

H4.SMR/1519-48

**"Seventh Workshop on Non-Linear Dynamics and  
Earthquake Prediction"**

**29 September - 11 October 2003**

**ARE FRACTALITY AND SELF-ORGANIZED CRITICALITY  
RELEVANT TO PROBLEMS OF SEISMICITY?**

**Are there Critical Scales in the Earthquakes Environment?**

*Leon Knopoff*

**University of California, L.A.  
U.S.A.**



# FRACTURE LENGTHS FOR SMALL EARTHQUAKES

M	L (km)
6	10
5	3
4	1
3	0.3
2	0.1

## *Statistical* Facts about earthquakes

**Gutenberg-Richter (1944) magnitude-frequency law  
for full catalog**

$$\log N = a - b M, \quad b \approx 1$$

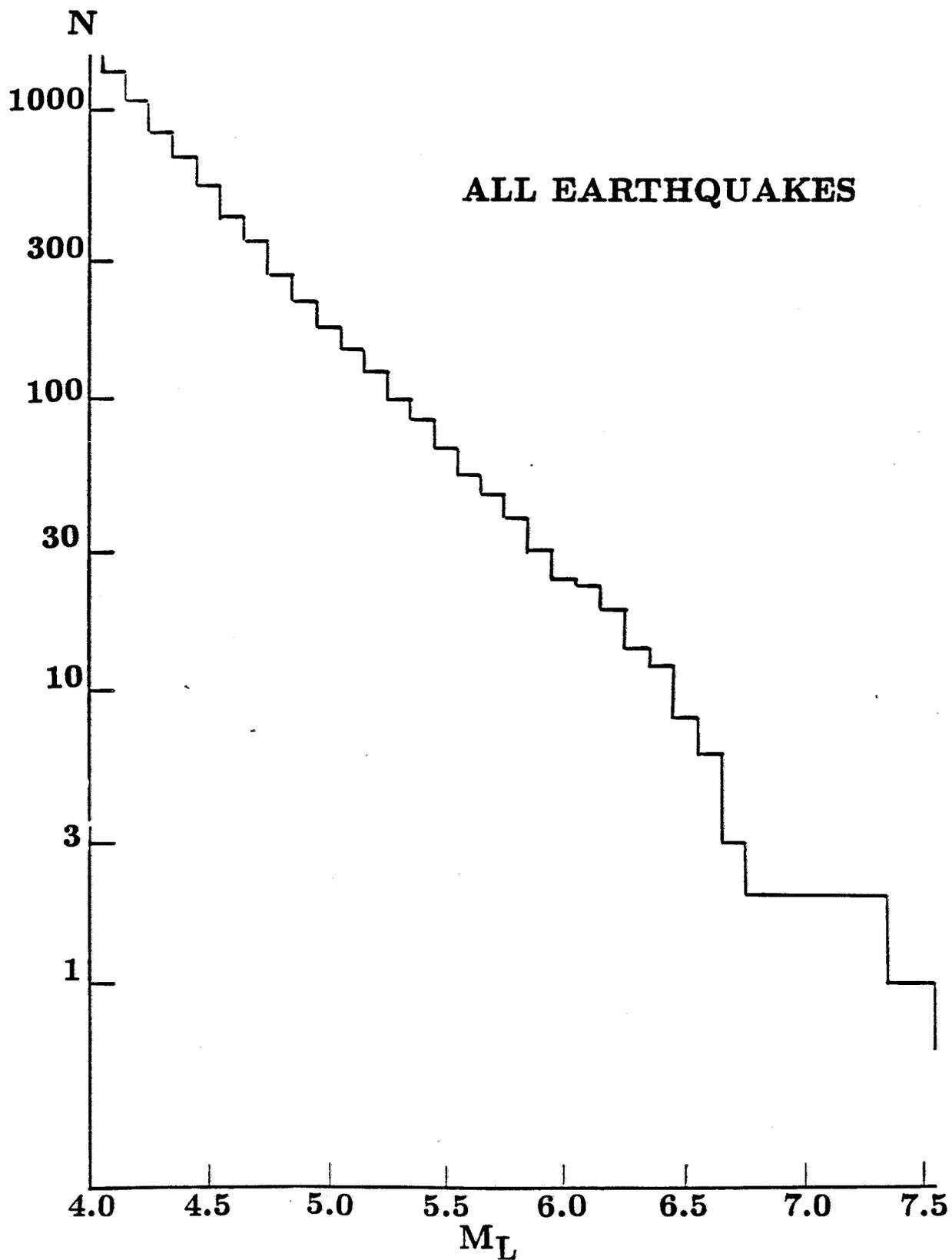
**Utsu (1951) magnitude-frequency law for  
aftershocks**

$$\log N = a - b M, \quad b \approx 1$$

**Omori (1894) aftershock rate law**

$$\dot{n} \sim t^{-p}, \quad p \approx 1$$

*if  $p=1$ ,  $n_{cum} = \log(t-t_0)$*



$\Delta M_{20.1}$   
 $t > \text{July 6, 1944}$   
 So. Calif Region  
 $\text{Lat} > 32.5^\circ \text{N}$

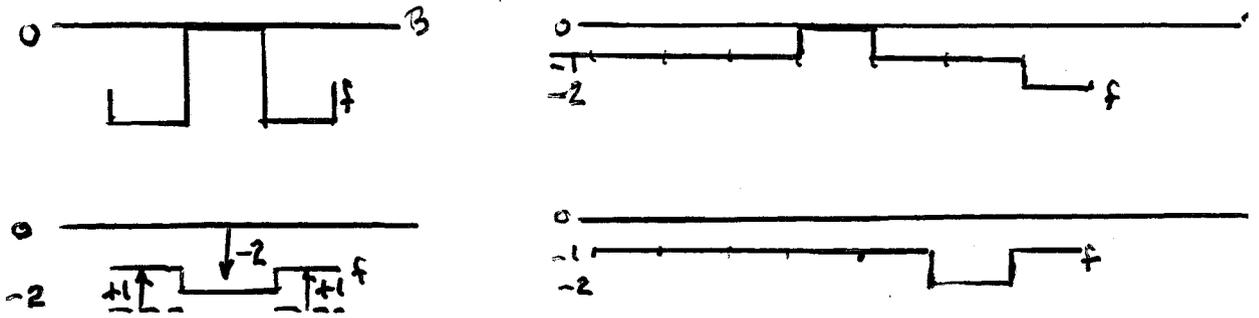
## **Speculations on Earthquake Forecasting**

The linearity and self-similarity of the well known Gutenberg-Richter relationship demonstrate that the Earth behaves as a complex critical system with self-organized criticality, where minor disturbances (small earthquakes or fractures) may cascade into major fractures and large earthquakes. Such criticality is claimed to specifically exclude the possibility of the deterministic prediction of the time, magnitude, and location of impending large earthquakes. Resolving this fundamental difficulty is one of

Seismological Research Letters May/June 2003 Volume 74, Number 3

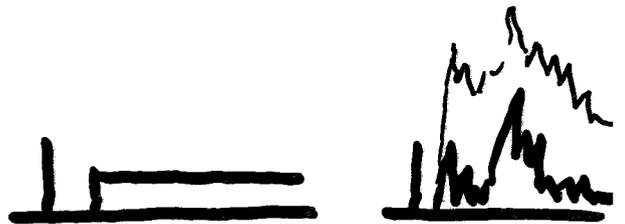
*R2*

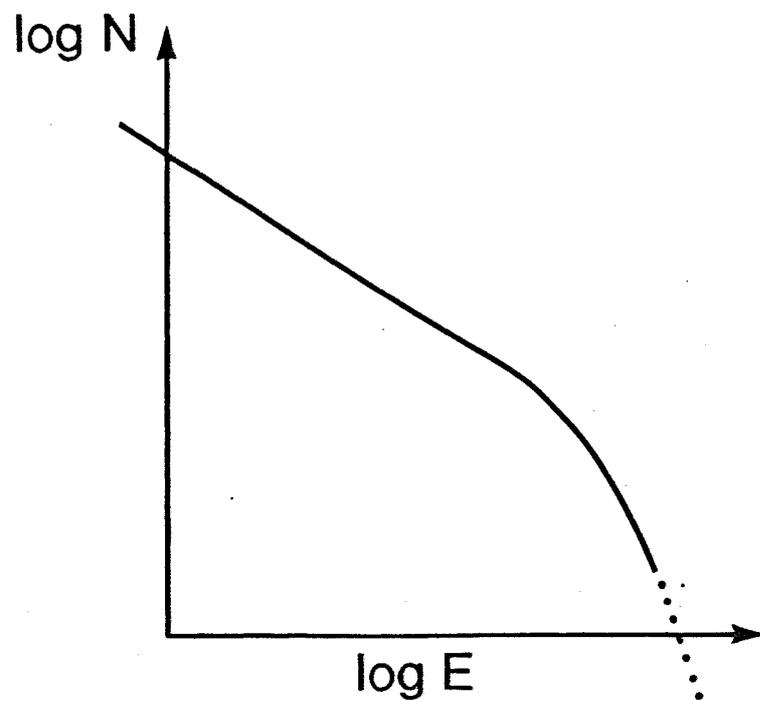
*S. Crampin, et. al*



### Questions

1. Seismogram amplitude indept. of size of event
2. Long cracks tend to be periodic and of same length (approx) at same site
3. Do fluctuations in prestress ( $f$ ) have any manifestation after event?
4. Does the system stability depend on edge conditions?
5. Is the behavior of the system independent of fluctuations in fracture threshold ( $B$ )?
6. Is the model unique?





$$\log_{10} N_{cum} = a - bM$$

$$\log_{10} E = \alpha + \beta M$$

$$b \approx 1$$

$$\beta \approx 1.5$$

$$N_{cum} \sim E^{-b/\beta}$$

$$E_{tot} = \int E dN$$

$$\sim \int E^{-b/\beta} dE = \int E^{-2/3} dE = E^{1/3}$$

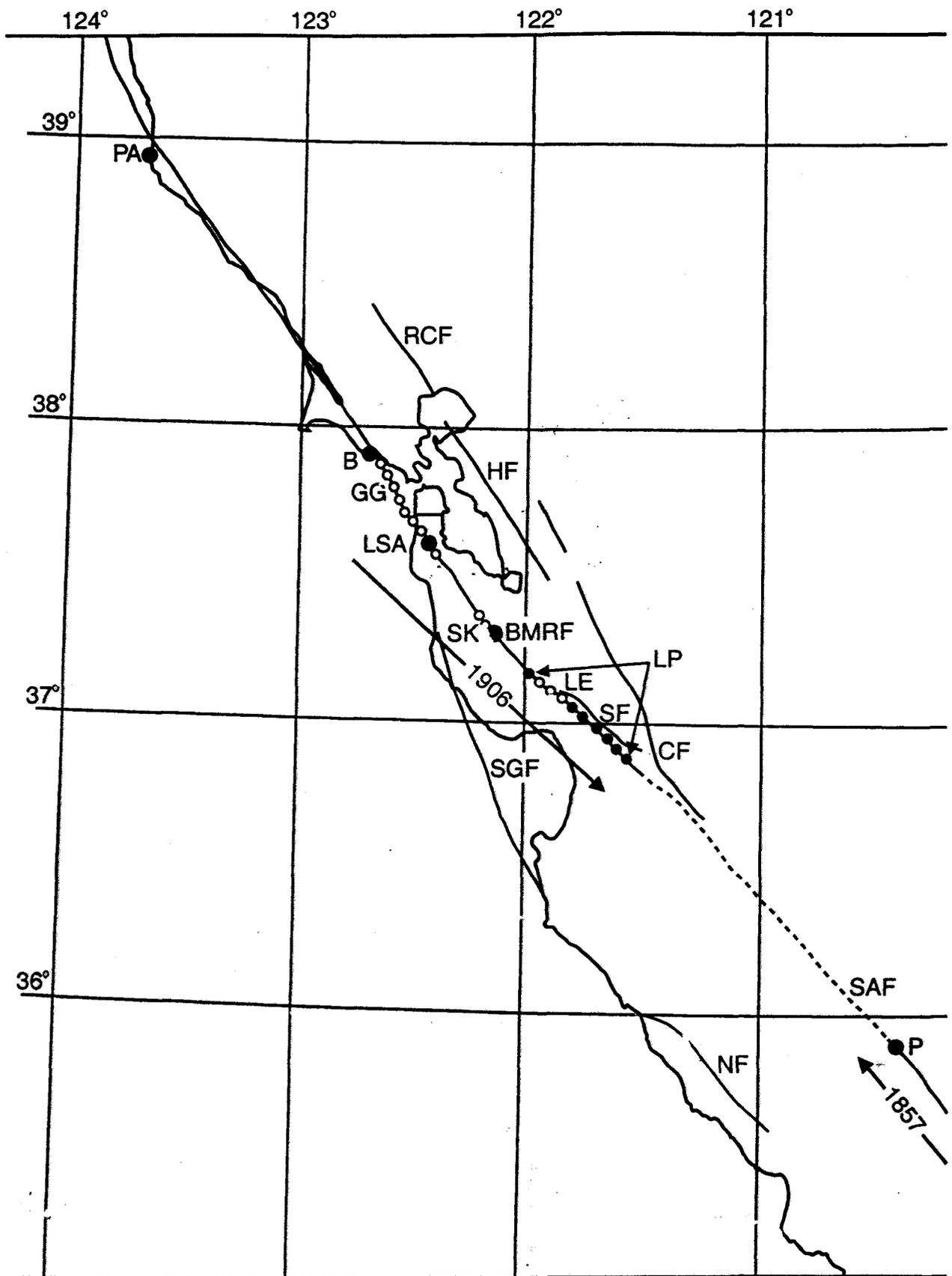
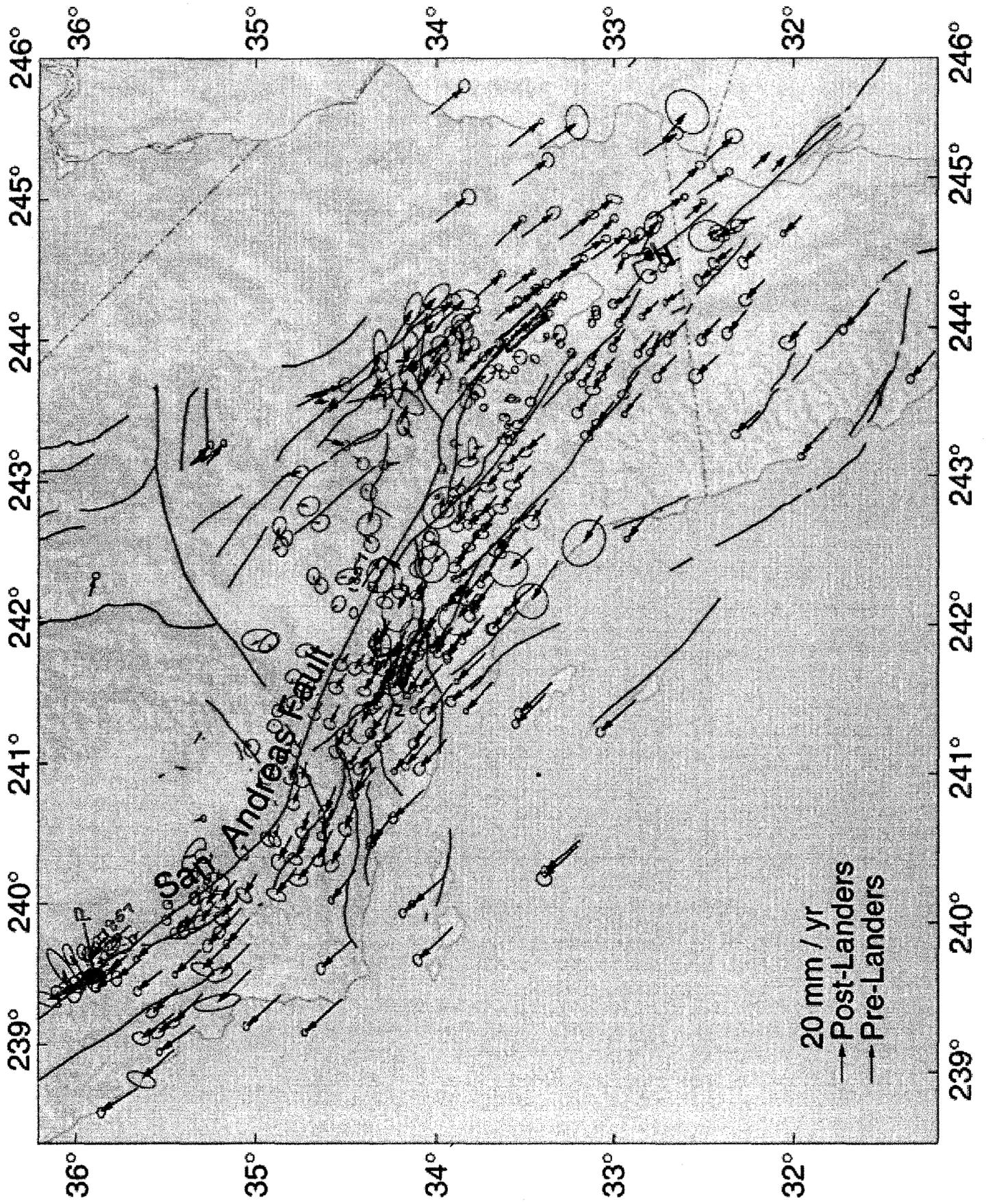
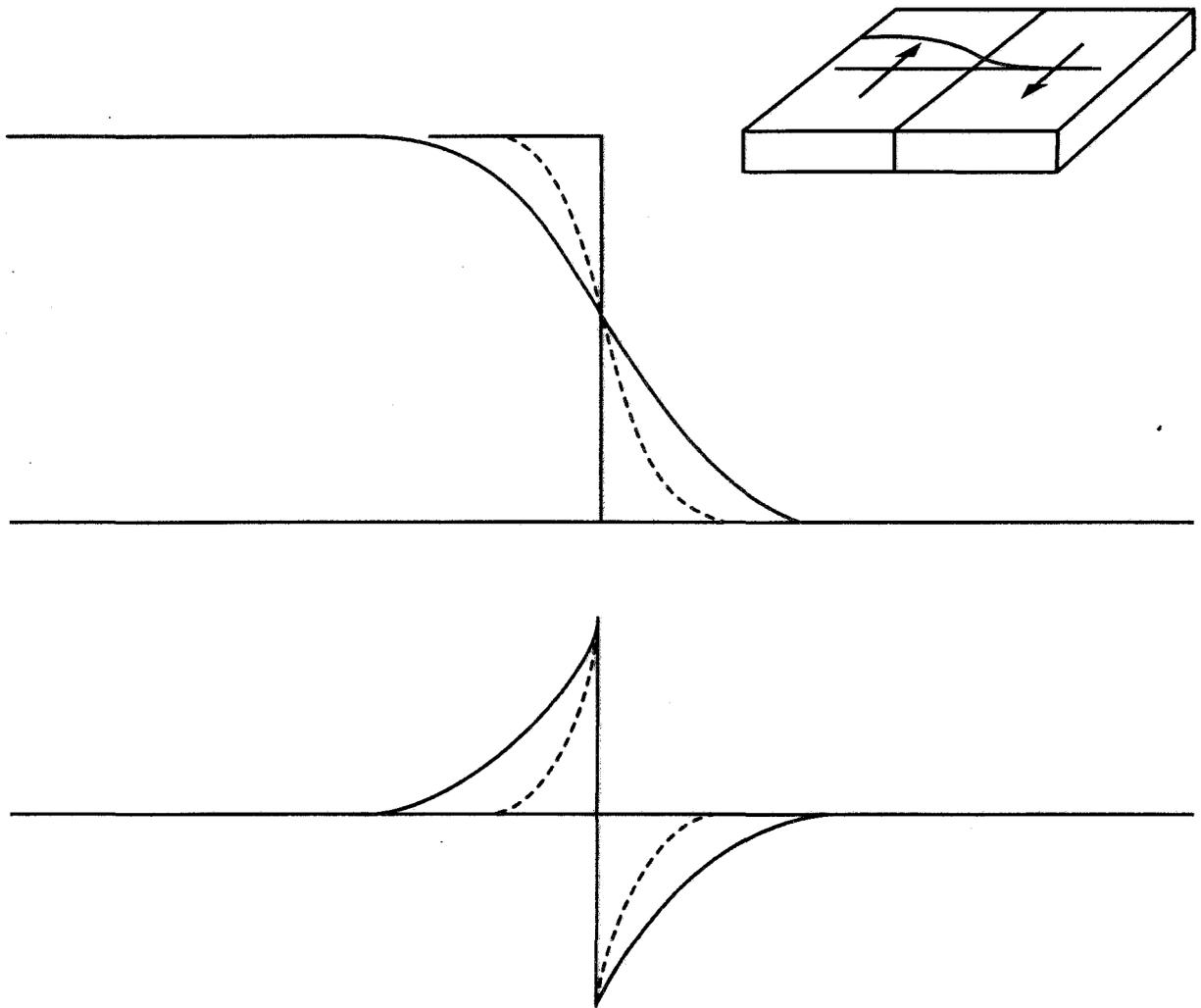


FIG. 2





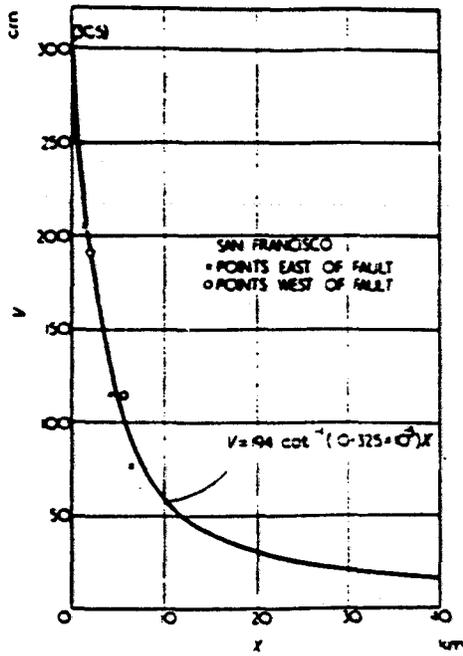


FIG. 1.

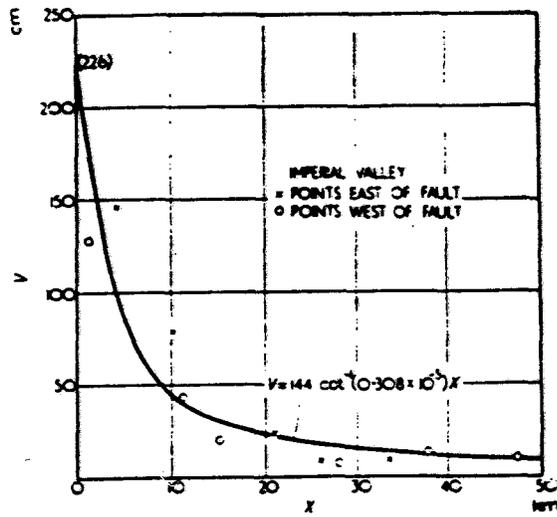


FIG. 2.

1958 Byerly &  
DeNoyer

*The Nature of Seismic Origins.*

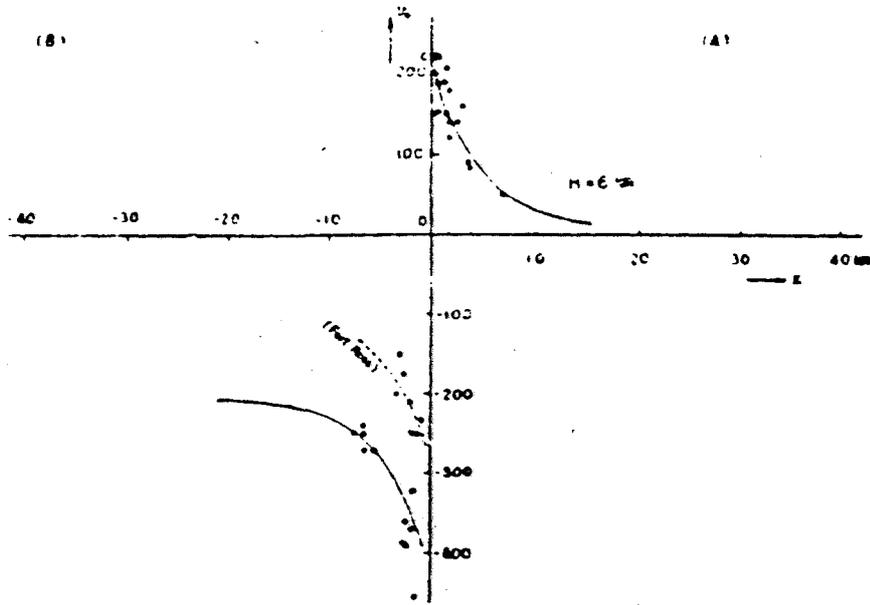
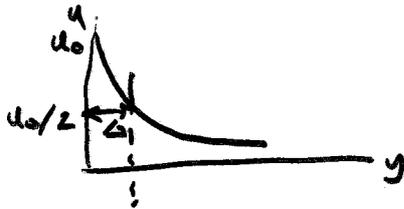
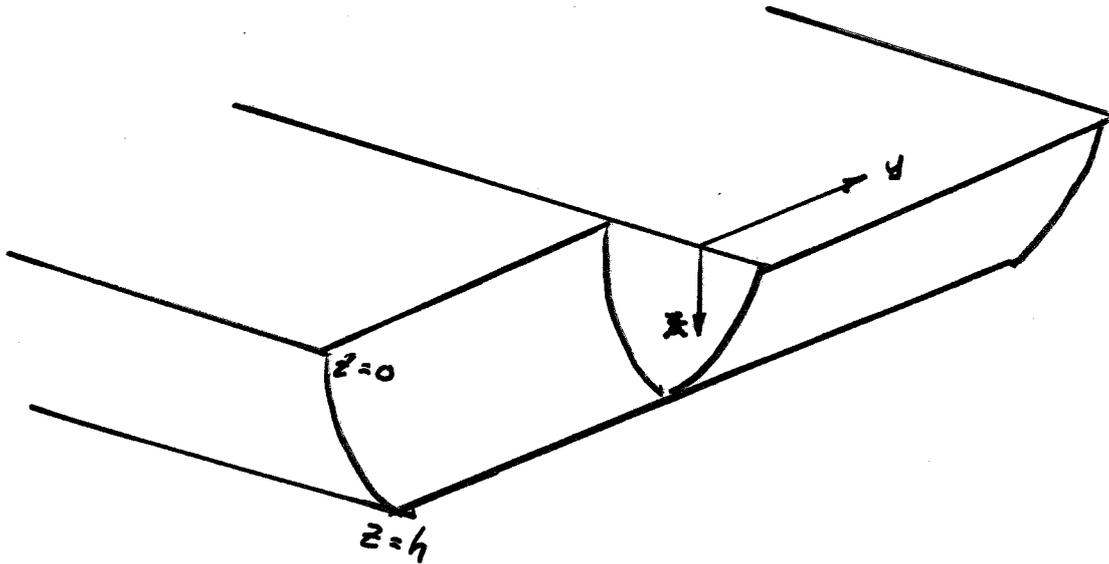


Fig. 37. Diminution of horizontal displacements with distance (the California district).



$$u(y) = A_0 \left[ \sqrt{y^2 + h^2} - y \right] \quad z=0$$

$$u(z) = A_0 \sqrt{h^2 - z^2} \quad y=0$$

Krupoff (GIRAS, 1958)

SF1906  $h = 3.2 \text{ km}$

33 sta.  $\Delta = 3/4h = 2.4 \text{ km}$

# nature

INTERNATIONAL WEEKLY JOURNAL OF SCIENCE

Volume 364, No. 6433, 8 July 1993, 57-75

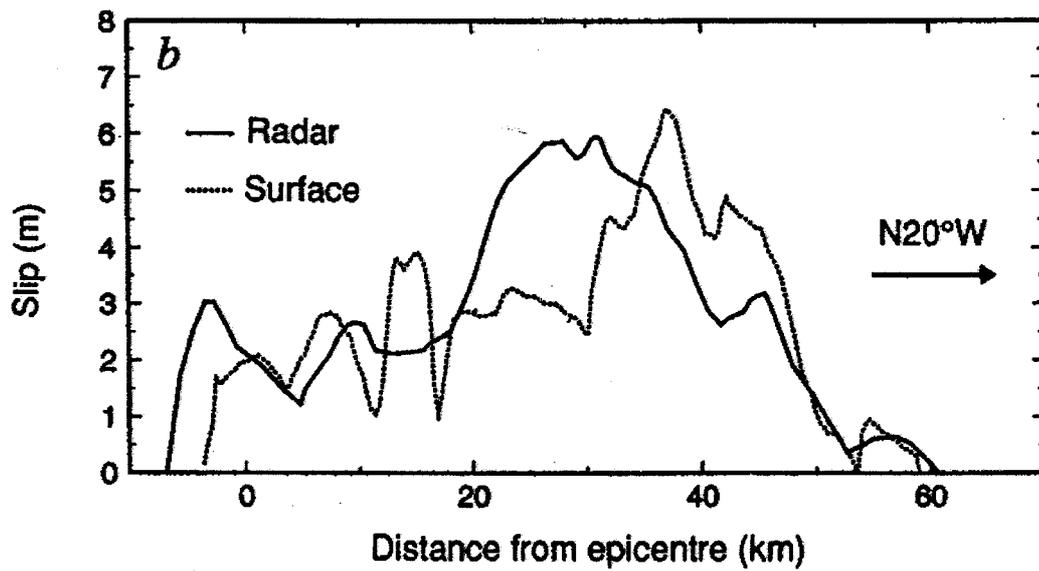
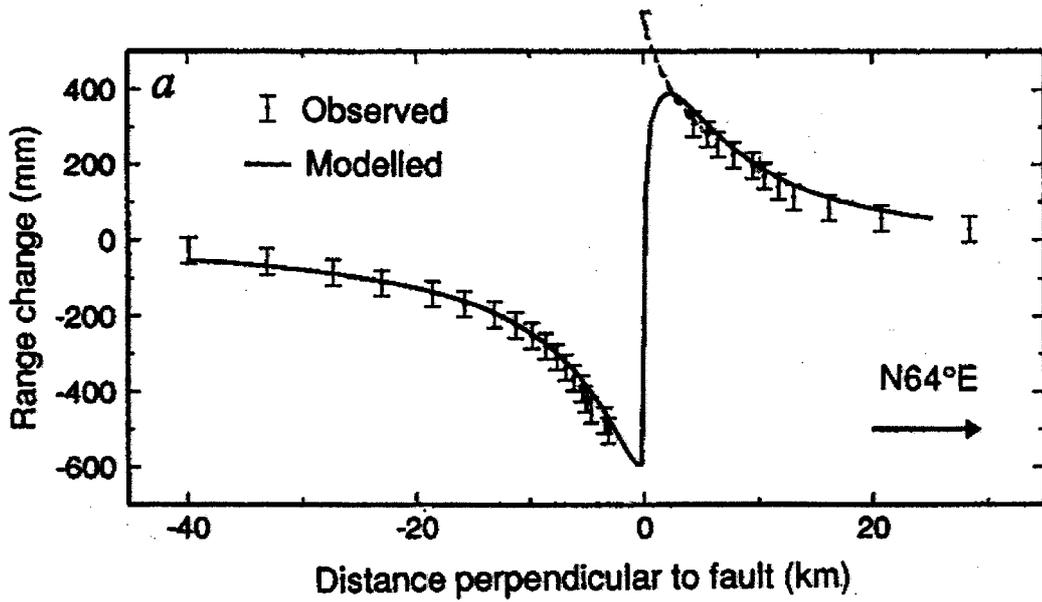
## Image of an earthquake

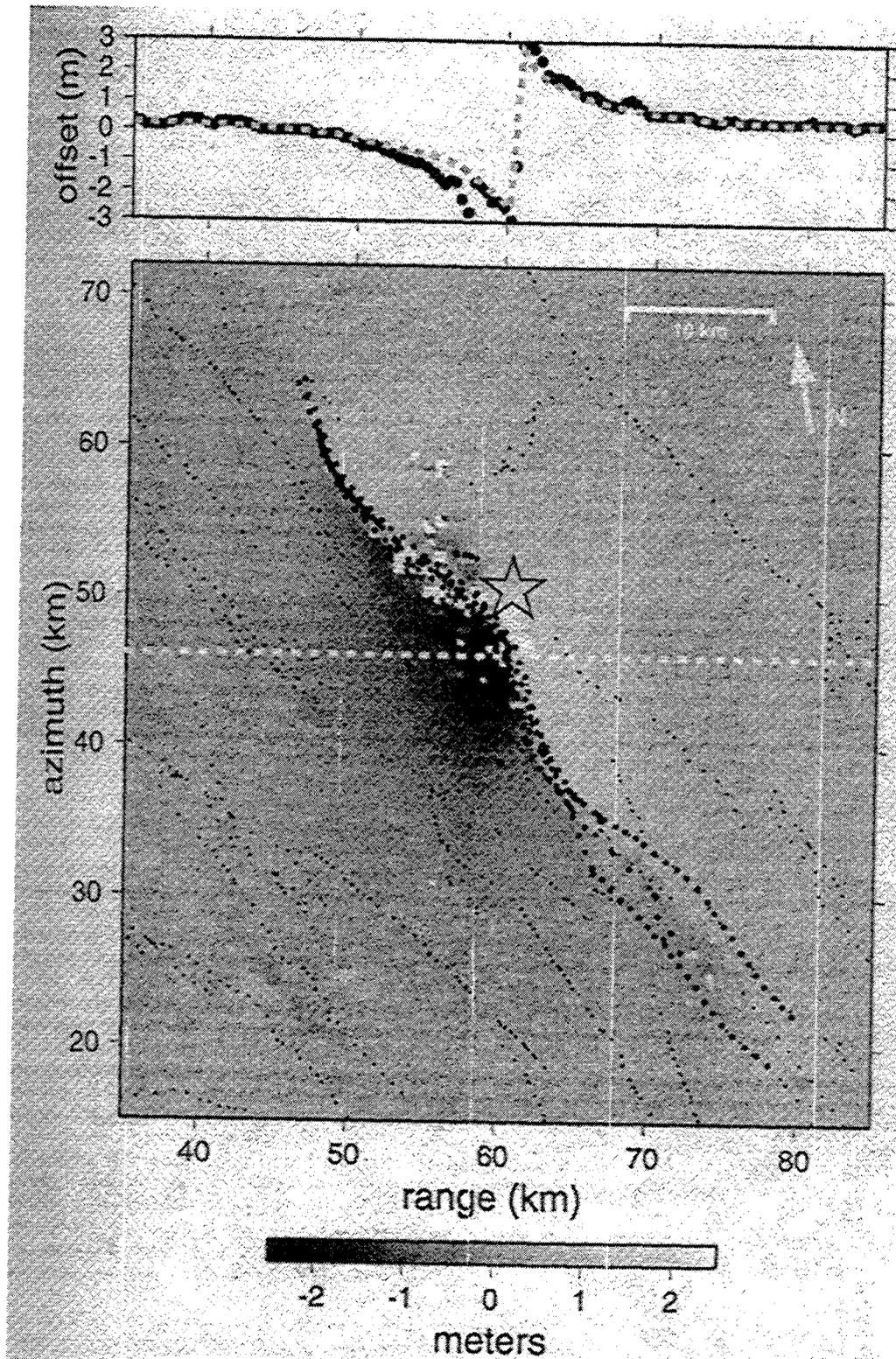
Sniffing out transcription factors

Tropical cradle for biodiversity

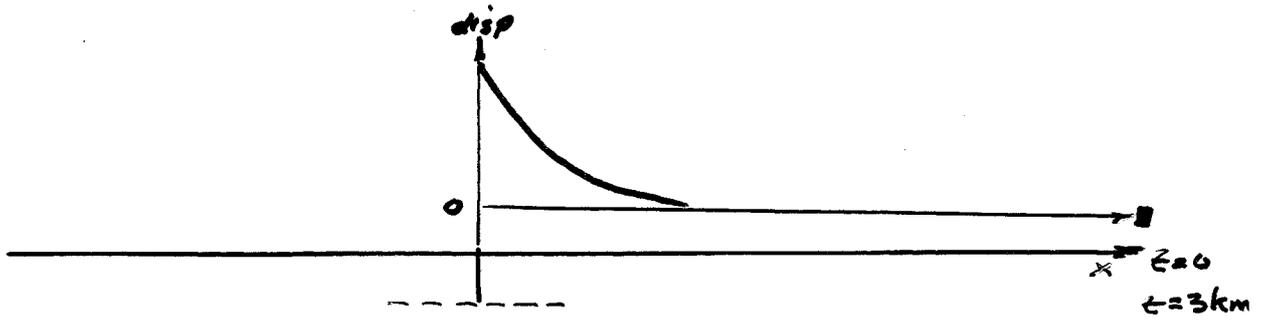
Seismological detection of a mantle plume?

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UNIV OF CALIFORNIA  
PHYSICS LIBRARY-0119912PH  
LOS ANGELES CA 90024

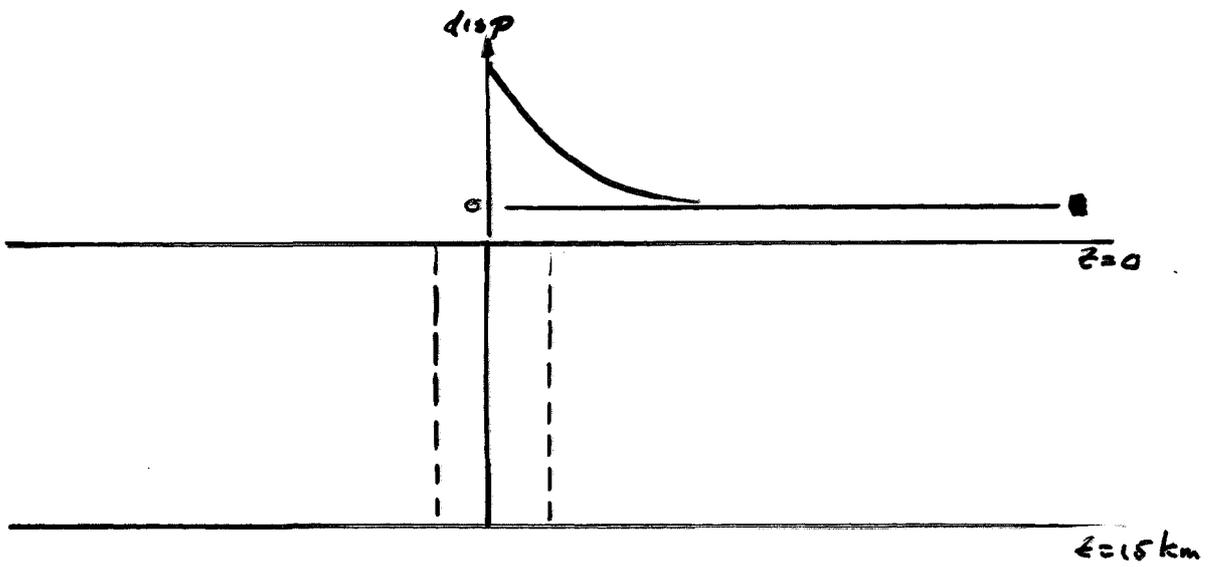


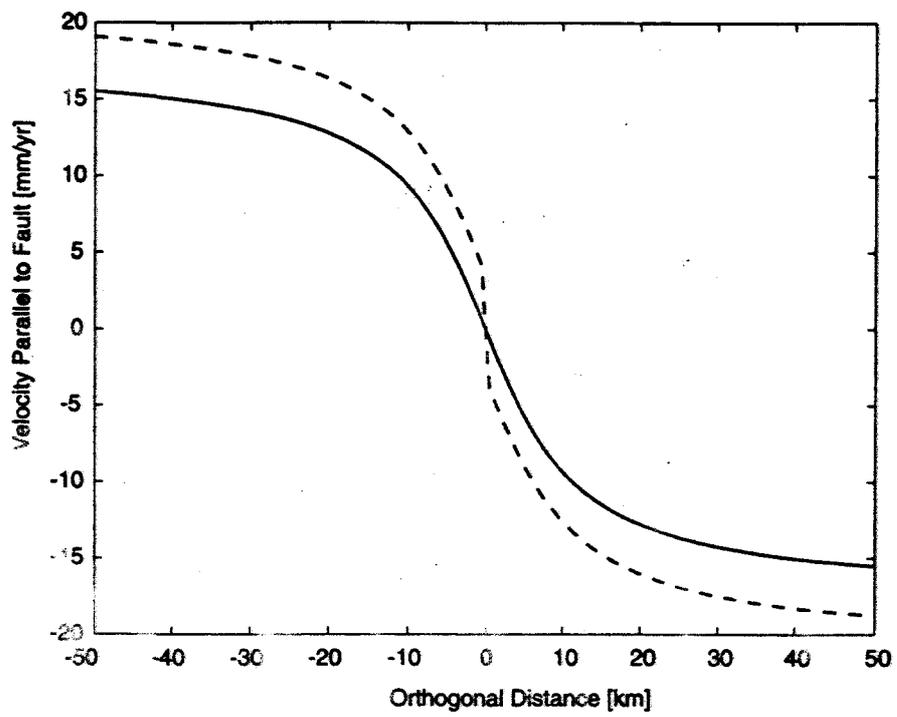
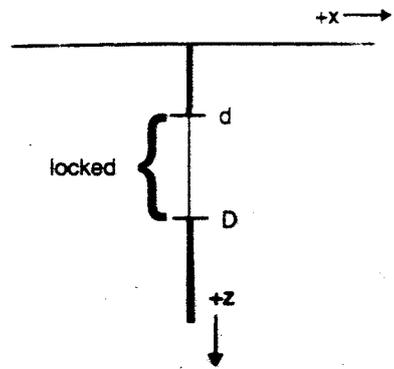
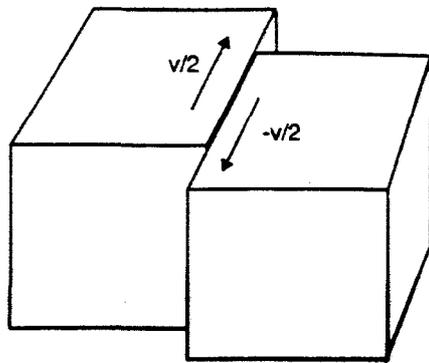


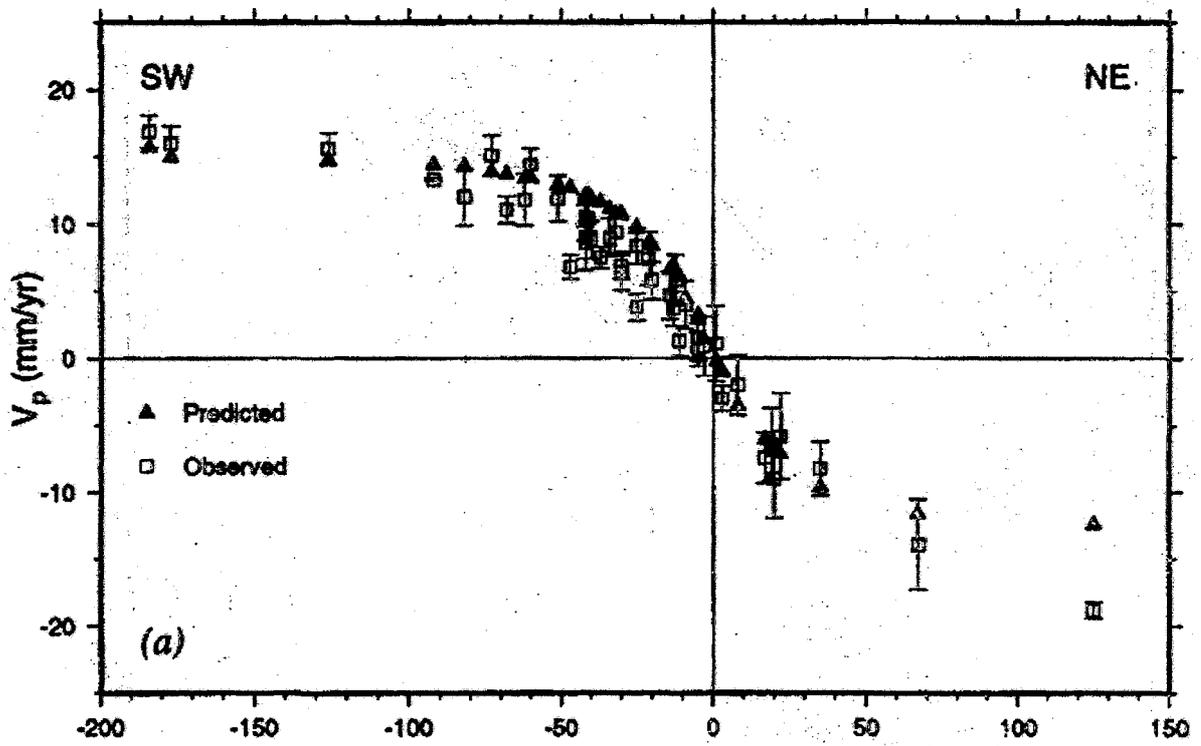
Sandwell et al. 2002

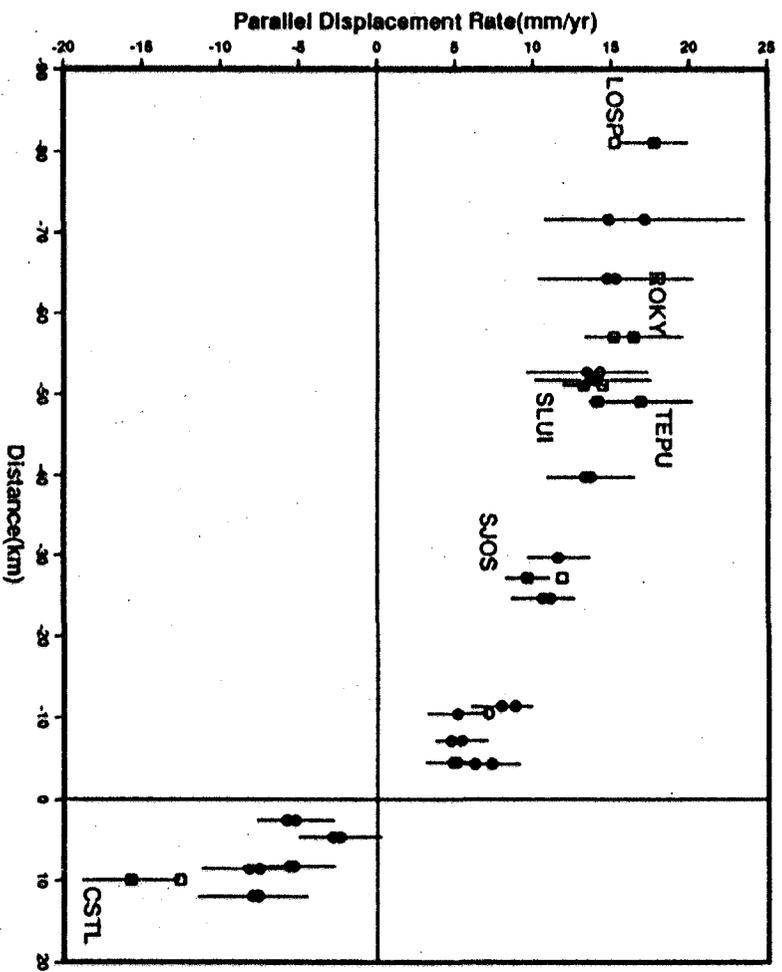


$z=15\text{km}$



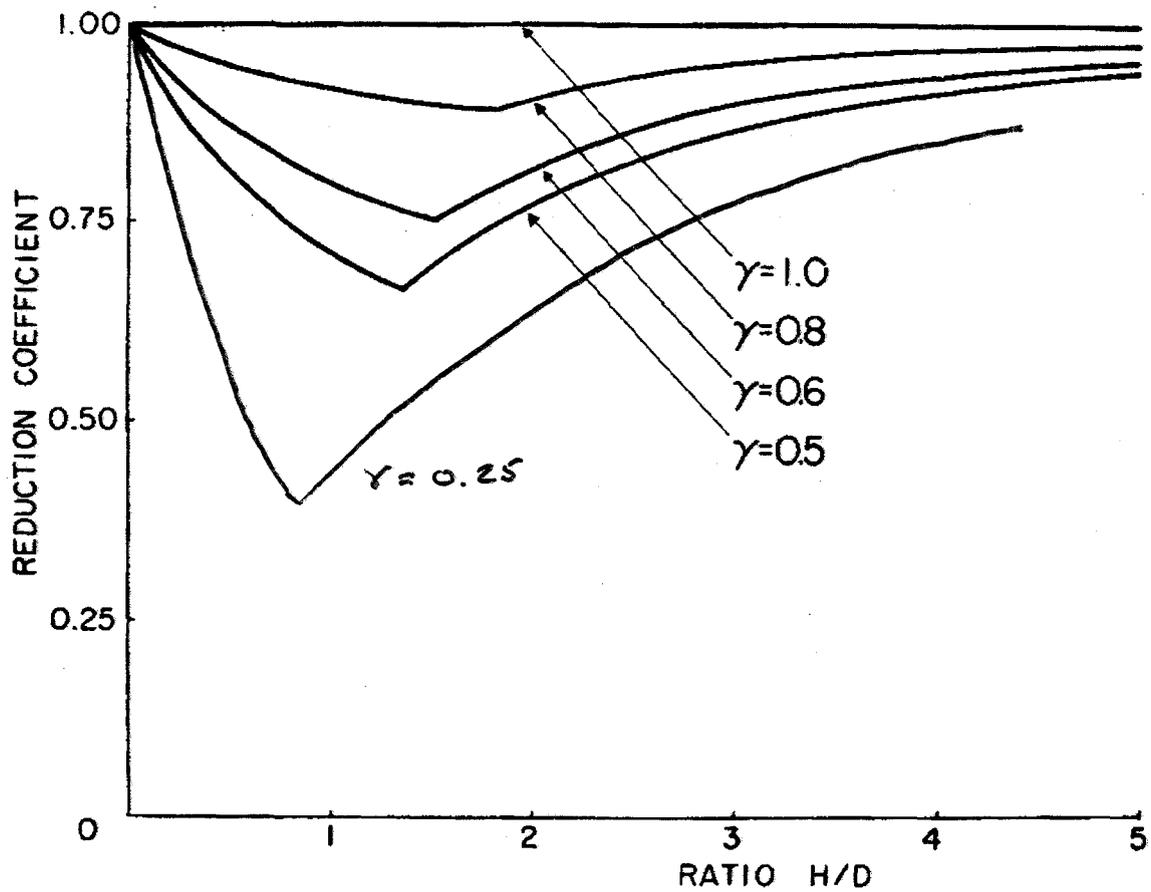




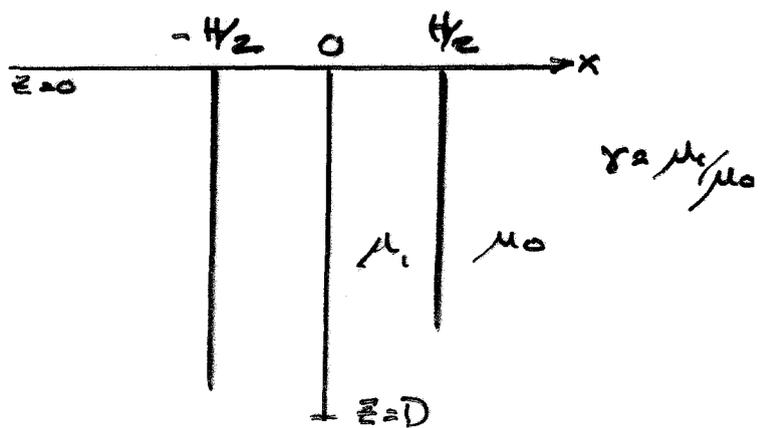


RHOLAME

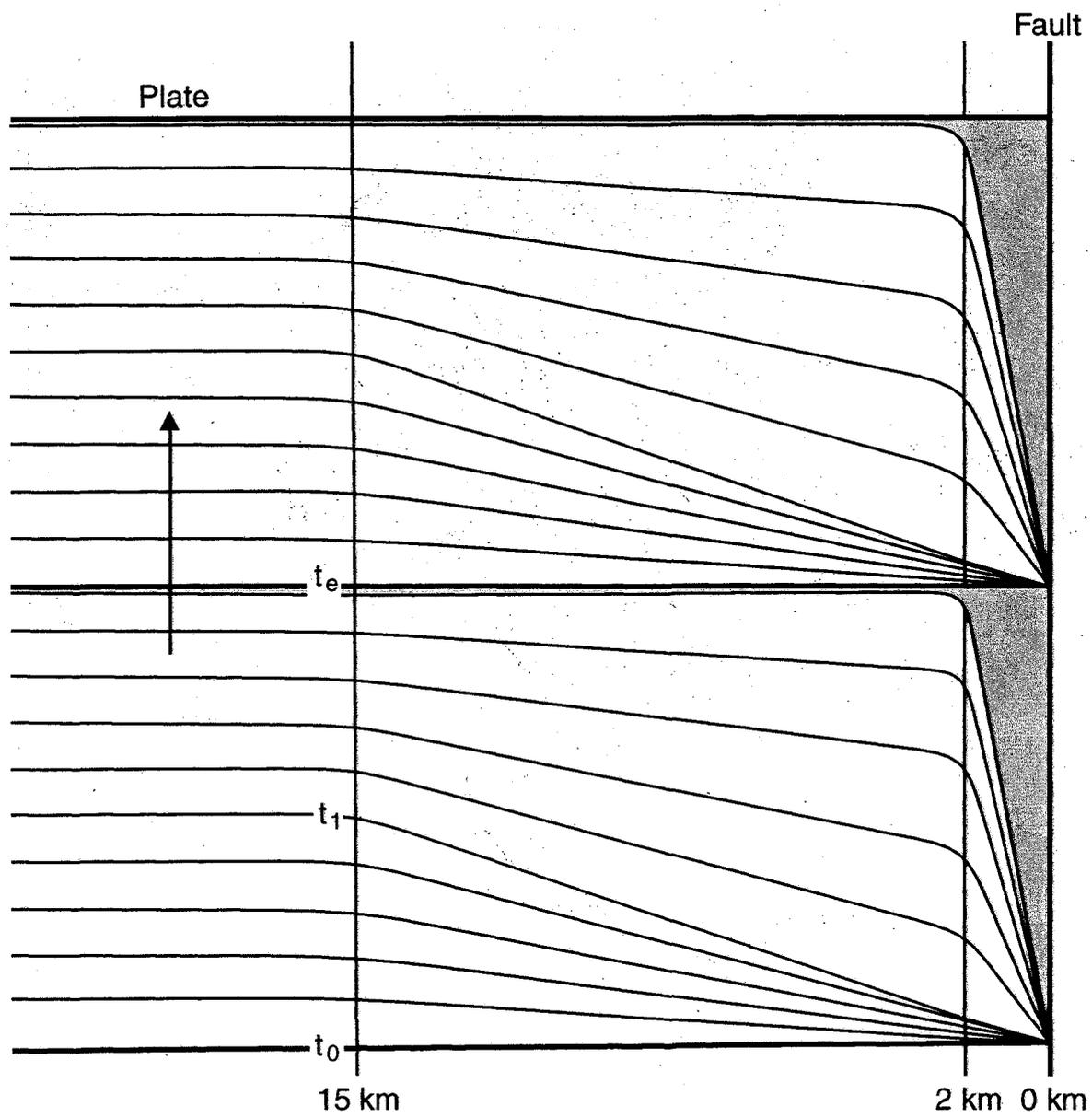
Cholame

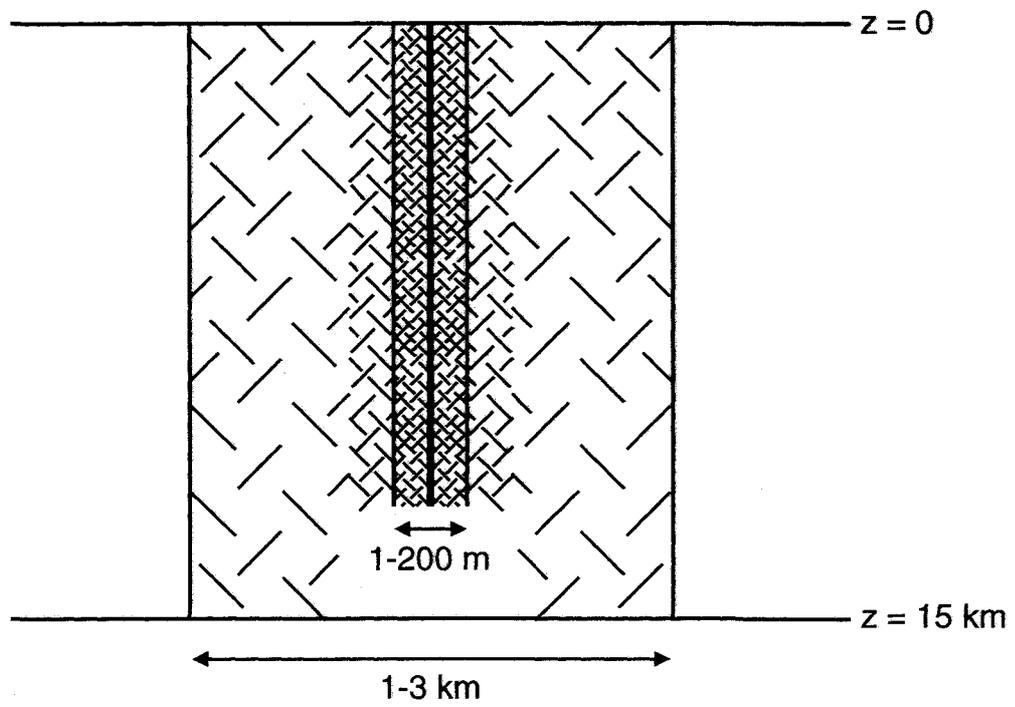
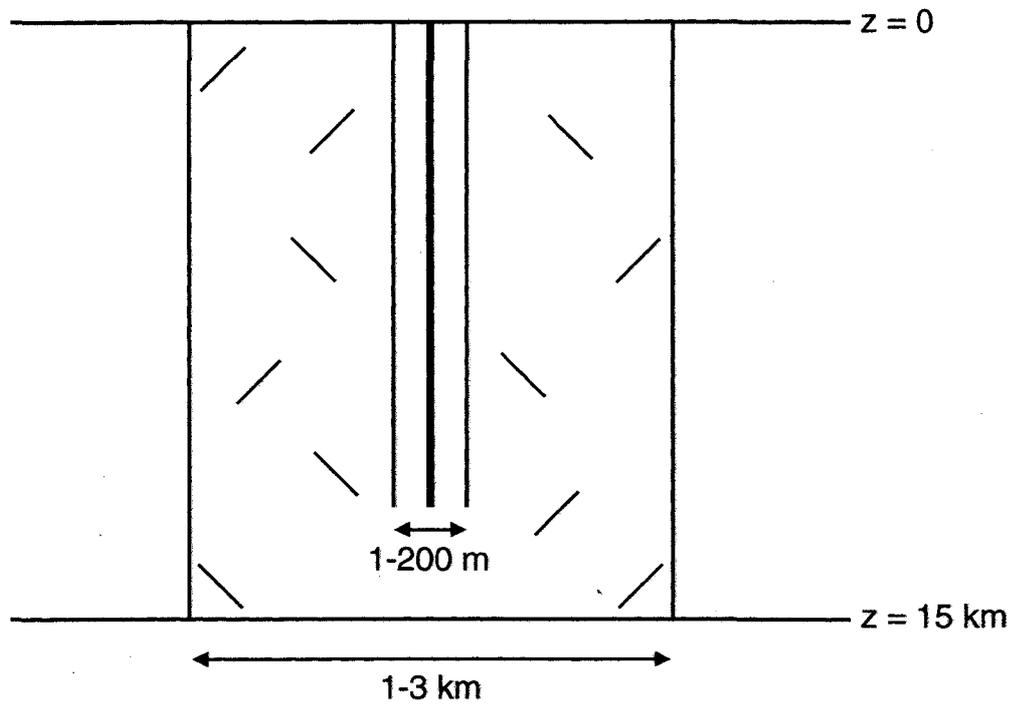


Red. Coeff.  
 $= \frac{\text{half width of displacement}}{D}$



Rybicki and Kasahara, 1977



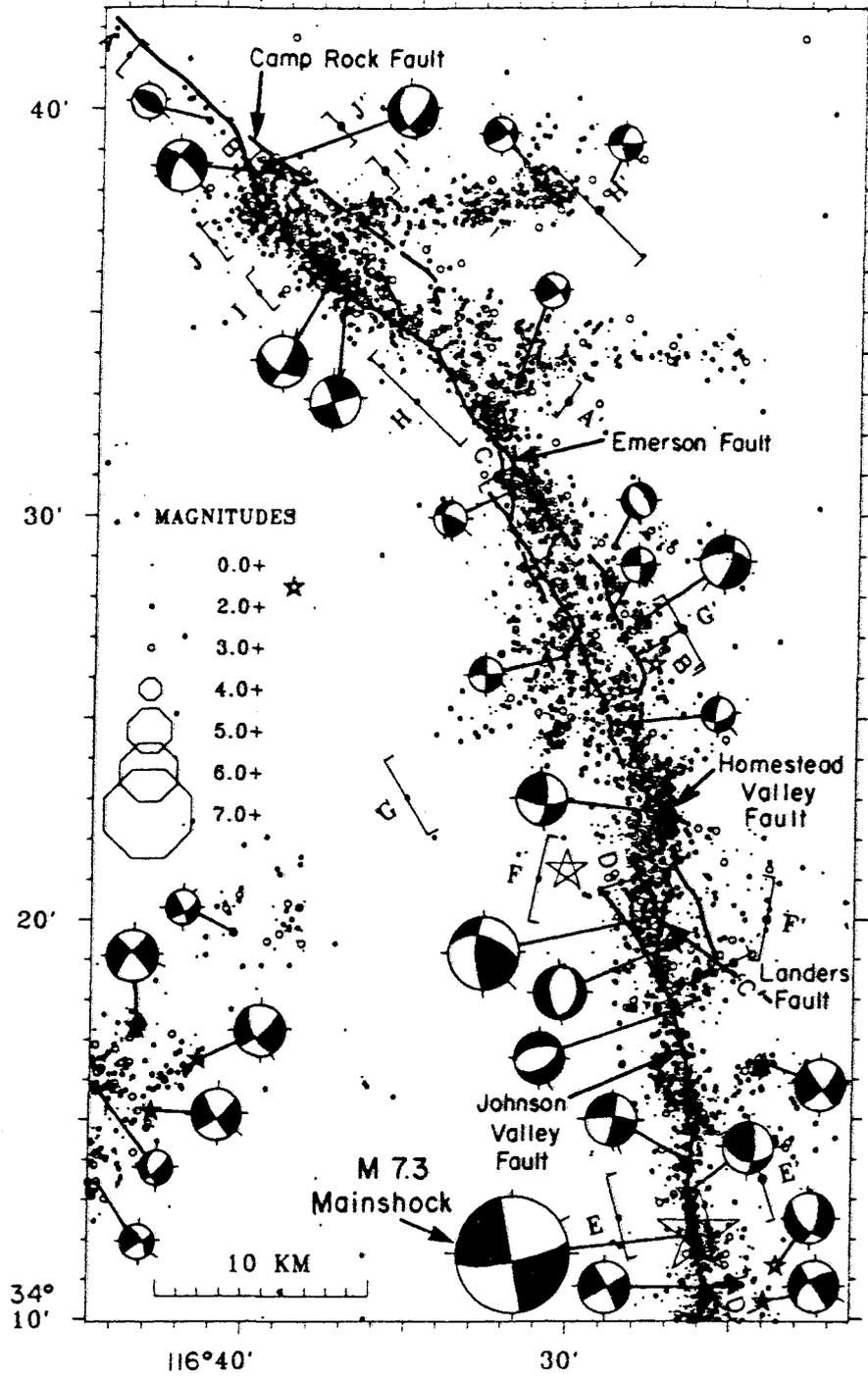


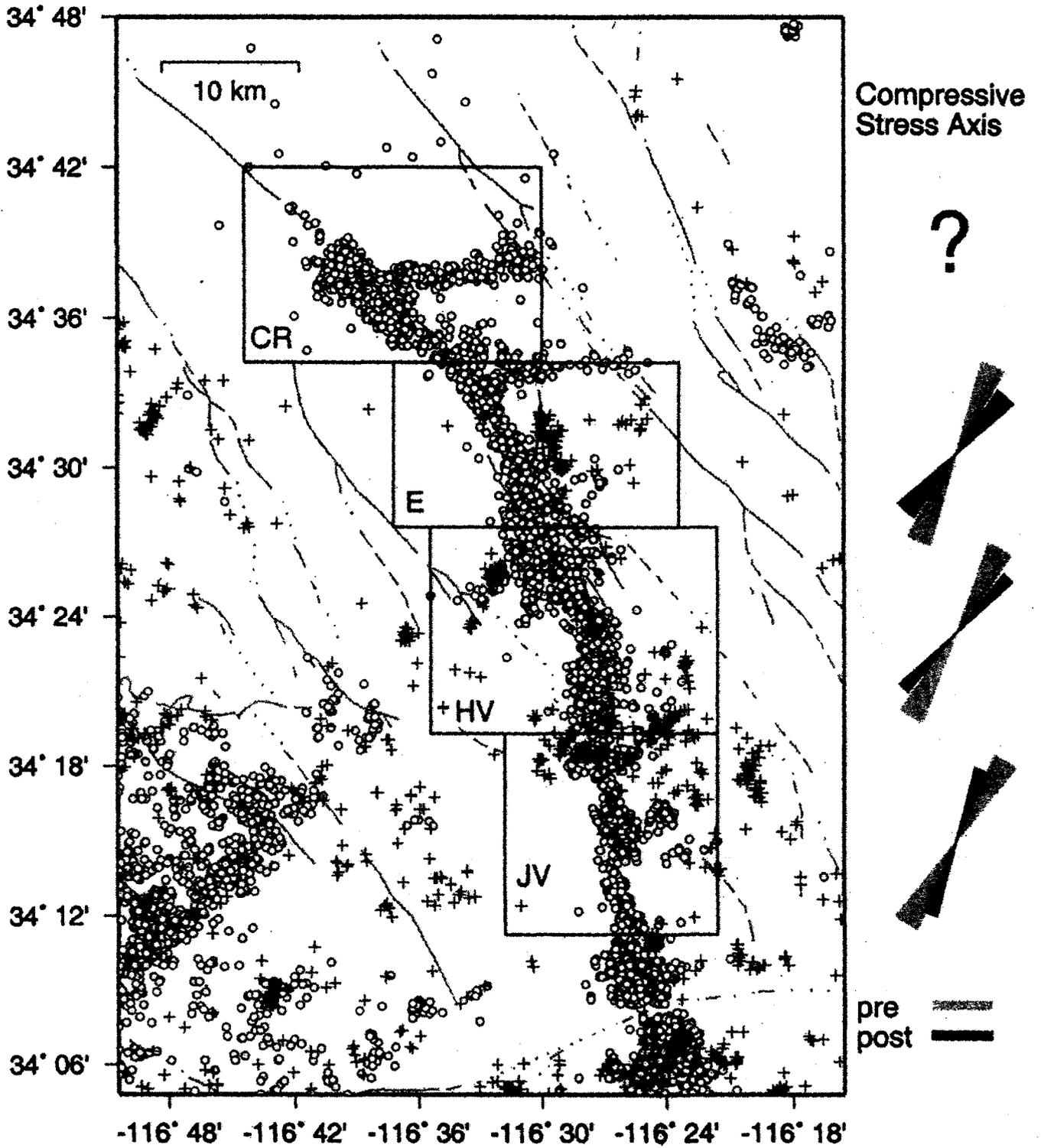
## **2 to 4 km scale in California Earthquake Faults**

1. Coseismic displacements in large earthquakes
2. Displacements in the interseismic interval on southern SAF
3. Locations of aftershocks of large earthquakes
4. Failure of large aftershocks to fit Omori law
5. Reflection seismology and gravity on creeping section of SAF
6. Strain on creeping section of SAF
7. Spatial distributions of earthquakes near creeping section
8. Rotation of principal stresses on creeping section
9. Teleseismic moment of Parkfield earthquake
10. Triggered displacements after Landers and Hector mine earthquakes
11. Recent small mainshock activity on northern SAF
12. Seismic activity prior to Loma Prieta and Landers earthquakes
13. Mainshock magnitude-frequency distribution
14. Ratio of energy radiated to seismic moment
15. Contours of maximum Rossi-Forel intensities after 1906 earthquake
16. Spacing of parallel strands of major faults

# Landers Earthquake Sequence

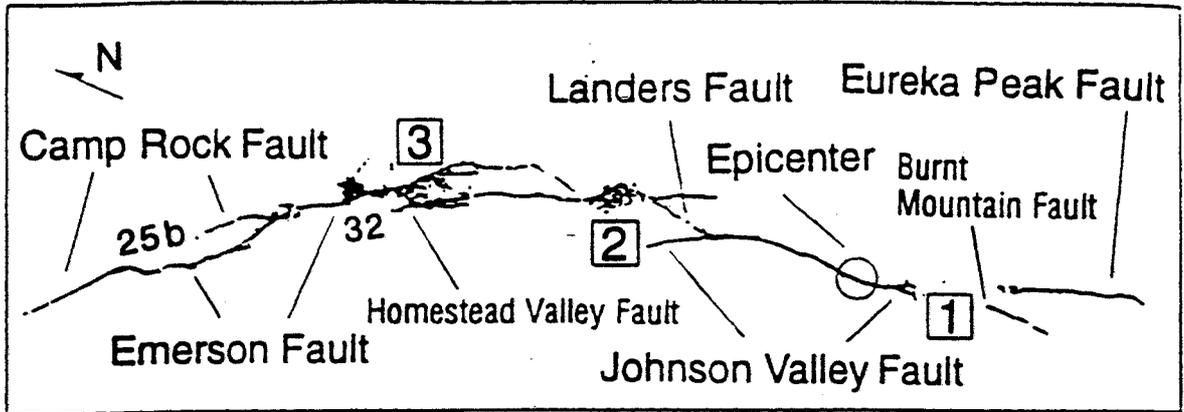
June - December 1992



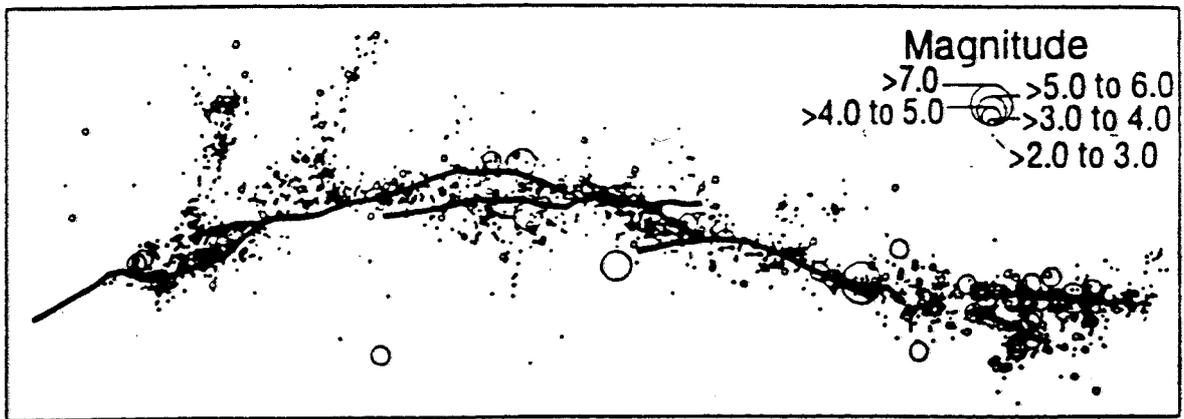


*Hardbeck and Blankensson, 2001*

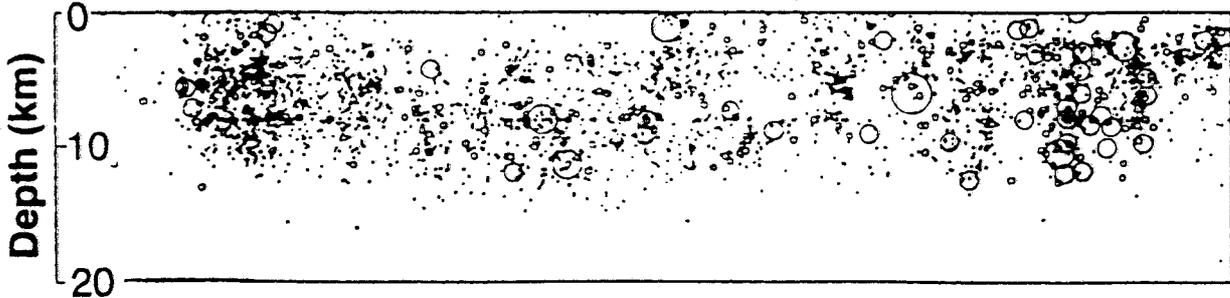
A



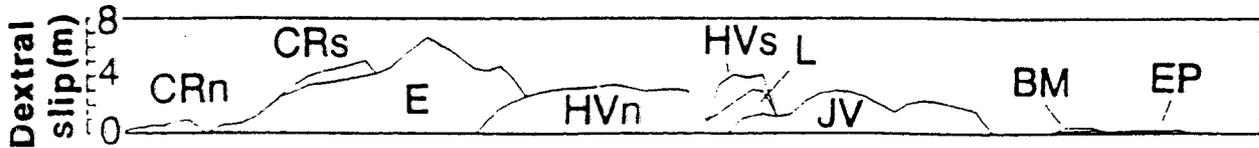
B

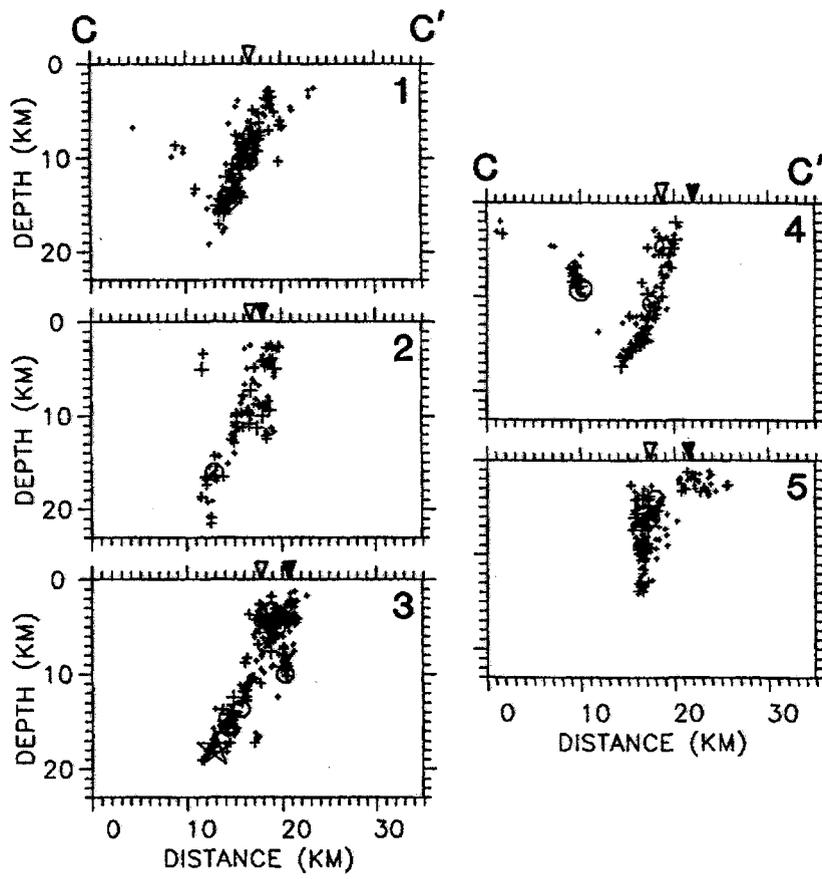
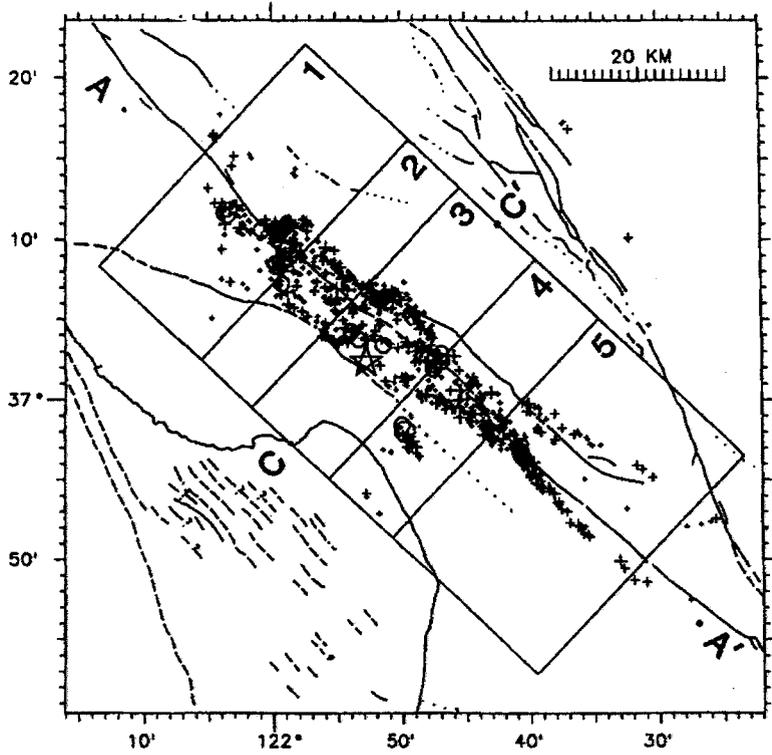


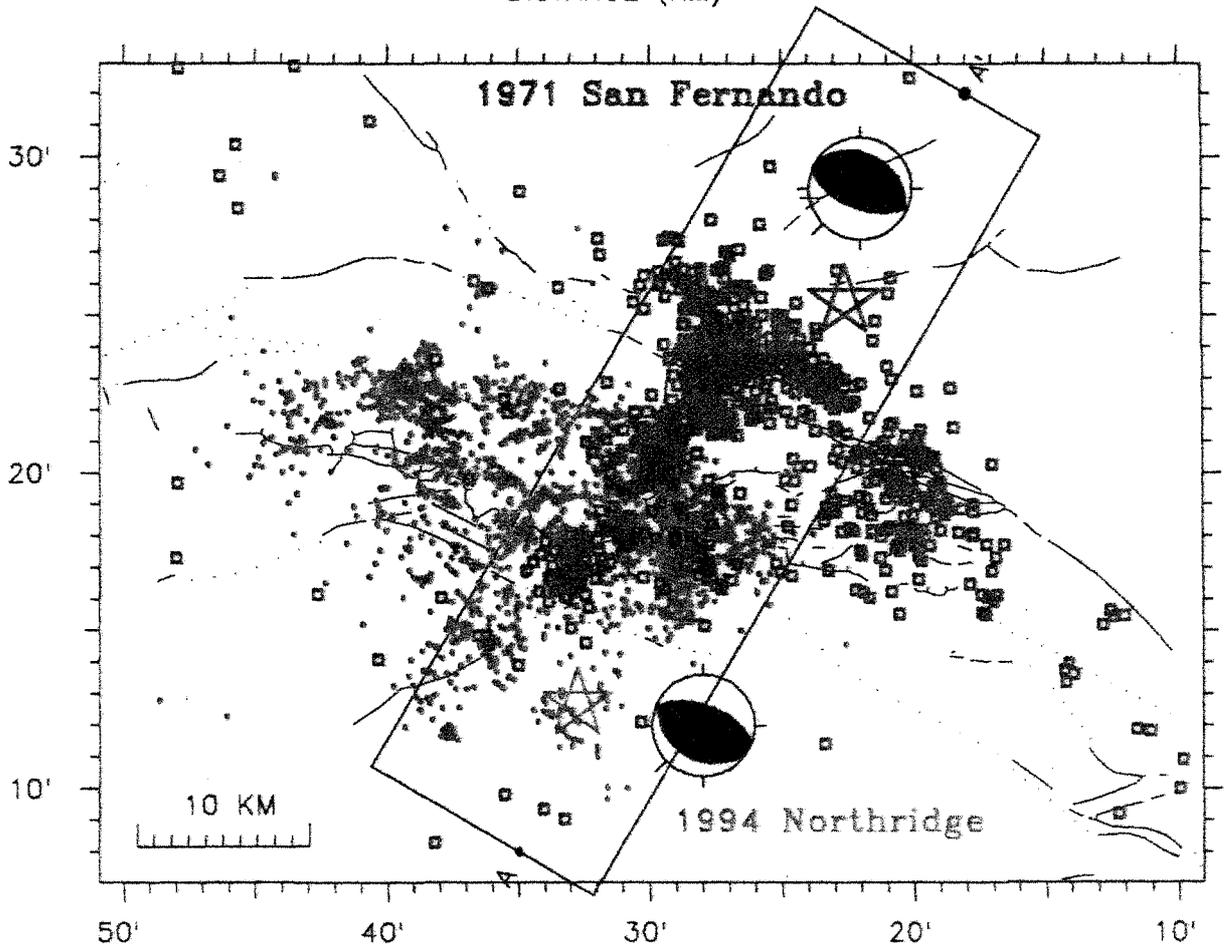
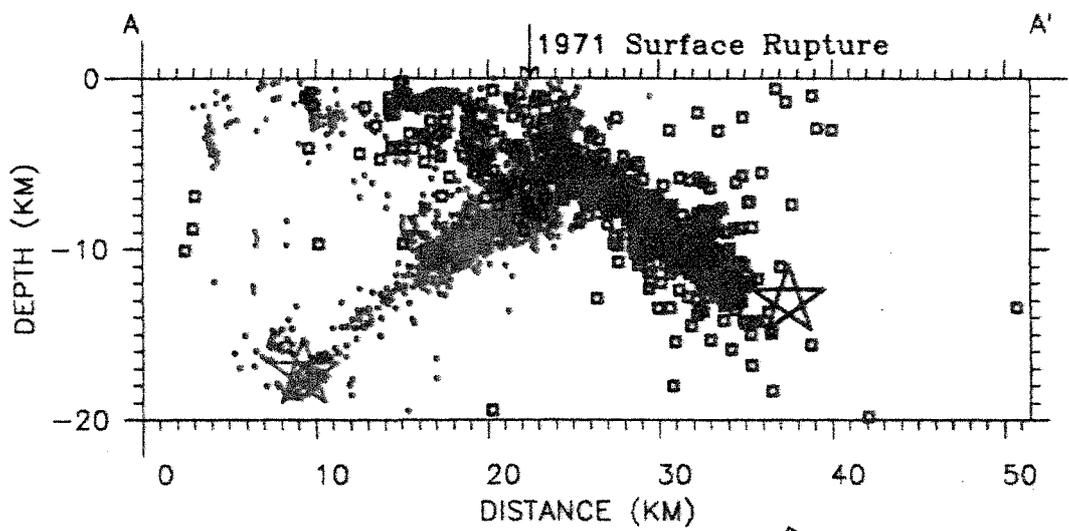
C



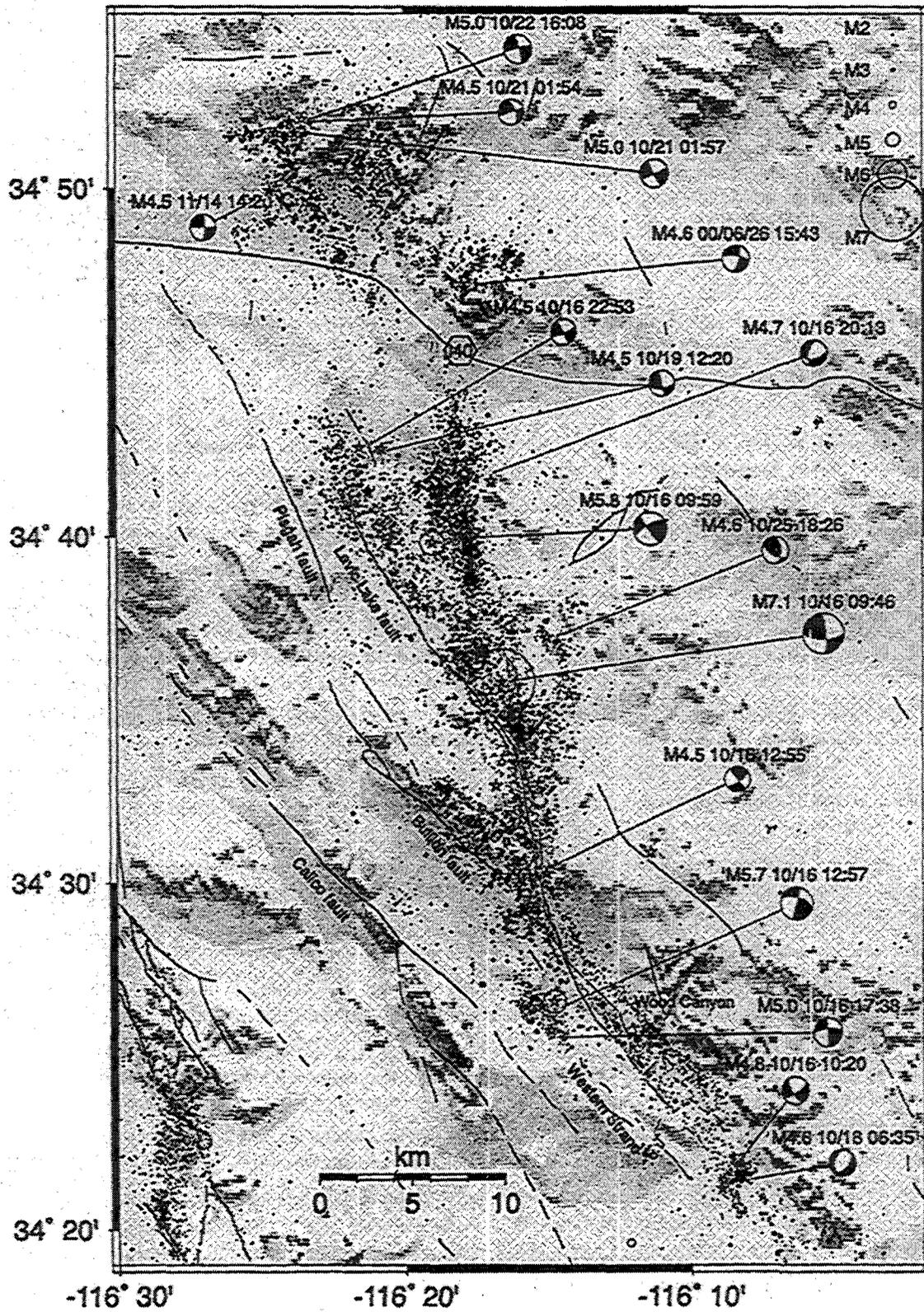
D





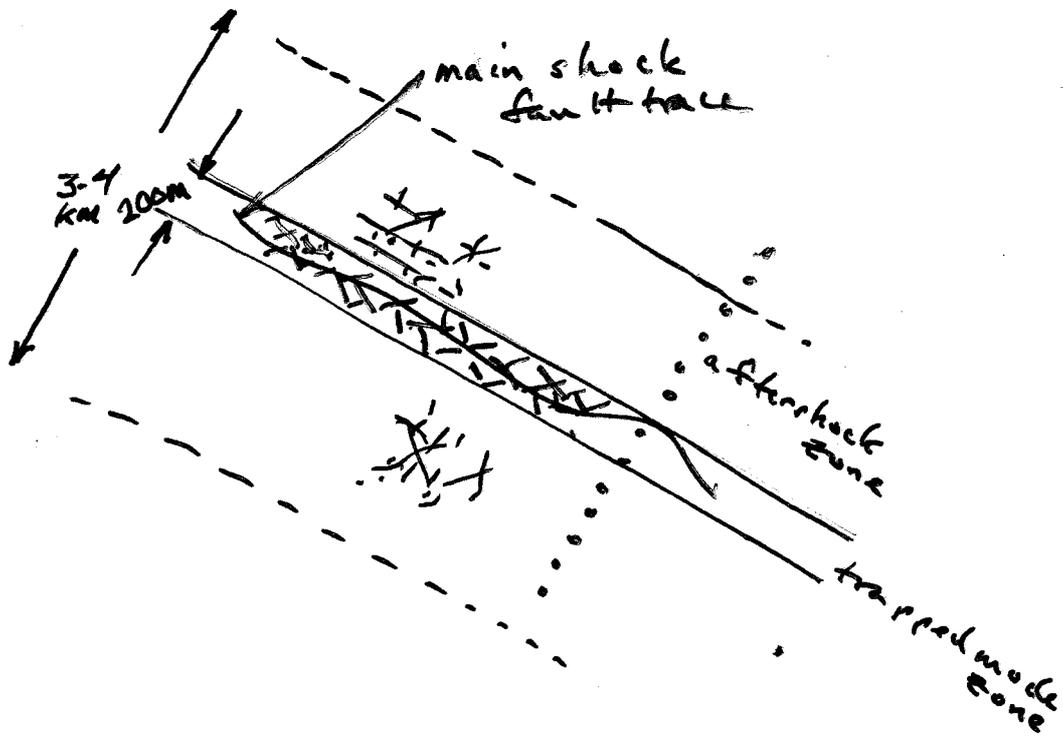


Moni, et al. 1995



LK-087

*Taulesson et al., 2002*



if  $L \sim 3 \text{ km}$   
 $u \sim 5 \text{ m}$   
 then  $\sigma \sim 500 \text{ bars}$ .

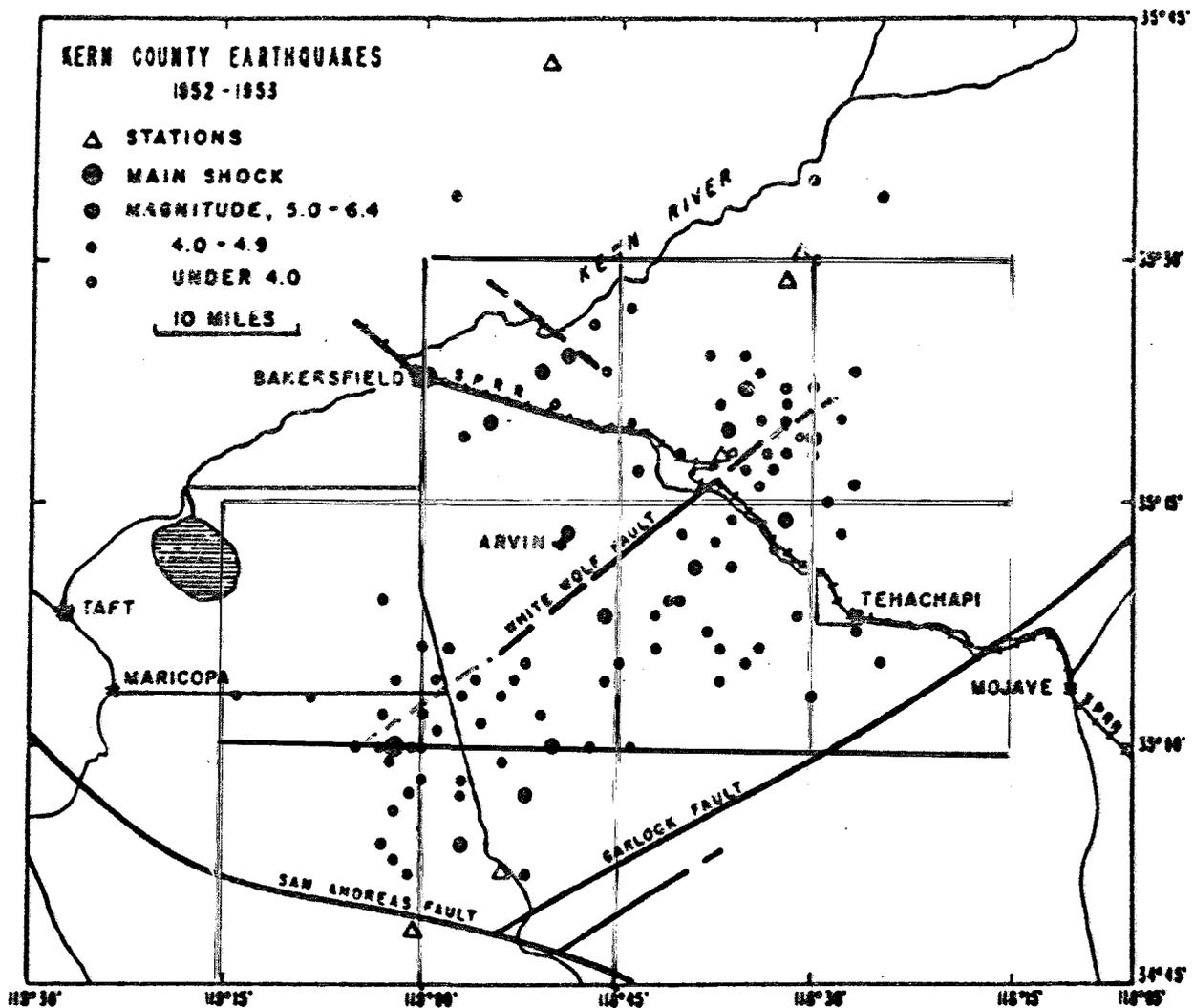
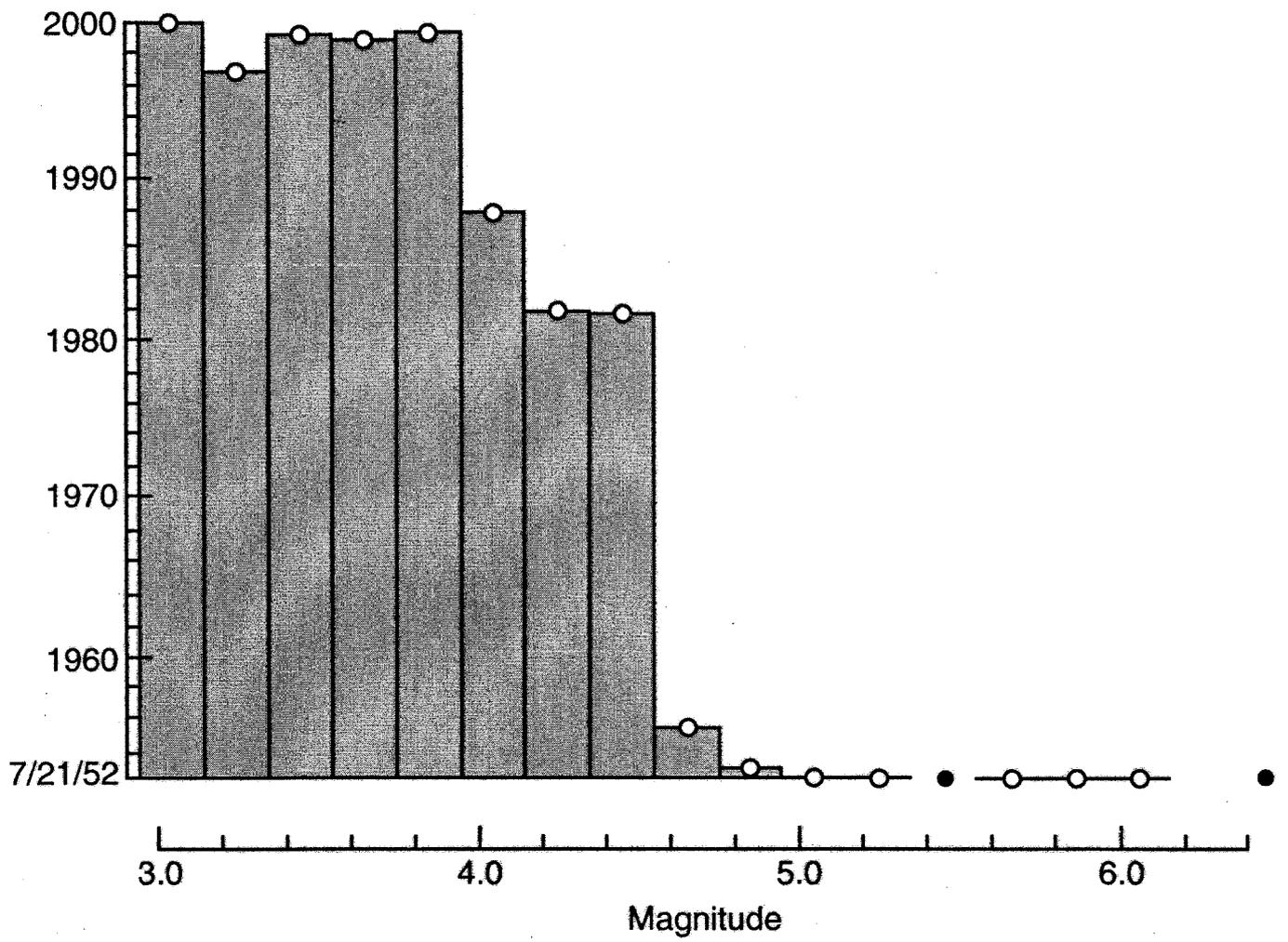


FIGURE 1. Epicenters of located shocks, July 21, 1952 through June 30, 1953. Coordinates as given in Table 1.

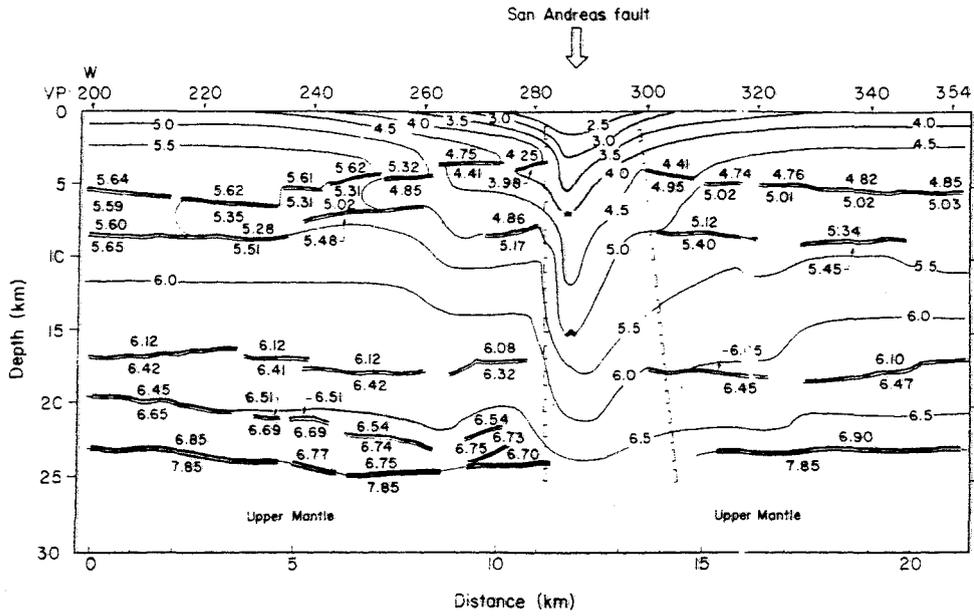
of the drive motor. After transfer to Fort Tejon in November the equipment functioned almost perfectly.

The Havilah station began recording on July 25, several hours after the large shocks of that date. The drum was out of gear July 26 for 6 hours, and on July 28/29 for 24 hours. Timing is uncertain for several days following August 13. The seismometer was disconnected from August 22 to August 29.

Recording at Knox Ranch was satisfactory except for



SEISMIC REFLECTION DATA FOR THE SAN ANDREAS FAULT ZONE



Also

McBride + Brown BSSA 1986

Thurber et al. GRL 1997

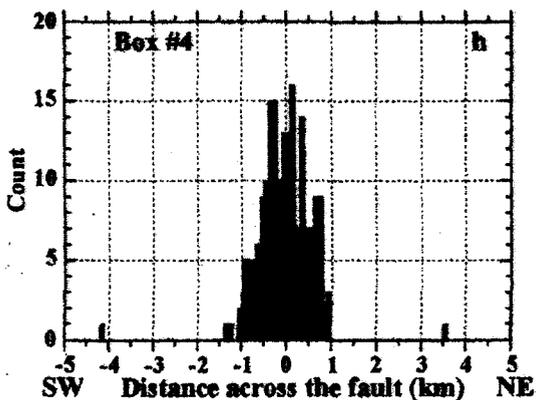
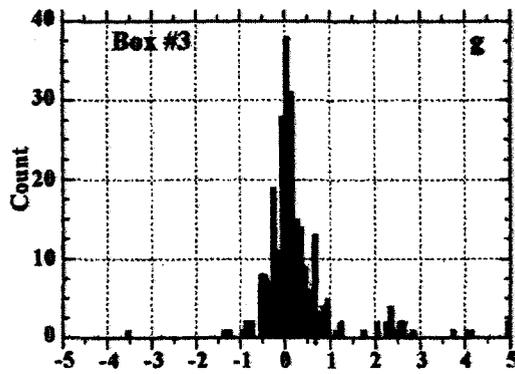
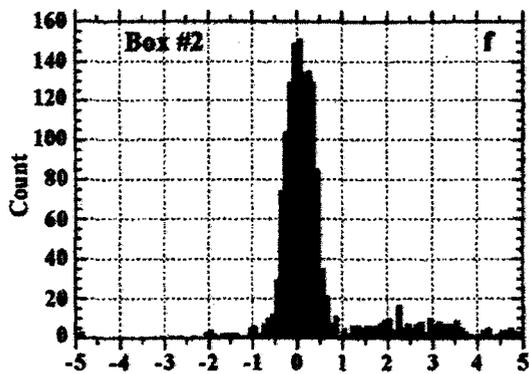
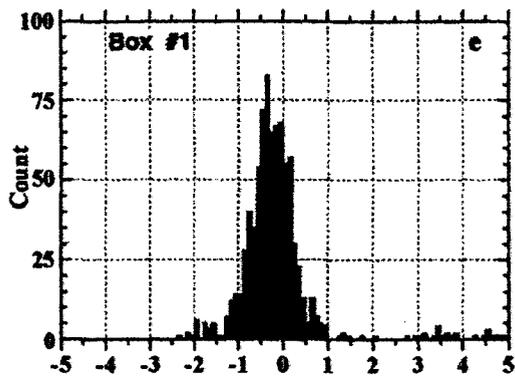
Wang et al. GRL 1978 (gravity)

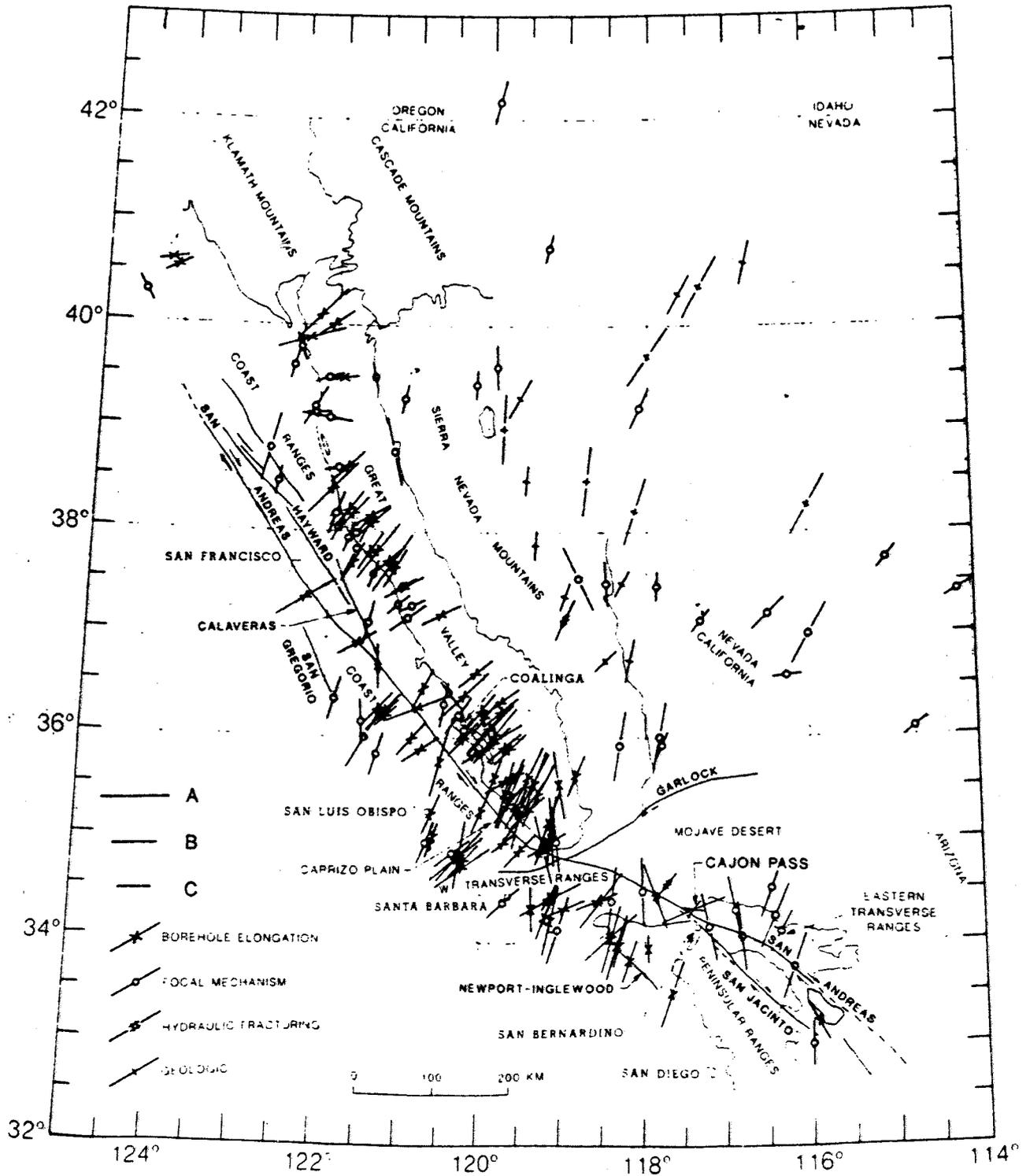
Mooney + Luetjert BSSA 1982

Steirman JGR 1984

Mooney + Ginsburg PAGEOPH 1986

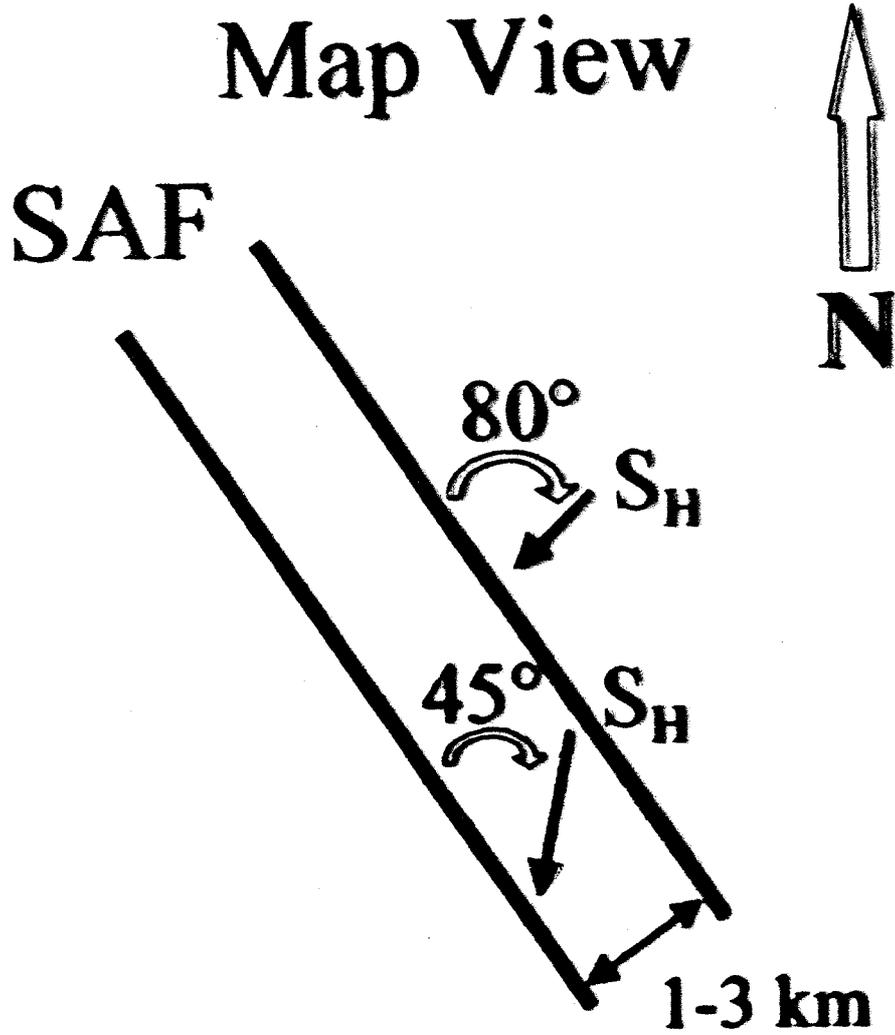
FENG + McEVILLY  
BSSA 1983





Generalized geologic map of California with data points showing the direction of maximum horizontal compression in the crust. The length of the bars attached to each data point is a measure of its quality (A, B, or C). The symbol associated with each data point indicates the type of stress indicator. No focal mechanisms from earthquakes directly on the San Andreas or major, right-lateral strike-slip subsidiary faults are included.

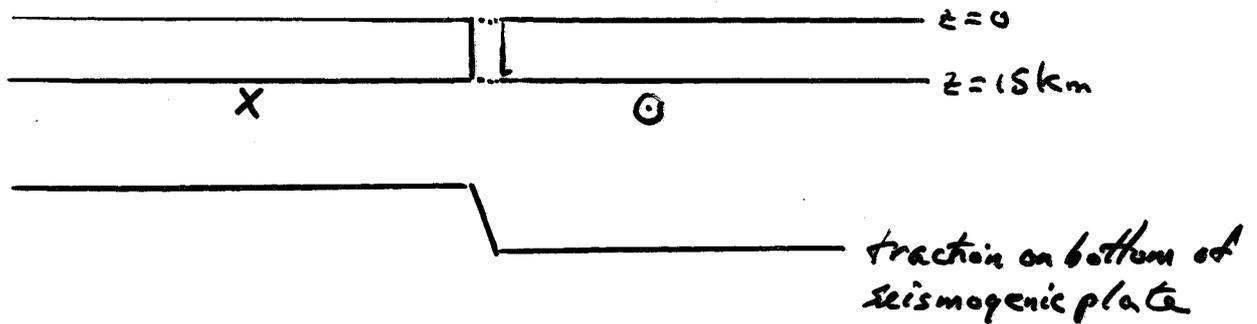
*Science Toback, et al, 1987*

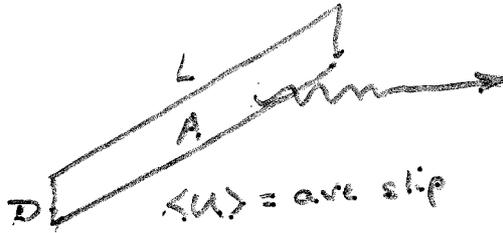


*Provost & Houston, 1900* JG<sup>2</sup>

$$\sigma_{ij,j} = f_i$$

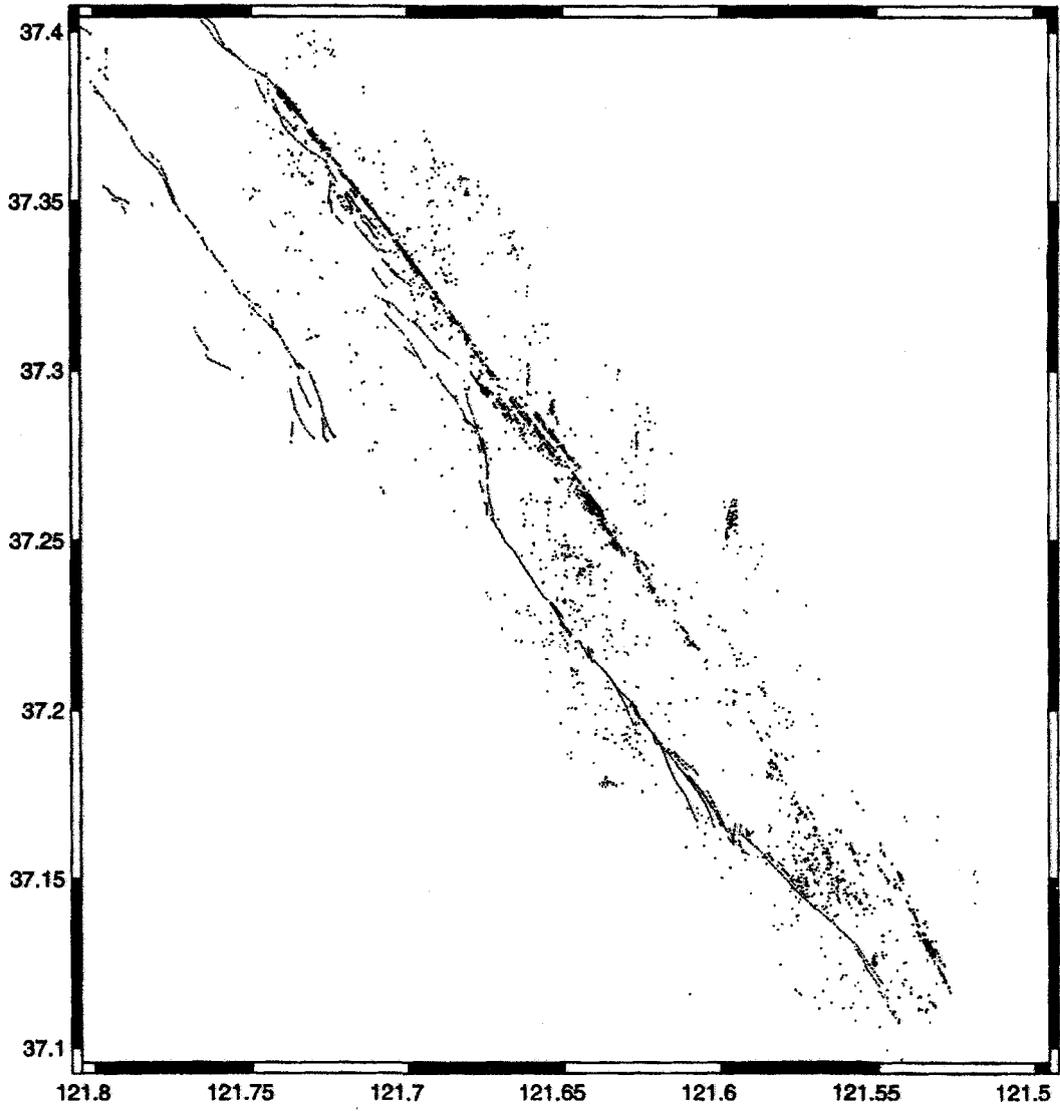
In the absence of body forces ( $f$ ) stresses ( $\sigma$ ) are continuous





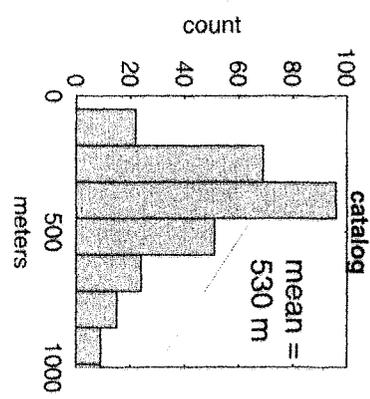
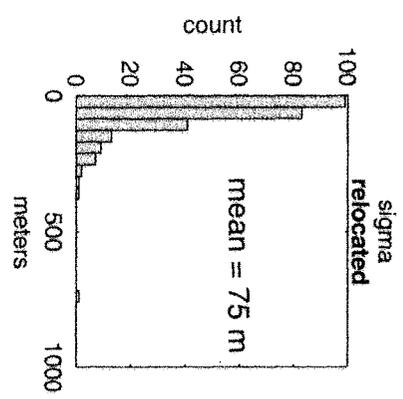
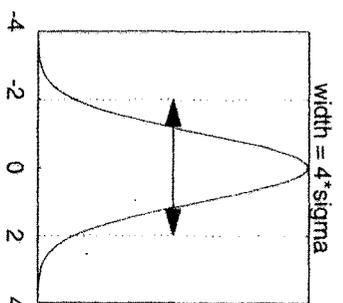
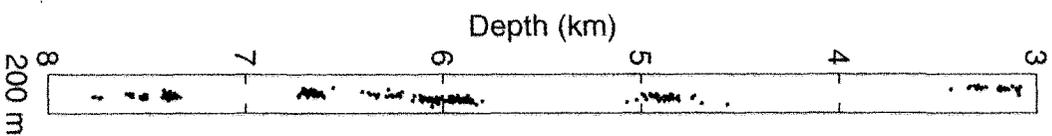
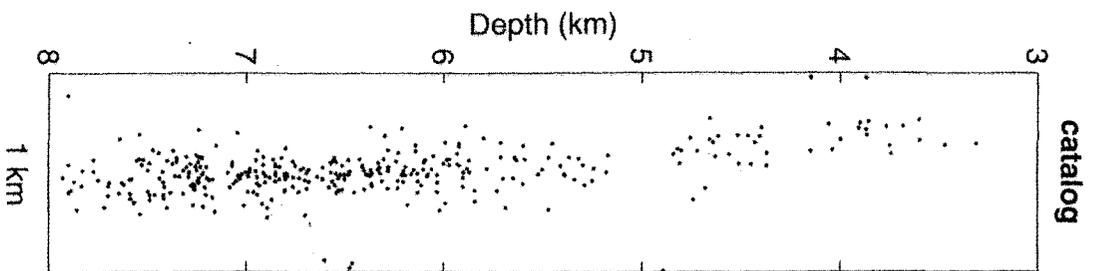
$$A = LD$$

$$\text{Moment} = \mu \langle u \rangle A (rs)$$



# Fault Zone Width

relocated



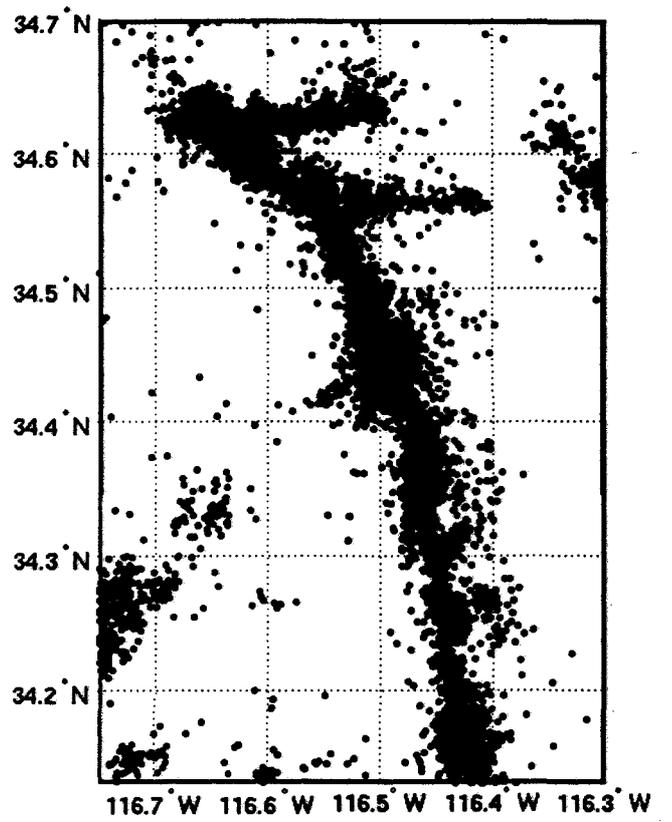
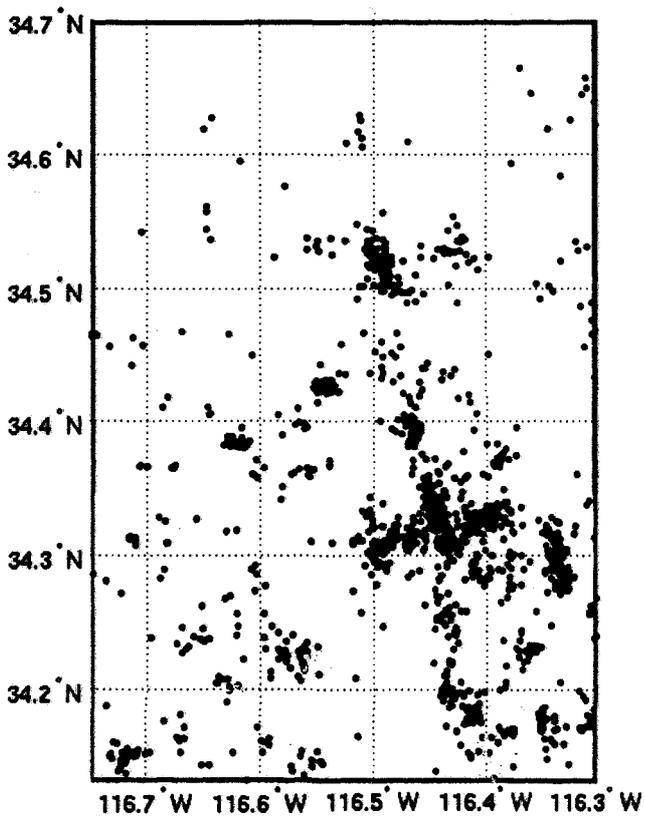
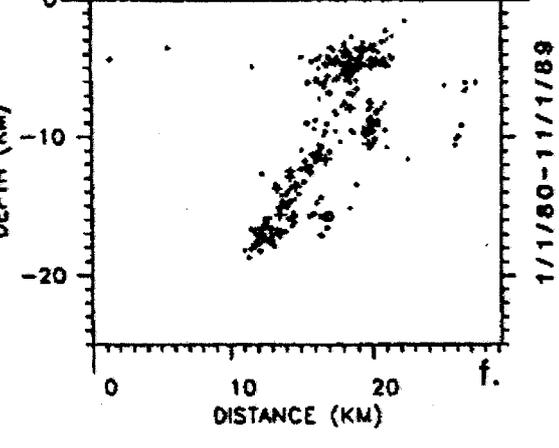
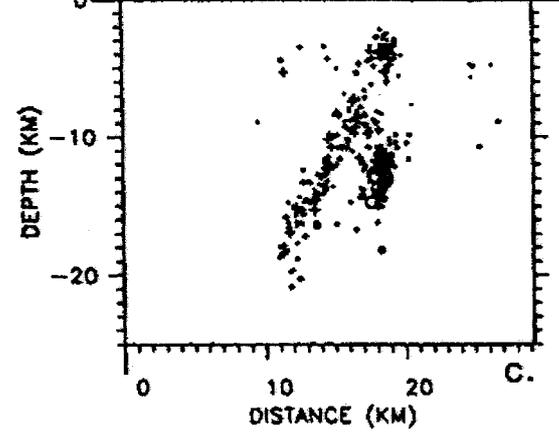
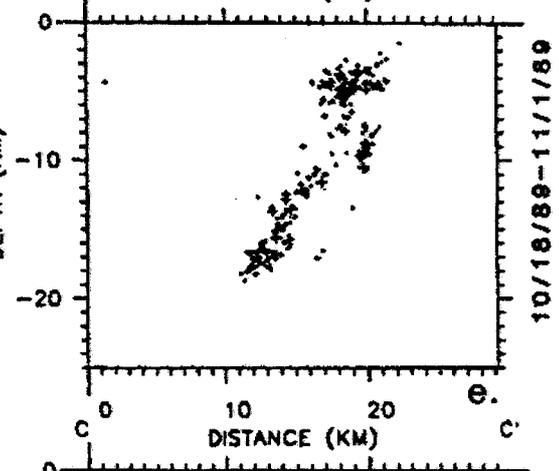
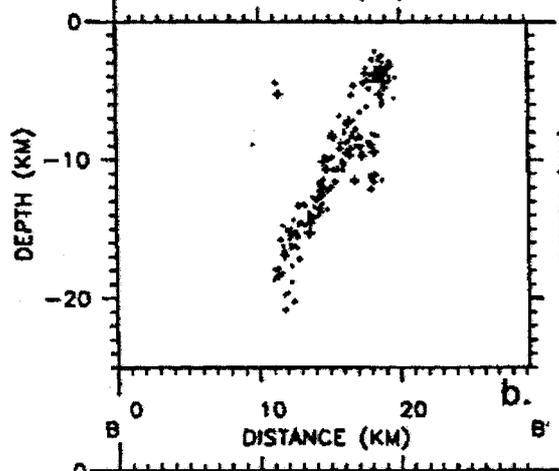
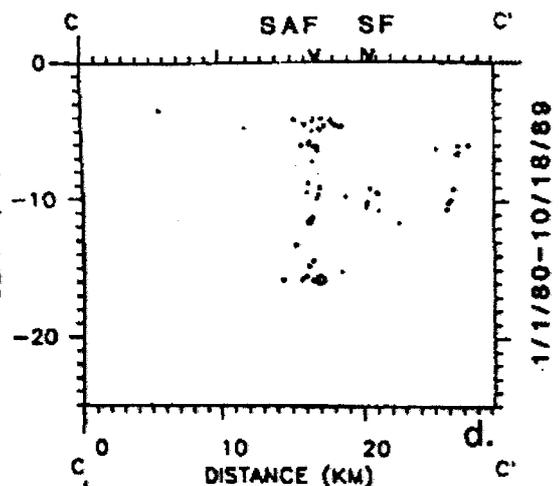
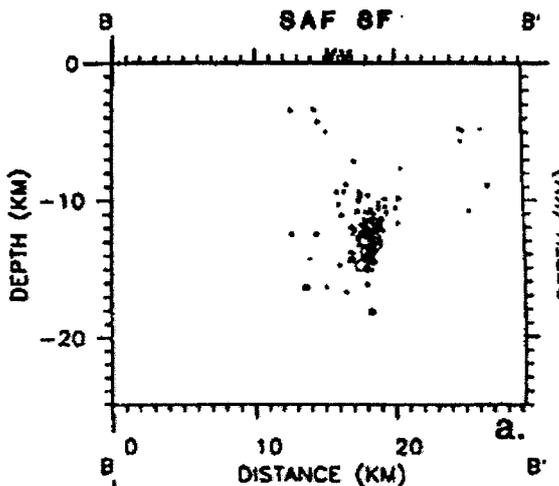
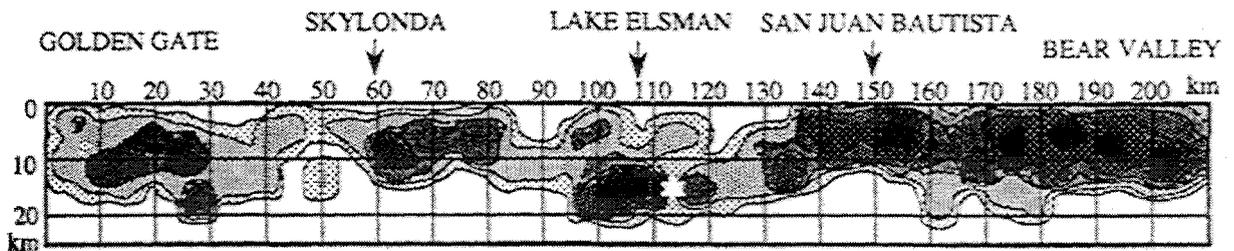


FIG. 4

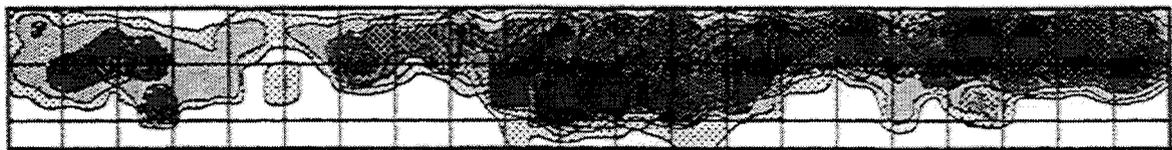




SLIP DUE TO SEISMICITY BEFORE THE MAIN EVENT



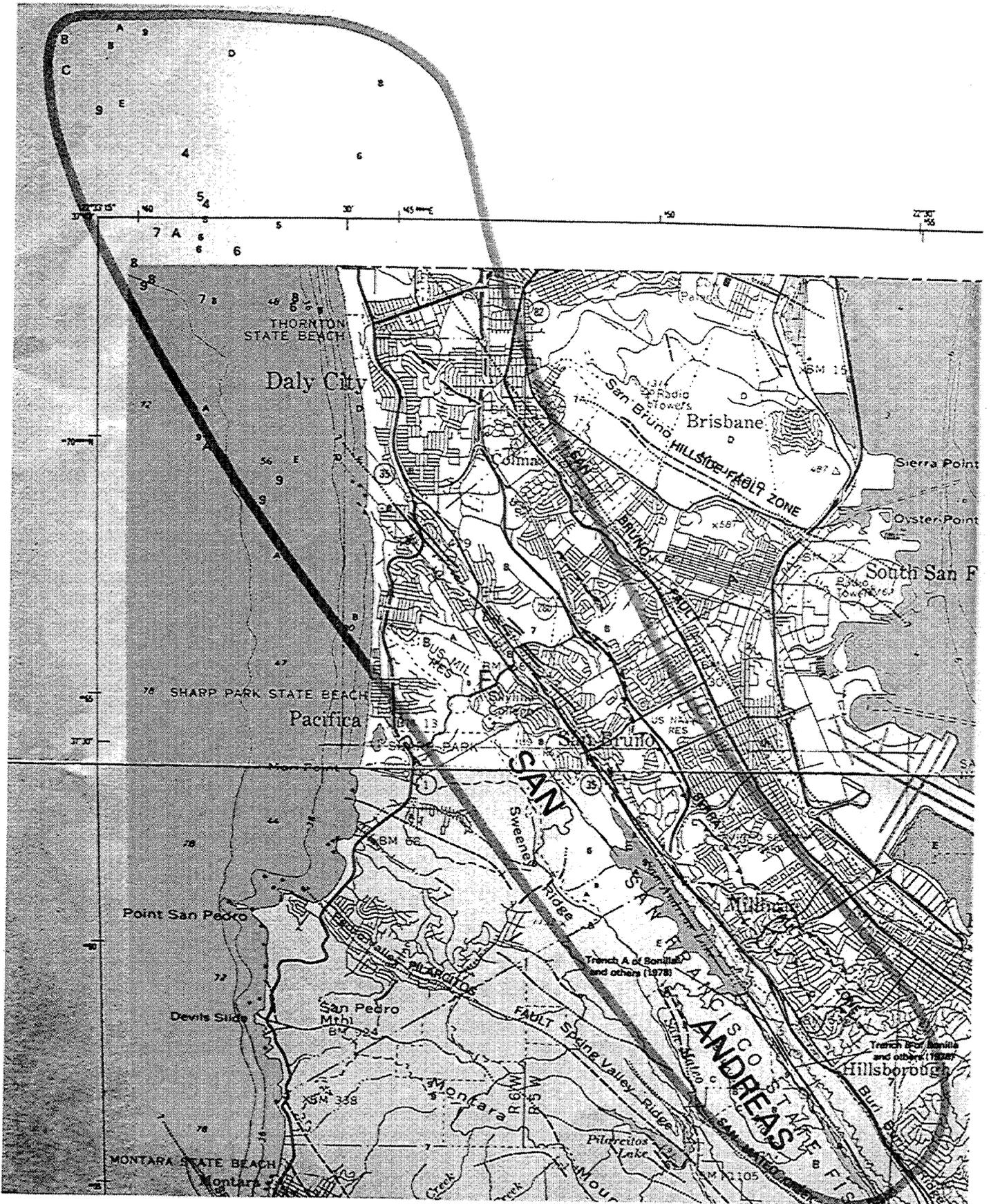
SLIP DUE TO AFTERSHOCKS



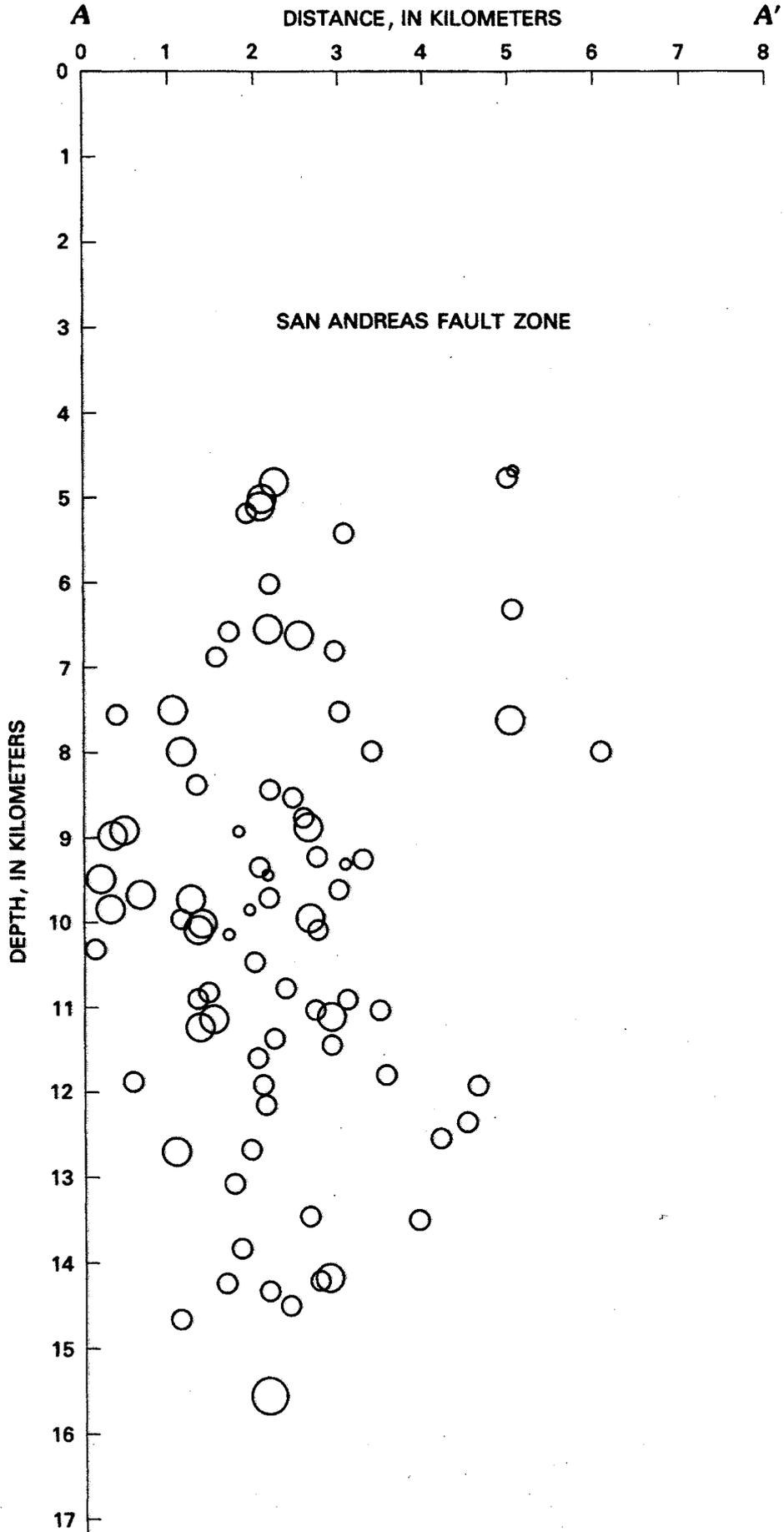
SLIP DUE TO SEISMICITY BEFORE AND AFTER THE MAIN EVENT

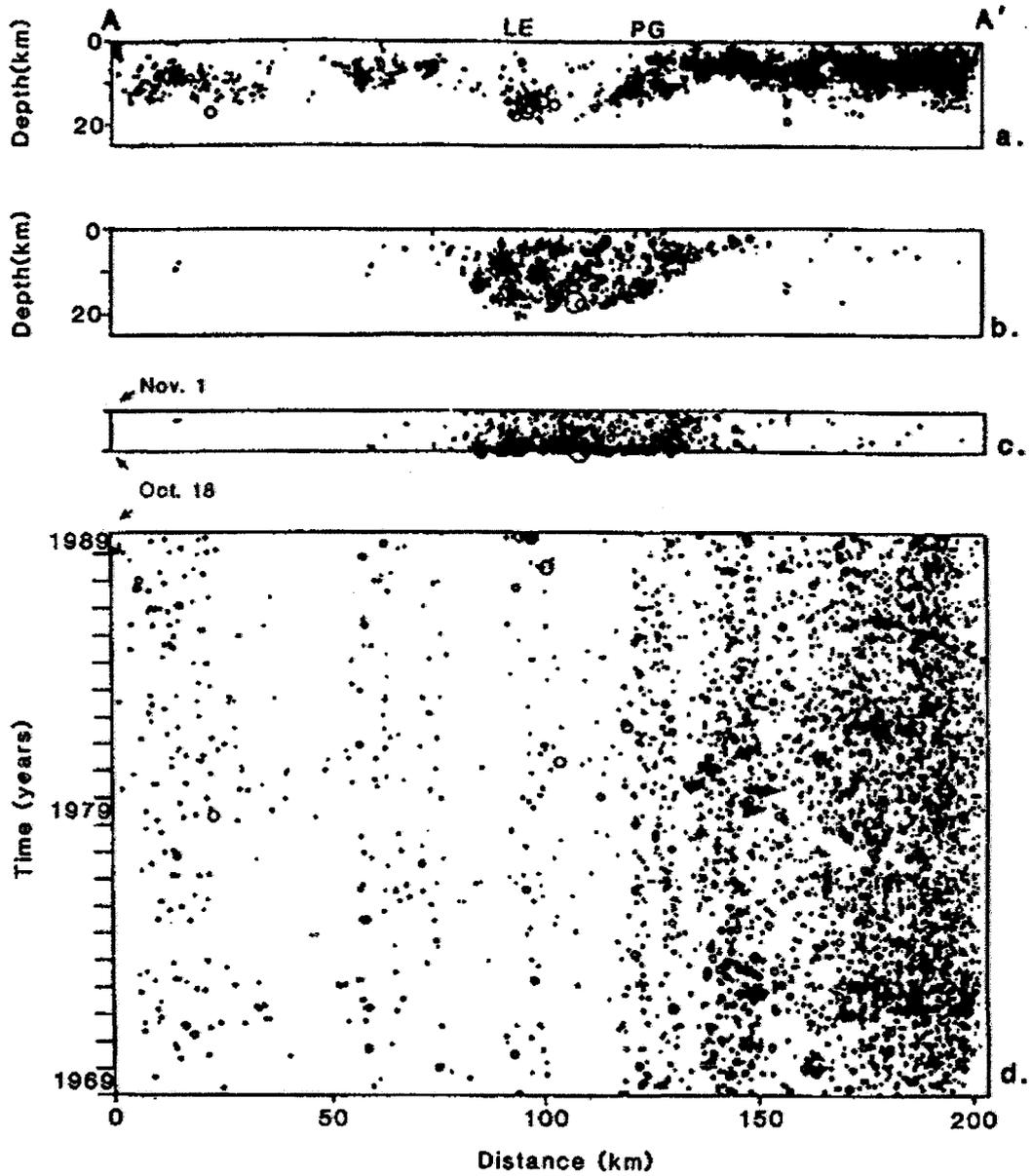


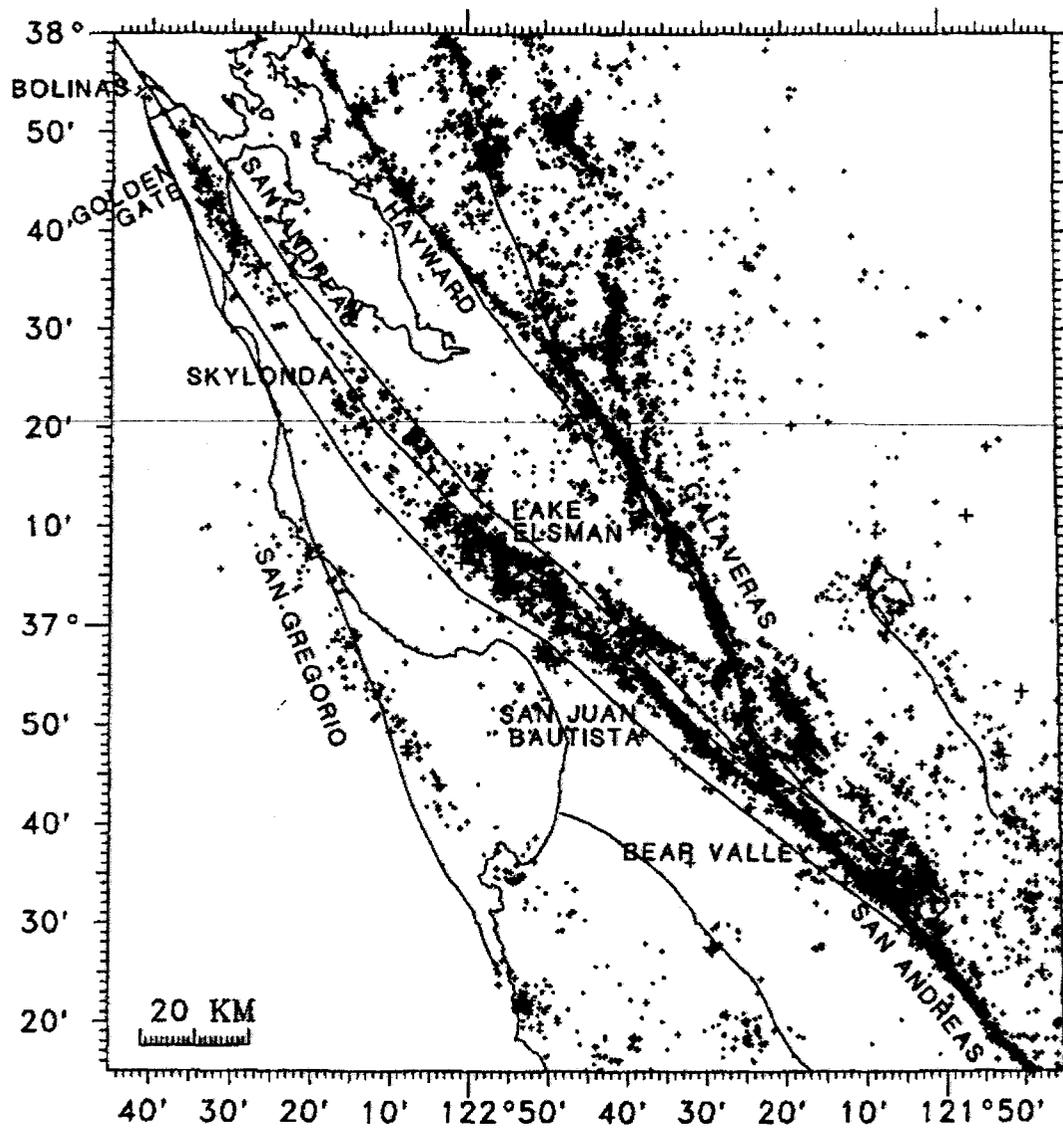


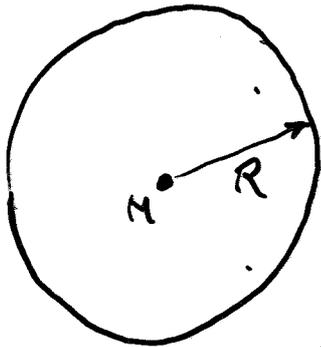


CROSS SECTION A-A'

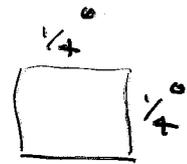
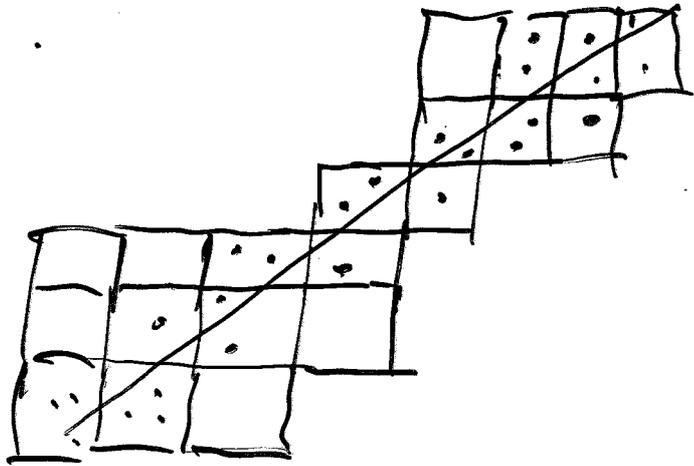


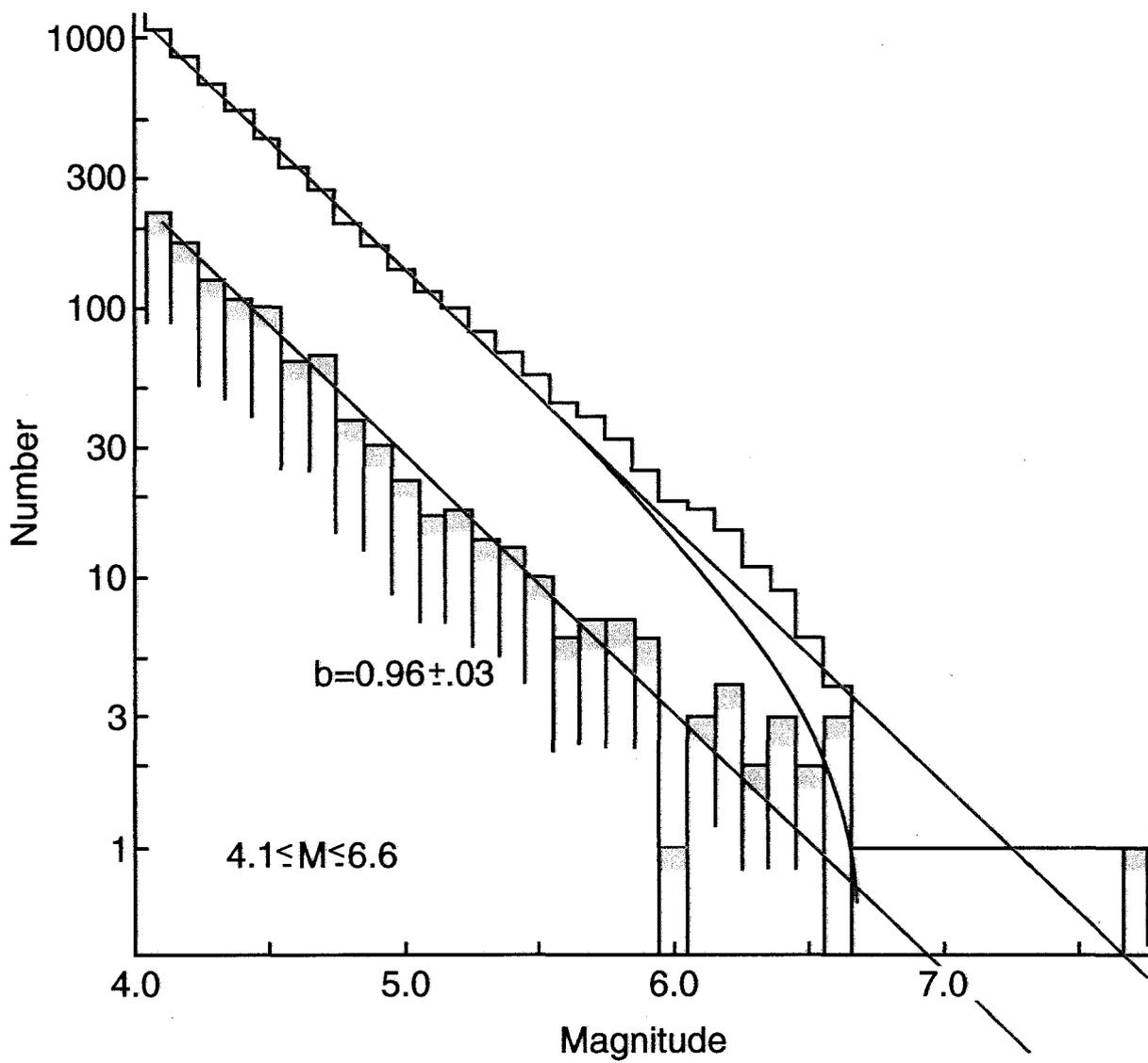






$R(M)$   
 $\Delta T(M)$





1944-1990  
All Earthquakes

$$\frac{1}{b'} = \frac{1}{b \log_e 10} = \bar{M} - M_L$$

$$\sigma_b^2 = b^2 / N$$

$$N a e$$

$$\uparrow$$

$$\log_e N = a - b'M$$

$$N = \frac{1}{t_r}$$

$$\frac{\Delta M}{e^{b'\Delta M} - 1} - \frac{(M_U - M_L + \Delta M)}{e^{b'(M_U - M_L + \Delta M)} - 1} = \bar{M} - M_L$$

$$\sigma_b^2 = \frac{b^2 (1 - e^{-x})^2}{N (1 - e^{-x})^2 - x^2 e^{-x}}$$

$$x = b'(M_U - M_L + \Delta M)$$

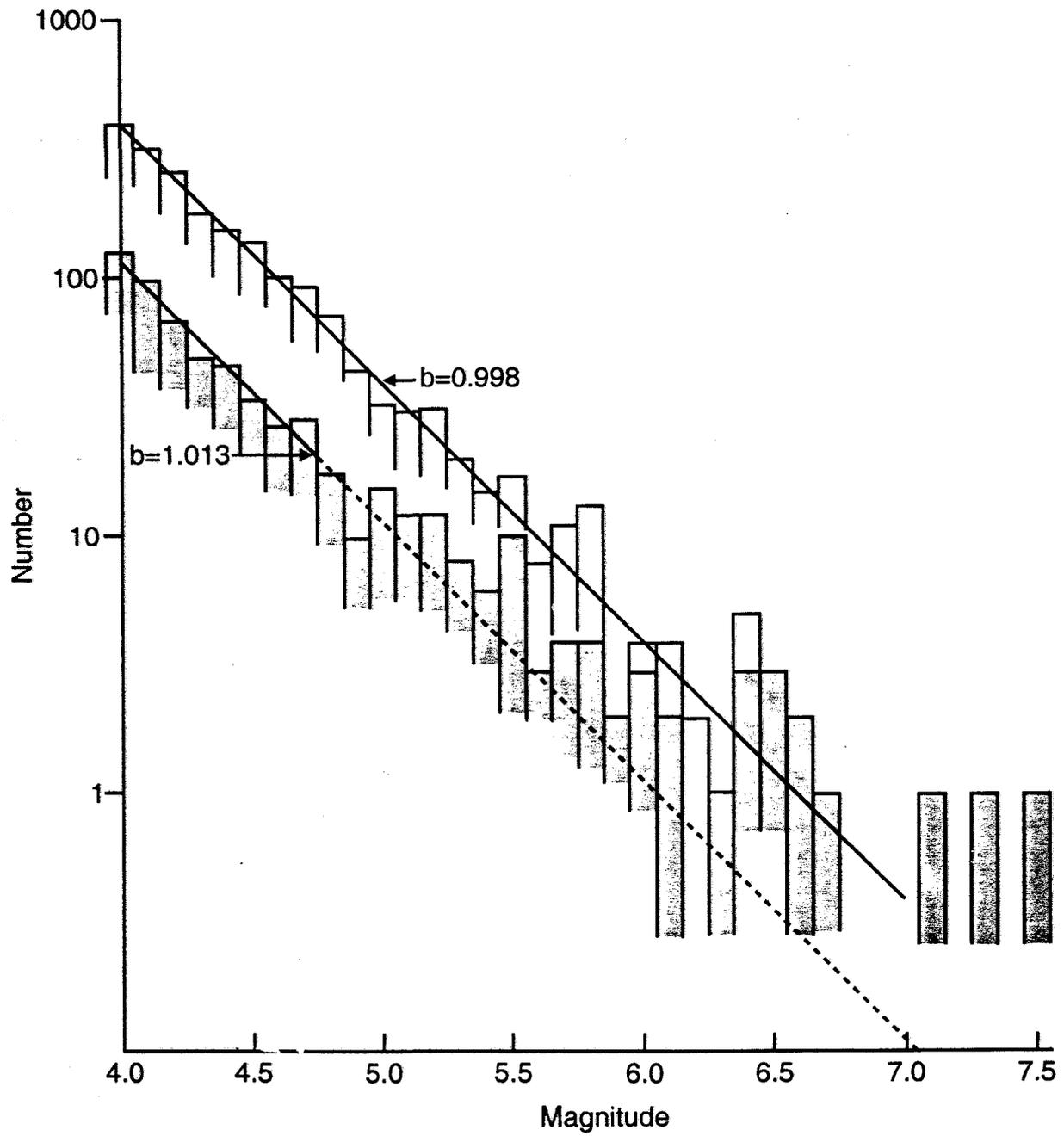


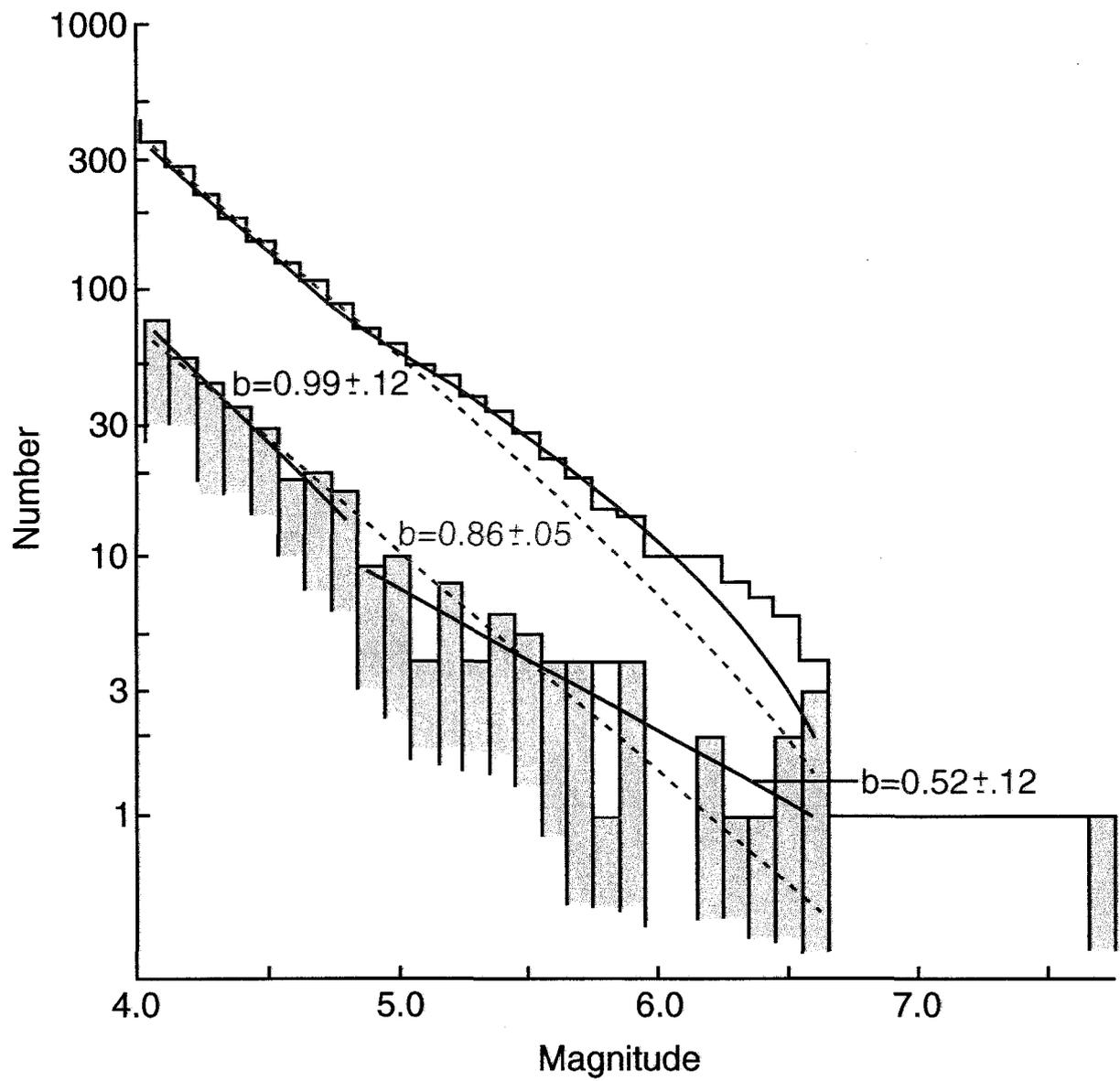
Fig.

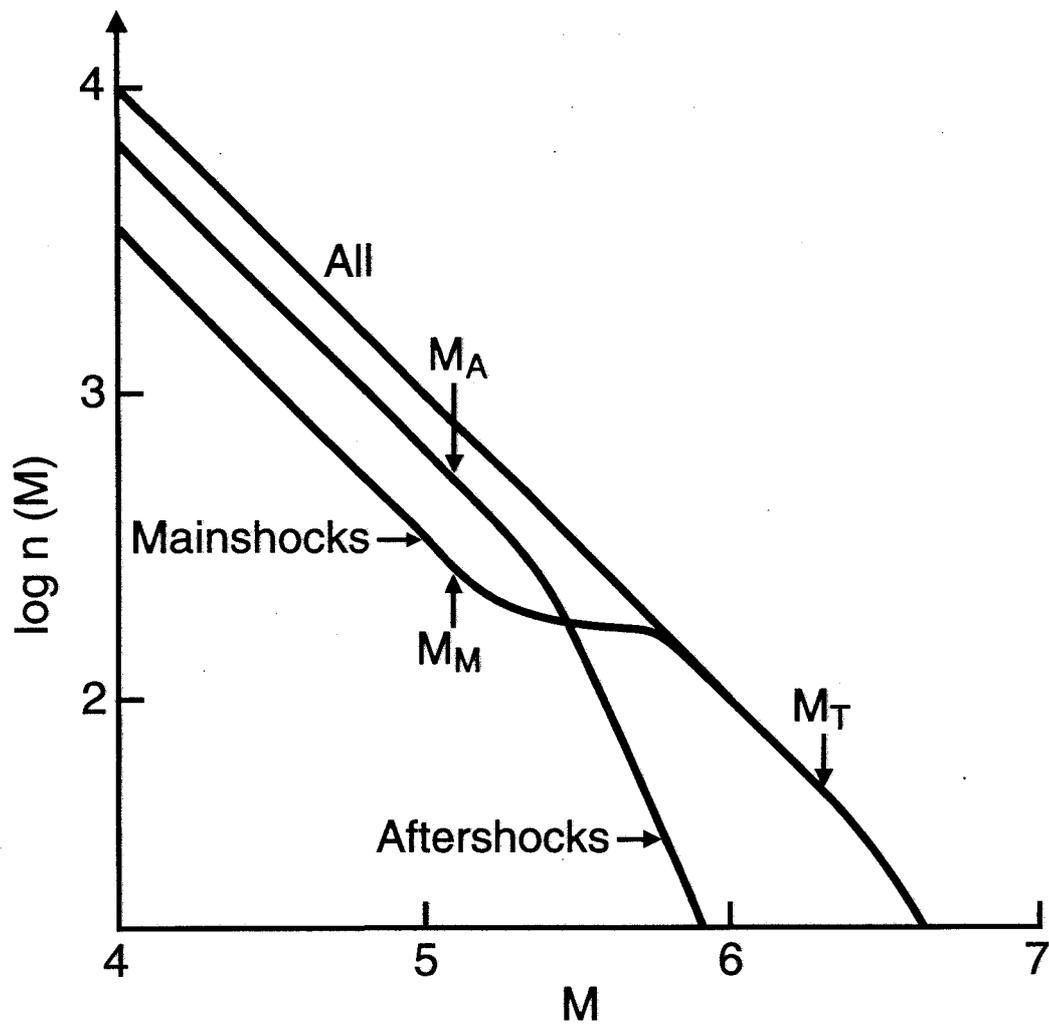
## b-values

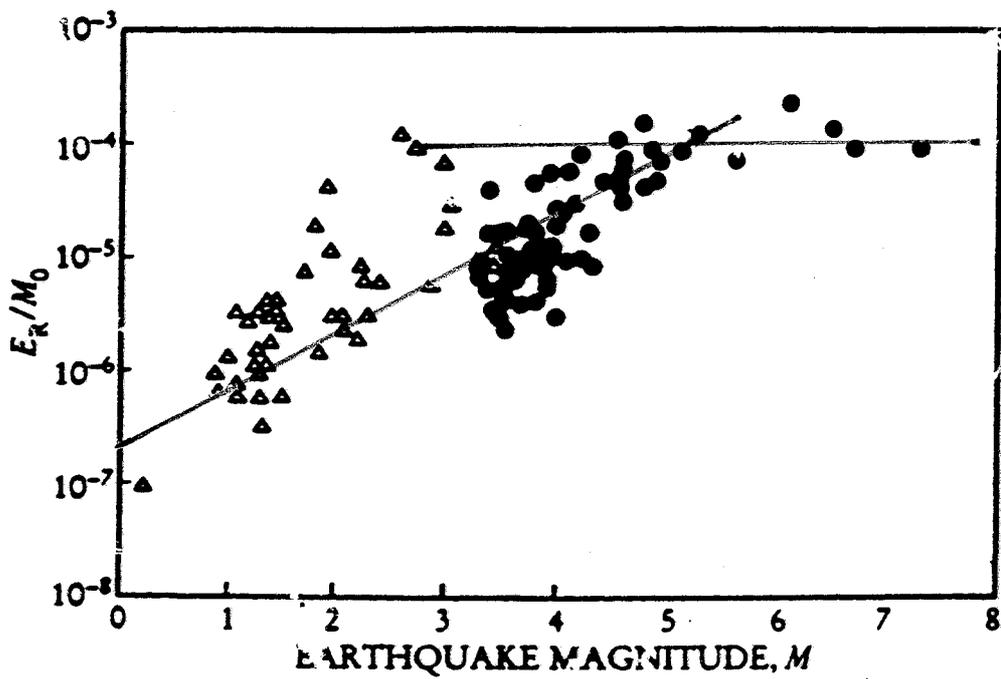
Mag. Range	Total	Clusters	Main Shocks
4.1-7.7	$0.97 \pm 0.03$		$0.87 \pm 0.05$
4.1-6.6	$0.96 \pm 0.03$	$1.01 \pm 0.04^*$	$0.86 \pm 0.05$
4.1-4.8	$0.98 \pm 0.07$	$1.01 \pm 0.08$	$0.99 \pm 0.12$
4.9-7.7	$0.82 \pm 0.07$		$0.64 \pm 0.10$
4.9-6.6	$0.73 \pm 0.08$	$0.83 \pm 0.11^*$	$0.52 \pm 0.12$
4.9-5.9	$0.74 \pm 0.12$	$0.90 \pm 0.16$	$0.50 \pm 0.19$

\* Upper Mag. limit = 6.4

KNOTOFF, PNAS, 2001







For smooth, plane-faults

$$M_0 \sim L^3$$

$$E_R \sim L^3$$

suggesting  $E_R \sim L^{P \approx 3}$  for  $M < 5$ .

$$\text{if } P \approx 4, \log \frac{E_R}{M_0} \sim M/2$$

Kanamori + Brodsky, Phys. Today 2



## CONCLUSIONS

1. A large number of independent geophysical observations identify a transient, structurally heterogeneous zone of elevated compliance 2-4 km wide adjoining many major earthquake faults in California.
2. The standard elastic rebound model of deformation before a large eq. must be modified to allow for precursory accelerated strain and steady low-level seismicity in an emergent tabular compliant zone astride a major earthquake fault.
3. Three segments of the San Andreas Fault may have this precursor at this time.
4. The universality of usual scale-independent statistics arises from the universality of the properties of aftershocks, most of which are located in the compliant zone, heavily and irregularly damaged by repeated large earthquakes.
5. Model-based assertions that large earthquakes are unpredictable because of the absence of critical dimensions are not tenable.