



**The Abdus Salam  
International Centre for Theoretical Physics**



**2142-26**

**Advanced Conference on Seismic Risk Mitigation and Sustainable  
Development**

*10 - 14 May 2010*

**History of Modern Earthquake Hazard Mapping and Assessment in California Using  
Deterministic or Scenario Approach**

Lalliana Mualchin

*California Department of Transportation  
USA*

# **History of Modern Earthquake Hazard Mapping and Assessment in California Using Deterministic or Scenario Approach**

**Lalliana Mualchin**

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**ICTP Advanced Conference on Seismic Risk  
Mitigation and Sustainable Development  
10-14 May, 2010 Trieste, Italy**

# Seismic Hazard

- **Purpose-Driven**
- **Emergency Response, Insurance, etc**
- **Subjective**
- **Engineering**

# Motivators

- **Damaging Earthquakes**
- **Proportional to Level of Disaster**
- **Available Funding for Solution**

# Important California Earthquakes

- **Pre-1925 Santa Barbara earthquakes**

**First US Seismic Code of 1927**

- **1933 Long Beach, M6.3**

**Field Act: EQ-resistant schools**

- **1971 San Fernando, M6.5**

**Hospital Seismic Safety Act: to withstand EQs**

**First Seismic Hazard Map published by Calif.  
Div. Mines & Geology (CDMG)**

## **First Edition California Seismic Hazard Map**

- **Fault-based EQ Sources**
- **Used Maximum Credible Earthquake (MCE) Concept**
- **Used Peak Acceleration Attn Curves using available data & theory**
- **Later called “Deterministic”**
- **Accepted & Used for years**
- **By Calif. Dept. Trans. (Caltrans)**

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
OFFICE OF STRUCTURES  
FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

MAXIMUM CREDIBLE ROCK ACCELERATION  
FROM  
EARTHQUAKES IN CALIFORNIA

REVISED AUGUST, 1974  
MODIFIED OCTOBER, 1974 - CALTRANS

LEGEND

POTENTIALLY ACTIVE FAULTS

7-10000000

Approximate location

Number of earthquakes in the maximum recorded earthquake

magnitude in the past

Unshaded areas along the San Andreas fault are four seismic

zones. The ends of a fault indicate lack of strong evidence

for its activity.

ROCK ACCELERATION CONTOURS

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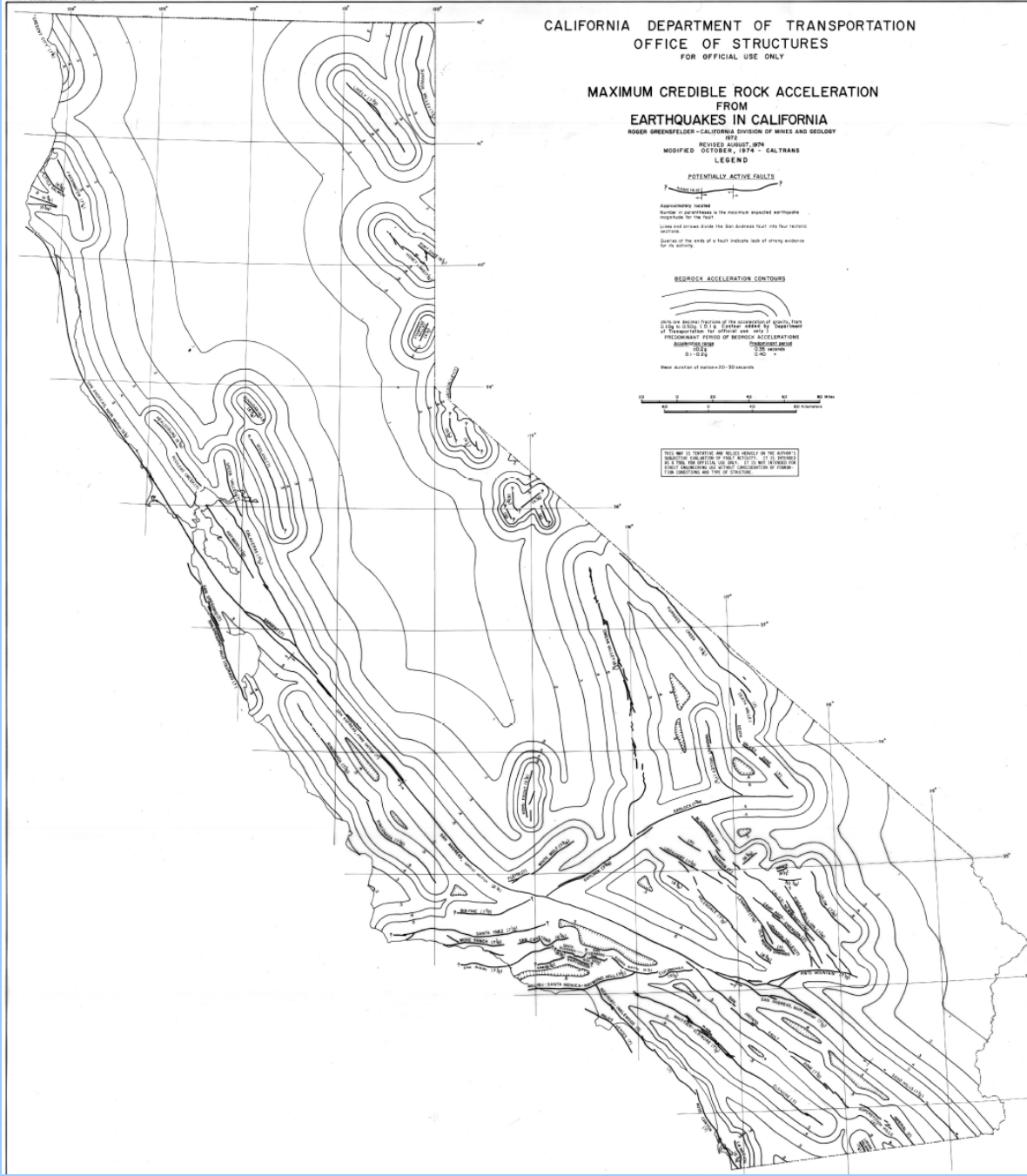
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# **Comments on the First Edition Map**

- **EERI objected its publication**
- **Already released by the State Geologist**
- **Well accepted by public & private agencies, consultants, etc.**
- **Confidence in the applications**



# **Data for First Edition Map**

- **No of Faults Used: 77**
- **Quaternary Faults**
- **Dip, Width, or Type of Faults Not Considered**

# Clarifications

- **DSHA used Probability**
- **EQ rate not explicitly considered**
- **Single EQ magnitude label misleading**
- **Smaller EQs considered automatically**
- **Step by Step Procedure**

# **Living Document**

- **Revise or Update**
- **Incorporate New Information & Knowledge**
- **Use Emerging New Technology**
- **Evaluate Usefulness or Effectiveness**

## **Related Information**

- **1976: First USGS Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Map**
- **1982: Second USGS Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Map**
- **1988: PSHA-Report of the Panel on Seismic Hazard Analysis, National Research Council**

## **Second Edition California Seismic Hazard Map-1**

- **1985 October: Ready for publication as CDMG Map Sheet 45**
- **Publication Delayed .....**
- **1989 May: Ad-hoc Committee on “Deterministic/Probabilistic Procedures for Evaluating Seismic Hazard” meeting put the map in limbo**
- **List of MCEs to be published as CDMG Note 34, already referenced in Title 24 CAC**

## **Second Edition California Seismic Hazard Map-2**

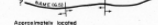
- **1989 October: Loma Prieta EQ caused a great damage in the San Francisco area**
- **Board of Inquiry of the EQ got the Map**
- **1992: CDMG released the Map at the demand of Caltrans, **seven years after its completion****

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
OFFICE OF STRUCTURES  
FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

MAXIMUM CREDIBLE ROCK ACCELERATION  
FROM  
EARTHQUAKES IN CALIFORNIA

ROGER GREENSPELDER - CALIFORNIA DIVISION OF MINES AND GEOLOGY  
REVISED DESIGN: 1974  
MODIFIED: OCTOBER, 1974 - CALTRANS  
LEGEND

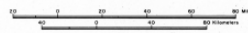
POTENTIALLY ACTIVE FAULTS



Approximately located  
Location is approximate in the maximum expected earthquake  
magnitude for the fault.  
Lines and arrows divide the San Andreas fault into four tectonic  
sections.  
Quarries at the ends of a fault indicate lack of strong evidence  
for its activity.

BEDROCK ACCELERATION CONTOURS

Units are decimal fractions of the acceleration of gravity, based  
on a 10% damping ratio. Values shown by Department  
of Transportation for official use only. For  
engineering purposes, use bedrock accelerations  
Acceleration range: 0.1-0.2g  
0.2-0.3g  
0.3-0.4g  
0.4-0.5g  
0.5-0.6g  
0.6-0.7g  
0.7-0.8g  
0.8-0.9g  
0.9-1.0g  
Mean duration of return: 20-30 seconds



THIS MAP IS INTENDED TO BE USED ONLY IN THE GENERAL  
PLANNING OF TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES. IT IS NOT  
TO BE USED FOR DESIGN OR CONSTRUCTION OF  
STRUCTURES. ENGINEERS ARE ADVISED TO OBTAIN THE  
LATEST EDITIONS OF THE CALIFORNIA ENGINEERING  
CONTRACTING AND THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

- INCORPORATED CITY
- COUNTY SEAT
- UNINCORPORATED

- STATE HIGHWAYS
- - - - PROPOSED STATE HIGHWAY GENERAL ROUTE DETERMINED
- · · · · PROPOSED STATE HIGHWAY GENERAL ROUTE NOT DETERMINED



# Data for Second Edition Map

- **No of Faults Used: 234**
- **Late Quaternary Faults**
- **Dip, Width, or Type of Faults Considered**
- **Deep-seated or Blind Faults (1st time)**
- **Northridge Hills fault dipping south as a possible 1994 Northridge EQ source!**
- **New Attenuation Curves**
- **Magnitude ( $\frac{1}{4}$  unit)**



## **Third Edition California Seismic Hazard Map**

- **Used GIS technology**
- **Easily associated with bridges & other structures**
- **Most visited Caltrans website**

**[http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/esc/earthquake\\_engineering/Seismology/](http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/esc/earthquake_engineering/Seismology/)**



# Data for Third Edition Map

- **No of Faults used: 275**
- **Late Quaternary faults**
- **Dip, Width, or Type of faults considered**

# **Comments for Third Edition Map**

- **Type of faults still not available for some faults**
- **Dip & Width also still not available for some faults**

## **Updating & Errata for Third Edition Map**

- **New faults, including the San Joaquin Hills fault in Orange County**
- **Faults no longer used**
- **Fault letter codes corrections**

# Opinions

- **Problems in the national map**
- **Are map developer responsible?**
- **Authoritative vs Research project map**
- **More maps for different applications**

# Use of the Map

- **In preparing bridge design spectrum, including incorporation of site response**
- **Design spectrum shape/level as a function of MCE magnitude**
- **May use as a starting source model for ground motion simulations**

# Personal Experience with PSHA

- **San Onofre NPP** - Christianitos fault by Gutenberg-Richter equation, inadequate data.
- **Diablo Canyon NPP** - Hosgri fault, no problem with DSHA and problem with PSHA.
- **Bolsa Chica Project** - Newport-Inglewood fault, unrealistic result by PSHA.
- **Hospital Seismic Reports** - Too low hazard for Central Valley.
- **California Seismic Hazard Map** for Caltrans - Critical input not available for many faults and PSHA results not correlated with proximity to earthquake source.



# **Unresolved points on PSHA**

- **Doubt on combining hazards in PSHA**
- **Not a return period but just a numerical probability**
- **Arbitrary 'p' percent exceedance probability in 't' years & return period**
- **Problems and lack of data in slip rate**
- **Physically unrealistic extreme ground motions for long return periods**

# Remarks on DSHA

- **Strengths for DSHA/NDSHA**
- **Need to formalize DSHA/NDSHA**
- **Variability or Uncertainty wrt MCE**

## **For DSHA & PSHA**

- **Refine magnitude estimates using regional empirical fault parameter-magnitude relationships**
- **Use both empirical data & simulated ground motion estimates for continuity and confidence in practice**
- **When in doubt, err on the conservative side and avoid over-analysis**

# **Personal Experience/Observation**

- **For Caltrans Toll Bridges**
- **San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge**
- **Caltrans Seismic Advisory Board**

# Concluding Remarks

- **DSHA/NeoDSHA withstand the test of time for engineering applications!**
- **Incorporate source modelling & advanced simulations**
- **Use earthquake rate for “Risk Analysis” if & when required**
- **Open-mind, and avoid polarization & control of ideas in SHA**

# Recommendations

- **DSHA demonstrated its stability and usefulness for engineering**
- **Neo-DSHA can be used for realistic ground motion estimates in conjunction with DSHA**
- **PSHA demonstrated its lack of credibility, intractable and costly method, and must be adjusted for engineering**
- **DSHA can be used for Seismic Risk Analysis if and when required\*.**

\*Klugel, J.-U., Mualchin, L. and Panza, G. F. (2006): Eng. Geology: 88, 1-22.



***THANK YOU!***