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Strong Ground Motions during the 2011 Pacific Coast Off Tohoku, Japan Earthquake

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Today's Topics

- Outline of National Hazard Map in Japan before the 11 March 2011 Mw 9.0 earthquake off the Pacific coast of Tohoku
- 2. Features of strong ground motions from the 2011 Pacific Coast Off Tohoku, Japan Earthquake
 - PGV and PGA attenuation-distance relation
 - Why were so large acceleration motions produced ?
- 3. Source model for generating strong ground motions
- 4. Summary

Improvement of the recipe of predicting strong ground motions for mega-thrust earthquakes

Outline of National Hazard Map in Japan before the 2011 Pacific coast off Tohoku, Japan earthquake

- Long-term evaluation of earthquake occurrence (2003) and seismic hazard map (2010)
- Revision of long-term evaluation of earthquake occurrence in region from off-Sanriku to off-Boso by the Earthquake Research Committee (November, 2011)

Programs defining the Seismic Hazard in Japan

1. Headquarters for Earthquake Research Promotion

Long-term Evaluation:

Evaluate probabilities of the next occurrence of large earthquakes for major active faults and subduction-zones along troughs.

Strong Ground Motion Evaluation

Construct seismic hazard maps, probabilistic and deterministic.

Probabilistic hazard map: predicted likelihood of ground motion level occurring in a given area within a set period of time.

Shaking map for scenario earthquakes: strong ground motion from hypothetical source models for specified active faults

2. Central Disaster Management Council

Conduct damage assessments from specific disastrous earthquakes estimating the extents and sizes of the disasters and their impact on individuals and public facilities

Probability of Earthquake Occurrence in 30 years



Subduction Earthquakes

Headquarter of Earthquake Research Promotion (2010)

Long-term evaluation of seismic activity for the region from the off Sanriku to the off Boso



Long-term evaluation of seismic activity for the region from the off Sanriku to the off Boso

Earthquake	Magnitude	Occur. prob. within 30 years
Characteristic earthquake in ①	Approx. M8.0	0.2%~10%
Interplate earthquakes other than characteristic earthquake in ①	M7.1~M7.6	About 90%
Earthquakes in ②	Unknown	Unknown
Miyagi-oki earthquake in 3 ⁻	Approx. M7.5	99%
Sanriku-nanbu earthquake in ④	Approx. M7.7 (M8.0 for correlated with Miyagi-ken-oki earthquake)	80%~90% 1
Interplate earthquakes in ⑤	Approx. M7.4 (Successive occurrence of multiple earthquakes)	About 7% or less
Interplate earthquakes in 6	M6.7~M7.2	About 90% or more
Earthquakes in ⑦	Unknown	Unknown
Tsunami bearthquake in ⑧	Approx. Mt8.2	About 20%
Intraplate earthquakes (normal fault type) in ⑧	Approx. M8 2	4%~7%
Earthquake Research Committee (2002	Rupture of Mw 9.0 started from this region.	Large Tsunami was genarated

Examples of Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Map



Revision of Probability of Earthquake Occurrence in the Region from the off Sanriku to the off Boso

Probability of earthquake occurrence of earthquakes such as the 11 March 2011 Tohoku earthquake just before the occurrence of the earthquake **Upper: Probability of earthquake** Average return occurrence Cumulative Passage period Name of past earthquakes Probability* and seismic magnitude rate 10 years 30 years 50 years Lower: Latest occurrence

Off Pacific Coast of Tohoku earthquake						0.83 –	600 years
	9.0	4 – 6 %	10 – 20 %	20 – 30 %	30- 60 %	1.0	about 500 – 600 years ago

*Cumulative probability is defined as probability by that time.

Earthquake Research Committee (November, 2011)

Strong ground motions from the 2011 Pacific Coast Off Tohoku, Japan Earthquake

- Strong ground motions observed along the coast line near the source fault have several distinctive pulses.
 - Attenuation-distance relations of PGA and PGV.
- Very little damage caused by ground motions, although accelerations at some sites near the source area were very high.

Record Section of Short-Period Motions



After Irikura and Kurahashi (2011)

Comparison of Observed Data and Attenuation Relationships of PGA and PGV



Features of Ground Motions Records with Extremely High Acceleration

- Two Causes of Extremely High Acceleration
- Ground Motions Records with more than 1000 gals remarkably deviated from attenuation-distance curves. Extremely high acceleration motions amplified by local surface geology, non-linear site effects.
- Ground Motion Records with relatively high acceleration almost following attenuation-distance curves.
 Distinctive high acceleration pulses seem to propagate from station to station, attenuating with distance from fault distance.

Stations where more than 1000 gals were recorded.



acc.

Surface Geology near Sites where more than1000gal were recorded.





Accelerations more than 1000 gals were recorded at relatively soft soil sites.

Closeup of acceleration waveforms for ground motion records with more than 1000 gals

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H/V spectral ratio of ground motions at Tsukidate (K-NET) between mainshock and small earthquakes



Tsukidate (PGA=2933gal, DR=21.4%)





Stations where relatively high accelerations were



acc.

Acceleration Records with remarkable distictive pulses



Source Model for Generating Strong Ground Motions during the 2011 Pacific Coast off Tohoku, Japan Earthquake

The short-period source model proposed by Kurahashi and Irikura (EPS, 2011) is revised based on re-estimation of locations of strong motion generation areas (SMGAs) using semblance analysis for estimating azimuths of seismic waves from the SMGAs.

Slip Distribution of the 2011 Tohoku Earthquake

DPS data including inland and off-shore observation

Tsunami Waveform Data



Source Model of the 11 March 2011 off Tohoku, Japan Earthquake

Slip Distributions by the separate inversions of (a) strong motion, (b) teleseismic, (c) geodetic, (d) tsunami datasets.



Yokota et al. (GRL 2011)

Record Section of Short-Period Motions



After Irikura and Kurahashi (2011)

Starting Points of SMGAs Estimated by Back-propagation Method Location of each SMGA is estimated using a back-propagation method for previous model (Kurahashi and Irikura, 2011).



Strong Motion Generation Areas by Kurahashi and Irikura (2011) by Forward Modeling of Strong Motion Waveforms



Comparison of Observed and Synthetic Seismograms Kurahashi and Irikura(2011)





Comparison of Source Models for Generating Short-Period Motions



Reconsideration of locations of strong motion generation areas of the 2011 Pacific Coast off Tohoku, Japan Earthquake

Estimation of locations of SMGA from azimuths of seismic waves from each SMGA using small arrays.

Re-estimation of Locations of SMGAs from Semblance Analysis of Wave-Packets seen in Short-Period Seismograms



After Irikura and Kurahashi (2011)



 $\frac{1}{N} \frac{\sum_{k=1}^{M} \left[\sum_{i=1}^{N} \boldsymbol{u}(\boldsymbol{x}_{i}, \boldsymbol{t}_{k} + \boldsymbol{s} \cdot \boldsymbol{x}_{i}) \right]}{\sum_{k=1}^{M} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \boldsymbol{u}(\boldsymbol{x}_{i}, \boldsymbol{t}_{k})^{2}}$ $S_e(s) =$ N

Result of semblance analysis for WP1



Result of semblance analysis for WP 2



Result of semblance analysis for WP 3



Estimation of locations of SMGA1 and SMGA3 from semblance analysis



Selection of Empirical Green's Functions (EGFs) for Simulating Short-Period Motions from SMGAs

Strong motion records of the 2005 Miyagi-oki earthquake



The records have clearly two wave-groups from SMGAs. Waveforms of the second wave-group are used as the EGFs for simulating ground motions from SMGA3 (WP 2).

Fourier Spectra of the EGFs

		2005/08/16 11:46	2007/11/26 22:51
EGF	Name	EGF1	EGF2
	Μ	7.2	6.0
	Dx,dw	8.5 km	7.7km
	Stress Drop	20MPa	4.2MPa
	Мо	5.23E+18 **	7.66E+17

** Suzuki and Iwata (2007) only Asp2



Revised Model



	L,W	Мо	Stress drop
SMGA1	34 × 34	2.68E+20	16
SMGA2	23.1 × 23.1	1.41E+20	20
SMGA3	42.5 × 42.5	6.54E+20	20
SMGA4	25.5 × 25.5	1.24E+20	25.2
SMGA5	38.5 × 38.5	5.75E+20	25.2

Comparison between Observed and Synthetic Motions



Comparison between Observed and Synthetic Motions



Distinctive High Acceleration Pulses



Distinctive High Acceleration Pulses





Source Model of Simulating Distinctive Pulses



Uniform slip velocity model





Comparison between SMGAs in this study and source locations of past earthquakes off the Pacific coast of Tohoku



Strong Motion Generation Area versus Seismic Moment for Subduction Earthquakes



Acceleration Spectral-Level versus Seismic Moment for Subduction Earthquakes



Summary 1

Based on the results of our analysis in this study, we improve the recipe of predicting strong ground motions to be able to apply it to mega-thrust earthquake.

Outer source parameters

- Source area and seismic moment of a target earthquake: Source area is set from the tectonic background in the objective regions.
- Average stress drop over the entire source area: Average stress drop is estimated from the empirical scaling relation of source area versus seismic moment.

Summary 2

Inner fault parameters

3. Segmentation:

The segments of the source area are divided from seismic activities and geo-morphological setting in the target region.

- 4. Strong motion generation areas (SMGAs): SMGA is arranged to assign one per a segment.
- 5. Average stress parameter for SMGA: About 25 MPa from empirical relation
- 6. Heterogeneity of stress parameters inside SMGA (Matsushima and Kawase, 2006)