

A Software Tool for CubeSat Mission Risk Estimating Relationships

Katharine Brumbaugh Gamble
Ph.D. Student, Aerospace Engineering
The University of Texas at Austin

Texas Spacecraft Laboratory

- Labs located on campus in WRW building, 4th floor
- Entirely student-led with a faculty PI (Dr. Glenn Lightsey)
- Current flight experience:
 - FASTRAC nanosatellite (25 kg each), still operational, launched in Nov. 2010
 - Bevo-1/Paradigm (1U) launched in July 2009
- On the horizon:
 - RACE (3U) w/ JPL
 - Delivered spacecraft bus for radiometer mission, Mar 2014
 - To be flown via NanoRacks, October 2014
 - Bevo-2 (3U) w/ NASA-JSC & Texas A&M
 - Delivery to NASA in June 2014
 - To be flown via NanoRacks
 - ARMADILLO (3U) w/ Baylor University
 - University Nanosatellite Program winner, Jan. 2013
 - Selected for ELaNa in Spring 2012 (to be manifested)
 - INSPIRE (3U) w/ JPL
 - Providing thruster; collaboration with other organizations
 - To be flown on interplanetary trajectory



Talk Overview

- CubeSat Mission Risk Survey – Results!
- Risk Analysis Tool
 - Mathematical overview
 - Tool overview
 - How to obtain a copy (Feedback wanted!)
- Decision Advisor

Schedule risks - What type of schedule slip issues did you experience? The following risks are deemed to be the most common causes of schedule slip for CubeSat missions. If you find an event that occurred on your mission is not captured below, please use the comment box at the end of this section to provide a brief description.

Rank each root cause by its severity on a scale of 1 to 5, where 5 is the most severe. If you did not experience this issue, please select the "Does not apply" option.

Please refer to the guideline for the severity rankings, found [here](#). Note that it may be beneficial to open this link in a new window or tab. If the link does not work, please copy/paste the following into your browser: <http://goo.gl/aHnxD>

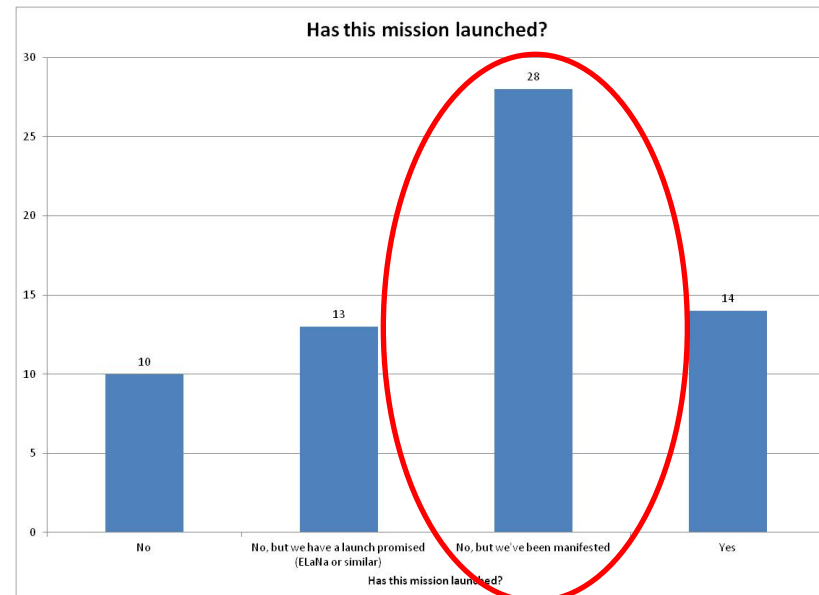
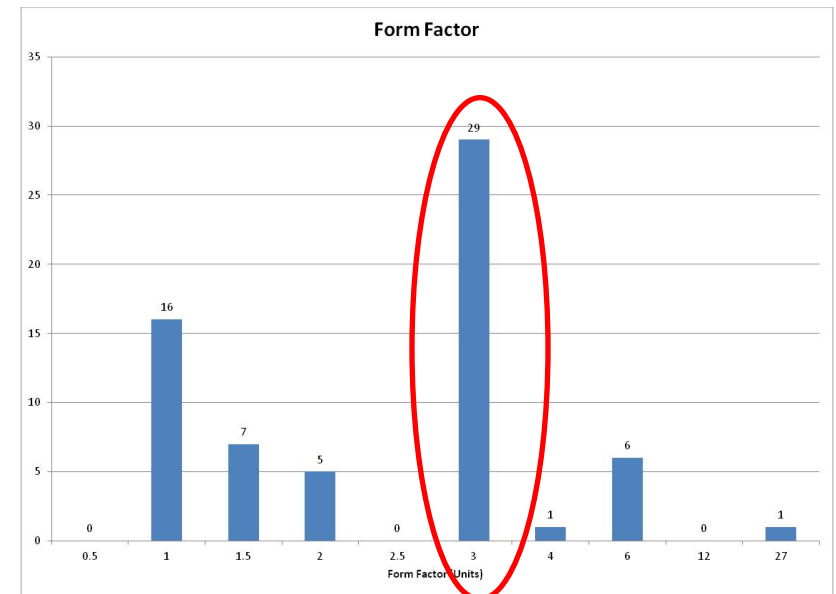
	19. What type of schedule slip did you experience?					20. Are you unable to answer the previous question? Please provide a reason:	
	1	2	3	4	5	Does not apply / Did not experience	Have not reached this phase yet
(a) Inability to find desired spacecraft components	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
(b) Mechanical design delays (such as issues with the CAD or drawings)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
(c) Software design delays (such as basic component functionality or embedded coding issues)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
(d) Delay due to issues with payload provider (may be related to delivery or flight unit, documentation interface issues)							
(e) Delay due to in documentation							

Six main survey areas:

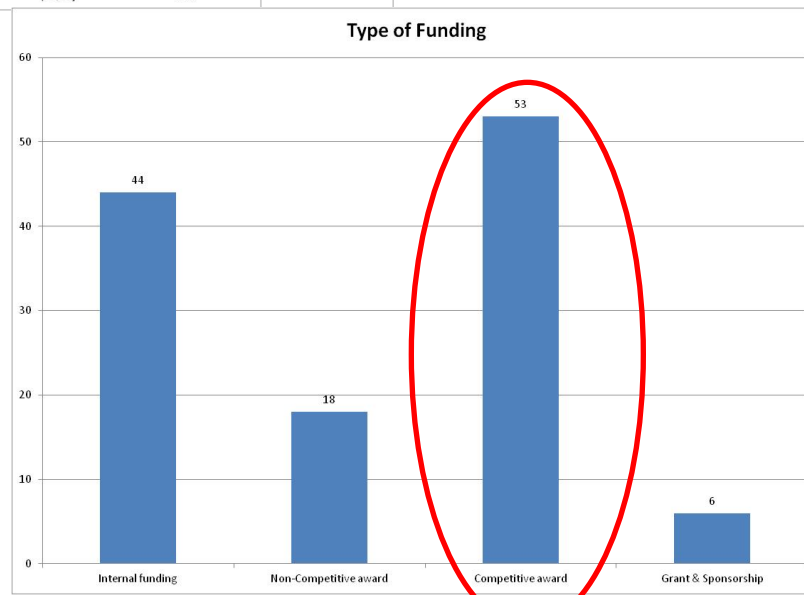
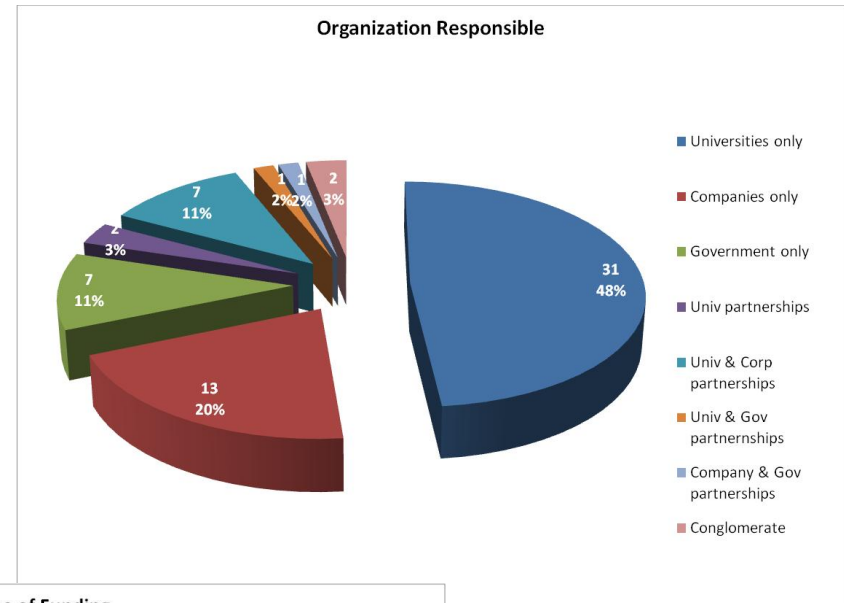
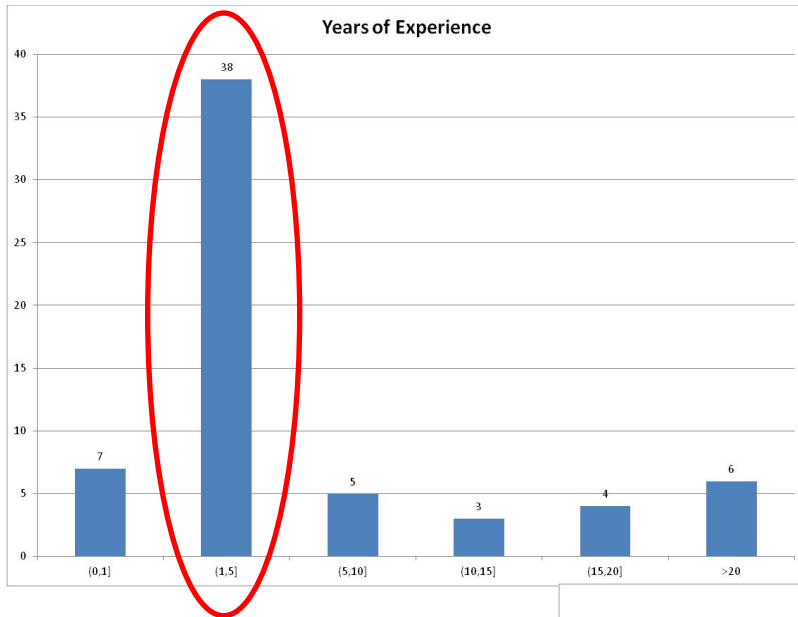
1. Demographics
2. Schedule Risk
3. Payload Risk
4. Spacecraft Risk – comm, basic health data, standards
5. Personnel & Management Risk
6. Cost Risk

Survey Data Results

- THANK YOU!
- Collected responses April – November 2013
- 65 CubeSat responses
- 52 unique and valid missions used for high-level analysis
- 3 outliers were removed for regression analysis



Survey Data Results



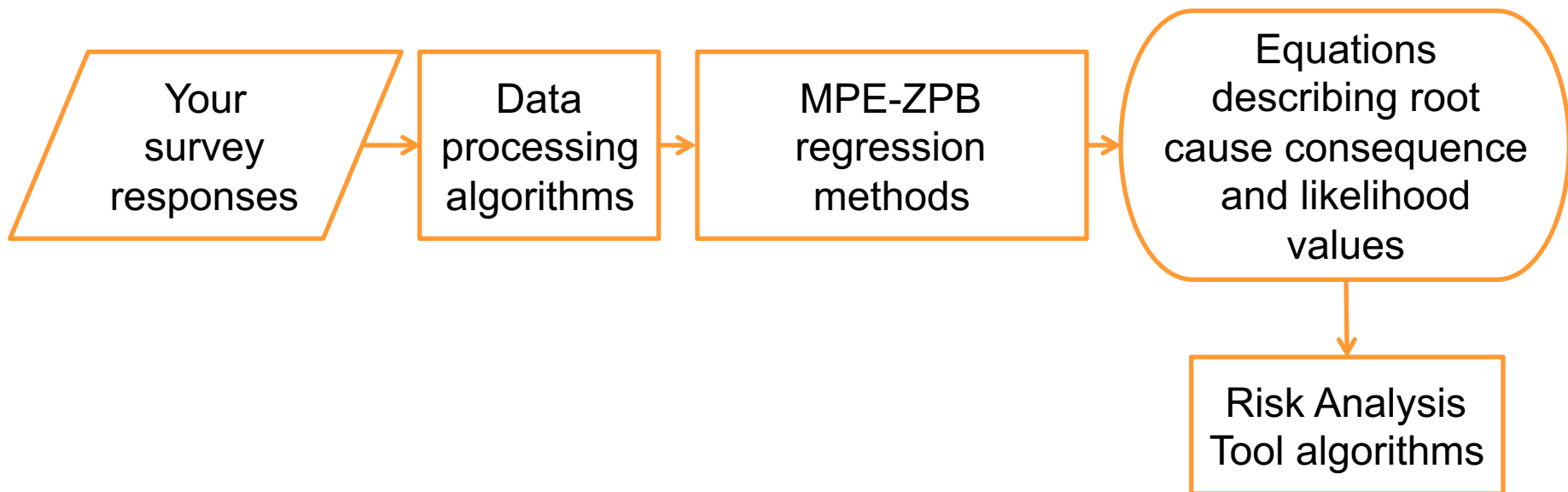
Top Ten Risk Events as identified by survey responses:

1. Software design delay
2. Attrition or turnover of team members
3. Mechanical design delay
4. Incomplete understanding of the projected total mission cost
5. Inability to find desired spacecraft components
6. Sudden loss of crucial team members
7. Delay due to inadequate documentation
8. Loss of information
9. Lack of sufficient training for team members completing flight qualification necessary tasks
10. Delay due to issues with payload provider

All events in the top ten have to do with personnel, schedule, or cost

Risk Tool – Mathematical Overview

- Used General Error Regression, Minimum Percentage Error – Zero Percentage Bias (MPE-ZPB)
 - Similar regression method used by USCM and SSCM cost models
 - Comparable to Least Squares, but multiplicative error
- 12 Function Forms tested
- Used Excel VBA and Solver



Risk Tool V1.1 – Inputs Page

Factors of interest in regression analysis

Parameter	Input	Actual or Predicted?	Description
Form factor		3	Enter a numeric value corresponding to the number of U's your spacecraft design uses (e.g. 3U would be entered as "3")
Mass		4	Enter a numeric value of the mass limit (in kg)
Launched?	No, but we have a launch promised (ELaNa or similar)		Select an answer using the drop-down menu: Yes, the s/c has launched; No, but we've been manifested; No, but we have a launch promised (ELaNa or similar); No, we have not been manifested or given a promise of a launch
Launch Date		2014	Give the date of the launch; If the s/c has yet to be launched, give the projected date. (Can be in MM/DD/YYYY or MM/YYYY or YYYY format)
Months in Development		7 Actual	Enter a numeric value corresponding to the number of months in s/c design and development, including everything up until flight integration; Indicate whether this value is actual or predicted
Months in Integration		4 Actual	Enter a numeric value corresponding to the number of months taken for s/c integration; Indicate whether this value is actual or predicted
Months in S/C Functional Testing		7 Predicted	Enter a numeric value corresponding to the number of months spent on integrated s/c testing at the organization level, including functional testing; Indicate whether this value is actual or predicted
Months in S/C Environmental Testing		5 Predicted	Enter a numeric value corresponding to the number of months spent on necessary testing to satisfy launch thermal vac, vib tables, and mass value is actual or predicted
Months S/C is awaiting launch		3 Predicted	Enter a numeric value corresponding to the number of months the spacecraft was "on the shelf" was completed; Indicate whether this value is actual or predicted
Months S/C is in operations		6 Predicted	Enter a numeric value corresponding to the number of months the spacecraft was operational in orbit; Indicate whether this value is actual or predicted
Milestone		LVINT	Enter the name of the milestone for which these numbers reflect the status

Options:

- Calculate L-C values for Milestone 1
- Calculate L-C values for Milestone 2
- Calculate L-C values for Milestone 3
- Clear Error Messages and Warnings
- Clear Milestone 1 Values
- Clear Milestone 2 Values
- Clear Milestone 3 Values

Macro buttons will calculate the L-C values for multiple milestones

Indicate whether values are actual or predicted

Risk Tool V1.1 – Outputs Page

Mission Risk	Root Cause	Milestone 1		Milestone 2		Milestone 3	
		Consequence value	Likelihood value	Consequence value	Likelihood value	Consequence value	Likelihood value
Schedule		3.31804782	4.487230123	3.290284849	4.471377851	3.17733186	4.535742296
	1. Inability to find desired spacecraft components	2.212231943	4.352609117	2.212231943	4.392936827	2.212231943	4.557244851
	2. Mechanical design delays (such as issues with the CAD or drawings)						
	3. Software design delays (such as basic component functionality or embedded coding issues)	3.941404598	4.774450701	3.869117987	4.699644896	3.431920442	4.693574931
	4. Delay due to issue with payload provider (may be related to delivery of						
			4.242310987	3.564926097	4.293131741	3.564926097	4.405439749
			4.960906613	2.375918631	4.055460527	3.130304667	4.242332588
			4.478869868	3.3175176	4.538279758	3.435401292	4.709801103
	1. Software interface issues between payload and spacecraft bus	3.319286913	4.716094717	3.021747664	4.713521567	2.931091293	4.853501468
	2. Hardware/electrical interface issues between payload and spacecraft bus	2.9451276	4.457863799	2.924689458	4.58150592	3.148496586	4.757762118
	3. Payload malfunction due to mechanical issues	3.100044056	4.267186994	3.349764832	4.422110122	3.684628181	4.678684548
	4. Payload malfunction due to software issues	3.545703713	4.436069919	3.498190998	4.527144099	3.380372317	4.66821002

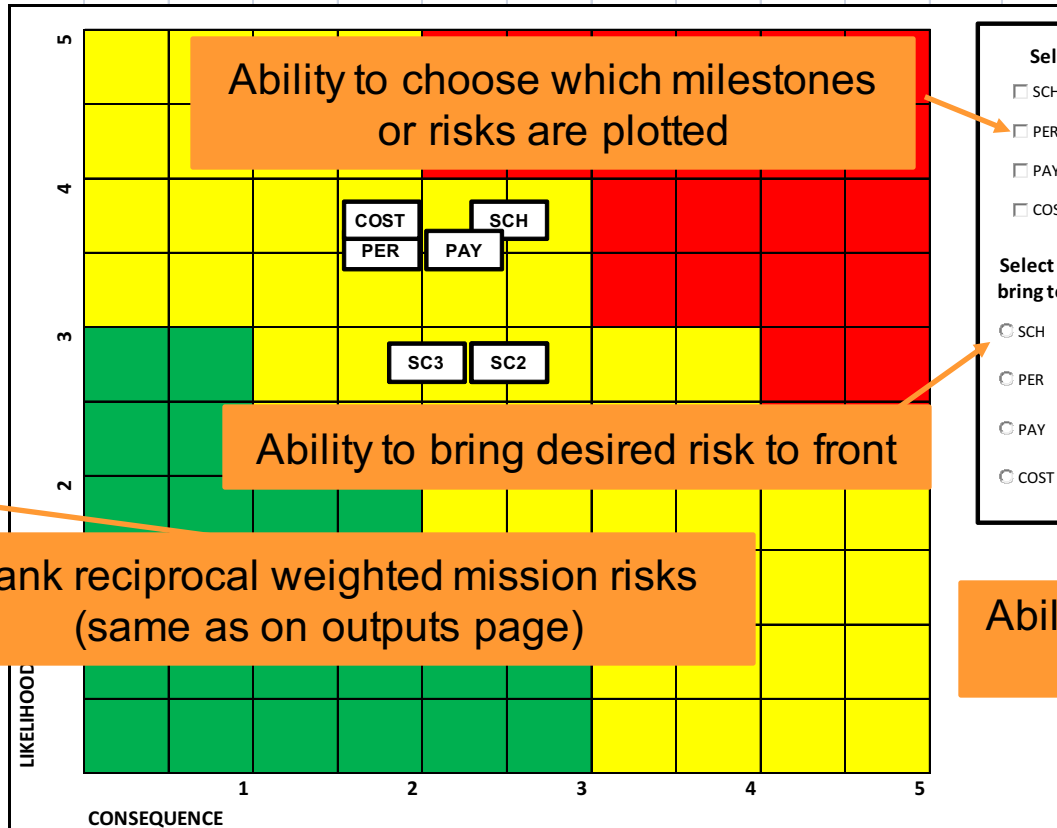
Currently up to 3 milestones can be tracked at one time

Mission risk L-C values calculated via rank reciprocal weighting scheme (see JoSS paper)

Root causes calculated via VBA-programmed functions

Risk Tool V1.1 – Plots Page

Milestone 1	C	L
SCH	2.44	3.9
PER	1.89	3.5
PAY	2.38	3.4
SC-1	2.42	2.79
SC-2	2.57	2.69
SC-3	2.07	2.88
COST	1.97	3.73



Select Risks and Milestones to plot:

SCH SC1 Milestone 1
 PER SC2 Milestone 2
 PAY SC3 Milestone 3
 COST All Risks All Milestones

Select mission risk to bring to front on plot:

SCH SC1
 PER SC2
 PAY SC3
 COST

PLOT!

Reset and Delete Shapes

Reset check boxes

Rank reciprocal weighted mission risks (same as on outputs page)

Ability to clear plot and reset options

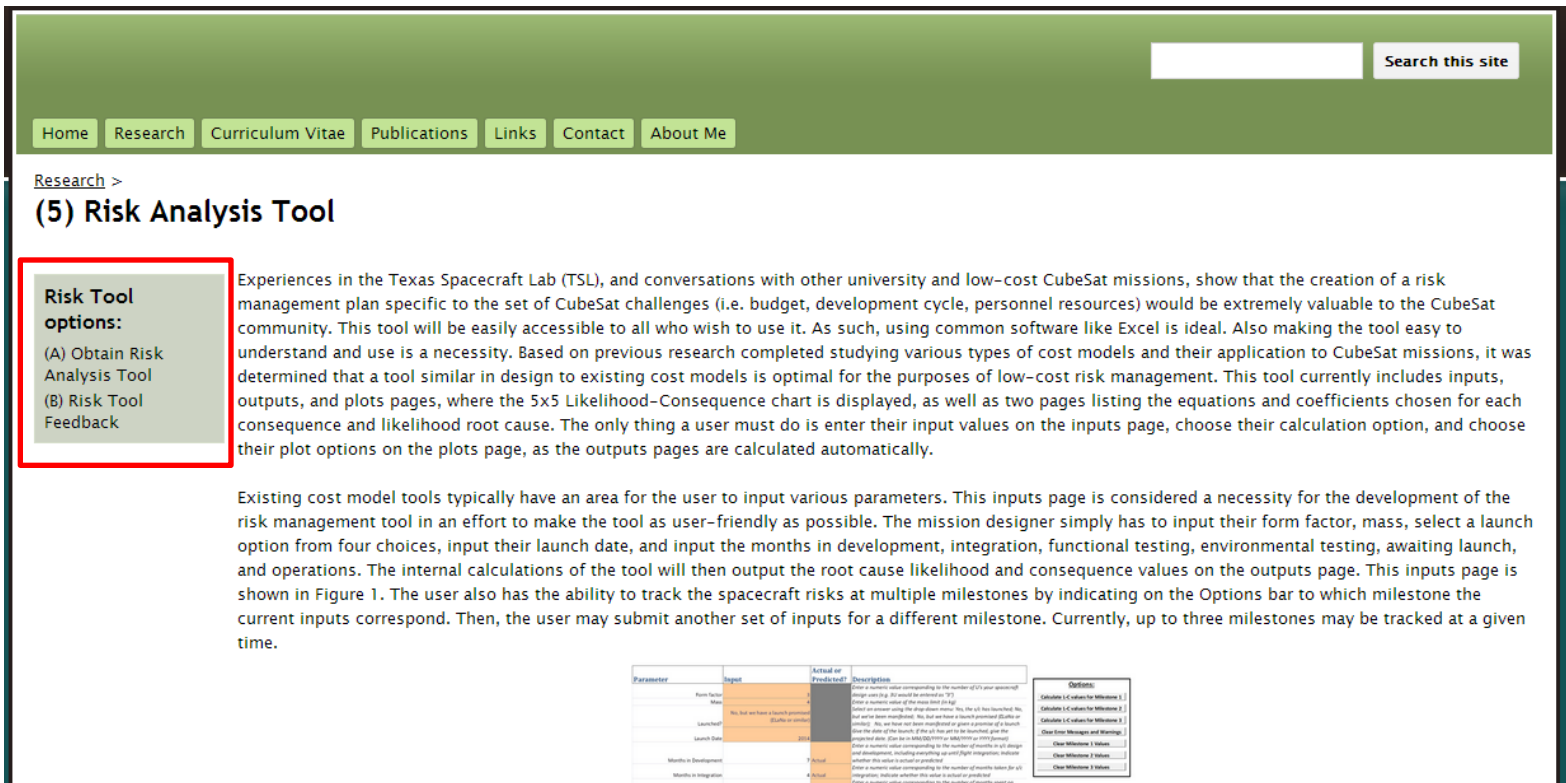
Risk Tool V1.1 – Equations Pages

Pages for both Consequence and Likelihood

Mission Risk	Root Cause	Consequence Formula	Consequence Formula #	Consequence coefficients													
				a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n
Schedule																	
	1. Inability to find desired spacecraft components	$L3 = a + b * ff + cc * launch$	3	3.854	-0.29	-0.25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	2. Mechanical design delays (such as issues with the CAD or drawings)	$T2 = a + b * dev^{cc} + d * int^e + f * scfunc^g + h * environ^l + j * wait^k + l * ops^m$	10	-231	1.68	-49.3	19.49	-0.01	159.4	3E-04	-0.01	-1	54.4	0.003	0.009	0.683	0
	3. Software design delays (such as basic component functionality or embedded coding issues)	$L2 = a + b * ff + cc * dev + d * int + e * scfunc + f * environ + g * wait + h * ops$	2	2.973	-0.02	-0	-0.02	-0.09	0.092	0.005	0.033	0	0	0	0	0	0
	4. Delay due to issue with payload provider (may be related to delivery of EDU or flight unit, documentation, or interface issues)	$L3 = a + b * ff + cc * launch$	3	3.107	-0.04	0.194	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	5. Delay due to inadequate documentation	$T2 = a + b * dev^{cc} + d * int^e + f * scfunc^g + h * environ^l + j * wait^k + l * ops^m$	10	-38.7	1.68	-49.3	1	0.12	0.025	0.023	-40.6	0.002	26.86	-0.01	55.3	-0.01	0
Payload																	
	1. Software interface issues between payload and spacecraft bus	$L2 = a + b * ff + cc * dev + d * int + e * scfunc + f * environ + g * wait + h * ops$	2	2.489	0.175	-0.01	-0.08	0.056	0.034	-0.01	0.008	0	0	0	0	0	0
	2. Hardware/electrical interface issues between payload and spacecraft bus	$L2 = a + b * ff + cc * dev + d * int + e * scfunc + f * environ + g * wait + h * ops$	2	3.312	-0.03	1E-04	-0.02	0.023	0.008	-0.06	3E-04	0	0	0	0	0	0
	3. Payload malfunction due to mechanical issues	$L5 = a + b * dev + cc * int + d * scfunc + e * environ + f * wait + g * ops$	5	3.501	-0	0.122	-0.02	-0.01	-0.03	-0.02	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	4. Payload malfunction due to software issues	$L2 = a + b * ff + cc * dev + d * int + e * scfunc + f * environ + g * wait + h * ops$	2	3.194	0.113	-0	-0.03	-0.01	-0.05	-0.02	0.034	0	0	0	0	0	0

Formulas and coefficients as reference

To obtain a **FREE** copy of the tool **AND** leave feedback on how to improve it:
<https://sites.google.com/site/brumbaughresearch/research/risk-analysis-tool>



The screenshot shows the website's navigation menu with options: Home, Research, Curriculum Vitae, Publications, Links, Contact, and About Me. The 'Research' section is expanded to show '(5) Risk Analysis Tool'. A red box highlights the 'Risk Tool options:' section, which lists: (A) Obtain Risk Analysis Tool and (B) Risk Tool Feedback. The main content area contains a paragraph describing the tool's purpose and a table of input parameters. The table has columns for 'Parameter', 'Input', and 'Actual or Predicted?'. The 'Actual or Predicted?' column contains 'Actual' for 'Months in Development' and 'Predicted' for 'Months in Integration'. To the right of the table is an 'Options' panel with buttons for 'Calculate L-C Values for Milestone 1', 'Calculate L-C Values for Milestone 2', 'Calculate L-C Values for Milestone 3', 'Clear Error Messages and Warnings', 'Clear Milestone 1 Values', 'Clear Milestone 2 Values', and 'Clear Milestone 3 Values'.

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[Research](#) > [\(5\) Risk Analysis Tool](#) >

(A) Obtain Risk Analysis Tool

Risk Tool Options

- (A) Obtain Risk Analysis Tool
- (B) Risk Tool Feedback

To obtain a copy of the Risk Analysis Tool, please fill out the following form. You will then be contacted with a copy of the tool. For a description of how to use the tool as well as a discussion of the mathematical methods behind the tool, please read the [User's Guide](#).

Request for CubeSat Risk Tool

In order to keep track of user demographics, please fill out the following information. Once the response is received, I will contact you with instructions on how to access the tool.

* Required

What is your name? *

What is your email address? *

What organization are you with? *

University, company, etc.

What is the name of your CubeSat mission?

<http://goo.gl/8hpPiz>

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(B) Risk Tool Feedback

Risk Tool Options

- (A) Obtain Risk Analysis Tool
- (B) Risk Tool Feedback

Please provide any feedback you have in using the Risk Analysis Tool. Any comments and suggestions will be considered for implementation in future iterations of the tool.

CubeSat Risk Analysis Tool Feedback

Thank you for using this tool! We would appreciate any and all feedback -- constructive feedback and bug reports! Please submit your thoughts using the boxes below. Please contact me with any urgent issues at katharine.brumbaugh.gamble@gmail.com.

No response is mandatory, but as much detail as you are able to provide is helpful.

For more information on this research, please visit <https://sites.google.com/site/brumbaughresearch/>

How useful was this tool for your analysis purposes?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Not at all Very helpful!

What would you like to see in the next iteration of this tool?

<http://goo.gl/8hpPiz>

Decision Advisor – First Look

Macro to calculate everything

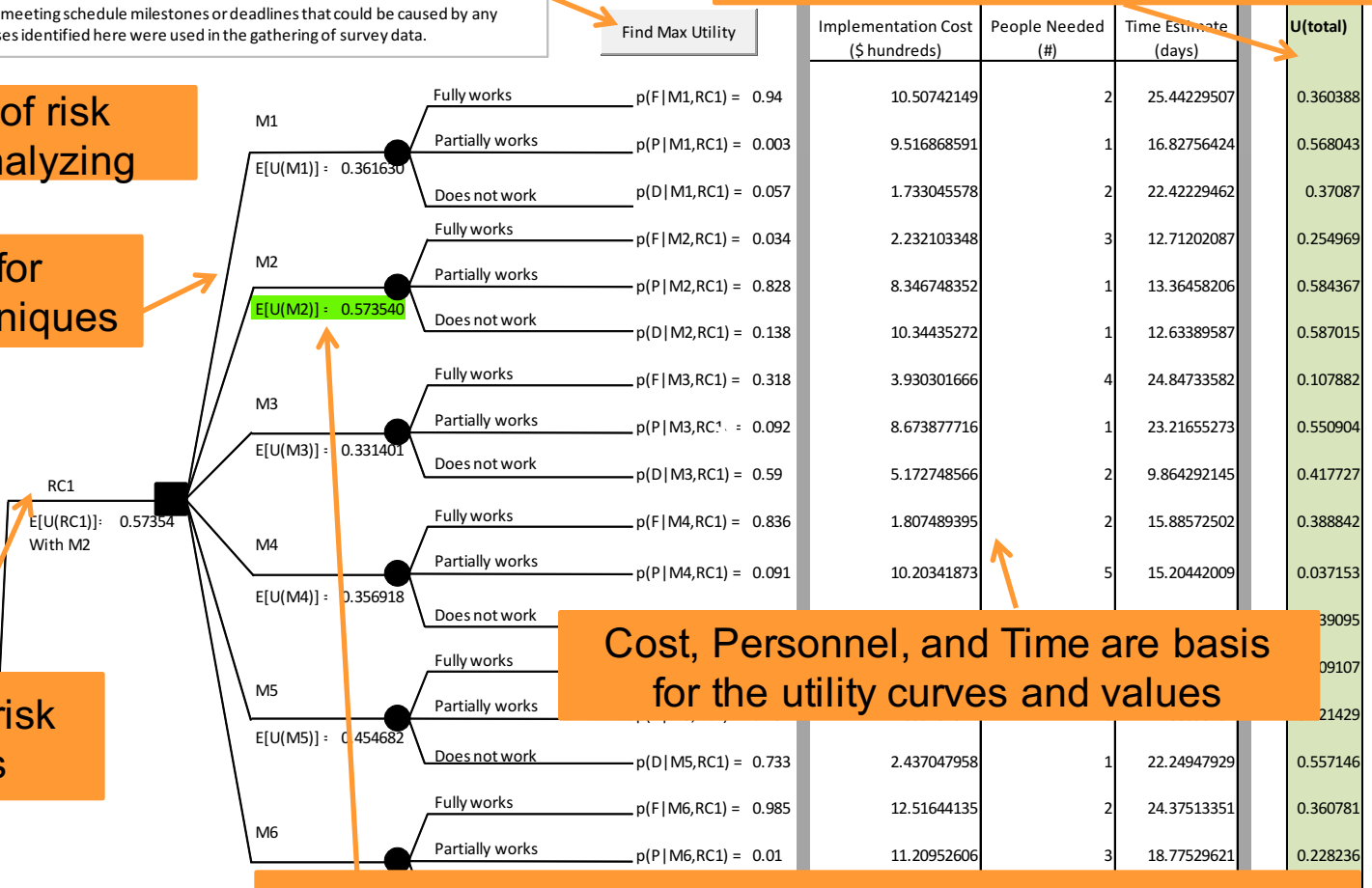
User defined utility values combined into multi-attribute joint utility function

Schedule risk - the event of a slip in meeting schedule milestones or deadlines that could be caused by any number of things. The five root causes identified here were used in the gathering of survey data.

Definition of risk currently analyzing

Sub-trees for mitigation techniques

Sub-trees for risk root causes



Cost, Personnel, and Time are basis for the utility curves and values

Excel highlights the technique which maximizes the utility function and places the results under the RC branch

Final Thoughts...

- Thank you for submitting your risk data!
- Check out research website
 - Publications list
 - More survey data analysis
 - More descriptions and details of research (risk analysis and decision advisor tools)
- **The risk analysis tool was designed for your use – PLEASE use it, and let me know how it works!**



QR code for obtaining Risk Tool
(and Research website)

<http://goo.gl/8hpPiz>

<https://sites.google.com/site/brumbaughresearch/research/risk-analysis-tool>

Back-Up Slides

Survey Analysis Results

Summarized additional SCH issues:

- Delayed launch: manifest change, launch vehicle and primary payload schedule slip
- Student workforce issues: time commitment and turnover rate
- Electronics design delay
- Funding delays: sequestration, grants, internal funding fluctuations
- Payload development delay: when internal and external
- Change in providers
- Contract delays
- Re-scoping / de-scoping mission goals
- Environmental/Spacecraft testing delay
- Political disagreement: quality assurance measures, funding, poor management, and resistance of program

Summarized additional PAY issues:

- New technology unknowns
- Environmental concerns: test early and often to avoid late-stage mitigation (EMI/EMC)
- To buy or develop a payload was more expensive than anticipated
- Legal issues surrounding licensing
- Software design and testing: suggest using interface emulators

Summarized additional SC issues:

- Lack of proper requirements and testing at the subsystem level
- Unknown loss of contact

Summarized additional PER issues:

- Lack of resources: small team size, poor distribution of resources
- Lack of professionalism: students treating project as partial credit, poor documentation
- Distributed locations of personnel yields communication and management issues
- Loss of information and pace when lose team members
- Lack of institution support and resources
- Many people involved implies lots of management overhead
- ITAR regulations

Summarized additional COST issues:

- Poor/last minute travel planning
- Poor initial cost planning
- Cost of professional engineer reviews
- Needed additional equipment after unforeseen hardware issues
- Additional hardware iterations
- Changing requirements/contractors midway through design
- Finding and obtaining funding
- Unexpected increase in payload/contracted development costs

Summarized personnel requirements to be on the team:

- Application and interview process; Peer review process; peer recruitment
- Students paid, get school credit, or volunteer; Time commitment requirement
- US citizenship required; ITAR compliance
- Minimum GPA requirement
- Students keep logs of their progress
- Class standing requirement; full-time student
- Industry - relevant experience required; degree requirements
- Industry - selected by open competitions

General Suggestions:

- Biggest CubeSat issue is managing personnel change
- Push for early development on a fully built, flight-like, engineering model
-- this allows for faster integration and testing of flight units

Regression Approach

Input:

- Variables of interest:
- Form factor
 - Life cycle times
 - Launch indicator

Calculation:

Regression techniques to minimize desired element(s):

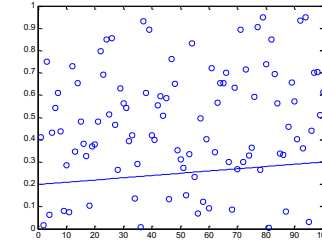
- Sum of squared deviations
- Sum of error of the estimate
- Bias

$$SSD_M^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{y_i - f(x_i, \underline{a})}{f(x_i, \underline{a})} \right)^2$$

$$B_M = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{f(x_i, \underline{a}) - y_i}{f(x_i, \underline{a})} \right)$$

Output:

Relationship between input variables and risk likelihood and consequence values: $Y(X) = a * x_1^b + c * x_2^d + \dots$



Additive vs. Multiplicative Models

	Additive	Multiplicative
Function form	$y_i = f(x_i, \bar{a}) + \varepsilon_i$	$y_i = f(x_i, \bar{a})\varepsilon_i$
Sum of Squared Deviations (SSD)	$SSD_A^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - f(x_i, \underline{a}))^2$	$SSD_M^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{y_i - f(x_i, \underline{a})}{f(x_i, \underline{a})} \right)^2$
Standard Error of Estimate (SEE)	$SEE_A = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n-m} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - f(x_i, \underline{a}))^2}$	$SEE_M = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n-m} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{y_i - f(x_i, \underline{a})}{f(x_i, \underline{a})} \right)^2}$
Bias	$B_A = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (f(x_i, \underline{a}) - y_i)$	$B_M = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{f(x_i, \underline{a}) - y_i}{f(x_i, \underline{a})} \right)$
	Tends to favor larger values because of larger errors	Reduces influence of large data values

Use of General Error Regression (GER) will allow for use of either additive or multiplicative error models. Additionally, all function forms are available, as opposed to OLS methods where really only linear functions may be used.

Background: Regression Analysis

- Given a set of data, regression analysis finds the line of best fit to describe the data
- Regression techniques include:
 - Ordinary Least Squares
 - Traditionally used for linear models and additive models
 - Minimizes square standard error
 - General Error Regression Techniques:
 - Can use additive or multiplicative functions.
 - Minimum Percentage Error (MPE)
 - Iterated Least Squares / Minimum Unbiased Percentage Error (IRLS / MUPE)
 - Minimum Percentage Error – Zero Percentage Bias (MPE-ZPE)

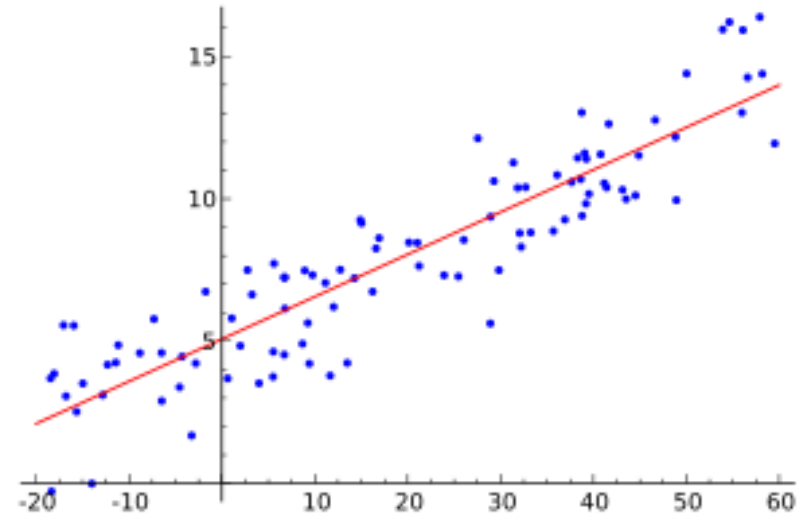


Image credit: Wikipedia

Joint Utility Curve – Scaling Factors

What probability, p , would make you indifferent between having <cost at best, people at worst, time at worst> or the p probability of all attributes at their best and a $(1-p)$ probability of all attributes at their worst?

<cost at best, people at worst, time at worst> $u(1,0,0) \approx$

0.5

$E[u] = 1$

$u(1,1,1)$ <cost at best, people at best, time at best>

0.5

$E[u] = 0$

$u(0,0,0)$ <cost at worst, people at worst, time at worst>

Outcome

What probability, p , would make you indifferent between having <cost at worst, people at best, time at worst> or the p probability of all attributes at their best and a $(1-p)$ probability of all attributes at their worst?

<cost at worst, people at best, time at worst> $u(0,1,0) \approx$

0.9

$u(1,1,1)$ <cost at best, people at best, time at best>

0.1

$u(0,0,0)$ <cost at worst, people at worst, time at worst>

Outcome

What probability, p , would make you indifferent between having <cost at worst, people at worst, time at best> or the p probability of all attributes at their best and a $(1-p)$ probability of all attributes at their worst?

<cost at worst, people at worst, time at best> $u(0,0,1) \approx$

0.1

$u(1,1,1)$ <cost at best, people at best, time at best>

0.9

$u(0,0,0)$ <cost at worst, people at worst, time at worst>

Outcome

- Scaling constants must satisfy: $1 + k = (1 + kk_1)(1 + kk_2)(1 + kk_3)$
- k is determined by implicitly solving the equation given the k_i values obtained from the elicitation method

Joint Utility Function

- Once scaling constants have been found, may combine marginal utility functions with:

$$1 + ku(x_1, x_2, x_3) = (1 + k_1 u_1(x_1))(1 + k_2 u_2(x_2))(1 + k_3 u_3(x_3))$$

- Rescale the values to be between 0 and 1, with:
 - $U(\text{cost} = \text{min}, \text{people} = \text{min}, \text{time} = \text{min}) = 1 \rightarrow U(1,1,1)$
 - $U(\text{cost} = \text{max}, \text{people} = \text{max}, \text{time} = \text{max}) = 0 \rightarrow U(0,0,0)$

$$u' = \frac{u - u(0,0,0)}{u(1,1,1) - u(0,0,0)}$$

- Assumptions:
 - Three attributes fully characterize decision maker's preference system: cost, people, time required for a given mitigation technique
 - Preferential independence \rightarrow tradeoffs between any two attributes governed by unique indifference relationship independent of other attribute
 - Utility independence $\rightarrow u_i(x_i)$ is independent of all other $x_{j \neq i}$

Joint Utility Function

- Example joint function w/ people = 3 :

