

Seismic Monitoring With Next Generation Smart Meters™



Katie Wooddell
Senior Seismologist Geosciences

March 22, 2018

*With Collaboration from Bob Nigbor,
consultant*

Background

- Over the last 30 years PG&E spent approximately \$3B on seismic upgrades
- Updated seismic ground motion models and a non-ergodic seismic hazard framework will significantly improve prioritization of resources and budgeting for seismic upgrades and improved system resiliency
- Dense ground shaking information within hours after an earthquake will help inform post-earthquake response decisions

Technical Need for More Empirical Data

- To have enough data from moderate and large magnitude earthquakes at short distances to build empirical models, we combine data from around the world
- The global variability observed in ground motion is assumed to represent the variability that would be observed in ground motion at a single location if given time to sample enough earthquakes.
- We now have enough data from regions such as Taiwan, Japan, and parts of southern California to show how bad this assumption is

The Advantage of Instrumenting Smart Meters

- Creation of a dense seismic network throughout the PG&E System using accelerometers in electric Smart Meters is an efficient approach to help address current data limitations
- A denser network will provide valuable data to develop the correlated coefficients necessary for implementing the new non-ergodic GMPEs/hazard

(N)ext (G)eneration (M)eter Accelerometer



NGM prototype &
Accelerometer



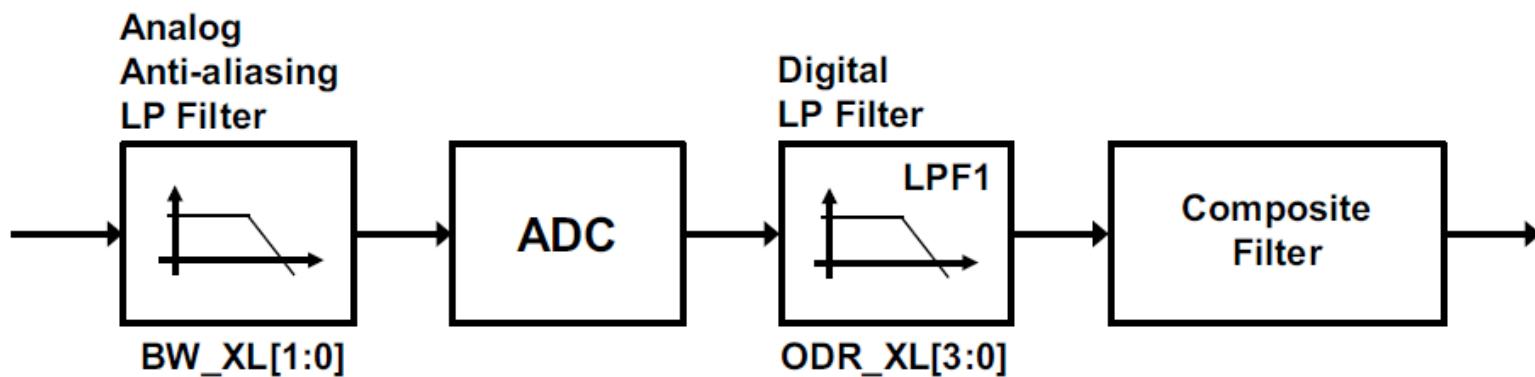
- **Uses Existing NGM Architecture for Power and Communications**
- **Accelerometer is added to the motherboard**
- **The seismic data recording and cloud communications are built into the firmware**
- **Low Per-Unit Incremental cost (<\$3/unit)**

NGM Accelerometer Prototype Design

- 3 channels of acceleration sampled at 208 sps per channel
- Digital resolution is approximately 14 bits over a +/-2g range
- Anti-alias lowpass filter at 50 Hz and a digital lowpass filter at $208/9 = 23$ Hz
- Sensing is direct digital, using an ST Micro LSM6DS3 inertial module with 3D accelerometer and 3D gyro
- Continuous data flow into a ring buffer. A processor trigger algorithm decides when to record an earthquake packet (90 seconds fixed length). Trigger on simple threshold on one or more channels.
- Horizontal orientation is uncertain and possibly not critical as long as the Z-axis is vertical

NGM Accelerometer Prototype Design

Figure 5. Accelerometer chain





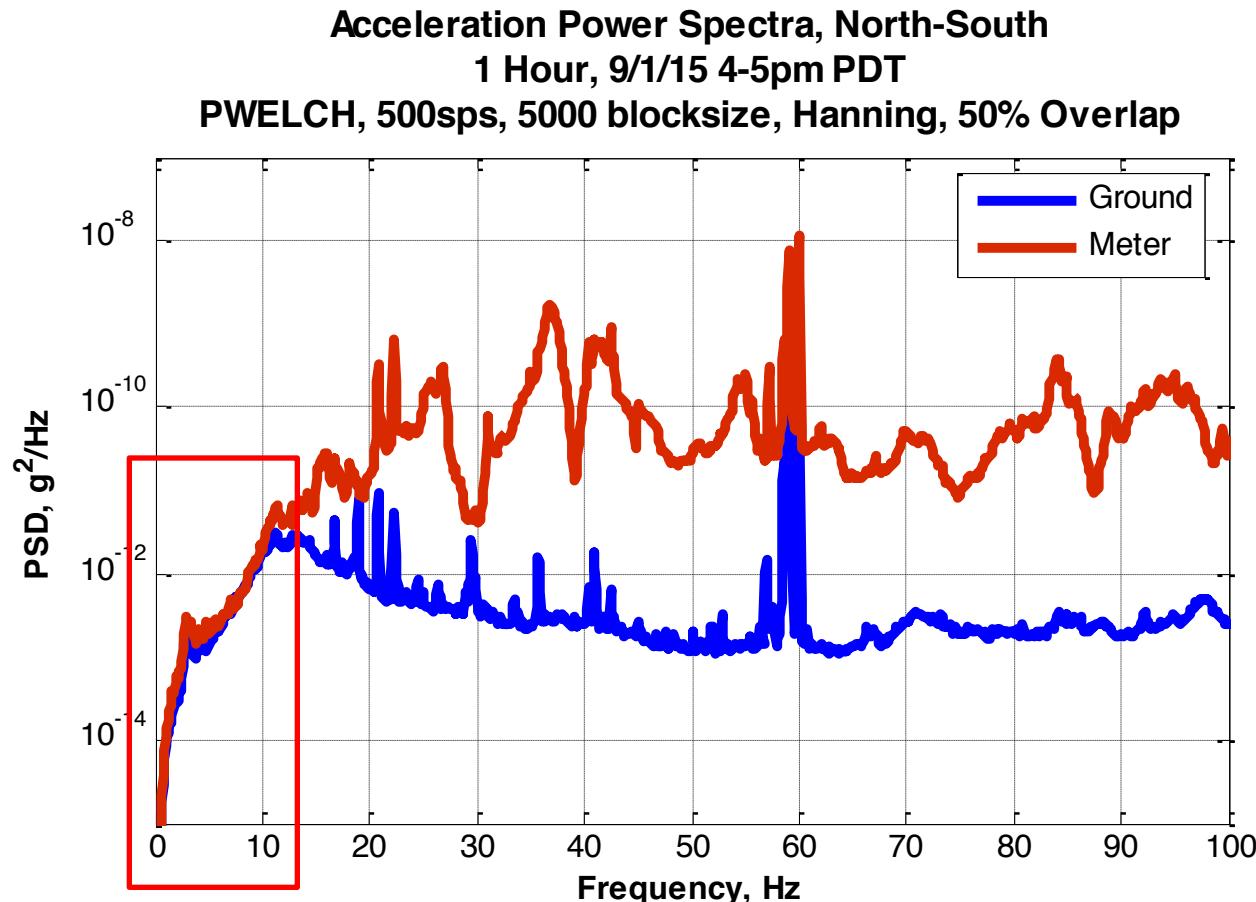




Smart Meters™ Accelerograph

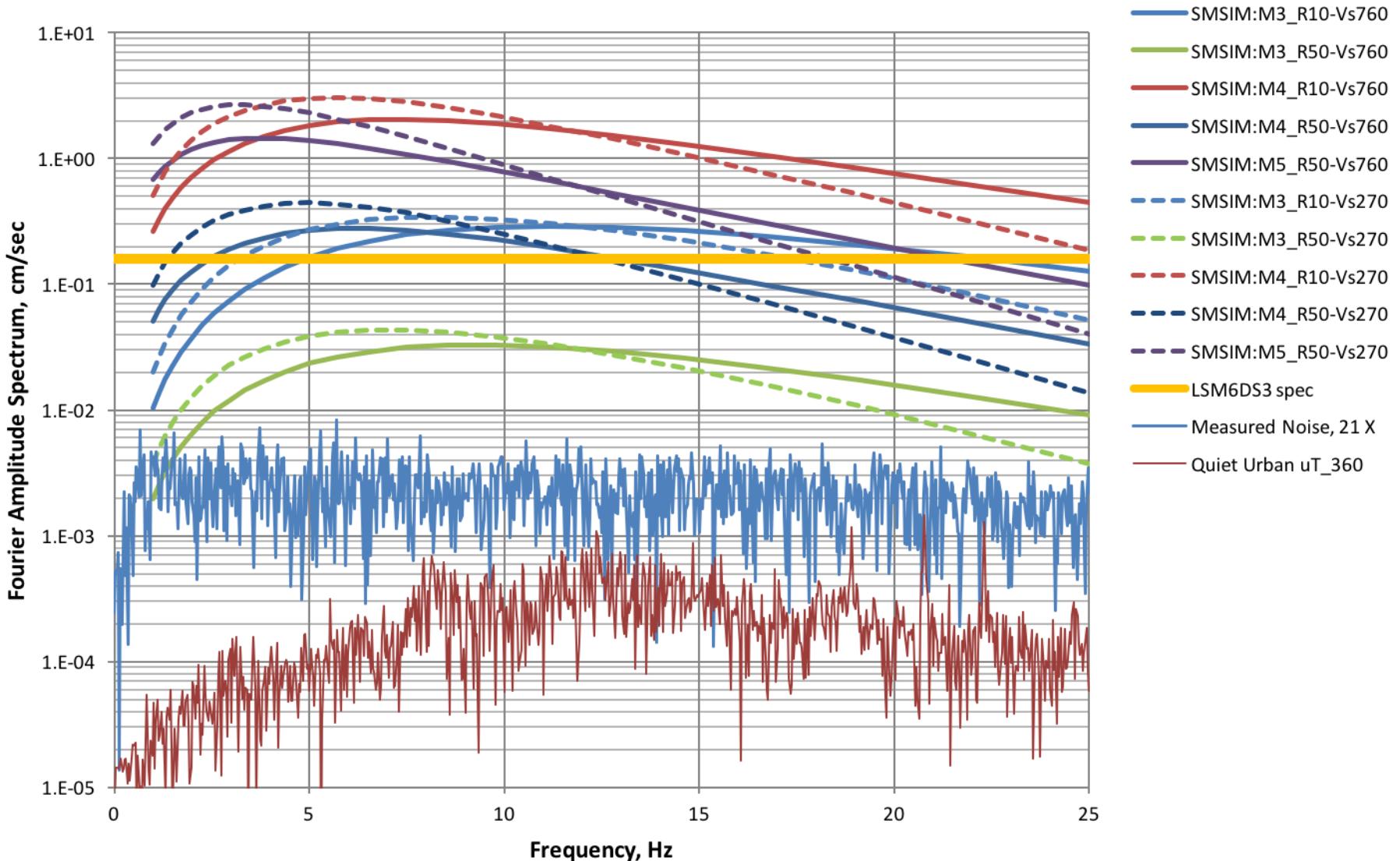
Initial experiment, still monitoring in 2018



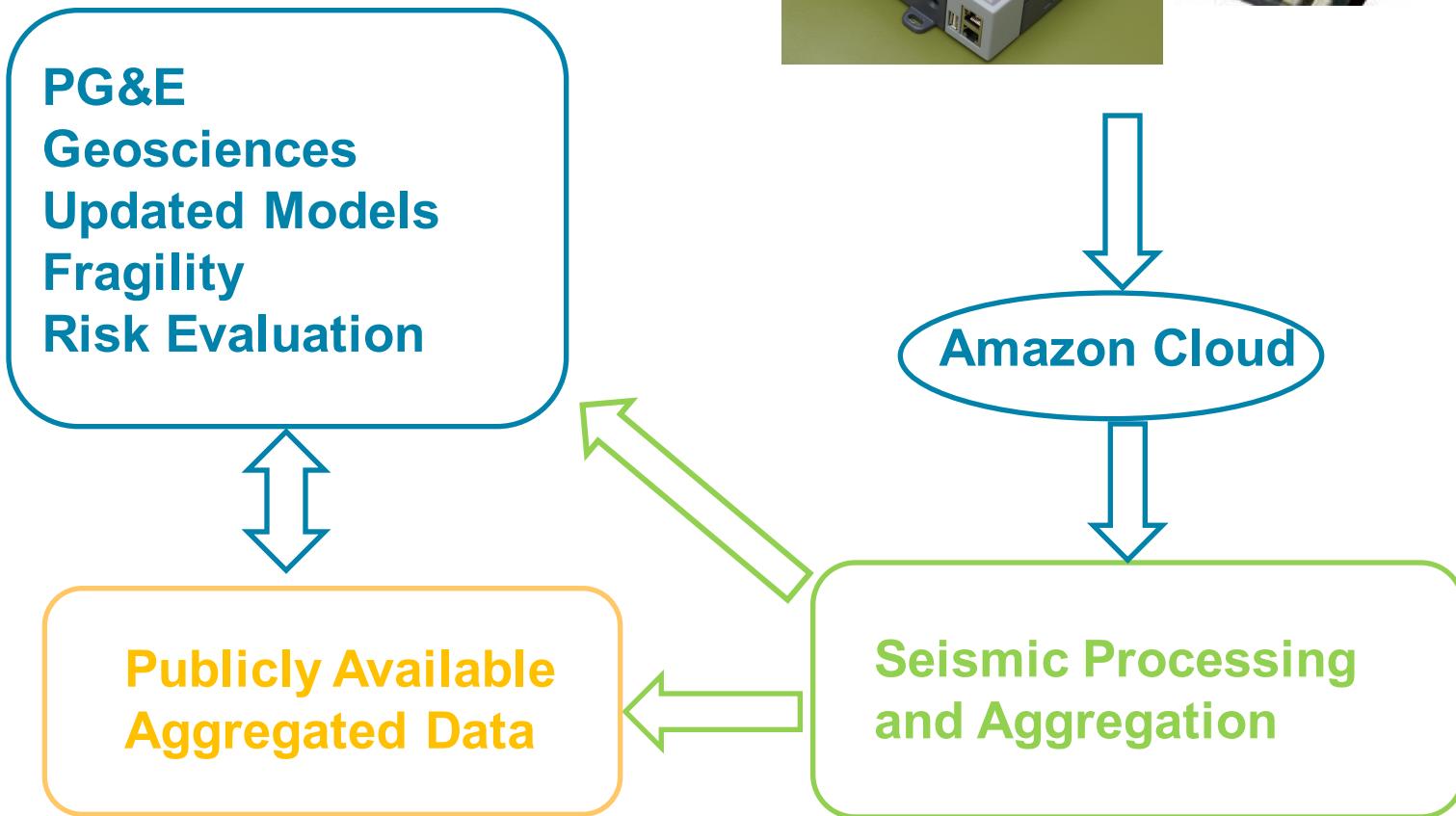


Fourier Amplitude Spectra

SMSIM, Prototype NGM Noise, and Quiet Urban Microtremor

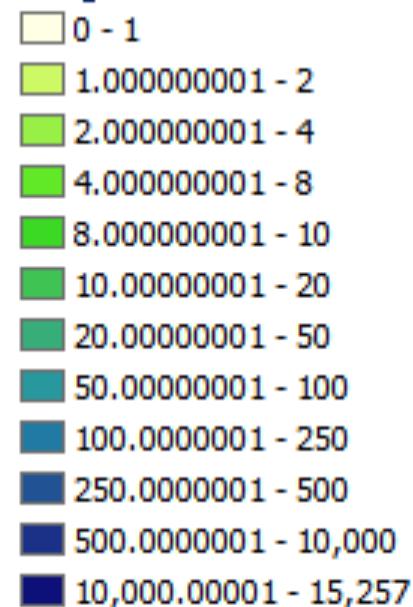


NGM Data Flow

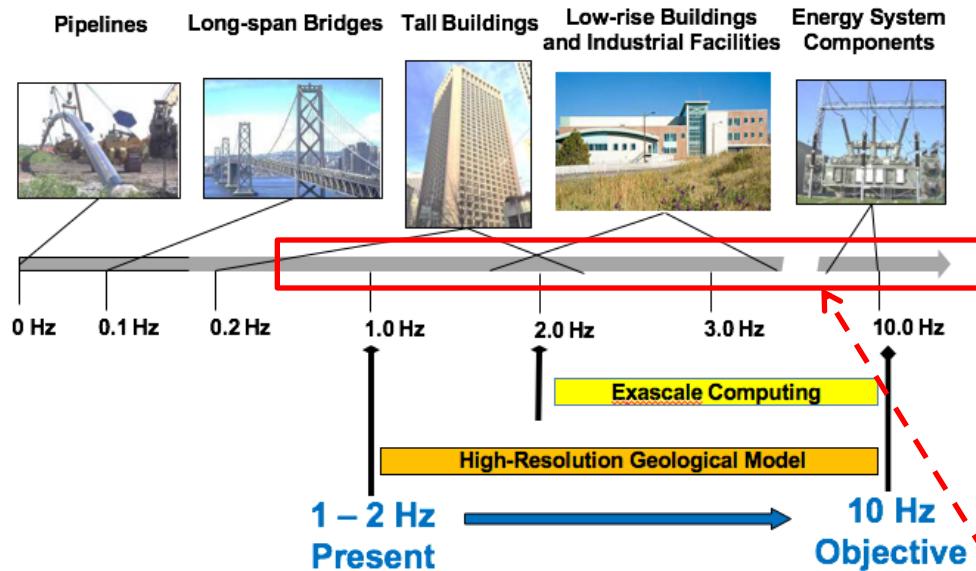


Smart Meter Density: Electric Meters

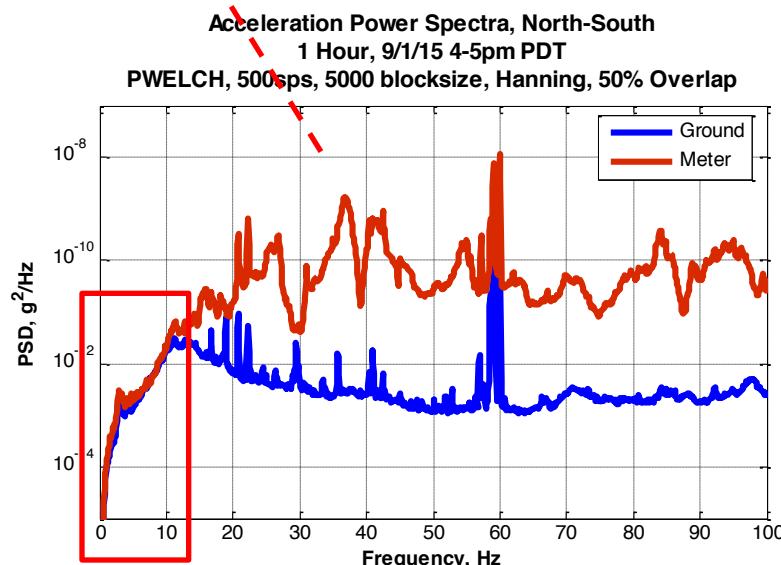
Number of meters per sq km



**M4-5: 800,000
M5-6: 500,000**



NGM recordings fall within useful range to evaluate PG&E infrastructure



Questions & Answers





Sensor: ST LSM6DS3

The new LSM6DS3 iNEMO module offers best-in-class accuracy and efficiency as well as always-on low-power features for an optimal motion experience.

The combination of a high-resolution 3D accelerometer and 3D gyroscope in a single package significantly reduces the risk of drift over-time and temperature, while reducing footprint on the final PCB.



*Best in MEMS & Sensors Innovation Awards -MEMSies- MEMS Industry Group

3D accelerometer and gyroscope in small package with enhanced embedded features

KEY FEATURES

- Acceleration range: $\pm 2/\pm 4/\pm 8/\pm 16$ g
- Angular rate range: $\pm 125/\pm 245/\pm 500/\pm 1000/\pm 2000$ dps
- Smart FIFO up to 8 kbyte
- Noise density (Ax): 90 $\mu\text{g}/\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$
- Rate noise (Gyro): 7 mdps/ $\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$
- 16-bit output resolution
- Current consumption (gyro & axl):
 - Normal mode 0.9 mA @ ODR = 208 Hz
 - Low-power mode 0.42 mA @ ODR = 13 Hz
- Supply voltage range: 1.71 to 3.6 V
- Temperature range: -40 to +85 °C
- Embedded sensor hub: up to 4 external sensors data collection
- I²C/SPI digital interfaces
- 14-pin plastic land grid array (LGA) package (2.5 mm x 3 mm x 0.83 mm)

KEY APPLICATIONS

- Full gesture recognition and movement detection
- Activity monitoring
- Gaming applications
- Wearable devices
- Mobile phone and portable devices
- Headsets and virtual reality
- Remote control
- IMU for helicopters, drones and robots
- Dead reckoning
- Electronic Image Stabilization (EIS)

Application: Local Ground-Motion Model Development Collaboration

- 3-D simulations of site and path effects for the local model
- Lawrence Berkeley National Lab (LBNL)
- U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)
- Empirical evaluation of smart meter data to test the simulations
- Pacific Earthquake Engineering Center (PEER)



LBNL



PEER

Initial Region for Local Model



Current Limitations of Ground Motion Models

- Use of globally-averaged models limits our ability to accurately estimate the seismic hazard and risk
- Limits our ability to distinguish between the seismic risk at different facilities
- May not have optimized prioritization for seismic retrofits or new projects
- Current seismic stations are not dense enough to constrain the site and path effects required for development of local ground-motion models
- Creation of a dense seismic network throughout the PG&E System using accelerometers in electric Smartmeters is an efficient approach to help address these issues