# PROBABILISTIC SURVIVABILITY VERSUS TIME MOELING 

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#### Abstract

ABSRACT This presentation documents Kennedy Space Center's Independent Assessment work completed on three assessments for the Ground Systems Development and Operations (GSDO) Program to assist the Chief Safety and Mission Assurance Officer during key programmatic reviews and provided the GSDO Program with analyses of how egress time affects the likelihood of astronaut and ground worker survival during an emergency.


For each assessment, a team developed probability distributions for hazard scenarios to address statistical uncertainty, resulting in survivability plots over time. The first assessment developed a mathematical model of probabilistic survivability versus time to reach a safe location using an ideal Emergency Egress System at Launch Complex 39B (LC-39B); the second used the first model to evaluate and compare various egress systems under consideration at LC-39B. The third used a modified LC-39B model to determine if a specific hazard decreased survivability more rapidly than other events during flight hardware processing in Kennedy's Vehicle Assembly Building.

## SUMMARY

Based on the composite survivability versus time graphs from the first two assessments, there was a soft "knee" in the Figure of Merit graphs at eight minutes (ten minutes after egress ordered). Thus, the graphs illustrated to the decision makers that the final emergency egress design selected should have the capability of transporting the flight crew from the top of LC 39B to a safe location in eight minutes or less. Results for the third assessment were dominated by hazards that were classified as instantaneous in nature (e.g. stacking mishaps) and therefore had no effect on survivability vs time to egress the Vehicle Assembly Building (VAB). VAB emergency scenarios that degraded over time (e.g. fire) produced survivability vs time graphs that were line with aerospace industry norms.

## PROPOSED TYPE OF PRESENATION

Oral with a MS PowerPoint presentation.

## MAJOR INTEREST OF PAPER

Major Interest of the paper: Space Transportation and Safety, Operational Hazards, Emergencies, Egress, Survival, Decision Making, Probability Distribution Functions, Decision Support Systems, Safety Management, Fault Trees, Figure of Merit.

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## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For more details on the three assessments and the findings, you can read full report "Probabilistic Survivability Versus Time Modeling", NASA/TP-2015-218876 at url address: http://ntrs.nasa.gov or http://hdl.handle.net/2060/20150021266.


PROBABILISTIC SURVIVABILITY VERSUS TIME MODELING

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## AGENDA

Overview of the Kennedy Space Center (KSC) Independent Assessment Launch Complex 39B (LC 39B) Overview of Assessment

- Methodology
- Hazard Scenario Development
- Likelihood of Initiating Event
- Error Factor and Uncertainty Distribution
- Survivability Estimate
- Survivability Estimate Uncertainty
- Calculations
- Results

Vehicle Assembly Building (VAB) Overview of Assessment


- Methodology
- Calculations
- Results

Summary

## KSC INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT WHO ARE WE? WHAT DO WE DO?

## KSC Independent Assessment (IA)

- Capability funded by the Office of Safety and Mission Assurance fro the NASA Human Spaceflight Centers.
- Allows Human Spaceflight Centers to independently review and assess technical and mission risks associated with Program and Projects.
- Provides objective, non-advocating analysis and solutions.

Assessments triggered by multiple Customers

- KSC Center Director
- KSC SMA Director

- Program/Project Managers/Chief SMA Officers
- KSC Directors


## Wide variety of subjects

- Systemic processes (e.g. Mission Assurance)
- Institutional (e.g. Personnel Safety)
- Technical (e.g. LC 39B Emergency Egress Assessment)



## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

## Modernizing KSC's spaceport with capabilities to launch the Orion Crew Module and Space Launch System (SLS).

- Orion Crew Module will taking humans to multiple deep space destinations extending beyond our Moon, to Mars, and across our solar system.
- SLS will carry the Orion Crew Module, as well as cargo, equipment and scientific payloads into deep space.

The SLS will be launched from Launch Complex 39B (LC 39B) at KSC. SLS will be comprised of approximately:

- 2,772,100 pounds of solid propellant.
- 527,400 gallons of Liquid Hydrogen.
- 197,000 gallons of Liquid Oxygen.

Orion Crew Module


SLS Statue of Liberty

- 9,700 gallons of Monomethylhydrazine.
- 300 gallons of Nitrogen Tetroxide.


## SURVIVABILITY ASSESSMENTS

KSC IA was requested to perform survivability assessments to assist in program decision making:

- LC-39B Crew Survivability Assessments (2012).
- Evaluated crew survivability during launch countdown at Launch Complex 39B for different emergency egress concepts.
- VAB Emergency Egress Survivability Assessment (2013).
- Built upon methodologies used in LC-39B Crew Survivability Assessment.
- Evaluated worker survivability during processing of SLS and Orion in the VAB.



## OVERVIEW OF LC 39B ASSESSMENTS

If an emergency situation (fire, imminent explosion, etc.) developed with Orion or SLS during launch countdown,

- LC 39B Emergency Egress System quickly transports four astronauts inside the Orion Crew Module to a safe location:
- Apollo era heritage bunker ~ 1,200 feet west of LC 39B, or
- Any location outside the blast danger area radius ~ 6,000 feet.

Several emergency egress systems were under consideration (rail, slidewire, elevator, etc.).

- How can each system (defined as Method A1, A2, B1, etc.) be compared other than cost?


(c)


## METHODOLOGY OVERVIEW

## Problem:

- Find a way to generate data for the figures of merit (a graphical depiction of aggregated quantities used to characterize risk) for evaluating different Emergency Egress Concepts for astronauts at the LC-39B using survivability versus time to safety.


## Methodology:

- Develop Ground Rules and Assumptions
- Define Hazard Scenarios
- Determine Initiating Event Probability
- Determine Error Factor and Uncertainty Distribution
- Develop Survivability Estimate
- Establish Survivability Estimate Uncertainty



## DEVELOP GROUND RULES AND ASSUMPTIONS

## Defined Key Terms. For example:

- Is survival no death, or is survival no death or injuries?
- Death defined as 0\% survival.
- What is the timeframe when the event starts and stops?
- Two minutes for astronauts to unbuckle and egress out of the Orion Crew Module.
- Time intervals to reach a safe location were estimated at $0 \mathrm{~min}, 2 \mathrm{~min}, 4 \mathrm{~min}, 6 \mathrm{~min}, 8$ $\mathrm{min}, 10 \mathrm{~min}, 13 \mathrm{~min}$, and 15 min .
Assessment to evaluate astronaut survivability as a function of time.
- Assumed four astronauts moving together using a single egress method.

What is credible or non-credible event? For example:

- Likelihood of dying from a single object colliding with Earth is $1.6 \times 10^{-9} /$ year. Given that, should the assessment included survivability from an asteroid strike?



## DEFINE HAZARD SCENARIOS

The Fault Tree Analysis (FTA) Method was used to determine which Hazard Scenarios (sequence of events commencing with an initiating event that creates an undesirable outcome) would require an emergency egress. FTA Method resulted in the simplified Fault Tree below which enabled the IA Team to examine all paths from the Initiating Event List to the Top Event to establish credible scenarios.

- Top Event: - is the undesirable event.
- Example: Conduct an emergency egress.


## - Hazard Causes

- Hazard - A threat, internal or external to a system, that has the potential to cause harm. The threat is usually a state or set of conditions, but in some circumstances, can be an event or activity
- Examples: Fire, Unbreathable Atmosphere (Toxic or Smoke), Structural Failure (Explosion), or Other traumatic event (health, weather, terrorist treat, etc.).
- Initiating Events
- Initiating Event - Some anomalous occurrence that would eventually lead to a hazard that would require an emergency evacuation.
- Examples: Spacecraft Propellant Leak, Launch Vehicle Electrical Fire Starts, Premature Stage Separation Occurs, Ordnance Activation.



## DETERMINE INITIATING EVENT PROBABILITY

Conducted data analysis and reviewed historical documentation.

- Define the likelihood of something failing over time.
- Assigned a probability or likelihood of occurrence for each credible Initiating Event developed from the fault tree.
If no numerical data existed, the likelihood of occurrence was characterized by expert elicitation.
- Adjective rating such as medium or very low likelihood can be converted to a median numerical score.

Median value (50th percentile) is the Initiating Event likelihood of occurrence in Failure Space.

- Failure Space describes events or outcomes management does not want to occur.


## DETERMINE ERROR FACTOR AND UNCERTAINTY DISTRIBUTION

Determine the interval of values or uncertainty distribution for the likelihood of occurrence of the Initiating Event.

- Error Factor was used as a measure of dispersion around the median.
- IA Team's rule of thumb for selecting an Error Factor:
- Error factor 0-5 : mature system.
- Error factor 5-15: little information available or first application.
- Error Factor > 15: large uncertainties or no information or data.

Error Factor established Upper and Lower bounds for the uncertainty distribution.

- Lower Bound = Median Value/Error Factor.
- Upper Bound = Median Value* Error Factor.

Palisade Corporation's @RISK (pronounced "at risk")
Software was used to combine the Upper and Lower Bounds


Sample Likelihood and PERT with the median value to produce a PERT Distribution.

- Error factors are to be used with the lognormal distribution to describe the $5^{\text {th }}$ and $95^{\text {th }}$ percentiles.
- With the PERT distribution, these lower and upper values generated by the error factor method provide end points and not percentiles.


## DEVELOP SURVIVABILITY ESTIMATE

## Basis of Estimate for Survival to determine the survival score.

- IA Team consensus.
- Interviews.
- Consequence rating from hazard reports.
- Evaluation of similar systems and historical data.
- Combination of all these methods.


## Groundrules

- Assumed the initiating event occurs (set the likelihood to 1).
- Determine astronaut survival at each time interval assuming they all reached a safe haven (a location were they are no longer exposed to the hazard).
- The longer the astronauts were exposed to a hazard, the lower their survival was scored.



## ESTABLISH SURVIVABILITY ESTIMATE UNCERTAINTY

- The Median or "Most Likely" value (median) was the expected survival assuming the initiating event occurred.
- The Maximum or "Good Day" conditions were the optimal conditions (e.g. the event was not a severe as expected). This set the upper bound of the distribution.
- The Minimum or "Bad Day" conditions were where everything worked against the personnel surviving the hazard. This set the lower bound of the distribution.

Selection of these values resulted in an interval of values used to determine the uncertainty PERT distributions in @RISK.
Survival score given the event has occurred was defined in Success Space.


- Success Space (e.g., mission success) describes events or outcomes management does want to occur.


## CALCULATIONS

$P_{E}=$ likelihood of event occurring. [input in Failure Space]
$P_{S \mid E}=$ probability of surviving if event occurs. [input in Success Space]
Since Failure Space Distribution should not be multiple by a Success Space Distribution, we need to develop the $\mathrm{P}_{\text {DIE }}=$ probability of dying if event occurs which is calculated by:

$$
P_{D \mid E}=1-P_{S \mid E}
$$

$P_{D}=$ probability of dying due to this event which is calculated by:

$$
P_{D}=P_{E} * P_{D \mid E}=P_{E} *\left(1-P_{S \mid E}\right)
$$

$P_{S}=$ probability of surviving due to this event which is calculated by:

$$
P_{S}=1-P_{D}=\left(1-\left(P_{E} *\left(1-P_{S \mid E}\right)\right) \quad\right. \text { [output] }
$$

$P_{\text {Sall }}=$ probability of surviving the occurrence of all Initiating Events (assumes events are independent) which is calculated by:

$$
\left.P_{\mathrm{Sall}}=\Pi\left(P_{\mathrm{Si}}\right)=P_{\mathrm{S} 1} * P_{\mathrm{S} 2} * \ldots * P_{\mathrm{S} 65} \text { [output }\right]
$$

## CALCULATIONS (CONT.)

Used @RISK (an add-in to Microsoft Excel) and the Latin Hypercube sampling method when running probabilistic simulations at 50,000 iterations to calculate the output for each time interval (shown below as the red histogram).

- That is, @RISK used the probability distributions embedded in the risk model described in Excel to calculate each 50,000 outcomes.
- Thus, this method simulated 50,000 "what if" Scenarios at one time.

Given the Excel formula is:

$$
1-\left(P_{E} *\left(1-P_{S \mid E}\right)\right)=P_{S}
$$

- For one time interval and one Initiating Event, then the Excel formula with the @RISK add-in software makes:



## CALCULATIONS (CONT.)

This probabilistic simulation of the Excel formula produces a PERT distribution with results at the lower bound, most likely/median, and upper bound at a specific time.

- Generated the graphs the Customer requested was accomplish by exporting the $5^{\text {th }}, 50^{\text {th }}$, and $95^{\text {th }}$ percentiles of the output histogram for each hazard scenarios and the roll-up of all the scenarios at each specific time interval in to MS Excel.

The @RISK software could have been used to generate the same graph. However,

- Eliminating the @RISK graphs for each hazard and time interval speeds up @RISK processing time.
- Final graphs generated in MS Excel were visually appealing to the Customer.
a,


## RESULTS

## IA Team created five MS Excel files to illustrate/compare Astronaut survival by group or by individual credible hazards identified in the FTA These files were:

- All Scenarios, Fire Only Scenarios, Fire and Structural Failure Scenarios, Structural Failure Scenario, Unbreathable Atmosphere Scenarios.
The largest MS Excel file (All Scenarios) contained:
- 1,786 data entries per method of egress of Input Data.
- 2,337 data points generated per method of egress of Output Data.

Below is an example from a single MS Excel file for one time interval, one Initiating Event, and one egress method.


Figure of Notional Output Data
Output $\left(\mathrm{P}_{\mathrm{S}}\right)$ generated from @RISK histogram. These points are then plotted in MS Excel.

## RESULTS (CONT.)

Notional LC 39B Emergency Egress
As shown in the top right figure of merit, a "knee" (i.e. significant decrease in survivability) in the top graph can be seen at 10 minutes regardless of egress method.

- Each astronaut has 10 minutes of breathable air in their spacesuits.
- Decrease in crew survivability was attributed to no pre-staging of supplemental portable breathing air units.
Customer defined mitigation steps will be implemented to eliminate the knee.
- Breathing air unit will be pre-stage to allow astronauts to exchange units.
- With mitigation steps in place, knee at 10 minutes disappears in bottom graph.


Notional LC 39B Emergency Egress Unbreathable Atmosphere Scenarios Mitigated


## RESULTS (CONT.)

Notional Composite of All Scenarios Most Likely by EES Method


Notional Composite of Fire + TimeDependent Structural Hazard Scenarios Most Likely by EES Method


Various graphs of the Most Likely values for the seven methods assessed.
" Methods A1, A2, B1, B2, and B3 are roughly the same percentage survivability.

- Methods A1 and A2 transported Astronauts inside the blast danger zone.
- All other methods transported Astronauts outside the blast danger zone (~6000 feet).
- However, cost estimates to build Methods A1, B1, and B3 were ~\$40 million more than Methods A2, B2, and C1.

$23$


## OVERVIEW VAB ASSESSMENT

## Evaluation of workers survivability versus time during processing of SLS and Orion in the VAB at KSC.

## For the VAB Assessment,

- IA Team was asked to determine if an Initiating Event(s) produce a "knee" on the curve indicating that survivability decreased more rapidly than the other event(s).
- Evaluated multiple workers (~14-90 people) egressing from multiple locations compared to the LC 39B Assessment which assumed four astronauts moving together using a single egress method.
- SLS processing occurs in VAB Highbay 3. There are four highbays in the VAB. Each bay measures:
- 450 feet high, 209 feet wide, and 228 feet long.



## OVERVIEW VAB ASSESSMENT (CONT.)

Assembly and testing in VAB occurs over several months.

- Created eight different processing phases from the start of solid rocket motor erection to SLS/Orion roll out to the LC 39B.

- Time to reach an exit was estimated at eight time intervals of: $0 \mathrm{sec}, 10 \mathrm{sec}, 20 \mathrm{sec}, 30$

VAB Zones $\mathrm{sec}, 1 \mathrm{~min}, 2 \mathrm{~min}, 3 \mathrm{~min}$, and 5 min .



## METHODOLOGY

Methodology developed for LC 39B assessment (hazard scenario development, likelihood, survivability estimates, and probability distribution) was used for the VAB assessment.

- FTA for VAB assessment produced 78 Initiating Events.

To determine survivability for multiple personnel at multiple locations for a specific time, an Aggregate Survival Level was calculated as a weighted average based on manloading and Survival Level assigned to each Zone.

- Aggregate survival level formula for an individual Initiating Event during one Phase and at one time interval is:


Computation Fluid Dynamic Analysis of a Solid Rocket Motor Fire in VAB

$$
\mathrm{P}\left(\mathrm{~S}_{\text {Aggregate } \mid \mathrm{E}}\right)=\sum_{\mathrm{i}=\mathbf{1}}^{\mathbf{8}}\left[\left(\frac{\text { Headcount }_{\text {Zone } \mathrm{i}}}{\text { Total Headcount }}\right) * \mathrm{P}\left(\mathrm{~S}_{\text {Zone } \mathrm{i}} \mid \mathrm{E}\right)\right]
$$

- As outlined in the LC 39B assessment, then $P_{s}$ for all Zones, one Phase, one time interval and Initiating Event is:

$$
P_{S}=1-P_{D}=\left(1-\left(P_{E} *\left(1-P_{S_{\text {Aggregate } \mid E}}\right)\right) \quad\right. \text { [output] }
$$

## CALCULATIONS

## One MS Excel File with eight MS Excel Workbooks

- Each Workbook captured the results from a single phase.


## The largest MS Excel file contained:

- Eight workbooks (or tabs).
- Each workbook populated rows and columns with data that was:
- 96 columns wide.
- 715 rows deep.
- Processing time was between four to six hours for this large file using a dedicated laptop.
- Laptop was comprised of:
- Eight i7 Intel, 64 bit Processors.
- 16 GB RAM.
- MS Excel 64 bit software.
- An example of one workbook is shown on the next page.

CALCULATIONS (cont.)


- Trace Precedents and Dependents are on for Cells AF14, AG14:AG22, A022.
- Columns F and $\mathrm{K}-\mathrm{AE}$ are hidden for clarity.
$2 \cos ^{3}$


## RESULTS

A composite scenario was developed, denoted $\mathrm{P}\left(\mathrm{S}_{\text {All }}\right)$, which is the probability of surviving all initiating events for a given Phase, each time interval, and for all (aggregated) Zones.

A joint probability that contains 78 probabilities occurring at the same time mark. Thus, the VAB Emergency Egress Analysis formula for the probability of surviving all individual 78 Initiating Events at the same time is calculated in success space by:

$$
P_{\mathrm{Sall}}=\Pi\left(\mathrm{P}_{\mathrm{Si}}\right)=\mathrm{P}_{\mathrm{s} 1} * \mathrm{P}_{\mathrm{S} 2} * \ldots * \mathrm{P}_{\mathrm{s} 78} \text { [output] }
$$



## RESULTS (CONT.)

Pareto Analysis of all the hazard scenarios and all phases revealed slope of the survivability curve is dominated by five Instant Scenarios.

- These instant scenarios were five flight hardware stacking mishaps, arc flash, SRB fire, and propellant tank rupture.
- Instant Scenarios were defined as: Survivability rapidly decreases within the first few seconds and remains constant thereafter.
- Degrading scenarios survivability estimates were within industry norms.
- Degrading Scenarios were defined as: Survivability gradually decreases with time required to reach an Exit.

The figures of merit for the VAB assessment provided the decision makers with quantified risk to ground personnel during emergency egress in various operational concepts.

- Egress strategies (build enclosed egress paths, more egress paths, etc.) do not mitigate Instant Scenarios.
- \$6 - \$8 million cost avoidance.


## SUMMARY

Graphs developed from these assessments are a decisioninforming tool for Project Managers which roll up multiple factors:

- The whole population of the LC 39B or VAB.
- A specific time period.
- A spectrum of potential events.
- Weighted by the likelihood of occurrence of the event.

Both assessments were conducted early in the design process and resulted in cost savings, including \$40 million cost savings in LC 39B emergency egress design.

The information in this presentation is published in NASA Technical Paper "Probabilistic Survivability versus Time Modeling", NASA/TP-2015-218876 located at url address:
" http://ntrs.nasa.gov or

- http://hdl.handle.net/2060/20150021266.

