



# TIME-DEPENDENT SEISMIC HAZARD

## INTRODUCTION AND GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES

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working together  
to assess risk

**GEM**  
GLOBAL EARTHQUAKE MODEL

**OQ**  
OPENQUAKE

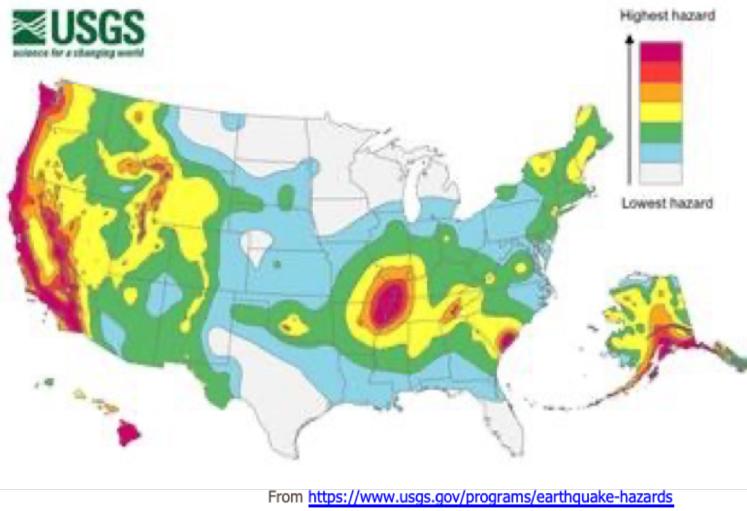
# Seismic Hazard Analysis: Goals

Seismic Hazard Analysis (SHA):

Computes the values of ground-shaking expected at a site during a given time interval.

Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Analysis (PSHA):

- Calculates probability of exceeding some intensity of ground shaking
- Integrates over all potential sources
- Incorporates parameter uncertainties, randomness



From <https://www.usgs.gov/programs/earthquake-hazards>



# PSHA: Model components

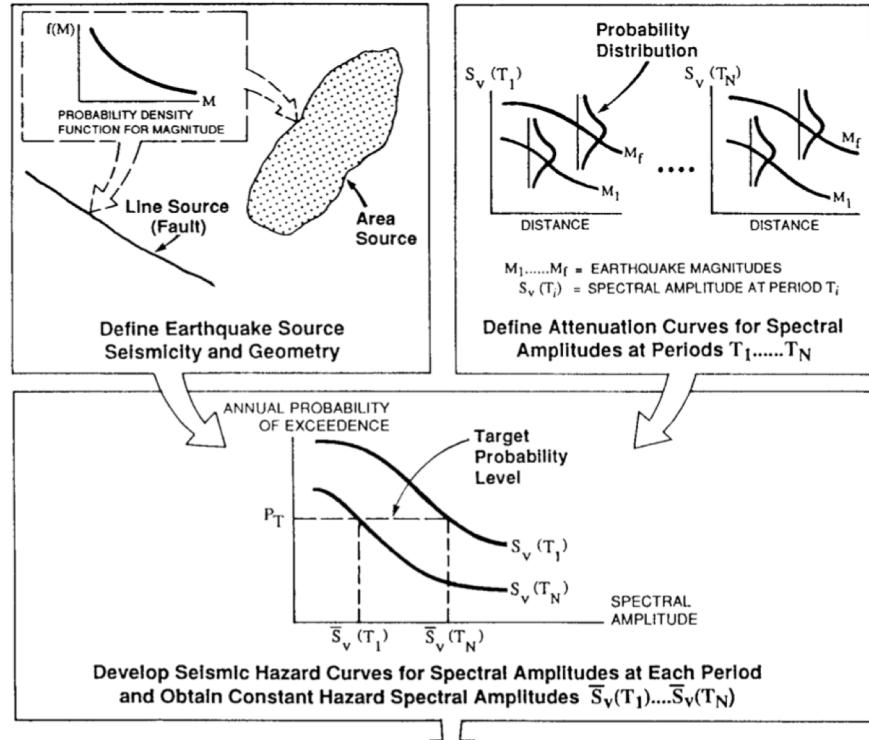
Components of a PSHA model:

1. Seismic Source Characterization

Defines position of sources and their earthquake occurrence characteristics

2. Ground Motion Characterization

Defines the models used to compute the expected ground-motion at the sites of interest – given an earthquake (rupture)

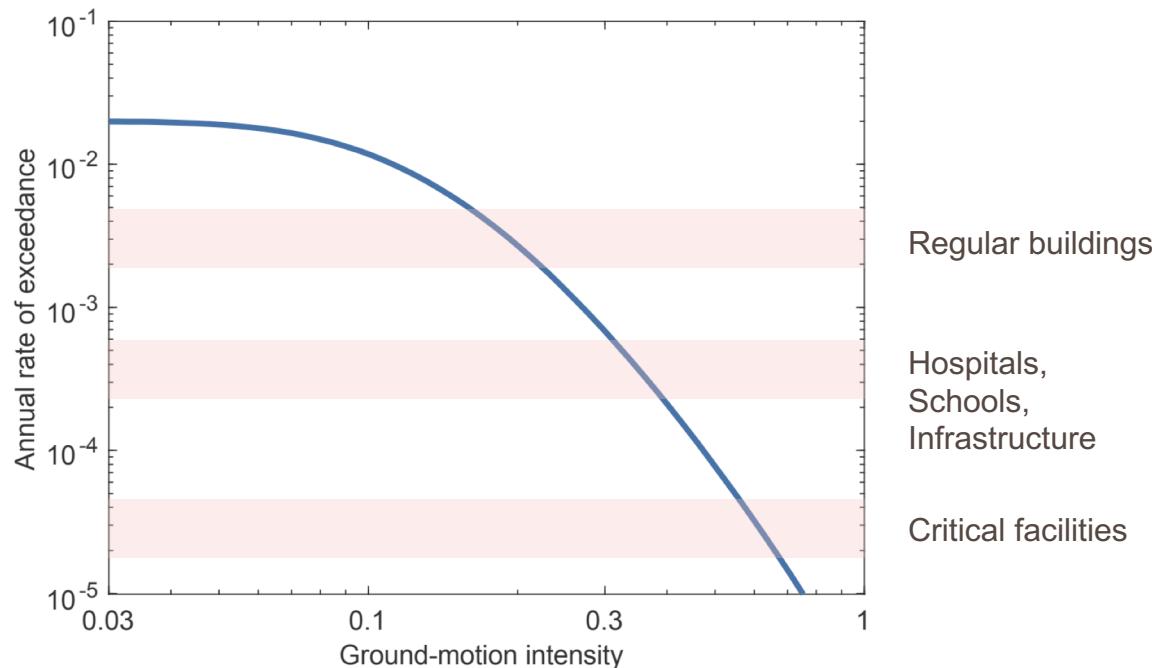


# PSHA results: the hazard curve

Rate (probability) of exceeding specified ground motion intensity level

Stronger shaking (larger M, closer) less frequent

Different users interested in different rates/ return periods



# Time dependence in earthquake occurrence

Three classes of phenomena:

1. Quasi-periodic recurrence of large earthquakes on single source
2. Aftershocks and foreshocks
3. Clustered/triggered mainshocks on nearby sources



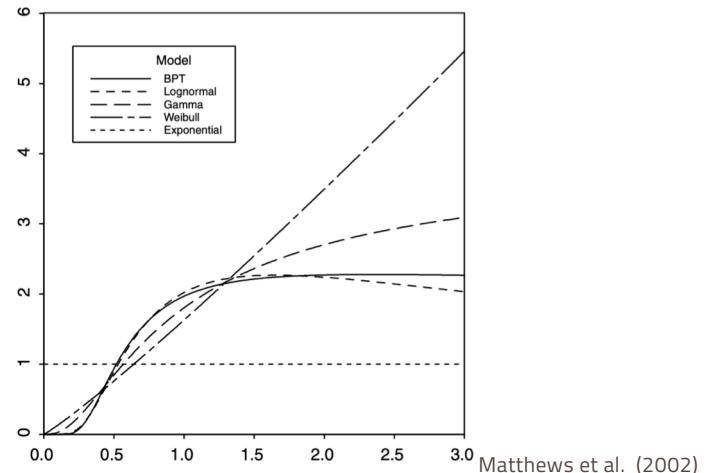
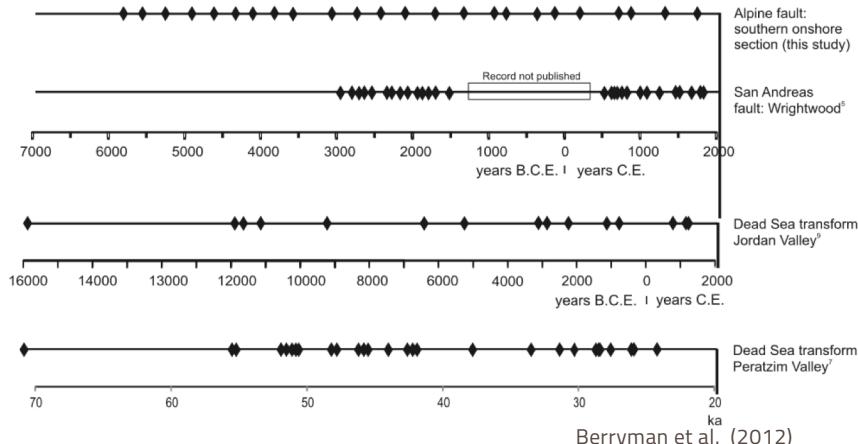
# Quasi-periodic earthquakes and characteristic faults

Major earthquakes on some faults are somewhat regularly spaced in time

Probability of next earthquake drops following last earthquake, increases with time (variable after mean)

Tied to 'characteristic' earthquake, where all of fault (or fault segment) ruptures in large event, releasing accumulated stress/strain

Faults must have persistent segmentation



Matthews et al. (2002)

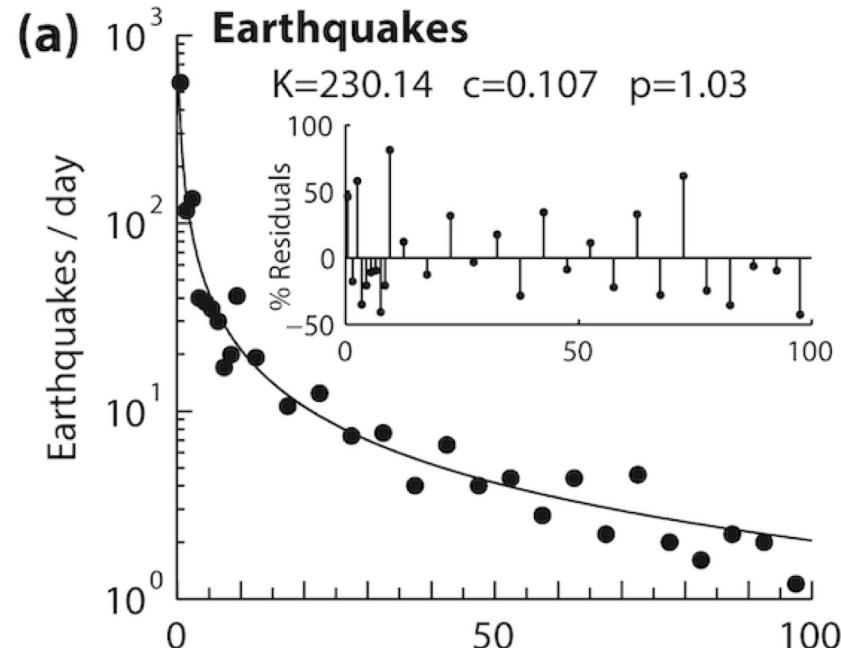


# Aftershocks

Most well-observed time-dependent behavior

Aftershock rates decrease in minutes to decades following mainshock (Omori's law)

Aftershocks tend to be smaller than mainshocks (Bath's law)



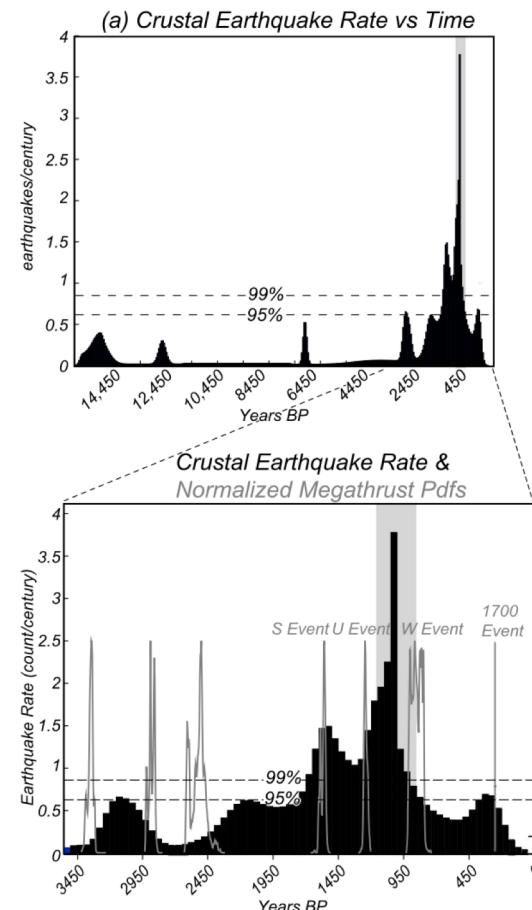
# Clustered mainshocks

Nearby faults rupture relatively closely in time

- › Separated by seconds to centuries (but less than mean interevent times)
- › Well described in instrumental and paleoseismic catalogs

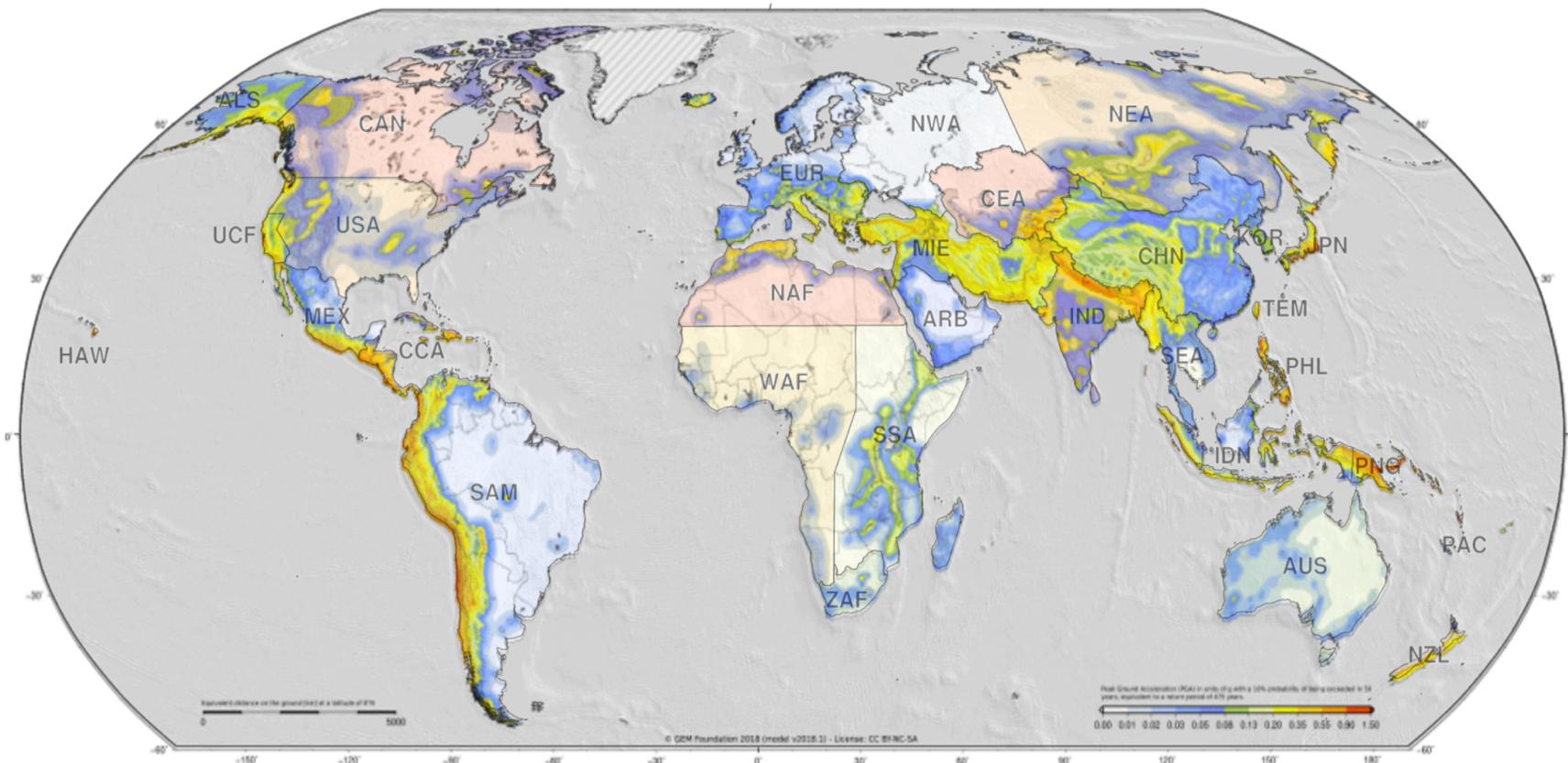
Statistically unlikely to be random; probably evidence of earthquake triggering, stress interaction

Multiple non-exclusive physical mechanisms suspected



# GEM Hazard Mosaic

Out of 31 models only 2 are time-dependent models (JPN + Cluster model in USGS Conterminous US model) + UCERF3 (in the mosaic we included the time-independent version)



# Types of time-dependent PSHA

Multiple modeling strategies for different phenomena

1. Aftershock PSHA
2. Clustered mainshocks
3. Periodic, characteristic sources
4. Evolutionary/ interactive models

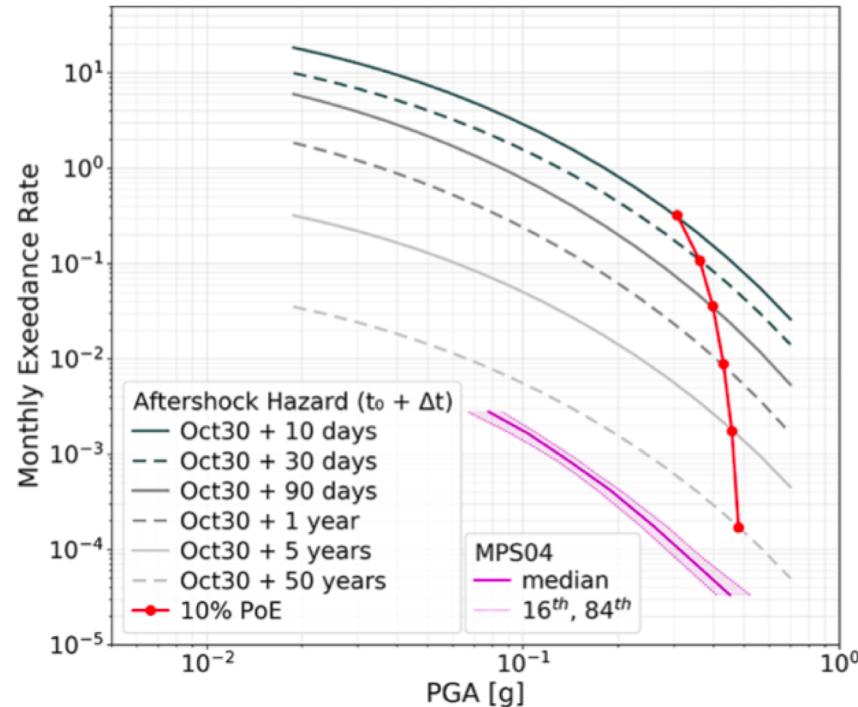


# Aftershock PSHA

PSHA including aftershocks (conditional on mainshock occurrence) can be calculated following major events

Elevated hazard levels for days to decades after event; eventually will decay to mean rate

Some statistical methods to incorporate into national-scale PSHA (e.g. Epidemic Type Aftershock Sequences)



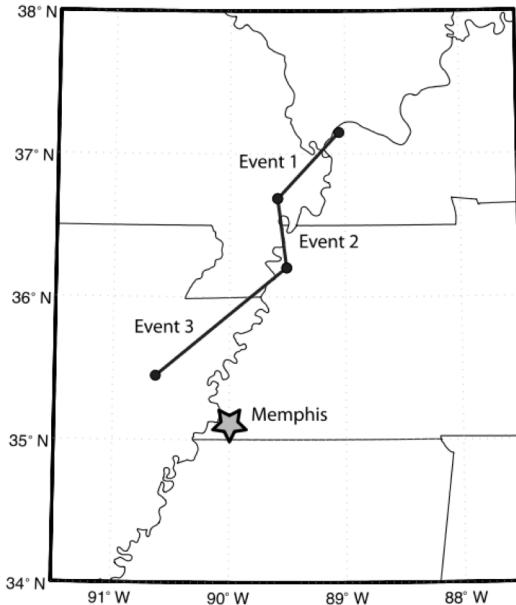
# Cluster models

## Seismic cluster

- Group of several ruptures
- Cluster floats in time (time-independent rate), ruptures occur at same time

Can allow for complex behavior

- Mutually exclusive rupture combinations (e.g., single M 9 or multiple M 8 subduction zone events)



From Boyd (2012)



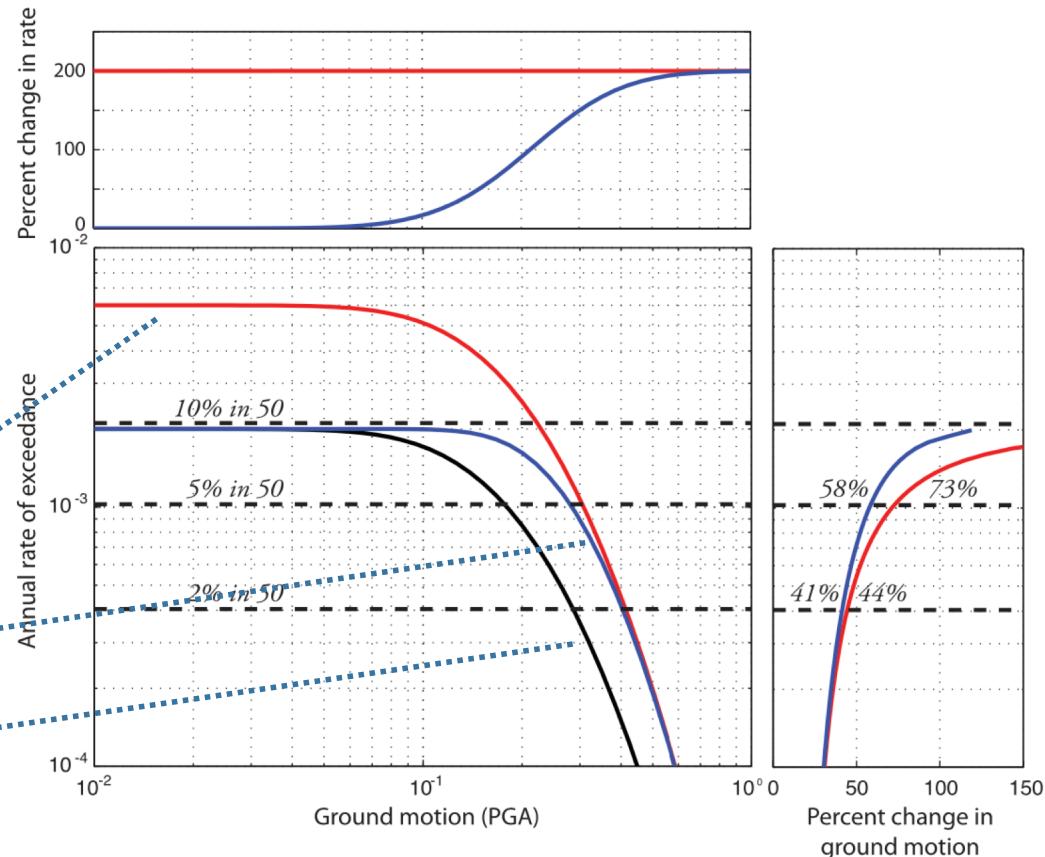
# Cluster models

Ground motions vary between single-mainshock rate at short return periods and independent source rates at long return periods

Three  
independent  
events

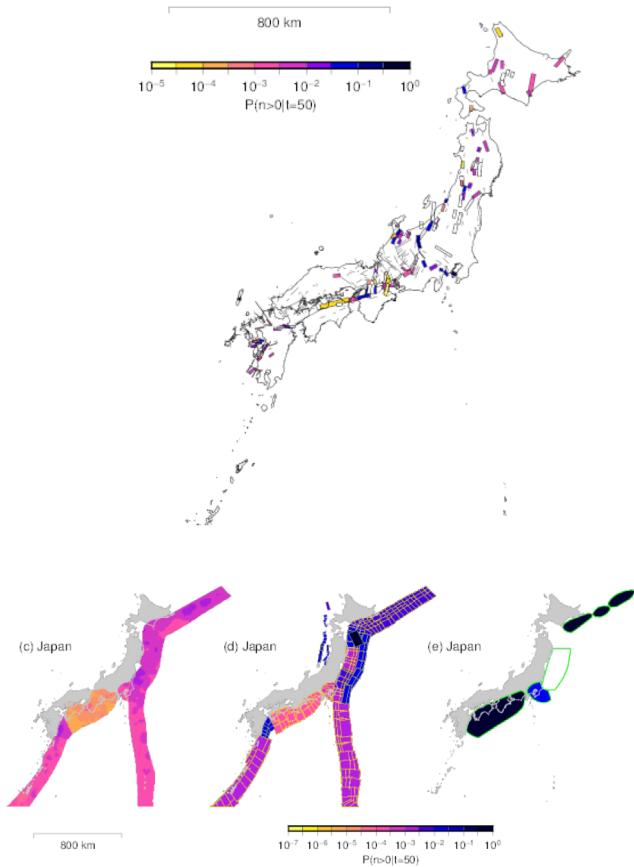
Cluster

Single event



# Time-dependent characteristic ruptures in Japan

Modified from Paganini et al. (2016)



Characteristic earthquakes for shallow crust faults. The JPN14 model contains 233 shallow faults with a time-independent model and 123 faults with a time-dependent behavior (see Fujiwara et al., 2009).

Segmented subduction zone some (e.g., Nankai) with time-dependent mutually exclusive ruptures (only for the largest events)

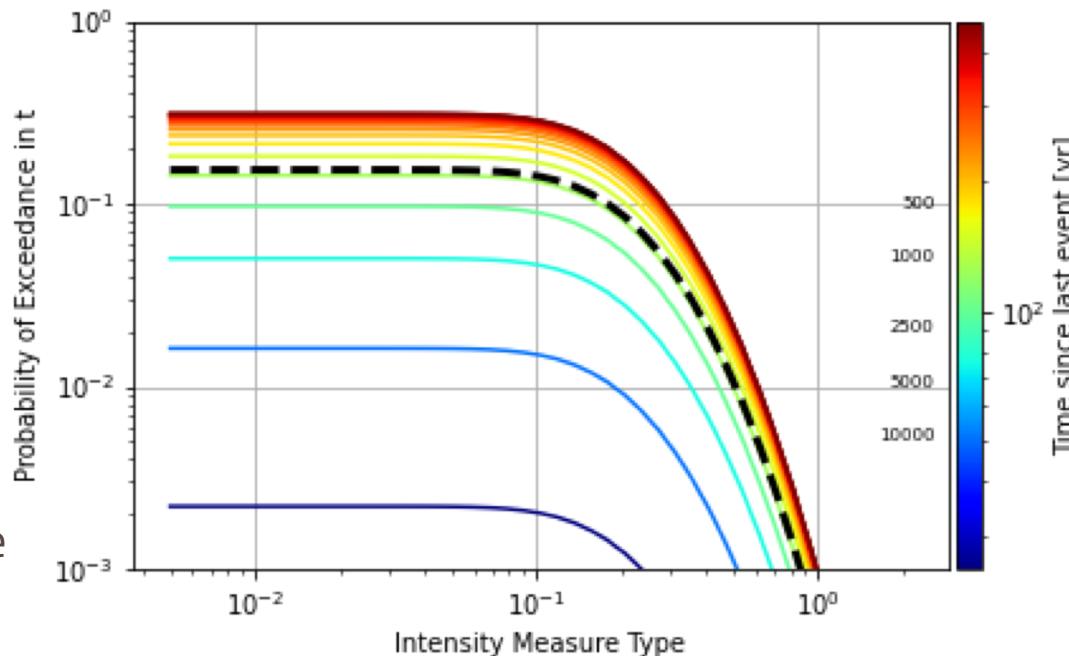


# Hazard curve for quasi-periodic source (BPT)

Poisson (time independent)  
overestimates hazard soon  
after earthquake occurs

Poisson underestimates the  
hazard for some time after  
the mean recurrence

At lower exceedance  
probabilities (stronger  
shaking), time dependence  
vs. independence less  
impactful



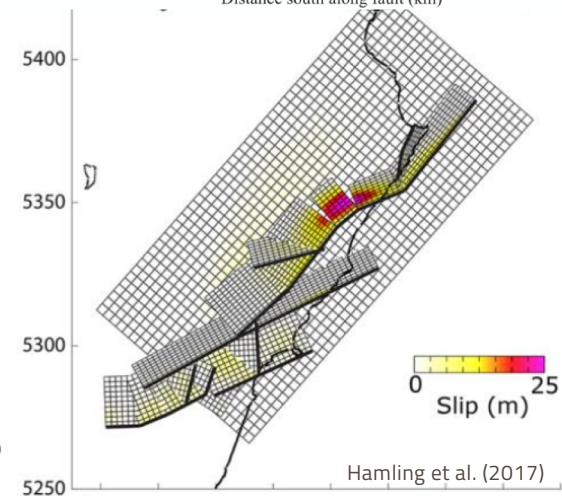
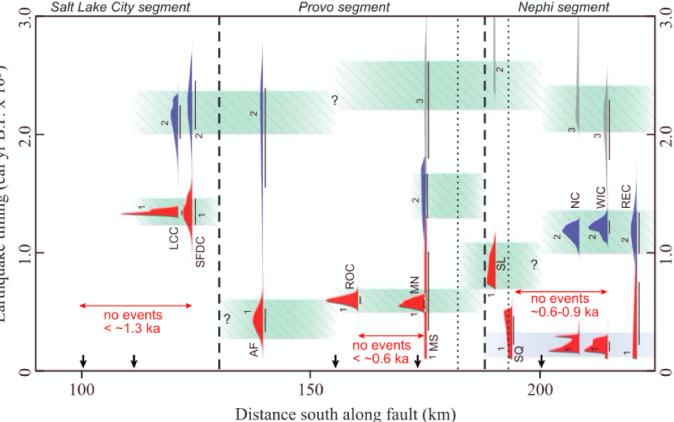
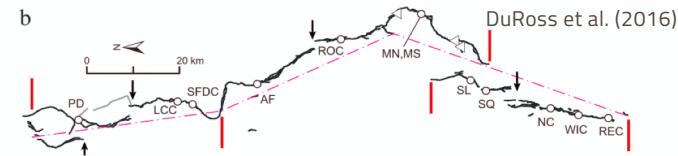
# Problems with characteristic ruptures

Modern and paleoseismic observations support varying segment behavior

- sub-segment ruptures
- multi-segment ruptures
- multi-fault ruptures

Does a small or moderate earthquake 'reset the clock'?

Should we use a different variable than *time*? Shear stress? Elastic strain/ potential slip?

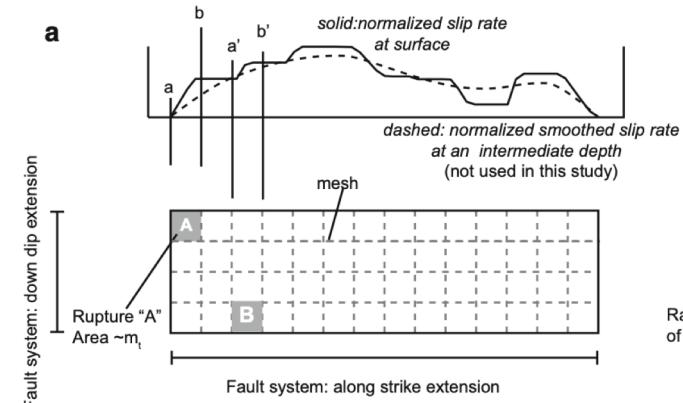
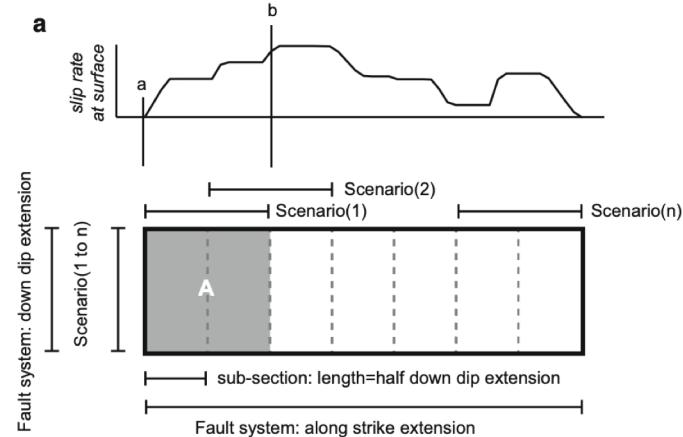


# Sub-segment and floating ruptures

Moderate ( $4 < M < 6.5$ ) magnitude earthquakes may not rupture entire fault segment

Need smaller discretization of fault surface.

Need to track more variables (*time* or something else?)



# Rupture interaction

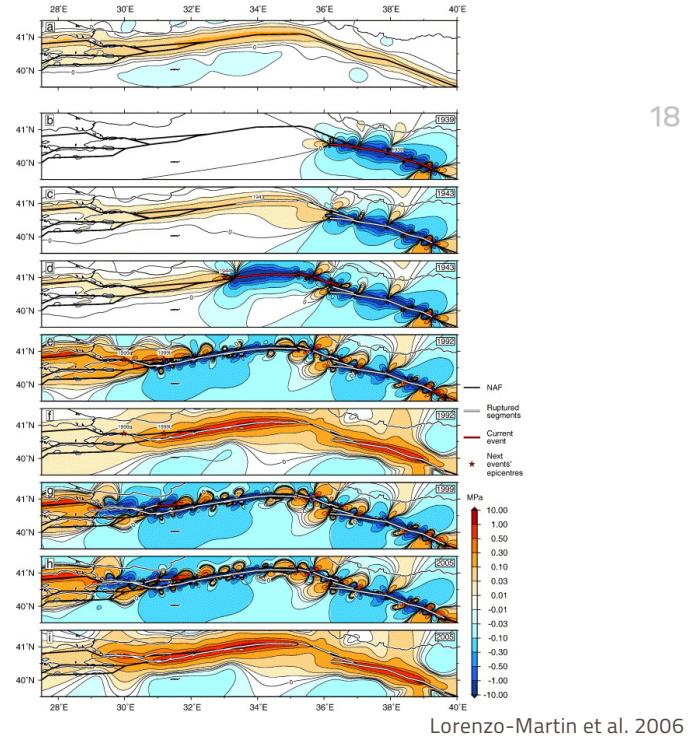
Rupture interaction means rupture dependence

Model complexity increases dramatically (approx  $N \rightarrow N^2$ ) to account for interaction

Physics, statistics still unknown

Difficult (or impossible) to integrate over all sources, states

Requires simulation



Lorenzo-Martin et al. 2006

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 p(A_1) & p(A_1|A_1) & p(A_1|A_2) & p(A_1|A_3) & p(A_1|B_1) & p(A_1|B_2) \\
 p(A_2) & p(A_2|A_1) & p(A_2|A_2) & p(A_2|A_3) & p(A_2|B_1) & p(A_2|B_2) \\
 p(A_3) & \Rightarrow p(A_3|A_1) & p(A_3|A_2) & p(A_3|A_3) & p(A_3|B_1) & p(A_3|B_2) \\
 p(B_1) & p(B_1|A_1) & p(B_1|A_2) & p(B_1|A_3) & p(B_1|B_1) & p(B_1|B_2) \\
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 \end{array}$$



# Simulations and model evolution

Simulations are only (known) tractable way of accounting for rupture interaction, model evolution through time

Epidemic-Type Aftershock Sequence (ETAS) most commonly used

- Recursive: Each quake produces aftershocks -> aftershocks produce their own aftershocks
- Rupture interaction/triggering defined statistically, not physically
- UCERF3-ETAS coupled ETAS with elastic rebound model

Physics-based models are 'research topic', not widely used in PSHA

- May use rate-state friction, elastic (+viscoelastic) stress evolution, etc.
- Computationally demanding (especially viscoelasticity, afterslip)

Lots of room for different combinations of physics and statistics



## Summary

Broad range of time-dependent earthquake behaviors

Multiple modeling strategies to deal with different phenomena

Physics not well incorporated (also not fully understood)

*Until time-dependent PSHA is widely implemented and vetted,  
we may not understand its impact.*

