring and recording of events characterized as an emergency;
- analytical decision support in case of emergencies, including the method of mathematical modeling of hazardous
70 impacts, the response of elements at risk and the forecast of losses;
- analytical support for risk assessment and mapping;
- drafting reports on the situation, weather conditions, needed forces and resources, as well as the assessment of possible losses.

A scheme of the EMERCOM IS is presented in the figure (fig. 1), where the enlarged functional units, the data storage, and
75 the user interface are highlighted. The names of units reflect their functionality, which is supplemented by a description of the input and output information. The structure identifies the main units of IS, including software tools under the titles “Inventory”, “Analytics”, “Operational Management”.

The “Inventory” block is assigned to collect and process the data necessary for creating documents called the “territory passport”, which contains:

- 80
- name and affiliation of objects (territories);
 - location of the facilities subject to inventory;
 - parameters of hazard sources;
 - vulnerability functions of elements at risk;
 - availability, deployment, as well as readiness indicators of forces and resources needed for preventive measures
- 85 implementation and rescue operations.

WEB-interface resources accessible by local (as close as possible to the source of information) employees of the Unified state system of emergency prevention and response (RSES) are used to collect data. As an output, a “Passport of the Territory” is developed, which contains information in order to estimate matching of the hazard level, the measures taken and the risk indices.

90 The “Operational Management” block deals with recording, qualification, and operational management of forces and resources during events characterized as an emergency. The output of this block is an “Event Card”. It includes descriptions of the emergency impact, which can be updated over time, and a set of documents ensuring the management of forces and resources during rescue and other urgent actions.

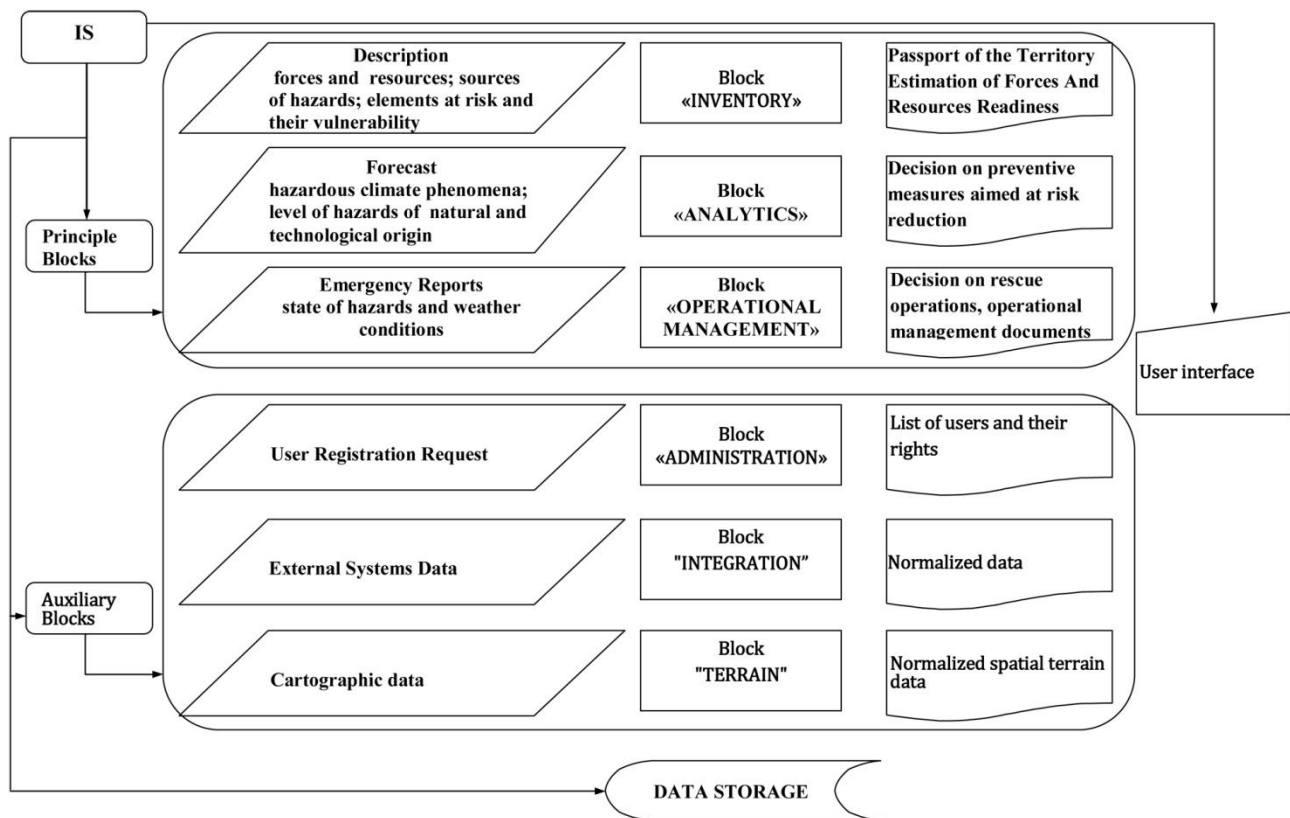


Figure 1: Structure of EMERCOM Information System.

95 The “Analytics” block contains mathematical models of the main types of hazardous processes and their impact, which allow a possible situation in the affected zone to be predicted. The models meet special requirements due to high demands on the speed of response to input data and ensuring the possible minimum error in results of forecast which may depend on input data measurement and transmission.

The “Analytics” block mathematical models are calibrated for the site of an event in order to ensure acceptable accuracy of simulation results. Zones with a set of calibration parameters of mathematical models valid for each area are visualized on the map. Calibration, in this case, largely repeats the learning process of artificial intelligence systems (AI). After calibration, any mathematical model implemented as a calculation software module, in the first step, determines the zone of its calibration and retrieves the calibration parameters assigned to this zone. After that, the computation is done.

All calibration parameters associated with the territories and design modules are included in the EMERCOM IS data storage.

105 The figure (fig. 2) shows the data storage structure and the place of calibration data tables in this structure.

In Figure 2, bold lines highlight the “Database with a description of events” and “Zones with stable calibration parameters of mathematical models”. Zones are based on the collected event data in the process of calibrating mathematical models. Each zone relates to its mathematical model and set of calibration parameters.

It should be noted that the description of seismic events has some features important for understanding the examples of calibrated mathematical model application for estimating the possible shaking intensities (Ranguelov, 2011). Figure 3 shows the features of the structure of tables with a description of seismic events. Structured description of a seismic event may be accompanied by various materials such as maps; tables; photos and other documents. When calibrating the mathematical models applied for simulation of expected shaking intensities, the tables of “Earthquake Parameters” and “Data on Macroseismic Survey” are used during the calibration.

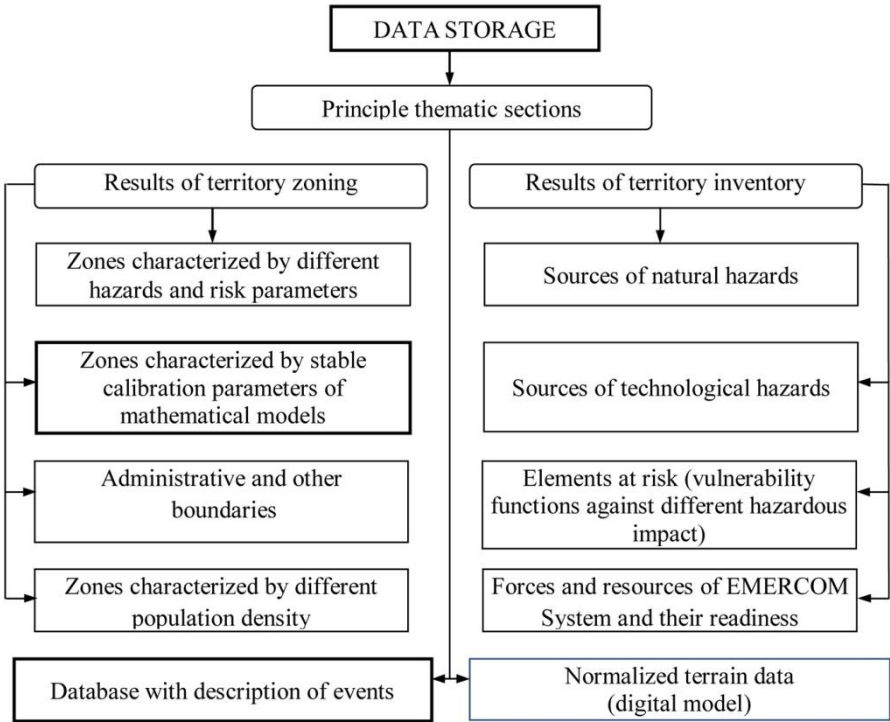


Figure 2: Structure of EMERCOM Information System data storage.

In the case of the Kultuk earthquake of 2008, which was felt over a wide area in the Russian Federation and Mongolia, and the damage to buildings was recorded in settlements located 10-30 km away from the epicenter, the following field observations and their analysis complement the “Data on Macroseismic Survey” table:

- a map of the observed macroseismic effect, where the first two isoseismals show the area of ground shaking of 7–8 and 7 grades on the MMSK-86 intensity scale (Shebalin et al., 1986);
- photos of damage to buildings of different types;
- summary tables of macroseismic effect in settlements based on various data, including the behavior of buildings and people, as well as indoor objects.

As a result of the Kurchaloy earthquake of 2008, 13 people died, the observed macroseismic effect was also 7-8 grades of the MMSK-86 seismic intensity scale. The earthquake was felt over a wide territory, including the Chechen Republic, the Ingush Republic, the Republic of Dagestan, the Republic of North Ossetia-Alania, Kabardino-Balkaria, the Stavropol Territory, the southern regions of Kalmykia, Georgia, the northern regions of Azerbaijan and Armenia. The greatest destruction occurred in the Kurchaloy, Gudermes, Shalinsky and Nozhay-Yurt districts of the Chechen Republic. The most severely affected were the settlements of Kurchaloy and Mayrtup. The entries in the database tables about this event include additional materials on observed macroseismic data and results on engineering analysis of the impact:

- the isoseismal map of the Kurchaloy earthquake of October 11, 2008 with seismic intensity I from 7–8 to 4–5 grades of MMSK-86 scale;
- revised instrumental and macroseismic parameters of the earthquake rupture zone;
- photos and descriptions of damage to residential buildings, healthcare facilities, schools and preschool institutions, cultural and sports facilities, mosques and administrative buildings;
- information about response measures, including data on medical and other assistance to the affected population.

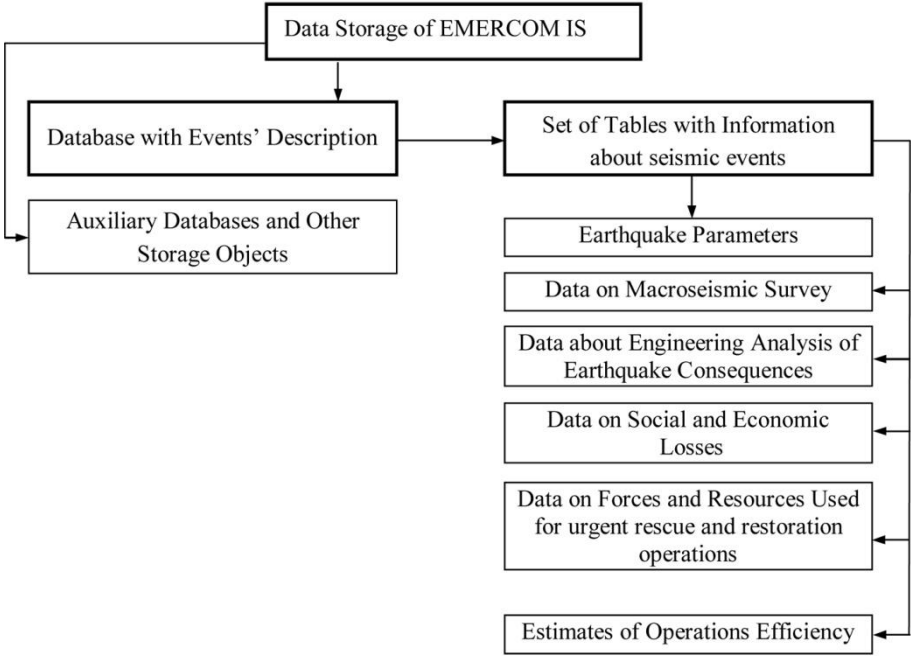


Figure 3: Database on events tables with earthquakes description.

Calibration means fitting suitable parameters of the mathematical model assigned for simulating the macroseismic field and identification the boundary of this zone within which averaging is permissible. Calibrated models should provide acceptable accuracy of estimating the situation parameters for all events in the zone. The calibration parameters of macroseismic field

model include: regional intensity attenuation coefficients in the Shebalin equation (Shebalin, 1977); the orientation of the axes of macroseismic field ellipse; the ratio k of the major and minor axes of macroseismic field ellipse (compression ratio). Next section shows the application of EMERCOM DB with calibrated parameters of a computational module in order to
145 simulate the shaking intensity distribution in near real time with acceptable accuracy and to get reliable forecast of the whole situation in the stricken area.

3 Examples of calibrated models application for earthquake loss assessment

This section gives an example of calibrated macroseismic field models usage to simulate earthquake losses in emergency mode. We investigated the North Caucasus, which is one of the seismically active regions of the Russian Federation
150 characterized by a high population density. Here, strong and felt earthquakes occurred quite frequently. Over the past 100 years, more than 20 earthquakes took place in this area with shaking intensity $I_0 \geq 6$: in 1976, the Chernogirskoe earthquake with $M=6.4$, $I_0=8-9$; Terskoye (Eldarovskoe) earthquake on August 10, 1912 with $M=5.7$ and $I_0=8$; Vedenoskoe earthquake on October 24, 1933 with $M=5.2$, $I_0=7-8$; several earthquakes with $I_0=7$: Dagestanskoe-I on February 23, 1785 with $M=5.5$; Argunskoe-I on May 10, 1928 with $M=4.7$; Argunskoe-II on March 2, 1966 with $M=4.9$; Achkhoy-Martanovskoe earthquake
155 on June 17, 1969 with $M=5.1$; Starogroznenskoe earthquake on May 26, 1971 with $M=4.1$; Salatausskoe earthquake on December 23, 1974 with $M=5.0$. The data on past earthquakes impact allowed us to calibrate the seismic intensity attenuation models and the vulnerability function of residential buildings. It was possible to identify the zone boundaries with stable parameters of the macroseismic field (Frolova and Ugarov, 2018). The zone boundaries are shown by bolt blue rectangle (fig. 4) on the map of the epicenters of the strongest earthquakes in the central part of the Terek-Caspian trough
160 against the background of the main structural elements according to the “Scheme of seismogenic structures of the Chechen Republic and adjacent territories”. The authors came to the conclusion about the expediency of applying the Shebalin equation for Dagestan ($b=1.5$; $\nu=3.6$; $c=3.1$), compression ratio $k = 1.5$ and elliptic isoseismal orientation at an angle of 54° (Frolova and Gabsatarova, 2015) for near real time earthquakes loss assessment in the designated area.

Figure 5 shows an example of evaluating the consequences of the 2008 Kurchaloy earthquake which occurred in a
165 designated area, using calibrated Extremum IS models. The number of expected fatalities in emergency mode at $P = 0.9$ ranged from 12 to 100 people, which corresponded to the reported data on the death of 13 people during this earthquake. The error in determining shaking intensity I when using calibrated models does not exceed 30%, unlike similar evaluations of PAGER System, where discrepancies in several settlements were 1-2 grades of intensity scale.

Based on the macroseismic survey data from past events that have occurred in the territory of the Russian Federation and the
170 CIS countries, the authors obtained calibration parameters of the macroseismic field models for other earthquake prone areas. Given different availability of macroseismic data for studied regions of the Russian Federation and neighboring countries and their heterogeneity, not all quasi-stable parameters characterizing the attenuation of seismic intensity I can be determined for identified zones. Thus, for the Sochi zone, the calibration parameters of the Shebalin equation were $b=1.48$;

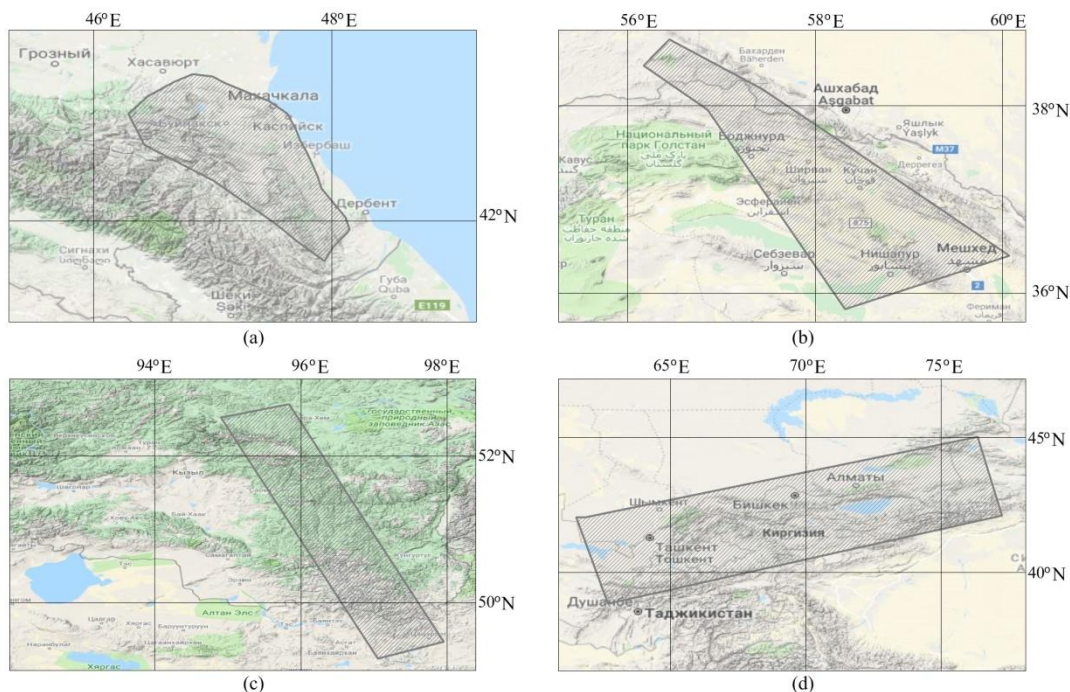


Figure 6: Zones with quasi stable parameters of macroseismic field: a – in the Caucasus; b– in the Kopetdag-Caspian region; c – in the Altai Sayan region; d– in Central Asia by (Frolova et al., 2019).

4 Results of the EMERCOM DB on events usage for statistical analysis of emergencies in risk reduction

185 The EMERCOM DB on events for the period from 1992 to 2018 was used not only to calibrate loss assessment models to improve the reliability of near real time estimates, but also for statistical assessments of emergencies to visually display the situation with emergencies in the country, as well as to develop maps of risk indicators.

Thus, our analysis of emergencies for the period under consideration provided the distribution of the frequency of occurrence of technological, natural and biological-social emergencies. The percentage of technological emergencies in the territory of the Russian Federation is more than 70% of the total number of emergencies (fig. 7). Natural hazards, due to their intensity and duration, can have a negative impact, exceeding the scale of technological emergencies. The percentage of economic loss caused by natural emergencies is more than 80% of the emergency total loss in the Russian Federation per year (fig. 8). According to the analyzed statistical data for the period from 1992 to 2018, more than 30% of the subjects of the Russian Federation are characterized by the frequency of annual emergencies exceeding the average level (more than 16 emergency situations per year).

More than 50% of emergency situations occurred in the Central (18%), Volga (17.4%) and Siberian (18.4%) federal districts with a population of more than 60% of the total population of the Russian Federation. The gross regional product of the Central, Volga and Siberian federal districts is more than 50% of the total gross domestic product of the Russian Federation.

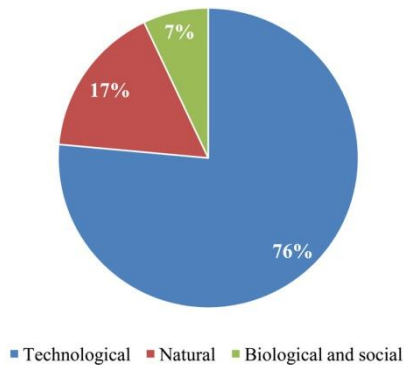


Figure 7: Frequency of different types' emergency.

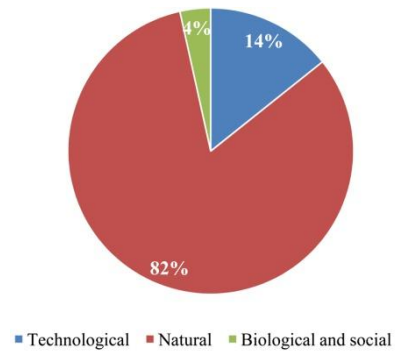


Figure 8: Economic losses due to emergencies.

200 Among the EMERCOM DB data on technological emergencies, explosions and fires at sites whose affected areas extend beyond their territories are especially dangerous. Their impact results in destruction of buildings, other facilities and structures, as well as in civilian casualties. Emergencies caused by fires account for more than 50% of the total number of technological emergencies (fig. 10).

The frequency of emergencies occurrence during transport accidents, including rail, road, sea and pipeline transport, is about 205 30% of the total number of technological emergencies.

More than 50% of technological emergencies occurred in the Central (21%), Volga (19.2%) and Siberian (16.1%) federal districts with a population exceeding 60% of the total population of the Russian Federation (fig. 11). The rate of occurrence of such emergencies varies by seasons per year (fig. 12). Seasonality factor is used to forecast and justify preventive measures in order to mitigate negative consequences. In winter, the frequency of emergencies increases by 30% compared 210 with the frequency of events in spring, summer or autumn.

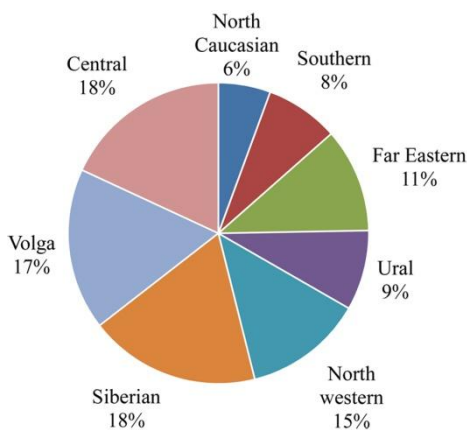


Figure 9: Emergencies distribution by federal districts of the Russian Federation.

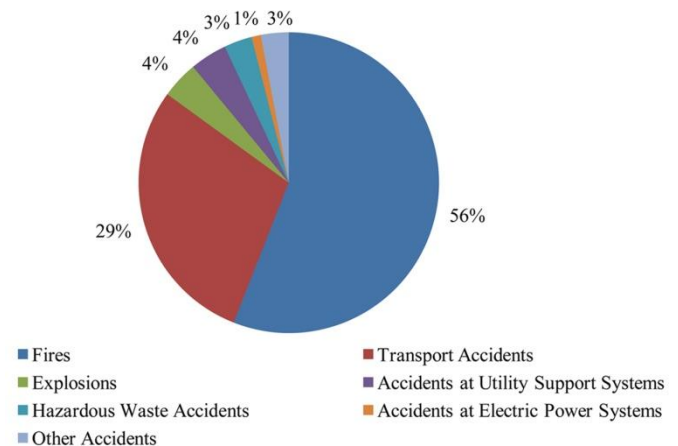


Figure 10: Distribution of frequently repeated technological emergencies.

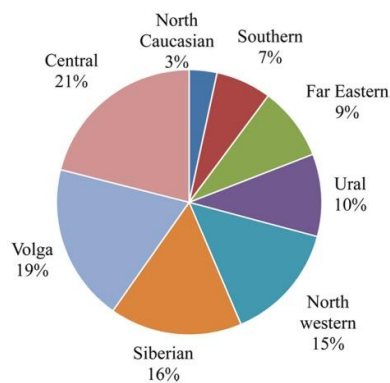


Figure 11: Distribution of technological emergencies by federal districts of the Russian Federation.

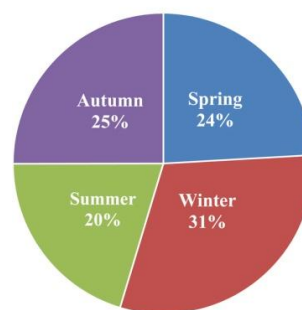


Figure 12: Seasonal distribution of technological emergencies.

Mapping the results of statistical analysis of EMERCOM DB data for the period from 1992 to 2018 (fig. 13) allows you to rank the subjects according to the frequency of occurrence of emergencies and select subjects for a more detailed assessment or to check of the readiness of forces and resources to respond to emergencies and to implement preventive measures (Paskaleva, Rangelov, 2015).

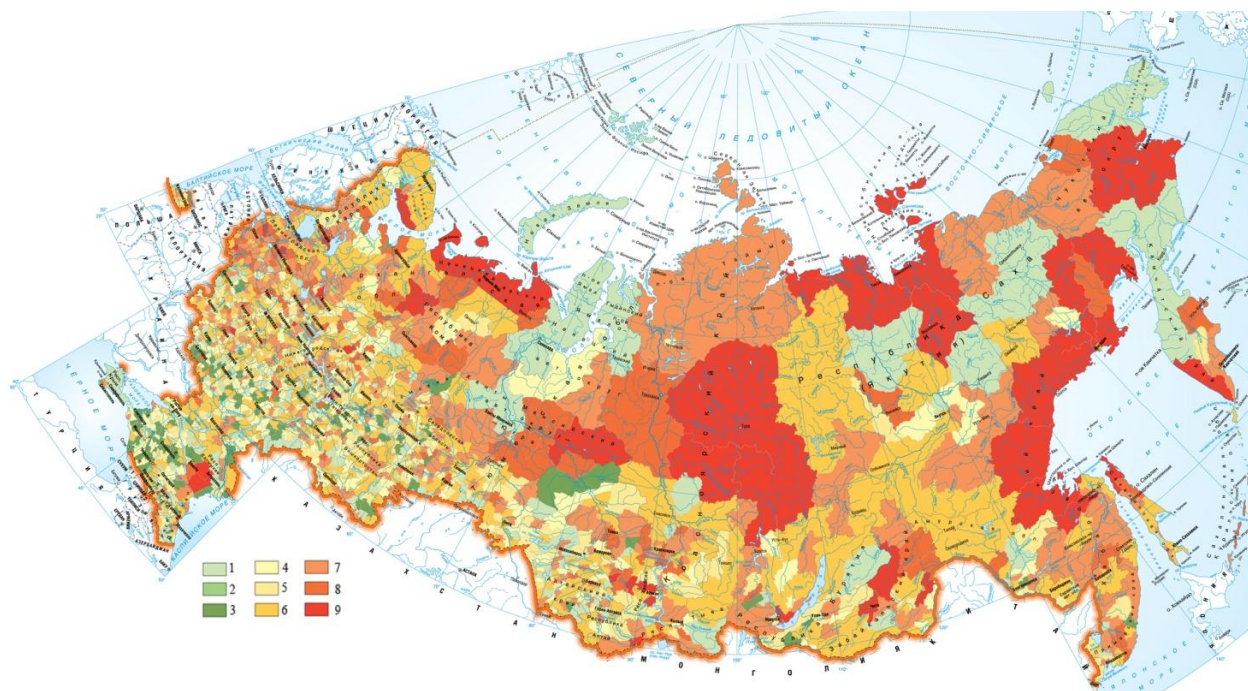


Figure 13: Frequency of natural and technological emergencies according to statistical analysis of EMERCOM DB on events' information about emergency consequences for the period 1992-2008: number of events per year: 1 - less than 1; 2 – 1 up to 10; 3 – 10 up to 50; 4 – 50 up to 100; 5 – 100 up to 150; 6 – 150 up to 300; 7- 300 up to 600; 8- 600 up to 1,000; 9 – more than 1,000.

220 The statistical data available in the EMERCOM DB and simulation models calibrated on its basis make it possible to update the information on individual types of emergencies. Figure 14 presents an updating example for individual risk assessments due to natural hazards where we incorporate six natural disasters, viz., earthquakes, floods, storms, landslides, mudflows and avalanches.



Figure 14: Individual natural risk R_3 for the population of the Russian Federation: risk R_3 , 10^{-5} 1/year categories: 1 - less than 0.1; 2- 0.1 up to 1; 3 – 1 up to 2; 4 – 2 up to 5; 5 – 5 up to 10; 6 – 10 up to 15; 7 – 15 up to 30; 8 – 30 up to 100; 9 – 100 up to 150; 10 - more than 150.

225 In our estimation of the parameters that represent an integrated risk caused by several natural disasters, we used probabilistic considerations. The probabilistic approach is in place here because an emergency situation that can occur for people is evidently stochastic. We are not in a position to determine the intensity of the damaging factor with 100% certainty in the zone where the elements at risk are. The effects of similar factors on same-type elements at risk will yield different probabilities of damage to these elements. To calculate the risk parameters, we assumed the events to be independent, i.e., as concerns the social losses due to emergencies arising from natural disasters. We incorporated the probability for people to 230 happen to be in the affected area, equally as the density of population in the larger cities with more than 500 thousand inhabitants.

Our chief sources of data were thematic maps in vector form supplied with descriptions of the areas where various natural disasters can occur, and the associated parameters of the disasters are different. Statistical selections with descriptions of the locations and the extent of the damage due to these hazards as found in the EMERCOM DB for events and other archival databases, including the database of the Sergeev Institute of Environmental Geoscience of RAS (Osipov et al., 2009; Osipov et al., 2011; Osipov et al., 2017), were employed to determine vulnerability parameters due to floods, storms, landslides, mudflows, and avalanches. A set of review seismic zoning maps for the Russian Federation area (Set..., 1998) was used as the chief data source for the level of earthquake hazards. The information about the distribution of residents and buildings was based on results of an inventory (fig. 2).

Estimates of integrated risk parameters as found for population centers were averaged for administrative areas. We have made three maps of individual integrated risk due to natural hazards for the population of the Russian Federation (Frolova et al., 2014; Frolova et al. 2017): R_{e1} is the probability of fatalities caused by the processes; R_{e2} is the probability of fatalities or injuries of various degrees; R_{e3} is the probability of fatalities or injuries of various degrees, or material losses. The highest values of individual risk due to natural disasters in the map R_{e3} (fig. 14) that apply to fatalities or injuries of various degrees, or material losses in the case of the six natural processes dealt with here were found for Kamchatka, the Altai Republic, the Krasnodar and Trans-Baikal regions, the Republics of Buryatiya and Tyva, Sakhalin Island, the Altai Krai, and Northern Ossetia.

5 Conclusions

The article defines the role and place of the DB containing descriptions of events and their impact in the EMERCOM IS. The ordered event data obtained by EMERCOM and various agencies as a result of field survey and by remote sensing techniques is used in the IS to address all the main problems in mitigating the impact of natural and technological emergencies.

The application of EMERCOM DB for events to calibrate IS mathematical models allows us to enhance the reliability of results from simulations of possible emergency impact, which affect the efficiency of decisions on response measures and facilitates rescue operations.

The above statistical analysis of data contained in the EMERCOM DB associated with the place and time, enabled us to generate maps of emergency frequency and risk indicators, ensuring rational use of resources for preventive measures implementation aimed at risk reduction, as well as improving the adequacy of long-term forecasts for strategic investment planning.

It was noted that the activity concerned with the recording, classification, and description of natural and technological emergencies is the key issue in attempts to enhance the effectiveness of the Government's activities aimed at ensuring public safety against natural disasters and technological accidents. Created for these purposes, the EMERCOM IS, supported by the efforts of the National Center for Crisis Management of EMERCOM, needs further development and integration into the

network of similar systems providing services to other countries and the scientific community to minimize the level of risk.

265 Integration involves solving problems of standard description of events, searching ways to ensure access to the functions of entering new information and updating the existing one. In this regard, the article notes the positive experience of CODATA efforts, which addresses the problem of integrating and analyzing big data in order to reduce the risk of natural hazards.

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LIST OF RESPONSES TO THE REVIEWERS COMMENTS
on “Impact databases application for natural and technological risk management”

Anonymous Referee #1

Received and published: 12 September 2019

COMMENTS FOR THE AUTHORS:

13. Does the author give proper credit to previous and/or related work, and does he/she indicate clearly his/her own contribution?

Yes, it is. Some additional references are possible to include. (for examp. Rangelov B., 2011. Natural Hazards – nonlinearities and assessment., Acad. Publ. House (BAS), ISBN 978-954-332-419-7, 327 pp.)

18. Is there any part of the paper (title, abstract, main text, formulae, symbols, figures and their captions, tables, list of references, appendixes) that needs to be clarified, reduced, added, combined, or eliminated?

In the list of References could be added some publications which is possible to be used for extended research (for examp. B. Rangelov., A. Frantsova., 2017. Multihazards early warnings. Research, models and Bulgarian expertise., LAMBERT Academic Publishing., Saarbrücken, 224 pp. ISBN: 978-620-2-07727-9 and Paskaleva I., B. Rangelov. 2015. Lessons learned by recently happened natural disasters and future research needs., In “Engaging the Public to Fight the Consequences of Terrorism and Disasters.” Eds. I. Apostol, J. Mamasaklihsi, D. Subotta, D. Reimer. NATO Sci. for Peace and Security, E: Human and Societal Dynamics, vol. 120., IOS Press., 257-268 pp.)

Evaluation synthesis

The reference list is dominated by Russian publications. Some additional references are possible to be included. (for examp. Rangelov B., 2011. Natural Hazards – nonlinearities and assessment., Acad. Publ. House (BAS), ISBN 978-954-332-419-7, 327 pp.) to the section where the nonlinear effects are described.

In the list of References could be added some publications which is possible to be used for extended research (for examp. B. Rangelov., A. Frantsova., 2017. Multihazards early warnings. Research, models and Bulgarian expertise., LAMBERT Academic Publishing., Saarbrücken, 224 pp. ISBN: 978-620-2-07727-9 and Paskaleva I., B. Rangelov. 2015. Lessons learned by recently happened natural disasters and future research needs., In “Engaging the Public to Fight the Consequences of Terrorism and Disasters.” Eds. I. Apostol, J. Mamasaklihsi, D. Subotta, D. Reimer. NATO Sci. for Peace and Security, E: Human and Societal Dynamics, vol. 120., IOS Press., 257-268 pp.)

In the list of References have to be added some publications which is possible to be used for extended research on the topic presented by the paper (for examp. B. Rangelov., A. Frantsova., 2017. Multihazards early warnings. Research, models and Bulgarian expertise., LAMBERT Academic Publishing., Saarbrücken, 224 pp. ISBN: 978-620-2-07727-9

Paskaleva I., B. Rangelov. 2015. Lessons learned by recently happened natural disasters and future research needs., In “Engaging the Public to Fight the Consequences of Terrorism and Disasters.” Eds. I. Apostol, J. Mamasaklihsi, D. Subotta, D. Reimer. NATO Sci. for Peace and Security, E: Human and Societal Dynamics, vol. 120., IOS Press., 257-268 pp.)

Rangelov B., 2011. Natural Hazards – nonlinearities and assessment., Acad. Publ. House (BAS), ISBN 978-954-332-419-7, 327 pp.

Answer: The authors analyzed the recent results published in the papers recommended by Referee #1 and the corresponding references will be made in the final version of the manuscript.

Anonymous Referee #2

Received and published: 19 September 2019

COMMENTS FOR THE AUTHORS:

Specific comments I had a bit of difficulty in understanding the definition of impact databases? I would prefer to at least mention what the author means by impact databases? In the title, the author writes data bases, whereas in abstract databases (be consistent!!).

Answer: The authors will be consistent in writing word “database” in the final version of the paper.

For better understanding of “impact database” the links to similar impact databases will be given in the final version of the manuscript.

Dear Maria,

Thank you for your comments and positive decision about our manuscript publication with minor revisions.

The infrastructure described in the manuscript was developed within the Russian Federal Programs and is maintained by EMERCOM National Center for Crisis Management. We suppose that similar infrastructures exist in many countries, especially in National Emergency Management Agencies, and used for natural and technological emergency management at the country level. Usually such infrastructures are accessible within specific projects to solve definite tasks. The examples of these data usage within national projects are given in our paper. This and other similar infrastructures should be definitely accessed within the international projects as well. We do our best to participate in international activity aimed at disaster risk reduction with special attention to earthquake risk management.

In 2004 we were invited to JRC to share our experience on global system Extremum assigned for near real time loss assessment due to earthquakes. At that time Extremum and its latest versions were most probably the best probabilistic earthquake mortality model existing and by that time it had been tested and improved for over 10 years. It was a large interest on both sides, JRC and Russian Academy of Sciences, to collaborate on the issue of near real-time earthquake impact modelling and alerting. Both parties were aware that a single model is not enough for informed decisions. Decision makers wanted to be able to compare and/or combine the outcomes of many models, many approaches and many methodologies.

We are quite aware that impact databases on earthquake consequences are very important in order to increase the reliability of loss estimations by application of existing near real time global Systems. In 2010 my coauthor and me prepared the proposal for the 27th CODATA General Assembly about new Task Group “Knowledge-Base on Physical and Socio-Economical Consequences of Damaging Earthquakes”. Many scientists who were ready to take part in this TG activity are still involved in this field (see attached file).

For instance, in 2011-2014 prof. Robin Spence was one of the scientific leaders of the GEM Project aimed at development of the Global Earthquake Consequence Database. In 2018 we initiated together with him and CODATA the ESC special session in order to investigate the state of the art of existing impact databases on past earthquake consequences, to summarize different factors affecting on the reliability of near real time loss estimations and identify the way to minimize their influence. The important aim of this session was to explore ways in which the datasets on earthquake consequences from different countries and institutions could possibly be merged, and to what extent these data should be harmonized, as well as to discuss different issues dealt with creation of distributed data base. At present we continue this activity within the CODATA Task Group on Linked Open Data for Global Disaster Risk Research. This September we issued the study report “Next Generation Disaster Data Infrastructure” (see attached file). In this Report the proper attention is given to impact databases on earthquakes and loss estimations in emergency mode. The general issues of disaster data collection and transmission, standards and formats, quality and control, availability and others are discussed. We do hope that the proposed in the Report the next generation of disaster data infrastructure, which includes both novel and the most essential information systems and services that a country or a region can depend on to successfully gather, process and display disaster data to reduce the impact of natural hazards, including earthquakes. Therefore, in our manuscript we gave reference to this study report and do hope it will stimulate the development of distributed databases on separate disasters in order to include the data from national database similar to ours described in the manuscript.

I am sorry for this long response on your comments on cooperation programmes. I am afraid that we will need another paper in order to analyze the achievements on development impact databases and increasing loss estimation reliability within international cooperation activity. In the manuscript submitted for your special issue we did our best to describe Russian national IS and its impact database, as well as the results of our study of these data usage within the Russian national projects.

In the final version of the manuscript we took into account your and Referee #1 comments and added new references of foreign investigators.

Interactive comment on “Impact databases application for natural and technological risk management”
by Nina I. Frolova et al.

Maria Bostenaru Dan (Editor)

csipike@web.de

Received and published: 8 November 2019

Many thanks for your thorough and detailed response! It is indeed very interesting to read about all these initiatives. It would be very good if reference is included to those attached to your response, and sufficient. Looking forward for a future article or presentation describing what is in the response!

Authors response to the editor comments

Dear Maria,

Thanks again for your kind comments.

According to your comment we added the reference for the CODATA study report to the list of references. In the previous version of the manuscript it was only mentioned as web reference <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.3406127> on line #60.

We are also looking for future cooperation.