



# Prediction vs. Forecast

*Valeri Korneev*

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, USA

[vakorneev@lbl.gov](mailto:vakorneev@lbl.gov)

# Definitions

- ***Prediction*** *is a deterministic statement that a future earthquake will or will not occur in a particular geographic region, time window, and magnitude range*
- ***Forecast*** *gives a probability that such an event will occur*

*Jordan, et al., 2011*

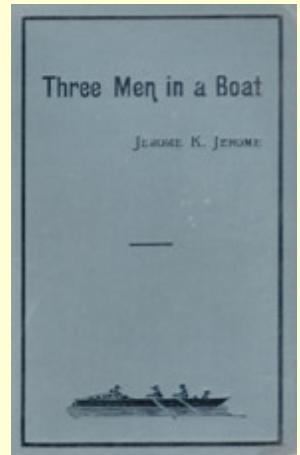
# Weather forecasts in the past

“I do think that, of all the silly, irritating tomfoolishness by which we are plagued, this “weather-forecast” fraud is about the most aggravating. It “forecasts” precisely what happened yesterday or the day before, and precisely the opposite of what is going to happen to-day.”

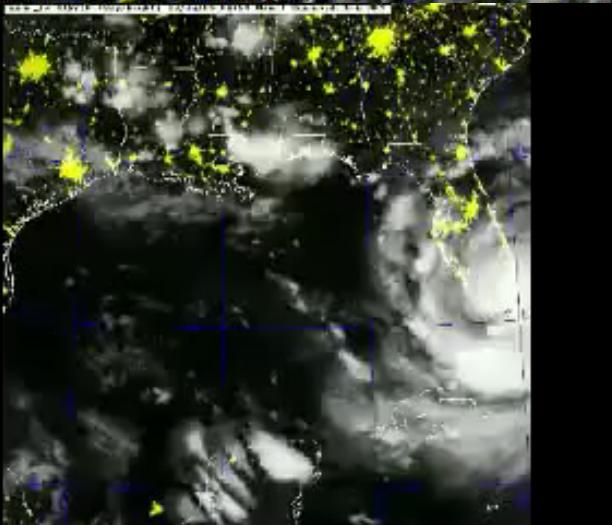
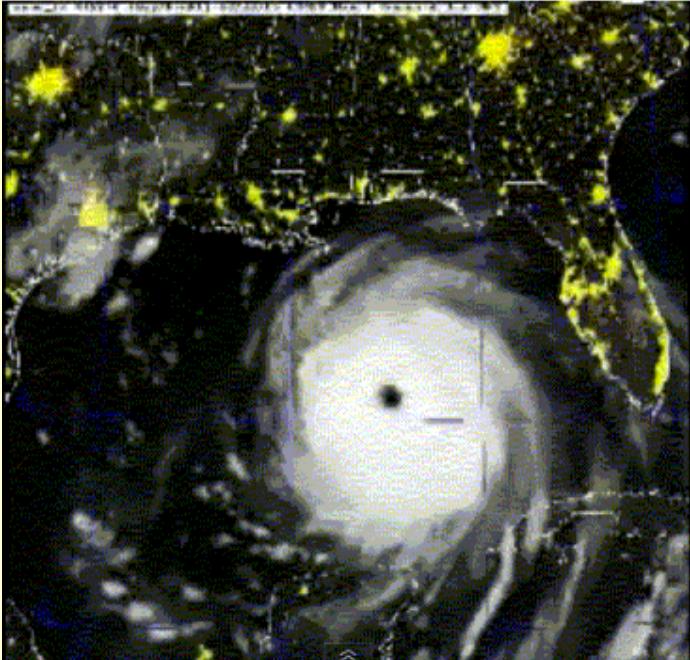
.....

“The weather is a thing that is beyond me altogether. I never can understand it. The barometer is useless: it is as misleading as the newspaper forecast.”

*Jerome K. Jerome, 1889.*



# Hurricane forecasts lose uncertainty because of investments in new technologies



Evacuations are ordered using no “probability” language

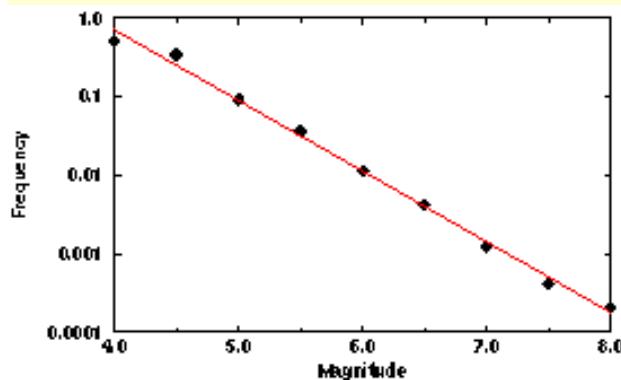


Property is damaged but human losses are minimal

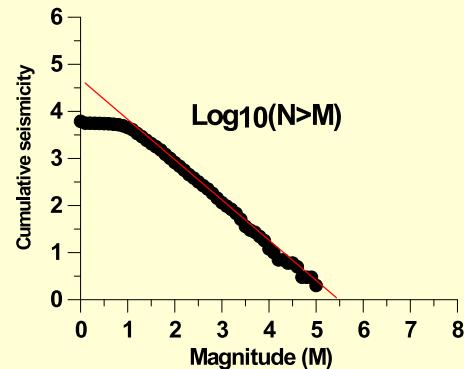
# Gutenberg-Richter Law

$$\log_{10} P(> M) = a - bM$$

Worldwide seismicity  
in 1985



Parkfield seismicity  
1970-2004



Acoustic emission  
during rock crushing

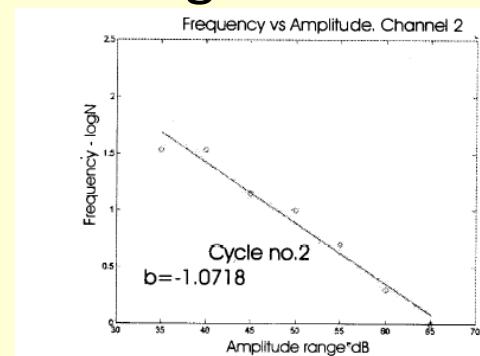
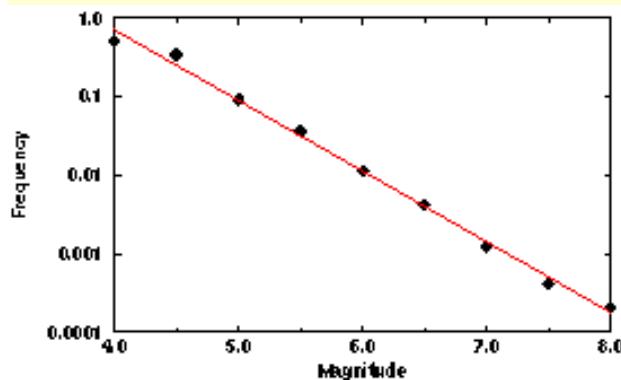


Fig. 4. Example of calculation of  $b$ -values for Channel 2 during loading cycle Number 2.  $b$ -value is calculated for groups of events during whole cycle. Graph represents log-frequency-magnitude chart and its relative curve fitting and  $b$ -value calculation for group of 100 events.

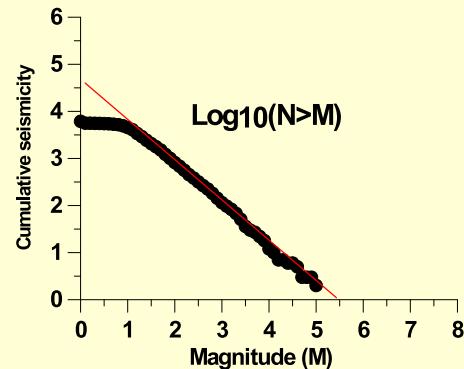
# Gutenberg-Richter Law

$$\log_{10} P(> M) = a - bM$$

Worldwide seismicity  
in 1985



Parkfield seismicity  
1970-2004



Acoustic emission  
during rock crushing

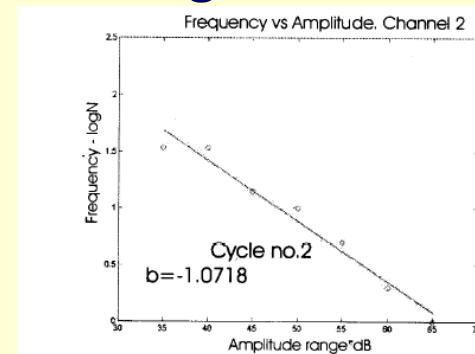


Fig. 4. Example of calculation of  $b$ -values for Channel 2 during loading cycle Number 2.  $b$ -value is calculated for groups of events during whole cycle. Graph represents log-frequency-magnitude chart and its relative curve fitting and  $b$ -value calculation for group of 100 events.

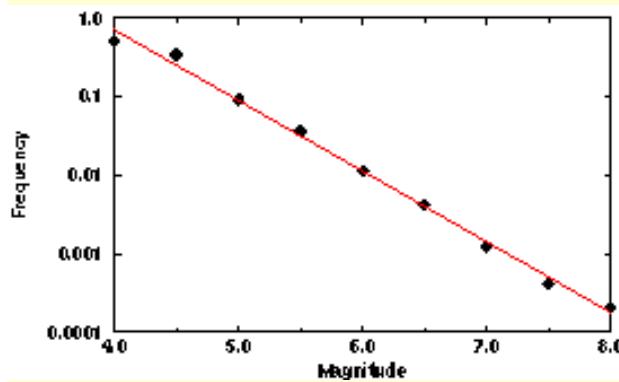
Probability describes a statistical limit when number of trials is infinite.

What does mean “a probability of a rare event” that occurs once in 100-200 years?

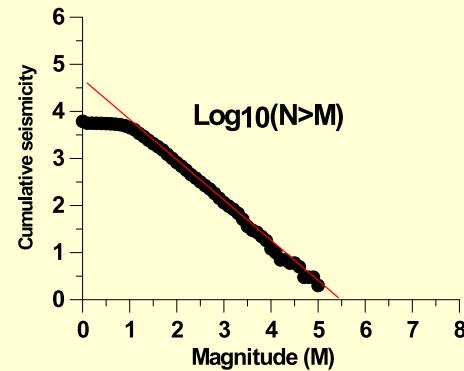
# Gutenberg-Richter Law

$$\log_{10} P(> M) = a - bM$$

Worldwide seismicity  
in 1985



Parkfield seismicity  
1970-2004



Acoustic emission  
during rock crushing

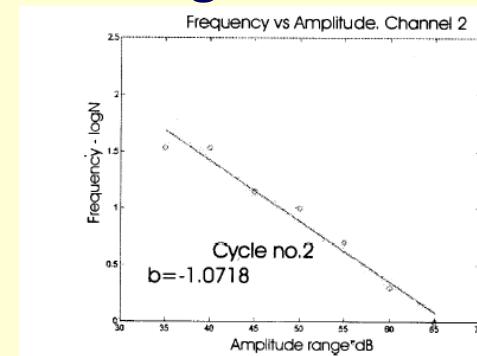


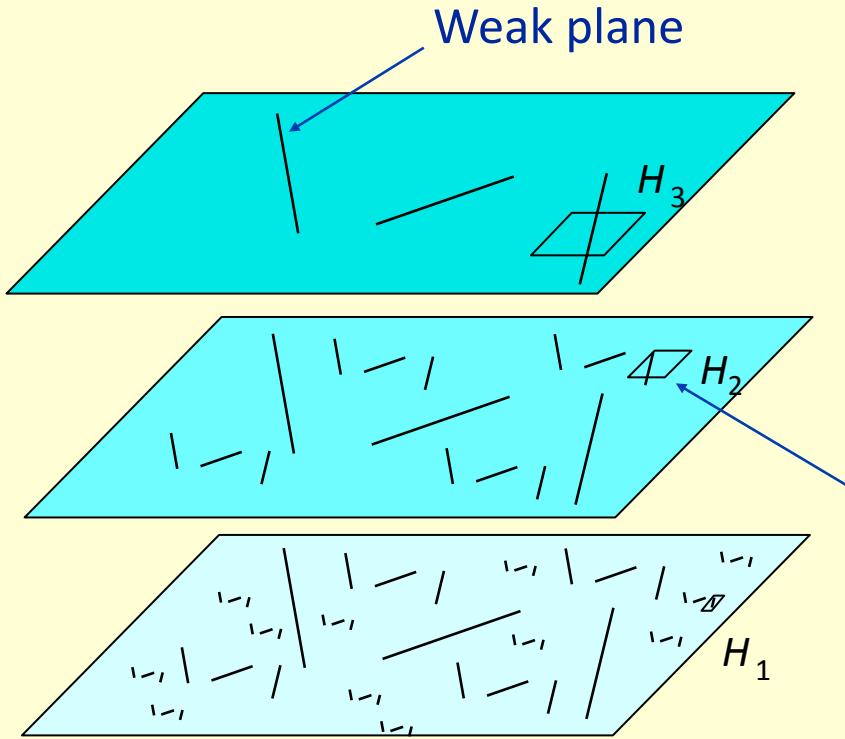
Fig. 4. Example of calculation of  $b$ -values for Channel 2 during loading cycle Number 2.  $b$ -value is calculated for groups of events during whole cycle. Graph represents log-frequency-magnitude chart and its relative curve fitting and  $b$ -value calculation for group of 100 events.

Probability describes a statistical limit when number of trials is infinite.

What does mean “a probability of a rare event” that occurs once in 100-200 years?

Information is an ability to cause changes (actions) that defines a true value of a predictive (forecasting) statement.

## Special case of self-similarity, $\sigma_c^H = 0$



- Fracturing is related to sliding over pre-determined weak planes resisted by cohesionless friction
- Number per unit volume of weak planes of sizes greater than  $H$ :

$$M_H = cH^{-m}, \quad m > 1$$

- Number per unit volume of volume elements of sizes  $(H, H+dH)$ , in which the fracture criterion is satisfied:

$$\mu H^D dH$$

Number per unit volume of fractures of sizes *greater* than  $H$

$$N^H = \frac{\mu c}{D + m - 4} H^{D+m-4}$$

**Gutenberg-Richter law**

# Can we use b-value for earthquake forecasting?

The Gambler's fallacy is the belief that if deviations from expected behavior are observed in repeated independent trials of some random process, future deviations in the opposite direction are then more likely.

H	H	T	T
T	T	T	T
T	T	T	T
T	H	T	H
T	T	H	T
H	H	T	T
H	T	T	T

The probability so far to get heads is  
0.2857142857142857

Number of flip:  
28  
Number of heads  
8  
Number of tails 20

The probability so far to get tails is  
0.7142857142857143

# Can we use b-value for earthquake forecasting?

The Gambler's fallacy is the belief that if deviations from expected behavior are observed in repeated independent trials of some random process, future deviations in the opposite direction are then more likely.

H	H	T	T
T	T	T	T
T	T	T	T
T	H	T	H
T	T	H	T
H	H	T	T
H	T	T	T

The probability so far to get heads is 0.2857142857142857

Number of flip:  
28  
Number of heads  
8  
Number of tails 20

The probability so far to get tails is 0.7142857142857143

## Randomness and a coin toss



# Can we use b-value for earthquake forecasting?

The Gambler's fallacy is the belief that if deviations from expected behavior are observed in repeated independent trials of some random process, future deviations in the opposite direction are then more likely.

H	H	T	T
T	T	T	T
T	T	T	T
T	H	T	H
T	T	H	T
H	H	T	T
H	T	T	T

The probability so far to get heads is 0.2857142857142857

Number of flip:  
28  
Number of heads  
8  
Number of tails 20

The probability so far to get tails is 0.7142857142857143

## Randomness and a coin toss



We can predict a result of coin landing after an investment in information acquisition

# Rock failure phenomenon

## Stress-strain curves

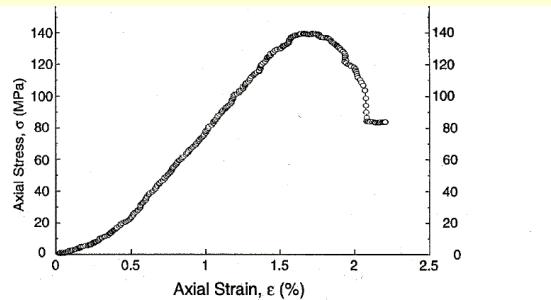
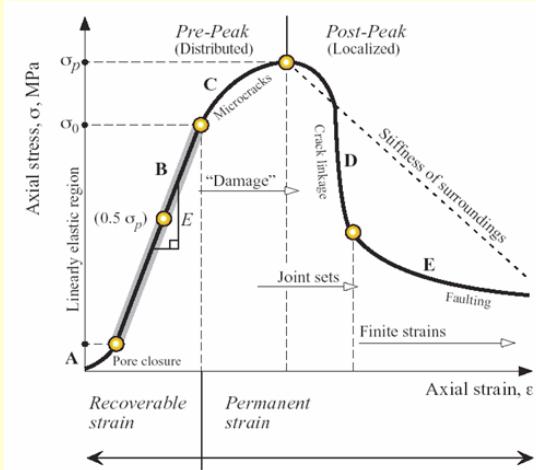
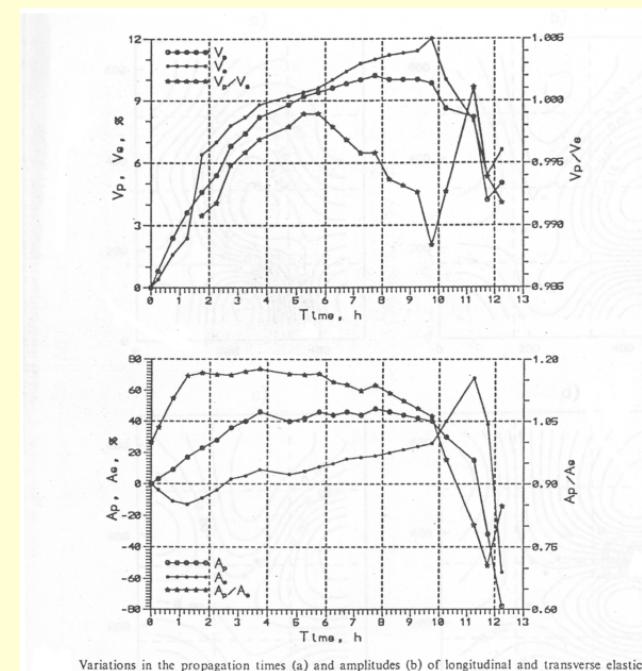


Figure 3. The variation of complex resistivity at 1 kHz during triaxial deformation until failure of a sample of Darley Dale sandstone saturated with initially pure deionized water in undrained conditions, combined with the stress/strain curve. Strain rate:  $0.01\text{min}^{-1}$ , confining pressure: 50 MPa.

Glover et al., 1996, Surveys in Geophysics

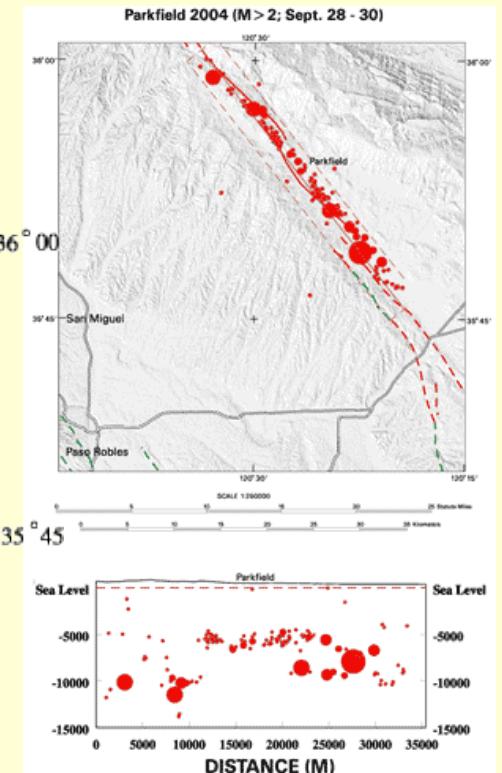
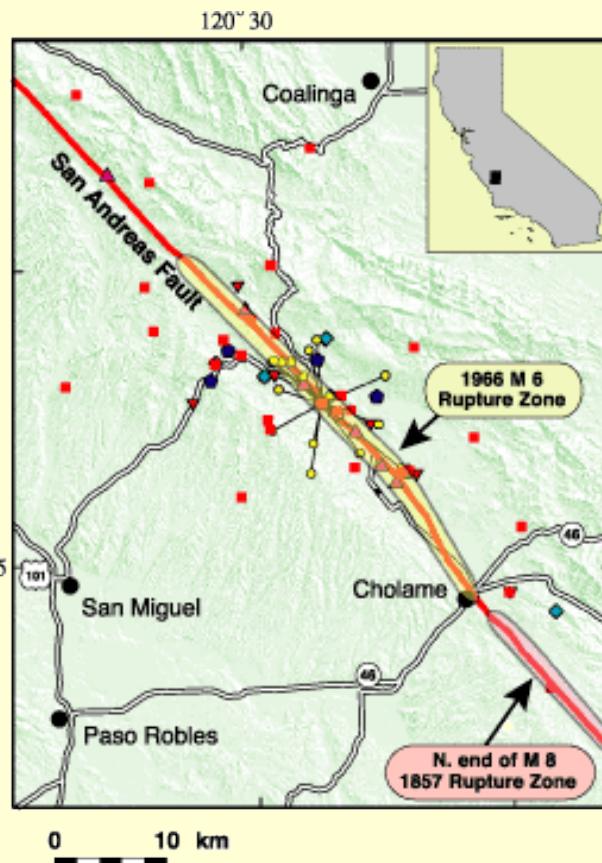
## Amplitude and velocity changes vs. deformation



Variations in the propagation times (a) and amplitudes (b) of longitudinal and transverse elastic waves and in their ratios for the route 5-5 crossing the central region of macrocrack preparation in the marble block.

Sobolev, et al., 1996. Journal of Earthquake Prediction Research

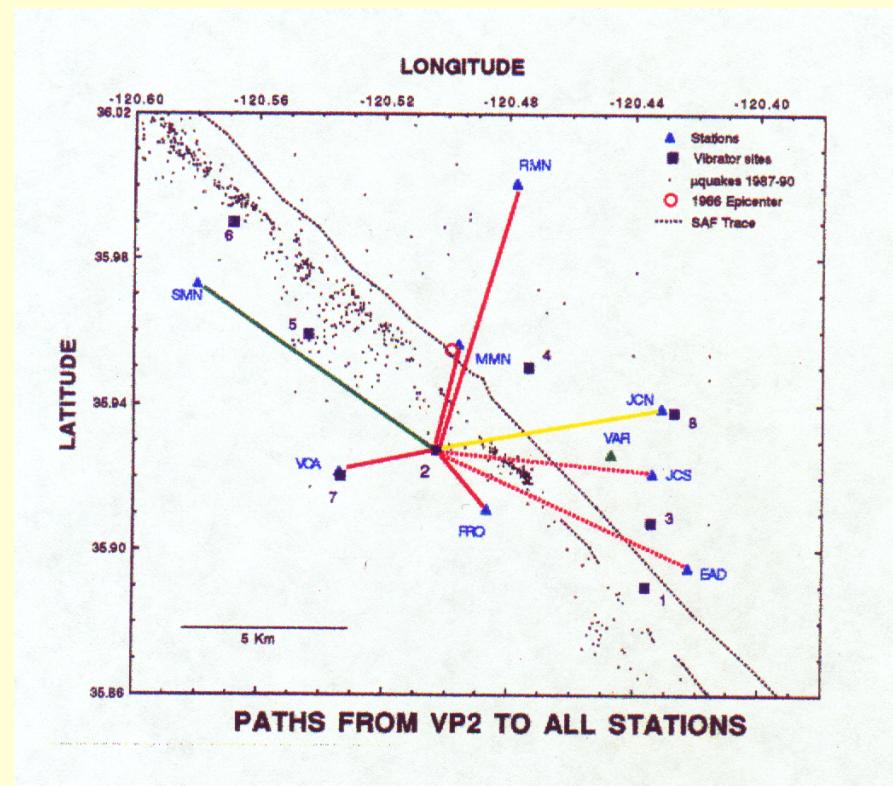
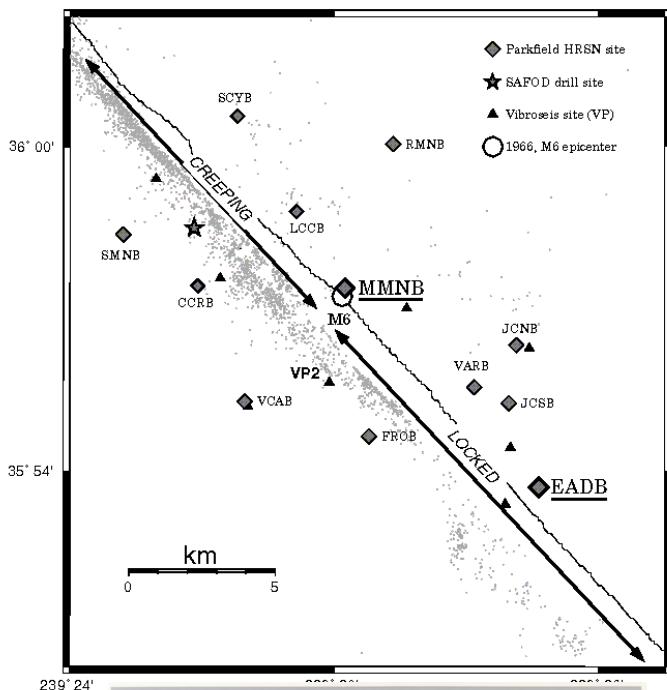
# M6.0 September 28, 2004, Parkfield



All measurements are made outside of seismogenic zones

# Vibroseis Monitoring at Parkfield (1987-1996)

## HRSN Network and Vibroseis Locations



Stable (green)

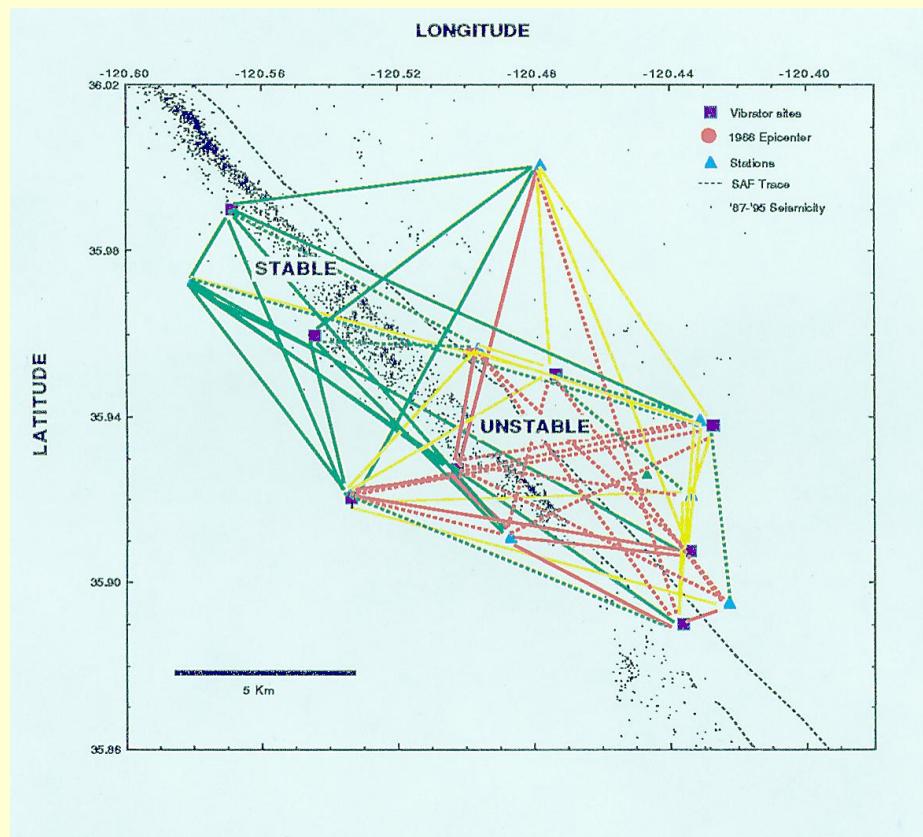
Moderately unstable (yellow)

Unstable (red)

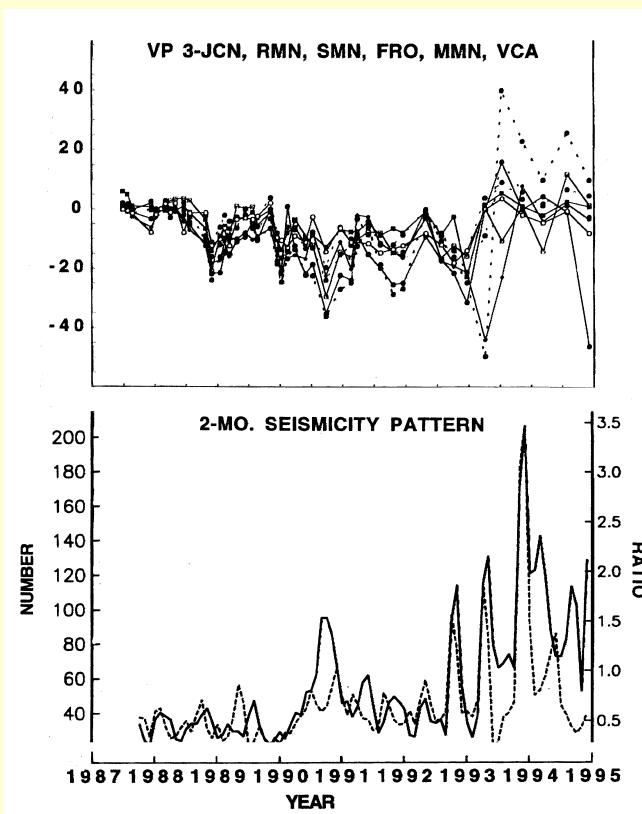
Karageorgy et al., 1997, BSSA; Karageorgy et al., 1992, BSSA

# The observed changes

Changes Relate to Locked Zone

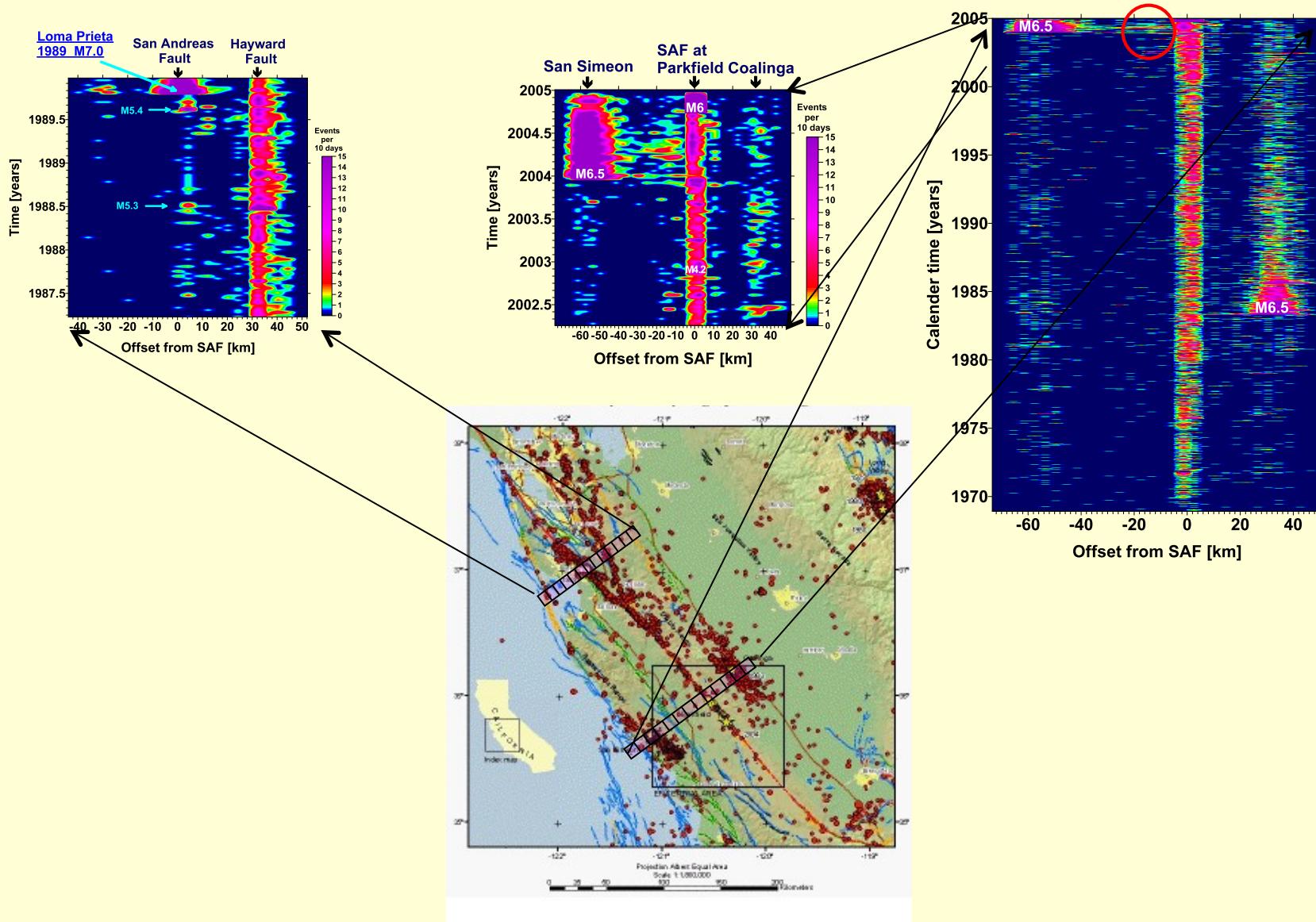


Traveltimes changes correlate with seismicity



Karageorgy et al., 1997, BSSA; Karageorgy et al., 1992, BSSA

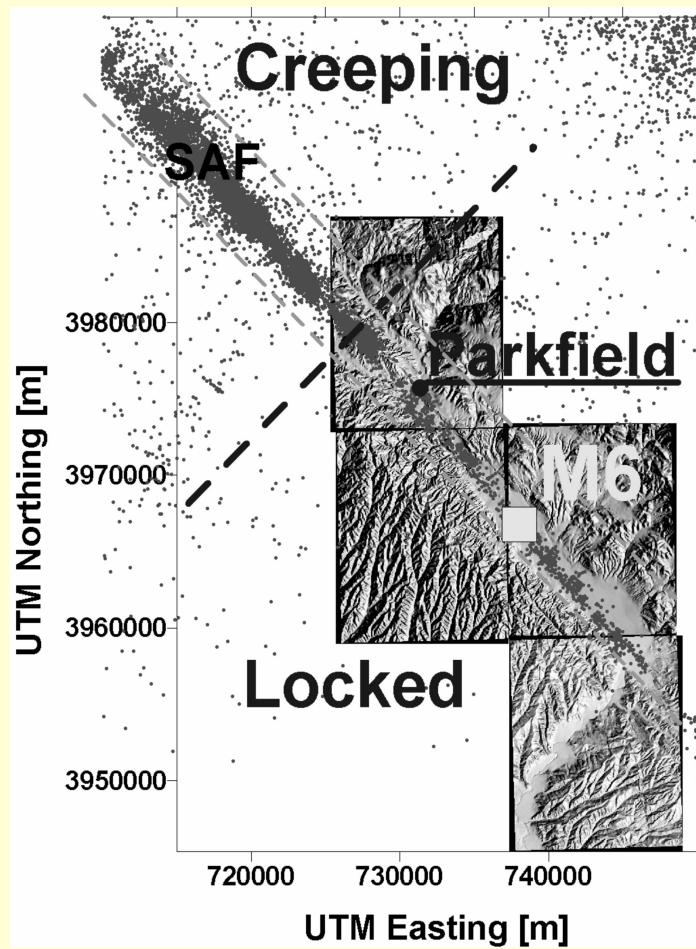
# Seismicity scans



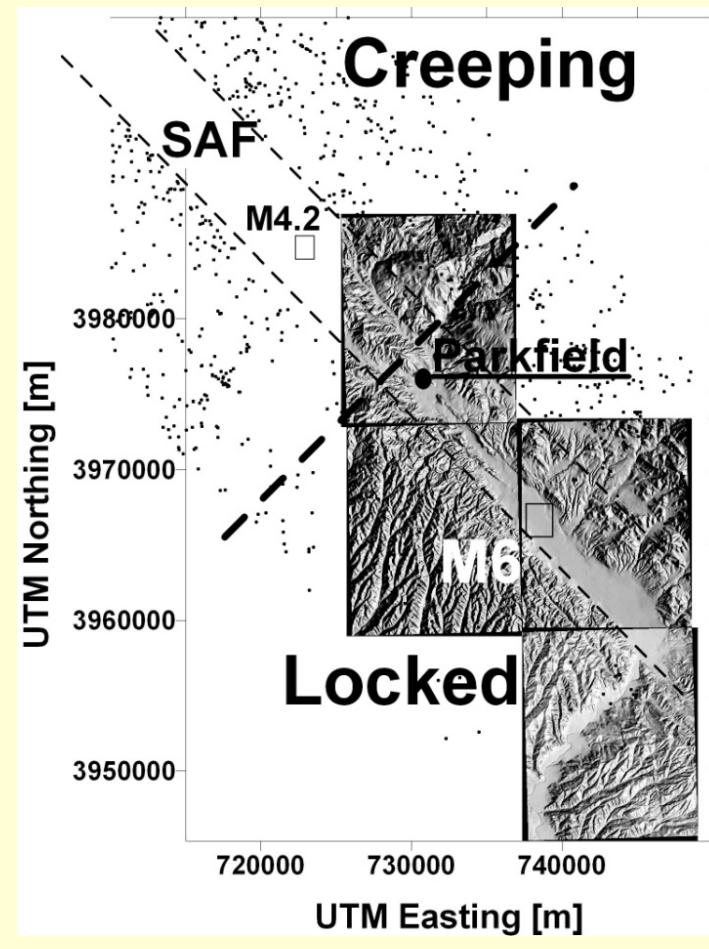
Korneev 2005,2010

# Parkfield area seismicity 1968-M6 2004

All events

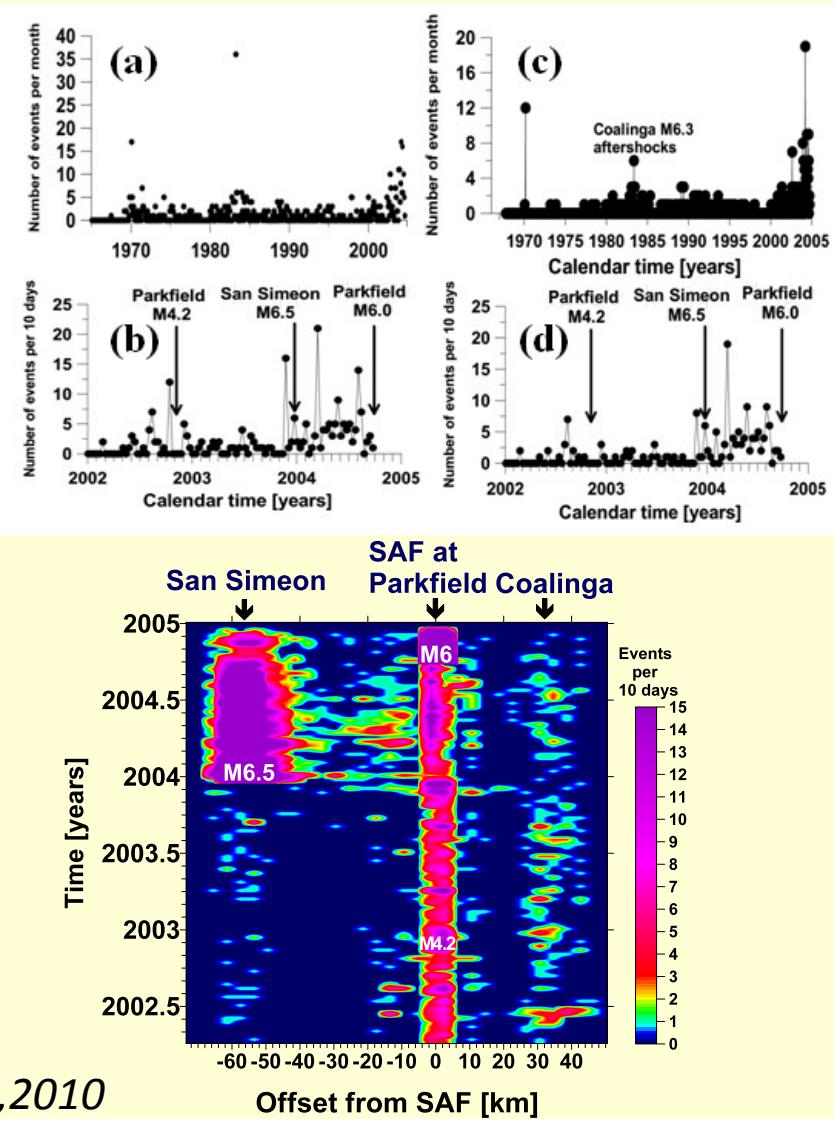
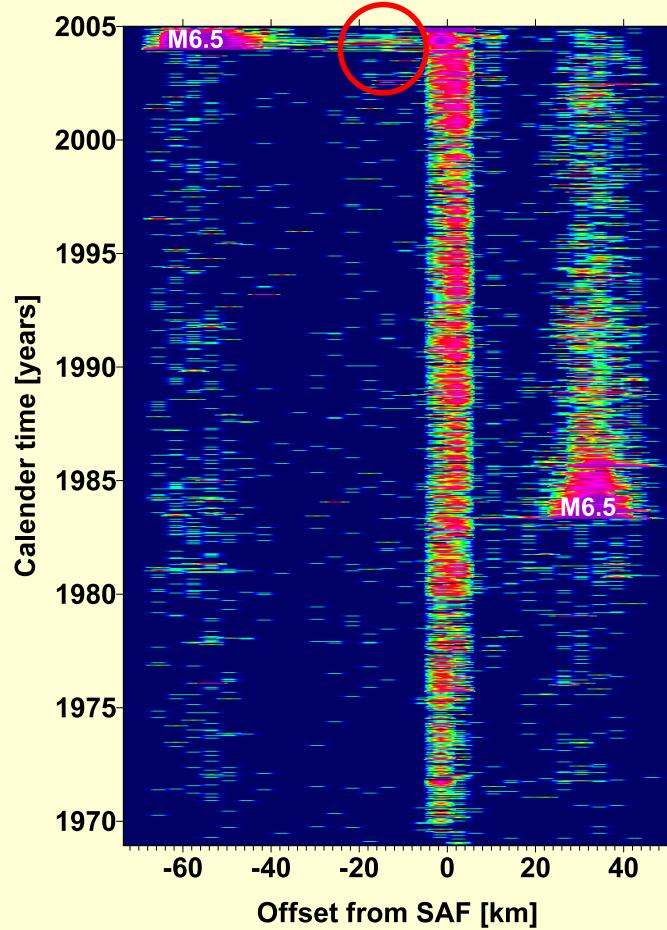


Selected events



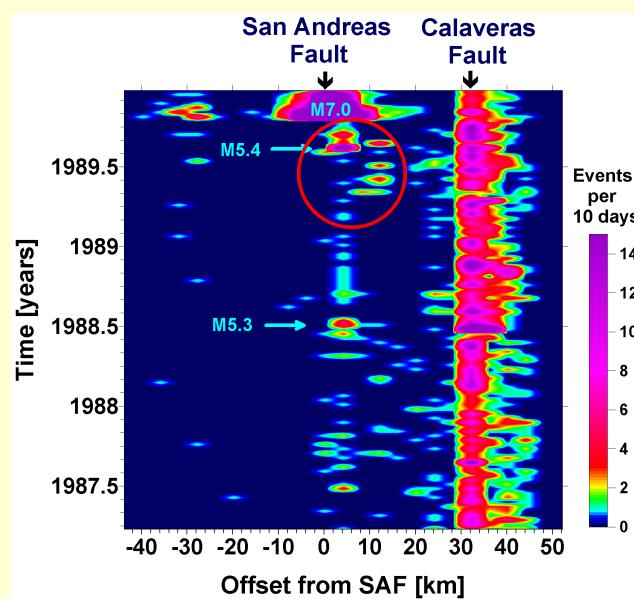
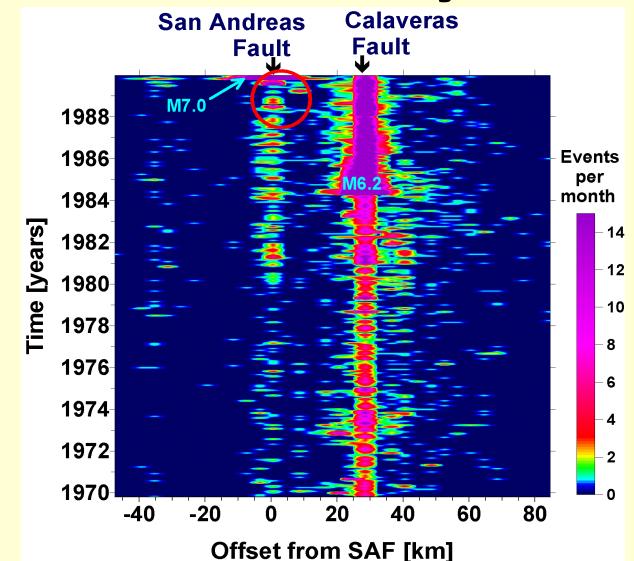
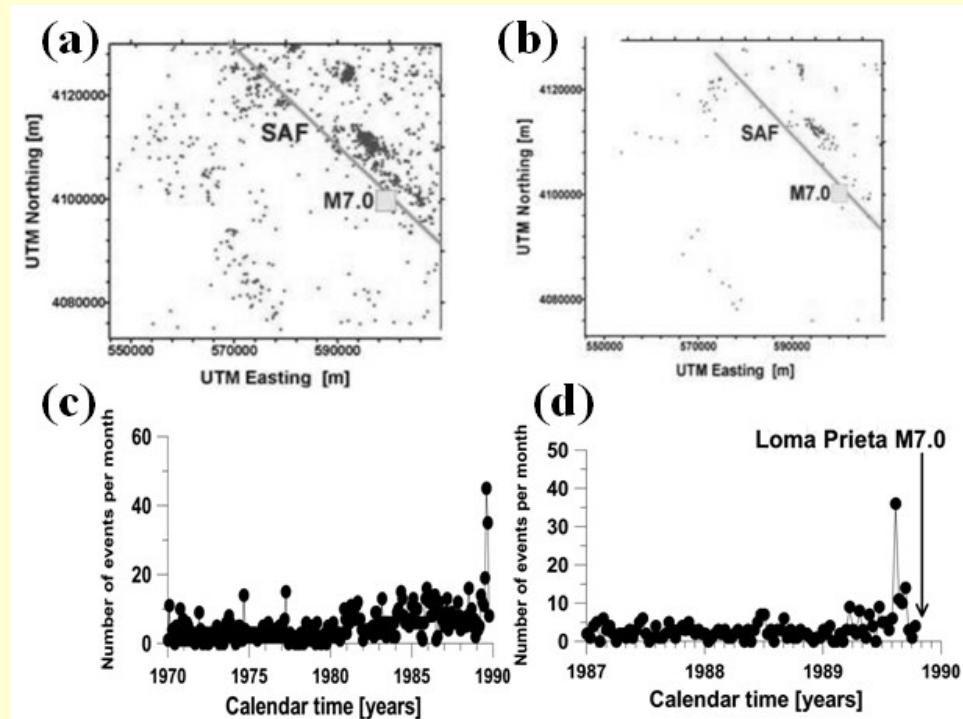
Korneev 2005,2010

# Pre- M6 2004 Parkfield seismicity



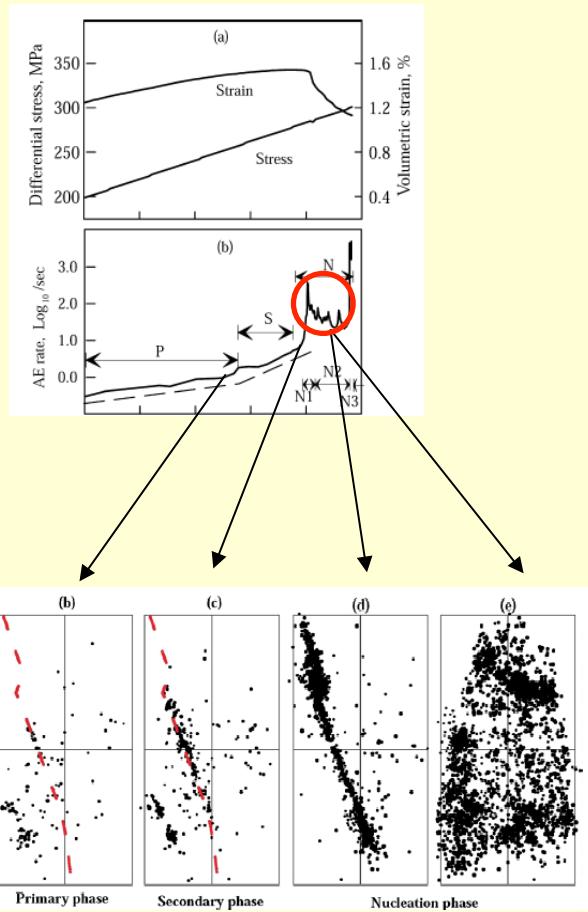
Korneev 2005,2010

# Pre- M7 1989 Loma Prieta seismicity

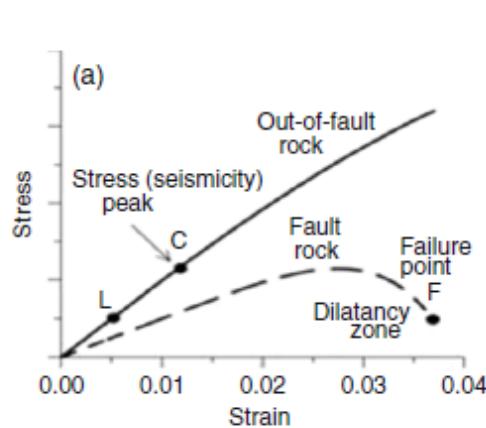
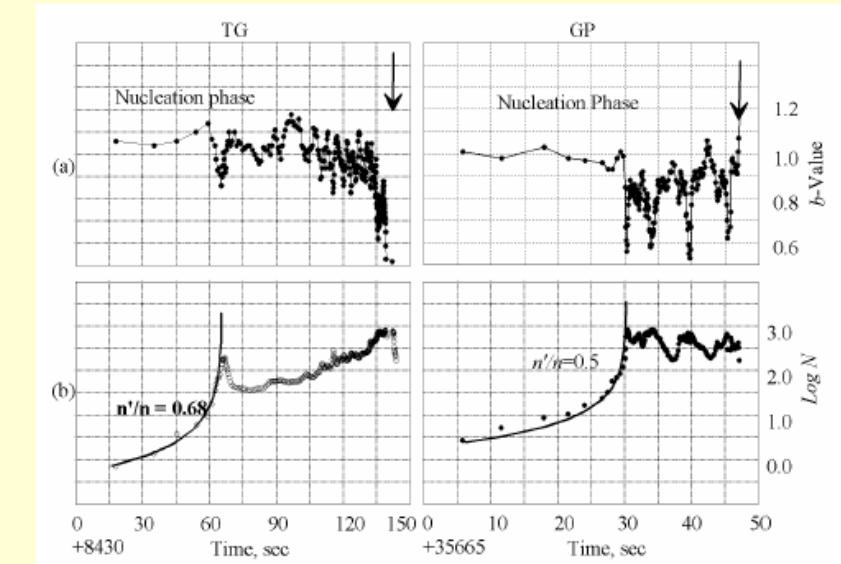


Korneev 2005,2010

# Acoustic emission during rock crushing



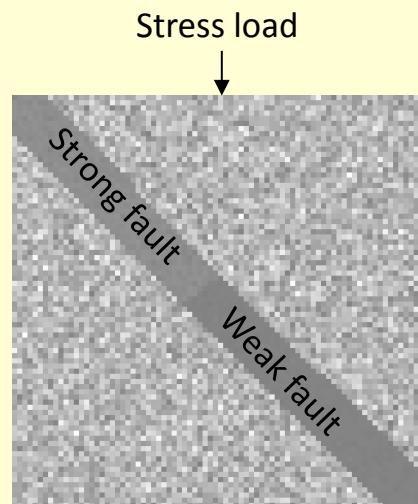
Lei et al., (2004)



Stress peak causes seismicity peak

# FD Modeling of Rock Failure Under Stress Load

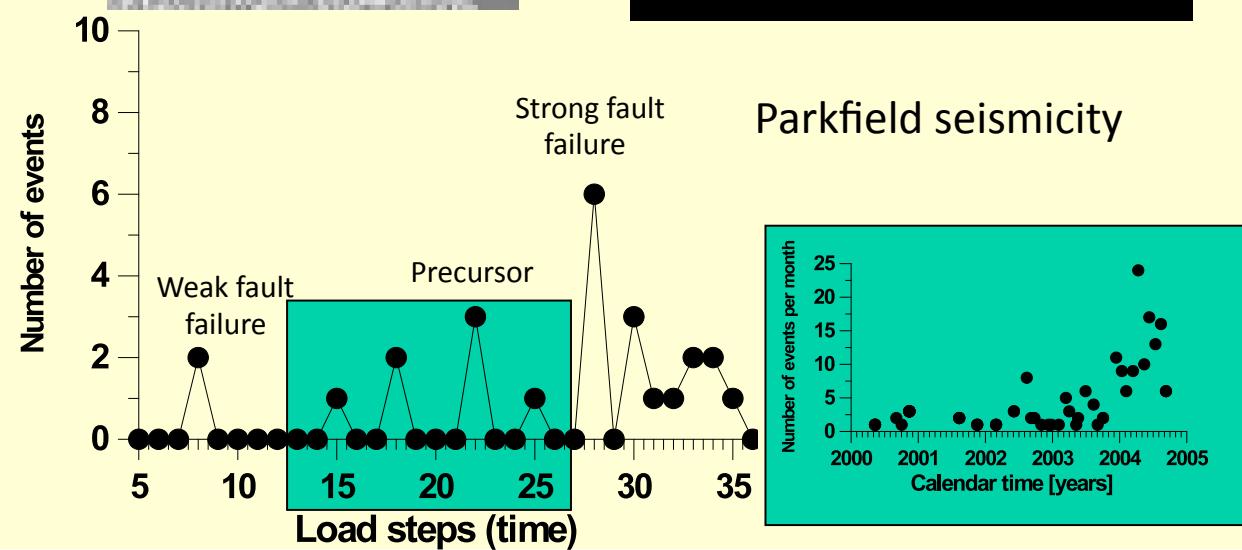
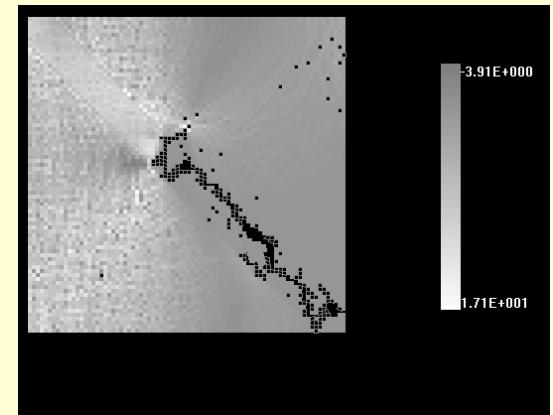
Model (shear modulus distribution)



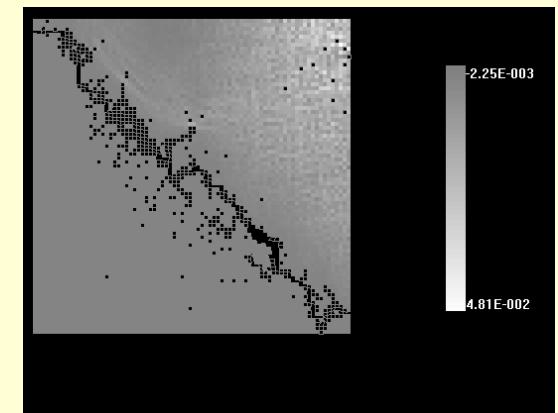
Cumulative AE before failure



Shear stress before failure

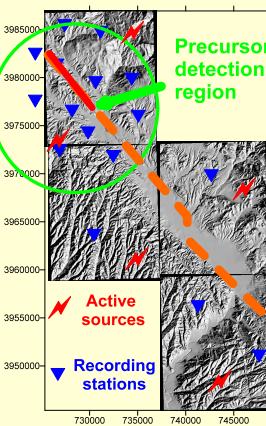
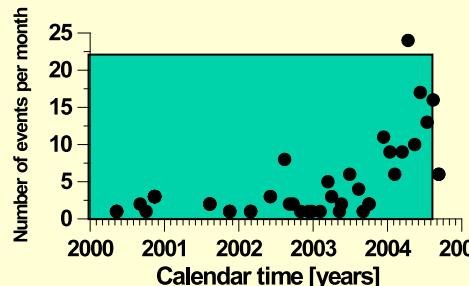


Shear stress after failure



# Earthquake Prediction Strategy

## Stage 1: Precursor detection

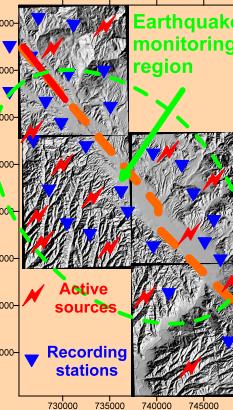
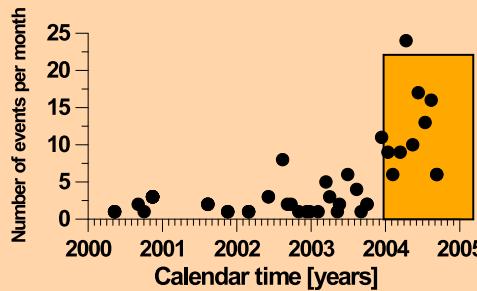


High-resolution passive monitoring

Moderate active monitoring

Alert triggering

## Stage 2: Detail monitoring

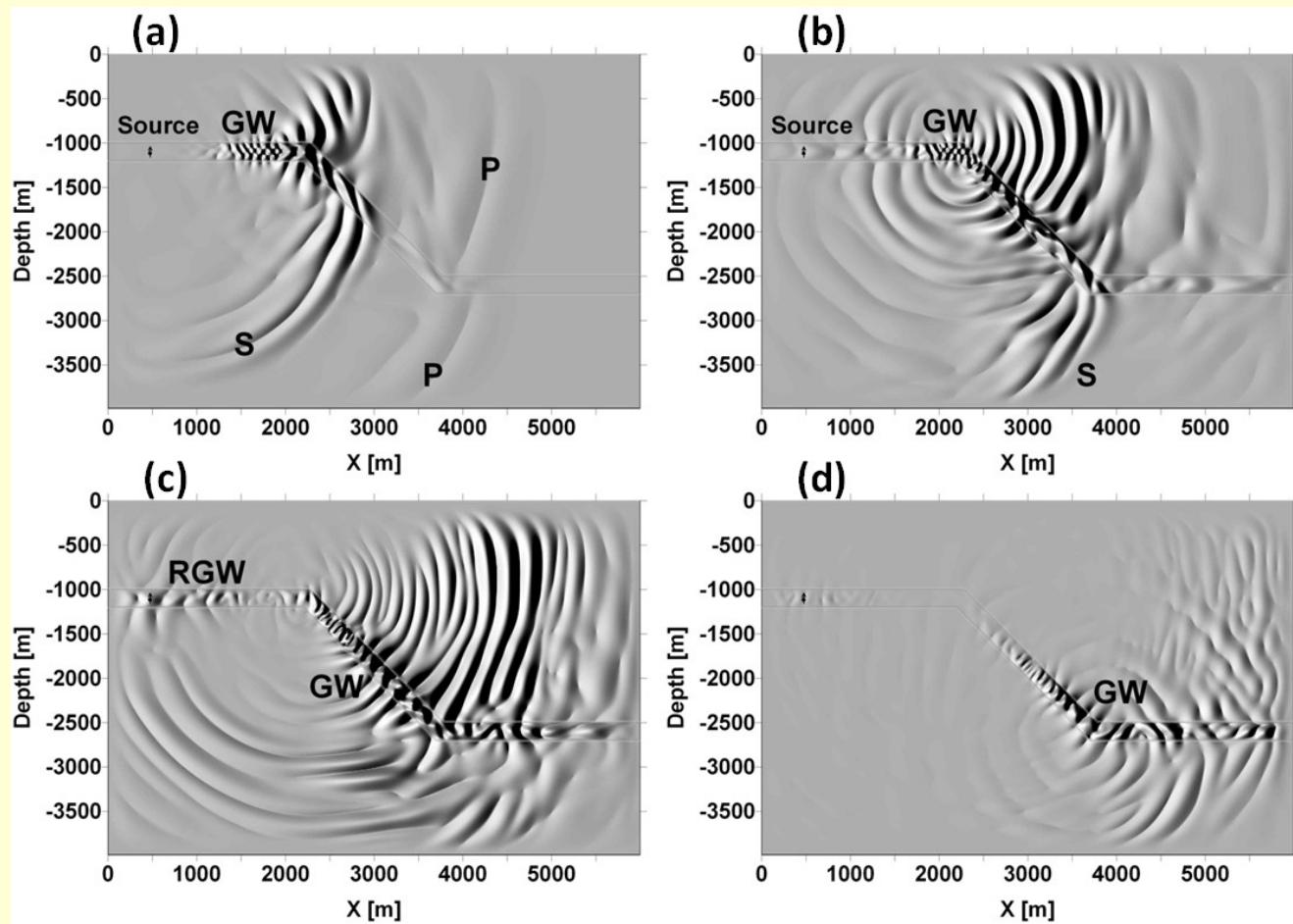


Mobilization of geophysical resources

Intensive active monitoring

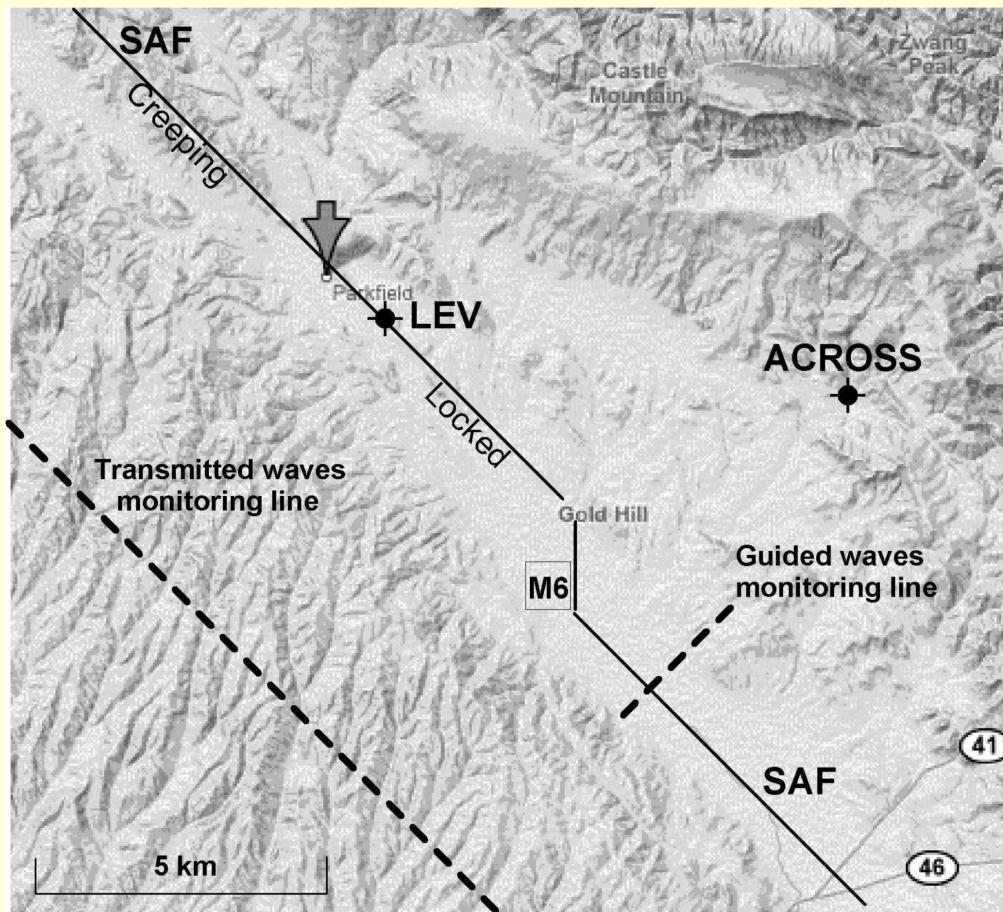
Public warning

# Modeling of guided waves propagation in Cholame Valley



Korneev and Nadeau, 2010

# SAF active monitoring scheme in Cholame Valley



Korneev and Nadeau, 2010

# Magneto-Acoustic Sensor

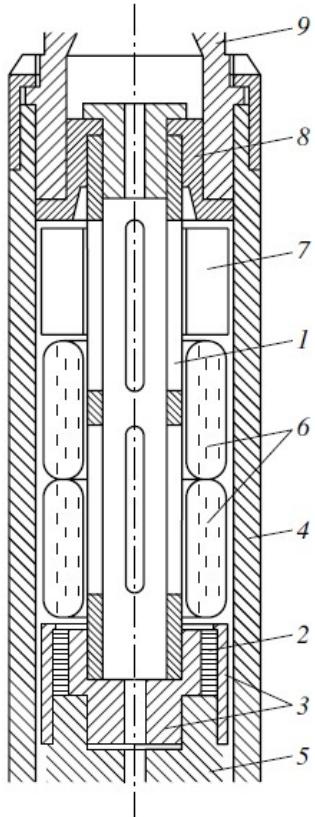
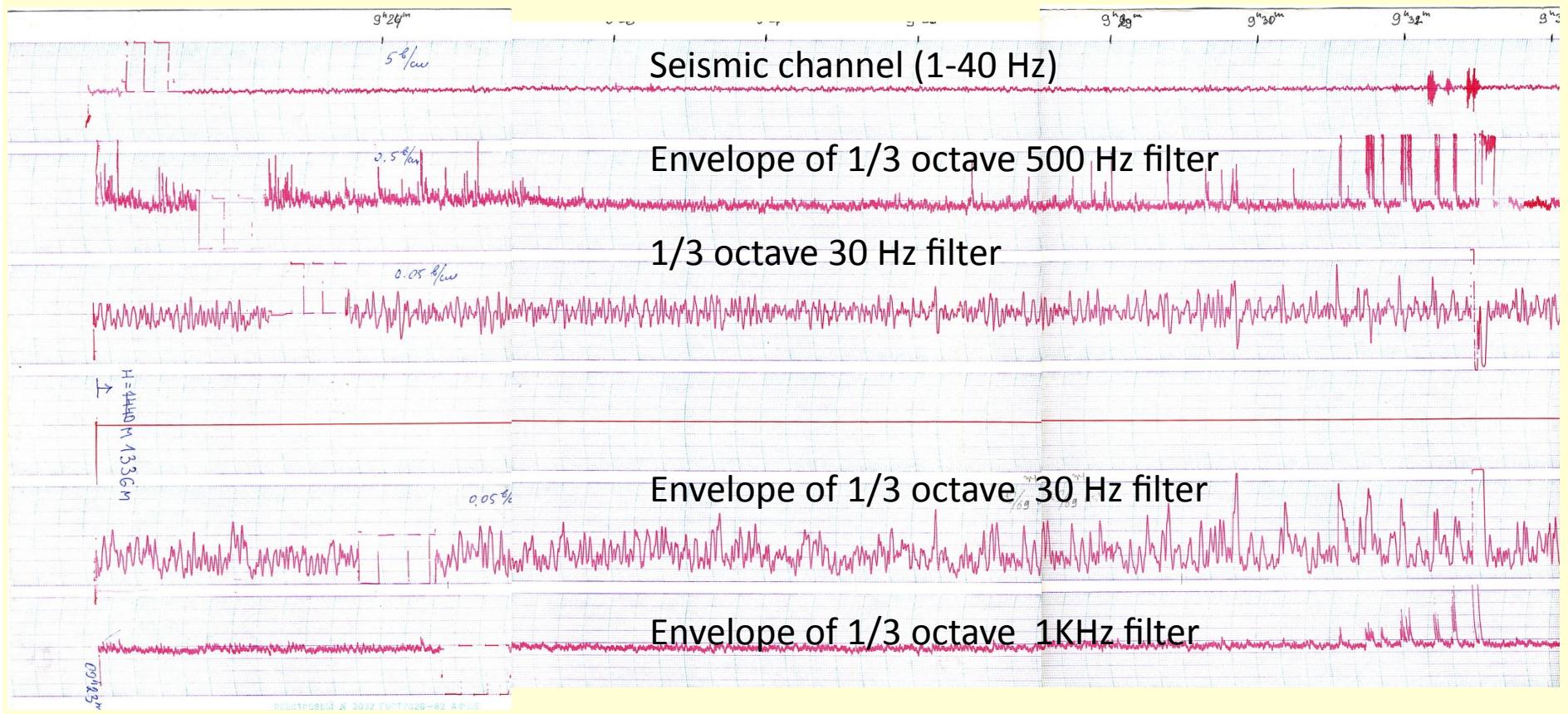


Fig. 9. Schematic diagram of an intrawell magnetoelastic geophone.

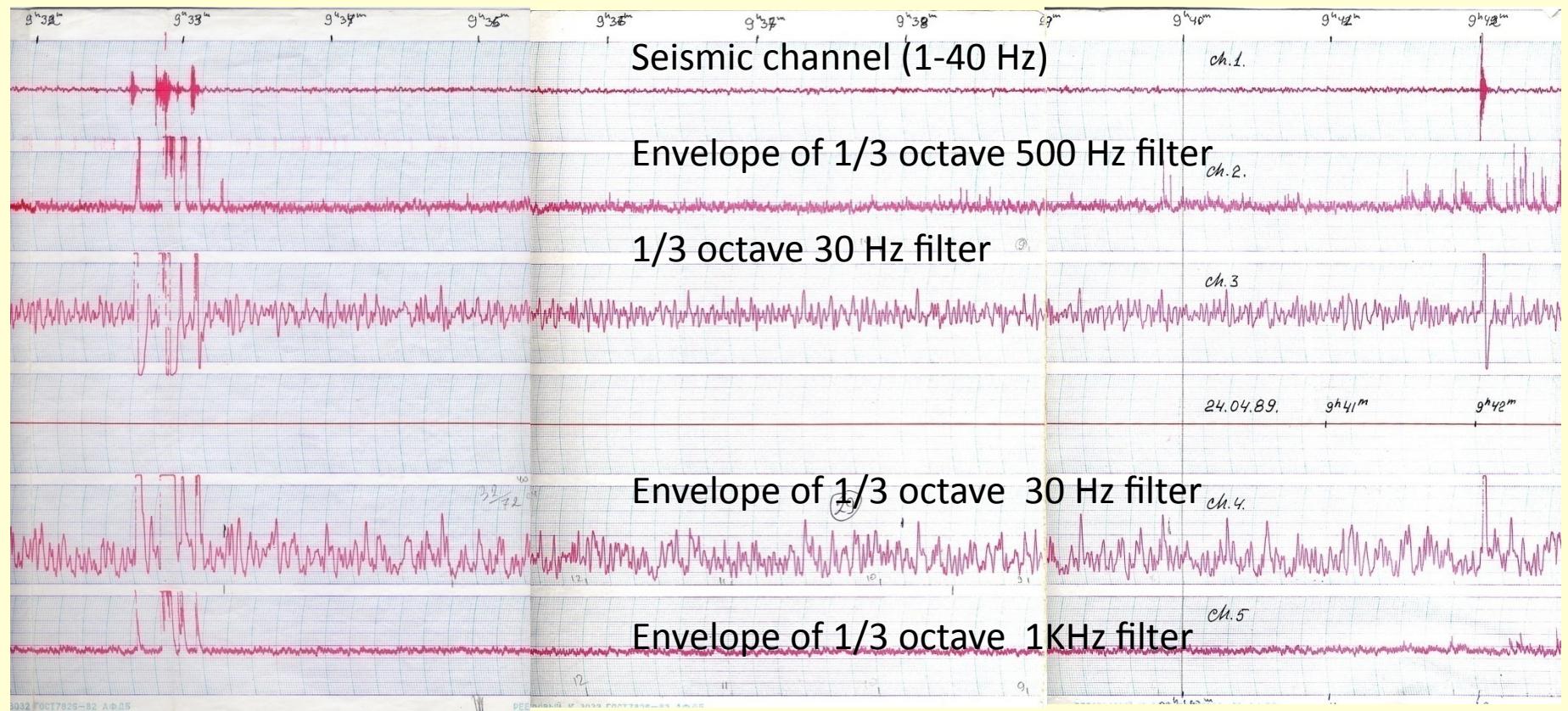


# **Well 123, Pripyat' depression, Belorussia, 04/24/1989.**

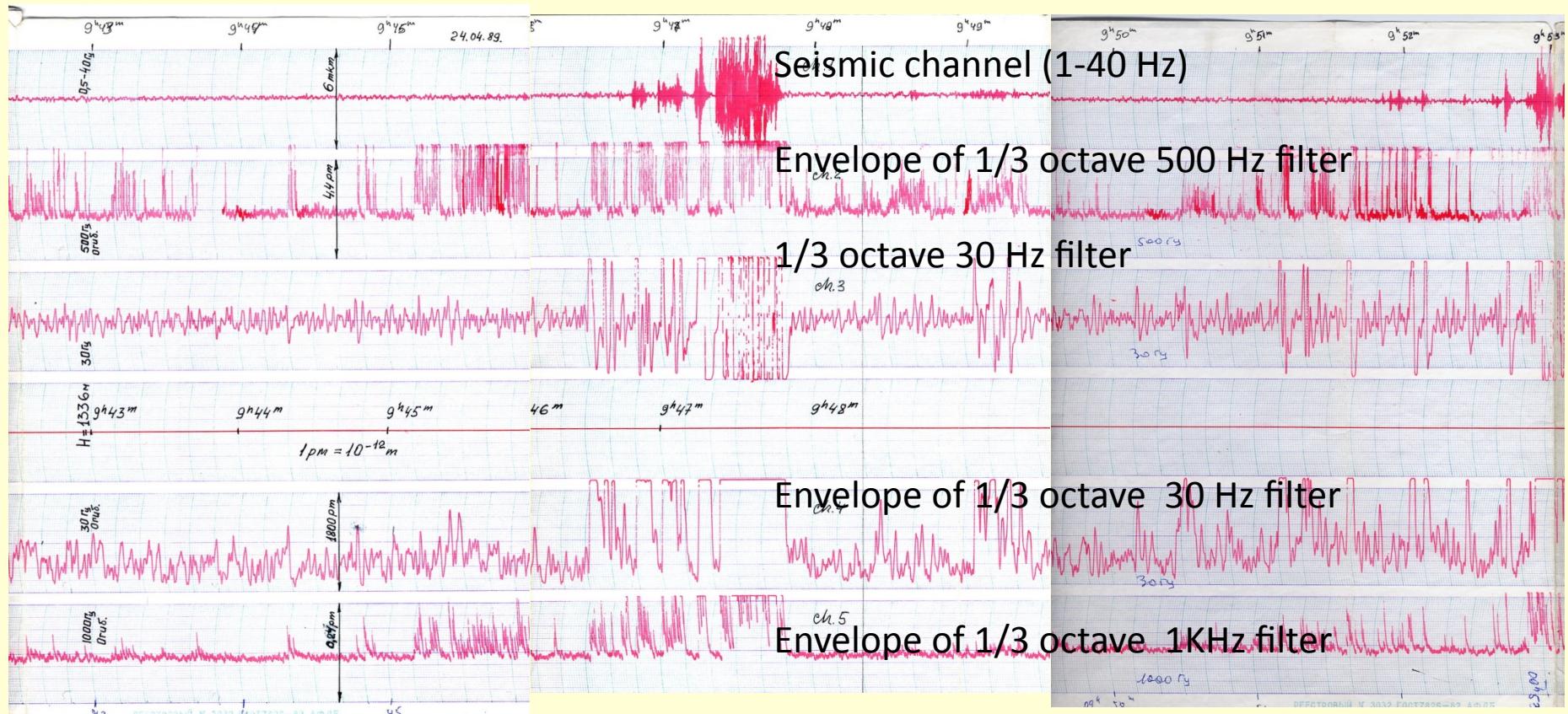
## **Depth 1336 m. Z- component**



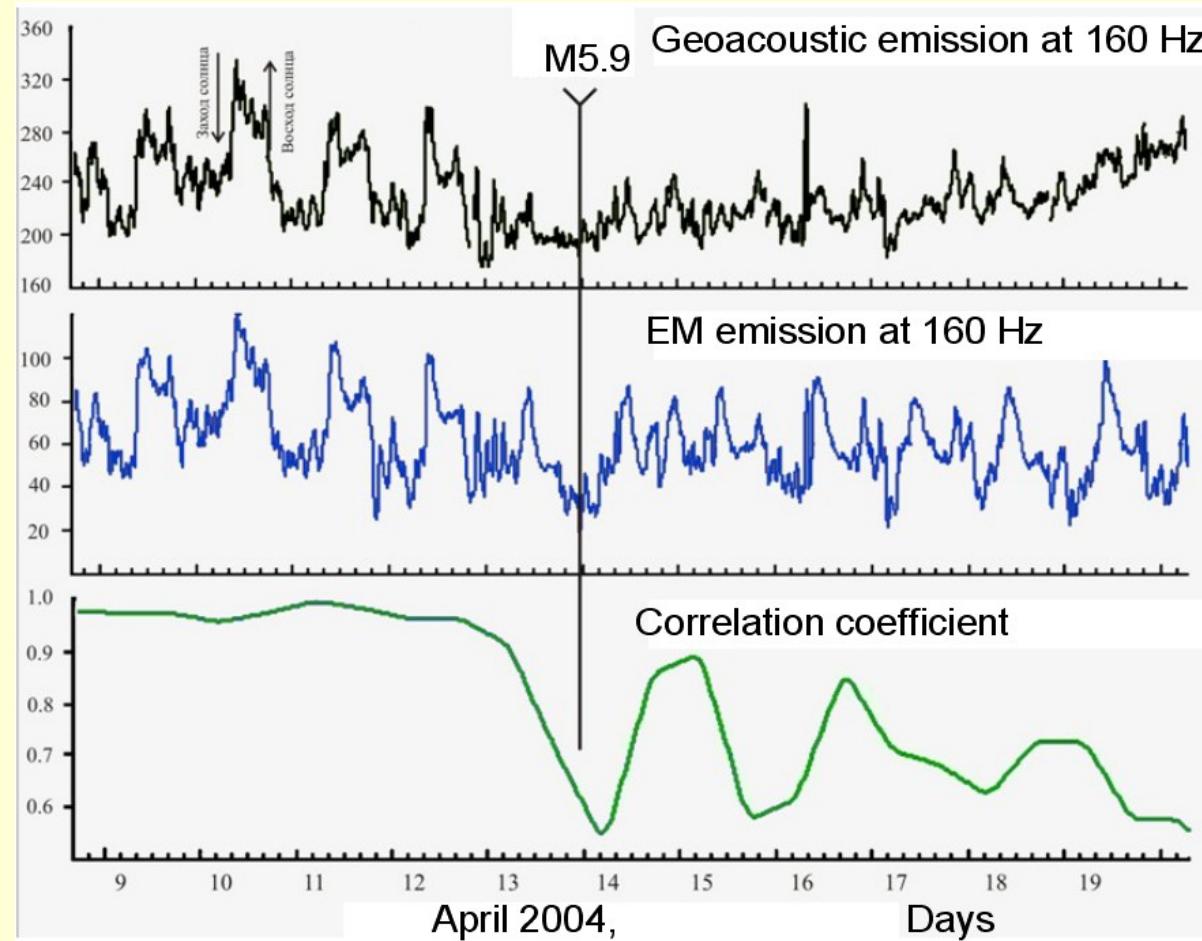
# Well 123, Pripyat' depression, Belorussia, 04/24/1989. Depth 1336 m. Z- component (Cont-d)



# Well 123, Pripyat' depression, Belorussia, 04/24/1989. Depth 1336 m. Z- component (Cont-d)



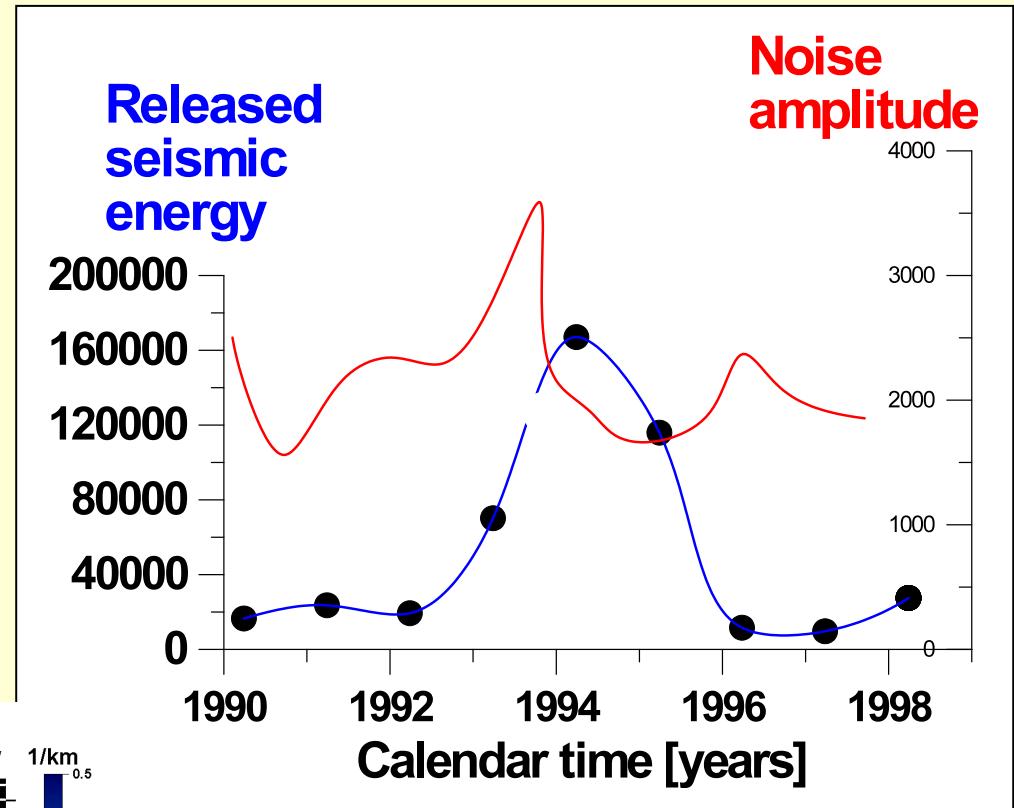
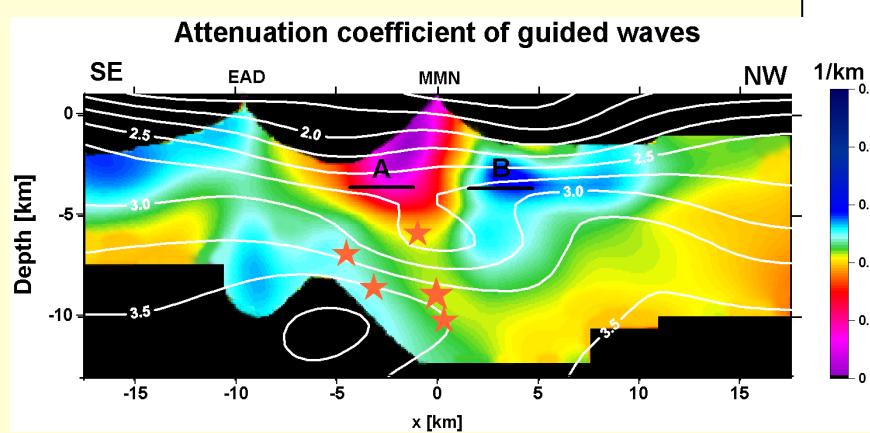
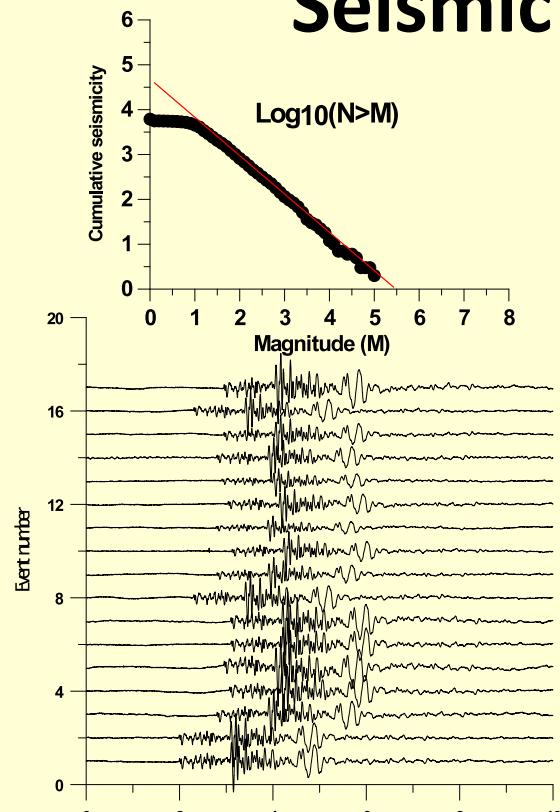
# Changes in correlation between geo-acoustic and EM emissions before earthquakes



# Conclusions

- Forecast *uncertainty* is a price that we pay for a lack of data
- Forecasts based on b-value changes need to be tested against the Gambler's fallacy
- Our goal is earthquake prediction, not forecasting
- Active monitoring is a way to earthquake prediction
- Precursors of different nature need to be combined if they represent the same origin phenomenon
- Earthquake triggering might be an option to solve the short term forecast uncertainty problem

# Seismic Noise for 80-100 Hz at MMN



Gives the same precursory effect as the detected events