

Comparative Evaluation of Seismic Parameters for Near-Fault and Far- Fault Earthquakes

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SUMMARY:

The study of earthquake ground motion is a key issue in the field of earthquake resistance. Near-fault ground motions are more severe than other ground motions recorded during the same event and under similar conditions because proximity to the seismic source does not allow considerable attenuation of ground motion. Near-fault ground motion is characterized by its long-period velocity or displacement pulse-like time histories. Pulse-like records are much different from ordinary records as they are typically very intense and have been observed to cause severe damage to structures in past earthquakes. So this paper compares the characteristics of seismic parameters of earthquake ground motion records obtained in near-fault records with far-field records.

Keywords: Near-fault and Far-fault records; seismic parameters; pulse-like records

1. INTRODUCTION

Far-fault ground motions have been observed as differing dramatically from their near-fault counterparts recorded within a few kilometers of the fault rupture plane. Near-fault ground motions often exhibit distinguishable pulse-like features in their velocity time histories, occasionally also observed in acceleration time histories. The main causes for the velocity pulses are the rupture forward directivity and fling-step effect (Somerville. 1997, Abrahamson. 2000). The forward rupture directivity, which occurs when the fault rupture propagates toward a site at a velocity close to the shear wave velocity and the direction of slip on the fault is aligned with the site, causes most of the seismic energy from the fault rupture to arrive in a single large long-period pulse near the beginning of ground shaking representing the cumulative effect of almost all the seismic radiation from the moving dislocation on the fault and generate long-period, short duration, and large-amplitude pulses (Somerville. 2000). In addition, fling-step effect, which is associated with the permanent tectonic offset of the ground, can also result in one-sided velocity pulse in the fault-normal direction for dip-slip faults or in the fault-parallel direction for strike-slip faults (Abrahamson. 2000). On the other hand, the pulse contents in acceleration time histories (e.g. local acceleration pulses that override the long period velocity pulses) have also been found important for structural responses (Tang. 2011). These near-fault effects were first noticed in the 1971 San Fernando, California, earthquake and serious concern was raised following the 1994 Northridge, California, and 1995 Hyogo-ken Nanbu (Kobe), Japan, earthquakes (Cox. 2002).

This study, compares seismic parameters for near-fault and far-fault earthquakes. Seismic parameters that consider in this study are acceleration and velocity response spectrum, peak ground acceleration (PGA), peak ground velocity (PGV), Arias intensity (AI), cumulative absolute velocity (CAV), root mean square of acceleration (a_{rms}), damage potential parameter (I) and duration.

2. STRONG MOTION DATABASE

44 Strong motion records used in this study that provided from PEER internet site. The Source-to-site distance is defined in term of $R_{rupture}$, where $R_{rupture}$ is the shortest distance between the recording site

and the rupture plane of earthquake. Near fault earthquakes select in $R_{rup} \leq 15$ km, and far fault earthquakes select in $R_{rup} \geq 40$ km. All of the records that used in this study have a moment magnitude more than 6 ($M_w \geq 6$). Records that used in this study classified based on soil type III ($175 \leq V_s \leq 375$) according to the ground categories defined by the Iranian Earthquake Code of practice, (Standard No. 2800. 2005)

The characteristics and seismic parameters of near-fault and far-fault earthquakes are summarize in table 1 and 2, respectively.

Table 1. Near-fault records

| Event | Station | M_w | Distance km | Component | PGA g | PGV cm/s | I_a m/s | CAV Cm/s | a_{rms} g | I cm.s ^{0.75} | Duration sec |
|-----------------|-----------|-------|-------------|-----------|-------|----------|-----------|----------|-------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| Imperial Valley | Meloland | 6.53 | 0.070 | 000 | 0.314 | 71.76 | 0.858 | 667.20 | 0.037 | 121.5 | 8.22 |
| | | | | 270 | 0.296 | 90.45 | 1.080 | 758.50 | 0.042 | 145.7 | 6.74 |
| Imperial Valley | Array #6 | 6.53 | 1.350 | 140 | 0.410 | 64.85 | 1.480 | 966.00 | 0.05 | 119.3 | 11.45 |
| | | | | 230 | 0.440 | 109.8 | 1.750 | 1023.8 | 0.054 | 187.4 | 8.49 |
| Imperial Valley | Array #7 | 6.53 | 0.560 | 140 | 0.340 | 47.62 | 0.860 | 639.40 | 0.039 | 76.9 | 6.82 |
| | | | | 230 | 0.460 | 109.2 | 1.700 | 795.10 | 0.055 | 161.5 | 4.79 |
| Erzincan | Erzincan | 6.69 | 4.380 | EW | 0.500 | 64.30 | 1.800 | 867.50 | 0.075 | 105.8 | 7.34 |
| | | | | NS | 0.515 | 83.95 | 1.510 | 771.00 | 0.068 | 138.7 | 7.46 |
| Kobe | KJMA | 6.9 | 0.960 | 000 | 0.820 | 81.30 | 8.400 | 2091.3 | 0.106 | 138.2 | 8.36 |
| | | | | 090 | 0.600 | 74.35 | 5.430 | 1783.5 | 0.086 | 130.6 | 9.52 |
| Kocaeli | Duzce | 7.51 | 15.37 | 180 | 0.312 | 58.80 | 1.080 | 849.00 | 0.051 | 109 | 11.8 |
| | | | | 270 | 0.356 | 46.40 | 1.330 | 793.20 | 0.056 | 83.6 | 10.56 |
| Koccaeli | Yarimca | 7.51 | 4.830 | 060 | 0.270 | 65.70 | 1.330 | 1047.1 | 0.05 | 129.9 | 15.3 |
| | | | | 330 | 0.350 | 62.20 | 1.320 | 991.30 | 0.05 | 123.6 | 15.6 |
| N. Palm Springs | N.Palm | 6.06 | 4.040 | 210 | 0.590 | 73.20 | 2.000 | 819.70 | 0.081 | 107.1 | 4.58 |
| | | | | 300 | 0.690 | 33.75 | 1.570 | 700.50 | 0.07 | 50.84 | 5.15 |
| Northridge | New Hall | 6.69 | 5.920 | 090 | 0.583 | 74.90 | 4.360 | 1456.0 | 0.084 | 116.6 | 5.88 |
| | | | | 360 | 0.590 | 96.94 | 5.670 | 1617.2 | 0.096 | 148.6 | 5.52 |
| Northridge | Rinaldi | 6.69 | 6.500 | 228 | 0.825 | 160.1 | 7.500 | 1799.2 | 0.156 | 262.7 | 7.25 |
| | | | | 318 | 0.486 | 74.50 | 4.230 | 1526.0 | 0.117 | 130 | 9.28 |
| Northridge | 74 Sylmar | 6.69 | 5.350 | 052 | 0.610 | 117.4 | 5.830 | 2039.1 | 0.097 | 231.4 | 15.1 |
| | | | | 142 | 0.897 | 102.2 | 5.280 | 1628.8 | 0.093 | 169 | 7.47 |
| Northridge | 75 Sylmar | 6.69 | 5.190 | 018 | 0.828 | 117.5 | 4.490 | 1465.5 | 0.085 | 190.4 | 6.9 |
| | | | | 288 | 0.493 | 74.60 | 2.900 | 1257.2 | 0.068 | 123.5 | 7.52 |
| Chi-Chi | CHY 101 | 7.62 | 9.96 | N | 0.440 | 115.0 | 3.000 | 2119.0 | 0.0465 | 260.9 | 26.5 |
| | | | | E | 0.350 | 70.60 | 2.320 | 1962.1 | 0.0409 | 165.8 | 30.4 |
| Chi-Chi | 17 WGK | 7.62 | 9.96 | N | 0.484 | 74.50 | 3.000 | 1918.5 | 0.0572 | 166.9 | 25.2 |
| | | | | E | 0.334 | 69.00 | 2.270 | 1849.7 | 0.05 | 159.1 | 28.3 |

Table 2. Far-fault records

| Event | Station | M_w | Distance km | Component | PGA g | PGV cm/s | I_a m/s | CAV Cm/s | a_{rms} g | I cm.s ^{0.75} | Duration sec |
|-----------------|-------------|-------|-------------|-----------|-------|----------|-----------|----------|-------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| Borrego Mtn | Elcentro #9 | 6.63 | 45.66 | 180 | 0.130 | 26.30 | 0.210 | 478.60 | 0.0185 | 59.2 | 25.6 |
| | | | | 270 | 0.057 | 13.20 | 0.123 | 403.30 | 0.0141 | 30.5 | 28.6 |
| Imperial Valley | Coachela #4 | 6.53 | 50.10 | 045 | 0.115 | 12.50 | 0.116 | 264.40 | 0.0162 | 22.8 | 11.11 |
| | | | | 135 | 0.128 | 15.60 | 0.200 | 337.50 | 0.0214 | 27.7 | 9.95 |
| Victoria | Casa Flores | 6.33 | 39.30 | 010 | 0.101 | 7.800 | 0.122 | 258.00 | 0.022 | 14.1 | 10.64 |
| | | | | 280 | 0.068 | 9.000 | 0.080 | 203.10 | 0.0182 | 16.4 | 11.03 |
| Morgan Hill | Los Banos | 6.19 | 63.16 | 090 | 0.050 | 5.800 | 1.750 | 169.20 | 0.0085 | 11.5 | 15.7 |
| | | | | 180 | 0.057 | 8.200 | 1.900 | 180.10 | 0.0088 | 16.9 | 18.1 |
| Morgan Hill | SF Airport | 6.19 | 70.93 | 050 | 0.048 | 3.200 | 0.400 | 145.60 | 0.009 | 6.2 | 14.6 |
| | | | | 320 | 0.048 | 2.700 | 0.500 | 155.20 | 0.0095 | 5.2 | 14.1 |
| Chalfant Valley | Tinemaha | 6.19 | 51.98 | 000 | 0.037 | 3.600 | 1.110 | 149.50 | 0.006 | 7.4 | 17.7 |
| | | | | 090 | 0.037 | 6.300 | 1.200 | 155.60 | 0.0067 | 12.4 | 15.05 |
| Kobe | HIK | 6.90 | 95.72 | 000 | 0.141 | 15.60 | 3.100 | 636.40 | 0.017 | 31.7 | 17 |
| | | | | 090 | 0.147 | 15.40 | 2.000 | 605.00 | 0.018 | 28.1 | 11.1 |
| Chi-chi | TCU 113 | 6.20 | 46.66 | N | 0.030 | 5.110 | 1.190 | 214.50 | 0.0057 | 11.8 | 28.15 |
| | | | | E | 0.023 | 2.600 | 0.810 | 170.20 | 0.0042 | 6.4 | 37.15 |
| Chi-Chi | TTN 008 | 6.20 | 87.09 | N | 0.012 | 2.130 | 0.530 | 68.100 | 0.0024 | 4.6 | 22.8 |

| Event | Station | M _w | Distance km | Component | PGA g | PGV cm/s | I _a m/s | CAV Cm/s | a _{rms} g | I cm.s ^{0.75} | Duration sec |
|-----------------|--------------|----------------|-------------|-----------|-------|----------|--------------------|----------|--------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| | | | | E | 0.015 | 2.700 | 0.710 | 87.700 | 0.0031 | 5.5 | 17.5 |
| Landers | Amboy | 7.28 | 69.21 | 000 | 0.115 | 18.30 | 0.565 | 931.40 | 0.0271 | 42.7 | 29.8 |
| | | | | 090 | 0.146 | 20.00 | 0.755 | 1064.6 | 0.0313 | 44.8 | 25.2 |
| Landers | Riverside | 7.28 | 96.00 | 180 | 0.042 | 3.000 | 0.066 | 325.20 | 0.0093 | 6.9 | 27.8 |
| | | | | 270 | 0.041 | 3.100 | 0.062 | 305.00 | 0.009 | 7 | 26.5 |
| Gulf of Aqaba | Eilat | 7.20 | 44.10 | NS | 0.086 | 10.60 | 0.186 | 489.70 | 0.014 | 23.2 | 23 |
| | | | | EW | 0.097 | 14.00 | 0.225 | 531.90 | 0.0156 | 30 | 21.2 |
| Kocaeli | Atakoy | 7.51 | 58.28 | 000 | 0.105 | 22.40 | 0.236 | 683.00 | 0.0107 | 54.8 | 35.9 |
| | | | | 090 | 0.164 | 16.10 | 0.281 | 701.30 | 0.0117 | 38.2 | 31.8 |
| Duzce | Yarimca | 7.14 | 97.53 | 060 | 0.022 | 7.900 | 0.017 | 191.50 | 0.0039 | 19.5 | 36.9 |
| | | | | 330 | 0.016 | 4.400 | 0.013 | 167.50 | 0.0034 | 11.2 | 42.6 |
| Manjil | Qazvin | 7.37 | 49.97 | 066 | 0.184 | 15.50 | 0.450 | 710.00 | 0.022 | 32.1 | 18.4 |
| | | | | 336 | 0.130 | 11.00 | 0.417 | 777.50 | 0.0212 | 24.8 | 25.7 |
| Hector Mine | Coachella | 7.13 | 73.55 | 090 | 0.095 | 12.30 | 0.135 | 451.70 | 0.0121 | 29 | 30.8 |
| | | | | 360 | 0.086 | 13.67 | 0.154 | 467.40 | 0.0129 | 30.2 | 23.8 |
| San Fernando | Via Tejon | 6.61 | 55.20 | 065 | 0.026 | 3.800 | 0.025 | 230.30 | 0.005 | 10 | 47.8 |
| | | | | 155 | 0.041 | 4.200 | 0.032 | 257.30 | 0.0054 | 11.3 | 52.4 |
| San Fernando | CalEdison | 6.61 | 96.81 | 090 | 0.032 | 1.770 | 0.011 | 63.500 | 0.0088 | 2.9 | 7.03 |
| | | | | 180 | 0.038 | 2.210 | 0.024 | 89.050 | 0.013 | 3.6 | 7.23 |
| Coalinga | Cholame 1E | 6.36 | 43.68 | 000 | 0.090 | 10.80 | 0.158 | 414.70 | 0.016 | 24.3 | 25.5 |
| | | | | 090 | 0.089 | 15.20 | 0.230 | 488.50 | 0.02 | 32 | 19.7 |
| Coalinga | Cholame8W | 6.36 | 51.75 | 000 | 0.100 | 8.500 | 0.170 | 383.90 | 0.019 | 16.7 | 15 |
| | | | | 270 | 0.100 | 8.000 | 0.176 | 372.10 | 0.019 | 15 | 12.5 |
| N. Palm Springs | Anza Fire St | 6.1 | 42.36 | 225 | 0.100 | 5.820 | 0.044 | 104.90 | 0.016 | 9.1 | 5.87 |
| | | | | 315 | 0.067 | 4.000 | 0.021 | 77.800 | 0.011 | 6.4 | 6.77 |
| Loma Prieta | Hayward | 6.93 | 52.68 | 000 | 0.170 | 13.70 | 0.420 | 617.00 | 0.026 | 25.9 | 12.75 |
| | | | | 090 | 0.138 | 11.50 | 0.290 | 509.20 | 0.022 | 21.8 | 13 |
| Loma Prieta | Emeryville | 6.93 | 76.97 | 260 | 0.260 | 41.10 | 0.910 | 758.60 | 0.039 | 71 | 8.92 |
| | | | | 350 | 0.210 | 21.50 | 0.520 | 682.70 | 0.03 | 42.3 | 15.05 |
| Northridge | Anaheim | 6.69 | 68.62 | 000 | 0.072 | 5.200 | 0.118 | 346.70 | 0.015 | 10.8 | 18.4 |
| | | | | 090 | 0.066 | 5.140 | 0.112 | 324.80 | 0.014 | 10.8 | 19.7 |
| Northridge | Arcadia | 6.69 | 41.41 | 009 | 0.090 | 4.700 | 0.127 | 334.00 | 0.0154 | 9.6 | 17.5 |
| | | | | 279 | 0.110 | 8.100 | 0.170 | 378.40 | 0.018 | 16.1 | 15.66 |
| Tabas | Ferdows | 7.35 | 91.14 | L | 0.087 | 5.600 | 0.190 | 473.50 | 0.0175 | 12.1 | 21.8 |
| | | | | T | 0.107 | 8.500 | 0.215 | 520.60 | 0.0187 | 18.8 | 24.2 |
| Cape Mendocino | Eureka | 7.01 | 41.97 | 000 | 0.154 | 20.10 | 0.300 | 556.60 | 0.0211 | 42.9 | 20.8 |
| | | | | 090 | 0.178 | 28.20 | 0.330 | 579.10 | 0.0221 | 59.5 | 19.8 |
| Chi-Chi | CHY 063 | 7.6 | 72.23 | N | 0.068 | 9.400 | 0.161 | 613.70 | 0.0108 | 24.1 | 43.4 |
| | | | | E | 0.060 | 7.900 | 0.119 | 507.80 | 0.0093 | 19.9 | 40.4 |
| Chi-Chi | KAU 063 | 7.62 | 92.38 | N | 0.041 | 10.45 | 0.101 | 495.60 | 0.0085 | 27.4 | 47.1 |
| | | | | E | 0.039 | 12.50 | 0.123 | 542.50 | 0.0094 | 32.5 | 45.5 |
| St. Elias | Yakutat | 7.54 | 80.00 | 009 | 0.083 | 25.40 | 0.317 | 910.00 | 0.0157 | 65.3 | 43.7 |
| | | | | 279 | 0.065 | 42.50 | 0.290 | 868.50 | 0.0151 | 110.1 | 45 |

3. STUDY OF SEISMIC PARAMETERS

3.1. Ground Motion Parameters

In order to compare the effect of near-fault and far-fault earthquakes, seismic parameters are investigated. Seismic parameters that considered in this study are peak ground acceleration (PGA), peak ground velocity (PGV), Arias intensity (AI), cumulative absolute velocity (CAV), root mean square of acceleration (a_{rms}), damage potential parameter (I) and duration.

Peak ground acceleration (PGA) is a measure of earthquake acceleration on the ground and an important input parameter for earthquake engineering. The peak horizontal acceleration (PHA) is the most commonly used type of ground acceleration in engineering applications, and is used to set building codes and design hazard risks. In an earthquake, damage to buildings and infrastructure is related more closely to ground motion, rather than the magnitude of the earthquake. For moderate

earthquakes, PGA is the best determinate of damage; in severe earthquakes, damage is more often correlated with peak ground velocity. PGV has been found to be particularly useful as an indicator of the potential for the ground motion to cause damage in structures of intermediate response period, which is reflected in the damage parameter proposed by Fajfar *et al.* (1990), which is the product of PGV and the fourth-root of the strong-motion duration. More recently Akkar and Ozen (2005) explored the influence of various ground-motion parameters on the inelastic demand on single-degree-of-freedom (SDOF) oscillators, finding a good correlation between PGV and the inelastic demand in the intermediate period range.

Another seismic parameters that considered in this study are Arias intensity (I_a) and cumulative absolute velocity (CAV). The Arias intensity (Arias, 1970) is given by the equation (1.1) :

$$I_a = \frac{\pi}{2g} \int_0^{T_d} (a(t)^2) dt \quad (1.1)$$

Where g is the acceleration due to gravity, $a(t)$ is the recorded acceleration time history, T_d is the duration of ground motion. The Arias intensity is a measure of earthquake intensity given by the integration of squared accelerations over time and it is related to energy content of the recorded signal.

Cumulative absolute velocity (CAV), is defined as the integral of the absolute value of the acceleration time series, is presented mathematically by the equation (2.1) (EPRI, 1988):

$$CAV = \int_0^{t_{\max}} |a(t)| dt \quad (2.1)$$

Where $|a(t)|$ is the absolute value of the acceleration time series at the time t and t_{\max} is total duration of the time series. CAV was initially developed and proposed as an index to indicate the one set of structural damage to engineered structures.

CAV includes the cumulative effects of ground motion duration. This is a key advantage of CAV over peak response parameters and is one of the reasons that EPRI found it to be the instrumental intensity measure that best correlated with the one set of structural damage. However, it should be noted that CAV does not account for the timing of the arrival of different phases of energy such as large velocity pulse.

The root mean square acceleration (a_{rms}), defined as

$$a_{rms} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{t_D} \int_{t_D} a_g^2(t) dt} \quad (3.1)$$

Where $a_g(t)$, is the ground acceleration and t_D is the duration of strong motion according to Trifunac and Brady (1975). This index accounts for the effects of amplitude and frequency content of a strong-motion record and is directly proportional to the square root of the gradient of the specified interval of Arias Intensity.

The damage potential parameter proposed by Fajfar *et al.* (1990), defined as

$$I = PGV \cdot T_D^{0.25} \quad (4.1)$$

The expression is proposed as an instrumental measure of earthquake ground motion capacity to damage structures with fundamental periods in the medium-period (velocity-controlled) region. Only two of the basic ground motion parameters which can be routinely predicted in the design procedure

(peak ground velocity and the duration of strong shaking) are included in the formula. Expressions for determining the bounds of the medium-period region are also proposed as a function of the basic ground motion parameters.

Also, strong motion duration defined as the significant duration of the strong ground motion the time interval between the 5% and the 95% of the Arias intensity that presented by Trifunac and Brady (1975). When the duration of ground motion increases, the input energy to structure increases, too (Ghodrati Amiri *et al*, (2007)).

Seismic parameter values for near-fault and far-fault records indicated in figures 1 to7. As indicated in figures 1 to 6, the values of PGA, PGV, I_a , CAV, RMS_a and I for the near-fault records are more than far-fault records. The average value of PGA for near-fault records is 0.505g but far-fault records have PGA about 0.087g. Mean value of PGV for near-fault records is 81.72 (cm/s) whereas far-fault records have the mean value of PGV about 11.25 (cm/s). Also these mean values for I_a , CAV and I for near-fault records are 3 (m/s), 1293 (cm/s) and 144.8 ($cm \cdot s^{-0.75}$), and for far-fault records, mean values are 0.18 (m/s), 419 (cm/s) and 24.4 ($cm \cdot s^{-0.75}$), respectively. As discuss before, the values of PGV, I_a , CAV

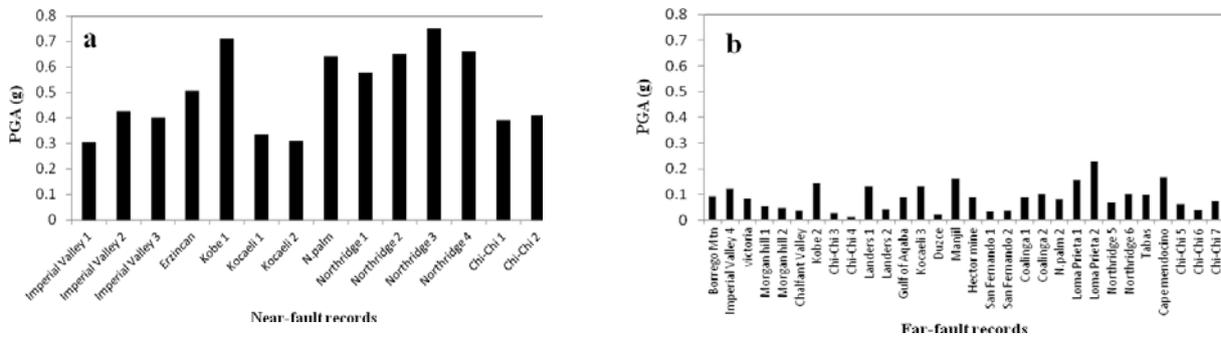


Figure 1. comparison of PGA for near-fault records (a) and far-fault records (b)

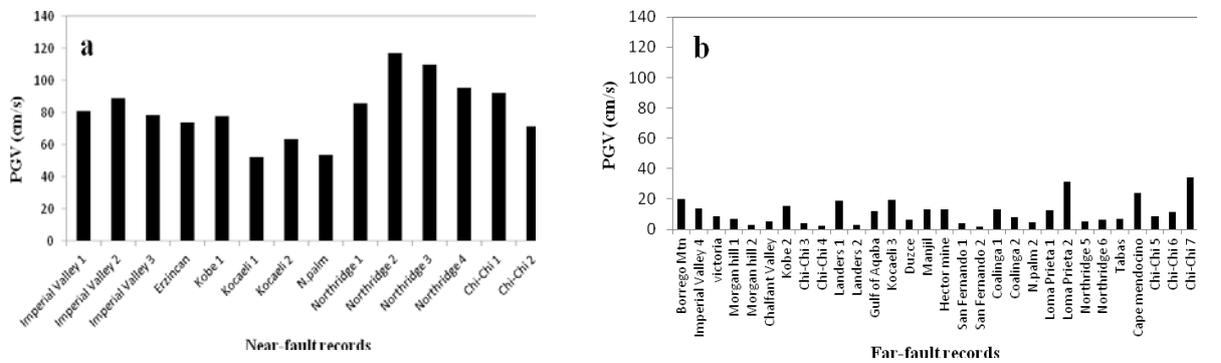


Figure2. Comparison of PGV for near-fault records (a) and far-fault records (b)

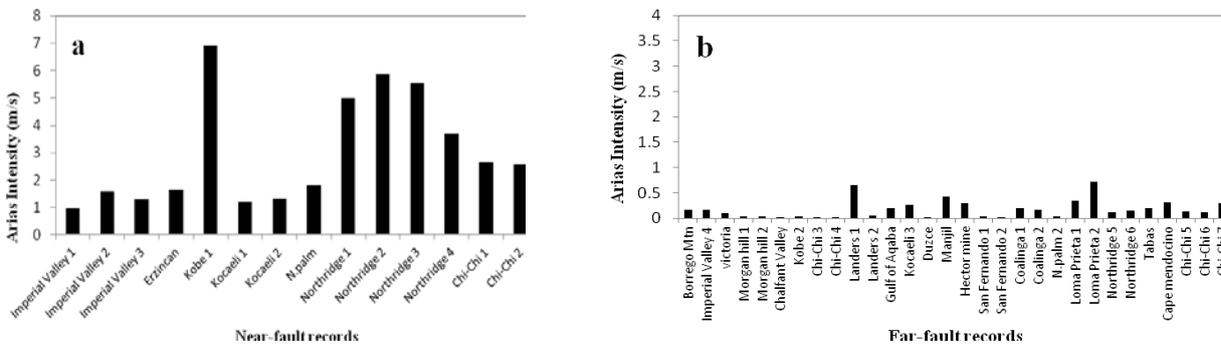


Figure3. Comparison of Arias Intensity for near-fault records (a) and far-fault records (b)

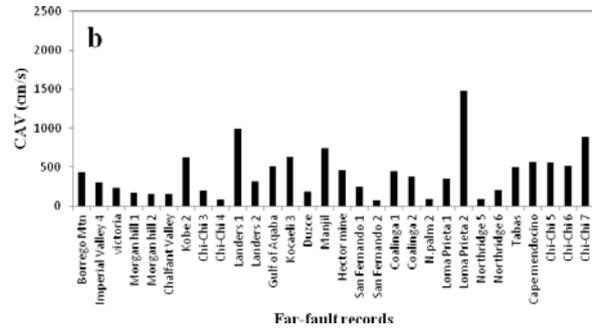
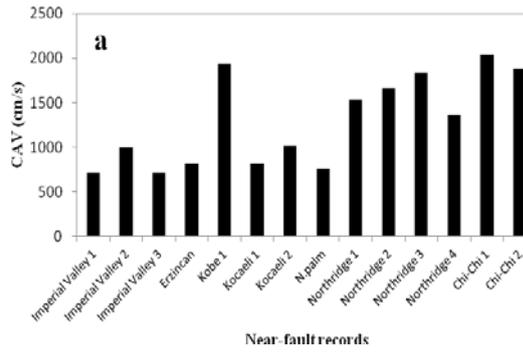


Figure 4. Comparison of CAV for near-fault records (a) and far-fault records (b)

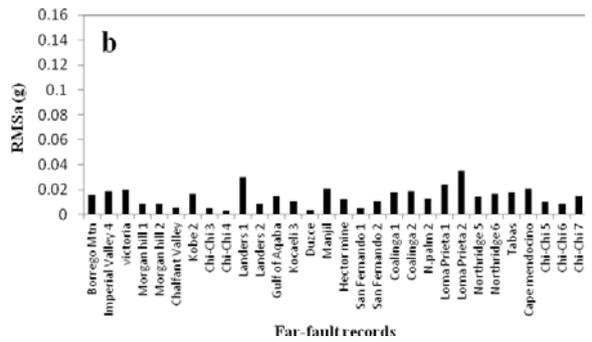
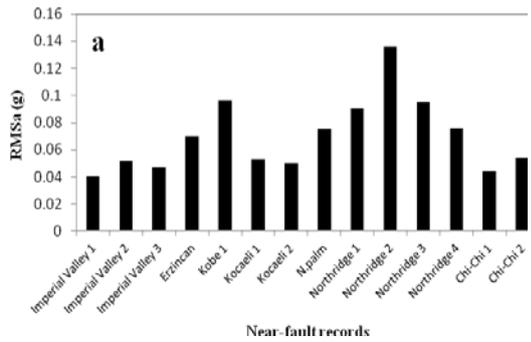


Figure 5. Comparison of RMS_a for near-fault records (a) and far-fault records (b)

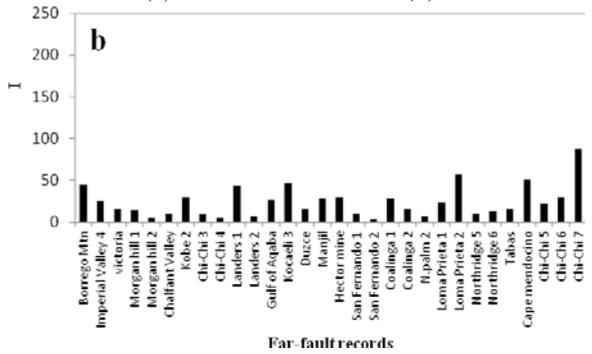
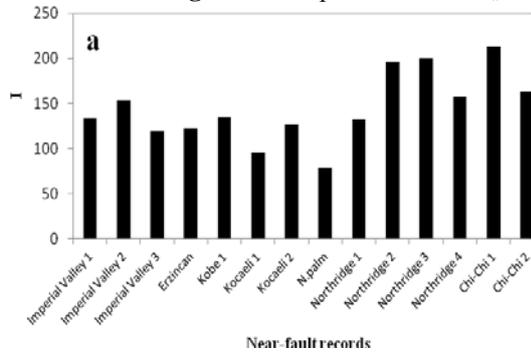


Figure 6. Comparison of I for near-fault records (a) and far-fault records (b)

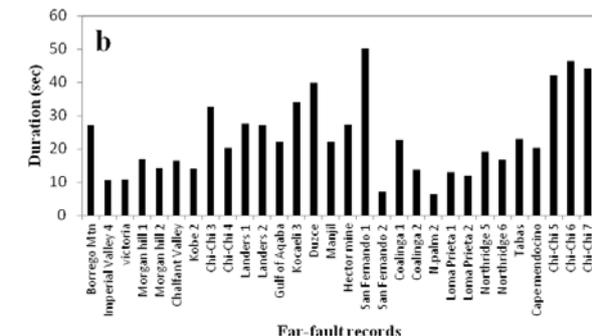
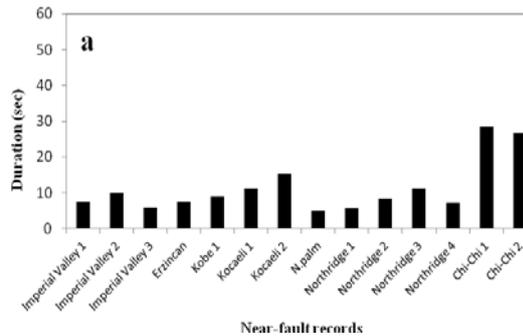


Figure 7. Comparison of duration for near-fault records (a) and far-fault records (b)

and I indicates the measures of energy and damage potential. Thus, near-fault ground motions are more severe than the ground motions recorded far from the ruptured in the same event, without accounting for directivity effects. As indicated in figure 5, mean value of a_{rms} is 0.07g for near-fault records but for far-fault records this value is 0.014g. Figure 7, illustrated the strong motion duration of near-field and far-field records. According to definition of strong motion duration that based on energy, near-field records have a lower duration than far-field. Earthquakes in near-field region transmit a large high-energy pulse and have a short duration. The duration mean values are 11.3 sec and 23.3 sec for near-fault and far-fault records, respectively.

3.2. Response Spectrum

The important of the response spectrum approach in the seismic design of structures and equipments is well known to earthquake design engineers. The response spectrum was first introduced by Biot (1933) and latter conveyed to engineering application by Housner (1959) and Newmark *et al.* (1973), the ground motion response spectrum has often been utilized for purpose of recognizing the significant characteristics of accelerograms and evaluating the response of structures to earthquake ground shaking. Due to inherent theoretical simplicity and ease in its computations, the response spectrum has long become the standard tool of structural design and performance assessment.

If one generates sets of response spectra for ground motions recorded at different locations during past earthquakes, large variation would be observed in both the response spectral values and the shape of the spectrum curves from one set to another. These variations depend upon many factors such as energy release mechanism in the vicinity of the focus or hypocentre and along fault interfaces, epicentral distance and focal depth, geology and variations in geology along energy transmission paths, Richter magnitude and local soil conditions at the recording station. Thus the response spectral values S (S_a , S_v and S_d) for earthquake ground motion should be thought of in the form (Clough & Pension, 1993)

$$S = S(SM, ED, FD, GC, M, SC, \zeta, T) \quad (5.1)$$

where the independent variables denote source mechanism, epicentral distance, focal depth, geological conditions, Richter magnitude, soil conditions, damping ratio and period, respectively. The effects of SM and GC on both spectral values and shapes of the response spectra are not well understood; therefore, such effects cannot be quantified when defining response for design purpose. The effects of ED , FD and M are usually taken into consideration while specifying the intensity levels of the design response spectra; however, they are often ignored during specification of the shape of these spectra because of lack of knowledge regarding their influences. On the other hand, the effects of SC on both the intensities and shapes of the response spectra are now considered widely for defining design response spectra. The response spectrum introduced by Biot (1933) and Housner (1959) describes the maximum response of a damped single degree of freedom oscillator at various frequencies or periods. Because the detailed characteristic of future earthquake are not known, the majority of earthquake design spectra are obtained by averaging a set of response spectra from records with common characteristic.

The influence of duration of strong motion on spectral shapes has been studied by Peng *et al.* (1989) who used a random vibration approach to estimate site-dependent probabilistic response spectra. The results show that a longer duration of strong motion increases the response in the low and intermediate frequency regions. This is consistent with the fact that accelerograms with long duration of strong motion have a greater probability of containing long period waves which can result in a higher response in the long-period (low-frequency) region of the spectrum. So, the far-fault records have high amplitude in intermediate and long periods, due to having a longer duration.

Figure 8, shows the average of response spectral acceleration for near-fault and far-fault records. As is illustrated, in intermediate and long periods, near-fault records have higher amplitude. Figure 9 shows

that, velocity response spectrum for near-fault records have higher amplitude in intermediate and long period range.

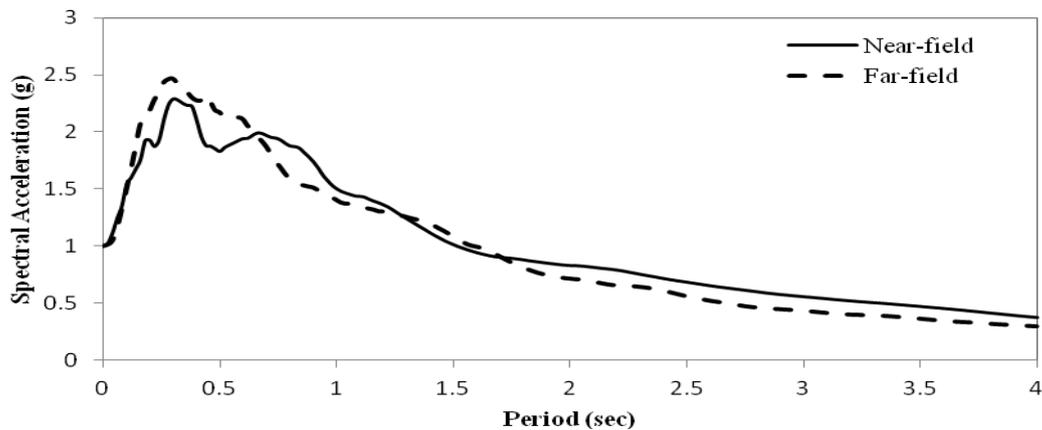


Figure8. Acceleration response spectra from near-fault and far-fault earthquakes

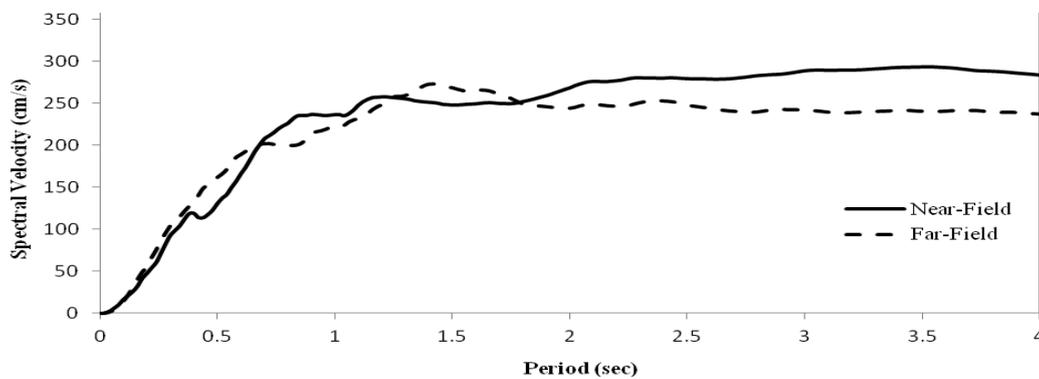


Figure9. Velocity response spectra from near-fault and far-fault earthquake

4. CONCLUSIONS

Near-fault records are characterized by a large high energy pulse and therefore have caused much damage in the vicinity of seismic source. As is indicated in figure 3, I_a that demonstrate the energy value of records, near-fault records is 17 times larger than the far-fault records. Also the damage potential of records, indicated by CAV and I, show that near-fault records are more destructive than far fault records.

Comparison of spectral values, show that in near-fault records, spectral acceleration and spectral velocity have higher amplitude in intermediate and long periods. As, the amplitude differences is clear in velocity response spectrum.

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