

Kuvvet Atakan



Kuvvet Atakan was born in 1957. He took his B.Sc. in Geological Engineering in 1980, at the Middle East Technical University (METU) in Ankara. He then completed a Cand. Mag., degree in Geology in 1986 at the University of Bergen (UiB), Cand. Scient., degree in structural geology in 1988 (UiB) and Dr. Scient., degree in seismology in 1994 (UiB). His previous employment includes Mineral Research and Exploration Institute (MTA) of Turkey (1980) and University of Durham, UK (1989-1990). He is currently holding a position as Professor of seismology at the Department of Earth Science (GEO), University of Bergen (UiB) (since 2001). Prof. Atakan has had a number of responsibilities at the University of Bergen. He was the Chairman of the Advisory Council at the Department of Earth Science (GEO) during 2003-2005, Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences during the period 2004-2005, Head of the Geodynamics Research Group at GEO (2003-2009), and Deputy Head of Department of Earth Science (2007-2009). Professor Atakan has been the Vice-Rector for Education at the University of Bergen during the period 2009-2013.

Professional Affiliations

Professor Atakan is the titular member for Norway in the European Seismological Commission (ESC). He is a member of the Norwegian Academy of Technical Sciences (NTVA). Professor Atakan has served as a member of the Steering Committee of the Norwegian Association for Earthquake Engineering during 1996, 2004-2005, and was the Chairman in 1997. Atakan is a member of various (13) scientific committees or working groups. He is involved in the organization of 10 scientific seminars/international conferences and had the responsibility of the “9th International Conference in Soil Dynamics and Earthquake Engineering (SDDE)”, which was held in Bergen in 1999. Atakan has also been convener/chairman in different scientific sessions in 20 international conferences. In addition, he has also been involved in various local committees at the University of Bergen.

Research and Research Infrastructure Experience

Professor Atakan is a member of the Geophysics research group at the Department of Earth Science. Atakan has a broad research experience and was previously involved in 61 scientific projects in various geographical areas (mainly Europe, but also Central America, Africa and Asia) in the fields of seismotectonics, active tectonics, seismic hazard, local site effects, seismic monitoring and associated topics. Currently he is involved in eight projects and is the national coordinator of the EPOS-Norway (European Plate Observing System - Norway) Project. Prof. Atakan is the Scientific Officer of the EPOS-ERIC (European Plate Observing System – European Research Infrastructure Consortium) and ICS-TCS (Integrated Core Services – Thematic Core Services) Interactions Coordinator. He is a member of the EPOS-ERIC Executive Committee (EC), Service Coordination Committee (SCC) and the IT Board. He is also a member of the EPOS-ERIC General Assembly as the Norwegian National Scientific Expert. In addition, Prof. Atakan is a member of the Project Executive Board of the European ESFRI - EPOS Sustainability Phase (SP) Project. Prof. Atakan previously had the responsibility of the Norwegian National Seismic Network (NNSN) during the period 2007-2009 and is a member of the NNSN Board since 2002.

Research Interests

Professor Atakan has a significant amount of research production in the fields of seismotectonics, earthquake hazard and risk. He is the author/co-author of 711 various scientific contributions, among them 111 peer-review publications (see the list below), 156 scientific reports (with limited distribution) and 444 presentations (mostly in international scientific conferences). As of August 2021, Prof Atakan’s research papers have in total 2023 citations, with h-index: 25; and i10-index: 43 (source: Google Scholar). Professor Atakan has previously been Associate Editor of the Journal of Seismology (Springer) and Associate Editor of Bollettino di Geofisica Teorica e Applicata until 2018. He is currently member of the Editorial Board of several journals including the Soil Dynamics and Earthquake Engineering (Elsevier Publ. Inc.), the Journal of Seismology (Springer) and the Bollettino di Geofisica Teorica e Applicata. He has been the Guest editor of the Special Issue (Vol.20, No.1-4 and 5-8, 2000) of the Soil Dynamics and Earthquake Engineering (Elsevier). He was also guest co-editor of the Special Issue

(Vol.8, No.3, 2004) of the Journal of Seismology (Kluwer Academic Publ.). His current research interests include the processes leading to mega-thrust earthquakes in subduction zones.

Teaching and Outreach

Professor Atakan has a broad experience in teaching and student supervision at undergraduate and graduate levels. He has had the responsibility of several courses in seismology at undergraduate and graduate levels. Professor Atakan has over the years supervised 62 students (46 Master, 16 PhD). Atakan has also a long record of dissemination of results from his research to public, through popular scientific publications, various interviews and articles in the media. In 2005, he was the scientist in charge of the exhibition at Bergen Museum with the topic “100th Anniversary of the Seismological Observatory in Bergen” which was held during the period 2005-2010. He has also been the Board member of the Bergen Science Center, VilVite AS during the period 2009-2013, and Founding member and the Chairman of the Norwegian-Turkish Association in Bergen during the period 2015-2017. In 2010, Professor Atakan has been awarded as one of the Top 10 International Leaders in Norway.

List of Publications (in chronological order):

- Torsvik, T.H., Sturt, B.A., Ramsay, D., Grønlie, A., Roberts, D., Smethurst, M., Atakan, K., Bøe, R. and Walderhaug, H.J. 1989. Palaeomagnetic constraints on the early history of the Møre-Trøndelag Fault Zone, Central Norway. IN: C.Kissel and C.Laj (Eds.), Palaeomagnetic Rotations and Continental Deformation. Kluwer Academic Publishers, 431-457.
- Bøe, R., Atakan, K. and Sturt, B.A. 1989. The style of deformation in the Devonian rocks on Hitra and Smøla, Central Norway. Norges Geologiske Undersøkelse, Bulletin 414, 1-20.
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- Atakan, K., Lindholm, C.D., and Havskov, J. 1994. Earthquake swarm in Steigen, northern Norway: An unusual example of intraplate seismicity. Terra Nova 6, 180-194.
- Lindholm, C.D., Bungum, H., Bratli, R.K., Aadnøy, B.S., Dahl, N., Tjørudbakken, B. and Atakan, K. 1995. Crustal stress in the northern North Sea, as inferred from in borehole breakouts and earthquake focal mechanisms. Terra Nova 7, 51-59.
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- Atakan, K. and Havskov, J. 1996. Local site effects in the northern North Sea based on the single station spectral ratios of the OBS data. Terra Nova 8, 22-33.
- Atakan, K., Karpuz, M.R., and Dahl, S.O. 1996. Importance of geological data in probabilistic seismic hazard assessments: A case study from Etne, Western Norway. IN: V.Schenk (Ed.), Earthquake Hazard and Risk, 169-198. Advances in Natural and Technological Hazards Research, Kluwer Academic Publishers, Netherlands.
- Atakan, K., Brandsdóttir, B., Halldórsson, P. and Fridleifsson, G.O. 1997. Site response as a function of near-surface geology in the South Iceland Seismic Zone. Natural Hazards 15, 139-164.
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- Atakan, K. 1997. A student's guide to M.Sc. studies in seismology at the Institute of Solid Earth Physics, University of Bergen. IN: A.Gulbrandsen (Ed.), Universitetspedagogisk Utviklingsarbeid i Bergen, UPED-skrift nr.1/97, University of Bergen. 31-39.
- Atakan, K. 1998. Empirical site response studies in Central America: present status. IN: J.Cortina, J.Bommer and P.M. de Hasbun (Eds.), Proceedings of the Seminar on Assessment and Mitigation of Seismic Risk in the Central American Area, Sept. 22-27, 1997, San Salvador, El Salvador, 77-88.
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