

1 **AMBIENT VIBRATIONS OF AGE-OLD MASONRY TOWERS: RESULTS OF LONG-**  
2 **TERM DYNAMIC MONITORING IN THE HISTORIC CENTRE OF LUCCA.**

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13

14 **Abstract**

15 The paper presents the results of an ambient vibration monitoring campaign conducted on so-called  
16 “Clock Tower” (Torre delle Ore), one of the best known and most visited monuments in the historic  
17 centre of Lucca.

18 The vibrations of the tower were continuously monitored from November 2017 to March 2018  
19 using high-sensitivity instrumentation. In particular, four seismic stations provided by the Istituto  
20 Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia and two three-axial accelerometers developed by AGI S.r.l.,  
21 spin-off of the Istituto Nazionale di Astrofisica, were installed on the tower. The measured vibration  
22 level was generally very low, since the structure lies in the middle of a limited traffic area.  
23 Nevertheless, the availability of two different types of highly sensitive and accurate instruments  
24 allowed the authors to follow the dynamic behaviour of the tower during the entire monitoring  
25 period and has moreover provided cross-validation of the results.

26

27 **1 Introduction**

28 The first attempts to use ambient vibrations to characterize the dynamic properties of buildings date  
29 back to the 1970’s (Trifunac 1970). Nowadays, this technique has become standard practice (Celebi

2017, Gallipoli et al. 2010, Kaya and Safak 2015, Peeters et al. 1999, Prieto et al. 2010) thanks to the availability of sensitive instrumentation for measurement of low-amplitude vibrations, together with powerful algorithms and hardware for large dataset analysis. Ambient vibration monitoring is in fact very convenient, provided that sufficiently long records are available (Brincker 2015), since it allows avoiding artificial vibration sources such as vibrodynes, thereby facilitating experiment management. Moreover, long-term ambient vibration measurements furnish important information on the sources of vibration, the influence of the environmental parameters on the structural dynamic properties and finally on the structural health status. Indeed, changes over time in a building's dynamic properties, such as modal properties (Doebling et al. 1996) or wave velocities (Todorovska 2009), represent effective damage indicators, provided that the natural changes due to seasonal and daily environmental effects are taken into account. Long-term monitoring plays an important role when a structure is subjected to high vibration levels, such as those induced by traffic or construction sites (Wyjadlowski 2017), or when the structure is located in high-seismicity areas (Celebi 2017, Todorovska 2009, Trifunac 1970). More recently, the study of the dynamic effects on buildings of the surrounding environment has become a challenging research topic, involving disparate expertise from the fields of physics, geology and engineering, and sometimes referred to as "urban seismology" (Diaz et al. 2017), (Green et al. 2016), (Ritter et al. 2005). Moreover, the recent availability of low-cost measurement devices has encouraged the testing of large accelerometer networks for monitoring purposes (Barsocchi et al. 2018), (D'Alessandro et al. 2018), (Clementi et al. 2018), including through participative approaches as in (Matarazzo et al. 2018), where citizens were directly involved in monitoring the vibrations of bridges with their own smartphones (which are normally equipped with MEMS devices to measure accelerations).

52

With regard to the world's architectural heritage and monuments, the first examples of dynamic monitoring through ambient vibrations for damage detection purposes date back to (Gentile and Saisi 2007), and (Ramos et al. 2010). A great deal of effort has been made to study the effects of

56 traffic on ancient monuments, noteworthy amongst which is the work of (Pau and Vestroni 2008)  
57 and (Bongiovanni et al. 2017) on dynamic characterization of the Colosseum, (Roselli et al. 2017)  
58 on other monuments in Rome, (Chiostrini et al. 1995), (Lacanna et al. 2016) and (Lacanna et al.  
59 2019) in the historic centre of Florence, (Azzara et al. 2017) on the Maddalena Bridge in Borgo a  
60 Mozzano, and (Erkal 2017) on the traffic-induced vibrations on a minaret in Turkey. The  
61 availability of large datasets yielded by continuous monitoring of historic structures is however  
62 relatively recent. Some examples can be found in (Baraccani et al. 2017) on the Asinelli tower in  
63 Bologna, (Masciotta et al. 2017) on the Saint Torcato church, (Ubertini et al. 2017) on the ambient  
64 vibrations of the San Pietro bell tower in Perugia, (Lorenzoni et al. 2018) on post-earthquake  
65 vibration checks of some monumental buildings in l'Aquila, (Cabboi et al. 2017) on the continuous  
66 vibration monitoring of an age-old tower in Northern Italy, (Azzara et al. 2018a) on the San  
67 Frediano bell tower in the historic centre of Lucca, and (Kita et al. 2019) on the Consoli Palace in  
68 Gubbio.

69 The present paper is aimed at investigating the dynamic behaviour of a medieval tower located in a  
70 historic centre and subjected to vibrations from the surrounding environment, the main goals being:  
71 to characterize the main sources of vibration, the trend of the tower's dynamic properties over time,  
72 and the tower's response to the activities in the historic centre. To this end, the authors rely on a  
73 dataset obtained from five months of continuous measurements (November 2017 to March 2018) on  
74 the so-called "Torre delle Ore" (henceforth Clock Tower) in the historic centre of Lucca. The  
75 measurements were recorded via two different sets of high-sensitivity instruments, both installed on  
76 the tower during the monitoring period: four three-axial seismometric stations (each equipped with  
77 a SL06 24-bit digitizer coupled to a SS20 electrodynamic velocity transducer) developed by SARA  
78 Electronic Instruments S.r.l. and furnished by the Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia  
79 (INGV), and two accelerometers designed for applications in the fields of gravitation, space  
80 dynamics and oceanographic research (Iafolla et al. 2015), and specifically adjusted for the current  
81 experiment by Assist in Gravitation and Instrumentation (AGI S.r.l.) of Rome, a spin-off enterprise

82 of the Istituto Nazionale di Astrofisica (INAF). The combined use of the two different kinds of  
83 measurement devices has allowed for a comparison of the instruments' performance, as well as  
84 cross-validation of the results obtained for the Clock Tower, which have also been corroborated by  
85 the outcomes of two-year continuous monitoring conducted on the nearby San Frediano bell tower  
86 (Azzara et al. 2018a, 2018b).

87 In addition, exploitation of the different characteristics of the seismometers and accelerometers has  
88 made it possible both to explore the dynamic behaviour of the tower and to highlight the effects of  
89 environmental vibrations in a wide frequency range. To the best of the authors' knowledge, the  
90 issues addressed in this paper are far from being fully investigated and the reported results  
91 constitute a novel contribution to understanding the dynamic response of the architectural heritage  
92 to anthropic and natural vibration sources.

93

## 94 **2 The experimental campaign on the Clock Tower**

95 Lucca was renowned in the past for the large number of towers in its skyline: of more than one  
96 hundred during Middle Ages, only ten or so of these fascinating monuments have survived until  
97 today (Figure 1). The Clock Tower is one of the best known and most visited age-old towers in  
98 Lucca, thanks to the peculiar shape of its bell chamber, which is clearly visible and recognizable  
99 throughout the entire historic centre. Built by local families (Concioni 1988), since the last decade  
100 of the 15<sup>th</sup> century the Clock Tower has been used as a civic building, taking its name from the big  
101 clock visible on its southern facade (Figure 2). The Clock Tower rises at the corner between the  
102 roads named Via Arancio and Via Fillungo, one of the most popular in Lucca's historic centre; the  
103 adjacent buildings abut the tower on two sides for a height of about 13 m and constitute asymmetric  
104 boundary conditions for the tower's structure. The Clock Tower is 48.4 m high at the top of the bell  
105 chamber; it has a rectangular cross section of about 5.1 x 7.1 m and walls of thickness varying from  
106 about 1.77 m at the base to 0.85 m at the top. Two barrel vaults are set inside the tower at heights of  
107 about 12.5 and 42.3 m. The bell chamber, made up of four masonry pillars connected by elliptical

108 arches, stands on the upper barrel vault and is covered by a pavilion roof constructed of wooden  
109 trusses and rafters. With regard to the materials constituting the masonry tower, visual inspection  
110 reveals that the masonry from the base up to a height of 15 m is made up of regular stone blocks  
111 and thin mortar joints. The upper walls are instead composed of regular stone blocks and bricks,  
112 also with thin joints. The pillars of the bell chamber are made of brick masonry.

113 On 25 November 2016, during a preliminary experimental campaign, the response of the Clock  
114 Tower to ambient vibrations was monitored for a few hours via four SARA SS20 three-axial  
115 seismometric stations. The instruments were moved along the tower's height by adopting three  
116 different layouts and combining data in order to identify four natural vibration frequencies and  
117 mode shapes of the tower, as described in (Pellegrini et al. 2017). Data collected in this experiment  
118 also allowed evaluating the mechanical properties of the tower's constituent materials via model  
119 updating procedures, as described in (Girardi et al. 2019). Table 1 summarizes the frequencies  
120 calculated in the preliminary campaign of November 2016 (Pellegrini et al. 2017). The mode shapes  
121 of the tower corresponding to the first four frequencies determined by taking advantage of the  
122 different layouts used for mapping the tower's vibrations, are shown in Figure 3. The first two  
123 frequencies refer to bending modes along the  $x$  (first) and  $y$  (second) directions, while the third is a  
124 torsional mode and the fourth is a torsional-bending mode involving movements of the structure's  
125 upper parts. Since the tower is located in the historic centre, in a limited traffic area, the  
126 environmental vibrations are quite low and do not allow to estimate frequencies and mode shapes  
127 higher than the fourth.

128

129 In November 2017 a continuous long-term ambient vibration monitoring experiment was begun  
130 with the fitting of six instruments along the tower's height: four SARA SS20 seismometric stations  
131 (tri-axial velocimeters, Fig. 4, SARA Electronic Instruments, <https://www.sara.pg.it>) owned by the  
132 INGV, named in the following S.942, S.943, S.944, S.945, and two tri-axial accelerometers (Fig. 5)  
133 provided by the firm Assist in Gravitation and Instrumentation (AGI S.r.l.), named in the following

134 S.1 and S.2. The INGV sensors were coupled with a 24-bit digitizer and the signal was sampled at  
135 100 Hz. The AGI data were acquired by a laptop at a sampling frequency of 20 Hz using a 24-bit  
136 digitizer. This sampling frequency corresponds to a Nyquist frequency of 10 Hz and then to a very  
137 narrow band; nevertheless the frequency range is sufficient enough to catch the main natural  
138 frequencies of the tower calculated in (Pellegrini et al. 2017) and recalled in Table 1.

139 With regard to the main characteristics of the instruments used in the monitoring campaign, the  
140 SS20 velocity transducers have a nominal sensitivity of 200 V/(m/s), eigenfrequency of 2 Hz, and  
141 usable band from 0.1 to 100 Hz (the signal has to be suitable corrected via the transfer function of  
142 the system). The AGI accelerometers have an acceleration noise density of  $2 \cdot 10^{-8} \text{ g}/\sqrt{\text{Hz}}$ ,  
143 sensitivity in the order of 200 V/g, and usable band from  $10^{-5}$  to 50 Hz. It is worth noting that  
144 together the instruments can cover a very wide band of frequencies.

145 The instrumentation was kept running on the tower up to March 2018. Figure 6 shows the layout of  
146 the sensors along the tower during the experiment: seismic station S.942 was placed at the base,  
147 collecting data from the ground, S.943 was at the height of 24 m above street level, the remaining  
148 two stations S.943 and S.944 were placed on the bell chamber, at about +42 m above street level.  
149 The AGI stations were both installed in the upper part of the structure, S.2 at +37 m and S.1 on the  
150 bell chamber level.

151 Safety reasons suggested not taking measurements during the opening period of the tower, which  
152 attracts many visitors during spring and summer and whose interior is very narrow with a poor  
153 place for the installation of instruments and cables. Thus, the experiment was carried out in winter  
154 to take advantage of the tower being closed to the public. Nevertheless, the experimental campaign  
155 encountered several problems, due to adverse weather conditions, a number of electrical blackouts,  
156 and the presence of many people working inside the tower and disrupting the data acquisition. In  
157 particular, the INGV seismic stations and the AGI sensor S.1 were removed on 8 December 2017  
158 after an electrical shutdown. The velocimeters were installed again on 11 January 2018, while the  
159 AGI accelerometers were fitted to the tower on 11 February 2018. Moreover, from 29 January to 11

160 February 2018 all instrumentation was removed to allow a public ceremony to be held inside the  
161 tower. On 17 November 2017 a fifth INGV seismic station was installed inside a private flat in a  
162 building adjacent to the tower, and left active for some hours, with the aim of recording the natural  
163 frequencies of the building and evaluating its influence on the tower's dynamic behaviour. The data  
164 collected during the experiments (about 970 hours of recordings for the SS20 seismic stations and  
165 1110 hours for the AGI instrumentations) are stored in a database hosted by the Mechanics of  
166 Materials and Structures Lab of ISTI-CNR in Pisa.

167

### 168 **3 Data analysis and results**

#### 169 3.1 Dynamic identification and behaviour over time

170 All data have been analysed via the Covariance-driven Stochastic Subspace Identification method  
171 (SSI/Cov), an Operational Modal Analysis (OMA) technique in the time-domain implemented in  
172 the MACEC code (Reynders et al. 2016). To this end, the data have been divided into one-hour long  
173 datasets. Moreover, the data recorded by the INGV stations have also been processed via  
174 Experimental Modal Analysis (EMA), by applying the Complex Mode Indicator Function (CMIF)  
175 method (Shih et al., 1988) implemented in TruDI (Pellegrini 2019) and considering the seismic  
176 station at the base (S942) as input signal. These last analyses were needed to take into account the  
177 composition of the signals at the base of the tower, whose spectrum shows a clear energy  
178 accumulation at about 3 Hz in the  $x$ -direction, along Via Fillungo. This same frequency was also  
179 recorded in the same direction by the station installed in the flat adjacent to the tower. In the  
180 authors' opinion, it represents a natural frequency of the building next to the tower and does not  
181 belong to the tower structure itself. Such conclusion is confirmed by the CMIF analysis, shown in  
182 Figure 7, where the three eigenvalues of the matrix  $H[j\omega]^H H[j\omega]$  are reported vs. frequency, with  
183  $H[j\omega]$  the Frequency Response Function matrix of the system, estimated by the  $H_1$  estimator, (Maia  
184 and Silva, 1997) and  $\omega$  the circular frequency. Figure 7 refers to the analysis of a one-hour long

185 dataset recorded by the INGV seismic stations: the four peaks represent the identified four  
186 frequencies of the tower, the 3 Hz frequency being much less accentuated.

187 The tower's frequencies are reported in Table 2, where the mean values (evaluated over the entire  
188 monitoring period from November 2017 to March 2018) of the four frequencies are reported,  
189 together with their relative differences (evaluated on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 99<sup>th</sup> percentile) for the two different  
190 instruments. The frequencies values measured on the Clock Tower are in good agreement with  
191 those of other towers with similar geometries (Bartoli et al. 2017). The frequency values vs. time  
192 are reported in Figures 8 and 9 for the SS20 and the AGI instruments, respectively. The mean  
193 values evaluated by the two instruments are in very good agreement. The first and the second  
194 frequencies were detected by the two instruments in all records, and the variation in the two  
195 frequencies is on the order of 3%. This variation is also in good agreement with the findings of  
196 another long-term dynamic monitoring conducted on the San Frediano bell tower in Lucca (Azzara  
197 et al. 2018a). The third frequency was also detected by the seismic stations in almost all records,  
198 while the fourth frequency only appears when the excitation level in the tower's structure was  
199 increased (it was detected in about the 30% of the records), and its values appear to be widely  
200 dispersed. A fifth frequency at about 5.7 Hz was also detected in about 30% of the records. With  
201 regard to the modal damping ratios, reported in Table 3, they are widely dispersed with variations  
202 on the order of hundreds of percentage points. Their values vary from 4% for the highest frequency,  
203 to 0.5% for the first. The values yielded by the seismic stations are generally higher than those from  
204 the accelerometers.

205

206 Figures 10 and 11 show further comparisons of the results obtained via the two instruments. In  
207 particular, Figure 10 shows the trend of the tower's fundamental frequency from 7 to 8 December  
208 2017, extracted from the AGI (blue) and the SS20 (red) devices. The very good agreement between  
209 the two measurements indicates that the fluctuations exhibited in the frequency values do not  
210 depend on the instruments' functioning, but are rather due to environmental factors. Figure 11

211 shows a comparison of the hourly maximum accelerations (absolute values) recorded by the  
212 instruments during that same period. It is worth noting that maxima in the acceleration values  
213 correspond to minima in the frequency values. In fact, a look at the weather those days revealed  
214 very bad conditions, with strong wind velocities (see also Figure 15), thereby suggesting a  
215 connection between the frequency reduction shown in Figure 10 and the action of the wind, which  
216 due to the masonry's inability to withstand large tensile stresses, tends to decrease the tower's  
217 stiffness (see also Figure 16).

218

### 219 *3.2 Effects of environmental factors*

220 With regard to the influence of temperature on the tower's dynamic behaviour, Figure 12 shows the  
221 correlation of the first two natural frequencies with air temperature, measured by a sensor located in  
222 the Lucca Botanical Gardens, in Lucca's historic centre. The figure confirms the findings of other  
223 long-term vibration monitoring campaigns on historical towers (Cabboi et al. 2017), (Ubertini et al.  
224 2017), including that carried out on the San Frediano bell tower in Lucca (Azzara et al. 2018a):  
225 frequencies tend to increase with temperature. This behaviour is confirmed from a numerical point  
226 of view, by the results described in (Girardi et al. 2017), which reports on a nonlinear FE analysis of  
227 the Clock Tower conducted by modelling the effects of the thermal variations on the structure's  
228 frequencies. The numerical simulation supports the hypothesis that an increase in temperature  
229 induces a reduction in the fracture strains inside masonry, thus increasing the global stiffness of the  
230 structure.

231 With regard to negative temperature values, Figure 12 reveals opposite trend for frequencies, which  
232 turn out to increase when the temperature decreases. This phenomenon was mainly observed in the  
233 latter part of February 2018, when temperatures persistently decreased below zero, as highlighted  
234 by Figure 13. Correspondingly, the figure shows the change in the frequency trend. The behaviour  
235 below freezing has also been reported for similar weather conditions in (Ubertini et al. 2017) and  
236 (Cabboi et al. 2017), where the increasing of frequencies when temperature goes below zero is

237 ascribed to the fact that ice tends to close micro-cracks and then stiffen the masonry. It is also worth  
238 noting that, as long as the temperature remains above zero, frequencies respond to temperature  
239 variations with a phase shift in time, most likely connected to the thermal inertia of the tower,  
240 while, below zero, the frequency and temperature appear to be in phase.

241 The trend over time of the maximum accelerations recorded by AGI sensors, after high-pass  
242 filtering of the signals (with cutoff frequency of 0.1 Hz), is shown in Figure 14. The vibration level  
243 in the tower is very low, generally under  $2 \cdot 10^{-3} \text{ m/s}^2$ , thanks to restrictions to vehicular traffic in  
244 force in the Lucca historic centre. The figure highlights an increase in the tower's vibration level  
245 during the Christmas holiday period (from 22 December to 1 January), connected to the increased  
246 pedestrian traffic in the historic centre, with a peak on New Year's Day. The figure also reveals a  
247 systematic increase in the accelerations, on average of one order of magnitude, from 9 February  
248 onward. This is due to the ringing of the tower bells, which had been suspended for restoration of  
249 the ancient clock and was restarted on 16 January 2018. The bell system is composed of three  
250 bronze bells, fixed at their supports and rung by hammers each quarter an hour in the  $x$  direction  
251 (along Via Fillungo). Indeed, Figure 14 shows significant amplification along  $x$  (blue dots).

252 With regard to the environmental parameters that could influence the acceleration levels on the  
253 tower, Figure 15 plots the daily average values of the maximum hourly accelerations in the  $x$  (blue)  
254 and  $y$  (red) directions, for about a month, together with the daily maximum wind speed recorded at  
255 Pieve di Compito, about 10 km from the Lucca historic centre (data available at  
256 [www.sir.toscana.it](http://www.sir.toscana.it)). The figure clearly shows a correspondence between the peaks in the  
257 acceleration levels and those in the wind speed.

258 Figure 16 reports the correlation between the maximum acceleration experimented by the tower and  
259 its natural frequencies and shows that frequencies tend to decrease as the amplitude of acceleration  
260 increases. This trend is not unexpected and can be attributed to masonry inability to withstand

261 tensile stresses. Similar results for masonry-like materials are obtained via analytical models in  
262 (Girardi and Lucchesi 2010).

### 263 ***3.3 Sources of vibration***

264 Figures 17 and 18 provide information on the tower' vibrations over time in the band [0, 25] Hz. In  
265 particular, Figure 17 shows the spectrogram of the signal recorded by S.942, at the base of the  
266 tower, in the period 18 November to 26 November 2017, for the three channels  $x$  (up),  $y$  and  $z$   
267 (bottom). The tower's natural frequencies are clearly visible in the band [0, 10] Hz (horizontal  
268 lines), as well as the 3 Hz frequency of the building adjacent to the tower, along the  $x$  direction. As  
269 a result of anthropogenic activity, the power frequency increases in the entire band during the  
270 daytime, in particular during week-ends (18-19 November, 25-26 November). The three-  
271 dimensional spectrogram of channel  $x$  plotted in Figure 18 also highlights other anthropogenic  
272 activity between 20 and 25 Hz, which could be attributed to traffic in the historic centre. At about  
273 12:30 (UTC) on 19 November, there is a clear frequency peak, which can be attributed to the M4.4  
274 Parma earthquake reported in Table 4.

275 Many seismic events have been detected on the tower during the monitoring period. Table 4 shows  
276 the main earthquakes recorded, while Table 5 reports the teleseismic events identified in the signals.  
277 Figure 19 shows the teleseismic record of the Peru earthquake, which occurred at 09:18.44 (UTC)  
278 with a magnitude of 7.1, and was recorded at about 09:33 (UTC) by the instruments on the tower. In  
279 particular, the figure shows the signals recorded by the SS20 seismic stations at different levels  
280 along the tower's height in the  $x$  direction. The same event was also recorded by the S.2  
281 accelerometer. At such a considerable distance from the epicentre, the seismic signal loses its high  
282 frequency content and becomes recognizable only at low frequencies. The records in the Figure  
283 were obtained by filtering the signals via a Butterworth band-pass filter with lower cut-off  
284 frequency of 0.04 Hz and a higher cut-off cut at 1 Hz. It is worth noting that after the first arrival of  
285 the waves the event remains clearly recognizable in the signals for long time.

286 Analyzing the low frequency content of the recorded signals can provide further information on  
287 movements of the tower. Figure 20 shows the signals recorded by the S.2 accelerometer from 11 to  
288 14 January 2018 along the  $x$  (up) and  $y$  (bottom) directions. The signals in the figure were low-pass  
289 filtered with a cut-off frequency of 0.5 Hz, and clearly reveal a slow oscillation with period of about  
290 24 hours. The same oscillations can be detected in the temperature signal (Figure 21) measured by  
291 the sensor inside the instrument. The temperature signal is however not in phase with the  
292 accelerations, thus demonstrating that the oscillations of the accelerometric signal are not a direct  
293 effect of temperature on the instrument. It is also worth noting that the signals along the  $x$  (North-  
294 South direction) and  $y$  (East-West direction) directions present a phase shift of 3 to 6 hours, and the  
295  $y$  signal is delayed with respect to that along  $x$ . A possible interpretation of these oscillations lies in  
296 the daily temperature variations caused by exposure of the tower to the sun. As the exposure of the  
297 façades changes during the day, the tower appears to twist as shown in the figures. A measure of the  
298 displacements induced by this effect at the top of the tower can be easily obtained from the figures.  
299 In fact, for small oscillations, the modulus of the horizontal acceleration expressed in  $g$  coincides  
300 with the inclination angle of the tower in radians. Thus, taking into account the actual position of  
301 the instrument (at +37 m), horizontal displacements turn out to be on the order of 3-4 mm for both  
302 directions. These low-frequency displacements seem to be the main components of the total  
303 horizontal displacements experienced by the tower in normal conditions (i.e. in the absence of  
304 earthquakes or other strong dynamic actions). In any case, this data should be complemented by  
305 further measurements at the ground and static measurements as well.

306

#### 307 **4 Conclusions**

308 The paper presents the results of an ambient vibration monitoring campaign conducted using high-  
309 sensitivity instrumentation on the Lucca Clock Tower from November 2017 to March 2018. In  
310 particular, four seismic stations provided by the INGV and two three-axial accelerometers

311 developed by AGI S.r.l were installed on the tower. The combined use of two different kinds of  
312 measurement devices allowed for a comparison of the instruments' performance, as well as cross-  
313 validation of the results obtained for the Clock Tower. In addition, exploiting the different  
314 characteristics of seismometers and accelerometers made it possible both to explore the dynamic  
315 behaviour of the tower and highlight the effects of environmental vibrations over a wide range of  
316 frequency.

317 Analysis of the large dataset collected on the tower has yielded the following main results:

- 318 a) despite the low vibration levels, the main sources of vibration have been identified, as have  
319 the dynamic characteristics of the tower;
- 320 b) the chief factors influencing the tower's dynamic properties are: temperature, wind speed,  
321 ringing bells, crowd movements, traffic around the historic centre, and micro-tremors;
- 322 c) the instruments on the tower are able to clearly detect both earthquakes at epicentral distance  
323 of up to hundreds of kilometres and, in the low frequency range, teleseismic sequences;
- 324 d) day-to-day movements of the tower can be also deduced by analysing the low-frequency  
325 signals;
- 326 e) the simultaneous presence of the two instruments on the tower provides a detailed cross-  
327 validation of the results.

328 This study shows the potentials of continuous long-term monitoring in both investigating the  
329 influence of the surrounding environment on heritage structures and providing important  
330 information, such as the variation of dynamic properties over time and sources of vibration, which  
331 can be used to assess their structural health.

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Figure 1. The historic centre of Lucca with the Clock Tower on the right.

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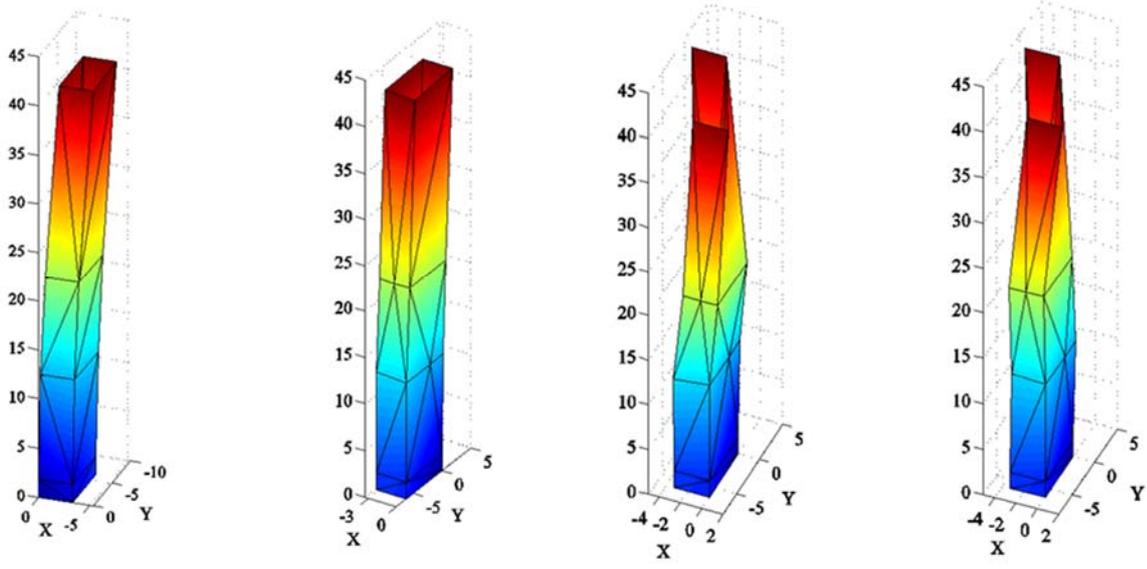


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Figure 2. The Clock Tower: view from Via Fillungo.

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Figure 3.

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The tower's first four mode shapes.



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Figure 4. Sensor S.943 at level +24 m inside the tower.

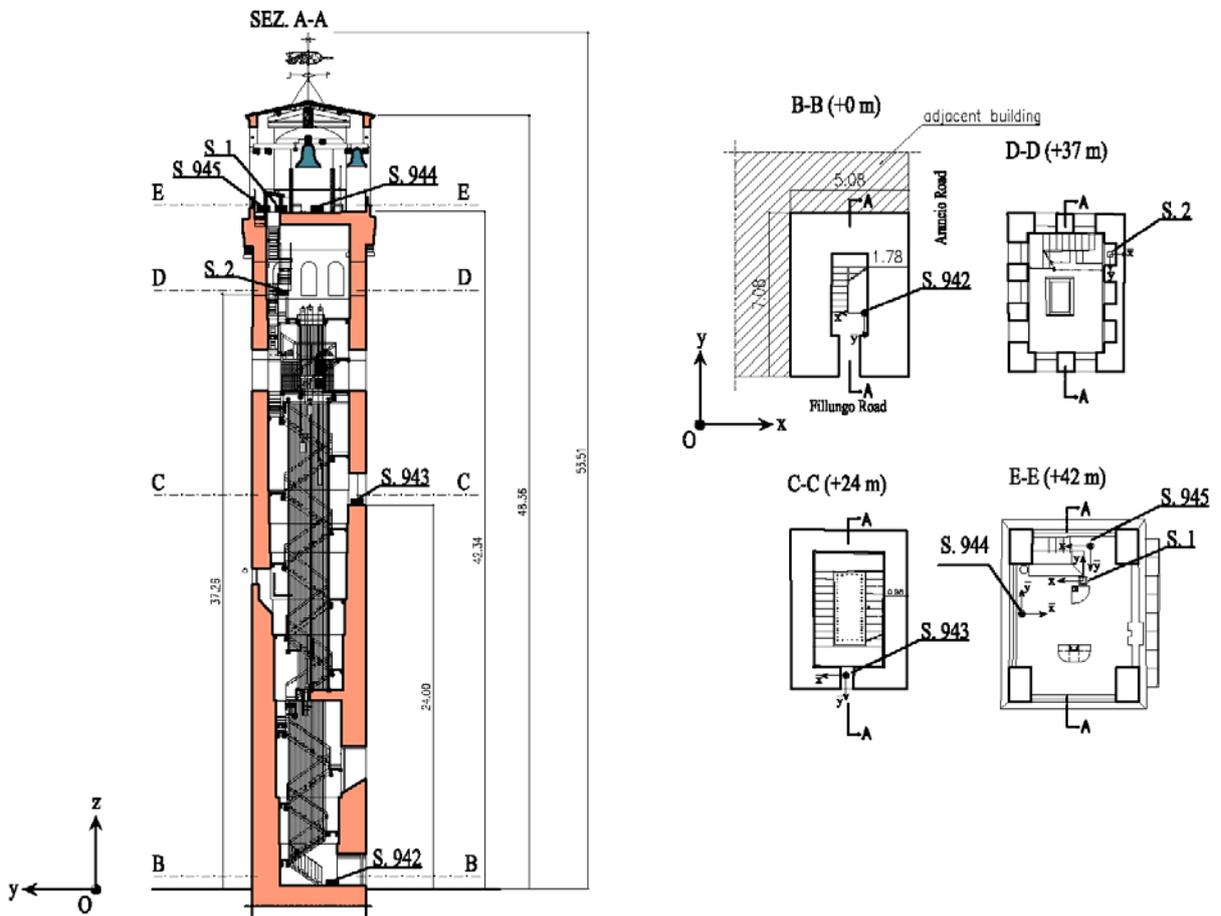
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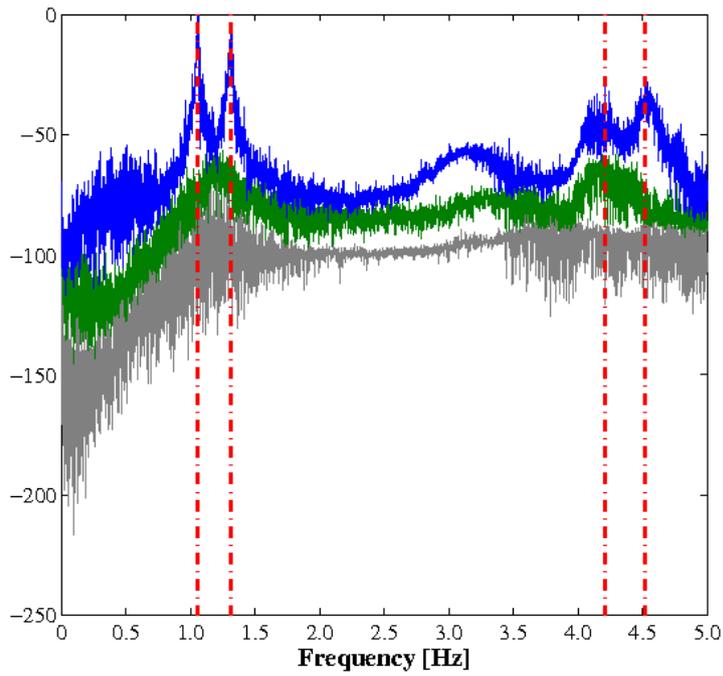
Figure 5. Sensor S.2 at level +37 m inside the tower.



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495 Figure 6. Sensor arrangement on the Clock Tower: sensors S.942, S.943, S.944, S.945 (SARA), sensors S.1, S.2 (AGI).

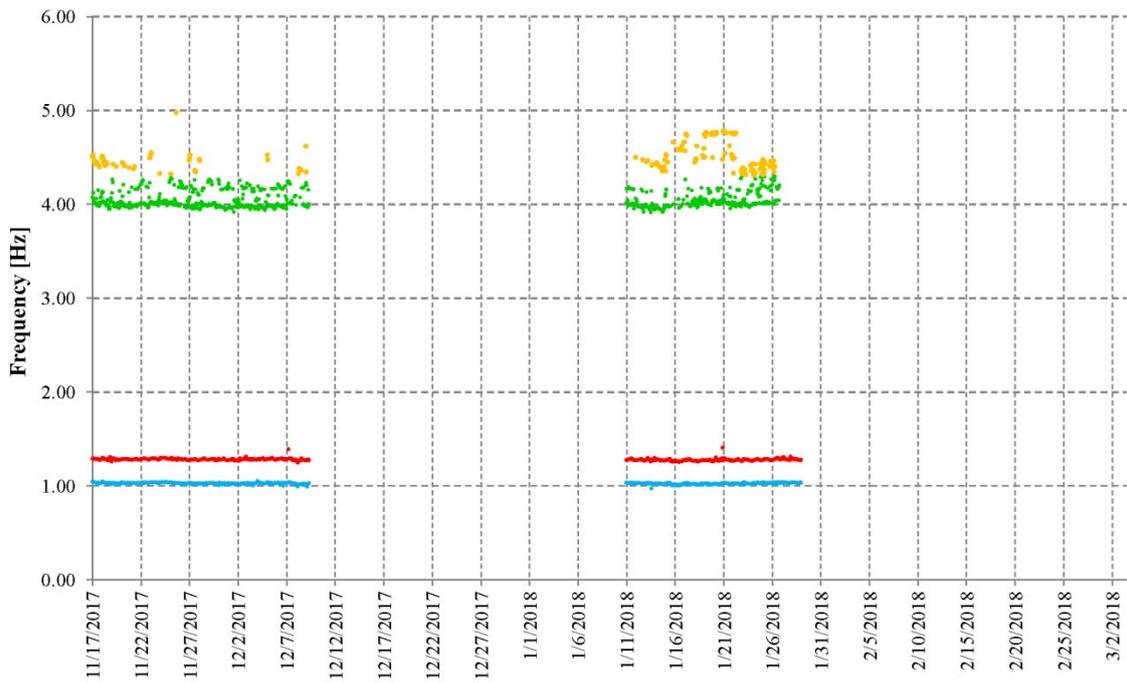
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Figure 7. The three eigenvalues of the matrix  $H[j\omega]^H H[j\omega]$  vs. the frequency on a log-magnitude scale.

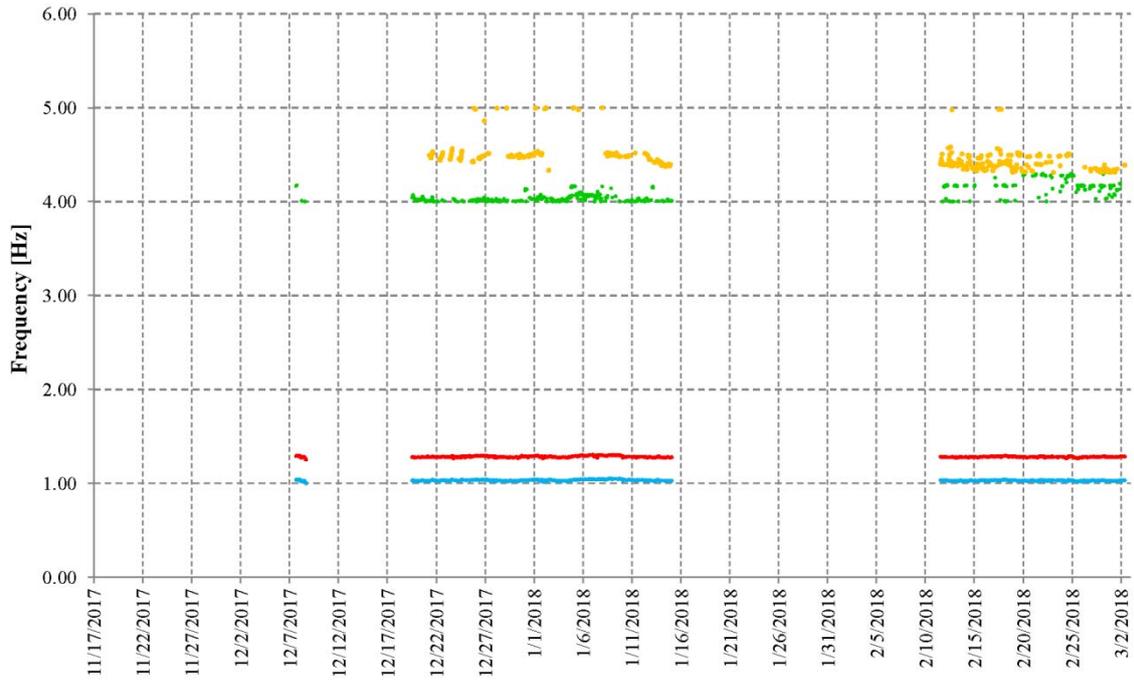


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Figure 8. The tower's first four natural frequencies [Hz] detected by SS20 velocimeters during the monitoring period.

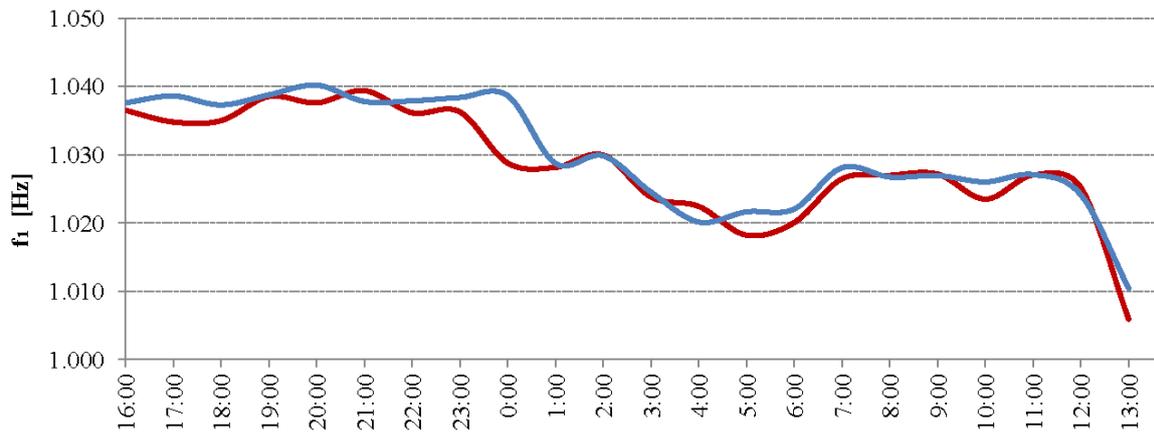


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503 Figure 9. The tower's first four natural frequencies [Hz] detected by AGI accelerometers during the monitoring period.

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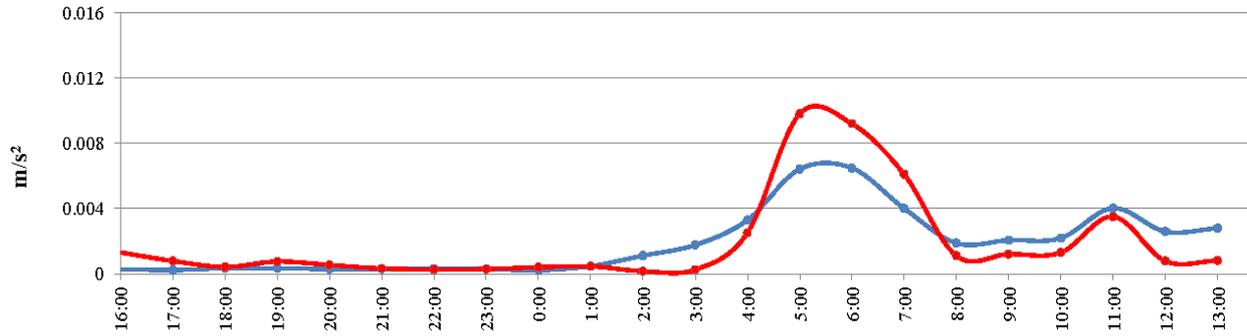
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507 Figure 10. The tower's fundamental frequency obtained via AGI stations (blue) and SS20 stations (red) data from 7 to 8  
 508 December 2017 (respectively at 16:00 and 13:00).

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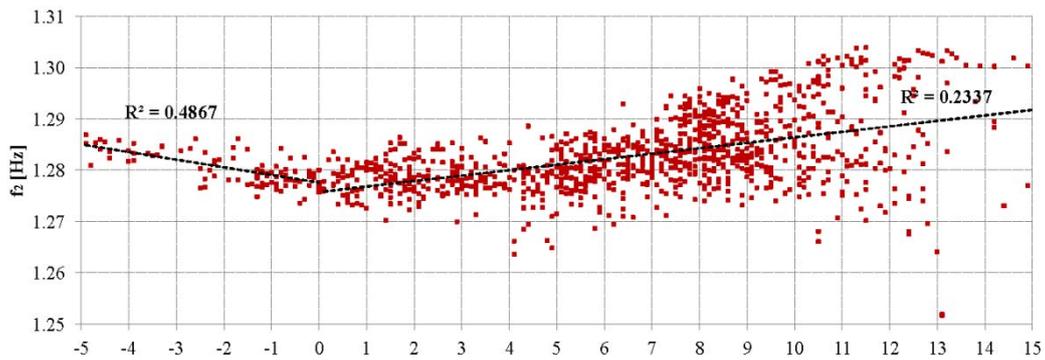
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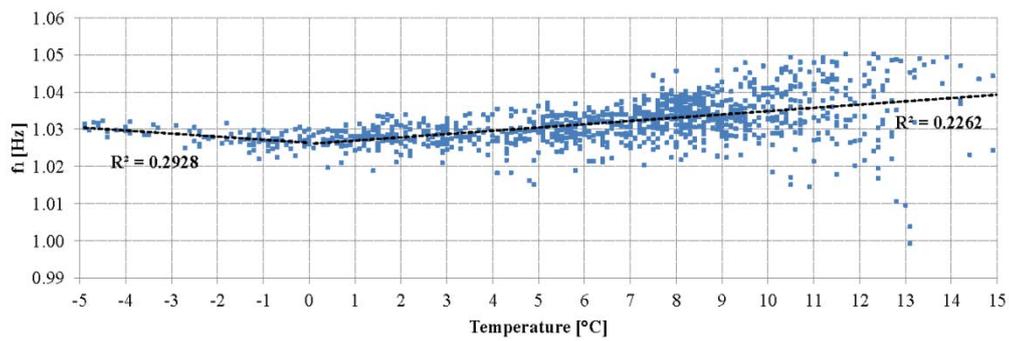


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513 Figure 11. Maximum absolute accelerations along  $x$  recorded by the S.1 station (blue, +42 m) and the S. 945 station  
514 (red, +42 m) from 7 to 8 December 2017.

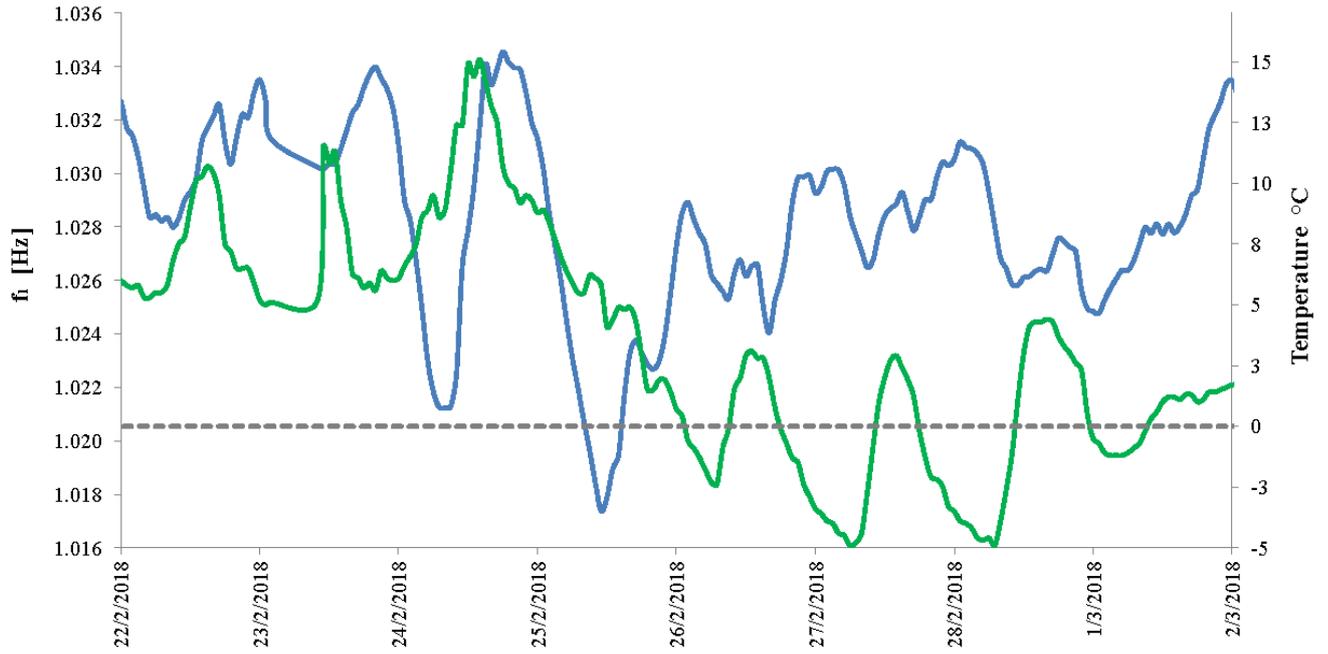


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517 Figure 12. The first (blue) and second (red) natural frequencies of the tower [Hz] vs. temperature [°C].



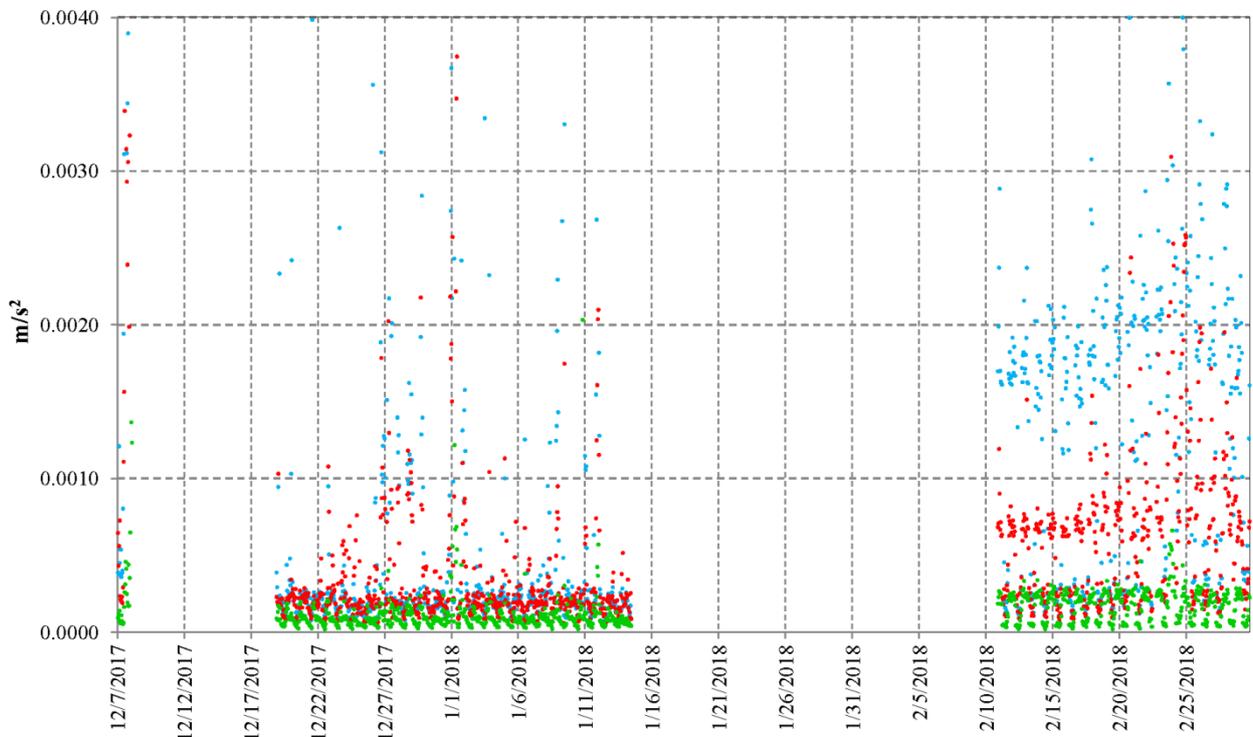
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Figure 13. The tower's first (blue line) natural frequency [Hz] vs. temperature [°C] (green line), during

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February 2018.



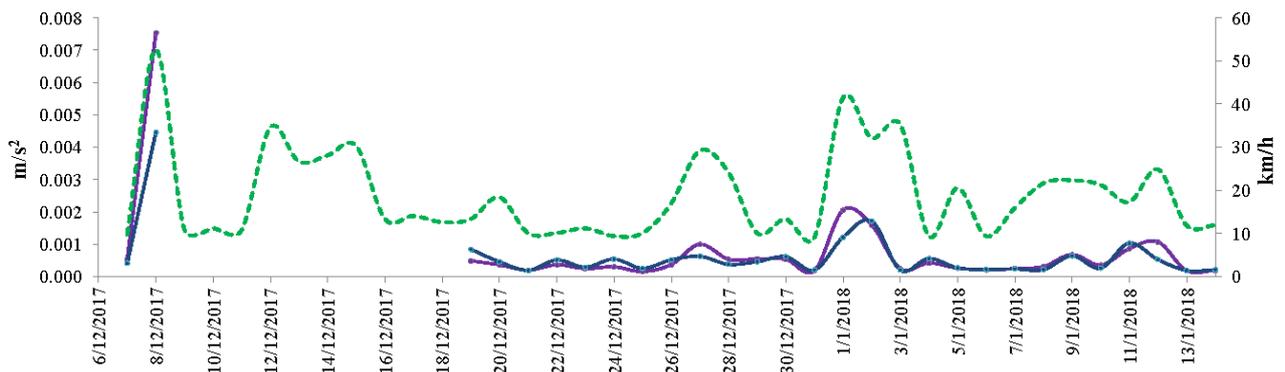
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Figure 14. Maximum absolute values per hour of the accelerations recorded by AGI stations (S.2, +37 m) in the x (blue

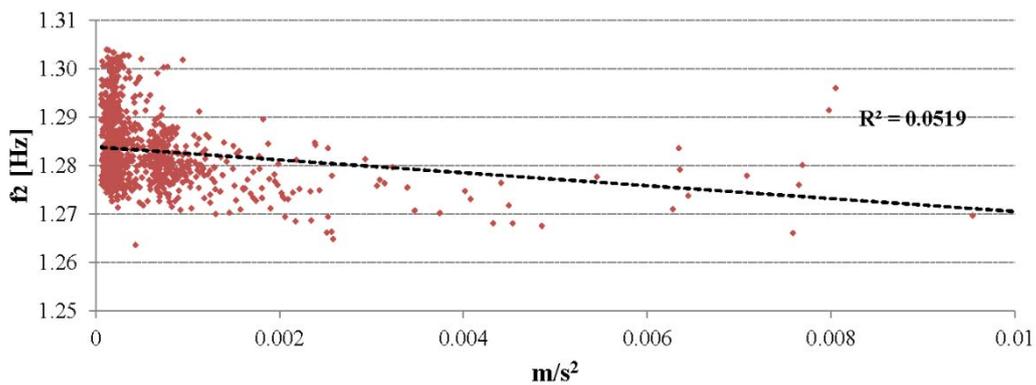
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dots), y (red dots) and z (green dots) directions.

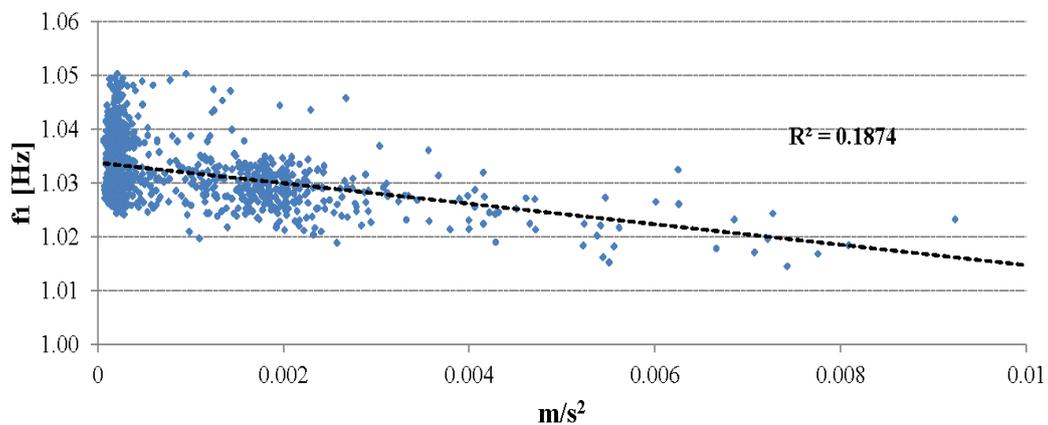


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525 Figure 15. Daily average of the maximum hourly accelerations measured by S.2 vs. time along the x (blue) and y (red).  
 526 directions. The dashed green line stands for the daily maximum wind speed. The correlation coefficients are  $R^2=0.5654$   
 527 (daily average x – wind speed) and  $R^2=0.5018$  (daily average y – wind speed).



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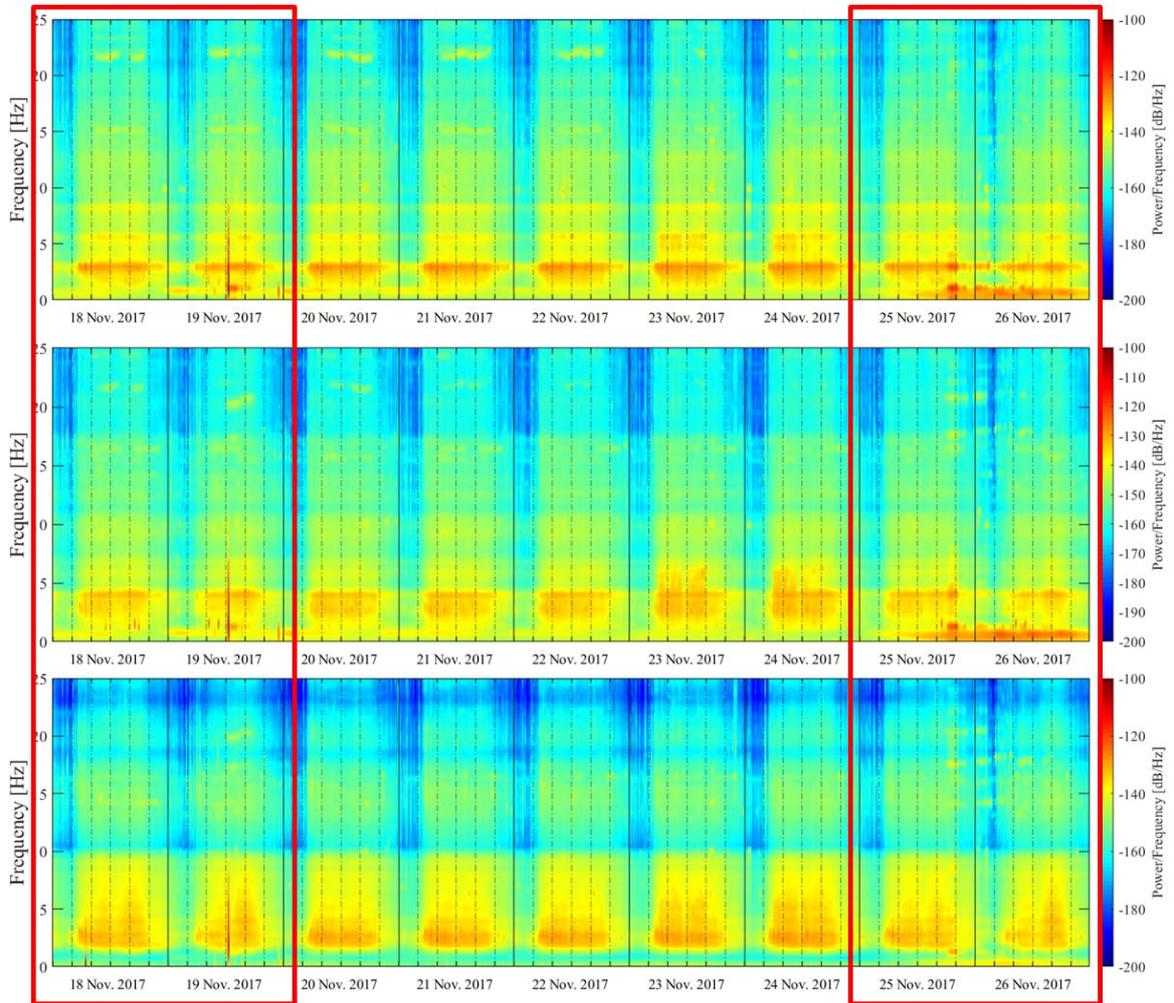


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530 Figure 16. The first (blue) and second (red) natural frequencies of the tower [Hz] vs. the maximum acceleration  
 531 experimented by the tower [ $m/s^2$ ]

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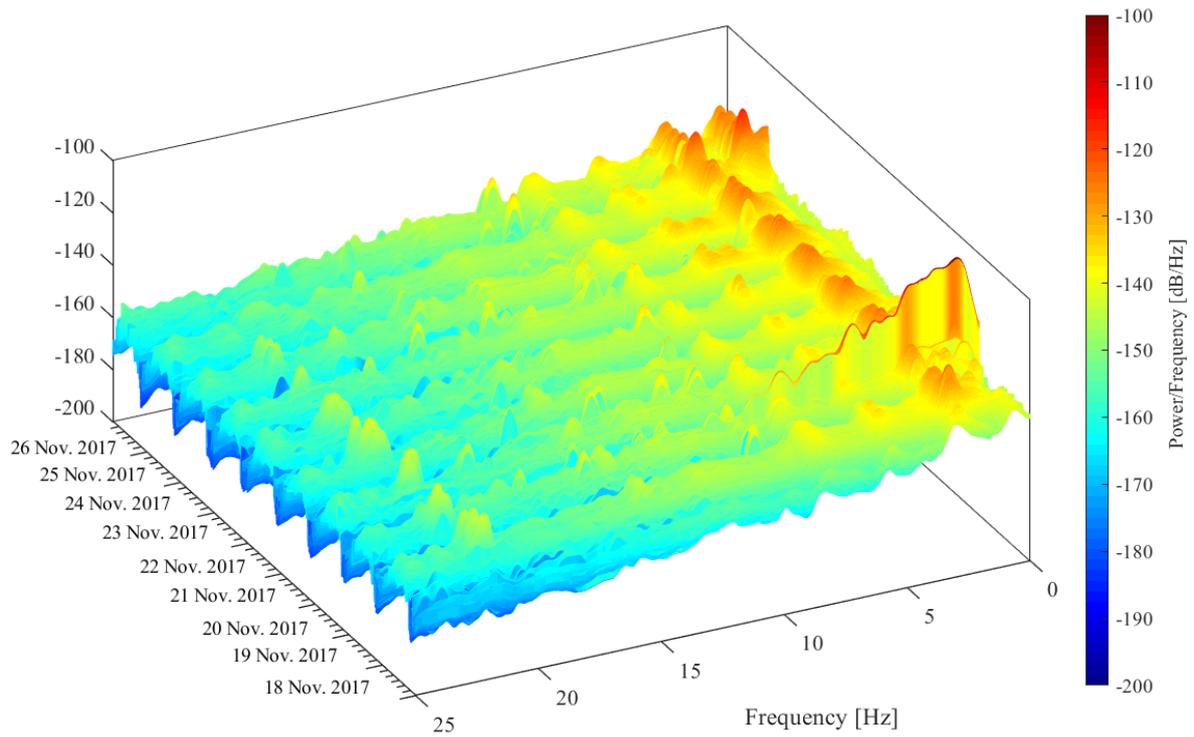


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535 Figure 17. Spectrogram of the signal recorded by S.942 (+ 0,00 m) in the x (up), y and z (bottom) directions from 18 to

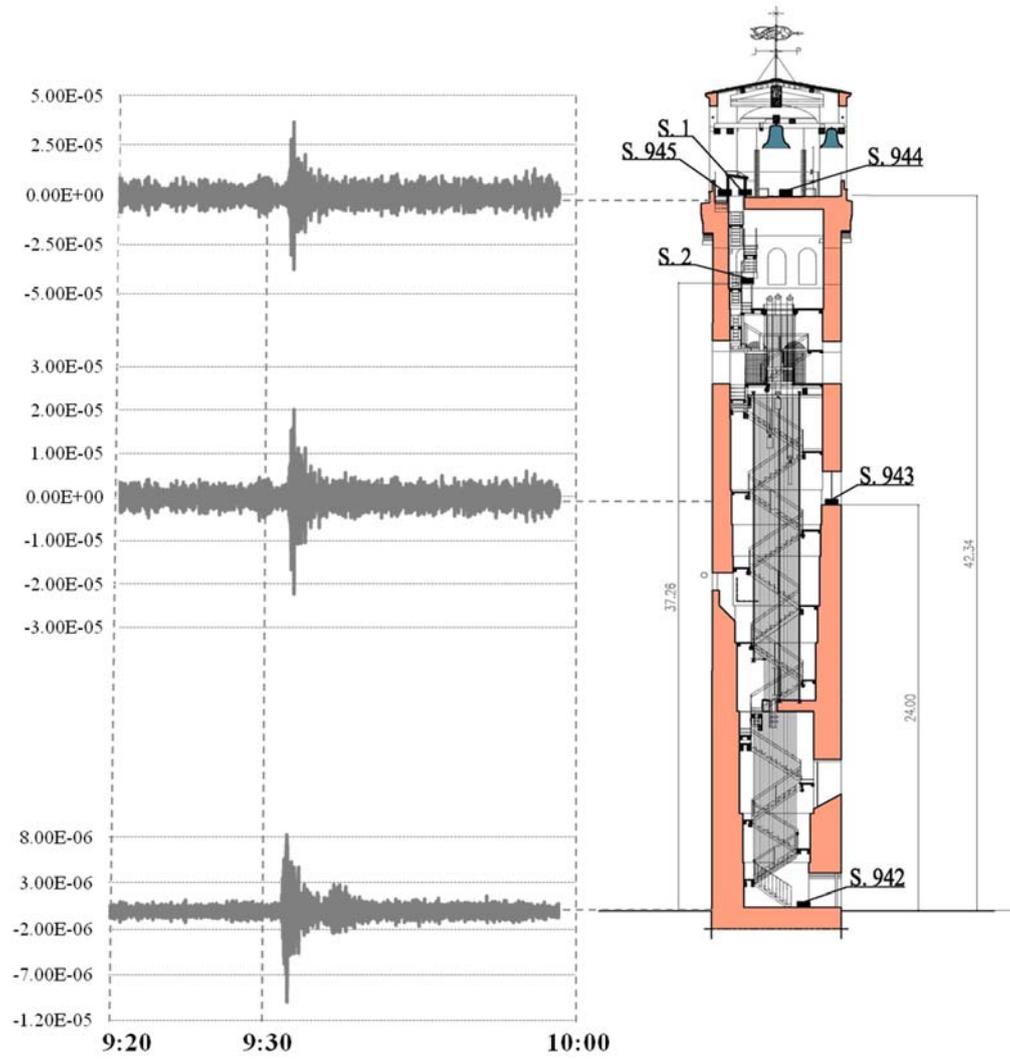
536 26 November 2017. Week-ends are highlighted by the red boxes.

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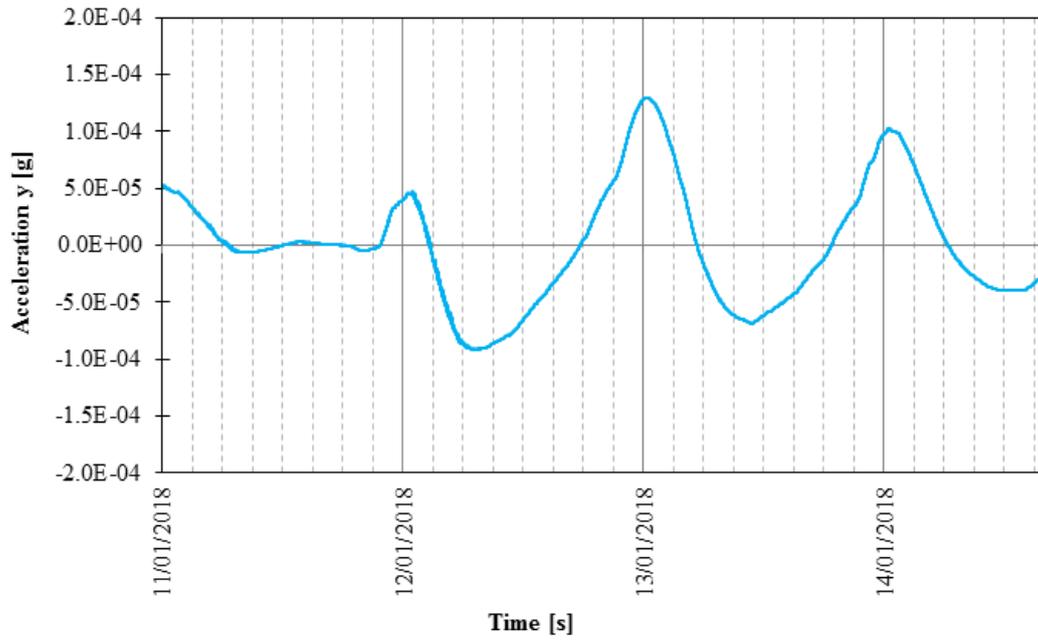
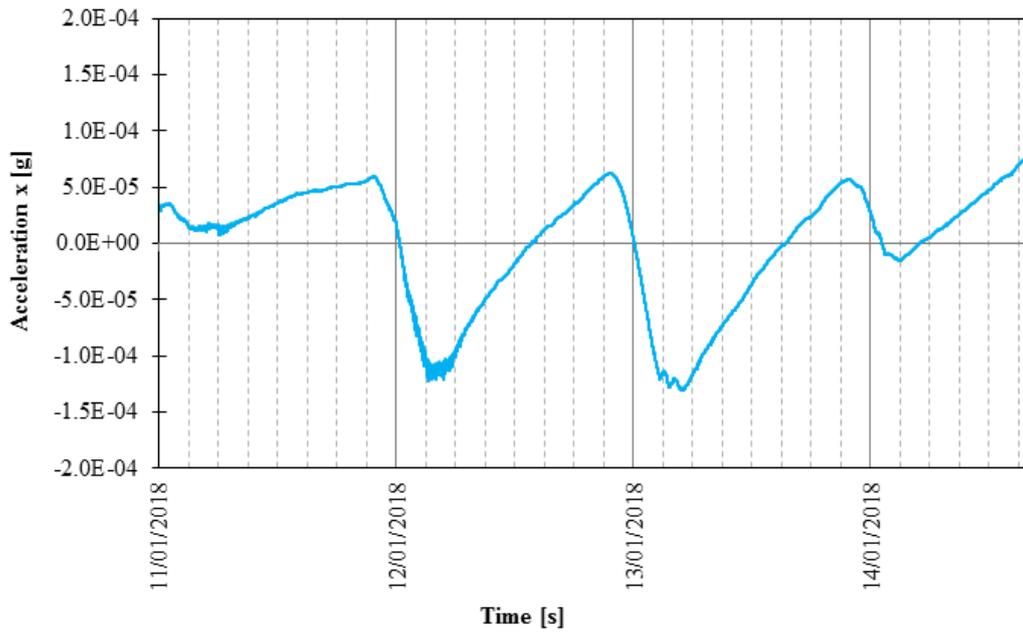
539 Figure 18. Three-dimensional spectrogram of the signal recorded by S.942 (+0,00 m) in the x direction from 18 to 26  
 540 November 2017.



541

542 Figure 19. Signal of the Peru earthquake recorded on the tower in the  $x$  direction by S.942, S.943, S.944 on 14 January

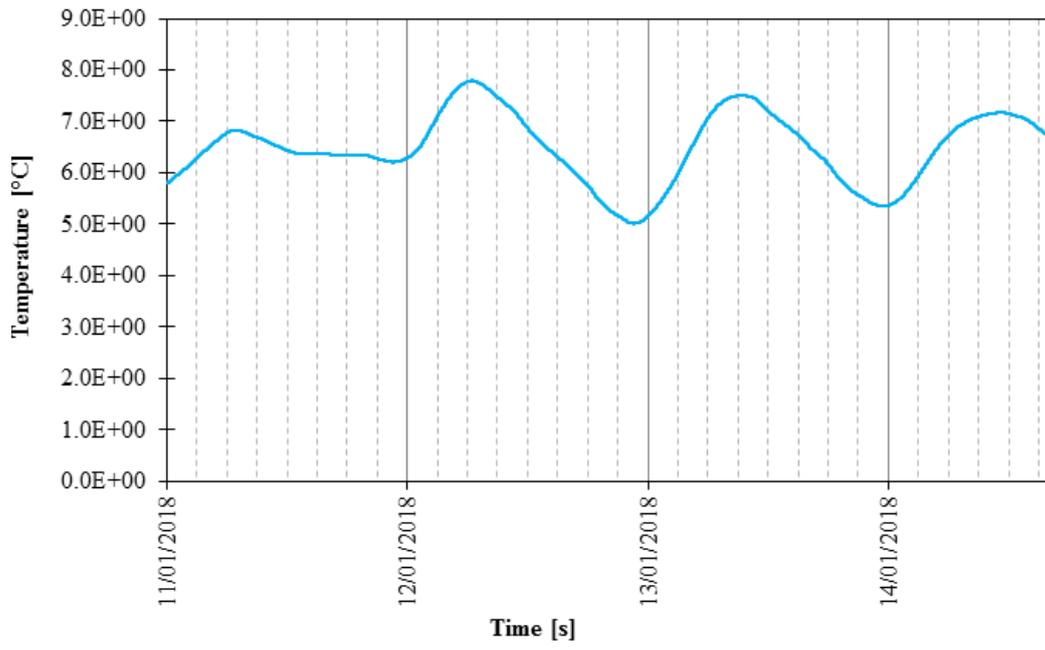
543 2018 from 9:33 (UTC) onward. Signal amplitude is in  $m/s^2$ .



546 Figure 20. Low-pass filtered accelerations recorded by S.2 along the  $x$  and  $y$  (bottom) directions from 11 to 14 January

547 2018.

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549

550 Figure 21. Temperatures recorded by the sensor installed inside S.2 from 11 to 14 January 2018.

551

Mode	Frequency [Hz]	Mode shape
1	1.05	Bending
2	1.30	Bending
3	4.20	Torsional
4	4.50	Torsional + bending

552 Table 1. Natural frequencies measured during the preliminary campaign on 25 November 2016 (Pellegrini et al. 2017).

553

	$f_1$ [Hz]	$\Delta_1$ [%]	$f_2$ [Hz]	$\Delta_2$ [%]	$f_3$ [Hz]	$\Delta_3$ [%]	$f_4$ [Hz]	$\Delta_4$ [%]
<b>SS20</b>	<b>1.0281</b>	3.65	<b>1.2813</b>	3.40	<b>4.0524</b>	8.67	<b>4.4858</b>	10.68
<b>AGI</b>	<b>1.0318</b>	2.94	<b>1.2829</b>	2.63	<b>4.0712</b>	7.26	<b>4.4654</b>	15.83

554 Table 2. Mean values  $f_i$  of the natural frequencies measured by the two instruments during the monitoring period and  
555 their variation  $\Delta_i = (f_i^1 - f_i^{99}) / f_i^1$ , where  $f_i^1$  and  $f_i^{99}$  represent the first and 99<sup>th</sup> percentile of the dataset, respectively.

556

	$\xi_1$ [%]	$\Delta_1$ [%]	$\xi_2$ [%]	$\Delta_2$ [%]	$\xi_3$ [%]	$\Delta_3$ [%]	$\xi_4$ [%]	$\Delta_4$ [%]
<b>SS20</b>	<b>0.90</b>	165	<b>1.26</b>	150	<b>2.03</b>	450	<b>1.88</b>	885
<b>AGI</b>	<b>0.69</b>	95	<b>0.85</b>	64	<b>1.41</b>	628	<b>1.01</b>	983

557 Table 3. Mean values  $\xi_i$  of the modal damping ratios measured by the two instruments during the monitoring period and  
558 their variation  $\Delta_i = (\xi_i^5 - \xi_i^{95}) / \xi_i^5$ , where  $\xi_i^5$  and  $\xi_i^{95}$  represent the fifth and 95<sup>th</sup> percentile of the dataset, respectively.

559

560

561

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time (UTC)</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Magnitude</b>
<b>11/19/17</b>	12:10:12	Parma	<b>3.3</b>
<b>11/19/17</b>	<b>12:37:44</b>	<b>Parma</b>	<b>4.4</b>
<b>12/03/17</b>	23:34:11	Amatrice	<b>4.0</b>

Table 4. Earthquakes recorded on the Clock tower in the monitoring period.

562

563

564

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time (UTC)</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Magnitude</b>
<b>11/17/17</b>	22:34:21	China	<b>6.4</b>
<b>11/19/17</b>	09:25:50	New Caledonia	<b>6.4</b>
<b>11/19/17</b>	15:09:04	New Caledonia	<b>6.6</b>
<b>11/19/17</b>	22:43:31	New Caledonia	<b>6.9</b>
<b>11/30/17</b>	06:32:50	Central Mid-Atlantic Ridge	<b>6.3</b>
<b>12/01/17</b>	02:32:48	Iran	<b>6.2</b>
<b>01/11/18</b>	18.26:24	Myanmar	<b>6.0</b>
<b>01/14/18</b>	<b>09:18.44</b>	<b>Peru</b>	<b>7.1</b>
<b>01/23/18</b>	09:31:43	United States (sea)	<b>7.6</b>
<b>01/24/18</b>	10:51:19	Japan	<b>6.4</b>
<b>01/25/18</b>	01:15:59	India	<b>6.0</b>
<b>01/25/18</b>	02:10:37	Russia	<b>6.3</b>

Table 5. Teleseismic earthquakes recorded on the Clock tower in the monitoring period.

565

566