Some contributions to the creation of a ground motion map for deep Vrancea Earthquakes

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Motivation: Why Vrancea?



European Seismicity: 1975-1997



Vrancea March 4. 1977 intensity distribution

- high seismic activity
- small seismogenic area

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- long historical record
- competent partners

The K2 - Network

The Network consists of 42 Kinemetrics K2 accelerograph Systems for strong and weak ground motion.

Standard configuration: six channels with 19 bits sample rate: 200 Hz per ch ch 1-3: 3-comp. Episensor 2g ch 4-6: 3-comp. velocity transducer GPS-time unit





Inventory of accelerogramms

The Vrancea Source Zone

JHD of the 1999 Calixto-Data and the K2- and Telemetry-Data of the time period 1997 – 2003











big events: e.g. 1986

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Site Effects



NE-SW record section of the April 28, 1999 Mw=5.3 Vrancea event

Apparent increase of amplitudes with distance is a result of site effects!

In order to quantify these effects, we use the Very Hard Rock-model of Vladimir Sokolov (1998).





We used **several hundred** records of the K2-network from more than 120 small magnitude (M = 3.5 - 5.5) earthquakes, which occurred at depths between 70 and 160 km in 1996 -2002, and a **few tens** records written by SMA-1 systems during four large (M 7.4, 7.2, 6.9 and 6.3) earthquakes.

Soil Site spectra

$$A(f) \sim S(f) \cdot D(R, f) \cdot I(f)$$

Very Hard Rock spectra

$\underline{I(f)=1} \qquad VHR(f) \sim S(f) \cdot D(R,f)$

The ground-motion **VHR** spectral model for the Vrancea earth-quakes was obtained in the form of a single-corner-frequency f²-spectrum (source scaling) and a 3-layers Q-model (attenuation).

VHR spectral ratio

A(f)/VHR(f)

Site Effects VHR-Model

Site Amplification

We considered site amplification as ratio between spectra of actual earthquake records (horizontal components) and those modeled for a hypothetical "very hard rock" (VHR) site. These are the so-called VHR Spectral Ratios.





Site Effects

The database for the seismological evaluation of site characteristics (Grecu et al., 2004): about 120 Calixto sites and about 40 K2 sites.



Site Effects



Average low-frequency soil-amplification



Average high-frequency soil-amplification



Results:

Ground motion is controlled by source and site effects.

Areas of strongest ground motion are up to 100km away from the epicenter.

Only small amplification in the Carpathians, in both frequency ranges.

Maximum amplification in the Foredeeps is up to 5/15 times greater compared to reference.

The Craiova area shows persistently high amplification.

High-frequency events will be amplified strongest in the eastern part of the Foredeeps.

Scaling relation for intermediate depth Vrancea earthquakes



Comparison of instrumentally and macroseismically determined intensities





PGA - map of the Vrancea earthquake of October 27, 2004 depth = 100 km, Mw = 5.9



Similarities with the 1977 Mw=7.4 event:

nearly same hypocenter, depth, faultplane solution;

same area of strongest ground shaking about 50-100km apart from the hypocenter.

However, the 2004 event was a `simple` event, whereas the 1977 event has been considered by various authors as a multiple event propagating pre-dominantly southwest wards.

Problem: source complexity versus variation of deep structure ?????

The Vrancea Source Zone Geometry



Oncescu and Trifu, 1987; Trifu et al., 1990; Oncescu and Bonjer, 1997;2005





The August 30, 1986 VRANCEA Event : Source- and Site-Effects



Does the VHR ratio properly reflect the site response during strong earthquakes, when it is evaluated from records of small earthquakes?

Where ever possible, we compared the site amplification characteristics obtained from both, small and large earthquakes



<u>Rock stations</u>: mean amplitude amplification (black lines - small events; red lines - large events) **PGA - map of the Vrancea earthquake** of October 27, 2004 depth = 100 km, Mw = 5.9

