

GROUND MOTION PREDICTION EQUATIONS FOR CUMULATIVE ABSOLUTE VELOCITY (CAV) USING THE PEER-NGA STRONG MOTION DATABASE

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ABSTRACT

Cumulative absolute velocity (CAV), defined as the sum of the absolute acceleration time series, has been shown to be a better predictor of damage than peak ground motion and response spectra parameters. The nuclear industry uses the value of CAV in consecutive one-second intervals in which the acceleration exceeds 0.025g (CAV_{STD}) as a check on whether to shut down a nuclear power plant when the response spectra exceed the Operating Basis Earthquake (OBE). The value of CAV exceeding an acceleration threshold of 0.005g (CAV₅) has been found to be a better parameter than Arias Intensity or peak ground acceleration (PGA) and magnitude for evaluating liquefaction potential of saturated sands. Most recently, CAV_{STD} has been used to exclude non-damaging ground motions from contributing to the probabilistic seismic hazard analyses (PSHA) of nuclear power plant sites in the central and eastern United States. However, there are very few CAV ground motion prediction equations (GMPEs). To help fill this void, we developed new GMPEs for the geometric mean horizontal component of CAV (CAV_{GM}) based on the strong motion database and functional forms used to develop GMPEs for peak ground motion and response spectra parameters for the PEER-NGA Project. We also developed a prediction equation between a modified version of CAV_{STD} (CAV_S), which includes all of the USNRC ground motion criteria for shutting down a nuclear power plant, and CAV_{GM} using the PEER-NGA database. We consider our CAV relationships to be valid for magnitudes ranging from 5.0 up to 7.5-8.5 (depending on fault mechanism) and distances ranging from 0 up to 100-200 km (depending on magnitude) for shallow crustal earthquakes in active tectonic regions. We found the standard deviation of both of the CAV parameters to be equal to or smaller than those of any ground motion parameter we have studied thus far.

Introduction

Cumulative absolute velocity (CAV), which is defined as the integral of the absolute value of the acceleration time series, is calculated from the equation (EPRI 1988):

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$$CAV = \int_0^{t_{max}} |a(t)| dt$$
⁽¹⁾

where t is time and t_{max} is the total duration of the time series. Fig. 1 shows a hypothetical acceleration time series and the corresponding value of CAV as it evolves over time. In this figure, CAV is the summation of the shaded areas. It is evident from the definition of CAV that its value increases with time until it reaches its maximum value at t_{max} . Therefore, CAV includes the cumulative effects of ground motion duration. This is a key advantage of CAV over other peak ground motion and response spectra parameters and is one of the reasons that EPRI (1988) found it to be the instrumental intensity measure that best correlated with the onset of structural damage to buildings of good construction of all of the measures that they studied.

Although it is named the cumulative absolute velocity and it has units of velocity, CAV is not directly related to the ground motion velocity v(t). The name cumulative absolute velocity comes from the recognition that, since a(t) = dv(t)/dt, the integral over acceleration in Eq. (1) can be rewritten as the following summation of N incremental (i.e., peak-to-valley and valley-to-peak) velocities, regardless of sign, in the velocity time series (EPRI 1988):

$$CAV = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left| \Delta v_i \right| \tag{2}$$

CAV was initially developed and proposed by EPRI (1988) as an index to indicate the onset of structural damage to nuclear facilities. Since then several variants of CAV have been proposed that are believed to be better suited to specific engineering applications. EPRI (1991) noted that the calculation of CAV could be overly influenced by time series of long duration that contained small amplitude (non-damaging) accelerations. As a result, EPRI standardized the method of calculating CAV to account for record length. We refer to this standardized version of CAV as CAV_{STD} in order to distinguish it from the original definition of CAV. The recommended method to standardize the CAV calculation for a given time series is to window its calculation on a second-by-second basis. Only if the absolute value of acceleration exceeds 0.025g at any time during each non-overlapping one-second time interval of the acceleration. This calculation is given by the equation (EPRI 2006):

$$CAV_{STD} = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left(H(PGA_i - 0.025) \int_{t_i}^{t_i + 1} |a(t)| dt \right)$$
(3)

where a(t) has units of g, N is the number of one-second non-overlapping time intervals in the acceleration time series, PGA_i is the peak ground acceleration (g) in time interval *i*, t_i is the start time of time interval *i* (sec), and H(x) is the Heaviside Step Function (0 for x < 0, 1 for $x \ge 1$). Fig. 1 shows the calculation of CAV_{STD} and its relationship to CAV for a hypothetical acceleration time series. As this figure shows, CAV_{STD} will always be equal to or less than CAV. This difference can be large for small amplitude recordings. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (USNRC 1997) uses CAV_{STD} and the response spectra calculated from free-field recordings to determine whether the Operating Basis Earthquake (OBE) has been exceeded and a nuclear power plant must be shut down after an earthquake.

Kramer and Mitchell (2006) investigated several peak, spectral, and energy related ground motion intensity measures, including Arias Intensity and CAV_{STD} , and determined that the measure that best correlated with the peak porewater pressure in saturated liquefiable sands was the value of CAV after application of a 5 cm/sec² threshold acceleration, which they call CAV₅. Pulses of an acceleration time series whose amplitudes do not exceed this threshold are not included in the calculation of CAV₅. This calculation is given by the equation:

$$CAV_{5} = \int_{0}^{\infty} H\left(\left|a(t)\right| - 5\right) \left|a(t)\right| dt$$
(4)

where a(t) has units of cm/sec² and H(x) is the Heaviside Step Function defined in Eq. (2).

A summary of studies involving CAV, CAV_{STD} , and CAV_5 and their correlation with macroseismic intensity and instrumental damage index parameters is summarized by Campbell and Bozorgnia (2010a,b).

Ground Motion Database

In this study, we defined CAV as the geometric mean of the two as-recorded horizontal components of the ground motion. We refer to this former intensity measure as CAV_{GM} in order to distinguish it from the generic definition of CAV. Our definition of CAV_{STD} , which we refer to as CAV_{S} , includes all of the USNRC (1997) ground motion criteria for determining whether a nuclear power plant must be shutdown after an earthquake. These criteria state that for any one of the three components (i.e., two horizontal and one vertical) of a free-field recording (1) the 5%-damped pseudo-absolute response-spectral acceleration should exceed 0.2g over the period range 0.1–0.5 sec (the spectral acceleration check) or the 5%-damped pseudo-relative response-spectral velocity should exceed 15.24 cm/sec over the period range 0.5–1 sec (the spectral velocity check), and (2) the value of CAV_{STD} should exceed 0.16 g-sec (the CAV check).

The strong motion database used for this study was that developed by the Pacific Earthquake Engineering Research Center (Chiou et al. 2008) as part of the Next Generation Attenuation (NGA) Project (Power et al. 2008). We refer to it as the PEER-NGA database. We developed the ground motion prediction equation (GMPE) for CAV_{GM} from a subset of this database that Campbell and Bozorgnia (2008) used to develop GMPEs for peak ground motion and response spectra parameters. We refer to this subset as the CB08-NGA database. We developed prediction equations between CAV_S and CAV_{GM} (see below) from both the PEER-NGA and CB08-NGA databases with and without applying the USNRC spectral velocity check. The prediction equation using the more reliable CB08-NGA database after applying the more inclusive spectral velocity check is presented in this paper. The reader is referred to Campbell and Bozorgnia (2010a) for a description of the other CAV_S prediction equations.

The full CB08-NGA database used to analyze CAV_{GM} consists of 1561 recordings from 64 earthquakes with moment magnitudes $\mathbf{M} = 4.3-7.9$ and rupture distances $R_{RUP} = 0.1-199$ km. The version of the CB08-NGA database used to analyze CAV_s (after applying the acceleration and response spectra thresholds) consists of 903 recordings from 53 earthquakes with $\mathbf{M} = 4.9-7.9$ and $R_{RUP} = 0.1-195$ km.

Ground Motion Prediction Equation for $\ensuremath{\text{CAV}_{\text{GM}}}$

Median Model

The GMPE for CAV_{GM} was developed from the equations (Campbell and Bozorgnia 2008):

$$\overline{\ln \text{CAV}_{\text{GM}}} = f_{mag} + f_{dis} + f_{flt} + f_{hng} + f_{site} + f_{sed}$$
(5)

where the magnitude term is given by the expression

$$f_{mag} = \begin{cases} c_0 + c_1 \mathbf{M}; & \mathbf{M} \le 5.5 \\ c_0 + c_1 \mathbf{M} + c_2 (\mathbf{M} - 5.5); & 5.5 < \mathbf{M} \le 6.5 \\ c_0 + c_1 \mathbf{M} + c_2 (\mathbf{M} - 5.5) + c_3 (\mathbf{M} - 6.5); & \mathbf{M} > 6.5 \end{cases}$$
(6)

the distance term is given by the expressions

$$f_{dis} = (c_4 + c_5 \mathbf{M}) \ln\left(\sqrt{R_{RUP}^2 + c_6^2}\right)$$
(7)

the style-of-faulting (fault mechanism) term is given by the expressions

$$f_{flt} = c_7 F_{RV} f_{flt,Z} + c_8 F_{NM}$$
(8)

$$f_{flt,Z} = \begin{cases} Z_{TOR}; & Z_{TOR} < 1\\ 1; & Z_{TOR} \ge 1 \end{cases}$$
(9)

the hanging-wall term is given by the expressions

$$f_{hng} = c_9 f_{hng,R} f_{hng,M} f_{hng,Z} f_{hng,\delta}$$
(10)
(1;
$$R_{IR} = 0$$

$$f_{hng,R} = \left\{ \left[\max\left(R_{RUP}, \sqrt{R_{JB}^2 + 1}\right) - R_{JB} \right] / \max\left(R_{RUP}, \sqrt{R_{JB}^2 + 1}\right); \quad R_{JB} > 0, Z_{TOR} < 1 \quad (11) \\ \left(R_{RUP}, -R_{RUP}\right) / R_{RUP} : R_{RUP} = 0, Z_{RUP} < 1 \quad (11)$$

$$((\mathbf{R}_{RUP} - \mathbf{R}_{JB}) / \mathbf{R}_{RUP}, \qquad \mathbf{R}_{JB} > 0, \mathbf{Z}_{TOR} \ge 1$$

$$(0; \qquad \mathbf{M} \le 6.0$$

$$(12)$$

$$f_{hng,M} = \begin{cases} 2(\mathbf{M} - 6.0); & 6.0 < \mathbf{M} < 6.5 \\ 1; & \mathbf{M} \ge 6.5 \end{cases}$$
(12)

$$f_{hng,Z} = \begin{cases} 0; & Z_{TOR} \ge 20\\ (20 - Z_{TOR})/20; & 0 \le Z_{TOR} < 20 \end{cases}$$
(13)

$$f_{hng,\delta} = \begin{cases} 1; & abs(\delta) \le 70\\ [90 - abs(\delta)]/20; & abs(\delta) > 70 \end{cases}$$
(14)

the shallow site response term is given by the expression

$$f_{site} = \begin{cases} c_{10} \ln\left(\frac{V_{S30}}{k_1}\right) + k_2 \left\{ \ln\left[A_{1100} + c\left(\frac{V_{S30}}{k_1}\right)^n\right] - \ln\left[A_{1100} + c\right] \right\}; & V_{S30} < k_1 \\ (c_{10} + k_2 n) \ln\left(\frac{V_{S30}}{k_1}\right); & k_1 \le V_{S30} < 1100 \\ (c_{10} + k_2 n) \ln\left(\frac{1100}{k_1}\right); & V_{S30} \ge 1100 \end{cases}$$
(15)

the basin response (sediment depth) term is given by the expression

$$f_{sed} = \begin{cases} c_{11}(Z_{2.5} - 1); & Z_{2.5} < 1\\ 0; & 1 \le Z_{2.5} \le 3\\ c_{12}k_3e^{-0.75} \left[1 - e^{-0.25(Z_{2.5} - 3)} \right]; & Z_{2.5} > 3 \end{cases}$$
(16)

and CAV_{GM} has units of g-sec **M** is moment magnitude; R_{RUP} is the closest distance to the coseismic rupture plane (km); R_{JB} is the closest distance to the surface projection of the coseismic rupture plane (km); F_{RV} is an indicator variable representing reverse and reverse-oblique faulting ($F_{RV} = 1$ for $30^{\circ} < \lambda < 150^{\circ}$, $F_{RV} = 0$ otherwise, λ is rake angle defined as the average angle of slip measured in the plane of rupture between the strike direction and the slip vector); F_{NM} is an indicator variable representing normal and normal-oblique faulting ($F_{NM} = 1$ for $-150^{\circ} < \lambda < -30^{\circ}$ and $F_{NM} = 0$ otherwise); Z_{TOR} is the depth to the top of the coseismic rupture plane (km); $|\delta| \le 90^{\circ}$ is the angle of dip of the rupture plane measured from horizontal; V_{S30} is the time-averaged shear-wave velocity in the top 30m of the site (m/sec); A_{1100} is the median estimate of the geometric mean horizontal component of PGA on a rock outcrop with $V_{S30} = 1100$ m/sec (g); and $Z_{2.5}$ is the depth to the 2.5 km/sec shear-wave velocity horizon (km).

Aleatory Uncertainty Model

The standard deviations of the inter-event variability, intra-event variability, total geometric mean horizontal component, and arbitrary horizontal component (Boore 2005; Baker and Cornell 2006) (τ , σ , σ_T , and σ_{Arb} , respectively) are given by the equations:

$$\tau = \tau_{\ln(CAV_{GM})} \tag{17}$$

$$\sigma = \sqrt{\sigma_{\ln(CAV_{GM})_B}^2 + \sigma_{\ln(AF)}^2 + \alpha^2 \sigma_{\ln(PGA)_B}^2 + 2\alpha\rho\sigma_{\ln(CAV_{GM})_B}\sigma_{\ln(PGA)_B}}$$
(18)

$$\sigma_T = \sqrt{\sigma^2 + \tau^2} \tag{19}$$

$$\sigma_{Arb} = \sqrt{\sigma_T^2 + \sigma_C^2} \tag{20}$$

where $\tau_{\ln(CAV_{GM})}$ is the standard deviation of the inter-event residuals; $\sigma_{\ln(CAV_{GM})}$ is the standard deviation of the intra-component variability, $\sigma_{\ln(AF)} = 0.3$ is the estimated standard deviation of the site amplification factor, $\ln(AF) = f_{site}$, assuming linear site response (see Campbell and Bozorgnia 2008 for a derivation of this value), the subscript B refers to the ground motion at the base of the site profile in which the variance (square of the standard deviation) is reduced by the variance of the site amplification factor (i.e., $\sigma_B^2 = \sigma^2 - 0.3^2$), $\sigma_{\ln(PGA)}$ is the estimated intra-event standard deviation of $\ln(PGA)$, ρ is the correlation coefficient between the intra-event variability (residuals) of $\ln(CAV_{GM})$ and $\ln(PGA)$, and α is the linearized functional relationship between f_{site} and $\ln(A_{1100})$, which is estimated from the partial derivative $\partial f_{site}/\partial \ln(A_{1100})$ according to the expression:

$$\alpha = \begin{cases} k_2 A_{1100} \left\{ \left[A_{1100} + c \left(V_{S30} / k_1 \right)^n \right]^{-1} - \left(A_{1100} + c \right)^{-1} \right\} & V_{S30} < k_1 \\ 0 & V_{S30} \ge k_1 \end{cases}$$
(21)

Ground Motion Prediction Equation for CAVs

Median and Aleatory Uncertainty Models

Because of the strict criteria that were used to define CAV_S , there were too few recordings to develop a GMPE directly from the data. Instead, a prediction equation was developed in terms of CAV_{GM} based on the equation:

$$\ln(\text{CAV}_{\rm s}) = c_0 + c_1 \ln(\text{CAV}_{\rm GM}) + c_2 (\mathbf{M} - 6.5) H (\mathbf{M} - 6.5) + c_3 R_{RUP}$$
(22)

When the value of CAV_{GM} is unknown, $ln(CAV_{GM})$ should be replaced by its median predicted value from Eqs. (5)–(16).

When CAV_{GM} is known, the standard deviations of ln(CAV_S) are obtained directly from the regression analysis (i.e., $\tau = \tau_{ln(CAV_S)}$ and $\sigma = \sigma_{ln(CAV_S)}$). When CAV_{GM} is unknown (i.e., predicted), the standard deviations are calculated from the equations:

$$\tau = \sqrt{\tau_{\ln(CAV_{s})}^{2} + c_{1}^{2} \tau (CAV_{GM})^{2}}$$
(23)

$$\sigma = \sqrt{\sigma_{\ln(CAV_s)}^2 + c_1^2 \sigma (CAV_{GM})^2}$$
(24)

where $\tau(CAV_{GM})$ and $\sigma(CAV_{GM})$ are the values of τ and σ for CAV_{GM} from Eqs. (17) and (18) and c_1 is the linearized functional relationship (partial derivative) between ln(CAV_S) and ln(CAV_{GM}) from Eq. (22). The above equations do not include a covariance term [the term involving ρ in Eq. (18)] because the residuals of ln(CAV_S) and ln(CAV_{GM}) were found to be uncorrelated. Because CAV_S is defined as the maximum of the three ground motion components, it does not have an intra-component standard deviation. Note that in no case can the value of CAV_S predicted from its probability density function (PDF) be less than 0.16 g-sec by definition.

Results

The empirical coefficients c_i and the theoretical coefficients k_1 and k_2 were determined using nonlinear random-effects regression (Abrahamson and Youngs 1992). Coefficient k_3 was arbitrarily assigned a value of 1.0 because no theoretical value was available. It was included as a parameter to be consistent with the original GMPE of Campbell and Bozorgnia (2008). Table 1 lists the model coefficients, standard deviations (in natural log units), and correlation coefficients required to evaluate the median and aleatory uncertainty models. Also included in this table are the model parameters for the PGA GMPE of Campbell and Bozorgnia (2008), which is needed to estimate A_{1100} and its uncertainty. The standard deviations of $ln(CAV_S)$ when CAV_{GM} is predicted are given in parentheses in Table 1.

Fig. 2 shows the median attenuation and magnitude scaling characteristics predicted by the CAV GMPEs for $F_{RV} = F_{NM} = 0$, $\delta = 90^{\circ}$, $Z_{TOR} = 0$, $V_{S30} = 760$ m/sec, and $Z_{2.5} = 2$ km. Fig. 3 shows the predicted median shallow site response and basin response effects in terms of NEHRP site classes B ($V_{S30} = 1070$ m/sec), C ($V_{S30} = 525$ m/sec), D ($V_{S30} = 255$ m/sec), and E ($V_{S30} = 150$ m/sec). Fig. 4 shows the estimated inter-event, intra-event, and total standard deviations. Fig. 2 clearly shows the effect of the acceleration and response spectral filters on the GMPEs. Figs. 3 and 4 show the significant effects of soil nonlinearity on the predicted site amplification and intra-event and total standard deviations. In the case of the CAV_S plots, CAV_{GM} was predicted from the median and aleatory uncertainty models described previously.

Conclusions

CAV has found important applications in the U.S. nuclear industry, where one of its variants is used in conjunction with the response spectrum to determine whether a nuclear power plant should be shut down after an earthquake (USNRC 1997), and in geotechnical engineering, where another of its variants is used to assess the liquefaction potential of saturated sands (Kramer and Mitchell 2006). The first variant has been used as a means of preventing small magnitude (non-damaging) earthquakes from contributing to the PSHAs of several nuclear power plants in the central and eastern U.S (EPRI 2006; Watson-Lamprey and Abrahamson 2007). CAV has also been shown to correlate strongly with macroseismic intensity and other instrumental damage indices. However, there are very few GMPEs available with which to estimate CAV (see Campbell and Bozorgnia 2010a,b for a list of these GMPEs and for a summary of relationships between CAV and other proposed damage indices). In this study, we help to fill this void by developing a consistent set of GMPEs for two variants of CAV using the PEER-NGA strong motion database. The standard deviations of these GMPEs are equal to or less than the smallest we have found thus far for peak ground motion and response spectra parameters. The GMPEs are valid for magnitudes ranging from 5.0 up to 7.5 (normal faulting), 8.0 (reverse faulting), or 8.5 (strike-slip faulting), for distances ranging from 0 up to 100 km (for M < 7) or 200 km (for larger M), and for shallow crustal earthquakes in active tectonic regions. Valid ranges of the other predictor variables are given by Campbell and Bozorgnia (2010a,b).

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Param.	\mathcal{C}_0	C_1	<i>C</i> ₂	C ₃	\mathcal{C}_4	C5	C_6	C7	C_8	C9	C_{10}
PGA	-1.715	0.500	-0.530	-0.262	-2.118	0.170	5.60	0.280	-0.120	0.490	1.058
CAV _{GM}	-4.354	0.942	-0.178	-0.346	-1.309	0.087	7.24	0.111	-0.108	0.362	2.549
CAVs	0.0691	1.151	-0.173	-0.00265	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Param.	C11	C12	k_1	k_2	<i>k</i> ₃	τ	σ	σ_T	σ_{C}	$\sigma_{\!\scriptscriptstyle Arb}$	ρ
PGA	0.040	0.610	865	-1.186	1.839	0.219	0.478	0.526	0.166	0.551	1.000
CAV _{GM}	0.090	1.277	400	-2.690	1.0	0.196	0.371	0.420	0.089	0.429	0.735
CAVs	-	-	-	_	-	0.101	0.130	0.165	-	-	-
						(0.247)	(0.446)	(0.510)			

 Table 1
 Model coefficients, standard deviations, and correlation coefficients

Note: c = 1.88, n = 1.18, and $\sigma_{ln(AF)} = 0.3$; PGA has units of g; CAV_{GM} and CAV_S have units of g-sec; standard deviations are in natural log units; k_3 was arbitrarily set to 1.0 because no theoretical constraint was available (see text); standard deviations in parentheses are used when CAV_{GM} is predicted rather than being known; standard deviations assume linear site response (see text for calculating standard deviations for nonlinear site response).



Figure 1. Illustration of the definitions of CAV and Standardized CAV (CAV_{STD}) showing their evolution with time. Modified from EPRI (1988, 1991).



Figure 2. Median attenuation and magnitude scaling characteristics predicted by the GMPEs developed in this study. The threshold value of 0.16 g-sec used in the nuclear industry is shown for reference.



Figure 3. Median shallow site response and basin response (sediment depth) effects predicted by the GMPEs developed in this study.



Figure 4. Inter-event, intra-event, and total standard deviations predicted by the GMPEs developed in this study.