An Active Approach to Predicting Earthquake Shaking with Passive Seismology

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SCEC Mission Statement

Gather data on earthquakes in southern California, and elsewhere

Integrate information into a comprehensive physicsbased understanding of earthquake phenomena

Communicate understanding to the world at large as useful knowledge for reducing earthquake risk and improving community resilience

Predicting Earthquake Shaking (Strong Motion)



"The correct modeling of strong motion is really the bottom line in earthquake prediction..."

Alan Ryall (1982 SSA Presidential Address)

2014 US National Strong Motion Hazard Map



Two-percent probability of exceedance in 50 years map of peak ground acceleration



Hazard Curve for Downtown Los Angeles



Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Analysis









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Long-Term Forecasting Models



Ground Motion Prediction Equations (GMPEs)

• Regression of variables for earthquake/geometry/site:

- Magnitude
- Distance to fault
- Type of faulting
- Hanging-wall effect
- Site conditions

Given an earthquake and site...

- Against measures of ground motion severity:
 - Peak acceleration
 - Peak velocity
 - Spectral acceleration
 - Spectral velocity

...how strongly will it shake?

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Ground Motion Prediction for California Earthquakes



From "PSHA: A Primer" (Field)

NGA-West2 Database



Closest Distance to Rupture (km)



[Courtesy of Yousef Bozorgnia]

2004 Chuetsu Earthquake: Stronger Shaking than Expected in Tokyo



Furumura and Hayakawa (2007)

Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Analysis













NCSA Blue Waters



KFR = Kinematic Fault Rupture AWP = Anelastic Wave Propagation NSR = Nonlinear Site Response DFR = Dynamic Fault Rupture F3DT = Full-3D Tomography



Coupling of Computational Pathways in the CyberShake Workflow





Comparison of 1D and 3D CyberShake Models for the Los Angeles Region



CyberShake Hazard Map, 3sec SA, 2% in 50 yrs

- 1. lower near-fault intensities due to 3D scattering
- 2. much higher intensities in near-fault basins
- 3. higher intensities in the Los Angeles basin
- 4. lower intensities in hard-rock areas



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Virtual Earthquake Method Validates Simulations



Details of amplification differ (need more data)

Caveats: long-period only

both assume linearity

Denolle et al. (2014a)

Push to Higher Seismic Frequencies



Push to Higher Seismic Frequencies





2014 Update of ShakeOut Earthquake Drills

Participation History (worldwide)

- 2014: 26.5 million (+ NM, KS, FL, Quebec, Yukon, more)
- 2013: 25.0 million (+ Southeast, Northeast, MT, WY, CO)
- 2012: 19.5 million (+ Japan, New Zealand, UT, WA, AZ)
- 2011: 12.5 million (+ Central US, BC, OR)
- 2010: 8.0 million (+ Nevada and Guam)
- 2009: 6.9 million (+ Northern California)
- 2008 5.4 million (Southern California)

2014 Official ShakeOut Regions

- 27 Regions worldwide
- 21 Regions spanning 47 states & territories
- 55 additional countries with independent
 - registrations (individuals, schools, etc.)

Key Facts

- Participants practice "Drop, Cover, and Hold On" and other aspects of their emergency plans.
- Register at www.ShakeOut.org.
- Largest component of FEMA's "America's PrepareAthon"



ShakeOut Scenario – 5 Major Areas of Loss for Los Angeles

1. Older buildings built to earlier standards

2. Nonstructural elements and building contents that are generally unregulated

3. Infrastructure crossing the San Andreas fault

4. Business interruption from damaged infrastructure, including telecommunications, and especially water systems

5. Fire following the earthquake

4 Areas to be Addressed by the City of Los Angeles

1. Pre-1980 non-ductile reinforced concrete buildings

2. Pre-1980 soft-first story buildings

3. Water system infrastructure, including impact on firefighting capability

4. Telecommunications infrastructure

(6 ordinances currently in process)

Jones (2015)