<u>1.</u>

Past and Possible Future Earthquakes of Significance to the San Diego Region

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The potential for earthquakes that may significantly affect the San Diego, California, region is examined from the viewpoint of geology, seismic history, and strong ground motion. We have compiled the best available data on slip rates and recurrence times for all major faults in southern California and northern Baja California, identified possible fault segments that might rupture in single earthquakes and obtained repeat times for these events which are consistent with (or at least not contradicted by) trenching studies. The most important faults for San Diego's seismic hazard are the Rose Canyon fault, the Elsinore fault, and faults immediately offshore (Coronado Banks, San Diego trough). There have not been any major earthquakes on any of these nearby faults in historical time, but the geological evidence is clear that such events will eventually occur.

San Diego is located on the western flank of the Peninsular Range batholith, and there is weak evidence that attenuation in this batholith might be lower than average for California. We combine the geological data with an attenuation model to obtain an estimate for the occurrence rate of various levels of peak ground acceleration in downtown San Diego from events with moment magnitude greater than about 6. We find that peak accelerations of 10% g to 20% g are expected about once every 100 years. There are considerable uncertainties in this estimate, but nevertheless, strong ground shaking from a magnitude 6.0 or greater earthquake near the populated area would not be a scientific surprise.

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INTRODUCTION

The city of San Diego, California, is the seventh largest in the United States, with a population of 1,013,000 at the start of 1987; San Diego County (which includes the metropolitan region), had a population of 2,166,000 and was growing at 2.6% per year (4500 new residents per month). The adjacent city of Tijuana, Mexico had a population somewhere between 800,000 and 1,000,000, and a growth rate of about 5.6% per year (Herzog, 1986). Thus over 3,000,000 people are exposed to the earth-quake hazard in the overall metropolitan area - which also has a major U.S. Navy base, and important aerospace, high-technology, and tourist industries.

To date, fortunately, the San Diego - Tijuana metropolitan region has been spared a major local earthquake, though it is often rattled by more distant events. This good luck cannot be expected to last forever, since at least one active fault (the Rose Canyon) bisects San Diego (Figure 1); while this and other nearby faults have not caused large earthquakes in historical time (post-1770), eventually one of them will. In addition, more distant faults (such as the San Andreas) might generate earthquakes strong enough to produce significant damage in the area.

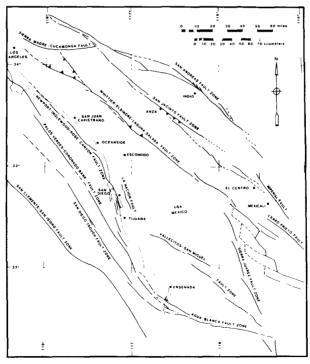


Figure 1 - Major faults in the San Diego region.

This paper summarizes the major faults that might affect the San Diego region, tabulates significant historical earthquakes, and uses geological information to identify potential fault ruptures that might cause significant earthquakes in the future. In addition, it examines the strong ground motion records from the San Diego region and identifies regional concerns with the estimation of ground motions from future events.

GEOLOGICAL CONSIDERATIONS

To discuss the seismicity, we use geological information to assess the average late Quaternary slip rate and characteristic size of earth-quakes on active faults near San Diego (Figure 1). From east to west these faults are the San Andreas fault, the Imperial and Cerro Prieto faults of Imperial Valley, the San Jacinto fault system, the Whittier - Elsinore - Laguna Salada fault system, the Vallecitos - San Miguel fault zone, the Newport-Inglewood - Rose Canyon fault zone, the Agua Blanca and Palos Verdes - Coronado Bank fault zone, the San Diego Trough fault zone and the San Clemente - San Isidro fault zone. Most of the above have a dominantly dextral sense of slip, and all comprise portions of dextral fault zones. The principal exception is the Laguna Salada fault, which has about twice as much vertical as horizontal slip.

These long fault zones are unlikely to rupture in a single earth-quake; along all of them are places where the mapped surface faults step to the left or right, bend, change their sense of slip (e.g., by adding normal or reverse motion), or cannot be mapped continuously. The segmentation hypothesis (Schwartz & Coppersmith, 1984, 1986) holds that these places are surface expressions of deep-seated obstacles to rupture. We have used these features to identify possible segments in each zone; we consider these segments to be most likely to rupture in single earthquakes. The segments, and the bases of their identification, are listed in Table 1 and identified on Figure 2. Segment boundaries were chosen as major steps (>3 km) and bends in the fault, or at the end points of historical ruptures. In many historical earthquakes, however, multiple segments have ruptured in one earthquake; we account for this possibility later in the paper on a fault by fault basis.

Table 1

Rational for fault segment boundaries on the more active faults in Southern California and northern Baia California.*

Fault Segment - Rational

San Andreas

- Indio Southern end defined by step-over to Brawley seismic zone, Northern end approximated at San Gorgonio bend
- Palmdale Southern end defined by San Gorgonio bend Northern end defined by Big Bend near Fort Tejon (Sieh, 1984). Probable rupture of 8 Dec. 1812 earthquake (Jacoby et al, 1986)

3. 1857 Multiple segments. Historical 1857 rupture. (eg. Sieh, 1978b) Cerro Prieto Fault 4. 1934 Multiple segments. Historical 1934 rupture (e.g. Anderson & Bodin, 1987). Imperial Fault 5. 1940 Multiple segments. Historical 1940 rupture (e.g. Anderson & Bodin, 1987). San Jacinto Fault Entire mapped surface trace of fault. Really two faults, subparallel, same 6. Superstition Hills/Mountain length, treated as one here for simplicity. 7. 1968 Extent of rupture in 1968 Borrego Mountain earthquake (Clark, 1972). 8. Coyote Mtn. Mapped surface extent of fault bounding southwest side of Coyote Mtn. 9. 1954 Extent of seismic rupture, 1954 earthquake (Sanders, 1986) 10. Clark Valley Southern extent: 1954 earthquake (Sanders, 1986) Northern extent: 1937 earthquake (Sanders, 1986) 11. Anza Southern extent: 1937 earthquake (Sanders, 1986) Northern extent: 1899 earthquake (Sanders, 1986) 12. 1899 Approximate extent of seismic rupture, 1899 earthquake (Sanders, 1986). 13. 1918 Approximate extent of known seismic rupture, 1918 earthquake (Sanders, 1986). 14. 1923 Approximate extent of seismic rupture, 1923 earthquake (Sanders, 1986). Elsinore- Laguna Salada Several sub-parallel segments bounded by right steps (Mueller & Rockwell, 1984) 15. Sierra Mayor 16 Chupamiertos Southern extent: Sierra Mayor segments Northern extent: Canyon Rojo/Laguna Salada fault (Mueller & Rockwell, 1984) The instrumental epicenter for the Dec. 30, 1934 Earthquake (M6.5) is near this fault segment (Leeds, 1979). 17. Laguna Salada Extent of surface rupture, 1892 earthquake (Mueller & Rockwell, 1984) 18. Coyote Mountain Southern extent: Yuha basin where surface trace loses expression. Northern extent: Tierra Blanca mountains where fault makes a left step. 19. Julian Southern extent: Tierra Blanca mountains where fault makes a left step. Northern extent: Agua Tibia-Palomar Mountain where fault makes a left bend and becomes a thrust fault. 20. Temecula Southern extent: Agua Tibia- Palomar Mountain Northern extent: Lake Elsinore where fault makes a major right step. 21. Glen Ivy Southern extent: Lake Elsinore Northern extent: Temescal Valley where fault makes a major right bend (Millman and Rockwell, 1986). Probable source segment of May 15, 1910 earthquake (Rockwell et al, 1986).

San Miguel - Vallecitos fault Zone Trend

22. Whittier-Chino

23. Southern Multiple breaks for the 1954-56 earthquake swarm (Shor & Roberts, 1958)

24. Central Southern extent: major right step to the 1954/56 earthquakes Northern extent: major right step to northern segment.

Southern extent: Temescal Valley bend

Northern extent: Transverse ranges.

25 Northern Southern extent: major right step to the central segment.

Northern extent: End of mapped surface trace of fault.

Rose Canyon - Newport Inglewood Fault Zone

26. Descanso Southern extent: Juncture with Coronado Bank - Agua Blanca fault near Punta

Descanso

Northern extent: Major right step in San Diego Bay

27. Mission Bay Southern extent: major right step at San Diego Bay

Northern extent: left bend at Mount Soledad

28. La Nacion Extent of mapped fault

29. Del Mar Southern extent: left bend at Mount Soledad

Northern extent: structural complexities/step near Oceanside.

30. Camp Pendleton Southern extent: structural complexities near Oceanside.

Northern extent: approximate southern extent of 1933 earthquake aftershock zone.

31. 1933 Extent of seismic rupture in March 10, 1933 earthquake.

Agua Blanca- Coronado Bank fault zone

32. Valle Trinidad Eastern extent: Juncture with San Pedro Martir fault zone.

Western extent: major right step in Valle Agua Blanca. (Rockwell et al 1987).

33. Santo Tomas Eastern extent: Valle Agua Blanca.

Western extent: major right step/bend in Valle Santo Tomas. (Rockwell et al

1987).

34. Punta Banda

Ridge

Eastern extent: Valle Santo Tomas

Western extent: right step at Estero (Rockwell et al., 1987)

35. Offshore Multiple potentially long segments. Offshore structures are poorly defined

(Legg, 1985).

San Diego Trough Fault Zone

36. Offshore Multiple potentially long segments. Offshore structures are poorly defined

(Legg, 1985).

San Clemente - San Isidro fault zone

37. Offshore Multiple potentially long segments. Offshore structures are poorly defined,

however a large left bend suggests potentially large earthqakes (Legg, 1985).

Sierra Madre- Cucamonga & related central Transverse Ranges faults

Multiple segments. Feb 9, 1971 San Fernando earthquake is probably characteris-

tic.

^{*} Potential references for each fault are numerous, so we have listed only a few.

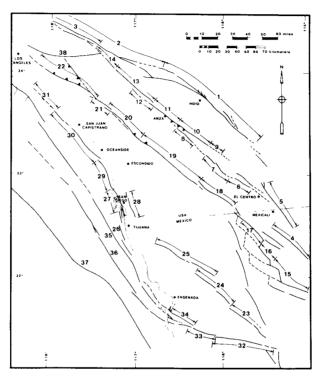


Figure 2 - Segmentation of major faults. Segment boundaries are major disruptions in the continuity of the faults, and thus represent likely end points for rupture during major earthquakes.

To estimate earthquake occurrence rates from geological data we need to know both the extent of rupture (to estimate the possible earthquake magnitude) and the slip rate and extent to which this slip is relieved by aseismic creep (to estimate recurrence rates). In the remainder of this section we summarize some of the geological evidence for rates of Holocene activity, and the basis for slip rate and earthquake recurrence rate estimates for each fault. Wesnousky (1986) has also recently compiled a table of slip rates on faults in California; our results are generally consistent, with differences attributable to differing judgement or new data. Within uncertainties our slip model is consistent with plate tectonic constraints (DeMets et al., 1987). Our results are summarized in Table 4.

San Andreas Fault

The San Andreas is one of the best studied faults in California. The slip rate on this fault is about 35 mm/yr in the Carrizo Plain (Sieh and Jahns, 1984), but appears to decrease to about 25 mm/yr at Cajon Creek (Weldon and Sieh, 1985). Near Indio, in the Coachella Valley, Sieh (1986) has determined a rate of about 30 mm/yr based on offset late Holocene lacustrine beach deposits.

Studies of the prehistoric earthquake history of this fault led Sieh (1978a, 1984) to conclude that the section of the fault at Pallet Creek (near Palmdale) had large earthquakes, on the average, about every 145 years. This section of the fault last broke in 1857 with the great Fort Tejon earthquake (M 8.25), which produced 9 m of lateral slip in the Carrizo Plain (Sieh, 1978b). Given the 35 mm/yr slip rate in the Carrizo Plain, an event of this size would be expected every 300 years. The 145-year recurrence interval at Pallet Creek may reflect rupture overlap between the segment that broke in 1857 and the Mojave segment, which apparently broke in 1812 (Jacoby et al., 1987) (Figure 1). This is reasonable since in the 1857 earthquake the fault slip near Palmdale was considerably lower than in the Carrizo Plain (Sieh, 1978b).

The southern San Andreas has a high probability for a major earthquake in the near future, based on statistical analyses of the fault's paleoseismic record (Sykes and Nishenko, 1984; Wesnousky, 1986). Weldon and Sieh (1985) estimated a recurrence time of about 250 years for large earthquakes along the San Andreas fault at Cajon Pass, with the last earthquake possibly being in the early 18th century (250 years ago). This last earthquake, however, was probably the 1812 earthquake that Jacoby et al. (1987) delineated at Wrightwood, just to the northwest along the fault. The last earthquake at Sieh's Indio site occurred about 300 years ago during the last high-stand of ancient Lake Cahuilla (Sieh, 1986) suggesting that only a relatively short portion (±100 km) of the San Andreas ruptured in 1812 (Segment 2? on Fig 2). then, the next southern San Andreas earthquake may rupture only the Indio segment (Segment 1). Alternatively, since there has been 130 to 175 years for strain to accumulate along segment 2, a large earthquake could possibly break from the Salton Trough through the section that broke in 1812. The in-between section of the fault near San Gorgonio Pass, however, is structurally complex and it is not clear whether there is surface rupture associated with large earthquakes there.

San Jacinto Fault

The paleoseismic history and slip rate of the San Jacinto fault are not as well determined as that of the San Andreas fault, though many studies are in progress that will clearly indicate its potential and probable future activity. Sharp (1981) determined a minimum mid-Quaternary to present slip rate of 8-12 mm/yr for the central part of the fault near Anza (segment 11). A decrease in rate along the San Andreas fault south of the junction between it and the San Jacinto fault may

simply reflect a transfer of slip to the San Jacinto. Sharp (1981) suggested that trenching studies along the Coyote Creek fault (segment 7) in the Imperial Valley imply a lower slip rate from mid-Holocene to the present. However, recent studies of folded mid-Quaternary lacustrine and fluvial deposits in the San Felipe Hills (segment 9 and to the southeast) demonstrate Quaternary slip along the buried projection of the Clark fault (Feragan, 1986; Wells, 1987), thereby negating Sharp's evidence for variable rates of slip.

Studies of offset late Quaternary alluvial fans and terrace deposits near Anza indicate a minimum of 8-10 mm/yr since the early Holocene and 12-14 mm/yr since the late Pleistocene (Rockwell et al., 1986; Rockwell et al, 1988, submitted for publication). This section of the fault (Segment 11) has been called the Anza Seismic Gap by Sanders and Kanamori (1984) because of its lack of known historical earthquakes (since 1890) and its low level of microearthquake activity.

Elsinore Fault

The Elsinore fault zone is one of the longest in southern California, stretching over 260 km from the Los Angeles Basin southeasterly across the International Border into Mexico as the Laguna Salada fault (Lamar and Rockwell, 1986). Recent studies along the fault suggest a slip rate of 5-6 mm/yr between Corona and Lake Elsinore (Millman and Rockwell, 1986), 5±2 mm/yr at Agua Tibia Mountain (Vaughan, 1987; Vaughan and Rockwell, 1986), and a minimum of 4.5 ±1 mm/yr in the Coyote Mountains near the International Border (Pinault and Rockwell, 1984).

Trenching studies at Glen Ivy Marsh in Temescal Valley (segment 21), located in the same area as the Millman and Rockwell study, indicate a recurrence interval for ground-breaking earthquakes of about 200 years (Rockwell et al., 1986). The most recent earthquake to rupture the surface at Glen Ivy was the May 1910 Temescal Valley earthquake (Toppozada and Parke, 1982), with magnitude near 6. This earthquake apparently displaced a cement flume by about 35 cm laterally (Brake and Rockwell, 1987; Brake, 1987). A study of displacement during a circa 1300 A.D. earthquake indicates at least 50 cm of slip from it (Brake and Rockwell, 1987). This 15-20 km section of the Elsinore fault thus appears to be characterized by moderate earthquakes in the M=6 to M=6.5 range.

In the Coyote Mountains (segment 18), Rockwell and Pinault (1986) studied progressively older displaced late Holocene channel bars, channel walls, channels, and other geomorphic features, and suggested displacements of 80 to 185 cm per event, corresponding to about M 6.5 to M 7 size events. Pinault and Rockwell (1984) suggested a recurrence interval of about 350 years for these events, with the last event being prehistoric.

The Laguna Salada fault (segment 17) has also suffered repeated Holocene surface rupture with oblique-slip events measuring up to 5 m each (Mueller and Rockwell, 1984; Mueller, 1984). The last earthquake

along this section of the fault produced up to 5 m of vertical slip, with probably less than half of that amount horizontally (Mueller, 1984). The rupture cuts completely unweathered and unconsolidated alluvium, and free faces still punctuate much of its length. A large earthquake struck southern California and northern Baja California on February 24, 1892, producing intensity VII damage in San Diego (Toppozada et al., 1981; Strand, 1980). Strand places this earthquake on the Laguna Salada fault whereas Toppozada et.al. place it to the west where there is no known late Quaternary faulting. Part of the placement problem rides on the lesser damage at Yuma than at San Diego, possibly explained by attenuation across the thick fill of the Salton Basin. data for a very recent and probably historical earthquake along the Laguna Salada fault led Mueller and Rockwell (1984) to agree with Strand's interpretation. Another earthquake, the 1934 M 6.5 event, may account for part of the displacement but this earthquake was instrumentally estimated to have been farther to the south, possibly along the Chupamiertos segment of the fault zone (segment 16).

Based on a comparison between the Elsinore and San Jacinto faults on four different criteria, we conclude that the geological slip rate of about 5 mm/yr on the Elsinore fault is reasonable. The geological slip rate is about 2 to 3 times greater on the San Jacinto fault. occurrence rate of small earthquakes (M 3.0 to 3.9) from 1934 to 1980 was also about 2.5 times greater on the San Jacinto fault (Anderson, 1983,1984), consistent with the geological estimates. Figure 4 shows that since 1932, the San Jacinto fault has had at least five times as many M > 5 earthquakes. The lower rate of the largest earthquakes can be understood if, as we suggest in Figure 2 and Table 1, the Elsinore zone has larger segments which produce larger, and thus less frequent. earthquakes than the San Jacinto zone. On the other hand, the geodetic strain rate is five times greater on the San Jacinto fault than the northern Elsinore fault, and shows a regional peak over the San Jacinto fault but not the northern Elsinore fault (segments 21 and 22 of Figure 2), King & Savage (1983). This low geodetic strain rate contradicts the geological slip rate estimate; a possible explanation is the nonlinearity in the cycle of seismic strain accumulation and release (Thatcher, 1983), with this section of the Elsinore fault being late in the cycle.

The Sierra Juarez fault zone is the main fault bounding the west side of the Salton Trough south of the international border. However, based on its relatively high sinuosity and lack of expression of recent faulting, it does not appear to have been active in the late Quaternary. Therefore this fault zone is not considered further.

Inner Borderland Faults

In the offshore region (the inner part of the Southern California Borderland) we know much about the locations of faults (from seismic reflection profiling) but very little about their activity. This region is characterized by a complex system of anastomosing faults that include the San Clemente-San Isidro, San Diego Trough, Coronado Bank-Palos Verdes, and Rose Canyon/ Newport-Inglewood trends (Legg, 1985; Legg and Kennedy, 1979; Kennedy and Welday, 1980: Greene and others, 1979). San Diego Trough and Coronado Bank fault zones trend onshore as the Agua Blanca fault (Legg, 1985), although slip from the Agua Blanca zone may also feed the Rose Canyon fault via unnamed faults identified as segment 26 in Fig 2 (Rockwell et al., 1987). Onshore study of the Agua Blanca fault indicates that about 6 mm/yr of dextral slip is distributed among three faults that trend offshore to connect with the inner borderland faults (Rockwell et al., 1987; Schug, 1987; Hatch, 1987). The main Agua Blanca fault (segment 34) accounts for most of this, with at least 4 mm/yr of late Quaternary slip; the secondary fault shown south of segment 34 takes up about 1±0.6 mm/yr. These faults collectively comprise the Coronado Bank fault zone to the northwest.

The San Diego Trough fault appears to receive slip from only a minor southern strand of the Agua Blanca fault onshore in Baja California (Legg, 1985), which has a very poor geomorphic expression onshore as an active fault and probably has no more than 1 mm/yr of slip associated with it (Rockwell et al., 1987). The San Clemente fault appears to connect with the San Isidro fault to the southeast and does not come onshore in Baja California (Legg, 1985). Based on offset submarine strata and geomorphic features such as canyons and fans, Legg (1985) attributes at least 4 mm/yr of slip to this fault zone.

Another important feature is the San Miguel fault zone, which historically has been the most active fault in northern peninsular Baja California. Six M 6-6.8 earthquakes occurred as a swarm in 1954 and 1956 along its southern length. The total offset of Cretaceous and Miocene rocks on this fault zone is estimated to only be about 500 m (Harvey, 1986), suggesting either a very low slip rate or recent inception of faulting. With present data either is plausible, so the slip rate estimated for the inner borderland faults from the Agua Blanca fault must be considered a minimum, since slip from the San Miguel trend must also feed into the coastal faults (even though a recognized surface link is lacking).

These data indicate that a minimum of 5 mm/yr is distributed between the Coronado Bank and Rose Canyon faults in the vicinity of San Diego, with as much as 10 mm/yr when the San Clemente fault zone is added. Although data are not presently available as to how the Agua Blanca slip is partitioned, it is clear that the Coronado Bank and Rose Canyon faults together comprise the greatest seismic hazard to the San Diego - Tijuana region because they are so nearby. These two faults are active at the microearthquake level. Simons (1977) relocated earthquakes in a limited area centered on San Diego for the years 1934 to 1974. He found at least 10 earthquakes, out of 37 with magnitudes between 2.3 and 3.7,

that could be considered, within location accuracy, to have occurred on the main trace of the Rose Canyon fault. He also found six events which could plausibly be located on the La Nacion fault. The remaining events were mostly in the immediate offshore no farther than the Coronado Banks fault. In the summers of 1985 and 1986, microearthquake swarms were located below San Diego Bay (Reichle et al., 1985). The largest event in this series was the October 29, 1986 earthquake ($M_{\rm L}\!=\!4.7$), located near the south end of San Diego Bay. These events confirm that the Rose Canyon fault is active.

The geomorphic evidence for recent activity on the Rose Canyon fault includes the persistence of San Diego Bay, which is a depression caused by sagging between the Rose Canyon and La Nacion faults, and Mt. Soledad, a local topographic high apparently caused by the left bend in The on-land portion of the fault is completely urbanized, so the fault. that Holocene geomorphic evidence of activity is obscured. The slip rate on the Rose Canyon fault is not well determined. A slip rate of 1-4 mm/yr can be derived from the data in Kennedy (1975). Based on interpretation of 1929 aerial photographs of the Rose Canyon fault zone near Mount Soledad, West (1987) suggested a late Quaternary rate of about 1.2 mm/yr. We believe that this rate is reasonable based on the convincing evidence that close to 5 mm/yr is distributed between the Coronado Banks and Rose Canyon fault zones. The seismic evidence for similar activity rates on these two faults at the microearthquake level also supports this rate.

HISTORICAL SEISMICITY

The historical record of earthquakes is as good for San Diego as for any other part of California. For intensity high enough to cause serious damage (VII or above) the record is probably complete from 1770, when the mission and presidio were established. As is generally true for the Hispanic period of California, reporting of milder shaking was unusual. The quality of reporting became much better in 1850 when an Army post was established; weather records from this (and later from the Weather Bureau) give a fairly complete listing of felt earthquakes. Additional descriptive material can be found in newspaper reports, which are also fairly complete: the San Diego Herald ran from 1851 through 1859, and the Union from 1869 through the present. For the 1860's another important source is the manuscript notes of Benjamin Hayes, now in the Bancroft Library (Agnew et al., 1979).

It is important to realize that this completeness of coverage in the San Diego area does not imply an ability to locate the earthquakes reported. This can be done only from a wide distribution of felt reports; for San Diego these are never available from the west, and only occasionally from the south. For many important historical earthquakes, the location and magnitude cannot be determined.

Felt Earthquakes in San Diego

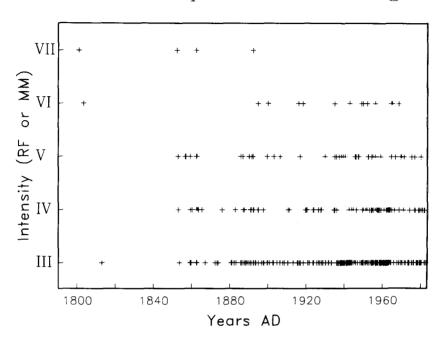


Figure 3 - Intensities of felt earthquakes in San Diego.

Figure 3 shows all intensities reported for San Diego through the end of 1982. (Intensity III was used for cases where an earthquake was simply reported as "felt".) This shows the increasing completeness of coverage with time, and also that the strongest shaking experienced in San Diego occurred in the 19th century - one reason why the earthquake hazard there is currently regarded as low. Table 2 lists the more important (intensity V or above) earthquakes before 1934. Later ones are listed in Table 3. Table 2 has been drawn from the more complete list in Agnew et al. (1979), which should be consulted for sources. Some of the intensities have been changed to the values determined by Toppozada et al. (1981). The more notable of the earthquakes in this table are:

1800 November 22.

Adobe walls at the Presidio of San Diego were damaged, and the walls of the new church at San Juan Capistrano (then under construction) were cracked.

1803 May 25.

The mission church at San Diego was damaged slightly.

1852 April 12.

The local newspaper report said that an "adobe house, with a tiled roof, situated near the Plaza at Old Town, was destroyed by" a "very severe shock" that "continued some thirty seconds". This earthquake is not mentioned in any other source, nor is any other damage described. It is therefore hard to know if this report actually reflects an earthquake; if it does, the damage must reflect especially poor construction.

1862 May 27.

This earthquake (Legg and Agnew, 1979) appears to have been closer to San Diego than any other damaging event, and also to have caused the strongest shaking (with the possible exception of the 1800 earthquake). It had a long aftershock sequence, felt more completely at San Diego than in Los Angeles; this, in addition to the fact that the mainshock was not felt at Yuma, suggests a location to the south or west. Cracking was reported in the adobe houses in Old Town and the brick lighthouse on Point Loma (though no glass was broken). Earthfalls from bluffs on Point Loma may have caused a small wave in San Diego Bay.

1892 February 23.

This earthquake caused widespread minor damage (including cracked plaster) in San Diego. As noted above, its location is uncertain, largely because of the paucity of reports from Baja California and the Colorado Desert. Toppozada et al. (1981) located the epicenter in the southeast corner of San Diego County; Strand (1980) places it farther to the east, and somewhat south (possibly, as described above, on the Laguna Salada fault) which also makes it larger (magnitude 7½).

1894 October 23.

Though this earthquake also caused some damage in the San Diego area, it was less strong than the 1892 event. It seems to have been definitely located in the mountains east of San Diego, but again the lack of intensity data from Mexico makes the north-south position unclear.

Two earthquakes are notable for the lack of significant damage in San Diego:

1812 December 8.

This earthquake (possibly on the San Andreas fault (Jacoby et al., 1987)), was felt in San Diego but caused no damage there, though it was damaging in San Gabriel and caused the collapse of the church at San Juan Capistrano (Toppozada et al, 1981).

1857 January 9.

This was a magnitude 7.9 earthquake on the San Andreas fault, rupturing from near Cajon Pass to Parkfield (Figure 2). The intensity in San Diego was V with "considerable alarm" and many people fleeing from buildings; the only damage was that "several articles of merchandise were thrown from the shelving" and some plaster was cracked (Agnew and Sieh, 1978).

Table 2

Preinstrumental Earthquakes Causing
Intensity V+ Shaking in San Diego

Local Date	Intensity	Location	Magnitude
1800 November 22	VII?	?	
1803 May 25	VI?	?	
1852 April 12	VII?	? [Fabulous?]	
1852 November 29	v	Mexicali Valley	
1856 September 20	v	Santa Ysabel?	
1857 January 9	v	Fort Tejon	7.9
1859 March 25	V?	Nearby?	
1862 May 27	VII	Nearby?	
1862 May 29	V?	Nearby?	
1862 June 13	V?	Nearby?	
1862 October 21	V?	?	
1885 September 13	v	?	
1886 October 8	v	?	
1890 February 5	v	?	
1890 February 9	v	San Jacinto?	6?
1891 July 30	v	Colorado Delta	7??
1892 February 23	VII	Northern Baja?	6¾
1892 February 24	v	Northern Baja?	
1894 October 23	VI	East county?	51/2
1899 July 22	v	Cajon Pass	61/4
1899 December 25	VI	San Jacinto	61/2
1903 January 23	v	Colorado Delta	7
1906 April 18	v	Imperial Valley	6
1915 November 20	VI	Mexicali Valley	7.1
1916 September 29	v	East county?	
1918 April 21	VI	San Jacinto	6.8
1929 December 2	V	Northern Baja	

Table 3 Listing of earthquakes with strong motion records from within San Diego, Jan. 1, 1932-Sept. 24, 1986 Caltech Catalog: basis of determining locations, times, magnitudes

		Caracti	Catalog. Das	13 01 00	mer comments	IOCALO II	s, urnes,	magnatu	ucs		
year mo-d	hrimn	lat.	long.	M_L	dist.1	a mes 2	мм		a _{max} ob	ı.³	completeness ⁴
							_	2	e	n	
1934 12-30	13:52	32.280	-115.460°	6.5	165.7	8.9	?	4.	4-	-4-	vl.
1934 12-31	18:45	32.140	-114.950°	7.1	216.1	7.1	?	-8-	-8-	-8-	ŀvl
1937 03-25 1939 05-01	16:49 23:53	33.465 32.000	-116.415³ -117.500	6.0	107.4 86.4	14.4 11.4	IV-V	3.7 2.	9.0 2.	10.4 3.	j vi
1939 05-01	16:27	32.000	-117.500	5.0 5.0	86.4 86.4	11.4	щ	2.	4.	3. 5.	vı 1-v1
1940 05-19	04:36	32.733	-117.500	6.7	154.7	11.3	IV-V	2	5.	3. 4.	v17
1942 10-21	16:22	33.049	-116.088 ⁵	6.5	105.6	19.7	VI	9.	14.	18.	¢1,
1943 08-29	03:45	34.267	-116.967	5.5	172.4	4.6	īv	2.	3.	2.	vi
1945 08-15	17:56	33.217	-116.133	5.7	109.6	11.7	v	1.	5.	3.	î
1947 04-10	15:58	34.983	-116.550	6.2	257.0	2.8	v	ı.	2.	2.	
1948 12-04	23:43	33.933	-116.383	6.5	152.1	10.4	VI	•	9.	10.	1
1949 11-04	20:42	32.180	-116.520 ⁶	5.7	84.2	17.7	VI	12.	13.	17.	1
1951 12-26	00:46	32.817	-118.350	5.9	112.9	12.5	VI	3.	11.	14.	c
1952 07-21	11:52	35.000	-119.017	7.7	305.0	4.2	V	1.	5.	4.	vl?
1954 03-19	09:54	33.296	-116.176	6.2	111.0	15.3	V	3.	16.	13.	c
1954 10-24	09:44	31.730	-115.920°	6.0	159.6	7.2	V	2.	3.	3.	v1?
1954 11-12	12:26	31.770	-115.970°	6.3	153.1	9.2	v	3.	7.	4.	1
1956 02-09	14:32	31.750	-115.917	6.8	158.8	11.4	٧ī	7.	12.	14.	c.
1956 02-14	18:33	31.500	-115.500	6.3	207.1	5.0	v v	3.	5.	5.	٧Į
1956 02-15 1964 12-22	01:20	31.500	-115.500	6.4	207.1	5.2	VI	5.	6. 24.	7. 32.	vi
1968 04-09	20:54 02:28	31.811 33.190	-117.131 -116.129	5.6 6.4	100.8 108.6	12.7 17.8	VI	11. 12.7	24. 28.9	32. 29.5	l c
1971 02-09	14:00	34.411	-118.401	6.4	220.0	4.6	VI	3.	6.	29.3 6.	1
1979 10-15	23:16	32.614	-115,318	6.6	172.3	8.7	¥1	3.	0.	0.	•
			-115,516	0.0	172.3	0.,				_	_
	770 Ava. de 780 Ava. de							•	•	•	?
	Dam left abi							•	•		7
	SDGE Office							•	•		į ,
):47:38.5	33.501	-116.513	5.5	104.9	11.2		-	-	-	ı
	Dam left abi		-110.515	J.J	104.7	11.2		-80-	-80-	-80-	
Poway								•	•	•	
	SDGE Offic	e Bldg.						•	•	•	
1985 05-08	23:40	31.890	-115.821	5.0	155.8	4.2					
? are there	any?										
1986 07-08	09:20	33.998	-116.606	5.6	150.4	6.4					
	ountain 330				75.5	19.6		30.	30.	30.	vi
Puerta La C					75.5	19.6		60,	60.	60.	c
Poway City		470			122.8	9.2		20.	40.	60.	l-vi
San Diego:	Murray Dan	14/0			141.2	7.2		10.	20.	30.	1
Alpine 467	223				111.1 129.3	10.8 8.4			triggere		
	Murray Hill	027			140.5	7.2			triggere triggere		
Ocean Bear		V=-			150.7	6.3			triggere		
	SDGE Bldg.	. 300			151.2	6.3			triggere		
1986 07-13	13:47	32.971	-117.870	5.3	72.8	17.4				~	
note: reduced	1 with nomis										
Ocean Beer	-L 121				<i>(</i>) 7	20.0		40			
Ocean Bear	SDGE Bidg.	200			63.7	20.9		48.	94.	75.	c
	Murray Dam				71.7	17.8		25.	30.	48.	i,
Oceanside		. 470			79.9 56.3	15.2 24.7		20. 10.	25. 19.	20.	٧Ì
Poway City					77.4	15.9		48.	70.	27. 100.	٧l
	ountain 330				102.9	10.3		13.	70. 15.	100. 12.	C m3
Puerta La C					117.2	8.4		16.	25.	20.	vi vi
Alpine 467					107.9	9.6			ے. triggere		41
•	Murray Hill	027			78.3	15.7			triggere		
1986 10-29	02:38	32.616	-117.134	4.7	11.6	93.3				-	
	-114 3543	300			11.6	93.3		80.	50.	60.	рс
San Diego					11.0	,,,		ov.	JU.	···	
	Murray Darr				20.1	57.1		20.	10.	10.	vi

¹ Distance from 32.72°N, -117,15°W

² Predicted by Joyner & Boore (1981)

Adash on either side of the number indicates a single peak was given in the source for all 3 components, and that a copy of the original was not inspected.

d c = complete S wave; l = late trigger; vl = very late trigger; p = significant part of P -wave on record

⁵ Relocation by Sanders et al. (1986).

⁶ Relocation by Leeds (1979).

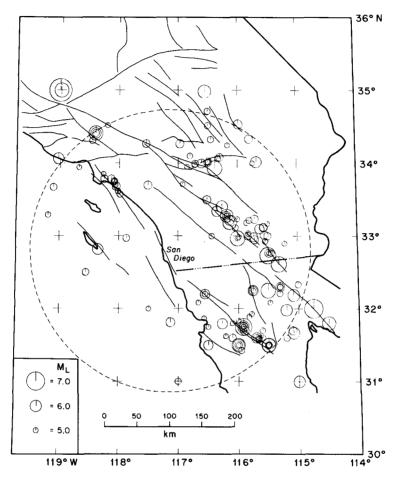


Figure 4 - Major faults and epicenters of all earthquakes listed in Appendix I. Inside the circle, all earthquakes with M.>5.0 from the Caltech catalog, Jan. 1, 1932 to Sept. 24, 1986 are shown. Outside the circle, only earthquakes that cause peak acceleration of greater than 2 cm/sec² (according to Joyner and Boore's 1981 regression) have been included.

Since the beginning of earthquake records, San Diego has been surrounded by large earthquakes, but none have been nearby. For the period of instrumental recording (the California Institute of Technology catalog, which runs from 1 January 1932 to 24 September 1986) Appendix I lists the 166 earthquakes with $\rm M_{L} > 5.0$ that would have caused a peak acceleration at San Diego of greater than 2.0 cm/sec² (according to the regression of Joyner and Boore, 1981). Figure 4 shows the epicenters of these events and the most important faults; it brings out two important alignments of earthquakes. The first, and denser, alignment runs along the San Jacinto, Imperial, and Cerro Prieto faults. The second is along the coastal faults and their extension into Baja California - but with a gap at San Diego.

RECORDED STRONG GROUND MOTION

San Diego received its first strong motion accelerograph in 1934, a Coast and Geodetic Survey recorder in the San Diego Light and Power building. There has been only a small increase in the number of accelerographs in San Diego since that time, perhaps because other regions have higher relative hazards. Table 3 lists all the earthquakes known to have triggered any accelerograph in San Diego; Figure 5 shows their epicenters. The series of publications U. S. Earthquakes is a reasonably complete source for accelerogram data through 1971. More recent data is fragmented between irregular publications of the U.S. Geological Survey, the California Division of Mines & Geology, and

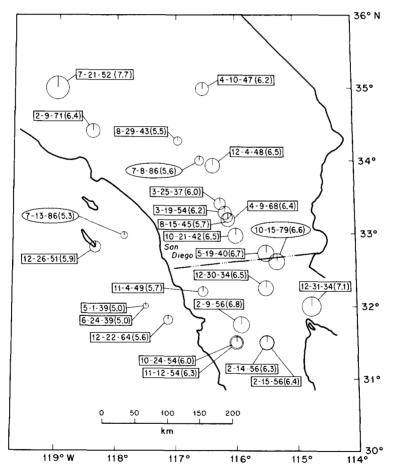


Figure 5 - Epicenters of earthquakes known to have triggered the Coast and Geodetic Survey accelerograph at the San Diego Power and Light building (square boxes) and other accelerographs in San Diego County (elliptical labels) through December 1986.

unpublished sources. In many cases (noted in Table 3) the instrument triggered too late to record the complete S-wave, and thus the records probably missed the actual peak acceleration which occurred during many of the earthquakes. Though peak accelerations are generally small, the high sensitivity (20 mm/0.1 g) of the Coast and Geodetic Survey instrument in San Diego means that the peak values can be reliably estimated.

The greatest peak acceleration recorded at the San Diego Light and Power accelerograph (34 cm/sec²) was produced by an offshore earthquake on 22 December 1964 (M_L =5.6). That accelerogram triggered during the S-wave, and greater accelerations may have occurred earlier. (Figure 6A). The next strongest ground motions recorded at the San Diego Light and Power building were from earthquakes on the San Jacinto fault zone on 9 April 1968 (M_L =6.8, 29.5 cm/sec², Figure 6B) and 21 October 1942 (- M_L =6.5, 18 cm/sec², Figure 6C). Both of these accelerograms recorded the complete S-wave. All three of these earthquakes caused shaking of intensity VI in San Diego.

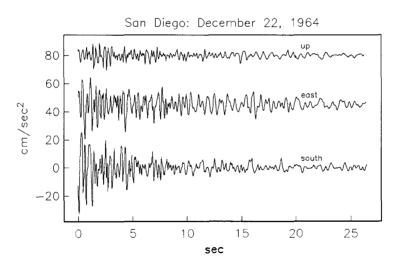


Figure 6a - Accelerograph record from the San Diego Light and Power building from the December 22, 1964 earthquake (Von Hake and Cloud, 1966; quality copy of accelerogram provided by G. Brady, personal communication).

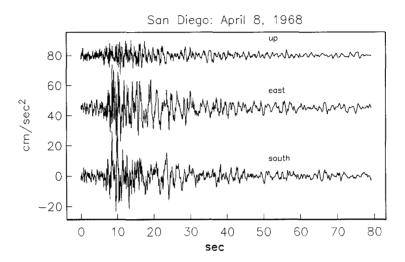


Figure 6b - Accelerograph record from the San Diego Light and Power building for the Borrego Mountain earthquake on April 8, 1968 (EERL, 1971).

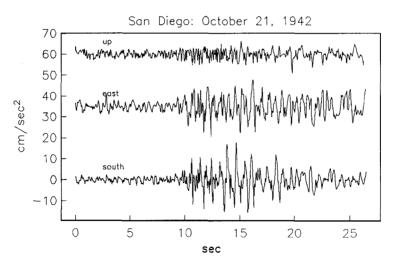


Figure 6c - Accelerograph record from the San Diego Light and Power building from the October 21, 1942 earthquake (Bodle, 1944; quality copy of accelerogram provided by G. Brady, personal communication).

Stronger accelerations were recorded at other stations during three 1986 earthquakes. The July 13, 1986 earthquake ($M_{\rm L}$ 5.4, with epicenter 50 km west of Solana Beach) gave peaks of about 0.1 g in Ocean Beach and Poway. Since these records were obtained from Kinemetrics SMA-1 accelerographs, with a bandwidth of 0 to 25 Hz, these peak accelerations may have been greater than what would have been recorded on the Coast and Geodetic Survey accelerograph (bandwidth 0 to 12 Hz) for the same ground motion.

Intensity and accelerometer data suggest that San Diego may be in a region of lower attenuation than other parts of California. Figure 7a,b shows isoseismal maps for two earthquakes of similar magnitude, one in the Imperial Valley and the other in the Peninsular Range. The latter has a much larger felt area than the former, suggesting low attenuation in the Peninsular Range. This region is largely comprised of granitic batholithic rock, similar to the Sierra Nevada to the north (though perhaps more fractured by faulting) and with much lower heat flow than the Imperial Valley (Lachenbruch et al., 1985). We should note that while low attenuation in the batholith could explain the data in Figure 7a,b, it may be that earthquakes in the batholith have higher stress drops or some other systematic difference in their source properties. This has not yet been resolved. Figure 7c illustrates this asymmetry in a different way. Geological evidence strongly suggests that the 1892 earthquake occurred on the Southern Elsinore fault (Section 2.3). this location the fault has a large normal component of slip, and forms the boundary between the Salton trough and the Peninsular Ranges. Figure 7c shows that the isoseismals, taken from Toppozada, are asymmetrical, suggesting much lower attenuation in the Peninsular Ranges toward the west than in the Imperial Valley toward the east.

There is not enough strong motion data recorded at San Diego to prepare a regression appropriate for the region. Thus our approach to evaluate whether the peak recorded accelerations at San Diego are high or low compared to expectations, is to compare them with a regression model that is reasonably representative of the entire California region. For this purpose, the model given by Joyner and Boore (1981) was selected. Table 3 shows the peak value of the larger of the two horizontal components predicted by that model. Among the accelerograms with complete S-waves, the peak accelerations from the San Diego Light and Power station all exceed the regression prediction. Also, one of the records that was triggered late recorded a peak acceleration of 2.7 times the prediction. Among the rest of the records that triggered late, the ratios are near unity or less than one. Although this is consistent with the inference made from the intensity maps in Figure 7a the consequences of possible site effects, if any, are not known.

An exception to the tendency for the regression to underestimate the peak acceleration occurred on the SDG&E Building record of the October 29, 1986 earthquake (M_L -4.7) in National City, where a complete S-wave and most of the P-wave were recorded. The Joyner and Boore regression is extrapolated beyond its formal limits in this case, but still this point is significant because it is at smaller epicentral distances than

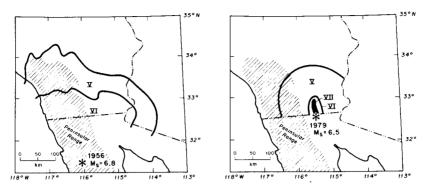


Figure 7a,b - Isoseismals of the 1956 El Alamo earthquake, M_S=6.6 (after Brazee and Cloud, 1958) and of the 1979 Imperial Valley earthquake, M_S=6.5 (after Stover and von Hake, 1981). Shaded area shows the extent of the Peninsular Range consisting primarily of a Cretaceous granite batholith, with less extensive exposures of older sediments and volcanics, metamorphosed by the emplacement of the batholith.

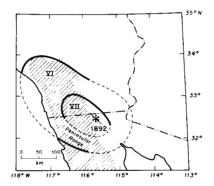


Figure 7c - Isoseismals of the February 23, 1892 southern California earthquake (after Toppozada et al., 1981).

any other record. Thus even if the regression we selected for a reference model systematically underestimates the true peak acceleration in San Diego from more distant earthquakes, it may perform well for nearby events. To summarize, the Modified Mercalli Intensity and strong motion evidence suggests, weakly, that the attenuation is lower in the Peninsular Range batholith, but because of uncertainties in the data more research will be needed to prepare a definitive case.

POSSIBLE FUTURE EARTHQUAKES

The information in the preceding sections could serve as an input to a calculation of the seismic hazard for San Diego. This section attempts to put this information into perspective, but does not complete a seismic hazard analysis. It is limited to consideration of some of the most significant earthquakes that might occur on the major faults in the region.

Table 4

	Par	tial li	st of pl	ausible	earthquakes	which co	ould affec	t San	Diego			
segment	L	W	gam	eff	slip rate	used	rdte	M	R	Amex	rate	T.L.
0 4 4 .	km	km			(mm/year)				km	galyr-	i .	
San Andreas 1 Indio	130.	10	1.8	1.0	20 0 20 0	30.0	7.04	7.3	140.	10	00000	224
2 Paimdale	175.		1.8	1.0	30.0-30.0 20.0-35.0	25.0	7.0 3.0 ⁴	7.5 7.5	160.	19. 17.	.00299	334. 1050.
2 al & 2	305.		1.8	1.0	20.0-35.0	25.0	5.0 ⁴	7.9	140.	26.	.00091	1098.
•3 REPEAT 1857	380.		1.8	1.0	25.0-35.0	35.0	7.04	8.0	180.	18.	.00102	977.
3a1 & 3	580.		1.8	1.0	25.0-35.0	35.0	20.04	8.2	140.	33.	.00192	522.
Cerro Prieto												J-2.
• 4 1934	100.	10.	1.8	.5	40.0-45.0	40.0	25.0	7.2	160.	14.	.00694	144.
4aREPEAT 1980	26.	10.	1.8	.5	40.0-45.0	40.0	15.0	6.4	160.	9.	.01603	62.
Imperial												
 5 REPEAT 1940 	55.		1.8	.5	30.0-45.0	30.0	15.0	6.8	150.	13.	.00758	132.
•5aREPEAT 1979	40.	10.	1.8	.5	30.0-45.0	30.0	15.0	6.6	150.	12.	.01042	96.
San Jacinto												
6xSupers. H.		10.	1.8	.8	8.0-15.0	12.0	6.0^{3}	6.4	125.	14.	.01026	97.
6ySupers. M.		10.	1.8	.8	8.0-15.0	12.0	5.03	6.4	125.	14.	.00855	117.
•7 1968		10.	1.8	1.0 1.0	2.8- 5.0 2.8- 5.0	5.0 5.0	4.0 2.5	6.5 6.3	100.	22. 20.	.00635 .00579	157.
8 Coyote Mtn 7a6.2 & 7		10. 10.	1.8 1.8	1.0	2.8- 5.0	3.0	2.5 .5	6.9	100. 100.	26.	.00046	173. 2160.
8a6.2 & 7 & 8	110.		1.8	1.0	2.8- 5.0	5.0	.5 .5	7.2	100.	32.	.00025	3960.
9 1954		10.	1.8	1.0	6.0-10.0	5.0	2.0	6.1	110.	15.	.00654	153.
10 Clark Valley		12.	1.8	1.0	6.0-10.0	9.0	1.0	6.7	105.	22.	.00139	720.
11 Anza		12.	1.8	1.0	8.0-15.0	12.0	4.0	6.6	105.	21.	.00635	157.
•12 1899	29.	12.	1.8	1.0	4.0-8.0	6.0	3.0	6.5	110.	18.	.00575	174.
11a10 & 11	75.	12.	1.8	1.0	8.0-15.0	12.0	5.0	7.0	105.	27.	.00370	270.
•12b9 - 12	120.	12.	1.8	1.0	8.0-15.0	12.0	3.0	7.3	105.	32.	.00139	720.
•13 1918	55.	12.	1.8	1.0	4.0-12.0	9.0^{2}	3.0	6.9	115.	21.	.00303	330.
•14 1923		12.	1.8	1.0	8.0-15.0	12.0	6.0	6.5	145.	11.	.01111	90.
14a13 & 14		12.	1.8	1.0	4.0- 8.0	6.0	6.0	7.1	115.	24.	.00392	255.
Elsinore - Laguna Sa											00000	0.00
15 Sierra Mayor		10.	8.0	1.0	1.0- 2.0	1.5	1.5	7.2	170.	12.	.00038	2613.
•16 Chupamiertos-1934		10. 10.	8.0 8.0	1.0 1.0	1.0- 2.0 1.0- 2.0	1.5 1.5	1.5 1.5	6.7 7.0	155. 125.	11. 20.	.00049	1173. 2027.
•17 Laguna Salada-1899 18 Coyote Mtn		10.	2.5	1.0	4.0- 6.0	5.0	5.0	7.0	85.	36.	.00333	300.
19 Julian		12.	1.8	1.0	3.0- 7.0	5.0	2.5	7.1	65.	56.	.00174	576.
20 Temecula		12.	1.8	1.0	3.0- 7.0	5.0	2.5	6.8	70.	44.	.00278	360.
20a19 & 20		12.	1.8	1.0	3.0- 7.0	5.0	2.5	7,4	65.	66.	.00107	936.
•21 Glen Ivy		10.	1.8	1.0	3.0- 7.0	5.0	2.0	6.3	100.	19.	.00505	198.
22 Whittier-Chino	75.	12.	1.8	1.0	3.0- 7.0	5.0	2.0	7.0	120.	22.	.00148	675.
22a21 & 22	95	. 12.	1.8	1.0	3.0- 7.0	5.0	3.0	7.2	120.	24.	.00175	570.
San Miguel - Valleci												
•23 southern-1956		. 12.	1.8	1.0	0.5-2.0	1.0	1.0	6.8	160.	11.	.00113	882.
24 central		. 12.	1.8	1.0	0.5-2.0	1.0	1.0	6.9	105.	24.	.00101	990.
25 northern		. 12.	1.8	1.0	0.5-2.0	1.0	1.0	7.0	55.	69.	.00074	1350.
Rose Canyon - Newp		giew . 12.	1.8	1.0	0.5- 3.0	1.2	.1	6.8	8.	402.	.00011	9000.
26 multiple		. 12. . 12.	1.8	1.0	0.5- 3.0	1.2	1.1	6.2	8.	286.	.00340	295.
26amultiple 27 Mission Bay		. 12.	1.8	1.0	0.5- 3.0	1.2	.6	6.4	1.	472.	.00139	720.
28 La Nacion		. 12.	1.8	1.0	.0208	.05	.05	6.5	6.	383.	.00010	10080.
29 Del Mar		. 12.	1.8	1.0	0.5- 3.0	1.2	.6	6.6	22,	154.	.00098	1020.
29a27 & 29		. 12.	1.8	1.0	0.5- 3.0	1.2	.6	6.9	1.	640.	.00056	1800.
30 Camp Pendleton		. 12.	1.8	1.0	0.5- 3.0	1.2	1.2	7.0	55.	67.	.00095	1050.
•31 1933		. 12.	1.8	1.0	0.5- 3.0	1.2	1.2	6.6	125.	16.	.00180	555.
Agua Blanca - Coro	aado l	Banks	;									
32 Valle Trinidad	65	. 12.	1.8	1.0	4.0- 6.0	6.0	6.0	7.0	175.	10.	.00513	195.
33 Santo Tomas		. 12.	1.8	1.0	4.0- 6.0	6.0	6.0	6.5	150.	11.	.01042	96.
34 Punta Banda Rdg		. 12.		1.0	4.0- 5.0	4.0	4.0	6.5	125.	15.	.00766	130.
35 multiple	>250		1.8	1.0	2.0- 6.0	3.0	.01	7.7 7.1	26.	250. 175.	.00000	1000
35amultiple		. 12.	1.8	1.0	2.0- 6.0 2.0- 6.0	3.0 3.0	1.5 1.5	6.1	26. 26.	98.	.00098	1020. 180.
35bmultiple San Diego Trough	>13	. 14.	1.0	1.0	2.0- 0.0	3.0	1.7	0.1	40.	70.	الادامان.	100.
36 multiple	>250	. 12.	1.8	1.0	0.05- 1.0	1.0	.01	7.7	41.	149.	.00000	
36amultiple		. 12.		1.0	0.05-1.0	1.0	.5	7.1	41.		.00033	3060.
36bmultiple		. 12		1.0	0.05- 1.0	1.0	.5	6.1	41.		.00185	540.
		_										

Table 4 (cont.)

San Clemente - San	Isidro														
37 multiple	>250. 12.	1.8	1.0	0.5- 5.0	5.0	.01	7.7	80.	61.	.00000					
37amultiple	>200. 12.	1.8	1.0	0.5- 5.0	5.0	2.5	7.6	80.	57.	.00069	1440.				
37bmultiple-12/26/51(5.		1.8	1.0	0.5- 5.0	5.0	2.5	6.6	80.	32.	.00397	252.				
Transverse Ranges						01		1.05		00000					
38 multiple 38amultiple	>250. 12. >30. 12.	8.0 8.0	1.0 1.0	1.0-10.0 1.0-10.0	5.0 5.0	.01 5.0	8.2 6.9	165. 165.	23. 12.	.00000 .00208	480.				
Notes:	730. 12.	0.0	1.0	1.0-10.0	3.0	٥.٠	0.9	105.	14.	.00208	400.				
	1														
event =	which is id			hich would o	occur as	me resu	It Of 12	mme or	some	parucular ia	uit segment				
<i>L</i> =				or combinations or combinations of the total											
W =	Assumed v	vidth of	fault s	egment ruptu	re.										
gam =	Assumed r	atio of	slip to f	ault length, >	<10.0 ⁵										
eff =	fraction of	slip tha	at occur	s in earthqua	kes - res	t is creep	•								
slip rate =	reasonable	range	of slip i	rate obtained	from geo	ological	data, a	s discus	sed in 1	he text.					
used =	slip rate th	at we u	se for t	his segment o	of the fac	ılt									
rdte =	fault segm This colum	slip rate that we use for this segment of the fault. rate distributed to earthquakes. When more than one size earthquake is allowed to occur on a single fault segment, then we presume that each size event must take up a certain portion the total slip rate. This column gives the portion assumed for the event of this size. The sum of the columns under "rdte" for any fault segment must sum to the rate "used".													
<i>M</i> =	ruptures the faults segre we conside	ne fault ments v er plaus as mult	segme which a sible on iple, we	nt length wit re identified the fault; this also identify	h a fault as "muli is magni	width a tiple", w tude is n	nd rati e estin ot deri	io of slip nate the wed from	p to ler magni n the f	igth "gam" a tude of the l ault length. I	quake which as given. For largest event for segments e, and distri-				
R =	Distance fi Rounding: nearest 1 l	neares	t 5 km	int on the fat for L>50	ılt segme	ent to do	wntow	n San D	iego.						
A _{max} =	peak accel	eration	as esti	mated from t	he Joyne	r & Boo	re (198	31) regn	ession.						
raic =	constraints	(e.g., hich m	Andersone that	of events wi on, 1979, Ar in one plausi	nderson (& Luco,	1983)	on all	fault s	egments, inc	cluding seg-				
years =	average rec	urrenc	e time (of event with	the give	n magnit	ude. I	This tim	e is 1/r	ate.					
Footnotes:															
•	Historical e	•		A	D-4'- "						-1				
-				Anderson & elative to the			una th	ar over	two ea	плачаке су	cles there is				
2	This rate av	erages	6 mm	yr in the sou			zone	12 overl	aps and	i 12 mm/yr	in the north-				
3	ern half of a			these two fat	ılts arbin	arv.									
4		•		iffering sizes		•	in oc	currence	rates (consistent w	ith historical				

Table 4 lists these discrete events, based on the segmentation of the faults given in Table 1. For each fault segment we have estimated a plausible magnitude for the earthquake consistent with the rupture length and a plausible occurrence rate for the earthquake consistent with the fault slip rate. Smaller earthquakes (M<6) can occur on any of these faults and generally do not affect the rate of the large events considered here.

The magnitude-rupture length relationship employed is based on the definition of seismic moment and the observation by Scholz (1982) that the ratio of slip to fault length, γ , appears to be about constant. With this assumption, the rupture length, L, is given by

L-L₀ 10^{(d/2)M}

where

$$L_0 = [10^{c}/(\mu \gamma W)]^{1/2}$$
 (Anderson & Luco, 1983).

In this expression, μ is the shear modulus, W is fault width, and the relationship between magnitude and seismic moment is $\log M_0=c+dM$. We use c=16.0, d=1.5, $\mu=3$ x 10^{11} dyne-cm 2 , and W = 10 km for faults in the Salton trough or W = 12 km for faults elsewhere. Scholz (1982) recognized that the value of γ varies with the nature of slip on the fault; it also depends on the fault slip rates (Kanamori & Allen, 1986). The values of γ used here (Table 4) are consequently greater for normal or thrust faults than for strike slip, and for the strike slip faults, γ is slightly greater than the value suggested by Scholz (1982) because most of the faults have low slip rates. Table 5 validates this relationship.

Different techniques were employed to obtain earthquake occurrence rates in Table 4 consistent with fault slip rate. For typical cases (e.g., segments 6-9, 12-18, etc.) we have a single fault segment, on which we estimate a "characteristic" magnitude from the segment length. Based on the Scholz (1982) hypothesis, again, that the ratio of average slip to fault length is constant, we obtain an estimate of the slip per event. The occurrence rate is fault slip rate divided by slip per event, assuming the entire fault slip rate is released seismically (Wallace, 1970).

Adjacent segments sometimes rupture together to produce larger earthquakes, as seen in the historical or prehistorical records from the San Andreas, Imperial, and Cerro Prieto faults. It is necessary to include this in our model, for otherwise many segments yield recurrence rates that are inconsistent with the seismic history since 1800 or as revealed in the geology. There is some flexibility associated with the combination of multiple segments, which we have used as a tool to achieve the maximum consistency with the geological record. When multiple ruptures on the same segment are allowed, some technique is needed to decide the relative occurrence rates of the smaller and larger earthquakes. A simple b-value model appears to be inconsistent with observa-

Table 5

Comparison of predicted and observed magnitudes for several earthquakes within the study region.

Segment	Earthquake	L	Ma	gnitude					
	year		calculated from L	historical					
3	1857	380	8.0	7.9 ²					
42	1980	26	6.4	6.4 ³					
5	1940	55	6.8	7.0 ³					
7	1968	35	6.5	6.4					
9	1954	17	6.1	6.2					
12	1899	29	6.5	6.6 ⁷					
13	1918	55	6.9	6.8					
14	1923	30	6.5	6.25					
16	1934	22	6.7	6.5					
17	1892	38	7.0	6.9					
21	1910	22	6.3	6.3 ⁵					
23	1956	49	6.8	6.8					
31	1933	37	6.6	6.3					
18	prehistoric	60	7.0	6.9-7.0 ⁶					
Notes:									
1	M_W when fo	otnote gi	ves source, M _L o	therwise.					
2	Sieh (1978b))							
3	Anderson &	Bodin (1	987)						
4		re length	evidence for 5 m (Mueller & Rock						
5		1 22 km r	evidence for 35 c upture length (B						
6			evidence for 1.5 a						
7	Toppozada e	et al. (198	11)						

tions (e.g., Bath, M., 1981; Singh et al., 1982; Schwartz and Coppersmith, 1984; Wesnousky, 1986; Anderson & Bodin, 1987). With this recognition, the shape of the distribution of large magnitude events for a single fault is poorly constrained. Therefore, rather than use a continuous and smooth distribution function as in Anderson (1979), Molnar (1979), Youngs and Coppersmith (1985) or Anderson and Bodin (1987), we partitioned the slip to selected discrete events. The slip rate caused by the selected event type is given in the "rdte" column of Table 4. A simple example occurs on segments 21 and 22 of the Elsinore-Laguna Salada fault system. Small events, such as the 1910 earthquake, evidently occur on segment 21, but the geological record supports a longer recurrence time than what would occur if the entire 5 mm/yr occurs in events with only 350 mm slip. The geological evidence also suggests that some of the events on this segment have more than 350 mm slip. We assumed that small events involving only segment 22 contribute 2 mm/yr to the fault slip, and that events involving both segments 22 and 23 contribute the remaining 3 mm/yr. Even in more complicated cases, such as on the San Andreas fault, we found that we could

similarly divide the slip more or less evenly among the different plausible events and obtain reasonably good consistency with the geological constraints.

Offshore faults were treated under these same rules, except that the sizes of earthquakes were taken as extreme for the larger events suggested for a fault segment and typical for the smaller segment. Finally, we adjusted the rates for aseismic slip, such as is observed on the Imperial and Cerro Prieto faults (Anderson & Bodin, 1987).

Each of the earthquakes from Table 4 has been plotted in Figure 8. The most significant possible events are those which have a combination of a high occurrence rate and a high peak ground acceleration. Specific events on Table 4 that meet these criteria are on the Rose Canyon fault, the Coronado Banks fault, the San Diego Trough fault, and the Elsinore fault. At higher probabilities and lower levels of ground motion, the San Jacinto fault is most important, exceeding the San Andreas, Cerro Prieto, Imperial, and onshore faults in Baja California.

Table 4 is by no means a complete enumeration of all possible earthquakes, but we expect that it is reasonably complete for the major earthquakes on major faults. Therefore, we used these data to obtain a cumulative curve (based on Figure 8) for the probability of ground motion equaling or exceeding the abscissa value from the events considered in our model. The result is in the style of a probabilistic seismic hazard analysis, but differs significantly. A complete probabilistic seismic hazard analysis would include a consideration of the uncertainty in ground motion estimates, and a distribution of magnitude for each fault, in effect "smearing out" each of the points on Figure 8. The addition of smaller events would shift the cumulative curve upwards. The complete analysis would also consider multiple models for activity rates on faults and for attenuation, rather than the single models that we employed. Power et al. (1986) have carried out such an analysis. Our cumulative curve gives higher accelerations than Power et al. at occurrence rates less than 10^{-2} yr^{-1} but the studies are consistent at higher occurrence rates; the difference arises from higher assumed slip rates on the Rose Canyon fault zone in our study.

The solid lines on Figure 8 give an estimate of the historical rate of exceedance of weaker ground motions for San Diego, following the historical method of Milne and Davenport (1969). The analysis proceeded in the following manner. We estimated the peak accelerations, again using the regression of Joyner and Boore (1981), based on the magnitude and distance to San Diego for each of the N earthquakes (with magnitude exceeding a threshold) in the catalog. These peak values were then sorted in increasing order. The largest acceleration then was equalled or exceeded at a rate of 1/Y where Y is the duration of the catalog, and in general, the i-th largest acceleration was equalled or exceeded at a rate of i/Y, so that each peak acceleration was associated with a corresponding number of exceedances per year. Figure 8 shows the result for a catalog that includes earthquakes with $M_{\rm L} >= 6.0$ (Appendix I). Smaller events were excluded because none of the earthquakes listed in

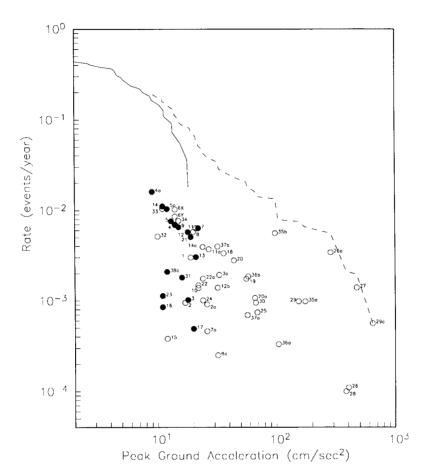


Figure 8 - This figure shows two types of information. The numbered data points represent specific hypothesized events, as given in Table 4 and Figure 2. The dashed line is the cumulative expected rate of exceedance of peak acceleration obtained from the numbered events. Solid symbols are events that have occurred once or more in historical times. The solid lines show the historical occurrences of peak acceleration as a function of mean annual occurrence rate, January 1, 1932 to September 24, 1986, based on historical method. For consistency, all accelerations are based on the regression of Joyner and Boore (1981). This result differs from a complete seismic hazard analysis because small events and minor faults are not considered. Events with magnitude between 5 and 6, and possibly some events with magnitude over 6, are not represented because of the way this figure was generated. Such events would increase the occurrence rate of all accelerations and are quite significant for the total seismic hazard.

Table 4 are smaller than that. Similar analyses for smaller events increase the peak acceleration at any given rate of exceedances per year (i.e., the solid line shifted to the right). The cumulative curve obtained from Table 4 is consistent with the range of occurrence rates from this historical method for peak accelerations in the vicinity of 10 to 20 cm/sec².

Similarly, a historical curve can be generated from the table of peaks recorded on strong motion accelerographs; the result is reasonably consistent with the historical curve from the earthquake catalog, but the completeness is uncertain. If we adopt a relationship between intensity and peak acceleration, the pre-instrumental history can also be adapted to the format in Figure 8, and appears to be consistent for occurrence rates above about $5 \times 10^{-3} \text{ yr}^{-1}$. From these consistency checks, we conclude that the geological model in Table 4 is not seriously biased at these higher occurrence rates.

Some of the discrete events on Figure 8 have already occurred. These are indicated by a solid symbol. About half of the plausible earthquakes with recurrence times of greater than 250 years have already occurred; this proportion is about right. None of the low-probability earthquakes with expected accelerations over 30 cm/sec² have occurred, even though some of the low probability events that give lower accelerations are represented in the historical record. The larger accelerations come from the Rose canyon, Elsinore and offshore fault zones, all of which have been inactive during historical time. Not enough is known about the behavior of offshore faults to have much confidence in our models for their behavior. Additional geological studies of the onshore faults are also likely to lead to revisions in Table 4, but we are confident that many of those events are plausible and will eventually happen.

Many of the discrete events from Table 4 could be expected to cause ground motions comparable to, or greater than, the ground motions associated with the magnitude 5.3 earthquake which occurred offshore of Solana Beach on 13 July, 1986, which injured twenty-nine people and caused damage to at least 50 buildings in the Newport Beach - San Diego area. A preliminary estimate of damage in the U.S. was 720,000 dollars; some damage was also reported in the Tijuana area (PDE, Monthly listing, July 1986, USGS).

The possible effect of a major earthquake, as currently anticipated on the San Andreas fault, can perhaps be envisioned from the effects of the 8 July 1986 North Palm Springs earthquake. The North Palm Springs earthquake occurred on the San Andreas fault, and thus might be regarded as a Green's function for the ground motion from a great earthquake there. This earthquake had an aftershock zone about 15 km long (Nicholson et al., 1986), while the eventual great earthquake might have a rupture length of about 150 to 200 km, implying that the duration for the larger earthquake would be about 10 times greater. For a magnitude difference of 2.2 magnitude units (7.9-5.7), the Joyner and Boore regressions predicts peak accelerations which are increased by a factor of three to four times, and peak velocities increased by a factor of 10

to 15. At 140 km distance, Joyner and Boore (1981) predict peak accelerations increasing from 7 cm/sec² for magnitude 5.6 to 27 cm/sec² for magnitude 7.9. However, in the July 8 earthquake (M=5.6) the peak acceleration at Murray Dam, 12 km east of downtown San Diego, was already about 30 cm/sec²; if the ratio from the Joyner and Boore regression holds, the peak acceleration in San Diego could be as high as 150 cm/sec² in a large earthquake on the San Andreas fault. According to Trifunac and Brady (1975) this level of shaking could correspond to intensity VII to VIII, which is surprising when we consider that the 1857 earthquake only caused intensity V. The Indio segment is closer to San Diego, and particularly closer than the Carrizo Plains which was the part of the San Andreas with most slip in 1857, so it appears that San Diego should expect a higher intensity than in the 1857 earthquake. Thus San Diegans would be wrong to assume that they are far enough from the San Andreas fault to be isolated from damaging ground motions.

SUMMARY

This paper identifies the major faults which contribute to the seismic hazard for San Diego, compiles estimates of their activity rates, examines the attenuation of ground motion in the area, and combines this information to estimate the seismic hazard. We point out here, again, major uncertainties, and directions of future research which will be needed to reduce these uncertainties. From the geological viewpoint, the greatest uncertainty is in the slip rates of the Rose Canyon and offshore faults, and the size and recurrence rates of earthquakes that these faults produce. For each of the faults, we suggest possible segments which might tend to break coherently in single earthquakes. Future earthquakes will test this preliminary model, and additional research also is certain to result in more detailed knowledge about the geometrical characteristics and modes of rupture of the southern California faults which will require revisions to the model.

The attenuation model for ground motion near San Diego needs to be reconsidered carefully, as some evidence suggests that the area may be in a low attenuation region compared to other locations in California which have produced strong motion data. This problem can be studied in part with recordings of small earthquakes; it is not necessary to wait for large ones. An urban seismic network would also allow a quantitative study of local site effects, which are certain to cause variations in the ground motion from one locality to another within the urban area.

The model of significant earthquakes to San Diego which we present has not been developed to the point where the effects of the various uncertainties are presented. Methods are available to handle all of the uncertainties discussed above, and they ought to be applied to improve upon our results, but that analysis is beyond the scope of this research.

In spite of the uncertainties, we believe that the model given by this paper captures the most significant elements of the seismic hazard for the San Diego region. In this model, strong earthquakes are expected to occur infrequently in locations close to the metropolitan region. Damage might also occur from more frequent events at greater distances, including the southern San Andreas fault.

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AUTHOR'S NOTE

After the preparation of the bulk of this manuscript, three major earthquakes occurred in southern California. The Whittier Narrows earthquake, Oct. 1, 1987 (M_L 5.9), had a thrust mechanism at a depth of 15 km. Thus it appears to be a small event associated with the southern margin of the Transverse Ranges (ie. smaller than event 38a, Table 4), with its hypocenter located below the north end of the mapped location of the Whittier fault. The first large earthquake in the Superstition Hills sequence, M_S=6.2, Nov. 23, 1987 (PST), ruptured a northeast trending left-lateral fault (the Almore Ranch fault), previously unrecognized as a seismogenic fault. The Nov. 24 M_S=6.6 earthquake ruptured segment 6 on Fig. 2. The magnitude was slightly larger than the anticipated magnitude of 6.4 (Table 4).

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154.2 135.6 191.3 112.9 305.0

221.6 304.1

156.3 73.8 228.2 224.9 155.8 192.1 112.9

110.9 110.9 145.2 110.9

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Listing of earthquakes to affect San Deigo January 1, 1932 - October 30, 1986

Source: California Institute of Technology Selection Criteria:

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