News from the Chilean Front

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Mw 8.8 MAULE, CHILE Saturday, February 27, 2010

Mw 8.8 Maule

Bayesian slip modeling
2007 Mw 7.8 Tocopilla
Interseismic



Largest earthquakes $(M \ge 8.8)$ since 1906

1906 M8.8 Ecuador 1952 M9.0 Kamchatka 1960 M9.5 Chile 1964 M9.2 Alaska 2004 M9.1 Sumatra *** 2010 M8.8 Chile ***



Figure from J. Stock









Magnitude 8.8 OFFSHORE MAULE, CHILE Saturday, February 27, 2010 at 06:34:17 UTC

Historic earthquake activity near the epicenter from 1990 to present.





IRIS



Is this a repeat of the 1835 event described by Darwin?





Charles Darwin

February 20, 1835: This day has been memorable in the annals of Valdivia, for the most severe earthquake experienced by the oldest inhabitant. I happened to be on shore, and was lying down in the wood to rest myself. It came on suddenly, and lasted two minutes, but the time appeared much longer ...

Captain Fitz Roy and some officers were at the town during the shock, and there the scene was more striking; for although the houses, from being built of wood, did not fall, they were violently shaken, and the boards creaked and rattled together ...

The great shock took place at the time of low water; and an old woman who was on the beach told me that the water flowed very quickly, but not in great waves, to high- water mark, and then as quickly returned to its proper level...

More...

The most remarkable effect of this earthquake was the permanent elevation of the land...

There can be no doubt that the land round the Bay of Concepcion was upraised two or three feet ...

At the island of S. Maria (about thirty miles distant) the elevation was greater; on one part, Captain Fitz Roy founds beds of putrid mussel-shells still adhering to the rocks, ten feet above high-water mark: the inhabitants had formerly dived at lower-water spring-tides for these shells.

The elevation of this province is particularly interesting, from its having been the theatre of several other violent earthquakes, and from the vast numbers of sea-shells scattered over the land, up to a height of certainly 600, and I believe, of 1000 feet ... it is hardly possible to doubt that this great elevation has been effected by successive small uprisings, such as that which accompanied or caused the earthquake of this year, and likewise by an insensibly slow rise, which is certainly in progress on some parts of this coast.



How much did a given spot on the fault slip?

How much of a given fault area is truly stuck most of the time and only slipping during large earthquakes?



Some Very Basic Earthquake Science Questions

Do significant portions of a fault slip both seismically and creep aseismically at different times, or are these behaviors more-or-less mutually exclusive?

Is the style of fault slip the same over many earthquake cycles?

Is there a relationship between variations in the seismogenic behavior of a given megathrust and geologic evolution of the plate margin?

Predictability (in time, in space)



Canon

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GPS data

Focus on the coseismic phase

Over 3m in Concepcion A few cm in Argentina

Co-seismic data processed by Foster & Brooks (U. Hawaii)





• During the earthquake: Over 3m displacement (E) in Concepcion and even a few cm in Argentina

• Over a 20 day period after the earthquake, the ground moved an additional 17cm (and continues to do so). Note the directional change.

Co-seismic data processed by Foster & Brooks (U. Hawaii) Post-seismic data processed by Susan Owen (JPL)



InSAR data Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar

ALOS radar satellite (JAXA)

























Same as before but wrapped at 12cm/fringe. Note systematic residual near the peninsula – model deficiency





Too first order, vertical motion is anticorrelated with topographic variations

Same as what was seen for the 2005 Mw 8.7 Nias & 2007 Mw 8 Pisco EQ

2005 M_w 8.7, Nias Earthquake





Near-trench GPS data provide strong constraints on updip behavior

Slip highly heterogeneous in space

Coseismic and postseismic appear to show little overlap

InSAR Data





- 6 InSAR images:
 - 3 L-band,
 - 2 wide-swath,
 - 2 with descending orbit.





Coseismic vs long term deformation

No reported uplift along the coast (± 40 cm tide)

- Uplifted area follows the coastline
- Max. subsidence at the Paracas Peninsula
- Anticorrelation of Coseismic and long term topography suggest topography result from inelastic deformation during the interseismic



Sladen et al., 2009

Expected post-earthquake GPS and satellite InSAR coverage











The Games We Normally Play Assume a fault geometry (the plate interface) Assume a mechanical model (elastic structure) Gather observations of surface deformation (GPS, leveling, InSAR, corals,...) and seismology Invert for best-fit "coupling" model => backslip Minimize $\Phi(m) = ||G(m)-d|| + \lambda ||F(m)||$ with m>b F(m): smoothness, size, compactness,... λ : By cross-validation or pseudo-Bayesian Definitely, non-Tarantolian

A full Bayesian approach to slip modeling

- Many kinds of optimization techniques
 - Optimization only yields one solution
 - Different choices of regularization can lead to very different solutions for the same earthquake
- Determine family of acceptable models which fit data
 - Allows physical priors
 - Allows cascading of a posteriori: (a) geodetic data, (b) seismic data
 - Take advantage of embarrassingly parallel MCMC techniques
 - Limited by the "Curse of Dimensionality" and speed of forward model

Francisco Hernán Ortega Culaciati (Interseismic) and Sarah Minson (coseismic)

Cascaded Adaptive Transitional MCMC In Parallel (CATMIP)

- A posteriori PDF is "tempered" or "annealed" so that we are always near equilibrium with our target PDF
 - F_m(θ) ∝ p(D|θ)^{βm} p(θ)
- Not optimization (e.g., simulated annealing) we get full a posteriori PDF.
- Many parallel Metropolis walkers runs on O(1e3) cores
 - Information gained by ALL walkers is shared at each cooling step
 - Takes advantage of adapting model covariances in sampling
 - Insensitive to trade-offs between model parameters

A Bayesian approach to coseismic fault slip modeling (static and kinematic)

Example: N. Chile





Coseismic displacements

Note: Coastal uplift

GPS: 5 samples/sec







View of one of the fault patches



Dirichlet Distribution: Moment must add up to a target value

View of one of the fault patches







Probability of 100% Apparent Coupling

Grey means no information beyond the ^{16°S} prior – it does not mean_{18°S} partial coupling. This model has no partial 20°S coupling in it.



Conclusions

- Lots of new data to apply to big earthquake studies
 - Important to use all of it
- Maule coseismic slip
 - negligible up dip slip.
 - Similar to other events (e.g., Pisco and Nias).
 - Role of splay faults?
 - Peninsula region not well modeled.
 - Lots of afterslip.
 - More to come...
- Bayesian approaches to estimating parameters
 - no spatial smoothing required or desired!
 - Allows quantitative questions to be asked, e.g., what is the likelihood of coseismic and postseismic slip overlapping?
- Future: Rapid ingestion of geodetic data into EQ models
 - Take note today of the impact of geodetic data on fault models