Rupture Properties of Intermediate-Depth Earthquakes Using Back-Projection Technique

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Overview

Back-Projection Method
Example: February 27, 2010 Maule Earthquake
Resolution (Lateral & Depth)
Intermediate-Depth Earthquakes: Observations
Intermediate-Depth Earthquakes: Hypothesis
Summary

Back-Projection Method

→ Location & Timing of Relative Energy Release





February 27, 2010 Maule Earthquake





http://earthquake.usgs.gov/earthquakes/eqinthenews/2010/us2010tfan/20100227_Main.pdf



Synthetic Data (Incorrect Location)



Synthetic Stacks



USArray Stacks



Time Slice (45 seconds)



Time Slice (90 seconds)



Time (seconds)

Time Slices





animation available at http://seismology.harvard.edu/resources.html

Along-Path Smearing (Synthetic)







- Mw ≥ 6.5
- depth: 100 km ~ 400 km → 22 earthquakes
- distance: teleseismic

Vertical Rupture: Java

-10

0

10

Time (s)

20

-330

340

350

30

• Mw 7.6



2 out of 22 events

Sub-Horizontal Rupture: Fiji

• Mw 6.6



20 out of 22 events



Composite Rupture: Hindu Kush

• Mw 7.4



11 out of 20 events



- Depth separation ~ 70 km
- Time separation ~ 10 seconds

Earthquakes Summary

- 1. sub-horizontal fault planes
- 2. multiple faults











Shear Instability Slip & Frictional Heating Dehydration Embrittlement positive feedback

Correlation (Near Real-Time)



NEIC Depth - NEIC Hypocentral Depth (km)

September 29, 2009 Samoa Earthquake



Summary

Observations

- dominance of sub-horizontal ruptures
- frequency of composite events



Model of Intermediate-Depth Earthquake

- pre-existing faults (horizontal & vertical)
- water from slab dehydration
- water and fault interaction
- runaway dehydration of serpentine
- dynamic triggering

