

Editor's Introduction

During a slow economic recovery in developed countries appears and the average growth in emerging countries keep down, we publish the present issue, which only contains 4 papers. The first two contributions are written in English and the last two in Chinese with English abstracts.

The first paper, "Risk Assessment for a Chemical Spill into a River" by McCreedy and Williams, advises that a chemical spill can be a significant threat to human health and the aquatic environment. It describes a mathematical model to predict chemical concentrations and it presents an approach to characterize the risk as acceptable or unacceptable.

The second paper, "The Volatility of Viet Nam Listed Banking, Insurance and Financial Services Company Groups after the Financial Crisis 2009-2011" by Huy, shows us the banking and financial market in Viet Nam after the crisis during the period 2009-2011. There are decreases in equity and asset beta var values in the insurance industry, less risk dispersion, but there are increases in asset beta mean value in the investment and finance industry (from 0.41 to 0.52) and in equity beta mean value (from 0.81 to 0.96) in this industry. However, these numbers are reduced for the whole period 2007-2011. It is noted that these data in the banking industry do not vary much. In the stock investment industry, equity and asset beta mean values are slightly increasing (from 0.51 and 0.48 to 0.56 and 0.53). The market risk has been affected by the crisis and the impact is extended during the period 2009-2011 and for the whole period 2007-2011, the market risk decreases in the investment and finance industry.

The third paper, "MCSim-Based Occupational Health Risk Assessment on Benzene" by Li, Huang and Liu, employs the Monte Carlo Simulating Software (MCSim) to build a model for estimating the concentrations in target tissues of human in distribution forms. Furthermore, the authors use FLUENT software to simulate the external dose, so that the internal dose estimated by MCSim can be used to calculate the lifetime cancer risk range of exposed workers if the benzene occupational exposure scenarios are complicated.

The final paper, "On the Coastal Erosion Risk Assessment Indexes" by Xu, Wen, Zhao and Xu, tells us that erosion has taken place widely along coastal area in China since 1970s, which results in the width of beach being narrowed, bathing beach destruction, coast-protection facilities and roads collapse, and wetland deterioration. The authors suggest the coastal erosion risk assessment index system which can be divided into hazard index system and vulnerability index system separately. The index system is expected to provide a practical theoretical basis for coastal erosion risk assessment.

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