



## EMPIRICAL RESPONSE SPECTRAL ATTENUATIONS ON THE ROCKS WITH $V_S$ = 0.5 TO 3.0 KM/S IN JAPAN

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### SUMMARY

We evaluated an attenuation relation for response spectra of horizontal and vertical strong motions on rocks. The relation was based on waveforms observed at 12 observation stations in Japan with known underground structure from geophysical loggings etc.. For aseismic design, near-source regions are important, so we used an attenuation formula with an equivalent hypo-central distance. We evaluated the amplification factor of surface layers from the base rock as a function of S-wave or P-wave velocities. We tested the attenuation relation on strong-motion data recorded in California, Chile, Mexico, and Japan, and obtained good agreement, including data from near-source regions.

### INTRODUCTION

Previous reports <sup>1), 2)</sup> applied the attenuation relation of response spectra for hard stratum with an equivalent hypo-central distance, to include the influence of the spread of fault planes, to near-source regions. Near-source data are crucial to aseismic design. At the same time, by explaining the characteristics of seismic wave propagation from the base rock by earthquake observation data, collected by seismometers set in vertical array at observation stations with known underground structures, the attenuation relation is applicable to both horizontal and vertical motion. The amplification characteristics of such seismic waves in the surface layers depend on the underground structures at the observation stations; for instance, the horizontal motions depend on the velocity,  $V_s$ , of S waves, and vertical motions on the velocity,  $V_p$ , of P waves. Putting the above relation into a model, we propose a prediction method for the strong motion spectra on rock and compare it to earthquake data in Japan and the Americas. This equation, moreover, uses earthquake motion on base rock and in-ground amplification factor during its travel to the rock surface in a pair.

### DATA

We used the observation stations and epicenters of earthquakes shown in Figure 1; this totaled 107 records (simultaneous recording of two directions of horizontal components with vertical component) of 44 earthquakes. The magnitudes  $M$ , depths of hypocenters,  $H$ , and hypo-central distances,  $X$ , of the earthquakes were  $5.5 \leq M \leq 7.0$ ,  $0 \leq H \leq 60$  km and  $27 \leq X \leq 202$  km, respectively. Used were data either recorded at ground surfaces where  $0.5 \leq V_s \leq 2.7$  km/s ( $1.7 \leq V_p \leq 5.5$  km/s), or obtained by analytically removing the effects of the uppermost surface layers of the ground from underground observation data (or by stripping-off analysis) using the

underground structure <sup>3), 4)</sup>. Their maximum acceleration ranged from 1 to 210 gals and averaged about 20 gals. The stripping-off analysis was done with a soil structure model. The latter was made by optimizing the mean amplification characteristics of the ground at each observation station. The Kodamagawa observation station

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(KDG) had ground equivalent to seismic bedrock,  $V_s = 2.2$  km/s. Here we used a waveform obtained by modifying a higher-than-5-Hz spectrum into a semi-infinite ground equivalent, and included the influence of topography<sup>5), 6)</sup>. Analysis was limited to both horizontal and vertical motions coming after the arrival of the first S wave because frequently these cause ground motions crucial to aseismic design<sup>7)</sup>. Moreover, data from observation stations where seismometers were arrayed to the depth of seismic bedrock showed that even when the surface layers of the ground were generally controlled by S waves, their vertical motion was influenced to a greater extent by P waves converted from S waves near seismic bedrock<sup>7), 8)</sup>. The analysis of vertical motion in this study is from these results.

## ANALYSIS

### Attenuation method

We used the following equation, with known physical parameters, to estimate attenuation.

$$\log S_i(T) = a(T)M - \{b(T)X_{eq} + \log X_{eq}\} + c_i(T) \quad (1)$$

where  $S_i(T)$  is the acceleration response spectrum (damping constant 5%),  $i$  indicates observation station; and  $a(T)$ ,  $b(T)$ , and  $c_i(T)$  are regression coefficients, of which relations with the physical parameters were known<sup>9)</sup>, and  $X_{eq}$ <sup>10)</sup> is the equivalent hypo-central distance. The latter can represent the spread of fault planes, and was used to evaluate seismic motions near their source (see Equation (7)).

### Spectra on seismic bedrock

Figure 2 shows regression coefficients  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c_0$  in solid lines. They were determined with data at locations equivalent to seismic bedrock from horizontal motion in equation (1). Coefficients  $a$  and  $b$ , in broken lines, were from vertical motion data and the same equation. The two different sets of  $a$  and  $b$  agree with each other. This agreement suggests that vertical and horizontal components were caused by seismic S waves that changed after arriving at seismic bedrock. This is because  $a$  and  $b$  represent the spectrum characteristics of incident waves<sup>9)</sup> that are influenced only by the source and propagation. We found that the  $Q$  value of the propagation route, evaluated in terms of coefficient  $b$ , was about  $120f^{0.85}$  in the frequency range of 0.5 to 20 Hz, in agreement with other studies. As earlier papers<sup>1), 2)</sup> suggest, Midorikawa and Kobayashi's spectra of incident waves on seismic bedrock<sup>11)</sup> was a little larger than that from the ground layer equivalent to seismic bedrock, the latter determined by the horizontal motion regression formula.

### Amplification in the surface layer

When the amplification factor for horizontal motion was determined from the ratio of the horizontal spectrum at each observation station to the horizontal motion spectrum on the ground layer equivalent to seismic bedrock from data recorded at KDG, the logarithm of the amplification factor,  $d_i(T)$  was

$$d_i(T) = c_i(T) - c_0(T) \quad (2)$$

where  $c_0(T)$  is the regression coefficient for the data observed at the ground layer equivalent to seismic bedrock. A regression calculation by equation (1) was done by substituting coefficients  $a$  and  $b$  from horizontal motion for those from vertical motion since the former nearly equaled the latter. As a result, the logarithm of the amplification factor,  $d_{vi}(T)$ , the ratio of vertical motion at each observation station to the horizontal motion on the ground layer equivalent to seismic bedrock, is given by

$$d_{vi}(T) = c_{vi}(T) - c_0(T) \quad (3)$$

where  $c_{vi}(T)$  is the regression coefficient for vertical motion at each observation station, and  $c_0(T)$  is the regression coefficient for horizontal motion data on the ground layer equivalent to seismic bedrock. Because the influence of the incident angle on the ratio of the vertical to horizontal spectrum on the seismic bedrock is minor, it was ignored.

Equations (2) and (3) determine in-ground amplification factors for a range of horizontal and vertical motion periods for the spectrum on seismic bedrock, respectively. Figure 3 shows the relation between the in-ground amplification factors, and  $V_s$  at the observation station (black circles). White circles denote earthquake motions on the ground at the Tomioka observation station (TMK)<sup>12)</sup>. They were determined analytically by assuming the upper part of surface layer to be exposed at various depths in a vertical array of seismometers. The two sets of

circles agree well with each other and indicate that the dependency of the amplification factors on  $V_s$  increases with the period. This agrees with a previous study<sup>5)</sup>. The solid line in the figure is

$$10^{d(f)} \propto (1/V_s)^{\delta h(T)} \quad (4)$$

In a very short period range of 0.02 to 0.05 seconds,  $\delta h(T) = 0.0$ , which increase with the period; in the period range of 2.0 to 5.0 seconds,  $\delta h(T) = 0.83$ . Thus, the amplification factor was negligible at small periods, but gradually increased with the period to about 1.4 at a  $V_s$  of 1.5 km/s, and to about 2.6 at a  $V_s$  of 0.7 km/s at long periods. Similarly, the in-ground amplification of vertical motion depended on  $V_p$ , and was about 1.4 at a  $V_p$  of 3 km/s, and about 2.3 when  $V_p$  equaled 2 km/s.

## FOMULARIZATION

We calculated the mean response spectrum of earthquake motion from the above results. We will limit this to periods between 0.02 and 5 seconds, and on rocks within 200 km of the hypo-central distance. With these restrictions,  $V_s$  was between about 0.5 and 3 km/s for earthquakes of magnitude greater than 5.5 with hypo-central depth less than 60 km.

### The mean response spectrum of horizontal earthquake motion

The mean acceleration response spectrum of horizontal earthquake motion on the rock surface,  $Sh(T)$  ( $\text{cm/s}^2$ ), was calculated by Equation (5) with a 5% damping factor. The mean response spectrum on seismic bedrock,  $Sb(T)$ , was multiplied by the in-ground amplification correction term [ $\alpha h(T) \cdot \beta h(T)$ ]. The former depended on the velocity  $V_s$  (km/s) of S waves at the rock surface. The latter depended on the primary predominant period  $Ts1$ (s) of the surface layer, i.e., the region between the seismic bedrock and the rock surface. The  $\beta h(T)$  was put in the equation because the earthquake motion was independent of in-ground amplification at periods greater than the primary predominant period of the surface layer<sup>13)</sup>.

$$Sh(T) = Sb(T) \alpha h(T) \beta h(T) \quad (5)$$

while

$$\log Sb(T) = a(T)M - \{b(T)X_{eq} + \log X_{eq}\} + c0(T) \quad (6)$$

where  $M$  is the Japan Meteorological Agency magnitude,  $X_{eq}$  is the equivalent hypo-central distance (km) given by

$$X_{eq}^2 = \int em X_m^2 ds / \int em ds \quad (7)$$

where  $X_m$  is the distance (km) between the observation station and each small area on the plane of the earthquake-generating fault,  $em$  is the distribution of energy released from each small area on the fault plane and set to one when unknown,  $\int ds$  is the integration on the fault plane; and  $a(T)$ ,  $b(T)$ , and  $c0(T)$  are the regression coefficients shown in Figure 2.

The in-ground amplification factor,  $\alpha h(T)$ , which depended on the velocity of S waves at the surface layer, and the coefficient  $\beta h(T)$ , which makes the in-ground amplification correction term equal to one at periods sufficiently greater than the primary predominant period of the surface layer, are given by the following equations.

$$\alpha h(T) = \begin{cases} (V_s/V_{sb})^{-\delta h(T)} & (T \leq Ts1) \\ (V_s/V_{sb})^{-\delta h(Ts1)} & (T > Ts1) \end{cases} \quad (8)$$

$$\beta h(T) = \begin{cases} 1 & (T \leq Ts1) \\ (T/Ts1)^{-\log(\alpha h(Ts1))} & (10Ts > T > Ts1) \\ 10^{-\log(\alpha h(Ts1))} & (T \geq 10Ts1) \end{cases} \quad (9)$$

$V_{sb}$ , the velocity of S waves in seismic bedrock, equaled 2.2 km/s. Table 1 presents  $\delta h(T)$ ; Figures 4 and 5 show examples of  $\alpha h(T)$ , and  $\beta h(T)$  calculations, respectively.

## The mean response spectrum of vertical earthquake motion

The mean acceleration response spectrum of vertical earthquake motion on the rock surface,  $S_v(T)$  ( $\text{cm/s}^2$ ), was calculated by Equation (10) with a 5% damping factor. The mean response spectrum on seismic bedrock in Equation (2),  $S_b(T)$ , was multiplied by the in-ground amplification correction term [ $\alpha_v(T) \cdot \beta_v(T)$ ]. The former depended on the velocity  $V_p$  (km/s) of P waves at the rock surface. The latter depended on the primary predominant period  $T_{p1}$  (s) of the surface layer.

$$S_v(T) = S_b(T) \alpha_v(T) \beta_v(T) \quad (10)$$

The in-ground amplification factor  $\alpha_v(T)$  depended on the P wave velocity at the surface layer and the coefficient  $\beta_v(T)$ , which makes the in-ground amplification correction term equal to  $\alpha_{bv}(T_{p1})$  at periods sufficiently greater than the primary predominant period of the surface layer, are given by the following equations.

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_v(T) &= \alpha_{bv}(T) (V_p/V_{pb})^{-\delta_v(T)} & (T \leq T_{p1}) \\ &= \alpha_{bv}(T_{p1}) (V_p/V_{pb})^{-\delta_v(T_{p1})} & (T > T_{p1}) \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \beta_v(T) &= 1 & (T \leq T_{p1}) \\ &= (T/T_{p1})^{-\log\{\alpha_v(T_{p1})/\alpha_{bv}(T_{p1})\}} & (10T_{p1} > T > T_{p1}) \\ &= 10^{-\log\{\alpha_v(T_{p1})/\alpha_{bv}(T_{p1})\}} & (T \geq 10T_{p1}) \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

$V_{pb}$ , the velocity of P waves in the seismic bedrock, equaled 4.2 km/s.  $\alpha_{bv}(T)$  is the ratio of vertical to horizontal motion at the seismic bedrock, which comes from Equation (3) when  $c_{vi}(T)$  is replaced with the vertical motion observed on the ground layer equivalent to seismic bedrock. Table 1 presents  $\delta_v(T)$  and  $\alpha_{bv}(T)$ ; and Figures 6 and 7 show examples of calculated  $\alpha_v(T)$ , and  $\beta_v(T)$ , respectively. We calculated the vertical to horizontal response spectrum ratio on the ground layer equivalent to seismic bedrock (where  $V_s = 2.2$  km/s and  $V_p = 4.2$  km/s), and the same ratio for the rock surface (where  $V_s = 0.7$  km/s and  $V_p = 2.0$  km/s) from Equations (5) and (10). They were both approximately 0.6 (see Figure 8).

## EXAMINATION OF APPLICABILITY

### Comparison of the trial prediction with overseas records

The prediction method was evaluated by comparison to overseas observation data from near-source regions. Compared were 14 records from 7 earthquakes at 10 observation stations with known underground structures and  $V_s \geq 0.5$  km/s. They were in California, Mexico, and Chile. Table 2 shows the list of overseas records used for checking applicability. In this comparison,  $5.7 \leq M \leq 8.1$  and  $14.0 \leq X_{eq} \leq 76.9$  km. The  $X_{eq}$  values<sup>14)</sup> that had the locations, forms, slip distributions, and other fault plane data were used because those records included that taken from near-source regions. The shortest distance along the ground to the faults from the observation stations,  $X_{sh}$ , were between 4.1 and 52.2 km. The velocities here were  $0.76 \leq V_s \leq 2.2$  km/s and  $0.85 \leq V_p \leq 3.9$  km/s. All of the observation stations specialized in measurements on the ground surface. Being unavailable, the primary predominant periods of the surface layers,  $T_{s1}$  and  $T_{p1}$ , were set to five seconds. This corresponded to the case where there was no reduction in in-ground amplification for periods greater than the primary predominant period.

Figure 9 shows the vertical ratios of the estimated to observed spectra in a stack, the mean of the logarithms of the ratios, and the mean  $\pm$  standard deviation. This result indicates good agreement between the two sets of spectra. The dispersion in the figure, which is almost equal to that when the regression formula was applied to the original data. Previous papers<sup>15)</sup> reported the same result on the horizontal motion. One reason for this could be that, detailed data on overseas fault planes were inputted in the equivalent hypo-central distance calculation. Specifically, both the horizontal and vertical motion observed in the Coyote Lake earthquake at Girroy #1 of which shortest distance was about 11 km from the fault agreed very well with the trial prediction, as Figure 10 illustrates.

When the above ratios were about one, the prediction method produced satisfactory mean values. Similar comparisons made between trial predictions by the formula and other domestic records had nearly the same results.

### Cases of Near-Fault Rupture Directivity Effect

A phenomenon recently attracting attention is the predominance of long-period pulses in the fault-normal component in the direction of rupture propagation<sup>16)</sup>. This phenomenon, the near-fault rupture directivity effect

or NFRDE, is when the amplitude of seismic waves increases in the fault-normal component because of its radiation pattern and directivity due to the source mechanism. This rupture propagation effect occurs in near-source regions where there are fewer disturbances in the seismic wave propagation routes. On the other hand, while capable of including the influence of fault plane spreading by applying the equivalent hypo-central distance to the attenuation equation, the prediction method applies to short-period earthquake motion and does not include both the source mechanism and the rupture propagation effect above. The latter are parameters with less influence on earthquake motion prediction. Therefore, when the influence of those parameters dominates, as in the NFRDE, the prediction method is probably less valid.

Figure 11 compares the observation data, recorded at Kobe University, on the Hyogoken-Nanbu earthquake, which had a powerful NFRDE, with our trial prediction of the same earthquake. The prediction method nearly reproduced both the observed vertical and horizontal components, although it generally overestimated the horizontal components and underestimated the NS components of periods greater than one second that crossed the fault rupture line almost at right angles. Including the increment by NFRDE from the study of Ohno et al.<sup>17)</sup> is considered to make the prediction method applicable even to near-source regions with a dominant NFRDE.

## CONCLUSION

Using seismic waveforms from 12 earthquake observation stations with known underground structures, we evaluated a method to predict the horizontal and vertical motion response spectra on rock surface. An attenuation equation with an equivalent hypo-central distance was introduced so that the prediction method could be applied to near-source regions, where data is crucial for aseismic design. Moreover, the prediction method could evaluate the amplification characteristics of seismic waves in the surface layer with increased accuracy by using S and P wave velocities as parameters. The comparison of observed strong motion waveforms to prediction indicated that the method was accurate near-source regions.

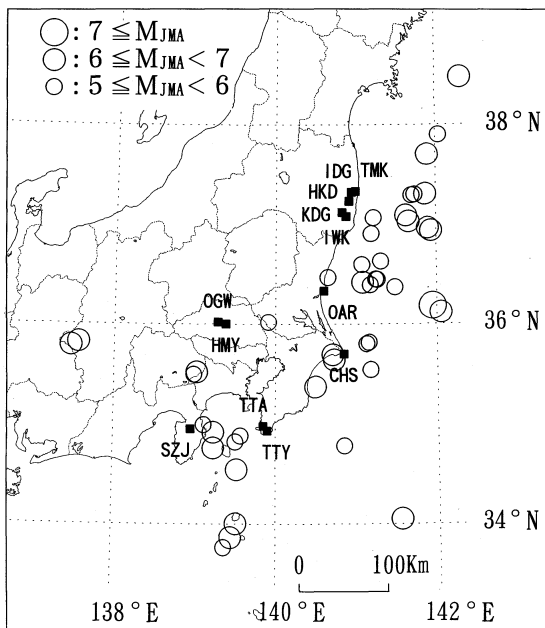
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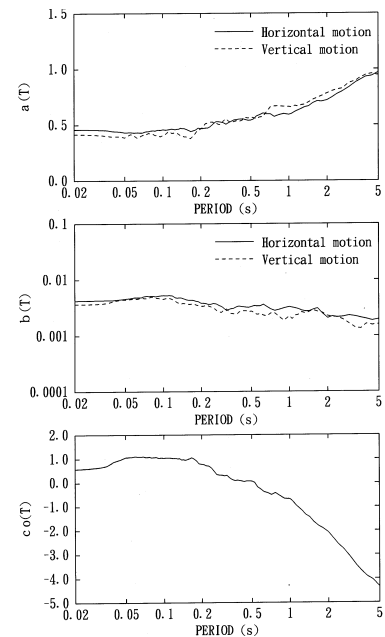
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**Figure 1** Distribution of epicenters and magnitudes recorded for 107 records and location of



**Figure 2** Estimated regression coefficients

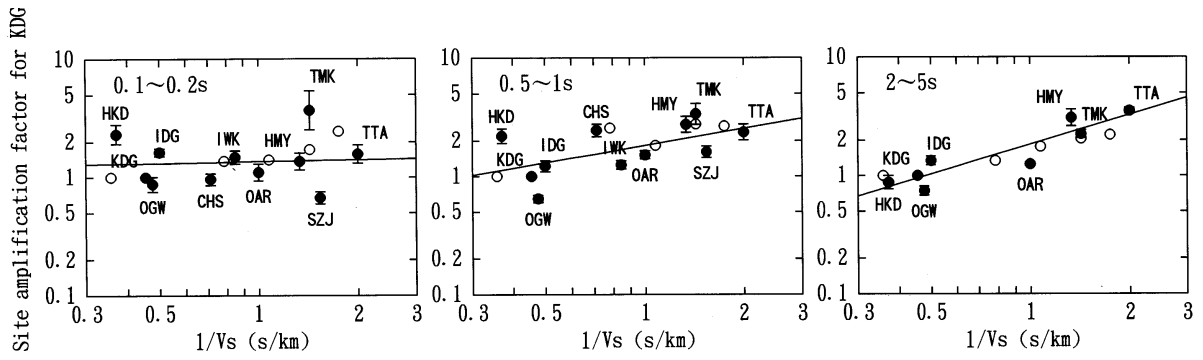


Figure 3 Relation between site amplification factor and S-wave velocity of surface layer

Table 1 List of site amplification factors  $\delta h$ ,  $\delta v$  and ratio of vertical to horizontal

Period (s)	0.02~0.05	0.05~0.1	0.1~0.2	0.2~0.5	0.5~1.0	1.0~2.0	2.0~5.0
Center Period (s)	0.03	0.07	0.14	0.32	0.71	1.40	3.20
$\delta h(T)$	0.00	0.01	0.05	0.37	0.48	0.71	0.83
$\delta v(T)$	0.12	0.14	0.47	0.69	0.95	1.12	1.09
$\alpha_{bv}(T)$	0.58	0.58	0.51	0.60	0.55	0.66	0.75

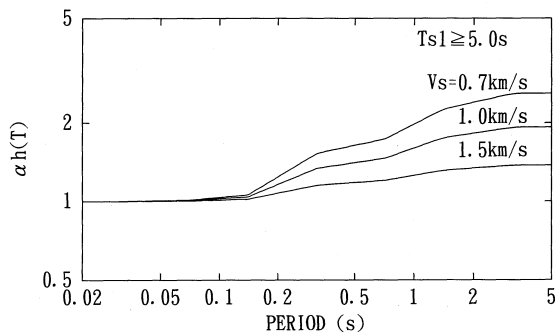


Figure 4 Coefficient of site amplification factor  $\alpha_h$  as a function of S-wave velocity

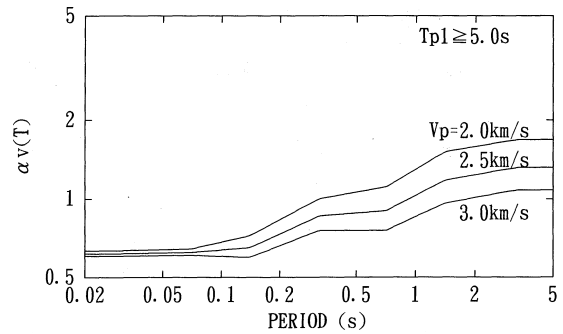


Figure 6 Coefficient of site amplification factor  $\alpha_v$  as a function of P-wave velocity

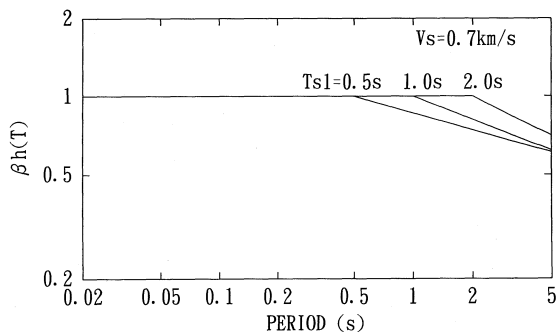


Figure 5 Relation between long period reduction coefficient  $\beta_h$  and 1st predominant period of surface layer

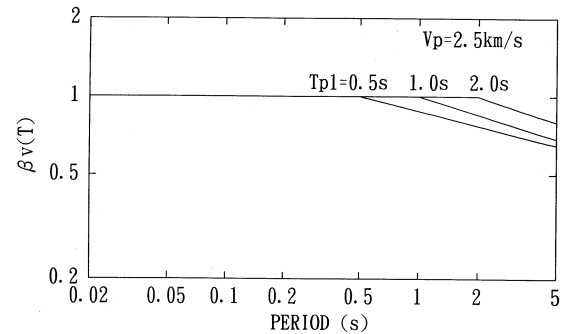


Figure 7 Relation between long period reduction coefficient  $\beta_v$  and 1st predominant period of surface layer