Safety and Security in Crowded Places through Evacuation Simulation Prof Ed Galea Director Fire Safety Engineering Group University of Greenwich



FSEG: Modelling safety and security

- FSEG was Founded in 1986 by Prof Galea in response to the Manchester Airport B737 fire.
- Today it consists of 30 researchers including:
 - fire engineers, CFD specialists, psychologists, mathematicians and software engineers.
- Research interests include the mathematical modelling and experimental analysis of:
 - evacuation dynamics in complex spaces,
 - pedestrian dynamics in complex spaces,
 - combustion and fire/smoke spread,
 - fire suppression,
 - homeland security
- Application areas include:
 - aerospace, built environment, marine and rail.







e.r.galea@gre.ac.uk

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buildingEXODUS and SMARTFIRE simulation •Link fire simulation directly with evacuation analysis

- •Directly expose agents to developing hazard environment •Predict fatalities and injury levels.







SIM CLOCK OUT 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 A VEXODUS

- Last survivor evacuates after approx 127 seconds.
- Simulation predicts :
 - •84 fatalities compared with 100 in actual incident.
 - •25 serious injuries, of which 6 are life threatening.

Tokyo Japan 19 November 2015 High Rise Building Evacuation 110 floor building with 25,500 people.

- The building has 20 express lifts servicing the Sky Lobbies and 60 local lifts.
- buildingEXODUS suggests:
 - 1 hr 23 mins to clear tower
 - 40% faster than stairs
 - 58% only use stairs
 - 39% only use lifts



e.r.galea@gre.ac.uk

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Assuration exercise to Efficiency floor, 150



Safety and Security in Crowded Places
 Crowded places such as airport terminals, rail stations, shopping malls, entertainment venues, and sports stadia pose a challenge to designers and operators to ensure the safety and security of the population.

- The **safe, efficient** and **comfortable** movement of people is an **IMPORTANT** design consideration for the efficient day to day operation of crowded places.
- **ESSENTIAL** design feature for emergencies.
 - Structural design and management procedures must take into consideration not only threats caused by accidental hazards such as fire but must also be sufficiently flexible to cope with terrorist situations.
- Failing to imbed an understanding of human behaviour into the design of buildings and emergency procedures can lead

to

Disasters in Crowded Places



Heysel Stadium riot, Brussels (Belgium) 29/05/85 – 39 fatalities



Love Parade Duisburg Germany 24/07/10 – 21 fatalities

e.r.galea@gre.ac.uk



Bradford City Football stadium fire (UK) 11/05/85 – 56 fatalities



Hajj, Mecca (Saudi Arabia) 31/07/87, 402; 02/07/90, 1,426; 23/05/94, 270; 15/04/97, 500; 09/04/98, 180; 05/03/01, 35; 01/02/04, 251; 12/01/06, 360; 24/09/15, 2,000? fatalities

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Safety and Security in Crowded Places Due to the large numbers of people gathered within a confined space, stadia are a significant challenge.

- Particularly if crowd are not familiar with the stadia e.g. for international events such as Olympics.
- Most recent example 13 November when 80,000 people were evacuated from the Stade de France due to terrorist attacks in France.
 - Essential to have flexible evacuation strategy and means of directing the population
 - Normal procedure in event of fire is to get people out of stadium as quickly as possible.
 - For an exterior terror incident, may be more appropriate to evacuate onto pitch and to exit via certain safe exits.
 - For a interior terror threat e.g. more appropriate to evacuate out of the stadium as quickly as possible.



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Safety and Security in Crowded Places On 12 December 2004, stadium Santiago Bernabeu in Madrid was evacuated following a bomb threat.

- 69,000 people were safely evacuated in 7.5 minutes.
 - Used stadium's speaker system, megaphones, 315 CCTV cameras, and 1168 staff (500 police, 190 security guards and 478 assistants).



Crowd first alerted by public radio, people alerted others and then public 64000 people exit via 122 vomitaries and 49 exits





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Safety and Security in Crowded Places
Computer simulation of human behaviour and evacuation can be used to:

- Assist in venue design to ensure that people flows under normal conditions are quick, efficient and comfortable.
- Ensure that the venue design is appropriate for emergency evacuation for a range of emergency scenarios, not just fire.
- Ensure that the procedures are sufficiently robust so that they can deal with a range of emergency scenarios, including terrorist related.
- Demonstrate verify emergency procedures.
- Through virtual and augmented reality, provide a means to train emergency personnel in conditions that would not normally be possible.
- Demonstrate venue and procedure design application using Big Hat geometry.

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- Big Hat Nagano
 Big Hat is a large scale multipurpose arena located in Nagano.
- It was the main venue for the ice hockey events of the Nagano Winter Olympic Games 1998.
- In winter it continues to be used for ice hockey and figure skating competitions.
- The venue comprises 3 floors and has a ceiling height of 35m.
- Here we consider the Cyudan seating arrangement–4083 people





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Evacuation Scenario

• Base Scenario:

- Managed evacuation in which all agents evacuate using the nearest route off of their initial floor and then the nearest exit from the venue.
- 4083 people initially located in their seats.
- Assume log-normal response time with a 2 min max.
- As observed in the Marlowe Theatre evacuation, the distribution of response times within each seat block were assumed to be dependent upon how far agents were initially seated from an available exit point.
- Once complete, 30% of the response times within the block were then randomised to ensure more realistic response behaviour.
- Population exit their initial seat block via the nearest aisle.



Evacuation Scenario

- Population correspond to default buildingEXODUS population.
- On exiting the arena, population move to one of the designated locations a safe distance from the arena.
- Thus any congestion that may occur outside of the arena may influence the ability for the population to exit the structure.
 - Assumes there are sufficient staff outside arena to manage the exiting flows and other flows around the arena are controlled.



















Summary of Scenarios Base Scenario: Four Areas of Heaviest Congestion



Modified Scenario

- Introduce crowd management to reduce the congestion at entrance to stairs.
- Introduce active signage to direct people away from congested stairs.
- This primarily involves population initially located on floor 2 directly exiting using the external stairs rather than descending to floor 1 via the internal stairs.
- Modified exiting strategy achieved using Active Dynamic Signage OR through the intervention of stafff









Summary of Scenarios

Summary of Modifications to Routes:

•All agents initially located on Floor 2 leave their seat blocks and move into the circulation space around the arena.

- Agents on the West side are directed to the NW & SW exits on Floor 2.
- Agents on the East side are directed to exit Floor 2 via the main entrance.

Agents descending from Floor 3 via the NW and SW stairs exit on Floor 2 rather than descending to Floor 1. Hence, no agents can use these stairs in the modified scenario to exit the arena on Floor 1.
The number of people using the Western staircase on Floor 3 is slightly reduced by directing some people towards the SW and NW corner staircases.

e.r.galea@gre.ac.uk


















Results – Congestion Analysis Floor 2 Congestion: North West Staircase





- Base case density peeks at 2.9 p/m²
- Modified case density peeks at 1.2 p/m²



e.r.galea@gre.ac.uk

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Results – Congestion Analysis Floor 2 Congestion: West Staircase





- Base case density peeks at 4.2 p/m²
- Modified case density peeks at 1.2 p/m²



e.r.galea@gre.ac.uk

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Results – Congestion Analysis Floor 3 Congestion: West Staircase





- Base case density peeks at 3.0 p/m²
- Modified case density peeks at 2.0 p/m²



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Wayfinding

How do people find their way out?

e.r.galea@gre.ac.uk

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Importance of Signage Systems

- Signage is essential for navigation and general circulation
 - In complex buildings occupants may be unaware of most suitable routes due to lack of knowledge of internal connectivity or unable to find commercial target without the aid of directional signs.



- Signage reduces the apparent building complexity by increasing wayfinding efficiency and decreasing time spent wayfinding.
- Signage is even more important in emergencies
 - In emergency situations occupants tend to use familiar routes while ignoring emergency exits or exits not used for normal circulation.
 - Signage is intended to direct people to appropriate unfamiliar emergency exits
 - Employ many emergency staff to direct people to appropriate exits.



WTC1/025/0002: WTC1/025/0002:

- P "honestly I didn't know where the evacuation stairwells where.... they say, ... look for the exit signs when you go in a place, they really mean that because, y'know unless something's happened before, you're not go to be able to find it.
- WTC1/057/0002:
 - P "... we couldn't at that point find the exit. Our stairwell had ended and there were no guide posts to go anywhere....so a number of people started searching for some place to go for another stairwell to go down from the 44th floor. Eventually someone found it so we continued down."
- WTC1/087/BDAG
 - P "...we actually walked past the fire escape, kinda had to turn around and double back until we found the fire escape...
- Many people were unable to find the stairs, even though they had been in the building for months.
 - Many people failed to see the emergency signage

e.r.galea@gre.ac.uk

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Sign Recognition Experiments Experimentally examine how occupants interact with signage in both normal movement and evacuation.

• Attempt to determine likelihood that those who can see a sign, recognise the sign, correctly interpret the information and follow the information.



Sign Recognition - T intersection





•Correct choice

•Incorrect choice

- Female, naïve subject, 2 sec decision time, makes correct decision. From questionnaire subject said they saw and followed the sign.
- Female, naïve subject, 9 sec decision region, makes incorrect decision. From questionnaire did not see sign
- For T intersection, 61% of naïve subjects failed to "see" the sign.
- Of those who "registered presence of sign", 100% followed instructions
- Average decision time for those who see sign **2.6** s, those who do not see sign **5.6**s

e.r.galea@gre.ac.uk

Tokyo Japan 19 November 2015 Sign Recognition – Improved affordance • It is suggested that poor identification of signs is due to poor affordance associated with signs.

- Can improve affordance of a sign in several ways:
 - make larger improve sensory and cognitive affordance
 - introduce lights improve sensory affordance
 - introduce green lights improve cognitive affordance
 - introduce flashing lights improve sensory affordance
 - introduce running lights improve cognitive affordance
- FSEG in collaboration with UK company EVACLITE (<u>www.evaclite.com</u>) have come up with a sign addressing the poor affordance issue by introducing running, flashing, green lights to the sign.

Sign is activated on alarm – Active Dynamic Signage System

- Sign Recognition Improved affordance
 Using the ADSS, the wayfinding experiments were repeated in July 2012 with 48 unfamiliar participants
- 85% (41/48) of people 'see' the dynamic sign an increase in detection rate of 120%.
- 100% of people who see the dynamic sign follow the sign.
- The vast majority of people interpret the flashing arrow correctly and find the new design useful.



Intelligent Signage Systems

• As part of EU FP7 project GETAWAY, the ADSS concept was expanded to include Intelligent Active Dynamic Signage System - IADSS.

- In addition to making the exit sign more noticeable:
 - Signage system also indicates that an emergency exit route is no longer considered viable
 - ADSS is controlled via simulation and human intervention to identify the optimal exit route given the current situation.
 - Optimal route can be determined by faster than real time buildingEXODUS simulation taking into consideration:
 - Current population distribution and
 - Spread of fire hazards (heat, smoke and toxic gases)
 - Optimal route can also be determined by human operator



Intelligent Signage Systems • ADSS not only has application for fire applications but also for terrorist situations.

• Using CCTV security staff identify regions were the hazard (gunmen) is located and direct people away from the region by activating appropriate signs





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ADSS Showing Negated Route
 ADSS extended to indicate that an evacuation route is no longer considered viable.

 Understanding of negation concept demonstrated through international survey.



• Survey involving 451 people from 10 countries

• 4 potential designs shown to each participant, without providing an explanation of what the sign meant.

• Participants asked to write what they thought the sign meant.

	Non-Fire	Fire	Total	
	Correct	Correct	Correct	
tire tit	93%	93%	93%	
	(193 total)	(238 total)	(431 total)	
Fire exit	85%	83%	84%	
	(196 total)	(240 total)	(436 total)	
Fire	72%	79%	76%	
exit	(182 total)	(227 total)	(409 total)	
Fire	56%	63%	59%	
exit	(191 total)	(239 total)	(430 total)	
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e.r.galea@gre.ac.uk

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Comparing Trial 1 and Trial 2

Trial 1 – 100% of participants use their nearest exit. Signage only accounted for 26.8% of participant exit selection



Trial 2 – 63% of participants use the indicated exit. 57% used their nearest exit, compared with 100% in Trial1.



e.r.galea@gre.ac.uk

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• 66% of participants by-pass exits 1, 2 and 3 and utilise target exit. • 34% of participants chose to use their nearest exit compared to 100%

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TS3 Questionnaire Analysis Results						
Participants' level of agridentifying an exit to use	eement that the si (TS3.2 and TS3.3)	gn assisted them in				
Statement 1	"This sign assisted me in selecting an exit to use/ which exit NOT to use/which exit not to use and which exit to use."					
Level of agreement	Agree / Strongly Agree	Disagree / Strongly Disagree	Total			
🔶 🔁 🖨 C. de l'Andana	94%	3%	79			
🌦 ᇌ 🖨 C. de l'Andana	74%	19%	53			
😺 🔯 🖉 🔿	83%	13%	80			
	70%	25%	77			
Weighted Average	81%	14%	289			
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IADSS System Options

Level 1: ADSS with flashing arrow
Option1: Battery system with alarm detector
Option2: Electrical system with digital logic
Option3: Alarm system



Level 2: ADSS flashing arrow with negation
Manual operation or simple logic
Option1: Electrical system with digital logic
Option2: Alarm system

Level 3: IADSS flashing arrow with negation
Simulation logic with manual over-ride
Option1: Electrical system with digital logic

•Option2: Alarm system



e.r.galea@gre.ac.uk



- Bollard Arrays are intended to protect critical infrastructure from hostile vehicles or "car bombs"
- Had a bollard array been present around the entrance to Glasgow airport it would have prevented the vehicle from approaching the

airport terminal.





Glasgow airport 30 June 2007



e.r.galea@gre.ac.uk

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Today, security bollards are a common sight in London and other cities around the world.



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Research: Urban Scale Evacuation and Crowd Dynamics

e.r.galea@gre.ac.uk

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Large crowd simulation and visualisation

Trafalgar Square demonstration:
125,000+ people simulation

• Love Parade Disaster reconstruction: 100,000 people simulation.





2010 Love Parade in Duisburg, Germany

24th July 2010

Reportedly attracted a crowd of 1.4 million peopleCrush resulted in 21 fatalities, over 500 injured



Main stage

Former train depot

Circular route of the float

Upper area of ramp

Main access ramp

e.r.galea@gre.ac.uk

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Example Mitigation



Large Scale Disaster Planning and Management

- As part of EU FP7 project IDIRA EXODUS is being configured for use in large scale urban disaster applications.
- This could be for applications in floods, Tsunami, earthquakes, forest fires, terrorist situations etc.
- Software is used to assist in planning large-scale movement of people and for use during an incident to assist in management.
- Models of urban regions can be pre-built and stored for use during an incident or regions of interest can be built during an incident.
- During an incident the model can be reconfigured as new information is made available as the scenario changes.
 - e.g. loss of evacuation routes, changes in status of refuge areas, etc.
- Web Application An easy to use GUI for clients to interact with the EXODUS simulation tool.
 - OpenLayers Client application used to display base maps (Googlemaps/OSM) and Overlays (Population density contours)

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Evacuation Scenarios 205,000 people

- Scenario 3 is the fastest: 3.2 hrs, Average distance: 739m
- Scenario 4 is the slowest: 6.7 hrs, Average distance: 643m
- Run time: 15 hours on average
- PC: Xeon at 3.6GHz with 64GB RAM



MIXED REALITY TRAINING ENVIRONMENT

HORIZON 2020 The EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation A U G (G) M E D

http://auggmed-project.eu

e.r.galea@gre.ac.uk

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http://fseg.gre.ac.uk

AUGGMED – Automated Serious Game Scenario Generator for Mixed Reality Training Aim is to develop a serious game platform to enable single and team-based training of security staff, police, counter-terrorism officers, etc responding to terrorist scenarios in crowded places AUGGMED platform will generate non-linear scenarios designed to improve skills such as: problem solving, analytical thinking, quick reactions, Scenarios include advanced simulations of crowds (EXODUS) and hazardous environments including fire (SMARTFIRE) and explosions. Trainees buildingEXODUS Trainers €Junity Learning Objectives **SMARTFIRE** Scenario Definition Scenario **Communication Layer** Monitoring Live Scenario Revision

http://fs

Live Feedback
Evaluation

.r.galea@gre.ac.uk

FSEG's Main Contribution

FSEG Developments for AUGGMED:

•Users will be able to:

- Select a particular simulated *blue* team member and assume control of that agent
- All actions of selected agent are now dictated by real player rather than EXODUS
- In VR user is within the VR environment playing the scenario sitting in a desk
- In MR user is located in the targeted installation viewing the real structure through head mounted display and viewing virtual people (civilians, *red* team members) as participants in the scenario







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Pilot 1 Geometry: The Airport Terminal

Generic Airport Terminal Model: vrEXODUS representationCirculation example imported into vrEXODUS





Pilot 1 Geometry: The Airport Terminal Generic Airport Terminal Model: Unity3D representation

- EXODUS model exported and represented within Unity3D for VR+MR applications
- Simulated fire causes visual obscuration to both simulated agents and real users
- Fire hazards affects simulated civilians causing disorientation, reduction in movement ability, incapacitation



CONCLUDING COMMENTS

- Safe evacuation is challenging and requires careful planning, it doesn't just happen.
- Use of *reliable modelling* tools in conjunction with *good data* enable fewer arbitrary assumptions to be imposed, allowing conditions to be modelled rather than assumed.
- Simulation can be used to assist in planning to ensure:
 - efficient throughput,
 - comfort,
 - safety and
 - security.
- Finally, while it may be appealing to make simplifying assumptions concerning human behaviour it is essential to remember people are not ball bearings and they will not always behave the way the engineer would like them to behave.

e.r.galea@gre.ac.uk