
This book is a collection of the papers presented at the conference. Those who deal with reliability and optimization will find this book extremely useful and informative.

But first I would like to tell you that recently, participating at the ICOSSAR’05 I had a chance to hear an opinion stating that the notion of optimization is a fallacy because of uncertainty. This book is a living proof to the contrary. One has to look for best solutions even when uncertainties are involved, and where don’t they occur?! Keynote lectures by J.O. Royset, A.Der Kiureghian and E. Polak (“Reliability Based Optimal Design: Problem Formulation, Algorithms and Application”) and by J.S. Nathwani (“Strategic Principles for Managing Risk”). The former stresses that “uncertainties and optimization are two major considerations in structural design.” This combination suggests development of coherent framework, development of social indicators, using Life Quality Index as a tool for managing risk, and better allocation of society’s resources.


This is undoubtedly an important book that ought to be on the bookshelf of engineers and scientists dealing with reliability and/or optimization.

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