

# 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

Office: 3892 Central Ave, Room 103

678-4929

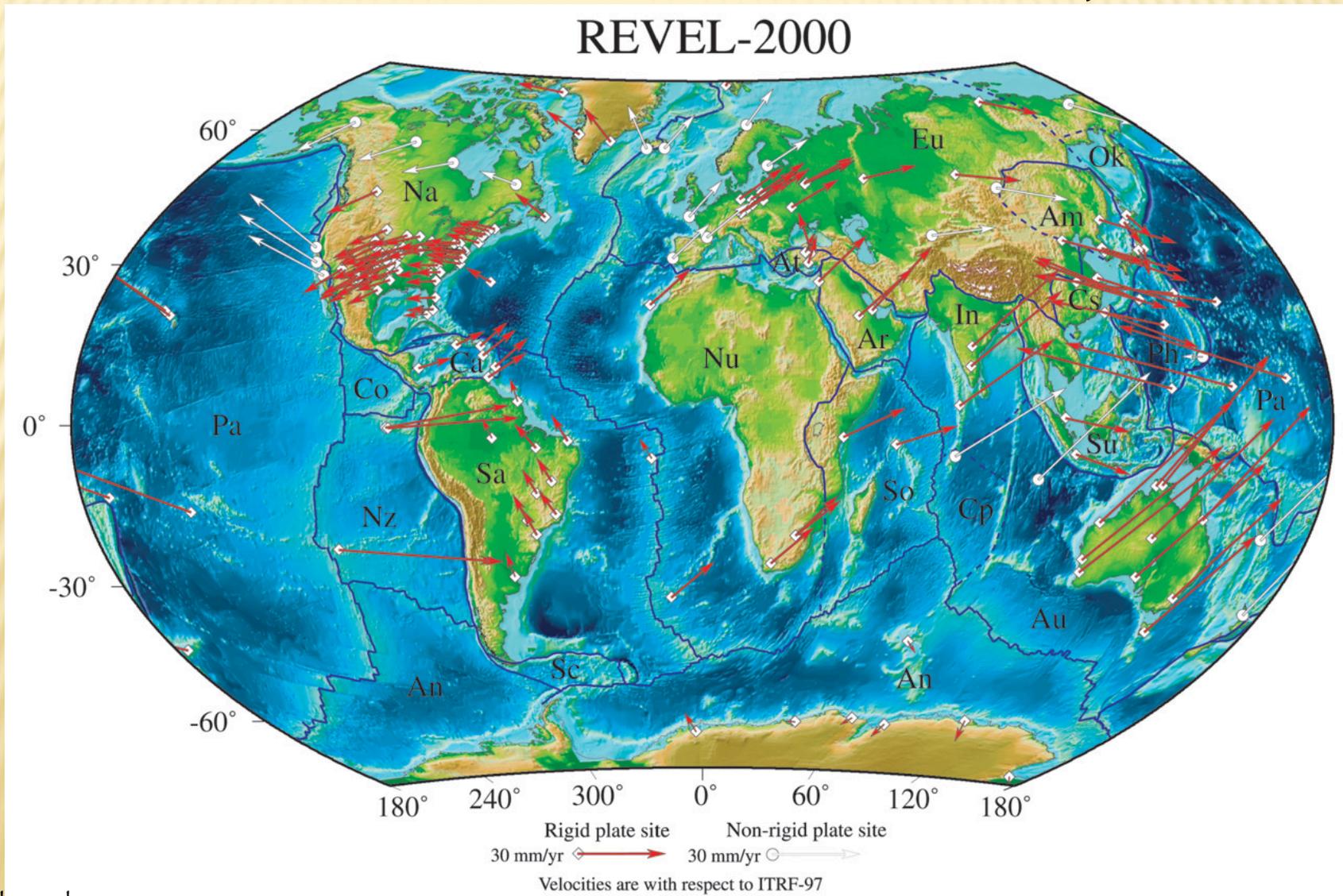
Office Hours – Wed 14:00-16:00 or if I'm in my office.

[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)

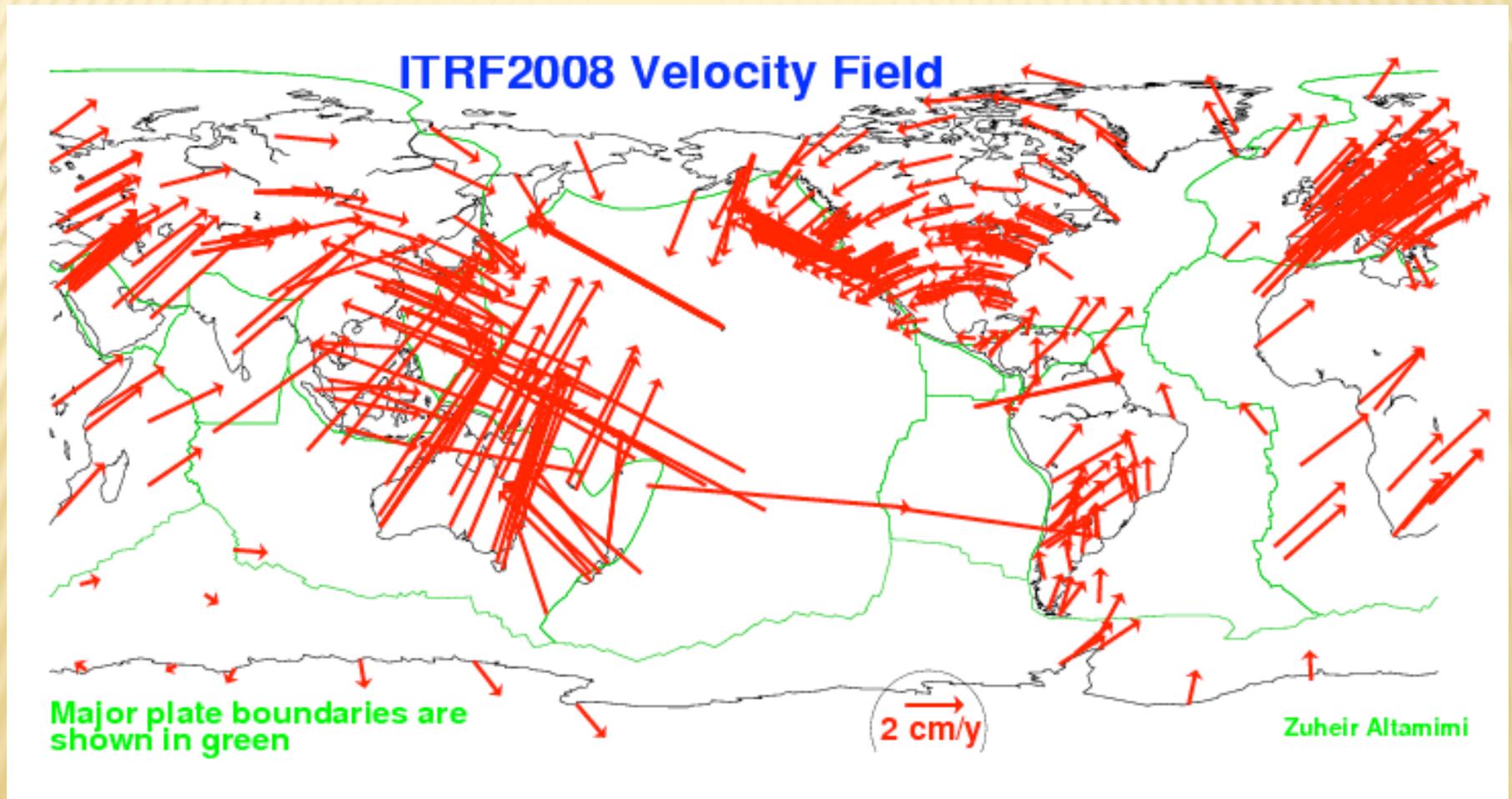
Class 13

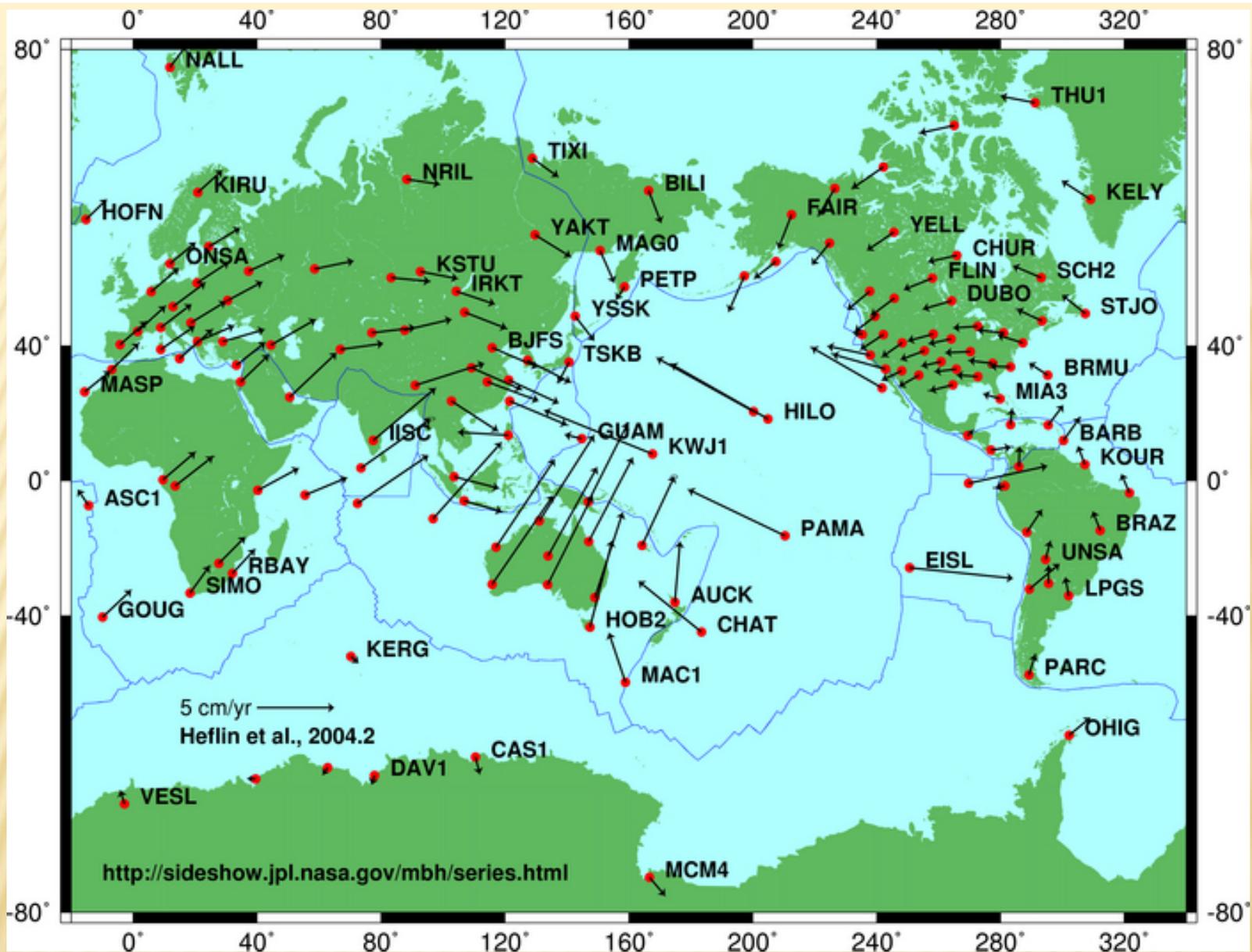
# REcent VELOCities - from GPS

(note holes - Scotia Plate for example)



# ITRF-2008





GPS picture – Scotia Plate missing (also missing from NUVEL-1, “included, but not constrained in NUVEL-1A)

Combine GPS and Geology to define motion  
Scotia plate.

Scotia plate “missing” from NUVEL-1

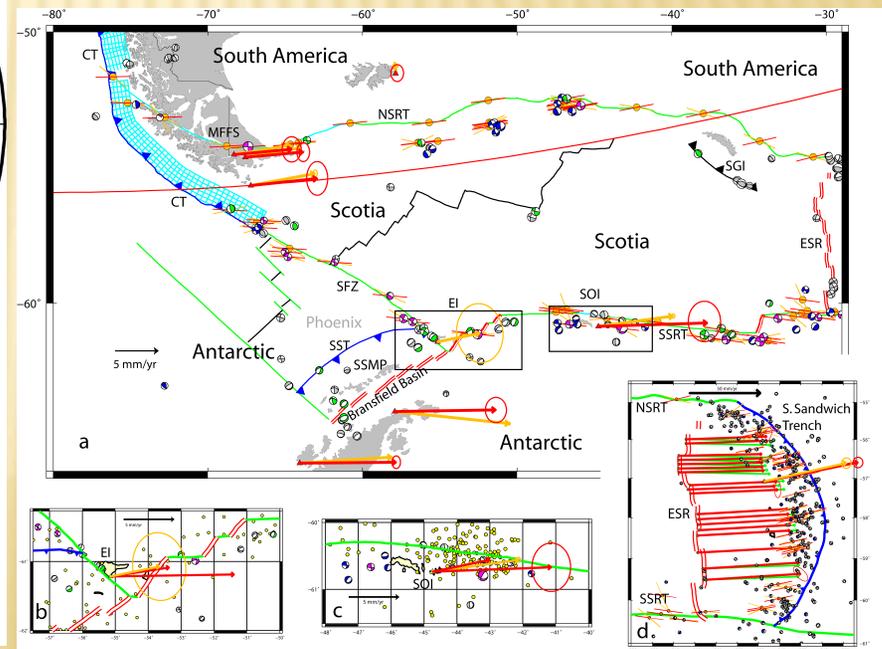
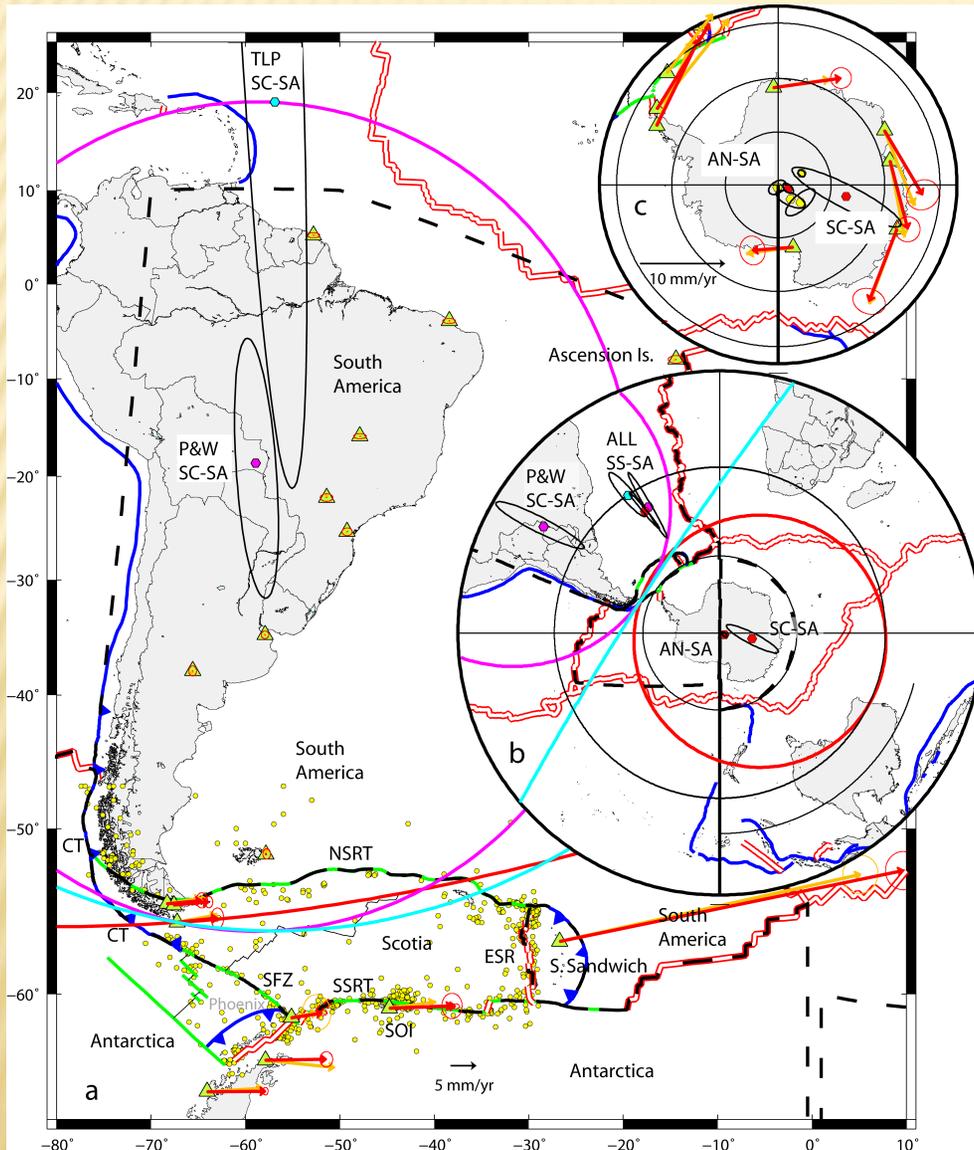
(in NUVEL-1A but estimated from closure)

Get small circles from transform plate boundaries  
(so theoretically can get location of pole) but no  
tie into spreading system for velocity.

Use GPS to get velocity.

# Results for GPS-Geologic combination for Scotia Arc.

Use Combination of GPS (velocity and azimuth, focal mechanisms (azimuth), Scotia-South Sandwich spreading.



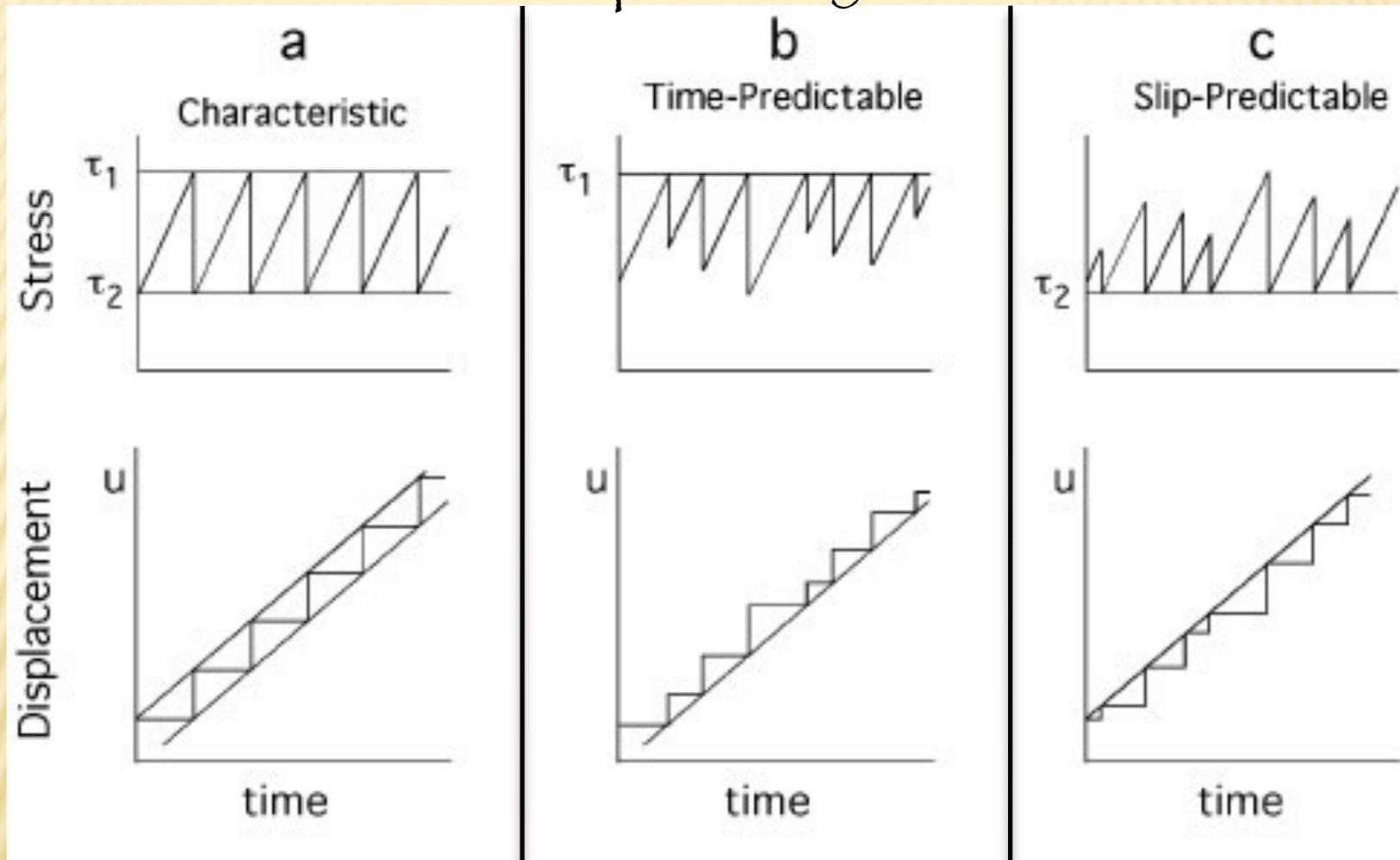
Smalley et al., 2007

# Applications Space Based Geodesy (GPS, VLBI, SLR/InSAR)

# Dynamics: “Physics” of earthquakes



# Earthquake "cycle"

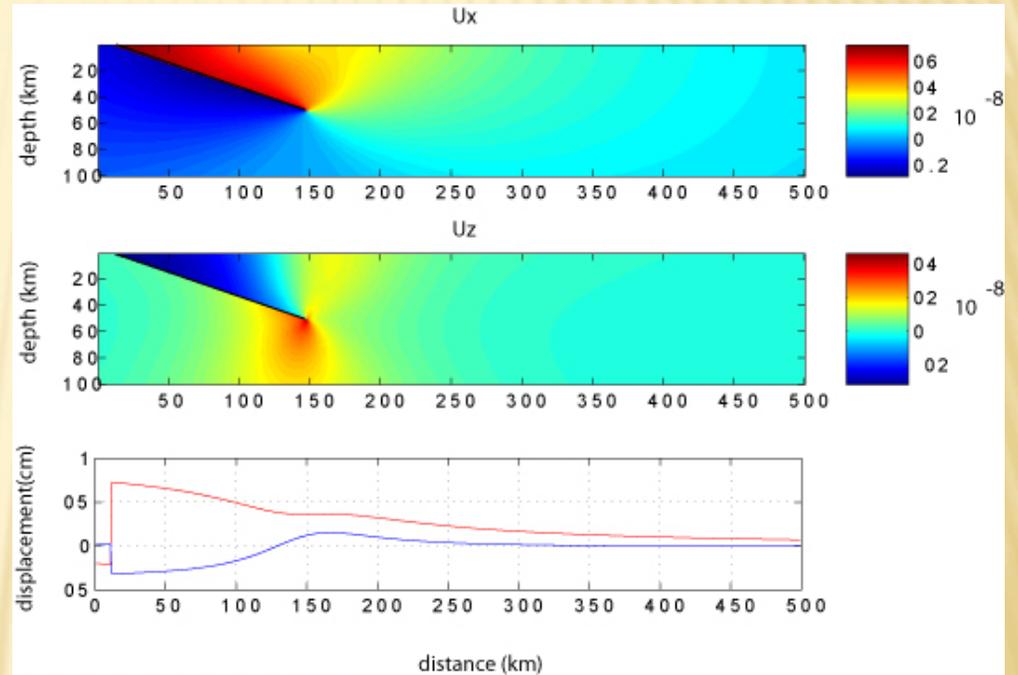
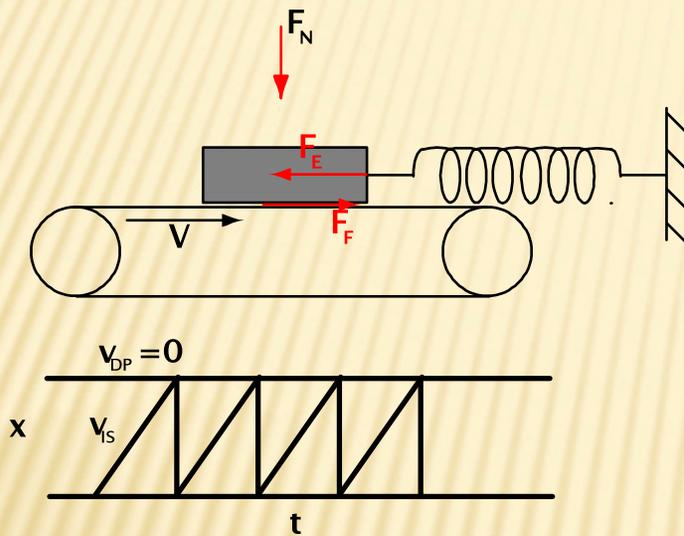


Gives time and size of next earthquake. Seismic gap theory is application of this model.

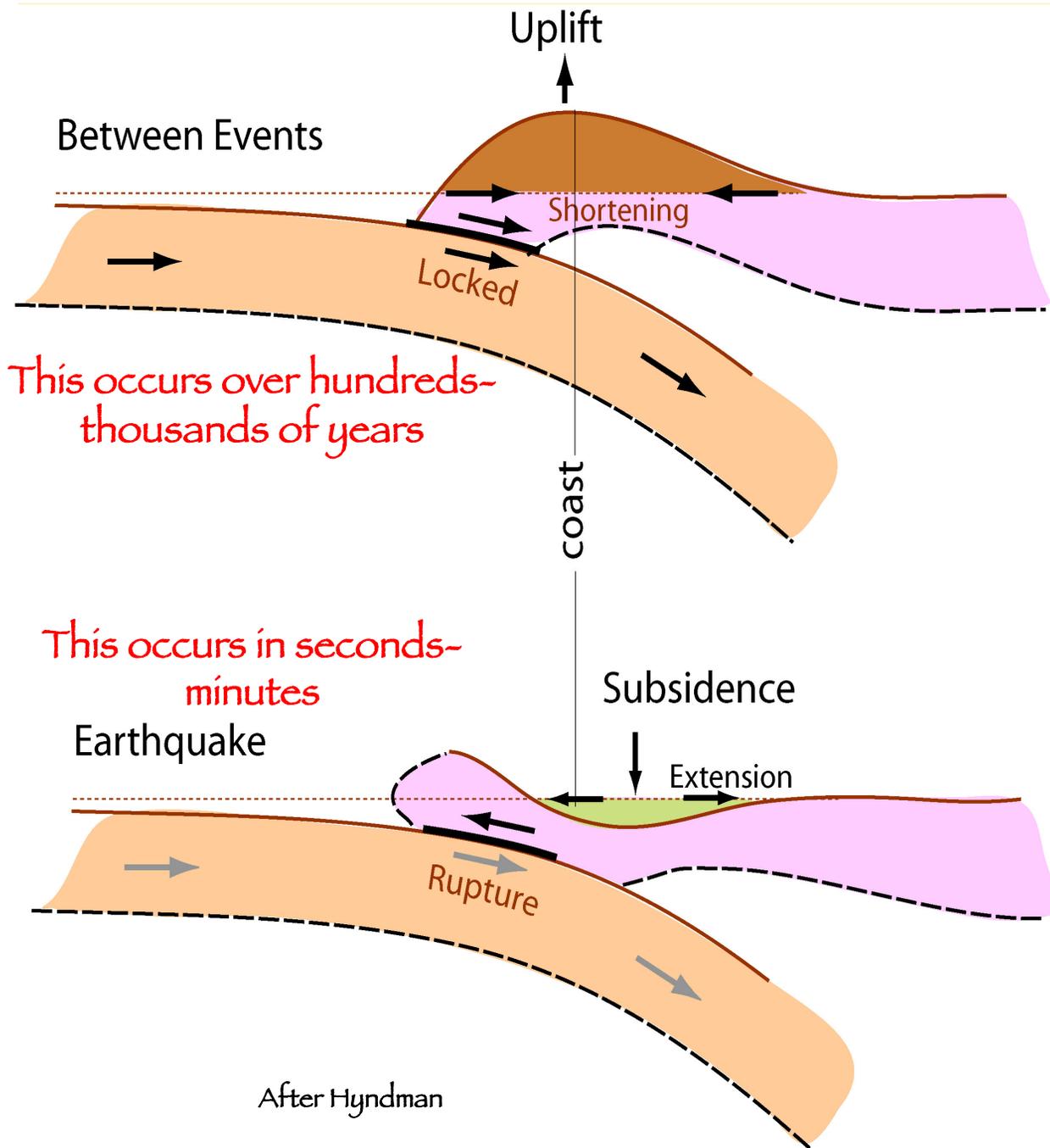
Gives time, but not size of next earthquake.

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

# Elastic modeling of subduction process



No permanent deformation (no mountains)

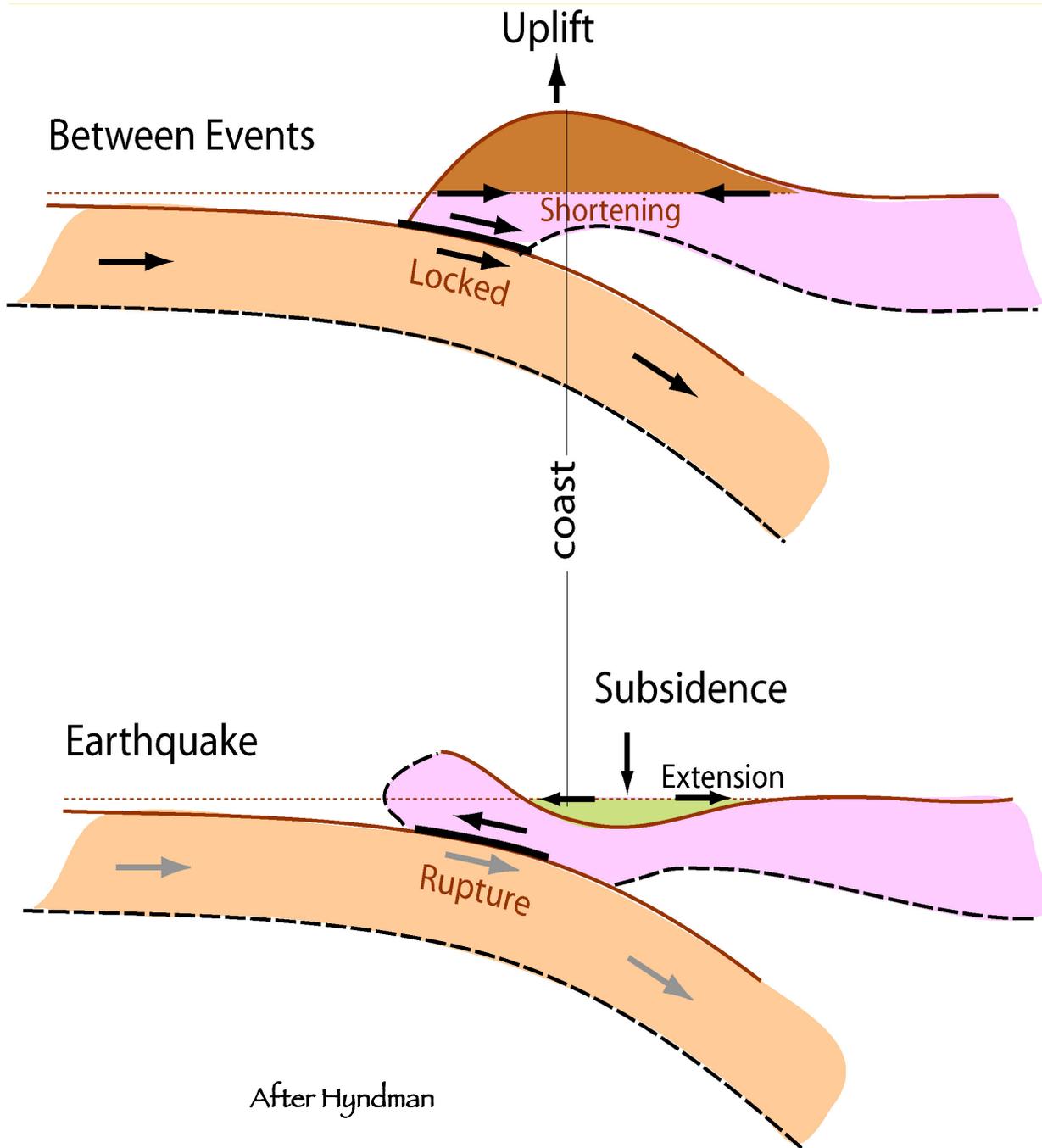


Subduction zone  
version of Elastic  
Rebound:

Cartoons for  
upper plate  
deformation  
during the  
interseismic  
(between  
earthquakes)

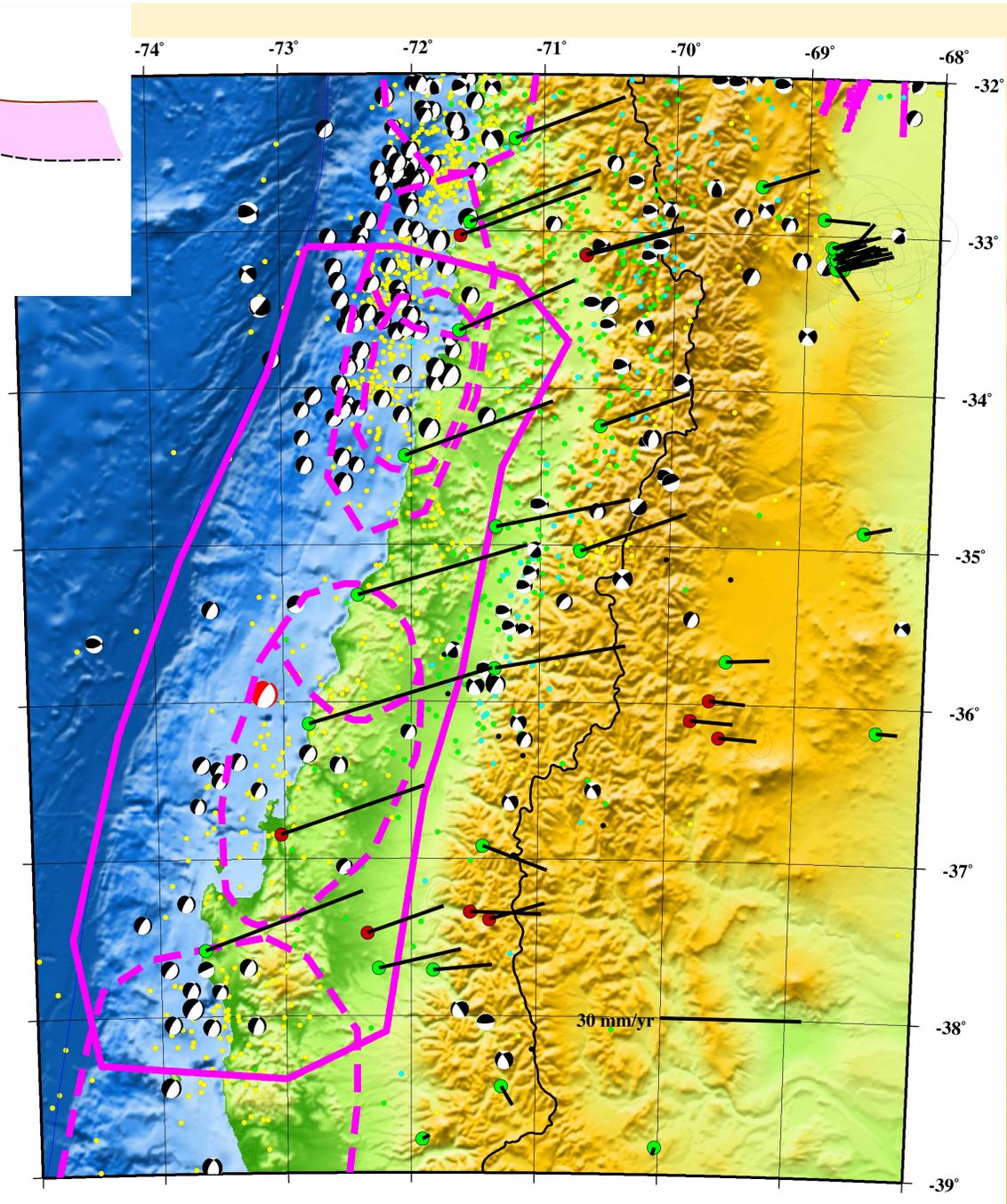
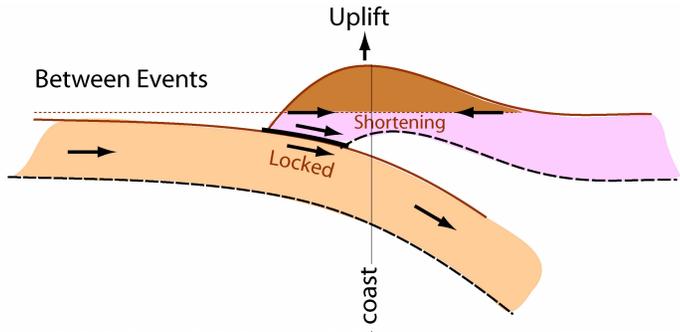
and seismic  
(earthquake)

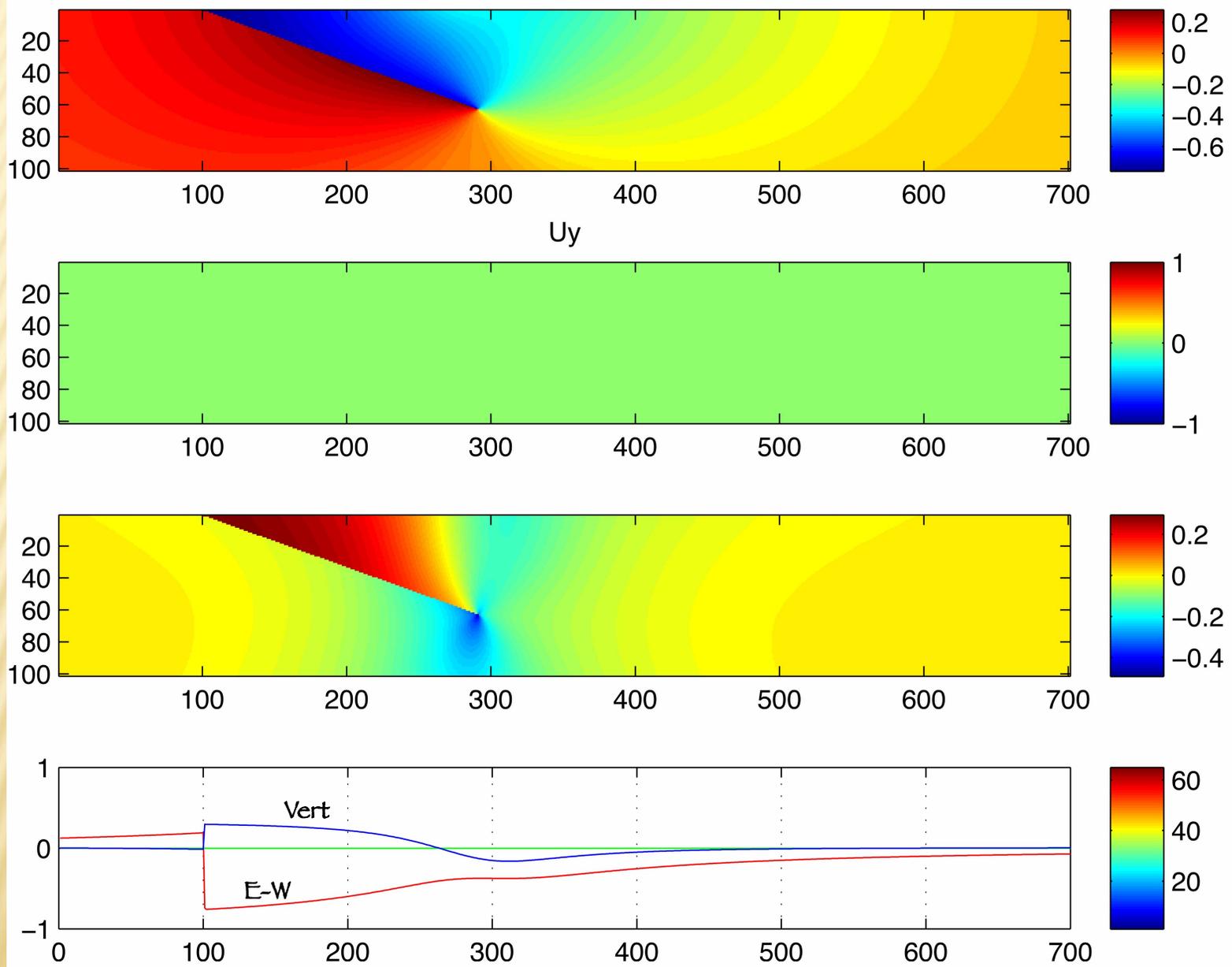
stages of the  
earthquake cycle.



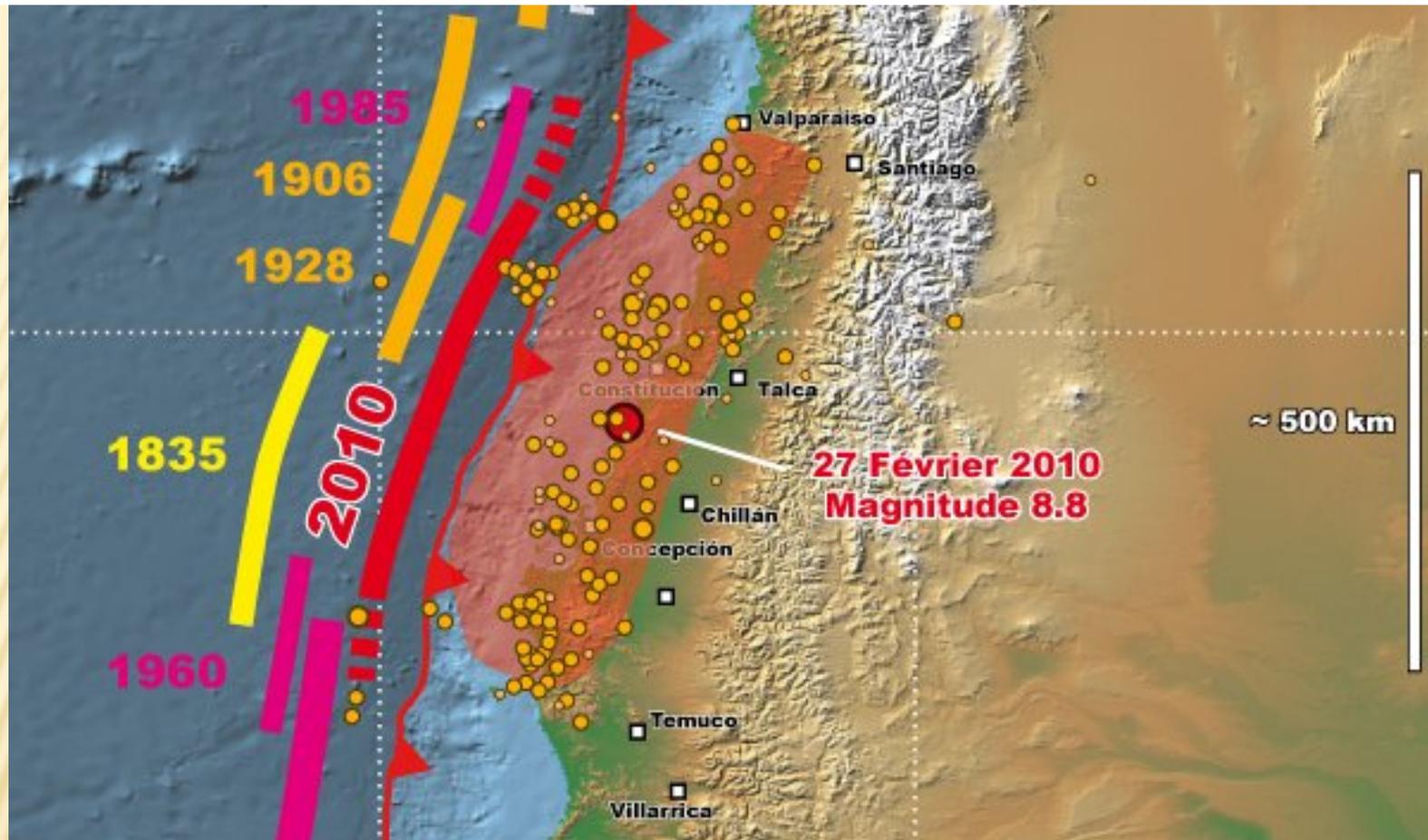
We will not look at each of the two parts individually.

The earthquake first.





Elastic modeling of co-seismic deformation



Historical seismicity

Ruegg (2009) – no earthquake since 1835 => “mature seismic gap”.

Estimated slip (rate x 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?

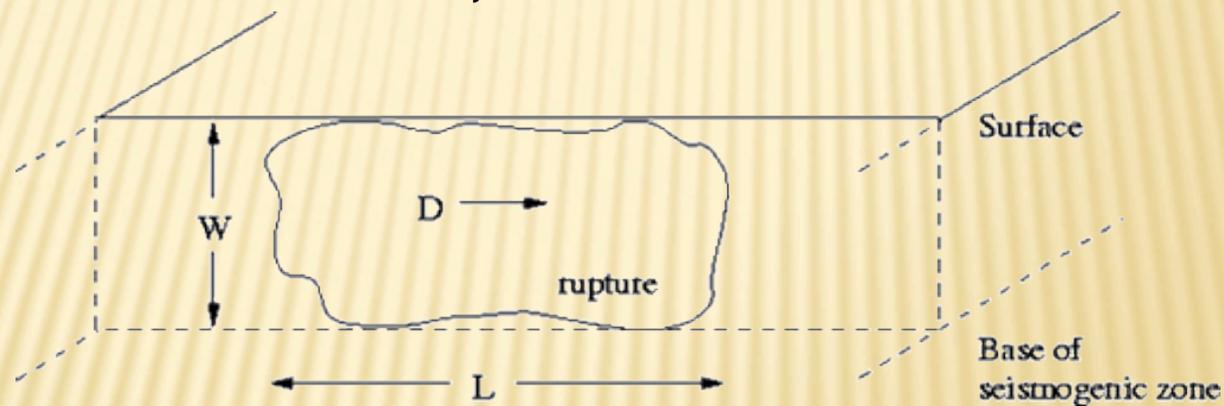
(assume a square fault.

The answer will specify

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

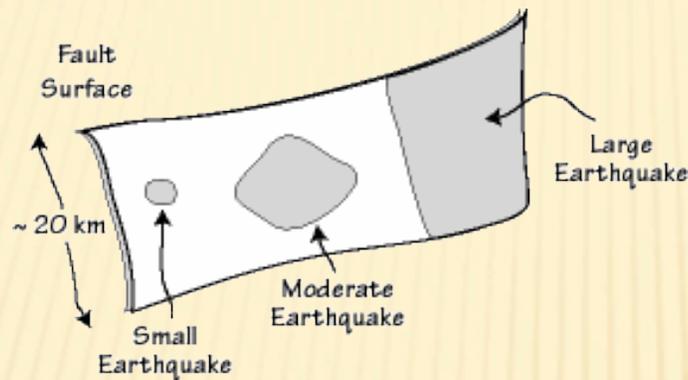
Earthquakes are caused by internal torques, from interactions of different blocks of the earth on opposite sides of faults.

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

$E = M_0 / (2 \times 10^4)$  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.

## Earthquake scaling relationships.

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).

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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

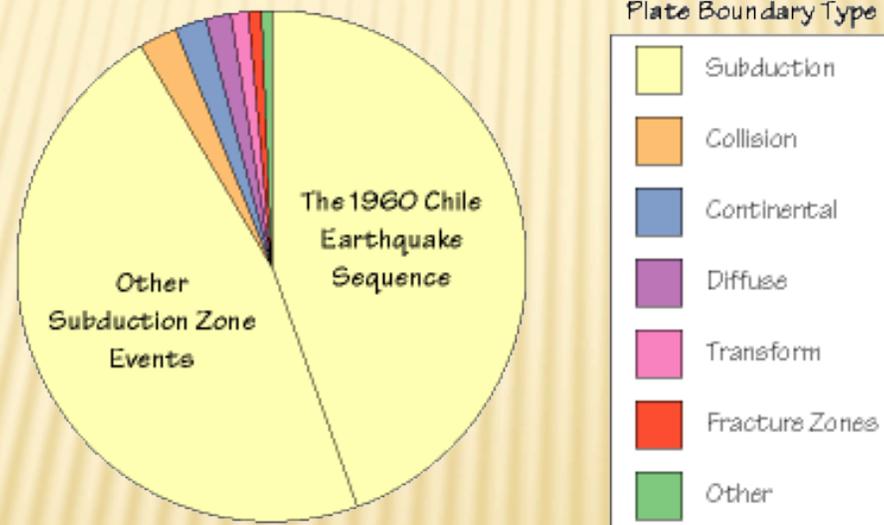
km <sup>2</sup> cm	slipratio	rigidigy	moment	moment mag		
1.00E+05	1.00E-04	3.00E+11	1.00E+00	-1.07E+01		
perp dirn km	slip dirn km	slip km	moment	moment mag	slip cm	
1.00E-03	1.00E-03	1.00E-07	3.00E+13	-1.72E+00	1.00E-02	
2.00E-03	2.00E-03	2.00E-07	2.40E+14	-1.11E+00	2.00E-02	
2.30E-03	2.30E-03	2.30E-07	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	rigidigy	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.

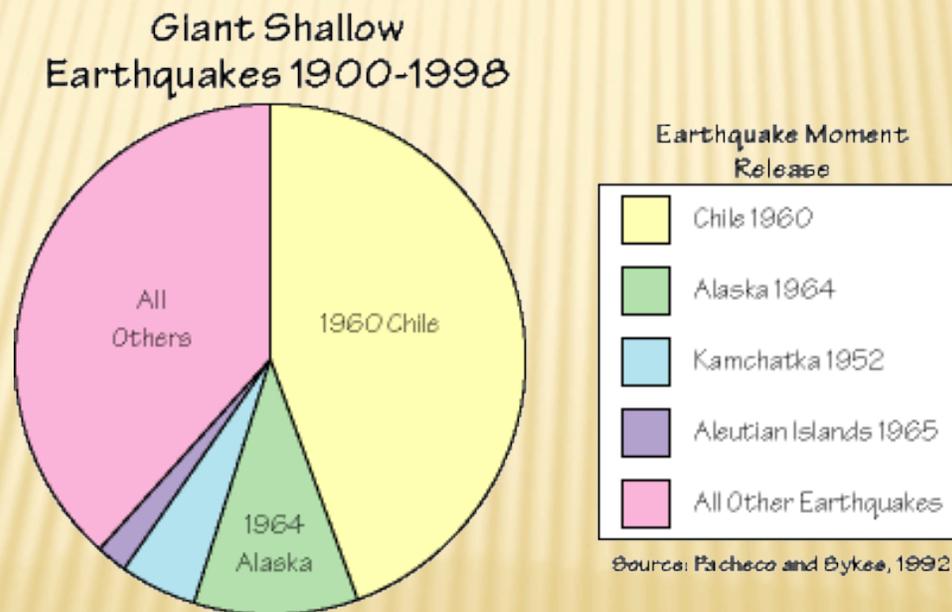
Shallow Earthquake Moment Release  
1900-1989



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.)



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

km2cm	slipratio	rigidigy	moment	moment mag						
1.00E+05	1.00E-04	3.00E+11	1	-10.7						
perp dirn	slip dirn	slip	moment	moment mag	slip cm		nrng	#/yr	nrng/100 yr	nrng/totnrg
km	km	km								
0.075	0.075	7.5E-06	1.2656E+19	2.0	0.75		2.35E+08	1000000	2.35E+16	0.00
0.23	0.23	0.000023	3.6501E+20	3.0	2.3		5.91E+09	100000	5.91E+16	0.00
0.75	0.75	0.000075	1.2656E+22	4.0	7.5		1.78E+11	10000	1.78E+17	0.00
2.4	2.4	0.00024	4.1472E+23	5.0	24		5.07E+12	1500	7.61E+17	0.01
7	7	0.0007	1.029E+25	6.0	70		1.11E+14	150	1.66E+18	0.03
24	24	0.0024	4.1472E+26	7.0	240		3.85E+15	18	6.92E+18	0.13
76	76	0.0076	1.3169E+28	8.0	760		1.06E+17	1	1.06E+19	0.20
130	130	0.013	6.591E+28	8.5	1300		4.99E+17		4.99E+17	0.01
130	130	0.013	6.591E+28	8.5	1300		4.99E+17		4.99E+17	0.01
130	130	0.013	6.591E+28	8.5	1300		4.99E+17		4.99E+17	0.01
130	130	0.013	6.591E+28	8.5	1300		4.99E+17		4.99E+17	0.01
130	130	0.013	6.591E+28	8.5	1300		4.99E+17		4.99E+17	0.01
145	145	0.0145	9.1459E+28	8.6	1450		6.84E+17		6.84E+17	0.01
145	145	0.0145	9.1459E+28	8.6	1450		6.84E+17		6.84E+17	0.01
145	145	0.0145	9.1459E+28	8.6	1450		6.84E+17		6.84E+17	0.01
161	161	0.0161	1.252E+29	8.7	1610		9.24E+17		9.24E+17	0.02
184	184	0.0184	1.8689E+29	8.8	1840		1.36E+18		1.36E+18	0.03
184	184	0.0184	1.8689E+29	8.8	1840		1.36E+18		1.36E+18	0.03
300	200	0.02	3.6E+29	9.0	2000		2.55E+18		2.55E+18	0.05
400	205	0.0205	5.043E+29	9.1	2050		3.52E+18		3.52E+18	0.07
600	200	0.02	7.2E+29	9.2	2000		4.95E+18		4.95E+18	0.09
1500	210	0.021	1.9845E+30	9.5	2100		1.31E+19		1.31E+19	0.25
									5.26E+19	1.00

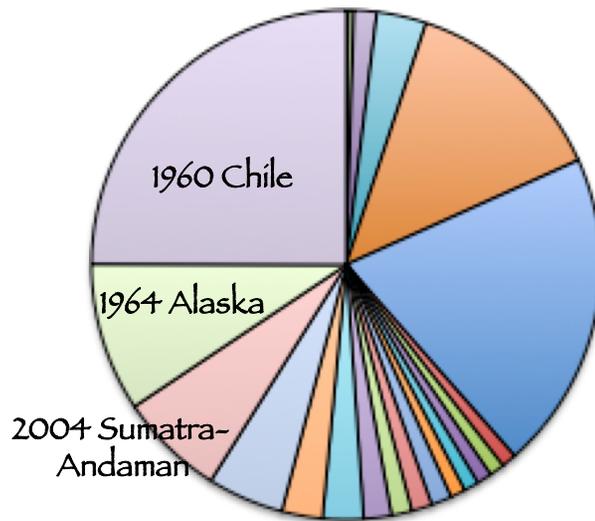
In last 100 years

1960  
earthquake -  
25% energy,

Six largest -  
50% energy,

15 largest - 61%  
energy,

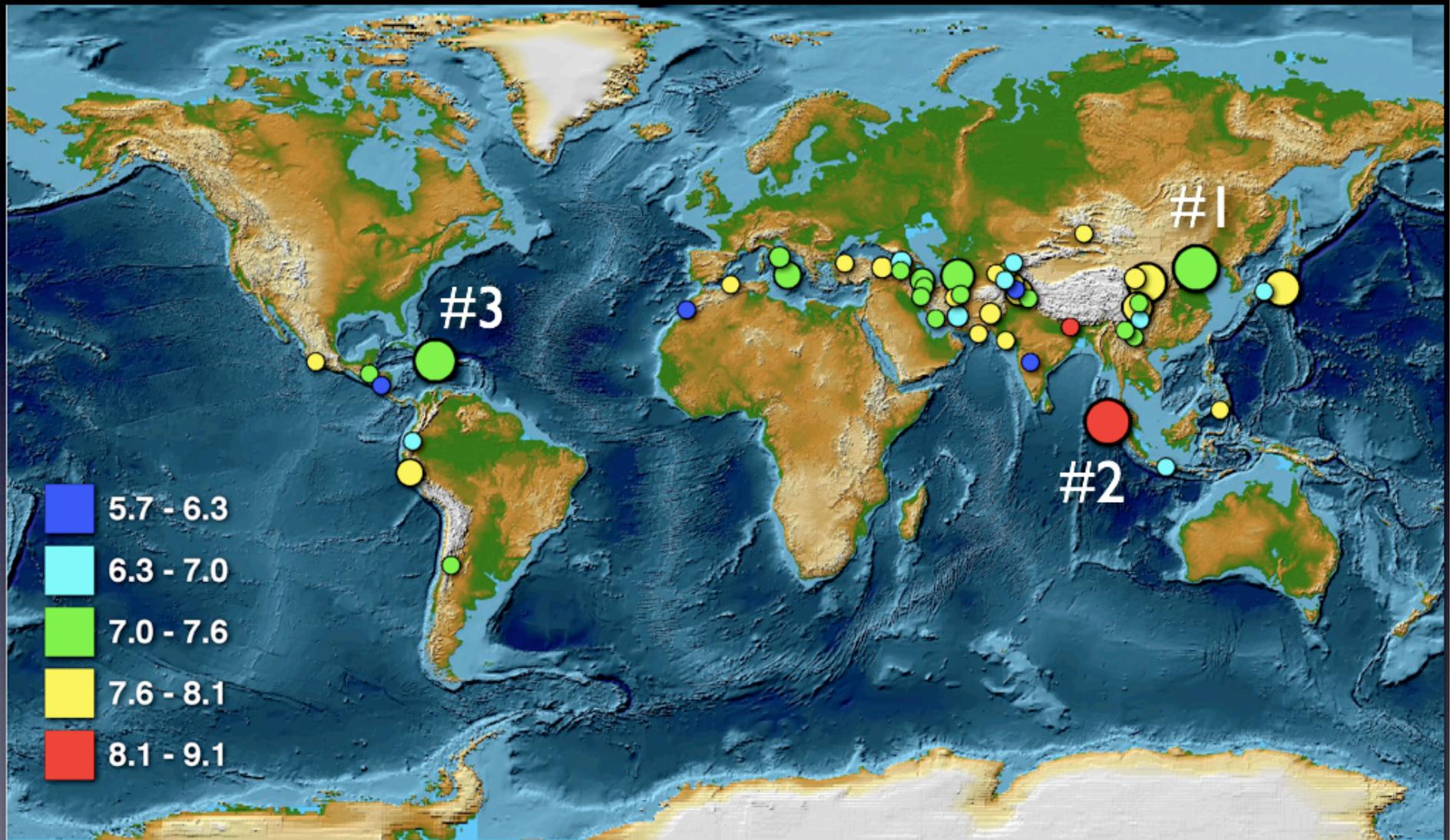
M>8 - >80%  
energy.





Magnitude often has little to do with number deaths.

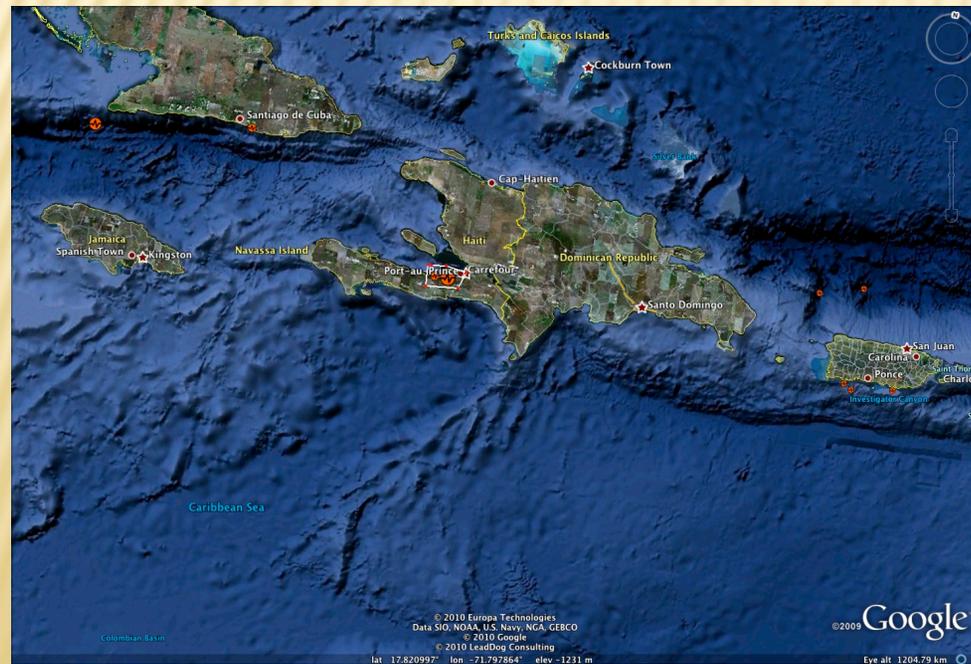
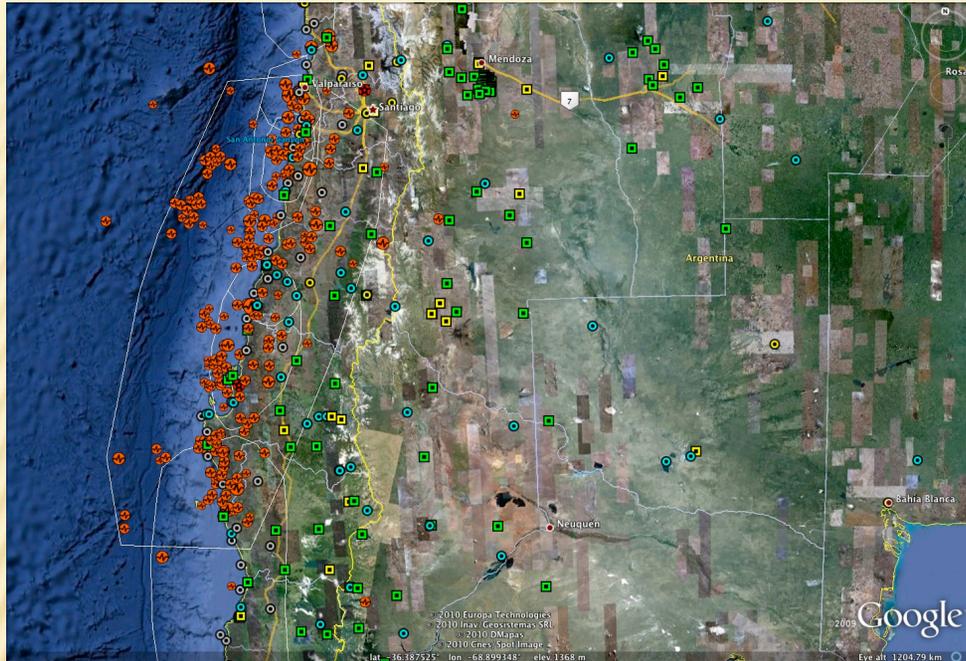
## The 50 Deadliest Earthquakes since 1900



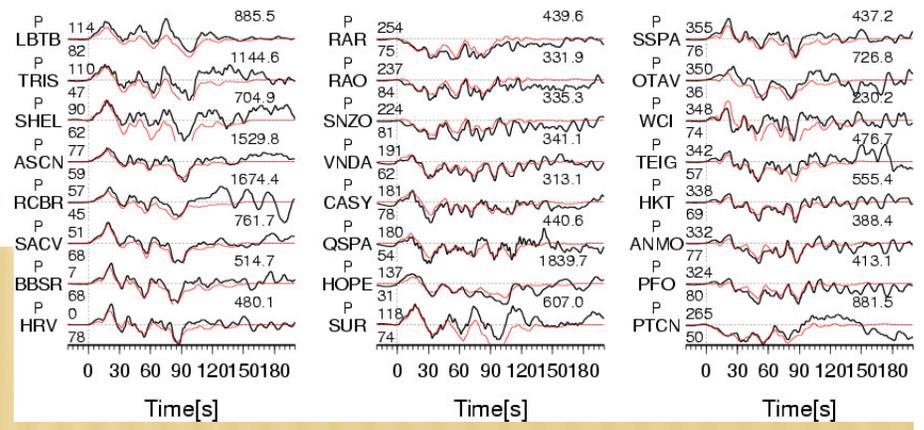
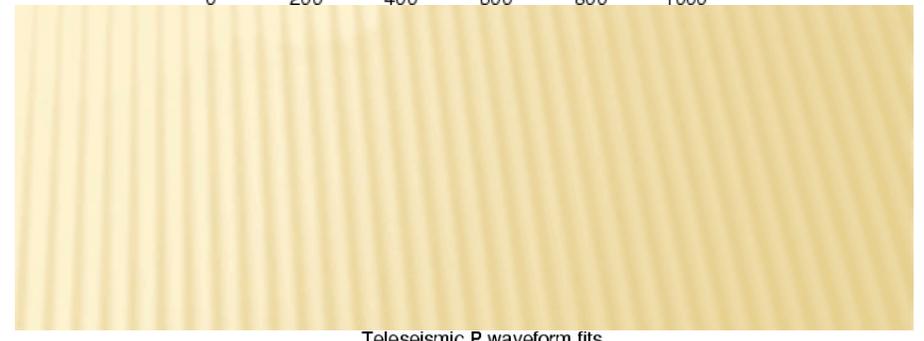
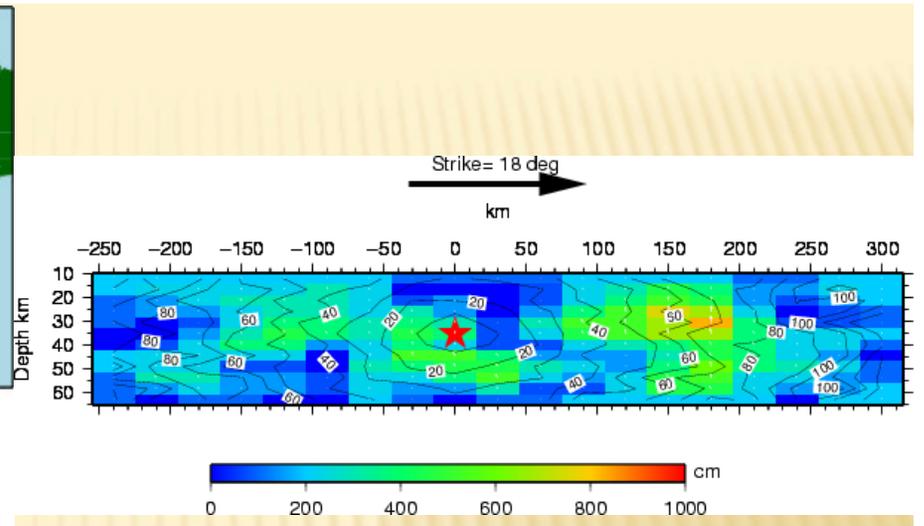
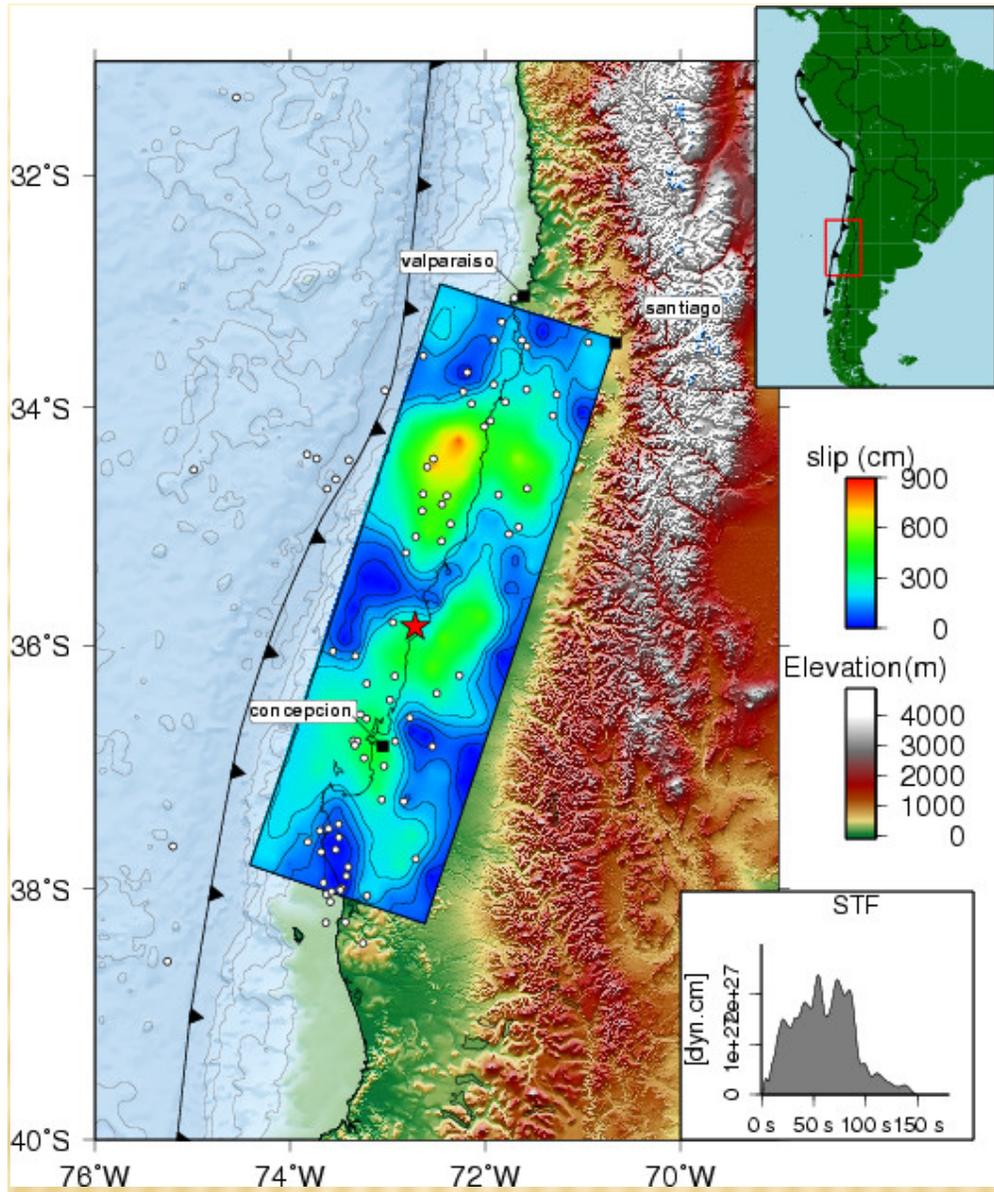
Ratio sizes 2010 Maule, Chile, earthquake and  
Haitian earthquake.

Chile 550 times bigger in energy (big hazard).

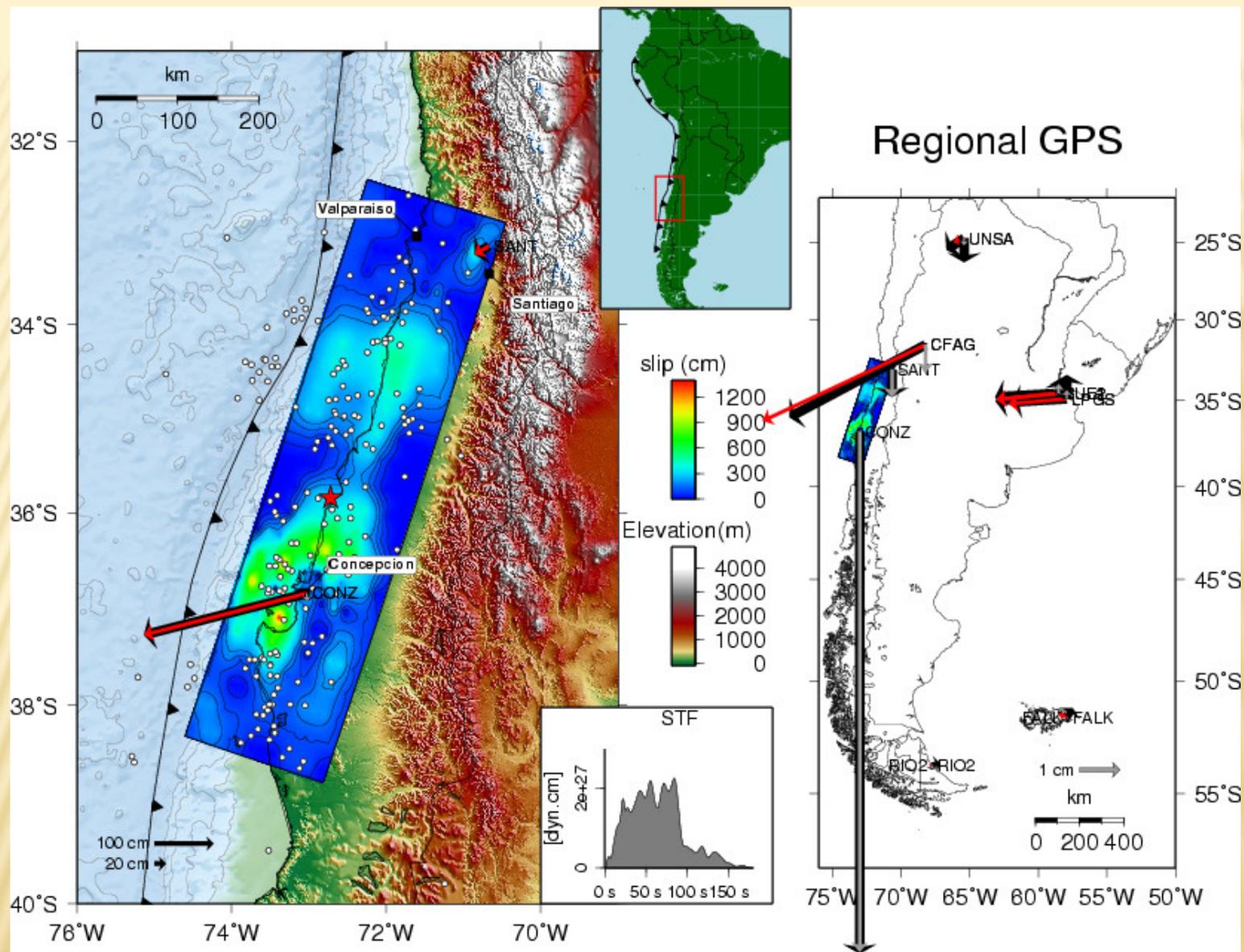
Haiti earthquake killed 550 times more people  
(big risk).



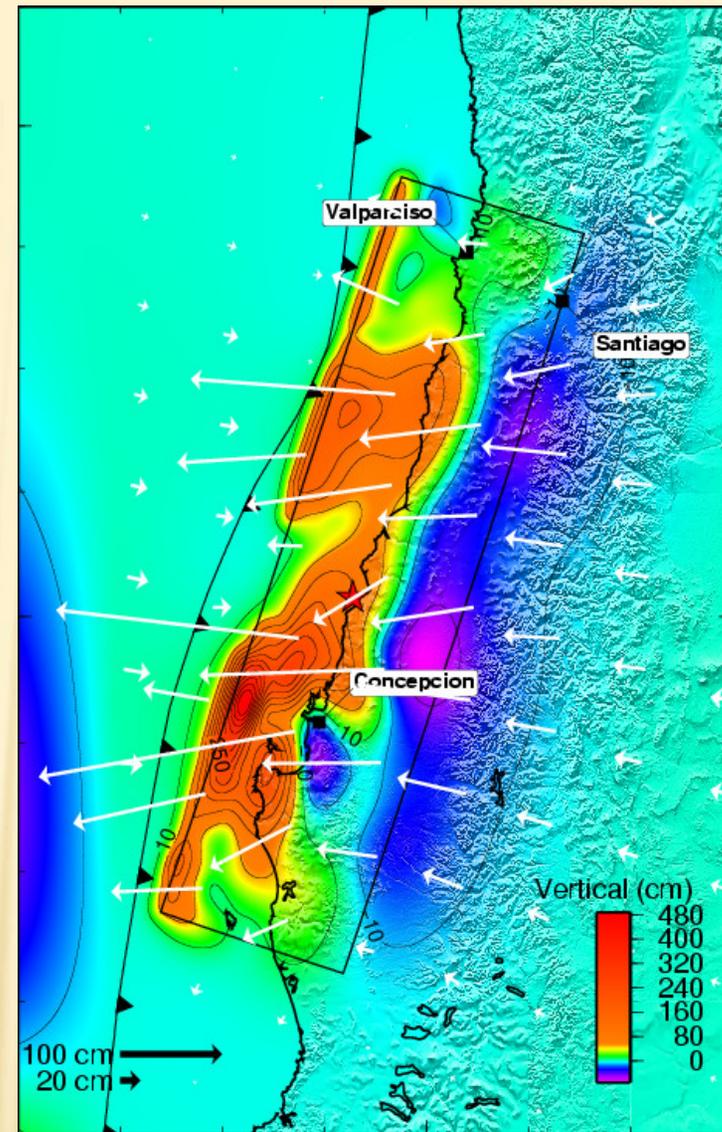
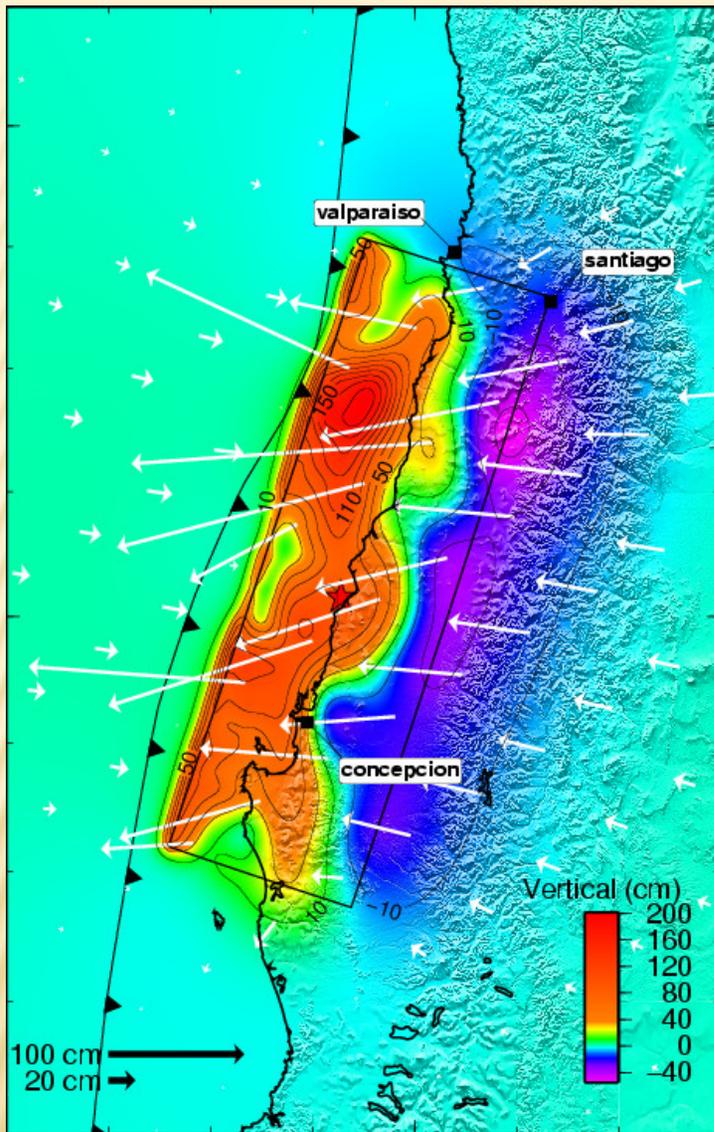
Comparison rupture  
 areas from Maule and  
 Haiti earthquakes  
 (figures at same scale)



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

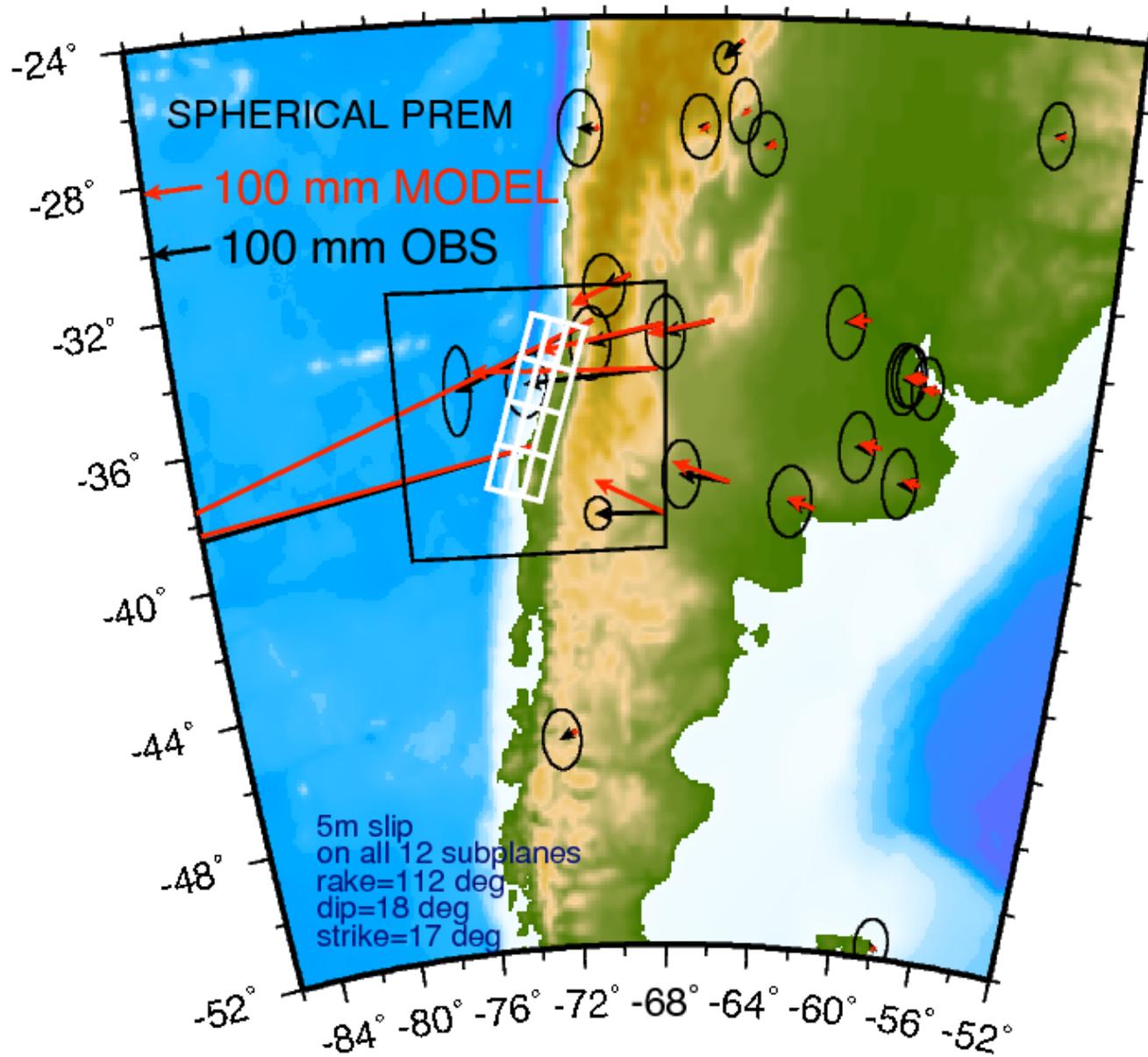


Finite Fault Model from seismic and GPS (static) data  
 Preliminary Result of the Feb 27, 2010 Mw 8.8 Maule, Chile Earthquake  
 Anthony Sladen and Susan Owen, CALTECH

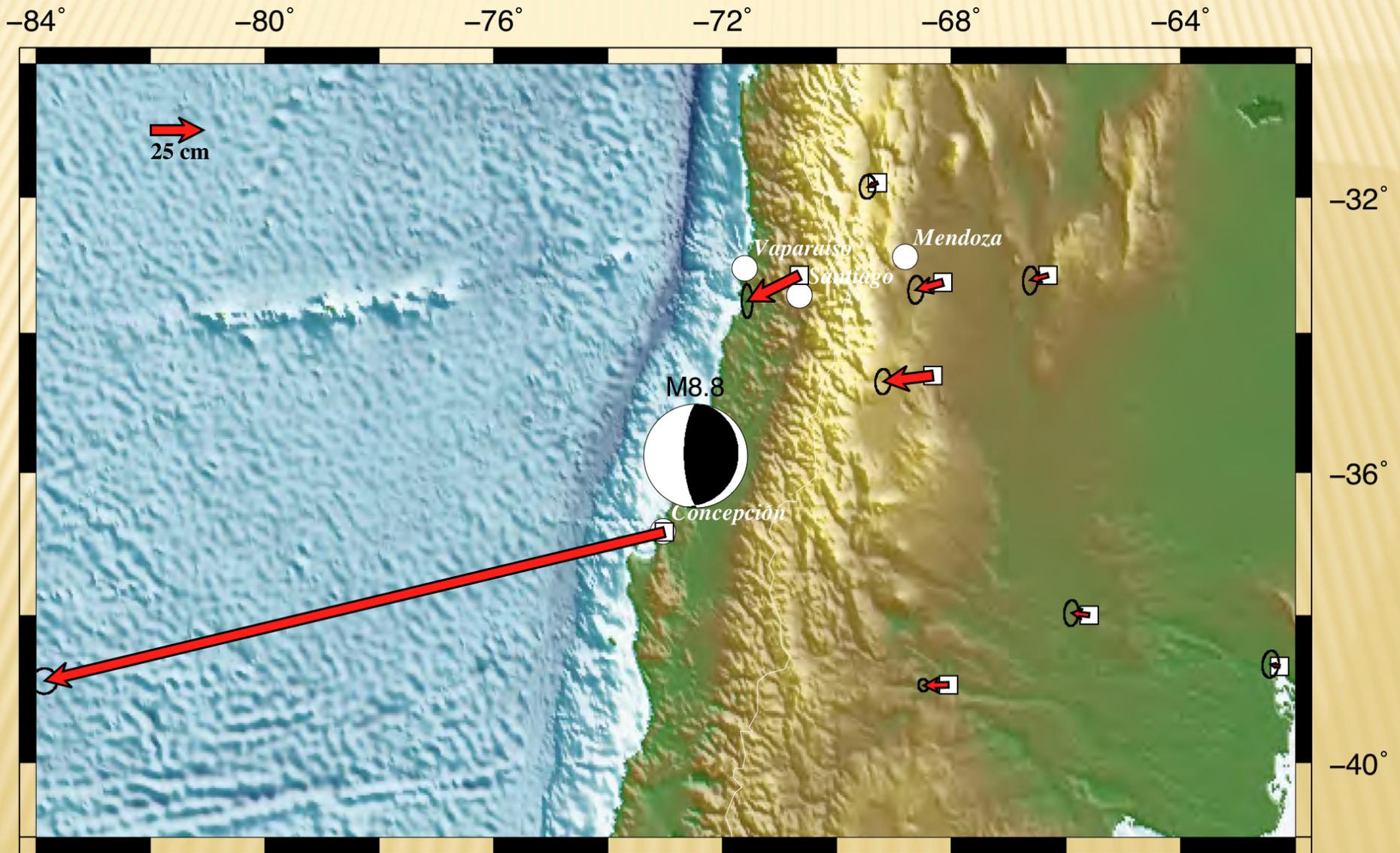


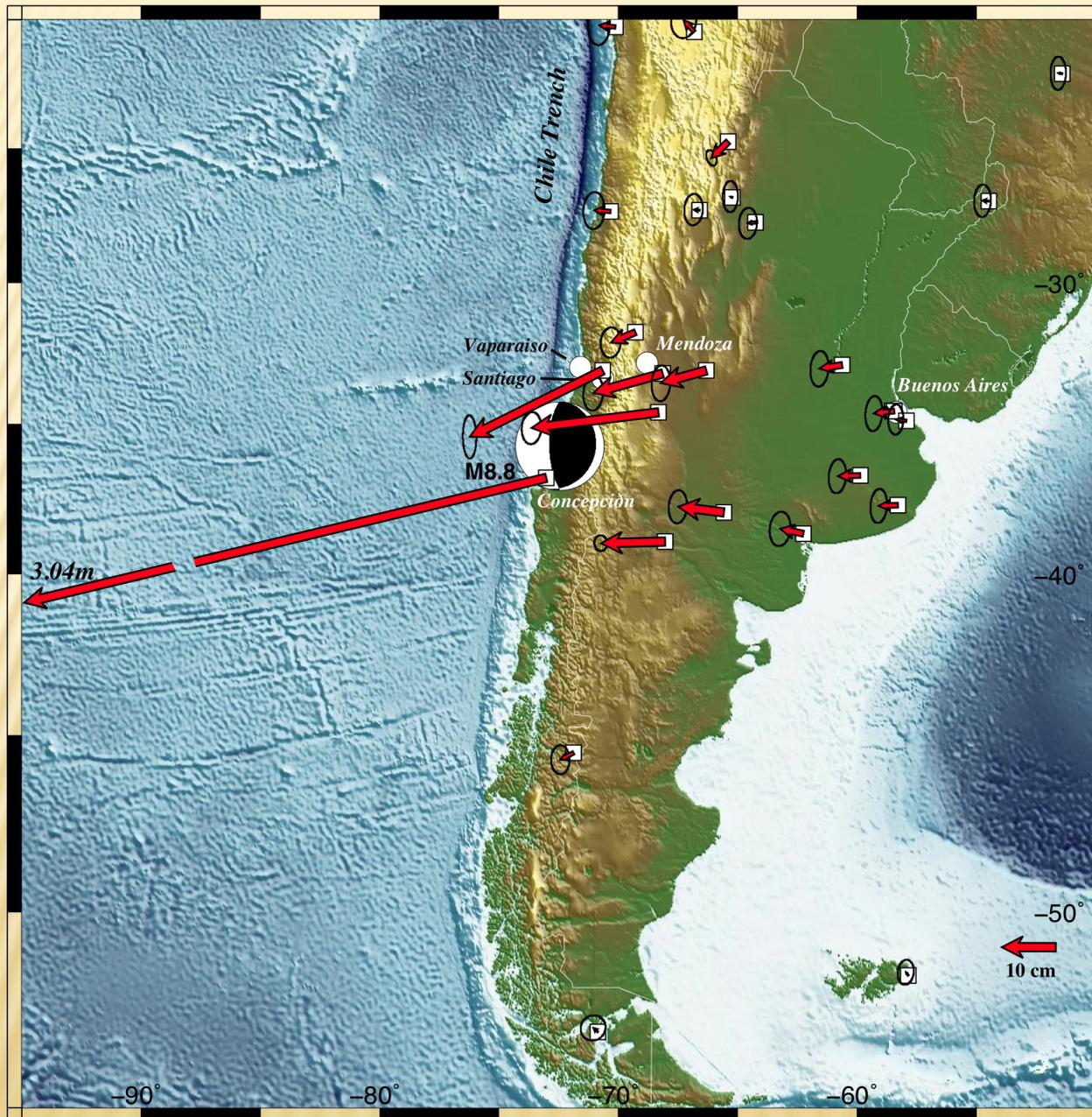
Static displacements from seismic only (left) and combined seismic and GPS (right)  
 Preliminary Result of the Feb 27, 2010 Mw 8.8 Maule, Chile Earthquake  
 Anthony Sladen and Susan Owen, CALTECH

# 27 Feb 2010 coseismic displacements



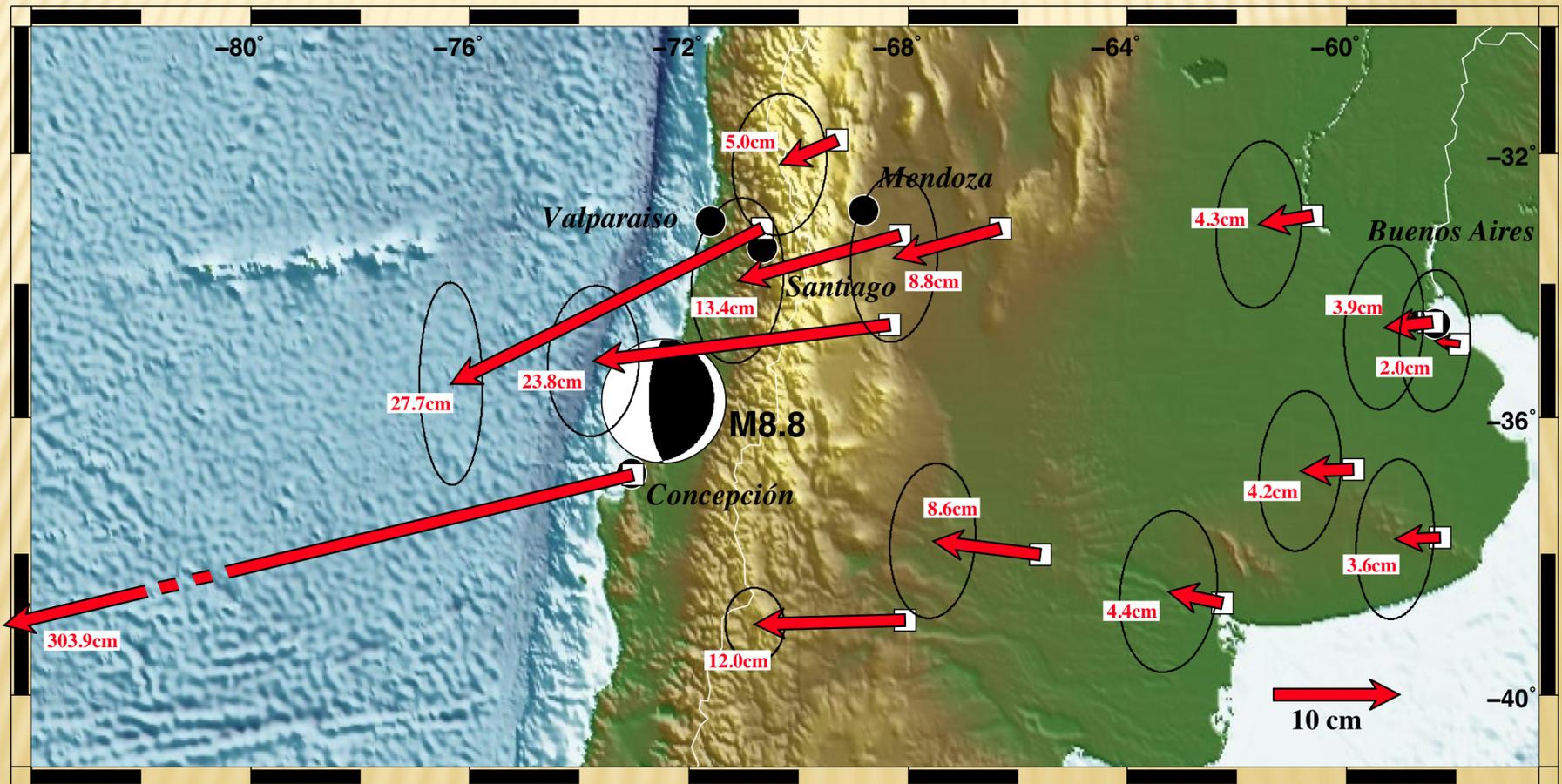
# Co-seismic static deformation (all at same scale).





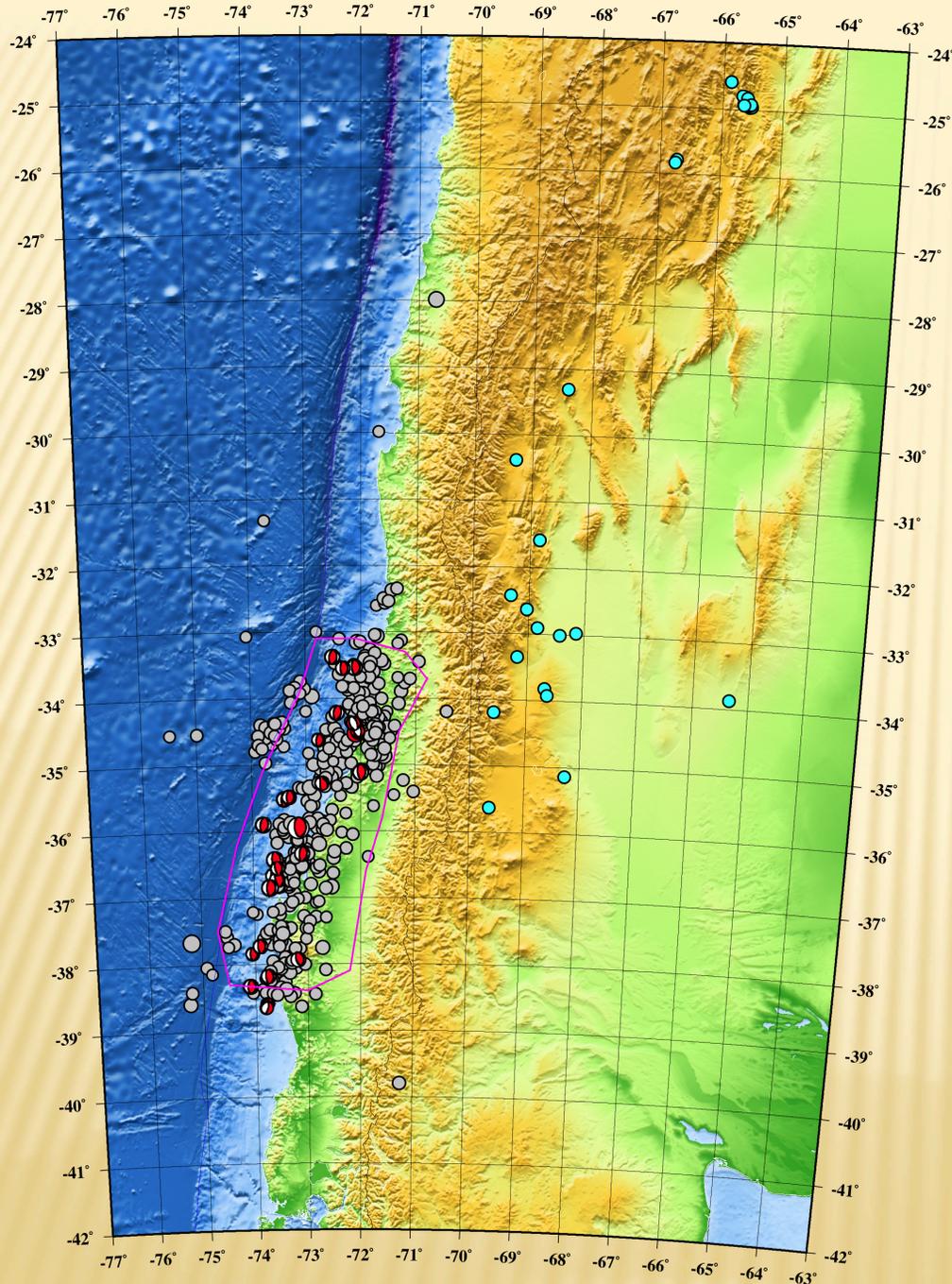
Co-seismic  
static  
deformation  
(Concepción  
not to scale).

# 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)

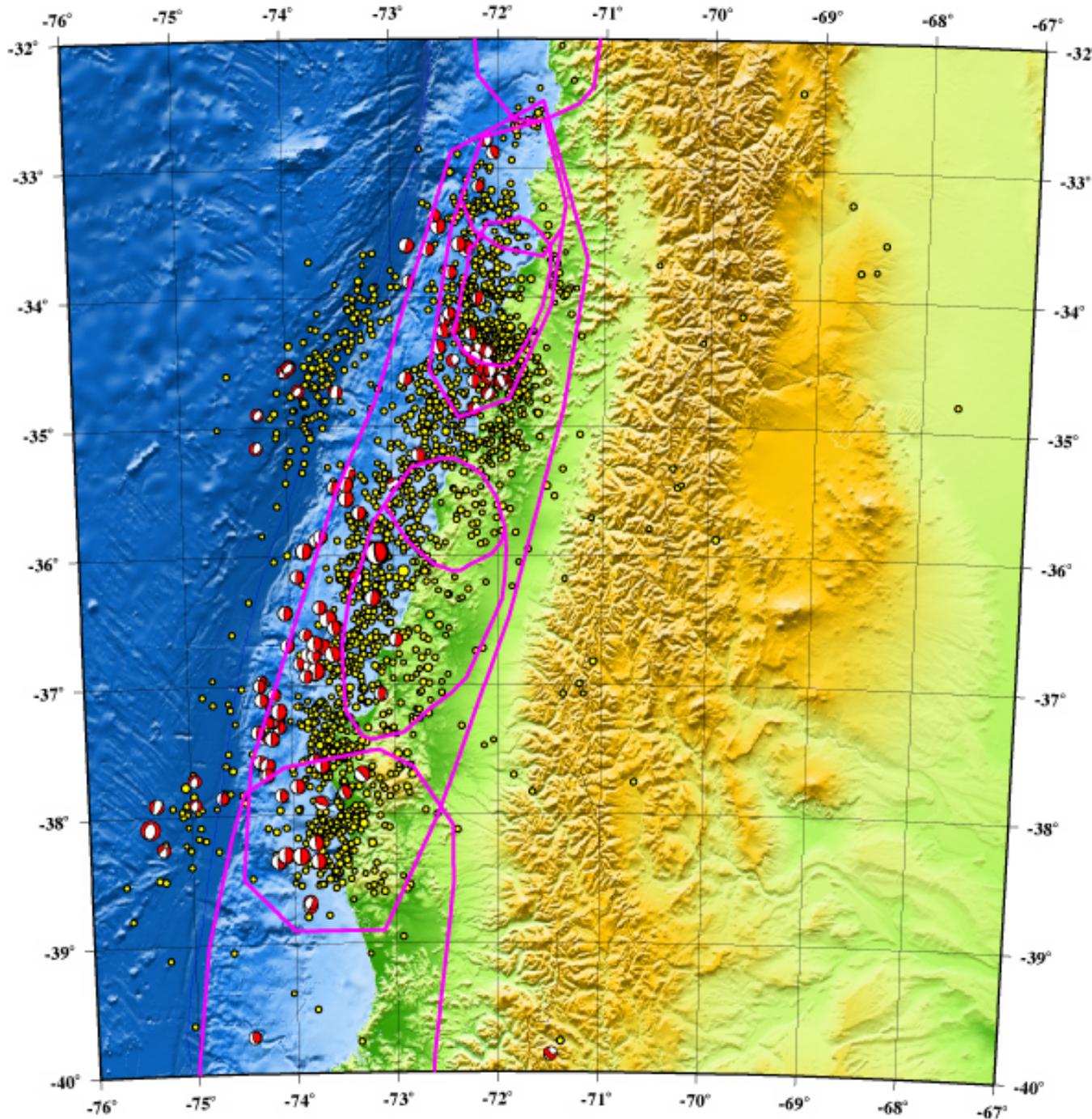
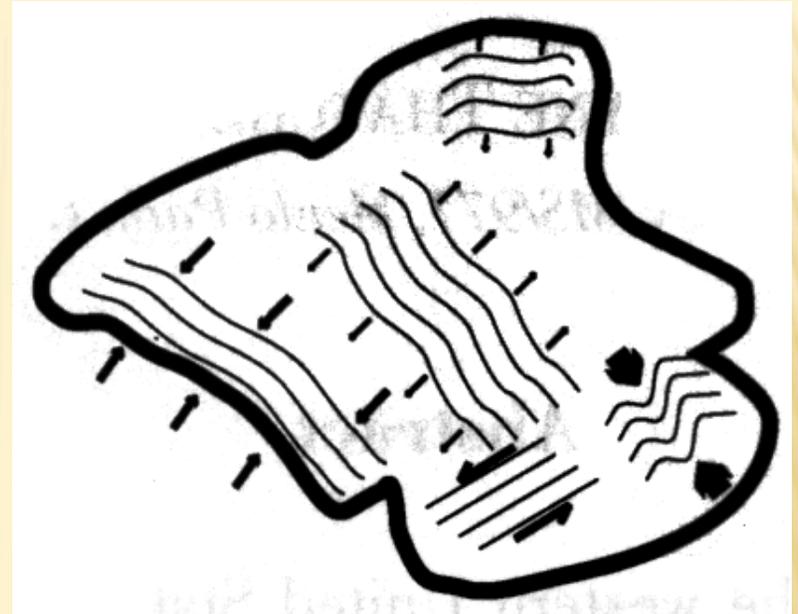
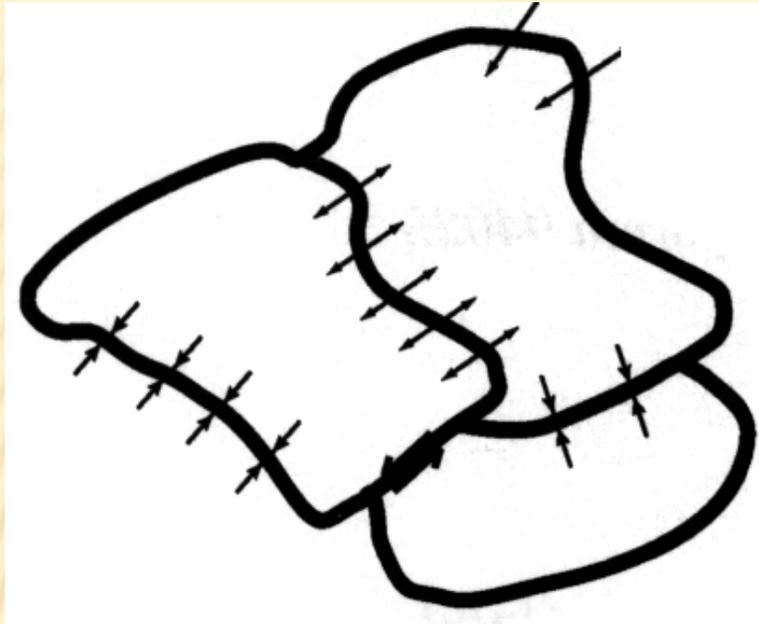


Plate bending  
events ~ normal  
faulting focal  
mechanisms ~ in  
subducting plate  
on west side of  
trench.  
(not “regular”  
aftershocks).

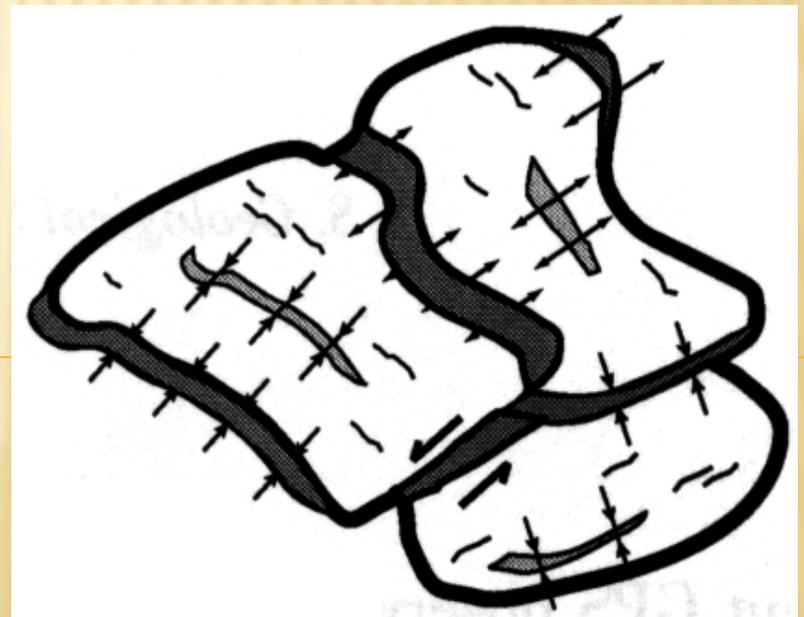
Large deformation field associated with Maule earthquake – in accord with elastic rebound.

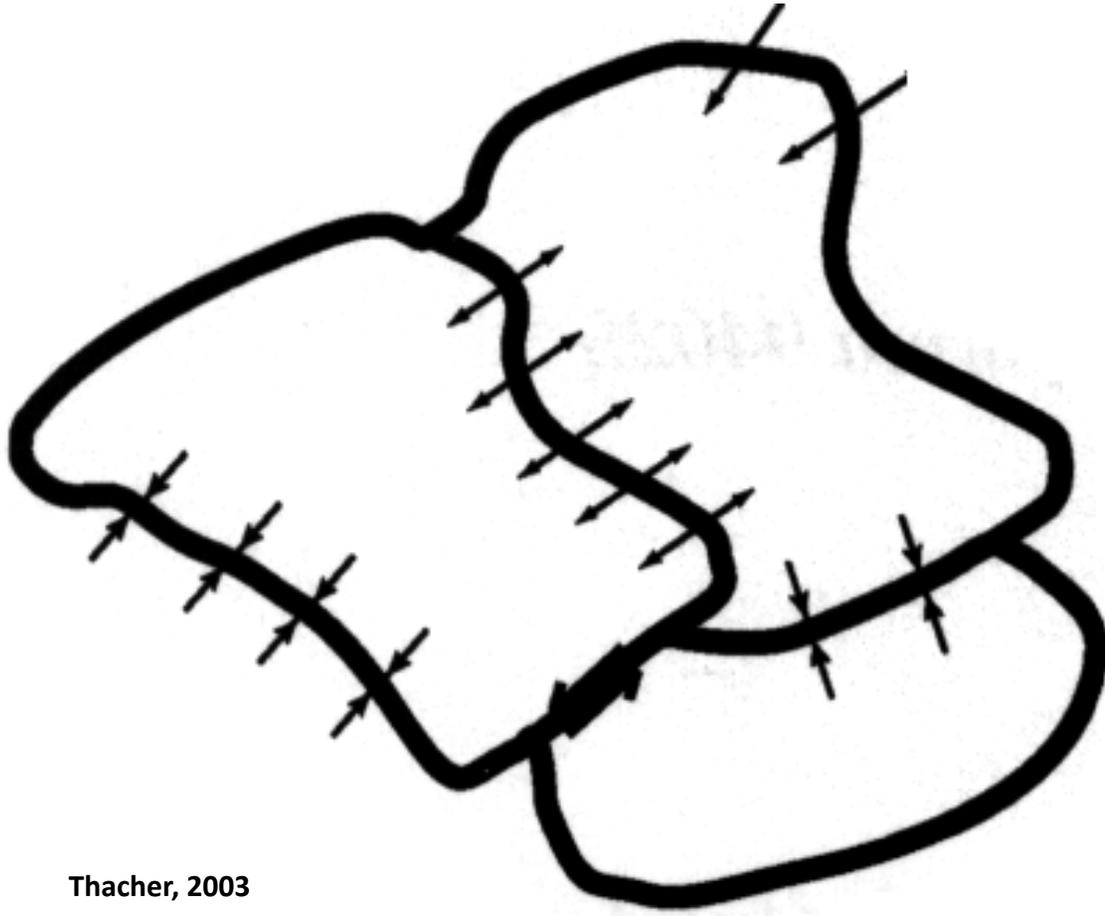
Start of measurements of post-seismic deformation.  
GPS displacement seismograms (later).



How might plates deform?

Continuum, block, etc.?

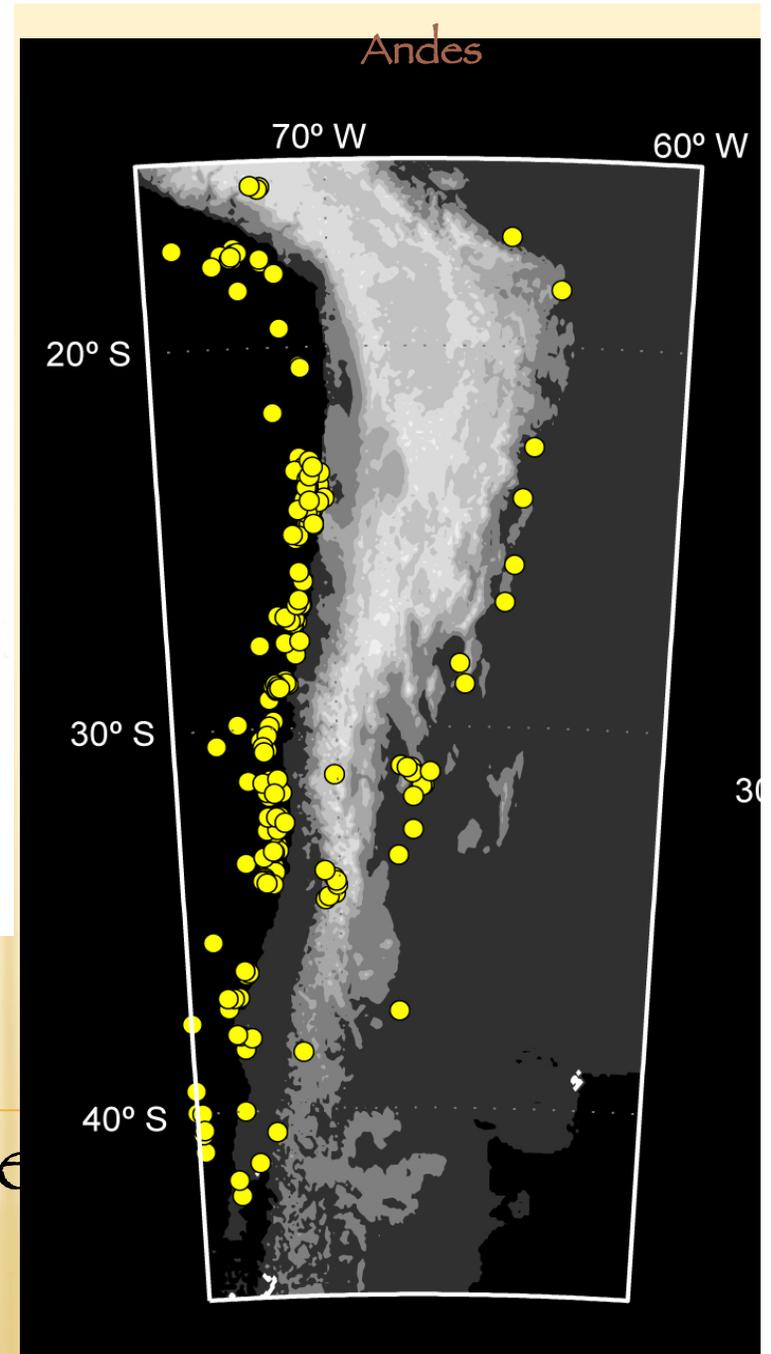


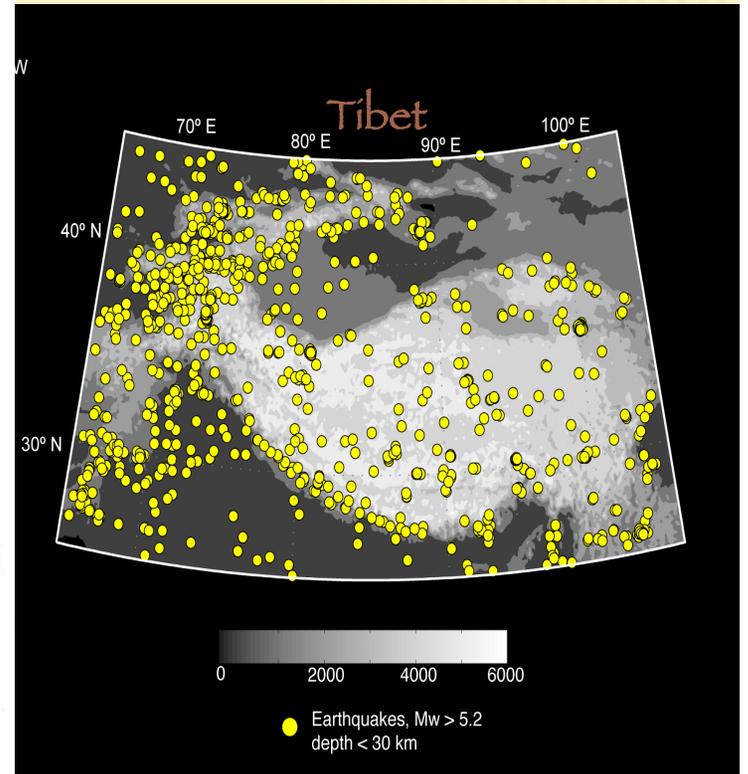
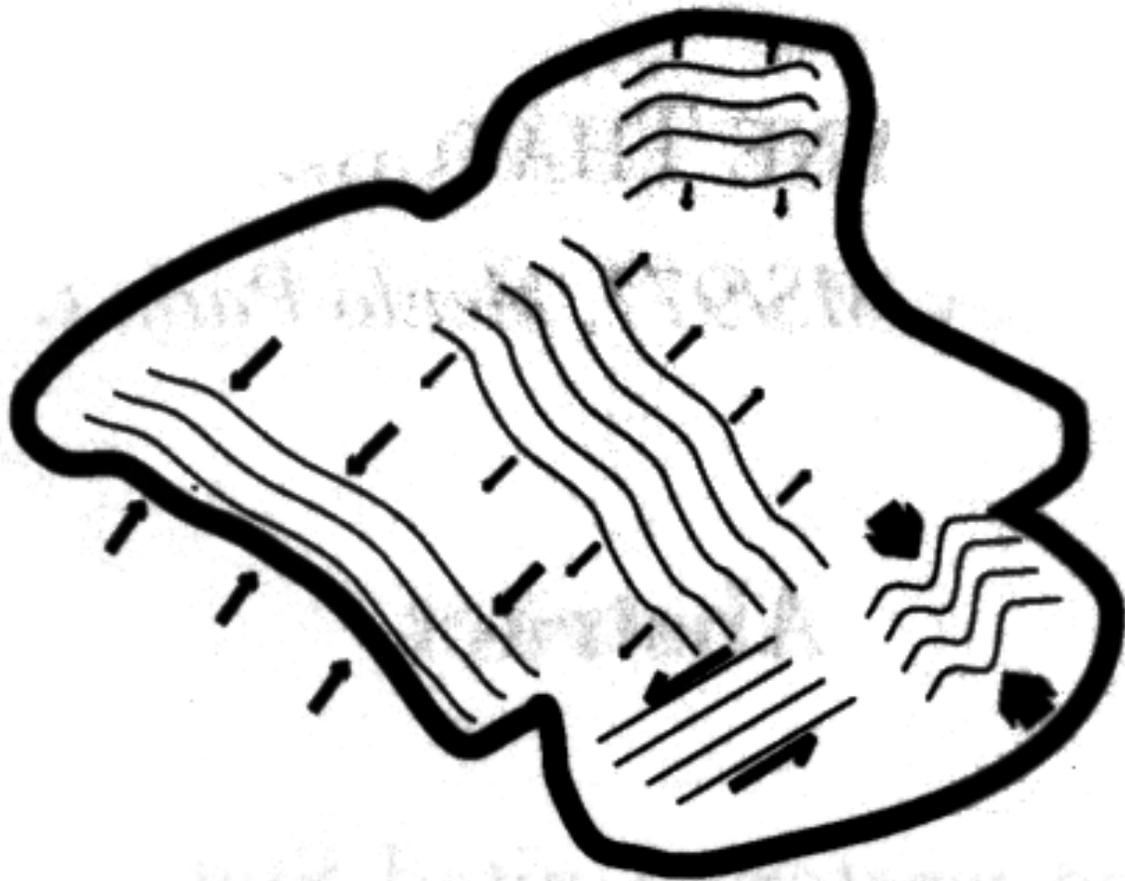


Thacher, 2003

Thacher, 2003

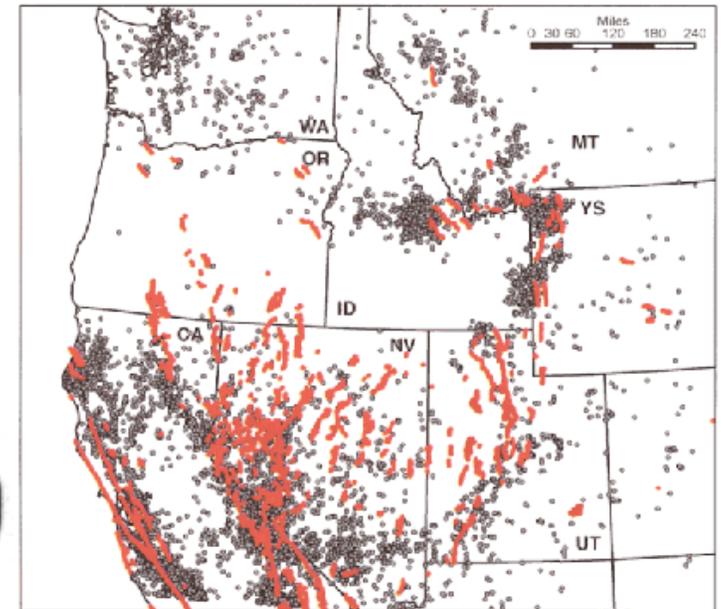
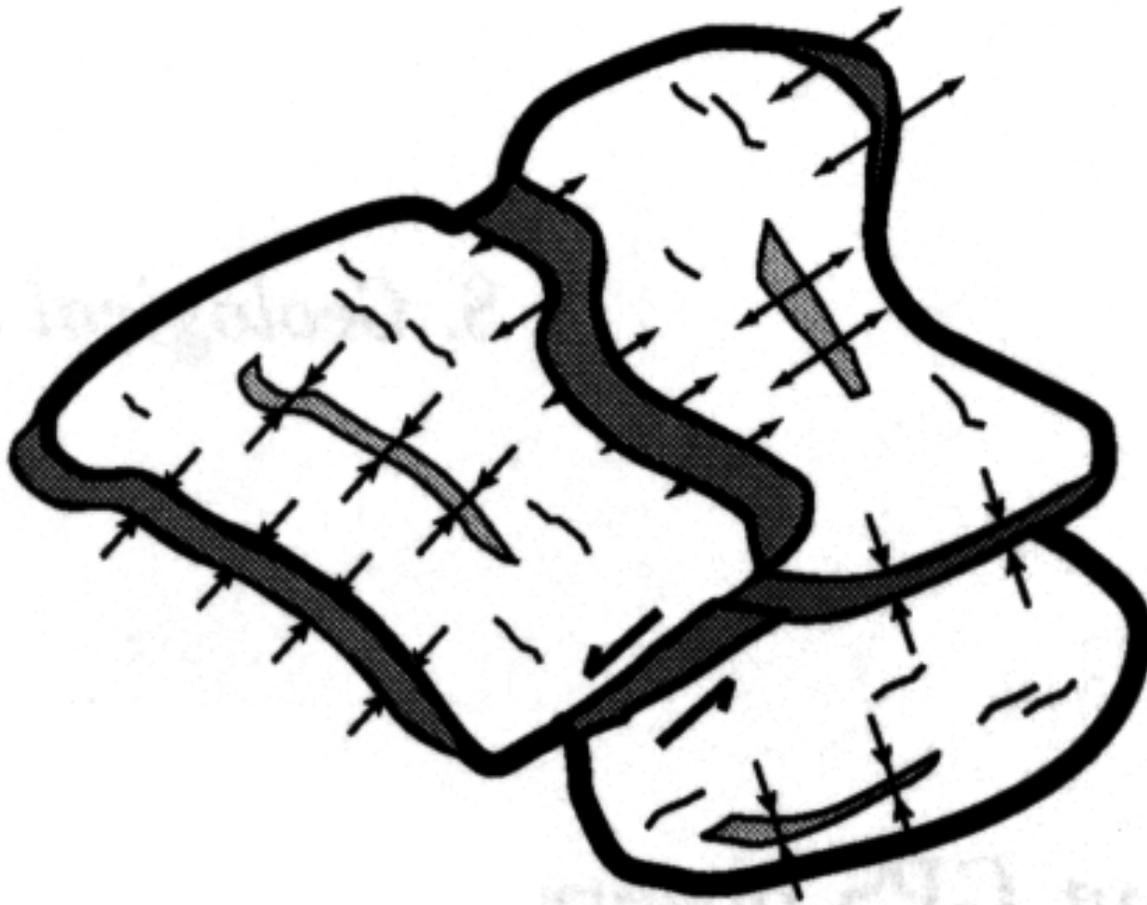
Rigid blocks.  
Sort of mini-version of plate  
tectonics.  
“Easy” to see with GPS.



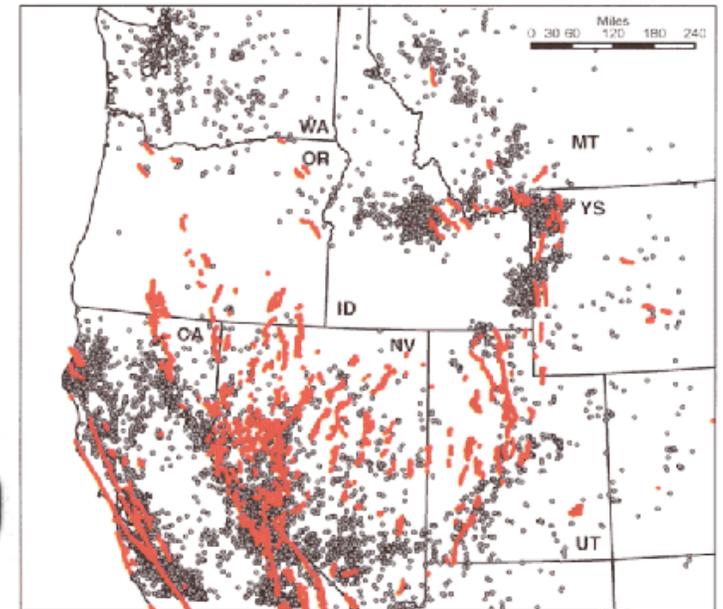
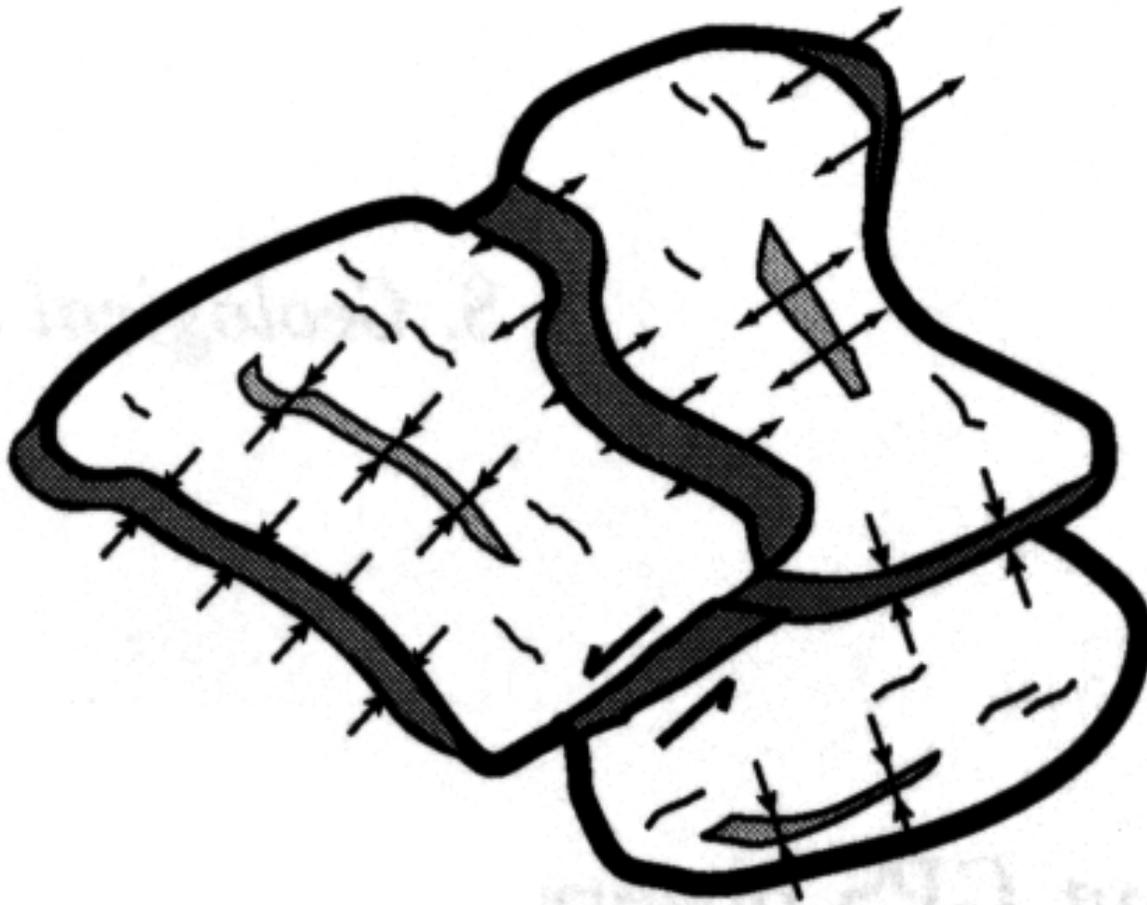


Quasi-continuous deformation. Pervasive internal deformation (but not fast enough to invalidate plate tectonics).

Continuum sea.  
"Hard" to see with GPS.



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



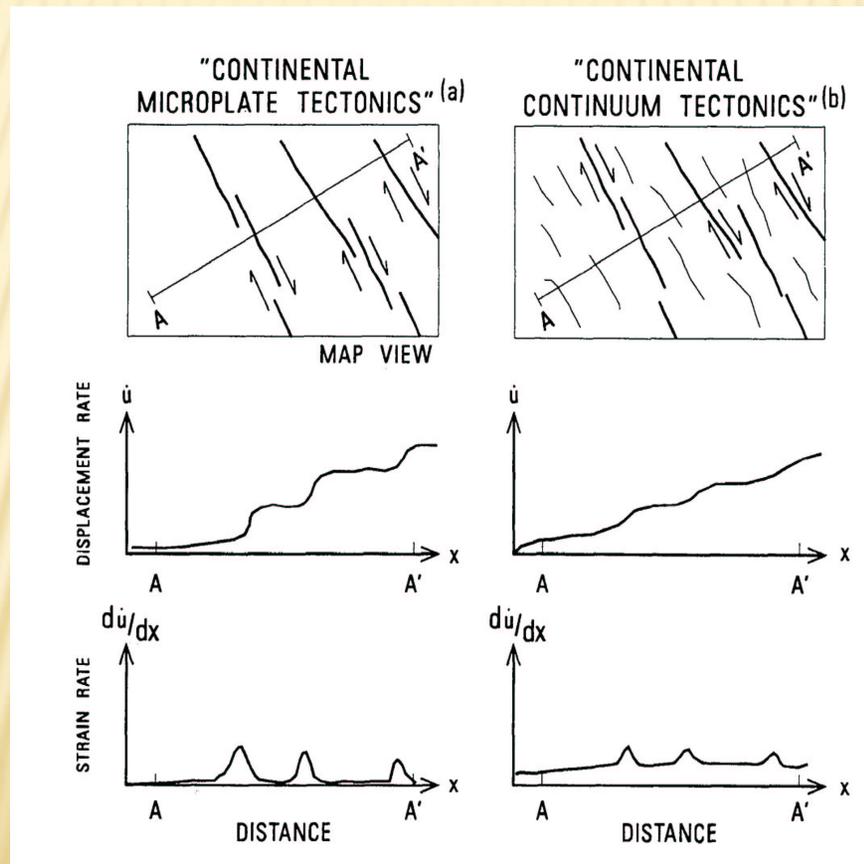
More faults with evidence of active deformation than actively deforming zones.

May jump around (on human or geologic scale).

“Challenging” to see with GPS.

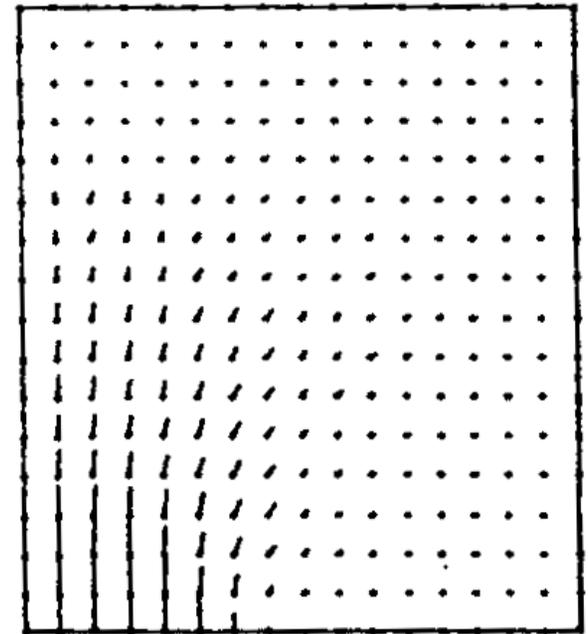
**Microplate versus continuum descriptions  
of active tectonic deformation**

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)

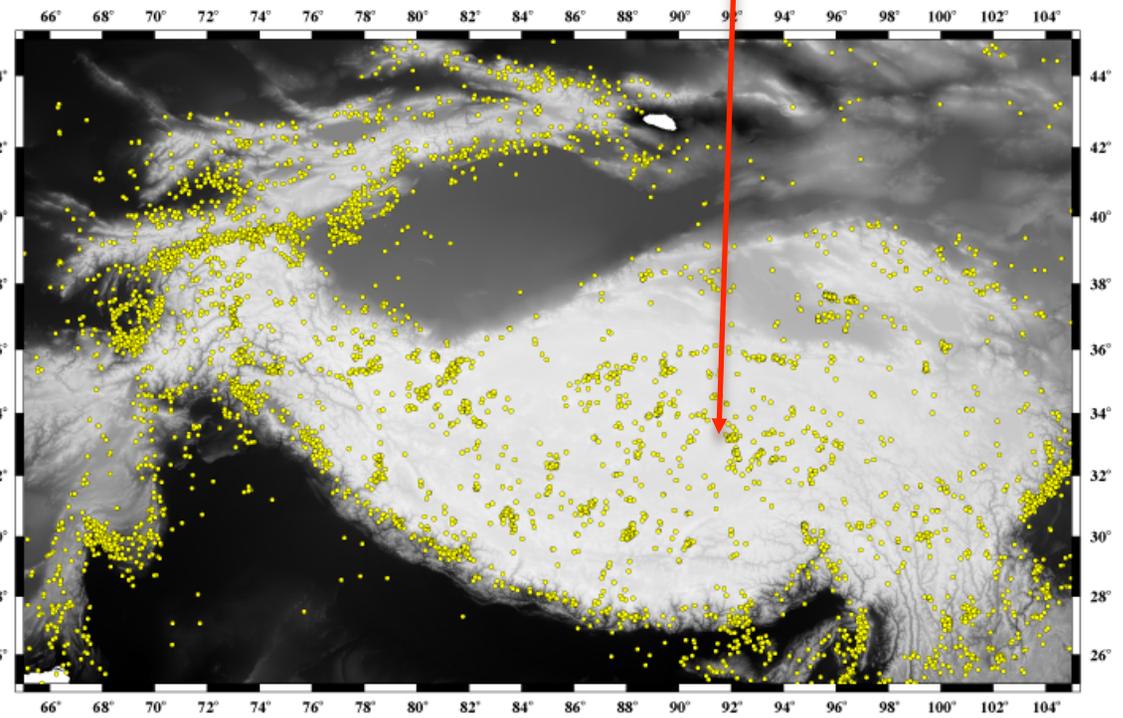
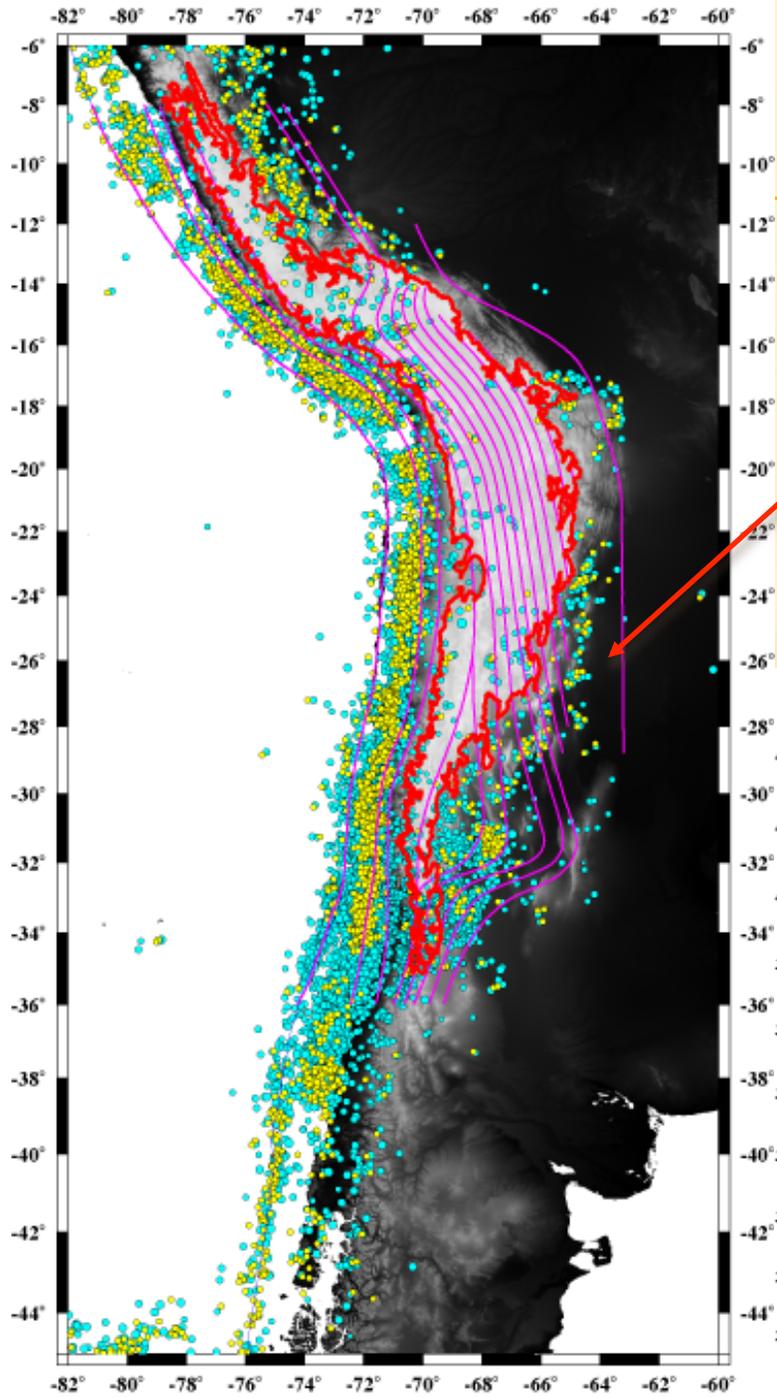


# Compare seismicity of Himalaya and Andes

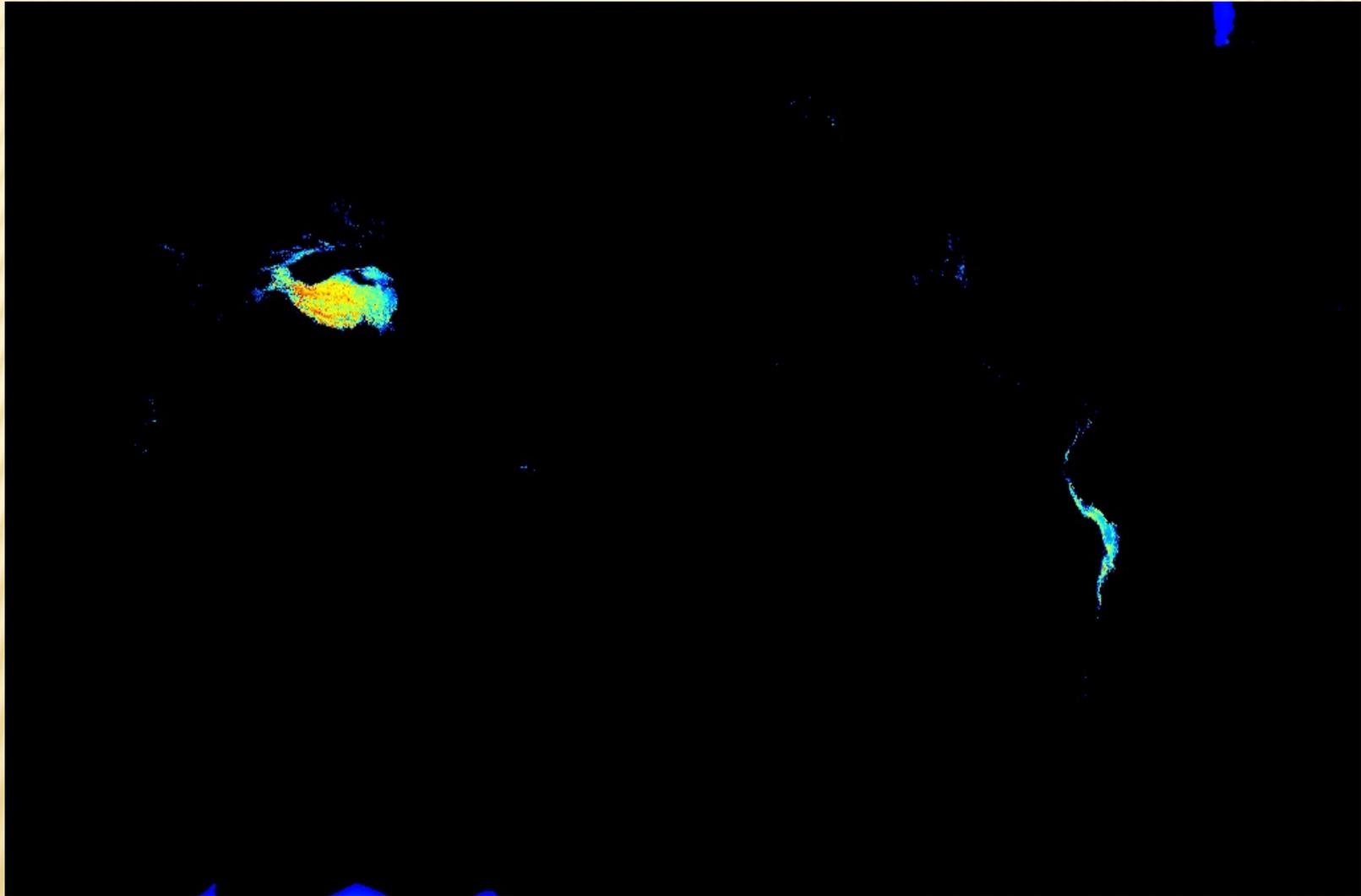
Around edges

Distributed

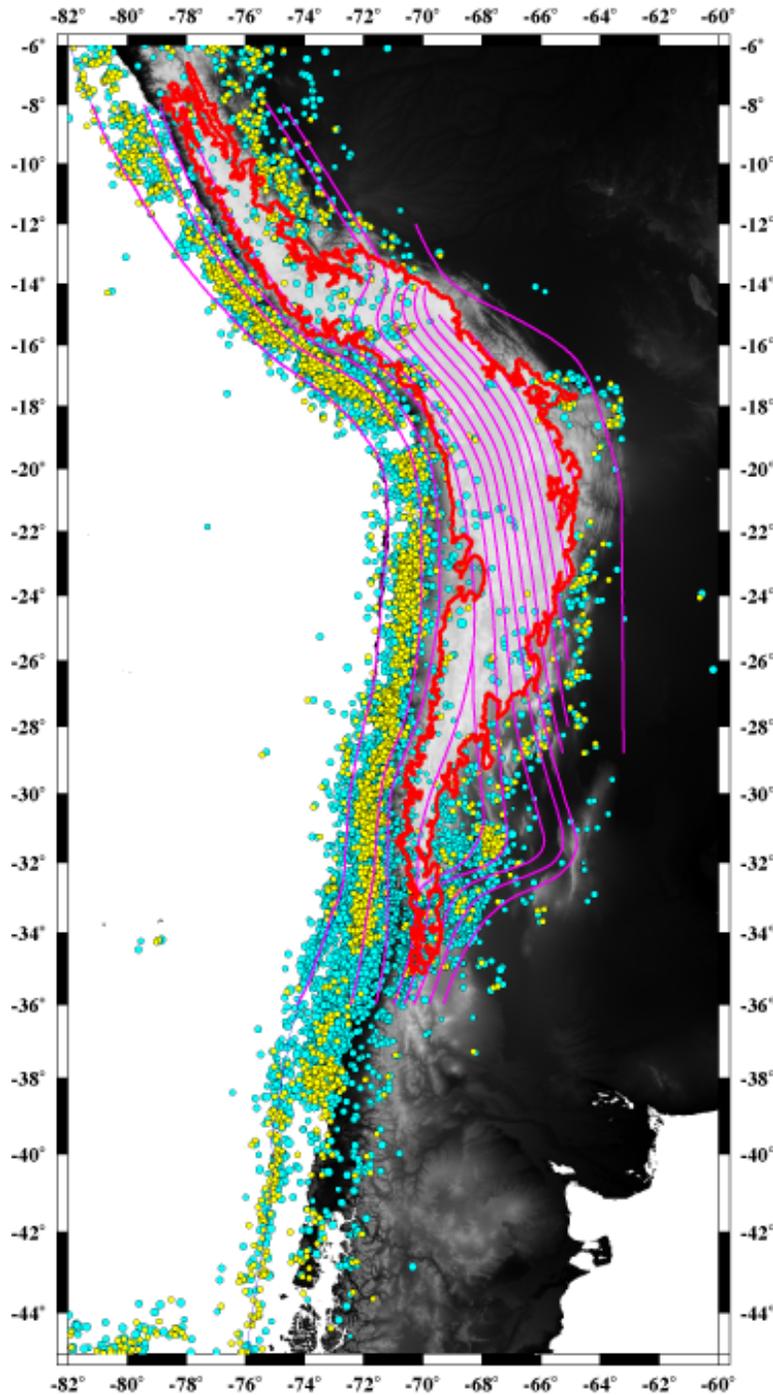
After Brooks et al, 2003



Map of topography higher than 3 km.



Himalaya and Andes

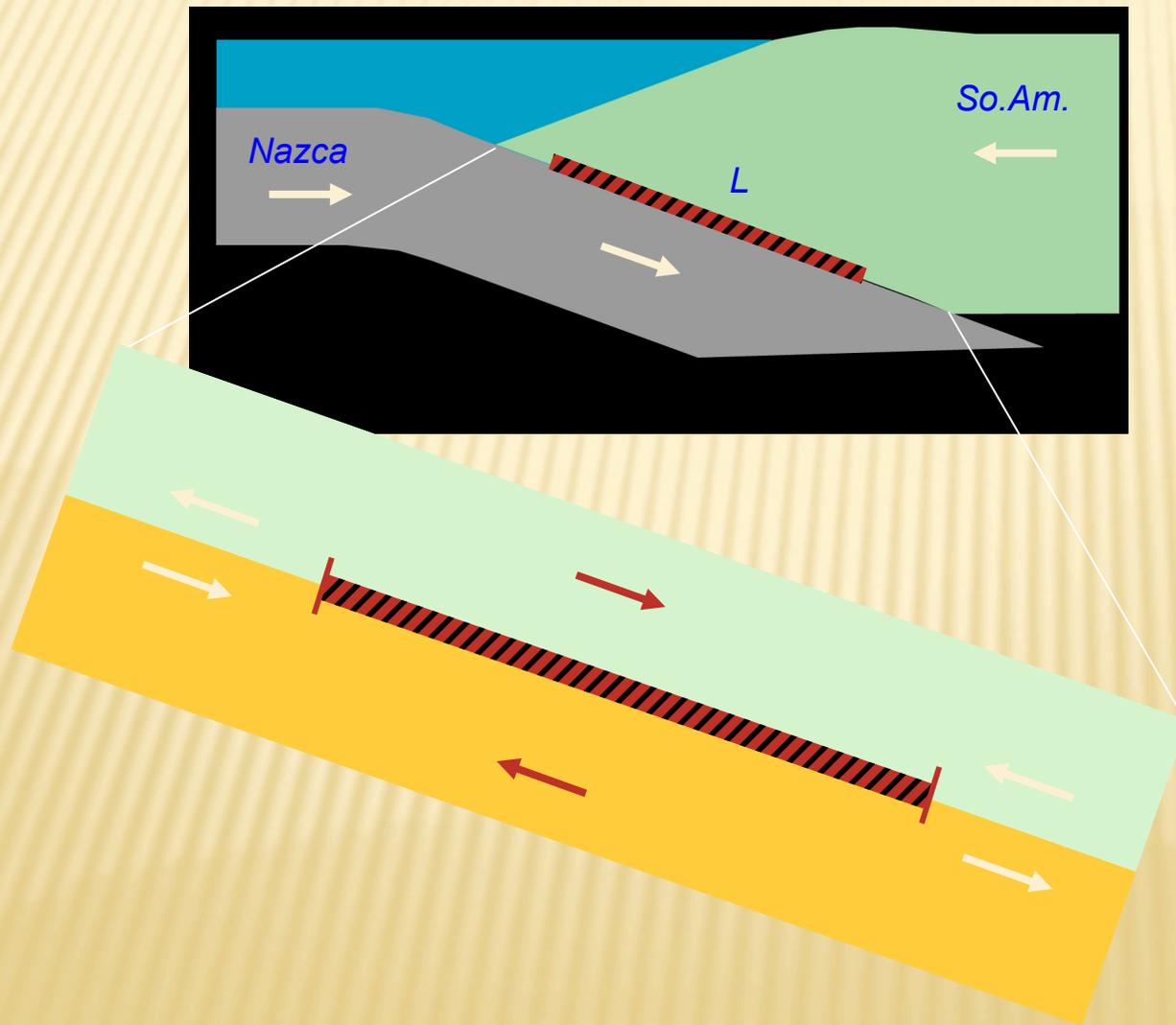


## Andean seismicity:

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

# MODELING INTERSEISMIC STRAIN: 'BACKSLIP'

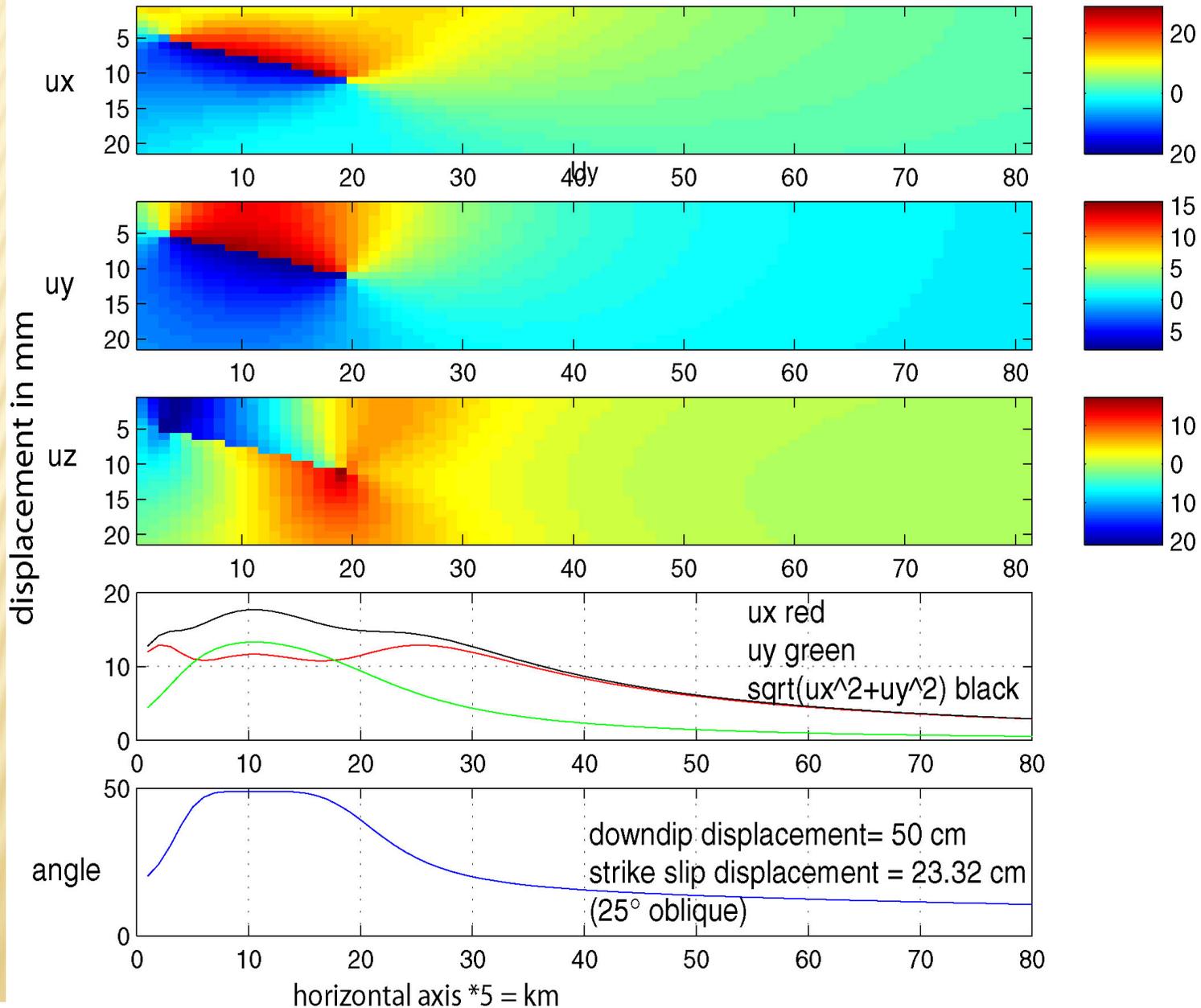
(after Savage, '83; Bevis & Martel, '01)



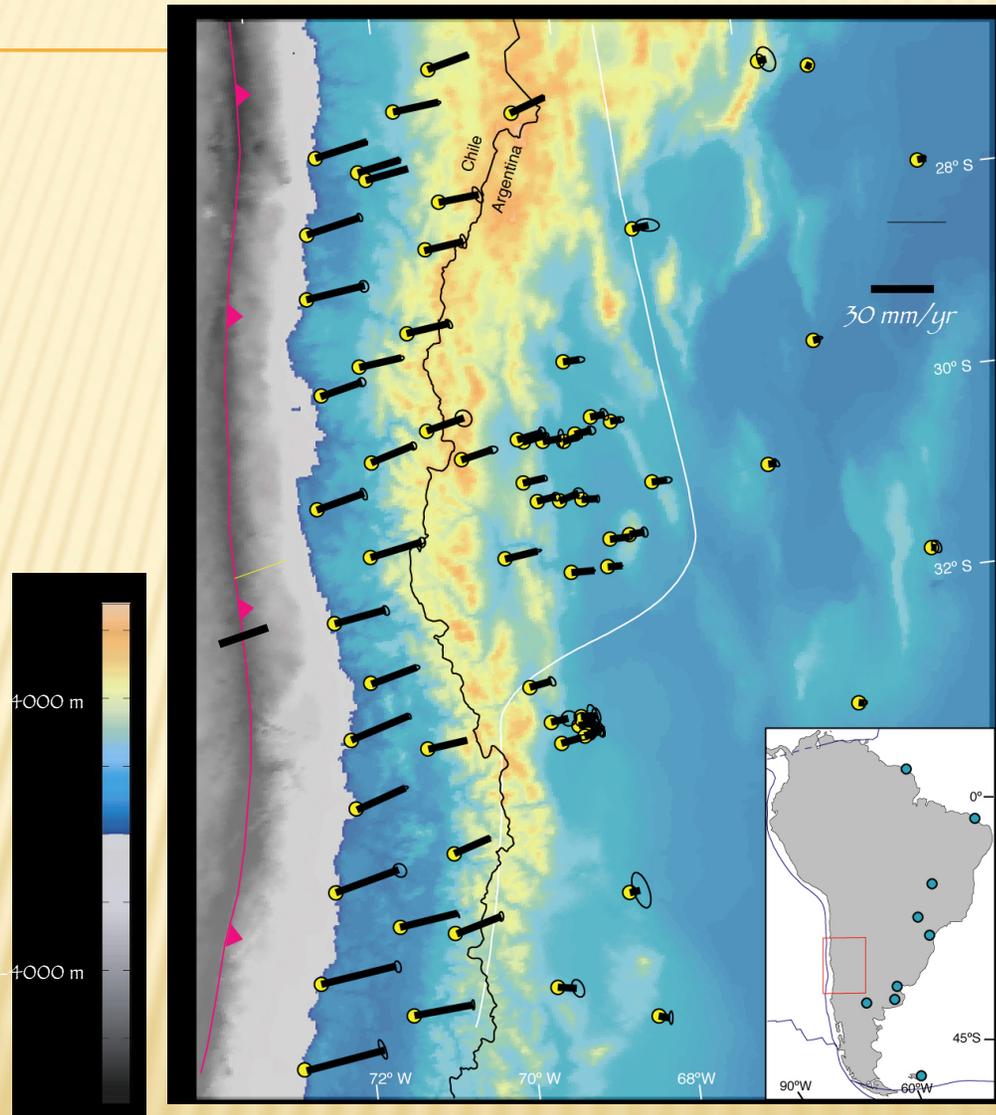
Savage backslip  
approach.

Run an  
earthquake  
“backwards” on  
the fault.

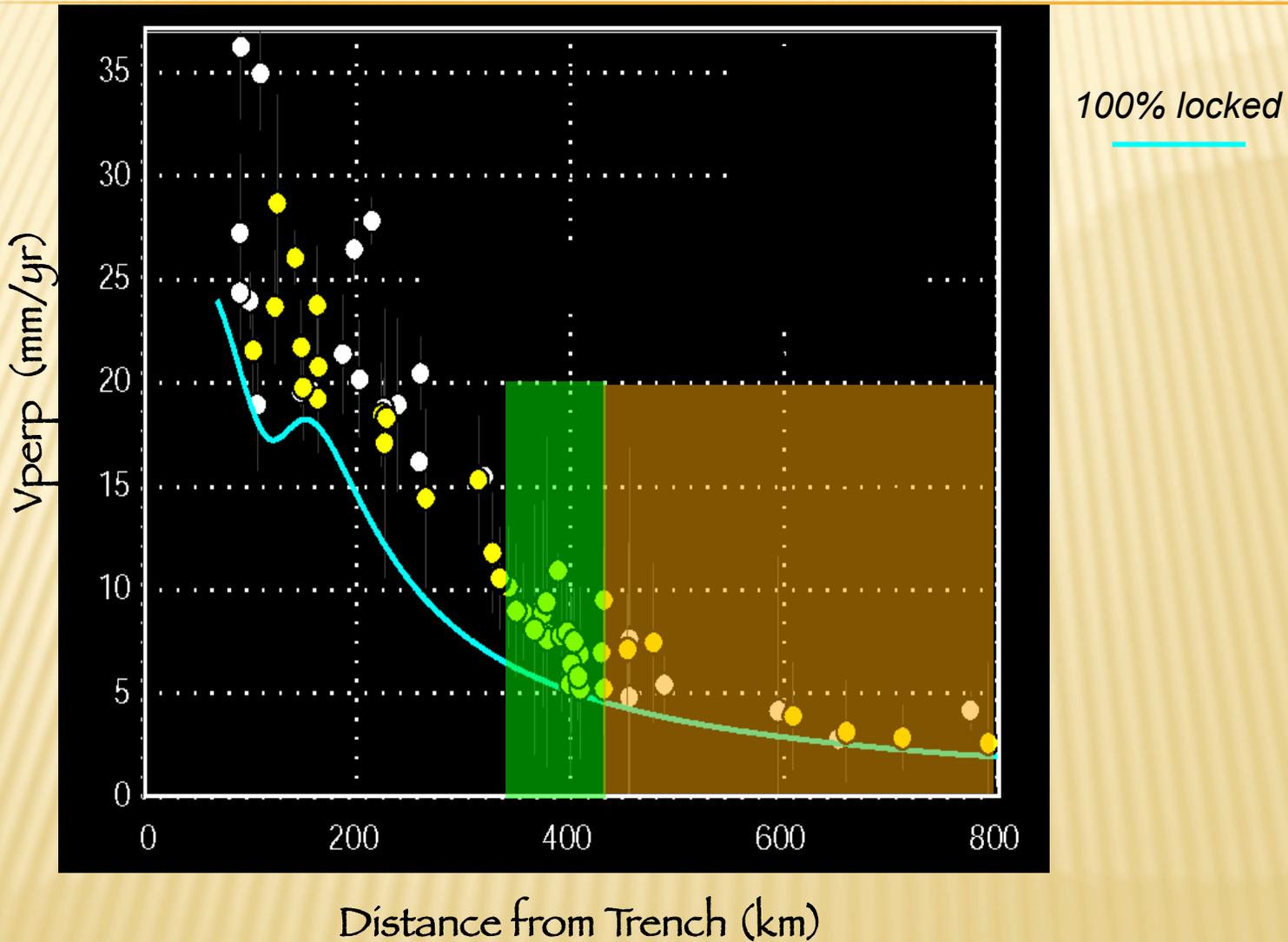
# Elastic modeling – interseismic



# GPS velocity field, south central Andes

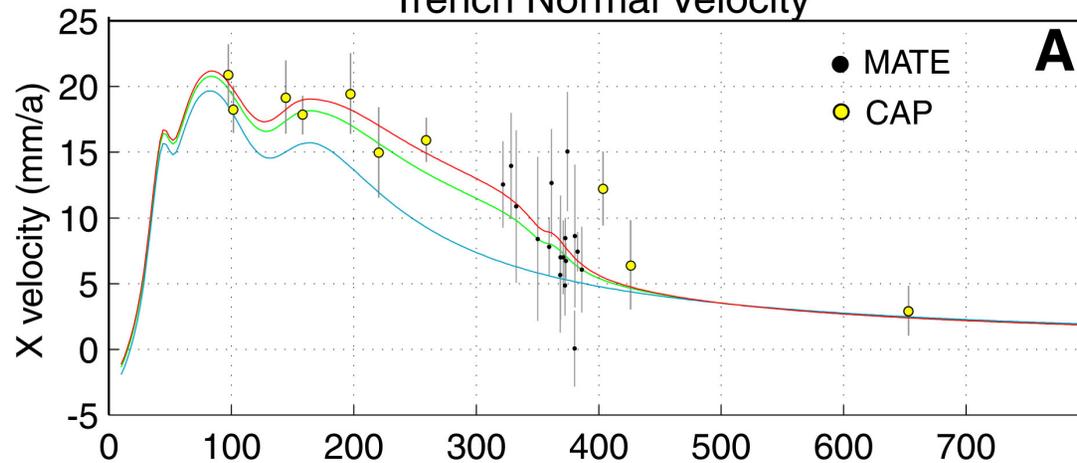


# Horizontal velocity profile: back slip model (blue) vs data

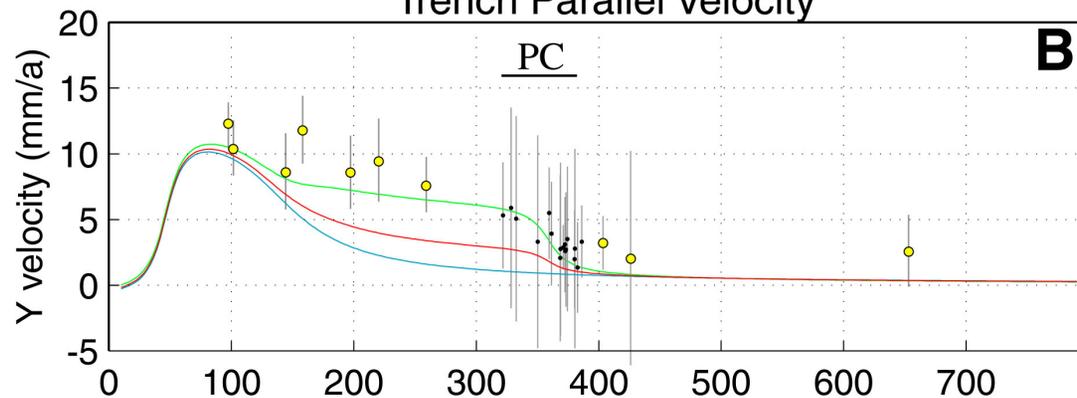


# SOUTH CENTRAL ANDES (PRECORDILLERA)

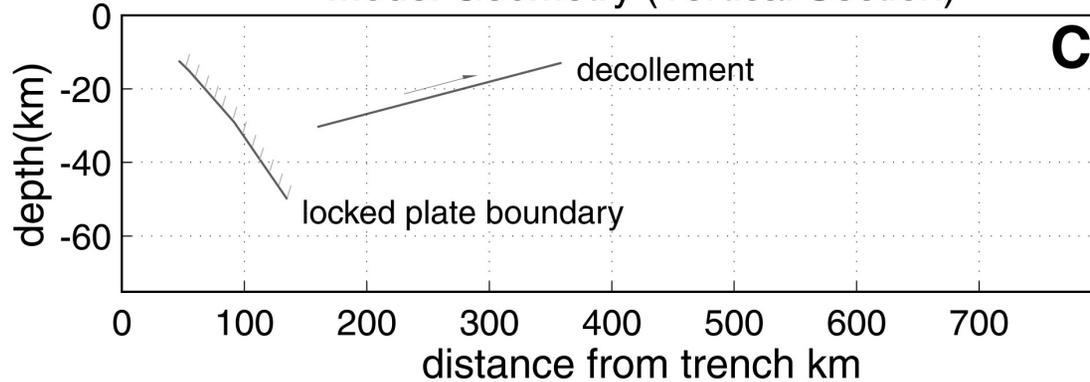
## Trench Normal Velocity



## Trench Parallel Velocity



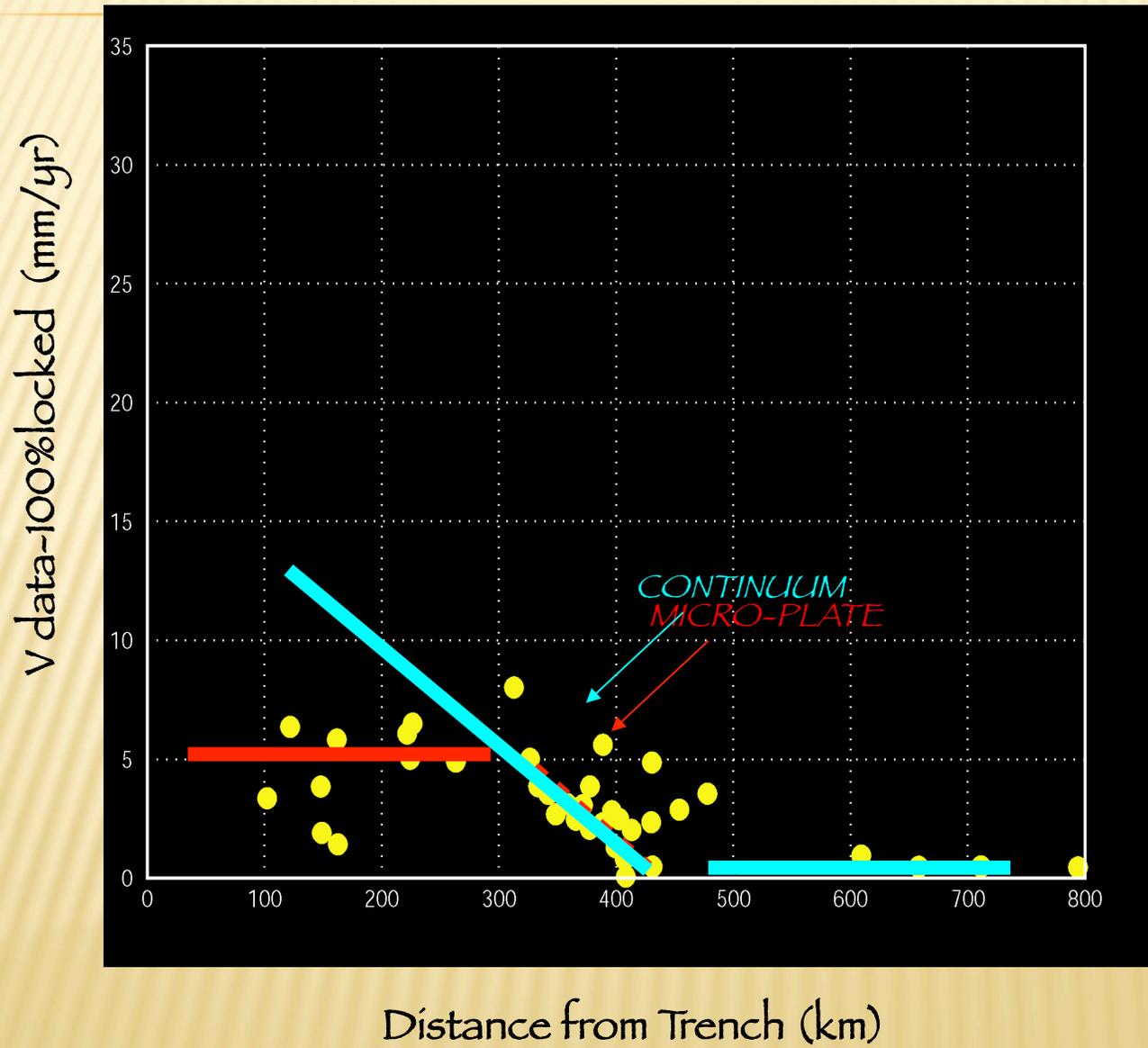
## Model Geometry (Vertical Section)

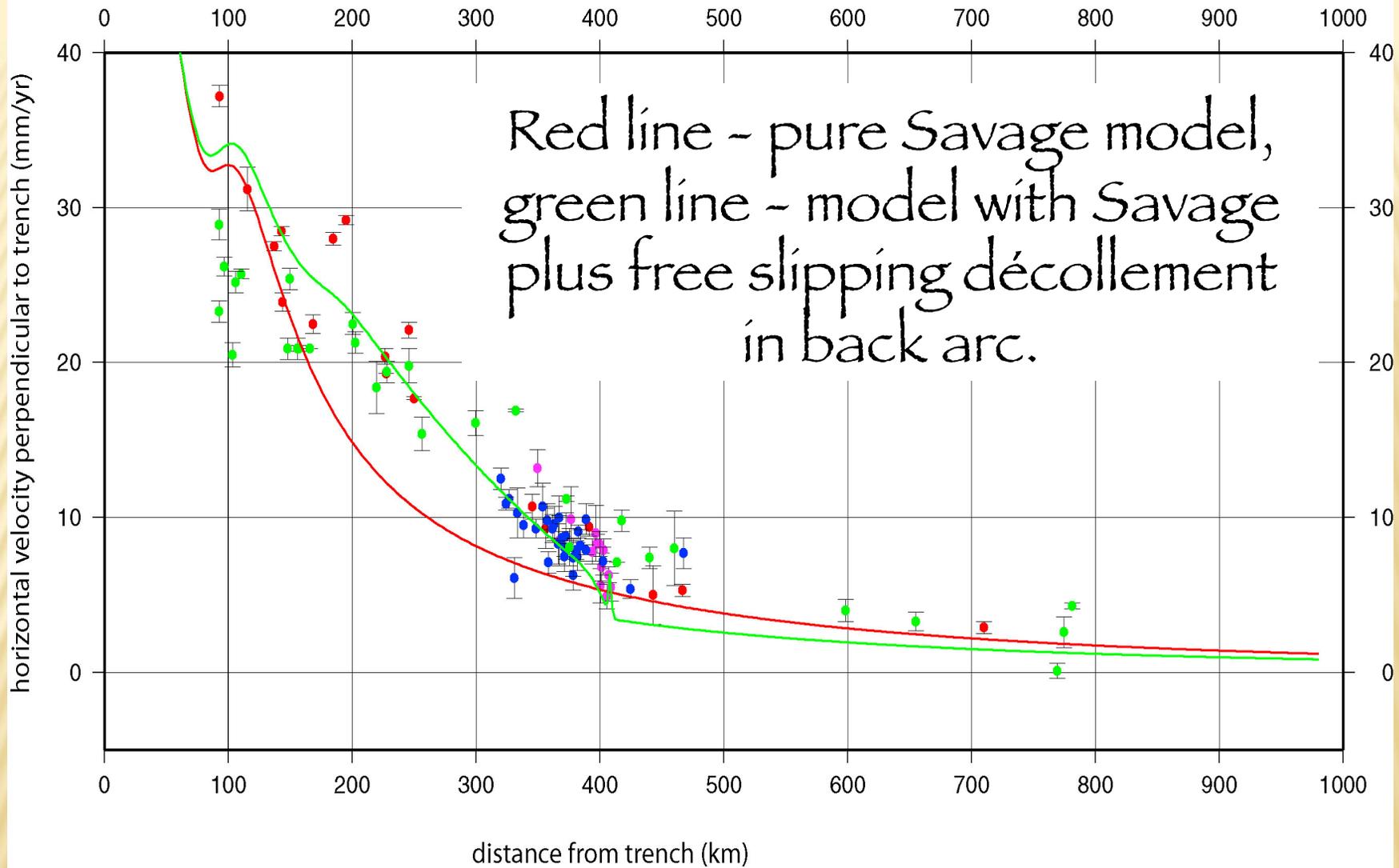


Cross section of horizontal velocity across south central Andes.

Strike is perpendicular to plate boundary.

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

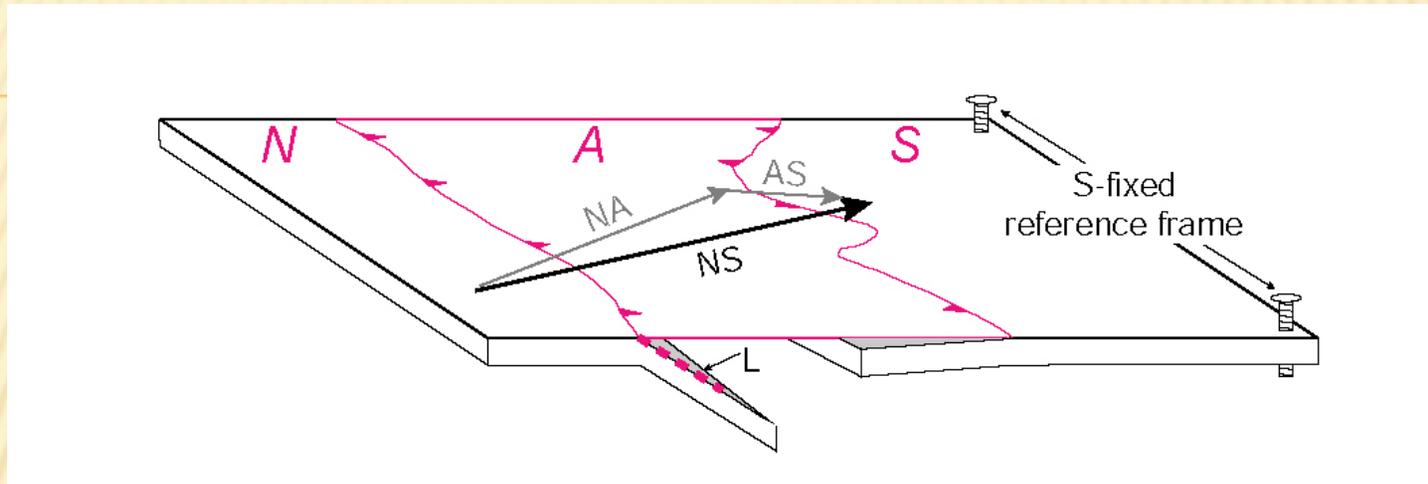




Cross section of horizontal velocity across south central Andes.

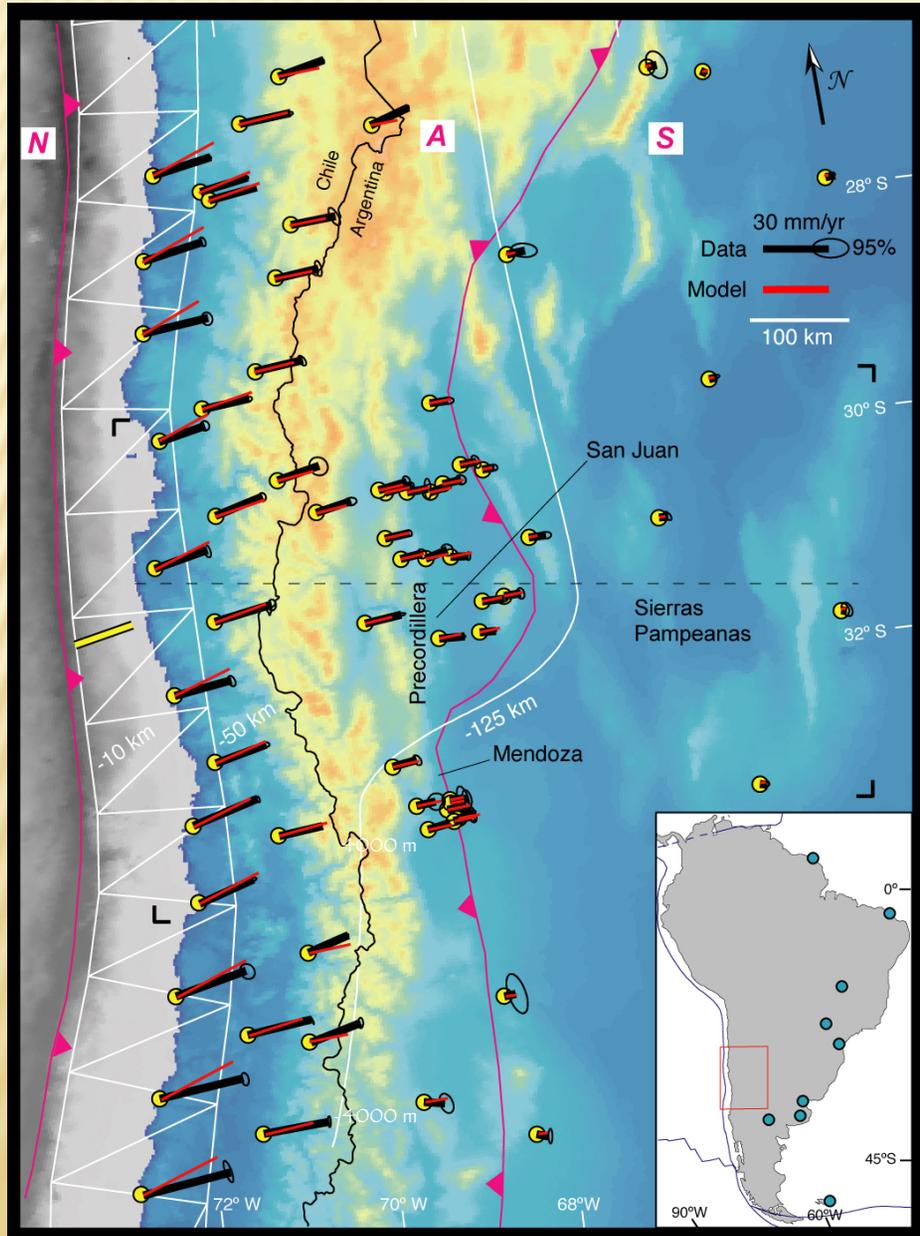
Strike is perpendicular to plate boundary.

# 3-D, 3 “plate” model



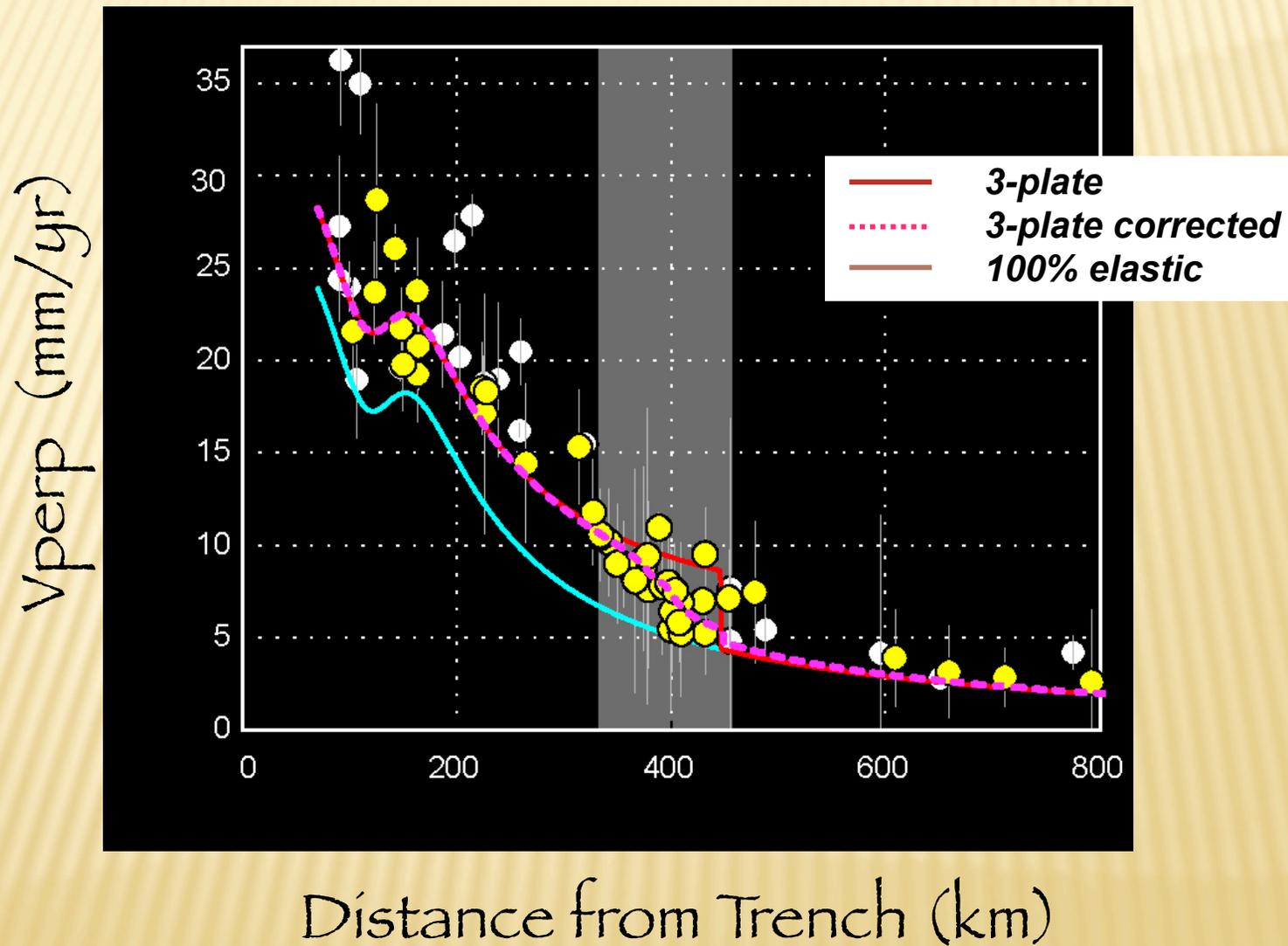
- $U_{\text{total}} = U_{\text{elastic}} + U_{\text{plate}}$
- Inversion for 4 parameters:
  - L
  - $AS_{\text{lat}}$
  - $AS_{\text{lon}}$
  - $AS_w$
- (n.b. L is a free parameter doesn't have to be 100%)

# Modeled vs measured velocity field

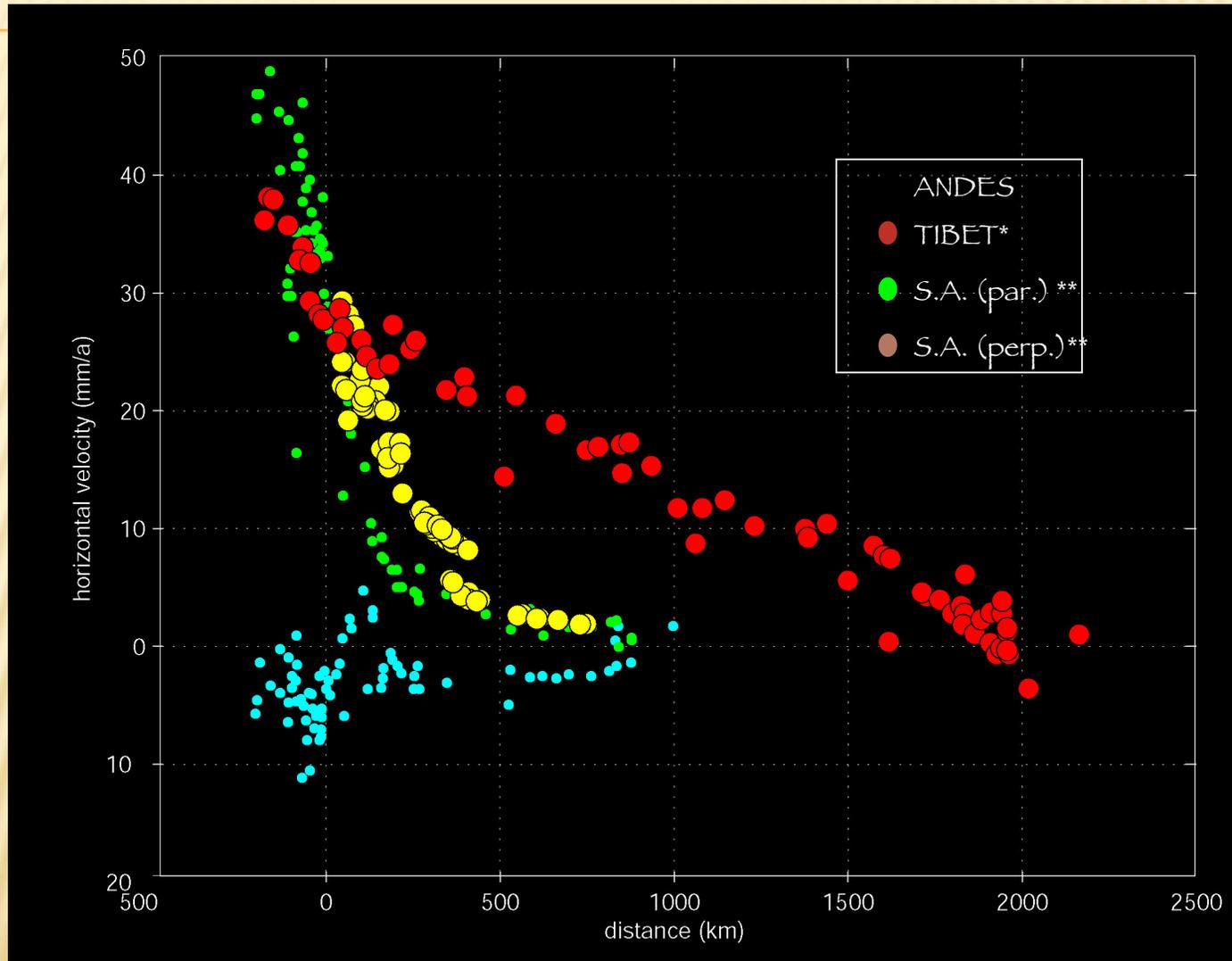


- $L = 1$
- AS velocity  $\sim 4.5$  mm/yr
- $\omega_{AS}$  in Canada

# Horizontal, plate normal, velocity profile

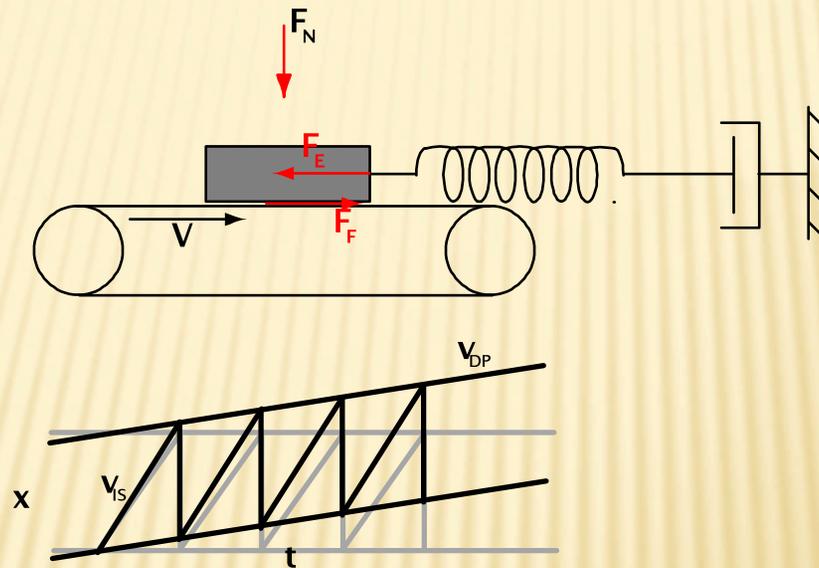


# Comparative velocity profiles



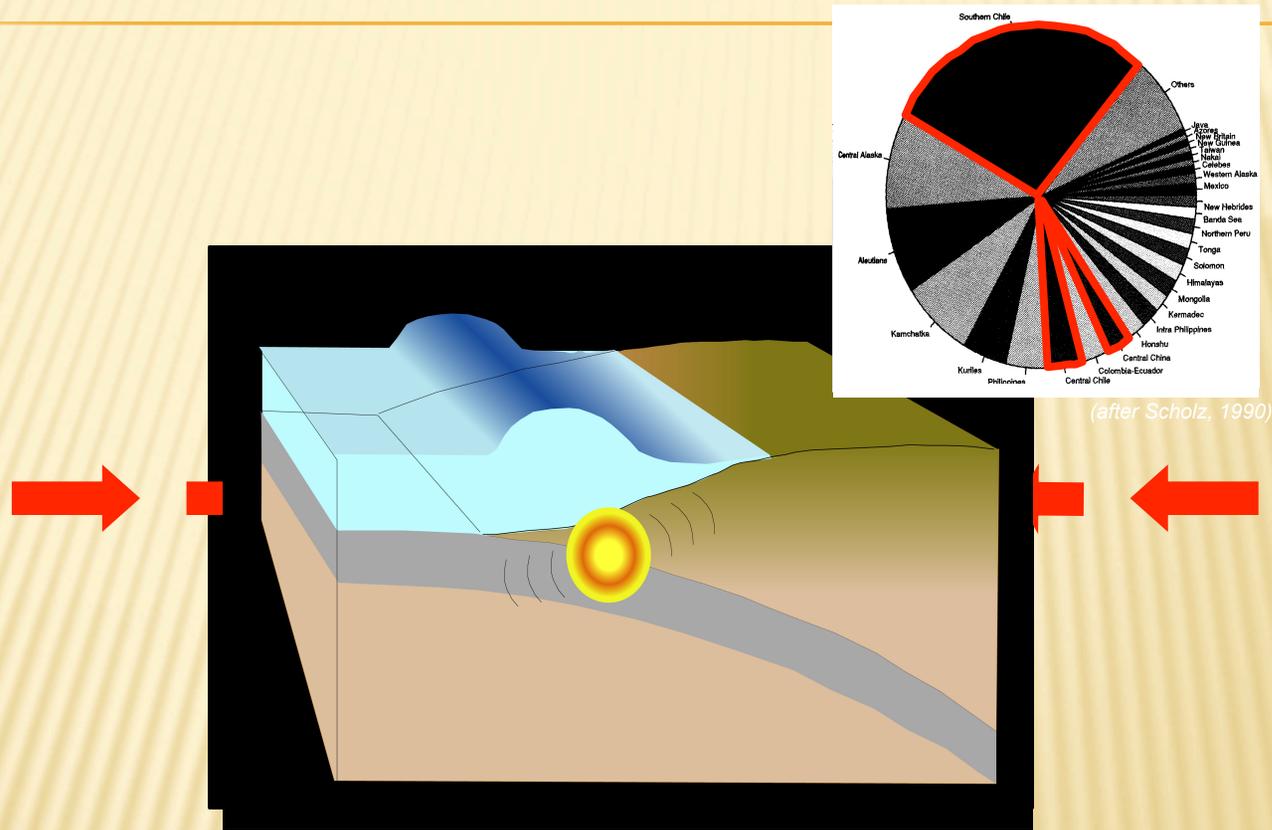
(\* Wang et. al, 2001; \*\* Bennett et. Al, 1999)

# Simple visco-elastic modeling of subduction process



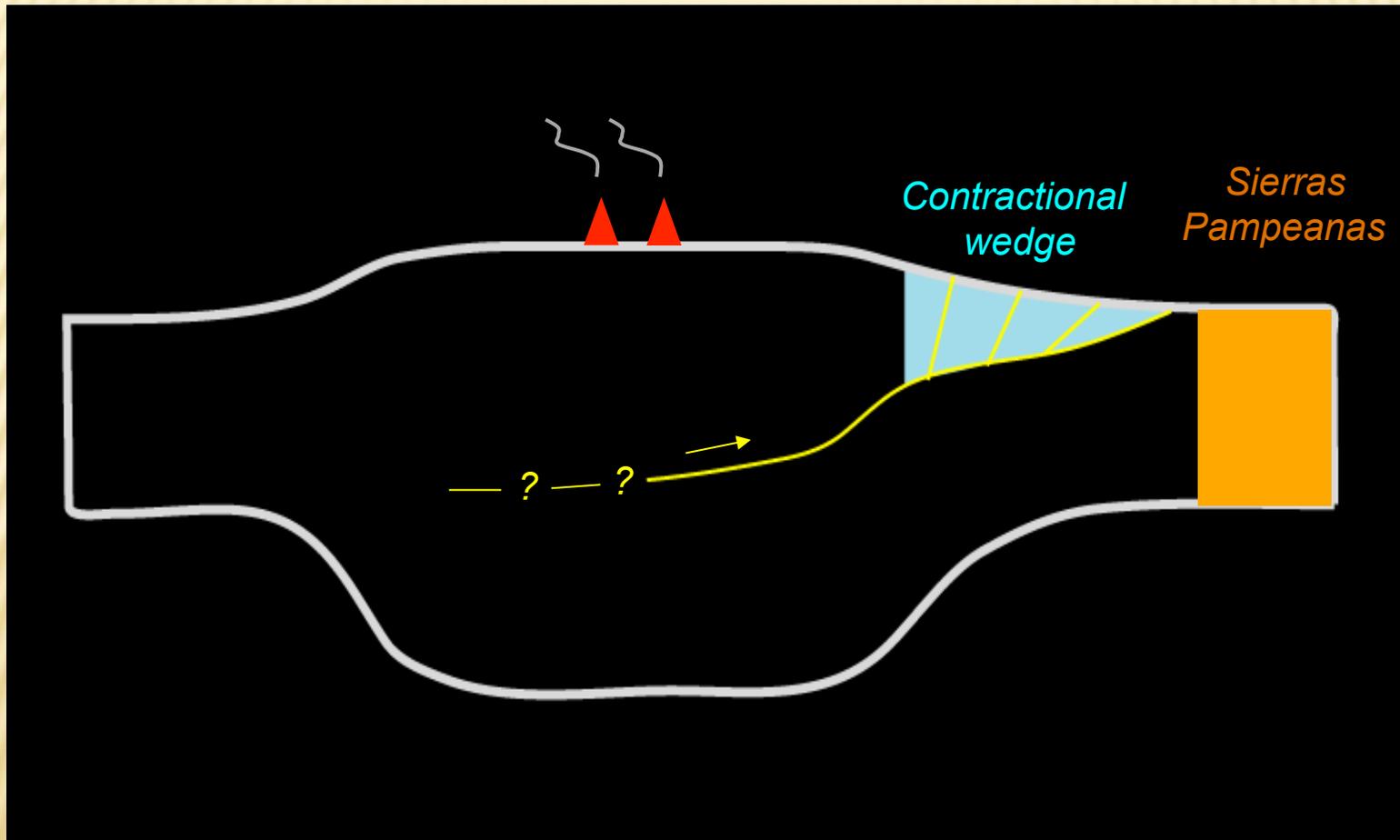
Permanent deformation (Mountains/Andes)

# Andean Crustal Deformation – Short Term

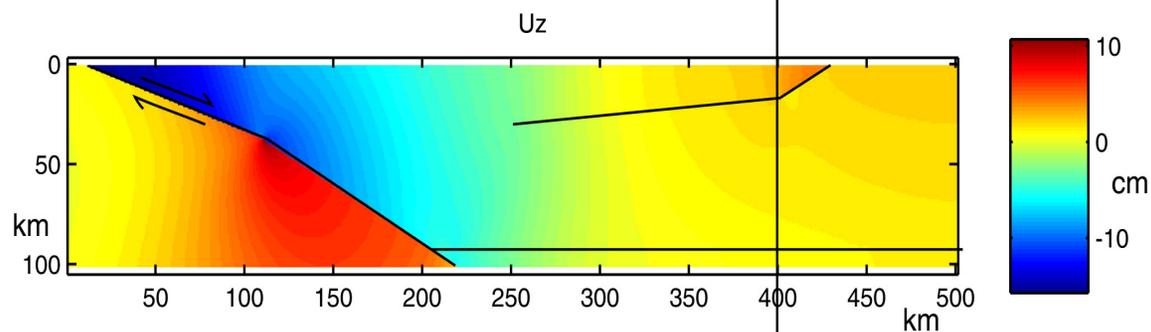
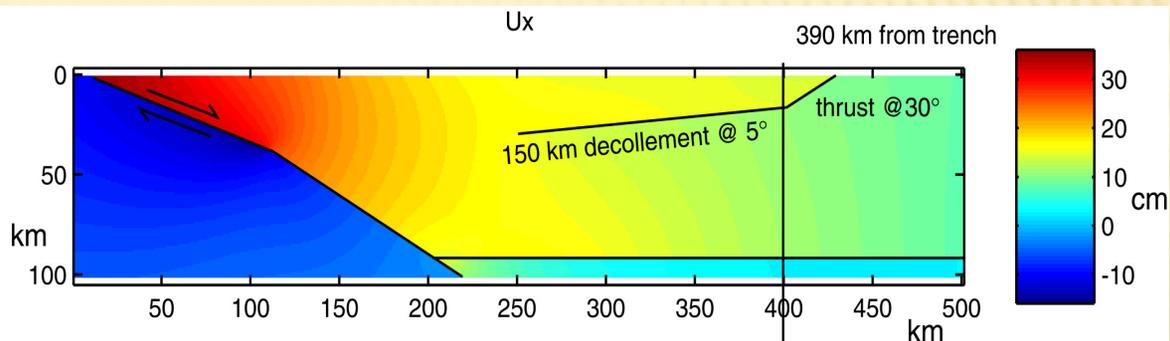


entire boundary:  $M \geq 8$  earthquake somewhere every  $\sim 10$  years  
each segment:  $M \geq 8$  earthquake every  $\sim 100$  years

# Boundary conditions for Andean orogeny.



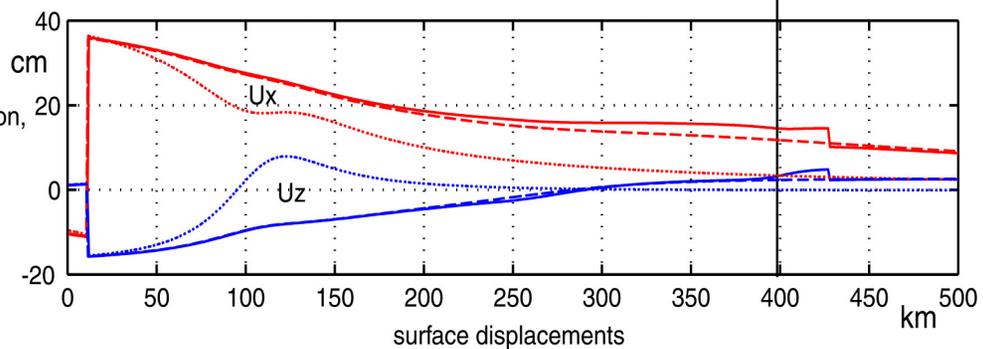
locked plate boundary 20° to 50 km depth, with imposed back slip to represent interseismic strain buildup, then free slipping at 30° (no opening/closing), free slipping base to upper plate lithosphere at 90 km depth (no opening/closing)



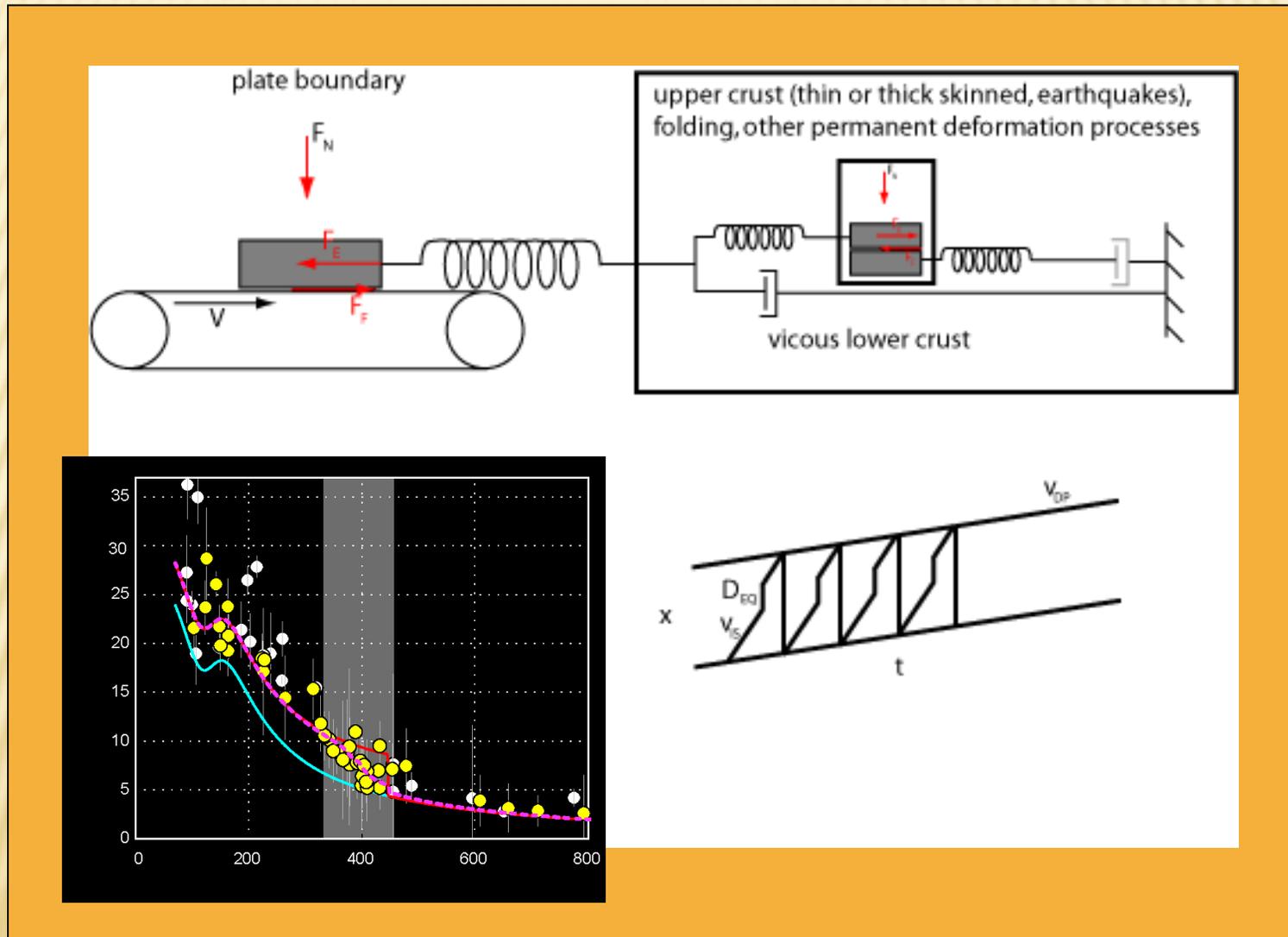
solid - 2 segment subduction, free slipping back arc

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)