Correlation of the Emergency Handling Peak Ground Acceleration (PGA) for High-speed Railway and Strong-motion Indices using K-net Data

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Abstract. The emergency handling Peak Ground Acceleration (PGA) has been used as a measure of braking for High-speed Railway (Shinkansen) during earthquake in Japan, and it necessitates to know the correlation between PGA and other strong motion indices, e.g., un-filtered Peak Ground Acceleration (PGA_u), Japan Meteorological Agency seismic instrumental intensity (I_JMA), Spectrum Intensity (SI), Arias Intensity (I_a), Cumulative Absolute Velocity (CAV), and Cumulative Differential of Energy (DE). The PGA and other ground motion indices were calculated using the selected data set from K-net, in which consists of 2714 three-component records selected from 16 earthquake events occurred in Japan. The relationships between the PGA, and PGA_u, I_JMA, SI, I_a, CAV, and DE were then derived performing a linear regression analysis. Our Results indicate that the PGA shows higher correlation with I_JMA or SI than other ground motion indices, which may be useful for deployment of new parameters of emergency handling during earthquake for High-speed Railway.

Introduction

The emergency handling Peak Ground Acceleration (PGA) has been used as a measure of braking for High-speed Railway (Shinkansen) during earthquake in Japan for many years. It was defined as maximum of vector composition of two horizontal components, which are processed using a casual Butterworth filter with a low-pass frequency of 5Hz [1]. The seismometers were installed every 20 to 25km along the Shinkansen line to issue an alarm if the PGA exceeds 40gal (cm/s^2) [2]. China is an earthquake-prone country. Earthquake is a natural disaster which probability is small but hazards to railway safety is high. With the rapid development of high-speed railway, it is urgent for Chinese high-speed railway construction of earthquake emergency handling system [3].

Other ground motion indices, e.g., Japan Meteorological Agency seismic instrumental intensity (I_JMA) [4], Spectrum Intensity (SI) [5], Arias Intensity (I_a) [6], Cumulative Absolute Velocity (CAV) [7], and Cumulative Differential of Energy (DE) [8], etc., are also used to describe the severity of an earthquake. Hence, it is important to know the relationship between the PGA and other strong motion parameters (e.g., I_JMA, SI, I_a, CAV, DE).

In this study, the PGA and other ground motion indices were calculated using the selected data set from K-net, in which consists of 2714 three-component records selected from 16 earthquake events occurred in Japan. The relationships between the PGA, and PGA_u, I_JMA, SI, I_a, CAV, and DE were then derived performing a linear regression analysis, which may be useful for deployment of new parameters of emergency handling during earthquake for High-speed Railway.

Data

The data set used in this study consists of 2714 three-component acceleration records selected from 16 earthquake events occurred in Japan, with magnitude ranges from 5.8 to 7.3. The acceleration signals were then integrated once for obtaining the velocities. After the integration process, the velocities were recursively processed using a casual Butterworth filter with a high-pass frequency of 0.075Hz for removing the low-frequency drift. Fig. 1 shows the distributions of the epicenters and the K-net stations used in this study.

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Strong-motion Indices

The emergency handling Peak Ground Acceleration (PGA) are defined as maximum of vector composition of two horizontal components, which are processed using a casual Butterworth filter with a low-pass frequency of 5Hz. Similarly, un-filtered Peak Ground Acceleration (PGA_u) are defined as maximum of vector composition of two horizontal components un-filtered. Japan Meteorological Agency seismic instrumental intensity (I_JMA), Spectrum Intensity (SI), Arias Intensity (I_a), Cumulative Absolute Velocity (CAV), and Cumulative Differential of Energy (DE) are defined in reference [4,5,6,7,8], respectively.

Results

The regression model used in this study is given as

$$\log_{10} y = a \cdot \log_{10} x + b.$$  \hspace{1cm} (1)

where $y$ is the PGA, $a$ and $b$ are the regression coefficients, and $x$ is the ground motion indices, i.e., PGA_u, I_JMA, SI, I_a, CAV, and DE. The regression models given in Equation (1) is linear with respect to the coefficients to be determined.

Fig. 2(a) shows the relationship between PGA and SI, Fig. 2(b) shows the relationship between PGA and PGA_u, Fig. 2(c) shows the relationship between PGA and I_JMA, Fig. 2(d) shows the relationship between PGA and I_a, Fig. 2(e) shows the relationship between PGA and DE, and Fig. 2(f) shows the relationship between PGA and CAV for the K-net data used in this study, respectively. The regression coefficients, $a$, $b$, and correlation coefficient of each relationship are indicated in corresponding sub-figure.

From the Fig. 2, we find that the PGA shows the highest correlation with SI, it shows the second highest correlation with the parameters such as I_JMA, and it shows the next higher correlation with I_a, through correlation analysis used K-net data in Japan in this study.

Fig. 1 Distribution of the epicenters (red open circles, size in proportion to magnitude) and the K-net stations (grey solid triangles) used in this study. (a) Distribution of K-net data (blue open circles used in this study as a function of the magnitude and epicentral distance)
Conclusions and Discussions

The PGA and other strong motion parameters (e.g., $I_{\text{JMA}}$, $I_a$, CAV, DE) were calculated using K-net data set in this study, in which consists of 2714 three-component records selected from 16 earthquake events occurred in Japan. The relationships between the PGA, and $PGA_u$, $I_{\text{JMA}}$, $I_a$, CAV, and DE were then derived performing a linear regression analysis. The major findings are as follows:

1. The results show that there are certain linear correlations between the PGA and other strong motion parameters.

Fig. 2 Relationships between (a) PGA and SI, (b) PGA and $PGA_u$, (c) PGA and $I_{\text{JMA}}$, (d) PGA and $I_a$, (e) PGA and DE, and (f) PGA and CAV for the K-net data (grey open circles) used in this study, respectively. The black solid lines show the empirical scaling relationships between the PGA and other strong motion parameters (e.g., $I_{\text{JMA}}$, $PGA_u$, SI, $I_a$, CAV, DE).

1. The results show that there are certain linear correlations between the PGA and other strong motion parameters.

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2. Comparing the correlation coefficients between the JMA intensity with all strong motion parameters, it follows as: (a) the PGA shows the highest correlation with SI, (b) it shows the second highest correlation with the parameters such as $I_{\text{JMA}}$, and (c) it shows the next higher correlation with $I_a$.

3. From the obtained relationship in this study, it was found that the PGA shows higher correlation with $I_{\text{JMA}}$ or SI than other ground motion indices, which may be useful for deployment of new parameters of emergency handling during earthquake for High-speed Railway.

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