The Use of Spectral Content to Improve Earthquake Early Warning Systems in Central Asia: Case Study of Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan

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Approaches

There are two main approaches: **Regional** (or network-based) EEW systems and **Onsite** (or Single-station) EEW systems. Here we deal with **Regional**



from Satriano et al., SDEE, 2011

Single Station (or On Site) Approach

Event Location



Location not critical to a functional warning system, though it remains a relevant by-product.

Once at least 3 stations record predefined ground acceleration, a warning is issued.

Three predefined thresholds, corresponding to warning levels for the tartget.



When is the issued warning accurate?

We use a representative database of scenarios events, each event assigned a class based on PGA at target: class 0: no warning, and specific warnings for classes I, II, III



How do we quantify the quality of a network? Define a cost function:

- Cost of a single event tends to 0 if correct class predicted with a large lead time
- Cost is 1 if event class wrongly predicted, also tends to 1 with decreasing warning time
- Cost of the network is the weighed average of individual event costs



Finding a network with a low cost using genetic algorithm

• Generate 15 random networks, each consisting of station locations and the three ground acceleration detection thresholds

Evaluate the cost of each available network

• Exchange information between the networks with the lowest costs to produce the next generation of networks

• Repeat until satisfactory convergence

• Randomness present in the algorithm, so needs to be run repeatedly, producing different results each time

• The result is not just "the" best network, but a number of efficient networks with similar cost values.

• Further criteria (e.g. accessability to a potential site, use of existing sites) can be incorporated both during the search, or afterwards.





How to incorporate spectral information

• First few seconds of the P-wave signal contain a lot more information than just ground acceleration.

• Compute the spectrum and compare it to a precomputed library of spectra associated with a given recording station.

• General lack of strong motion data in the region: resort to stochastic simulations to create the library from a source dataset.

• So now we need two datasets independent of each other, yet both representative of local seismicity.



- o 150 scenario earthquakes
- x 100 source locations, each with 204 parameters

Simulations: EXSIM

- All events simulated at 256 prospective station locations and 19 sites in Bishkek
- 100 samples per second
- P and S waves computed separately, and added with the right time shift
- Anelastic attenuation, Q = 570 when f < 1.4 Hz, for higher f scaled with $f^{0.7}$
- Qp / Qs = 9 / 4
- Parameters checked against the few real recordings we do have (Trial and error)



Mw 5.1, 90 km from Bishkek 23 November 2013

Intensity

Using spectra: use Intensity instead of PGA to quantify the class of each scenario

19 sites in Bishkek for site effects.

For all scenarios: Calculate Intensity at all sites. If IV not reached at ANY site, scenario given class 0, i.e. warning not needed. Classes I, II, III separated by intensity values of IV, VI and VII.



Ullah et al, BEE, 2013

- These systems can start working with just one trigger: 5 sec after detection compute spectrum, find closest match in the station's library, and look up associated Intensity.
- As more stations trigger, find closest average match. For earlier stations use longer time window if available. Update warning if necessary.
- Network's cost again a function of accuracy and warning time it can provide for the scenarios.
- Use GAs as before to find efficient networks.













So which system is better?

system used	cost	% correct warming	mean lead time [s]
acceleration	0.482	84	13.4
spectral, 1 station	0.452	73	28.1
spectral, 2 stations	0.405	75	20.2
spectral, 3 stations	0.404	80	18.4
spectral, 4 stations	0.388	84	16.0
spectral, 5 stations	0.448	83	14.0

Most common stations in the 1000 networks with lowest cost



Main advantages:

- Smaller blind zone
- No critical stations locations

Most common stations in the 1000 networks with lowest cost



Conclusions

- New EEW technique which uses the waveform of the first few seconds of detected signal.
- Feasibility of these systems is demonstrated for Central Asia, where they are a component in a complex rapid response system (Talk by Pittore tomorrow).
- These spectral systems represents an improvement on systems only using ground motion thresholds, as larger warning times can be provided.
- Warnings can also be issued in an evolutionary way, starting with just a single trigger.
- Method for designing efficient system remains open for input from local civil authorities.

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