

Evaluation of Case Based Reasoning to Estimate Liquefaction Manifestation

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This paper develops a framework for and explores the use of Case Based Reasoning (CBR) to predict seismically induced liquefaction manifestation. CBR is an Artificial Intelligence process that solves new problems using the known answers to similar past problems. CBR sorts a database of case histories based on their similarity to a design case and predicts the outcome of the design case as the observed outcome of the most similar case history or majority outcome of the most similar case histories. Two databases of liquefaction case histories are used to develop and validate numerous CBR models. Different input parameters and aspects of the CBR method and their influence on the predictive capability of the models are evaluated. Some of the developed CBR models were shown to have a better predictive power than currently existing models. However, more research is needed to refine these models before they can be used in practice. Nevertheless, this study shows the potential of CBR as a method to estimate liquefaction manifestation and suggests several avenues of future research.

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INTRODUCTION

19

20 The most widely used methods to evaluate liquefaction triggering are based on the simplified
21 stress-based procedure developed by Seed and Idriss (1971). This method compares the cyclic
22 stress induced in a soil layer by an earthquake with the cyclic strength of the soil to provide a
23 factor of safety against liquefaction. Numerous liquefaction triggering models have been
24 developed based on this procedure using laboratory test, cone penetration test (CPT), standard
25 penetration test (SPT) or shear wave velocity (V_s) data to model the soil resistance. However,
26 Cubrinovski et al. (2019) showed that these models do not accurately account for system
27 effects, which refer to the dynamic (seismic wave propagation) and pore pressure (water flow)
28 interaction between layers. This led to both the overestimation and underestimation of
29 liquefaction hazard at numerous sites during the Canterbury earthquake sequence in New
30 Zealand. In addition, liquefaction triggering models are often used in conjunction with
31 susceptibility models (e.g. Bray and Sancio, 2006) to evaluate whether the soil can liquefy, as
32 well as liquefaction manifestation models that predict liquefaction severity (e.g. Iwasaki et al.,
33 1978), ground settlement (e.g. Ishihara and Yoshimine, 1992) or lateral spreading (e.g. Zhang
34 et al., 2004). However, liquefaction susceptibility, triggering and manifestation models
35 developed by various authors and separate datasets are often used together, and the collective
36 uncertainty and accuracy of these different combinations is unknown. Finally, Geyin et al.
37 (2020) found that simplified stress-based liquefaction triggering models developed since 1998
38 show little improvement in their predictive capabilities, despite a significant increase in case
39 history data. Geyin et al. (2020) suggested that real demonstrable improvement would only
40 occur with "disruptive innovation" to the in-situ test method or modelling approach. Because
41 many manifestation models are explicitly linked to triggering models through their predicted
42 factor of safety, this applies to manifestation models as well. Therefore, this paper evaluates
43 the use of Case Based Reasoning (CBR) to estimate liquefaction manifestation. This is an
44 innovative and intuitive technique that has rarely been explored in geotechnical engineering,
45 and similar to geospatial models that predict liquefaction manifestation, CBR models
46 inherently merge liquefaction susceptibility, triggering and manifestation. As a result, accuracy
47 is clearly defined for the entire liquefaction analysis.

48 CBR is an Artificial Intelligence process in which new problems are solved using the
49 known solutions to old problems (Aamodt and Plaza, 1994). A new problem, or design case,
50 is compared to a database of old problems, or case histories, and the outcome of the case history
51 that is the most similar to the design case (or majority outcome of the most similar case
52 histories) is used to predict the result of the design case. In essence, CBR is reasoning by
53 analogy or association based on experience from previous similar cases. This is a technique
54 that people use all the time in their everyday lives. For example, lawyers use it to justify
55 arguments in new cases, and doctors and car mechanics can use it to quickly diagnose problems
56 and suggest solutions (Kolodner, 1992). CBR is particularly useful in domains where there is
57 incomplete information, which is often the case in geotechnical engineering where subsurface
58 data is limited. This is even more true for regional geotechnical analyses. Therefore, CBR could
59 be beneficial for liquefaction hazard evaluations at the site and regional level.

60 The CBR method is not a new technique, but it has only been applied to geotechnical
61 engineering purposes for very limited proof-of-concept studies (e.g. Engin et al, 2018, Roberts
62 and Engin, 2019). To date, the majority of CBR applications in civil engineering have been in
63 the construction management field where it is used to estimate project cost (Kim and Shim
64 2014, Lesniak and Zima 2018), construction hazard identification (Goh and Chua 2009), and
65 construction planning and project delivery method selection (Yau and Yang 1996, Yoon et al.
66 2016). Instead, geotechnical engineers have preferred various artificial neural network (ANN)
67 methods for applications such as predictions of liquefaction triggering, pile capacity,
68 foundation settlement, and slope stability (Juwaied 2018). However, one of the main
69 advantages of CBR over ANN is that it is a fully transparent method and allows users to follow
70 the reasoning on every level. Although powerful tools have recently been developed for
71 visualization of ANN network strength (e.g. tensor flow), the relationship between the input
72 and output is still difficult to quantify, leaving users with a system that is more like a black
73 box. As a result, adoption of these methods has been limited, especially in the geotechnical
74 community where a mechanistic framework is traditionally desired.

75 Accordingly, the objective of this study is to evaluate the predictive capability of CBR
76 to estimate liquefaction manifestation. This is achieved by (1) developing a framework to apply
77 CBR to liquefaction manifestation analyses; (2) investigating a large range of input parameters;
78 (3) testing numerous meta-parameters/aspects of the CBR method; (4) developing models

79 based on a spectrum of available information for use at the site or regional scale; (5) comparing
80 the CBR models with existing state-of-practice models; and (6) identifying avenues of future
81 research. The analyses are performed using the Global database (Geyin and Maurer 2020) and
82 the Canterbury database (Geyin et al. 2021), which contain 275 and 14,948 well-documented
83 CPT liquefaction case histories, respectively.

84 **EXISTING MANIFESTATION MODELS**

85 There are several liquefaction manifestation models, sometimes referred to as Liquefaction
86 Demand Parameters (*LDPs*), already commonly used in practice and academia to characterize
87 the response of a liquefiable soil profile. *LDPs* aim to link the seismic demand to ground
88 failure, thereby providing a quantitative assessment of the ground damage severity (e.g. Holzer
89 et al. 2006, van Ballegooy et al. 2014, Cubrinovski 2019, Shinde et al. 2019). One of the first
90 *LDPs*, the Liquefaction Potential Index (*LPI*), was proposed by Iwasaki et al. (1978). *LPI* is
91 calculated as:

$$92 \quad LPI = \int_0^{20\text{ m}} F(FS_{liq}) * w(z) dz \quad (1)$$

93 where z is depth in meters, FS_{liq} is the factor of safety against liquefaction at depth z , $F(FS_{liq})$
94 $= 1 - FS_{liq}$ for $FS_{liq} \leq 1$ and $F(FS_{liq}) = 0$ otherwise; and w is the depth weighting factor, $w(z) =$
95 $10 - 0.5z$.

96 Based on the work of Ishihara (1985), Maurer et al. (2015b) proposed a modified *LPI*
97 termed *LPI_{ISH}* that accounts for the crust thickness (H_I), and uses a different depth weighting
98 factor, $w(z) = 25.56 \cdot z^{-1}$. The crust thickness parameter is defined by Ishihara (1985) as the depth
99 from the top of the soil to the first liquefiable layer. A third commonly used *LDP* is the
100 liquefaction severity number (*LSN*) (van Ballegooy et al. 2014). The *LSN* is based on the
101 predicted post-liquefaction volumetric strain, which is a function of FS_{liq} and relative density
102 (Ishihara and Yoshimine 1992) or FS_{liq} and the equivalent clean sand normalized CPT tip
103 resistance (q_{c1Ncs}) (Zhang et al., 2002).

104 Common for these three *LDPs* is that (1) they consider the top 20 meters of the soil
105 profile; (2) the layers closer to the soil surface have a greater weight than deeper soil layers;
106 (3) they require an estimate of the FS_{liq} against liquefaction triggering; and (4) they require
107 selection of a threshold index(s) to differentiate between surface manifestation severity levels.

108 There are numerous liquefaction triggering models that estimate FS_{liq} based on CPT data (e.g.,
 109 Robertson and Wride 1998, Youd et al. 2001, Architectural Institute of Japan 2001, Moss et
 110 al. 2006, Boulanger and Idriss 2016), all of which may yield somewhat different FS_{liq} .
 111 Therefore, $LDPs$ are unique to the selected triggering model used, as discussed in Maurer et
 112 al. (2015a). Likewise, Geyin and Maurer (2020) pointed out that the optimum threshold index
 113 is also dependent on the assumed misprediction consequences (i.e., is it worse to predict
 114 manifestation when it does not happen or to not predict manifestation when it does happen?).

115 A more recent method was proposed by Hutabarat and Bray (2022). Their model
 116 compares the liquefaction ejecta demand parameter (L_D) against the crust resistance parameter
 117 (C_R) to estimate the severity of liquefaction ejecta. This method is unique in that it specifically
 118 predicts the severity of liquefaction ejecta, whereas LPI , LPI_{ISH} and LSN predict severity of
 119 liquefaction manifestation due to not only ejecta, but also other forms of manifestation such as
 120 cracking or settlement. L_D is a measure of the upward seepage pressure developed in a critical
 121 zone due to earthquake shaking and is a function of the excess hydraulic head (h_{exc}) and vertical
 122 hydraulic conductivity (k_v) of soils in the critical zone. L_D is estimated as:

$$r_u = \begin{cases} 1.0 & \text{for } FS_{liq} \leq 1.0 \\ 0.5 + \frac{\sin^{-1}(2 * FS_{liq}^{-5} - 1)}{\pi} & \text{for } 1.0 \leq FS_{liq} \leq 3.0 \\ 0 & \text{for } FS_{liq} \geq 3.0 \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

123

$$h_{exc} = \frac{r_u * \sigma'_v}{\gamma_w} \quad (3)$$

125

$$\frac{k_v}{k_{cs}} = 10^{(0.952 - 3.04 * I_c)} / (3 * 10^{-5}) \quad \text{for } 1.0 \leq I_c \leq 3.27 \quad (4)$$

127

$$L_D = \begin{cases} \gamma_w * \int_{z_A}^{z_B} \frac{k_v}{k_{cs}} * (h_{exc} - h_A) dz & \text{for } h_{exc} \geq h_A \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

128 where r_u is the excess pore pressure ratio, σ'_v is the initial vertical effective stress, γ_w is the unit
 129 weight of water, I_c is the soil behavior type index, k_{cs} is the value of k_v for clean sand ($I_c = 1.8$),
 130 h_A is the value of h_{exc} at depth z required to produce artesian flow and is set equal to z , z_A is the
 131 depth from the ground surface to the top of the shallowest layer below the ground water table
 132 that has $I_c < 2.6$ and is at least 25 cm thick, and z_B is the depth from the ground surface to the
 133 top of the shallowest soil layer between z_A and 15 m with $I_c > 2.6$ and at least 25 cm thick.

134 C_R is a measure of the strength and thickness of the non-liquefiable crust layer and is
 135 estimated as:

$$136 \quad C_R = \int_0^{z_A} s_u dz \begin{cases} s_u = K_0 * \tan(\phi_{CS}), & \text{if } I_B > 22 \\ s_u = \frac{(q_t - \sigma_v)}{N_{kt}}, & \text{if } I_B \leq 22 \end{cases} \quad (6)$$

137 where s_u is the shear strength of the crust, K_0 is the coefficient of lateral earth pressure (assumed
 138 to be 0.5), ϕ_{CS} is the critical state friction angle (assumed to be 33°), q_t is the CPT tip resistance,
 139 σ_v is total stress, $N_{kt} = 15$, and I_B is the modified soil behavior type index (Robertson, 2016).
 140 For larger values of L_D and smaller values of C_R the model predicts that the liquefaction ejecta
 141 severity increases. This method only considers soils in the top 15 meters of a soil profile and
 142 was developed using FS_{liq} estimated from the Boulanger and Idriss (2016) triggering procedure
 143 at a probability level of 0.5. Hutabarat and Bray (2022) define threshold levels of L_D and C_R
 144 combinations that differentiate between liquefaction ejecta severity levels.

145

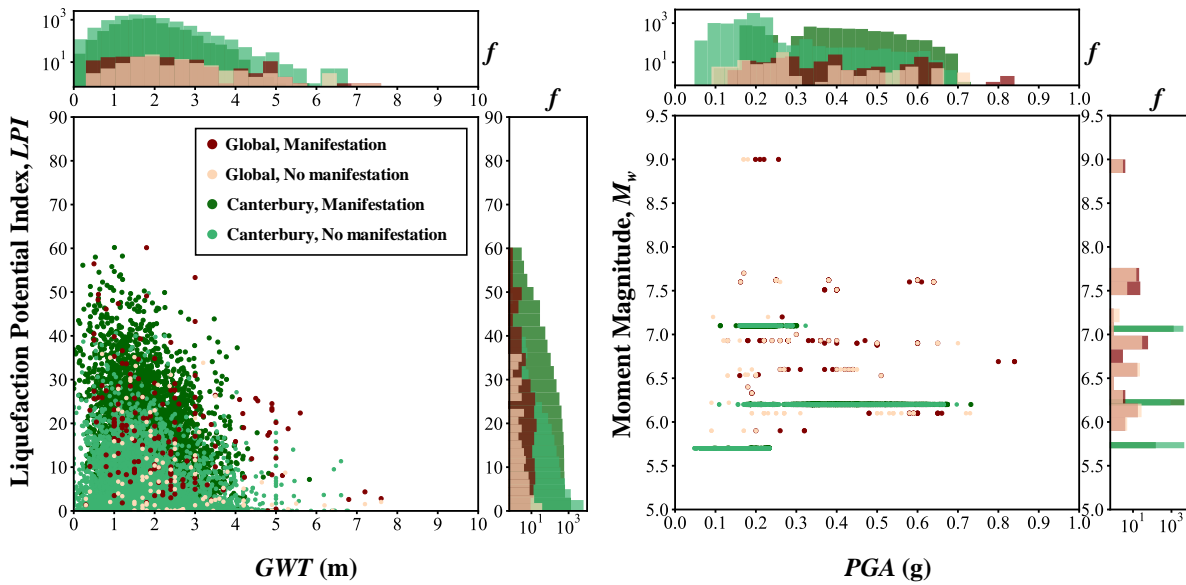
DATA

146 The Global database (Geyin and Maurer, 2020) and the Canterbury database (Geyin et al.,
 147 2021) were used in this study. The Global database is a compilation of 275 liquefaction case
 148 histories from 21 earthquakes that occurred in nine countries. Geyin and Maurer (2020)
 149 compiled the Global database from existing literature. Older case histories were refined with
 150 information from newer studies, if available. Each case history consists of the peak ground
 151 acceleration (PGA), moment magnitude (M_w), ground water table depth (GWT), measured CPT
 152 tip resistance (q_c) and sleeve friction (f_s) at a given depth (z), latitude and longitude of the CPT,
 153 and a binary classification of whether surface manifestation due to liquefaction was observed
 154 or not. Geyin and Maurer (2020) also included thin layer corrected q_c and f_s values according
 155 to the procedure of Boulanger and DeJong (2018), however, in this study, the original,

156 uncorrected CPT data was used. Approximately 58% of the case histories in the global database
157 have observed surface manifestation, and 42% do not.

158 The Canterbury database consists of 14,948 case histories from the M_w 7.1, September
159 4, 2010, Darfield earthquake, the M_w 6.2, February 22, 2011, Christchurch earthquake, and the
160 M_w 5.7, February 14, 2016, Christchurch earthquake. The Canterbury database contains similar
161 information as the Global database except the manifestation is classified as none, minor,
162 moderate or severe. To be consistent with the Global database, we reclassified all case histories
163 with minor, moderate and severe labels to "observed manifestation", and those with none to
164 "no observed manifestation". The groundwater depth and the PGA values at individual CPT
165 locations were estimated from regional models derived from measured data. Approximately
166 35% of the case histories in the Canterbury database have observed surface manifestation, and
167 65% do not. Both databases only include case histories for free-field level ground conditions,
168 and sites with lateral spreading were excluded in this study. None of the data from the
169 Canterbury database is included in the Global database and vice versa. The Global database
170 only includes one earthquake from New Zealand, the 1987 $M_w = 6.6$ Edgecumbe earthquake,
171 which occurred on the North Island about 700 km from Christchurch. **Figure 1** shows the
172 marginal plots of pairs of $PGA-M_w$ and $GWT-LPI$ for both databases with their manifestation
173 classifications.

174



175

176

Figure 1. Selected parameters from the Global and Canterbury databases

177

178

METHODOLOGY

179 CASE BASED REASONING FRAMEWORK

180 Case based reasoning is a method where new problems are solved using the known solutions
 181 to old problems. CBR takes a design case and compares it to case histories in a database. It
 182 then finds the case history that is the most similar to the design case and uses the observed
 183 outcome of that case history as the predicted outcome of the design case (or the majority
 184 outcome of the most similar case histories). In the context of liquefaction manifestation
 185 modelling for this study, case histories are defined as a peak ground acceleration (PGA),
 186 moment magnitude (M_w), ground water table depth (GWT) and CPT measurement for a given
 187 site, and the corresponding outcome of observed liquefaction surface manifestation or not.

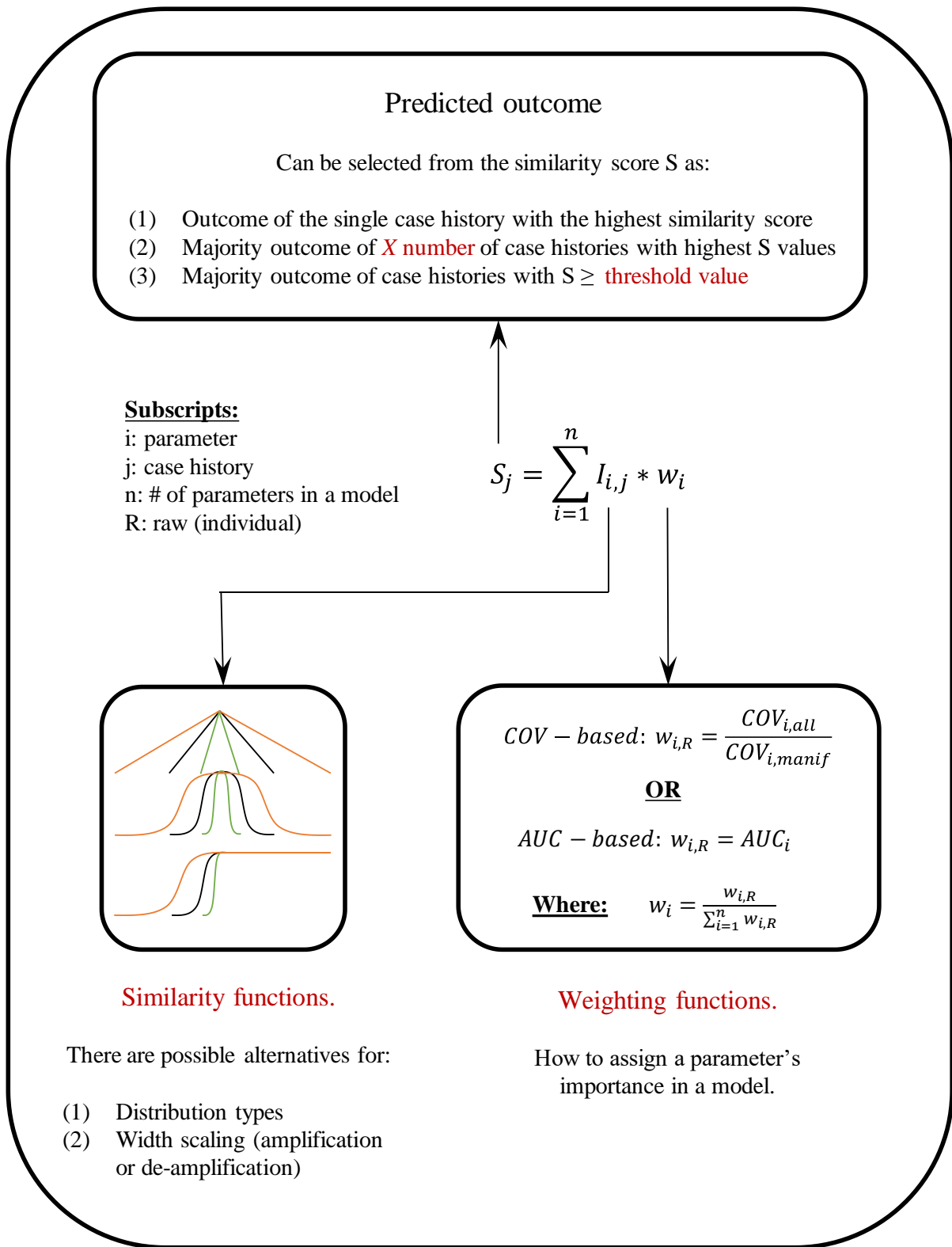
188 The essence of CBR is how to define how similar the case histories in the database are
 189 to the design case history. This is accomplished in two steps (Roberts and Engin, 2019). The
 190 first step is to compare a specific parameter of the design case to the same parameter of all the
 191 case histories in the database and calculate a similarity index for that parameter for each case
 192 history. This is then repeated for as many parameters as desired. The second step is to then
 193 calculate the overall similarity score for each case history as the weighted average of all the

194 parameter specific similarity indexes. The weights given to each parameter reflect their relative
195 importance in predicting the correct result. This process is defined mathematically as:

196
$$S_j = \sum_{i=1}^n I_{i,j} * w_i \quad (7)$$

197 where S_j is the overall similarity score for case history j , $I_{i,j}$ is the similarity index for parameter
198 i and case history j , w_i is the normalized weight for parameter i , and n is the total number of
199 parameters used. The outcome of the case history with the largest similarity score or the
200 majority outcome of case histories above a given threshold level is then used as the predicted
201 outcome of the design case. **Figure 2** provides a schematic overview of this process as well as
202 presents some of the different meta-parameters tried as part of this study. The following
203 sections describe the CBR framework and meta-parameters in more detail.

204



205

206 **Figure 2.** Schematic of the CBR framework employed in this study

207

208 **SIMILARITY INDEX**

209 The similarity index (I) is estimated using a similarity function $f(Z)$ that assigns a value based
210 on the relative difference (Z) between the design case parameter (D) and the same parameter
211 for the case history (C):

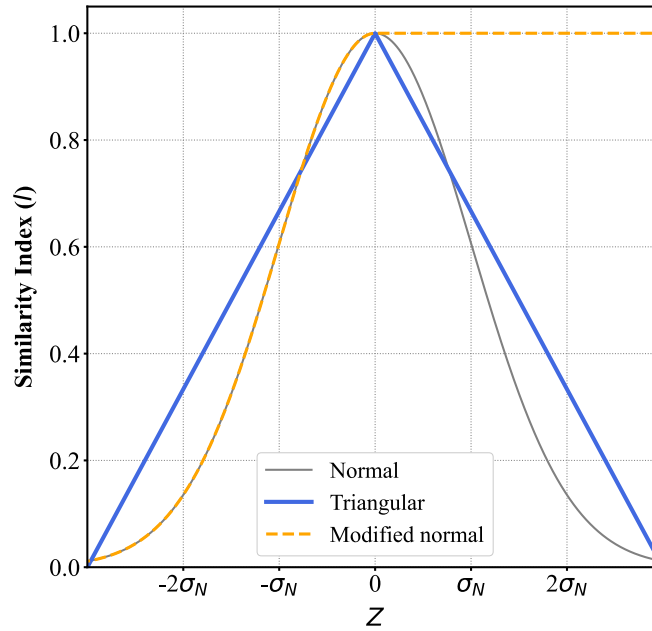
$$212 \quad I_{i,j} = f(Z_{i,j}) = f((D_{i,j} - C_{i,j})/\sigma_{N,i}) \quad (8)$$

213 where σ_N is a normalization coefficient to prevent differences in the magnitude of the different
214 parameter values affecting the results. We tried three different similarity functions based on a
215 normal distribution (base case), triangular distribution, and a modified normal distribution
216 (**Figure 3**). When the design case parameter and the case history parameter are equal, the
217 relative difference, Z , becomes zero and the similarity index equals one. The normal and
218 triangular distributions decrease evenly on both sides of the peak, indicating that the larger the
219 difference between the design case parameter and the case history parameter the lower the
220 similarity index (i.e., they are less similar). The modified normal distribution is the same as the
221 normal distribution except the similarity index for one side of the curve is kept equal to one
222 out to either +infinity or -infinity instead of decreasing to zero. The reasoning behind this
223 function is that if a case history reported surface manifestation for $PGA = X$, then if the design
224 case was exactly the same but $PGA > X$, this would also be assumed to result in surface
225 manifestation. Or vice-versa, if a case history reported no surface manifestation for $PGA = X$,
226 then for a design case with similar parameters but $PGA < X$ one would also expect no surface
227 manifestation. The direction of the modified normal distribution changes depending on
228 whether the parameter has a positive or negative correlation with manifestation (e.g., PGA and
229 GWT have opposite modification directions), and whether surface manifestation was observed
230 or not.

231 We also tried three different values for the normalization coefficient (σ_N). We tried (1)
232 the standard deviation of the given parameter for only the case histories with observed surface
233 manifestations ($\sigma_N = \sigma_{manif}$; base case), similar to Roberts and Engin (2019); (2) the amplified
234 standard deviation ($\sigma_N = A * \sigma_{manif}$), which increases the width of the similarity function and
235 gives a larger similarity index to values further from the design case value; and (3) the de-
236 amplified standard deviation ($\sigma_N = \sigma_{manif}/A$), which narrows the similarity function and reduces

237 the similarity index for values further from the design case value. In this work A was arbitrarily
 238 selected to be 4 to see the effect of σ_N on the CBR results.

239



240

241 **Figure 3.** Similarity functions used in the CBR analyses

242

243 **WEIGHTING FUNCTIONS**

244 The weight applied to each similarity index reflects the relative influence of that parameter in
 245 estimating correctly whether surface manifestation will occur or not compared to the other
 246 parameters used in the CBR analysis. We tried two different methods to estimate the weight.
 247 The first was the same as Roberts and Engin (2019):

248
$$w_{i,R} = \frac{COV_{i,all}}{COV_{i,manif}} \quad (9)$$

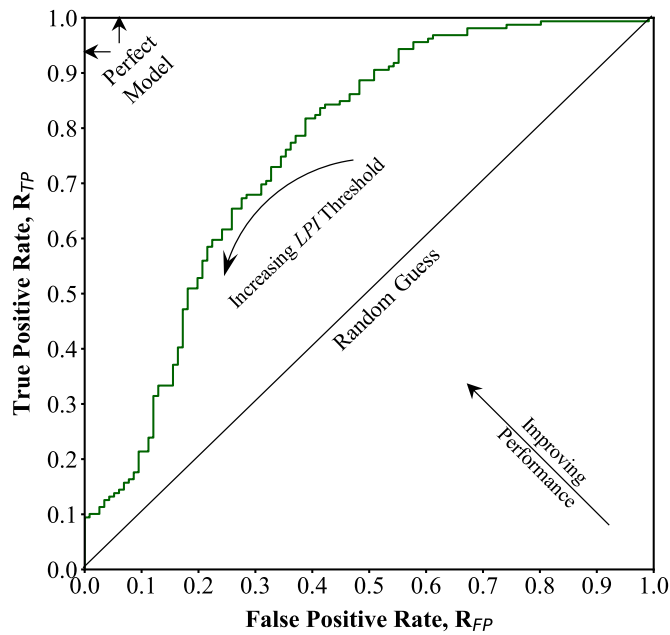
249
$$w_i = \frac{w_{i,R}}{\sum_{i=1}^n w_{i,R}} \quad (10)$$

250 where $COV_{i,all}$ is the coefficient of variation of parameter i for all case histories, $COV_{i,manif}$ is
 251 the coefficient of variation of parameter i for only case histories with observed surface
 252 manifestations, and $w_{i,R}$ is the raw weight. The raw weights are then normalized so that the sum

253 of all the weights is equal to one. As a result of the normalization, the similarity score (S) has
254 values between zero and one.

255 For the second method we calculated the raw weight of each parameter (w_{iR}) as the area
256 under (AUC) the receiver-operating-characteristic (ROC) curve. ROC curves plot the rate of
257 true-positive predictions (R_{TP}) (i.e. manifestation is observed and predicted) against false-
258 positive predictions (R_{FP}) (i.e. manifestations are not observed but are predicted to occur) when
259 using different threshold values to differentiate the outcome. AUC is an objective and
260 standardized metric used to evaluate the ability of a parameter to differentiate between two
261 outcomes for different threshold values, and is commonly used in geoscience and
262 geoengineering (e.g. Lin et al. 2021, Upadhyaya et al. 2021, Upadhyaya et al. 2022, Ju et al.
263 2020, Sarma et al. 2020). Figure 4 shows an example ROC curve and AUC for LPI using the
264 Global database. Each point on the curve represents a different LPI threshold value. If LPI was
265 a perfect predictor of liquefaction manifestation then the curve would go from (0,0) to (0,1) to
266 (1,1) and have an $AUC = 1$. Random guessing is equivalent to a straight line from (0,0) to (1,1)
267 with an $AUC = 0.5$. The AUC therefore provides an estimate of the predictive power of each
268 parameter individually to evaluate manifestation. The AUC values were taken as w_{iR} and then
269 normalized as shown in equation 10 to predict S values between zero and one.

270



271

272

Figure 4. ROC curve using Global database and LPI as the diagnostic index.

273

274 **PREDICTOR PARAMETERS**

275 To find the best CBR model to estimate liquefaction surface manifestation, we evaluated over
 276 900 different predictor parameters. We included existing $LDPs$ such as LPI , LPI_{ISH} , LSN , L_D ,
 277 C_R and L_D/C_R described earlier. We calculated these parameters using FS_{liq} estimated by the
 278 CPT triggering model of Boulanger and Idriss (2016), as it presents one of the highest
 279 prediction efficacies (Geyin et al. 2020) and is widely used in practice.

280 Cubrinovski et al. (2019) found negligible difference in the LPI and LSN values for
 281 selected sites that had observed surface manifestation and no surface manifestation during the
 282 Canterbury earthquake sequence. They stated that the main differences between sites with
 283 observed surface manifestation compared to those with no observed surface manifestation was
 284 the presence of a vertically continuous liquefiable zone and the absence of a non-liquefiable
 285 crust. Therefore, we also evaluated parameters z_A , z_B , and z_A-z_B from Hutabarat and Bray
 286 (2022). Parameter z_A is the depth from the ground surface to the top of the shallowest layer
 287 below the ground water table that has $I_c < 2.6$ and is at least 25 cm thick, and z_B is the depth
 288 from the ground surface to the top of the shallowest soil layer between z_A and 15 m with $I_c >$
 289 2.6 and at least 25 cm thick. Parameter z_A represents the depth to the first layer susceptible to

290 liquefaction, similar to the H_l parameter defined by Ishihara (1985). Parameter z_B is the depth
291 to the bottom of the critical zone, and z_A-z_B is the thickness of the critical zone. Theoretically,
292 for smaller values of z_A and larger values of z_A-z_B , the probability of liquefaction manifestation
293 should increase. We also included the GWT as a proxy for the depth to the first susceptible
294 layer, as this is a common parameter in regional methods (Zhu et al., 2017) and was readily
295 available in the case history databases.

296 To represent the earthquake loading we used PGA and M_w . Several studies (Kramer
297 and Mitchell 2006; Sideras 2019) have found that the cumulative absolute velocity (CAV) is a
298 better predictor of liquefaction than PGA . However, the case histories in the databases used in
299 this study only include PGA and M_w , therefore, other earthquake loading parameters could not
300 be assessed. In the future, other intensity measures could be calculated for the case histories
301 and incorporated into the CBR method.

302 In addition to the above listed predictor parameters, we also evaluated depth dependent
303 CPT derived parameters. Table 1 lists these parameters and the reference where they are
304 defined. Because these parameters are depth dependent, we evaluated their mean, median,
305 minimum, maximum, and standard deviation over depth intervals of $0-z_A$, z_A-z_B , 0-5m, 0-10m,
306 0-15m, and 0-20m for soils with $I_c < 1.8$ (clean sands), $I_c < 2.6$ (susceptible soils) and all soils
307 irrespective of their liquefaction susceptibility. Soil unit weight values that are necessary to
308 calculate some of these parameters were estimated using the CPT correlation of Robertson and
309 Cabal (2010). The factor of safety values were capped at a maximum of 10, which has an effect
310 on the median, mean, standard deviation and maximum values of FS_{liq} .

311 We included both the mean and median values because the median value is less affected
312 by large outliers than the mean value. The standard deviations of parameters were included to
313 try and capture the homogeneity (i.e., interbedded characteristics) of the soil profiles (Durante
314 and Rathje, 2021). The more interbedded the soils are the larger the standard deviation and the
315 more homogenous they are the smaller the standard deviation. The values for the depth interval
316 of $0-z_A$ represent the properties of the overlying crust, and the values for the depth interval of
317 z_A-z_B represent the properties of the critical zone. We considered other generic depth intervals
318 down to 20 m to see if these are better at capturing manifestation than parameters based on the

319 critical zone or crust layer. Finally, values were also calculated filtering on I_c to see if
320 parameters only for a given soil type controlled the response.

321 Some combinations of the CPT derived parameters provide trivial results. These
322 parameters were very poor predictors and were naturally filtered out in the regression analyses.
323 For some case histories some of the calculated parameters do not exist. For example, if there
324 are no soils with $I_c < 1.8$ in the top five meters then all the parameters based on this filtering
325 were replaced with an arbitrarily large number (e.g. 10000). In this way, the CBR method can
326 still match together case histories that do not have soils with $I_c < 1.8$ in the top five meters for
327 parameters based on this filtering. However, the CBR method will return a similarity index
328 equal to zero when comparing to case histories that have at least a small layer with $I_c < 1.8$ in
329 the top five meters because the value calculated will be far from 10000.

330 We also calculated the thickness of $I_c < 1.8$ and $I_c < 2.6$ over the depth intervals listed
331 above and included them as predictor parameters. These parameters are zero if there are no
332 soils meeting these criteria and therefore will give a high similarity index when compared with
333 profiles where there are thin layers of soil meeting the filtering criteria. In addition, the
334 thickness of $I_c < 1.8$ or 2.6 can also be used as a proxy to capture the finding by Cubrinovski
335 et al. (2019) that the thickness of liquefiable soil, even above or below the critical zone, can
336 affect the manifestation response. These simple parameters do not, however, consider whether
337 the liquefiable layers are continuous or not.

338 For the depth interval of 0 to the z_A (the overlying cap), we also calculated the thickness
339 of $I_c > 2.6$ (*cap-thick*), which is more meaningful for this depth interval than the thickness of
340 I_c less than a given threshold. Finally, we evaluated the thickness of $FS_{liq} < 1.0$ over the given
341 depth intervals. The thickness of $FS_{liq} < 1.0$ is similar to *LPI* and *LSN* but simpler in form and
342 is over different depth intervals rather than just the top 20 m.

343

344 **Table 1.** CPT derived predictor parameters

Parameter	Name	Reference
D_R	Relative density	Idriss and Boulanger (2008)
Q_m	Normalized tip resistance	Robertson (2009)
F_r	Sleeve friction ratio	Robertson (1990)
q_{cIN}	Overburden corrected penetration resistance	Boulanger and Idriss (2016)
q_{cINcs}	Equivalent clean sand penetration resistance	Boulanger and Idriss (2016)
I_c	Soil behavior type index	Robertson and Wride (1998)
$CRR_{M=7.5, \sigma'v=1atm}$	Magnitude and stress normalized cyclic resistance ratio	Boulanger and Idriss (2016)
FS_{liq}	Factor of safety (at probability level of 15%)	Boulanger and Idriss (2016)
r_u	Excess pore pressure ratio	Hutabarat and Bray (2022)
h_{exc}	Excess hydraulic head	Hutabarat and Bray (2022)

345

346 **MODEL DEVELOPMENT**

347 To evaluate which combination of predictor parameters resulted in the best CBR model we
 348 used Matthews Correlation Coefficient (MCC) as the goodness of fit measure (Mathews,
 349 1975). MCC is a scalar value that measures the correlation between the true and predicted
 350 values:

351
$$MCC = \frac{TP*TN - FP*FN}{\sqrt{(TP+FP)*(TP+FN)*(TN+FP)*(TN+FN)}} \quad (11)$$

352 where TP is the number of true positives (manifestation is observed and predicted), TN is the
 353 number of true negatives (manifestation is not observed and not predicted), FP is the number
 354 of false positives (manifestation is not observed but predicted) and FN is the number of false
 355 negatives (manifestation is observed but not predicted). If $MCC = 1$ then the model predicts
 356 the correct response every time. If $MCC = 0$ then the model is no better than random guessing.
 357 The advantage of MCC over other classification metrics is that it is insensitive to class
 358 imbalance (e.g. more positive observations than negative or vice-versa) and only predicts a
 359 high value if all four confusion matrix categories (TP , TN , FP and FN) have good results.
 360 Another useful attribute is that the definition of positive and negative classes can be switched,
 361 and the score is the same. An inherent assumption in MCC is that reducing FP (over-
 362 conservative result) is just as important as reducing FN (unconservative result), which makes
 363 it an impartial metric.

364 To find the best combination of predictor parameters we first tried all combinations of
365 parameters for models with one or two parameters. This resulted in 938 one-parameter models
366 and 439,453 two-parameter models. However, repeating this for models with three parameters
367 was too computationally expensive (137,109,336 models). Therefore, we chose the best 175
368 predictor parameters based on the results of the one and two-parameter models and evaluated
369 all combinations of three-parameter models based on these 175 predictor parameters (877,975
370 models). Then, for the 100 best one, two, and three-parameter models, we performed a stepwise
371 regression methodology using forward selection. In this approach, CBR was performed adding
372 each remaining parameter one at a time to the base model. Then, the CBR model that gave the
373 highest *MCC* value was retained, and the process repeated until the model had six parameters.
374 Each model tried was then ranked according to *MCC*.

375 To find the optimum CBR parameters we regressed on the Global database (training)
376 and used the Canterbury database for validation (testing). We performed the regression with
377 the Global database using a leave-one-out approach. In this approach, one case history was
378 selected as the design case. The design case was then compared to the remaining case histories
379 in the database using CBR to estimate whether surface manifestation would occur or not. This
380 was repeated for each case history in the database. This ensured that every case history in the
381 database was used as the design case one time. Finally, the results from all analyses were
382 aggregated to compute the *MCC*.

383 We validated the CBR models developed using the Global database against the
384 Canterbury database. For the validation, the case histories in the Canterbury database were the
385 design cases and the Global database was the case history database. Each case history in the
386 Canterbury database was evaluated against the Global database using a predefined set of
387 parameters and weights derived from the Global database. Therefore, the validation is a true
388 check as the CBR model has not seen the Canterbury data before and represents the scenario
389 where a new earthquake occurs and the CBR model is used to predict liquefaction
390 manifestation.

391 The base case CBR models use the observed outcome of the case history with the single
392 greatest similarity score as the predicted outcome for the design case. However, it is also
393 possible to predict the outcome of the design case based on the observed outcomes of multiple

394 of the most similar case histories. To explore this alternative method, we evaluated predicting
395 the liquefaction manifestation outcome for the design case based on the observed outcomes of
396 the three, five or 10 case histories with the highest similarity scores, or the observed outcomes
397 of all case histories with similarity scores greater than 0.75, 0.85 or 0.95. If half or more than
398 half of the most similar case histories had observed liquefaction manifestation, then
399 liquefaction manifestation was predicted for the design case. For example, if six of the 10 case
400 histories with the highest similarity scores had observed liquefaction manifestation and four
401 did not, then liquefaction manifestation was predicted for the design case. A useful benefit of
402 this method is that probabilities of observing manifestation can also be calculated. Using the
403 previous example, the probability of manifestation would be 60%, because six of the 10 case
404 histories with the highest similarity scores had observed manifestation, whereas four did not.
405 If no case history had a similarity score above the 0.75, 0.85 or 0.95 threshold, then the
406 observed outcome of the single case history with the highest similarity score was used, similar
407 to the base case.

408 RESULTS

409 WEIGHTS

410 The first step was to estimate the raw weight values for each parameter (w_R). As stated
411 earlier, we tried two different sets of weights. The first set of weights was calculated as the
412 coefficient of variation (COV) of all case histories for a given parameter divided by the COV
413 of only those case histories with observed surface manifestation (COV_{manif}). The second set of
414 weights were the AUC values of each parameter. **Table 2** lists the AUC and COV derived
415 weights ($w_{R,COV} = COV / COV_{manif}$) for the global database. Only results for the five CPT
416 derived parameters with the highest AUC scores, five CPT derived parameters with the highest
417 $w_{R,COV}$ values, and all existing LDP parameters and other parameters are shown. The naming
418 convention for the CPT derived parameters is generally based on four identifiers. The first part
419 of the name is the CPT derived parameter. The next identifier and first subscript is the depth
420 interval over which the parameter is calculated. If it is a number, the depth interval is from zero
421 to that depth in meters, if it is *fsl* it signifies the depth to the first susceptible layer (0 to z_a), and
422 if it is *crl* it signifies the critical zone ($z_a - z_b$). The next identifier in curly brackets is the I_c
423 filter. The last identifier after the hyphen is the statistics being calculated for that parameter.

424 In general, the CPT derived parameters with the largest AUC are based on r_u , FS_{liq} and
 425 h_{exc} and the CPT derived parameters with the largest $w_{R,COV}$ are based on r_u , FS_{liq} , Fr and CRR .
 426 For the non-CPT derived parameters, LPI has the highest AUC and $w_{R,COV}$ value.

427 **Table 2.** Area under the curve (AUC) and weights estimated from COV ($w_{R,COV}$) for the global database.
 428 Only the five CPT derived parameters with the highest AUC scores and $w_{R,COV}$ values as well as all non-
 429 CPT derived parameters are shown.

Type	Description	Notation	AUC	$w_{R,COV}$
CPT-based parameters with the greatest AUC	Cumulative thickness of layers with Factor of Safety less than unity, in the top 10 meters	$FS_{thick10_all}$	0.77	1.429
	Mean r_u of all soils, in the top 10 meters	$Ru_{10_all-mean}$	0.77	1.39
	Mean h_{exc} of all soils, in the top 10 meters	$hexc_{10_all-mean}$	0.76	1.335
	Standard deviation of r_u of all soils, in top 10 meters	$Ru_{10_all-std}$	0.76	1.958
	Median Factor of Safety of soils with $I_c < 2.6$, in the top 15 meters	$FS_{15_Ic<2.6-median}$	0.75	0.838
CPT-based parameters with the greatest $w_{R,COV}$	Minimum Factor of Safety of soils with $I_c < 2.6$, in the top 10 meters	$FS_{10_Ic<2.6-min}$	0.72	4.382
	Minimum Fr of all soils, in the top 5 meters	$Fr_{5_all-min}$	0.63	4.052
	Minimum Fr of all soils, in the top 10 meters	$Fr_{10_all-min}$	0.60	4.049
	Median $CRR_{Mw7.5-l}$ of soils with $I_c < 2.6$, in the critical zone	$CRR_{crl_Ic<2.6-median}$	0.61	4.024
	Minimum r_u of soils with $I_c < 2.6$, in $z = (0, z_a)$	$Ru_{fsl_Ic<2.6-min}$	0.50	3.865
Existing $LDPs$ and other parameters	Liquefaction Potential Index	LPI	0.76	1.303
	Ishihara Inspired Liquefaction Potential Index	LP_{ISH}	0.76	1.278
	Liquefaction Severity Number	LSN	0.71	1.156
	Normalized liquefaction ejecta demand	L_D/C_R	0.70	1.13
	Liquefaction ejecta demand	L_D	0.67	1.189
	Peak Ground Acceleration	PGA [g]	0.65	1.127
	Crust resistance	C_R	0.64	0.664
	Moment Magnitude	M_W	0.61	1.065
	Thickness of soils with $I_c > 2.6$ in $z = (0, z_a)$	$cap-thick$ [m]	0.60	1.023
	Depth of first liquefiable layer	z_A	0.59	1.168
	Ground water table	GWT [m]	0.56	0.955
	Thickness of critical zone	z_A-z_B [m]	0.56	1.047

430

431 **SELECTED MODELS**

432 We first derived models using base case meta-parameters, which are the AUC values as
 433 weights, a normal distribution for the similarity function with $\sigma_N = \sigma_{manif}$, and selecting only
 434 the observed outcome of the single most similar case history to predict the outcome of the
 435 design case. **Table 3** lists the normalized weights (w) and normalization coefficients (σ_N) for

436 the best models using one to six input parameters and base case meta-parameters (Models 1-
 437 6). The w and σ_N are listed in the same order as their corresponding model parameter. The
 438 normalized weights are similar, showing that the parameters used in the selected models have
 439 similar *AUC* scores. **Table 4** lists the Matthews Correlation Coefficient (*MCC*), true negative
 440 rate ($R_{TN} = TN/(TN+FP)$), false positive rate ($R_{FP} = FP/(TN+FP)$) false negative rate ($R_{FN} =$
 441 $FN/(TP+FN)$) and true positive rate ($R_{TP} = TP/(TP+FN)$) for each model. The larger the *MCC*,
 442 R_{TN} and R_{TP} , and the smaller the R_{FP} and R_{FN} , the better the model. If R_{TN} is 0.5, this means the
 443 model is no better at predicting no manifestation cases than random guessing, and if R_{TP} is 0.5,
 444 this means the model is no better at predicting manifestation cases than random guessing. If
 445 either R_{TN} or R_{TP} is less than 0.5, this means the model is worse than random guessing. R_{TN} or
 446 R_{TP} values of 1 mean that the model predicts these cases perfectly (all models in the training
 447 database are correctly predicted). The results present several interesting points, which are
 448 discussed below.

449 As the number of input parameters increases the *MCC* increases up until five
 450 parameters, and decreases for the six parameter model. This is most likely because adding more
 451 parameters decreases the weight of the other more influential parameters. Therefore, simply
 452 adding more parameters and making the model more complex does not necessarily result in a
 453 better model. Moreover, the model with only one parameter already has a $R_{TP} = 0.77$. Adding
 454 more parameters only marginally increases this value to 0.83. However, adding more
 455 parameters significantly increases the proportion of true negatives, from 0.61 to 0.79.

456 All six of the models in Table 3 consist of one or more of *PGA*, r_u , FS_{liq} and h_{exc} . This
 457 agrees well with the results shown in Table 2, where these parameters have the highest *AUC*
 458 values. FS_{liq} is a direct indicator of liquefaction triggering and therefore a strong predictor of
 459 liquefaction manifestation. Parameters r_u and h_{exc} are correlated to FS_{liq} (r_u is a function of FS_{liq}
 460 and h_{exc} is a function of r_u and σ'_v) and therefore also performed well. It is interesting however,
 461 that other parameters such as *LPI*, *LPI_{ish}*, or *LSN*, which are also functions of FS_{liq} as well as
 462 other factors such as crust thickness and depth, did not provide better models. These results
 463 may be attributable to the regional depth-weighting algorithms embedded into the existing
 464 *LDPs* not performing well for a global database. It is expected that manifestation models
 465 perform better with the implementation of regionalized $w(z)$, Magnitude Scaling Factors (*MSF*)
 466 and stress reduction factors (r_d), as highlighted in Green (2022). In addition, none of the models

467 includes parameters based on the depth interval of the crust (0 to z_A) or the critical zone (z_A -
468 z_B), which we expected to be better predictors than the other depth intervals. Finally, Models 1
469 and 2 only use CPT data over the top 10 and 5 m, respectively, and Models 4-5 only use CPT
470 data over the top 15 m. This is in contrast to LPI , LPI_{ish} , or LSN , which take weighted averages
471 over the top 20 m, but similar to the model proposed by Hutabarat and Bray (2022), which only
472 considers the top 15 m of a soil profile.

473 **Table 3.** Normalized weights (w) and normalization coefficients (σ_N) for the best base case models with
474 one to six parameters. The w and σ_N are listed in the same order as their corresponding model parameter.

Model Name	Model Parameters	w	σ_N
Model 1	$Ru_{10_f1c<2.6}\text{-median}$	1.00	0.39
Model 2	$PGA, Ru_{5_f1c<2.6}\text{-mean}$	0.49, 0.51	0.16, 0.30
Model 3	$PGA, Ru_{5_f1c<2.6}\text{-mean}, FS_{15_f1c<2.6}\text{-min}$	0.32, 0.34, 0.34	0.16, 0.30, 0.10
Model 4	$PGA, Ru_{10_f1c<2.6}\text{-median}, Ru_{5_f1c<2.6}\text{-std}, FS_{15_f1c<2.6}\text{-min}$	0.24, 0.26, 0.25, 0.25	0.16, 0.39, 0.15, 0.10
Model 5	$PGA, Ru_{10_f1c<2.6}\text{-median}, Ru_{5_f1c<2.6}\text{-std}, FS_{15_f1c<2.6}\text{-min}, FS_{5_f1c<1.8}\text{-min}$	0.20, 0.22, 0.21, 0.20, 0.17	0.16, 0.39, 0.15, 0.10, 3.44
Model 6	$PGA, Ru_{5_f1c<2.6}\text{-mean}, FS_{15_f1c<2.6}\text{-min}, Ru_{20_f1c<1.8}\text{-mean}, hexc_{15_f1c<2.6}\text{-mean}, hexc_{20_f1c<1.8}\text{-max}$	0.17, 0.18, 0.18, 0.15, 0.17, 0.15	0.16, 0.30, 0.10, 0.36, 1.91, 3.68

475

476 **Table 4.** Matthews Correlation Coefficient (MCC), true negative rate (R_{TN}), false positive rate (R_{FP})
477 false negative rate (R_{FN}) and true positive rate (R_{TP}) for the best base case models with one to six
478 parameters.

Model Name	Model Parameters	MCC	R_{TN}	R_{FP}	R_{FN}	R_{TP}
Model 1	$Ru_{10_f1c<2.6}\text{-median}$	0.384	0.61	0.39	0.23	0.77
Model 2	$PGA, Ru_{5_f1c<2.6}\text{-mean}$	0.461	0.67	0.33	0.21	0.79
Model 3	$PGA, Ru_{5_f1c<2.6}\text{-mean}, FS_{15_f1c<2.6}\text{-min}$	0.517	0.73	0.27	0.21	0.79
Model 4	$PGA, Ru_{10_f1c<2.6}\text{-median}, Ru_{5_f1c<2.6}\text{-std}, FS_{15_f1c<2.6}\text{-min}$	0.581	0.79	0.21	0.21	0.79
Model 5	$PGA, Ru_{10_f1c<2.6}\text{-median}, Ru_{5_f1c<2.6}\text{-std}, FS_{15_f1c<2.6}\text{-min}, FS_{5_f1c<1.8}\text{-min}$	0.593	0.78	0.22	0.19	0.81
Model 6	$PGA, Ru_{5_f1c<2.6}\text{-mean}, FS_{15_f1c<2.6}\text{-min}, Ru_{20_f1c<1.8}\text{-mean}, hexc_{15_f1c<2.6}\text{-mean}, hexc_{20_f1c<1.8}\text{-max}$	0.574	0.74	0.26	0.17	0.83

479

480 **REGIONAL MODELS**

481 In addition to the best fit models presented above, we explored three alternative models based
 482 only on PGA , M_w and GWT to evaluate the ability of CBR to predict liquefaction manifestation
 483 with limited input parameters. These models could therefore be used for regional analyses
 484 where geotechnical data is sparse. **Table 5** lists the normalized weights (w) and normalization
 485 coefficients (σ_N) for three models (Models 7-9) using only these parameters, and **Table 6** lists
 486 the results. The best model uses all three parameters and provides a similar fit to the data as
 487 the two-parameter model listed in **Table 4** (Model 2).

488 **Table 5.** Normalized weights (w) and normalization coefficients (σ_N) for the regional models. The w
 489 and σ_N are listed in the same order as their corresponding model parameter.

Model Name	Model Parameters	w	σ_N
Model 7	PGA, M_w, GWT	0.33, 0.36, 0.31	0.60, 0.16, 1.45
Model 8	PGA, GWT	0.54, 0.46	0.16, 1.45
Model 9	PGA	1.00	0.16

490

491 **Table 6.** Matthews Correlation Coefficient (MCC), true negative rate (R_{TN}), false positive rate (R_{FP})
 492 false negative rate (R_{FN}) and true positive rate (R_{TP}) for the regional case models.

Model Name	Model Parameters	MCC	R_{TN}	R_{FP}	R_{FN}	R_{TP}
Model 7	PGA, M_w, GWT	0.423	0.65	0.35	0.23	0.77
Model 8	PGA, GWT	0.322	0.57	0.43	0.25	0.75
Model 9	PGA	0.289	0.58	0.42	0.29	0.71

493

494 VALIDATION

495 The models were validated against the Canterbury database. Each case history in the
 496 Canterbury database was compared to the Global database using CBR and the models
 497 described above. **Table 7** presents the results of the validation for each of the models. Similar
 498 to the model development, as the number of input parameters increases, the MCC generally
 499 increases. However, the MCC values for the validation are less than the values found when
 500 developing the models, which is expected, because the models were not trained on the
 501 Canterbury data. The maximum true negative rate (rate that manifestation is not observed and
 502 not predicted) is 0.76 using the models with one or six parameters. The maximum true positive
 503 rate (rate that manifestation is observed and predicted) is 0.72 using the five-parameter model.

504 The three alternative models that do not require CPT data have lower *MCC* scores as
 505 well, which is expected. However, the model with only *PGA* performs the best, while the model
 506 with *PGA*, *M_w* and *GWT* performs the worst of the three. This is opposite the trend seen when
 507 developing the models, where the model with *PGA*, *M_w* and *GWT* performed the best and *PGA*
 508 by itself was the worst. This shows that the regional CBR models are sensitive to the database
 509 used to perform the CBR calculation and may not provide reliable results when extrapolated
 510 to design cases outside the case history database.

511 **Table 7.** Model results validated against the Canterbury database.

Model Name	Model Parameters	MCC	<i>R_{TN}</i>	<i>R_{FP}</i>	<i>R_{FN}</i>	<i>R_{TP}</i>
Model 1	<i>Ru_{10_{ c<2.6}}-median</i>	0.311	0.76	0.24	0.45	0.55
Model 2	<i>PGA, Ru_{5_{ c<2.6}}-mean</i>	0.356	0.68	0.32	0.31	0.69
Model 3	<i>PGA, Ru_{5_{ c<2.6}}-mean, FS_{15_{ c<2.6}}-min</i>	0.392	0.72	0.28	0.31	0.69
Model 4	<i>PGA, Ru_{10_{ c<2.6}}-median, Ru_{5_{ all}}-std, FS_{15_{ c<2.6}}-min</i>	0.389	0.73	0.27	0.32	0.68
Model 5	<i>PGA, Ru_{10_{ c<2.6}}-median, Ru_{5_{ all}}-std, FS_{15_{ c<2.6}}-min, FS_{5_{ c<1.8}}-min</i>	0.427	0.72	0.28	0.28	0.72
Model 6	<i>PGA, Ru_{5_{ c<2.6}}-mean, FS_{15_{ c<2.6}}-min, Ru_{20_{ c<1.8}}-mean, hexC_{15_{ c<2.6}}-mean, hexC_{20_{ all}}-max</i>	0.435	0.76	0.24	0.32	0.68
Model 7	<i>PGA, M_w, GWT</i>	0.108	0.59	0.41	0.48	0.52
Model 8	<i>PGA, GWT</i>	0.179	0.58	0.42	0.39	0.61
Model 9	<i>PGA</i>	0.233	0.65	0.35	0.41	0.59

512

513 DISCUSSION

514 EFFECT OF MODEL META-PARAMETERS

515 As discussed in the methodology section, we evaluated several meta-parameters of the CBR
 516 model. These meta-parameters included (1) weighting functions based on either the *AUC* (base
 517 case) or the ratio of the *COV* of a given parameter for all case histories to the *COV* of the
 518 parameter for only the case histories with observed surface manifestation (*w_{R,COV}*); (2) similarity
 519 function based on either a normal distribution (base case), triangular distribution, or a normal
 520 distribution with one half of the distribution equal to one (modified normal); (3) similarity
 521 function based on a normal distribution with a standard deviation calculated as the standard

522 deviation of the given parameter for only the case histories with observed surface
523 manifestations ($\sigma_N = \sigma_{manif}$, base case), or σ_N multiplied or divided by four, and; (4) using only
524 the single most similar case history (base case) to predict the outcome, the majority outcome
525 of the three, five or ten most similar case histories, or the majority outcome of all case histories
526 with similarity scores greater than 0.75, 0.85 or 0.95 together to predict the outcome.

527 **Table 8** presents the *MCC* for the models given in **Table 4** and **Table 6** for the base
528 case and each of the different meta-parameter variations trained on the Global database. There
529 is no one change in meta-parameters that consistently gives the best *MCC* for each model, and
530 the base case meta-parameters do not give the best *MCC* for each model either. The difference
531 in *MCC* ranges from -0.38 to +0.06. This result could change if the best models were initially
532 derived using the change in the meta-parameters, or if multiple meta-parameters were changed
533 simultaneously, however this is outside the scope of the current study.

534 **Table 9** presents the *MCC* for the same models as in **Table 8** but validated against the
535 Canterbury database. For the validation exercise, taking the majority outcome of all case
536 histories with a similarity score > 0.75 provides a consistently better *MCC* for all the models
537 tested. The difference is significant, with an increase in the *MCC* of 0.43 for the model with
538 only PGA (Model 9) and an increase of more than 0.10 for all other models except Model 1.
539 This could be because the Canterbury database represents a distinct set of case histories that
540 do not match any one event or case history in the Global database. As a result, taking all the
541 most similar case histories above a threshold ($S > 0.75$) and taking the majority outcome
542 ensures a more robust result than simply taking the single case history with the highest
543 similarity score.

544
545

Table 8. *MCC* values for different meta-parameters trained on the Global database. The italic and bold numbers are the largest *MCC* per model.

Meta-parameter	Model Name								
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Base Case	0.38	0.46	<i>0.52</i>	0.58	<i>0.59</i>	0.57	0.42	0.32	<i>0.29</i>
<i>S</i> > 0.75	<i>0.42</i>	0.32	0.39	0.45	0.47	0.46	0.19	0.22	0.20
<i>S</i> > 0.85	0.38	0.38	0.45	0.44	0.42	0.41	0.26	0.31	0.20
<i>S</i> > 0.95	0.41	0.36	0.39	0.50	0.44	0.47	0.23	0.11	0.19
Best 3	0.33	0.42	0.48	0.46	0.43	0.43	0.34	0.35	0.11
Best 5	0.38	<i>0.47</i>	0.41	0.35	0.33	0.49	0.30	0.22	0.20
Best 10	0.38	0.43	0.45	0.45	0.39	0.50	0.26	0.28	0.20
COV weights	0.38	0.45	<i>0.52</i>	0.57	0.58	0.58	0.42	0.32	<i>0.29</i>
De-amplification	0.38	0.46	0.48	0.53	0.56	<i>0.63</i>	<i>0.44</i>	0.31	<i>0.29</i>
Amplification	0.38	0.46	0.53	<i>0.59</i>	0.58	0.57	0.42	0.32	<i>0.29</i>
Tail distribution	0.40	0.23	0.24	0.20	0.22	0.27	0.21	0.29	0.23
Triangle Distribution	0.38	0.45	0.50	0.58	0.55	0.60	<i>0.44</i>	<i>0.36</i>	<i>0.29</i>

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547
548

Table 9. *MCC* values for different meta-parameters validated against the Canterbury database. The italic and bold numbers are the largest *MCC* per model.

Meta-parameter	Model Name								
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Base Case	0.31	0.36	0.39	0.39	0.43	0.44	0.11	0.18	0.23
<i>S</i> > 0.75	<i>0.38</i>	<i>0.54</i>	<i>0.53</i>	<i>0.51</i>	<i>0.54</i>	<i>0.54</i>	<i>0.27</i>	<i>0.37</i>	<i>0.66</i>
<i>S</i> > 0.85	<i>0.38</i>	0.50	0.52	0.47	0.48	0.46	0.16	0.45	0.61
<i>S</i> > 0.95	<i>0.38</i>	0.47	0.45	0.41	0.44	0.43	0.00	0.41	0.53
Best 3	0.31	0.39	0.46	0.48	0.48	0.48	0.03	0.21	0.25
Best 5	0.35	0.42	0.47	0.49	0.49	0.50	0.02	0.28	0.29
Best 10	0.34	0.47	0.52	0.50	0.52	<i>0.54</i>	0.04	<i>0.37</i>	0.34
COV weights	0.31	0.36	0.39	0.39	0.43	0.43	0.11	0.18	0.23
De-amplification	0.31	0.36	0.38	0.42	0.42	0.41	0.06	0.18	0.23
Amplification	0.31	0.36	0.39	0.39	0.42	0.43	0.11	0.18	0.23
Tail distribution	0.34	0.26	0.30	0.26	0.35	0.47	0.28	0.37	0.46
Triangle Distribution	0.31	0.36	0.38	0.41	0.42	0.43	0.05	0.19	0.22

549

550 COMPARISON WITH EXISTING MODELS

551 To understand the performance of the CBR models we compared them with existing models.

552 **Figure 5** presents confusion matrices for *LPI* against the Global database and the Canterbury

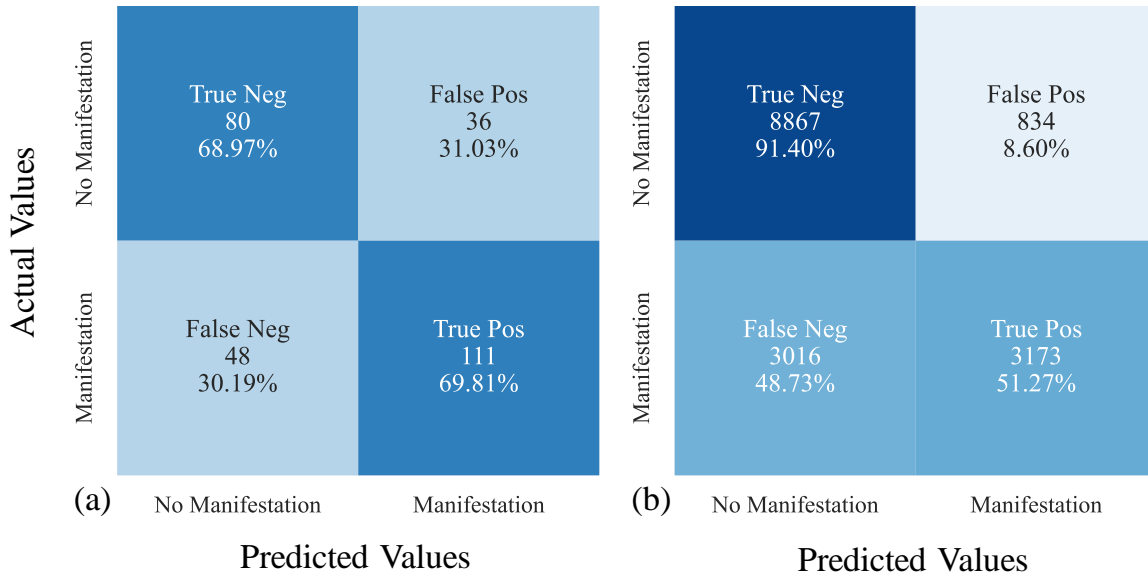
553 database. Confusion matrices are simply a graphical representation of R_{TN} , R_{FP} , R_{FN} and R_{TP} .
554 In addition, **Table 10** and **Table 11** list the MCC , R_{TN} , R_{FP} , R_{FN} and R_{TP} when using LPI , LPI_{ISH} ,
555 LSN , and the method of Hutabarat and Bray (2022) (L_D and C_R) against the Global database
556 and the Canterbury database, respectively. For LPI , LPI_{ISH} , and LSN , threshold values of 11.2,
557 6.7, and 28.3 were used. These threshold values were chosen as the optimum operating point
558 (OOP) obtained from ROC analyses using the Global database. The OOP is the best (optimum)
559 threshold value that minimizes both the false positive and false negative counts. Therefore,
560 using the OOP as a threshold assumes the cost of false positives is the same as false negatives.
561 We then used the OOP value obtained from the Global database against the Canterbury
562 database. This is similar to the validation of the CBR models and what would be done in
563 practice if a new earthquake occurred and these $LDPs$ were applied. For the Hutabarat and
564 Bray (2022) model, we classified all cases in the "None" category (C_R , L_D pair below the line
565 defined as [0, 2.5], [100, 2.5] and [250, 25]) as no manifestation and the rest as manifestation.
566 There are a couple of key points that stand out when comparing the predictive capabilities of
567 the existing models to the CBR models.

568 All the base models except Model 1, 8 and 9 have higher MCC than LPI , LPI_{ISH} , LSN ,
569 and the method of Hutabarat and Bray (2022) when using the Global database. This may seem
570 trivial because the CBR models were trained against the Global database, but then so were LPI ,
571 LPI_{ISH} , and LSN . What this result shows then, is that when using the same input data and when
572 trained on the same database of case histories, CBR can generate models with better predictive
573 power than existing models. The Hutabarat and Bray (2022) model has a low R_{TP} value because
574 it was developed to estimate only manifestation due to ejecta, and not other forms of
575 manifestation such as cracking or settlement, which are included in the Global Database.
576 Therefore, even if it correctly predicts cases with ejecta manifestation, it misses other forms of
577 manifestation because it was not strictly developed to predict their occurrence.

578 When validated against the Canterbury database, Models 2-6 still have higher MCC
579 than LSN and the method of Hutabarat and Bray (2022). However, LPI and LPI_{ISH} have higher
580 MCC than all the base case CBR models. This is only for the base case models. If we compare
581 the CBR models when taking the majority outcome of all case histories with similarity scores
582 greater than 0.75 to predict the outcome, Models 4, 5 and 6 have higher MCC for both the
583 training database (Global database) and the validation database (Canterbury) than the existing

584 models ($MCC = 0.45, 0.47, 0.46$ for the Global database and $MCC = 0.51, 0.54$ and 0.54 for the
585 Canterbury database for Models 4, 5 and 6, respectively, compared to $MCC = 0.4$ and 0.5 for
586 LPI_{ISH}). These results show that the CBR method has the potential to generate models with
587 greater predictive capabilities than existing models using the same input data, even when
588 validated against previously unseen data.

589 When using the OOP derived for the Global database against the Global database the
590 R_{TN} and R_{TP} values reach about 70% for both LPI and LPI_{ISH} . However, employing the same
591 OOP against the Canterbury database causes R_{TP} values to decrease to 51% and 57% for LPI
592 and LPI_{ISH} , respectively, while the R_{TN} increases to 91% and 90%. This is because the optimum
593 threshold values for the Canterbury database are lower than for the Global database. As a result,
594 true manifestation cases are incorrectly predicted to be no manifestation while almost all the
595 no manifestation cases are correctly predicted. Therefore, even though the MCC value actually
596 increases for LPI and LPI_{ISH} , the R_{TP} is less than all the base case models except Model 1 and
597 Model 7 when validated against the Canterbury model. When validated against the Canterbury
598 database the MCC for LSN is about the same as for the Global database. The Hutabarat and
599 Bray (2022) method has a higher MCC for the Canterbury database than the Global database,
600 which is expected because it was developed based on case histories from the Canterbury
601 sequence.



602

603 **Figure 5.** Confusion matrix for *LPI* using the Boulanger and Idriss (2016) triggering method for the a)
 604 Global database and *LPI* threshold = 11.2 ($MCC = 0.38$) and b) Canterbury database and *LPI* threshold
 605 = 11.2 ($MCC = 0.48$).

606

607 **Table 10.** Matthews Correlation Coefficient (MCC), true negative rate (R_{TN}), false positive rate (R_{FP})
 608 false negative rate (R_{FN}) and true positive rate (R_{TP}) and threshold index based on the optimum operating
 609 point (OOP) for existing models trained against the Global database

Model Name	MCC	R_{TN}	R_{FP}	R_{FN}	R_{TP}	OOP
<i>LPI</i>	0.38	0.69	0.31	0.30	0.70	11.2
<i>LPI_{ISH}</i>	0.40	0.71	0.29	0.31	0.69	6.7
<i>LSN</i>	0.31	0.65	0.35	0.33	0.67	28.3
<i>L_D</i> and <i>C_R</i>	0.11	0.92	0.08	0.86	0.14	-

610

611 **Table 11.** Matthews Correlation Coefficient (MCC), true negative rate (R_{TN}), false positive rate (R_{FP})
 612 false negative rate (R_{FN}) and true positive rate (R_{TP}) and threshold index based on the optimum operating
 613 point (OOP) for the Global database for existing models validated against the Canterbury database.

Model Name	MCC	R_{TN}	R_{FP}	R_{FN}	R_{TP}	OOP
<i>LPI</i>	0.48	0.91	0.09	0.49	0.51	11.2
<i>LPI_{ISH}</i>	0.50	0.90	0.10	0.43	0.57	6.7
<i>LSN</i>	0.28	0.66	0.34	0.37	0.63	28.3
<i>L_D</i> and <i>C_R</i>	0.34	0.92	0.08	0.64	0.36	-

614

615 **ADVANTAGES AND PRACTICAL IMPLICATIONS OF CBR**

616 Potential advantages of the CBR method over traditional *LDPs* is that CBR does not require
617 the definition of a threshold value to differentiate between surface manifestation. This makes
618 CBR easier to use and more consistent in practice. In addition, by using the observed outcomes
619 of multiple of the most similar case histories to predict the outcome of the design case a
620 probability of liquefaction manifestation occurrence can be predicted. CBR models also
621 inherently merge liquefaction susceptibility, triggering and manifestation. As a result, the level
622 of accuracy is clearly defined for the entire liquefaction analysis, as opposed to the present
623 state-of-practice where susceptibility, triggering, and manifestation models developed by
624 various authors and separate datasets are often used together, and the collective accuracy of
625 these different combinations is unknown. Finally, compared with other Artificial Intelligence
626 methods like ANN that can feel like a black box for many, CBR is a fully transparent method
627 that allows users to follow the reasoning on every level. This makes it easier to use in practice
628 and easier to understand when aberrant results are predicted.

629 The main practical implication of these CBR models is to determine if surface
630 manifestation such as settlement, lateral spreading, cracking or sand boils will occur or not.
631 This is important for preliminary site investigations and land use planning. CBR models for
632 manifestation could also be used in conjunction with triggering models to assess liquefaction
633 hazard. Potential applications of the CBR models include site specific liquefaction analyses
634 where CPT data is available, regional analyses where CPT data is unavailable or when CPT
635 data is depth restricted. For example, along pipeline and cable routes CPT data is often only
636 collected over the top five meters to evaluate pipe-soil interaction, as well as reduce costs. This
637 study showed that CBR models (e.g. Model 2) can be developed that only require CPT data
638 over the top five meters and still have a comparable prediction success rate (i.e. ~70%) as
639 existing models that require the top 20 m of CPT data.

640

641 **LIMITATIONS OF CBR**

642 One of the main limitations of the CBR method is that it is dependent on the case history
643 database used to develop it, even more so than traditionally derived empirical models. This is
644 because unlike traditional models that identify trends in the data that can then be extrapolated,
645 CBR selects the result of the most similar case history. This is a strength when the trends are

646 highly nonlinear and not easy to fit with traditional functional forms. However, when used with
647 design cases outside the parameter space of the case histories in the database, CBR could
648 provide poor results. This will be seen by a low similarity score. As a result, when using CBR,
649 the similarity score should always be checked, and results from predictions with low similarity
650 scores should be used with caution.

651 Another limitation seen in the Validation section is that models based on limited data
652 such as Models 7-9 are sensitive to the database used to perform the CBR calculation. For
653 example, Model 7, which is based only on *PGA*, *M_w* and *GWT*, has a higher MCC when derived
654 for the Global Database than existing models (MCC = 0.42 compared to 0.40) even though it
655 uses no CPT data as input. However, this surprising result is most likely because the case
656 histories in the database are from areas that were expected to liquefy. Therefore, there are few
657 clay sites that experienced large shaking but did not liquefy that would be incorrectly predicted
658 by the model. When validated against the Canterbury Database, Model 7 performs poorly,
659 which supports this conclusion, and highlights the importance of model validation.

660 In addition, there are uncertainties and biases related with the databases utilized in this
661 work, such as the accuracy of the CPT data, timing of the data collection, uncertainties in *GWT*,
662 the distance between the CPT trace and observed manifestation, and inconsistencies in data
663 collection methodologies throughout the years, among others. However, a substantial portion
664 of the Global Database was compiled from the same databases used to develop commonly used
665 triggering curves (e.g. Robertson and Wride, 1998; Moss et al, 2006; Idriss and Boulanger,
666 2008; Boulanger and Idriss, 2014). Therefore, these uncertainties are also present in previous
667 triggering and manifestation models.

668 Finally, the models explored in this study only provide a yes or no answer to whether
669 surface manifestation occurred. If surface manifestation occurred then it is probable that there
670 is a soil susceptible to liquefaction and liquefaction triggering occurred, but the severity of the
671 surface manifestation and the factors of safety against liquefaction with depth are unknown.
672 Theoretically, CBR could be used to predict these values if the data was available. We chose
673 to predict only yes or no manifestation cases because this is the only information available in
674 the Global Database. However, the Canterbury database contains liquefaction severity,
675 therefore, CBR could be used to predict liquefaction severity but only for the Canterbury

676 region. To predict factors of safety against liquefaction would require knowledge of the
677 response of each individual layer of each case history, or defining a critical layer for each case
678 history and assuming that if surface manifestation was observed, then the critical layer
679 triggered, as has been done for previous triggering models. However, the selection of a critical
680 layer is highly uncertain and can be subjective.

681

682 **FUTURE RESEARCH**

683 This work shows that CBR as a liquefaction prediction methodology has potential, especially
684 as the database of case histories continues to increase. However, more work is needed to refine
685 the models and test their robustness. To this end, we suggest several potential avenues of future
686 research:

- 687 (1) compiling and evaluating additional ground motion predictor parameters such as *CAV*,
688 which has been shown to be a better predictor of liquefaction triggering than *PGA*
689 (Kramer and Mitchell 2006);
- 690 (2) compiling additional free, readily available geospatial parameters (e.g. distance to
691 water, surface topography, precipitation) and developing and comparing regional CBR
692 models to regional liquefaction models such as Zhu et al (2017);
- 693 (3) incorporating new case histories as they become available (e.g. the NGL database,
694 Brandenburg et al., 2020);
- 695 (4) augmenting the empirical database of case histories with simulated case histories, for
696 example, a simulated clay site with high *PGA* and no observed liquefaction, or if a case
697 history with $PGA = X$ has observed liquefaction manifestation, then a simulated case
698 history that also has observed manifestation could be created with $PGA > X$ and all
699 other parameters the same;
- 700 (5) using the Canterbury database as the training database and estimating manifestation
701 severity, not just occurrence or no occurrence;
- 702 (6) developing CBR models for liquefaction manifestation using other in-situ tests than
703 CPT, such as the standard penetration test (SPT), shear wave velocity measurements
704 (V_s), or a combination of test types;

- 705 (7) developing a probabilistic hierarchical model based on multiple CBR models that
706 accounts for the finite sample uncertainty using robust statistical analyses such as
707 bootstrapping;
- 708 (8) design a web application to estimate liquefaction manifestation based on CBR models
709 to facilitate use of CBR models in practice and updates as more case history data
710 becomes available.

711

712

CONCLUSION

713 This study explored the potential of the Artificial Intelligence process called CBR as a method
714 to predict liquefaction manifestation. The main outcomes of the study are: 1) a framework to
715 apply CBR to liquefaction manifestation analyses; 2) evaluation of input parameters for use in
716 CBR; 3) evaluation of CBR meta-model parameters and their effect on model predictiveness;
717 4) development of manifestation models with better predictive power than currently existing
718 models; and 5), suggestions for future avenues of research.

719 The proposed CBR framework to predict liquefaction manifestation consists of three
720 main steps. First, a given parameter from the design case is compared with the same parameter
721 from each case history in a database. The difference, or “distance” between the design case and
722 case histories results in a similarity index (I) for that parameter for each case history. This step
723 is repeated for as many parameters as desired (e.g. D_R at a given depth, PGA , M_w). Second, the
724 weighted average of the similarity indexes for each case history in the database is calculated to
725 provide a similarity score (S). The weights are related to the relative predictive strength of each
726 parameter. Third, the observed outcome (manifestation or no manifestation) of the single case
727 history with the highest similarity score (i.e. the most similar case history to the design case)
728 or the majority outcome of the multiple most similar case histories is then used to predict the
729 outcome of the design case. This framework provides a basis for future work.

730 Using the above framework, we found that the CBR models that were the best at
731 predicting liquefaction manifestation were composed mainly of the input parameters PGA , r_u ,
732 FS_{liq} and h_{exc} . None of the best models were found to include existing $LDPs$ such as LPI , LPI_{ish} ,
733 or LSN , or parameters based on the depth interval of the crust (0 to z_A) or the critical zone (z_A -

734 z_B). Instead, the input parameters for the best models were mainly based on generic depth
735 intervals of 0-5 m, 0-10 m and 0-15 m. The optimum number of input parameters appears to
736 be three to five, based on the input parameters tried in this study. This is most likely because
737 adding more parameters decreases the weight of the other more influential parameters.

738 We found that changing meta-model parameters such as input parameter weights,
739 similarity function shapes and similarity function widths has a negative or small positive
740 increase on the prediction accuracy. However, taking the majority result of all case histories
741 with similarity scores greater than 0.75 provides a consistently better *MCC* for most of the
742 models when validating them against the Canterbury database. This may be because the
743 Canterbury database represents a distinct set of case histories that do not match any one event
744 or case history in the Global database. As a result, selecting all the most similar case histories
745 above a threshold and taking the majority outcome ensures a more robust result than simply
746 taking the single case history with the highest similarity score.

747 Some of the CBR models developed in this study were shown to have better predictive
748 power than currently existing models such as *LPI*, *LPI_{ISH}* or *LSN*, using the same input data
749 (i.e. *PGA*, *M_w*, *GWT*, and *CPT* data). However, more research is needed to refine these models
750 before they can be used in practice. To this end, we provide several suggestions for future
751 research (see the Future Research section). This work shows that CBR as a liquefaction
752 prediction methodology has great potential, especially as the database of case histories
753 continues to increase.

754

755

DATA AND RESOURCES

756 The Global database (<https://doi.org/10.17603/ds2-wftt-mv37>) and Canterbury database
757 (<https://doi.org/10.17603/ds2-tygh-ht91>) are available at DesignSafe-CI. The base case CBR
758 models are provided as an Excel spreadsheet and in the python programming language as an
759 electronic supplement.

760

761

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765

766

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