

# Understanding the nonlinear behavior of shallow sediments

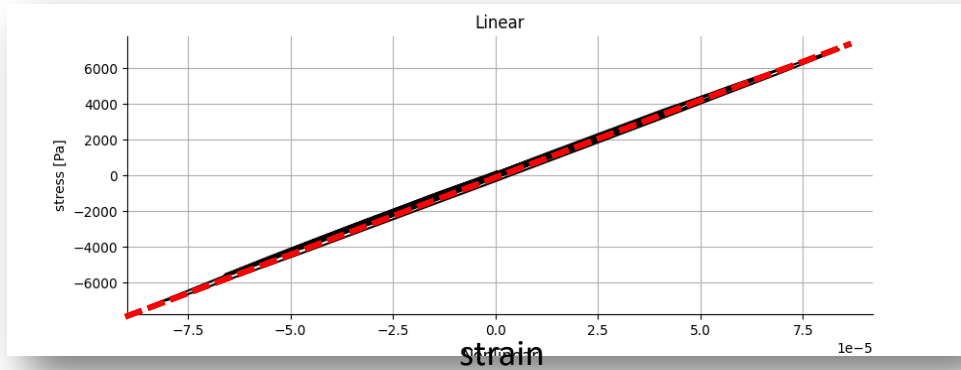
Case study: Iwate Prefecture, Japan

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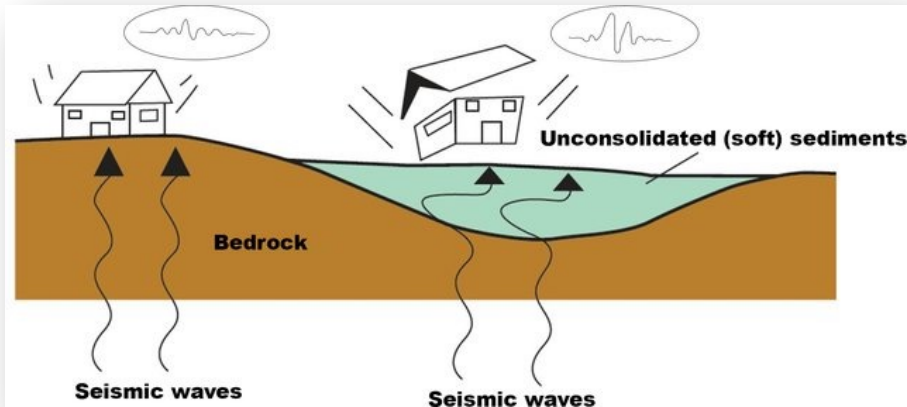
Supervisors: Luis Fabian Bonilla & Eléonore Stutzmann

# Introduction: the linear world

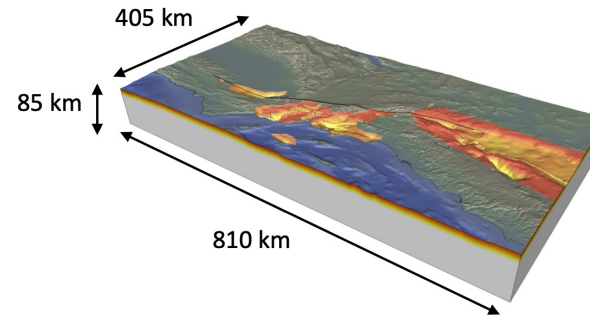


What is the effect of seismic ground motion on different soil types?

- **Sediments can amplify** earthquake ground motion relative to bedrock
- **Weak motion earthquake amplification** is well-explained in terms of **linear elasticity**, where the imposed stress is directly related to the associated strain

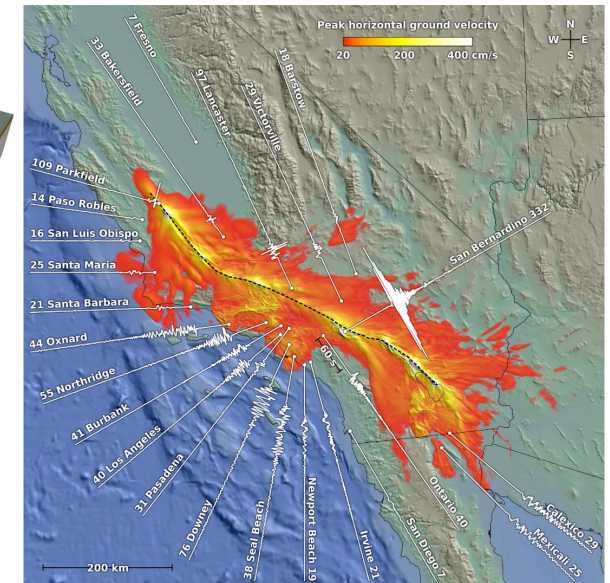


(Darvasi and Agnon, 2019)



- M8
- 360 s of ground motion
- spontaneous rupture
- **minimum  $V_s = 400$  m/s**
- **frequency: 0 - 2 Hz**

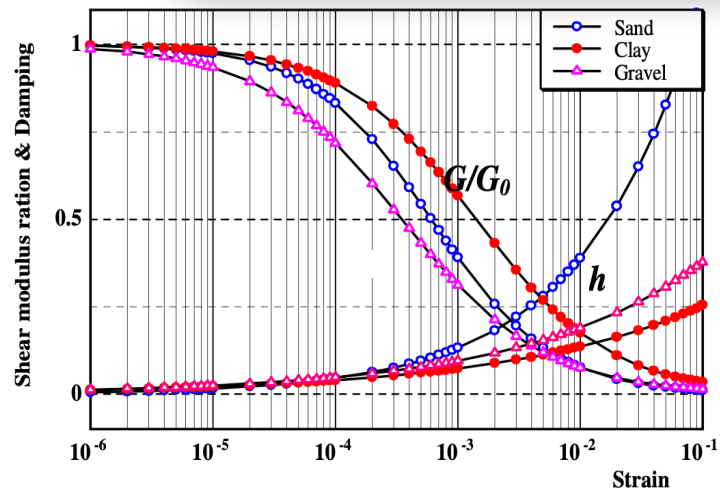
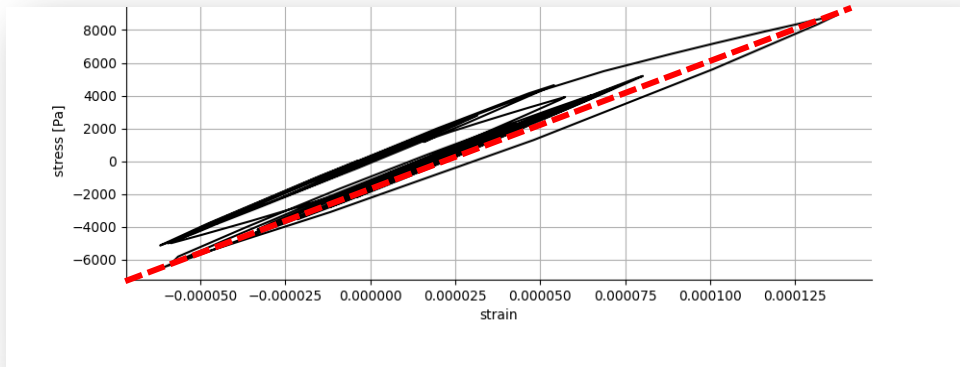
(Cui et al., 2010)



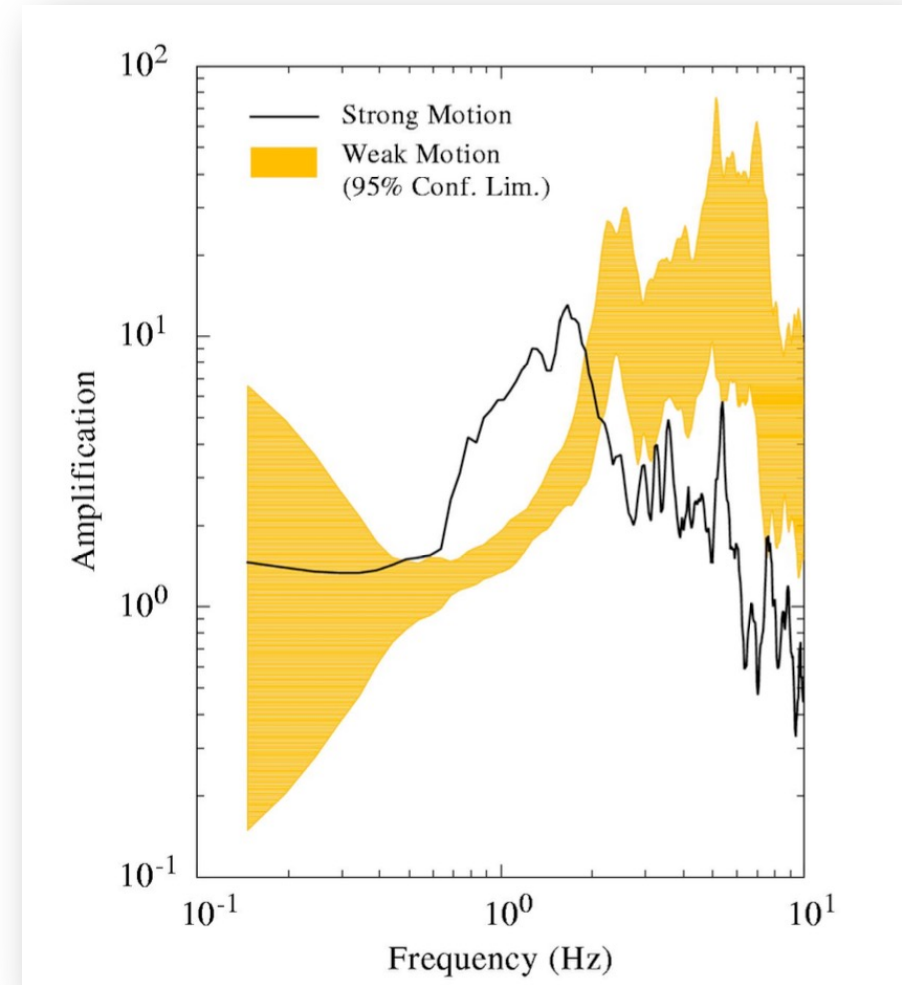
# ➤ Introduction:

What is nonlinearity and why is it important? what about strong ground motion produced by large earthquakes?

- The **linear relationship** between stress and strain **breaks down** for large earthquake



$$G_0 = \rho v_s^2$$

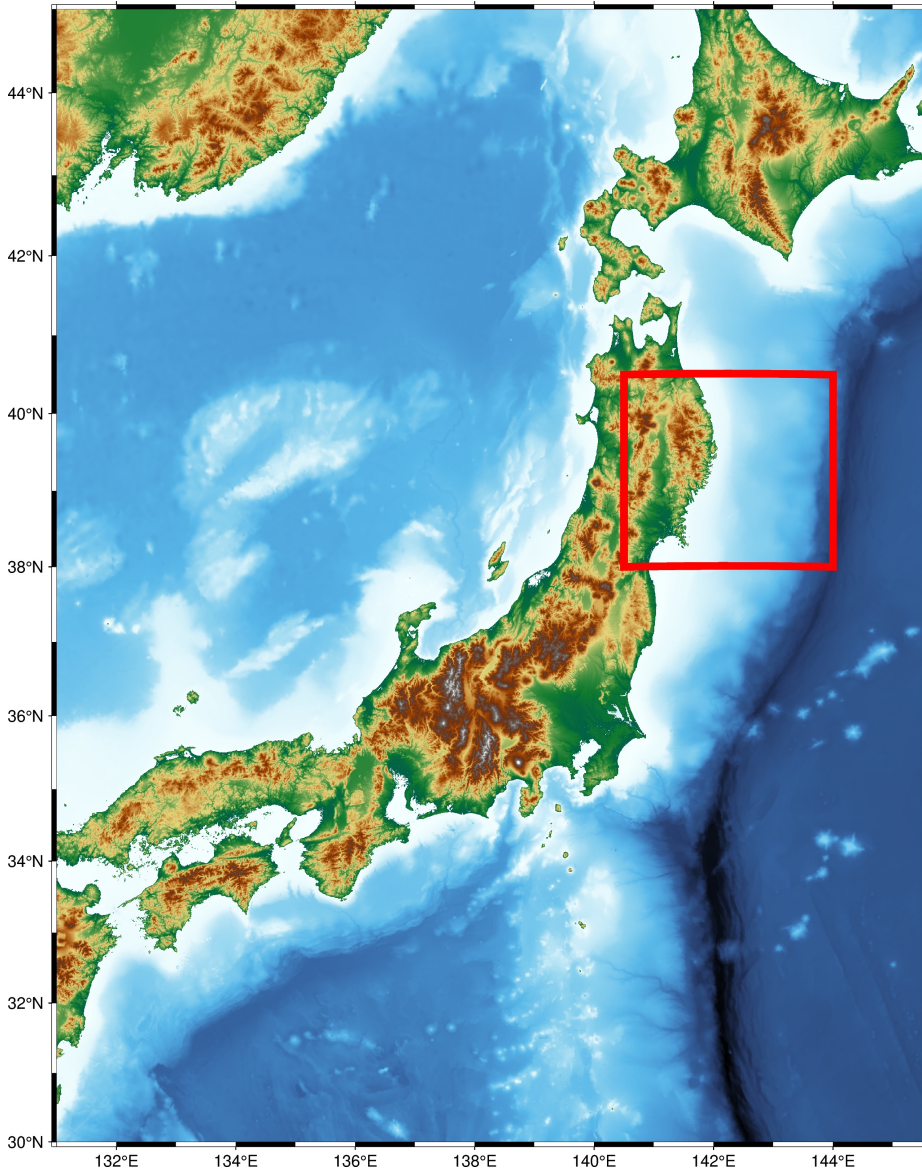


(Bonilla et al., 2018)

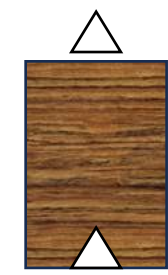
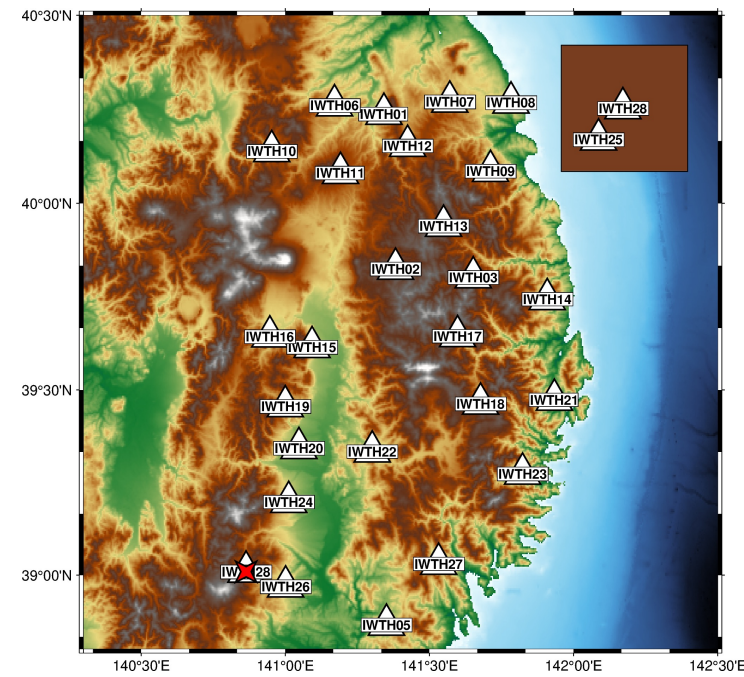
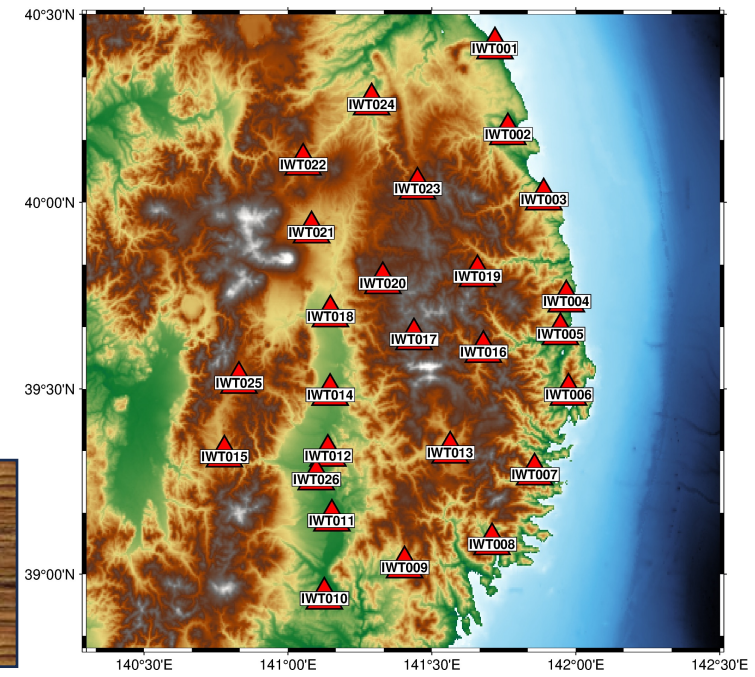




# Data: KiK-net & KNET records from Iwate Prefecture, Japan



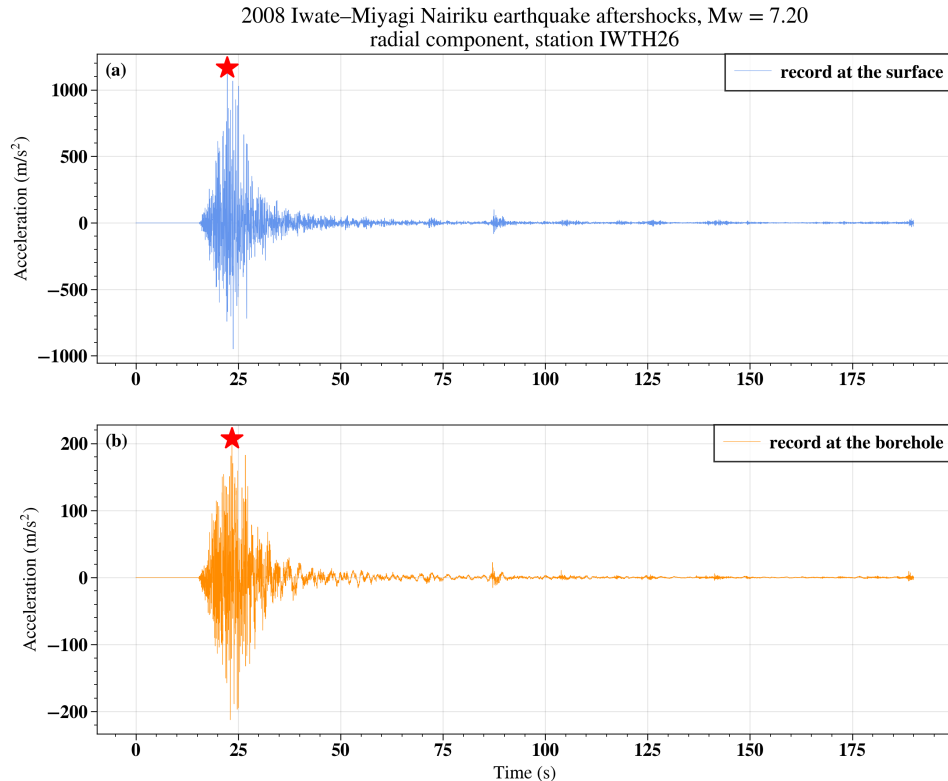
- Period: **1996-2022**
- Earthquake recorded from **Japanese seismic networks**



- Around **2000** earthquakes per station
- Magnitude ranging from **2 to 9**



# Data Processing: Ground motion classification



**Peak Ground Acceleration** (PGA) is the highest level of shaking experienced at a certain location during an earthquake

Earthquakes are **categorized based on PGA levels** (weak to strong)

**Linear reference** established for **weak ground motion**

$$1 \text{ (cm/s}^2\text{)} \leq \text{PGA} \leq 5 \text{ (cm/s}^2\text{)}$$

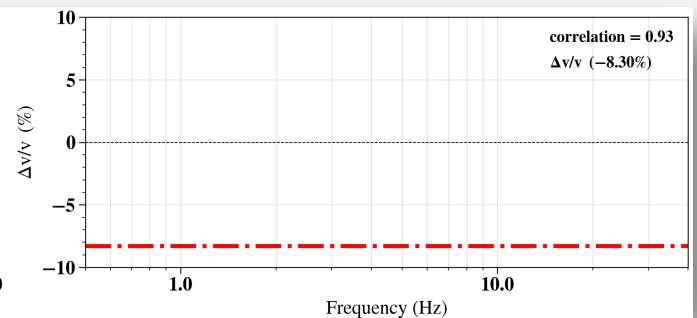
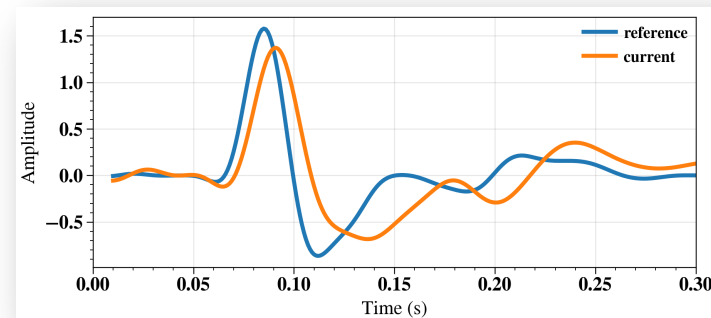
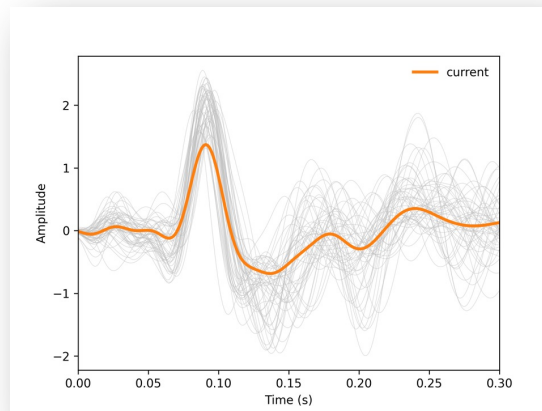
# ➤ Data Processing: signal processing techniques

The results are obtained by applying seismic interferometry through deconvolution in IWTH21.

The data are **stacked** for each bin of PGA.

The stretching method is employed for comparison between the **reference** (from 1 to 5 cm/s<sup>2</sup>) and the **current** (from 50 to 100 cm/s<sup>2</sup>).

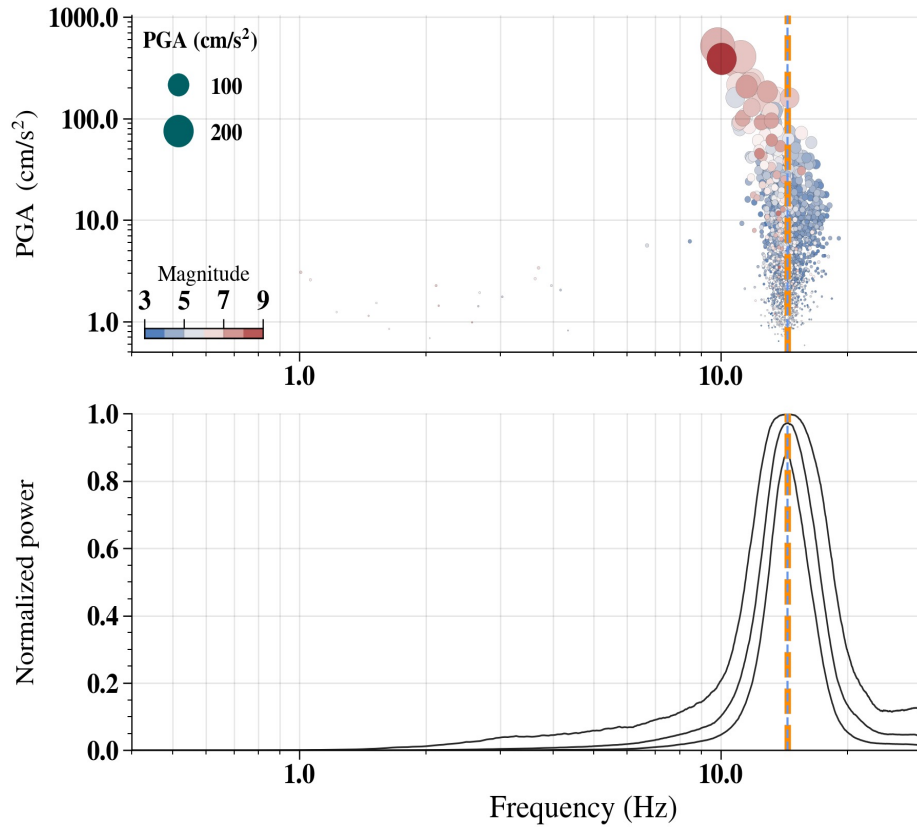
$$\varepsilon = \frac{\Delta v}{v} = - \frac{\Delta t}{t}$$



# Soil nonlinearity observations: frequency and velocity changes

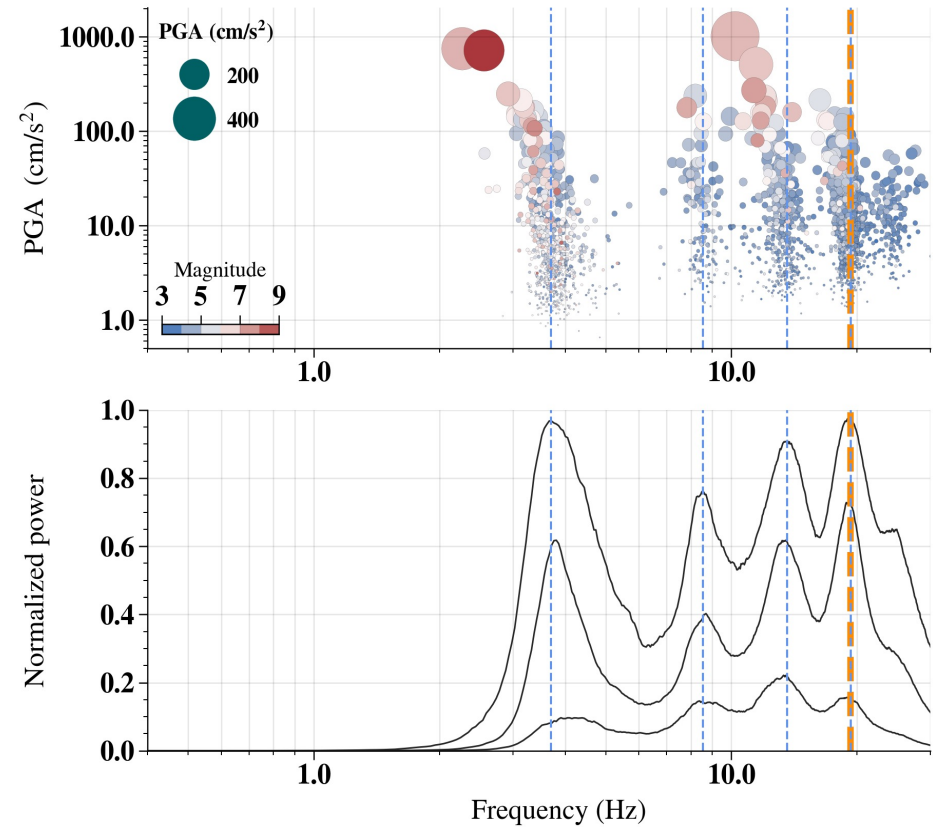
## Unimodal

IWTH23 (554.07 m/s)



## Multimodal

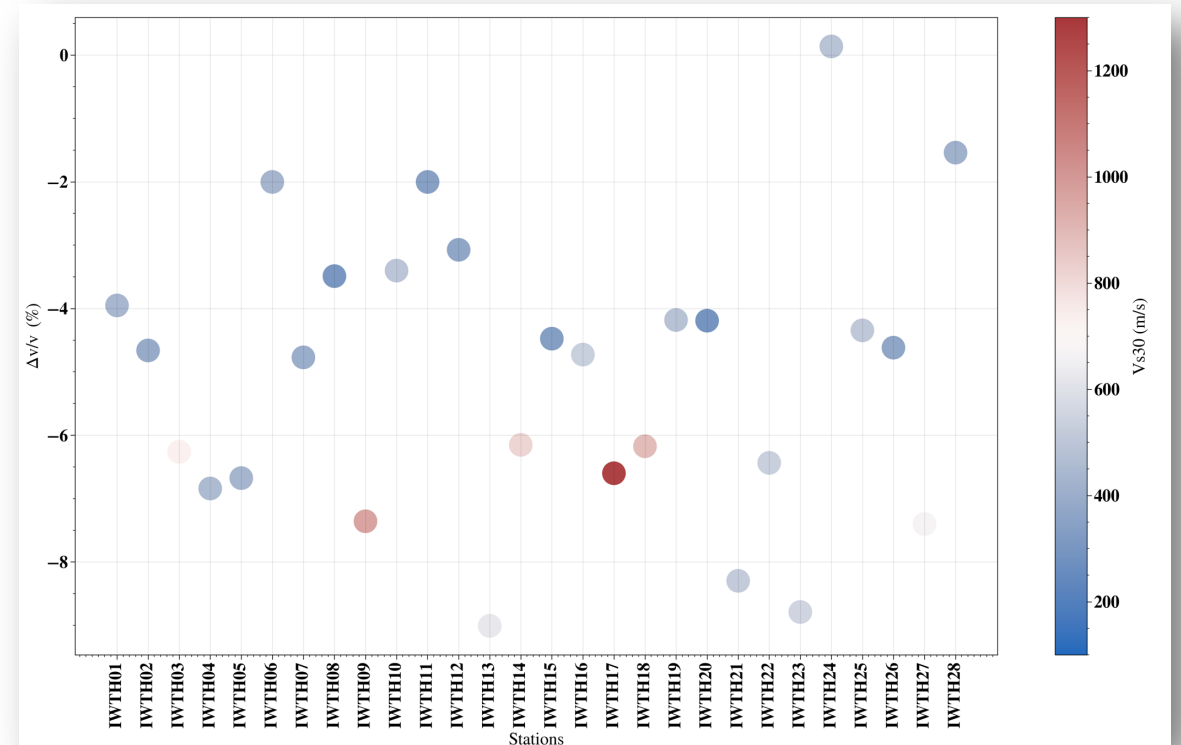
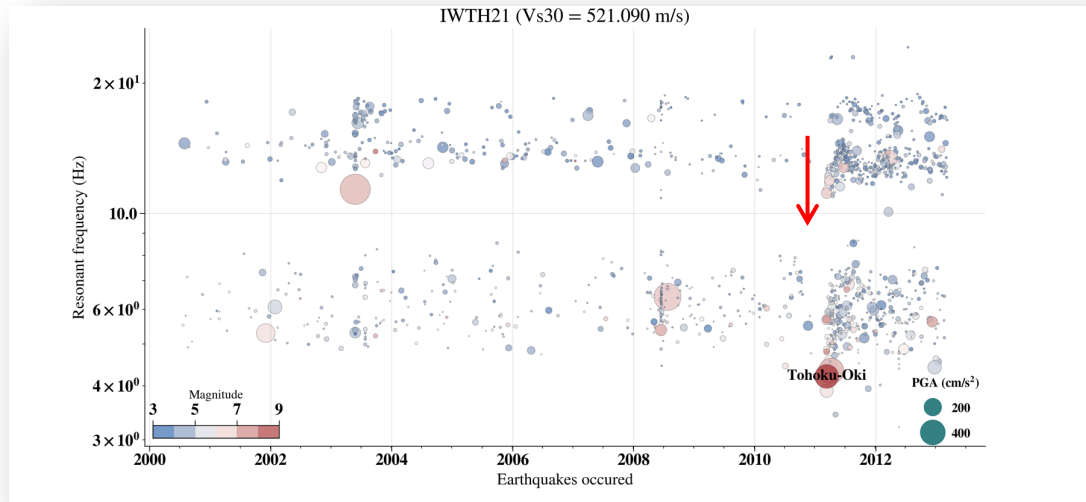
IWT007 (775.5 m/s)





# Soil nonlinearity observations: frequency and velocity changes

Some events can cause **strong decreases in frequency**, and it may take months to years to fully recover from this effect



## Conclusions

1. The station response can be either unimodal or multimodal behavior underlining the complexity behind soil-ground motion interactions
2. During strong ground motions, the materials in the shallow crust may drastically change causing the linear relationship between stress and strain to break down
3. There is a reduction in material stiffness and an increase in damping as strain increases

## References

- Darvasi, Y. & Agnon, A. (2019), Calibrating a new attenuation curve for the Dead Sea region using surface wave dispersion Surveys in site damaged by the 1927 Jericho earthquake. European Geosciences Union. SE, 10, 379-390.
- Cui, Y. *et al.* (2010), Scalable Earthquake Simulation on Petascale Supercomputers. *SC '10: Proceedings of the 2010 ACM/IEEE International Conference for High Performance Computing, Networking, Storage and Analysis*, New Orleans, LA, USA, pp. 1-20.  
keywords: {Mathematical model;Computational modeling;Equations;Earthquakes;Stress;Propagation;Numerical models},
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# Thank you!

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