



## APPLICABILITY OF TIME-DEPENDENT SEISMICITY MODEL FOR EARTHQUAKE OCCURRENCE ALONG THE NORTH ANATOLIAN FAULT ZONE

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### ABSTRACT

The applicability of the time-dependent seismicity model was investigated for earthquakes occurrence along the North Anatolian Fault Zone. This region was separated into thirteen seismogenic zones by virtue of specific seismological and geomorphological criteria, and RTIMAP (regional time and magnitude predictable) model was applied for these zones. The data including in both instrumental period ( $M_s \geq 5.5$ ) until the beginning of 2016 and historical period ( $I_o \geq 9.0$  corresponding to  $M_s \geq 7.0$ ) before 1900 have been used in the study. Intervent times and magnitudes of mainshocks generated in each zone have predictive properties expressed by the RTIMAP. For the region considered, the relationship with increasing slope between the time interval of the events and the magnitude of the preceding earthquake shows that this model is suitable. On the basis of these equations and taking into account the formation time and magnitude of the last events in each zone, probabilities to the next main shocks in five decades and the magnitudes of the next events were estimated.

**Keywords:** North Anatolian Fault Zone, Time-dependent Seismicity, RTIMAP, Earthquake Occurrence Probability

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Most seismic hazard studies are based on time-independent models [1-4]. These models are based on the Gutenberg-Richter formula for the magnitude distribution of the Poisson distribution for time. Researchers looked for a time-dependent model of seismicity to meet the constraints and shortcomings of independent models and developed various approaches to assess these models [5-11]. These approaches indicate that the time of repetition for earthquakes occurring at the edge of a fault supports time predictive models.

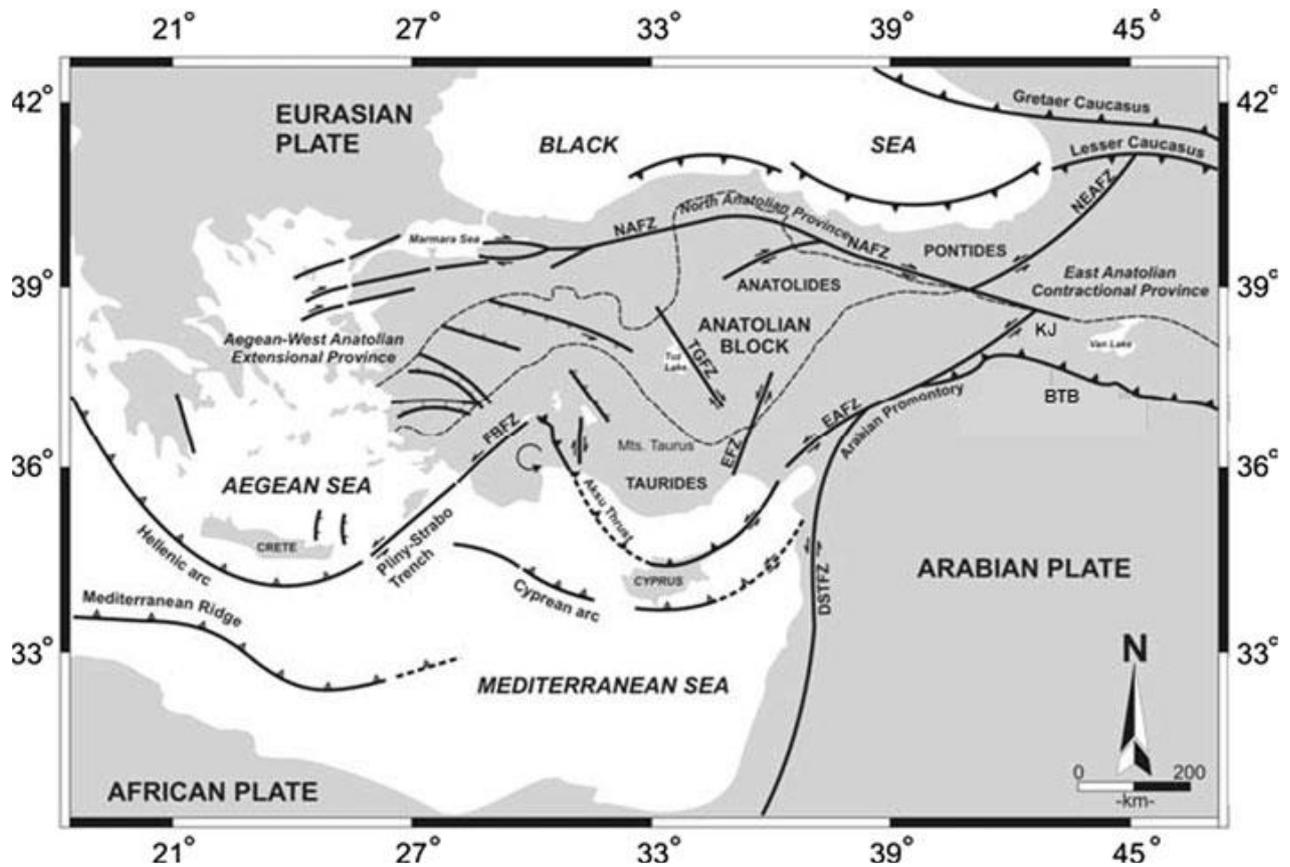
In the time-predictable model, the time interval between two large earthquakes is proportional to the slip amount of the preceding earthquake and a large earthquake occurs when the stress has reached a limit value. The magnitude-predictable model describes the relationship between the magnitude of the events before and after and evidences that the larger the magnitude of the preceding mainshock, the smaller the magnitude of the following mainshock. Therefore, the time-predictable and magnitude-predictable models were represented as RTIMAP (regional time and magnitude predictable) model, which applies to seismogenic zones with main fault and other smaller ones [12]. Several scientists have applied this model [11, 13-19] at different seismogenic regions of world. In this paper, we are testing the validity of the time-dependent seismicity model for earthquake generation along the North Anatolian Fault Zone (NAFZ) bounded by 38.5°-41.5° N and 26.0°-43.5° E.

### 2. SEISMOTECTONIC OF THE REGION

The northern boundary of the Anatolian Plate is the Anatolian Trough and the right-lateral, strike-slip North Anatolia Fault Zone (NAFZ). The southern boundary of the Anatolian Plate is formed by the Hellenic Arc, south of Cyprus, and the East Anatolia Fault Zone (EAFZ), which joins the North East Anatolia Fault Zone (NEAFZ) at Karliova Junction (KJ) [20-22].

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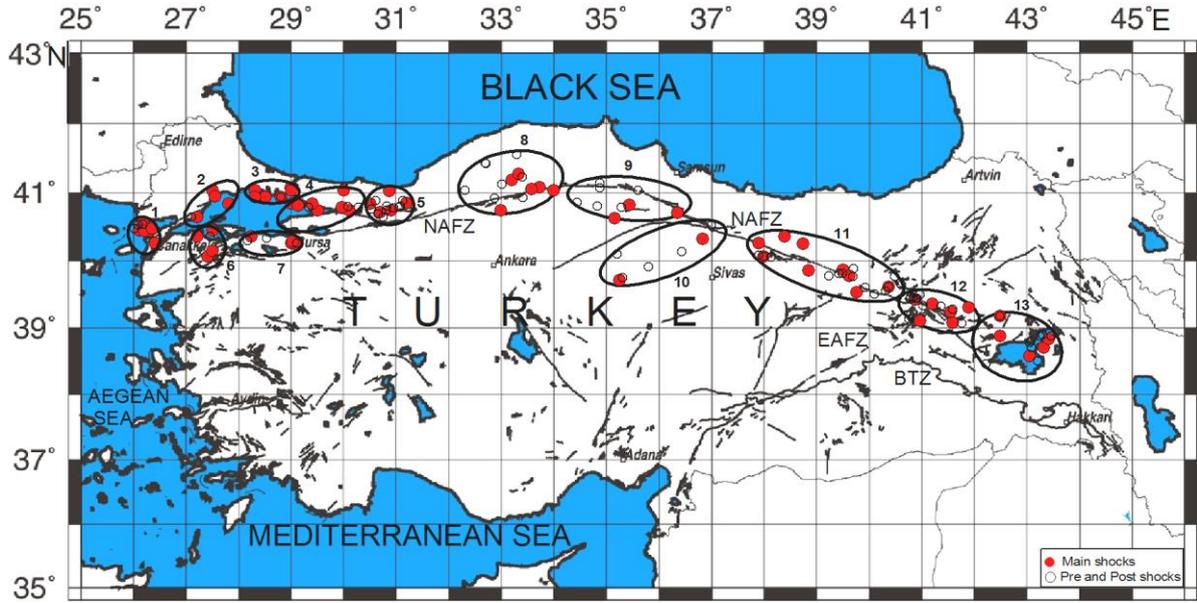
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**Figure 1.** Plate tectonics model of Anatolia and surrounding area (The Institute of Mineral Research and Exploration, Ankara, Turkey)

The North Anatolian fault intersects the East Anatolian fault in the east (Figure 1). In general, while the eastern part of the fault has been compressed, its western part is under tension. Thus earthquake recurrence intervals vary in wide range depending on these regimes. In Western Anatolia, NAFZ passes through the Marmara Sea and continues the collapse of the North Aegean [23].

Main segments from east to the west of NAFZ are the Erzincan segment of 350 km long (ruptured in 1939), the Ladik-Tosya segment of 260 km (ruptured in 1943), the Gerede segment of 180 km (ruptured in 1944) and the Saros segment of longer than 100 km (ruptured in 1912). The other segments are located at the eastern end (Varto segment, ruptured in 1966) and on the branches to the west (Mudurnu Valley segment ruptured in 1957 and 1967). The southern strand is called İznik-Mekece (İznik-Mekece segment unbroken in the past century, Manyas segment ruptured in 1964, Yenice-Gönen segment ruptured in 1953) and the northern strand is called Sapanca-İzmit (Sapanca-İzmit and Düzcé segments ruptured in 1999). Furthermore, the main regions contain some sub regions toward the both directions. In this study, main and other segments of NAFZ are considered in the creation of seismogenic zones (Figure 2).



**Figure 2.** Tectonic and seismicity map of the North Anatolian Fault Zone and thirteen seismogenic zones. Dark and light colored circles represent shallow main shocks and previous- or after main shocks, respectively.

### 3. THE APPLICABILITY OF THE RTIMAP MODEL IN THE NAFZ

From historical and instrumental seismological data and geological observations, it can be observed that strong ( $M_s \geq 6.0$ ) and large ( $M_s \geq 7.0$ ) earthquakes are generated in certain seismogenic zones and follow relations of the RTIMAP model [18].

The instrumental ( $M_s \geq 5.5$ ) up to end of 2015 and historical data ( $I_0 \geq 9.0$  corresponding to  $M_s \geq 7.0$ ) before 1900 (sources given in [24]) have been used in the analysis. Magnitudes in this catalogue are presented in different scales ( $M_s$ ,  $m_b$ ,  $M_w$ ,  $M_L$  and  $M_d$ ). Since the magnitude must be homogeneous, all magnitudes were transformed surface wave magnitude ( $M_s$ ) through a set of empirical equations derived based on regional earthquakes (Figure 3). All calculated relationships are consistent with those previously determined [25-28]. Likewise, the experimental scaling relation between surface wave magnitude and intensity,  $M_s - I_0$ , estimated by [29] for study area were used. Another important criterion for the analysis is completeness of the data. In this study, the catalog completeness was tested by the method recommended by [30], the smallest magnitude has been chosen as  $M_c = 5.5$  for instrumental period and  $M_c = 7.0$  for historical period in all seismogenic zones.

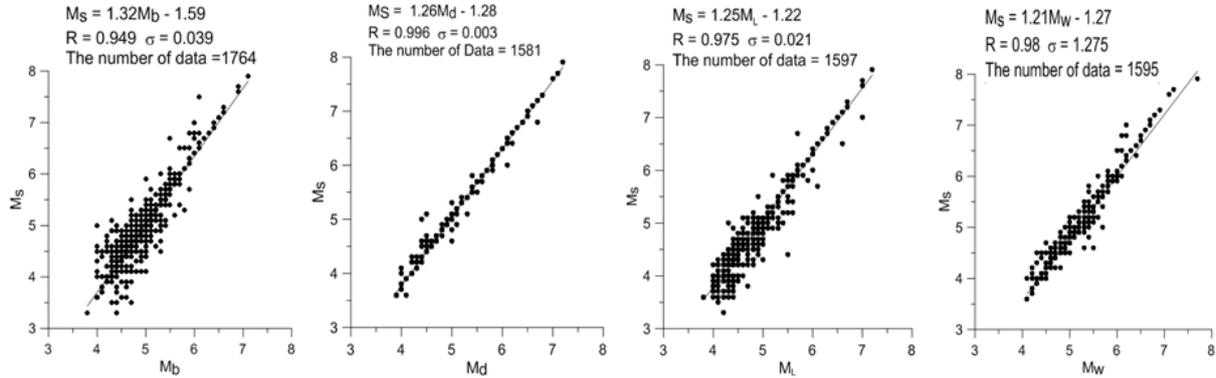
RTIMAP model of the seismicity proposed by [6] and its modified form by [12] is given by the Equations (1) and (2):

$$\log T_t = bM_{min} + cM_p + d \log M_0 + q, \quad (1)$$

$$M_f = BM_{min} + CM_p + D \log M_0 + m \quad (2)$$

Where  $b$ ,  $c$ ,  $d$ ,  $q$ ,  $B$ ,  $C$ ,  $D$ ,  $m$  are constants to be calculated.  $M_f$  and  $M_p$  are the magnitudes of the subsequent and previous events, respectively,  $T_t$  is the interevent time measured in years and  $M_0$  is the annual seismic moment rate in the source. The steps of the process are definition of the zones, calculation of the seismic moment, declustering of the catalogue, definition of the constants of

Equations (1), (2) and finally determination of magnitudes, repetition times and probabilities of the next events.



**Figure 3.** Correlations of  $M_S - m_b$ ,  $M_w$ ,  $M_L$  and  $M_d$  used in this study.  $\sigma$  and  $R$  shows standard deviation and correlation coefficient, respectively.

The first step for the implementation of the method is selection of seismogenic zones. Many seismotectonic and geomorphological properties like the distribution of the events, seismicity, the largest magnitude earthquake, kind of fault, the effects of earthquakes on each other, region anatomy, size of the fracture associated with the magnitude of the earthquake should be taken into account in the creation of seismogenic zones [31]. Each source may include the main fault of the largest event ( $M_S \geq 7.0$ ), and even other faults which consists of smaller events. The earthquakes in each zone don't have to occur with the same fault but they must have the same tectonic character.

In this study, thirteen seismogenic zones have been selected by taking into account the above-identified criteria and the base and side segments of the NAFZ described in Section 2; Seismogenic zone 1 includes Saros Bay which located on the north branch of NAFZ. The fault plane solutions of the earthquakes around the Saros Gulf clearly indicate right-lateral movement. The largest earthquake of Saros Bay is occurred in 1875 ( $M_S = 7.0$ ). Seismogenic zone 2 contains Tekirdag basin which is take place in the western Sea of Marmara. A right-lateral strike-slip stress regime is enabled in Tekirdag basin. The largest events in this seismogenic zone are occurred in Murefte ( $M_S = 7.4$ , in 1912) and northern edges of Central basin ( $M_S = 7.7$ , in 1766). Seismogenic zone 3 (Istanbul) includes Central basin of Marmara Sea. A right-lateral strike-slip stress regime is dominant in Central Basin of Marmara Sea [23]. The largest event in this seismogenic zone is happened in 447 ( $M_S = 7.5$ ). Seismogenic zone 4 contains Cinarcik basin which is take place in the eastern Sea of Marmara. A strike-slip type mechanism is dominant in Northwest part of Cinarcik basin, but a normal-faulting mechanism is dominant in its central part. The largest event in this zone is occurred in İzmit ( $M_S = 7.8$ , in 1999).

Seismogenic zone 5 includes the right-lateral strike-slip Düzce fault which advancing from the southern branch of the NAFZ. The largest event in this zone is occurred in Düzce ( $M_S = 7.5$ , in 1999). Seismogenic zone 6 contains Yenice-Gonen fault which is related to right-lateral strike-slip fault mechanism. The largest event in this seismogenic zone is occurred in 1953 ( $M_S = 7.5$ ). Seismogenic zone 7 includes Gemlik Bay, Bursa fault and Uluabat fault situated in South branch of NAFZ. The right lateral strike-slip movement is enabled to the NE-SW oriented Uluabat fault. The largest event in this zone is occurred in 1855 ( $M_S = 7.5$ ).

Seismogenic zone 8 contains three large intramountain basins (Tosya, Ilgaz, and Cerkes). Thrust faults length are about 30 km and have an average strike consistent with the dextral slip on the NAFZ. The largest events in this zone are happened in Ilgaz basin ( $M_S = 7.2$ , in 1943) and Cerkes basin ( $M_S = 7.2$ ,

in 1944). Seismogenic zone 9 includes Havza-Ladik basin. The largest event in this zone is occurred in 1942 ( $M_S = 7.0$ ). Seismogenic zone 10 includes Erbaa basin. The Erbaa pull-apart basin is a discontinuity along the fault [32]. The largest event in this zone is occurred in 1916 ( $M_S = 7.1$ ).

Seismogenic zone 11 includes the NW-SE striking Erzincan basin which appears to be a major step over along the NAFZ [33]. The largest events in this seismogenic zone are occurred in 1938 ( $M_S = 7.9$ ) and in 1949 ( $M_S = 7.0$ ). Seismogenic zone 12 includes the Karliova Triple Junction which is related to the continental collision between the Arabian and Eurasian Plates. The largest event in this zone is occurred in 1966 ( $M_S = 7.0$ ). Seismogenic zone 13 contains Van fault, Tutak fault and Kalecik fault. Interrelated effects between the Arabian and Eurasian plates naturally created several strike-slip and fewer thrust fault. The largest event in this zone is occurred in 2011 ( $M_S = 7.4$ ).

The second step in practicing the method is calculation of the seismic moment ( $M_0$ ) for each zone [34].  $M_{max}$  were found by taking into account the data available for each zone.  $a$  and  $b'$  constants in the classical relation of [35] are normalized for one year for each seismogenic zone.  $b' = 0.7$  ( $\sigma = 0.03$ ) for six zones and  $b' = 0.9$  ( $\sigma = 0.02$ ) for seven zones were determined. The computed values of parameters  $a$ ,  $b'$ ,  $M_{max}$  and  $\log \dot{M}_0$  for each zone are shown in Table 1.

**Table 1.** Fundamental parameters for each zone.  $a$  and  $b'$  are constants of Gutenberg-Richter relation,  $M_{max}$ ; the biggest magnitude and  $\log \dot{M}_0$ ; the logarithm of the moment rate.

Seismogenic Zones	$a$	$b'$	$M_{max}$	$\log \dot{M}_0$
1 Saros Gulf	2.94	0.7	7.0	24.91
2 Tekirdag	2.82	0.7	7.7	25.35
3 İstanbul	2.76	0.7	7.5	25.13
4 İzmit	2.98	0.7	7.8	25.59
5 Düzce	2.94	0.7	7.5	25.31
6 Bandırma	4.74	0.9	7.5	25.74
7 Bursa	3.81	0.9	7.6	24.81
8 Bolu	5.00	0.9	7.2	25.42
9 Merzifon	4.00	0.9	7.0	24.70
10 Tokat	4.00	0.9	7.1	24.76
11 Erzincan	3.30	0.7	7.9	25.95
12 Karliova	6.00	0.9	6.9	25.87
13 Van	5.40	0.9	7.4	25.45

The third step of the method is declustering process. Each complete catalogue is declustered so that the mainshocks to fulfil the condition: Using the earthquakes data, it was shown that the  $\sigma/T$  ratio was smaller than 0.50 for  $\Delta t \geq 15$  years and remained almost constant ( $\sim 0.35$ ) with increasing  $\Delta t$ . where  $T$  is the mean return period of the mainshocks of a seismogenic zone and  $\sigma$  is its standard deviation, namely, the mainshocks to exhibit a quasi-periodic behavior. The ratio  $\sigma/T$  decreases with increasing declustering time-window,  $\Delta t$ . For  $\Delta t \geq 15$  years, this ratio becomes small and remains constant ( $\sim 0.30$ ) [36]. The relation  $\log t_a = 0.06 + 0.13M_p$  for postshocks ( $t_a$ ) activity and as  $t_p = 3$  years for the preshocks ( $t_p$ ) activity suggested by [31] were used for declustering procedure in this study.

#### 4. RESULTS

The earthquake data used for RTIMAP model are illustrated in Table 2; the completeness year for each magnitude, and cut-off magnitude ( $M_c$ ) in this period, before ( $f$ ) and after ( $a$ ) event activities, cumulative magnitude ( $M$ ) of each series, values of the minimum main shock ( $M_{min}$ ), before ( $M_p$ ) and after ( $M_f$ ) main shocks magnitudes, time between consecutive main shocks ( $T_i$ ), formation time (years) belonging to the consecutive main shocks.

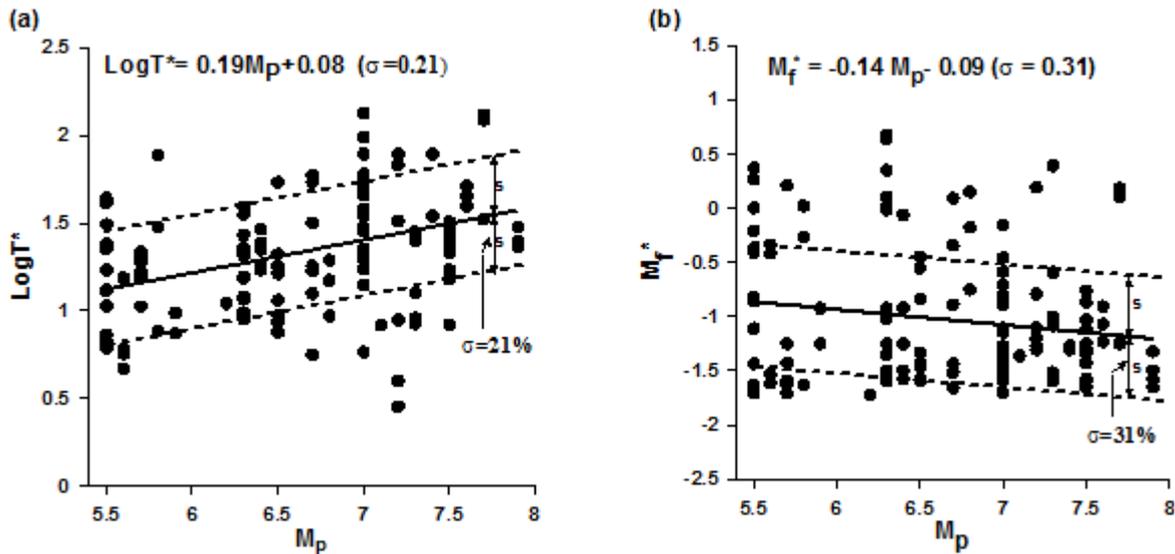
In order to estimate the parameters of Equation (1), the RTIMAP model suggested by [12] was fitted. The constants ( $b, c, d, q, B, C, D$  and  $m$ ) of Equations (1) and (2) were determined by multilinear regression technique [37]. Using the 247 observational data ( $T_i, M_{min}, M_p, M_f$ ) (Table 2) and the moment rates ( $\dot{M}_0$ ) (Table 1), the constants of Equation (1) were determined.

$$\log T_f = 0.29M_{min} + 0.19M_p - 0.34 \log \dot{M}_0 + 7.07 \quad (3)$$

The multiple correlation coefficient ( $R$ ) and standard deviation ( $\sigma$ ) of Equation (3) are 0.76 and 0.32, respectively. The relationship with increasing slope between  $T_i$  and  $M_p$  means that the RTIMAP method is operable in the examined area.  $\log T^*$  is determined by the relation  $\log T^* = \log T - 0.29M_{min} + 0.34 \log \dot{M}_0 - 7.07$  for  $M_p$  values. The correlation between  $\log T^*$  and  $M_p$  is illustrated in Figure 4a, where  $T, M_{min}, \log \dot{M}_0$ , and  $M_p$  are actual values. Likewise, the constants of Equation (2) were determined.

$$M_f = 0.82M_{min} - 0.14M_p + 0.18 \log \dot{M}_0 - 1.96 \quad (4)$$

$R$  and  $\sigma$  of Equation (4) are 0.66 and 0.43, respectively.  $M_f^*$  value is determined by the relation  $M_f^* = M_f - 0.82M_{min} - 0.18 \log \dot{M}_0 + 1.96$  for each  $M_p$ . The correlation between  $M_f^*$  and  $M_p$  is illustrated in Figure 4b. The relationship with decreasing slope between  $M_f$  to  $M_p$  means that a large earthquake will follow a small earthquake and vice versa.



**Figure 4** (a) The relationship between  $T^*$  and  $M_p$ ; (b) The relationship between  $M_f^*$  and  $M_p$ . Broken lines show interval bands (s) for estimates of  $\sigma = 21\%$  and  $\sigma = 31\%$ .

**Table 2.** Earthquake data used for RTIMAP Model; *a*: aftershocks, *f*: foreshocks, *M*: cumulative magnitude.

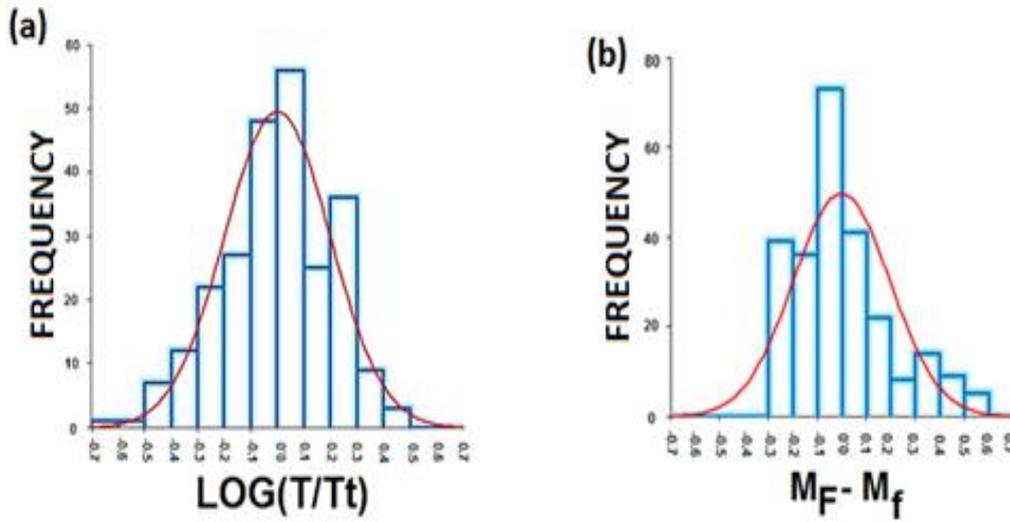
Seismogenic Zones	Completeness		Date dd.mm.yy	Coordinates (°N) (°E)		<i>M<sub>S</sub></i>	<i>M</i>	<i>M<sub>min</sub></i>	<i>M<sub>P</sub></i>	<i>M<sub>f</sub></i>	<i>T<sub>i</sub></i> (years)
	Year,	<i>M<sub>c</sub></i>									
1 Saros Gulf	1354,	7.0	01.10.1875	40.20	26.40	7.0	7.0	5.5	7.0	5.5	80.26
	1900,	5.5	06.01.1956	40.39	26.29	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.6	9.62
			23.08.1965	40.51	26.17	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.6	6.7	9.50
			17.03.1975	40.49	26.17	5.5	<i>f</i>	5.5	6.7	5.6	28.27
			17.03.1975	40.48	26.08	5.9	<i>f</i>	5.5	5.6	5.5	7.32
			27.03.1975	40.40	26.10	6.7	6.7	5.6	7.0	5.6	89.88
			29.03.1975	40.42	26.00	5.5	<i>a</i>	5.6	5.6	6.7	9.50
			06.07.2003	40.39	26.19	5.6	5.6	5.6	6.7	5.6	28.27
			03.11.2010	40.42	26.34	5.5	5.5	6.7	7.0	6.7	99.48
2 Tekirdag	1010,	7.0	05.08.1766	41.00	27.50	7.7	7.7	5.5	7.7	7.3	146.01
	1900,	5.5	09.08.1912	40.60	27.20	7.3	7.3	5.5	7.3	5.6	29.84
			10.08.1912	40.60	27.10	6.3	<i>a</i>	5.5	5.6	5.5	17.11
			10.04.1917	40.60	27.10	5.5	<i>a</i>	5.6	7.7	7.3	146.01
			16.06.1942	40.80	27.80	5.6	5.6	5.6	7.3	5.6	29.84
			26.07.1959	40.91	27.54	5.5	5.5	7.3	7.7	7.3	146.01
3 Istanbul	325,	7.0	01.01.325	41.00	29.00	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	102.00
	1900,	5.5	01.01.427	41.00	29.00	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.5	20.84
			08.11.447	40.90	28.50	7.5	7.5	7.0	7.5	7.0	29.87
			25.09.477	40.90	28.80	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.6	77.88
			16.08.555	41.04	28.98	7.5	7.6	7.0	7.6	7.4	185.19
			14.12.557	40.90	28.80	7.0	<i>a</i>	7.0	7.4	7.0	124.55
			26.10.740	41.00	28.30	7.4	7.4	7.0	7.0	7.2	198.35
			16.05.865	41.00	29.00	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.2	7.2	281.00
			23.09.1063	40.90	28.30	7.2	7.2	7.0	7.2	7.0	117.27
			23.09.1344	41.00	29.00	7.2	7.2	7.0	7.0	7.0	197.10
			01.01.1462	41.00	29.00	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0	107.29
			06.02.1659	41.00	29.00	7.0	7.0	7.2	7.5	7.6	107.76
			22.05.1766	41.00	29.00	7.0	7.0	7.2	7.6	7.4	185.19
								7.2	7.4	7.2	322.90
								7.2	7.2	7.2	281.00
							7.4	7.5	7.6	107.76	
							7.4	7.6	7.4	185.19	
							7.5	7.5	7.6	107.76	
4 İzmit	1509,	7.0	25.05.1719	40.70	29.50	7.0	7.0	5.5	7.0	7.0	35.27
	1900,	5.5	02.09.1754	40.80	29.40	7.0	7.0	5.5	7.0	6.7	123.62
			19.04.1878	40.80	29.00	6.7	6.7	5.5	6.7	5.5	29.33
			21.08.1907	40.70	30.10	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	15.76
			29.05.1923	41.00	30.00	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	6.3	40.3
			18.09.1963	40.77	29.12	6.3	6.3	5.5	6.3	7.8	35.9
			17.08.1999	40.74	29.96	7.8	7.8	6.3	7.0	7.0	35.27
			13.09.1999	40.75	30.08	5.5	<i>a</i>	6.3	7.0	6.7	123.62
			20.09.1999	40.74	29.33	5.5	<i>a</i>	6.3	6.7	6.3	85.41
			11.11.1999	40.74	30.27	5.9	<i>a</i>	6.3	6.3	7.8	35.9
								6.7	7.0	7.0	35.27
								6.7	7.0	6.7	123.62
								6.7	6.7	7.8	121.32
							7.0	7.0	7.0	35.27	
							7.0	7.0	7.8	244.95	
5 Düzce	1719,	7.0	24.01.1928	40.99	30.86	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	6.7	14.98
	1900,	5.5	20.01.1943	40.80	30.50	6.6	6.7	5.5	6.7	7.2	14.35
			20.06.1943	40.84	30.60	6.2	<i>a</i>	5.5	7.2	7.3	10.15
			05.04.1944	40.84	31.12	5.6	<i>a</i>	5.5	7.3	7.5	32.3
			26.05.1957	40.70	30.90	7.2	7.2	6.7	6.7	7.2	14.35
			26.05.1957	40.60	30.74	5.5	<i>a</i>	6.7	7.2	7.3	10.15

Cont. Table 2

			26.05.1957	40.76	30.81	5.9	<i>a</i>	6.7	7.3	7.5	32.3
			27.05.1957	40.73	30.95	5.8	<i>a</i>	7.2	7.2	7.3	10.15
			22.07.1967	40.67	30.69	7.3	7.3	7.2	7.3	7.5	32.3
			22.07.1967	40.70	30.80	5.5	<i>a</i>	7.3	7.3	7.5	32.3
			30.07.1967	40.72	30.52	5.6	<i>a</i>				
			17.08.1999	40.64	30.65	5.6	<i>f</i>				
			06.09.1999	40.76	31.07	5.7	<i>f</i>				
			12.11.1999	40.81	31.19	7.5	7.5				
			12.11.1999	40.74	31.05	5.5	<i>a</i>				
6	Bandırma	543, 7.0 1900, 5.5	04.01.1935	40.40	27.50	6.7	6.8	5.7	6.8	7.5	18.20
			04.01.1935	40.30	27.45	6.3	<i>a</i>	5.7	7.5	5.7	16.04
			18.03.1953	40.00	27.40	7.5	7.5	5.7	5.7	6.1	14.33
			18.03.1953	39.96	27.59	5.5	<i>a</i>	6.1	6.8	7.5	18.20
			03.03.1969	40.08	27.50	5.7	5.7	6.1	7.5	6.1	30.29
			05.07.1983	40.30	27.20	6.1	6.1	6.8	6.8	7.5	18.20
7	Bursa	715, 7.0 1900, 5.5	28.02.1855	40.18	29.10	7.5	7.5	5.8	7.5	6.5	50.13
			11.04.1855	40.20	29.10	6.7	<i>a</i>	5.8	6.5	5.8	43.57
			15.04.1905	40.20	29.00	6.5	6.5	5.8	5.8	7.0	15.89
			13.11.1948	40.23	29.02	5.6	5.8	6.5	7.5	6.5	50.13
			03.06.1953	40.28	28.53	5.5	<i>a</i>	6.5	6.5	7.0	59.47
			06.10.1964	40.24	28.16	5.6	<i>f</i>	7.0	7.5	7.0	109.60
			06.10.1964	40.30	28.23	7.0	7.0				
8	Bolu	968, 7.0 1900, 5.5	25.06.1910	41.00	34.00	6.5	6.5	5.5	6.5	5.7	9.04
			09.08.1918	40.89	33.41	5.8	<i>a</i>	5.5	5.7	5.5	17.44
			09.06.1919	41.16	33.20	5.7	5.7	5.5	5.5	7.5	7.02
			18.11.1936	41.25	33.33	5.5	5.5	5.5	7.5	5.7	33.89
			26.11.1943	41.05	33.72	7.2	7.5	5.5	5.7	5.7	22.66
			01.02.1944	41.41	32.69	7.2	<i>a</i>	5.7	6.5	5.7	9.04
			01.02.1944	41.40	32.70	5.5	<i>a</i>	5.7	5.7	7.5	24.46
			10.02.1944	41.00	32.30	5.5	<i>a</i>	5.7	7.5	5.7	33.89
			02.03.1945	41.20	33.40	5.6	<i>a</i>	5.7	5.7	5.7	22.66
			26.10.1945	41.54	33.29	5.7	<i>a</i>	6.5	6.5	7.5	33.41
			13.08.1951	40.88	32.87	6.9	<i>a</i>				
			07.09.1953	41.09	33.01	6.0	<i>a</i>				
			05.10.1977	41.02	33.57	5.7	5.7				
			06.06.2000	40.70	32.99	5.7	5.7				
9	Merzifon	1598, 7.0 1900, 5.5	29.08.1918	40.58	35.16	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	7.0	24.3
			21.11.1942	40.82	34.44	5.5	<i>f</i>	5.5	7.0	6.1	54.21
			02.12.1942	41.04	34.88	5.5	<i>f</i>	6.1	7.0	6.1	54.21
			11.12.1942	40.76	34.83	5.9	<i>f</i>				
			20.12.1942	40.66	36.35	7.0	7.0				
			10.12.1943	41.00	35.60	5.6	<i>a</i>				
			30.09.1944	41.11	34.87	5.5	<i>a</i>				
			10.08.1996	40.74	35.29	5.6	<i>f</i>				
			10.03.1997	40.78	35.44	6.0	6.1				
10	Tokat	127, 7.0 1900, 5.5	28.05.1914	39.84	35.80	5.5	<i>f</i>	6.3	7.1	6.3	24.84
			24.01.1916	40.27	36.83	7.1	7.1				
			29.04.1923	40.07	36.43	5.9	<i>a</i>				
			28.12.1939	40.47	37.00	5.7	<i>f</i>				
			13.04.1940	40.04	35.20	5.6	<i>f</i>				
			30.07.1940	39.64	35.25	6.2	6.3				
			27.01.1941	39.68	35.31	5.7	<i>a</i>				
11	Erzincan	1890, 7.0 1900, 5.5	16.02.1904	40.30	38.40	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	6.4	5.06
			09.02.1909	40.00	38.00	6.3	6.4	-	6.4	6.3	20.27
			09.02.1909	40.00	38.00	5.8	<i>a</i>	-	6.3	7.9	10.6
			10.02.1909	40.00	38.00	5.7	<i>a</i>	-	7.9	5.9	20.83
			05.03.1909	39.70	40.50	5.5	<i>a</i>	-	5.9	6.3	6.74

Cont. Table 2

			18.05.1929	40.20	37.90	6.1	6.3	-	6.3	6.3	24.61
			19.05.1929	40.02	37.90	6.1	<i>a</i>	-	6.3	6.2	10.86
			25.05.1929	40.02	37.90	5.5	<i>a</i>	-	6.2	5.5	7.64
			10.12.1930	39.71	39.24	5.6	<i>a</i>	5.9	6.4	6.3	20.27
			20.11.1939	39.82	39.71	5.9	<i>f</i>	-	6.3	7.9	10.6
			26.12.1939	39.80	39.51	7.9	7.9	-	7.9	5.9	20.83
			27.12.1939	39.99	38.14	5.5	<i>a</i>	-	5.9	6.3	6.74
			08.11.1941	39.70	39.70	5.5	<i>a</i>	-	6.3	6.3	24.61
			10.11.1941	39.74	39.43	5.9	<i>a</i>	-	6.3	6.2	10.86
			10.11.1941	39.74	39.50	6.0	<i>a</i>	6.2	6.4	6.3	20.27
			17.08.1949	39.60	40.60	5.5	<i>a</i>	-	6.3	7.9	10.6
			20.08.1949	39.57	40.62	7.0	<i>a</i>	-	7.9	6.3	27.59
			30.10.1960	40.19	38.75	5.9	5.9	-	6.3	6.3	24.61
			26.07.1967	39.54	40.38	5.9	<i>f</i>	-	6.3	6.2	10.86
			30.07.1967	39.54	40.38	6.2	6.3	6.3	6.4	6.3	20.27
			13.03.1992	39.71	39.63	6.1	6.3	-	6.3	7.9	10.6
			15.03.1992	39.53	39.93	5.8	<i>a</i>	-	7.9	6.3	27.59
			05.12.1995	39.43	40.11	5.7	<i>a</i>	-	6.3	6.3	24.61
			05.12.1995	39.48	40.32	5.5	<i>a</i>	6.4	6.4	7.9	30.87
			27.01.2003	39.46	39.77	6.2	6.2				
			22.09.2011	39.79	38.85	5.5	5.5				
12	Karlıova	1890, 7.0	30.05.1946	39.29	41.21	5.7	5.7	5.5	5.7	5.5	7.82
		1900, 5.5	28.03.1954	39.03	40.97	5.5	5.5	-	5.5	5.5	7.86
			12.02.1962	39.00	41.60	5.5	5.5	-	5.5	7.0	4.52
			30.08.1965	39.36	40.79	5.6	<i>f</i>	-	7.0	5.5	15.60
			10.03.1966	39.20	41.60	5.6	<i>f</i>	-	5.5	6.1	23.05
			19.08.1966	38.99	41.77	5.5	<i>f</i>	5.7	5.7	7.0	20.30
			20.08.1966	39.37	40.89	6.2	<i>f</i>	-	7.0	6.1	38.56
			20.08.1966	39.42	40.98	6.0	<i>f</i>	6.1	7.0	6.1	38.56
			20.08.1966	39.06	40.76	6.1	<i>f</i>				
			20.08.1966	39.17	41.56	6.9	7.0				
			10.09.1969	39.25	41.38	5.5	<i>a</i>				
			27.03.1982	39.23	41.90	5.5	5.5				
			12.03.2005	39.39	40.85	5.6	<i>f</i>				
			14.03.2005	39.35	40.88	5.7	6.1				
			23.03.2005	39.39	40.80	5.6	<i>a</i>				
			06.06.2005	39.37	40.92	5.6	<i>a</i>				
			10.12.2005	39.38	40.85	5.5	<i>a</i>				
			25.08.2007	39.26	41.04	5.5	<i>a</i>				
13	Van	1647, 7.0	28.04.1903	39.10	42.50	6.3	6.5	5.5	6.5	5.8	11.78
		1900, 5.5	27.01.1907	39.10	42.50	6.3	<i>a</i>	-	5.8	5.5	30.76
			27.01.1913	38.38	42.23	5.5	<i>f</i>	-	5.5	5.5	42.59
			14.02.1915	38.80	42.50	5.6	5.8	-	5.5	7.4	23.32
			20.11.1945	38.63	43.33	5.5	5.5	5.8	6.5	5.8	11.78
			25.06.1988	38.50	43.07	5.5	5.5	-	5.8	7.4	96.68
			23.10.2011	38.75	43.43	7.4	7.4	6.5	6.5	7.4	108.48
			23.10.2011	38.80	43.26	5.8	<i>a</i>				
			23.10.2011	38.82	43.31	5.9	<i>a</i>				
			23.10.2011	38.63	43.10	5.8	<i>a</i>				
			25.10.2011	38.80	43.48	5.5	<i>a</i>				
			08.11.2011	38.73	43.09	5.5	<i>a</i>				
			09.11.2011	38.42	43.22	5.5	<i>a</i>				
			14.11.2011	38.70	43.07	5.5	<i>a</i>				



**Figure 5** (a) The frequency distribution of  $\log(T/T_t)$ , (b) The frequency distribution of  $M_F - M_f$ .

The frequency distribution of  $\log(T/T_t)$ , which is compatible with a normal distribution ( $\mu = 0$ ) and standard deviation with  $\sigma = 0.32$ , is shown in Figure 5a. The frequency distribution of the difference between the observed ( $M_F$ ) and the computed magnitude ( $M_f$ ) is illustrated in Figure 5b. This is compatible with a normal distribution ( $\mu = 0$ ) and  $\sigma = 0.43$ . Figure 5a shows that there is a large scattering between the observed ( $T$ ) and calculated consecutive time interval ( $T_t$ ). Therefore, it was adopted to determine the probability of an event larger than a  $M_{min}$  (e.g.,  $M_{min} \geq 5.5$  for this study) and for a specific time period.

According to  $\log(T/T_t)$  in each zone, if there is an earthquake ( $M_p$ ) occurred in  $t$  years before last observation date, the occurrence probability of a main shock ( $M \geq M_{min}$ ) over the next  $\Delta t$  years could be determined by the equation (5).

$$P(\Delta t) = P(L_1 < Z < L_2) = \left[ \mathbf{F}\left(\frac{L_2}{\sigma}\right) - \mathbf{F}\left(\frac{L_1}{\sigma}\right) \right] / \left[ 1 - \mathbf{F}\left(\frac{L_1}{\sigma}\right) \right] \quad (5)$$

Where  $L_1 = \log(t/T_t)$ ,  $L_2 = \log[(t + \Delta t)/T_t]$ .  $\mathbf{F}$  is the cumulative value of the normal distribution ( $\mu = 0$ ) and  $\sigma = 0.32$ .

Table 3 gives the probabilities of occurrence ( $P_{\Delta t}$ ) for strong ( $M_{min} \geq 6.0$ ) and large ( $M_{min} \geq 7.0$ ) earthquake within five decades ( $\Delta t = 10, 20, \dots, 50$ ) in the 13 seismogenic zones, expected magnitude values ( $M_f$ ) and the interevent times ( $T_t$ ).

**Table 3.** Probabilities of occurrence ( $P_{At}$ ) for strong ( $M_{min} \geq 6.0$ ) and large ( $M_{min} \geq 7.0$ ) earthquake for the next five decades in the 13 seismogenic zones and calculated magnitude values ( $M_f$ ).

Seis. Zones	$M_f$	$T_t$	$M_{min} \geq 6.0$					$M_{min} \geq 7.0$						
			$P_{10}$	$P_{20}$	$P_{30}$	$P_{40}$	$P_{50}$	$M_f$	$T_t$	$P_{10}$	$P_{20}$	$P_{30}$	$P_{40}$	$P_{50}$
1 Saros Gulf	6.5	40.74	0.24	0.42	0.55	0.65	0.73	7.3	91.20	0.12	0.20	0.30	0.36	0.44
2 Tekirdag	6.6	24.54	0.25	0.44	0.57	0.67	0.74	7.3	73.79	0.14	0.25	0.35	0.44	0.51
3 İstanbul	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7.3	76.91	0.11	0.20	0.28	0.36	0.41
4 İzmit	6.7	20.23	0.36	0.57	0.71	0.80	0.86	7.3	76.03	0.06	0.14	0.24	0.33	0.41
5 Düzce	6.6	30.06	0.26	0.45	0.59	0.69	0.75	7.3	83.18	0.05	0.12	0.20	0.29	0.37
6 Bandırma	6.7	16.48	0.45	0.68	0.80	0.88	0.92	7.4	59.29	0.17	0.31	0.42	0.52	0.59
7 Bursa	6.5	40.74	0.20	0.34	0.47	0.57	0.65	7.3	98.85	0.09	0.17	0.26	0.33	0.40
8 Bolu	6.6	25.25	0.26	0.44	0.58	0.67	0.74	7.3	76.21	0.13	0.25	0.35	0.43	0.51
9 Merzifon	6.6	37.24	0.22	0.41	0.56	0.67	0.75	7.2	107.65	0.09	0.17	0.25	0.33	0.39
10 Tokat	6.5	38.78	0.23	0.40	0.52	0.62	0.70	7.2	107.30	0.10	0.18	0.26	0.33	0.40
11 Erzincan	6.8	14.62	0.52	0.76	0.87	0.93	0.96	7.3	59.98	0.17	0.30	0.41	0.51	0.58
12 Karlıova	6.8	14.90	0.51	0.76	0.87	0.93	0.96	7.5	43.07	0.22	0.39	0.52	0.62	0.70
13 Van	6.6	24.66	0.26	0.44	0.60	0.66	0.73	7.3	71.29	0.01	0.07	0.16	0.26	0.35

## 5. DISCUSSION

This study is testing the success of the RTIMAP model and predicts the likelihood probabilities of subsequent events and magnitudes within five decade in the 13 seismogenic zones of NAFZ. The earthquake probabilities in all selected zones have been considerably higher.

The relation with increasing slope between  $M_p$  and  $\log T$ , ( $c = 0.19$ ) and the relation with decreasing slope between  $M_p$  and  $M_f$  ( $C = -0.14$ ) were tried by many researchers [11,19,24,38-40]. An increased slope between  $M_p$  and  $\log T$  means that a larger earthquake needs a longer period of repetition. This is due to the fact that the major earthquake reduces the accumulated stress to the lowest level, but the tectonic conditions do not change. A decreasing slope between  $M_p$  and  $M_f$  states that there will be small earthquakes after major earthquake or vice versa.

The earthquake probabilities for the next 50 years (2016-2066) in each source yielded significant results. According the Table 3, it is anticipated that a strong event ( $M_S \geq 6.0$ ) can happen in the seismogenic zone 11 (Erzincan) and 12 (Karlıova) with the highest probabilities of  $P_{10} \geq 50\%$  within ten years. The last events have been occurred in January 27, 2003 (Zone 11,  $M_S = 6.2$ ) and in March 14, 2005 (Zone 12) ( $M_S = 6.1$ , see Table 2). According to the method,  $M_f = 6.8$  and  $T_t \cong 15$  years were computed for these zones. An earthquake with a magnitude of  $M_S = 5.5$  in Erzincan occurred in 2011. Although this is somewhat smaller than the selected magnitude range ( $M_S \geq 6.0$ ) in this study, it confirms the values determined for the seismogenic zone 11.

When the results for large events are examined, it was found that the large event ( $M_S \geq 7.0$ ) in the next 50 years may most likely ( $P_{50} = 70\%$ ) occur in the zone 12 (Karlıova). The magnitude and repetition time of the next large event were determined as  $M_f = 7.5$  and  $T_t = 43$  years, respectively. The final event to determine the probability of large event in this zone was occurred in 1966 ( $M_S = 7.0$ ). This high probability for seismogenic zone 12 also supported the results of other studies for this area [41].

Another high probability for  $M_S \geq 6.0$  in ten years was found as  $P_{10} = 45\%$  for the seismogenic zone 6 (Bandırma).  $M_f = 6.7$  and  $T_t = 17$  years were computed for this zone. The final event to determine the probability was occurred in 1983 ( $M_S = 6.1$ ). In Table 3, the second high probability value of  $P_{50} = 59\%$  for the large event ( $M_S \geq 7.0$ ) in the next fifty years was determined for Bandırma. The final event used in the calculation was occurred in 1953 ( $M_S = 7.5$ ). For this zone,  $M_f = 7.4$  and  $T_t = 59$  years have been determined. [42] was found higher probability for  $M_S \geq 6.0$  in Bandırma.

The study of the applicability of the time depended seismicity model for earthquake occurrence in different and same seismogenic zones is important for seismic hazard assessment. It also allows understanding earthquake occurrence in the same and different tectonic conditions. These issues should be further studied in both theory and practice.

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