

## Modernization of the system of seismological observations in the territory of Azerbaijan

© 2022 G.J. Etirmishli, S.E. Kazimova, S.S. Ismailova, R.D. Kerimova

RSSC at ANAS, Baku, Azerbaijan

Received June 24, 2022

**Abstract** The study of the seismicity of territories, the identification of potential sources of earthquakes and other seismological, seismotectonic studies ultimately serve to assess the seismic risk and determine ways to reduce it. According to the schematic map of seismic zoning, the background level of seismic hazard in the territory of Azerbaijan is 8 points. Thus, the creation of modern seismic monitoring, an alarm system and warning of seismic danger from tectonic earthquakes, is relevant for the territory of the republic. The article describes the historical process of upgrading old analog instruments to modern digital seismometers. The beginning of instrumental seismological observations in Azerbaijan began in 1902. In 1903, the stations “Baku” and “Balakhani” were founded, in 1908 the station “Zurnabad”. During 1980–1986 seven new seismic stations (“Lokbatan”, “Sumgayit”, “Imishli”, “Jabrayil”, “Kalbajar”, “Jalilabad” and “Nardaran”) were organized on the territory of Azerbaijan, and the number of stations reached 18. The beginning of the 2000s is marked by a new stage in the development of the seismological observation network in Azerbaijan. Digital stations with a telemetric communication channel began to be introduced into the observation network. In order to ensure a higher level of integrated seismological and geophysical research, from 2008 to 2022, the total number of digital seismic stations reached 84. Four of these stations were located in the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic. In addition, there is a network of 10 stationary basalt seismic stations on the Absheron Peninsula, which record strong ground vibrations. Recorded earth vibrations from telemetry stations are transmitting in real time via satellite to the seismic processing and earthquake analysis center, where processing, archiving and analysis of seismic data is carried out using the Antelope Real Time System version 5.6 software system. The Antelope data acquisition and processing software runs on Mac OS X computers. Along with the “Kinometrics” system, new equipment “Seistronix” (made in the USA) has been introduced into the RSSC at ANAS, which allows studying the velocity section in the upper layers of the earth’s crust. This information is extremely important when carrying out seismic microzoning.

**Keywords** Analog seismic stations, digital seismic stations, seismometers, accelerometers, earthquakes.

**For citation** Etirmishli, G.J., Kazimova, S.E., Ismailova, S.S., & Kerimova, R.D. (2022). [Modernization of the system of seismological observations in the territory of Azerbaijan]. *Rossiiskii seismologicheskii zhurnal* [Russian Journal of Seismology], 4(3), 25–35. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.35540/2686-7907.2022.3.02>. EDN: EYOWCQ

### References

- Babayev, G.V., Yetirmishli, G.J., Kazimova, S.E., Kadirov, F.A., & Telesca, L. (2020). Stress field pattern in the northeastern part of Azerbaijan. *Pure and Applied Geophysics*, 177, 2739–2751. doi: [10.1007/s00024-019-02371-5](https://doi.org/10.1007/s00024-019-02371-5)
- Gasarov, A.G. (2003). *Katalog seismoprognozticheskikh nabludenii na territorii Azerbaidzhana v 2002 g.* [Catalog of seismic prediction observations on the territory of Azerbaijan in 2002] (pp. 12–20). Baku, Azerbaijan: Elm Publ. (In Russ.).
- Kangarli, T.N., Kadirov, F.A., Yetirmishli, G.J., Aliyev, F.A., Kazimova, S.E., Aliyev, A.M., et al. (2018). Recent geodynamics, active faults and earthquake focal mechanisms of the zone of pseudosubduction interaction between the Northern and Southern Caucasus microplates in the southern slope of the Greater Caucasus (Azerbaijan). *Geodynamics & Tectonophysics*, 9(4), 1099–1126. doi: [10.5800/GT-2018-9-4-0385](https://doi.org/10.5800/GT-2018-9-4-0385). EDN: YPVQLJ
- Kazimova, S.E. (2020). Redefinition of earthquake hypocenters by the double difference method. *Geology and Geophysics of the South of Russia*, 10(4), 41–52. doi: [10.46698/VNC.2020.36.81.003](https://doi.org/10.46698/VNC.2020.36.81.003). EDN: ZTLZGY
- Khritova, M.A. (2015). [Information-analytical system for monitoring earthquakes in the Baikal and Transbaikalia: PhD tech. sci. diss.]. Irkutsk, Russia: IEC SB RAS Publ, 124 p. (In Russ.).
- Kinometrics MitiGator Seismic Switch. Document 302700 Revision K.* (2006). USA: Kinometrics Inc. Available at: <https://eqmet.com/eng/302700k.pdf>

- Kuliev, F.T., & Kasparov, V.A. (1974). [Initial data and assessment of their representativeness for studying the seismicity of the Eastern Caucasus and the Caspian Sea]. In *Materialy konferentsii po izucheniiu seismichnosti i glubinnogo stroeniia Azerbaidzhana* [Materials of the conference on the study of seismicity and the deep structure of Azerbaijan] (pp. 32-39). Baku, Azerbaijan: Elm Publ. (In Russ.).
- Lindquist, K. (2016). *What's New in Antelope 5.6*. USA: Boulder Real Time Technologies & Kinematics Inc., 58 p. Available at: [https://aug2016.units.it/sites/aug2016.units.it/files/download/AUG18\\_Lindquist.pdf](https://aug2016.units.it/sites/aug2016.units.it/files/download/AUG18_Lindquist.pdf)
- Mamedov, T.Ya. (1989). [Reflection of the geological structures of the southern slope of the Greater Caucasus in the parameters of the seismic regime: Abstract of the PhD sci. diss.]. Moscow, Russia: IPE AS USSR Publ., 140 p. (In Russ.).
- Rzayev A.G., Etirmishli G.J., & Kazymova, S.E. (2013). [Reflection of the geodynamic regime in variations in the intensity of the geomagnetic field (on the example of the southern slope of the Greater Caucasus)]. *ANAS Transactions. Earth Sciences*, 4, 3-15 (In Russ.).
- Seistronix. (2022). RAS-24 Exploration Seismograph. Retrieved from [http://www.seistronix.com/ras\\_g.htm](http://www.seistronix.com/ras_g.htm)
- Telesca, L., Kadirov, F., Yetirmishli, G., Safarov, R., Babayev, G., & Ismaylova, S. (2017). Statistical analysis of the 2003-2016 seismicity of Azerbaijan and surrounding areas. *Journal of Seismology*, 1467, 14-85. doi: 10.1007/s10950-017-9677-x
- Tibaldi, A., Tsereteli, N., Varazanashvili, O., Babayev, G., Barth, A., et al. (2019). Active stress field and fault kinematics of the Greater Caucasus. *Journal of Asian Earth Sciences*, 188, 1-18. doi: 10.1016/j.jseaes.2019.104108

#### Information about authors

**Yetirmishli Gurban Jalal**, Corresponding Member of ANAS, Dr., Professor, Director of the Republican Seismic Survey Center of Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences (RSSC of ANAS), Baku, Azerbaijan. E-mail: [gyetirmishli@gmail.com](mailto:gyetirmishli@gmail.com)

**Kazimova Sabina Eldar**, PhD, Associate Professor, Head of Department of the RSSC of ANAS, Baku, Azerbaijan. E-mail: [sabina.k@mail.ru](mailto:sabina.k@mail.ru)

**Ismailova Saida Siraj**, PhD, Head of the Bureau of Earthquake Research at the RSSC of ANAS. E-mail: [ismailovasaida@gmail.com](mailto:ismailovasaida@gmail.com)

**Kerimova Rugiya Daniel**, Deputy Head of the Bureau of Earthquake Research of RSSC under ANAS. E-mail: [rugijak@gmail.com](mailto:rugijak@gmail.com)