SEISMOLOGY OF THE AMERICAS

A joint international conference of the Seismological Society of America (SSA) and the Latin America and Caribbean Seismological Commission (LACSC) will be held in Miami, Florida on 14–17 May 2018. The conference is the first joint meeting of SSA and LACSC, one of four Regional Commissions of the International Association of Seismology and Physics of the Earth’s Interior (IASPEI).

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

This year’s Technical Program Committee consists of Co-Chairs Carol S. Prentice (United States Geological Survey) and Elizabeth A. Vanacore (University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez); Sergio Barrientos (University of Chile); Christa G. von Hillebrandt-Andrade (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration); Xyoli Pérez-Campos (National Autonomous University of Mexico); Mario Ruiz (Instituto Geofísico Escuela Politécnica Nacional, Ecuador).

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TECHNICAL PROGRAM

The SSA Technical Program comprises three days of oral and poster presentations. The session descriptions, detailed program schedule, and all abstracts appear in the following pages.

LECTURES

President’s Address
Andrew Michael will present the President’s Address at the SSA Annual Luncheon on Tuesday 15 May 2018.

William B. Joyner Memorial Lecture: Ellen M. Rathje
Wednesday 16 May, 5:30–6:30 PM

University of Texas at Austin Professor Ellen M. Rathje has been selected as the 2018 recipient of the William B. Joyner Lecture Award. Rathje is the Warren S. Bellows Centennial Professor in the Department of Civil, Architectural, and Environmental Engineering and also a Senior Research Scientist at the Bureau of Economic Geology at the University of Texas at Austin.

Seismic Landslide Assessments: Bridging the Gap between Engineers and Earth Scientists
Ellen M. Rathje, Ph.D., P.E., F.ASCE, University of Texas

Earthquake-induced landslides represent a significant seismic hazard, as evidenced by recent earthquakes in Kaikoura, New Zealand and Gorkha, Nepal, and proper planning/mitigation requires accurate evaluation of the potential for seismic landslides. Engineers often tackle this problem through a detailed evaluation of individual slopes and more recently have introduced performance-based engineering (PBE) concepts into the analysis. Recognizing the compounding effects of multiple landslides across an area, earth scientists often evaluate seismic landslides at a regional scale. This approach sacrifices details, but provides a broader assessment of the impacts of earthquake induced landslides. This presentation will describe the integration of performance-based engineering concepts into regional-scale seismic landslide assessments. The basic PBE framework for seismic landslides will be introduced along with the modifications required to apply it at a regional scale. The application of the approach for a seismic landslide hazard map will be presented. The use of seismic landslide inventories to validate regional landslide assessments will be discussed, along with advancements in developing seismic landslide inventories using remote sensing techniques. Finally, research
needs required to further advance regional seismic landslide assessments will be presented.

LIGHTNING TALKS

The Lightning Talks comprise an hour of 10 five-minute talks. The talks start at 6:00 PM on Tuesday 15 May.

Earthquake-Induced Gravity Changes Heralding the Arrival of the Direct Seismic Waves
Martin Vallée (vallee@ipgp.fr)

After an earthquake, the earliest deformation signals are not expected to be carried by the fastest (P) elastic waves but by the speed-of-light changes of the gravitational field. The observations of these weak signals, and their full understanding, would provide a new data type with a strong potential for a rapid estimate of the earthquake magnitude. We show here that gravity perturbations are particularly well observed with broadband seismometers at distances between 1,000 and 2,000 kilometers from the source of the 2011, moment magnitude 9.1, Tohoku earthquake. We can accurately model them by a new formalism, taking into account both the gravity changes and the gravity-induced motion. These prompt elasto-gravity signals open the window for minute time-scale magnitude determination for great earthquakes, in particular in places where good-quality broadband seismometers are installed in front of the megathrust area, at distances ranging from a few hundreds to a few thousands of kilometers. In North America, the seismic monitoring of both the Cascadia and Alaska subduction zones would benefit from the early detection of such gravity changes.

Volcanic Thunder from Explosive Eruptions at Bogoslof Volcano, Alaska
Matthew Haney (mhaney@usgs.gov)

I’ve submitted an abstract for a normal oral presentation on infrasound observations of volcanic thunder from the recent eruption of Bogoslof Volcano in Alaska. These are the first documented observations of volcanic thunder, which is thunder due to lightning occurring in a volcanic ash plume. Detection of volcanic lightning on global lightning location networks is a new technique used for real time alerts of eruptive activity at volcanoes. It’s especially useful for volcanoes in remote regions and contains information on the dynamics of volcanic plumes. The ability to observe volcanic thunder offers a new window into the physical process of volcanic lightning generation.

Similar Seismicity at Turrialba and Poas, Costa Rica: What Can It Tell Us?
Rebecca Salvage (beckysalvage@gmail.com)

Seismicity in volcanic settings is thought to be related to a number of physical processes at depth, including the migration of magmatic fluids and fracturing of the conduit itself. In addition to this, seismicity can also be generated by surface processes such as pyroclastic flows and rockfall events. The extreme variety of seismic signals generated in volcanic settings is a reflection of the number of different processes and the great structural heterogeneities found in this context. I will present an introduction to seismicity in volcanic settings from an observatory perspective, including the types of seismicity observed; the ways in which we characterise seismic events; how seismicity can help us distinguish different ongoing processes at depth; and forecasting volcanic eruptions using seismicity. I will focus upon seismicity at active volcanoes in Costa Rica (Turrialba, Poas, Rincon de la Vieja, Irazu and Arenal), and how it is at the forefront of monitoring and determining changes in volcanic activity, in particular in real time and during crisis events.

Estimating the Scaled Depth of Burial from Acoustic Period
Daniel C. Bowman (dbowma@sandia.gov)

The focus of this talk: the world’s first free flying infrasound network in the stratosphere, with sensors built from open source Arduino hardware and the balloons constructed from materials purchased at the local hardware store.

Geodesy and Seismogeodesy for Hazards in the Americas
Linda Rowan and Beth Bartel (rowan@unavco.org)

Significant portions of the west coasts of the Americas are bordered by major subduction zones that can produce large earthquakes, volcanic unrest and devastating tsunamis. The Caribbean is the focus of complex plate tectonics and complex weather patterns, and this complexity can lead to significant natural hazards affecting people, places and property. UNAVCO, with support from NSF and in partnership with many governments and institutions in the Americas, operates and maintains a Network of the Americas (NOTA)—a geodetic, seismogeodetic and meteorologic network spanning North, Central and South America plus the Caribbean. Research has shown that NOTA can help with severe weather forecasts, hurricane tracking, earthquake early warning, tsunami early warning and monitoring volcanic unrest or landslides. Here we will discuss efforts to integrate geodetic and seismogeodetic observations into hazard preparedness, warning and response. There is a critical need to apply the infrastructure, data and research to the appropriate and authoritative systems for forecasts, warning and response for damaging hazards in different countries and through international collaborations.

Drilling Through the Seismogenic Zone of Large Megathrust Earthquakes: An On-Land Opportunity in Osa Peninsula, Costa Rica
Marino Protti (marino.protti@una.cr)

A great opportunity exists in Osa Peninsula, Costa Rica, to drill and instrument a locked segment of the Middle America Subduction Zone, where the plate interface beneath the peninsula is only 4 to 8 km deep.
Next Generation Autonomous Broadband Node
Tim Parker (timbobparker@gmail.com)

The Canadian Cordillera Array (CCArray) is an initiative to install a Cordilleran-scale open-data network with the goal of holistically examining the Earth system from the core to the magnetosphere. Building on the scientific momentum of previous Earth systems research and data acquisition initiatives in North America (e.g. Lithoprobe (1984 to 2004) and EarthScope (2004 to ~2018 or later)), the vision for CCArray is to install a network of multidisciplinary telemetered observatories. The core CCArray network is envisaged to include broadband seismometers (including ocean bottom seismometers in the Beaufort Sea and offshore British Columbia) and Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) receivers. Additional instrumentation and measurements at selected locations could include meteorological and atmospheric gas sensors, borehole temperature and moisture sensors, riometers and magnetometers, relative and absolute gravity measurements. Education-outreach-communication programs will be integral to CCArray. While some instruments may only be in place for up to three years, some techniques, such as GNSS monitoring of crustal motions, require longer operational times. The intention is to continue operation of some stations to densify long-term monitoring across Canada. CCArray represents the initial component of an envisaged future pan-Canadian Earth observation network called Earth-system Observing Network—Réseau d’Observation du Système Terrestre (EON-ROSE).

Updates on the Finite-Fault Rupture Detector Algorithm (Finder v.2)
Deborah E. Smith (desmith144@gmail.com)

The Finite-Fault Rupture Detector (FinDer) algorithm determines a real-time line-source model that is best suited to explain current spatial ground-motion patterns observed at any given time in a dense seismic network.

How Large Can Megathrust Earthquakes Be in the Central American Subduction Zone?
Gerardo Suarez (gersua@yahoo.com)

The Mexican seismic early warning system was the first to begin issuing open and public warnings. In September, Mexico suffered two large magnitude earthquakes that are relatively unusual from a tectonic point of view. The warning time available in Mexico for these two events was very different. The 8 September M8.2 event offered almost two minutes of warning to Mexico City. In contrast, strong motion shaking of the destructive 19 September event (M7.1) arrived almost simultaneously to the emission of the alert. These two sharply contrasting events offer a useful lesson to future efforts to install seismic early warning systems. I believe that future seismic early warning systems should learn from this experience. The lessons are both technical, in terms the algorithms used and the station spacing and the resulting time that is necessary to issue an early warning. Secondly, the experience of these two large earthquakes underscores the need to accompany the technical developments with social and governmental programs and plans to make use of the seismic early warnings.

Spatiotemporal Evolution of Source Properties in the Colombia Seismic Sequence
Albert Aguilar (alaguilars@unal.edu.co)

What do the Armero, Chinchiná and Florencia tragedies have in common? We had the geological knowledge to prevent most of the losses. The Armenia 1999, Páez 1994 and Popayán 1983 earthquakes although small in magnitude (6.1 Mw, 6.8 Mw and 5.5 Mw respectively) are the greatest and most destructive in the recent history of Colombia producing thousands of casualties. The Geological Society of Colombia together with other student and professional associations are carrying out a project to put an earth scientist in every town in Colombia so as to help advance risk mitigation not only associated to earthquakes but also to landslides, flooding and climate change in order to prevent those catastrophes from happening again. We show the major scientific and political challenges of providing communities the geological, geophysical and seismological knowledge in a country where science seems to be considered secondary by the government.

EVENTS

Opening Ceremony and Welcome Reception
Monday 14 May, 5:00–7:30 PM

SSA Annual Luncheon and Awards Ceremony
Tuesday 15 May, Noon–2:00 PM

Public Policy Luncheon
Wednesday 16 May, Noon–2:00 PM
Speaker: Alejandro De La Campa, Caribbean Area Division Director-FEMA Region II

LACSC-SSA Reception
Wednesday 16 May, 6:30–8:00 PM

Women in Seismology Reception
Wednesday 16 May, 8:00–9:30 PM

LACSC-SSA Thursday Evening Celebration Cruise
Thursday 17 May, 5:30 PM

Special Interest Group: Articulating the Mission of State and Regional Earthquake Centers
Tuesday 15 May, 6:00 PM

We invite participation in this brief meeting from anyone interested in the capabilities and future directions of state and regional earthquake facilities. The meeting will build on the ideas and content of the technical session Regional Seismic Network Approaches and Stakeholder Collaborations. By identifying common themes across organizations, our goal is
to help articulate the importance and common needs of these facilities. The exact outcomes will be determined by the attendees, but potential directions include summary publications, organized advocacy and frameworks for closer collaboration. While the emphasis of this meeting is on U.S. organizations, we welcome the experience and input of international colleagues.

We encourage you to join us and lend your voice. Light refreshments will be served.

Convener: Michael West, Kristine Pankow, Margaret Hellweg, Aaron Velasco

**WORKSHOPS**

**Getting Published—Writing Papers, Working with Editors, Responding to Reviews**
Monday 14 May, Noon–4 PM

Learn what makes an excellent peer-reviewed paper and how to handle constructive—and not so constructive—reviews from those who know—editors at *Science, SRL* and *BSSA*. This free SSA workshop is geared toward students and early-career seismologists but is open to all Annual Meeting attendees.

The workshop will include plenty of time to ask any and all questions, including specific questions about manuscripts under development. Lunch will be provided.

The workshop is free to attendees, but RSVP is required.

The instructors are Roland Bürgmann of University of California, Berkeley, *BSSA* associate editor emeritus; John Ebel of Boston College, founding editor-in-chief of *SRL*; and Brent Grocholski of *Science* and editor of all seismology papers for the journal.

**Probabilistic Seismic Hazards Assessment: Subduction Zone Sources and Borders**
Monday 14 May, 1–4 PM

This year’s Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Assessment Workshop will explore both technical and political issues. The workshop will start with an examination of how to define and parameterize subduction zone sources, including the new Slab2 model of global subduction zones. Next, we will explore issues that arise when attempting to standardize seismic hazard assessments across national boundaries.

The instructors will include Gavin Hayes and Hugo Yepes. Gavin Hayes works at the U.S. Geological Survey in Golden, Colorado, is the lead author of the Slab2 model and is a 2012 recipient of the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers. Hugo Yepes, director of the Instituto Geofísico at the National Polytechnic School in Quito, Ecuador, is responsible for the seismic hazard assessment in Ecuador and received SSA’s Frank Press Award for Public Service in 2010.

**Social Media is for You, Too!**
Monday 14 May, 7:30–9:00 PM

Join us for a practical, hands-on seminar for anyone, regardless of career status. Social media veterans Susan Hough, Emily Wolin and Julian Lozos will lead a 90-minute workshop that will give you the know-how to use the Annual Meeting as a productive practice ground for learning how to engage effectively on social media, whether Twitter, Facebook, Instagram or the tool of your choosing. Hands-on work and one-to-one training will help you develop your skills.

The workshop is free to attendees, but RSVP is required.

**ShakeMap Post-Meeting Workshop**
Friday 18 May, 8:30 AM–5:00 PM

The U.S. Geological Survey will host a workshop on ShakeMap on Friday 18 May 2018 following the meeting. The workshop is aimed at ShakeMap operators, researchers and core users and will focus on the science and software underpinning ShakeMap Version 4, a major re-engineering of the entire ShakeMap system. Time will be set aside for discussion, feedback, strategizing and operations questions. Workshop attendees are also encouraged to share their ShakeMap-related examples, research, operations and needs during the SSA meeting at a related Special Session: ShakeMap-Related Research, Development, Operations and Applications.

There will be an optional social hour and no-host dinner Friday evening. The workshop is free to attendees, but RSVP is required as space is limited.

The instructors are Eric Thompson, David Wald and Bruce Worden of the U.S. Geological Survey.

**Aftershock Forecasting Post-Meeting Workshop**
Friday 18 May, 8:30 AM–12:30 PM

Software for making both spatial and temporal forecasts during aftershock sequences will be released by the U.S. Geological Survey during this workshop. The session will cover the statistics of aftershock behavior used in making these forecasts, the applications of aftershock forecasts in past earthquakes, and will include time to install, test and learn how to run this software. For that purpose, participants are encouraged to bring a laptop with Java 8 (JRE) installed. This project was partially funded by a grant from the U.S. Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance and is aimed at providing countries who have not developed their own methods with the means of making their own forecasts.

The workshop is free to attendees, but RSVP is required as space is limited. Due to the goals of this project, priority will be given to attendees from the LACSC countries.

The instructors are Nicholas van der Elst, Jeanne Hardebeck, Sara K. McBride, Andrew Michael and Morgan Page of the U.S. Geological Survey.
PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE

Events will be held at the Hyatt Regency–Miami in Miami, Florida. This schedule is subject to change.

Monday 14 May
- Board of Directors Meeting (7:30 AM–3:30 PM)
- Workshop: Getting Published (Noon–4:00 PM)
- Workshop: Probabilistic Seismic Hazards Assessment: Subduction Zone Sources and Borders (1:00–4:00 PM)
- Registration (3:00–7:30 PM)
- Opening Ceremony and Welcome Reception (5:00–7:30 PM)
- Workshop: Social Media is for You, Too! (7:30–9:00 PM)

Tuesday 15 May
- Technical Sessions (8:30 AM–5:30 PM)
- Annual SSA Award Ceremony and Business Meeting Luncheon ( Noon–2:00 PM)
- Pint and Poster (5:30–6:00 PM)
- Lightning Talks (6:00–7:00 PM)
- Special Interest Group (6:00 PM start)
- Early Career and Student Reception (7:00–9:00 PM)

Wednesday 16 May
- Mentoring Breakfast (7:00–8:15 AM)
- Technical Sessions (8:30 AM–5:30 PM)
- Public Policy Luncheon (Noon–2:00 PM)
- Pint and Poster (3:30–4:15 PM)
- Joyner Lecture (5:30–6:30 PM)
- LACSC/SSA Reception (6:30–8:00 PM)
- LACSC Public General Assembly (8:00–9:00 PM)
- Women in Seismology Reception (8:00–9:30 PM)

Thursday 17 May
- Technical Sessions (8:30 AM–5:00 PM)
- Luncheon (Noon–1:15 PM)
- Pint and Poster (2:45–3:45 PM)
- Cruise (5:30 PM)

Friday 18 May
- Workshop: Aftershock Forecasting (8:30 AM–12:30 PM)
- Workshop: ShakeMap (8:30 AM–5:00 PM)
### ORAL SESSIONS

**Tuesday 15 May**

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<td>Numerical Modeling of Earthquake Ground Motion, Rupture Dynamics and Seismic Wave Propagation</td>
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<td>Tsunami Modeling and Hazard Assessment</td>
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<td>Advances in the Theory, Modeling, and Observation of Anelastic Seismic Wave Propagation—Recent Anelastic Models of the Earth</td>
<td>Urban Liquefaction and Lateral Spread Investigations and Mapping</td>
<td>Environmental Seismology: Glaciers, Rivers, Landslides and Beyond</td>
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<td>Observations and the Physics Behind Complex Earthquakes</td>
<td>Observed Characteristics of Induced Seismicity: From Laboratory to Field Scale</td>
<td>Testing PSHA Input Data, Source Models and Hazard Estimates</td>
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<td>4:15 – 5:30</td>
<td>New Frontiers in Seismic and Acoustic Data Analysis</td>
<td>Observed Characteristics of Induced Seismicity: From Laboratory to Field Scale (continued Thursday)</td>
<td>Seismic Structure of Convergent Plate Margins</td>
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<td>Regional Seismic Network Approaches and Stakeholder Collaborations</td>
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<td>Onshore Quaternary and Contemporary Tectonics: Implications for Seismic Hazards</td>
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<td>Early Warning for Large Earthquakes and Tsunamis: Challenges, Case Studies and Innovations</td>
<td>Recent Advances in Dense Array Seismology</td>
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### POSTER SESSIONS

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- 3D/4D Seismic Imaging and Their Interpretation for Seismic Hazard Assessment
- Advances in Explosion Seismo-Acoustic Research
- Advances in Seismic Site Response Studies Given Limitations in Understanding of Site Conditions
- Ground Motion and Earthquake Engineering
- Environmental Seismology: Glaciers, Rivers, Landslides and Beyond
- Fault to Seismic Hazard Assessment (Fault2SHA) in Latin (Central and South) America
- Interaction Between Observations and Models in Seismo-Volcanic Studies
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- Onshore Quaternary and Contemporary Tectonics: Implications for Seismic Hazards
- The Next Big Earthquake: The Usual and the Unusual Suspects
- Regional Seismic Network Approaches and Stakeholder Collaborations
- Science Gateways and Computational Tools for Improving Earthquake Research
- Tsunami Modeling and Hazard Assessment

**Wednesday 16 May**
- Advances on the Parameterization of Seismic Attenuation: Current Challenges and Opportunities
- Development and Validation of Statistical Models of Small-Scale Heterogeneities
- Early Warning for Large Earthquakes and Tsunamis: Challenges, Case Studies and Innovations
- Exploring Rupture Dynamics and Seismic Wave Propagation along Complex Fault Systems
- The Future of Telemetered Seismic Arrays - Where the Operation of the Network Ends and the Science Begins
- Megathrust Earthquakes: Recurrence, Rupture Modes and Tsunamis
- Microzonation Studies - Site Effects
- New Frontiers in Seismic and Acoustic Data Analysis
- Observations and the Physics Behind Complex Earthquakes
- Ocean Bottom Seismology - Hurdles, Strategies and Outcomes
- Real-Time GNSS Network Operations and Advances towards Early Warning Systems
- Recent Advances in Dense Array Seismology
- Seismic Event Screening
- Present-Day Plate Boundary Deformation and Seismic Hazard in the Caribbean
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<td>Earthquake Source Parameters: Theory, Observations and Interpretations</td>
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<td>Structure and Geodynamics of the Caribbean Plate Boundaries</td>
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<td>Emergency Management, Resilience and Preparedness</td>
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<td>Adaptation of New Technologies and Methods to Drive New Discoveries</td>
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<td>Earthquake Source Parameters: Theory, Observations and Interpretations</td>
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- Seismic Hazards and Historic Earthquakes in Puerto Rico and the Northern Caribbean Region
- Seismic Structure of Convergent Plate Margins
- Structure and Dynamics of Earth’s Mantle
- Testing PSHA Input Data, Source Models and Hazard Estimates
- U.S. National Seismic Hazard Model Updates: 2018, 2020 and Beyond

**Thursday 17 May**
- The 8th September Mw8.2 Tehuantepec and 19th September Mw7.1 Puebla-Morelos, Mexico Earthquakes: Reconnaissance Findings and Impact on Urban Areas in South-central Mexico
- Adaptation of New Technologies and Methods to Drive New Discoveries in Seismology and Geodesy
- Applications of Machine Learning and Data Science in Seismology
- Challenges and Chances for the Widespread Implementation of Earthquake Early Warning (EEW)
- Earthquake Source Parameters: Theory, Observations and Interpretations
- Emergency Management, Resilience and Preparedness
- Forecasting Aftershock Sequences in the Real World
- Increasing Testability—Expanding Possibilities and Future Developments of the Collaboratory for the Study of Earthquake Predictability
- Observed Characteristics of Induced Seismicity: From Laboratory to Field Scale
- Plate Boundary Segmentation and Coupled-to-Creeping Plate and Block Boundary Faults
- Retrieval of Fine Scale Information Using Seismic Noise
- Seismic Studies of Earth’s Crust and Lithosphere
- ShakeMap-Related Research, Development, Operations and Applications
- Structure and Geodynamics of the Caribbean Plate Boundaries
- Uncertainty in Ground Motion Estimation: Seismological and Engineering Perspectives
Impact on Urban Areas in South-Central Mexico

The 8th September Mw8.2 Tehuantepec and 19th September Mw7.1 Puebla-Morelos, Mexico Earthquakes: Reconnaissance Findings and Impact on Urban Areas in South-Central Mexico

On September 8th, 2017 a Mw8.2 intermediate-depth, normal-faulting earthquake struck southeastern Mexico. The earthquake, with an epicentral location near the coast of Chiapas, is the largest recorded event in Mexico’s recent history. The Tehuantepec event resulted in many casualties and collapses, as well as landslides and damage to the infrastructure in several cities and towns in the states of Oaxaca and Chiapas. Soon after, on September 19th, 2017, a Mw7.1 intraslab, normal faulting earthquake occurred in central Mexico. The earthquake, approximately 120 km from Mexico City, caused the collapse of more than 40 buildings and affected infrastructure operation not only in the capital of Mexico, but in several urban areas near the epicentral region. The official death toll for both events is 471 people.

This session covers many engineering aspects of both events. Topics include, but are not limited to, strong ground motion observations and networks, macroseismic intensities, broadband ground motion simulations, site effects in the Mexico City Basin and other urban areas, soil-structure and site-city interactions, building codes and their implications in similar seismic prone regions together with hazard and risk management issues.

Session Chairs: Emel Seyhan (emel.seyhan@rms.com), Jorge Aguirre (joagg@pumas.iingen.unam.mx), Leonardo Ramírez-Guzmán (lramirezg@iingen.unam.mx).

Adaptation of New Technologies and Methods to Drive New Discoveries in Seismology and Geodesy

In recent years, advancements in seismology and geodesy have been made possible by innovative adaptation of new methods and technology from other fields. Improved earthquake detection and ground motion characterization have been achieved by using consumer MEMS accelerometers, consumer GPS chips, wireless nodal systems and other new sensor technology that enable dense sensor networks. Deep learning, fingerprinting and linkage methods originally developed for Internet search engines and image recognition can substantially improve our ability to detect and categorize seismic events, including earthquakes and low frequency earthquakes. In this session, we encourage submissions on any approach that expands the horizons of seismology and geodesy beyond traditional instruments and methods.

Session Chairs: Sarah E. Minson (sminson@usgs.gov), Elizabeth S. Cochran (ecochran@usgs.gov).

Advances in Seismic Site Response Studies Given Limitations in Understanding of Site Conditions

Site response in seismic hazard assessment studies is significantly affected by the accuracy and resolution of the near-surface material properties. Within the limitations of the understanding of site conditions, our session brings together a wide variety of topics on the advances and limitations of current methodologies for site response analysis of earthquake-induced ground motions. Our purpose is to promote discussion that bridges the gap between the empirical and simulation-based methods in estimating seismic site response. We encourage presentations on state-of-the-knowledge and -art site response analyses; the role of ergodic and non-ergodic site response studies in reducing epistemic uncertainty; the effect of variability of shear-wave velocity ($V_s$) profiles, as a result of non-uniqueness (inversion) or lateral variations in $V_s$ (2D effects), on site response; the correlation of the site-specific high-frequency spectral decay of Fourier amplitude spectra ($\omega_0$) to the time-averaged $V_s$ of the upper 30 m from the surface ($V_{30}$) and

**Technical Sessions**

3D/4D Seismic Imaging and Their Interpretation for Seismic Hazard Assessment

Thanks to the recent development of imaging and monitoring techniques, we can obtain much higher spatial resolution of subsurface structures and/or time-lapse changes of them. In previous years, imaging and monitoring techniques have developed rapidly due to the advent of high-density networks, new modeling techniques and unprecedented computation capacities. In addition to using them for interpreting subsurface geology and mechanics, such 3D/4D structural information is useful for modeling and interpreting high-frequency seismic waves or understanding the dynamic behaviors of structures, both of which are important for seismic hazard assessment.

In this session, we would like to cover both theoretical and methodological aspects as well as novel approaches for solving common practical problems for 3D/4D imaging and monitoring. We welcome contributions for the interpretation of obtained structural information for seismic hazard assessment such as ground motion prediction, more accurate estimation of earthquake magnitude and moment tensor and understanding the near-surface nonlinear effects. We further encourage abstracts focusing on multiscale imaging applications which involve novel processing such as higher-order correlations, double beamforming, multi-dimensional deconvolution, nonlinear optimization techniques, machine learning and large-scale data analysis or very dense receiver array analysis. Presentations related to amplitude extraction, attenuation, higher-mode Rayleigh/Love waves, body waves or usage of multi-component signals are also encouraged.

Session Chairs: Marco Pilz (pilz@gfz-potsdam.de), Nori Nakata (nnakata@ou.edu).
other proxies; the performance of $x_0$ for shallow and deep sedimentary basins; performance, estimation and correlations of basin-depth proxies with other parameters; regionalization of crustal velocity $Q$ models; limitations of full-waveform inversion studies; and the effectiveness of derivation of site effects in the response spectra and Fourier domain. We cap the presentations with an open discussion with all speakers regarding the overall state of knowledge about the role of site conditions in advanced site response studies. We also welcome presentations on topics related to seismic site characterization, advances in invasive/non-invasive measurement techniques, microzonation studies and particularly developments in site characterization or ground motion studies in Latin America.

Session Chairs: Junghyun Park (junghyunp@mail.smu.edu), Catherine Snelson-Gerlicher (snelsonc@lanl.gov), Sean K. Ahdi (sahdi@ucla.edu), Eric M. Thompson (emthompson@usgs.gov), Alan Yong (yong@usgs.gov).

Advances in Explosion Seismo-Acoustic Research

Seismo-acoustic approaches serve as primary tools in monitoring explosions around the world. Improvements in these fields have led to new analytical techniques including correlation methods, advanced array analysis, multimodal surface wave methods and quantitative uncertainty estimates for source and propagation models and derived parameters. We invite contributions highlighting research to improve detection, location and interpretation of explosion sources, as well as associated uncertainties.

Session Chairs: Charlotte Rowe (char@lanl.gov), Catherine Snelson-Gerlicher (snelsonc@lanl.gov), Sean Ford (ford17@lanl.gov), Christopher Young (cjyoung@sandia.gov), Junghyun Park (junghyunp@mail.smu.edu).

Advances in the Theory, Modeling and Observation of Anelastic Seismic Wave Propagation—Recent Anelastic Models of the Earth

Recent advances in the theory, modeling and observation of anelastic seismic waves reveal new insights regarding methodologies to infer the anelastic structure of the Earth. For example, recent developments in general ray theory for anelastic media reveal ray paths and corresponding characteristics of travel time and attenuation curves, which are not predicted by elasticity theory or one-dimensional anelastic waves, yet have important implications for some forward modeling and inverse problems. Recent developments in elastic single- and multicomponent full waveform inversion and monitoring of exploration seismic data indicate that proper parameterization and incorporation of P- and S-wave quality factors is a critical need. This session invites papers on the latest advances in anelastic wave-propagation theory, processing/inversion methods for anelastic media, and anelastic ($Q$) models of the Earth, as inferred from exploration geophysics data, crustal reflection-refraction data, teleseismic data, surface-wave, ocean-acoustic, and normal-mode data. With many travel-time and amplitude anomalies yet to be explained, this session plans to be an exciting forum to review and explore implications of the latest advances in the theory and modeling of anelasticity towards explanation of some of these anomalies.

Session Chairs: Roger D. Borcherdt (borcherdt@usgs.gov), Kristopher A. Innanen (kinnanen@ucalgary.ca).

Advances on the Parameterization of Seismic Attenuation: Current Challenges and Opportunities

The characterization of attenuation at various scales (e.g., regional or local attenuation) constitutes a critical aspect in the prediction of ground motions, site response analyses and the assessment of seismic hazards. However, isolating the effects of different attenuation mechanisms requires not only a fundamental understanding of the wave propagation phenomenon, but also a proper statistical treatment of the uncertainties associated with data collected in the field, the laboratory and through analysis of background noise and ground motion records. Hence, efforts toward defining parametric descriptors of seismic attenuation are inevitably associated with challenges in collecting reliable experimental data and the proper interpretation of their corresponding range of applicability.

There is a critical need for further research on current seismic attenuation parameters to improve methodologies that measure energy dissipation in earth materials and to better understand how to capture different attenuation mechanisms at different scales. In this session, we welcome studies focused on investigating the parameterization of seismic attenuation, the limitations of the existing methodologies to capture it, the associated uncertainties and the corresponding implications on ground motion modeling, site-specific seismic hazard analysis and site response analysis. Challenges and opportunities encountered in these processes are also welcome, whether they relate to limitations of a methodology to measure a specific parameter in the field, or the introduction of new analytical methods to better decouple the effects of different attenuation mechanisms in ground motions (e.g., separating inelastic attenuation from scattering effects).

Session Chairs: Ashly Cabas (amcabasm@ncsu.edu), Stefano Parolai (sparolai@inogs.it), Celine Gélis (celine.gelis@irsn.fr), Albert Kottke (albert.kottke@gmail.com).

Applications of Machine Learning and Data Science in Seismology

The increase in computational capability in the past decade has made it possible to introduce and apply novel machine learning/data science algorithms and tools to the field of seismology, with the hope of extracting useful information from large and complex seismic data sets. Recent attempts in the seismology applications have shown encouraging results in, for example, seismic signal detection and classification, seismic data interpolation, earthquake parameter estimation, seismic noise analysis and reduction, subsurface structure imaging and complex signals/models visualization. More advanced techniques and
algorithms are emerging with new possibilities, for instance: deep learning based on learning data representations has the potential to extract superior results from large-scale datasets. The application of these new techniques can help improve our understanding of Earth structure and seismic sources from a brand new perspective. This session invites all abstracts relevant to applications and developments of machine learning and data science in seismology.

Session Chairs: Qingkai Kong (kongqq@berkeley.edu), Chengping Chai (cchai1@utk.edu), Zefeng Li (zefengli@gps.caltech.edu), Min Chen (chenmi22@msu.edu), Rongrong Wang (wangron6@msu.edu).

Challenges and Chances for the Widespread Implementation of Earthquake Early Warning (EEW)

The recent strong earthquakes in Southern Mexico with magnitudes of 8.0 and 7.3 have demonstrated the usefulness of Earthquake Early Warning (EEW) to a massive audience in Latin America and the world. In the social media people showed their surprise about the existence and functionality of the Mexican EEW system and discussed whether such a system could be established in their country. We invite contributions about the possible application of EEW in Latin America and other less developed regions taking into account the specifics of the prevailing building types (e.g. adobe) and construction practices. We invite contributions proposing how EEW can be implemented in less developed nations and whether EEW could be a relatively cheap and fast way for poor countries with high seismic risk to give some protection to their populations against the massive loss of life in great earthquakes and how it can be combined, in the long term, with measures to improve the building stock. We particularly solicit studies dealing with how EEW can be effectively established and operated, including: densification of seismic networks with new low-cost EEW-compatible seismic equipment; the development of new efficient EEW methods that are robust in the face of challenging seismicity and network operation; transfer of EEW methods into operational software compatible with general seismic monitoring; the establishment of new automatic seismic processing centers in many countries; and studies dealing with technical and social aspects for delivering alerts to the general population.

Session Chairs: Wilfried Strauch (wilfried.strauch@yahoo.com), Victor A. Huerfano (victor.huerfano@gmail.com).

Development and Validation of Statistical Models of Small-Scale Heterogeneities

Realistic small-scale variation of the media (velocity and/or density) and surface topography is important for modeling phases and coda amplitudes of broadband waves from regional seismic (earthquakes or explosions) sources. While the precise strength, locations, sizes and shapes of the heterogeneities are often unknown, statistical characterization of the heterogeneities can be used to simulate the ground motion variability due to seismic scattering processes. A wide variety of parameterizations, however, are available to characterize the statistical models (e.g., shape of the heterogeneity power spectrum and its depth dependence, as well as crack shapes, concentrations and orientations). Different parameterizations can produce similar seismograms that match aspects of observed ground motion, so association of observations with specific scattering mechanisms that can narrow the model space is critical to confident transport of prediction capability to new source-receiver paths.

We welcome submissions focused on constraining values of and reducing the number of free parameters of statistical models of media heterogeneity, on observations of seismic scattering processes and on methods and results for modeling the scattered wave fields.

Session Chairs: G. Eli Baker (glenn.baker.3@us.af.mil), Kim B. Olsen (kbolsen@mail.sdsu.edu), Yang Shen (y.shen@icloud.com), Vernon Cormier (vernon.cormier@uconn.edu), W. Scott Phillips (wsp@lanl.gov).

Early Warning for Large Earthquakes and Tsunamis: Challenges, Case Studies and Innovations

Earthquake early warning (EEW) algorithms attempt to characterize earthquake ruptures and ground motion in real time and provide advance notifications before the arrival of damaging seismic waves and subsequent hazards (e.g., tsunamis). EEW approaches and their products have evolved over the past decade with recent advances in instrumentation, rapid source characterization, real-time ground motion prediction and communication technologies. Today’s early warning systems can go much beyond this basic function, providing estimates of shaking intensity and potential damage for implementation of post-event emergency action plans. However, many challenges still exist in for creating effective EEW systems. For instance, while medium-sized earthquakes are sufficiently well described with very simple point source models, characterizing large ruptures is complex. Recent experiences with EEW systems that were in operation during large earthquakes (e.g. the Mw7.0 2016 Kumamoto, Japan and Mw7.1 2017 Morelos-Puebla, Mexico earthquakes), as well as offline studies, are starting to shape our expectations of the performance we can realistically expect from EEW systems.

In this session, we invite scientists, engineers, practitioners and policy makers to present work related to EEW applications and case studies. Some topics might include:

- innovative event recognition, source characterization and false alert avoidance algorithms;
- characterization of uncertainties stemming from EEW algorithms and ground motion prediction in real-time;
- comparison of point-source and finite-fault approaches;
- performance assessment for long-duration and complex ruptures;
- integration of real-time GPS data in EEW systems;
- real-time ground motion and damage prediction;
• exploration of local and global tsunami early warning;
• EEW case studies, testing and performance evaluation of existing systems; and
• discussion of implications for earthquake hazard, risk and response models with respect to the science community as well as private and government entities.

Session Chairs: Christine J. Ruhl (cruhl@berkeley.edu), Emrah Yenier (emrahuyenier@nanometrics.ca), Men-Andrin Meier (mmeier@caltech.edu), Neil Spriggs (nelspriggs@nanometrics.ca), Diego Melgar (dmelgaru@uoregon.edu), Marlon D. Ramos (ramosmd@umich.edu), David Easton (davideaston@nanometrics.ca),

Earthquake Source Parameters: Theory, Observations and Interpretations

Understanding origin and spatio-temporal evolution of seismicity needs a careful quantitative analysis of earthquake source parameters for large sets of earthquakes in studied seismic sequences. Determining focal mechanisms, seismic moment tensors, static stress drop, apparent stress and other earthquake source parameters provides an insight into tectonic stress and crustal strength in the area under study, material properties and prevailing fracturing mode (shear/tensile) in the focal zone and allows the investigation of earthquake source processes in greater details. In addition, studying relations between static and dynamic source parameters and earthquake size is essential to understand the self-similarity of rupture process and scaling laws and to improve our knowledge on ground motion prediction equations.

This session focuses on methodological as well as observational aspects of earthquake source parameters of natural or induced earthquakes in broad range of magnitudes from large to small earthquakes, including acoustic emissions in laboratory experiments. Presentations of new approaches to focal mechanisms determination, seismic moment tensors and other source parameters as well as case studies related to analysis of earthquake source parameters are welcome. We also invite contributions related to scaling of static and dynamic source parameters and to self-similarity of earthquakes.

Session Chairs: Vaclav Vavr'cu k (vv@ig.cas.cz), Grzegorz Kwiat ek (kwiatek@gfz-potsdam.de), Douglas Dreger (dreger@seismo.berkeley.edu).

Emergency Management, Resilience and Preparedness

Emergency and disaster management and preparedness approaches involve the mitigation, preparation, response and recovery and aim to reduce vulnerability to hazards and to cope with disasters from both natural events and human-induced events. The planning phase involves a coordinated, co-operative process of preparing to match anticipated urgent needs with all available resources. All the phases require research, evaluation, testing/validation, implementation and updating; the final product will be a living emergency plan that should be periodically reviewed and adapted to changing circumstances and real-life situations. In this session, we call for participants to focus on emergency planning, management, continuity of operations, technology, social processing and guidance. In a real world that is subject to accelerating physical, social and economic change, the challenge of managing emergencies well depends on effective planning and foresight and the ability to connect disparate elements of the emergency response into coherent strategies.

Session Chairs: Victor A. Huerfano (victor@prsnmail.upr.edu), Christa G. von Hillebrandt-Andrade (christa.vonh@noaa.gov), Elizabeth A. Vanacore (elizabeth.vanacore@upr.edu), Ronald Jackson (ronald.jackson@cdema.org).

Environmental Seismology: Glaciers, Rivers, Landslides and Beyond

Environmental seismology is the study of seismic signals generated at and near the surface created by environmental forces in the atmosphere, hydrosphere or solid Earth. Contributions to this session are welcome on a wide variety of topics including (but not limited to) the seismic signals associated with landslides, rock falls, debris flows, lahars, snow avalanches, cliff or pinnacle resonance, bedload transport, fluid flow in open and confined channels, open water waves, tides, glacial stick-slip, iceberg calving, crevassing, extreme wind and weather and wind turbines or other anthropogenic sources. Contributions that seek to conduct monitoring, create physical or statistical models of source processes or systems, detect events, characterize a wave propagation environment, or interact with other branches of the Earth or social sciences are additionally encouraged.

Session Chairs: Bradley P. Lipovsky (brad_lipovsky@fas.harvard.edu), Kate Allstadt (kallstadt@usgs.gov), Rick Aster (rick.aster@colostate.edu).

Essentials of Seismic Risk Estimates

Estimating the seismic risk for a region is important for officials as well as for individuals for deciding what mitigating action, if any, is to be taken. The risk can be expressed in units of number of strongly affected people, fatalities, injured or monetary losses. This session will focus on methods of estimating risk and the data sets necessary to calculate it are essential elements that need to be discussed. The underlying question of seismic hazard must be understood for the region in general, although this session does not focus on it. The seismic risk problems in the regions of Central and South America are of special interest. Estimates of the differences in the seismic risk for the affluent and the poorer sections of society are invited. Methods for structural measures to reduce seismic risk have been developed, but new ideas, especially those applicable to Latin America, are welcome. Quantitative means to educate decision-makers and the public are also of interest.
Exploring Rupture Dynamics and Seismic Wave Propagation along Complex Fault Systems

Investigations related to how complexities in fault parameters could potentially impact the behavior of earthquake rupture and affect seismic hazard are areas of active and challenging research. This session will highlight recent advances in rupture dynamics on complex fault systems. We are open to a wide range of studies related to numerical, experimental and observational fault rupture dynamic studies with heterogeneities such as fault geometry, fault roughness, frictional parameters, creeping mechanisms, stress asperities, off-fault material properties, bi-material interfaces and wedge structures along subduction zones. We also encourage contributions on research that explores links between earthquake source physics, tsunami generation/propagation and ground motion variability.

Session Chairs: Roby Douilly (roby.douilly@ucr.edu), Kenny Ryan (kryan@usgs.gov), David D. Oglesby (david.oglesby@ucr.edu), Ruth Harris (ruth@usgs.gov), Eric Geist (egeist@usgs.gov).

Fault to Seismic Hazard Assessment (Fault2SHA) in Latin (Central and South) America

In seismic hazard analysis, increasing importance is given to geodynamic and tectonic data for modeling seismic sources by actual faults. Fast deforming regions like California, New Zealand, Japan and Turkey that have led the development of this practice since the 90s, are now facing new lessons, whilst slowly deforming areas (i.e., Europe) are learning how to deal with their datasets. Latin America is a broad region of interest for earth scientists as it is characterized by both intense seismic activity along the subduction zones and distributed continental faulting. Assessment and mitigation of seismic hazards from the growing set of active faults identified and mapped in Latin America poses unique challenges due to the high variability of data types and qualities.

This session aims to present new data sets and the latest integration of fault sources in SHA models. We invite contributions related to the description of earthquake sources, from the field to the modeling, as well as discussions about whether and how uncertainties in field data are transposed into the source models. In particular, we solicit studies that provide discussions about the comparison and analysis of fault parameters and fault models in South and Central America. We also solicit contributions on how 3D, geometrically complex fault segments are identified and defined, their impact on probabilistic seismic hazard results and studies that incorporate geodetical and geophysical observations. The session aims at linking the “New” and “Old” Worlds, i.e., the Americas and Europe, by strengthening common rules and procedures inside the international community that works on these subjects.

Session Chairs: Max Wyss (max@maxwyss.ch), Sergio Barrientos (sbarrien@dgf.uchile.cl), Ramón Zúñiga (ramon@geociencias.unam.mx).

Forecasting Aftershock Sequences in the Real World

In the last few years, increasingly sophisticated earthquake forecast models have been applied in many regions around the globe in response to ongoing earthquake activity. Traditionally, aftershock models have been used to forecast short time-windows of days or weeks and this type of aftershock forecasting has remained the most common application. However, as demonstrated in recent New Zealand sequences (e.g., Canterbury in 2010-2011 and Kaikoura in 2016), when end-users become more familiar with forecast modelling, their need for other means of understanding the forecasting, such as through longer time frames, increases. Further, there is evidence that a variety of decisions were made by emergency managers, building engineers and key decision-makers based on these forecasts that had previously not been anticipated by the scientific community. Other complexities included forecasts and predictions made publicly by alternate theorists.

Experience from New Zealand has highlighted some of the limitations in our current understanding and modeling approaches, such as: 1) understanding the forecast skill of aftershock models as they extend to longer time-periods; 2) forecast models that provide useful information for medium-term time-frames; 3) spatial distribution of earthquake sequences; 4) forecasts of ground motion and losses; and 5) communication methods and tools that allow for successful uptake of relevant information during heightened earthquake response times. In this session, we welcome presentations that cover these or any other operational earthquake forecast model development and communication topics.

Session Chairs: Matthew C. Gerstenberger (m.gerstenberger@gns.cri.nz), Sara K. Mcbride (skmcbride@usgs.gov), Nick Horspool (n.horspool@gns.cri.nz), David A. Rhoades (d.rhoades@gns.cri.nz).

The Future of Telemetered Seismic Arrays—Where the Operation of the Network Ends and the Science Begins

Seismic science generally starts with a quality waveform archive and a rich catalog of well located events with accurate magnitudes. This session will explore new and innovative ways of field operations and discuss input on more efficient approaches to delivering this scientific starting point. This could include cloud and network services, engineering services, improved instrumentation, co-located complimentary instruments and less expensive installations. An integrative approach to station building and management using many geophysical observations should become standard in most supported telemetered
networks. Arrays of seismometer and geophysical instruments that address more use cases for less investment are the key going forward. We invite abstracts on a wide range of topics that affect the creation, management and type of geophysical stations built: early earthquake warning, public hazard reporting, environmental monitoring, science observatories, cost, performance, data use case, data latency, noise characteristics, regional concerns and the cost of data per gigabyte.

Session Chairs: Tim Parker (timbobparker@gmail.com), Dario Baturan (dariobaturan@nanometrics.ca), David Eaton (eatond@ucalgary.ca).

Ground Motion and Earthquake Engineering

Modeling of ground motion and analysis of the response of structures to earthquakes are key to increasing earthquake resiliency in communities. This session solicits presentations on advances in ground motion modeling, case studies of regional ground motions, and especially the response of man-made structures to earthquakes.

Session Chairs: Sinan Akkar (sinan.akkar@boun.edu.tr), Thomas Herring (tah@mit.edu).

Increasing Testability—Expanding Possibilities and Future Developments of the Collaboratory for the Study of Earthquake Predictability

The Collaboratory for the Study of Earthquake Predictability (CSEP) has expanded over the years to many different testing areas hosted at multiple testing centers. Hundreds of earthquake forecast models have been submitted to CSEP and are being tested. New testing metrics were developed and implemented and a lot of progress was made to establish CSEP as an institution that cannot be ignored when issuing earthquake forecasts. Its rigor and independence became the standard in evaluating earthquake forecasts and in reporting on the results.

Although the tests CSEP has conducted have been successful and well-received, they have also shown the limitations of the CSEP approach. What is a sufficient testing period for models? Are time-invarianting models really describing the long-term seismic activity? Are long-term models testable at all? Do short-term models provide significant information for the forecasting problem or do they only model aftershock sequences? What other signals should be included in forecasting models to improve them? Do improvements in forecasting models translate into improvements of hazard models? How can the tests be improved? Many aspects of seismic hazard or earthquake forecasting remain inherently untestable if only the model forecasts are tested and not the model ingredients. We propose to create new areas of activity for CSEP, namely targeted experiments that cannot be conducted with the current CSEP software system.

We solicit contributions addressing forecasting models, forecast testing problems, new ideas for CSEP experiments, possibilities of further CSEP developments, ways of expanding CSEP into the hazard and risk domain and more general views on the forecasting problem.

Session Chairs: Andrew J. Michael (michael@usgs.gov), Daniël Schorlemmer (ds@gfz-potsdam.de), Maximilian J. Werner (max.werner@bristol.ac.uk), Warner Marzocchi (warner.marzocchi@ingv.it).

Interaction Between Observations and Models in Seismo-Volcanic Studies

Seismo-volcanic studies demand a deep understanding of volcanic systems. Such a study requires one to determine the internal structure of volcanic edifices to illuminate the configuration of the plumbing-feeding system, the nature and role of the fluids that fill internal cracks and cavities of complex geometries, the properties of seismic waves that cross the volcanic edifice, the role of tectonic stresses and faults and many other intriguing aspects of these complex systems. Numerous seismic instruments have been deployed on active volcanoes in recent decades either in a permanent role for volcano surveillance or for temporary campaigns. We extend this invitation to discuss recent contributions in the fields of modelling, based on a foundation of observations of volcanic activity ranging from simple seismic networks to high resolution multi-parametric approaches. We expect to have an exciting interactive session between seismologists and the personnel of volcanic observatories from Latin America, USA and elsewhere.

Session Chairs: Mario C. Ruiz (mruiz@igepn.edu.ec), Mauricio Mora (mmorarsn@gmail.com).

Megathrust Earthquakes: Recurrence, Rupture Modes and Tsunamis

This session will address megathrust faulting at subduction zones. Topics include: 1) patterns of earthquake recurrence; 2) differences among fault ruptures that overlap; 3) interseismic, coseismic and postseismic deformation; 4) splay faults as clues to megathrust rupture mechanics and tsunami hazards; and 5) subduction zones, as in the Caribbean, where the very occurrence of great tsunamigenic earthquakes has yet to be demonstrated.

Session Chairs: Peter Molnar (molnar@colorado.edu), Peter Haeussler (pheusllr@usgs.gov), Brian F. Atwater (atwater@usgs.gov).

Microzonation Studies—Site Effects

As the world population increasingly moves to big metropolitan urban areas, the risk associated with earthquakes increases in these areas. This is particularly evident in developing countries. Local soil conditions are a first order parameter that controls seismic response and therefore building damage due to earthquake shaking. Careful planning of urban development with respect to soil conditions must be exercised to prevent loss of structures and fatalities. Due to restricted space and city regulations, microzonation studies have gained popularity over
traditional geophysical methods over the past decades as rapid, cost-effective and environmentally friendly.

Damage that occurred in Mexico City due to the September 19, 2017 Puebla-Morelos earthquake, compared to damage from September 19, 1985 Michoacán earthquake, demonstrates the importance of understanding soil response and interaction with buildings for different source characteristics and soil conditions. Other recent earthquakes, such as the 2016 Pedernales earthquake in Ecuador, the 2010 Maule earthquake in Chile, and the 2010 earthquake in Haiti demonstrate the importance of site effects for damage distribution. Knowledge gained from these earthquakes can help mitigate damage from future earthquakes.

This special session is about case studies of seismic microzonation around the World, what we have learned about seismic response in urban areas, and how we can help planners to develop earthquake resilient cities.

**Session Chairs:** Ilias Papadopoulos (ilias@uwiseismic.com), Michael Schmitz (schmitzschutt@gmail.com).

**New Frontiers in Seismic and Acoustic Data Analysis**

Advances in computing power, novel sensing systems and analytical techniques have revealed valuable new perspectives on seismic and acoustic wave fields. For example, computationally intensive methods like the Empirical Wavelet Transform can give much sharper time/frequency representations than Fourier-based methods. Large N seismic arrays, free-flying infrasound stations and distributed fiber optic sensor cables acquire nontraditional data sets that then require new signal detection, association and location methods. This session will focus on innovative ways of presenting and analyzing seismic data, with an emphasis on new developments. We invite contributors who have developed or are exploring new techniques and/or who wish to offer relevant evaluations of widely used methodologies.

**Session Chairs:** Daniel C. Bowman (dbowma@sandia.gov), Sarah A. Albert (salber@sandia.gov), Matthew M. Haney (mhaney@usgs.gov).

**The Next Big Earthquake: The Usual and the Unusual Suspects**

Recent large and great earthquakes have altered the terrain, economies and lives of people in Haiti, Chile, New Zealand, Nepal and Japan. The potential for future damaging earthquakes in these and other populated regions near tectonically active plate boundaries are well known and pose increasingly significant risk to societies there. But what observational evidence do we have to understand where the next big earthquake will be? This session seeks paleoseismic and historical earthquake studies that examine large and great earthquakes around the world that pose such hazards. Analyses that include the number of people impacted, past and future effects on urban infrastructures or cultural systems and the size or level of ground deformation are of particular interest. Additionally, field investigation and analysis of recent surface rupturing earthquakes and studies that examine the variability of past ruptures in size and time with a special emphasis on how such paleoseismic data can be used for seismic risk mitigation are welcome. Submissions from studies in Central and Latin America are particularly encouraged, as are studies of global fault networks.

**Session Chairs:** Sinan O. Akciz (sakciz@fullerton.edu), Kate Scharer (kscharer@usgs.gov).

**Numerical Modeling of Earthquake Ground Motion, Rupture Dynamics and Seismic Wave Propagation**

Continuous development of numerical modeling methods in seismology is driven by emerging requirements in observational seismology, advances in the mathematical sciences, evolution of computer architectures and programming models, adaptation of methods originating in other scientific fields, as well as by practical applications including site-specific seismic hazard assessment.

This session is a forum for presenting advances in numerical methodology, whether the principal context is observational, mathematical/numerical, computational or application-based.

We invite contributions focused on development, verification and validation of numerical-modeling methods and methodologically important applications especially to earthquake ground motion, seismic noise and rupture dynamics, including applications from the field of induced seismicity with particular focus on multi-physics aspects, for example, combining fluid migration and stress transfer in porous media with rupture dynamics and wave propagation in poro-elastic media and integration of dynamic event modeling with simulation of the full seismic cycle. We encourage contributions on the analysis of methods, fast algorithms, high-performance implementations, large-scale simulations, non-linear behavior, multi-scale problems and confrontation of methods with data.

**Session Chairs:** Peter Moczo (moczo@fmph.uniba.sk), Steve M. Day (sday@mail.sdsu.edu), Jozef Kristek (kristek@fmph.uniba.sk).

**Observations and the Physics Behind Complex Earthquakes**

New observations of large earthquakes are challenging the simple model of a smoothly expanding rupture on a planar fault. Some recent events have involved multiple faults (e.g., 2012 M 8.6 Sumatra, 2016 M 7.8 Kaikoura, New Zealand), re-rupturing of a single fault patch (e.g., 2015 M 7.5 Hindu Kush), dynamic triggering of later sub-events (e.g., 1997 M 7.1 Harnai, Pakistan) and the interaction between intraplate and interplate faults (e.g., 2009 M 8.1 Samoa-Tonga, 2016 M 7.9 Papua New Guinea). Are these earthquakes outliers? Or does our increased ability to resolve a detailed picture capture a new norm? How can we define a new common behavior? What are
the physical mechanisms that control the signatures of complex
earthquakes? We welcome contributions on geodetic, seismic
and field observations of complex earthquakes, new source
inversion/imaging techniques, as well as physical analysis and
simulation of complex earthquakes.

Session Chairs: Zhongwen Zhan (zwwzhan@gps.caltech.
edu), Gavin Hayes (ghayes@usgs.gov), Marine Denolle (mde-
nolle@fas.harvard.edu).

Observed Characteristics of Induced Seismicity:
From Laboratory to Field Scale

A wide variety of methods have been employed to examine the
physical mechanisms and site-specific conditions that control
anthropogenically induced seismicity. Laboratory experiments
and mesoscale experiments of fluid injection into active faults
investigate the role of fluids and friction on fault stability and
the contribution of aseismic slip to the nucleation process.
Seismic array installations including large-N array deployments
characterize the seismic wave-field, microseismicity and fault
structure. Advanced earthquake detection and location tech-
niques are being used to identify complex spatial and temporal
migration patterns and statistical methods are used to differ-
entiate between tectonic and induced events. Deployment of
pressure monitoring networks explore the migration of fluids
in the subsurface and illuminate how earthquakes modify the
poroelastic environment. Geomechanical reservoir simulations
relate fluid injection volumes/rates to subsurface fluid-pressure
changes and numerical methods couple reservoir models to
earthquake simulators to understand how induced seismicity
sequences evolve due to changes in injection operations. These
methods reveal that the character and evolution of induced
seismicity are more complex than previously thought. We
solicit contributions from laboratory/field experiments and
observational, geomechanical and numerical modeling studies
that explore the wide variety of characteristics, as well as the
physical conditions and mechanisms, that control behavior of
induced seismic sequences. In addition, we encourage contrib-
utions that discuss datasets and techniques needed to further
understand and mitigate the risk associated with fluid injec-
tion.

Session Chairs: Kayla A. Kroll (kroll5@llnl.gov), Elizabeth
S. Cochran (ecochran@usgs.gov), Brett Carpenter (brett.car-
penter@ou.edu).

Ocean Bottom Seismology—Hurdles, Strategies
and Outcomes

The field of Ocean Bottom Seismology has been rapidly
expanding, with many types of deployments for a wide variety
of targets. Ocean floor sensors have been used for structural
and geodynamic studies, enhanced seismic monitoring and
improved source location. Different marine environments and
tectonic settings require innovative solutions to deployment
logistics, sensor emplacement and data recovery. Following the
extraction of data, special problems relating to a sometimes
very noisy environment pose new challenges to maximize data
utility. We welcome contributions addressing all aspects of
active and passive ocean-bottom seismology, technical innova-
tions, data analysis and the scientific results obtained from
OBS or amphibious projects.

Session Chairs: Charlotte A. Rowe (char@lanl.gov),
Francisco J. Núñez-Cornú (pacornu77@gmail.com), Susan L.
Bilek (sbilek@nmt.edu).

Onshore Quaternary and Contemporary Tectonics:
Implications for Seismic Hazards

We solicit abstracts that focus on work related to earthquake
history of onshore faults, regional or site-specific tectonic
deformation (e.g., changes in marine terrace elevations or in
stream gradients), current crustal stress orientations and/or
seismicity, that contribute to the understanding of the hazards
posed by onshore faults in the Caribbean region. Papers could
also include the use of the information available about the
activity of onshore faults in the assessment of seismic hazards
for structures of various types or information from offshore
studies that implicate onshore faults.

Session Chairs: Lucille Piety (lpiety@usbr.gov), Joanna
Redwine (jredwine@usbr.gov).

Plate Boundary Segmentation and Coupled-to-
Creeping Plate and Block Boundary Faults

This session aims to begin characterizing the range of fault
behaviors on plate and block-boundary faults in the Caribbean
and Latin American regions. Presentation of case studies that
use seismological, geodetic, geological, geomorphic and other
approaches to study individual locked, creeping and intermedi-
ate faults and segments are invited. We also seek out the pre-
sentation of work that uses both empirical evidence and mod-
eling to understand the physical causes for these differing fault
behaviors. A major goal of the session is to begin understanding
how and why individual plate and block boundaries are seg-
mented and how locked and creeping segments link in space
and time.

Session Chairs: John C. Weber (weberj@gvsu.edu), Omar
J. Perez (ojperez@usb.ve).

Present-Day Plate Boundary Deformation and
Seismic Hazard in the Caribbean

Seismic hazard is an integral part of the Caribbean. Earthquakes
can be particularly devastating to countries of the region that
have seen a significant rise in population density— often with
a concentration in coastal areas and substandard building
practices. A number of research and observation programs are
however underway with the goal of better understanding seis-
mic hazard and the physical processes that control the occur-
rence of earthquakes in the Caribbean, with the potential to
inform decisions and contribute to capacity building. This
session aims at bringing together geoscientists with an interest
in seismic hazard characterization and active plate-boundary deformation in the Caribbean through seismology, paleoseismology, geodesy, tectonics, geodynamics or any other relevant discipline.

**Session Chairs:** Eric Calais (eric.calais@ens.fr), Steeve Symithe (symithesteeve@gmail.com), O’Leary Gonzalez Matos (oleary@cenais.cu), Valérie Clouard (clouard@ipgp.fr).

### Real-Time GNSS Network Operations and Advances towards Early Warning Systems

A fundamental aspect of Real-Time GNSS operations is the capability to obtain physical characteristics of the rupture process after the onset of an earthquake. Of particular interest is the ability to use rupture parameters to assess the effects of strong ground motions and a potentially ensuing tsunami. This session seeks contributions of the latest approaches in using Real-Time GNSS data to be applied in source inversion algorithms and to produce seismic parameters in seconds to minutes after the occurrence of an earthquake. Contributions describing how such results are applied for shaking and tsunami intensity forecasts *(i.e., for early warning systems)* are highly welcome and desirable. The use of casters or other protocols to collect and distribute the data, the computer infrastructure required to manage data operations, correction schemes employed for precise point positioning, data manipulation, visualization of data and other steps carried out in the estimation of source parameters are likely contributions expected for this session. We also welcome contributions that discuss operational issues such as: what is required in the field to ensure highly reliable data flow, what can be done to maintain low-latency, high-rate data streams without overburdening communications, how can redundancy be built into data paths and how to leverage existing infrastructure in seismic networks to enable GNSS data flow and vice versa?

**Session Chairs:** Alberto M. Lopez (alberto.lopez3@upr.edu), Kathleen M. Hodgkinson (hodgkinson@unavco.org), Diego Melgar (dmelgarm@uoregon.edu), Sebastian Riquelme (sebastian@dgf.uchile.cl), David Mencin (dmencin@unavco.org), Victor A. Huerfano (victor@prsnnmail.uprm.edu).

### Recent Advances in Dense Array Seismology

The availability of dense seismic arrays is desired to record well-sampled and unaliased wavefields. The recording of full wavefields combined with advanced data analysis techniques has the potential to image the subsurface and to study source characteristics with unprecedented resolution. The recent availability of low-cost and easy-to-deploy seismic sensors and emerging technologies such as Distributed Acoustic Sensors (DAS) have made it possible to deploy large and dense arrays in a reasonable time frame. Data acquired by such dense systems promote the development of many new data analysis methods that study seismic signals in a more comprehensive fashion. This session aims to compile innovative efforts that engage in recent advances in dense array seismology. We invite contributions from all research focus areas that are broadly related to dense arrays. Example topics include, but are not limited to, instrument development, field experiment with Large-N or DAS array, high-resolution imaging of subsurface structure, full wavefield reconstruction, environmental seismology and seismic source characterization.

**Session Chairs:** Ting Chen (tchen@lanl.gov), Fan-Chi Lin (fanchi.lin@utah.edu), Norimitsu Nakata (nnakata@ou.edu), Catherine Snelson (snelsonc@lanl.gov).

### The Recent Earthquakes that Shocked Mexico in September 2017

Last September, Mexico experienced two large earthquakes that seriously affected the south and central parts of the country. Both earthquakes were intraslab normal-faulting ruptures within the oceanic Cocos plate. The first one (Mw=8.1) occurred on September 8 in the Tehuantepec Gulf, collapsing thousands of small to medium size buildings in several provinces around the epicentral area. Numerous aftershock sequences (or triggered seismicity) followed the main earthquake increasing the damage to the Tehuantepec Isthmus. The second event (Mw=7.1) occurred eleven days later, on September 19, south of the border between the Morelos and Puebla States and close to important cities such as Cuernavaca and Mexico City (~100 km to the north of the epicenter), where hundreds of buildings collapsed or were seriously damaged. In total, the authorities estimate that about 400 people died nationwide as a consequence of both events. This session welcomes papers addressing various seismological aspects of both earthquakes, such as source modelling, aftershock sequences, ground motion and tsunami modeling, strong motions, triggered seismicity and tectonic implications among others.

**Session Chairs:** Arturo Iglesias (arturo@geofisica.unam.mx), Vala Hjörleifsdóttir (vala@geofisica.unam.mx), Victor M. Cruz-Atienza (cruz@geofisica.unam.mx), Roberto Ortega-Ruiz (ortegarobeg@gmail.com).

### Regional Seismic Network Approaches and Stakeholder Collaborations

Seismic monitoring is a collaborative effort typically carried out by a broad array of state, university and federal partners. This distributed approach provides standardized earthquake analysis while adapting to the needs of specific regions and stakeholders. Many seismic networks in the U.S. coordinate through the Advanced National Seismic System. There are numerous organizations, both long-established and new, that operate independently. This is the case for most national networks within the Americas and other regions of the world. This session highlights the unique observations, opportunities and adaptations of so-called regional seismic networks. The purpose of the session is to foster collaboration and showcase specific regional success stories.

We welcome a wide range of contributions spanning science, operations and/or stakeholder engagement and particu-
larly encourage submissions based on lesser-known organizations. Examples include but are in no way limited to: response to major earthquakes, unique tectonic considerations, non-earthquake sources, industry applications, forensic seismology, detection and processing workflows, facilities monitoring, custom products and services and support for local stakeholders. The only prerequisites are (i) real-time data and (ii) adaptation to a regional need or phenomenon. If your hometown network does something you are proud of, this session is the place to show it off.

Session Chairs: Michael West (mwest@alaska.edu), Sergio Barrientos (sbarrien@dfg.uchile.cl), Paul Bodin (bodin@uw.edu), Victor A. Huerfano (victor@prsmalmail.uprm.edu), Xyoli Perez-Campos (xyolipec@gmail.com), Alexandros Savvaidis (alexandros.savvaidis@beg.utexas.edu),

Retrieval of Fine Scale Information Using Seismic Noise

The use of ambient noise and other passive sources, coupled with the advent of large-N deployments, has been applied to an exponentially increasing number experiments in the last decade. Parallel advances in numerical methods and a deeper understanding of the physics and statistics of these passive wavefields has led to a number of highly inventive methodological advances affecting both the spatial and temporal resolution of recovered structures. Namely, ambient noise body wave tomography, passive temporal monitoring of dynamically varying structure through dt/t measurements or other approaches, full waveform modeling of the ambient field and improved statistical models for diffusely scattered coda, have made substantial impacts in the way researchers now approach classically intractable problems. In this session, we seek to display such advances in the use of passive sources, either through seismic interferometry or other novel approaches, that result in the retrieval of fine scale information in new settings or the improvement of algorithms allowing for retrieval of more accurate physical parameters from previously tested datasets and media. Submissions are encouraged for research tackling current difficulties in resolution and physical parameter retrieval, as well as computational limitations and solutions to such problems.

Session Chairs: Julien Chaput (jchapatou82@gmail.com), Thomas Lecocq (thomas.lecocq@oma.be).

Science Gateways and Computational Tools for Improving Earthquake Research

Science gateways allow research communities to access shared data, software, computing services, instruments, educational materials and other resources. Advances in earthquake science are becoming increasingly tied to the ability to fuse and model multiple data types, requiring advances in computational infrastructure. Earthquake scientists must rely on computational laboratories to integrate disparate data sets and perform simulation experiments, particularly because earthquake processes span multiple spatial and temporal scales, ranging from microscopic, millisecond source physics to long-term, global tectonic scales. This session focuses on advances in computational infrastructure and data synthesis for enhancing earthquake science, including software, supercomputing, simulation models, sensor technology, heterogeneous data sets, cloud computing, management of huge data volumes and development of community standards.

Session Chairs: Andrea Donnellan (andrea.donnellan@jpl.nasa.gov), Lisa Grant Ludwig (lgrant@uci.edu).

Seismic Event Screening

One of the products from global seismic monitoring provisional to entry-into-force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) is a Standard Event Bulletin (SEB). The SEB contains event characterization parameters that can be used to screen-out seismic sources that are almost certainly not nuclear test explosions. During the two decades since the CTBT was opened for signature, research has resulted in a wide range of new source characterization methods. Based partly on results from this research, many seismic sources currently included in the SEB could be confidently identified as naturally occurring earthquakes. The new developments include, but are not limited to, comparison with empirical templates based on well calibrated past events, more precise depth constraint through simultaneous location of multiple events, ratios of spectral amplitudes of local and regional phases, ratios of different magnitudes computed from local, regional and teleseismic data, determination of moment tensor solutions from regional and teleseismic data and joint use of seismic and infrasonic data. This session comprises contributions related to evaluating which methods have advanced sufficiently to be ready for operational use in CTBT monitoring and what further research would be required to implement other methods in operations.

Session Chairs: Raymond Willemann (raymond.willemann@us.af.mil), David Bowers (bowers@blacknest.gov.uk).

Seismic Hazards and Historic Earthquakes in Puerto Rico and the Northern Caribbean Region

The USGS seismic hazard assessment for Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands was last updated in 2003. For this session, we solicit papers that discuss new developments in probabilistic seismic hazard analysis in PRVI and the broader Caribbean region, as well as studies of historical earthquakes that inform the modern hazard models. We invite researchers to present new results that are critical to seismic hazard modeling and evaluation, including ongoing efforts by GEM and the USGS. Seismic hazard evaluation requires: 1) high-quality earthquake catalogs; 2) fault slip rates; 3) earthquake recurrence models; 4) region-specific ground motion models; and 5) local site amplification models. We encourage presentations on novel and creative concepts that will contribute to advancing seismic hazard models in the region.
Seismic Structure of Convergent Plate Margins

Convergence between tectonic plates is accommodated in multiple ways, including subduction, large-scale transform motion and continent-continent collision. This convergence is manifested through the creation of volcanic arcs, orogenic plateau formation and high seismicity rates. As a result, lithospheric-scale reworking of the converging plates is common in these systems.

The tectonics of convergent plate margins have been well studied. However, how convergence is manifested in the seismic structure of these regions is still debated due to the complexity of the regions and differences in datasets and methodology. This session aims to shed light on how the processes that accompany convergence are expressed in the lithospheric structure of the crust and upper mantle of these margins, in the context of the increased availability and coverage of seismic data and recent advances in seismic tomography and imaging techniques. Examples of convergent plate boundary systems include but are not limited to: the Mediterranean, Alpine-Himalayan, American Cordillera, Caribbean and western Pacific systems.

Session Chairs: Min Chen (chenmi22@msu.edu), Jonathan R. Delph (jrdelph@rice.edu).

Seismic Studies of Earth’s Crust and Lithosphere

Seismicity, seismic catalogs, and structure of Earth’s crust and lithosphere are key components to understanding regional seismic risk and tectonics. The session includes studies of seismicity and imaging of Earth’s crust and lithosphere as well as advances in seismic catalogs recording local seismicity.

Session Chair: Elizabeth A. Vanacore (elizabeth.vanacore@upr.edu).

ShakeMap-Related Research, Development, Operations and Applications

ShakeMap Version 4 represents a major re-engineering of the entire ShakeMap software package, including the way ground-motion parameters are interpolated, both geospatially and as a function of frequency. The new multivariate-normal interpolation strategy naturally accommodates uncertain intensity as well as ground-motion parameters, along with the correlations between the different parameters. While this new software and capabilities add important new functionality, they require (among other gaps) additional R&D on ground motion and intensity models, duration/intensity models, model selection and spatial cross correlations. Thus, this session explores current research in the modeling and validation of ground motion and intensity relations as well as new or emerging efforts to improve ground motion prediction, site amplification and geospatial analyses (along with uncertainties) pertinent to ShakeMap. Presentations on new ShakeMap products, formats and web-rendering are also encouraged.

A ShakeMap Workshop will be held on the Friday (May 18th) following the SSA meeting at the meeting venue. Workshop attendees are particularly encouraged to share their ShakeMap-related examples, research, operations and needs. We also encourage presentations on more general research, operations, or applications related to ShakeMap. Such applications include, but are not limited to: earthquake scenarios, risk assessment, loss estimation, earthquake response tools and engineering and other analyses that utilize ShakeMap ground motion estimates and associated uncertainty information.

Session Chairs: David J. Wald (wald@usgs.gov), Eric M. Thompson (emthompson@usgs.gov), Charles B. Worden (cbworden@usgs.gov).

Structure and Dynamics of Earth’s Mantle

Understanding the structure and dynamics of Earth’s mantle provides key insights into the fate of subducted slabs, the evolution of Earth, the dynamic forces that help drive large scale surface tectonics and core-mantle interactions amongst other topics of interest. Recent advancements in global seismic station coverage as well as advances in computational techniques have led to a current renaissance in studies of Earth’s interior. For example, recent P-coda scattering studies and waveform tomography have provided new insight into the distribution of mantle heterogeneity and axisymmetric 2.5D theoretical waveform modeling has provided insight into the influence of topography on waveforms on major boundaries including the transition zone and core-mantle boundary. This broad session invites submissions from observational or theoretical studies in seismology, geophysics and geodynamics exploring Earth’s mantle.

Session Chairs: Elizabeth A. Vanacore (elizabeth.vanacore@upr.edu), Fenglin Niu (niu@rice.edu).

Structure and Geodynamics of the Caribbean Plate Boundaries

The Caribbean plate (CAR) is unusual for a number of reasons. The region’s history includes numerous destructive large magnitude earthquakes and tsunamis. An intermediate sized plate (3.3x106 km²), CAR is surrounded on its north, east and south by the much larger American plates, but since much of CAR is a large igneous province (LIP), its buoyancy makes it difficult to subduct. As a consequence, it is girdled by inward directed subduction zones; the Antilles on the east, the Puerto Rico Trench in the northeast and the Central American Trench on the west. Further, the large El Pilar-San Sebastian strike-slip system along northeastern South America (SA) connects the southern Antilles trench to the Southern Caribbean Deformed Belt and a poorly defined subduction zone in northwestern SA, at which CAR subducts beneath northern Colombia and western Venezuela. The flat CAR subduction has created the Merida Andes, Perija and Santa Marta uplifts. Since the SA
Testing PSHA Input Data, Source Models and Hazard Estimates

Many open, transparent probabilistic seismic hazard assessment (PSHA) models have become available, each involving many types of input data and assumptions. To inspire confidence, their input data, source models (i.e., earthquake forecasts) and hazard estimates require rigorous testing and validation.

UCERF3, the most advanced and comprehensive earthquake forecast ever, serves as an important example of a PSHA source model. It uses earthquake history, geologic fault data, geodetic and geologic strain rates and many assumptions. It is used in the US National Seismic Hazard Maps and the Uniform Building Code. With 1440 logic tree branches in just the time-independent models, it calculates off-fault epicenter rate density and rates of about 250,000 fault rupture scenarios, offering targets to evaluate the internal consistency and influence of model parameters and data values.

We welcome contributions to testing PSHA input data, including earthquake history, paleo-seismic event rates, geological and geodetic fault slip rates; strategies for integrating those data into source models; ground motion prediction equations; and resulting hazard estimates.

Tsunami Outreach, Education and Warning Dissemination: Cross-disciplinary Opportunities for Increasing Tsunami Resiliency

Tsunami-vulnerable areas continue to grow as coastal development expands and more people reside in tsunami-at-risk areas. However, as time passes from the last major ocean-wide tsunami in 2011, the urgency for and attention on tsunami risk reduction has taken a back seat to more recent events such as hurricanes, wildland fires and earthquakes. This session provides a broad forum for tsunami outreach, education and warning studies and related mitigation efforts. We particularly invite contributions from researchers working across disciplines, including multi-hazard frameworks, that involve solutions to evacuation and warning issues and have addressed how other more recent events such as hurricanes can be used to promote tsunami resilience and risk reduction.

Session Chairs: Lori Dengler (lori.dengler@humboldt.edu), Christa G. von Hillebrandt-Andrade (christa.vonh@noaa.gov), Rick I. Wilson (rick.wilson@conservation.ca.gov).
processes behind ground motion. Large uncertainty has often plagued estimates of physical parameters; it is important to reduce this uncertainty to discern the underlying seismological trends. Collaboration between the engineering and seismological communities is mutually beneficial. This session aims to bring together these communities to increase communication of new developments in targeting and understanding sources of uncertainty or variability in ground motion estimation, as well as working towards quantifying and reducing uncertainty for applications of seismic hazard assessment.

We welcome studies focused on understanding the foundations of variability in the seismological processes or parameters affecting ground motion estimation (earthquake source parameters, source characterization, etc.), on improving crustal models and techniques for ground motion simulations, on methods of quantifying uncertainty in seismological processes, as well as on strategies for reducing aleatory uncertainty as represented in ground motion prediction equations and probabilistic seismic hazard analysis.

Session Chairs: Valerie J. Sahakian (vsahakian@usgs.gov), Annemarie S. Baltay (abaltay@usgs.gov), Kathryn E. Wooldell (wooldell@seismo.berkeley.edu).

**Urban Liquefaction and Lateral Spread Investigations and Mapping**

Liquefaction and lateral spreading are major coseismic geohazards that have an especially large impact on lifelines, in particular when they occur in urban areas. A number of recent events (e.g., Christchurch, New Zealand and the recent 2017 Mexico City event) demonstrate that further geological and geotechnical investigations and models are required to better understand where liquefaction and lateral spreading will take place in order to avoid or design to mitigate these coseismic hazards. This session focuses on urban liquefaction and lateral spread investigations and mapping efforts to better understand occurrence and recurrence of this strong-ground motion derived geohazard. The field of liquefaction hazard mapping has advanced substantially since initial projects in the 1980s through 1990s established the practice. This session is focused on reviewing advances brought about by documentation of effects from earthquakes over the past few decades and ongoing advances and application of new technologies and analytical understanding.

Specific topics of interest include integration of remote sensing exploration (lidar, satellite observations, etc) of recent liquefaction and lateral spreading, in addition to geological (trenching), geotechnical (CPT and drilling) and geophysical (e.g. shear wave, seismic reflection or refraction mapping, resistivity or radar) investigations to advance the predictive capabilities of hazard mapping. Also of interest are comparative studies between predictive hazard maps and actual occurrence of damaging liquefaction to assess the effectiveness of current mapping techniques.

Session Chairs: Gregory P. De Pascale (snowyknight@gmail.com), Jeffrey Bachhuber (jxbs@pge.com).

**USGS Seismic Hazard User-Needs**

The US Geological Survey (USGS) National Seismic Hazard Modeling Project (NSHMP) invites our user community to present how they use the National Seismic Hazard Models and resulting products, such as hazard curves, ground motion maps, deaggregations, web services, computer codes, catalogs and source parameter data. Considering future updates in 2020 and beyond, and possibly including one-year forecasts for induced seismicity, the NSHMP would like to know more about how the user community uses its products and thereby how the models might need to be improved. In addition to changes to current products, we would also like to know what additional products would be helpful. Although the structural engineering community is the primary user of the National Seismic Hazard Models, many members of the SSA community consider the models and their components, in a broad array of research and industry applications, such as liquefaction and landslide stability studies and insurance risk assessments.

Session Chairs: Susan M. Hoover (shoover@usgs.gov), Nico Luco (nluco@usgs.gov), Peter M. Powers (pmpowers@usgs.gov), Sanaz Rezaeian (srezaeian@usgs.gov).

**U.S. National Seismic Hazard Model Updates: 2018, 2020 and Beyond**

The US Geological Survey (USGS) National Seismic Hazard Models (NSHMs) are a bridge for translating “best-available” earthquake science into public policy. Historically, the NSHM for the conterminous U.S. has been updated every six years. The 2018 update will be a four-year update. Compared to the six-year cycle, the 2018 update will have fewer changes, thereby distributing sensitivity testing that becomes difficult when numerous changes are considered at once. This session focuses on the 2018, 2020 and future updates to the conterminous U.S. model. The deadline for any suggested modifications or additions to be considered to the 2018 model has passed; during this session we will summarize the scientific improvements in the 2018 model and discuss the outcome of the USGS 2018 NSHM update workshop (March 2018) in California. Looking forward, the deadline for published research to be included into the 2020 model is quickly approaching (June 2018). For this session, we invite contributions in all topics and areas that will influence future hazard models, for example: NGA-East, NGA-Subduction, physics-based ground motion models (3D simulations) and source models (UCERF4), source model implementations, directivity methods, fault characterizations, scaling equations, site amplifications and catalogs, among others.

Session Chairs: Allison M. Shumway (ashumway@usgs.gov), Susan M. Hoover (shoover@usgs.gov), Morgan P. Moschetti (mmoschetti@usgs.gov), Mark D. Petersen (mpetersen@usgs.gov), Peter M. Powers (pmpowers@usgs.gov).
Program for 2018 SSA Annual Meeting

Presenting author is indicated in bold.

**Tuesday 15 May—Oral Sessions**

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<td>8:30 AM</td>
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<td><strong>Interaction Between Observations and Models in Seismo-Volcanic Studies</strong> Session Chairs: Mario C. Ruiz and Mauricio Mora (see page 798)</td>
<td><strong>Tsunami Modeling and Hazard Assessment</strong> Session Chairs: Stephanie L. Ross, Silvia Chacón, Juan J. Horillo, Alberto Lopez, and Hong Kie Thio (see page 813)</td>
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<td>8:30 AM</td>
<td>Regional Seismic Network Approaches and Stakeholder Collaborations</td>
<td>Advances in Seismic Site Response Studies Given Limitations in Understanding of Site Conditions Session Chairs: Michael West, Sergio Barrientos, Paul Bodin, Victor A. Huertano, Xyoli Pérez-Campos, and Alexandros Savvaidis (see page 807)</td>
<td>Onshore Quaternary and Contemporary Tectonics: Implications for Seismic Hazards Session Chairs: Lucille Piety and Joanna Redwine (see page 806)</td>
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<td><strong>9:30 AM</strong></td>
<td><strong>Numerical Modeling of Earthquake Ground Motion, Rupture...</strong></td>
<td><strong>Interaction Between Observations and Models in Seismo-Volcanic Studies</strong></td>
<td><strong>Tsunami Modeling and Hazard Assessment</strong></td>
<td><strong>Essentials of Seismic Risk Estimates</strong></td>
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<td><strong>9:45–10:45 AM</strong></td>
<td><strong>Posters and Break</strong></td>
<td><strong>Numerical Modeling of Earthquake Ground Motion, Rupture Dynamics and Seismic Wave (continued)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Interaction Between Observations and Models in Seismo-Volcanic Studies (continued)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Tsunami Modeling and Hazard Assessment (continued)</strong></td>
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<td>Geophysical Networks in Peru: A National Effort for Earthquake Disaster</td>
<td>Advances in Seismic Site Response Studies Given Limitations...</td>
<td>Onshore Quaternary and Contemporary Tectonics...</td>
<td>3D/4D Seismic Imaging and Their Interpretation for Seismic Hazard...</td>
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<td>Tobón López, A. M., Herrera García, D. C., Yamin, L. E., Tary, J. B.</td>
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<td>Which Site Proxy Should We Use in Ground-Motion Models? Sandikkaya, M. A.</td>
<td>The Next Big Earthquake: The Usual and the Unusual Suspects</td>
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<td>STUDENT: Paleo Earthquakes, Historical-Prehistorical Warnings, Surface</td>
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<td>Ruptures, and Unsuspected Active Faults in Peru and Ecuador. Audin, L.,</td>
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<td>Benavente Escobar, C., L., Alvarado, A., Zerathe, S.,</td>
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<td>STUDENT: Integration of Site Effects Into PSHA: A Comparison between Two Fully</td>
<td>Hazards from the Sea: Rupture Scenarios for the San Diego Trough and</td>
<td>STUDENT: Does the Integration of Two Different Datasets Affect</td>
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<td>M., Ruhl, C. J., Kent, G. M., Driscoll, N. W.</td>
<td>High Agri Valley (Southern Italy). Serlinga, V., Stabile, T. A.</td>
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<td>Application of Non-Ergodic Site Response for a Unique Facility in Los Angeles,</td>
<td>Lidar Reveals New Geomorphic Evidence of Shaking and Slip on the Reelfoot</td>
<td>Geometry of the Los Angeles Basin Using Full H/V Spectral Ratio</td>
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<td>Luncheon: SSA Award Ceremony and Business Meeting</td>
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**Tuesday 15 May (continued)**

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<td>11:30 AM</td>
<td>Regional Seismic Network Approaches and Stakeholder Collaborations</td>
<td>Advances in Seismic Site Response Studies Given Limitations…</td>
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<td>Estimating Seismic Source Time Functions in Stochastic Earth Models. <strong>Poppeliers, C., Preston, L., Eliassi, M.</strong></td>
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<td>Session Chairs: Peter Molnar, Peter Haeussler, and Brian F. Atwater (see page 800)</td>
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<td>INVITED: Subduction Zone Geometry and Its Influence on the Locations of Megathrust Earthquakes. <strong>Hayes, G. P., Moore, G., Plescia, S.</strong></td>
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<td>Fault to Seismic Hazard Assessment (Fault2SHA) in Latin (Central and South) America (continued)</td>
<td>Advances in the Theory, Modeling, and Observation of Anelastic Seismic Wave Propagation—Recent Anelastic Models of the Earth (continued)</td>
<td>Ground Motion and Earthquake Engineering Session Chairs: Sinan Akkar and Thomas Herring (see page 797)</td>
<td>Environmental Seismology: Glaciers, Rivers, Landslides and Beyond (continued)</td>
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<td><strong>Regional Seismic Network Approaches and Stakeholder Collaborations</strong></td>
<td><strong>Advances in Explosion Seismo-Acoustic Research</strong></td>
<td><strong>Science Gateways and Computational Tools for Improving...</strong></td>
<td><strong>Megathrust Earthquakes: Recurrence, Rupture Modes and Tsunamis</strong></td>
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**Regional Seismic Network Approaches and Stakeholder Collaborations (continued)**

**Advances in Explosion Seismo-Acoustic Research (continued)**

**INVITED: Upper Stratosphere Wind Variations and Their Effect on Regional Infrasound Propagation.** **Lees, J. M.**, Bowman, D. C.

**Megathrust Earthquakes: Recurrence, Rupture Modes and Tsunamis (continued)**

**STUDENT: Newly Detected, Small Earthquakes to Delineate Fault Heterogeneities in the Cascadia Seismogenic Zone.** **Morton, E. A.**, Bilek, S. L., Rowe, C. A.
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<td>Ground Motion Estimation of Recently Identified Crustal Faults in Central Chile. Crempien, J. G. F., Aron, F., Santibáñez, I., Seguel, M.</td>
<td>Physical Models of Rock Anelasticity. Morozov, I. B.</td>
<td>Ground Motion and Earthquake Engineering</td>
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**Poster Sessions**

**3D/4D Seismic Imaging and Their Interpretation for Seismic Hazard Assessment (see page 816)**

1. STUDENT: Seismic Structure of the Río De La Plata Craton from Surface Wave Tomography. Balestrini, F. I., Rosa, M. L.

2. STUDENT: Crustal Structure in the Pantanal and Chaco Basin from Receiver Function. Rivadeneyra-Vera, J. C., Bianchi, M.


4. STUDENT: Crustal Structure of the Amazonian Craton and Adjacent Provinces in Brazil. Albuquerque, D. F.
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<td>Ruppert, N. A., Gardine, M. D., Suleimani, E., Dickson, I.,</td>
<td>Infrasound Arrays in the Western United States Using Ground Truth</td>
<td><strong>INVITED:</strong> Microfossil Measures of Subsidence During Past Plate-Boundary</td>
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<td>Buurman, H., Gardine, L.</td>
<td>Sources. <strong>Park, J.</strong>, Hayward, C., Stump, B. W.</td>
<td>Earthquakes: Their Accuracy Revealed by a Sudden Tidal-Flooding</td>
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<td>One Year of Texas Seismological Network Seismic Data. <strong>Savvidis, A.</strong>,</td>
<td>Seismo-Acoustic Analysis of Chemical Explosions at the Nevada National</td>
<td>Megathrust Earthquakes and the Seismic Cycle at the Copper River Delta,</td>
<td>Megathrust Earthquakes: Their Accuracy Revealed by a Sudden Tidal-</td>
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**Fraça, G. S., Moreira, L. P., Assumpção, M., Bianchi, M., Barros, L. V., Quispe, C. C., Oliveira, M. E.**


6. **Student: Seismic Anisotropy and Mantle Dynamics beneath the Arabian Plate. Qaysi, S. I., Liu, K., Gao, S.**

7. **Student: Rayleigh Wave Group-Velocity across the Southern United States from Ambient Noise Tomography. Barman, D., Pulliam, J., Quiros, D. A.**


Advances in Explosion Seismo-Acoustic Research (see page 818)

13. Regional 3-D Geophysical Characterization of the Nevada National Security Site. Preston, L., Poppelets, C., Schodt, D.
16. Underground Explosions in Anisotropic Media: Coupling of Near- and Far-Field Motions and Implications for SPE. Hirakawa, E. T., Ezzedine, S.

Advances in Seismic Site Response Studies Given Limitations in Understanding of Site Conditions (see page 820)

24. STUDENT: Adjustments of the Amplification Factors for Site Response in Israel Based on Average Shear Wave Velocity and Peak Frequency. Baram, A., Kamai, R., Yagoda-Biran, G.
25. STUDENT: Bedrock Site Conditions and Kappa in Charlevoix, Quebec. Palmer, S. M., Atkinson, G. M.
28. Improving the Potential of the H/v Spectral Ratio Technique by Using the Coda of Seismic Noise Autocorrelations. Tchawe Nziha, F., Froment, B., Camillo, M.
29. Comparison of S-Wave HVSR from Earthquake Recordings and 1-D Site Response Modeling. Carpenter, N. S., Wang, Z., Woolery, E. W.
30. STUDENT: Investigating Basin Amplification Factors for Shaking in the Reno, Nevada, Region for Local and Regional Events. Dunn, M., Louie, J., Smith, K. D., Dickenson, S.
32. Comparison of Vs30 Determined from Rayleigh Waves and Love Waves at Six Strong Ground Motion Sites in Napa, California. Chan, J. H.

Ground Motion and Earthquake Engineering (see page 823)


Environmental Seismology: Glaciers, Rivers, Landslides and Beyond (see page 823)

35. Wave-Driven Ice Shelf Rift Propagation. Lipovsky, B. P.
36. Neotectonics. Gomes, A. A., Assumpção, M.
Tuesday 15 May


The Exotic Seismic Events Catalog (ESEC) Data Product. Bahayar, M., Van Fossen, M., Allstadt, K. E., Malone, S. D., Trabant, C.

Fault to Seismic Hazard Assessment (Fault2SHA) in Latin (Central and South) America (see page 825)

Temporal Patterns of Earthquakes: Devil’s Staircases

Estimation of Seismic Source Recurrence Parameters without Knowledge of Time-Varying Level of Completeness. Kijko, A., Smit, A.


Investigation of H/V Spectral Ratio (HVSR), Spectral Decay Parameter (κ), and Strong-Motion Duration Based on a Ground-Motion Database of Chilean Subduction-Zone Earthquakes. Yang, S., Mavroeidis, G. P., Sonnemann, T., Halldorsson, B., Shen, Z., Rong, Y., Varazanashvili, O., Arabidze, V., Gogoladze, T.

FAULT2SHA Working Group: Linking Faults to Seismic Hazard Assessment. Scotti, O., Peruzza, L.


Sensitivity of Seismicity to Earthquake Hazard Assessments to Earthquake Catalogue Quality. Onur, T., Gok, R., Godoladze, T.

Seismic Hazard Assessment of the Kashmir Basin, Northwestern Himalaya: A Probabilistic Approach. Sana, H.

Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Assessment for Large Dam Area, Georgia (Sakartvelo) Case. Tsereteli, N. S., Varazanashvili, O., Arabidze, V., Gogoladze, Z.


42. Interaction Between Observations and Models in Seismo-Volcanic Studies (see page 827)

44. Temporal Patterns of Earthquakes: Devil’s Staircases

45. From the Seismic Cycle to Long-Term Deformation: Linking Seismic Coupling and Quaternary Coastal Geomorphology along the Andean Megathrust.

46. Investigation of H/V Spectral Ratio (HVSR), Spectral Decay Parameter (κ), and Strong-Motion Duration Based on a Ground-Motion Database of Chilean Subduction-Zone Earthquakes.

47. FAULT2SHA Working Group: Linking Faults to Seismic Hazard Assessment.

48. Exposure of Chilean Tailings to Earthquake Hazards from Potentially Seismogenic Crustal Faults.

49. Sensitivity of Seismicity to Earthquake Hazard Assessments to Earthquake Catalogue Quality.


52. A New Seismic Hazard Model for Mainland China.

53. Historical Records of Seismic Activities in Coxim, Pantanal Wetlands.

54. Student: Earthquake Stress Changes before, during, and after the 2015 Eruption at Axial Seamount.

55. Student: Earthquake Detection and High-Resolution Body-Wave Tomography at Okmok Volcano, Alaska.

56. Unrest at Masaya and Momotombo Volcano, Nicaragua, Investigated with a Temporary Seismic Network.

57. Coda Wave Interferometry, Cross-Terms Analysis of EGF at Popocatépetl Volcano, Mexico.

58. The Volcano-Tectonic Seismicity of Teide Volcano (Tenerife).

59. Upper Crustal Structure of the Ceboruco Volcano (Mexico) Revealed by Ambient Seismic Noise Tomography.

60. Student: Ambient Noise Tomography of Okmok Volcano, Alaska.

61. Student: Analysis of Reflected Body Wave Phases at the Altiplano-Puna Magma Body near Uturuncu Volcano, Bolivia.

62. Seismic and Acoustic Monitoring at Volcán De Colima, Mexico.

63. Student: Toward an Automatic Recognition System Based on Machine Learning Techniques at Cotopaxi Volcano.


65. Student: Spectral Analysis for Characterizing Microseisms Produced in the Cotopaxi Volcano.

66. Identifying Changes in Magmatic Activity at Veniaminof Volcano, Alaska, over Multiple Eruptive Cycles via Ambient Noise Interferometry.

67. Western Eger Rift in Central Europe: Active Magmatic Emplacement from Combined Seismological and Isotope Study.

68. Earthquake-Volcano Conversations at Volcán Guagua Pichincha, Ecuador.
Tuesday 15 May (continued)


74. What Caused the Local Stress Perturbation in Long Valley, California? Lin, G., Christian, F., Amelung, F.

75. Student: Using SAR Data to Monitor the Dynamics of Ecuadorian Volcanoes. Mirzaee, S., Amelung, F., Ruiz, M. C., Mothes, P. A.


Numerical Modeling of Earthquake Ground Motion, Rupture Dynamics and Seismic Wave Propagation (see page 832)

77. Jizhaigou Ms 7.0 Earthquake High-Frequency Ground Motion Simulation and Zhangzha Town Intensity Estimation. Chen, X.

78. Deterministic Waveform Modeling to Aid Gmpe Development in Areas of Induced Seismicity, the Importance of Kinematic Finite Faults. Zurek, B. D., Burnett, W. B., deMartin, B.


80. Student: Comparison of Observed and Synthetic Dynamic Ground Strains and Rotations in the Near-Fault Region of the 2004 Parkfield Earthquake. Cao, Y., Mavroeidis, G. P., Ashoory, M.


82. Student: Differentiating the P and SV Contribution to the Vertical Ground Motions, Using 3D Wave-Propagation Simulations. Frid, M., Kamai, R.


84. Near-Fault Broadband Ground Motion Simulations of the 2016 Meinong, Taiwan, Earthquake. Diao, H., Miyake, H., Koketsu, K.

85. Student: A New Ground-Motion Model for Iran. Farajpour, Z., Pezeshk, S., Zare, M., Zafarani, H.

86. Student: Numerical Simulations of Stress Variations with Depth near the B Britttle-Ductile Transition of a Strike-Slip Fault. Abolfathian, N., Johnson, C. W., Ben-Zion, Y.


Onshore Quaternary and Contemporary Tectonics: Implications for Seismic Hazards (see page 835)


92. Student: Earthquake-Induced Landslides Estimates Based on Ground Motion Parameter Maps for Central Mexico. Valencia, D. I., Ramírez-Guzmán, L.

93. Student: Sequence Stratigraphy of Upper Paleogene to Neogene Carbonates Exposed from Guanica Bay to Guayanilla, Southern Puerto Rico. Flores, V. E., Santos, H.

The Next Big Earthquake: The Usual and the Unusual Suspects (see page 832)


97. A Paleoseismic Investigation of the Northern Teton Fault at the Steamboat Mountain Trench Site, Grand Teton
Tuesday 15 May (continued)


**Regional Seismic Network Approaches and Stakeholder Collaborations** (see page 837)


99. **STUDENT:** Ana-Net Seismic Network: Eskisehir and Bursa, Turkey. **Mutlu, S. M.**, Tun, M. T., Pekkan, E. P., Güney, Y. G.


103. **STUDENT:** Seismicity in Pennsylvania and the Pennsylvania State Seismic Network. **Homman, K. A.**, Nyblade, A. A.

104. **xQuake:** Re-Imagining Regional Network Operations. **Johnson, C. E.**


**Science Gateways and Computational Tools for Improving Earthquake Research** (see page 840)


115. Parsing and Transforming Textual Seismic Data Using Parser Generators. **MacCarthy, J. K.**

**Tsunami Modeling and Hazard Assessment** (see page 954)


117. Modeling the Tsunami Potential along the Pacific Coast of Central America. **Chacon-Barrantes, S. E.**, Zamora-Sauma, N., Mendoza-García, D. P.


119. Operational Significance of the Quality of the Earthquake Source Parameters Listed in the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center’s Observatory Messages versus the Tsunami Bulletins That Followed. **Sardiña, V. H. R.**, Weinstein, S. A.

120. **STUDENT:** Speeding Up and Boosting Tsunami Warning Alerts in Chile. Fuentes, M. A., Riquelme, S., Arriola, S.

121. **STUDENT:** Modeling Tsunami Inundation Effects from a Hypothetical Submarine Landslide from the Arecibo Amphitheater on the Coastal San Juan Metropolitan Area. **Feliciano-Centeno, L. M.**, López-Venegas, A.

### Wednesday 16 May—Oral Sessions

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**Effect of the Gaochuan Right Bend on Fault Spontaneous Rupture Propagation in the 2008 Wenchuan Earthquake: Interpretation of Seismic Hazard in the Beichuan Area.** **Zhu, S.**, Yuan, J.
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<td><strong>Early Warning for Large Earthquakes and Tsunamis: Challenges, Case Studies and Innovations</strong>&lt;br&gt;Session Chairs: Christine J. Ruhl, Emrah Yenier, Men-Andrin Meier, Neil Spriggs, Diego Melgar, Marlon D. Ramos, and David Easton (see page 846)</td>
<td><strong>Recent Advances in Dense Array Seismology</strong>&lt;br&gt;Session Chairs: Ting Chen, Fan-Chi Lin, Norimitsu Nakata, and Catherine Snelson (see page 592)</td>
<td><strong>Seismic Event Screening</strong>&lt;br&gt;Session Chairs: Raymond Willemann and David Bowers (see page 868)</td>
<td><strong>Megathrust Earthquakes: Recurrence, Rupture Modes and Tsunamis</strong>&lt;br&gt;Session Chairs: Peter Molnar, Peter Haeussler, and Brian F. Atwater (see page 800)</td>
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<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td><strong>A Pseudo Real Time Assessment of Earthquake Early Warning Algorithms</strong>&lt;br&gt;Yenier, E., Spriggs, N.</td>
<td><strong>Joint Body-Wave and Surface-Wave Tomography over a Partially Collapsed Nuclear Test, Nevada National Security Site</strong>&lt;br&gt;Abbott, R. E., Preston, L., Onyango, E., Worthington, L. L.</td>
<td><strong>Mapping Spectral Ratios to Discriminate between Shallow Low-Magnitude Earthquakes and Blasts</strong>&lt;br&gt;Kolaj, M.</td>
<td><strong>INVITED: The Northern Caribbean Megathrust</strong>&lt;br&gt;ten Brink, U.</td>
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<td>9:30 AM</td>
<td>Exploring Rupture Dynamics and Seismic Wave Propagation along Complex Fault Systems (continued)</td>
<td>Structure and Dynamics of Earth’s Mantle</td>
<td>U.S. National Seismic Hazard Model Updates: 2018, 2020 and Beyond</td>
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9:45-10:45 AM | Posters and Break
10:45 AM | Regional EEW Applications in Marmara Region (NW Turkey) for Distant Large Earthquakes. **Pinar, A.**, **Kalkan Ertan, E.** Recent Advances in Dense Array Seismology (continued) **Langston, C. A.** Seismic Event Screening (continued) Discrimination of the DPRK Announced Underground Explosions and Their Aftershocks Using the Pg/\(lg\) Spectral Amplitude Ratio. **Kitov, I.**, **Le Bras, R. J.**, **Rozhkov, M.**, **Sanina, I.**
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<td>Development and Validation of Statistical Models...</td>
<td>U.S. National Seismic Hazard Model Updates: 2018, 2020 and Beyond</td>
<td>Ocean Bottom Seismology—Hurdles, Strategies and Outcomes</td>
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<td>11:30 AM</td>
<td>Early Warning for Large Earthquakes and Tsunamis...</td>
<td>Recent Advances in Dense Array Seismology</td>
<td>Seismic Event Screening</td>
<td>Megathrust Earthquakes: Recurrence, Rupture Modes and Tsunamis</td>
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<td>Real-Time GNSS Network Operations and Advances towards Early Warning Systems</td>
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<td>Observations and the</td>
<td>Induced Seismicity in the High Agri Valley (Southern Italy): First</td>
<td>Testing PSHA Input Data, Source Models and Hazard Estimates</td>
<td>Microzonation Studies—Site Effects</td>
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<td>Physics Behind Complex</td>
<td>Observations from the INSIEME Seismic Network. <strong>Stabile, T. A.,</strong></td>
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<td>Satriano, C., Romanelli, M., Gueguen, E., Serlenge, V., <em>et al.</em></td>
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<td>INVITED: Earthquake</td>
<td>INVITED: How Widespread Is Human-Induced Seismicity in the USA and</td>
<td>INVITED: Simulation-Based Evaluation for Probabilistic Seismic Hazard</td>
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<td>Complexity Due to</td>
<td>Canada? <strong>Van der Baan, M.,</strong> Calixto, F. J.</td>
<td>Models—A Case Study for Japan. <strong>Mak, S.,</strong> Hirata, N., Nagao, H., Cotton,</td>
<td><strong>Young, B. E.,</strong> Savvaidis, A., Rathje, E. M.</td>
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<td>Complexity of</td>
<td>Student: The Binary Forecast Approach to Induced Seismicity. **Kahue,</td>
<td>Development of New Australian Magnitude Conversion Equations and Its</td>
<td>The Trinidad and Tobago Microzonation Project: Understanding and</td>
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<td>Pint and Poster</td>
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<td>and Acoustic Data Analysis</td>
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<td>Session Chairs: Daniel C. Bowman, Sarah A. Albert, and Matthew M. Haney (see page 857)</td>
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<td>Real-Time GNSS Network Operations and Advances towards Early Warning...</td>
<td>Advances on the Parameterization of Seismic Attenuation...</td>
<td>Present-Day Plate Boundary Deformation and Seismic Hazard...</td>
<td>The Future of Telemetered Seismic Arrays—Where the Operation...</td>
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<td>Observed Characteristics of Induced Seismicity: From Laboratory...</td>
<td>Seismic Structure of Convergent Plate Margins</td>
<td>Microzonation Studies—Site Effects</td>
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Joyner Lecture

LACSC/SSA Reception

LACSC Public General Assembly

Women in Seismology Reception
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<td><strong>Real-Time GNSS Network</strong></td>
<td><strong>Advances on the Parameterization of Seismic</strong></td>
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<td>Attenuation...</td>
<td><strong>Puerto Rico...</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Plate Boundary Observatory</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Assessing Earthquake</strong></td>
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<td>GNSS Real Time Field**</td>
<td>Near-Surface Attenuation. <strong>Pilz, M.</strong></td>
<td>Hazard in the Caribbean and Central America**</td>
<td><strong>Array in Alaska: Overview and Future Plans:</strong></td>
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<td>Operations. <strong>Walls, C. P.,</strong></td>
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<td>Mann, D., Hodgkinson, K. M.,</td>
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<td><strong>Effective Amplitude Spectrum (EAS) as a</strong></td>
<td><strong>INVITED: Seismic Hazard Model for the</strong></td>
<td><strong>INVITED: High Latitude Telemetry: Trades</strong></td>
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<td>at INETER, Nicaragua, and Early</td>
<td><strong>Metric for Ground Motion Modeling Using Fourier</strong></td>
<td><strong>Caribbean Region.</strong> <strong>Torpey, M.,</strong></td>
<td><strong>between Sample Rate, Power</strong></td>
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<td>Warning in Central America.</td>
<td><strong>Amplitudes.</strong> <strong>Goulet, C. A., Kottke, A.,</strong></td>
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<td><strong>and Latency.</strong> <strong>Carpenter, P.,</strong></td>
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<td><strong>INVITED: Robustness of x0 Measurement: Insight</strong></td>
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<td>de México (REGNOM) in Northern</td>
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<td><strong>Assessment of Ground</strong></td>
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<td>Baja California. **Gonzalez-</td>
<td>Seismicity Context of Southeastern France.**</td>
<td><strong>Motion Prediction Equations and Site</strong></td>
<td><strong>Alaska Transportable Array.</strong></td>
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<td>Ortega, J. A., Ramon Morales,</td>
<td><strong>Perron, V., Hollender, F., Bard, P. Y.,</strong></td>
<td>** Corrections for Use in Haiti.** <strong>Bent, A. L.,</strong></td>
<td><strong>Aderhold, K., Busby, R. W., Frassetto, A.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Student: Toward a Geodetic</strong></td>
<td><strong>INVITED: Kappa Effects on Hard-Rock Ground</strong></td>
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<td><strong>The Canadian Cordillera</strong></td>
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<td>Motions: An On-Going Research.** <strong>Abrahamson,</strong></td>
<td><strong>Puerto Rico Earthquake.</strong> <strong>LaForge, R. C.,</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Disciplinary Geoscience Program for Canada.</strong></td>
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Advances on the Parameterization of Seismic Attenuation: Current Challenges and Opportunities (see page 877)

7. Student: Separation of Intrinsic and Scattering Attenuation in the NMSZ of the Central United States. Nazemi, N., Pezeshk, S., Sedaghati, F.
9. K0: Origin and Usability. Parolai, S.

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12. Student: Seismic Scattering from Topography and Small-Scale Crustal Heterogeneity: Application to the 2009 North Korean Nuclear Test. Yeh, T., Olsen, K. B.
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17. Determining Magnitudes of Large Earthquakes in Japan Using Seismic Stations in China. Wang, D.

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25. Weakening of Fault Planes by Flash Melting Implies Near-Fault Anelastic Failure. Sleep, N. H.
26. Ground Motion Simulation and Topography Amplification Effect on an ms6.6 Minxian Earthquake. Fu, C. H.
27. Student: Constraints on Spatial Distribution of Earthquakes within a 2-D Damaged Fault Zone in Seismic Cycles. Thakur, P., Huang, Y. H.
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29. Station, Data, and Instrument Analysis of the Cascades Volcano Observatory’s Seismic Network Using Xmax and Other Tools. Darold, A. P., Holland, A. A.


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34. Gempa Nusantara: A New Digital Database of Felt Intensity for Historical Earthquakes in the Indonesian Archipelago. Martin, S. S., Locati, M., Sieh, K. E.

35. Cascadia Onshore-Offshore Site Response, Submarine Sediment Mobilization, and Earthquake Recurrence. Gomberg, J. S.

36. Tree-Ring Dating of the Penultimate Great Alaska Earthquake to the Winter of 1029-1030 Ce. Haussler, P. J., Barclay, D. J.


38. Student: Modeling “The Big One”, Insights from 2-D Dynamic Rupture Simulations. Ramos, M. D., Huang, Y. H.


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44. Integrated Geophysical Study of the Kingston Metropolitan Area Using Ambient Noise. Papadopoulos, I., Higgins, M., Smith, D.

45. Student: On the Impacts of Disregarding the Correct Soil Type and/or Correct Structural Period of Assets on the Portfolio Risk Assessment. Sedaghati, F., Daneshvaran, S.

46. H/V Spectral Ratio Analysis for Site Characterization Beneath LPA (La Plata) Station, Buenos Aires, Argentina. Rosa, M. L.


48. The Preliminary Study of Seismic Microzonation and Seismic Hazard Assessment for Urban Areas of Gori (Georgia). Gogoladze, Z., Moscatelli, M., Tsereteli, N. S, Albarello, D., Giallini, S.


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51. Moment Tensor Inversion in an Optimized, Three-Dimensional Seismic Earth’s Model. Guillot, L. F., Burgos, G., Landes, M., Trilla, A., Shapiro, N. M.

52. Seismo-Acoustic Signatures of Industrial Facilities. Marcillo, O. E., Maceira, M., Gammans, C.
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54. Crowd Sourcing Data Collection to Enhance the Understanding of Ground Truth Events. Hertzog, J. T., Antolik, M., Marin, N., Brogan, R., Nava, S.


56. Prediction and Separation of Surface Waves into Fundamental Mode and Overtones Based on the Nonlinear Dispersion Measurement. Hu, H., Zheng, Y.


58. Student: Multi-Scale Study of Ground Motion Coherence in Piñon Flats and the San Jacinto Fault Zone. Qin, L., Ben-Zion, Y., Vernon, F. L.


60. Student: Exploring the Relation between Backprojection Images and Earthquake Source Processes. Yim, J., Denolle, M. A.


65. Student: Diverse Volumetric Faulting Patterns in the San Jacinto Fault Zone. Cheng, Y., Ross, Z. E., Ben-Zion, Y.

66. Student: How Much Can We Resolve Acceleration and Deceleration of Earthquake Rupture Evolution? Okuwaki, R., Yagi, Y.


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70. Güralp Systems: Illuminating the Oceans with an Ocean Bottom Family for All Requirements. Allardice, S. A., Manguo, G.

71. Increased Global Seismic Sampling via Proposed Transoceanic SMART Cable Sensors – Comparing Ray Coverage through the SALSA3D Global Model. Rowe, C. A., Begaud, M. L., Syracuse, E. M., Howe, B. M.


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78. COCONet Mirror Data Center at INETER, Nicaragua, and Early Warning in Central America. Ramirez, A., Strauch, W.


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87. **Student:** Local-Similarity Based Seismic Event Detection and Location in the Western Alps with a Dense Linear Array. **Zhai, Q.**, Peng, Z., Li, Z., Zhao, L.
89. **Student:** Utilization of Dense Surface Seismic Array for Detection of Low Magnitude Intermediate Depth Earthquakes from Bucaramanga Nest. **Alalli, A. A.**, Beroza, G. C.
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92. **Seismic Reflection Imaging With Earthquake Sources and Dense Arrays: Beyond Structural Imaging From P-Wave Reflections.** **Quiros, D. A.**, Pulliam, J.
93. **Shallow Sedimentary Structure of the Tangshan Earthquake Region Unveiled by Dense Seismic Array and Microtremor Survey.** **Bao, F.**, Li, Z. W.

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95. **Discrimination of Anthropogenic Events and Tectonic Earthquakes in Utah Using a Quadratic Discriminant Function Approach with Local-Distance Amplitude Ratios.** **Tibi, R.**, Koper, K. D., Pankow, K. L., Young, C.

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96. **Moment Tensor Solutions along the Northern Caribbean Plate Boundary in Western Hispaniola (Haiti).** **Corbeau, J.**, Clouard, V., Gonzalez, O. L., Rolandone, F., Leroy, S., Mercier de Lépinay, B.
97. **Student:** The Role of Long-Term Tectonic Deformation on the Distribution of Present-Day Seismic Activity in the Caribbean and Central America. **Schobelock, J. J.**, Stamps, D. S., Pagani, M., Garcia, J. A., Styron, R.

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100. **Margin-Wide Continental Crust Anisotropy in the Mexican Subduction Zone.** Huesca-Perez, E., Valenzuela, R. W., **Ortega, R.**, Husker, A. L., Gutierrez, E., Cabral-Cano, E.
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102. **Student:** Lg Q Model for Western Tibet. **Jaiswal, N.**, Singh, C.
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110. **Student**: Sks Seismic Anisotropy Observations in Mid-Plate South America: Investigating Mantle Flow and Effects of Cratonic Keels. de Melo, B. C., Assumpção, M.

111. Spiral 1.0: Global Tomography Model of Travel Times and Surface Waves with Transversely Isotropic Crust and Mantle. Simmons, N. A., Myers, S. C.

112. Influence of Postcritical Reflection and Refraction on SmKS. Wang, L., Niu, F.

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114. Finite Fault Distance Distribution in Probabilistic Seismic Hazard and the Relationship between Extended Source Distances. Ortega, R., Gutierrez, E., Carciumaru, D., Hueseca-Perez, E.

115. **Student**: Assessing the Applicability of Ground-Motion Models for Induced Seismicity Application in Central and Eastern North America. Farhadi, A. F., Pezeshk, S.

116. Study on the Uniform Earthquake Catalogue and Seismicity of Himalaya Areas. Xu, G., Wang, S.

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118. One-Year Hazard Models, Their Performance and Uncertainties. Mousavi, S. M., Beroza, G. C.

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119. Sensitivity of Performance-Based Design to Ground Motion Characteristics. Safak, E., Cakti, E.


121. 2018 Update to the Earthquake Catalog Applied in the National Seismic Hazard Model. Hoover, S. M., Mueller, C. S., Moschetti, M. P., Petersen, M. D.

122. Implementation of NGA-East Ground Motion Models into the 2018 Update of the USGS National Seismic Hazard Model. Shumway, A. M., Petersen, M. D., McNamara, D. E., Rezaei, S., Powers, P. M.


125. Hybrid Empirical Ground-Motion Prediction Equations for the Gulf Coast Region. Pezeshk, S., Zandieh, A., Haji-Soltani, A.


127. New Paleoseismic Data from the Frenchman Mountain Fault, Las Vegas, Nevada. Dee, S. M., dePolo, C. M., Taylor, W. J., Mahan, S. A.

## Thursday 17 May—Oral Sessions

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<tr>
<td>8:30 AM</td>
<td>Invited: The Tsunami during the September 8, 2017, Tehuantepec, Mexico</td>
<td>Earthquakes and Human Activities to Induce Them in Oklahoma. Walter, J. I., Chang, J. C., Murray, K. E., Boak, J.</td>
<td>Observing Characteristics of Induced Seismicity: From Laboratory to Field Scale (Parts 3 and 4) Session Chairs: Kayla A. Kroll, Elizabeth S. Cochran, and Brett Carpenter (see page 918)</td>
<td>Increasing Testability—Expanding Possibilities and Future Developments of the Collaboratory for the Study of Earthquake Predictability Session Chairs: Andrew Michael, Danijel Schorlemmer, Maximilian Werner, and Warner (see page 917)</td>
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<td>9:45–10:45 AM</td>
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**Thursday 17 May—Oral Sessions**

- **8:45 AM**: Invited: Tsunami Public Awareness and Education Strategy for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions—Principles and Implementation. Brome, A., Aliaga, B.
- **9:00 AM**: Lessons for Tsunami and Earthquake Resilience from Hurricanes Irma and Maria in the Northeastern Caribbean. Von Hillebrandt-Andrade, C. G., Vanacore, E. A., Baez-Sanchez, G.
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<tr>
<td>9:30 AM</td>
<td>Validation of a 3-Stage Source Scaling for Crustal Earthquakes. <strong>Miyake, H.</strong>, Irิกura, K., Miyakoshi, K., Kamae, K.</td>
<td><strong>Student:</strong> On the Nature of Higher-Order Ambient Seismic Field Correlations. <strong>Sheng, Y.</strong>, Nakata, N., Beroza, G. C.</td>
<td>Inferences of Slab Tears throughout the Caribbean from Integrated Seismic Methods. <strong>Miller, M. S.</strong>, Harris, C. W., Porritt, R. W., Hodges, M.</td>
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<td>Posters and Break</td>
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The Recent Earthquakes that Shocked Mexico in September 2017
Session Chairs: Arturo Iglesias, Vala Hjörleifsdóttir, Víctor M. Cruz-Atiienza, and Roberto Ortega-Ruiz (see page 928)

10:45 AM

11:00 AM

11:15 AM
A Study of Excitation and Ground Motion Relations in Central Mexico Based on the Earthquakes of September 2017. Ortega, R., Carciumaru, D., Quintanar, L.

11:30 AM

11:45 AM

 Noon–1:15 PM
Luncheon

Thursday 17 May (continued)
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<td>1:30 PM</td>
<td>The Recent Earthquakes that Shocked Mexico in September 2017 (continued)</td>
<td>Seismic Studies of Earth’s Crust and Lithosphere</td>
<td>Applications of Machine Learning and Data Science in Seismology (continued)</td>
<td>Uncertainty in Ground Motion Estimation; Seismological and Engineering Perspectives (continued)</td>
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<p>| 2:45–3:45 PM | Pint and Poster | | | |</p>
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<td>1:30 PM</td>
<td><strong>Earthquake Source Parameters: Theory, Observations and Interpretations</strong> (continued)</td>
<td><strong>Adaptation of New Technologies and Methods to Drive New Discoveries in Seismology and Geodesy</strong> Session Chairs: Sarah E. Minson and Elizabeth S. Cochran (see page 906)</td>
<td><strong>Plate Boundary Segmentation and Coupled-to-Creeping Plate and Block Boundary Faults</strong> (continued)</td>
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<td>3:45 PM</td>
<td>The M8.2 and M7.1 September Seismic Events in Mexico: A Perspective from</td>
<td>Integrated Research, Development, and Operations of USGS Real-Time</td>
<td>Forecasting Aftershock Sequences in the Real World</td>
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<td>the Strong Motion Recording Center at UNAM. Pérez-Yáñez, C., Ramírez-Guzmán</td>
<td>Earthquake Shaking and Impact Information Systems. Wald, D. J., Allstadt,</td>
<td>van der Elst, N. J., Page, M. T.</td>
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<td>4:00 PM</td>
<td>Analysis of the Ground Motions of the September 7th and 19th 2017 Tehuantepec</td>
<td>ShakeMap Ground-Motion Interpolation Using the Multivariate Normal</td>
<td>Evolution of Aftershock Sequences Based on the Geometry of Successive Focal</td>
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<td>L., Quintanar, L., et al.</td>
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<td>4:15 PM</td>
<td>Spectral Ratios of Mexico City Motions during the 19 September 2017 Mw7.1</td>
<td>INVITED: Introducing a European Integrated Shakemap System. Cauzzi, C.,</td>
<td>Earthquake Statistics in the Eastern Tennessee and New Madrid Seismic Zones</td>
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<td>Sahakian, V. J., Melgar, D., Quintanar, L., et al.</td>
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<td>STUDENT: 3-D Velocity Structure of the Mexico City Basin and Ground Motion</td>
<td>INVITED: Shake-Map Movie by Using Data Assimilation and Correction of Site</td>
<td>Examples of Various Operational Earthquake Forecasting Products Using the</td>
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<td>Simulation of the 7.1 19 September 2017 Earthquake. Rabade, S., Baena-Rivera,</td>
<td>Amplification in Time Domain. Hoshiba, M.</td>
<td>HayWired Planning Scenario, including One Very Quick (and Not-So-Dirty)</td>
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<td>4:45 PM</td>
<td>Uncertainty and Analysis of Soil Fundamental Periods Changes in the Valley</td>
<td>INVITED: Real-Time Earthquake Impact Mapping in Indonesia: The Case of</td>
<td>Expanding the US Geological Survey’s Efforts to Effectively Communicate</td>
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<td>of Mexico. Baena-Rivera, M., Rabade, S., Contreras, M.,</td>
<td>the 2016 Aeich Earthquake (M 6.5). Pramono, S., Murjaya, J., Permana, D.,</td>
<td>Operational Earthquake Forecasts. McBride, S. K., Hardebeck, J. L., Wein,</td>
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<td>Earthquake Source Parameters: Theory, Observations and Interpretations</td>
<td>Challenges and Chances for the Widespread Implementation of Earthquake Early Warning (EEW)</td>
<td>Plate Boundary Segmentation and Coupled-to-Creeping Plate and Block Boundary Faults</td>
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<td>Session Chairs: Wilfried Strauch and Victor A. Huerfano (see page 909)</td>
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<td>4:00 PM</td>
<td>A Proposed Rupture Scenario for the 1925 Santa Barbara, California,</td>
<td>INVITED: Toward Earthquake Early Warning in Central America. Strauch, W., Clinton, J. F.,</td>
<td>Modern Kinematics of the Cordillera Blanca Fault, Northern-Central Peru, from GPS Geodesy.</td>
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<td>Relative Location of Aftershocks: Evidence for Depth Dependence of Stress</td>
<td>Perry, H. K. C., McCormack, D.</td>
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<td>Drops. Assumpção, M., Ciardelli, C.</td>
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<td>4:30 PM</td>
<td>Earthquake Stress Drops Determined from Arias Intensity. Baltay, A. S.,</td>
<td>STUDENT: Earthquake Early Warning Feasibility Study for the New Madrid Seismic Zone. Ogweno,</td>
<td>Spatial Complementarity of Tectonic Earthquake Swarms on a Transform Plate Boundary in North</td>
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<td>Melgar, D., Hayes, G. P.</td>
<td>Inbal, A., Allen, R. M.</td>
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<td>5:30 PM</td>
<td>STUDENT: Variability in Seismic Source Spectra and Stress Drop from</td>
<td>An Analysis of Real-Time GNSS Solutions from the M8.2 September 2017 Tehuantepec Earthquake</td>
<td>On the Interaction of the North Andes Plate With the Caribbean and South American Plates in</td>
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<td>Repeating Earthquake Sequences along the Nicoya Peninsula Megathrust.</td>
<td>and M7.9 January 2018 Kodiak Earthquake and Implications for Earthquake and Tsunami Early Warning Systems.</td>
<td>Northwestern South America From Gps Geodesy and Seismic Data. Perez, Omar J., Uzcategui, R.,</td>
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Cruise
Poster Sessions

Adaptation of New Technologies and Methods to Drive New Discoveries in Seismology and Geodesy (see page 935)


7. RTX Correction Accuracy and Real-Time Data Processing of the New Integrated SeismoGeodetic System with Real-Time Acceleration and Displacement Measurements for Earthquake Characterization Based on High-Rate Seismic and GPS Data. **Zimakov, L.,** Raczka, J., Barrientos, S. E.

8. Next Generation Autonomous Broadband Node. **Parker, T.,** Pigeon, S., Pelyk, N.


Applications of Machine Learning and Data Science in Seismology (see page 937)

10. The Decadal Periodicity of Large Mexican Earthquakes (Magnitude ≥7). **Velasco Hererra, V. M. N.**


14. A Non-Linear Filter to Enhance Microearthquake Detection. Salehiozoumehloouei, R., Rajaebtabrizi, Y., **D’Auria, L.,** Sánchez de la Rosa, J. L.

15. Making Realistic Synthetic Seismic Waveforms with Generative Adversarial Networks. **Li, Z.,** Hauksson, E., Meier, M. A., Zhan, Z.

16. Waveform Classification Using Statistical Learning Algorithms to Characterize Data Features from a Dense Deployment of Geophones atop an Active Fault Zone. **Johnson, C. W.,** Vernon, F. L., Ben-Zion, Y.


19. Detection of Background Seismic Waves Anomalies with a Hierarchical Temporal Memory (HTH) Cortical Algorithm. Takahashi, K., Micheletto, R. M.

20. Student: A Deep Learning Approach for Enhanced Classification of Global Seismic Waveforms. **Smith, K. E.,** Smith, A. O., Peter, A. M.

21. Student: MLP Networks to Associate Arrival Times in Noisy and Dense Earthquake Sequences. **McBrearty, I. W.,** Delorey, A. A., Johnson, P. A.

Challenges and Chances for the Widespread Implementation of Earthquake Early Warning (EEW) (see page 939)

22. Rapid Estimation of Instrumental Intensity Using Shakemap in South Korea. **Han, S.,** Jo, E., Hwang, E. H., Yun, H. J.


Earthquake Source Parameters: Theory, Observations and Interpretations (see page 940)


27. Student: Comparison of Brune-Type Stress Drops Obtained from the Improved Coda-Q Method and Spectra Decomposition Method. **Wang, W.,** Shearer, P. S.


31. Seismic Activity Migration in a Strike-Slip Fault of Porto Dos Gaúchos Seismic Zone (Pgsz)—Amazon Craton Brazil. **Barros, L. V.**, Assumpção, M., Quintero, R., Carvalho, J. M., Bowen, B. D.

32. Constraints on the Source Mechanism of the Damaging Earthquake Event of August 21, 2017, on Ischia Island (Southern Italy). Braun, T., **Famiani, D.**, Cesca, S.


36. Focal Mechanism of the 5.1Mw 2014 Lloja Earthquake, (Southern Italy). Braun, T., Hainzl, S., Cesca, S.


38. STUDENT: Understanding the Source Fault of the 5 April 2017 Earthquake Sequence near Mashhad, Iran, Using Regional Moment Tensor Analysis. **Graybeal, D. B.**, Braunmiller, J.

39. Temporal Stress Drop Variation of Microearthquakes Potentially Induced by Highly Pressurized Fluid Observed in the 2009 Hakone Volcano, Japan. **Kim, A.**, Yukuake, Y., Fujioka, M.

40. Intraplate Stress Field in South America Derived from Earthquake Focal Mechanisms. **Dias, F. L.**, Assumpção, M.

41. STUDENT: Determination of Focal Mechanisms and Depths of Small Magnitude Local and Regional Earthquakes Recorded by a Sparse Seismic Network. **Dahal, N. R.**, Ebel, J. E.

42. STUDENT: Co-Seismic Slip Distribution Inversion Applied to the Mutata Earthquake, Colombia. **Naranjo, D. F.**, Tary, J. B.

43. STUDENT: Inversion of S-Coda and P-Coda for the Prospection of Mud Diapirs in the Sinú Belt, Colombia. **Suarez Carvajal, C. F.**, Vargas Jimenez, C. A.


45. A Unified Earthquake Catalog in the Caucasus. **Gok, R.**, Godoladze, T., Onur, T., Yetirmishli, T.

46. Relocation of the Aftershock Sequence of the 1982 Miramichi, New Brunswick, Canada, Mb 5.7 Earthquake. **Ma, S. M.**, Motazedian, D. M.


48. STUDENT: Earthquake Source Parameters for Chilean Events for Use in the NGA-Subduction Project. **Contreras, V.**, Stewart, J. P., Tarragh, R. B., Kishida, T., Youngs, R.


The 8th September Mw8.2 Tehuantepec and 19th September Mw7.1 Puebla-Morelos, Mexico Earthquakes: Reconnaissance Findings and Impact on Urban Areas in South-Central Mexico (see page 946)

57. Macroseismic Intensities from the Puebla-Morelos Earthquake of 19 September 2017 (Mw 7.1). Montalvo-Arrieta, J. C., Pérez-Campos, X., Ramírez-Guzmán, L., Sosa-Ramírez, R. L.

58. Student: Remotely-Triggered Slip in Mexico City Induced by the September 2017 Mw7.1 Puebla Earthquake. Solano-Rojas, D., Hazvazli, E., Cabral-Cano, E., Wdowisnki, S.


60. Student: Spatial Distribution of Site Response and Building Damage in Mexico City Resulting from the September 19, 2017, M7.1 Central Mexico Earthquake. Pontrelli, M. A., Baise, L. G.

Emergency Management, Resilience and Preparedness (see page 947)


64. Toward a Reliable Tsunami Early Warning System in Puerto Rico. Huerrfano, V. A., Baez-Sánchez, G.

Forecasting Aftershock Sequences in the Real World (see page 948)

65. Using Aftershock Forecast Modeling to Refine the Location and Magnitude of the 1936 Milton-Freewater Earthquake near the Oregon-Washington Border, U.S.A. Brocher, T. M., Sherrod, B.


Increasing Testability—Expanding Possibilities and Future Developments of the Collaboratory for the Study of Earthquake Predictability (see page 948)


Observed Characteristics of Induced Seismicity: From Laboratory to Field Scale (see page 948)


70. Influence of Crustal Structure on High-Frequency (F>1 Hz) Ground Motions from Induced Earthquakes in Oklahoma. Moschetti, M. P., Herrmann, R. B., Ramírez-Guzmán, L., Frankel, A. D.

71. A Rare Case of Seasonal Induced Seismicity in Southeast Brazil. Convers, J. A., Assumpção, M., Barbosa, J. R.

72. Re- Analyses of Seismic Data from Temporary and Permanent Networks as a Tool for Monitoring Induced Seismicity: A Case Study from the Cavone Oilfield (Central-Northern Italy). Anselmi, M., Iovine, S., De Gori, P., Buttinelli, M., Chiaramba, C., Battaglia, M.

73. Interferometric Time-Lapse Velocity Analysis: Application to a Salt-Water Disposal Well in British Columbia, Canada. Vaezi, Y., Van der Baan, M.

74. Student: Hypocentral Focal Depth Determination Based on Pn and Pg Relative Location Method: A Case Study of the 2016 Mw5.1 Fairview Sequence, Oklahoma. Wang, X. T., Li, Z. W., Ni, S. D.

75. Comparative Study of Earthquake Clustering in Relation to Hydraulic Activities at Geothermal Fields in California. Martínez-Garzón, P., Zaliapin, I., Ben-Zion, Y., Kwiatek, G., Bohnhoff, M.


78. A Notable Earthquake Swarm in Alabama: Natural or Anthropogenic? Chen, J., Wolf, L.

Plate Boundary Segmentation and Coupled-to-Creeping Plate and Block Boundary Faults (see page 951)

79. Student: The Case of Western Corinth Gulf (Greece): A Detachment Zone or Seismic – Aseismic Transition? Mesimeri, M., Karakostas, V.


81. Student: A High-Precision Continuous Catalogue of Low-Magnitude Earthquakes in the Central Southern

82. **Student:** Mejillones Peninsula in Northern Chile Controlled by Hydrated Interface and Subducted Oceanic Plate. *Pasten-Araya, F.*, Salazar, P., Ruiz, S., Rivera, E., Potin, B., Cruz, E., Jaldín, D., Villarroel, J., Torres, E., Echeverría, J., Bloch, W., Bloch, J.


84. Estimating the Locations of Past and Future Large Earthquake Ruptures Using Recent M4 and Greater Events. *Ebel, J. E.*

85. **Student:** Collecting New High-Resolution Seismic Data across the Hayward Fault Zone. *Quesenberry, C.*

86. **Student:** Estimation of Travel Time Curves for Puerto Rico Seismic Network Stations. *Ventura, W. A., Vanacore, E. A.*


90. Preliminary Results of the LARGE-MEM Project. *Lecocq, T.*


96. **Student:** Lithospheric Structure and Geodynamics of the Caribbean Plate Boundaries. *Porras, J., Linkimer, L.*


100. **Student:** Intensity Prediction Equations for Costa Rica. *Cauzzi, C., Clinton, J. F., Massin, F., Strauch, W., Ramirez, J.*

101. **Student:** Intensity Prediction Equations for Costa Rica. *Cauzzi, C., Clinton, J. F., Massin, F., Strauch, W., Ramirez, J.*

102. **Student:** 2-D Modeling of the Crustal Structure of Merida Andes, Venezuela, from Wide-Angle Seismic and Gravity Studies. *Yegres, L. A., Vanacore, E. A.*

103. **Student:** Analysis of Travel Time Curves for Puerto Rico Seismic Network Stations. *Ventura, W. A., Vanacore, E. A.*


106. **Student:** Lithospheric Structure and Tectonic Implications of the Dominican Republic from Local and Teleseismic Tomography. *Mejia, H. P.*, Pulliam, J., Huerfano, V. A.

107. **Student:** Lithospheric Structure and Tectonic Implications of the Dominican Republic from Local and Teleseismic Tomography. *Mejia, H. P.*, Pulliam, J., Huerfano, V. A., Polanco Rivera, E.


108. The Seismicity of the Isthmus of Panama: Recent Findings. Camacho, E. I., Tapia, A. A.

109. Further Validation of a Dynamic Earthquake Model to Produce Realistic Near-Field Ground Motion. Ma, S.


111. Bayesian Uncertainty Quantification and Sensitivity Analysis of PSHA Results. Kuehn, N. M., Abrahamson, N. A., Molkenthin, C.

112. Student: Investigating Ground Motion Variability from Shaking Simulations with Complex Earthquake Sources. Sivasubramonian, J., Mai, P. M.

113. Investigation of the Regional Effects on Ground Motion Predictive Models for Western Turkey: Preliminary Results. Tanircan, G., Yenier, E., Akkar, S., Pinar, A., Kale, O.

114. Student: Assessment of Strong Ground Motion Variability in Japan. Nampally, S., Mai, P. M.
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SSA 2018
Abstracts of the Annual Meeting

Single-Station Imaging of a Low-Velocity Layer Using Reflected Waves from the 2014 Earthquake Swarm at Long Valley Caldera, California
Nakata, N., University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma, USA, nnakata@ou.edu; Shelly, D. R., US Geological Survey, California, USA, dshelly@usgs.gov

The waveforms generated by the 2014 Long Valley Caldera earthquake swarm recorded at station MLH show clear reflected waves that are often stronger than direct P and S waves. The reflected waves first propagate downward from the source locations and then reflect back to the ground surface. With waveform analyses, we discover that these waves are reflected at the top of a low velocity body, which may be residual magma from the ~767 ka caldera-forming eruption. The polarity of the reflection compared to direct P and S waves suggests that the reflection is SP waves (S from hypocenters to reflector and then convert to P waves). Because the wavefields are coherent among different earthquakes and hold high signal-to-noise ratios, we apply them to a wavefield migration method for imaging reflectors. For the migration, we use earthquake locations estimated from a previous study. The depth of the imaged magmatic-system roof is around 8.2 km below the surface. Even though we use only one station and waveforms from one earthquake swarm, the dense cluster of accurately located earthquakes provides a high-resolution image of the roof.

Tomographic Imaging of the Central California Crust with Multiple Methods
Thurber, C. H., University of Wisconsin-Madison, Wisconsin, USA, cthurber@wisc.edu; NAYAK, A., University of Wisconsin-Madison, Wisconsin, USA, avinash07paddy@gmail.com; FANG, H., University of Science and Technology of China, Anhui, China, fanghj@nui.ste.edu.cn; ZENG, X., Chinese Academy of Sciences, Hubei, China, zengxf@whig.ac.cn; ZHANG, H., University of Science and Technology of China, Anhui, China, zhang11@ustc.edu.cn

Following the discovery of the Shoreline Fault along the coast of central California by Hardebeck (2010) and the occurrence of the tsunami disaster at the Fukushima nuclear power plant in 2011, there has been increased attention on the potential seismic hazards of the central California region in relation to the Diablo Canyon nuclear power plant. The Pacific Gas & Electric Company has supported related research both offshore and onshore, and the Southern California Earthquake Center (SCEC) has established a Central California Seismic Project (CCSP) to develop a Community Velocity Model (CVM) and Community Fault Model for the region and use them for strong motion simulations and hazard estimation. The existing SCEC Central California CVM was developed from a USGS velocity model, velocity measurements from wells and seismic surveys, and refinement using waveform tomography. We are working to further refine the Central California CVM by (1) incorporating surface-wave dispersion data from an expanded set of stations and extended to shorter periods (3 to 4 s periods) and (2) incorporating body-wave arrival-time data from earthquakes and P-wave travel times from explosions. The current SCEC Central California CVM will...
Seismological Research Letters Volume 89, Number 2B March/April 2018

3-D seismic tomography using local and regional earthquake data reveals variations of crustal thickness beneath the Nepal Himalayas. A low-velocity anomaly in upper part of the model down to depths of ~40 to 80 km represents crust. Lower limit of this anomaly represents Moho depth variations. Thick transitional zone may represent underthrusting of one continental block underneath another one, which leads in doubling of Moho depth. The obtained variations of crustal thickness match fairly well with gravity anomalies: thin crust zones correspond to lower gravity values and vice versa. We propose that elevated magnetic values can be associated with more rigid segments of the incoming Indian crust which cause more compression in the thrust zone and lead to stronger crustal thickening. Several episodes of collisions and rotation of the Indian plate after collision may also lead to variation in crustal thickness along the tectonic trend of the Himalayas. We have also corroborated estimated seismic velocity structure and crustal thickness with the recent Nepal earthquakes (magnitude ≥7) occurred on April 25, 2015 and May 12, 2015 in the eastern Nepal. These earthquakes occurred at places where Main Central Thrust shows a very sharp bend and where faults/lineaments cut across the tectonic trend of the Himalayas. It is observed that first earthquake of magnitude ≥7 initiated in a zone where crustal thickness is relatively lower and rupture propagated eastward towards a region where both crustal thickness and S-wave velocity is higher, i.e. towards a more rigid part of the crust. This may have led to stress loading in the rigid part that subsequently led to occurrence of second magnitude ≥7 earthquake in that area within a month. The velocity and crustal thickness maps estimated in this study nicely explains why two earthquakes of magnitude ≥7 occurred within a short span of time within such close distance range.

Temporal Changes of Seismic Velocities in the San Jacinto Fault Zone Associated with the 2016 Borrego Springs Earthquake
OQU, H., University of Southern California, California, USA, hong@usc.edu; HILLERS, G., University of Helsinki, Finland, gregor.hillers@helsinki.fi; BEN-ZION, Y., University of Southern California, California, USA, benzioni@usc.edu
We study temporal changes of seismic velocities associated with the June 2016 Mw 5.2 Borrego Springs earthquake that occurred at 12 km depth in the San Jacinto fault zone. This is done with 9 component Green’s function estimates from daily cross correlation functions of ambient noise between stations of two spatially dense linear arrays. The two arrays cross the fault surface trace and are located at Dry Wash (DW) and Jackass Flat (JF) about 2 km northwest and southeast of the epicenter, respectively. The DW and JF arrays have 9 and 12 stations, respectively, with instrument spacing 25–100 m. We first rotate the cross correlations into a system of fault perpendicular, along strike, and vertical directions. For each component, a reference waveform is obtained from stacking correlations from one year before the earthquake. We estimate relative velocity change (dV/v) from arrival time changes in the daily correlation coda waveforms compared to the reference stack. The obtained dV/v time series exhibit variations associated with seasonal velocity changes, linear trends, and the Borrego Springs event. The earthquake signal is characterized by an abrupt velocity drop at the time of the event that is followed by a gradual recovery. This behavior is consistently observed for different components in various frequency bands at both arrays obtained with a time- and frequency-domain analysis methods. After removal of the seasonal and linear components, the velocity drop observed with the vertical-vertical correlation data is around –5%, 0.2%, and 0.1% at DW array, and –0.6%, 0.2%, and 0.2% at JF array, for 0.1 – 0.5 Hz, 0.5 – 2 Hz, and 0.8 – 4 Hz, respectively. The larger changes for lower frequencies imply variations not limited to the very shallow material. The larger changes at the DW array may be associated with directivity of the Borrego Springs earthquake.

Geometry of the Los Angeles Basin Using Full H/V Spectral Ratio Inversion
SPICA, Z., Stanford University, California, USA, zspica@stanford.edu; PERTON, M., Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico, mathieu.perton@gmail.com; BEROZA, G. C., Stanford University, California, USA, beroza@stanford.edu
The H/V spectral ratio (HVSR) of the auto-correlated signal at a seismic station is proportional to the ratio of the imaginary parts of the Green’s functions. Following this approach, observations of H/V can be compared to their theoretical counterpart for a locally layered elastic media in order to constrain the velocity structure. We use the broadband stations of the “Los Angeles Syncline Seismic Interferometry Experiment” (LASSIE) to perform a combined inversion of multiple HVSR measurements along 2D lines of sensors. The presence of low frequency peaks in the observed HVSR and their modelling allow us to be sensitive to the deep structure of the basin and then identify its geometry.

Seismic Tomography of the Nepal Himalayas and Geodynamic Implications for the 2015 Nepal Earthquake
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Crustal Structure beneath Seismic Stations Located in Paraná and Chaco-Paraná Basins from Joint Inversion of Surface Wave Dispersion and Receiver Functions
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The seismic structure of the crust and uppermost mantle under the central and eastern region of South America is being a matter of study in recent years due to the installation of new temporary and permanent seismological stations. In this study the S-wave velocity structure beneath seismic stations located in Paraná and Chaco-Paraná Basins is modeled by jointly inverting receiver functions and surface wave dispersion velocities. Receiver functions have been computed from teleseismic recordings of earthquakes at epicentral distances in the range from 30° to 90° and surface wave group velocity dispersion have been taken from earlier surface wave tomographic studies in South America. Our models show a good correspondence with previous geological and seismological studies. The results obtained in this work help constrain the regional tectonics of the area and will also be used to better define the seismic characteristics of the basins.

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3-D seismic tomography using local and regional earthquake data reveals variations of crustal thickness beneath the Nepal Himalayas. A low-velocity anomaly in upper part of the model down to depths of ~40 to 80 km represents crust. Lower limit of this anomaly represents Moho depth variations. Thick transitional zone may represent underthrusting of one continental block underneath another one, which leads in doubling of Moho depth. The obtained variations of crustal thickness match fairly well with gravity anomalies: thin crust zones correspond to lower gravity values and vice versa. We propose that elevated magnetic values can be associated with more rigid segments of the incoming Indian crust which cause more compression in the thrust zone and lead to stronger crustal thickening. Several episodes of collisions and rotation of the Indian plate after collision may also lead to variation in crustal thickness along the tectonic trend of the Himalayas. We have also corroborated estimated seismic velocity structure and crustal thickness with the recent Nepal earthquakes (magnitude ≥7) occurred on April 25, 2015 and May 12, 2015 in the eastern Nepal. These earthquakes occurred at places where Main Central Thrust shows a very sharp bend and where faults/lineaments cut across the tectonic trend of the Himalayas. It is observed that first earthquake of magnitude ≥7 initiated in a zone where crustal thickness is relatively lower and rupture propagated eastward towards a region where both crustal thickness and S-wave velocity is higher, i.e. towards a more rigid part of the crust. This may have led to stress loading in the rigid part that subsequently led to occurrence of second magnitude ≥7 earthquake in that area within a month. The velocity and crustal thickness maps estimated in this study nicely explains why two earthquakes of magnitude ≥7 occurred within a short span of time within such close distance range.

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This paper presents numerical modeling efforts to improve knowledge of the processes that affect seismic wave generation and propagation from underground explosions. A shock wave on Rg waves. Validation datasets are provided by the Source Physics Experiment (SPE) which is a series of chemical explosions at the Nevada National Security Site with yields from 100kg to 5000kg. The first series of explosions in a granite emplacement has just been completed. A second series of explosions in dry alluvium geology (DAG) is planned for 2018. We use numerical modeling based on the linking of hydrodynamic simulation codes (such as ABAQUS, SNES-HYDROSS) with a 3D full wave propagation code (SPECFEM3D). The linking interface is a series of grid points of the SPECFEM3D mesh situated at the edge of the hydrodynamic code domain. Velocity histories are recorded at these grid points and passed from the hydrodynamic code to the waveform propagation code. The hydrodynamic models code the region near the source via equations of state for the explosive and the surrounding material which is subjected to fragmentation, shock waves and high-strain deformation. In this paper, we will investigate how the linked numerical codes perform in terms of predicting the amplitude of the Rg waves. We compare high-resolution modeling to the SPE series. We have previously shown that the damage processes happening in the vicinity of the explosions create secondary seismic sources. These sources interfere with the recovery of the original explosion moment and reduce the apparent seismic moment at the origin of Rg waves up to 20%. Rg waves are also sensitive to the velocity models which are initially built from the 3D geologic information of the area and subsequently adjusted to fit the data. We compare the modeling of the explosion in the sediment to data recorded during the 1965 Merlin test.

Estimating Seismic Source Time Functions in Stochastic Earth Models

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This work describes three current research efforts in estimating the mechanisms of explosive seismic sources using simulations and actual field data. In all of the work here, we use linear inverse methods to invert the seismic data for an equivalent linear source type. However, in the case that seismic energy is created by an explosion, the deformation in the region of the source is highly non-linear. For the first part of this presentation, we explore the effects of non-linear source mechanisms in our linear-equivalent inverse methods. The second part of this presentation explores the effects of unmapped geologic heterogeneity on our inversions. Specifically, we create realistic geologic models but include high number waveform stochastic heterogeneities that tomography cannot typically resolve. Using synthetic data, we explore the effects of stochastic heterogeneity on our ability to estimate seismic source time functions (STFs) using linearized inverse methods. Finally, we present preliminary results of a controlled field experiment. In this experiment, we collected seismic data from a dense seismic network that we deployed to record a series of well-perforation shots at a geothermal injection well adjacent to Blue Mountain, NV, USA. We show the data and preliminary results of our linear-equivalent STF inversions as well as the effects of near-source nonlinearities and stochastic Earth models on inversion certainty. Sandia National Laboratories is a multimission laboratory managed and operated by National Technology and Engineering Solutions of Sandia LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Honeywell International Inc. for the U.S. Department of Energy’s National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-NA0003525.

Comparison between Seismological Characteristics of Underground Explosions and Subsequent Cavity Collapses at North Korea Test Site

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Since 2006, North Korea conducted 6 underground nuclear explosions at its test site near the China-North Korea border. Due to its large magnitude of mb(Lg)=5.56, the explosion detonated on 3, September 2017 caused subsequent cavity collapses, i.e., the 3 September 2017 event [mb(Lg)=3.95] 8 minutes after the test, the 23 September and 12 October 2017 events [mb(Lg)=3.3 and 2.9] a few weeks later. These collapses had been suspected to be nuclear tests. Both explosions and their aftershocks generated abundant broadband digital seismic data within regional distances. Seismograms were collected to investigate event attributes, including the discrimination, yield estimation, and relocations of epicenters. The spectral ratios Pg/Lg, Pn/Lg, and Pn/Sn were calculated for all 6 explosions, 3 aftershocks caused by cavity collapses, 4 nearby nature earthquakes, and a mining earthquake. These sources show apparently different features in their spectral ratios. Taking the logarithmic spectral ratio log(Pg/Lg) as an example, the resulting ratios for explosions are 0.8 to 0.25 between 0.5 and 4.0 Hz, and keep above 0.25 at frequencies higher than that. In contrast, the log(Pg/Lg) values for earthquakes fall quickly from ~0.8 to near 0 between 0.5 and 6.0 Hz and keep below 0 above 6.0 Hz. As a comparison, the log(Pg/Lg) values for cavity collapses rise quicky at low frequencies, similar to those from explosions, but start to decrease at approximately 4–5 Hz. At high frequencies, their log(Pg/Lg) values are low, even below earthquake populations. The spectral ratio from mining earthquake is similar to that from the cavity collapse. The results demonstrated that the network averaged/PS type ratios can unambiguously separate explosions, cavity collapses, and natural earthquakes. This research was supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (grants 41674060, 41630210 and 41374065).

Shear Motion Generation in Dry Alluvium Geology: Pre-Shot Stochastic Simulations of the Source Physics Experiments

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The Source Physics Experiments (SPE) are ongoing efforts to improve explosion monitoring by conducting a series of controlled chemical explosions at the Nevada National Security Site and validate physics-based simulations of explosion phenomena. SPE Phase I was conducted in granite, however, SPE Phase II will be conducted in Dry Alluvium Geology, DAG, which is characterized by heterogeneous alluvial deposits. This work describes a methodology used for large scale modeling of wave propagation from chemical underground explosions to understand the genesis of shear motions. Shear motion enables discriminating between explosions and earthquakes. To build a reliable model we integrated the geological, geomechanical, and geophysical characterizations of the site. Simulating the behavior of alluvial deposits under explosive loading requires non-linear constitutive models. Thus, the rock behavior is described using an isotropic elastic-visco-plastic model, coupled with a rate-dependent damage model, and a Mic-Grüneisen EOS, coupled with a porous compaction-dilation model. The constitutive model is implemented in GEOdyn, a 3D Eulerian code. The model was further upscaled and calibrated to reproduce data of well known Perc and Bass correlations. The final constitutive model is then used for a parametric study of the effect of the key characteristics of alluvium on the magnitude of shear motion generation using GEOdyn-L, 3D Lagrangian code. The series of planned four underground chemical explosions are simulated under conditions of uncertainty; the spatial distribution of the geophysical properties is generated statistically from conditional random Gaussian data. Simulations of the shear motion generation is achieved, explained, compared to SPE Phase I and legacy nuclear shots. Surface displacement and velocities are predicted and used for acoustic predictions. This work performed under the auspices of the U.S. DOD by LLNL under Contract DE-AC52-07NA27344.

Near-Field Modeling of the Source Physics Experiments (SPE) Phase I

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Phase I of the Source Physics Experiment was conducted at Nevada NNSS site in granite. The goal of this experiment was to study the ground motion generated by underground chemical explosion sources. Of particular interest is the understanding of mechanisms of shear wave generation observed during underground explosions, which may look like natural seismicity in the far field. To understand observed ground motion, we have conducted numerical modeling of the SPE. This talk reviews the main results discovered during the last 5 years of the modeling efforts. It was found that the rock mass mechanical response is not isotropic due to the presence of joints. Transverse ground motion is generated due to mechanical anisotropy which can be characterized if joint orientation is known. Azimuthal variations of both magnitude of this shear motion and its polarity seem to correlate with the joint set orientations. Numerical modeling of the wave propagation through such medium is computationally expensive if these joint sets are represented explicitly, because of the joint spacing is typically
two orders of magnitude smaller than the wave length. We have undertaken such
modeling only in the near-field region. Since exact orientation of every joint in the
rock mass never can be found, we have used stochastic approaches to build vari-
ous equally probably realizations of joint distributions for our modeling efforts.
With this approach we were able to predict the extend of the tangential motion
observed in the near field during the experiment. This work performed under
the auspices of the U.S. Department of Energy by Lawrence Livermore National
Laboratory under Contract DE-AC52-07NA27344.

Upper Stratosphere Wind Variations and Their Effect on Regional Infrasound
Propagation
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Infrasound is a valuable technique for monitoring phenomena such as surface
explosions and volcanic eruptions from hundreds of kilometers away. However,
uncertainties in the wind and temperature structure of the upper stratosphere
(35–45 km) result in predicted wave propagation patterns that often deviate from
reality. We discuss two infrasound measurement campaigns that used chemical
explosions as sources; ground and balloon-borne infrasound microphones cap-
tured the resulting signals. The motion of the balloon platforms provides an in
situ measure of wind perturbations in the lower/middle stratosphere that we
extrapolate to the upper stratosphere in order to improve predicted arrival times
and waveform amplitudes. Balloon-derived wind vectors are shown to differ
dramatically from operational models such as the Global Forecast System and
ECMWF in the regions where known vertical wind shear occur. Since acoustic rays
turn between 35–45 km elevation, balloon wind measure-
ments form a critical constraint on acoustic propagation models.

Assessment of Infrasound Signals Recorded on Single Seismometers and
Infrasound Arrays in the Western United States Using Ground Truth Sources
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Ground truth sources in Utah during 2003–2013 are used to assess the con-
tribution of temporal atmospheric conditions to infrasound detection and the pre-
cative capabilities of atmospheric models. Ground truth sources consist of
28, long-duration static rocket motor burn tests and 28, impulsive rocket body demo-
litions. Automated infrasound detections from a hybrid of regional seismometers
and infrasound arrays use a combination of STA/LTA ratios and spectral analy-
ses. These detections are grouped into study triads using a Delaunay triangu-
lation network, and then associated to estimate phase velocity and azimuth to
filter signals associated with a particular source location. The resulting range
and azimuth distribution from sources to detecting stations varies seasonally and
is consistent with predictions based on seasonal atmospheric models. Impulsive sig-
nals from rocket body detonations are observed at greater distances (≥700 km)
than the extended duration signals generated by the rocket burn test (up to 600
km). Ray tracing results using ground-to-space (G2S) atmospheric specifications
are compared to these observations and illustrate the degree to which the time
variations in characteristics of the observations can be predicted over a multiple
year time period.

Estimating Scaled Depth of Burial from Acoustic Period
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Buried explosions can produce an acoustic wave detectable at ranges of tens to
hundreds of kilometers. Since they are a record of forces imposed across the solid
Earth/atmosphere boundary, these waves may contain information about the
explosive source. Indeed, analysis of infrasound data acquired during the Source
Physics Experiment (SPE) Phase I series in granite suggests a simple relationship
between scaled depth of burial (SDB) and signal period. While these chemi-
cal explosions were large (100s to 1000s of kg TNT equivalent), analogous rela-
tionships may exist for much smaller blasts (0.3–1 kg) at similar scaled depths
of burial. Here, the SDB/period relationship for the SPE Phase I explosions is
compared to that of sub-kilogram scale blasts conducted during an experimen-
tal volcanology initiative. Implications for the upcoming SPE Phase II series
in alluvium as well as the remote monitoring of other buried volcanic and human-
caused blasts are discussed.

Seismo-Acoustic Analysis of Chemical Explosions at the Nevada National
Security Site
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Over the past several years, two sets of chemical explosions have been conducted
at the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS). Phase I of the Source Physics
Experiment (SPE) conducted 6 chemical explosions in granite ranging from
~0.1–5 tons yield and 30–90 m depth. More recently, the Forensics Surface
Explosives (FSE) conducted 4 near-surface chemical explosions ranging from 0.01–
1 tons yield and at a height of 0–2 m. For both sets of events, we estimated the
explosive yield and depth of burial from the seismic signal by fitting the local and
regional waveform envelopes over a wide frequency band (Pasyanos et al., 2012).
This method works well for the deeply-buried SPE explosions. When looking at
the near-surface explosions from the FSE, however, the seismic signal can be alter-
natively explained by a smaller fully-coupled explosion at depth or by an increas-
ingly larger yield approaching and above the free surface. This non-uniqueness
due to the energy partitioning between seismic and acoustic energy at the free
surface was incorporated into the waveform envelope method and applied to
near-surface explosions in New Mexico and Syria (Pasyanos and Ford, 2015). This
tradeoff between yield and depth/height can be broken by including complemen-
tary analysis of the acoustic signal using the acoustic waveform inversion method
(Kim and Rodgers, 2016). The acoustic signal also has a strong tradeoff between
a smaller yield event at or above the free surface and a larger yield event under-
ground. However, since this tradeoff is opposite of that from the seismic signal,
the two can be combined through the use of a likelihood function to more reli-
ably estimate the source parameters from the FSE explosions, and estimate their
associated uncertainties.

Interactive Block Thresholding for Seismic Signal Processing
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A software tool has been developed to utilize time-frequency representations
(TFR) of time domain signals based on the continuous wavelet transform
(CWT) where the seismogram is converted into a 2D map of wavelet scale
(analogous to Fourier period) as a function of time. The 2D map is an intuitive
description of the signal since major signal arrivals in the CWT can often be seen
correlating with inferred signals in the seismogram and separated from bands of
noise. The tool allows the choice of simple block thresholding schemes analogous
to bandpass filtering to remove obvious noise bands. The remainder can further
be analyzed by interactively choosing irregular blocks that represent different
parts of the signal for removal or for separate analysis. Inverse transforming the
processed CWT yields signals with substantial Signal-to-Noise (SNR) improve-
ment. The tool is used to process explosion data recorded by the IRIS Community
Wavesfield experiment in early July 2016. Four explosions (909kg, 455kg, 2 kg
and 228kg) at 3 different shot points (ranges of ~16km, 35km, and 65km) from the
experiment were detonated by the Air Force Research Laboratory to examine
local wave propagation and signal characteristics. Interactive block threshold-
ing incorporating the Morlet wavelet significantly improves the SNR for 909kg
and 455kg shots. Three dominant wavetrains are evident in the data including
the low scale (high frequency) P wave and 2 dispersed higher and fundamental
mode surface wave trains. Each wave train can be extracted from the CWT map
separately for further modeling, such as for group and phase velocity dispersion.
The smaller shots are usually lost in the ‘noise’ that sometimes include swarms
of local induced earthquakes, easily seen in the CWT map. Preprocessing of
the data to improve the SNR also improves array beamforming at high frequency
for dense arrays constructed from subsets of nodal stations of the IRIS experiment.

Advances in Seismic Site Response Studies Given
Limitations in Understanding of Site Conditions
ORAL SESSION • TUESDAY 15 MAY • 8:30 AM • MONROE
Session Chairs: Emil Seyhan, Sean K. Ahdi, Eric M.
Thompson, and Alan Yong.

Can the Earthquake Site Response Be Predicted by the Ambient Noise Amplitude? Insight from Two Case Studies
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While earthquake-based approaches such as the standard spectral ratio (SSR) require good quality records of numerous earthquakes, the use of ambient noise appears as a suitable possible solution for easy and rapid site effect assessments. Two main approaches are tested here: the horizontal-to-vertical spectral ratio (HVSR) and the noise-based standard spectral ratio (SSRN). The HVSR uses the relative amplitude of the horizontal and vertical components of the ambient noise. Differently, the SSRN performs the ratio between seismic noise recorded simultaneously at a site and a rock reference station, similarly to the earthquake-based SSR. While the HVSR is currently used in hundreds of site-specific studies, the SSRN approach has been gradually abandoned since the 1990s. In this study, we compare the results obtain from these two approaches with those of the earthquake-based SSR. This is done for two sedimentary basins, in Provence (Southeastern France) and in Argostoli (Western Greece), where both earthquakes and seismic noise were recorded. In agreement with the literature, the HVSR does not provide more than the fundamental resonance frequency of the site (f0). The SSRN leads to an overestimation of the amplification factors for frequencies higher than the minimal f0 of the basin (f0min). This discrepancy between SSRN and HVSR is discussed and appears to be mainly dependent on the local geological configuration. We thus introduce the hybrid spectral ratio approach (SSRh) that aims to improve the SSRN by adding an intermediate station inside the basin for which the SSR is known, this station being used in turn as a local reference inside the basin for the SSRN computation. The SSRH provides site transfer functions very similar to the SSR ones in a broad frequency range. Based on that, we consider that the SSRNs (or SSRRs) should receive a renewed attention for the estimation of the spatial variability of the site response inside sedimentary basins.

Application of Near-Source Factors to Deterministic Response Spectra

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Response spectra for use in design of new buildings are presented in ASCE 7-16. The ASCE 7-16 design response spectra are to be based on both a probabilistic evaluation and a deterministic evaluation. For the evaluating design deterministic maximum component (RotD100) spectra, National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program (NEHRP) factors as recommended in ASCE 7-16 are to be applied to the RotD100 spectra; these factors are based on RotD100/RotD50 ratio obtained using the 2008 Next Generation Attenuation (NGA-West1) database. Additional studies based on the NGA-West2 database have resulted in several directivity models to account for directivity effects, namely Shali-Baker (2013), Bayless-Somerville (2013), Spudich-Chiou (2013), and Watson Lamprey (2013). In recent practice in Los Angeles for evaluating directionality effects, factors computed as the average of the Shali-Baker and Bayless-Somerville factors has been applied to both the probabilistic and deterministic response spectra. This paper investigates the use of the directionality factors, in particular considering application of various rupture scenarios for the deterministic response spectra computed using the Bayless-Somerville method. An event on the Anacapa-Dume/Santa Monica combined fault was used to compute the deterministic response spectrum for an example site in the Century City District in Los Angeles, California. The resulting response spectra are compared to evaluate which rupture scenario should be applied for application to the deterministic response spectrum.

The Characteristics of κ₀ in Longmenshan Region and Its Application in Estimation of Source, Path, and Site parameters

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In this study, data recorded from 2009 to 2015 by 104 strong motion stations and 36 seismic stations are used to study the characteristics of κ₀ in Longmenshan region. The average κ₀ of Songpan-Garze Orogen (SGO) and Western Sichuan Basin (WSB) is 0.0227 ± 0.0065 s and 0.0423 ± 0.0107 s, respectively. The difference may be mainly attributed to the variation of near-surface geology. Both SGO and WSB, κ₀ increases as VS30 increases, which is discrepancy with the assumption that higher VS30 may inferred lower κ₀. Fortunately, a correlation of κ₀,0 and topographic elevation (h) is observed. To further verify the correlation, κ₀ obtained from the 36 seismic stations, which located on hard rock sites are used. We obtained ln(κ₀,0) = -4.066 ± 0.500 (R² = 0.426 ± 0.074) ln(h), correlation coefficient is 49%. The correlation coefficient of κ₀,h, correlation is higher than 30%, which is, as concluded by Ktenidou et al. (2014), a good correlation coefficient that most κ₀,VS30 correlation could reach. Moreover, the phenomenon that distance-dependent component of κ (m) increasing with h is also observed. Combining site amplification factor calculated by 1/4 wavelength method, site-specific κ₀, experimental reference function structured GIT was applied to estimate stress drop (Δσ), quality factor (Q) and local site response. It is observed that Δσ tend to increases with time until a large-magnitude earthquake occurred. For SGO and WSB, we obtained Q(f) = 264f 0.75 and Q(f) = 223f 1.01, respectively. The obtained site responses are compared with those from HVSR and classical GIT. Comparison between GIT and HVSR shows that the shapes and predominant frequencies are similar and the amplification of GIT is higher at frequencies above the predominant frequency. Site responses estimated from both GIT methods are coinciding. This result demonstrated that the empirical reference site condition is reasonable and could be used when a real rock site is hard to find.

Accounting for Vs Uncertainty in Seismic Site Response Analyses Using the Experimental Site Signature: A Case Study of the Garner Valley Downhole Array

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This presentation compares measured and predicted seismic site response at the Garner Valley Downhole Array (GVDA) using a wide range of shear wave velocity (Vs) profiles developed from both borehole methods and inversion of surface wave data. Only low amplitude ground motions, resulting in approximately linear-viscouselastic site response between the downhole accelerometer and the surface accelerometers, were considered in this study. Thus, uncertainties associated with the small-strain Vs profiles used for site response predictions play a considerable role in attempting to match the recorded site response and its associated variability. Prior to our study, two borehole Vs profiles extending into rock were available for the site. However, their predicted/theoretical transfer functions (TTFs) were quite different and in poor agreement with the measured/empirical transfer functions (ETFs). These differences provided motivation to collect and interpret an extensive set of active-source and passive-wavefield surface wave measurements in an attempt to develop deep Vs profiles for the site that might be used to more accurately match the measured site response and its associated variability. Suites of non-unique Vs profiles developed from inversion of the surface wave data, and in conjunction with experimental horizontal-to-vertical spectral noise ratios (HVSR), visually exhibited considerable differences. However, their predicted TTFs matched the measured ETFs very well. Accordingly, we propose that surface wave dispersion and HVSR noise data replications are experimental “site signature” that can be used as a quantitative means of assessing whether candidate Vs profiles are appropriate for use in site response analyses.

Development of a United States Community Shear Wave Velocity Profile Database

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We describe a multi-institution effort to develop an open-access shear-wave velocity (Vs) profile database (PDB), which will include a public repository for Vs profile data and associated metadata in the United States. Vs profiles are an essential resource for ground motion modeling and other applications. The minimum requirements for a site to be included in the database are in situ geophysical Vs measurements and location metadata. Other information is included as available, including geotechnical logs, penetration resistance, laboratory test data, ground water elevation, and P-wave velocity profiles. Various secondary site information such as surficial geology and topographic slope will be included from available geospatial data. The data collection stage of the project is largely complete, with over 4500 Vs profiles in our possession. A prototype data model and database schema have been developed, and ongoing work includes digitization of data and its unification across various disparate formats. The database will be presented as an online map-based interface with downloadable Vs profile and metadata.
The database is compiled from KIKNet Archive of Japan (kyoshin.bosai.go.jp) with following criteria: shallow crustal events between 2000–2016, recorded within 300km and Mw range is 3.5–7. Time-based average of shear wave velocity profiles up to different depths 10m (VS10), 20m (VS20), 30m (VS30) and 50m (VS50) are computed. Only stations with 200–VS50 >150m/s are used. These proxies are used as site parameters in surface ground-motion models (SGMMs). Then site variabilities of the SGMMs are compared. VS50 model has the highest variability at short periods, for other models comparable results are obtained. For longer periods, considering deeper depths leads to lower site variability. Borehole models (BGMM, uses borehole velocity) and surface-to-borehole ratio models (SBRM, uses impedance ratio) are also developed. Applying the BGMM and SBRM, estimated surface motions are obtained. The difference between observed and estimated motions are less than 3%. SBRM can be used as a site amplification indicator. The modified impedance ratios (nm) are computed as replacing the top layers with the reference site condition. That is if 20m depth is considered, the top layers up to 20m are replaced with 760m/s. The BGMM and SBRM (with nm) are used to compute the reference surface motion. Then the site amplification (observed motion/reference motion) are computed. The differences between site amplification are compared. The minimum misfit is obtained by VS50 model at longer periods. At short periods the misfits are similar. The results reveal that as deeper depths are considered more reliable site amplification estimates are obtained. Although VS30 proxy is debatable in some aspects, taking shallower depths misses some information about site amplification especially at longer periods and counter to Japanese stations, deeper Vp profiles are not well-documented in other regions as well as its usage over 40 years are the main reasons to choose it is a proxy in GMMS.

Integration of Site Effects Into PSHA: A Comparison between Two Fully Probabilistic Methods for the Euroseistest Case

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The integration of site effects into Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Assessment (PSHA) is a constant subject of discussion within the seismic hazard community due to its high impact on hazard estimates. To include this effect in PSHA, different approaches have been proposed by different authors. The aim of this research is to compare the hazard curves (HC) obtained for a soft, nonlinear site with two different fully probabilistic site specific seismic hazard methods: 1) The Analytical Approximation of the Full Convolution Method (AM) (Bazzurro and Cornell 2004a, b) and 2) the Full Probit Method (FPM) (Gutenberg and Richter 1944). The AM computes the site-specific HC by convolving the site-specific bedrock HC, Sar(f), with a simplified representation of the probability distribution of the amplification function, AF(t) at the considered site. While the SM is nothing else that the HC built from stochastic time histories on soil corresponding to a representative, long enough catalogue of seismic events. This comparison is performed for the example case of the Euroseistest site near Thessaloniki (Greece). For this purpose, we generate synthetic hazard-consistent earthquake catalogue, apply host-to-target corrections and calculate synthetic time histories. We propagate the rock stochastic time histories, from depth to surface using two different 1D site response analysis, a linear equivalent and nonlinear codes, to evaluate the code-to-code variability. Lastly, we compute the site-specific HC with both approaches. The results found with both methods are in relatively satisfactory agreement. These results proved that the response code along the studied periods. Finally, we encourage the use of stochastic simulations to integrate site effects into PSHA, since it allows to better investigate the variability of the site response better linked to more physical models, something that currently is not possible with real data due to its scarcity (specially at high acceleration levels).

Application of Non-Ergodic Site Response for a Unique Facility in Los Angeles, California

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The state of practice for seismic hazard analysis (SHA) uses semi-empirical ground motion models (GMMs) with average source, path, and site effects derived from global catalogs (ergodic models). Non-ergodic models require application of relatively high aleatory variability, which increases hazard at long return periods. We report the results of SHA performed for the Lucas Museum of Narrative Art (LMNA) in Los Angeles, using both ergodic and non-ergodic site response models. The non-ergodic procedure follows that described in Stewart et al. (2017). The LMNA building is designed with an effective isolated period of ~4 sec. The isolated system decreases the participation of higher modes of vibration, so the primary focus of the SHA was on 5%-damped pseudo-spectral accelerations at the fundamental period of the base-isolated building for a return period of 2500 years. We computed hazard curves for a reference site condition and convolved them with a site-specific mean amplification function, along with its associated uncertainty, in order to obtain hazard curves at the ground surface. The mean amplification function was developed using both local ground motion observations and ground response analyses. OpenSHA was used to develop the hazard curves at the reference site condition at periods of 0.01–10 sec using four NGA-West2 GMMS. An important parameter in the development of the hazard curves at the reference site condition is the within-event variability of the input ground motions at the reference site condition prior to modification for non-linear effects. This term was derived from a single-station model (GeoPentech, 2015), with a lower total standard deviation was used in the reference site hazard calculation due to the removal of site-to-site variability. Though the mean site response was similar to ergodic models at 4 sec when basin depth is considered, non-ergodic mean hazard results were lower at the 2500-year hazard level, averting a redesign of the structure.

Sensitivity of Nonlinear Site Amplification Factors to the Models Used to Simulate and Constrain Rare Events

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As part of the 2014 United States National Seismic Hazard Maps (NSHM) revision, the national seismic hazard model incorporated a number of recently developed Ground Motion Prediction Equations (GMPEs) such as NGA-West2. GMPEs frequently employ numerical simulations to complement the recorded motions in the poorly sampled, high ground motion intensity range, in order to constrain their nonlinear site amplification factors. Currently, site amplification factors in NGA_west2 have been constrained using the equivalent linear method, which may significantly affect ground motion predictions of rare events at soil sites, particularly in the high frequency range (~1 Hz) that is of central importance in earthquake engineering designs. In this study, we use a newly developed nonlinear method to generate simulated ground motions, and then compute site amplification factors with them. We compare the new site amplification factors with those in NGA-West2, and identify scenarios where the new factors differ from the old ones. Additionally, we use our computed site amplification factors to conduct general trends with site and ground motion intensity. How the site response method selection affects the parameterization of nonlinear site amplification factors. Our result indicates the extent to which nonlinear site amplification factors in NSHM need to be revisited and potentially revised to improve high-frequency seismic hazard predictions for larger events on soil sites.

Non-Linear and Plastic Soil Response in the Greater Tokyo Area during the 2011 Tohoku-Oki Earthquake

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Strong ground motion from earthquakes can induce dynamic strains large enough for the shallow subsurface to respond non-linearly and cause permanent velocity changes. We investigate the behavior of the near-surface in the greater Tokyo area during the 2011 Mw 9.0 Tohoku-Oki earthquake sequence using continuous records from 234 seismometers of the Metropolitan Seismic Observation network (MeSO-net). This network, which was deployed in shallow 20-m depth boreholes, recorded large strong ground motions during the main event. For each MeSO-net site, we compute the near-surface response using the single-station cross-correlation technique between vertical and horizontal components, every 6 hours for 2.5 months around the main event. Comparing each near-surface response against a pre-event reference, we find shallow (~100 m) seismic velocity

786 Seismological Research Letters Volume 89, Number 2B March/April 2018
Advances in the Theory, Modeling, and Observation of Anelastic Seismic Wave Propagation—Recent Anelastic Models of the Earth

Ooral Session · Tuesday 15 May · 2:15 pm · Flagler Session Chairs: Roger D. Borcherdt and Kristopher A. Innanen

On Implications of Advances in the Theory of Anelastic Seismic Wave Propagation

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Recent advances in the theory and modeling of anelastic seismic waves reveal new insights regarding characteristics of seismic waves in the Earth that are not apparent from elastic models. Examples of insights, as implied by general viscoelastic solutions for P and S body waves, reflection-refraction coefficients, Rayleigh- and Love-Type surface waves, head waves, and general ray theory, are: Anelastic P and S body waves are predominantly inhomogeneous with physical characteristics such as phase and energy speeds, particle motions, and fractional energy loss (reciprocal quality factor) dependent on the wave’s inhomogeneity, which varies with angle of incidence and contrasts in intrinsic material characteristics at each boundary. Two types of anelastic inhomogeneous S waves exist (SI and SII), each with distinct particle motions, energy wave velocities, and reciprocal quality factors. Anelastic reflection-refraction coefficients at boundaries with contrasts in intrinsic absorption indicate energy may be refracted away from the boundary for all angles of incidence, giving rise to anelastic ray paths not anticipated from elastic models, that are in agreement with ray paths confirmed by laboratory and surface seismic measurements. Measurable differences in distances, travel times, and amplitude attenuation that exist due to contrasts in anelastic intrinsic material absorption encountered by seismic rays traversing the crust and mantle. These and additional insights revealed by advances in the theory of anelastic seismic wave propagation will be discussed. Further quantification of their implications as they manifest themselves in measured distances, travel time, and amplitude attenuation is an important ongoing step in refining anelastic models for near-surface exploration and for the whole Earth.

General Viscoelastic Ray Theory

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General ray theory recently developed for P and S body waves in layered viscoelastic media provides new insights for the travel-time and amplitude-attenuation characteristics of seismic waves in an anelastic Earth. Solutions of the forward ray tracing problems for horizontal and spherical media account for changes in velocity and attenuation of general P and S waves, which are due to changes in wave inhomogeneity induced by contrasts in intrinsic anelastic material parameters encountered by anelastic rays. These changes, which may manifest themselves as measurable variations in travel-time and amplitude-attenuation as observed at the surface, are not predicted by elastic models. In addition, viscoelastic solutions for general head waves provide a plane-wave explanation for seismic head-wave arrivals, in that the refracted anelastic solution may carry significant components of energy parallel and away from the boundary and result in ray paths reflected from deeper boundaries that are not predicted by elastic models. Solutions of inverse problems to infer the intrinsic material absorption and wave speed of anelastic Earth materials are developed to account for changes in measured travel-time and amplitude-attenuation curves due to changes in inhomogeneity of the waves along an anelastic ray path. Generalizations of the Herglotz-Wichert integral solution from elastic to viscoelastic media are developed as an essential step in the solution of the inverse problem for anelastic horizontal and spherical media with gradients in intrinsic material absorption. These insights will be discussed in the context of the mathematical framework for general viscoelastic ray theory.

Estimating Q and Scattering Using Waveform Inversion and Imaging

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Estimating an accurate fine-scale Q distribution of the Earth is essential for a wide range of applications in both earthquake and exploration seismology. Waveform-based methods such as waveform inversion are expected to generate a wavelength-scale Q model, as have done for velocity models. However, Q inversion has been significantly more challenging than velocity inversion. Effects of Q most strongly appear in seismic records as frequency-dependent amplitude loss. Thus, Q inversion relies on waveform amplitudes that also depend on velocities. Indeed, most of amplitude variations can be explained by velocity heterogeneities and Q inversion is commonly performed after velocity inversion to mitigate the problem. Still extracting Q from residual information tends to be unstable, since remaining velocity errors may not be negligible, and since frequency-dependent amplitude loss is not fully incorporated in waveform inversion methods. Here we consider a simple case where diffracted waves from sub-wavelength scattering objects interfere with transmitted waves. The frequency-dependent phenomenon due to the two mechanisms (scattering and Q) complicates interpretation of seismic amplitudes. Scatterers may be difficult to characterize fully by waveform inversion because of their small size. We examine the problem in field data, and conduct analytical and numerical investigation. We aim to develop stable Q-estimation methods by combining waveform-based imaging and inversion methods. Reverse-time migration methods are used to locate and characterize the small scattering objects. Waveform-based inversion methods are then used to eliminate the interference and estimate Q models.

Accounting for Attenuation Physics Uncertainty in FWI

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Attenuation and dispersion have a significant impact in full waveform inversion and are essential to achieving greater resolution and fidelity in the inversion. These properties are often modeled in full waveform inversion using empirical nearly constant Q models. Significantly, these models do not hold universally, especially when large ranges of frequencies are considered. In this numerical study, we demonstrate that discrepancies between the attenuation physics in the subsurface and those used in the inversion can have severely negative impacts on the results of the inversion. This problem can be alleviated by adopting an updating strategy in the inversion in which relatively small bands of frequencies are considered at each iteration, allowing for empirical attenuation models to be applied in full waveform inversion with greater confidence.

Subsurface Parameters Estimation by Taking into Account Attenuation and Anisotropy

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The method of volume scattering is utilized to develop the framework for sensitivity analysis of Full Waveform Inversion (FWI) in a media with both attenuation and anisotropy. Specifically, Born scattering is used to extract the sensitivity kernels so-called scattering potentials and Amplitude Variation with Offset (AVO/Az). Scattering potentials or radiation patterns versus phase and azimuth angles are utilized to choose the right model parameterizations for FWI. A successful FWI procedure depends on the model parameterization, for example, a specific model parameterization might lead to artifacts in density model however these artifacts vanish by choosing a different model of parameterization. The sensitivity of subsurface imaging to the model parameterization is the tool to determine the suitable initial model for the earth which can be performed in the framework of scattering theory. Based on the volume scattering framework that we developed for the anisotropic-attenuative media, we would find the optimal model parameterization for FWI in presence of both anisotropy and attenuation. This is the key step to estimate the real model of the earth to enhance the resolution of the subsurface image.

Recent Development of Seismic Attenuation Modeling and Imaging in Exploration Seismology

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Seismic approaches based on the phase/traveltimes are widely and successfully used to image the subsurface geological structure. On the other hand, the amplitude of seismic waveform that is hoping for providing more physical information about geology has not been explored in a consistent way. There exists a gap...
between current seismic capability and the full physics of seismic waveform. For example, Earth media always attenuate seismic waves during propagation; seismic data includes attenuation effects that contribute seismic amplitude seriously. To fill the gap, we have to deal with seismic attenuation (intrinsic and scattering) physically and practically in next-generation seismic techniques. In this talk, I will review recent progress on the development of theory of viscoacoustic and viscoelastic wave equations to model wave attenuation in the Earth. The theory is based on anelasticity and anisotropy and a frequency-independent Q model, but it can be generalized to frequency-dependent Q. Then I’ll show how this wave equation facilitates the compensation of attenuation effects in seismic imaging in the context of time-reversal seismic imaging, reverse-time migration (RTM), and full waveform inversion using synthetic data and field data. Finally, I will discuss the prospective research in seismic attenuation modeling, imaging, and full waveform inversion.

**Physical Models of Rock Anelasticity**

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Physically meaningful characterization of seismic-wave attenuation is critical in theoretical and observational seismology. However, currently, descriptions of “attenuation” are somewhat mystified by reliance on empirical concepts, such as time-delayed strain-stress responses and frequency-dependent material properties. Attenuation is often treated as abstract “mechanical energy dissipation” measured by the quality factor (Q) of the medium. Nevertheless, in physics, no such property exists, and energy dissipation rate represents only one aspect of the process of deformation. For example, compare the four commonly used attenuation measures: the geotechnical damping ratio (γ), spectral decay parameter (κ), characteristic decay time (t*) in seismology, and Q. Of these measures, only x is a true medium property, which is the viscosity of the near-surface mechanical resonator. By contrast, quantities κ, 1/Q and t* are parameters of certain types of transfer functions, such as spectral or stress/strain ratios or logarithmic decrements of amplitudes measured in certain experiments. This means that these properties are apparent, and they may (and typically do) depend on boundary conditions, measurement procedures and assumptions. Hypothesizing that such properties (for example, the P- and S-wave, Young’s-modulus, surface-wave, or free-oscillation Q) are mutually related as predicted by the viscoelastic model is generally incorrect. To overcome these problems, the “attenuation” phenomenon should be approached ab initio, by starting from material properties, differential equations of wave mechanics and the appropriate boundary and initial conditions. Such physical approaches are well known in poro- and thermoelasticity and hydraulic-mechanics, but they are still poorly utilized in seismology. Several examples of anelastic (but non-Q) forward and inverse physical models of laboratory and field experiments are used to illustrate the above statements.

**Exploring the Extent of Wave Propagative Effects on Teleseismic Attenuation Measurements within the Sierra Nevada**

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Previous attempts at imaging the upper mantle intrinsic attenuation structure beneath the southern Sierra Nevada have strongly indicated that propagative effects on t* measurements predominate over anelastic ones. Teleseismic shear wave t* measurements from a handful of events at stations proximal to the Isabella anomaly, a high velocity upper mantle feature, exhibit higher t* values (and therefore higher attenuation) than stations to the east residing in the Basin and Range province, where slower velocities and higher temperature are observed. These results suggest that multipathing and/or defocusing effects on shear-wave amplitudes occur for rays that travel through the high velocity material precluding any straightforward attempts at constraining anelastic attenuation. We explore the spatial extent and azimuthal dependence of multipathing/defocusing effects on t* measurements within the Sierra Nevada using teleseismic S- and SKS-phases recorded by the Sierra Nevada Earthscope Project (SNEP) and the Sierra Paradons Experiment (SPE) seismic networks. However, we also investigate the directional dependence of shear wave amplitude spectra by first accounting for seismic anisotropy in our measurements. Waveforms are first rotated into the Sierra SKSFast, N75°E, and SKSSlow, N15°W, direction. Following the method of Stachnik et al. (2004), shear-wave spectra for each event are jointly inverted for a single seismic moment, M0k, and corner frequency, fck, and separate t* for each ray path. Defocusing and anelastic effects on t* measurements are modeled using E3D, an elastic finite-difference wave propagation code that can incorporate attenuation effects. Defocusing effects are modeled using simple high-velocity geometries including a spherical “drill” and a tabular, east-plunging structure.

**Finite-Frequency Tomography of 3-D Attenuation Using Rayleigh Waves Recorded by OBS Array**

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The distinct sensitivities of seismic velocity and attenuation (Q/υ) to water content, melt, and major element composition yield important constraints on mid-ocean ridge processes and the associated mantle flow pattern, melt distribution, and the interaction of spreading centers with hotspots. Beneath the Juan de Fuca ridge, both body-wave and surface-wave studies observed strong attenuation and slow velocity anomalies. However, it is still under debate which mechanism is favorable: either the direct effects of melt extending to depths of 150 km or more, or the pre-melting effects of a hydrous mantle upwelling with about 200 ppm of water in which melting commences at about 100 km. Neither the depth-integrated S-wave attenuation nor the averaged 1-D shear attenuation for surface waves can provide further constraints; to resolve the debate a 3-D attenuation structure is required. Surface-wave tomography of 3-D attenuation structure is known as a challenging task due to difficulties in separating elastic focusing effects on seismic amplitudes from intrinsic attenuation and the relatively small effects of attenuation on amplitude over short distances. Taking this into account, we introduced the finite-frequency kernels for attenuation and imaged 3D shear attenuation and velocity structures in the vicinity of the Juan de Fuca plate. Owing to the extensive arrays of ocean bottom seismometers (OBS) with high quality, long deployment periods, and novel noise removal techniques, we obtained 3-D attenuation and shear velocity model with the best resolution to date of any spreading center based on fundamental-mode Rayleigh waves. With 3-D models of shear attenuation and shear velocity, we evaluate the two competing paradigms and shall present a summary of the inversion results and favored interpretation.

**Anisotropic Attenuation in Rocks: Theory and Lab Measurements**

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Anisotropic attenuation affects seismic observations and complicates their interpretations. Its accurate determination is, however, difficult and needs extensive measurements of wavefields in many directions. We developed and numerically tested an iterative inversion scheme for determining the parameters of anisotropic attenuation. We present a lab facility that allows for measuring anisotropic attenuation using the P-wave ultrasonic sounding of spherical samples in 132 directions distributed regularly over the sphere. The applicability of the proposed inversion method and the performance of the experimental setup are exemplified by determining triclinic anisotropic attenuation of the serpentinite rock from Val Malenco, Northern Italy. Measurements were done at room temperature and hydrostatic pressures up to 400 MPa in a pressure vessel with oil as a pressure medium. Three significant directions of the foliated sample were selected to study changes of the directional dependence (anisotropy) of velocity, amplitude and Q-factor with increasing pressure. Remarkable differences are observed in the changes of velocity and attenuation anisotropy as pressure is increased. While the velocity anisotropy is quite stable through all pressure levels, the attenuation anisotropy and the Q-factor for both in-plane and out-of-plane directions increase in magnitude and orientation. The variations are probably caused by closing of microcracks due to acting hydrostatic pressure, so the contact conditions between individual minerals consolidate and the transmitting energy is less attenuating.

**Environmental Seismology: Glaciers, Rivers, Landslides and Beyond**

Oral Session · Tuesday 15 May · 2:15 pm · Hibiscus B
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Seismic recordings of debris flows contain information about conditions within and at the base of flows. These characteristics are difficult or impossible to measure directly. In order to use seismic techniques to make quantitative measurements, it is critical that we understand how the radiated seismic energy relates to debris flow dynamics. This is best accomplished in a controlled, experimental setting. One of the few facilities in the world that allows such investigations at large scales is the USGS debris-flow flume in Oregon. The flume is a 95-m-long channel sloping at 31 degrees in which man-made debris flows can be created and observed. In 2016 and 2017, we installed over 120 seismometers within 50 m of the flume. We installed the instruments in linear arrays (2–3 m spacing) and nested circular arrays (apertures ranging from 2–30 m). We recorded twelve debris-flow experiments in which the debris composition, volume, and initiation mechanism were systematically varied in order to isolate the effect of each variable. Accompanying our seismic recordings were direct measurements of basal stresses, water height changes, and flow heights as well as imagery acquired by stereo-video cameras, and a high-sample-rate lidar profiler. We also directly measured site and path effects using a force hammer to generate empirical Green's functions representing the impulse response between points along the flume and each seismic station. Using these data, we test which debris-flow parameters (e.g., velocity, basal stresses) can be retrieved from seismic recordings under what conditions. We show that it is possible to track debris flows using seismic arrays, but techniques that rely on the location of the loudest source may, at times, track secondary surges rather than the flow front. Advancements in our understanding of debris flow seismicity can be used not only to study debris flow dynamics, but also to improve existing debris flow detection and tracking methodologies.

20 Years of Landslide Activity in Alaska from Automated Machine-Learning Based Seismic Detection

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Detection of landslide occurrences and measurement of their dynamic properties during run-out is a high research priority but a logistical and technical challenge. Seismology has started to help in several important ways. Taking advantage of the densification of networks of broadband seismic stations, recent advances now permit the real-time seismic detection and location of landslides with unprecedented speed and accuracy. This seismic detection could potentially greatly increase the spatio-temporal resolution at which we study landslides triggering, which is critical to better understand the influence of external forcings such as rainfall and earthquakes. However, detecting automatically seismic signals generated by landslides still represents a challenge, especially for events with small mass. The low signal-to-noise ratio associated to landslides generated seismic signals and the difficulty to discriminate these signals from those generated by regional earthquakes or anthropogenic and natural noises are some of the obstacles that have to be circumvented. We present a new method for automatically constituting instrumental landslide catalogues from continuous seismic data. We developed a robust and versatile solution, which can be implemented in any context where a seismic detection of landslides or other mass movements is relevant. The method is based on a spectral detection of the seismic signals and the identification of the sources with a Random Forest machine learning algorithm. We present here the results of the application of this processing chain for 20 years of continuous seismic records by the Alaskan permanent seismic networks. The instrumental catalogues produced allow us to investigate the impact of seasonality and high magnitude earthquakes on the landslide activity in this region.

Repeating Quakes Detected at Moosfluh Rockslide (Valais, Switzerland)

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Repeating earthquakes are associated with the repeated failure of an asperity surrounded by asismic slip. These events are interesting because they may provide a way to estimate asismic slip, and because they offer a repetitive source to track temporal changes in the medium. Similar events have also been observed at the base of glaciers, ice streams and landslides. Repeating landquakes have been observed a few minutes to a few days preceding landslide failure (Yamada et al., 2016; Poli, 2017). Here we describe repeating events that have been detected on Moosfluh rockslide (Valais, Switzerland). This rockslide has a volume of about 100 million m3, and has likely been reactivated by the retreat of Aletsch glacier at the base of the rockslide. Two seismometers were installed on October 3rd 2016 at the top of the active zone, when the rockslide was moving at about 1 m/day. Since this date, the movement has been slowing down, showing only much weaker transient accelerations. This suggests that repeating landquakes are not always precursors of failure, but may also occur as long as a landslide is moving. Thousands of repeating events, classified in 189 clusters, have been detected by template matching filter. Clusters are active for a few days up to several months. Some clusters display very regular amplitudes and recurrence times, while others are more random. While the total rate of activity is correlated with landslide movement, individual sequences have very different behaviors, with no clear correlation with either landslide movement or meteorological data. This suggests that temporal fluctuations of amplitude and recurrence rate are due to a local effect, possibly the evolution of the interface roughness or of the stress on the asperity induced by landslide movement. Seismic waveforms also slowly evolve with time, due to changes in the seismic wave velocity and/or due to the displacement of the source relative to the seismometer.

Using Freeze Events to Characterize Two Types of Lake-Generated Seismic Signals

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During the winter of 2014, a weak polar vortex brought record cold temperatures to the Midwestern United States, and the Great Lakes reached the highest extent of ice coverage (92.5%) since 1979. This event shut down the generation of seismic signals caused by wind-driven wave action within the lakes (termed “lake microseisms”), giving an unprecedented opportunity to isolate and characterize these novel signals through comparison with non-frozen time periods. Using seismic records at 72 broadband stations, we observe Great Lake microseisms at distances from 800 km from the lakes. In both near-ice and oceanic microseisms, there is no clear relationship between the frequency content of the seismic signals (observed from ~0.5 to 5 s period) and the dominant swell period. Additionally, we observe transiently excited, short-period (< 0.5 s period) increases in seismic power on stations located in close proximity (~ 1 km) to the
Near-Surface Elastic Changes in the Ross Ice Shelf Arising from Transient Storm and Melt Forcing Observed with High-Frequency Ambient Seismic Noise

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Ice shelf collapse can herald subsequent grounded ice instability. However, robust understanding of external mechanisms capable of triggering rapid changes remains elusive. Improved understanding therefore requires improved remote and in-situ measurements of ice shelf properties and the environmental processes that can affect them. Using nearly three years of continuous data from a recently deployed 34-station broadband seismic array on the Ross Ice Shelf, we analyze persistent temporally varying, anisotropic near-surface resonant wave modes at frequencies above ~1 Hz that are highly sensitive to small changes in elastic shelf properties to depths of several m. These modes exhibit both progressive (on the scale of months) and rapid (on the scale of hours) amplitude and frequency changes. The largest and most rapid excursions are associated with local storms and with a large regional ice shelf melt event in January 2016, but changes are apparent throughout the record, which we attribute to abrupt and progressive structural evolution of the firn layer. These modal variations can be forward modeled and inverted for structural changes using synthetic spectra calculated via numerical wave propagation, and thus present an opportunity for 4-D structural monitoring of local shallow glacial elasticity and structure using continuous high-frequency seismic recordings.

Spectral Monitoring of Rock Arches

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The delicate geometry of natural rock arches creates a unique spectral signature that enables non-invasive monitoring for structural damage. We identify and characterize resonant frequencies of arches by calibrating measured spectral attributes from sparse broadband arrays with 3D numerical modal analysis. The resulting model allows us to visualize mode shapes and infer bulk material properties. We interpret recoverable variations in resonant frequencies as changes in these material properties due to daily and seasonal environmental factors. Predictive modeling, based on a year of continuous seismic monitoring at one study site, shows that the largest deviations in resonant frequencies appear to be driven primarily by thermal expansion and the formation of pore ice, causing stress-stiffening cycles in the arch. While no permanent change or damage was measured at the study site, we propose that stress changes caused by these processes are important drivers of fatigue and subcritical crack growth, ultimately contributing to the collapse of natural arches.

Tracking Groundwater Levels Using the Ambient Seismic Field

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Aquifers are vital groundwater reservoirs for domestic, agricultural, and industrial activities worldwide. Tracking their state with high temporal and spatial resolution is critical for water resource management, yet rarely achieved from a single data set. Here, we show that groundwater level variations can be mapped at basin-scale using perturbations in seismic velocity, dv/v. We recover daily changes in dv/v in the San Gabriel Valley, California, from cross-correlation of the ambient seismic field for the years 2000–2017. dv/v recovers the multi-decadal and rapid recharge that mark the drought-wet cycles in southern California. dv/v correlates spatially with vertical surface displacements and deformation measured from local GPS stations. These results suggest that velocity change measurements have the potential to improve established monitoring efforts of aquifers.

Tracking Tropical Cyclones with Backprojection

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Tropical cyclones (hurricanes and typhoons) are mostly atmospheric phenomena but they also generate significant ground motions in the solid earth when they become strong. Previous studies have shown it is possible to track and monitor hurricanes that pass through dense seismic networks on land (Tanimoto and Valocén, 2015). This limits the amount of hurricanes available to study, and so the next step is to study them while they are still out over the ocean. In this study we looked at Atlantic hurricanes from 2011 to 2016. We perform a backprojection of 0.2 Hz P waves recorded at a network of Southern California stations for the durations of the hurricanes. For many of the hurricanes in this time span, the peak amplitudes of the 0.2 Hz waves occur near the reported locations of the storms and track them through time, although the peak is offset from the center of the hurricane. The offset is likely a result of wave interaction between ocean waves and excited by the hurricane winds. It appears that the strength of the hurricane also contributes to whether or not a peak is observed. For many of the storms there is only a clear associated peak when the storm (and wind speeds) were stronger. We do not tend to observe a peak for less intense cyclones that do not reach hurricane strength winds.

Active-Source Investigations of Lemon Creek Glacier, Alaska, Using Nodal Seismometers and a Betsy Seismic Gun Source

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The use of seismology as a means to study glacier dynamics has rapidly expanded in recent years as we seek to better understand the present and future behaviour of glaciers in a rapidly changing climate. While smaller in mass than their Antarctic or Greenland cousins, sub-arctic mountain glaciers may be particularly vulnerable to rapid changes in climate, making them a worthy target of study. During June 2017, we acquired a 1-km-long seismic reflection and refraction survey on Lemon Creek Glacier, a 5.7-km-long subarctic mountain glacier in the Juneau Icefield of Southeast Alaska. We used 51 5-Hz Z-Land Fairfield nodal seismometers recording at 1000 Hz and a Betsy Seismic Gun source with 400-grain, 8-gauge blanks. Fairfield nodal seismometers are small, highly-portable sensors that may rapidly be deployed in dense networks in challenging environments. The seismic survey was located in the upper portion of the glacier within the accumulation zone, oriented parallel to the flow direction, and approximately followed the glacier’s center line. In this survey, the receivers were initially spaced at 20-m, and shots were fired between them at 20-m spacing. We fired multiple shots near the ends of the line to allow stacking to enhance the signal. After we recorded the initial active-source survey, we re-deployed the nodes in a regional array across the upper part of the glacier at ~350-m spacing. In mid-July, we fired additional shots adjacent to ~25 of those nodes to provide further constraints on ice thickness. We apply seismic reflection and refraction methods that have been applied successfully in high-arctic environments to image the interior and subglacial properties of Lemon Creek Glacier. In this abstract, we present our findings from the active-source deployment described here. Future work may include data from an additional, contemporaneous nodal deployment which includes the nearer-termus region of the glacier, nearby broadband stations, and a coincident GPS deployment. Our work serves to elucidate the firm and ice structure, the rheology of the glacier, as well as the basal properties of the glacier.
In order to deal more effectively with the future earthquake risk, two important issues need to be solved: 1. How can the government and the public imagine the disaster scenario caused by the earthquake risk in these areas? 2. Can officials and the general public systematically see the damage caused by historical earthquakes in the area or other areas, and they understand the characteristics and distribution of earthquakes? Both of these issues are related to earthquake damage photos and survey data. In order to improve the utilization of survey data, this paper proposes a method to classify and attribute the seismic damage photos based on the need of future seismic hazard assessment. 1. The Mark of the seismic intensity or ground motion parameters in pictures. Also includes the name and number of the earthquake damage pictures, shooting location. According to the contents of the earthquake damage pictures, the following two categories can be used for the division and annotation. 2. The surface features, include faults, landslides, dammed lakes, sand liquefaction etc. 3. Engineering structure categories: building structure, water conservancy, electricity, petrochemicals, transportation, infrastructure and other important projects. Based on the above, seismic damage images are more refined attribute classification, 4. The details of the damage attribute, according to the different characteristics of the image object were marked. According to the above method, this paper presents some examples of earthquake damage photographs that have been classified and defined by attributes, and will try hard to set up an earthquake disaster database in the future. The authors suggest that international organizations should establish a global database of earthquakes and respond more appropriately to future earthquake risks.

**Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board Natural Phenomena Hazard Database**

Department of Energy (DOE) Order 420.1c requires that all DOE nuclear facility sites periodically review their Natural Phenomena Hazard (NPH), including earthquake, wind, flood and volcanic hazards, just list a few. Any significant changes to data, model and methodology related to a site NPH could lead to a site hazard reassessment and then potential design changes. The periodic review and possible following reassessment relies significantly on understanding site-specific NPH information and its changes. Therefore, establishing a NPH database and updating it continuously will ensure the availability of up-to-date NPH information for each nuclear facility site. Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board (DNFSB) provides independent analysis, advice, and recommendations to DOE on adequate protection of public health and safety at defense nuclear facilities. Establishing a NPH database will enhance the Board’s safety oversight of DOE nuclear facilities. Because NPH data are geodatos, NPH database will be built upon a Geographic Information System (GIS) platform. Specifically, the GIS NPH database will allow the staff member understanding the hazard in an integrated manner. The database will also reduce future data requests to various DOE sites and their contractors and will ensure knowledge transfer among the Board staff members and also to prioritize site reviews based on estimated hazard change. In sum, the GIS NPH database will enable the staff member’s oversight of DOE’s NPH periodic review more proactive, informative and effective. The database can also be an effective tool for assisting the staff’s review of emergency preparation and hazard mitigation when NPH events or human related events occur.

**Exploring the Uncertainty of Earthquake Catastrophe Models Through a Risk Assessment Study in Central America Using Openquake and a Vendor Cat Model**

Central America has been the focus of many recent seismic risk studies, carried out for both public and private purposes. Public risk assessments are usually carried out for risk mitigation purposes so that the public are informed of the risk, building codes can be improved and emergency plans can be made. Private risk assessments carried out by insurance companies look at a subset of buildings (the insured or insurable mix) in order to derive adequate pricing for insurance contracts. Even if the end use is different, the two assessments share many similarities. For example, the seismic hazard component can be identical for the two assessments. In this study, we carried out a seismic risk assessment for Central America, focussing on Guatemala, using the publically available Openquake model (Global Earthquake Model) and a privately-licensed vendor catastrophe model. Our objectives were twofold; first, to gain a good understanding of the similarities and the differences between the two models, and second, to quantify the uncertainty of intermediate model components and their contribution to the overall risk estimation. The uncertainty in the risk calculation can indubitably affect the quality and the value of the risk assessment. A model with open architecture, such as Openquake, allows the investigation of primary and secondary uncertainty. Our approach to quantify the uncertainties within OpenQuake is also presented. The outcome of this study has shown that the most significant impact of uncertainty, both epistemic and aleatory, comes from the hazard component. Therefore, this presentation also aims to initiate a dialogue with the seismological community about the main contributors of hazard uncertainty in risk assessment. The contributors include, but are not limited to: 1. Seismic catalogue-seismic zonation 2. Selection of GMPEs 3. Soil model
Seismic Risk Assessment in Areas with Low-Quality Data: The Case of Jama-Pedernales 7.8 Mw Earthquake and the Detailed Study of Portoviejo (Ecuador) – Part 2: Risk Quantification

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In order to obtain sound risk assessments, it is important to quantify, among others, building characteristics and socioeconomic and environmental attributes, of the potential impacted area. Risk assessment studies conducted at detailed scale (individual dwellings) are not common because of difficulties in getting the appropriate data both, at the intensity of shaking and at the vulnerability levels. Here we present the main results of the risk study carried out in Portoviejo after the 7.8 Mw Jama-Pedernales earthquake. Damage is concentrated in tall buildings (about 31.7% for 4 or more story buildings versus 8.4% for 1–2 story), mostly located downtown Portoviejo, although soil properties there are not different from others around the city. The damage ratio persists in new buildings (built after 2001), even for those built under the first national Construction Building Code that includes locally calculated seismic zonation (2001). Damage to official buildings was also high (hospitals, schools, police departments, local and national government). Old buildings were heavily damaged too, so there are no evidences of vulnerability reduction in recent years. Most of fatalities, 133 in Portoviejo, were caused by tall buildings collapses, but it could have been worse if the earthquake had occurred during business ours. Economic losses assessment considered the exposure (based on the cadastral value of the buildings) and the replacement cost. Such losses were estimated in 450–700 million US$. The first ever empirical fragility and vulnerability curves in Ecuador were also calculated after assigning to buildings a typology based on cadastral, morphometric and site information. Portoviejo is a standard city in the Ecuadorian context, so our results could be extrapolated to others in the country for the same type of earthquakes. In Portoviejo the paradigm that directly correlates social vulnerability with high earthquake risk has been challenged so new approaches must be considered.

Seismic Risk Assessment for British Columbia, Canada, through the Use of Global Earthquake Model’s OpenQuake

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Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) has employed Global Earthquake Model’s (GEM) OpenQuake engine to undertake a national-scale earthquake risk assessment, beginning with a provincially-focused evaluation of British Columbia (BC), the most seismically hazardous region of the country. The assessment includes an implementation of the probabilistic seismic hazard model derived for the National Building Code of Canada (2015), and the development of deterministic seismic hazard models to represent a range of potentially damaging earthquake scenarios that could impact populated areas along BC’s coastline and in some interior regions. In order to obtain impact models, anticipated ground motions were combined with vulnerability data (including site conditions, buildings and infrastructure, and population). The probabilistic risk results will be presented along with a selection of deterministic scenarios, including a megathrust earthquake of M=9.0 along the Cascadia Subduction Zone, an M=7.1 crustal earthquake adjacent to the City of Victoria’s waterfront, an M=7.0 within a gap along the Queen Charlotte Fault off Haida Gwaii, and a deep M=6.9 beneath the Strait of Georgia just west of the City of Vancouver. Such comprehensive assessments are invaluable for effective emergency planning, risk mitigation measures and disaster management. The results will therefore be made available via a publicly accessible web portal. Future modelling is slated to incorporate evaluations of secondary hazards such as tsunami and liquefaction, will include additional natural hazards (e.g. landslides, volcanic activity, flooding) and will be expanded to cover the remainder of Canada. This work will support Canada’s efforts toward meeting the recommendations within the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction).

The Gutenberg-Richter Law and Completeness of the RSN Earthquake Catalog, Costa Rica

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Costa Rica is characterized by a high seismicity due to its location in a subduction zone and near to the triple point of the plates Coco, Caribbean and Nazca. This study evaluates the stability of the mean rate earthquake occurrence and the spatial and temporal distribution of seismicity in Costa Rica, in order to calculate the completeness magnitude for the RSN seismic catalog and the Gutenberg-Richter relationship for 1975–2017. Results show that the completeness magnitude for the catalog is 5.0, but it could be as low as 3.0 Mw for certain periods of time. The preliminary "b" value and maximum likelihood magnitude obtained for this catalog are 0.96, and 7.8, respectively. The geographic distribution of seismicity highlights the main active tectonic structures. In particular, clusters of seismicity reveal highly deformed crustal areas, which are located along the inland projected path of seamount chains and the Panama Fracture Zone. These clusters do not correlate exactly with the largest energy released zones. These results are vital for understanding the tectonic setting of the region and the correct assessment of the seismic hazard and risk mitigation.

Toward a Unified Metric for Sufficiency and Efficiency of Scalar Earthquake Intensity Measures

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Earthquake Intensity Measures (IM) are commonly employed in seismic risk assessment to link seismological parameters (M, R) with Engineering Demand Parameters (EDP). Consequently, the selection of appropriate IMs consistent with the structural type and location has become increasingly important using criteria such as efficiency (standard deviation in EDP given an IM) and sufficiency (conditional independence of EDP from seismological parameters given an IM). As sufficiency of IMs has been only assessed qualitatively using p-values—which provide no information beyond pass/fail—we first describe a recently proposed quantitative method to gauge sufficiency using a Total Information Gain (TIG) metric. We apply the TIG to a four-story steel moment frame building for a large number of combinations of IMs, EDPs, and record-sets to realize that the choice of ground motion set can play a huge role in determining an IM’s sufficiency. Next, we investigate the relation between the efficiency and sufficiency metrics and find that these quantities are Bi-variate Normal distributed with a weak correlation. We further utilize this finding to derive a unified metric for sufficiency and efficiency of an IM using a Mahalanobis transformation and a Euclidean norm.

Hybrid Empirical Ground Motion Prediction Equations for the Gyeongju Area in South Korea

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The Gyeongju area is in and around area of the Gyeongju city located in the southeastern part of the Korean Peninsula. The Gyeongju area has been one of the most interesting regions in the Korean Peninsula among seismologists and engineers due to its relatively higher seismicity. Seismological and earthquake engineering studies on the Gyeongju area, however, have been limited due to deficiency of data. In this study, ground motion prediction equations (GMPEs) are developed for the Gyeongju area using the hybrid empirical method (HEM) suggested by Campbell (2003). Western United States (WUS) is selected as a host region and five NGA–West2 GMPEs are used as empirical GMPEs of the host region. GMPEs derived in this study are for magnitudes from 5.0 to 7.5 and rupture distances from 10 to 500 km. Median GMPEs are provided with aleatory standard deviations. Predictive values by the derived GMPEs were compared with ground motions from the available earthquake record for moment magnitudes 5.0 and 5.5. The comparison shows good agreement, which implies that the GMPEs can be applied to not only the Gyeongju area but also the southern part of the Korean Peninsula. The notable advantages of the GMPEs developed in this study are as follows: All previous studies for GMPEs in South Korea used the same stochastic method. Because this study uses a distinct HEM, it supplements the limitations of the stochastic method, such as lack of near-source ground motion characteristics. Site-specific input parameters for the Gyeongju area are used in the simulations. The ground motions predicted by the developed GMPEs are compared with those from available observed data to check their applicability. Aleatory standard deviations are provided so that they can be directly used in PSHA.
Fault to Seismic Hazard Assessment (Fault2SHA) in Latin (Central and South) America

Oral Session • Tuesday 15 May • 2:15 PM • Brickell
Session Chairs: Laurence Audin, Felipe Aron, Marianne Saillard, Laura Peruzza, Franck Audemard, and Oona Scotti

South America Seismic Hazard, Risk, and Design


South America is one of the most earthquake prone regions of the world. During the past century, earthquakes have caused billions of dollars of damage and tens of thousands of casualties across the northern and western part of the South American continent. The seismic activity in this continent is characterized by the South America Subduction Zone and other complex fault interactions. Future losses can be mitigated through making informed decisions about the future earthquakes may occur, how often they might occur, and how strong the ground will shake. The USGS collaborated with scientists from South America to develop such seismic hazard information that are applied in building codes, insurance models, and public policy. We apply standardized methodologies and tools for hazard and risk assessments, to reduce border discrepancies, and to identify areas of high hazard and risk for different countries. We rely on five important datasets and methodologies: (1) an updated earthquake catalog, (2) models of well-mapped faults, (3) latest seismic ground motion models, (4) USGS PAGER vulnerability models, and (5) methodologies applied in U.S. building codes. The new results indicate that over 160 million people (or about a third of the total population in South America) live in areas with significantly elevated seismic hazard, primarily within the northern and western portions of the continent where earthquakes associated with subduction and crustal faulting are most common. Countries such as Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru face high hazard and the risk; Chile also faces high hazard, but the vulnerability of the built stock is much lower compared with the northern countries. These new models can be used for analyzing building design standards and improving risk assessment which can save lives and dollars by providing information on where and how to strengthen buildings in vulnerable areas.

Seismotectonics of North Faults of Algeciras Fault System, Colombia, from an Analysis of the Earthquakes That Occurred during the Period 2016–2017

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The Algeciras Fault System (AFS) is part of the Eastern Frontal Fault System. With the help of the historical seismic intensity evaluation and instrumental historical seismicity record (1967 earthquake mainly) have been assigned the 1785, 1827, 1917 and, 1967 historical earthquakes. These earthquakes were felt in Bogota and several Colombian cities located towards the center and southwest of the country. The Guayuriba Fault is reverse with 142,3 km of cumulative length is part of the AFS and corresponds to the northern fault of the fault system. Towards the west of the region where the Guayuriba Fault crosses, there are two semi-parallel reverse faults which are Altamira, and Nazareth toward the watershed of the cordillera. In this region occurred recently the earthquakes M = 5.4 and M= 5.0 of October 30, 2016, M = 4.7 of December 16, 2016, and M = 5.7 of February 6, 2017, which were located near the watershed of the cordillera near to town of Colombia, in the Huila department. Also occurred the earthquake M = 5.1 of June 2, 2017 whose epicenter was located toward north of the Macarena Range near to Mesetas town in the Meta department. The hypocenters of earthquakes were located by the National Seismological Network of Colombia (RSNC). The location of the epicenters of earthquakes near to town of Colombia in Huila department were verified here with field work, which are coincident with the location of the hypocenters given by RSNC makes estimate that the asperities are related with the interaction in deep between Alantar and Nazareth faults with Guayuriba Fault together with the Ambica Fault that is antithetic fault to the AFS strike. In conclusion here estimated that the main seismicity source is the Guayuriba Fault and the second seismicity source in this region are Alantar, Ambica and Nazareth faults for the earthquakes that occurred near to Colombia town, and the Guayuriba Fault for the the earthquake that occurred near to Mesetas town.

Geological Data as an Input for Seismic Hazard Assessment Including Fault Sources: Example in Central Ecuador

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Central Ecuador includes a series of crustal active faults, including the Puna-Pallatanga strike-slip fault zone (PPFZ) crossing obliquely the entire Andes Range. Those faults caused large historical and crustal earthquakes (M ≥7). We mapped active fault sections based on geohazard datasets and geological evidences of offset landforms or deposits. Slip rates, that could be estimated for several sections, range between ~1 and 7 mm/a. The identified fault sections could rupture separately during M6.0 to M7 earthquakes. However, we argue that multiple-section earthquake ruptures should be invoked to generate the large magnitude events documented in the historical and paleoseismic catalogues. Based on empirical relationships, we claim that those multiple segment ruptures could not have been impeded by geometrical discontinuities, for instance because rupture could jump over those narrow jogs. We conclude that multiple fault earthquake ruptures could even reach magnitudes up to 7.8. Using the SHERIFS code (Chartier et al., 2017), we determine the rate of earthquakes that PPFZ could generate according to our geological dataset. This method allows to relax the fault segmentation and calculate the rate of multiple fault section ruptures, following two constraints: 1) the Magnitude Frequency Distribution (MFD) of earthquakes in the fault system follows an imposed Gutenberg-Richter shape; 2) the rupture rates on each fault section is determined by its specific slip rate and by the possible multiple section rupture scenarios defined as input. We explore several hypotheses of the set of possible multiple section ruptures in a logic tree. For Central Ecuador, our model results obtained with geologically-based slip rates are consistent with the seismic catalogue. Results from the same model but with geodetic slip rates (Beauval et al., 2017) provide higher earthquake rates.

A Long-Term Slip Model for the San Ramón Fault, Santiago de Chile, from Tectonically Reconcilable Boundary Conditions

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We constructed a 3D boundary elements model simulating subduction of the Nazca plate underneath South America, from 29° to 38°S, to compute long-term surface deformation and slip rates on crustal faults imbedded in the upper-plate wedge of the Andean orogen. We tested our model on the San Ramon Fault (SRF), a major E-dipping thrust structure limiting the western front of the Main Cordillera with surface expression along the entire, 40 km long, extension of the Santiago de Chile basin. Long-lived thrusting has produced more than 2 km of differential uplift of the mountains. Given its proximity to the country’s largest city, this potentially seismogenic fault—dormant during historic times— has
drawn increasing public attention. The simulation reproduces plate convergence and kinematic decoupling of the lithospheric plates across the subduction seismic cycle using mixed boundary conditions. Relative plate motion is achieved prescribing uniform, far-field horizontal displacement over the depth extension of the lithospheric plates. Long-term deformation is carried out in two steps. First, the modeled surfaces are allowed to slip freely emulating continuous slip on the subduction megathrust; subsequently, zero displacement is prescribed on the locking zone of the megathrust while keeping the rest of the surfaces traction free, mimicking interseismic conditions. Long-term slip rate fields obtained for the SRF range between 0.1 and 1% the plate convergence rate, with maximum values near the surface. Interestingly, at an estimated 76–77 mm/yr relative plate motion velocity, those rates agree well with what has been reported on studies at one paleoearthquake trench site across the fault. These results might contribute to determining possible seismic scenarios for Santiago but perhaps more importantly, our approach could be use in estimations of long-term slip rates and surface deformation due to other crustal structures with unknown displacement history.

Uncertainties in Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Analysis: A Case Study from Northern Chile
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We report the results of a probabilistic seismic hazard analysis for Iquique, northern Chile located near the Nazca-South America plate boundary subduction zone. We constructed seismogenic source model to characterize the geometry and earthquake activity at the plate interface (0 to 40 km depth) and for the deep subduction zone intraslab sources (40 to 2150 km depth). Because of the high uncertainties associated with intraslab earthquake locations, the intraslab source has two equally weighted models—a 3D surface model and a progressively deeper stepped source model. The source zone model also includes potential earthquake quakes generated by crustal faultsland shallow crustal area sources to account for background earthquakes and unmapped faults. Ground motion prediction equations (GMPE) were selected and weighted using the method proposed by Scherbaum et al. (2009) and the Chile strong motion database developed by Bastias and Montalva (2016). The final GMM applied both global and local GMPEs selected and weighted based on their goodness-of-fit to the Chile strong motion dataset. Epistemic uncertainties in the seismic source and ground motion model were incorporated using a logic tree approach. Tornado plots indicate that the estimated seismic hazard at Iquique at short structural periods is most sensitive to the GMPE selection and recurrence parameters for the intraslab sources, followed by sensitivity to the alternative intraslab source models. The estimated seismic hazard at 1-second structural period is most sensitive to the selection and weighting of the intraslab GMPE and the intraslab source models. The 95th fractile PGA, 0.2- and 1.0-second spectral accelerations for the 475-year return period are about 1.3, 1.4 and 1.5 times of the mean spectral accelerations, respectively. Local fault sources (e.g., Atacama fault) make little contribution to the 475-year return period hazard, probably because of their low average slip rates of ≤ 0.5 mm/yr.

Ground Motion Estimation of Recently Identified Crustal Faults in Central Chile
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Lately, there have been newly identified, potentially seismogenic crustal faults (PSCFs) in Chile, many of them are now published by the South America Risk Assessment Project of the Global Earthquake Model. These faults pose a great risk to the community and infrastructure; therefore, it is necessary to estimate ground motion that can be produced by these seismic sources. Unfortunately, there are very few recorded ground motion data from these active faults, not sufficient to build ground motion prediction equations—a necessary step to estimate earthquake hazard. Because of the lack of recorded data, it has become necessary to estimate ground motion with physics-based models. With recorded ground motion, we have estimated path and site attenuation parameters, namely kappa, for different sites in Central Chile. Preliminary results show that the regional value of kappa is approximately 40 ms. The PSCFs database contains very informative information that can aid in the different sources used to complete the fault datum. Nevertheless, if absent, the necessary parameters to simulate seismic scenarios such as the dimension, sense of slip and dip angle and direction can be extracted from the fault traces themselves and inferred from the seismotectonic setting of each individual fault. We used the 2010 Leonard scaling relationships to determine a magnitude based on the length of each active fault. For each fault, we then calculated several earthquake rupture scenarios, and we compared seismic waves using Green's functions with the UCSB method (Crempon and Archuleta, 2015). The Green's functions incorporate the attenuation measured previously and are calculated up to 25 Hz. For all earthquake scenarios, we estimate peak ground acceleration intensities of over 1g within 10km of the closest distance to the fault. These preliminary results show that these active crustal faults need to be studied in depth in order to better characterize the earthquake hazard in Central Chile.

Seismic Evidence for Complex Faulting through the Gulf of Guayaquil
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Along the Ecuadorian margin, the North Andean Sliver is moving in the north-eastward direction due to the oblique subduction of the Nazca plate. The opening of the Gulf of Guayaquil is a consequence of this motion. Two principal models compete to explain the opening. One proposal an opening achieved essentially with strike slip motion along a single major fault through the gulf, the other with a combination of strike slip and normal faulting on both sides of the gulf. The consequences in term of seismic hazard are very different. A single strike-slip fault model could imply a long fault segment capable of generating large magnitude events. In contrast, a multi segments composite fault system will give conditions for producing small to medium size earthquakes. The southern Ecuador subduction zone is characterized by the absence of large historical earthquake. Data from the historical and instrumental seismicity for magnitude above 4 show the fore arc has a high level of seismic activity within and around the gulf that could contribute to the national seismicity and volcanic arc. The gulf of Guayaquil also shows very little or no seismic activity between the interplate zone and the volcanic arc. Regional and global CMTS data show mostly diffuse strike slip mechanisms that do not line up on a single fault system. We present new earthquake data from the recently upgraded national seismic network of Ecuador. They provide the first image of SW-NE trending crustal faults stretching in the center of the gulf and running eastward between the Puná and the northern coast of the gulf of Guayaquil. It appears to be a complex multi segments fault system. The observed seismic alignments do not cross the Puná island as it was postulated in previous regional tectonic studies. Others seismic clusters are observed parallel to the northern coast of the gulf, indicating active structures eventually accommodating the North South opening of the gulf through normal faulting.

Spatiotemporal Seismic Hazard and Risk Assessments for Large Aftershocks Triggered by Mega-Thrust Subduction Earthquakes in Japan
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Large historical mega-thrust subduction earthquakes, such as the 2004 Aceh-Andaman, 2010 Maule, and 2011 Tohoku earthquakes, have triggered numerous aftershocks in subduction plate interfaces and continental crusts. The crustal seismicity occurs much closer to the population and buildings than the subduction earthquake which is likely to occur with a larger magnitude and at a greater distance. Therefore, the crustal earthquake can have a greater potential impact on seismic damage and loss than the subduction earthquake. Generally, times between major events may be too short to inspect and repair damaged buildings; in such situations, damage accumulation of buildings can be major issues. A new method for assessing spatiotemporal seismic hazard and risk due to a mega-thrust
subduction earthquake that triggers both subduction and crustal aftershocks is debtor. The Epidemic Type Aftershock Sequences (ETAS) model is used to generate synthetic earthquake catalogs and capture spatiotemporal earthquake clustering. The conventional isotropic ETAS simulation is extended to account for spatial anisotropic distribution of aftershocks by applying the scaling law of the rupture model, and implementing a 2D uniform distribution and a power law decay inside and outside of the rupture area, respectively. Moreover, to evaluate 3D effects, the ETAS model is compared against 2D iso- and ovoidal moment tensor models as in North China. The comparisons show that PGAs and PGVs at all stations, except station JZZ, are below the GMPE. The S-wave horizontal to vertical spectral ratios (HVSR) were calculated for the main event and aftershocks at station JZZ and the two temporary stations. The results show that the HVSRs at the three sites are quite similar. The HVSRs at station JZZ also show nonlinear site response: the peak frequency shifting from ~10Hz to ~2Hz with amplitude decreasing. Stochastic finite fault source model with dynamic corner frequency was used to simulate ground motions at the eight stations for the main event. The simulated ground motions were compared to the recordings at the eight stations.

GPS Measurements of Large Oscillations of a Tall Building due to a Magnitude 7.3 Earthquake

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Tall buildings, increasing in number throughout the world, including the Middle East, are greatly affected by long trains of seismic waves from regional earthquakes. Seismic motions, measurable with accurate GPS, are greatly amplified with the increasing height of buildings. Here we show the first successful GPS measurements of the motions of the 414 m tall, Al-Hamra Tower in Kuwait, due to the 11/12/2017 magnitude 7.3 earthquake, 642 km north of Kuwait City on the Iran-Iraq border. The GPS direct measurements of the movements near the top of this building show oscillations of the building, lasting more than ten minutes, with maximum peak-to-peak displacements of 30 cm. The period of the oscillations corresponds to the fundamental mode of the building, and the scalloping nature of the oscillations is produced by the interference of two lowest modes with 7.1 and 5.7 second periods. The large oscillations, occurring in two broad pulses—one and three minutes—after the initial shaking, correlate with GPS horizontal displacements that spread over the entire foundation of the building. GPS measurements show that there was no permanent deformation despite the large swaying of the building. The response of other tall buildings to seismic wave trains can be determined from the seismic power in the resonance band of these buildings and these methods can be applied widely around the world. Measurements of this type with low-cost GPS receivers will soon be possible.

What Does a 1000-s or More Tall Building Response Record Mean?

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The new generation of recorders capture longer responses from ground or structural arrays. Within the last decade, many records released by various data centers exhibit longer and longer durations of shaking—allowing studies of longer earthquake shaking responses of buildings and/or other structures. In this paper, I examine the causes and implications of longer shaking of the structures using recent examples. Two particular issues constitute the scope of this paper. First, longer shaking duration in structures usually means slower dissipation of shaking energy. Critical damping values recently determined from response records of tall (≥10 stories) buildings, in particular, are found to be around 2.5%, much lower than the value of 5% widely assumed and utilized during the design and analysis processes. Thus, when the measured critical damping percentage is in the vicinity of or less than 2.5% or less [which is the latest recommendation of Los Angeles Tall Buildings Design Council [LATBDC, 2015] as well as Tall Building Initiative [TBI] of Pacific Earthquake Engineering Research Center [PEER, 2017]], the 5% damping design response spectrum for design and analysis studies/design becomes a liberal criteria, with wide implications for existing as well as new and future designs. For example, what needs to be done to a tall building designed with a criterion of 5% critical damping percentage but exhibits 2.5% damping after building construction is finished and is in service? Retrofit
possibilities exist but are costly. Second, many of the long records from tall buildings exhibit a beating effect, caused by combination of low critical damping percentages and closely coupled translational and torsional frequencies [Boroshek and Mahin, 1991; Çelebi and others, 2014]. A beating effect yields prolonged responses and discomfort to occupants as well as adding to low-cycle fatigue. Two examples (one from US and one from Japan) demonstrate both the first and second issues.

Nonlinear Seismic Soil-Structure Interaction Analysis of Long-Span Railway Bridge Subjected to Different Earthquake Ground Motions

In this paper, the dynamic behavior of an existing long-span railway bridge in Afyon-Turkey, subjected to different earthquake ground motion is investigated. In this study a full two-dimensional finite element model of the railway bridge system was established, in which the soil-structure interactions were considered. The soil properties of railway bridge site, analysis was performed for one type of soil, which is specified as soft. Manjil (Iran, 1990), Kobe (Japan, 1995) and Kocaeli (Turkey, 1999) earthquakes are defined as input motions. According to the result of the dynamic analysis, the relative displacements in both directions (x and y) for the top point of bridge (Point A), base point of bridge (Point B) and soil levels (Point C, without bridge structure) were obtained and showed as graphic form. The displacement values are different for each kind of earthquake ground motions, hence it means that the bridge structure and soil have different responses to each kind of earthquake ground motions. Keywords: Railway Bridge, Seismic Behaviour, Soil-Structure Interaction, Finite Element Method (FEM), Soft Soil, Displacement, Plaxis 2D.

A Study to Define the Long-Period Corner Periods for Code-Based Displacement Spectrum

Proper definitions of elastic horizontal pseudo-acceleration (PSa) and displacement (Sd) spectra for a wide spectral period range have become more and more important because the implementation of displacement-based design is now well-established among the earthquake engineering community. The reliability and consistency between PSa and Sd is also important for probability-based seismic damage assessment (PSDA) because some of the PSDA approaches assess the structural behavior by making use of spectrum-compatible accelerograms for a period range much shorter and longer than the fundamental periods of the buildings. To this end, the definition of long-period corner periods (referred to as TL or TD) that delineates the commencement of maximum spectral displacement plateau deserves a careful consideration. Currently, Eurocode 8 fixes this period at TD = 2s and TD = 1.2s for Type 1 (high-seismicity) and Type 2 (low-seismicity) spectra, respectively. The Italian earthquake code uses a TD expression that is a function of return-period and peak ground acceleration. The ASCE 7-10 guideline lines describe the long-period corner-period from the modal magnitudes determined from the disaggregation of 2475-year national probabilistic seismic hazard results at T = 2.0s. The TL values in the US seismic codes are significantly longer than their counterparts in Europe. In this paper, we followed the US approach to estimate the modal magnitudes at 72-year, 475-year and 2475-year return periods by using the revised probabilistic seismic hazard maps of Turkey. We also developed an expression to relate the modal magnitude and TL. We used this information to map TL at different return periods throughout the mainland Turkey. We compared our results with those provided in the aforementioned design codes. The comparisons indicate that TD values of the European codes are smaller than those computed in this study. On the other hand, the TL values of the US codes are longer than our estimations.

Interaction Between Observations and Models in Seismo-Volcanic Studies

Oral Session - Tuesday 15 May · 8:30 AM · Flager
Session Chairs: Mario C. Ruiz and Mauricio Mora

Interpreting Seismic Signals and Processes at Active Volcanic Systems

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Volcanoes are the sources for a variety of seismic signals, representing different physical processes. A common sequence of events prior to eruptions, the generic volcanic earthquake swarm model (GVESM), provides a unifying framework. First to appear are deep long-period (DLP) events, which may represent fluid injection at depth. From background, high-frequency (HF) events (aka VT events) increase in rate and occur in swarms. The likely HF source is shear failure on pre-existing faults. Increasing pressure manifests as a decrease in the b-value, suggesting changing crustal conditions. Shallowing of HF earthquakes has been observed, but is not common. Instead, the appearance of hybrid and long-period (LF) events often indicates that magma has reached shallow depths. These events likely represent fluid involvement, either a fracture adjacent to a fluid cavity (hybrids) or vibration of the cavity itself (LF events). They are common at depths of ≥3 km, and swarms of such events have high b-values, suggesting high thermal gradients, high pore pressure, or highly fractured material. Shallow very-long period (VLP) events have been modeled as pulses of fluid flow in both dikes and sills. Volcanic tremor also generally occurs at shallow depths, and has similar frequencies to LF events, suggesting a common source. Weak tremor is characteristic of hydrothermal activity, whereas stronger tremor suggests magmatic involvement. The reduced displacement of tremor is proportional to the VEL during eruptions. In some cases, deep HF events occur after eruptions, suggesting that stresses have been modified in the country rock near the magma chamber. The different events comprising the GVESM imply that different processes are occurring, and the processes combined with different depths suggest that the underlying cause of the GVESM is magma ascent. Thus rates and locations of the different types of events may be used to infer the subsurface conditions along the magma pathway.

Monitoring Nyiragongo’s Lava Lake Activity (D.R. Congo) Using Seismic, Infrasound and SAR Measurements

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Nyiragongo volcano, in North Kivu (D.R. Congo) is among the most active volcanoes in Africa and on Earth, with the presence of a persistent lava lake from at least 1928 to 1977 and since 2002. After its drainage during the last eruption in 2002, the crater filled up on ~400 m thickness until 2008 and resumed rising in 2016. The persistent lava lake at Nyiragongo gives a unique opportunity to study the dynamics of the upper magmatic system of the volcano over long time scales. Its monitoring also offers a chance to detect pressure change in the magmatic activity. A continuous background, shallow tremor source has been identified since the deployment of a local seismic network (October 2015) and has been related to short-term cyclic meter-scale variations attributed to gas-piston activity. Since late 2016, the increased number of highly similar, discrete long-period events accompanied several decameter-scale level rises or falls, which convey major pressure changes in the upper magmatic system. The source region of this cluster at shallow depth is confirmed by the observation of associated infrasonic transients. Additionally, high-resolution satellite SAR images allow to infer the lava lake level fluctuations by measuring the length of the SAR shadow casted by the lava lake level. These transients and SAR measurements allow to constrain continuous co-located infrasound and seismic observations at the closest station (~6km to the crater). We show here that small changes in the spectral properties of the seismo-acoustic signals are related to successive drop and increase of the lava lake level, thus highlighting the potential to monitor continuously Nyiragongo’s lava lake activity at several kilometers away to the crater using a single station with infrasound and seismic records.
Seismo-Acoustic Wavefield of Strombolian Explosions at Yasur Volcano, Vanuatu, Using a Broadband Seismo-Acoustic Network

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Seismo-acoustic wavefields at volcanoes contain rich information on shallow magma transport and subaerial eruption processes and inform our understanding of how volcanoes work. We conducted a collaborative multiparametric field experiment at the active Yasur volcano, Tanna Island, Vanuatu from 26 July to 2 August 2016. Our observations include data from a temporary network of 11 broadband seismometers, 6 single infrasonic microphones, 7 short-aperture 3-element infrasonic arrays, 2 infrasound sensor packages on tethered balloons (aerostats), an FTIR, a FLIR 2 scanning Fluyes, and various visual imaging data; scoria and ash samples were collected for petrological analyses. This unprecedented dataset should provide a unique window into processes operating in the shallow magma plumbing system and their relation to subaerial eruption dynamics. Network-coincident STA/LTA automatic triggering indicates that the 6-day dataset contains over 8,400 infrasound explosions and over 10,400 seismic events. The infrasonic signatures of Yasur’s Strombolian explosions consist of short-duration explosion waveforms with non-linear characteristics. The seismic signals are numerous repetitive long-period (LP) seismic events underlain by very-long-period (VLP) signals with periods of ~10 s. In addition to these dominant signal types, we also record a near-continuous broadband (~0.1–20 Hz) infrasonic tremor associated with the vigorous degassing activity. We observe strong variability in the synchronization of seismic and acoustic sources. Explosion events, clearly delineated by infrasonic waveforms, are underlain by seismic VLPs. However, strong seismic VLPs also occur with only a weak infrasonic expression. Our analyses include full seismic waveform inversion for a point-source moment-tensor and single force vector representation of the VLP source.

Very Long Period and Short Period Eruption Seismograms and Progressive Conduit Changes at Erebos Volcano, Antarctica

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We analyze near-repeating broadband seismograms from nearly 3,000 eruptions (2003–2011) from the Erebos volcano lava lake to investigate temporal changes in the shallow eruptive dynamics of an open conduit volcano. Cross-correlation analysis reveals progressive variable time lags between correlation-aligned short period (SP) and very long period (VLP) seismogram components ranging over approximately +–1 s, and evolving over weeks to months. Lava lake eruptions both excite an SP explosion seismic signal and gravitationally unload the conduit. After a delay of several s this unloading excites a post-eruptive, minutes-long VLP seismic signal that persist for several minutes until the lava lake is refilled. VLP—SP lag variations are consistent across multiple seismic stations, and are independent of eruption size, spectral characteristics, eruption frequency, and lava lake morphology changes. Lag changes are interpreted in terms of variable communication time between eruptions and the subsequent elastic and gravitational response of a tomographically imaged near-summit magma storage and VLP source region several hundred m below the lava lake. Tomographic and VLP moment tensor studies, combined with modeling, suggest that the elastodynamic communication time between the distinct SP and VLP source regions is mediated by conduit-guided Stoney waves within the uppermost magma-filled conduit system that are sensitive to small shallow conduit geometry changes. Conduit geometry changes may be driven by internal or external processes, including conduit wall melting and refrreezing, repeated eruption slug erosion, and deformation from Inner Crater inflation or collapse.

Monitoring Recent Unrest of Sierra Negra Volcano, Galápagos Islands

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Sierra Negra volcano is located at the southern portion of Isabela island and exhibits a large caldera (759 km). Since 1948, the average eruptive time interval is 11.4 yrs. Using a permanent BB network operated by the Instituto Geofísico, a steady increase in the number and size of earthquakes was detected beginning in Jun 2017. The number of detected events increased from about a dozen local events per day in Jun to a maximum of ~100 on 2 Jul 2018. Since Oct 2017, six events with magnitudes ≥ 3.5 have been detected, with the largest (MLv 4.3) occurring in Jan 2018. This event’s spectrum was characteristic of an LP event, at the far corner of just a few km from the epicenter. While most large events have a LP appearance, the majority of smaller events have wide spectra indicative of VTs. Locations have shallow foci presumably above either a horizontal magmatic reservoir or sill. Deformation gleaned from InSAR shows 98 cm of caldera floor uplift detected since early 2017 and 18 cm of uplift in January, 2018. The caldera floor has inflated more than 5 m since the deflationary episode following the 2005 eruption. Combining historical activity with recent seismic and geodetic records, we speculate that a new Sierra Negra eruption will likely occur in the near future.

Automatic Detection and Location of Seismo-Volcanic Signals Based on the Seismic Network Covariance Matrix: Examples from Tenerife (Canary Islands) and the Klyuchevskoy Volcanic Group (Kamchatka)

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We developed a network-based method for detecting and locating seismo-volcanic signals such as volcano-tectonic earthquakes, long-period events, and volcanic tremors. The method is based on the analysis of eigenvalues and eigenvectors of the seismic network covariance matrix, the equivalent in the frequency domain of the cross-correlation matrix. First, the width of the network covariance matrix eigenvalues distribution is used to detect different types of seismo-volcanic events. Then, the first eigenvector of the covariance matrix corresponding to each event is extracted. Our main hypothesis is that, by representing the principal component of the recorded wavefield, this first eigenvector characterizes the dominant event filtering the information related to the noise. Sources of the different events are finally located using the cross-correlation movement information of the corresponding first eigenvector. The method is applied to two data sets to automatically detect and locate volcano-tectonic earthquakes, long-period events, and volcanic tremors. We analyze seismic data continuously recorded by the Red Sismica Canaria, a permanent monitoring network composed of 15 broadband stations operated by the Instituto Volcanologico de Canarias (IVECAN) on the island of Tenerife (Canary Islands). Results are also obtained from four and a half years of continuous data recorded by 19 permanent seismic stations operated by the Kamchatka Branch of the Geophysical Survey (KBGS) in the vicinity of the Klyuchevskoy volcanic group in Kamchatka (Russia). The developed method does not require a priori knowledge, is fully automatic, and the database of network-based events fingerprints can be continuously enriched with newly available data.

Seismicity of the Lau Fauve Volcanic System, Northern Chile/Argentina

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Seismicity Constraints on Fault-Magma Interactions and Stress Field Rotation in an Early-Stage Continental Rift

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Although magmatism may occur during the earliest stages of continental rifting, its role in strain accommodation remains weakly constrained by largely 2D studies. We analyze seismicity data from a 13-month, 39-station broad-band seismic array to determine the role of magma intrusion on state-of-strain and strain localization, and their along-strike variations. Precise earthquake locations using cluster analyses and a new 3D velocity model reveal lower crustal earthquakes beneath the central basins and along projections of steep border faults that deugas CO2. Seismicity forms several disks interpreted as sills at 6–10 km below a magmatic cone field. The sills overlie a lower crustal magma chamber that may feed eruptions at Oldoinyo Lengai volcano. After determining a new ML scaling relation, we determine a b-value of 0.87 ± 0.03. Focal mechanisms for 65 earthquakes, and 13 from a catalogue prior to our array reveal an along-axis stress rotation of ~60° in the magmatically active zone. New and prior mechanisms show progressively normal slip along steep nodal planes, with extension directions N90°E north and south of an active volcanic chain consistent with geodetic data, and ~N150°E in the volcanic chain. The stress rotation facilitates strain transfer from border fault systems, the locus of early stage deformation, to the zone of magma intrusion in the central rift. Our seismic, structural, and geochemistry results indicate that frequent lower crustal earthquakes are promoted by elevated pore pressures from volatile degassing along border faults, and hydraulic fracture around the margins of magma bodies. The new results enable re-interpretation of a faulting and dike intrusion episode sequence between Gelai and Oldoinyo Lengai volcanoes, and that may have triggered the 2007 eruption of Lengai volcano, with re-analyses of models of InSAR data.

Megathrust Earthquakes: Recurrence, Rupture Modes and Tsunamis (Parts 1 and 2)

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Regional models of the earthquake cycle have become increasingly sophisticated tools to understand the seismological and geodetic observations. They capture critical physical processes like (partial) locking of the plate interface, the detailed co-seismic slip, post-coseismic and mantle relaxation and afterslip. Emerging from both the observations and the models is that similar physical processes are active at different margins, and that part of the observed complexity is controlled by them being in different stages of the earthquake cycle. We use geodynamic models to isolate the geodetic signature of these physical processes over many megathrust earthquake cycles. We focus on the slip mechanisms on subduction interfaces which are dynamically (and consistently) driven. We find that the megathrust earthquakes induce significant tensile stresses in the overriding plate near the down-dip end of the co-seismic fault. Subsequent aftserslip reduces these tensile stresses. The results suggest that aftershocks down-dip of the main event correlate with relatively rapidly post-seismic slip in the weeks to months after the earthquake. Permanent deformation of the overriding plate accumulates slowly inward of the
locked plate contact in response to long-term compression. Formal inversion of the synthetic seismic velocities reproduces the importance of the seismogenic fault only during the interseismic stage. We review pre-, co- and post-seismic GNSS observations and conclude that our models capture the kinematics of megathrust earthquake cycles that are shared by many margins, including that in Chile, in Alaska-Aleutians, Sumatra-Andaman, and in the Japan Trench margin. Most of the observed variability in surface velocities between the individual margins appears to be controlled by their different stages in the earthquake cycle.

Subduction Zone Geometry and Its Influence on the Locations of Megathrust Earthquakes

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In early 2018, the US Geological Survey will release Slab2, an updated database of 3D subduction zone geometry models that covers themajority of global slabs. Informed by a large dataset built from a variety of geophysical sources (e.g., regional and teleseismic earthquake hypocenters, moment tensors, active-source seismic surveys, tomography models, receiver functions, bathymetry, trench ages, and sediment thickness information), Slab2 offers a more complete (more slab models), more stable (more data sets), and reproducible (codes will be distributed) collection of geometry models than its predecessor, Slab1.0. In addition to providing a fascinating look at the fate of slabs, and the similarities and differences between global subduction zones, Slab2 gives us the ability to study how megathrust geometry influences where megathrust earthquakes occur. Coupled with our recently published database of finite fault models for globally distributed M≥7.5 earthquakes since 1990, we use Slab2 to infer characteristics of earthquake rupture. For example, we can address questions that are fairly prevalent in seismological literature. Do large ruptures preferentially occur where subduction zones are flat? Can ‘latchness’ be mapped to quantify earthquake potential? Do the ends of ruptures correlate with changes in slab geometry, and/or bathymetric features entering the subduction zone? Do subduction zone geometry changes spatially correlate with areas of low slip in rupture models? Is there a correlation between seismogenic zone dip, and/or seismogenic zone width, and earthquake size? Addressing these issues is fundamental to the understanding of earthquake rupture dynamics and subduction zone seismogenesis, and yet many are poorly understood or are still debated in the scientific literature. We speak to these questions and similar issues in this presentation, and show how these models can be used to improve our understanding of earthquake hazards in subduction zones.

Missing Great Earthquakes

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The occurrence of nine earthquakes with Mw greater than 8.5 between 2004–2012 raised interest in the long-term global rate of great earthquakes. Studies exploring the significance of apparent clustering (e.g., Michael, 2011) focused on analysis of earthquakes since 1900. Prior to this time the catalog is less complete and magnitude estimates are more uncertain. Yet substantial information is available for earthquakes prior to 1900. Reviewing the catalog of historical earthquakes back to 1700, including numbers of events and moment release rates, I suggest that approximately half of all Mw≥8.5 earthquakes are likely missing or underestimated in the 19th century. The 8 February 1843 Lesser Antilles earthquake is an example of a known historical earthquake that could have been significantly larger than initially estimated. I reconsider the felt effects of this earthquake, including a first thorough assessment of felt reports from the United States. One recent study estimated a preferred magnitude of 8.5 based on near-field macroseismic effects (Peulvast et al., 2011), but the generally accepted value has been 7.5–8. A consideration of the regional and far-field macroseismic effects reveals a felt distribution comparable to those of recent great (Mw ≥ 9.0) earthquakes. A modest tsunami is described by two witnesses; two other accounts describe uplift of a stone wharf in Antigua, and along the northern coast of Guadalupe. For the 1843 earthquake, the far-field intensity distribution provides a stronger constraint on magnitude. The observations support the inference of a high (Mw≥8.5) magnitude, and significant moment release towards or possibly around the northern corner of the Lesser Antilles Arc. The results suggest that incorporation of best-available catalogs of historical earthquakes will likely lead to a significant underestimation of seismic hazard and/or the maximum possible magnitude in many regions, including parts of the Caribbean.

3-D Simulations of Megathrust Earthquakes in Cascadia – Implications for Strong Ground Motions, Basin Amplification, and Coseismic Deformation

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The Cascadia subduction zone has a history of large megathrust earthquakes up to magnitude 9. The last Cascadia megathrust earthquake occurred in 1700, and thus, there are no seismic recordings of ground shaking. We combine 3-D finite difference simulations with high-frequency stochastic synthetics using a matched filter at 1 Hz, to produce broadband (0–10 Hz) synthetic seismograms for 50 magnitude 9 earthquakes on the Cascadia megathrust. Slip on the fault consists of multiple high-stress-drop subevents with short rise times on the deeper portions of the megathrust, superimposed on a background slip distribution with longer rise times. We find a ±10% variation in the intensity of ground shaking (i.e., 1–10 s spectral accelerations), depending upon several key parameters: the hypocenter location (due to rupture directivity), the location of strong-motion-generating subevents, and the down-dip rupture extent. Spectral accelerations are amplified by a factor of ~2–5x for sites within the Seattle and Tacoma sedimentary basins, and we observe a coupling between rupture directivity and the strength of basin amplification. Comparison of our M9 earthquake simulations to geologic evidence for coseismic coastal subsidence suggests (1) a down-dip rupture extent that closely corresponds to the geologically inferred 1 cm/yr locking contour and (2) possible locations for strong-motion-generating subevents during the 1700 Cascadia earthquake based on along-strike variability in the estimates of coseismic offset. This work demonstrates the wide range of possible ground motion from an M9 Cascadia earthquake and the need to further constrain key rupture parameters using geologic and geophysical observations.

Understanding Estimates of the Location, Size, and Frequency of Cascadia’s Megathrust Earthquakes

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Interpretations of differing types of data, analyses, and modeling yield different rates of recurrence for Cascadia’s great (M≥8) megathrust earthquakes. Learning the source of these differences will improve seismic hazard assessments and forecasts. Understanding these differences will require asking fundamental questions about cycles of earthquake strain accumulation and release on various temporal and spatial scales, how earthquake ruptures nucleate and evolve, and how seismic energy is radiated. To address these questions the Cascadia Recurrence Project Team is undertaking an effort to produce a detailed and holistic knowledge of the history of Cascadia’s past megathrust events. We are focusing on improving our understanding Cascadia earthquake history and processes by integrating the results of studies of earthquake-triggered 1) ground failures (particularly landslides), 2) coastal land-level changes, 3) tsunami inundation and deposition, and 4) offshore slope failures and turbidites. Other contextual studies examine 5) structural controls on rupture segmentation, 6) rupture modeling, 7) seismic ground motion simulation and onshore and offshore site response, 8) modes of plate-boundary locking and slip, and 9) interactions among upper- and lower-plate faults.

Newly Detected, Small Earthquakes to Delineate Fault Heterogeneities in the Cascadia Seismogenic Zone

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Great earthquakes, including the M9 event of January, 1700, have repeatedly occurred within the Cascadia Subduction Zone (CSZ) as inferred from paleoseismic studies and tsunami models. To better assess exposure to the next great earthquake here for at-risk populations, there is great interest in estimating downdip rupture extent and the distribution of high moment release on the megathrust. Small magnitude interplate earthquakes (< M4) can be used to define seismic patches and variable frictional conditions on the fault. The 2011–2015 Cascadia Initiative (CI) amphibious seismic array augments land seismometers with ≥60 ocean-bottom seismometers (OBS) positioned over the presumed seismogenic zone. We search the CI dataset for small, previously undetected interplate earthquakes to identify seismic patches and fault zone heterogeneities. We apply sub-space detection, using as templates the waveforms from small events occurring at the plate interface, selected from existing earthquake catalogs. We extract the template waveforms on the CI OBS and nearby land seismometers for scanning. Our previous work targeted two clusters off the coast of Oregon which spanned all 4 years of the deployment; both of these occur on the downdip edge of mod-
eled high slip patches for the 1700 event, and one also locates at the southern tip of a likely seaward-erosion feature. Here we report new results from the deposits and location throughout the margin during the first 2 years of CI deployment. Preliminary results show that the most productive clusters (≥200 detections per year) occur on the coast of northern Oregon and along the coast of the Olympic peninsula, Washington. The templates used for scanning in these clusters are from earthquakes located in the vicinity of the 1700 event; the first source area is downdip of an inferred asperity and a modeled high moment patch, and the second is within an inferred asperity and at the edge of modeled patch of ≥10m slip associated with this event.

Microfossil Measures of Subsidence During Past Plate-Boundry Earthquakes: Their Accuracy Revealed by a Sudden Tidal-Flooding Experiment in Cascadia

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Comparison of pre- and post-earthquake microfossil assemblages in intertidal sediment is the most widely applicable and accurate means to measure coseismic subsidence at coastal sites from past plate-boundary earthquakes at subduction zones. Quantitative methods typically state only the analytical uncertainty associated with predicted subsidence. However, uncertainty on subsidence estimates may not be well constrained because the response times of fossil taxa to coseismic relative sea-level (RSL) rise are unknown. We explored the response of diatoms and foraminifera to a sudden increase in tidal inundation following dike removal during restoration of a former salt marsh in southern Oregon. Tidal flooding following dike removal caused an increase in inundation equivalent to a RSL rise of ~1 m, as might occur by coseismic subsidence during Mw 8.1–8.8 earthquakes on this section of the Cascadia subduction zone. Less than two weeks after dike removal, diatoms colonized low marsh and tidal flats, showing that they can record seismically-induced subsidence soon after earthquakes. In contrast, it took at least 10 months for notable numbers of low-marsh foraminifera to colonize the restored marsh; and additional periods of months for foraminifera to colonize high marsh. This result has important implications—which use the empirical relationship between modern microfossil assemblages and elevation within the tidal frame to convert fossil assemblages into quantitative estimates of past RSL—reflects the delayed foraminifera response. This suggests that postseismic uplift or subsidence may cause foraminiferal-based transfer functions to underestimate or overestimate, respectively, coseismic subsidence if sedimentation from an inferred earthquake exceed 1–2 cm/yr given a typical fossil core/outcrop sampling resolution of 1 cm. Our results suggest that different response times of diatoms and foraminifera may provide useful information on post-seismic vertical deformation in the months following past megathrust earthquakes.

Evidence for Segmented Ruptures in Cascadia, an Analysis of Alternatives

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The Next Big Earthquake: The Usual and the Unusual Suspects

Oral Session · Tuesday 15 May · 10:45 AM · Orchid AB
Session Chairs: Sinan O. Akciz and Kate Scharer

Paleo Earthquakes, Historical-Prehistorical Warnings, Surface Uptakes, and Unsuspected Active Faults in Peru and Ecuador

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The Andean range stretches for thousands of kilometers from Patagonia to Venezuela and its recent tectonic evolution results from the ongoing subduction of the Nazca plate. Since the 16th century, several crustal M7+ did affect the Andean human settlements and this historic fact raises the issue of seismic hazard assessment for the exponentially growing megacities in South America. Indeed, due to the recurrent activity of the megathrust, shallow crustal earthquakes haz-
Hazard from the Sea: Rupture Scenarios for the San Diego Trough and San Pedro Basin Fault Systems, Offshore Southern California

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Determining where the next big Southern California earthquake may occur is complicated by the number of faults that cut the region and challenges associated with having many of these faults lie under water. The hazard posed by submarine strike-slip faults for coastal populations in Southern California is poorly characterized and may be underestimated as the structural relationships between faults may allow ruptures to propagate between systems. Recent marine geophysical investigations on the San Diego Trough (SDT) and the San Pedro Basin (SPB) faults demonstrate that these two northwest striking, right-lateral faults are separated by a gap of <5 km. Individual rupture scenarios for the SDT and SPB fault systems (https://earthquake.usgs.gov/scenarios/catalog/bssc2014/) include a M 7.3 event on the southern SDT fault, a M 7.3 event on the northern SDT fault, and a M 7.1 event on the SPB fault. A complete rupture of all three segments would extend offshore from Ensenada, Mexico to Los Angeles, California with a length of ~330 km. Scaling relationships indicate that a strike-slip rupture of this length has the potential to produce a M 7.7–7.9 event. Combining individual rupture Shakedown scenarios with coastal population data suggests that ~212,500,000 people would be exposed to strong earthquakes in an end-to-end rupture, with the strongest shaking in Ensenada and the Los Angeles Basin. At present, the paleoseismic histories of both faults are unknown. Here, we present observations from on-going submarine paleoseismic investigations using CHIRP and multichannel seismic reflection sub-bottom profiles, multibeam bathymetric data, and coring surveys to characterize recent earthquakes on the SDT and SPB faults for Quaternary. We used constraints to evaluate the potential for rupture spanning both systems, and we will perform detailed shaking analysis for coastal communities in northeastern Baja California and Southern California based on multi-segment rupture scenarios.

Lidar Reveals New Geomorphic Evidence of Shaking and Slip on the Reelfoot Fault in the New Madrid Seismic Zone, Western Tennessee, U.S.A.

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The New Madrid Seismic Zone (NMSZ) is a major source of intraplate seismicity in eastern North America. Despite a sequence of major (M ≥ 7) earthquakes in 1811–1812 in the region, the paleoseismic record and surface expression of faulting is poorly preserved because of extensive agricultural activity and the humid subtropical climate. Recently collected 0.5- and 1-m-resolution aerial lidar along the Chickasaw Bluffs in western Tennessee provide a new opportunity to evaluate geomorphic evidence of past earthquakes. Lidar-derived digital elevation models reveal a series of nested grabens that we interpret as sackungen (gravitational ridge-top spreading features) along the bluffs in the NMSZ. We mapped the distribution and orientation of sackungen along ~170 km of the bluffs and find that sackungen only occur close (<15 km) to the Reelfoot thrust fault despite

Paleoseismic Investigation of Sackung Features Extends the Late Quaternary Earthquake Record along the Reelfoot Fault, New Madrid Seismic Zone, U.S.A.


Three sequences of earthquakes (1811–1812 AD, ~1450 AD, and ~900 AD) are widely recognized and well documented in the New Madrid Seismic Zone of the central U.S. The relatively short, <550 yr, recurrence interval between these earthquakes contributes significantly to seismic hazard assessment in the region; however, it is unknown whether or not this recurrence interval has been constant throughout the late Quaternary. Extending the paleoseismic record beyond the most recent millennium has proven challenging given limited geomorphic, structural, and sedimentary evidence of prior earthquakes. We extend the record of paleoearthquakes along the Reelfoot fault by focusing on ground cracks related to ridge-top spreading, interpreted as sackungen. The sackungen occur along the bluffs above the eastern margin of the Mississippi River floodplain and are concentrated near (<15 km) the southeast-dipping Reelfoot reverse fault. We excavated a paleoseismic trench across sackungen at the Paw Paw site, which exposed four packages of colluvial sediment that postdate 30–13 ka Peoria loess. We interpret the colluvial packages to have been deposited following episodic open/failure of the sackungen as a result of strong ground motions. Radiocarbon and luminescence dating, along with Pb-Cs analyses, constrain the ages of the colluvial packages, which correspond to previously documented earthquakes, as well as a younger earthquake. If we extend all major earthquakes associated with the Reelfoot fault, then only four earthquakes have occurred along this fault since deposition of the Peoria Loess (since ~13 ka), suggesting a long period of quiescence along the Reelfoot fault, with only a single early-to-mid Holocene earthquake. In contrast, the most recent millennium has been punctuated by an episode of clustered, major seismic events. This result has important implications for seismic hazard and geodynamic modeling in the New Madrid Seismic Zone.

A 2000 Year Lacustrine Paleoseismic Record on the Peninsular Segment of the Northern San Andreas Fault at Lake Merced, San Francisco

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The Peninsula section of the San Andreas Fault is an obvious and significant hazard to San Francisco and peninsula cities, however the history past events on the SAF on the peninsula is poorly known. We opened a paleoseismic site at Lake Merced, within the city of San Francisco. The lake may be an asymmetrical pull-apart basin with the SAF system. We conducted a coring and geophysical investigation to test the site for its potential for development of a long-term earthquake history. We collected four main long cores of ~5–7 meters, and 4 overlapping cores. The lake has a record of turbidites that dominate the 3–4 m lacustrine gyttja section, overlain by a sharp contact with shelly-sandy eutruine material below. The lake record above the contact includes 15 turbidites spanning ~2000 years. The turbidites for the most part have sharp bases, some with load features, and fining upward sequences that can be correlated around the lake. Their individual
thicknesses show little relation to stream input. Breaching of the spit at the north end of the lake has occurred in historic times, but the spit now joins the lake without open access to the sea, suggesting the event beds are not externally sourced. Radiocarbon dating thus far shows the uppermost 2 events to include bomb carbon, and occurred in ~1955–57 and 1976–96. These two beds may relate to a local earthquake near the lake in 1957, and the Loma Prieta earthquake of 1989. The third event is thick, and has a model age of ~ 1890 (1860–1930), likely the 1906 event, supported by anthropogenic Pb content. Events dated at ~1720, and ~1580 underlie the 1906 bed, similar in age to those reported for the penultimate events on the North Coast and Peninsular NSAF segments respectively. The remaining event bed ages appear mostly compatible with turbidites at Noyo Canyon, and the Vedanta Marsh, suggesting that likely 6 and possibly 11 North Coast segment ruptures extended to the Peninsula segment.

**Numerical Modeling of Earthquake Ground Motion, Rupture Dynamics and Seismic Wave Propagation**

**Oral Session · Tuesday 15 May · 8:30 AM · Brickell**

**Session Chairs:** Peter Moczo, Steve M. Day, and Jozef Kristek

_A Numerical Simulation of M9 Megathrust Earthquakes in the Cascadia Subduction Zone_**

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We estimate ground motions in the Pacific Northwest urban areas during M9 subduction scenario earthquakes on the Cascadia megathrust by simulating wave propagation from an ensemble of kinematic source descriptions. Velocities and densities in our computational mesh are defined by integrating the regional Cascadia Community Velocity model (V1.6, Stephenson et al. 2017) including the ocean water layer with a local velocity model of the Georgia and Seattle basins (Molnar et al., 2011) including additional near-surface velocity information. We generate six source realizations, each consisting of a background slip distribution with correlation lengths, rise times and rupture velocities consistent with data from previous megathrust earthquakes (e.g., 2011 M 9 Tohoku or 2010 M 8.8 Maule). We then superimpose M~8 subevents, characterized by short rise times and high stress drops on the background slip model to mimic high-frequency strong ground motion generation areas in the deeper portion of the rupture (Frankel, 2016). The wave propagation is simulated using the discontinuous mesh (DM) version of the AWP finite difference code. We simulate frequencies up to 1.25 Hz, using a spatial discretization of 100 m in the fine grid, resulting in surface wave dimensions of 6,540 x 10,728 mesh points. At depths below 8 km, the grid step increases to 500 m. We obtain stable and accurate results for the DM method throughout the simulation time of 7.5 mins as verified against a solution obtained with a uniform 100 m grid spacing. Peak ground velocities range between 60 and 80 cm/s in downtown Seattle and between 25 and 34 cm/s in downtown Vancouver, while spectral accelerations at 2 s range between 1.7 and 3.4 g and 1.0 and 1.25 g respectively. These long-period ground motions are not significantly reduced if plastic Drucker-Prager yielding in shallow cohesive sediments is taken into account. Broadband synthetics (0–10Hz) are generated by a hybrid technique.

**Can Triggered and Induced Earthquakes be Supershear Rupture Events? A Numerical Investigation**

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Fluid plays a pivotal role in triggering and inducing seismic events. However, the effect of fluid on the co-seismic rupture process remains largely unknown. To this end, we develop a fully dynamic spontaneous rupture model specific for fluid-related seismic events. Central to our model is the consideration of the fluid effect that accumulates over the previous quasi-static phase until the onset of rupture. This effect is resolved in two manners, including a fluid-solid decoupled approach and fluid-solid fully coupled poroelastic approach. Correspondingly, the resulting fault fluid pressure and poroelastic stress at their respective time of rupture. This effect is resolved in two manners, including a fluid-solid decoupled approach and fluid-solid fully coupled poroelastic approach. Correspondingly, the resulting fault fluid pressure and poroelastic stress at their respective time of rupture onset is passed to the dynamic model via the fault boundary condition. This effect that accumulates over the previous quasi-static phase until the onset of rupture. This effect is resolved in two manners, including a fluid-solid decoupled approach and fluid-solid fully coupled poroelastic approach. Correspondingly, the resulting fault fluid pressure and poroelastic stress at their respective time of rupture onsets is passed to the dynamic model via the fault boundary condition. Under the assumption of an undrained co-seismic fluid-solid system, we then discretize the fully dynamic Cauhcy equation of motion using a split-node finite element method in space and a fully implicit Newmark family finite difference method in time; a fully implicit Newton-Raphson scheme is implemented iteratively for linearizing the nonlinear equa-
tion within each time step, and a novel non-stationary preconditioner is designed to accelerate the convergence of a selected iterative linear solver. Using the above computational model, we perform several numerical experiments. Triggered and induced seismic events are simulated by designing different fault initial stress in relation to its peak and residual strength. The results suggest that, (1) both triggered and induced seismic events can undergo a superseismic rupture process with a rupture velocity near the P-wave velocity, owing to a reduced seismic ratio due to the stress effect, (2) compared to a tectonic earthquake, triggered and induced seismic events are associated with radically different wave fields, and (3) in the coupled approach, the wave field can also become asymmetric due to different poroelastic stress on the two sides of the fault at the onset of rupture.

Developments in Propagation of Seismic Waves with the Generalized Finite Difference Method: Application at Interfaces

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The meshless generalized finite difference method is applied to solve the problem of seismic wave propagation. Schemes in generalized finite differences are obtained for the decoupled system P-SV and SH in homogeneous media and its stability is analyzed. Heterogeneous schemes in generalized finite difference for heterogeneous media, made up of different layers or subdomains are also obtained, considering a linear variation of the parameters at the interfaces. As the method allows using an irregular distribution of nodes, the order of approximation is preserved. Several examples are presented to show the accuracy of the proposed methodology.

Influence of Normal Pressure on the Stick-Slip Behavior of Sheared Granular Fault Gouge Using the Combined Finite-Discrete Element Method

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The presence of randomly packed solid granular particles in fault gouge has considerable influence on the slip properties of tectonic faults. As a result, sheared granular layers undergoing stick-slip behavior are broadly employed to study the physics and dynamics of earthquakes (Geller et al., 2015; Johnson et al., 2008; Scuderi et al., 2017). Among the many numerical simulations of granular systems, the discrete element method (DEM) has been the one that is most frequently used to study the stick-slip behavior in granular fault gouge (Dorostkar et al., 2017; Ferdowski, 2014). However, within the DEM framework, it is difficult to explicitly and precisely capture the deformation and stress distribution inside each individual particle. Here, a two-dimensional implementation of the combined finite-discrete element method (FDEM), which merges the finite element method (FEM) and the discrete element method (DEM), is used to explicitly simulate a sheared granular fault system. In the FDEM model, the deformation of plates and particles is simulated using the FEM formulation while particle-particle and particle-plate interactions are modeled using DEM-derived techniques. By employing the FDEM, we have investigated the influence of normal pressure on the stick-slip behavior of the granular fault gouge in terms of macroscopic friction coefficient, kinetic energy, gouge layer thickness, and recurrence time between slips. The simulation results show that the kinetic energy of the granular fault gouge system increases with increasing normal pressure, while the gouge layer thickness shows a decreasing trend and the macroscopic friction coefficient does not witness much change. Further analyses of the slip events reveal that as the normal pressure increases, more slip events with large kinetic energy release and long recurrence time occur, and the magnitude of gouge layer thickness drop also tends to be larger; while the macroscopic friction coefficient drop is getting smaller. The simulations not only reveal the behavior of stick-slip dynamics in granular fault gouge, but also demonstrate the capabilities of FDEM for studying stick-slip type behavior of granular fault gouge system.

EDGE: Towards Extreme-Scale Nonlinear Earthquake Simulations

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We present the status of recent and ongoing extensions to the Extreme-scale Discontinuous Galerkin Environment (EDGE) for seismic wave propagation. EDGE uses the Discontinuous Galerkin (DG) Finite Element Method (FEM) to solve hyperbolic partial differential equations. EDGE targets seismic model setups with high geometric complexity and extreme-scale ensemble simulations, using beyond 500,000 computer cores. Exploitation of inter-simulation parallelism allows the software to reach significantly higher simulation throughput over time compared to classical approaches. First, we present the status of EDGE’s extension with a robust and accurate sub-cell finite volume limiter. Borrowing from recent developments in fluid and gas dynamics, this work overcomes limitations of EDGE’s pure high-order DG-FEM-solver, e.g., spurious oscillations, in the presence of large gradients. Our sub-cell limiter temporarily subdivides “troubled” elements into a set of sub-cells and uses a robust finite volume solver to advance the solution on the sub-cell level. As an example, we showcase the limiter’s performance when applied to nonlinear rupture dynamics. Shock propagation, including the rupture tip, at the sub-cell level and support for arbitrary, unstructured meshes are key advantages of this approach. The second part of our presentation demonstrates EDGE’s performance for the Deep Learning architecture Knights Mill. The rise of Deep Learning accelerated the path towards a lowered balance between memory and compute, aiming for lower precision in compute. First, we report that we are able to reduce EDGE’s precision from double to single precision without losing accuracy in established wave propagation benchmarks. Second, through kernel-optimizations, we are able to harvest Knights Mill’s single precision deep-learning performance for traditional HPC. EDGE is available from http://dia3343.org.

Modeling of Seismic Liquefaction Effects on Structure on the City of Medellín, Colombia

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In the last decade, a number of studies have been published on the seismic site response and the importance of site effects at the greater metropolitan area of Medellín in the Aburrá Valley, a seismically active region of the Colombian Andes. Most studies have focused on the topographic effect and the effect of the contrasts in the shear-wave velocity structure. In the central portion of the valley, along the Medellín River, broad alluvial deposits are found varying between 3 and 200 m in depth. Thick shallow sand layers have been found in these deposits, which combined with reported shallow water table; indicate high risk of seismic liquefaction. A typical building of Medellín standing on saturated liquefiable soil deposit is modeled taking into account both soil nonlinearity due to seismic liquefaction and soil-structure interaction. For this purpose, a fully coupled nonlinear model is used to represent the soil behavior. Additionally, an approximation of the effect of the soil on the structure’s response via simplified relationship is used. The effect of variability of the shear-wave velocity profiles and of the shear modulus degradation curves on the structure’s performance is investigated. The results identify and quantify the effects of seismic liquefaction on structures, highlighting the importance of its modelling in the city of Medellín.

Strong Motion Simulation for the 2004 Southwest-Off Kii Peninsula Earthquake with Pseudo Point-Source Model

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We have been testing the applicability of a simplified source model called the “pseudo point-source model,” which was aimed to calculate strong ground motions (Nozu 2012). The model is simpler, and involves much less model parameters than the conventional characterized source model, which itself is a simplified expression of an actual earthquake source. In the model, the spatio-temporal distribution of slip within a subevent is not modeled. Instead, the source spectrum associated with the rupture of a subevent is modeled and it is assumed to follow the omega-square model. By multiplying the source spectrum with the path effects and the site amplification factor, the Fourier amplitude at a target site can be obtained. Then, combining it with Fourier phase characteristics of a smaller event, the time history of strong ground motions from the subevent can be calculated. Finally, by summing up contributions from the subevents, strong ground motions from the entire rupture can be obtained. In this study, the model was applied to the main shock of the 2004 southwest-off Kii Peninsula earthquake (Mw7.4), which occurred on September 5, 2004, 23:57 (JST) near the Nankai
Trough, within the subducting Philippine Sea plate (e.g., Park and Mori 2005; Bai et al. 2007). Because of its location, strong-motion records obtained during the earthquakes are suitable for the validation of strong-motion simulation techniques. The pseudo point-source model for the earthquake was developed by appropriately locating point sources on the fault plane, based on the results of the waveform inversion. Then the model was used to simulate strong ground motions in a wide region. It was found that, when the model is used with an appropriate path model, it can accurately simulate strong ground motions at remote stations, even when the stations are located on deep sedimentary basins such as the Ouaka, Nobi and Kanto plains.

**Kinematic Source Models for Earthquake Simulations with Fault-Zone Plasticity**

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Fault slip and surface deformation patterns are essential factors in seismic hazard assessment. However, slip inversions reveal a widely observed shallow slip deficit (SSD) which has not yet been clearly explained. One possible cause of the SSD is distributed plastic deformation in the fault damage zone near the surface. Roten et al. (2017) performed 3D dynamic rupture simulations of the 1992 M7.3 Landers earthquake in a medium governed by Drucker-Prager plasticity. The study showed that while linear simulations tend to underpredict SSD and off-fault deformation (OFD), nonlinear simulations with moderately fractured rock mass can properly reproduce results that are consistent with the 30–60% SSD and around 46% OFD reported in geodetic observations. Analysis of the Roten et al. (2017) results show that discrepancies between linear and nonlinear simulations are only significant in the top hundreds of meters of the surface-rupturing fault. Although inelastic responses in the fault damage zone provide more realistic representations of earthquake physics, it can be computationally expensive or numerically unfeasible (e.g., in adjoint methods) to include nonlinear effects in ground motion simulations. One solution proposed here is to use an equivalent kinematic source (EKS) model that mimics the fault-zone plastic effects. This method generates source-time-functions by modifying the slip rate time histories based on comparisons of linear and non-linear dynamic rupture models, which are then used as input to kinematic simulations. The EKS model is shown to capture the SSD and OFD patterns observed in dynamic simulations with fault-zone plasticity. Further verification of the method is needed before the anticipated use in practical applications such as the Southern California Earthquake Center (SCEC) CyberShake and Broadband platforms.

**Onshore Quaternary and Contemporary Tectonics: Implications for Seismic Hazards**

Oral Session · Tuesday 15 May · 8:30 AM · Orchid AB

Session Chairs: Lucille Piety and Joanna Redwine

Quaternary Faults in the Vicinity of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands and Their Seismic Hazard

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Multibeam bathymetry, high-resolution seismic reflection, ROV dives, historical earthquake analysis, GPS data, and stress models help guide the identification of Quaternary faults in the vicinity of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands (VI). Large historical earthquakes and tsunamis, although not well located on specific faults, nevertheless attest to seismic hazard from Mona and Anegada passages. Mona Passage west of Puerto Rico is characterized by distributed faulting that may extend onto the SW corner of the island, and is indicative of an oblique NE-SW extension. Anegada Passage east of Puerto Rico and south of the VI, exhibits a more complex and little understood pattern of faulting. Much of the extreme bathymetric variations there may be a relic of an older tectonic regime, preserved due to very low sedimentation rates. Much of the Quaternary sedimentary cover in both passages has also been removed by strong oceanographic currents, limiting our ability to estimate the motion on individual faults. The north shores of the islands and their proximal slopes appear to be devoid of large faults. Distally, however, the strike-slip Bunce Fault and other strike-slip and thrust faults associated with the oblique subduction of the Main aseismic ridge are likely recent features. The left-lateral component of the highly-oblique North America plate subduction is probably accommodated by the Bunce Fault, by oblique earthquake slip, and/or by aseismic slip, rather than by faults closer to shore or on land. The Investigator Fault System south of Puerto Rico is perched at the top of a steep slope ~10 km from shore. Although the fault trace is linear, we did not identify evidence of lateral motion. Compressive deformation associated with the Muertos Fault at the base of the slope decreases progressively eastward. Despite Quaternary faults being generally located away from the islands, the islands are vulnerable to strong shaking because of the relatively low crustal attenuation.

**A Study of Seismic Hazard in Peru**

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This research presents the study of seismic hazard for the territory of Peru. Seismic hazard is a probability that a very strong earthquake can happen in an area and in a certain number of years, with a level of seismic intensity that can exceed or can’t exceed. To do the study one needs seismic sources, laws of attenuation, an analysis that takes into account all possibilities and combines the information in a result. The main objective is to quantify the exceedance probability rate for several levels of seismic acceleration with different periods of spectral acceleration to investigate the dynamic behavior of civil works. The parameters of the seismic sources are updated until 2016 by previous studies, where there are 6 sources of subduction interface, 14 sources of intraplate subduction and 9 continental sources, characterizing each source according to the distribution of doubly truncated Gutenberg-Richter. The attenuation laws used in this research are the same ones that were used in the SENCICO web application developed with the CRISIS and incorporated through a logical tree with their respective weights for each attenuation laws. A probabilistic seismic hazard analysis (PSHA) will be done with open source software called OPENQUAKE developed by the Global Earthquake Model. The best tool of this software is the sensitivity of the model is tested by changing the various parameter like hazard input model, calculation parameters. The results obtained will be all combinations with attenuation laws between different types of seismic sources for different levels of exceedance and different spectral accelerations.

Marine Terraces and Quaternary Tectonic Uplift in Puerto Rico

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Marine terrace deposits associated with both the last-interglacial (LIG) and with apparent Holocene ages occur along the northern, northwestern, and southern coasts of Puerto Rico. We collected samples of fossil coral for U-series dating from eight localities around Puerto Rico, including nearby Isla de Mona, and Isla Descheo, and Holocene marine fossils for radiocarbon dating and U-series dating from five localities around Puerto Rico. Ages of LIG samples range from 127 ka to 113 ka. Corals in growth position associated with the LIG occur at elevations that, when corrected for habitat depth, suggest apparent paleo-sea levels of ~5–7 m above modern sea level. Notches in truncated LIG marine terraces are dated by 14C to ~3–4 m above modern sea level. These results indicate slow long-term tectonic uplift rates for Puerto Rico, ~0.1 m/ka. A wave-cut paleoshoreline at ~3–4 m above modern sea level is preserved near Salinas and near Patillas along the southern coast of Puerto Rico. Marine fossils collected from deposits below the paleoshoreline yield Holocene radiocarbon and U-series ages, suggesting the paleoshoreline is associated with a Holocene marine terrace. Holocene marine fossil (dated by 14C) and paleoshorelines are also found at a height of about 3–5 m above modern sea level in northwestern Puerto Rico, near Añasco, Rincón, and Maleza Alta. One hypothesis to explain the observations of both the LIG and Holocene marine terraces is the occurrence of infrequent uplift events in the last ~120 ka, with one or more uplift events occurring during the Holocene. Large, infrequent earthquakes on the Puerto Rico trench and/or the Muertos trench could explain the observed elevations and ages of marine terraces deposits along the Puerto Rico coast. Alternative hypotheses for the occurrence of Holocene marine fossils include tsunami deposits and/or storm-surge deposits; however, these do not explain the presence of stranded wave-cut shorelines.

**Holocene Surface Rupture on the Salinas Fault and the Southeast Great Southern Puerto Rico Fault Zone and Implication for Seismic Hazard Assessments**

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Active Plate Tectonics and Main Fault Systems in Colombia: An Updated Model for 3D Fault Geometries and Magnitudes

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Active plate tectonics in Colombia is dominated by the convergence of the oceanic Nazca and Caribbean plates along the northwestern margins of continental South American plate. As a consequence, two subduction zones and a complex fault system are present inside the northern Andean region. As the result of these interactions, large earthquakes occur in Colombia as well as shallow to intermediate-deep seismic events with a wide range of magnitudes. In this study we compile 3D active fault plane geometry models for 54 seismogenic sources for probabilistic seismic hazard analyses of engineered facilities (e.g., bridges, dams, buildings).

Regional Seismic Network Approaches and Stakeholder Collaborations

Oral Session · Tuesday 15 May · 8:30 AM · Jasmine
Session Chairs: Michael West, Sergio Barrientos, Paul Bodin, Victor A. Huerfano, Xyoli Pérez-Campos, and Alexandros Savvaidis

Low-Cost Seismic Data Acquisition Module Based on Open-Source Hardware and Software Tools

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The Seismic Research Centre of the University of the West Indies, Trinidad and Tobago, operates a network of about 70 seismic stations in the eastern Caribbean islands from St. Kitts to Trinidad. Since 2008 the Centre has embarked on an initiative to expand and modernize this network by furnishing the stations with various combinations of broadband and/or strong motion sensors, high dynamic range digitizers and networking equipment to link each station to centralized observatories via high speed digital data transmission medium. After accomplishing about a half the task, the centre has come to the realization that it has neither the fiscal nor the technical capability to complete the full upgrade and provide maintenance to a network totally equipped with commercial instrumentation in a sustainable manner. The primary inhibiting factors are 1) the insular geographical layout of the network, giving rise to several access and communications related challenges and 2) the high cost of procuring and maintaining commercial instrumentation. The Centre has devised a sustainable solution to complete the upgrade. We have developed a low-cost digitizer that makes heavy use of open-source hardware and software tools. The hardware is based on an Arduino Mega microcontroller that is programmed to capture data from a 24-bit four-channel analogue-digital-converter. A GPS Arduino shield provides time synchronization and data is continuously fed to a Raspberry Pi asynchronously but in a deterministic manner. On the Raspberry Pi, data are inserted into a Ring Buffer structure from which Minised files are written to flash memory for long-term storage. Near real-time data can also be streamed out to subscribers via the seed-link protocol and/or also be fed to a local Earthworm or SeisComp installation for manipulation and processing. Our prototype costs a lot less than commercial digitizers do and the data quality is comparable. The component modules are easy to get, build up and replace, thus maintenance is much more feasible than commercial systems.

Near Real-Time Network-Wide State of Health and Waveform Quality Monitoring

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The Pacific Northwest Seismic Network is responsible for monitoring seismic activity in Cascadia and is also part of the USGS ShakeAlert earthquake early warning system. Part of our mission is operating and maintaining our network of over 400 stations. Fulfilling our role effectively requires monitoring station state of health metrics, those related to waveform quality such as power spectral density estimates, and those specific to ShakeAlert. The later include frequency of potential triggers that exceed certain amplitude and signal-to-noise ratio criteria. Multiple tools are available for seismologists to assess state of health and waveform quality across many stations such as MUSTANG (IRIS), SeisNetWatch (ISTI), and Data Quality Analyzer (ASL) though none meet all of our needs. Some operate in near real-time and focus on state of health while others include metrics that require long data segments and cannot scale to near real-time for our network. To bridge the wide range of needs by the PNSN, we are developing the Seismic Quality Assessment Console (SQUAC). The interface will be a web-service based API to generate a page with table and map views of the network metrics with variable levels of network-station-location-channel granularity. The web interface will also include one-click on the fly generated charts of time series of selected metrics as well as station-level plots of latest hour metrics and waveforms useful for technicians in the field. SQUAC will be able to digest any properly formed JSON message sent to the API and thus can ingest metrics from databases, AQMS messages, other APIs, upload via wget, etc. Currently at the PNSN
Upon several local and regional earthquake events recorded around the world, we present results about joining some international stations with the new private seismological network of Raspberry Shakes. The earthquake locations are compared using parameters including latitude, longitude and depth error, as well as rms and gap. For doing this, we consulted international catalogues and collected event solutions reported on regions near denser Raspberry Shake station locations, and we performed an automatic relocation process integrating them with the Raspberry Shake records using the SeisComP3 suite. It is also presented an analysis of ground motion for significative earthquakes recorded by the network, as the ones occurred in Mexico on September 2017. In spite of the station location limitations, we found helpful the Raspberry Shake data for complementing the current available networks, and projecting it as a great solution for reducing azimuthal gaps, location parameter errors, and detection thresholds.

Virtual Seismic Networks – Case Studies in Europe and the Arabian Peninsula

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In November 2001, four institutes in three countries (Austria, Italy and Slovenia) signed an agreement to exchange real-time seismic data in the Alpine-Adria region. The following year Earth Science Department of the university in Trieste (DST), the Italian National Institute of Oceanography and Applied Geophysics (OGS), the Office for Seismology of the Environmental Agency of the Republic of Slovenia (ARSO), and the Central Institute for Meteorology and Geodynamics (ZAMG) initiated a three-year project to exchange data in real-time. The goal was to establish a virtual seismic network with redundant data connections between the remote stations and data centers that has improved network geometry, accurate and consistent earthquake parameters. On the Arabian Peninsula through bilateral agreements three institutes in two countries exchanging seismic data in real-time: The National Center of Meteorology and Seismology (NCMS), the Dubai Seismic Network of the Dubai Municipality (both United Arab Emirates) and the Earthquake Monitoring Center (EMC) at the Sultan Qaboos University in Oman. Although all data centers maintain their independent earthquake catalogues, the virtual seismic network created by the real-time data exchange has a larger aperture and therefore provides better and faster localities for large earthquakes originating from the main seismic sources in Iran and the Masqaran Subduction zone. The presentation will show how these virtual seismic networks function, and what benefits they brought to the stakeholders.

Geophysical Networks in Peru: A National Effort for Disaster Management

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Since historical times the Peruvian subduction zone has been source of several damaging earthquakes, e.g. Lima 1940 (Mw 8.0), Nasca 1942 (Mw 8.0), Lima 1966 (Mw 8.0), Lima 1974 (Mw 8.0), Arequipa 2001 (Mw 8.4) and more recently, Pisco 2007 (Mw 7.9). Noteworthy are the Lima 1746 (Mw 8.6) and the Chimbote 1970 (Mw 8.0) events; the first one generated a tsunami that killed about 95% of the port of Callao’s population and the second triggered a massive mudslide in the Cordillera Blanca region causing a death toll of 70,000, the largest so far in Peruvian history. Additional geophysical hazards are associated to volcanic eruption and active fault dynamics. In order to reduce the vulnerability of the country to the impact of extreme events like the aforementioned ones, the Peruvian government is engaged in a budget by result program to improve its geophysical instrumentation nationwide. Currently there are 48 broad band stations operating under the Libera-II VSAT system plus additional internet systems which confirm the Real Time National Seismic Network. In addition there is a network of 200 strong motion sensors distributed in urban areas nationwide, so far only 72 are continuously streamed to IGP (Instituto Geofisico del Peru) processing center in Lima. On the other hand, small seismic networks operate real time around the main active volcanoes in southern Peru. In the last years, geophysical monitoring has been used to measure interseismic crustal deformation mainly in seismic gap zones. For this purpose, a network of 19 eGPS stations are operating in southern Peru (Moquegua-Tacna-Arica seismic gap). Similarly, the dynamics of main intraplate active faults are being monitored permanently. More recently, a prototype of seismic alarm system for the capital city is being developed taking advantage of an island 60 km offshore Lima. We present the current status of the Peruvian geophysical networks as well as the basic Seismic Alarm System for the Lima Region.

The Brazilian Seismographic Network: Present Status and Society Related Applications

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The Brazilian Seismographic Network (RSBR) was deployed between 2009 and 2015 mainly with resources from Petrobras and is currently maintained by the Brazilian Geological Survey (CPRM). Four FDSN sub-networks (BL, BR, NB, ON) compose RSBR, with a total of 84 permanent stations. Data from RSBR are open-access and transmitted over satellite, 3G modems or Wi-Fi networks. For acquisition, real-time processing and distribution, RSBR uses geoseis and SeisComP3. Besides the most common products of a seismic network, sometimes RSBR data was used to assist Brazilian society in curious ways. In two years of operation, the locally developed platform “Senti Ai?” (“Did you feel it?”), a tool to collect data from people who felt an earthquake, received more than 800 reports, helping RSBR seismologists to identify earthquakes that were not located by the real-time processing system. Recently, “Senti Ai?” received a mobile version, allowing faster and more accurate reports. In 2016, an explosion of a dynamite truck in southern Brazil was registered as an earthquake [M2.8] by RSBR stations up to 300 km away from the disaster. Due to temperature variations in the atmosphere, vibrations propagated more strongly in the opposite direction to the accident, confusing seismologists because people reported the “earthquake” from cities ~60 km away from the epicenter. The collapse of a mine tailings dam in SE Brazil (2015) is another example of how RSBR was used in environmental studies. Soon after the dam collapse, a mixture of water, soil, and mine tailings flooded the village of Bento Rodrigues, following the course of the Doce River. The seismic noise generated by this turbulent current was recorded by RSBR stations up to more than 300km distance, allowing seismologists to further analyze this aspect of the accident (Augurto-Detzel et al. 2016). Among these other examples can help justify a seismic network in an asciatic country.

The National Seismological Network of Costa Rica (RSN): An Overview and Recent Developments

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The National Seismological Network of Costa Rica (RSN) is a joint effort between the University of Costa Rica (UCR) and the Costa Rican Institute of Electricity (ICE). In this paper, we briefly describe its history, contributions, and seismic catalogue. We also address recent developments, such as: the expansion of the station network, the improvement on earthquake locations, and the use of new communication channels to share earthquake information. The RSN seismic catalogue contains almost 123,000 earthquakes recorded since 1974. The geographical distribution of the local seismicity highlights plate boundaries as well as regions located along the inland projection of several bathymetric highs in the Cocos plate. In 2015, 70 new short-period seismometers were installed to provide a new configuration with higher station density in Central Costa Rica. Also, earthquake locations were improved by integrating routines from the Seiscomp, Earthworm, and SeisAn software packages. Additionally, several tools for disseminating earthquake information were developed, for example an application for smartphones released in 2015 and a new website created in 2017. The RSN is also using Facebook and Twitter to engage and educate non-scientific audiences.
Chile is frequently affected by large and potentially tsunamigenic and damaging earthquakes as a result of rapid convergence of the Nazca plate beneath the South America plate. Ten M8 or larger earthquakes have occurred along the Chilean coast in the past century, the largest of which was the 1960 M 9.5 Valdivia earthquake. After the 2010 M 8.8 Maule earthquake, Chile began installing a modern real-time network of digital broadband/strong-motion and Global Positioning System (GPS) stations to better prepare for future and expected large damaging earthquakes. The network was designed to provide fast and accurate assessments of earthquake source parameters of potentially devastating earthquakes for emergency response applications, and was also capable of providing comprehensive characterization of Chilean seismicity, necessary for long-term hazard assessment and mitigation applications. Beginning in 2013, the National Seismological Center (CSN) of the University of Chile initiated the implementation of a network of 65 permanent real-time broadband and strong motion stations and 130 Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS) monuments and receivers. These integrated systems were designed to provide accurate automatic earthquake locations and magnitudes necessary for tsunami warning and impact assessment. In near-real-time applications, the GPS stations become critical for determination of fault finiteness of M ~ 7 or larger earthquakes. Operations of these systems also provide new insights into long-term deformation and associated spatiotemporal variations in seismicity, which are necessary in long-term earthquake hazards assessment and mitigation. In addition to the real-time system described above, 297 strong motion offline instruments complement the network for engineering purposes. We will present recent results in rapid characterization of recent large earthquakes in the country from the M8.2, April 1, 2014 event to the M6.9, April 24, 2017 earthquake.

Assessment of the Impact of Hurricanes Irma and Maria on the Monitoring Capability of the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center for the Caribbean Region

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In September of 2017, hurricanes Irma and Maria wreaked havoc across the Eastern Caribbean region. While obliterating most of the infrastructure in the Caribbean nations found along their path, leaving a trail of suffering and despair in their wake, both hurricanes gradually destroyed the existing seismic networks. We assess the impact of both hurricanes on the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center’s monitoring capabilities for the Caribbean region relying on the computation of theoretical detection and response times while accounting for the additional station relocations caused by both hurricanes. The results show that in the Caribbean region hurricanes Irma and Maria rendered inoperative an additional 14% and 38% of the available 146 stations, respectively. Within the Eastern Caribbean region monitored by the PTWC, hurricanes Irma and Maria exacerbated station outages to an astonishing 47% and 81% of the available 76 stations, respectively. Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and the Lesser Antilles suffered the brunt of both hurricanes, and their seismic networks essentially disappeared in a matter of weeks. The double punch delivered by two successive category 5 hurricanes added both hurricanes, and their seismic networks essentially disappeared in a matter of weeks. The double punch delivered by two successive category 5 hurricanes added.

Improved Regional Seismic Monitoring at the USGS National Earthquake Information Center


The USGS National Earthquake Information Center (NEIC) has traditionally focused on monitoring teleseismic earthquakes with emphasis on the detailed characterization of large earthquakes. Yet the NEIC’s responsibilities extend beyond global seismology. NEIC is the backup to U.S. regional networks in the Advanced National Seismic System (ANSS) and is the primary U.S. monitoring organization in areas not covered by regional networks. To better serve in these roles, the NEIC is developing systems that include the detection, location, and magnitude estimation of seismic activity at local and regional distances. The goal of this development is the rapid and accurate production of an earthquake bulletin with high confidence that the bulletin magnitude 2.5 and larger in the contiguous U.S. and magnitude 4.5 and larger outside the U.S. The first step in improving NEIC regional capabilities is the testing and implementation of a new event detection and associated technique (GLASS 3.0), implementation of a frequency-dependent broadband phase picker, and deployment of correlation detectors. The GLASS 3.0 algorithm allows for simultaneous processing of variably scaled detection grids, each with a unique set of location criteria (e.g., magnitude threshold, minimum associated picks, nucleation phases, and station list). To ensure robust transition to a production environment, we have developed a standardized testing platform and an extensive dataset for algorithm tuning and validation. We test these new tools at local, regional, and global scales, compare our results with existing catalog, and discuss lessons learned.

Keeping Up Appearances in the Pacific Northwest Seismic Network (PNSN)

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The PNSN continuously monitors over 1000 stations across the Pacific Northwest. The PNSN network’s primary function is to provide rapid and accurate earthquake information to local communities and emergency responders following earthquakes. The PNSN is also an important component of the national Earthquake Early Warning System (EEWS). The PNSN was created in 1997 and is currently funded by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). The PNSN network consists of over 1000 stations, including strong-motion and broadband sensors, and provides real-time event detection and location information to end-users through a variety of applications. The PNSN is also an important component of the national Earthquake Early Warning System (EEWS). The PNSN was created in 1997 and is currently funded by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS). The PNSN network consists of over 1000 stations, including strong-motion and broadband sensors, and provides real-time event detection and location information to end-users through a variety of applications.
Seismic Monitoring of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline

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In addition to being the authoritative regional seismic network for the state of Alaska, the Alaska Earthquake Center partners with other public and private stakeholders for customized event notifications and infrastructure monitoring. One such partnership is with Alyeska Pipeline Services Company, who operate the Trans Alaska Pipeline System—one of the world’s largest pipeline systems, traversing 800 miles of the state with a 2016 flow of over 500,000 barrels of oil per day. The Alaska Earthquake Center provides customized earthquake monitoring for the pipeline, including operating twelve seismographs along the pipeline with broadband seismometers and strong motion sensors, real-time peak acceleration monitoring and alarming, customized ShakeMap products, and high-priority event notifications. Data products are also sent to a second partner, Nymaran and Associates, for integration with engineering fragility curves to produce highly specific reports of potential damage and points of inspection. Through this partnership, the Alaska Earthquake Center and Alyeska help minimize the potential hazards and economic impact associated with a seismic event as a critical piece of infrastructure in the state.

The University of Utah Seismograph Stations: Mission and Operations

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The mission of the University of Utah Seismograph Stations (UUS) is “Reducing the risk from earthquakes in Utah through research, education, and public service.” UUS serves this role by being one of three core State of Utah agencies that contribute to the Utah Earthquake Program, an active partner within the Advanced National Seismic System (ANSS), and part of the Department of Geology and Geophysics at the University of Utah. Within the Utah Earthquake Program, the role of UUS is to operate a regional and urban seismic network and provide timely information and products related to local seismic events. Scientists within UUS serve on the Utah Seismic Safety Commission and the Mine Safety Technical Advisory Council. Scientists also serve on local working groups related to Utah earthquake probabilities, ground motion analyses, generation of earthquake scenarios, and Quaternary fault studies, and provide consulting expertise for earthquake hazards to critical facilities such as dams, nuclear waste repositories, and nuclear power plants. In addition to the professional public service, UUS personnel work to actively educate the general public through the UUS website news releases, talks to local groups, blogs and tweets, and media interviews. UUS also participates in the education of the next generation of seismic network professionals. University of Utah undergraduates are trained as earthquake analysts. Both undergraduate and graduate students are encouraged to participate and assist in field activities to learn about seismic instrumentation, and some also participate in research related to seismic network operations. Key to serving the UUS mission are both the years of expertise that have been gained through monitoring and research in the region and, equally as important, the local connections and relationships that have been fostered through the many years of interactions with local stakeholders.

Collaborative Real-Time Risk Reduction through Early Warning and Earthquake Monitoring with Stakeholders in Southern California

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Caltech and USGS operate the Southern California Seismic Network (SCSN) to provide timely disaster mitigation in the form of early warning (EEW), event notification, ShakeMap, and other data products to more than 20 million people, living across the Pacific and North America plate boundary. The EEW project (ShakeAlert) analyzes SCSN data to issue warnings to pilot users such as major utilities, Cal OES, and schools, which also host sensors and provide user feedback. A seismic moment tensor to identify the causative fault and evaluate tsunami hazards is also determined. In case of unusual activity, seismologists provide near real-time situational awareness to warn of increased hazards levels. Automatic seismic swarm detectors identify possible onset of volcanic activity, alerting civic authorities. The SCSN processes real-time data from more than 16,000 earthquakes every year; in case of a large sequence, it may process more than 60,000 events. The Southern California Earthquake Data Center (SCEDC) archives the data and facilitates the use of the SCSN data for scientific research, earthquake engineering, and public communication. The in progress SCSN template-matching catalog will have a completeness level of approximately M0.5, as template-matching detects several times more events than the regular catalog. The SCSN records real-time seismic data from more than 500 stations. We use various tools to monitor the state of health of stations, to detect data latency, and sudden changes in data quality. Metadata are maintained in the Station Information System Database (SIS). We are migrating our real-time SCSN and SCEDC operations into the Amazon cloud (AWS) to distribute products from the AWS and maintain a long-term digital archive in the AWS Glacier storage. This will significantly reduce the vulnerability of SCSN/SCEDC operations during future damaging earthquakes in southern California, and enable deployment of new big data analytics based on machine learning.

Keeping Tabs on Oklahoma Seismicity: The Oklahoma Geological Survey Regional Network

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The Oklahoma Geological Survey (OGS) monitors seismicity throughout the state of Oklahoma utilizing permanent and temporary seismometers installed by OGS and other agencies, while maintaining an earthquake catalog. In Oklahoma, prior to 2009 background seismicity rates were about 2 M3.0+ earthquakes per year, which increased to 579 and 903 M3.0+ earthquakes in 2014 and 2015, respectively. The peak in the seismicity rate has since fallen to 624 and 304 M3.0+ earthquakes in 2016 and 2017, respectively. The catalog is complete down to M2.4 from mid-2014 to present, despite the significant workload for a primarily state-funded regional network. Unique challenges associated with being the de facto earthquake information source include providing regulators, i.e. the Oklahoma Corporation Commission, with earthquake locations and magnitude within minutes of an event so that their "traffic-light" protocol may be effectively applied. We are transitioning to running our information center...
Meeting Alaska’s Earthquake Needs in 2018

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The Alaska Earthquake Center’s mission is to advance the state’s earthquake resilience by integrating monitoring, research, and public engagement. Previously, the Center approached this mission primarily by operating a network of seismic sensors and reporting on earthquake activity via traditional avenues such as cataloging events and issuing alerts to emergency managers and journalists. This is no longer enough, though, as the advent of smart buildings, social media, and instant communication has raised expectations for direct engagement. The Center has adopted several strategies to meet these expectations. Using social media, we address public demand for immediate post-earthquake information by serving interpreted products tailored to our stakeholders rather than cookie-cutter announcements. Because strong motion provides a link between abstract parameter sources and how earthquakes impact society, we have emphasized the installation of strong-motion instrumentation and production of related products designed for news media and the general public. We also emphasize the common ground between different types of hazard monitoring, such as landslides and volcanic eruptions, which rely on seismic monitoring. We place a particularly strong emphasis on the integrated nature of tsunamis and earthquakes because in Alaska these are simply two facets of the same hazard. This approach helps compensate for the awkward bifurcation of these hazards at the federal level. Finally, in an era of political, programmatic, and budgetary volatility, the Alaska Earthquake Center draws purpose from our singular focus on the needs of state-level stakeholders.

The Lamont-Doherty Cooperative Seismographic Network (LCSN) Service to Education and Community

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Since it began monitoring earthquakes in northern California almost 130 years ago, the University of California Berkeley Seismological Laboratory (BSSL) has been striving to produce the highest quality and most complete seismic data possible in the most modern way. This goal continues to influence choices and investments in instrumentation, installation, telemetry, expertise, and manpower. The Berkeley Digital Seismic Network (BDSN), the current incarnation of the BSSL’s seismic monitoring system, began in the mid-1980s with the installation of broadband (BB) instrumentation, and in the early 1990s a fully digitally telecentered network. The BDSN has grown from 3 high-quality, high dynamic range, BB installations to almost 50 stations, with almost 100 more stations expected as earthquake early warning funding supports seismic network buildout. In addition to three component BB seismometers and digital accelerometers, many stations also record C-GPS data, that are transmitted continuously to the BSSL. Data from BDSN stations and other seismic stations in Northern California are available at the Northern California Earthquake Data Center (ncedc.org) using web services (http://service.ncedc.org/) from the DART (Data Available in Real Time) or from NCEDC archives. The BSSL also participates in earthquake monitoring in Northern California, as part of the Northern California Seismic System. Data quality is important to the BSSL, in terms of completeness, instrument response, and waveform content. To ensure completeness, we retrieve data from remote sites when telemetry allows. We also develop and apply tools to evaluate data for the latter two tasks. Our main effort is to complete the evaluation, without disturbing the data. Recently, we have investigated the responses of our array of horizontal STS-1 and STS-2 seismometers. We update results from STS-2 analysis. In addition, we demonstrate a technique to non-invasively estimate the response parameters of horizontal STS-1 seismometers.

One Year of Texas Seismological Network Seismic Data

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In an effort to better understand the seismogenesis of earthquake events and to monitor earthquake activity, a statewide seismic monitoring program, known as TexNet (http://www.beg.utexas.edu/texnet/), has been funded by the 84th Texas Legislature to deploy seismic stations in Texas. The goal of TexNet is to provide authenticated data to evaluate the location, frequency, and likely causes of natural and induced seismicity. A better understanding of these seismic events will help stakeholders avoid operational procedures that may lead to the occurrence of induced earthquakes. On September of 2016 the first TexNet seismic station was deployed. Up to the end of 2017, 22 new, permanent 3-component broadband seismic stations have been installed. Along with 17 existing stations operated by various networks [US, N4, IM], they make up the backbone of the TexNet seismic monitoring network. These stations, together with 3 auxiliary stations, i.e., long-term deployments of portable stations (20s seismometers), provide the observation of baseline seismicity of Texas. In addition, 33 portable pairs of seismometers and accelerometers are deployed to further examine seismic events, in four areas with dense populations or crucial infrastructure. Ground motion data from a total number of 58 additional seismic stations is available through TexNet hub, in real time as seedlink stream and also FDSNWS. For earthquake events which occurred after January 2017, TexNet publishes information of earthquake locations on its website. Both, raw data and earthquake locations provided through the Texas Seismological Network, is an excellent success story of a recent regional seismic network. TexNet has managed to minimize the uncertainties into earthquake locations and decrease the magnitude of completeness for the State. Also, it provides an excellent opportunity to the scientific community to better understand the seismicity in Texas, and increase the public and industry awareness.
Science Gateways and Computational Tools for Improving Earthquake Research

Oral Session • Tuesday 15 May • 2:15 PM • Orchid AB
Session Chairs: Andrea Donnellan and Lisa Grant Ludwig

Science Gateways for Enhancing Earthquake Science

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Science gateways are Web interfaces and middleware that both simplify access to supercomputers and expand the capabilities of their users through graphical user interfaces. Since initially conceived two decades ago, science gateways have matured into production services used daily by many scientists. For example, science gateway users of XSEDE supercomputers consistently outnumber regular command line users, and users of Galaxy (a bioinformatics gateway) and NanoHUB (a nanotechnology gateway) number in the tens of thousands. We believe there is a need and an opportunity to dramatically increase the use of gateways and related cyberinfrastructure in earthquake science. This can be done in three related ways: by simplifying access to popular modeling and simulating tools, by providing better mechanisms for interacting with data products such as InSAR and GPS data, and by enabling novel applications of machine learning technologies that are outside the expertise of many geoscientists to geophysical data sets. In this talk we introduce general science gateway concepts, provide an overview of the NASA-funded GeoGateway project, and describe how GeoGateway will evolve as we align it with the Apache Airavata framework for science gateways. We are developing GeoGateway as a means for geoscientists to access, integrate, and share multiple data sets, including InSAR, GPS, seismicity, and optical data. GeoGateway provides more than access to data sets: by coupling data to modeling and simulation codes, it enables users to easily incorporate data into their computational experiments. Looking forward, we also see important opportunities for coupling data to a range of machine learning techniques that can be used to identify features in data sets that are not readily discernible by human inspection. It is important to develop GeoGateway's capabilities within a general framework in order that we can take advantage of features already available from other science gateways. At the same time, GeoGateway has unique and forward-looking capabilities compared to many gateways, so innovations made by GeoGateway can be contributed back to open source science gateway frameworks. We thus describe the synergies between GeoGateway and the Apache Airavata framework for building science gateways, and how Apache Airavata can be used to build other science gateways.

SCEC Tool for Distribution and Integration of Simulated Ground Motions within the NEHRI-CLI Portal

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The Southern California Earthquake Center (SCEC) has been collaborating with the National Hazard Engineering Research Infrastructure (NHERI) to deliver simulated ground motions through a new web tool on the NHERI cyberinfrastructure portal, DesignSafe-CLI. The NHERI DesignSafe-CLI offers opportunities for engineering research for multiple natural hazards and integrates various engineering computational tools and data storage capabilities. Our NHERI_SCEC collaboration is focused around the development of data registries, discovery, distribution, and integration of simulated ground motion seismograms into the DesignSafe-CLI portal. The broadband ground motion simulations were generated by the SCEC Broadband Platform (BBP), an open-source computational platform that includes numerous simulation methods. Simulation methods from the BBP have been thoroughly validated and used in such projects as the South Western United States utilities project (SWUS) and the Pacific Earthquake Engineering Research (PEER) Next Generation Attenuation project for Central & Eastern North America (NGA-East). The first subset of seismograms was selected to capture large-magnitude events not currently available in recorded ground motion databases such as those hosted by the PEER center. The seismograms provide ground motions large enough to push structural simulations well into the nonlinear range, providing engineers with the ability to test their models and designs under a wide range of seismic demands. An initial task was to develop a comprehensive flatefile that can accommodate the metadata related to ground motion simulations. The data-discovery tool was developed as a Jupyter Notebook that can be expanded to allow the inclusion of additional ground motion datasets. In this presentation, we introduce the key feature of the flatefile and introduce the interface integrated into DesignSafe-CLI.

Exploring the Potential for Hosting a Geoscience Data Center in the Cloud

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The IRIS Data Management Center (DMC) has operated a public repository of seismological data for 3 decades supporting thousands of researchers. Since its founding, the DMC has operated its own infrastructure to support the computational and storage resources needed to support its mission. In the GeoSciCloud project, supported by the National Science Foundation’s (NSF) EarthCube program, the DMC is deploying a subset of its archive and key software components into two cloud environments. This project will allow the DMC to evaluate the realities of operating in the cloud and explore the potential advantages and disadvantages. The two cloud environments selected for this project are Amazon’s AWS and XSEDE’s Jetstream and Wrangler systems. The XSEDE resources are operated on behalf of NSF by Indiana University jointly with the Texas Advanced Computing Center. The DMC has deployed a ~40 terabyte test data set and a subset of its web service-based data access architecture to both environments. The DMC is conducting an extensive evaluation of the capabilities of these deployments. To ensure these systems support and, ideally, improve upon real-world research use cases, the DMC is collaborating with scientists who will perform their own tests designed to meet their research needs. A promising, expected gain from cloud-like environments over DMC-operated systems is the ability to scale-out in order to handle more simultaneous users, both with respect to storage I/O and processor intensive tasks. Another potential advantage is providing data within, or very near to, a powerful computing environment that researchers may also use. Also, evaluating the relative costs of the cloud environments against the DMC’s own infrastructure will be critical. We will report on the status of this work and lessons learned so far.

Displaying Multiple Data Types in the Geogateway Public Mapping System Including a System for Rapid Surface Fracture Detection in Raw and Unwrapped Radar Interferograms

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A new component of the public GeoGateway mapping system allows determination and display of instances and networks of fault slip from radar interfero- meter observations of the earth’s surface. This component has added value through integration with a system that supports optional layered display of GPS stations, velocities, and patterns; radar interferometric images and displacement profiles; catalog seismicity; known fault systems; and user-supplied KMZ objects. Fault slip from creep, seismic triggering, aftershocks and general stress change is imaged and displayed to be better than 1 cm accuracy and down to 0.1 cm in moder-ately wooded and frequent-visit agricultural areas. The surface fracture charac- terization method has an initial version based on filling of bad data through interpolation and blurring, followed by the Canny edge detection algorithm from computer vision. This is used for highly stable (coherent) environments with largely continuous and packed unwrapped image products. A refinement begins with a raw, complex-valued interferogram and uses conjugation to find phase differences up to a full cycle, a method that works when image unwrapping fails. Illustration of the utility of the refined surface fracture imaging with other GeoGateway layers centers on the Brawley Swarm deformation of 2012 and the South Napa earthquake slip of 2014.

Developing Software to Evaluate the Liquefaction Potential by Using 2D Numerical Modeling: Applications

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This article describes the developing of a computer tool to evaluate the liquefac- tion potential in seismic zones. The tool consists of: i) a pre-processing script,
ii) calculation or process script, and iii) a post-processing script. The pre- and post-processing scripts are carried out by using the Matlab software through the GUIDE development environment, while the process uses OpenSees as a calculation engine. The layered deposit of cohesionless soil subject to a seismic base excitation is represented by a 2D finite element model using nine-node quadrilateral elements by considering the displacement and pressure of pores as degrees of freedom. The validation process showed that the generated soil column model properly represents the problem posed. The application of this tool was done by modeling 1325 samples corresponding to 14 theoretical scenarios in which the following variables were considered and permuted: depth of the soil column, stratigraphy, groundwater level, relative soil density, and intensity of seismic load. All this, in order to know the degree of influence of each of these parameters on the liquefaction phenomenon. The results showed that the phreatic level and the relative density of the soil are the most sensitive variables, which are in accordance with the theoretical foundations studied. Additionally, there was geotechnical information from two soil profiles of the Tarquín parish, Ecuador (area affected by soil liquefaction during the 2016 Ecuador earthquake). This information was used to evaluate and verify the susceptibility of these soils before the aforementioned phenomenon. Finally, it is worth mentioning that this tool is part of the Virtual Laboratory of the Technical University of Loja (UTPL), which is managed by its Research Group of Seismic Engineering and Seismology (GIEISSUPPL) (http://www.ingenieriasismica.utpl.edu.ec/) keywords: Ecuador, Liquefaction of soils, earthquake, OpenSees, numerical modeling.

Tsunami Modeling and Hazard Assessment

Oral Session · Tuesday 15 May · 8:30 AM · Hibiscus A
Session Chairs: Stephanie L. Ross, Silvia Chacón, Juan J. Horillo, Alberto Lopez, and Hong Kie Thio

Benchmarking Multi-layer-HySEA Model for Landslide Generated Tsunamis

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Landslide tsunami hazard may be dominant along significant parts of the coastline around the world, in particular in the USA or Caribbean Sea, as compared to hazards from other tsunamigenic sources. This fact motivated NTHMP about the need of benchmarking models for landslide generated tsunamis, following the same methodology already used for standard tsunami models when the source is seismic. To perform the above-mentioned validation process, a set of candidate benchmarks were proposed. These benchmarks are based on a subset of available laboratory data sets for solid slide experiments and deformable slide experiments, and include both submarine and subaerial slides. A benchmark based on a historic field event (Valdez, AK, 1964) close the list of proposed benchmarks. A total of 7 benchmarks. The Multi-layer-HySEA model including non-hydrostatic effects has been used to perform all the benchmarking problems dealing with laboratory experiments proposed in the workshop that was organized at Texas A&M University—Galveston, on January 9-11, 2017 by NTHMP. The aim of this presentation is to show some of the latest numerical results obtained with the Multi-layer-HySEA (non-hydrostatic) model in the framework of this validation effort. Acknowledgements. This research has been partially supported by the Spanish Government Research project SIMURISK (MTM2015-70490-C02-01-R) and University of Málaga, Campus de Excelencia Internacional Andalucía Tech. The GPU computations were performed at the Unit of Numerical Methods (University of Malaga).

The Probabilistic Tsunami Hazard Assessment Map for the Neam Region: Results of the Tsumaps-Neam Project

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Probabilistic Tsunami Hazard Assessment (PTHA) is an indispensable step for long-term coastal planning and for effectively designing and using Tsunami Warning Systems. In the last decade, Europe has promoted a better understanding of the tsunami phenomenon through research projects (e.g. TRANSFER, NEARTOWARN, ASTARTE) and started programs for preventing the tsunami impact along the coastlines of the North-East Atlantic, the Mediterranean, and connected Seas (NEAM region) (e.g. the Tsunami Early Warning and Mitigation System, NEAMTWS, coordinated by IOC/UNESCO). Building on the legacy of previous projects, and alongside networking activities at the global scale (Global Tsunami Model, GTM), the TSUMAPS-NEAM project produced the first region-wide long-term homogenous PTHA map from earthquake sources for the NEAM region. The hazard assessment was built upon state-of-the-art procedures and standards, enriched by some rather innovative/experimental approaches such as: (1) the statistical treatment of potential tsunamigenic sources, combining all the available information (seismicity, moment tensors, tsunectors), and including earthquakes occurring on major crustal faults and subduction interfaces; (2) an intensive computational approach to tsunami generation and linear propagation across the sea up to an offshore fixed depth; (3) the use of approximations for shoaling and inundation, based on local bathymetry, and for tidal stranding by using alternative approaches for the basic input data and their parameters which produces a number of models that are treated through an ensemble uncertainty quantification. This presentation will summarize how the TSUMAPS-NEAM project achieved its goals, illustrate the PTHA online data, and discuss possible strategies for future PTHA efforts. The TSUMAPS-NEAM Project (http://www.tsumaps-neam.eu/) was co-financed by the European Union Civil Protection Mechanism, Agreement Number: ECHO/SUB/2015/718686/ PREV26.

Testing Empirical Inundation in the Definition of Inundation Zones for Tsunami Early Warning

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Numerical modeling is by far the most accredited method to model tsunami propagation and inundation. However, a massive use of tsunami numerical simulations still has important limits in some practical applications, due to the computational cost of inundation calculations and the availability of high-resolution topo-bathymetric DEMs. As an alternative, empirical inundation models can provide very rapid estimates. In Italy, evacuation maps are being developed in the frame of the Italian Tsunami Alert System (SIAM), constituted by the Italian Department of Civil Protection (DPC), the Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia (INGV) and the Italian National Institute for Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRRA). Input for the evacuation maps is the regional seismic probabilistic tsunami hazard analysis (SPTH), developed by the TSUMAPS-NEAM (http://www.tsumaps-neam.eu/) project. This SPTH relies on numerical modeling up to the 50-m depth isobaths and a method for estimating the maximum runup with uncertainty, using local amplification factors based on site-specific coastal morphology. Inundation maps are then defined for a given return period and epistemic uncertainty level established by DPC. An empirical dissipation factor is then introduced to limit the maximum inundation distance. Using a GIS-based approach, the method combines these results with a detailed DTM and computes the inundation zones. The goal of this work is to test the proposed method against (probabilistic) inundation maps calculated for one or more short segments with numerical simulations. The analysis aims to evaluate the effectiveness of empirical estimates as input for risk mitigation strategies and quantify the associated uncertainty.

A Probabilistic Tsunami Hazard Model for New Zealand

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We have developed a fully probabilistic, tsunami hazard model for New Zealand by simulating the origin, propagation, and run up of tsunami due to more than a thousand Mw≥7 local and distant tsunamigenic earthquakes from stochastic earthquake catalogs, spanning 10,000 years, developed as part of regional probabilistic seismic hazard analyses. The model incorporates single and multi-segment fault rupture scenarios with variable slip, high-resolution (90 meter) bathymetry/ elevation data, and variable magnitude coefficients derived from high-resolution land-use/land-cover datasets, levee location and height data (where available), as well as contribution from astronomical tides, to estimate maximum inundation depths and wave velocities along the 15,000-km-long coastline of New Zealand. Observed inundation depths and tide gauge amplitudes/time-series
Tsunami inundation distances of 600m or more were measured at Las Terrenas height of 8m likely associated with splash up was measured in Playa Boca Nueva. The tsunami impacts peaked with maximum tsunami heights exceeding 5m survey data includes 29 runup and tsunami height measurements at 21 locations. Witnesses interviewed on site using established protocols. The early afternoon 400 km of coastline along the northern Dominican Republic from La Isabela to May 2016. The International Tsunami Survey Team (ITST) covered more than 1946 Dominican Republic tsunami eyewitness based field survey took place were conducted in September 1946 (Lynch and Bodle, 1948; Small, 1948). The imme- earthquake devastated the Dominican Republic and extended into Haiti. This field the tsunami was recorded on tide gauges on the US Atlantic Coast. The impact on Japan's coastlines. Often the size of the asteroid is not deterministically known; thus, we explored the effect of asteroid size on the tsunami and landfall waves at several coastline cities of interest near the potential impact area. We con- the probability of wave height given the size of the asteroid and the location of the impact along the risk corridor. Such probability profiles can inform more sophisticated inundation models and advise emergency responses and disaster- mitigation efforts, and may be used for design of maritime protection (e.g. breakwaters walls) or assessment of risk to shoreline structures of interest (e.g. bridges, power plants). Finally, we compare asteroid-generated tsunamis to earth- quake-generated tsunamis and the illustrate the impact of asteroids on climate change. This work was performed under the auspices of the U.S. Department of Energy by Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory under Contract DE-AC52-07NA27344.

Field Survey of the 1966 Tsunami in the Dominican Republic Based on Eyewitness Interviews

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On 4 August 1946 an Mw 8.1 earthquake occurred off the north-eastern coast of Hispaniola resulting in a destructive tsunami with order one hundred fatalities in the Dominican Republic and observed runup in Puerto Rico. In the far field the tsunami was recorded on tide gauges on the US Atlantic Coast. The earthquake devastated the Dominican Republic and extended into Haiti. This was one of the strongest earthquakes ever reported in the Caribbean. The immediate earthquake reconnaissance surveys focused on earthquake damage and were conducted in September 1946 (Lynch and Bodle, 1948; Small, 1948). The 1946 Dominican Republic tsunami eyewitness based field survey took place in three phases from 18 to 21 March 2014, 1 to 3 September 2014 and 9 to 11 May 2016. The International Tsunami Survey Team (ITST) covered more than 400 km of coastline along the northern Dominican Republic from La Isabela to Punta Cana. The survey team documented tsunami runup, flow depth, inundation distances, coastal erosion and co-seismic land level changes based on eyewitnesses interviewed on site using established protocols. The early afternoon earthquake resulted in detailed survival stories with excellent eyewitness obser- vations recounted almost 70 years later with lucidity. The Dominican Republic survey data includes 29 runup and tsunami height measurements at 21 locations. The tsunami impacts extended with maximum tsunami height of 8m likely associated with splash up was measured at Playa Boca Nueva. Tsunami inundation distances of 600m or more were measured at Las Terrenas and Playa Rincon on the Samana Peninsula. Some locations were surveyed twice in 2014 and 2016, which allowed to identify current coastal erosion rates. Field data points were corrected for predicted astronomical tide levels at the time of tsunami arrival in 1946. Individual tidal corrections applied to the raw field measurements were less than ±0.5m given the relatively small tidal range around Hispaniola Island. At least 10 significant tsunamis have been documented in the northern Caribbean since 1492, six of which are known to have resulted in loss of life (O’Loughlin and Lander, 2003). Rapid population increase in the Caribbean exposes more coastal residents and tourists to future tsunami events.

Tsunami Mitigation Mapping Effort in the Gulf of Mexico

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The devastating consequences of recent tsunami events in Indonesia (2004) and Japan (2011) have prompted a scientific response in assessing tsunami hazard even in regions where an apparent low risk or/and lack of complete historical tsunami record exists. Although a great uncertainty exists regarding the recurrence rate of large-scale tsunami events in the Gulf of Mexico (GOM) due to sparsity of data, geological and historical evidences indicate that the most likely tsunami hazard could come from a submarine landslide triggered by a moderate earth- quake. Under these circumstances, the assessment of the tsunami hazard in the region is accomplished by means of using local ancient landslide information and also by using probabilistic approaches to identify more tsunami sources which are required to cover the entire GOM basin. By using 3D model for landslide source initial tsunami wave data and non-hydrostatic nested model for the propagation (15 to 5 to 3 arc-seconds) and inundation (1/3 arc-seconds), we are able to determine hazard to specific coastal locations, including maximum runup height, inundation depth and hazard mapping. The results are expected to assist the communities and infrastructure, thus mitigating the impact of tsunamis accord- ing to mapping guidelines of the National Tsunami Hazard Mitigation Program.

Long-Lived Tsunami Edge Waves during the 2017 M 8.2 Tchuanmpe, Mexico, Earthquake and Their Implications for Hazards

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Rare large normal faulting events can occur at subduction zones. Such is the case of the M8.2 Tchuanmpe earthquake which ruptured away from the outer rise underneath the megathrust. The earthquake reactivated bend fault fabric and ruptured the entire lithosphere. Here we will discuss very long lived (48 hours) high amplitude tsunami edge waves observed at near source tide gauges during the event. We model the tsunami using a high resolution model of the earth- quake source produced from all available regional geophysical observables. We find that the high amplitude and long duration of the edge waves is the result of the unique morphology of the Tchuanmpe shelf. It is longer, and flatter than any continental shelf worldwide efficiently trapping the edge waves. The issue is important because edge-waves are a local site effect that compounds the tsunami hazard by amplifying the tsunami, delaying the highest wave arrival times, and extending the duration of high amplitude waves for many hours and potentially for days. Finally, we study the morphology of other continental shelves worldwide and identify hotspots where similar behavior will potentially be observed in future tsunamis.

Tsunami Threat Assessment for the North and Central Pacific Coast of Costa Rica

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Costa Rica has over 600 beaches, most of them populated. Tourism is a major economic activity of these coastal communities, present all year round due to tropical weather. There is a currently ongoing project to elaborate tsunami evacuation maps for the North and Central Pacific Coast of Costa Rica, funded by the National Emergency Commission (CNE). Twenty communities were chosen based on their tsunami risk. Tsunami vulnerability was defined by population and topographic conditions. To define the tsunami threat, the propagation of over 40 tsunamis was simulated numerically using ComMIT model over a 60 arcmin grid. The topography data was obtained from a LIDAR survey and the bathymetric data from nautical charts and global bathymetry. Sources were considered around the Pacific Basin, both in the near and far field. The resulting tsunami heights were superimposed to obtain a joint maximum tsunami height
Pedestrian Evacuation Analysis in Case of Tsunami for the Puerto Rico Municipalities of Aguadilla, Arecibo and Ponce

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In the past decade, the world has witnessed of numerous tsunamis and earthquakes in different parts of the world such as Indonesia (2004), Peru (2007), Haiti and Chile (2010), Japan (2011) and the most recent one in Chile (2015) with waves close to 4.6 m and substantial damages. In Puerto Rico, the last tsunami that affected the island was in 1918, with waves greater than 5 m in height, causing damage and deaths, particularly in the western region, where first waves arrived in a matter of minutes. Pedestrian evacuation analysis permits evaluation of the travel time of an evacuation route taking into account different rates of pedestrian movement. According to data from the Puerto Rico Tsunami Ready program, more than 249,000 people reside within the tsunami evacuation areas. It is important to know an estimate of the time of pedestrian evacuation of our exposed communities to demonstrate the danger of these and look for possible solutions to these cases. Here we present case study results of pedestrian analysis performed using Pedestrian Evacuation Analyst Tool in ArcGIS for three municipalities (counties) in Puerto Rico, Aguadilla, Arecibo, and Ponce. Based on these analysis, it is apparent that there are communities in Puerto Rico that their evacuation time is longer than the estimated arrival time of the tsunami. These regions require further consideration for additional mitigation including identifying alternate evacuation routes or identifying vertical evacuation sites. Results of the pedestrian analyses are publicly available through the Puerto Rico Tsunami Program Map Tool (TDST). This project provides valuable information for the emergency management officers and the residents to evaluate the risk and look for alternatives in order to lower the evacuation times of said exposed communities.

Urban Liquefaction and Lateral Spread Investigations and Mapping

Oral Session - Tuesday 15 May - 2:15 AM - Hibiscus A
Session Chairs: Gregory P. De Pascale and Jeffrey Bachhuber

Contemporary and Paleoliquefaction-Induced Lateral Spreading Mapping in Christchurch, New Zealand

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Earthquake triggered liquefaction and lateral spreading was widespread in Canterbury, New Zealand (NZ) during the 2010–2012 Canterbury Earthquake Sequence (CES) and led to ~$20 Billion NZD of damage. Although the causes and timing of liquefaction during the CES are well known, the geological context is still poorly understood. We undertook a multidisciplinary investigation funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF) and explored lateral spreading in Christchurch during the CES using image differencing displacement maps, field mapping, shear wave velocity profiles, borehole and cone penetration (CPT) soundings, and paleoseismic trenching with radiocarbon dating. Preliminary results suggest that cumulative displacements from the CES are less than those observed in our trench along faults and index beds in the subsurface, and along a key down-dropped soil, when combined with clear paleoliquefaction at the site (e.g. faulted pre-CES sand boils) suggest at least one major pre-CES lateral spreading event here. The results of this mapping with aid us with mapping liquefaction and lateral spreading globally.
A five-year seismic and liquefaction hazard mapping project for five western Tennessee counties began in 2017 under a Disaster Resilience Competition grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to the State of Tennessee. The project supports natural hazard mitigation efforts in these five counties. The seismic hazard maps for Lake County in northwestern most Tennessee are being completed in early 2018. Additional geological, geotechnical, and geophysical information has been gathered in Lake Co. to improve the base northern Mississippi Embayment hazard maps of Dhar and Cramer (2017). Information gathered includes additional geological and geotechnical subsurface exploration logs, water table level data collection and measurements, new measurements of shallow and deep shear-wave velocity (Vs) profiles, and the compilation of existing Vs profiles in and around the county. Improvements are being made in the 3D geological model, water table model, the geotechnical liquefaction probability curves, and the Vs correlation with lithology model for Lake Co.

The Next-Generation Liquefaction (NGL) project is a multi-year community-based research effort with the main goal of developing improved procedures to evaluate liquefaction susceptibility, triggering, and consequences. The NGL project consists of three components: (1) an open-source case-history database, (2) supporting studies aiming to capture specific effects not constrained by data, and (3) model development. This study describes the structure of the NGL case-history database and its main characteristics. A beta-version of the current release of the database is accessible on-line at http://www.ucalgro.to/ngl/. The NGL database is developed as a formal relational database using the MySQL management system. It comprises three main sections: (1) site, (2) earthquake event, and (3) model development. This study describes the structure of the NGL case-history database and its main characteristics. A beta-version of the current release of the database is accessible on-line at http://www.ucalgro.to/ngl/. The NGL database is developed as a formal relational database using the MySQL management system. It comprises three main sections: (1) site, (2) earthquake event, and (3) model development. This study describes the structure of the NGL case-history database and its main characteristics. A beta-version of the current release of the database is accessible on-line at http://www.ucalgro.to/ngl/.

Crustal Structure in the Pantanal and Chaco Basin from Receiver Function Joint Inversion of Rayleigh Waves Dispersion Curves and Ps-Receiver Functions in Libya for Crustal Thickness and 1D Shear Wave Velocity Model

NGL: An Open Source Global Database for Next-Generation of Liquefaction Assessment

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The Next-Generation Liquefaction (NGL) project is a multi-year community-based research effort with the main goal of developing improved procedures to evaluate liquefaction susceptibility, triggering, and consequences. The NGL project consists of three components: (1) an open-source case-history database, (2) supporting studies aiming to capture specific effects not constrained by data, and (3) model development. This study describes the structure of the NGL case-history database and its main characteristics. A beta-version of the current release of the database is accessible on-line at http://www.ucalgro.to/ngl/. The NGL database is developed as a formal relational database using the MySQL management system. It comprises three main sections: (1) site, (2) earthquake event, and (3) post-earthquake observation. In NGL, a case-history is defined as the intersection among the three. The NGL database utilizes the ESRI ArcGIS Interface and the Leaflet JavaScript API to organize the data geo-spatially. As such, it provides invaluable visualization tools to analyze spatial distribution of recorded ground motions, site investigations, and observations. It also provides plotting tools to visualize geotechnical/geophysical/in-situ investigations, laboratory tests, and post-earthquake observations (e.g. photos, displacement vectors, LiDAR, satellite observations, etc.). These graphical tools are especially valuable to analyze liquefaction occurrence in urban areas. The database currently hosts several case-histories from Christchurch (New Zealand) following the 2010–2011 Canterbury earthquake sequence and from the greater Tokyo area (Japan) following the 2011 Tohoku-Oki earthquake. In both cases, high-quality observations, along with field investigations and laboratory tests, are available. These earthquake events, are excellent examples on how the NGL database can provide the opportunity to greatly expand the number and quality of liquefaction case-histories globally.

3D/4D Seismic Imaging and Their Interpretation for Seismic Hazard Assessment

Poster Session · Tuesday 15 May · Riverfront South

Seismic Structure of the Rio De La Plata Craton from Surface Wave Tomography

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We present the results of a surface wave group velocity tomography study for the Rio de la Plata craton (RCP). This craton represents the oldest Precambrian region of the end of southwest Gondwana in South America. The results were then inverted to estimate crustal and lithospheric thicknesses. Previous studies carried out in South America did not map some areas of the continent such as the RCP, clearly because of the insufficient number of crossing paths. To improve the resolution of the previously obtained crustal and upper mantle images, the number of group velocity measurements for the craton area was increased, achieving a better coverage of paths and a more uniform azimuthal distribution which enhances the tomographic images. Surface wave dispersion curves were obtained by a multiple filter technique with a phase-matched filter to better isolate the fundamental mode. A 2D tomographic inversion of the group velocity was applied using a conjugate gradient method. Our results include both Love- and Rayleigh-wave inversions for periods from 10 to 100 s. The obtained group velocity maps correspond well with the main tectonic structures along the studied area. Inversions of the group velocities were carried out to obtain the S-wave velocity distribution in the crustal region.

Crustal Structure in the Pantanal and Chaco Basin from Receiver Function Joint Inversion of Rayleigh Waves Dispersion Curves and Ps-Receiver Functions in Libya for Crustal Thickness and 1D Shear Wave Velocity Model

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The use of a constrained joint inversion approach reduces the effect of noisy data into the inversion, since it make use of physically meaningful bound constraints to regularize the inversion process. In this study, we analyze waveforms data collected from the Libyan seismic network (LNSN) to compute Rayleigh wave dispersion curves and Ps-receiver functions. Rayleigh dispersion curves were measured for Rayleigh waves over periods of 20–80 s, and we invert the dispersion curves to obtain group velocities on a grid of 2.0° x 2.0° at specific periods. We first calculate crustal thickness using a standard receiver functions stacking (RFS) methodology, and then jointly invert Rayleigh waves and Ps-receiver using a constrained joint inversion approach to produce 1-D shear wave velocity models beneath all the LNSN stations. The data is not optimal, and we are limited in the number of receiver functions and group velocity curves. Regardless, the constrained joint inversion approach allows us to produce 1-D shear wave velocity models beneath all the LNSN stations. The results indicated a well-constrained depth compared to those obtained by inverted RFS, even with low quality data present in some stations. The depth to the Moho beneath all stations includes stations (TBQ, GHD, and ZLA) not previously reported. In addition, we report differences in Moho’s depth for other stations from previous results. Our results show a geological structure that highlights the local tectonic provinces.
We investigate mantle seismic azimuthal anisotropy and deformation beneath the Arabian Plate and adjacent areas using data from 230 broadband seismic stations which include 160 stations managed by the Saudi Geological Survey. A total of about 4100 pairs of shear wave parameters are obtained using the transverse minimization technique. The individual XKS (including PKS, SKS, and SKKS) splitting measurements were manually checked to ensure the quality. The well-defined parameters show dominantly N-S fast orientations at the majority of the stations, and NW-SE fast orientations along the Zagros Mountain front. No clear systematic variations of the splitting parameters as a function of back azimuth are detected, suggesting that a single layer of anisotropy with a horizontal axis of symmetry is adequate to interpret the shear wave splitting measurements. Large splitting times are observed beneath the Arabian Platform and the Red Sea areas as well as in the western region of Arabian Peninsula. Since lithospheric thickness beneath both the Arabian Platform and the Red Sea areas is less than 80 km, a significant contribution from lithosphere is unlikely. We propose that the observed seismic anisotropy is mainly originated from olivine lattice preferred orientation developed by simple shear between the lithosphere and asthenosphere associated with the northward (relative to the underlain asthenosphere) subduction of the Arabian Plate over the past 150 Ma.

Rayleigh Wave Group-Velocity across the Southern United States from Ambient Noise Tomography

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Characterizing lithospheric structure across the continental margin of the southern United States is critical to understanding the late Paleozoic accretionary history of Laurentia and the tectonics of the Alleghanian orogeny. Such a model may also shed light on the roles anomalous features such as the Sabine and Monroe uplifts and Wiggins Arch played in the formation of North America’s southern margin. To this end, we use vertical-component broadband data in its majority from the Transportable Array (TA) to model shear wave velocity structure across the region. Ambient noise recorded by 280 seismic stations during the period 2010–17 are cross-correlated to generate Green’s functions for ~40000 station pairs, after application of a bandpass filter with corner periods at 7 and 100 s. Cross-correlations are stacked on a monthly basis to increase their signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) and frequency-time analysis (FTAN) is performed with a phase-matched filter to produce group velocity dispersion curves. Group velocity maps of this region are generated for 10s to 80s. One-dimensional shear wave velocity models are generated for selected sites by convolving group velocity results with depth kernels produced by forward modeling. The Markov Chain Monte Carlo method is applied to estimate the maximum likelihood S wave velocity model and, specifically, Moho depth. Preliminary results show strong correlations between Vs anomalies and large-scale terrains identified in geological studies. For example, a boundary between the Gondwana terrain and Laurentia is evident between 10s and 20s group velocity maps. At 30 s a longitudinal feature is observed that could correspond to the continental break between South America and Africa. 

Crustal Structure Across the Appalachian Basin Using Joint Inversion of P-Wave Receiver Functions and Surface Wave Dispersion

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Induced seismicity as a result of hydraulic fracturing and the subsequent wastewater disposal process has been a concern in recent years. Although typically small magnitude events, these induced earthquakes can reach magnitudes large enough to cause damage to nearby structures. The occurrence of induced seismic events occurs within old basement faults below the target formation. While most induced seismicity has occurred in the central United States, there are several instances of induced events occurring in the Appalachian Basin such as the magnitude 2.3 Lawrence County, PA event in 2016 and the magnitude 4.0 Youngstown, Ohio event in 2011. Using data from several permanent and temporary broadband seismic networks, this study aims to determine crustal structure and depth to basement across the Appalachian Basin by jointly inverting teleseismic P-wave receiver functions and surface wave dispersion measurements. P-wave receiver functions are primarily sensitive to shear-wave velocity contrasts and vertical travel times whereas surface waves are sensitive to shear-wave velocities. The joint inversion of the two methods bridges resolution gaps associated with each data set, enabling the development of a higher resolution subsurface
model. A better understanding of the crustal structure across the basin will allow identification of areas that may be of high risk for induced seismicity. Preliminary results indicate the use of high frequency receiver functions with dispersion measurements can image basement structure.

Development of a 3D Seismic Velocity Model of the Bengal Basin and Adjacent Regions

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Seismic velocity models are becoming increasingly important due to their use in simulation, and other applications in seismology and engineering. We describe the development of a three-dimensional seismic velocity model for the Bengal basin, covering Bangladesh and the neighboring regions of India and Myanmar. The model encompasses an area of $760 \times 780$ km². It is bordered by the stable Indian continent on the west and north-west, the Himalayas on the north and north-east, and the Burma plate on the east and south-east. The basin is shaped by the Ganges-Brahmaputra-Meghna delta—the largest delta system in the world—and rests over a sedimentary structure with thicknesses that can reach up to 20 km in depth. This is a region under high seismic hazard due to the collision between the Indian, Eurasian, and Burmese plates. The velocity model is developed based on available sedimentology and geological investigations. We collected and digitized information in the form of geological borehole logs; seismic, aeromagnetic and gravity profiles; and geologic mapping and contours developed from sedimentary deposition studies. Most of the borehole logs came from natural gas and other mineral exploration studies concentrated in the north-western and north-eastern regions. Aeromagnetic and gravity profiles were used to build contours of different sedimentary deposits and major velocity contrasts in the deep basin. The model is built as a computer code application interface (or API) designed to provide values of seismic velocities (Vp and Vs) and density. We have used the model to produce low frequency ($<0.5$ Hz) ground motion simulations of a few local earthquakes, and compared the results with available seismic data to test the model's reliability. In the future, as we continue to make improvements, we expect to use the model in simulations of past and scenario earthquakes to gain insights about the region's seismic hazard and the basin's response.

Advances in Seismology: Seismic-Acoustic Research

Poster Session · Tuesday 15 May · Riverfront South

Local Monitoring of Underground Mining Explosions at Redmond, Utah

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As part of their normal operations, Redmond Salt Mine, located in Sevier Valley, central Utah, performs underground chemical explosions multiple times per day. These explosions are small, with an equivalent yield of 800 lbs of TNT, and are not routinely detected by the state-wide seismic network operated by the University of Utah Seismograph Stations (UUS). However, they do provide a rare opportunity to study seismic events occurring at several locations within a large network of underground tunnels bored in a media of complex velocity structure. In October 2017, we initiated a 3-month study of the explosions at Redmond Salt mine using temporary deployments of broadband seismic, nodal seismic and infrasound sensors around the mine site at offsets up to 30 km. Our intent is to characterize the seismic signatures of the underground explosions, design automated event detection methods, determine the velocity structure of the regions around the mine, compare the signals from the explosions to those of natural seismicity in the region and evaluate methods with which the Redmond explosions can be detected on the UUSS network. Here we present a preliminary analysis of the first data recorded during this experiment, in which we highlight the complexity of the Redmond explosions, compare them to explosions in the region, quantify the infrasound signatures of explosions, and evaluate the influence of the complex geology of Sevier Valley on seismic wave propagation.

Seismic and Infrasound Analysis of Rocket Launches and Explosions at Kennedy Space Center

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We installed a temporary 3-station seismic-infrasound network at Kennedy Space Center (KSC) in February 2016 to test sensor calibrations and train students in field deployment techniques. Each station featured a broadband 3-component seismometer and a 3-element infrasound array. We recorded 3 rocket launches with this network. In May 2016 the network was scaled back to a single station due to other projects competing for equipment. A further 8 launches have been recorded with this station. We have also recorded 1 aborted launch, 3 static fire tests, 1 explosion sequence, and 3 sonic booms. Of the 11 launches recorded, 6 were SpaceX Falcon-9 rockets, 5 were ULA Atlas V and 2 were ULA Delta IV. A question we attempt to answer is whether the rocket engine type and launch trajectory can be determined with appropriate travel-time, amplitude-ratio and spectral techniques. We observe a frequency shift in seismic and infrasound spectrograms from all launches, with lower frequencies occurring later in the recorded signal as the rocket accelerates away from the array. By interpreting this as a Doppler shift, speed and distance from the station can be estimated. Locating rockets based on amplitude-ratio across the 3 station network is complicated by radiation effects. Jet noise is highly directional and peaks at an angle of about 30 degrees from the rocket's vertical axis. The largest signal recorded so far was the explosion of a SpaceX Falcon-9 rocket on September 1st, 2016 during a static fire test. We identified 153 airborne events in a sequence lasting 26 minutes, as the rocket and its payload were progressively destroyed and fire engulfed the launch pad. The peak pressure recorded was equivalent to a VEI 3 volcanic eruption, although the duration was much shorter. Combined video, audio, seismic and infrasound analysis indicates there was no precursory signal.

An Alternative Detection Model for Waveform Correlation

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Recent studies have suggested that a significant limiting factor in the application of waveform correlation to regional and global scale monitoring is the false alarm rate. The false alarms are not originating from detections on noise, but rather from seismic arrivals with unrelated source locations. Our research approach considers transient signals from non-collocated seismicity when designing new waveform correlation detectors. The new method deploys a set of detectors to represent the unique characteristics of the template waveforms; these new detectors maximize the likelihood of detecting only the desired events, thereby minimizing false alarms. To examine the effectiveness of the new method, we created a waveform correlation template library for a single three-component seismic monitoring station. We review the results from applying the new detectors to a test set of seismic waveforms, then compare with the conventional waveform correlation matched filter technique.

Regional 3-D Geophysical Characterization of the Nevada National Security Site

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One of the goals of the Source Physics Experiments (SPE) is to gain a better understanding of the generation and evolution of seismic wave types over a range of propagation distances. A fundamental first step in this is to synthesize seismic waves, which requires accurate 3-D earth structural models. We have developed a 3-D local-to-regional scale seismic velocity model of the Nevada National Security Site using a joint inversion of body wave travel times, gravity measurements and surface wave dispersion curves. The body wave data set includes absolute and differential P- and S-wave travel times from local earthquakes recorded on the University of Nevada Reno (UNR) southern Nevada network as well as active sources, including those from SPE. This data set alone amounts to over a million absolute body wave picks and over 500,000 high-quality differential picks. To enhance near-surface velocity resolution we also augment this data set with local measurements of gravity and surface wave dispersion. We have recently improved the 3-D earth model in Yucca Flat by including new local active source data, providing better coverage near the SPE sites. We used a weighted, linearized, iterative inversion scheme to combine these disparate data types in order to solve for the optimal 3-D P- and S-wave velocity model and hypocentral locations given observed data subject to model smoothness constraints. We discuss challenges...
associated with combining these disparate data sets, including differences in physical resolution, weighting, and regularization. In addition, we will discuss the effect of adding these new data on the earth model. Sandia National Laboratories is a multimission laboratory managed and operated by National Technology and Engineering Solutions of Sandia LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Honeywell International Inc. for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-NA0003525.

Application and Validation of a Relative Relocation Technique for Explosion Monitoring

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Relative arrival times have been used in the past to produce relative relocations of earthquakes and explosions. Precise relocations of explosions have value in the context of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty on-site inspection when data are available for a previous event. The Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) has now conducted 6 declared nuclear tests from 2006–2017. After the declared test in 2009, many researchers applied relative relocation techniques to improve the accuracy and precision of the seismic event locations. Relative relocation methods require only two events at the same location, which is useful for quickly analyzing the differential arrivals between events. There are few locations in which such a scenario takes place with the same source type and similar location. However, there is still the overall unknown of the exact ground truth location for these events. We will demonstrate the application of a straightforward master event methodology for doing relative relocations for DPRK events as well as a modified version of the master event method in a simultaneous, maximum likelihood solution. We also validate this methodology using a data set where we precisely know the locations of multiple, similarly-located explosive events with arrivals from common stations. Taking advantage of readily available waveforms, we are able to make relative picks for many stations at local, regional, and teleseismic distances, depending on the particular event and data set. Waveforms are manually-aligned on the first few cycles in order to match the initial arrival information. We will compare the relative relocations with those obtained using more recent techniques that involve simultaneous inversion of data from multiple events. The application of the standard master event method consistently provides high relative accuracy and precision, even when the master and test events are separated by tens of kilometers.

Low Yield Seismic Source Analysis Using Local and Regional Observations

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Low-yield explosion monitoring introduces new challenges to the current approach to estimating source location, magnitude, and discrimination. Small sources require nearby short period observations, which have an increased sensitivity to geologic heterogeneity, poor signal-to-noise ratios, and in many cases are sparse. Local and regional short period observations from small shallow seismic sources can be dominated by a regional phase shear waves and Rayleigh waves. Using teleseismic surface wave observations, Cleveland & Ammon (2013) and Cleveland et al. (2015) show the value of using surface waves to estimate precise, relative locations in regions without a nearby seismic network. Using common-station, nearby-event cross correlation time-shift measurements, much of the complexity in wave propagation caused by regional geological heterogeneity is removed (or at least, greatly reduced). In this work, we extend surface wave relocation methods to estimate precise relative locations of small (local magnitudes from 1 to 3) mine blast events across Pennsylvania using local and near-regional distance observations (out to 300 km in distance). We also exploit the cross correlation amplitude to estimate more precise relative magnitudes (actually log-moments) and develop a more consistent relationship between explosion yield and relative magnitude for various mines throughout the Commonwealth. Our locations are precise enough to allow us to image a time-dependent migration of a mine wall in north-central Pennsylvania. In west-central Pennsylvania, the application of the relative location approach collapses a diffuse distribution of small-magnitude industrial events into five discreet clusters associated with particular operations in the area. The work demonstrates that cross correlation methods have the potential for achieving high precision relative location and magnitude estimates from local and regional observations of low yield seismic sources.

Underground Explosions in Anisotropic Media: Coupling of Near- and Far-Field Motions and Implications for SPE

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The Source Physics Experiment (SPE) is an ongoing effort to improve explosion monitoring by conducting a controlled series of chemical explosions at the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) and using the resulting observations to improve and validate physics-based simulations of explosion phenomena. Phase I of SPE was conducted on the Climax Stock granite which contains a network of well-characterized joints. It has been shown that these pre-existing joints may be responsible for the tangential motion observed during SPE chemical explosions. Near-field motions generated with hydrodynamic non-linear source models have been coupled to elastic wave propagation codes to propagate these resulting motions into the far-field domain which is assumed to be elastic and isotropic. This is likely not the case as the pre-existing joints continue beyond the inelastic source region of the explosion. To alleviate this impediment, we extend the current near-field to far-field, hydrodynamic-to-elastic coupling, from anisotropic-to-isotropic fully anisotropic-anisotropic coupling. Near source hydrodynamic computations are done using GEOODY-L while anisotropic elastic wave propagation is modeled using SW4. Motions are coupled between the two codes by introducing hydrodynamic motions at the interface between the anisotropic source to SW4. The anisotropic material model employed in the SW4 domain is derived from the properties of an observed fracture network with relatively well-constrained joint size, density, orientation, and aperture. We show that consideration of anisotropic material in the elastic regime has an important effect on the propagation of tangential motion. Propagation of motions generated in an anisotropic source region into an isotropic far-field domain may hinder the continuity of the waves in general and may impede the shear motion generation. Prepared by LLNL under Contract DE-AC52-07NA27344. LLNL-ABS-744746.

Finite-Difference Algorithm for 3D Orthorhombic Elastic Wave Propagation

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A more realistic representation of the geologic subsurface assumes the rock behaves as an orthorhombic elastic medium as opposed to an isotropic elastic medium, which is commonly done. An orthorhombic medium is characterized by three mutually orthogonal symmetry planes comprising a dense system of vertically-aligned microfractures superimposed on a finely-layered horizontal geology. Mathematically, the elastic stress-strain constitutive relations for an orthorhombic body contain nine independent moduli. We are developing an explicit time-domain finite-difference (FD) algorithm for simulating three-dimensional (3D) elastic wave propagation in a heterogeneous orthorhombic medium. The particle velocity vector and the stress tensor are governed by a set of nine, coupled, first-order, linear, inhomogeneous, partial differential equations. All time and space derivatives in this system are discretized to achieve second-order and fourth-order numerical accuracy, respectively. Novel perfectly matched layer (PML) absorbing boundary conditions, specifically designed for orthorhombic media, are also implemented. This FD code is used to support the modeling component of the Source Physics Experiment (SPE), a series underground chemical explosions at the Nevada National Security Site. The data from the experiments are used to help determine event signatures that vary depending on geology, yield, and depth of burial. We present simulations of the SPE Phase I series using our orthorhombic FD code and the subsequent comparison to the recorded data. These comparisons are used to calibrate the source and will be used for subsequent pre- and post-experiment modeling of SPE. Phase II. Sandia National Laboratories is a multimission laboratory managed and operated by National Technology and Engineering Solutions of Sandia LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Honeywell International Inc. for the U.S. Department of Energy’s National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-NA0003525.

Analysis of 3-Component Rotational and Translational Ground Motions from SPE Chemical Explosions, Historical Nuclear Explosions and Earthquakes

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Four co-located 3-component (3-C) Enecent R1 rotational velocity sensors and Episensor FBA ES-T translational accelerometers were deployed at the Nevada National Security Site to record three Source Physics Experiment (SPE) chemical explosions with yields of 90kg (SPE1), 997kg (SPE2), and 905kg (SPE3) equivalent TNT. The 4 co-located sensors were deployed 1km from ground zero within a granite outcrop. Three earthquakes were also recorded by this seismic array, a MI 3.3 at 28km, a MI 2.6 at 58km, and MI 3.5 at 123km distance from SPE. Igel et al. (2005) demonstrated using long period teleseismic surface waves that the vertical rotational velocity ($\Omega_z$) is in phase and scales in amplitude with the transverse (SH) translational acceleration ($\dot{u}_T$) by the horizontal phase velocity $c$ ($\dot{u}_T / \Omega_z = -2c$). We expect this also holds true for higher frequency body-waves at local distances and the radial and transverse rotational velocities should scale with the vertical and radial accelerations (P-SV) by the phase velocity, e.g., $\dot{u}_T / \Omega_R \approx c$ (Li and Baan, 2017). Using all 3-C of the rotational and translational motions, we measured the horizontal phase velocity of 450 m/s and 1125 m/s for 2 separate directions. In contrast, the horizontal velocity measured for the MI 3.3 earthquake is 6 km/s in the 0.1 to 10 Hz band. While the earthquakes showed high coherency between 3-C rotational and translational motions, the explosions exhibited more coherency with P-SV wave but less coherency for SH-wave radiation. This may be due to explosion SH-waves originating from scattering rather than the source. This difference could be exploited as a discriminant between explosions and earthquakes. We explore such a discriminant using array-derived rotational motions from historical nuclear explosions recorded at regional distance. The ratio of peak-acceleration to peak-rotational-rate shows promise with the input dispersion curve, and the theoretical H/V curve (comprising of $\dot{u}_T / \Omega_z = -2c$). We expect this also holds true for higher frequency body-waves (caused by scatterers along the wave’s propagation path), different earthquake source mechanisms, gradual variation in velocity and anisotropy structures, and different anisotropic symmetry axes. In this study, we examine how these mechanisms affect SWS measurements with the aim of improving this technique. We use empirical and simulated waveforms to test the sensitivity of SWS measurements to these mechanisms. The Kaikoura and Seddon earthquake sequence provide a unique dataset to test how these mechanisms affect SWS measurements. We use a 3-D seismic simulation waveform algorithm (SpeCFEM3D) that accounts for anisotropy, topography and heterogeneity to simulate waveforms in order to understand the effect of these mechanisms from a modeling perspective. Results from empirical studies using two permanent GeoNet stations, reveal a possible temporal variation in SWS measurements for a cluster of earthquakes before and after the Kaikoura main shock. The mean fast orientation at both stations for events before the main shock aligns with the NE-SW tectonic structures in the region. Analysis of events after the main shock show a bimodal (NE-SW and NW-SE mode) fast orientation distribution at a station away from the Awarere fault and a NE-SW fast orientation at a station close to the Awarere fault. This variation is examined using families of earthquakes (events with similar source mechanism) to understand how different earthquake source mechanisms affect our results.

Lateral Variations in Vs30 at Six Sites Near Napa, California

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During the 24 August 2014 Mw 6.0 South Napa earthquake, at least six strong motion recording sites within 20 km of the epicenter registered PGA shaking levels between 0.3g and 0.6g. To characterized these sites in terms of Vs30, we recorded a combination of body (Vp and Vs) and surface waves along 100-250-m-long profiles adjacent to the sites, with each profile having dense (1 to 3 m) shot and geophone spacings. Models of body-wave velocities (Vp and Vs), Vp/Vs ratio, and Poisson's ratios were developed using 2-D refraction tomography, and 2-D models of Vs were developed from surface waves (Rayleigh and Love) using a Multi-Channel Analysis of Surface Waves (MASW) method. As a result, we obtained three separate 2-D Vs models for each site. From the Vs models, we calculated Vs30 at every meter along each seismic profile to determine lateral variations in Vs30. We found significant lateral variations in Vs30 (up to 300 m/s) along most of the seismic profiles, and in most cases, lateral averages of Vs30 were significantly different than the Vs30 value closest to the recording station. Our comparisons of Vs30 suggest that surface-wave-based Vs30, determined from profiles with only a few sources, can differ significantly from the tomographic Vs30 value directly beneath the recording site. We found that Vs determined from refraction tomography was more consistent with Vs determined from Love waves than Vs determined from Rayleigh waves. Two sites with the lowest average Vs30 experienced the highest PGA shaking levels. However, at least one distant (12.5 km) site with a high average Vs30 (up to 876 m/s) registered stronger shaking (0.35g) than a closer (9 km) site with lower average Vs30 (584 m/s). The 2-D velocity images suggest factors other than Vs30, such as local subsurface base ment topography and other structures, may cause the high PGA values that may not be captured with 1-D analysis of Vs30.

Insights into the Influence of Local Site Amplification on Magnitude Determination: Key Observations and Modeling Using the Stochastic Method

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Modern seismic hazard analyses rely on the reliability of seismic catalogue characterise regional seismicity. Local seismic networks will derive scaling relationships between ML, the magnitude of choice for routine observatory monitoring, and M, the magnitude used for modern PSHA models. However, numerous studies have highlighted a discontinuity between M and ML. We explore the role of site amplification on magnitude scales (utilisingKiKNet/Japan/data), and the control on magnitude scaling. ML (any given earthquake scenario) may be influenced...
by site factors; both the calculation of ML and site response depend on shear parameters. Network specific ML empirical correction tables (∆ML, STN) are derived relative to response at ‘hard-rock’ sites, or a network average, to minimise this impact. However, this is not always practical due to sub-optimal local geology. Consequently, any empirical corrections may be biased, conditioned by unique local factors (e.g. 1/2D resonance [lin/non-lin], local G(R), high vs etc.). 34 sites are selected; each with vs values, Vp/Vs, and significant recorded events (100s–1000s). Observing relative differences of ML at the surface/borehole (∆ML, STN), we find particular M dependant ∆ML, STN trends. The Stochastic Method (Boore, 2003) is employed to model the trends, initially using empirical surface/borehole spectral ratios. We observe strong magnitude dependence in ∆ML, STN, both in real/simulated data. Simulations are performed using available site response information are shown to closely match the empirical data. Subsequently, we replace surface/borehole ratio with:(i) linear 1D-SH amplification, (ii) QWL amplification, (iii) H/V ratio. We highlight the most influential parameters on ML determination. Finally, we discuss how this insight may be used in the future to compute ML with greater confidence.

Bassin Effects in Kathmandu Valley, Nepal, during Strong Ground Motion of 2015 Gorkha Earthquake Using Kinematic Source Model

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Bassin effects is the phenomenon where earthquake waves become trapped and reverberate in concave-shaped bedrock depressions filled with soft sedimentary materials. The catastrophic effects of numerous earthquakes in the past have been attributed to basin effects, which can strongly amplify ground motion. After the 3000 velocity models have been derived, the 100 best models will be accepted if its misfit is less than the previous step. Otherwise, the ratio of operation is repeated 3000 times. At each step, the randomly generated velocity models are utilized to get the average velocity model and Vs30, as well as the spectral domain. This study examines kappa and its variability for 7 hard rock sites. Kappa values are compared to bedrock velocities measured at the recording stations to gain insight into the relationship between kappa and rock physical properties. We also examine whether there is evidence of source or path effects on kappa.

Application of Active- and Passive-Seismic Array Techniques at Hard Rock Sites in Eastern Canada

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We aim to expand and apply the multi-channel analysis of surface waves (MASW) and ambient vibration array (AVA) methodologies to sites in Eastern Canada. We collected MASW and AVA recordings in attempts to retrieve shear-wave velocity (Vs) depth profiles at multiple seismograph stations across Eastern Canada. Dispersion curves are calculated using frequency-wavenumber (f-k) and/or spatial autocorrelation (SPAC) methods as well as horizontal-to-vertical-spectral ratios (HVSRS). Dispersion curves and HVSRS amplification functions are inverted to acquire Vs profiles for each site. We are exploring the application of these active- and passive-seismic array methods at stiff soil or hard rock sites in Eastern Canada. Theoretically, hard rock sites should exhibit no amplification but some amplification at higher frequencies occurs in reality related to a weathered and/or fractured ‘surfacial’ layer. We aim to retrieve Vs profiles that capture any near-surface sediments or weathered/fractured rock layering above more competent bedrock below. Additional processing and inversion is required for these stiffer sites in comparison to typical soil conditions in order to extract dispersion and/or amplification characteristics to invert for the subsurface site conditions. This study will allow us to diversify and expand seismic array methodologies at more geologically complex sites.
Improving the Potential of the H/V Spectral Ratio Technique by Using the Coda of Seismic Noise Auto-correlations

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It is well known that the earthquake ground response at a specific site is strongly controlled by local soil properties through the so-called site effects. Several geophysical methods have been developed to estimate the site amplification characteristics. Amongst them, the single-station horizontal to vertical spectral ratio technique (HVSR) has become very popular due to its ease of implementation. However, the lack of a theoretical basis behind this technique has led to various physical interpretations of HVSR measurements that are still debated. Till date, only the HVSR’s peak frequency is considered as providing reliable information through the estimation of the site fundamental resonance frequency. In this study, we consider the Diffuse Field Assumption (DFA) that uses diffuse wave-field theory to link HVSR to the elastic properties of the subsoil, and could thus lead to more realistic applications of HVSR measurements. Pioneer applications of DFA for site effect studies make the hypothesis of an equipartitioned, diffuse seismic ambient noise. In order to get closer to the theoretical requirements in the DFA framework, we propose a HVSR computation that benefits from the diffuse nature of the so-called coda. Our approach takes advantage of both the seismic noise (recordable everywhere) and the diffuse character of coda waves, by computing the HVSR on the coda of the local Green’s function reconstructed (at least partially) through noise autocorrelation. We test this “coda-based” approach (HVSRc) on data recorded within the Argostoli sedimentary basin (Cephalonia, Greece). Our results show that this HVSRc approach 1) improves the temporal stability of measurements compared to raw-noise-based HVSR (HVSRn) and 2) reveals some physical information hiding in the HVSRn measurements, in the form of a secondary higher-frequency peak. We also investigate the inversion of our HVSRc measurements to estimate the local 1D velocity profiles.

Comparison of S-Wave HVSR from Earthquake Recordings and 1-D Site Response Modeling

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We calculated horizontal-to-vertical spectral ratios (HVSR) from earthquake S-waves at selected broadband stations in or near the Wabash Valley and New Madrid seismic zones, central U.S. We also collected SH- and P-wave reflection/refraction profiles to derive velocity models at these stations. Theoretical SH-wave transfer functions determined by Thomson-Haskell propagator matrices, for the range of observed SH-wave incidence angles, and by 1-D equivalent-linear analyses were compared with the HVSRs at each station. S-wave HVSR contains response peaks at the fundamental and higher modes within the frequency band of engineering interest (0.1–20 Hz). The observed peak frequencies are consistent with those predicted by the theoretical SH-wave transfer functions. The HVSR peak values, however, have variable degrees of consistency with those of the theoretical SH-wave transfer functions at the same frequencies. The causes of the differences are investigated in terms of the vertical transfer function, the bedrock-overburden impedance contrast, damping, and nonlinearity.

Investigating Basin Amplification Factors for Shaking in the Reno, Nevada, Region for Local and Regional Events

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The impacts of seismic shaking on urban basins have been in the news again this past year. Construction projects for tall buildings have been delayed out of concerns that current design standards may not sufficiently account for the shaking amplification that occurs in geologic basins. Building codes in Nevada pertaining to seismic hazard use the USGS National Seismic Hazard Mapping Program (NShMP), which does not include site or basin amplification factors. The Nevada West2 ground motion prediction equation (GMPE) incorporates basin amplification factors homogeneously in one dimension, based on minimum depths to certain shear-velocity values (e.g., Z1.0, Z2.5) and on the geotechnical average velocity to 30 m depth (V30). We investigate whether such GMPEs may adequately predict amplifications recorded in the Reno-area urban basin of western Nevada. We are quantifying and comparing basin amplification factors recorded from a series of local and regional events in and around the Reno-area basin. The focus of our analysis lies in the variation of amplification factor with spatially distributed source locations relative to the Reno-area urban basin. Broadband records we are examining include the: 2008 Mogul sequence; 2015 M4.3 Thomas Creek; and three 2016 M~5.5 Nine Mile Ranch events. Initial investigation is into peak ground velocity (PGV) ratios of basin over bedrock stations; leading to including other measures of shaking intensity such as H/V spectra and duration. We have generated 3D physics-based SW4 synthetic seismograms for these events that partially account for basin effects at low frequencies of shaking (~1 Hz), and we can examine how well the synthetic PGV ratios predict the recorded ratios. Using the computational models, we can perform sensitivity testing on the model through varying V30, basin shear velocity profiles, and incorporating deep volcanic sub-basins.

Numerical Simulation of Microtremor Array Measurements at 2D and 3D Structures Using 3D Finite-Difference Method

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Demand on the development of non-invasive measurement methods for shallow S-wave structure is increasing. Active and passive surface wave method will play important role in such measurements. Passive surface wave method or microtremor array measurements particularly receive a lot of attention because the method can penetrate several hundreds to several kilometers easily. Applicability of microtremor array measurements to complex velocity structures with horizontal velocity change is the one of the issues to be figured out to apply the method to site investigations. We performed numerical simulation of microtremor array measurements at 2D and 3D structures using 3D finite-difference method to evaluate the effect complex structures on the analysis of microtremor array measurements. Two-layer models were used in the simulation. S-wave velocities of two layers are 200 and 400 m/s respectively. Depth to the boundary ranges 20 to 40 m. Receivers are deployed in a 100 x 100 m square. The size of the model is 550 x 550 x 150 m cube. Sources are randomly distributed outside of receiver array to simulate ambient noise field. Cell size is 1 m, time step is 0.25 ms and data length is 65 s. A 3D viscoelastic finite-difference method with 4th order velocity stress staggered grid scheme was used to calculate seismic wave field. Ten records are calculated with different source distribution. Ambient noise data were processed by common mid-point spatial auto correlation (CMPSAC). SPACs were calculated all possible pairs and SPACs whose CMP belonged to the same bin were grouped. A dispersion curve was calculated for each bin and an 1D inversion was applied to each dispersion curve with horizontal constraint. The 1D velocity profile was interpolated to a 3D model. Our results show models generally consistent with true models and the simulation shows the applicability of the microtremor array measurements to complex velocity structures.

Comparison of Vs30 Determined from Rayleigh Waves and Love Waves at Six Strong Ground Motion Sites in Napa, California

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The 24 August 2014 Mw 6.0 South Napa earthquake caused $400 million in damage to private and commercial properties. Previous site response studies indicate areas that experienced extensive structural damage are underlain by deposits with low Vs30 values. The goal of our study was to evaluate shear-wave velocity to 30 m depth (Vs30) using body waves (see Catchings et al) and surface waves at six broadband seismometer sites that registered PGA values between 0.3 to 0.6 g during the South Napa earthquake in 2014. We used active seismic sources, and up to 120 channels of 4.5-Hz sensors to record seismic waves near broadband seismometers in the City and County of Napa and in the City of Vallejo. To increase the resolution of our data in the upper 30 m, we used 3-m geophone and shot spacing along each profile, which ranged in length from 85 to 260 m. We used a 220-kg 9-g k-meter hammer to generate P- and Rayleigh-wave sources and a 3.5-kg sledgehammer and block to generate S- and Love wave sources. We found that Vs determined from Love Waves were generally lower thanVs determined from Rayleigh Waves at sites with Vs less than 500 m/s, and Vs from refraction tomography show similar results to those determined from channel analysis of surface waves (MASW) using Love Waves. Our results suggest S-wave velocities vary up to ~30% between refraction tomography and MASW methods, with the latter method generally producing lower velocities. The three methods are complimentary and can be highly useful in accurately evaluating site response.
Ground Motion and Earthquake Engineering
Poster Session · Tuesday 15 May · Riverfront South

Assessment of Code-Based Vertical Spectrum Functional Forms
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Consideration of vertical seismic design loads is important for long-span structural systems, short-period structures and for some non-structural components in the buildings. To this end, seismic design codes utilize alternative approaches to define vertical design spectrum at different levels of complexity; either as a fraction of horizontal design spectrum or using a separate functional form having features different than the horizontal spectrum. In all cases a consistency between the horizontal and vertical design spectral ordinates is sought. In this paper, we consider a suite of modern seismic design codes (e.g., Eurocode 8, ASCE 7-05, ASCE 7-10 and ASCE 7-16) as well as horizontal, vertical and vertical-to-horizontal (V/H) ground-motion predictive models. We then compared the code-based (idealized) horizontal and vertical spectra of these cases for ground motion availability. The preliminary findings suggest that the current design code formulations are insufficient to properly address the vertical spectrum trends. We discussed the possible reasons behind the observed misrepresentation of idealized vertical spectra by the investigated codes. Our discussions may lead to the development of new rules for code-based vertical spectrum that is consistent with its horizontal counterpart.

Environmental Seismology: Glaciers, Rivers, Landslides and Beyond
Poster Session · Tuesday 15 May · Riverfront South

Seismic Signatures of Changing Water Resources
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In recent years, a dramatic and unsustainable mining of groundwater, our largest fresh water source, has taken place in the western US, with depletion rates currently at their highest. Paired with concurrent moderate-to-exceptional drought conditions, in much as a third of the contiguous US, the monitoring of groundwater resources is increasingly important. How do aquifers respond to stresses such as increased withdrawal rates and droughts? What does the end of a drought mean for groundwater availability? We employ the temporal monitoring of ambient-noise-based horizontal-to-vertical amplitude measurements (H/V, ellipticity) to reflect changing conditions within the shallow subsurface. Whereas the more commonly measured Rayleigh wave velocities have sensitivity kernels that peak at depths comparable to the period of the measured signal (e.g., ~10 km depth for a 10 sec period) and are an integration of the material sampled along the entire path, the amplitude-based ellipticity measurements are most sensitive to structure in the upper few kilometers beneath a station of interest. We present preliminary results of this analysis for southern California for 1999–2017.

Wave-Driven Ice Shelf Rift Propagation
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Distant storms, tsunamis, and earthquakes generate waves in floating ice shelves. In several instances, seismic observations have clearly demonstrated a mechanistic link between periods of elevated wave activity and iceberg calving. The detailed mechanical interpretation of observed seismograms is complicated, however, by the existence of numerous types of waves that propagate in the coupled ice—ocean—earth system. Here, I describe wave propagation in an elastic, finite-thickness, buoyantly floating ice layer above a uniform and inviscid water layer. I place particular focus on waves with wavelength greater than the ice thickness, as have recently been observed on the Ross, Pine Island, and Amery Ice Shelves. I show that mode uncoupling occurs at long period such that waves occur as either symmetric or flexural modes. I calculate the stresses associated with the seismically observed wave field on the Ross Ice Shelf. In the second part of this work, I place these stresses the context of linear elastic fracture mechanics. I show that long rifts in buoyantly floating ice shelves experience stabilization due to the inability of a thin elastic layer to effectively transmit stresses over long distances. I derive a rift tip equation of motion that shows excellent agreement with observed rift tip propagation velocities. The theory presented here paves the way to an improved depiction of ice shelf calving in predictive ice sheet models.

Neotectonics
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Sink Holes and New Faults and Fractures in the Iron Quadrangle, Minas Gerais, Caused by Natural Earthquakes 1Antônio Augusto Sebra Gomes Júnior – Fundação Alexander Brandt, 2Marcelo Assumpção – IAG-USP,3Isamatsu Endo – Escola de Minas de Ouro Preto On April 5, 2014, a series of collapsed sink holes, accompanied by extensive fracturing, appeared in the Moeda Plateau, near Itabirito, Minas Gerais, on an extensive dolomite lens 1.5 km long, 0.5 km wide and 0.6 km thick containing an active endokarst system, with hectometric voids. At the same time, five small earthquakes were felt in the area close to the new sinkholes. Fractures have two preferred orientations: a prominent N110°, accompanied by another set of small fractures with general NS orientation. This arrangement is compatible with the general orientation of the regional stress field, roughly E-W compression and N-S extension. The fractures may indicate reactivation of pre-existing structures or even new ruptures in the shallow crust caused by sinkholes. Similar field data have been observed since the Middle Miocene. Regional seismic stations (the nearest 120 km away) recorded five events between 14:08 and 14:22 (Local Time) with magnitudes from 1.8 to 2.7. Both the P and the S waves have sharp arrivals. The S wave is larger in the transverse component. These characteristics are more consistent with an earthquake, rather than a collapse, as the origin of the events, and indicate that the cave collapse was a consequence of the earthquakes. In addition, the seismic signals from all five events are almost identical, which indicates that all earthquakes occurred in the same fault or geological fracture, with the same type of faulting mechanism. Events with magnitudes ~3 are not uncommon in Minas Gerais. This evidence of a sinkhole caused by small earthquakes shows that more attention should be paid to seismic risk in mining areas near karstic terrains, a common feature in Minas Gerais mining district.

Landslide Micro-Seismicity: Description and Classification of Seismic Sources
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In the last decade, numerous studies focused on the analysis of seismic waves generated by Earth surface processes such as mass instabilities. At close distances, the installation of seismometers on unstable slopes reveals a variety of endogenous seismic signals suspected to be generated by slope deformation, weathering of the slope material or fluid circulation. The complexity of the underground structure, its spatio-temporal variability (due to changes in the topography, variation of the water content, etc.) and the low magnitude of the sources (ML<0) make the analysis of the seismic signals difficult with traditional seismological approaches. Moreover, a standard classification for seismic sources endogenous to instable slopes is yet to be established. This prevents a more robust and consistent interpretation of the processes generating the recorded seismic signals. Taking profit of the growing number of monitored instable slopes (mainly in the European Alps), we aim to propose a typology of the sources generated by landslides deformation. The possible mechanisms of the seismic sources are also discussed. The datasets of 15 sites are gathered in the present study. The sites are representative of the various types of mass movements (i.e. slide, fall and topple, and flow) and rocks (i.e. consolidated or unconsolidated). The seismic networks are mostly similar, which is enabling comparison of the recorded seismic signals. Different signal properties are taken into account such as the duration, the spectral content, the spectrogram shape and the polarization. Finally, we observe that similar signals recorded at different sites present the same characteristics, which allows us to propose assumption on the dominant source mechanisms. The proposed typology aims to serve as a reference and a framework for further comparisons of the endogenous micro-seismicity recorded on mass movements.
Repeating Quakes Triggered by Snow-Falls at Gugla Rock-Glacier: Transition between Stable Slip and Stick-Slip?  
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Gugla rock-glacier is located in Zermatt Valley in Switzerland. This mass of rock debris and ice is moving at about 1 cm/day by creep and slip. It has been accelerating since the last decades as a result of global warming, threatening the villages located underneath. This rock-glacier has been instrumented with a network of 6 seismometers in October 2015. Tens of thousands of seismic events have been detected, with very diverse characteristics, associated with different processes (rockfalls, avalanches, fracture opening...). Seismic activity shows seasonal fluctuations, with a larger rate in spring and summer, when snow and ice are melting, yielding an acceleration of the rock glacier. In addition, a few bursts of activity occurred in winter during snow falls. While most seismic events occurred randomly in time and display Gutenberg-Richter magnitude distributions, events detected during snow falls occurred more or less regularly in time, with progressive variations of amplitude and recurrence times. Seismic signals have a duration of about 5 Hz and a frequency between 1 and 10 Hz. Repeaters occurred immediately when snow episode started and lasted for several days afterwards. Interevent times decrease progressively after snow fall between a few minutes and several hours. These events are likely associated with the repeated failure of an asperity surrounded by asesismic slip. Similar observations of repeaters triggered by snow-falls at Mount Rainier have been reported by Allstadt and Malone (2014). We suggest that snowfalls induced an increase in normal stress, which triggered a transition between smooth aseismic slip and stick-slip behavior. This behavior can be modeled by a simple slider-block system governed by rate-and-state friction.

Seismic Observations Following the July 2017 Pasco County, West Florida, Sinkhole Collapse  
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A sinkhole collapse on 14 July 2017 destroyed two homes and required evacuation of 9 additional residences in Land O’Lakes, Florida. The sinkhole formed rapidly and within 10 hours reached most of its final size of approximately 40 by 3 m along its entire western edge. After completion of stabilization work, no further signals have been detected from the sinkhole. Besides sinkhole monitoring, we recorded several large global earthquakes, e.g., the Mw = 8.2 and Mw = 7.1 Mexico earthquakes on September 8 and 17, respectively, as well as Hurricane Irma as it passed within 20 miles as a quickly weakening category 1 hurricane. In addition to outreach and sinkhole documentation as part of a multi-sensor approach, we use the site to train seismology graduate students in field practices and conducted a class field trip.

Seismic Monitoring of the Rattlesnake Ridge Rockslide, Union Gap, Washington  
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Ground cracks indicating development of a large translational rockslide were noted in October 2017 at Rattlesnake Ridge, near Union Gap WA. Monitoring and characterization initiated thereafter revealed a rockslide consisting of approximately 3 million m3 of basal sliding predominantly south on a gently dipping anticlinal bedding interface. Movement rates were reported to have initially accelerated, and then stabilized at around 7 cm/day in mid-January, 2018, and the system of ground cracks grew allowing better assessment of rockslide extents and kinematics. Possible hazard scenarios included rockfall or rock avalanche debris reaching a major interstate, therefore extensive emergency management operations were initiated. In order to assist risk management efforts, the Pacific Northwest Seismic Network installed a series of seismic stations on and around the active rockslide. These consisted of broadband and short-period seismometers, in some cases collocated with accelerometers. Scientific and hazard management goals for these data include identification of microseismicity originating from within the landslide or from related rockfalls, and assessment of resonant frequencies of the unstable rock mass, all of which may be monitored over time to provide additional, complementary data on instability development. Here we present initial results of seismic monitoring, including seismograms, spectrograms, event counts, cluster analysis, Real-time Seismic Amplitude (RSAM), resonance monitoring and noise characteristics, all with possible relevance for landslide hazard assessment.

The Exotic Seismic Events Catalog (ESEC) Data Product  
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Exotic seismic sources are non-earthquake seismic sources such as landslides, debris flows, dam collapses, floods, glacier seismicity, and avalanches that generate seismic signals, but are rarely included in traditional earthquake catalogs. The Exotic Seismic Events Catalog [ESEC, http://ds.iris.edu/dt/products/ese/]) is a new Incorporated Research Institutions for Seismology (IRIS) Data Management Center data product that uses the US Geological Survey data release of seismogenic landslides, debris flows, and outburst floods (Allstadt et al., 2017) as its initial populating dataset. The ESEC identifies seismic waveforms for which there were detections, and shows example waveform figures. It also provides access to source parameter data such as location, and time of the event along with a selection of other event-specific information such as photos, imagery, and GIS files. The ESEC data product includes an interactive interface with maps and search queries to facilitate access to this catalog and help accelerate research in the area of environmental seismology. This catalog currently holds 1135 events and is designed to allow new entries as information regarding new recent and historic events becomes available. Allstadt, K.E., McVey, B.G., and Malone, S.D., 2017, Seismogenic landslides, debris flows, and outburst floods in the western United States and Canada from 1977 to 2017: US Geological Survey data release, https://doi.org/10.5066/F251H3W.
Fault to Seismic Hazard Assessment (Fault2SHA) in Latin (Central and South) America
Poster Session · Tuesday 15 May · Riverfront South

Estimation of Seismic Source Recurrence Parameters without Knowledge of Time-Varying Level of Completeness

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The work provides a procedure for estimation of seismic source recurrence parameters (the b-value of the frequency-magnitude Gutenberg-Richter relation, the mean seismic activity rate λ, and seismic source characteristic, maximum possible earthquake magnitude mmax) without knowledge of the time-varying level of completeness. A weakness of the classic Aki-Utsu b-value estimator is its heavy dependence on the assumed level of magnitude completeness. This work provides two estimators for Gutenberg-Richter b-value, λ and mmax which are not dependent on the assumed level of completeness. The approach is applicable to seismic event catalogues with the time-varying completeness. Monte Carlo simulations show that the proposed estimators by Method of Moments (MM) and the Maximum Likelihood (ML) techniques are especially effective when the empirical (apparent), incomplete frequency-magnitude distribution is gradually curved. However, the proposed procedure is not restricted to any particular shape of the apparent frequency-magnitude distribution. For purpose of illustration, the procedure is applied to assess recurrence parameters of the Cocos-Tulbagh area of South Africa. The seismic event catalogue of the Ceres-Tulbagh area starts from the 1620 year and is highly incomplete, with the time-varying level of completeness which is unknown.

Structural Architecture of the Western Transverse Ranges and Potential for Large Earthquakes—Trishear Forward Models

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Fold-and-thrust belts evolve over time, can produce large-scale faults and potentially accommodate large magnitude earthquakes. The thrust fronts of these structures typically form large fold structures in their hanging walls, and they tend to propagate forward over time to form new thrust fronts. In the Santa Barbara and Ventura region of the Western Transverse Ranges (WTR) of southern California, the Pitas Point thrust is interpreted as the current thrust front structure, and spatially stable back thrusts accommodate deformation in the hanging wall block of the thrust sheet (More Ranch fault, Rincon Creek fault, other faults). We interpret the nearly continuous, overturned Tertiary stratigraphy of the Santa Ynez Mountains as a large anticlinorium that formed as the first thrust front over the (mostly) blind San Cayetano thrust, and that the thrust front propagated south with time to the Red Mountain fault and eventually to the currently active thrust front, the southwardvergent Pitas Point-Ventura fault. Our interpretation is based on combining various sources of data and previous models suggested by others. To test our interpretations of the evolution and structure of the WTR, we used Trishear forward modeling. We compared our results to the observed geology and the Trishear models are a good first-order match. While our solution is non-unique, it is consistent with all of the currently available data. We believe that this model resolves much of the ongoing debate regarding the dip direction of the primary structure at depth, and modeling of multiple cross-sections argues that all of the observed deformation can be explained by an evolved fold and thrust belt, which includes a regionally extensive decollement underlying the observed thrusts and folds. In addition, our fault model supports the contention that the WTR are capable of generating magnitude 8 earthquakes, based on scaling relations.

Temporal Patterns of Earthquakes: Devil’s Staircases and the Possible Causes

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Earthquake recurrence interval is a fundamental concept of current earthquake models and a key parameter in earthquake hazard assessments. Whereas much effort has been devoted to estimate and refine the recurrence interval of large earthquakes on various faults, increasing evidence, especially from intercontinental faults, starts to paint a different temporal pattern of earthquakes: clusters of earthquakes within short periods, separated by long periods of quiescence. Such earthquake patterns can be mathematically described by the Cantor function, or the devil’s staircases. Devil’s staircase is a fractal property of complex dynamic systems in nature, including earthquakes. We show that seismicity at all scales, from geological to tectonic, follows the devil’s staircase patterns to different individual faults, demonstrates the devil’s staircases patterns. The average length of the quiescence periods seems inversely related to the rates of tectonic loading. Thus large earthquakes in stable continents have longer quiescent periods than those in tectonically active continents, and earthquakes at plate boundary faults have the shortest quiescent periods. The periods and frequency of clustered earthquake also vary significantly. We have developed three-dimensional viscoplastic finite element models to investigate the underlying physics controlling the temporal patterns of seismicity. Our preliminary results confirm that tectonic loading rate is the key parameter for the length of the quiescent periods, viscous relaxation is a key process for earthquake clustering, and fault interactions a key factor for the devil’s staircases of seismicity.

From the Seismic Cycle to Long-Term Deformation: Linking Seismic Coupling and Quaternary Coastal Geomorphology along the Andean Megathrust

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Measurement of interseismic strain along subduction zones reveals the location of both locked asperities, which might rupture during megathrust earthquakes, and creeping zones, which tend to arrest such seismic ruptures. The heterogeneous pattern of interseismic coupling relates to spatial variations of frictional properties along the subduction interface and may also show up in the fore-arc morphology. To investigate this hypothesis, we compiled information on the extent of earthquake ruptures for the last 500 yrs and uplift rates derived from dated marine terraces along the central Peru to southern Chile coastline. We additionally calculated a new interseismic coupling model for that same area based on a comparison of GPS data, the time of the last megathrust earthquake (i.e., trench- to-coast distance), the latitudinal variations of long-term uplift rates and the spatial pattern of interseismic coupling are correlated. Zones of faster and long-term permanent coastal uplift, evidenced by uplifted marine terraces, coincide with peninsulas and also with areas of creep on the megathrust where slip is mostly aseismic and tend to arrest seismic ruptures. This correlation suggests that these aseismic, plastic strain zones inhibit the lateral seismic rupture propagation. Correlation between the location of these regions across- and along-strike of convergence and the long-term morphology of the subduction margin suggests that the barrier effect might be due to rheology, namely, rate-strengthening friction, although geometric effects might also play a secondary role. Peninsulas are the surface expression of large subduction earthquakes segment boundaries and show evidence for their stability over multiple seismic cycles. We propose that the survey of the long-term deformation of the upper plate to better identify multicycles margin segmentation would be an interesting improvement in earthquake hazard assessment in subduction zones.

Investigation of H/V Spectral Ratio (HVSr), Spectral Decay Parameter (z), and Strong-Motion Duration Based on a Ground-Motion Database of Chilean Subduction-Zone Earthquakes

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The study investigates the characteristics of H/V spectral ratio (HVSR), spectral decay parameter (κ), and strong-motion duration based on a ground-motion database of Chilean subduction-zone earthquakes. The database consists of 283 triaxial records from 22 subduction interface earthquakes (9 mainshocks and 13 aftershocks) with moment magnitudes ranging from 6.8 to 8.8, recorded at 137 stations in Chile, between 1985 and 2015. Five distance measures (epicentral, hypocentral, subevent, rupture, and Joyner-Boore) are considered in the analysis. The mean HVSRs calculated from records on rock and soil sites exhibit remarkably different amplitudes and shapes. However, the mean HVSRs for both site classes are not strongly affected by earthquake type (mainshock vs. aftershock), location (north vs. central Chile), magnitude, focal depth, and distance. Furthermore, κ values are estimated for all ground motion records, and regression analyses between κ and distance are carried out for different earthquake types, locations, magnitudes, focal depths, and site classes. The results show that κ is dependent on distance, with the subevent distance providing the most effective fit among different κ-distance models, whereas the distance-dependence of κ is primarily affected by earthquake location and site classification. Finally, three strong-motion duration measures (5–75% and 5–95% significant durations, and RMS duration) are considered in the regression analyses between duration and distance for different earthquake types, locations, magnitudes, focal depths, and site classes. Overall, the duration of the Chilean ground-motion records increases with distance, and the duration of the vertical component is greater than the duration of the horizontal component. It is also demonstrated that earthquake location and site classification are the key parameters that affect the distance-dependence of duration.

FAULT2SHA Working Group: Linking Faults to Seismic Hazard Assessment

The objective of the Fault to Seismic Hazard Assessment (Fault2SHA) Working Group is to build a community of active fault-related researchers to exchange data, tools and ideas on how to best model faults in seismic hazard assessment in specific tectonic contexts. After a few meetings (Paris 2014, Chieri 2015) and thematic sessions at international conferences in 2016 (https://sites.google.com/site/linkingfaultpsa/home) the WG was officially established inside the European Seismological Commission (ESC) in 2016. Being a not-funded entity the WG acts on voluntary basis. The community involved is made of data providers, data modellers and data users willing to share data and methodological approaches. The WG milestones achieved since 2016 are: a paper on aftershock probabilistic seismic hazard based on fault data gathered by many European teams in the wake of the Amatrice, 2016 M6.0 earthquake (Peruzza et al., 2016); the organisation of an international workshop in Barcelonette in 2017, France, that gathered 50 participants from around the world; the publication of 10 papers in a special issue of the NHESS journal; the organisation of a training course in Paris in 2017, where geologists learned how to use some Fault2SHA tools. The WG has initiated other collaborative initiatives such as the establishment of natural laboratories in Italy and Spain. Preliminary results will be presented at SSA. In these laboratories we want to address specific issues and questions such as: Methods to define sections/ruptures; Physics-based approaches; Needs for the collection of data (volcanic area?) to update scaling laws; How to constrain slip on faults using geodesy? How to propagate uncertainty in fault-PSHA? The Fault2SHA session will be held during the 2018 SSA conference in Miami is an additional opportunity to widen the discussion beyond the European context and to open to new potential members the opportunity to join us at the next ESC meeting that will be held in 2018 in Malta.

Exposure of Chilean Tailings to Earthquake Hazards from Potentially Seismogenic Crustal Faults

The catalogue work included improvement of locations using various relocation techniques and direct moment magnitude (Mw) calculations using coda calibration technique, down to magnitudes of about 3.5, for part of the catalogue where digital records were available. This eliminated the need for magnitude conversions that introduce large uncertainties to the magnitude estimates for the same events, existing magnitude calculations were also available, making it possible to calculate how sensitive the magnitude-recurrence relationships are to these improvements. The highest sensitivity to catalogue improvements is observed where earthquake activity is relatively sparse. However, even in seismically active areas, correction of systematic bias in magnitude estimates makes a significant impact on recurrence parameters. In addition, the magnitude-recurrence relations are highly sensitive to major (larger than ~10km) corrections in locations of moderate to large magnitude earthquakes.

Seismic Hazard Assessment of the Kashmir Basin, Northwestern Himalaya: A Probabilistic Approach

Northwestern Himalaya is one of the most tectonically active domains of the Himalaya. This complex collisional tectonic setup is able to produce destructive earthquakes, most recent being the 8 October 2005 Kashmir earthquake (Mw 7.6). In this study, we present the probabilistic seismic hazard assessment of the Kashmir basin of Northwestern Himalaya. The motivation for this study is the active tectonic setup surrounding a major population centre in the NW Himalaya, home to about 7 million people. Especially, when historical archives and instrumental earthquake records prove that the basin has suffered damage from historical as well as the recent earthquakes. The seismic hazard is assessed using point (zone free seismicity) and areal (seismic source zones) source mod-
els, employing appropriate ground motion prediction equations to predict the ground-motion hazard curves. This seismic hazard mapping draws on the geological, geophysical, and geotechnical data of the study area to establish the seismic hazard maps of the region.

For each zone, a tapered Gutenberg-Richter (TGR) magnitude-frequency distribution is used to depict the seismic event magnitudes that characterized the background seismicity. The significant object, two levels of ground motion were selected: Operating Basis (OB) and Probabilistic Seismic Hazard (PSH). The PSH level is obtained as a result of the probabilistic seismic hazard assessment and is employed to design structures against seismic forces.

The present work has been done in order to determine detailed seismic hazard that is required for designing a seismically resistant hydro power plant in the north-western part of Georgia. According to current normative seismic zoning of Georgia, the investigated area is a zone located in a zone of MSK intensity IX, and the investigated object is located directly in the area with the peak ground acceleration (PGA) 0.34 g. It should be noted that the results of seismic hazard assessment of Georgia, obtained in the various international projects have shown that they are significantly different from the values of current acting normative seismic hazard map. In particular, on the normative map are very low values of PGA than those ones that are obtained by real calculations. Seismicity of the investigated area was studied in detail. For seismic hazard assessment of the significant object, two levels of ground motion were selected: Operating Basis Earthquake and Safety Evaluation. The analysis of the observed seismicity of the investigated area has been carried out. 22 of active faults were described to establish seismic hazard. The seismic hazard curves of the object for macroseismic intensity for PGA and SA were calculated for rock using EZ-FRISK® software. On the basis of the results of deaggregation of probabilistic seismic hazard, scenario earthquakes have been selected and calculated their impact on the object. Deterministic assessment for the object were carried out for the largest magnitude in each SSZ at its closest distance to the object for fractile 0.5 and 0.84.

A New Seismic Hazard Model for Mainland China

We are developing a new seismic hazard model for Mainland China by integrating historical earthquake catalogs, geological faults, geodetic GPS data, and geology maps. To build the model, we construct an Mw-based homogeneous historical earthquake catalog spanning from 1860 B.C. to present, create fault models from active fault data, and derive a strain rate model based on the most complete GPS measurements and a new strain derivation algorithm. We divide China and the surrounding regions into about 20 large seismic source zones. For each zone, a tapered Gutenberg-Richter (TGR) magnitude-frequency distribution is used to model the seismic activity rates. The a- and b-values of the TGR distribution are calculated using observed earthquake data, while the corner magnitude is constrained independently using the seismic moment rate inferred from the geodetically-based strain rate model. Small and medium sized earthquakes are distributed within the source zones following the location and magnitude patterns of historical earthquakes. Some of the larger earthquakes are distributed onto active faults, based on their geological characteristics such as slip rate, fault length, down-dip width, and various paleoseismic data. The remaining large earthquakes are placed into the background. A new set of magnitude-rupture scaling relationships is developed based on earthquake data from China and vicinity. We evaluate and select appropriate ground motion prediction equations by comparing them with observed ground motion data and performing residual analysis. To implement the modeling workflow, we develop a tool that builds upon the functionalities of GEM’s Hazard Modeler’s Toolkit. The GEM OpenQuake software is used to calculate seismic hazard at various ground motion periods and various return periods. To account for site amplification, we construct a site condition map based on geology. The resulting new seismic hazard maps can be used for seismic risk analysis and management.

Interactions Between Observations and Models in Seismic Studies

Pamela A. Moyer

Earthquake Stress Changes before, during, and after the 2015 Eruption at Axial Seamount

We are developing a new seismic hazard model for Mainland China by integrating historical earthquake catalogs, geological faults, geodetic GPS data, and geology maps. To build the model, we construct an Mw-based homogeneous historical earthquake catalog spanning from 1860 B.C. to present, create fault models from active fault data, and derive a strain rate model based on the most complete GPS measurements and a new strain derivation algorithm. We divide China and the surrounding regions into about 20 large seismic source zones. For each zone, a tapered Gutenberg-Richter (TGR) magnitude-frequency distribution is used to model the seismic activity rates. The a- and b-values of the TGR distribution are calculated using observed earthquake data, while the corner magnitude is constrained independently using the seismic moment rate inferred from the geodetically-based strain rate model. Small and medium sized earthquakes are distributed within the source zones following the location and magnitude patterns of historical earthquakes. Some of the larger earthquakes are distributed onto active faults, based on their geological characteristics such as slip rate, fault length, down-dip width, and various paleoseismic data. The remaining large earthquakes are placed into the background. A new set of magnitude-rupture scaling relationships is developed based on earthquake data from China and vicinity. We evaluate and select appropriate ground motion prediction equations by comparing them with observed ground motion data and performing residual analysis. To implement the modeling workflow, we develop a tool that builds upon the functionalities of GEM’s Hazard Modeler’s Toolkit. The GEM OpenQuake software is used to calculate seismic hazard at various ground motion periods and various return periods. To account for site amplification, we construct a site condition map based on geology. The resulting new seismic hazard maps can be used for seismic risk analysis and management.

Historical Records of Seismic Activities in Coxim, Pantanal Wetlands

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The Pantanal Sedimentary Basin, located in the Upper Paraguay Basin, in the Center-West region of Brazil, is a Quaternary, tectonically active basin, characterized by transient type faults, constituting the largest expression of Neotectonics in the state of Mato Grosso do Sul. Recent research shows that the municipality of Coxim-MS, located in this region, presents intense seismic activity. In this historical survey of this municipality, four significant seismic events were identified: a) July 30, 1911, 8PM: the newspapers, O Comércio (Cuiabá-MT), Opinião Pública (Pelotas-RS), O Pharol (Juiz de Fora-MG) and several newspapers from Rio de Janeiro, reported on a 10-second earthquake accompanied by an intense noise and followed by other small earthquakes; b) May 8, 1931, 9PM: The newspaper A Noite (Rio de Janeiro-RJ), reported that Coxim was shaken by a violent earthquake, damaging buildings and alarming the population; c) August 29, 1963, 11PM: Correio do Estado (campo Grande-MS) reported a small earthquake that lasted five seconds, being felt with greater intensity in the Colony of Taquara; d) October 8, 1968, 12:26AM: Correio do Estado reported that residents of the northern region of Nhecolândia (located near Coxim) were awakened with a loud sound similar to a jet plane noise, followed by a tremor that lasted a few seconds, slamming doors and shaking furniture. Historically, the Pantanal Sedimentary Basin is one of the seismic regions of Brazil, highlighting that in this region there is a seismic belt, which extends from the Pantanal to Goiás state, arriving in Tocantins state. These newly discovered events, with estimated magnitudes up to 4, improve the seismic catalog of the Pantanal and will contribute to better seismic hazard estimates.

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the Epidemic Type Aftershock Sequence model (e.g. Llenos et al., 2009). Where seismicity rates are driven by inflation and deflation of the magma chamber, we expect stress changes to correlate with caldera elevation and tilt. Where seismicity rates are governed by perturbations to hydrothermal flow, we expect stress changes to correlate with vent temperature and chemistry. We continue our analysis to determine spatial and temporal variations in stress drop and stressing rate in response to eruption processes at Axial.

Earthquake Detection and High-Resolution Body-Wave Tomography at Okmok Volcano, Alaska

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Okmok Volcano, located on Umnak Island, Alaska, is one of the most active volcanoes in the Aleutian arc. Historically, it has hosted a number of explosive, phreatomagmatic eruptions, resulting in the formation of 15 vents and four post-eruptive cinder cones. To better understand characteristics of the magma reservoir at Okmok and the associated volcanic hazard this region represents, we carried out an amphibious geophysical study of the volcano from July 2015 to August 2016. As part of this field survey, a seismic array of 13 three-component seismometers was installed, which when coupled with the permanent network at Okmok, yielded a dense set of 25 seismic stations sampling across the volcano. We applied the REST auto-picking algorithm to the acquired dataset, and we were able to identify ~3400 earthquakes, including over 35,000 P- and 3,439 S-wave arrival times. This results in a 68% increase in the total number of events detected at Okmok relative to the earthquake catalog generated by the Alaska Volcano Observatory (AVO) using its most recent seismic tomography of the area. Initial earthquake locations show events dispersed throughout the volcanic region, with the largest cluster of seismic activity occurring in an active geothermal area located SW of the caldera. Current work focuses on estimating uncertainties associated with the initial detections. From these uncertainty estimates, we will create a robust catalog of events and associated body-wave arrival times. The dataset will be used to augment a previously existing seismic catalog to obtain an enhanced image of the velocity structure at Okmok. Results from this study will help us to gain an improved understanding of magma migration and storage beneath the caldera.

Unrest at Masaya and Momotombo Volcanoes, Nicaragua, Investigated with a Temporary Seismic Network

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Since the end of 2013, the region around the volcanoes Masaya and Momotombo, which is located in the capital Managua, has shown unusually high seismicity and volcanic activity. On April 10, 2013, a M6.3 earthquake occurred near Momotombo volcano followed by intense aftershock activity and a migration of seismicity towards Managua. In the following two years, the seismic activity remained considerably higher than in the previous network operation time (1975–2013). In December 2015 and January 2016, Momotombo volcano erupted after 110 years of quiescence. Since mid-December 2015, Masaya volcano has a lava lake in its main crater with gradually increasing activity. With 30 broadband stations, we temporarily (Dec 2016-March 2017) densified the permanent Nicaraguan seismic network around these volcanoes. With this network, we obtained a first image of the depth of the magma chambers of the volcanoes using ambient seismic noise tomography. A detailed analysis of the present seismicity provides us with a better understanding of the underlying tectonic processes and possible interactions between seismic and volcanic activity.

Coda Wave Interferometry, Cross-Terms Analysis of EGF at Popocatépetl Volcano, Mexico

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We analyzed seismic noise records in four seismic broadband stations located in the Popocatépetl volcano for 2012–2013 period. The aim is to explore the cross-terms of the Empirical Green Function (EGF) to provide additional information on the structure and strain changes. We obtained hourly correlations as a result of stacking 60 s time windows, which were aligned (traces filtered between 5–8 s period) by adaptive stacking in order to eliminate any clock deviation. Finally, almost 600 daily cross-correlations were stacked to recover robust EGFs for the nine tensor components. In a first step, we estimate dispersion curves from the causal and anti-causal parts of principal components of Green tensor. In the range of 0.5 to 8 s period, curves were grouped according to the period of Rayleigh and Love waves. Curves for the long paths (≥ 9.5 km) describe a layered structure with Vs values of 0.5 km/s for the shallow subsurface, and 3.5 km/s for the deep structure. Dispersion curves for short time periods (< 7 km) and close to the crater, exhibit Vs values similar to those long trajectories, but with an inversion velocity between 3 and 5 s period. Media velocity changes were estimated using the best fit of time delays obtained in a moving window of 10 s along the coda between 0.5–1.5 Hz. The results show smooth variations associated with the occurrence of LP events. For some months, volcano-tectonic swarm events clearly are related to strain accumulative-release process. This result is not so evident when a combination of different seismic activity is present. However, analysis of cross-terms shows that the other tensor components could provide better dispersion curves and evident strain changes in the volcano.

The Volcano-Tectonic Seismicity of Teide Volcano (Tenerife)

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Tenerife is an active volcanic island which experienced several eruptions of moderate intensity in historical times, and a few explosive eruptions in the Holocene. Since 2016 the island has shown evidence of ongoing unrest, with increased volcano-tectonic seismicity, occurrence of long-period events and marked changes in the diffuse gas emissions. On 02/10/2016 the occurrence of a remarkable swarm of long-period events was interpreted as the effect of a transient massive fluid injection episode into the deep hydrothermal system of Teide volcano. This injection caused the pressurization of the hydrothermal system testified by the increase in diffuse CO2 emission from the summit crater of the volcano which increased from a background value of about 20 tons/day up to a peak of 175 tons/day in Feb. 2017. The pressurization process has been accompanied by an increase in the volcano-tectonic seismicity of Teide volcano, recorded by the Red Sísmica Canaria, managed by Instituto Volcánologico de Canarias (IN Volcan). The network began its full operability in Nov. 2016 and currently consists of 15 broadband seismic stations. Since Nov. 2016 the network detected more than 1000 small magnitude earthquakes, located beneath Teide volcano at depths usually ranging between 5 and 15 km. On January 6th 2017 a M2.5 earthquake was recorded in the area, being one of the strongest ever recorded in decades. Most of the events show typical features of the microseismicity of hydrothermal systems: high spatial and temporal clustering and similar waveforms of individual events which are often overlapped. We present the spatial and temporal distribution of the microseismicity of Teide volcano since Nov. 2016, comparing it also with the past seismicity of the volcano. Furthermore we analyze the statistical properties of the numerous swarms recorded until now and the spatial and temporal variations of the Gutenberg-Richter b-value.

Upper Crustal Structure of the Ceboruco Volcano (Mexico) Revealed by Ambient Seismic Noise Tomography

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Ceboruco volcano in Nayarit, Mexico, is one of the only historically active volcanoes at the western end of the Mexican volcanic belt. The need to characterize the magma chamber and the hydrothermal system motivated this first seismic
Seismic and acoustic monitoring at Volcán de Colima, Mexico.

The seismic and acoustic activity of the Colima volcano is studied and monitored by the Seismic Network of the State of Colima (RESCO), which belongs to the University of Colima. Nine broadband stations around the volcano record seismic activity. This includes most of the area shown to be deforming in InSAR studies, but not the Turrialba volcano. The seismic and acoustic activity of the Colima Volcano is studied and monitored near Uturuncu Volcano, Bolivia.

Understanding the upper surface of a magma body is important to determine several features, such as the location of the boundary between country rock and partial melt, the topography along this boundary, the sharpness or gradational nature of the contact, and lateral changes in physical properties along this interface. Investigation of seismic energy reflected from the partial melt-country rock boundary can be used to understand this upper surface. We present the results of reflected body wave phase analysis at the largest continental crustal magma body in the world, the Altiplano-Puna Magma Body (APMB) of southwest Bolivia. Our study focuses on the PLUTONS seismic network, centering on dormant Turrialba volcano (22°16’12”S, 67°10’48”W) with a radius of <50 km. This includes most of area shown to be deforming in InSAR studies, but not the entire APMB surface. We analyzed reflected phases which occur between the P- and S-wave arrivals of local, within-network events at depths of ≥7 km bskml. We used the seismic software packages Antelope and GISTMO to identify the reflections using a combination of cross-correlation, frequency, and polarization analyses. This included a detailed study of how best to determine the frequency content of signals of <0.5 s duration, to determine a filter for the data that highlights the frequency content of interest. We then inverted for shear-wave velocity maps for the APMB surface. We then inverted for shear-wave velocity structure. Relative to previous tomography studies of Orokmo, our dense seismic array allows for enhanced imaging of the velocity structure at this volcano and therefore allows us to better constrain the distribution of magmatic fluids.

Analysis of Reflected Body Wave Phases at the Altiplano-Puna Magma Body near Uturuncu Volcano, Bolivia.

The seismic and acoustic activity of the Colima volcano has been intense, lava domes grow, lava flows, lava dome collapses, and mild to moderate seismicity as well as moderate to large explosions. Particularly the explosions in 2017, in their acoustic signals had a characteristic waveform of ‘N’. The seismic energy observed in the explosions had values above 1 + 8 joules, while that the acoustic energy only presented 5 explosions that exceeded this value. With these values the ratio between acoustic and seismic energy remained mostly less than 1. This indicates that the seismic-acoustic source is probably generated in a long and narrow conduit. Likewise, the volcanic columns were charged with ash according to the models of Johnson and Aster (2005). Similarly, the time between the arrival of the seismic wave and the acoustic wave is observed between 15.6 to 19.6 sec, which tells us that there is a small variation in the depth of the source. These explosions are lower in the seismic energy released compared to the 2005 activity.

Toward an Automatic Recognition System Based on Machine Learning Techniques at Cotopaxi Volcano.

Cotopaxi is an active stratovolcano located in Ecuador, which has previously presented 5 eruptive periods since 1533. The aim of this work is to develop an automatic recognition system based on machine learning techniques for both detection and classification of seismic events from Cotopaxi volcano. Our primary goal is an automatic recognition system that may help experts to make more appropriate decisions towards a real-time system, which may allow authorities to launch effective early warnings. This work is divided in two stages: in the detection stage, a non-overlapping segmentation was used, with 15-s sec windows; in each window several features were extracted in the time, frequency, and scale domains by using methods such as moving average, power spectral density, and wavelet transforms, 84 features were extracted: 13 in the time domain, 21 in the frequency domain and 50 in the scale domain; this stage allows to identify the starting and ending point of the microseism; by using the Moving Average method, a threshold equal to 0.2 of the normalized signal was identified for the detector to allow the identification of the existence of a microseism. The best result was obtained by using Support Vector Machine techniques, it presents a performance metrics with a Nu = 0.95 obtaining 99.72% accuracy with a BER of 0.0014. The following Machine Learning techniques were used for classification of seismic events: Decision Trees (DT), Linear and Non-linear Support Vector Machines (SVM). An analysis of the BER was performed, varying the percentage of the training and test matrices for the different Machine Learning techniques. This variation improves the performance measures. The system was trained to have the ability to identify Long Period (LP) and Volcano-Tectonic (VT) events; the best result (BER equal to 0.1125 with a 94.29% accuracy) was obtained with non-linear SVM.

Evolution of Harmonic Tremor Coda Associated to LP Events Recorded Previous to the January 4th, 2010, Eruption and 2016 Eruptive Cycle at Turrialba Volcano (Costa Rica).

Turrialba volcano is a 3,440 masl stratovolcano located at the SE end of the Central Volcanic Range of Costa Rica. Since last eruption, 150 years ago, the volcano shows no signs of activity. However, during the 1990s, degassing and seismic activity began to appear and became more conspicuous in the 2000 decade. Prior to the first eruption on January 4th, 2010, there was a significant increase in the earthquake-volcanic activity, mainly earthquakes of long period (LP) and volcanotectonic. 17 days prior to the eruption, tremor levels decrease and a series of LP events followed by short-lived harmonic tremor (LP-HRT) were recorded. These same events were also recorded before the eruption sequence that began at the end of April 2016. In this work we analyze in detail the spectral characteristics of these LP and associated tremor. The family of events prior to the eruption of January 4, 2010 present clear trends such as: increase in the number of events and decrease in LP duration and in the initial frequency of the harmonic tremor. This behavior suggests a gradual increase of the pressure in the system as well as the process of opening a system. In contrast, prior to the 2016 sequence the characteristic of the LP and the tremor do not present such clear trends which is consistent with the condition of a more open system in 2016. Currently, efforts are

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being made to determine a location of these events in order to further constrain its physical interpretation. The LP–HT location will be determined using corrected seismic amplitudes observed in 11 stations around the volcano. The site-amplification correction factors were calculated for each station by comparing coda amplitudes of 25 regional earthquakes. The interpretation of these results are of value for understanding the behavior of the Turrialba volcano and represent an important input for the monitoring and prevention of disasters.

Spectral Analysis for Characterizing Microseisms Produced in the Cotopaxi Volcano
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Ecuador is a zone of high volcanic seismicity, in such sense it is important to recognize the behavior of volcanoes before they enter into an eruption process. This requires the analysis and to identification of different types of seismic events from a volcano. Cotopaxi volcano, is one of the most active and it has high risk due to the close proximity of populated areas in its surroundings and therefore it is one of the most supervised volcanoes in Ecuador. In this paper, a review of the most used spectral techniques for the analysis and extraction of discriminant features of microseisms is presented, since microseisms are some of the most important sources of information for analyzing the behavior of different volcanoes. Herein we use a spectral feature analysis which may help to classify events correctly, this information may also allow authorities to give early alerts in the case of increasing volcanic activity in order to alert and safeguard human lives. The analysis is performed by using parametric and non-parametric spectral techniques, enabling a more detailed study of the spectral content and the confidence intervals of specific events by using bootstrap technique, the empirical bootstrap procedure was specifically used, this consists in resampling the data from the empirical distribution. A database from the Cotopaxi volcano corresponding to a single station, with a broadband seismometer, containing several seismic signals representing different types of volcanic events such as volcano-tectonic (VT), long period (LP), hybrid (HYB) and tremors (TRE) registered in 2012, was used for the analysis. The results obtained show that LP events have a thin spectrum and their frequency range goes from 0.5 Hz to 6 Hz, with a major spectral component around 3.2 Hz, VT events have a wide spectrum and their frequency range goes up to 20 Hz with a major spectral component around 6.8 Hz and TRE events have a spectrum that goes below 5 Hz.

Identifying Changes in Magmatic Activity at Veniaminof Volcano, Alaska, over Multiple Eruptive Cycles via Ambient Noise Interferometry
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Veniaminof volcano is one of the largest and most active volcanoes in the Aleutian Arc. Recent eruptions include predominantly phreatic events in 2002, 2005, 2006, 2008, 2009, and 2013. We have applied seismic interferometry via ambient noise in order to probe the subsurface of this volcano and determine temporal changes in seismic activity from pre- through post-eruption. No changes in seismic velocity related to magmatism were observed for eruptions in 2002, 2005, 2006, 2008, and 2009. Instead, changes in seismic velocity observed during these eruptions were easily related to changes in seismic velocity observed in non-eruptive years and attributed to seasonal variations in the hydrologic cycle. Notably, within the set of eruptions analyzed, the two largest events (2004 and 2013 eruptions: VEI=2 and 3, respectively) showed changes in seismic velocity that deviated largely from the seasonal trend. Decrease in seismic velocity preceding the 2004 and 2013 events were observed as early as 1–3 weeks prior to eruption. Such decreases in seismic velocity were sustained for the duration of the events. Finally, as the eruptions ceased, changes in seismic velocity returned to values matching the seasonal trend. In an attempt to analyze how changes in seismic velocity vary both in time and with depth, we determined dispersion curves at summit station VNSS over a moving time. Each dispersion curve was determined using a 20 day stack of correlations. We examined a 3-month long time period leading into the 2004 and 2013 eruptions. For the 2004 eruption, it was not possible to obtain consistent dispersion curves over time. However, the 2013 event showed repeatable dispersion curves that contained small but consistent changes in seismic velocity with time. Each 20-day dispersion curve was inverted for change in velocity with depth and the observed pattern suggests the propagation of a low velocity anomaly through the subsurface at depth and into the volcano’s near surface.
stations. Seismic activity was composed by long period events (LP), hybrid (HB), volcanic-tectonic events (VT) and tremors. In 71% of the data recorded, 44% of this activity was concentrated in a large fault that connects two domes (Yanahurco and San Clemente). Considering the spectrum, duration and first arrivals, it is possible that this fault controls the movement of hydrothermal–magma fluids. 66% of the activity and some hybrid events occurred near Antisana volcano, then we consider that these events correspond to Antisana activity or are related to the movement of magma. The temporal network also recorded 176 local earthquakes. Earthquakes have epicentral distance less than 32 km to this network. These events have Vp/Vs ratio of 1.64 and a Poisson relation = 0.206. 10 focal mechanisms were computed and they present a mechanism with NE-SW direction and inverse component, so they are associated with tectonic faults that exhibit a NE movement parallel to the direction of the North Andean sliver. Two earthquakes present focal mechanisms with a normal component and are located near the structural caldera edge and suggest that these faults generate a pull apart striking N300° with normal mechanism. However, we found values a compressional axis of N58° and a tensile axis of N127° with a rotation of approximately 40° with respect to expected regional tectonic compression. This deviation could be related to the activity of the Antisana volcano or to internal processes in Chacana caldera.

Analysis of the Seismicity in the Los Humeros Mexican Geothermal Field within the Framework of the Consortium Genex
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The geothermal field of Humeros Puebla, Mexico, is one of the most important in the country due to its production of 85 MWh. Previous studies indicate that most of the seismicity is concentrated in two large areas mostly located in the northern part of the field, near the areas of injection and re-injection of fluids (Urban et al., 2013, Lermo et al., 2001, 2002, 2005, 2008). In the framework of the Working Package 5.2 of the GENEX bilateral project between Mexico and the European Union, a seismic network has been installed consisting of 26 short-period and 17 broadband stations. This seismic network represents the largest monitoring network installed in a geothermal field in Mexico. The seismic noise of the stations has been analyzed to determine i) the quality of the seisograms and ii) the level of noise in the high frequency range (≥1 Hz), which could be attributed to the extraction plants, steam pipelines or the effect of human activity. For this purpose, we analyzed the power spectral density function, through the implementation of routines in free software such as Seismic Analysis Code (SAC) and Jupyter. Likewise, the spectral ratios have been calculated for each station of the network in order to characterize and determine the site effects. We also present the location of the seismic events registered in the field since September 2017, calculated using a 1D velocity model presented by Urban and Lermo (2013). Seismic velocity models are used to locate the seismicity (Havskov and Rasmussen, 2003) and HypoDD double difference method (Waldhauser, 2001) to refine the event location. Our preliminary results indicate that the noise levels are acceptable compared with the model of Peterson (1993), which allows us to characterize local seismicity and low magnitude within the geothermal field.

Clarifying the Velocity Structure of the Yellowstone Volcanic System
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In the past 2.1 million years, the Yellowstone volcanic system has experienced three caldera forming eruptions. The last eruption occurred ~0.63 Ma and released more than 1,000 km3 of material. For scale, the 1980 Mount Saint Helens eruption emitted about 1/1,000th the material of the last Yellowstone eruption. To better understand the distribution of magma storage within Yellowstone’s current day volcanic system, we carried out a study of the three-dimensional (3D) velocity structure of the region. Currently, we are solving for the local velocity structure of Yellowstone using body-wave data. This includes over 31,000 P and S arrival time picks, which were used in previous body wave tomography studies of the region. Importantly, we are incorporating a set of newly determined differential time data into the inversion. This set of differential time data includes over 1 million cross-correlations and 300,000 catalog differential times. Previous velocity tomography studies show that the incorporation of differential time data better characterizes the velocity structure of a region. Future work focuses on carrying out a 3D joint inversion for the shear wave velocity (Vs) structure of Yellowstone. This inversion will improve on current models by jointly inverting for both body and surface wave data. Since body and surface waves are sensitive to different regions of the model space, joint inversion should allow us to obtain a more complete image of Yellowstone’s velocity structure, and thereby a better understanding of magma storage.

Hidden Markov Models (HMM) Applied to Primary Processing of the Seismicity Activity of Nevada Del Hual Volcano, Colombia
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The Automatic Classification program based in the Hidden Markov Models, HMM, was implemented to study the seismic activity of Nevada del Hual volcano (Colombia). This program was adapted by researchers of Granada University – Spain for the recognition of the seismic signals of volcanic origin, and it has been applied successfully to volcanoes like Etna and Stromboli, Italy (Ibáñez et al., 2009), San Cristóbal and Telica, Nicaragua (Gutiérrez et al., 2009), and Colima, Mexico (Arzúmbula, 2011). The implementation of the program requires of following stages: 1) Selection and segmentation of an important number of seismic signals that represent the different types of events occurring regularly at the volcano. In this stage we selected and segmented: 438 volcanic-tectonic events (VT), 426 Long Period events (LP), 240 hybrid events (HB), 308 Tremor pulses, 322 Regional and Local Tectonic events (REG) and 408 segments of seismic background noise (SIL). 2) The training of the program and the recognition of isolated signals to obtain the characteristic model of each type of event. 3) The Recognition of these event types within continuous records. The accuracy obtained in training and recognition of isolated seismic signals was 91.25%. This percentage suggests that the automatic classification program is a useful and fairly trustworthy tool for monitoring of active volcanoes. Results with high accuracy depend uniquely on the selection and segmentation process of events. From the results obtained with the automatic classification program we develop as additional tool the primary processing of the seismicity classified. For this, we first identified basic characteristics such as maximum amplitude, dominant frequency and signal duration, then we computed some additional parameters such as reduced displacement for signals related to fluid dynamics (i.e. for LP, HB and TR), as well as duration magnitude (Mc) and energy released for all signals.

Spatio-Temporal Distribution of Volcanic-Tectonic Swarms in the Northern Interandean Valley, Ecuador
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The Interandean Valley in Northern Ecuador is traversed by both active volcanoes and holocene-epoch faults, many of which have hosted destructive earthquakes in the recent past. This area is currently monitored for seismic and volcanic activity by the Instituto Geofísico at the Escuela Politécnica Nacional (IEGPNN) in Quito. Recently, the National Seismic Network (RENSIG) recorded several seismic swarms between January and May 2016 close to the cities of Ibarra and Atuntaqui. Here, we quantitatively analyze these swarms in an attempt to determine their origin and relationship with the seismic activity of nearby Cuicocha, Imbabura and Chachimbiro volcanoes. A subset of 50 events (MLv ≥ 1.5) were extracted from the local IEGPN catalog and used as templates for a match filter technique. This effort resulted in the discovery of an additional 392 previously unidentified local events. A relative relocation technique (hypoDD) was applied to body wave arrival data picked from this expanded catalog. From 514 total earthquakes, the majority of foci lie between 5 and 25 km depth. For the best recorded events, composite focal mechanisms were extracted using polarity information and Sw/P-wave amplitude ratios. These efforts resulted in three high quality focal mechanism solutions that suggest strike slip motion of a fault plane oriented between the major Syn-Teth and NE-SW trending faults located westward of Imbabura volcano. Preliminary results from this study establish a baseline of what locations, focal mechanisms, and activity rates are common in this area. Future studies possibly incorporating GPS, InSAR, and other data...
should therefore focus on correlating the seismic activity of these faults with the evolving activity of Cuicocha, Imbabura and Chachimbro volcanoes.

What Caused the Local Stress Perturbation in Long Valley, California? 
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Long Valley in eastern California is sandwiched by the Sierra Nevada and the Basin and Range Province. There has been a stress perturbation in the vicinity of the caldera with respect to the regional stress field. Previous studies suggest that this perturbation is a result of the left-step offset in the Sierran range bounding normal faults instead of magma chamber inflation beneath Long Valley Caldera. In this study, we take advantage of the abundant seismic data and state-of-the-art finite-element numerical modeling to reinvestigate this local stress anomaly. We utilize the HASH program to compute focal mechanisms from P-wave first motion polarity observations for the relocated earthquakes between 1984 and 2014. The final ~42,000 good-quality focal solutions are then used to invert for the stress fields in 11 sub-areas by applying the SATSI algorithm. The orientations of the inverted minimum horizontal principal stresses (SHMIN) greatly agree with previous studies based on analyses of focal mechanisms, borehole breakouts, and fault offsets. The NE-SW oriented SHMIN in the resurgent dome and southmost of the caldera is in contrast to the dominating ~E-W orientation in the western Basin and Range province and Mammoth Mountain. In order to examine the source of this stress direction difference, we apply 3-D Finite Element Modeling with different parameters and combinations of tectonic and magmatic stress sources to search for the model that best fits the observed SHMIN orientations. Our preliminary results show that the local stress perturbation in the Long Valley area may be explained by the combination of a regional tectonic stress and an ellipsoidal magma source located next to the Mono Craters, indicating that the Mono Craters may play an important role in the local stress distribution in the area, although the current deformation is dominated by Long Valley Caldera.

Using SAR Data to Monitor the Dynamics of Ecuadorian Volcanoes 
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The inflation of the ground surface can indicate that magma ascends to shallower levels and that a volcano gets ready for an eruption. These changes can be observed by the use of stacks of SAR images and performing an interferometric time series analysis to obtain the value and rate of displacements. Furthermore, backscatter values analysis gives a complementary understanding of what is happening on the earth’s surface. We present InSAR time series analysis we have implemented to monitor the activities of the Ecuadorian volcanoes. SAR data are provided in the framework of the Group on Earth Observation’s Ecuadorian Volcano Geohazard SuperSite. We use data from TerraSAR-X and Sentinel-1 and inverse modelling to better understand and forecast the intrusion and dynamic of these volcanoes. The InSAR data reveal uplift at three volcanoes, Pichincha, Cayambe and Chiles at rates of 2–3 cm/yr. The uplift at Pichincha is limited to the caldera area, indicating a shallow (< 1 km depth) source. The beginning of inflation coincides with the 2016 M7.8 earthquake, suggesting that it was triggered by the earthquake.

Active Source Seismic Imaging of the Magmatic Plumbing System beneath Mount St. Helens 
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The iMUSH project (imaging Magma Under St. Helens) included a 3D active source seismic experiment consisting of 23 large shots recorded at ~6000 seismograph stations. The experiment included 3 dense linear profiles: Two profiles of 8 shots each were recorded by ≥ 1000 receivers (~150m apart) and strike NW-SE and NE-SW. A third profile consisted of ≥ 300 receiverstrokes E-W. We have made CMP stacked sections and Kirchhoff depth migrations of the profiles using travel-times from 2D and 3D tomography velocity models derived from the data set. We have also made autocorrelation estimates of the reflectivity beneath the receivers using shot and noise data, and depth converted them using the tomography velocity models. Bright reflections in the CMP sections, depth migrations, and autocorrelations coincide with abrupt velocity changes in the 2D velocity models in the mid to lower crust and at the Moho. Reflections appear at 20–25 km depth at the tops of two lower crustal high velocity (Vp ≥ 7.5 km/s) bodies. One of these is directly beneath the MSH edifice, the other is ~40 km to the SE under the 9ka Indian Heaven basaltic volcanic field. We interpret the high Vp bodies as cumulates from Quaternary or Tertiary volcanism. Separating the two high Vp bodies is a lower velocity column (Vp ≤ 6.5 km/s) dipping SE from the midcrust to the Moho. The Moho reflection is bright under the region of low velocity and dips beneath both of the high velocity lower crustal bodies. The 1980 eruption seismology extended from the MSH summit to ~20 km depth, stopping above the bright reflection at the MSH high Vp body. Deep long period events under MSH, often associated with motion of magmatic fluids, cluster at 20–30 km depth along the SE edge of this reflection. We suggest that lower crustal magmas migrate from the southeast at the edge of the high velocity body and then laterally across its top before ascending vertically to the magma storage zone under the summit.

Numerical Modeling of Earthquake Ground Motion, Rupture Dynamics and Seismic Wave Propagation 
Poster Session · Tuesday 15 May · Riverfront South

Jizhagou ms7.0 Earthquake High-Frequency Ground Motion Simulation and Zhangzha Town Intensity Estimation 
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Jizhagou occurred Ms7.0 earthquake which caused serious human and economic losses. We simulated the strong ground motion characteristic using the Empirical Green Function Method. We also estimated the ground motion intensity of Zhangzha town which lost earthquake record data. All the stations are within the scope of around 100 km and all the stations’ PGA are larger than 10gal. Because of lacking appropriate aftershock record data, we try to use the aftershocks of Wenchuan earthquake and Dingxi earthquake as green function to simulate Jizhagou earthquake in the first time. The simulated results as a whole can indicate the characteristics of the ground motion intensity especially the high frequency component. PGA, Duration and Response Spectrum are also fitted well between the simulated values and observed values. This attempt also indicated that using other earthquake’s aftershock to simulate this event is feasible when lacking aftershock records. The PGA of Zhangzha town is estimated about 180gal–300gal. We also discussed the criterion about how to choose after-shock as green function.

Deterministic Waveform Modeling to Aid Gmpe Development in Areas of Induced Seismicity, the Importance of Kinematic Finite Faults 
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Ground motion models (GMMs) have historically been used as input in the development of probabilistic seismic hazard analysis (PSHA) and as an engineering tool to assess risk in building design. Generally these equations are developed from empirical analysis of observations that come from fairly complete catalogs of seismic events. One of the challenges when doing a PSHA analysis in a region where earthquakes are induced is that the catalog of observations is not complete enough to come up with a set of equations to cover all expected outcomes. This work is part of a study where we use a deterministic finite difference wave-form modeling to compliment the traditional development of GMMs. Specifically we leverage our industry expertise in developing and applying detailed physics based subsurface models to accurately model the propagation of the waveform from source to receiver. Of particular interest is how the source model representation scales with magnitude and how this translates to modeled ground motions at a surface. A kinematic fault rupture model is used to test the sensitivity of the GMMs to variability in the fault rupture process that is physically consistent with observations. These tests will aid in constraining the degree of variability in modeled ground motions due to a realistic range of fault parameters and properties. From this study it is our conclusion that in order to properly capture the uncertainty of the GMMs >4 shots magnitude up-scaling one needs to address the impact of uncertainty in the near field (≤10km) imposed by the lack of constraint on the finite rupture model. By quantifying the uncertainty back to physical principles it is our belief that it can be better constrained and thus reduce exposure to risk. Further, by investigating and constraining the range of fault rupture scenarios
and earthquake magnitudes on ground motion models, hazard and risk analysis in regions with incomplete earthquake catalogs, can be better understood.

**Applications of the Generalized Finite Differences Method in Viscoelastic Media**

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The meshless generalized finite difference method is applied to solve problems of seismic wave propagation in viscoelastic media, with irregular distribution of nodes. Schemes in generalized finite differences are obtained for the decoupled wave systems P-SV and SH in homogeneous media, and the stability of the schemes is analyzed. These schemes are used to solve certain particular case and the accuracy and easiness of its application is shown.

**Comparison of Observed and Synthetic Dynamic Ground Strains and Rotations in the Near-Fault Region of the 2004 Parkfield Earthquake**

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Several studies have generated low-frequency dynamic ground deformations (strains and rotations) in the near-fault region of actual or hypothetical earthquakes using physics-based simulation techniques that incorporate modeling of the seismic source and wave propagation processes. However, no systematic attempt has been made to compare observed and synthetic near-fault dynamic ground strains and rotations in order to demonstrate the effectiveness of the simulation techniques in predicting dynamic ground deformations in the vicinity of the fault. Such a comparison is presented in this study for the 2004 Mw 6.0 Parkfield, California, earthquake, which occurred on the San Andreas Fault and was recorded by a dense network of instruments. Following the work of Spudich and Fletcher (2008), estimates of near-fault dynamic ground strains and rotations are obtained by applying time-dependent geodetic analysis to displacement time histories recorded by the UPSAR and Turkey Flat dense arrays. A forward ground-motion simulation of the 2004 Parkfield earthquake is performed using the fault and crustal models proposed by Liu et al. (2006), and low-frequency translational motions, strains, and rotations are generated at selected stations. The computations are carried out using the discrete wavevector representation method and the generalized transmission and reflection coefficient technique. The synthetic motions are generally in agreement with the recorded translational motions, the recorded borehole velocity strains, the array-derived strains and rotations, and the finite-difference approximated displacement gradients in terms of both amplitude and waveform characteristics. The results indicate that numerical simulations based on kinematic source models can be an effective tool for characterizing and predicting low-frequency dynamic ground deformations in the near-fault region.

**The SCEC Broadband Platform: Open-Source Software for Strong Motion Simulation and Validation**

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The Southern California Earthquake Center (SCEC) Broadband Platform (BBP) is a carefully integrated and validated collection of open-source scientific software programs that can simulate broadband (0–100 Hz) ground motions for earthquakes at regional scales. The BBP uses earthquake rupture and wave propagation modeling software to simulate ground motions from earthquakes. Users input an earthquake location, fault plane geometry and moment magnitude, a list of station locations, and a 1D velocity model for the region of interest, and the BBP software calculates ground motions for the specified stations. The platform also includes validation tools to be used when historical events with recordings are simulated. The BBP scientific software modules implement kinematic rupture, generation, low- and high-frequency seismogram synthesis using wave propagation through 1D layered velocity structures, a site-effects module, several ground motion intensity measure calculations, and various ground motion goodness-of-fit tools. These modules are integrated into a software system that provides users-defined, repeatable, calculation of ground-motion seismograms, using alternative simulation methods, and software utilities to generate tables, plots, and maps. The BBP has been developed over the last seven years in a collaborative project involving geoscientists, earthquake engineers, graduate students, and SCEC software developers. The Broadband Platform is continuously evolving and new versions of the BBP are released periodically on GitHub. The latest SCEC Broadband Platform software can be compiled and run on recent Linux systems with GNU compilers. It includes several simulation methods, eight simulation regions covering California, Japan, Central and Eastern North America, and the ability to compare simulation results against empirical ground motion models. The release also includes updated ground motion simulation methods, and the ability to simulate multi-segment ruptures.

**Differentiating the P and SV Contribution to the Vertical Ground Motions, Using 3D Wave-Propagation Simulations**

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Vertical ground motions have been traditionally neglected in seismic-hazard analysis, because they were believed to have minor effects on civil structures. Specifically, the vertical site-response and the physical parameters which influence it are still poorly understood. In recently-published vertical GMPEs, the site-response component is still represented only by Vc30. However, several studies have shown that in some frequencies, the P-wave contribution to the upright direction could be as large as that of the SV-wave or even more. In this study, we hypothesize that the site-response component in vertical GMPEs can be better predicted by combining P- and S-related site parameters. Because the cost of probabilistic-based seismic hazard evaluation is directly related to the uncertainty estimate, such a knowledge gap motivates a proper study of P/SV relation. In order to examine the relative contribution of P- and SV-waves on the vertical ground motion component, we conduct a series of 3D earthquake scenario simulations. The simulations are performed using the 4th order seismic wave propagation platform (SW4), which is an open-source code utilizing a finite difference approach in a 3D heterogeneous geological model. The P- and SV-wave components are identified using spatial derivatives of the motion, and their ratio is studied in the frequency range of 0.1 to 10 Hz. The dependence of the P/SV ratio on source and path features, such as the inclination angle and the number of soft layers is studied. This study is expected to facilitate a general understanding of how P-wave propagation affects ground motion in vertical directions.

**Simulation of Strong Ground Motion for Northeastern Region of India Using Empirical Green’s Function Method**

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The regions that have experienced great earthquakes in the past are the most probable candidates for the future major/great earthquakes. Seismic hazard assessments should be conducted for seismically active regions in a deterministic way, considering the worst-case scenario earthquakes. In this study the northeastern region of India has been chosen as the setting for simulations of strong ground motion for scenario earthquakes (Mw 7.0) using the empirical Green’s function method with a characterized source model with asperities. Recordings of the 2009 Bhutan earthquake (Mw 5.1 and 6.1) are considered as empirical Green’s functions. Source scaling for the validation of the technique was accomplished by simulation of the Mw 6.1 event using recordings of the Mw 5.1 earthquake with the fault extended to Mw 7.0. The results indicate that the peak ground acceleration (PGA) for a maximum of 121 cm/s/s would be experienced in the northeastern region of India, in the case of a major earthquake of Mw 7.0, and high levels of accelerations would be experienced around sites near the assumed rupture initiation zones. For validating our results, the estimated values of PGA for the scenario Mw 7.0 event were compared with predicted ones from existing ground motion prediction equations for the Himalayan region. The obtained PGA values have provided an idea about the level of accelerations would be experienced around sites near the assumed rupture initiation zones. For validating our results, the estimated values of PGA for the scenario Mw 7.0 event were compared with predicted ones from existing ground motion prediction equations for the Himalayan region. The obtained PGA values have provided an idea about the level of accelerations would be experienced around sites near the assumed rupture initiation zones.
Near-Fault Broadband Ground Motion Simulations of the 2016 Meinong, Taiwan, Earthquake

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We perform near-fault broadband ground motion simulations of the 2016 Meinong, Taiwan, earthquake using the stochastic finite-fault modeling method into which we introduce the frequency-dependent radiation pattern of 5 waves. We simulate the broadband ground motions that recorded large velocity pulses using two hybrid approaches: the hybrid stochastic-mathematical approach and the hybrid stochastic-deterministic approach, and also simulate ground motions that did not record large velocity pulses using the pure stochastic method. The simulated ground motions using the hybrid stochastic-mathematical approach can reproduce observed large velocity pulses of both East–West (EW) and North–South (NS) components, and the simulated 5%-damped spectral accelerations have overall good fitting to the observation data. Due to the limitation of the velocity structure models in Western Taiwan, although the simulated ground motions using the hybrid stochastic-deterministic approach can show similar velocity pulse shapes to the observation data, the simulated peak velocities under- estimate the amplitudes of observed velocity pulses of EW and/or NS components. The peak values and spectral contents of the simulated ground motions using the pure stochastic method fit well to the observation data. Through comparing the current ground motion prediction equations developed for shallow crustal earthquakes in Taiwan with both of the observed and simulated peak ground acceleration and spectral acceleration of the Meinong earthquake, we find that the ground motion prediction equations without the directivity correction term underestimate the spectral accelerations at periods around 1 s and longer for stations that recorded large velocity pulses. Finally we simulate strong ground motions at two collapsed building sites in the Taipei city where there were no observed ground motions.

A New Ground-Motion Model for Iran

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In this study, we develop a new ground motion model for Iran which consists of four seismic regions: (1) Zagros, a continental-continental collision zone of Arabian plate and Central Iranian Microcontinent, (2) Alborz-Azarian located in north and northwest Iran and it is part of Alpine-Himalayan seismic belt, (3) Kope Dagb, a segment of Alpine-Himalayan seismic belt, and (4) Central-East Iran, an intraplate subjected to the foregoing convergent zones. We consider regional differences via Mixed-effects regression model. A total of 1357 three component strong motion records from 1978 to 2013 processed from 211 earthquakes with moment magnitudes 4.5≤M≤7.5, and rupture distances RRUP ≤ 250 km. The strong-motion records are selected from Iranian Strong-Motion National Network which is operated by the Building and Housing Research Center (BHRC). We expanded the database created by Farajpour et al. (2017) to include the near source data by using strong-motion records from Turkey and Greece, which have similar tectonic activity and shallow crustal earthquakes with the focal depth less than 35 km. The new GMM is derived for the Peak Ground Acceleration (PGA) and 5%-damped pseudo-acceleration response-spectral ordinates at periods ranging from 0.01s to 4.00 s and moment magnitudes ranging from 4.5 to 7.5. The GMM is derived for a reference soft rock with an averaged shear-wave velocity in the top 30 m of VS30 = 760 m/s. The distributions of inter-event and intra-event residuals are analyzed to show that the developed GMM has satisfactory performance with no discernible trends in residuals. Furthermore, a comparison of the newly developed GMM will be provided with recent published GMMs for the Iranian region.

Numerical Simulations of Stress Variations with Depth near theBrittle-Ductile Transition of a Strike-Slip Fault

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We perform quasi-static numerical simulations of several types of strike-slip faults and crustal structures to help interpreting stress tensor orientations derived from focal mechanism data around the San Jacinto fault zone. Specifically, we attempt to understand relations of observed rotation of the principal stress axes below 10 km depth to geometrical and rheological properties of the brittle-ductile transition zone. The examined structural models consist of vertical right-lateral frictional fault in horizontal crustal layers andongoing tectonic loading. The following three different simple scenarios are used. In the first the fault is limited to the upper crust and does not extend into the transition zone. In the second the fault extends through the transition zone. In the third the fault extends through the transition zone and is surrounded by a weaker shear zone. The simulations employ the finite element software package PyLith for solving the partial differential equations describing the tectonic deformation. The model geometry is defined using CUBIT meshing software. The preliminary results indicate that the near field stress orientation is rotated when the fault extends into the transition zone. Further analysis will improve the model results with realistic initial stress distribution and to what extent the geometric structure and rheology of the crustal layers can affect the orientation variations of the stress tensor with depth.

Studying the Shear Resistance Response to Rapid Normal-Stress Variations near the Free Surface on Experimental Thrust Faults

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A proper formulation of the shear-resistance evolution during rupture is essential for analyzing many earthquake source problems, including the ground motion. While the shear resistance typically assumed to be proportional to normal stress, several studies show a gradual, slip-dependent, response of the frictional shear resistance to rapid variations in the normal stress. Here we use laboratory experiments of propagating dynamic ruptures together with computer simulations to investigate this problem. Our experiments produce variations in fault-normal stress due to the interaction of dynamic rupture with the free surface, similarly to what occurs in natural thrust events. The experiments also enable to study the potential fault opening and ground motion of the simulated thrust faults. In order to image and quantify the full-field behavior of dynamic ruptures, we use an experimental technique that combines ultra-high speed photography and digital image correlation to produce maps of dynamic displacements, velocities, strains, and stresses at intervals of less than a microsecond. This technique has been successfully used to characterize dynamic friction evolution in laboratory dynamic ruptures (Rubino et al., 2017). It allows us to image the evolution of fault-normal stress and fault-parallel shear stress, and thus to study how friction evolves under the conditions of rapid normal stress variations. We enhance the experiments with dynamic simulations, using a self-developed finite element simulator that enables an accurate modeling of the variation of normal stresses and the implementation of different friction formulations. The simulations help us to design the experiments, explore a wider range of geometries and loading conditions, constraint parameters and conditions that cannot be constrained solely by the experiment, and study how the ground motion would be affected by different assumptions about the friction evolution on the fault near the free surface.

The Effect of Small-Scale Random Heterogeneities in Local Surface Sedimentary Structures on Spatial Variability of Earthquake Ground Motion

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SIGMA, a R&D program of EDF, AREVA, CEA and ENEL in 2011–2015, aimed to obtain robust and stable estimates of the seismic hazard. In the work package focused on estimating the amplification effects of local site conditions on earthquake ground motion (EGM) we numerically investigated potential of typical 2D and 3D surface sedimentary structures to undergo site effects. We performed 1D, 2D and 3D simulations for a shallow Mydognian basin (Greece), a typical deep Alpine valley (Grenoble, France), two small shallow valleys, a mid-size valley, and a large shallow valley. We also performed simulations for a variety of the model modifications to investigate EGM sensitivity to geometry, impedance contrast, attenuation and velocity gradient. We calculated amplification factors of selected 2D, 3D and 3D/2D aggravation factors for 10 EGM characteristics, using a representative set of recorded accelerograms to account for input motion variability. Here we extend the sensitivity study to small-scale random heterogeneities in sediments. We implemented small-scale random heterogenization of P-wave and S-wave speeds, and density in sediments. We applied 3 different auto-
correlation functions – Gaussian, exponential and von-Kármán (we use functions proposed by Frankel and Clayton 1986). They differ in the spectral falloff of their power spectra. We considered 3 different values of standard deviation (5%, 10% and 20%) and fixed values of correlation lengths with a vertical-to-horizontal ratio 1:10. One numerical simulation means only one possible realization of a random process. Thus we performed several realizations for each of 9 combinations of the autocorrelation function and standard deviation. Based on the statistical analysis of the calculated EGM characteristics for thousands of receivers we quantified the effect of random heterogeneities on the amplification and aggravation factors. We quantified EGM spatial variability using coherency function.

The 2017 Kos-Bodrum Earthquake

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The M6.7Kos-Bodrum Earthquake of 21 July 2017 was the largest in a series of seismic events that took place in 2017 along Turkey’s Aegean Sea coast. It was a normal-mechanism earthquake associated with the east-west trending Gokova system. The epicenter was between Turkey and Greece. The damage was limited in the Bodrum peninsula to the north. It was generally higher in the Kos island to the south including partial collapses and casualties. The main shock was recorded by the five-station Bodrum strong motion network operated by the Department of Earthquake Engineering of Bogazici University. All records can be classified as near field and include a distinctive pulse type motion evident in time-domain plots and in response spectra. Although the damage was limited in Bodrum and the ground motion levels were low, damage patterns of individual structures suggest a correlation with the directionality of the event. This study tries to estimate the spatial extent of regions in Bodrum and Kos where long period ground motion was predominant. To this aim we simulate the long-period strong motion deterministically. We compare the spatial distribution of simulated ground motion with that of damaged buildings and also try to correlate damages to individual properties with the large period features of ground motion.

Salvus: A High-Performance Software Suite for Full-Waveform Modelling and Inversion

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The continuously increasing power of high-performance computing systems enables the application of full waveform inversion to a growing range of data sets yielding high-resolution images of the subsurface structure. This contribution focuses on methodological and algorithmic advances in Salvus, a comprehensive collection of software packages covering the complete toolchain of time-domain waveform inversion with modules for numerical wave propagation, meshing, inversion, and workflow management. Salvus’ waveform propagator is based on a continuous high order finite/spectral element discretization and works on conforming unstructured hypercubic and simplicial meshes in 2 and 3 dimensions. A wide variety of wave propagation physics are implemented (acoustic, elastic, viscoelastic, coupled solid-fluid, poroelastic) and a particular focus of the package is a high level of generality without sacrificing performance (zero-cost abstractions). We additionally present a meshing toolbox that provides fully automated meshing for common domains in seismology and seismic exploration, including various local refinement schemes to adjust the element sizes to the velocity model. Furthermore, we introduce an automated, interactive, and graph-based workflow framework to steer the inversion procedure. It subdivides full waveform inversion with modules for numerical wave propagation, meshing, and the workflow management. Salvus’ waveform propagator is based on a continuous high order finite/spectral element discretization and works on conforming unstructured hypercubic and simplicial meshes in 2 and 3 dimensions. A wide variety of wave propagation physics are implemented (acoustic, elastic, viscoelastic, coupled solid-fluid, poroelastic) and a particular focus of the package is a high level of generality without sacrificing performance (zero-cost abstractions).

Onshore Quaternary and Contemporary Tectonics: Implications for Seismic Hazards
Poster Session · Tuesday 15 May · Riverfront South

Guaiacaros Fault System, Boyaca, Casanare, Cundinamarca and Meta Departments, Colombia: A Review

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The Guaiacaros Fault System (GFS) consists of several parallel faults with 45° NE strike average and defines the eastern edge of the Colombian Eastern Cordillera. These faults cut Cretaceous and Paleogene sediments mainly, and have built an orogenic wedge that defines geomorphically the Llanos Foothills in this region (For this region Paris et al. 2000, have classified the faults central and southern Guaiacaros). The GFS was created from Late Miocene by the tectonic inversion of normal faults that originated mostly during a transtensional regime that developed during Late Oligocene–Early Miocene lapse, when the Panama arc began to adjust in the northwest corner of South America. In the last 3 millions years with the adjustment of Panama arc and the development of the current geometry of the subduction slab of Nazca plate under northwestern South America toward north of 4° N, the orogenic wedge started to grow where its eastern boundary is the central and southern Guaiacaros faults planes. In this work we analyzed the GFS in the limits of Boyaca, Casanare, Cundinamarca and Meta departments, where several hot springs are associated to the fault scarp of Southern Guaiacaros fault. These hot springs are an geotourism interest. It is sought here to try to understand the relationship that exists between the presence of hot springs with fault planes in deep and its tectonic activity with help of geologic and geophysi regional data review. In same way, a review of the seismology information is made with data available from National Colombian Seismological Network. In this region was occur the M 0= 6.5 earthquake of january 19, 1995.

Geophysical Imaging of a Near-Surface Fault System at Billecocoa High Plateau, Ecuador

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Refraction seismic profiles and Ground Penetration Radar (GPR) lines were acquired at Billecocoa’s High Plateau (BHP), Imbabura-Ecuador, to visualize a fault zone at the near surface. The faults present at BHP occur about 4000 meters above sea level (masl) in a nature reserve in an area four km wide by ten km long. The processes responsible for the faults still remain in discussion. However they are located near densely populated urban centers, such as Ibarra, destroyed in 1868 by an earthquake. In this context, our work aims to fill the gap left by previous regional tectonic studies by providing an accurate near-surface image of the zone and evidence of the faults’ kinematics. The design of the seismic experiment comprised dense profiles, using 4.5 Hz geophones. Both source points and receivers spaced at 1 m intervals, allowing 3 profiles of high density. Three reflection radargrams were acquired along ten 50 m long lines using two different antenna frequencies (250 and 100 MHz). Generalized Reciprocal Method and Seismic Traveltime Tomography were used to provide a preliminary image of the faults. The average velocity of the radar impulse was obtained with ground markers and was used to correct the radargrams. A multichannel analysis of surface waves (MASW) was also carried out to complement the study. Thanks to these technological applications at the study site a conspicuous normal fault zone is synergistically imaged. The thickness of the sedimentary layers were obtained comparing the images from the refraction and GPR surveys. An average for both P and S wave velocities was estimated for the layers involved in the fault mechanism using the analysis of the refraction profiles and MASW. The 2D near-surface final
The Next Big Earthquake: The Usual and the Unusual

Suspects
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Repeated Earthquake Uplift at Icy Point, Glacier Bay National Park, Alaska: Strain Partitioning at a Restraining Border in the Fairweather Fault?

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Differencing the two RSL histories over the past 6–7 ka, which accounts for the GIA and eustatic components of RSL change, implies 6.4–8.2 mm/yr of tectonic uplift at Icy Point. These rates agree with the thermochronometric rock uplift rate of 5–10 mm/yr at Icy Point averaged over the past 300 ka. The Fairweather Fault accommodates both right-lateral and vertical displacement at Icy Point, but whether or not strain is partitioned into lateral and vertical displacement in separate earthquakes remains unclear.

Preliminary Paleoseismology of the Buffalo Bowl Trench Site on the Teton Fault

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The Teton normal fault runs along the eastern base of the prominent Teton range for ~70 km and defines the northeastern margin of the Basin and Range extensional province (Wyoming, USA). The fault has a latest Pleistocene vertical slip rate of ~1–2 mm/yr as indicated by faulted Pinedale glacial surfaces. However, a paleoseismic record of two surface-faulting earthquakes on the fault at ~8 and ~7–5 ka (Granite Canyon site) suggests a Holocene slip rate of only 0.55 mm/yr. Uncertainty remains in which slip-rate values are most appropriate for hazard modeling. Additional questions stem from the fault’s sparse paleoseismic data, including the completeness of the paleoseismic record and the rupture extent and recurrence of past large earthquakes. To address these questions, we excavated a trench across a ~9-m-high scarp at the Buffalo Bowl site on the southeastern third of the fault, ~4 km southwest of Granite Canyon. The trench exposed ~20° east-dipping, coarsely-grained alluvial-fan deposits vertically offset a total of ~5 m. The Teton fault is expressed as a 50°–70°-east-dipping plane that juxtaposes weathered footwall bedrock and overlying fan gravel with scarp-derived colluvium. A 6-m-wide graben has trapped colluvial sediments near the base of the scarp. We interpret three surface-faulting earthquakes at the site using colluvial-wedge texture and fabric, cross-cutting fault relations, and evidence of weak paleostress orientations within the sediments. Likely correlated footwall and hanging-wall fan sediments are possibly latest Pleistocene to early Holocene in age and preserve displacement from a previously unrecorded Teton-fault earthquake. Pending radiocarbon ages for charcoal and luminescence ages for fine sand and silt will help resolve the timing of these earthquakes. Comparison of our paleoseismic results with the Granite Canyon record and other ongoing investigations will help resolve the fault’s late Quaternary earthquake history and slip rate.

What Is the Source Fault of the 1562 Earthquake in the Dominican Republic?

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In northern Hispaniola, the strike-slip Septentrional Fault (SF) and the Northern Hispaniola Thrust (NHT) are both potential earthquake sources. While the NHT is known to have ruptured in 1842 based on damage reports, the age of the most recent earthquake (MRE) on the onshore SF is controversial (see Prentice et al., 2013). Paleoseismic investigations near the city of Santiago de los Caballeros provide important constraints. The MRE is constrained by radiocarbon dating to 1200 AD at two sites. At a third site 20 km to the west, the MRE occurred between 780 and 1640 AD, consistent with the 1200 AD age for the MRE but not definitively prehistoric. Based on four historic reports and contrary to the paleoseismic evidence, Ten Brink et al. (2011) propose that a damaging earthquake in 1562 ruptured the SF. We sought to test this idea by excavating near the third site at Santiago Viejo, the location of a Spanish church and settlement established in 1508 and destroyed by earthquake shaking in 1562. The trenches were located within meters of the church foundation, which sits next to a subdued fault scarp that is the only geomorphic evidence of the SF in this area. We document a fault zone with fissures and faulting that produce 10–50 cm of vertical separation at the base of a thick organic-rich unit. The faults appear to terminate in this layer and do not offset an overlying unit that contains abundant cultural items. Unfortunately, unconformities in the section prevent application of an unequivocal radiocarbon age model to the contact above the faulting. We thus find no positive evidence for a historic event near Santiago as the cultural layer is not faulted, but formal uncertainties in the radiocarbon dates do not rule out a 1562 date. The source fault of the 1562 earthquake remains an important question, as locating it on the SF would reduce the time since the MRE by roughly half.

A Paleoseismic Investigation of the Northern Teton Fault at the Steamboat Mountain Trench Site, Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming

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The Teton fault is the major range bounding normal fault along the eastern flank of the Teton Range in western Wyoming and a significant contributor to regional seismic hazard. The ~70 km-long fault has an estimated vertical slip rate of ~1–2 mm/yr; however, the history of large earthquakes on the fault remains uncertain because paleoseismic data are restricted to the central and southern parts of the fault near Leigh Lake, Granite Canyon, and Teton Village. Although the northern section has remained understudied, possible paleoquakification features along Jackson Lake suggest strong ground motion from earthquakes with inferred ages of ~4 and ~1.6 ka. The ages differ from paleoseismic results from Granite Creek, but cannot be directly attributed to the Teton fault due to a lack of paleoseismic data for its northernmost section. To address the uncertainty in the paleoseismology of the northernmost Teton fault, we excavated two paleoseismic trenches at the Steamboat Mountain site, within 5 km of the northern fault termination. The trenches crossed a ~1–3 m-high down-to-the-east, uphhill-facing scar that traverses a west-facing Pleistocene glacial and alluvial-fan surface. The trench exposed fine-grained, well-stratified hanging wall deposits with intervals of charcoal and paleosols. These sediments interface with scarp-derived colluvial wedges that unconformably overlie coarse-grained, glacially derived footwall deposits. We infer two late Quaternary surface-faulting earthquakes at the site and the basis of two scarp-derived colluvial wedges exposed in each trench. Radiocarbon and luminescence samples (ages pending) will constrain the timing of earthquakes. Comparison of our results with existing and pending paleoseismic records for sites to the south and to the inferred palaeoliquefaction ages will help to refine the timing and rupture length of Teton fault earthquakes.

Regional Seismic Network Approaches and Stakeholder Collaborations

Poster Session • Tuesday 15 May • Riverfront South

Improvements to CISN Ground-Motion Packet Association Scheme

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Shortly after an earthquake, California Integrated Seismic Network (CISN) members exchange parametric ground-motion data from continuous real-time and triggered systems in the form of packets for use in applications such as ShakeMap. The packets contain peak ground motions and their lapse times but not phase information. When packets are exchanged without earthquake information, the network that receives the packets uses the peak ground-motion lapse times to associate them with an earthquake. Peak ground-motion parameters and their corresponding lapse times depend on several factors such as magnitude, source-site distance, regional velocity structure and site effects. We investigate the effects of these factors on the ground motion amplitudes and lapse times in order to develop a set of criteria for associating ground motion packets with an earthquake. The criteria we propose here can also be applied in the picking of amplitudes from waveforms in real-time systems. By analyzing a large set of waves and parametric data from the CISN for ground motions, we establish criteria for associating ground motion amplitudes and lapse times with earthquakes. First, we define a distance-dependent time window for association. Additionally, we use ground-motion prediction equations (GMPE) to define a magnitude-dependent distance, Dmax, the maximum fault distance at which the predicted peak ground acceleration fall below a threshold of 0.01g. We consider the Western United States (WUS) and the Central and Eastern US (CEUS) separately, yielding Dmax in km as 100(M−1) for WUS and 500(M−3) for CEUS. During rapid response to an earthquake when fault information is not available yet, we scale Dmax by estimates of fault-rupture lengths obtained from magnitude-length relationships to account for fault finiteness. Utilizing Dmax can filter out a significant number of very low ground motion amplitudes at greater distances that are prone to noise, and therefore improving the quality of data going into ShakeMap.

Ana-Net Seismic Network: Eskisehir and Bursa, Turkey

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Ana-Net seismic network, located in Bursa and Eskisehir Provinces of Turkey, has an important role in determination of the focal mechanisms and the earthquake hazards of the sources of mainly North Anatolian Fault (NAF) and Eskisehir Fault Zone (EFZ). Ana-Net seismic monitoring network has strong/weak-motion stations with 26 stations, covering the provinces of Eskisehir and Bursa. It has been established between the dates 01.04.2005 and 08.02.2014. It is composed of 18 strong-motion and 8 weak motion stations. Eskisehir is situated within the second degree earthquake region on the seismic hazard zonation map of Turkey, published by the Ministry of Reconstruction and Settlement (1996). For this reason, it is generally considered that in Eskisehir there is no relevant degree of seismic hazard. However, several moderately sized historical earthquakes (between M=5 and M=7) have occurred in Eskisehir. At least 16 earthquakes (M≥4) occurred on the EFZ in the 20th century and the most significant seismic event in the instrumental period was the 20.02.1956 (M: 6.5). This network provides to be useful for research and practice in engineering and strong/weak-motion seismology. Earthquakes were recorded by the array in the Eskisehir, Bursa and near of the region. To make accurate epicenter locations and to produce damage prediction maps after a strong earthquake in the region, we plan to establish additional stations near the Eskisehir and Bursa Basin. Ana-Net is part of the national strong/weak-motion network of the Disaster and Emergency Management Presidency-Earthquake Research Department (DEMP-ERD) - Ankara. Ultimately, in Ana-Net seismic network, the data received from the stations are automatically evaluated on-line in the Seiscomp 3 program. In addition, the seismic signals are evaluated manually and exact results are obtained.

The Jalisco Seismic Accelerometric Telemetric Network (RESAJ)

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The Jalisco Seismic Accelerometric Telemetric Network (RESAJ)
Seismometer Orientation of the Broadband Network of the Mexican Servicio Sismológico Nacional

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We estimate the noise levels for sixty-three seismic stations that constitute the Broadband Network of the Mexican Servicio Sismológico Nacional (National Seismological Service, SSN). We analyze the noise median for each month the station has been in operation. In general, the noise level of the broadband network stations is within the noise model by Peterson (1993). However, there are few stations with a cultural noise contribution, reflected in high noise levels at high frequencies. Also, environmental variations at some stations, e.g., strong winds and storms affect the noise levels, mainly at low frequencies. In some sites, construction of new buildings (e.g., nearby buildings) permanently altered the noise levels. Stations closer to the coast exhibit a stronger contribution of microseisms, which manifest time variations related to meteorological phenomena. A historical examination helps us to establish the base noise level of each station, evaluate changes that could occur in the future and quantify data quality. Furthermore, based on the median noise level we evaluate the current detection level of the national network, which includes the Broadband Network and another 100 seismic stations from other regional and local networks, that send their data to the SSN for earthquake location. For this, we use the median noise level for each SSN station and an average noise level for the others. Given the current level in the country, we propose the installation of 52 new seismic stations to achieve homogeneous level detection in the whole nation.

Seismicity in Pennsylvania and the Pennsylvania State Seismic Network

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Seismicity in Pennsylvania results from natural earthquakes, mining blasts, and other induced events. Earthquakes occur primarily in the northwestern and southeastern portions of the state. Seismic events caused by mine and quarry blasts occur throughout the state, mainly in the coal mining regions, and although rare, there have been seismic events associated with hydraulic fracturing. However, to date there are no known seismic events linked to wastewater injection. In 2006, The Pennsylvania State University, in collaboration with the Bureau of Topographic and Geologic Survey within the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR), began constructing a network of seismic stations to detect and locate seismicity in the state. Between 2006 and 2013, the network grew to a total of 10 seismic stations providing near real time, open access seismic data. In late 2015, an expansion of the network to 30 broadband seismic stations began with funding from the DCNR and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Construction of the 30-station network was completed in August 2016. The 30 stations in the network plus another 13 broadband stations by other organizations provide fairly even data coverage across the Commonwealth. Data from these stations, in addition to data from 28 stations in neighboring states, are used to monitor seismicity within Pennsylvania. In addition to the broadband seismic stations, in 2017 7 short-period stations were installed at two wastewater injection sites and have been included in the current PASEIS network. Data from

Noise and Detection Levels of the Seismic Network of the Mexican Servicio Sismológico Nacional

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The purpose of this work is to determine the quality of the information obtained from the seismological stations that constitute the Broadband Network of the Mexican Servicio Sismológico Nacional (National Seismological Service, SSN). We estimate the orientation of the seismometer installed at each site of the Broadband Network for different epochs; each epoch is defined by changes in digitizer or the seismometer. The correct orientation of the sensors is relevant to the RESAJ has 25 telemetered and two autonomous stations. The RESAJ serves as the seismological lab for the posgraduate program at SisVOc. The primary research goals of the project focus on identifying and characterize previously unknown seismogenic structures in the Jalisco region.
The primary operational goal of the University of Utah Seismograph Stations (UUSS) is the collection and preservation of ground motion data. In 2007 the State of Utah provided funding for UUSS to design and build out a hard-

cored seismic network. Initially, we took four steps toward realizing this goal: (1) a data center hot site was developed at the State of Utah backup facilities in Richfield, Utah, (2) data collection nodes were distributed across the State, (3) additional data nodes were built at radio relays on mountain tops, and (4) data feeds were established to the U. S. Geological Survey. This initial phase was tar-

ged at removing the University of Utah as a single point of failure and provid-

ing multiple copies of seismic data for redundancy. Subsequently, data storage

and computer redundancy have been increased at the mountain top relay sites and Raspberry Pi’s have been added to stations without adequate storage to pre-
venting data loss in the case of telemetry failures. To make this system work, the 

SEEDLink protocol is used to backfill data, and a local Common Wave Buffer

(CWB) and the IRIS DMC are populated with continuous data. The next phase of preserving data involves keeping up with the ever changing technological

and security advances. Current work involves migrating all aspects of the UUSS net-

work to IPv6 (the next generation of the Internet Protocol) due to the limitation on static IP numbers, and upgrading cell modems to support 4G and IPv6 to handle upgrades from our Internet Service Providers.

**The Northern California Seismic System: History, Operations, and Upgrades to Seismic Monitoring for Earthquake Early Warning**

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We describe the ongoing efforts of the Northern California Seismic System (NCSS) in upgrading and densifying the northern California regional seismic

networks for Earthquake Early Warning (EEW) use. The NCSS was born in the late 1990s from the integration of UC Berkeley's Berkeley Digital Seismic Network (BDSN) and the USGS's Northern California Seismic Network (NCSN), previously two separate earthquake monitoring networks both in place since the mid-1960s to monitor Northern California earthquakes. The construc-

tion, implementation and operation of West Coast ShakeAlert, an earthquake early warning (EEW) system for the US West Coast is both an opportunity and a challenge for the NCSS. Upgrades and additions to network infrastructure of the NCSN and BDSN during the early 2000s mean that the seismic network in the San Francisco Bay Area is already ready for EEW but gaps remained in other parts of Nor Cal. With funding from the state and federal governments, the NCSS, with collaborators at the California Geological Survey and other regional operators of seismic stations, is embarking on extensive upgrades to both the seis-
mic networks and data telemetry systems. Our target is to have station spacing of

10 km or less in population centers and regions with high earthquake hazard, to achieve rapid detection and reporting. In less populous and lower hazard areas, station spacing will be ~20 km. The new and upgraded stations are targeted to be deployed over the next 2 years. The goal is to reach 400 stations in a timely and cost-effective manner.

Monitoring and Early Warning Center for Earthquakes and Tsunamis at INETER, Nicaragua – 2018

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We describe the efforts of INETER to establish a regional seismic network for

Earthquake Early Warning (EEW) in Nicaragua. The INETER network was estab-

lished in 2010 and has operated in an ad-hoc fashion with a small number of

stations. As part of INETER's participation in the US West Coast ShakeAlert

system, INETER is developing an early warning system for EEW in Nicaragua.

This paper describes the current network status, ongoing work to expand and

improve the network, and plans for the future.
In the last years, the Monitoring and Early Warning Center for Earthquakes and Tsunamis at INETER, Nicaragua, has developed rapidly due to new responsibilities INETER acquired at national and international level. In 2015, it became home of the Central American Tsunami Advisory Center CATAC. In 2016, INETER started a cooperation with the Swiss Seismological Service on Earthquake Early Warning (EEW). To permit tsunami services and EEW for Nicaragua and Central America we extended our seismic network and intensified data exchange with the networks in the region. Computing hardware was greatly enhanced. We abandoned SEISAN (in place since 1991) for routine processing and rely now completely on the SeisComP3 package. In 2016, we started to use experimentally the EEW modules included in SeisComP3. In January of 2018, we installed the tsunami modules of the package. Seismic and tsunami processing is first done automatically but after a few minutes the seismologist on duty revise the results. We receive and process real time data from about 90 stations in Nicaragua, and around 250 stations from the other Central America countries, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Costa Rica and Panama. Additionally, we process around 200 global seismic station for our global locator. The monthly number of processed seismic events increased from around 120 to around 1000. The personnel working 24x7 was capacitated in the use of the software and the scientific exploitation of the data. The earthquake detection and location quality increased drastically for the events below the Pacific Ocean of Nicaragua, in the border regions to the neighboring countries and in the Caribbean Sea. Information and alarm messages are sent out automatically and manually to seismological and civil protection agencies in Central America. We thank JICA-Nicaragua, JMA/Tokio and University of Hokkaido for cooperation on CATAC, and of Swiss Technical Cooperation DEZA and SED/ETHZ on the development of EEW.

**Station and Telemetry Impact Metrics for Earthquake Early Warning Seismic Network Performance Evaluation**

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Funding agencies and network operators share an interest in understanding the performance benefits from investments in seismic stations and telemetry. The earthquake early warning (EEW) mission comes with additional requirements for coverage and resilience compared to conventional regional seismic monitoring. EEW alerts require greater spatial coverage, and network communications have to maintain that coverage after a damaging earthquake in order to alert on large aftershocks. Network reliability under these circumstances requires independent telemetry modes and spatial interleaving to reduce exposure single-point-of-failure vulnerabilities. To measure the contributions of individual stations and telemetry investments in the context of the EEW mission, we adapt the alert time calculator from Hotovec-Ellis et al. (SRL, 2017). EEW alert times to some central point are calculated using the current network assuming sources on a grid covering the network region. A candidate new station is then added and the calculation is repeated. The new station decreases time to alert in some area around it. We summarize its effect in a new metric with units of km^2-seconds, for the total area improved times the alert time improvement. The impact of station removal is computed the same way except that alerts are delayed. We can compute telemetry system impact metrics by removing or adding related stations as a group. The impact score can be modified by a proxy probability of earthquake occurrence in the affected area. We use these approaches to evaluate station and backhaul telemetry plans for the West Coast ShakeAlert EEW system. This analysis identified opportunities to improve the CSN network cell service or internet dependence is significant. Station and hub improvements are being implemented. We have also used these results to draft new plans for West Coast network telemetry coverage.

**Reclamation Dam Safety Office – Strong Motion Monitoring Program**

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The Bureau of Reclamation’s Dam Safety Office ensures dams do not present unreasonable risk to people, property, and the environment. A component of dam safety is strong motion instrumentation of selected facilities and estimation of PGAs at non-instrumented facilities. The Strong Motion Monitoring Program (SMP) provides earthquake notification, analysis, and related information to dam safety personnel, facility managers, dam engineers, and cooperators to make informed decisions on implementation of Emergency Action Plans for facilities that may have been affected by strong ground shaking. The SMP has been in operation since the early 1970s beginning with autonomous triggered accelerometers co-located to Plain Of Six Glaciers (POSG) in mid-1990s with triggered accelerometers, and now, is in the process of converting to real-time continuous Ethernet. In conjunction with communication upgrades, strong motion instrumentation and infrastructure are being modernized along with supplementary data provided by a virtual array of nearby non-BOR seismic stations (ANSS, SCSSN, NCSN, PNSN). These upgrades are occurring in parallel to implementation of Earthworm as the SMP’s production data acquisition, processing, and analysis system. Together the SMP production system will provide high quality, real-time continuous data to evaluate PGAs and RSAs for earthquakes at dams with instrumentation and estimated PGAs for others. With real-time continuous data (archival IRIS-DMC) we have opportunity to perform additional analyses to better analyze site response characteristics, evaluate structural responses from both natural and non-natural sources, verify numerical models, and correlate real-time data with GPS static monitoring and InSAR analysis. Acquiring real-time data reduces dependence on successful recording and timely transmission of onsite triggered data ensuring waveforms are always available. Triggering will still be enabled for temporary onsite storage and later retrieval if required. The advantage of 24/7 communication is up-to-date state-of-health monitoring of instrumentation with timely reporting and analysis.
Using GeoGateway to Reveal Fracture-Advancing Step Tectonics following the 2010 Mw 7.2 El Mayor-Cucapah Earthquake

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GeoGateway is a web-based science gateway that allows UAVSAR interferometric synthetic aperture radar data to be analyzed in the context of other geophysical, geologic, and geodetic data sources. We applied GeoGateway tools to measure crustal deformation surrounding the Yuha desert to characterize fault slip and broader deformation following the 4 April 2010 Mw 7.2 El Mayor—Cucapah (EMC) earthquake. UAVSAR observations from October of 2009 to April 2017 of the Yuha desert and Ocotillo, CA, and GPS time series surrounding the region reveal a northward migrating pattern of deformation. The north end of the EMC rupture exhibits an asymmetric pattern of deformation with substantial and smooth deformation occurring northeast of the rupture and limited, but surface fracturing slip, to the northwest. The earthquake triggered about 1 cm of coseismic slip on the Yuha fault, which continued to slip postseismically. Following a logarithmic afterslip decay with a short timescale of 16 days, 2.5 cm of Yuha fault slip occurred by the 15 June 2010 Mw 5.7 Ocotillo aftershock and 4 cm of slip occurred by 2017. The Ocotillo aftershock triggered 1.4 cm of slip on a northwest trend that extends to the Elsinore fault. By 7 years after the El Mayor—Cucapah earthquake, 2.4 cm of slip had occurred with a distribution that follows an afterslip logarithmic decay consistent with a 16 day timescale. GPS data show broad coseismic uplift of the Salton Trough and subsidence west of the rupture extension of the Ocotillo earthquakes following the 2010 EMC rupture. The data indicate that the Elsinore, Laguna Salada, and El Mayor—Cucapah ruptures are part of the same fault zone. The results also suggest that north-south shortening and east-west extension across the region drove fracture advancing step tectonics north of the El Mayor—Cucapah earthquake rupture.

MSNoise—Not Only dv/dt! (and ObsPy)

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MSNoise is an Open and Free Python package known to be the only complete integrated workflow designed to analyze ambient seismic noise and study relative velocity changes (dv/dt) in the crust. It is based on state of the art and well maintained Python modules, among which ObsPy plays an important role. To our knowledge, it is officially used for continuous monitoring at least in three notable places: the Observatory of the Piton de la Fournaise volcano (OVFP, France), the Auckland Volcanic Field (New Zealand) and on the South Napa earthquake (Berkeley, USA). It is also used by many researchers to process archive data, e.g. focusing on fault zones, intraplate Europe, geothermal exploitations or Antarctica. We first present the general working of MSNoise, originally written in 2010 to automatically scan data archives and process seismic data in order to produce dv/dt time series. We demonstrate that its modularity provides a new potential to easily test new algorithms for each processing step. For example, to extract periodic noise (as the dominant mode in the frequency domain), stacking (default is linear stacking, averaging), or dt/dt or dv/dt estimation (default is moving window cross-spectrum “MWCS”, so-called “doubler”), etc. Finally, we present the last major evolution of MSNoise, from a single workflow: data archive to dv/dv to a framework system that allows plugins and modules to be developed and integrated into the MSNoise ecosystem. Examples of plugins inside the miniSEED as continuous PPSD (a la McNamarra & Buland) or ambient noise tomography (ASNTW) will be presented. This poster will also present the latest developments of ObsPy and applications using it.

Parsing and Transforming Textual Seismic Data Using Parser Generators

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One of the most common tasks in seismology is preparing data for analysis, which commonly involves parsing, transforming, and cleaning test data. When data are in tidy formats, like tabular files (e.g. CSV) or other structured files (e.g. JSON or XML), parsing and transforming data can leverage existing tools. When data are semistructured or otherwise ad hoc, such as legacy “in-house” formats or data collected directly from instruments, existing tools for reading and parsing data may not exist. Writing ad hoc parsing scripts is a common solution, but these are generally fragile, inflexible, and require re-writing for each new format. Parser generators, originally developed in the fields of linguistics and computer science, were developed to solve these problems. Here, we present the application of parser generators towards the parsing and transforming of two non-standard seismic data formats. Parsing is done by declaring a “grammar”, or syntax, for the format, and then an existing parser generator tool is used to parse and optionally transform the data. A command-line utility written in Python, called Bulletproof, further facilitates parsing and conversion of new textual seismic data through a plugin infrastructure.

Tsunami Modeling and Hazard Assessment

Poster Session • Tuesday 15 May • Riverfront South

Run-Up Estimation Using Non-Uniform Stochastic Sources: The South American Subduction Zone

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Throughout history, megathrust earthquakes have produced large tsunamis that have devastated coastal cities in the near and far field. South America hosts one of the largest subduction zones in the world and it is important to study tsunami-hazardic earthquakes here to forecast and mitigate future catastrophes. We estimate the maximum magnitude of possible earthquakes along the South American subduction interface using scaling laws, subducting seafloor features, seismic-geodetic coupling and seismic history. We use the Slab2 subduction zone geometry model from the United States Geological Survey (USGS) to constrain the geometry of the interface. Then, we estimate tsunami run-up using numerical modeling for 100 non-uniform stochastic k^2 sources in each targeted area. Our results show great variability in run-up distribution along the Nazca-South America subduction zone. The most vulnerable areas are: Valparaíso in Chile, with a most likely scenario of 20 m run-up and a maximum of 33 m, and Lima in Peru, with a most likely scenario exceeding 25 meters of run-up and a maximum of 40 meters. Similar results are obtained in Huasco, Chile, and Iquique, Chile, and other areas along the Pacific Coast of South America. We conclude that tsunami hazard remains high along South America, even in areas where megathrust earthquakes have recently occurred.

Modeling the Tsunami Potential along the Pacific Coast of Central America

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At least 40 tsunamis have been generated along the Middle America Trench, according with tsunami catalogs. There are no records of mega earthquakes originated there; probably associated to the low coupling in some sections and the
presence of seismic barriers. However, moderate ruptures have caused important tsunami damage in the region. The 1992 Nicoya Peninsula Earthquake generated a tsunami with a maximum runup of 9.5 m, the largest recorded in Central America, leaving over 300 deaths and considerable damages. The 2012 El Salvador Mw 7.3 tsunami had a maximum 6 m runup fortunately over a sparsely populated region. Both events were categorized as "tsunami-earthquakes", suggesting that this margin is prone to earthquakes rupturing along the shallow parts of the interplate seismic zone. In 2016 a group of experts met under the coordination of IOC/ UNESCO to discuss the tsunami potential along the Pacific Coast of Central America and the north of South America, by integrating several geophysical and geological criteria. Here we model the tsunami scenarios proposed at that meeting to contribute in assessing the tsunami threat for the region. Four scenarios were considered between Guatemala and Panama and one offshore Colombia and Ecuador using NEOWAVE numerical model. The results show that the largest tsunami could be originated along the segments between Guatemala and El Salvador, in Central America and along the Colombia-Ecuador tectonic margins. The latter would be the only one affecting the complete Central American Pacific Coast. These results are a contribution for the disaster management offices of the Central American countries to increase the tsunami preparedness within the region.

A Working Group on Tsunami Source Synthesis for Hazards Mitigation in the United States

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The need for a set of realistic and consistent tsunami source models was identified as a high priority for tsunami hazard mitigation at a 2016 workshop between US Geological Survey (USGS) scientists and the National Tsunami Hazards Mitigation Program (NTHMP). The NTHMP, a federal/state partnership group funded by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), is composed of representatives (emergency managers and scientists) from the tsunami-vulnerable U.S. states and territories, plus representatives from NOAA, the USGS, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Members of the NTHMP’s Mapping and Modeling Subcommittee have formed a working group, supported by the USGS Powell Center, to produce a collection of vetted earthquake and landslide tsunami sources. The work of this group will transfer decades of research on subduction zone earthquakes and coastal landslides, along with expertise on tsunami modeling, to the mitigation community. The working group will start by addressing the scientific question of how increasing sophistication in tsunami source models impacts products such as evacuation plans, mitigation, and land-use planning. It will then synthesize existing geological and geophysical knowledge of subduction zone earthquake faults and coastal landslide sources to produce a database of source models for use in creating hazards assessments for risk reduction. Here we report on the first Powell Center-supported workshop on tsunami source synthesis, held April 9–13, 2018. We will also seek community input on the types of models required to define an earthquake or landslide tsunami source in order to provide sufficient accuracy for mitigation products, while also considering the impact of additional computational expense on the number of sources and models to be created.

Operational Significance of the Quality of the Earthquake Source Parameters Listed in the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center’s Observatory Messages versus the Tsunami Bulletins That Followed

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The Pacific Tsunami Warning Center (PTWC) in Honolulu, Hawaii, routinely analyses most earthquakes with a 5.5 or larger magnitude occurring around the world. The PTWC first issues an unofficial observatory message (OM) containing a set of preliminary parameters for these events. When the estimated magnitude crosses the 6.5 magnitude threshold, however, the protocol calls for the issuance of at least one tsunami information bulletin. For years, PTWC geoscientists assumed that the inclusion of more stations in the initial analysis automatically improved the quality of the preliminary source parameters. We assessed the validity of these assumptions by matching 627 observatory messages issued by the PTWC between 2015 and 2017 with the official tsunami messages that followed. We then computed the epicentral offsets, magnitude residuals, and response times against the source parameters listed in later, more authoritative earthquake catalogs. These statistics reveal that for 54% of the earthquakes both the OM’s and the official tsunami messages reported the same magnitude despite up to 20 additional minutes of processing time. Paraadoxically, in another 17% of the cases, the magnitude residuals worsened instead of improving. In the remaining 29%, the earthquake magnitude estimates saw improvements characterized by a median of 0.3 magnitude unit. These results show that, except when dealing with some very large or complex earthquakes, the quality of PTWC’s earthquake preliminary parameters benefits little by the extra message delays incurred by adding more stations to the initial analysis. We conclude that in the overwhelming majority of cases waiting to include more stations in the initial analysis, or manually reviewing individual station magnitudes before issuing the first official message product turns into a waste of otherwise precious time, something particularly crucial when warning of an impending tsunami in the near field.

Speeding Up and Boosting Tsunami Warning Alerts in Chile

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Chile hosts a great tsunamigenic potential along its coast, even with the large earthquakes occurred during the last decade, there is still a large amount of seismic energy to release. This permanent feature and the fact that the distance between the trench and the coast is just 100 km creates a difficult environment to do real time tsunami forecast. In Chile tsunami warnings are based on reports of the seismic events (hypocenter and magnitude) and a database of precomputed tsunami scenarios. However, because yet there is no answer to image the finite-fault model within first minutes after the earthquake arrival, the precomputed scenarios consider uniform slip distributions. Here, we propose a scheme of processes to fill the gaps in-between blind zones due to waiting of demanding computational stages. The linear shallow water equations are solved to obtain a rapid estimation of the run-up distribution in the near field. Our results show that this linear method captures most of the complexity of the run-up heights in terms of shape and amplitude when compared with a fully nonlinear tsunami code. Also, the run-up distribution is obtained in quasi-real-time as soon as the seismic finite fault model is produced.

Modeling Tsunami Inundation Effects from a Hypothetical Submarine Landslide from the Arecibo Amphitheater on the Coastal San Juan Metropolitan Area

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The island of Puerto Rico in the northeastern Caribbean is only ~150 km south of the Puerto Rico Trench (PRT). With its earthquake and tsunamigenic potential, the PRT makes the island vulnerable to strong shaking and potentially devastating tsunami wave events. In 2018, there will be exactly 100 years since the last significant earthquake and tsunami affected the island, particularly, at the northwestern coast of the island. Moreover, bathymetric studies along the PRT have mapped large submarine landslides just 50 km north of the northern coast of Puerto Rico, which provide evidence that tsunamis from these sources could affect the northeastern coast of the island. This study simultaneously simulates the generation and propagation of tsunami waves induced by landslides, TSUNAMI3D, with a 2D depth integrated non-hydrostatic model, NEOWAVE to generate wave propagation and quantify inundation and run-up within the coastal area of San Juan, the capital city. The inundation generated by the simulation covers 27 km², which is 18 km² more than the inundation generated as soon as the seismic finite fault model is produced.

Honduras Tsunami Evacuation Maps, Plans, Procedures (Tempp)

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The TEMPP project in Honduras was a project designed to start from scratch as soon as the seismic finite fault model is produced.

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Advances on the Parameterization of Seismic Attenuation: Current Challenges and Opportunities

Oral Session · Wednesday 16 May · 2:15 PM · Monroe Session Chairs: Ashly Cabas, Stefano Parolai, Celine Gelis, and Albert Kottke

Attenuation Differences between the Canadian Shield and Appalachian Orogeny in Eastern Canada

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Seismic attenuation can provide insight into the tectonic history and underlying geophysical processes of a region but it also contributes to seismic hazard assessment as it affects the level of shaking from an earthquake. Spatially varying attenuation across tectonic zones has implications for hazard at regional scales. While not at a plate boundary, eastern Canada is tectonically complex with the Canadian Shield and Appalachians comprising two of the major geological provinces. The St. Lawrence River, home to several of the most seismically active regions in eastern Canada, marks much of the boundary between the two regions. Current seismic hazard models treat all of eastern Canada as one region in terms of crustal structure and attenuation but we find increasing evidence from a wide variety of data that there are differences in attenuation between the Shield and Appalachians with higher attenuation in the latter. Magnitude residuals for earthquakes occurring along the Shield/Appalachian boundary show that magnitudes are lower at stations on the Appalachian crust at both local and regional distances suggesting higher attenuation. Station site corrections also indicate underestimation of magnitudes at Appalachian stations. Predicted ground motions from peak amplitudes of Lg arrivals exhibit a similar trend, indicating higher attenuation in the Appalachians compared to the Shield. Finally, consistently lower felt intensities reported from communities on the southern side of the St. Lawrence relative to the north also point to higher attenuation in the Appalachians.

On Strong Positive Frequency Dependencies of Seismic Quality Factors

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Many seismic attenuation measurements, and particularly those using local earthquakes and seismic codas, result in large exponents h ≥ 1 in the frequency-dependent quality factor Q(f) = Q0f^h. However, such steep positive frequency dependences of Q are highly problematic physically. Specifically, the case of h=1 corresponds to frequency-independent (elastic) amplitude decays with time and consequently requires no Q-type attenuation mechanisms. In this case, parameter Q0 actually describes the frequency-independent amplitude decay in access of some assumed geometric spreading-ta, where it is usually (often inaccurately) assumed a =1. For h>1, there are three problems with physical meanings of such Q-factors. First, contrary to the key premise of seismic attenuation, high-frequency parts of the wavefield are enhanced with greater propagation times relative to the low-frequency ones. Second, such attenuation cannot be implemented by mechanical models of wave-propagating media. Third, the velocity dispersion associated with such Q(f) occurs over unrealistically short frequency range and has an unexpected oscillatory shape. Cases h=1 and h>1 are usually attributed to scattering; however, this scattering must exhibit fortuitous tuning into the observation frequency band. Thus, the case h=1 is not allowed physically and could serve as an indicator of problematic interpretations. Although case 0 < h < 1 is possible, its parameter Q0 and h may also be biased by the measurement procedure. The reason for these problems is that the inferred Q values are affected by the conventional parameterization of attenuation by a Q factor. Both parameters Q0 and h are apparent, i.e. dependent on the selected parameterization and inversion method, and they should not be directly attributed to the subsurface. To avoid the uncertainties of Q, we recommend measuring and interpreting the amplitude-decay rates directly, such as by using parameter a above.

Imaging Seismic Attenuation at the Brady Geothermal Field Using Interferometry

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The Porolastic Tomography experiment (PoroTomo) was conducted in March 2016 on the site of Brady Hot Springs in Nevada. A key goal of the experiment is to understand how fluids travel from shallow aquifers, through faults and fractures, to deep geothermal reservoirs. As part of the effort, seismic, geodetic, and hydraulic technologies were tested and developed to fully characterize the rock mechanical properties. This abstract focuses on the application of seismic interferometry to image variations in seismic attenuation at the site. During the experiment, a large seismic array was deployed and recorded more than two weeks of continuous data, active vibroseis sweeps, local traffic noise, and the ambient seismic field. In this study, we use several methods of seismic interferometry to investigate the site. We focus on two techniques: sweep interferometry uses the energy from the vibroseis sweeps as sources of high frequency energy; ambient noise correlation uses the energy of the ambient background field. In each case, the data recorded at one seismometer are correlated with the data recorded at another to obtain an estimate of the Green function between the two. The 238 geophones, concentrated over a 1.5 square-kilometer area, allow us to calculate nearly 30,000 paths, which we use to characterize the site and measure the localized waveform. In collaboration with Ormat, pressures were changed during four stages of operation, including shutdown, followed by increased injection and running. These changes caused measurable differences in the material properties beneath the site including the attenuation of seismic energy. We use two methods to study the changes in seismic attenuation at the site. The simplest is to measure the normalized amplitudes of the Green functions and to compare the values during each stage of operation. The second is to model the full waveform of the data, separating out contributions of Qs and Qp. Because P and S have different sensitivities to fluids in fractures and pores, the ratio of Qs/Qp is highly sensitive to the fluid saturation rates. We use tomographically to characterize the site and following fault boundaries. Over the course of the experiment, we observe large changes in attenuation across the site, bounded by structural features.

A Fortuitous Experiment on the Effect of Station Installation Parameters on Measures of Apparent Attenuation

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In late August 2017 four broadband posthole seismometers where installed near the SPMN legacy TA station for two weeks in order to compare different installation configurations to each other and to the permanent vault installation. During that time, the five instruments recorded the M 6.3 event identified as a thermo-nuclear detonation in North Korea. The signal to noise ratios for these records are very good and the source time function is compact and simple, which makes them ideal for measuring teleseismic attenuation. Given that the five instruments were deployed within a few meters of each other, geologic structure sampled by the wavefields recorded by each of them is identical. Therefore, true relative attenuation between the different seismograms is zero. However, two of the four posthole records show significant differential attenuation with respect to the SPMN record when measured with the standard spectral slope method of Teng (1968). Furthermore, the result is highly dependent on the highest frequency considered. The posthole instruments were buried at depths of either 1 ft or 3 ft and either
While the methodologies for probabilistic and deterministic seismic hazard analyses are now well established, the selection and weighting of ground motion models (GMMs) that capture the epistemic uncertainty is often still treated arbitrarily. The wide availability of high-quality strong motion databases from Chile, however, offers the opportunity to quantify the GMMs that better represent the source-to-site attenuation of earthquake ground motions from subduction seismic zone sources in Chile, and perhaps western South America. We used the Bastias and Montalva (2016) strong motion database that includes records from the large subduction zone earthquakes such as the 2010 Mw 8.8 Maule and the 2010 Mw 9.0 Chile earthquakes. The logarithmic likelihood score (LLH) of Scherbaum et al. (2009) was used to evaluate the performance of several local and global subduction zone GMM commonly used for seismic hazard assessment in western South America. Local GMMs selected for testing were Contreras and Boroschek (2015) (CB15) and Montalva et al. (2017) (M17). Global GMM candidates were Abrahamson et al. (2016) (AEA16), Atkinson and Boore (2003) (AB03), Youngs et al. (1997) (YEA97), Zhao et al. (2006) (ZE06), and Zhao et al. (2016) (ZEA16). GMMs were tested using 1,017 M5+ events and 67 M6+ intraslab earthquake records from the Chile database. All but two of the seven GMMs predict reasonably well the ground motions for interface earthquakes. The CB15 GMM performs relatively poorly. AB03 predicts the median acceleration relatively well for moderate-to-large earthquakes. AEA16 and ZEA06 predict relatively well strong ground motions within the test database, but ZEA16 does not perform as well as ZEA06. The older YEA97 GMM predicts well the ground motions from the plate interface, but not from the in-slab sources and should still be considered as a suitable GMM for subduction earthquakes in western South America.

Parameterizations, Uncertainties, and Spatial Scales of Seismic Attenuation

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Current descriptions of seismic attenuation in Earth’s media almost invariably rely on the quality (Q) factor and its derivative quantities such as τ*, phase lag f, and spectral parameter k. Q-based models are used at all scales and even in complex cases such as rock samples in the laboratory, finely-layered and scattering media, full-waveform inversions, seismic coda, and tidal deformations of the Earth. Nevertheless, it is important to differentiate between the Qs and similar quantities reported from observations and those used as properties of mechanical friction within the subsurface. Empirically-defined Qs are sensitive to model assumptions, such as simple forms of geometrical spreading and uniformly-distributed scattering in local-earthquake studies. In consequence of these assumptions, empirical coda and body-wave Qs often exhibit strong frequency and large-time dependences. By making more accurate approximations or better parameterizations, reported Q0 values (at 1 Hz) often increase by 20–30 times, and frequency dependences of Q are reduced. By contrast to the empirical Q, no in situ “material Q” actually exists, but it always represents a proxy for certain first-principle physical effects. Examples of such effects for Earth’s media are solid and fluid viscosity, several models of fluid-saturated rock, thermoelasticity, and reflection/transmission effects in layered structures. These effects can be described by Lagrangian mechanics. Each of these effects results in characteristic frequency-dependent Q which, however, also depends on the shape and size of the body considered, type of deformation, and also on boundary and thermodynamic conditions. Some of these models suggest nonlinearity of internal friction. Detailed modeling also reveals further fundamental limitations of the phenomenological Q. In particular, unambiguous Q models should be spatially smooth and cannot be finely layered at scales shorter than several seismic wavelengths.
The site component of κ (κ0) is used in engineering seismology to describe the site amplification properties. First, the impact of site amplification on κ0 estimates is shown to be very important and strongly frequency-dependent for stiff-soil sites, and non-negligible for hard-rock sites. Second, frequency-dependent attenuation cannot be ruled out for κ, as indicated by comparison with the literature quality factor (Q) for the Alps. Finally, a source component for κAS is questionable from the comparison of κr_AS evaluated for a cluster of events that shared the same path (Q) for the Alps. The site component of κ (κ0) is used in engineering seismology to describe the site amplification properties.

Kappa Effects on Hard-Rock Ground Motions: An On-Going Research

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Existing ground-motion models for the central and eastern United States (CEUS) are commonly developed for hard-rock site conditions using the omega-squared point-source earthquake model (Brune, 1970; 1971) and the kappa-scaling site attenuation relation (Anderson and Hough, 1984). This approach describes a large increase in the high frequency (≥ 10 Hz) ground motions at hard-rock sites when compared to soft-rock ground motions in the western United States (WUS) (Kttendiou et al., 2014; 2016; 2017). We describe a research project that addresses the high-frequency scaling of ground-motion models for hard-rock sites in both the WUS and CEUS regions. For the CEUS, the results of this study will complement the NGA-East GMPEs by addressing the kappa effects and providing hard-rock site factors that can be applied to the NGA-East GMPEs. For the WUS, the hard-rock site factors developed in this study can be used to scale the soft-rock ground motion (e.g. VS30 = 760 m/s) to hard-rock conditions. The project includes the collection of ground-motion data and site conditions for hard-rock and soft-rock sites worldwide, followed by the development of an initial model for hard-rock site factors for the CEUS and WUS, and then finalized by the model for hard-rock site factors for the CEUS and WUS. This presentation provides an overview of this on-going research project.

Development and Validation of Statistical Models of Small-Scale Heterogeneities

Oral Session · Wednesday 16 May · 10:45 AM · Flagger

Source Spectra for Explosion Monitoring

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We derive source spectra from local and regional distance, direct and coda waves, using empirical methods. The coda adds stability and measurement precision.
Using envelopes of regional high frequency seismograms synthesized by a 3-D radiative transport algorithm (Sanborn et al., 2017), we investigated trade-offs in model parameters describing the heterogeneity spectrum and intrinsic attenuation of the crust and upper mantle. Probability density functions that control scattering directions, mean free paths, and polarizations suggest that the square of the velocity fluctuation parameter $c'(Dv/Vs)$ linearly trades-off with the scale length $a$ that controls the corner of a von Karman spectrum and intrinsic Q in frequency bands for which the product of the wavenumber $k$ and scale length $a$ are on the order of $ka = 1$. Fitting observations of waveforms in a series of different narrow pass bands significantly reduces the combinations of parameters describing the heterogeneity spectrum and viscoelastic attenuation that can produce good waveform fits. Application of multiple-time-lapse window methods (Hoshiba, 1993), which plot ratios of coda energies in different time windows and distances, designed to be sensitive to coda shapes, are capable of separating intrinsic attenuation measured by $1/Q$ and scattering attenuation measured by the scattering coefficient $g$, including estimates of their uncertainties. Sanborn, C., V.F. Cormier, and M. Fitzpatrick, 2017. Combined effects of deterministic and structural structure on high frequency regional seismograms, Geophys. J. Int., 210(2), 1143-1159, doi: 10.1093/gji/ggx219. Hoshiba, M., 1993. Separation of scattering attenuation and intrinsic absorption in Japan using the multiple lapse time window analysis of full seismogram envelope. J. Geophys. Res., 98(B9), 15809–15824.

Developing Integrated Deterministic and Stochastic Earth Models

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Heterogeneities in the Earth likely follow a power-law distribution. Heterogeneities at large spatial scales can be imaged deterministically by seismic tomography, while small-scale heterogeneities can be characterized with stochastic models. To date, deterministic models and stochastic models have been developed separately and independently. In order to predict broadband wave fields, we take an integrated approach to develop models that combine the deterministic and stochastic components of the Earth media. Our method includes three steps: (1) using the power-law distributions of existing tomographic models to determine the range of stochastic models, (2) evaluating and constraining stochastic models by comparing observations with synthetics, and (3) validating the resulting stochastic model with super-high-resolution tomography using dense seismic arrays. We focus on Southern California to develop and prove our method. First, we extrapolate the power spectra of existing three-dimensional deterministic models to short wavelengths in order to narrow the parameter space of stochastic models. We then seek the stochastic models which predict synthetics based on three-dimensional finite-difference simulations with the waveform characteristics that match those in high-frequency waveforms recorded by dense arrays. These waveform characteristics include the P-wave energy on the transverse component and the eigenvalues in empirical orthogonal functions. We validate the stochastic models with full-wave tomography by jointly inverting seismic data recorded by dense arrays and gravity measurements for velocity and density. We estimate uncertainties in source locations and quantities other waveform characteristics due to scattering (e.g., coda Q).
Earthquake early warning (EEW) systems are an important piece of seismic loss mitigation programs. They provide an advance notification of an on-going event before a significant seismic event arrives to a target site. This notification can be used by various clients (e.g., government agencies, system control centers, emergency response teams, and public) to reduce the social and economic impacts of major earthquakes. EEW systems should be able to automatically distinguish seismic radiations from noise and estimate shaking intensity of not yet arrived waves from very first arrivals for maximized notification time. The accuracy of estimated source parameters and shaking intensities are as important as the advance warning time for achieving effective and trustworthy systems. In this study, existing EEW algorithms are tested in pseudo real time in order to identify the strengths and limitations from a perspective of warning recipients. The evolutionary accuracies of estimated location, magnitude, and ground-motion amplitudes are compared. The trade-offs between prediction accuracies and warning lead time are examined, and potential improvements with integration of machine learning techniques are explored.

Earthquake Early Warning Using Late-Onset P-Waves from Growing Ruptures

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Robust ground motion prediction for large earthquakes with complex rupture behavior is a challenging task for earthquake early warning (EEW). During the 2011 Mw 9.0 Tohoku-oki earthquake, high-frequency wave packets that caused severe shaking were separately observed in time, indicating that several strong motion generation areas (SMGAs) ruptured with different delays. Such strong motions would be difficult to robustly predict in advance only using waveforms observed in the initial rupture stage if earthquake rupture processes exhibit non-deterministic behavior. To robustly predict strong motions from growing ruptures, we developed a technique using late-onset P-waves from the rupture areas. If P-wave energy released by a growing rupture is sufficiently large, the P-wave signals from the rupture would be clearly detectable although the signals may overlap with S-waves from the initial rupture. These large P-waves would lead to robust strong motion predictions for the corresponding S-waves because the P-waves directly carry information on the ongoing rupture development. First, we constructed an on-site algorithm that detects in real time P-waves from growing ruptures and predicts the corresponding S-wave seismic intensities. When applied to the Tohoku-oki earthquake, the on-site method successfully predicted strong motions from several SMGAs with high accuracy and several-second warning times. In addition, we combined the on-site algorithm with the PLUM method, which predicts seismic intensities directly from intensities observed near target sites, to lengthen available warning times given by the PLUM method. For the Tohoku-oki earthquake, the modified PLUM method provided additional warning times without greatly decreasing the prediction accuracy for sites with high observed intensities. These findings indicate the use of the late-onset P-waves is effective for improving EEW system performances for large earthquakes with complex source processes.

Real-Time Correction of Frequency-Dependent Site Amplification Factors in Time Domain: Introduction of Phase Delay for Real-Time Prediction of Duration of Ground Motion

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We propose a method for real-time prediction of duration of strong ground motion for earthquake early warning (EEW). Because the long duration of shaking is often observed on basin structure, prediction of duration is important in EEW in addition to the strength of shaking. Although many of EEW system focus on rapid determination of source characteristics such as event hypocenter and magnitude, subject of EEW itself is the prediction of ground shaking, where hypocenter and magnitude are not necessarily required. Recently innovative methods have been proposed for the real-time prediction of ground motion without source characteristics, where current wavefield is estimated precisely using data assimilation, and then future wavefield is predicted based on physics of wave propagation (Hoshiba and Aoki, 2015; Kodera et al, 2018). Site amplification is an important factor for ground motion as well as source characteristics and path factors, and the site amplification is frequency dependent. Because the frequency dependence should be corrected in real-time for EEW, it is preferable to correct the frequency dependence in time domain. The correction was proposed in Hoshiba (2013) by using IIR filter, in which amplitude characteristics were taken into account but phase was not fully taken because minimum phase system is assumed in the IIR filter. Because of it, it was not easy to reproduce the long duration of ground motion on basin structure. Recently a method to introduce the phase characteristics was discussed in Pilz and Parolai (2016) on minimum phase assumption. In this presentation, we will propose a method to correct phase characteristics by changing the minimum phase IIR filter to mixed phase system. The introduction of the mixed phase makes it possible to reproduce the long duration of ground motion on basins, and leads to precise prediction of duration of shaking in EEW.

Regional EEW Applications in Marmara Region (NW Turkey) for Distant Large Earthquakes

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KOERI (Kandilli Observatory and Earthquake Research Institute) operates a seismic network in Marmara Sea region (NW Turkey) consisting of broadband and strong motion stations which has a reliable topology for regional EEW studies. In addition, a seismic network of 10 strong motion stations located close to the North Anatolian Fault crossing the Sea of Marmara is utilized in on-site threshold based studies. The Virtual Seismologist, PRESTO and ELARMS2 are regional EEW applications which are operational at KOERI data center. In addition, the onsite EEW system is running for more than a decade. The early warning signal is communicated to the appropriate servo shut-down systems of the recipient facilities, that automatically decide proper action based on defined alarm levels. Warning time is a critical parameter affected by the difference between the arrival time of the P-wave at the seismometer and the picking time. We have observed that the main reason for delays in detecting earthquake is packet size of the waveform data. We confirm that Seiscom3 platform requires some time to locate earthquakes and it needs to be optimized for EEW studies. Even with current settings Istanbul could have up to 20 seconds of warning times for a possible Marmara earthquake in case the rupture initiates in western part of the Sea of Marmara. The observations reveal that each algorithm has its own strengths and weakness. We give an example event (11-05-2015 04:16 GMT Gemlik bay event, M=3.9) that was detected successfully by the three algorithms shown. The first estimation time of the origin time by the three algorithms was between 14–16 second. This examples shows that despite the proximity of the event to Istanbul Metropolisan area a couple of seconds of warning time remains. The second example shows the necessity of EEW for distant earthquakes where we utilize the offsho 2014 North Aegean Sea Earthquake (Mw=6.9), Because of the sparse seismic network the first estimation of the epicenter was done in 35 seconds after the origin time of the earthquake providing about 50 seconds lead time for Istanbul area located about 300 km away from the epicenter where the long period waves were causative for 10–15 minute shaking duration of high rise buildings.

Performance of Seismic and Geodetic Earthquake Early Warnings for a Suite of Large Earthquakes Worldwide: Rapid Forecasts of Ground Motion

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GNSS-based earthquake early warning (EEW) algorithms are designed to complement existing point-source seismic systems by estimating fault-finiteness and unsaturated moment magnitude for the largest, most damaging earthquakes. Because large earthquakes are rare and geodetic monitoring is relatively young, however, demonstrating the differential accuracy of ground motion estimates from seismic and geodetic Warnings is difficult. Here, we quantify the timeliness and accuracy of seismic and geodetic alerts by testing a suite of large (M≥6) earthquakes worldwide. We replay strong motion seismic data from each earthquake through the ELAM's seismic EEW algorithm in simulated real-time and use those alerts to trigger the Geodetic Alarm System (G-AlarmS). At each epoch, G-AlarmS then determines static offsets from the GNSS data, and inverts the offsets for slip on several a priori fault geometries. We calculate the predicted shaking intensity (Modified Mercalli Intensity, MMI) time series for each event using the point-source (ElamS) and finite-fault (G-AlarmS) simulated real-time solutions at each epoch. Using an MMI-threshold approach to accurately characterize warning times, we classify true positive, true negative, false positive, and false negative alerts. We assess the success rate of both algorithms using these metrics and demonstrate the ground motion accuracy gained, if any, when using geodetic finite-fault solutions in real time.
Reliability of the W-Phase Inversion for Earthquakes with MW > 6.0 to Be Used by the Central American Tsunami Advisory Center (CATA)

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This study was done in the framework of the project on the Reinforcement of the Central American Tsunami Advisory Center (CATA) to be established at INETER in Managua, Nicaragua. To emit reliable and sufficiently fast tsunami services for local tsunamis it is necessary to determine, in near real time, the appropriate fault model needed for the tsunami simulation in the last years, the use of the W-Phase for the Moment Tensor determination became viable in Central America because of the recent installation of 120s broadband stations and the establishment of fast and reliable data exchange between the Central American countries. To test the method, we have used a total of 26 earthquakes with moment magnitudes larger than 6.0 which have occurred, since 2012, in or near Central America. Among them were some larger earthquakes (e.g. 2012 Mw 7.3 off the Pacific Coast of El Salvador, 2017 Mw 8.2 near the Pacific Coast of Mexico, 2018 Mw 7.7 Swan Island North of Honduras) which have occurred at the Plate Boundaries off the Pacific and Caribbean coasts of Central America. These events have generated small tsunamis. The W-Phase inversions show a very stable nodal plane solution and accurate moment magnitudes at up to 10 degrees of epicenter distance, becoming available within a few minutes after origin time. We suggest using the W-phase inversion as a standard method for tsunami warning in Central America. We thank the Nicaraguan government and the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) for their support for the reinforcement of CATA.

Local Tsunami Warnings Using GNSS and Seismic Data

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Tsunami warning Centers (TWC’s) must issue warnings based on imperfect and limited data. Uncertainties increase in the near field, where a tsunami reaches the closest coastal populations to the causative earthquake in a half hour or less. In the absence of a warning, the usual advice is “When the ground shakes so severely that it’s difficult to stand, move uphill and away from the coast.” But, what if the shaking is not severe? If, for example, the earthquake ruptures slowly (producing very little perceived shaking) this advice will fail. TWC’s must therefore warn the closest coastal populations to the causative earthquake, where over 80% of the Tsunami based casualties typically occur, as soon as possible after earthquake rupture begins. The NWS Tsunami Warning Centers (TWCs) currently issue local Tsunami Warnings for the US West Coast, Hawaii, and the Puerto Rico – Virgin Island region within 2–4 minutes after origin time. Coastal GNSS networks complement seismic monitoring networks, and enable unsaturated estimates of Mw (from Peak Ground Displacement) within 2–3 minutes of earthquake onset time, even for larger Mw 8 to 9 events with much longer rupture durations. NASA/JPL, SIO, USGS, CWU, UCB and UW, with funding and guidance from NASA, and leveraging the USGS funded ShakeAlert development, have been working with the National Weather Service TWC’s to incorporate real-time GNSS and seismogeodetic data into their operations. These data will soon provide more accurate tsunami estimates for local Tsunami Warning Centers. Central Moment Tensor solutions, coseismic crustal deformation, and fault slip models within a few minutes after earthquake initiation. The sea floor deformation associated with the earthquake slip can then be used as an initial condition for an automatically generated tsunami propagation and coastal inundation model for coastal warnings.

Tsunami Data Assimilation for Rapid Forecast: Application to Cascadia and New Zealand

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We use a data assimilation method for a retrospective simulation of tsunami forecast using observed ocean bottom seismic (seafloor pressure) array data from offshore New Zealand and Cascadia. In the data assimilation method tsunami observations from a dense array are continuously assimilated to update the wave field at each time step to forecast the coastal tsunami in the vicinity of the array, and a tsunami source is not required or assumed. Maeda et al. (2015) developed the data assimilation method for eventual use with the Seafloor Observation Network for Earthquakes and Tsunamis along the Japan Trench (S-net) cabled network of 150 seafloor observatories with pressure gauge and seismic instruments off the east coast of Japan. For the Cascadia example, we use the tsunami from the Mw 7.8 2012 Haida Gwaii earthquake as recorded on seafloor pressure gauges of the Cascadia Initiative ocean bottom seismic experiment. We use 45 tsunami waveforms from Cascadia Initiative stations offshore Washington, Oregon, and California and 4 tsunami waveforms from NOAA Deep-ocean Assessment and Reporting of Tsunamis (DART) stations. In the New Zealand example, we use the 2009 Mw 7.6 Dusky Sound earthquake as recorded on 15 seafloor differential pressure gauges from the MOANA ocean bottom seismology experiment off the west coast of the South Island. In the Cascadia case the tsunami data assimilation method produces similar results as those from the traditional tsunami forecasting method which starts from a fault model. In the New Zealand case the data assimilation model suffered from lack of near-shore stations, requiring supplementing the gaps with synthetic data and fine-tuning of the smoothing matrix cutoff distance. These results illustrate that with an appropriate array of sensors, models continuously updated with real-time tsunami wave data could be used for rapid tsunami forecast.

Exploring Rupture Dynamics and Seismic Wave Propagation along Complex Fault Systems

Oral Session · Wednesday 16 May · 8:30 AM · Brickell Session Chairs: Roby Douilly, Kenny Ryan, David O. Oglesby, Ruth Harris, and Eric Geist.

Fully Physics-Based PSHA: Coupling RSQSim with Deterministic Ground Motion Simulations

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Probabilistic seismic hazard analysis (PSHA) is typically performed by combining an earthquake rupture forecast (ERF) with a set of empirical ground motion prediction equations (GMPEs). ERFs have typically relied on observed fault slip rates, scaling relationships, and regional magnitude-frequency distributions to estimate the rate of large earthquakes on pre-defined fault segments. GMPEs, which regress against recorded ground motions, often lack data at short site-rupture distances and for large, complex ruptures. The CyberShake platform (Graves et al., 2011) replaces GMPEs with deterministic three-dimensional ground motion simulations, characterizing the effects of basin response and other path effects which are parameterized or treated as aleatory variability in GMPEs. We replace traditional ERFs with a multi-cycle physics-based earthquake simulator, the Rate-State Earthquake Simulator (RSQSim), developed by Dieterich & Richards-Dinger (2010). RSQSim simulations on the Uniform California Earthquake Rupture Forecast, Version 3 (UCERF3) fault system produce seismicity catalogs that match long term rates on major faults and yield remarkable agreement with UCERF3 when carried through to GMPE-based PSHA calculations. Averaged over a representative set of sites, the RSQSim-UCERF3 hazard maps are comparable to, or even less than, the differences between UCERF3 and its predecessor, UCERF2, used in all CyberShake studies to date. Unlike traditional ERFs, RSQSim produces full slip-time histories for all simulated ruptures which can be used directly as input to deterministic wave propagation simulations. We couple the RSQSim model with CyberShake and the SCEC Broadband Platform to create the first fully physics-based PSHA model. Resultant ground motions match GMPE estimates of mean and variability of shaking well over magnitudes and distances for which GMPEs are well constrained. We will present these comparisons and preliminary CyberShake results using RSQSim.

Dynamic Models of Earthquake Rupture along Branch Faults of the Eastern San Gorgonio Pass Region in California Using Complex Fault Structure

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Compilations of geologic data have illustrated that the right-lateral Coachella segment of the southern San Andreas Fault is past its average recurrence time period. On its western edge, this fault segment is past its average recurrence time period. On its western edge, this fault segment is split into two branches: the Mission Creek strand, and the Banning fault strand, of the San Andreas fault. Depending on how rupture propagates through this region, there is the possibility of a through-going rupture that could lead to the channeling of damaging seis-
I explore this parameter space for several initial stress amplitudes and orienta-
a variety of dip angles, and I vary the abruptness at which the dip change occurs.
to see how far rupture is able to propagate beyond the dip inflection point. I test
slip faults with a planar strike but a change in dip midway along the fault, in order
A large body of observational and modeling research on the effects of along-strike
twists from a northwest dip in the Carrizo Plain to vertical in the Mojave Desert
detic inversions, as well as field geophysical studies, suggest dip can also vary sub-
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The Beichuan area suffered the most serious seismic damage in the 2008
Wenchuan earthquake although the Beichuan is over 100 km away from the
instrumental epicenter of the mainshock. The mechanism for this peculiar
phenomenon remains unclear even though nearly 10 years has passed since the
Wenchuan shock. For this purpose, we construct a spontaneous rupture model
in which Gaochuan right bend (GRB) in the middle of Xingxiu Beichuan fault,
a major seismogenic fault for the Wenchuan event, is included. The simulated
results show that the complex geometry of the GRB played a first-order role in
controlling the rupture propagation. While rupture is initiated at the epicenter
of the Wenchuan mainshock, it propagates spontaneously northeastward at the
speed slower than the shear wave speed of local medium. When the rupture front
spreads near the end of Yingxiu-Gaochuan fault, a new rupture is nucleated at the
curve section of the Gaochuan bend, and propagates in the NE direction with the
speed greater than the S wave velocity. In particular, this rupture transition from
subshock to supershear speed does not need time delay, much different from the
case of fault step over which were studied well by previous workers. Due to the
curved geometry of GRB, the stress regime on the fault section favors the
supershear rupture formation. Once supershear rupture occurs along the Beichuan
fault, seismic waves were focused and largely amplified with the form of Mach
waves. The numerical result also illustrated that high values of spatial distribu-
tion used in these simulations enables an accurate modeling of the effects of the
nic medium (Tal et al. 2018) show that the roughness complicates the rupture
process with asymmetric expansion of the rupture, non-monotonic increase in the
slip rates, and the generation of multiple slip pulses. Moreover, with increas-
roughness there is a transition from seismic slip to aseismic slip, in which the
load on the fault is released by more slip events but with lower slip rate, seismic
moment, and average static stress drop. The mortar-based finite element formula-
ation used in these simulations enables an accurate modeling of the effects of the
fault geometry, and by using a variable time stepping, with a transition between
quasi-static and fully dynamic time schemes, all the stages in the seismic cycle are
modeled. In this study, we further develop the simulations of rough faults by add-
ing the following additional physics: the delayed response of the shear resistance
on the fault to rapid variations of the normal traction; potential large reduction of the
friction coefficient observed in at high-speed friction experiment; and inelas-
tic response of the medium surrounding the fault, as expected next to sharp geo-
metric irregularities and at the rupture front during the dynamic propagation of the
rupture. We implement a combined rate-and-state flash heating friction law
into the method, model the inelastic off-fault response using a return-mapping
algorithm, and account for the effects of normal stress changes on the frictional
resistance. Using 2-D simulations of earthquake sequences of at least two events,
we aim to understand the effects of those additional complexities on the rupture
process on rough faults throughout the seismic cycle.

Effect of the Gaochuan Right Bend on Fault Spontaneous Rupture Propagation
in the 2008 Wenchuan Earthquake: Interpretation of Seismic Hazard in the
Beichuan Area
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The Effect of Along-Strike Variation in Dip on Rupture Propagation on Strike-
Slip Faults
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Strike-slip faults are nonplanar structures. Most large strike-slip faults have
mapped complexities and discontinuities along strike, but seismological and geo-
detic inversions, as well as field geophysical studies, suggest dip can also vary sub-
stantially along the length of these faults. The southern San Andreas Fault, which
swings from northwest dip in the Carrizo Plain to vertical in the Mojave Desert
to a southeast dip through San Gorgonio Pass, is a particularly notable example.
A large body of observational and modeling research on the effects of along-strike
generally complex on rupture propagation already exists. However, I know
of no previous existing modeling studies addressing the effect of an along-strike
cchange in dip on rupture propagation on strike-slip faults. In this geometrical
parameter study, I conduct 3D dynamic models of rupture propagation on strike-
slip faults with a planar strike but a change in dip midway along the fault, in order
to see how far rupture is able to propagate beyond the dip inflection point. I test
a variety of dip angles, and I vary the abruptness at which the dip change occurs.
I explore this parameter space for several initial stress amplitudes and orienta-
tions. This study may help assess possible rupture segmentation and endpoints for
strike-slip faults with variable dip, as well as providing potential explanations for
rupture endpoints along apparently planar fault segments.

Dynamics of Rupture Simulations at the Scale of Megathrust Fault Systems
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Three-Dimensional Rupture Dynamics of Tsunamigenic Earthquakes Incorporating Inelastic Wedge Failure

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Shallow subduction zones (upper ~15 km) host earthquakes of anomalous attributes. These earthquakes occur on shallow-dipping plate interfaces (dips less than ~15°) but are efficient in tsunamigenesis. They also have abnormally slow rupture velocity, long rupture duration, depletion in high-frequency radiation, and low moment-scaled radiated energy. Any good tsunamiogenic earthquake models need to explain both efficient tsunami generation and anomalous rupture characteristics as a whole. Here we extend our previous 2D poroelastic-plastic model of shallow subduction zone earthquakes (Ma, 2012; Ma and Hirakawa, 2013; Hirakawa and Ma, 2017) to 3D. We show that three-dimensional inelastic wedge failure in the presence of frictional heterogeneity leads to significant slow rupture velocity and significant long rupture duration, and effi cient tsunami generation. Large slip near the trench is not required; peak uplift is landward from the trench when significant wedge failure occurs. Simulations show consistently deep fast rupture velocity along strike and slow shallow rupture (due to velocity-strengthening friction and wedge failure), confirming a rupture model proposed by Seno and Hirata (2007) in explaining the anomalous geodetic observation on Andaman and Nicobar Islands ~2000ks after the nucleation of the 2004 M9.2 Sumatra earthquake. This elasto-plastic wedge model can also explain why the largest tsunami in the 2011 M9.0 Tohoku earthquake occurred at a distance of ~350km away from the center of the rupture (north of the hypocenter) while the large near-trench slip was not observed in the northern Japan Trench from the bathymetry before and after the earthquake (Fujwara et al., 2017).


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The 2004 earthquake on the Sumatra trench was followed by a series of large events, along the plate boundary and within the subducting plate. Post-2004, the Wharton Basin was unusually active, notably the 2012, largest strike-slip earthquakes ever recorded. Here we discuss two types of earthquakes, those close to the trench (intraslab) and those away from the trench (intraplate). The 2005 and 2010 earthquakes were sourced closer to the trench and their mechanisms show strike-slip faulting with some oblique slip. With its shallow dip-slip component, the latter generated a mild tsunami whereas the former did not as it exhibited no dip-slip component. Sources at ~16 km and 35 km depth respectively, the 2005 and the 2010 earthquakes are believed to be the result of reactivation of the N-S fossil fabric within the subducting slab, following the post-2004 redistribution of stresses. Located within the oceanic plate, the 2012 and the 2016 earthquakes failed by pure strike-slip mechanism. While the deep centroid estimates from routine long-period modeling using Preliminary Reference Earth Model (PREM) places the focal depths of these intraplate earthquakes at ~50 km depth, other models propose shallower focus, above the 600°C isotherm depth. Thus, the source model for the 2016 earthquake places its depth at ~35 km and the rupture is interpreted as N-S and bilateral, which transects the orthogonal ridge-parallel fabric. Models of the 2012 earthquake also argue for complex and conjugate ruptures that involve the E-W fossil ridges. The deeper geometry of the faults inferred from geophysical evidence in the source zone of the 2012 earthquakes however suggest ~north-striking, east-dipping structures which possibly act as slip planes following the Olivine crystal preferred orientations, a model applicable also for the 2016 event. The 12-year history of the Wharton Basin presents ample evidence for its various modes of reawakening, following the 2004 megathrust earthquake.

The Fault Geometry Explains the Rupture Complexity of the 2012 Mw 8.6 Indian Ocean Earthquake

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The 2012 Mw 8.6 and Mw 8.2 Indian Ocean earthquakes, the largest instrumentally recorded strike-slip events, are reportedly associated with intriguing fault rupture geometry. The westward directionality of propagation and aftershock sequence of the Mw 8.6 mainshock had implied a causal relation to a complex geometry involving conjugate fault-legs spanning several hundreds of kilometers (e.g.: Meng et al., 2012; Hill et al., 2015). The Harvard GCMT depths for these events at ~50 km however, remained highly contested given the multi-fault source mechanism and the existing gaps in our understanding of the seismogenic nature of the oceanic crust. Interestingly, recent seismic imaging of the Wharton Basin allows better constraints on the sub-surface structures and rheology of the lithosphere in this part of oceanic basin (e.g., Qin and Singh, 2015; Qin et al., 2017; Singh et al., 2017). The current study uses the newly available data on the geometry of ~N-S faults and the improved velocity structure to generate a forward model of the Mw 8.6 mainshock using SPECfEM3D to recreate its most salient coseismic effects by computing the wave-propagation after event nucleation. The results agree with the observed NW-SE trend of aftershock growth and previously obtained back-projection results. We demonstrate that the fault mechanism of the mainshock can be explained by invoking a non-planar fault that curves at sub-Moho depths. The non-planar fault whose surface projection is consistent with the N-S transient fault is explained using the Crystal Preferred Orientation (CPO) of Olivine, at ~50km depth.

The Future of Telemetered Seismic Arrays—Where the Operation of the Network Ends and the Science Begins

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The EarthScope Plate Boundary Observatory (PBO) GNSS network, funded by the NSF and operated by UNAVCO, in Alaska is comprised of 140 permanent GPS and GNSS stations. Of the Alaska portion of the network, 87 stations sit within the subduction zone footprint, including the volcano clusters on Akutan, Augustine, and Unimak. UNAVCO operates 18 real-time GNSS stations in Alaska, the majority of which sit above the subduction zone and as new communications avenues open up, will be adding more. The 1-sps real-time data are available from UNAVCO in BIXEN and RTCM formats with Precise Point Positioning (PPP) solutions generated for each site using the NMEA format. The size and remoteness of Alaska makes the use of multiple modes of communications, depending on the localities. Satellite (VSAT and BGAN) modems are sometimes the only viable means of telemetry, especially along the Aleutian Arc, and tend to be more costly, slower and use more power resources compared to other sys-
Evolution of the Alaska Volcano Observatory (Avo) Seismic Network


Avo has operated a seismic network since its inception in 1988. It started with about a dozen short-period (SP) analog seismic stations deployed throughout the Cook Inlet region. The network has expanded to now include over 200 stations, a mix of legacy SP and new digital broadband stations distributed along a 1700 mile swath of Alaska. The SP analog stations provided an affordable instrumentation methodology for monitoring volcanic activity in remote and challenging environments of Alaska. We have performed conversions and upgrades of our analog sites over the last 6 years at a pace of about 10 sites per year. The current network balance is about 146 analog and 71 digital stations. Much of this progress is due to collaborations with other operators, principally UNAVCO–PBO, IRIS–TA, NTWC, and UAFGI–AEC, with whom we share sites, telemetry, staff, and logistics. These relationships are crucial to recent and future advancements in monitoring; much more can be gained by these coalitions. As we consider remaining upgrades, especially in light of NVEWS guidelines, it is important to build site and telemetry infrastructure with our partners to allow most if not all stations to support a broad suite of instrumentation.

Towards Generating Research Grade Seismic Catalogs in Near-Real-Time

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Accurate and complete seismic event catalogs generated in near-real-time provide valuable insight into induced seismic risk management and public safety strategies among others. However, due to the vast amount of seismic data being collected, the construction of such catalogs is labor intensive. Hence an automated process is sought to reduce the workload involved in catalog production. Conventionally events are detected by applying an autopicker to seismic data streams and grouping picks into sets corresponding to potential events; picks are generated when a threshold is surpassed on a characteristic function (CF) for a given channel. In the scenario of a small magnitude event it is likely only a few channels have visible arrivals and the threshold must be set low to increase the chances of detecting these signals. However, reducing the threshold also increases the number of false positives produced. This mixture of true and false picks in any given solution can introduce significant errors into the corresponding event location. In order to maintain the system sensitivity i.e. number of true positives (earthquakes) while reducing the effect of false positives (sets of noise picks) we apply a technique we call Feature Weighted Beamforming (FWB). Features are computed from 3C seismograms utilising: spectral content, covariance between channels, and common CFs (STA/LTA, Kurtosis). Models relating the features to phase likelihood and station-azimuth are formed using machine learning techniques, Likelihood values are referenced to P-S phase pairs which are stacked on a 4D grid representing event location and origin time. Preliminary results show a significant reduction in the distance between automatic solutions and their corresponding manually reviewed counterparts as compared to conventional picking techniques, as well as a significant reduction in the number of false positive detections.

Enhancing Explosive Volcanic Eruption Detection and Characterization Using Integrated Seismo-Acoustic Networks

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Infrasound technology adds to a growing suite of geophysical tools available to characterize, understand, and monitor volcanic processes. Explosive eruptions are seismo-acoustic phenomena, generating large-amplitude acoustic waves as well as seismic waves. Precursory and co-eruptive seismicity includes individual volcano-tectonic (VT) earthquakes, long-period (LP) (0.5–5 Hz) events, and various types of volcanic tremor. The typical seismic expression of a sustained explosive eruption, a broadband signal (~0.1–20 Hz) known as eruption tremor, usually has a limited propagation distance. The maximum observation range for eruption tremor is typically a few tens of kilometers, or up to a few hundred kilometers for larger eruptions. In contrast, similar-sized explosive eruptions produce powerful broadband (~0.01–20 Hz) infrasound signals that can be ducted efficiently over long ranges (thousands of kilometers) in atmospheric waveguides: these signals are routinely detected on sparse ground-based infrasound networks. Seismic networks may also record eruption infrasound as ground-coupled airwaves; we show examples at hundreds of kilometers from the source. We are developing methodologies to search systematically through multi-year data from regional and global infrasound and seismo-acoustic networks to identify, time, quantify, and catalog explosive volcanic eruption signals. Detecting, quantifying, and cataloging the global occurrence of explosive volcanism helps toward several goals: it is useful for hazard mitigation, it places constraints on the eruption mechanism, and it can provide evolutionary insights into eruptions. Augmenting seismic networks with infrasound sensors in regions of dense volcanism will dramatically enhance volcanic signal detection, reduce latency, and improve discrimination capability.

Transportable Array Alaska—Power and Telemetry System Design and Performance

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The Alaska Transportable Array (ATA) is a broadband seismic network made up of 280 new and existing stations that uniformly cover Alaska and north-west Canada. Over five field season from 2013–2017, 194 new stations were installed. In order to meet the performance requirements for the network, new power systems and telemetry systems were designed and produced on a large scale. The majority of ATA stations are installed in completely off grid locations with no access to established electricity grid or telecommunications network. These off grid stations are fully autonomous and use solar panels and batteries for power and satellite modems to transmit data in real time. The stations also integrate additional instrumental packages that include pressure sensors, infrasound sensors and weather stations. ATA stations use a dual battery chemistry power system made up of rechargeable lithium batteries and sealed lead acid batteries to minimize the size and weight of energy storage. Savings in size and volume significantly reduce the cost and complexity of the logistics needed to move the equipment from where it’s fabricated to where it operates. The autonomous ATA stations use high bandwidth satellite modems on the Inmarsat satellite network to transmit data in near real time. The modems are configured to transmit station data in real time during the summer when incoming solar energy can be harvested with solar panels to keep the station batteries charged. In the winter months, the modems are operated in a lower power mode to maximize battery life yet still deliver data with less than 1 hour of latency. Additionally, autonomous ATA stations use very low power and low bandwidth Iridium modems to provide power system data as well as backup station state of health data in the event of a failure of the primary satellite modem. This state of health data helps operators troubleshoot the cause of outages and improves station service planning and success.

The Southern California Seismic Network, A Telemetered Array for Seismology and Earthquake Early Warning

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In operation under various names since 1920, the Southern California Seismic Network (SCSN) has been continuously monitoring earthquakes occurring from central California (just south of San Luis Obispo) to the U.S.-Mexican border. This network is cooperatively operated and maintained by the US Geological Survey and Caltech, with funding from both federal and state sources. The SCSN is a part of the California Integrated Seismic Network (CISN), and also a contributing Regional Seismic Network within the Advanced National Seismic System (ANSS). With a wide scientific and public mission, the network has developed into a multipurpose observatory capable of satisfying multiple operational objectives. With over 400 stations, this mostly real-time digital network now comprises strong motion, weak-motion, and broadband instrumentation. As part of the Earthquake Early Warning (EWW) System, additional stations are currently being installed across Southern California. The design of these stations incorporates instrumentation and techniques that maximize the signal-to-noise ratios of the seismic wave field as well as reduce the latency of data transmission for EWW. In this presentation we discuss the performance characteristics of this network showing the noise characteristics and data latency.

Earthscope Transportable Array in Alaska: Overview and Future Plans
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The Alaska Transportable Array deployment was completely installed as of Sept 2017, totaling 280 stations, with 194 new stations and 86 existing stations, 28 of those upgraded with new sensor emplacement. We briefly summarize the deployment of this seismic network, describe the added meteorological instruments and soil temperature profilers, and review the overwinter performance, current operation, and plans for demobilization set to begin in 2019. The Alaska Transportable Array is entering a period of routine data collection, though certain data collection functions as well as field activities are seasonally dependent. We describe how we have addressed these challenges with emerging technologies, and note some technical details are provided by Bloomquist (SSA, 2018). Performance of the stations are generally high quality, with very low noise and high data return despite the challenging environment. As with previous TA deployments in Cascadia and the Central and Eastern US (CEUSN), efforts are ongoing to extend observations in Alaska through station adoption or cooperation with other agencies. Some of these agencies represent interests outside of seismological research yet take advantage of the micro-research station features of an operational Alaska TA station: primarily the enclosure, power, and data communications. We identify timelines for that collaborative planning so as not to interfere with NSF objectives and land management agency approvals.

High Latitude Telemetry: Trades between Sample Rate, Power and Latency
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High-latitude telemetry is limited by communication network infrastructure, both terrestrial and space based. Few high-latitude regions of the Earth have cabled Internet or mains power, and satellite coverage is often constrained to polar orbiting constellations. These limitations are further complicated by extreme environmental conditions, months without solar charging, and costly logistics. In 2006, the IRIS PASSCAL Instrument Center began developing communications and power solutions for deployment of portable seismic stations in Antarctica. Over the last decade, improvements in power systems, station enclosures, and Iridium based telemetry has enabled real-time seismic data from some of the most remote, high-latitude seismic stations. However, telemetry in these environments require evaluating trades between sample rate, power, and latency, and these decisions directly impact logistics costs. Here we discuss these trades by highlighting several successful station telemetry configurations.

Long-Period Signals During Large Earthquakes on Alaska Transportable Array
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The Alaska Transportable Array is a real-time seismic network of 280 new and contributing stations across Alaska and western Canada. The 194 new Alaska TA stations constructed from 2013—2017 have already recorded numerous earthquakes. The large geographic coverage and high station density has enabled the Alaska Earthquake Center to exceed the annual record for earthquakes detected and located in 2017. Among the earthquakes recorded by the Alaska TA are two large strike-slip earthquakes that occurred in south central Alaska: the 23 January 2018 M7.9 Ayjay earthquake and the 24 January 2016 M7.1 Ininkin earthquake. During both events, some nearby sensors recorded long-period signals during the time period that the body and surface waves arrived at the stations. We examine these signals at Alaska TA, Global Seismographic Network (GSN), and Alaska Earthquake Center (AEC) stations and characterize these long-period signals based on the possible origin of the signal being related to instrument or emplacement characteristics.

The Canadian Cordillera Array: Towards a Multi-Disciplinary Geoscience Program for Canada
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The Canadian Cordillera Array (CCArray) is an initiative to install a Cordilleran-scale open-data network in Canada with the goal of holistically examining the Earth system from the core to the magnetosphere. Building on the scientific momentum of previous Earth systems research and data acquisition initiatives in North America (e.g. Lithoprobe (1984 to 2004) and EarthScope (2004 to ~2018 or later)), the vision for CCArray is to install a network of multidisciplinary tele-metered observatories. The core CCArray network is envisaged to include broadband seismometers (including ocean bottom seismometers in the Beaufort Sea and offshore British Columbia) and Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) receivers. Solid Earth objectives include improving understanding of Earth structure, tectonics, earthquake occurrence and seismic hazard, glacial isostatic adjustment, induced and triggered seismicity from resource extraction, mountain glacier change, and better determining vertical land motion for robust relative sea-level projections. Associated broader Earth science objectives include establishment of Critical Zone Observatories, ionospheric and tropospheric investigations, and studies of the active zone and permafrost dynamics. Additional instrumentation and measurements at selected locations could include meteorological and atmospheric gas sensors, borehole temperature and moisture sensors, rieometers and magnetometers, and relative and absolute gravity measurements. The intention is to continue operation of some stations to densely long-term monitoring across Canada. CCArray represents the initial component of an envisaged future pan-Canadian Earth observation network called Earth-system Observing Network—Réseau d’Observation du Système Terrestre (EON-ROSE).

Megathrust Earthquakes: Recurrence, Rupture Modes and Tsunamis (Parts 3 and 4)
Oral Session - Wednesday 16 May - 8:30 am - Tuttle Session Chairs: Peter Molnar, Peter Haeussler, and Brian F. Atwater

What Does the Present State of Locking along the Aleutian Megathrust Tell Us about Earthquake and Tsunami Hazard?
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The Northern Caribbean Megathrust

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The highly-variable deformation mode along the NE Caribbean subduction/collision zone probably precludes simultaneous rupture of the entire subduction zone, but may still lead to intraplate earthquakes and tsunamis. Under the Lesser Antilles, where subduction of the North American plate at high angle, island arc volcanism, and large earthquakes occur. The convergence component decreases significantly as the subduction zone curves westward into the Puerto Rico Trench. Tsunamis deposits mapped on the island of Anegada, BV1 were modeled to arise from an M8.2–8.45 thrust or outer-rise normal earthquake. North of Puerto Rico, the trench is unusually deep and wide, is associated with an extremely negative gravity anomaly, and coincides with trenchward tilting and motion of the island. Frequent deep earthquake swarms occur, but analyses of historical earthquakes and strain partitioning do not support large earthquakes. This segment of the trench is deduced to have low seismic coupling perhaps due to a slab tear. Farther west, north of Mona Passage and eastern Hispaniola, the subducting slab is associated with shallow trench floor and with frequent 20th century earthquakes, the largest (M7.8–8.1) was associated with a devastating local tsunami. Earthquake recurrence in this segment is estimated at ≥450 yr. Strike-slip earthquakes on Hispaniola due to strain partitioning have an estimated recurrence of ≥300 yr. Subduction ends in central Hispaniola, presumably because it is where the North American slab has reached during the past ~40 Ma. Western Hispaniola undergoes diffusely transpression that also generated devastating earthquakes in 1842 and 2010. Seismic and tsunami hazards also arise from the southward push of the northern Caribbean arc against the Caribbean interior, which manifest in opposing thrusting style across the subduction/transpression boundary, and from internal deformation of the arc, likely resulting from the segmentation of the subduction zone.

The CASEIS Project: Toward a Better Understanding of the Seismic Cycle and Paleoseismology of the Lesser Antilles Megathrust

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The Lesser Antilles arc results from the subduction of the North American plate underneath the Caribbean plate at 22°m.y. The seismic potential remains poorly constrained, because possible great earthquakes were prior to modern times. The interplate has thus often been assumed to be aseismic, and geodetic models show low coupling along this boundary. Modern studies show that probably all subduction zones can produce large events, and it becomes urgent to re-evaluate the seismic potential of the Lesser Antilles. Three morphological segments are characterized by a narrowing forearc and accretionary wedge northwards. To address long-term earthquake recurrence by using turbidite paleoseismology in all segments, we collected 42 giant piston cores (500m) abord the R/V Pourquoi Pas? in 2016 during the CASEIS cruise. Aboard, we acquired petrophysical and diffusive reflectance measurements on sediment cores. Later analyses include XRF, CT-scan, granulometry, paleomagnetic analyses, bio- and isotopic stratigraphy, and 14C dating. The deposits include turbidites interbedded with hemipelagites and tephra in numerous cores. Chip data and core physical properties suggest that events are correlated between multiple sites over large distances within each segment, and could be triggered by large infrequent interplate earthquakes. Cores offshore Guadeloupe show four alternations of several meters-thick turbidites (Tu) and/or homogenites (Hm) and hemipelagites. Such Hm or Tu deposits documented elsewhere may be related to megathrust events and tsunamis. The first 14C ages date the uppermost deposits at ~6kyr and ~8kkyr BP offshore Guadeloupe and Anguilla respectively. Offshore Martinique, preliminary biostratigraphy and 14C ages indicate compatible recurrences over the last 50 kyr BP, and a large turbide deposited within 2kyr BP. Ongoing work on older events and establishing a more detailed chronostratigraphic framework should infer long-term recurrence and its variability.

Megathrusts and Tsunamis in the Caribbean

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The Caribbean is host to significant subduction zones with faults and processes that have generated large historical earthquakes and tsunamis causing, from dozens to several thousand deaths. As we look ahead to planning for these events, especially the less frequent tsunami and considering the many competing hazards the Emergency Management Community have to prepare for, one of the oft asked questions of the tsunami specialists is: How Large can Tsunamis be in the Caribbean? Is a Chile, Alaska, Tohoku or Sumatra type event possible? The UNESCO IOC Intergovernmental Coordination Group for Tsunamis and Other Coastal Hazards for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions has been grappling with this question since its inception in 2005. Over the years Group of Experts (GE) have met and come to a consensus for scenarios for some of the areas that should be considered for hazard and risk assessments. Areas addressed by this approach have been Northern and Southern Hispaniola and Caribbean Central America. For the annual CARIBE WAVE exercises guidance is request- ed from seismic experts of the host scenarios for input, sometimes taking the sci- ence beyond credible. For each scenario, the seismologists are asked to provide the latitude, longitude and depth for the four corner points of each fault segment, as well as the dip, rake, slip and rigidity. This information is necessary for the tsunami models. While none of the scenarios from the GE meet the Megathrust criteria, the tsunami impact is still significant. Having a consensus facilitates the buy in by the Emergency Management and Government authorities and helps focus the discussion on the possible impacts. For CARIBE WAVE exercises, Mw 9.0 events have been used, always being careful to note that they are for exercise purpose only. These scenarios have helped the hundreds of thousands of participants become familiar with different tsunami event timelines and impacts and be better prepared for future events.

Drilling Through the Seismogenic Zone of Large Megathrust Earthquakes: An On-Land Opportunity in Osa Peninsula, Costa Rica

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The Andean margin is one of the most active subduction zones worldwide (Audin, L., IRD-ISTerre, Grenoble, France, laurence.audin@ird.fr; Newman, A. V., Georgia Tech, Georgia, USA, anewman@gatech.edu; Suayehiro, K., JAMSTEC, Yokohama, Japan, suayehiro@gmail.com). A great geographical-temporal opportunity exists in Osa peninsula, southern Costa Rica, to drill and instrument a locked segment of the Middle America Subduction Zone, where the plate interface beneath the peninsula is only 4 to 8 km deep. This section of the subduction zone has had large (Mw=7.2–7.4) earthquakes in 1853, 1904, 1941 and 1983. With an average recurrence interval of roughly 40 years, the timing is right to drill, instrument and record data on unvisited phenomena before and during and after the next large earthquake in this region. Trench-parallel, landward dipping reverse faults have been mapped on the peninsula, which could represent slippage faults and conduits, similar to those imaged offshore Nankai; therefore this will be an ideal site to compare with very important results that are currently obtained in the Nankai Through. Since the trench is only 20–30 km from the peninsula, submarine cables with seafloor instrumentation, power and data transmission can be deployed and tied to borehole instrumentation, at a much lower cost than in other subduction zones. Drilling and instrumenting the hole would help establish the relationship between geology, upper plate structure, deformation mechanisms and the characteristics of the locked interface. The integration of these datasets would be an opportunity to relate secular processes such as strain accumulation and seismic slip with the longer term evolution of the margin. This will be a chance to contribute to the international efforts done all over the world as part of a network of observatories to understand the genesis of large and destructive earthquakes and contribute to the reduction of their potential damage. The combination of low relative cost and huge scientific potential make the Osa Peninsula a compelling drilling target for the international community. Resources from ICDP and national scientific funding agencies could be leveraged to take advantage of this unique tectonic and temporal opportunity.

How Large Can Megathrust Earthquakes Be in the Central American Subduction Zone?

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The subduction zone in Mexico has unique characteristics as compared to the other subduction zones in the western and eastern Pacific. In Mexico, the scale appears to be a two-to-one size compared to other subduction regimes. The distance from the trench to the coast and the average thickness of the continental lithosphere, above the locked interplate zone, is half of what is observed in other regions. The comparison between Mexico and Peru and Central Chile, where the slab also subducts sub-horizontally, clearly demonstrates this scaling. The result of this unique tectonic structure is that the maximum depth of seismogenic coupling in Mexico, as shown by geodetic studies and aftershock observations, is only 20 km deep, as opposed to the wide width of the interplate contact of up to 60 km observed in other subduction zones. The width of the locked interplate zone appears to be the limiting factor on the size of the largest earthquakes generated along the Pacific coast of Mexico. A comparison of great subduction earthquakes in Mexico and South America clearly brings out that the Mexican subduction zone has locked asperities normally and not only larger than Mw 8.1. This is true during the instrumental period of almost 120 years, South America has suffered much more frequent and larger events (Mw > 8.6). The reason may be the anomalously thin lithosphere of the continental plate, overlying the megathrust plate contact. Although earthquakes as large as Mw 8.6 are present in the Mexican subduction zone, as interpreted from the historical records, these great earthquakes are infrequent. Thus the average magnitude of large earthquakes appears to be controlled by the narrow seismogenic zone resulting from this unique tectonic environment. This limit on the size of great earthquakes in Mexico is important for the estimation of seismic risk in the region.

Interseismic Coupling and Quaternary Coastal Tectonics along the Andean Megathrust

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The Andean margin is one of the most active subduction zone worldwide (e.g., the 1960 Mw 9.5 Chile or the Mw 8.8 1906 Ecuador earthquakes). We here propose that the interseismic coupling along the Andean megathrust relates to spatial variations along the interface as well as the fore-arc geology and inherited fault zones. For such matter, we compiled information on the extent of earthquake ruptures for the last 500 years, geodetic data and uplift rates derived from marine terraces from Ecuador to Chile. First, we show that 1) the coastline geometry, characterized by the distance between the coast and the trench, 2) the latitudinal variations of long-term plate slip and 3) the spatial pattern of interseismic coupling are correlated. In addition, the seafloor roughness of the subducting plate is usually thought to be a cause of segmentation along subduction zones. But, after discussing the role of inherited structures within the upper plate to the megathrust segmentation in Ilo area during the Arequipa earthquake, we suggested that the continental structure itself may exert some feedback control on the segmentation. Some regions participate in the subduction rupture process. This hypothesis tends to correlate with similar observations on crustal faulting in Pichedemu area in Chile. Finally, it’s now widely accepted that paleotsunami deposits can be used as the primary sources of information on past large megathrust events. In southern Ecuador and northern Peru, the low coupling areas suggest rather rare tsunamiogenic events and sedimentary evidences represent a useful tool to extend the cataloging of large earthquakes in the past thousand years. All together these multidisciplinary approaches suggest that the spatial variations of frictional properties along the megathrust dictate the geomorphology of the coastal zone and can inform on the extent of seismic ruptures along strike.

Large Earthquakes in Central Chile as Evidence of Coastal Elevation Changes

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Chile is permanently exposed to the consequences of large earthquakes. Since 1900, fourteen events with magnitudes around 8 or over have taken place in this country. Among these, is the 1960 event, the largest earthquake ever recorded since the beginning of instrumental seismology. With magnitudes that can reach values well over 8, the events located along the boundary of the Nazca and South American plates are usually accompanied by noticeable coastal elevation changes and, depending on the amount of seafloor vertical displacement, by catastrophic tsunamis. Central Chile is no exception, large events (M around 8 or larger) which could be considered as rupturing the main portion of the seismogenic width have taken place in 1647, 1730, 1822, 1906 and 1985. Clearly, the 1730 event stands out as the largest of this sequence. Although the recurrence intervals have been very regular (82±6 years), the rupture lengths differ substantially; the largest rupture, close to 600 km, was that associated with the 1730 event. Exiguous evidence of coastal elevation changes as revealed by witness reports in 1822, in particular at Valparaiso of nearly three feet and four feet 30 km north of Valparaiso (Graham, 1824) and more abundant data for the 1906 event expressed in coastal uplift up to 1 m from Los Vilos to Pichilemu (32.5°—34.3°S; Steffen, 1907) are used as an indication of possible rupture areas associated with these events. For this last event, the recovered seismic moment is consistent with that derived from seismic estimations (Okal, 2005). Comparison of the 1906 rupture area with more precise determinations for the 1985 event (Barrientos, 2007), allow inferences of a variable mode of rupture in Central Chile. Updated plate locking models obtained by GNSS velocity estimations in the region, together with GNSS derived slip distribution for the April 24, 2017, M6.9 event are used to interpret the current state of preparation of the next large event in the area.

Seismic Gaps and Asperities Along the South American Subduction Zone: An Update

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So far this century, six Mw ≥ 7.8 earthquakes have ruptured portions of the subduction zone plate boundary of western South America along Ecuador, Peru, and Chile. Each source region had a history of prior great earthquakes but had not ruptured in recent decades. Their identification as seismic gaps, with the potential to host future great megathrust earthquakes, helped guide the selection of several regions for intensive earthquake research and monitoring. Reevaluations of older instrumentally recorded earthquakes, as well as paleoseismic studies of historic events have reduced the epistemic uncertainty in characterizing great earthquake rupture in the region. Comparisons of great earthquakes that have occurred along the same portion of the seismic zone have also demonstrated the range of aleatory variability between successive ruptures. Installation of dense seismic and geodetic monitoring arrays significantly enhanced the resolution of subsequent faulting processes. Patterns of heterogeneous pre-seismic and co-seismic deformation reflect spatial variations in the frictional properties of the megathrust. Localization of high coseismic moment release have been correlated with regions of high interseismic coupling or asperities. The persistent nature of these asperities and interactions between adjacent asperities on the megathrust influences the variability of great earthquake ruptures from cycle to cycle. Observations from the recent sequence of great earthquakes provides an opportunity to update the cur...
dent perspective on earthquake hazard for the remaining seismic gaps along the South American subduction zone.

Case of an Orphan Tsunami on the Konkan Coast, Western India: A Distant Megathrust or a Near-Field Source?

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The last decade witnessed some unusually large tsunamis, and among these, the 2004 tsunami was an unprecedented experience for the coastal communities on the east coast of India. In comparison, the tsunami hazard for the west coast remains under-recognized. Our explorations led us to an intriguing near-beach ~20-m-thick sedimentary section of eolian sand at Kelahi, on the west coast, ~120 km south of Mumbai. This section facing a tidal inlet shows three soil-compacted foundations (I, II and III), at about 1.5 m, 2 m and 3 m from the high tide level (HTL), which were active between 1450 and 1640 CE, as suggested by charcoal dates and also by pottery. At an elevation of 1 m from the HTL, we identified a thin (10–20 cm) band of laminated sand mixed with near-shore mollusc and gastropod shells. This depositional event must have occurred before 1410–1456 CE, based on the charcoal date from the overlying strata. At ~3 m from the HTL, yet another, though a more prominent, band (30–40 cm) occurs, featuring flow structures interlayered with mollusc and gastropod shells that coexist with occasional human and bovine bones. The sedimentary structures include convolutions, dish and pillar structures along with sporadic heavy mineral-rich layers. We relate these anomalies at the Phase III occupation level to the impact of a strong current from the sea, contemporaneous also with the transportation of shells dated at 1508–1681 CE. While the 14th century tsunami, the penultimate tsunami to the 2004 Indian Ocean event could be related to the pre-Phase I depositional event, the causal mechanism for the 16th century features could be a more energetic tsunami run-up that chronologically matches with the 1524 CE reports on ‘sea disturbances’, sourced to the medieval Portuguese fleet. Numerical modelling of tsunami scenarios from near-field (e.g. local submarine landslides) and far-field (i.e. from the Makran subduction zone) are conducted to compare with the field data.

Microzonation Studies—Site Effects

Oral Session · Wednesday 16 May · 2:15 PM · Hibiscus B
Session Chairs: Ilia Papadopoulos and Michael Schmitz

Shear-Wave Velocity Model of the Santiago de Chile Basin as a Basis for the Identification of Stratigraphic and Topographic Site Effects

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Sedimentary basins in seismic hazard areas are often sites of elevated seismic risk due to seismic wave resonance that enhance the seismic shaking in connection with dense urbanization and the location of infrastructure. Measurements of seismic shock at 146 sites have been carried out in the northern part of the Santiago de Chile basin first to determine the fundamental resonance frequency of the sites and then to invert the horizontal-to-vertical (H/V) spectra individually, considering additional geological and geophysical information as constraints, for estimating local S-wave velocity profiles which were found to vary substantially over short distances in the investigated area. The resulting 3D model was derived for a 26 km x 12 km area by interpolation between the single S-wave velocity profiles and shows good agreement with the few existing velocity profiles but allows to image the entire area as well as deeper parts of the basin in much more detail than before. By applying complex trace analysis for seismograms recorded at network sites within the Santiago basin using the instantaneous polarization characteristics of the seismic signal for separating waves arriving at a single site at different times, we identify and extract basin-edge generated Rayleigh waves. It is found that the geometry of the basin edge plays a critical role in the generation of surface waves. In turn, these waves can significantly influence both the spatial distribution of the level of amplification and the temporal lengthening of ground motion, meaning that the spatial variability of ground motion in the basin is not only related to a simple 1D response but it is strongly modified by secondary waves generated at the edges of the basin.

Mapping of Vs30 and Seismic Microzones in Quito, Ecuador

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With the purpose of putting the base for a seismic ordinance in the Metropolitan District of Quito (MDQ) in Ecuador that includes the results of seismic microzonation studies, a group of geo-scientists are working on the compilation and integration of previous studies with new information. The MDQ is characterized by a heterogeneous surface formed by basins and topographic reliefs located in an active tectonic zone driven by the subduction of the Nazca plate under the South American plate. The structural complexity of the region with local thrust faults is responsible for the high seismic hazard. As the seismic response is strongly influenced by the configuration of the shallow layers and by the depth of the sedimentary basin, we focus on shear wave velocity in the first 30 m (Vs30) and the configuration of soil profiles to bedrock for the definition of the seismic response at surface. For a preliminary map of Vs30 a relation between topographic relief and Vs30 was used, adjusted by the results of the compilation of pre-existing wells and the analysis of velocity data obtained by the ReMi method. The final map shows variations mainly between 200 m/s and 550 m/s. This allowed a reinterpretation of all the information resulting in a new map of microzones that cover the whole MDQ. Within the process of upgrade the existing seismic microzonation studies an integration of geological, geophysical and previously defined microzones of the DMQ was done, resulting in a map of 11 seismic microzones. They were subdivided due to their geological evolution and composition in: fluvial-lacustrine, colluvial, alluvial, lakers, canghua and volcanic ash materials, with sedimentary deposits down to the seismic bedrock ranging from 40 m at the edges up to 700 m in the center of the basin, and with lower Vs30 velocities in the flat part of the basin. Finally, soil profiles were proposed for each seismic microzone and seismic response spectra are being calculated for each zone.

Recent Seismic Microzonation Study for the Aburra Valley, Colombia

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The city of Medellín and its metropolitan area (about 3 million inhabitants) are located in the Aburra valley in Colombia, which is an active seismic region. Colombian seismic design code (NSR-10) dictates that every city with a population over 100,000 inhabitants must have a seismic microzonation study. These studies aims to evaluate the amplification effects generated by the dynamic response of soil deposits, which substantially modifies the characteristics and intensity of a seismic event. Furthermore, these studies propose specific recommendations for seismic design of buildings and many other applications. The Aburra Valley presents a complex geological and geotechnical conditions, where the quality and quantity of available information is not sufficient for the purposes of these studies. Hence, a great uncertainty in the subsequent analysis and the final results is expected. This paper presents the overall methodology used for the microzonation study in the Aburra Valley considering the different sources of uncertainties. First, a bedrock level probabilistic seismic hazard assessment (PSHA) was performed to calculate hazard curves and uniform hazard spectra at the region. Several boreholes and geotechnical information were gathered throughout to study zones in order to characterize the variability of the soil deposits due to its geological origin. Several 1D soil dynamic response analysis were performed in order to characterize the spectral amplification surfaces and its uncertainty for different seismic intensities. Additionally, 2D models were analyzed to consider topographic amplification effects. Local seismic records were available to calibrate and validate the microzonation results. Finally, the spatial distribution of seismic acceleration at surface level was calculated using new approaches in which the fundamental soil period of vibration is the main parameter of integration. Updated seismic design parameters were proposed in accordance to those stablished in NSR-10.
Seismic Microzoning Study in Portoviejo, Ecuador

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Portoviejo is located in a sedimentary basin characterized by soft sedimentary deposits of fluvial-marine origin that gradually filled the estuary, surrounded by outcrops of heavily weathered shales. The seismic hazard is dominated by interface earthquakes of the subduction of the Nazca plate beneath the North Andean Sliver, but local faults with potential Q activity were identified during the study. The depth of the quaternary sediments and their properties has been studied with geotechnical and geophysical methods. Depth of the sedimentary basin is 50 m in the center of Portoviejo increasing towards NE to 160 m. The depth of the seismic basement, characterized by Vs > 1400 m/s (consolidated layers of shale only), is limited between the shore ranges from 100 to 200 m in the center area. Seismic response is maintained by Vs > 30, and geotechnical characteristics and to a lesser extent to sediment thickness. V<sub>s</sub>30 varies between 155 and 360 m/s in the basin, corresponding to silty–clayey materials. The shales show Vs between 360 and 600 m/s. Five seismic microzones of similar seismic response are defined by the distribution of Vs30 ranging from rigid soils with Vs30 &ge; 360 m/s to very soft soils with Vs30 < 180 m/s. Microzone 6 is located in the floodplain of the Portoviejo River with very high liquefaction potential, and lateral spread due to the lack of lateral confinement. Downtown Portoviejo, strongly damaged in 2016, does not present any special subsoil configuration, nor in the observations from the aftershock recordings (greater amplifications are observed to the north), with the exception of liquefaction phenomena near the cemetery. Our results, which include PSH assessment, allow a greater detail with respect to the building code with spectra with values of the plateau 10–50% higher than the respective code spectra. Landslide hazard due to earthquakes is small in Portoviejo, with the exception for extreme events (2475 years return period).

Geotechnical Microzonation of Portoviejo City: Index Properties of Soils and Correlations between Shear Wave Velocity (Vs) and Standard Penetration Test (SPT-N)

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On April 16th, 2016 several phenomena were generated in city of Portoviejo, associated with the Mw 7.8 earthquake. This incident led to catastrophic events. The city is characterized by predominating Holocene deposits mainly of fluvial environment, being relatively young deposits. These characteristics form a zone of high vulnerability to develop simultaneous phenomena as settlements, swellings, liquefaction. For which an empirical equation has been determined to appraise the elastic properties of the soil important for the analysis of the site response. In this way the shear wave velocity was evaluated through NSPT values obtained in 15 wells, calculating two equations for a depth of 0–5m and 5–10m. A shallow geotechnical map was generated based on empirical correlations of index properties of soils obtained in laboratory tests. Five geotechnical zones were determined according to the approximate behavior of the soil. According to the distribution of Vs30 a critical geotechnical zone is located in the Portoviejo downtown. This zone has materials with High Plastic Index producing they are highly compressible soils having the singularity that these values increase with depth. These has moisture content very close to its Liquid Limit thus they are less stable soils under a load. Additionally this zone has the highest percentage of fines inside the city and a high swelling potential that can cause microzones that are overlying these soils. However its swelling pressure is less than 30kPa. Towards the north central zone of the city there is greater heterogeneity of soil index properties due to mixed fluvial-marine deposits and the presence of active tectonic structures. This zone has values of Plasticity Index lower than 20 which indicate that requires a lower water content to reduce its shear strength, also it has

The Trinidad and Tobago Microzonation Project: Understanding and Quantifying Earthquake Hazard

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In the past 30 years, there has been widespread attention to the impact of local geology, in urban areas, on ground motion during earthquakes. Numerous studies (e.g. Bard, 1999 and Haghshenas et al., 2008 for a literature review) have shown that the seismic amplification observed in sediments can vary significantly, even at small distances, as a result of changes in surface geology. Trinidad and Tobago is prone to earthquakes and, therefore, at significant seismic risk. The Trinidad & Tobago Microzonation Project (TTMP) aims to quantify the seismic hazard for the country by studying the local geology in ten major population centres across the country. We use ambient seismic noise recordings to derive our results. We recorded both single-site measurements, processed using the Horizontal to Vertical Spectral Ratio (HVSR) (Nakamura, 1989), and Microtremor Array Measurements (MAM) (Tokimatsu, 1997) techniques. Simulation of ambient noise, from Hisada's method and using RANSOURCE code (Moczo et al, 2002), is used a well to develop into the conclusions from the experimental results (Hisada, 1994, 1995). In the first urban area selected, the capital Port of Spain, more than 1100 single-site and 26 array recordings have been conducted. Results show a gradual deepening of the Port of Spain basin to the south, with significant sediment thickness (~160m). By integrating the results we are also able to derive a soil classification map according to NEHRP soil classification (BSSC, 2003). Shear wave velocity varies from ~160 m/sec in reclaimed land in the south to ~3000 m/sec for the massive Chancellor Slitch to the north and Laventille Metalimestone east of the basin. Resonance frequency has a similar variation from south to north ranging between 0.4 to 10 Hz. A local network of strong motion sensors is set to be installed, and define the amplification of sediments within the urban environment.

Seismic Site Characterization of Texnet Seismic Stations in West Texas

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The Texas Seismological Network, established by the 84th session of the Texas State Legislature, currently consists of 25 stations that comprise a backbone network across the state, supplemented by several portable arrays in four areas of localized seismicity. All portable installations have both a seismometer and an accelerometer. One array, located in the Snyder-Cogdell area, consists of 7 portable stations in addition to 2 permanent stations located in that area. Interstation distances in that region are 50–80 km. To better understand the site amplification for stations in west Texas, and get qualitative information of the site classification, we perform site characterization using the horizontal-to-vertical spectral ratio (HVSR) for earthquake and noise data. For these areas, we focus our investigation on earthquakes with local magnitudes that range between 1.5 and 3.1. For earthquakes, we analyzed data starting at the 3 arrival and extending to the point where the signal dropped to normal background noise levels. For noise analysis, we used 24 hour records for each site, with earthquakes removed. Our analysis is concentrated on the frequency range between 1 and 50 Hz. We find consistency in HVSR values across multiple earthquakes for the same stations with peaks that indicate soil resonant frequencies. Additionally, we observe a continuous shift between the resonant frequencies identified for stations within similar geological formations, indicating a transition from higher to lower frequencies moving from stiffer to looser materials. This trend is supported by results from the noise data.

Near-source spectral measurements are the most geologically realistic form of seismic input for site response analysis. The Texas Seismological Network, established by the 84th session of the Texas State Legislature, currently consists of 25 stations that comprise a backbone network across the state, supplemented by several portable arrays in four areas of localized seismicity. All portable installations have both a seismometer and an accelerometer. One array, located in the Snyder-Cogdell area, consists of 7 portable stations in addition to 2 permanent stations located in that area. Interstation distances in that region are 50–80 km. To better understand the site amplification for stations in west Texas, and get qualitative information of the site classification, we perform site characterization using the horizontal-to-vertical spectral ratio (HVSR) for earthquake and noise data.
Seismic Microzonation and Amplification Factor Determination in the North-Northeast Area of Managua City, Nicaragua

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Two set of key factors do influence the ground motion level that an earthquake can cause at a given site. Firstly, the inherent characteristics of the earthquake are magnitude, rupture mechanism and the location parameters such as distance to the source and depth. Secondly, dynamic properties of sites such as fundamental periods and shear wave velocity.

Only from those factors, currently it is possible to estimate dynamic behavior of the ground before a strong ground shaking takes place. The knowledge of the estimated ground shaking makes a huge difference, as this enables decision makers to take countermeasures through an earthquake resistant design of dwellings and buildings.

In this research the North-Northeast area of Managua city, Nicaragua was surveyed. Fundamental periods of the soils were determined using the spectral ratio method. Moreover, amplification factor of seismic waves was computed using information from shear wave velocity profiles through site response analysis. Response spectra were computed based on the interpolation of excitation method.

Transfer functions from the velocity structure obtained by microtremors method has shown that the fundamental periods of ground are categorized in two ranges: To = 0.07 to 0.15 s and To2 = 0.15 to 0.45 s.

Shear wave velocity profiles at selected sites in the area were used to evaluate the site condition. In general the area can be classified as type C and D soils (NEHRP 2003).

By comparing response spectra of the ground motion with the design spectra the acceleration response spectra of the analyzed earthquake records exceed the design spectra.
Remote Explosive Volcanic Eruption Detection, Location, and Characterization Using the Earthscope Transportable Array in Alaska

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Open-cut degassing dominated activity at Mount Pagan, Mariana Islands dating back to at least 2013, when ground-based sensors were installed, to mid-2015 when degassing fell below detection limits. Gas sampling indicated shallow magma was the source, and an analysis of LP seismicity showed that repeated pressurization and venting of a shallow crack controlled degassing. Open-cut degassing also produced abundant infrasound, recorded on two 6-element arrays. Two main infrasound features are the focus of this study: 1) a 0.3 Hz iVLP and 2) a 1.7 Hz iLP. Tens of thousands of iVLPs and iLPs were recorded over the 22-month study period, and correlation and cluster analyses show little change in both waveform and frequency content, suggesting a non-destructive, repeating source. An interesting upper conduit-crater geometry was discovered in helicopter overflights of the summit crater, and to test the effects of the crater and conduit shape and size on the infrasound signals, a high-resolution (<1 meter) DEM of the crater was produced by structure-from-motion using video captured during helicopter orbits. We perform full-waveform inversion of the infrasound data using the 3D topography, and show that a synthetic monopole source induces distinct resonance in the crater and upper conduit that mostly reproduces the iVLP and iLP signals, respectively. Further investigation of the infrasound catalogue shows that while the frequency content and waveforms remained stable through time, the amplitude of the iVLP events began decreasing months prior to cessation of degassing. Initially, the iLP amplitudes remained unaffected while the iVLP amplitudes dropped, but in the final months before degassing ended iLP amplitudes also began decreasing. We interpret this pattern as a progressive decline in the gas overpressure, initially resulting in a decreased ability to trigger resonance in the large crater volume, but eventually affecting the ability of the monopole source to induce resonance in the smaller upper conduit volume. We compare the infrasound amplitudes to passive SO2 degassing of measured from the OMNI sensor on NASA’s Aura satellite during the study period and find a remarkable similarity in the datasets, confirming that the subtle waning of infrasound amplitudes was a harbinger of an open vent volcano running out of gas.

Observations and the Physics Behind Complex Earthquakes

Considering Green’s Functions in Back-Projection

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Back-projection methods have become popular and are widely used to track the rupture process of moderate to large earthquakes. However, there are problems in imaging detailed processes of earthquakes with smaller source dimensions. We developed a new inversion method, Image Deconvolution Back-Projection (IDBP) to determine the sources of high frequency energy radiation by linear inversion of observed images from a back-projection approach. The observed back-projection image for multiple sources is considered as a convolution of the image of the radiated energy and the array response for a point source. The array response that spreads energy both in space and time is evaluated by using data of a smaller reference earthquake that can be assumed to be a point source. The synthetic test of the method shows that the spatial and temporal resolution of the source is much better than that for the conventional back-projection method. We applied this new method to the 2001 M 7.8 Kurnun earthquake using data recorded by Hi-net in Japan. The new method resolves a sharp image of the high frequency energy radiation with a significant portion of supershear rupture.

Search for Generic Rupture Properties Hidden by Earthquakes Diversity: Insights from the SCARDEC Source Time Functions Catalog

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The search for key elements characterizing the earthquake rupture process is challenged by the specificities of each individual event. This results in a large diversity when looking at earthquakes as a whole. This diversity is well documented by the moment rate functions (or Source Time Functions—STF), one of the most robust seismological observables of the rupture process. Teleseismic STFs also have the potential to be automately extracted for each earthquake with magnitude above 5.7—6.5, since the development of the digital global broadband seismic networks.

Volcanic Thunder from Explosive Eruptions at Bogoslof Volcano

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Lightning often occurs during ash-producing eruptive activity and its detection is now being used in volcano monitoring for rapid alerts. We report on infrasonic and sonic recordings of the related, but previously undocumented, phenomenon of volcanic thunder. We observe volcanic thunder during the waning stages of two explosive eruptions at Bogoslof, Alaska, on a microphone array located 60 km away. Thunder signals arrive from a different direction than co-eruptive infrasound generated at the vent following an eruption on June 10, 2017, consistent with locations from lightning networks. For the March 8, 2017 eruption, arrival times and amplitudes of high frequency thunder signals correlate well with the timing and strength of lightning detections. In both cases, the thunder is associated with lightning that continues after significant eruptive activity has ended. Thus, the optimal observation time is during the minutes immediately after the cessation of eruptive activity when volcanic lightning continues in the detached plume—when the thunder signal is not masked by eruption noise. Of all the events in the 2016-17 Bogoslof eruption sequence, the March 8 and June 6 eruptions had the clearest volcanic thunder signals. Observations for other eruptive events with lightning detections were hampered by higher levels of background noise, non-optimal wind conditions, and volcanic activity that did not abruptly terminate. Further work is needed on the characteristics of volcanic thunder and its relation to lightning properties, such as frequency content of thunder and the nature of the lightning (intercloud or cloud-to-ground). These infrasonic and sonic observations of volcanic thunder offer a new avenue for studying electrification processes in volcanic plumes, provide ways of distinguishing volcanic thunder from eruption acoustic signals, and motivate improved methods of measuring volcanic thunder at close range and during explosive activity.
This potential access to thousands of STFs, in all earthquake contexts and depths, motivated the development of the SCARDEC method, which simultaneously retrieves the static source parameters (depth, focal mechanism and magnitude) together with the STF. More precisely, the SCARDEC method retrieves apparent STFs (for each location and P/S phase), which also offers the possibility to track first-order features of the space-time rupture process. The present study uses these STFs to further document how, and at which velocity, rupture develops. In a Brussels setting, we present the information provided by a systematic search of the average rupture velocities. Second, we will focus on the most energetic phase of the STFs. Even if the times at which rupture strongly accelerates appears unpredictable (resulting in very different STF shapes), the characteristics of this acceleration provide constraints on the dynamics of the rupture. As a matter of fact, this acceleration is on average faster than what is predicted by a classical self-similar rupture growth (where the STF grows quadratically with time). This shows that during the main phase, rupture velocity and/or slip rate increase.

Toward a Temporal Evolution of the Earthquake Energy Budget: Body-Wave Radiated Energy Rate
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Assuming that the Green’s function between the source and the receiver is properly removed, the only direct measurement we can make of the earthquake energy budget is radiated energy. Dynamic source processes, such as fault roughness or heterogeneity in frictional and pre-stress properties, induce local variations in rupture velocity and peak sliprate and excite high-frequency seismic waves. It is possible to infer these from the source time function and explore the temporal variation in radiated energy. Here we propose a new methodology to construct the radiated energy rate from source spectrograms and use an empirical Green’s function approach to remove far-field path effects. The radiated energy rate is directly proportional to the squared moment acceleration. Pseudo-dynamic models allow us to confirm that local variations in rupture velocity and in peak slip rate both contribute to peaks in moment acceleration, and validate the method. We apply our technique to the M7.9 2015 Nepal earthquake. Beyond its resemblance to a pure Haskell model (radiation occurs at the beginning and at the end), we highlight details in the radiated energy rate that suggest distinct events within the rupture. These events are interpretable with the temporal correlation to published teleseismic backprojection results.

Earthquake Complexity Due to Interaction of Fault Geometry, Constitutive Properties, Prior Slip, Fluid Effects, and Inelastic Processes
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The increasing stream of field observations uncovers an increasingly rich picture of the earthquake source. Combined with increasingly more sophisticated understanding of processes from the laboratory to the field and numerical modeling, these observations point to intricate interactions among spatial, and often temporal, variations in: (i) fault geometry, both large-scale and local (aka fault roughness); (ii) fault confinement due to both geometrically-induced variations in fault-normal stress and fluid-motion-induced variations in pore pressure; (iii) fault shear stress due to prior patterns of slow and fast slip and deformation processes in the bulk; (iv) low-slip-velocity friction in terms of velocity weakening (VW) vs. strengthening (VS) due to variations in composition, shear zone thickness, and other factors; (v) dynamic changes in shear resistance (often weakening) due to shear heating and other effects that vary with the shear zone thickness, composition, poroelastic properties, etc; (vi) inelastic bulk processes in the bulk that may augment the effective shear resistance of faults or modulate loading conditions in spatially heterogeneous and time-dependent ways; and potentially other factors. We will present cases in which it is relatively clear that a subset of these factors dominates the response, as well as ones where the interaction between several of them is likely key. For example, many observations on repeating earthquakes, even as large as Mw 6.0, can be reproduced in relatively simple models of planar faults with VW friction patches surrounded by VS fault areas. At the same time, the unexpectedly large shallow slip in the 2011 Mw 9.0 Tohoku earthquake is most likely the result of several interacting factors, including the fault geometry, a particular set of friction and poroelastic properties, and prior slip history. This reality implies that there may be no single simple answer for earthquake complexity. Our best chance for identifying dominating factors in a particular setting would be to match all available observations—e.g., an entire pattern of slow slip and earthquake sequences, heat constraints etc.—with a single physical model, since each isolated observation can be reproduced by a number of different models. This calls for further development of numerical models of long-term deformation with realistic fault and bulk rheologies and realistic geometries.

Complexity of Spatiotemporal Microfracturing Processes and Stress Field Evolution before and after Fault Slip: Laboratory Perspective
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In this study we investigate details of spatial and temporal evolution of the stress field and damage at a pre-existing fault surface during laboratory stick-slip friction experiments performed on Westerly Granite samples. Specimens were deformed at constant strain rate of $3 \times 10^{-5}$ s$^{-1}$ and confining pressures of 150MPa. Here we analyze a series of 6 macroscopic slip events, each associated with intense microseismic activity. The Acoustic Emission (AE) events were recorded using a 16-channel transient recording system. Monitoring and mapping AE properties allowed recovering spatiotemporal damage and stress evolution. We investigated source characteristics (magnitude, seismic moment tensors and focal mechanisms) as well as the statistical properties (b-, c-, d-value) of microseismicity to unravel the micromechanical processes governing nucleation and propagation of shear fractures. In addition, the calculated AE focal mechanisms were used to derive time-dependent local stress-orientations, stress-shape ratio, and additional parameters such as scaled shear traction, quantifying proximity to failure of individual fault patches. The calculated characteristics are used to evidence the clear complexity of the preparatory and post-slip damage and stress evolution framing the macroscopic slip in the microscale. The observed fault processes and characteristics are discussed in the context of global strain and stress changes, fault surface maturational change, and earthquake stress drop.

Observed Characteristics of Induced Seismicity: From Laboratory to Field Scale (Parts 1 and 2)
Oral Session · Wednesday 16 May · 2:15 pm · Flagler
Continued: Thursday 17 May · 8:30 am · Flagler
Session Chairs: Kayla A. Kroll, Elizabeth S. Cochran, and Brett Carpenter

Reservoir Induced Seismicity in Brazil: Characteristics and New Cases
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The first observations of seismicity related to reservoir impoundment in Brazil occurred in the early 1970’s. The largest reservoir-related earthquake (4.2 mb) occurred in 1974. Interest in reservoir-triggered seismicity contributed to motivate the development of Seismology in Brazil. After the 1980’s and 1990’s, with the decrease in the rate of dam construction in Brazil, interest in reservoir-triggered seismicity also decreased. This was due to the fewer large dams under construction, but also because of the feeling that the chance of a large event was small. No other magnitude larger than 4.0 had been observed since 1974. On November 5th, 2015, the catastrophic failure of the Fundão iron-ore tailings dam, in Mariana, Minas Gerais State, caused a huge mud flow which destroyed a nearby town and caused 19 deaths. It has been described as the worst environmental disaster in Brazil’s history. About one hour before the failure, four small earthquakes with magnitudes up to 2.5 occurred ~1 km from the dam. The earthquakes were regarded as too small to have caused a direct impact on the dam failure, and a liquefaction process was already developing leading the upstream dam to a critical state. Irrespective of any possible causal relation with the dam failure, the occurrence of the small events renewed Brazil’s interest for reservoir triggered seismicity. Tailings dam can be taller than 100 m and the water saturated sediments could also contribute to increase pore pressures in the fractured rock mass beneath the tailings reservoir. Most tail dam failures are now being monitored for local seismicity. For this reason, a reappraisal of all RTS cases in Brazil is impor-
tional records with continuous seismic data are 250 Hz. Here we present the detailed characteristics of this seismic network that has been deployed around two clusters of induced events in the High Agri Valley (southern Italy) in the framework of the research project INSIGNE (INduced Seismicity in Italy: Estimation, Monitoring, and sEismic Hazard Maps).

Induced Seismicity in the High Agri Valley (Southern Italy): First Observations from the INSIGNE Seismic Network

Stable tectonic setting and moderate crustal thicknesses are typical for most parts of southern Italy. The High Agri Valley is located in the south-central part of Italy, between the provinces of Potenza and Matera. The area is characterized by a complex tectonic setting, with active faults and a history of seismic activity.

The deployment of dedicated microseismic networks with continuous data acquisition has become mandatory. In this context, an experimental temporary seismic network has been deployed around two clusters of induced events in the High Agri Valley (southern Italy) in the framework of the research project INSIGNE (Induced Seismicity in Italy: Estimation, Monitoring, and Seismic Risk mitigation) funded by the Italian SIR-MIUR program. More specifically, one of the two clusters is fluid-injection induced seismicity (Ml≤2) due to the disposal of the wastewater produced during the exploitation of the biggest onshore oil and gas field in Italy located in the Copia Molina (CM2) injection well, the other cluster is continued-reservoir induced seismicity (Ml≥2.7) linked to the seasonal water level fluctuation of the artificial Pertusillo Lake. The seismic network is composed by 8 stations, four of them around each of the two clusters of induced events. All the stations are equipped with broadband sensors installed in PVC casings at different depths up to 50 m. The sampling frequency of the continuous seismic data is 250 Hz. Here we present the detailed characteristics of the seismic network and the first observations of induced microearthquakes in the study area.

How Widespread Is Human-Induced Seismicity in the USA and Canada?

There has been significant public and scientific interest in the observation of changed seismicity rates in North America since 2008, possibly due to human activities. Van der Baan and Calixto (Geochemistry, Geophysics, Geosystems, 2017) find that the seismicity rate in Oklahoma between 2008 and 2016 is strongly correlated to increased hydrocarbon production. The possibility of systematic correlations between increased hydrocarbon production and seismicity rates is a pertinent question since the United States became the world’s largest hydrocarbon producer in 2013, surpassing both Saudi Arabia’s oil production and Russia’s dry gas production. In most areas, increased production is due to systematic hydraulic fracturing that involves high-pressure, underground fluid injection. Increased hydrocarbon production also leads to increased salt-water production which is often disposed of underground. Increased underground fluid injection in general may cause increased seismicity rates due to facilitated slip on pre-existing faults. Contrary to Oklahoma, analysis of oil and gas production versus seismicity rates in six other states in the United States and three provinces in Canada finds no state- or province-wide correlation between increased seismicity and hydrocarbon production, despite 8- to 16-fold increases in production in some states. However, in various areas, seismicity rates have increased locally. A comparison with seismic hazard maps shows that human-induced seismicity is less likely in areas that have historically felt fewer earthquakes. The opposite is not necessarily true.

The Binary Forecast Approach to Induced Seismicity

The Western Canada Sedimentary Basin has seen a recent increase in observed seismicity which is most likely linked to anthropogenic activities related to unconventional oil and gas exploration. Seismicity caused by these types of activities is called induced seismicity. The occurrence of moderate to large induced earthquakes in areas where critical infrastructure is present can be potentially problematic. Here we use a binary forecasting model to analyze well production and injection data to quantify future time periods of potential seismicity. The binary forecasting approach splits a region into bins to create a retrospective forecast. By testing the model with varying production/injection thresholds, a certain number of bins become alarm cells with each test. An alarm cell is a bin in which there is a higher likelihood for earthquakes to occur based on its total production/injection value being higher than the threshold. Earthquakes that occur within an alarm cell in the retrospective forecast period contribute to the hit rate, while alarm cells that do not have an earthquake occur within them in the retrospective forecast period contribute to the false alarm rate. Previously we used spatial bins; here we use a modified method using temporal bins measured in months. In the resulting analysis the hit and false alarm rates are determined for each threshold. The receiver operating characteristic diagram is used for optimization by comparing and maximizing the difference between the hit and false alarm rates for a given set of initial parameters. A temporal approach to capturing seasonal and hourly thresholds above which earthquakes above a given magnitude occur in a future period when that threshold value is exceeded. Certain time periods are thus shown to be more prone to potential larger earthquakes for specific regions in Western Canada. This has implications for the potential link between oil and gas production and induced seismicity observed in the WCSB.

Variations in Source Properties with Evolving Deep Injection at Ngatamariki Geothermal Field, New Zealand

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with injection rate. We present focal mechanisms for larger events and discuss their relation to injection activities at the fields. In particular, we focus on the cold-water stimulation of wells NM08, NM09 and NM10. The seismic response to each of these treatments is distinct. In the northern part of the field, reverse faulting mechanisms on focal planes striking N-S or NW-SE dominate seismicity during the stimulation of NM08. These disagree with regional extension along the NE-SW structural trend. Stimulation of NM09, which deviates from the same wellpath as NM08, induced much less seismicity. In the southern portion of the field, NE-SW striking normal faulting characterizes the seismicity during the stimulation at NM10 as well as most of the seismicity in this portion of the field throughout our 3.5-year dataset. We interpret these differences to reflect distinct geology between the northern and southern parts of the field as well as permeability differences between wells, particularly NM08 and NM09. Finally, we present preliminary stress inversion results obtained from these mechanisms and discuss them in the context of developing injection and production activities at Ngatamariki.

Using Fluid-Induced Microseismicity for Reservoir Characterization at Decatur

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Better characterization of induced microseismic events can reveal important geomechanical parameters and support the assessment of seal integrity for fluid injection operations. The spatio-temporal evolution of seismicity in conjunction with source parameter analysis can provide more detailed insight into reservoir behavior. We perform a detailed characterization of microseismic events at the Illinois Basin—Decatur Project (IBDP), in Decatur, Illinois. About 4800 microseismic events were located with deep borehole sensors during the injection of 1.160 tons of CO2 during 3 years. Using a waveform cross-correlation method, we can distinguish between events occurring in the sandstone reservoir and events only some tens of meters deeper in the adjacent uppermost crystalline basement. Full-waveform modeling can be used to identify observations of different phase arrivals. Further analysis of source parameters such as Brune stress drop and b-value, as well as the general evolution of microseismic clusters reveals a fluid-driven behavior of seismicity within a cluster, and a punctual hydraulic connection between reservoir and basement. Focal mechanisms are estimated for selected events by combining recordings from surface and downhole sensors. In addition, temporal changes in attenuation as measured from microseismic waveforms may also carry information about the progression of the CO2 plume. We apply the empirical Green’s function formalism to the data and compare spectral ratios. The method yields systematic spatial variations of Q. However, no temporal variations of Q can be resolved from the microseismic data alone. However, as part of seismic monitoring, we aim to establish a new data analysis workflow integrating active and passive seismic data for a more holistic 4D seismic monitoring system. The larger aperture and higher resolution achieved by combination of all available seismic data may allow for a more precise mapping of the injected fluid.

Assessing the Connectivity of a Hydraulic Fractured Network Using 3D Topological Approaches

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We use 3D topological approaches to characterize the extent of fracture connectivity and assess the percolation capability of Discrete Fracture Networks (DFNs) as related to hydraulic fracturing completion programs. The matrix permeability of unconventional reservoirs is very low (nanodarcies) making the primary source of hydrocarbon production the flow through the DFN generated by fracturing methods. Geomechanical based reservoir and frac models used to predict production and assess the effectiveness of the completion program, utilize fracture orientations and spacing, but do not consider the connectivity of the DFN that effectively allows hydrocarbons to percolate to the producing well. Here, we characterize the DFN connectivity of a treated shale reservoir, for which the orientation and length of the individual fractures associated with the generated microseismicity was determined by source spectral modeling, and moment tensor and stress inversions. We apply the well-known geological concepts of node and branch classification (topology), extending them to a 3D analysis. We use a rolling window along the length of the microseismic event distribution perpendicu-
seismicity during stimulation was continuously recorded with a dense network of uncalibrated piezo-electric sensors installed in the surrounding tunnels (26 sensors) and four monitoring boreholes (8 sensors) in close proximity (5–25m) to the injection intervals. First analysis of stimulations targeting existing fault and shear zones showed a high variability in injectivity increase, whereby final injectivities remained on the same order of magnitude. The number of induced seismic events occurred predominantly during injection and varied from 300 to 5'500. Location of seismicity frequently coalesced into distinct clusters of small spatial extent (0.5 to 5m) in relatively short distance to the respective injection interval (max. ~5m). To further investigate and compare seismicity of the different experiments and to relate seismicity to pressure propagation and strain evolution, event magnitudes have to be estimated—ideally absolute ones, which in turn require careful analysis of instrument and path effects. Thus, we investigate the application of a calibration technique developed in laboratory-scale experiments. The technique develops Empirical Green’s Functions (EGFs) that incorporate wave propagation effects of the host rock, the instrument response, effects of the recording system (e.g., effects of filters and amplifiers) and the sensor coupling, directly.

Ocean Bottom Seismology—Hurdles, Strategies and Outcomes
Oral Session · Wednesday 16 May · 10:45 AM · Hibiscus B
Session Chairs: Charlotte A. Rowe, Francisco J. Núñez-Cornú, and Susan L. Bilek

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Real time acquisition data for oceanographer is the next great challenge for the future. There are several attempts to monitor real time seismic activity, using regional scale wired systems, such as Neptune, Antares or DONET. These initiatives are costly to install and to maintain. Among the most recent alternative we developed a 3-years autonomy OBS equipped with a Trillium 120 s, a triaxial accelerometer, a differential and an absolute pressure gauge, and a hydrophone. MUG-OBS is a free-falling instrument rated down to 6000 m. The installation of the sensor and data quality are monitored by acoustic commands from the surface. The major innovation is that it is possible to recover the data any time on demand using one of the 6 data-shuttles released from the surface by acoustic command. Networks of synchronized autonomous hydrophones for monitoring the low-level seismic activity of the ocean floor and low-frequency sounds from the ocean have been commonly deployed in the world ocean to monitor large sections of mid-oceanic ridges. HYDROBS is an improved system derive from MUG that meet two requirements: an easy access to the data collected by the instrument, and together with long-term deployments – up to 4 consecutive years. Hydro-OBS is equipped with 4 hydrophones and data are recovered every year over a period of three years releasing 3 shuttles by acoustic. Mermaids have been developed to improve seismic data coverage in the oceanic domain for imaging of the Earth’s interior. The first generation of Mermaids was housed in conventional Argo-type floats, while hardware and software was developed to analyze acoustic signals, determine whether an earthquake has been recorded, and whether the Mermaid should come up to the surface and transmit to the satellite. The life time of the new generation of the Mermaids is 6 years if sampling continuously at depth of 2000m for seismic signals, e.g. for seismic tomography by providing worldwide coverage of P wave arrival times.

Smart Cables—Sensing the Oceanographic and Geophysical Pulse of the Planet
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An international task force is working to implement environmental monitoring sensors into submarine telecommunication cables. The SMART Cables Initiative – for Science Monitoring And Reliable Communications – is sponsored by several UN agencies and led by the Joint Task Force. The SMART cables concept calls for adding sensor suites to the repeaters of future submarine cables, which are spaced at intervals of 50–75 km along the ocean floor. Initially, temperature, pressure, and acceleration sensors will be integrated, with expanded capabilities in planning. As cables are replaced and expanded, this would create a global deep ocean sensor network capable of sustained, cost-effective data collection in the deep ocean, addressing critical needs for science and society: 1) the near term need for improved resolution and rapidity in global tsunami warning and seismic monitoring, and 2) the long term need for sustained, cost-effective ocean and climate data from the deep oceans. The acceleration sensors will pick up strong ground motion from nearby earthquakes; recent instrumentation improvements allow sensing smaller or distant earthquakes. The inclusion of seismic sensors opens other opportunities: we provide a discussion of the solid Earth modeling and expected ocean bottom seismology impacts of the initiative. The initiative has won endorsement from numerous scientific organizations, and modeling studies are underway to quantify the expected benefits of the improved sampling. The initiative, currently moving from the concept stage into prototyping, has the potential to provide a first order addition to the ocean and Earth observing system, with unique contributions that will complement existing systems. See Joint Task Force (JTF), ITU/WMO/IOC SMART Cables for Observing the Ocean

The Necessity for Long-Term OBS Deployments in Understanding Mid-Ocean Ridge Processes
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Technological advances now allow Ocean Bottom Seismographs (OBS) to be deployed for over a year, recording at high sample rates. This provides the opportunity for sustained long-term observations at individual sites as opposed to brief snap-shots of seafloor seismic activity, often at disparate sites. This is particularly important in understanding the mid-ocean ridge (MOR) system, which is by far the most significant planerary source of volcanism, but where the seismic activity usually takes place far from shore, often at magnitudes below the detection threshold of the global seismic network. The limited multi-year data we have at MORs suggest a dynamic system where the character of earthquake activity changes dramatically through an eruption cycle. Only two sites have in situ OBS recordings of an eruption: Axial Seamount (2015) and the East Pacific Rise (EPR) at 9°30’N (2006). The recent Ocean Observatory Initiative (OOI) Cabled Array provides real-time high fidelity seismic data from Axial Seamount, with over 3 years of data recorded to date and an expectation of many more years to come. But Axial represents one of only a handful of MOR sites where multi-year continuous OBS arrays have been able to characterize microearthquake activity, with or without an eruption. Comparison with the EPR shows that Axial is likely heavily influenced by hot spot activity and shows distinct differences in eruptive style as opposed to seismic activity before and after an eruption. The OOI presents an opportunity to get the first decadal scale picture of seismic activity at an active MOR site, but we also need to be careful to characterize other types of MOR settings to provide a balanced view of this critically important system. Even with decades of dense monitoring at much simpler fault or volcanic systems on land, we still don’t fully understand how they work. Therefore significantly more data are required at MORs to be confident that we understand their most basic processes.

The Caribe Norte Project: Studying the Southern Hispaniola Island Seismic Structure Using OBS
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The complex tectonic region of NE Caribbean, where Hispaniola and Puerto Rico are located, is bordered by subduction zone with oblique convergence in the north and by incipient subduction zone associated to Muertos Trough in the south accomodated by the Septentrional-Oriente and Enriquillo-Plantain Garden Fault Zones. Central Caribbean basin is characterized by the presence of a prominent topographic structure known as Beata Ridge, whose oceanic crust thickness is unusual whose northern part is colliding with central Hispaniola along a transverse NE alignment, which constitutes a morphostructural limit that could explain the extreme difference between west and east seismicity of the island. To study this region, the onshore-offshore CARIBE NORTE experiment was carried out in 2009. The use of a set of 12 OBS anchored in the southern of Dominican Republic was essential to better understand the crustal structure along three wide-angle seismic transects. These OBS and land seismic stations deployed along these seismic lines registered the marine shots provided by R/V Hespérides. The analysis and subsequent interpretation of these data give a complete tectonic view about shallow, middle and deep structures in this region.
Seismicity in the Northern Hikurangi Margin, New Zealand, and Spatial and Temporal Relationship with the October 2014 Slow Slip Event

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The Hikurangi subduction margin off the north island of New Zealand was the target of the “Hikurangi Ocean Bottom Investigation of Tension and Slow Slip (HOBITSS)” experiment, which successfully recorded a slow slip event on seafloor pressure gauges in 2014. In addition to 24 absolute pressure gauges, the HOBITSS experiment included 10 broadband and 5 short period ocean bottom seismometers, all deployed for one year (May 2014 to June 2015) offshore the east coast of the North Island of New Zealand, near Gisborne. An initial catalog of local earthquakes was constructed using STA/LTA detection, event association, and manual picking of P and S wave arrivals from both offshore HOBITSS and on-land New Zealand GeoNet seismograph stations. We determined initial earthquake locations with the GENLOC algorithm using the iasp91 earth reference velocity model. We next used the VELEST software to simultaneously invert the seismic arrival times for earthquake locations and velocity model, obtaining new 1D velocity models for onshore and offshore. These two velocity models, together with the manually picked arrivals were then used in the BAYESLOC Bayesian multiple-event algorithm to relocate the events. These steps yielded a total of 3087 earthquakes ranging from magnitude 0.5 – 4.7 and with a local magnitude completeness of ML 1.5. Our results indicate that Hikurangi seismicity is concentrated in two NE-SW bands, one offshore beneath the Hikurangi trough and outer forearc wedge, one onshore beneath the eastern Raukumara Peninsula, and with a gap in seismicity between the two bands and beneath the inner forearc wedge. The majority of earthquakes are within the subduction slab rather than at the plate interface. Intriguingly, the gap in seismicity borders the slow slip patch along its down-dip edge. We do not find an increase in seismicity during the 2014 slow slip event, though seismicity is slightly higher in the month following the slow slip event.

Present-Day Plate Boundary Deformation and Seismic Hazard in the Caribbean

Oral Session - Wednesday 16 May - 2:15 PM - Orchard AB
Session Chairs: Eric Calais, Steve Symithe, O’Leary Gonzalez Matos, and Valérie Clouard

Is the Ancient Nortecubana Fold-and-Thrust Fault System Reactivated in Seismic Anisotropy of Both the Crust and Upper Mantle across the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico from Ambient Noise Tomography

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The North Cuban fold and thrust belt formed in response to Caribbean-North America plate collision that largely ended ~40 Ma. Today an arcuate band of seismicity extends 950+ km along the north shore of Cuba, signifying ongoing deformation along this ancient suture on a series of reverse faults collectively called the Nortecubana fault system. We use focal mechanisms from recent earthquakes and geomorphic observations to explore the hypothesis that modern deformation along the Nortecubana fault system accommodates regional extension. Several lines of evidence suggest that normal faulting dominates the Nortecubana fault system today. A primary observation is the 2014-01-09 Mw 5.0 earthquake near Corralillo, which had an extensional focal mechanism and nodal plane strikes and dips consistent with normal reactivation of a reverse fault. The drowned geomorphic character of the coastline and lack of clearly preserved elevated, abandoned Quaternary marine deposits between Playa Uvero (~76.5°) and Matanza (~81.3°) is consistent with extension along the northern coast and down-to-the-south fault reactivation. West of Matanzas, MIS 5 (~125 ka) coral terraces at 3–6 m asl (Terraza Seboruco) appear to record a stable or slowly subsiding coastline in the latest Quaternary. Finally, abrupt rangefronts associated with apparent normal motion across ancient reverse/oblique faults such as the Cubitas and Pinar faults suggest that extension dominates the present-day geomorphology of northern Cuba. Large earthquakes on the Nortecubana fault system, if they occur, could pose a ground-shaking and tsunami-inundation hazard along the north shore of Cuba and tsunami hazard for the conterminous United States. However, if normal faulting is the primary cause of earthquakes along the Nortecubana fault system, then tsunami hazard may be dominated by localized, high-runup events impacting the northern shore of Cuba rather than trans-basin tsunamis caused by submarine fault-reverse ruptures.

Rayleigh Wave Group-Velocity across the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico from Ambient Noise Tomography

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The eastern North America-Caribbean (NA-CAR) plate boundary near the islands of Hispaniola and Puerto Rico is a complex transition zone in which strain is accommodated by two transform fault systems and oblique subduction. In 2013, scientists from Baylor University, the Autonomous University of Santo Domingo, and the Puerto Rico Seismic Network deployed 16 broadband stations on the Dominican Republic to expand the local permanent network. The goal of the Greater Antilles Seismic Program (GrASP) is to combine its data with that from permanent networks in Puerto Rico, Haiti, Cuba, the Cayman Islands, and Jamaica to develop a better understanding of the crust and upper mantle structure in the northeastern Caribbean (Greater Antilles). One important goal of GrASP is to develop robust velocity models that can be used to improve earthquake location and seismic hazard efforts. In this study, we focus on obtaining Rayleigh wave group velocity maps from ambient noise tomography. Here we use vertical-component broadband data recorded at 53 stations between 2010 to present, to obtain Green’s functions between 1165 pairs of stations. From these, we obtain dispersion curves by the application of FTAN methods with phase-matched filtering. Group velocity maps are generated between 4 to 40 s. One-dimensional shear wave velocity models are generated for selected sites by convolving group velocity kernels with depth kernels produced by forward modeling. The Markov Chain Monte Carlo method is applied to estimate the maximum likelihood shear wave velocity model and, specifically, Moho depth. Results show strong correlations with large-scale geological and tectonic features for periods between 4 – 40 s, such as the Cordillera Central in both the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico, the Mona Passage, and the NA-CAR subduction zone. Preliminary 1D shear wave velocity models suggest that the Moho underneath the Caribbean Republic and Puerto Rico is in the range of 28 to 32 km.

Seismic Anisotropy of the Crust and Upper Mantle across the Caribbean-North American Plate Boundary from Shear-Wave Splitting on Haiti

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Hispaniola is situated across the Caribbean-North American plate boundary at a critical point in the transition from oblique subduction in the east to a transform oblique plate boundary in the west. This results in a transpressional stress regime with deformation accommodated by numerous strike-slip, thrust and oblique fault structures that bisect the island. We used teleseismic and local earthquakes to measure shear wave splitting at 35 seismic stations that span Haiti, N-V, which were part of the Trans-Haiti project. This allows us to constrain variations in the seismic anisotropy of both the crust and upper mantle across the plate boundary. In total 119 measurements were made on SKS phases and 780 on S phases from local earthquakes within the shear wave window. Three dominant fast polarisation directions are observed in the upper crust, which can be related to the regional stress field and to the crustal geology and tectonics. Delay times are typically ~0.15 s. In regions of sparse faulting, fast directions align with the orientation of maximum horizontal stress (20–60°N). By contrast, where fault density is high the fast directions parallel the strike of these structures. We observe two sets of fast directions that relate to active structures, the first at 120°N corresponds to thrust

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Real-Time GNSS Network Operations and Advances towards Early Warning Systems

Oral Session · Wednesday 16 May · 2:15 PM · Jasmine Session Chairs: Alberto M. Lopez, Kathleen M. Hodgkinson, Diego Melgar, Sebastian Riquelme, David Mencin, and Victor A. Huerfano

Quantifying the Value of Geodetic Data for Earthquake Early Warning

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The value of geodetic data towards rapid non-saturating magnitude and source estimation for medium-to-large earthquakes has been thoroughly quantified and studied over the past decade. These efforts have led to the development of several GNSS-based algorithms for earthquake and tsunami early warning. There are still however questions as to how valuable the improved magnitude and source estimates will be to actual operational earthquake early warning; that is, will additional communities receive a warning with a geodetic source estimate that would not with a seismic source estimate and will such warnings be timely and effective? To explore these questions, we utilize both point-source geodetic magnitude and displacement time-series earthquake source models derived from rapidly computed coseismic displacements. We first look at several large earthquake case studies around the world and how their ground motion prediction, and ultimately, warning times would be modulated by geodetic source information. Secondly, we leverage synthetic earthquake examples in Cascadia to quantify where geodetic information is most valuable with respect to population centers and the seismic hazards, identify the strengths and weaknesses in the current network design, and finally move towards making cost-benefit assessments based upon the Gutenberg-Richter frequency-magnitude distribution of earthquakes in different regions.

Real-Time GNSS Network Operations for ShakeAlert

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ShakeAlert is an Earthquake Early Warning (EEW) System for the U.S. West Coast, developed by the USGS and its affiliates. As part of this system geodetic algorithms, applications software and real-time GNSS data products, primarily to measure large earthquakes, are being developed in partnership with academia including: Caltech, UCB, UW, CWU, UO, NMT and UNAVCO. Various real-time data production methods (differential/absolute, public domain/commercial, on-site/off-site) are being used to convert raw GNSS data to more precise position data. All these position data from different publishing sources are combined in real-time at each ShakeAlert Center where software applications implementing various geodetic EEW algorithms will utilize these data to produce timely warnings and reports in the event of a large earthquake along the U.S. West Coast. Given the complexity and constraints of the available telemtry, networking and computing infrastructure there are system design trade-offs in order to optimize data reliability, bandwidth utilization, accuracy, quality, high-volume, low-gappiness, low-latency and high-rate. With several institutions publishing large volumes of non-homogeneous data and compatibility issues with co-existing seismic EEW operations, there is need for standardization of data formats, transport mechanisms (e.g., NTRIP, AMQP, Earthworm), real-time monitoring/QC, software APIs, etc. This presentation will address in detail all these design considerations and more in the implementation of currently operational ShakeAlert data flow from GNSS receivers to geodetic EEW applications.

West Coast Real-Time GPS in Support of Earthquake Early Warning

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Real-time GNSS position streams are desirable for a variety of rapid earthquake characterization applications that include Earthquake Early Warning. We report on our development of a comprehensive real-time GPS-based seismic monitoring system for the western US that includes the San Andreas transform system and Canada subduction zone. Our system, based around 1 Hz GPS positions computed in the ITRF reference frame using CW U’s Fastlane real-time GPS analysis software. Positions show typical RMS scatter of 3 cm in the horizontal and 5 cm in the vertical with latencies under 2 seconds. To facilitate their use for seismic monitoring, we broadcast the real-time solutions using custom-built...
aggregation software built on RabbitMQ exchange architecture. End users, once connected to the exchange, are pushed position streams for hundreds of stations. We currently analyze ~650 PBO and PANGA stations throughout the Cascadia and San Andreas fault systems and are gearing up to process all available real-time stations in the western US, roughly 1200 in total. Current recipients of these solutions via the RabbitMQ exchange include the three ShakeAlert centers at University of Washington, U. California Berkeley, USGS Menlo Park, and Caltech. In addition, CWU solutions are locally written from the RabbitMQ exchange onto a local Earthworm ring exported to NOAA’s two Pacific and National Tsunami Warning Centers (PTWC & NTWC) for rapid tsunami characterization purposes. For NOAA we have also developed a Kalman filter to combine CWU real-time PPP solutions with independent analyses in order to provide a merged data product. This may be adapted for Earthquake Early Warning, although the latency constraints are substantially more severe for EEW purposes (seconds) compared to local tsunami warning purposes (minutes). The merged solutions both provide redundant sources of measurements and improve the robustness and reliability of real-time point-position streams.

Large Earthquake and Tsunami Characterization in Chile Using High Rate GPS and Strong Motion Data
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Recent efforts have been made to characterize large earthquakes in real time in Chile. In the last seven years Chile has been struck with 3 large earthquakes (Mw ≥ 8). After the devastating Maule Earthquake, the National Seismological Center started to operate with the aim of monitoring real time events, passing from being an academic oriented network to an emergency oriented network. Successfully, with the use of the W-phase and other methods, the CSN has been able to report the Iquique and the Iliapal earthquakes with an accurate magnitude just six minutes after the occurrence of both events. Now, methodologies that include the use of geodetic and strong motion data are implemented in an integrated system that can characterize large earthquakes and tsunamis in real time.

Enhancing Tsunami Early Warning across the Americas through the Network of the Americas (NOTA) GNSS-Met Infrastructure
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UNAVCO supports a number of geodetic infrastructure projects across the Americas, including the NSF-funded EarthScope Plate Boundary Observatory (PBO), COCONet (Continuously Operating Caribbean GPS Observational Network) and TLALOCNet (Trans-boundary, Land and Atmosphere Long-term Collaborative Network). The ultimate goal for all of these networks, known collectively as the Network of the Americas (NOTA), is to provide free, high-quality, low-latency, open-format data, validated metadata, and data products for researchers, educators, students, and the private sector. High-rate GNSS data streams, collected and distributed by UNAVCO, are currently being used in prototype earthquake and tsunami early warning systems. We present a summary of the real-time GNSS networks, including the Caribbean Along with calculated earthquake detection thresholds for the current and potential future states of Caribbean GNSS stations with freely available real-time data streams for use in tsunami early warning systems. Our analysis is essential to identify critical gaps in existing networks prior to obtaining funding to enhance existing infrastructure and the final integration of GNSS into any operational tsunami early warning system.

Development and Testing of a Real-Time Geodetic Component for ShakeAlert
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Here we describe the framework we have devised for building a geodetic component of the ShakeAlert earthquake early warning (EEW) system. Real-time Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) data enable direct measurement of large ground displacements during an earthquake. Algorithms using these data might improve EEW for M7+ events by producing non-saturating magnitudes and estimates of rupture extent. ShakeAlert currently uses algorithms based on seismic data alone, but ShakeAlert partners have developed geodetic methods that could enhance the system. GNSS data centers produce real-time position streams that ShakeAlert computers can ingest and deliver to geodetic alerting algorithms to suggest earthquake source parameters from which ShakeAlert software can predict ground motion. Geodetic input/output uses established ShakeAlert data formats and messaging protocols. A successful EEW system correctly alerts users in advance that they will feel shaking above a threshold value. Geodetic algorithm developers have tested their approaches independently, but apples-to-apples comparison using uniform input/output standards, test data, and evaluation metrics is needed. The ShakeAlert production system will adopt new algorithms if they improve overall performance in formalized testing. We are testing three algorithms in the ShakeAlert development environment, which mirrors the production system’s computational infrastructure and allows simulated real-time replay of data streams. Test data consist of GNSS recordings from ~25 M6–M9 earthquakes and synthetic data representing diverse event types. We adopt ShakeAlert metrics to evaluate the accuracy and timeliness of ground motion predictions and additional metrics for source characterization. These metrics will help identify the most valuable features for possible integration into a single geodetic (or seismo-geodetic) algorithm to submit for formalized testing.

Plate Boundary Observatory GNSS Real Time Field Operations
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The EarthScope Plate Boundary Observatory (PBO) GNSS network, funded by the NSF and operated by UNAVCO, is comprised of ~1100 permanent GPS and GNSS stations across the United States. While the network was originally designed for tectonic and volcanic analysis, it has proven to be of significant value to stakeholders who use real-time data streams for early warning systems (i.e., earthquake, tsunami, meteorological). 721 (~65%) of these stations are currently streaming GPS (n=504) or GNSS (n=217) data in real-time with the majority of stations located along the Cascadia subduction zone and the San Andreas fault system. Of these, 44 GNSS streaming sites are located within 15 km of the west coast and provide data for real-time analysis of the ionosphere for tsunami wave height detection. Approximately 140 stations also stream meteorological data. The real-time data are available from UNAVCO in BINEX and RTCM formats with Precise Point Position (PPP) solutions generated for each site using the NMEA format. A robust GPS/GNSS real-time stream is essential for any type of early warning application. High data completeness is needed to resolve peak ground displacements in surface waves and to estimate the coseismic offsets. Low latencies facilitate a rapid analysis of the incoming streams and improved warning for larger events. Providing a large number of low-latency streams from the site to the processing center hinges critically on reliable data telemetry which in turn relies on hardened and adequately powered systems that are well maintained. Therefore, improving and hardening station telemetry wherever possible provides a high return on investment. Cell modems provide an easy and economical solution where coverage is available, but do suffer from infrequent outages that are beyond our operational control. Radio networks are robust and economical when well designed, but depend on the telemetry solution at the central uplink site. Most UNAVCO radio networks use cell modems for the final uplink, and only a few utilize a T1 line. Satellite links are power-hungry, expensive solutions and used when no other options are available. In weather friendly environments, VSat systems tend to be stable and completeness is generally high but have higher latencies and interruptions in service tend to be significantly longer than cell modems. We present performance metrics and operational challenges of running a real-time GNSS network.

Red Geodesía del Noroeste de México (REGNOM) in Northern Baja California
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Permanent continuous GPS stations in Baja California started to operate since 1995 as part of the Southern California Integrated GPS Network (SCIGN). Due to the occurrence of the El Mayor-Cucapah Mw 7.2 earthquake in April 4, 2010, colleagues from Mexico and US started to work together in a NSF rapid response proposal to install 8 new continuous GNSS stations. Also, in the Mexicali Valley area, Geodesist without Borders, Caltech Tectonic Observatory Lab and Centro de Investigacion Cientifica y de Educacion Superior de Ensenada (CICESE) installed 7 new continuous GPS stations. Further, with the funding support from USGS, U.S. Northern Command, UNAVCO and CICESE, we started to install since 2015, 15 new continuous GNSS stations. This GNSS Network is formally named Red Geodesica del Noroeste de Mexico (REGNOM). REGNOM Network is optimized to support seismic research investigations, as they are co-located with seismological instruments of Red Sismica del CICESE (http://resnom.cicese.mx). One of the main focus of REGNOM is to provide long term estimates of crustal deformation, characterization of elastic strain accumulation along different fault systems in northern Baja California and estimate regional reference frame for tectonic studies. All data products from archiving and processing are freely available from http://regnom.cicese.mx. As GNSS real-time data streaming is becoming essential to obtain: physical characteristics of earthquake rupture process, atmospheric studies, volcano and landslide monitoring; our near term plans include high-rate and low latency GNSS data. Here we describe our current development network status, plans for real-time data and institutional collaboration to further understand our complex-shared fault zone in southern California and northern Baja California.

Toward a Geodetic Near-Real Time System for Tectonic and Crustal Deformation Studies in Colombia and Venezuela South America

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GeoRED, the Spanish acronym for “Geodesia: Red de Estudios de Deformación” or “Geodesy: Deformation Studies Network”, is a research, innovation and development project based on space geodesy, run by the Space Geodesy Research Group of the Geohazards Directorate of the Colombian Geological Survey, that takes a multifaceted approach to understanding the geodynamics and tectonics of northwestern South America with the ultimate goal to reduce the risks associated with active plate boundaries. The continuously operating reference station (CORS) network in Colombia is composed of 110 stations; 94 GeoRED GNSS stations; 5 GNSS stations that are part of the COCONet (Continuously Operating Caribbean GPS Observational Network) project run by UNAVCO; the Bogotá IGS GNSS station (BOGT); and 10 stations installed under a collaborative partnership with local Colombian institutions, such as CENICAN (Sugar Cane Research Institute), National University of Colombia, Aburá Valley Metropolitan Office, and the Bogota City Water Supply Company. Eight of the CORS stations have been co-located with seismic stations that are part of the National Seismological Network run also by the Colombian Geological Survey. Data generated at the CORS stations are transmitted to the data gathering center in Bogotá by one of a combination of communication pathways, ranging from high-speed direct connections to manual downloads. GNSS stations operated by FUNVISIS, installed under the frame of the COCONet project operated by UNAVCO, will allow greater coverage of the area of interest and to improve the resolution of the analysis. Given the potential for very large and hazardous earthquakes on Colombia’s Pacific and also Colombia and Venezuela Caribbean coasts, both active subduction zones, we analyze the current networks geometry and communication infrastructure and if is suitability for augmenting earthquake early warning systems in Colombia and Venezuela. We analyze the average noise level from each site for high-frequency GNSS data and then constrain the detection threshold based on a three sigma SNR based on peak ground displacement from at known faults. We use these to construct sensitivity maps for the region highlighting strengths, weaknesses and suitability for EEW.

Recent Advances in Dense Array Seismology

Oral Session - Wednesday 16 May - 8:30 AM - Monroe
Session Chairs: Ting Chen, Fan-Chi Lin, Norimitsu Nakata, and Catherine Snelson

Using the Large–n Array to Constrain Shallow Velocity Structure in Oklahoma

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The determination of earthquake source parameters of small local earthquakes through waveform modeling requires a good velocity model. The question is how the data from Large–N deployments can help define the model. The data sets of the 2016 YW array in Oklahoma permit a comparison of upper crustal models determined from teleseismic P-wave receiver functions and regional surface-wave dispersion in the 2–100 s period range to the very upper crustal structure estimated by the inversion local earthquake P-wave receiver functions and local dispersion in the 0.4–1.2 s period range. This comparison is possible because of relatively simple upper crustal structure that allows the assumption of a single P-wave ray to the stations from the the large number of local earthquakes within 100 km. The p-tau method is applied to the 12 km long record sections derived from ambient noise processing of the short-period sensor data to determine the fundamental and higher mode Love and Rayleigh wave phase velocities at the short periods. Only simple modifications to the existing joint inversion code were required to incorporate the local earthquake receiver functions. Results indicate that the shear-wave velocities in the upper 500 meters are 1000–1500 m/s. The velocity model that fits all observations is then used to create record sections for comparison to those of local earthquakes and ambient noise processing as a test of the final model.

Earthquake Relocation above the Socorro Magna Body, Central New Mexico, Using an 800+ Seismic Station Array

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Seismicity within the central New Mexico, USA region is dominated by deformation processes associated with the Socorro Magna Body (SMB), a large mid-crustal continental magma body at 19-km depth within the Rio Grande Rift. Seismicity has been monitored in this region for decades by permanent short-period network, and the resulting catalogs show long-term seismic activity punctuated by discrete earthquake swarms. Waveform characteristics, notably the observation of reflected phases arising from the magma body recorded on this sparse network, led to the discovery of the SMB and estimates of its spatial extent. To improve our understanding of current seismicity and refine maps of the spatial extent of the SMB, we deployed a mixed mode seismic array for 2 weeks over the northern portion of the magma body consisting of seven 3-component broadband seismometers and over 800 Fairfield vertical-component autonomous node 10 Hz seismographs. During the period of this temporary deployment, we detected over 200 possible earthquakes, with the majority located in the southern western NM-AZ region. Thirty-three events, with preliminary duration magnitudes between 1.3 and 2.3, based on data from the broadband stations and nearby permanent network stations, were located within the SMB region. Here we present improvements on those locations using arrival times recorded on the node seismographs. Reflected phases are identified on both broadband and node seismograms and are used to improve depth estimates for these events where possible. We examine location uncertainties using subsets of node and broadband stations. We also explore source characteristics for these events using the full set of stations as well as mini-arrays of broadband and co-located nodes.

Joint Body-Wave and Surface-Wave Tomography over a Partially Collapsed Nuclear Test, Nevada National Security Site

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We present preliminary P-wave and S-wave velocity tomograms over a partially collapsed nuclear test at the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS). The HADDOCK legacy nuclear test was conducted in 1964 with an announced yield of less than 2 kilotons and depth-of-burial of 364 meters. The test is unusual in that the collapse of the test cavity did not reach the ground surface. With the
goal of understanding the geophysical anomaly associated with a partial collapse, we acquired seismic data using a hybrid 2D/3D array of 1000 three-component sensors. Two seismic sources were used: a 13,000-kg weight-drop, and a much smaller, truck-mounted accelerated weight-drop. We calculated seismic tomo-
grams using a joint inversion of refracted P-waves (over 250,000 travel times), and fundamental Rayleigh-wave phase-velocity dispersion curves (40 subarrays consist-
ing of 1,000 stacked curves each). Our preliminary results indicate that the partial collapse is characterized by low velocities (relative to adjacent undisturbed material) near the working point of the explosion. Superacoustic to the working point, low velocities extend to shallower depth for tens of meters before switching to a high velocity anomaly relative to adjacent undisturbed material. This high velocity anomaly extends to the surface. The depth of the transition from low- to high-velocity relative anomaly appears to be associated with the geologic contact of deeper volcanic tuff and overlying alluvium, implying very different material response to damage. Sandia National Laboratories is a multimission laboratory managed and operated by National Technology and Engineering Solutions of Sandia LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Honeywell International Inc. for the U.S. Department of Energy’s National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-NA0003525.

Characteristics of Airplanes and Helicopters Recorded by a Dense Seismic Array near Anza, California

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We observe frequent air-traffic events in continuous seismic waveforms recorded for about 30 days by 1108 vertical geophones in a tight array on the San Jacinto fault zone. The waveforms of the air-traffic events resemble tremor or collections of small earthquakes. However, the time-frequency analysis shows clear Doppler effects that can be modeled with basic equations and fitted well with parameters corresponding to airplanes and helicopters. The flying traces can be inverted by fitting the fitted parameters at each station across the entire array. About 31 air-
traffic events are detected per day in the relatively remote study area, with peak activity from about 8:00 to 18:00 and significantly fewer events between 23:00 and 4:00 local time. The average event duration is about 200 s so they cover together ≥7% of the day. To estimate the total time covered by earthquakes, we derive a scaling relation log(M) = 0.14M + 0.89 between earthquake duration and magnitudes using data of 266 earthquakes in the magnitude range 0.5≤M≤3. The results indicate that in most places the duration of air-traffic events is likely to exceed considerably the total time covered by earthquakes.

Dense Array Observations of Induced Seismicity: The Large-N Seismic Survey in Oklahoma (LASSO) Experiment

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In response to the increased seismicity rate in northern Oklahoma, we deployed a temporal survey of Rayleigh-wave vertical-component optical fiber seismicometers. The Large-N Seismic Survey in Oklahoma (LASSO) array operated for approximately one month in spring 2016, covering a 25-km-by-32-km region with a nominal station spacing of ~400 m. We develop a local earthquake catalog from data recorded by the LASSO array, which allows us to investigate sequences of induced seismicity in this region of active wastewater injection with unprecedented clarity. We first identify earthquakes using a standard short-term average/long-term average detection technique. This technique finds 3,321 events, a factor of ~60 increase over the Oklahoma Geological Survey earthquake catalog. Initial hypocentral locations for these events indicate some instances of small-scale lateral and vertical spatiotemporal migration of seismicity. Several dense clusters of seismicity that were active throughout the deployment are also observed. We construct a database of template waveforms from these events and use this in a waveform-
correlation-based detection technique to identify additional smaller magnitude (M<2) earthquakes. Initial results from the application of this technique expand the earthquake catalog by ~13,000 events. We use this catalog to explore the spa-
tiotemporal evolution of seismicity, particularly along individual fault segments. The locations and orientations of active faults may provide insights into inter-
actions between small-scale fault structures as well as the potential locations of future induced earthquakes.

Large-N Gradiometry with Nodal Instrument Arrays

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Observations of the wave field at the surface of the Earth are fully characterized at a point by 3 orthogonal vector displacements, 3 horizontal strains, and 3 rigid body rotations. These 9C seismic observables can further be interpreted with a wave propagation model to infer basic attributes of the seismic waves including wave type (from the curl and divergence), azimuth of propagation, and horizontal phase velocity, among other parameters. If these point measurements are then distributed over a surface grid, then images of the wave field and its attributes can be empirically mapped forming tomographic images of the Earth structure effect on the seismic waves. Both the point measurements and expansion into a grid can be made by using dense arrays of seismometers where the seismic observations are incorporated into a finite difference scheme to compute strains and rotations. These kinds of arrays, sometimes called “geodetic” arrays, are becoming feasible to efficiently and cheaply deploy using high frequency (5 or 10Hz dominant frequency) nodal instruments. Accurate computations of strains and rotations from array data depend on precise knowledge of instrument orientations in the field. Estimates of relative amplitude and statics and orientations can be made empirically by using telemetric arrivals simultaneously recorded by the nodal instruments. Two nodal arrays are used to demonstrate the use of gradiometry for inferring wave attributes at a point and over an area. The IRIS Community Wavefields Experiment deployed during June-July 2016 affords a detailed look at instrument orientation and stability for computing wave gradients at a point and for comparison with standard array beamforming techniques. A Large-N experi-
ment consisting of 384 vertical nodal seismometers deployed during an industrial 3D seismic experiment near Utica, Ohio, in 2013 demonstrates the variation of the high frequency wave field over a relatively small area of ~200x300m.

Distributed Acoustic Sensing of the Seismic Wavefield at SAFOD

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An Optasense Distributed Acoustic Sensing (DAS) model ODH3.1 was used to record local, regional and teleseismic earthquakes for one month at SAFOD using an optical fiber cemented behind casing. The fiber was interrogated between the surface and 800 m depth (top of basement). With this recording geometry, the DAS system captures the full vertical wavefield between the basement interface and free surface, revealing direct, converted and refracted waves. Both P- and S-
strain waves are clearly visible in the data. The main borehole at the San Andreas Fault Observatory at Depth (SAFOD) contains optical fibers cemented in place in between casing strings from the surface to just below the top of the basement. The fibers are under tension of approximately 1 N and are housed in a 0.9 mm diameter stainless steel tube. Earth strain is transmitted to the fiber by frictional contact with the tube wall. One fiber has been in use as a vertical strainmeter since 2005, measuring the total strain between 9 and 740 m by laser interferometry. The Optasense DAS laser interferometry measures the strain over a gauge length with a set spacing between gauge intervals. For this experiment we set the gauge length to 10 m with 1 m spacing between gauges. Including the surface run of the fiber, this gives us 936 channels measuring the vertical strain at a sample interval of 0.4 msec (2500 samples/s). The incident and surface reflected wavefields can be separated by frequency-wavenumber filtering due to the large-aperture and fine spatial and temporal sampling. Up- and downgoing strain waves illuminate the subsurface within the sensor array’s depth range. Accurate arrival time deter-
ninations of the initial arrival phase are possible due to consistent wave forms recorded at 1 m spatial intervals that can be used for fine-scale shallow velocity model estimation.

Towards Noise Tomography and Passive Monitoring Using Distributed Acoustic Sensing

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Distributed Acoustic Sensing (DAS) has the potential to revolutionize the field of seismic data acquisition. Thanks to their cost-effectiveness, fiber-optic cables may have the capability of complementing conventional geophones and seismometers by filling a niche of applications utilizing large amounts of data. Therefore, DAS may serve as an additional tool to investigate the internal structure of the Earth and its changes over time; on scales ranging from hydrocarbon or geothermal reservoirs to the entire globe. An additional potential may be in the existence of large fibre networks deployed already for telecommunication purposes. These
Seismic Event Screening

Oral Session · Wednesday 16 May · 8:30 AM · Orchid AB
Session Chairs: Raymond Willemann and David Bowers

An Improved Semi-Automatic Shallow Event Depth Estimation Algorithm, Based on Cepstral Analysis

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An important parameter considered for event characterization is depth. One method used for depth estimation is determining the difference in arrival times between the initial P phase and the following depth-phase arrival resulting from a P-phase surface reflection. For deeper events, the first arrival and its depth phase are well separated, and the time difference is easily determined. However, this is not the case for very shallow events less than a few kilometers deep. The objective of this study is to test new digital data processing techniques to be applied to the cepstral analysis of depth phases, in order to reliably estimate depths of these very shallow events. In this case, parameters such as waveform sampling, window analysis length, and preliminary filtering and tapering become important for the accuracy of time-delay estimation. While developing a depth-refining tool, we address important issues identified by previous studies, such as: method repeatability, speed, error estimation and stability, and echo identification. For this reason, we have developed new metrics and implemented nested loop solution testing. The metrics include: power and complex cepstrum similarity; liftering adequacy; and success of the homomorphic deconvolution, which includes delay lag recovery, and deconvolved waveform comparison to the initial signal. Weights applied to each metric are set empirically, or based on the adequacy of the minimum phase signal approximation. In addition, optimization of a combination of processing techniques is discussed here. We focus on improving spectral and cepstral denoising, phase unwrapping and liftering. Arrays or networks are used to identify the depth phases. The algorithms are tested on a ground-truth database, with well-known depth events and on synthetic waveforms. Method advantages and limitations are discussed.

Mapping Spectral Ratios to Discriminate between Shallow Low-Magnitude Earthquakes and Blasts

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Discriminating between explosions, earthquakes and other seismic events using regional seismic networks remains a challenge. This is particularly true in areas containing both low-magnitude explosions (arising from construction and/or mining activity) and shallow earthquakes. Moreover, many discriminants are typically region dependent and display poor transportability. To this effect, a generalized workflow was developed to tune spectral ratio discriminants for a given area. In this technique, spectral ratios are calculated using RMS estimates made within 13 narrowband windows between 1 to 40 Hz on regional phases. Spectral ratios were then calculated between all phases and windows using a set of confirmed events, network averaged, and the discriminating power of each spectral ratio is calculated. These results are then visually displayed in a matrix scatter plot allowing the user (or a downstream automated tool) to assess the quality and choose appropriate spectral ratio discriminants. In a test study in New Brunswick, Canada, the methodology revealed that broadband high-frequency Pg/Lg and low-frequency Lg/Rg were able to consistently discriminate between low magnitude (M < 2), shallow (depth < 3 km) earthquakes and blasts related to road construction. The developed discriminants were then used to classify ten questionable low magnitude (M0.7 to M2.3) shallow events (nine blasts and one earthquake). Preliminary results of testing the method in the mining district of Sudbury, Canada revealed that there are no consistent spectral differences between rockbursts and in-mine blasts, but that the two can typically be separated from natural earthquakes.

Investigating the Limits of Correlation Detectors as Discriminants

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In much of the Central and Eastern United States (CEUS), the vast majority of observed seismic events are the result of surface mining activity. Monitoring
Applications of Body-Wave Methods of Distinguishing Between Explosions, Cavity Collapses and Earthquakes to the Recent DPRK Events With Insights from the Nevada Source Physics Experiments

Examination of regional distance seismic data from historic nuclear test sites has led to a variety of very effective discriminants between explosions, earth-quake and cavity collapses. These include moment tensor techniques and body wave based methods. Here we focus on the body-wave methods. We show that P/S ratios above about ~2 Hz very effectively separate the six North Korean (DPRK) declared nuclear tests between 2006 and 2017 from natural earthquakes in the region. Similarly we show P/S ratios separate historic Nevada Test Site (NTS) nuclear explosions from western U.S. earthquakes. We show that combining P/S ratios with other frequency bands, quantitatively separate the DPRK collapse events, such as the 1982 NTS Attisco collapse and the apparent collapse that followed about eight and a half minutes after the September 3, 2017 DPRK 3.0 explosion. Explosions often produce fewer and smaller aftershocks than comparably sized earthquakes, which has been proposed as a potential discriminant. We apply the body-wave techniques to the recent seismicity following the largest DPRK event, after first using correlation methods to build a more complete catalog of these events. We note from examination of the correlation of NTS explosions, that caution must be used when considering correlation alone to identify explosions. Despite the empirical effectiveness of the regional body-wave discriminants, the physical basis for the generation of explosion waves, and therefore the predictability of P/S and low/high frequency techniques, as a function of path, frequency and event properties such as size, depth, and geology, remains incompletely understood. A goal of current research, such as the Source Physics Experiments (SPE), is to improve our physical understanding of the mechanisms of explosion S-wave generation and advance our ability to numerically model and predict them. We discuss the latest results of the SPE research as applied to body-wave discriminants here.

Discrimination of the DPRK Announced Underground Explosions and Their Aftershocks Using the Pg/lg Spectral Amplitude Ratio

Identification of Small Seismic Events around North Korean Nuclear Test Site following the 3 September 2017 Underground Nuclear Test

We estimate the discrimination criterion based on the P/S spectral amplitude ratios as applied to six tests conducted by North Korea and ten aftershocks induced by the last two explosions. We use data from IMS arrays USRK and KSRS and IMS S-C stations SEHB (South Korea) and MDJ (China). The largest P and S phases at all stations are Pg and Lg, respectively. Nine of the ten aftershocks were so weak (mb magnitude from 2.2 to 3.4) that we had to develop several detection and phase association procedures based on waveform cross correlation in order to create reliable event hypotheses. We have calculated Pg/Lg spectral ratios for each of the four stations in six different frequency bands between 1 and 12 Hz. (20 Hz for stations with 20Hz sampling rate). With increasing frequency, all stations demonstrate approximately the same level of deviation between the Pg/Lg spectral amplitude ratios belonging to the DPRK explosions and their aftershocks. For a single station, simple statistical estimates show that the probability of any of six aftershocks to be a sample from the explosion population is smaller than 0.004% at KSRS and even lower at USRK. The probability of any of the DPRK explosions to be a representative of the after-shock population is defined by the distance of 20 or more standard deviations to the mean explosion Pg/Lg value. For network discrimination, we use the Mahalanobis distance combining the Pg/Lg values at three stations: USRK, KSRS and MDJ. At frequencies above 4 Hz, the (squared) Mahalanobis distance, D, between the populations of explosions and aftershocks is larger than 100 with the critical D = 16.2 corresponding to a level of significance α = 0.001. In the frequency band between 6 and 12 Hz, the aftershocks Mahalanobis distance from the average explosion is larger than 10,000. These discrimination results are valid only for the aftershocks of the DPRK tests and cannot be directly extrapolated to the population of tectonic earthquakes.

Identification of Small Seismic Events around North Korean Nuclear Test Site following the 3 September 2017 Underground Nuclear Test

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At least nine small seismic events were detected and located around the North Korean nuclear test site following the 3 September 2017 underground nuclear test. The magnitude of these shocks range from 2.3 to 3.5. Based on their proximity to the 3 September 2017 UNT, these shocks may be considered as aftershocks of the UNT. We assess the best method to classify these small events based on spectral amplitude ratios of regional P and S wave from the shocks. None of these shocks are classified as explosion-like based on P/S spectral amplitude ratios. We examine additional possible small seismic events around the North Korean test site using by seismic data from stations in South Korea and northeastern China including IMS seismic arrays, GSN stations, and regional network stations. A linear discriminant function based on Mahalanobis methods applied to P/S spec-
Seismic Hazards and Historic Earthquakes in Puerto Rico and the Northern Caribbean Region

Oral Session · Wednesday 16 May · 4:15 PM · Orchid AB
Session Chairs: Roland LaForge, Dan McNamara, and Charles Mueller

Comparison of Two Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Models for Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands

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Probabilistic seismic hazard models for Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands (PRVI) were developed in 2003 by the US Geological Survey (USGS Open-file Report 2003-379; GS03) and in 2005 by LaForge and McCann (GSA Special Paper 385; LM05). Both source models considered: (1) highly oblique convergence between North America and the PRVI microlate along the Puerto Rico subduction zone, (2) cast-west extension in the Mona Passage and Anegada Passage regions, (3) the South Lajas, Septentrional, and Bowin crustal faults, and (4) background (catalog-based) sources. LM05 also modeled the onshore Cerro Godon fault. Some of the major sources lie offshore and are thus difficult to characterize, leading to some interesting modeling differences. These include segmentation and coupling on the subduction interface, allocation of GPS-known extension rates at Mona and Anegada onto faults or into zones, and recurrence parameters for the Bowin and eastern Septentrional faults. LM05 included a model for the Muertos/Investigator structures, whereas GS03 did not. LM05 focused on Puerto Rico and did not completely characterize seismic hazards in the U.S. Virgin Islands. We will compare the source, recurrence, and ground-motion models, as well as results from the two studies. Considerations for future hazard modeling will be discussed, including recent palaeoseismological studies on the Great Southern Puerto Rico fault zone.

Assessing Earthquake Hazard in the Caribbean and Central America within the CCARA Project

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Central America and the Caribbean show complex tectonic settings, which are responsible for the occurrence of large destructive earthquakes, tsunamis, and explosive volcanoes. Among these, earthquakes represent a significant threat for the population. Several earthquakes with magnitude higher than 7.0 observed in historical times, caused extensive damage to buildings and structures, often associated to large numbers of casualties and even destruction of entire settlements. Recent earthquakes (e.g., Haiti 2010 M=7.0, Costa Rica 1991 M=7.8, Guatemala 1976 M=7.5) have demonstrated the compelling need to assess seismic hazard within this region, in order to reduce the impact of such large events on the society. Nowadays, however, the knowledge on earthquake occurrence and seismic hazard in general is heterogeneous across the region. Although several seismic hazard studies have been carried out at both regional and national scales, most of these models have been derived using different approaches, assumptions and heterogeneous input information, often not publicly available. Within the CCARA project we produced a new and comprehensive hazard model, homogeneous across the region, based on the collection, selection and harmonization of existing information from local and regional studies. The model developed offers a transparent, up-to-date and reproducible view of seismic hazard based on scientifically sound and up-to-date knowledge available for the region. In this communication, we describe in detail the issues related to the preparation of the different input datasets (e.g. the earthquake catalogue, the database of active shallow faults and of strong motion recordings) necessary for the subsequent implementation of the new CCARA hazard model and we illustrate the main characteristics of the hazard input model created.

Seismic Hazard Model for the Caribbean Region

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Analysis of seismic source characteristics is important for seismic event identification. However, complexities along the propagation path as well as the station site responses significantly affect seismic waveforms and spectra. A non-parametric inversion method (e.g., Andrews, 1986) was used to separate the source signatures and the propagation effects for nuclear explosions conducted by the North Korea using seismic records from the stations located from regional to teleseismic distances. This technique recovers both propagation/site and source effects and first-motions reveals a mechanism that to first-order explains the large radial outward deformation, and when combined with the collapse event that occurred 8.5 minutes later, the relatively low vertical deformation. In this study we utilize the SW4 finite-difference code to compute the above shot static deformation field considering the topography of the test site. Forward models of the explosion and collapse moment tensors are estimated and compared to the TerraSAR-X observations. Finally, moment tensor basis Green’s functions are computed with SW4, and a joint source-type inversion (Ford et al., 2012; Nayak and Dreger, 2015) of regional waveforms, first-motion polarities and the geodetic displacement field is attempted.

Conversion of Source Spectra for the North Korean Underground Nuclear Tests

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The Caribbean region is a tectonically complex and active environment that has been host to many devastating earthquakes and tsunamis in the past. Notably, the 2010 Haiti Mw 7.0 earthquake. The oblique subduction of the North American plate beneath the Caribbean plate at the Puerto Rico Trench and Lesser Antilles subduction zone has the potential for generating large tsunami-genic events. Additional hazard comes from large strike-slip fault zones in the region such as the Enriquillo-Plantain Garden fault, the Orientte fault and the Walton fault. We are developing a seismic hazard model that incorporates liquefaction and tsunami modules to quantify hazard in the Caribbean. We compiled a unified moment magnitude historic earthquake catalog using the most recent global and regional historical earthquake catalogs and published literature as one of the key model input datasets. The model also incorporates the latest detailed geological and paleoseismological information, active faults and strain rate estimates from published kinematic models to constrain the seismic moment budget and the seismicity rate within each of the modeled source zones. The seismicity model is composed of both fault sources and aseismic sources for background seismicity and the rates are constrained by detailed fault information on well-known faults or historic and moment rates in the aseismic sources. The ground motion model employs a logic tree approach and incorporates ground motion prediction equations (GMPEs) from the most updated and robust models available globally, representative of different regions such as crustal and subduction zone environments. Our model also considers soil amplification and includes high-resolution soil maps for most of the modeled countries. We will present hazard results for peak ground acceleration (PGA) and spectra accelerations (SA) at important cities and discuss the similarities and differences between our results and other published results.

Assessment of Ground Motion Prediction Equations and Site Corrections for Use in Haiti

To accurately predict shaking levels from an earthquake, and to improve earthquake hazard models, ground motion prediction equations (GMPEs) which properly account for attenuation are required. These vary from one region to another. Many researchers investigating seismic hazard in the Caribbean have noted a lack of regionally derived attenuation relations. Using data primarily from the 2010 Mw 7.0 Haiti earthquake and its hundreds of aftershocks, we develop an attenuation relation for Haiti, which is then validated and refined using data from subsequent regional earthquakes. Published GMPEs that were either developed for, or used in, other regions of the Caribbean do a reasonable job predicting shaking from Haitian earthquakes for some distance and magnitude ranges but none are fully satisfactory for the complete data set. We use these previous GMPEs as a starting point and then modify them as needed to develop improved GMPEs for Haiti. Such an improvement in the development of GMPEs is correspondingly important for local site effects. For example, stations on soft soil may amplify the shaking. With that in mind, we have developed site corrections for stations and applied those in our analysis.

Seismic Structure of Convergent Plate Margins

Oral Session · Wednesday 16 May · 4:15 pm · Hibiscus A

Contributions of Modern Seismic Imaging to Understanding the Andean Convergent Margin

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Improved seismic images of the South American convergent margin are providing new insights to longstanding tectonic problems including: (1) the formation and destruction of thick continental crust, (2) the influence of flat slab subduction on the over-riding plate, and (3) the role of slab morphometry on mountain building. We have used data from over 1000 seismic stations and multiple techniques to generate seismic images spanning ~3000 km of the South American convergent margin. In the central Andes, the Altiplano and Puna Plateaus have thick crust but have different upper mantle seismic signatures with nearly complete lateral seismicity removal beneath the Andes and modest spatial variations beneath the Altiplano. Both the central Altiplano and northern Puna show radial anisotropy in the crust that is likely related to crustal flow and magmatic processes respectively. The active arc and backarc of the northern Puna Plateau show evidence of crustal structures associated with magmatic processes suggesting that locally magmatic addition plays a role in modifying the crust. The South American subduction zone has two regions of flat slab subduction beneath Peru and central Argentina. The Argentine flat slab has high rates of seismicity while the Peru flat slab has much less seismicity suggesting a difference in hydration. Both these flat slab segments show indications of strong coupling to the over-riding plate, upper plate deformation and associated slab tears. The subducting Nazca slab penetrates into the lower mantle along most of the length of the central Andes but with different dips and slab thicknesses. We image a well defined slab beneath the south central Andes where many global models lack a slab anomaly. North of the Bolivia orocline the slab is steeper and appears to thicken in the Mantle Transition Zone (MTZ) compared to south of the orocline where the slab has a shallower dip and continues into the lower mantle with minor deformation in the MTZ.

Evidence for Slab Permeability-Controlled Tremor along the Cascadia Margin

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The dehydration of oceanic slabs during subduction is mainly thermally controlled and is manifested mechanically as intermediate-depth seismicity. In warm subduction zones, this dehydration also results in non-volcanic tremor, indicating relatively shallow slab dewatering. Along the Cascadia margin however, tremor density and intermediate-depth seismicity vary significantly from south to north despite little variation in the thermal structure of the Juan de Fuca Plate. To understand what controls these variations, we have constructed 3D vertical
and horizontal shear-wave velocity models of the upper 80 km of the Cascadian margin through the joint inversion of Rayleigh- and Love-wave dispersion measurements and CCP-derived P-wave receiver functions. These models allow us to investigate variations in the seismic structure of the downgoing oceanic lithosphere and overlying mantle wedge, the character of the crust-mantle transition beneath the volcanic arc, and local to regional variations in crustal structure.

Along the southern and northern portions of the Cascadia margin, high seismicity rates in the subducting plate and high coupling correlate with faster and higher shear velocities in the overriding plate’s forearc and relatively little arc volcanism. The slow shear-wave velocities in the forearc crust likely represent crustal modification through fluid intrusion after being released from the downgoing slab. The seismic characteristics of these zones combined with rather sparse arc volcanism may indicate that the slab has largely dewatered by the time it reaches sub-arc depths. In contrast, the central portion of the subduction margin shows relatively low seismicity and tremor density, with relatively higher shear velocities in the forearc. This region also contains most of the young stratovolcano edifices in the Cascades, indicating that water may be retained in the slab to depths where it can feed arc volcanism. We find that deformation in the Juan de Fuca Plate prior to subduction correlates well with the lateral variations in tremor, seismicity, velocity structure, and possibly volcanism, indicating that both the permeability structure of the subducting plate and its thermal state are important controls on the release of fluid at shallow depths.

High Resolution Imaging of the Plate Interface in Central Alaskan Subduction Zone Using Autocorrelation with Local Earthquakes

The physical properties of subducting slabs at convergent plate boundaries impact megathrust seismicity and arc volcanism, but remain incompletely understood. Slab sources are primarily imaged using phases from teleseismic earthquakes at frequencies below 1 Hz, resulting in low-resolution images. Local earthquake sources with frequencies of ≥10 Hz on the other hand, provide a potential means for high resolution imaging of small-scale slab structure to depths through the seismogenic zone. Here we image the subducting Yakutat oceanic plateau in Alaska using autocorrelation of scattered energy within local earthquake coda and successfully produce a higher resolution image of the slab than visible in receiver functions. To validate our result, we also produced a synthetic autocorrelation section using the SPECFEM finite element method. Clear phases are observed at times that coincide with expected boundaries based on the a priori structural model based on earlier receiver function results. We associate these phases with a low-velocity zone atop the subduction oceanic plate, and we also image a later arrival observed only in the autocorrelation section associated with the base of the subducting crust. To model the dense seismic arrays at tens of hundreds of meters spacing for mantle structures, providing a means to advance the characterization of subduction megathrusts.

Minimum 1D Velocity Model For the Central Ecuadorian Subduction Zone Inferred From The Aftershock Sequence Of The 2016 Mw 7.8 Pedernales Earthquake

The Two Subduction Zones of the Caribbean-South American Plate Boundary

The Caribbean-South American (CAR-SA) plate boundary is a complex transform fault system connecting oppositely vergent subduction zones, the Antilles in the west, and a currently locked CAR-SA flat slab subduction zone in the east. Teleseismic P-wave tomography shows both the Atlantic (ATL) and the Caribbean (CAR) plates subducting in opposite directions to transition zone depths under northern South America. Receiver functions (RF) show a depressed 660 discontinuity and thickened transition zone associated with each subducting plate. In the east, the ATL part of the SA plate subducts westward beneath the CAR. The eastern end of the El Pilar-San Sebastian strike-slip system, a subduction-transform edge propagator (STEP) fault, lies above the point where the ATL tears away from SA as it descends into the mantle. The Paria cluster seismicity is the mechanical expression of the plate tear. Body wave tomography and LAB depth determined from RFs and Rayleigh waves suggest that the descending plate also viscously removes the bottom third to half of the SA continental margin lithosphere. This has left thinned continental lithosphere under northern SA as the subduction zone has migrated along its northern coast. The thinned lithosphere extends almost the entire length of the El Pilar-San Sebastian fault system, from ~650 to 609W, and inland more than 100 km. In northwestern SA the CAR plate subducts at ~300 to the ESE under northern Colombia to about Lake Maracaibo, Vn, and extends laterally from northernmost Colombia to perhaps as far south as the Bucaramanga nest seismicity. The flat slab is associated with the Neogene, basement cored, Laramide-style uplifts: the Santa Marta block, the Perija Range, and the Merida Andes. To the SE under Lake Maracaibo and the Merida Andes the CAR descends steeply to the transition zone. The steep descent suggests that the CAR plate is internally torn, separating the subducting CAR from CAR forming the seafloor to the north.

Structure and Dynamics of Earth’s Mantle

The Lithospheric Structure and Dynamics of the Upper Mantle beneath East Asia

We recently developed a 3-D radially anisotropic model of the crust and upper mantle beneath the East Asia (Chen et al., 2015a, 2015b and Chen et al.; 2017). Our model is inverted using a spectral-element-method based adjoint tomography from a large data set, comprising 1.7 million frequency-dependent travel time measurements from both body waves down to 12 s period and surface waves down to 20 s period. Updated and refined from a coarse and smooth initial 3-D
mantle model (S62A.NI, Kostowski et al., 2008), the final model (ERA2014) renders improved images of lithospheric structure beneath East Asia, best represented by high-shear-wave speed (high-V) anomalies. These strongly high-V anomalies sharply delineate the slab structure and/or lithospheric architecture beneath Japan, China Continent, and the India-Eurasia convergence margin. The most striking feature revealed in our model is a T-shaped high-V structure with more than 2% shear wave speed increasing beneath South-Central Tibet, extending from depth of 250 km to the bottom of transition zone, interpreted as an upper-mantle remnant from an earlier lithospheric foundering event. Its spatial correlation with ultrapotassic and adakitic magmatism supports the hypothesis of convective removal of thickened Tibetan lithosphere causing major uplift of Southern Tibet during the Oligocene. On the other hand, our tomographic proxy of the Pacific slab deep interface not only show exceptional consistency in closely following deep seismicity distribution, but also reveals complex geometry indicative of slab deformation due to stagnation and bending. Therefore, it can serve as a good baseline for a more detailed imaging of slab internal structure as well as for modeling the thermal, petrological, and dynamic processes of the Pacific slab in the mid-lower upper mantle.

**Detailed Structure of the Upper-Mantle Discontinuities Using a Novel Approach and High-Frequency Triplication Data**

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Constraining elastic properties of the 410- and 660-km discontinuities is vital for understanding the mantle composition and dynamics. One approach to study the transition zone is to use the “triplicated” arrivals of seismic data. These arrivals provide strong constraints on the depth, width, and velocity across the discontinuities; however, it is difficult to distinguish the three individual phases that arrive close in time. In order to separate the three phases, we apply Radon transform to recordings from a dense array of stations. This approach unwraps the triplication pattern to isolate the phases, and brings out the high-frequency information that is not easily accessible in the original data. This method is applied to study the transition zone around the Kuril subduction zone, a region northeast of Japan. We take advantage of the High-Sensitivity Seismograph Network in Japan comprised of more than 700 stations whose dense sampling in distance allows us to capture the triplication pattern. The data are processed to obtain the variations in wave speeds around the discontinuities, providing topography and sharpness of discontinuities at various sampling locations. Both discontinuities exhibit local topography undulations consistent with the temperature effect; the 410- and 660-km discontinuities become shallower and deeper, respectively, near to the slab. Additional discontinuities around 660 km are also detected, which are attributed to the garnet transitions occurring at similar depths as the post-spinel transition. The wide transition observed for the 410-km discontinuity cannot be explained solely by the presence of water, suggesting the importance of other effects such as high Fe content of olivine or olivine-poor composition.

**Upper Mantle Transition Zone Thickness Variation under the Parnaiba Basin of Northeast Brazil**

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The Parnaiba Basin of NE Brazil is—together with the Paraná and Amazon basins—one of the largest cratonic basins of the South American continent. Subsidence started in Paleozoic times in an intracontinental setting (before the opening of the South Atlantic Ocean) and has continued ever since through geological time. Traditionally, variations on the McKenzie-type model (i.e. mechanical stretching and cooling of the advected lithosphere) involving one or several aborted rifts under the basin’s sediments or pure thermal cooling after some heating event had been proposed to explain its long-term subsidence; most recently, however, mechanisms invoking lithospheric flexure by a deep load have been put forward. Here, we investigate the presence of deep mantle downwellings under the basin that might be related to deep loads triggering elastic flexure of the overlying lithosphere. To this end, low-frequency (f < 0.2 Hz) P-wave receiver functions have been developed at 9 broadband stations crossing the basin in the EW direction in order to image P–S conversions at the 410 and 660 km discontinuities bounding the upper mantle transition zone. The stations were deployed between 04/2016 and 03/2017 as part of the Parnaíba Basin Analysis Project (PBP), a multi-disciplinary effort funded by BP Energy do Brasil that aims at improving our current knowledge of the origin and evolution of this large cratonic basin. Our results show that transition zone thickness is mostly normal (250 ± 10 km), indicating that it is not thermally perturbed, and ruling out the presence of a cold, deep mantle downwellling under the basin. However, we observe that the 660-km discontinuity is locally disrupted under the SW border of the basin, suggesting that deep mantle processes are at play. The relation of this perturbation to cratonic subsidence, nonetheless, is still unclear.

**Shear Wave Anisotropy, Mantle Flow, and Its Relationship to a Possible Slab Tear in the South Cocos Plate, Mexico**

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We measured shear wave anisotropy under the Geometry of Cocos (GECO) experiment, deployed at the eastern end of the Trans-Mexican Volcanic Belt. A tear in the south Cocos slab has been proposed [Dougerty and Clayton, 2014]. Two splitting parameters are used to quantify anisotropy. These are the delay time (delta t) and the fast polarization direction (phi). The shear wave splitting method of Silver and Chan [1991] was used. A time window containing the SKS or PKS phase is selected. Then, the north-south and east-west components are rotated by 1 degree, ranging from −90° to 90°. For each rotation, the solution is searched in 0.5° increments, and the crosscorrelation and autocorrelation between the two transverse components are calculated to find the optimum combination of (delta t) and (phi). Finally, the minimum eigenvalue is chosen as the best solution. We check our results in two ways: by correcting the original records using the measured (delta t) and (phi) in order to obtain a weaker SKS signal in the transverse component, and by comparing the waveforms and the arrival time difference between the fast and the slow components. The orientation of (phi), measured for western stations, is explained by slab subduction, entrained mantle flow under the Cocos slab. While going from west to east, the slab geometry changes from flat to steeper subduction, and may be accompanied by a possible tear in the slab. For the eastern stations, (phi) is rotated 25° clockwise relative to stations in the west. This phenomenon may be accounted for by mantle flow between the possible tear and by rollback of the slab. The orientation of the fast axes where the slab subducts steeply is consistent with both slab entrained flow, and with corner flow in the mantle wedge between the Cocos and North American plates.

**The 3-D Reference Earth Model: Status and Preliminary Results**

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One-dimensional reference Earth models (e.g. PREM) have proven indispensable in earthquake location, imaging of interior structure, understanding material properties under extreme conditions, and as a reference in other fields, such as particle physics and astronomy. Over the past three decades, 3D models of how properties vary both laterally and with depth have been developed. Though these models exhibit compelling similarities at large scales, differences in the methodology, representation of structure, and dataset upon which they are based, have prevented the creation of 3D community reference models. A 3D Reference Earth model (REM-3D) should ideally represent the consensus view of long-wavelength heterogeneity in the mantle through the joint modeling of large and diverse seismological datasets. To this end, we are compiling and reconciling reference seismic datasets of body wave travel-time, fundamental mode and overtone surface wave dispersion, and normal mode frequencies and splitting measurements. The goal is to compile a quality-controlled and comprehensive set of seismic observations that would enable construction of REM-3D, allow identification of outliers, and assist in more detailed studies of heterogeneity. The community response has been enthusiastic with several groups across the world contributing datasets. Here, we summarize progress made in the construction of the reference datasets and present a preliminary version of REM-3D in the upper-mantle. In order to determine the level of detail justified in REM-3D, we analyze the spectrum of discrepancies between models inverted with different data subsets. As a community reference model with quantified uncertainties and tradeoffs and an associated publicly available dataset, REM-3D will facilitate Earth imaging studies, constrain physical parameterizations under extreme conditions, improve our current knowledge of the origin and evolution of this large cratonic basin.
Testing PSHA Input Data, Source Models and Hazard Estimates

Oral Session • Wednesday 16 May - 2:15 PM • Hibiscus A
Session Chairs: David D. Jackson, Yufang Rong, Harold Magistrale, and Jeremy Zechar

2018 One-Year Forecast for Induced and Natural Earthquakes in the Central and Eastern United States


The USGS 2018 one-year probabilistic forecast for the central and eastern United States from induced and natural earthquakes is developed for consistency using the same probabilistic seismicity-based methodology as applied in the two previous forecasts. Rates of earthquakes M 3.0 and greater grew rapidly between 2008 and 2015 but have steadily declined over the past three years, especially in Oklahoma and southern Kansas where mitigation efforts seem to have been effective in limiting wastewater injection near previous earthquakes. Nevertheless, the seismicity pattern is complex and earthquakes are more spatially dispersed than in previous years. Some areas of west-central Oklahoma show increased activity rates where industrial activity has increased over the past year. Earthquake rates in Oklahoma (384 earthquakes of M3+ and 7 M4+), Raton Basin (Colorado/New Mexico border, 4 earthquakes M3+ and one M4+ earthquake), and the New Madrid seismic zone (11 earthquakes M3+) continue to be higher than historic levels. Almost all of these events occurred within the highest hazard regions of the 2017 forecast. Even with earthquake rates declined relative to 2016, the short-term hazard for damaging ground shaking across much of Oklahoma remains at very high levels that are similar to high hazard areas in California. During 2017, M3+ earthquakes also occurred in or near Ohio, West Virginia, Missouri, Kentucky, Tennessee, Arkansas, Illinois, Oklahoma, Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming.

Verification of the Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Maps for Japan by Comparing with Actually Observed Seismic Intensities

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The Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Maps for Japan (PSHM) have been criticized after the 2011 Tohoku earthquake. For example, Geller (2011) complained that recent damaging earthquakes occurred in places assigned a relatively low probability in the 2010 PSHM map of Intensity 6- or greater in 30 years. However, Miyazawa and Mori (2009, 2010) constructed maximum seismic intensity maps using recorded historical data for the past 500 years, and found that they agreed with the 2008 PSHM map of 10% in 50 years, which is equivalent to a hazard map of probable seismic intensity for a 475-year return period if we assume a Poisson distribution. We here explore a reason for the difference of the above two, using seismic intensities actually observed by the Japan Meteorological Agency and others. In Japan, we have seismic intensities actually observed in 1890 and later. Moreover, Kikuchi et al. (2016) provided seismic intensity hazard curves at every grid point not only for the PSHM map but also for those of 1890, 1920, 1950, and 1980. If we assume a Poisson distribution for seismic intensities like Miyazawa and Mori (2009), a PSHM map of 64% in 30 years is equivalent to a hazard map of probable seismic intensity for a 30-year return period. Therefore, we construct maximum seismic intensity maps using the observed intensities in 30 years from 1890, 1920, 1950, or 1980. We also construct PSHM maps of 1890, 1920, 1950, or 1980 using the intensities estimated for a probability of 64% in 30 years. We then compare the observed and estimated intensities at a same site, finding that the correlation between them is positive but very weak. This weakness may correspond to Geller’s (2011) criticism, probably because a period of 30 years is too short for a large intensity to be observed. If we adopt a period of 100 years, the correlation is certainly improved, approaching to the result of Miyazawa and Mori (2009) for a period of 500 years.

Testing Fault-Based Rupture Models

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PSHA models typically use instrumental seismic data, but seismic networks are too young to record many large (and thus infrequent) earthquakes. Nevertheless, PSHA source models should be consistent with the instrumental record. Comparing instrumentally observed earthquakes with fault models can be complicated because large earthquakes may not occur precisely on prescribed faults and they may involve multiple faults. Some tests amenable to probabilistic evaluation include participation (occurrence of rupture on specified fault sections) and breaching (rupture crossing specified boundaries along faults). The relevant sections and boundaries may but need not correspond to “segments” as assumed in classical fault models. The Working Group on California Earthquake Probabilities has published increasingly sophisticated earthquake rupture models since 1988, especially fitting particular fault sections with rates of participation, breaching, or both. Here I compare some of the earlier models with instrumentally observed earthquakes both before and after the model start date. I only count earthquakes after 1933, when seismic networks became adequate. Some discrepancies occur even in retrospective comparisons, because the models were not constrained to fit only those seismic data. The discrepancies don't invalidate any of the models, but they deserve consideration because the models all share fault geometry and assumptions relating slip rate to earthquake rate.

Simulation-Based Evaluation for Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Models—A Case Study for Japan

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A probabilistic seismic hazard analysis (PSHA) considers the occurrence of seismic strong ground motions as a random process. The performance of a PSHA, therefore, can only be evaluated in a statistical sense. The hazard curve and the hazard map are the most common forms to disseminate the results of a PSHA. They do not convey the information about the spatial correlation of seismic hazard. This hinders the comparison between the hazard forecast and the observed hazard because the observed hazards are spatially correlated. This is particularly important for regions where the seismic hazard is dominated by large seismic sources, such as the Nankai subduction zone in Japan. To fully incorporate the spatial correlation into an evaluation of PSHA, we represented a hazard forecast of a model by a set of simulated scenarios, an approach often used in scenario-based seismic risk analysis and the approach used in the Collaboratory for the Study of Earthquake Predictability (CSEP) for testing earthquake forecasts. We compared the hazard forecast based on the 2009 version of the National Ground Motion Forecast Maps (with the base time of time-dependent sources adjusted to 2000) with the PGA observations from 2000 to 2017. While the agreement between the forecast and the observation was investigated, the focus of this study is the statistical power of a PSHA test under the best available situations (i.e., the best possible region in a natural sense that provides the best available data in both quantity and quality; the usefulness of a statistical test always depends on the amount of data available). The statistical power essentially estimates how wrong a hazard forecast needs to be in order to produce a detectable discrepancy between the forecast and the observation. This provides an estimate of the upper bound the error of a PSHA, which, by the principle of falsifiability of science, is also an empirical estimate of the credibility of a PSHA.

Development of New Australian Magnitude Conversion Equations and Its Effects on Seismic Hazard Analyses

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All modern ground motion prediction equations (GMPEs) are now calibrated to the moment magnitude scale MW. It is therefore essential that earthquake rates are also expressed in terms of moment magnitudes for probabilistic seismic hazard analyses. However, MW is not routinely estimated for earthquakes in Australia because of Australia's low-to-moderate level of seismicity, coupled with the relatively sparse seismic recording networks. As a result, the Australian seismic catalogue has magnitude measures mainly based on local magnitudes, ML. To homogenise the earthquake catalogue based on a uniform MW, a "reference catalogue" that includes earthquakes with available MW estimates was compiled. This catalogue consists of 240 earthquakes with original MW values between 2.0 and 6.58. The reference catalogue served as the basis for the development of mag-
The U.S. National Seismic Hazard Model (NSHM) will be updated in 2018 and 2020 to introduce new scientific data and models that have become available over the past years. These updates are planned to allow more time for the provisions update committee to analyze the consequences of the hazard model changes in the design criteria. To prepare these updates we held several meetings with scientists and engineers and participated in ground motion model projects such as NGA and site amplification projects. The 2018 model will consider: (1) an updated catalog and smoothed seismicity models, (2) new ground motion provisions update committee to analyze the consequences of the hazard model changes in the design criteria. To prepare these updates we held several meetings with scientists and engineers and participated in ground motion model projects such as NGA and site amplification projects. The 2018 model will consider: (1) an updated catalog and smoothed seismicity models, (2) new ground motion estimation, and (3) new probabilistic ground-motion models on the selection of the functional form as well as the method for applying the magnitude conversion equations.
CyberShake is a high-performance computational platform developed by the Southern California Earthquake Center (SCEC) to produce seismic hazard models from large suites of earthquake simulations. Code optimization and the development of workflow tools on the NCSE Blue Waters and OLCF Titan supercomputers have substantially reduced the computational costs. A recent workflow efficiently utilized both machines to generate 285 million two-component seismograms for the central California region from which 46 billion intensity measurements were extracted. We summarize the current suite of CyberShake models and apply averaging-based factorization (ABF) to decompose each model into a hierarchy of site, path, directivity, stress-drop, and source complexity effects. We summarize how the strength of the directivity effect decreases with increasing source complexity, and how the site and path effects vary with differences in crustal structure. Comparisons quantified by the ABF variances indicate that simulation-based hazard models can potentially reduce sigma_T, the total unexplained variability in current ground-motion prediction equations, by as much as one-third.

Incorporating Long-Period (T>1 s) 3D Simulations into the U.S. National Seismic Hazard Model

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With the introduction of additional periods into the design spectrum of U.S. building codes, future National Seismic Hazard Models (NSHMs) must consider the effects of longer periods (T>1 s) earthquake ground motions. These longer period effects are highly sensitive to the presence of sedimentary basins and are included in most current ground motion models (GMMs) used in the western U.S. through proxy parameters for sediment thickness (i.e., depths to 1 and 2.5 km, Z1 and Z2.5, respectively). Observations and 3D earthquake simulations, however, indicate that the ground motions at sites within sedimentary basins are often far more complicated than can be predicted by single-parameter amplifications. We present initial results from the incorporation of long-period (T>1 s) basin effects into the NSHMs using products derived from the Southern California Earthquake Center (SCEC) CyberShake simulations. These investigations focus only on the basin amplifications and attempt to minimize the effects of the absolute ground motion level, the finite-source features, and the path effects from the 3D simulations. Basin amplifications from the 3D simulations are used to replace the empirical basin terms in the GMMs using results from averaging-based factorization. The modified GMMs represent empirically constrained ground motion levels, magnitude and distance scaling, but with laterally varying basin amplifications specified by the 3D simulations. Hazard sensitivity results and comparisons with ground motion data are presented. Preliminary hazard calculations indicate that the resulting ground motions, with 2 percent probability of exceedance in 50 years, are more than 50 percent higher than what is predicted by GMMs. These effects are greatest in the deepest parts of the Los Angeles and Ventura basins. Comparison of the observed and modified-predicted ground motions, from small- to moderate-sized earthquakes, indicates laterally varying reductions in misfit.

Fault Scaling Relationships Depend on the Average Fault Slip Rate

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This study addresses whether knowing the slip rate on a fault improves estimates of magnitude (MW) of shallow, continental surface-rupturing earthquakes. Based on 43 earthquakes from the database of Wells and Coppersmith (1994), Anderson et al. (1996) previously suggested that estimates of MW from rupture length (LE) are improved by incorporating the slip rate of the fault (SF). We re-evaluate this relationship with an expanded database of 80 events, that includes 56 strike-slip, 13 reverse, and 11 normal faulting events. When the data are subdivided by fault mechanism, magnitude predictions from rupture length are improved for strike-slip faults when slip rate is included; a slip rate term does not improve magnitude fits for reverse or normal faults. Whether or not the slip rate term is present, a linear model with MW ~ log LE over-all rupture lengths implies that the stress drop depends on rupture length—an observation that is not supported by teleseismic observations. We consider two other models, including one adapted from Chinnery (JGR, 1964) which we prefer because it has constant stress drop over the entire range of LE for any constant value of SF and because fits the data as well as the linear model. The dependence on slip rate for strike-slip faults is a persistent feature of all considered models. The observed dependence on SF supports the conclusion that for strike-slip faults of a given length, the static stress drop, on average, tends to decrease as the fault slip rate increases.

Recent Findings and Recommendations for an Updated Hazard Characterization of the Eglinton Fault in Las Vegas Valley, Nevada

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The Las Vegas Valley fault system (LVVS) is a complex set of north- to northeast-trending, intra-basin Quaternary fault scarps up to 30 m high that displace alluvial fan, fine-grained basin fill, and paleo-spring deposits in the densely populated Las Vegas metropolitan area. Characterizing the seismic hazard of the LVVS is currently the focus of a multi-year collaborative study involving researchers from the Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and the US Geological Survey. The Eglinton fault is the only LVVS fault currently included on the National Seismic Hazard Map (NSHM), and is a priority focus in the early stages of the investigation. Substantial uncertainty remains regarding the seismogenic potential of the LVVS. Two endmember hypotheses have been proposed regarding the mechanisms responsible for producing the scarps associated with the LVVS, including the Eglinton fault: 1) tectonic (e.g., coseismic surface rupture) and 2) non-tectonic (e.g., prehistoric differential sediment compaction). In this presentation, we will summarize existing geologic, geodetic, geophysical, and geochronologic data that provide insight into the mechanism(s) responsible for scarp formation within the LVVS, and present unresolved problems with both endmember tectonic and non-tectonic scenarios. We will also discuss in-progress efforts to characterize the seismogenic potential of the Eglinton fault including: planned paleoseismic trenching, geologic mapping using lidar and aerial photograph interpretation from historic and prehistoric deposits, Optically Stimulated Luminescence (OSL) dating of the Las Vegas basin stratigraphy, and evaluation of the potential for differential sediment compaction across the fault scarps. In addition, we will present the recommendations from the 2018 Working Group on Nevada Seismic Hazards, including the details of a logic tree framework to address uncertainty in the LVVS hazard assessment.

Rethinking the Seismic Hazard Characterization of the Cheraw Fault, Southeastern Colorado

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The late Quaternary-active Cheraw (CF) fault in southeastern Colorado is one of the few faults in the Central and Eastern U.S. (CEUS) with known Holocene surface rupture. More than any other Colorado fault source, the CF contributes significant ground motion hazard to the Front Range cities of Pueblo, Colorado Springs, and Denver, across the full range of spectral, and annual exceedance periods. In both the USGS National Seismic Hazard Map and Electric Power and Research Institute (EPRI) CEUS source models, the favored characterization is a 46 km long fault, with a 60° dip. Rates for in-cluster models are based on 3 event ages from paleoseismic trench data on the southern section of the fault. Rates for out-of-cluster models with long (>100 ka) interseismic intervals are inferred from vertical surface offsets of a nearby undated Rocky Flats (RF) Pleistocene pediment alluvium assumed to be ≤1 Ma. Findings from our recent and ongo-
ing studies provide insight for a revised CF source characterization. New LiDAR data indicate the CF scarps to be at least 80 km long. Reprocessed, depth-migrated 2D industry seismic data shows the fault dip to be ~75° to depths of 2–3 km in basement. Paleoseismic trenching on the northern section, near Haswell, shows ~9 m of vertical offset in deformed Nussbaum alluvium. Luminescence ages constrain this deformation to ~126 to 200 ka, and imply a much younger age for the southern trench-adjacent RF alluvium. Thus, available time for the long inter- seismic period is much shorter than clustered events on out-of-cluster recurrence models is severely limited. Further extension of the fault scarp to the northeast supports plausible partial rupture models with up to 14 to 18, M 6.5 to 6.8 events in the past 100 ka; or alternatively, many fewer full-length ruptures of M ≥7. Rupture models most consistent with long interseismic intervals are those with infrequent, larger magnitude (M≥7), and near full-length (~80 km) ruptures.

The Western Limit of Major Extension Associated with the Lapetan Rifted Margin in the Southern and Central Appalachians: Implications for the National Seismic Hazard Maps

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Specifying the location and extent of rifted crystalline crust (Precambrian base- ment) associated with the opening of the Iapetus Ocean in the eastern United States is important for seismic hazard evaluation. As currently mapped by the Central and Eastern U.S. Seismic Source Characterization for Nuclear Facilities (CESUS) Project, the western limit of major extension (equal to that typical of full-thickness continental crust) does not indicate significant extension as in rifted crust. We suggest that the western limit of major exten- sional faulting along the Lapetan rifted margin is located in the central Piedmont east of the Blue Ridge beneath the Blue Ridge–Piedmont megathrust sheet. This is closely associated with a prominent Bouger gravity gradient (Appalachian grav- ity gradient). Small lapetan grabens and half grabens have been imaged with crustal seismic reflection data in the footwall beneath the Blue Ridge sheet. Our suggested location for the western limit of lapetan rifting agrees with palinspastic reconstructions of the lapetan rifted margin. Intracrational grabens, inboard from the rifted margin, show only minor crustal extension and thinning. This seismotectonic model is a more credible representation of the basement below the southern and central Appalachians than the current model involving rifted crust.

Impact of Improved Gulf Coast Seismic Attenuation Boundary and Stress Parameter Estimates on Our Understanding of Seismic Hazard in the southeastern United States

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Recently published studies of the seismic attenuation (Q) boundary and stress parameter estimates for the Gulf Coast and southeastern U.S. (SEUS) improve our understanding of seismic hazard for the SEUS. First, the improved Gulf Coast Q boundary location indicates a more restricted region of high attenuation in the SEUS than previous studies that were based on limited Q observations, seismotectonic regionalization, and crustal structure regionalization. Second, for earthquakes outside the Gulf Coast region and at long periods, the high attenua- tion region appears to be more restricted to close to the Gulf Coast. Third, most of Florida has less attenuation than the Gulf Coast region and is more like the central and eastern U.S. (CEUS) mid-continental attenuation, in keeping with the differing geological history of the Florida Peninsula from the Gulf Coast. Fourth, stress parameter, which is related to the high frequency energy and ground motion expected for CESUS earthquakes, appears to be lower in the south central U.S. than the east coast, northeastern U.S., and eastern Canada, but still significantly higher than for the western U.S. And fifth, induced earthquakes in the CEUS appear to have similar stress parameter values as shallow natural events. Thus seismic hazard from induced earthquakes is the same as from natural earthquakes in a given region. In general seismic ground motions and hence hazard from large CESUS earthquakes is not reduced in Alabama, Georgia, and Florida due to Gulf Coast Q. At long periods for large earthquakes outside the Gulf Coast Q region, lower hazard from Gulf Coast Q is restricted to the Gulf Coast in Texas, Louisiana, and Mississippi. This pattern of seismic haz- ard is reflected in the intensity observations from the 1886 Charleston, South Carolina, M7.0 earthquake.

Advances on the Parameterization of Seismic Attenuation: Current Challenges and Opportunities

Poster Session - Wednesday 16 May - Riverfront South

An Attenuation Study in the South Region of the Gulf of California, Mexico

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We analyzed 5-wave recordings from regional stations of the Broadband Seismological Network of the Gulf of California (RESBAN) operated by CICESE (Centro de Investigación Científica y de Estudios Superiores de Ensenada, B.C.) to study the variability of the quality factor Q with depth. We used earthquakes located by Suny et al. (2013) in the southern gulf with hypocen- tres determined combining seisograms from an array of ocean-bottom seismographs, of the SCOoba experiment, with onshore stations of the NARS- Baja array. We also used hypocenters from other events relocated by Castro et al. (2017) in the same region. This well constrained catalog of seismicity that highlights zones of active tectonics and seismic deformation within the North America-Paciﬁc plate boundary permitted us to study the attenuation characteristics of the S waves in more detail than previous studies. We determined nonparametric attenuation functions in the distance range 10–250 km and used the 1-D velocity model of González-Fernández et al. (2005) to estimate Q at different frequencies and depths. To estimate Q the geometrical spreading G(R) is taken as 1/R for R ≤ 100 km and 1/√R for R > 100 km. We found that at 4 Hz Q = 770 for the first 5 km, increasing to ~1200 up to 10 km depth where Q starts to gradually decrease, reaching a value of Q = 980 between 25 km and 40 km depth. We also used the same velocity model together with the discrete wavenumber method of Bouchon and Aki (1977) to calculate synthetic seisograms that permit us determine the geometrical spreading function for the south gulf region. The resulting function indicates that the rate of amplitude-decay with distance, due to the geometrical spreading in the Gulf of California, is approximately the same as that predicted by G(R) = 1/R for R ≤ 50 km.

Crustal Lg-Wave Attenuation in Northwest China and Its Surrounding Areas

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Northwest China and its surrounding areas are consisted of the Tien Shan Mountains and other four stable blocks: The Kazakh shield, Jungar, Tarim and Turpan-Hami basins. In response to the remote effect of the convergence between the Indian and Eurasian plates, the Tien Shan Mountains were formed by the reactivation of the Paleoalpine structures in the Late Cenozoic. Previous studies revealed that the lithosphere beneath the Tien Shan may be thickened by the underthrusting of the lithosphere in Tarim and kazakh, and then detached to lead to hot mantle material upwelling. Thus, there could be partial melting within the crust due to the intrusion of hot material. In this study, we constructed a 0.05–10.0 Hz broadband high-resolution crustal Lg wave attenuation model for Northwest China and its surrounding areas. Lg wave attenuation characteristics were investigated based on seisograms form 711 crustal earthquakes recorded between 1994 and 2017 at 383 regional stations distributed throughout the study regions. The attenuation models revealed obvious lateral heterogeneities which are consistent with geological features. The low QLg anomalies are observed in tectonically active regions, such as the Tien Shan Mountains, the northeastern margin of the Pamir Plateau and the northwestern margin of the Tibetan Plateau. In contrast, relatively high QLg anomalies are imaged in those stable blocks, such as the Tarim, Juggar and Turpan-Hami basins and Kazakh shield. The attenuation pattern shows that the large-scale tectonic boundaries are generally in high QLg areas. In addition, strong earthquakes are mainly distributed within or near low QLg areas. This research was supported by the National Key Research and Development Program of China (2017YFC0601206) and the National Natural Science Foundation of China (grants 41674060, 41630210).
Investigation of the Dependence of Kappa Values on the Onset of Soil Nonlinearity

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The high-frequency spectral decay parameter, kappa, is one of the most used values to describe seismic attenuations in engineering seismology. However, because of the limited number of strong ground motions from moderate-to-large earthquakes, the studies of the soil nonlinearity characteristics captured by kappa (especially the site-specific kappa component) have not received enough attention to date. To fill the identified gap in the literature, selected stations from the Kik-net and KiK-net (KiK-net) database are used to assess the relationship between soil nonlinearity and site-specific kappa. The KiK-net database has the following advantages: Japan is one of the most seismically active areas and an abundance of ground motion recordings are available, and the KiK-net database includes two sets of sensors, one at the surface and one at depth (100–200 m), at each station. It allows the calculation of the difference of site-specific kappa between the values at the surface and at the borehole instrument to investigate the specific site effects such as near surface attenuation. The 0.03% shear strain index (as a ratio of peak ground velocity of the vibration excitation to the average shear wave velocity over the top 30 m, PGV/VS30) has been adopted as the lower limit to identify the onset of soil nonlinear behavior. Thus, the correlations between site-specific kappa and VS30, depth at which the shear wave velocity exceeds 800 m/s (5800), 1000 m/s (z1), and 2500 m/s (z2.5) are studied. Moreover, site-specific kappa from the selected nonlinear motions in this study is also compared to the corresponding values at the same sites when only using linear motions (i.e., motions that do not trigger nonlinear behavior).

Sensitivity Kernels for the Separation of Attenuation Processes: Scattering, Absorption, and Scattering Anisotropy

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Among the physical processes that affect the amplitude of seismic waves, attenuation is one of the most poorly understood and undetermined factors. Two basic mechanisms control seismic attenuation in the crust: scattering by small-scale heterogeneities, and absorption of seismic energy by inelastic and irreversible processes. A number of techniques have been devised to retrieve attenuation information from the modeling of direct seismic waves emitted by earthquakes. A major issue with the use of ballistic signals lies in the fact that their amplitude is affected by multiple factors that are difficult to disentangle in practice: source radiation pattern, geometrical effects such as focusing/difocusing or site effects caused by surface layering. Moreover, since both scattering and absorption manifest themselves as an exponential decay of direct wave amplitude with distance, it is not possible to separate their effects from attenuation measurements based on ballistic waves only. We will show how to use radiative transfer in conjunction with perturbation theory to derive sensitivity kernels for the intensity detected in the coda. Compared to previous studies, we take into account the role of non-isotropic scattering which is controlled by the power spectrum of small-scale heterogeneities and strongly influences the shape of seismogram envelopes near the ballistic arrivals. Numerical evaluation of the kernels in a variety of isotropically and non-isotropically scattering media demonstrates that coda waves possess distinct spatial sensitivities to perturbations of absorption, scattering strength and scattering anisotropy. These results pave the way for the development of a genuine tomographic approach to map the spatial distributions of attenuation processes in the crust. Some preliminary applications to data will be shown.

Preliminary Investigations of the Kappa Parameter: From Exploration of Its Physical Interpretation to Application in a Host-to-Target Study

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The high-frequency attenuation x introduced by Anderson and Hough (1984) is related to the attenuation of the seismic wavefield emitted by the source and travelling to the recording site. Anderson and Hough (1984) decomposed x in local (x0 and regional attenuation (xR), respectively. In the last years, this parameter has become important in engineering seismology, in particular to take into account local site conditions in ground motion prediction studies. At the time of the meeting, we plan to present results on the following aspects. The approach of Anderson and Hough (1984) is applied to assess x at some stations located in areas of small-to-moderate seismic activity like mainland France and in more active regions. Values of x0 and xR can be compared to intrinsic attenuation (e.g., Mayot et al., 2017 for France). Moreover, we look at the dependency of x (x0 and xR) to intrinsic attenuation and scattering through numerical simulations of wave propagation. To do so, we model point sources at depth and study the waves recorded at the free surface for different properties of the propagation media. At last, we use the parameter in a host-to-target study in the Nice area, southeast of France. From different GMPEs, we compute site-specific response spectra using the approach of Al Attik et al. (2014). Computed spectra are compared with the ones obtained from recordings of different earthquakes.

A New Model for Vertical-to-Horizontal Response Spectral Ratios for Central and Eastern North America

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It is a well-known fact that critical structures are required to be designed for the vertical effect of ground motions as well as the horizontal effects. We present a much-needed new model for the spectral ratio of vertical to horizontal component of earthquakes (V/H ratio) for Central and Eastern North America (CENA). The V/H ratio model has the advantage of considering the earthquake magnitude, source to site distance, and shear-wave velocity of soil deposits in the upper 30m of the site for PGA and a wide range of periods (0.001 to 10.0 seconds). The model evaluation will be based on a comprehensive set of regression analysis of the newly compiled Next Generation Attenuation (NGA East) database of available CENA recordings with M ≥ 3.0 and RRUP ≤ 1000 km. The median value of the geometric mean of the orthogonal horizontal motions rotated through all possible nonredundant rotation angles, known as the GMRotDS0 (Boore et al., 2006), will be used along with the vertical component to perform regression using the maximum likelihood method. The earthquakes and recording stations in the Gulf Coast region are excluded due to their different ground-motion attenuation (Dreilinger et al., 2014). However, the excluded data are evaluated in a parallel study to see if they can be represented by the same source parameters but different anelastic attenuation. The predicted ratios from the proposed model will be compared with recently published V/H ratio models and can be used to develop the vertical response spectra for CENA sites.

Separation of Intrinsic and Scattering Attenuation in the NMSZ of the Central United States

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Seismic waves attenuate due to intrinsic absorption and scattering. Due to material damping, seismic energy converts to heat as it propagates through the medium. This inherent property of material is called intrinsic attenuation. On the ray path, there may be some inconsistencies in the material, such as material variations or cracks. These lateral heterogeneities scatter the incoming seismic waves. They reflect, refract, and convert the waves. These waves are eventually captured by the seismographs at the tail portion, so called coda. Both parameters are characterized by the quality factor, Q, which is the ability of a domain in conducting these waves. This definition is inversely proportional to the damping. This definition is well matched with the intrinsic attenuation. Although scattering attenuation occurs through a different process, it is presented by the Q values. In this study, we are trying to separate the intrinsic and scattering attenuations in the New Madrid seismic zone. Multiple lapse time window analysis is implemented in order to perform this task. In this method, seismic waves’ energy are theoretically synthesized using compact formulation for multiple scattered waves (Zeng, 1991). Theoretical energy curves are characterized by seismic albedo, B0, and extinction length, Le-1. For three consecutive 20 sec time windows starting from S-wave arrival, these energy curves are compared to the envelope functions of...
same windows of seismogram. We used a grid search to locate the best matching pair of estimation parameters. Values of seismic albedo is about 0.7 suggesting that scattering attenuation is dominant in this area. Both intrinsic and scattering attenuation functions are frequency dependent. Results are compared to our previous findings using the coda normalization procedure. To have a qualitative comparison between single scattering and multiple scattering assumptions, we compared findings in this study with the Sedaghati and Pezeshk (2016) results.

Comprehensive Study of Attenuation Properties of the New Madrid Seismic Zone in the Central United States

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New Madrid seismic zone (NMSZ) is an intraplate seismic zone buried under thick layers of sediments in the Mississippi embayment. Complicated geological structure obscures this seismic system and makes it difficult to study. NMSZ is capable of generating earthquakes with magnitudes as large as 7, which poses a considerable seismic hazard in this area. Consequently, it is crucial to obtain an insight into the crustal properties of the crust in the area. One important parameter in this realm is the quality factor (Q) that quantifies the capability of the crustal material in conducting seismic waves. In this study, unique properties of coda waves are implemented to extract frequency dependent quality factor functions of S, P, and Lg waves in the area of interest. This method, called coda normalization, is a time domain method in which the amplitude of the observed phase is divided by the amplitude of a reference coda wave window to eliminate site effects and instrument response, and to isolate source effects to invert for Q values. In a comprehensive study of attenuation properties in NMSZ, we estimated QP (f) = (151.80±1.36) f(0.495±0.129) and QLg (f) = (161.34±1.73) f(0.613±0.0072) for near-field waves up to a distance of 60 km, and QLg (f) = (390±26) f(0.56±0.04) from 120 to 400 km. It is worth mentioning that geometric spreading was fixed at 1.0 for near-field waves, and 0.5 for Lg waves, since simultaneous inversion of geometric spreading and quality factor was not possible. The intrinsic (Q) and the scattering (Q-sc) quality factors are inferred using Multiple Lapse Time Window (MLTW) analysis, assuming a uniform distribution of scatterers and isotropic scattering regime. This method compares spatial and temporal distribution of energy and allows estimating seismic albedo, B0, and extinction length, Le-1, simply by comparing theoretical and observational seismic. Final results of our findings are compared to findings available in the literature.

K0: Origin and Usability

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Recent studies have focused on the analysis of the nature of k0, a term generally considered to be representative of the attenuation below a site, and its application for improving seismic hazard assessment. It follows that a better understanding of the nature of k0 (what does it exactly represent) and therefore of its correct application for improving the estimation of local shaking is mandatory. In this study, by means of the numerical simulation of vertically incident SH waves, we set out to clarify the contribution of the intrinsic attenuation and the transmission of the media within different portions of the seismic signal and, in particular, within time windows similar to what generally used for real data analysis. Numerical simulations were carried out using models with constant or increasing with depth velocities, that are perturbed with increasing random vertical impedance contrasts. The analysis allows us to quantify, for the analyzed situation, the apparent attenuation related to the transmission part and to outline the variability of the results depending on the chosen window of signal. Finally, an example of this method’s application to real data collected from an array of borehole sensors is used to show some possible limits arising when k0 is adopted for correcting ground motion estimation from bedrock to the surface.

Lg Attenuation in Oklahoma and Its Surrounding Regions

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Increased seismicity in the Oklahoma and surrounding regions since 2008 and the passing of the EarthScope USA array through the region provides an opportunity to better define Lg attenuation in that region. Initial tomography results at 1 Hz by Gallegos et al. (2014) and a study of the location of the boundary between mid-continental low attenuation and Gulf Coast higher attenuation regions at 1.0 and 5.0Hz by Cramer and Al Noman (2016) and Cramer (2017) provide insight into the problem of defining Lg attenuation in the Oklahoma region. The location of the midcontinental/Gulf Coast Q boundary in Oklahoma is complicated by other crustal structures, such as the Southern Oklahoma Rift. We address this problem using Lg Q tomography and increased raypath coverage from M3 earthquakes surrounding the study region. We determine frequency dependent attenuation models Q(f) for the Oklahoma and surrounding region using direct Lg waves at regional distances of 200 to 1500 km. Using automated processing we extracted the Lg wave amplitude spectra between 0.05 and 10 Hz from vertical waveforms recorded at 314 TA stations from 207 crustal earthquakes (M≥3.0). We simultaneously determined the QLg distribution, source and site functions at different frequencies from the geometrical spreading corrected Lg amplitudes using a tomographic regularized inversion. The 1x1° checkboard test with synthetic data shows good resolution coverage over the region. The results at 1.0 Hz and 5.0 Hz show a trend of lower Q estimates near the Gulf Coast region while the central Oklahoma part reveals a higher Q estimate. Initial investigation of Gulf-Coast regional attenuation pattern suggests a good agreement with the defined Q boundaries by Cramer (2017). We expect to investigate the attenuation estimates in more detail, and at other frequencies to develop a frequency dependent Lg attenuation map for this region.

Spatial Variation of Crustal Attenuation Properties in Western Tibet

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Two-dimensional (2D) spatial attenuation maps are produced for the crust within the region which are recorded by an array of 30 broadband stations operated from July 2007 to May 2011. Initially estimation of coda waves attenuation (Qc-1) is done using single isotropic model and subsequently relative contribution of scattering (Qc-sc) and intrinsic (Qc-1) attenuation have been calculated using Multiple Lapse Time Window Analysis (MLTWA) under the assumption of uniform distribution of multiple isotropic scattering effects for the frequency bands of 1–2, 2–4, 4–8, 8–16 and 12–24 Hz, respectively. All the events are selected on the basis of high signal to noise ratio having hypocentral distance within 200 km from the respective stations. The obtained Q values show a strong frequency dependent nature which can be correlated to the degree of tectonic complexity and the heterogeneities present in the medium. As a whole, the intrinsic absorption is found to be the dominant mechanism at all the frequencies which is quite consistent with the geo-tectonic complexity in the region. The obtained values of Qc are in good agreement with other segments of Himalaya and Tibet as well as different tectonic regions in the world. Keywords: MLTWA, Intrinsic, scattering, coda wave, western Tibet

Development and Validation of Statistical Models of Small-Scale Heterogeneities

Poster Session · Wednesday 16 May · Riverfront South

Seismic Scattering from Topography and Small-Scale Crustal Heterogeneity: Application to the 2009 North Korean Nuclear Test

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We simulate high-frequency (0–4 Hz) wave propagation to regional distances for the 2009 North Korea Nuclear Test (NKNT) using the SALSA3D velocity model. In our simulations, we address two major causes of generation of high-frequency energy—(1) crustal scattering due to small-scale velocity and density perturbations, and (2) scattering due to surface topography. We approximate the crustal media heterogeneities by spectral coloring of Gaussian random numbers. We show that ensembles of synthetics computed for models with small-scale crustal heterogeneities can reproduce the observed 0–4 Hz waveform characteristics fairly well at regional distances (400 km). Particularly, the amplitudes of phases that are commonly used for discrimination of explosive events (e.g., Pn, Pg, Sn, and Lg) are well reproduced at station INCN for both low frequencies (<1 Hz) and high frequencies (<1 Hz). Encouraged by the agreement at INCN, we present distance- and frequency-dependent ratios of these phases from the NKNT site to INCN, Beamforming for our synthetics at the 20-station K5 seismic array in South Korea provides apparent velocities and back azimuths in agreement with those for the main arrivals in the data. Since topography is not easily implemented in our staggered-grid finite-difference modeling code, we attempt to model topographic scattering using a shallow, near-surface layer of media heterogeneities. Toward this goal, we estimate the parameters characterizing the
statistical distribution obtained by the surface elevation around the NKNTS, as a guide for generating the random fields. Our results show that von Karman and power-law autocorrelation functions both provide reasonable models for the topographic variation around the NKNTS, with Hurst exponents of 0.6–0.8. The correlation length associated with the von Karman function is found to be poorly resolved, as it increases with the size of the area of analysis.

Is It Possible to Use Teleseismic Scattered Waves to Determine the Receiver-Side Stochastic Velocity Model? WEF X. Z., Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island, Rhode Island, USA, xiaozheng_weif@my.uri.edu; SHEN, Y., Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island, Rhode Island, USA, yshen@uri.edu; BAO, X., Graduate School of Oceanography, University of Rhode Island, Rhode Island, USA, xyba@uri.edu; CHEN, L., State Key Laboratory of Lithosphere Evolution, Institute of Geology and Geophysics, Chinese Academy of Sciences; CAS Center for Excellence in Tibetan Plateau Earth Sciences, China, leshen@mail.igcas.ac.cn; JIANG, M., Key Laboratory of Earth and Planetary Physics, Institute of Geology and Geophysics, Chinese Academy of Sciences; CAS Center for Excellence in Tibetan Plateau Earth Sciences, China, jiangmm@mail.igcas.ac.cn

Numerous seismic studies have been conducted in the past decades, yielding images of large-scale structures and providing valuable insights into the dynamics and evolution of the Earth. However, due to sparse station coverage, small-scale heterogeneities, which may reflect the cumulated geological history and cause wave scattering (and thus scattering attenuation), are often poorly resolved. While great progress has been attempted to model and simulate small-scale heterogeneities by modeling the scattered waves in stochastic media, these efforts mostly relied on local or regional earthquakes, limiting their applicability only to the regions of active seismicity. Thus, in order to broaden the investigation to both seismic and aseismic regions, we ask: Can teleseismic events provide us information about the stochastic nature of the media beneath the stations? One of the waveform characteristics we use to determine the stochastic properties of the media is the energy partition of teleseismic P-waves on the transverse component (PEPT). Our first target study region is the eastern margin of the Tibetan Plateau, where the highly deformed mountain belts are juxtaposed with the stable Yangtze Craton. The dense linear arrays deployed there allow us to investigate how the PEPT values change from one tectonic block to the other. Our observations show that inside the craton, the PEPT values are generally small, while the values inside the plateau are relatively high. Across the boundary between the craton and the plateau, there is an abrupt change in the PEPT values. The results match well with our expectations for the stable craton and the highly deformed mountain ranges, though forward full-wave modeling is needed to verify the contribution of scattering caused by surface topography to the total scattering and to determine the stochastic representations of the velocity structures beneath the two regions.

Modeling of Coda Wave Attenuation by Local Heterogeneity Scattering LARMAT, C. S., Los Alamos National Laboratory, New Mexico, USA, carene@lanl.gov; MACCARTHY, J. K., Los Alamos National Laboratory, New Mexico, USA, jkmacc@lanl.gov; PHILLIPS, W. S., Los Alamos National Laboratory, New Mexico, USA, wsp@lanl.gov

This paper presents a numerical study of the wave trains known as coda that are observed on seismic records of local earthquakes (Mw<5) and small explosions at mountain ranges, though forward full-wave modeling is needed to verify the contribution of scattering caused by surface topography to the total scattering and to determine the stochastic representations of the velocity structures beneath the two regions.

Examination of the Reference-Phase Concept in Seismology in the Presence of Small-Scale Heterogeneities ZHENG, Y., University of Houston, Texas, USA, yzheng12@uh.edu

The concept of the ‘reference phase’ is widely used in seismic tomography and imaging. Usually, a differential traveltime between the prominent reference phase and another seismic phase is used with the hope to eliminate the influence of unknown velocity structure on their common travel paths. It is well known that Earth has inhomogeneities at all spatial scales and small-scale heterogeneities may violate this concept. In this work, we will investigate the validity of the ‘reference phase’ concept in the presence of small-scale heterogeneities whose length scales are below the spatial resolution of deterministic approaches in seismic inversion. We will first invert for the small-scale heterogeneity spectrum using the coherence function methods using amplitude and traveltime fluctuations of the transmitted wave. The inverted spectrum provides a quantitative description of the small-scale heterogeneities. Then, we will produce realizations of the statistical random models. We use full-wave finite difference method to compute the wave propagation in the random medium. Finally, we evaluate the reference phase concept.

Early Warning for Large Earthquakes and Tsunamis: Challenges, Case Studies and Innovations Poster Session · Wednesday 16 May · Riverfront South

Smart Seismic Hardware: New Strategies for Networking and Mitigation of False Alarms ALLARDICE, S. A., Guralp Systems Ltd, United Kingdom, sallardice@guralp.com; HILL, P., Guralp Systems Ltd, United Kingdom, phill@guralp.com

Guralp’s range of ‘smart’ seismic hardware offer a simple interface with advanced on-board processing and can issue triggered event data and alerts with ultralow latency. This is achieved by a 40–60ms delay from system triggering to issuing an alert. Guralp Data Interchange (GDI) is an ultra-low latency data transmission protocol used by Guralp hardware which allows seismic waveforms to be transmitted sample by sample as they are acquired by the instrumentation. GDI adapts the size of the data packets to suit the network bandwidth available. This flexibility within the protocol means the lowest possible latency for the given network can be achieved. To ensure the alerts can be relied upon there is a requirement for a form of application to mitigate false positive results. Within the ‘smart’ range, a configurable voting mechanism is implemented on the Minimus to eliminate false positives which can incorporate a ‘score’ from different data sources i.e. Z channel on seismometer, N/S/E/W channels on accelerometer and the internal Minimus MEMS. If the score exceeds the set threshold then an alert is sent to a predefined ‘Master Minimus’. If the pre-configured threshold on the Master Minimus is triggered then the Master will issue the triggered event data and/or an alert. Minimus can issue alerts using Common Alert Protocol (CAP). Whenever the trigger conditions are met the Minimus can send a signed UDP packet to the configured CAP receiver which will then send the alert via SMS, e-mail or CAP forwarding, or multiples thereof. To increase network redundancy, parameters from each station or network can be streamed to multiple stations, networks or data centres, so that there is no one single point of failure.

Determining Magnitudes of Large Earthquakes in Japan Using Seismic Stations in China WANG, D., China University of Geosciences, China, dunwang2004@yahoo.com

Rapid determination of earthquake magnitude is of importance for estimating shaking damages, and tsunami hazards. However, due to the complexity of source process, accurately estimating magnitude for great earthquakes in minutes after origin time is still a challenge. A recent example is the 2011 M9.0 Tohoku, Japan earthquake. We developed an approach that was originated from Hara[2007], estimating magnitude by considering P-wave displacement and source duration. The source duration is estimated using array data from regional seismic network (Hi-net). We applied this method to determine the magnitudes of large earthquakes (M ≥ 7) and in and around Japan using seismic stations in China. Our results show the magnitudes of tested earthquakes are well determined in 5–10 min after the Origin times, with uncertainties of 0.2. Thus, this magnitude scale may be a promising aid for disaster mitigation after a damaging earthquake, especially when dealing with the tsunami evacuation and emergency rescue.

Reducing the False Alert Problem in Earthquake Early Warning: ElarmS Version 3.0 CHUNG, A. L., UC Berkeley, California, USA, achung@berkeley.edu; HENSON, T., UC Berkeley, California, USA, ihenson@berkeley.edu; HELLWEG, M., UC Berkeley, California, USA, hellweg@berkeley.edu; ALLEN, R. M., UC Berkeley, California, USA, ratten@berkeley.edu

ElarmS is a network-based Earthquake Early Warning System (EEWS) that is currently operating and creating alerts for earthquakes throughout the West Coast of the United States. ElarmS is one of the algorithms contributing to the
ShakeAlert EWS, a prototype system that will begin publishing public alerts in late 2018. In 2013 significant improvements were made to ElarmS resulting in ElarmS version 2.0 (E2). Though E2 consistently had the fastest alert times and the most accurate magnitude estimates compared with other ShakeAlert algorithms, it created more false alerts. To address these false alerts, we have developed a revised version of ElarmS – ElarmS version 3.0 (E3). To remove bad triggers that are responsible for causing the false alerts, E3 employs filters that have been developed using data recorded using the national digital ground-motion seismic network. We have added to E3 include revised minimum amplitude checks, a “range post-trigger” parameter, a horizontal-to-vertical amplitude ratio check, and a limit for the maximum change in the length of the acceleration vector. To develop and test the new E3, we use the ShakeAlert Testing & Certification (T&C) dataset with waveforms from more than 100 local, regional, teleseismic, and anomalous events. We replaced the T&C event dataset using both E2 and E3. As this data set is heavily biased towards problematic waveforms/events, E2 created 54 false events with M≥3. Most of these false events were due to teleseismic earthquakes, though a few were either split events from larger earthquakes within the reporting region or poorly located events. In contrast, E3 created just 3 M≥3 from the same dataset. Of these 3 events, two were very poorly located real earthquakes that had occurred outside of the network. E3 will be the basis for the new EPIC algorithm, which will be the only ShakeAlert point-source algorithm.

Updates on the Finite-Fault Rupture Detector Algorithm (Finder v2)

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In January of 2018, we finished to install new hardware and software at the Central American Tsunami Advisory Center (CATAC), established at INETER in Nicaragua. CATAC is the most recent tsunami warning center integrating modules for earthquake detection, moment tensor analysis, tsunami simulation, decision support and warning dissemination based on the SeisComp3 framework. SeisComp3 is a seismological software package used already at BMKG (Indonesia), DGMET (Oman), TMD (Thailand) and CEA (France) where it has proven its performance many times in the last years. A Common Acquisition Protocol Server permits the acquisition of data from different sensor systems including seismic and tide gauge sensors and is used to confirm or cancel the tsunami warning. The moment tensor calculation supports the W-phase and provides reliable solutions in short time. The tsunami simulation is integrated with the seismic data processing, the computing is GPU-based allowing near real time results. It can react immediately on atypical events, e.g. “slow earthquakes”, providing the process of tsunami simulation with updated hypocenter, focal mechanism and magnitude. The near real time simulations estimate arrival times and amplitudes of the tsunami waves for exposed coastlines. The dissemination system uses templates for the immediate publication of bulletins and warnings. We analyze the performance of the CATAC system using examples as the M 7.3 earthquake on January 10, 2018, North of Honduras. The 15 persons working on tsunami warning in the 24/7 shifts and/or scientific-technical development at CATAC/INETER were trained in the use of the software. CATAC is developed by INETER with support from the government of Nicaragua. Nicaragua agreed a development project with the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) for the reinforcement of CATAC. The installation of SeisComp3 at CATAC/INETER is funded by JICA.

Progress of the Japanese-Nicaraguan Project for the Establishment of the Central American Tsunami Advisory Center (CATAC)

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In 2015, the Central American countries (Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Panama) agreed to establish a Central American Tsunami Advisory Center (CATAC) at INETER in Managua, Nicaragua. This proposal was also approved by the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Committee (IOC) of UNESCO and the Intergovernmental Coordination Groups (ICG) of the Pacific Ocean Tsunami Warning Systems (PTWS) and the Caribbean Sea (CARIBEEWS). CATAC will provide scientific real-time technical tsunami services related to the Pacific Ocean and the Caribbean Sea to the Scientific Institutions and Civil Protection Agencies of the Central American countries. The issuance of tsunami advice to the population remains the responsibility of the national governments. In 2016, INETER started to establish CATAC. The project is being funded by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) to execute a technical assistance project to strengthen CATAC; this project began in October 2016. Progress was made in the development of the data processing system, the monitoring networks, the construction of the tsunami database, the training of personnel and the development of Standard Operating Procedures (SOP).

SCSN Data Quality Control and Station Health Assessment Tools

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The USGS/Caltech Southern California Seismic Network (SCSN) is a modern digital ground motion seismic network. It develops and maintains Earthquake Early Warning (ShakeAlert) data collection and delivery systems in southern California as well as real-time ShakeAlert algorithms. Here we present recent and ongoing innovations in telemetry, data quality control, and data analysis that keep the network running efficiently and provide timely high-quality streaming data. EEW systems must process seismic data within a fraction of a second of acquisition. The SCSN maintains a robust and resilient network of more than

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350 seismic stations to achieve this goal. We have continued to improve the telemetering path diversity, minimize data transfer latency as well as developed new tools for latency monitoring and archiving. The latency data collection is done by an earthworm module that is user-configured. It can collect latency channels under different names as mseed waveform data: L1Z (start of the packet), L2Z (middle of the packet) and L3Z (end of the packet) latency values. The latency data streams are archived with the same tools as the seismic data. We use PQIX for the data collection and enable monitoring for the entire network, and to identify anthropogenic noise sources and malfunctioning acquisition equipment. We have built a dynamic web-based display showing the summary noise analysis results. It sorts multiple channels separately and has mapping capabilities for an arbitrary number of the data points. This tool quickly identifies problematic sites and areas with elevated noise. It can also be used to report the worst N number of sites without analyzing all the data from the entire network.

Exploring Rupture Dynamics and Seismic Wave Propagation along Complex Fault Systems
Poster Session · Wednesday 16 May · Riverfront South

Deterministic Seismic Hazard Analyses of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada: Considering an Active Leech River Fault
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The Leech River fault is situated on Vancouver Island near the city of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. The ~60 km transpressional reverse fault zone runs from east to west along the southern tip of Vancouver Island, dividing the litho- logical units of metamorphic Jurassic-Cretaceous Leech River Complex to the north and igneous Eocene Metchosin formation to the south. Recent paleoseismic evidence suggests that at least two surface rupturing events have exceeded a magnitude of 6.5 within the last 15,000 years (Morell et al., 2017). A seismically active Leech River fault poses considerable risk to the Greater Victoria area. We perform Deterministic Seismic Hazard Analyses (DSHA) for the city of Victoria with consideration of the Leech River fault as an active source. Our DSHA simulations for Victoria are accomplished using a 3D finite-difference wave propagation scheme for frequencies ≤ 2 Hz (Olsen, 1994) with stochastic finite-fault modeling (the EXSIM) to include higher frequencies. Uncertainties in earthquake rupture parameters including rupture area and geometry (magnitude), propagation velocity, and slip distribution are captured within a suite of scenarios to assess earthquake ground shaking in Greater Victoria. The suite of deterministic earthquake scenarios is comprised of plausible rupture along the Leech River fault based on empirical slip models (e.g., 2013 M 6.3 Christchurch, New Zealand event) as well as randomized synthetic scenarios. We seek to understand what the implications of a significant rupture emanating from the Leech River fault would have on Victoria and southern British Columbia. Morell, K., Regalla, C., Leonard, L., Amos, C., & Levson, V. (2017). Quaternary rupture of a crustal fault beneath Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. GSA Today, 27, doi: 10.1130/GSATG291.A1 Olsen, K. (1994). Simulation of three-dimensional wave propagation in the Salt Lake Basin. Ph. D. Thesis, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah.

3D Dynamic Rupture Simulations along Dipping Faults, with a Focus on the Salt Lake City Segment of the Wasatch Fault, Utah
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We numerically model earthquake rupture along dipping faults, including both stochastic fault roughness and deterministic long-wavelength geometry, matching that of the Salt Lake City segment of the Wasatch fault, Utah. We seek to better understand the rupture process and assess broadband ground motions and variability by extending deterministic ground motion prediction in this region to higher frequencies. Our approach utilizes dynamic rupture simulations using a summation by parts method. The fault roughness generates realistic ground motion energy (from changes in acceleration as the rupture front propagates), in the sense that it has a flat acceleration spectrum across a broad bandwidth (up to ~5 Hz, the resolution of our computational mesh). We observe that a dipping fault decreases the range of stochastic variability in initial friction along the fault, compared to a vertical fault, for an equivalent amplitude-to-wavelength ratio, a. Using a slip-weakening friction law (de ~0.2 m) and including off-fault nonlinearity via a Drucker-Prager plasticity model, we find that the rupture propagates in a pulse-like manner with a sufficiently large choice in the amplitude of fault roughness. Lithostatic stress conditions (in addition to hydrostatic pore pressure) are enforced, consistent with that of recently measured strain accumulation near the Wasatch fault. We find that rupture is highly dependent on the non-uniform stress distribution along both strike and dip imposed by the long-wavelength fault geometry, serving to impede or aid rupture, and the corresponding local rupture velocity and peak slip rates. Our initial simulations generate ~Mw 7.0 events along dipping normal faults (40 x 20 km along strike and width, respectively), with ground motion near a median event and a level of intra-event variability near that of recent GMPE relations. Continuing work will analyze the dependence of rupture parameters and their correlation with variability in ground motion.

Weakening of Fault Planes by Flash Melting Implies Near-Fault Anelastic Failure
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Flash melting on real frictional contacts may greatly weaken fault surfaces with tiny slip-weakening distances of ~10 μm. This mechanism allows near-total stress drops in small even laboratory earthquakes. It also major earthquakes on the San Andreas Fault to slip at average stresses of ~10 MPa. However, the mechanism for moderate and large earthquakes implies excessive near-fault stresses and hence anelastic near-fault failure around the rupture tip. Nucleation patches begin with slow creep governed by rate and state friction. The critical size of these patches is already larger than the critical size for excessive near-fault stresses from flash melting. Macroscopic near-fault anelastic deformation increases the effective slip weakening distance so that excessive near-fault seismic waves do not occur. The associated distributed deformation produces undulations on an initially planar fault surface and leaves residual stresses, some of which are near failure. Subsequent events shake down stress concentrations and straighten undulations, but leave new concentrations and undulations in their wake. Rupture may jump to stress concentration once the P wave arrives. Strong high frequency (~10 Hz) S waves impinge on the fault plane during the waning stages of slip. These waves stop sliding with flash weakening if their motion is unfavorably oriented and locally lock the fault. Renewed sliding requires rate and state strength and releases pulses of high-frequency waves.

Ground Motion Simulation and Topography Amplification Effect on an Ms6.6 Minxian Earthquake
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An Ms6.6 Minxian earthquake occurred on July 22, 2013. It triggered a lot of landslides and caused severe economic losses and casualties. However, only a few seismic records were gathered in the areas of landslides. In order to provide enough ground motion parameters for seismic landslide analysis, this paper established 3-dimensional regional underground medium velocity structure model with two kinds of topography resolution, adopted two seismic source rupture processes, including the result inversed by teleseismic data and the one created by hybrid seismic source method, as scenario earthquakes, then used Finite-Difference method to simulate the ground motion. Finally, the time histories and intensity distributions of ground motion under different scenario earthquake and topography structure model are acquired, amplification factors are also computed, and relationship between the topography amplification factor and topography slope is analyzed.

Constraints on Spatial Distribution of Earthquakes within a 2-D Damaged Fault Zone in Seismic Cycles
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Observations of earthquakes on major faults (e.g. San-Andreas fault system) show that the seismicity is highly concentrated along a fault-parallel narrow zone of damaged rocks. The spatial extents and material properties of the damaged fault zone can have a crucial effect on earthquake source characteristics, such as the nucleation size, recurrence interval and hypocentral locations of earthquakes. These fault zones are usually a few hundred meters wide, but their depths are more debatable, with certain observations indicating a shallow depth (~5 km), while other observations show them to extend through the seismogenic zone. Theoretically, it is easier to nucleate earthquakes within the fault zone since the effective near-source size is proportional to the rigidity of the near-source medium. Therefore, it is expected that during seismic cycles earthquakes would occupy dominantly within the fault zone and occasionally reach the deeper host rocks due to stress shadow effects. To test this hypothesis, we study the relationship between the along-dip slip distribution of earthquakes and damaged fault zones by simu-
lating fault slip over multiple earthquake cycles using a spectral element method. Our model consists of a 2D strike-slip fault with intra-slab shear, surrounded by a low-riidity fault zone embedded in an elastic halfspace. A depth dependent initial shear stress profile is used in combination with a rate and state dependent friction law to induce spontaneous rupture, which propagates in accordance with the elasto-dynamic laws of motion. We will show how the hypocentral depth of a Mw ~ 7.0 earthquake is controlled by the velocity weakening region and the damaged zone extended during earthquake cycles (e.g. Parkfield region of the San-Andreas fault). We will also present the dependence of the recurrence interval, shear stress, and slip evolution on the spatial extent of the damaged zone. Future work would incorporate the evolution of fault zone damage and the role of fluids.

**Three-Dimensional Simulation Methodology of Seismic Wave Propagation and Its Application in Wudu Basin, China**

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The method widely used for the simulation of seismic wave propagation in three dimensional basin is the finite element method combining with visco-elastic artificial boundary. However, in the finite element method, the boundary surfaces are often limited in regular cases, such as a horizontal free surface, to determine the input wave motion on the artificial boundary. A degenerate mesh method presented in this study linked the nodal points on artificial boundary in three dimensional finite element model, in which the solution of the free fields outside and on the lateral artificial boundaries in three dimensional model is given based on four two-dimensional models, and the solution of the free fields outside and on the lateral artificial boundaries for each two-dimensional model is given based on two one-dimensional models. Furthermore, an explicit finite element method with viscous-elastic artificial boundary is established for the simulation of seismic wave propagation in three dimensional site. The numerical results obtained from a free half space model indicates that the proposed input wave motion method is reasonable. In the Mw 7.9 Wenchuan earthquake on 12 May 2008, the Wudu township which is located in a sedimentary basin suffered serious damage even if it is far away from the fault rupture (the distance ~ 100km). In order to interpret the abnormality of damage phenomenon, the elastic wave field simulation in the Wudu Basin is conducted by the proposed method based on the ABADQUAS software. The simulation results reveal the basin edge and the basin focusing effect. The topography scatters the body waves and the surface wave generated is trapped at the shallow part of the basin, and most of the energy is reflected from the interfaces of soil strata and focused back into the basin. It results in extraordinary strong shaking patterns in Wudu basin area.

The Future of Telemetered Seismic Arrays—Where the Operation of the Network Ends and the Science Begins

**Station, Data, and Instrument Analysis of the Cascades Volcano Observatory’s Seismic Network Using Xmax and Other Tools**


For the seismic community quality waveform data is the starting point to quality seismic locations and research. Therefore, it is imperative that seismic station metadata be correct and up to date, station functionality monitored, and instrument response files be as accurate as possible to ensure that the network data is reliable. Quality and reliability of waveform data is the basis for completing a Quality Control (QC) study of the Cascades Volcano Observatory (CVO) seismic network (network code CC). The CC seismic network consists of 30 seismic stations throughout the Washington and Oregon Cascades focused on real-time monitoring the volcanoes that are classified as high-threat. CVO works in conjunction with the Pacific Northwest Seismic Network (PNSN) to provide metadata and real-time waveform data from the CC network to the Incorporated Research Institutions for Seismology (IRIS). QC analysis of this extent has never been completed on the CC network; therefore an analysis was completed in order to test sensor and data quality using open source software XMAX (ASL, https://github.com/usgs/xmax) and Evalresp (IRIS, https://ds.iris.edu/ds/nodes/dmc/software/downloads/evalresp) to review both metadata and sensor functionality. The findings of this study show mostly minor metadata issues, a few problem sensors and a noisy vault. We are working with PNSN to rectify all of these issues by mid 2018 and will publish a USGS Open File Report by the end of 2018. Moving forward these tools will be important for maintaining knowledge and awareness of station health and data quality and will comprise the routine quality check procedures for CVO. This work is the building block for the future of the waveform data quality and reliability of the CC network.

Optimization of the Coefficients of a Filter Function That Maximizes the Performance of a Real Time Microseisms Detector

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The probability of volcanic eruption increases as the quantity of local seismic events, such as Long Period (LP) and Volcano Tectonic (VT) events also increases. For this reason it is important to improve the performance for detecting LP and VT events, based on event recognition and on the detection of the endpoints of the event in its seismogram. The method proposed in this paper optimizes the function of a commonly used voice detector but tailored for microseisms applications in order to maximize the performance metrics such as precision, sensitivity, specificity, and balanced error rate, and also considering the processing time required by the system, that is, it requires a signal-to-noise ratio, in order to accurately determine the onset and final timestamps of a detected event, and to achieve the maximum suppression of false positives. The ideal parameters for the detection of microseisms were also determined and adapted to work with data from the Cotopaxi volcano located in Ecuador, by using a dataset of microseisms, from a single station dotted with a broadband seismic seismometer, provided by the Instituto Geofísico de la Escuela Politécnica Nacional (IGEPN)—institution in charge of monitoring this volcano—that contains 436 microseisms, including LP and VT seismic events, originated at Cotopaxi volcano during 2012. We determined that the optimal window should be of 10 samples without overlapping, the order of the filter should be of 7 grade and the decision threshold should be three times the average signal in the window in order to avoid the displacement in the filter output. By using these parameters in the voice activity detector, the initial and final timestamps of the microseisms event were obtained more precisely, and the accuracy in detection was near to 97%, obtaining a considerable percentage for the use of this algorithm in the real time detection of volcanic events.

The Broadband Seismic Network Kivusnet in the Virunga Volcanic Province (Democratic Republic of the Congo): Seismic Catalogues and Fundamental Seismological Models after More Than 2 Years of Continuous Operation

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Over the course of the past 5 years, the first dense real-time telemetered broadband seismic network in the Kivu Rift region (KivuSNet) was gradually deployed in the frame of several Belgo-Luxembourgish research projects (the most recent one being RESIST: “Remote Sensing and In Situ Tracking of geohazards”, funded by the Belgian Science Policy and Luxembourg National Research Fund). The Kivu Rift is located in the bordering region of the Democratic Republic of Congo and Rwanda, in the Western branch of the East African Rift. Here the active volcanoes Nyamulagira and Nyiragongo threaten the city of Goma and neighbouring agglomerations. For many years already, urbanisation in that region undergoes sustained rapid growth, and the region counts 1 million inhabitants today. In 1977 and 2002, eruptions of Nyiragongo caused major disasters. Destructive earthquakes can also affect the region, as was the case in 2002 in Kâché (Mw 6.2) along the western shore of Lake Kivu, or in 2008 in Bukavu (Mw 5.9), south of Lake Kivu. While the first stations were already installed in 2012/2013, KivuSNet is fully operational with a sufficient station coverage only since October 2015. Today, KivuSNet is composed of 17 stations, and three KivuSNet sites are in addition equipped with infrasound arrays. This contribution will present the lessons learned from these more than
2 years of continuous KivuSNet operation as well as the current status of seismological information as deduced from these data, including a robust 1D seismic velocity model and calibrated local magnitude scale for the Kivu Rift region. The complete seismicity catalogue (volcanic and tectonic events) has been relocated, and a spectral inversion carried out on a subset of the data to characterize source, path and site effects.

**Prototype Testing of the Trillium 360 Version 2 Seismometer with Improved Noise Performance**

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There is a need for a new generation seismometer able to measure the smallest existing ground motion, in a form factor suitable for borehole, posthole, and portable deployment as well as traditional surface vaults. This is an active area of research with recently released products such as Trillium 360 (Version 1) pushing the boundaries of borehole sensor performance. This paper presents the latest test results for an improved Trillium 360 Version 2 product with even lower self-noise. Tests were conducted at a new facility in Ottawa, Canada with multiple closely spaced boreholes drilled into hard rock to allow for side-by-side coherence testing in a down-hole environment.

**Keeping USArray Stations in Alaska: Which Ones, How Many, and Where?**

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The USArray project represents a once-in-a-generation opportunity to fundamentally change geophysical monitoring in the US Arctic. The addition of more than 200 stations capable of recording seismic, infrasound, ground temperature and meteorological data has brought a diverse group of organizations to the table, fostering new connections and collaborations between scientists whose paths otherwise would not cross. With the array slated for removal beginning in 2019, there is a window of opportunity to advocate for permanently retaining a subset of the USArray stations. The Alaska Earthquake Center has drafted a plan to permanently adopt a subset of the USArray stations and maintain them as part of the seismic network in Alaska. The expanded seismic network would substantially improve on the Alaska Earthquake Center’s ongoing mission to advance Alaska’s resilience to earthquake hazards. The many challenges in adopting USArray station include choosing which stations to retain, upgrading the power systems to have 24/7 data transmission through the long Alaskan winter months, and lowering the costs of continuous telemetry. The final station selection will also carefully consider the needs of partner organizations, since the USArray network currently fills important gaps in the weather, wildfire and climate research monitoring networks across Alaska.

**Megathrust Earthquakes: Recurrence, Rupture Modes and Tsunamis**

Poster Session · Wednesday 16 May · Riverfront South

**Gempa Nusantara: A New Digital Database of Felt Intensity for Historical Earthquakes in the Indonesian Archipelago**

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Seismicity during Dutch colonial rule in Indonesia between 1800 and 1939 is poorly catalogued with existing summaries (e.g. Newcomb & McCann, 1987) too brief for further quantitative assessment such as the calculation of intensity magnitudes (MI). We focus on this period in Indonesian history, collating and analysing reports from official documents and newspapers from the erstwhile Dutch East Indies. We scrutinize these for macroseismic intensity using the European Macroseismic Scale (EMS-98). This scale is closely related to the Modified Mercalli Intensity (MMI) scale but is associated with better guidelines for the European Macroseismic Scale (EMS-98). All our observations contribute to a database named Gempa Nusantara which roughly translates to earthquakes (gempa) in the Indonesian archipelago (nusantara) in Bahasa Indonesia. This database uses a web application called MIDOP (Macroseismic Intensity Data Online Publisher) which is an open-source program written in PHP that has been previously utilized to publish intensity data in Europe (Locati et al., 2014). In our study we extend the capabilities of the MIDOP application further, particularly in equatorial regions, and use it to manage our data from historical Indonesian earthquakes.

**Cascadia Onshore-Offshore Site Response, Submarine Sediment Mobilization, and Earthquake Recurrence**

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Local geologic structure and topography may modify arriving seismic waves. The consequent variation in shaking, or ‘site-response’, may affect the distribution of slope-fails and redistribution of submarine sediments. We used seafloor seismic data from the 2011–2015 Cascadia Initiative and permanent onshore seismic networks to derive estimates of site-response, denoted Sn, in low- and high-frequency bands and 1–10 Hz passbands. Three shaking metrics (peak velocity, peak acceleration, and energy density) Sn vary similarly throughout the study region (onshore and offshore) and change primarily in the convergence direction, roughly east-west. In the two passbands, Sn patterns offshore are nearly opposite one another and range over an order of magnitude or more across Cascadia. Sn patterns may be attributed broadly to sediment resonance and attenuation. These findings, and an abrupt step in the east-west trend of Sn suggest that changes in topography and structure at the edge of the continental shelf significantly impact shaking. The variations in Sn also correlate with the edges of gravity lows diagnostic of marginal basins and with methane plumes channeled within shelf-bounding faults. The offshore Sn exceeds the onshore Sn in both passbands. The relatively greatest and smallest Sn estimates at low- and high-frequencies, respectively, coincide with the steepest slopes and the shelf. These results should be considered in submarine shaking-triggered slope-stability failure studies. Significant north-south Sn variations are not apparent from the sparse sampling, but do not permit rejection of the hypothesis that the southerly decrease in intervals between shaking-triggered turbidites and inferred great earthquakes inferred by Goldfinger et al. (2012; 2013; 2016) and Priest et al. (2017) may be due to inherently stronger shaking southward.

**Tree-Ring Dating of the Penultimate Great Alaska Earthquake to the Winter of 1029–1030 Ce**

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We date the penultimate megathrust earthquake in south-central Alaska by tree-ring analysis. We study the site near Girdwood is above the eastern Alaska-Aleutian megathrust. It subsided 1.7 m in the 1964 Mw 9.2 Great Alaska earthquake, which remains the second largest ever recorded. Beneath the modern salt marsh and ghost forest, killed in 1964, is a well-preserved and studied sequence of sediment showing repeated layers of forest and high-marsh soils capped by eutriomorphic mud. The mud-over-peat contacts imply growth of a forest suddenly drowned by subsidence during past megathrust earthquakes. Within the soil below the penultimate earthquake contact, we collected tree-ring samples from five rooted subfossil trees. Ten ring-width series from four Picea (spruce) stumps were cross-dated using standard procedures to form a 121-year-long site chronology, which we term the GDS1B chronology. This chronology was compared with composite chronologies from the nearby Prince William Sound region and the strongest match (r = 0.253, p < 0.01 in a 1-tailed test) was with the AK094 master chronology from the International Tree Ring Data Bank. Based on this crossdate, the GDS1B chronology spans 909–1029 CE. Examination of the outer rings of the best-preserved samples found that three ended with latewood for 1029 while one appeared to have a little earlywood for 1030. These results suggest that the penultimate earthquake occurred after the end of the 1029 growing season and most likely was in early 1030. This event date is consistent with a pooled radiocarbon age from three samples of outer wood from stumps in this penultimate earthquake forest bed that has a calibrated 2-σ range of 1025–1025 cal. CE. Previous 14C dating of materials across the penultimate subsidence contact at
sites across southern Alaska, placed the date of the last earthquake at 1046–1114 CE (Shennan et al. 2014), which is 17–85 years younger, perhaps due to a paucity of immediate post-earthquake 14C samples.

Earthquake Recurrence of the Northern Lesser Antilles Arc: Paleoseismologic Approach

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At the Lesser Antilles arc, the American plate subducts under the Caribbean plate with a low velocity (2 cm/a). The seismic potential of the northern segment (between Barbuda and Virgin Islands), where no major historic earthquake is recorded, raises many questions. Recent studies show that the area is weakly coupled, suggesting a seismic cycle that could last thousands of years. Here, the obliquity of the convergence (up to 55°) is partially accommodated by diffuse normal faults in the Anegada Passage and by the Bunce strike-slip fault which decouples the accretionary prism from the margin. The seismic behavior of the margin is thus rather different from the adjacent segments. The CASEIS cruise (DOLI17600/16001800) collected 42 sediment cores and geophysical data (backscatter, bathymetry, sub-bottom profiles) along the forearc and accretionary prism in order to constrain the seismic potential of the Lesser Antilles through a palaeoseismologic investigation based on earthquake-triggered turbidites. In the northern segment, turbidity currents flow through canyons incising the slope and megastructures like the Tintamarre spur. They deposit in pull-apart basins (Sombredo, Mallowana) or in 2–6 km-large sinks near the Bunce fault. Decimetric turbidites or metric turbidite-homogenite complexes (HmTu) with intervening hemipelagites are retrieved in seven cores from the northern segment. We propose a preliminary correlation based on 14C dates, comparable sedimentary facies and sequences. The uppermost 20 to 70 cm-thick turbidites are dated at 8 ka BP over 100 km, supporting a regional earthquake trigger. Four deeper HmTu complexes possibly related to megaeartquakes and/or tsunamis are older than 25 ka BP. The most proximal core contains more turbidites, but likely records local tectonic activity. At this stage, potential seismic events appear diachronous compared to the adjacent Guadeloupe segment, but further analyses are required to improve the time series.

Modeling “The Big One”: Insights from 2-D Dynamic Rupture Simulations

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It is not a question of if or why, but of where, how, and when the next Cascadia Subduction Zone (CSZ) megathrust earthquake will impact the Pacific Northwest. Synthetic ruptures from kinematic source models have attempted to account for future CSZ earthquake behavior and illustrate the importance of rupture directivity on ground motion amplification and duration in forearc basin sediments (e.g., Olsen et al., 2008; Deloery et al., 2014). However, these models do not incorporate source dynamics and are potentially missing finite fault effects that stem from stress heterogeneity or varying frictional properties. In particular, the “gap” region along the megathrust separating episodic tremor and slip (ETS) events from the up-dip seismogenic region deserves further scrutiny (Bruhat & Segall, 2016, 2017) because its stress state could strongly influence down-dip rupture propagation and ground motions in populated regions such as Seattle and Portland. A realistic CSZ rupture model must thus prescribe an appropriate gap geology in concurrence with a low effective normal stress in the ETS region and also consider different hypotheses about the degree of slip-deficit accumulated since the last megathrust rupture. We approach this problem with 2D dynamic rupture simulations along the northern, central, and southern CSZ. Earthquake rupture is treated as both a dynamic crack governed by a linear slip-weakening friction law and as a pulse operating under a rate-and-state-friction framework. We explore a range of potential nucleation sites and stress profiles along the seismogenic, gap, and ETS regions and discuss the implications for strong ground motion. Because seismic risk to the Pacific Northwest is increased if the gap can penetrate into the ETS region, our models attempt to constrain what physical conditions along the gap are necessary for this to occur and aim to inform seismic hazard analyses by respecting the earthquake source physics.

20th-Century Strain Accumulation on the Lesser Antilles Megathrust Based on Coral Micatoolats

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The seismic potential of the Lesser Antilles megathrust remains poorly known, despite the potential hazard it poses to numerous island populations and its prominence to the Americas. As it has not produced any large earthquakes in the instrumental era, the megathrust is often assumed to be aseismic. However, historical records of great earthquakes in the 19th century and earlier, which were almost certainly megathrust ruptures, demonstrate that the subduction is not entirely aseismic. Recent occurrences of giant earthquakes in areas where such events were previously thought to be improbable have illustrated the importance of critically evaluating the seismic potential of other “low-hazard” subduction zones such as the Lesser Antilles. Using the method of coral micratool paleogeodynamics developed in Sumatra, we examine 20th-century vertical deformation on the forearc islands of the Lesser Antilles and model the underlying strain accumulation on the megathrust. Our data indicate that the eastern coasts of the forearc islands have been subsiding up to ~7 mm/yr relative to the arc islands, suggesting that on the time scale of the 20th century, the megathrust on the forearc islands has been locked. Our findings are in contrast to recent GPS-based models that suggest little or no strain accumulation anywhere along the Lesser Antilles megathrust. This discrepancy is potentially explained by the different time scales of measurement, as recent studies elsewhere have indicated that interseismic coupling patterns may vary on decadal time scales and that century-scale or longer records are required to accurately assess seismic potential. We also observe second-order variations in deformation rate which may be related to upper-plate faulting. The accumulated strain we have detected will likely be released in future earthquakes, uplifting previously subsiding areas and potentially causing widespread damage from strong ground motion and tsunami waves.

Postseismic Deformation: The Esmeraldas, Ecuador, Seismic Sequence following the 2016 Pedernales Megathrust Earthquake

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The north Ecuador subduction zone exhibits structural complexities, variations in plate coupling, and megathrust rupture patterns suggesting accumulated stress is released through large earthquakes clustered in space and time. In April 2016 the Mw 7.8 Pedernales earthquake ruptured a ~100 km segment of the subduction zone north of the Carnegie Ridge. This portion of the subduction zone has ruptured on decadal time scales: Mw 8.8 (1906), Mw 7.8 (1942), Mw 7.7 (1958), and Mw 8.2 (1979). The 1942, ‘58, and ‘79 events ruptured patches, from south to north, of the same segment as the 1906 event. The 1942 rupture overlaps the 1942 rupture. Aftershocks of the 2016 event were recorded by the permanent national network (RENSIG) and a dense rapid response temporary deployment onland and offshore. Aftershocks concentrate spatially in clusters outlining two patches of maximum slip and correlate with variations in plate coupling. Activity north of the rupture is sparse until 2.5 months after the mainshock when an earthquake swarm developed around Esmeraldas, 70 km north-
The Mw 7.6 2016 Pedernales, Ecuador Earthquake Aftershock Sequence: a Detailed Spatio-Temporal Analysis of the Rupture Processes, Stress Patterns and Slip Behavior

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The epicentral region of the April 16, 2016 Mw 7.8 Pedernales earthquake lies north of the intersection of the Carnegie ridge and the Ecuador subduction zone. This region has experienced several decades of subduction and earthquakes. The area is characterized by a series of megathrust events: Mw 8.8 (1906), Mw 7.8 (1942), Mw 7.7 (1958), and Mw 8.2 (1979), suggesting that accumulated strain is released through large earthquakes clustered in space and time. The 2016 rupture coincides with the rupture area of the Mw 7.8 1942 earthquake. Seismic data recorded by a dense array of 82 stations from Ecuador’s national network and an international rapid response effort were processed and analyzed. Multiple combinations of detection and association algorithms were assessed to address the challenge of producing robust earthquake catalogs from aftershock sequences. Calibrated relocations using the Hypocentral Decomposition approach were determined for a subset of events for which we combine phase readings from local and temporary stations with regional and teleseismic phase readings from the NEIC. Preliminary aftershock locations through August 2017 (1502 events, ≥ 6 phases, errors <10km, Mc1.8) show a sharp down-dip limit of aftershocks and a series of megathrust events. The epicentral region of the 1958 earthquake as well as swarms associated with slow slip events in this margin.

Characterizing the Temporal and Spatial Distribution of Earthquake Swarms in the Puerto Rico—Virgin Island Block

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The presence of Tectonic Earthquake Swarms (TES) and sequences in the north and northeast of the island of Puerto Rico in the northeastern Caribbean have been recorded by the Puerto Rico Seismic Network (PRSN) since it started operations in 1974. A great wealth of seismic data has been archived during this period such that at least 10 years of catalog data can be used to characterize the seismicity in the Puerto Rico-Virgin Islands (PRVI) region. This research uses two declustering methods to identify cluster events in the PRVI block. The first method, known as Model Independent Stochastic Declustering (MISD), filters the catalog sub-set into cluster and background seismic events. The second method uses a spatio-temporal algorithm to the catalog in order to link the separate seismic events into clusters. After using these two methods, identified clusters were classified into either earthquake swarms or seismic sequences. Results have allowed to identify and classify 128 clusters categorized in 11 distinctive regions based on their centers, and their spatio-temporal distribution have been used to determine interplate dynamics. This analysis yields implications on the behavior of the plate interface between the North American and Caribbean plates along the Puerto Rico trench.

Microzonation Studies—Site Effects
Poster Session · Wednesday 16 May · Riverfront South

Standardized Seismic Microzoning to Estimate Probabilistic Seismic Hazard in Conurbated Areas of Veracruz State, Mexico

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This article summarizes the results obtained from the projects “Seismic threat in the State of Veracruz and the Xalapa Conurbation Zone” and “Microzonification of geological and hydrometeorological hazards for the conurbated zones of Orizaba, Veracruz”. These projects were sponsored by the Joint Funds PROMEP and CONACyT-Veracruz state government respectively. In the seismic microzonation study, the most important characteristics of the Conurbated Zones (CZ) of Orizaba, Veracruz and Xalapa were considered. Environmental vibration points were taken in the different geological-geotechnical zones to determine their dynamic and site effect characteristics using the Nakamura technique; permanent seismic monitoring stations have been installed in firm and soft terrain, using broadband seismometers. With the seismic monitoring stations, the technique of standard spectral ratios was applied. In addition, in sites considered representative of the geology and geotechnics for the CZ, seismic survey tests were performed with a seismograph of 24 channels and 4.5 Hz geophones. Additionally, environmental vibration of the vertical component of the movement of the terrain in these sites was registered to make linear and triangular arrangements with broadband seismographs, analyzing the data using the SPAC technique. The above, to estimate the shallow structure of shear velocities at each site, as well as a profile of the materials at each exploration point. Using the results of Seismic Microzonifications we applied the procedure of Huerta et al. 2011, which proposes to organize and condense the results obtained from traditional microzonifications to apply probabilistic seismic hazard calculation techniques. Site effects were incorporated for the study of the probabilistic seismic threat through a standard format proposed for seismic microzonings and their application in computer systems, which allows to optimize and condense the seismic microzonings studies of a city.

Integrated Geophysical Study of the Kingston Metropolitan Area Using Ambient Noise

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The Kingston Metropolitan Area (KMA) is the largest and most populous city that serves as the centre of industry and commerce, as well as the capital, of the island-nation Jamaica at the north Caribbean Sea. Most of the KMA is built on
On the Impacts of Disregarding the Correct Soil Type and/or Correct Structural Period of Assets on the Portfolio Risk Assessment  
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All three components involved with the risk assessment study including hazard, exposure, and vulnerability have significant effects on the resultant loss estimations. In this study, we focus on the impacts of two specific elements of the hazard component: soil condition and structural period. Changing the soil type or structural period for a given building can significantly change the ground motion intensity measure (e.g., PGA and SA) which ultimately can lead to large changes to the loss estimations. The main objective of this study is to demonstrate effects of disregarding the soil condition and spectral period on loss distribution and a parametric analysis to see the sensitivity in the loss domain. In this regard, a portfolio of assets through the state of CA is considered. The portfolio consists of 10,000 identical single-family low-rise wood-frame structures constructed after 1950. This building type represents the W1-h-RESA-FD model from HAZUS. Each asset in this portfolio has the same nominal value of $2,000,000. The vulnerability function is the same for all locations of the portfolio. Based on the USGS 2014 earthquake hazard model and UCERF3, we develop stochastic catalogs using a simplified approach to consider only faults having a high contribution to the total hazard for the region under consideration. The loss calculations are performed using the codes written in the R&D team at Impact Forecasting at AON Benfield and the EP curves and average annual losses (AALs) are generated using the ELEMENTS software developed by AON Benfield. Using the tornado diagram, we show that the ignoring the structural period or soil type can result in overestimation/underestimation of AAL up to 2 times and significant deviation of the EP curve from the correct EP curve considering the real structural period or correct soil type. If both elements are ignored, the catastrophe risk analysis results in overestimation/underestimation of AALs and EP curves up to 4 times.

H/V Spectral Ratio Analysis for Site Characterization Beneath LPA (La Plata) Station, Buenos Aires, Argentina  
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The analysis of the horizontal to vertical Fourier amplitude spectral ratio (H/V SR) is a powerful tool for investigating the local structure directly beneath the recording station. This technique has proven very convenient for estimating the fundamental frequency of soft deposits. The impedance contrast at the sediment-birock interface has a strong influence on the shape of the H/V ratio curve. In this study, we present the results of the analysis of the H/V relation in the LPA (La Plata) permanent seismic station. This station is situated on the Rio de La Plata Craton, near the northern edge of the Salado Basin. Previous studies using receiver function for this station indicated the existence of a sedimentary layer with a high velocity contrast relative to the basement rocks. The frequency of the H/V peak at sites having a sediment-to-bedrock impedance contrast large enough approaches the fundamental resonance frequency of the soft layers. Therefore, this type of analysis is very useful because it can reveal the principal structural features beneath this seismic station.

Preliminary Soil Characterization of the Most Affected Coastal Villages after the 16 April 2016 Mw 7.8 Pedernales Earthquake, Ecuador  
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On April 16, 2016, a large part of the Ecuadorian coast was shaken by an Mw7.8 earthquake, affecting nearly 30,000 homes and public buildings. Understanding soil characteristics of these affected areas is a necessary and useful aid to reconstruction efforts. To this end, the Instituto Geofísico at the Escuela Politécnica Nacional (IG-EPN) undertook data collection work with the aim of generating a reliable and freely accessible database consisting of dynamic soil characteristics for 8 villages located in the provinces of Manabi and Esmeraldas (Ecuador, http://www.igepp.edu.ec/maps/mapa-frecuencias-suelos-manabi). The study consisted in the installation of four seismic station arrays for approximately 7 days in each village, during which time various measurements of ambient noise and seismic profiles were made. Here we employ various methods to assess soil characteristics, including: single-sensor horizontal over vertical component (H/V) spectral ratios, relative spectral ratios at various sites of interest with respect to a reference site (SSR), and linear arrays for multi-channel analysis of surface waves (MASW). These experiments were conducted within the first six months after the earthquake. The fundamental soil frequency, approximate site amplification curves, and shear wave velocity profiles for the populations that were part of the study were all obtained. These parameters then allow us to identify which zones share similar response characteristics, which we then correlate with the Ecuadorian Construction Norms (NEC-15) to determine soil type. It is important to note that, while in almost all of the villages studied several peak frequencies are found, the clearest peaks are typically between 1 to 2 Hz, indicating predominant soil types of type D and E.

The Preliminary Study of Seismic Microzonation and Seismic Hazard Assessment for Urban Areas of Gori (Georgia)  
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Seismic risk is a crucial issue for South Caucasus, which is the main gateway between Asia and Europe. The goal of this work is to propose new methods and criteria for defining an overall approach aimed at assessing and mitigating seismic risk in Georgia. Seismic hazard assessment means the identification of zones of similar levels of earthquake hazard expressed with ground motion parameters (acceleration, velocity, displacement, Intensity). This abstract presents the results of preliminary study of seismic microzonation of the city of Gori (Georgia) that was done in the frame of CNR (National Research CouncilItaly) project—Preliminary study for the assessment of seismic risk in strategic cities of “Georgia.” The city of Gori is the central of Shida Kartli region (Mkhare) and is located on both sides of Lachvi and Mtkvari rivers, in the 135 km2 around the Gori fortress. The seismic microzonation map of level 1 of Gori was carried out in the light of 1) already available data (i.e., topographic map and boreholes data); 2) results of new geological surveys and iii) geophysical measurements (i.e., MASW and borehole measurements processed with H/V SR technique). So we have done seismic free field investigations full of the city and over the most strategic buildings and important parts of Gori: the city hall, the hospital, the Rugby stadium, Castel of Gori and museums and central square. Our preliminary results highlights the presence of both stable zones susceptible to local amplifications and unstable zones susceptible to geological instability. Our results are directed towards the definition of a risk mitigation plan. A computerized risk management system is proposed once the onset of the emergency, and to the management of emergency once the seismic event has occurred. The products obtained will constitute the basic elements of an integrated system aimed at reducing the risk and improving the overall safety of people and infrastructure in Georgia.
Typology of Horizontal-to-Vertical Ambient Noise Measurements in the Quito Basin, Ecuador

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Quito, the capital city of Ecuador, is threatened by an important seismic hazard due to different seismogenic zones surrounding the city and from the Nazca plate subduction zone. In particular, due to its configuration as a piggy-back basin, the seismic waves present a broadband amplification as it has already been shown in previous analyses (Laurendeau et al., 2017). From the analysis of accelerometer data recorded by the RENAC network, a low frequency amplification (~0.3 Hz) has been ubiquitously found in the southern part of the basin. The main objective of this work is to study the typology of horizontal-to-vertical ambient-noise measurements in the Quito basin to determine zones having a similar flat response, which corresponds to sites located from the center to the northwest of the basin, and sites with high amplification factors, which correspond to sites located from the center to the southeast of the basin. For this purpose, we defined four main families with a similar frequency typology from the mHVSR with a frequency range between 0.2–20 Hz: (1) a flat response, which corresponds to sites located from the center to the northwest of the basin; (2) a clear peak, with sites mainly located on the southern part of the basin and few ones in the northwest; (3) multiple peaks close to the city; (4) small H/V spectral ratio amplitudes, observed at scattered sites across the basin. Then each family were divided in sub-families according to the frequency and the H/V amplitude characteristics. This difference in response suggests different sedimentary structures between the northern and southern parts of the Quito basin.

Site Effects Characterization at Portoviejo City (Ecuador) by Normalizing Seismic Noise Spectra Using Aftershocks

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During the April 16th 2016 Mw 7.8 interface subduction earthquake in central Ecuador, Portoviejo (300,000 h; 150 km S of the epicenter) suffered severe damage, mainly in the commercial district where the tallest and largest buildings were clustered. Questions arose whether or not the soil in downtown area was responsible of such concentrated impact, rendering important to understand the site effects and to see if they were responsible for the damage level. In this study we profit from the frequent occurrence of aftershocks during the weeks/months after the main shock. By means of a 7-sensors broadband portable seismic network we measured the seismic noise in 144 locations in the city. The noise was carefully characterized during the quietest hours (1–5 am). We used the concur rent aftershocks recorded during each sub-net deployment to normalize each noise spectrum. Then, the Frequency Response Functions (FRFs) obtained with this approach for each site were used to get a broad image of the 2-D empirically-optimized soil response along the city. Additionally, the earthquake was recorded by two permanent accelerometers in the city. By deconvolving both records with the respective FRFs we estimated the arriving stiff soil waveforms without the a posteriori approach for each site were used to get a broad image of the 2-D empirically-optimized soil response along the city.

Moment Tensor Inversion in an Optimized, Three-Dimensional Seismic Earth’s Model

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The robustness of moment tensor inversion for source characterization relies on the accuracy of the seismic model, and the kind of method used to compute Green’s tensor in it. Many moment tensor inversions are based on Green’s functions calculated with approximate methods, and are built on 1-D models or ad hoc 3-D averages. Three-dimensional seismic models and fully numerical Green’s functions can now be derived thanks to advances in high-performance computing and seismic techniques (e.g., adjoint methods and finite-difference or spectral element algorithms), but some issues remain: taking the crust into account, or imaging it, still is a difficult task; and if done, the necessary fine spatial discretization for numerical seismic wave propagation within this highly heterogeneous part of our planet, leads to time-consuming simulations, even for long-period signals. An eventual remedy is the construction of a crust with smooth, effective (or equivalent) seismic properties, using some filtering inherited from the homogenization theory. We have developed a non-linear, stochastic inversion procedure to generate 3-D models adapted to numerical simulation of the full seismic wavefield. This probabilistic approach is based on the parameterization of models using an optimized basis of smooth functions constructed by principal component analysis of a homogenized reference model. It provides a reduced and optimized parameter space for the Bayesian inversion of an ensemble of 1-D seismic models. An appraisal step of the ensemble of models is added to regularize the 3-D model laterally. Using CUB as a starting block, our procedure allows for the determination of a 3-D, effective, seismic Earth model, and of full 3-D Green’s functions—procured at a relatively low numerical cost with spectral element simulations. As an illustration, we then invert for moment tensors associated to events occurring in WUS, and compare the results to those obtained using a more classical procedure.

Seismo-Acoustic Signatures of Industrial Facilities

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Operating industrial facilities generate mechanical energy that partitions into the air and ground as acoustic and seismic waves, respectively. When recorded in the near field, as in 100s of meters, these signals display as a series of harmonic signals with their corresponding overtones embedded in broad band noise. The harmonic signals are usually related to the operation of machinery with rotating elements (e.g., pump and fans), and the broadband noise results from the vibrations of these structures and the subsequent fluid displacement. Characterizing the seismo-acoustic signatures and their evolution present in the near-field of such facilities can provide a means to not only assess the structural state of the facilities but, also, to monitor different subfacial and underground operations allowing for potential geophysical monitoring of plant operations.

Stochastic Summation of Smaller Earthquakes to Simulate Synthetic Strong Ground Motions: Extension to Double Corner Frequency Source Models

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Near source and high magnitude recordings of ground motion are of great interest to both seismologist and engineers particularly for performing PSHA and engineering design. There is an essential need to use synthetic data for tectonically
inactive regions such as CENA. Stochastic summation of smaller earthquakes as Green’s function (SSGFM) to predict broadband earthquake ground motions for future large earthquakes at sites of interest is a novel approach which is developed by using scaling and adding recordings of smaller earthquakes as empirical Green’s functions. One important advantage of the SSGFM is that there is no assumption about the fault geometry and rupture process, and the methodology just relies on using seismic scaling relations. In this method, a specific number of small earthquakes (sub-events) are scaled, shifted, and then are added together to construct a target large earthquake time histories. To construct the summation scheme, it is assumed that the small and target events, both are considered as a point source conforming the “omega-square” source model having single corner frequency (SCF). Orfaz et al. (1995) and Kohn et al. (2005) used this assumption and provided summation schemes to obtain scaling factor, number of sub-events, and rupture times to follow the scaling relations. Careful investigation of the source suggests using double corner frequency (DCF) point source models to mimic the effects of finite fault rupture. The main difference between the SCF and DCF source models is the source duration resulting in different response spectra from these two models. In this study, we extend and modify the summation scheme of the SSGFM for sources that are better modeled with DCF shapes. To this end, we employ two generalized DCF source models. Then, we provide equations to determine the scaling factor, number of sub-events, and rupture times to be used within the framework of SSGFM. Through several examples, we will validate our approach.

Crowd Sourcing Data Collection to Enhance the Understanding of Ground Truth Events

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The inclusion of crowd sourcing based earthquake detection and characterization has proven to be very successful as a first alert in disaster scenarios and to increase coverage for earthquake detection where there are sparse sensor networks. A variety of crowd sourcing applications such as the USGS Twitter Earthquake Detector (TED), University of California Berkeley’s MyShake, RaspberryShake, and RedVox Inc. Infracoorder, are in use to name a few. Commercially available smartphones offer a lower deployment cost coupled with high data sampling rates, with drawbacks such as timing, durability, and sensitivity issues. We investigate the functionality of incorporating non-traditional information/data sources such as the use of smartphone and social media applications as a potential method to corroborate geophysical detections from traditional sensor network data. We compare data collected with smartphones collocated with traditional sensors in various environments. The use of non-traditional collection methods could potentially assist in identifying unknown sources and may enhance the scientific community’s ground truth data collections.

Detecting Real Earthquakes Using Imaginary Templates: Matched-Filter Detection without A-Priori Information

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Matched-filter techniques are demonstrably the most effective way in current use of detecting repeating and near-repeating earthquakes in noisy data, but they rely on a-priori knowledge of the source. Matched-filter methods rely on the cross-correlation of previously identified waveforms as templates with continuous data; detections are made when the cross-correlation significantly exceeds the background correlation level. Therefore, they are able to detect events with overlapping waveforms and events below the noise-level, settings in which other detection methods often fail. Matched-filter techniques have been applied successfully to a range of situations, including detection of: repeating earthquakes, low-frequency earthquakes, explosions, and aftershocks. In all cases, pre-defined templates have to be constructed using waveforms characteristic of the events of interest, which typically limit their application to only finding signals from previously known sources. Here we demonstrate the use of synthetic templates to detect real earthquakes in a range of applications. By generalising the templates, the matched-filter method can be applied to seismicity throughout the crust and does not need to be restricted to near-repeating earthquakes. Moreover, by using synthetic templates, we are able to detect earthquakes within swarms that were otherwise missed by standard detection techniques and extend the catalogue of low-frequency earthquakes beneath the central Southern Alps, New Zealand to better characterise where slip is occurring on the deep-extent of the Alpine Fault.

Prediction and Separation of Surface Waves into Fundamental Mode and Overtones Based on the Nonlinear Dispersion Measurement

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Seismic surface waves are valuable for investigating subsurface structures. However, in many other applications such as in seismic reflection imaging, it is desirable to separate the surface waves from the data. We propose a data-driven approach to predict and separate surface waves from the data based on the nonlinear dispersion measurement. In addition, we can also separate the surface waves into fundamental mode and overtones. The procedure has two steps. We first estimate high-resolution surface wave phase velocities from the recorded data using our nonlinear signal comparison (NLSC) approach. This enables us to predict the surface waves at each receiver location. We then subtract the predicted surface waves from the input seismic data. We applied our approach on two synthetic datasets and one field active-source seismic gather. From these examples, we can see that our new approach could effectively predict and separate surface waves with high fidelity.

Telesismic P-Wave Coda Auto-Correlations versus P-Wave Receiver Functions: A Case Study in the Mackenzie Mountains, Yukon, Canada, and Utility for Icecap and Ice Shelf Stations

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Auto-correlation of telesismic P-wave coda is a recently developed technique capable of imaging crustal-scale features based on reflection signals from seismic discontinuities. Traditional P-wave receiver function analysis maps velocity contrasts based on P-to-S conversions and has been well utilized in a great many locations, but encounters difficulties in seismically complex environments: for example, where high impedance contrasts result in large magnitude reverberations that overwhelm the primary phases, or where high velocity layers or sloping interfaces invalidate assumptions of near-normal incidence. Deconvolution and multiple constraint algorithms have been developed to address these issues but often introduce additional complexities and computational overhead. Auto-correlation has the advantages of being fast (when computed via the Cross Correlation Theorem), is not reliant on tuning parameters (e.g., water levels), directly exploits reverberatory phases for locating reflection horizons, and can be combined with a transformation to PSIW wavevector coordinates to fully partition P- and S-wave energy into separate channels for joint inversion matching. We present a benchmark comparison of receiver function and auto-correlation inversion utilizing the first year of data from a 39 station broadband array spanning the Mackenzie Mountains, Yukon, Canada. Initial surveys of this region indicate a variety of seismically complicated crustal-scale structures, including large-scale strike-slip faulting, sloping interfaces, high velocity intrusions, and low velocity crustal sediments. We also present application of the autocorrelation methodology to floating and grounded ice stations in Antarctica, where receiver function methods encounter particular difficulties due to the icecap and ocean.

Multi-Scale Study of Ground Motion Coherence in Piñon Flats and the San Jacinto Fault Zone

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We study the coherence of one-year continuous waveforms from the Piñon Flats Observatory Array (PY) and five dense linear arrays (JF, DW, SGB, RA, and BB from south to north) along the San Jacinto fault using the multiplexer spectral analysis. The examined data include ambient noise and earthquake signals from local and telesismic sources recorded by different types of seismometers at different locations. In the PY array, the coherence of noise data remains high in the 0.1–1.0 Hz band when the interstation distance is small (<65 m), and decreases quickly outside the dominant frequency band and with increasing station distance. The local earthquake signals have high coherence to about 20 Hz, while the telesismic waves have high coherences in the low frequency band (<0.1 Hz). The coherences show complex daily variations up to 12 Hz. The high coherences (>0.95) frequency bands in the two horizontal components exhibit seasonal variations. In addition, the coherences of horizontal components are higher in the 2–5 Hz band when compared to the vertical component, while the reverse is true in the low frequency range (<0.1 Hz). The coherence at PY also contains
high anomalies in ~2–4 Hz lasting for ~16 days before the 2016 M5.2 Borrego Springs event might be related to anthropogenic effects. In the JF and DW arrays, coherence exhibits similar patterns in 0.1–1.0 Hz without significant daily or seasonal changes, while in the SGB and RA arrays there are no highly coherent noise signals in 0.1–1.0 Hz.

Development of UNAM Institute of Engineering Multipurpose Seismic Data Logger

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We present a low-cost seismic recording system intended to fulfill multiple seismic experiments and monitoring. The instrument was designed and crafted at the Instituto de Engineering of the National Autonomous University of Mexico with the main objective of expanding the strong ground motion network and the pool of instruments for site and crustal characterization. The system consists of: 1) a 3-channel digital recorder with 24-bit resolution, 2) selectable sample rate of 100 or 200 samples per second, and 3) time control based on a real-time clock corrected by a GPS receiver. Moreover, the amplification stage input can select between various types of sensors, such as geophones, force balance accelerometers (FBA), MEMS type accelerometers, etc. The instruments will be used for large arrays in multiple experiments for recording earthquakes, aftershocks, seismic noise and measurement of vibrations in structures. Due, its low cost and the fact they are assembled in-house, modifications of the instruments can be made quickly to adjust the specific experiment requirements. Currently, three versions have been developed. The first version uses 2G force balance servo-accelerometers with the ability to continuously send data in real time through the Internet to a central registration point. The second instrument uses 1Hz geophones for noise measurements in large autonomous arrays; the data is stored in microSD flash memory. The last model uses MEMS type low noise capacitive accelerometers mainly for strong earthquakes and measurements in structures.

Observations and the Physics Behind Complex Earthquakes
Poster Session · Wednesday 16 May · Riverfront South

Exploring the Relation between Backprojection Images and Earthquake Source Processes

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Backprojection (BP) of teleseismic P waves is a widely-used method to image in time and space the evolution of earthquake radiation. Theoretical studies indicate that the high-frequency bursts can be related to abrupt changes in rupture velocity. Furthermore, recent studies propose that the BP results, which exhibit difference in the frequency content, can reflect the stress status, frictional and/or geometrical heterogeneity on the fault surface. However, the relation between earthquake physics and the spatiotemporal evolution from BP imaging remains unknown. Fukahata et al. (2014) suggest that the BP images are equivalent to either slip or slip rate on the fault, provided that the Green’s functions from the sources to the receivers are incoherent. In this study, we relate the BP results and earthquake source process by testing both kinematic (pseudo-dynamic) and dynamic source models. With these source models, we perform a synthetic backprojection exercise in a simple purely elastic homogeneous whole space, allowing us to solve analytically for the far-field body waves. A 2D correlation coefficient is calculated between BP images and the spatial distribution of various source characteristic field (rupture velocity, slip, peak slip rate, and their gradient) for quantitative comparisons. Because kinematic models are computationally efficient, we run a suite of scenario sources to draw a statistical comparison between the source kinematics and the BP images. From dynamic models, we are able to explore the source physical space by looking at variations in frictional properties and draw comparison with the synthetic BP results.

Subevent Characterization of the 2016 M7.8 Kaikoura Earthquake

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The 2016 Kaikoura, New Zealand, M7.8 earthquake involved complex ruptures on more than a dozen faults, and the first-order pictures depicted by regional and teleseismic data are still in discrepancy. Most models dominated by far-field data show mainly slip on the megathrust interface, while models dominated by near-field data prefer mostly crustal faulting with secondary interplate contribution. One challenge for perhaps all finite-fault inversions of this earthquake is that assumptions must be made about where and when rupture starts on a particular fault. The large number of free parameters makes it difficult to assess the effects of these assumptions on the finite-fault models. Here we characterize the Kaikoura earthquake as a sequence of several subevents, each of which is a Haskell source with unilateral and constant rupture speed. With relative few free parameters, we conduct a non-linear search of the locations and timings of subevents to allow different rupture scenarios and to assess the model uncertainties. In the preliminary result, we find that the large energy release between 50s and 80s during the event consists of a deep thrust subevent and a shallow strike-slip subevent. As for these two major subevents, the thrust subevent is systematically earlier than the strike-slip subevent. This appears to favor that the megathrust slip is driving the shallow crustal faulting, instead of ruptures jumping from one crustal fault to another.

Conditional Probabilities of Multi-Fault Ruptures and Earthquake Sequences in California from the Physics-Based Rupture Simulator RSQSim

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The SCEC5 Earthquake Gates Area (EGA) initiative proposes that earthquake gates (regions of fault complexity that car ruptures) control the occurrence and probability of large, multi-segment and multi-fault ruptures. Within the SCEC Collaboratory for Intersismic Simulation and Modeling (CISM), we are developing physics-based forecasting models for earthquake ruptures in California. As a part of this project, we employ the 3D boundary element code RSQSim (Dieterich & Richards-Dinger, 2010) to explore the range of single and multi-fault rupture scenarios that occur at complex intersections of high slip-rate faults with the potential for large, damaging earthquakes. RSQSim models rupture nucleation by rate- and state-dependent friction and Coulomb stress transfer in complex, fully interacting fault systems. This simulator provides a basis for studying the probabilities of rare, complex ruptures because it generates synthetic catalogs with tens of millions of events that span up to a million years each. The Uniform California Earthquake Rupture Forecast Version 3 (UCERF3) fault and deformation models are used to specify the fault geometry and long-term slip rates. We compare the results from several RSQSim catalogs (with variations in model parameters) and UCERF3 to better understand how fault complexities affect the probabilities of large earthquakes. We look at several areas with complex fault geometry, including Cajon Pass, one of the SCEC5 EGAs, which marks the junction of the San Andreas, San Jacinto, and major thrust faults in the Transverse Ranges. Preliminary results indicate, for example, that the probability of a SAF rupture jumping onto the SJF is an order of magnitude higher if the rupture extends through the Southern Mojave and San Bernardino seismo, past the junction of the SAF and SJF, than if it only ruptures the Southern Mojave.

Data-Driven Estimation of Earthquake Rupture Dimensions from Early Aftershock Distributions

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Aftershock distributions are commonly used to constrain some of the most fundamental macroscopic properties of seismic ruptures, such as scaling relationships between rupture dimensions and main shock seismic moment. Although
any individual aftershock sequence may have rather complicated aftershock patterns. These are well-defined, average patterns of aftershock behavior in space, time, and magnitude. Here we aim at gaining a quantitative, data driven characterization of aftershock sequence evolution. The large number of cataloged aftershock sequences available today allows discerning clear scaling patterns, which previously may have been hidden by the large variability of individual sequences. Furthermore, the quantitative description of these patterns brings out which sequences are large, what cyclic and diverse spatial and temporal behavior of a large number of earthquake sequences from southern California and Japan. In particular we investigate i) how distributions of early aftershocks relate to main shock rupture areas, ii) scaling relations of estimated rupture dimensions with main shock seismic moment, and iii) whether there is a systematic relation between seismic moment and the aspect ratio of the rupture area. The latter is motivated by the recent observation that moment rate functions of subduction megathrust earthquakes grow linearly in time, rather than quadratically. If large ruptures expanded in a single predominant dimension, this would explain the observed linear trend and would produce larger rupture aspect ratios at larger magnitudes. In this sense we expect that the systematic characterization of aftershock patterns will shed light on the physical processes that govern earthquake growth and produced the observed rupture patterns.

High-Precision Relocation of the Aftershock Sequence of the November 14, 2016, Mw 7.8 Kaikoura Earthquake, New Zealand

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The November 14, 2016 Mw 7.8 Kaikoura earthquake in northern South Island, New Zealand, was a complex, multi-fault rupture event and the latest in a series of damaging earthquakes in the Canterbury and Marlborough regions. The main shock ruptured from south to north, and triggered seismicity throughout the upper South Island and lower North Island. We utilize data from a temporary network (Seismic Triggering Response for Earthquakes around Wellington NZ: STREWNP) deployed in northern South Island and southern North Island to precisely locate aftershocks. The 24 STREWNP instruments were operational for approximately 6 months from late November 2016 to early May 2017. We used a newly-developed hybrid method for automated detection and onset estimation, (“REST”): Roecker, pers. comm.), which combines a modified version of the nearest-neighbor similarity scheme of Rawles and Thurber (2015) with the auto-regressive approach of Kushnir et al. (1990). We then undertake iterative pick association and event location using a grid-search method. We applied this method to pick and locate 673 events. To assess automatic-pick quality the picks for a subset of 103 events (M ≥ 3) were compared with hand-picks. The comparison, this would explain the observed linear trend and would produce larger rupture aspect ratios at larger magnitudes. In this sense we expect that the systematic characterization of aftershock patterns will shed light on the physical processes that govern earthquake growth and produced the observed rupture patterns.

Diverse Volumetric Faulting Patterns in the San Jacinto Fault Zone

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We examine locations, magnitudes and faulting types of post-2000 earthquakes in the triggering area of San Jacinto fault zone to clarify basic aspects of failure processes in the area. Most M ≥ 3.5 events have strike-slip mechanisms, occur within 1 km of the main faults (Clark, Buck Ridge, and Coyote creek) and have hypocenter depths of 10–13 km. In contrast, many smaller events have normal source mechanisms and hypocenters in intra-fault areas deeper than 13 km. Additional small events with hypocenter depth < 13 km occur in off-fault regions and have complex geometries including locations normal to the main faults. Five moderate earthquakes with M 4.7–5.4 have high aftershock rates (~150 M ≥ 1.5 events within 1 day from the mainshock). To obtain more details on aftershock sequences of these earthquakes, we detect and locate additional events with the matched filter method. There are almost no aftershocks within 1 km from the mainshocks, consistent with large mainshock stress drops and low residual stress. The five complex sequences have little spatial overlap. While the mainshocks are on the main faults, most aftershocks are located in intra-fault and off-fault regions. Their locations and spatial distribution reflect the mainshock rupture directions and many also follow structures normal to the main faults. The significant diversity of observed features highlights the essential volumetric character of failure patterns in the area. The increasing rate of moderate events, highly productive aftershock sequences and large inferred stress drops may be indicative of approaching major event.

How Much Can We Resolve Acceleration and Deceleration of Earthquake Rupture Evolution?

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Acceleration (ACC) and deceleration (DEC) of earthquake rupture evolution are critical phenomena for understanding the earthquake source physics, which are realized when rupture is advanced by cascade triggering and when rupture front is disturbed by geometric/inhomogeneous barriers. Theoretical studies suggest that abrupt change of rupture evolution can enhance high-frequency (HF) radiation, and ACC and DEC with back projection since it has been widely used for imaging HF radiation sources. Here we explored a resolution of ACC and DEC with the BP technique. Conventionally, it was difficult to distinguish ACC and DEC from the BP image, since the image was usually composed of the normalized intensity of the stacked signal of only positive values (in a range of 0–1). We propose new implementation of the hybrid BP (HBP) method; one of the variants of BP technique developed to enhance the depth resolution by using Green’s functions (GFs). An explicit use of GFs enables us to extract the physical unit from the signal intensity as either velocity or acceleration. We stack the cross-correlation functions of the velocity waveforms and displacement GFs filtered in 0.5–2.0 Hz and project them onto the fault, which will correspond to the time derivative of slip rate; ACC and DEC, for the positive and negative values of stacked signals, respectively. We performed numerical test and application to the real earthquakes, showing that ACC and DEC were well resolved by the HBP method, only if the sources were isolated in both time and space, but if they were closely distributed, it was difficult to distinguish ACC and DEC from the image. In a real configuration of sources, they do not always separate each other, and the radiation phases of ACC and DEC may easily be canceled out in HF waveforms, especially for the later phases. Thus practically, it would be difficult to rigorously resolve ACC and DEC with the BP technique.

Fault Slip Associated with the M 5.3 September 2, 2017, Sulphur Peak, Idaho, Earthquake and Aftershock Sequence

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The May 3, 2017 Sulphur Peak, Idaho, earthquake is one of the largest earthquakes in southern Idaho since the M6.9 1983 Borah Peak earthquake. It was followed by a vigorous aftershock sequence for several days thereafter that included four events above M4.5. The coseismic and early postseismic deformation was measured with both InSAR and GPS, yielding up to 3 cm subsidence just southwest of the mainshock epicenter and horizontal motions of ~1 mm at sites ~40 km east and west of the epicenter. We derive a dislocation model of the net slip during the ~14-day swarm from Sentinel 1A interferograms and GPS offsets, allowing for both fault zone collapse and normal faulting to account for the observed geodetic motions. Slip inversions yield negligible fault zone collapse but several decimeters of normal slip on a pair of SS° east-dipping and SS° west-dipping faults that intersect at the mainshock hypocenter, with most of the slip occurring on the west-dipping fault. Previously mapped regional thrust structures dip westward, suggesting that the sequence reactivated one or more ancient thrust structures of the Aspen Range with normal slip. The inferred geodetic moment of 4.21 x 10^17 N m (Mw 5.72) for the entire sequence greatly exceeds the 1.3 x 10^17 N m (Mw 5.34) seismic moment of the September 2 mainshock, showing that most of the moment release occurred during the aftershock sequence.
Ocean Bottom Seismology—Hurdles, Strategies and Outcomes

Study of the May 2016 Seismic Swarm at Rivera Plate Using OBS and Onland Stations

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The second stage of Trisul Project includes the study of passive seismic activity in the region of the plate Rivera and Jalisco block by anchoring OBS and densely populating the network of seismic stations on land for at least four months. This stage began in April 2016 with the deployment of 25 OBS stations with sensor Le-3D MtkIII from the northern part of Nayartit state to the south of Colima state, including the Marias Islands. This temporary seismic network complements the Jalisco Seismic Network (RESAJ) for a total of 50 stations. Offshore, ten OBS type LCEAPO 2000 with 4 channel (3 seismic short period and 1 pressure sensor) were deployed, in the period from 19 to 30 April 2016 using the BO El Puma from UNAM. The OBS were deployed in an array from the Marias Islands to offcoast of the border of Colima and Michoacan states. On May 4, an earthquake with Mi = 4.2 took place in the contact area of the Rivera Plate, Coco’s Plate and the Middle America Trench, subsequently occurred a seismic swarm with over 200 earthquakes until May 16, including an earthquake with Mi = 5.0 on May 7. A second swarm took place between May 28 and Jun 4 including an earthquake with Mi = 4.8 on Jun 1. OBS were recovered between the 3th and 7th of November. An analysis of the quality of different location methods is performed before moment tensor inversion could lead to misinterpretations of the source time function since complex source geometries are not taken into account.

Güralp Systems: Illuminating the Oceans with an Ocean Bottom Family for All Requirements

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With 70% of the Earth covered in water, there is a significant gap in the seismic data catalogue. Güralp Systems have understood this and have been developing broadband Ocean Bottom Seismometers (OBS) systems for the past 25 years. There is a package available to suit a variety of deployment methods, from OBS boreholes and coreholes, cabled solutions and freefall systems up to 6000m. Güralp have deployed systems in a range of ocean environments, from the Japan Trench to the North Sea, including passive and active seismic surveys, ambient noise recording, real-time reservoir monitoring and ocean bottom observatories. These applications can be achieved with Güralp’s OBS family. Maris, Orcus, Liber and Breve. The Orcus is the flagship cabled solution for real-time data, permanent observatories and earthquake early warning requirements. It consists of a 3 component, broadband, 120/sec – 50Hz seismometer and 3 component force balance accelerometer. Our other cabled OBS offering, the Maris, is housed in titanium or stainless steel in the form of a slim-line silhouette design which can be pushed or cored into the seafloor. It is a 3 component broadband sensor which can be deployed as a single unit or a string of up to eight instruments at any angle. The Liber is the flagship autonomous system capable of being deployed up to 6000m. The system can accommodate deployment lengths from 6 to 8 months, dependent on user requirement. The Breve is our portable, shallow water (<150m) free fall OBS. It is equipped with an acoustic release and pop-up buoy for recovery, however the casing itself is rated to 2000m therefore can be deployed deeper when using an ROV. The systems are available with a number of ancillary products, including but not limited to; APGs, DPGs, hydrophones, compass, magnetometers and acoustic current meters. Güralp have continually supported the research community and supplied industry clients with innovative OBS designs to meet operational requirements.

Improved Focal Mechanisms and Spatial Stress Patterns Pertaining to Shallow Slow Slip in the Northern Hikurangi, New Zealand

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Slow slip events (SSEs) on the northern Hikurangi are commonly associated with increased seismicity rates, yet limited network azimuthal coverage for offshore earthquakes means source properties, such as focal mechanisms, are difficult to constrain. Here, we utilize 220 ocean-bottom seismometers and pressure sensors deployed as part of the Hikurangi Ocean Bottom Investigation of Tremor and Slow Slip (HOBITSS) experiment (May 2014 – June 2015), to offer improved constraints on focal mechanisms of earthquakes during the deployment. This network recorded a shallow MW6.8 SSE in September-October 2014, and hence allows analysis of both microseismicity and earthquakes M≥4 pertaining to the onset, development and shutdown of slow slip. We focus on 14 well-constrained events M=2.9 to demonstrate the improved coverage provided by OBS stations, and to optimise a non-linear location procedure using a 3D velocity model. We then adopt this workflow and implement a Bayesian method to constrain focal mechanisms for many more events (~100 per month) as small as ~M1.5 occurring within the network. Earthquakes exhibit a range of mechanism types, dominated by dip-slip events in the subducting Pacific plate, with strike-slip events occurring at both shallow and deeper (~240 km) depths. 3D stress inversions of our improved focal mechanisms indicate large-scale margin-parallel contraction consistent with previous Hikurangi and global subduction zone studies. Smaller scale rotations in Shmax correlate with subduction zone contours, and we present a preliminary investigation of spatio-temporal changes in the stress field pertaining to the SSE.

**Insights from Operations of the U.S. Ocean Bottom Seismograph Instrument Pool**

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Over the past six years, the U.S. Ocean Bottom Seismograph Instrument Pool has undertaken a wide range of experiments. These experiments have addressed diverse scientific objectives through the deployment of instruments at different scales, geometries, water depths, and seasons. Overall, the experiments have been characterized by excellent instrument return rates, generally high data return, and an evolving set of instrument capabilities. These recent experiments provide insights, motivations for developments in such as instrumentation, deployment duration, communications (continuous or periodic), and standardized design elements – all key capabilities for future large-scale and/or long-term geophysical projects. Thus, we examine the characteristics, performance, and results of OBS experiments that have been done over the past six years as a key to understanding and motivating future technical directions for this important capability.

**Temporal Variations in Seismic Anisotropy during the 2014 Gisborne SSE, New Zealand**

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In October 2014, a 2-week long slow slip event (SSE) occurred near Gisborne at the northern Hikurangi Margin, New Zealand. It was recorded by offshore instruments, deployed by the Hikurangi Ocean Bottom Investigation of Tremor and Slow Slip (HOBITSS) project. This study uses data compiled from May 2014 to July 2015, recorded on 15 HOBITSS ocean bottom seismometers as well as 12 Geonet stations around the time of this uniquely recorded SSE. We use the S-wave splitting technique to detect stress and fluid changes associated with slow slip. The shear wave splitting fast polarization direction is often inferred to represent the maximum horizontal stress directions (Shmax) in crustal studies and has been shown to vary temporally at volcanoes and in association with large earthquakes. Using Multiple Filter Automatic Splitting Technique (MFAST) we analyse more than 3000 local earthquakes to look for temporal changes in S-wave fast polarization directions and delay times during the Gisborne 2014 SSE. Because S-wave splitting results are sensitive to variations in earthquake locations, we also analyse results from individual spatial earthquake clusters to test the robustness of temporal changes and to better indicate where the measured anisotropy originates. The mean fast directions in the area show a NE-SW trending fast polarization direction similar to local Shmax directions mapped by previous studies and to local fault trends. Preliminary SWS results at LOBS stations show approximately 5–10 degrees of change in fast polarization direction from before to after the SSE. We also observe increased delay times (~ 0.5 seconds) occurring around the time of the SSE with a slow decrease in delay time in the following months. We hypothesize an initial movement of fluids in cracks due to changes in stress during the SSE, followed by a relaxation period where cracks slowly return to their previous state.

**Ocean Bottom Seismometer Data Quality Using MUSTANG**

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Data standardization and quality control at the U.S. Ocean Bottom Seismograph Instrument Pool has yielded many benefits. Archiving data in SEED format at the Incorporated Research Institutions for Seismology Data Management Center (DMC) has increased the discoverability and accessibility of ocean bottom seismology (OBS) data. Standardized data format also encourages researchers to develop and share open source software to calculate instrument orientations or perform the forward corrections on the data. This lowers the barrier to using OBS data and has resulted in significant growth and diversification of the OBS user community, evident in attendance at the biannual symposium. Data are also processed automatically to produce a set of useful metrics available through the DMC’s MUSTANG service. The metrics can be used to quickly assess station performance after an experiment, identify instrumentation issues, aid researchers in pre-processing data for research-ready data sets, compare noise quality between different instrumentation or siting, and even perform a first-order orientation of the horizontal components. Looking at past experiments we can assess the performance of seismometers in distinct environment conditions (open ocean, coastal, lake), varying water depths, different instrument packages or shielding, and to look at seasonal trends in noise for planning future experiments. As we look towards future innovations in OBS technology such as shielding, burial emplacement, and longer term deployments, it will be important to quantitatively confirm and fulfill the requirements for future research targets such as GSN Oceans or the Subduction Zone Observatory.

**Real-Time GNSS Network Operations and Advances towards Early Warning Systems**

Poster Session • Wednesday 16 May • Riverfront South

**Meeting the Requirements of Early Warning Systems in Real-Time GNSS Operations**

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UNAVCO streams data from ~800 real-time, GNSS sites (RT-GNSS) from a combination of NSF-sponsored networks that together span large segments of the North American-Pacific plate boundary, the EarthScope Plate Boundary Observatory (PBO), the Caribbean plate boundary (COCONet) and Mexico’s Pacific plate boundary (TALOCNet). Raw data streams are transmitted from the remote GNSS sites to UNAVCO’s data operations center where Precise Point Positioning (PPP) estimates are generated and distributed in real-time. Recent work has shown that GNS away defined peak ground displacements (PGD) provide a magnitude scaling relationship that, unlike estimates based on the first seconds of the P-wave, does not saturate above M7. The inclusion of RT-GNSS PGD data can therefore greatly enhance the accuracy of early warning systems by providing improved magnitude estimates of large earthquakes. To take full advantage of this, not only must the data be complete and low latency, but it is essential that the PPP estimates have sufficiently low noise levels such that long-period surface waves can be detected in real-time. Here, we show that we can combine the ambient noise levels in the GNSS PPP solutions with the GNS-defined PGD scaling relationship to assess the ability of the PBO, TALOCNet and COCONet networks to unambiguously detect the long-period surface waves generated by
large earthquake events. This enables implementation of tools for evaluating and continuously monitoring the capability of magnitude-threshold detection level for RT-GNSS networks. We find that with the current network configuration, RT-GNSS PGD would be detectable for most UCFER3-defined faults in California but this capability is decreased for events along sections of the Cascadia and Mexican Pacific plate boundaries.

**Real Time GNSS Network in Northern Ecuador**

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GPS measurements in the years prior to the 2016 Pedernales earthquake had indeed shown rapid strain accumulation with spatially heterogeneous patterns of interseismic coupling in central-northern Ecuador, mainly confined within the shallowest 35 km of the megathrust (Nocquet et al., 2014; Chlieh et al., 2014; Nocquet et al., 2017). After the Pedernales earthquake, and taking into account historical earthquakes occurring in 1906, 1942, 1958 and 1979 along the Ecuador-Colombia subduction zone, we see the need to improve our monitoring capacity and generate early warning predictions, especially for tsunamis related to great earthquakes. An advance technology to monitor transient ground motions and the advantage of not becoming saturated in terms of coseismic displacements makes it especially valuable for monitoring earthquakes and potential tsunamis threats. Using this new technology, we present our real-time GNSS network in northern Ecuador developed by the Instituto Geofísico of the National Polytechnic School (IG-EPN). Our network includes 5 real-time GNSS stations combined with 3 GNSS base stations and 1 Seismo-Geodetic system (GNSS and accelerometer) in an arrangement of two sub-nets alongs of Esmeraldas province. Acquisition, analysis, alerting and visualization of data are done with Trimble 4D control monitoring software using satellite transmission. Preliminary results show the need to develop and implement an automatic open code that allows us to integrate these results with seismic data solutions during crises moments.

**COCOnet Mirror Data Center at INETER, Nicaragua, and Early Warning in Central America**

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The Nicaraguan Institute for Terrestrial Studies (Instituto Nicaragüense de Estudios Territoriales, INETER) received a grant to develop a mirror data center to host and serve COCOnet data and metadata from UNAVCO and serve as a geodetic seamless archive center through web services (GSAC-WS). INETER, headquartered in Managua, Nicaragua is serving the western circum-Caribbean region. INETER provides monitoring, early warning, research, data, education, and support for all hazards in Nicaragua, especially earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanic unrest, landslides. INETER is hosting the Central American Tsunami Advisory Center (CATAC) and works on the development of Earthquake Early Warning (EWW) for Nicaragua and Central America and pretends to integrate the real-time use of GPS and GNSS data in these initiatives. We present information on the use of the data in the last years.

**GPSEW: A Python Class That Can Be Used to Transmit GNSS Data to an Earthworm System**

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The implementation of GNSS data at seismic networks has shown to be a critical addition to earthquake and tsunami monitoring as demonstrated by events such as the 2011 Tohoku earthquake. Earthworm is a project seeking methodologies to integrate real-time GNSS data into normal operations to strengthen earthquake and tsunami early warning systems. To be an effective tool such GNSS data must provide reliable and high latency real-time displacement data (displacementgrams). In order to generate displacementgrams in Earthworm it is necessary to bring the 1 Hz real-time site positions (X, Y, Z) into a position update and distribute them using RabbitMQ. This methodology has been incorporated into a python class named GPSEW. Currently, Puerto Rico Seismic Network (PRSN) is using a python script to extract the GSOF message from Trimble’s RTX service, but it can also be implemented for any other 1Hz precise point positioning provider. GPSEW takes the 1Hz position data and formats it into the geojson specification and transmits it to RabbitMQ. It is buffered there until Earthworm’s geojson2ew module retrieves it and ingests it into an Earthworm ring such as a tracebuf2 message. The advantage of this methodology is that only require the modules pika and json from the python library set. Currently, this methodology is being alpha tested at PRSN but it would require bridging the displacementgrams with a real-time earthquake monitoring system capable of producing earthquake source parameters.

**The GNSS Component of the Puerto Rico Seismic Network**

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For more than two decades the Puerto Rico–Virgin Islands region has been monitored for crustal deformation using GPS geodesy. This objective was first done through a campaign style network that consisted of a dozen sites collecting one measurement annually during the nineties. Today, fifteen continuously operating GPS sites distributed throughout Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands form the Puerto Rico Seismic Network (PRSN) GPS network. These sites provide in near-real time two forms of data available through an NTRIP caster and 1Hz and 30bps BINEX archived files transferred from site to PRSN hourly and daily, respectively. Here we present data flow methods employed at PRSN to bring continuously operated GPS station data from the field back to PRSN, both in Real-time form and archived. This presentation seeks to encourage other GPS or GNSS networks in the Caribbean, particularly those hosting COCOnet sites, to develop their own data acquisition methods based on the solutions that have been either adopted or developed at the PRSN. Empowering Caribbean networks to have control over their data is critical for capacity building and enables the region to develop scientifically as well as increase their education in matters of earthquake and tsunamis.

**GNSS Network of the Mexican National Seismological Service**

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Strong motion instrumentation in Mexico dates from the seventies, accumulating a considerable historical record of significant earthquakes. This information has been mainly for seismic engineering and seismological research. Having an adequate infrastructure allows us to understand the origin and consequences of the seismic activity, based on timely and reliable information, to facilitate decision making by the authorities, especially in a seismic crisis. However, seismic data is not always the best for a better and faster characterization of the seismic source, raising the need to install and to develop new methodologies and technologies in order to have high real-time accurate positioning. Therefore, the Mexican Servicio Sismológico Nacional (National Seismological Service, SSN) has installed in 42 out of the 63 seismic stations nationwide, GNSS systems for real-time displacement monitoring. This infrastructure integrates receivers from
the SSN and the Transboundary Land and Atmosphere Long-term Observation and Collaborative Network (TLALOCnet). 19 stations include the Trimble RTX option that allows obtaining solutions in real time. The data is shared in streaming with other research groups, including the Mexican Space Weather Service. The acquisition system facilitates monitoring the state of health of the stations. The real-time data is transmitted using the RT17 and NTRIP protocols at 1 sample per second. The SSN uses different telecommunication technologies, like satellite data links and the mobile networks, to send the data from the GNSS receiver to the acquisition system. The data repository has crude GPS observables with one sample every 15 s, 1 Hz, and 5 Hz in case of large-scale seismic events.

Recent Advances in Dense Array Seismology
Poster Session - Wednesday 16 May - Riverfront South

Shallow Rigidity Structure From Low-Frequency Wind-Induced Ground Motions Using Co-Located Pressure and Seismic Sensors
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Using data from the USArray Transportable Array (TA) stations and the Southern California Network, we analyzed the wind-induced ground motions recorded by the co-located seismometers and pressure sensors in these networks. Additionally, by Sorrells [1971], we formulated an equation to retrieve shallow rigidity structure from the co-located seismic and barometric data at low frequencies (below 0.05 Hz). We then applied it to retrieve shallow rigidity structure around 50 to 100 meters (depth depends on frequency and wind speed) below many TA stations. Our results can be compared with the USGS Global Vs30 model. We find generally good agreement between our results and the Vs30 model in the Great Appalachian Valley (high rigidity and high S-wave velocity from the Vs30 model) and in the Mississippi Alluvial Plain (low rigidity and low Vs30) but there are some regions with inconsistent results: clearly, the co-located seismic and pressure sensors provide a new approach to test the global Vs30 model. The regions with inconsistent results need to be examined further, as the knowledge of shallow elastic structure is important for ground-motion prediction studies.

Anatomy of Old Faithful from Subsurface Seismic Imaging of Yellowstone National Park, Upper Geyser Basin
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The Upper Geyser Basin (UGB) in Yellowstone contains one of the highest concentrations of hydrothermal features on Earth including the iconic Old Faithful geyser. Although this area has been the focus of many geological, geochemical, and geophysical studies, the shallow (<200 m) subsurface structure remains poorly characterized due to limited instrument implementations in this delicate environment. The recent availability of seismic dense arrays (large-N) permits an environmental-friendly approach to investigate the detailed crustal structure from the low-cost and easy-deployed geophones. To probe the detailed structure in relation to the hydrothermal plumbing of the UGB, we deployed large-N arrays of 3C 5 Hz geophones in both November of 2015 and 2016, composed of 133 stations with ~50 m spacing, and 519 station locations, with an ~20 m spacing, respectively. We constructed cross-correlation functions (CCFs) and extracted Rayleigh-wave signals between 1–10 Hz via seismic signals excited by nearby hydrothermal features. We observe a clear lateral velocity boundary at 3.3 Hz frequency that delineates a higher phase velocity of ~1.6 km/s in the NE and a lower phase velocity of ~1.0 km/s in the SW corresponding to the local geologic formation of rhyolitic and glacial deposits, respectively. We also image a relatively shallow (10–60 m deep) large reservoir with an estimated porosity 30% located ~100 m southwest of Old Faithful from the significant spatial-dependent waveform distortions and delays between 5–10 Hz. This reservoir is likely controlled by the local geology with a rhyolitic deposit in the NE acting as a relatively impermeable barrier to vertical fluid ascent. In addition to the static structure, we observe temporal variations in both phase and amplitude from the minutely CCFs with regard to the potential influences from instrument resonance, seismic source, and structure. The preliminary results of variations will be demonstrated and discussed.

Advanced Structural Health Monitoring System for US Department of Veterans Affairs Hospital Buildings
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In collaboration with the VA, the US Geological Survey has developed structural health monitoring (SHM) software that utilizes vibration inputs to continually analyze and archive the response characteristics of a building in near real-time. The SHM software is built on the Earthworm (EW) system (Johnson et al., 1995), which is an open data processing platform that allows any continuous waveform data to be collected into ring buffers from a digitizer for further analyses (http://www.ist12.com/ew). The SHM software initially determines baselines for a suite of structural response parameters, and then continuously examines the response changes in these parameters. The structural parameters monitored currently are: inter-story drift ratios, shear-wave travel times throughout the building, and base-shear capacity-demand ratio. The SHM software is integrated with a web-enabled SHM data management framework to support aggregation, storage, and reporting of SHM data obtained and analyzed from instrumented hospital buildings to record strong shaking from earthquakes. By analyzing and characterizing the threshold values for building-specific engineering demand parameters, the SHM software can determine inspection priority to be low, moderate, high on very high and thus assist efforts in evaluating the safety and integrity of buildings in the aftermath of an earthquake. The SHM software is scalable—to support an arbitrary number of sensors, and it is extensible—to accommodate new data streams without the need to rewrite storage and display logic. The SHM software works on site or remotely. The software was validated using both ambient and low- and high-intensity shaking data inputs to a full-scale seven-story reinforced concrete building section tested on the UC San Diego shake table.

Zland 3C 5Hz Node Test Results
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The IRIS/PASSCAL Instrument Center currently has a small pool of FairfieldNodal Zland 3C 5Hz nodes for community use. In an effort to further refine our best practices for node installation, we have conducted several tests designed to elucidate how PIs can minimize the time needed for node installation while also maximizing data quality and data return. As nodal experiments grow ever larger, these types of time-saving best practices should prove very beneficial to PIs and their deployment teams. Using data from 363 Zland 3C 5Hz nodes collected during the IRIS Wavefields Community Demonstration Experiment in Oklahoma, we present a detailed view of how node performance varied across the network. We examine the behavior of GPS timing with the passage of storms, and how differing levels of ground saturation affect node data quality. Our prior work has already shown that variation in local wind speed is directly tied to increased noise levels across the network in discrete frequency bands. The proximity of a large (150+) wind turbine installation to our network seems a likely source for this noise. In addition to results from the Wavefields experiment, we present results of ongoing lab and field testing at PASSCAL that attempt to quantify node tilt sensitivity. We also investigate benefits and drawbacks of nodes installed: a) on the surface, b) partially buried, and c) fully buried to determine the level of effort required for high-quality data return. Lastly, we determine how accurate GPS timing is affected by moving a node away from the point of activation to better quantify how much latitude PIs have for moving nodes in the field.

Using Cross-Correlation Methods to Characterize Earthquakes Associated with the Socorro Magma Body
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The Socorro Magma Body (SMB), a thin, sill-like body with a top surface-depth of 19 km situated within the Rio Grande Rift in central New Mexico, is one of the largest recognized continental mid-crustal magma bodies in the world by area.
SMB-associated inflation leads to slow regional uplift of a few mm/yr and has been linked to long-term concentrated shallow seismicity with variable spatial and temporal occurrence, including early 20th century events of magnitude ~5.5–6. Recent small earthquakes (magnitudes ~ 3 to ~1) have been monitored with a variety of broadband and short-term local seismic networks over the past several decades, but these routine catalogs have not been relocated or fully interpreted in terms of newer models of the structure or its emplacement and history. In February 2015 seismic data were collected above the northern, most rapidly uplifting region of the SMB with a densely spaced temporary array, consisting of 7 broadband and 804 short period Fairfield nodal seismographs. The total array area was ~50 x 25 km with node spacing of ~300 m. Here, we exploit all available seismic network data in a correlation framework developed at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory to detect events and characterize earthquake swarms, clusters, and patterns occurring over the last ~15 years. Initial results using long-term stations include 1,262 detectors corresponding to local, cataloged events, as well as 2,534 detectors not associated with the catalog. A subset of data from the central region of the SMB was investigated using a lower correlation threshold and resulted in 184 detectors that returned 7,455 detections. We use an existing 1-D velocity model to initially locate all catalog and non-catalog detections with Bayesloc. We also develop an updated 1-D velocity model for the region using VELEST and refine locations using Bayesloc. This enhanced catalog will be utilized in interpreting the recent seismicity of the SMB.

Local-Similarity Based Seismic Event Detection and Location in the Western Alps with a Dense Linear Array

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Many structural imaging studies involve deployment of dense linear seismic arrays (e.g. HC11im, CIFALPS) across a target region. Dense linear arrays can also record many local and regional seismic events that could be used to illuminate fault structures and tectonic processes. Recently Li et al. (2018) developed a local similarity method to detect weak seismic events recorded by Large-N arrays. It computes cross-correlation (CC) for each station with its nearest neighbors and then directly stacks the CC traces into an array-averaged once. Such direct stacking works well for small-aperture arrays (up to ten kilometers) but is not suitable for wide-aperture ones (tens and hundreds of kilometers) because of the time delays at different stations. In this study, we update the local similarity method with time-shift stacking using predicted travel times from a local 1-D velocity model. We use a grid-search strategy to detect local events with the highest stacked CC value given a set of hypothetical source locations, similar to the source-scanning algorithm (Kao and Shan, 2004) or the match-and-locate algorithm (Zhang and Wen, 2015). This results in more robust detections than the source-scanning algorithm (Kao and Shan, 2004) or the match-and-locate algorithm (Zhang and Wen, 2015) from the RSNC catalog. One of the biggest challenges is related to poor S/N ratio across parts of the dense array and complicates the waveform-based detection. Proper signal processing is necessary to do prior to waveform-based cross-correlation detection and will be investigated in future work.

Seismic Tomography at Brady Geothermal Field, Nevada, With Dense Nodal and Fiber-Optic Seismic Arrays

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We deployed dense seismic arrays to image the shallow structure in the injection area of the Brady Hot Springs geothermal site in Nevada. The arrays were composed of 2385 Hz, three-component nodal instruments and ~9,000 m of distributed acoustic sensing (DAS) fiber-optic cable installed in surface trenches plus ~400 m installed in a borehole. The geophone array had an instrument spacing of about 60 m in the target zone, whereas DAS channel separations were about 1 m, with a 10 m averaging (gauge) length. The acquisition systems provided 15 days of continuous data including ambient source and ambient noise data. A large vibroseis truck was operated at 191 locations, exciting a swept-frequency signal from 5 to 80 Hz over 20 seconds using three vibration directions. Sweeps were repeated up to four times during different stages of geothermal plant operation: initial normal operation, shut-down, high and oscillatory injection and production, and final normal operation again. After removing the sweep signals, the first P-wave arrivals were automatically picked using a combination of methods. The resulting travel times were used to invert for the 3D P-wave velocity structure. Models with 100 m and 50 m horizontal node spacing were obtained, with vertical node spacing of 10 to 50 m. The travel time data were fit to about 30 ms, close to our estimated picking uncertainty. However, many automatic picks were of poor quality, while the P-wave amplitudes were much greater than the amplitudes of the reflected shear waves, the Stoneley waves are treated as noise for seismic imaging and must be removed. In this paper, we propose a new algorithm to image fractures in the rock formation around a fractured gas reservoir using cross-dipole data. The survey consists of a tool containing eight cross-dipole receivers and one dipole source placed inside of a vertical well. First, we show how to remove the large amplitude Stoneley waves from the data using our nonlinear signal comparison (NLSC) algorithm. We then apply a beam migration to image fractures and we are able to image within 20 m of the vertical well.
and parts of the 3D model were not well resolved due to a lack of picks for some nodes and vibrate points. We are carrying out a second round of automatic picking using trace-to-trace correlation, with high-quality, reviewed picks as the master traces for the correlations. We will present our updated 3D P-wave velocity model along with comparisons to other existing information for the structure at the Brady site. We will also present preliminary results from a search for temporal changes in P-wave travel times caused by the changes in fluid injection and production. This work was funded by the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, U.S. Department of Energy, under Award Number DE-EE0006760.

Large-N Seismic Deployment at the Source Physics Experiment (SPE) Phase II Site

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The Source Physics Experiment (SPE) is a multi-institutional, multi-disciplinary project that consists of a series of chemical explosions conducted at the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS). The goal of SPE is to understand the complicated effect of geological structures on seismic wave propagation and source energy partitioning, develop and validate physics-based modeling, and ultimately better monitor nuclear explosions. SPE Phase I is located in the hard rock geology, and SPE Phase II is located in the weak rock geology. Deployment of a large number of seismic sensors is planned for SPE Phase II to image the full 3-D wavefield. This large-N seismic deployment will operate near the site of SPE Phase II for four months, recording controlled-sources, earthquakes, and ambient noise. This presentation focuses on the design of the large-N seismic deployment. We show how we optimize the sensor layout based on the geological structure and experiment goals with a limited number of sensors. We predict the recordings of the Large-N array assuming some geophysical models, and estimate how well the Large-N array may improve our understanding of subsurface structure and source characteristics.

Seismic Reflection Imaging With Earthquake Sources and Dense Arrays: Beyond Structural Imaging From P-Wave Reflections

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Recent studies showed that microearthquakes recorded by a dense array of receivers at the surface have the same raypath geometry as Reverse Vertical Seismic Profiling (RVSP) surveys, which in principle, allows the use of microearthquake sources combined with RVSP processing to produce high-resolution 3D reflection images of structure beneath the receiver array. Earlier examples of the method produced 2D and 3D reflection profiles from a single microearthquake source, with a later example using multiple events to generate a 3D reflection volume underneath the Piedmont Province in Central Virginia. Although the true power of using microearthquakes for reflection imaging lies in the prospect of using redundancy generated from multiple sources, the complexities that result from double couple sources present several challenges. Some of these challenges have been addressed extensively in previous studies, such as hypocenter uncertainty, and sparse illumination from an aftershock distribution, but other issues, such as spurious phases (SD, PzS, SzP, SzS) in P-wave reflection images have not been properly addressed, mostly because previous studies were restricted by using vertical component seismographs. In this study we take advantage of 3C nodal dense arrays that recorded local seismology to tackle the issue of these spurious phases. Given that the phases PzP, PzS, SzP, and SzS are all illuminating the structure beneath the receiver array we use wavefield separation and RVSP processing of microearthquakes to generate different structural images from reflected and converted phases.

Shallow Sedimentary Structure of the Tangshan Earthquake Region Unveiled by Dense Seismic Array and Microtremor Survey

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The Tangshan fault belt is deemed as the seismogenic fault for the 1976 Ms7.8 Tangshan earthquake, which is one of the most devastating earthquakes in the last 100 years in the world and caused more than 240,000 deaths. The dense array ambient vibration surveys with ~ 4 km inter-station distance 146 stations were present in the spring of 2017. The sedimentary resonance frequencies were measured by the Horizontal-to-Vertical Spectral Ratio (HVSr) method to gain sedimentary thickness distribution and basement morphology. Furthermore, a ~1 km inter-station distance seismic profile was deployed along a line perpendicular to the strike of the Tangshan fault belt to investigate the detailed shallow sedimentary structures. Extensive tests are conducted to verify the reliability of the HVSR curves. With these HVSR curves, the two-dimensional Quaternary sedimentary structures cross the fault belt are imaged by frequency-depth conversion. Two-dimensional HVSR profile clearly reveals two seismic impedance interfaces at ~ 100 m and 300 ~ 800 m depth. The thickness of the unconsolidated and semi-consolidated sedimentary is ~ 100 m with very small variations, which is consistent with the seismic reflection interface from shallow seismic reflection exploration. While the buried depth of the Quaternary sedimentary basement increases from 300 to 800 m from the west to the east along the profile, which is also consistent with the Quaternary sediment depth derived from previous studies. It is worth noting that the depth of the Quaternary sedimentary basement just beneath the Tangshan fault belt varies rapidly with ~ 200 meters, which well agrees with the spatial characteristics of the Tangshan fault revealed by deep seismic reflection profiling. It may suggest that the Tangshan fault belt has been significantly ruptured and modified by strong earthquake activities since Quaternary.

Seismic Event Screening

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Further Development and Testing of ML-MC as a Depth Discriminant at Local Distances

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Seismic source discrimination at local distances (< 200 km) is becoming increasingly important within the nuclear monitoring community. A study conducted by Koper et al. (2016) found that the difference between local magnitude (ML) and coda/duration magnitude (MC) could distinguish between mining-induced seismicity and natural seismicity in Utah. They found that the shallower mining-induced earthquakes (depths < 2–3 km) had more negative ML-MC values than the generally deeper (> 5 km) tectonic events. Similar results showing that ML-MC decreases as source depth approaches the surface have recently been found in Yellowstone, Oklahoma, and Italy. Here we investigate how well direct measurements of peak amplitude (A) and duration (t) made at individual stations can be used as proxies for the network averaged ML–MC values. In particular, we investigate how log10( A/t ) varies as a function of distance, how quickly the variance decreases as more stations are averaged together, and whether individual station corrections are warranted. We also examine how changes to the procedures used to measure A and t affect the performance of log10( A/t ) as a depth discriminant. We aim to replicate and explain our ML-MC observations using a three-dimensional, fourth-order, finite-difference code (SW4) to synthesize high-frequency waveforms in realistic Earth models that contain topographic and volumetric scattering. The ultimate goal of this study is to introduce a new depth discriminant to nuclear monitoring practices that can be applied to all networks and help differentiate mid- and lower-crustal earthquakes from potential explosions.

Discrimination of Anthropogenic Events and Tectonic Earthquakes in Utah Using a Quadratic Discriminant Function Approach with Local-Distance Amplitude Ratios

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Most of the commonly used seismic discrimination approaches are designed for regional data. Relatively little attention has focused on discriminants for local distances (< 200 km), the range at which the smallest events are recorded. We take advantage of the variety of seismic sources and the existence of a dense regional seismic network in the Utah region to evaluate amplitude ratio seismic discriminants at local distances. First, we explored phase-amplitude Pg-to-Sg ratios in multiple frequency bands to classify events in a dataset that comprises populations of single-shot chemical explosions, shallow and deep fire-fired mining blasts, mining-induced events, and tectonic earthquakes. We achieved a limited success. Then, for the same dataset, we combined the Pg-to-Sg phase-amplitude ratios with Sg-to-Rg spectral amplitude ratios in a multivariate quadratic dis-
by creating a buffer around the boundary of each block that varies depending on the size of the block and the expected deformation zone based on locations of GNSS data that are consistent with rigid block motion. We then assign each node within the buffer a 0 for the deforming areas and a plate index outside the buffer for the rigid. Finally, we calculate a tectonic strain rate model for CCAR using the Haines and Holt finite element approach to fit bi-cubic Bessel splines to the the GNSS/GPS data assuming block rotation for zones of rigidity. Our model of the CCAR is checked for compression along mid-Atlantic Ridge, compression across the mid-Pacific Rise, and a combination of compression and extension across the North America—Caribbean plate boundary. The majority of CCAR strain rate magnitudes range from ~60 to 60 nanostains/yr. Modeling results are then used to calculate expected faulting behaviors that we compare with mapped geologic faults and seismic activity.

Seismic Hazards and Historic Earthquakes in Puerto Rico and the Northern Caribbean Region
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Hazard Implications from High-Precision Earthquake Relocations in the Dominican Republic
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Accurate earthquake locations are critical to identifying faults, understanding tectonics, and estimating a region’s seismic hazard. The Dominican Republic and neighboring Haiti have been the site of numerous devastating earthquakes. A complex pattern of tectonic stresses is created by (a) the oblique subduction of the southward-dipping North American plate in the north, (b) the east-west-trending Septentrional Northern transform fault system, (c) Enriquillo Plantain Garden fault zone in the south, and (d) convergent motion generating great topographical variations, including the Cordillera Central in the center of the island. However, the seismic hazard associated with the island’s faults and the precise locations and characteristics of the faults are poorly known. To improve understanding of seismic hazard on the island of Hispaniola, we relocated events recorded by a temporary network of seismographs deployed from 2013 to 2017. Fifteen hundred events of magnitude greater than 2.5 were recorded in the span of four years, 150 of which have magnitudes greater than 4. Each event has an average of 15 P wave arrival picks and 8 S wave arrival picks. Both single-event and double-difference techniques are used, in conjunction with a new 1D model for the Dominican Republic, to improve the accuracy of earthquake locations and the geometry of associated fault zones. We will compare the “traditional” (single-event) relocations with those generated by a double difference technique. The catalog relocated in the new 1D produces several nearly linear features that may be previously undiscovered faults. We intend to relocate events in new 3D models, as well, and thereby investigate the distribution of faults at crustal depths, as well.

Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Modeling for Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands

The most recent USGS Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Assessment (PSHA) for Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands was completed in 2003. An update is planned in order to inform building codes and other structural-design guidelines, as well as earthquake-mitigation and emergency-response plans. Recently, the USGS National Seismic Hazard Model Project (NSHMP) implemented a new PSHA software system (nshm-haz) which replaces legacy Fortran code and provides a modern platform to compute future seismic hazard models. In this study, we use the new nshm-haz system to explore: 1) updates to the earthquake
source model since 2003, 2) new ground motion models, and 3) new fault slip rates. We present the sensitivity study and calibrations against the 2003 seismic hazard model for Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Seismic Structure of Convergent Plate Margins
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Marginal-Wide Continental Crust Anisotropy in the Mexican Subduction Zone. HUESCA-PEREZ, E., CONACYT-Centro de Investigacion Cientifica y de Educacion Superior de Ensenada, Mexico, email: euesca@gmail.com; VALENZUELA, R. W., Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico, raul@oliva.geofisica.unam.mx; ORTIZA, R., Centro de Investigacion Cientifica y de Educacion Superior de Ensenada, Mexico, ortizara@gmail.com; HUSKER, A. L., Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico, uskeragh@gmail.com; GUTIERREZ, E., CONACYT-Centro de Investigacion Cientifica y de Educacion Superior de Ensenada, Mexico, edhagus@gmail.com; CABRAL-CANO, E., Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Mexico, ecabralcano@gmail.com

We present new shear wave anisotropy measurements in the continental crust along the Mexican subduction zone obtained from tectonic tremor. The new measurements were made in the states of Jalisco and Michoacan, and also in Oaxaca state. Our basic goal is to make a complete analysis of the anisotropic crustal structure, we also include measurements reported in Guerrero state by Huesca-Pérez et al. (2016). The only measurements of crustal anisotropy previously available in the subduction zone were performed by Soto et al. (2009) in Jalisco and Michoacan using local seismicity. However, tectonic tremor is abundant and offers an opportunity to determine anisotropy parameters. Polarization and splitting analyses were performed using broadband, three-component seismograms. Results show that splitting times range between 0.07 and 0.34 s. These values are similar to the splitting magnitudes typically observed in the continental crust. Fast polarization azimuths are variable and heterogeneous in Jalisco and Michoacan and do not align with the local stress field, thus suggesting that the anisotropic structure, in general, could be controlled by local foliations or geological structures. In Oaxaca, fast polarization directions tend to align with Quaternary faults and are oblique with respect to the local stress field, which suggests that geological structures are the source of anisotropy. The along-margin anisotropic structure in the Mexican subduction zone is heterogeneous and oblique to the stress field, and consequently could be mainly controlled by structure. However, several other factors such as nonlinear strain in the continental crust as a result of Slow Slip Events, variations of pore fluid pressure, deep crustal mineralogy, and/or upper crust foliations and schistosity (as is the case in Guerrero state) could be inducing the observed anisotropy pattern.

Seismic Structure of the Austral Basin, Patagonia, Using Surface Wave Phase Velocity
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The construction of crustal and uppermost mantle velocity models is a basic and essential subject in seismology because it is vital to an understanding of continental tectonics and is often required as a priori information for various geological and geophysical researches. Surface waves phase velocity provides information that is useful in developing shear wave velocity models at regional scales. The seismic structure of the Patagonian region is poorly understood because the availability of stations is scarce compared to other regions of South America. A better knowledge of the velocity structure in this area will improve earthquake location, providing the structural framework for an assessment of natural hazards and valuable information of the Earth’s dynamics. In this work phase velocity dispersion curves of earthquake-generated surface waves were used to determine models of the crust and uppermost mantle seismic structure for the Austral basin. This basin is located in southern Patagonia and its evolution is due to the interaction between the South American plate and the Antarctic plate. Rayleigh and Love wave phase velocity curves were obtained using two methods based on different seismic stations configurations. Our models reveal a sedimentary low velocity layer of about 8 km and a Moho depth of about 35 km, which is compatible with estimated values obtained from other geophysical methods. Results from this study help constrain the seismic characteristics of the area and will contribute to better define the regional tectonics of Patagonia.

Lg Q Model for Western Tibet
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We investigate the Lg wave attenuation characteristics for the Western Tibet using a tomographic regionalization method. A total of 378 regional events of magnitudes (Mb) greater than 4.5, and focal depth less than 50 Km, recorded at 52 stations are considered. The Lg wave attenuation coefficient at 1 Hz (LgQ0) is calculated in the group-velocity window 3.6–2.8 Km/s by using the two-station method (TSM). This method considers the spectra from two stations which are (1) aligned approximately with the source and (2) separated enough to permit the use of the standard TSM for Lg Q measurement and also has the advantage to remove the source effect during the analysis. Out of initial 11,767 TSM pairs, 3,371 high-quality inter-station paths have been selected as input for the tomographic inversion. We have observed the lowest LgQ0 (<50) structure in the western Tibetan Plateau, lower LgQ0 (50–100) values in the Himalayas and higher LgQ0 (100–500) zone in the Lhasa Terrain. We interpret these observations in terms of both intrinsic and scattering effects caused by the presence of partial melting, crustal thickness as well as heterogeneities present below the area.

Characteristics of the Double Benioff Zones in the Hikurangi Subduction Zone, New Zealand, Based on Nested Regional-Global Seismic Tomography and Waveform Cross-Correlation Relocation
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Double Benioff Zones (DBZs) have been previously observed in the Hikurangi trench, New Zealand. The correlation between seismicity and velocity heterogeneities can help understanding of their occurrence. Therefore, seismic tomography is commonly applied to identify the position and extent of the down-going slabs at depth in addition to crustal and upper mantle velocity heterogeneities. Previous studies developed three-dimensional seismic velocity models based on local and regional data. The recent availability of multiscale seismic tomography and waveform cross-correlation can boost the structural and seismicity resolution especially in areas with sparse data. Here, we investigate the characteristics of the DBZs along the strike of Hikurangi. We obtain local and regional waveform data from Geonet and telesismic arrival times reported by the International Seismological Center for events within magnitude range of 2–5 between January 2012 and July 2017. We apply the telestoDD algorithm based on absolute and differential times in different scales. This algorithm uses nested regional-global model parameterization that builds a coarser global model encompassing a finely gridded regional one. A differential-time relocation method based on waveform cross-correlation data improves the relative locations with ~500 m uncertainties in both horizontal and vertical. Our preliminary relocation results show a clear DBZ in the north and south of the trench, but the DBZ disappears in the central North Island. We also observe a decrease in DBZ layer separation and bending of the slab from the north to the south of the trench. Seismicity in the upper and lower planes if correlated with velocity anomalies provides insights about the causes of the within-slab-deformation (e.g. slab dehydration). Tracking such correlation along the trench may explain the presence/absence of the DBZs in some cross-sections and thereafter the mechanism responsible for intermediate-depth earthquakes.

Frequency-Dependent Crustal Attenuation from Lg-Waves in Alaska
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The increase of station coverage since 2014 due to the presence of the EarthScope USArray (TA) in Alaska provides an opportunity to investigate crustal attenuation in Alaska using Lg-waves. Lg waveforms provide a good measure of apparent attenuation because they propagate as multiple reflected shear waves trapped within the crust. Lg is often the strongest phase on the seismogram at regional distances from 2° to 25°. Although there have been other studies to determine attenuation in Alaska, they focused on small areas where data were available at the time of the study. The goal of our study is to investigate crustal attenuation throughout Alaska and define the locations and characteristics of Q transitions or boundaries, if they exist. Our approach is similar to that of Benz et al. (1997) and McNamara et al. (1996). This approach allows quantifying the attenuation of the crust using Lg Fourier spectral amplitude in narrow frequency bands of earthquakes that occurred within a given region and the inversion includes source and station terms. Initial results using the ML 5.3 Tok, Alaska, earthquake of 2017/02/15 that occurred in eastern south-central Alaska show Q at 1 Hz (Q0) to generally be around 100–150 in south central, eastern, and south-
eastern Alaska, with the power on frequency (eta) ranging from 0.75 to 1.1. These results are somewhat lower than the most recent results of McNamara (2000) in south central Alaska of Qo=220 and eta = 0.66. There may be an azimuthal dependence in Qo in southeast central Alaska with somewhat higher values parallel to the structural grain compared to perpendicular to the structural grain. For ray paths crossing the western cordillera into Canada, the Qo appears to be about 50 and eta about 1.1. Differences in Qo parallel and perpendicular to the structural grain have been observed elsewhere.

The Striking Strong Motion Array Project (SSMAP) and September 5, 2012, Mw=7.6 Nicoya, Costa Rica, Earthquake Investigation during 2006–2016 SIMILA, G. W., CSU Northridge, California, USA, gerry.simila@csun.edu; MOHAMMADRAHIM, E., CSU Northridge, California, USA, ehsangf@gmail.com; QUINTERO, R., OVISCORI Universidad Nacional, Heredia, Costa Rica, Ronnie.quintero.quintero@una.ca

Seismic gaps along the subduction zones are locations where large earthquakes have not occurred in a long time. These areas are considered locked and are accumulating large amounts of strain energy that will ultimately be released in major earthquakes. The Nicoya Peninsula in northwestern Costa Rica was considered a zone with this type of seismic gap. The previous major earthquakes in Nicoya occurred on 1853, 1900 and 1950, which indicates about a 50-year recurrence interval for the characteristic earthquake cycle. With the goals to: 1) record and locate strong subduction zone mainshocks [and foreshocks, “early aftershocks”, and preshocks] in Nicoya Peninsula, at the entrance of the Nicoya Gulf, and in the Papagayo Gulf regions of Costa Rica, and 2) record and locate any moderate to strong upper plate earthquakes triggered by a large subduction zone earthquake in the above regions, a seismic strong motion array (SSMAP project) was installed in the Nicoya Peninsula, array composed of 10 sites with Geotech A900 accelerographs. Also, the OVISCORI-UNA network was upgraded with EST epseisensors that could record the large event. On September 5, 2012, a Mw=7.6 earthquake occurred in the seismic gap and appears to be the expected event based on the 50 years recurrence interval that was stated 62 years later. The main shock focal mechanism was thrust faulting of the Cocos plate in the Middle America trench with strike N54W and dip 20 degrees NE. The mainshock location was 9.671 N and 85.878 W. The maximum accelerations from two A900 stations perpendicular to the trench, Fortuna (distance 112 km) and Pedernal (distance 128 km) were: 13.8% and 8.9 %g; although the main acceleration was recorded at Dulce Nombre de Nicoya 122%g. The October 10 (Mw 5.3) and 24 (Mw 6.6) aftershocks recorded at Tamarindo were accelerations of 2.4% and 8.2%g. We also relocated 50 events from 2006 to 2016 for moderate magnitudes (4 < Mw < 6.5), mainly located in Nicoya Peninsula region.

Interdisciplinary Seismotectonic Analysis in the Broken Foreland of the NW Argentine Andes ZECKRA, M., University of Potsdam, Brandenburg, Germany, zeckra@uni-potsdam.de; ARNOUS, A., Universidad Nacional de Tucumán, Tucumán, Argentina, arnous.aarnous@gmail.com; BENT, A. L., Natural Resources Canada-Ottawa, Canada, bentin@nrcan.gc.ca; BERTHILL, D. M., Natural Resources Canada-Ottawa, Canada, berhill@nrcan.gc.ca; VELEZ, A., National University of Salta CONICET-IBEGIO, Salta, Argentina, gonzalez@unsa.edu; VILLANOVA, L., Universidade de Brasilia, DF, Brazil, larvillanova@yahoo.com; CONDORI, C., Universidad de Brasilia, Lima, Peru, ccfroistboltaq@gmail.com; GONZAGA, M., Universidade de Brasilia, DF, Brazil, marcoagonz@uol.com; FRANCA, G. S., Universidade de Brasilia, DF, Brazil, georgefranca@gmail.com

The Amazonian Craton, composed of the Guiana and Guaporé shields, is one of oldest complex tectonic structures located in the north of the South American stable platform. Currently, following the new addition to the Brazilian Seismological Network, several geophysical studies have been carried out for this region, focusing on understanding the structure of the lithosphere. Aspects like the dynamic and deformation processes of the lithosphere and stratosphere remain poorly understood. Seismic anisotropy, or the directional dependence of seismic wave speeds, can potentially provide us with insight into the dynamics of recent and past deformational processes in the upper-mantle. In this study, we applied the shear wave splitting method to study the seismic anisotropy of the upper-mantle in the Amazonian Craton and Central Brazil. We analyze shear wave splitting for core phases (SKS and SKKS) at 15 broadband seismic stations of the Brazilian Seismological Network (RSBR). We measure the splitting parameters, (fast-polarization direction φ and delay time τ), using the technique of Silver and Chan (1991). Our preliminary results show evidences of complex seismic anisotropy in the upper-mantle beneath all the seismic stations, with the average values of φ varying between 0.8 and 1.1 degrees and τ predominantly oriented to the ENE-WSW which is close to the absolute plate motion direction, consistent with observations seen in previous work. On the other hand, stations on or near the rift (between Guiana and Guaporé Shields) show fast-polarization directions aligned parallel to the rift axis. Keywords: seismic anisotropy, upper-mantle, Amazonian Craton, shear wave splitting, South American plate.
Multi-Scale Mantle Structure underneath North America from a New Tomographic Model of Seismic Shear Velocity

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The USArray has facilitated a revolution in the integration of seismic imaging and geodynamic modeling. We present a whole-mantle, variable resolution, shear-wave tomography model based on newly available and existing seismological data-sets including regional body-wave delay times and multi-mode Rayleigh and Love wave phase delays. The dataset of previously published delays contributes ~600,000 S+ body wave delays, distributed globally, ~160,000 S wave delays used in the DNA13 regional tomographic model focused on the western and central US, and ~86,000 S and SKS delays measured on stations in western South America. Additionally, we derive ~4,100,000 S+ body wave delays through correlation of observed waveforms with 1-D PREM synthetics computed with Symgen for stations in the continuous US, Alaska, and the global seismic networks [IU, II]. The surface wave dataset includes fundamental mode and overtone Rayleigh wave data from Schaeffer and Lebedev (2014), ambient-noise derived Rayleigh and Love wave measurements from Ekstrom (2013), newly computed fundamental mode ambient noise Rayleigh wave phase delays for the continuous US up to July 2017, and other, previously published, measurements. These datasets, along with a data-adaptive parameterization utilized for the SAVANI model (Auer et al., 2014), allow significantly finer-scale imaging than previous global models, rivaling that of regional-scale approaches, under the USArray footprint in the continental US, while seamlessly integrating into a global model. We parameterize the model for both vertically (vSV) and horizontally (vSH) polarized shear velocities by accounting for the different sensitivities of the various phases and wave types. The resulting, radially anisotropic model allows for a range of new geodynamic analysis, including estimates of mantle flow or seismic anisotropy, without generating artifacts due to edge effects, or requiring assumptions about the structure of the region outside the well resolved model space. Our model images a number of geologically important features, including the Farallon slab and its constituent components, a complex undulating cratonic lithosphere, and a broad low velocity zone under the Cordillera.

Sks Seismic Anisotropy Observations in Mid-Plate South America: Investigating Mantle Flow and Effects of Cratonic Keels

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Seismic anisotropy at continental regions, mainly in stable areas, gives important information about past and present tectonic events and helps us in understanding patterns of upper mantle flow in a way not achieved by other methods. The measurement of shear wave splitting (SWS), at individual stations, from core refracted phases (such as SKS phases), indicates the amount and orientation of the seismic anisotropy in the upper mantle. Previous studies of SWS in South America concentrated mainly along the Andes and in southeast Pantanal and Para-Chaco basins, as a part of the FAPESP “3-Basins Thematic Project”. The results from both temporary deployments and from the Brazilian permanent network provides a more complete and robust anisotropy map of the South America stable platform. We compare our results with different anisotropy proxies: absolute plate motion given by the hotspot reference frame H53-NVUEL-1A, upper mantle flow induced by the Nazca plate subduction (Hu et al., 2017), global anisotropy from surface wave tomography, and geologic trends. We observe a poor correlation of the anisotropy directions with geological trends and a better correlation with the mantle flow model. Therefore, our observed anisotropy is mainly due to upper-mantle flow, with little contribution from frozen lithospheric anisotropy. Also, deviations from the mantle flow model are due to flow surrounding cratonic nuclei not used in the model: the keel of the São Francisco craton and a possible cratonic nucleus beneath the northern part of the Paraná Basin (called Paranapanema block). Large delay times at the Pantanal Basin may indicate a stronger asthenospheric channel, a more coherent flow, or a thicker asthenosphere. Small delays beneath the northern Paraná Basin may indicate thinner anisotropic asthenosphere beneath the Paranapanema block.

Spiral 1.0: Global Tomography Model of Travel Times and Surface Waves with Transversely Isotropic Crust and Mantle

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SPIral version 1.0 is a global-scale joint image of shear and compressional wave speeds derived from millions of travel time arrivals and global surface wave dispersion estimates for Rayleigh and Love waves. We incorporate several modeling elements used to construct the previous LLNL-G3D series of models (Simmons et al. 2011; 2012; 2015) including multiple-event relocation procedures, multi-resolution imaging with spherical tessellation hierarchies, joint inversion with mineral physics constraints and 3-D ray tracing for P- and S-wave phases at regional and telesismic distances. The new model also incorporates surface wave dispersion estimates for Rayleigh and Love group and phase velocities from recent surface wave maps spanning periods from 25 to 200 seconds (Ma et al., 2014; Ma and Masters 2014). The SPIral model consists of over 1.7 million nodes with 5 modeled values at each node including Vp, Vs, and 3 parameters needed to fully account for transverse isotropy for P-, Sh-, and S-waves at any arbitrary direction of travel. The bulk (average) strength of anisotropy in the upper mantle is consistent with past waveform- and surface-wave based studies, however there is an indication that the radial anisotropy in the transition zone might be stronger than previously realized. The SPIral model represents a significant step towards a global-scale model, with regional-scale details, that can predict multiple seismic observables significant to seismic monitoring including accurate travel times at all distances as well as waveform features important to source characterization. This work performed under the auspices of the U.S. Department of Energy by Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory under Contract DE-AC52-07NA27344.

Influence of Postcritical Reflection and Refraction on SmKS

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Although it is generally thought that the Earth’s outer core is well mixed due to vigorous convection, and is therefore more or less compositionally homogeneous, there are, however, increasing evidence that suggests stratification may exist within the outermost outer core due to the presence of light elements. Recent seismic studies show that top a few hundreds kilometers of outer core possess a P-wave velocity slightly lower than the PREM model, which cannot be explained by self-compression of a chemically homogeneous outer core. Most studies utilize the SmKS arrival, which is a core phase being reflected m-1 times from the lower side of the core-mantle boundary (CMB) and can be observed at epicentral distances of 120°–180°. Differential arrival times between SmKS pairs, such as S3KS and SKKS, S4KS and S3KS, are usually employed in determine the P-wave velocity structure in the top part of the outer core since these phases have very similar traveling ray paths in the mantle. Since there is a π/2 phase shift between two consecutive SmKS arrivals due to the internal caustic surface for underside reflexion, measuring the differential times between the two arrivals using waveform cross-correlation requires an operation of Hilbert transform of the first arrival before the regular cross-correlating. We investigated the SmKS waveforms of deep earthquakes occurring in South America recorded by several large and dense seismic arrays in China, and measured the differential arrival times of the SmKS pairs. We found significant waveform distortion of the SmKS caused by postcritical reflection and refraction at the CMB. For example, the π/2 phase between SKKS and S3KS cannot be confirmed from some major arc records at ~170°. This waveform distortion can introduce a significant bias to the measured differential times, leading to incorrect estimate of P-wave velocity of the outer core.

Testing PSHA Input Data, Source Models and Hazard Estimates

Poster Session · Wednesday 16 May · Riverfront South

Overview and Testing Validation of NSHM for Japan with Earthquake Records

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We conduct the national seismic hazard maps (NSHM) for Japan (2005—present) under the guidance of the Headquarters for Earthquake Research Promotion of Japan (HERP). The recent destroyed earthquakes have occurred in three earthquake source categories of EQ-I: Subduction-zone large earthquakes; EQ-II:
Subduction-zone earthquakes without specified source faults, and EQ-III: Shallow earthquakes in land and offshore regions. The various improvements have been made after the 2011 Tohoku earthquake such as 1) seismic activity model, 2) the long-term evaluation of magnitude and occurrence probability for a large earthquake, 3) the maximum magnitude of background earthquakes, and 4) developing new earthquake models for major active faults. The complexity and variation of earthquake occurrence still remain unknown even if the concept of probabilistic seismic hazard assessment (PSHA) was gradually understood after arguments in dozens of years. To test the variation of seismic activities, we developed probabilistic seismic hazard maps (forecasted PSHM) within a period of 30 years starting from 1890, 1920, 1950, 1980 and 2010. These forecasted PSHMs are calibrated by the recorded earthquake data (experienced SHM) with the same periods mentioned above. As an index of maps comparison, the total amount of the meshes whose seismic intensity is greater than 6-Lower have been accounted between the forecasted PSHM and experienced SHM. The mesh numbers of the forecasted PSHM have coincidentally with that of the experienced SHM for EQ-I and III, on other hands, have somewhat overestimate for the EQ-II. Of them, the forecasted PSHM from 2010 underestimated that of experienced PSHM which consists of only the 2011 great M=9 Tohoku earthquake that was not considered it before. We will continue to study the epicentral uncertainty, improve PSHM for Japan and provide information to the engineering community.

Finite Fault Distance Distribution in Probabilistic Seismic Hazard and the Relationship between Extended Source Distances

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We present a method to compute the conditional and no-conditional probability density function (PDF) of the finite fault distance distribution (FFDD). Two cases are described: lines and areas. The case of lines has a simple analytical solution while, in the case of areas, the geometrical probability of a fault based on the strike, dip, and fault segment vertices is obtained using the projection of spheres in a piecewise rectangular surface. The cumulative distribution is computed by measuring the projection of a sphere of radius r in an effective area using an algorithm that estimates the area of a circle within a rectangle. The conditional probability of distance given magnitude is also presented using different scaling laws. A simple model of constant distribution of the centroid at the geometrical mean is discussed, in this model hazard is reduced at the edges because the effective size is reduced. Nowadays there is a trend of using extended source distances in PSHA, however it is not possible to separate the fault geometry from the GMPE. This work can be used to check analytically simple source models using modern techniques of PSHA.

Assessing the Applicability of Ground-Motion Models for Induced Seismicity Application in Central and Eastern North America

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This study aims to present a relatively short list of interim induced proxy ground motion models (GMMs) suitable for induced seismicity application in central and eastern North America (CENA). Induced proxy GMMs are models not established from datasets strictly made of induced events but can be used to predict ground motions from such events. For this purpose, we test a long list of GMMs against a dataset of induced earthquakes using the popular L1H method of Scherbaum et al. (2009) and its natural extension known as the multivariate logarithmic score of Mak et al. (2017). Our dataset is a subset of Brennink et al. (2017) and at PGA is composed of 2414 time histories from 384 CENA induced events with hypocentral distances below 50 km and moment magnitudes from 3.5–5.8. Candidate GMMs are from two categories, including purely empirical models developed from the NGA-West2 database and indigenous models of CENA. The NGA-West2 database contains a large number of shallow small-to moderate magnitude events from California that may approximate characteristic features of induced events in CENA. Some of the CENA models have considered near distance saturation for small-to-moderate magnitude range and/or have explicitly modeled source parameter as a function of focal depth that may make them reasonable induced proxy GMMs. Evaluation results indicate better performance of models of group 1 compared to CENA regional models. We recommend these models including Atkinson (2015), Chia and Youngs (2014), and Abrahamson et al. (2014) above other candidate models and introduce them as most suitable induced proxy GMMs.

Study on the Uniform Earthquake Catalogue and Seismicity of Himalaya Areas

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Using the earthquake catalogues from China and ISC (International Seismological Centre), the uniform catalogue of Himalaya and adjacent areas has been established for the seismic hazard analysis and seismic hazard map of Himalaya areas according to according to the following principles. 1) The earthquake parameters should be taken from China catalog if the events occurred in China. 2) The earthquake parameters should be taken from ISC catalog if the events occurred out of China. 3) The earthquake parameters should be checked if the event occurred on the China border areas based on seismic stations. There are 17886 events with event magnitude 4.0 and greater in the catalogue, among them, there are 65 ones with magnitude 7 and greater. Based on the catalogue, the seismicity of the Himalaya and adjacent areas has been analyzed, and the following conclusions are made. 1) The epicenters generally follow a NW-trending band distribution along the Himalayan arc. At the eastern and western ends, that is, the structural knots of the Himalayas, the epicenter strips are respectively turned to the NE-trending. 2) Intermediate-depth earthquake are distributed on both east and west ends of the Himalayan arc are structure belt, that is, the Pamir at the west end and the Assam at the east end. In the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau and the front of the Himalaya arc, events are basically shallow earthquakes. 3) Earthquakes with magnitude greater than 4.5 are basically complete since 1960 AD. 4) The b-values of magnitude – frequency relationship for the study areas are between 0.9 and 1.0.

Selection of Ground Motion Models for Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Analysis in Iran

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Ground motion models (GMMs) are the most essential component of probabilistic seismic hazard analysis (PSHA), in which their validity is basically dependent on the sufficiency of the data. The quality and quantity of the recorded data have increased over the last couple of decades; however, even for the best-investigated regions (e.g., Western North America), the uncertainty in the median ground motion seems to be between 20–50% at short periods and even higher at longer periods. In the current practice of PSHA, the different estimates of the ground motions predicted by different empirical GMMs are attributed to the epistemic uncertainties. The epistemic uncertainties arise from the lack of knowledge which is reflected in imperfect models and can be handled by data-driven selection methods which reduce subjectivity and guide the selection process in a quantitative way. In this study, we review three data-driven selection methods, including the log-likelihood (LLH), the Euclidean distance-based ranking (EDR), and the deviance information criterion (DIC) to evaluate the performance of six empirical GMMs against a recently updated and compiled Iranian strong motion data base. An Iranian database contains 1356 records from 208 events up to 2013, with the moment magnitude range of 4.5 ≤ M ≤ 7.5, and distances up to 400 km including a variety of fault mechanisms. The results are presented for peak ground acceleration (PGA) and 5%-damped pseudo-acceleration spectra (PSA) at different periods. Through the Bayesian statistics the DIC method is shown to optimize the GMM selection for a given region which then leads to an unbiased assessment of earthquake hazard using logic trees. Moreover, the DIC method offers the clear advantage of partially removing the ergodicity assumption from the GMM selection process and therefore allows a more objective representation of the expected ground motion at a specific site. That in turn has important implications for standard PSHA practice.

One-Year Hazard Models, Their Performance and Uncertainties

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Beginning in 2016, the USGS started to produce one-year PSHA models to account for the elevated seismicity in this region mainly due to the wastewater injection. We assess the full 2016 model by comparing the model forecast with the observed instrumental ground motions in PGA and spectral response acceleration for 1Hz and 5Hz over the entire CEUS. Our results indicate that the observed hazard is generally consistent with that forecast by the model. Our results show that for mapped hazard level (1% probability of exceedance in one year) and using only one year of observation, is unlikely to reveal the inconsis-
tency between the observed and forecasted hazards with high confidence due to the low number of earthquakes CEUS. We also explore the variability in 2016 and 2017 models due to epistemic uncertainty in its informed submodel. We find that variability is highest in low seismicity areas. Average variability increased in the 2017 one-year model relative to 2016 model. The highest hazard variation in the final model is associated with different ground motion models and maximum magnitudes used in the logic tree, while the variability due to the smoothing distance is minimal.

U.S. National Seismic Hazard Model Updates: 2018, 2020 and Beyond
Poster Session - Wednesday 16 May - Riverfront South

Sensitivity of Performance-Based Design to Ground Motion Characteristics

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The US Geological Survey's National Seismic Hazard Models (NSHMs) are updated about every six years and are utilized by the building code community. The NSHM was last updated in 2014, but the next update will be in 2018 to provide the building code community with a shorter update schedule (about four years) that will contain fewer changes to the model than a six-year update. One change that is being considered for the 2018 update to the NSHM is to use a minimum catalog magnitude of M (moment magnitude) 3.0, instead of M 2.7, for the central and eastern United States (CEUS). M 2.7 is roughly equivalent to M6/ Mbg 3.0, which was used in the NSHM prior to 2014. Increasing the minimum catalog magnitude will better match the catalog completeness and minimize the effect of magnitude uncertainty for smaller earthquakes. Two considerations for making this change are: (1) relations to convert between amplitude-based local site terms, and (2) catalog completeness over time of the source catalogs (i.e., USGS ComCat) and the NGA5 catalog. Besides the minimum catalog magnitude, additional efforts include updating the NGA5 catalog with recent events from 2013–2017, and removing anthropogenic earthquakes using polygons and time windows based on recent publications. Once the induced earthquakes are removed, the CEUS has a relatively low rate of seismicity, so it is important to update the catalog periodically. The effect on seismic hazard due to the earthquake catalog update will be shown.

Implementation of NGA-East Ground Motion Models into the 2018 Update of the USGS National Seismic Hazard Model

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As part of the development of the 2018 update of the USGS National Seismic Hazard Model (NSHM), we implemented the Pacific Earthquake Engineering Research Center’s USGS specific Next Generation Attenuation ground motion models for the central and eastern U.S. (NGA-East USGS GMMs) and an updated suite of the NGA-East Seed GMMS. Unlike the suite of central and eastern U.S. (CEUS) GMMS that were used in the 2014 NSHM, the new NGA-East USGS and Seed GMMS provide a broader range of spectral periods, including longer periods, as well as provide a site amplification model that allows the hazard to be calculated for soft soils. The NGA-East USGS GMM is a wrapper around multiple weighted models derived from the NGA-East Seed GMMS via Sammon’s mapping, a process that gives consideration to distance, magnitude, and spectral period spaces not adequately represented by the Seed GMMS. For the updated suite of NGA-East Seed GMMS, we used a weighting scheme similar to the CEUS GMMS in the 2014 NSHM, which is based on the model type (e.g., hybrid, stochastic, etc.) and geometric spreading. We present sensitivity calculations showing the effect on hazard when the NGA-East USGS and Seed GMMS are used with different weights and logic tree options. We will also show the effects of the NGA-East site amplification model, which will permit for the first time, the calculation of hazard at soft-soil sites in the CEUS. Initial results show that hazard is higher near the New Madrid seismic zone (NMSZ) when using the NGA-East USGS and Seed GMMS, but lower in areas away from the NMSZ. We also share feedback from the scientific community gathered at a March 2018 NSHM workshop that helped inform our modeling decisions.

Basin Amplification Factors for Cascadia Estimated from the 2011 Tohoku, Japan, Earthquake

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The main purpose of this study is to develop a new Ground Motion Model (GMM) for the island of Hawaii using the hybrid empirical method (HEM). The HEM uses stochastically simulated Ground Motion Intensity Measures (GMIMs) in the host and target regions to develop attenuation factors that are applied to empirical GMIM predictions in the host region. The island of Hawaii, the target region in this study, has been the site of numerous large earthquakes. The crustal earthquakes in the island of Hawaii originate from volcanic activity and include both swarms of small-magnitude volcanic earthquakes and larger tectonic events. Considering western North America as the host region, we will use five NGA-West2 GMIMs developed by the Pacific Earthquake Engineering Research center. For the required seismological parameters in western United States, we will use results from ongoing studies by Haji-Soltani and Pezeshk (2018) in which the geometrical spreading and quality factor functions are investigated for the island of Hawaii. The new GMM will be derived for the 95%-damped pseudo-acceleration response spectra for a reference rock site with VS30 = 760 m/s. A moment magnitude range of 3.0–8.0 and rupture distances of 1–400 km will be considered.

Hybrid Empirical Ground-Motion Prediction Equations for the Gulf Coast Region

The main purpose of this study is to develop ground motion prediction equations (GMPEs) for the Gulf Coast region of the United States using a hybrid empirical method (HEM). This project contributes toward development of a new set of GMPEs for the Gulf Coast region, which will be consistent with the available recordings. This research supplement recent GMPEs developed by the Pacific Earthquake Engineering Research Center (PEER) Next Generation Attenuation (NGA-East) GMPEs for the Central and Eastern North America (CENA) regions. Recently, a number of GMPEs for CENA are developed as part of NGA-East project conducted by the PEER. However, in majority of them, ground motions recorded in the Gulf Coast region were excluded due to considerably different attenuation attributes in this region (EPRI, 1993). The Gulf Coast region exhibits significantly different ground-motion attenuation because of the thick sediments in the region (Dreiling et al., 2014). The purpose of this study is to develop specific GMPEs for use in the Gulf Coast region using the HEM. Because the strong motion data set is sparse in the Gulf Coast region, the hybrid empirical method represents an appropriate and robust approach which has been generally accepted to develop GMPEs.

The 2018 Working Group on Nevada Seismic Hazards: Future Directions for Improvement of the National Seismic Hazards Map in Nevada KOEHLER, R. D., NBMG, University of Nevada, Reno, Nevada, USA; ANDERSON, J. G., Nevada Seismological Laboratory, University of Nevada, Reno, Nevada, USA, rkoehler@unr.edu; PEZESHK, S., The University of Memphis, Tennessee, USA, spezeshk@memphis.edu

The Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology and the Nevada Seismological Laboratory convened the Working Group on Nevada Seismic Hazards in February 2018. The purpose of the workshop was to review ongoing earthquake hazard research in Nevada, provide insight and advice regarding technical issues related to earthquake hazards, and to identify priorities for future research that will benefit the National Seismic Hazard Map (NSHM). The workshop will occur after the abstract deadline for this meeting, so outcomes were not known when this abstract was prepared. Our presentation will summarize the outcomes of the workshop as they pertain to future updates of the NSHM. Specifically, we will present research priorities for paleoseismic, seismologic, geophysical, and geodetic studies determined to be important for improving the NSHM in the Reno/Carson/Lake Tahoe and Las Vegas urban areas. Building on the outcomes of the workshop, it is anticipated that future collaborative research between the USGS, State government, and academia will contribute valuable information to the NSHM.

New Paleoseismic Data from the Frenchman Mountain Fault, Las Vegas, Nevada DEPOLO, C. M., Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology, Nevada, USA, cdepolo@unt.edu; DEPOLO, C. M., Nevada Bureau of Mines and Geology, Nevada, USA, eq_dude@theglobal.net; TAYLOR, W. J., University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Nevada, USA, wanda.taylor@unlv.edu; MAHAN, S. A., US Geological Survey, Colorado, USA, smahan@usgs.gov

The Frenchman Mountain fault is an 18-km long, north- and northeast-striking, west-dipping, range-bounding normal fault on the eastern side of the Las Vegas metropolitan area. The fault is expressed along the western flank of Frenchman and Sunrise mountains as a zone of sub-parallel scarps in alluvial fan surfaces, bedrock range front scarps, and sheet planes juxtaposing Quaternary sediments against bedrock. The fault is assigned a geologic vertical slip rate of 0.015 mm/yr in the 2014 USGS Hazard Map. Recent geodetic studies across Las Vegas Valley suggest potential for a 0.2 mm/yr normal slip rate. Previous studies of the fault have documented evidence for late-Quaternary paleoearthquakes, but did not include dating of deposits, recurrence estimates or slip rates. A previously excavated exposure of the fault in Quaternary fan deposits was recently investigated in much greater detail. The excavation was originally part of an unpublished fault investigation conducted by a local consulting company for a planned housing development. The fault exposed in the excavation is buried by unfaulted, alluvial fan deposits, and is on strike with 2–8 m high Quaternary fault scarps to the north and south. Our new logging of the excavation documents evidence for three paleoearthquakes on an 85° west-dipping fault zone. Evidence for these events includes offset stratigraphy and three scarp derived fault rupture lengths. Optically stimulated luminescence (OSL) samples were collected from all colluvial wedge packages, the faulted stratigraphy beneath the wedge, and the overlying unfaulted fan gravels; results of the OSL dating are pending, although preliminary data suggests all events are older than Holocene. Quaternary units beneath the colluvial wedge packages have a total vertical displacement of 1.6 m across the fault zone. The oldest recorded faulting event (E3) has a vertical displacement of 0.8 m. The two youngest events (E1 and E2) have a combined vertical displacement of 0.8 m.


We present a preliminary model to systematically quantify the long-term earthquake risk of over six hundred thousand bridges located throughout the conterminous United States. The model uses (1) the 2014 US Geological Survey’s long-term earthquake shaking hazard model, (2) the 2017 National Bridge Inventory (NBI) data available through the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and (3) earthquake fragility/vulnerability relationships for bridges available through the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) Hazus program. Each
year, the FHWA compiles bridge inventory data from US states, federal agencies, and tribal governments. These agencies compile comprehensive details as part of the bridge inspection process in accordance with the National Bridge Inspection Standards. The NBI dataset contains the most up-to-date stock of the nation’s bridges, and lists a number of attributes pertaining to each bridge structure, such as, location, year built, bridge type, number of spans, length, skew, and inspection date. We use these attributes to categorize each bridge into a model structure type, and compute the ground motion potential for the bridge using the Hazards Bridge Classification Scheme (Bhole et al., 2010) that is based on fragility, vulnerability and risk analyses. For each bridge site, we first obtain an earthquake shaking hazard curve defined in terms of spectral acceleration (Sa) at a spectral period of 1.0 sec, and then integrate it with the bridge-specific fragility curve to compute long-term earthquake risk. Attributes such as the skewness and number of spans are accounted for in the evaluation of damage potential through fragility relationships from FEMA’s Hazus methodology for damage/risk assessment. Earthquake risk hazard refers to a probability of experiencing slight, moderate, extensive, or complete damage states during the useful life of each bridge structure. In this presentation, we summarize some key findings and discuss potential improvements to these preliminary assessments.

The M8.2 and M7.1 September Seismic Events in Mexico: A Perspective from the Strong Motion Recording Center at UNAM

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The operation of the Strong Motion Network at the Institute of Engineering and the strengthening of its recording center’s infrastructure for the monitoring of the seismic activity of the country, have allowed having timely information after the occurrence of an earthquake. The availability of 24-accelerometric signals received in real time (36 three-component stations from our network and 52 from the National Seismological Service) are used to generate automatic regional ground motion parameter maps and detailed maps for the Valley of Mexico, based on algorithms and systems developed at our institution. The information is broadcast via satellite to a specific list of users and via fiber optic link to the National Seismological Service to communicate the data products automatically and reliably to the government. The information generated feeds a geographic information system which provides a broad preliminary view of the peak ground motion values and spectral acceleration in infrastructure and exposed zones to help manage seismic emergency crisis and perform accurate loss estimations in Mexico. An overview of the computer platform for the acquisition of signals, processing, storage and dissemination of products is presented, as well as the strong motion recorded parameters for the September 08 (M8.2) and 19 (M7.1) earthquakes, and some reflections based on the experience.

Analysis of the Ground Motions of the September 7th and 19th 2017 Tehuantepec and Puebla-Morelos Earthquakes

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We examine the observed ground motions from the 2017 M8.2 Tehuantepec and M7.1 Puebla-Morelos earthquakes and their relations to predicted ground motions. These two events were both deep (>50 km), inslab, normal-faulting events that caused significant damage to various regions of Mexico and with respect to megathrust events represent comparatively small but non-trivial components of seismicity and hazard in the country. Ground-motion prediction equations (GMPEs) are an integral part of seismic hazard assessment—from hazard maps to rapid-response ShakeMaps, providing a framework for understanding median ground motions in a region as well as interpreting physical processes. We compute ground motion residuals for the Tehuantepec and Puebla-Morelos earthquakes from four GMPEs to study regional differences—a regional GMPE (Garcia et al., 2005), global inslab and active shallow-crust GMPEs (Zhao et al., 2006), and a subduction zone GMPE with inslab event adjustments (BC Hydro, or Abrahamson et al., 2015). Ground motions from both events are well-modeled at the near-source (Repl < 20km) stations, indicating that they have average stress drop for their event-type. While recordings of the Puebla-Morelos earthquake are generally well-modeled, the Tehuantepec earthquake is not well-modeled by any GMPE, which shows a low attenuation in long periods (Rrup > 100km). Finally, there are significant basin effects for both earthquakes in Mexico City and Puebla at periods longer than 5A 0.5s. Large, positive residuals are observed in these locations, and additionally, are observed in Oaxaca during the Tehuantepec earthquake for higher frequencies (~SA 1.0s to PGA). This indicates that basins and valley regions are not appropriately modeled with basic site terms and Vs30 relationships, and require more work to adequately represent the amplified ground motions that may be observed in such densely-populated regions.

Spectral Ratios of Mexico City Motions during the 19 September 2017 Mw 7.1 Puebla Earthquake Confirm Frequencies in the Zoning Maps

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One important element of understanding basin response to strong shaking is the analysis of spectral ratios, which may provide information about the dominant frequency of ground motion at specific locations. Spectral ratios computed from accelerations recorded by strong-motion stations in Mexico City during the mainshock of the September 19, 2017, Mw7.1 Puebla—Mexico City earthquake facilitate revisiting the validation of site frequencies previously observed by studies and after shock recording (Celebi and others, 1987), and are also reflected in the older seismic zoning map (in effect at the time of the 19 September 1985 Mw8.1 Michoacan earthquake) as well as the more detailed current zoning map in effect since 2004 (in the Mexican Seismic Design Code). Even though the number of stations in each of the zones (Zone I, II and IIIa, b, c, d), is not the same, they still allow confirmation of site frequencies (periods) attributable to the specific zones (particularly those in Zone IIIa, b, c, d). Spectral ratios are computed with two different methods: (1) ratio of smoothed amplitude spectrum of a horizontal channel in direction X of a station w.r.t. the smoothed amplitude spectrum of the horizontal channel in the same X direction of a reference stiff soil (or rock) station, and (2) H/V ratio (or also known as Nakamura method), of both horizontal and vertical channels of the same station. We show a comparison of the identified frequencies (periods) derived by both methods and find they are very similar and also in good agreement with those indicated in the zoning maps of Mexico City in the 2004 Seismic Design Code.

3-D Velocity Structure of the Mexico City Basin and Ground Motion Simulation of the 7.1 19 September 2017 Earthquake

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Seismological Research Letters Volume 89, Number 2B March/April 2018 905
Mexico City was built on an islet of the former lake Texcoco. As a consequence of the gradual growth of Mexico City's capital, replacing the water body, the city experiences some of the most outstanding site effects worldwide, including the long duration and large amplification of seismic waves. To explain the city's anomalous ground motion, we constructed a basin structure and studied the ground motion using recorded and simulated ground motions. The 3D velocity model of Mexico's capital (CDMX-F3D) presented here is based on an ongoing array deployment and geotechnical information. The velocity model is more detailed in the Xochimilco sub-basin, home of more than 1.5 million people, where several collapses and damages were reported during the September 19th earthquake. We used noise recordings of 20 moving arrays of 18 broadband seismometers deployed for five days with interstation distance ~500 m. With this data, we estimated the shallow crustal structure of the Xochimilco sub-basin employing ambient noise tomography. Using the newly developed model we carried out low-frequency (f<1.25 Hz) finite-element ground motion simulations of the September 19th earthquake. These simulations show great amplification in the Xochimilco region as well as a belt region in the northwestern area of the city, where damage is prevalent in large magnitude earthquakes. This Project was funded by the Secretaría de Ciencia, Tecnología e Innovación (SECITI) of Mexico City. Project SECITI/073/2016.

Uncertainty and Analysis of Soil Fundamental Periods Changes in the Valley of Mexico
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The characterization and evolution of the uppermost sedimentary layers of the Valley of Mexico are permanent tasks of several research groups. The site effect and design spectra in Mexico's capital are, in part, defined by the fundamental soil period (Ts). Therefore, most of the efforts focus on obtaining reliable estimates of Ts. In this study, a thorough H/V (horizontal-to-vertical) spectral ratio analysis to estimate Ts and its uncertainty is performed over a particular site in Mexico City using 48 months of ambient seismic noise (ASN) measured between 2013 and 2017. A collection of earthquakes including the recent 19th September 2017 event (M7.1), recorded at the station were analyzed using H/V spectral ratios. We evaluated the possibility of a Ts change over time due to the subsidence of the soil by the constant extraction of groundwater for the supply of the population. We conclude that the uncertainty associated with the Ts determination does not confirm such a change, or at least define it. Also, three days of ASN recorded in 220 stations in the southernmost part of the Valley of Mexico is used to estimate the Ts values and its associated uncertainty maps using H/V spectral ratios. A comparison with Ts values given by the Complementary Technical Standards for Earthquake Design of Mexico City published in December 2017 was made, revealing differences of more than 20% in several sites. Acknowledgments: Records used in this research are obtained by the Seismic Instrumentation Unit of the Institute of Engineering at the National Autonomous University of Mexico. This Project was funded by the Secretaria de Ciencia, Tecnologia e Innovacion (SECITI) of Mexico City. Project SECITI/073/2016.

A FAST Data-Mining Approach for Similar Earthquake Detection
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The Fingerprint and Similarity Thresholding (FAST) earthquake detection algorithm finds small earthquakes hidden in continuous seismic data through an uninformmed search for similar signals at all times (Yoon et al., 2015). FAST does not assume prior knowledge of template waveforms, nor does it use labeled earthquake waveform examples to recognize new earthquakes, which are examples of informed search. FAST enables detection of similar-waveform earthquakes in long-duration continuous data, up to a decade long, by adapting data-mining techniques originally developed for audio and image search within massive data-bases. FAST converts seismic waveforms into compact binary features called "fingerprints", designed to be discriminative: similar earthquake waveforms have high similarity fingerprints while fingerprints from noise have low similarity. FAST then uses locality-sensitive hashing to organize the fingerprints into a database, and efficiently search for similar fingerprints with high probability by avoiding unnecessary comparison of dissimilar fingerprints. We extend single-station FAST to detect similar earthquakes over a network of multiple seismic stations, reducing the chance of false detections from repeating noise at one station (Bergen and Beroza, 2018). Instead of associating phase arrivals from a single earthquake, we apply pairwise pseudo-association, which exploits the fact that the relative arrival time difference between a pair of similar earthquakes is the same across all stations. We introduce an open-source, parallel, Python/ C++ FAST software package, which can be applied to detect similar-waveform
earthquakes in any seismc network, with varying duration of continuous data and method of location. So far, FAST has successfully detected small earthquakes in continuous data sets with duration ranging from 20 hours to 10 years, and on networks with 1 to 22 stations.

Generalized Seismic Phase Detection with Deep Learning

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In recent years, various techniques exploiting the waveform similarity of clustered earthquakes have been used to increase the detection sensitivity of earthquakes, typically by more than an order of magnitude. These approaches are powerful because they use exact copies of seismograms to match against, but for this same reason, are of limited utility in detecting events that have never been seen before. To overcome this challenge, we develop and implement a framework for generalized seismic phase detection using deep learning. The networks are trained and validated on millions of hand-labeled records and are shown to detect seismic phases with high reliability. We demonstrate the full applicability of the method on a large aftershock sequence and compare the results to that of template matching and STA/LTA detectors. The developed approach is shown to be a promising alternative for earthquake detection, and has potential applications to earthquake early warning.

Multiscale Analysis of the Global Seismicity

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We mapped at a global scale the Gutenberg-Richter parameters and the average seismic energy release rate using a novel multiscale approach. This approach consists essentially in considering all the possible spatial scales around a given point and extracting a robust median from the computed b-values. This approach has been shown to have the capability of determining automatically the spatial scales relevant to the considered dataset without “a priori” choices. The determination of the a-value is hence straightforward and allows computing the average seismic energy release rate. Interesting by-products of this computation are the determination of the relevant spatial scale and of the completeness magnitude. For the purposes of this work we considered earthquakes from the USGS catalog located after 1973 and having a magnitude equal or higher than 4. The dataset consists of about 400,000 events, with about half of them being located within the crust. Using these data we realized two global maps with a 25 km spatial resolution. The first map considers only the crustal seismicity discarding the depth information. It required the computation of multiscale b-values for about 1 million points. The second takes into account also the depth information, allowing to image the depth distribution of the b-value related to the deep seismicity. This 3D map required the computation over about 30 million points. Both maps required massive HPC computing with a total computation time of few weeks. We computed the b-value and the average energy release rate for the crust in different geodynamic environments. In particular we focus on the Euro-Mediterranean region and North-America. For the 3D map we show some relevant result about variations along subducting slabs, in particular we present 3D maps for the Nazca slab.

Earthquake-Induced Gravity Changes as Precursors of the Direct Seismic Waves

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After an earthquake, the earliest deformation signals are not expected to be carried by the fastest (P) elastic waves but by the speed-of-light changes of the gravitational field. The observations of these weak signals, and their full understanding, would provide a new data type with a strong potential for a rapid estimate of the earthquake magnitude. We show here that gravity perturbations are particularly well observed with broadband seismometers at distances between 1000 and 2000 kilometers from the source of the 2011, moment magnitude 9.1, Tohoku earthquake. We can accurately model them by a new formalism, taking into account that a ground-attached seismometer is sensitive to two effects: (1) the gravity changes due to a seismometer location, mostly caused by the transient dilations/ compressions of the medium by the earthquake “classical” elastic waves; and (2) the motions themselves induced by the gravity changes everywhere in the Earth. The latter effect can be understood as an elastic relaxation of the Earth in order to react to the gravity changes. These prompt elasto-gravity signals open the window for minute time-scale magnitude determination for great earthquakes, in particular in places where good-quality broadband seismometers can be installed in front of the megathrust area, at distances ranging from a few hundreds to a few thousands of kilometers. In North America, the seismic monitoring of both the Cascadia and Alaska subduction zones would benefit from the early detection of such gravity changes.

How Well Can We Resolve Surface Deformation Using Lidar, UAVSAR and Optical Imagery?

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GPS geodesy and traditional surveying methods are proven means for measuring surface deformation at discrete fault-crossing profiles. UAVSAR has proven invaluable in characterizing slip distributions and spatial patterns of deformation across larger areas, but suffers from areas of decorrelation and tropospheric effects. Recent studies have demonstrated that repeat airborne and terrestrial lidar can be used to map three-dimensional patterns of deformation following earthquakes, and the use of repeat optical imagery to map horizontal plate motions has also been demonstrated. These recent developments beg further investigation into the sensitivity and uncertainty of these methods. This includes evaluation of our ability to measure very small rates of deformation such as those along creeping faults, and to determine patterns of deformation in complex fault zones and away from primary fault zones, either distributed through adjacent crust or on distinct secondary structures. Here we review recent methodological developments and present new data from the creeping San Andreas and west Napa faults aimed at further testing the application terrestrial lidar, UAVSAR and UAV and spaceborne optical imagery. We are testing the use of new algorithms for UAVSAR data analysis, and the use of algorithms including Cosi-CORR, windowed ICP, and structure-from-motion photogrammetry to measure fine-scale patterns of surface deformation. We also employ feature extraction from lidar point clouds to create geodetic markers that can be tracked through time and space. We will highlight the challenges and applicability of multiple techniques that show promise for new levels of understanding of how tectonic deformation is manifest at Earth’s surface.

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Applications of Machine Learning and Data Science in Seismology

Oral Session · Thursday 17 May · 10:45 AM · Hibiscus A Session Chairs: Qingkai Kong, Chengping Chai, Zefeng Li, Min Chen, and Rongrong Wang

Training a Deep Neural Network to Generate Full Seismograms

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Easy and fast access to synthetic waveforms is paramount for a myriad of applications in seismology and various approximate techniques for their calculation have been developed over the decades; each with their own shortcomings and trade-offs. Realistic numeric calculations through three dimensional complex media at high frequencies on the other hand require computational techniques too run routinely and will remain so for the foreseeable future. Seismic velocity models at global and continental scales are comparatively smooth and seismograms at adjacent stations, or from similar sources, vary little. Given enough training data, deep neural networks might be able to learn some underlying function or representation to quickly generate synthetic seismograms from unseen sources and new receivers. Possible applications for this are numerous and range from probabilistic source inversions, to optimal experiment design, to seismic hazard estimations. We report the design and rational of a deep neural network architecture made up of a series of fully connected layers converting the inputs to an intermediate representation. A number of transfused convolutional layers follows to produce the output. Inputs to the network are source and receiver parameters, its outputs are...
the numeric values of the synthetic seismograms. Successful applications to three dimensional complete seismograms including body and surface waves as well as physics like anisotropy and attenuation, but with a radially symmetric velocity model, are shown. Unlimited training as well as validation data is available for that case. Furthermore we present first experiments of training a neural network on data calculated through a three dimensional velocity model with severe restrictions on the available data.

Deep Learning Aftershock Location Patterns

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Aftershocks represent the most ubiquitous observations of earthquake triggering. Maximum aftershock sizes and temporal decay are well described by empirical laws (e.g., Bath’s law and Omori’s law), but explaining and forecasting the spatial distribution of aftershocks has proven more difficult. Static elastic Coulomb failure stress change is perhaps the most commonly invoked criterion to explain the spatial distributions of aftershocks, but its applicability has been disputed in some cases. We use a machine learning approach to find a static stress-based criterion that forecasts aftershock locations without prior assumptions about aftershock fault orientation. We show that a neural network trained on 85,000+ mainshock–aftershock pairs can explain aftershock locations in an independent testing data set of 24,000+ mainshock–aftershock pairs more accurately (Area under curve or AUC = 0.869) than static elastic Coulomb failure stress change (AUC = 0.606). We find that the learned aftershock pattern is physically interpretable; the second invariant of the deviatoric stress tensor explains 97% of the variance in the neural network forecast.

High Resolution Travel Time Tomography with Local Sparsity Regularization and Dictionary Learning, with Application to Ambient Noise Tomography on a Dense Seismic Array

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We present a 2D travel time tomography method which models rectangular groups of slowness pixels from discrete slowness maps, called patches, as sparse linear combinations of atoms from a dictionary. We further propose to adapt the dictionary atoms to slowness data using dictionary learning, a form of unsupervised machine learning. We call this sparse regularization the local model, as it constrains the local or small-scale relationships of the pixels. Relative to conventional tomography methods, which constrain models to be exclusively smooth or discontinuous, the sparse local model permits smooth and discontinuous features where warranted by data. In this locally-sparse travel time tomography (LST) method, the local model is integrated via an averaging procedure with the overall slowness map, called the global model, which constrains large-scale features using L2-norm regularization. Since LST does not enforce global pixel correlations, the global slowness is obtained by inverting a sparse tomography matrix, which requires less computation than dense matrices of equivalent dimension.

With efficient dictionary learning algorithms, the LST method scales well to tomography problems with large numbers of rays and pixels. We develop a maximum a posteriori formulation for LST, which is solved as an iterative inversion algorithm. We apply the LST approach to ambient noise tomography on a dense seismic array located in Long Beach, California (2011) and obtain high resolution Rayleigh wave surface wave phase speed maps of the region. This ‘large N’ array contained more than 5200 stations resulting in ~14 million unique ray paths. The new maps obtained are consistent with previous results, and show increased contrast along fault lines. Further, the distribution of phase speeds show strong correlation with underlying oil fields in the area (Long Beach, Wilmington), indicating that the Rayleigh waves resolve surface features related to the hydrocarbon areas.


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Rapid detection and classification of damage after earthquakes is important for loss estimation, rapid response, and research. We use optical satellite imagery after the recent M 7.1 Central Mexico earthquake on September 19, 2017 to develop a damage catalog for Mexico City. The satellite imagery before and after the earthquake are freely available through the Digital Globe disaster program with a spatial resolution of less than 1-meter. The pre-event image was taken on June 15, 2017 through GeoEye-1 sensor and the post-event image was taken on September 20, 2017 through WorldView-2 sensor. Machine learning algorithms (MLAs) including feed-forward and radial basis artificial neural networks (ANNs) are used to detect and classify building damage after the earthquake. MLAs work with nonlinear datasets, learn from limited training data, and have been successfully used in other classification problems. In addition to the spectral information of the imagery, textural and structural features such as dissimilarity and Laplacian of Gaussian (LoG) filter are used as the inputs to the MLAs and result in an improvement of the overall accuracy of the classification. Terrestrial images taken by individuals from the damaged buildings after the earthquake, which are available online and through reconnaissance reports, are used as ground truths to develop both training and testing data for the region. There are more than 1000 images for phase one of data collection.

The results of this work provide preliminary evidenced that collapse catalog using MLAs and high resolution (1-meter) optical imagery can be developed to inform loss estimation, rapid response and research efforts after major earthquakes.

WaveNet—An Open Geoscience Database Initiative for Automatic Event Picking and Beyond

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The advancements in deep learning techniques have the potential to revolutionize the way we process and interpret geoscience data. As in the field of computer vision, where the advancement is driven by the neural network model itself and the tremendous collection of labeled images— notably the ImageNet database— to train the model, successful applications of deep learning techniques in geoscience also rely on large amount of geoscience data labeled by experts with high precision. While in the ImageNet project, the labeling process can be performed by laymen, tasks to label geoscience data, such as event picking in seismic data, require various degrees of professional training. In this regard, labeled data of the highest quality should come directly from well-trained geoscientists. As each of us only have limited amount of labeled data, and increased amount of labeled data can increase prediction precision in the realm of deep learning, we call for a global collaboration towards an open geoscience database. Each geoscientist contributes his/her own share of data to this database, and reaps benefits from the improved prediction accuracy of the model, which he/she can either download or use on the cloud to process his/her unlabeled data. That is to say, we use a "crowd sourcing" strategy to collect high-precision labeled data. Prototyping this database—WaveNet as we call it— involves working out standards related to data handling and processing. In its current phase, we focus on automating the tedious task of picking first-arrivals. Once we have collected "enough" data, we will run a basic benchmark with the databaseto get both a qualitative and quantitative understanding of the improvements this database may result in. Then, to leverage the collective wisdom of the deep-learning experts, we consider the choice of setting up a benchmark contest to find the best possible deep-learning model (or probably several models for different tasks) for the database.

PhaseNet: A Deep-Neural-Network-Based Seismic Arrival Time Picking Method

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As the number of seismic sensors continues to grow, it is becoming increasingly difficult for analysts to pick seismic phases manually and comprehensively, yet such efforts are fundamental to earthquake monitoring. Despite years of improvements in automatic phase picking, it is difficult to match the performance of experienced analysts. A more subtle issue is that different seismic analysts may
Machine Learning Applied to Probing Fault Physics

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Machine learning has been applied to a number of problems in geoscience for decades. In general, applications used only portions of available data due in part to limited data and computing power. For instance, considerable work has been done using earthquake catalogs. Catalogs are assembled by hand or in some automated manner applying classical data processing techniques. Thus, out of both necessity and lack of understanding, vast amounts of existing data have gone unused. We know that fundamental information is embedded in many conventional geophysical continuous data signals, but that our ability to extract this information is limited by several factors: (a) it is often not apparent to human inspection and/or (b) when it is apparent, it requires a protracted expert analysis to interpret; (c) and/or we may be asking the wrong question of the data (human bias or ignorance). Our strategy is based on lessons learned from previous attempts to apply data-analytics, such as failed attempts at earthquake prediction. While machine learning offers a powerful path to extracting information rapidly from complex datasets, it must be strongly coupled to a fundamental understanding of the physical phenomena in question in order to be meaningful. We provide an overview of our work applying machine learning approaches to continuous seismic data streams. The primary focus of the work described will be on faulting and earthquakes, however we are turning our attention to many geological phenomena at many scales.

Deep Convolutional Neural Networks for Phase Picking in Oklahoma Based on Transfer Learning

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Oklahoma has experienced an abrupt increase of induced seismicity in the last decade. Detection of small-magnitude earthquakes is essential because a complete earthquake catalog is the basis for understanding injection-induced seismicity in Oklahoma. Machine learning, especially deep learning, provides robust tools for image classification and feature extraction with complex structures. Convolutional neural networks (CNN) have been recently applied to continuous seismic waveform recordings to perform efficient phase picking and event detection (Zhu et al., 2017). In this work, we would like to verify the idea of transfer learning, which refines an existing classifier trained on a large dataset to a small dataset with a limited number of labeled samples in a different geographic region. Specifically, we transfer the knowledge learned from our recently developed CNN trained on a seismic dataset in China after the 2008 M7.9 Wenchuan earthquake (Zhu et al., 2017) to Oklahoma region. Using the single station CNN trained on the Wenchuan dataset, together with 895 local/regional catalog events recorded in central Oklahoma (Chen et al., 2018), we will refine part of the network to pick the arrival times of the local seismicity in Oklahoma. The refined CNN results will then be compared with the matched filter results using the same catalog events as templates to verify its effectiveness. Updated results will be presented at the meeting.

A Convolutional Neural Network for Intermediate-Depth Earthquake Detection and Magnitude Estimation

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Earthquake detection remains one of the fundamental operations in observational seismology. Despite the explosion in quality and quantity of seismic data our ability to build dense and complete seismicity catalogs remains limited. Recent approaches exploit the self-similarity of earthquakes and rely on using the waveforms of a few well known events as templates. Terabytes of continuous seismic signals at multiple stations are cross-correlated against these templates and thousands of events with high waveform similarity may be easily identified. This procedure, known as template matching, is computationally expensive and fails for events whose waveforms are significantly different from the templates. Also, the magnitudes of completeness of intermediate-depth earthquake catalogs are typically large. A dense catalog with a small magnitude of completeness not only allows for a detailed study of seismicity patterns, but also enables the mapping of small-scale b-value anomalies. We propose a Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) architecture for the simultaneous detection of intermediate-depth earthquakes, the precise picking of p- and s-wave arrival times and the estimation of their local magnitude. We test our implementation using a synthetically generated dataset and propose a training scheme that leverages both real and synthetic data for optimal results. As an example we apply our technique to a cluster of intermediate-depth intraplate earthquakes in northern Chile. We are able to detect eight times more events than in the initial catalog and use the picked arrival times to relocate them. We clearly resolve a double-planed structure at depth. Furthermore, we build a detailed b-value map and find that high b-value anomalies correlate well with regions where dehydration is expected.

Operational Experience with Next-Generation Automatic Association Software NET-VISA

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The NET-VISA software produces an automatic combined seismic, hydroacoustic and infrasound bulletin resulting from the key step of assembling detections from multiple stations within the processing chain of the International Data Centre (IDC) of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBTO). The IDC waveform analysts are systematically evaluating the results of using it as a complement to the current operational software Global Association (GA), which is nearing its 19th anniversary in continuous operation at the IDC. Events that otherwise have been missed by the standard processing are presented to the analysts with a corresponding pipeline running in parallel with the GA software. After just seven days of evaluation, the number of events added to the Reviewed Event Bulletin (REB) that originate with NET-VISA represent on average 12.3% of the total of the events in the REB. Out of this total, the number of events with a valid body wave (mb) or local magnitude (ML) larger than or equal to 4 is 3.5%, indicating that most added events fall below this threshold. This paper will present a more complete analysis based on multiple weeks of operational use.

Challenges and Changes for the Widespread Implementation of Earthquake Early Warning (EEW)
tries in the region operate relatively sophisticated, dense seismic networks, and data is openly shared in the cross border “Regional Seismic Network of Central America”—crucially important given the small size of many nations and the international scope of the events. Yet significant populations continue to reside in weak buildings, including adobe, that can be expected to perform poorly during strong shaking. The success of the EEW system in Mexico following the 2017 Central Mexico Earthquake demonstrates how EEW can be effective in the region and can play a role in reducing losses during devastating ground motions. Since 2016, SED (Switzerland) and INETER (Nicaragua) have been collaborating in a project funded by the Swiss Development Agency to explore the feasibility of EEW in the region. EEW has strong potential for the whole region since, in addition to the dense networks and data sharing, and most networks operate SeisComp3 as real time monitoring system—the same ecosystem SED uses to develop EEW algorithms. INETER now operates a test EEW system deploying VS and FinDet within SeisComp3, despite relatively limited resources. In a new phase of the project, we will cooperate with other Central American seismological institutions and intend to extend EEW operation into all countries in the region, building capacity and understanding of EEW, implementing best practice in network operation, and monitoring performance. The long term goal of the collaboration is to provide public EEW. We intend to work with key stakeholders including Civil Protection Institutions, central and local Governments and Social Scientists, to develop appropriate strategies for alert dissemination and public reaction.

The Potential Utility of an Earthquake Early Warning System in Eastern Canada

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Although damaging earthquakes in eastern Canada are relatively infrequent, a moderate or large earthquake has the potential to be felt, or even damaging, at large distances. The wide extent of strong shaking is caused by low attenuation in the region, allowing seismic waves to propagate efficiently throughout eastern North America. For example, the 1925, M6.2 earthquake occurring near Charlevoix, Quebec had an estimated modified Mercalli intensity (MMI) of V-VI in Ottawa and Montreal, roughly 300–400 km from the epicenter, and MMI IV in Toronto and New York City, approximately 600–900 km away from the epicenter. With the potential of future earthquakes affecting urban centers, an earthquake early warning system (EEWS) would be useful for alerting communities, infrastructure and individuals of expected ground shaking, with potentially significant lead-times. There are several issues to overcome in developing a functional EEWS in eastern Canada. One challenge, for example, is to cover a large area with a low network density. The Canadian National Seismic Network (CNSN) is currently being upgraded, providing an opportunity to selectively increase network density with a focus on optimizing the station positioning for improved EEWS performance. Other challenges with EEWS in eastern Canada, include maintaining public awareness when events are rarely felt, and developing an appropriate alerting strategy that maximizes warnings to zones at risk while minimizing the potential for false alerts. We discuss potential solutions to these challenges, and the wider application to eastern North America.

Earthquake Early Warning Feasibility Study for the New Madrid Seismic Zone

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Research in the last decade on Earthquake Early Warning Systems (EEWSs) has undergone rapid development in terms of theoretical and methodological advances in real-time data analysis, improved telemetry, and computer technology and is becoming a useful tool for practical real time seismic hazard mitigation. The main focus of this study is to undertake a feasibility study of an EEWS for the New Madrid Seismic Zone (NMSZ). The NMSZ covers a wide area with several heavily populated cities, vital infrastructures, and facilities located within a radius of less than 70 km from the epicenters of the 1811–1812 earthquakes. One of the challenges associated with the NMSZ is that while low to moderate levels of seismic activity are common, larger earthquakes are rare (i.e. there are no instrumentally recorded data for earthquakes with magnitudes greater than M5.5 in the NMSZ). We also recognize that it may not be realistic to provide early warning for all possible sources as is done on the west coast U.S. and we therefore focus on a specific source zone. We examine the stations within the NMSZ in order to answer the question “What changes should be applied to the NMSZ network to make it suitable for earthquake early warning (EEW)?” We also discuss the needed changes to the AQMS RT data acquisition system to make it useful for EEW. Our results show that EEW is feasible, though several technical challenges remain in incorporating its use with the present network.

MyShake – Building an Earthquake Early Warning System Using Smartphones

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MyShake is a global smartphone seismic network that harnesses the power of crowdsourcing. It is driven by the citizen scientists that running MyShake on their smartphones to detect earthquake. It has two components: an android application running on the personal smartphones to detect earthquake-like motion, and a network detection algorithm to aggregate results from multiple smartphones to detect earthquakes. Our goal is to build an earthquake early warning system across the globe using smartphones. This will be potentially a cheap and fast way for countries with high seismic risk but cannot afford traditional seismic networks. The MyShake application was released to the public on Feb 12th 2016. Until now, more than 300,000 people downloaded MyShake app across the world. Within 2 years preparation, we will start to find pilot places to issue warnings this year. In this presentation, we will present how to build a low-cost earthquake early warning system for Latin America and other less developed regions using the daily used smartphones. In addition, I will show our observations of using MyShake as an earthquake early warning system and share some examples of the real-world applications to recent earthquakes, which illustrate the performance of the current system as well as the limitations.

An Analysis of Real-Time GNSS Solutions from the M8.2 September 2017 Tehuantepec Earthquake and M7.9 January 2018 Kodiak Earthquake and Implications for Earthquake and Tsunami Early Warning Systems

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The 2017-09-08 earthquake M8.2 located 98 km SSW of Tres Picos, Mexico and 2018-01-23 M7.9 earthquake located 280 km SE of Kodiak, Alaska are the first great earthquakes to occur within the UNAVCO RT-GNSS footprint, which allows for a rigorous analysis of our dynamic and static processing methods. The need for rapid geodetic solutions ranges from seconds (EEW systems) to several minutes (Tsunami Warning and NEIC moment tensor and finite fault models). Here, we compare and quantify the relative processing strategies for producing static offsets, moment tensors and geodetically determined finite fault models using data recorded during this event. We also compare the geodetic solutions with the USGS NEIC seismically derived moment tensors and finite fault models, including displacement waveforms generated from these models. We define kinematic post-processed solutions from GIPSY-OASISII (v6.4) with final orbits and clocks as a “best” case reference to evaluate the performance of our different processing strategies. We find that static displacements of a few centimeters or less are difficult to resolve in the real-time GNSS position estimates, including the 5-min arc averages produced by UNAVCO. The standard daily 24-hour solutions produce the highest-quality data-set to determine coseismic offsets, but these solutions are delayed by up to 48 hours after the event. Dynamic displacements, estimated in real-time, however, show reasonable agreement with final, post-processed position estimates, and while individual position estimates have large errors, the real-time solutions offer an excellent operational option for EEW systems, including the use of estimated peak-ground displacements and directly inverting for finite fault solutions. In the near-field, we find that the geodetically derived moment tensors and finite fault models differ significantly with seismically-derived models, highlighting the utility of using geodetic data in hazard applications.
Earthquake Source Parameters: Theory, Observations and Interpretations

Oral Session · Thursday 17 May · 8:30 AM · Jasmine
Session Chairs: Vaclav Vavryck, Grzegorz Kwiatek, and Douglas Dreger

Geomechanical Insights from Numerical Modeling of Intact Rock Failure: Event Characteristics and Stress Drops

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A common assumption in the analysis of seismological data is that stresses are essentially homogeneous within an area or layer. This would imply for instance that only shear failure is possible in triaxial deformation tests when large differential stresses are imposed on the sample walls. Laboratory experiments however often find that acoustic emissions are characterized by predominantly tensile instead of shear failure mechanisms. We show using numerical simulations that both a strong- and weak-force network develops during triaxial deformation tests, causing significant stress heterogeneity and anisotropy. Acoustic emissions occur predominantly within the weak-force network such that tensile failure becomes feasible. We also find that stress drops are inversely proportional to the confining stress, in that they are largest for samples failing in a brittle fashion and close to zero for those samples displaying ductile deformation patterns. Finally, we observed systematic relationships between observed b-values, the number of acoustic emissions and stress-strain curves. These systematic trends may make it feasible to invert for stress changes in the Earth purely from the patterns in observed b-values and the amount of seismicity.

A Unified Theory for Faulting Style, Tectonic Regime, and Earthquake-Size Distribution

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Advancing in earthquakes forecasting is strictly linked to knowledge of stressing conditions on faults. Fault orientation and differential stress are related according to Anderson's faulting theory: thrust faults suffer higher differential stresses than normal faults, with strike-slip in the middle of them. Independently, laboratory measurements on acoustic emissions and latest evidences from natural seismicity have established that differential stress also controls earthquake populations' size distribution, or b-value, in an inverse linear way. Our global survey of earthquakes-size distribution reveals that observed spatial variations are consistent with faulting theory: different tectonic regimes are characterised by distinctive b-values, higher along the mid-oceanic ridges, lower in the subduction zones, and intermediate in the continental zones. So far, however, there has been no quantitative comparison and theory that unifies Anderson's faulting theory, differential stress dependency and earthquake size distribution. To develop such a theory, using a ternary b-value analysis combined with a Mohr-Coulomb criterion, we identify a systematic second-order effect of faulting geometry on earthquakes-size distribution: steep normal faults are found to have the highest b-values, while flat thrust faults have the lowest ones. Our theory predicts that, contrary to what proposed, the highest-lowest b-values should be observed not for "pure" normal-thrust mechanisms, providing then a new tool to be used for seismic hazard purposes.

Utilizing Stochastic Methods to Characterize Deformation Associated with Hydraulic Fracture Stimulations

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We use the collective behavior of micro-seismic events generated during the hydraulic fracture stimulation of a shale reservoir to characterize the spatial-temporal evolution of the deformation of the reservoir rock. Our analysis is based on the study of the "seismic flow of rocks" developed by Riznichenko and Kostrov in the 60's and 70's, where rock volumes are considered as continuous medium under quasi-plastic deformation that contain earthquake sources (medium particles) which result from and contribute to the volume deformation. As such, the cumulative seismicity describes the deformation and stress changes in the rock volume. This approach is valid for volumes containing clusters of earthquakes that are much larger than the earthquakes sources over time periods much larger than the earthquakes recurrence times, which is the typical case of hydraulic fracturing treatments where hundreds of micro-seismic events are generated over a 3 to 4 hour injection period in a volume surrounding the perforation where fluids are being injected. We use spatial and temporal clustering approaches to evaluate groupings of micro-seismic events and perform statistical analysis on the source properties (seismic moment, radiated energy, source radius, seismic efficiency, etc.) and inter-relations (inter-event times and distances) to characterize and map the dynamic response of the rock volume to stimulation. We decompose the overall rock response into 3 competing indices or dynamic parameters: Plasticity Index, PI (relates to anelastic deformation); Stress Index, SI, (relates to the stress-induced fracturing); Diffusion Index, DI, (relates to the diffusion of seismicity), and identify and track areas in the rock volume where deformation is more likely to result from stress transfer or fluid induced mechanism. We find the method successful in characterizing the large scale dynamic response of the rock volume to the injection program.

Stress Drop and Scaling of Earthquakes at the Geysers Geothermal Field, California

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Seismicity from the EGS demonstration experiment at The Geysers, CA Prati-32 injection well has been investigated for the seismic moment tensor, in situ stress, and the scaling of earthquake source parameters. One objective is to develop an approach for estimating a statistical representation of the fracture network generated from the injection of fluids into hot dry rock. We have performed finite-source inversion of seismic moment rate functions obtained for earthquakes spanning the magnitude range of Mw 1 to 5 in the vicinity of the EGS demonstration site to investigate the scaling of source dimension, slip, and stress drop. We find that these small earthquakes are not simple ruptures and can have strong directivity effects, with multiple asperities of slip. Rupture area is found to be consistent with the Wells and Coppersmith (1994) and Leonard (2010) scaling laws developed for much larger (Mw≥5.5) earthquakes. Owing to the complex nature of the kinematic finite-source models we use the method of Ripperger and Mai (2004) to compute the static stress change. We find that peak stress drops can be large, however, on average they are consistent with the aforementioned source scaling laws. Finally, we demonstrate how seismic moment tensor, in situ stress inversion, and finite-source modeling can be used to characterize the statistical fracture density and fracture network induced by fluid injection.

Validation of a 3-Stage Source Scaling for Crustal Earthquakes

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Source scaling is a fundamental issue to understand earthquakes. A magnitude and log area (M-logA) relation is a key scaling to link modeling of seismic source and ground motion. Currently, scenario seismic hazard maps in Japan adopt a 3-stage M-logA scaling for crustal earthquakes, although many national seismic hazard maps use a linear or bilinear scaling. The 3-stage M-logA scaling is originally proposed by Scholz (2002). Recent developments of slip inversions enabled us to improve quantitative estimates of the scaling. Based on the source characterization of slip inversions, the M-logA scaling for crustal earthquakes are: The first circular-crack model stage of A (km2) = 2.23 x 10−15 (Mo (Nm)) x 10−2 (3/2) by Somerville et al. (1999) for Mw>6.5, the second L-model stage of A (km2) = 4.24 x 10−11 (Mo (Nm)) x 10−7/2 by Irikura and Miyake (2001, 2011) for Mw = 6.5-7.4 after fault width saturation, and the third W-model stage of A (km2) = 1.0 x 10−17 Mo (Nm) by Muratori et al. (2015) for Mw>7.4 after fault displacement saturation. The 3-stage M-logA scaling shows the first bending at L-Wmax with significant gaps that pointed out by past 2-D numerical simulations. The second L-model stage is similar to Hanks and Bakun (2002) that is well constraint by megafault systems. We also confirmed that dynamic rupture simulations for strike-slip faulting using 3-D FDM of Dalgeyer et al. (2008) naturally reproduce the 3-stage M-logA scaling. To fit the scaling between slip inversions and dynamic rupture simulations, slight increase of stress drop from 2.3 to over 3.0 MPa is required in the second L-model stage. Those are compatible with the statistical models by Fuji and Matsuzawa (2000) and Shaw and Scholz (2001).
Spatial and temporal distributions of aftershocks were studied for recent moderate earthquakes that occurred at shallow depth onshore of Japan and were well recorded by the regional networks. These events include the 2000 Western Tottori (Mw 6.7), 2004 Niigata Chuetsu (Mw 6.6), 2005 Fukui (Mw 6.6), 2007 Noto Peninsula (Mw 6.7), 2007 Niigata Chuetsu-oki (Mw 6.8), 2008 Iwate-Miyagi-ken (Mw 6.8), 2016 Kumamoto (Mw 6.2) and 2017 Tottori (Mw 6.2) earthquakes. All of these earthquakes are approximately of similar size, however, the rates of aftershock activity are quite different. The 2004 Niigata and 2008 Iwate-Miyagi earthquakes have significantly more aftershocks than the other 7 events. In the spatial locations of the aftershocks, these two earthquakes have more complex spatial distributions with more aftershocks occurring away from the mainshock fault plane. There appears to be a correlation between the rate of aftershock activity and the spatial complexity of the locations. The sequences with higher rates of aftershock occurrence may be associated with aftershocks triggered in a volume around the mainshock. In contrast, for the other sequences, aftershocks occur mainly in a planar pattern close to the mainshock fault plane. The early time sequences of the aftershocks for these events were also examined. Using continuously recorded seismograms from nearby borehole stations of Hi-net, aftershocks were identified and counted. From about one minute following the mainshock origin time, we estimate that we can identify aftershocks with magnitudes down to Mj 3.5. For the first few minutes the rate of aftershocks is quite similar for all of the mainshocks. The higher rate of aftershocks for the 2004 Niigata and 2008 Iwate-Miyagi earthquakes appears to begin about 10 minutes after the mainshock. This suggests that the enhanced triggering of aftershock for these two earthquakes may be caused by some changes in the aftershock region several minutes after the mainshock.

Anomalous High Stress Drop Earthquake Produced by Compressive Fault Steps in the West Bohemia Swarm Region

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Analysis of observations of the 2008–2014 seismic activity in West Bohemia, Czech Republic, provides evidence of interaction of compressive fault steps which induced an anomalously strong earthquake. The studied focal zone is formed by two parallel strike-slip faults with a step and overlap of about 200 m. The fault segments were activated successively by the 2008 and 2011 earthquake swarms with magnitudes of the strongest events of 3.8, and 5.7, respectively. The separate fault segments were linked during the 2014 mainshock-aftershock activity. The strongest earthquake with magnitude of 4.2 occurred on a new fracture formed between the existing parallel fault segments. It displayed a high stress drop and a reverse focal mechanism inconsistent with the regional background stress. Inversion of focal mechanisms for stress revealed a local stress anomaly characterized by interchanging the σ2 and σ3 principal stress axes in the area of the fault interaction. The modeling of the Coulomb stress change confirmed that the stress anomaly can significantly alter or even completely disturb the regional background stress. The results indicate that breaking a barrier between fault segments under compressive stress regime can be particularly dangerous because it might generate an earthquake stronger than the strongest earthquakes observed at the individual fault segments. This finding is scale invariant and should be valid even for large earthquakes.

Complex Source Spectra in Small Earthquakes Caused by Multiple Asperities

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In order to characterize earthquake rupture features, it is a fundamental task to explore earthquake parameters such as the seismic moment, the rupture dimension, and the static stress drop. Spectral analysis is one widely used method to investigate these source parameters. Therefore, as the basis of the spectral analysis, a physically plausible and observationally consistent source spectral model is essential in interpreting recorded data. A successfully applied source model is the omega-square model, characterized by a flat low-frequency spectral asymptote and a high-frequency asymptote proportional to the inverse square of frequency (Aki, 1967). Multiple theoretical studies have derived source spectral models, usually in agreement with the standard omega-square model but with more model-dependent complexities, and these are useful in connecting spectral properties with stress drop estimates (Bostock, 1970; Madariaga, 1976; Brune, 1970; Kaneko and Shearer, 2014, 2015; Wang and Day, 2017). The improvement of seismograms in quantity and quality in recent years has enabled recording of more small events with extensive station coverage and broad spectral bandwidth, potentially revealing more rupture detail. As an example, many small crustal events in the northern Ibaraki prefecture and the Fukushima prefecture Hamada area of Japan, are reported to deviate systematically from the standard omega-square model, with evidence of a double-corner-frequency shape, with low- and high-frequency bumps in residual spectra that may reflect source complexity (Uchide and Imanishi, 2016). We attribute this spectral shape to a multi-asperity source model. By simulating a dynamic multi-asperity scenario, we find (1) a high frequency decay with omega-square asymptote that is mainly controlled by outer marginal stopping phases, (2) an intermediate-frequency slope lower than 2 that is controlled by multiple asperities (with the difference in decay rate between intermediate- and high-frequency band contributing a high-frequency bump in residual spectra), and (3) a spectral bump at low frequency that results from constructive interferences of asperity pulses (contributing the low frequency bump in residual spectra). In the future, we would like to generalize a spectral model to deal with the multi-asperity case and better characterize source complexities and stress regimes.

Three-Dimensional Directivity Analysis for Resolving Source Parameters and Rupture Complexities

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Rupture properties, such as rupture direction, length, propagation speed and source duration, provide important insights into earthquake mechanisms. One approach to estimate these properties is to investigate the rupture directivity effect using the body-wave duration measurements. We demonstrate that the directivity effect should be treated as a three-dimensional problem, rather than assuming a horizontal or a likely fault plane. For example, ignoring the distance dependence of observed duration can significantly bias the earthquake duration, especially for nearly vertical rupture propagation. The three-dimensional directivity analysis can be further extended to include multiple subevents for complex ruptures. In contrast to the simple unilateral case, the durations of non-unilateral ruptures often do not exhibit the simple sinusoidal pattern, and shows that complex earthquakes need to be studied with caution, e.g., the shortest observed duration cannot be used to infer the rupture direction. Based upon the framework, we apply a new inversion approach to two deep-focus events in the Sea of Okhotsk region, an Mw 7.7 event that occurred on 2012 August 14 and an Mw 8.3 event from 2013 May 24, to obtain the source duration, the rupture extent, speed, and direction. The duration measurements for the Mw 8.3 event show significant deviation from a simple sinusoidal pattern associated with the unilateral propagation, indicating that the event involves multiple subevents. When the multi-stage analysis is added, propagation directions are obtained, one towards the southwest and another towards southeast. The two-stage model gives a better fit to the data than the unilateral model, and is compatible with the back-projection analysis, demonstrating that the rupture propagation of the Mw 8.3 event is complex.

The Virginia City, Nevada, Earthquake Sequence: Exploring Complexities in Source Properties of Small Events (M<3) and Fault Geometry

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We attempt a detailed analysis of a small earthquake sequence to reveal how seismicity migrates across complex structures and how stresses change both in space and time, while also exploring mechanisms of driving forces (i.e. aseismic slip, fluid migration). The Virginia City, Nevada earthquake sequence (M<3.2) occurred within the Walker Lane from 2010–2016. Recent increases in station quality and coverage at the Nevada Seismological Laboratory, enable earthquake sequences east of the Sierra Range to be studied in detail, despite the relatively small magnitudes. Our aim is to contribute to a further understanding of the region’s seismicity and the complexities of Walker Lane area; specifically, to characterize seismically active structures and source properties in order to understand the seismic hazard implications. To investigate this sequence, we use absolute relocations and the relative relocation program GrowClust, calculate focal mechanisms, and compile measurements of stress drop and directivity of larger events (M > 2). We are able to relocate 366 of the 429 events detected by the network, with an average relative error of < 105 m. Relocations show three well-defined
linear structures spanning ~1 km, ranging from 8–10 km in depth. First-motion focal mechanisms indicate both normal and strike-slip movement. During the 9-day, most active period of the sequence, we detect a clear migration of seismicity, from east to west, with each structure activating in turn. We calculate spectral ratios and get preliminary results of stress drops for 10 of the events in the sequence, averaging 2 and 6 MPa for both P and S waves, respectively. Using the computed source-time functions and a wide coverage of NSL stations, we observe a clear association with azimuth and constrain possible rupture directivity. Additionally, 54% of events tested show complexities in the source time functions, and are not well fit by a simple circular rupture model.

The Eigenvalue Lune as a Window on Moment Tensors
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A moment tensor is a symmetric matrix that expresses the source for a seismic event. The fundamental lune of eigenvalues is a certain subset of the unit sphere whose points represent the source types for all moment tensors. Familiar source types such as double couple or pure isotropic have natural locations on the lune. Although the lune consists only of source types, it gives a useful, if incomplete, picture of moment tensor space as a whole. For each subset B of the lune we therefore consider the associated set BU of unit moment tensors that have their source types in B. We then wish to get a sense of BU from looking at B. We succeed in calculating both the volume and the angular diameter of BU. We also calculate the angular diameter and the volume of the set LambdaDU of unit moment tensors that have source type Lambda, and we plot the results as contours on the lune. We show that equal angular lengths on the circle correspond to equal angular lengths on the moment tensors, and that arc length on the lune gives a natural measure of difference in source type. We show how to calculate volume elements for a variety of moment tensor coordinates. Volumes are relevant in part because we equate fractional volume with the probability that expresses randomness. We thus can find the probability that a random moment tensor has its source type in a given subset of the lune. These insights could be useful for characterizing uncertainties for individual events and for distinguishing source types among a set of events. Additional challenges of uncertainty characterization are expected if additional source parameters are considered, such as magnitude, hypocenter, origin time and source-time function.

Seismic Source Parameters Inversion for Earthquakes in Bardarbunga Volcano for the Current Seismicity and the 2014–2015 Caldera Collapse Related Events
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Volcanic earthquakes are controlled by a wide range of physical parameters. The relative importance of such parameters, and how they are connected, can be difficult to discern, due to limited observations. However, large eruptions are outstanding opportunities for studying those parameters, since the magnitude seismicity could be unusually large, such as the Holuhraun fissure eruption due to Bardarbunga caldera collapse. The fissure eruption in Holuhraun in September 2014, due to the laterally propagating dike that connects this lava field with the Bardarbunga caldera, was coincident in time with the subsidence of approximate 70 m in the caldera (Guðmundsson et al., 2016). Some of the earthquakes associated with the caldera subsidence exhibit large non-double-couple components (NDCC) in their seismic moment tensors. This could be due to one of several phenomena, including intrusive processes like dikes or sills (Kanamori et al. 1993, 1995). These observations suggest that the source of the Holuhraun eruption is related to the Bardarbunga caldera. The fissure eruption in Holuhraun has been well documented due to its close proximity to the Bardarbunga caldera. The fissure eruption in Holuhraun in September 2014, due to the laterally propagating dike that connects this lava field with the Bardarbunga caldera, was coincident in time with the subsidence of approximate 70 m in the caldera (Guðmundsson et al., 2016). Some of the earthquakes associated with the caldera subsidence exhibit large non-double-couple components (NDCC) in their seismic moment tensors. This could be due to one of several phenomena, including intrusive processes like dikes or sills (Kanamori et al. 1993, 1995).

The major challenge for the moment tensor determination is associated with relatively low magnitude events (Mw~4) recorded by few (e.g. 4) regional stations at relatively large distances (300–600 km) and analyzed with standard velocity models of the region. Difficulties arise from the fact that syntheses in standard models, e.g. those routinely used in location, cannot properly match real waveforms; un-modeled time shifts and amplitude differences appear. The situation is even worse when real waveforms can be matched, but the retrieved focal mechanism is incorrect. This paper investigates an alternative methodology, more robust with respect to inappropriate velocity models: the inversion of waveform envelopes. The envelopes are derived from normalized waveforms and inverted by grid search for the strike, dip, and rake, and the moment is obtained by the least-squares method. The method is proposed on an empirical basis, by studying effects of velocity models upon synthetic waveforms and finding that information about the waveforms is encoded in the various components of the envelope shape, and amplitudes among the seismonogram components. Besides synthetic tests, the method has been tested on real data comprising two earthquakes in Brazil: the Mara Rosa (Mw 4.3, 2010) and Maranhão (Mw 4.3, 2017) and compared with the trustable solutions from previous studies based on ad-hoc path-specific velocity models. We obtained the same mechanism with a routinely available 1-D model and a single-station polarity constraint. The envelope inversion is a promising technique which might be useful in similar sparse networks, such as the one in Brazil, where standard waveform inversion in general is not fully efficient.

Directly Estimating Earthquake Rupture Area Using Second Moments to Reduce the Uncertainty in Stress Drop
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The key kinematic source parameters: rupture velocity, duration and area, shed light on earthquake dynamics, provide direct constraints on stressing drop, and have implications for seismic hazard. However, for moderate and small earthquakes, these parameters are usually poorly constrained. Numerical experiments by Kaneko and Shearer (2014,2015) demonstrated that standard spectral fitting techniques can lead to roughly 1 order of magnitude variation in stress-drop estimates that do not reflect the actual rupture properties even for simple crack models. For a suite of their models, the model averaged stress drop is nearly constant for models with the same underlying friction law, yet corner frequency based stress-drop estimates vary by a factor of 5–10 even for noise free data. Alternatively, we simulated inversions for the rupture area as parameterized by the second moments of the slip distribution. This approach yields estimates of stress drop that vary by only 10% between the models but are slightly larger than the true area-averaged values. We simulate inversions for the second moments for the various models and find that the area can be estimated well when there are at least 15 available measurements of apparent duration. The improvement compared to corner-frequency based approaches results from the second moments accounting for directivity and removing the assumption of a circular rupture area. We also develop a new method that determines the minimum and maximum values of rupture area that are consistent with a particular dataset at the 95% confidence level. For synthetic datasets with 20+ randomly distributed observations and 10% noise levels, we find that the minimum and maximum bounds on rupture area typically vary by only a factor of two and that the minimum stress drop is often more tightly constrained than the maximum. Examples of the min/max rupture area inversions will be presented for earthquakes in Southern California and Oklahoma.

Odd Moment Tensor
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The interesting question "Why do nominal compressional (P-wave) seismic energy sources generate so much shear (S-wave) energy?" arises in both explosion and exploration seismology. The relative amount of P vs S energy is an important, but not definitive, discriminant between explosive (chemical or nuclear) and earthquake (shear and/or tensile dislocation) seismic sources. A long-established (and over-simplified) model of a buried explosion is a spherical cavity subject to uniform radial surface traction (time-varying pressure). Spherically-symmetric and radially-polarized P-waves diverge from the source zone. The moment density tensor representation consists of three orthogonal force dipoles of equal magnitude, activated with same waveform. The tensor is isotropic, and is thus even in the mathematical sense. Many common seismic sources (double couple with no net moment) also lead to an even tensor. However, the same cavity subject to tangential (or twisting) traction about a symmetry axis radiates only S-waves. The moment tensor characterizing such a torque source is odd. These two source types are end members on a continuum between pure P and pure S generators. In this study, we derive a general 3x3 moment tensor with nine independent elements. Two important implications of an odd moment tensor pertain to forward modeling and inversion of seismic data. For forward modeling via the first-order coupled velocity-stress PDE system, even and odd parts constitute particular inhomogeneous (body source) terms, differentiated with respect to time and space, respectively. Most moment tensor inversion algorithms presently restrict consideration to symmetry, which biases results if the actual tensor has an odd part.

Synthetic and field examples of data generated by "nominal P" sources containing clear S arrivals are given. Finally, we demonstrate construction of a dipole seismic source by superposing two point moment sources of opposite polarity, with infinitesimal separation.

A Proposed Rupture Scenario for the 1925 Santa Barbara, California, Earthquake

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The 29 June 1925 Santa Barbara earthquake is among the largest 20th century earthquakes in southern California. The earthquake predated the installation of strong motion and local monitoring instruments in southern California; some instrumental data are, however, available from long-period instruments at regional and tectonic distances. The current catalog moment magnitude, MW 6.8, was estimated from an instrumental recording at Berkeley (Hanks et al., 1975) and recent analysis of original intensity data (Bakun, 2006). Earlier published magnitudes estimated from original intensity assignments by the Coast and Geodetic Survey were lower (M16.3). In this study, we revisit original accounts and assign modified Mercalli intensity values at 239 locations, including detailed damage information from 14 specific locations in Santa Barbara. Comparing the reinterpreted intensities with Did You Feel it? intensities for recent earthquakes in California, we estimate Mw6.5, with a plausible range of 6.3–6.6. We further consider reported instrumental amplitudes at regional and tectonic distances, and estimate the instrumental moment magnitude of MW6.6±0.5. Our preferred final estimate is Mw6.5. Based on available constraints including after-shock locations inferred from data recorded on portable instruments, we propose that the earthquake nucleated east of the city of Santa Barbara, closer to the coast than previously estimated, and ruptured unilaterally ~30 km to the west, possibly along the south-dipping Rincon Creek/Mesa/More Ranch reverse fault system. Relatively high intensities ~50 km west of Santa Barbara can then be explained by directivity rather than involvement of the Santa Ynez fault, as early studies suggested. Finally, we present evidence suggesting that the earthquake might have been induced by oil industry activities in the Summerland oil field.

Rupture Lengths of Intraplate Earthquakes in Brazil Determined by Relative Location of Aftershocks: Evidence for Depth Dependence of Stress Drops

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Whether intraplate and interplate earthquakes have different average source properties has been long debated. It has been proposed that intraplate events tend to rupture smaller areas with higher stress drops. We estimate rupture lengths of several Brazilian earthquakes by accurately locating their immediate aftershocks. The sparsity of stations in low-seismicity regions, such as Brazil, hinders accurate epicentral determination. Cross-correlation of P-, S- and Lg waves can accurately locate the aftershocks relative to one another. In several cases, it was possible to infer the rupture length by the distribution of the early aftershocks, with the later aftershocks tending to span a larger area. We studied seven aftershock sequences with regional stations. The mainshock occurs close to the foreshocks, which act as triggers to the main rupture. The immediate aftershocks tend to occur in a circle around a central (presumably stress-free) zone, interpreted as the rupture of the mainshock. Published data from other events, based mainly on local networks, were added to empirically relate rupture length and Mw. These data suggest that stress-drops in Brazil vary mostly between 0.1 and 10 MPa, a similar to many other studies worldwide. However, the mean stress drop (about 1 MPa) is smaller than the mean values of both interplate and intraplate events globally (mostly between 2 and 10 MPa). A possible dependence of stress drops with hypocentral depth may explain this difference: Brazilian intraplate earthquakes tend to be shallower than most other mid plate regions giving rise to smaller stress drops, on average. This result has important implications for seismic hazard estimation when GMPE equations from other intraplate regions are used in Brazil.

Earthquake Stress Drops Determined from Arias Intensity

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We estimate earthquake stress drop directly from the Arias intensity database of NGA-West2 and compare those estimates to other methods for calculating stress drop from the same database, taking careful consideration of the assumptions of each method. Arias intensity is an engineering measure proportional to the integral of the square of the absolute value of acceleration, over the significant duration of the signal (Arias, 1975). As such, it is closely related to the root-mean-square acceleration, and can readily be connected to stress drop using the relationship of Hanks and McGuire [1981]. Implicit in that estimation is the assumed equality between earthquake source duration and the inverse of the corner frequency. In the NGA-West2 database Arias intensity measurements are tabulated for each ground-motion record, with two pieces of information at each 5th-per-centile of duration: the value of the cumulative intensity at each percentile, and the time at which that intensity is reached. We first estimate the stress drop for all records in the NGA-West2 database from the Arias intensity, and then explicitly consider the relationship between the observed duration and the derived source corner frequency from the estimated stress drop. We find the observed duration depends not only on the source duration but also on the path distance, consistent with Boore and Thompson [2014]. We also compare the stress drop determined from this method to that estimated from PGA and spectra methods for the same data, as well as the empirical event-term determined from ground-motion prediction equations. The variability of the Arias intensity-based stress drop is as low as that of Gof-based stress drops from Balitay et al. [2010, 2011], nearly on par with variability seen in ground-motion prediction equations. The Arias intensity stress drop is a novel and promising approach for understanding stress drop variability and physical connections to ground motion uncertainty.

Systematic Observations of the Slip-Pulse Properties of Large Earthquakes

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In earthquake dynamics there are two end-member models of rupture: propagating cracks and self-healing pulses. These arise due to different properties of ruptures and have implications for seismic hazard; rupture mode controls near-field strong ground motions. Past studies favor the pulse-like mode of rupture, however, due to a variety of limitations, it has proven difficult to systematically establish their kinematic properties. Here we synthesize observations from a database of 250 rupture models of earthquakes spanning M7–M9 processed in a uniform manner and show the magnitude scaling properties (rise time, pulse width, and peak slip rate) of these slip pulses indicates self-similarity. Self-similarity suggests a weak form of rupture determinism, where early on in the source process broader, higher amplitude slip pulses will distinguish between events of increasing magnitude. Indeed, we find by analyzing the moment rate functions that large (M7.5+) and very large (M8.5+) events are statistically distinguishable relatively early (at ~15 seconds) in the rupture process. This suggests that with dense regional geophysical networks the potential strong ground motions from a large rupture can be identified before their onset across the source region.

Variability in Seismic Source Spectra and Stress Drop from Repeating Earthquake Sequences along the Nicoya Peninsula Megathrust

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Using template-matching, we identify clusters of repeating events, RE, before and after a megathrust earthquake and analyze temporal and spatial variations in stress drop, SD. An increasing number of observations in different tectonic regimes and laboratory experiments have revealed conflicting answers about whether earthquake SD scales with magnitude. In theory measuring SD should be simple, in practice it has been very difficult to characterize in a robust manner. RE provide an opportunity to measure and constrain SD variability. We analyze temporal and spatial changes in source parameters of earthquakes on the plate interface that occur before and after the 2012 M7.6 Nichoya, Costa Rica earthquake. RE (M2.2–3.3), identified in the aftershock catalog during the 4 months following this event are used as templates to extend the catalog of RE from 2007 through 2015. This search yields 26 clusters that repeat at least once per year. We analyze scaling relations and self-similarity of the earthquake source spectra for more than 100 earthquakes, including the 26 clusters of RE and non-repeating aftershocks of the Nichoya earthquake (M2.5–5.5). We correct spectra of larger events for attenuation using the empirical Green’s function, eGF, method and evaluate the complexity of the eGF spectral ratio based on its fit to a Boatwright source model. Thus far, 38% of the events analyzed exhibit complexity (vari- ance<85%) that cannot be accounted for using simple rupture models. We elimi- nate complex events from further analysis. Measurements from only the “simple spectra” in our event catalog show invariance of SD with depth and no spatial vari- ability. However, results from a single family of RE with simple spectra through time, reveal temporal changes in SD before and after the 2012 earthquake that are accompanied by a reduction in relative magnitude of 0.3 units. We interpret these changes as reflecting variations in loading rate along the plate interface.

Emergency Management, Resilience and Preparedness
Oral Session · Thursday 17 May · 10:45 PM · Monroe
Session Chairs: Victor A. Huerfano, Christa G. von Hillebrandt-Andrade, Elizabeth A. Vanacore, and Ronald Jackson

2018 Honduras Earthquake and Tsunami: Notification and Response Process
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On January 10, 2018 at 2:51 UTC (January 9 between 8:51 and 10:51 PM local time) a Mw 7.6 earthquake occurred offshore Swan Island (Honduras). Fortunately there was no significant damage from the earthquake and the tsunami was small. This was the first time the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center (PTWC) issued a Tsunami Threat for the Caribbean since the enhanced tsunami products for the UNESCO IOC Tsunami and Other Coastal Hazards Warning System for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions (CARIBE EWS) were adopted in 2015. It was also the first time a Tsunami Advisory was issued for Puerto Rico and the US and British Virgin Islands (PR/VI). While the first message that was issued was based on the earthquake, following messages integrated the tsunami forecast and observations. The earthquake was felt in some countries; others for whom the Tsunami Threat/Advisory was issued did not report feeling the earthquake which is often the first sign of a potential threat, making even more important the official alerting process. Both the international and domestic text products were timely sent by the PTWC to designated authorities and posted on the tsunami.gov website. For the international stakeholders it is their responsi- bility thru their designated Tsunami Warning Focal Point/National Tsunami Warning Center to determine the threat level. In the case of PR/VI, the alert level (Warning, Advisory, Watch or Information) is established by the PTWC. In either case, international or domestic, it is the responsibility of the national/ local governments to decide on the actions to be taken (evacuate or not evacu- ate) and to notify the public. The event timeline, as well as the UNESCO IOC CARIBE EWS after action report will be presented. In addition to identifying the strengths and gaps of tsunami warning system, the event review is also impor- tant considering the impact that hurricanes Irma and Maria had on local communication and emergency response systems and the public.

The Effects of Natural Disasters on the Demand for Education and Outreach in Puerto Rico: Why Now?
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In September of 2017 Puerto Rico experienced the devastation of two hurricanes, Irma and Maria. On January 10, 2018 a 7.6 Mw earthquake near Honduras pro- moted the activation of the tsunami advisory for Puerto Rico. These three recent events have changed the life of Puerto Ricans and have raised an urgency to be better prepared in case of natural disasters that may be affecting our welfare at any time. The Puerto Rico Seismic Network Education and Outreach depart- ment (E&O) serves the entire island community in its efforts to enhance tsunami education and preparedness. The E&O department, impacts thousands of people in our community not including larger annual exercise (ShakeOut and Caribe Wave) through talks, conferences, workshops and fairs. From September 20th until December the requests for talks and conferences decreased to almost zero due to the devastation of the Island. The lack of power and water supply, inacces- sible roads, collapsed bridges, floods, and lack of communications affected our activities. This, plus the long recovery process changed the priorities of our citi- zens. By January 2018, the raised awareness of the fragility of our wellbeing and partial recovery from the hurricanes, caused a significant increase in demand for E&O services with many communities indicating a raised urgency to be prepared and take the right actions now, before another disaster strikes. A second peak in requests occurred after the tsunami advisory level message issued for Puerto Rico. Despite outreach efforts to present tsunami and earthquake information to the community through talks, web page, educational material, the media, among others, the community became aware that they have not taken the time to learn and understand the tsunami protocols. Here we present the effects of natural disasters on community demand for E&O services and methods employed to take advantage of the receptiveness of our citizens in order to understand these natural phenomena.

Developing Local-Context Messages for Protective Actions during Earthquakes in Anse-a-Veau, Haiti
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In the unnerving seconds when earthquake shaking begins, a person’s action may spell the difference between safety and suffering. Various messages that describe protective actions have been issued in the United States, such as: Drop, Cover and Hold on, triangle of life, stand in a doorway. But these may not be the saf- est actions in the far more vulnerable built environments that exist in many earthquake-prone countries. The safest response may depend on the intensity of shaking, building type, a person’s location in the building, and access to exits. Factors such as culture, gender, folklore and literacy may influence a person’s trust in the message as well as their ensuing behavior. GeoHazards International devel- oped a data-driven tsunami warning and earthquake protective actions in diverse contexts. They devised a local process and local factors to consider. Sixty-nine multidisciplinary disaster professionals, from 22 countries, contributed experiences, critiques, and key considerations. Applying the locally-based process in a pilot program to develop locally appropriate earthquake safety messages, GeoHazards International worked with the community of Anse-à- Veau, a coastal city in Haiti that was hit by a M 6.5 of earthquake and tsunami in 1952. The goal was to create messages that people understand, trust, and practice, so they take the safest action during an earthquake or tsunami. Members of the diverse, newly-created Anse-à-Veau earthquake safety committee and Haitian experts conducted training for residents and local authorities, so that they were able to understand their hazard risk and identify local vulnerabilities. This strat- egy, which fully engages the community, will subsequently make Anse-à-Veau more prepared and resilient to future earthquakes and tsunamis. Lessons learned from this project will be incorporated to update the guidance.

Previsioni Operative Del Terremoto, Sōsa-Jō No Jishin Yochi, and Operational Earthquake Forecasts: Exploring How Operational Earthquake Forecasts Are Communicated in Italy, Japan, New Zealand, and the United States
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Earthquake forecasts have been produced by statistical seismologists in a variety of forms for almost forty years. These forecasts, meant to illuminate potential futures of earthquake sequences, have undergone a variety of changes in that time, with the goal of clearly and usefully communicating scientific information to key stakeholders (e.g., decision makers, emergency managers, building engineers) and members of the public. Probabilities are notoriously difficult to communicate, particularly when risk actions are involved. Further complicating an already complex science communication issue is the different types of forecasts produced by four different countries–Japan, Italy, New Zealand and the United States of America. These four countries are producing forecasts that meet the standards of the Collaboratory for the Study of Earthquake Predictability (CSEP). This presentation describes the different types of contemporary forecasts being produced in these four countries, with a focus on the processes of message development and channels used for communication with particular audiences, specifically emergency managers, building engineers, decision makers, planners, and vested audiences. Further, the research uses thematic analysis of available forecasts to examine content and presentation over time with respect to best-communication practice literature. Cultural and social contexts, as well as lessons learned from each country, will be shared to inform development of forecasts for future use.

No Blank Slates: Socio-Technical Systems Theory as a Guiding Principle for Disaster Response and Recovery

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On December of 2017, already three months after the disastrous hit of Hurricane Maria to Puerto Rico, the president of the Smart Electric Power Alliance said to two E&E News reporters: “Here we are, sadly, in a position where Puerto Rico is as close to a blank slate as we ever thought realistically would come to pass”. The New York Times echoed that statement is a series of articles citing good intentioned citizens saying that this was “a chance to work on a blank canvas”. Since then, more than two dozen U.S. consortiums and renewable energy companies have landed on Puerto Rico looking to implement innovative energy technologies and models in their desire to rebuild the ravaged island. In that process, they have become part of Puerto Rico’s energy debate inside and outside the archipelago. However, the argument of the blank slate is founded on a problematic premise: that energy systems are only physical systems and that they do not involve sociological dimensions such as values, beliefs, institutions, norms and power relationships among stakeholders. In other words, that premise presupposes that energy transitions do not require regime changes, and even if they do, that is accomplished by an injection of new external actors. The Socio-technical Systems (STS) theory has contradicted this premise for more than twenty years. As Verbong and Geels (2006), and Geels (2005), have proposed, socio-technical regimes have at least two main sociological dimensions: actors and formal, normative and cognitive rules. STS also suggests that existing sociotechnical regimes are characterized by path dependence and lock-in, resulting from stabilizing mechanisms on those two dimensions in conjunction with the system’s material and technical elements such as the grid, generation plants, and the energy resources among others (Unruh, 2000; Walker, 2000). This theory can explain why almost five months after the impact of Hurricane Maria, and the influx of many external actors such as FEMA, the US Corps of Engineers, and multinational private companies, more than half of the population is still lacking electric service in the island. It also can illuminate why disaster response and external aid often fails in reaching their goals.

Forecasting Aftershock Sequences in the Real World

Oral Session - Thursday 17 May - 3:45 PM - Hibiscus A
Session Chairs: Matthew C. Gerstenberger, Sara K. Mcbride, Nick Horpsool, and David A. Rhoades

Non-Parametric Aftershock Forecasts Based on Similar Sequences in the Past

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The basic premise behind aftershock forecasting is that sequences in the future will be similar to those in the past. Forecast models typically use empirically tuned parametric distributions to approximate past sequences, and project those distributions into the future. While parametric models do a good job of describing average outcomes, they fail to capture the full range of variability between sequences, and can suffer from over-tuning of the parameters. In particular, parametric forecasts may produce a high rate of “surprises” – sequences that land outside the forecast range. Here we present a non-parametric forecast method based on finding past sequences that are similar to the target sequence. We quantify similarity based on the observed event count within a specified differential magnitude threshold relative to the mainshock. The forecast is then constructed from the distribution of past sequences outcomes, weighted by their similarity. We compare the similarity forecast with the Reasenberg and Jones (RJ89) method, for a set of global aftershock sequences of M2.6 mainshocks. We implement a RJ89 forecast using a global average prior and sequence-specific Bayesian updating. The similarity forecast is somewhat less precise than the RJ89 forecast, with 85% of sequences falling within a factor of two of the median forecast value, whereas the fraction is 90% for RJ89. However, the surprise rate is much lower for the similarity forecast; fewer than 3% of sequences exceed the upper 2.5% range of the similarity forecast, whereas this number is 10% for the Poissonian RJ89 forecast. The similarity forecast may be useful to emergency managers and non-specialists when confidence or expertise in parametric forecasting may be lacking. The method makes over-tuning impossible, and minimizes the rate of surprises. At the least, this forecast constitutes a useful benchmark for more precisely tuned parametric forecasts.

Evolution of Aftershock Sequences Based on the Geometry of Successive Focal Mechanisms

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Detailed studies of the evolution of aftershock sequences have focused overwhelmingly on the timing and location of individual earthquakes and their interpretation in terms of empirical and physical models of stress transfer controlled by the mainshock alone or by the mainshock and only the largest aftershocks. While the gross spatial and temporal features of aftershock sequences can be accounted for with this approach, the role played by smaller-scale interactions between low-magnitude aftershocks remains unclear. To date, comparatively little attention has been paid to aftershocks’ focal mechanisms, which, in principle, enable incremental stress changes associated with lower-magnitude after-shocks to be computed and incorporated in stress transfer models. In this study, we analyse the moment tensors of earthquakes that occurred in the South Island of New Zealand following the 2010 Darfield (Canterbury) and 2016 Kaikoura earthquakes. We consider the interaction between one earthquake and the next in terms of the vector joining their hypocenters and represented in a coordinate system defined by the earlier event’s focal mechanism. This approach enables us to describe the sequence of focal mechanisms with reference to a common coordinate system and thus investigate whether the faulting geometry of each aftershock contributes to the sequence’s overall evolution.

Earthquake Statistics in the Eastern Tennessee and New Madrid Seismic Zones Are Inconsistent with Ongoing Aftershock Sequences

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A key challenge to understanding intraplate seismic hazard is separating after-shock sequences that are not representative of long-term earthquake rates. First, we use modern frequency-magnitude relations to investigate whether high seismicity rates in the Eastern Tennessee Seismic Zone (ETSZ) are plausibly a transient response to a large but unknown prehistoric event. The expected rate of after-shocks depends on the magnitude of the mainshock; to be conservative, we begin by assuming that the entire ~250-km NE trend of epicenters defines that maxi-
mum length of a plausible rupture, which corresponds to a M8 event. Modern frequency-magnitude relations in the ETSZ would require that this putative M8 earthquake occurred 175 years ago, but no such event has been documented since European colonization ~400 years ago. We next take a Monte Carlo approach to propagate uncertainty in b-value, modern annual earthquake rates, the exponent of Omori decay and associated constants. Of these realizations, 96% require the mainshock within the past 400 years, meaning that there is only a 4% chance that ETSZ seismicity solely reflects aftershocks of an unknown event. We perform a similar analysis using the known mainshocks of 1811–1812 in the New Madrid Seismic Zone, finding that modern rates of seismicity have only a 6% probability of solely representing aftershocks. The median of the realizations suggests that only half of modern earthquakes are likely to be aftershocks. Therefore, the present mapping of elevated hazard in the ETSZ and New Madrid is warranted.

Examples of Various Operational Earthquake Forecasting Products Using the HayWired Planning Scenario, including One Very Quick (and Not-So-Dirty) Hazard-Map Option

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In an effort to help address debates on the usefulness of Operational Earthquake Forecasting (OEF), we illustrate a number OEF products that could be automatically generated in near real time. We use an M 7.1 main shock on the Hayward fault to exemplify, which is very similar to the USGS HayWired earthquake planning scenario. Given there is always some background level of hazard or risk, we emphasize that probability gains (the ratio of short-term to long-term-average estimates) should be of particular interest to users. We also illustrate how such gains are highly sensitive to forecast duration and latency, with the latter representing how long it takes to generate the forecast and/or to take action. The influence of fault-based information, which has traditionally been ignored in OEF, is also evaluated using the newly developed UCERF3-ETAS model. We find that the inclusion of faults only makes a difference for hazard and risk metrics that are dominated by large-event likelihoods. We also show how the ShakeMap of a main shock represents a decent estimate of the ground motions that have a 6% chance of being exceeded due to aftershocks in the week that follows. The ultimate value of these types of OEF products can only be determined in the context of specific uses, and because these vary widely, institutions responsible for providing OEF products will depend heavily on user feedback, especially when making resource-allocation decisions.

Expanding the US Geological Survey’s Efforts to Effectively Communicate Operational Earthquake Forecasts


For over a decade, the US Geological Survey (USGS) has been communicating operational earthquake forecasts to various public audiences. During that time, these forecasts have been communicated using myriad of channels and formats, including text, maps, graphics, and tables. Each new forecast was presented differently using a variety of channels and at varying times during the response to an earthquake. Social science research demonstrates that consistency in formatting and messaging is preferred when communicating forecasts so audiences can better contextualize and understand the information presented. Further, information about aftershocks are required almost immediately by media and key stakeholders’ post-earthquake. To be both consistent and timely when issuing forecasts, templates for pre-planned communication response are required to effectively and efficiently communicate information. The templates, developed by the USGS with expert and practitioner input, support earthquake forecasts for various situations: main shock (and aftershocks), swarms, and “earthquakes of note.” It should be noted that automated templates for forecasts have been produced but only for the state of California. Different earthquakes require unique responses, including “earthquakes of note” e.g. earthquakes of public interest or shaking in unusual locations. Swarms present a unique challenge because most (but not all) do not produce a large earthquake. Further, we have learned from workshops with different stakeholders (e.g. emergency managers, urban and regional planners) that customizable templates are preferred, to meet the information needs of the various audiences. Once the templates are tested, these will be distributed via the USGS web site, social media, and broadcast media channels when earthquakes occur. Effectiveness will be measured using broadcast and social media analysis and iterated as evidence requires.

Increasing Testability—Expanding Possibilities and Future Developments of the Collaboratory for the Study of Earthquake Predictability

Oral Session · Thursday 17 May - 8:30 AM · Hibiscus B
Sesson Chairs: Andrew Michael, Danijel Schorlemmer, Maximilian Werner, and Warner

The Collaboratory for the Study of Earthquake Predictability: Achievements and Priorities

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The Collaboratory for the Study of Earthquake Predictability (CSEP) is global platform for conducting prospective earthquake forecasting and prediction experiments. Since its inception in 2006 in California, CSEP has grown to encompass four testing centers around the world, and is now prospectively evaluating over four hundred models in testing regions in California, Italy, New Zealand, Japan, the western Pacific and at global scale. Here, we review a decade of CSEP achievements, and state our priorities for future activities. Achievements encompass new scientific insights into earthquakes and their predictability, progress in evaluation methodology, and broader impacts in seismic hazard assessments and risk reduction strategies. Scientific highlights include: (1) the numerous small earthquakes provide information about future moderate-to-large earthquakes; (2) geodetic strain rate models capture earthquake potential, and when coupled with smoothed seismicity models, provide the most informative forecasts; (3) a new generation of physics-based Coulomb/rate-state models are now able to compete with statistical models in forecasting the space-time evolution of earthquake sequences; More broadly, CSEP has highlighted the benefits and scientific importance of prospective and independent testing to establish credible benchmarks of the forecast skill of competing hypotheses and models. These and other CSEP results have effectuated changes to several earthquake source models of official seismic hazard models, including in California, New Zealand and Italy. In this way, CSEP has contributed to safer and better-informed societies. Future activities will be guided by three main objectives: (1) Improve the discrimination capability of forecast testing by expanding the spatial and temporal distribution of earthquake data. (2) Develop procedures and requisite cyberinfrastructure for testing earthquake forecasts worldwide, focusing on new types of earthquake forecasts. (3) Test key hypotheses that underlie earthquake forecasting models.

Simulations of Data Based Scenarios to Investigate the Significance of Data Quality in Seismicity Studies

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Studying the earthquake processes involves the exploration of the available data to extract all possible information required for the deeper understanding of the underlying physical mechanisms. When a theoretical concept, in the form of a physical and/or statistical model, is developed and applied, data of the best possible quality (in terms of precision, sample size etc) is essential for the adequate estimation of the required parameters. In the present work, issues relevant to data sets extracted from earthquake catalogues and their effect on seismicity studies are discussed, based on simulations of seismicity data. For example, the realization of data based scenarios presented here for the investigation of earthquake predictability give evidence of a potential use of foreshocks in earthquake forecasting, if more data becomes available. Assuming that an ideal improvement of the seismic networks can be achieved, an increase of network sensitivity by 1.5 magnitude unit would enable us to correctly detect 4 times more foreshock sequences. The corresponding number of false detections would also increase but remain relatively lower. However, real data sets can be far from perfect even if numerous earthquakes are recorded, and results might be misleading if e.g. the magnitude of completeness is underestimated due to errors in the reported magnitudes. The analyses of stochastic magnitude catalogues which include data-based error reveal and quantify the significant impact the quality and size of a data set might have on the estimated catalogue properties, and as a result on seismic hazard assessment.
Tests of operational earthquake forecasts (OEF) by the Collaboratory for the Study of Earthquake Predictability (CSEP) are necessary to validate and improve OEF methods. The current CSEP tests rely on Poisson statistics and focus on 1-day forecasts, updated daily. That approach provides a simple set of independent forecasts but is incompatible with the aftershock forecasts planned for release by the USGS. The USGS aftershock forecasts will be released very shortly after large earthquakes, without waiting for the next day, and each forecast will include a variety of overlapping time windows such as the next week, month, and year. These forecasts will be updated based on a regular basis and will capture aftershocks as they occur. Because these updates will occur before the previous time windows have all ended, this will result in an even larger set of dependent forecasts. Additionally, the updated version (Page et al., 2016) of Reasenberg and Jones (1989) includes non-Poissonian uncertainties that combine epistemic uncertainty in the parameters and aleatory variability. And planned Epidemic Type Aftershock Sequence (ETAS) forecasts are fundamentally non-Poissonian, even without epistemic uncertainties. Thus, the Poisson uncertainty formulations used in existing CSEP tests are inadequate. Fortunately, new simulation-based methods under development within CSEP provide the necessary foundation to address dependent forecasts and non-Poissonian uncertainty. Applying these tests to synthetic data demonstrates their utility. These improved tests show that, if the forecasts resemble ETAS behavior, the Reasenberg and Jones method will fail good tests because the lack of secondary aftershocks causes it to underestimate the variability of aftershock sequences. Testing approaches that correspond to the way the USGS forecasts will be issued will enable meaningful retrospective tests of our methods before the system goes public and continual tests of prospective forecasts in the future.

Turing-Style Tests for Synthetic Earthquake Catalogs

Testing Planned USGS Aftershock Forecasts Requires Simulation-Based Tests, Which Demonstrate Limitations of the Reasenberg and Jones Method

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Tests of operational earthquake forecasts (OEF) by the Collaboratory for the Study of Earthquake Predictability (CSEP) are necessary to validate and improve OEF methods. The current CSEP tests rely on Poisson statistics and focus on 1-day forecasts, updated daily. That approach provides a simple set of independent forecasts but is incompatible with the aftershock forecasts planned for release by the USGS. The USGS aftershock forecasts will be released very shortly after large earthquakes, without waiting for the next day, and each forecast will include a variety of overlapping time windows such as the next week, month, and year. These forecasts will be updated based on a regular basis and will capture aftershocks as they occur. Because these updates will occur before the previous time windows have all ended, this will result in an even larger set of dependent forecasts. Additionally, the updated version (Page et al., 2016) of Reasenberg and Jones (1989) includes non-Poissonian uncertainties that combine epistemic uncertainty in the parameters and aleatory variability. And planned Epidemic Type Aftershock Sequence (ETAS) forecasts are fundamentally non-Poissonian, even without epistemic uncertainties. Thus, the Poisson uncertainty formulations used in existing CSEP tests are inadequate. Fortunately, new simulation-based methods under development within CSEP provide the necessary foundation to address dependent forecasts and non-Poissonian uncertainty. Applying these tests to synthetic data demonstrates their utility. These improved tests show that, if the forecasts resemble ETAS behavior, the Reasenberg and Jones method will fail good tests because the lack of secondary aftershocks causes it to underestimate the variability of aftershock sequences. Testing approaches that correspond to the way the USGS forecasts will be issued will enable meaningful retrospective tests of our methods before the system goes public and continual tests of prospective forecasts in the future.

Regional Evolution of Coda Waves’ Attenuation in the NW South America

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Several studies in some regions of the world have shown during last decades that coda waves’ attenuation may vary as a response to different processes in the Earth interior, e.g. evolution of cracks due to stress variations, migration of fluids, and mobility of magmas. It means, that permanent monitoring of coda waves derived from seismological records from the same area, using identical lapse time since the S-wave onset, and application of similar signal processing techniques is an interesting approach for detecting changes related to the evolution of regions with tectonic or volcanic activity. Nevertheless, these observations are not detected in other regions, probably due to the concurrence of additional processes not yet identified or inadequately understood. In addition, contrasting seismological information among active regions may also promote diverse sensitivity and reduce the hope of success in the volcanic and earthquake forecasting or prediction studies. In this work is reported the estimation of approximately 180,000 Qc values using a lapse time of 10 s since the S-wave onset, several frequency bands and applying the Sato (1977) technique. Estimations were performed with seismological local records (hypocenter distances less than 200 km) detected by the National Seismological Network of Colombia in the period June 1993 to October 2017. Comparing time series of Qc and mL (26.0) allow to detect a cyclic behavior of this inverse attenuation parameter, which presents a stage of mean value reduction with high variability that matches with a period of approximately 5 years of high earthquake activity in the NW South America (1995 – 2000). The Qc cycle looks of approx. 25 year and suggests that a new seismic crisis coming soon. Other observations and explanations to this phenomenon are presented and suggested.

Observe Characteristic of Induced Seismicity: From Laboratory to Field Scale (Parts 3 and 4)

Oral Session · Thursday 15 July · 8:30 AM · Flagler Room

Session Chairs: Kayla A. Kroll, Elizabeth S. Cochran, and Brett Carpenter

Earthquakes and Human Activities to Induce Them in Oklahoma

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The rate of earthquakes across the United States mid-continent has dramatically increased since 2009. The historically high seismicity rates across the mid-continent have been largely driven by substantial increases in seismicity occurring within Oklahoma, including several magnitude 5.0+ earthquakes. Prior to 2009, background seismicity rate was about 2 M 3.0+ earthquakes per year; this increased to 579 and peaked at 903 M 3.0+ earthquakes in 2014 and 2015, respectively. The increase in Oklahoma seismicity was roughly coincident with an oil and gas boom focused around the Mississippian Limestone and Hunton Limestone. Those plays contain substantial amounts of co-produced formation brines. Common disposal practices involved disposing of wastewater in deep underground injection wells completed into upper parts of the basement and the karstic Arbuckle Group, which directly overlies the basement over most of Oklahoma. From 2010 to late 2014, statewide disposal rates increased from ~30 million bbls/month to ~90 million bbls/month. The increase in seismicity rate roughly correlates to the increase in monthly injection rates, though with a lag greater than a year or so in many sub-regions of Oklahoma. The statewide disposal is down to ~40 million bbls/month and the earthquakes have also declined, due to targeted and statewide reductions in permitted disposal directed by the Oklahoma Corporation Commission, to economic factors, and to changes in disposal practices, i.e. injecting into shallower units. As injection and the seismicity rate have declined in 2016 and 2017, we have observed continued seismic activity at greater well-to-earthquake distances, particularly long-duration foreshock and aftershock sequences, and aftershock sequences that seem deplete in larger magnitude aftershocks. In light of the observed time-lagged coherence between wastewater injection and seismicity rate, several groups strive to estimate the future seismic hazard in Oklahoma and consensus has yet to be reached. However, it appears that the hazard is probably much higher than several years and elevated over the next several decades. Thus, Oklahoma still needs significant scientific infrastructure and intellectual investment in order to make progress in understanding and mitigation of induced seismicity.

How Faults Wake Up: The Guthrie-Langston, Oklahoma, Earthquakes

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Large-scale wastewater disposal has led to a fast-paced reawakening of faults in the Oklahoma/Kansas region. High resolution earthquake relocation shows that the inventory of ancient basement faults in the study region differs from results of seismic surveys and geologic mapping focused on the sedimentary cover. We analyze the evolution of seismic activity in the Guthrie-Langston sequence in central Oklahoma in greater detail. Here, seismic activity has reactivated a network of several M4+ earthquakes and suggested.
quakes interactions contribute to the propagation of seismicity along the reacti-
vated faults. As a result, the spatio-temporal evolution of the seismicity mimics a
diffusive pattern that is typically thought to be associated with injection activity.
Analysis of the Fault Slip Potential shows that most faults are critically stressed in
the contemporary stress field. Activity on some faults, for which we find low slip
probability, suggest a significant contribution of geomechanical heterogeneities
to the reawakening of these ancient basement faults.

More Stress Drop Estimates for Injection-Induced Earthquakes in Oklahoma and
Southern Kansas
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Significant issues regarding injection-induced earthquakes are whether 1) their
stress drops are similar to or lower than tectonic earthquakes in the central and
eastern U.S. (CEUS) and 2) correspondingly, whether their ground motions are
similar or lower. Several analyses have been performed to date using both inten-
sity observations and strong motion/broad-band data with conflicting conclu-
sions. In this study, we add to the collection of stress drop studies. Based on a
database compiled and initially processed by the USGS (Rennolet et al., 2017), we are
calculating the stress drops from about 90 induced earthquakes ranging from M 2.8 to 5.8 including the three largest Oklahoma earthquakes. In addi-
tion, we have analyzed a suite of 41 CEUS tectonic earthquakes from M 2.6 to 5.8
to compare stress drops. A broad-band inversion technique that inverts for stress
drop, kappas and Q(f) from multiple earthquakes was used. The approach uses nonlinear least-squares to judge the fit of the vector-average Fourier amplitude
spectra (FAS) from the recordings compared to the FAS from the point-source model.
The preliminary results of the inversion clearly show that the induced earth-
quake stress drops are significantly smaller than stress drops from tectonic
earthquakes. An average stress drop for 26 induced earthquakes in Oklahoma
and southern Kansas was 5 bars compared to 55 bars for the 41 CEUS tectonic
events. We also evaluated whether there was a dependence of stress drop on
magnitude, depth, and style of faulting. We observed that both shallow induced
earthquakes and shallow tectonic earthquakes have low stress drops (< 50 bars).
We did not observe a correlation with style of faulting or magnitude. Why differ-
ent analyses of stress drops arrive at different conclusions will need to be resolved
if reliable estimates of induced earthquake ground motions for large magnitudes
are short distances, the area of most engineering relevance, are to be obtained.

Determining Periodicity in Non-Homogeneous Catalogs Using a Modified
Schuster Test with Application to Induced Seismicity in Oklahoma
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For years, scientists have tried to determine whether periodicities exist in earth-
quake catalogs. These studies have ranged from global to local and looked for
influences coming from both annual tides and seasonal evolution related to snowfall or rainfall
cycles. However, the standard test for periodicity, the Schuster Test, is valid only
under the condition of homogeneity in the catalog. When the fundamental earth-
quake rate has changed over time, as is the case with many locations experiencing
an increase in earthquakes due to wastewater injection from oil production activ-
ity, the heterocedasticity prevents a direct application of the Schuster Test for
interpretative results. Herein we formulate and validate a modified Schuster Test
that is appropriate for use when the background rate of seismicity is changing.
When applied to seismicity catalogs of induced seismicity in Oklahoma, we rule
out a signature of tidal triggering and identify a number of spurious periodicities
whose significance would be overestimated by the traditional Schuster Test.

Physics-Based Induced Earthquake Forecasting: Case Studies from Texas and
Oklahoma
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The recent dramatic increase in seismic events in the Central and Eastern United
States is suggested to be linked to underground high-volume fluid injection. Some
researchers investigated the qualitative correlation between the injection
operations and induced seismicity. However, they ignored the physical process
governing poroelastic fluid diffusion and earthquake nucleation. Thus, we pro-
pose a physics-based induced earthquake forecasting model which couples linear
poroelasticity to rate-and-state earthquake model, considering the complex rela-
tionship between injections and consequent seismicity. Firstly, we implement a con-
current flow and pore pressure evolution to simulate poroelastic stress
and poroelastic stresses in time and space. Secondly, we use local geology and
maps of existing faults to calculate the rate of Coulomb failure stress change.
Thirdly, we import the maps of Coulomb stress change rate into a seismicity rate
model. Finally, the estimated seismicity rate changes are used within a probabi-
listic model to evaluate the time-dependent seismic hazard for each given fault.
Both Texas waste fluid injection and Oklahoma waste fluid injection showed similar
rise to similar spatiotemporal clustering observed of induced seismicity. To investigate the associated link, we apply our method to the time-varying injections at 96 Ellenberger wells in the Barnett Shale during 2007–2015 and 855 Arbuckle wells in Oklahoma during 1995–2017. In both study areas, earthquake locations correlate well with pore pressure and poroelas-
tic stress, although poroelastic stress is smaller than pore pressure. Given the good
quality of earthquake record in Oklahoma, the predicted earthquake magnitude-
time distribution shows excellent fit to observation, confirming the performance
of the model. The obtained time-dependent seismic hazard is spatiotemporally
heterogeneous. Decreasing injection rates does not necessarily reduce probabil-
ities immediately. The presented framework can be used for operational induced
earthquake forecasting.

Quasi-Static Fault Dislocation Driven by Fluid Diffusion and Poroelastic
Stressing as a Possible Source Model of Slow Slip Events: A Numerical
Simulation
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Slow slip events (SSEs) are commonly observed at a plate interface between a vis-
cously slipping portion and a seismogenic zone. Recently, SSEs have also been
reported following in-situ fluid injection experiments. Almost all existing models
of SSEs are friction-based, utilizing unstable-stable transitional fault frictional
behavior, in conjunction with suitable rheology of fault zones in the presence
of hydrostatic pressure or overpressure. Inspired by the theory of poroelasticity, here
we propose a fluid-based alternative model in which spontaneous quasi-static
shear dislocation is initiated and sustained by the time-dependent poroelastic
stress generated by the transient fluid pressure gradient. This model relies on
the key assumption that the fault is critically stressed and has an exceedingly low fric-
tional strength. We test our model via a series of 2D numerical experiments in the
framework of coupled poromechanics. We simulate fluid injection into a faulted
porous medium by solving the fluid flow equation. At each time step, the
pressure gradient is passed as an equivalent body force vector to the quasi-static
force balance law solve for the displacement while allowing slip to occur simul-
taneously on the fault. Therefore, the slip rate is controlled by the fluid diffusion.
We designed several cases in which the diffusivity of the matrix and the fault are on
the order of 10–3 m2/s and 10–4 ~102 m2/s, respectively. Depending also on
other parameters including injection pressure and mechanical properties, the
modelled dislocation is on the order of 10–4~10–5 m and the sliding velocity,
10–7~10–9 m/s, suggesting our model as a promising alternative source model
of SSEs.

Active Pressure Management as a Tool to Reduce Induced Seismicity
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It has been suggested that industrial operators may modify injection or produc-
tion rates to actively manage fluid pressures in disposal reservoirs as a means of
reducing the risk of induced seismicity. Therefore, we evaluate the efficacy of such
active pressure management techniques by coupling a geomechanical reservoir
model with an earthquake simulator. We use RSQSIm, a 3D physics-based simu-
lator that produces synthetic catalogs of earthquakes induced by the decreases in
effective normal stress related to the fluid overpressures generated at a dispos-
alsite. RSQSIm, is governed by the rate- and state-dependent friction, which gives
rise to similar spatiotemporal clustering observed of induced seismicity. These
simulations provide rich earthquake catalogs based on stress changes due to fault
interaction and external stress perturbations from fluid injection. Statistical
data can be drawn from these catalogs that may contribute to the formalization
of optimal injection operations designed to minimize risk at a given site. Here, we
simulate seismicity induced by injection in a number of wells near a single
optimally oriented fault with fractally distributed initial shear stresses. We evalu-
ate the spatiotemporal distribution of events, the total number, the maximum
magnitude, and the total seismic moment released with many pre-existing stress
states. We conduct simulations for three constant volume injection scenarios
designed to strategically modify overpressure in the reservoir. The scenarios con-
sist of 1) injection into all wells, 2) injection and selective shut-in of some wells
Seismological Research Letters Volume 89, Number 2B March/April 2018 919
closest to the fault, and 3) injection at distant wells and production at or near close wells. Results from simulations such as these will aid in the design of a site-specific storage plan geared toward maximum volume disposal while limiting the risk of induced seismicity. This work is funded by the DOE under the NRAP program and prepared by LLNL under Contract DE-AC52-07NA27344.

Monte Carlo Simulations for Analysis and Prediction of Non-Stationary Magnitude-Frequency Distributions in Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Analysis

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We describe a first principles methodology to evaluate statistically the hazard related to non-stationary seismic sources like induced seismicity. We use time-dependent Gutenberg-Richter parameters, which leads to a time-varying rate of earthquakes. This is achieved by deriving analytic expressions for occurrence rates which are verified using Monte Carlo simulations. We show two examples: (1) a synthetic case with two seismic sources (background and induced seismicity); and (2) a recent case of induced seismicity, the Horn River Basin, Northeast British Columbia. In both cases, the statistics from the Monte Carlo simulations agree with the analytical quantities. The results show that induced seismicity can change seismic hazard rates but that this greatly depends on both the duration and intensity of the non-stationary sequence as well as the chosen evaluation period. Further studies will include extensions to handle spatial source distributions as well as ground motion analysis in order to generate a complete methodology for non-stationary probabilistic seismic hazard analysis.

Improving Earthquake Rate Models for One-Year Hazard Forecasts in Southern Kansas

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The recent one-year seismic hazard assessments for natural and induced seismicity in the central and eastern US (CEUS) (Petersen et al., 2016, 2017, 2018) rely on earthquake rate models based on declustered catalogs (i.e., catalogs with fore shocks and aftershocks removed), as is common practice in probabilistic seismic hazard analysis. However, standard declustering can remove over 90% of some induced sequences in the CEUS, and the choices of whether and how to decluster can lead to seismicity rate estimates that vary by up to factors of 10–20 (Llenos and Michael, AGU, 2016). Moreover, the current one-year models do not incorporate fluid injection, which is a significant contributor to the seismicity rate increase in the CEUS (Ellsworth, Science, 2013). Therefore, in order to improve the accuracy of hazard assessments, we are exploring ways to make forecasts that are based on full, rather than declustered, catalogs and that can be informed by fluid injection data. We focus on southern Kansas, where the USGS has operated a seismic network since 2014, following the sharp increase in seismicity that began in 2013. We develop earthquake rate models using the space-time Epidemic-Type Aftershock Sequence (ETAS) model (Ogata, JASA, 1988; Ogata, AIST, 1998; Zhuang et al., JASA, 2002), which characterizes both the background seismicity rate as well as aftershock triggering. After the model parameters are fit to the seismicity data from a given year, forecasts of the full catalog for the following year can then be made using a suite of 100,000 ETAS model simulations based on those parameters. We also explore the use of a hydromechanical model of earthquake nucleation to forecast changes in the background seismicity rate based on fluid injection data. Results suggest that the ETAS model is a useful framework for combining background rate changes informed by fluid injection data with spatiotemporal earthquake interactions to produce one-year forecasts.

What Is the Maximum Spatial Reach of Fluid-Injection Operations? Examining Seismicity Decay and Poro-Elastic Effects around Injection Wells

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Fluid injection induced seismicity is commonly modeled by assuming purely fluid-pressure-driven earthquakes. However, this assumption is challenged by induced sequences with observed far-field triggering. To unravel triggering mechanisms of injection-induced earthquakes, we examine the spatial decay and space-time migration of ~30 induced seismicity cases. We limit our analysis to point source, single well injectors in the context of scientific, geothermal and wastewater injection. We perform an initial quality assessment, excluding data-sets that cannot be distinguished from random Gaussian location uncertainty and uniform background seismicity. The spatial decay of the remaining 19 cases is determined from the areal density of surface distances between wells and earthquakes. All sequences show a spatial gap between well locations and the location of highest seismicity density. Moreover, we observe two different types of spatial decay: 1) Sequences with a near-well density plateau and rapid spatial decay and 2) sequences with steady decay, that extend to distances of more than ~10 km in some cases. Induced sequences with abrupt decay are dominated by square-root space-time migration, a characteristic of pressure diffusion. Sequences with steady spatial decay are dominated by linear migration or the absence of migration. Described by a power-law decay of the form $r^{-0.32}$, which is significantly smaller (i.e. more gradual) than the spatial decay of aftershocks. This power-law behavior may be indicative of poro-elastically induced earthquakes which lack the commonly expected rapid spatial decay and gradual spatial-temporal expansion of fluid-pressure-driven induced seismicity sequences. Far-reaching poro-elastic stresses can lead to inflated hydraulic-diffusivity-estimates and a strongly underestimated spatial reach of injection wells.

Plate Boundary Segmentation and Coupled-to-Creeping Plate and Block Boundary Faults

Oral Session · Thursday 17 May · 10:45 AM · Tuttle Session Chairs: John C. Weber and Omar J. Perez

A Geologic Recipe for Transient Slip within the Seismogenic Zone: Insight from the Guerrero Seismic Gap, Mexico

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The Guerrero seismic Gap in Mexico has very low coupling compared to the rest of the plate interface. This is due to the occurrence of slow slip events (SSEs) within the seismogenic zone in the Gap, although they have a much wider down-dip extent. The SSEs are limited to repeat within the same region every 4 years. Here we examine the geological and geophysical evidence for the mechanism that allows for transient slip in Gap and at no other point along the 1000 km subduction zone within the megathrust region. We find that long lasting past magmatic activity most likely produced an impermeable gabbroic layer in the lower crust within the Gap. This body has acted as a seal to trap fluids and over-pressure the plate interface, thereby generating a transient slip region allowing for SSEs to invade the seismogenic zone. This suggests that transient slip can occur in typically seismogenic regions, but requires special conditions. It also adds to the growing evidence that the Guerrero Gap may have lowered seismic hazard compared to the rest of the coast, which is opposite to what is reported by government agencies.

Along Strike Locking Characteristics of the Plate Boundary Zone of the Southeastern Caribbean Basin

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The CA-SA plate boundary zone of the southeastern region of the Caribbean Basin is characterized by the transition from dextral shear in northern Venezuela and the island of Trinidad, to underplating and subducting of SA beneath the CA along the Lesser Antilles. Neotectonic studies supports this tectonic regime with a CA-SA relative motion of ~22 mm/yr. The El Pilar Fault Zone (EPFZ), of northeastern Venezuela, has been shown to be a primary fault that accommodates up to ~18 mm/yr of CA-SA motion and has produced several large-magnitude earthquakes in recent history, notably the Cariaco 1997 Earthquake. Moving eastward, the EPFZ steps over to the Warm Springs Fault in the Gulf of Paria pull-apart basin which continues to the Central Range Fault (CRF) onshore Trinidad. On the island of Trinidad, the plate boundary is partitioned between three faults, the North Coast Fault, CRF, and the Soldado fault (~3.5 mm/yr, 15 mm/yr and ~3.5 mm/yr respectively). Several previous workers have used geodesy to determine locking and creep characteristics of the EPFZ and CRF. This work investigates the locking on segments of the EPFZ and CRF using published geodetic data (Weber et al., 2011; Reinoa et al., 2015) and InSAR measurements. Employing a plate-Carbo approach with the simple elastic dislocation model for segments of the EPFZ, it was found that the El Pilar is locked to a depth of ~7 km in the region near the city of Cumana and, moving

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Factors Controlling Plate Boundary Segmentation in the Gulf of California

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The Gulf of California in northern Mexico is an oblique-extensional plate boundary that formed in a region with a complex geological history. The pre-riift lithosphere of the Gulf was influenced by Mesozoic arc magmatism followed by the shutting down of subduction and foundering of slab fragments that have been imaged beneath parts of Baja California. This was followed by a 12–6 Myr period of broadly distributed deformation involving normal, strike-slip and transtensional faulting that spanned the width of the Gulf Extensional Province and extended into the continental borderland west of Baja California. The Gulf of California opened roughly 8 Myr ago as the plate boundary shifted ~250 km inland rupturing weakened continental crust and separating Baja California from mainland Mexico. Despite the rapid localization of strain along the full length of the Gulf Extensional Province, there has mostly new crustal plate boundary and the local stress field may be key players. The northern segment has the characteristics of a wide rift, with a plate boundary jump at ~2 Ma, evidence for lower crustal flow, and broadly distributed extensional strain and small gradients in topography and crustal thinning. New oceanic crust here is limited to the lower crust in the rift basins. In contrast, the central segment has a 2-km thick, ~280 km wide oceanic crust, and a magma-rich, narrow rift and the only Gulf basin with on-axis regions of partial melt at 26 – 50 km depth. The Alacran Basin in the south has ~6 km thick oceanic crust, but is a magma-poor, wide rift. Its margins have substantial Moho topography suggesting no lower crustal flow during rifting. Interestingly, topographic images show asthenospheric upwelling beneath the Alacran and the northern rift basins, but in the central Gulf upwelling is instead focused beneath a transform fault. Liszarralde et al., Nature 448, 466–469.

Fault Creep and Strain Partitioning in Trinidad and Tobago: Geodetic Measurements, Models, and Origin of Creep

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Plate boundaries generally exhibit complex strain partitioning across multiple faults. We studied active faults in Trinidad and Tobago in the Caribbean-South American (CA-SA) transform plate boundary zone using episodic GPS (eGPS) data from 19 sites and continuous GPS (cGPS) data from 8 sites, then modeled these data using a series of simple screw dislocation models. Our best-fit model for interseismic fault slip requires 12–15 mm/yr of right-lateral movement and very shallow locking (0.2–0.4 km), essentially creep, across the Central Range Fault (CRF), 3.5 +0.3/–0.2 mm/yr across the Soldado Fault in south Trinidad, and 3.5 +0.3/–0.2 mm/yr of (coupled) shear on fault(s) between Trinidad and Tobago. The CRF creeps along a physical boundary between rocks associated with thermogenically generated petroleum in south and central Trinidad from rocks containing only biogenic gas to the north. A string of active mud volcanoes aligns with the trace of the Soldado Fault along Trinidad’s south coast. Fluid (oil and gas) overpressure, as an alternative or in addition to weak material in fault cores, may thus cause these two faults to creep. Together, the CRF, El Pilari, San Sebastian, and La Victoria Faults form a highly segmented, right-stepping CA-SA transform system. Although creep has been now been verified on several segments, Parkfield (SAF) segment-type partial coupling, full coupling, and time-varying slip likely occurs on other segments. Improved geodetic coverage (more cGPS sites, a higher density of sites, longer time series, more InSAR studies, and 3-D modeling of these data), creep and strain meters, and microseismic networks, will be required to better identify and map individual segment behavior, and to better determine the associated seismic hazard on each.

How Are Fault Zone Architecture and Mode of Slip Affected by Normal Stress and Alternating Cycles of Gouge Production and Attenuation?

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The structural style of a fault is generally thought to reflect its mechanical behavior. Stick slip behavior is associated with simple narrow fault zones that have a single high-strain core. These are commonly developed from quartzo-feldspathic protoliths and this structural style is thought to result from the positive feedback between comminution and transformation weakening (Chester et al., 1993). Stable sliding behavior is commonly associated with complex wide fault zones that have multiple anastomosing high-strain cores. These are commonly develop- ed from hyaloclastic rich protoliths, and are thought to reflect stress hardening (Faulkner and Rutter, 2003). The MW 7.2 El Mayor-Cucapah earthquake of 2010 produced a cascading rupture that propagated through a complex network of intersecting faults that cut metamorphic and plutonic rocks exposed in northern Baja California. Cosismic slip of 1–6 m was accommodated by fault zones displaying the full spectrum of previously mentioned styles, which demonstrates that stick-slip mode is not restricted to a certain type of fault. As fault zone com- plexity and width increase, cosseismic slip becomes more broadly distributed on a greater number of scars that form wider arrays. Thus the slip of a single earth- quake replicates many of the fabric elements of the long-lived fault. In addition to protolith, we find that orientation strongly affects fault zone complexity, which increases with decreasing dip. Projecting regional stress onto individual faults, shows that fault zone complexity increases systematically with resolved normal stress, which is known to increase gouge production in laboratory experiments (Yoshikawa, 1986). The progressive rotation of faults is thus a previously unrecognized form of strain hardening. We also conclude that regardless of protolith, all faults should experience alternating cycles of stick slip, gouge production and weakening followed by creep, ductile attenuation of gouge and strengthening.

Geodetic Characterization of Kinematic Segmentation Along the Pârâul FĂŞÎNUL Fault System in Southern Haiti

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The ~3 M inhabitant capital region of Haiti, severely affected by the devastating January 12, 2010, M7.0 earthquake, continues to expand at a fast rate. Accurate characterisation of regional earthquake sources is key to inform urban develop- ment and construction practices through improved regional seismic hazard characterization of regionalearthquake sources is key to inform urban develop- ment and constructionpractices through improved regional seismic hazard characterization of regionalearthquake sources is key to inform urban develop-
Haiti involves an overlooked component of shortening on aseismic-dipping reverse fault along the southern edge of the Cul-de-Sac basin. This fault, in addition to the well-known component off-fault lateral strike-slip motion at 6±2 mm/yr (Symithe and Calais, Tectonophysics, 2016; Calais et al., C.R. Geosciences, 2016), shows predominantly thrusting, being an evidence for uplifting.

The Kinematics of the Southwestern Caribbean from Geodetic GPS Data Modeling

The oblique convergence of Cocos plate (CO) and the collision of Cocos Ridge, with the SW margin of the Caribbean (CA) plate drives the NW escape of the Central American Fore arc (CAFA) and the NW motion of the Panama region (PR). Motion of the PR is further modified due to its collision with the South American plate (SA). Using a new velocity field from 252 GPS sites, 48 in Panama, mapped active faults, focal mechanism solutions from the GCMT and a local catalog, we explore the kinematics of the southwestern Caribbean (SWC). We test a suite of block configurations within the PR using the TDEFNODE code. Our results suggest that the SWC is segmented into several small rigid blocks; CAFA, Panama Pacific (PANP), Panama (PANA) and Panama east (PANE) that is in agreement with the relative motion of the active faults that accommodate the eastward motion of the PR and its collision with SA. The Euler vectors for CAFA, Choco (CH) and North Andes (ND) blocks are better resolved, but for PANE, PANA and PANE are less resolved. However, our results and block configuration gives a better constraint of the kinematics of the SWC. We suggest that the PANA-PANE boundary along the Panama Canal Fault system (PCFS) is taking advantage of the geological boundary of the Chorotega terrane on the west, and the Panama-Choco terrain on the east. Although trenching along the PCFS suggested 2 to 8 mm/yr of strike slip motion, we did not observe these rates in our GPS observations. Furthermore, few focal mechanism solutions are in agreement with this proposed boundary. The best fit model indicates high coupling 25% into the block bounding faults and highlight for potential destructive and/or tsunamigenic earthquakes into offshore seismicogenic zones. The best-fit model highlighted high coupling along the Maracaibo trench, the convergent margin of South America with South plates, and account for potential big earthquakes in response to its strain accumulation. Future investigations and incorporating new GPS sites along the whole ND block could better improve our understanding of the nature and kinematics of the ND block, and the Caribbean plate, account for seismic hazards in this populated region.

Interaction between Seismicity and Slow Deformation Signals in the Eastern Sea of Marmara Region, Turkey

The energy accumulated in a fault can be released seismically or through a number of slow-processes covering a broad range of frequencies and source durations. The interaction between seismic and slow deformation still remains to be understood and can have a significant effect on the seismic hazard and subsequent risk. Here, we report on a slow-slip event lasting several-hours and recorded in a strain-meter. Also, we analyze seismic waveform recordings framing this event. The recordings were achieved by the GONAF (Geophysical downhole Observatory at the North Anatolian Fault) observatory offshore of Istanbul where a M7 earthquake is pending. The continuous seismic recordings are analyzed both manually and automatically to detect any type of embedded seismic signals. To locate the signals, we developed a beamforming grid-search algorithm utilizing P- and S-waveform envelopes and polarization analysis to resolve best location for desired time. While computationally expensive, synthetic tests demonstrate the improvement achieved in hypocentral location with respect to other commonly used methods. We also study potential triggering of the slow-slip signal through waveforms of regional and teleseismic earthquakes. Results indicate an increase of the local seismicity during the days (and hours) before the slow-slip event, a gap in the seismic activity during the slow-slip and a seismicity recovery shortly after. Furthermore, 1.5 h before the slow-slip event, a number of weak emergent tremor-like signals with frequencies ranging [2–10] Hz are observed. These signals appear to concentrate at both ends of the Armutlu fault as part of the offshore NAFZ, and the slow-slip event was detected. The occurrence of tremor-like signals and slow-slip release could indicate potential nucleation areas of a larger earthquake on this fault and thus are of high importance for evaluating subsequent hazard and risk scenarios of this active transform segment.

Long-Term OBS Observations in the Sea of Marmara, Northwest Turkey

Local extensional and contraction features corresponding to subsidence and uplift are determined around the North Anatolian fault zone (NAFZ), namely Main Marmara Fault (MMF), crossing the Sea of Marmara. Long term Ocean Bottom Seismograph (OBS) observations have been carried out through a joint Turkish-Japanese project called Mardim. Presently, three deployments and recovery of 15 OBS stations spanning the time period from September, 2014 until May, 2017 have been done. Using the recovered OBS data 3D tomographic images of the region around NAFZ are constructed. High precision locations of the hypocenter illuminated the orientation and the geometry of the fault segments constituting MMF (Yamamoto et al., 2015; 2017). The data from the OBS deployments in 2014–2015; 2015–2016 and 2016–2017 are utilized to estimate focal mechanisms for the events taking place around the Western and Central Marmara fault segments, and offshore Ganos fault. The data from the 15 OBS stations deployed close to MMF at intervals of about 10 km are integrated with the land and marine observations of Kandilli Observatory and Earthquake Research Institute (KOERI) so as to improve the azimuthal and rake angle coverage on the focal plane. The 3D velocity structure of Yamamoto et al. (2015) retrieved for the area beneath the OBS stations are used to estimate the rake-off angles. The polarity data acquired from the three locations mentioned above are compiled to constitute data sets which were inverted to obtain simultaneously a stress tensor and focal mechanism. Results show that the horizontal maximum compressive stress axes is oriented roughly NW-SE which is slightly different at each cluster. Fault segmentation along the NAFZ explains the extensional and compression features revealed by several normal and reverse fault plane solutions. The fault plane solutions derived from the Central segments around the Central High show predominantly thrusting, being an evidence for uplifting.

Modern Kinematics of the Cordillera Blanca Fault, Northern-Central Peru, from GPS Geodesy

The Cordillera Blanca batholith is an intrusive emplacement of Miocene age (5 Ma) that lies over the northern-central Peruvian Andes. Its western flank is bounded by a normal fault that extends for about 220 km in a NW-SE direction and dips west at a low angle. There is no historical evidence of large earthquakes associated with this fault, but geological studies indicate Quaternary or Holocene activity with as much as 2.5 m of vertical slip. Other related events in the neighborhood of the Cordillera Blanca Fault are the 1942 Quiches (M 6) earthquake and the 1970 Chimbote earthquake (Mw 8). The Chimbote event caused the highest death toll of all times in Peru (70,000 casualties) as it triggered subsequent hazard and tsunami events.
a massive mudslide that swept all along its path and buried the town of Yungay.

The ice-and-snow covered, elevated peaks (up to 18,000 ft.) in the Cordillera Blanca mountains, as well as the existence of the active bounding normal fault system, represent a big hazard to this region. This study presents the first geodetic estimates of the modern kinematics of the Cordillera Blanca Fault and uses GPS measurements carried out between 2014 and 2017, as well as baseline changes observed between two cGPS stations across its southern end.

Seismo-Geodetic Monitoring of the Marmara Seismic Gap

We examine the hypocentral distribution of seismicity and a series of geodetic verification and obtaining Global Positioning System (GPS) observations between 1994 and 2015 off-shore and mainland northwestern South America [66° W—77° W; 8° N—14° N]. Our analysis, which includes a kinematic block modeling, shows that east of the Caribbean-South American-North Andes plate triple junction at ~68° W; 10.7° N, right-lateral easterly oriented shear motion (~20 ± 2.0 mm/yr) between the Caribbean and South America plates is split along two eastward striking, right-lateral strike-slip subfault fault zones: the San Sebastián fault that runs offshore the Venezuelan coast and slips about 17.0 ± 0.5 mm/yr, and the La Victoria fault, located onshore to the south, which is accumulating strain equivalent to 3.0 ± 0.5 mm/yr. West of the triple junction, relative right-lateral motion between the Caribbean and South American plates is mostly divided between the Morrocoy and Boccon fault systems which strike northwest and southwest from the triple junction, respectively, and bound the intervening North Andes plate that shows an easterly oriented geodetic slip of 15.7 ± 1.0 mm/yr relative to the South American plate. Slip on the Morrocoy fault is right-lateral and transtensional. Motion across the Boccono fault is also right-lateral but instead transpressional, divided between ~9 to 12 mm/yr of right-slip on the Bocconô fault and 1 to 5 mm/yr of convergence across adjacent and subparallel thrust faults. Farther west of the triple junction, ~800 km away in northern Colombia, the Caribbean plate subducts to the southeast beneath the North Andes plate at a geodetically estimated rate of ~5—6 mm/yr.

Retrieval of Fine Scale Information Using Seismic Noise

Oral Session · Thursday 17 May · 8:30 AM · Monroe

Session Chairs: Julien Chapat and Thomas Lecocq

Applications of Blind Signal Separation to Ambient Seismic Field Cross-Correlation

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The ambient noise field in the real world contains both diffuse and non-diffuse components. The non-diffuse field is connected with signals from physical sources that are not sufficiently scattered and it degrades the convergence of the correlation functions derived from the ambient noise field towards the station-to-station Green’s function. We apply Blind Signal Separation (BSS) to separate the diffuse and the non-diffuse components from cross-correlations of ambient seismic noise and reduce the effects of spurious arrivals from non-diffuse sources on ambient field cross-correlation. In addition to reducing non-diffuse contributions to the direct surface wave arrivals of noise cross-correlation, we also apply this method to identifying spurious arrivals in the coda of cross-correlation due to non-diffuse sources. Separating the spurious arrivals potentially enhances the scattered surface wave and body wave responses. Our method also shows promise for separating surface wave higher modes. We apply this technique to seismic arrays in southern California and dense arrays in Groningen, Netherlands, with examples showing reduced bias and improved imaging results.
Towards Structural Imaging Using Scattering Artifacts Detected in Ambient Field Correlations

OBERMANN, A., SED/ETH Zurich, ZH, Switzerland, waveform ambient noise inversion, we apply it to a global dataset focusing on the and study the effect of 3D heterogeneous Earth structure. For a validation of full correlations for different cross-correlation time lags and various noise source distributions, it is possible to use these effects of scattering that do not correspond to the propagation between the two stations considered, to locate potential external sources of signal. For this analysis, we use correlation functions computed from continuous signals recorded between 2001 and 2017 by seismic stations in Central California. We identify supplementary arrivals in the correlation functions and use array analysis to map the source of scattering effects linked to strong structural variations. We are particularly interested in imaging scatters that result in coupling between the PSV and SH systems because they are a consequence of lateral heterogeneities in Earth structure. For that reason, we particularly focus on components of the correlation tensor, different from the Vertical-Vertical component, and we expect the Radial/Vertical to Transverse components to be particularly helpful.

Global-Scale Full Waveform Ambient Noise Inversion
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In earthquake tomography, modern tomographic methods exploit waveforms for the benefit of improved resolution. However, these techniques cannot be applied to noise correlation functions without knowing the distribution of noise sources. To overcome this limitation, we develop a method – referred to as full waveform ambient noise inversion – that is valid for arbitrary noise source distributions in both space and frequency, accounts for 3D heterogeneities and attenuating media and the full seismic wave propagation physics. The fundamental idea is to drop the principle of Green function retrieval, which is the basis for current noise tomographic studies, and to establish correlation functions as self-consistent observables in seismology. Based on a synthetic study in 2D, investigating the prerequisites for a joint inversion for noise sources and Earth structure, we extend the waveform modelling and inversion package Salvus (http://salvus.io). It allows us to compute correlation functions in 3D media with heterogeneous noise sources at the surface and the corresponding sensitivity kernels for the distribution of noise sources and Earth structure. We present sensitivity kernels for different cross-correlation time lags and various noise source distributions, and study the effect of 3D heterogeneous Earth structure. For a validation of full waveform ambient noise inversion, we apply it to a global dataset focusing on the Earth’s hum period band.

Imaging Medium Changes at Depth Using 3-D Probabilistic Body- and Surface-Wave Sensitivity Kernels
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In the context of seismic monitoring, recent studies made successful use of seismic coda waves to detect underground changes and locate them on the horizontal plane. Locating the depth of the changes, however, remains a challenge. We build 3D sensitivity kernels as a linear combination of body- and surface-wave sensitivity and show their potential and limitations for imaging purposes at depth. We use both, numerical simulations and real data applications.

On the Nature of Higher-Order Ambient Seismic Field Correlations
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We find that higher-order ambient seismic field correlations, specifically C3 (correlation of the coda of correlations) of long-duration data sets from Southern California are symmetric despite the fact that the background waveform is strongly directional. We demonstrate that this symmetry arises primarily from the structure of the C3 time series analysis, rather than the diffuse character of the coda. For that reason, the resulting ambient-field Green’s function symmetry may not be diagnostic of correlation quality. We propose an alternative pre-stack processing scheme that constructs C3 correlations from each C1 coda time window, but stacks the results only at the final step of processing. Our pre-stack C3 method essentially avoids the cross-correlation between coda windows from different realizations, which leads to faster convergence and therefore shows potential to extract arrivals at higher frequencies than standard processing.

Seismic Studies of Earth’s Crust and Lithosphere

Oral Session · Thursday 17 May · 1:30 PM · Flagler Session Chair: Elizabeth A. Vanacore

New Constraints on Seismic Anisotropy beneath the Eastern Ghats Mobile Belt and Adjacent Archean Cratons Contact Boundary
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We investigate seismic anisotropy signatures of Eastern Ghats Mobile Belt (EGMB) and adjacent Archean cratons, namely Singhbhum and Bastar in southeast- central region of India. The eastern part of Eastern Ghats contact boundary is defined as a collisional suture which has witnessed episodes of rifting related to the breakup of supercontinent Columbia, superimposed with later episodes of collision of eastern India with Antarctica during Rodinia assembly. With intent to capture signatures of collision, 19 broadband seismic stations are installed along two distinct profiles covering craton and Eastern Ghats contact boundary. Shear wave splitting analyses using SKS and SKKS waveforms resulted in 85 high-quality measurements. Our results reveal that the delay times vary from 0.4 s to as high as 2.0 s, and the orientation of the fast polarization directions at most of the stations are North-East directed while a few stations exhibit East-West orientations. The observed North-East orientation of the fast polarization axis lying close to the Absolute Plate Motion (APM) direction of the Indian plate are in accordance with earlier results of Indian shield, which shows the dominance of plate motion related strain of the Indian plate. The observed stacked splitting parameters concentrates on smaller delays (~0.7 s) compared to global average of ~1s observed for continental shields and Indian shield. The buck in trend akin to APM direction of Indian plate and variation in delay times among closely spaced stations is indicative of rather complex architecture and deformation patterns in suture zones formed subsequent to the Grenvillian and Pan-African orogen. Therefore, frozen anisotropy and multiple layers of anisotropy with different symmetry axis contribute to the variation of the delay times and fast polarization directions in the region, along with APM related strain of Indian plate.

Remote Dynamic Triggering in Southeast Africa
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We present results of the first systematic search for evidence of dynamic triggering of microearthquakes in southeast Africa. We analyzed seismic waveforms from 53 broadband and short-period stations in SE Africa, to identify increases in the rate of microearthquakes and tremor coincident with the passage of the Mw8.6 2012 Indian Ocean earthquake teleseismic waves (Neves et al., 2018). We computed β-values to evaluate the statistical significance of the observed increase in seismic activity, and statistically significant dynamic triggering at 7 stations. Two of these stations are located in the northeast coast of Madagascar. The other 5 stations are located in the Kaapvaal Craton, southern Africa, around one of the most active clusters of seismicity in the region that has been associated with a combination of natural and anthropogenic factors. We found no evidence of dynamically triggered microearthquakes in stations located near the structures of the East African Rift system (EARS). We also did not find any evidence of deep tectonic tremor in the entire region. Although hydrothermal activity has been identified close to the stations that recorded dynamic triggering, it also exists near the EARS structures where no triggering was observed. Our results suggest that factors other than solely tectonic regime and geothermalism are needed to explain the mechanisms underlying earthquake triggering. Further investigation revealed a higher vertical to horizontal peak-ground velocity ratio in the stations where triggering occurred, suggesting a local distortion of the wavefield,
From Individual Station Magnitudes to Event Average: What Does Average Mean and Does It Matter? 

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Whatever magnitude scale is used to define the size of an earthquake, the value is almost always an average of magnitude values obtained from many individual stations. Average, however, can be defined in a multitude of ways. Using data from over 4000 earthquakes in eastern Canada each with magnitude values from at least five stations, the effects of how these data are combined are examined. The first part of the study explores how the definition of average (mean, median, 20% and 40% trimmed mean) affects the final magnitude value. For this study, magnitudes were calculated to an additional decimal place to highlight small differences. When the data set as a whole is examined the difference between the various averages is negligible, with the mean difference between any two definitions of average being less than 0.02 magnitude units. Calculating both the mean and median and then comparing them is a simple way of flagging events whose magnitudes should perhaps be examined in more detail. Next, station corrections or mean residuals were determined for all stations whose magnitudes were used for at least five earthquakes in the data set. The corrections were then applied to the raw station magnitudes before calculating the event magnitude. The corrections were determined at stations lower than 0.1 magnitude units. Overall, the application of station corrections has little effect on the event magnitude. The impact can be greater when the number of station magnitudes is small and/or some of the stations used have large corrections. Finally, source and path effects as well as station distribution can impact the event magnitude as oversampling at some azimuths may bias the final value. This does not appear to be a problem in general but further study exploring the effects of azimuthal averaging is ongoing as the station correction data for some stations have an apparent azimuthal dependence.

Lithospheric Structure of the Pantanal Basin from the Analysis of Fundamental and Higher Modes Surface Waves

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The study of crustal and lithospheric thicknesses provides valuable information about Earth’s dynamics, allowing to identify stress patterns, isostatic compensation degrees and to generate crustal evolution models. Lithospheric thickness in South America is poorly understood, being the Andean region the most studied. The aim of this work is to evaluate the lithospheric structure of the Pantanal basin analyzing S-wave velocity models obtained from the fundamental and higher modes of surface wave from regional earthquakes recorded at the Brazilian Seismic Network Stations (BRASIS). Surface wave group velocity curves were obtained by a multiple filter technique and the classical two-station method was applied to get the fundamental and higher mode phase velocity curves. Inversions of these curves were carried out to obtain the velocity profile for the lithospheric region. This new models reach depths up to 150 km enhancing the lithospheric structure knowledge. This work represents the first analysis of phase velocity using higher modes for the Pantanal basin.

Evidence of a Low Frequency Wave-Packet within Records of the 2016 Central Italy Seismic Sequence

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This work focuses on the observation of data recorded by the seismic temporary network installed in the Amatrice area, under the umbrella of the Italian Center for Seismic Microzonation (http://www.centromicrozonazioneesimentica.it), following the M 6.0 earthquake of August 24, 2016 in Central Italy. The aim was studying the presence of an evident late low frequency wave packet observed in some of the recorded aftershocks. In order to interpret this phenomenon, we combined a beam-forming analysis performed on these data with the statistics on residuals of localizations related to the same events, recorded by the Italian Seismic Network (RSN). The total number of analyzed events, characterized by M≥3 and epicentral distances between 30 and 55 Km, is 356. By observing the seismic traces of these events there was an evidence, in some of them, of a low frequency packet appearing 10 seconds after the first arrival. The evidence of this packet was correlated with epicentral distance and focal depth. For a subset of stations, considered as an array, a beam-forming analysis was performed by using the ObsPy toolbox (M. Beyreuther et al., 2010). Results of this analysis gave information in terms of slowness and azimuth to distinguish the main seismic phases of the considered events. In addition, by using locations of the RSN records (Chiaraluce et al., 2017), we performed a parallel analysis within the subset of events with clear evidence of the low frequency packet. We relocated these events by using the NonLinLoc code, with a fixed 1D P-wave velocity model, and varying the Vp/Vs ratio in the range 1.6~2.0. We found that the P phases residuals are not influenced by the Vp/Vs ratio changes whereas the higher the Vp/Vs the lower are the S phases residuals. Higher values of Vp/Vs ratio, fixing Vp values, could mean a decrease of Vs connected to particular effects during the seismic waves path, that are probably due to geological heterogeneities at local or larger scale.
A key update in the next major release of ShakeMap is the application of the multivariate normal distribution (MVN) to ground motion interpolation. The MVN provides a complete solution to the problem of ground-motion interpolation, fully accounting for the correlation among the instrumental observations both spatially and across intensity measure types (IMTs), and is therefore an important improvement over the current ShakeMap interpolation scheme. Practical application of the MVN in a ShakeMap setting, however, is challenging for several reasons: (1) the large size of typical ShakeMap output grid makes computation of the complete MVN impractical on commonly available computers; (2) a large number of IMTs in the input may also inflate the required matrices to impractical dimensions; (3) the lack of currently available empirical cross-correlation functions between some ShakeMap IMTs [e.g., between peak ground velocity (PGV) and Modified Mercalli Intensity (MMI)] prevents a straightforward implementation of the MVN in some cases; (4) the computation of the event-specific bias is complicated by the presence of multiple IMTs in the input and heteroskedastic inter-event residuals in some ground motion models. Here, we describe a number of adaptations and simplifying assumptions made to overcome these, and other, obstacles. For instance, we discuss a piecewise application of the MVN that produces output grids of amplitude and variance, without the necessity of computing the full covariance matrix of the output grid. We also show that the down-weighting of uncertain data as described by Worden et al. (BSSA, in press) allows for the inclusion of data converted from one IMT to another, while accounting for the uncertainty inherent in the conversion. This approach enables, for example, the inclusion of PGV data in a map of MMI despite the lack of an empirical cross-correlation function, by first applying an appropriate conversion of PGV to MMI.

Introducing a European Integrated Shakemap System

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Strong-motion data dissemination in Pan-Europe is undergoing remarkable improvements. Two new modern strong-motion portals were recently developed within project NERA, mainly based on the European Integrated Waveform Data Archive (EIDA), namely: (a) an automatic peak-motion database (RRSM) that delivers earthquake and peak-motion information within minutes of any event with $M \geq 4.0$ in the Euro-Mediterranean region. The maps are initially constrained by the earthquake locations and magnitudes provided by the Euro-Mediterranean Seismological Centre (EMSC) along with the recordings of the RRSM, and subsequently updated with manually revised ESM ground-motion estimates. ShakeMapEU uses ground-motion prediction tools suitable for Pan-Europe and the seismo-tectonic regionalisation of project SHARE. It implements the authoritative configuration for Switzerland and Italy and will in the future include the other authoritative regional configuration. The system is based on ShakeMap 3.5. A transition to ShakeMap 4.0, including new developments and web services, is planned in the future. The main goals of ShakeMapEU are: (i) to provide a single source for ShakeMaps at the European scale that builds on EIDA and modern future-proof community software and tools; (ii) to serve as a backup to local authoritative ShakeMap implementations and; (iii) to deliver ShakeMaps for regions where no local capability is yet available.

Shake-Map Movie by Using Data Assimilation and Correction of Site Amplification in Time Domain

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Monitor of spatial distribution of ground shaking, that is shake-map, is important for rapid assessment of earthquake damage. Shake-maps usually indicate distribution of eventual distribution of ground shaking (PGA, PGV or seismic intensity), and it does not contain information of time evolution of ground shaking. Here we propose to extend it to shake-map of ongoing ground shaking (hereinafter “shake-map movie”) which gives us time-trace of ground shaking at locations where seismometers do not exist. Real-time application of the shake-map movie enables us to envision distribution of the ground shaking of near future. In this context, shake-map movie is a powerful tool for earthquake early warning. Data assimilation is a technique for precise estimation of the present condition, and it is widely used in meteorology and oceanography in geophysics. We apply the data assimilation technique to estimate the real-time shake-map movie, in which simulation of seismic wave propagation is incorporated into the actual monitor of the shaking. In the data assimilation technique, not only present data, but also all past data are used to estimate the present distribution of ground shaking. The incorporation of past data leads to more precise estimation, as compare with just drawing the contour of present distribution. For application to actual observation, frequency-dependent site amplification factors should be corrected. For the correction of the site amplification in real-time, IIR filters are created which are consistent with the frequency dependence and applicable in time-domain. In this paper, we will show examples of the shake-map movie by applying it to the 2011 Tohoku earthquake (Mw9.0), the 2016 Kumamoto earthquake (Mw7.1), and the 2015 Bonin Islands earthquake (Mw7.9, focal depth 683km).

Real-Time Earthquake Impact Mapping in Indonesia: The Case of the 2016 Aceh Earthquake (M 6.5)

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Indonesia is one of the most earthquake disaster-prone countries in the world due to its tectonic activity and high population exposure. To assist with the earthquake response process, Indonesia’s Agency of Meteorology, Climatology and Geophysics (BMKG) generates near-real-time maps of ground motion and shaking intensity (i.e. ShakeMaps) following significant earthquakes. The original ShakeMaps are based on empirical predictions using basic hypocentre and magnitude information, and are generally generated within 5 minutes of the earthquake’s origin. Such maps are updated automatically by incorporating recorded ground motion data from Indonesia’s national Strong-Motion Network. This network, operated and maintained by BMKG, currently includes 278 strong-motion stations, and in 2017 has recorded more than 5000 records from 620 events. The ShakeMap products are subsequently used by Indonesian National Board for Disaster Management (BNPB) to produce near-real time earthquake impact maps in terms of the population exposed to different levels of ground shaking as well as expected number of fatalities. In this paper, we describe the implementation of real-time earthquake impact alerting systems within BMKG and BNPB. We also demonstrate the use of these systems in response to the recent MW 6.5 Koto-Banda Aceh earthquake that occurred on the 7th of December 2016 at a depth of 15 km. The earthquake was reported to have caused 104 fatalities and ~8000 number of displaced people. The integrated ShakeMap system automatically generated shaking estimates calibrated by BMKG’s strong-motion network within 10 minutes of the event’s origin time. The BMKG ShakeMaps are automatically uploaded to the InaSAFE Realtime platform, managed by BNPB, to estimate the number of people exposed. It has been observed that recorded
ground motions as well as number of casualties are generally consistent with theoretical models.

Structure and Geodynamics of the Caribbean Plate Boundaries

Mantle Structure of the Caribbean and Its Geodynamic Consequences

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We study the Caribbean plate and its underlying mantle. We investigate whether predictions of mantle structure from seismic reconstructions are in agreement with a detailed tomographic image of seismic P-wave velocity structure under the Caribbean region. In the upper mantle, positive seismic anomalies are imaged under the Lesser Antilles and Puerto Rico. These anomalies are interpreted as remnants of Atlantic lithosphere subduction and confirm tectonic reconstructions that suggest that at least 1100 km of convergence at the Lesser Antilles island arc during the past ~45 Myr. The imaged Lesser Antilles slab consists of distinct northern and southern anomalies, separated by a low velocity anomaly across most of the upper mantle, which we interpret as the subducted North-South America plate boundary. The southern edge of the imaged Lesser Antilles slab agrees with taping of South America lithosphere along a semicircular shear zone. Regional seismicity suggests that the active STEP is located close to Trinidad/Tobago. The resulting STEP Fault zone aligns with the San Sebastian/El Pilar plate boundary (Clark et al., 2008). We discuss new results of mechanical experiments aimed at better constraining the location of lithospheric tectonics. The northern Lesser Antilles slab is continuous with the Puerto Rico slab along the northeastern plate boundary. This results in an amphitheater-shaped slab and it is interpreted as westward subducting North America lithosphere that remained attached to the surface along the northern boundary. We use mechanical models to demonstrate that the trench parallel motion of this western edge of the slab ("slab edge push") is a major driver of deformation of tectonic blocks in the northeastern Caribbean plate boundary zone. Geological observations suggest that that slab edge push was the dominant driver of deformation in the northeastern Caribbean plate boundary zone since 30 Ma.

Seismic Imaging of the Lesser Antilles Subduction Zone with the VOILA Project

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The Volatiles in the Lesser Antilles (VOILA) project is a multidisciplinary experiment to understand the pathway of fluids and volatiles in the Lesser Antilles subduction system, where oceanic lithosphere from the slow-spreading Mid Atlantic Ridge is subducting at a shallow angle near the Lesser Antilles island arc. Here we present results from the passive seismic ocean bottom deployment of 32 instruments on the back arc and forearc regions. We use teleseismic Rayleigh wave dispersion and S-to-P receiver functions to image the slab, upper plate, and wedge structures. We calculated receiver functions using a multitaper method. We measure dispersion from 18-111 s period, which increases from 3.64 at 18 s period to 4.21 at 111 s. Receiver functions image the Moho that varies from 23 to 40 ± 4 km depth beneath the arc. In the northern and central section of the arc we image the base of the upper plate at 73 ± 5 km depth beneath the arc and backarc. The slab itself dips too steeply to be imaged using this method. In the southern arc we image a negative phase that may be related to a more gradually dipping slab at 101 – 117 ± 5 km. The receiver functions are in good agreement with constraints from surface waves. At 18-33 s period we observe low velocities beneath the arc across the region, with higher velocities on either side, consistent with thickened crust and possibly a low velocity mantle wedge region beneath the active arc region. At 40-81 s period a N-S trending high velocity region, ~100 km wide, is observed, which shifts position westward with increasing period, migrating from the forearc to beneath the arc, which we interpret as the slab. At longer periods (81-111 s) the high velocity anomaly persists north of Guadeloupe, suggesting the slab may persist to greater depths in this region.

Mutual Subduction: A Review of Observations from the Southern Caribbean Margin and Some Outstanding Questions

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The most evident surface expression of the Caribbean-South America plate boundary is the strike-slip San Sebastian – El Pilar fault system. However, the boundary also comprises two convergent segments. In the east, the Atlantic (oceanic continuation of South America) subducts beneath the Caribbean, while in the west, the Caribbean subducts beneath South America. While Atlantic subduction is straightforward and undisputed, a general dearth of intermediate-depth seismicity, absence of megathrust earthquakes in the historical record, and absence of subduction-related volcanism, along with the relatively low resolution of early tomography studies, led several authors to conclude that any subduction of the Caribbean beneath South America was only incipient. Recent body-wave tomography has shown conclusively that Caribbean subduction beneath South America is well established. Indeed a Caribbean slab can be imaged initially subducting at a shallow angle, before dipping near-vertically near the Merida Andes. The Caribbean slab can be traced to the bottom of the transition zone, document- ing a minimum of ~900 km of subduction. In both of the subduction segments that bracket the strike-slip portion of the boundary, only part of the plate subdu- cts. In each case, the subducting slab must tear from the non-subducting lithosphere that it was continuous with pre-subduction. In the east, the Pariá cluster of seismicity in eastern Venezuela has been identified as the likely location of this tear, but seismic imaging strongly suggests that this does not represent a clean cut through the entire lithosphere. In the west, there are no conspicuous concentra- tions of seismicity that would suggest the location of a tear, although one must exist. We present the latest high-resolution seismic images of the upper mantle that underpin the assertions made above, and consider the implications of the imaged subduction geometry.

What Can Earthquakes Tell Us of Plate Interactions in Northern South America?

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The northern edge of South America features the interaction of three major plates (and probably multiple minor ones). This complex setting includes the subduction of the Nazca plate, showing flat subduction in the north and strong variability of subducting angle to the south. The Caribbean plate is subducting to the north, also with potential flat subduction, although evidence still requires additional imaging efforts that are underway today. The shallow structure in northern South America also features major crustal faults, but it is still not clear how deformation is distributed. We review the seismicity in northern South America, recorded by the Servicio Geológico Colombiano over the last 10 years. We focus in particular in three major features of the seismicity. The Bucaramanga Nest represents the largest concentration of intermediate-depth earthquakes in the world (per volume), nevertheless it is still debated whether it is related to the Nazca plate, the Caribbean plate or a collision between the two. Towards the South, another large concentration of intermediate-depth earthquakes is related to the change between flat-subduction and steep subduction of the Nazca plate. The seismicity is concentrated along the subducting plate, but also shows seismicity in the mantle wedge, an unusual feature, that may provide key constraints of mantle temperature and mantle wedge flow. Finally, by relocating crustal seismicity in northern Colombia, we highlight some of the major faults that accommodate plate motion and the collision with the Panama Arc.

Inferences of Slab Tears throughout the Caribbean from Integrated Seismic Methods

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The Recent Earthquakes that Shocked Mexico in September 2017

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The September 19th, 2017, (M7.1), Intermediate-Depth Mexican Earthquake: An Energetically Inefficient Deadly Shock

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On September 19th, 2017, a magnitude 7.1 earthquake occurred between the states of Morelos and Puebla, Mexico. The event was a normal-faulting intraplate earthquake with a focal depth of 57 km. Although intermediate depth earthquakes (IDE) of this kind are relatively frequent across the globe, the physics of their source process is still not well understood. Due to the high confining pressure and temperature at depths below 50 km, rocks tend to deform by ductile flow rather than by brittle failure governing most of shallow, interplate earthquakes. We performed a dynamic source inversion of the M7.1 event using six strong motion records with epicentral distances smaller than 110 km. We implemented a new Particle Swarm Optimization algorithm for this purpose that takes advantage of parallel computing and allows a statistical analysis of the solution. This includes, strong motion, high-rate GPS, static GPS, tide gauge, and ocean-bottom pressure data. Although the commonly accepted hypothesis for intraslab earthquakes is slab dehydration, we show that for both events also pre-existing seafloor fabric plays a determining role. During the Tehuantepec earthquake, the chain of events is that a bend fault first formed from reactivated fabric in the outer rise rotates through the megathrust and, with help from wholesale deviatoric tension and strong slab pull, hosts the normal faulting event. The earthquake ruptured from the megathrust down to the edge of the lithosphere, and we find robust evidence that embrittlement is much deeper than previously thought and extends to temperatures as high as 1100°C. Similarly during the Puebla-Morelos intraslab event we find that bend faulting at the edge of the flat slab segment hosts the normal faulting event. Similarly, the morphology that abyssal hill fabric formed during seafloor spreading and advected through the subduction system, represents a key pre-existing weakness plane that promotes the intraslab event. Sharp bending as the flat slab unfurls into the mantle produces a substantial bending moment placing the top half of the subducted lithosphere under flexural extension.

A Study of Excitation and Ground Motion Relations in Central Mexico Based on the Earthquakes of September 2017

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In this study, we present preliminary results of ground motion relations in central Mexico. The amplitudes of maximum peak ground acceleration and pseudo-absolute acceleration spectra are difficult to model because it is important to consider the complex geometry of the source. In general, the ground motion prediction equations that have been developed over the years include sources of inter- and intraslab and active tectonic sources indistinctly. The distance is also difficult to assess using only one metric. At first glance there are some inconsistencies in previous published GMPEs and the ground motion records of the earthquakes of September 2017. For example, the amplitudes of the earthquake of September 19 seem to fit better than the Tehuantepec earthquake but the geometry of the source is difficult to reconcile in the source model of the Tehuantepec earthquake. The original database of earthquakes that created the GMPEs did not include any earthquake of size and faulting style similar to Tehuantepec one. We also compared other ground motion relations that were obtained from random vibration theory simulations applying some scaling laws. Our preliminary results show that the Tehuantepec earthquake requires special considerations to model the total energy change produced by the event was not radiated. This means that the specific fracture energy was close to $2 \times 10^7$ J/m$^2$, which is about 10 times larger than expected for shallow crust earthquakes. Recent studies suggest that thermal shear runaway is the leading rupture mechanism of IDEs (Prieto et al., 2013). This mechanism produces a highly localized ductile deformation in the fault zone inhibiting brittle fracture but allowing large particle accelerations.

Intraslab Faulting Faulting in Subduction Zones: The Role of Seafloor Fabric During the M 7.1 and M 8.2 September 2017 Mexico Earthquakes

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Two large normal-faulting intraslab earthquakes occurred in rapid succession in Mexico in 2017, the 8th September M8.2 Tehuantepec, and 19th September M7.1 Puebla-Morelos events. Here we will discuss detailed source models of both earthquakes produced from inversion of all available regional geophysical data. This includes, strong motion, high-rate GPS, static GPS, tide gauge, and ocean-bottom pressure data. Although the commonly accepted hypothesis for intraslab earthquakes is slab dehydration, we show that for both events also pre-existing seafloor fabric plays a determining role. During the Tehuantepec earthquake, the chain of events is that a bend fault first formed from reactivated fabric in the outer rise rotates through the megathrust and, with help from wholesale deviatoric tension and strong slab pull, hosts the normal faulting event. The earthquake ruptured from the megathrust down to the edge of the lithosphere, and we find robust evidence that embrittlement is much deeper than previously thought and extends to temperatures as high as 1100°C. Similarly during the Puebla-Morelos intraslab event we find that bend faulting at the edge of the flat slab segment hosts the normal faulting event. Similarly, the morphology that abyssal hill fabric formed during seafloor spreading and advected through the subduction system, represents a key pre-existing weakness plane that promotes the intraslab event. Sharp bending as the flat slab unfurls into the mantle produces a substantial bending moment placing the top half of the subducted lithosphere under flexural extension.
Southern Mexico was struck by four earthquakes with Mw ≥ 6 and numerous smaller earthquakes in September 2017, starting with the 8 September Mw 8.2 Tehuantepec Earthquake beneath the Gulf of Tehuantepec offshore Chiapas and Oaxaca. We study whether this M8.2 earthquake triggered the three subsequent large M≥6 quakes in southern Mexico to improve understanding of earthquake interactions and time-dependent risk. All four large earthquakes were extensional despite the subduction of the Cocos plate at the convergent plate boundary. The traditional definition of aftershocks: likely an aftershock if it occurs within two rupture lengths of the main shock soon afterwards. Two Mw 6.1 earthquakes, half an hour after the M8.2 beneath the Tehuantepec gulf and on 23 September near Ixtepac in Oaxaca, both fit as traditional aftershocks, within 200 km of the main rupture. The 19 September Mw 7.1 Puebla earthquake was ~600 km away from the M8.2 shock, outside the standard aftershock zone. Geodetic measurements from interferometric analysis of synthetic aperture radar (InSAR) and time-series analysis of GPS station data constrain fault finite static slip models for the M8.2, M7.1, and M6.1 Ixtepac earthquakes. We include open-ocean tsunami waveforms for the M8.2 inversions. We analyzed InSAR data from Copernicus Sentinel-1A and -1B satellites and JAXA ALOS-2 satellite. Our Bayesian (ABTaN) static slip model for the M8.2 quake shows significant slip extended ≥150 km and possible 220 km NW from the hypocenter and there is a high probability that the slip extended to depths of at least 70 km indicating slab pull stress state. Our slip model for the M7.1 earthquake is similar to the v2 NEIC FEM. Inversions for the M6.1 Ixtepac quake confirm shallow depth in the upper plate crust and show centroid is about 30 km SW of the preliminary NEIC epicenter but consistent with cluster relocated. The NEIC updated epicenter and Mexican SSN location are closer to the InSAR-constrained location.

The September 2017 Earthquakes in Mexico from Social Media

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After the earthquakes of September 7 (local time) and 19, 2017, in Mexico, much of the activity of Mexican seismologists has clarified the popular concern about the possible unique characteristics of these. From another point of view, a particularity is evident: the most significant earthquakes and consequences in Mexico have been social media. In perspective, it is indisputable that for institutions and experts in seismology—because it is always in the collective interest as constantly as the movements of the earth—one of the challenges is also communication. The great demand for reliable and detailed information on these earthquakes—and their consequences—originated a public discourse that, by itself, emphasized technical concepts to make them accessible and supported the demystification, changing even the general interests on the subject. It is also true that false and apocryphal information, massive rumors and disinformation were especially accelerated, generating that several negative aspects are not exclusive or intrinsic to digital platforms, we must be more explicit how to lessen their impact. An analysis of the dissemination of these seismic events through social media (of the Mexican Servicio Sismológico Nacional, National Seismological Service, in particular) and the behavior of users, allows us to make some proposals for a better practice when reporting seismic events (seismic and seismicity reports), also containing diverse characteristic aspects of the magnitude, location, mechanism, and technological tools for the transmission of information. More importantly, this brief work leads to reassess the role of disseminators of science that should be appropriated by institutions responsible for providing seismic information to the population.
Intraslab Morelos-Puebla, Mexico, Earthquake of 19 September 2017 (Mw 7.1): Ground Motion and Damage Pattern in Mexico City

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The 19 September 2017, earthquake, which occurred in Central Mexico, caused severe damage to important cities of Central Mexico including Mexico City. Authorities reported that 369 persons were killed by the earthquake (more than 60% in the Mexico City) and hundreds of buildings collapsed or were seriously damaged. Hypocentral location reveals an intermediate-depth earthquake located inside the subducted Cocos plate. Using regional broad band data (400 km < R < 900 km), we estimated for the Regional Moment Tensor (RMT) and obtained the following solution: PNI = 303°, =45°, =–79°; NP2 = 107°, =47°, =–101°, similar to that reported by GCMT: NP1 =300°, =44°, =–83°; NP2 =149°, =46°, and =–97°. RMT yields a scalar moment of 4.22x10²⁶ dyn-cm as compared to 6.51x10²⁶ dyn-cm reported by GCMT. Three portable broad band stations were installed surrounding the epicenter of the mainshock within 48 hrs. Only 12 small earthquakes (M<4.1) were recorded in the next 2 months. We found that the hypocentral location is better correlated with the fault plane dipping to northeast (>303°, >45°, and <–79°). Local network also recorded shallow triggered seismicity which were located northwest of the epicenter at a distance < 100 km.
The Tsunami during the September 8, 2017, Tehuantepec, Mexico Earthquake—Physical Observations and Warning Response

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The September 8th 2017, Mw8.2 earthquake offshore Chiapas, Mexico, is the largest earthquake recorded history in Chiapas since 1902. It caused damage in the states of Oaxaca, Chiapas and Tabasco. This earthquake, a deep intraplate event on a normal fault on the oceanic subducting plate, generated a tsunami recorded at several tide gauge stations in Mexico and on the Pacific Ocean. We covered ground observations along 41 km of the coast of Chiapas, encompassing the 8 sites with the highest projected wave heights based on our preliminary tsunami model (maximum tsunami amplitudes between ~94.5 and ~93.0 W). The maximum runup was ~3 m at Boca del Cielo, and maximum inundation distance was 190 m in Puerto Arista, corresponding to the coast directly opposite the epicenter and in the central sector of the Gulf of Tehuantepec. In general, our field data agree with the predicted results from the preliminary tsunami model. Tsunami scour and erosion, and lateral spreading was evident on the Chiapas coast. Tsunami deposits, mainly sand, reached up to 32 cm thickness thinning landwards up to 172 m distance. We collected information regarding the tsunami early warning system as part of eyewitness interviews during the post-tsunami survey. Even though the Mexican tsunami early warning system (CAT) issued several warnings, the tsunami arrival struck the Chiapas coast prior to the arrival of official warnings to the residents of small coastal towns, owing to the multi-ranked notification system. Thus, a tsunami early warning system with a direct warning to all coastal communities is needed. Some people evacuated under their own initiative, indigenous Ikoot community though were self-organized, calling people to move to higher ground, but some did not evacuate. Tsunami educational material has been produced in different languages and made available online however, its distribution has not been effective. Therefore, community-based education and awareness programs are needed.

Tsunami Public Awareness and Education Strategy for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions – Principles and Implementation

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At least 75 tsunamis have impacted the region over the last 500 years causing over 3000 deaths. Tsunamis are rapid onset potentially high impact hazards. Due to increasing urbanisation in coastal areas and the low frequency of tsunamis, preparedness and response must be in the psyche of our vulnerable populations to save lives and property. The Tsunami Public Awareness and Education (PAE) Strategy emphasises a mitigation approach in building long-term tsunami awareness and education within the 48 Member States and territories of the Intergovernmental Coordination Group for the Tsunami and Other Coastal Hazards Warning System for the Caribbean and Adjacent Regions (ICG/CARIBE EWS). The strategy is placed within the context of the Pacific Ocean Decade, regional and national disaster risk reduction initiatives, the need for institutional capacity and support, partnerships and shared responsibility across all levels of society to secure resilience. Critical guidance includes audience selection, the effectiveness of multi-media tools and redundant warning dissemination mechanisms, message standardization and increased information flow for successful PAE programming. In recognising the fundamental role of PAE for effective evacuation and warning dissemination to minimise hazard impacts; the Strategy also addresses key synergies between tsunamis and other hazards—earthquakes, landslides, hurricanes and other coastal hazards e.g. coastal flooding and storm surges, which frequently impact the region. These realities of linkages were vividly displayed during the 2017 Atlantic Hurricane season, Regional-level Strategy implementation has largely focused on developing tools for broad audiences, trainings and executing community programmes. Proposed initiatives advance specialised education and sectoral application. The Strategy provides a pioneering, harmonized, regional-level framework for tsunami risk reduction through PAE.

Lessons for Tsunami and Earthquake Resilience from Hurricanes Irma and Maria in the Northeastern Caribbean

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In September 2017 the Northeastern Caribbean was battered by two Category 5 hurricanes, Irma and Maria. While Irma’s destructive forces were most devastating to Antigua & Barbuda, Anguilla, the British Virgin Islands, the Northern US Virgin Islands, Maria completed the destruction of the region with its fury focusing on Dominica, St. Croix (USVI) and Puerto Rico. There are many parallels between these hurricanes and earthquakes and tsunamis which are examined in the hopes of improving resilience to the more infrequent geophysical events. Issues like onset, duration, impact and damage, response and recovery will be addressed. Unlike Earthquakes and Tsunamis which are no notice/extremely rapid onset events, the hurricanes provided advance warning giving some time to take safety measures. In the case of the hurricanes, the winds blew for hours limiting any type of emergency response, in this case there is closer tie in with tsunamis rather than earthquakes. The images of the damage along the coastlines due to storm surge and river flooding recall scenes from recent tsunamis and are a powerful reminder of the destructive forces of water. One of the most significant impacts from the hurricanes was the sudden complete loss of power, communication and road connectivity. In the response and recovery phase personal, community and institutional empowerment has been recognized. Although the Puerto Rico Seismic Network was left with limited earthquake data due to the loss of all but 4 stations after Maria, it used the resources it had to serve as a focal point for emergency communications. Once again the elderly and those with less economic resources have been the most vulnerable. Debris has been a major issue, but probably small in comparison with what we would be facing from an earthquake and tsunami. The presentation will focus on how the Irma and Maria experience can be used to educate also on earthquakes and tsunamis and build back better, more resilient.

Tsunami Response Lessons Learned in Puerto Rico from the January 10, 2018, 7.6 Mw Hurricanes Event

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The 7.6 Mw Hurricanes event provided a valuable test of logistical and community preparedness for tsunami in Puerto Rico (PR) and Virgin Islands (VI). This event provided an opportunity to quantify the extent of the continued recovery of the local emergency alert systems in Puerto Rico post Hurricanes Irma and Maria and highlighted gaps in public and emergency management knowledge. In the immediate time after the event, PR and the VI were placed under a tsunami advisory by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. Consequently, the Puerto Rico Seismic Network (PRSN) retransmitted this information as mandated by our mission and role as a Tsunami Warning Focal Point Alternate. Here we present and evaluate the PRSN response to the event as well as detail continued damages to the communication systems from the 2017 hurricanes detected in this response. In this poster we review the PR/VI tsunami protocol and highlight the need for more formal education on tsunami threats and responses; PRSN is planning to address this issue in the following fiscal year by providing training with evaluation metrics to ensure that local emergency managers have solid knowledge of threat levels and the appropriate response.
A Century Later: An Historical Novel of the 1918 Puerto Rico Earthquake and Tsunami
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A Century Later is an historical novel based on the life of a Catholic nun who died in the San Antonio Hospital in Mayagüez, Puerto Rico, as a consequence of the October 11, 1918, M 7.3 earthquake. During 100 years her story and tragedy were unknown. The author, Fernando Bayron Toro, a professor, historian, writer, political scientist and lawyer, researched archives in Puerto Rico and Europe for this work. The novel includes many facts and photographs from the earthquake and tsunami and helps clarify the earthquake and tsunami impact. In Mayagüez, for example, one of the oft asked questions is where did the tsunami reach when it flooded the city. Glaming over maps and plans and in discussion with scientists he helps answer this question. While the novel makes for interesting reading, it also serves the purpose of sensitizing and educating the reader on earthquakes and tsunamis. People reading this book hopefully will be more likely to take proactive measures to prepare for such an event. Earthquake and tsunami awareness also is increased thru the public presentations on the book.

Uncertainty in Ground Motion Estimation; Seismological and Engineering Perspectives
Oral Session · Thursday 17 May · 10:45 AM · Hibiscus B
Session Chairs: Valerie J. Sahakian, Annemarie S. Bataly, and Kathryn E. Wooddell

Analysis of the Effect of Near Surface Slips on Strong Ground Motion: An Example of the Main Shock of the 2016 Kumamoto Earthquakes
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The main shock of the 2016 Kumamoto earthquakes occurred on April 16, 2016, at 01:25 (JST), with Mw7.0. The rupture of the crustal earthquake reached to the surface and more than 30 km of surface ruptures appeared after the earthquake. Strong motions around the surface ruptures showed large peak velocities and permanent displacements, which could affect the damage around the source region. In general, permanent displacements around surface ruptures are generated from the shallow part of the fault because near and intermediate field terms attenuate with distance. Thus, strong motion records around surface ruptures can be used to investigate the behavior of the shallow part of a fault. In this study, in order to reveal the dynamic behavior of the near surface fault and its effects on strong motions, we analyzed near fault strong motion records of the 2016 Kumamoto earthquake. Velocities and displacements were estimated by numerical integration of accelerations in time domain and baseline correction (c.f. Iwan 1985, Boore 2001) to avoid distorting the waveforms. The result showed that large velocity pulses of around 0.5 Hz occurred simultaneously with the onset of permanent displacements at many stations. This could imply that these large velocities were generated near the surface. In addition to well-known fault parallel fling pulses, velocity pulses exceeding 50 cm/s in the radial direction were significant near the surface and more than 30 km of surface ruptures appeared after the earthquake. In this study, in order to reveal the dynamic behavior of the near surface fault and its effects on strong motions, we analyzed near fault strong motion records of the 2016 Kumamoto earthquake. Velocities and displacements were estimated by numerical integration of accelerations in time domain and baseline correction (c.f. Iwan 1985, Boore 2001) to avoid distorting the waveforms. The result showed that large velocity pulses of around 0.5 Hz occurred simultaneously with the onset of permanent displacements at many stations. This could imply that these large velocities were generated near the surface. In addition to well-known fault parallel fling pulses, velocity pulses exceeding 50 cm/s in the radial direction were significant near the surface. In this study, in order to reveal the dynamic behavior of the near surface fault and its effects on strong motions, we analyzed near fault strong motion records of the 2016 Kumamoto earthquake. Velocities and displacements were estimated by numerical integration of accelerations in time domain and baseline correction (c.f. Iwan 1985, Boore 2001) to avoid distorting the waveforms. The result showed that large velocity pulses of around 0.5 Hz occurred simultaneously with the onset of permanent displacements at many stations. This could imply that these large velocities were generated near the surface. In addition to well-known fault parallel fling pulses, velocity pulses exceeding 50 cm/s in the radial direction were significant near the surface.

Moving Toward Region-Specific Ground-Motion: Reducing Uncertainty in Ground-Motion Prediction Equations (GMPEs) with Physical Representations of Path Effects
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Path-specific ground-motion models, or fully non-ergodic ground-motion prediction equations (GMPEs) are the next step in improving ground-motion estimation, in particular for critical facilities where design targets fall at very low probabilities of exceedance. Statistical approaches in regions with high seismicity rates have been shown to be robust methods for moving towards fully non-ergodic models, however in seismically quiet regions, these methods will not reduce uncertainty in path terms; we work to include known, regional properties into GMPEs to reduce uncertainty. These results are then included as local path term adjustments, to demonstrate the GMPE’s uncertainty reduction. With a relationship between crustal properties and ground-motion amplitudes, obtainable physical properties which remain constant on human timescales may be included into GMPEs as path effects. We test our method in the seismically active Southern California region, which hosts a myriad of studies on crustal properties (seismic velocity attenuation, fault and geologic mapping). With dense station coverage from four networks, we compute PGA for over 130,000 earthquake recordings (0.5 < M < 4.5, 5 < Rrup < 180km). We develop a regional GMPE with a mixed effects approach, and simultaneously obtain event, site, and path residuals, as well as 3D raypaths for each recording. Next, we compute values of the velocity gradi-
ent among each path to compare to each recording’s path residual. We observe a moderate negative correlation between the path residual and that path’s gradient of velocity, implying a relationship between amplitude and structural heterogeneity. In addition, we compute a path tomography model, or 3D volume with the mean path residual in each grid cell. We compare this to a volume of crustal velocity (Vs), and find that for velocity alone there is no correlation. Finally, we repeat the analysis with a Q model to investigate the effects of attenuation on path residuals.

Probabilistic Seismic Hazard Analysis Using Non-Ergodic Ground-Motion Prediction Equations

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With an increasing number of strong-motion records over the last decade, it has become clear that there are significant differences in ground-motion scaling even within relatively small regions such as California. These differences are typically not modeled in ground-motion prediction equations (GMPEs)—they are based on the so-called ergodic assumption. By including the systematic source, path and site effects in fully non-ergodic GMPEs it is possible to reduce the value of the standard deviation of aleatory variability by about 30–40%. To justify the use of the reduced aleatory variability, the systematic effects for every possible source/site combination, together with their epistemic uncertainty need to be estimated. The added cost of using a non-ergodic GMPE in seismic hazard analysis is that the epistemic uncertainty of the systematic effects need to be propagated in the hazard analysis to obtain the full hazard distribution. It is important to include these epistemic uncertainties: ignoring them will lead to underestimation of the hazard. We build a non-ergodic GMPE for California, based on the assumption that the systematic source, path and site effects are spatially correlated. We calculate hazard for three sites in California and show the impact of incorporating the non-ergodic GMPE into seismic hazard analysis. For sites that have abundant data in their vicinity, the non-ergodic hazard changes compared to the ergodic one, while for sites with sparse date the mean hazard stays the same, but there is a large increase in the epistemic uncertainty range of the hazard. This nonergodic framework provides a smooth transition in the hazard as new data is collected or as 3-D simulations are performed. We also outline how to apply non-ergodic hazard analysis outside of California in regions with very sparse data, by transferring the covariance structure of the systematic effects from California to other regions.

Near-Surface P- and S-Wave Speeds Estimated Based upon Body-Wave Polarization

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Near-surface structure is crucial in understanding earthquake hazards, since seismic speed is directly related to the level of ground shaking. A novel technique to constrain seismic wave speed immediately beneath a seismic instrument is introduced based upon the polarization measurements of teleseismic body-wave arrivals. We demonstrate a counter-intuitive relationship that the P-wave polarization direction is only sensitive to subsurface shear wave speed but not to compressional wave speed, while the S-wave polarization direction is sensitive to both wave speeds. This approach is applied to the High-Sensitivity Seismograph Network in Japan, where the results are benchmarked against the borehole data available at most stations. There is a good agreement between polarization-based estimates and the well measurements at as shallow as 100 m, confirming the efficacy of the new method in resolving the shallow structure. The lateral variation of wave speeds shows that sedimentary basins and mountainous regions are characterized by low and high wave speeds, respectively. Moreover, the analysis is extended into three dimensions by examining the frequency dependence, and preliminary results using US broadband stations show zones of high seismic risk. This versatile technique requires minimal computational resources and can be applied to any single three-component seismograph. It can also provide means of monitoring changes that occur within the very upper crust such as from volcanic or hydrological phenomena. It opens a new path to a reliable, non-invasive, and inexpensive hazard assessment even for locations where a drilling or a field experiment using vibrators or explosives is not a practical option, and reduces uncertainties and ambiguities in the measurements of the near-surface seismic wave speeds.
Earthquake scenarios would be used by technical and non-technical users, and the description of seismic hazard as a suite of deterministic ground motions could augment probabilistic hazard values, providing a parallel way to understand and communicate seismic hazard. As the NSHMP works toward the 2018 and 2020 updates of the National Seismic Hazard Model, this presentation summarizes the feedback and findings from the User-Needs Workshop associated with the 2014 update.

Overview of the USGS Unified Hazard Tool

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The US Geological Survey’s (USGS) earthquake hazards website, https://earthquake.usgs.gov/hazards/, is the central distribution point for the National Seismic Hazard Models (NSHMs), maps, and data for the United States and its territories. The website has evolved over time, moving increasingly from providing static data to delivering data and analyses dynamically through web-services and interactive web-applications. The tools we had historically supported (e.g., interactive deaggregations, custom hazard maps) were developed on an ad-hoc basis, with each having its own codebase, despite computing or providing similar and often related data. In 2017, we retired most legacy applications and replaced them with a new Unified Hazard Tool (UHT), https://earthquake.usgs.gov/hazards/interactive/. The UHT is built off a single codebase that provides hazard data, calculations and deaggregations and earthquake probabilities and rates via a single web interface. Moreover, the UHT provides access to the source and ground motion models (GMMs) in each NSHM, thereby making it easier than ever to access and evaluate these models. For example, it is now possible to query the GMMs for a source and spectral frequency distributions associated with a specific source; it is also possible to compute deterministic response spectra using multiple GMMs. The tool is backed by web services that are open to access by third-party applications. We provide an overview of the features of the UHT and discuss our roadmap for adding new features and enhancements. Now that the UHT has been in deployed for over a year, we also seek feedback as to whether the tool is meeting user needs (i.e., has some feature of a retired tool not been adequately replaced by the UHT), and what features, changes, or enhancements are most desired by the community so that we may best prioritize our development efforts.

Project 17: Improving Earthquake Ground Motion Maps for Building Codes

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Circa 1997, a committee of earthquake engineers and scientists referred to as Project ’97 developed ground motion maps for the NEHRP (National Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program) Recommended Provisions for Seismic Regulations for New Buildings and Other Structures. The maps were subsequently adopted into the 1998 American Society of Civil Engineers Minimum Design Loads for Building and Other Structures and the 2000 International Building Code. For the first time, these building code maps were derived directly from the US Geological Survey (USGS) National Seismic Hazard Model. Ten years later, a Project ’07 committee reassessed the procedures by which the maps were derived from the USGS model, resulting in the current Risk-targeted Maximum Considered Earthquake (MCE) ground motion maps. Another ten years later, Project ’17 is proposing further modifications to the maps. Like its predecessors, Project ’17 is organized by the Building Seismic Safety Council, with funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and scientific support from the USGS. Project ’17 is focused predominantly on three issues pertaining to the current building code maps: (1) A perceived instability of the maps across editions of the building code documents, which is largely a consequence of the periodic updates of the USGS seismic hazard model; (2) an observed underestimation of ground motions at sites with relatively low average shear wave velocities, vs, as obtained by applying building code soil adjustments to the maps, which are for a relatively high reference vs; and (3) a move away from so-called characteristic earthquakes that are used in computing deterministic ground motion caps to the otherwise probabilistic maps, with the advent of the latest Uniform California Earthquake Rupture Forecast within the USGS hazard model. In this presentation, we summarize the map-related changes being proposed by Project ’17 to address these issues.

Seismological Research Letters Volume 89, Number 2B March/April 2018

USGS Seismic Hazard User-Needs

Oral Session · Thursday 17 May · 8:30 AM · Hibiscus A
Session Chairs: Susan M. Hoover, Nico Luco, Peter M. Powers, and Sanaz Rezaeian

Feedback from the 2015 ATC/USGS Seismic Hazard User-Needs Workshop

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On September 21 and 22, 2015, the Applied Technology Council/United States Geological Survey (ATC/USGS) Seismic Hazard User-Needs Workshop brought together over 100 geologists, engineers, and other professionals. The participants represented the broad and varied groups of professionals who use seismic hazard information developed by the USGS National Seismic Hazard Modeling Project (NSHMP). These users range from practitioners who do their own seismic hazard analyses to structural engineers to public-sector professionals who interpret seismic hazard in the context of public policy. Several broad user needs emerged and were reiterated during the two-day workshop. There was no question of the need for the work that the USGS NSHMP does, including the collection and assessment of geological studies, ground motion models, and hazard algorithms—formalized as seismic hazard models—as well as the support provided by the NSHMP personnel. The seismic hazard products available at the NSHMP’s website are essential to meet user needs; the more technical users routinely use the Quaternary fault, hazard curve, deaggregation, and United States design maps tools. These users emphasized the importance of the timely update of the online hazard products and documentation for their work. Users also identified the need for earthquake scenarios or deterministic ground motions.
The earthquake hazard program by the United States Geological Survey (USGS) develops a number of useful products including the national hazard maps based on the National Seismic Hazard Mapping Project (NSHMP). These maps are used extensively to design and retrofit buildings and different structures like bridges. The multi-billion-dollar insurance industry also uses the hazard information extensively to estimate earthquake insurance premiums, to manage their capital for pay-out at certain loss levels, as well as to transfer some of their risk to the reinsurance industry and capital market. Since the insurance industry manages the earthquake risk based on losses from individual earthquakes, the hazard results from NSHMP are not used directly in the insurance industry. We will explain how catastrophe modeling companies like Risk Management Solutions (RMS) use the underlying data of the NSHMP to develop risk metrics for insured risk management. Commonly used risk metrics are average annual loss (AAL) and exceedance probability (EP) curves. AAL is the product of location loss and annual rate for all events, and is used to set annual premiums, while keeping the long-term risk in mind. The EP curve is also derived from the full set of events that impact the exposure. It provides an estimate of the probability of exceeding a particular loss level and is used for quantification to solvency assessment and portfolio management. We will discuss the challenges in using the data and the Java programs developed by NSHMP and UCERF3 and how this can be improved for a more efficient adoption of the NSHMP updates in the insurance industry. In addition, we will discuss how we are using the induced seismicity models developed by the USGS and the challenges in using the model.

**Adaptation of New Technologies and Methods to Drive New Discoveries in Seismology and Geodesy**

**Poster Session · Thursday 17 May · Riverfront South**

**Development of Integrated Accelerographs Using Mems Technology with Efficient Real-Time Data Transmission and Deployment of a Collaborative Seismic Network.**

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Having a dense network of high-resolution accelerometers based in “Feedback” systems in a reasonable amount of time, is crucial for national seismic networks such as the Spanish seismic network IGN. However, this requirement is in conflict with the tight budgets that would make this virtually unreachable. IGN has designed, developed and manufactured integrated and comprehensive accelerographs that allow near real-time transmission of seismic data, based on what is known as MEMS technology. This type of instrumentation enables compliance with the requirement to produce accurate ShakeMaps based on large amounts of observed data, and not deducted (deducted of very simple analytical attenuation laws, almost in its entirety). It would also be very important for the development of Technical Building Regulations in areas of seismic risk. All of this with prices at least ten times cheaper than high-resolution accelerographs. With the aim to demonstrate its reliability, it has been realized a testing process of these MEMS accelerometers in a vibrant table at CEDEX and its comparison with a high-resolution commercial accelerometer Guralp CMG-5ST, and even the recorded accelerograms in 2013 seismic crisis at Torreperogil village, in the province of Jaén. Currently, the IGN is deploying several devices on focused areas such as Alhama Fault at Murcia Region (southeast of the Iberian Peninsula) and Aran Valley in the Catalan Pyrenees. This new network is a densification of the existing accelerograph network based on standard commercial accelerometers and through volunteer citizens finds the installation places.

**Determination of the B-Value through a Novel Multiscale Spatio-Temporal Approach**

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The estimation of the spatial and temporal variations of the Gutenberg-Richter b-value is of great importance in different seismological applications. One of the problems affecting its estimation is the heterogeneous distribution of the seismicity which makes its estimation strongly dependent upon the selected window and/or temporal scale. This is especially important in volcanoes where dense clusters of earthquakes often overlap the background seismicity. Proposed solutions for estimating temporal variations of the b-value include considering equally spaced time intervals or variable intervals having an equal number of earthquakes. Similar approaches have been proposed to image the spatial variations of this parameter as well. We propose a novel multiscale approach, based on the method of Ogata and Katsura (1993), allowing a consistent estimation of the b-value regardless of the considered spatial and/or temporal scales. Our method, named MUST-B (Multiscale Spatial and Temporal characterization of the B-value), basically consists in computing estimates of the b-value at multiple temporal and spatial scales, extracting for a given spatio-temporal point a statistical estimator of the value, as well as an indication of the characteristic spatio-temporal scale. This approach includes also a consistent estimation of the completeness magnitude (Mc) and of the uncertainties over both b and Mc. We applied this method to example datasets for volcanic (Long Valley Caldera) and tectonic (Central Italy) areas as well as for induced seismicity zones and an example application at global scale.

**Optimization of Data Functionals for Full-3D Tomography by Seisimogram Decomposition and Resynthesis**

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Full three-dimensional tomography (F3DT) is a computationally intensive methodology for imaging the Earth structure through the iterated assimilation of waveform data into 3D models of seismic wave propagation. F3DT performance is strongly determined by data resolution, often limited by the ability to identifying coherent seismic phases, measuring the phase and amplitude spectra, and modeling the effects of interference from other signals. For seismograms computed for a 1D Earth model, the decomposition into standard seismic phases is relatively straightforward, e.g., numerical synthesis of travel times or generalized rays, but these classical techniques are of limited utility for structures with strong 3D heterogeneity. We present a new technique for systematically separating seismic phases using time-frequency spectra computed by the S-transform (Stockwell et al., 1996), which is a linear transformation based on Gaussian wavelets. Iterative waveform stripping decomposes seisograms in the spectral domain into a finite set of wave packets using time-frequency filters centered in the spectrum local maxima. Subsets of waveforms are then combined into waveforms that can be used in seismic source and structural inversion. Weights for the combinations are estimated by the Sum-of-Waves Theorem (Gee & Jordan, 1992). This algorithm allows the identification of seismic phases that are not predicted by a 1D structural model, such as basin-edge conversions, increasing the structural information that can be derived from a single seisogram. We demonstrate the flexibility of this approach by analyzing both real and synthesized seisograms and the performance of different methods for characterizing input seismic data.

**Vision and Numerical Simulation-Based Ground Deformation Testing Method**

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To resolve the problem of ground motion observation which lead to the widespread concern in the field of seismic engineering, this study provided a non-contact ground deformation testing method based on vision technology and numerical simulation. Studies are carried out on key technologies of this dynamic ground deformation testing system, such as the vision data of target in real time which is acquired by the visual testing technology was automatically analyzed, using the obtained relative displacement as the bond quantity which is continuously iterated through the numerical simulation system to finally output the more accurate absolute displacement of the ground surface. The result shows that the precision of measurement which can get to mm which meets the accuracy requirements of ground motion monitoring, and the accuracy and feasibility of visual testing technology is verified. The test method not only fills in the blank of the real-time monitoring instruments for ground displacement during the earthquake, but also provides more accuracy and wider range of data for the research on seismic source and fault information inversion and recognition of the ground motion characteristics.
Exploring Subtle Temporal Changes in Earthquake Catalogs to Guide Identification of Dynamically Triggered Events

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In studies of remote dynamic triggering, the common practice is to be reactionary, in that the impetus is to select a large earthquake and then systematically search for an increase in small earthquakes at remote distances. This approach requires specifying a duration (e.g., 5, 12, 24 hrs) used to search for seismicity rate changes. Rarely is the null hypothesis, that the rate change is merely a random occurrence, fully tested. Here, we take a different approach and simply count the number of events (above the magnitude of completeness) in a moving window of a given duration (e.g., 5, 12, 24 hrs), creating a catalog of count values for each sub-window over the full duration of a catalog. As expected the count increases substantially when there are local mainshock/aftershock sequences; however other rate increases can be identified as well. To identify times when the counts are significantly high (probabilities ≥ 96%), we use five times the standard deviation of the mean following Chebyshev’s Inequality Theorem. Applying this method to regional earthquake catalogs we successfully find statistically high counts following the 2002 M7.9 Denali, Alaska earthquake and the 2015 M8.0 Mwioacan, Mexico, earthquake. There can be a strong trade off between the length of the moving window and the robustness of the results. If the window becomes too small, an unrealistically large number of times may be flagged. These results indicate that we can use a simple earthquake count within temporal windows to identify potential remote triggering.

Fiber Optic Gyroscope Road-Map for Highest Rotational Ground Motion Sensitivity on the Field

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When the ground moves, it does not only shake in translation, but it twists too! Indeed, any motion has 6 degrees of freedom. But all the seismometers provide only translation measurement. Rotational seismology is a hot topic in seismology since instruments have been built to bring first ground rotation measurement. It started as laboratory instrument with ultimate performances thanks to Giant Ring Laser Gyroscope. It is now portable on field with optimized performances thanks to Fiber Optic Gyroscope. And now Giant Fiber Optic Gyroscope arises to make extreme performances deployable. Based on experiences developing very low noise fiber-optic gyroscopes (FOG), recent performance results on deployable large fiber-optic coils of up to 1m diameter are presented, with a focus on comparison with Array Derived Method (ADR) and Giant Ring Laser Gyroscopes (Giant-RLG). The goal for constructing large FOGs is to evaluate experimentally the physical limits of this kind of technology and to get closer of most innovative seismologic application. While these experiments are probing the fundamental limits of the FOG technology, they also serves as a first step for a cost effective very low noise laboratory rotational seismometer and would contribute in a second step to performance improvements on the portable rotational seismometer ‘blueSeis-3A’. To demonstrate a very low self-noise and characterize the quality of the data provided by a new instrument, the ideal way is a direct colocation measurement with an already qualified and much more precise instrument. The Giant-RLG, as the one located in Wettzell (Germany) is the ideal instrument to do so. Results of different prototypes on the road map will be presented to underline the applicability of each technological response to the large-FOG requirements. Finally we conclude with the achieved results with a 1m scale diameter FOG having 600m of fiber length upgraded with patented optical intensity noise subtraction.

RTX Correction Accuracy and Real-Time Data Processing of the New Integrative Seismogeodetic System with Real-Time Acceleration and Displacement Measurements for Earthquake Characterization Based on High-Rate Seismic and GPS Data

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We will discuss and show the results obtained from an integrated SeismoGeodetic System, model SG160-09, installed in the Chile (Chilean National Network), Italy (University of Naples Network), and California. The SG160-09 provides the user high rate GNSS and accelerometer data, full epoch-by-epoch measurement integrity and, using the Trimble RTTPD Client, the ability to create combined GNSS and accelerometer high-rate (200Hz), displacement time series in real-time for Earthquake Early Warning application. The SG160-09 combines seismic recording with GNSS geometric measurement in a single compact, ruggedized package. The system includes a low-power, 220-channel GNSS receiver powered by the latest Trimble-precise Maxwell™ technology and supports tracking GPS, GLONASS and Galileo signals. The receiver incorporates on-board GNSS point positioning using Real-Time Precise Point Positioning (PPP) technology with satellite clock and orbit corrections delivered over IP networks. The seismic recording element includes an ANSS Class A, force balance triaxial accelerometer with the latest, low power, 24-bit A/D converter, which produces high-resolution seismic data. The SG160-09 processor acquires and packetizes both seismic and geodetic data and transmits to the central station using an advanced, error-correction protocol with back fill capability providing data integrity between the field and the processing center. The SG160-09 has been installed in three seismic stations in different geographic locations with different Trimble global reference stations coverage The hardware includes the SG160-09 system, external Zephyr Global RTX receiver, and both radio and high-speed Internet communication media. Both acceleration and displacement data was transmitted in real-time to the centralized Data Acquisition and Processing Centers for real-time data processing. Command/Control of the field station and real-time GNSS position correction are provided via the Pivot software suite. Data from the SG160-09 system was used for seismic event characterization along with data from traditional stand-alone broadband seismic and geodetic stations installed in the network. Our presentation will focus on the key improvements of the network installation with the SG160-09 system, RTX correction accuracy obtained from Trimble Global RTX tracking network, rapid data transmission, and real-time data processing for strong seismic events and aftershock characterization.

Next Generation Autonomous Broadband Node

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The surge of using geophone autonomous nodes for scientific projects is advancing passive imaging and monitoring techniques for scientific research, oil and gas projects, hydrology, civil engineering and new applications for short term dense seismic monitoring. The concept of a small, minimal configuration, low power, simple deployments without worry of environmental conditions can be applied to temporary broadband sensor system deployments using the next generation of direct bury broadband sensors. We explore some preliminary scientific deployment scenarios that can be used for broadband studies or as an example of a much smaller logistics next generation Earthscope array type station with little if any direct costs. We also present a potential demonstration of a small, multi-function node along with possible GVT testing. We will discuss and show the results obtained from an integrated SeismoGeodetic System, model SG160-09, installed in the Chile (Chilean National Network), Italy (University of Naples Network), and California. The SG160-09 provides the user high rate GNSS and accelerometer data, full epoch-by-epoch measurement integrity and, using the Trimble RTTPD Client, the ability to create combined GNSS and accelerometer high-rate (200Hz), displacement time series in real-time for Earthquake Early Warning application. The SG160-09 combines seismic recording with GNSS geometric measurement in a single compact, ruggedized package. The system includes a low-power, 220-channel GNSS receiver powered by the latest Trimble-precise Maxwell™ technology and supports tracking GPS, GLONASS and Galileo signals. The receiver incorporates on-board GNSS point positioning using Real-Time Precise Point Positioning (PPP) technology with satellite clock and orbit corrections delivered over IP networks. The seismic recording element includes an ANSS Class A, force balance triaxial accelerometer with the latest, low power, 24-bit A/D converter, which produces high-resolution seismic data. The SG160-09 processor acquires and packetizes both seismic and geodetic data and transmits to the central station using an advanced, error-correction protocol with back fill capability providing data integrity between the field and the processing center. The SG160-09 has been installed in three seismic stations in different geographic locations with different Trimble global reference stations coverage The hardware includes the SG160-09 system, external Zephyr Global RTX receiver, and both radio and high-speed Internet communication media. Both acceleration and displacement data was transmitted in real-time to the centralized Data Acquisition and Processing Centers for real-time data processing. Command/Control of the field station and real-time GNSS position correction are provided via the Pivot software suite. Data from the SG160-09 system was used for seismic event characterization along with data from traditional stand-alone broadband seismic and geodetic stations installed in the network. Our presentation will focus on the key improvements of the network installation with the SG160-09 system, RTX correction accuracy obtained from Trimble Global RTX tracking network, rapid data transmission, and real-time data processing for strong seismic events and aftershock characterization.

Spatial Improvement in the Location of Mid-Alaska Faults Using the Condensation Method

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Statistical methods have proven to be of significant help in extracting hidden information from a huge amount of data available in different scientific areas such as seismology. In this research, potentially active faults in mid-Alaska are investigated by means of one of these statistical approaches, called the condensation method, introduced by Kamet et al. (2015). The goal of the condensation method is to improve the spatial information content of seismic catalogs by exploiting the heterogeneity of the probability distribution functions of event locations. Basically, the events are first ranked by decreasing location errors and then the weights from events with large location uncertainty, known as “sources”, are transferred to the ones with smaller location uncertainty, known as “targets”, which lets us account for location error information within a point based spatial analysis and obtain a set of weights that provide an optimal spatial representa-
sation method analysis, and the reported horizontal and vertical standard loca-
tion errors of that catalog are used to estimate an isotropic overall variance for
each event in the catalog. Having reliable earthquake locations are important for
a reliable interpretation of seismicity patterns. The resulting condensed catalog
highlights major mapped fault traces and reveals possible additional structures
and we are hopeful that applying this technique can be helpful in the further
investigation of interior Alaska seismicity.

Applications of Machine Learning and Data Science in Seismology
Poster Session · Thursday 17 May · Riverfront South

The Decadal Periodicity of Large Mexican Earthquakes (Magnitude ≥7)
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One of the main problems related to the study of earthquakes is to know where
and when they will occur. It is well established that these events are essentially
random. However, this hypothesis may be incorrect, at least for the large Mexican
earthquakes (Magnitude ≥7). The large Mexican earthquakes reported in the
instrumental era from 1900 to 2017 and the large historical earthquakes in
Mexico between 1400 and 1900, is reanalysed. We used the Morlet wavelet to
analyze the phase of each of the periodicities found by the wavelet analyses and
local variations of power spectral density in large Mexican earthquakes reported.
We find that by studying the last large Mexican earthquake events reported from
1900 through 2017, these events occur preferentially in the positive phase of the
oscillation of 10-years periodicity. We interpret this empirical result to support
that large Mexican earthquakes events are not a result of purely stochastic pro-
cesses. Also, in this study, we approach the large Mexican earthquakes reported
in the instrumental era, in order to estimate the next season of for large Mexican
earthquakes since year 2017 based on the Least Squares Support Vector Machines.

Detection of Seismic Signals under Low Snr Condition Using an Artificial
Neural Network: Toward the Development of a Dense Low-Cost Citizen
Seismic Network in Japan
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We have developed a low cost seismic network in Yokohama, Japan, called
Citizen Seismic Network (CSN). Differently from national seismic networks
that generally have high quality and highcost sensors uniformly distributed on
the territory, our seismic sensors are simpler devices, but they are low cost and so
they can be placed in great number in homes, private buildings, schools etc.
The network has the advantage to be dense and able to monitor local scale seismic
motions in areas linked to community’s life. Each sensor unit is composed of a 12
bits MEMS accelerometer and a Raspberry Pi. Since the units are installed under
high-noise environments made by human activity that are often misinterpreted
as seismic signals, the application of conventional detection methods usingampli-
itude ratio (e.g. STA/LTA) is problematic. To overcome this issue, we developed
an original artificial neural network (ANN) that uses pattern recognition to
detect the seismic waves from other signals. We trained the ANN using three-
component accelerograms data sets obtained from conventional seismometers,
but adding our sensor background noise for compatibility with signals output
from our devices. In a first training stage, we optimized the number of input units
and the size of training data. Then, using the trained ANN, we tried to identify
seismic signals that were not used in the training process. As a result, 95% of the
P-waves were successfully detected. Overall, our results indicate that our method
allows the detection of false alarm signals that are correlated with STA/LTA,
and we are hopeful that applying this technique can be helpful in the further
investigation of interior Alaska seismicity.

Earthquake Catalog Reconstruction from Analog Seismograms: Application
to the Rangely Experiment Microfilms
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Before the digital era of seismic recordings, decades of seismic data were recorded
in analog form and many of these seismograms are still in good condition. Despite
the abundance of analog recordings surprisingly few efforts have been made to
analyze them automatically. One common format is the 16 mm Develocorder film,
which was traditionally read and measured by an analyst on a projection system.
In those recordings, up to 20 channels are recorded as a day-long strip chart
on microfilm. In this format overlap between channels becomes a difficult
problem when trying to recover the signal as a vector time series. This is particu-
larly true for the most interesting signals written by earthquakes. In this study,
we establish a workflow based on scanned 2-D images instead of 1-D time series
waveforms. Each day-long strip of film is scanned into ~700 images that totals
about 10GB in size. We process these analog seismograms images using machine-
learning algorithms, and apply it to data from the Rangely Experiment in earth-
quake control conducted by the U. S. Geological Survey from 1969 to 1975 in
an oil field in western Colorado. The goal of our research is to build a detailed
catalog of the earthquakes induced by injection based on the Develocorder films.
We first detect events on each channel using the horizontal variances within a
moving window. Then we associate the detections among the network and reject
the unreasonable ones. We also apply 2-D image correlation to recognize the time
code, correct for the misalignment of the microfilms, recover the station locations
from the original map, and characterize the earthquake waveforms. After these
automatic procedures, we are able to build a detailed catalog of local events. Our
processing techniques have the potential for wide application to the decades of
historical data before the digital era in seismology.

Time-Domain Receiver Function Deconvolution Using Genetic Algorithm
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Receiver Functions (RF) are well know method for crust modelling using passive
seismological signals. Many different techniques were developed to calculate the
RF traces, applying the deconvolution calculation to radial and vertical seismo-
gram components. A popular method used a spectral division of both compo-
nents, which requires human intervention to apply the Water Level procedure
to avoid instabilities from division by small numbers. One of most used method
is an iterative procedure to estimate the RF peaks and applying the convolu-
tion with vertical component seismogram, comparing the result with the radial
component. This method is suitable for automatic processing, however several
RF traces are invalid due to peak estimation failure. In this work it is proposed a
deconvolution algorithm using Genetic Algorithm (GA) to estimate the RF
peaks. This method is entirely processed in the time domain, avoiding the time-
to-frequency calculations (and vice-versa), and totally suitable for automatic
processing. Estimated peaks can be used to generate RF traces in a seismogram
format for visualization. The RF trace quality is similar to traditional methods
for high magnitude events, furthermore, it increases the overall performance for
high number of events per station.

A Non-Linear Filter to Enhance Microearthquake Detection
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The detection of microearthquakes is an important task in various seismologi-
cal applications as volcano seismology, induced seismicity, and mining safety.
Together with improvements in the seismic network technologies (e.g. network
densification, borehole installations) it can benefit from techniques of digital
signal processing, aimed at adaptive signal filtering. Filter bandpass is between 5 Hz
and 40 Hz to eliminate both low and very-high frequency noise. It is applied using a
sliding window of 1024 samples in order to take into account gradual changes in
the background noise spectrum. Windows are classified as “noise only” or “mean-
ingful signal” (which can be either a microearthquake or any other relevant tran-
sient signal) using different features as the signal energy and the zero-crossing

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rate. Windows recognized to consist of noise only are continuously accumulated in a dynamic buffer which allows the average noise spectrum to be estimated in an adaptive manner. We applied this procedure to some seismic swarms recorded by Red Stímaca Canaria, managed by Instituto Volcánologico de Canarias (INVOLCAN), on Tenerife and La Palma islands, comparing results from the proposed detection algorithm with standard approaches.

Making Realistic Synthetic Seismic Waveforms with Generative Adversarial Networks

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Today machine learning is being applied to solve various problems in seismology using large available datasets. In many cases these data have already been analyzed by humans and serve as training or testing datasets. However, for some important problems in seismology we are severely data-limited. In particular, the enormous numbers of free parameters in deep learning algorithms require amounts of data that are often far larger than what is available today. This data limitation is especially severe for very large events, which are rare but very important cases. Traditional data-augmentation methods include interpolation and adding random noise to existing data. Here we suggest a way to generate realistic synthetic seismic waveforms using generative adversarial networks (GANs). We train a GAN to capture the major features of a large data set of real seismic waveforms, and to synthesize new waveforms. We show that these synthetic waveforms are realistic enough to fool professionals and contain realistic physical features, e.g., major body wave packets, coda wave decay and frequency dispersion. Compared to simulated synthetic waveforms, they contain some realistic high-frequency features that are not easily modeled by more traditional waveform simulation methods. Beyond augmenting the test data, the GANs can have potentially wide applications in seismology, such as seismic event/phase discrimination, clipped waveform completion, and waveform up-sampling. Updated results will be presented in the meeting.

Waveform Classification Using Statistical Learning Algorithms to Characterize Data Features from a Dense Deployment of Geophones atop an Active Fault Zone

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We develop data based classifiers for earthquakes, microseisms, and ambient noise for a compressed parameterization of the waveforms and utilize statistical learning techniques to train a model to identify previously undetected signals in upper portions of the crust. In May 2016 a dense array deployment of 1,100 vertical geophones recorded ground motions at the San Jacinto Fault Zone at the location of a borehole seismometer. The data set provides a unique opportunity to characterize the shallow subsurface from 0–1 km depth. The detection of shallow microseismic events requires the distinction between shallow seismic energy and local high-frequency ambient noise or atmospheric processes. The classification procedure involves manually identifying and labeling signals present in subsets of the data. The process requires the calculation of features as scaler metrics, i.e., hundreds of temporal and spectral properties of the time series, that represent a compact expression of the data. The scaler metrics are derived using seismological knowledge of waveforms to maintain a physics based representation of the data. Each waveform is labeled to represent a specific source type, e.g., a local or regional earthquake, anthropogenic machines, atmosphere coupling, etc., and this requires exploratory data analysis to properly define the required features for each classification type and properly weigh them for increased model performance. The labeled features are used with supervised learning techniques to train an advanced statistical model to classify data using the compressed features. We are using 2,000 hand-picked earthquakes as waveform templates to develop the compact features. We then use a Random Forest classification algorithms with the labeled data features. The features are evaluated for significance in the model performance and those not contributing are removed. The preliminary results shown here are providing new detections of localized sources of energy.

Machine Learning Aspects in the Smartphone Seismic Network

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MyShake is a global smartphone seismic network that harnesses the power of crowdsourcing. It has an Artificial Neural Network (ANN) algorithm running on the phone to distinguish earthquake motion from human activities recorded by the accelerometer on board. Once the ANN detects earthquake-like motion, it sends a 5-min chunk of acceleration data back to the server for further analysis. The time-series data collected contains both earthquake data and human activity data that the ANN confused. In this presentation, we will show the Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) we built under the umbrella of supervised learning to find out the earthquake waveform. The waveforms of the recorded motion could treat easily as images, and by taking the advantage of the power of CNN processing the images, we achieved very high successful rate to select the earthquake waveforms out. Since there are many non-earthquake waveforms than the earthquake waveforms, we also built an anomaly detection algorithm using the CNN. Both these two methods can be easily extended to other waveform classification problems.

DeepDetect: An Application of Deep Densely Connected Convolutional Neural Network to Earthquake Detection

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Earthquake detection is a fundamental element in seismic data processing. How to automatically detect earthquakes in an accurate and efficient way is of particular interest as today’s seismic data volume is rapidly growing. Here we present a software package, DeepDetect, to accurately and efficiently detect earthquakes from continuous seismic records. We build our algorithm on the convolutional neural network (CNN) to detect earthquakes and identify the arrival time of each event. The CNN is the backbone of our model, which serves the purpose of extracting features from the waveform. A classifier and a regressor are built on top of the CNN backbone. The classifier aims to detect events from the signal and the regressor further predicts the arrival time of the event detected by the classifier. We demonstrate the capability of our algorithm using the dataset from IRIS Community Wavefield Experiment in Oklahoma. We show that our algorithm can not only capture most earthquakes but also accurately identify the arrival time of each event, holding great potential for efficient earthquake detection.

Detection of Background Seismic Waves Anomalies with a Hierarchical Temporal Memory (HTM) Cortical Algorithm

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We used an unsupervised cortical algorithm to detect in real time anomalies in simulated and real seismic signals. The algorithm works on-line receiving continuous seismic acceleration signals from a streaming station. This could be a software source that is simulating the data stream from a suitable algorithm, or could be data timeseries from a database of real seismic events. Our system is based on the Numenta HTM engine that implements a cortical algorithm based on an innovative neural model in which dendrites act as coincidence detectors and synapses are formed continuously. The HTM networks learns and adapts to the seismic background noises and it is able to notice anomalies in real time and without the necessity of supervision. This approach to seismic detection could be useful not only to recognize earthquakes and contribute to early warning networks, but also could be of importance for detecting variations of the background noises like motion, it sends a 5-min chunk of acceleration data back to the server for further analysis. The time-series data collected contains both earthquake data and human activity data that the ANN confused. In this presentation, we will show the Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) we built under the umbrella of supervised learning to find out the earthquake waveform. The waveforms of the recorded motion could treat easily as images, and by taking the advantage of the power of CNN processing the images, we achieved very high successful rate to select the earthquake waveforms out. Since there are many non-earthquake waveforms than the earthquake waveforms, we also built an anomaly detection algorithm using the CNN. Both these two methods can be easily extended to other waveform classification problems.

A Deep Learning Approach for Enhanced Classification of Global Seismic Waveforms

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Over the past 50 years global seismic detection has matured considerably due to the importance of differentiating seismic events: man-made (mining explosions) from natural phenomena (earthquakes, volcanoes). Where there is still some prevalent concern with these seismological advancements is in separating these classes. This concern derives from the fact that a seismic signature lacks easily defined features which complicates the discrimination process for a variety of detection methods. This paper aims to address this issue, by evaluating state-of-the-art machine learning algorithms, and compare several deep classification techniques. We target deep learning methods (Deep Neural Networks, Convolutional Neural Networks, and Long-Short Term Memory Networks) due to their ability to mimic human-like neural connections and support data-specific feature extraction to classify waveform signatures. Our proposed algorithms show noteworthy accuracy, opening up the realization of automated network seismic discrimination. Our results show evidence that deep learning should be considered the leading candidate for classifying seismic waveforms and will further advance the gap between machine learning and geological sciences.

**MLP Networks to Associate Arrival Times in Noisy and Dense Earthquake Sequences**

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The concept of picking earthquake phase arrivals and associating them to a common event is simple, but hard to implement in a robust and reliable manner when there are multiple overlapping events and false arrival time picks. Related issues include determining precisely if and when an event has occurred once noisy and false arrivals are included in the data set, and determining how many different unique events have occurred when move-out times are possibly overlapping. Interestingly when these challenges are posed as a precise mathematical problem, simple and accurate solutions arise through the use of basic multilayer perceptron (MLP) supervised classification and regression frameworks. For a predetermined velocity model, we obtain distinct (shallow) MLP networks to classify an arbitrary set of arrival times on $S$ and $P$ phase recorded event and noise (i.e. a false set of arrivals), determine the distinct number of unique events in a time window, determine which set of arrivals associate to a common event, and also, using a denoising autoencoder framework, predict arrival times on stations missing arrival time detections during an event. Discrete (i.e. vectors of arrival time data) and continuous (i.e. encoding of arrival time data as time-dependent Gaussian pulses) implementations are used. Synthetic tests of the method and applications to field data from the IPOC network of Northern Chile are presented.

**Challenges and Chances for the Widespread Implementation of Earthquake Early Warning (EEW)**

*Poster Session - Thursday 17 May - Riverfront South*

**Rapid Estimation of Instrumental Intensity Using Shakemap in South Korea**

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The Korea Meteorological Administration (KMA) is currently operating an Earthquake Early Warning System (EEWS), which issues an alert consist of probable seismic intensities of whole southern Korean peninsula within 25 seconds after detecting an earthquake bigger than magnitude 5.0. The system additionally provides a seismic report including the earthquake epicenter, magnitude, and instrumental intensity map in 5 min to provide the more precise information. KMA began to produce the instrumental intensity map using the ShakeMap program in March 2017. After modifying the part of ShakeMap process to reflect the unique seismic characteristics of Korean peninsula, the service for whole nation was implemented from July 2017. The KMA ShakeMap system calculates PGM (peak ground motion) values by using observed data and interpolates with value of PGM and GMPE (Ground Motion Prediction Equation) model. The intensity map is produced through converting the peak ground motion values of each grid point to Modified Mercalli Intensity via GMICE (Ground Motion-Intensity Conversion Equation). Therefore, to determine appropriate GMPE and GMICE models is important step for our processing flow. We determined to use “BA08” GMPE model for the event of magnitude smaller than 5.3 and “Zha06_crustal” model for event of magnitude bigger than 5.3 after verifying the models with observed ground motion data. The GMPE model and observed PGM (Peak Ground Motion) data are more consistent after setting up the process for removal of outliers and correction bias about magnitude. We used the modified “Wald99” GMICE model to fit the KMA data especially on intensity 2 to 3. We also changed grid spacing from 0.025 to 0.05 to effectively reduce the processing time from 30 sec to 20 sec on average. We present an example Shakemap processing flow for Pohang earthquake (MI 5.4) that caused the worst damage to other earthquakes ever occurred in Korean peninsula.

**Machine Learning Magnitude Estimate in Earthquake Early Warning Systems**

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Rapid and precise determination of earthquake magnitude is of critical importance in earthquake early warning systems. A single station magnitude estimate that relies on a single feature of the waveform recorded near the epicenter, may have large uncertainties and may lead to false and missed alarms. In this study we show that, with state-of-the-art machine learning tools, a single station magnitude estimate can be much more accurate than those obtained with traditional methods. We trained an ensemble of convolutional networks using a large amount of synthetic and epicentral data recorded in Japan and California to infer the magnitude directly from P waves of 3 s duration. The test results show that the networks estimate 94% of magnitudes in Japan within 1-unit difference from catalog ones and 99% in California. The trained networks require minimal computational effort when operating online and can be conveniently transferred to other regions even with a short history of seismic instrumentation.

**Building Eew in Nicaragua: Performance and Perspectives**

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Earthquake early warning (EEW) systems aim at providing real-time estimates of event parameters or expected ground motion over wide ranges of source dimensions. In 2016, SED and INETER started a joint project funded by the Swiss Development Agency to assess the feasibility of EEW in the Nicaragua in particular and in Central America in general. The project is appropriate as SED develops EEW algorithms (Virtual Seismologist, VS and Finite Failure Detector, FinDe) that operate within SeisComP3, which is widely used across Central America, and many regions are already covered by dense seismic networks that include strong motion sensors. VS provides fast network-based magnitude estimates for point source solutions using conventional phase association; FinDe matches the evolving patterns of ground motion to track rupture extent in real-time, critical for a region where tsunamigenic earthquakes are expected. We document performance of the EEW system, and compare with expected EEW delays assuming a fully operational network. We show that the existing network is EEW-capable. However, it is a major challenge to maintain the network at a level required to provide reliable and accurate alerts. Issues with stations being out of operation; streaming with broken signals or incorrect timing; or simply having too high latencies or wrong calibration, continue to provide false, delayed or missed alerts. Nevertheless, we document the improvements in the EEW performance during our tuning of the system. Currently, first alerts can be provided within 20s for on-shore earthquakes in Nicaragua and within 40s for offshore earthquakes. However, there is potential to provide alerts within 10 to 15s on-shore and 20 to 25s off-shore earthquakes. For M6.5 events onshore, and M7.5 offshore, this corresponds to alerts being received in advance of strong shaking for regions shaken by intensities $\geq$ VII. We demonstrate how improved network density and algorithms can further improve EEW alert times.

**Determination of Earthquake Early Warning Parameters for the New Madrid Seismic Zone**

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Earthquake Source Parameters: Theory, Observations and Interpretations
Poster Session · Thursday 17 May · Riverfront South

Towards Quasi-Automated Estimates of Directivity and Related Source Properties of Small to Moderate Southern California Earthquakes with Second Seismic Moments Using Weighted Stacked EGFs
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We develop a method for quasi-automated estimation of directivity, rupture area, duration, and centroid velocity of earthquakes with second seismic moments. The method is applied to small to moderate earthquakes in southern California. P and S phase picks are given by a 1-D ray tracing algorithm and cataloged event locations. These are refined for deconvolution by using a grid search on zero-crossings within a short time window around the automated P/S picks. Source Time Functions (STFs) of target events are derived using deconvolution with a stacked empirical Green’s function (seGF). The use of seGF suppresses non-generic source effects such as directivity in individual eGFs. The seGF for each target event is based on stacking individual eGFs (normalized by seismic potencies) selected by spatial and magnitude criteria as well as performances in the projected Landweber deconvolution. A weighted stack of eGFs, with weight coefficients grid searched and determined by waveform fits, helps further to correct inaccuracies of focal mechanisms. Compared with a single eGF analysis with a weighted stack can significantly improve waveform fit and typically allows getting STFs at more events than are analyzable from the Cooperative New Madrid Seismic Network (CNMSN) database for magnitude M ≥ 2.5. The amplitude based proxies include low pass filtered peak displacement (Pd), peak velocity (Pv), and integral of the velocity squared (IV2), whereas the frequency based proxies include predominant period (tau-p), characteristic period (tau-c), and log average period (tau-log). Very few studies have considered areas with lower magnitude events. With an active EEW system in the NMSZ, damage resulting from the catastrophic events, as witnessed in 1811–1812, may be mitigated in real-time.

Comparison of Brune-Type Stress Drops Obtained from the Improved Coda-Q Method and Spectra Decomposition Method
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Analysis of the seisograms recorded by the seismic station array provides the fundamental information of earthquake source spectra and site effects. Previous studies use different estimation methods of the seisograms, e.g. the direct P and S waves and coda waves, to study the two terms. Both stress drops derived from the source spectra and site effects have practical implications for the strong ground motion prediction. In this study, our aim is to comprehensively compare the source spectra and site effects derived from the direct waves and coda waves separately and to explore the self-similar scaling of the earthquake source properties. We analyze around 1500 earthquakes with the local magnitude (ML) range between 1.2 and 3.5 in the San Jacinto Fault region. Both the spectra decomposition method (Peter et al., 2006 and Trugman & Shearer, 2017) and the improved Coda-Q method (Wang & Shearer, 2017) are applied to derive the source spectra and site effects. To fit the source spectra by using the Brune-type crack source model, both self-similarity and none self-similarity are explored by assuming the constant stress drops or the moment dependent stress drops. The error estimations of both methods will be discussed in this study. This work will provide a systematic comparison of source spectra and site effects from direct waves and coda waves. Furthermore, another comprehensive analysis of the earthquake source spectra and site effects will be conduct in the southern California.

The mbL 3.3 September 13, 2017, Earthquake on the Virginia-West Virginia Border: A Significant Shock in the Giles County Seismic Zone
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On September 13, 2017 the USGS NEIC reported a duration magnitude MD 3.2 earthquake at 37.473N 80.7035W, depth 18 km near Lindsdale, West Virginia, close to the Virginia-West Virginia borders. The earthquake was felt primarily in Monroe, Mercer and Summers counties, West Virginia and in Giles, Montgomery, Pulaski and Bland counties, Virginia. The maximum intensity reported to the USGS Did You Feel It? program was IV MM. The earthquake occurred in an area of moderate seismicity known as the Giles County Seismic Zone (GC SZ). The largest shock in the GCSZ occurred in 1897 Near Pearsall, VA, with mbL magnitude estimated from the felt area at 5.8. We relocated the hypocenter of the September, 2017 earthquake using a locally specific velocity model, at 37.4775N, 80.7035W, depth 21 km. We estimated the mbL magnitude at 3.90 ± 0.26 using 26 stations at regional distances, and determined a duration magnitude MD of 3.71 ± 0.17, using 33 stations. The duration magnitude is based on a correlation between the log of short-period signal duration and mbL. We determined a focal mechanism using 27 P polarities, 12 SH polarities and 16 SH/P amplitude ratios. The nodal planes with least rms amplitude ratio error are: strike N91E, dip 69 deg., rake –22 deg.; auxiliary plane strike N189E, dip 69 deg., rake –158 deg. This event is notable because it is the largest shock in the GCSZ since May, 1974 (mbL 3.7). This recent shock, like many others in the GCSZ, shares characteristics with those in the Eastern Tennessee Seismic Zone (ETSZ), which is also in the Appalachian Valley and Ridge province. The 2017 GCSZ focal mechanism is mostly strike-slip with a small normal component, on steeply dipping nodal planes trending approximately N-S and E-W. This type of mechanism is dominant in the ETSZ. Also, in both areas, focal depths tend to be greater than 12 km, unlike shocks to the east in the Blue Ridge, Piedmont and Coastal Plain provinces which tend to occur at shallower depths.

The 1 May 2017 British Columbia Earthquake Doublet and Implications for Complexity near the Southern End of the Denali Fault System
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On May 1, 2017, two M6+ earthquakes occurred in northwestern British Columbia separated by about 2 hours. Despite their close distance about 10 km, the two events have different focal mechanisms, with first earthquake featuring a thrust focal mechanism and the second strike slip. Both focal plane solutions are inconsistent with slip on the nearby southeastern Denali fault system. To resolve this discrepancy, we invert for the ruptured fault planes, which are found to be similar to the southeastern Denali fault system and it is consistent with slip on the nearby southeastern Denali fault system. To resolve this discrepancy, we invert for the ruptured fault planes, which are found to be similar to the southeastern Denali fault system and it is consistent with slip on the nearby southeastern Denali fault system. To resolve this discrepancy, we invert for the ruptured fault planes, which are found to be similar to the southeastern Denali fault system and it is consistent with slip on the nearby southeastern Denali fault system.

Deviatoric Moment Tensor Solutions for Small Intraplate Earthquakes in Northeast Brazil from P, SV, and SH Spectral Amplitudes
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The Brazilian Northeast is located as one of the most seismically active regions in the New Fault South America. Although damaging earthquakes have occasionally been experienced in this region, seismic activity typically occurs as swarms of shallow earthquakes (< 12 km) with maximum magnitudes in the 4.0–4.5 mbL range and durations between a few months and many years. Seismic activity is routinely monitored through the permanent Reda Region of the Northeastern
Germany, the University of Brasilia, Distrito Federal, Brazil, Italy, at the closest station IOCA we suggest a complex rupture process, where a first motion, the evaluation of the rotated spectra, and ts-tp lead to a hypocentral recalculate earthquake parameters by alternative approaches. P-phase particle persistent among themselves. These contradictory observations gave motivation to by a large uncertainty and the proposed moment tensor solutions resulted inconclusive in this regard. In this work, we apply a novel methodology to determine deviatoric moment tensor solutions from P, SV, and SH spectral amplitudes (with polarity attached) to develop focal mechanisms for individual intraplate earthquakes in NE Brazil. Preliminary results developed for the Sao Caetano/PE sequence of 2010 and other seismic sequences within the NE Brazil region demonstrate that a variety of focal mechanisms—including normal, strike-slip, and reverse faulting—may occur within the same sequence, and that local stress concentrators might be modifying the regional stress field at short length scales within the region.

Seismic Activity Migration in a Strike-Slip Fault of Porto Dos Gaúchos Seismic Zone (Pgsz)—Amazon Craton Brazil

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Porto dos Gaúchos seismic zone (PGSZ) is already a well-known seismogenic zone in terms of stress regime, fault location and physical dimension. It is located in a Phanerozoic sedimentary basin; such 500 m thickness sediments overlie the crystalline basement of the Amazon Craton—Brazil. Recently we detected 15 km away from the PGSZ area, another seismic activity that seems to be an extension of the PG fault. The largest earthquake ever observed in the stable continental interior of the South American plate occurred on January 31, 1955, magnitude 6.2 mb, 100 km to SW of PGSZ (in Serra do Tombador-ST). Since then no other earthquake has been located near the ST epicenter. However, in PG a recurrent seismicity has been observed since 1959. Two magnitudes 5 earthquakes occurred in 1998 and 2005 with intensities up to VI and V, respectively. These two main shocks were followed by aftershock sequences, both studied by local seismic networks lasting up to 1 year. Both sequences occurred in the same WSWENE oriented fault zone with right-lateral strike-slip mechanisms. The epicentral zone is near the northern border of Parecis basin, where there are buried grabens, generally trending NW-ESE, such as the Mesoprotorozoic Caiabib graben. Not considering the possibility of miss location in the ST earthquake, its isolated occurrence, from the perspective of new studies on intraplate seismicity, lead us to think that the PGSZ was activated by stresses released by the event of 1955 and that the seismogenic fault of ST would have closed a activity cycle. This would explain its quiescence. However, other studies are necessary to prove this hypothesis, such as the measurement of the deformation rate in the area and confirmation of the epicenter of the ST earthquake. On the other hand, when dealing with intraplate seismicity, what is valid for the New Madrid Seismic Zone (the base of the studies of the authors) may not be valid for other important seismogenic zones like the PGSZ.

Constraints on the Source Mechanism of the Damaging Seismic Event of August 21, 2017, on Ischia Island (Southern Italy)

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On Aug. 21, 2017, a M6.4 earthquake struck Ischia island, claiming two lives and provoking severe building damages, disproportionate to the moderate magnitude of the event. Hypocenter locations based on arrival times were afflicted by a large uncertainty and the proposed moment tensor solutions resulted inconsistent among themselves. These contradictory observations gave motivation to recalculate earthquake parameters by alternative approaches. P-phase particle motion, the evaluation of the rotated spectra, and ts-tp lead to a hypocentral depth of 2 km, in the same epicentral area as the devastating seismic event that struck Ischia in 1883. The full moment tensor solution reveals non-double couple contributions of 62%—fitting best for a shallower source depth and estimating a higher magnitude of Mw6.2. To fit the first motion polarity mismatch observed at the closest station IOCA we suggest a complex rupture process, where a first shallow normal faulting event activates a subsequent collapse.
is located between 10 and 25 km depths in the central part between 30.5–31.5°S. Our focal mechanisms are mainly reverse and consistent. These small to medium size earthquakes should not be underestimated in this region of Argentina that concentrates 1.33 M inhabitants, one nuclear power plant, 12 large dams, Historical and modern seismicity seem to agree with shallow focal depths, which enhance the seismic hazard in this region. Future work will include more seismicity and seismic sources, aftershocks and structure characterization.

Seismic Swarm Activity in a Non-Volcanic Area –Umm-Lujj, Western Saudi Arabia

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An unusual, ongoing, earthquake swarm is currently active in a non-volcanic area in western Saudi Arabia near the town of Umm-Lujj. Since February 2017, hundreds of earthquakes have been recorded continuously, with a maximum magnitude reaching M 3.7. Although this earthquake swarm occurs only about 75 km NW of the volcanic area of Harrat Lunayyar, it does not appear to be directly associated with it. The latter experienced a magmatic dike intrusion in 2009 with intense seismic activity (including a surface rupturing Mw 5.7 earthquake). We use seismological data, recorded by the Saudi Geological Survey (SGS) that operates 45 broadband seismic stations. We analyze the continuous seismic waveform data provided by the SGS broadband stations to map the spatial and temporal distribution of seismicity in an effort to gain insights on the underlying physical processes that are responsible for this swarm. We use double-difference algorithm to determine the relative distances between earthquakes. The relocation results using both P- and S-phases greatly improve the earthquake locations. We identified 3 events clusters, each at a different depth level. These clusters are concentrated within a well-defined rock volume of roughly 10 km3. The dominant cluster of these events is shallow (4–8 km depth). The deepest cluster includes events occur as deep as 16 km. The results may reveal an image of the NW-SE Najd fault system (a complex set of strike-slip faults and shear zones across the Precambrian of Arabia). Using the well-relocated events, we assemble the body wave arrival times that are inverted for the local velocity and attenuation models. The focal-mechanism solutions of the largest earthquakes (M ≥1.2) vary widely, indicative of a highly fractured complex fault system and without a clear correlation to the regional stress field of Red Sea. This observation is in agreement with the complex local tectonics of the shear system which accommodates the swarm sequence.

Focal Mechanism of the 5.1 Mw 2014 Lloja Earthquake, Bolivia: Probing the Transition Between Extensional Stresses of the Central Altiplano and Compressional Stress of the Sub-Andes

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On 1st October 2014 a 5.1 Mw shallow earthquake occurred near Lloja town in the central Andes (altitude 3000m) where crustal stresses change from extensional in the high plateau to compressional in the sub-Andean lowlands. Besides its interesting tectonic setting, this earthquake is also important because of potential seismic risk to urban areas like La Paz, only 65 km away. The epicenter was determined with the best 1D model for this region of Bolivia using the closest local stations. The solution is within a few km of the epicenter using a 3D model and the RSTT technique with regional stations. These two epicenters are less than 5 km from the USGS solution but differ by more than 10 km from the IDC and ISC locations. Two different focal mechanisms had been published: normal fault with strike-slip component by USGS and a pure strike-slip solution by GCMT. P- and S-wave polarities from local and regional stations were used to show that the best solution is a normal fault with strike-slip component similar to the USGS. Cross-correlation of P and S waves of six small aftershocks (magnitudes from 2.0 to 3.3) recorded at regional stations allowed accurate determination of relative hypocenters. The aftershocks are aligned approximately along the N-S direction, suggesting that the NNE-SSW nodal plane is the fault. The aftershocks are located at less than 2 km from each other, consistent with the expected rupture length of a 5.1 Mw mainshock. No other focal mechanism was known in the Lloja region. In the sub-Andean lowlands, to the SE and NW of Lloja, NE-SW compression predominates with mainly reverse faulting. In the western part of the Altiplano most events are normal and strike-slip faults with variable T and P axis orientations. The Lloja mechanism is a normal fault with a large strike-slip component. The NE-SW P axis is consistent with the sub-Andean compression but the normal faulting component indicates that plateau spreading stresses are still present.

Non-Linear Inversion of the Earthquake Source Spectrum Using a Seismic Cluster Method

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We perform a non-linear inversion of the earthquake source spectrum, using a Neighborhood Algorithm implementation. Following the method used by Ko et al. (2012), using sets of a clusters of nearby earthquakes, we assume that the outgoing seismic ray of each cluster travels by the same path to the each station that register it, as well as, imposing a single corner frequency per event. This method, unlike simple inversion methods, takes advantage of “multiple-earthquake multiple-station” redundancy, reducing the degrees of freedom in the inversion. The method was tested using a simple theoretical spectra and theoretical spectra with added noise, obtaining a better restriction for the parameters of attenuation (Q value) and corner frequency (fc), compared to methods with individual-earthquake focal mechanisms, certifying the spectrum decay (σ). The aim of this work is apply the previously described method and obtained the source parameters, for the estimation of stress drop and energy radiated for the interplate seismicity occurred from 2008 to 2015, including the last earthquake of Iquique 2014 (Mw 8.1) and the intermediate-depth seismicity from 2011 to 2013, in Northern Chile. We will study the parameters obtained in order to relate the occurrence of a large subduction earthquake and the intraplate seismicity occurred before, looking for differences in both types of earthquakes and their temporal and spatial relationships.

Stress Drop Investigation of M=4 Induced Earthquakes in Western Canada Using Empirical Green’s Function Method

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Stress drop is an important ground-motion parameter as it controls the relative amount of high-frequency energy. We use the Empirical Green’s function (EGF) method to determine the stress drops of three earthquakes in Alberta, Canada, linked to hydraulic fracturing, with moment magnitudes (M) greater than 4. The EGF method is based on taking the spectral ratio of the ground motions from the M=4 earthquakes to those of smaller collocated earthquakes; path and site effects cancel in the spectral division, leaving the source spectral ratio. To ensure the smaller earthquakes have similar focal mechanisms to the targeted earthquakes, cross-correlation is performed. The source spectra can then be fit to Brune’s source model, and the corner frequencies and stress drops estimated for the three M=4 events. Results from this study will be used to compare source properties of induced events in western Canada to those in other regions. The results will also be used to compare classic stress drop estimates with stress parameter values inferred from stochastic models of high-frequency ground motions.

Study of the Earthquake of October 06, 2011, in Jujuy and Its Distribution of Aftershock

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The seismic deformation in the Andean retro arc zone is characterized by having compressive earthquakes at superficial and intermediate depths. Examples of these are: the earthquakes of September 2011 in Jujuy and Its Distribution of Aftershock, with a magnitude of 7.0 associated to a maximun intensity of IX in the Modified Mercalli Scale (IMM) of IX (INPRES, 2017) and the earthquake of January 16, 1944 in San Juan with an M=7.0 (Alvarado and Beck, 2006). The aim of this job is to obtain a seismotectonic analysis of Jujuy earthquake on 6 October 2011, at 11:12 local time (14:12 UTC), with epicenter at about 100 km east of San Salvador de Jujuy city. This research includes an accurate determination of the earthquake’s location and its source parameters, as well as the analysis of the aftershock sequence.
nation of its location parameters, focal mechanism and the aftershock sequence to have a better knowledge of the seismogenic source. Results of this seismic event relocation of the hypocenters was carried out with software hypOD (Walhauser, 2002) and the velocity model used in this process is the used for INPRES (Sánchez et al., 2013). The results obtained show improvements in the definition about the rupture zone due to the aftershock propagation and detection of active secondary seismic sources associated to the main fault. The results are compared with previous studies to understand the seismic surface deformation in the transition zone between thin-skinned deformation observed in the Bolivian Andes and the Basement deformation observed in Sierras Pampeanas (Jordan et al., 1983).

The 2016 Capellades Earthquake and Its Seismic Expression: Sequence of Strike-Slip Faulting in the Volcanic Arc of Costa Rica

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On 30 November 2016 at 18:25 (1st December at 00:25, UTC time) a Mw 5.5 earthquake occurred at 2.7 km depth near the town of Capellades of Alzaredo, Costa Rica. It was the main shock of an earthquake sequence including fore- shock-aftershock, and an earthquake located between the volcanoes Izalco and Turrialba. This is the most recent of a series of damaging earthquakes originated in the faults crossing the Central Volcanic Range, which constitutes the northern boundary of the most populated area of the country. Using mainly the seismic records from the National Seismological Network (RSN), we present in this study a seismological analysis of the earthquake sequence and the location and characteristics of the fault that originated this seismicity. Additionally, we describe the geotectonic context of the fault and the Capellades earthquake effects. The earthquake sequence shows a clear 8-km long alignment striking north-northwest between Izalco and Turrialba volcanoes. The joint interpretation of the earthquake relocation, the main-shock moment tensor solution, and the focal mechanisms of 17 events allows for determining the source in a nearly vertical strike-slip fault, in agreement with regional active fault systems. This structure had not been previously recognized and has been named Lichres Fault in this study. The main shock was felt in most of the county, with a maximum intensity of VI+. This earthquake has been the largest in the eastern part of the Central Volcanic Range since the 1952 Patillos earthquake (Ms 5.9) and the first Mw ≥ 5.0 earthquake recorded by the RSN in the Turrialba volcano edifice. Despite the proximity to this active volcano, which has been erupting periodically since 2010, there were no immediate eruptive effects.

Small Effective Stress Drop of Hydraulic Induced Seismicity and Aseismic Deformation

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The concept of effective stress drop of a seismic sequence is based on the cumulative seismic moment and area activated by seismic ruptures. The analysis of end-member cases of clustered seismicity shows that the estimated effective stress drop of a cluster is only in agreement with the stress drop of a single event rupturing the same area if no aseismic deformation takes place and rerupturing of asperities occurs during the sequence. The evolution of the cumulative seismic moment release as function of the cluster radius can be used to discriminate different processes: the exponent of seismic moment scaling with radius indicates if the ruptured area is uniformly loaded or whether external loading takes place. Our analysis of 13 sequences ranging from injection-induced activity to natural swarm and aftershock activity shows standard cubic scaling of the total seismic moment in most cases. Slightly higher exponents in the case of injection-induced sequences are indicative of the ongoing local forcing related to the massive fluid injections during the cluster evolution, while lower exponents down to 1 in the case of creeping events might be related to a decreasing/fractal asperity density. Three seismicity groups can be distinguished: a normal-stress-drop group of geothermal injections, swarms and mainshock-aftershock sequences, a low-stress-drop group of shale and gas fracking, and the very low-stress-drop case of creeping events. The small effective stress drop can be interpreted by small shear modulus of the rocks, or alternatively, by a large portion of creep in the total slip. Then the seismic events with normal static stress drop would account only for a small portion of deformation. This is probably the case of hydraulic fracturing. Considering the rigidity of sands and shales is of the same order as of other types of rocks, it appears that during hydraulic fracturing of these formations a high portion of strain is released aseismically.

Understanding the Source Fault of the 5 April 2017 Earthquake Sequence near Mashhad, Iran, Using Regional Moment Tensor Analysis

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Iran, located at the center of the Arabia-Eurasia continental collision, is tectonically complex and high in seismic activity, with five earthquakes of magnitude Mw6 or larger in the country in 2017 alone. One of these is the Mw6.1 earthquake on 5 April 2017 that shook Mashhad, the second largest city in Iran with a population of more than 3 million people, and the surrounding region in north-eastern Iran, causing severe damage and killing at least two people. As part of a regional moment tensor catalog for Mw2-4.0 earthquakes in Iran, seismic data from the mainshock and 21 aftershocks were examined. Seven well-constrained moment tensors and centroid depths were resolved; these show shallow, principally reverse faulting in the upper ~10 km of the crust with NNE-oriented P-axes consistent with the direction and low rates inferred from GPS data. We combine these moment tensors with aftershock relocations and other geologic data to constrain the source fault of the earthquake sequence to understand the seismological implications for Mashhad, located less than 100 km northeast of the epicenter.

Temporal Stress Drop Variation of Microearthquakes Potentially Induced by Highly Pressurized Fluid Observed in the 2009 Hakone Volcano, Japan

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It has been widely accepted that increase of pore pressure due to inflow of fluid into the fault zone trigger earthquakes. One of the direct evidences of the effect is earthquake triggered by controlled fluid injection. Source parameters of such seismicity have been intensively studied to understand its source process and to control the injection. On the other hand, although it has been noticed that many of natural earthquake swarms were possibly triggered by fluid inflow, only a few stress drop studies has been done. This is mainly due to band-limitation of available data since those earthquakes are generally weak (M < 3). Studying their source parameters and comparing with those of other tectonic and controlled injection seismicities are important to understand the mechanism of the swarms and future disaster mitigation. In this study, we investigated the stress drop of 53 microearthquakes (1.6 < Mw < 3.2) recorded by 200Hz sampled local seismic network during 2008 swarm sequence in the Hakone volcanic area, Japan. Those events are potentially induced by highly pressurized fluid supplied from underground. Although median of the resultant stress drop is comparable with that of the global tectonic earthquakes, significant temporal variation is observed throughout the swarm sequence. The notable feature is that lower stress drop was observed at the initial stage and it gradually increased as time progresses and 2) the feature of decreasing the largest event, stress drop decreased at the initial stage is disappeared. The b-value analysis indicates the difference the triggering process at initial and later stage of the swarm sequence: the fluid plays important role at only the initial stage and other factors (e.g. stress fluctuation caused by occurrence of other earthquakes) dominate earthquake triggering at later stage.

Intraplate Stress Field in South America Derived from Earthquake Focal Mechanisms

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We present an updated compilation of earthquake focal mechanisms (FM) in Brazil together with the sub-Andean region through more obtained solutions together with published results from the literature and international agencies catalogs. Stress orientations from breakouts and in-situ measurements were also compiled. For Brazil, we have 88 earthquakes with the FM determined since 1978. They show reverse (majority) or strike-slip FM. For sub-Andean region have reverse (majority) or strike-slip FM. Normal FM can be found only in high attitudes. The FM were grouped by proximity to be inverted for the stress tensor. In SE Brazil and the Chaco-Pantanal basins, S1 tends to be oriented roughly E-W with S2 approximately equal to S3. This stress pattern changes to purely compres-
sional in the San Francisco Craton. A rotation of SHmax from E-W to SE-NW is suggested towards the Amazon region. Along the Atlantic margin, the regional stresses are affected by coastal effects. This coastal effect tends to make SHmax parallel to the coastline and Shin (usually S3) perpendicular to the coastline. Breakout data and in-situ measurements are available are generally consistent with the pattern derived from the FM. In the sub-Andean region, the inter-

mediate principal stress (S2) is also compressional, a feature that is not always reproduced in the numerical models published in the literature. In mid-plate South America stresses seem to vary in nature and orientation. Although numerical models of global lithospheric stresses tend to reproduce the main large-scale features in most mid-plate areas, the S1 rotation from E-W in SE Brazil to SE-NW in the Amazon region are not well explained by the current numerical models. This means that the observed stress pattern in mid-plate South America should provide new insights into upper mantle dynamics, distinct from current global convection models.

Determination of Focal Mechanisms and Depths of Small Magnitude Local and Regional Earthquakes Recorded by a Sparse Seismic Network

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Determination of precise focal mechanisms and depths of small magnitude earthquakes using regional network stations is important in order to understand earthquake source processes and seismic hazard. We present a technique that can accurately determine focal mechanisms and depths of small magnitude earthquakes (2.5 < M < 4) using only a few regional seismic stations. We filter observed seismograms using a wide asymmetric seismogram envelope from 0.1 to 1 Hz, and we employ a least-squares inversion to estimate the focal parameters. We test our method on 4 aftershocks of the 2013 Ladysmith, Quebec earthquake of magnitude 3.7. Our focal mechanisms and depths are consistent with the focal mechanisms and depths that were previously reported for these events computed using a dense network.

Earthquake Source Mechanisms and Their Characteristics in the Dominican Republic

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The island of Hispaniola, of which the Dominican Republic (DR) comprises the eastern two-thirds, is subject to a complex array of tectonic stresses. The south-

ward-dipping North American tectonic plate is subducting obliquely under the Caribbean plate in the north, two significant transform fault systems transect the island from east to west, and the island is believed to have accreted from at least three distinct terranes through transform and convergent motions. Further, the Dominican Republic is the site of dramatic topography, from a broad, flat but uplifted plain in the east to the highest mountains in the Caribbean. These features are largely the result of offsets that were accompanied by earthquakes and the historical record contains numerous descriptions of devastating events. However, in the modern, instrumented era the frequency of large earthquakes has been fairly low, which has made it difficult to characterize of the range of potential earthquake sources. The Centro Nacional de Sismología (CNS), an organized research unit of the Autonomous University of Santo Domingo, is tasked with maintaining the network, analyzing its data, and compiling a comprehensive earthquake catalog. With the current network, which was expanded in 2013, approximately one thousand earthquakes per year are recorded and located in the DR with magnitudes between 3.7 to 4.2. We will present the focal mechanisms and depths of ~146 earthquakes with magnitude 4 or greater recorded by ten or more stations since 2013. (The largest event to have occurred within the borders of the DR since 2013 is a magnitude 5.8.) Mechanisms, determined with first motion polarities and S/P amplitude ratios, for events with focal depths in the shallow to mid-crust share properties that correspond to surface tectonics but a set of intermediate-depth events beneath the eastern DR and the Mona Passage show a greater variety.

A Unified Earthquake Catalog in the Caucasus

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As a result of collaboration between Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) and Ilia State University Seismic Monitoring Center of Georgia, a comprehensive earthquake catalog was compiled for the Caucasus and neighboring regions as part of a broader probabilistic seismic hazard assessment (PSHA) project. Instrumental seismic observation in the Caucasus began in 1899, when the first seismograph was installed in Tbilisi, Georgia. Seismic network in the Caucasus region improved significantly during Soviet times, however much of this analog data is preserved in paper archives. Digital era further improved the ability to collect and archive data. As of today, more than hundred broad-band seismic sta-

Inversion of S-Coda and P-Coda for the Prospection of Mud Diapirs in the Sinai Belt, Colombia

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The diapirism process in Colombia has generated the mud volcanoes in the Sinai Belt, which extends from the Urabá Gulf to the Barranquilla region, including land and marine areas. Most of these events have been associated with the pres-

ence of faults that have allowed the mud to rise to the surface. The implementa-

tion of an inversion scheme of the S-coda and P-coda waves was proposed in order to estimate the non-homogeneous spatial distribution of the scattering and attenuation coefficients and their relationship with the structures that originate the mud volcanism and thus quantify and characterize the terrestrial medium, allowing to make a structural analysis in the Sinai belt and establish the recur-

rence of these volcanic events associated with seismicity. The approach proposed in this work shows promising results in the characterization of temporal varia-
tions of volcanic structures due to its greater sensitivity to small changes than the direct waves-based analysis of velocity or attenuation.
Earthquake Source Parameters for Chilean Events for Use in the NGA-Subduction Project
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The NGA-Subduction Project is currently under development, focusing on data collection and code adaptation for subduction-zone earthquakes around the world. As part of this effort, an earthquake-source database was developed for events with ground motion recordings obtained in Chilean territory. Data from the South American subduction zone, and particularly from Chilean earthquakes, are critical for this project, due to the availability of data from many large (M ≥ 7.5) interface subduction events and the importance of significant regional path effects previously observed in Chile but not evident elsewhere. The source database contains information on seismic moment, moment magnitude, hypocenter location, nodal planes, and fine-fault geometric parameters. More than 40 different finite-fault models have been collected and evaluated, introducing a uniform and consistent procedure for fault trimming, where only the trimmed portion of the fault plane with significant slip is used for source-to-site distance calculations. For events that lack published finite-fault models, uniform protocols are applied to assign the source parameters and a simulation-based representation of the finite-fault parameters is used for distance calculation. To support the use of these simulations for subduction-zone earthquakes, relationships for M-rupture area, M-aspect ratio, and hypocenter locations in the down-dip and along-strike directions are developed.

Stress Processes and Their Relation to the Tectonic Environment
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We have compiled a thorough database of earthquake source parameters for seismic events occurring in Mexico, obtained by means of two different methods: finite-fault slip inversions and spectral analysis. From this compilation we employed stress drop and apparent stress values calculated for three (subduction, strike-slip, and deep intra-plate) tectonic environments and compared the results of employing a formulation, which allows investigating the difference between average final stress and frictional stress (a quantity which has been referred to as “shock stress”). By analyzing these results we want to discern if Orowan’s model is obeyed by events occurring in particular tectonic environment. Comparing all three types we observed that subduction events are the ones, which more closely follow Orowan’s model. Strike-slip events are not too far apart from this condition. Deep intra-plate events, on the other hand, depart further from this model. We also calculated the partial stress drop ratio (e), which is the ratio between the static stress drop and the average dynamic stress drop (Brune, 1976), since Orowan’s model would predict an e ratio equal to one. We found that in the case of subduction events, e ratios mostly indicate a partial stress drop process while intraplate and strike-slip events show a mixture of both partial and over- shoot stress processes. We also notice that the e ratios for intraplate events have an apparent dependence on magnitude, which is not seen for the other two types of events. If the e ratio is close to 2 (maximum overshoot), it would indicate that the average frictional stress is equal to the “average” stress. In our study, some events are close to this condition, for the three types analyzed. It is important to emphasize that all these estimates are highly compromised by uncertainties in the estimation of energy, moment and static stress drop, but it is useful to attempt to make inferences as those above which can help differentiate between probable variations in source processes acting at different tectonic environments, depth, etc.

Spectral Analysis of Earthquakes with Hypocenter in Basin of Mexico
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We present attenuation (r) and source parameters (Δσ y Mw), obtained through spectral analysis, for earthquakes with hypocenter within the basin of Mexico. These events were recorded by the Red Sísmica del Valle de México (RSVM, Valley of Mexico Seismological Network), comprised of 31 broadband stations distributed in Mexico City and surroundings. We analyze events from 2013 to
and selected five with the objective to compare $t^*, \Delta \sigma$ and $M_w$ and look for spatial variations within the basin. Based on a Brune's model spectrum, we analyze all the easily-distinguishable S wave recorded on the horizontal components (N-S and E-W). Large part of the basin is in an old dry lake. This fact makes it complicated and heterogeneous. By studying $t^*$ and $\Delta \sigma$, we can characterize the basin.


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In prior work, we studied the reliability of two approaches to extract Source Time Functions (STFs): the traditional Empirical Green's Function (EGF) approach (Hartzell 1978), which ignores the small STF duration, and the Multi-Channel Deconvolution (MCD) approach (Ploude & Bostock 2017). The analysis used synthetic waveforms made by convolving a realistic Green's function waveform with finite-duration STF pairs. Convolutions are implemented using Toeplitz matrices and STFs are solved for via convex optimization. For EGF, we concluded that while a reasonable large event STF solution can be found via regularization, its duration and shape vary with the subjective choice of damping parameter. The only uniquely obtained information is the differential duration and moment ratio between large and small STFs. For MCD, we found that the inverse problem tends to suffer from instability that violates the discrete Picard Condition. We sought an approximate solution using Istör 2nd-order Tikhonov regularization. Testing both, we developed a procedure to ascertain an appropriate damping and STF duration. For STF duration, we used these to successfully find accurate solutions using either regularization. In this work, we extend the tests to synthetic waveforms containing realistic noise to see its effects. We set the SNR at 4 and bandpass the waveforms between 0.1–3.5 Hz. For EGF, we find noise sometimes causes an underestimation of differential duration. Noise also causes bias to the large STF solutions, e.g. erroneous extra pulses and asymmetry. For MCD, we apply our developed procedure with 1st and 2nd-order Tikhonov. We find that noise slightly complicates our process for finding damping and duration. However, we are still able to find solutions that are reasonably close to the true STF. We note that for noisy synthetics the performance of 1st and 2nd-order regularization visually varies from case to case, allowing us to select the final solution using the optimal regularization.

**The 8th September Mw8.2 Tehuantepec and 19th September Mw7.1 Puebla-Morelos, Mexico Earthquakes: Reconnaissance Findings and Impact on Urban Areas in South-Central Mexico**

Poster Session • Thursday 17 May • Riverfront South

**Initial Aftershock Locations of the September 2017 Tehuantepec, Mexico, (m=8.2) Earthquake from a Temporary Seismic Network**

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The September 7 Tehuantepec, Mexico (M=8.2) and the September 19 Morelos-Puebla, Mexico (M=7.1) earthquakes ruptured with extensive faulting within the Cocos Plate at ~70 km and ~50 km depth, respectively, as it subducts beneath the continental North American Plate. Both earthquakes caused significant damage and loss of life. These events were followed by a M=6.1 extensional earthquake at only ~10 km depth in Oaxaca on September 23, 2017. Many questions remain about these earthquakes, including: Did the Cocos Plate earthquakes load the upper plate, and could they possibly trigger an equal or larger earthquake on the plate interface? Are there new types of plate bending? Do the aftershocks migrate to the locked zone in the subduction zone? Why did the intermediate depth earthquake create so much damage? Are these earthquakes linked by dynamic stresses? Is it possible that a potential slow-slip event triggered both events? Or does any of these questions, we deployed 10 broadband seismometers near the epicenter of the Tehuantepec, México earthquake and 51 UTEP-owned nodes (5-Hz, 3-component geophones) to record aftershocks and augment temporary and permanent networks deployed by the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM). The 10 broadband instruments were in place in early Oct. 2017 and will be deployed for 6 months, while the nodes were deployed 25 days. Using data from our temporary network for the first several months of the deployment plus UNAM permanent stations from this same time window, we build an initial database of automated detections and locations of the aftershocks, using detection and association parameters optimized for local seismic environments. Our initial analysis will allow us to investigate fault geometries from the aftershock locations, and in the future, will allow for the analysis of stress release and orientation from the determination of fault plane solutions, plus site effects and characteristics in regions of extensive damage.

**Macroseismic Intensities from the Puebla-Morelos Earthquake of 19 September 2017 (Mw 7.1)**

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In this work, we present an analysis of the macroseismic intensity map obtained from (¿Sintió un sismo? Did you feel it?), from 19 September Mw7.1 Puebla-Morelos earthquake using the correlation with VS30 site classification. We also obtain the relationship between instrumental PGA, PGV and MMI. The Puebla-Morelos earthquake originated 120 km from Mexico City and was felt in central – southern Mexico; approximately 24.7 million inhabitants distributed in several states felt this earthquake. This intraplate earthquake occurred at a depth of 57 km in the subduction of the Cocos plate under the North America plate, with a normal fault mechanism. We received 8220 surveys, distributed in 2397 zip codes from 19 different Mexican states, through the web site ¿Sintió un sismo? The methodology used to generate the Community Internet Intensity (CII) is based on the “¿Did you feel it?” program. Central Mexico is the area with more damage and injuries reported, which are correlated to the maximum MMI reported of VI to IX. Most of the CII surveys are from the main cities in the region where Internet coverage was better, immediately after the occurrence of the strong earthquake. The narrow band where 46 buildings collapsed in Mexico City was correlated with intensities of IX. Far from the epicentral area, in the southern portion of Mexico, there are several regions with intensities ranging of V – VIII. The ground shaking in these places was correlated with the presence of soft sediments with VS30 values ranging between 180 to 360 m/s, located along some major river valleys, in the mouth of the main rivers of southern Mexico, and at both coastal regions, the Gulf of Mexico and the Pacific Ocean.. The relationship between instrumental PGA and PGV and MMI obtained in this study can be taken as the first step to the generation of maps of estimated shaking intensities within few minutes after the occurrence of an earthquake based on the recorded peak motions as in ShakeMap.

**Remotely-Triggered Slip in Mexico City Induced by the September 2017 Mw7.1 Puebla Earthquake.**

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The September 19th, 2017 Puebla earthquake caused life loss and severe property damage in Mexico City, even though the epicenter was located ~100 km away from the city. Mexico City is built on a thick clay-rich sedimentary sequence and, hence, is susceptible to land subsidence (at rates as high as 350 mm/yr), surface faulting, and seismic acceleration during earthquakes. The earthquake damage in the eastern part of the city, characterized by the collapse of several buildings, can be explained by seismic amplification. However, the damage in the southern part of the city, characterized by the collapse of small houses and surface faulting, requires a different explanation. We present here geodetic observations suggesting that the surface faulting in Mexico City triggered by the Puebla earthquake occurred in areas already experiencing differential displacements. Our study is based on Sentinel-1A satellite data from before and after the earthquake. We process the data using Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar (InSAR) to produce a coseismic interferogram. The results of our analysis reveal the locations and patterns of coseismic phase discontinuities, mainly in the piedmont of the Sierra de Santa Catarina, which agree with the location of earthquake's damage reported by official and unofficial sources (GCDMX, 2017; OSM, 2017), the location of preexisting, subsidence-related faults (GCDMX, 2017), and differen-
tial displacements identified using a Fast Fourier Transform residual technique on high-resolution InSAR results from 2012 (Solano-Rojas et al., 2017). We propose that the seismic energy released by the 2017 Puebla earthquake induced fast soil consolidation, which remotely triggered slip on the preexisting subsidence-related faults. The slip observed during this earthquake represents a hazard that needs to be considered in future urban development plans of Mexico City.

Analysis of the Alpha Combination Rules in the Seismic Response of Typical Buildings in Mexico City

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Mexico City’s building code considers rules to include the bidirectional building response in the design process. The so-called a combination rules account for the impact of 100% and ± times the ground motion acting in orthogonal directions. Thus, it allows estimating the forces a structure will resist. Here, based on fully 3D ground motion simulations including the soil-structure interaction, we present a preliminary analysis of the uncertainty in the a parameter in soft soil deposits in Mexico City. The study is performed for a typical structure located in the lake zone coupled with a realistic velocity model of the basin and a detailed model of the building. The seismic wave propagation and the building response is performed using the Finite Element Method for eight scenarios, mostly subduction earthquakes. We observe that differences in the optimal a parameter estimated per simulation are not adequate to establish a preferred value.

Spatial Distribution of Site Response and Building Damage in Mexico City Resulting from the September 19, 2017, M7.1 Central Mexico Earthquake

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Since the 1985 Michoacan Earthquake, the soft, high water content clays filling the lakebed of Lake Texcoco are known to exhibit resonance at a frequency of about 0.5 Hz and cause significant site response in Mexico City. The data from the Puebla Earthquake on 19 September 2017 also displays this behavior in the ground motion amplification. Relative to nearby sites, the high ground acceleration in the lakebed sediments have a contributing factor of damage to some of the Mexico City’s buildings, a similar outcome to that of the 1985 Michoacan Earthquake. Since 1985, there have been significant improvements to the seismic network, allowing for a more detailed evaluation of ground motions and site response across Mexico City. In this study, we used recorded ground motion data from 61 CIERES stations located in Mexico City during the Puebla earthquake. To get values of soil resonances and their associated amplifications at sites across Mexico City, we used the H/V spectral ratio method and the spectral ratio of the station on the lakebed and a station on firm ground. We mapped the amplification in terms of resonance frequency and amplification across Mexico City. In addition, we compare the results with building damage data from the Puebla and Michoacan earthquakes. The spatial distribution of building damage during the Puebla earthquake differs from the Michoacan earthquake, but is consistent with site response.

Emergency Management, Resilience and Preparedness

Poster Session - Thursday 17 May - Riverfront South

Annualized Earthquake Loss Estimations for Istanbul

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In this study, we compute annualized earthquake losses for two building inventories of Istanbul city. The latest building inventory, dated 2009, contains about 1.2 million buildings. There are approximately 0.75 million buildings in the 2002 version of the inventory. The buildings are classified with respect to three attributes: i) Type of the lateral load carrying system; ii) Number of floors and iii) Construction year. Capacity and fragility curves are then assigned to each building typology identified in the inventory. Spectral accelerations at the building base are estimated using the ground-motion database. Damage analyses are conducted under site-specific ground motions computed for eight return periods. Probabilistic loss curves are developed. Annualized earthquake loss estimates and their spatial distributions throughout the city are compared.

The Diploma in Seismology for High-School Teachers

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The high school Physics programs in Mexico do not consider the immediate application of the concepts learned by the students. According to some pedagogical theories, most of the acquired knowledge is assimilated when experimenting and developing projects. It is in high school when young people are exploring for experiences to decide the area in which they want to study their future. There is little interest in Earth sciences, reflected by the number of students in those areas, which may be due mainly to the lack of exposure and examples. We are working on a project that seeks, through the preparation of high-school teachers, to awake student curiosity in seismology. Based on the above, and taking as examples the seismic program “Seismology in Schools” by IRIS Network, “Earthquakes and抗震 Information For Teachers” from EGU, the Mexican Servicio Sismológico Nacional (National Seismological Service, SSN) has launched a project that includes three stages: 1) design and delivery of a diploma for high-school teachers; 2) installation of short period seismographs at each teachers’ schools; and 3) active participation of teachers and their students in research projects based on the data collected in their schools. We are in the first stage, which has the purpose of the project DGA-PAPA-PAPIME PE107171. The diploma for high-school teachers is a 170 hours course that offers an introduction in topics related to seismology. It starts with basic concepts of physics, and examples of what they can offer their students in their classroom. The content seeks to apply some of the learning, and concepts of the physics courses in high school by the analysis of the information recorded in seismographs. In addition to the material presented to the participant through the online platform, and during sessions, they work on an integrating project, which objective is to prepare them in the use of seismographs and their data in their classes and begin in scientific research themselves and their students.

Implementation of the Tsunami Ready Pilot Project in Grenada

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The Tsunami Ready Pilot Project is a community performance based recognition project for coastal communities interested in strengthening their tsunami preparedness, adapting and adopting good practices to minimize loss of life and property. Ten important elements are considered in the pilot project guidelines, divided in three major components: mitigation, preparedness and response. Grenada is a tri-island state—Grenada, Carriacou and Petite Martinique—located in the southern Caribbean, with a total estimated population of 108,339 people for 2018. History shows that tsunamis have affected Grenada during the past centuries. In 1867, a magnitude 7.5 earthquake originated in the Anegada Trough—USVI, produced a tsunami that reached the island with a registered wave height of 3.1 m (10.2 ft) at Gouyave. Records also show that in 1902 pyroclastic flows from the eruption of the Soufriere Volcano of St. Vincent, could have generated the waves of up to 1 m (3.3 ft) that were observed in harbors of Grenada. Records also show that in 1902 pyroclastic flows from the eruption of the Soufriere Volcano of St. Vincent, could have generated the waves of up to 1 m (3.3 ft) that were observed in harbors of Grenada and other neighboring islands. To fulfill the mitigation component of the Tsunami Ready Guidelines, tsunami hazards for Grenada were identified using ComMIT (tsunami modeling software). Seven different earthquake sources along the Lesser Antilles, Venezuela/Trinidad, and the South Caribbean Deformed Belt were modeled as well as a simulated wave produced by the Kick em Jenny (KJ) submarine volcano. The St. Patrick parish located north to Grenada, was selected for piloting the Tsunami Ready project due to the proximity of ‘`the community and the volcanic source of potential tsunami hazards. Grenada was identified as a potential tsunami risk area through an online platform, and during sessions, they work on an integrating project, which objective is to prepare them in the use of seismographs and their data in their classes and begin in scientific research themselves and their students.
Aftershock forecasts often depend on the characteristics of the ongoing sequence up to the time of the forecast. The observed aftershocks may be used to fit sequence-specific parameters for clustering models and to seed simulations of future aftershocks. However, the catalog magnitude of completeness may be elevated immediately following a large mainshock, due to decreased detection of smaller events, complicating the use of the early aftershocks. Simple functions have been found to describe the time-dependent magnitude of completeness following global (Page et al., BSSA, 2016) and California (Helmstetter et al., BSSA, 2006) mainshocks. As a further complication, the real-time earthquake catalog typically has omissions and errors not present in the final catalog. This real-time catalog incompleteness must also be quantified to avoid underestimating the probability of future aftershocks in real-time forecasts. We study the real-time completeness of the USGS ComCat catalog using snapshots downloaded periodically following selected M≥6 global and M≥5 U.S. earthquakes. We find that real-time catalog snapshots during roughly the first month of an aftershock sequence have a higher magnitude of completeness than the final catalog, with a typical difference of 0.3–0.8 magnitude units. We also find that the time-dependent magnitude of completeness equations developed using the final catalogs (Page et al., BSSA, 2016; Helmstetter et al., BSSA, 2006) can describe the completeness of the real-time catalogs during the first month with adjusted parameter values. Accounting for the real-time catalog completeness brings the aftershock productivity estimated from the real-time catalogs closer to the productivity estimated from the final catalog, increasing the accuracy of aftershock forecasts based on the real-time catalogs.

Operating Procedures needs to be completed to receive the verification visit of the National Tsunami Board. Hopefully during the current semester, St. Patrick will be designated as the first tsunami Ready community in Grenada and the first one considering a volcano as tsunami source.

Forecasting Aftershock Sequences in the Real World Poster Session · Thursday 17 May · Riverfront South

Using Aftershock Forecast Modeling to Refine the Location and Magnitude of the 1936 Milton-Freewater Earthquake near the Oregon-Washington Border, U.S.A.


Aftershock forecast modeling is an important tool for investigating the locations and magnitudes of historical earthquakes as well as for short-term earthquake forecasting. Although the 16 July 1936 M6 Milton-Freewater earthquake is the largest historical earthquake in eastern Oregon, having been widely felt in eastern Washington, northeastern Oregon, and northern Idaho, its location is uncertain. Various studies have reported its epicenter as lying within 30 km of the intersection of the Hite and Wallula faults. In the absence of reported coseismic surface rupture, we estimate the mainshock location and magnitude from aftershock forecast modeling that considers the numbers of reported aftershocks at six different locations in the day following the quake. The estimated epicenter and magnitude derived from the aftershock modeling compare favorably to the ISC-GEM solution, an S-P time recorded at Spokane, the directions of observed horizontal motions, and the distribution of ground failure and liquefaction. The aftershock model constrains the epicenter of the 1936 earthquake with an accuracy of about 5 km and is most consistent with an epicenter midway between Umpine and Milton-Freewater, above an estimated 10 km long subsurface rupture between them. This suggested epicenter and rupture plane are consistent with the elongation of ground failure along the Wallula fault and the fault’s strike along one of the focal planes indicating that the earthquake may have primarily ruptured the eastern end of NW-trending Wallula fault. Aftershock forecast modeling indicates a mainshock magnitude between 6.2 to 6.4, in agreement with reported instrumental magnitudes but higher than the range derived from seismic intensity data (5.1 to 5.3). This discrepancy may result from a systematic underestimation of the seismic intensities in the epicentral region: felt reports justifying a maximum Modified Mercalli intensity of VIII instead of the VII previously assigned.

Real-Time Completeness of the USGS ComCat Earthquake Catalog and Implications for Aftershock Forecasting


The term early warning is used in many fields to describe the provision of information on an emerging dangerous hazard that enables advance action to reduce the associated risks to the lives and property. Early warning systems exist for natural and biological hazards, procedures are also used in social, industrial and personal emergencies as a fundamental element in disaster risk reduction. Although in the Caribbean there is a comprehensive tsunami warning system. Particularly in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, there is a tsunami protocol which has been widely evaluated (i.e. yearly tsunami exercise Caribbean Wave), a tsunami program is in place (TsunamiReady) and state-of-the-art seismic, geodetic and sea level networks monitor all the seismic and water level in the Caribbean. The past cat 5 Hurricanes demonstrate that the system is vulnerable. In this poster, we intend to present the effects of the Hurricanes in the local tsunami warning system in Puerto Rico. We will propose some ideas to improve the system, practical actions and recommendations will be described towards the full recovery of the system as well as cutting-edge resilience measurement tools to help exposed communities and the emergency management officers for future planning.

Increasing Testability—Expanding Possibilities and Future Developments of the Collaboratory for the Study of Earthquake Predictability

Poster Session · Thursday 17 May · Riverfront South

Status of the Collaboratory for the Study of Earthquake Predictability (CSEP) and Prospects for Future Infrastructure Development

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The Collaboratory for the Study of Earthquake Predictability (CSEP) supports an international effort to conduct and rigorously evaluate earthquake forecasting experiments. CSEP testing centers are now operational in California, New Zealand, Japan, China, and Europe with 442 models currently under evaluation. The California testing center, operated by SCEC, is testing 30-minute, 1-day, 3-month, 1-year, and 5-year forecasts for California, the Western Pacific, and global regions. SCEC’s operational CSEP testing center supports high-resolution global experiments, including the Global Earthquake Activity Rate (GEAR) model, and are verifying the new capacity for ensemble models and non-Poissonian simulation-based forecast models. CSEP also supports retrospective forecast testing (i.e., testing forecasting models on previously recorded earthquake sequences). After a decade of operations, CSEP’s evolving scientific and technical requirements. These changes include support for fault-based forecasts (e.g., UCERF3) and improved support for external and retrospective forecasts. Also, we would benefit from computer system improvements to enable CSEP to distribute operational processing onto multiple servers, to reduce need for operational support, and to simplify data-management practices. In particular, the utilization of numerical simulations is accelerating as forecasting models become more complex and incorporate more physics; hence, the ability to compute large-scale simulations and post-process the huge data volumes they produce will be a major driver of CSEP cyberinfrastructure development.
Seismological Research Letters Volume 89, Number 2B March/April 2018 949

Observed Characteristics of Induced Seismicity: From Laboratory to Field Scale
Poster Session · Thursday 17 May · Riverfront South

Development of a Matched Filter Catalog in Southern Kansas
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Seismicity catalogs that are complete to small magnitudes are valuable for investigating the relationship between seismicity and saltwater disposal (SWD). In southern Kansas, the rate of earthquakes rose rapidly starting in 2013 following expansion of energy production into the area, demanding the disposal of large volumes of fluid-by-products (saltwater) into deep wells. Rubinstein et al. [2018] developed a catalog of earthquakes for southern Kansas from mid-March 2014 through December 2016 using routine earthquake detection techniques. We use an expanded version of the catalog (March 2014—December 2017) and a matched-filter algorithm to expand the available catalog from approximately 5,000 to over 100,000 earthquakes. From the matched-filter catalog we identify template events with a significant number of associated detections and examine the characteristics of these ‘families’ of earthquakes. For the most prolific families, we examine the spatial and temporal distribution of these events within the study area, their recurrence times, and any relationships to larger magnitude earthquakes and/or disposal wells.

Reconciliation of Fault Maps and Induced Seismicity in Oklahoma Through Aeromagnetic Imaging of the Crystalline Basement

Numerous earthquake sequences associated with induced seismicity in Oklahoma occur along linear trends, suggesting the re-activation of ancient faults. Very few of these sequences are aligned with mapped faults, however, making seismic hazard difficult to estimate. This difference may arise because the earthquakes occur mostly in the basement, while the fault maps are based mostly on data describing sedimentary cover. Alternatively, it is possible that very minor but optimally oriented faults, fractures and/or joints are being ruptured in the induced seismicity setting. To address these possibilities, aeromagnetic surveys were flown over north-central Oklahoma Aug-Oct. 2017, providing imagery of the crystalline basement. Analyses of the magnetic anomaly and its derivatives show that some mapped faults are aligned with magnetic lineaments, but many more are not. In contrast, most major and many minor earthquake sequences are aligned with magnetic lineaments or occur between offsets in magnetic features, interpreted as piercing points along a fault. These observations suggest that most earthquake sequences occur along pre-existing basement faults, but that corresponding fault offsets in the sedimentary cover are limited or nonexistent. This is further supported by reflection seismic data that image the crystalline basement in several locales. A curvature analysis of the magnetic data reveals optimally oriented lineaments throughout the area, highlighting magnetic contacts that may represent faults. We also find minor, optimally oriented earthquake sequences on sub-optimally oriented lineaments, suggesting the presence of additional fault systems that contain seismogenic segments. Lastly, there are other earthquake sequences which are not aligned with clear magnetic lineaments. Together these data suggest the presence of numerous potentially seismogenic faults in the region.

Influence of Crustal Structure on High-Frequency (f>1 Hz) Ground Motions from Induced Earthquakes in Oklahoma
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We investigate the effects of crustal structure on high-frequency (f>1 Hz) ground motions from induced earthquakes in Oklahoma using recorded waveforms and 1- and 3-D waveform modeling. This work was motivated by previous comparisons of observed response spectral accelerations with the values from ground motion prediction equations (GMPEs) suggesting that the induced ground motions from Oklahoma exhibit a faster-than-expected attenuation with distance. We compiled records from well-recorded earthquakes and computed 5 percent-damped single-degree-of-freedom response from well-recorded earthquakes for various oscillator periods. The acceleration response waveforms contain strong multiples that develop with increasing distance and exhibit the feature that the relative amplitudes of these multiples evolve with distance. Waveform modeling reproduces these multiples and indicates strong sensitivity of the ground motion attenuation to focal depth, to the thickness of the Paleozoic sediments, and to seismic impedance between the basement rocks and the Paleozoic sediments. We employ 3-D earthquake simulations to investigate the effect of the thinning of the Paleozoic sediments in Oklahoma to the northeast on ground motions. Simulations indicate strong azimuthal- and frequency-dependent variations in the response waveforms. These results indicate that the unique wave-propagation characteristics from induced earthquakes in Oklahoma should be considered in regional ground motion prediction and seismic hazard analyses.

A Rare Case of Seasonal Induced Seismicity in Southeast Brazil
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We document a rare case of induced seismicity, associated with rainwater percolation into fractured rock and shallow confined aquifers in southern Brazil, located in the interior of the state of Sao Paulo. We observed that the seismicity during 2016 and 2017 followed the rainy seasons of southern Brazil (from January to June). We investigate this seasonal seismicity with temporary seismic station deployments and locate more than 500 earthquakes with magnitudes up to M 2.8. We analyze the seismicity for its temporal, spatial and faulting mechanism, and find a trend of increased seismicity coincident with the months of higher precipitation and a correlation with the location of water wells drilled after 2014 and used for irrigation during the dry months. While we do not see a direct correlation of seismicity depths with the preliminary Time-Domain Electromagnetic Method studies of the rock layer depths, we find the seismicity resembling a planar delineation that makes us believe the temporal and spatial characteristics of the seismicity facilitate slip of what is most likely a pre-existing fault-containing fractured basaltic rock. While rain and water wells alone do not necessarily imply induced earthquakes, when coupled with water pumped from reservoirs during dry months, and wells with improper casing drilled into fractured basaltic fractured rock layers, it can promote capillary modifications in the pore-pressure conditions from rainwater percolating from an upper aquifer into a confined aquifer in the basaltic rock layer. We estimate that since this type of seismicity is not originated under extreme conditions, we can more similar cases where these conditions are given. This should both motivate and inform closer monitoring of areas where the conditions for this seismicity can be met, and possibly monitor factors influencing the state of health of reservoirs in confined aquifers.

Re-Analyses of Seismic Data from Temporary and Permanent Networks as a Tool for Monitoring Induced Seismicity: A Case Study from the Cavone Oilfield (Central-Northern Italy)
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The careful seismic monitoring of oil reservoir exploitation represents a critical tool to identify the triggers of induced seismicity. In this framework, we present preliminary results of an application of seismic monitoring carried out in the area of the Cavone oilfield in Central-Northern Italy. The principal purpose of the study was to investigate tectonic structures, earthquakes distribution and migration, as a tool for monitoring induced seismicity. The target area includes Reggio Emilia and Ferrara cities. We investigated the whole recorded seismicity related to recent seismic sequences: the Reggio Emilia of the October the 15th 1996 (ML 5.1), and the two main-shocks of Ferrara in May the 20th 2012 (MW 5.8) and the Mirandola in May the 29th (MW 5.6). This sequence raised the question of whether these earthquakes might have been triggered by activities due to oil and gas productions, but recent studies suggest that the combined effects of fluid production and injection from the Cavone field were not a driver for the observed seismicity. We used about 700 earthquakes, recorded by both the permanent and temporary seismic networks managed, to develop a robust three-dimensional seismic velocity model using an iterative linearized tomographic technique. The
Interferometric Time-Lapse Velocity Analysis: Application to a Salt-Water Disposal Well in British Columbia, Canada

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We investigate the possibility of passive monitoring of a salt-water disposal well in British Columbia, Canada, using continuously-recorded ambient seismic noise. We find seismic velocity variations induced by a reduction of injection pressure in an effort to mitigate an elevated level of seismicity, most likely associated with the disposal of salt water. The relative velocity variations are derived from time shifts measured between consecutive crosscorrelation functions for each station pair in a surface array composed of five broadband seismometers. The probable driving mechanisms responsible for the velocity changes are reduced pore pressures and/or lowered poreoelastic stresses beyond the injection wellbore, respectively. Hydrologic data (e.g., snow and rain fall), noise energy trends, and fluctuations in the incident direction of dominant noise sources do not correlate with the estimated relative velocity variations. Velocity variations are detected ahead of the zone of induced seismicity, thus indicating that seismic interferometry may aid in mitigation efforts to reduce the risk of induced seismicity by (1) providing verifiable and repeatable measurements of physical changes within the surrounding area and (2) providing hard constraints for modeling efforts to constrain how and where pore-pressure fronts change.

Hypocentral Focal Depth Determination Based on Pn and Pg Relative Location Method: A Case Study of the 2016 Mw5.1 Fairview Sequence, Oklahoma

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Hypocentral focal depth is an important parameter for calculating ground motions in evaluating seismic hazard, and it provides essential constraints on discriminating natural and induced earthquakes (Ellsworth, 2013; Keranen et al., 2014). Due to sparse seismograph network and inaccurate crustal velocity structure, hypocentral depth may suffer from large uncertainties if only based on the arrival time of the direct waves. We developed a Pn/Pg relative location method to determine the hypocentral depth more accurately. Pg phases are used to refine the horizontal location of main shock, and the Pn phases are included to increase the constraints on the hypocenter depth. With reference events, the effects of inaccurate velocity models can be reduced effectively. There are two different results on focal depth of 2016 Mw 5.1 Fairview earthquake sequence. Yeck et al. [2016] concluded that the earthquake sequence nucleated near the base of the seismogenic zone and ruptured to shallow part. In contrast, Goebel et al. [2017] found the earthquakes started shallow and penetrated to large depth about ~ 10 km. The discrepancy of hypocentral depths of the mainshock and foreshocks between different studies is probably due to no nearby seismic stations before February 13, 2016 and/or difference of crust velocity models. In this study, we determine the hypocenters of two lager aftershocks in July 2016 based on the portable seismographic observation records, then adopted them as reference events. By using Pn/Pg relative location method, we determined the hypocentral depth of the 2016 Mw5.1 Fairview earthquake, large foreshock and aftershocks. The results showed that the hypocentral depth of the mainshock is about 7 km, consistent with the result of Goebel et al. (2017) and Schoenball and Ellsworth (2017). More study are needed to analyze the seismogenicity of the earthquake sequence, including determining focal depth of many smaller earthquakes.

Comparative Study of Earthquake Clustering in Relation to Hydraulic Activities at Geothermal Fields in California

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We investigate earthquake clustering properties from three geothermal reservoirs to clarify how earthquake patterns respond to hydraulic activities. We process 9 years from four datasets corresponding to the Geysers (both the entire field and a local subset), Coso and Salton Sea geothermal fields, California. For each, the completeness magnitude, b-value and fractal dimension are calculated and used to identify seismicity clusters using the nearest-neighbor approach of Zaliapin and Ben-Zion [2013a, 2013b]. Estimations of temporal evolution of different clustering properties in relation to hydraulic parameters point to different responses of earthquake dynamics to hydraulic operations in each case study. The clustering at the Geysers at local scale and Salton Sea are most and least affected by hydraulic activities, respectively. The response of the earthquake clustering from different datasets to the hydraulic activities may reflect the regional tectonic complexity as well as the dimension of the geothermal activities performed (e.g. number of active wells and superposition of injection + production activities). Two clustering properties significantly respond to hydraulic changes across all datasets: the background rates and the proportion of clusters consisting of a single event. Background rates are larger at the Geysers and Coso during high injection-production periods, while the opposite holds for the Salton Sea. This possibly reflects the different physical mechanisms controlling seismicity at each geothermal field. Additionally, a lower proportion of singles is found during time periods with higher injection-production rates. This may reflect decreasing effective stress in areas subjected to higher pore pressure and larger earthquake triggering by stress transfer.

Identifying the Trigger of the Irving-Dallas, North Texas, Earthquake Sequence

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The 2014-present Irving-Dallas earthquakes in north Texas generated a series of Ms 3.4 earthquakes in January 2015 and the continuing small (mL<3) events along the same fault continue to contribute to the increased hazard forecast and risk for the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex. While the events most likely are related to oil and gas operations, particularly wastewater injection, as reported for all other earthquakes in the Fort Worth Basin, the direct physical mechanism that triggered events in Irving-Dallas remains an enigma. In the Irving/Dallas area, nearby Class II injection wells are at ≥ 10 km distance, and there are two, now inactive, Barnett shale production wells < 1 km from the activated fault. In past publications, we have hypothesized that the dense northeast-southwest (NE-SW) trending basement fault system that extends into the injection (Elkenburger) and production (Barnett) formations provide pathways for enhanced fluid pressure changes. Here, we summarize and update the community on a range of modeling and earthquake source investigations aimed at unraveling the cause of the Irving-Dallas earthquakes. Template matching work indicates the sequence began in late 2013 or early 2014 with a series of small magnitude events. Double-difference locations, focal mechanisms, and stress drop studies map how recorded seismicity (post-January 2015) and moment release has migrated around the 15 km2 fault plane. A nearby 3D seismic reflection survey confirms the strike, dip of the fault, and the minimum offsets and fault densities of NE-SW trending structures along the eastern edge of the basin, and these faults appear to be oriented for failure in the current stress regime. Pore pressure diffusion modeling conducted using the known fault structures and injection histories of the closest wells, which lie to the west of the sequence at the DFW International Airport, do not appear to be solely responsible for increasing fluid pressures in Irving-Dallas. Initial estimates of poroelastic and Coulomb stress changes associated with earthquakes and high volume injection located to the southwest, in Johnson County, are smaller than would be expected to trigger events, even on critically stressed faults. Updated modeling and full consideration of available hypotheses will be presented.

Discerning and Characterizing Induced Seismicity in Texas Using Regional Multistation Template Matching

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We investigate the possibility of passive monitoring of a salt-water disposal well in British Columbia, Canada, using continuously-recorded ambient seismic noise. We find seismic velocity variations induced by a reduction of injection pressure in an effort to mitigate an elevated level of seismicity, most likely associated with the disposal of salt water. The relative velocity variations are derived from time shifts measured between consecutive crosscorrelation functions for each station pair in a surface array composed of five broadband seismometers. The probable driving mechanisms responsible for the velocity changes are reduced pore pressures and/or lowered poreoelastic stresses beyond the injection wellbore, respectively. Hydrologic data (e.g., snow and rain fall), noise energy trends, and fluctuations in the incident direction of dominant noise sources do not correlate with the estimated relative velocity variations. Velocity variations are detected ahead of the zone of induced seismicity, thus indicating that seismic interferometry may aid in mitigation efforts to reduce the risk of induced seismicity by (1) providing verifiable and repeatable measurements of physical changes within the surrounding area and (2) providing hard constraints for modeling efforts to constrain how and where pore-pressure fronts change.

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To better characterize seismicity in Texas over the past 10 years, we have employed a regional multistation template matching (RMTM) technique to catalog events across the state. Applying waveform correlation to a consistent set of recordings from 12 stations continuously through time results in more constant detection at a lower magnitude threshold, providing a larger, more uniform catalog of earthquakes for investigation. When compared with catalogs from local arrays in North Texas, results from RMTM are successful at generating a more complete catalog than traditional regional network detection, indicating that RMTM can be a cost-effective alternative when local deployments are not readily available. The lower magnitude completeness threshold from RMTM enables improved characterization of frequency-magnitude distributions, which are important for developing forecasting models for induced seismicity. We find several cases where the catalog from RMTM helps to better determine the temporal span of seismic activity and allows for improved spatiotemporal correlation calculations with specific industry operations. As with prior investigations using RMTM in other regions, seismicity correlated with fluid injection is typically swarm-like. While most of the swarm-like seismicity detected from RMTM in Texas can be associated with wastewater disposal activities, we also find seismicity induced by hydraulic fracturing.

A Notable Earthquake Swarm in Alabama: Natural or Anthropogenic?
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Seismicity in the central and eastern U.S. is generally characterized by low-magnitude (M < 4), randomly distributed earthquakes in areas of low to moderate strain rates. In November 2014, however, an unusual swarm of earthquakes began in northwestern Greene County, Alabama. The magnitudes of these earthquakes are small (M < 3.8), with many events only lightly felt by residents in the area. This study investigates the spatiotemporal and waveform characteristics of the Greene Country earthquake cluster to explore its possible source and the physical mechanism responsible for its occurrence. Although the possibility that the swarm is related to wastewater disposal or resource extraction cannot be ruled out, our analysis suggests that the swarm may equally represent a continuation or southwesterly migration of the Southern Appalachian seismic zone (SASZ). Earthquake relocations and calculated focal mechanisms are consistent with slip along northeast-trending faults that support both explanations. However, the large distance between the epicentral area and areas of active wells exceeds that typically associated with induced seismicity and would necessitate a hydrologic connection along regional faults that allows propagation of a pore-pressure front from the area of resource recovery to the area of earthquake activity.

Plate Boundary Segmentation and Coupled-to-Creeping Plate and Block Boundary Faults
Poster Session - Thursday 17 May - Riverfront South

The Case of Western Corinth Gulf (Greece): A Detachment Zone or Seismic – Asseismic Transition?
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Corinth Gulf is one of the most seismically active rifts worldwide, with several low in magnitude earthquakes as well as a few stronger ones (Mz6), especially in its western part. This study focuses on the spatiotemporal properties of the seismic activity occurred between 2008–2014, when the national seismological network was denser. In this respect, a highly accurate earthquake catalog consisting of ~22,000 events was compiled using double difference technique and differentiating between continuous and discrete time windows. This study, along with the fact that the earthquake locations are based on high-quality picks of which approximately 35% are manual, allows us to better determine the temporal spatiotemporal characteristics and focal mechanisms of the earthquakes. We find evidence for repeating events that occur at virtually the same location. The analysis of a larger time span, we intend to further investigate and understand the migration patterns of the aftershock sequence and determine if any seismic signals are detected in the time period before the mainshock that could indicate a foreshock sequence. We also plan to relocate those newly detected microearthquakes and search for repeating events that occur at virtually the same location. Updated results will be presented at the meeting.

A High-Precision Continuous Catalogue of Low-Magnitude Earthquakes in the Central Southern Alps, New Zealand
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The Alpine Fault is inferred to be late in its typical ~300-year cycle of M8 earthquakes based on palaeoseismological evidence. The central Southern Alps exhibit the highest deformation and uplift rates along the Alpine Fault. However, levels of contemporary earthquake activity (M>2) are low when compared to adjacent areas. Compiling a micro-earthquake catalogue for the central Southern Alps may help better understand the distribution of deformation in a region prior to the next major earthquake. We have created an almost decade long earthquake catalogue containing 9,111 earthquakes spanning the time period between late 2008 and early 2017. The earthquake locations are based on high-quality picks (83,138 P- and 67,119 S-phase picks of which approximately 35% are manual). To quantify the spatial distribution of the seismic moment release, we have derived a new local magnitude scale based on Mw values. Magnitudes range between ML –1.5 and 4.6 and have a magnitude of completeness of 1.1 with a b-value of 0.85. The seismogenic cut-off depths vary from 8 to 20 km and show both strike parallel and strike perpendicular rupture that are strongly related to lateral changes in thermal structure and strain rate.

Mejillones Peninsula in Northern Chile Controlled by Hydrafaced Interface and Subducted Oceanic Plate
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The interplate of subduction zones present several seismogenic behaviors. This variability is controlled by frictional properties, changes in the rheology or by the presence of seismogenic patches within the subduction zone. In Northern Chile, is characterized by presenting seismic and aseismic behavior and a low plate coupling. We deployed a local seismological network in the vicinity of the Mejillones Peninsula, consisting of 24 short-period seismometers, which was operational for 2 years. The first step was to build a seismic catalog of more than 2,000 events placed below the Mejillones Peninsula, then we locate manually determining the arrival times of the P and S waves. We use NonLinLoc and HypDD programs. Finally, we compute a 3D velocity tomography model and related the seismogenicity. Through the seismicity and tomography, we study the tectonic structure of the interplate zone beneath Mejillones Peninsula. The results show that the seismicity is more intense in the north of the peninsula than in the south and where we find swarm-type seismicity with repeaters. This coincides with the Vp/Vs ratios, which are higher in the north than in the south. A high rate of seismicity is concentrated within the oceanic crust, which we interpreted as hydrated structures formed in the outer-riser of Nazca Plate. The presence of swarms with repeaters along with high P-S seismic velocity ratios within and in the continental crust, is interpreted as high pore-fluid pressure. Due to the high P-S velocity ratios and distribution of seismicity, we propose that fluids contributed by slab structures, increasing the hydration levels in the interface and on the oceanic plate, influencing the strength of the interplate and controlling the seismogenic behavior of this subduction zone.

Constraints from 3D Earthquake Location for Aftershocks of the Mw=7.8 2016 Pedemarcal Earthquake (Ecuador Subduction Zone)

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The Mw=7.8 Pedemarcal earthquake is associated with the subduction of the Nazca Plate beneath the South American Plate. The mainshock caused many casualties and widespread damages across the Manabi province. The 150 km-long coseismic rupture area is found beneath the coastline, near 25 km depth. The rupture propagated southward and involved the successive rupture of two discrete asperities, with a maximum slip (~ 6 m) on the southern patch. The rupture area is consistent with the highly locked region observed in interseismic coupling models, overlaps the 7.2 Mw rupture zone, and terminates near where the 1906 Mw 8.8 megathrust earthquake rupture zone ends. Two neighboring highly coupled patches remain locked: (A) southern to and updip of the coseismic rupture zone and (B) northern and downdip. In this study, we relocate the aftershocks and compare the seismicity distribution to the interseismic coupling and the rupture area. We use continuous seismic traces recorded on the permanent network partly installed in the frame of the collaboration between l’Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD-France) and the Instituto Geofísico, Escuela Politécnica Nacional, Quito, Ecuador. Detections are conducted using Seiscomp in play-back mode. Arrival-times are manually picked. To improve earthquake location, we use the MAXI technique and a heterogeneous prior P-wave velocity model that approximates the large velocity variations of the Ecuadorian subduction system. Aftershocks align along 3 to 4 main clusters that strike perpendicularly to the trench, and mostly updip of the co-seismic rupture. Aftershock seismicity develops indifferently over portions of plate interface that are known to be strongly locked or almost uncoupled. The seismicity pattern is similar to the one observed during a decade of observation during the interseismic period with swarms such as the Galera alignment, Jama and Cabo Pasado, and between Manta and Puerto Lopez.

Estimating the Locations of Past and Future Large Earthquake Ruptures Using Recent M4 and Greater Events

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A study of the occurrences of recent M≥4 earthquakes in California shows that these events occur preferentially at the edges of past major ruptures, with the effect lessening with decreasing magnitude below M4. Prior to several large California mainshocks, the M≥4 seismicity was uniformly spread along the future fault ruptures without concentrations at the fault ends. On these faults, the rates of the M≥4 earthquakes prior to the mainshocks were much greater than the rates of the recent M≥4 earthquakes. A similar study of earthquakes in Japan shows that modern M≥4 earthquake also preferentially occur at the ends of past major ruptures, and this pattern seems to hold for large earthquakes that occurred as many as several hundred years ago. In contrast, the recent M≥4 earthquakes in Turkey do not preferentially cluster at the ends of the major ruptures on the North Anatolian Fault during the 20th century. The fault ruptures of many of the major North Anatolian earthquakes during the 20th century overlap, and for many of the fault ruptures the modern M≥4 earthquakes concentrate in the overlap areas. It appears that it is isolated or non-overlapping major fault ruptures for which the modern M≥4 earthquakes preferentially occur at the fault ends, whereas the modern M≥4 earthquakes tend to occur between the fault ruptures in places where the major fault ruptures significantly overlap.

Ground Motion to Intensity Conversion Equations (GMICEs) for Chilean Megathrust Earthquakes

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We determine empirical relationships between instrumental peak ground motions and observed intensities for three recent Chilean megathrust (interplate subduction) earthquakes: the November 14, 2007 Mw 7.7 Tocopilla earthquake, and two great earthquakes, the February 27, 2010 Mw 8.8 Maule earthquake and the April 1, 2014 Mw 8.2 Iquique earthquake. Most great (M ≥ 8) earthquakes, like these, occur within subduction zones. Yet, few ground motion to intensity conversion equations (GMICEs) exist for subduction earthquakes. We pair instrumental peak ground motions, both acceleration (PGA) and velocity (PGV), with intensities derived from on-site surveys of earthquake damage and volunteered felt reports. We fit a linear predictive equation between the geometric mean of the maximum PGA or PGV of the two horizontal components and intensity using an ordinary least squares regression. We use a weighting scheme to express the uncertainty of the intensity value assigned in each pairing based on the proximity of the instrument (station) to the nearest intensity observation. We find the best fitting predictive equations (GMICEs) for PGA from PGA in m/s/s, or PGV, in cm/s, are:

\[
\text{PGA MM} = 2.10 \log \text{PGA} + 0.26 \\
\text{PGA MM} = 6.78 \log \text{PGA} – 10.54 \\
\text{PGA MM} = 3.72 \log \text{PGV} + 1.10 \\
\text{PGA MM} = 5.05 \log \text{PGV} – 0.55 \\
\]

We find existing GMICEs consistently overpredict intensity for these events, and existing inverse GMICEs underpredict the measured peak ground motions. We find existing GMICEs consistently overpredict intensity for these events, and existing inverse GMICEs underpredict the measured peak ground motions.
duction events are improved when the corrections to global GMICEs are applied to pre- and post-mainshocks instead of intensities. We conclude that the distinctive characteristics of Chilean megathrust earthquakes warrant the development of separate GMICEs for specific subduction zone regions.

Spatialtemporal Evolution of Source Properties in the Colombia Seismic Sequence

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More than 300 earthquakes have been reported by the Colombian Seismic Network (RSCN) in a seismic zone in southwestern Colombia since 2012 ranging from M 0.8 up to M 5.3, with at least 3 M 4.5+ earthquakes in a span of 1 month in 2016. Some of these events have been widely felt in major cities in Colombia and are well recorded by the local network. We study the temporal and spatial evolution of these earthquakes, and in particular focus in the short seismic sequence in 2016. Earthquakes show migration towards the SW, along an apparent fault trace and show clear Omori-type aftershock behavior. Using an empirical Green's function approach, we study the changes in source parameters of the seismic sequence and try to identify if ruptures show any preferential directivity. Temporal or spatial variations of these source parameters may be indicative of changes in the medium before and after the mainshock.

Collecting New High-Resolution Seismic Data across the Hayward Fault Zone

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The Hayward Fault is an active strike-slip fault trending southeast to northwest through the east bay region of California’s San Francisco Bay Area, which has caused approximately 100 km of offset during the last 10 Ma. Along a 30 km segment, between the City of Oakland in the north and the City of Fremont in the south, the Hayward Fault cuts through a tectonic body of Mesozoic granitic and volcanic rocks known as the San Leandro Block. In 2013, the United States Geological Survey (USGS) and the California State University East Bay (CSUEB) collaborated on the East Bay Seismic Experiment (EBE) in order to examine the structure of fault zones in the vicinity of the CSUEB main campus. Sparse-data P-wave tomography from the EBE survey, across the San Leandro Block at a study area on an undeveloped parcel in the City of Hayward, identifies the probable orientation of the Hayward Fault and an unnamed fault in the shallow subsurface of that study area. However, the USGS geophysics group from the Menlo Park Earthquake Science Center is interested in developing high-resolution seismic velocity models and tomographic images across the Hayward Fault Zone at the same study area. On November 18, 2017, the USGS geophysics group in collaboration with researchers from CSUEB coordinated a P-wave seismic survey across the study area. We hand-augured 63 holes with a ~45 cm deep boreholes across a 310 m long survey line as placement locations for a Betsy Seisgun seismic receiver. Our 2017 survey produced a much larger data set than the previous 2013 EBE survey, which used only 3 geophones. Assignment of P-wave source locations was completed by graduate student Collin Quesenbery using SeisImager “PickWin” software supplied by CSUEB. The resultant P-wave velocity data will be processed into a tomographic velocity model with the aid of the USGS. One of our immediate conclusions is the topsoil at our location is highly unconsolidated and caused unusual damping of Seisgun generated P-waves. In response to this first conclusion, we are planning a similar seismic survey across the same study area using a more powerful seismic source than the Betsy Seisgun. Results of this project will be shared between the USGS and CSUEB, and used for Collin Quesenbery’s graduate thesis.

Structural Setting along the Western North Anatolian Fault and Its Influence on the 2014 North Aegean Earthquake (M 6.9)

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We investigated microseismicity, geodetic slip and structural setting along the western North Anatolian Fault NAF to characterize their influence on pre-, co- and post-seismic stages of the 2014 North Aegean Earthquake (M 6.9). We identified the NAF in the NAF mainshock rupture at five basins and two transpressional ridges rather than a single through-going basin. Refined hypocenters indicate that NAF is a narrow shear-zone in the east, and systematically expands towards the west. Microseismicity has a wide spread epicentral pattern at pre-seismic stage of the 2014 earthquake, but later tightens during post-seismic stage. This suggests that pre-seismic strain accumulation was completed on the main fault and transferred to secondary structures. The slip returns back to the main fault following the mainshock. Overall microseismicity pattern shows that seismogenic zone becomes deeper to the west and shallower to the east. Three fault segments merged with two step-overs have failed during the 2014 North Aegean Earthquake rupturing a ~90 km section of the NAF. There, co-seismic slip reaches up to ~80 cm beneath western step-over and remains below ~60 cm beneath eastern step-over. Along fault pre- and co-seismic slips show a complementary pattern verifying that the 2014 mainshock generated the highest slip at pre-seismically locked patches, located beneath transpressure ridges hosting two step-overs. High pre-shock concentrations underneath suggest fracturing at seismogenic basement overcoming frictional strength at these two fault step-overs.

Collecting New High-Resolution Seismic Data across the Hayward Fault Zone

Retrieval of Fine Scale Information Using Seismic Noise

Poster Session · Thursday 17 May · Riverfront South

Improving the Cross-Correlation of Ambient Noise Using Discrete Wavelets

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In recent years the development of techniques of seismic tomography using ambient seismic noise opened new possibilities in the field of scientific and industrial exploration of the Earth’s crust. The major drawback of this technique is the need for large field surveys, with acquisition times usually spanning from a few days to a few months, depending on the specific case. This technique essentially consists in retrieving empirical Green’s functions (GFs) between pairs of stations by cross-correlating the background noise signals to determine surface wave dispersion curves. Depending on the considered frequencies and the distances between the stations, the achievement of reliable GFs depends on the length and the quality of the considered signals. In practice a long recording is split into smaller windows, on which cross-correlations are computed. The resulting functions are then stacked, after removing noisy windows where transient signals may disrupt the retrieval of GFs. In this work we show how the use of the Discrete Wavelet Transform (DWT) offers many benefits in the estimation of GFs. First of all it provides a natural signal separation in dyadic frequency bands, making superfluous the use of spectral normalization of the signals. Furthermore it allows a separate estimation of the GFs in each frequency band, optimizing the elimination of noisy windows and hence reducing the time required for the field surveys. A single processing run, can allow obtaining GFs already separated in different frequency bands. This can be useful for the application of multi-scale inverse method to model the data. We propose a workflow starting from raw seismograms and leading to separate GFs for each frequency band. We test the proposed method on datasets acquired on Tenerife (Canary Islands) with the purpose of ambient noise tomography for geothermal exploration. We compare the retrieved results with those obtained with standard approaches.

Crustal Radial Anisotropy Model along the Polenet-Anet Transect

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Radial anisotropy, also called transverse radial isotropy, can indicate the dominant orientations of crustal fabrics. Along with isotropic velocities, radial anisotropy is a key component to understand crustal structures and their history. It can be extracted from the discrepancy between Rayleigh and Love wave propagation speed, indicating a difference between vertically polarized shear-wave speed and horizontally polarized shear-wave speed, respectively. It is only since the emer-
The LARGE-MEM project is a small-scale but dense noise-based study aiming at better understanding rainfall and groundwater storage effects on seismic velocities measured by a dense seismic network. The goal of LARGE-MEM is to demonstrate that the actual quantity and location of water in the subsurface can be estimated from measurements using a LargeN array. To achieve this, the data from superconducting and absolute gravimeters located in a gallery under the study site will be used to measure precisely the mass of water sampled by the seismic waves. In this communication, we report on the first tests of the recently developed nodes and their deployment on the forested hill.

Seismicity in the Taquari Megafan: Pantanal Basin in Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil

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Pantalán is a sedimentary basin of quaternary age, located in the center-west region of Brazil, in the Upper Paraguay River Basin, constituting a seismogenic zone. The physiography of the area is characterized by the presence of fluvial mega-fans, mostly sandy, modern and associated with fault lines and structural lineaments. The Taquari Megafan is the largest of the Pantanal fluvialfans, constituting, therefore, the most remarkable feature of the basin seismicity. The region is structured by faults of reverse type generated under compressive stress, coinciding with epicenters of current earthquakes, which are evidenced by instrumental data. In the Mato Grosso do Sul state, the first seismographic station installed was the Aquisidania (AQDA)—MS, in May 2003, being an important landmark for seismology, as part of a research project titled “Integrated Seismographic Network of Brazil (BRASS)”, with the Institute of Astronomy, Geophysics and Atmospheric Sciences (IAG—USP). The seismic data analyzed presented magnitudes ≥ 3.5, between 2003 and 2017. Six seismic events were recorded in Pantanal, four of which occurred in the Taquari Megafan, with magnitudes ranging from 3.5 to 4.8 Ms. Thus, it was possible to identify a major seismogenic zone in the Pantanal Sedimentary Basin, in the Neocolluvial area. The two most significant earthquakes that had their calculated focal mechanisms occurred in Coxim (2009) and Miranda (2015), with magnitudes 4.8 and 4.0Mw, respectively, with depths around 5 km, as the result of transpressive and compressive stresses in both cases. Despite the presence of in subsidence, the neotectonic stresses in the upper crust are compressive. The Pantanal Basin crustal thinning might be considered one of the hypotheses of its origin which is related to its seismicity.
Near-Real-Time Ground Failure Estimates: A New USGS Real-Time Earthquake Product

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We present a newly-developed USGS product that provides quantitative estimates of the severity and extent of earthquake-triggered landslide and liquefaction hazards in near-real-time for significant earthquakes worldwide. We anticipate that this product will be helpful for situational awareness and response efforts. The product is integrated with the existing suite of USGS real-time earthquake products. The algorithm receives shaking estimates from ShakeMap and provides outputs consistent with direct use by the USGS loss estimation products (PAGER and ShakeCast) and downloadable in standard GIS formats for other purposes. The summary webpage consists of interactive maps displaying preferred and alternative models for each ground failure type along with summary statistics, providing a basis for direct comparison between differing models and different triggering events. Optional alert levels based on the estimated hazard and population exposure can be used to rapidly identify earthquakes for which one or both of these ground failure hazard types may present a significant concern.

The maps may be particularly useful when direct observations of ground failure are not possible due to time-of-day, weather conditions, or remote and rugged terrain. The product may also be applied to analyze significant past or future (“scenario”) earthquakes. This initial product provides the base upon which we aim to build more sophisticated ground failure models and derivative products. Continued evaluation of models against recent datasets is required, as is iterative evaluation of the product presentation based on both peer and user feedback. Ongoing research and development includes (1) interpreting ground failure probabilities in the context of rapid ground failure estimation using satellite image deracorations, and (2) incorporating more site-specific geotechnical constraints in the place of the global proxies for which the models were calibrated.

Tectonic Classification of Earthquakes for Gmpe Selection


Tectonic classification of earthquakes is a key component of the USGS Global ShakeMap system because it serves as the basis for the selection of ground motion prediction equations (GMPEs). GMPE selection has a significant impact on the estimated ground motion intensities and therefore downstream USGS products (e.g., PAGER, ShakeCast). The current method of earthquake regionalization provides a seismotectonic classification of the event (e.g., “subduction zone interface” or “active crustal”), which is then mapped to an appropriate GMPE. The existing algorithm needs to be updated to account for issues that were not originally anticipated, such as the classification of induced earthquakes, and to account for the uncertainty of the classification. Uncertainty in the classification arises from many sources, including (1) uncertainty in the location of the earthquake and its treatment as a point source, 2) uncertainty in the focal mechanism, and 3) the precision of the boundaries between different tectonic environments. In the presence of such inherent uncertainty in the classification, we propose a probabilistic approach, where all classes are assigned a likelihood, rather than reporting a single “best guess” classification. The resulting ground motions are computed as a weighted combination of the GMPEs that are assigned to each region, where each region may be assigned one or more GMPEs with varying weights. This approach accounts for the uncertainty inherent to model selection by minimizing artificial changes in ShakeMap versions due to a change in the tectonic classification. Our primary motivation is for assigning GMPEs in ShakeMap, but we do anticipate several other applications, such as the development of probabilistic seismic hazard models and earthquake early warning alerts.

ShakeMaps for Nicaragua and Central America Based on Seiscomp3 at INETER

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Since 2016 SED and INETER are working jointly to build a prototype earthquake early warning and earthquake rapid information system for Nicaragua and also potentially for other countries in Central America (CAM). The project primarily requires implementing and testing state-of-the-art software and standard seismological services / tools in Nicaragua, and optimising the seismic network performance and design, targeting minimal latencies for real-time applications. ShakeMap is amongst the products calibrated and delivered within this project. We present herein the initial customisation of USGS ShakeMap 3.5 for Nicaragua and CAM, and encourage community contributions to further developments. The system, ShakeMapCAM (http://shakemapcam.ethz.ch), produces near-real-time maps of different ground-motion intensity measures (IMs)—MMI, PGA and PGV—for each M4+ earthquake in the region. It is triggered by automatic and manual locations made on an authoritative SeisComP3 (SCPS) server at INETER. Real-time operations started in Nov. 2016, and all M5+ events in the INETER SCP3 catalogue in the period Sept. 2014—Oct. 2016 were processed offline. We chose the ground-motion models (GMMs) based on the 2010 RESIS-II Seismic Hazard Model for CAM, including regionalisation according to the source depth. Peak ground motions are converted to MMI using global conversion equations. Local site amplification is accounted for through Vz,30 conversion equations. Local site data sharing across networks in CAM is excellent and should continue to improve in the framework of our joint project, ShakeMapCAM can serve the wider region. Alternatively, since most regional networks also operate SCPS, similar versions can run in each country. Future work will include: updating the site amplification model using local information; improving the shaking predictions based on local data and the weighted average of different GMMs; broadening the options for IMs; transitioning to ShakeMap 4.

Estimating Fatalities Associated with Seismically Induced Landslides

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Earthquake-induced landslides cause a significant portion of earthquake-related fatalities and economic losses, and can have long-lasting negative societal impacts. We present a method to estimate the impact of seismically induced landslides on affected populations using the output of the USGS near-real-time earthquake products. Using a newly developed, comprehensive dataset of 196 historical earthquakes, including 127 events with known landslide fatality counts, we develop an empirical model that estimates the order of magnitude of potential fatalities based on the exposure of population to expected landslide occurrence. Using the grid of landslide probabilities output by the USGS Ground Failure earthquake product, we estimate population exposure by multiplying the predicted probability grid with a gridded global population database adjusted for population growth. We then sum over the entire grid for each event, and term this the predicted ‘landslide exposure index.’ We examine income level of the country of each earthquake as a secondary factor to represent relative vulnerability of the surrounding area. We compare these values to the number of actual fatalities for 91 training events in order to calibrate a model that can be used to predict the order of magnitude of potential fatalities due to plausible future earthquakes using scenario earthquakes. We observe a significant positive correlation between predicted and observed fatalities, with high variability in fatality rates for similar exposure levels. This suggests that other factors (e.g., building type, time of day, landslide density, effect of urbanization on population) may improve this estimate. Ultimately, the outputs of this method can be integrated into the USGS near-real-time earthquake information system. The outputs can provide input for use in the Global Ground Failure Alert system as well as also an estimate of landslide fatalities, which are currently not included in PAGER’s loss estimates.

The 1918 Puerto Rico Earthquake as a Test Case of ShakeMap 4.0 Multi-GMPE Capabilities


Puerto Rico has experienced strong, damaging earthquakes over its 500-year history due to its proximity to the plate boundary zone between the Caribbean and North American plates. The relative infrequency of these earthquakes, and their associated tsunamis, when compared to the much more pressing concern presented by the yearly hurricane season, means that the very real threat of another destructive earthquake is often overlooked. Yet, as demonstrated by the October 11, 1918 Mona Passage earthquake—in which 116 people were killed and damage was widespread over western parts of the island—the seismic hazard to Puerto Rico is considerable. The macroseismic observations across Puerto Rico from the 1918 event are well described in a classic Earthquake Investigation Report towards the Maracaibo block.

Intensity Prediction Equations for Costa Rica

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In this study, we approximate the expected Modified Mercalli Intensity (MMI) for earthquakes in Costa Rica by calculating an Intensity Prediction Equation (IPE) and by using instrumental records. The IPE relates MMI with Magnitude (Mw) and hypocentral distance (R) and has been determined based on 3581 reported intensities from 13 recent earthquakes with magnitudes between 4.9 and 7.7 Mw. The general equation obtained is: \( MMI = 2.07 + 1.538M + 0.0016R - 3.952\log R \) Two additional IPE were determined for subduction and crustal earthquake. Our results show that there is a larger attenuation for crustal earthquake as compared to subduction. In the case of the instrumental intensity maps, we utilized the grid motion recordings of the National Seismological Network of Costa Rica (RSN) and reported intensities for three relevant events (4.9, 5.4, and 5.5 Mw) during 2016. For these instrumental intensity maps, we conclude that Ground Motion to Intensity Conversion Equation (WA99) and the Ground Motion Conversion Equation (ZH06) best fit the observed intensities and may be used for the Costa Rican tectonic context. The MMI estimation based on IPE and instrumental maps represent an effort to provide automatic intensity estimations after earthquakes and are very important for emergency response and seismic hazard assessment.

Structure and Geodynamics of the Caribbean Plate Boundaries

Poster Session · Thursday 17 May · Riverfront South

2-D Modeling of the Crustal Structure of Merida Andes, Venezuela, from Wide-Angle Seismic and Gravity Studies

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The Merida Andes (MA) is an orography delimiting the Maracaibo block to the west, in response to the subduction of the Caribbean Plate beneath South American continent. 2-D seismic and gravity modeling of the crustal structure of MA was carried out along the profile Central Andes with a length of 380 km from the coast of Falcon, crossing perpendicular to the mountain range of the MA until its southeastern end in the Barinas-Apure basin. In the seismic data obtained from 11 shot points with 0.2 to 1 tons of explosive charges and recorded by 480 Texan recorders, we observed critical PnP reflections at distances of about 60 km for the northern part of the profile (Falcon Basin), and 120 to 90 km for the central and southern part of the profile, corresponding to the axis of the orogen and the Barinas Basin, respectively. Derived values for the depth of the Moho discontinuity range from 29 km depth for the Falcon basin, to 40–53 km close to the core of the chain, and 35 km at the southern end of the profile in Barinas basin. The crustal root is defined with a maximum depth of 53 km, which is displaced with respect to the highest part of the chain at this segment, approximately 10 km towards the northwest. 325 gravity stations were acquired along the profile and modeled together with satellite gravity data in a high resolution 2D gravity forward model, which confirms the strong variations of the thickness of the crustal root and its asymmetry.

Cenozoic sediments with a P-wave velocity (Vp) ranging from 2 to 4 km/s are underlain by Cretaceous sediments, (Vp = 4 to 5 km/s) and modeled together with satellite gravity data in a high resolution 2D grav-
Puerto Rico Seismic Network’s (PRSN) current 1-D crustal structure velocity model is more than 20 years old. Since then, the PRSN has increased its detection capability by increasing station coverage and upgrading existing equipment. Anecdotal evidence from senior data analysts indicate that travel time residuals vary with azimuth. Analysts have observed that data from stations in the northwest region of Puerto Rico demonstrate consistently high travel time residuals for earthquakes located on the eastern side of the island and vice versa. To examine and quantify the anecdotal evidence of this behavior, travel time curves were generated for four PRSN seismic stations located at Aguadilla (AGPR), Caba Rojo (CRPR), Vieques (MTP) and Angadã (ABVI). The travel-time curves were generated using all available PRSN pick data from 19,689 earthquakes between January 2010 and December 2016. For each station of the travel time curves, travel time residuals and azimuthal variation of the travel time curve and residuals were generated. The analysis showed consistent non-symmetric residuals in AGPR, with excess negative residuals and MTP with positive residuals, relating to probable high and low lithospheric velocity structures respectively. The travel time curves for these stations are consistent with the anomalies observed in the residuals. The travel time curve for CRPR also exhibited anomalous behavior consistent with observation at AGPR but did not have anomalous residuals. The analysis indicates that the Puerto Rico and Virgin Island region exhibits complex 3D structures. Further studies are required to identify and characterize the regional 3D crustal velocity model.

Lithospheric Structure beneath Northwestern Venezuela from Deep Seismic Profiling

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Northwestern Venezuela is located in a zone of complex deformation due to the Caribbean-South American plate interactions. Several models regarding the shallow and deep structure of the region have been proposed. Nevertheless, most of these studies are based on basin-scale observations, and they lack crustal observations in order to support the interpretation of lithospheric structures. In 2014, new deep seismic profiles have been acquired across the Merida Andes orogenic belt, and the adjacent sedimentary basins, with 2000 km of 2D seismic profiles. It is presented an integrated analysis of the 560 km long Northern Andes seismic profile, oriented in a NW direction, covering areas from the Proterozoic basement of Guayanashield to both Paleozoic and Mesozoic-Cenozoic terranes. The profile cuts perpendicular to the main Boconostrike-slip fault system, aiming to image the collision zones (sutures), the crustal and lithospheric structure, and its evolution. In 2014, 2-D P-wave models from first arrival tomography and ray tracing modeling show velocities between 3.2–5.7 km/s for sedimentary cover; 6.1–6.5 km/s for upper crust, and 6.7 to 7.2, and 7.8 to 8.4 km/s for lower crust and upper mantle, respectively. The most prominent features imaged were a crustal thinning beneath the Falcon basin due to a previous history as a back-arc basin. In addition, lateral variability suggests collisional process related to suture zones between both Proterozoic and Paleozoic, and Paleozoic and Mesozoic-Cenozoic provinces. No crustal root associated to the Merida Andes was observed, contrary to the two southernmost profiles, indicating that the Northern Andes profile is located north of the Andean crustal domain. Finally, the Caribbean slab was observed in a low-angle subduction context beneath NW South America.

Crustal Structure in the Dominican Republic from Receiver Function Analysis

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The Democratic Republic (DR) comprises the eastern two-thirds of the island of Hispaniola, which is located on the Caribbean-North American plate border. Geological studies have led to a description of the shallow structure and structural origin of the island but little is known about the lower crust and mantle due to a dearth of broadband seismic data. Since August 2013 a seismic network consisting of 20 broadband, three-component seismic stations has been deployed in the DR. Here we report on a receiver function study of crustal thickness and bulk composition using teleseismic P-wave data. We compute teleseismic receiver functions using an iterative time domain deconvolution technique and determine structural properties via H -c stacking. Three distinct, fault-bounded crustal domains, defined by characteristic Moho depths and bulk crustal Vs/Vp ratios, are found in the DR. In the northern domain, the Moho has an average depth of ~32 km with Vp/Vs ratio 1.84 ± 0.1. Moho depths in the southern domain average ~33 km and Vp/Vs averages 1.68 ± 0.1. Thicker crust is found beneath the Cordillera Central, in the island’s center, where Moho depths average ~39 km and Vp/Vs is ~1.72 ± 0.1, while the crust at coastal areas of Dominican Republic has Moho depths of ~29 km and Vp/Vs of 1.77 ± 0.1. An E-W transect across the island’s center and four N-S transects were produced to show variations of crustal thickness and bulk Vp/Vs ratios. We interpret the southern domain to be a terrane accreted from the Caribbean Large Igneous Province. The thicker crust and average Vp/Vs ratio in the island’s center likely indicates an igneous root of the Cordillera Central, which includes Pico Duarte, the highest peak in the Caribbean.

Lithospheric Structure and Tectonic Implications of the Dominican Republic from Local and Teleseismic Tomography

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Oblique convergence between the Caribbean (CAR) and North American (NOAM) plates near Hispaniola and the island’s observed clockwise rotation have led to competing hypotheses to explain its tectonics. Clockwise rotation of Hispaniola could be the result of slab edge push generated by (a) subducting NOAM plate, (b) two subducted lithospheric slabs, one southward-dipping from the NOAM plate and one northward-dipping from the CAR Plate at the Muertos Trough interacting at depth, or (c) collision with the carbonate Bahamas Platform. Any of these scenarios or a combination of them can cause intermediate-depth earthquakes. Examining the location of intermediate depth earthquakes along with regional tomography, recorded via a dense temporary network of seismic stations, has the potential to resolve differences between competing hypotheses. A new 1D P velocity model was determined and then used as a starting model for iterative, nonlinear inversion for 3D structure. A catalog of over 2000 teleseismic events and 200 moderate-sized local events recorded by a total of 30 stations during the interval 2013–2017 is used. The catalog averages 25 P and 5 S wave arrival picks per event with the largest local event magnitude being 5.8. While some events are located as deep as 185 km, over 80% are shallower than 35 km. The intermediate-depth earthquakes appear to be associated with a slow P velocity anomaly. The shape of the slow anomaly suggests a southward-dipping NOAM subducting slab with a change in dip from 30° to 50° at ~67 km depth. Deeper intermediate-depth earthquakes mark the leading edge of the deforming seafloor. Seafloor uplift appears to be the NOAM slab at ~100 km depth. A second slower velocity zone extends to the surface beneath central Hispaniola and may be associated with the uplifted Cordillera Central, which includes Pico Duarte, the highest peak in the Caribbean. There is no indication in the tomography of a northward-dipping CAR slab subducted beneath eastern Hispaniola.

Shear Wave Velocity Structure of the Lithosphere beneath the Eastern Caribbean Revealed by Ambient Noise Tomography

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We investigate shear-wave velocity structure of the eastern Caribbean lithosphere using continuous seismic records from broadband stations deployed around the study area. We construct cross-correlation functions of ambient noise for two time periods, 2003–2005 and 2011–2013, based on data availability. Phase velocities of fundamental-mode Rayleigh waves are measured from the daily stacked cross-correlation functions using a phase-matched-filter based method and they are further projected on a set of 2x2 grids, as suggested by checkerboard tests. The grid phase velocity dispersion data are inverted for 1D shear velocity profiles. The 3D velocity model indicates that the mean shear velocity in the lithospheric mantle is lower than the global average. Similar results have been
An Empirical Model for Fourier Amplitude Spectra Using the NGA-West2 Database

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We develop an empirical ground-motion model (GMM) for Fourier amplitude spectra (FAS) using the PEER NGA-W2 database of ground motions from crustal earthquakes (Ancheta et al., 2014). GMMs have traditionally been developed for 5%-damped response spectra (PSA), however, there are some available models for FAS (e.g. Bora et al., 2015; Stafford et al., 2006; Yenier and Atkinson, 2015). There are two key advantages of developing FAS model over PSA models: the FAS is more closely related to the physical behavior so that it can apply seismological constraints to the GM; and the Fourier spectrum is linear which allows ground motion from small magnitude earthquake to be used to constrain the linear path and linear site effects without the spectral shape dependence of PSA. The GMM features a magnitude scaling formulation guided by Chiou and Youngs (2014). Large-magnitude near-fault saturation to capture the effects of extended ruptures is included and guided by broadband simulations up to MB8.

The GMM features stronger near-fault magnitude scaling (less saturation) than the CY14 model for PSA. The model includes terms for anelastic attenuation, site effects (Vs and kappa), style of faulting, hanging wall, and depth to top of rupture. The model coefficients are smoothed in a series of steps to assure smooth spectra and to constrain the extrapolation. An essential feature of forward-application for GMMs is their ability to reliably extrapolate to the key large magnitude and short-distance ranges that often control the hazard. This allows the GMMs to be applied beyond the ranges well constrained by empirical data. Our model is applicable to crustal earthquakes in the range M3–8, with rupture distances 0–300 km, for sites with Vs30 between 150–2,000 m/s, and over the frequency range 0.1–100 Hz. Models for the between-event, within-event, and total standard deviation at frequencies up to 3 Hz. The standard deviation of the calculated response spectrum on a planar fault to produce realistic ground motion. Andrews and Ma (2016) compared ground motion at a Joyner-Boore distance of 10 km for MW 7 earthquakes on a vertical strike-slip fault. The calculated mean response spectrum matches the target moment magnitude due to the change of fault aspect ratio.

We propose to use an emulator as a computationally efficient approximation to hazard calculations that can be used to address these questions. The emulator is estimated based on a few hazard runs for varying inputs, and is subsequently used to perform inferences about the distribution of hazard results for uncertain inputs.

Further Validation of a Dynamic Earthquake Model to Produce Realistic Near-FIELD Ground Motion

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I further validate the dynamic earthquake model of Andrews and Ma (2016), which uses heterogeneous stress drop with a self-similar power-law spatial spectrum on a planar fault to produce realistic ground motion. Andrews and Ma (2016) compared ground motion at a Joyner-Boore distance of 10 km for MW 7 earthquakes on a vertical strike-slip fault. The calculated mean response spectrum of 10 random realizations agrees remarkably well with the ground-motion prediction equation (GMPE) of Boore et al. (2014), which is within 25% of one standard deviation at frequencies up to 3 Hz. The standard deviation of the calculated ground motion is a substantial fraction of that of the GMPE. I focus on MW 6.5 vertical strike-slip earthquakes, where the fault dimension reduces approximately by a factor of 2 due to the change of fault aspect ratio. This lowest Fourier mode determines the amplitudes of higher modes and is the fundamental parameter in the Andrews and Ma (2016) model; other adjustable parameters have secondary effects. Again standard deviations of the pseudospectral velocity (PSV) and peak ground velocity (PGV) show a large fraction of those of the GMPE up to 3 Hz. However, the means of PSV and PGV from the model slightly underestimate those of the GMPE. One possible reason is less of directivity effect for a smaller fault for M6.5. Another important reason may be that modeled ruptures extended all the way to the surface. Buried ruptures generate higher ground motion than surface-rupturing events (Dalguer et al., 2008; Pitarka et al., 2009). I am investigating the effect of limiting the rupture extent to depth and will provide the latest results on the validation.
simulated ground motion and estimate their variability with respect to GMPE-based methods (e.g., Vyas et al., 2016). However, such simulations require detailed modelling of the earthquake source and precise quantification of its effect on ground motions. In this study, we simulate ground motions for M7 strike slip earthquakes for a dense grid of stations with source-to-site distances 1≤R≤20 km. To focus on source-related effects, we assume initially a homogenous half space. We create rupture scenarios with different hypocenter locations on a rupture plane with constant slip, rise time and rupture velocity. Our results show strong distance-dependence of PGV in the along-strike direction of the fault, which can be explained by the isochrone theory. However, in the fault-normal direction, the theory works differently for near field (<5 km) and far field PGV. Furthermore, simulated ground motions are found to be lower for shallow (H=3 km) compared to deeper focal depths (H=13 km). Considering the local on-fault rupture evolution and the radiation-pattern effects, we conjecture that as the rupture propagates towards these sites, seismic radiation is more dispersed, hence leading to lower ground motions. We investigate the source effect on ground motion variability by varying the rupture velocity, focal depth and slip distribution on rupture plane.

Investigation of the Regional Effects on Ground Motion Predictive Models for Western Turkey: Preliminary Results

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Regional differences in ground-motion amplitudes are investigated by using the conventional residual analyses of strong-motion and broad-band data compiled from the Marmara and Aegean regions in Turkey. A ground-motion dataset compiled from the earthquakes occurred between 1976 and 2017 is used for this purpose. The lower magnitude limit of the dataset is ML 3.5 whereas epicentral distances of the recordings are within 300 km. The events are shallow crustal having hypocentral depths less than 30 km. Simple H/V ratios of accelerograms are calculated to estimate resonance frequencies for strong-motion stations lacking geotechnical/geophysical investigations. This procedure led the soil classification of ground motions recorded at these stations. Geometric means of horizontal peak accelerations (PGA) as well as 5% damped linear elastic response accelerations (Sa) at various structural periods are calculated and are used together with the most recent local ground-motion predictive model by Kale et al. (2015; BSSA 105, 963–980) that is exclusively developed from the strong-motion accelerograms collected from entire Turkey. The between- and within-event residuals are computed separately for Marmara and Aegean Regions, which feature two distinct seismotectonic regimes, and they suggest biased ground-motion estimates in terms of source and path. The biased ground-motion estimates advocate the influence of regional differences that Kale et al. cannot capture because this model is not sensitive to regional variations in stress drop, anelastic attenuation or geometrical spreading in mainland Turkey. The results of this study will serve to develop a region-dependent ground-motion predictive model for Turkey that will be a product of the “Updating and Extending the European Seismic Hazard Model” task in SERA project (Horizon 2020—Seismology and Earthquake Engineering Research Infrastructure Alliance for Europe).

Assessment of Strong Ground Motion Variability in Japan

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The variability (sigma) of ground motion has a significant impact on seismic hazard and risk assessment on a regional scale. The residuals between observed and predicted ground motions (using a ground-motion prediction equation, GMPE) are used to assess the repeatable source, path and site effects. Quantifying residuals by removing the ergodic assumption and thereby (hopefully) reducing the total sigma associated with GMPE helps to more accurately quantify the hazard levels, in particular at low probabilities of exceedance. In this study, we investigate variations in sigma and its components (source-specific, path-specific and site-specific), the between-event variability (τ) and within-event variability (Φ) using strong motion data from Japanese KiK network. The analysis is carried out on 3000 recordings, from 80 shallow earthquakes recorded at 128 sites at distances 8 ≤ 150 km. We apply the GMPE for shallow crustal earthquakes for Japan by Zhao et al. (2016) as reference to predict the geometric mean of the horizontal peak ground accelerations and response spectral ordinates in the period range 0.01–5 s. The dataset is divided into clusters of recordings from earthquakes to estimate location and path terms following the region-less approach (Lin et al. 2011). These location and path terms are correlated, such that the degree of correlation depends on the separation distance between paths which is quantified by the closeness index (CI). We then calculate the between-event and within-event variability, and bin the data for different spectral acceleration values at periods of 0.01, 0.1, 0.3, 0.5, 1 and 3 s. The between-event variability accounts for different source parameters (e.g. stress drop, rise time, rupture velocity), while the within-event variability accounts for the radiation pattern, directivity, 3-D wave propagation, and site response. These spatial correlations can be incorporated into site-specific GMPE for more accurate ground motion predictions.