

GEM

**GLOBAL
EARTHQUAKE
MODEL**

working
together to
assess
risk

Introduction to Seismic Hazard Analysis

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Earthquake Hazard – A widespread danger

Earthquakes are one of the most costly natural hazards worldwide

NatCatSERVICE

Munich RE 

Loss events worldwide 1980 – 2014

10 costliest events ordered by overall losses

Date	Event	Affected area	Overall losses in US\$ m original values	Insured losses in US\$ m original values	Fatalities
11.3.2011	Earthquake, tsunami	Japan: Aomori, Chiba, Fukushima, Ibaraki, Iwate, Miyagi, Tochigi, Tokyo, Yamagata	210,000	40,000	15,880
25-30.8.2005	Hurricane Katrina, storm surge	USA: LA, MS, AL, FL	125,000	62,200	1,322
17.1.1995	Earthquake	Japan: Hyogo, Kobe, Osaka, Kyoto	100,000	3,000	6,430
12.5.2008	Earthquake	China: Sichuan, Mianyang, Beichuan, Wenchuan, Shifang, Chengdu, Guangyuan, Ngawa, Ya'an	85,000	300	84,000
23-31.10.2012	Hurricane Sandy, storm surge	Bahamas, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, USA, Canada	68,500	29,500	210
17.1.1994	Earthquake	USA: CA, Northridge, Los Angeles, San Fernando Valley, Ventura, Orange	44,000	15,300	61
1.8-15.11.2011	Floods	Thailand: Phichit, Nakhon Sawan, Phra Nakhon Si Ayuttaya, Pathumthani, Nonthaburi, Bangkok	43,000	16,000	813
6-14.9.2008	Hurricane Ike	USA, Cuba, Haiti, Dominican Republic, Turks and Caicos Islands, Bahamas	38,000	18,500	170
27.2.2010	Earthquake, tsunami	Chile: Concepción, Metropolitana, Rancagua, Talca, Temuco, Valparaiso	30,000	8,000	520
23.10.2004	Earthquake	Japan: Honshu, Niigata, Ojya, Tokyo, Nagaoka, Yamakoshi	28,000	760	46

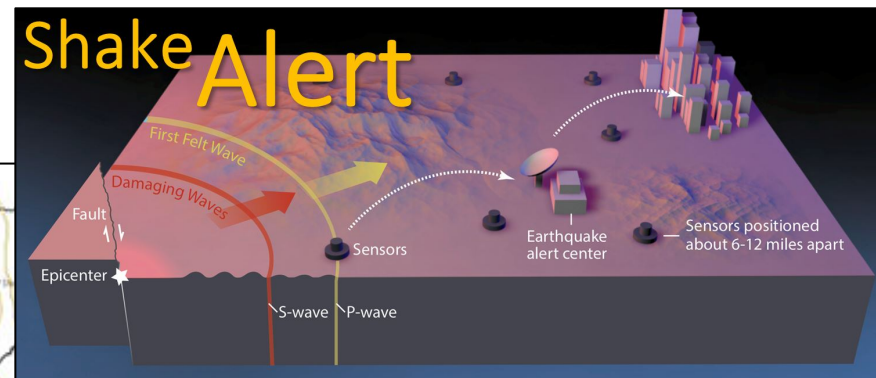
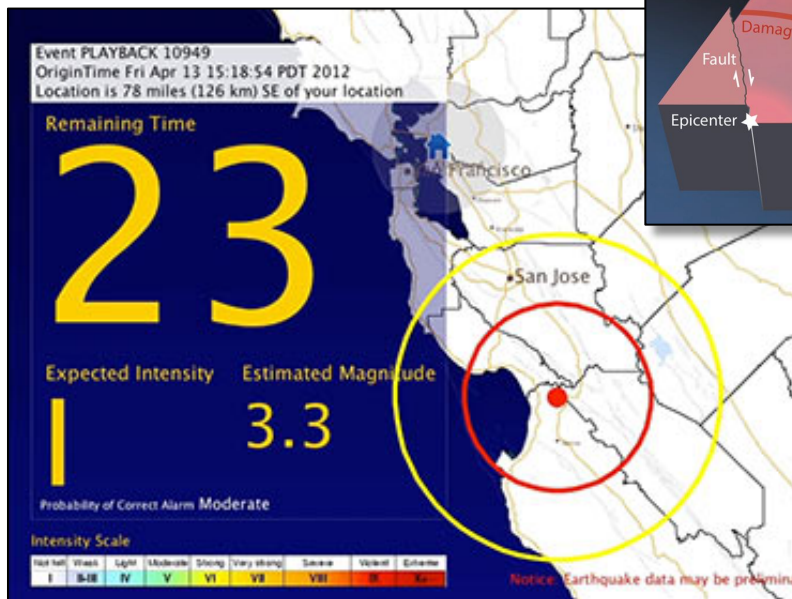
Source: Munich Re, NatCatSERVICE, 2015



Earthquake Hazard – Forecasting

Reduction of fatalities could ideally be carried out through short-term forecasting with:

- Analysis of precursors (highly debatable)
- Early warning systems (large investment, practical limitations)



USGS ShakeAlert
 EEW Program

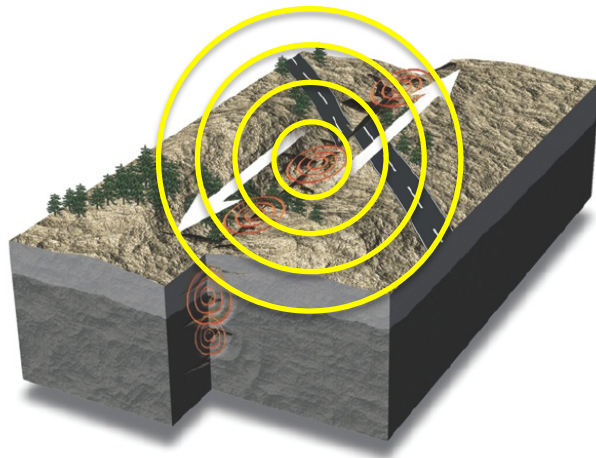


Earthquake Hazard – Ground Shaking Level

Reduction of losses should be properly done by preemptive design and reinforcement of new and existing building and infrastructures

This requires, however, a proper estimation of the **ground shaking level likely expected at a site within a given interval of time**

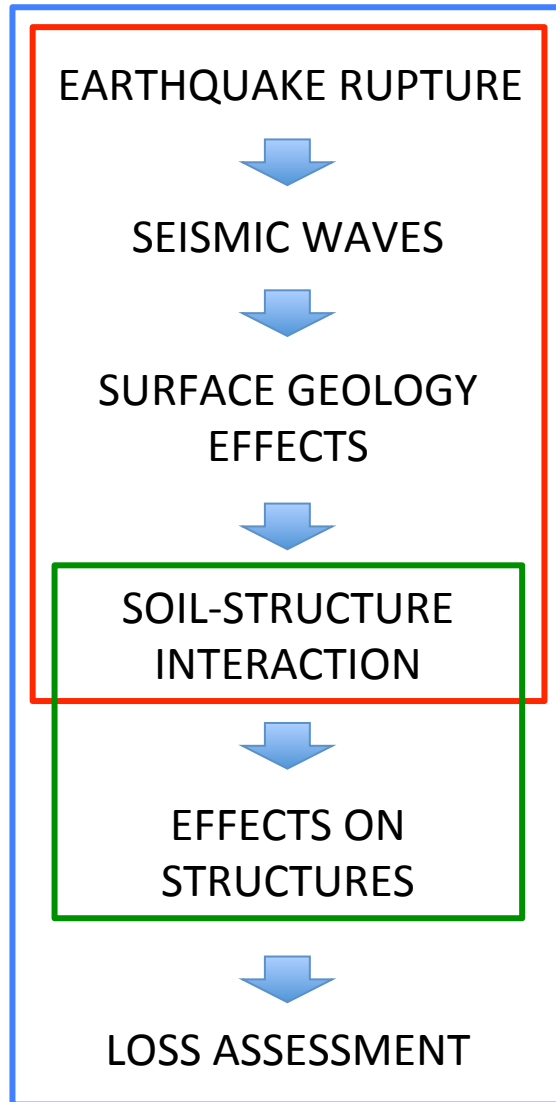
Question is: how and how precisely this level can be defined, given the little knowledge we have of the earthquake process?



<http://www.howitworksdaily.com/>



Earthquake Hazard and Risk



Seismic Hazard is therefore an essential component of Earthquake Risk Assessment

$$R = H * E * V$$

Seismic Hazard (H)

**Physical Vulnerability (V)
Exposure/Inventory (E)**

Risk (R)



End-Users Perspective

1) Engineers

- For what level of ground motion should I design my structure?
- What are the possible earthquake scenarios that may pose a threat to my structure?
- The Building Standard says I should ensure this performance level – how do I know how resistant to make my structure to ensure this?
- What if I want to achieve different performance objectives (e.g. “operational”, “life-safety”, “no-collapse”)?

2) Insurers

- What is the probability of my exceeding X amount of loss from my portfolio in the next T years?
- The Catastrophe Bond will trigger when “... earthquake occurs in this cell ... ground shaking exceed this value here...” – how likely is this to happen?

3) Decision Makers & Public

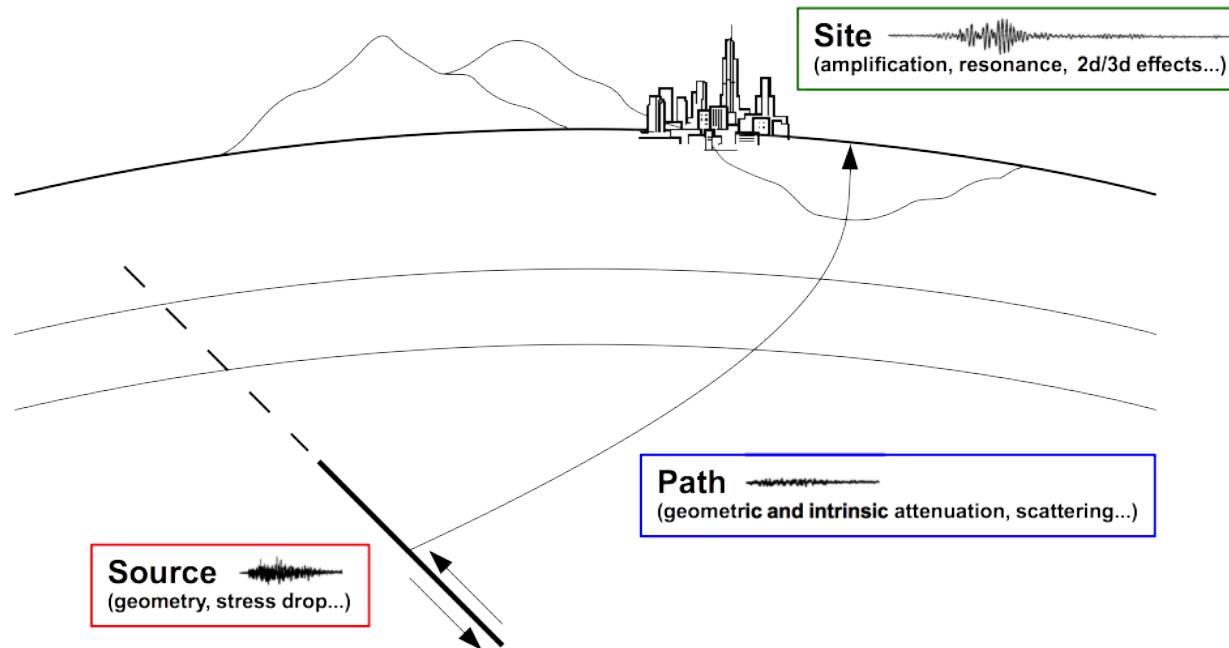
- Will this property be damaged/destroyed?
- How likely is this to happen?
- What is the best course of action to take (cost-benefit)?
- What sort of earthquakes can occur? What might happen when they do?



SHA Requirements

For the calculation of hazard associated to a region is essential to know:

- **Where** the earthquakes occur and the geometry of the seismic sources
- **How often** earthquakes occur on each seismic source
- **The size** of the earthquakes generated by each source
- **Mechanical properties** of geological materials through which seismic waves will propagate (including surface geology)



Deterministic vs. Probabilistic Approach

Two are the main methodologies currently adopted for seismic hazard analysis:

Deterministic. Also called the “Worst Case Scenario”

One or a few earthquake scenarios are selected and the corresponding ground motion computed assuming a level of uncertainty on ground motion (i.e. a number of standard deviations above the median value predicted by a Ground Motion Prediction Equation - GMPE).

Probabilistic: All possible scenarios of engineering relevance for the investigated site are considered in the analysis taking into account their probability of occurrence i.e. all ruptures (magnitude+distance) and levels of uncertainty on ground motion.



Deterministic Approach – Defining the “worst case”

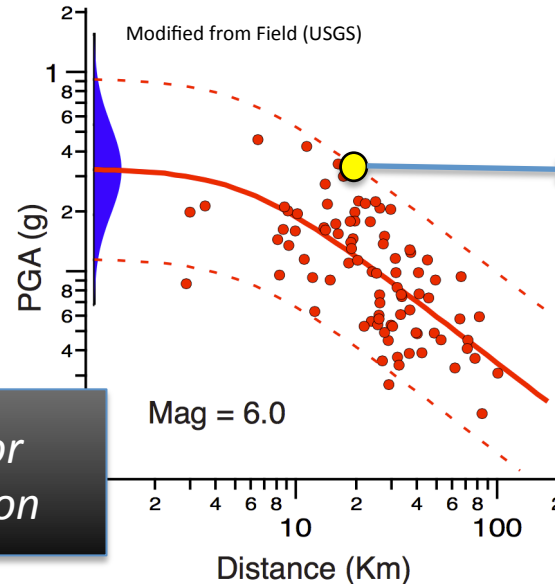
Scenario #1

<http://eoimages.gsfc.nasa.gov>



Many issues:

- Largest earthquake in the source?
- Closest earthquake to source?
- Worst possible or plausible scenario?

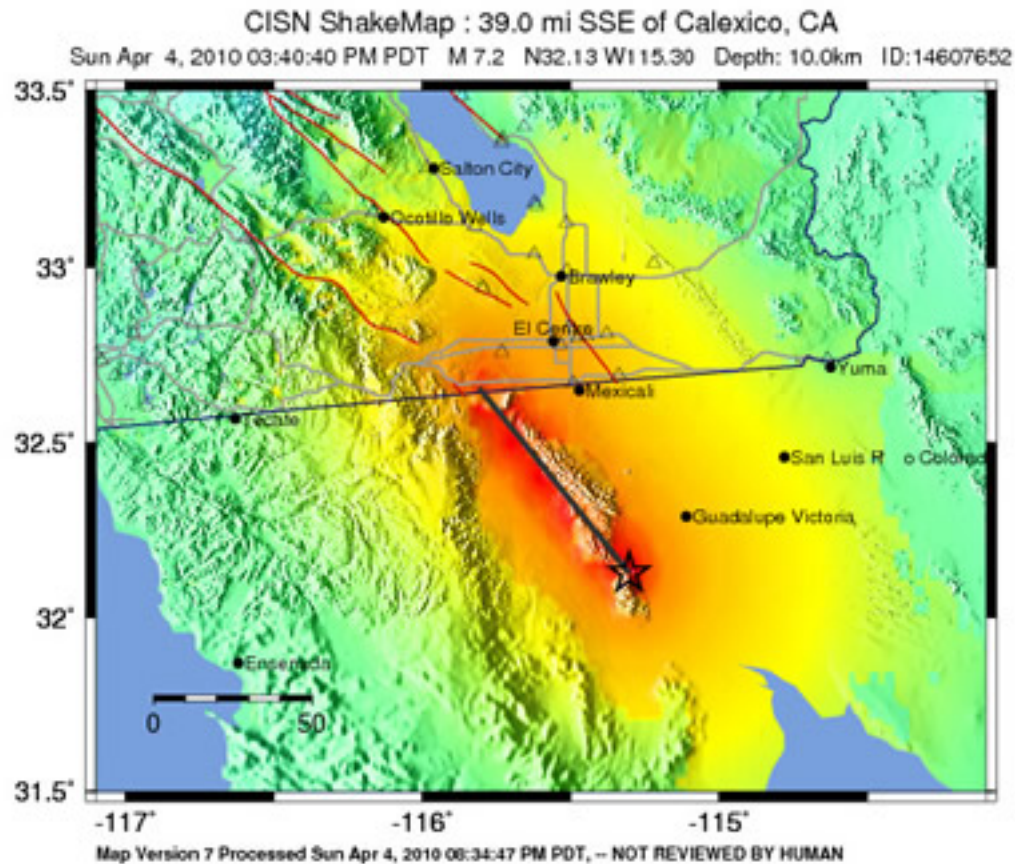


PGA @ 20Km + σ

GMPE or Simulation



Scenario Models - ShakeMap Example



PERCEIVED SHAKING	Not felt	Weak	Light	Moderate	Strong	Very strong	Severe	Violent	Extreme
POTENTIAL DAMAGE	none	none	none	Vary light	Light	Moderate	Moderate/Heavy	Heavy	Very Heavy
PEAK ACC.(%g)	<.17	.17-1.4	1.4-3.9	3.9-9.2	9.2-18	18-34	34-65	65-124	>124
PEAK VEL.(cm/s)	<0.1	0.1-1.1	1.1-3.4	3.4-8.1	8.1-16	16-31	31-60	60-116	>116
INSTRUMENTAL INTENSITY	I	II-III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X+

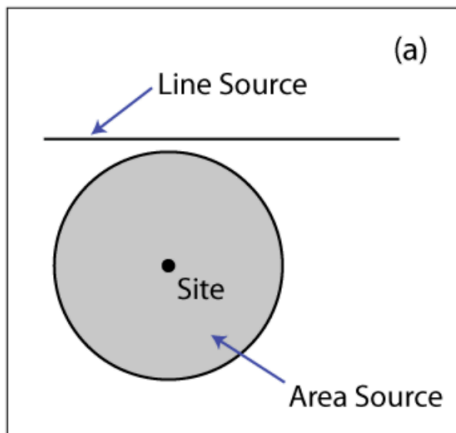


PSHA - Basic Workflow

Probabilistic hazard is computed by taking into account **all the possible scenarios** generated by all the sources within a certain distance from the investigated site

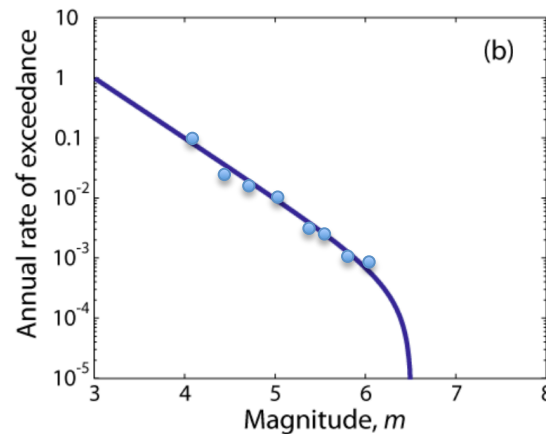
Where

Seismogenic Zone Models



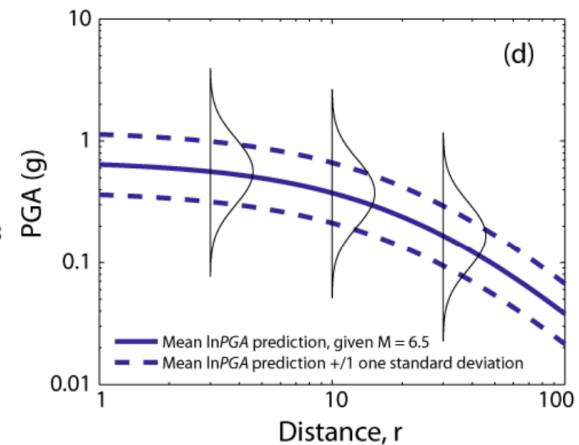
Modified from Baker (2008)

When (how often) Recurrence Models



How

Ground Motion Models



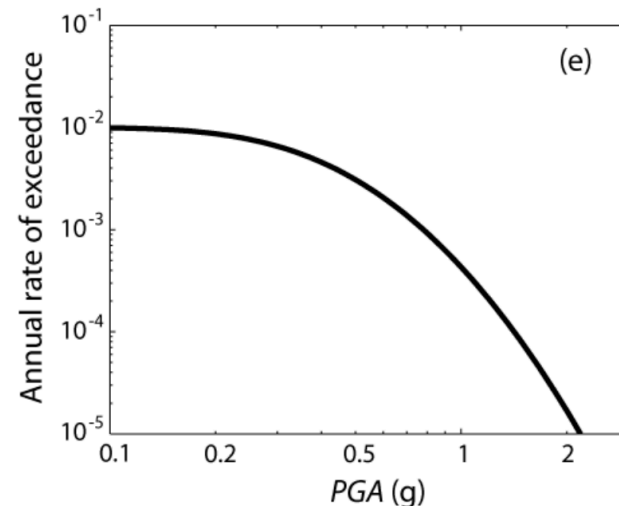
PSHA – Basic Equation

The rate λ of events with intensity (IM) larger than a value x experienced at a given site from the contribution of all sources can be formalized as:

$$\lambda(IM > x) = \sum_{i=1}^{n_{\text{sources}}} \lambda(M_i > m_{\text{min}}) \int_{m_{\text{min}}}^{m_{\text{max}}} \int_{r_{\text{min}}}^{r_{\text{max}}} \underbrace{P(IM > x | m, r)}_{\text{Loop over distances}} \underbrace{f_{M_i}(m)}_{\text{Loop over magnitudes}} \underbrace{f_{R_i}(r | m)}_{\text{Loop over sources}} dr dm$$

The annual rate λ is then translated into probability by assuming a **Poisson recurrence model** (independent events):

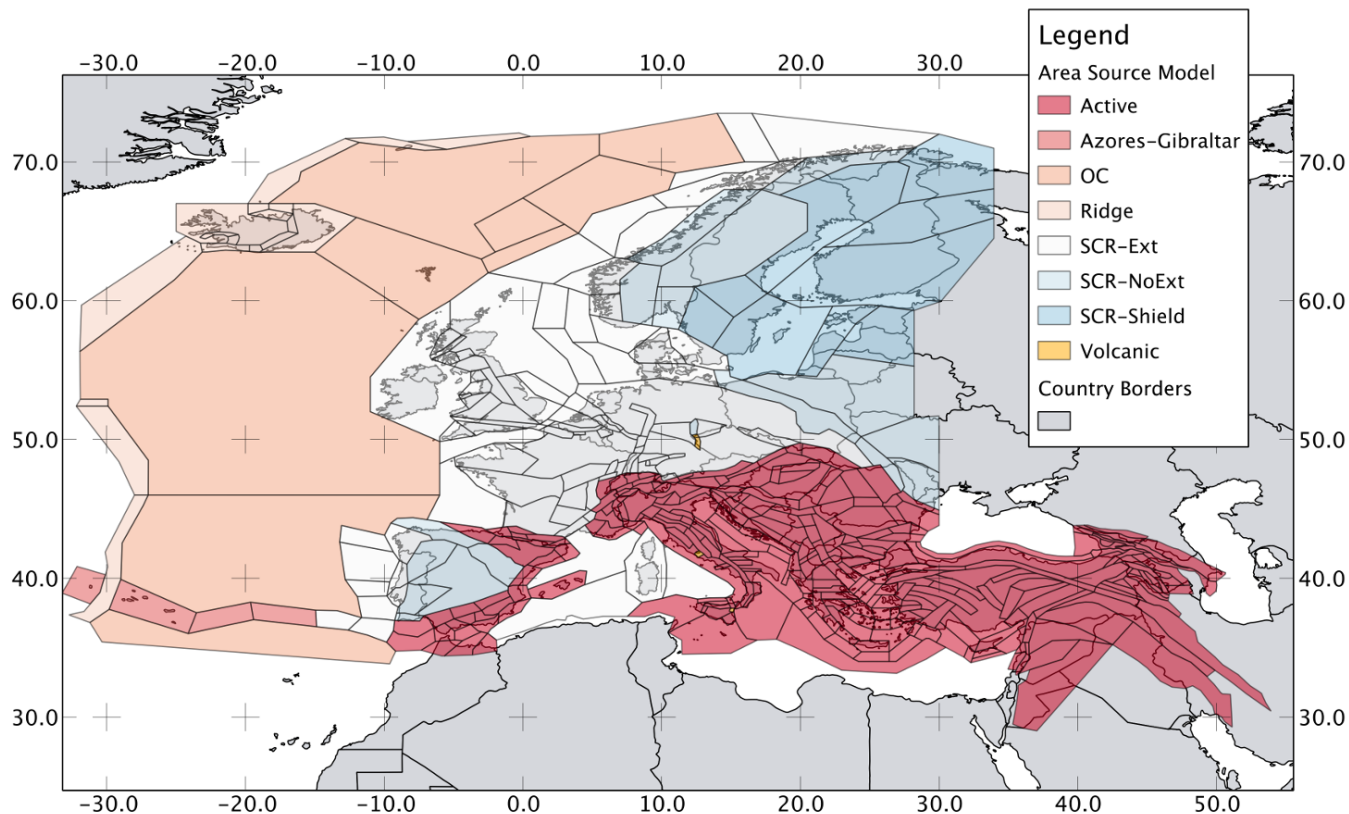
$$P(IM > x) = 1 - e^{-\lambda(IM > x)t}$$



Seismogenic Zones

Distributed Seismicity:

- Single points
- Grid representations (e.g. smoothed seismicity)
- Polygon of Uniform Seismicity (so far the most widely used approach)

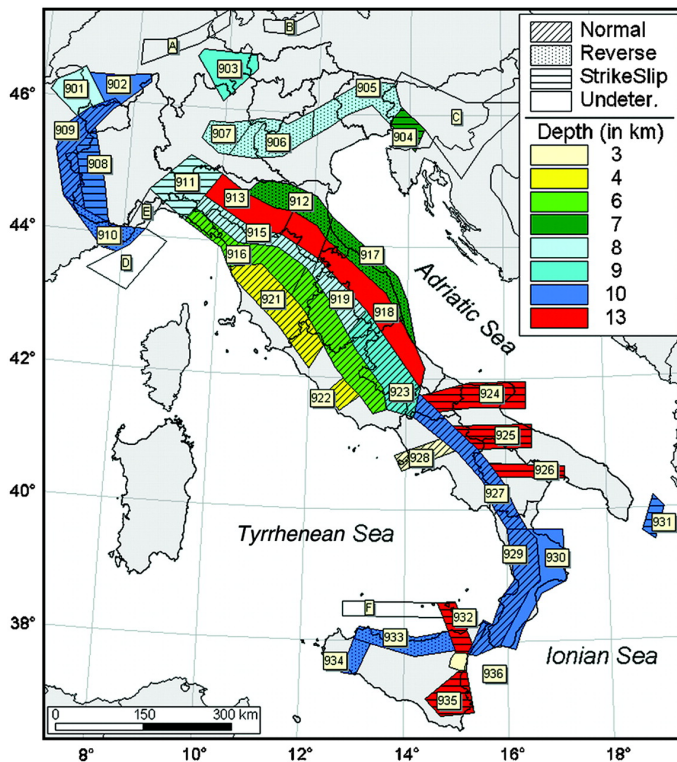


SHARE Area Source Zonation Model

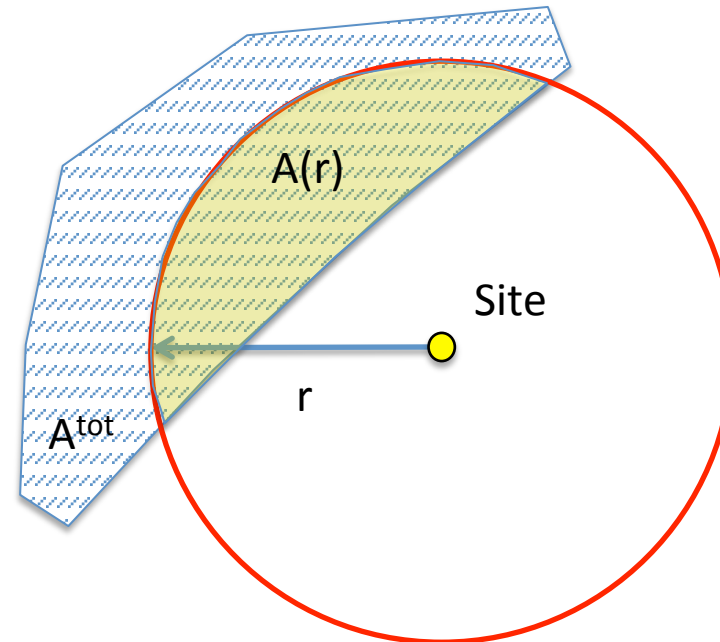


Area Sources Zones

Uniform Area Source Model of Italy
(modified from Meletti et al., 2008)



Source Zone 1

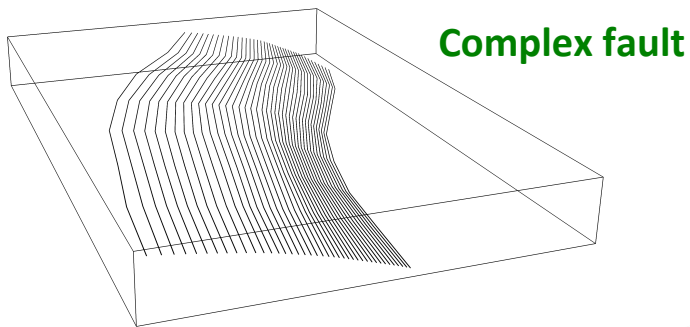


The cumulative probability $P(R < r)$ can be seen as the area of the sub-zone within a distance r from the site, divided by the area of the total source zone

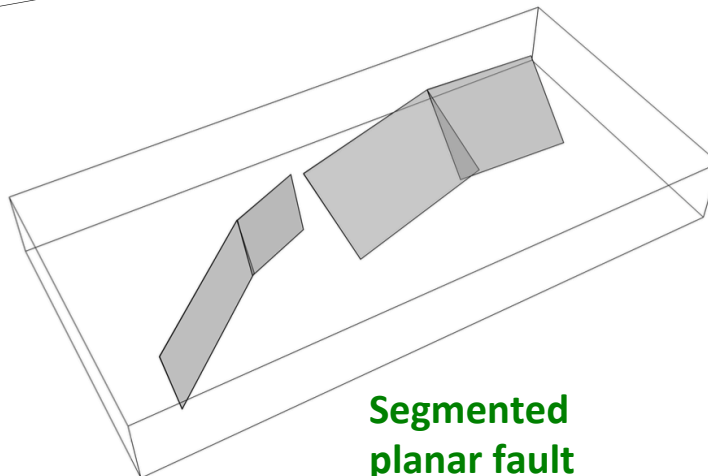


Active Faults

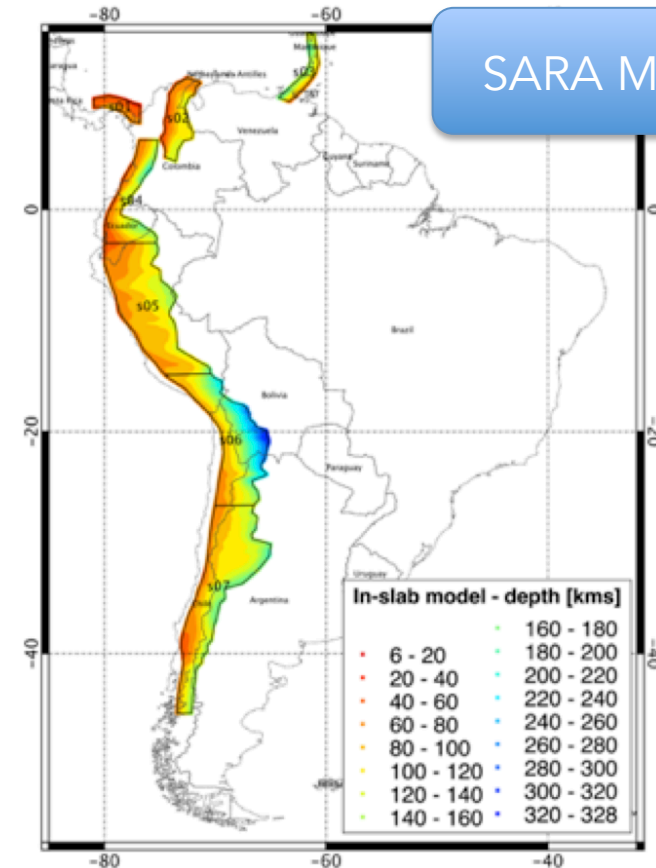
- If fault geometry is sufficiently known, it can be modeled as a three-dimensional surface
- Such approach can be used for active shallow faults as well as larger subduction interfaces



Complex fault

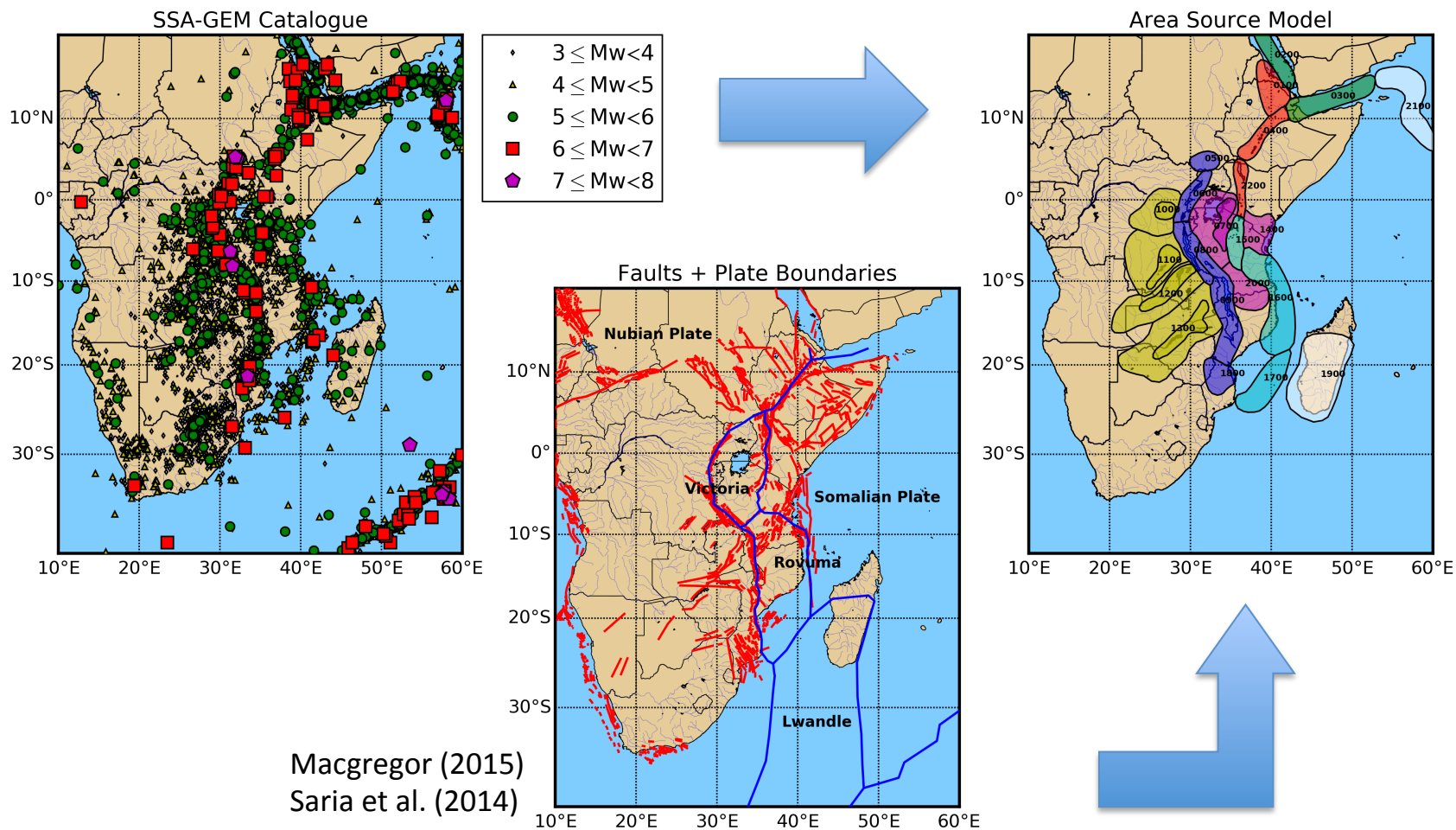


Segmented planar fault



Building a Seismic Source Model

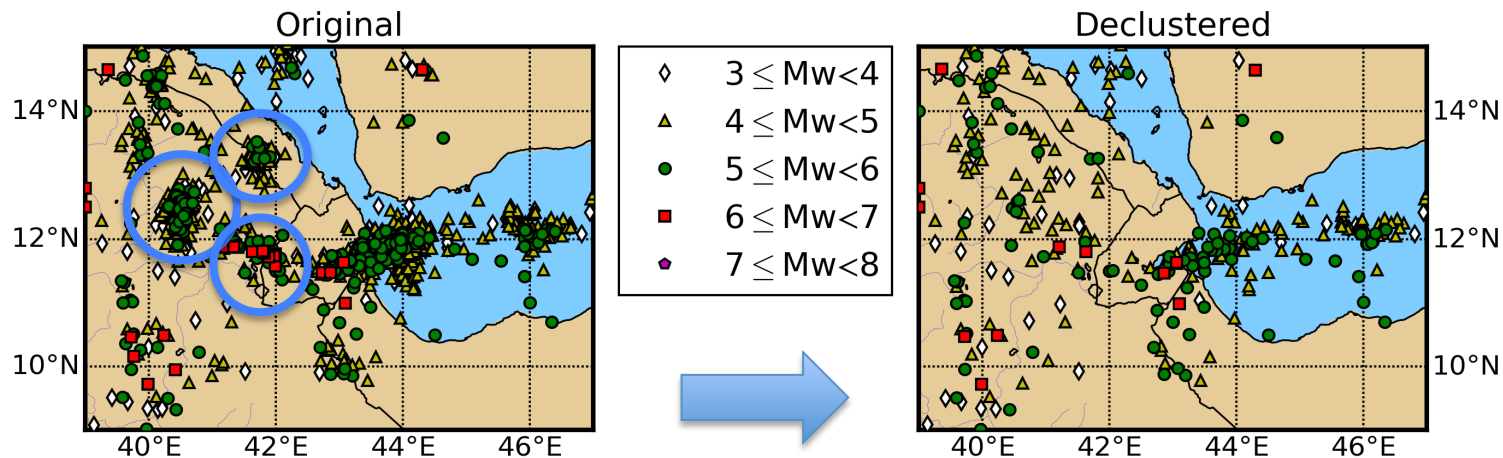
- Primary data resource is the **homogenized earthquake catalogue**
- Models of recurrence often determined from observed (instrumental and historical seismicity) within the source



Seismicity Analysis

To obtain estimates of stationary seismicity rates the recurrence models need to be fit to earthquake catalogues that are:

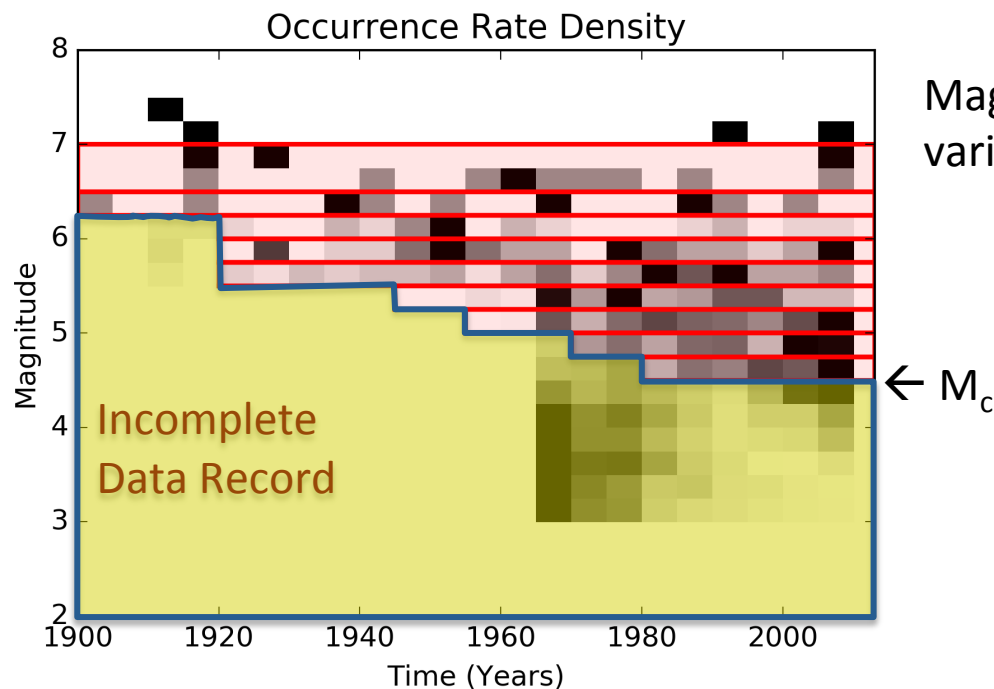
- 1) Purged of non-Poissonian Events (i.e. foreshocks and aftershocks) which are dependent → **Decustering**



Seismicity Analysis

2) Spatially and temporally complete (i.e. are recording all events above a given magnitude for a particular space-time window)

→ **Completeness Analysis**



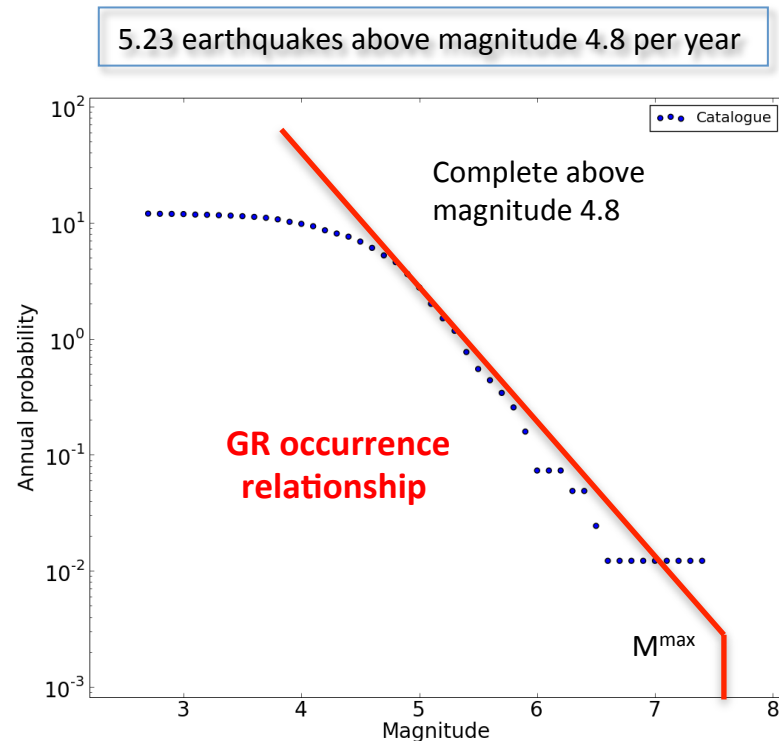
Magnitude occurrence relations

Temporal distribution of seismicity is modeled assuming a given magnitude occurrence relation

The most widely used relation is the **Gutenberg-Richter exponential law**:

$$N(M > m) = e^{a-bM}$$

Calibration of coefficients ***a*** and ***b*** is a key issue in PSHA

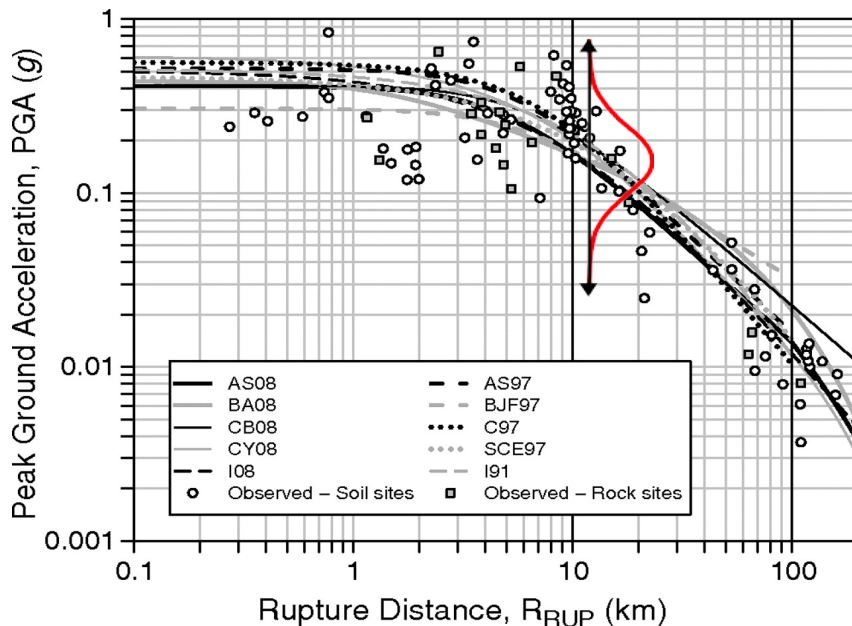


Recurrence models typically fit to catalogue using maximum likelihood techniques

Ground Motion Modeling

The easiest way to model ground motion is perhaps the use of Ground Motion Prediction Equations (GMPEs)

$$\log IM_{ij} = f(M_i) + f(R_{ij}, M_i) + f(R_{ij}) + f(S_j) + f(F_{ij}) + z_{E,i}\tau + z_{A,ij}\sigma$$



GMPE terms are representations of a given physical model, whose reliability can be increased with the availability of new empirical information

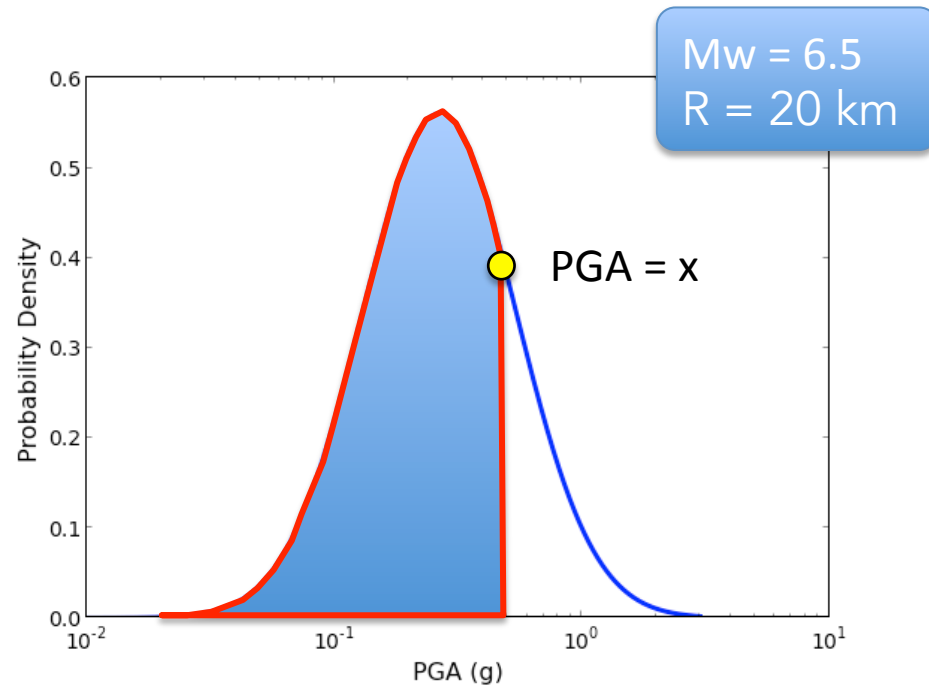
$$IM = PGA, PGV, SA...$$



Ground Motion Prediction

A fundamental property of GMPEs is the assumption that the aleatory variability can be represented by a **lognormal distribution** characterized by a **median** ground motion and the corresponding **standard deviation**

$P(\text{IM} > x \mid M, R)$ can then be easily determined as the probability that IM will exceed the value x



Variability and Uncertainty

Uncertainty and variability are concepts tightly linked with seismic hazard analysis

Two are the typologies of uncertainty considered:

- *Aleatory*
- *Epistemic*



Aleatory uncertainty is connected with the intrinsic randomness and the nature of the earthquake process

Epistemic uncertainty on the contrary depends on our limited knowledge the phenomenon (e.g. lack of observation data)

This means that: aleatory uncertainty is irreducible whereas epistemic uncertainty can be potentially reduced



Variability and Uncertainty

Epistemic and aleatory variability are nonetheless handled separately into the hazard analysis process:

1) Aleatory uncertainty is usually incorporated in the PSHA integrals

Examples: Earthquake location, uncertainty on ground motion estimates

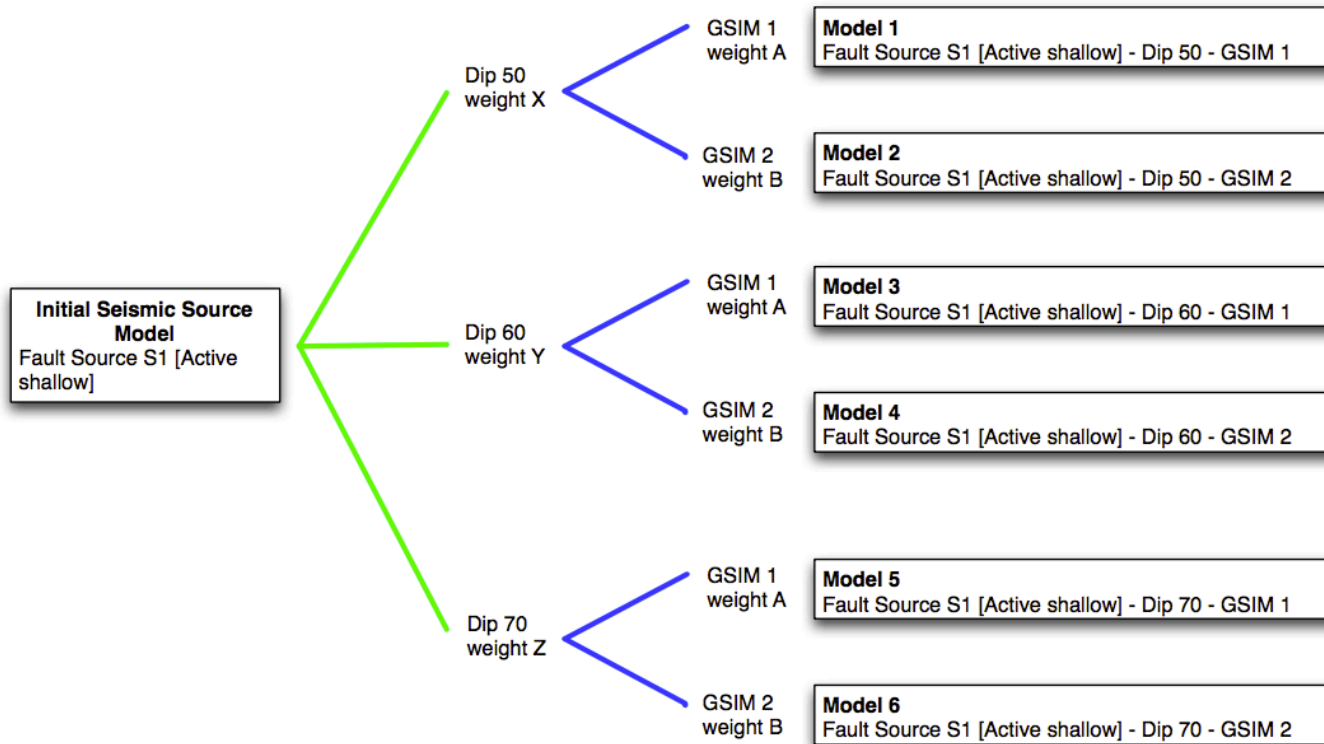
2) Epistemic uncertainty is formally taken into account by using alternative models (or parameterizations) within a logic-tree structure

Examples: ground motion models, recurrence parameters (b-value, maximum magnitude), style of faulting....



Logic- Tree Strategy – Weights and Branches

Epistemic uncertainties modeled by including multiple models in logic trees
Each model is assigned weights



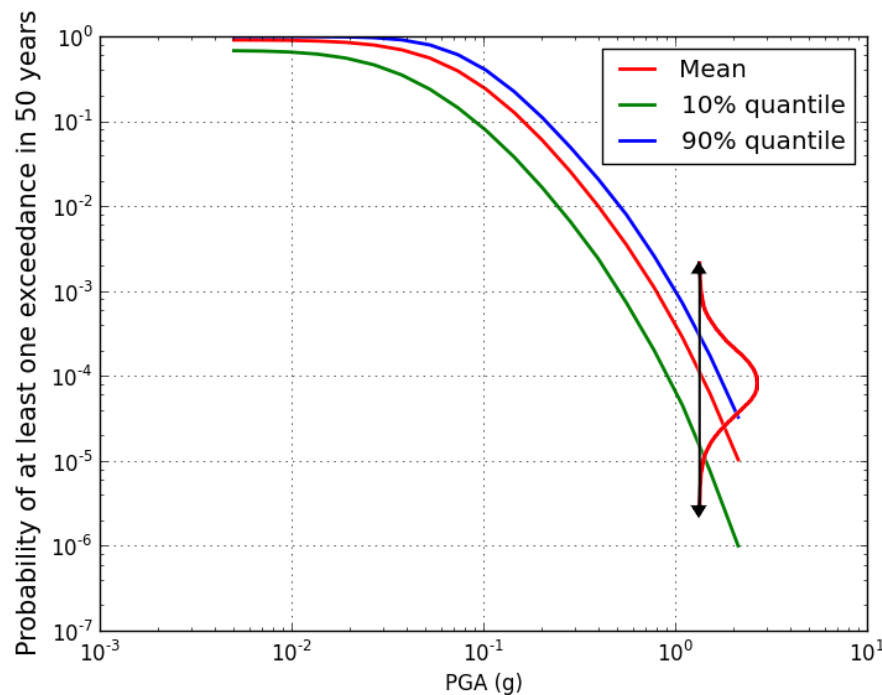
How to assign weights?

- Based on fits to observed data? (**Empirical approach**)
- Based on theoretical representation of the physics of the process? (**Physical approach**)



Logic-Tree Strategy – A Posteriori Statistic

From the ensemble of all hazard curves from each log-tree realization, **mean** and **percentile curves** can be computed



Note: Less data or knowledge should imply greater epistemic uncertainty

HOWEVER

Use of additional “conflicting” models (from newly available data) can increase epistemic uncertainty

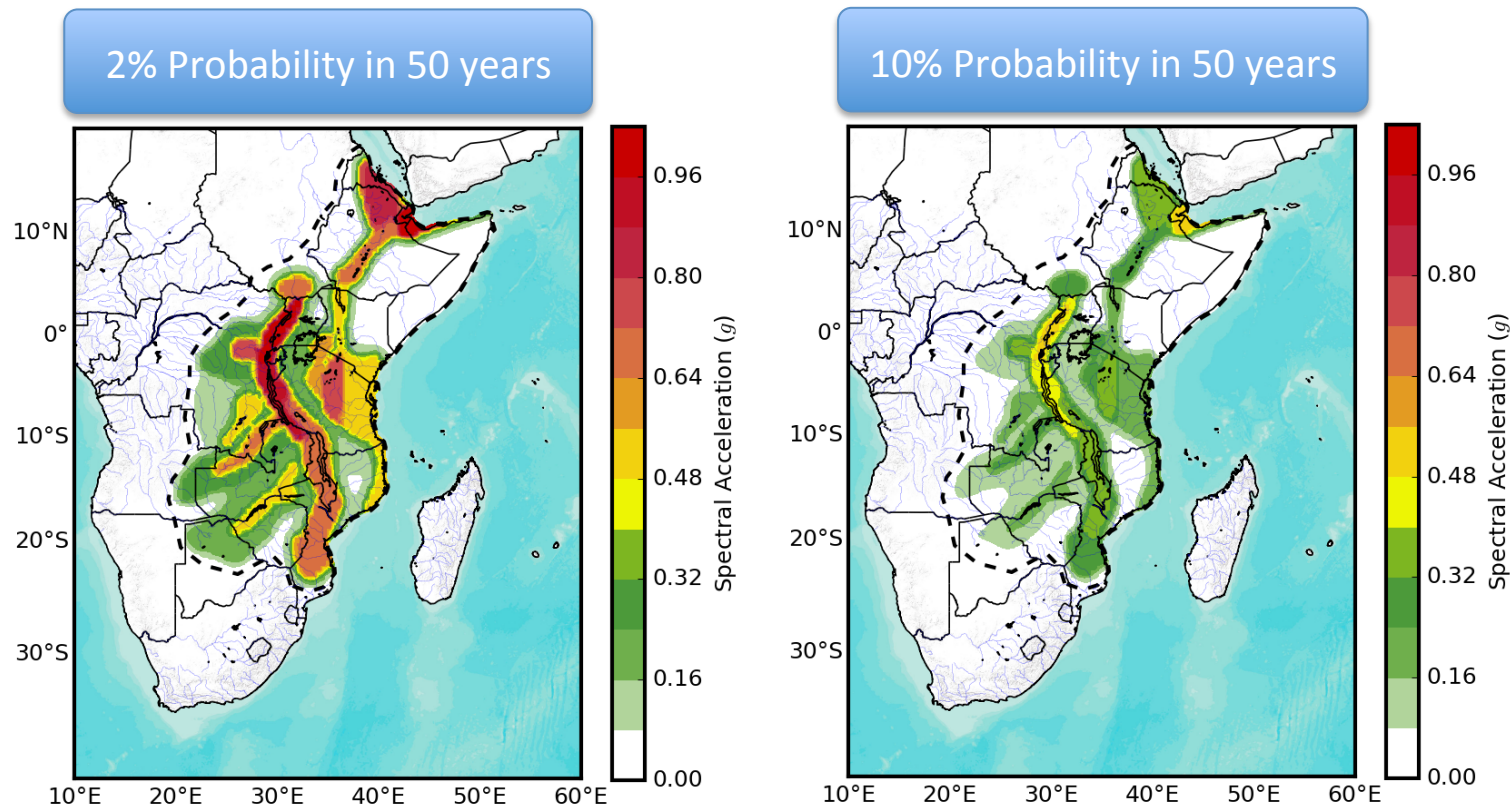


Epistemic uncertainty might be (paradoxically) lower in regions with less data!



PSHA Outputs – Hazard Maps

Shows the uniform probability of exceedance of a given ground motion measure for a given return period

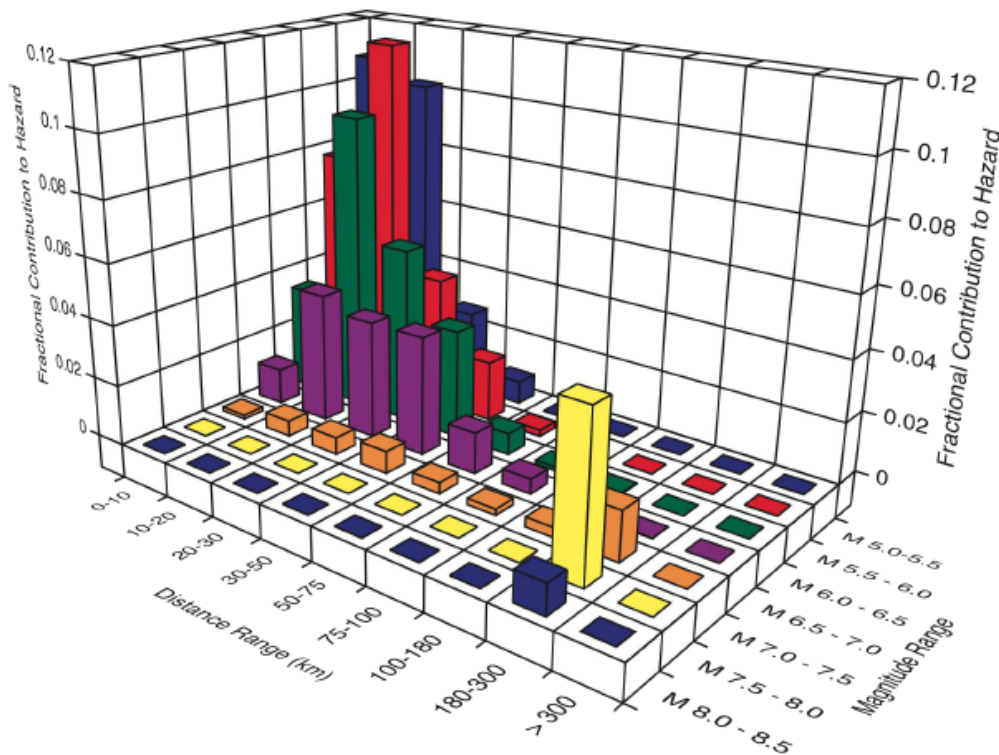


Spectral Acceleration @ 2 seconds



PSHA Outputs - Disaggregation

For a given site, ground motion intensity measure and return period the fractional contribution of specific scenarios to the hazard can be extracted from the hazard analysis via disaggregation



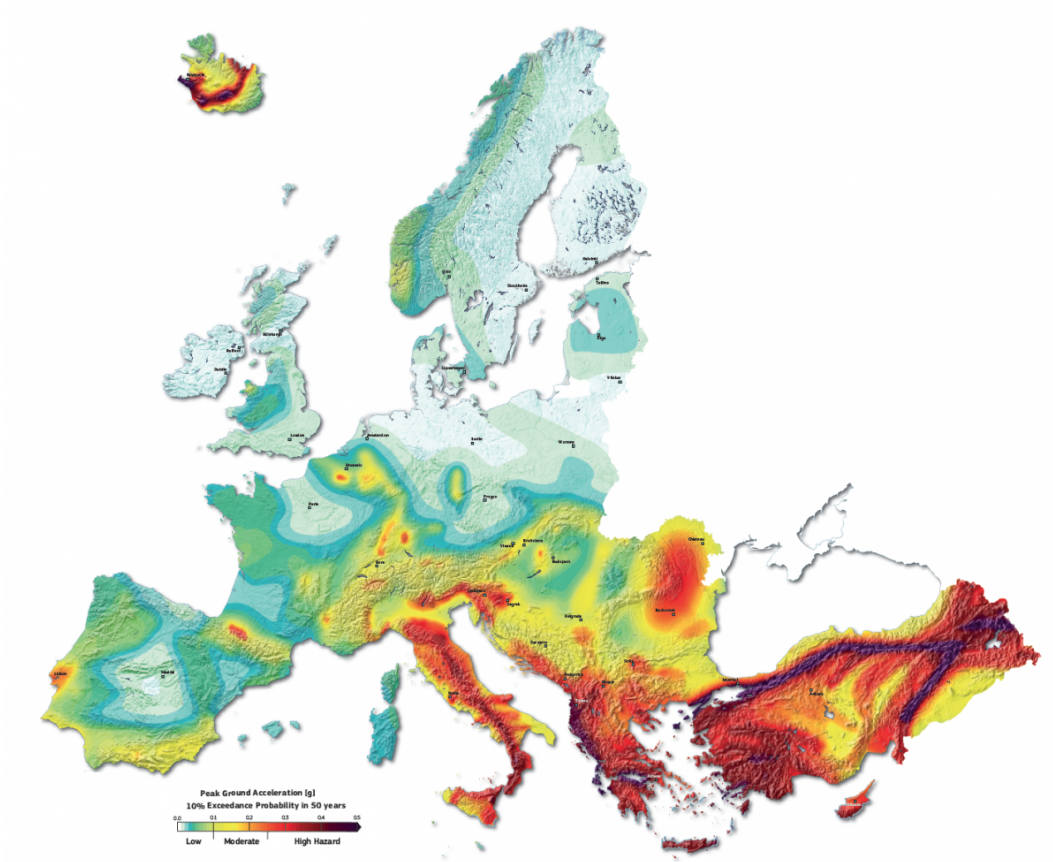
Can identify scenarios that represent the greatest likelihood of contributing to the hazard



Thank you!

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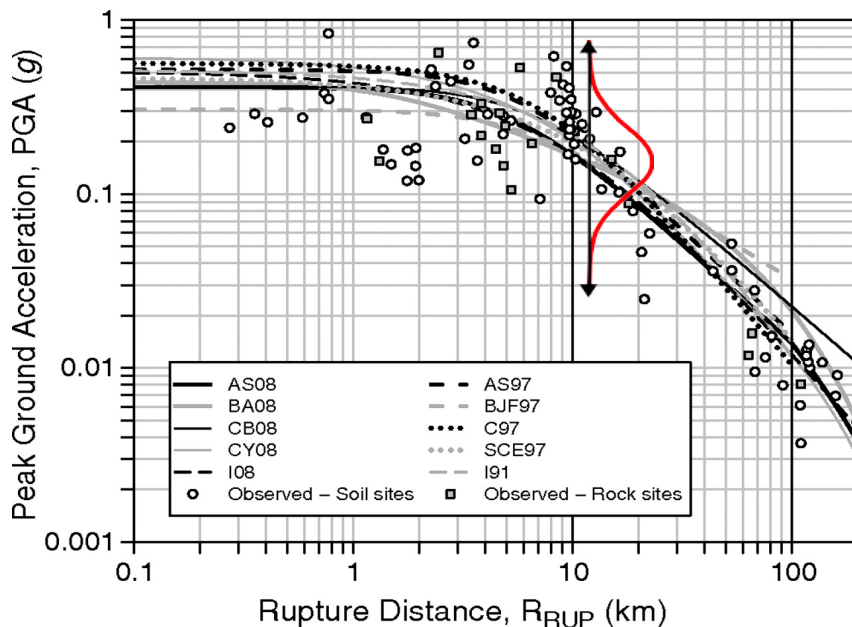




Ground Motion Prediction

The easiest way to model ground motion is perhaps the use of Ground Motion Prediction Equations (GMPEs)

$$\Omega_{ij}(f,r) = \underbrace{\omega \cdot \Omega_i \cdot f_c^y / (f_c^y + f^y)}_{\text{Source Spectrum}} \cdot \underbrace{S_{ij}(r) \cdot \exp(-\pi \cdot f^{1-\alpha} \cdot t_{ij}^*)}_{\text{Path Effects}} \cdot \underbrace{A_j(f) \cdot \exp(-\pi \cdot f^{1-\alpha} \cdot K_j)}_{\text{Site Effects}}$$



GMPE terms are representations of a given physical model, whose reliability can be increased with the availability of new empirical information



Logic-Tree Strategy – Over Reliance?

The problem:

- Less data/knowledge implies greater epistemic uncertainty
- But if considering published (e.g. peer-reviewed) models, usually the case that more models will be available from regions with more data (e.g. more GMPEs for active shallow crust than for stable crust)
- More use of more available models increases epistemic uncertainty in regions with more data, and therefore epistemic uncertainty is lower in regions with less data!
- Need for a “minimum generic uncertainty” for regions with sparse data

