

# Earth Science Applications of Space Based Geodesy

DES-7355

Tu-Th

9:40-11:05

Seminar Room in 3892 Central Ave. (Long building)

Bob Smalley

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678-4929

Office Hours – Wed 14:00-16:00 or if I'm in my office.

[http://www.ceri.memphis.edu/people/smalley/ESCI7355/ESCI\\_7355\\_Applications\\_of\\_Space\\_Based\\_Geodesy.html](http://www.ceri.memphis.edu/people/smalley/ESCI7355/ESCI_7355_Applications_of_Space_Based_Geodesy.html)

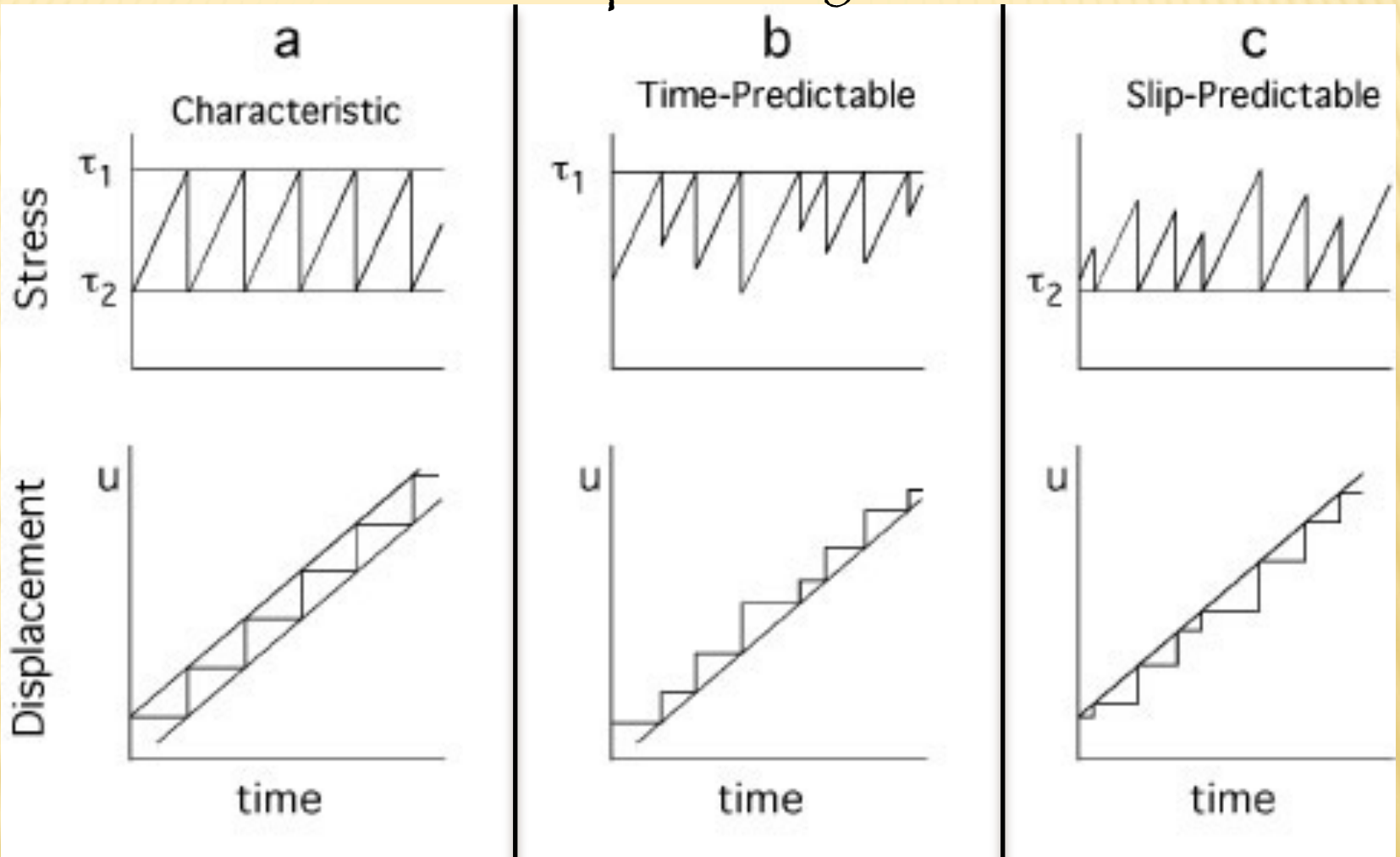
Class 13



# Dynamics: “Physics” of earthquakes



# Earthquake “cycle”



Gives time and size of next earthquake. Seismic gap theory is application of this model.

Gives time, but not size of next earthquake.

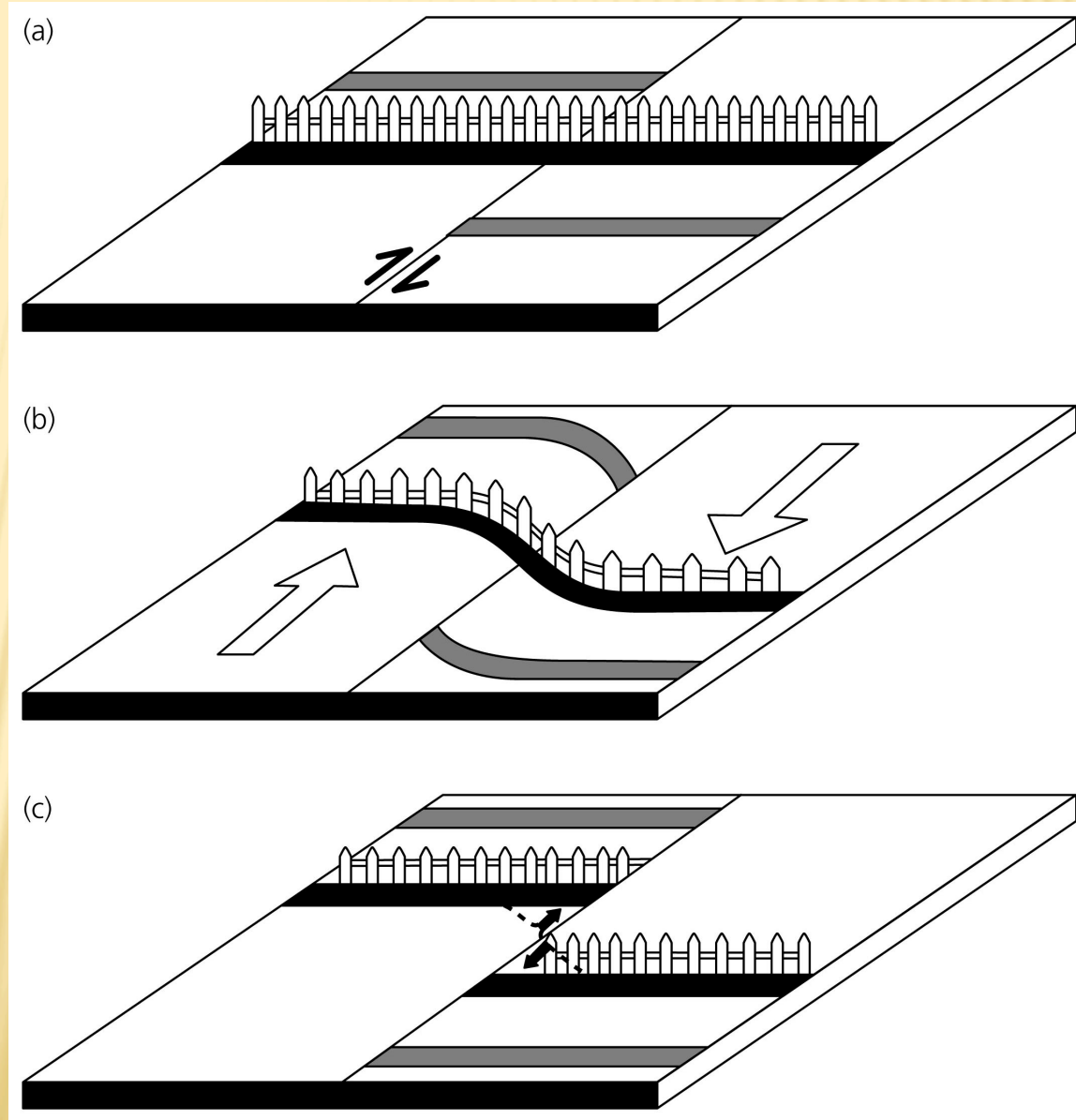
Gives size of next earthquake for any selected time in future.

# Reid's ELASTIC REBOUND OR SEISMIC CYCLE MODEL

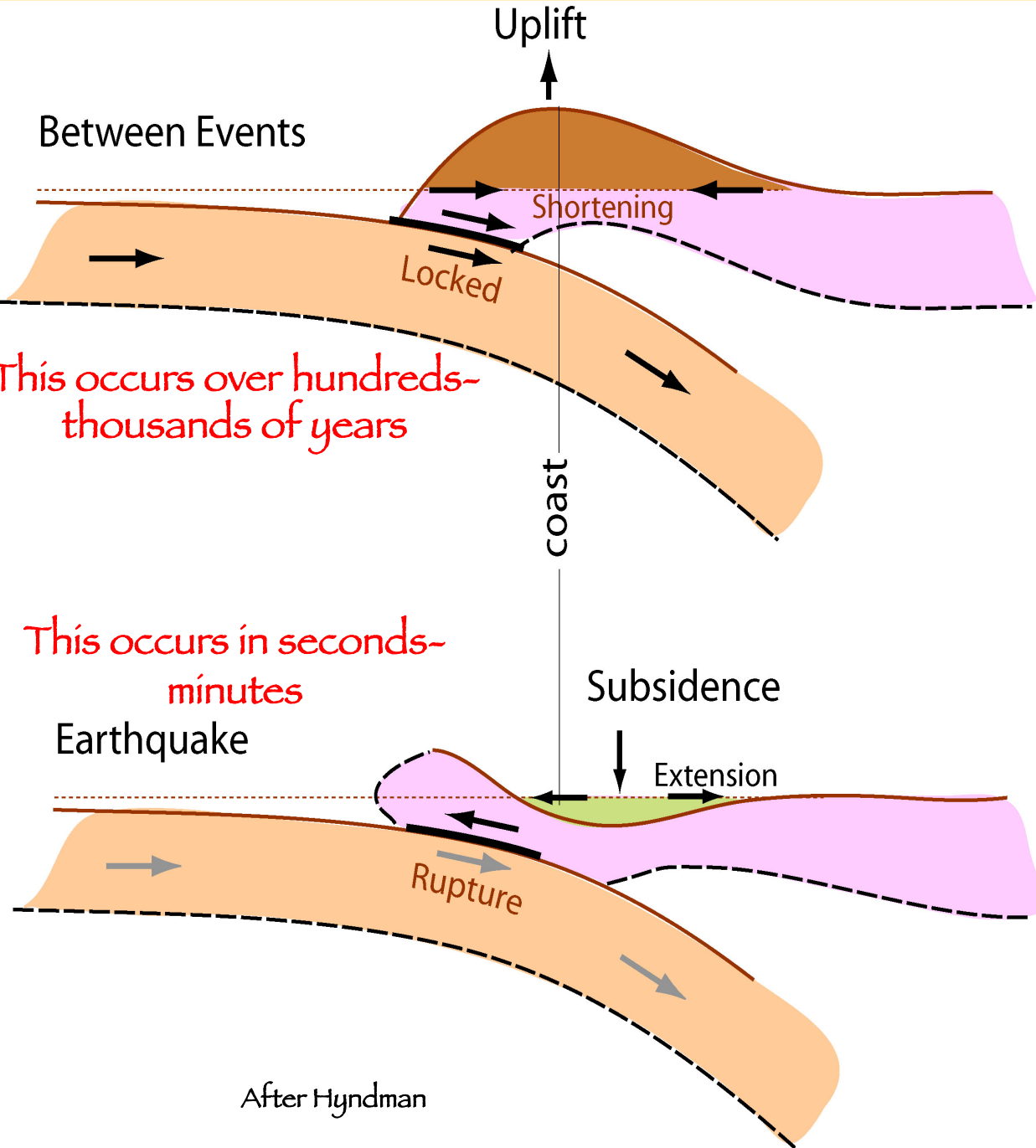
Materials at distance on opposite sides of the fault move relative to each other, but friction on the fault "locks" it and prevents slip

Eventually strain accumulated is more than the rocks on the fault can withstand, and the fault slips in earthquake

Earthquake reflects regional deformation

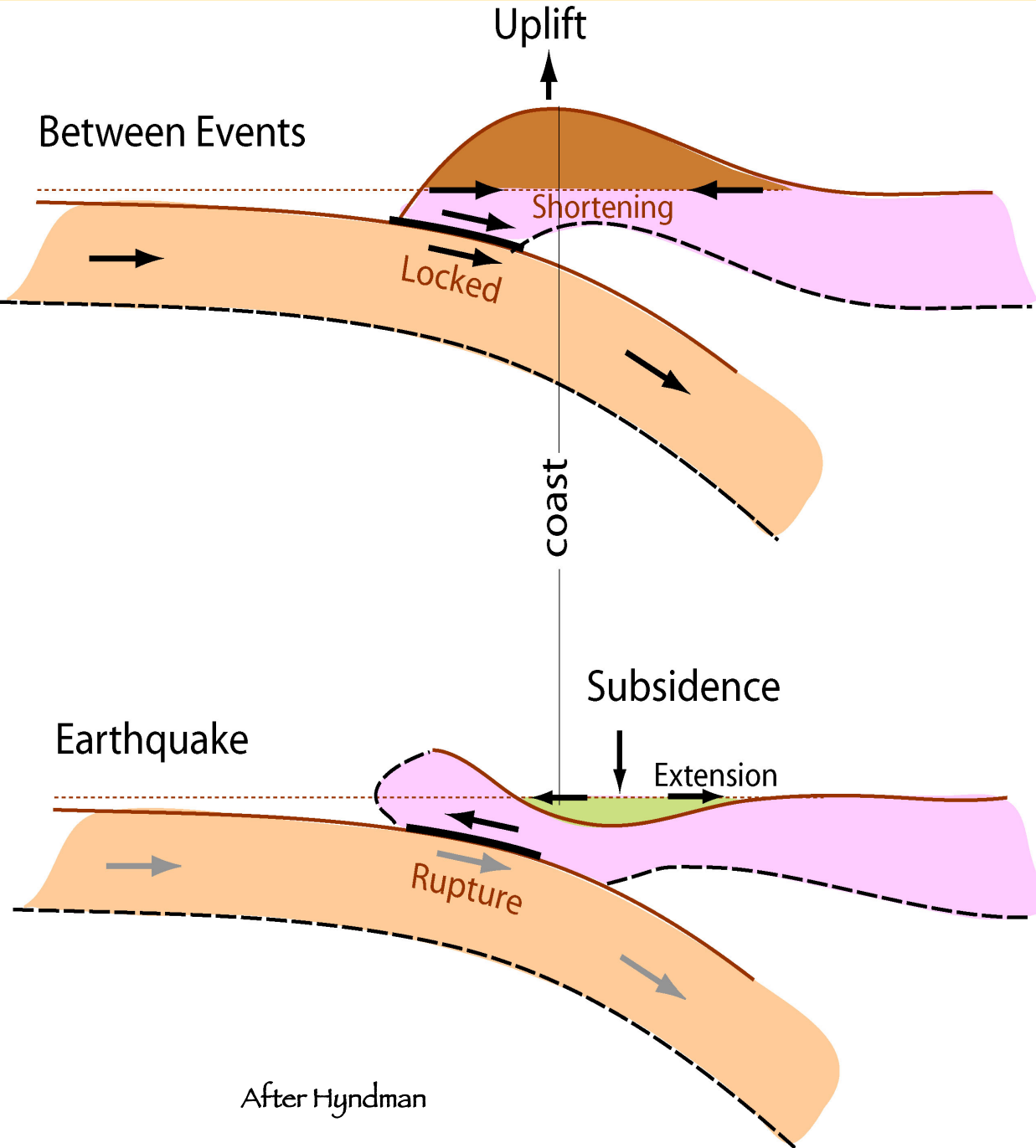






Subduction zone  
version of Elastic  
Rebound:

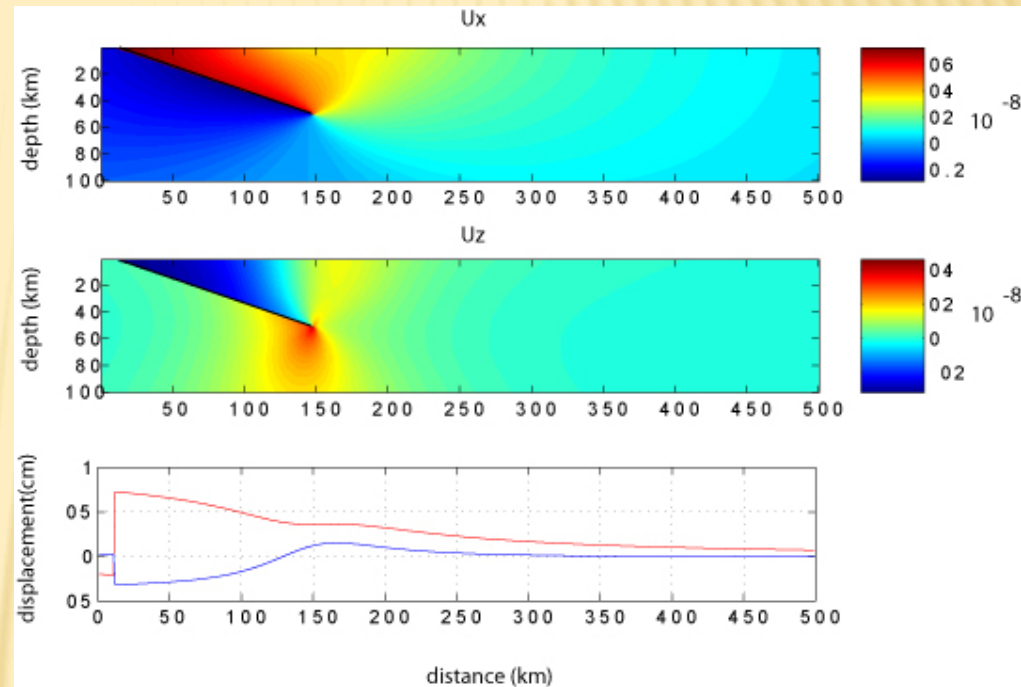
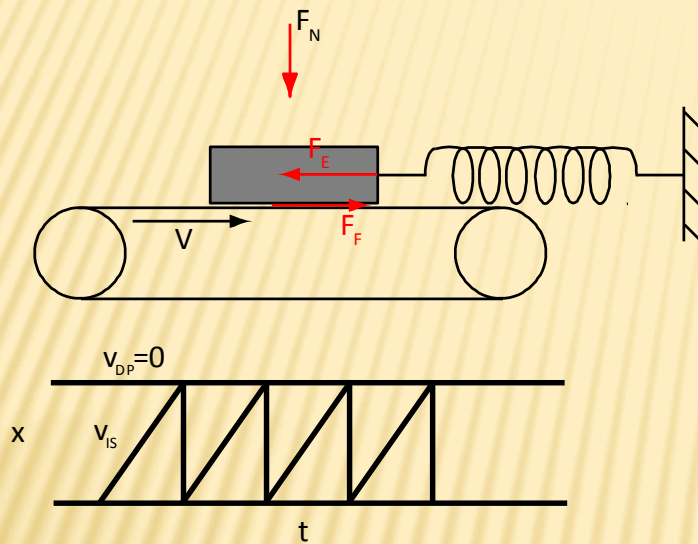
Cartoons for  
upper plate  
deformation  
during the  
interseismic  
(between  
earthquakes)  
and seismic  
(earthquake)  
stages of the  
earthquake cycle.



We will not look at  
each of the two  
parts individually.

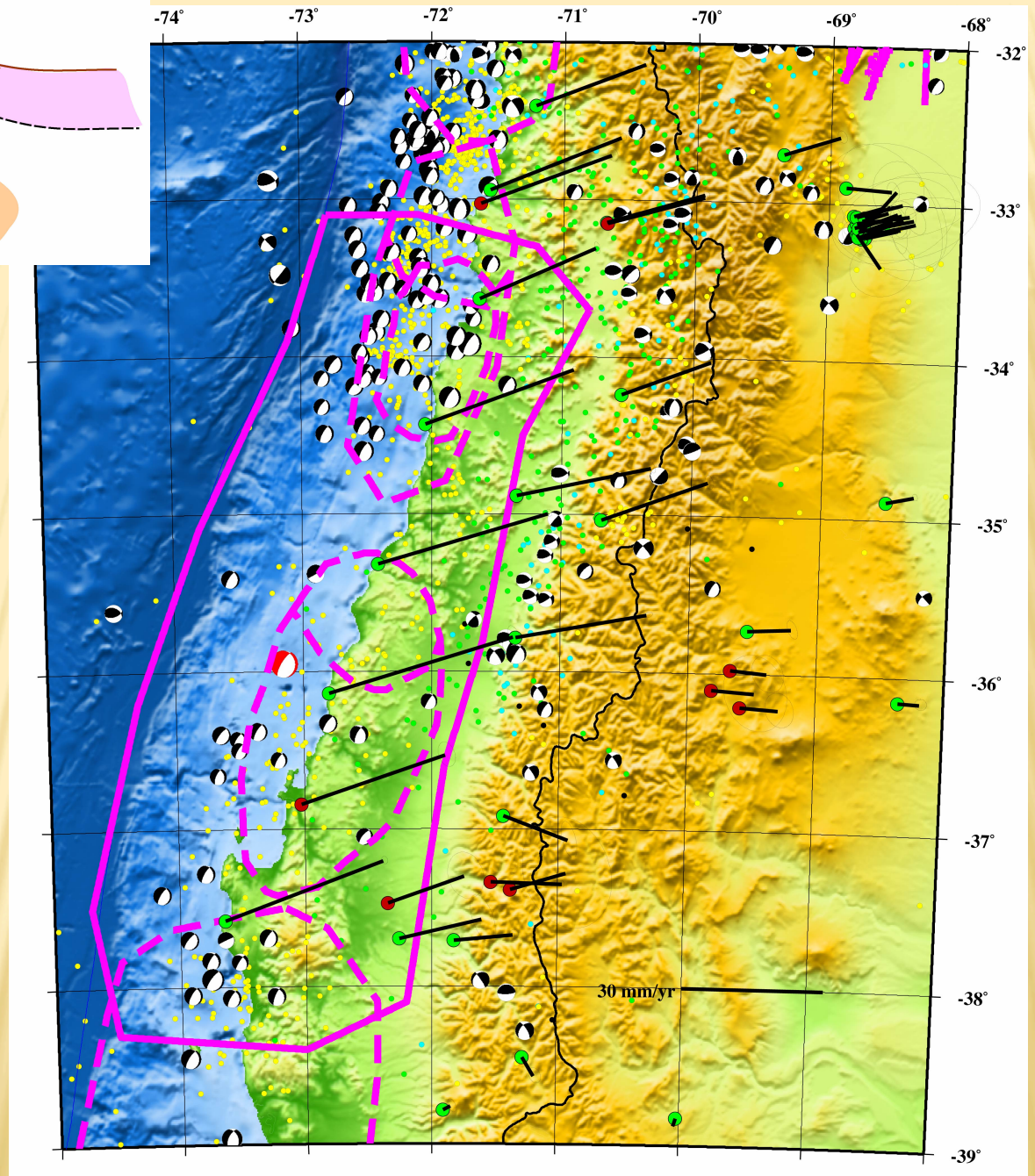
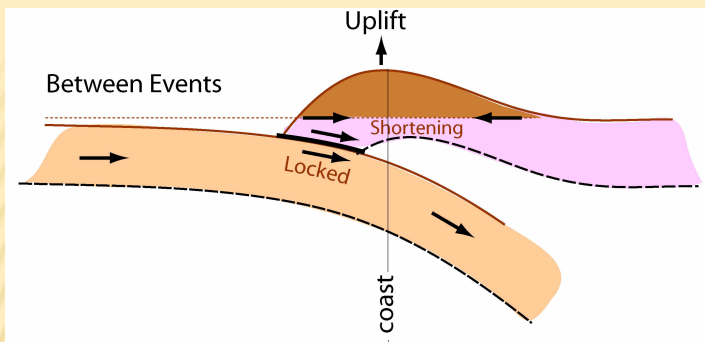
The earthquake  
first.

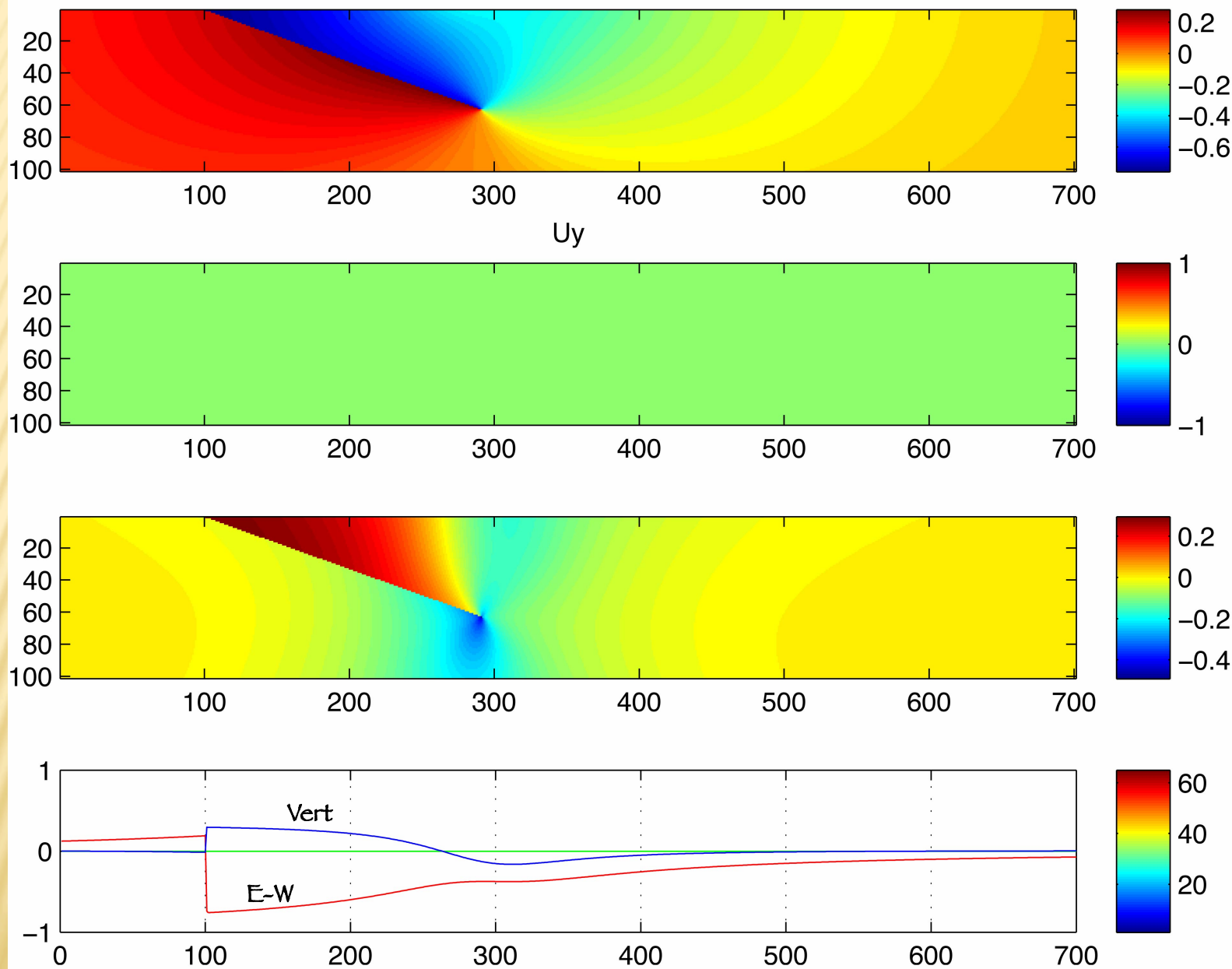
# Elastic modeling of subduction process



No permanent deformation (no mountains)

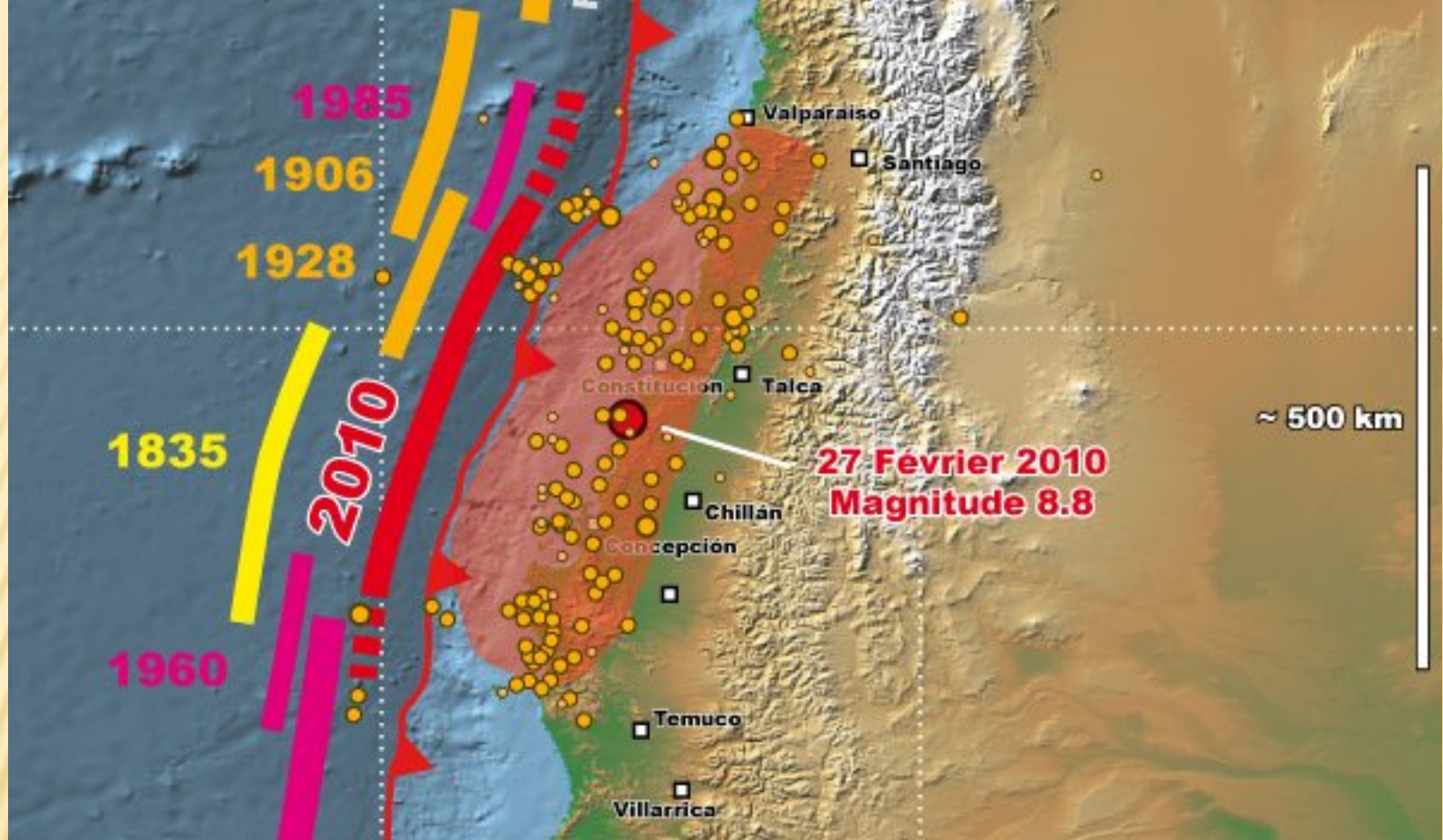






Elastic modeling of co-seismic deformation





Historical seismicity

Ruegg (2009) – no earthquake since 1835  $\Rightarrow$  “mature seismic gap”.

Estimated slip (rate  $\times$  time) and max 8–8.5 from slip, but not rupture length.

Montessus de Ballore and Lacassin



Tangent / aside

How “big” is a magnitude 5 earthquake?

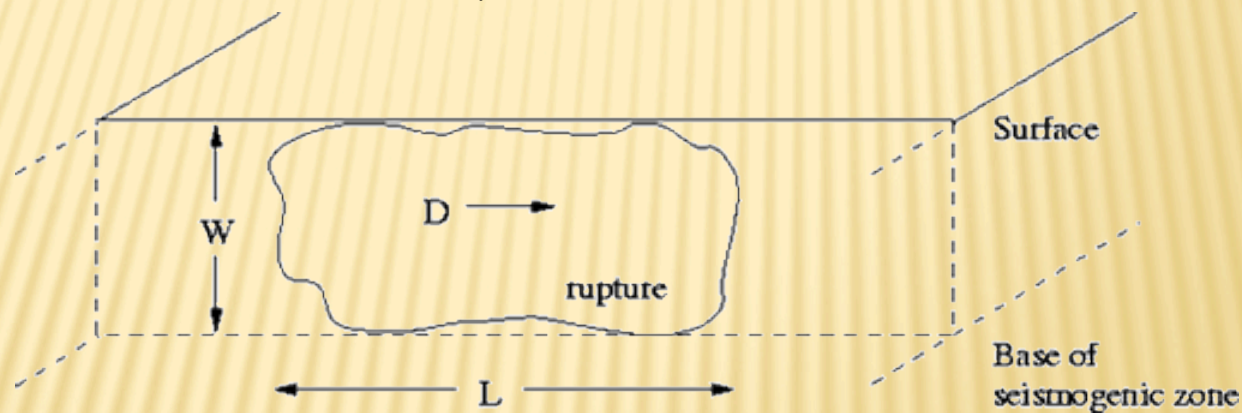
(assume a square fault.

The answer will specify

- 1) the dimensions of the square and
- 2) the amount of slip.)

Earthquakes are caused by internal torques, from interactions of different blocks of the earth on opposite sides of faults.

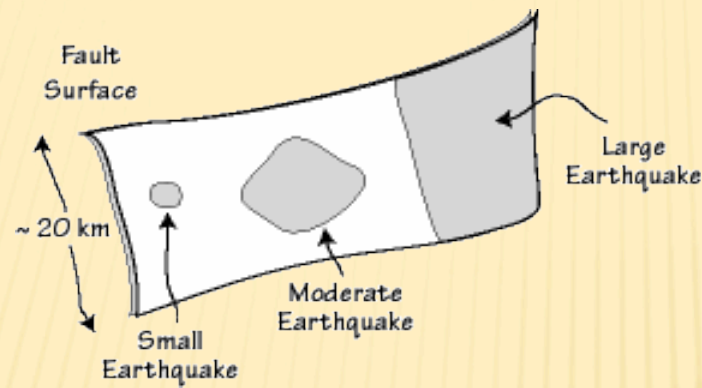
After some rather complicated mathematics, it can be shown that the moment of an earthquake is simply expressed by:



$$M_0 = \mu AD$$

where  $\mu$  is rigidity (units of stress = force/Area),  $A$  is fault area and  $D$  is average slip





The size of the area that slips, and the amount of slip that occurs during an earthquake both increase with earthquake size.

The shaded regions on the fault surface are the areas that rupture during different size events. The largest earthquakes generally rupture the entire depth of the fault

Notice that seismic moment does not saturate.

Also notice that it has the same units (dyne-cm = force times distance) as work and energy BUT it is NOT the same as work and energy (that's why we use dyne-cm or newton-m and not joules or ergs for seismic moment!).

Now we can (empirically) relate seismic moment,  $M_0$ , to the magnitude scales. We will do this by creating Moment Magnitude,  $M_w$ .

$$M_w = 2/3 \log M_0 - 10.73$$

$$\log M_0 = 3/2 M_w + 16.1$$

And doing the same for the energy

$E \approx M_0 / (2 \times 10^4)$  erg in terms of  $M_0$ , the seismic moment



Seismic moment is proportional to the product of the geologically reasonable and observable parameters – fault area that slipped and how much it slipped.



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So, how big are the fault areas and amounts of slip?

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So, how big are the fault areas and amounts of slip?

Are the fault area (or dimensions) and the amount of slip related?

# Enter - Earthquake scaling relationships.



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Can we have 10 m of slip on a 1 m<sup>2</sup> fault?

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Obviously not (ridiculous example to make point).

We know rocks break when subjected to strains of between (small strain, weak rock)  $10^{-5}$  and (larger strain, strong rock)  $10^{-4}$ .

This means you can only store up so much strain energy in a given volume of rock.

So let's say a rock will break when it has been strained by 1 part in 20,000, and all the strain is released (by slip).



This means the rupture displacement in an earthquake will typically be about  $1/20,000$  of the rupture length.

For example, a 1 km long rupture would give a displacement of about  $1\text{km}/20,000$ , or 0.05 meters.

A 100 km long rupture (more on this for non-symmetric faults a bit later) produces a displacement of a few meters.

Using this idea, scaling between fault size and slip, we can calculate typical rupture dimensions and slips for different moments and moment magnitudes.

<b>Magnitude Mw</b>	<b>Fault area (km<sup>2</sup>)</b>	<b>Typical rupture dimensions (km x km)</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1 x 1</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>3 x 3</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>10 x 10</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>1000</b>	<b>30 x 30</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>50 x 200</b>

Slip  
5 cm  
15 cm  
.5 m  
1.5 m  
2.5m,10m?

What happens with the last example? Which “size” do we use? Answer (probably) depends on direction of the slip.

km <sup>2</sup> cm	slipratio	rigidity	moment	moment mag		
1.00E+05	1.00E-04	3.00E+11	1.00E+00	-1.07E+01		
perp dirn km	slip dirn km	slip km	moment	moment mag	slip cm	
1.00E+02	2.00E+01	2.00E-03	1.20E+27	7.35E+00	2.00E+02	
1.00E+01	1.00E+01	1.00E-03	3.00E+25	6.28E+00	1.00E+02	
2.00E+00	2.00E+00	2.00E-04	2.40E+23	4.89E+00	2.00E+01	
2.50E+00	2.50E+00	2.50E-04	4.69E+23	5.08E+00	2.50E+01	mag 5 size is 2.5 km x 2.5 km
3.00E+00	3.00E+00	3.00E-04	8.10E+23	5.24E+00	3.00E+01	
3.50E+00	3.50E+00	3.50E-04	1.29E+24	5.37E+00	3.50E+01	
8.00E+02	1.50E+01	1.50E-03	5.40E+27	7.79E+00	1.50E+02	1906 San Francisco
1.20E+03	2.00E+02	2.00E-02	1.44E+30	9.41E+00	2.00E+03	1960 Chile



km <sup>2</sup> cm	slipratio	rigidity	moment	moment mag		
1.00E+05	1.00E-04	3.00E+11	1.00E+00	-1.07E+01		
perp dirn km	slip dirn km	slip km	moment	moment mag	slip cm	
1.00E-03	1.00E-03	1.00E-07	3.00E+13	-1.72E+00	1.00E-02	
2.00E-03	2.00E-03	2.00E-07	2.40E+14	-1.11E+00	2.00E-02	
2.30E-03	2.30E-03	2.30E-07	3.65E+14	-9.92E-01	2.30E-02	mag -1 is 2.3 m x 2.3 m
3.00E-03	3.00E-03	3.00E-07	8.10E+14	-7.61E-01	3.00E-02	
4.00E-03	4.00E-03	4.00E-07	1.92E+15	-5.11E-01	4.00E-02	
5.00E-03	5.00E-03	5.00E-07	3.75E+15	-3.17E-01	5.00E-02	
6.00E-03	6.00E-03	6.00E-07	6.48E+15	-1.59E-01	6.00E-02	
7.00E-03	7.00E-03	7.00E-07	1.03E+16	-2.51E-02	7.00E-02	
8.00E-03	8.00E-03	8.00E-07	1.54E+16	9.09E-02	8.00E-02	mag 0 is 8 m x 8 m
9.00E-03	9.00E-03	9.00E-07	2.19E+16	1.93E-01	9.00E-02	
1.00E-02	1.00E-02	1.00E-06	3.00E+16	2.85E-01	1.00E-01	
2.00E-02	2.00E-02	2.00E-06	2.40E+17	8.87E-01	2.00E-01	
2.30E-02	2.30E-02	2.30E-06	3.65E+17	1.01E+00	2.30E-01	mag 1 is 23 m x 23 m

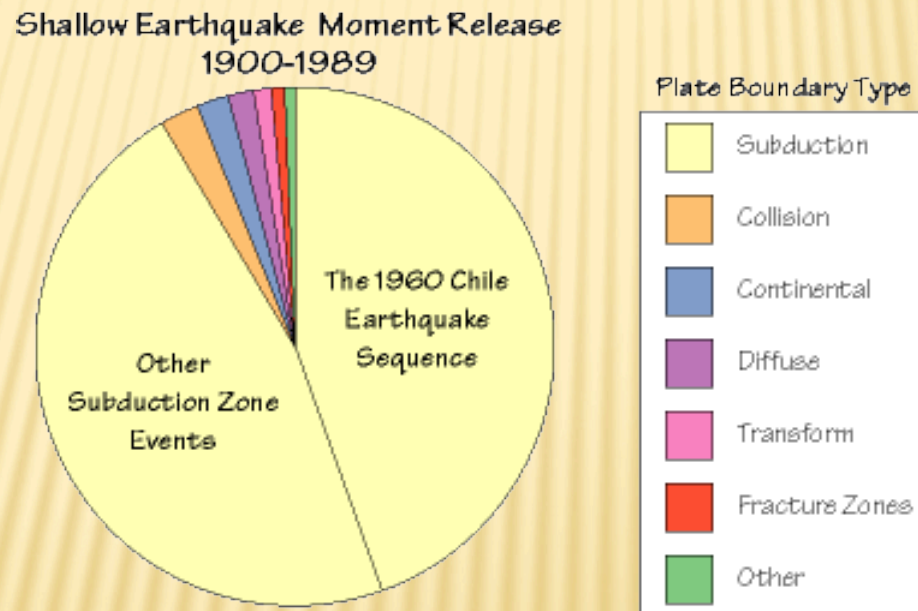
km <sup>2</sup> cm	slipratio	rigidity	moment	moment mag		
1.00E+05	1.00E-04	3.00E+11	1.00E+00	-1.07E+01		
perp dirn km	slip dirn km	slip km	moment	moment mag	slip cm	
2.30E-02	2.30E-02	2.30E-06	3.65E+17	1.01E+00	2.30E-01	mag 1 is 23 m x 23 m
8.00E-02	8.00E-02	8.00E-06	1.54E+19	2.09E+00	8.00E-01	mag 2 is 80 m x 80 m
2.30E-01	2.30E-01	2.30E-05	3.65E+20	3.01E+00	2.30E+00	mag 3 is 230 m x 230 m
7.00E-01	7.00E-01	7.00E-05	1.03E+22	3.97E+00	7.00E+00	mag 4 is 700 m x 700 m
2.00E+00	2.00E+00	2.00E-04	2.40E+23	4.89E+00	2.00E+01	
3.00E+00	3.00E+00	3.00E-04	8.10E+23	5.24E+00	3.00E+01	
7.00E+00	7.00E+00	7.00E-04	1.03E+25	5.97E+00	7.00E+01	
8.00E+00	8.00E+00	8.00E-04	1.54E+25	6.09E+00	8.00E+01	
9.00E+00	9.00E+00	9.00E-04	2.19E+25	6.19E+00	9.00E+01	
2.00E+01	2.00E+01	2.00E-03	2.40E+26	6.89E+00	2.00E+02	
3.00E+01	3.00E+01	3.00E-03	8.10E+26	7.24E+00	3.00E+02	
7.00E+01	7.00E+01	7.00E-03	1.03E+28	7.97E+00	7.00E+02	
8.00E+01	8.00E+01	8.00E-03	1.54E+28	8.09E+00	8.00E+02	
3.00E+02	2.00E+02	2.00E-02	3.60E+29	9.00E+00	2.00E+03	
1.50E+03	2.00E+02	2.00E-02	1.80E+30	9.47E+00	2.00E+03	



The seismic moment and moment magnitude give us the tool we need to compare the size of the largest quakes.

We find that the "moment release" in shallow earthquakes throughout the entire 20<sup>th</sup> century is dominated by several large subduction zone earthquake sequences.

OUT OF  
DATE!!



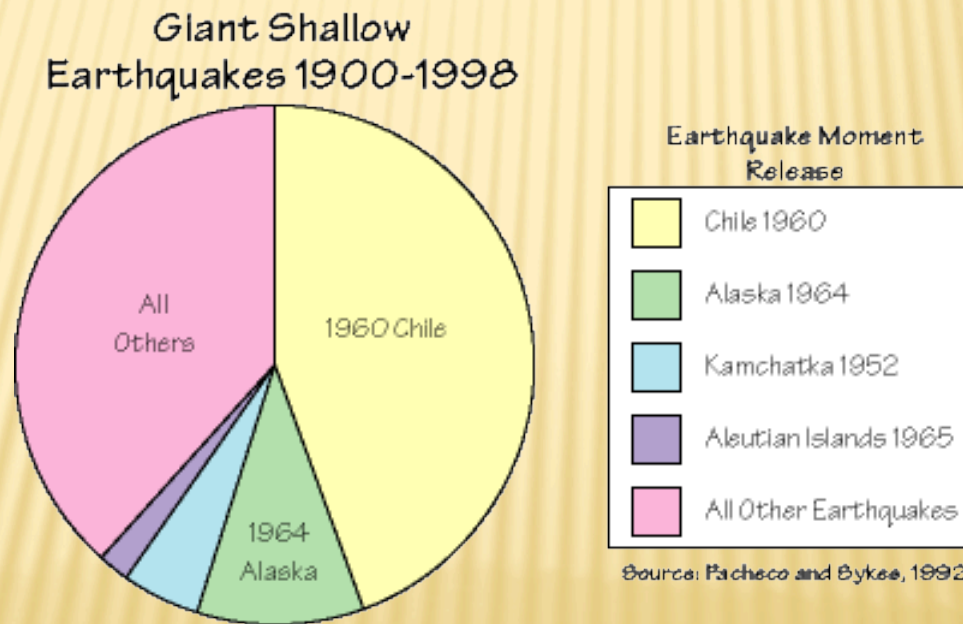
energy released in the different plate settings:



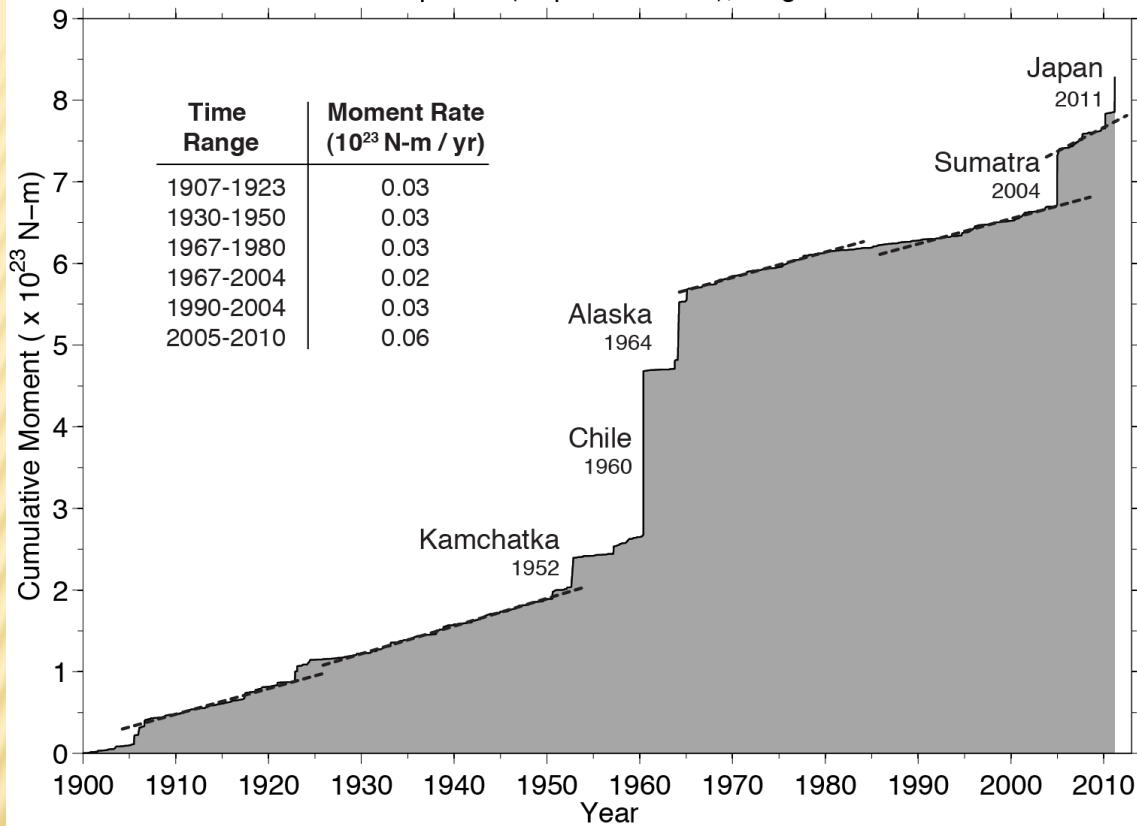
Energy released by largest four earthquakes (those with magnitudes greater than 9) and all the other shallow earthquakes

(needs updating for Sumatra 2004 and Maule 2010.)

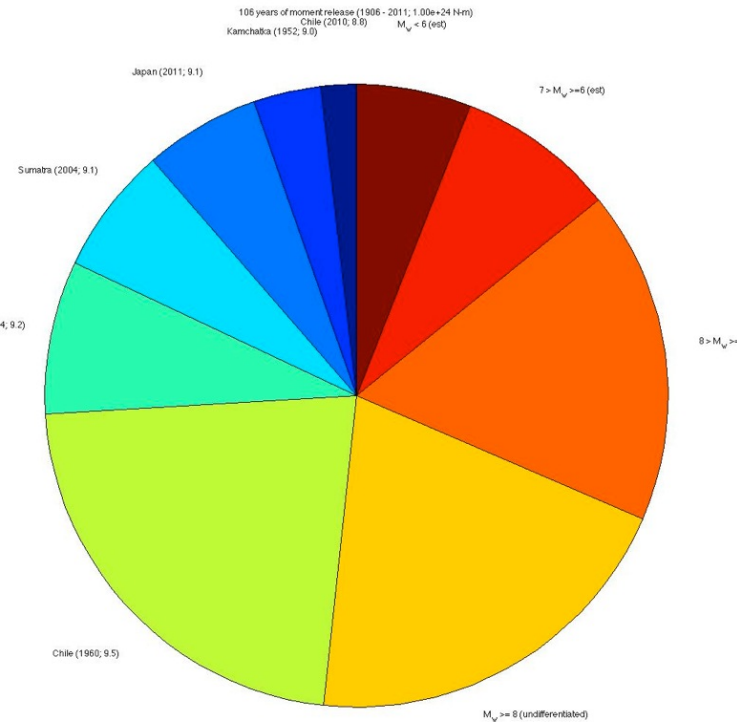
OUT OF  
DATE!!



# Shallow Earthquakes (Depth $\leq 100$ km), Magnitude $\geq 7.0$



update for Sumatra 2004,  
Maule 2010 and Japan  
2010.



# Largest Earthquakes in the World Since 1900

	Location	Date UTC	Magnitude	Lat.	Long.	Reference
1.	Chile	1960 05 22	9.5	-38.29	-73.05	Kanamori, 1977
2.	Prince William Sound, Alaska	1964 03 28	9.2	61.02	-147.65	Kanamori, 1977
3.	Off the West Coast of Northern Sumatra	2004 12 26	9.1	3.30	95.78	Park et al., 2005
4.	Near the East Coast of Honshu, Japan	2011 03 11	9.0	38.322	142.369	PDE
5.	Kamchatka	1952 11 04	9.0	52.76	160.06	Kanamori, 1977
6.	Offshore Maule, Chile	2010 02 27	8.8	-35.846	-72.719	PDE
7.	Off the Coast of Ecuador	1906 01 31	8.8	1.0	-81.5	Kanamori, 1977
8.	Rat Islands, Alaska	1965 02 04	8.7	51.21	178.50	Kanamori, 1977
9.	Northern Sumatra, Indonesia	2005 03 28	8.6	2.08	97.01	PDE
10.	Assam – Tibet	1950 08 15	8.6	28.5	96.5	Kanamori, 1977
11.	Off the west coast of northern Sumatra	2012 04 11	8.6	2.311	93.063	PDE
12.	Andreanof Islands, Alaska	1957 03 09	8.6	51.56	-175.39	Johnson et al., 1994
13.	Southern Sumatra, Indonesia	2007 09 12	8.5	-4.438	101.367	PDE
14.	Banda Sea, Indonesia	1938 02 01	8.5	-5.05	131.62	Okal and Reymond, 2003
15.	Kamchatka	1923 02 03	8.5	54.0	161.0	Kanamori, 1988
16.	Chile-Argentina Border	1922 11 11	8.5	-28.55	-70.50	Kanamori, 1977
17.	Kuril Islands	1963 10 13	8.5	44.9	149.6	



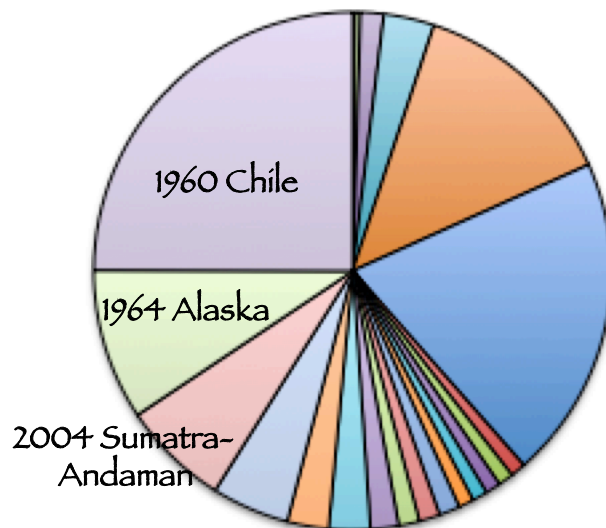
In last 100 years

1960  
earthquake –  
25% energy,

Six largest –  
50% energy,

15 largest – 61%  
energy,

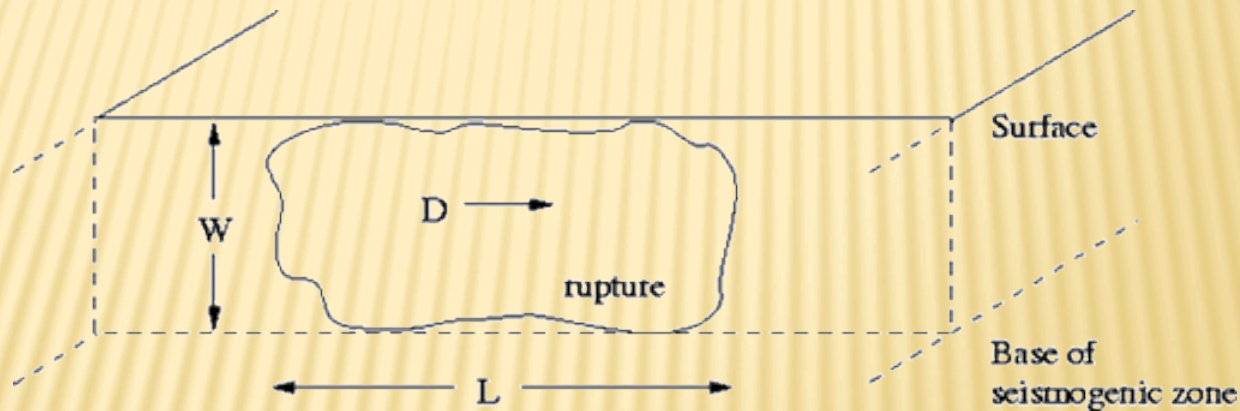
M>8 – >80%  
energy.



# Another measure of Earthquake size

## Seismic Potential

Removes the material properties (rigidity) and looks at the fault size and slip only – more direct comparison?

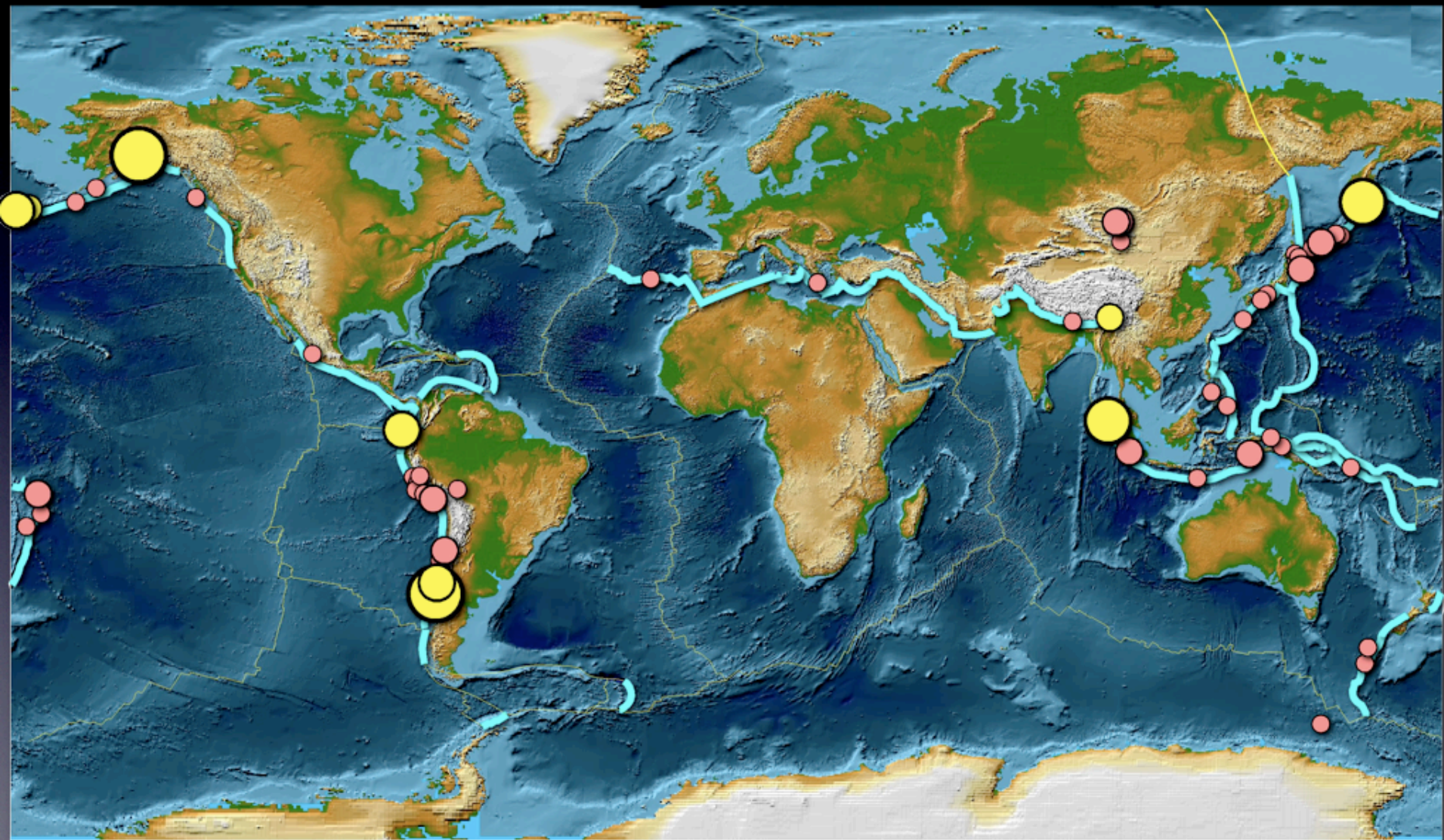


$$P \approx AD$$

A is fault area and D is average slip



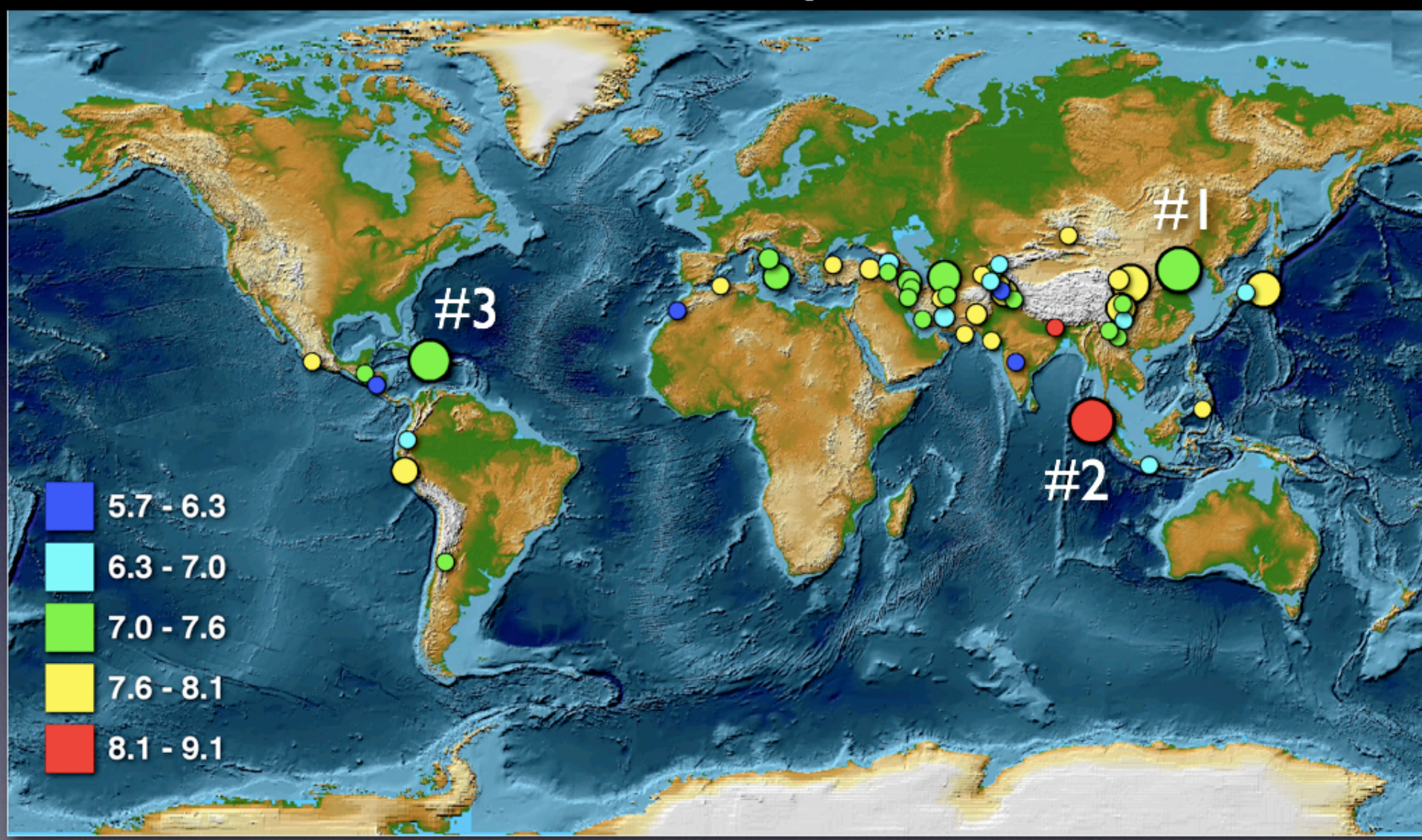
# Largest Earthquakes since 1900





Magnitude often has little to do with number deaths.

## The 50 Deadliest Earthquakes since 1900



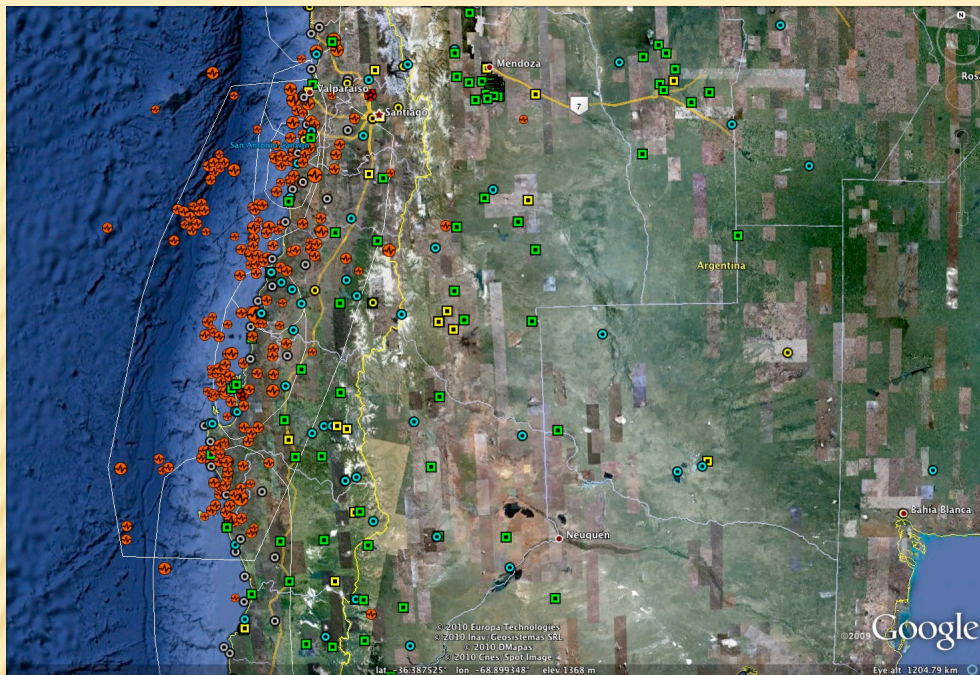


Ratio sizes 2010 Maule, Chile, earthquake and  
Haitian earthquake.

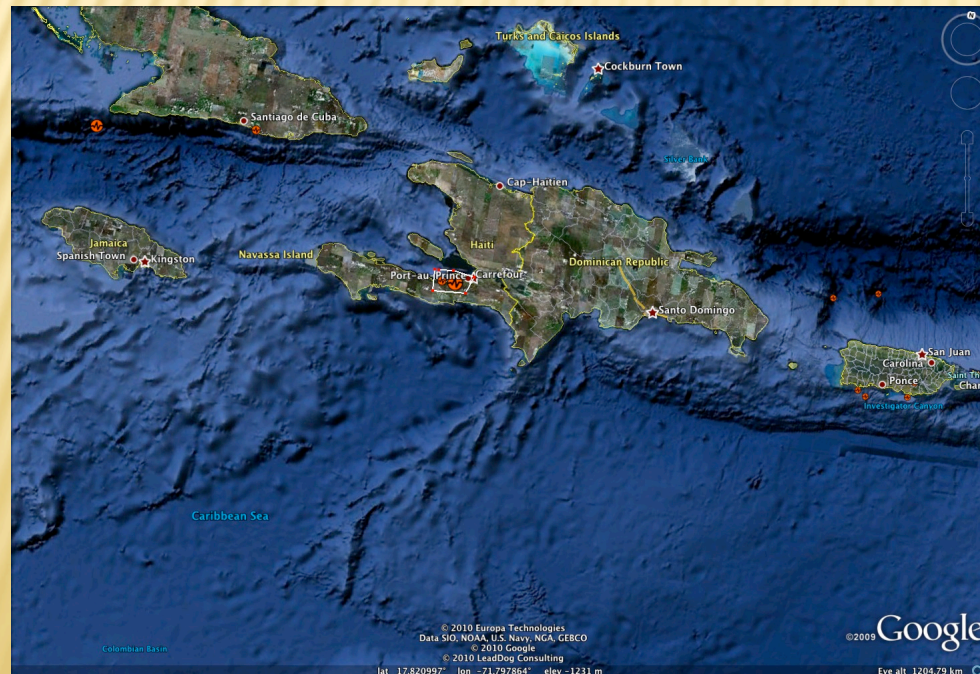
Chile 550 times bigger in energy (big hazard).

Haiti earthquake killed 550 times more people  
(big risk).

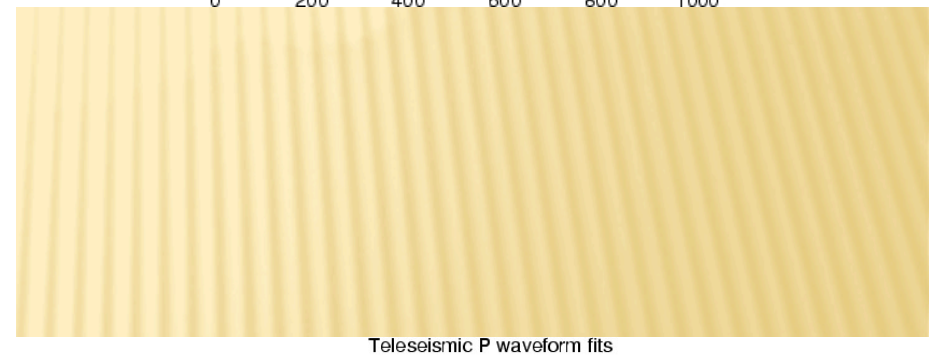
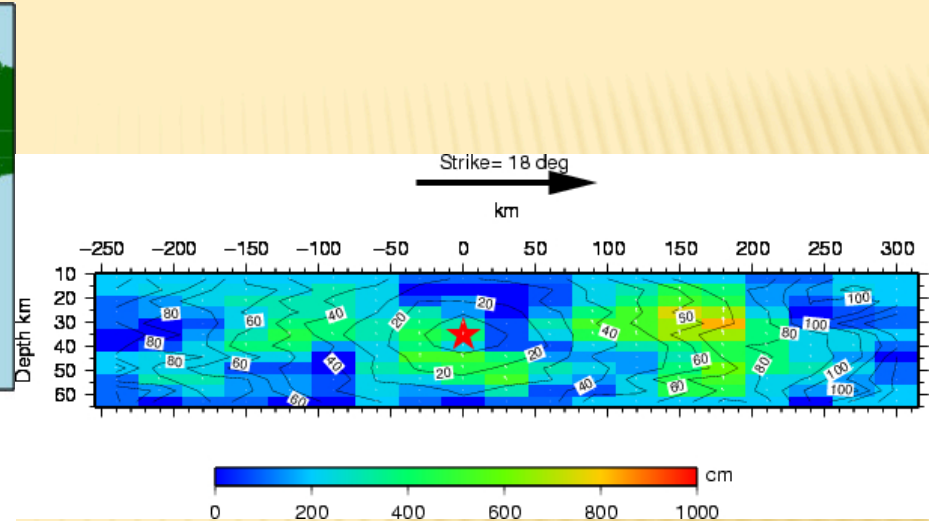
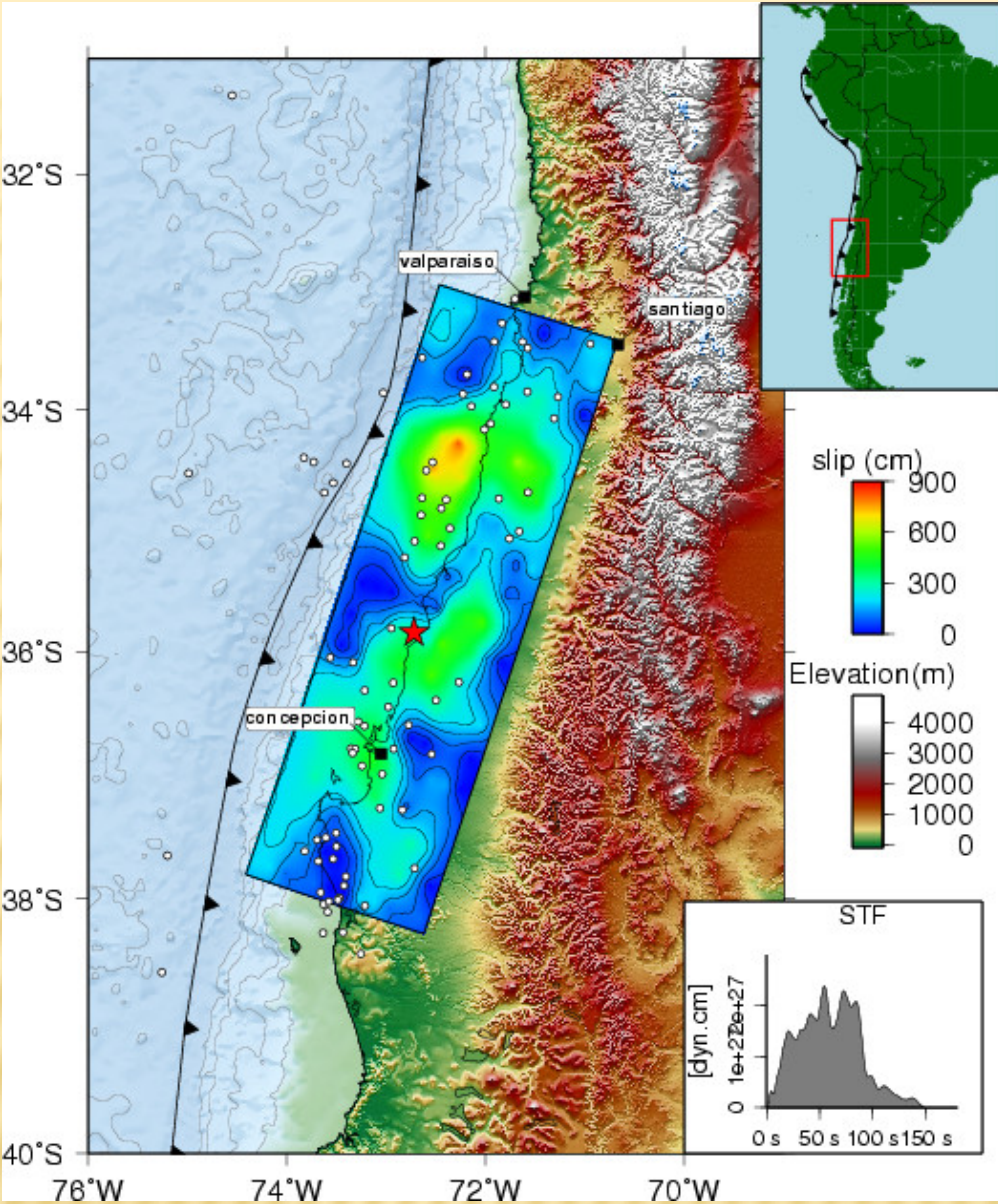




Comparison rupture  
areas from Maule and  
Haïti earthquakes  
(figures at same scale)

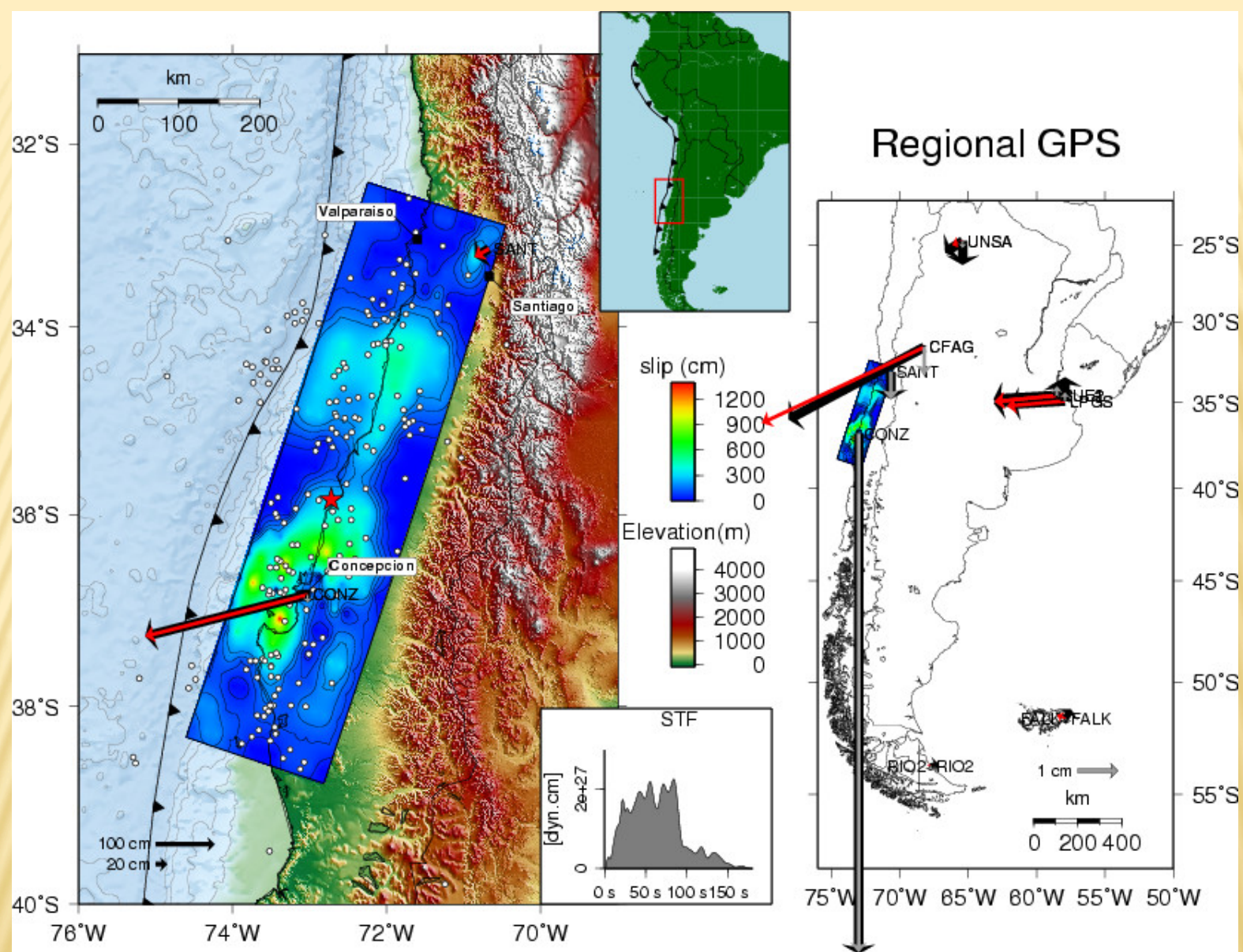






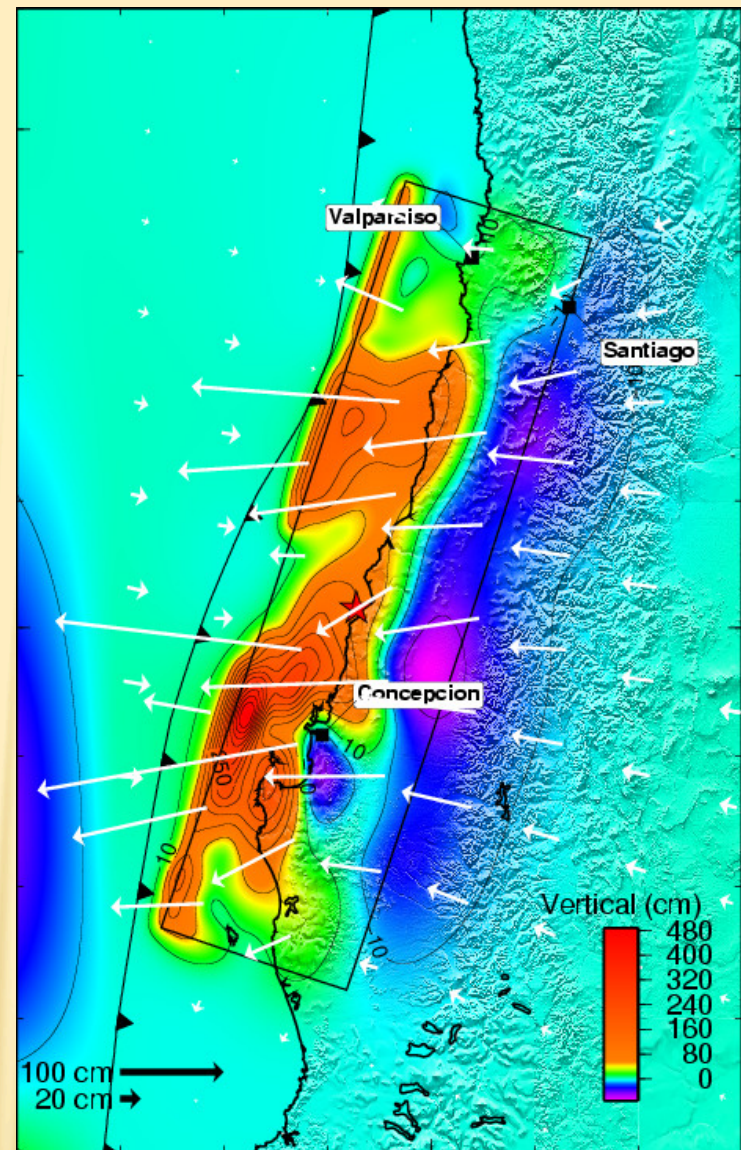
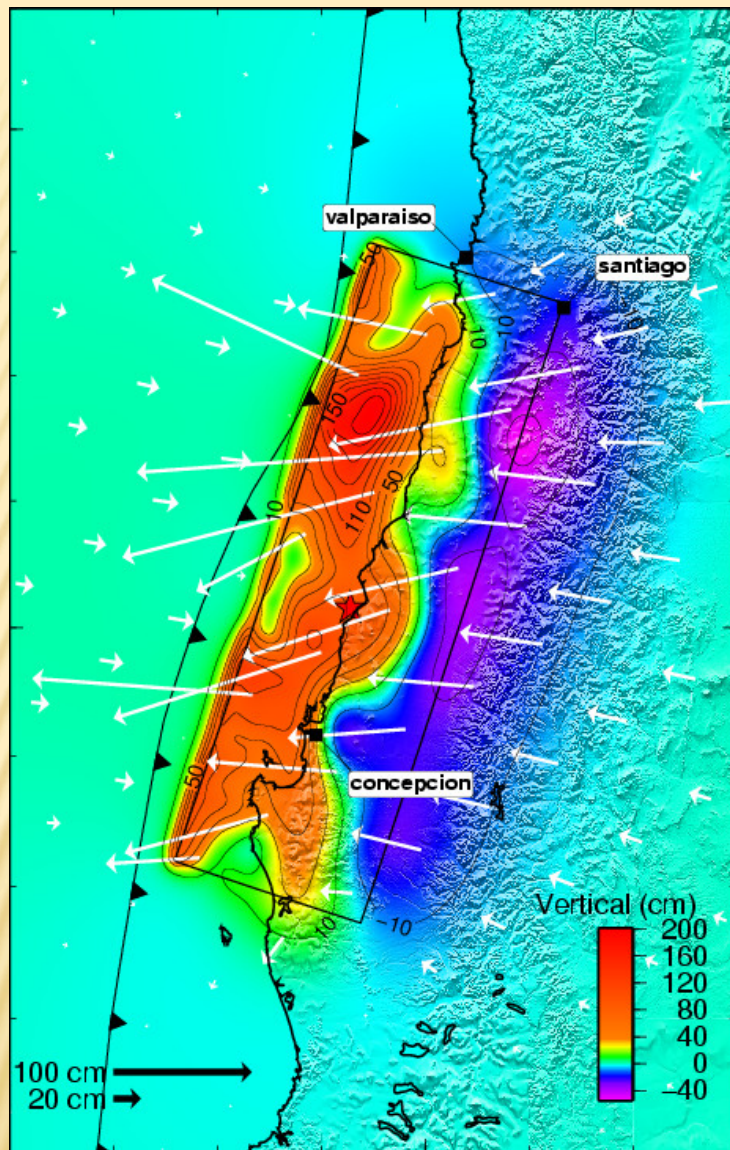
Finite Fault Model from seismic data  
Preliminary Result of the Feb 27, 2010 Mw 8.8  
Maule, Chile Earthquake  
Anthony Sladen, CALTECH





Finite Fault Model from seismic and GPS (static) data  
 Preliminary Result of the Feb 27, 2010 Mw 8.8 Maule, Chile Earthquake  
 Anthony Sladen and Susan Owen, CALTECH

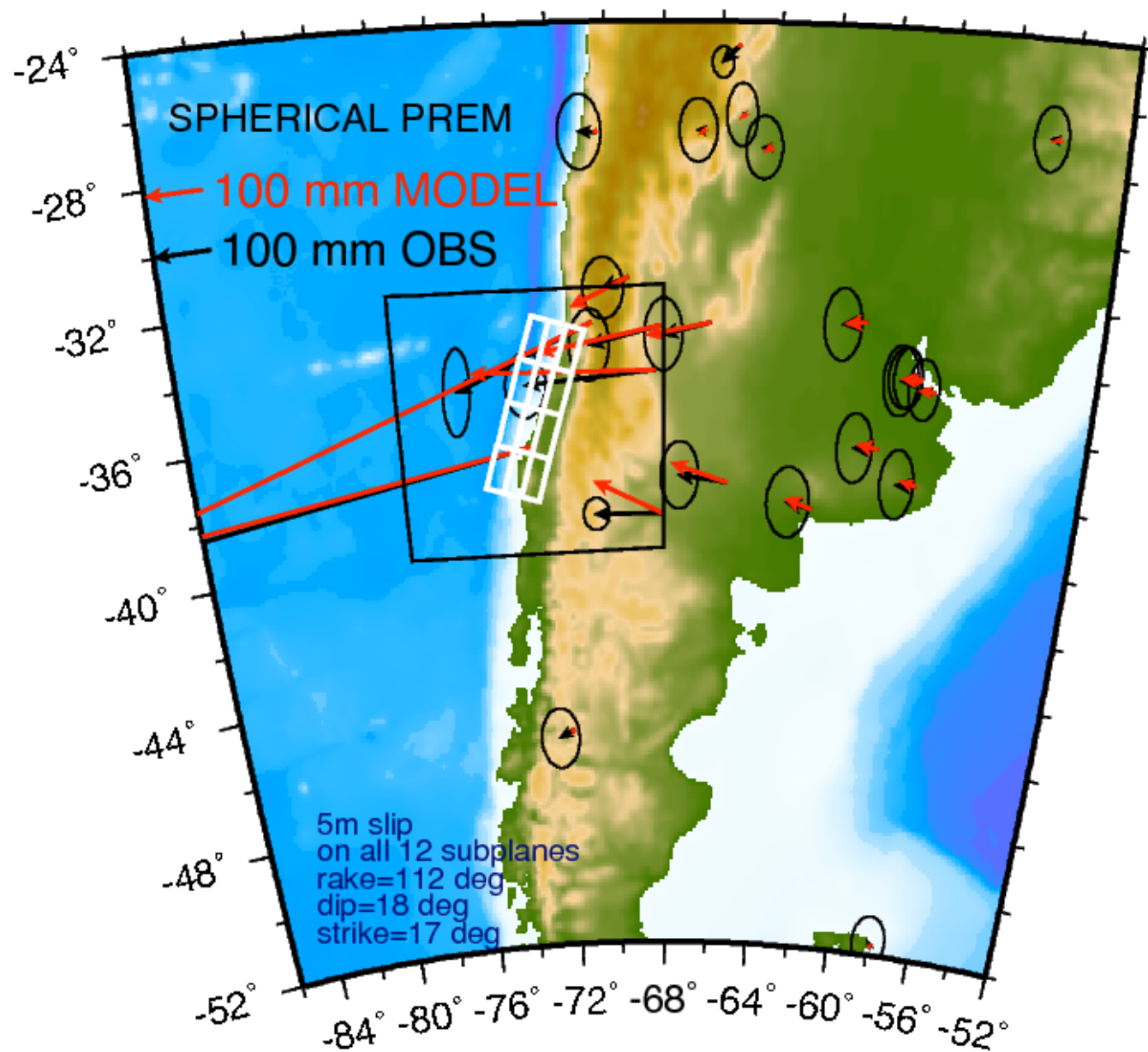




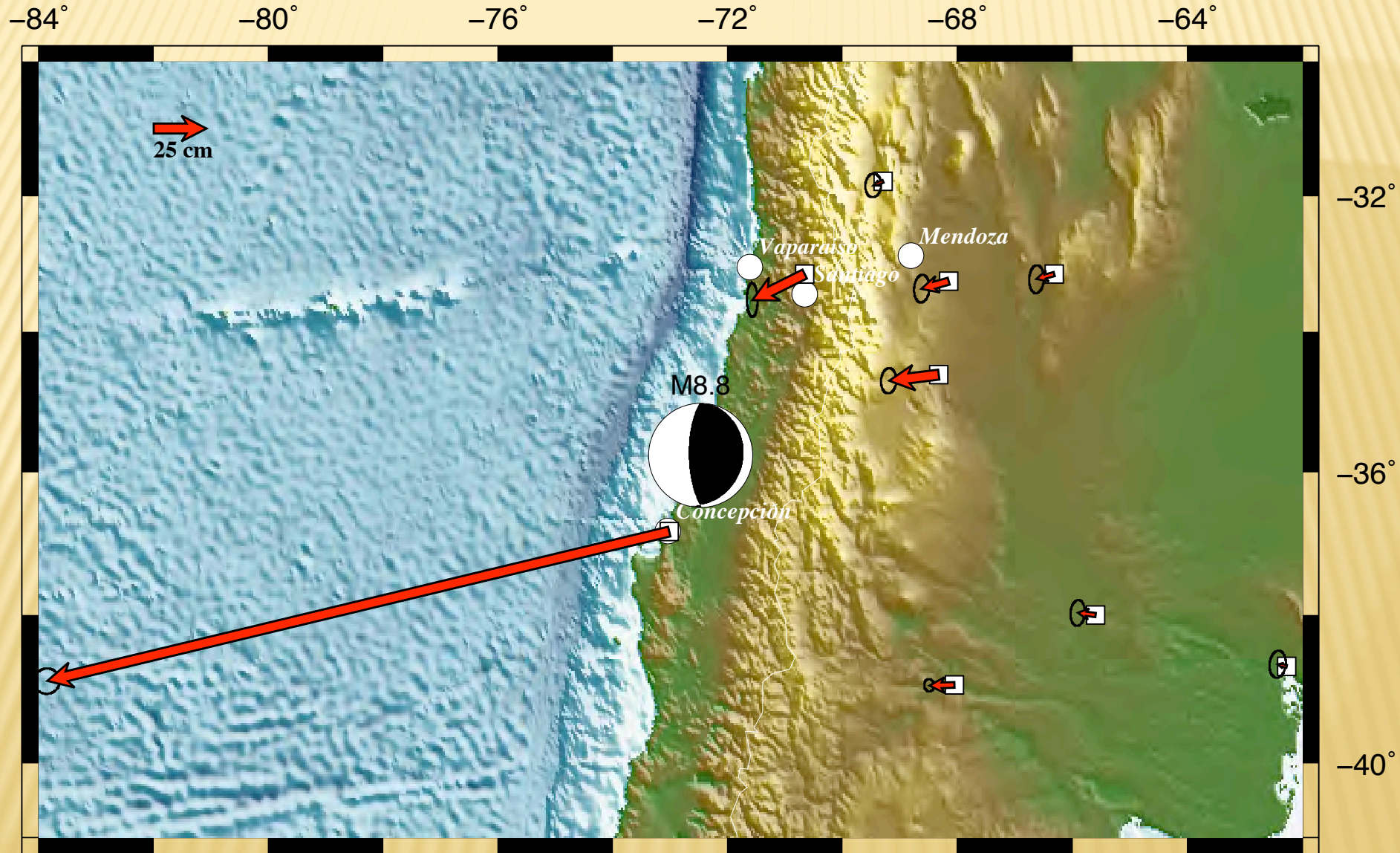
Static displacements from seismic only (left) and combined seismic and GPS (right)  
 Preliminary Result of the Feb 27, 2010 Mw 8.8 Maule, Chile Earthquake  
 Anthony Sladen and Susan Owen, CALTECH



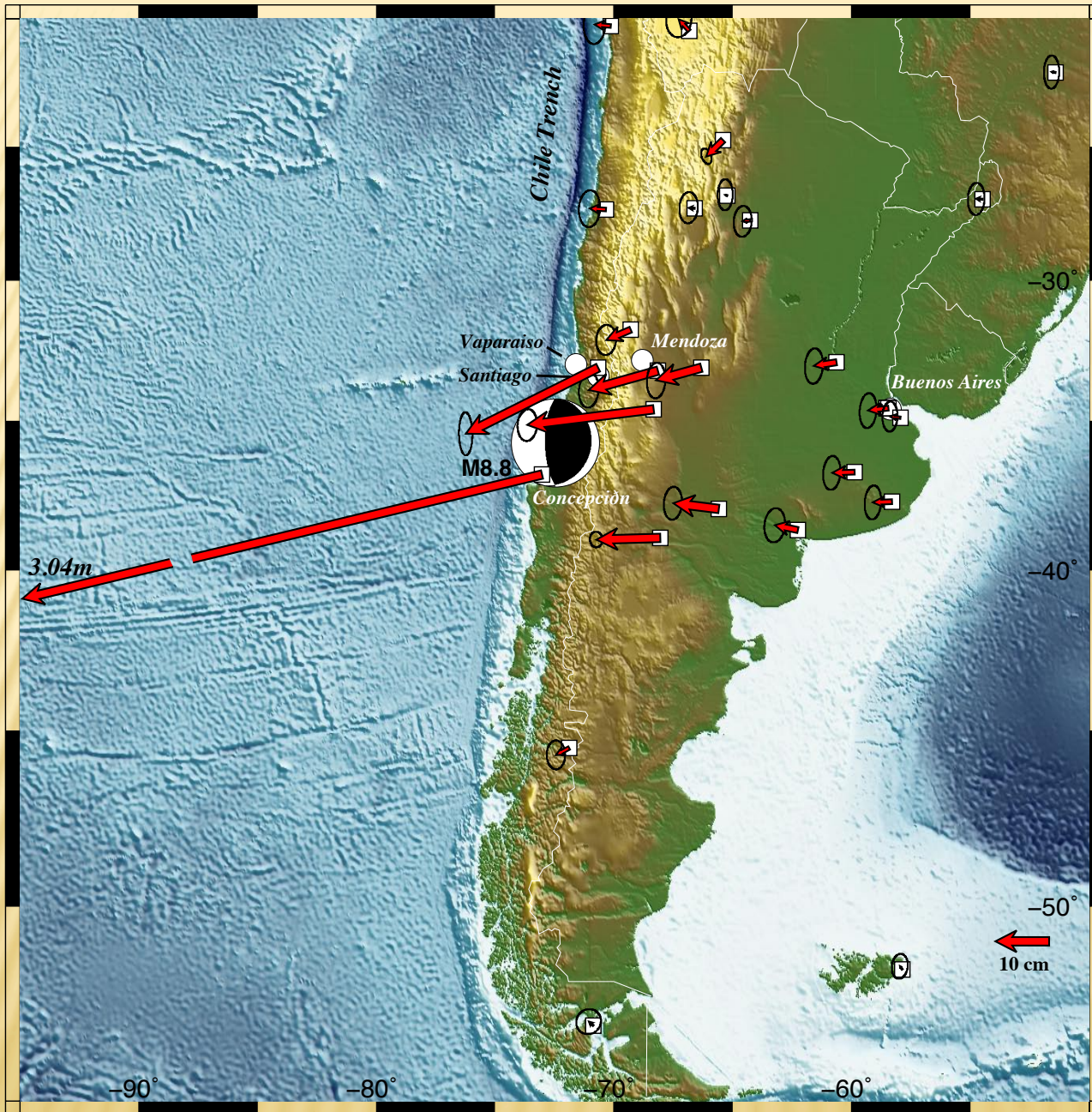
# 27 Feb 2010 coseismic displacements



# Co-seismic static deformation (all at same scale).



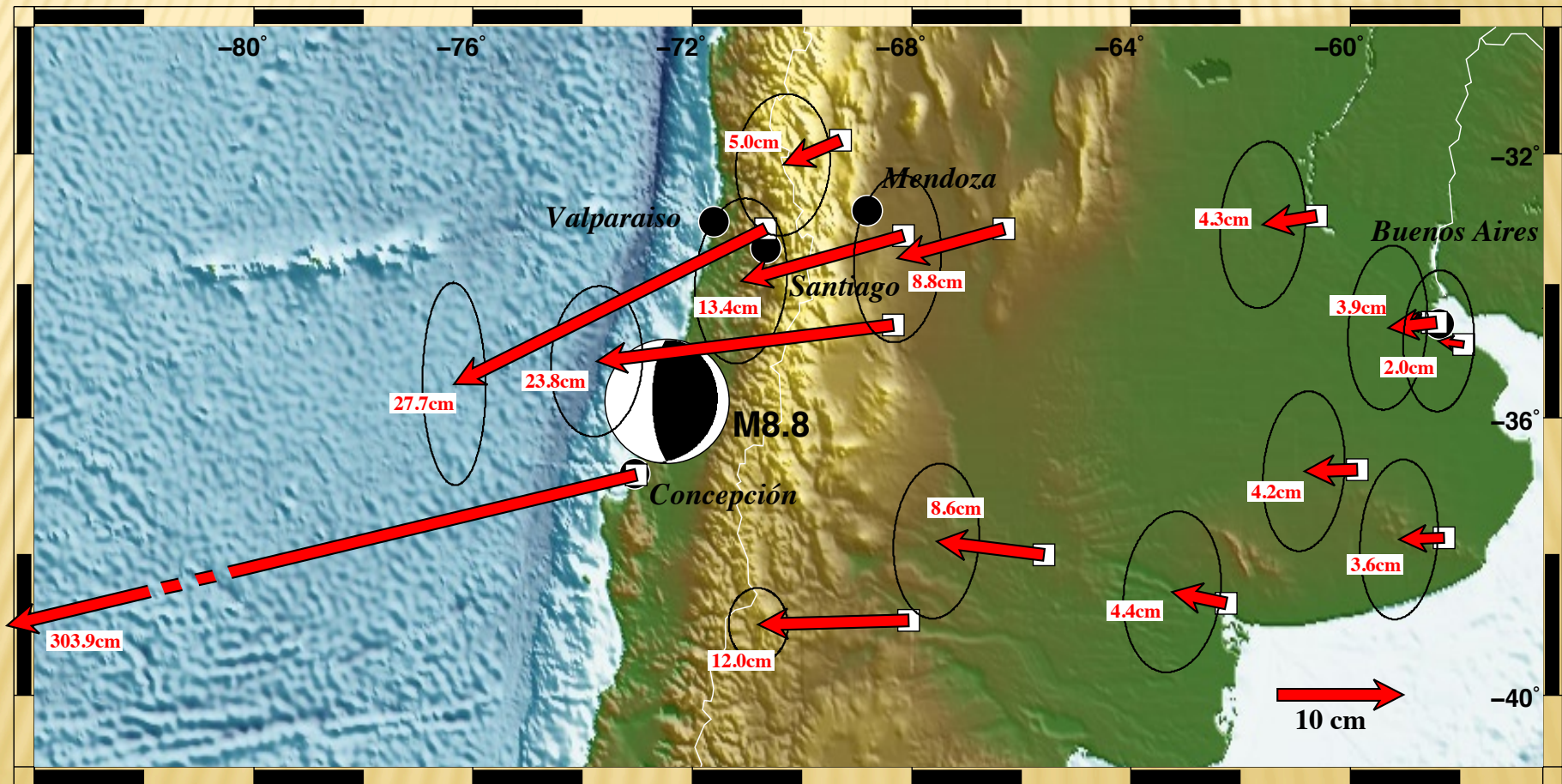




Co-seismic  
static  
deformation  
(Concepción  
not to scale).

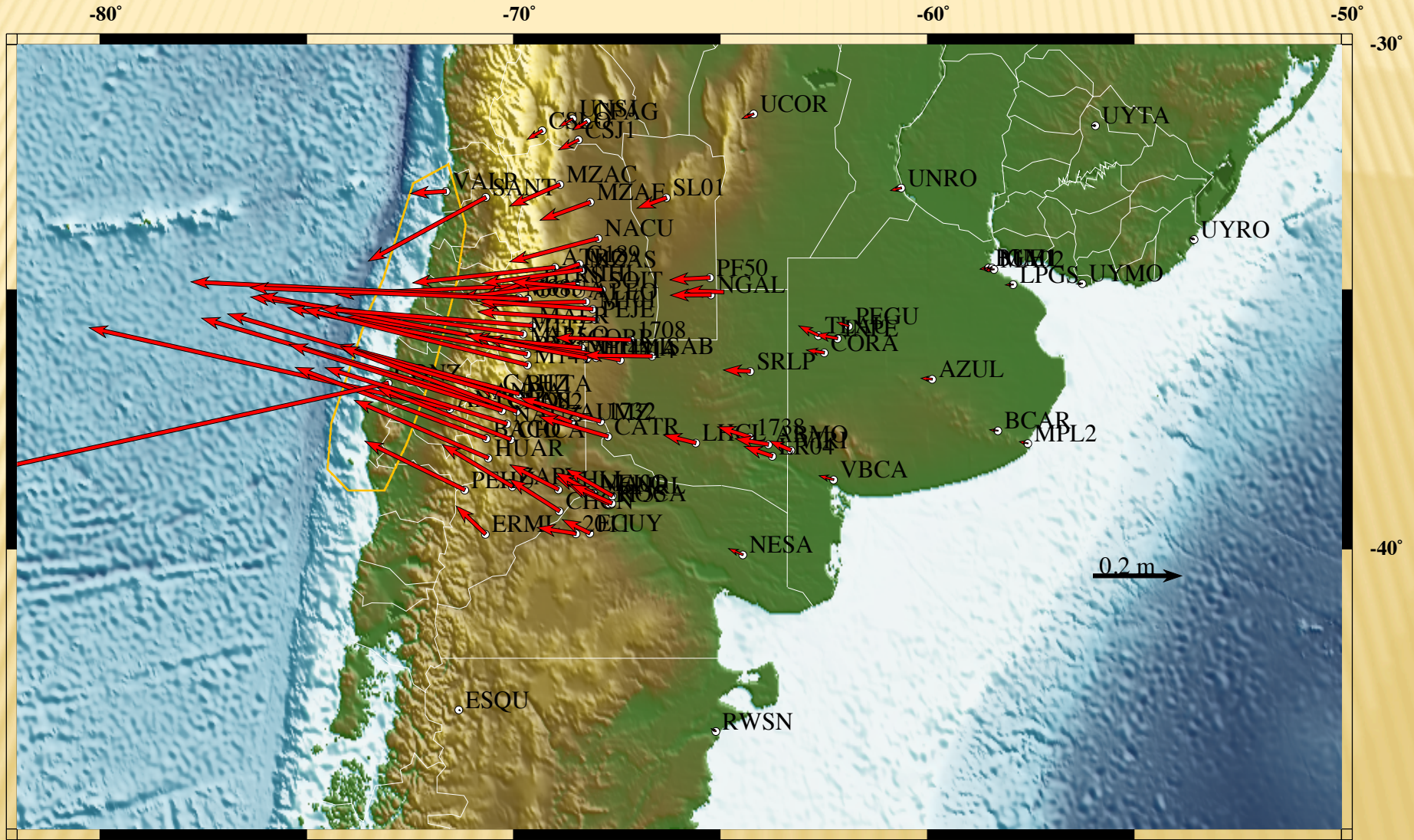


# Co-seismic static deformation – zoom on far field (Concepción not to scale).

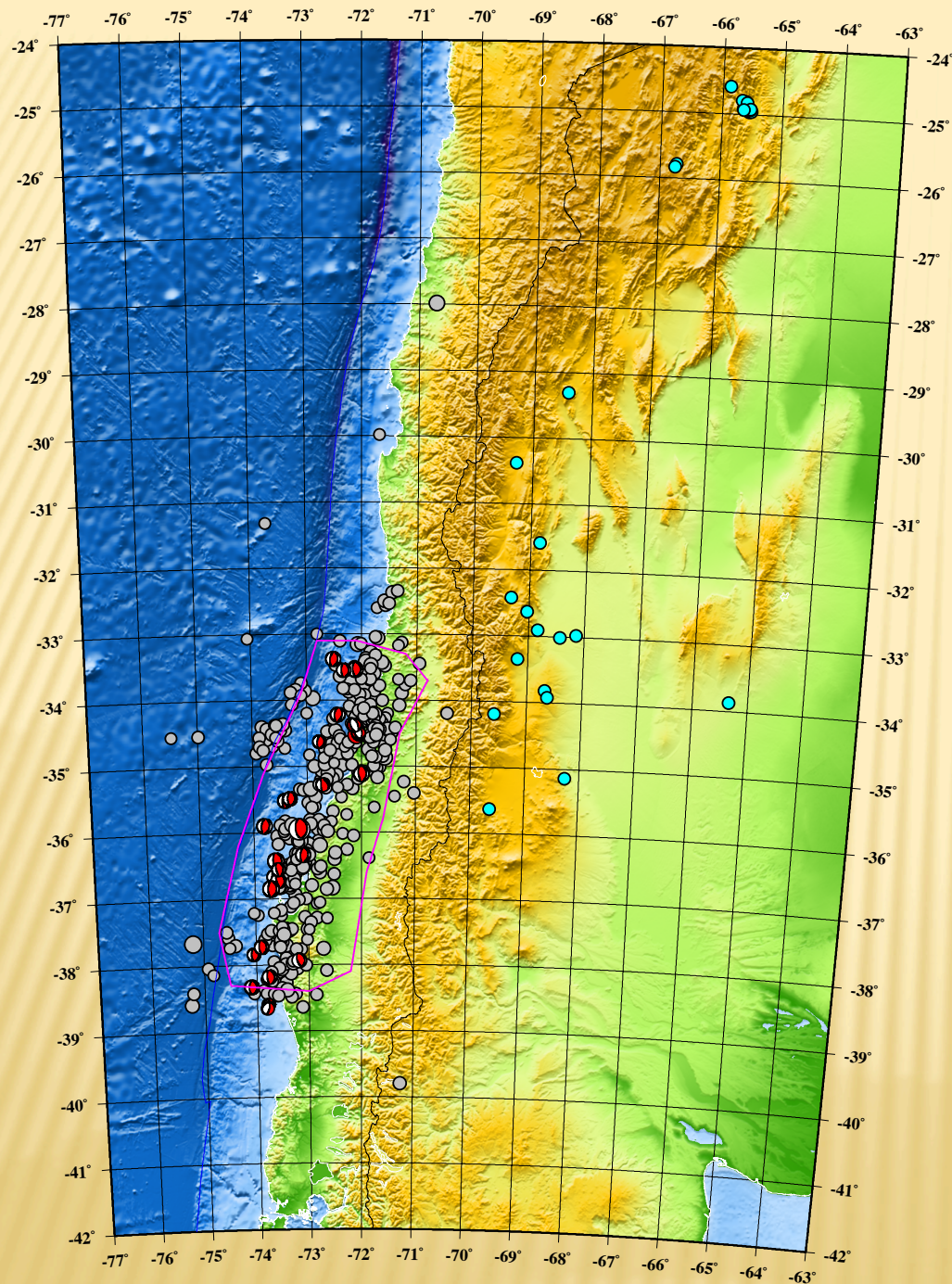




sismoignzoom//Users/robertsmalley/unixside/geolfigs/Gamit\_Coord-GMT.txt







## Aftershocks

“Triggered” seismicity in  
trench and back-arc in  
Argentina.

(grey – ANSS,  
cyan – INPRES)



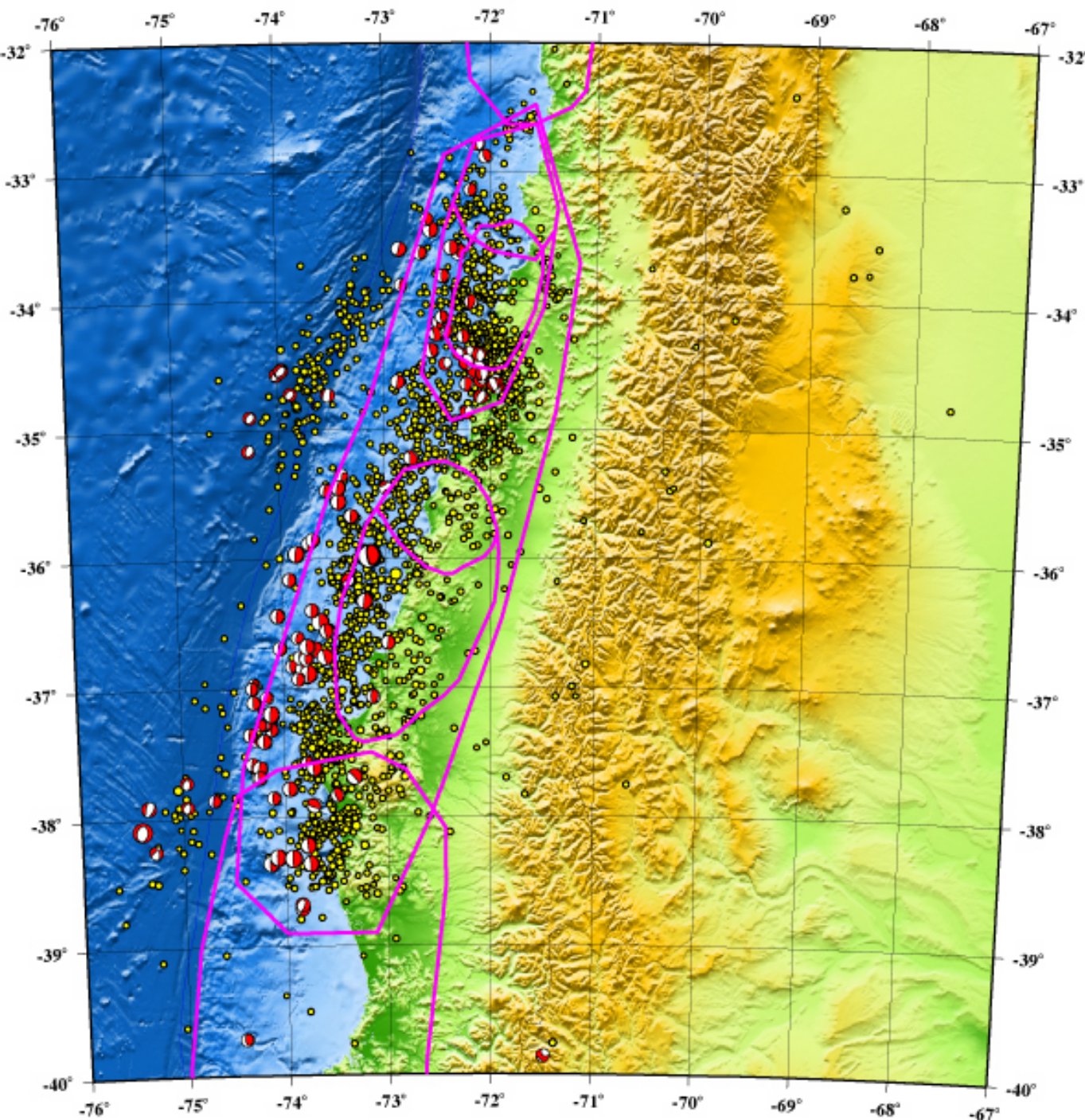


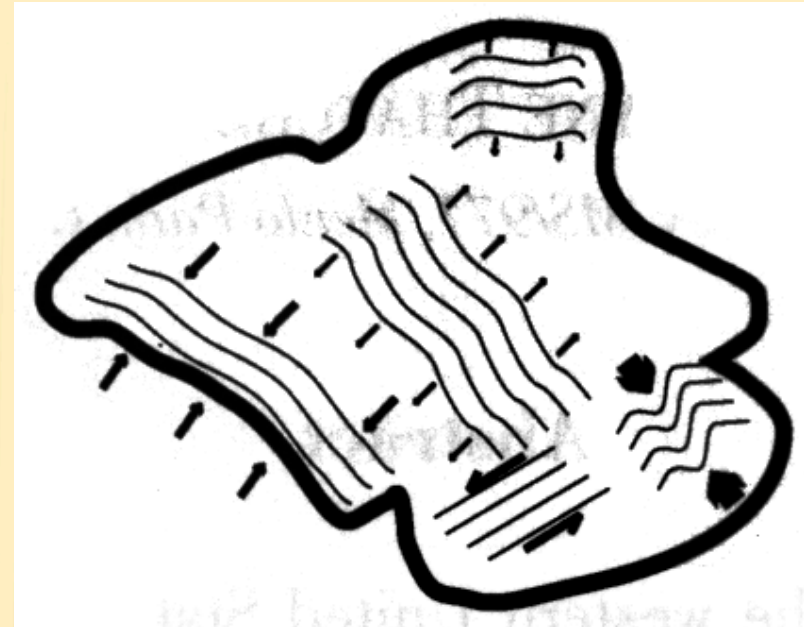
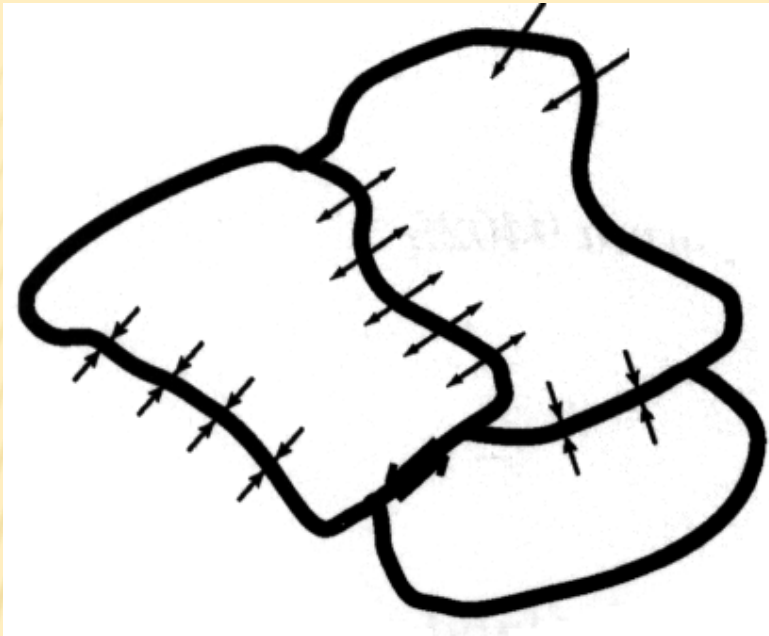
Plate bending  
events – normal  
faulting focal  
mechanisms – in  
subducting plate  
on west side of  
trench.  
(not “regular”  
aftershocks).



Large deformation field associated with Maule earthquake – in accord with elastic rebound.

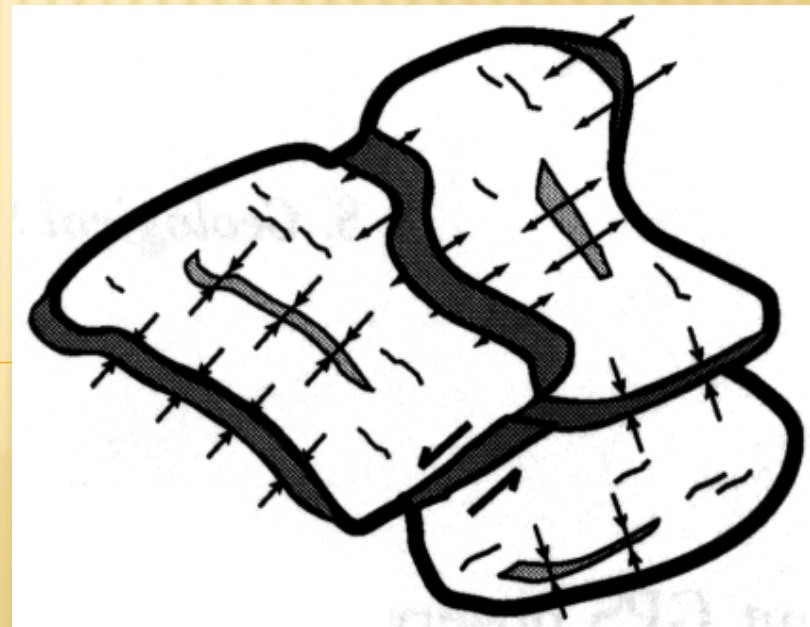
Start of measurements of post-seismic deformation.  
GPS displacement seismograms (later).

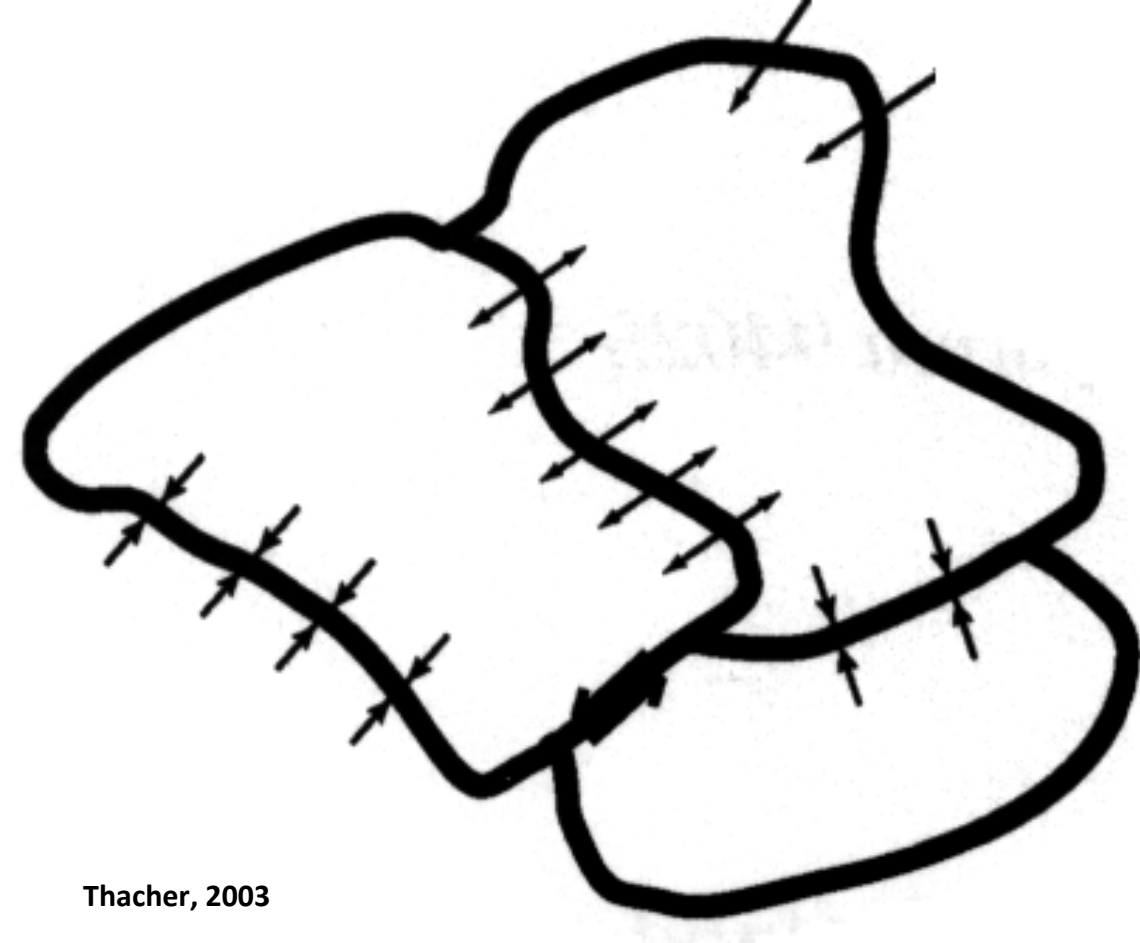




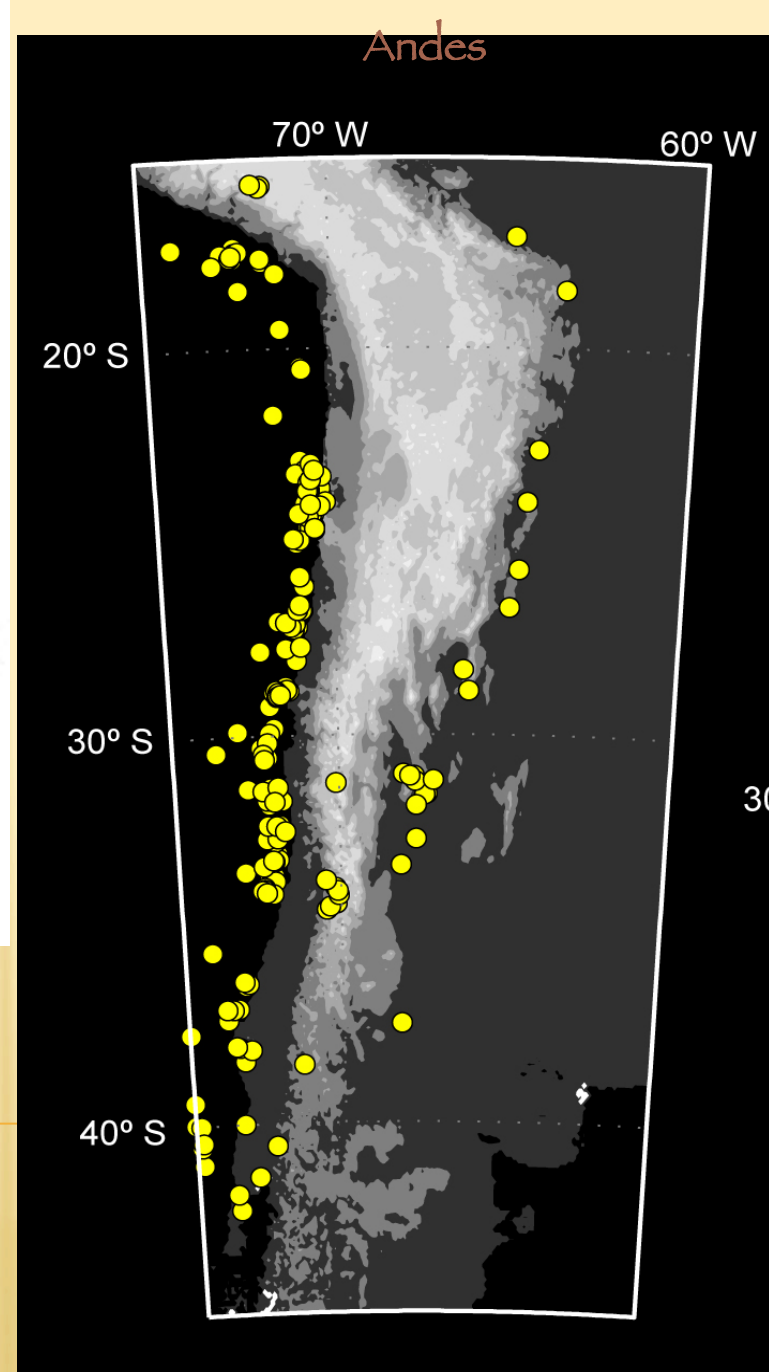
How might plates deform?

Continuum, block, etc.?





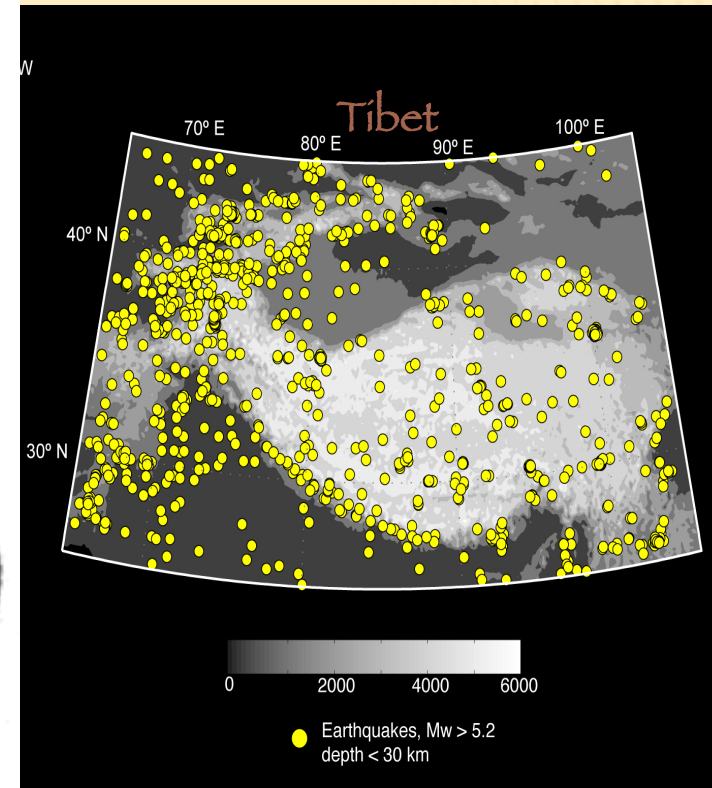
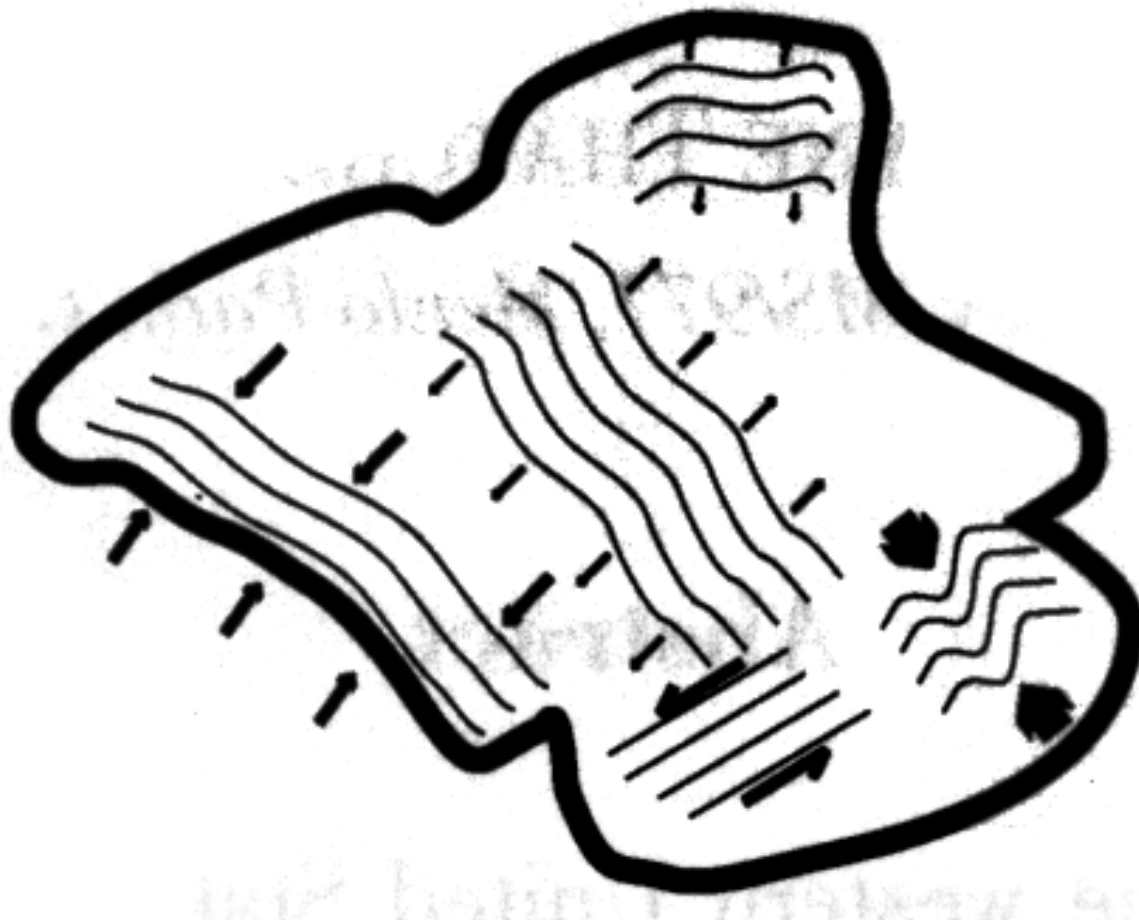
Thacher, 2003



Thacher, 2003

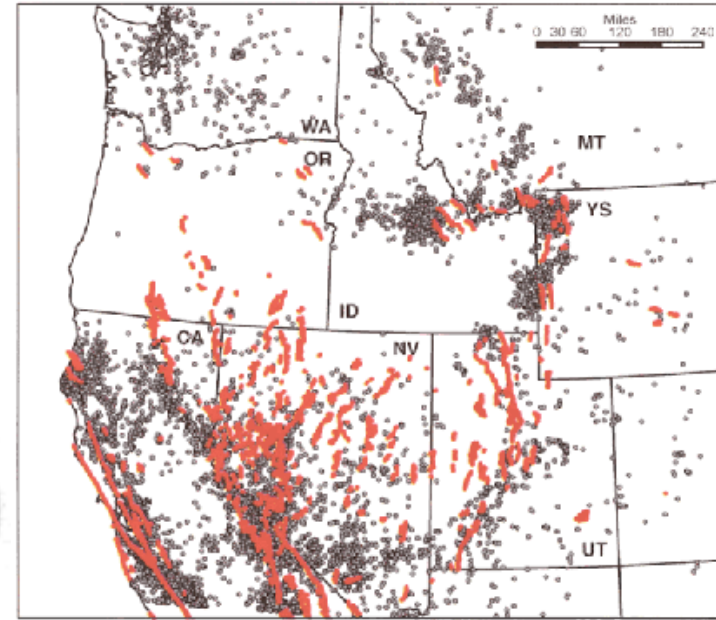
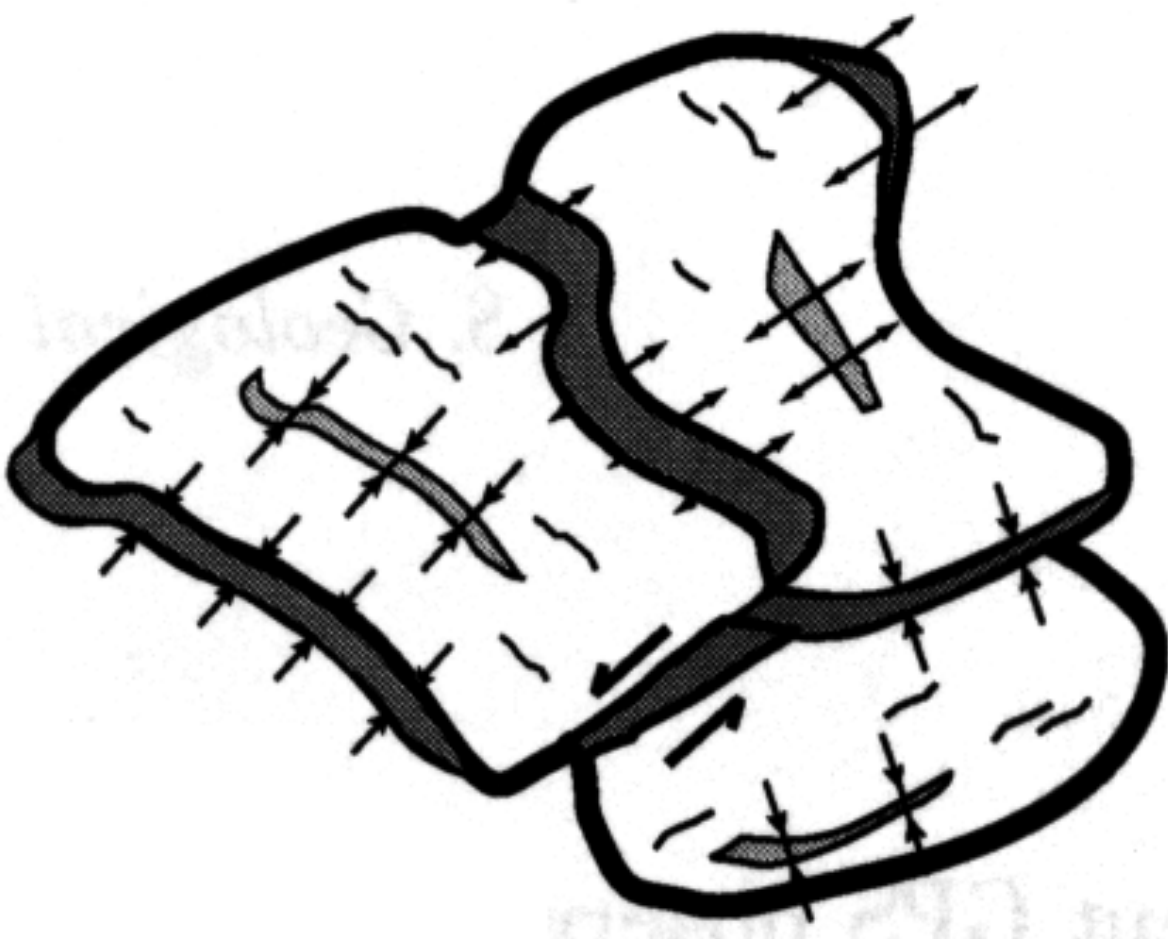
Rigid blocks.  
Sort of mini-version of plate  
tectonics.  
“Easy” to see with GPS.





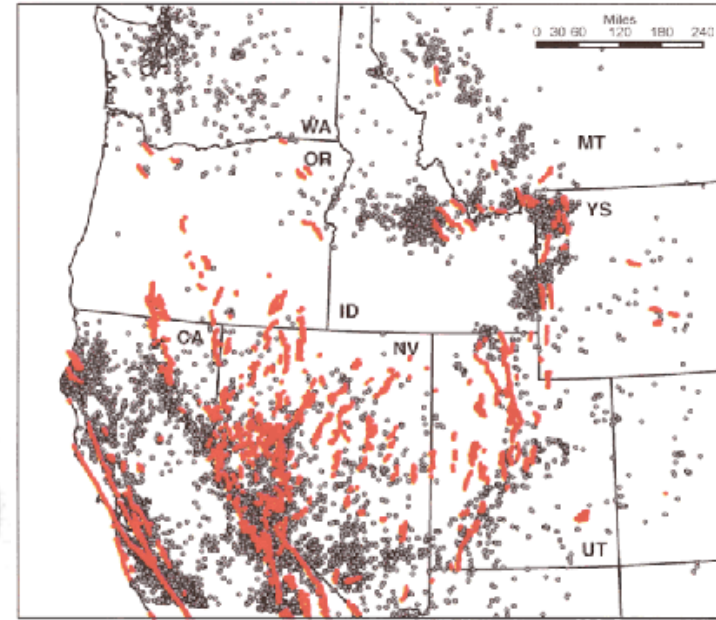
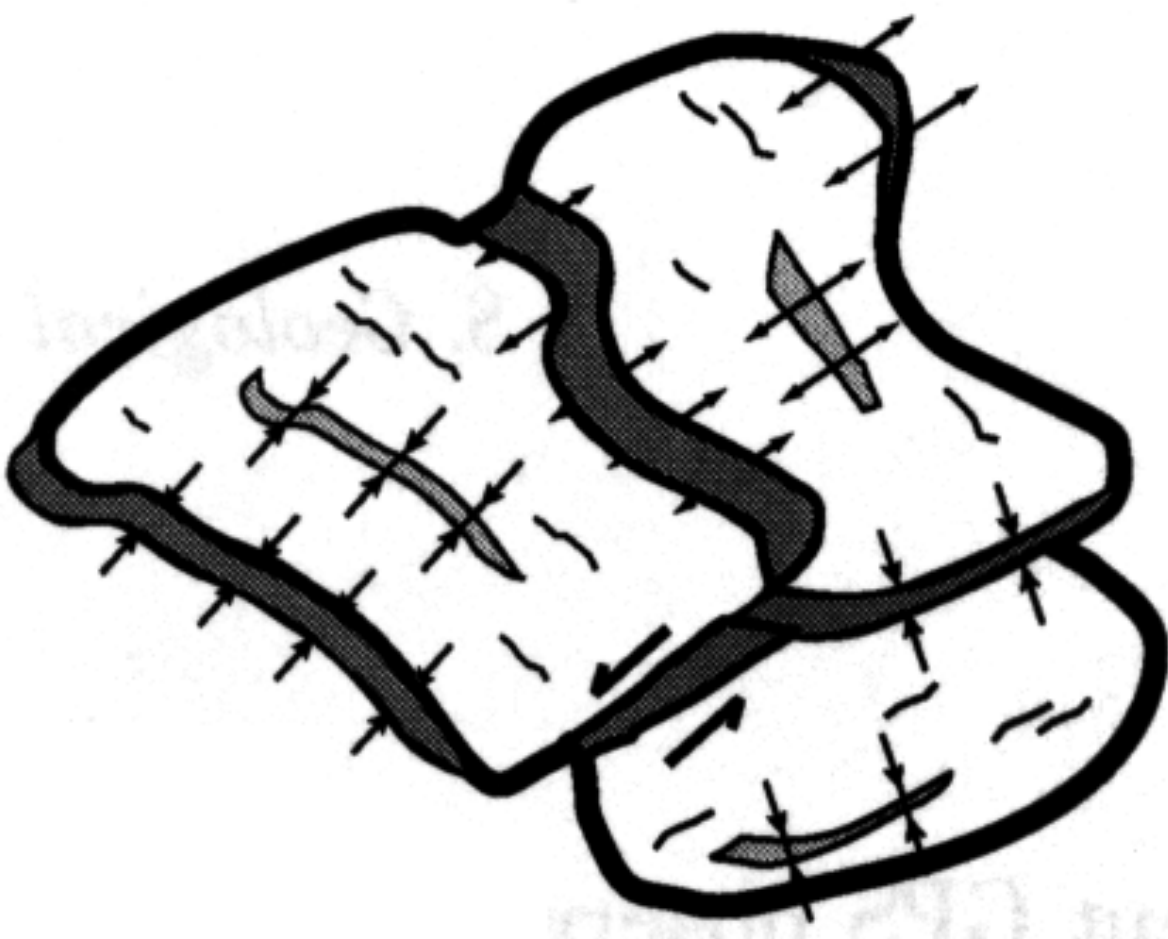
Quasi-continuous deformation. Pervasive internal deformation (but not fast enough to invalidate plate tectonics).

Continuum sea.  
“Harder” to see with GPS.



Narrow deformation zones.  
Concentrated zones of deformation within  
inactive regions.  
“Challenging” to see with GPS.



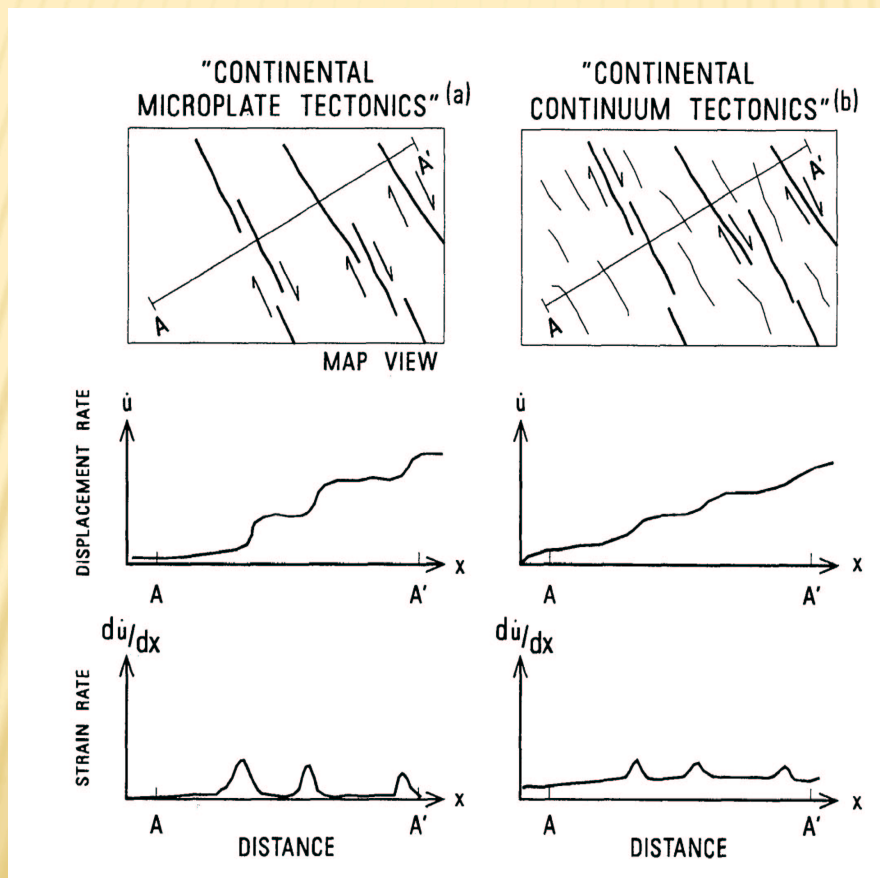


More faults with evidence of active deformation  
than actively deforming zones.  
May jump around (on human or geologic scale).  
“Challenging” to see with GPS.

## Microplate versus continuum descriptions of active tectonic deformation

Wayne Thatcher

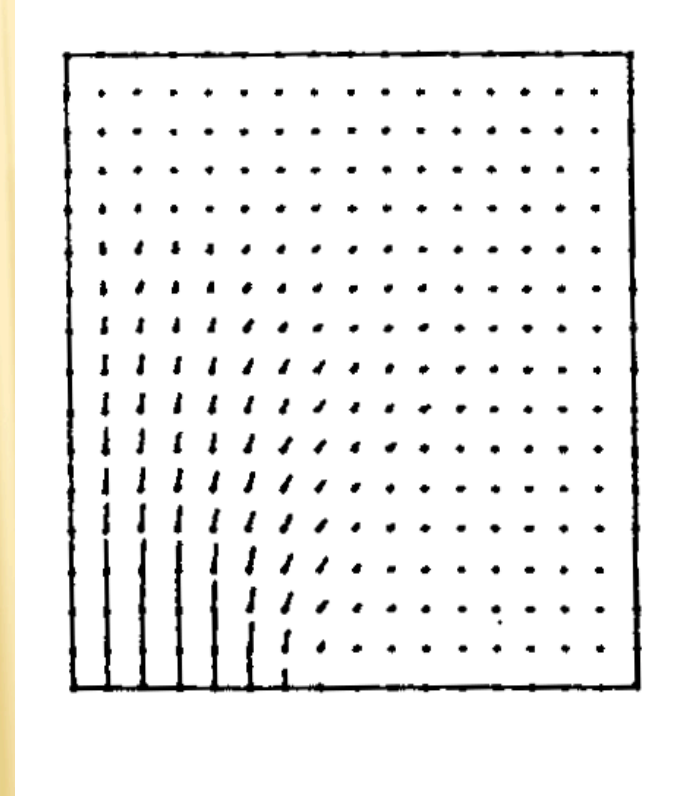
U.S. Geological Survey, Menlo Park, California





## A thin viscous sheet model for continental deformation

The TVS ‘test’:  
‘If the orientation of buoyancy stresses  
(calculated from maps of crustal thickness)  
and tectonic stresses (from  
velocity field  
and TVS formulation) are the  
same,  
then the region is essentially  
behaving as a fluid’ (England  
and Molnar, ‘97)

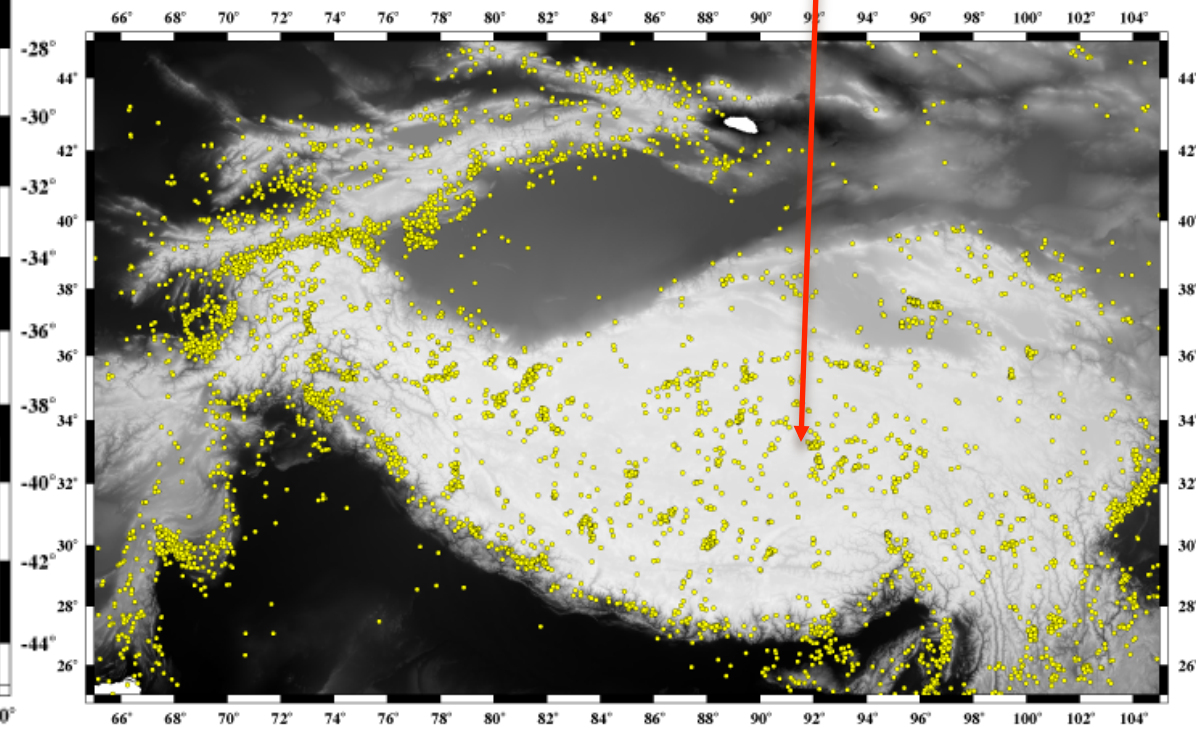
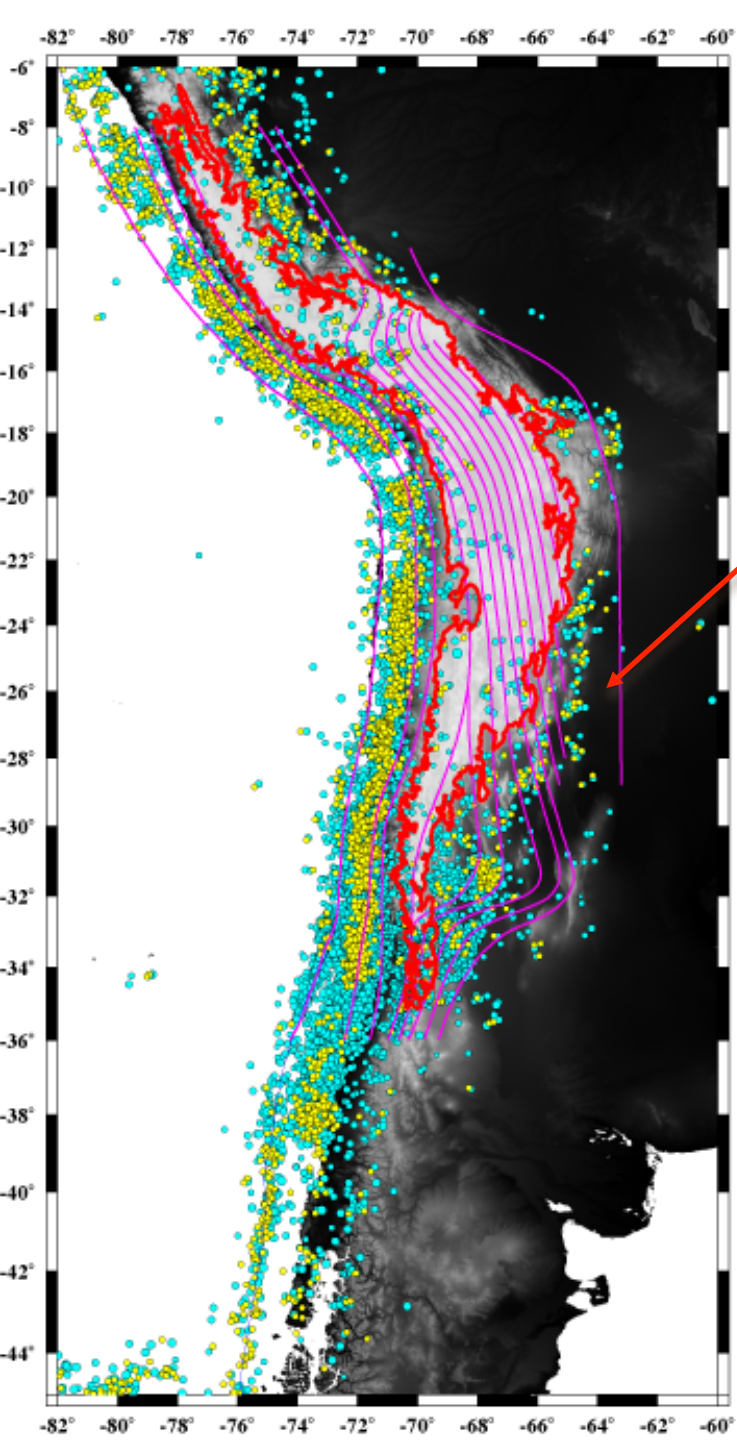


# Compare seismicity of Himalaya and Andes

Around edges

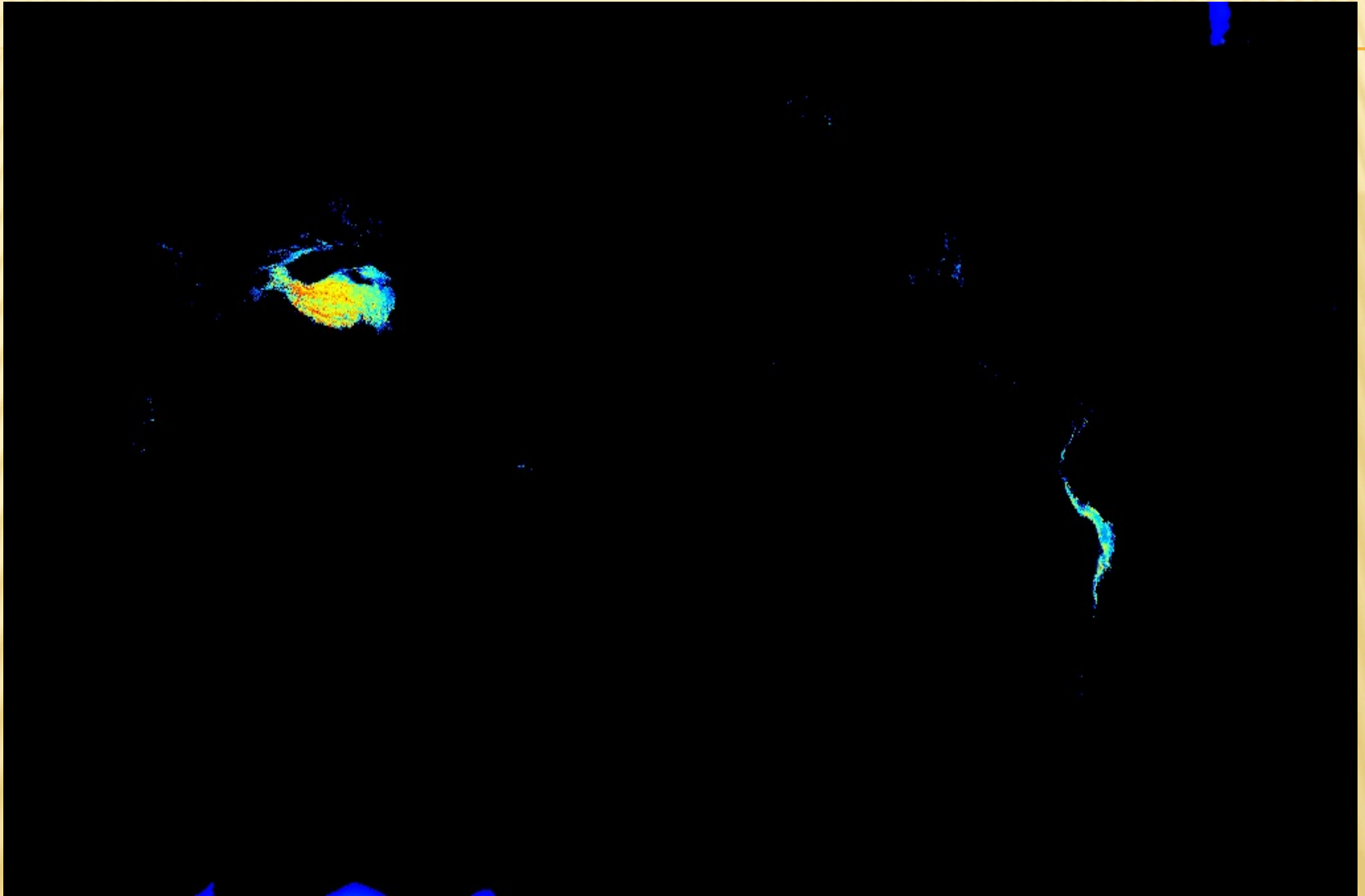
Distributed

After Brooks et al, 2003





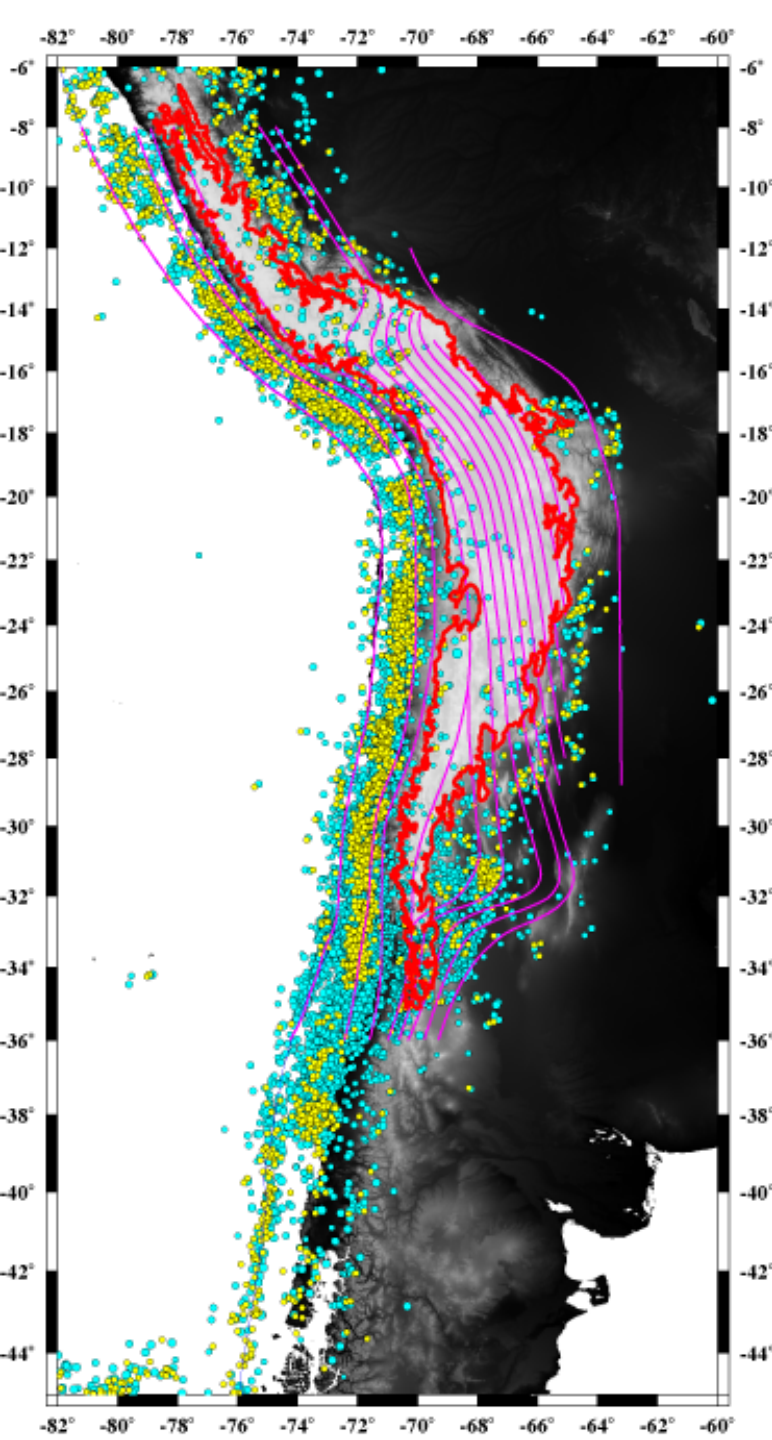
Map of topography higher than 3 km.



Himalaya and Andes

# Andean seismicity:

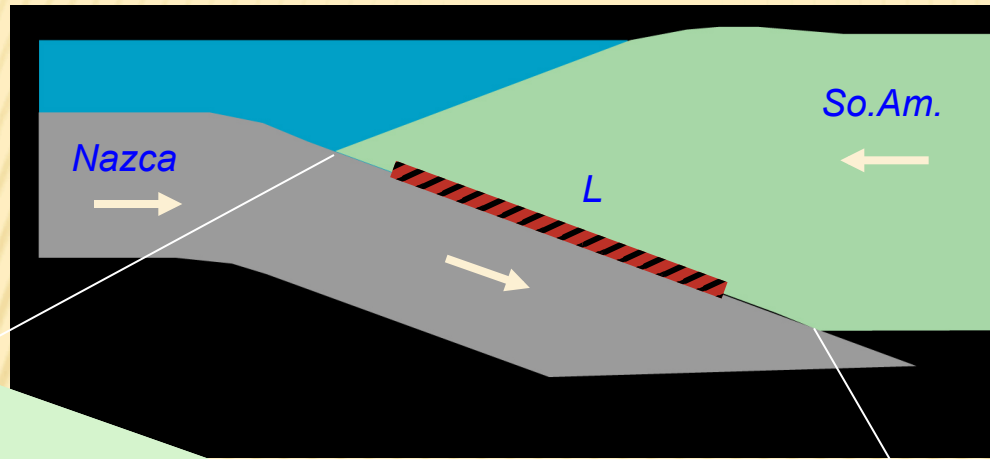
- Plate boundary
- Crust is “aseismic” in high elevations
- Active crustal seismicity between eastern 3 Km elevation contour and eastern limit (surface projection) of Wadati-Benioff seismicity.





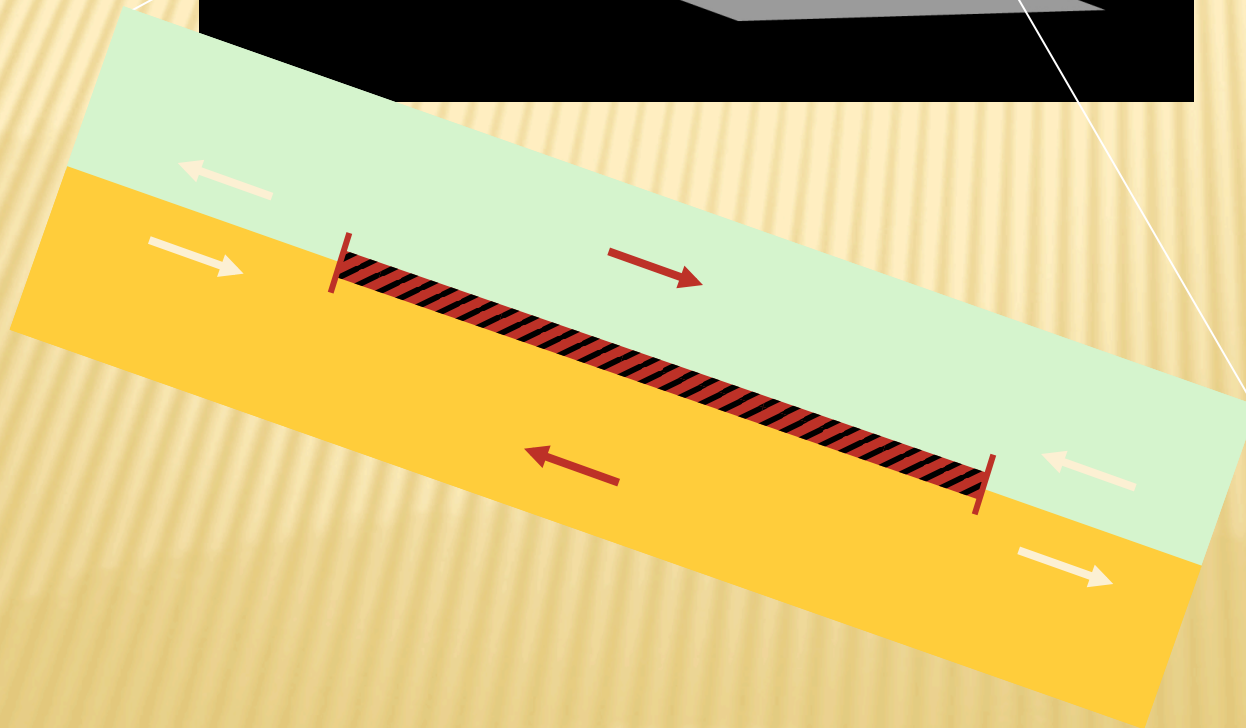
# MODELING INTERSEISMIC STRAIN: 'BACKSLIP'

(after Savage, '83; Bevis & Martel, '01)

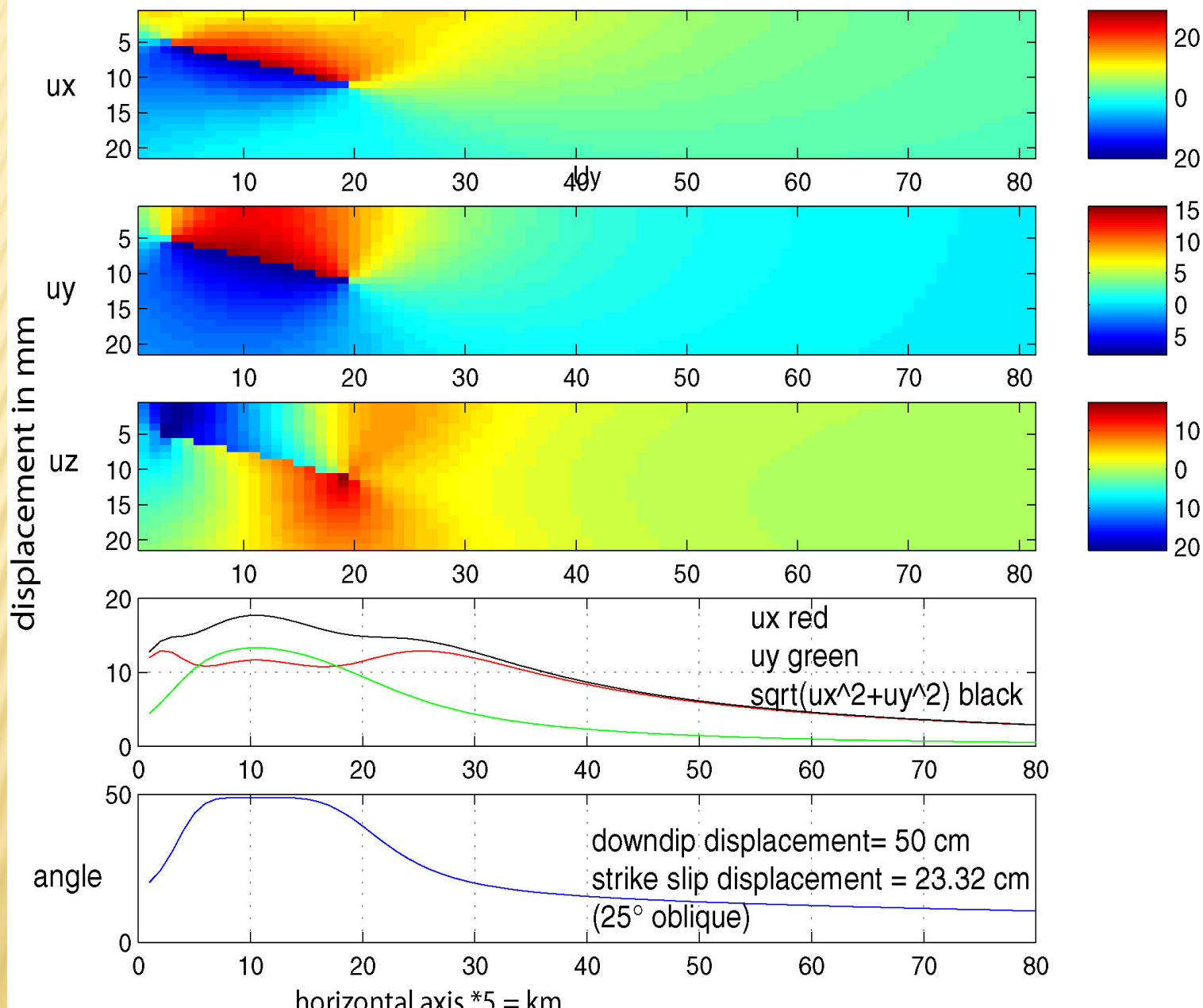


Savage backslip  
approach.

Run an  
earthquake  
“backwards” on  
the fault.

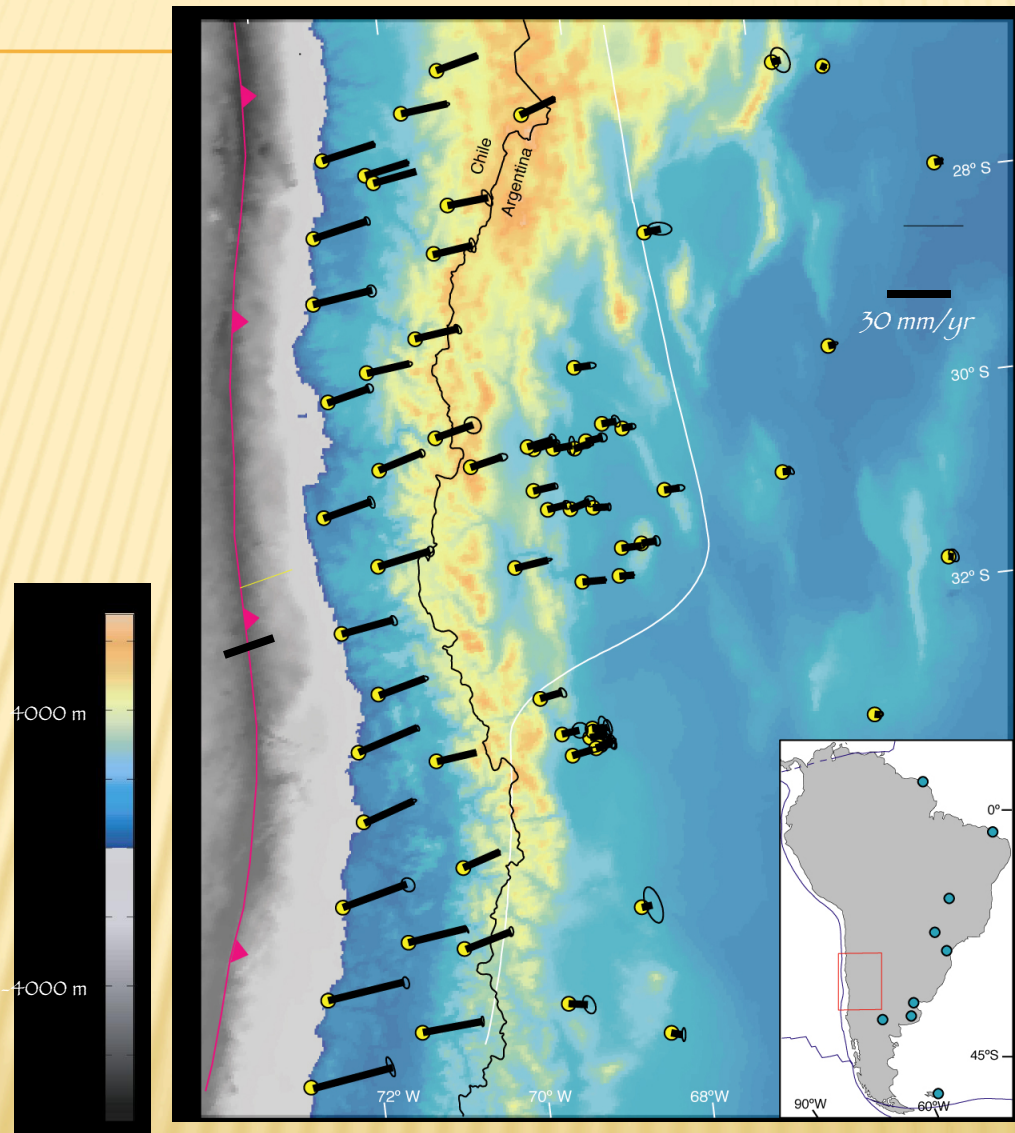


# Elastic modeling – interseismic

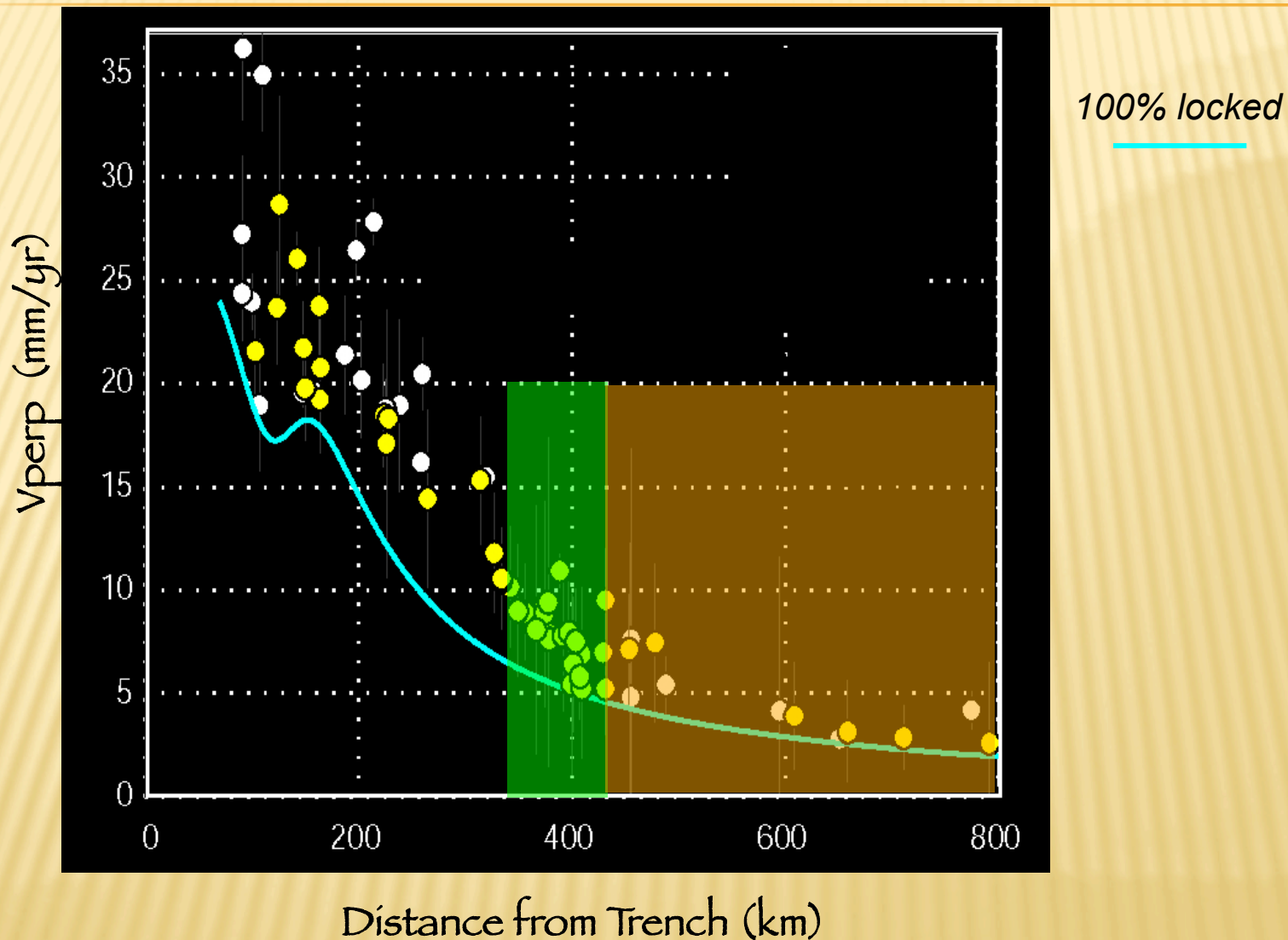




# GPS velocity field, south central Andes



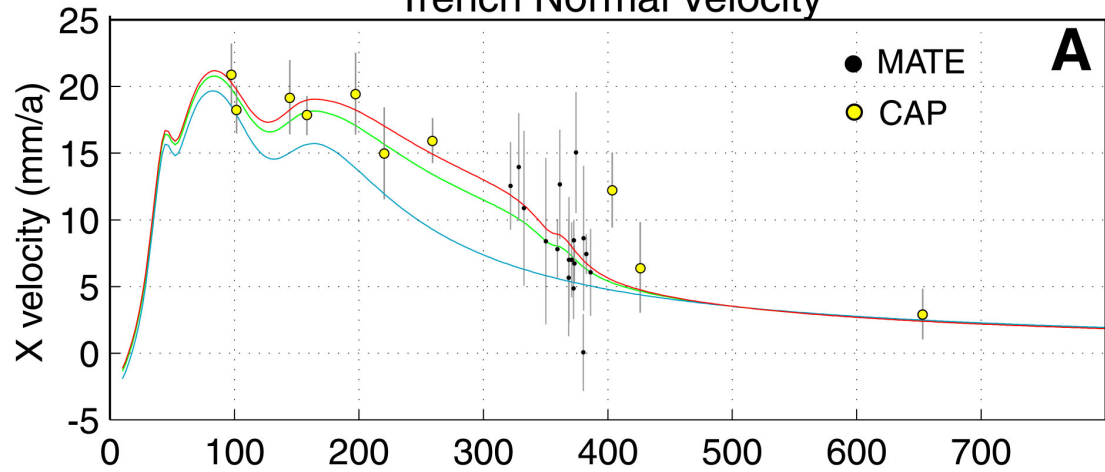
# Horizontal velocity profile: back slip model (blue) vs data



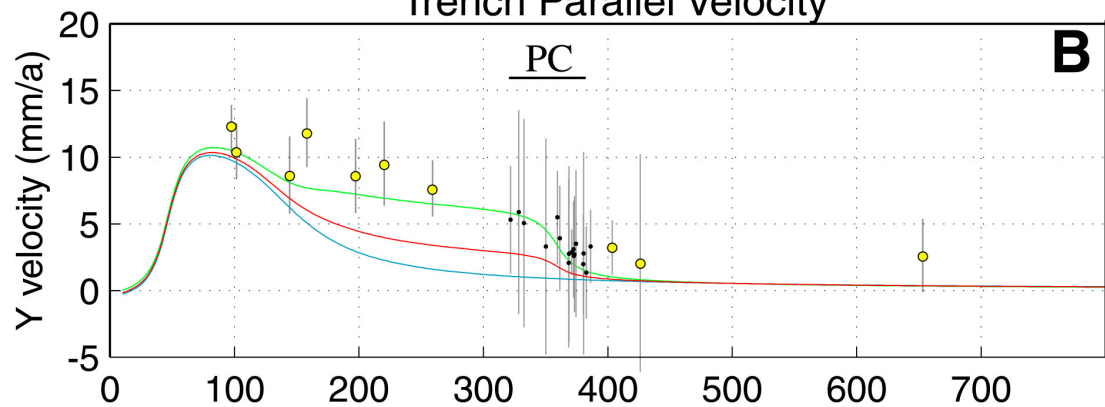


# SOUTH CENTRAL ANDES (PRECORDILLERA)

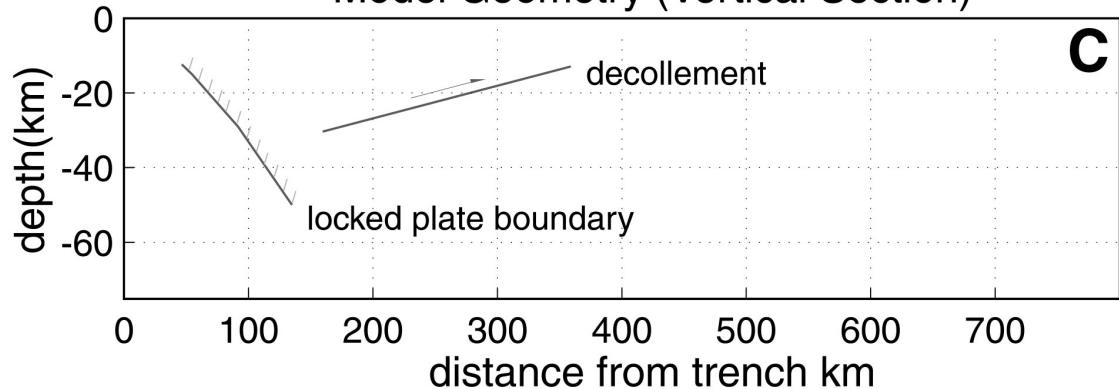
## Trench Normal Velocity



## Trench Parallel Velocity



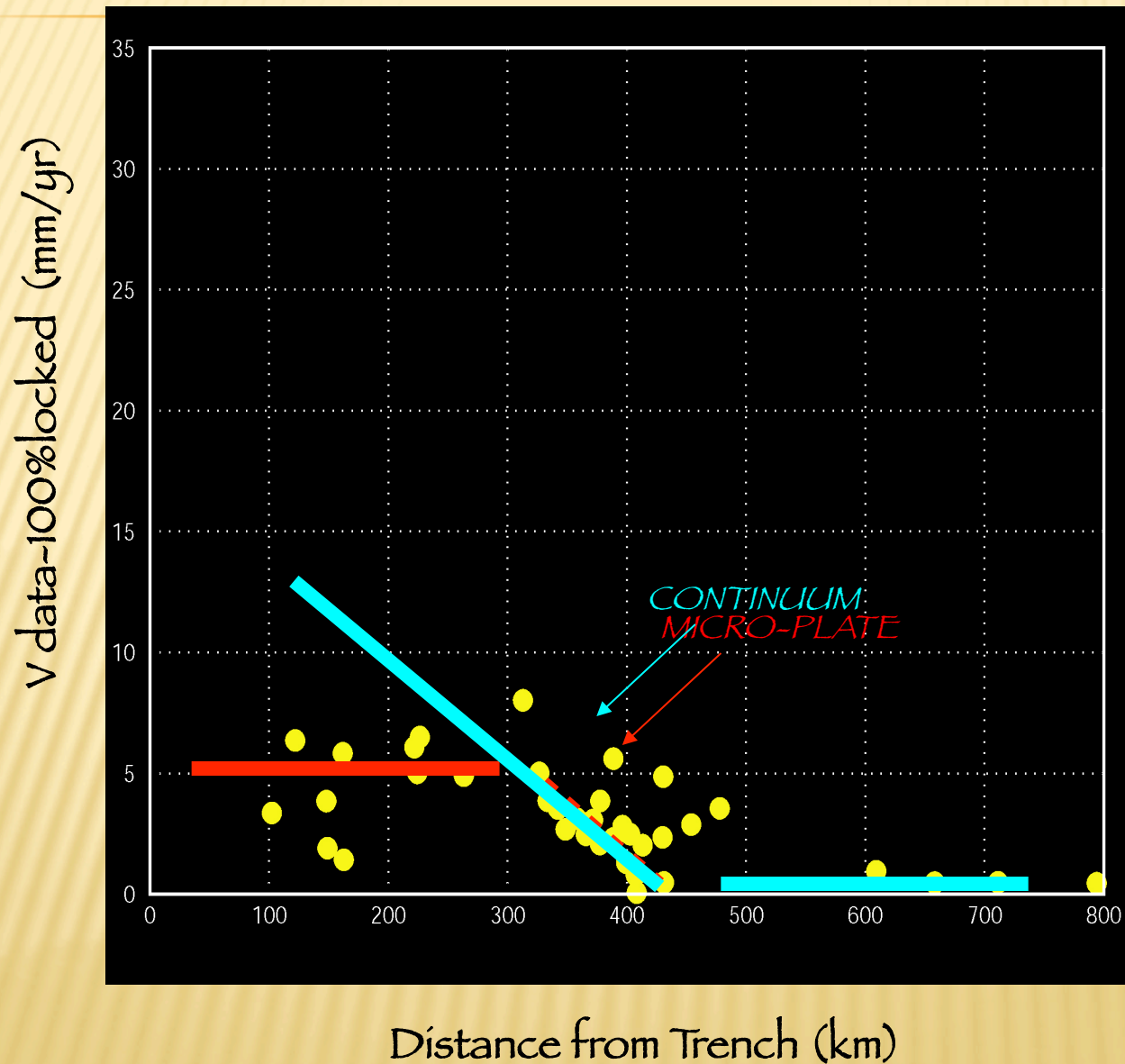
## Model Geometry (Vertical Section)



Cross section of horizontal velocity across south central Andes.

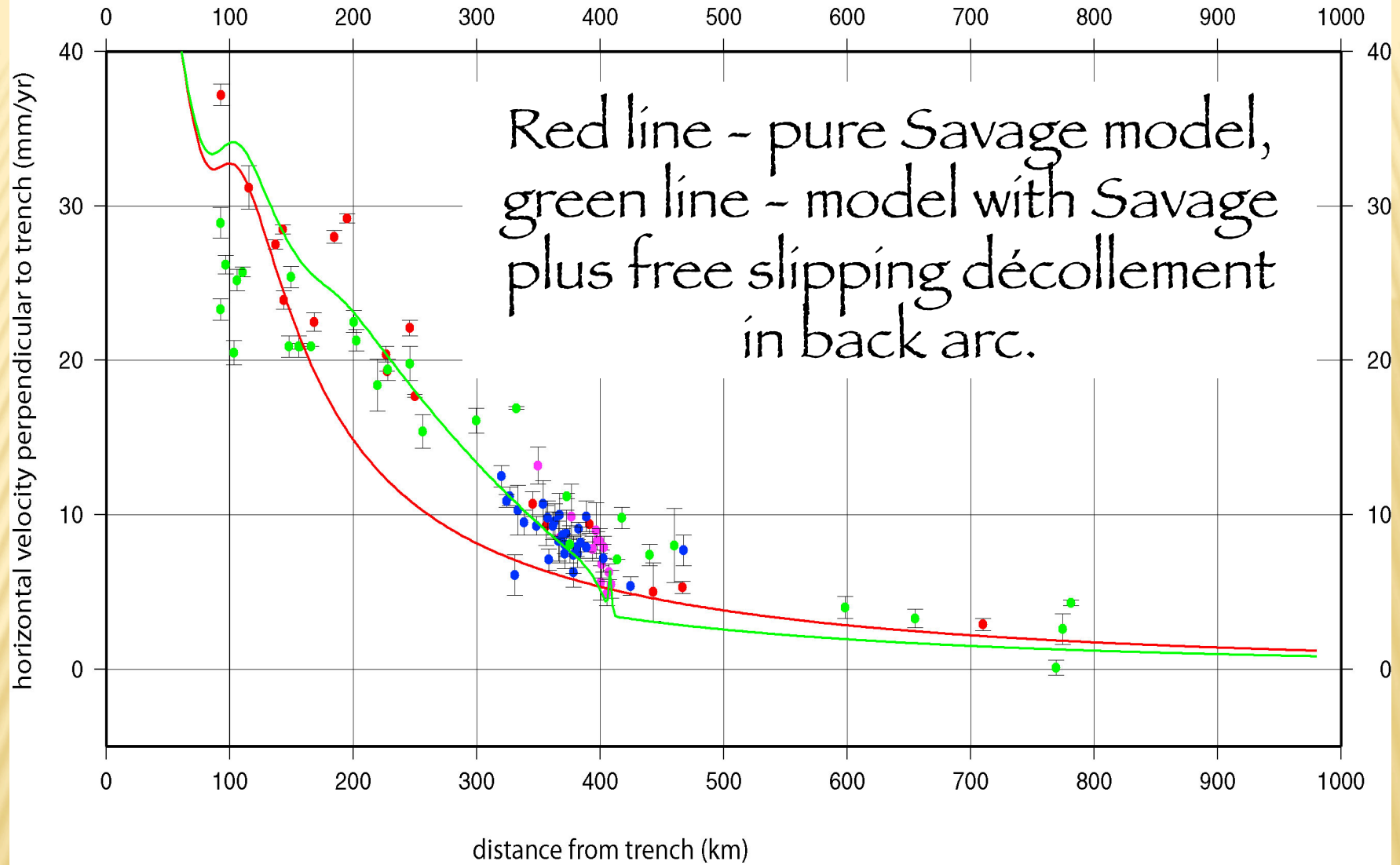
Strike is perpendicular to plate boundary.

# Residual (data-100% locked model) velocity profile



Distance from Trench (km)

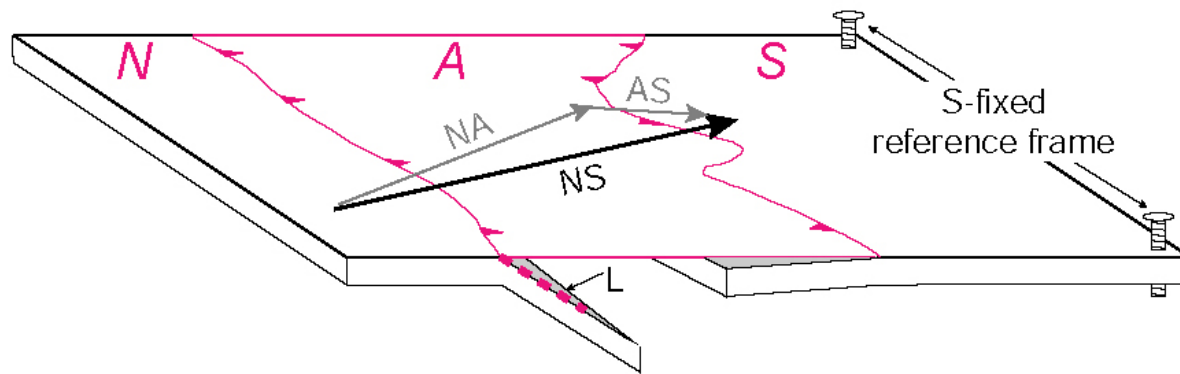




Cross section of horizontal velocity across south central Andes.

Strike is perpendicular to plate boundary.

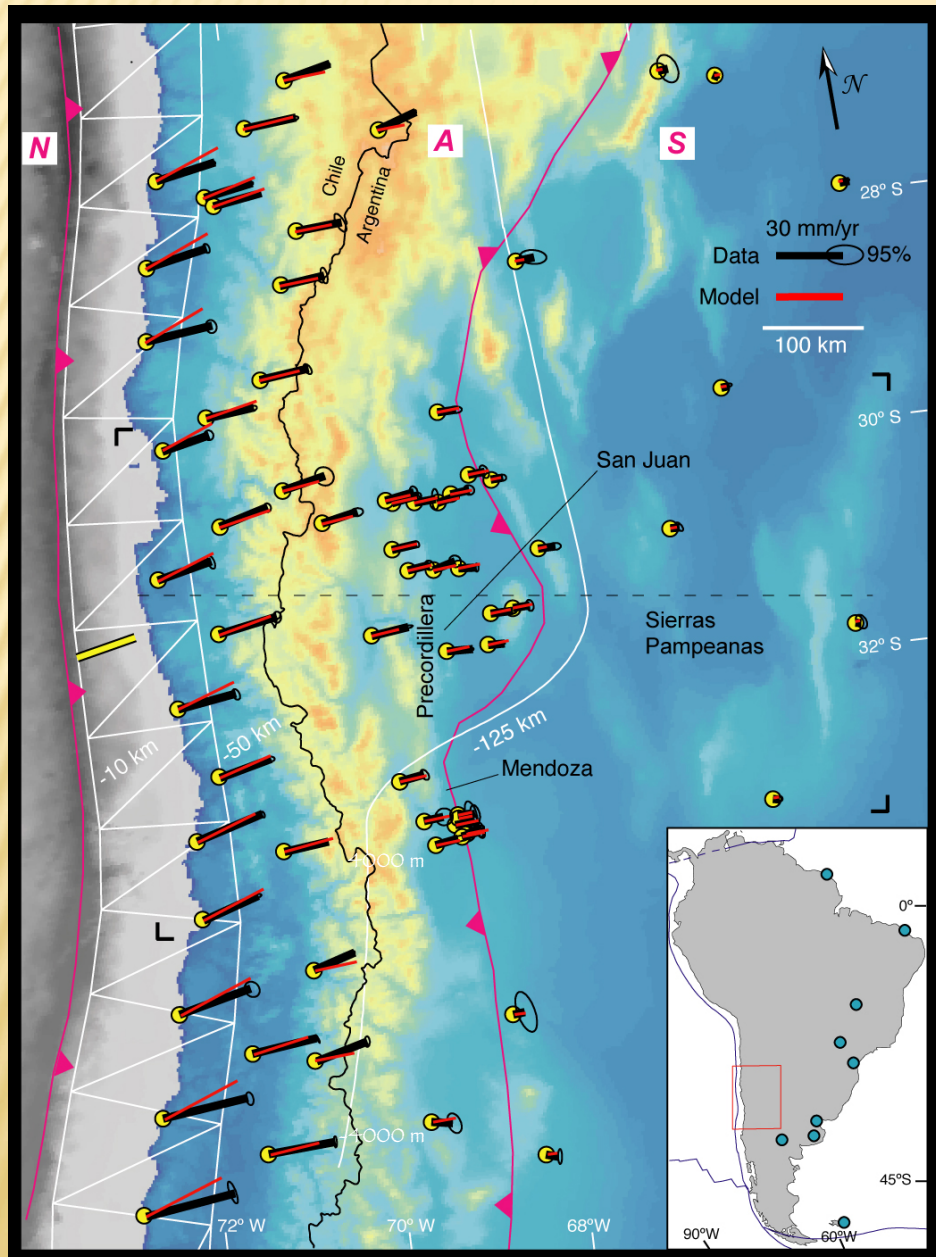
# 3-D, 3 “plate” model



- $U_{\text{total}} = U_{\text{elastic}} + U_{\text{plate}}$
- Inversion for 4 parameters:
  - $L$
  - $AS_{\text{lat}}$
  - $AS_{\text{lon}}$
  - $AS_w$
- (n.b.  $L$  is a free parameter doesn't have to be 100%)



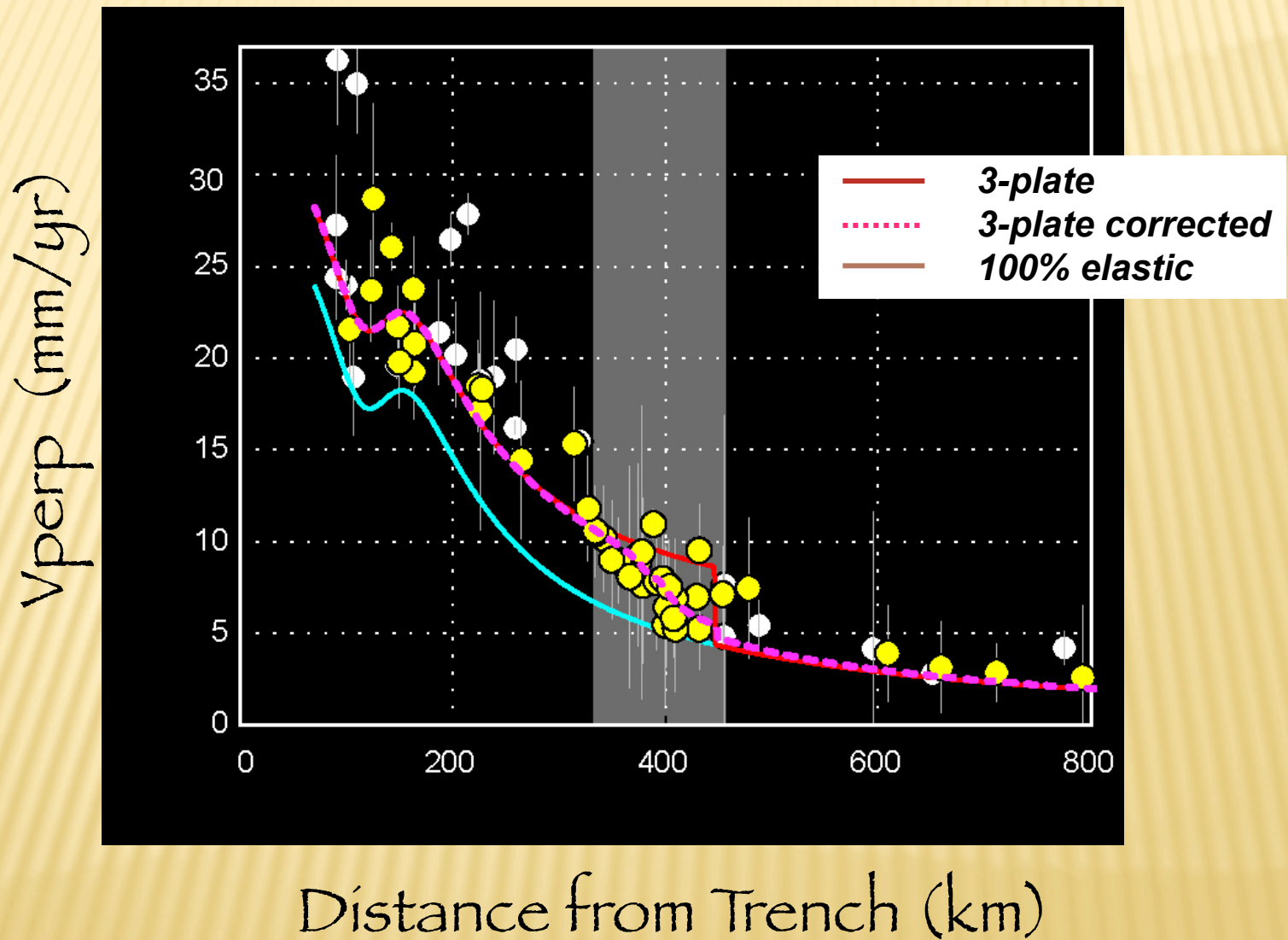
# Modeled vs measured velocity field



- $L \approx 1$
- AS velocity  $\sim 4.5$  mm/yr
- $\omega_{AS}$  in Canada

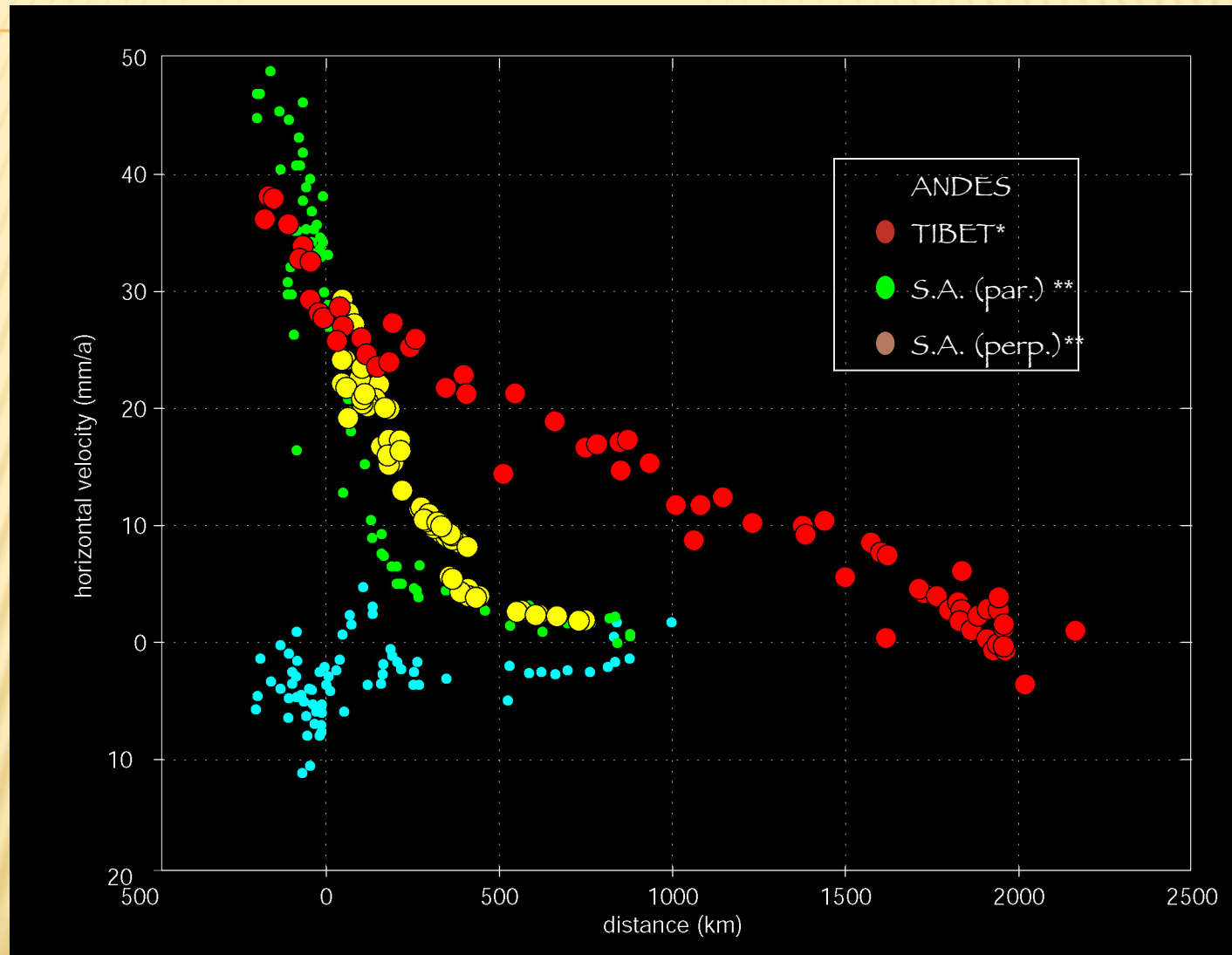


# Horizontal, plate normal, velocity profile



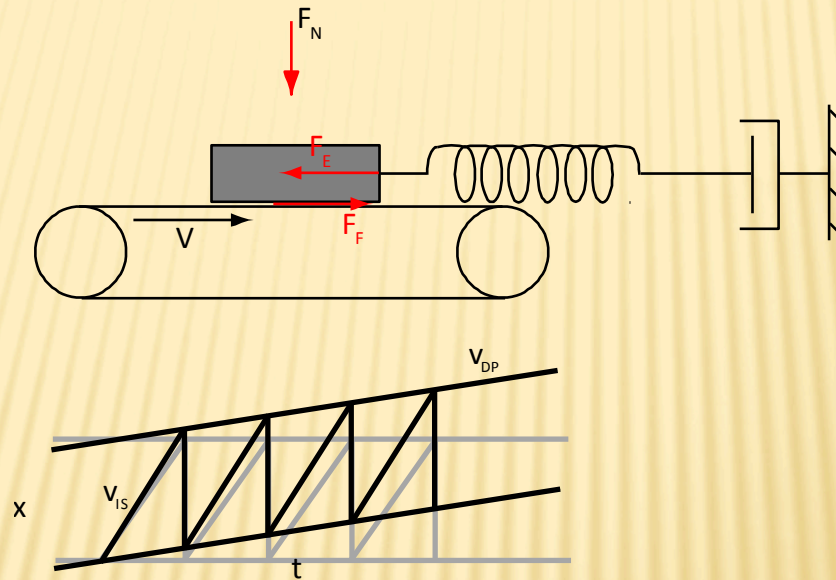


# Comparative velocity profiles



(\* Wang et. al, 2001; \*\* Bennett et. Al, 1999)

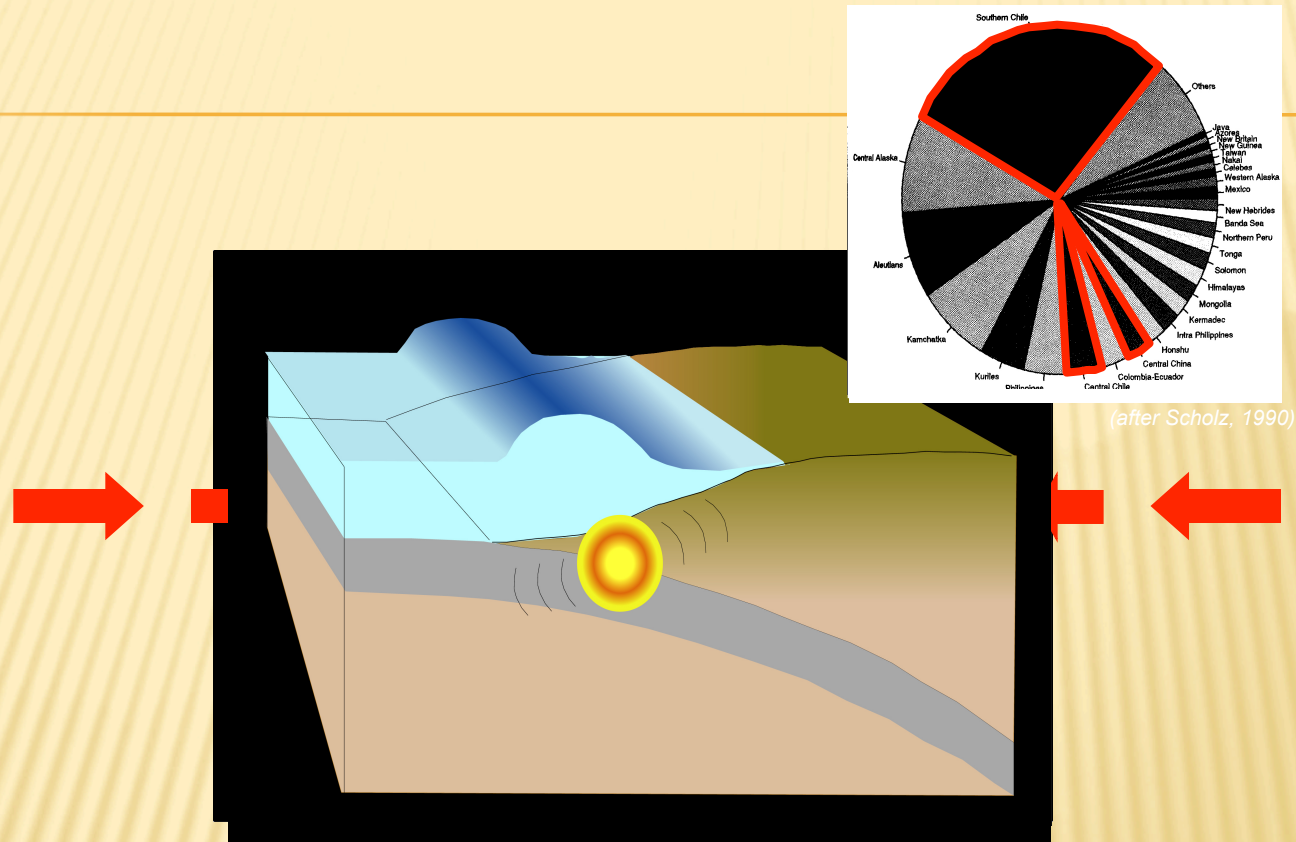
# Simple visco-elastic modeling of subduction process



Permanent deformation (Mountains/Andes)



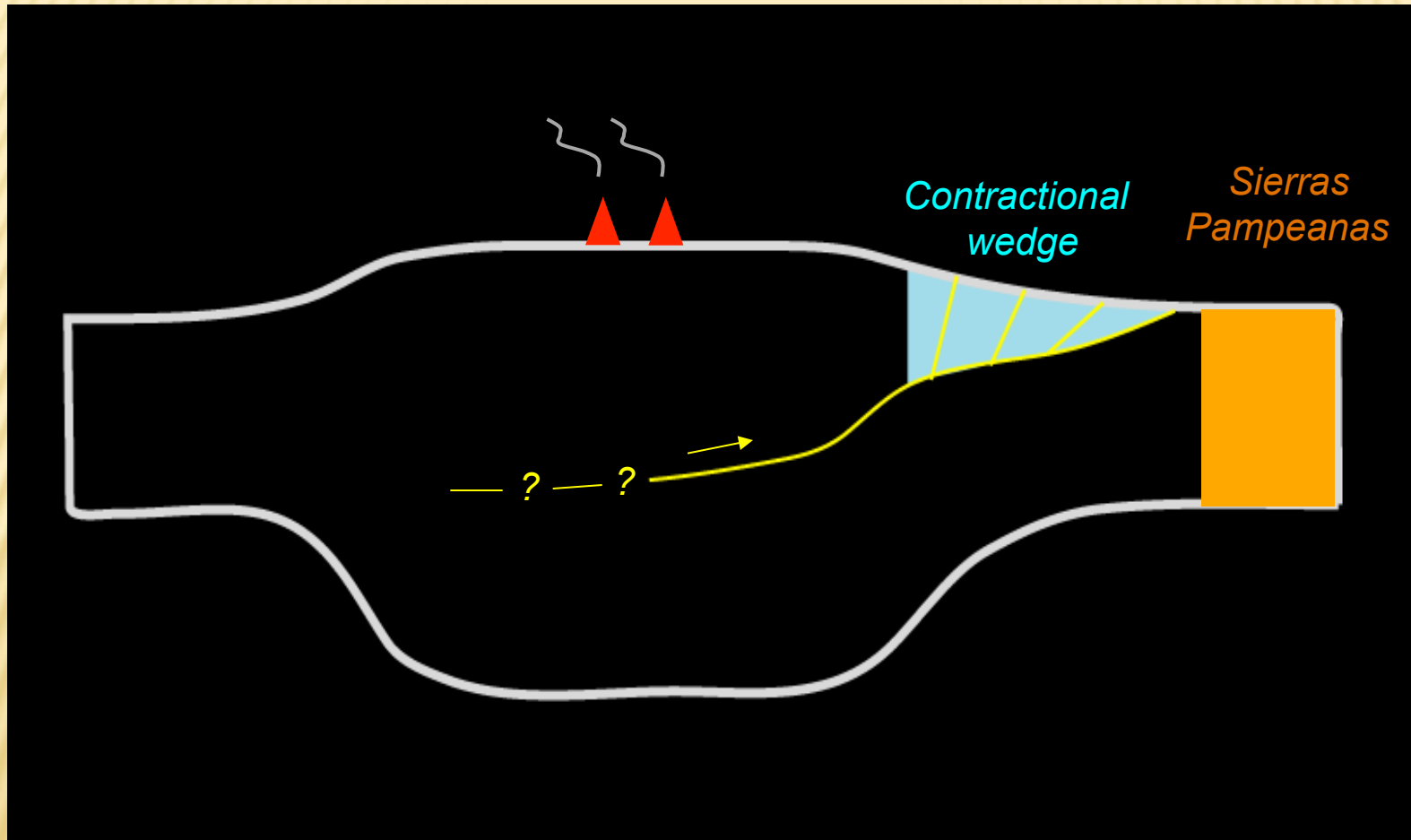
# Andean Crustal Deformation – Short Term



Along entire boundary:  $M \geq 8$  somewhere every  $\sim 10$  yrs.  
Each "traditional" segment:  $M \geq 8$  every  $\sim 100$  years.

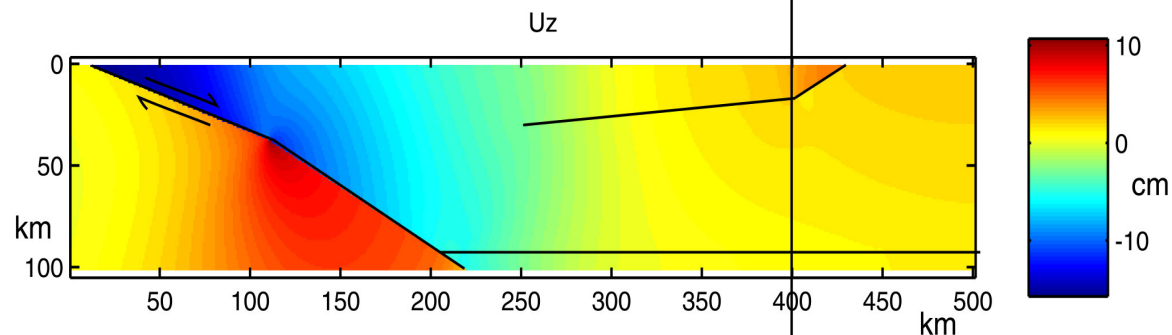
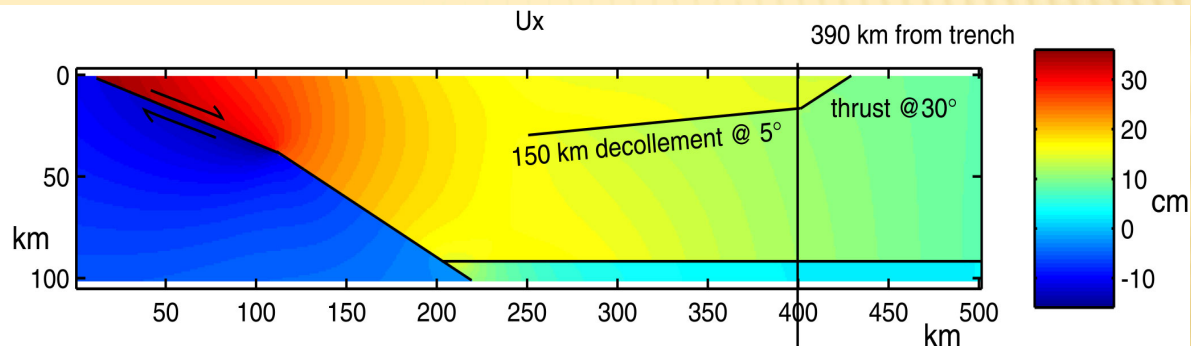
4-5 "newly recognized?" segments (800-1000+ km long)  
 $M \geq 9$  every  $\sim 400$  years.

# Boundary conditions for Andean orogeny.





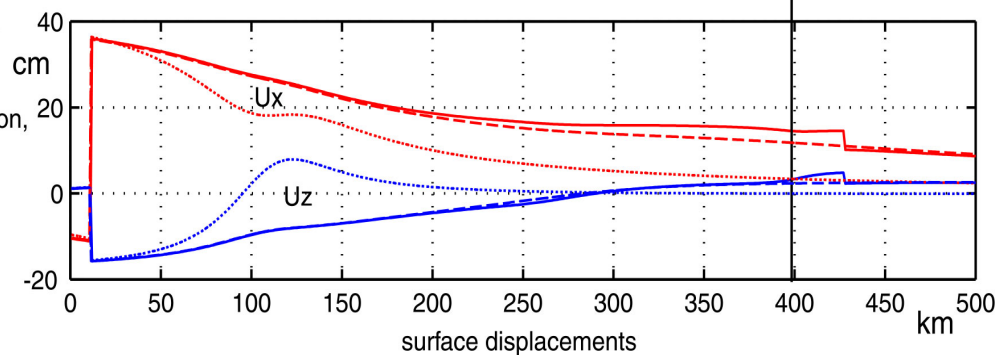
locked plate boundary 20° to 50 km depth, with imposed back slip to represent interseismic strain buildup, then free slipping at 30° (no opening/closing), free slipping base to upper plate lithosphere at 90 km depth (no opening/closing)



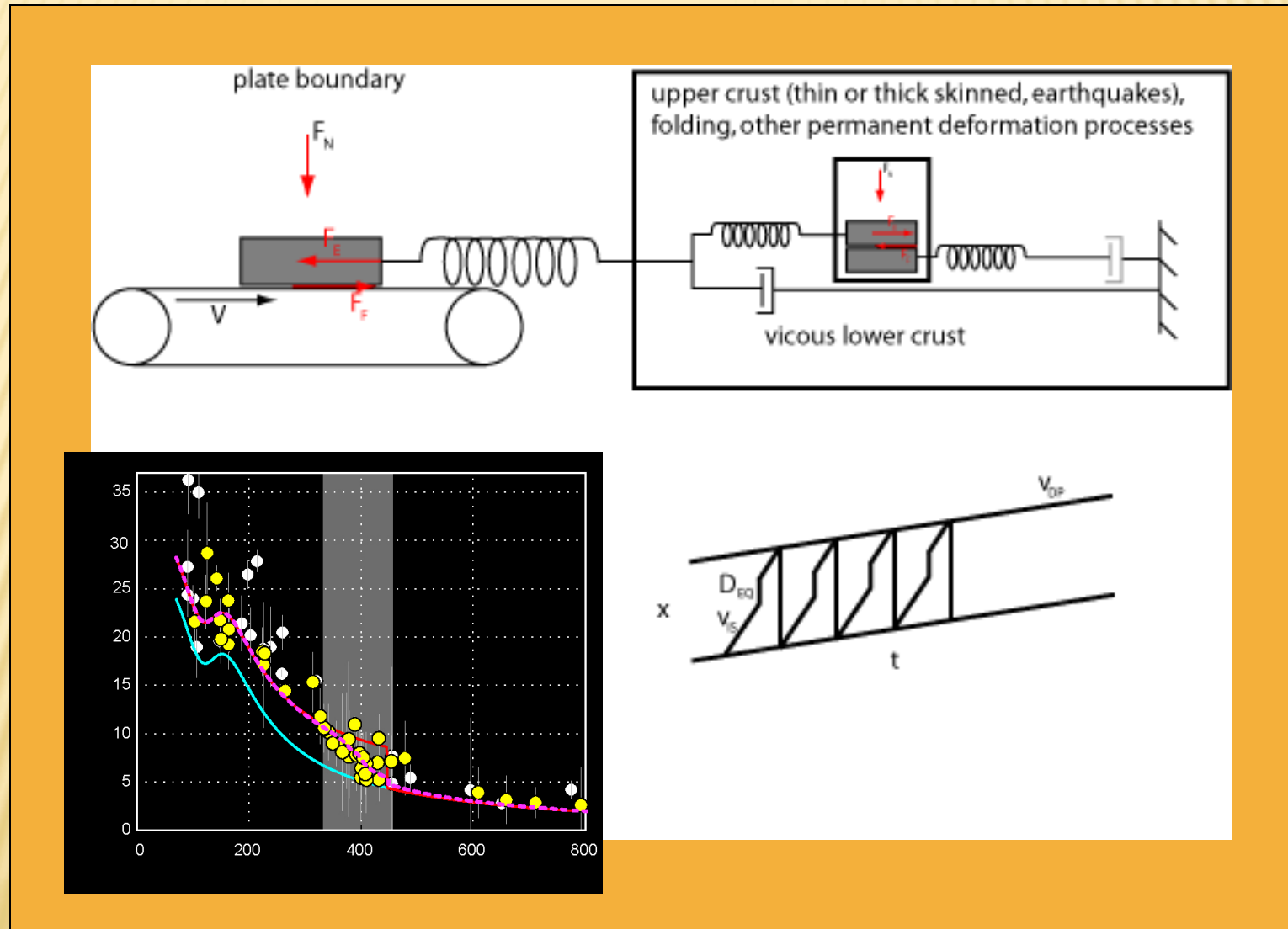
solid - 2 segment subduction,  
free slipping back arc

dashed - 2 segment subduction,  
no back arc structures

dotted - single segment  
subduction, no back arc  
structures



# Simple visco-elastic modeling of subduction plus Andes block



Permanent deformation (Andes + foreland deformation)



# Strain and slip partitioning

Linear system

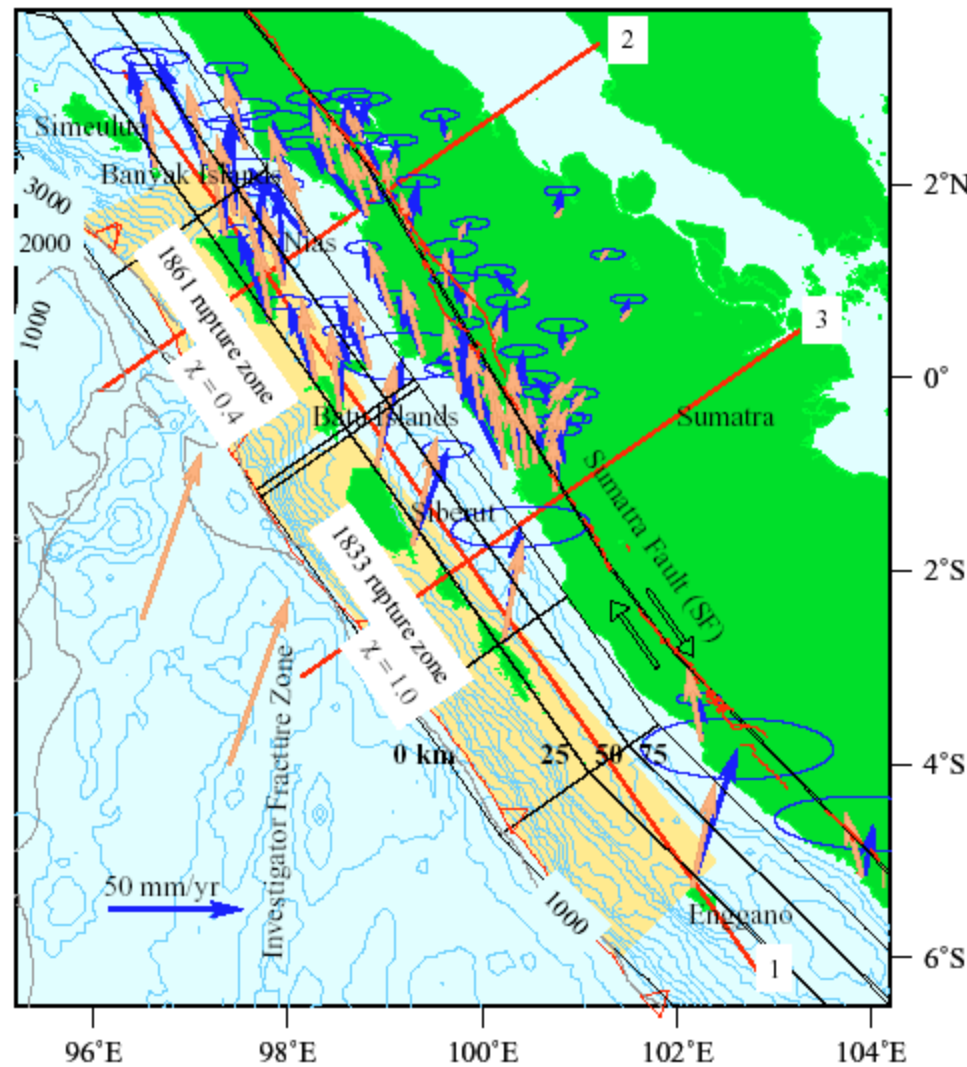
Can look at each “component” independently

Sum effects

- Downtip
- Strike-slip

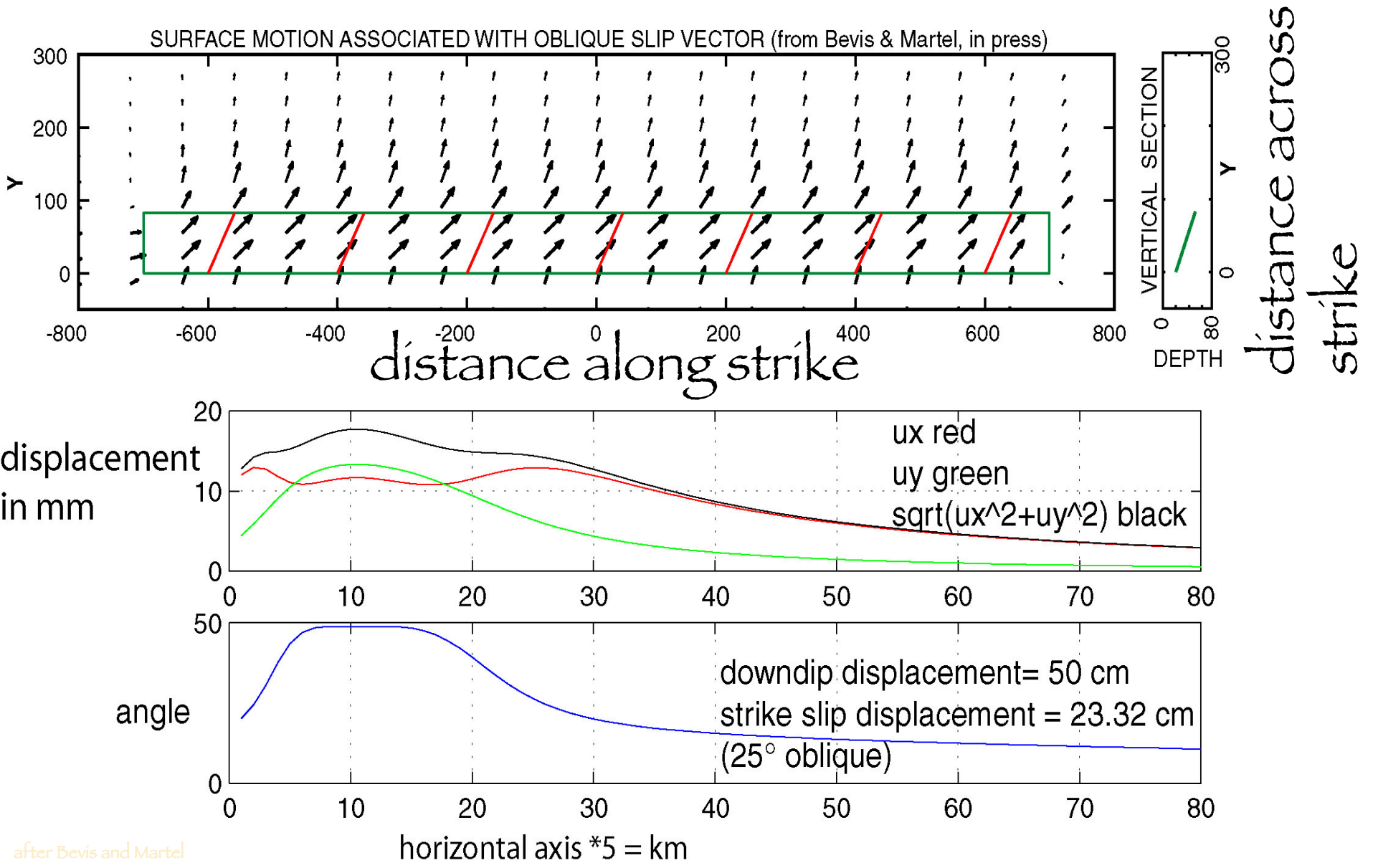
# Oblique subduction in Sumatra

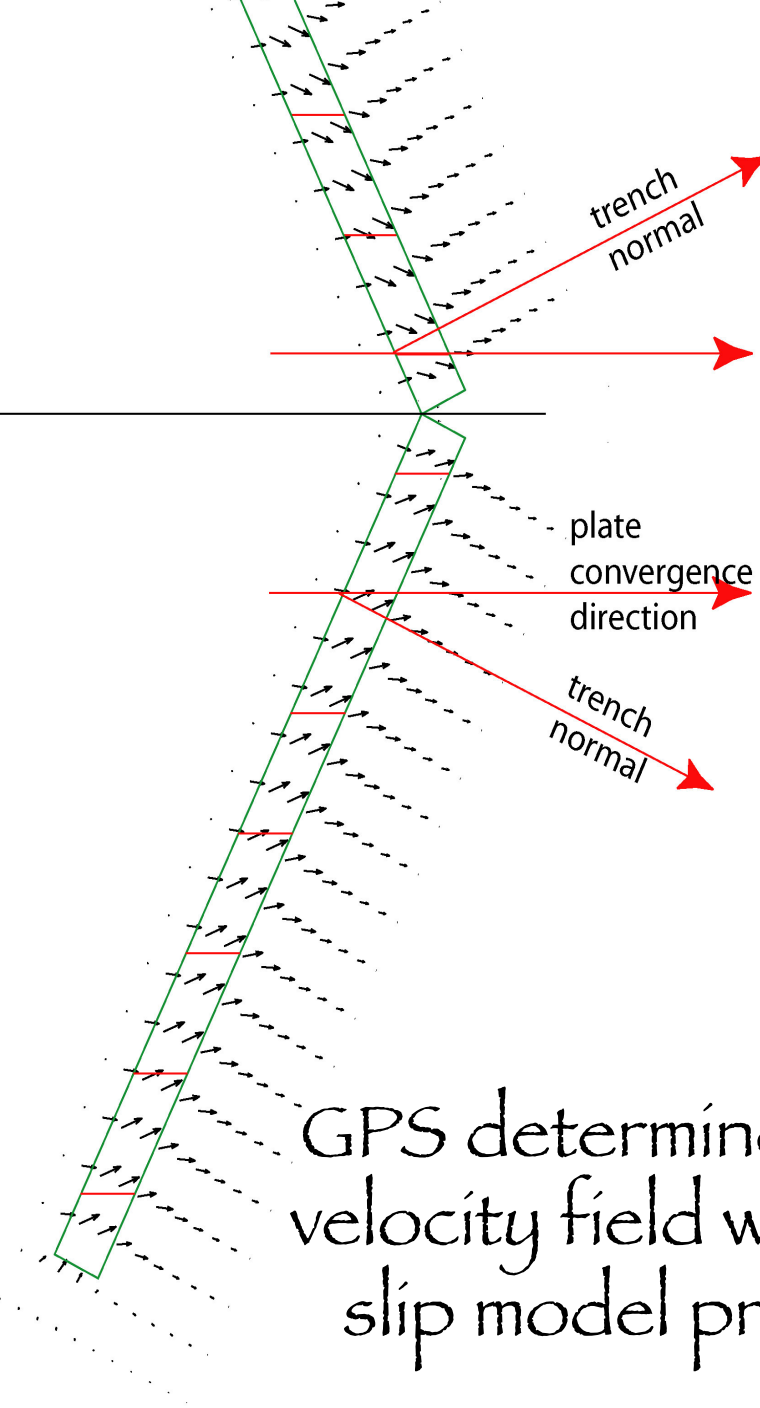
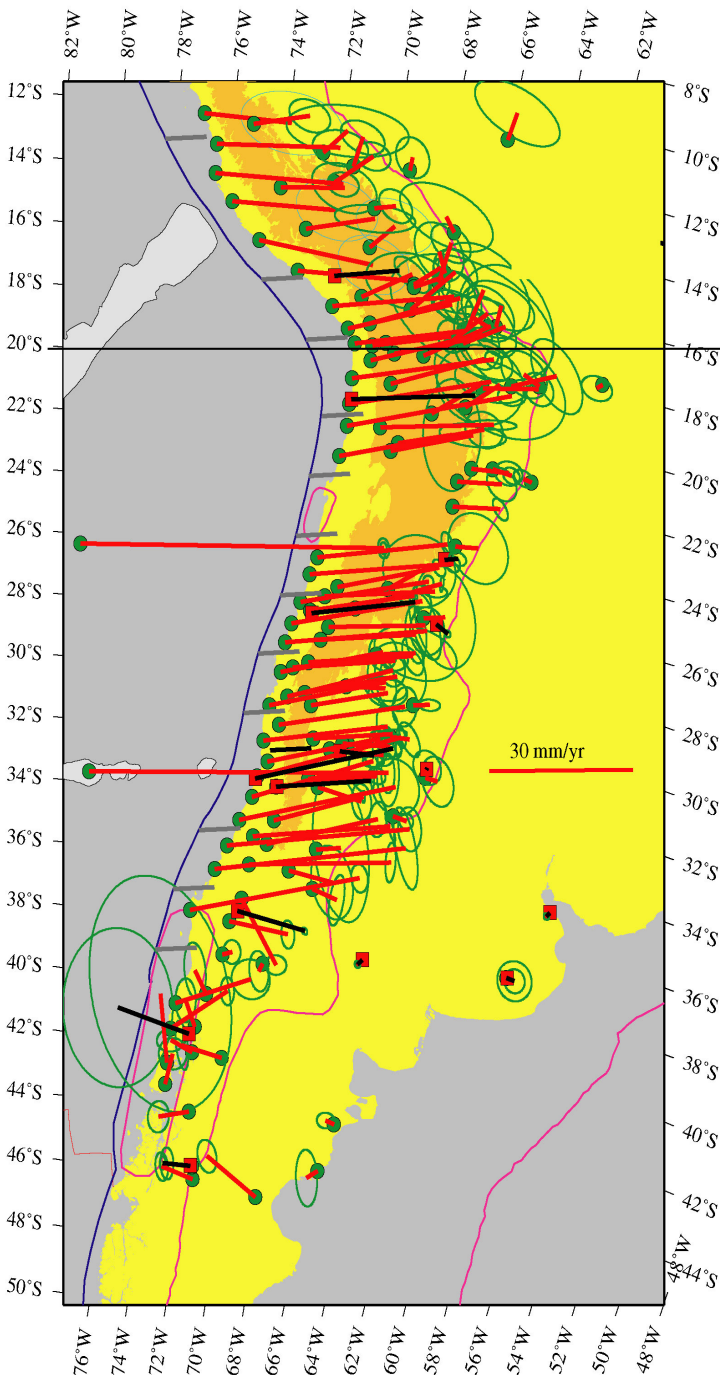
Strain partitioning poster child.





# Oblique slip model - geometry of shortening controlled by trench orientation, not convergence direction.







Oblique Mercator projection  
in which coast lies along a  
meridian.

Shows crustal velocity field  
for CAP and MATE  
networks

Note velocity gradient  
(deformation) across Andes

Note variation of obliquity  
from greater than plate  
convergence direction to  
approximately perpendicular  
to coast/plate boundary.

