# Validation of ground-motion simulations using large datasets in New Zealand



Brendon Bradley, University of Canterbury, New Zealand

# Ground motion simulation validation



### Dependence on use of simulations



# Validation and utilization guidance

#### 'Validation matrix' for simulation utilization



Bradley et al. (2017)

## 'Conventional' validation for individual earthquake events

# 2010-2011 Canterbury and 2016 Kaikōura earthquakes



#### Bradley (2018)

# 2010-2011 Canterbury and 2016 Kaikōura earthquakes

All simulations utilize the same methodology and input parameters, with only rupture models and simulation domain varying between events



Bradley (2018)

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# Simulation method summary

- Graves & Pitarka hybrid broadband approach
  *f*=1Hz transition frequency
  GP10,15,16 rupture generators used
- LF wavefield computed using 3D NZ Velocity model with ~20 sedimentary basins (100m spatial grid). No modification for shallow site effects
- HF wavefield using 1D VM. Vs30-based empirical site response (or 1D site response analysis)

#### Observed ground motions



### Observed and simulated motions



#### Observed and simulated response spectra



#### Response spectra residual distribution



How much of the misfit between observations and prediction is due to an imperfect simulation methodology, or crustal & rupture models, or incorrect parameter values?

-> Without multiple events, and multiple recordings at specific sites, it is not possible to differentiate

# Validation against small-, moderate-, and largemagnitude NZ events

#### Potential validation events





### Validation: M5-7 events



## Validation: M6-8 with event-specific finite faults



#### 14 EQs

- 2003, '07, '09 Fiordland (3)
- 2010-11 Canterbury (3)
- 2013 Cook Strait (2)
- 2016 Kaikōura
- For largest/complex events, rupture uncertainty tends to dominate simulation uncertainty – limiting validation inferences

#### Residual partitioning via ME regression



#### Overall performance (M3.5-5 events)

NZ-wide dataset



## Overall performance (M3.5-5 events) Total residual standard deviations

NZ-wide dataset **Canterbury** only 1.0 1.0 (b) Simulation 1.2 1.2 Empirical 0.8 0.8 Total standard deviation,  $\sigma$ 1.0 1.0 Total standard deviation,  $\sigma$ 0.8 0.8 0.6 0.6 0.6 0.6 0.4 0 4 0.4 Sigma values ~10% 0.4 lower due to better 0.2 0.2 0.2 0.2 Standard Sim, Old NZVM input data etc. Modified Sim, New NZVM 0.0 0.0 Empirical 10-1 101 ANA USA 10<sup>0</sup> 0.0 0.0 10-1  $10^{0}$ 10<sup>1</sup> S575 ACC 10-4 Vibration period, T (s) Vibration period, T (s)

Lee et al. (2020; EQS) Lee et al. (2021; in review)

### Spatial variation in model performance



Lee et al. (2021; in review)

## Spatial variation in model performance: Between—event residuals



#### Correlation with stress parameter studies

![](_page_23_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### Lee et al. (2021; in review)

### Spatial variation in model performance: Site-specific residuals

![](_page_24_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### Site-specific residuals: site grouping

![](_page_25_Figure_1.jpeg)

# Simulation validation with site-specific 1D response analysis

# Uncoupled approach to site-specific response analysis

![](_page_27_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### Bias-adjusted site-specific residuals

![](_page_28_Figure_1.jpeg)

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# Simulation validation with explicit uncertainty incorporation and propagation

# Incorrect 'target' for comparison

 Aiming for simulations to have a similar residual variance to empirical predictions is not the correct 'target'

![](_page_30_Figure_2.jpeg)

# Simulations with explicit uncertainties

 The residual variance in multiple simulation realizations should be such that normalized residuals confirm to a standard normal distribution

![](_page_31_Figure_2.jpeg)

Neill et al. (2021)

### Uncertainty study in Canterbury

![](_page_32_Figure_1.jpeg)

Neill et al. (2021)

### Normalized residual variance

![](_page_33_Figure_1.jpeg)

# Parametric and modeling uncertainties

physics-based GMMs, and variable definitions related to the resulting ground-motion.		
	Aleatory variability	Epistemic uncertainty
Parametric	Event-to-event variation in source, path, and site-specific parameters of the model for future events ( $\sigma_{param}^2$ )	Uncertainty in the probabilistic description of model parameters ( <i>e.g.</i> , mean, variance, and distribution shape for each parameter; and correlation among parameters) ( $Var[\mu_{param}]$ , $Var[\sigma_{param}^2]$ )
Modeling	Unexplained variability between observations and simulations due to physical processes imperfectly represented (or omitted entirely) from the model; and chaotic processes that are inherently random ( $\sigma_{model}^2$ )	Uncertainty in the probabilistic description ( <i>e.g.</i> , mean, variance, distribution shape) of the model due to the finite number of observations ( $Var[\mu_{model}]$ , $Var[\sigma^2_{model}]$ )
Total	Inherent variability in the prediction of future events associated with variability in model parameters and limitations in the modeling approach itself ( $\sigma_{\ln IM}^2$ )	Uncertainty in the probabilistic description of both model parameters and model distribution due to finite observation and calibration data ( $Var[\mu_{\ln IM}]$ , $Var[\sigma_{\ln IM}^2]$ )

Baker, Bradley,

Stafford (2021)

![](_page_35_Figure_1.jpeg)

Parametric uncertainty:

- Correlation between parameters
- Epistemic uncertainty in values inferred from observations

Modelling uncertainty:

- Misfit to observations
- Avoid double counting contribution from propagated parameter uncertainty

#### Baker, Bradley, Stafford (2021)

# Staged approach toward validation with explicit uncertainty incorporation

![](_page_36_Figure_1.jpeg)

Neill et al. (2019)

# Summary

- Validation is essential for demonstrating the predictive capability of simulations
- Requires a systematic and comprehensive approach considering many events and stations
  - Validation should be on the same datasets used for development/calibration of empirical GMMs
  - Need to untangle simulation vs. source, crustal/velocity, site modelling methodologies
  - Expect pronounced regional variations in predictive capability (particularly due to crustal/site modelling quality)
- Explicit treatment of simulation uncertainties, and their validation, is a critical element toward the direct use of simulations in PSHA

![](_page_38_Figure_0.jpeg)

#### Thank you for your attention https://sites.google.com/site/brendonabradley/

Supported by:

![](_page_38_Picture_3.jpeg)

## Software workflow and Integration

![](_page_39_Figure_1.jpeg)

# Logic trees for model uncertainty

- Simulation-based ground motion prediction incorporated in logic tree along with empirically-based predictions
- Predictive capability of modelling alternatives drives model weight

![](_page_40_Figure_3.jpeg)

#### Baker, Bradley, Stafford (2021, Cambridge University Press)