Selecting Input Distributions to Represent Exposure Factors

- Fitting Distributions to Data That Are Not Perfectly Representative of the Scenario Under Study
- Using the Empirical Distribution Function or Resampling Techniques Instead of Parametric Distributions

WORKSHOP ON SELECTING INPUT DISTRIBUTIONS FOR PROBABILISTIC ASSESSMENT

H. Christopher Frey, Ph.D.
Workshop Chair and Participant

Department of Civil Engineering
North Carolina State University
Raleigh, NC 27695

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FOCUS OF WORKSHOP

- Produce a written document
- Provide advice
- Representativeness
- Empirical versus Parametric Distributions

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Workshop Approach

- Plenary discussions
- "Brainwriting" activity
- Writing assignments: individuals and/or small groups

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Brainwriting Activity

- Small groups (4-6)
- Trigger question
- Silent activity
- Interactive
- Simultaneously prepare written responses (pen and paper!)
- Exchange pages
- React to previous comments and add more
- Continue until exhausted and/or time is up

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ROLE OF OBSERVERS

- The proceedings of this workshop are public information
- This workshop deals with inherently technical subject matter, and it is not intended as a short course or tutorial
- The live panel discussion may be highly technical at times
- Designated times on both days for observer comments and questions
- 30 minutes total each day
- May impose time limits on individual speakers

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Who is the Audience?

- As experts, we tend to talk to each other in jargon.
- Potential difficulties communicating across disciplines
- Try to present concepts in plain language if possible.
- This will be especially important in the written record.
- Audience for the written record is "the assessor"

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EPA's Expectations

- "Representativeness" is a higher priority than EDF vs. PDF, but both should be addressed
- Focus on the issue papers. The RTI report is for background only and is not the subject of this workshop.
- Focus on technical issues
- Keep in mind the audience for the framework document that will result from this effort

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Representativeness: What should we focus on?

- **The Issue Paper?** Any significant comments?
- **Sensitivity:** How important is potential lack of representativeness? How do we evaluate this?
- **Adjustments:** Are there reaonable ways to adjust or extrapolate from the sample to the population of interest?

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