





Reconstructing past earthquakes from written testimonies using Bayesian inference

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Industrial Context





- Main objectives: Reduce the uncertainties tainting the seismic hazard curve, by computing in a Bayes-optimal way the weights attributed to the different branches of the PSHA logic tree;
- **Application to France**: Low sismicity, hence few observed data and high uncertainties, with high safety/regulatory constraints to meet
- **Industrial stakes**: Reducing uncertainties on hazard curves and ground spectrum, two key inputs of seismic PSAs, used to assess the capacity of a given structure to whithstand earthquakes.

SM-model (seismotectonic model)

Subdivision of the region under study in *I* homogeneous seismicity areas, described by recurrence parameters:

- λ_i : parmeter of the Poisson distribution of annual earthquake counts in i-th area
- β_i: exponential law parameter of the magnitude distribution (Gutenberg-Richter (1944) law).

$$\lambda = \lambda_0 \frac{e^{-\beta (m-M_{max})} - e^{-\beta (m-M_{min})}}{e^{-\beta (M_{max}-M_{min})} - e^{-\beta (M_{max}-M_{min})}}$$



Ground-Motion model (through GMPE)

Relation between an earthquake scenario (M, R) and the ground motion intensity :

$$\log_{10}(a) = G(m, r, v) + \epsilon,$$

with a = PGA (peak ground acceleration) or other ;

Propagation

Bayesian updating of model weights (1/2)

- Uncertainty on the choice of a sismotectonical model *SM* and ground motion prediction equation *GMPE*, described through prior weights $\pi(\mathfrak{M})$ for $\mathfrak{M} = (SM, GMPE)$ with $SM \in (SM_1, \ldots, SM_K)$ et $GMPE \in (GMPE_1, \ldots, GMPE_L)$
- Bayesian update of model weights given available data according to:

$$\pi(\mathfrak{M}|obs) = rac{m(obs|\mathfrak{M})\pi(\mathfrak{M})}{\sum_{\mathfrak{M}'}m(obs|\mathfrak{M}')\pi(\mathfrak{M}')},$$

where obs = (CAT, PGA) represents the data (earthquake catalog and accelerometric records)

- Two possible uses of the updated weights:
 - selection: by maximizing $\pi(\mathcal{M}|\textit{obs})$
 - agregation: by averaging predictions within each model \mathcal{M} , weighted by $\pi(\mathcal{M}|obs)$ (Bayesian model averaging, ou BMA)

Bayesian updating of model weights (2/2)





Boils down to compute likelihood m(obs|M), with obs = (Cat, PGA);
Can be factored into:

$$\begin{split} m(obs|\mathcal{M}) &= \mathcal{L}(PGA|CAT, GMPE) \times \int \mathcal{L}(CAT|\lambda, \beta, SM) \pi(\lambda, \beta) d\lambda d\beta \\ &= \mathcal{L}(PGA|CAT, GMPE) \\ &\times \prod_{i} \int \mathcal{L}(CAT_{i}|\lambda_{i}, \beta_{i}, SM) \pi(\lambda_{i}, \beta_{i}) d\lambda_{i} d\beta_{i}, \end{split}$$

with CAT_i the seismic catalog for zone *i* of *SM*, with recurrence parameters λ_i , β_i .

- GMPE model weights: see next talk!
- Remaining factors obtained by importance sampling (Keller et al. (2021)).

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The FCAT-17 seismic catalog

- Recent earthquakes: location, magnitude and depth estimated from instrumental measures
 - From 1900 to 1960: first European sismographs
 - Since 1960: first French accelerometric networks
- ancient earthquakes: location, magnitude and depth estimated from reported / measured damages



 $\bullet~Overall,\,\sim\,40~000$ earthquakes, from year 463 to 2 ~009

Objectives of this work

Improve existing approach for ancient earthquake estimation

Macroseismic intensity index: the MSK scale



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Modeling the macroseismic intensities

• In FCAT-17, the following intensity prediction equation (IPE) is used (following Baumont et al., 2018):

$$I_i = C_1 + C_2 M_w + \beta \log_{10}(R_i) + \gamma R_i,$$



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[MSK-MCS]

with

- *I_i* macroseismic intensity at location *i*;
- $R_i = \sqrt{r_i^2 + H^2}$ hypocentral distance, given r_i (epicentral distance) and H (depth);
- C₁, C₂ source terms, β geometric (elastic) and γ (anelastic) attenuation.
- Current IPE methodology accounts for epistemic uncertainties:
 - regionalized γ properties
 - metric for R_i to adjust to discrete intensities

\Rightarrow 6 regional IPEs used in FCAT-17

Epicentral distance [km]

Proposed improvements

- Avoid having to define a single hypocentral distance for all observations sharing the same discrete intensity by data augmention techniques;
- Use a data-driven clustering method to learn the regional dependance of the apparent attenuation (using a simplified IPE)
- Add prior information on interest parameters through a Bayesian approach

 \Rightarrow we have applied the above methodological contribution to the 3 main steps involved in historical seismicity:

- Olusterize the data;
- ② Calibrate IPE within each identified cluster;
- Invert IPE for a new event, selecting between calibrated IPEs based on model selection criterion

Sommaire

Industrial context

2 Calibration data

- 3 Hierarchical IPE model
- 4 Data-driven clustering

5 IPE calibration

6 IPE inversion

Calibration database (Baumont et al., 2018)



TOTAL : 41 events ; $M_w = [3.6 - 7.1]$; $I_0 = [III - VIII]$; H = [2 - 30] Km + associated macroseismic fields (I_i , D_i , Q_i values, over 13000 datapoints)

IPE modeling: beyond hypocentral metrics

- FCAT-17 model (Baumont et al., 2018) + added site effect $I_i = C_1 + C_2 M_w + \beta \log_{10}(R_i) + \gamma R_i + \eta_i$ $\eta_i \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$
- Observation I_i^{obs} modeled as a noisy censored version of I_i

$$I_{i}^{obs} = \delta k, \quad \text{s.t.} \quad I_{i} + \varepsilon_{i} \in [(k - 1/2)\delta, (k + 1/2)\delta[$$

$$\varepsilon_{i} \quad \stackrel{ind.}{\sim} \quad \mathcal{N}(0, 1/q_{i})$$
(1)

- Bayesian modeling: uniform priors chosen for all model parameters to enforce physically plausible bounds
- Goals: in the following, we want to determine
 - the posterior distribution of $\theta=(\mathit{C}_1,\mathit{C}_2,\beta,\gamma,\sigma)$ (calibration) given the 41 calibration events
 - the posterior distribution of $\eta = (Mw, H)$ (inversion) given a new event and a "well-chosen" θ value (here, the calibration posterior median)

• The Laplace approximation can be used exploiting the likelihood integrated over latent variables *I_i* :

$$\mathcal{L}(I_i^{obs}|d_i, q_i, \theta) = \Phi\left(\frac{I_i^{obs} - G(d_i; \theta) + \delta/2}{\sqrt{\sigma^2 + 1/q_i}}\right) - \Phi\left(\frac{I_i^{obs} - G(d_i; \theta) - \delta/2}{\sqrt{\sigma^2 + 1/q_i}}\right)$$

however, this leads to recurrent numerical instabilities

- Instead, we used MCMC algorithms to sample from the high-dimensional posterior distribution of $(\theta, (I_i)_{1 \le i \le n})$ (calibration) or $(\eta, (I_i)_{1 \le i \le n})$ (inversion)
- To select the right calibrated IPE to invert for a new event, we used the DIC criterion, which boils down in our case to compute the averaged posterior likelihood

- Metropolis within Gibbs used to benefit from partial conjugacy properties: in the calibration (resp. inversion) step, σ (resp. H) is the only variable whose conditional posterior distribution is not available in closed-form, and is sampled using random-walk Metropolis-Hastings;
- Python implementation based on a prototype for new MCMC classes in Open-TURNS https://openturns.github.io/;
- Currently, the random-walk proposal standard step must be set manually; in future versions it will adapt automatically.

Beyond regional dependence in IPEs

- Goal: group calibration earthquakes with similar apparent attenuation β_a
- Bayesian estimation of β_a (Laplace approx.) using MAP (Median A Posteriori) using simplified IPE:

$$I_i = C_1 - eta_a imes \mathsf{log}_{10}(R_i) + \eta_i$$



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3 clusters for β_a

- Gaussian Mixture Modeling (GMM) of joint features (β_a, ρ^2) with ρ^2 the linear correlation coefficient
- Principal component analysis to identify relevant clusters (β_a , ρ^2)
- Bayesian information criterion (BIC) used to find optimal number k of clusters ($\Rightarrow k = 3$)



Apparent attenuation for the 3 clusters

\Rightarrow strong - intermediate - weak apparent attenuation



IPE calibration for whole dataset

- Recall that: $I_i = C_1 + C_2 M_w + \beta \log_{10}(R_i) + \gamma R_i + \eta_i$
- Posterior scatterplots for $\theta = \{C_1; C_2; \beta; \gamma; \sigma\}$



• MAP (Median A Posteriori) values

Cluster	<i>C</i> ₁	<i>C</i> ₂	β	γ	σ	σ_{C_1}	σ_{C_2}	σ_{β}	σ_{γ}	σσ
whole dataset	3.90	0.81	-1.93	-0.0024	0.44	0.08	0.008	0.05	0.0003	0.007
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• posterior correlations between C_1 and C_2 , and between C_1 , β and γ

IPE calibration for the three clusters

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MAP (Median A Posteriori) values

Cluster	С1	<i>C</i> ₂	β	γ	σ	σ_{C_1}	σ_{C_2}	σ_{β}	σ_{γ}	σ_{σ}
high- <i>Qa</i>	10.97	0.06	-4.91	-0.0000193	2.10	1.50	0.09	1.10	0.0001	0.000112
medium- <i>Qa</i>	3.94	0.83	-2.03	-0.0027	0.31	0.08	0.0084	0.05	0.00032	0.0084
low- <i>Qa</i>	0.16	0.95	-0.27	-0.0062	0.52	0.21	0.048	0.20	0.0011	0.023

Parameter estimation difficult in clusters 1 & 3 due to reduced dataset

• posterior correlations between C_1 and C_2 , and between C_1 , β and γ

- Idea: compare (M_w, H) instrumental values to estimates obtained by IPE inversion
- \bullet Calibration parameters θ set to their posterior median
- use DIC criterion to allocate each event to a cluster

Cross-validation: whole dataset



- Significant prediction errors
- Prediction uncertainties are under-estimated

Cross-validation: clusters



- Clustering reduces prediction errors (especially for M values)
- Increased prediction uncertainties due to smaller datasets

To validate and better interpret the above results, we have conducted a simulation study wherein:

- *I^{obs}* synthetic values are simulated according to our hierarchical IPE model, setting calibration parameters to their MAP
- For each calibration event, the IPE is inverted having set calibration parameters to their "true" value (used to simulate the data)
- The results represent an <u>oracle</u>, that is, the ideal results we would obtain if macroseismic intensities where perfectly explained by the IPE model, and calibration parameters where known in advance

Cross-validation: whole dataset (simulations)



- Good prediction accuracy for M
- H remains difficult to predict

Cross-validation: clusters (simulations)



- Similar results to whole dataset simulations
- Locally large prediction uncertainties due to cluster selection

Inversion results for event 250038 (simulations)



- IPE model fits the data well, in spite of slight bias
- (M_w, H) well identified, but with large uncertainties

Inversion results for event 10001675 (simulations)



- IPE model fits the data well, in spite of slight bias
- multiple (Mw, H) explain the data equally well: identifiability issue

- mature statistical methodology to account for:
 - expert information, through Bayesian inference
 - discrete macroseismic intensities, avoiding the choice of hypocentral distance metrics
 - (apparent) attenuation properties for each calibration event
- \bullet Cross-validation results point to identifiability issues concerning H and M_w

- Need to reduce uncertainties / improve identifability
- several promising avenues:
 - merge clustering and calibration steps in a mixture modeling approach to better fit the data
 - variable selection to reduce model complexity and enhance identifiability
 - integrate calibration parameters uncertainty
- More detailed comparison to current methodology may provide complementary leads