



Risk Assessment of Complex Infrastructures

Leonardo Dueñas-Osorio

Assistant Professor, Rice University, Houston, Texas

Risk Acceptance and Risk Communication Workshop

**Stanford University
Stanford, California
27 March 2007**



Presentation Outline

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Infrastructure Reliability**
- 3. Network and Cascading Models**
- 4. Infrastructure System Risk**
- 5. Network Performance**
- 6. Conclusions**

1. Introduction (1)

- Attributes of complex systems:

Interacting

Decentralized

Emergent

Evolving

1. Introduction (1)

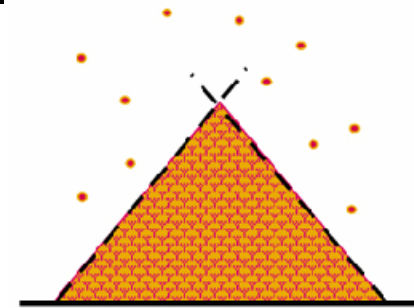
- Attributes of complex systems:

Interacting

Decentralized

Emergent

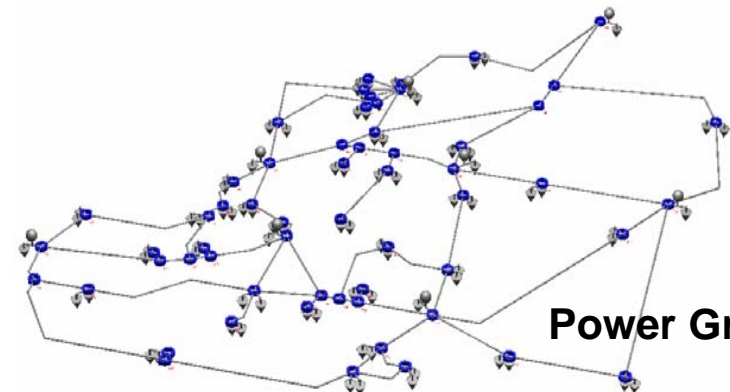
Evolving



Sand Pile



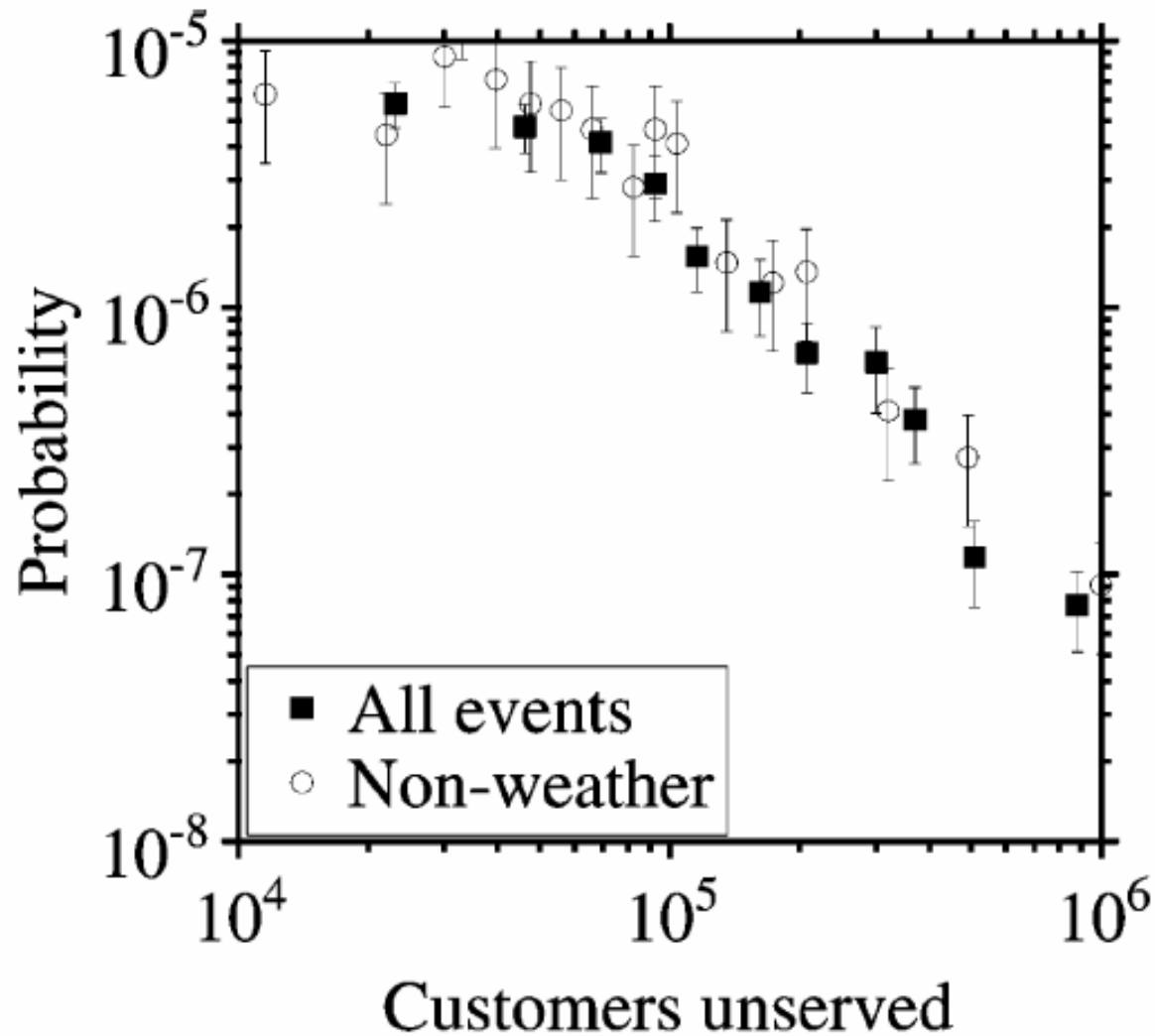
Forest



Power Grid

1. Introduction (2)

- Properties with power law:

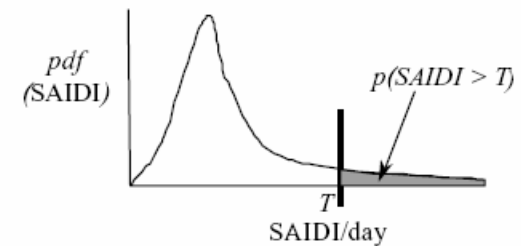


2. Infrastructure Reliability

- Customer-based metrics:

$$SAIFI = \frac{\sum \text{Number of customers interrupted}}{\text{Total number of customers served}}$$

$$SAIDI = \frac{\sum \text{Customer interruption durations}}{\text{Total number of customers served}}$$



- **Analytical Approach:** Markov state-space model
- **Numerical Approach:** Monte Carlo simulation

3. Network and Cascading Models (1)

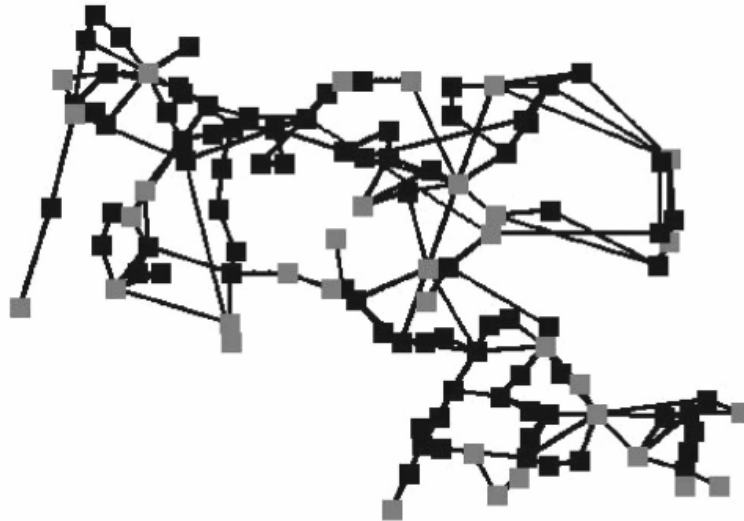
- Networked systems:



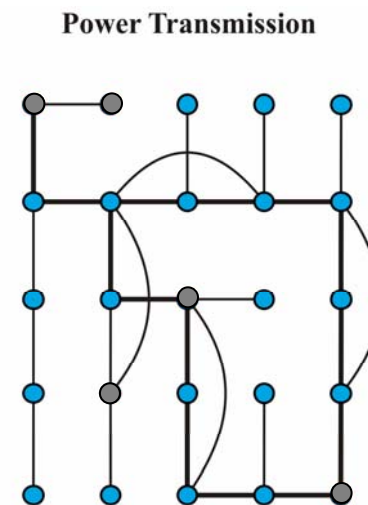
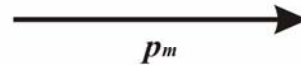
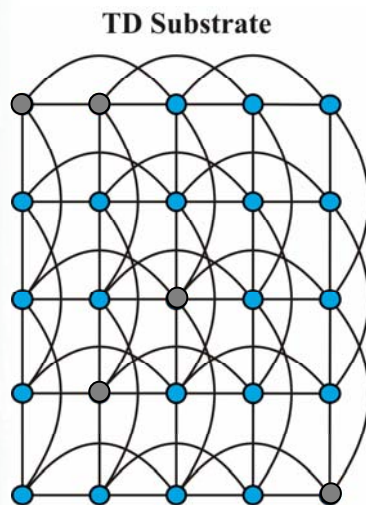
IEEE 118 Node
Test System

3. Network and Cascading Models (1)

- Networked systems:



IEEE 118 Node
Test System



Generic
Transmission and
Distribution (TD)
System

3. Network and Cascading Models (2)

- **Cascading model:**

$$\hat{s} = \mu^t$$

**Branching
Process**

$$C_i = (1 + \alpha)L_i$$

L_i - Load

α - Tolerance

C_i - Capacity

**Numerical
Simulation**

- **Triggering events:**

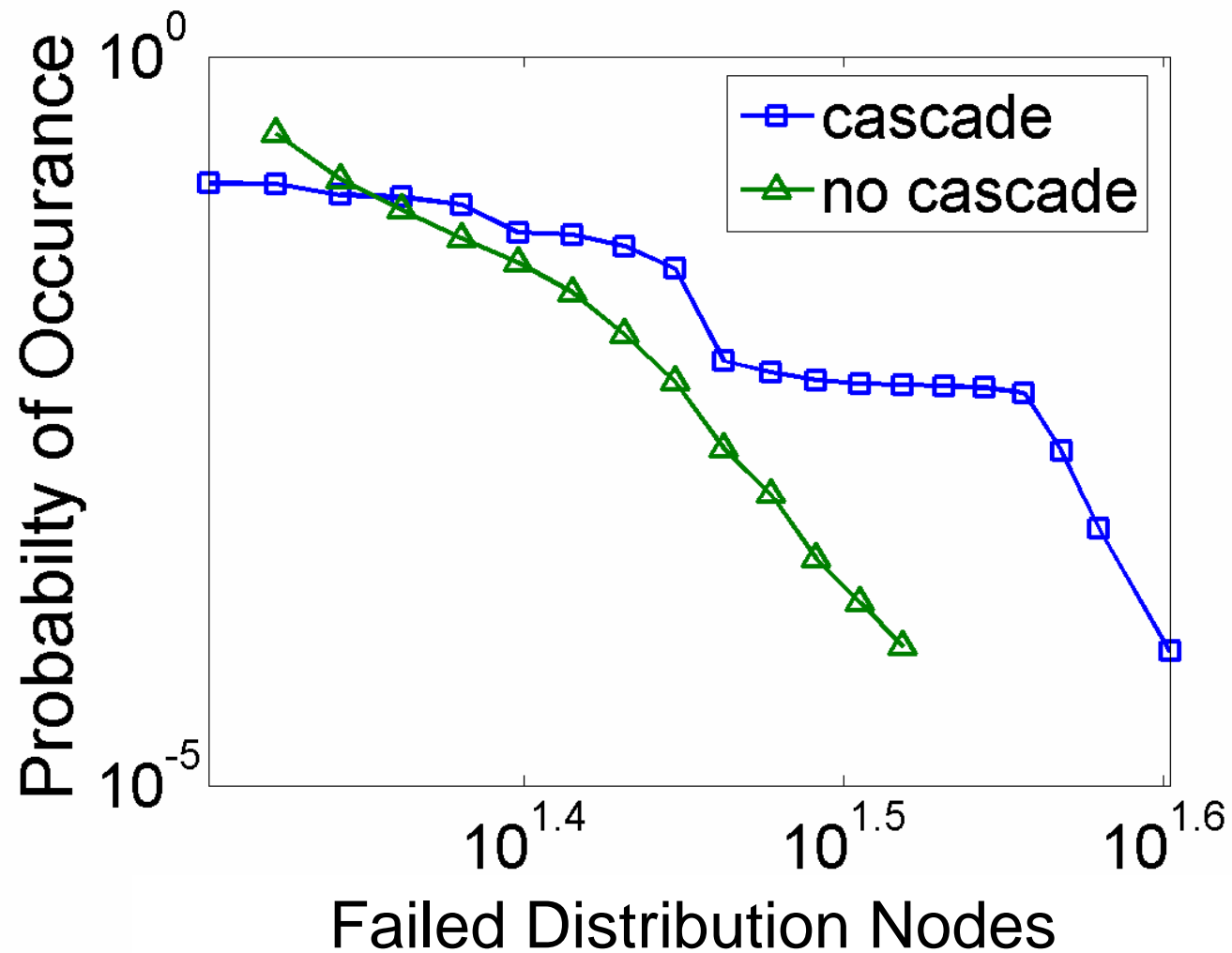
- Targeted disruptions: node degree, node load
- Natural hazards: earthquake and lightning in Western U.S.

- **Performance measure:**

$$S = \frac{n_D'}{n_D}$$

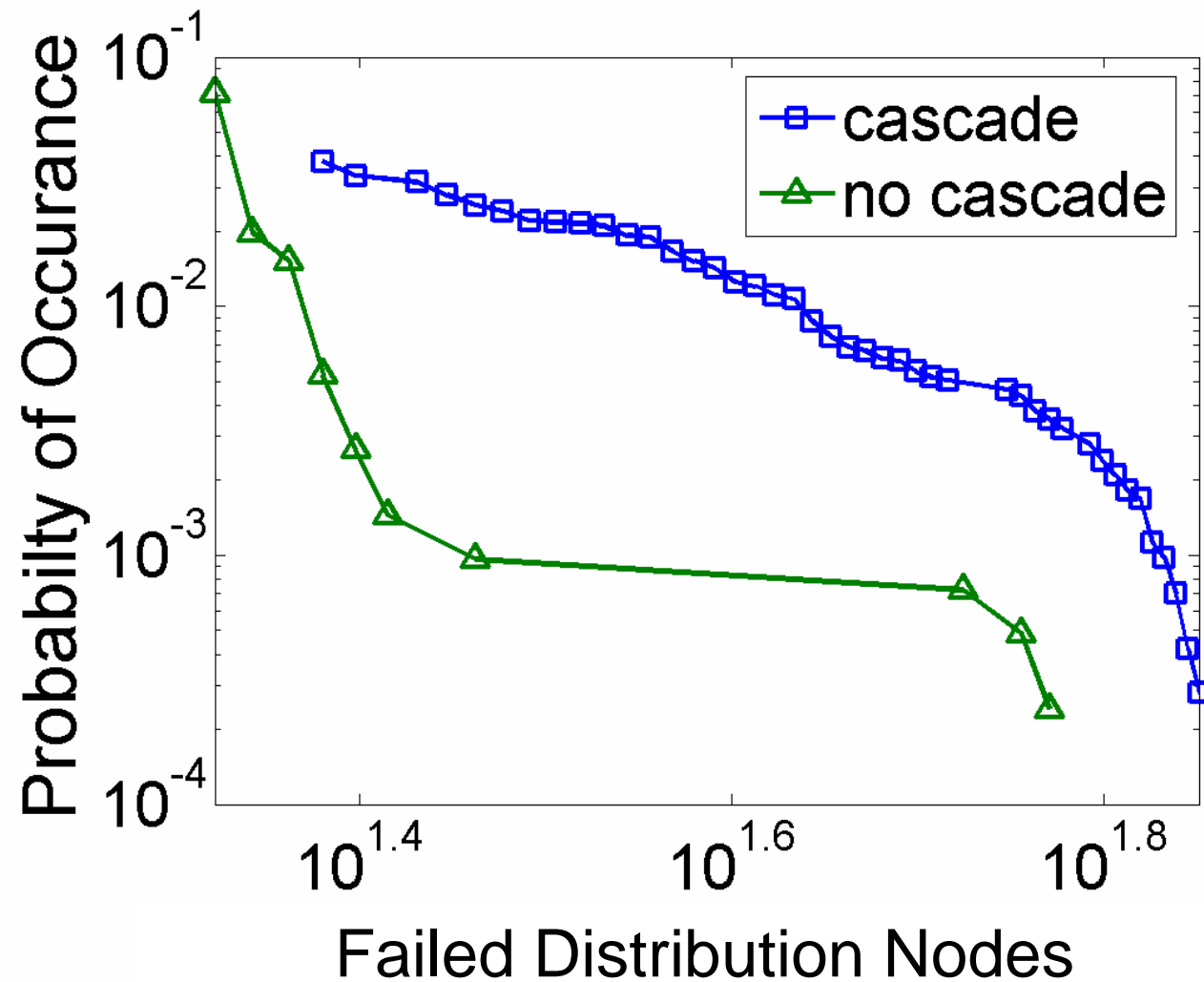
4. Infrastructure Risk (1)

- Probability of blackout size - LG:



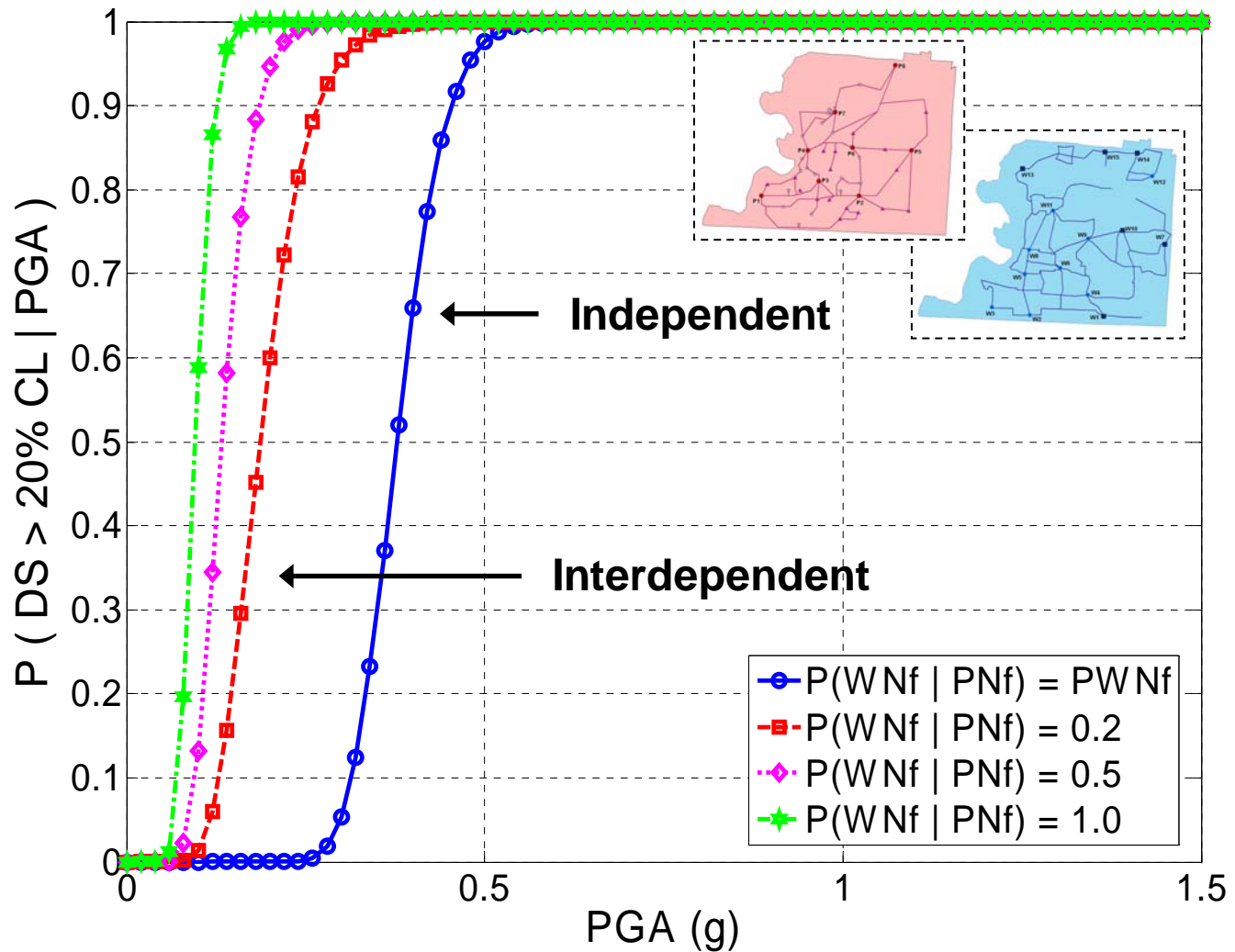
4. Infrastructure Risk (2)

- Probability of blackout size - EQ:



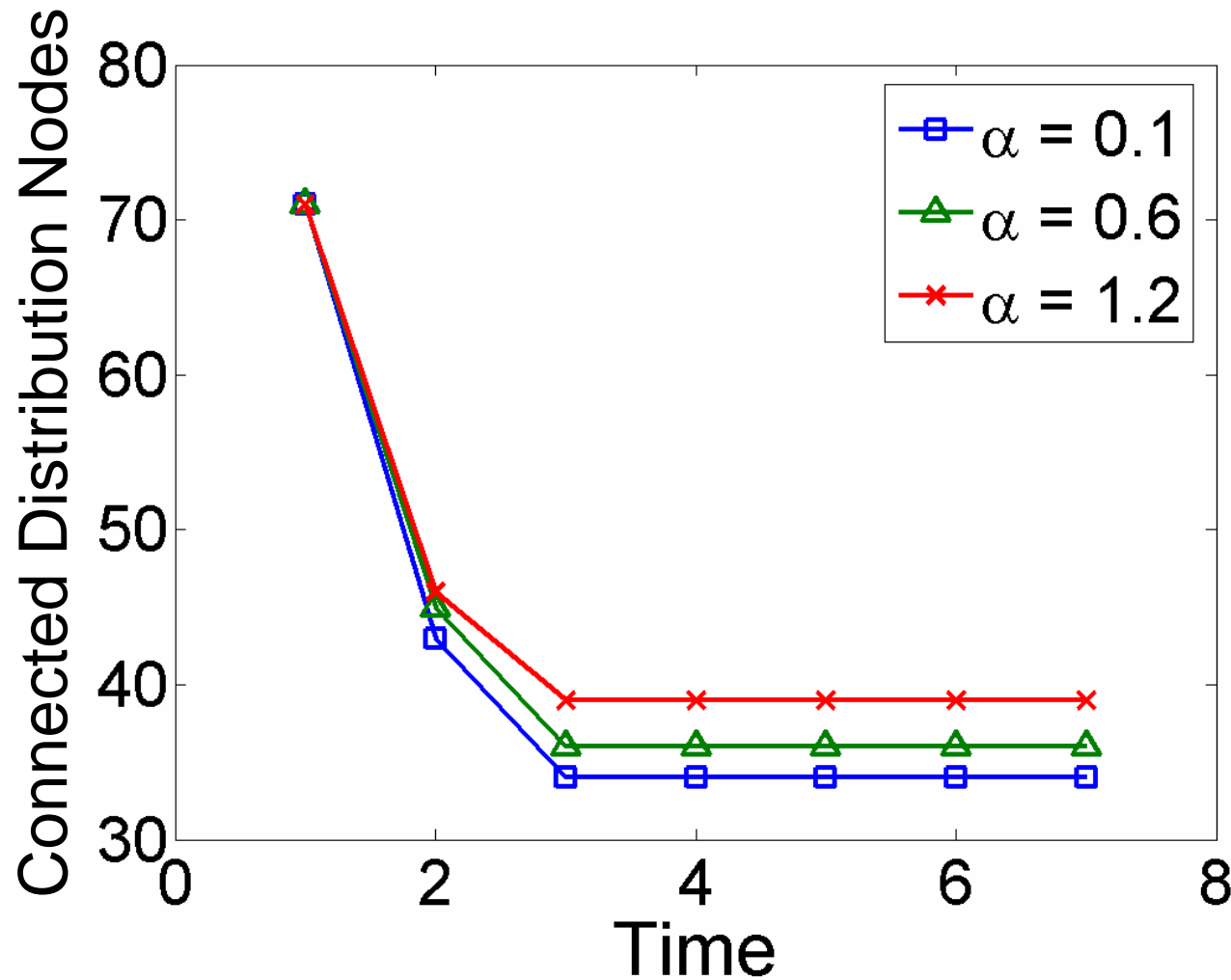
4. Infrastructure Risk (3)

- Network Interdependencies:



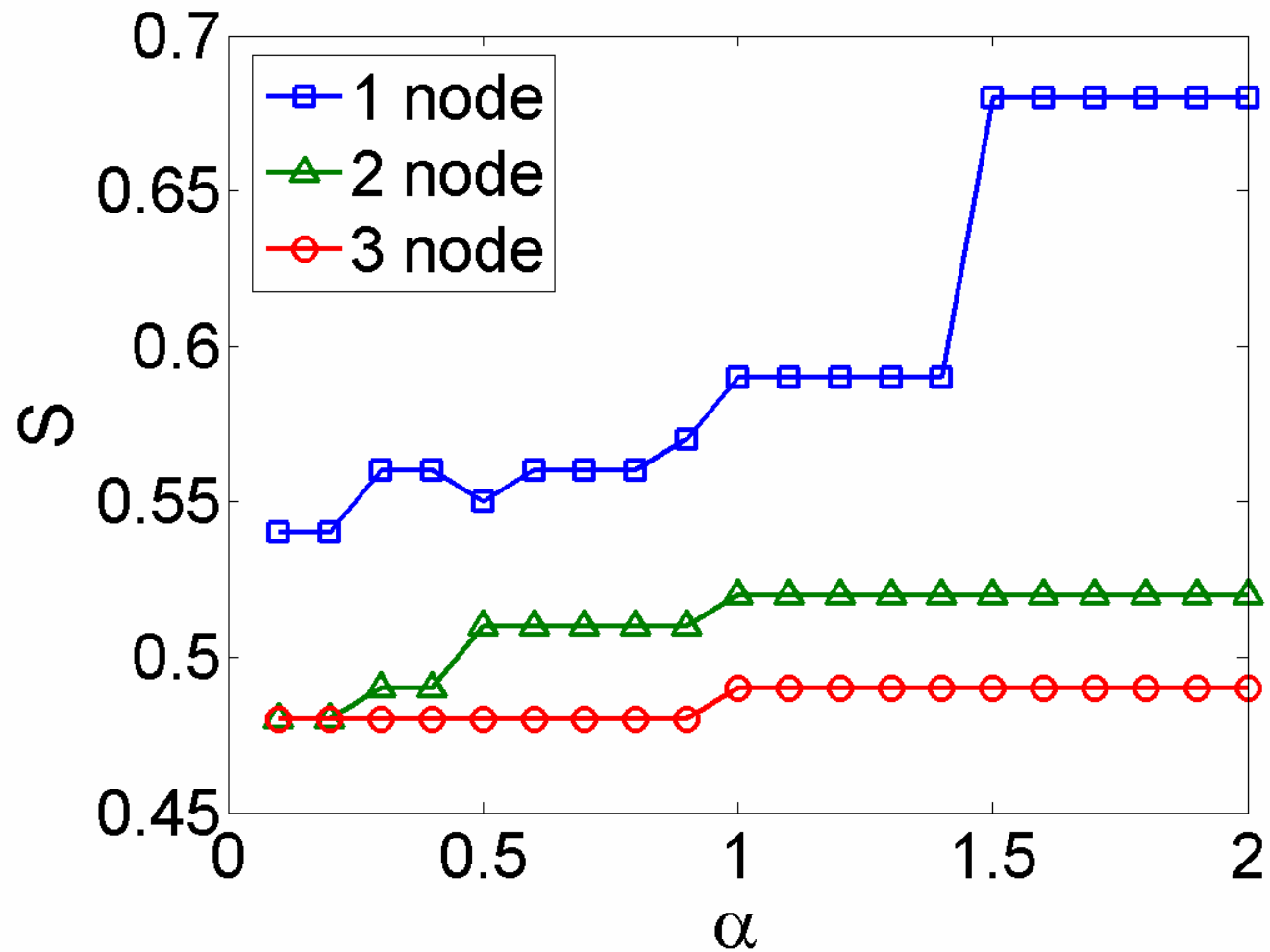
5. Network Performance (1)

- Evolution of cascading failure:



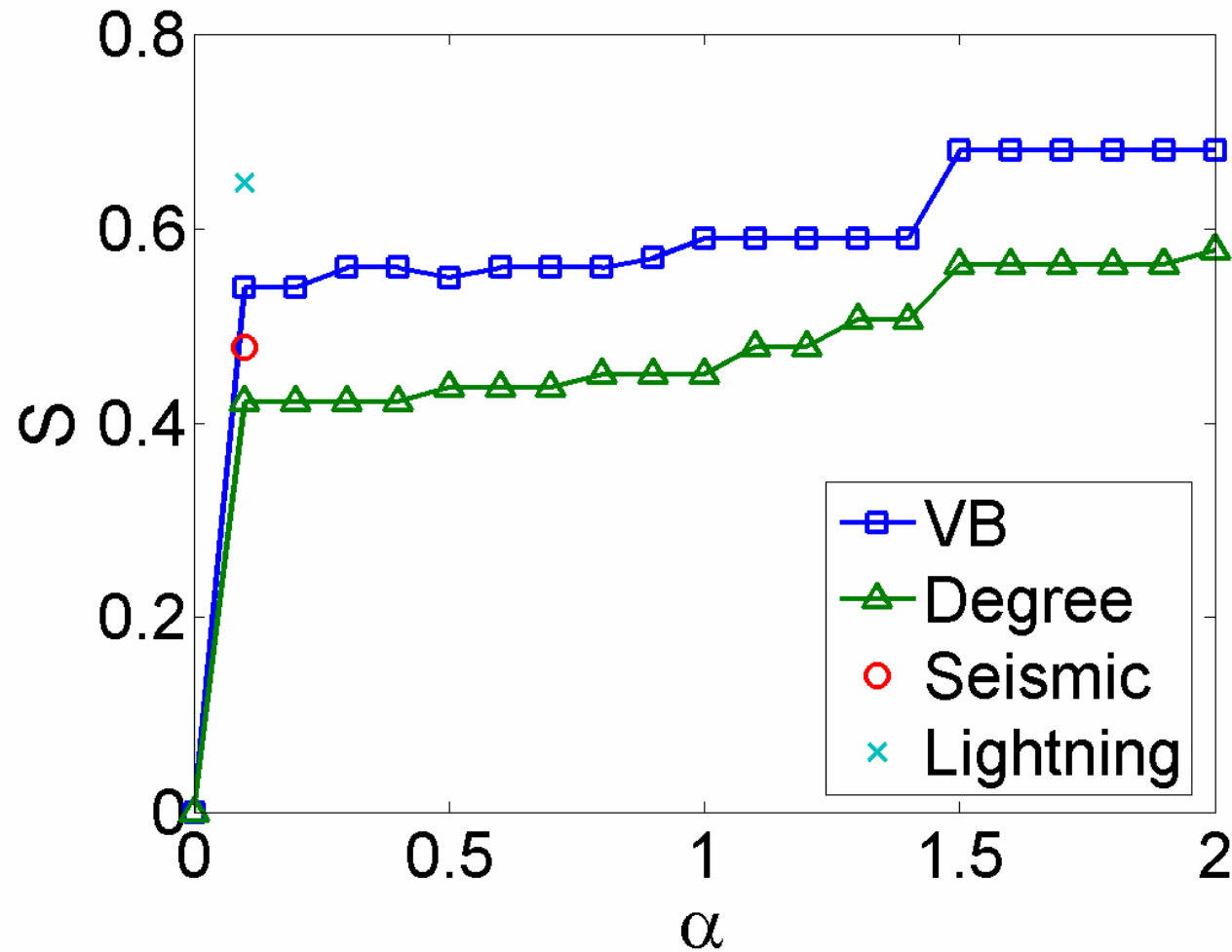
5. Network Performance (2)

- Size of triggering event:



5. Network Performance (3)

- Steady-state response:





6. Conclusions

- Engineered infrastructures possess the attributes of complex systems
- Tolerance α improves performance but rapidly becomes impractical
- Topological changes are needed for reliability
- Networked systems exhibit increased likelihood of large-scale disruptions



Thank You

Questions and Discussion