

# SIMPLIFIED APPROACH TO ASSESS LEVEE SEISMIC VULNERABILITY

Presentation for SAME Conference  
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## Assessment of Seismic Vulnerability

### Approach

Newmark estimation of potential deformation and assessment  
of post-earthquake flood protection ability

### Process

Seismic Hazard – Urban Levee Program Probabilistic Seismic  
Hazard Maps

Liquefaction Triggering CSR – Urban Levee Program CSR  
Charts

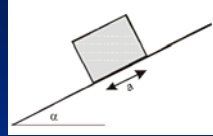
$K_y$  – Site Specific Estimations

Earthquake Loading – Urban Levee Program  $K_{max}$  Charts

Displacement – Urban Levee Program Displacement =  
f(Magnitude, Failure Surface-Type,  $K_y/K_{max}$ ) Charts

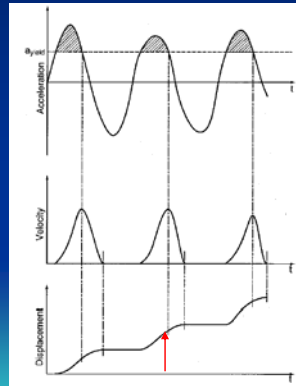
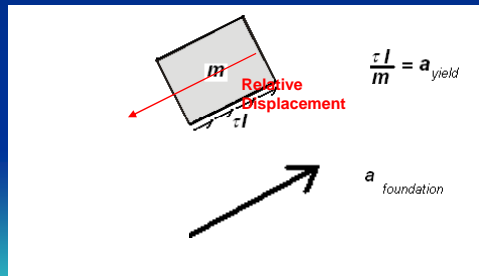


# Newmark Approach



Force = Mass \* Acceleration

Relative Acceleration –  $a = a_y - a_f$   
 Integrate once – Relative Velocity =  $at$   
 Integrate twice – Relative Displacement =  $\frac{1}{2} at^2$



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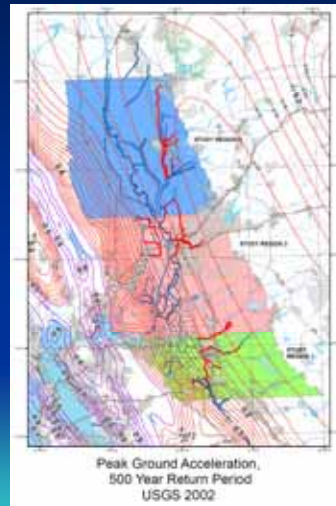
Earthquake Loading – Urban Levee Program  $K_{max}$  Charts

Displacement – Urban Levee Program Displacement =  $f(\text{Magnitude}, K_y/K_{max})$  Charts



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## Estimates of Peak Ground Acceleration (PGA)



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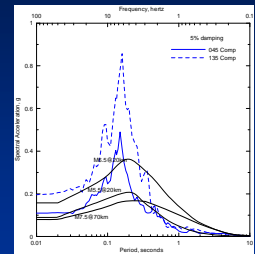
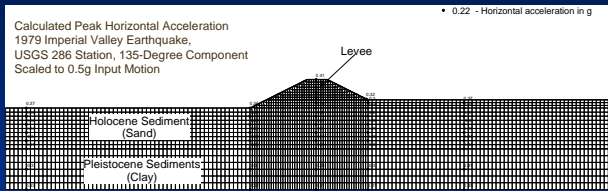
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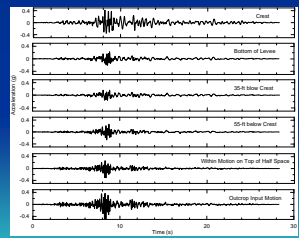


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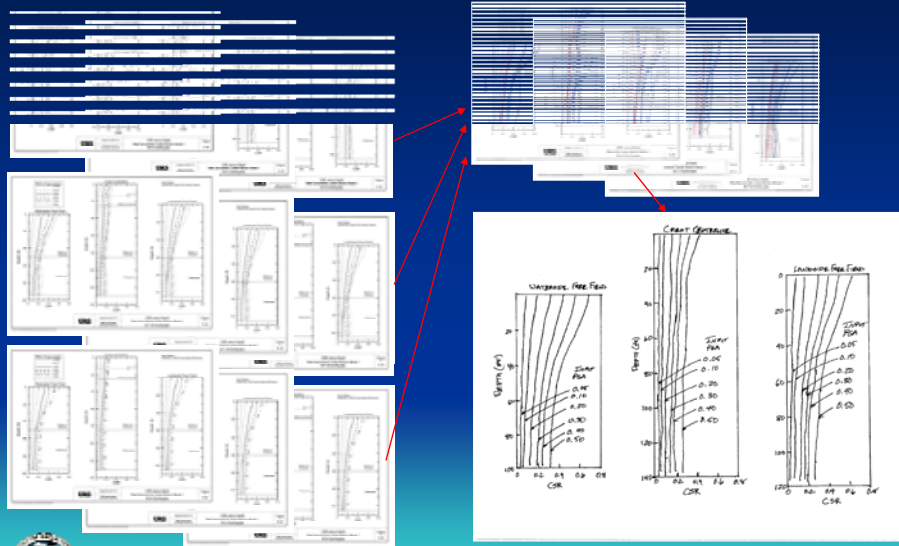
# Example Finite Element Model Inputs & Results



Material	Unit Weight (pcf)	Vs (ft/s)	K <sub>2</sub> max	Poisson's Ratio	G/Gmax and Damping Curves
Levee Fill (Silt)	115	-	25	0.35	Seed-Idriss Sand (mean)
Holocene (Medium Dense Sand)	125	-	50	0.35	Seed-Idriss Sand (mean)
Pleistocene (CL)	125	900	-	0.45	Vucetic & Dobry, PI=30
Elastic Base	125	1100	-	-	-



# Estimate of Cyclic Stress Ratio (CSR)



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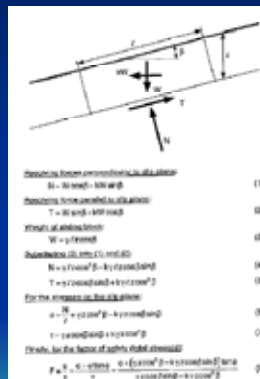
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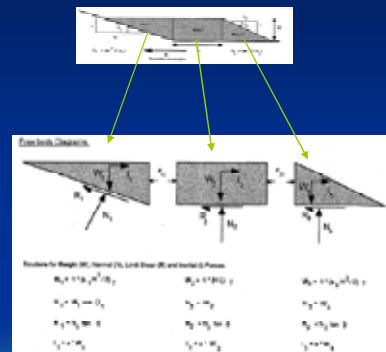


# How do we evaluate $K_y$ ?

Infinite Slope



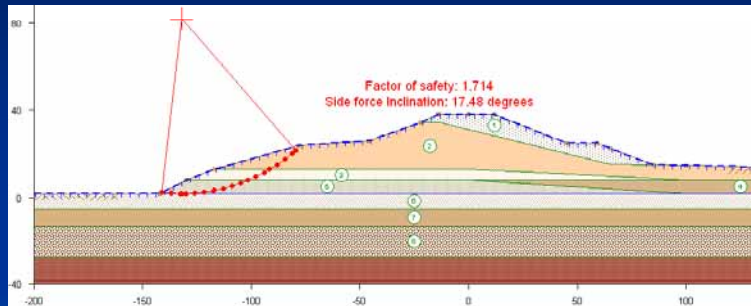
Multi-block Wedge



Limit Equilibrium – Increase seismic coefficient until  $FS = 1$



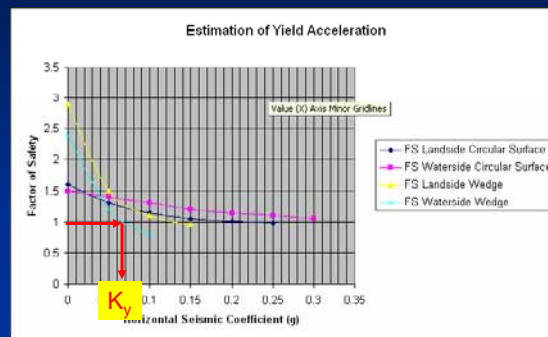
# Use Slope Stability Program



UTEXAS4 is the only currently authorized computer program



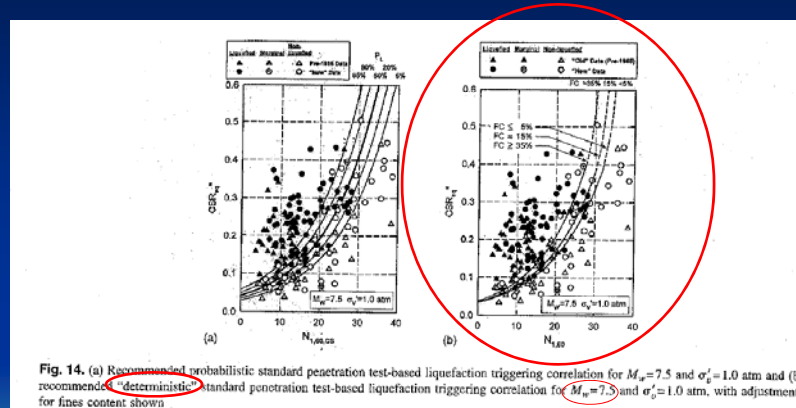
# Interpolate to Evaluate $K_y$



- Run analysis for increasing  $a_n$  (0.0, 0.05, 0.10, ... up to to  $\frac{1}{2} K_{max}$ )
- Plot results on graph
- Interpolate to evaluate  $K_y$  at FS = 1



## Evaluate Liquefaction Triggering Using Seed et al (2004)\*

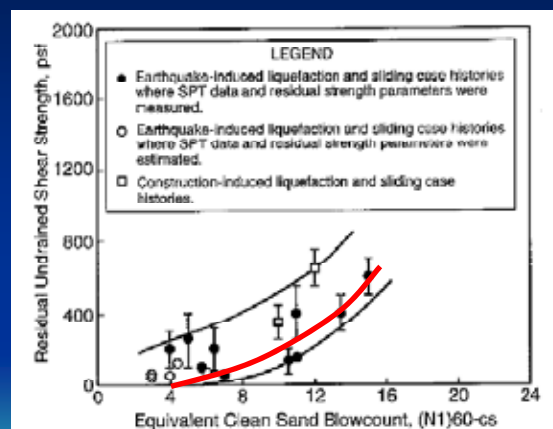


Set Duration Weighting Factor = 1 All Events



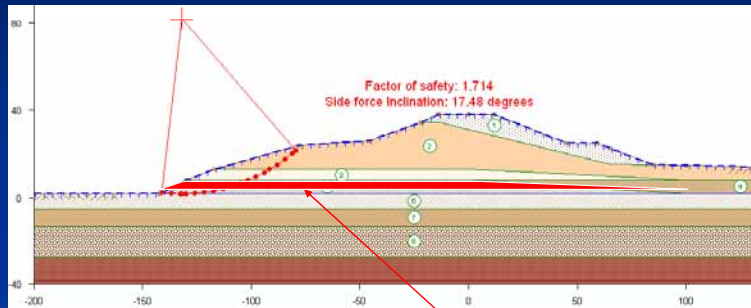
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## Estimate Liquefied Soil Strengths using Seed and Harder (1990)



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## Use Undrained Residual Strength to Assess Post-Liquefaction Triggering $K_y$

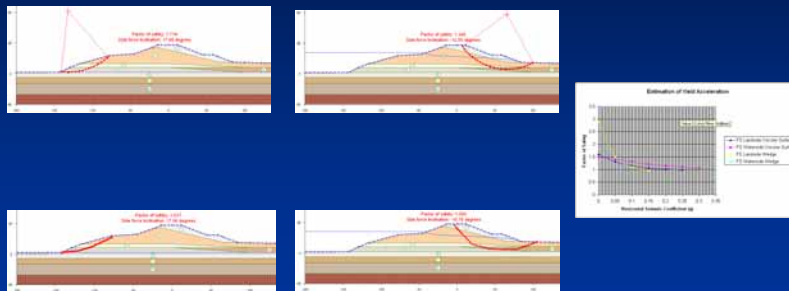


$S_u = 250\text{psf}$



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## Results Presentation



- Show
  - Strengths
  - Analysis water conditions ("summer" "normal winter")
  - Location of static critical surfaces (landside, waterside, circular, wedge)
  - Show location of  $K_y$  failure surfaces (landside, waterside, circular, wedge - usually not the same)
  - Show  $K_y$  graph



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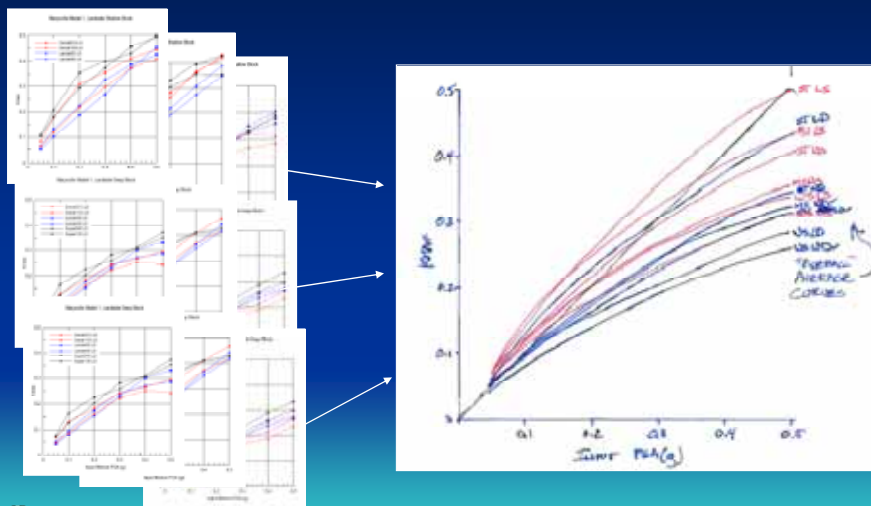
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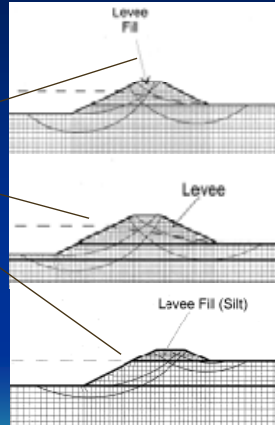
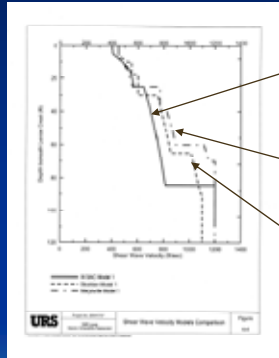
Displacement – Urban Levee Program Displacement =  $f(\text{Magnitude}, K_y/K_{max})$  Charts



## Estimate of Site Response and 2-Dimensional Effects ( $K_{max}$ )



# Asymmetry/Stiffness

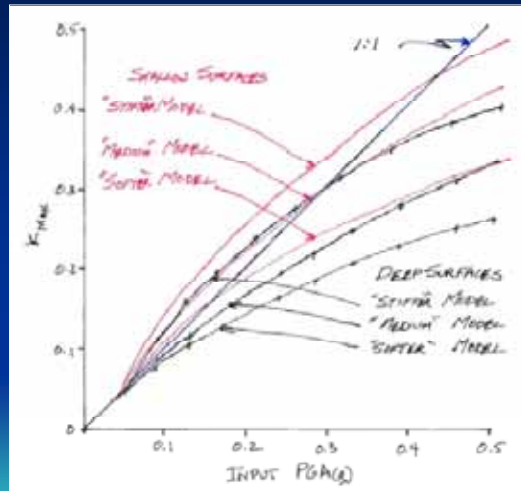


"Sacramento"	Symmetric	"Softer"
"Marysville"	Less Symmetric	"Medium"
"Stockton"	Asymmetric	"Stiffer"

Asymmetry may be important and can be considered.



# Choose Model Based on Stiffness



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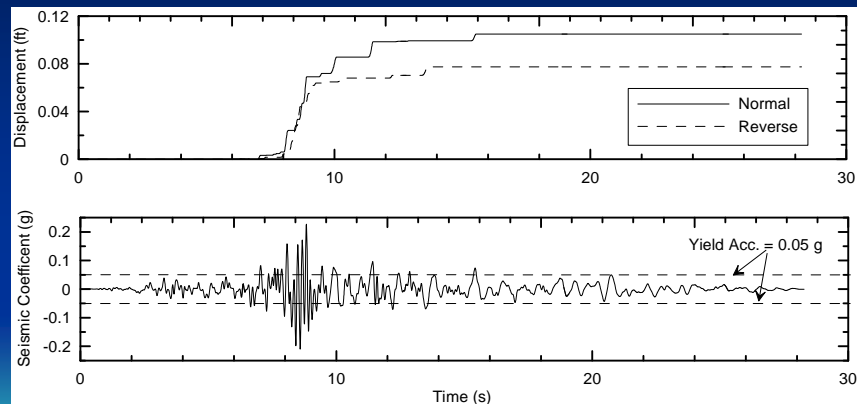
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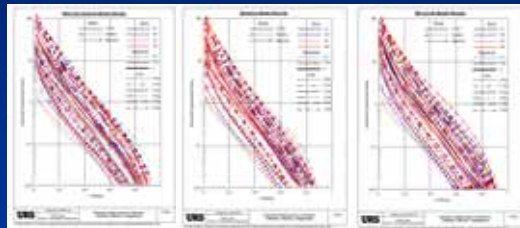
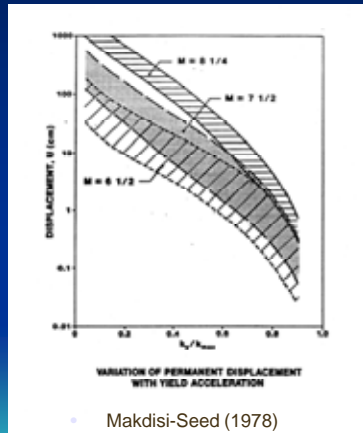
Displacement – Urban Levee Program Displacement = f(Magnitude,  $K_y/K_{max}$ ) Charts



## Example Newmark Calculation Results



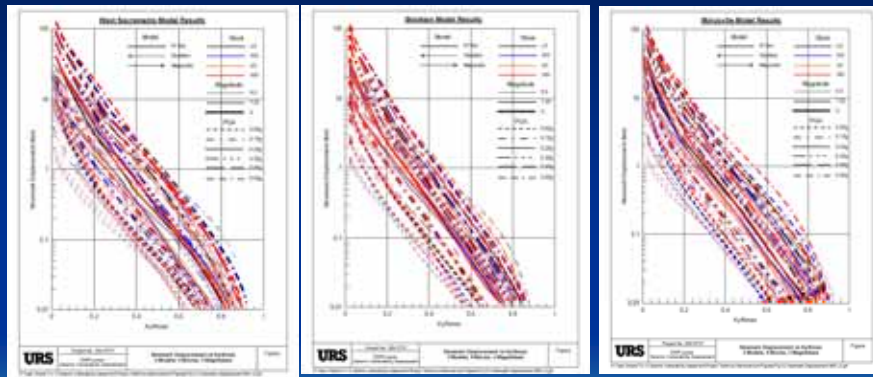
Interpretation of Results  
 Displacement =  $f(K_y/K_{max}$ ? Block Type/Depth? Magnitude/Duration? Scaled PGA?)



West Sacramento      Stockton      Marysville  
 All scaled to be compared directly with Makdisi-Seed (1978)



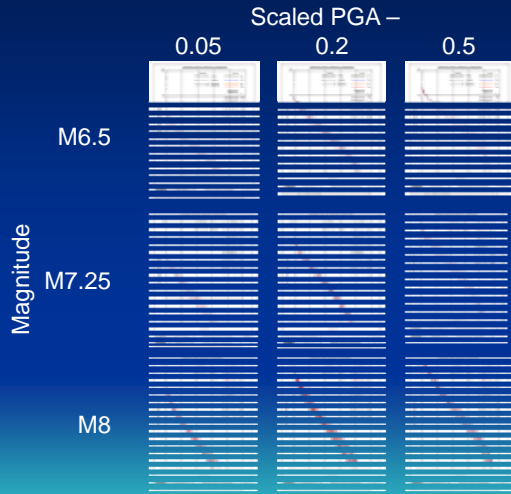
Displacement =  $(K_y/K_{max})$ ? YES



$K_y/K_{max}$  has an impact on  $K_y/K_{max}$  estimates of displacement



Displacement = f(Block Type / Depth)? NO

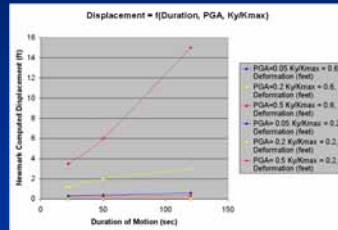
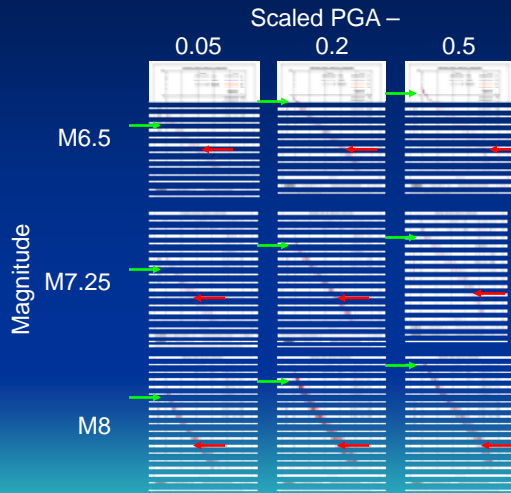


Each figure shows:  
 •Waterside Shallow,  
 •Waterside Deep,  
 •Landside Shallow, &  
 •Landside Deep  
 surfaces for all 3  
 regional models

Block Type and Depth  
 have no apparent impact  
 on  $K_y/K_{max}$  estimates  
 of displacement



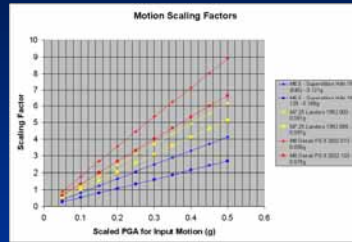
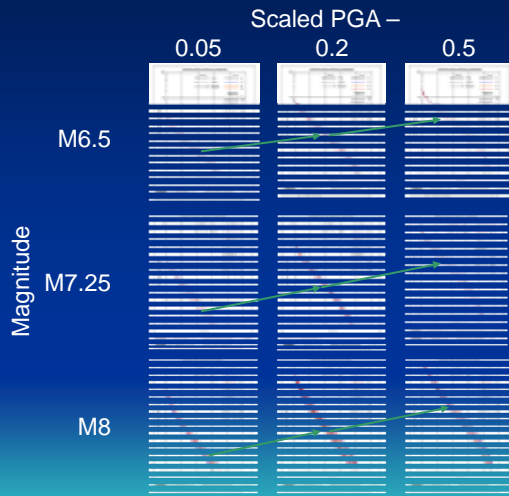
Displacement = f(Magnitude/Duration)? Yes for  $K_y/K_{max} < 0.4$



Magnitude / Duration has an  
 apparent impact on  $K_y/K_{max}$   
 estimates of displacement



Displacement = f(Scaled Input PGA)? Yes, but...

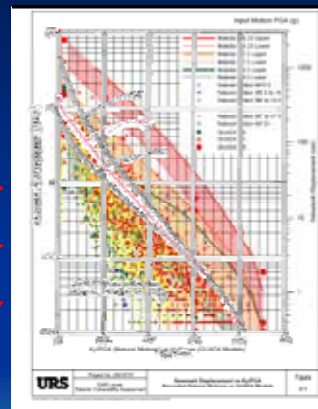
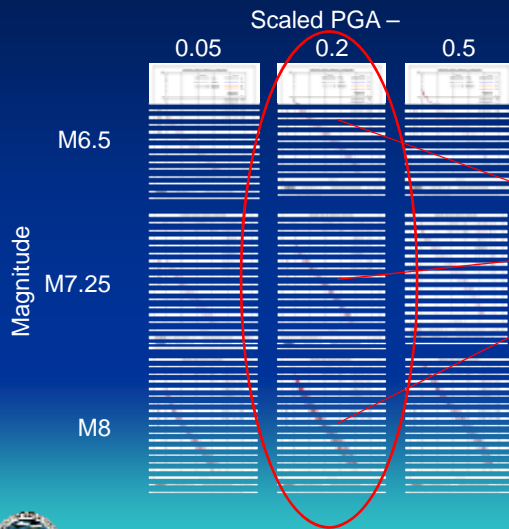


Concern that Scaled Input PGA apparent impact on  $K_v/K_{max}$  estimates of displacement is only a numerical result

Possible resolution – Spectral Matching and Arias Intensity screening



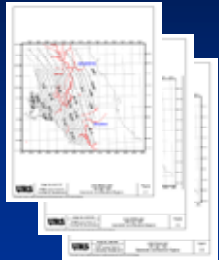
Use Model for Scaled Input Motion = 0.2g for Vulnerability Assessment



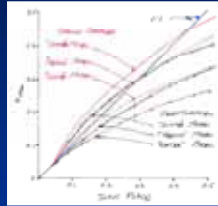
0.2g scaled PGA model results are believed to provide a reasonable expected relationship for the study areas



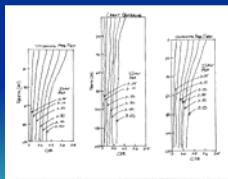
## Summary – Levee Deformation Evaluation Charts



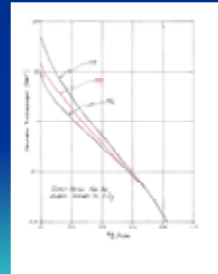
PGA = f(Return Period)



$K_{max} = f(\text{PGA, block depth, model stiffness})$



CSR = f(PGA)

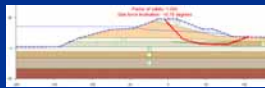
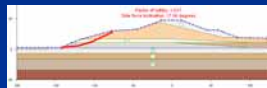
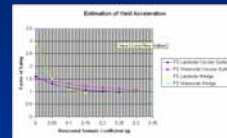
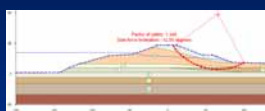
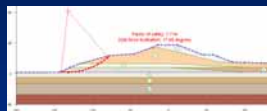


Displacement =  $f(K_y/K_{max}, \text{Magnitude})$



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## Freeboard Loss Assessment



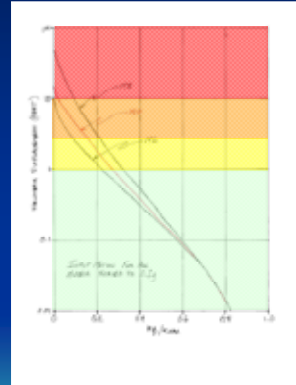
- Consider compound failures each causing freeboard loss (i.e., waterside and landside both causing concurrent loss of freeboard)
- Assume horizontal deformation causes freeboard loss at a rate of 0.7V : 1H for both circular failure surfaces and potential grabens that can form on lateral spreads



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# Vulnerability Assessment

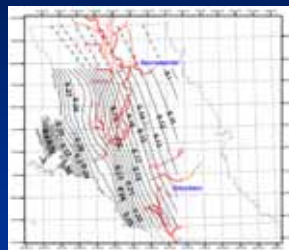
AMOUNT OF DEFORMATION	SIGNIFICANT DAMAGE TO INTERNAL STRUCTURES (E.G. CUTOFF WALLS)	REMAINING FREEBOARD FOR POST SEISMIC EVALUATION (2-YEAR FLOOD WATER SURFACE ELEVATION?)	POST SEISMIC FLOOD PROTECTION ABILITY
<1'	No	>1'	Probably Uncompromised
1' to 3'	Possibly	>1'	Possibly Compromised
3' to 10'	Likely if existing	None	Likely Compromised
Unlimited (flow slide condition)	Yes	None	Compromised



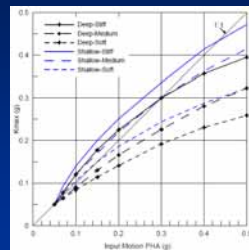
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# Final Evaluation Charts

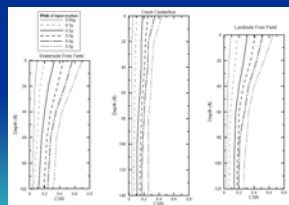
PGA



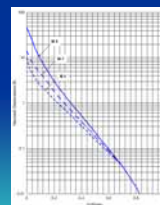
$K_{max}$



CSR



Displacement



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# Questions / Discussion

