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A Modular Methodology for Time-domain Stochastic Seismic Wave Propagation

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ABSTRACT

Presented here is a modular methodology for time-domain stochastic seismic wave propagation analysis. Presented methodology is designed to analyze uncertain seismic motions as an input, propagating through uncertain material. Traditional approach for uncertain wave propagation relies on models that include deep bedrock, local soil site, and their random process and random field information. Such models can become quite large and computationally intractable. The modular approach proposed herein features two step approach that allows separate consideration of the deep bedrock and local site along with corresponding random field information. The first step considers an auxiliary stochastic motions problem in the bedrock. Stochastic local site response can then be simulated in a reduced domain within certain depth from the surface. Application of uncertain seismic motions at depth, for local uncertain site response is done using stochastic effective forces developed through the Domain Reduction Method. By using Hermite polynomial chaos expansion to represent the non-Gaussian random field of material parameters and non-stationary random process of seismic motion, the proposed modular methodology is formulated using intrusive stochastic Galerkin approach, as seen in the Stochastic Elastic-Plastic Finite Element Method (SEPFEM).

24 Developed modular methodology is illustrated using a 1-D stochastic seismic wave propagation
25 analysis with three cases, and simulation results are also verified with results from conventional
26 approach.

27 **Keywords:** Stochastic seismic wave propagation Modular methodology Domain reduction
28 method Intrusive Galerkin stochastic finite element method Hermite polynomial chaos

29 1 INTRODUCTION

30 The necessity to account for inevitable uncertainties to predicted seismic behaviour has long
31 been recognized in the earthquake engineering community (Moehle and Deierlein 2004), nonlinear
32 seismic wave propagation analysis rarely accounts for uncertainties. This omission of uncertain,
33 nonlinear wave propagation analysis results largely from the significant computational burden.
34 There are two ways to improve the computational efficiency. The first one employs effective,
35 artificial boundary conditions close to the surface soil site of interest, in order to reduce the size
36 of computational domain of the model while following proper physics of wave propagation in
37 infinite media, while the second one utilizes a highly efficient stochastic method to overcome the
38 computational burden when extended to stochastic analysis.

39 Significant progress has been made on development of artificial boundary for modelling wave
40 propagation in reduced domain. Viscous boundary was first formulated by Lysmer and Kuhlemeyer
41 (1969) for 1D wave propagation, where effective shear stress time history is input to the base with
42 viscous dash-pots as non-reflecting boundary. Liu et al. (2006) extended the viscous boundary to
43 viscous-spring boundary for 3D wave propagation. Excitations from far field could be approxi-
44 mately input as equivalent normal and shear stress time history along the viscous-spring boundary.
45 In addition, some global artificial boundaries, e.g., Lysmer and Waas (1972) and Kausel (1994), sat-
46 isfy the radiation condition of infinite medium exactly but have complex formulations and are rarely
47 used in practice. In the context of finite element method (FEM), Bielak et al. (2003) formulated Do-
48 main Reduction Method (DRM) that can input seismic excitations as dynamically consistent nodal
49 forces exerted on a single layer of elements surrounding the reduced FEM model. As an effective
50 boundary, the DRM has been successfully applied to the simulation of near field seismic response

51 (Yoshimura et al. 2003; Kontoe et al. 2009) and earthquake soil structure interaction (Jeremić and
52 Preisig, 2005; Jeremić et al. 2007; Jeremić et al. 2009; Jeremić et al. 2021; Isbilioğlu et al. 2015).
53 Although use of the DRM significantly reduces the computational burden for deterministic wave
54 propagation problems, stochastic seismic wave propagation considering inherent uncertainties is
55 still challenging. To the best knowledge of the authors', there is still no development on artificial
56 boundary and reduced domain modelling technique in probabilistic context.

57 The most straightforward way to handle the uncertainty is Monte Carlo method. All the above
58 artificial boundary and reduced domain modelling technique are directly applicable. Monte Carlo
59 method essentially generates statistically significant number of samples for input uncertainties of
60 the model, and runs deterministic solver repeatedly for all the samples (Metropolis and Ulam
61 1949). Results from deterministic runs are collected and analysed to obtain the statistics of
62 response, see for example Shinozuka (1972), Fenton and Griffiths (2002), Fenton and Griffiths
63 (2005) for applications of Monte Carlo method. However, Monte Carlo method is computationally
64 intractable with its notoriously slow convergence rate, and requires extensive number of samples to
65 reach satisfactory result with engineering accuracy. Alternative approaches, such as perturbation
66 approach and stochastic collocation approach are also popular. Perturbation approach employs
67 first order or second order Taylor expansions of random functions (Bouret 1962). Early works on
68 stochastic seismic wave propagation through geologic media mainly rely on perturbation method
69 (Manolis and Shaw 1996; Rahman and Yeh 1996; Zhang and Lou 2001). However, its application is
70 limited to small uncertainties due to the utilization of only first or second order Taylor series (Sudret
71 and Kiureghian 2000). Similar to the Monte Carlo method, stochastic collocation also repeatedly
72 executes deterministic solver for all samples but the samples are judiciously selected by quadrature
73 rules (Xiu and Hesthaven 2005; Babuška et al. 2007). Although the number of samples is much
74 smaller than that of Monte Carlo method, the stochastic collocation method is still computationally
75 expensive for high-dimensional problems because of the exponential increase of sample size in high
76 dimensions (Xiu 2010; Berveiller et al. 2006). Note that the above-mentioned stochastic methods
77 are not altering deterministic codes, and are all regarded as non-intrusive methods.

78 On the other hand, stochastic Galerkin method, which is an intrusive method and proposed
79 by [Ghanem and Spanos \(1991\)](#), represents input uncertainties in polynomial functional form, e.g.,
80 Hermite polynomial chaos expansion. Galerkin projection is performed to establish a generalized
81 expanded linear system of equations, whose solutions are the coefficients of polynomial chaos
82 expansion of uncertain response. Although the stochastic Galerkin method requires modifica-
83 tion/redevelopment of the deterministic program, it can be shown that intrusive stochastic Galerkin
84 method is advantageous over non-intrusive approaches in terms of computational efficiency ([Xiu
2010](#)). Recently, a time-domain intrusive stochastic elastic-plastic finite element method was de-
85 veloped by [Sett et al. \(2011\)](#), [Wang and Sett \(2016\)](#) using stochastic Galerkin method. Developed
86 methodology can incorporate non-Gaussian random field for uncertain material parameters and
87 non-stationary random process for uncertain seismic loads, and perform stochastic seismic wave
88 propagation analysis ([Wang and Sett 2019](#)). Due to its computational efficiency, this paper extends
89 the conventional deterministic domain reduction method ([Bielak et al. 2003](#)) to probabilistic regime
90 within the framework of Galerkin stochastic finite element method. Established is a two-step mod-
91 ular methodology for time-domain intrusive stochastic seismic wave propagation. It is expensive
92 to perform conventional one-step stochastic seismic wave propagation in a holistic model including
93 detailed modelling of both bedrock and local site, and their random field information. While in
94 the proposed modular methodology, the first step considers stochastic seismic wave propagation
95 where the bedrock is modelled in detail as a random field and the local site is only modelled as a
96 deterministic field with coarse mesh. The second step performs stochastic nonlinear seismic wave
97 propagation analysis in a reduced domain with detailed modelling of local random site. Connection
98 of the two steps is a boundary layer whose response is recorded at the first step and again applied
99 at the second step as effective stochastic earthquake forces for DRM.

101 Novelty of this work lies in extending the deterministic DRM into stochastic context using
102 intrusive stochastic Galerkin formulation. The deterministic DRM is a modular methodology to
103 reduce computational burden in seismic wave propagation analysis. The extension to stochastic
104 context, namely, the proposed modular methodology, inherits the advantage of deterministic DRM

105 which allows reduction of computational domain to improve simulation efficiency. Compared to
 106 the traditional approach with holistic model, the proposed modular approach benefits from separate
 107 consideration of random bedrock model and random local site model. Relatively large mesh size
 108 and time step can be adopted in the stochastic modelling of the first step, which needs to be
 109 performed only once. Only the second part of the computation needs to be repeated if any system
 110 parameters within local site need to be varied.

111 Formulation of the time-domain intrusive stochastic finite element method (SFEM) is first
 112 introduced in section 2. Two-step modular methodology within SFEM is established by extending
 113 conventional domain reduction method to probabilistic regime. Salient features of the proposed
 114 modular methodology are illustrated through three examples. The first example assumes the only
 115 uncertainty to be shear modulus of bedrock and local site, and models them as non-Gaussian
 116 random fields. The second example assumes the only uncertainty to be the seismic motion and
 117 models it as a non-stationary random process. The third example accounts for uncertainties in both
 118 seismic motions and material parameters. Simulation results are presented in terms of marginal
 119 mean, marginal standard deviation, marginal probabilistic density function, and compared with
 120 conventional stochastic seismic wave propagation analysis using holistic model.

121 2 FORMULATION OF TIME-DOMAIN INTRUSIVE STOCHASTIC FINITE ELEMENT METHOD

122 The weak form of deterministic, dynamic finite element method with body force neglected, can
 123 be written as (Bathe 1996):

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_e \left[\int_{D_e} N_m(\mathbf{x}) \rho(\mathbf{x}) N_n(\mathbf{x}) d\Omega \ddot{u}_n(t) + \right. \\
 \left. \int_{D_e} \nabla N_m(\mathbf{x}) D(\mathbf{x}, t) \nabla N_n(\mathbf{x}) d\Omega u_n(t) - \right. \\
 \left. \int_{D_e} N_m(\mathbf{x}) f^b(\mathbf{x}, t) d\Omega - f_m(\mathbf{x}, t) \right] = 0 \quad (1)
 \end{aligned}$$

124 where \mathbf{x} denotes the location vector defined over the domain, $N(\mathbf{x})$ is the finite element shape
 125 function, $\rho(x)$ is the material density, $D(\mathbf{x}, t)$ is the tangent stiffness which should be updated

126 for nonlinear materials, $f^b(\mathbf{x}, t)$ is the body force and $f(\mathbf{x}, t)$ represents all other external forces(
 127 traction, point load, etc.). \sum_e denotes the finite element assembly procedure over the discretized
 128 domain. The nodal displacement $u_n(t)$, nodal acceleration $\ddot{u}_n(t)$ can be solved using a time
 129 integration scheme.

130 To account for the uncertainties in the system, the above deterministic finite element is extended
 131 to stochastic finite element with the material parameters $D(\mathbf{x}, t)$ modelled as random fields and
 132 forcing functions $f(\mathbf{x}, t)$ modelled as random processes. Following Wang and Sett (2016), material
 133 parameters $D(\mathbf{x}, t)$ and forcing functions $f(\mathbf{x}, t)$ can be represented by a multidimensional Hermite
 134 polynomial chaos expansion (PC) with the correlation structure quantified by Karhunen-Loève
 135 theorem. Since the quantification of a random field and random process follow the same procedure,
 136 the formulation is only illustrated for the random field below.

137 Let $D(\mathbf{x})$ denote a heterogeneous non-Gaussian random field that can be represented by a
 138 multidimensional Hermite polynomial chaos as:

$$139 \quad D(\mathbf{x}, \theta) = \sum_{i=1}^{P_1} a_i(\mathbf{x}) \Psi_i(\{\xi_r(\theta)\}) \quad (2)$$

140 where $\{\xi_r(\theta)\}$ denotes the set of independent zero-mean unit-variance Gaussian random variables,
 141 and $\{\Psi\}$ is the PC basis set consisting of multidimensional orthogonal Hermite polynomials, while
 142 $a_i(\mathbf{x})$ is the coefficient for PC basis Ψ_i and \mathbf{x} represents the location vector within the random field.
 143 Note that θ indicates randomness, and will be dropped to simplify notation. The total number of
 144 PC terms, P_1 , may be computed as $P_1 = (M_1 + p_1)! / (M_1! p_1!)$ where M_1 denotes the dimension
 145 of PC expansion, i.e., the number of Gaussian variables in $\{\xi_r\}$, and p_1 denotes the order of PC
 146 expansion.

147 To this end, the main task is to quantify the marginal distributions and correlation functions of
 148 the random field. We begin with the marginal distribution quantification by using a one-dimensional
 149 Hermite polynomial chaos as:

$$D(\mathbf{x}, \theta) = \sum_{i=0}^{p_1} \alpha_i(\mathbf{x}) \Gamma_i(\gamma(\cdot, \theta)) \quad (3)$$

where the set $\{\Gamma\}$ consists of one-dimensional Hermite polynomials up to order p_1 while the variable of polynomials is a zero-mean unit-variance Gaussian random field γ . The coefficient $\alpha_i(\mathbf{x})$ is computed by $\langle D \Gamma_i \rangle / \langle \Gamma_i^2 \rangle$ for each location while $\langle \cdot \rangle$ denotes the ensemble operator. Note that $\langle \Gamma_i^2 \rangle$ can be precomputed analytically, and $\langle D \Gamma_i \rangle$ can be evaluated using inverse CDF transformation technique (Xiu 2010).

In addition, the covariance function of random field $D(\mathbf{x})$ can also be derived in terms of the covariance function of $\gamma(\mathbf{x})$ (Sakamoto and Ghanem 2002) as:

$$C_D(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2) = \sum_{i=1}^p \alpha_i(\mathbf{x}_1) \alpha_i(\mathbf{x}_2) i! C_\gamma(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2)^i \quad (4)$$

After solving Eq. 4 to obtain the covariance function of $\gamma(\mathbf{x})$, $C_\gamma(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2)$, Karhunen-Loève expansion is then employed to efficiently discretize the zero-mean unit-variance Gaussian random field γ . A generalized eigenvalue problem is formulated using finite element method to solve the Fredholm integral of the second kind with kernel $C_\gamma(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2)$, then, random field $\gamma(\mathbf{x})$ may be written in terms of eigenvalues λ and eigenvectors $y(\mathbf{x})$:

$$\gamma(\mathbf{x}, \theta) = \sum_{i=1}^{M_1} \frac{\sqrt{\lambda_i} y_i(\mathbf{x})}{\sqrt{\sum_{m=1}^{M_1} \{\sqrt{\lambda_m} y_m(\mathbf{x})\}^2}} \xi_i(\theta) \quad (5)$$

Note that only the first M_1 eigenvalues and eigenvectors are selected for the Karhunen-Loève expansion, and the unit variance constraint is satisfied by normalization.

Substituting Eq. 5 into Eq. 3, and equating the two representations of random field $D(\mathbf{x})$, Eq. 3 and Eq. 2, the PC coefficients $\{a_i\}$ can be found as:

$$a_i(x) = \frac{p!}{\langle \Psi_i^2 \rangle} \alpha_p(x) \prod_{j=1}^p \frac{\sqrt{\lambda_{r(j)}} y_{r(j)}(x)}{\sqrt{\sum_{m=1}^{M_1} \{\sqrt{\lambda_m} y_m(x)\}^2}} \quad (6)$$

Similarly, the random forcing function can also be represented using multidimensional Hermite

171 PC with dimension M_2 and order p_2 as:

$$172 \quad f_m(t, \theta) = \sum_{j=1}^{P_2} f_{mj}(t) \Psi_j(\{\xi_r(\theta)\}) \quad (7)$$

173 where $f_{mj}(t)$ is the PC coefficient at time t for random forcing, and may be computed by following
 174 the same procedure as the random field. The output response processes, $u_n(t, \theta)$, $\ddot{u}_n(t, \theta)$ can also
 175 be represented by multidimensional Hermite PC as:

$$176 \quad u_n(t, \theta) = \sum_{k=1}^{P_3} d_{nk}(t) \Psi_k(\{\xi_l(\theta)\}) \quad (8)$$

$$177 \quad \ddot{u}_n(t, \theta) = \sum_{k=1}^{P_3} \ddot{d}_{nk}(t) \Psi_k(\{\xi_l(\theta)\}) \quad (9)$$

178 where $d_{nk}(t)$, $\ddot{d}_{nk}(t)$ are the unknown PC coefficients that will be obtained through a stochastic
 179 Galerkin projection.

180 After substitution of Eqs. 2, 7, 8, 9 into Eq. 1 and after application of stochastic Galerkin
 181 projection by multiplying both sides with Ψ_l , and after taking expectation, one obtains:

$$182 \quad \sum_{k=1}^{P_3} \langle \Psi_k \Psi_l \rangle \sum_{n=1}^{\bar{N}} \int_{D_e} N_m(x) \rho(x) N_n(x) d\Omega \ddot{d}_{nk}(t) +$$

$$183 \quad \sum_{k=1}^{P_3} \sum_{i=1}^{P_1} \langle \Psi_i \Psi_k \Psi_l \rangle \sum_{n=1}^{\bar{N}} \int_{D_e} \nabla N_m(\mathbf{x}) a_i(x) \nabla N_n(\mathbf{x}) d\Omega d_{nk}(t) = \sum_{j=1}^{P_2} \langle \Psi_j \Psi_l \rangle f_{mj}(t)$$

$$184 \quad (10)$$

185 where \bar{N} is the total number of nodes in the deterministic finite element domain. Note that Eq. 10
 186 is similar to the deterministic finite element formulation (Eq. 1) with additional wrapping indices
 187 about Hermite PC, consequently, the deterministic matrix assembly can be viewed as a block matrix
 188 and Eq. 10 can be assembled into a generalized matrix-vector form as:

$$\mathbf{M}\ddot{\mathbf{d}} + \mathbf{K}\mathbf{d} = \mathbf{F} \quad (11)$$

where \mathbf{M} and \mathbf{K} may be called the generalized mass and stiffness matrices, while \mathbf{F} , \mathbf{d} , and $\ddot{\mathbf{d}}$ may be called the generalized force, displacement, and acceleration vectors, respectively. By introducing Rayleigh damping into the formulation, Eq. 11 can be rewritten as:

$$\mathbf{M}\ddot{\mathbf{d}} + \mathbf{C}\dot{\mathbf{d}} + \mathbf{K}\mathbf{d} = \mathbf{F} \quad (12)$$

where \mathbf{C} is the generalized damping matrix, and it is constructed from \mathbf{K} and \mathbf{M} with two Rayleigh damping parameters. Newmark time integration algorithm may be utilized to solve Eq. 12, and the mean and standard deviation of response could be directly evaluated by using orthogonal property of Hermite PC. In addition, probability distribution of response is also available by using kernel density estimation with a significant number of generated samples.

3 FORMULATION OF STOCHASTIC DOMAIN REDUCTION METHOD

Conventional approach to simulate seismic wave propagation requires a holistic model including bedrock geology, and local site details (Graves and Pitarka 2010; Rodgers et al. 2018). If the seismic source is far away from the local site, the size of the model would become extremely large and computationally expensive.

Domain reduction method (DRM) (Bielak et al. 2003; Yoshimura et al. 2003), provides a modular, two-step procedure to simulate large scale deterministic seismic wave propagation from far field to local site of interest. The DRM is first used to simulate seismic wave propagation within the deep bedrock, without modelling local site details, and response of boundary layer near the local site is recorded. Note that a coarse mesh can be adopted due high stiffness of the deep bedrock (Lysmer and Kuhlemeyer 1969; Watanabe et al. 2017). Then, a domain reduced model, with local site details is constructed for simulating local site response. Recorded response of the boundary layer from the first step is formulated into effective seismic forces. Those effective seismic forces are then applied on the elements of single boundary layer of the domain-reduced

213 model in a dynamically consistent way. The interior domain Ω , inside the boundary layer, includes
 214 all the local site details, while the exterior domain Ω^+ is used to absorb outgoing waves. The key
 215 feature of DRM lies in the reduction of computational size to simulate earthquake seismic wave
 216 propagation response including local site details. In addition, changes of local site features would
 217 only require repeated simulations in its second step and that is much more efficient than traditional
 218 approach with a holistic model including the whole bedrock geology and local site. Detailed
 219 formulation of domain reduction method can be found in [Bielak et al. \(2003\)](#). Formulation of the
 220 first step is neglected herein since it is identical to traditional seismic wave propagation analysis.
 221 Traditional seismic wave propagation analysis constructs a holistic model which includes bedrock
 222 geology and local site, and the model is discretized using finite element which results in a dynamic
 223 equilibrium system of equation. In the second step, the domain reduction formulation can be
 224 written in matrix-vector form as:

$$225 \begin{bmatrix} M_{ii}^{\Omega} & M_{ib}^{\Omega} & 0 \\ M_{bi}^{\Omega} & M_{bb}^{\Omega} + M_{bb}^{\Omega^+} & M_{be}^{\Omega^+} \\ 0 & M_{be}^{\Omega^+} & M_{ee}^{\Omega^+} \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} \ddot{u}_i \\ \ddot{u}_b \\ \ddot{\omega}_e \end{Bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} K_{ii}^{\Omega} & K_{ib}^{\Omega} & 0 \\ K_{bi}^{\Omega} & K_{bb}^{\Omega} + K_{bb}^{\Omega^+} & K_{be}^{\Omega^+} \\ 0 & K_{be}^{\Omega^+} & K_{ee}^{\Omega^+} \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} u_i \\ u_b \\ \omega_e \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} 0 \\ F_b^{eff} \\ F_e^{eff} \end{Bmatrix} \quad (13)$$

226
 227 where mass matrix M and stiffness matrix K are formulated with its subscripts i, b, e denoting
 228 interior domain, boundary layer, and exterior domain, respectively. Likewise, u_i, u_b and \ddot{u}_i, \ddot{u}_b are
 229 nodal displacement and acceleration at interior domain, boundary layer, respectively. The residual
 230 response w_e in exterior domain is formulated using transformation of variables ([Bielak et al. 2003](#)).
 231 The effective forces F_b^{eff} and F_e^{eff} are computed from the response of boundary layer elements in
 232 the first step, and can be written as:

$$233 \begin{aligned} F_b^{eff} &= -M_{be}^{\Omega^+} \ddot{u}_e^0 - K_{be}^{\Omega^+} u_e^0 \\ F_e^{eff} &= M_{eb}^{\Omega^+} \ddot{u}_b^0 + K_{eb}^{\Omega^+} u_b^0 \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

234 where the superscript "0" denotes the nodal responses collected from simulation in the first step.

235 Inspired by deterministic domain reduction method, a two-step modular methodology for
 236 time-domain stochastic seismic wave propagation is formulated herein. In addition to the spa-
 237 tial separation of exterior domain and interior domain, random field of the two domains are also
 238 probabilistically separated into exterior domain random field and interior domain random field.
 239 Similar to domain reduction method, the first step is a time-domain intrusive stochastic seismic
 240 wave propagation analysis with exterior domain modelled as a non-Gaussian random field, however
 241 in the first step, the interior domain is modeled as deterministic domain. In the second step, interior
 242 domain is modelled in detail as a random field, and the recorded stochastic response at boundary
 243 layer in the first step is applied as stochastic excitations.

244 Substituting the Hermite PC representation of material parameter, external forcing, response
 245 processes (Eq. 2, 7, 8, 9) into Eq. 13, we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \sum_{k=1}^{P_3} \Psi_k \begin{bmatrix} M_{ii}^{\Omega} & M_{ib}^{\Omega} & 0 \\ M_{bi}^{\Omega} & M_{bb}^{\Omega} + M_{bb}^{\Omega^+} & M_{be}^{\Omega^+} \\ 0 & M_{be}^{\Omega^+} & M_{ee}^{\Omega^+} \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} \ddot{d}_{ik} \\ \ddot{d}_{bk} \\ \ddot{\omega}_{ek} \end{Bmatrix} + \\
 & \sum_{k=1}^{P_3} \sum_{m=1}^{P_1} \Psi_m \Psi_k a_m(\mathbf{x}) \begin{bmatrix} K_{ii}^{\Omega} & K_{ib}^{\Omega} & 0 \\ K_{bi}^{\Omega} & K_{bb}^{\Omega} + K_{bb}^{\Omega^+} & K_{be}^{\Omega^+} \\ 0 & K_{be}^{\Omega^+} & K_{ee}^{\Omega^+} \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} d_{ik} \\ d_{bk} \\ \omega_{ek} \end{Bmatrix} = \sum_{j=1}^{P_2} \Psi_j \begin{Bmatrix} 0 \\ f_{bj}^{eff} \\ f_{ej}^{eff} \end{Bmatrix} \quad (15)
 \end{aligned}$$

246
247
248

249
 250 To apply stochastic Galerkin projection, we multiply a Hermite PC Ψ_l , on both sides. An ensemble
 251 average of the equations can then be taken, so that expanded linear system of equations can be
 252 formulated as:

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{k=1}^{P_3} \langle \Psi_k \Psi_l \rangle \begin{bmatrix} M_{ii}^\Omega & M_{ib}^\Omega & 0 \\ M_{bi}^\Omega & M_{bb}^\Omega + M_{bb}^{\Omega^+} & M_{be}^{\Omega^+} \\ 0 & M_{be}^{\Omega^+} & M_{ee}^{\Omega^+} \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} \ddot{d}_{ik} \\ \ddot{d}_{bk} \\ \ddot{\omega}_{ek} \end{Bmatrix} + \\
& \sum_{k=1}^{P_3} \sum_{m=1}^{P_1} \langle \Psi_m \Psi_k \Psi_l \rangle a_m(\mathbf{x}) \begin{bmatrix} K_{ii}^\Omega & K_{ib}^\Omega & 0 \\ K_{bi}^\Omega & K_{bb}^\Omega + K_{bb}^{\Omega^+} & K_{be}^{\Omega^+} \\ 0 & K_{be}^{\Omega^+} & K_{ee}^{\Omega^+} \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} d_{ik} \\ d_{bk} \\ \omega_{ek} \end{Bmatrix} = \sum_{j=1}^{P_2} \langle \Psi_j \Psi_l \rangle \begin{Bmatrix} 0 \\ f_{bj}^{eff} \\ f_{ej}^{eff} \end{Bmatrix} \quad (16)
\end{aligned}$$

Similar as in Eq. 13, we can assemble the linear system of equations, Eq. 16, into its matrix-vector form:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{M}_{ii}^\Omega & \mathbf{M}_{ib}^\Omega & 0 \\ \mathbf{M}_{bi}^\Omega & \mathbf{M}_{bb}^\Omega + \mathbf{M}_{bb}^{\Omega^+} & \mathbf{M}_{be}^{\Omega^+} \\ 0 & \mathbf{M}_{be}^{\Omega^+} & \mathbf{M}_{ee}^{\Omega^+} \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} \ddot{\mathbf{d}}_i \\ \ddot{\mathbf{d}}_b \\ \ddot{\boldsymbol{\omega}}_e \end{Bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{K}_{ii}^\Omega & \mathbf{K}_{ib}^\Omega & 0 \\ \mathbf{K}_{bi}^\Omega & \mathbf{K}_{bb}^\Omega + \mathbf{K}_{bb}^{\Omega^+} & \mathbf{K}_{be}^{\Omega^+} \\ 0 & \mathbf{K}_{be}^{\Omega^+} & \mathbf{K}_{ee}^{\Omega^+} \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} \mathbf{d}_i \\ \mathbf{d}_b \\ \boldsymbol{\omega}_e \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{F}_b^{eff} \\ \mathbf{F}_e^{eff} \end{Bmatrix} \quad (17)$$

where boldface matrices and vectors indicate the expanded stochastic matrices and vectors from the assembly procedure. The content of stochastic matrices, \mathbf{M}_{ii}^Ω , \mathbf{K}_{ii}^Ω , and vectors, \mathbf{d}_i , \mathbf{F}_b^{eff} in Eq. 17 are explicitly written in Equations 18 to 21 to illustrate the assembly procedure,

$$\mathbf{M}_{ii}^\Omega = \begin{bmatrix} \langle \Psi_1 \Psi_1 \rangle M_{ii}^\Omega & \dots & \langle \Psi_1 \Psi_{P_3} \rangle M_{ii}^\Omega \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \langle \Psi_{P_3} \Psi_1 \rangle M_{ii}^\Omega & \dots & \langle \Psi_{P_3} \Psi_{P_3} \rangle M_{ii}^\Omega \end{bmatrix} \quad (18)$$

$$\mathbf{K}_{ii}^{\Omega} = \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{m=1}^{P_1} \langle \Psi_m \Psi_1 \Psi_1 \rangle a_m(\mathbf{x}) K_{ii}^{\Omega} & \dots & \sum_{m=1}^{P_1} \langle \Psi_m \Psi_1 \Psi_{P_3} \rangle a_m(\mathbf{x}) K_{ii}^{\Omega} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \sum_{m=1}^{P_1} \langle \Psi_m \Psi_{P_3} \Psi_1 \rangle a_m(\mathbf{x}) K_{ii}^{\Omega} & \dots & \sum_{m=1}^{P_1} \langle \Psi_m \Psi_{P_3} \Psi_{P_3} \rangle a_m(\mathbf{x}) K_{ii}^{\Omega} \end{bmatrix} \quad (19)$$

$$\mathbf{d}_i = \begin{bmatrix} d_{i1} \\ \vdots \\ d_{iP_3} \end{bmatrix} \quad (20)$$

$$\mathbf{F}_b^{eff} = \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{j=1}^{P_2} \langle \Psi_j \Psi_1 \rangle f_{bj}^{eff} \\ \vdots \\ \sum_{j=1}^{P_2} \langle \Psi_j \Psi_{P_3} \rangle f_{bj}^{eff} \end{bmatrix} \quad (21)$$

while other matrices and vectors in Eq. 17 are assembled in a similar fashion. Size of the stochastic matrix and vector is the size of its corresponding deterministic matrix and vector multiplied by the number of PC coefficients, P_3 . The expanded stochastic effective forcing vector can also be computed following Eq. 22, which is the expanded form of Eq. 14,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{F}_b^{eff} &= -\mathbf{M}_{be}^{\Omega^+} \ddot{\mathbf{d}}_e^0 - \mathbf{K}_{be}^{\Omega^+} \mathbf{d}_e^0 \\ \mathbf{F}_e^{eff} &= \mathbf{M}_{eb}^{\Omega^+} \ddot{\mathbf{d}}_b^0 + \mathbf{K}_{eb}^{\Omega^+} \mathbf{d}_b^0 \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

where $\ddot{\mathbf{d}}_e^0, \ddot{\mathbf{d}}_b^0, \mathbf{d}_e^0, \mathbf{d}_b^0$ represents the simulated stochastic acceleration and displacement response vectors at the boundary layer in the first step. The expanded matrix-vector form system equations, Eq. 17, can be solved using Newmark time integration scheme. The formulation can also include viscous damping in the system, following Eq. 12. In addition, the proposed modular methodology may be also applicable to other type of interactions between two domains, e.g., hydro-mechanically coupled systems.

277 4 DEVELOPMENT OF THE STOCHASTIC BEDROCK INPUT MOTIONS

278 To formulate stochastic effective forces using the above stochastic DRM, it is required to develop
279 stochastic bedrock input motions. For a given site, several different ways have been proposed, e.g.,
280 DRM forces can be computed from physics-based simulated ground motions over regional bedrock
281 geology (Graves et al. 2011; Wang et al. 2017; Abell et al. 2018). However, these physics-
282 based ground motion simulations can become computationally intractable when uncertainties in
283 seismic source or bedrock geology need to be considered. For engineering practices, time domain
284 uncertain input motions can be simulated using the stochastic method (Boore 2003). For example,
285 Wang et al. (2020) proposed a methodology to simulate scenario-consistent time domain uncertain
286 motions using stochastic Fourier amplitude spectra and Fourier phase derivative. It is also common
287 practice to scale and select past-recorded seismic motions as the population of underlying uncertain
288 seismic input by matching site-specific target spectrum.

289 This paper utilizes the PEER online tool to select realistic ground motions by matching site-
290 specific uniform hazard spectrum (UHS) (McGuire 1995) for hazard level of 10% probability of
291 exceedance in 50 years for a target site latitude 34.5° , longitude -118.2° in Los Angeles. Note
292 that the proposed formulation is not only limited to stochastic motions generated from spectrum
293 matching criteria, any stationary or nonstationary seismic motions can be incorporated. Two
294 hundred past-recorded ground motions are selected from PEER online database and scaled for
295 spectral matching. All motions are deconvoluted to the bottom of the bedrock model shown in
296 the next section. The two hundred deconvoluted seismic motions are regarded as realizations
297 of the non-stationary bedrock input random process motions. Figure 1 shows the time series of
298 realizations and the mean response of the random process motions. It is observed that the mean of
299 acceleration is relatively small compared to motion realizations, which is probably due to random
300 phase property of seismic motion.

301 Marginal mean, standard deviation and correlation structure of the seismic motion random pro-
302 cess can be characterized through statistical analysis of these two hundred time series realizations.
303 From the Kolmogorov-Smirnov test of these realizations, it is also found that the marginal distri-

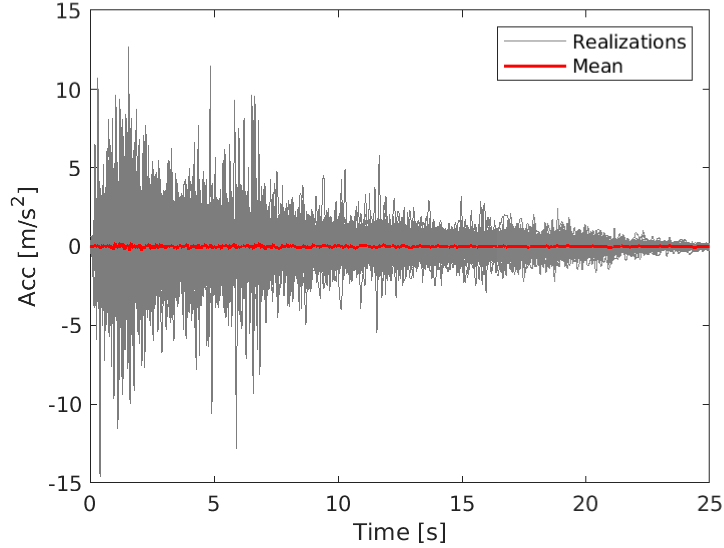


Fig. 1. Time series realizations of the input bedrock random process motions

304 bution of the seismic motion random process is Gaussian. Therefore, the input stochastic motions
 305 are modelled as a non-stationary Gaussian random process and Hermite PC with order 1, that is
 306 sufficient to capture the marginal distribution. Hermite polynomial chaos (PC) Karhunen-Loève
 307 (KL) expansion, formulated in section 2, is performed to represent such a non-stationary Gaussian
 308 random process. Since the seismic random process is highly non-stationary, Hermite PC with
 309 dimension 150 is required to sufficiently capture the non-stationary statistics of the random process
 310 motions. Figure 2 verifies the correctness of Hermite PC-KL expansion. It can be seen that both
 311 marginal mean and standard deviation synthesized from Hermite PC representation are close to the
 312 statistics derived from the realizations of seismic motions.

313 In addition to the marginal behaviour, Hermite PC-KL representation can also reproduce the
 314 correlation structure of the seismic motion random process, as shown in Figure 3. The PC
 315 represented random process motions would be used as uncertain bedrock input in the illustrative
 316 examples 2 and 3 in the next section.

317 5 ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES

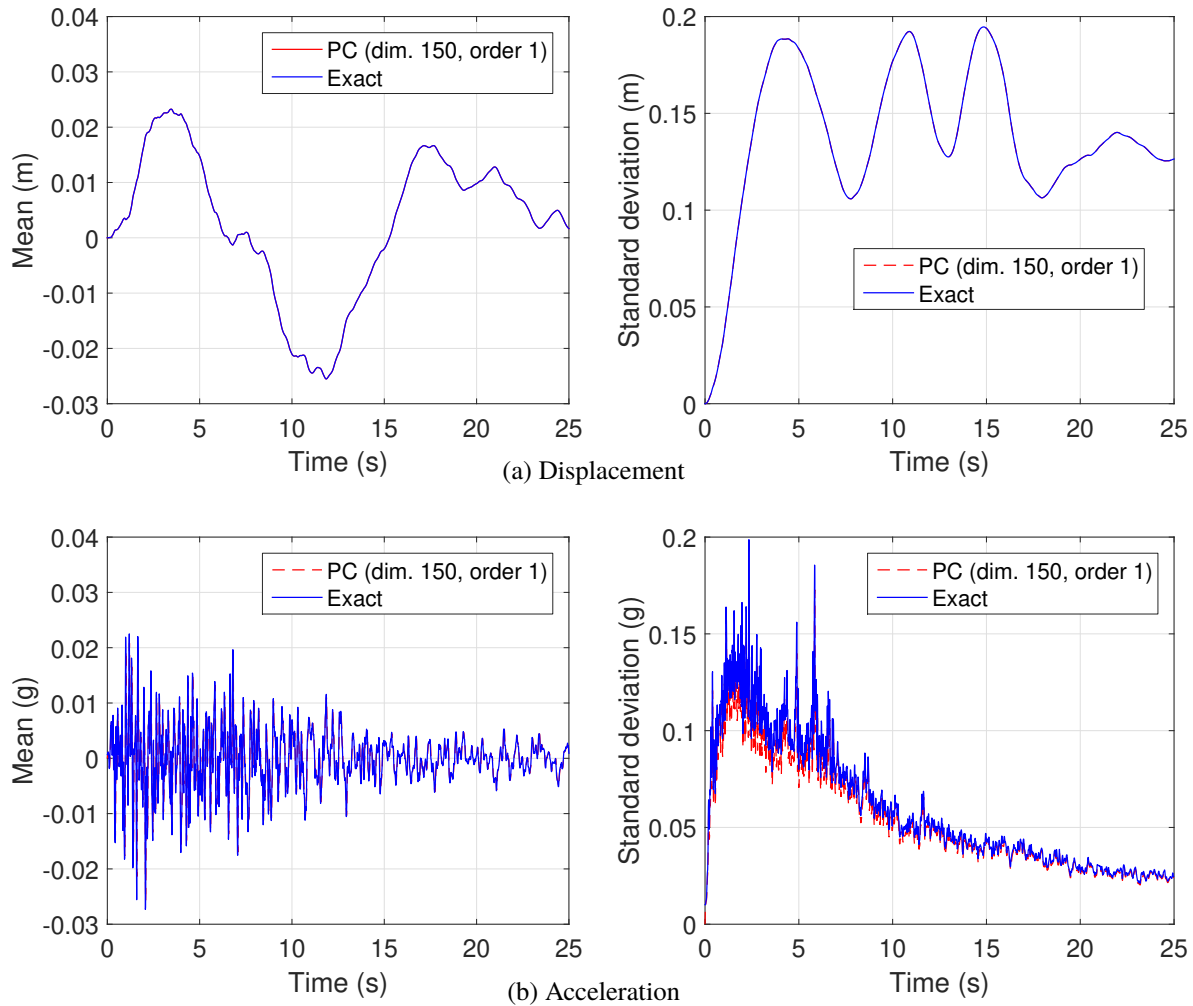


Fig. 2. Marginal mean and standard deviation responses of the non-stationary input motion random process: (a) Displacement, and (b) Acceleration.

318 In order to illustrate the proposed modular approach, 1-D seismic wave propagation analysis
 319 for an engineering site is performed. The site is located at latitude 34.5° , longitude -118.2° in
 320 Los Angeles with 280m thick bedrock and 20m thick overlying soil. Input seismic excitations
 321 are applied at the bottom of the bedrock. Three examples are presented in this section. The first
 322 example considers uncertain ground shear modulus only. The second example considers uncertain
 323 seismic motions only, while the third example considers uncertainties in both input motions and
 324 material. In addition, conventional holistic stochastic seismic wave propagation analysis is also
 325 conducted for verification. A schematic illustration of the conventional holistic model is shown in

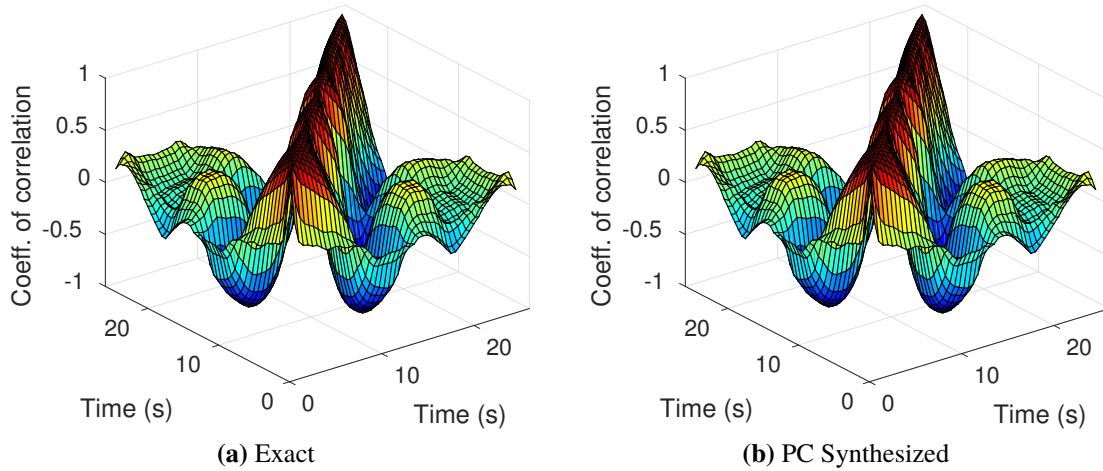


Fig. 3. Correlation structure of the non-stationary input motion random process: (a) Exact (b) PC Synthesized.

Figure 4, and the two modular models in the proposed approach are shown in Figure 5.

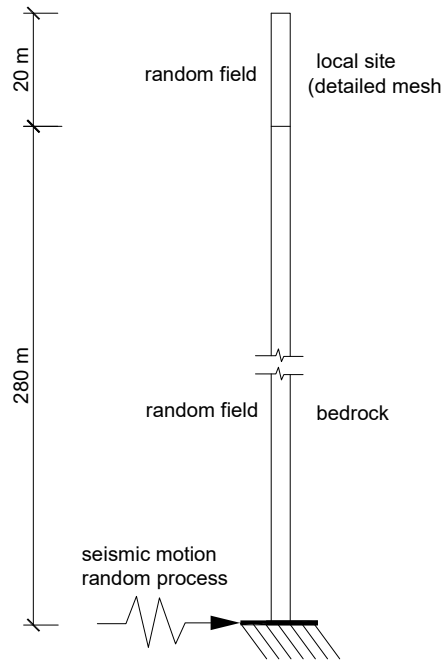


Fig. 4. Holistic 1-D stochastic seismic wave propagation model using conventional approach.

326

327 Boundary layer should be located a distance away from local site with Dashpot at the bottom

328 to absorb outgoing waves and avoid wave reflection. In order to determine a reasonable location

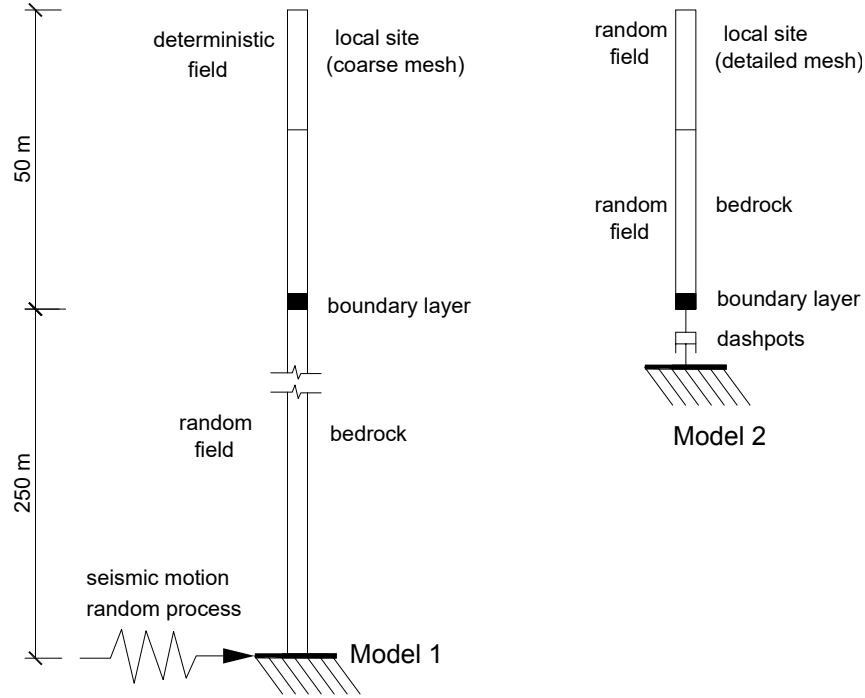


Fig. 5. 1-D stochastic seismic wave propagation model using modular approach: (a) Model 1 in the first step; (b) Model 2 in the second step

329 of boundary layer, analyses with different distances to local site (10m, 20m, 30m) are performed.
 330 We found that for boundary layer located at 30m from the local site, good agreement with results
 331 from conventional approach is achieved, and the reflected waves at the boundary layer are mostly
 332 absorbed and residual waves are negligible Therefore, 30m to the local site is selected for the
 333 boundary layer location in the model. Noted that procedures to determine the boundary layer
 334 location is dependent on geology and it is recommended that numerical tests be performed in order
 335 to gain confidence in model geometry. In other words, analysts are encouraged to perform model
 336 verification in order to determine appropriate dimensions of the model. Note that the proposed
 337 modular approach is also applicable to 2-D and 3-D problems, and the employed 1-D model in this
 338 paper is to verify the proposed modular formulation.

339 The uncertain shear modulus of the 20-meter local site is modelled as a homogeneous lognormal
 340 random field with marginal mean 100 MPa, coefficient of variation (COV) 30% and exponential
 341 correlation structure with correlation length of 5m. Similarly, shear modulus of bedrock is another

342 lognormal random field with marginal mean linearly increasing from top to bottom, 100 MPa to
343 1000 MPa, COV 20%, exponential correlation structure with correlation length of 100 m. Note that
344 the two shear modulus random fields represent two distinct parts of the model, therefore, they are
345 mutually independent. Simulations in this paper are run using a desktop with Intel Core i7-7700
346 CPU @ 3.60 Hz processor.

347 **5.1 Example 1: Uncertain shear modulus with deterministic input motion**

348 We use Hermite PC with dimension 3, order 2 to quantify the lognormal random field of shear
349 modulus of local site, and another Hermite PC of dimension 3 order 2 for the lognormal random
350 field of shear modulus of bedrock. Since the two random fields are mutually independent, Hermite
351 PC with dimension 6 order 2 should be used for the stochastic response. The input deterministic
352 seismic motion, as shown in Figure 6, is the deconvoluted ground motion recorded at Devil's canyon
353 station of 1970 Lytle Creek Earthquake, that is selected by spectrally matching the site-specific
354 design spectrum.

355 Rayleigh damping ratio of 5% is used and the two Rayleigh parameters are computed by assign-
356 ing 5% damping to the first and fourth natural frequencies of the site profile with no uncertainties
357 (0.46 Hz, 2.6 Hz). By analyzing the natural frequencies with 1000 realizations of site profile, the
358 damping ratio for the extreme case (the first natural frequency 0.23Hz) is 8.5% that is a bit higher
359 than 5%. Therefore, the Rayleigh parameters that were used in modeling yield approximately 5%
360 damping ratio in major modes and thus avoid unrealistic large damping ratios even for the extreme
361 cases of site profile realizations.

362 Figure 7 shows the simulated marginal mean and standard deviation of displacement and
363 acceleration at the ground surface from both the conventional holistic approach and the proposed
364 modular approach. Peaks of mean and standard deviation of displacement are 0.03m and 0.012m,
365 respectively. The COV of ground displacement is approximately 40%, which is larger than input
366 COV (30%) of shear modulus. Similarly, COV of ground acceleration is approximately 2 since
367 peaks of mean and standard deviation of acceleration are 0.15g and 0.3g, respectively. Although
368 the COV of input shear modulus is only 30%, COV of ground acceleration is nearly 2, and that is

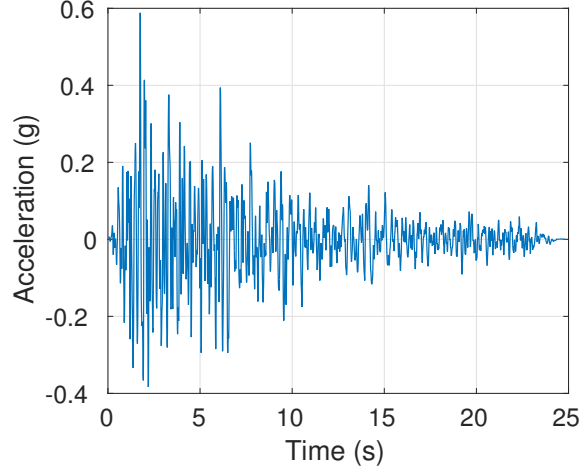


Fig. 6. Time history of of the deterministic bedrock input motion

369 quite unexpected from engineering judgment point of view. It can be seen that marginal mean and
 370 standard deviation of ground response from the proposed modular approach are in good agreement
 371 with results from the conventional holistic approach. Only slight difference is observed in the
 372 marginal standard deviation of acceleration at ground surface.

373 The solved Hermite PC expansion of ground surface displacement at time 8.0 s is shown in
 374 Eq. 23. The Hermite PC expansion is dimension 6 order 2 with 28 PC coefficients, and the first
 375 seven PC terms are presented in Eq. 23 due to space limitation. It is observed that the first four PC
 376 coefficients from the modular approach agrees very well with those from the conventional approach.

$$\begin{aligned}
 d_{con}(t = 8.0s) &= (-58 - 7.87\xi_1 - 2.99\xi_2 + 1.90\xi_3 + 0.61\xi_4 + 0.03\xi_5 + 0.02\xi_6) \times 10^{-4} \\
 d_{mod}(t = 8.0s) &= (-57 - 7.39\xi_1 - 3.08\xi_2 + 1.99\xi_3 - 1.24\xi_4 - 0.96\xi_5 - 0.19\xi_6) \times 10^{-4}
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{23}$$

378 In addition, the marginal probabilistic density function (PDF) of uncertain ground surface
 379 displacement at time 8.0 s is estimated by kernel density approach as shown in Figure 8. It is
 380 observed that the marginal PDF of ground displacement from the modular approach also matches
 381 well with the PDF from the conventional holistic approach, but shifts slightly to the right. The
 382 conventional approach takes 9.7 seconds while the modular approach takes 3.1 seconds.

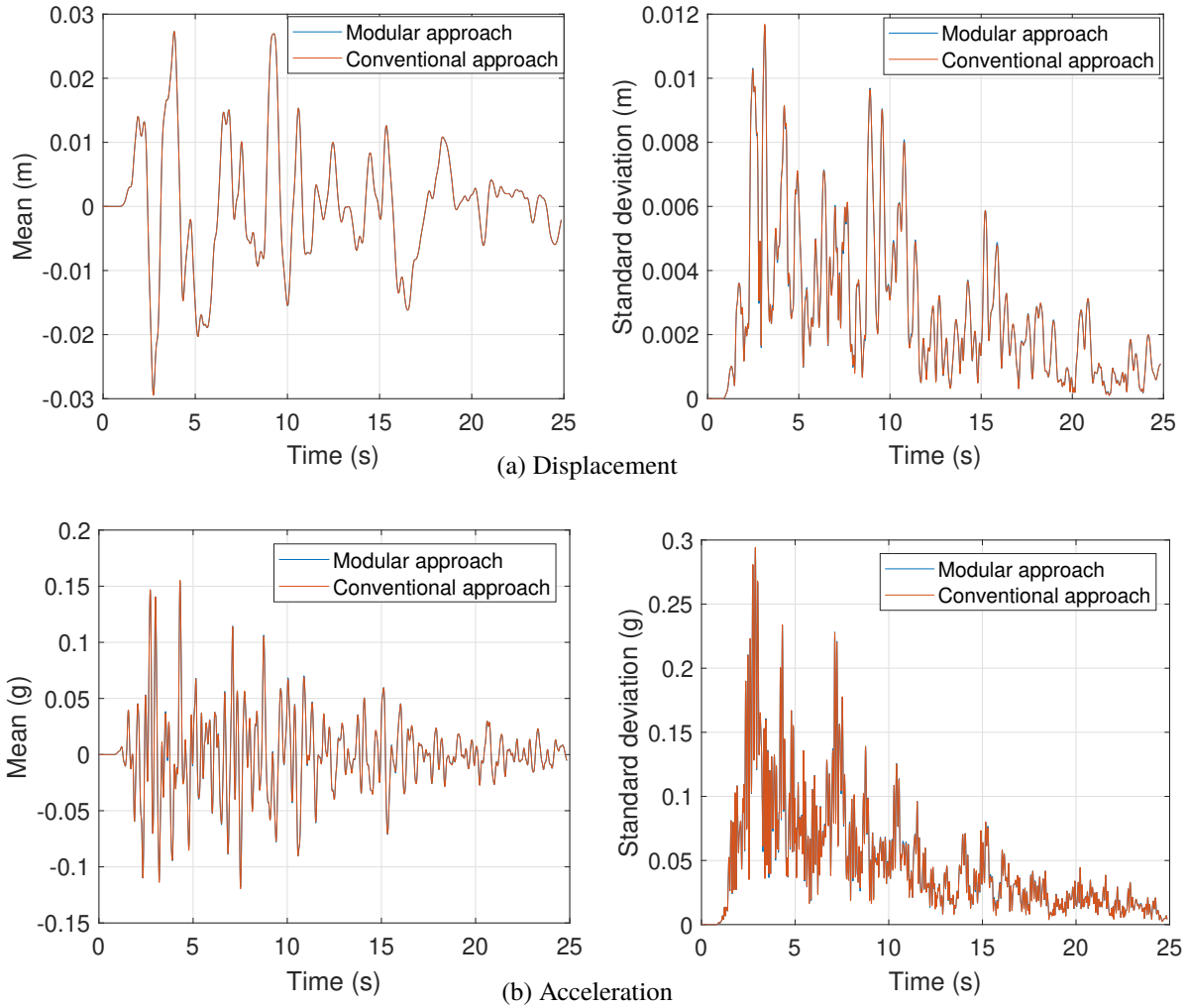


Fig. 7. Simulated marginal mean and standard deviation of: (a) Displacement, and (b) Acceleration at the ground surface when only shear modulus is uncertain.

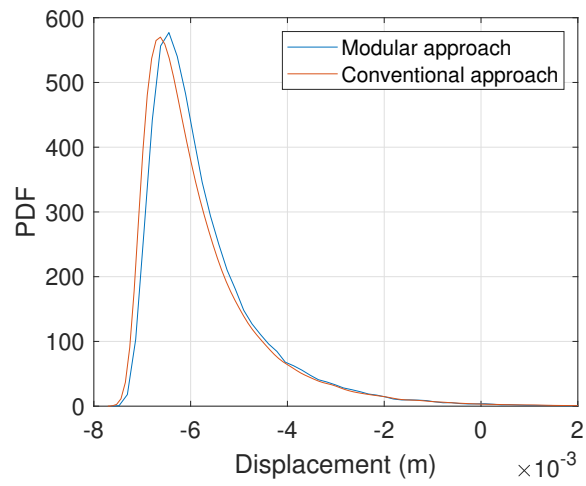


Fig. 8. Simulated marginal PDF of surface displacement at 8.0s when only shear modulus is uncertain.

383

5.2 Example 2: Deterministic shear modulus with uncertain input motions

384

In the second example, we keep the shear modulus of the ground as deterministic and input the stochastic seismic motions presented in section 4. Stochastic seismic wave propagation is analyzed using both the conventional holistic approach and the proposed modular approach. Time-evolving marginal mean and standard deviation of surface displacement and acceleration from both approaches are compared in Figure 9.

388

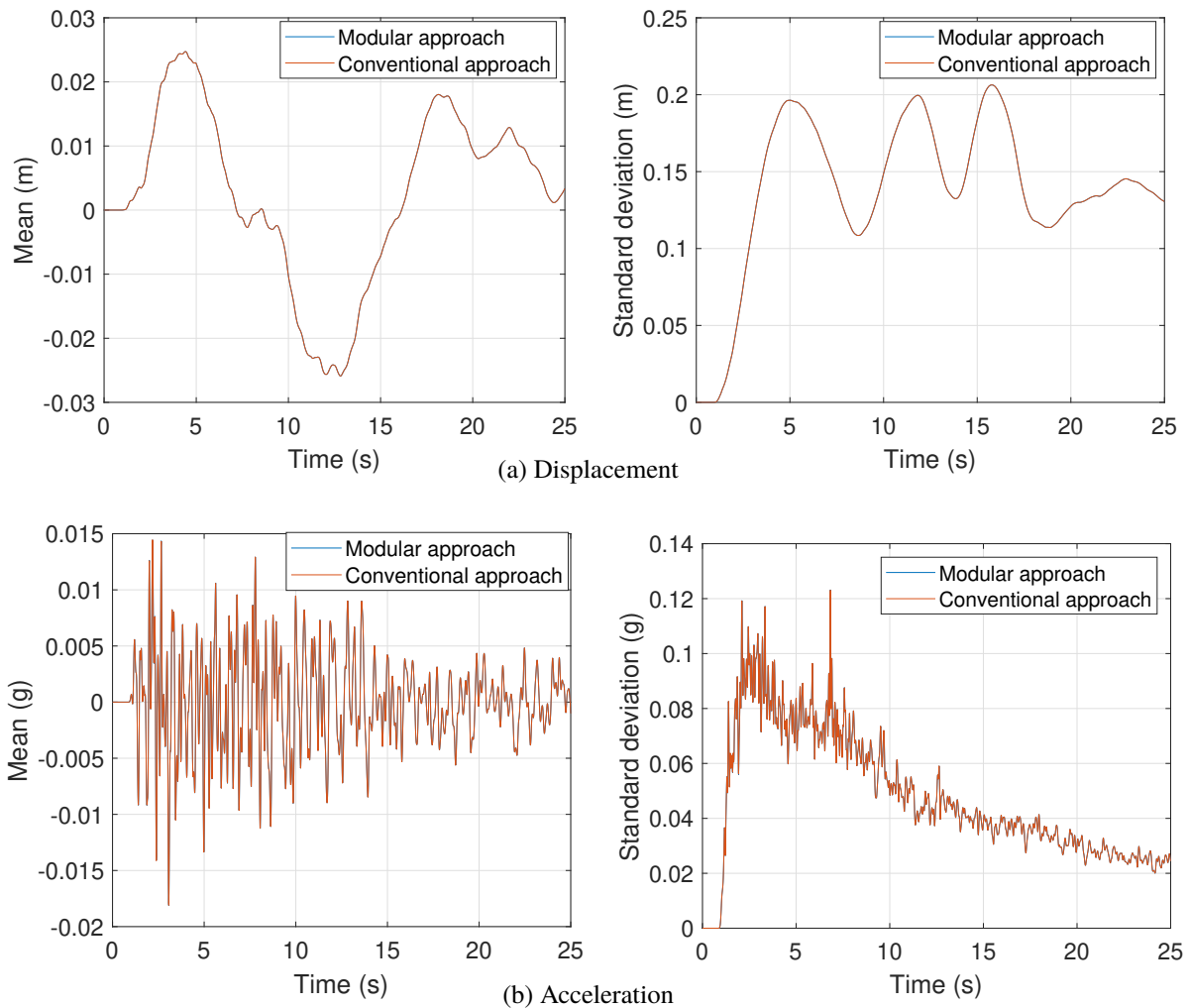


Fig. 9. Simulated marginal mean and standard deviation of: (a) Displacement, and (b) Acceleration at the surface when only bedrock input motions are uncertain.

389

The overlapping responses in Figure 9 confirm the validity of the proposed modular approach.

390

The PDF of probabilistic displacement response at 8.0s is shown in Figure 10. Same as the

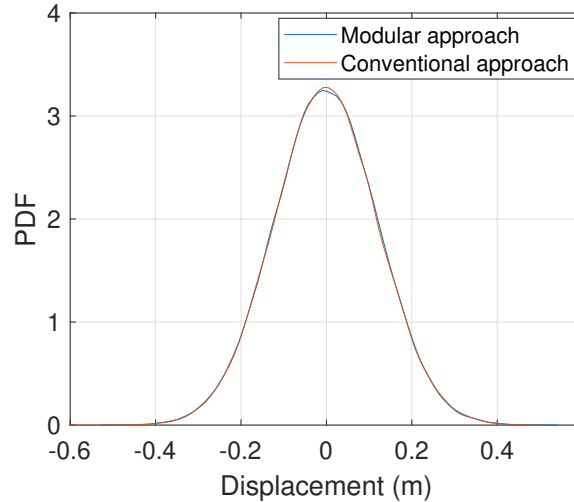


Fig. 10. Simulated marginal PDF of surface displacement at 8.0 s when only bedrock motion is uncertain.

391 uncertain input motions, it is observed that the standard deviation responses of both displacement
 392 and acceleration are much larger than corresponding mean responses. The result from the proposed
 393 modular approach is also matching well with that from the conventional holistic approach except for
 394 slight difference on the peaks of PDF. The PDF of probabilistic surface displacement shows clear
 395 Gaussian nature. This is expected considering the input seismic motion is a non-stationary Gaussian
 396 random process and the ground shear modulus is deterministic. In addition, the conventional
 397 approach takes 13.1 seconds while the modular approach takes 3.4 seconds.

398

5.3 Example 3: Uncertain shear modulus with uncertain input motion

399

The third example considers both the shear modulus and input bedrock motions to be uncertain.

400

The shear modulus random fields of local site and bedrock are identical to Example 1, which

401

is represented by PC dimension 3 order 2 for each random field. The seismic motion random

402

process is identical to Example 2, which is represented by PC dimension 150 order 1. Since

403

two shear modulus random fields and input motion random process are mutually independent, the

404

probabilistic response process is represented by Hermite PC dimension 156 order 2 to encompass

405

the entire probability space.

406

Figure 11 shows the second-order statistics of displacement and acceleration at the ground surface from stochastic finite element analysis. The marginal PDF of surface displacement at 8.0s

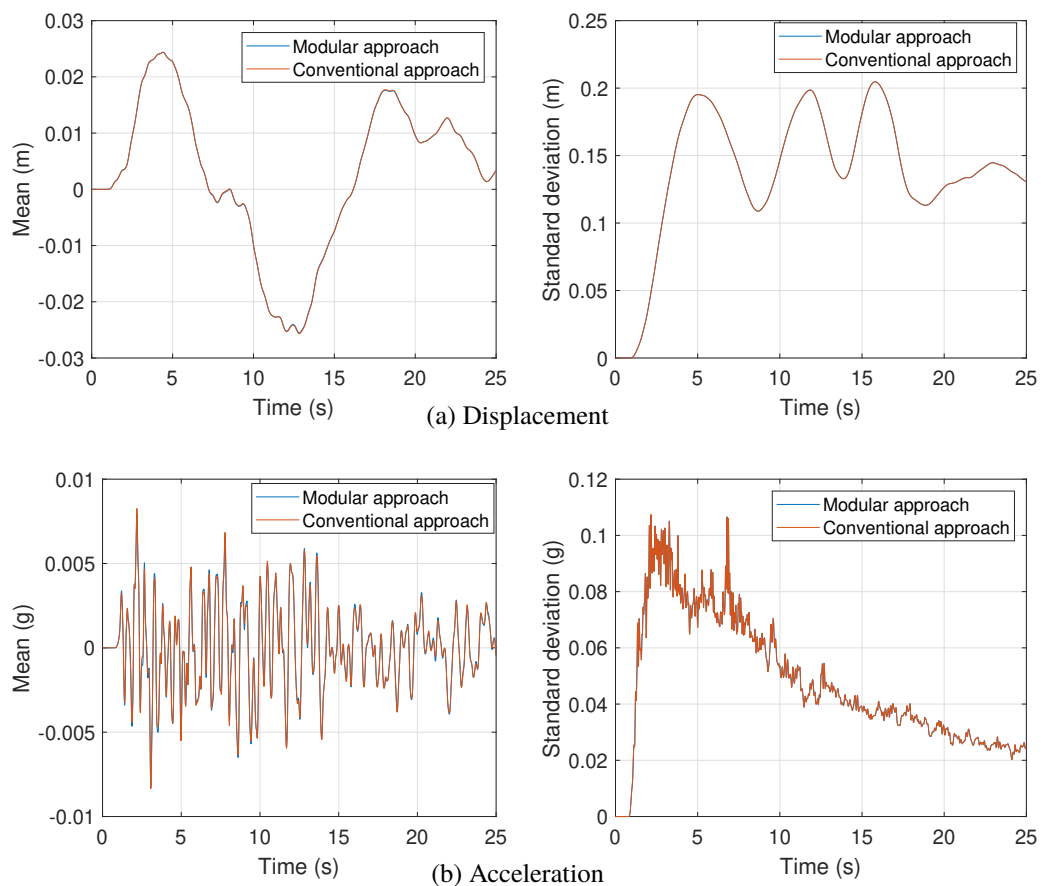


Fig. 11. Simulated marginal mean and standard deviation of: (a) Displacement, (b) Acceleration at the surface when both the shear modulus and input bedrock motions are uncertain.

407

is shown in Figure 12. Similar to Example 1 and Example 2, good agreement of results from the

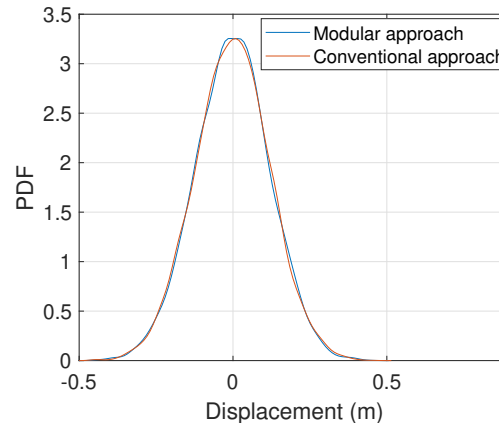


Fig. 12. Simulated marginal PDF of surface displacement at 8.0 s when both shear modulus and input bedrock motions are uncertain.

408
409 proposed modular approach and conventional holistic approach is observed for both time-evolving
410 marginal mean, standard deviation and PDF of probabilistic surface response. It is also noted
411 that the magnitude and shape of mean and standard deviation of ground surface response are
412 close to those of uncertain input motions. This implies that the probabilistic system response
413 from the stochastic wave propagation is dominantly controlled by the uncertain input excitations.
414 This is confirmed by Figure 13 where probabilistic surface acceleration responses from example
415 2 (uncertain motion) and example 3 (uncertain motion & modulus) are compared. It can be seen
416 that introducing shear modulus uncertainty (20% COV) to the system with uncertain input motions
417 would not make significant difference to the surface probabilistic response. There is some decrease
418 in the mean acceleration response after incorporating modulus uncertainty. However, its influence
419 is very small considering that the magnitude of standard deviation is much larger than the mean
420 response. In addition, the conventional approach takes 3844.2 seconds while the modular approach
421 takes 1010.6 seconds. Taking the simulation time in all three examples into account, the proposed
422 modular approach is more than three times faster than the conventional approach.

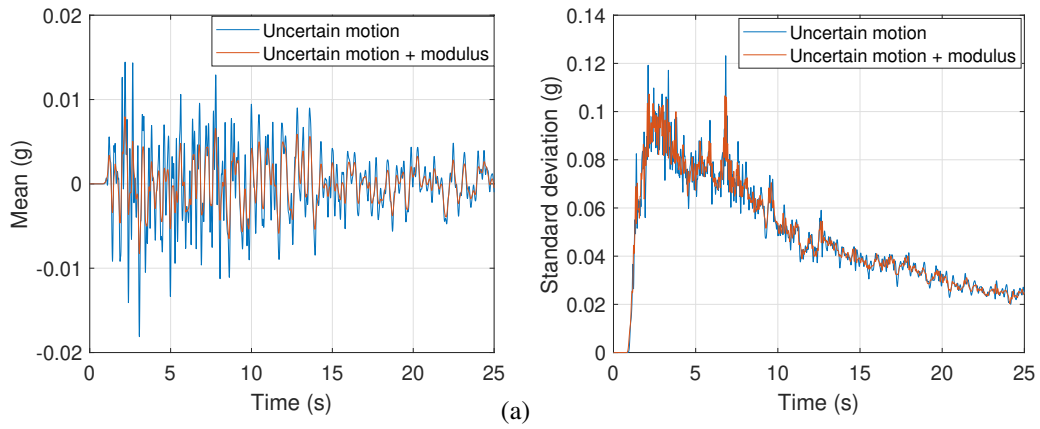


Fig. 13. Simulated marginal mean and standard deviation of acceleration at ground surface: Comparison of example 2 (uncertain motion) and example 3 (uncertain motion + modulus).

6 CONCLUSIONS

In this paper, a modular methodology is developed for time-domain intrusive stochastic modelling of non-stationary seismic wave propagation from bedrock to local site through inhomogeneous random medium. Hermite polynomial chaos expansion is employed to quantify the uncertain material parameters and uncertain seismic motion. Uncertain seismic motions, resulting from uncertain input motions, are intrusively propagated through the uncertain material using Galerkin stochastic finite element method. The Hermite polynomial chaos expansion is capable of simulating any non-Gaussian and non-stationary random process or field. By formulating stochastic effective seismic input forces, conventional deterministic domain reduction method is mathematically extended to probabilistic regime. The novelty of the proposed methodology lies in the two-step modular approach to propagating uncertain motions, from uncertain input through uncertain material. The first step performs a stochastic wave propagation from random process input motions, through a detailed random field model of bedrock and a coarse deterministic local site model. The second step then involves stochastic simulation of a reduced domain containing detailed random field model of a local site, excited by uncertain effective forces developed using motions from the first step. Compared to the conventional holistic approach for stochastic seismic wave propagation, simulated domain in both steps is reduced and computationally tractable. The separation of uncertain local site from uncertain deep bedrock model is more practical since it enables efficient simulation with frequent modification and parametric study of local site conditions.

A 1-D seismic wave propagation analysis with three cases is used to verify and illustrate the proposed methodology. Results show that simulated mean, standard deviation, and PDF of ground response is in good agreement with those from the conventional holistic approach. The proposed modular methodology offers a more efficient and practical approach to simulate stochastic seismic wave propagation. In addition, for 3D problems, developed methodology will provide even more efficiencies for stochastic seismic wave propagation modelling.

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