Permafrost-supported Linear Infrastructure Risk Analysis Software

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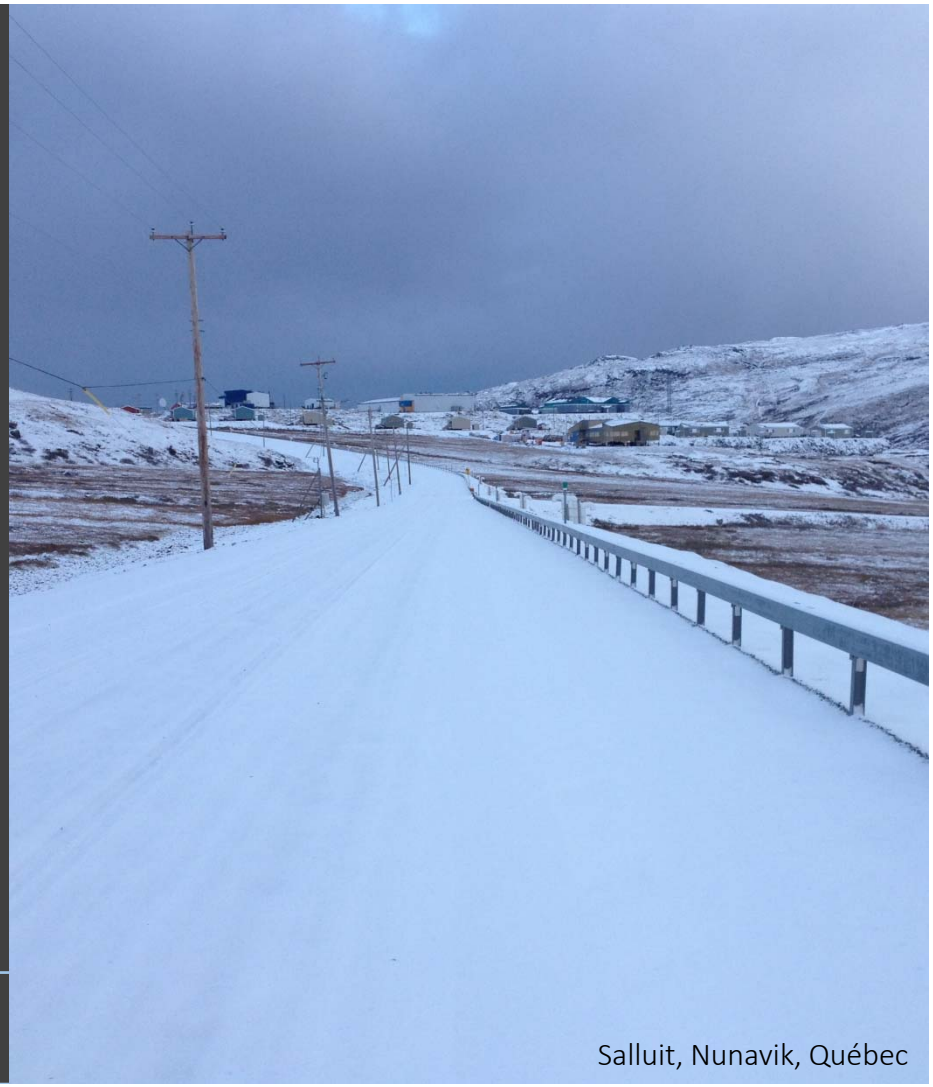


Salluit, Nunavik, Québec

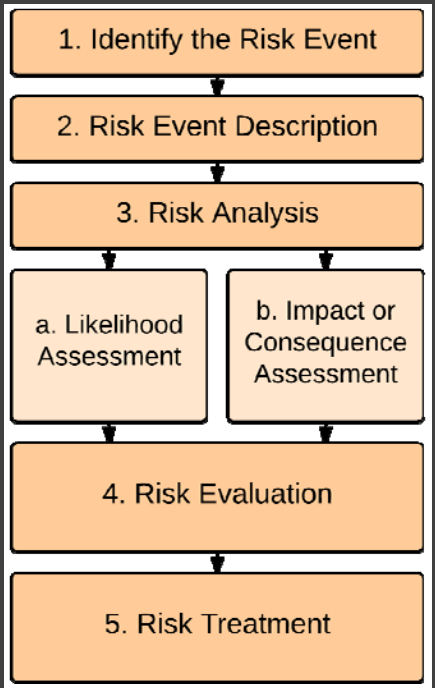
Project Objective

To **create** a quantitative risk analysis **methodology** and **tool** for embankment-supported infrastructure on permafrost **utilizing** site conditions, physical and/or empirical engineering calculations and consequences.

Definitions and Terminology

- **Danger**
  an event or process causing damage
- **Hazard**
  probability of a danger's occurrence within a time frame
- **Random Variable**
  uncertain input parameter
- **Consequence**
  cost of repair & damage from a danger's occurrence

Risk Analysis Process



Similar to descriptions from Public Safety Canada 2011

R = H x C x V

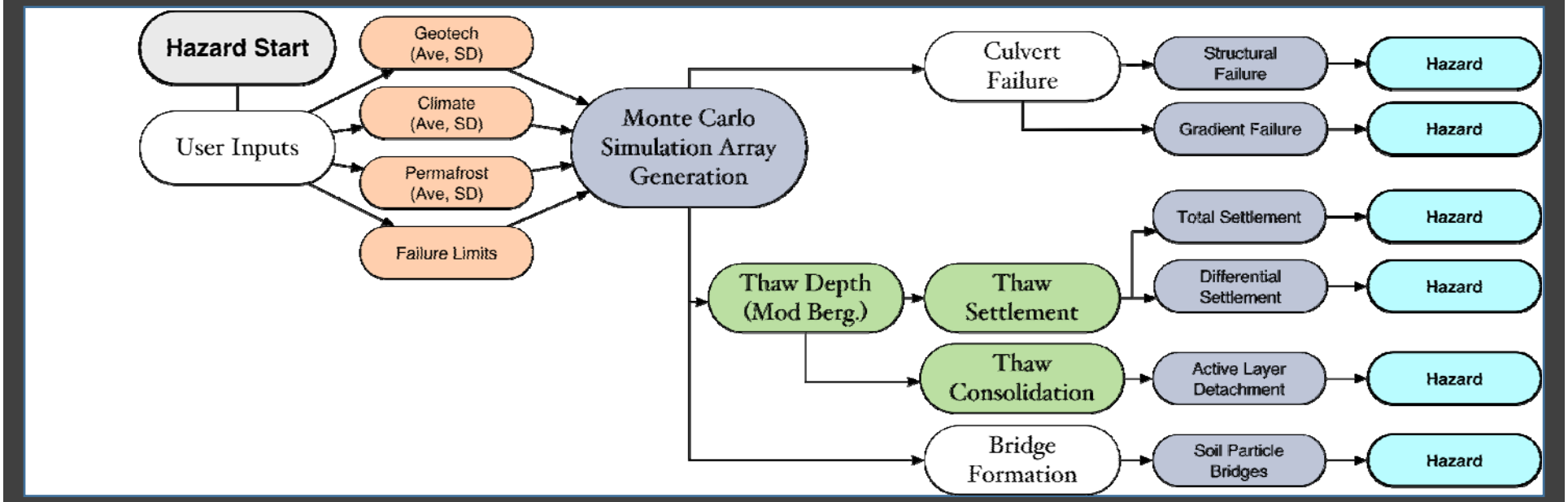
- R = Risk
- H = Hazard
- C = Consequence
- V = Vulnerability

Quantitative

- H from past experience or uncertainty calculation
- C calculated from expected damage
- V function of H severity and C

Hazard Identification & Description

Program Design – Hazard Analysis Process



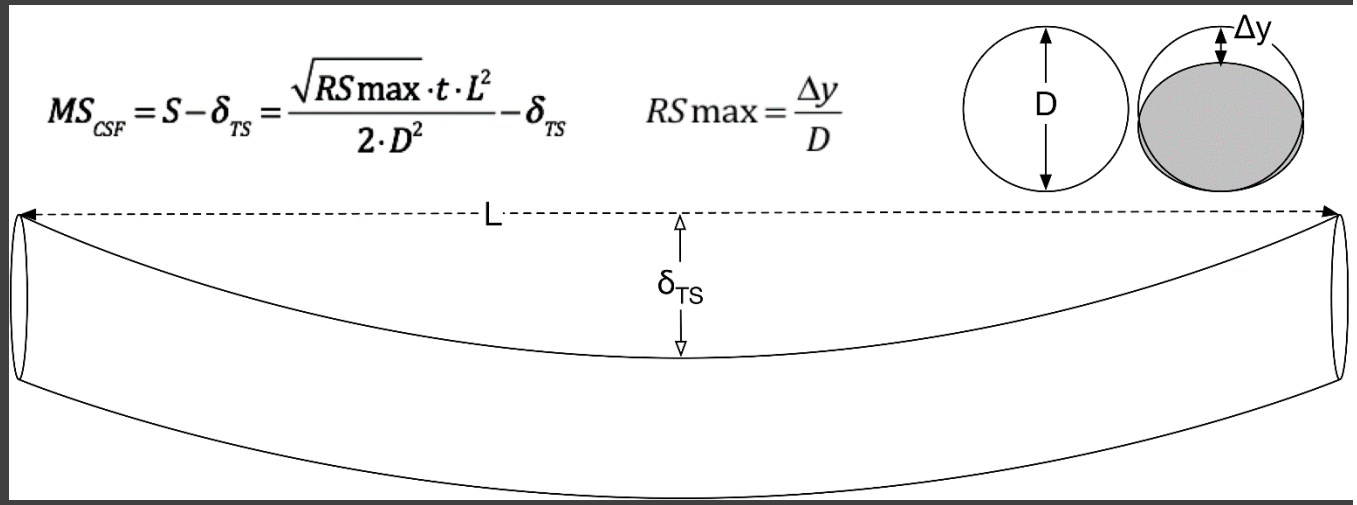
Hazard Definitions – Culvert Failure

Gradient Failure

- FS comparing current and allowable culvert slopes
- Assumes settlement occurs only at the culvert entrance

Hazard Definitions – Culvert Failure

$$MS_{CSF} = S - \delta_{TS} = \frac{\sqrt{RS\max \cdot t \cdot L^2}}{2 \cdot D^2} - \delta_{TS} \qquad RS\max = \frac{\Delta y}{D}$$



Structural Failure

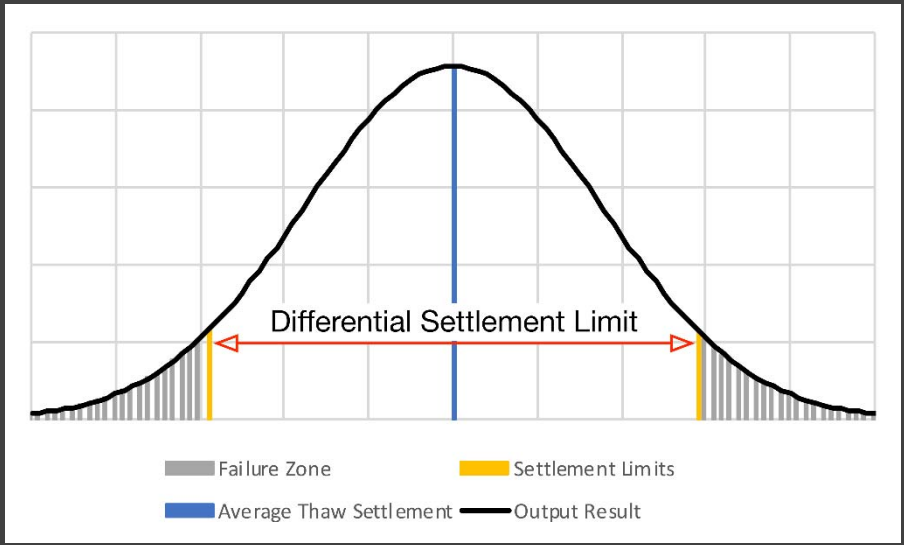
- MS comparing settlement and ring strain at failure
- Assumes settlement occurs only at the culvert centerline

Hazard Definitions – Thaw Settlement

Thaw Settlement

- Modified Berggren – 1D thaw depth analysis
- Luscher & Afifi (1973) thaw strain correlations

Total Thaw Settlement Hazard

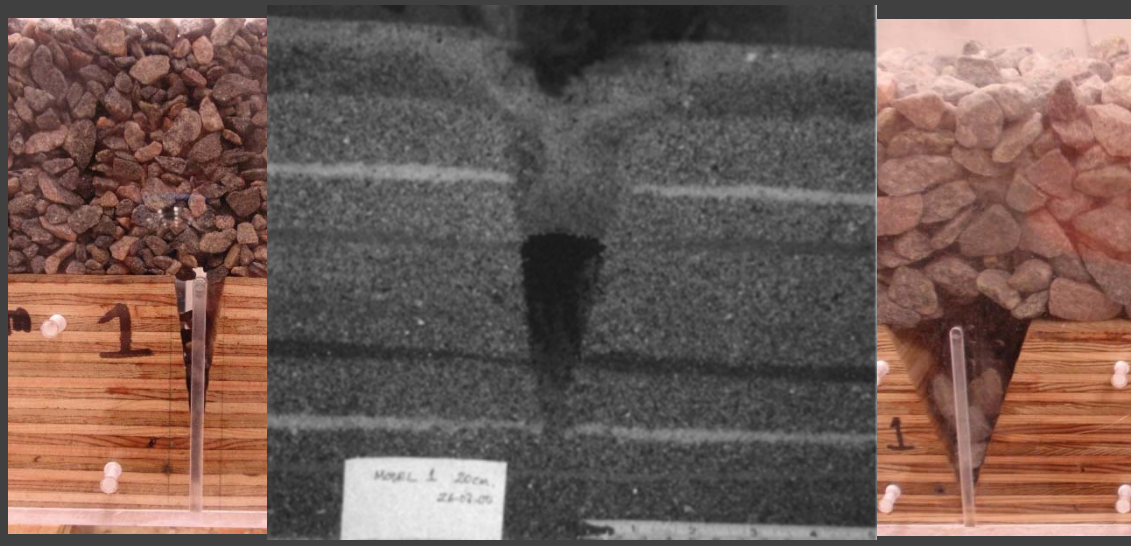


Differential Thaw Settlement Hazard

Hazard Definitions – Other Hazards

Particle Bridge Formation

- Common bridging ratios (width/particle size) range from 4 to 9.5
  - Confirmed with lab testing
  - Bridging ratio correlated with probability of occurrence
- Bridging may occur for large-grained fill embankments



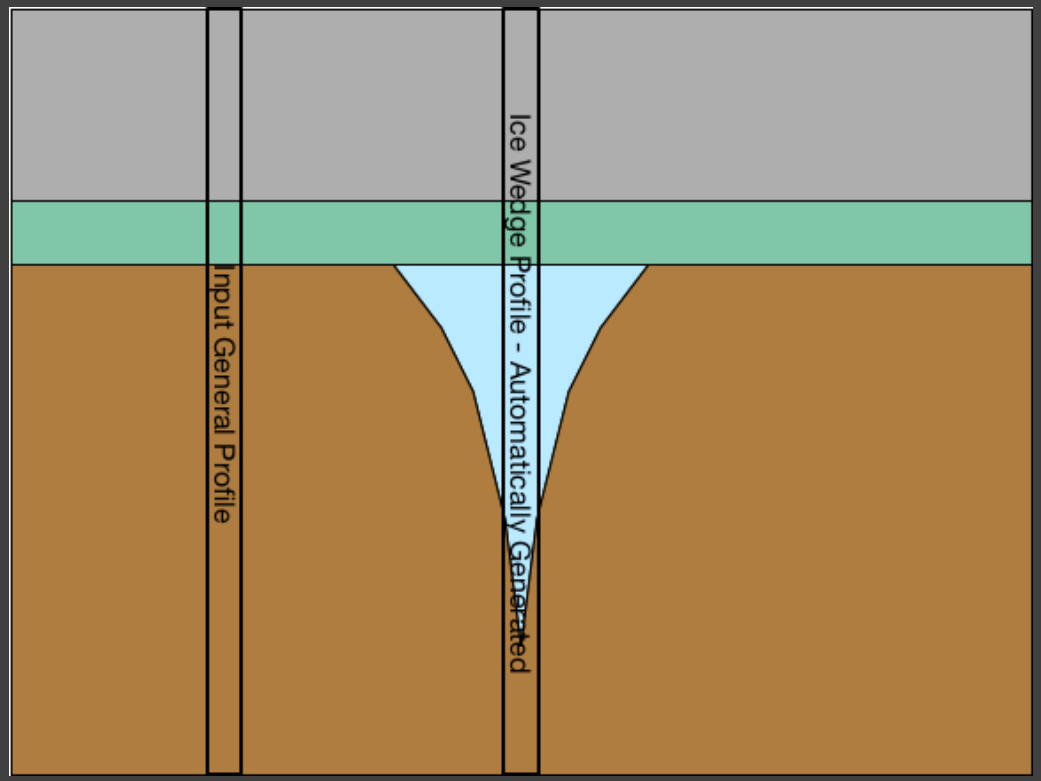
Hazard Definitions – Other Hazards

Active Layer Detachment Slides

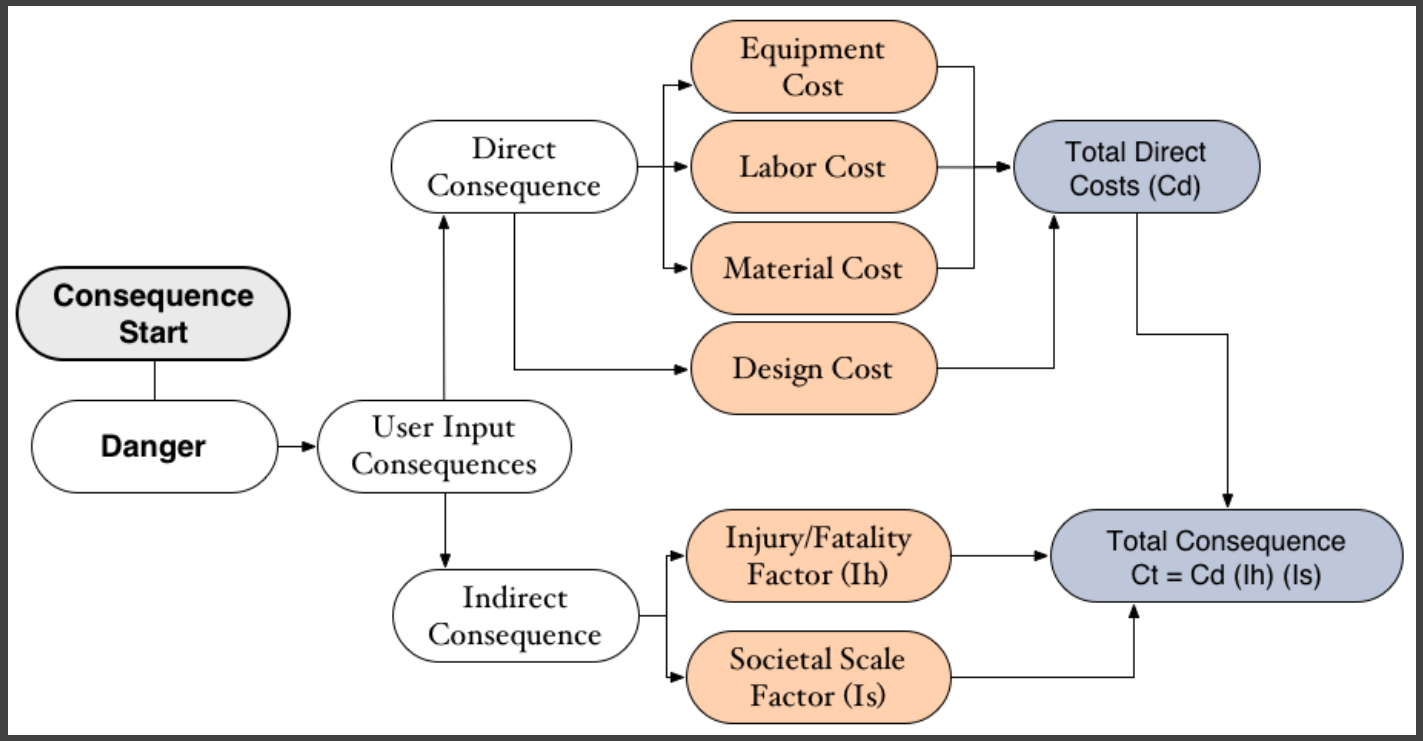
Photo from Boucher et al 2012

Hazard Definitions – Ice Wedge Option

- Program Generates Profile
- Assumes Ice
  - Below user input depth
  - 100% thaw strain
  - Hazards are not compared to the standard analyses



PROGRAMMING DESIGN - CONSEQUENCES



Excel Spreadsheet Tool

- Monte Carlo Simulation – User Choice
  - # of simulations
  - Dangers to be analyzed
  - Hazard limits
  - Thermal conductivity calculation method (Côté and Konrad 2005 or Kersten 1949)
- PDFs
  - Moisture Content (Normal or Lognormal)
  - Normal distribution for all remaining parameters
- VBA Macro in Excel
  - Master Input sheet
  - Individual sheets for each analysis section

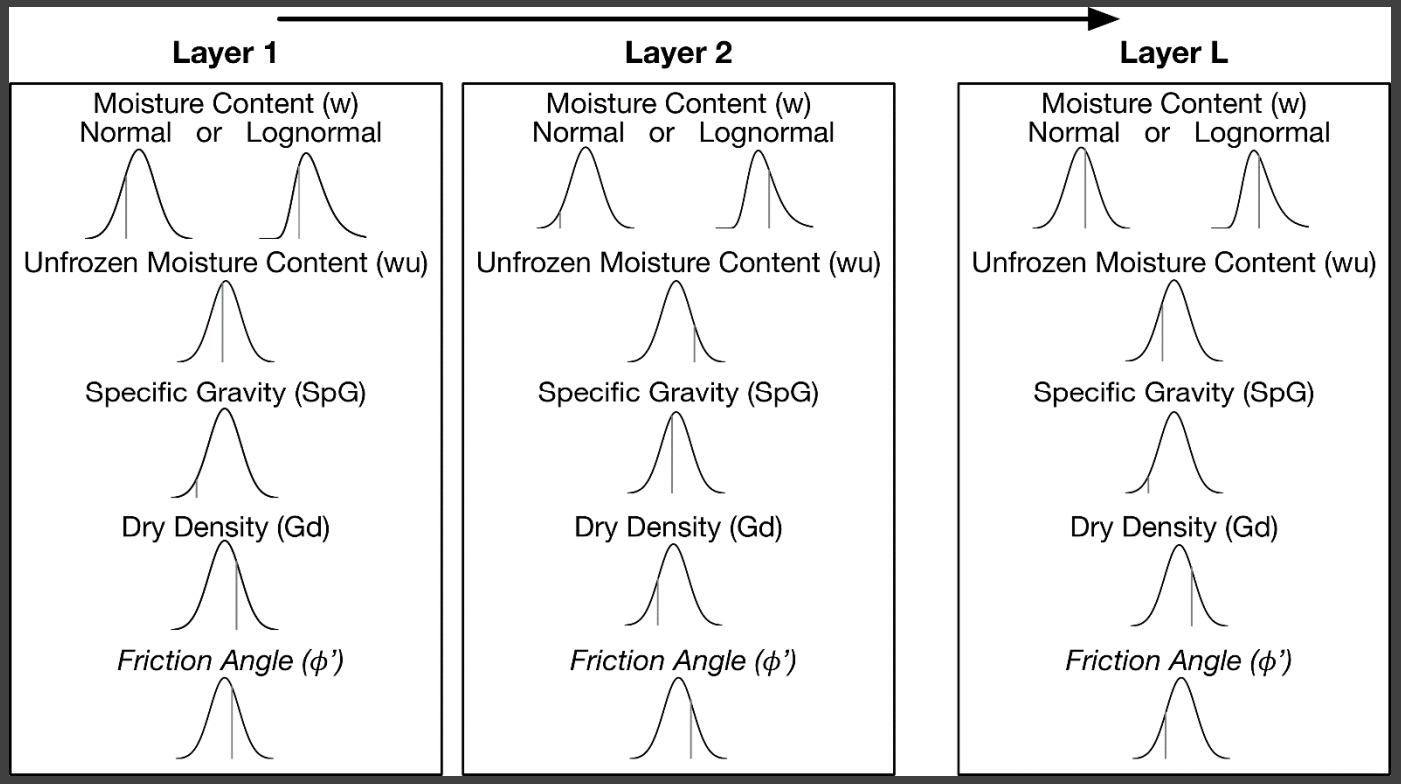
Input Parameters

Climate/Surface - ATI, n, Permafrost Temp, ts

Area – AL Depth, IW Depth, Slope

Soil (each layer) - w, w_u, γ_d, SpG, k_s

Monte Carlo Calculation Process



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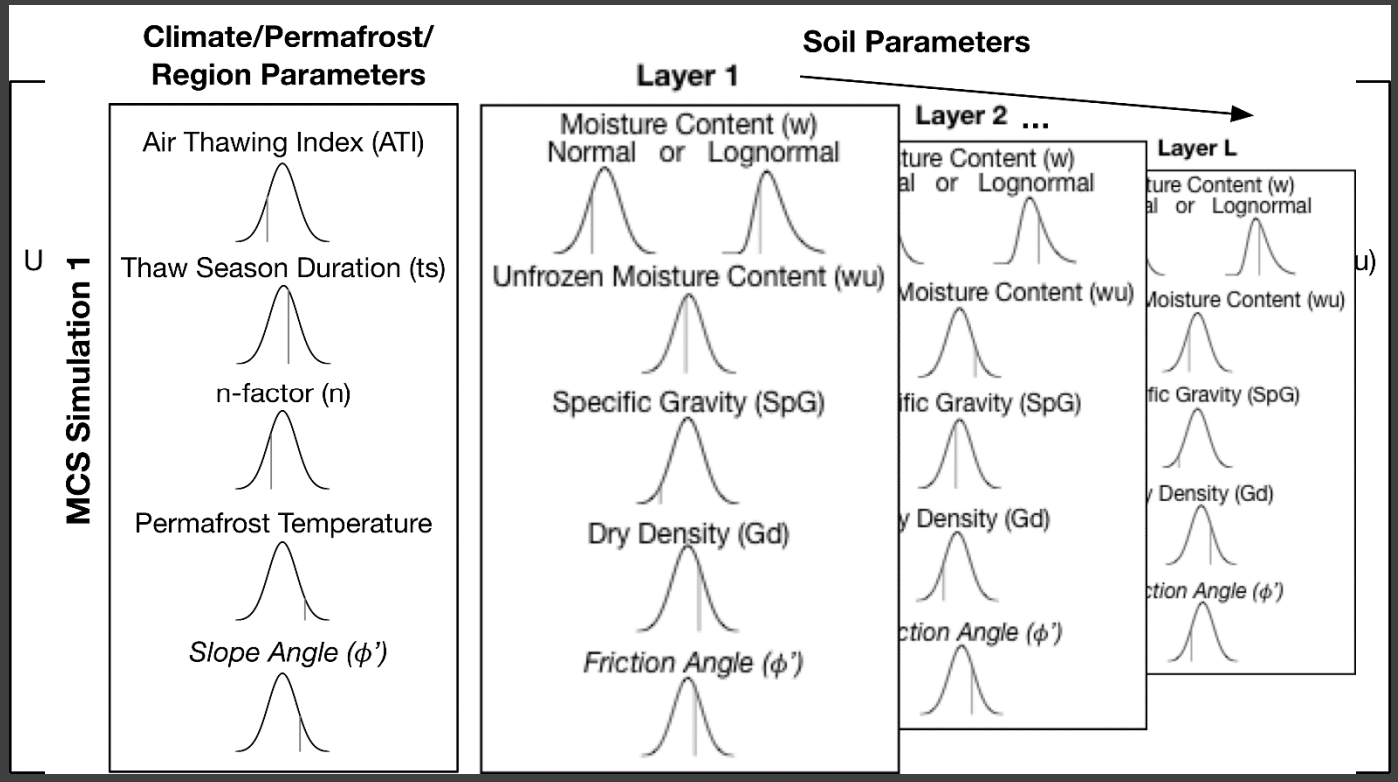

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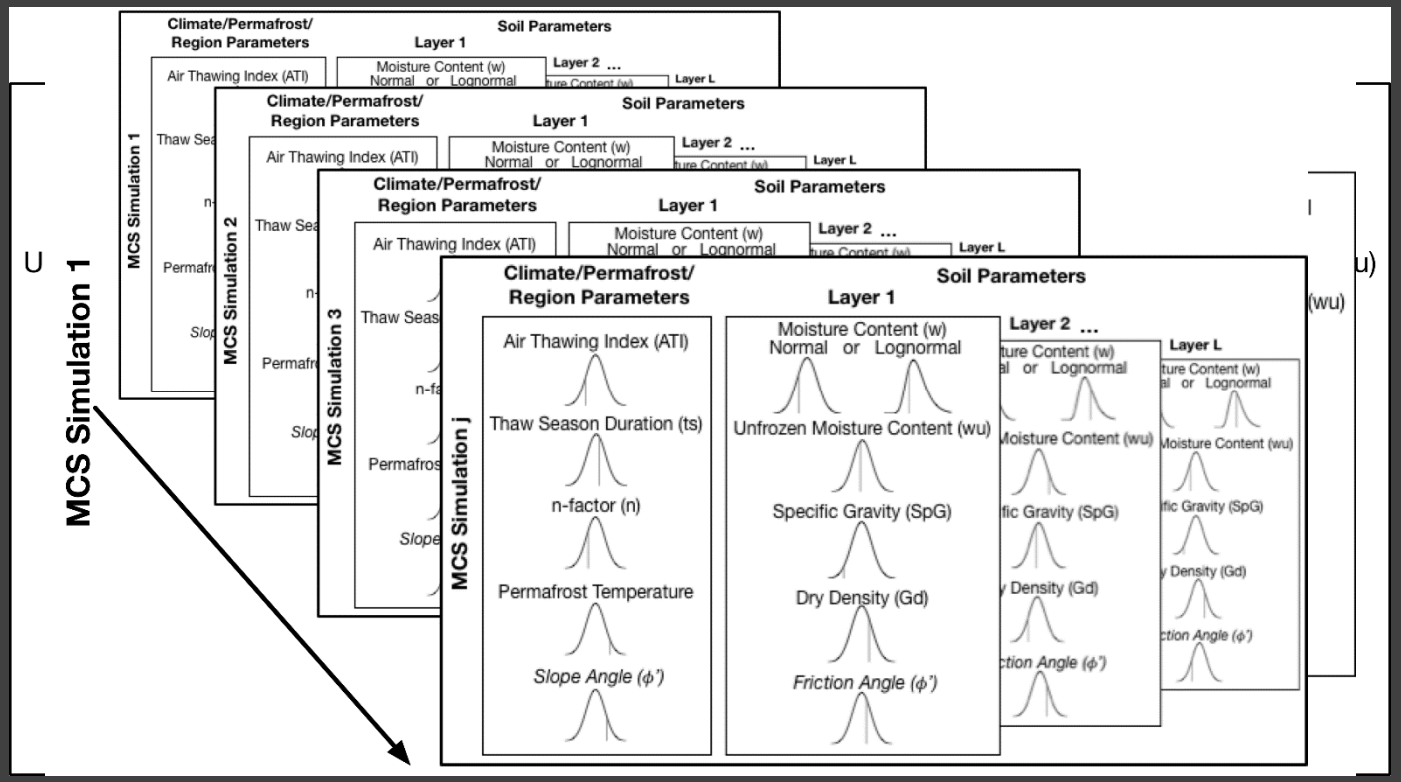
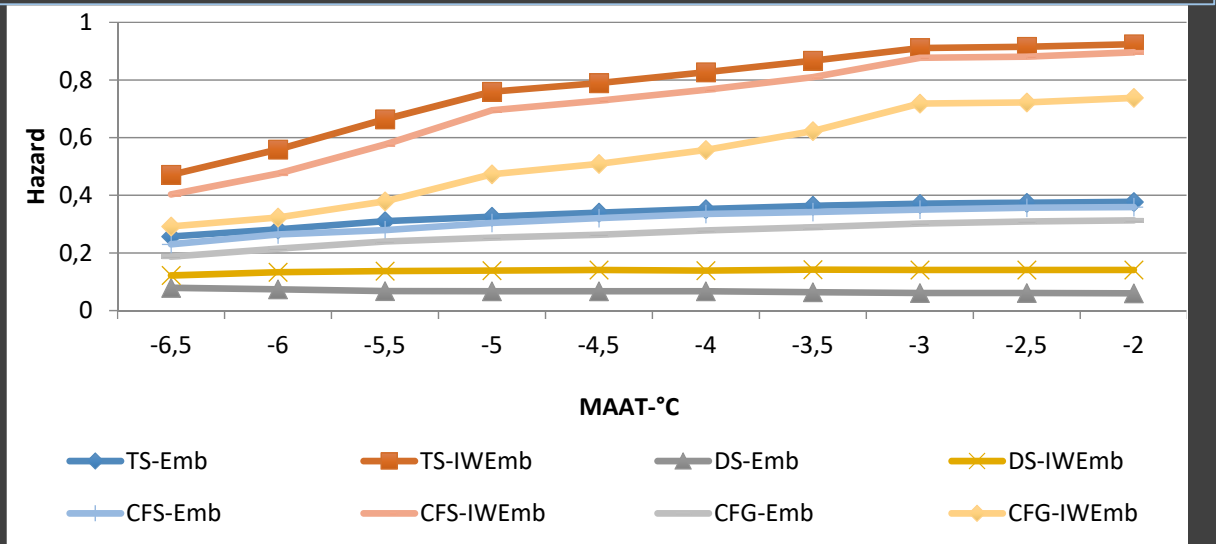
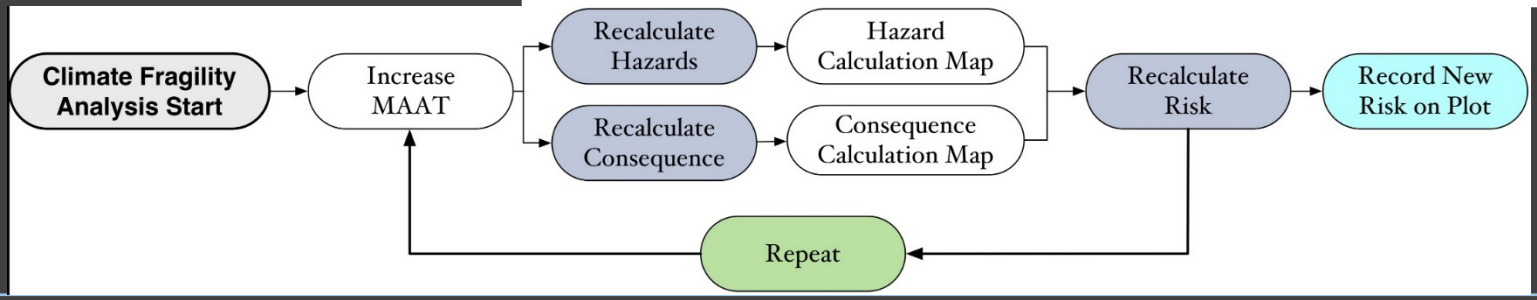


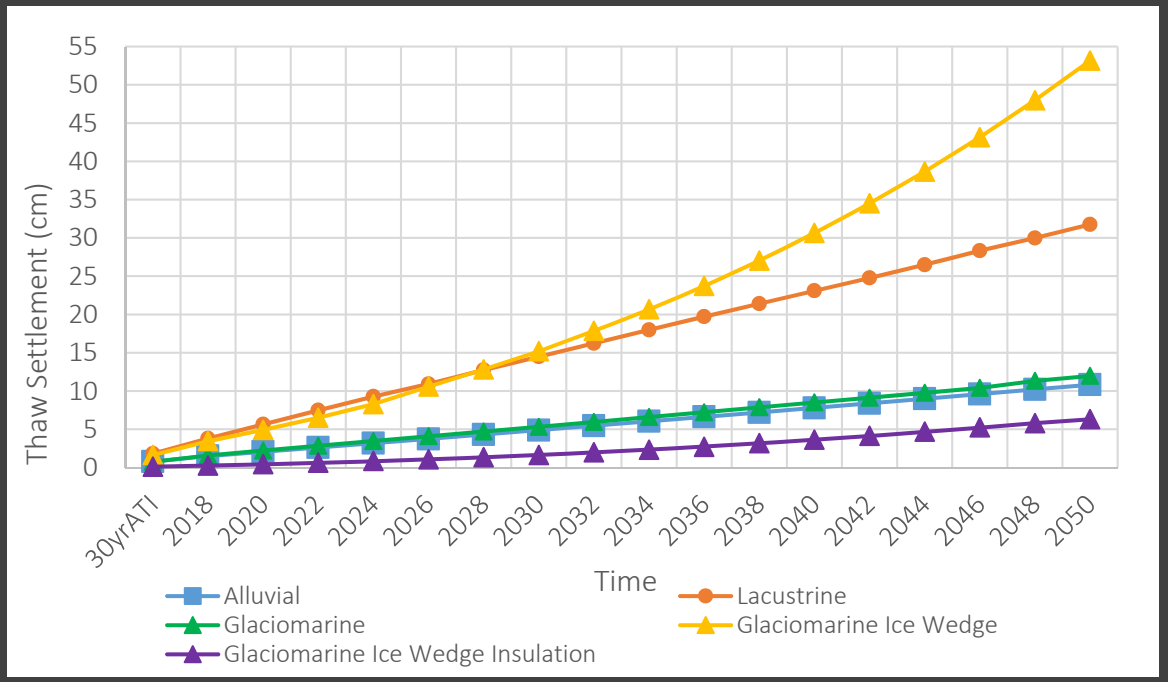
Climate Warming Fragility Assessment

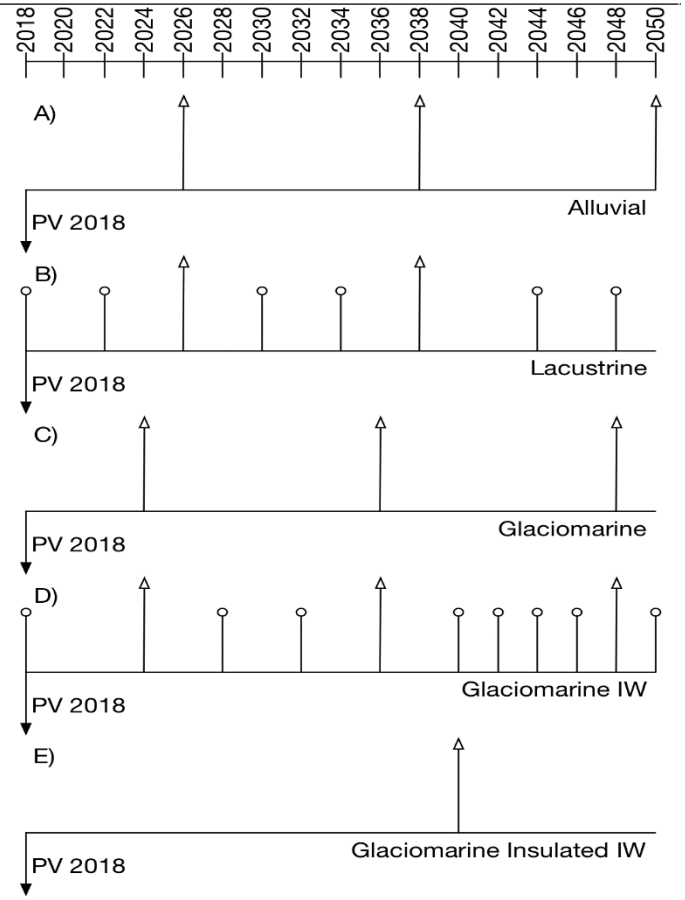
- Sinusoidal Annual Temperature Model
- Increase Mean Annual Air Temperature (MAAT)
  - Thawing index
  - Thaw season duration





Extensions and Uses





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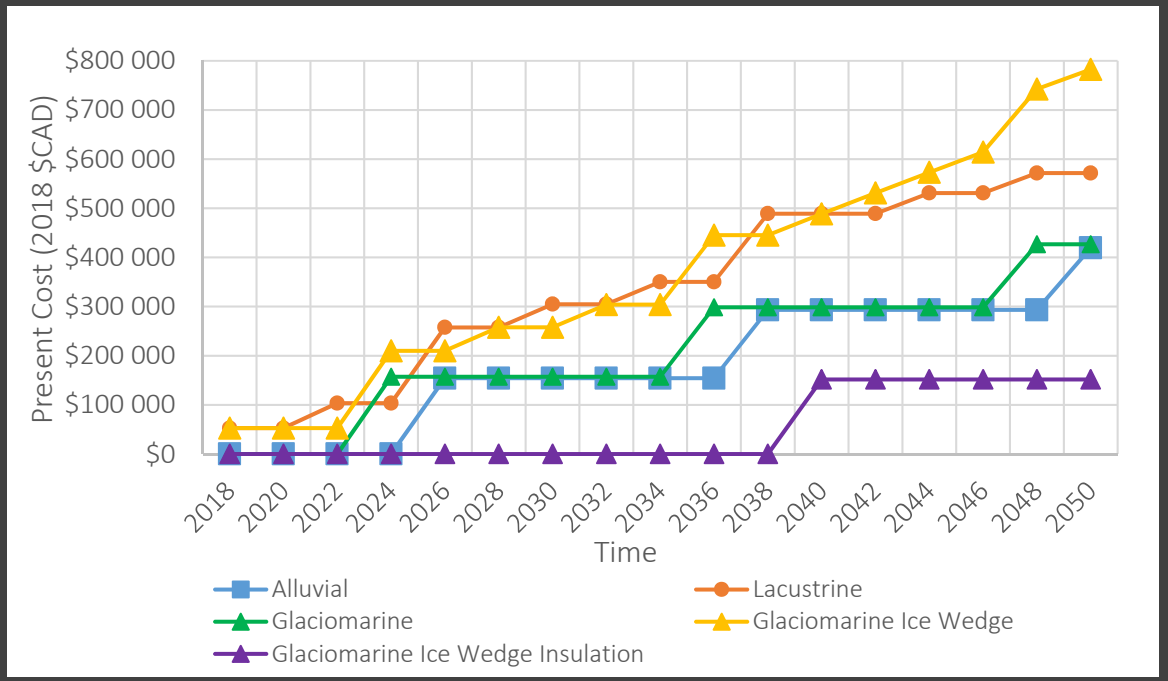

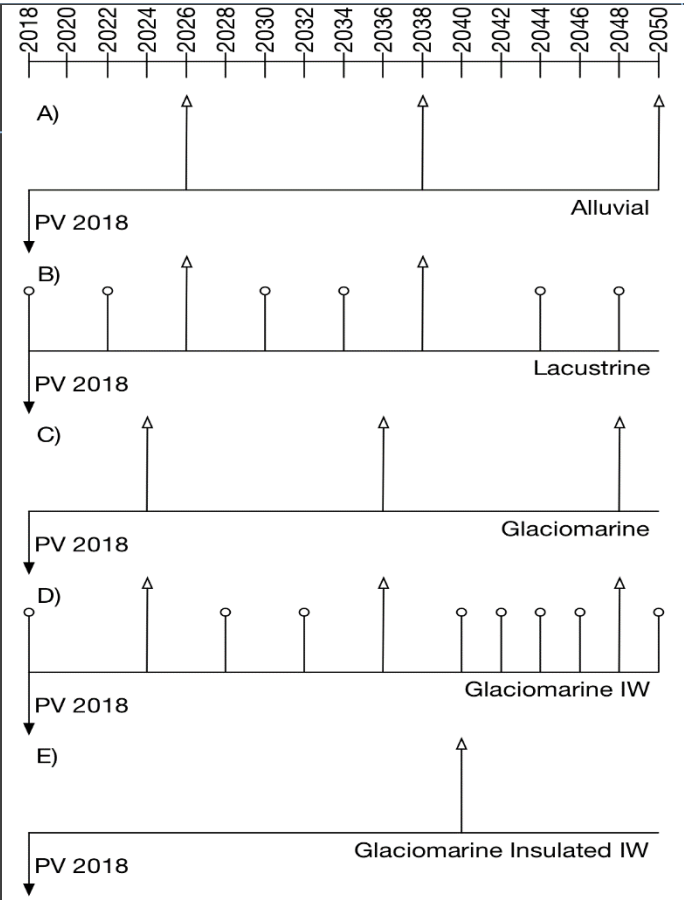

Arquluk
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THANK YOU!

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