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Lessons learned from the 2011 Tohoku earthquake for reducing earthquake disasters

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Earthquake Disaster Prevention in Europe The 14th century Assisi earthquake "Earthquake" by Giotto



Giotto

Earthquake Disaster Prevention in Japan

Pictures of the 1855 Edo (Tokyo) Ansei Earthquake (M6.9) Battles against underground catfishes -



Today's Topics

- Outline of damage during the 11 March 2011 Mw 9.0 Tohoku, Japan earthquake
- 2. National seismic hazard in Japan before and after the earthquake
- 3. Early Warning of Strong Shaking and Tsunami by JMA
- 4. Short-period source model of the 11 March 2011 Mw 9.0 Tohoku earthquake estimated from strong motion data
- 5. Period-dependence of rupture processes
- 6. Recipe of predicting strong ground motions for subduction megathrust earthquakes
- 7. Summary

1. Outline of damage during the 11 March 2011 Mw 9.0 Tohoku, Japan earthquake



After "Japan's Challenge Towards Recovery", March 2012, METI

March 11, 2011 tsunami Satake (2012)

Miyako, Iwate pref. ~30 min after the eq.

Large (~ 30 m) tsunami height along Sanriku coast

Mainichi Newspaper

Natori, Miyagi pref. ~ 1 hour after the eq.

Long (~5 km) inundation in Sendai plain



これまでの調査結果 参加:約100名 測点:約400点(1月間)=>4,000点(現在)

Google

Comparison of 2011 Tohoku with Past Tsunami



NPPs in Eastern Coast of Japan



* Fukushima Daiichi locates approximatel 230 km north of Tokyo Onagawa Nuclear Power Station (very little damage by tsunami)



Accident at Fukushima Nuclear Power Station

Before the Earthquake and Tsunamis



After the Earthquake and Tsunamis

TEPCO

Air Photo Service Inc (Myoko, Niigata Japan)

2. National seismic hazard before and after the 2011 Tohoku earthquake

"National Hazard Maps" in Japan have been published by the Headquarter of Earthquake Research Promotion since 2005.

- Long-term evaluation of earthquake occurrence has been made nation-wide for inland crustal earthquakes, subduction earthquakes and intraslab earthquakes including the source region of the 2011 Toh0ku earth.
- Strong ground motion evaluation has been made using prpbabilistic and deterministic approaches.

Tsunami assessments have been made for specific past disastrous earthquakes by Central Disaster Management Council.

Probability of Earthquake Occurrence in 30 years



Subduction Earthquakes

Headquarter of Earthquake Research Promotion (2010)

National Seismic Hazard Map for Japan and Regions for Long-term Forecast along Subduction Zone



Recurrence of large earthquakes along

NIED (2011)

Revision of long-term evaluation of seismic activity for the region from the off Sanriku to the off Boso , (Earthquake Research Committee , 25 Nov. , 2011)

Earthquakes with the same type as the 2011 off the Pacific coast of Tohoku Earthquake

■Past Activity

5 times for past 2,500 years

2011 M 9.0 earthquake

15 century from Tsunami deposits

869 (the Jogan earthquake) from a history book

4 to 5 centuries from Tsunami deposits

3 to 4 centuries B.C. from Tsunami deposits

Return periods

400 – 800 years

average period 600 years

Probability of earthquake occurrence before the 2011 earthquake 10 – 20 % in 30 years

Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Map in 2011 (HERP, 2012)

Probability of ground motions more than JMA intensity 6-lower within 30 years



Influence of Mw 9.0 earthquake on Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Map in 2011



Maximum JMA intensity with more than 2 % probability within 50 years in 2011

Comparison between estimated ones and observed ones during the 2011 Tohoku earthquake



3. Early Warning of Strong Shaking and Tsunami by JMA

Japan Meteorological Agency is in charge of issuing warning information about strong shaking and tsunami as quickly as possiblehave whenever an earthquake occurs.

- Earthquake Early Warning System
- Tsunami Warning and Evacuation

Earthquake Early Warning from JMA during the 2011 Tohoku earthquake



Earthquake Early Warning from JMA during the 2011 Tohoku earthquake



Final warning M 8.1 105.0 sec after first P-wave detection Estimated Intensity (JMA)



Why were people not able to evacuate for devastating tsunamis ?

What problems did the JMA tsunami warning system have?

What unrecognized factors contributed to the high vulnerability of the area ?



大渋滞 公民館 閖上中学

過去の経験:1960チリ津波

避難の拒否

After Imamura (2012)





 Short-period source model of the 11 March 2011 Mw 9.0 Tohoku earthquake estimated from strong motion data

■ Five distinctive wavapackets were detected on strong motion sesimograms at stations near the source fault.

■ The arrival azimuths of those wavepackets were estimated using the semblance analysis in several small arrays.

■The locations of strong motion generation areas (SMGAs) are coincident with the origins of those wavepackets.

Re-estimation of Locations of SMGAs from Semblance Analysis of Wave-





After Irikura and Kurahashi (2011)



Particle Motion Diagrams (Vertical) of WP1 at 3 Stations in Array B





Simulation of Strong Ground Motions during the 2011 Tohoku Earthquake Using the Empirical Green's Function Method

Strong Motion Generation Areas are relocated using the semblance analysis of the wave-packets in small arrays.

The observed data from medium-sized earthquakes occurring near each strong motion generation area are adopted as the empirical Green's functions.

Strong motion records of the 2005 Miyagi-Oki earthquake (Mw 7.2) are used as the empirical Green's functions for SMGA1 (WP1) and SPGA3 (WP2).



	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









Period range of ground motions generated from the SMGAs

- Longer-period motions from the Strong Motion Generation Areas (SMGAs) are estimated using numerical Green's functions: the Discrete Wavenumber method (Bouchon, 1981) and the Reflection/Transmission coefficient matrix method (Kennet, 1983) using a stratified medium.
- Effective period range of ground motions generated from the SMGAs are confirmed by comparing simulated motions with observed motions.
- Verification of the fault parameters are made, mainly inner fault parameters of Strong Motion Generation Areas (SMGAs) estimated using the empirical Green's function method

Comparison between slip distribution using long-period motions (Suzuki et al, 2011) and SMGAs in this study



Initial models of velocity structures

- Surface layers models: P-S logging data in boreholes (Kik-net and K-NET)
- Shallow layers model less than 5 km: Velocity structure models determined by NIED.
- Deeper layers model more than 5 km: Velocity structure model by Wu et al.(2008)

Velocity structure model in shallow layers (Kik net)

Velocity structure model in deeper layers



Table 3.	Velocity	Model	in the	Crust	and	Upper	Mantle
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Vp, km/s	Vs, km/s	Density, g/cm ³	Depth, km	Qp	Qs
6.08	3.50	2.64	5.0	340.0	170.0
6.23	3.60	2.65	13.0	360.0	180.0
6.35	3.64	2.70	21.0	400.0	250.0
6.55	3.68	2.75	27.0	450.0	350.0
6.95	3.96	2.90	32.0	600.0	350.0
7.60	4.29	3.10	40.0	700.0	400.0
7.69	4.31	3.15	65.0	1000.0	500.0
7.73	4.34	3.20	90.0	1000.0	500.0
8.27	4.56	3.30	120.0	1000.0	500.0
8.37	4.61	3.35	150.0	1000.0	500.0



Velocity Structure Models (Vs)

1-D velocity structures from stations to source are modeled comparing synthetic motions with observed ones from small events.









Comparison between Observed and Synthetic Motions in Miyagi Prefecture



Comparison between Observed and Synthetic Motions in Miyagi Prefecture

Frequency Range 0.01-1Hz

NS VEL(cm/s*s)

NS VEL(cm/s*s)

NS VEL(cm/s*s)

1000

100

10

0.1

1000

100

10

1

0.1

1000 100

10

01

0.01

0.01



Observed

1



Comparison between Observed and Synthetic Motions in Fukushima Prefecture



- 5. Period-dependence of rupture processes
 - comparison of short-period source model and long-period source models inverted long-period strong motion data, tsunami waveforms, geodetic data -

Short-period source models using backprojection of teleseismic short-period P-waves

Long-period source models inverted from tsunami data (Fujii et al., 2012), geodetic data (linuma et al., 2012) and joint data (Yokota et al.)

Comparison of Short-Period Source Model in This Study with Short-Period Released Energy by the back-projection method



Slip Distribution of the 2011 Tohoku Earthquake

Tsunami Waveform Data

DPS data including inland and

off-shore observation



Patterns of Coherent Short-period radiation and Large Slip Regions for Mega-thrust Earthquakes



Lay, et al. JGR(2012)

6. Recipe of predicting strong ground motions for subduction-zone megathrust earthquakes

Rupture process of subduction-zone megathrust earthquakes show period-dependence.

■ New source image for period-dependent source process is expressed as multi-step heterogeneous-source-model.

Strong ground motions of engineering interest in the period-range from 0.1 to 10 sec are estimated using the basic characteristic source model with outer-fault parameters and inner fault parameters, that is, just one step heterogeneity source model.

Multi-Step Heterogeneous Source Model - 1

Second step: Heterogeneity model

First step: Heterogeneity model for short periods 0.1 – 20 s



Multi-Step Heterogeneous Source Model - 2



Heterogeneous Model for Broad-band Motions from 0.1 to 10 s

The SMGAs are located along outer edge of the large slip delineated based on the seismicity rate (Kato and Igarashi, 2012)



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



Basic Characterized Source Model Step 1: Heterogeneous Model for Broad-band Motions from 0.1 to 10 sec



Comparison between observed and synthetic waveforms in the region near the source fault (Miyagi and Onagawa)



Comparison of Seismic Intensity between Observed and Synthetics



Summary 1

- This earthquake on the plate boundary along the Japan trench produced a devastating tsunami and caused about 16,500 fatalities (including missing) and serious damage to nearby Fukushima nuclear power plants.
- The size of the maximum earthquake based on the characteristic earthquake model was underestimated as M ~ 7.5, while the epicenter was near Miyagi-oki, where the probability of earthquake occurrence was evaluated as the highest (99 % in the next 30 years) in Japan.
- From the forward modeling of the source model for simulating short-period ground motions such as acceleration and velocity seismograms, there are five SMGAs over the source fault located west of the hypocenter and along the down-dip edge of the source fault.

Summary 2

- 4. Synthetic motions from the SMGAs match well with observed motions in the period-range from 0.1 to 10 sec.
- 5. Period-dependence of rupture process was found, that is large slips in shallow zones of the source fault near the trench west of the hypocenter and short-period generation in deeper zones west of the hypocenter.
- 6. Strong ground motions of engineering interest in the periodrange from 0.1 to 10 sec are estimated using the characteristic source model with outer-fault parameters and inner fault parameters as the recipe of predicting strong ground motions for subduction earthquakes.