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International Centre for Theoretical Physics



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**"IAG-IASPEI Joint Capacity Building Workshop on  
Deformation Measurements and Understanding Natural  
Hazards in Developing Countries"**

17 - 23 January 2005

**Important Earthquakes at the Contact  
Alps-Dinarides Junction**

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Department of Earth Sciences  
University of Trieste

# Important Earthquakes at the Alps-Dinarides Junction

Peter Suhadolc

*DST*



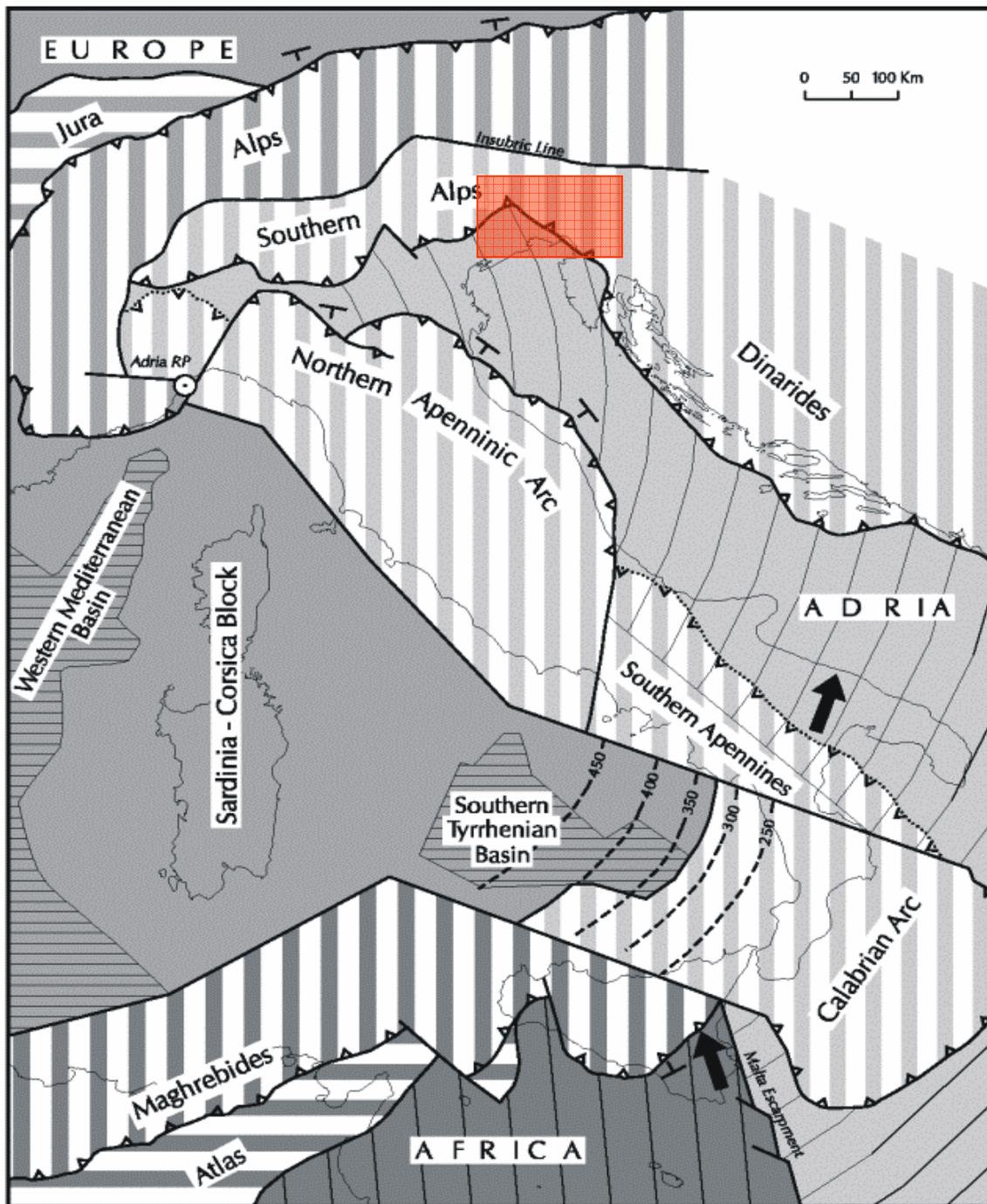
Department of Earth Sciences  
University of Trieste

# EUROPE



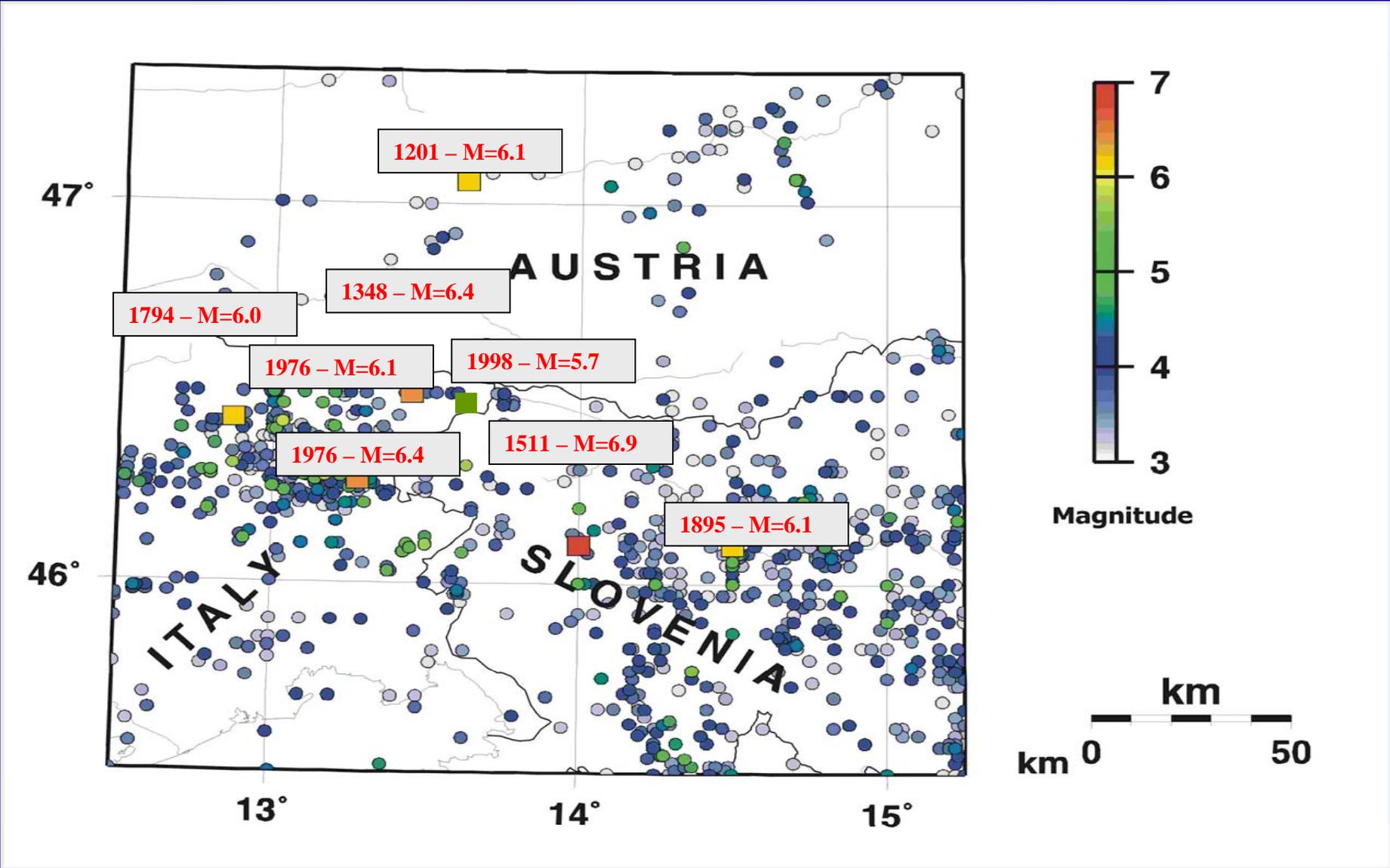
**ALPS**

**DINARIDES**



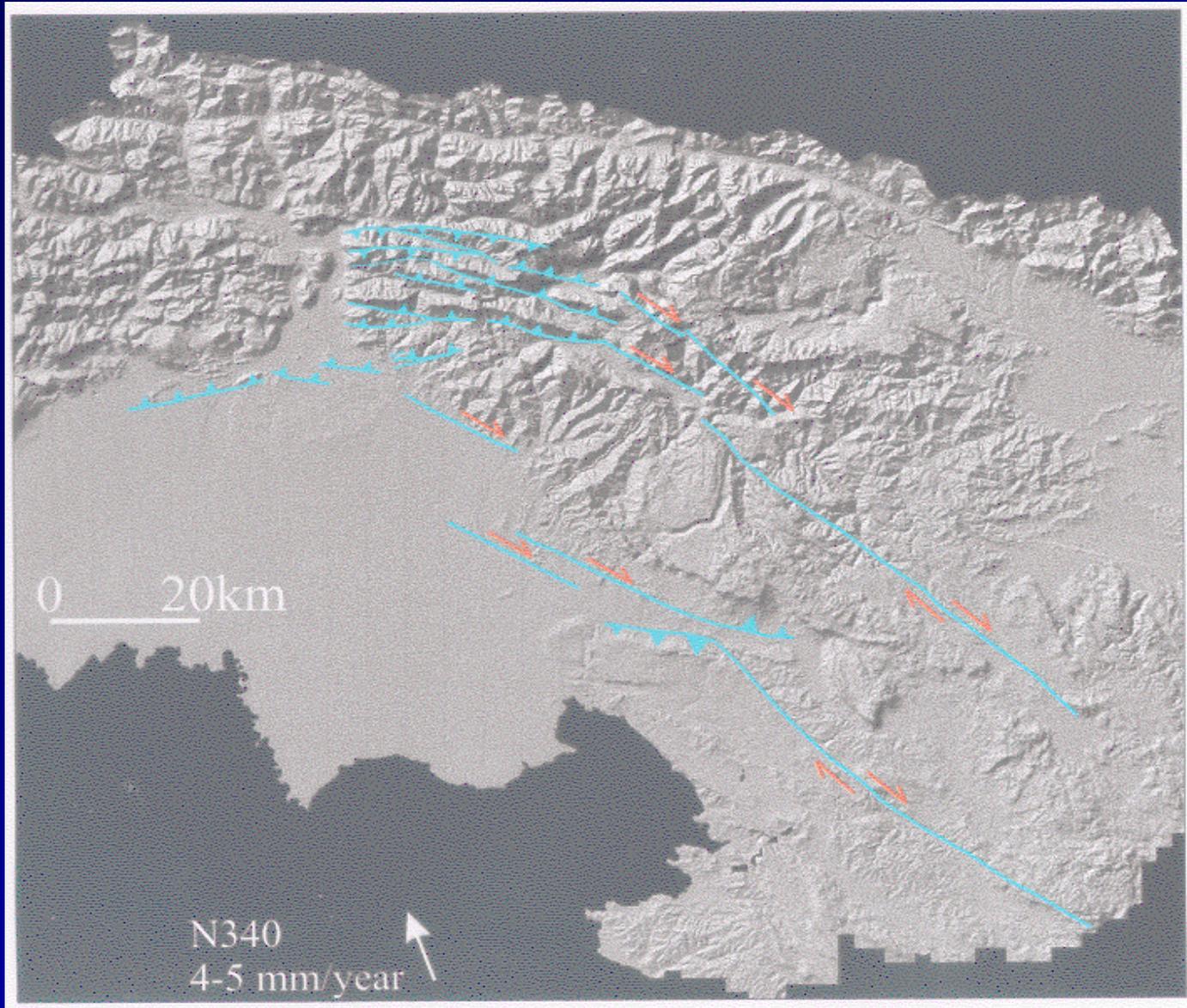
# Geodynamic Framework

# Historical seismicity



# Active faults in NE Italy and W Slovenia

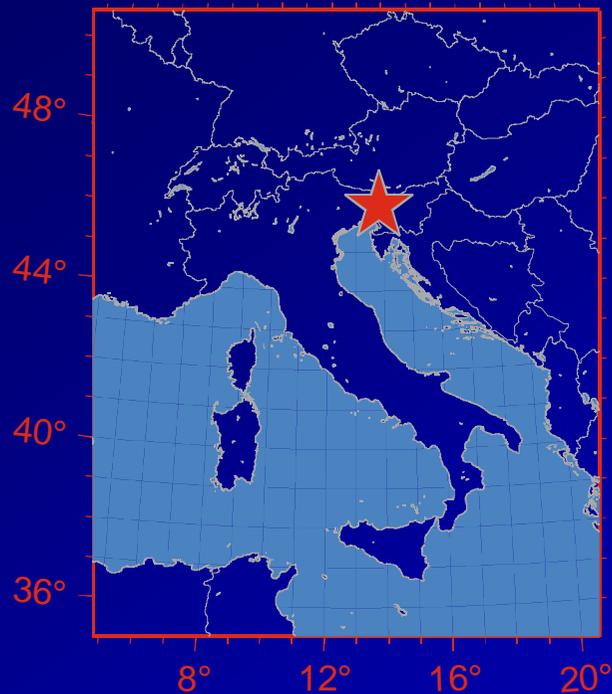
Aoudia(1999)



- **The 1511 Earthquake**

**Constraints on the Location and Mechanism  
of the 1511 Western-Slovenia Earthquake  
from Active Tectonics and Modeling of  
Macroseismic Data**

# The March 26<sup>th</sup>, 1511 Earthquake



Is the largest event occurred at the  
**Alps-Dinarides Junction**

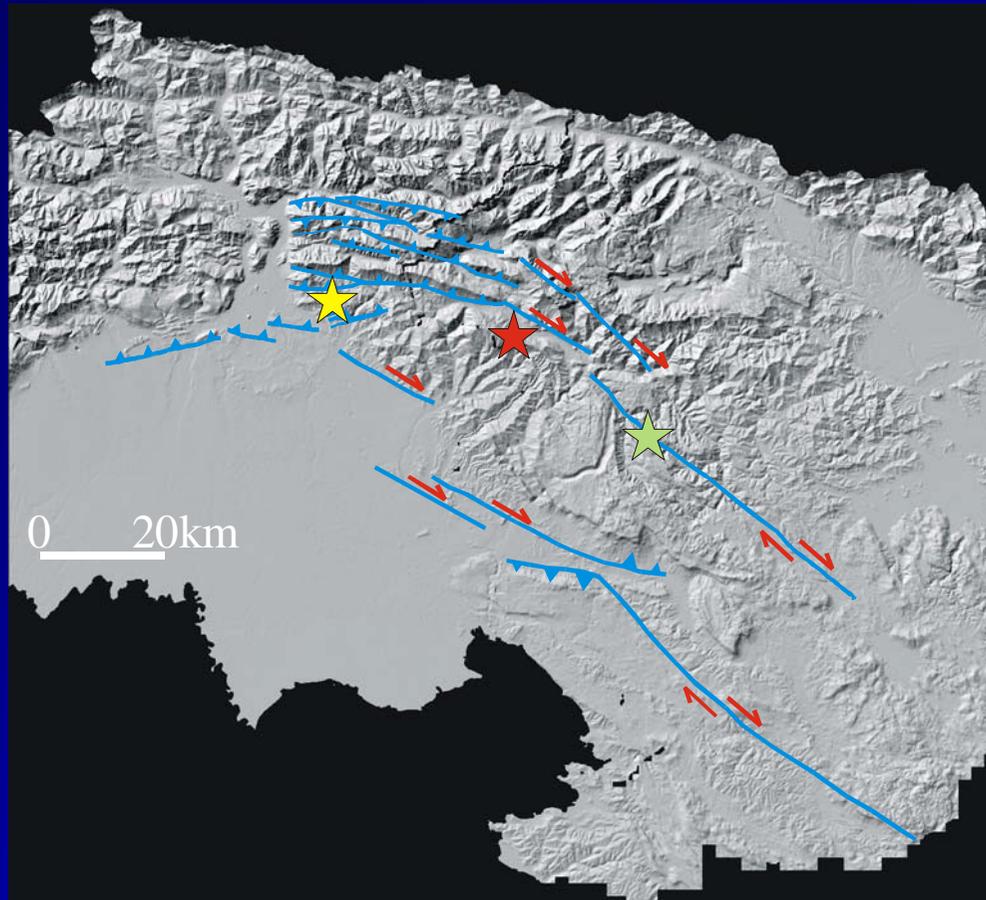
$I_{\max}$  **10** (Boschi et al., 2000; Cecic, 2000)

**Its aftershock sequence lasted until 1516**  
(Ambraseys, 1976; Ribaric, 1979)

**It killed about 12,000 people**  
(Ambraseys, 1976; Ribaric, 1979)

**No attempt so far to identify a possible causative structure**

# Single shock or two shocks?



## Ambraseys, 1976

★ h 20:15 M 6.4  
 $\phi$  13.6  $\lambda$  46.2

## Ribaric, 1979

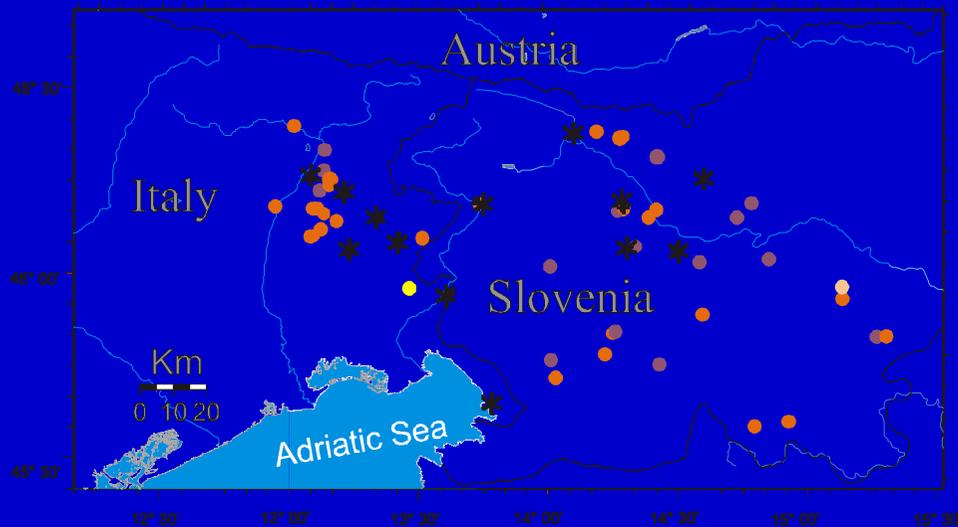
★ h 15:00 M 6.9  
 $\phi$  14.0  $\lambda$  46.1

★ h 20-20:30 M 7.0-7.2  
 $\phi$  13.4  $\lambda$  46.2

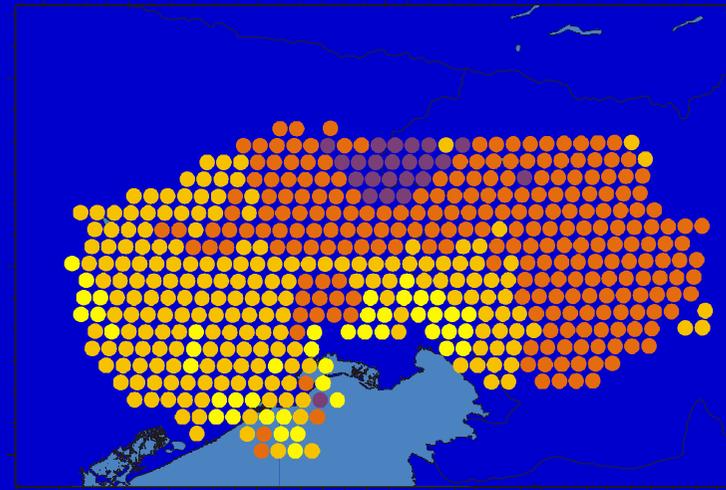
## Boschi et al., 2000

★ h 14:40 M 6.9  
 $\phi$  13.43  $\lambda$  46.20

# Intensity Database and Macroseismic Field



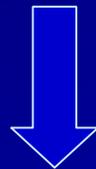
DOM4.1 (Monachesi et al., 1997)  
CFT3 (Boschi et al., 2000)  
Cecic, 2000



Macroseismic Field  
Computed by Polynomial Filtering  
(Kronrod, 2001)

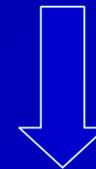
# Two Possible Scenarios

**Two-shocks  
Scenario**



**Cumulative Effect of  
a Mainshock and  
a Strong Aftershock**

**Single-Shock  
Scenario**



**A Single Event**

# Method

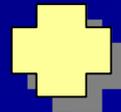
## Active Tectonics

Identification of possible causative structures



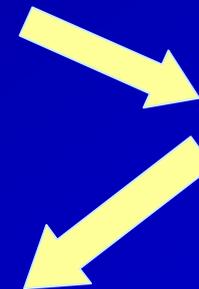
**Synthetic Seismograms (1 Hz)**

**Modal Summation  
for Extended Sources**



**Different Nucleation Points,  
Constant Rupture Propagation Models  
Uniform Seismic Moment Distribution**

(Panza, 1985; Panza and Suhadolc, 1987;  
Florsch et al., 1991, Sarao' et al., 1998;  
Panza et al., 2001)



**Maximum  
Horizontal  
Velocities**

**Misfit between Observed and Computed Intensities**

**The maximum horizontal velocities are converted to intensities by  
means of an empirical relation**

# Misfit between Observed and Computed Intensities: The Modified Databases

*Maximized Observed Intensity Database*

e.g. VII/VIII  $\longrightarrow$  VIII

*Minimized Observed Intensity Database*

e.g. VII/VIII  $\longrightarrow$  VII

Intensity	DMAX(cm)	VMAX(cm/s)	DGA(g)
V	0.1-0.5	0.5-1.0	0.005-0.01
VI	0.5-1.0	1.0-2.0	0.01-0.02
VII	1.0-2.0	2.0-4.0	0.02-0.04
VIII	2.0-3.5	4.0-8.0	0.04-0.08
IX	3.5-7.0	8.0-15.0	0.08-0.15
X	7.0-15.0	15.0-30.0	0.15-0.30
XI	15.0-30.0	30.0-60.0	0.30-0.60

(Panza et al., 2001)

# Misfit between Observed and Computed Intensities: The Parameters

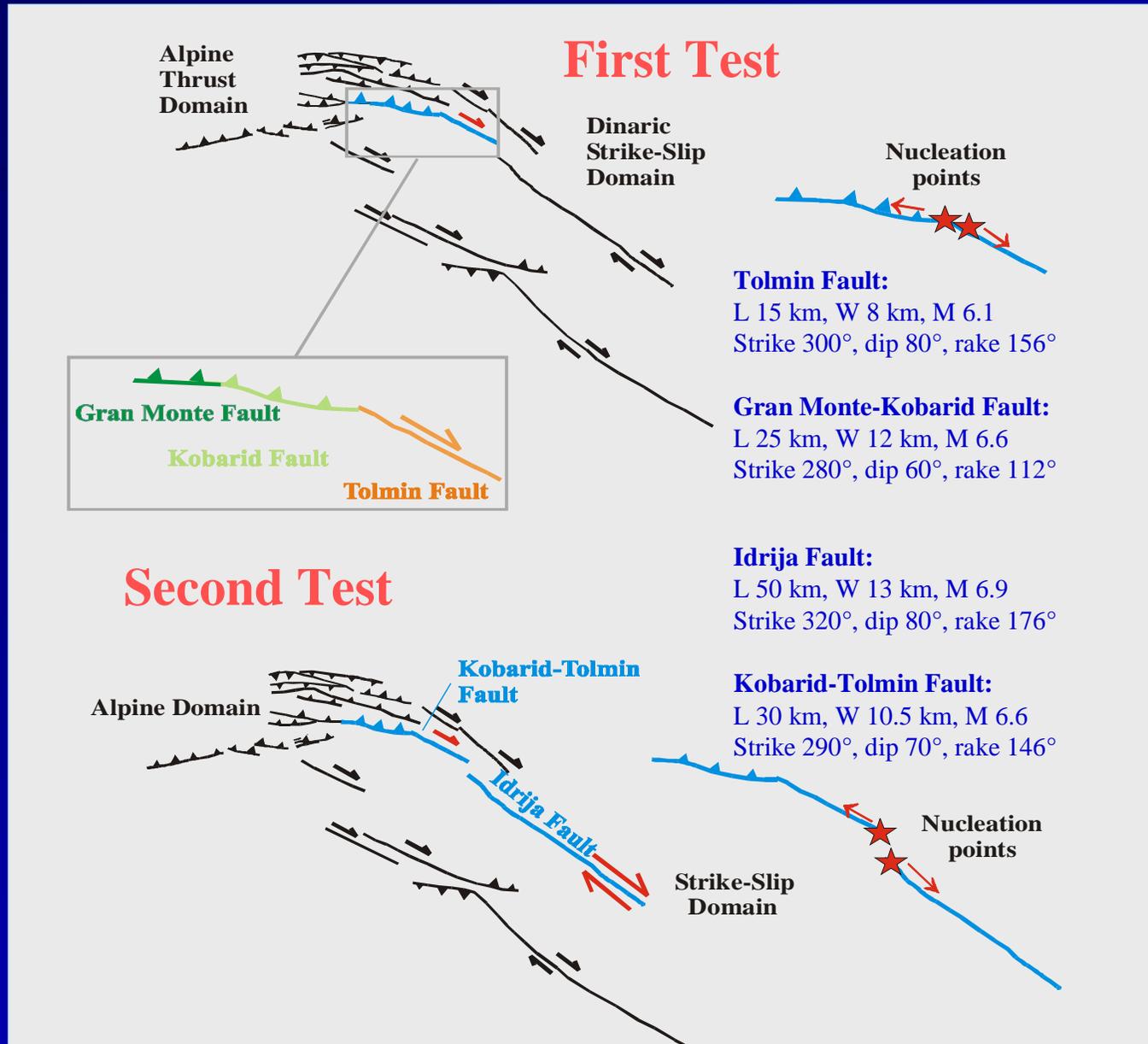
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$$d_i = |I_{OBS} - I_{CALC}|$$

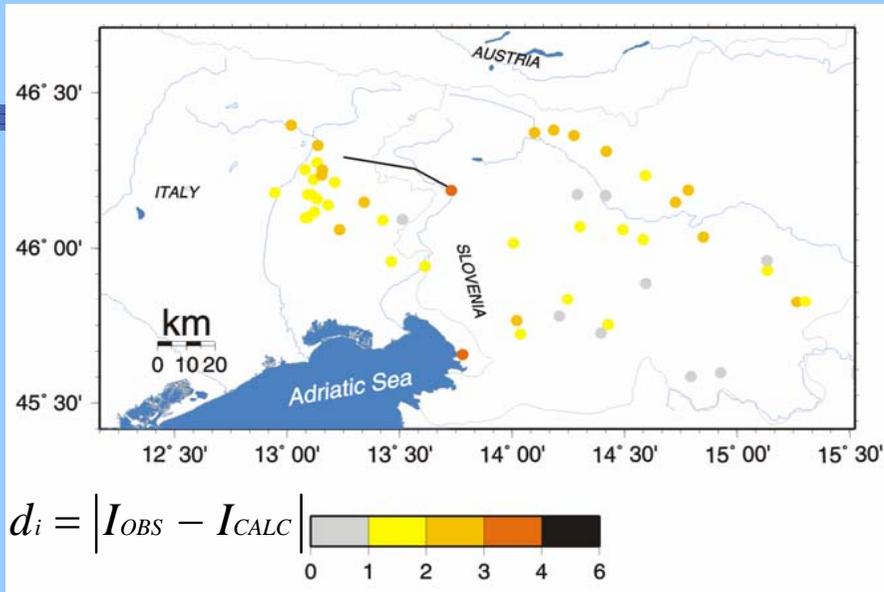
$$\bar{d} = \frac{\sum d_i}{N} \longrightarrow \text{Rounded to Integer Value}$$

$$d_{tot} = \sum d_i$$

# Two-Shocks Scenario: Input Fault Models



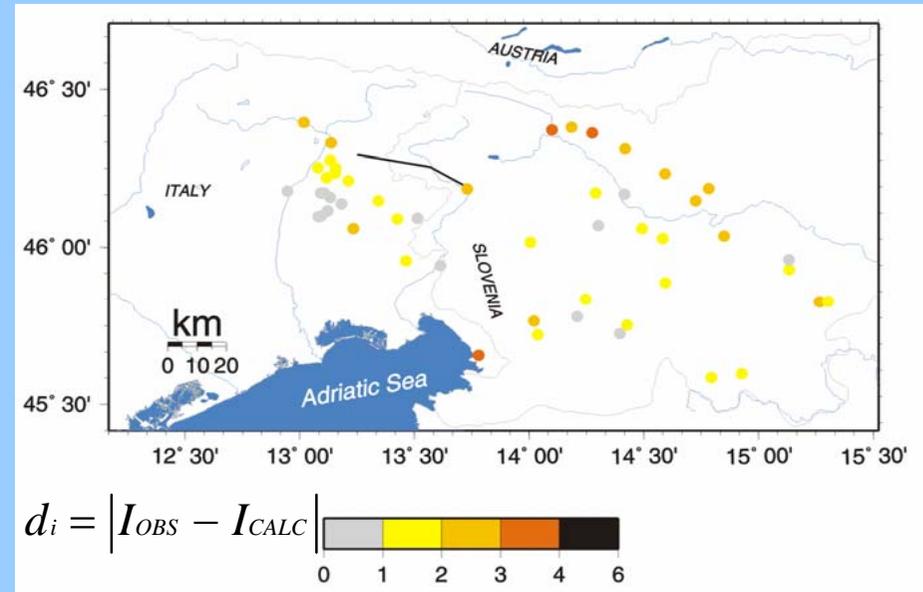
# Two-Shocks Scenario: Results 1<sup>st</sup> Test



**Minimized Observed  
Intensity Database:**

$$\bar{d} = 1 \quad d_{tot} = 61$$

$$d_i = 0 \longrightarrow 9 \text{ sites}$$

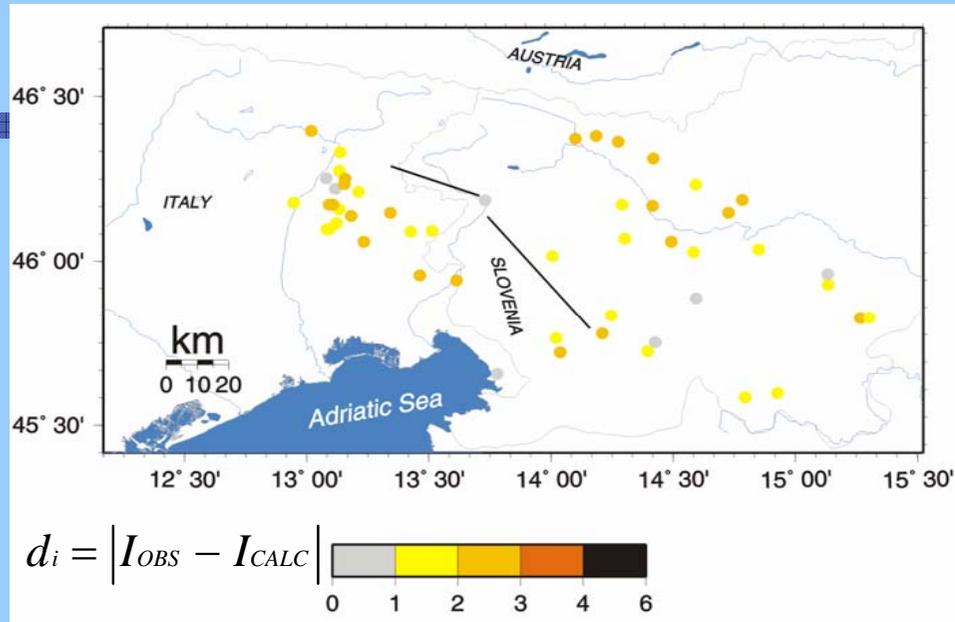


**Maximized Observed  
Intensity Database:**

$$\bar{d} = 1 \quad d_{tot} = 54$$

$$d_i = 0 \longrightarrow 15 \text{ sites}$$

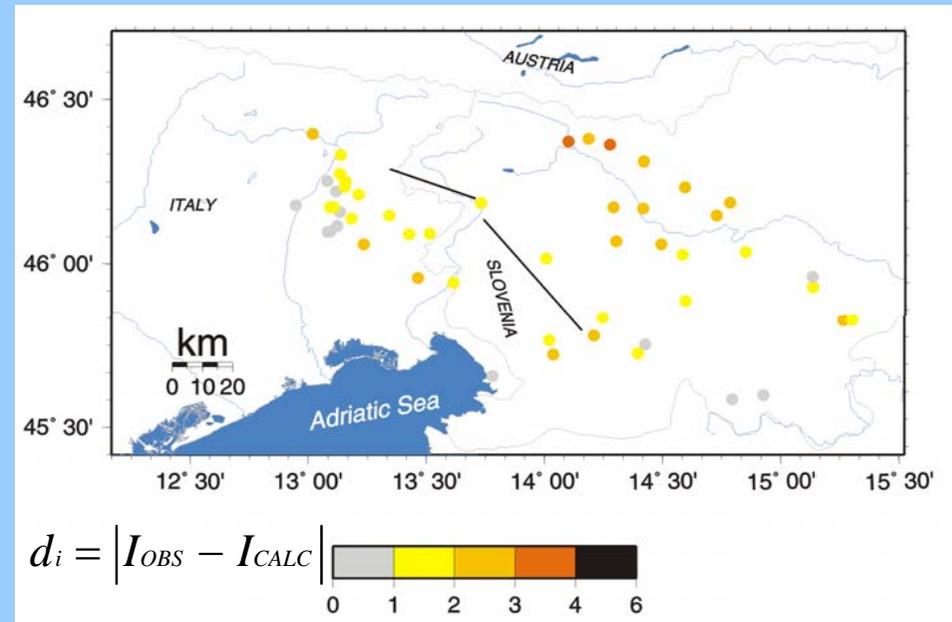
# Two-Shocks Scenario: Results 2<sup>nd</sup> Test



**Minimized Observed  
Intensity Database:**

$$\bar{d} = 1 \quad d_{tot} = 65$$

$$d_i = 0 \longrightarrow 7 \text{ sites}$$



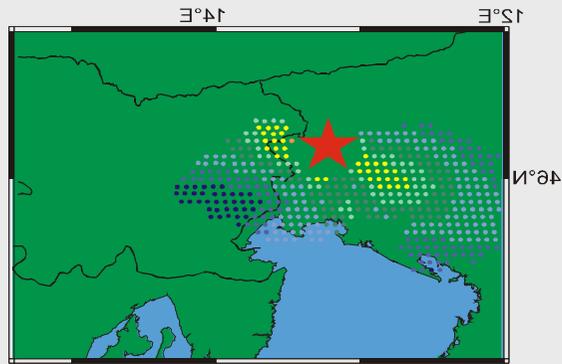
**Maximized Observed  
Intensity Database:**

$$\bar{d} = 1 \quad d_{tot} = 58$$

$$d_i = 0 \longrightarrow 12 \text{ sites}$$

# Single Shock Scenario

## Maximum Horizontal Acceleration Field (Point source 0.1Hz) vs Observed Macroseismic Field, for 2 Source Mechanisms



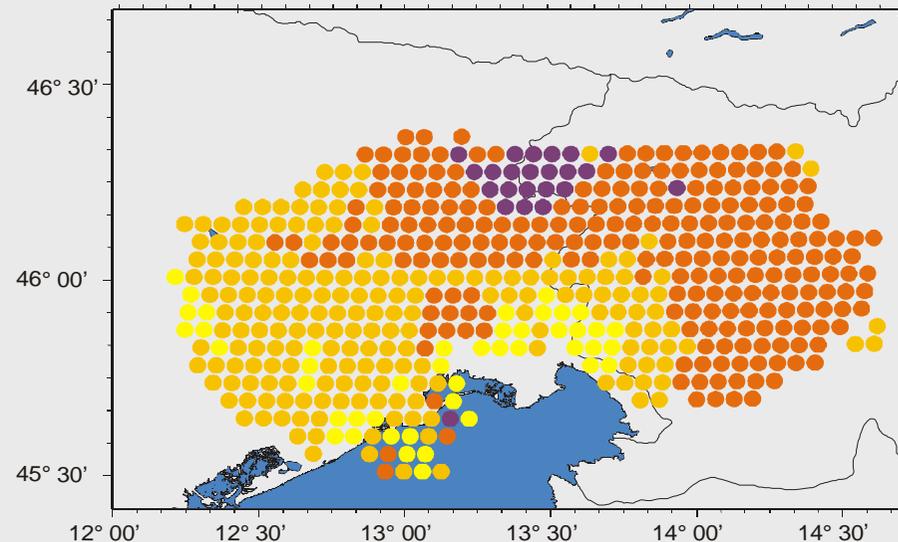
### Thrust

$\theta$  288°  
 $\delta$  29°  
 $\lambda$  112°



### Strike-slip

$\theta$  320°  
 $\delta$  80°  
 $\lambda$  180°

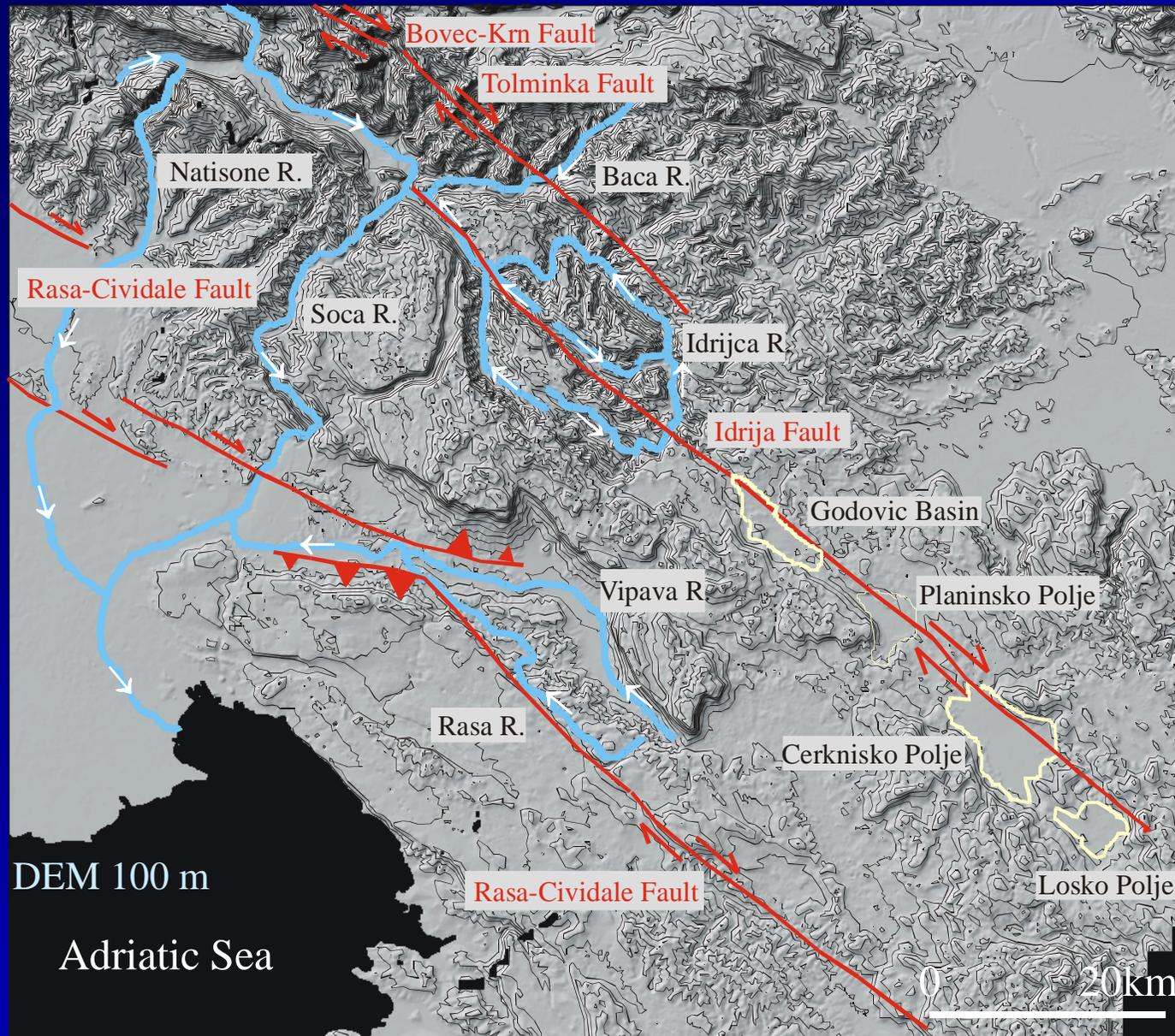


### Macroseismic Field

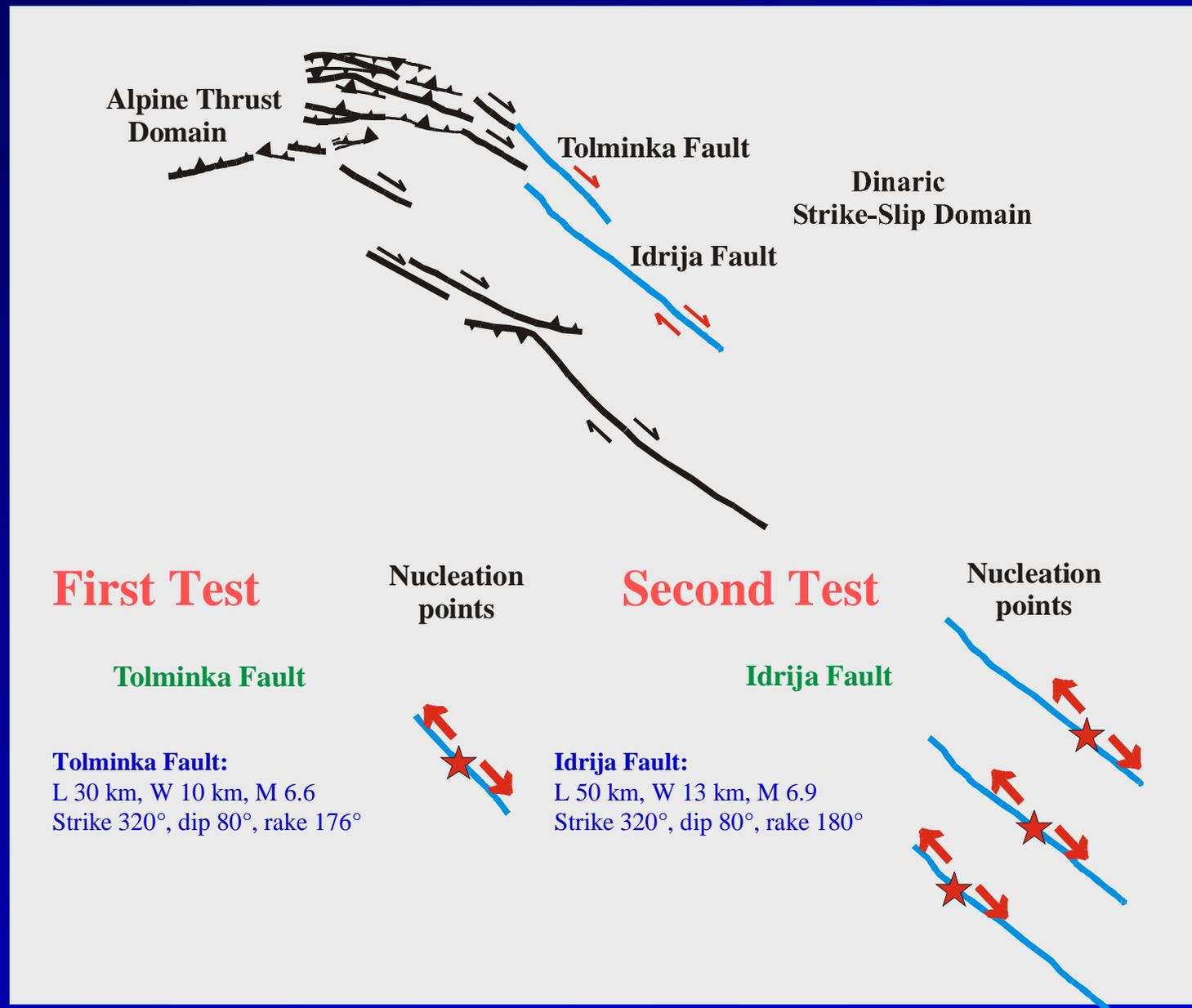
(Kronrod, 2001)

0.0 - 0.3	0.1 >
0.3 - 0.4	0.1 - 0.12
0.4 <	0.12 - 0.15
0.5	0.15 - 0.2

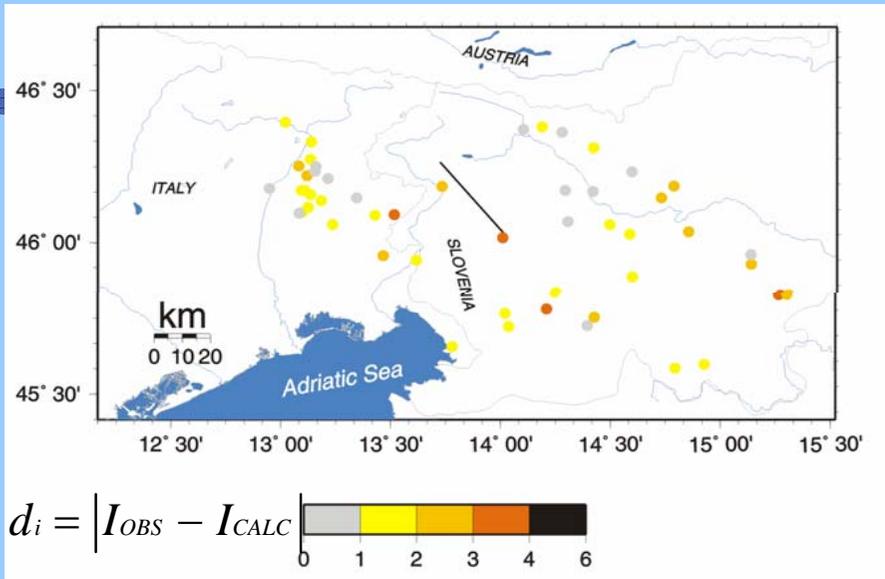
# The Idrija Strike-slip System



# Single Shock Scenario: Input Fault Models



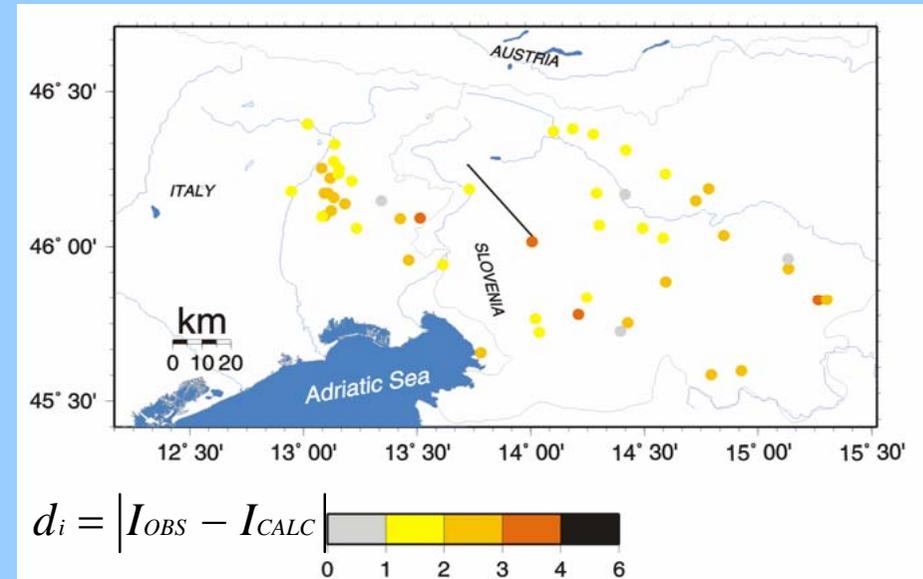
# Single Shock Scenario: Results 1<sup>st</sup> Test



**Minimized Observed  
Intensity Database:**

$$\bar{d} = 1 \quad d_{tot} = 55$$

$$d_i = 0 \quad \longrightarrow \quad 14 \text{ sites}$$

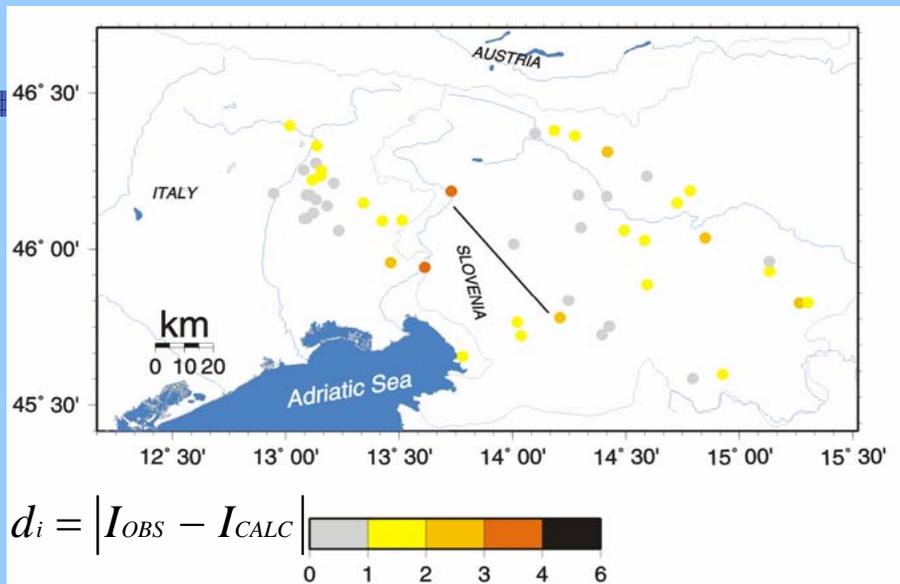


**Maximized Observed  
Intensity Database:**

$$\bar{d} = 1 \quad d_{tot} = 75$$

$$d_i = 0 \quad \longrightarrow \quad 4 \text{ sites}$$

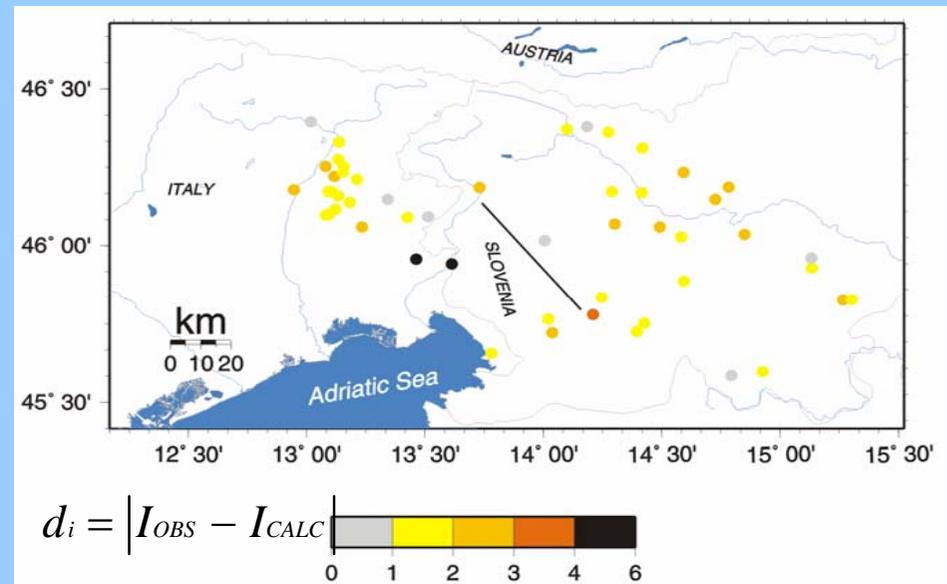
# Single Shock Scenario: Results 2<sup>nd</sup> Test



**Minimized Observed  
Intensity Database:**

$$\bar{d} = 1 \quad d_{tot} = 37$$

$$d_i = 0 \longrightarrow 23 \text{ sites}$$



**Maximized Observed  
Intensity Database:**

$$\bar{d} = 1 \quad d_{tot} = 49$$

$$d_i = 0 \longrightarrow 13 \text{ sites}$$

# Discussion

## Misfit between Observed and Computed Intensities

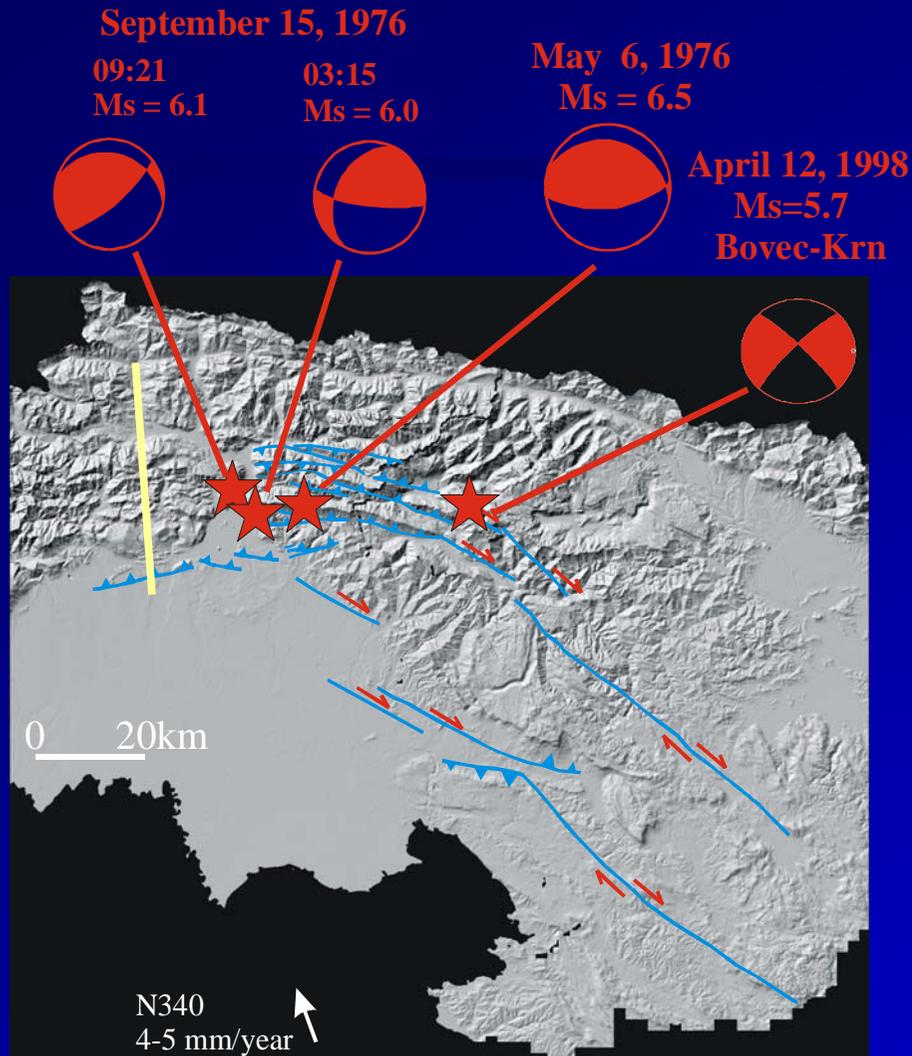
		$\bar{d}$	$d_{tot}$	$d = 0$
<b>2-Shocks Scenario</b>	<b>Min.</b>	1	61	9
<b>First Test</b>	<b>Max.</b>	1	54	15
<b>2-Shocks Scenario</b>	<b>Min.</b>	1	65	7
<b>Second Test</b>	<b>Max.</b>	1	58	12
<b>1-Shock Scenario</b>	<b>Min.</b>	1	55	14
<b>First Test</b>	<b>Max.</b>	1	75	4
<b>1-Shock Scenario</b>	<b>Min.</b>	1	37	23
<b>Second Test</b>	<b>Max.</b>	1	49	13

# Conclusions

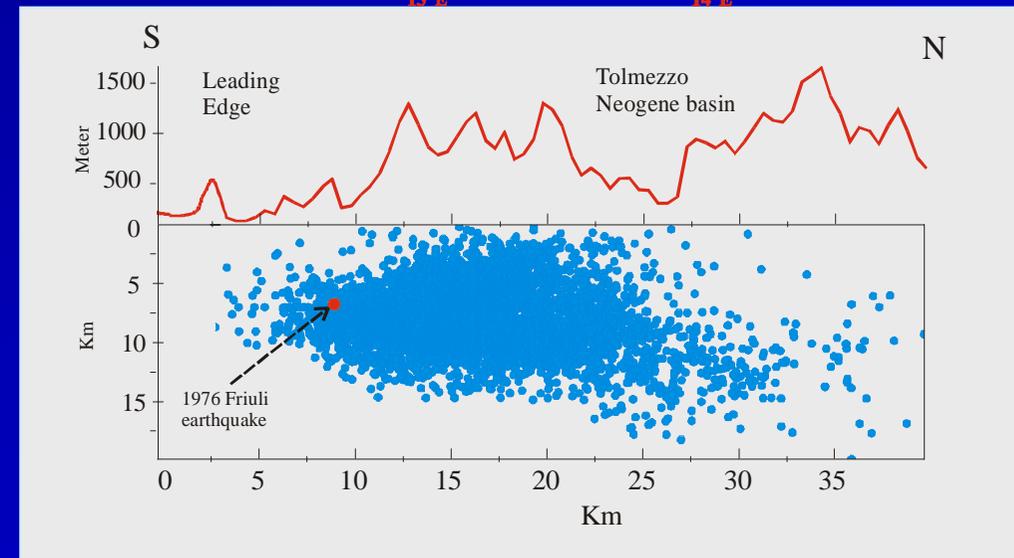
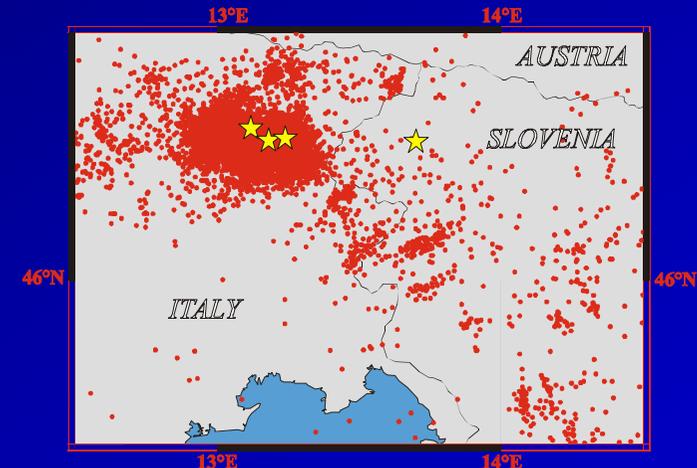
- The best misfit between theoretical results and observed data is obtained for a **single shock** with a **strike-slip** mechanism.
- The possible causative structure is the **Idrija** right-lateral strike-slip fault.

# Forward modeling of the Friuli 1976 (NE Italy) event

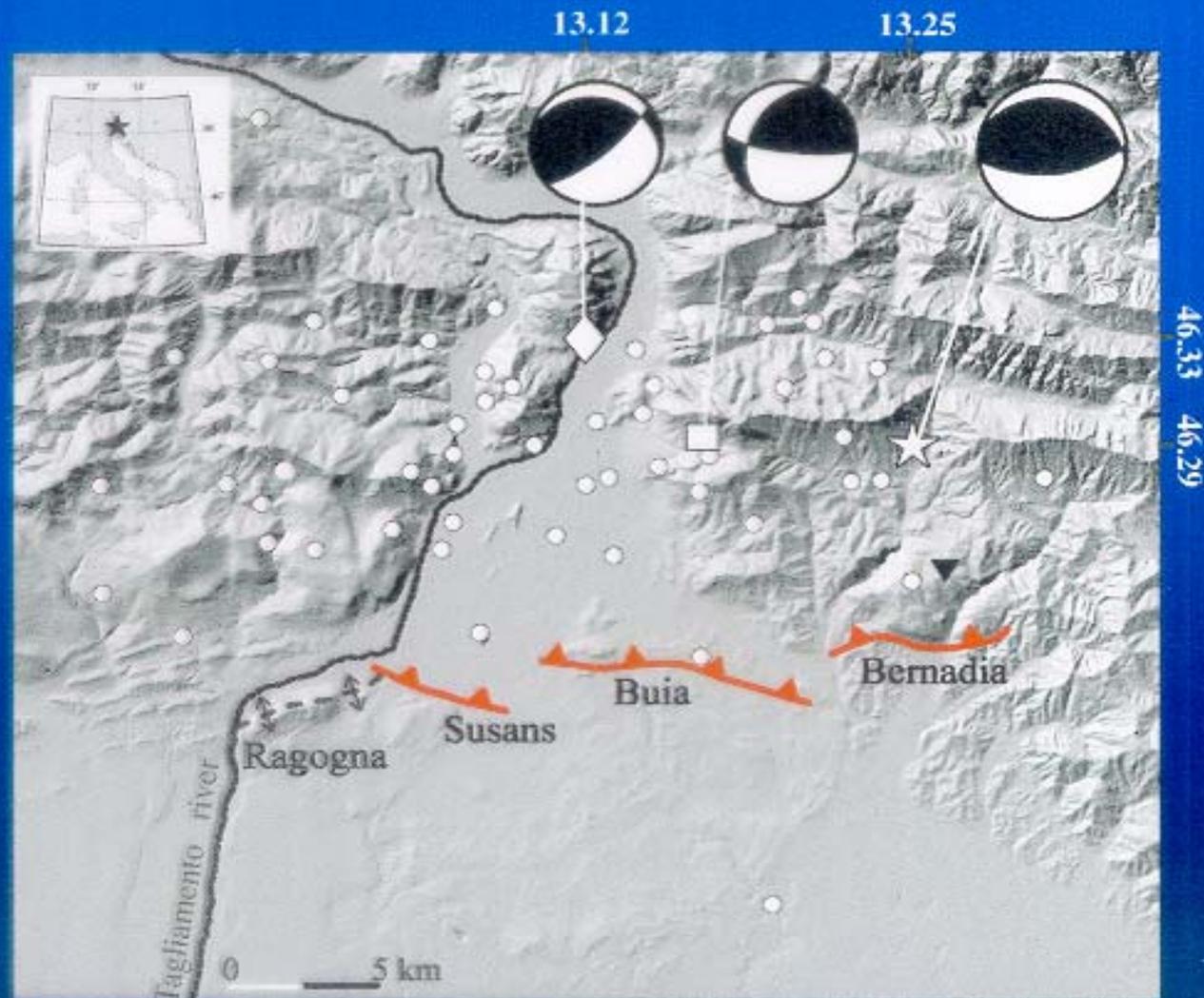
# Active deformation and recent seismicity



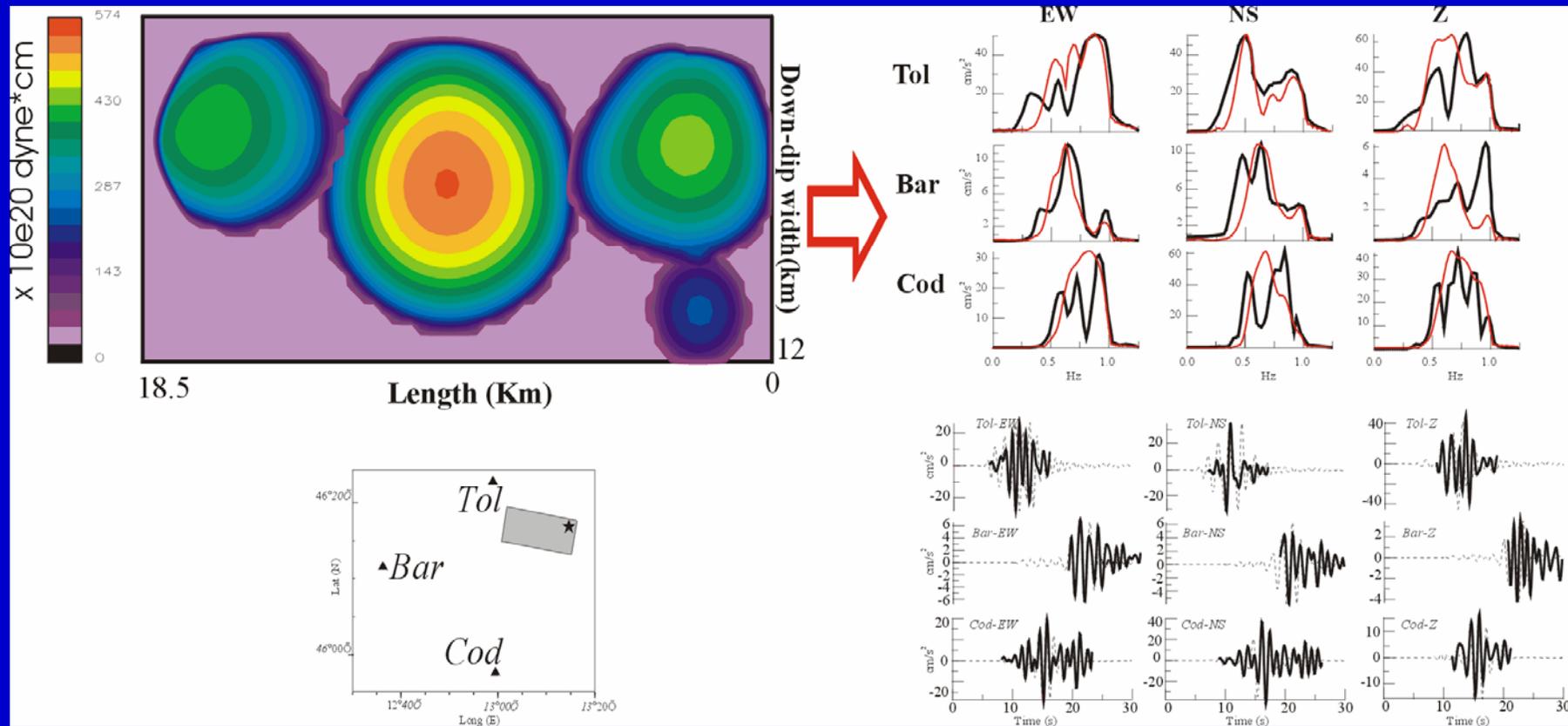
Microseismicity 1977-1987 (Renner, 1995)



# The 1976 Friuli thrust fault and related earthquake sequence

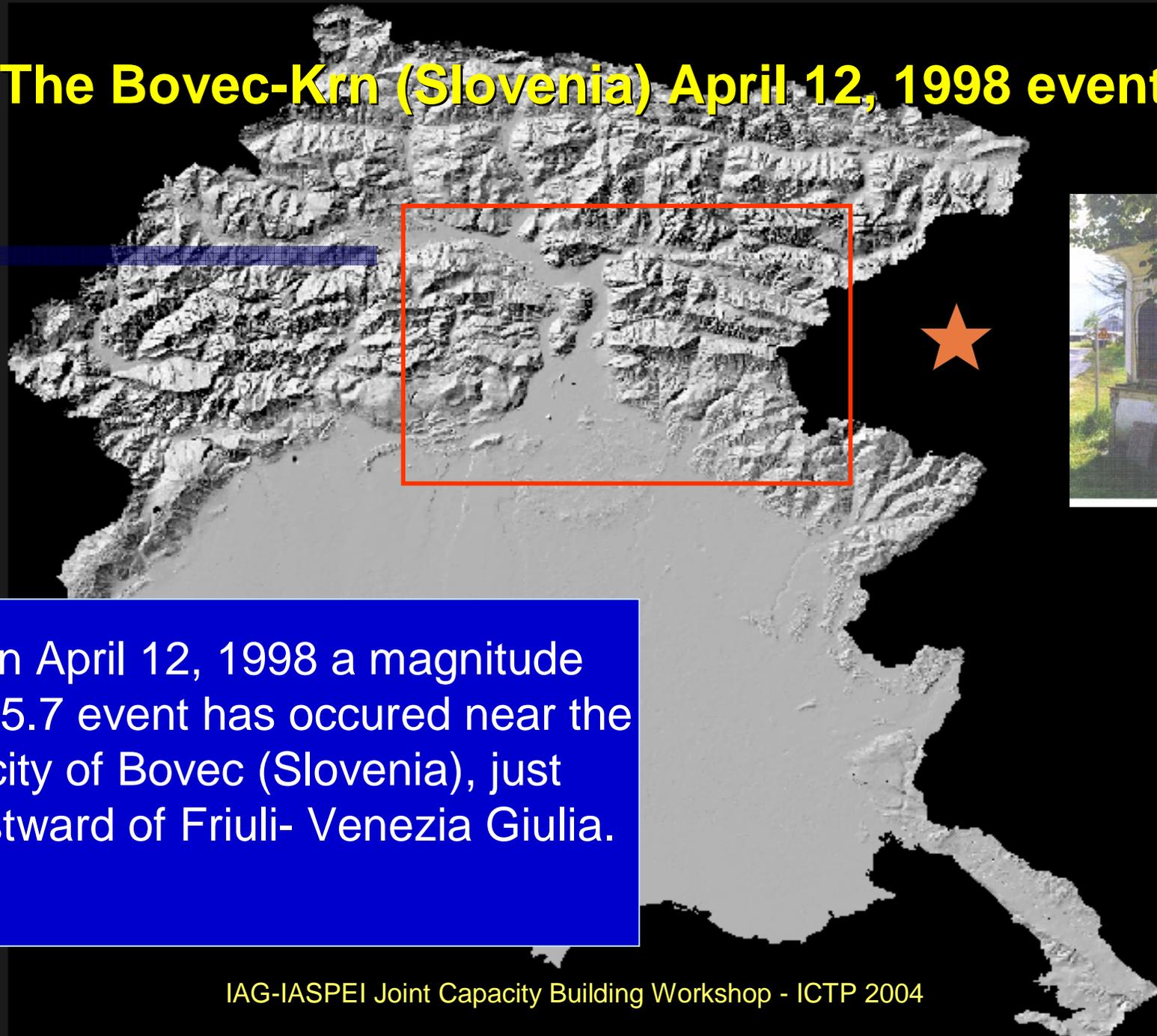


# The 1976 Friuli Thrust-faulting Earthquake, Ms 6.5



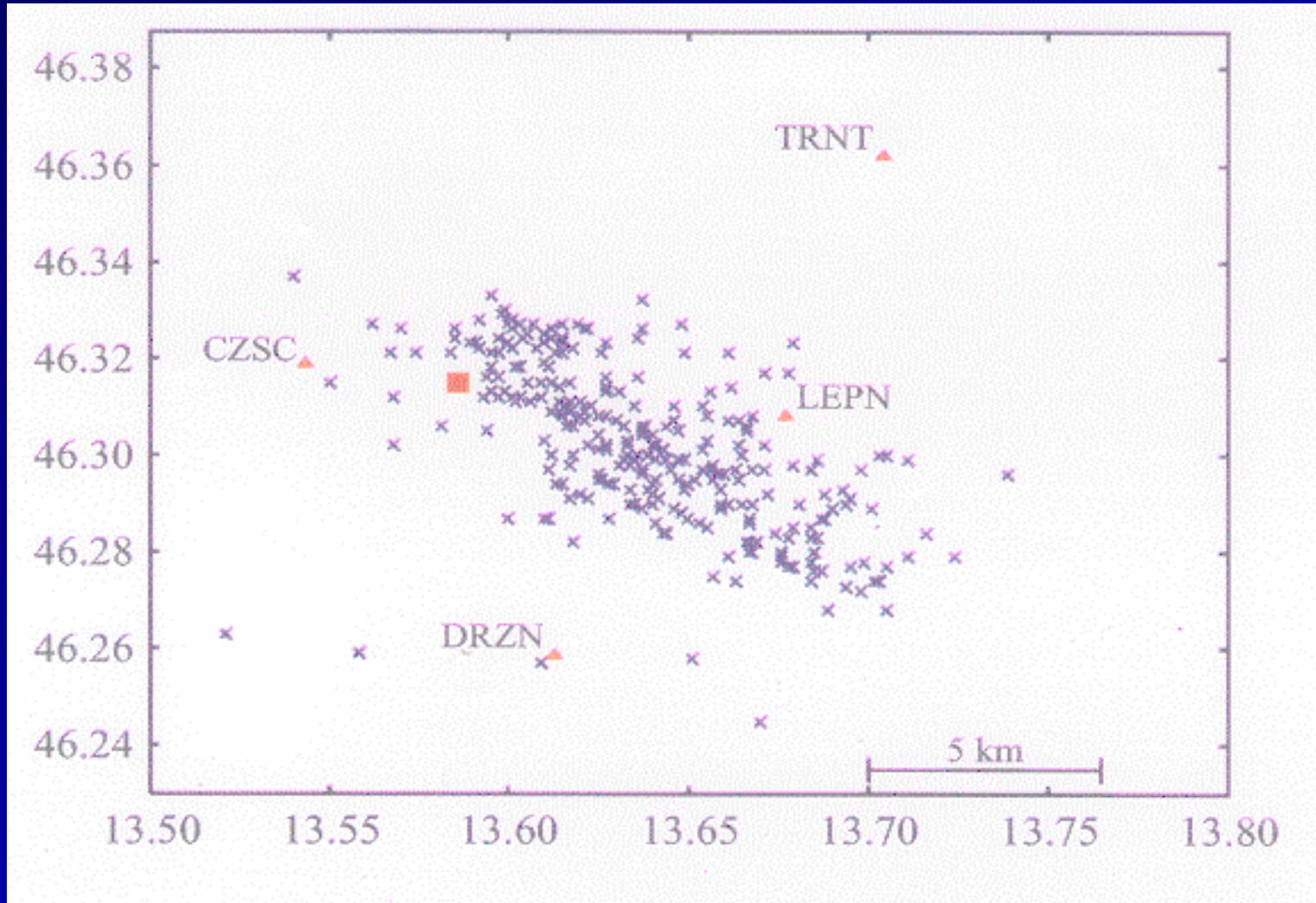
# Inversion of the Bovec 1998 (W Slovenia) event

## The Bovec-Krn (Slovenia) April 12, 1998 event

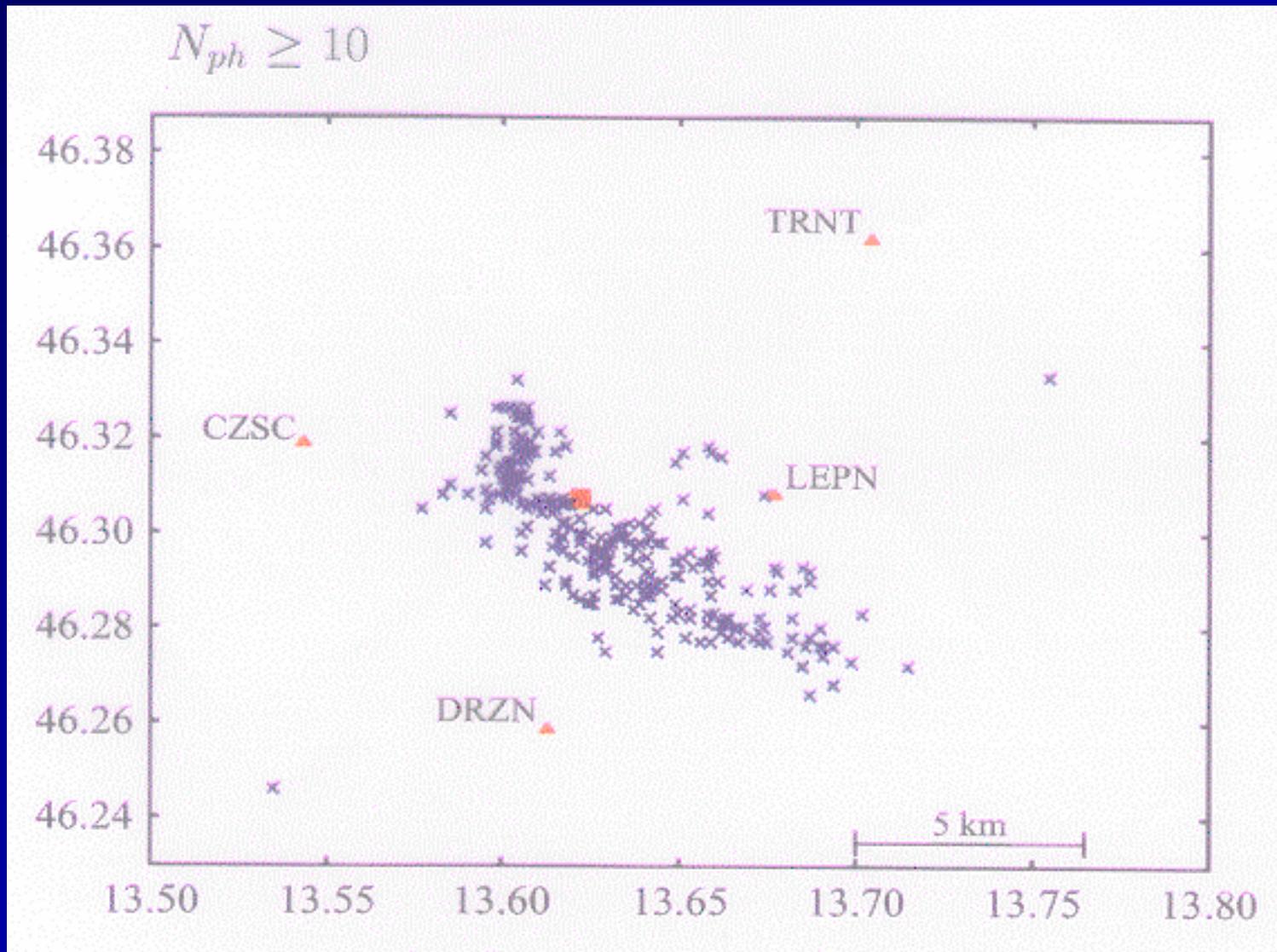


On April 12, 1998 a magnitude  $M_s=5.7$  event has occurred near the city of Bovec (Slovenia), just eastward of Friuli- Venezia Giulia.

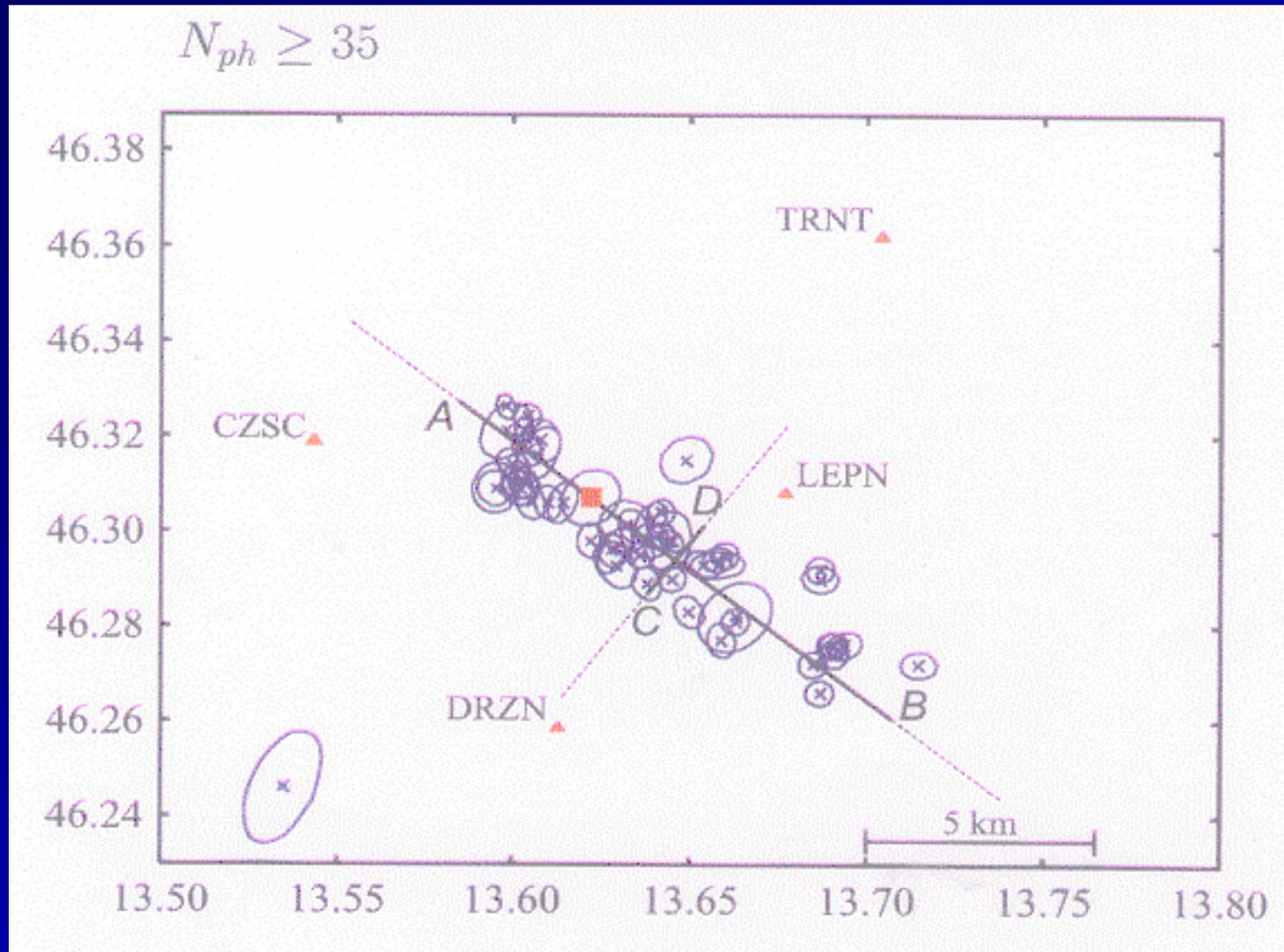
# Bovec 1998 - Locations



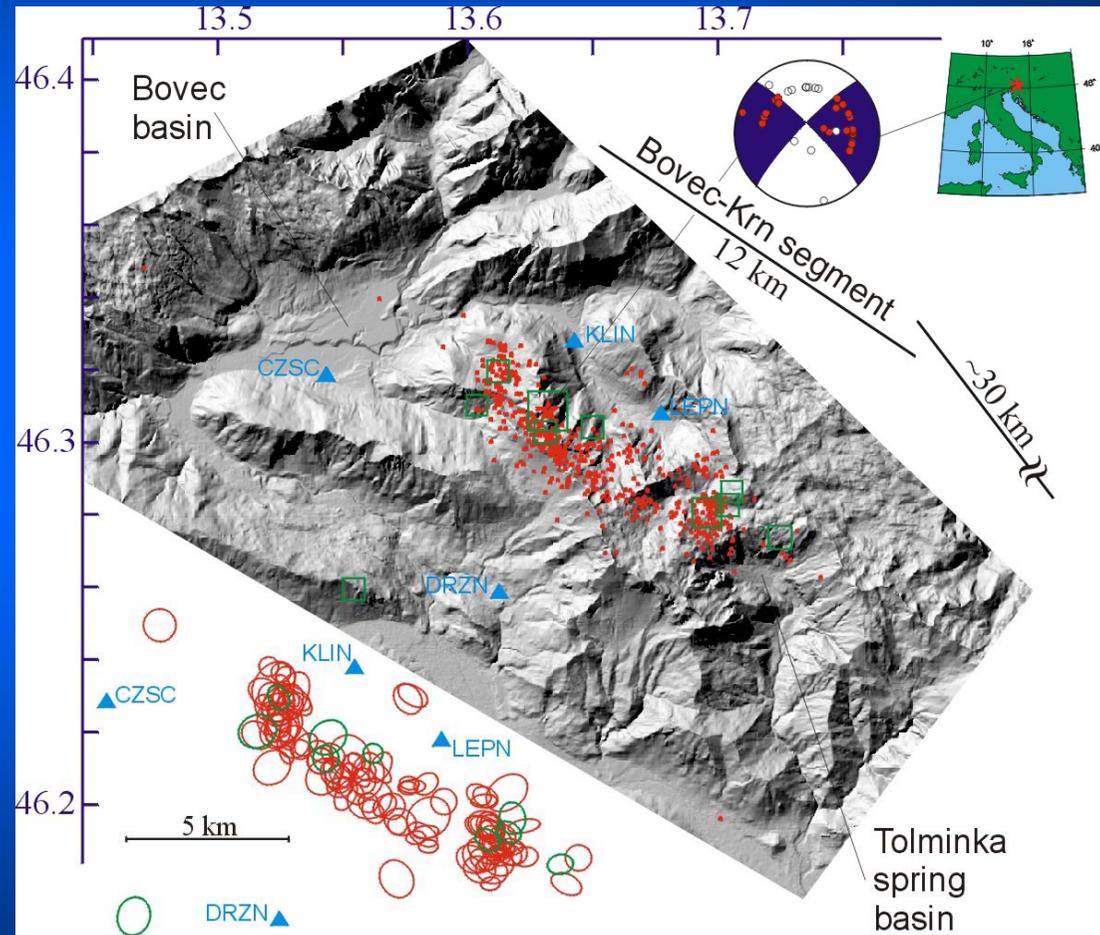
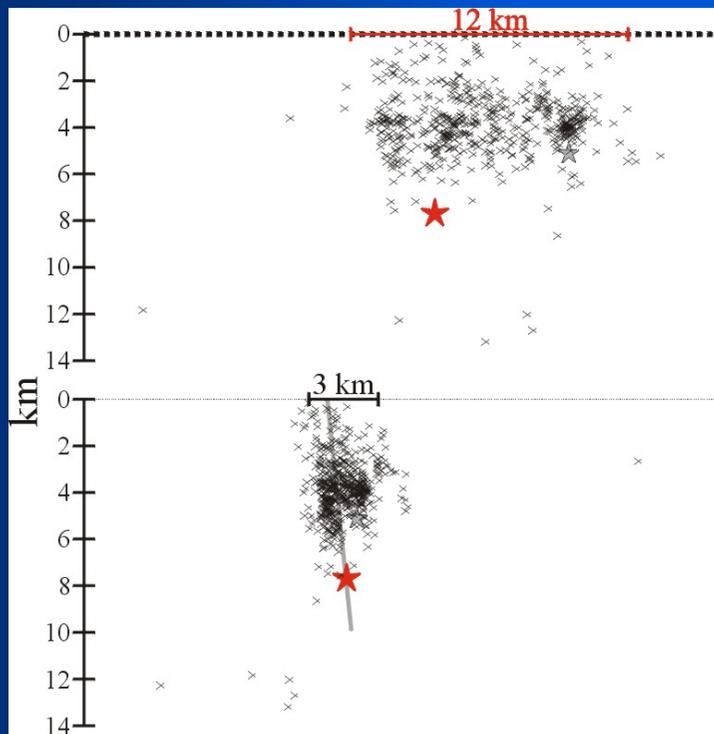
# Bovec 1998 - Relocations



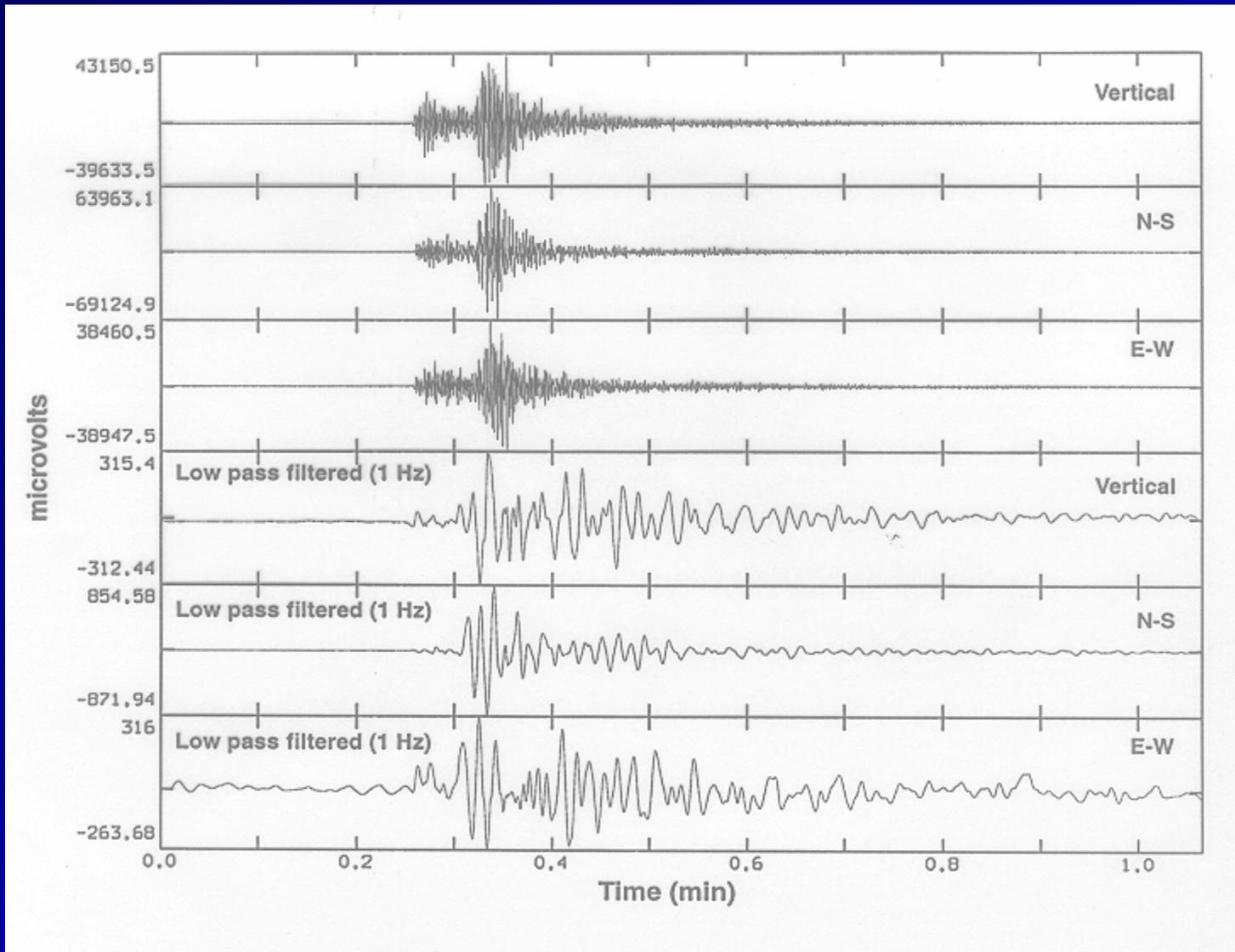
# Bovec 1998 - Relocation errors



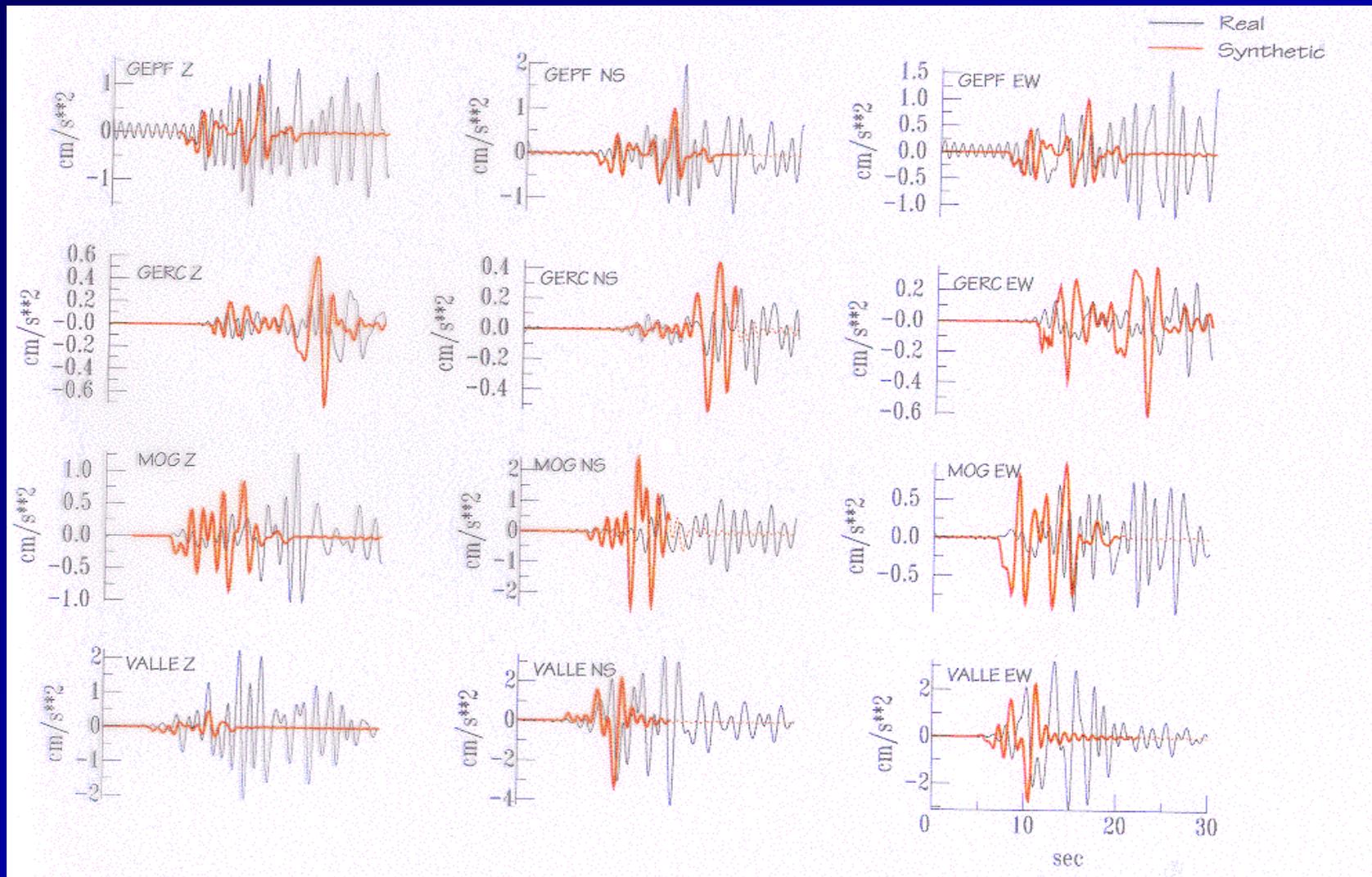
# The 1998 Bovec earthquake sequence



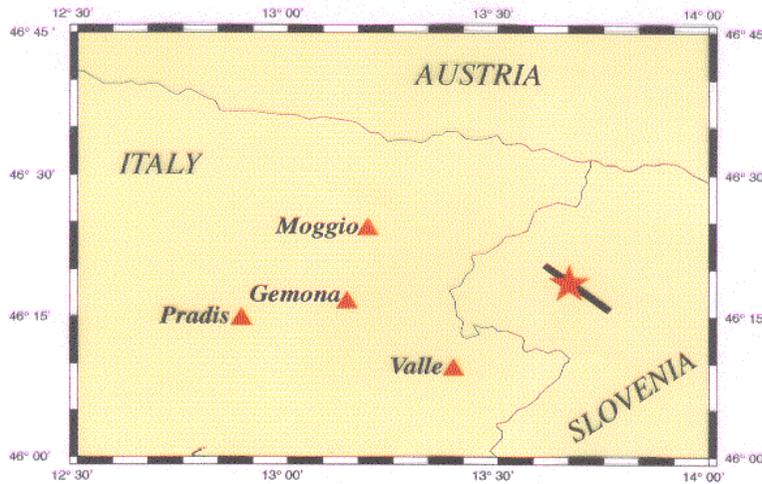
# Filtering of data - max freq 1 Hz



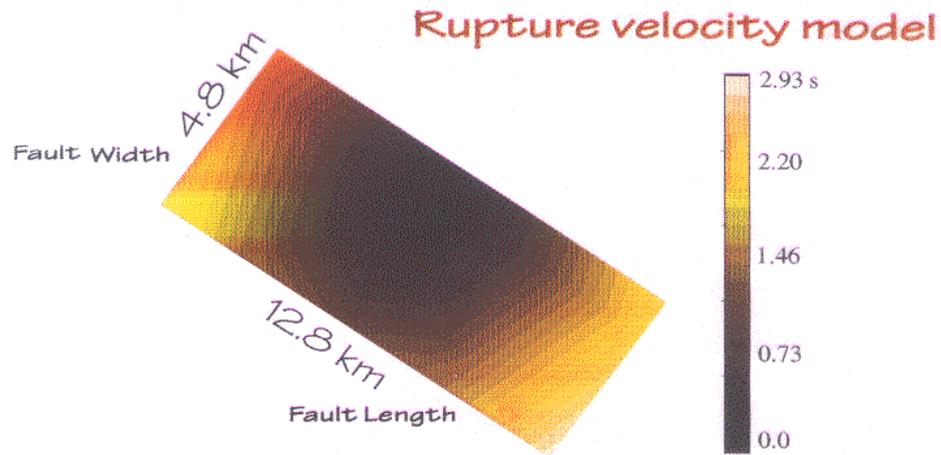
# Which portion to invert?



# 1 - Fault parameters

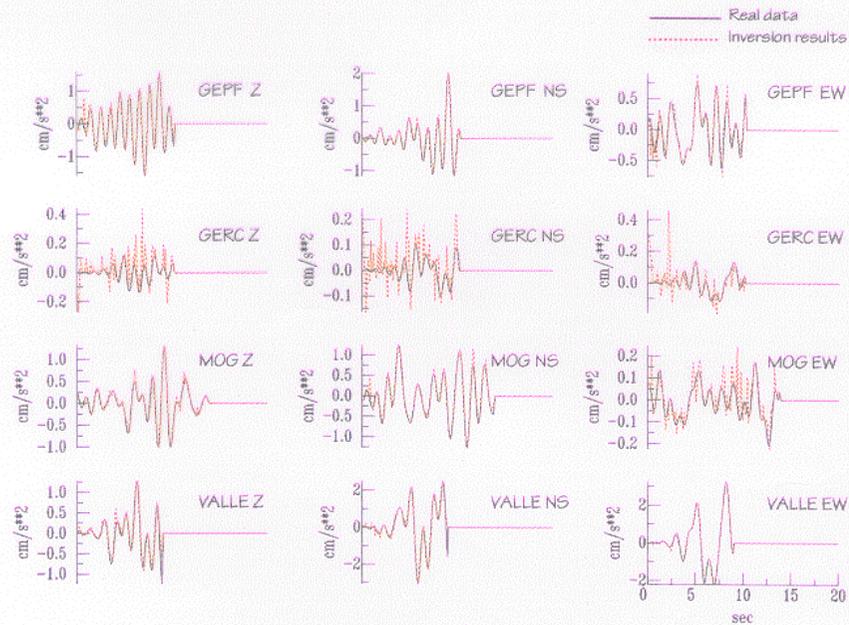


Hypocenter :  $46^{\circ}.31 - 13^{\circ}.67$  Depth: 9.0 km  
Top of the fault depth: 4.5 km  
Strike:  $313^{\circ}$  Dip:  $82^{\circ}$  Rake:  $178^{\circ}$



# Model 1

# 1 - INVERSION RESULTS



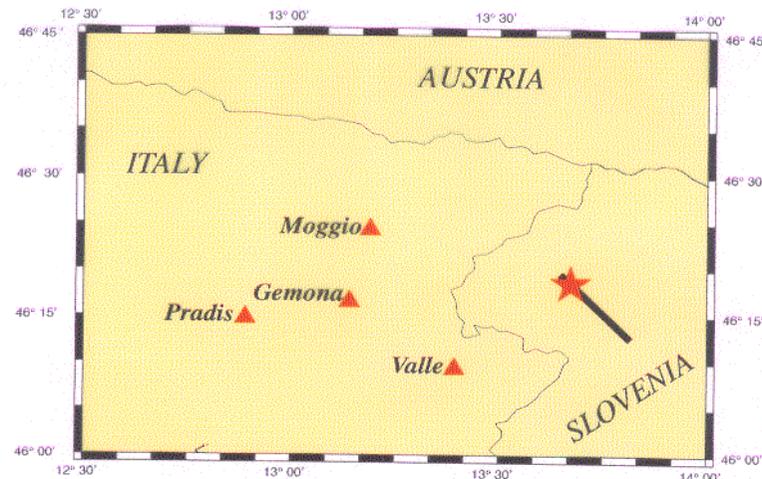
## Total moment distribution



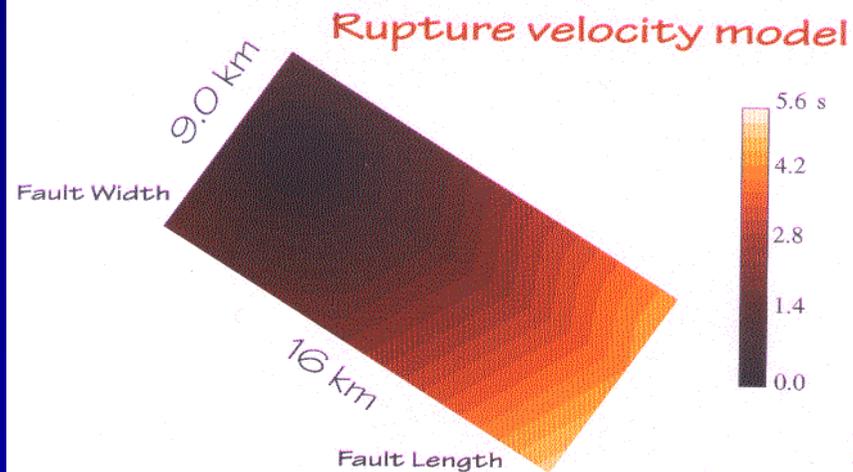
$M_0 = 5.4 \times 10^{24}$  dyne\*cm

# Model 1

## 2 - Fault parameters

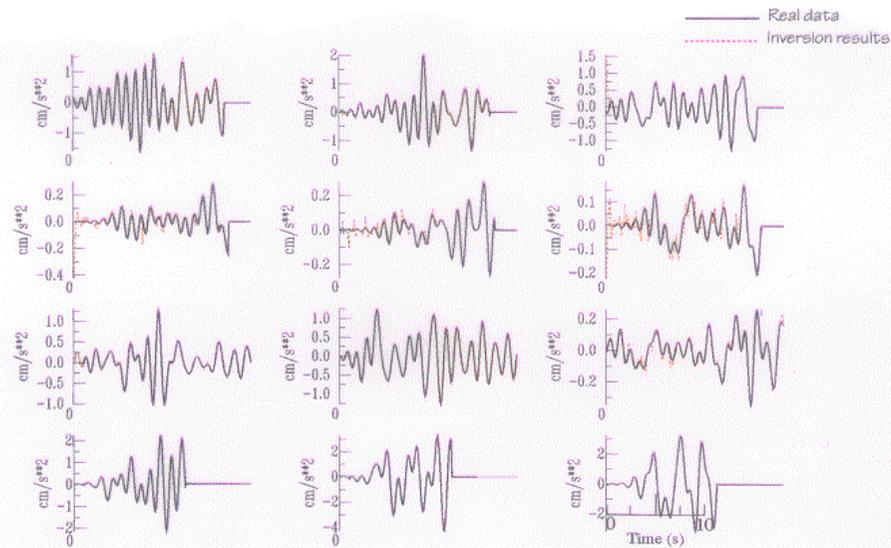


Hypocenter :  $46^{\circ}.31 - 13^{\circ}.67$  Depth: 11.0 km  
Top of the fault depth: 4.5 km  
Strike:  $313^{\circ}$  Dip:  $82^{\circ}$  Rake:  $178^{\circ}$

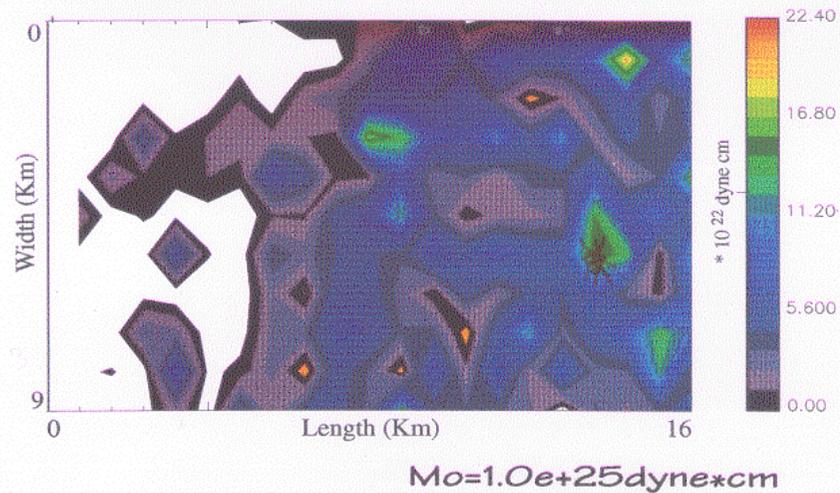


## Model 2

## 2 - INVERSION RESULTS

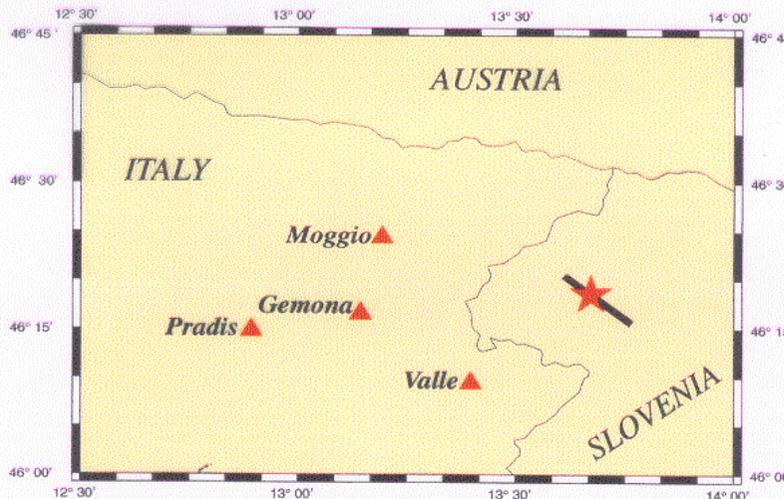


### Total moment distribution



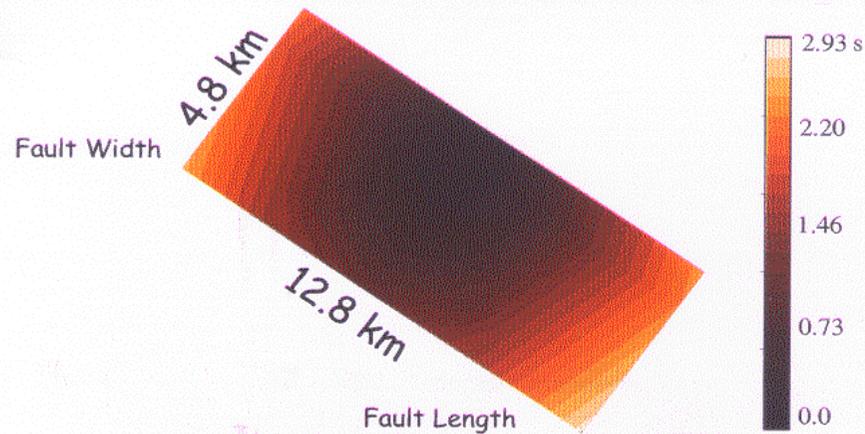
# Model 2

### 3 - Fault parameters



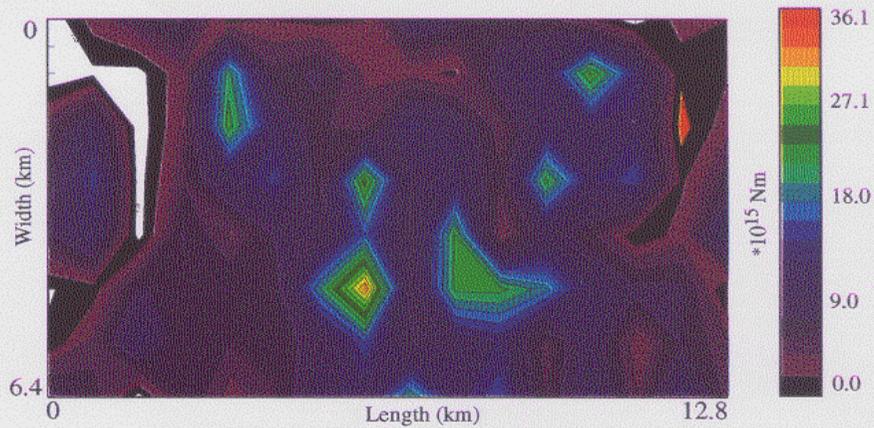
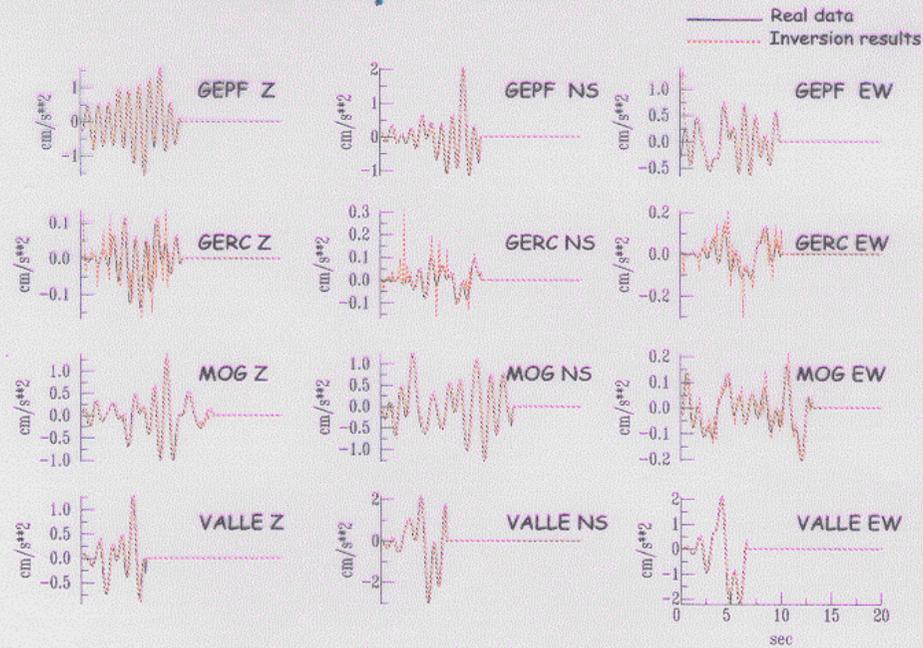
Hypocenter : 46°.31 - 13°.67 Depth: 9.0 km  
Top of the fault depth: 4.0 km  
Strike: 313° Dip:82° Rake:178°

#### Rupture velocity model



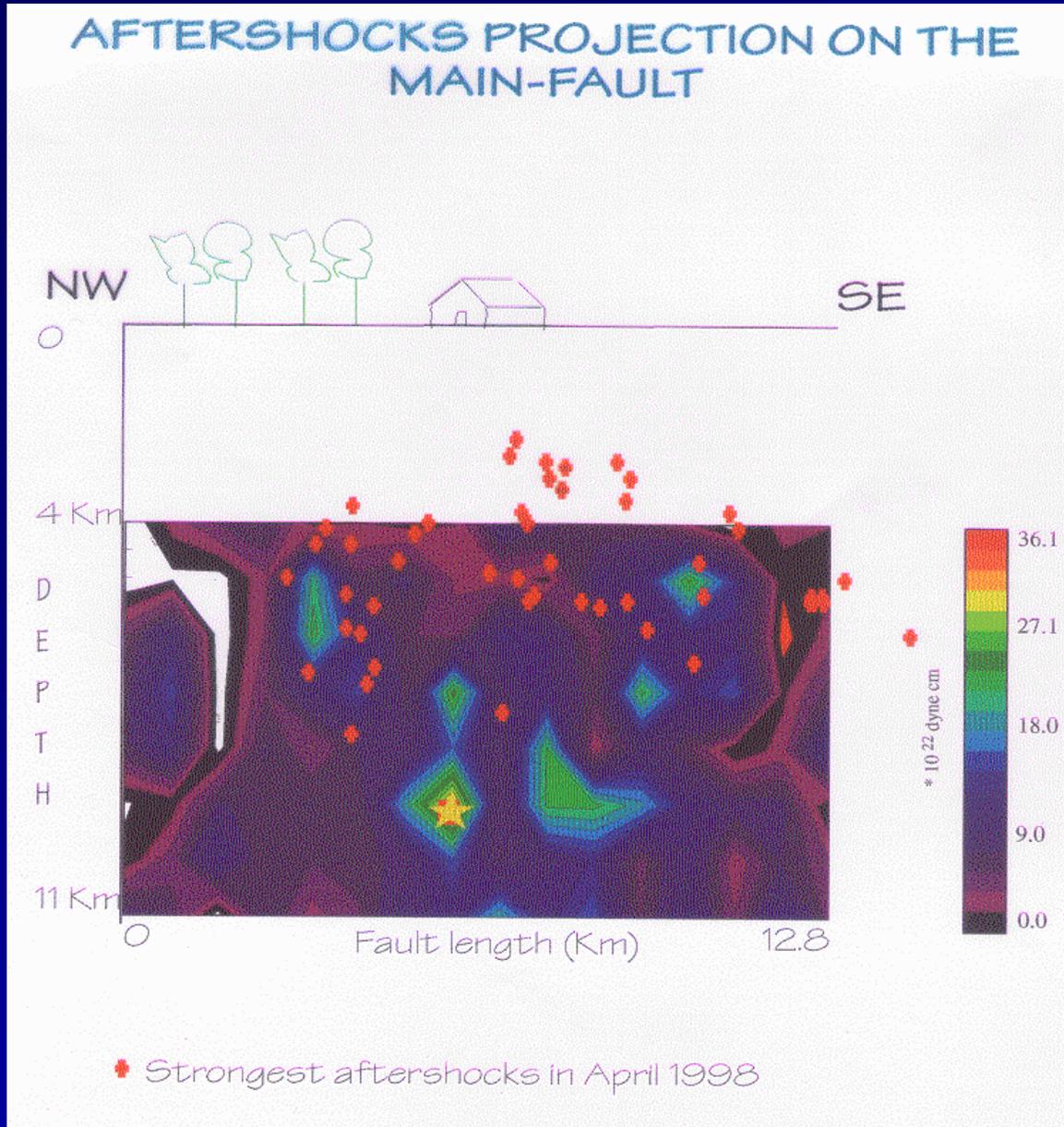
## Model 3

### 3 - Fault parameters

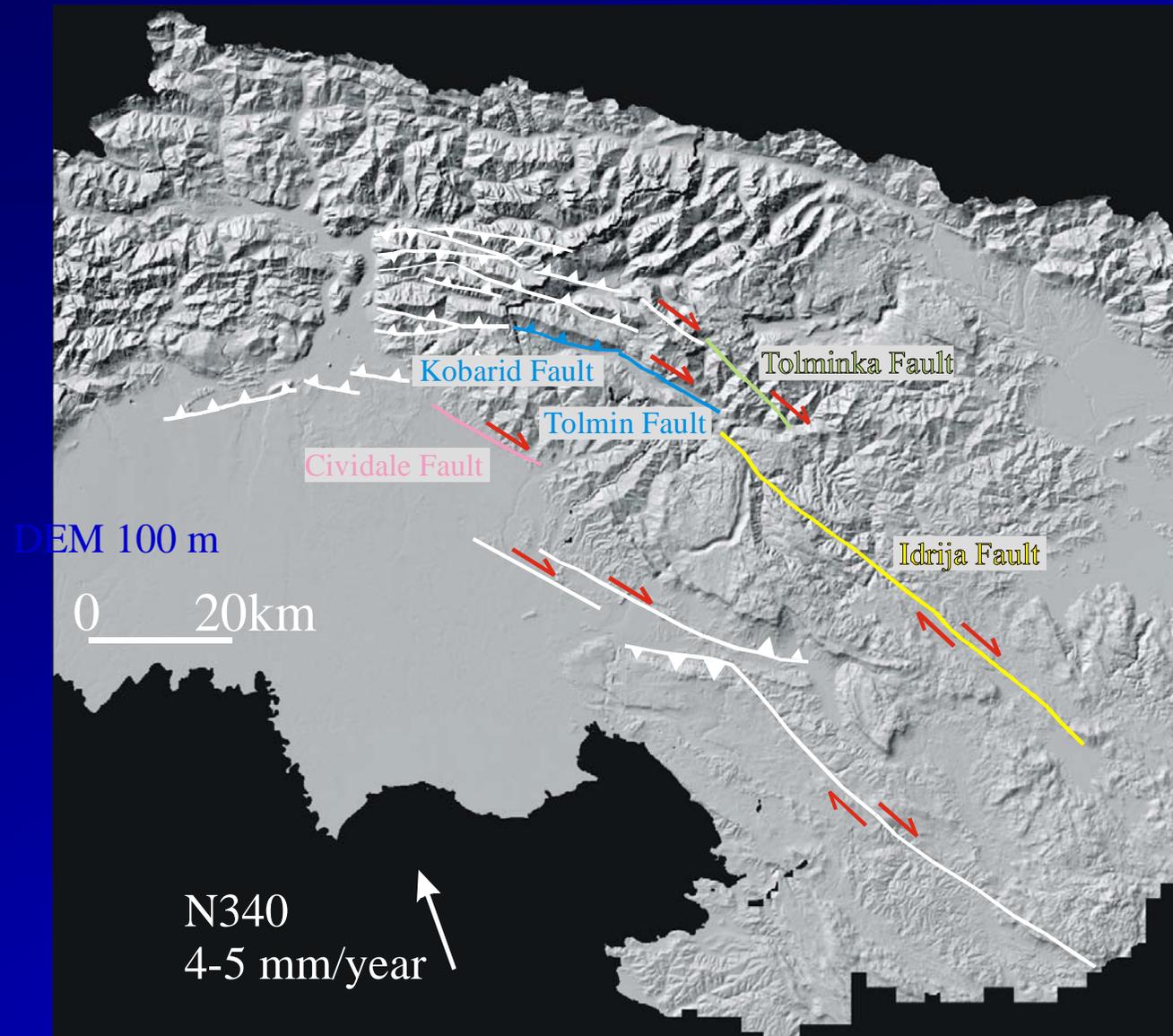


# Model 3

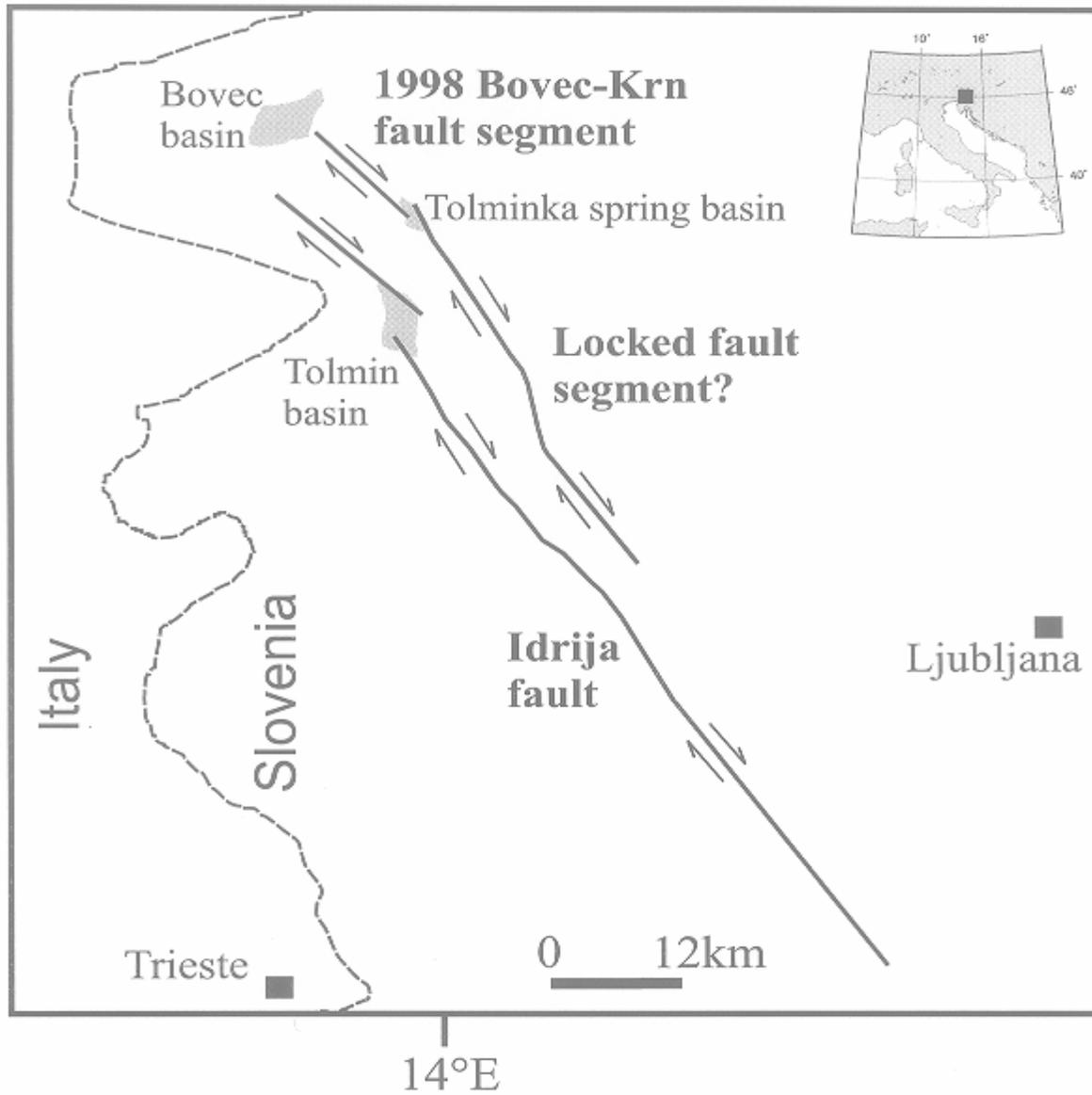
# Final



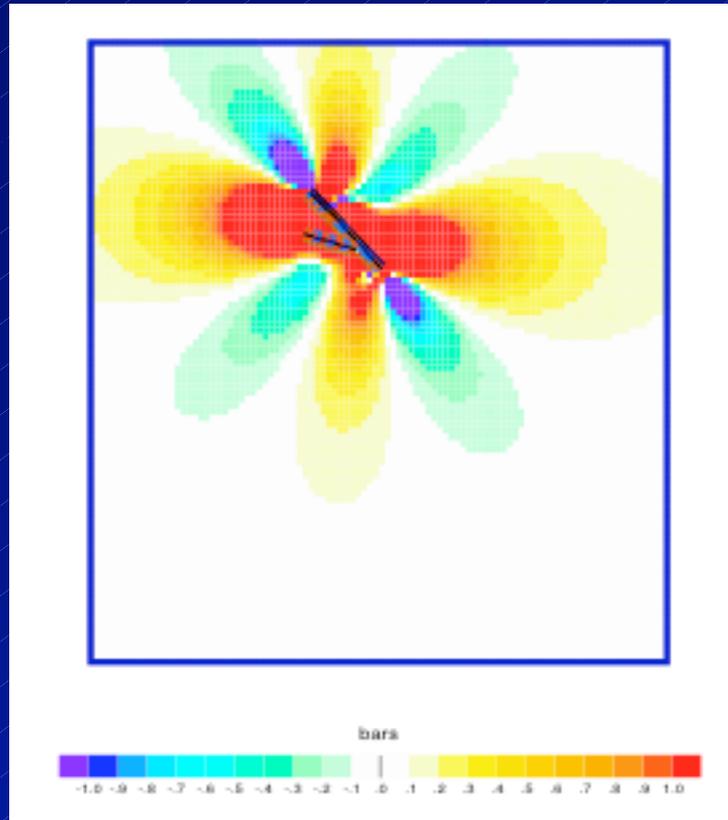
# Active Structures



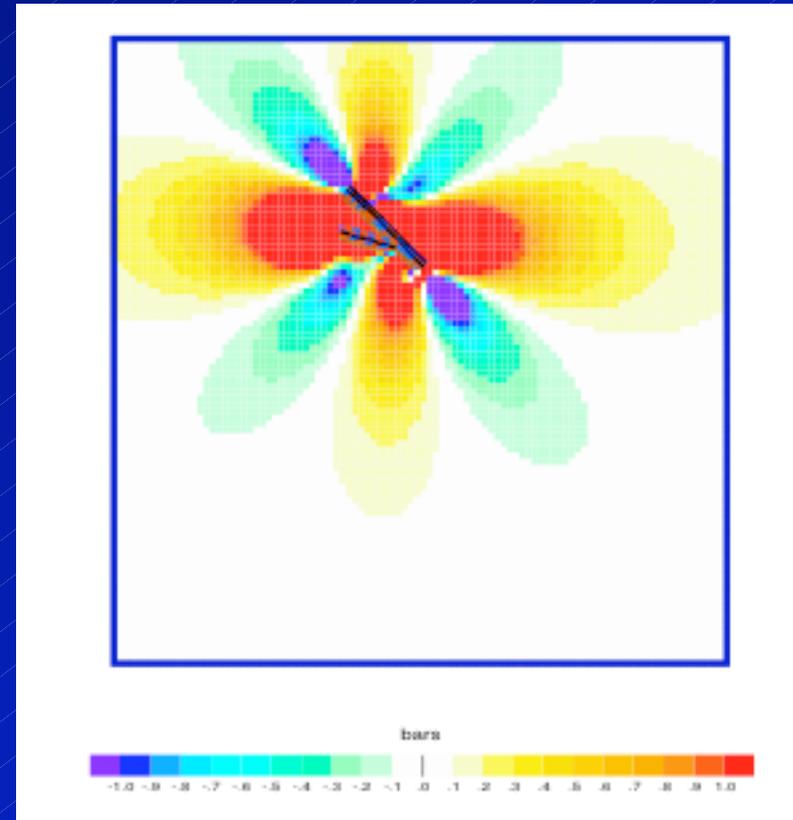
# Slide



# Coulomb stress change



After 1998 event modeled with  
finite fault model of Bajc et al.  
(2002)



After 1998 and 2004 events:  
modeled with  
finite fault models of Bajc et al.  
(2002) and with uniform slip

Which active fault will rupture next?

**The Coulomb stress change would thus favour an increased stress on the Kobarid-Tolmin fault and a reduced stress on the Tolminka fault**

**Which will be the next ruptured fault depends however on the accumulated stress level on the two faults...**

- **Hazard scenarios**

**Realistic Strong Ground Motion  
Scenarios for  
Seismic Hazard Assessment Studies at  
the  
Alps-Dinarides Junction**

# Method

## Active Tectonics

- Identification of the Structures
- Definition of the *Input Fault Model* (L, W, M,  $\theta$ ,  $\delta$ ,  $\lambda$ )

## Synthetic Seismograms Computation (1 Hz, 2 Hz)

- Different Nucleation Points along the Fault
- Uniform and Non-Uniform Seismic Moment Distribution
- Modal Summation for Extended Sources (Panza, 1985; Panza and Suhadolc, 1987; Florsch et al., 1991, Sarao' et al., 1998; Panza et al., 2001)

1 Hz, Dense Grid  
of Receivers



*Contour Maps of  
Expected Maximum  
Horizontal Velocities*

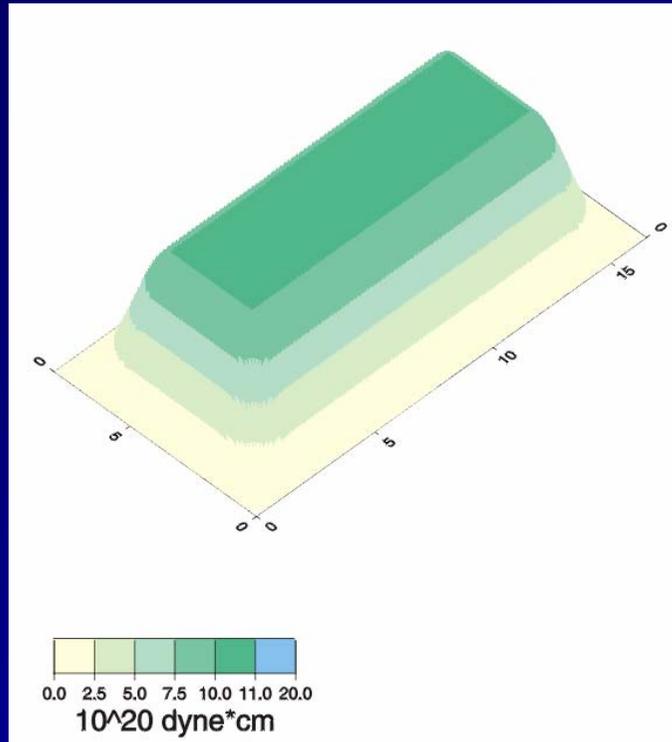
2 Hz, Relevant  
Localities of the  
Area



*Expected Maximum Horizontal  
Displacement, Velocity and  
Acceleration*

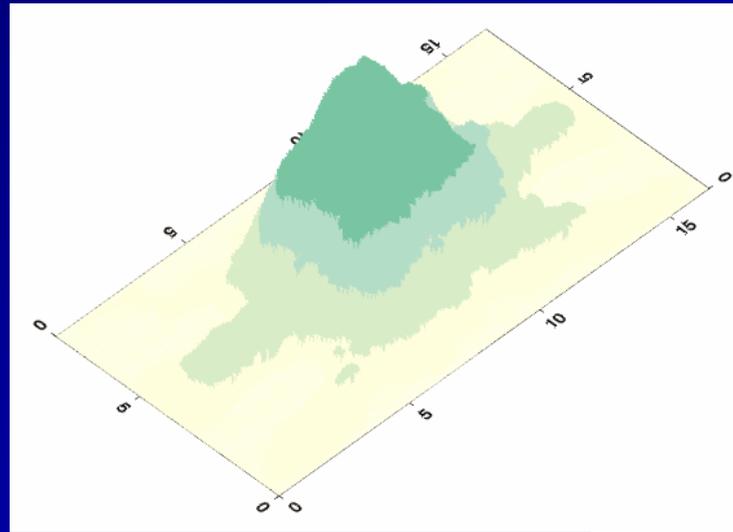
# Method

## Uniform Tapered Seismic Moment Distribution

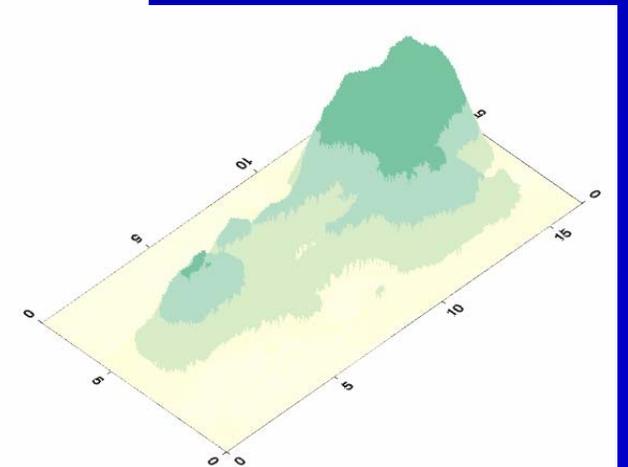


**30% Tapering  
at the fault's edges**

## Non-Uniform Seismic Moment Distribution – The $K^2$ Model

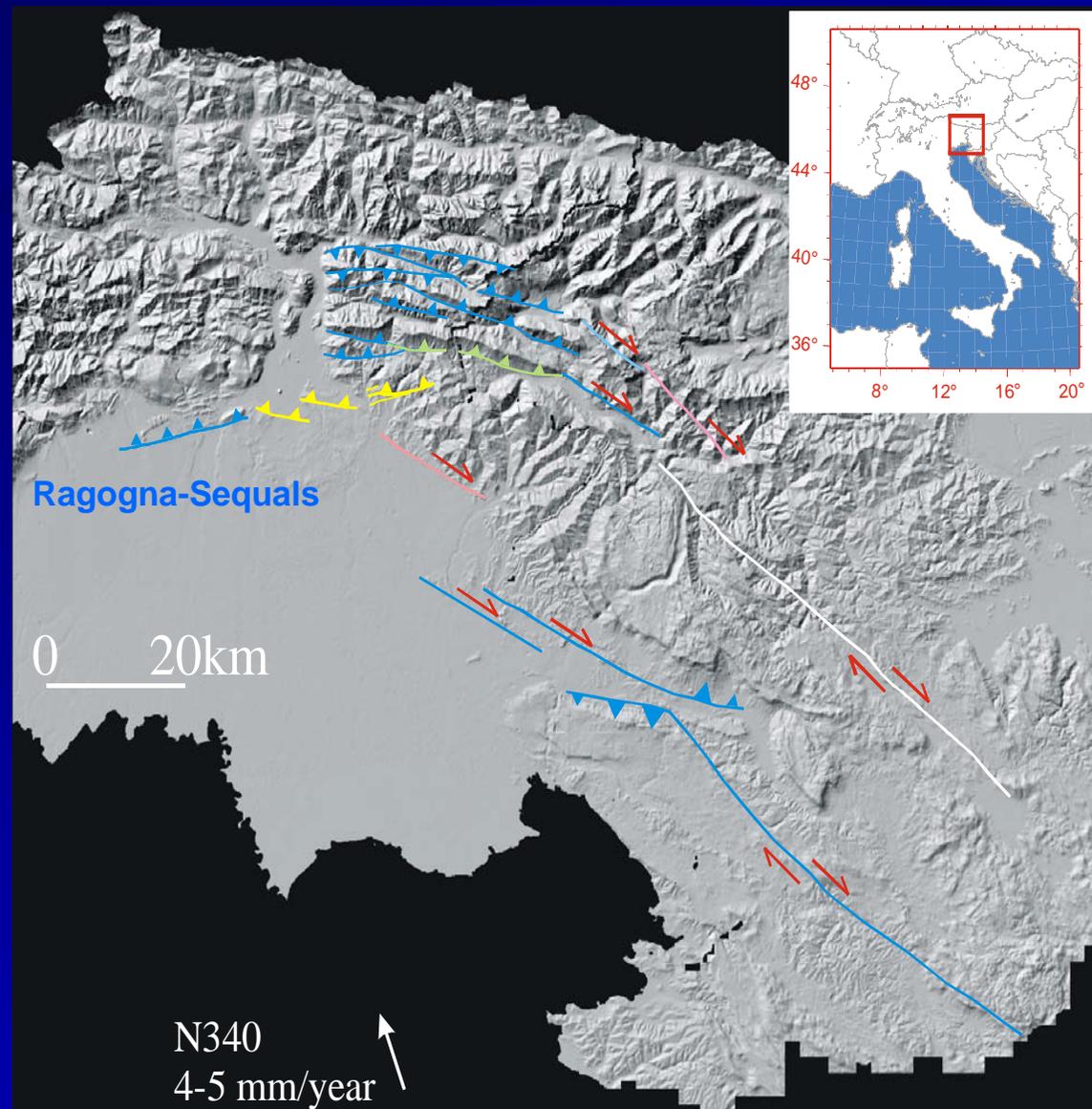


**Single Asperity**



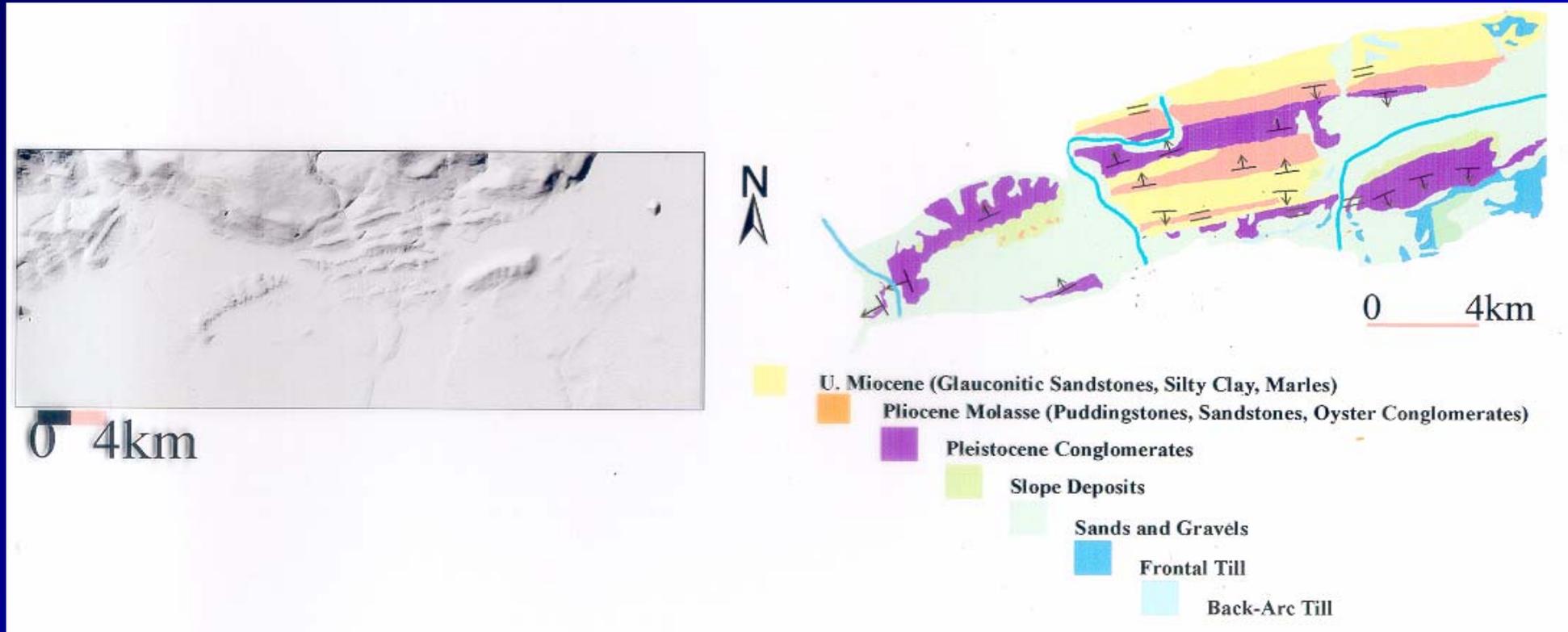
**Double Asperity**

# Analyzed Active Structures



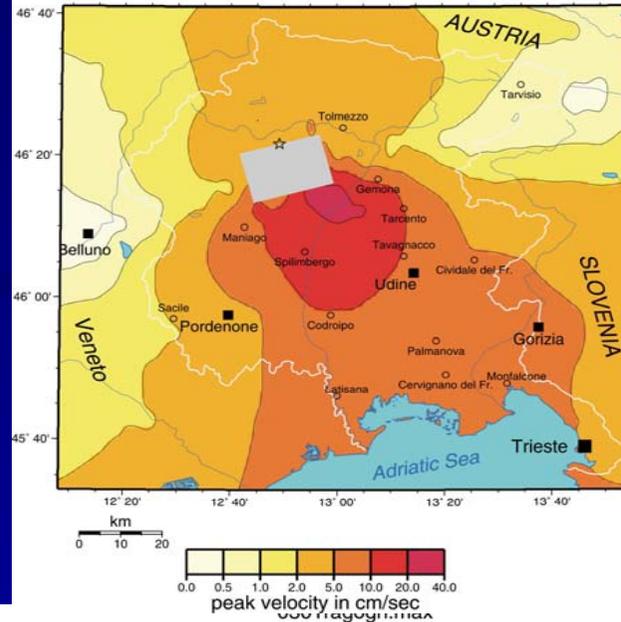
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# Leading edge of deformation

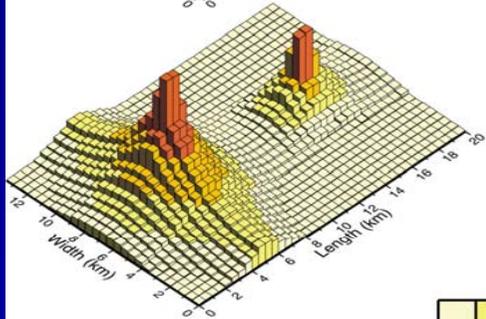
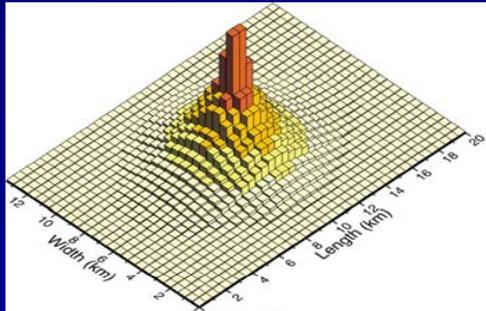
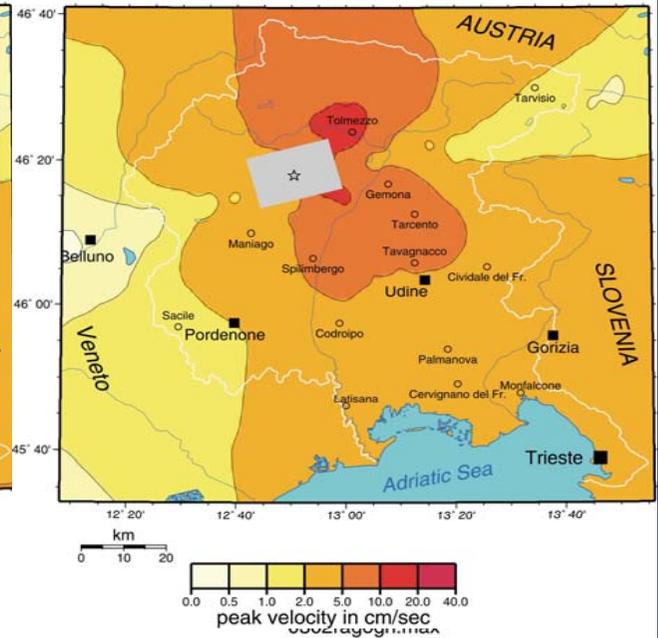


# Ragogna-Sequals fault

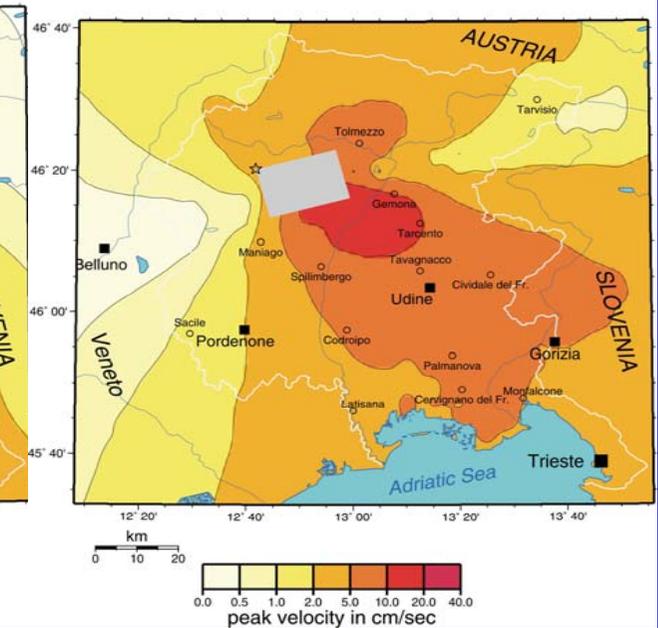
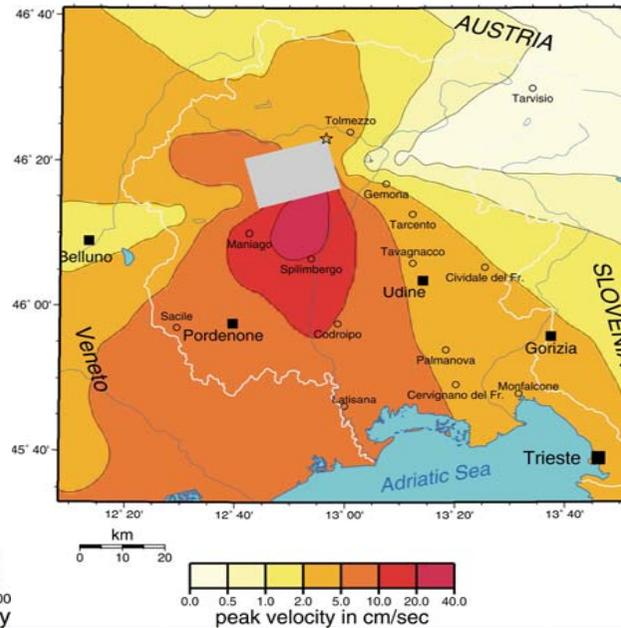
0303ragogn.max



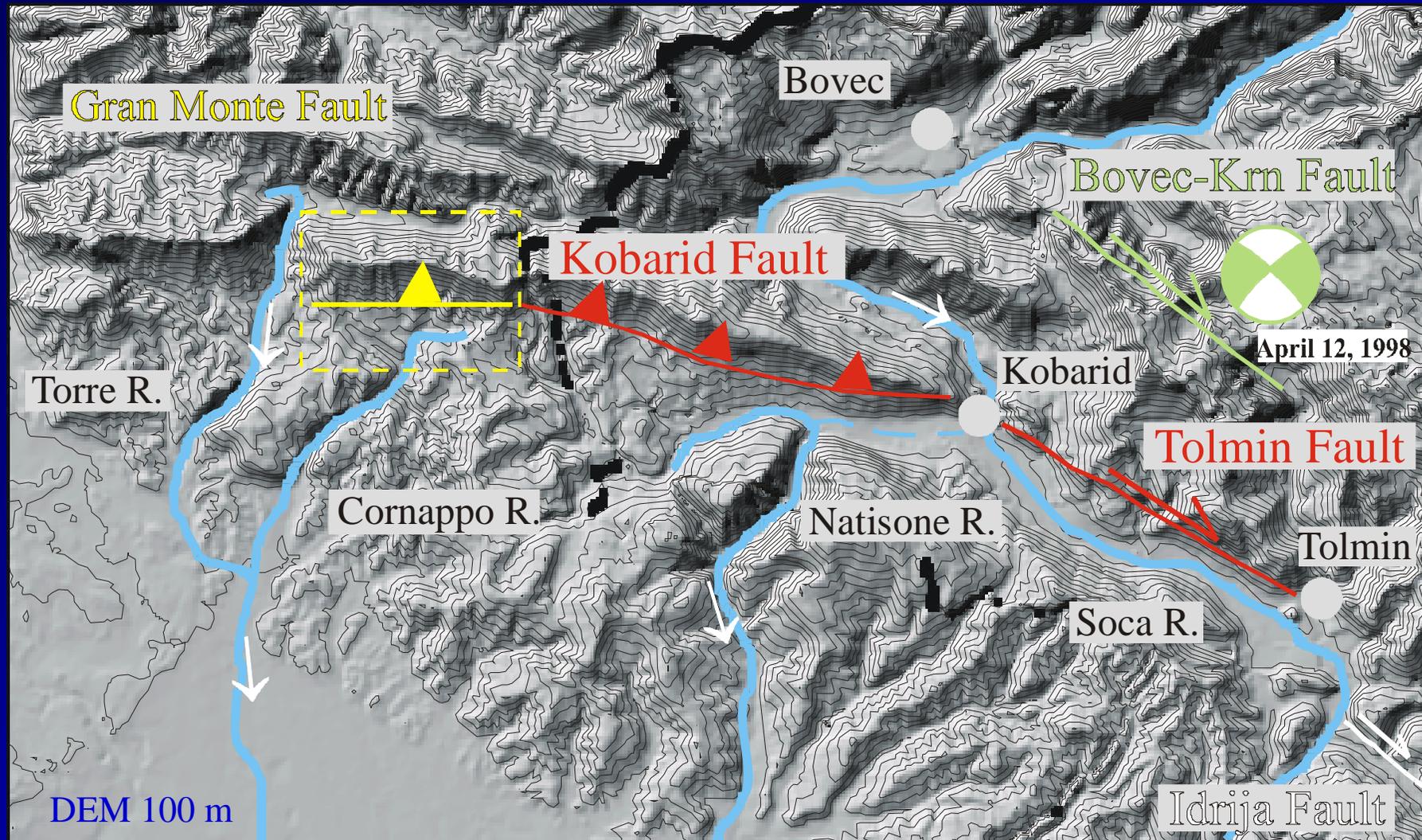
0304ragogn.max



0.00 0.10 0.25 0.50 0.75 1.00  
Rel. moment density



# The Kobarid-Tolmin Fault (1 Hz):

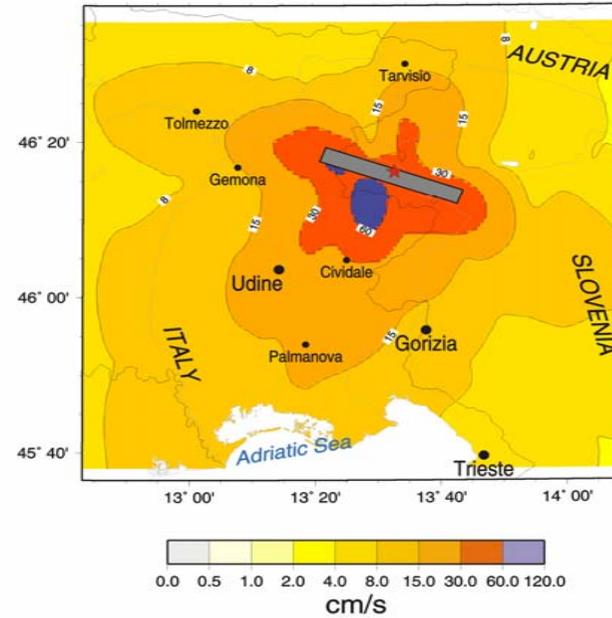
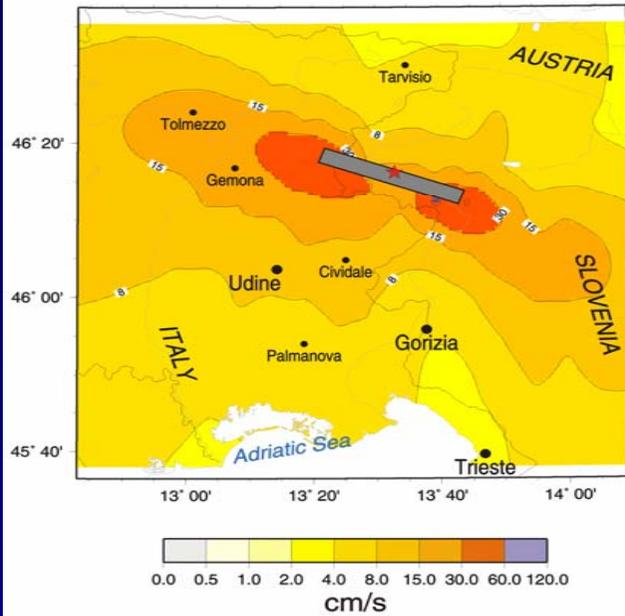
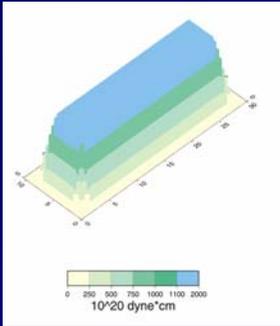


**Input Fault Model:** L 30 km, W 10.5 km, M 6.6,  $\theta$  290°,  $\delta$  70°,  $\lambda$  146°

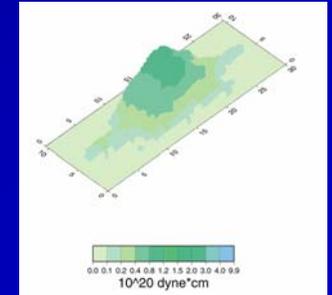
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# The Kobarid-Tolmin Fault (1 Hz): Results

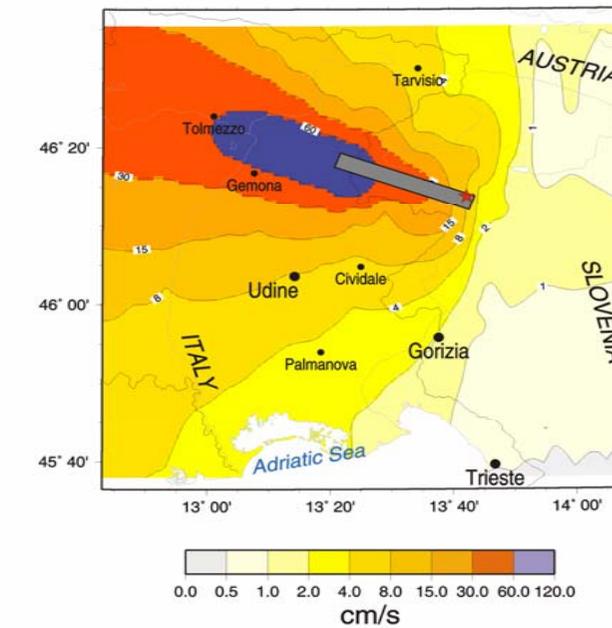
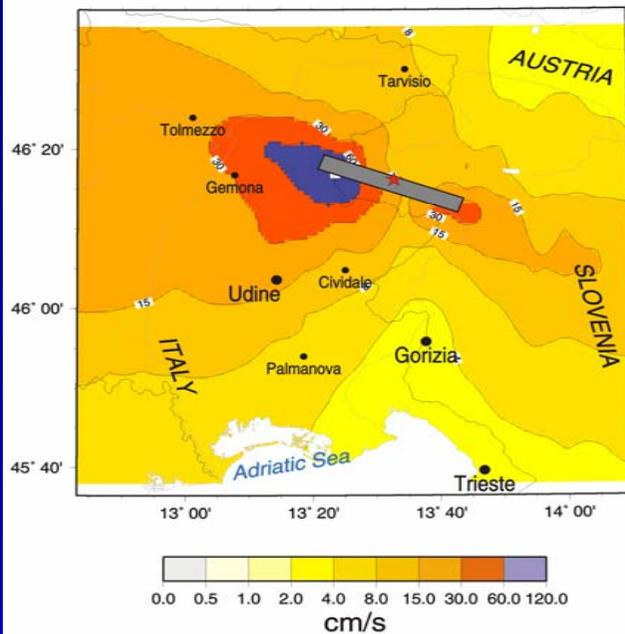
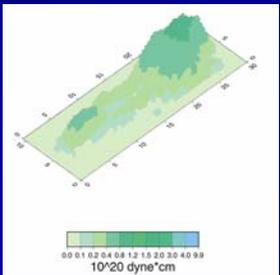
## Uniform Seismic Moment Distribution



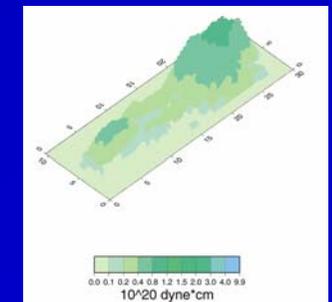
## Single Asperity



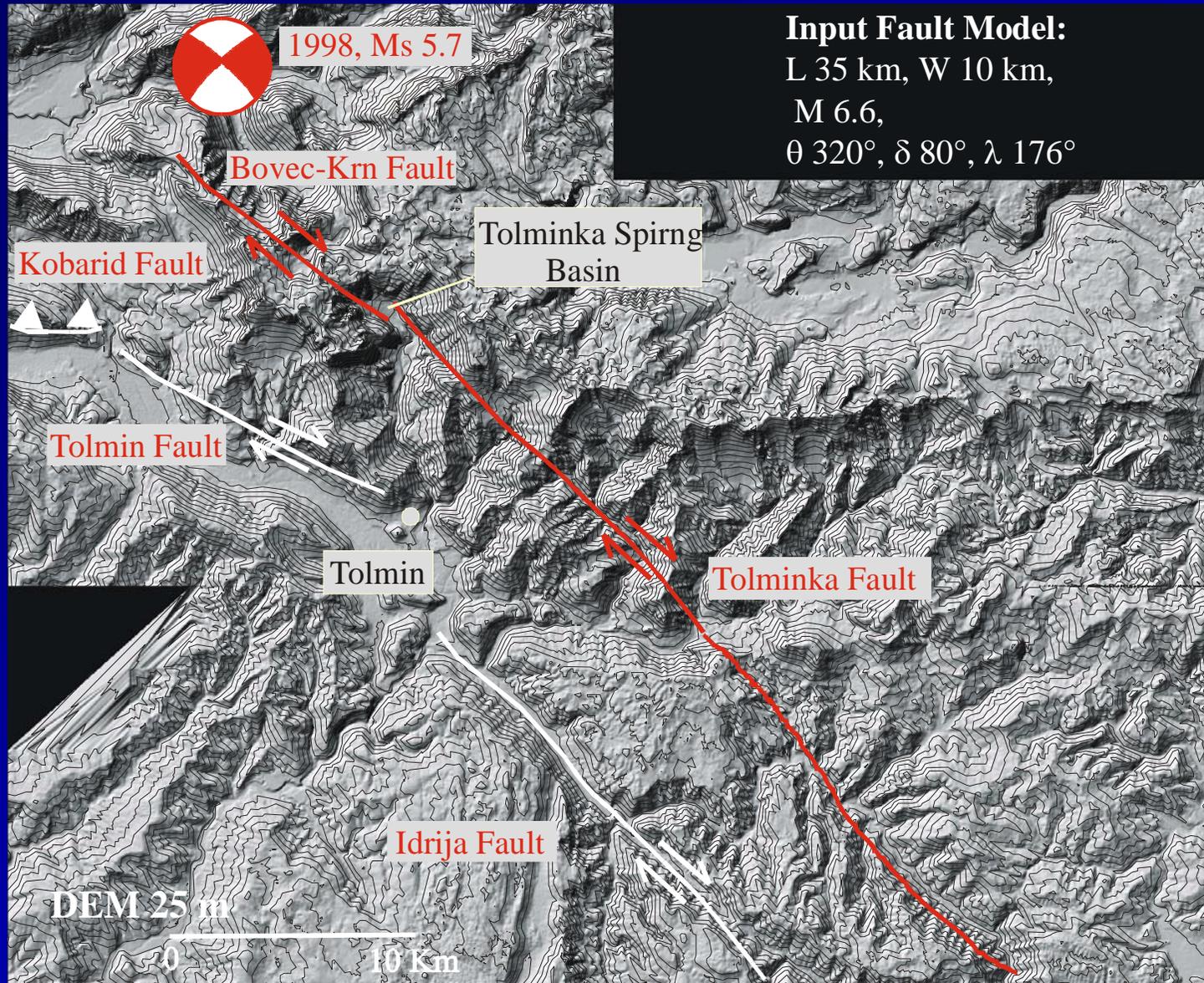
## Double Asperity



## Double Asperity

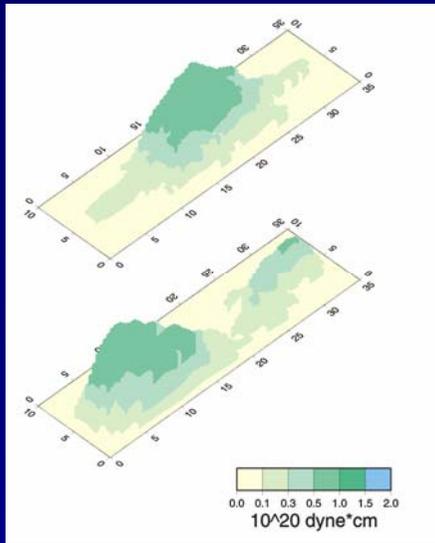


# The Tolminka Fault (1 Hz, 2 Hz):

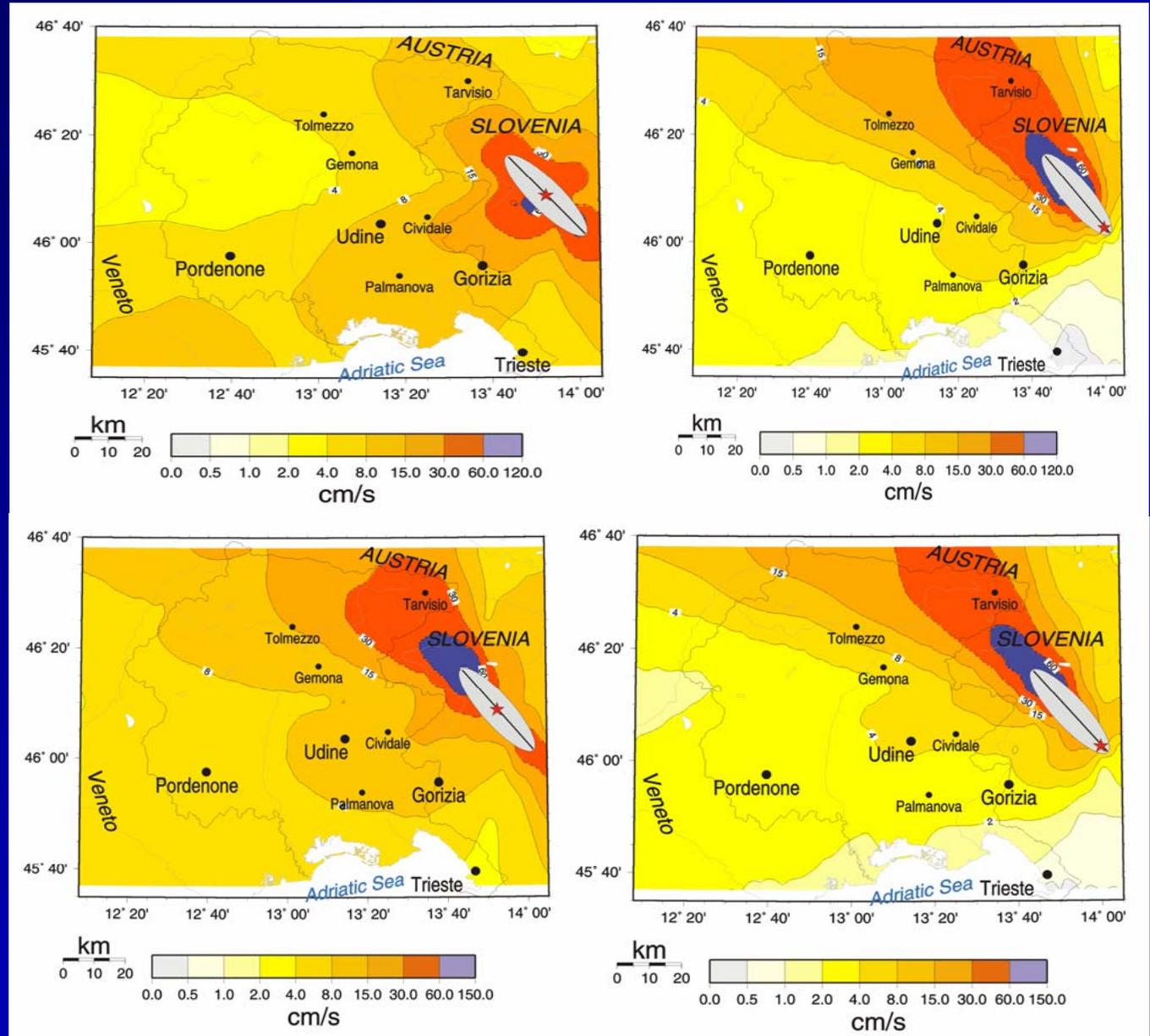


# The Tolminka Fault: Results – 1 Hz

## Single Asperity



## Double Asperity



# Conclusions - 1/3

- The effects of the **source directivity** and the characteristics of the **seismic moment distribution** on the fault plane generate a **large variability** in the seismic hazard values of the analyzed localities. Moreover, the **position** of the single asperity and the **ratio** between the two asperities strongly affect the maximum velocity field.

# Conclusions - 2/3

- The computed **maximum horizontal velocities** (1 Hz), using 4 active structures at the Alps-Dinarides Junction as input fault models, are **generally larger** than the values predicted by other deterministic seismic hazard studies carried out both in Friuli and in Slovenia using scaled point sources (Panza et al., 2001; Zivcic et al., 2000).

# Conclusions - 3/3

- Our **modeling** and estimation of the seismic input at a specific site, when applied to different earthquake scenarios in its surroundings, can be a **powerful, economically valid and easily applicable** scientific tool for assessing its seismic hazard.

# Local waveform inversion for source parameters of a finite fault

## Possible pitfalls

The questions we would like to address are:

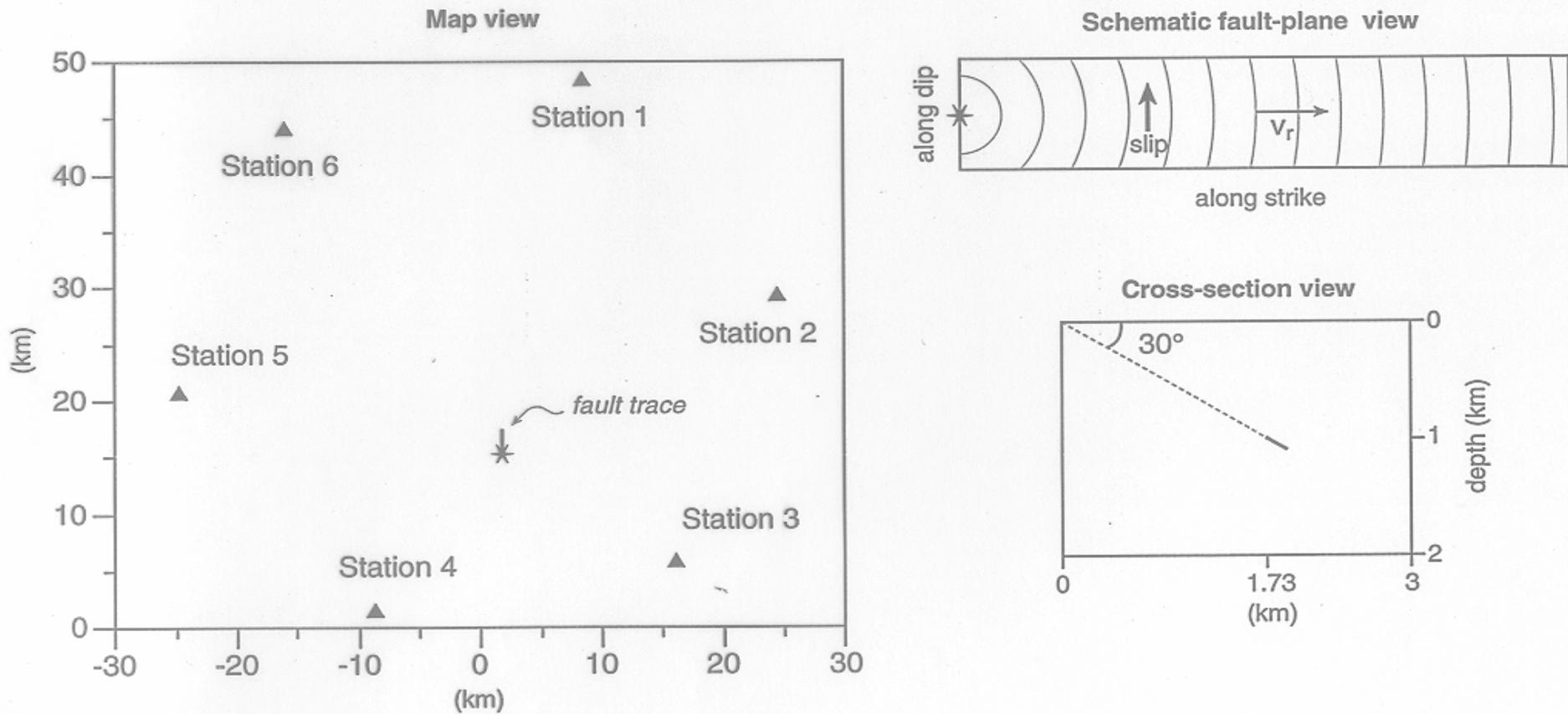
1. How close is the solution of this (unstable) problem to the correct one?
2. How does poor knowledge of crustal structure in the source region affect the estimate of the rupture front location and speed?

3. Since such inversions are non-unique, what methods can one use to choose the “correct” solution from among the multiplicity of solutions?

Since these questions cannot, in fact, be answered when working with real data, we set up a problem using artificial data

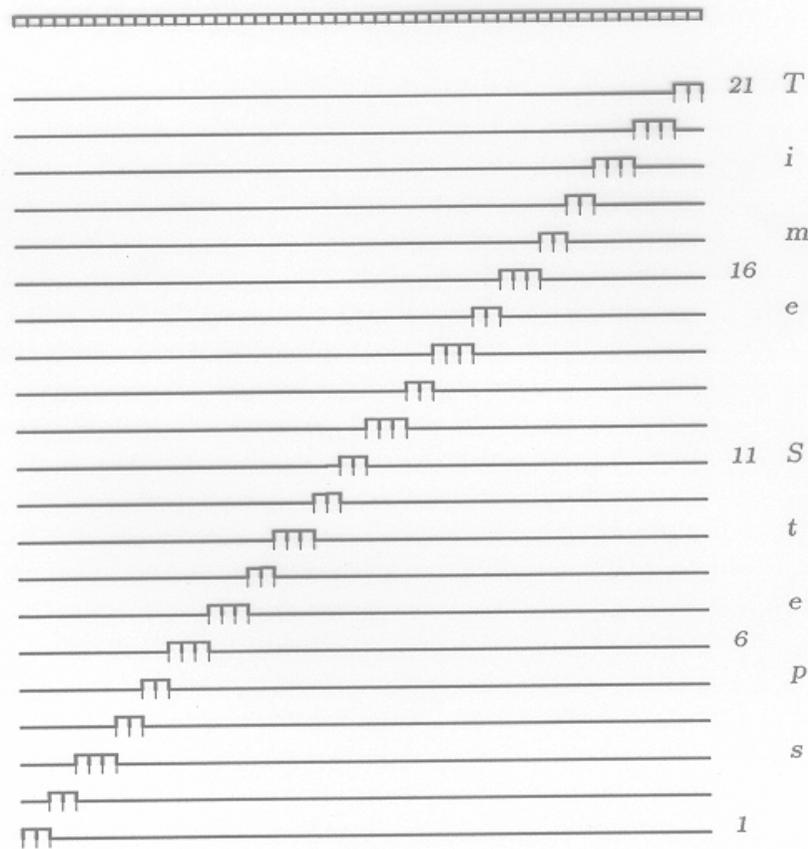
# Source model

Fault geometry  
Shallow dipping fault



FORWARD MODEL

Final Moment



Forward Rupture Model



Length Steps

# Forward model

$1 \times 10^{11}$  Nm of moment  
are released at each grid,  
which is allowed to slip **only**

**once**

Rupture speed =  $0.7 \beta$

**In the first set of cases, the inverse problem is solved using the SAME spatial and temporal grid sizes as those used to generate the synthetic (noise-free) data**

# Inversion methods

## **First approach:**

**SVD, minimize L2 norm**

**Constrain moment value**

**Remove small eigenvalues**

**Solution with smallest first differences**

## **Second approach:**

**Linear programming, minimize L1 norm**

**Use different physical constraints**

**Smallest second differences**

## **Case 1a - conclusions**

**Even if we constrain the rupture front in the inversion to the true front, we are unable to reproduce the final constant moment distribution and the source time function, when we use the SVD method: many small, negative values of moment rates are produced**

## **Case 1b - conclusions**

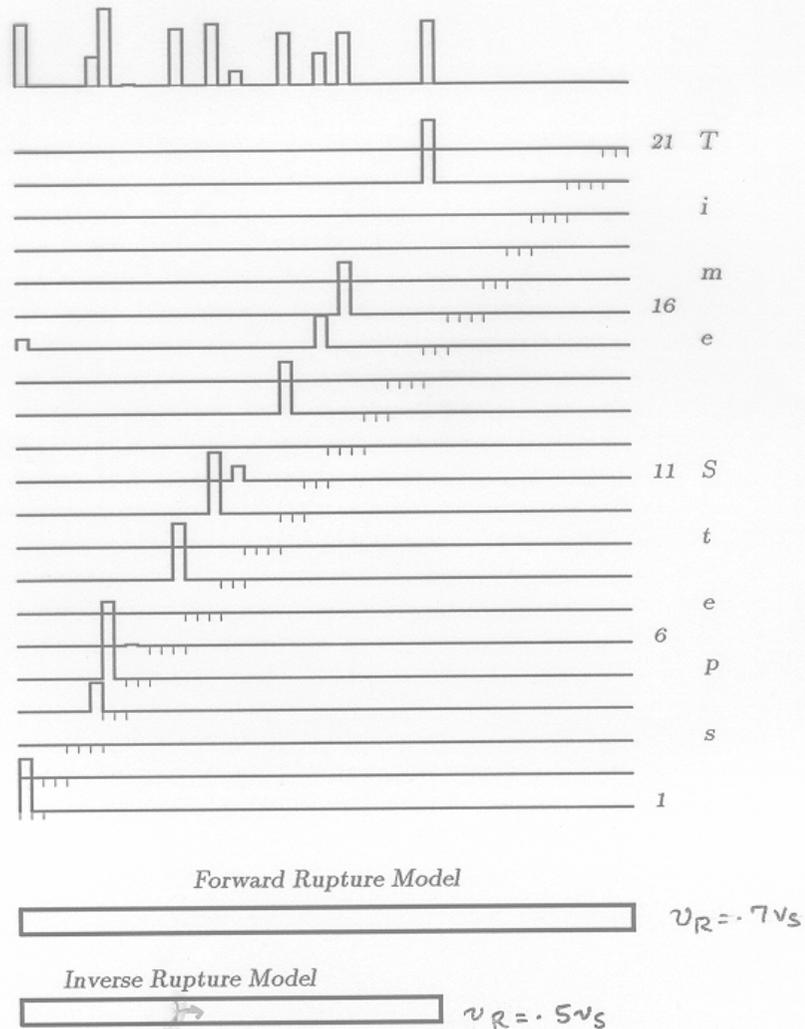
**When we constrain the moment rates to be POSITIVE (using the linear programming method) we are able to reproduce the final constant moment distribution and the source time function correctly!**

## Case 1c - conclusions

When we constrain the rupture front to move **faster** than the true one and also allow all cells behind it to continue to slip, we are able to reproduce the solution (moment-rate history, final moment, source time function) as long as the **POSITIVITY** constraint is used

CASE 1c

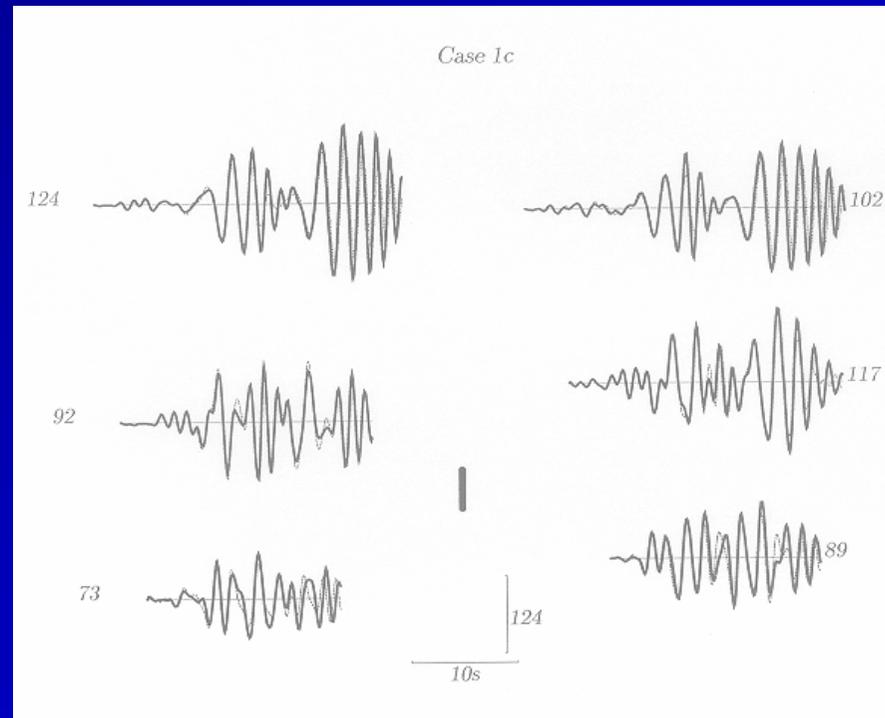
Final Moment



# Case 1c

## Rupture front

**Forward model =  $0.7 \beta$**   
**Inverse model =  $0.5 \beta$**

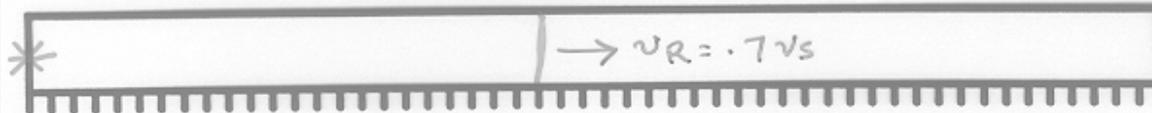


## Case 1c - conclusions

If the rupture front is constrained to move **more slowly** than the true one, we are unable to reproduce any aspect of the solution correctly, **even with the positivity constraint**. Constraining the seismic moment to the true one does not improve the solution.

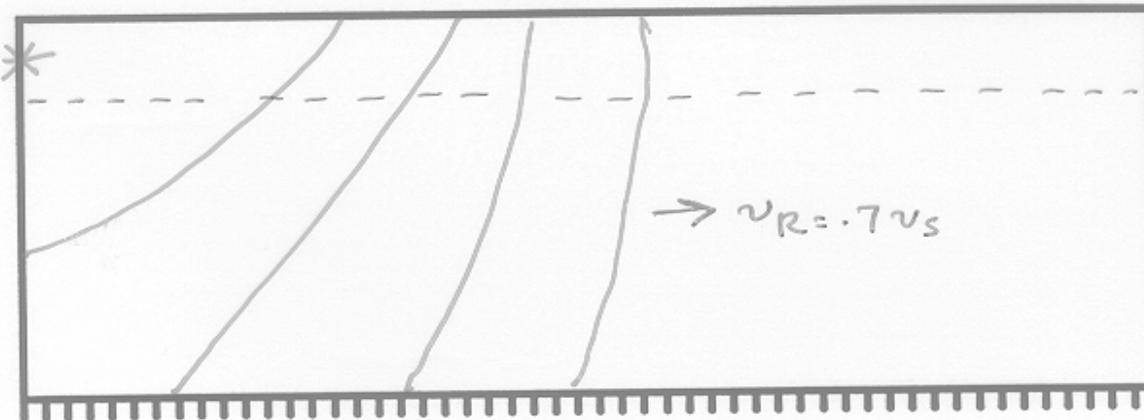
CASE 2a

FORWARD RUPTURE MODEL



Length Steps

INVERSE RUPTURE MODEL



Length Steps

Case 2a  
**Wider fault**

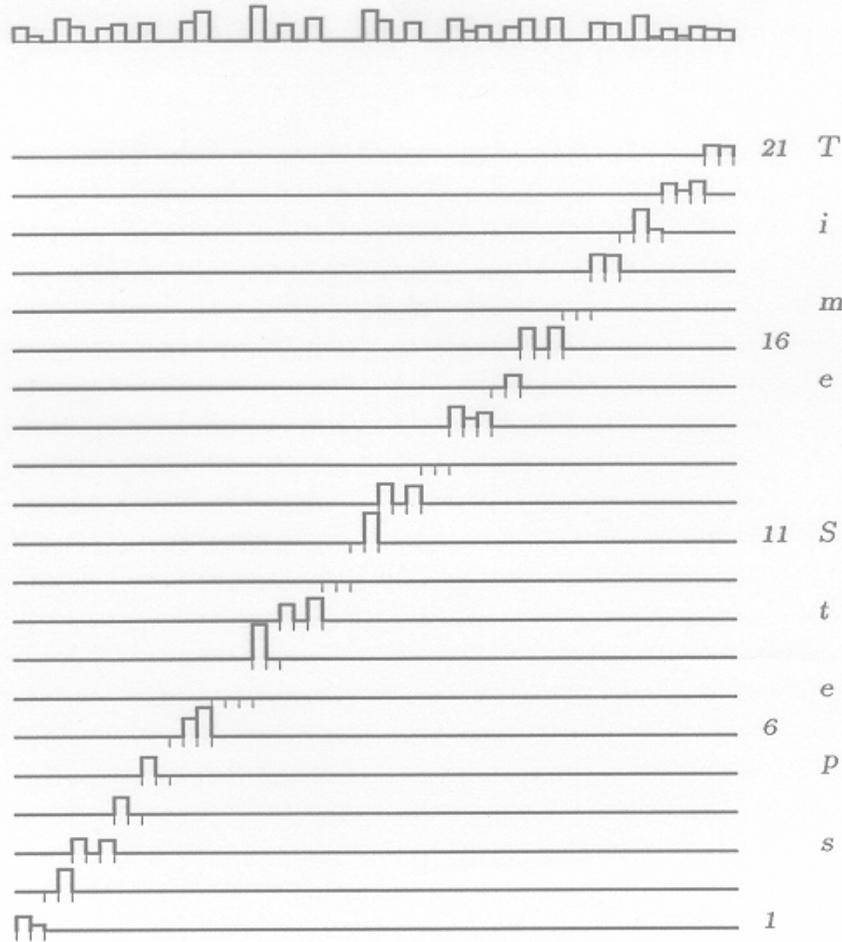
Same rupture  
speed in forward  
and inverse  
model  
 $0.7 \beta$

## Case 2a - conclusions

If we use a **wider** fault and the correct rupture speed and allow cells to release moment only once in the inversion, and also impose the positivity constraint, then the moment is only released at the correct depth in the solution, **even though moment release at deeper parts of the fault was permitted**

CASE 2a

Final Moment



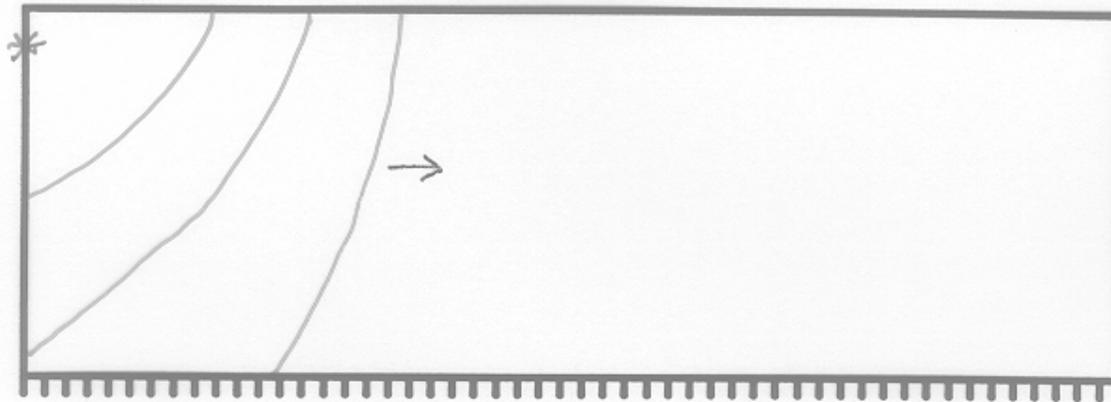
## Case 2a Wider fault

**Inversion  
results**

**The constant  
moment release is  
reproduced  
approximately**

CASE 2b

FORWARD RUPTURE MODEL



Length Steps

INVERSE RUPTURE MODEL



Length Steps

## Case 2b

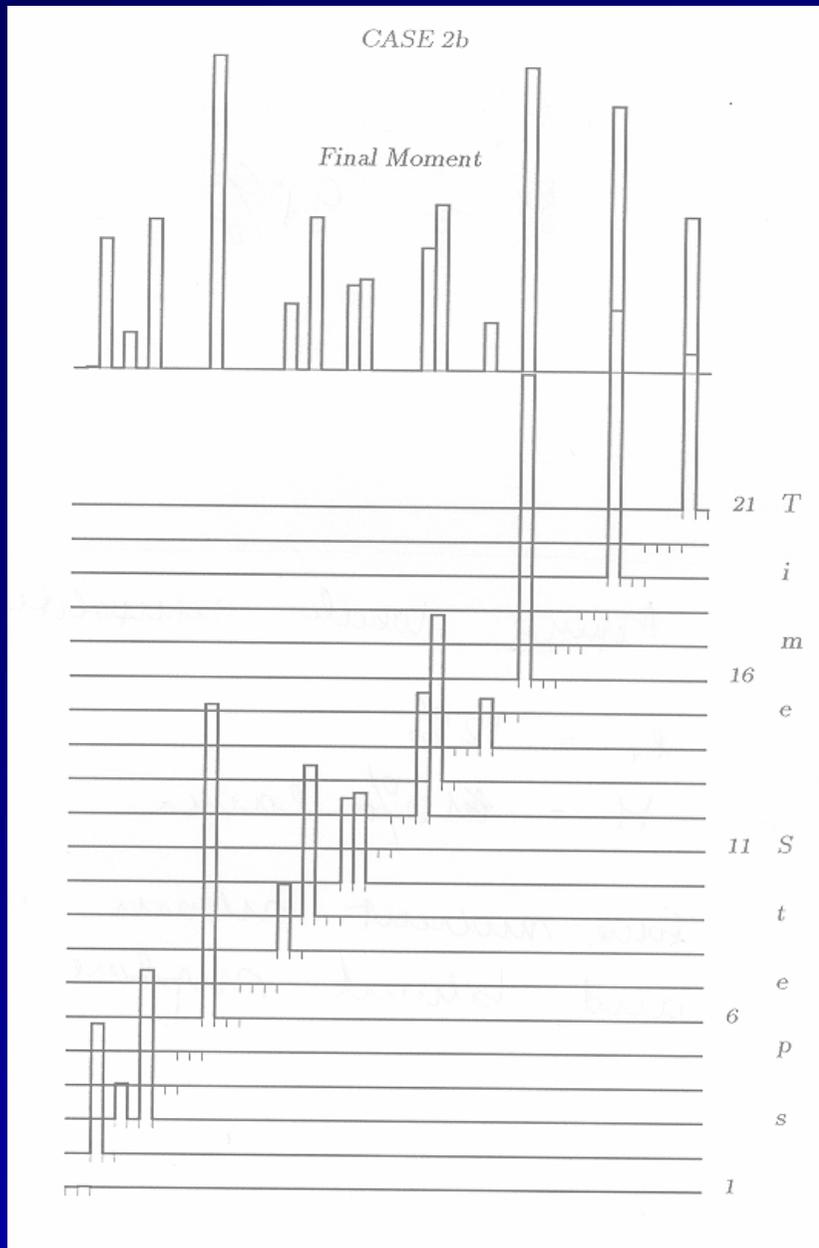
### Narrower fault

Same rupture speed  
 $0.7 \beta$

## Case 2b - conclusions

If we use a **narrower** fault than the true one in the inversion, we obtain the correct moment and centroids, but are unable to reproduce the source time function and the uniform moment release at the rupture front

**But we are able to fit the data!**



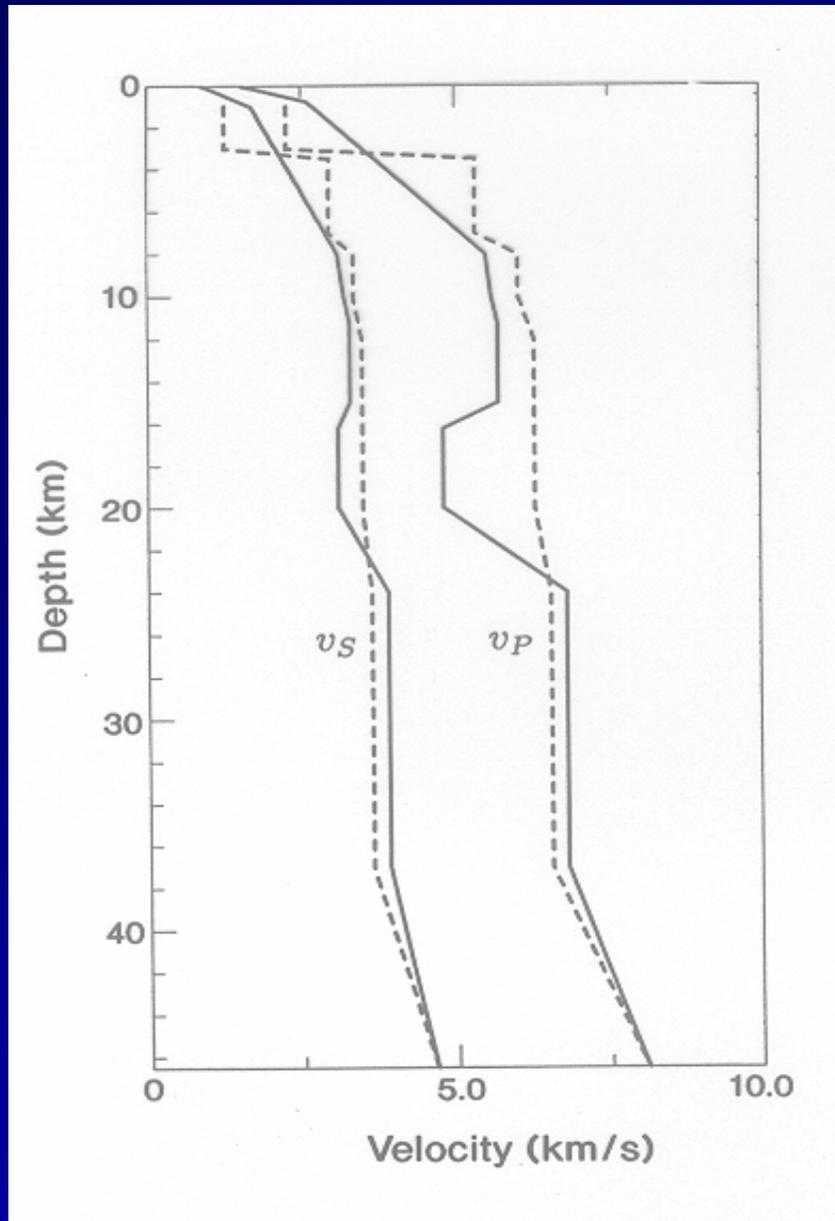
## Case 2b

# Narrower fault

**Strongly non-uniform moment distribution (asperities!)**

## Case 3a

**Different medium  
used  
in forward  
(M1, continuous)  
and inverse model  
(M2, dashed)**



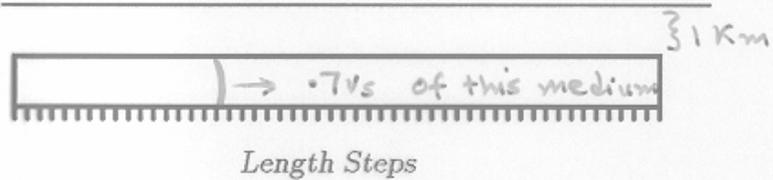
# Case 3a

## Different medium

CASE 3a

FORWARD RUPTURE MODEL

Earth's surface

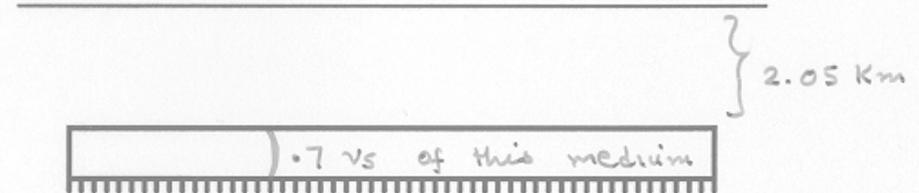


Length Steps

Medium M1

INVERSE RUPTURE MODEL

Earth's surface



Length Steps

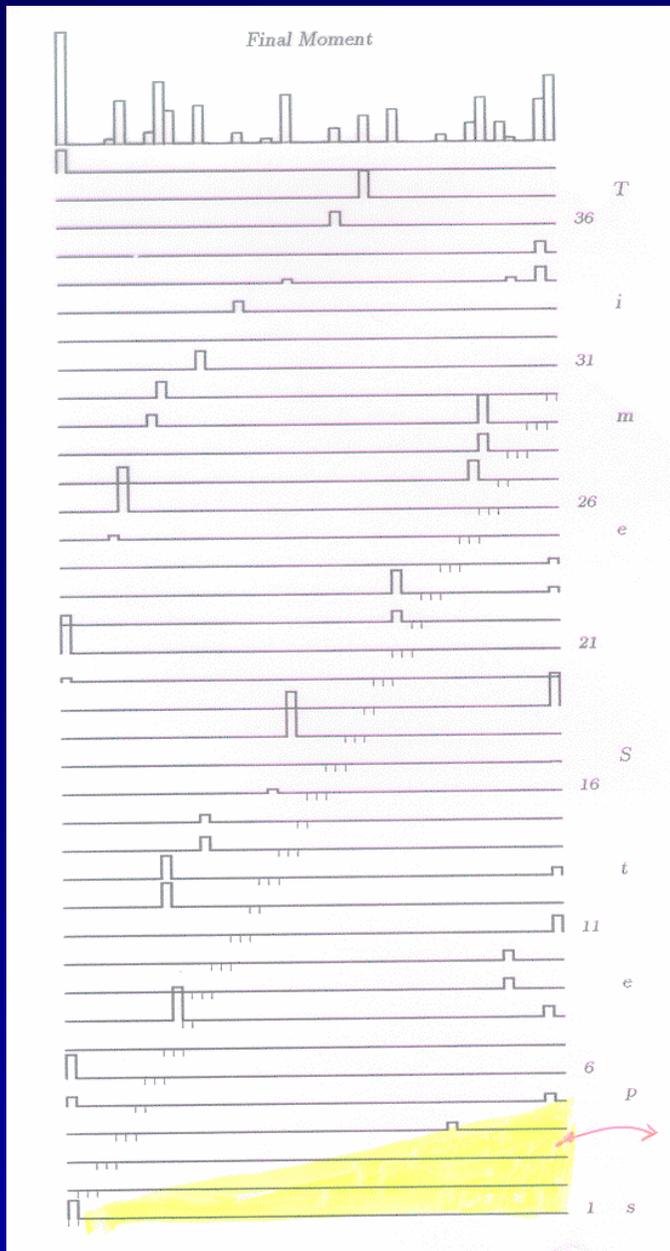
Medium M2

## Case 3a - conclusions

**Incorrect source structure** leads to poor fitting of the data and the solution is not reproduced.

Instead, this incorrect source structure is transformed into **ARTIFACTS** of the solution!

**An illustration of the effect of model noise**



## Case 3a

### Incorrect source structure

Appearance of artifacts:  
 a **GHOST front**  
 Behind the main  
 rupture front

Region excluded by weak causality constraint

# CONCLUSIONS

In summary, **if the Earth structure is known**, then we can determine the rupture front location in time, as long as we use a **larger fault area and larger rupture speed** than the true ones.

# CONCLUSIONS

All our **negative conclusions**, say the fact that we are unable to reproduce the correct solution without the positivity constraint, will hold for more complex cases

# CONCLUSIONS

On the other hand, our **positive conclusions**, say the cases when we can reproduce the rupture front position correctly by using the positivity constraint, is only applicable to the simple forward model studied here

# CONCLUSIONS

**This study demonstrates the problems we encounter even for the simple case of a Haskell-type faulting model. Clearly more realistic models, like crack models, and models with larger variability of rupture propagation speeds would present even greater difficulties.**

# Acknowledgments

- **The presentation is based on the following papers:**
  - Aoudia, A., Sarao', A., Bukchin, B. and Suhadolc, P., 2000. The Friuli 1976 event: a reappraisal 23 years later. *Geophys. Res. Lett.*, 27, 4, 573-576.
  - Bajc, J., Aoudia, A., Sarao', A., and Suhadolc, P., 2001. The 1998 Bovec-Krn mountain (Slovenia) earthquake sequence. *Geophys. Res. Lett.*, Vol. 28, No. 9 , p. 1839-1842.
  - Das, S. and Suhadolc, P., 1996. On the inverse problem for earthquake rupture. The Haskell-type source model. *J. Geophys. Res.*, 101, 5725-5738.
  - Fitzko, F., Suhadolc, P. & Costa, G., 2004. Realistic strong ground motion scenarios for seismic hazard assessment studies at the Alps-Dinarides junction. In: *Earthquake: Hazard, Risk, and Strong Ground Motion*, Y.T.Chen, G.F.Panza and Z.L.Wu (eds.), Seismological Press, Beijing, 361-377.
  - Fitzko, F., Suhadolc, P., and Costa, G., Panza, G.F., 2005. The 1511 western Slovenia earthquake: constraints on source mechanism and location from modeling of macroseismic data. Submitted to *Tectonophysics*.
- **Some parts of the presentation have been produced for the Civil Defence of the Friuli**

**Venezia Giulia Region (Italy)**