

# Earthquake Simulators are Ready for Prime Time

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## Earthquake Physics

- Many basic uncertainties remain

Absolute stress levels order of magnitude uncertain

- Invariances hold hope for transcendence

Constant stress drop from small to great earthquakes

- Candidate models exist

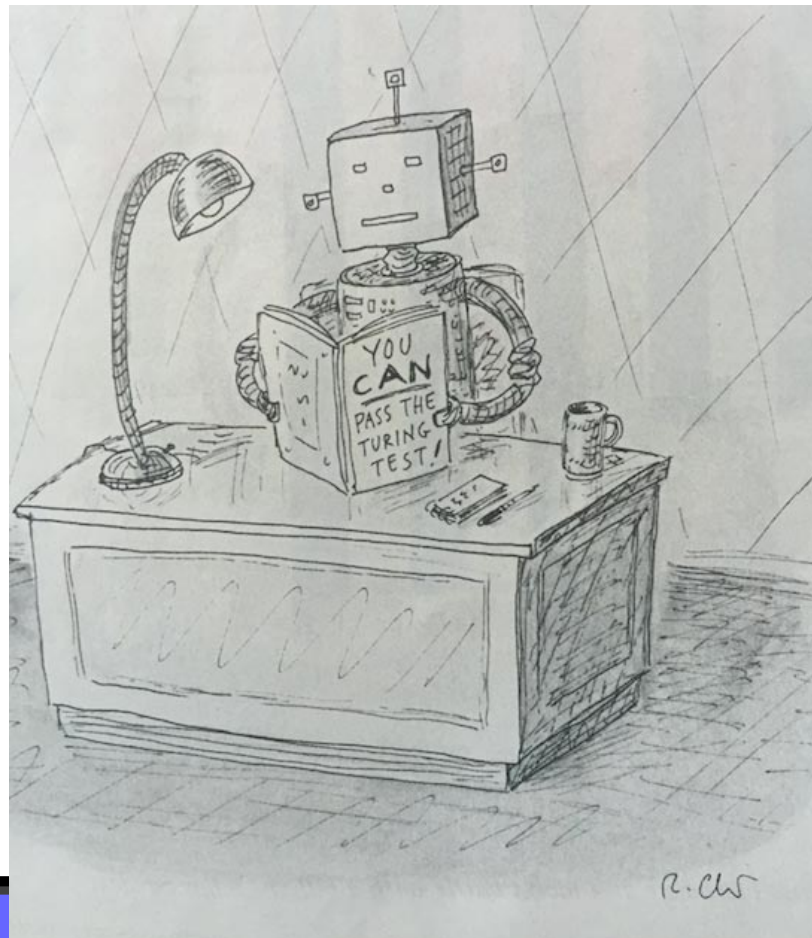
Do candidate models look sufficiently like observations?

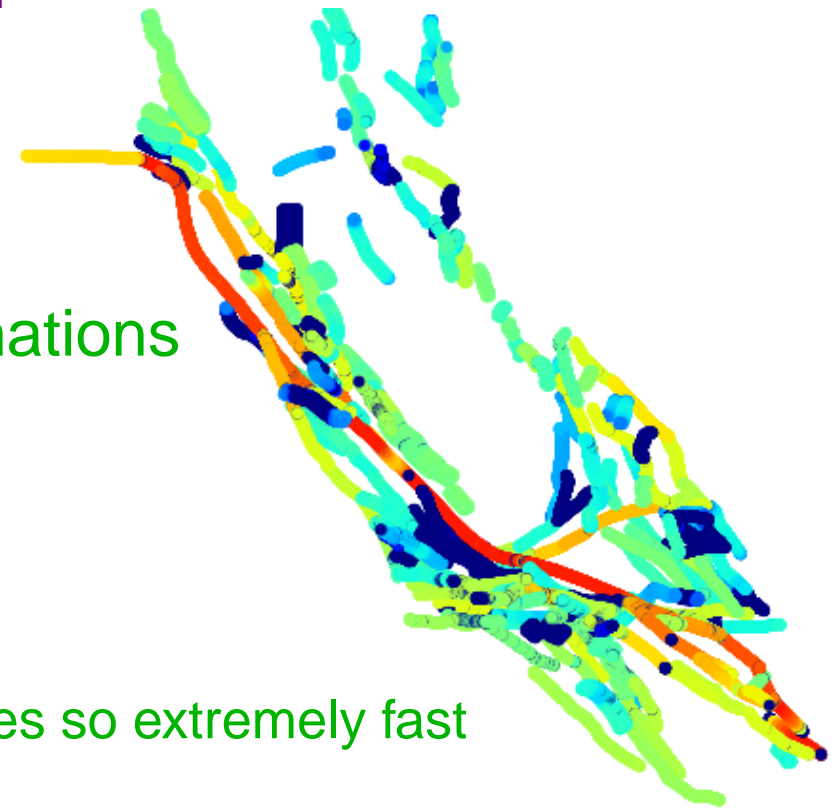
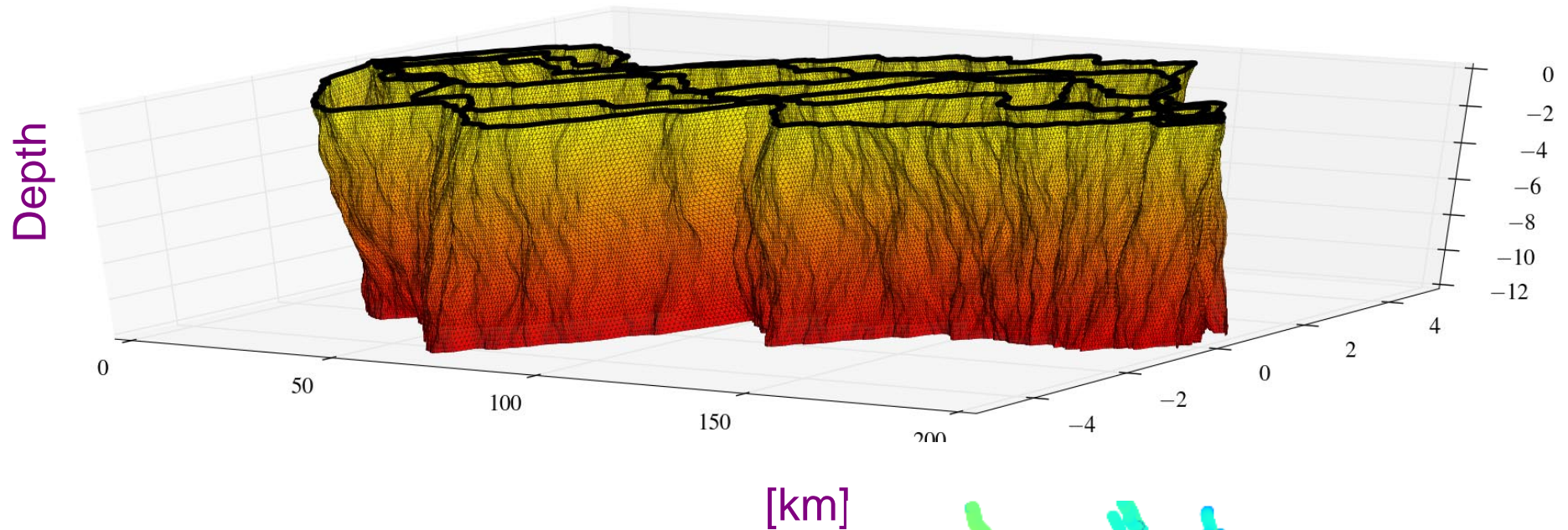
Can models help with hazard questions?

## Earthquake Simulators

- Approximations to dynamics to make computationally tractable
- Can handle complex geometries and large scales
- Doing really well on validation gauntlet!

### RSQSim

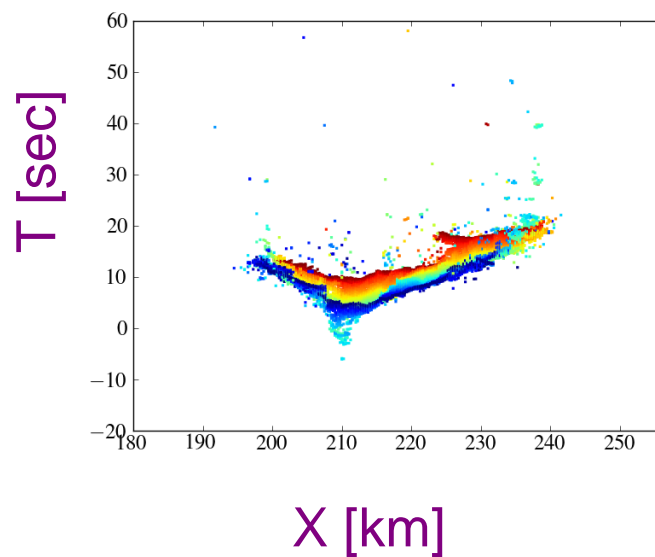
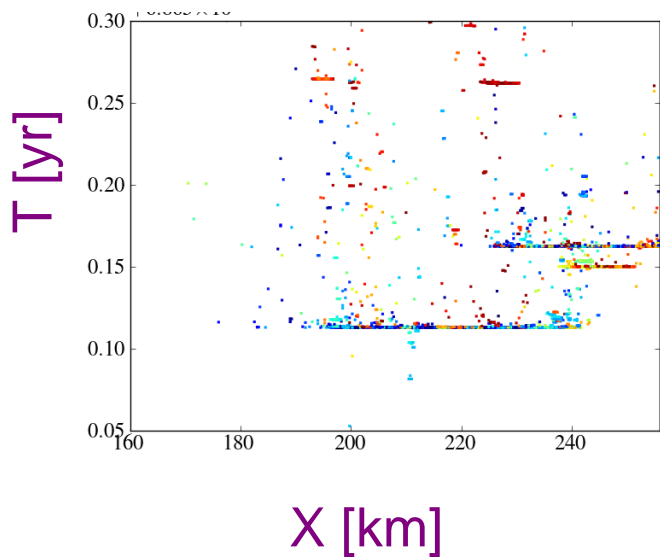
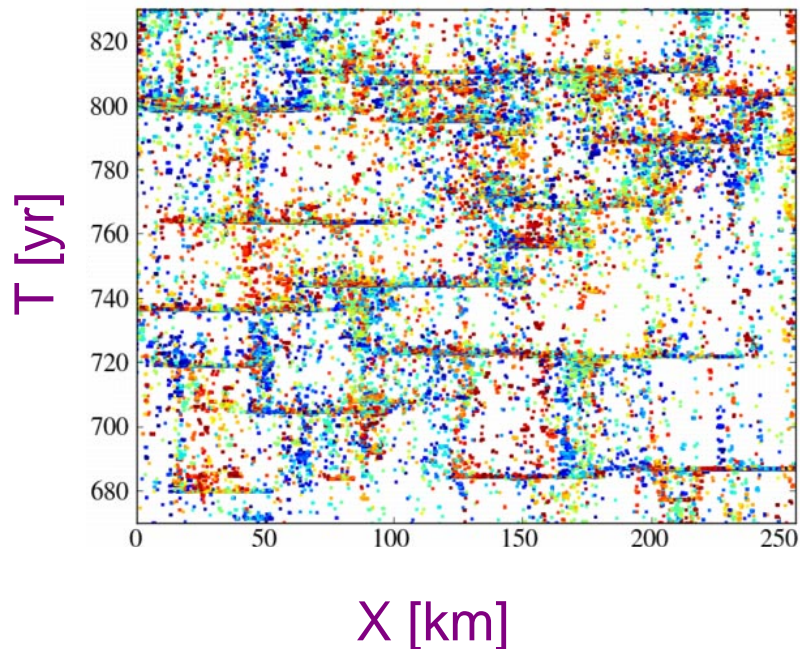




## Simulator Features & Approximations

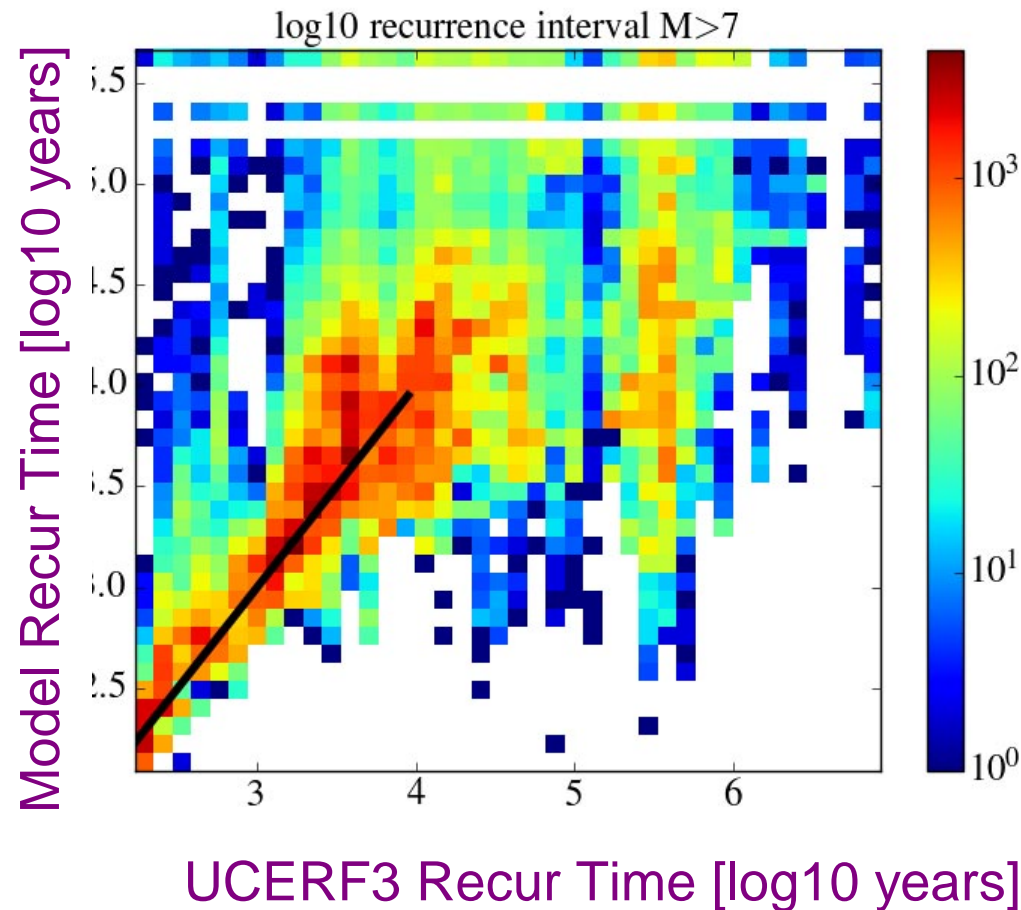
- Complex geometries
- Quasistatic boundary elements
- Rate-and-state friction
- Fixed fast sliding rate
- Time step just during state changes so extremely fast

# Seismicity in Different Timescales



- Aftershocks along mainshock rupture area

## Untuned Model Recurrence Intervals



- Untuned model did really well on recurrence intervals
- Push further into hazard comparison



## Earthquake Hazard

- Can't wait for physics uncertainties to be resolved
- Longstanding methodology developed

### Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Analysis [PSHA]

- Difficulties with PSHA

Many uncertainties

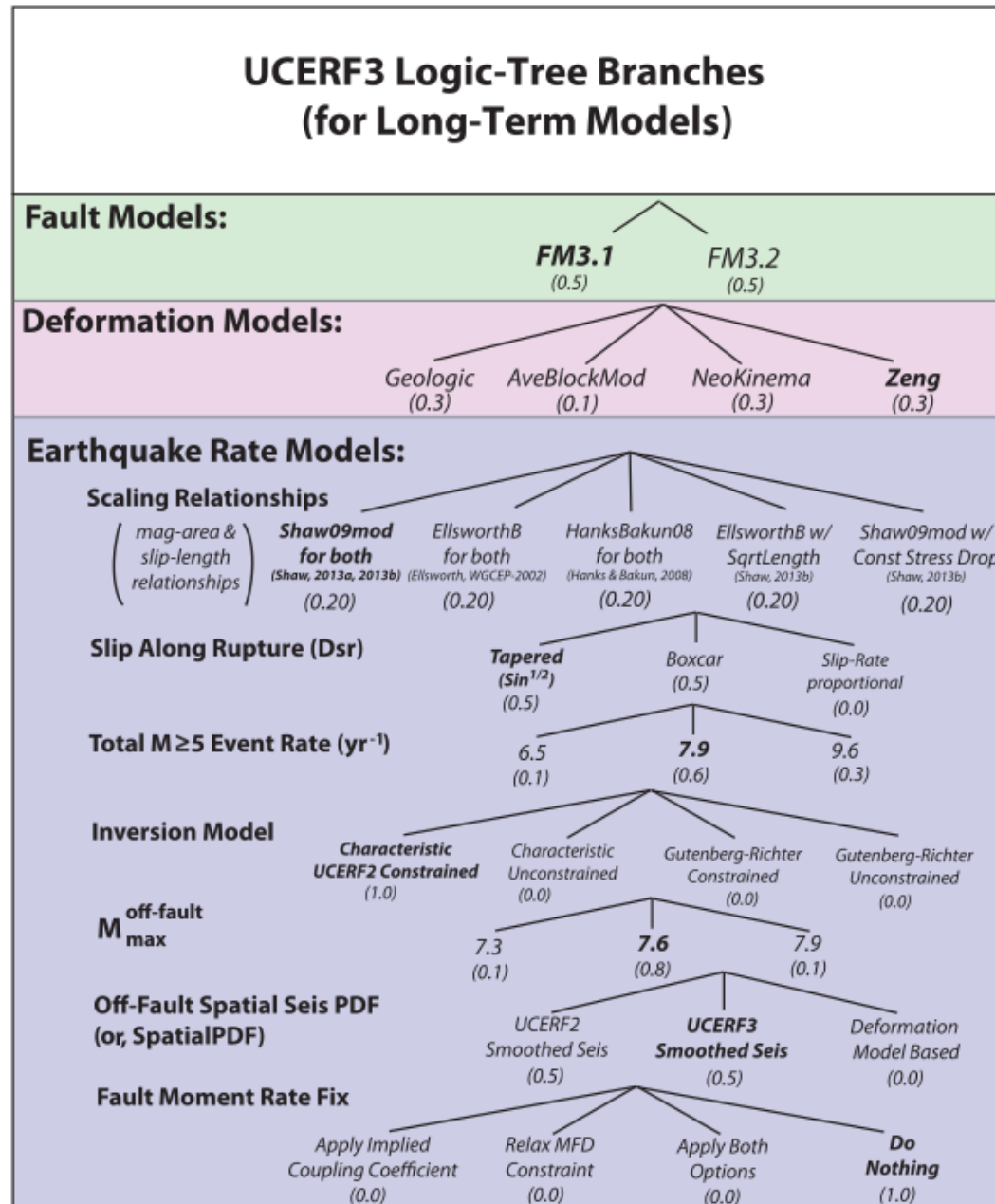
Many assumptions

Difficult to test due to long recurrence times

Whole construct has been questioned

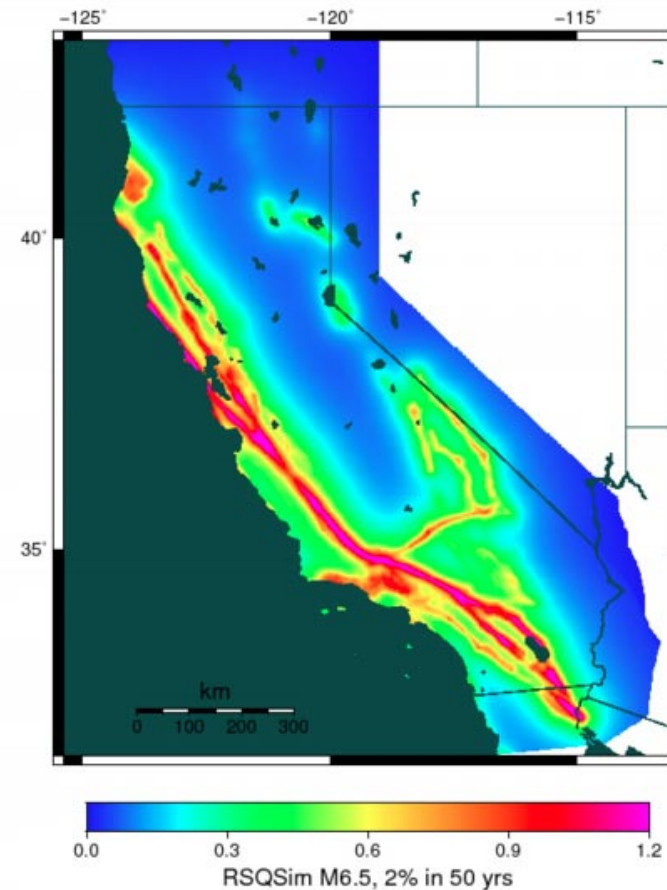
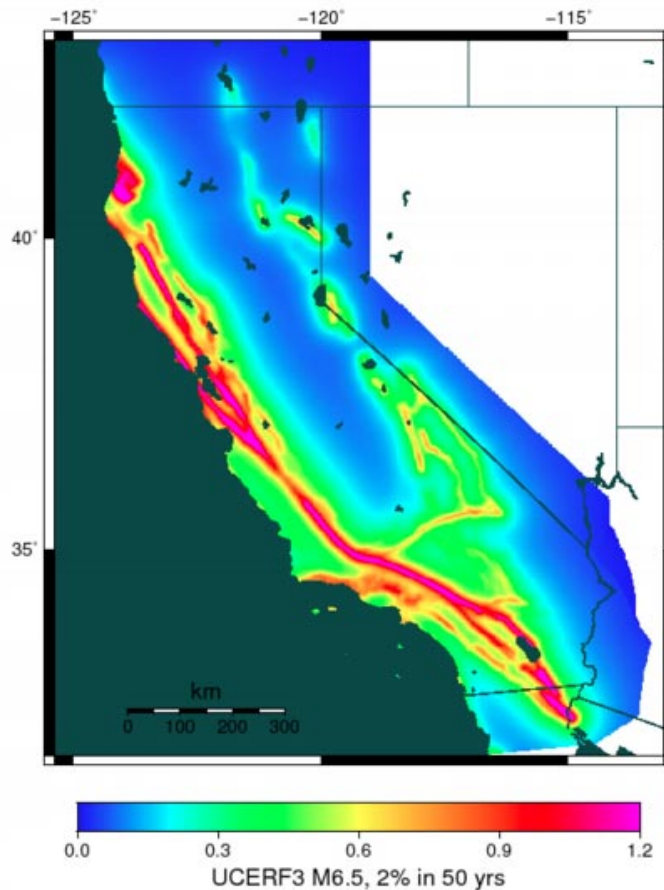
Society investing huge resources on uncertain ground

# Logic Tree for Uncertainties





## Standard Hazard Measure

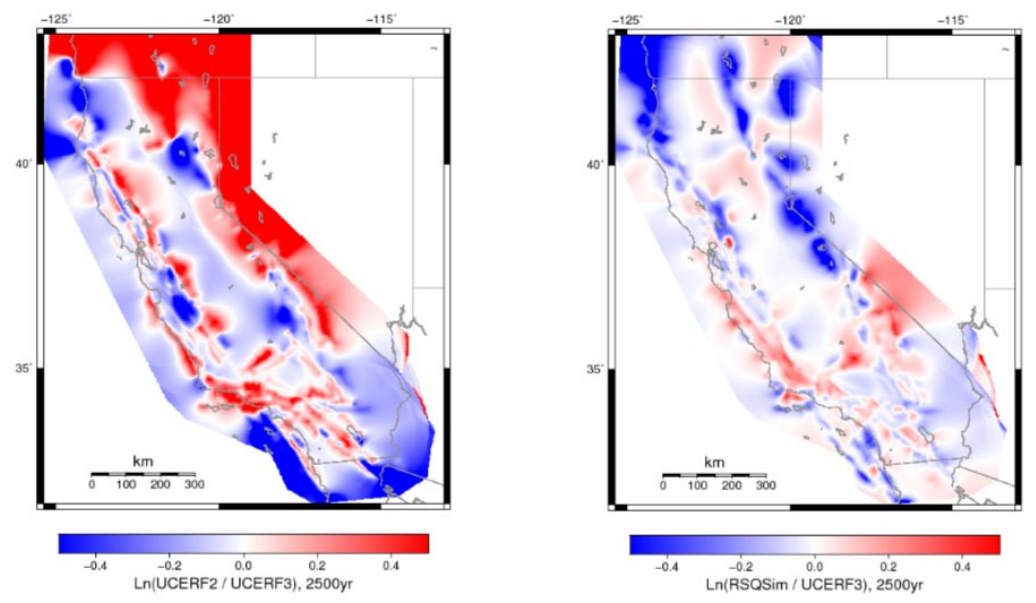
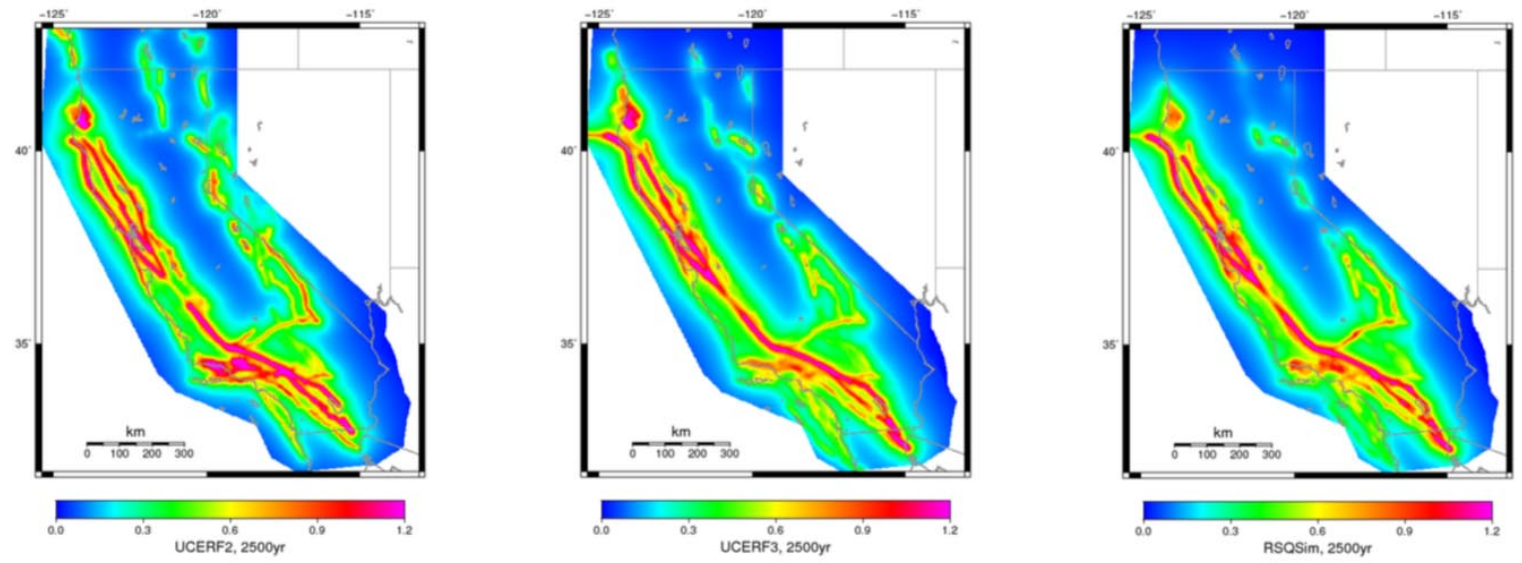


UCERF3

Model

- On-fault hazard only
- Remarkable agreement!! Why?!
- Also push further into other measures

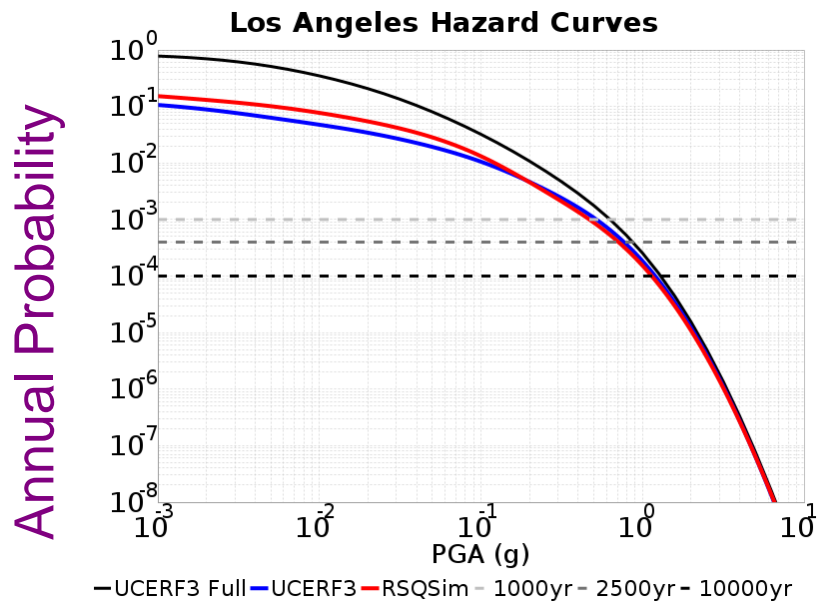
# Model closer to UCERF3 than UCERF3 is to UCERF2



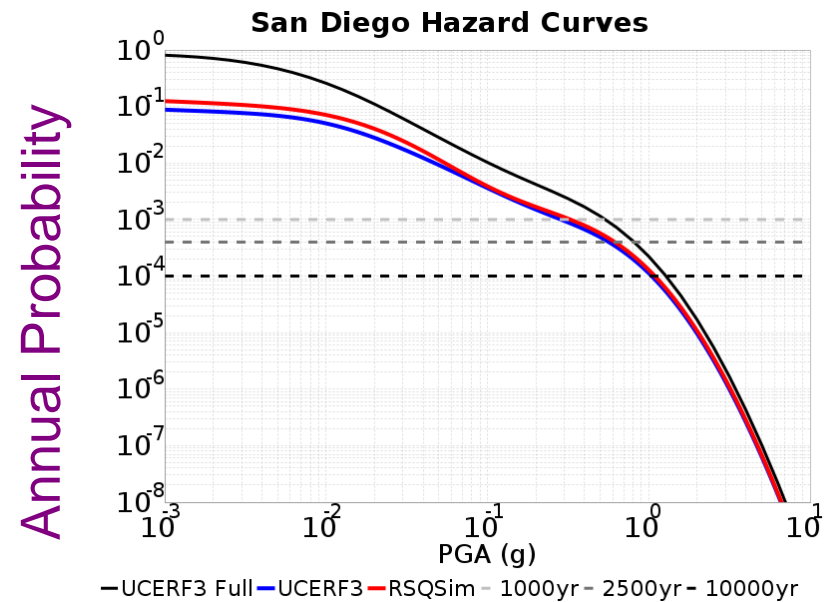
UCERF2/UCERF3

Model/UCERF3

# Full hazard curves at a point



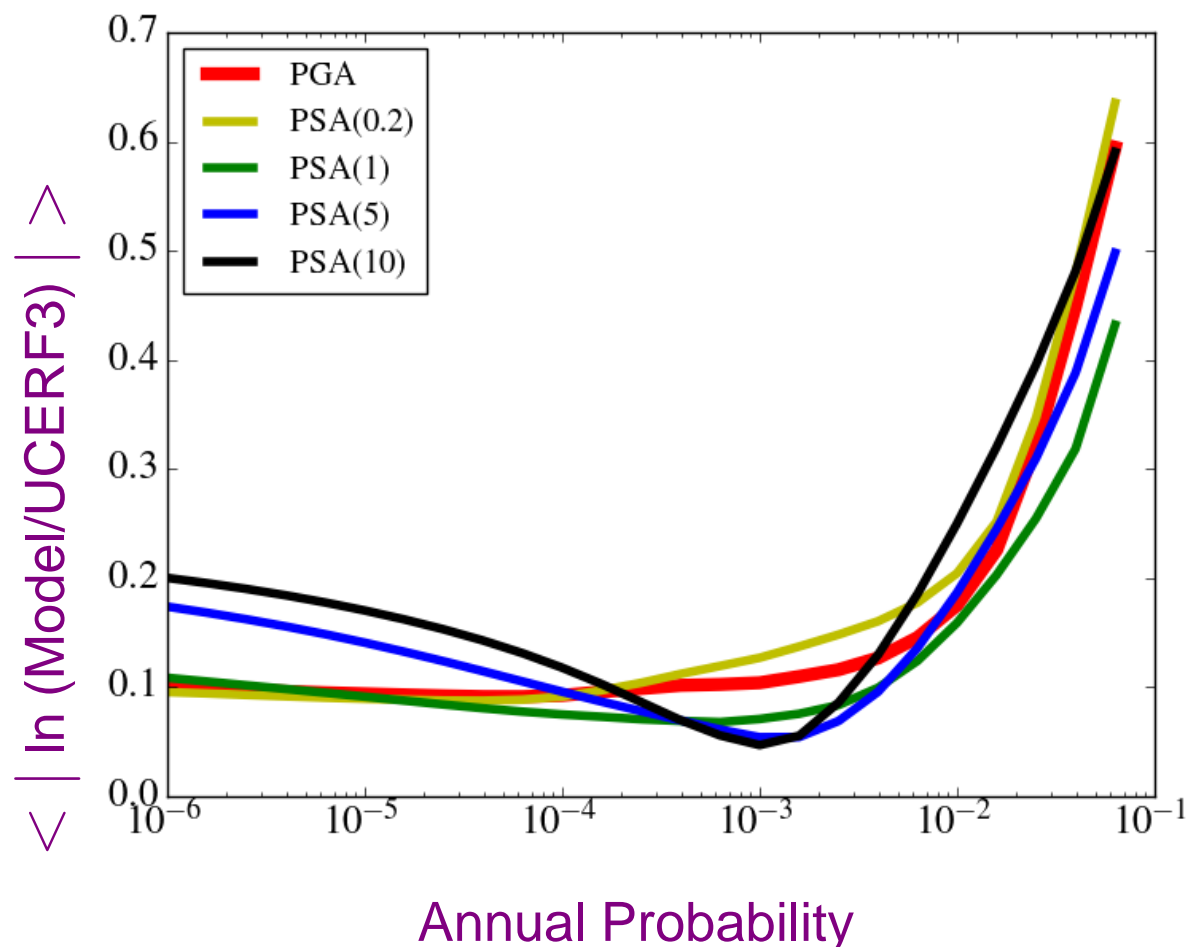
PGA (g)  
Los Angeles



PGA (g)  
San Diego

- Hazard curves agree well, especially at low prob.

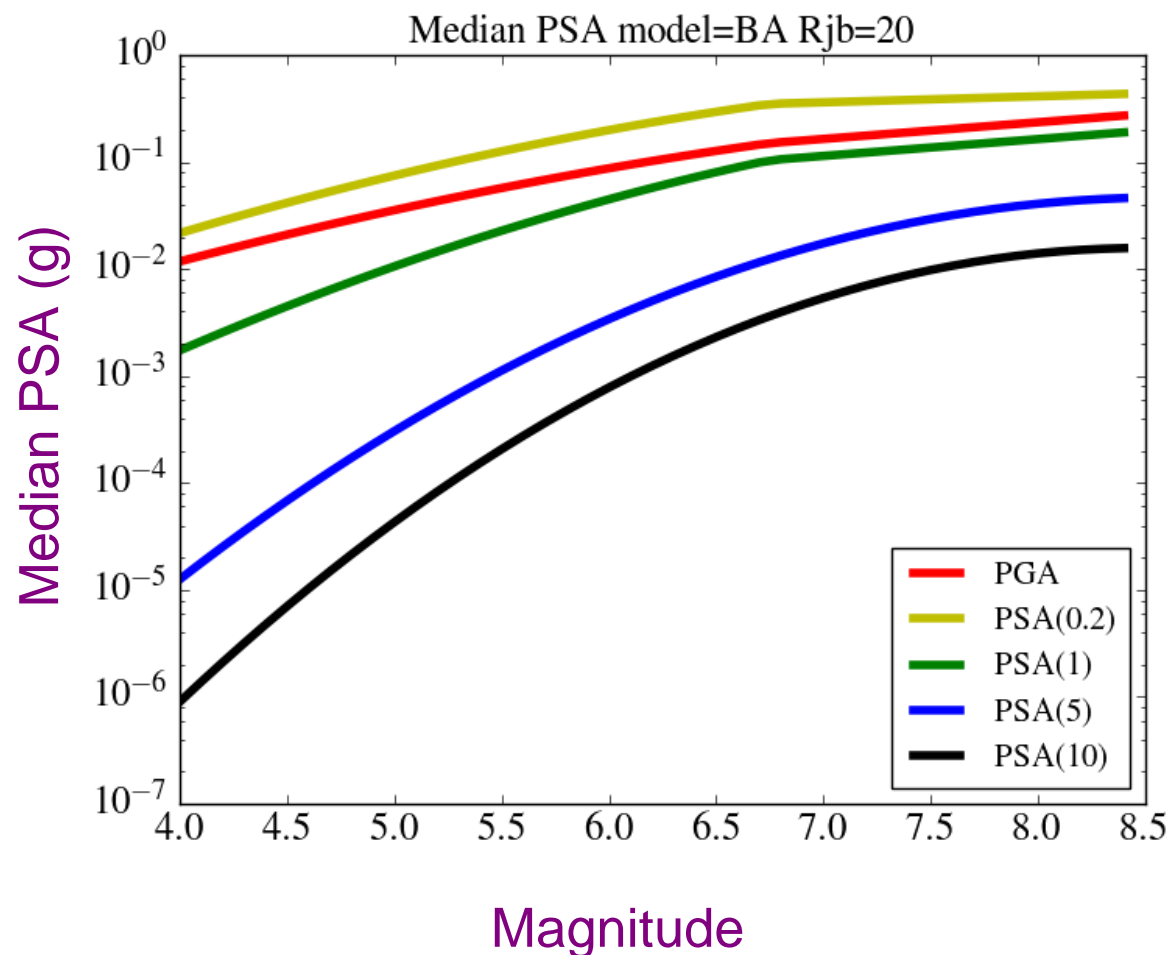
## Other spectral periods



- Mean Absolute Ln Ratio small useful measure
- Agrees well annual prob < repeat time large events
- Agree well over wide range of engineering interest (0.2-1s)

[Rule of thumb .1s/story in building]

## Why Agree?: Weak Mag Dependence at High f



- Weak magnitude dependence at large magnitudes and high frequencies
- Also M7.5 vs 3 M7.2: higher mean vs more chances

## Ready for Prime Time

- Ready for this application
- Useful voice for ensemble forecasts
- Ready to be shot down:  
what are behaviors missing relative to observations?  
(NOT what physics is missing)



## Push Harder

- Map out areas of agreement and divergence
- Explore epistemic uncertainties further
- Time dependent hazard
- Robustness to scale of modeling– larger and smaller
- Robustness raises question of even simpler models, and how different answer can be given faults and GMM
- Push to test ground motions from model ruptures

Ground motion models playing big role.

Can we do better?

Probe of source physics

Testing ground motions directly promising!

## Hazard Conclusions

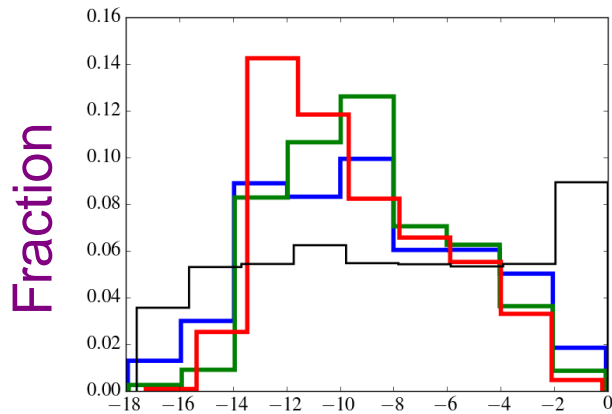
- Remarkable agreement: Mean Absolute Ln small useful measure for complex system comparison
- Remarkable agreement over range of engineering importance
- Insensitivities of some hazard measures to known unknowns
- Simulators ready to contribute
- Simulators new tool for exploring epistemic uncertainties
- Simulators require fewer parameters and assumptions
- Profound cross-validation of PSHA triangulation replication
- Hazard measures very forgiving

See [Shaw, et al., *Science Advances*, 2018]

## Simulators: How to and how not to use

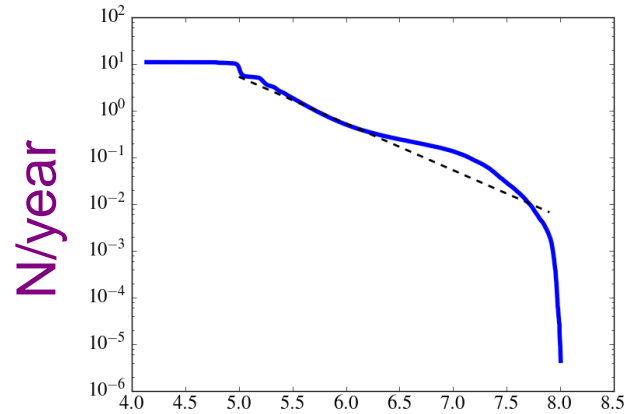
- Robustness and Sensitivity
- Differences:
  - Creeping section (physical modeling)
  - San Gorgonio pass (fault connectivity and geometry)
  - Distribution of sizes
- Beyond backslip: hybrid loading
- How not to use: If overly sensitive
- Simulators doing so well need to find ways it fails

## Hybrid Loading



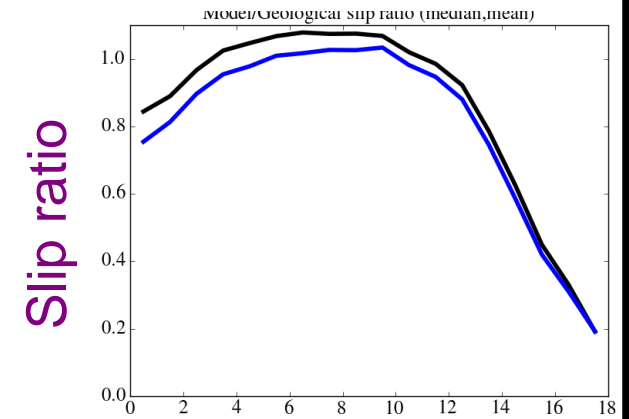
Depth [km]

Hypocenter depths



M

Magnitude dist.

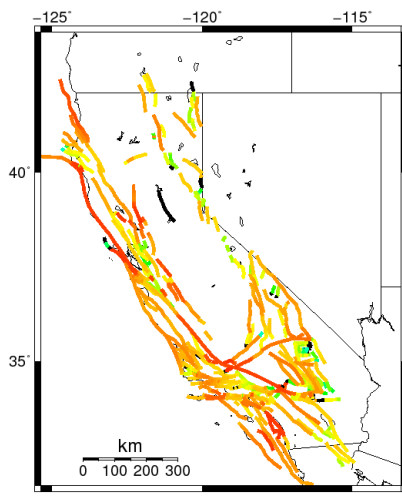


Depth [km]

Slip(depth)

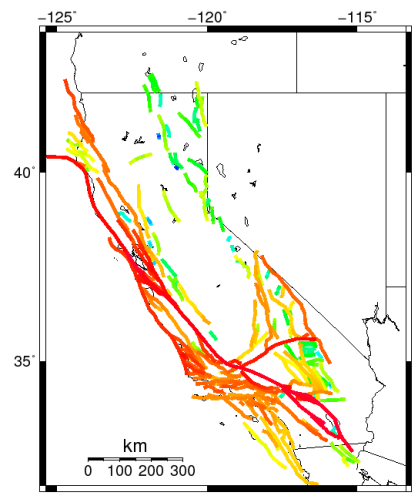
- Improvements in behaviors with hybrid loading
- Are physical implications underlying loading right?

# Dominant Magnitude differences and implications



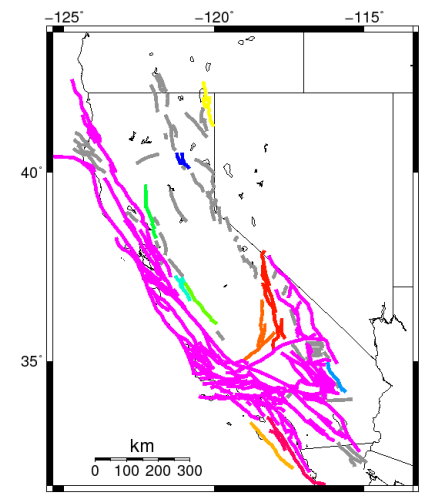
6.0 6.6 7.2 7.8 8.4  
RSQSim Mag Cumulant Median

M\* Model



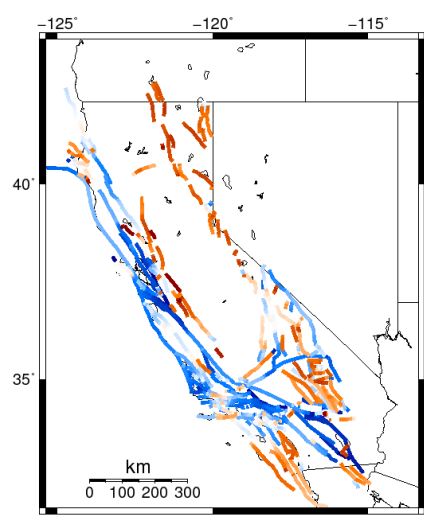
6.0 6.6 7.2 7.8 8.4  
UCERF3 Mag Cumulant Median

M\* UCERF3



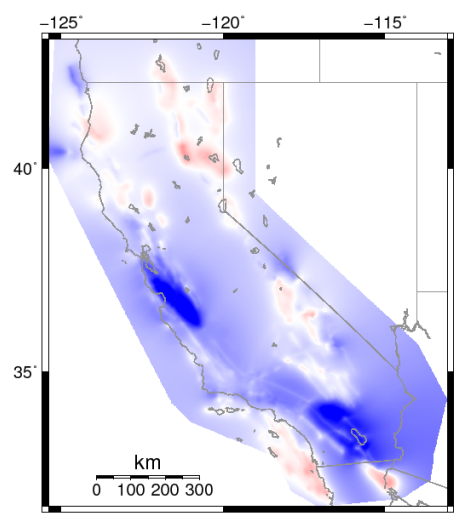
0.0 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 1.0  
UCERF3 Connectivity (11 largest)

Connectivity UCERF3



-1.0 -0.5 0.0 0.5 1.0  
RSQSim-U3 Mag Cumulant Median

M\* Model - UCERF3

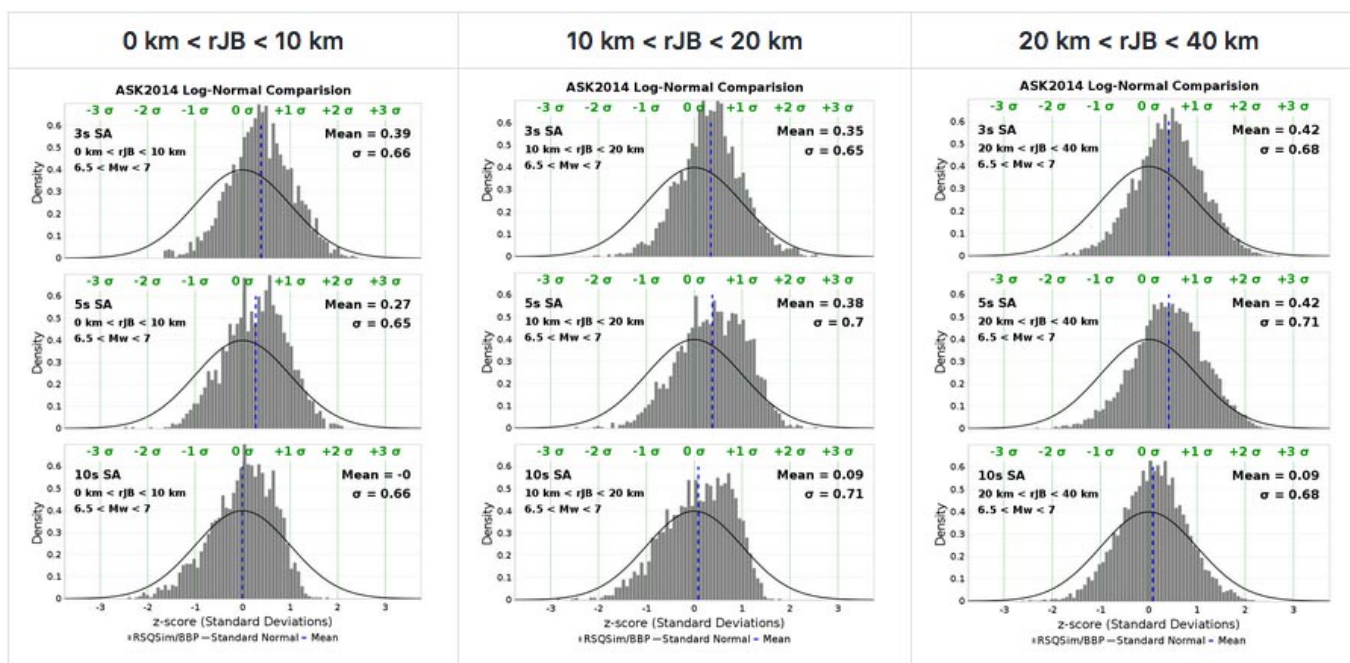


-0.4 -0.2 0.0 0.2 0.4  
Ln(RSQSim / UCERF3), 10000yr, 10.0s SA

ln Model/UCERF3 PSA(10)

# Trying to match ground motions

← Spectral Period



Distance from rupture →

Magnitudes M6.5-7 PSA(T) relative to GMM

- Aiming to match distributions of ground motions
- In the ballpark
- See Kevin Milner, et al. poster #032 for lots more



## Ned's List



**Or, can they answer any of the following questions (relevant to current forecasting methods):**

- The plausibility of various multi-fault rupture possibilities?
- Which magnitude-area and/or slip-length scaling laws are viable?
- Average slip along rupture (over multiple occurrences) especially for multi-fault events?
- Magnitude frequency distribution near faults (non Gutenberg-Richter)?
- How creep influences rupture distributions (e.g., what do large SAF creeping-section events look like)?
- Influence of elastic rebound (can a large triggered event rupture from well within the rupture zone of the main shock)
- Spatiotemporal clustering (e.g., is ETAS really a good, or the best proxy for  $M \geq 6.5$  events?)
- Paleo hiatus question identified by David Jackson (models predict that we should have seen more events)?
- The influence of other time dependencies (e.g., swarms, super cycles, mode switching)?