





To achieve wildfire *resilience* in an *equitable* and *sustainable* manner with the help of convergence research and co-production with stakeholders



WHAT WE CURRENTLY HAVE

- National low spatio-temporal resolution fire detection and ecosystem response datasets
- Forestry- and rangeland-centric workforce to handle wildfires with limited access to advanced wildfire Decision Support tools.
- Isolated centers and labs focused on pieces of the wildland fire problem.

Call to Action

WHAT IS URGENTLY NEEDED

- Technology, predictive tools, and design codes to help communities prepare for and survive fires.
- System to integrate existing wildfire tools and data nationally.
- System to share data and promote standards.
- Workforce trained in diverse perspectives including engineering, fires science, and community engagement.



Why a Center?

- Siloed approaches will not yield a solution to a "wicked problem"
- A system-of-systems perspective is lacking
- · Convergent research towards a unified vision is needed



Why an Engineering Center?

- Building on decades of experience in hazard engineering and disaster resilience sciences
- Converging fundamental science and technology solutions towards decision support tools to tackle the wildfire problem



OPTIMAL SOLUTION



A "Wicked" Problem

How are we different?

Activ

Post

Pre

Open Source

Convergence and Co-Production by Academia, Government, Private Enterprise, and Nonprofits

Emphasizing resilience-impacting regimes of wildfire (Pre and Post)

Characterizing socio-economic risks & resilience

Featuring Makers & Field Operations teams

Building Resilience from the Ground Up



Resilience Assessment Framework







Loss Risk Assessment

Capacity Assessment

Infographics: Headwaters Economics

CyPRES.Oracle

Open resilience assessment code library and environment





Co-develop Performance Objectives with Communities and Stakeholders



Who are we?



Ertugrul Taciroglu UCLA Research Interests: Regional Natural Hazard Risk Assessment. Computational Science & Engineering



Hamed Ebrahimian University of Nevada, Reno

Research Interests: Risk assessment/decision making under uncertainty, integration of computational models with data/Digital Twins



Negar Elhami-Khorasani University at Buffalo Research Interests: Fire engineering; resilient communities; cascading hazards



Alistair Smith University of Idaho Research Interests: Combustion physics Wildland fire science, Forest biometrics



Alark Saxena Northern Arizona University Research Interests: Forestry; Sustainability;, Disaster Risk Reduction, Social-ecological resilience



Rachael Brady

UCLA Former CAL FIRE Research Data Specialist and 9-1-1 Dispatcher



Paolo Gardoni University of Illinois Research Interests: Risk and reliability, Natural hazard resilience



Foundational Pillars of an ERC



Research Thrusts





Research Thrust

Hazard and Exposure

Researchers





Branko Kosovic

| Name | Affiliation | Department/School | Area of Research |
|------------------------|-------------|---|---|
| Hazard and Exposure | | | |
| Negar Elhami-Khorasani | UB | Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering | WUI communities, resilience |
| Branko Kosovic | NCAR | Director of the Weather Systems and Assessment Program | Wildfire modeling |
| Hamed Ebrahimian | UNR | Civil and Environmental Engineering | Risk assessment, resilience, Rapid Response Technology |
| Qing Zhu | UCLA/LBNL | Wildfire Group | Ignition ++ |
| Andy Thode | NAU | School of Forestry | Fire Ecology and Management, Fire Science, Burn Severity |
| Melissa Bukovsky | NCAR | | Regional Climate Model, climate analysis and climate change impacts |
| Jacquelyn Shuman | NCAR | | Land Fuel Model |
| Zhenduo Zhu | UB | Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering | Suppression modeling, solutions, and impacts |
| George Gross | UIUC | Electrical & Computer Engineering | |
| Rajesh Kumar | NCAR | | Air Quality Model |



Objectives & Scope

The **objective** of the **Hazard and Exposure** research thrust is to establish high-fidelity, scalable, and dynamic simulations of "climate and land", "fire ignition and propagation", and "plume dynamics", for which the uncertainties and modeling errors will be quantified.

A framework will be developed to link the *macroscopic* modeling of regions with the *microscopic* modeling of individual houses in a WUI community.

Sample projects:

- H&E 1: Wildfire hazard predictions and projections considering climate change
- H&E 2: Interdependencies between wildfire and power network pre- and post-ignition
- H&E 3: Behavior of destructive wildfires
- H&E 4: Predicting wildfire impacts on air quality



Current Gaps

There is a large body of literature related to wildfire hazard and exposure analysis but there are still no researched and validated predictive models that integrate and connect processes at different spatial and temporal scales from climate to ignition of individual structures that could be used for wildfire resilience assessment.

Hazard and Exposure will generate fundamental knowledge on

- (1) the role of human activities on the pattern and likelihood of destructive wildfires,
- (2) interdependencies between fire behavior and characteristics of urban communities, and
- (3) predicting near-source and downwind transport and transformation of spatially and temporally varying fire emissions into criteria pollutants



Contributions



Deliverables: validated simulation tools for continuous fire spread across wildland and communities, the likelihood of failure in the power grid, changes in air quality, and the effect of human actions on fire behavior in the wildland and urban areas considering climate change.





Research Thrust

Loss and Recovery

Researchers





Susan Cutter

| Name Affiliation | | Department/School | Area of Research | |
|-------------------|------------------------------|---|--|--|
| Loss and Recovery | | | | |
| Paolo Gardoni | UIUC | Civil and Environmental Engineering | Infrastructure resilience, reliability | |
| Susan Cutter | University of South Carolina | Department of Geography | Social science | |
| Adam Rose | USC | School of Public Policy | Economics and Public Policy | |
| Robert Shriver | UNR | Department of Natural Resources & Environmental Science | Impacts of environmental variability | |
| Ben Sullivan | UNR | Natural Resources & Environmental Science | Land/fuel modeling | |
| Erin Brooks | UI | Department of Soil and Water Systems | Complex ecosystems | |
| Arden Rowell | UIUC | College of Law | Environmental law | |
| Sudeep Chandra | UNR | Department of Biology | Aquatic ecosystems | |
| Mariana Dobre | UI | College of Agricultural and Life Science | Hydrology | |
| Regan Patterson | UCLA | Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering | Air quality | |
| Paige Fischer | University of Michigan | School for Environment and Sustainability | Human dimensions of environmental change | |
| Tom Cova | University of Utah | Department of Geography | Evacuation | |
| Kirstin Dow | University of South Carolina | Geography | Adaptation, climate risk | |
| Anthony Wexler | UC Davis | Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering | Air quality | |
| Ryan Fitch | NAU | Department of Economics, Finance, and Accounting | Wildfire economics, ecological economics | |
| Ian Sue Wing | Boston University | Earth and Environment | Climate policy models | |
| Dan Wei | USC | Geography | Energy and Environmental Economics | |
| Fynn Prager | CSUDH | Public Administration | Public policies | |



Objectives & Scope

The Loss & Recovery Thrust will focus on

- a) predicting the direct, indirect, short-, and long-term effects in the
 - 1. built-environment domain
 - 2. ecosystems domain
 - 3. social domain
 - 4. economic domain
 - 5. human exposure domain
- b) modeling the recovery of the impacted systems

The focus will be on the fundamental understanding and modeling of

- 1. the effects of fires on the built-environment (structures and infrastructure) considering the dependences among different elements and the service their provide to communities
- 2. identify short and long-term vulnerability and sensitivity to direct and cascading effects of wildfire in diverse ecosystems across spatial scales
- place-based vulnerability and adaptive capacity of WUI communities, factors influencing mitigation and protective actions, social behavior during wildfires, and post-fire recovery time
- 4. regional and multi-regional direct and indirect economic impacts across sectors, regions, and socio-economic groups through advances in computable general equilibrium (CGE) models
- 5. impacts due to plume dispersion and concomitant human exposure measured through equity-informed metrics

The work will use the output from the Hazard & Exposure Thrust and provide input to the Resilience Pathway Thrust

Current Gaps



A significant body of research has proposed fire-adapted communities with a focus on reducing the vulnerability of individual structures, evacuation, or impacts of wildland fire management on communities, however, <u>no framework exists to quantify</u> <u>damage and recovery paths of the built environment after a wildfire that explicitly considers buildings, ancillary objects (e.g., yards, sheds), and critical infrastructure</u>



 An increase in the severity and frequency of wildfire with future climates has the potential to dramatically affect large ecosystems, however, <u>ecosystems in the western US have varying levels of resistance and resilience to fire and limited work has</u> focused on a holistic assessment and prediction



As wildfire risk increases and impacts extend beyond the proximate area there is an upsurge in demand for putting people first in managing the risks especially among the most vulnerable households and communities who may be unlikely or unable to cope with and adapt to wildfire risk on their own, however, <u>there is a paucity of research on contextualizing the differences in</u> <u>communities in WUI regions exposed to wildfire risks based on their relative levels of social vulnerability and inherent resilience</u> <u>capacities</u>



There is a need to better understand the impact of wildfires on the economies at the regional and national level, and to develop models that can predict computationally the economic impact and recovery



<u>There is a need to improve exposure risk communication during wildfires and in anticipation of wildfire events, and better</u> <u>understand plume dispersion and concomitant human exposure</u>

Contributions

This thrust will produce the fundamental knowledge and models for



- the probability of damage and recovery time and cost of structures, infrastructure, and a community impacted by wildfires
- 2. the effects of large and severe fires on ecosystem processes and their recovery (e.g., soil and vegetation, habitat and species, water quality, landslide risk, timber/agriculture loss, and carbon sequestration)



. place-based vulnerability and adaptive capacity of WUI communities, factors influencing mitigation and protective actions, social behavior during wildfires, and post-fire recovery time



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- . regional and multi-regional direct and indirect economic impacts across sectors, regions, and socio-economic groups through advances in computable general equilibrium (CGE) models
- 5. impacts due to plume dispersion and concomitant human exposure measured through equity-informed metrics





Research Thrust

Resilience Pathways

Researchers





Adam Rose

| Name Affiliation | | Department/School | Area of Research | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Resilience Pathways | | | | |
| Alistair Smith | UI | College of Natural Resources | Wildland fire science | |
| Adam Rose | University of Southern California | School of Public Policy | Economics | |
| Dan Wei | University of Southern California | School of Public Policy | Policy / Economics | |
| Ali Mosleh | UCLA | Civil and Environmental Engineering | Risk and reliability | |
| Tarannom Parhizkar | UCLA | Civil and Environmental Engineering | | |
| Alark Saxena | NAU | School of Forestry | Socio-ecological resilience | |
| Rajan Batta | UB | Industrial and Systems Eng. and Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs and Diversity | Education and workforce + system integration | |
| Colleen Murphy | UIUC | College of Law | Legal and ethical dimensions of risks | |



Objectives & Scope

The *Resilience Pathways Thrust* will focus on codeveloping, with the Testbed Communities, feasible solution pathways for wildfire resilience.

> Create "Blueprints for Resilience" Identify Intervention Capabilities

Assess Tradeoff Scale and Dimensions

Quantify Tradeoff Impacts

Ensure Sustainability and Equity

Construct Regional Economic Models

The focus will be on identifying and modeling:

- 1. Plausible pathways that align with what community groups consider as wildfire resilience from the infinite set of possible solutions.
- 2. Magnitude, frequency, and timing of plausible interventions to achieve resilience pathways.
- 3. Scales (spatial and temporal) and dimensions (governance, values, resources, etc.) drivers and factors that impact tradeoff decisions.
- 4. Tradeoffs and costs (economic, resource, trust, etc.) between different plausible interventions and pathways.
- 5. Approaches and strategies to ensure sustainability and equity of tradeoff decisions, including mitigation pathways, especially when tensions may arise between stakeholders.
- 6. Project example: Construct regional economic models of Testbed economies, including use of survey data, to project future baselines and trade-offs.

The research will use the outputs from the Hazards & Exposure Thrust, Loss & Recovery Thrust, and Knowledge Co-Production (KCP) group and will provide iterative inputs to all the other Thrusts.



Current Gaps

- Key knowledge barriers exist in our understanding of the multisystemic resilience of socio-ecological, economic and technological systems to wildfires.
- Most research has focused on interventions on wildland fuels prior to the fire. We **urgently** need to assess dynamic interventions, as communities and landscapes can exhibit different problem scales and capacities to adapt, absorb, and recover from wildfires.
- Although we manage lands for multiple objectives, most research has focused on how fires impact single ecosystem goods or services and rarely examines tradeoffs between different decision pathways.
- We need to understand how tradeoffs between different values of interest (e.g., timber, real estate, tourism) and pathways with varying dynamic technological interventions (i.e., at multiple timepoints in the pre- to post-fire continuum) impact the ability of a community to mitigate in advance of a fire, recover and improve resilience to future wildfires.
- Although considerable research has focused on how individuals and communities can prepare and respond to wildfires, existing typologies do not provide what is required to be able to fully analyze interventions and tradeoff decisions across scales.
- Knowledge is limited of how sustainability and equity influence the ability of individuals, communities, and business/amenities that focus on a range of ecosystem goods and services to rebound rather than collapse following wildfires.
- Overall, these knowledge gaps limit the ability to assess the extent to which selection of various pathways, including static/dynamic interventions, influence the ability of diverse communities to absorb, recover, or adapt and transform to future wildfire scenarios.



Contributions

This thrust will produce the fundamental knowledge to:

- Assess the role that trade-offs, available resources, and changes in SETS, including capacity, governance dynamics, demographics, technological accessibility, etc., play in determining resilience strategies to future wildfires.
- Advance modeling and data visualization technologies (e.g., virtual reality, extended reality) to facilitate convergence and improve the understanding of how interventions across scales can improve or impair varying community values, visions, and plausible resilience pathways.
- Identify what approaches best increase stakeholder co-production (particularly from the perspective of diversity and inclusion) in resilience analysis.
- Identify key methods to enable long-term monitoring and evaluation of resilience tradeoffs and pathways for achieving current and future community wildfire resilience visions.
- Co-develop an advanced typology of communities vulnerable to wildfires.
- Construct dynamic economic models of forest-based economies for projection and analysis.





Research Thrust - Enabling Technology

Data and Infrastructure

Researchers





Mohamad Alipour

| Name | Affiliation | Department/School | Area of Research |
|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Software and Data | | | |
| Tim Cockerill | TACC | User Services (Director) | Web-based platform supporting natural hazards research |
| Mohamad Alipour | UIUC | Civil and Environmental Engineering | Construction Materials, Sustainable and Resilient Infast |
| Paul Navratil | TACC | Strategic Technologies | Hardware, software, data, analysis and UI/UX |
| John Anderson | University of Idaho | Virtual Technology & Design | Virtual reality |
| Roger Lew | University of Idaho | Virtual Technology & Design | Virtual reality, Sociotechnical systems |
| Frank McKenna | UC Berkeley | NHERI SimCenter | Software and data |





Data and Infrastructure







HIGH PERFORMANCE COMPUTING DATA MANAGEMENT

WEB PORTAL



High Performance Computing

Frontera

- 8,360 primary compute nodes 40PF, >1.5PB of RAM, 60PB scratch, 3PB fast (flash) scratch, fast interconnect.
- 2 Intel Cascade Lake processors, 56 cores, 192GB of RAM per node.
- Normal production runs to 2k nodes which is >100k cores.
- 16 NVDIMM nodes 6TB of RAM or fast storage.90 4x GPU nodes 360 RTX 5000 oil-cooled GPUs.

Lonestar6

- 560 nodes, each with 2 AMD EPYC 64-core processors.
- GPU subsystem 80 nodes, x3 NVIDIA Ampere A100 GPUs per node (120GB GPU memory, 256GB main memory per node).



Data Management/Storage

Tiered approach to storage

НРС

- /tmp each server on an HPC system, temporary, not shared.
- /scratch shared for all users on each HPC system, up to 100 Petabyte capacity, short duration for while you are running.
- /work mounted on all HPC systems, intermediate term working space (multi-year, no backups, relatively performant).

Data Collections

- Publish/Share Corral web accessible, high integrity, 50PB capacity this is where data from major projects like CyPRES lives.
- Tape Archive Ranch lower performance, effectively infinite (currently 200PB, should hit 1 Exabyte in next 4 years). In service since 1986 and counting.

Protected Data

- Important for wildfire social science researchers
- Support many types including IRB, PII, HIPAA, FERPA



Web Portal

| e Learning Center | NHERI Facilities | NHERI Community | News | Help | | | | Sea | irch DesignSa |
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| My Projects | Co-Pls | Dickinson, Katherine | , Devoss, F | Rick, Albright, Elizal | oeth, Rumbach, And | frew | | | |
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| | Mission Interview | s with local officials | | | | | | | |
| | Event | Marshall Fi | re | | | | | | |
| | Author(s) | Rumbach, | Andrew; Je | schke, Nathan; Cro | w, Deserai | | | | |
| | Date of Mission | 05-01-2022 | - 08-01-2 | 022 | | | | | |
| | Site Location | Boulder Co | unty Lat 3 | 9.9528° N Long 105 | .1686° W | | | | |
| | Date of Publicatio | n 09-07-2022 | | | | | | | |
| | DOI Citation | 10.17603/d | 2-n3bd-ab | 90 | | | | | |
| | License(s) | oci Open | Data Comr | nons Attribution | | | | | |



- Enable research workflows and access to high performance computing (HPC)
- Deliver web-accessible tools supporting analysis, visualization, and integration of diverse data types including *specialized GIS applications*
- Provide a platform for data sharing/publishing

And People

Access to TACC's ~200 professional staff



Roughly a third of our staff are experienced computational researchers and all of us provide support to the research community



Provide expert consulting and assistance including AI-focused support, hyperparameter tuning, performance optimization



Provide training on using the CyPRES cyberinfrastructure



Provide a dedicated queue in ticketing system for tracking issues and resolution





Enabling Technology

Researchers



| Name Affiliation | | Department/School | Area of Research | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|---|---------------------------|--|--|
| Software and Data | | | | | |
| Sriram Narasimhan | UCLA | Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering | Smart infrastructure | | |
| Lili Cai | University of Idaho | Department of Forest, Rangeland and Fire Sciences | Bio-based fire retardants | | |



Objective & Scope

The **objective** of the **CyPRES.Makers** enabling technology is to develop, test and validate technologically-driven solutions to wildfire risks and for resilience assessment in the pre-fire and post-fire scenarios



Current Gaps



An integrated technology-driven multiresolution framework incorporating sensed data and probabilistic models to inform risk and resiliency predictive models in pre and post-fire phases does not exist



Low-cost ubiquitous sensors relevant to pre and post fire hazard and resilience assessments and which can operate for long periods of time in resource-scarce (energy and bandwidth) environments is lacking



Algorithms that can mine pertinent information from multi-spectral and lidar data to inform predictive fire models in the context of WUI needs significant development



Testing and field validation of sensing technologies in relevant environments is lacking; contextualization and visualization of such data required for training and planning activities is also lacking

Contributions

Develop, test and validate new sensors and sensing systems which can support predictive simulation models (Oracle), rating systems, and provide unprecedented insights into identifying and mitigating primary risk and resilience drivers in the pre and post fire phases



Develop new mathematical models and algorithms for state estimation and inference from observed data, including but not limited to robot and environment state estimation, machine learning, and probabilistic decision-support methods Develop tools that harness the power of immersive environments such as VR and AR that will enable various stakeholders (e.g., researchers, policy makers, fire fighters) better visualize simulations, contextualize data, teleoperate sensing platforms, and train personnel involved in fire risk mitigation and community resilience planning activities.





Enabling Technology

Field Operations

Researchers





Neil Lareau

Sudeep Chandra

| Name | Affiliation | Department/School | Area of Research |
|----------------------------|-------------|---|---------------------------|
| Field Operations | | | |
| Neil Lareau (Field Ops) | UNR | Department of Physics | Lidar/Radar and fire data |
| Sudeep Chandra (Field Ops) | UNR | Natural Resources & Environmental Science | Watershed & Ecology |



Objective & Scope

The objective of the CyPRES.FieldOps quantify wildfire plume dynamics and fire generated winds to improve model development of fire impacts to regional processes, the downwind distribution of hazardous smoke and fall-out of ash and debris from wildfire plumes, and the immediate impacts to regional water quality and quantify



Current Gaps



Fire-generated circulations (updrafts and inflows) feedback on fire rate and direction of spread. Fire generated updrafts also loft embers, yielding non-linear fire progression and the development of mass fire. These are poorly understood processes that are insufficiently represented in most operational models, including coupled fire-atmosphere simulations.



Wildfire plumes transport hazardous levels of particulate pollution (i.e., PM2.5, metals, organic pollutants) to regions downwind from active fires, impacting human health and natural ecosystems. These plumes also transport coarse debris and ash (mm and larger material), referred to as pyrometeors. The fall out of these pyrometeors can also critically impact the chemistry and biology of aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems lingering from days to years as impacts in waterways.



Need to fill in gaps on model process that yield predicts of transport and impacts to human systems visualizing the changes that are generated from fire-generated circulations.



Use these predictions as a tools to engage with fire management and impact assessment.

Contributions



Deploy rapid response teams that will examine and contrast the dynamics with different initial characteristics in topography, vegetation, and density of human habitation. We will deploy a combination of a) lidar and radar remote sensing of plume processes, b) in-situ monitoring of smoke concentration and ash particle distributions, c) incident surface light, and c) water sensors proximate to the watershed and outside of the watersheds exhibiting high impact burning.



We will integrate the data collections with the cyberinfrastructure team which can help visualize wildfire movement, plume development and regional dispersion, on the ground changes to incident light, water quality (temperature, oxygen, conductivity), and changes to quantify.



We do anticipate equipment requests to the National Science Foundation supported DesignSafe-CI to support field actions related to wildfire hazards. We want to integrate with the knowledge co-production/ social science team to convey information to the communities if this helps them to understand the impacts and visualize the impacts of wildfire but we presume this will be integrated through The Oracle.





Testbeds

Researchers





Loretta Singletary

| Name | Affiliation | Department/School | Area of Research |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|----------------------|------------------------------|
| Testbeds and Co-Production | | | |
| Alark Saxena | NAU | School of Forestry | Social-ecological resilience |
| Loretta Singletary | LINR | Economics | Knowledge Co-Production, |
| Loretta Singletal y ONK Economics | | Stakeholder Outreach | |
| Christina Restaino | UNR | Living with Fire | Community Outreach / Policy |



Criteria for Testbed Selection

| SETS |
|----------------------|
| Fire Regime |
| WUI |
| Vulnerability |
| Operationalizability |
| Complexity |
| Representation |
| |



Fig. 1. Typology of wildland urban interface (WUI) area and growth for individual National Forests and regions, showing WUI area (2010) and level

Knowledge Co-Production Methods in Testbeds

Phase I - Assess Local Needs and Vision Identify and engage TAGs across 3-4 communities per testbed via focus groups

- Focus group data analyzed and results shared with science team and TAGs
- identify research agenda, Oracle development focused on co-produced vision for wildfire resilient future
- Convergence across DEI, Workforce development and Resilience pathways

Phase II – Assess Local Needs and Vision Virtually engage broader testbed actors to inform convergence research agenda/direction

E-survey question items co-produced using focus group results across all 3 testbeds
E-survey results used by science team to inform/shape research and Oracle

Phase III - Validate, Evaluate and Disseminate Virtual KCP sessions w/ TAG to verify convergence research findings to date, including Oracle

Pilot Oracle decision-support-tool in its infancy developmental stages with potential end-users
Evaluate veracity of KCP methods and typology that best align with testbed wildfire regimes
Evaluate ERC science team's KCP experiences contributing to convergence leading to Oracle

