



# The 03/11/2011 Mw9.0 Tohoku, Japan Earthquake

## **Educational Slides**

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# Offshore Honshu, Japan Earthquake, 03/09/2011, Mw 7.2

USGS ShakeMap : NEAR THE EAST COAST OF HONSHU, JAPAN

Wed Mar 9, 2011 02:45:20 GMT M 7.2 N38.42 E142.84 Depth: 32.0km ID:b0001r57



Map Version 4 Processed Wed Mar 9, 2011 05:27:14 PM MST -- NOT REVIEWED BY HUMAN

PERCEIVED SHAKING	Not felt	Weak	Light	Moderate	Strong	Very strong	Severe	Violent	Extreme
POTENTIAL DAMAGE	none	none	none	Very light	Light	Moderate	Moderate/Heavy	Heavy	Very Heavy
PEAK ACC.(%g)	<0.17	.17-1.4	1.4-3.9	3.9-9.2	9.2-18	18-34	34-65	65-124	>124
PEAK VEL.(cm/s)	<0.1	0.1-1.1	1.1-3.4	3.4-8.1	8.1-16	16-31	31-60	60-116	>116
INSTRUMENTAL INTENSITY	I	II-III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X+



Earthquake Shaking **Green Alert**



## M 7.2, NEAR THE EAST COAST OF HONSHU, JAPAN

Origin Time: Wed 2011-03-09 02:45:20 UTC (11:45:20 local)

Location: 38.42°N 142.84°E Depth: 32 km

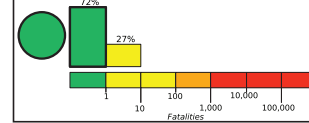
FOR TSUNAMI INFORMATION, SEE: [tsunami.noaa.gov](http://tsunami.noaa.gov)

Created: 21 hours, 44 minutes after earthquake

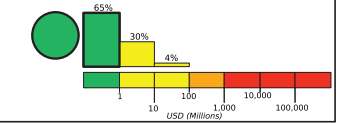
PAGER Version 4

### Estimated Fatalities

Green alert for shaking-related fatalities and economic losses. There is a low likelihood of casualties and damage.



### Estimated Economic Losses

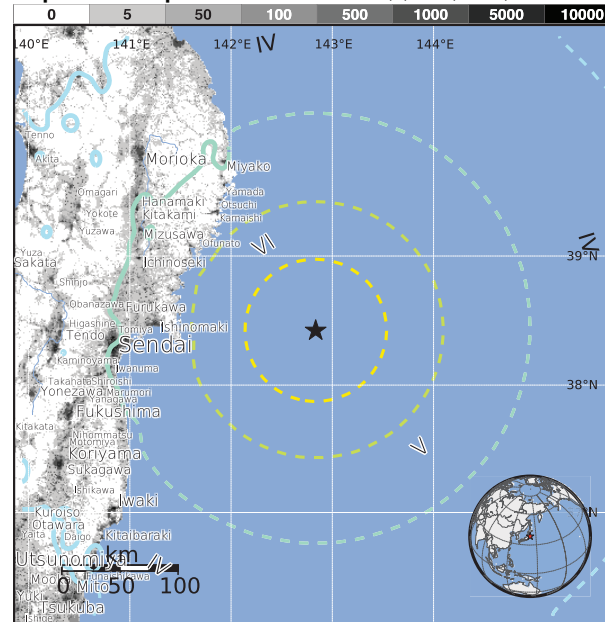


### Estimated Population Exposed to Earthquake Shaking

ESTIMATED POPULATION EXPOSURE (k = x1000)	-	2,462k*	5,120k*	2,708k	17	0	0	0	0
ESTIMATED MODIFIED MERCALLI INTENSITY	I	II-III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X+
PERCEIVED SHAKING	Not felt	Weak	Light	Moderate	Strong	Very Strong	Severe	Violent	Extreme
POTENTIAL DAMAGE	Resistant Structures	none	none	none	V. Light	Light	Moderate	Moderate/Heavy	Heavy
	Vulnerable Structures	none	none	none	Light	Moderate	Moderate/Heavy	Heavy	V. Heavy

\*Estimated exposure only includes population within the map area.

### Population Exposure



### Structures:

Overall, the population in this region resides in structures that are resistant to earthquake shaking, though some vulnerable structures exist.

### Historical Earthquakes (with MMI levels):

Date (UTC)	Dist. (km)	Mag.	Max MMI(#)	Shaking Deaths
2003-10-31	73	7.0	V(7,236k)	0
1980-09-23	388	5.3	V(12,718k)	1
1983-05-26	385	7.7	VII(174k)	104

Recent earthquakes in this area have caused secondary hazards such as tsunamis, landslides, and fires that might have contributed to losses.

### Selected City Exposure

MMI City	Population
V Ishinomaki	117k
V Otsuchi	16k
V Kamaishi	43k
V Hanamaki	73k
V Yamada	20k
V Yamoto	32k
V Sendai	1,038k
IV Morioka	295k
IV Fukushima	294k
III Utsunomiya	450k
III Yamagata	255k

bold cities appear on map (k = x1000)

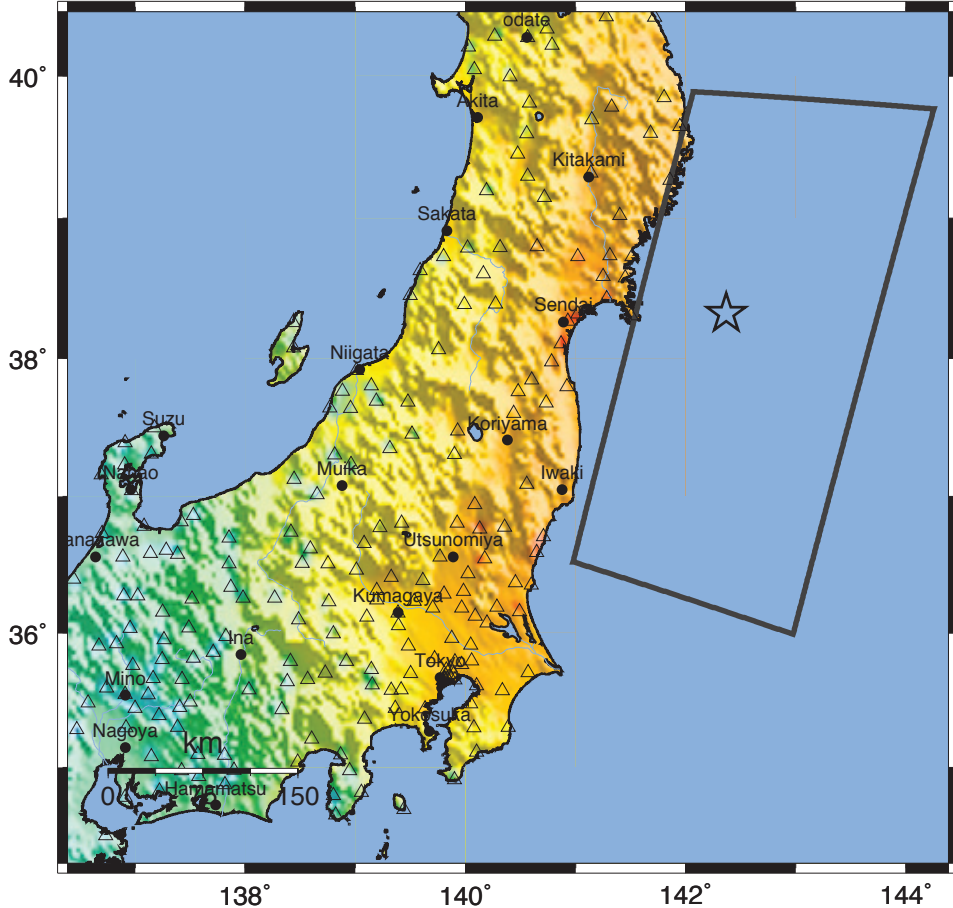
PAGER content is automatically generated, and only considers losses due to structural damage. Limitations of input data, shaking estimates, and loss models may add uncertainty. <http://earthquake.usgs.gov/pager>

Event ID: usb0001r57

# Tohoku, Japan Earthquake, 03/11/2011, Mw 9.0

USGS ShakeMap : NEAR THE EAST COAST OF HONSHU, JAPAN

Fri Mar 11, 2011 05:46:23 GMT M 9.0 N38.32 E142.37 Depth: 32.0km ID:c0001xgp



Map Version 6 Processed Tue Mar 15, 2011 08:39:58 AM MDT -- NOT REVIEWED BY HUMAN

PERCEIVED SHAKING	Not felt	Weak	Light	Moderate	Strong	Very strong	Severe	Violent	Extreme
POTENTIAL DAMAGE	none	none	none	Very light	Light	Moderate	Moderate/Heavy	Heavy	Very Heavy
PEAK ACC.(%g)	<.17	.17-1.4	1.4-3.9	3.9-9.2	9.2-18	18-34	34-65	65-124	>124
PEAK VEL.(cm/s)	<0.1	0.1-1.1	1.1-3.4	3.4-8.1	8.1-16	16-31	31-60	60-116	>116
INSTRUMENTAL INTENSITY	I	II-III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X+



Earthquake Shaking **Red Alert**



## M 9.0, NEAR THE EAST COAST OF HONSHU, JAPAN

Origin Time: Fri 2011-03-11 05:46:23 UTC (14:46:23 local)

Location: 38.32°N 142.37°E Depth: 32 km

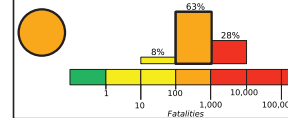
FOR TSUNAMI INFORMATION, SEE: [tsunami.noaa.gov](http://tsunami.noaa.gov)

Created: 4 days, 9 hours after earthquake

### Estimated Fatalities

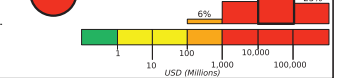
Red alert level for economic losses. Extensive damage is probable and the disaster is likely widespread. Estimated economic losses are 0-1% GDP of Japan. Past events with this alert level have required a national or international level response.

Orange alert level for shaking-related fatalities. Significant casualties are likely.



### Estimated Economic Losses

Red alert level for economic losses. Extensive damage is probable and the disaster is likely widespread. Estimated economic losses are 0-1% GDP of Japan. Past events with this alert level have required a national or international level response.

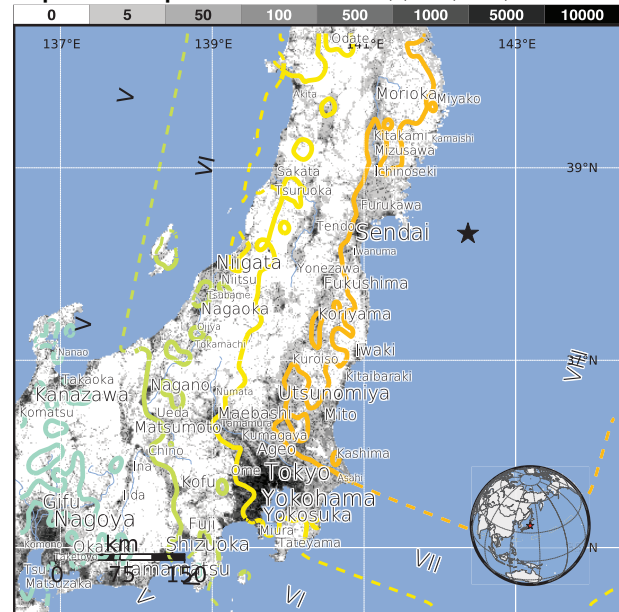


### Estimated Population Exposed to Earthquake Shaking

ESTIMATED POPULATION EXPOSURE (k = x1000)	-.*	6k*	2,483k*	15,269k*	10,864k*	36,088k*	6,781k*	66k	0
ESTIMATED MODIFIED MERCALLI INTENSITY	I	II-III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X+
PERCEIVED SHAKING	Not felt	Weak	Light	Moderate	Strong	Very Strong	Severe	Violent	Extreme
POTENTIAL DAMAGE	Resistant Structures	none	none	none	V. Light	Light	Moderate	Moderate/Heavy	Heavy
	Vulnerable Structures	none	none	none	Light	Moderate	Moderate/Heavy	Heavy	V. Heavy

\*Estimated exposure only includes population within the map area.

### Population Exposure



**Structures:** Overall, the population in this region resides in structures that are resistant to earthquake shaking, though some vulnerable structures exist. The predominant vulnerable building types are non-ductile reinforced concrete frame and heavy wood frame construction.

### Historical Earthquakes (with MMI levels):

Date (UTC)	Dist. (km)	Mag.	Max MMI(#)	Shaking Deaths
1998-06-14	363	5.7	VII(428k)	0
1994-12-28	263	7.7	VII(132k)	3
1983-05-26	369	7.7	VII(174k)	104

Recent earthquakes in this area have caused secondary hazards such as tsunamis, landslides, and fires that might have contributed to losses.

### Selected City Exposure

MMI City	Population
IX Iwanuma	42k
IX Rifu	35k
IX Shiogama	60k
IX Hitachi	186k
VIII Takahagi	34k
VIII Ishinomaki	117k
VIII Sendai	1,038k
VIII Chiba	920k
VII Yokohama	3,574k
VII Tokyo	8,337k
V Nagoya	2,191k

bold cities appear on map (k = x1000)

PAGER content is automatically generated, and only considers losses due to structural damage. Limitations of input data, shaking estimates, and loss models may add uncertainty. <http://earthquake.usgs.gov/pager>

Event ID: usc0001xgp



# Tohoku, Japan Earthquake: ShakeMap Evolution

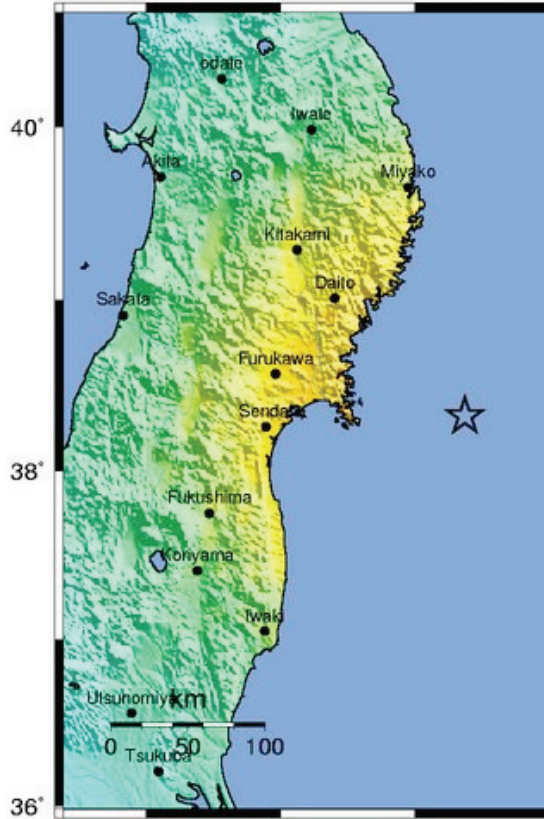
V1: O.T. +21 min M7.9

V2: O.T. +40 min M8.8

V3: O.T. +1 hr 9 min M8.9

USGS ShakeMap : NEAR THE EAST CO

Fri Mar 11, 2011 05:46:23 GMT M 7.9 N38.32 E14



Map Version 1 Processed Thu Mar 10, 2011 11:07:11 PM MST - N

USGS ShakeMap : NEAR THE EAST

Fri Mar 11, 2011 05:46:23 GMT M 8.8 N38.32



Map Version 2 Processed Thu Mar 10, 2011 11:26:11 PM MST

USGS ShakeMap : NEAR THE EAST COAST OF HONSHU, JAPAN

Fri Mar 11, 2011 05:46:23 GMT M 8.9 N38.32 E142.37 Depth: 24.4km ID:c0001xgp



Map Version 3 Processed Thu Mar 10, 2011 11:54:28 PM MST - NOT REVIEWED BY HUMAN

PERCEIVED SHAKING	Not felt	Weak	Light	Moderate	Strong	Ver
POTENTIAL DAMAGE	none	none	none	Very light	Light	M
PEAK ACC.(%g)	<.17	.17-1.4	1.4-3.9	3.9-9.2	9.2-18	
PEAK VEL.(cm/s)	<0.1	0.1-1.1	1.1-3.4	3.4-8.1	8.1-16	
INSTRUMENTAL INTENSITY	I	II-III	IV	V	VI	

PERCEIVED SHAKING	Not felt	Weak	Light	Moderate	Strong
POTENTIAL DAMAGE	none	none	none	Very light	Light
PEAK ACC.(%g)	<.17	.17-1.4	1.4-3.9	3.9-9.2	9.2-18
PEAK VEL.(cm/s)	<0.1	0.1-1.1	1.1-3.4	3.4-8.1	8.1-16
INSTRUMENTAL INTENSITY	I	II-III	IV	V	VI

PERCEIVED SHAKING	Not felt	Weak	Light	Moderate	Strong	Very strong	Severe	Violent	Extreme
POTENTIAL DAMAGE	none	none	none	Very light	Light	Moderate	Moderate/Heavy	Heavy	Very Heavy
PEAK ACC.(%g)	<.17	.17-1.4	1.4-3.9	3.9-9.2	9.2-18	18-34	34-65	65-124	>124
PEAK VEL.(cm/s)	<0.1	0.1-1.1	1.1-3.4	3.4-8.1	8.1-16	16-31	31-60	60-116	>116
INSTRUMENTAL INTENSITY	I	II-III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X+

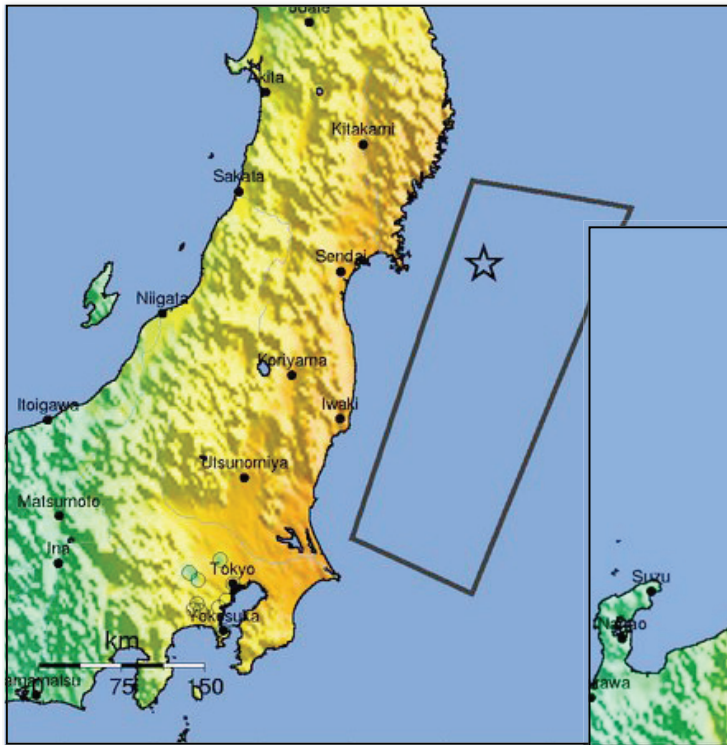
(Led to **PAGER RED** Alert  
42.9 minutes after origin)



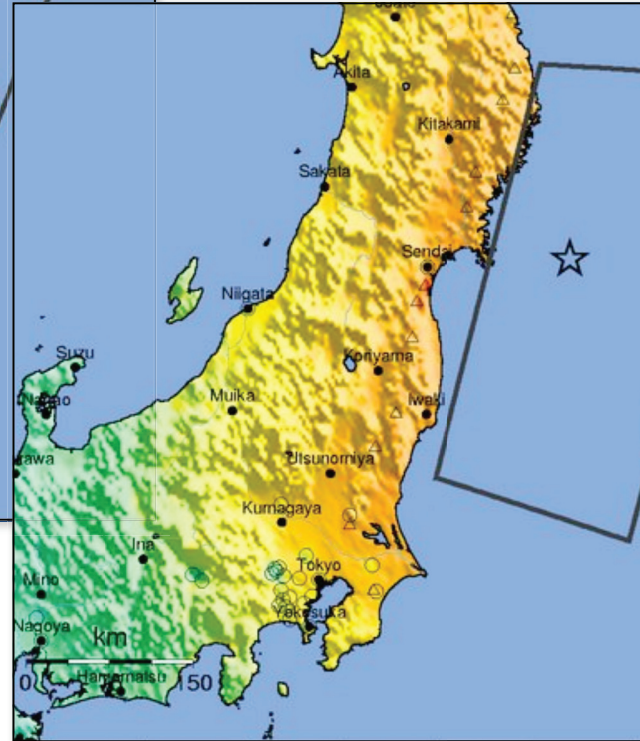
# Tohoku, Japan Earthquake: ShakeMap Evolution

V6: OT +3 d 9 hr

- M9.0
- DYFI Data
- 273 K-NET stations**
- Finite fault from K-NET (NIED) inversion

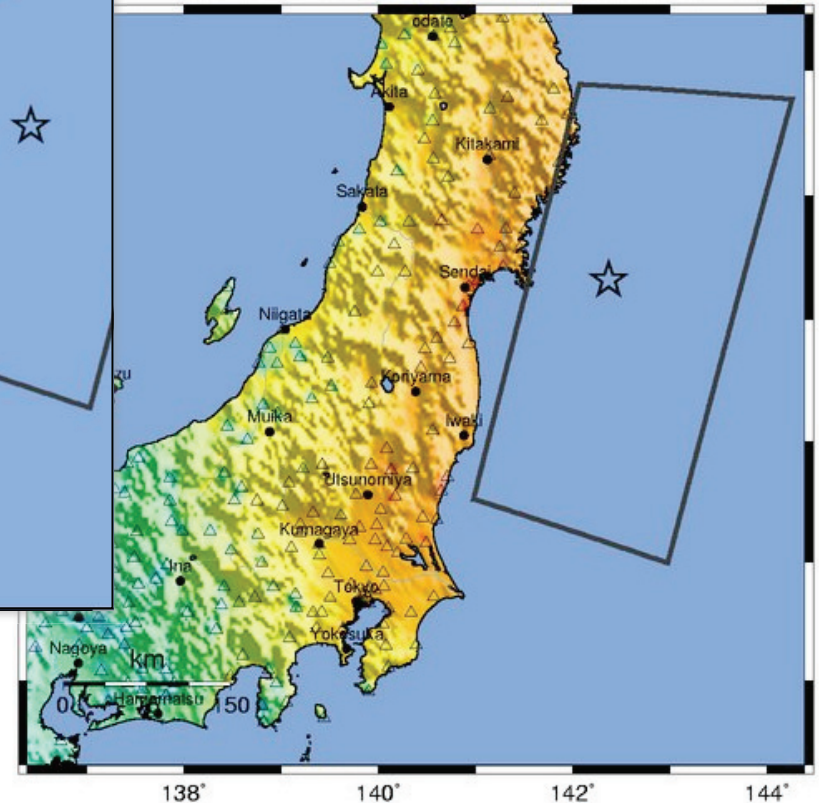


- V4: O.T. +2 h 22 min
- M8.9
  - DYFI data**
  - Finite fault inferred from aftershocks



- V5: OT +2 d 11 hr
- M9.0
  - DYFI Data
  - 12 K-NET stations**
  - Finite fault inferred from aftershocks

ShakeMap : NEAR THE EAST COAST OF HONSHU, JAPAN  
 , 2011 05:46:23 GMT M 9.0 N38.32 E142.37 Depth: 32.0km ID:c0001xgp



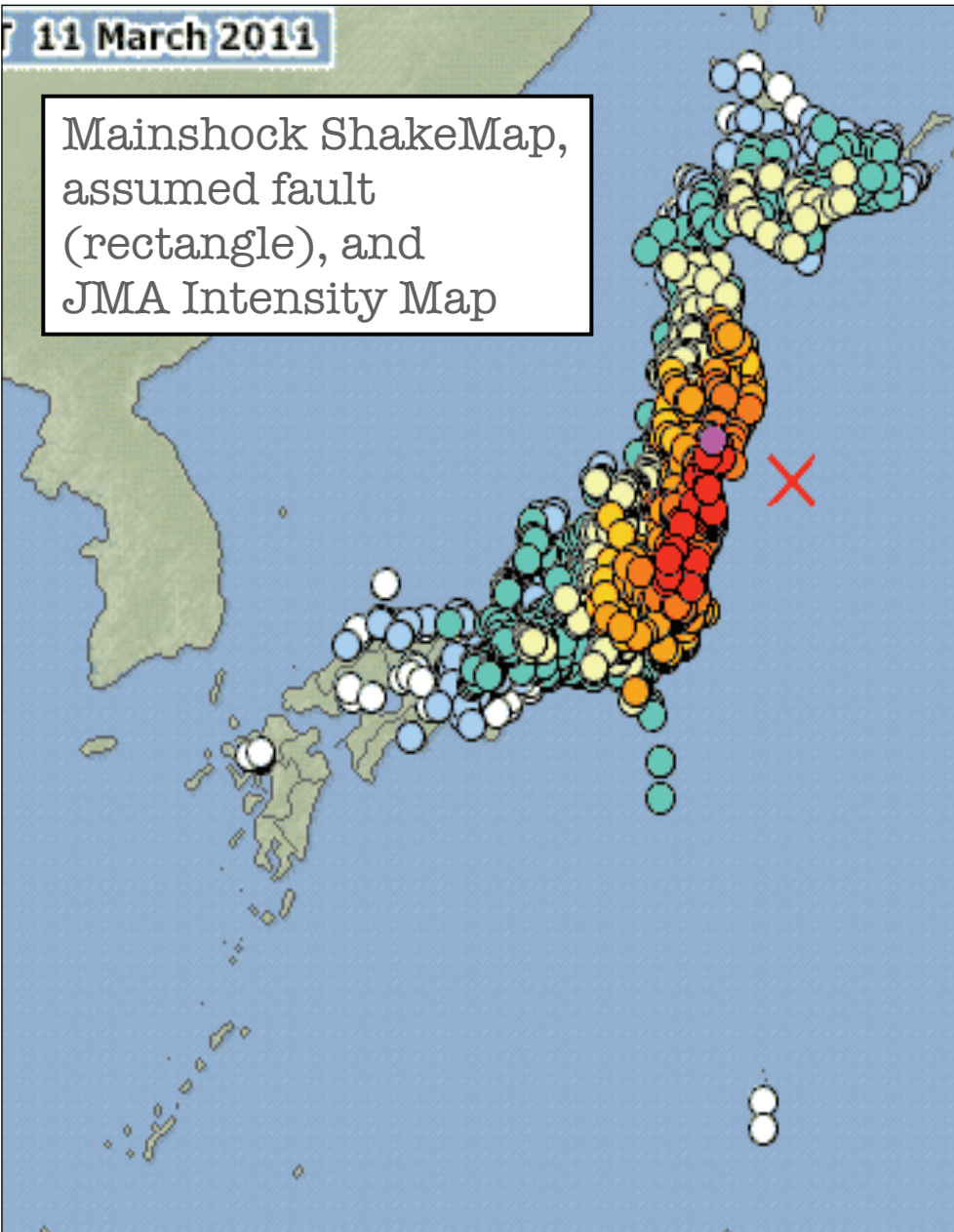
Map Version 6 Processed Tue Mar 15, 2011 08:39:58 AM MDT – NOT REVIEWED BY HUMAN

PERCEIVED SHAKING	Not felt	Weak	Light	Moderate	Strong	Very strong	Severe	Violent	Extreme
POTENTIAL DAMAGE	none	none	none	Very light	Light	Moderate	Moderate/Heavy	Heavy	Very Heavy
PEAK ACC.(%g)	<.17	.17-1.4	1.4-3.9	3.9-9.2	9.2-18	18-34	34-65	65-124	>124
PEAK VEL.(cm/s)	<0.1	0.1-1.1	1.1-3.4	3.4-8.1	8.1-16	16-31	31-60	60-116	>116
INSTRUMENTAL INTENSITY	I	II-III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X+

11 March 2011



Mainshock ShakeMap, assumed fault (rectangle), and JMA Intensity Map



USGS ShakeMap : NEAR THE EAST COAST OF HONSHU, JAPAN  
 Fri Mar 11, 2011 05:46:23 GMT M 8.9 N38.32 E142.37 Depth: 24.4km ID:c0001xgp



Map Version 4 Processed Fri Mar 11, 2011 01:23:57 AM MST -- NOT REVIEWED BY HUMAN

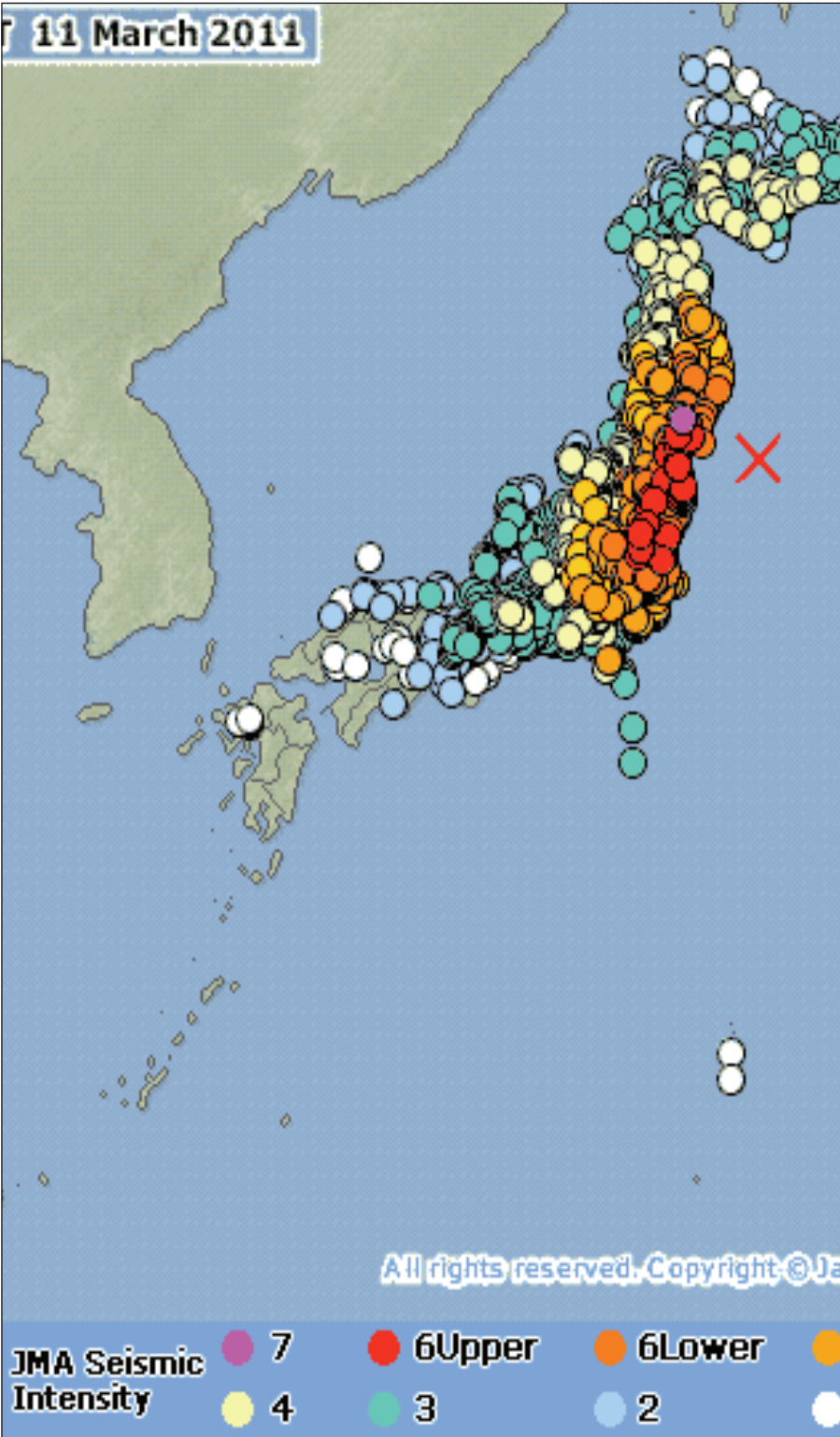
PERCEIVED SHAKING	Not felt	Weak	Light	Moderate	Strong	Very strong	Severe	Violent	Extreme
POTENTIAL DAMAGE	none	none	none	Very light	Light	Moderate	Moderate/Heavy	Heavy	Very Heavy
PEAK ACC.(%g)	<.17	.17-1.4	1.4-3.9	3.9-9.2	9.2-18	18-34	34-65	65-124	>124
PEAK VEL.(cm/s)	<0.1	0.1-1.1	1.1-3.4	3.4-8.1	8.1-16	16-31	31-60	60-116	>116
INSTRUMENTAL INTENSITY	I	II-III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X+

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- JMA Seismic Intensity
- 7
  - 6Upper
  - 6Lower
  - 5Upper
  - 5Lower
  - 4
  - 3
  - 2
  - 1



11 March 2011



Earthquake Shaking **Red Alert**



### M 8.9, NEAR THE EAST COAST OF HONSHU, JAPAN

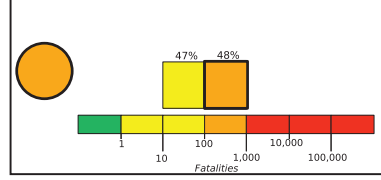
Origin Time: Fri 2011-03-11 05:46:23 UTC (14:46:23 local)

Location: 38.32°N 142.37°E Depth: 24 km

FOR TSUNAMI INFORMATION, SEE: [tsunami.noaa.gov](http://tsunami.noaa.gov)

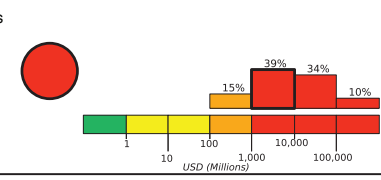
**PAGER Version 5**  
Created: 2 hours, 44 minutes after earthquake

#### Estimated Fatalities



Red alert level for economic losses. Extensive damage is probable and the disaster is likely widespread. Estimated economic losses are less than 1% of GDP of Japan. Past events with this alert level have required a national or international level response.

#### Estimated Economic Losses



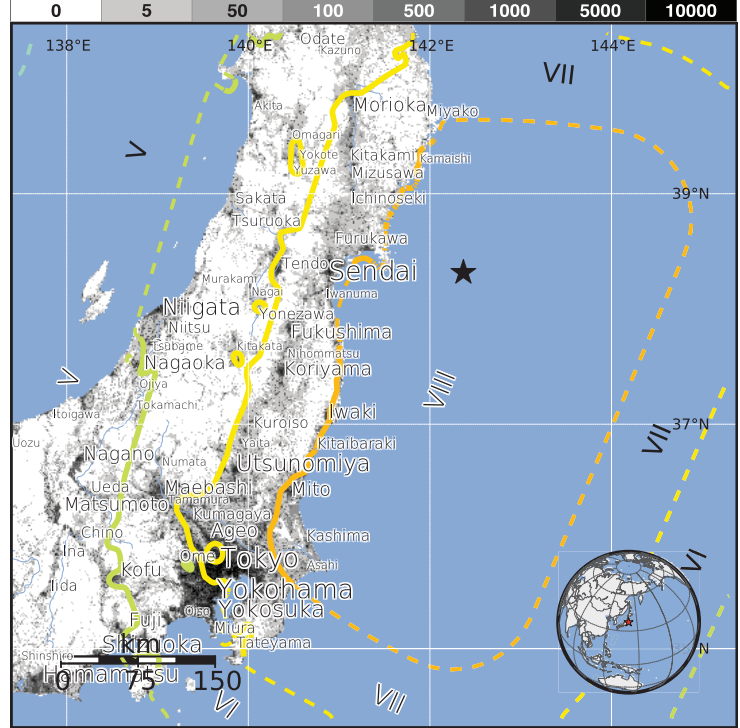
Orange alert level for shaking-related fatalities. Significant casualties are likely.

#### Estimated Population Exposed to Earthquake Shaking

ESTIMATED POPULATION EXPOSURE (k = x1000)	--*	--*	--*	7,071k*	19,695k*	29,969k*	2,144k	0	0	
ESTIMATED MODIFIED MERCALLI INTENSITY	I	II-III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X+	
PERCEIVED SHAKING	Not felt	Weak	Light	Moderate	Strong	Very Strong	Severe	Violent	Extreme	
POTENTIAL DAMAGE	Resistant Structures	none	none	none	V. Light	Light	Moderate	Moderate/Heavy	Heavy	V. Heavy
	Vulnerable Structures	none	none	none	Light	Moderate	Moderate/Heavy	Heavy	V. Heavy	V. Heavy

\*Estimated exposure only includes population within the map area.

#### Population Exposure



**Structures:** Overall, the population in this region resides in structures that are resistant to earthquake shaking, though some vulnerable structures exist. The predominant vulnerable building types are non-ductile reinforced concrete frame and heavy wood frame construction.

#### Historical Earthquakes (with MMI levels):

Date (UTC)	Dist. (km)	Mag.	Max MMI(#)	Shaking Deaths
1998-06-14	363	5.7	VII(428k)	0
1994-12-28	263	7.7	VII(132k)	3
1983-05-26	369	7.7	VII(174k)	104

Recent earthquakes in this area have caused secondary hazards such as tsunamis, landslides, and fires that might have contributed to losses.

#### Selected City Exposure

from GeoNames.org

MMI City	Population
VIII Omigawa	26k
VIII Oarai	19k
VIII Hasaki	39k
VIII Itako	26k
VIII Ofunato	35k
VIII Takahagi	34k
VII Sendai	1,038k
VII Chiba	920k
VII Tokyo	8,337k
VI Yokohama	3,574k
V Shizuoka	702k

bold cities appear on map (k = x1000)

PAGER content is automatically generated, and only considers losses due to structural damage. Limitations of input data, shaking estimates, and loss models may add uncertainty. <http://earthquake.usgs.gov/pager>

Event ID: usc0001xgp



hilo, hawaii

**USGS ShakeMap**

Instrumental Intensity	I	II-III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X+
Potential Shaking	Not felt	Weak	Light	Moderate	Strong	Very Strong	Severe	Violent	Extreme
Potential Damage	None	None	None	Very Light	Light	Moderate	Moderate/Heavy	Heavy	Very Heavy

### Shaking & Aftershocks (as of March 13<sup>th</sup>)

**Magnitude**

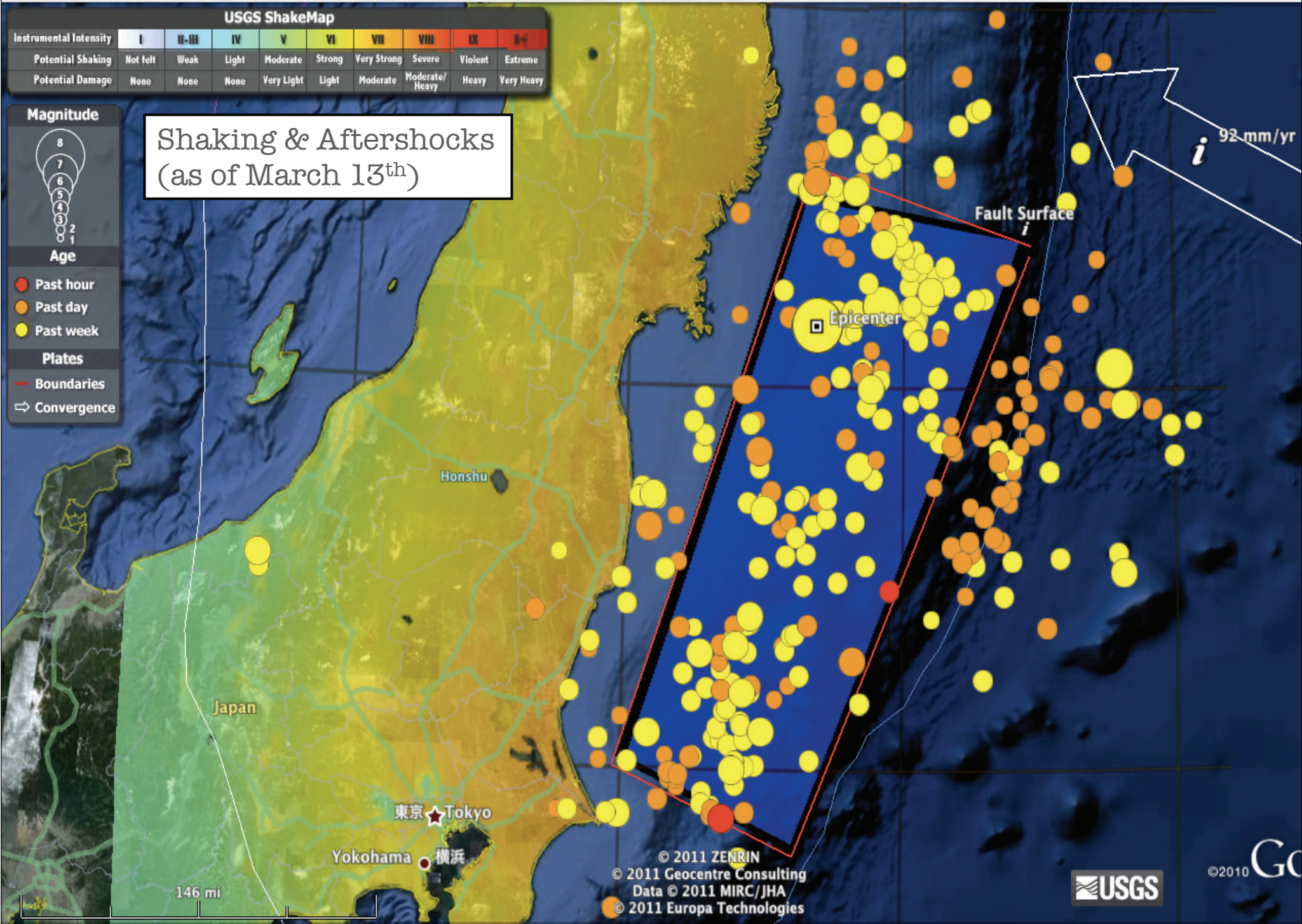


**Age**

- Past hour
- Past day
- Past week

**Plates**

- Boundaries
- Convergence



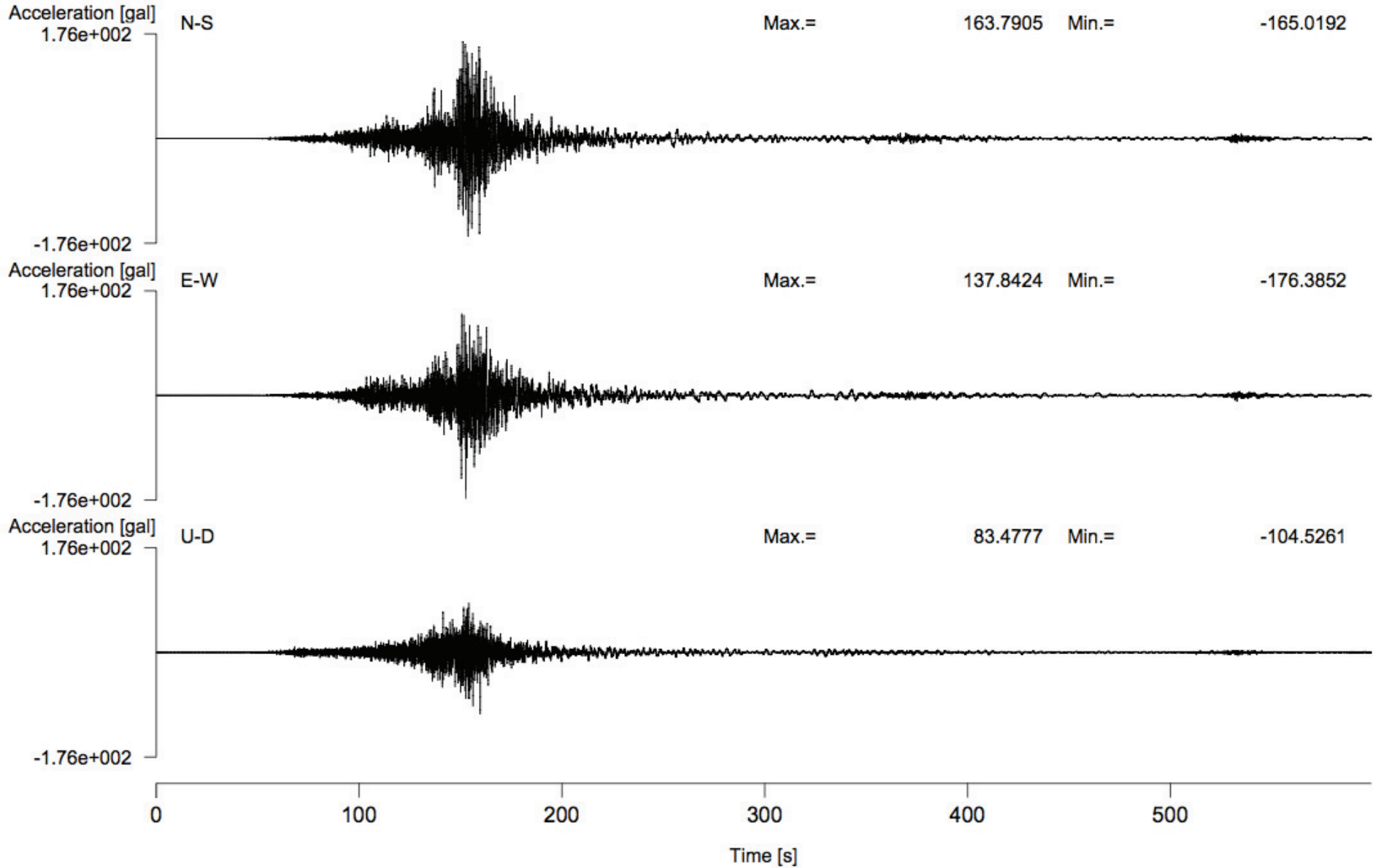
© 2011 ZENRIN  
© 2011 Geocentre Consulting  
Data © 2011 MIRC/JHA  
© 2011 Europa Technologies



# Tohoku, Japan Earthquake: Shaking Duration in Tokyo, Ground Acceleration

ERI-1555\_1\_20110311144726

ERI-1555\_1\_ 2011/03/11 14:46:56 Seismic Intensity : 4.82

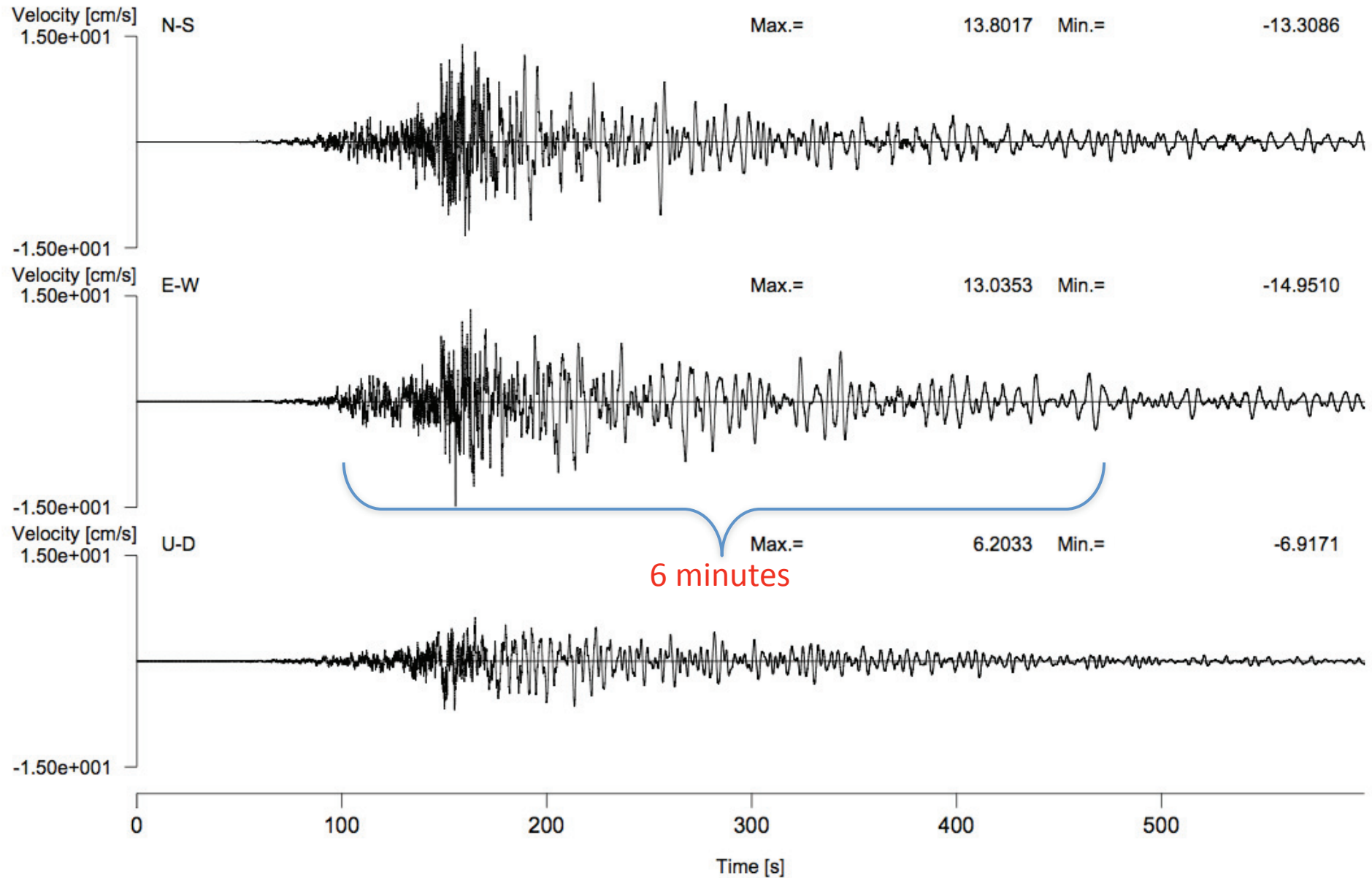




# Tohoku, Japan Earthquake: Shaking Duration in Tokyo, Ground Velocity

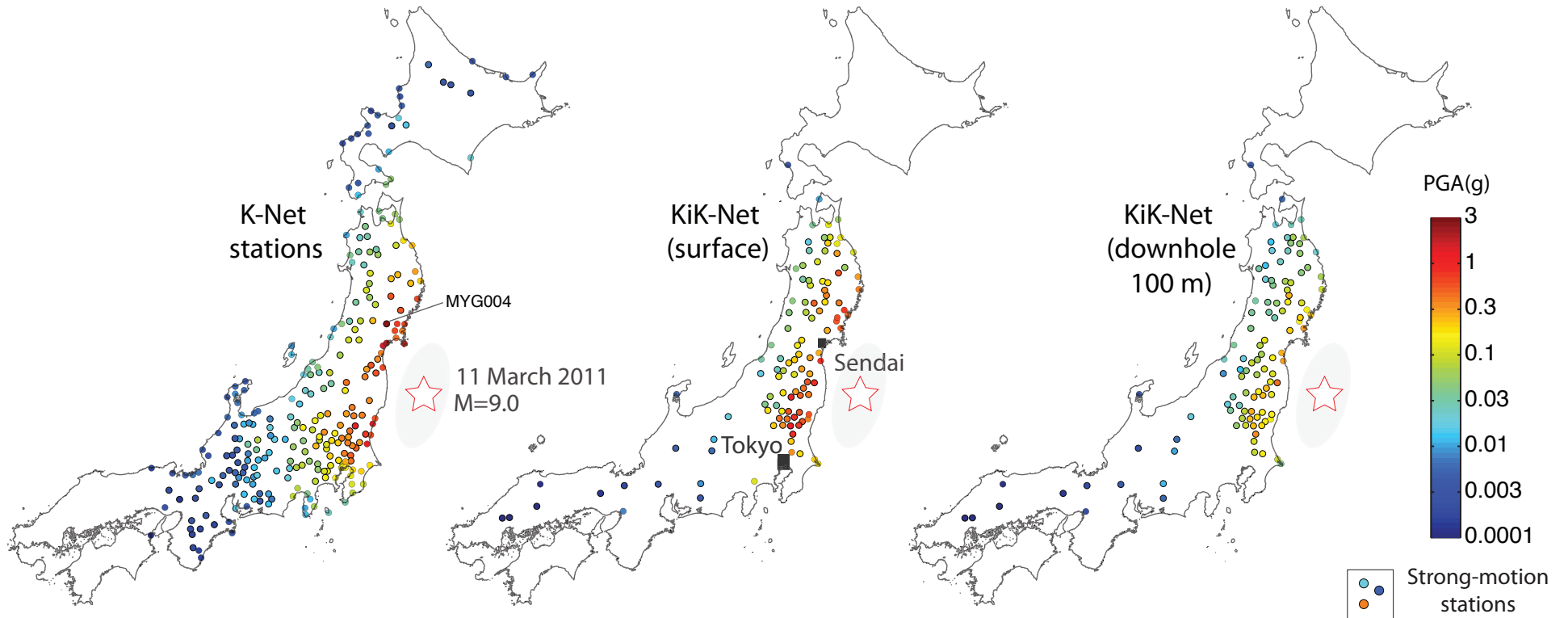
ERI-1555\_1\_20110311144726

ERI-1555\_1\_ 2011/03/11 14:46:56 Seismic Intensity : 4.82

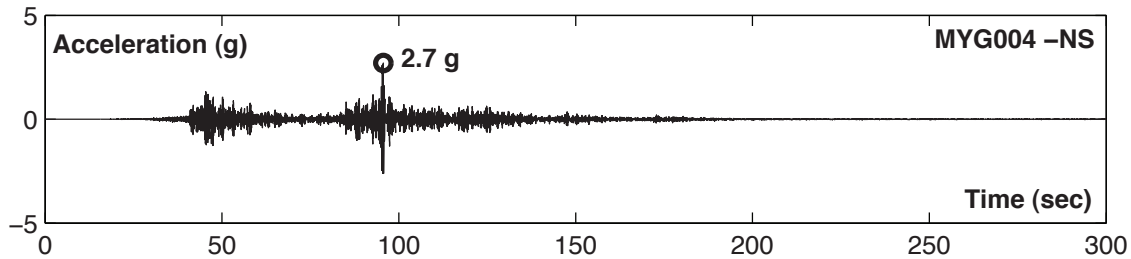




# Peak Ground Motion Acceleration (PGA) of the 11 March 2011 Tohoku M=9.0 earthquake

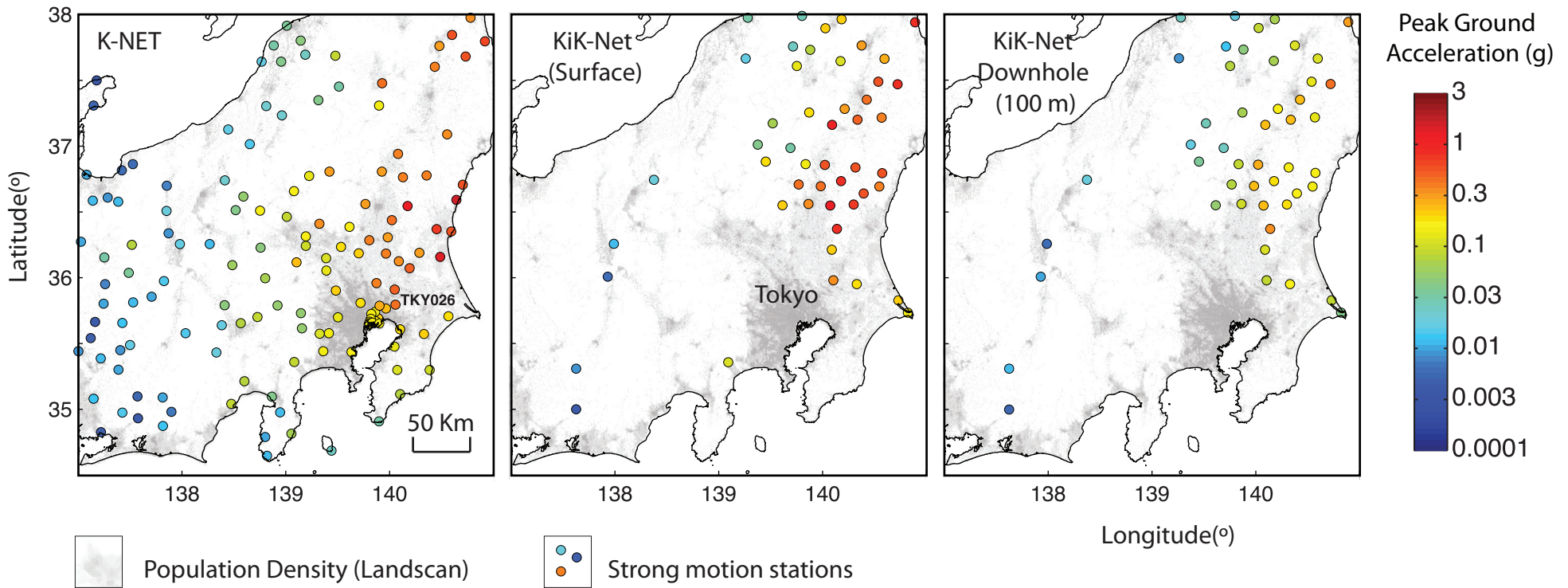


Maximum PGA of 2.7g was recorded at Miyagi Prefecture

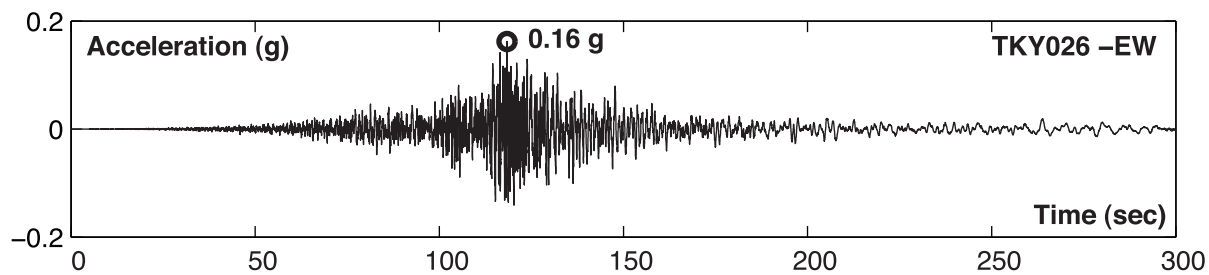


Erol Kalkan & Volkan Sevilgen (USGS)  
March 17, 2011

# Peak Ground Motion Acceleration (PGA) of the 11 March 2011 Tohoku M=9.0 earthquake Tokyo Metropolitan and its surroundings



Maximum PGA of 0.16g was recorded at Tokyo Metropolitan

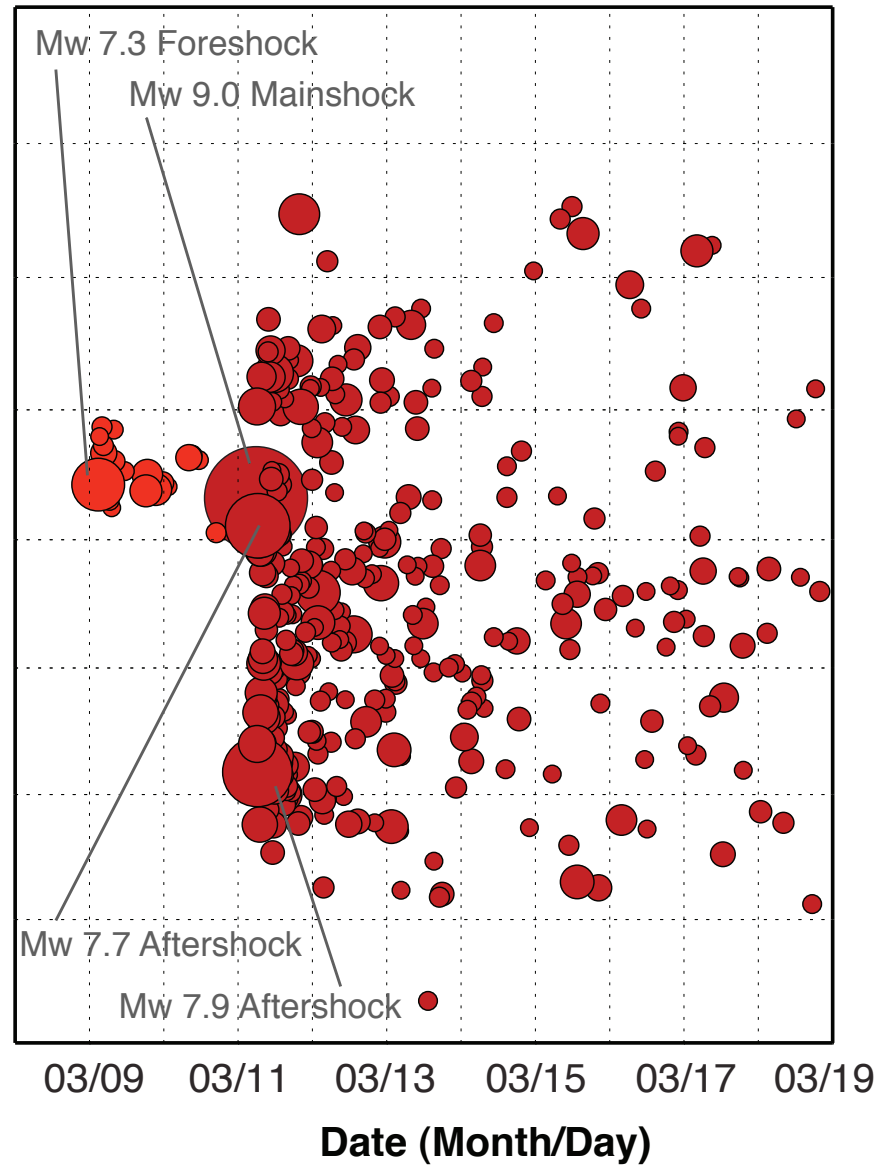
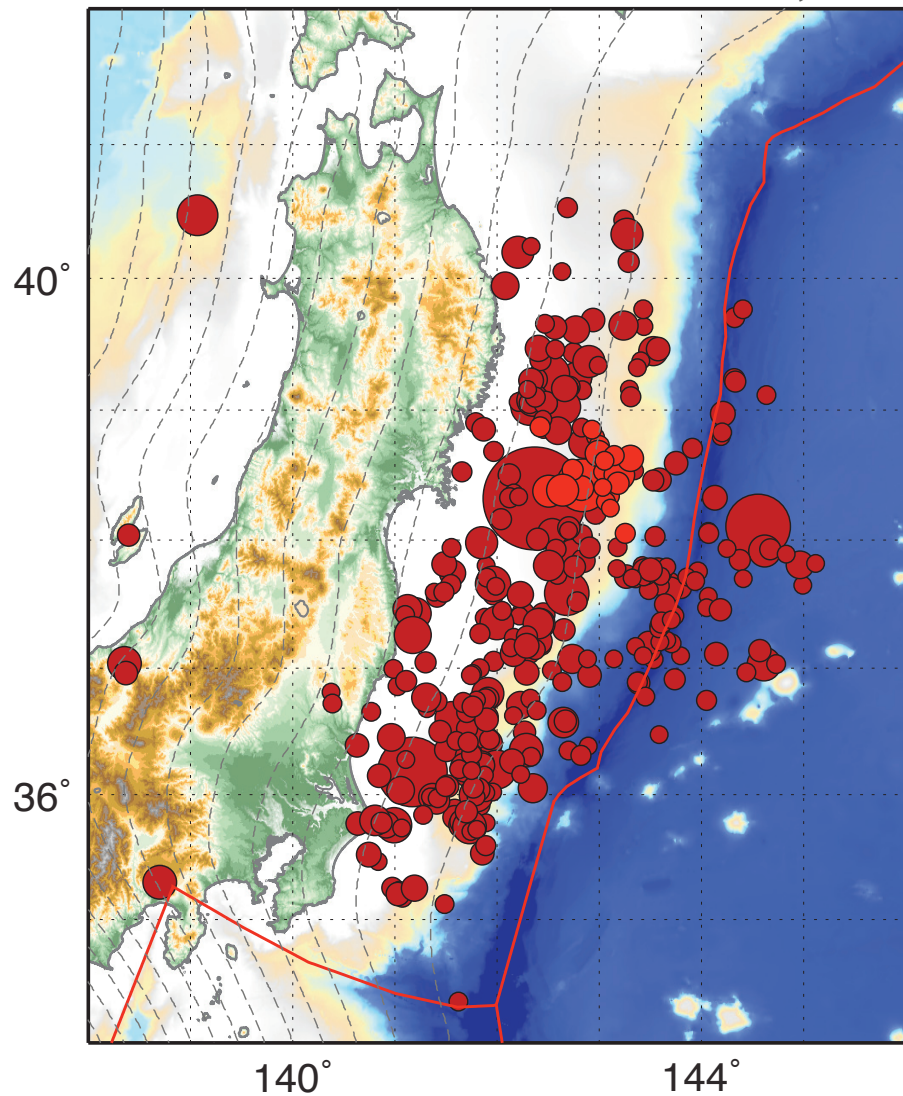


March 17, 2011

Erol Kalkan & Volkan Sevilgen (USGS)

# Tohoku, Japan Earthquake: Aftershock (and Foreshock) Sequence, 03/08/11 - 03/16/11

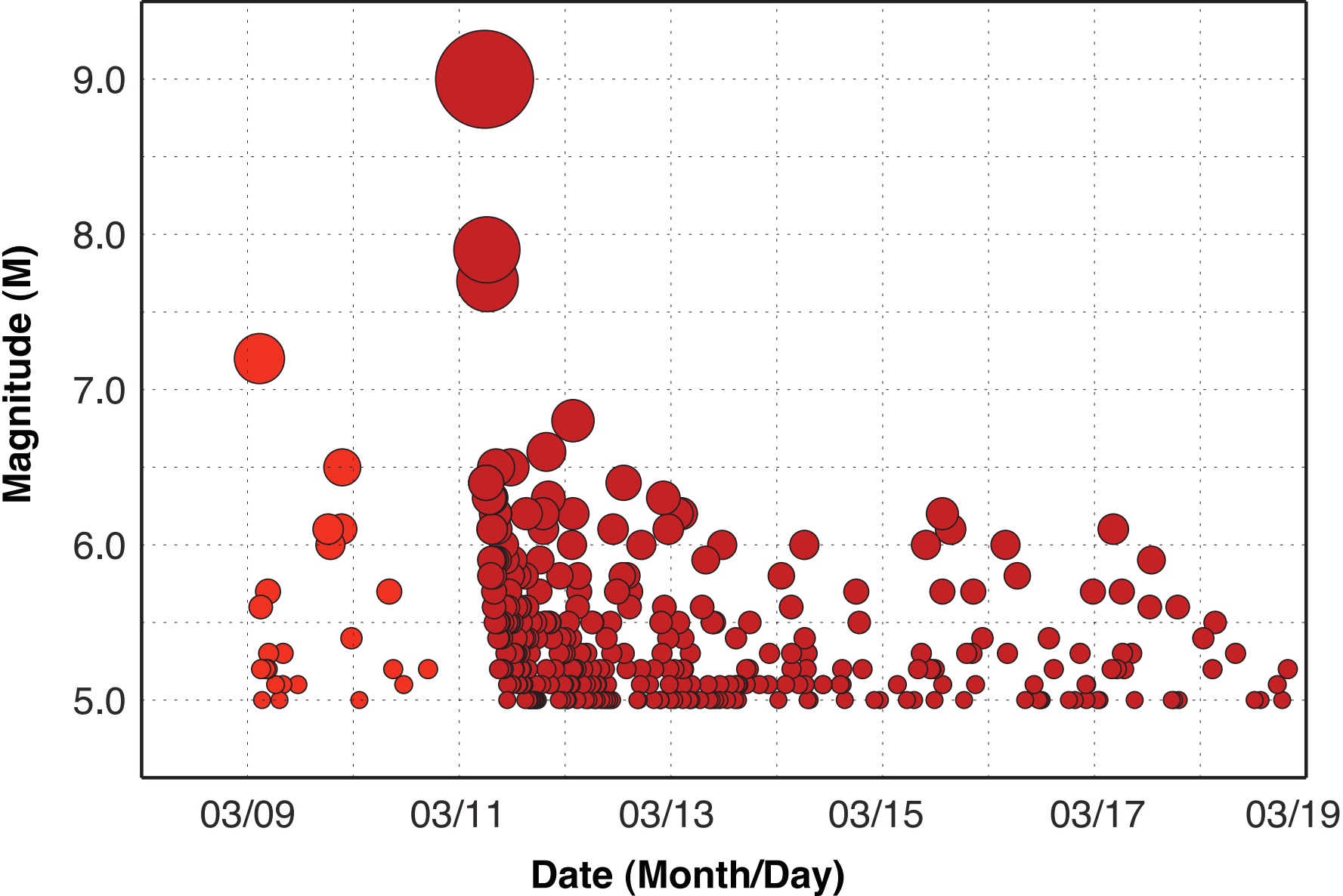
Slab Contours from Slab1.0, every 20 km



Note that the magnitudes of the 2011/03/11 06:15 (Mw 7.9) and 2011/03/11 06:25 (Mw 7.7) aftershocks were updated from earlier, lower estimates. Updates occurred on 03/16 and 03/18, respectively.



# Tohoku, Japan Earthquake: Aftershock (and Foreshock) Sequence, M:Time History

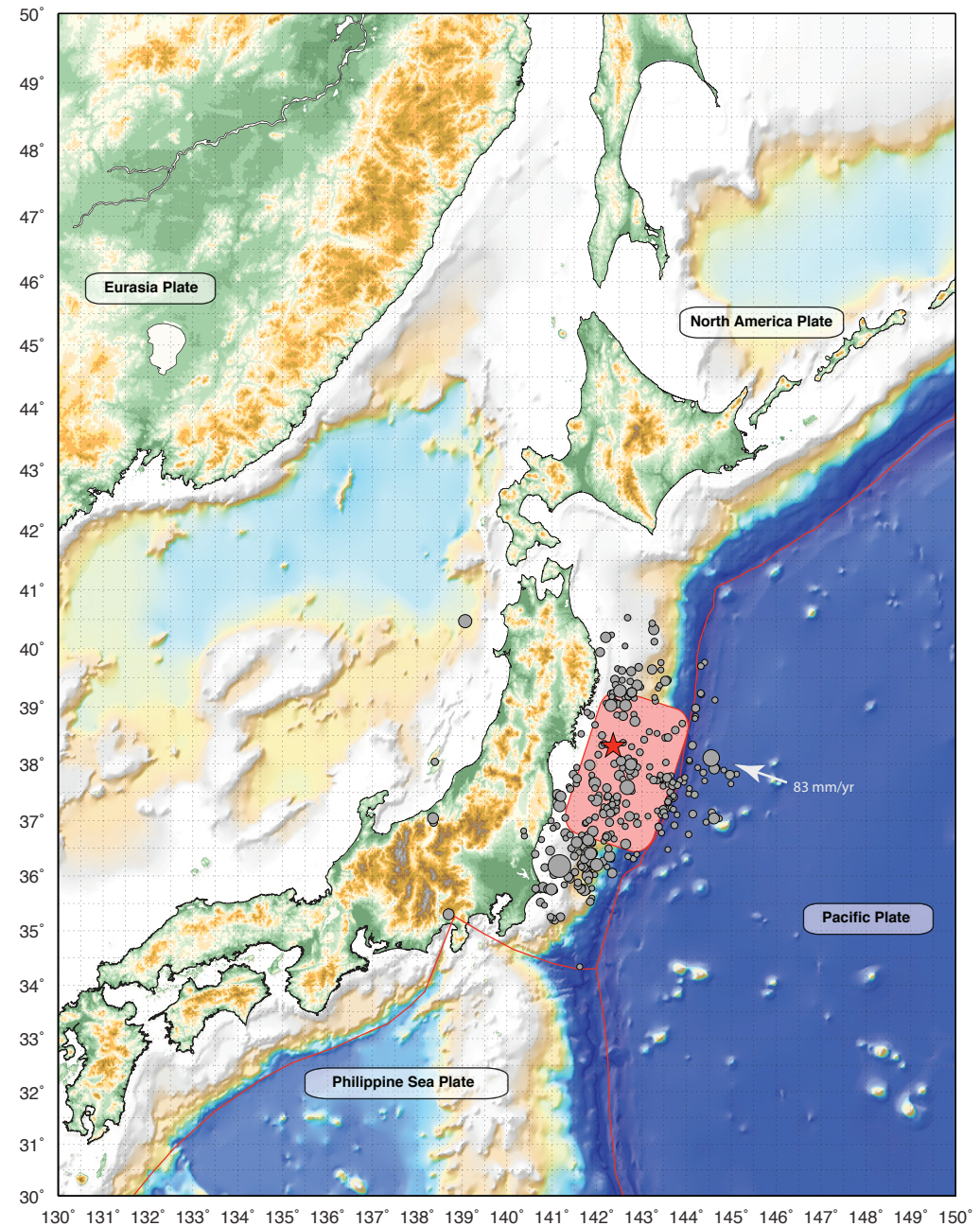


# Tohoku, Japan Earthquake: Tectonic Summary

The magnitude 9.0 Tohoku earthquake on March 11, 2011, which occurred near the northeast coast of Honshu, Japan, resulted from thrust faulting on or near the subduction zone plate boundary between the Pacific and North America plates. At the latitude of this earthquake, the Pacific plate moves approximately westwards with respect to the North America plate at a rate of 83 mm/yr, and begins its westward descent beneath Japan at the Japan Trench.

The location, depth, and focal mechanism of the March 11 earthquake are consistent with the event having occurred on the subduction zone plate boundary.

Modeling of the rupture of this earthquake (**red shading**, approx.) indicate that the fault moved upwards of 30-40 m, and slipped over an area approximately 300 km long (along-strike) by 150 km wide (in the down-dip direction). The rupture zone is roughly centered on the earthquake epicenter along-strike, while peak slips were up-dip of the hypocenter, towards the Japan Trench axis. The March 11 earthquake was preceded by a series of large foreshocks over the previous two days, beginning on March 9th with a M 7.2 event approximately 40 km from the epicenter of the March 11 earthquake, and continuing with another three earthquakes greater than M 6 on the same day.





# Japan Regional Seismicity, 1900-2007

## USGS Poster/Open File Report 2010-1083-D



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

### Seismicity of the Earth 1900-2007 Japan and Vicinity

Compiled by Susan Rhea, Arthur C. Tarr, Gavin Hayes, Antonio Villaseñor, and Harley Benz

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#### TECTONIC SUMMARY

This map shows details of Japan and vicinity not visible in an earlier publication (Tarr and others, 2010). Japan and the island arcs are part of the Pacific plate. North America plate, Eurasia plate, and Philippine Sea plate. The Pacific plate is subducted into the mantle, beneath Hokkaido and northern Honshu, along the eastern margin of the Okhotsk microplate, a proposed subdivision of the North America plate (Bird, 2003). Further south, the Pacific plate is subducted beneath volcanic islands along the eastern margin of the Philippine Sea plate. This 2,000 km-long zone of subduction of the Pacific plate is responsible for the creation of the deep offshore Ogasawara and Japan trenches as well as parallel chains of islands and volcanoes, typical of Cocos-Pacific island arcs. Similarly, the Philippine Sea plate is itself subducting under the Eurasia plate along a zone, extending from Taiwan to southern Honshu, that comprises the Ryukyu Islands and the Nansai-Shoto trench.

Subduction zones at the Japanese island arcs are geologically complex and produce numerous earthquakes from multiple sources. Deformation of the overriding plate generates shallow crustal earthquakes, whereas slip at the interface of the plates generates interplate earthquakes that extend from near the base of the trench to depths of 40 to 60 km. At greater depths, Japanese earthquakes occur within the subducting Pacific and Philippine Sea plates and can reach depths of nearly 700 km. Since 1900, two great earthquakes occurred off Japan and north of Hokkaido. They are the M8.4 1933 Sanriku-oki earthquake (Kawakata and Seno, 1983), the M8.3 2003 Tokachi-oki earthquake (Miyazaki and others, 2004), M8.4 1958 Itoya earthquake (Fukao and Furumoto, 1979), the M8.3 1963 Kari earthquake (Beck and Ruff, 1987), and the M8.3 1994 Shikotan earthquake (Kikuchi and Kanamori, 1995).

Several relevant tectonic elements, plate boundaries and active volcanoes, provide a context for the seismicity presented on the main map. The plate boundaries (Bird, 2003) are known most accurately where the axes of the trenches and are more diffuse or speculative in the Sea of Japan, China, and Russia. The active volcanic arcs (Siebert and Simkin, 2002) follow the Izu, Volcano, and Ryukyu island chains and the main Japanese islands parallel to the Japan trench.

#### DATA SOURCES

The earthquakes portrayed on the main map and the depth profiles are taken from two sources: (a) the Centennial Catalog (Engdahl and Villaseñor, 2002) and annual supplements for the interval 1900-2007, where the magnitude (local  $M_L$  globally), and (b) a catalog of earthquakes having high-quality depth determinations for the period 1904-2002 and a magnitude range of 1.0-6.5 (Engdahl, personal comm., 2003).

The nucleation points of great earthquakes (M8.3) are designated with a label showing the year of occurrence. Their rupture areas are shown as pale yellow polygons. Major earthquakes (M5.2-8.2) are labeled with the year of occurrence. Slab contours are from Hayes and Wald (2010).

The Seismic Hazard and Relative Plate Motion panel displays the generalized seismic hazard of the region (Giardini and others, 1999) and representative relative plate motions using the NUVEL-1A model (DeMets, et al., 1994).

Pre-instrumental seismicity was obtained from the NOAA National Geophysical Data Center (2010) database of significant earthquakes, locations are approximate, based on macro-seismic reports and field investigations. We selected for earthquakes with associated reports of moderate to major damage, deaths, an estimated magnitude of 7.5 or greater, or tsunami generation.

Base map data sources include GEBCO 2008, Volcanoes of the World dataset (Siebert and Simkin, 2002), plate boundaries (Bird, 2003), Digital Chart of the World, and ESR1 (2002).

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Giardini, D., Corral, G., Sheeklock, K., Zhang, P., and Global Seismic Hazards Program, 1999. *Global Seismic Hazard Map*, accessed January 9, 2007 at <http://www.seismicity.cr.usgs.gov/>.

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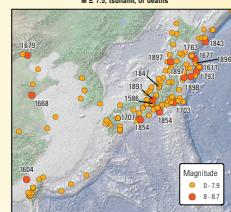
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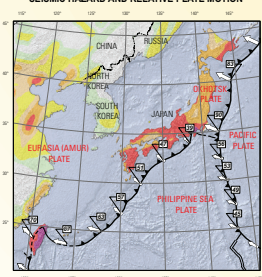
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#### PRE-INSTRUMENTAL SEISMICITY 1500-1899



#### SEISMIC HAZARD AND RELATIVE PLATE MOTION



#### FIGURE EXPLANATION

**Peak ground acceleration**

- 6.5-7.4
- 5.5-6.4
- 4.5-5.4
- 3.5-4.4
- 2.5-3.4
- 1.5-2.4
- 0.5-1.4

**Relative plate motion**

- 10-150 mm/yr
- 60-80 mm/yr
- 40-60 mm/yr
- 20-30 mm/yr

**Plate boundaries**

- Subduction
- Transform
- Divergent
- Other

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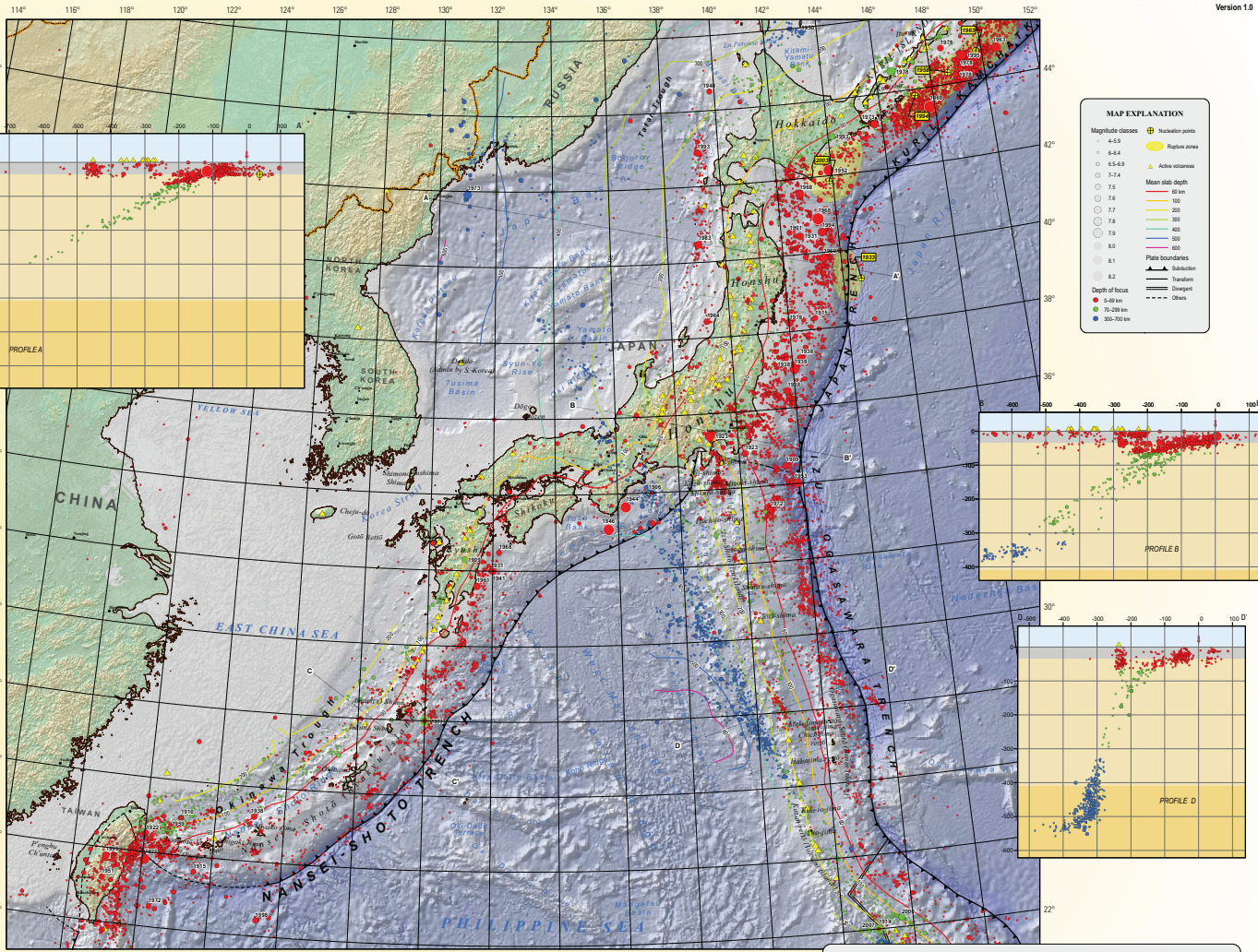
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ATFIP for this map is available at <http://store.usgs.gov/catalog/1083-D>

Suggested citation:  
Rhea, Susan, Tarr, A.C., Hayes, Gavin, Villaseñor, Antonio, and Benz, H.M., 2010. *Seismicity of the Earth 1900-2007*. Open File Report 2010-1083-D, U.S. Geological Survey Open File Report 2010-1083-D, scale 1:8,000,000.



#### MAP EXPLANATION

**Magnitude classes**

- 4-5.4
- 5.5-6.4
- 6.5-6.9
- 7.0
- 7.1
- 7.2
- 7.3
- 7.4
- 7.5
- 7.6
- 7.7
- 7.8
- 7.9
- 8.0
- 8.1
- 8.2

**Active volcanoes**

- Active volcanoes

**Mean slab depth**

- 60 km
- 100
- 200
- 300
- 400
- 500
- 600

**Plate boundaries**

- Subduction
- Transform
- Divergent
- Other

**Depth of focus**

- 0-40 km
- 50-200 km
- 300-700 km

OPEN-FILE REPORT 2010-1083-D  
Version 1.0

Albers Equal Area Conic Projection

Digital map data and cartography by Susan Rhea and Arthur Tarr

Mapwork prepared for publication July 20, 2010

Albers Equal Area Conic Projection

SCALE 1:8 000 000

0 100 200 300 400 500 600 Kilometers

0 100 200 300 400 500 600 Miles

PROFILE C



#### DEPTH PROFILE EXPLANATION

Profiles of earthquake and volcano locations are constructed from the mapped data. Locations of the profile intersection with the surface are drawn on the map and labeled to coincide with the profile label. Box defines extent of earthquakes included in profile. Length of the profile graphic is the same as in the map. Distance in kilometers from the trench axis is indicated in the X direction, depth in kilometers is indicated in the Y direction. There is no vertical exaggeration. See Explanations in side for color key. Not all earth layers, earthquake depths or magnitudes, are visible on every map.

**Magnitude classes**

- 4-5.4
- 5.5-6.4
- 6.5-6.9
- 7.0
- 7.1
- 7.2
- 7.3
- 7.4
- 7.5
- 7.6
- 7.7
- 7.8
- 7.9
- 8.0
- 8.1
- 8.2

**Depth of focus**

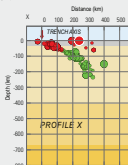
- 0-40 km
- 50-200 km
- 300-700 km

**Earth structure**

- Air
- Crust
- Upper mantle
- Transition zone
- Lower mantle

#### DEPTH PROFILE EXPLANATION

Profiles of earthquake and volcano locations are constructed from the mapped data. Locations of the profile intersection with the surface are drawn on the map and labeled to coincide with the profile label. Box defines extent of earthquakes included in profile. Length of the profile graphic is the same as in the map. Distance in kilometers from the trench axis is indicated in the X direction, depth in kilometers is indicated in the Y direction. There is no vertical exaggeration. See Explanations in side for color key. Not all earth layers, earthquake depths or magnitudes, are visible on every map.

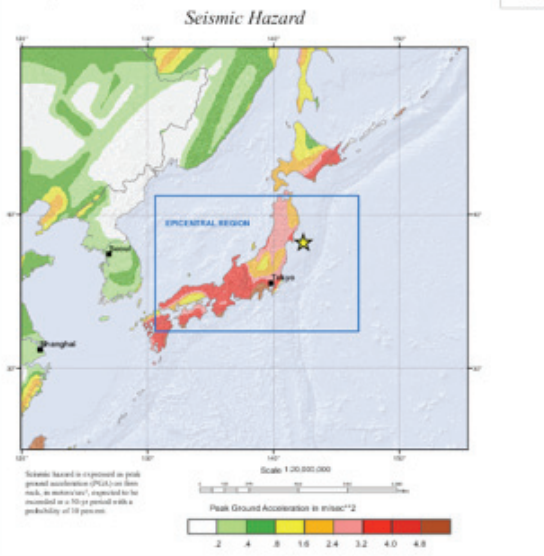
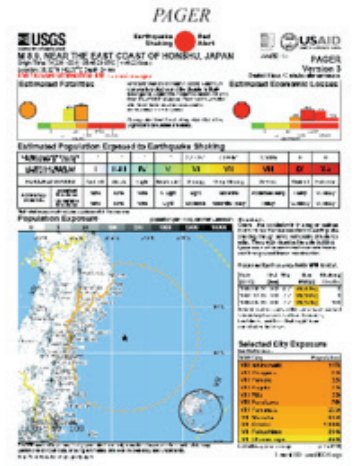
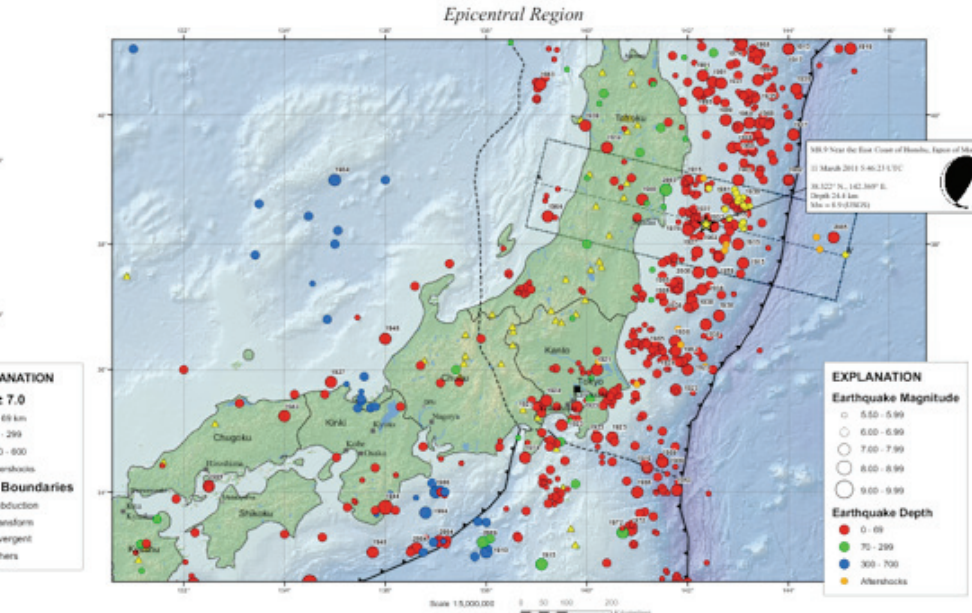
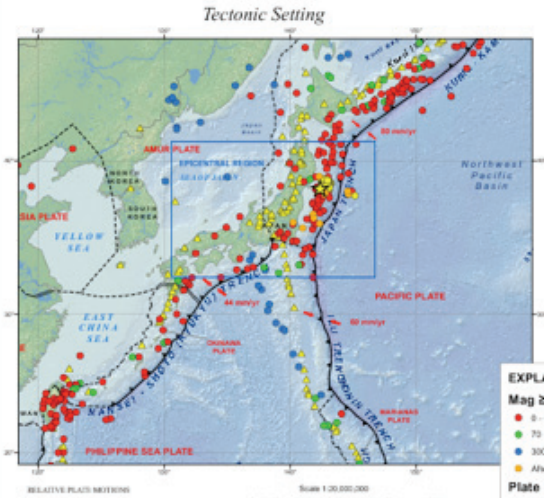




# Tohoku, Japan Earthquake: Summary Poster

## USGS V1 - 4.5 hrs after OT

# M8.9 Near the East Coast of Honshu, Japan of March 11th, 2011



**M8.9 TECTONIC SUMMARY**

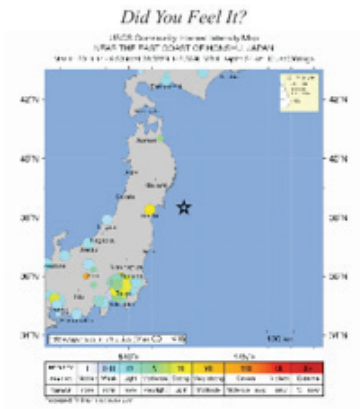
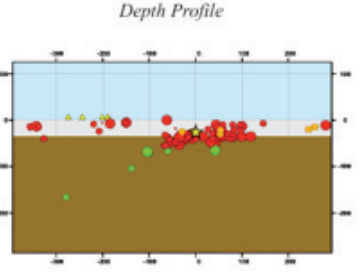
The March 11, 2011 earthquake (preliminary magnitude 8.9) near the east coast of Honshu, Japan, occurred as a result of thrust faulting on or near the subduction zone interface between the Pacific and North America plates. At the latitude of this earthquake, the Pacific plate moves approximately southeast with respect to the North America plate at a velocity of 83 mm/yr. The Pacific plate thrusts underneath Japan at the Japan Trench, and dips to the west beneath Honshu. The location, depth, and focal mechanism of the March 11 earthquake are consistent with the event having occurred as thrust faulting associated with subduction along this plate boundary. Note that some authors divide this region into several subplates that together define the relative motions between the larger Pacific, North America and Eurasia plates; these include the Okhotsk and Amur subplates that are respectively only part of North America and Eurasia.

The March 11 earthquake was preceded by a series of large earthquakes over the previous two days, beginning on March 9th with an M 7.2 event approximately 40 km from the March 11 earthquake, and continuing with a further 3 earthquakes greater than M 6.0 on the same day.

The Japan Trench subduction zone has hosted 9 events of magnitude 7 or greater since 1975. The largest of these was an M 7.8 earthquake approximately 240 km to the north of the March 11 event, on December 1994, which caused 3 fatalities and about 700 injuries. In June of 1978, an M 7.7 earthquake 37 km to the southwest caused 22 fatalities and over 400 injuries.

**Significant Earthquakes Mag  $\geq$  7.5**

Year	Mon	Day	Time	Lat	Long	Depth	Mag
1961	08	24	18:53	42.600	142.350	33	7.6
1966	01	25	13:48	34.500	151.500	350	7.1
1969	09	25	14:29	34.500	143.500	39	7.4
1974	11	02	02:24	38.400	142.800	39	7.5
1977	09	01	02:19	39.400	139.000	39	7.8
1978	06	02	02:44	34.500	149.200	39	7.4
1979	03	07	09:27	39.300	139.300	9	7.0
1921	03	09	03:48	41.400	142.400	39	7.1
1913	03	02	13:52	39.200	144.400	39	7.4
1918	01	23	07:18	36.400	141.700	39	7.5
1920	11	05	08:43	37.500	142.000	39	7.8
1928	11	05	05:51	37.100	142.000	39	7.8
1938	11	04	08:53	37.200	142.200	39	7.1
1944	12	07	04:29	39.700	134.000	9	6.9
1953	11	29	17:48	34.000	141.700	39	7.8
1940	05	25	1:07	39.870	143.430	2.1	6.8
1964	06	16	04:00	38.430	139.210	13.1	7.5
1949	09	18	02:49	42.900	143.340	23.8	8.2
1912	02	23	09:23	39.217	140.483	40	7.9
1919	04	12	08:14	38.220	142.510	53	7.1
1943	01	24	03:05	41.448	139.000	20	7.1
1974	12	28	4:24	41.300	143.483	29	7.8
2011	03	11	09:46	38.320	142.349	24	8.9



**DISCLAIMER**

These maps data, such as place names and political boundaries, are the best available for use but do not constitute endorsement and therefore should not be regarded as having official significance.

**DATA SOURCES**

EARTHQUAKES AND SEISMIC HAZARD  
USGS National Earthquake Information Center  
NEIC, National Earthquake Data Center  
USFSL (Continental Shelf) (1998-1999) and  
International Earthquake Catalog (1992-2002)  
IED (unpublished earthquake catalog) (1998-2002)  
Global Seismic Hazard Assessment Program

**PLATE TECTONICS AND FAULT MODELS**  
RUBIN (2002)  
Plate Plate Model, Garçon Hous, USGS (2011)

**BASE MAP**  
MGA and SRTM, Digital Chart of the World  
USGS, EROS Data Center  
NOAA NED and 1:2.5 Million Elevation Models

**REFERENCES**

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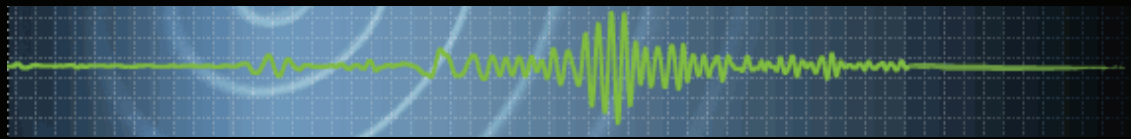
Engel, E. B., Van der Hilst, R. D., and Healy, J. R., 1998, Global seismicity earthquake catalogues with improved rates of times and procedures for depth determination. *Bull. Seism. Soc. Amer.*, v. 69, pp. 722-801.

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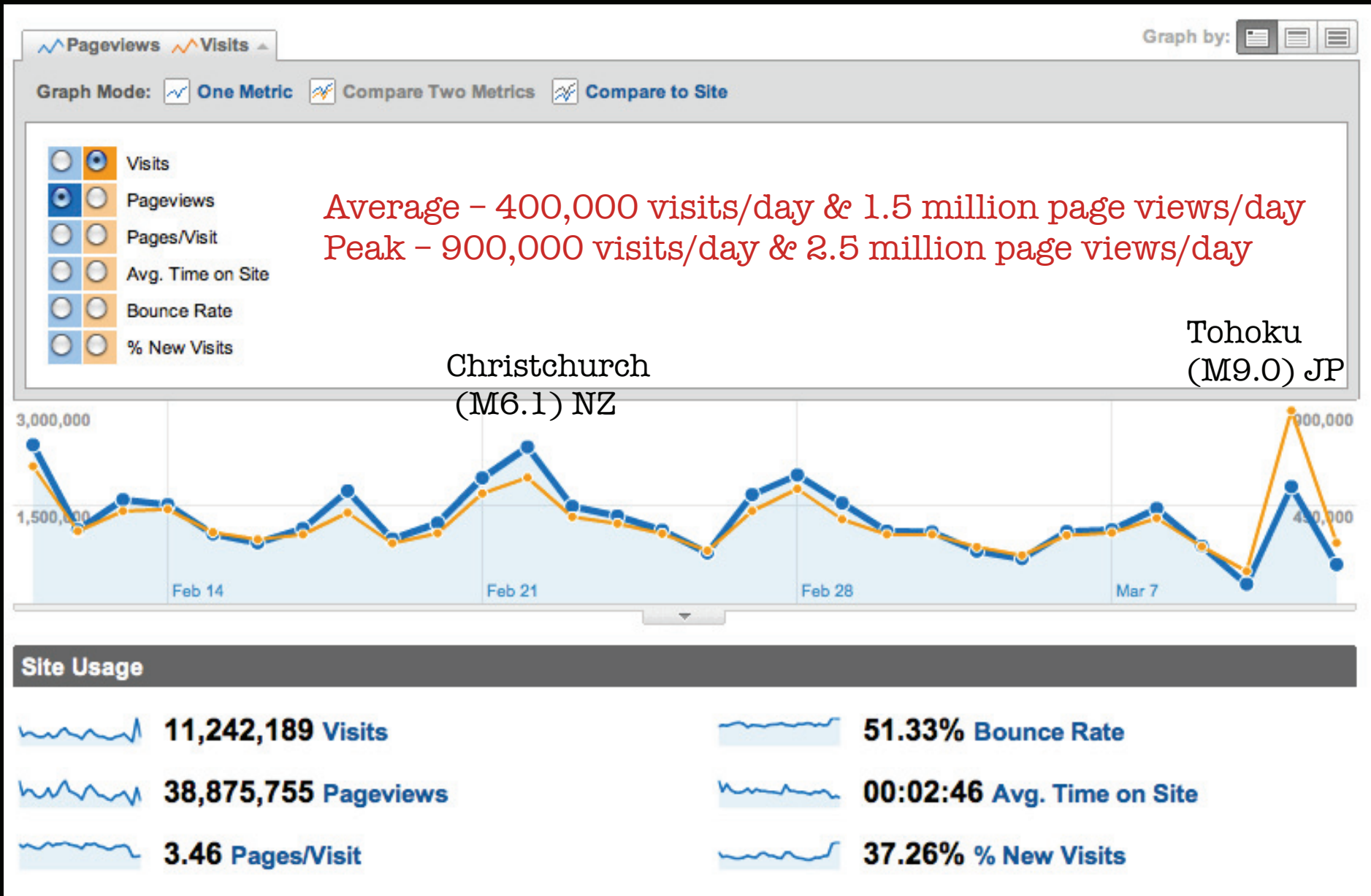
Prepared by: E. B. Engel  
USGS National Earthquake Information Center  
11111  
http://www.gsa.gov





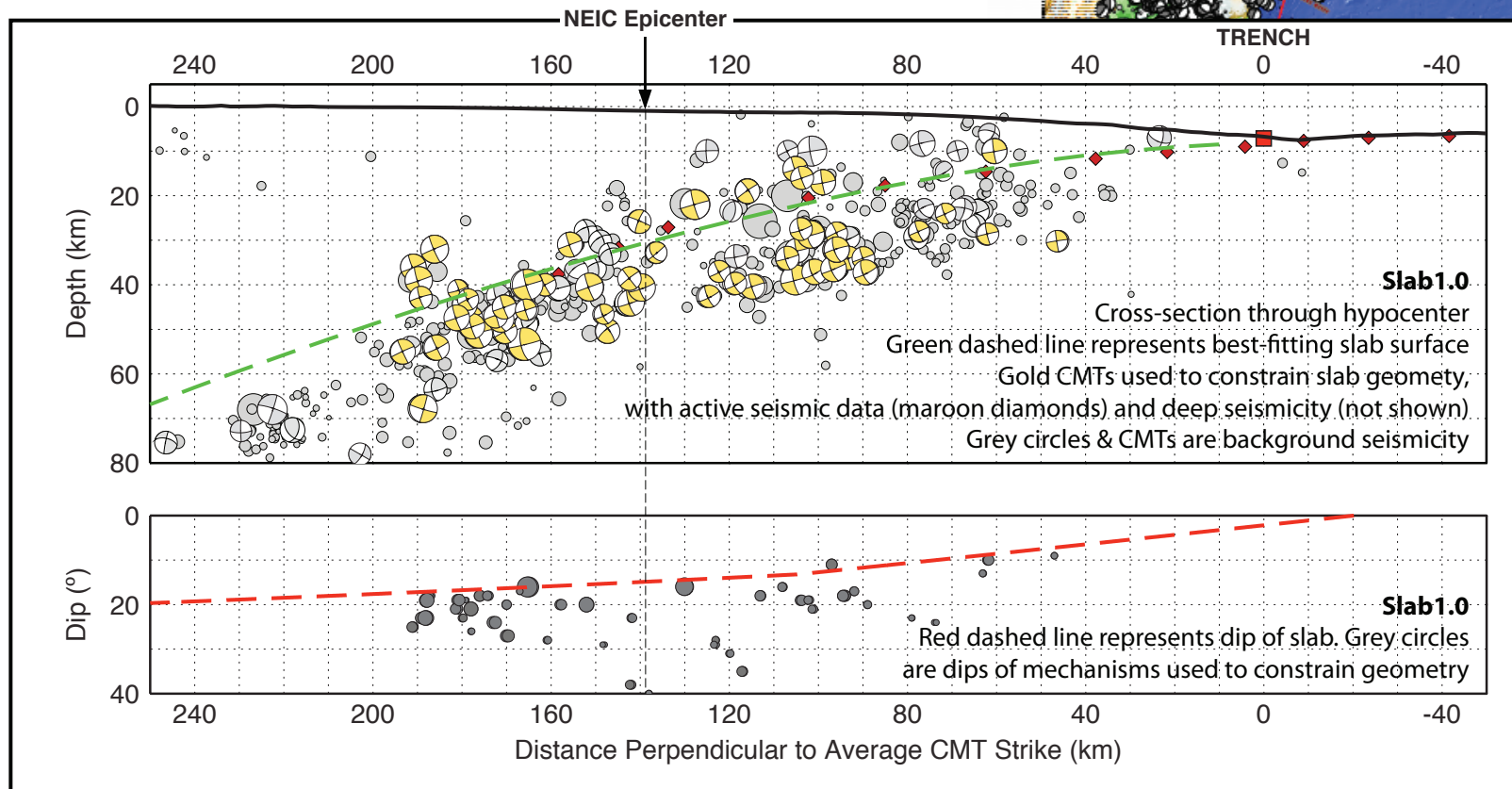
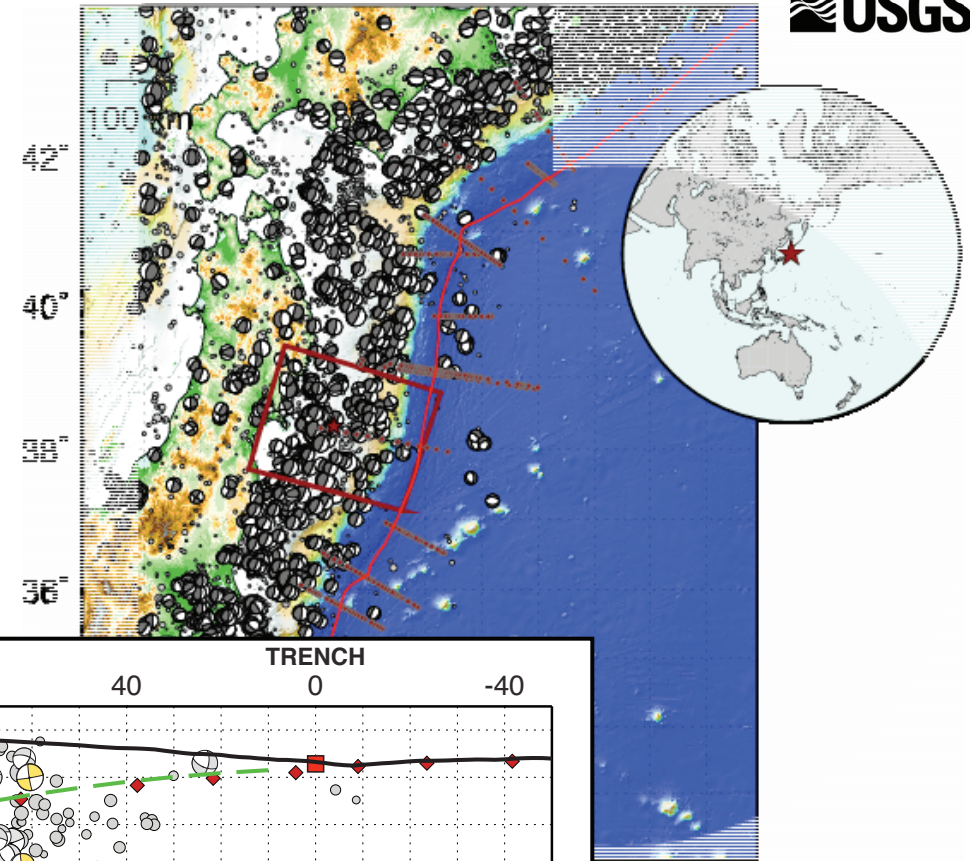


# Web Traffic Statistics

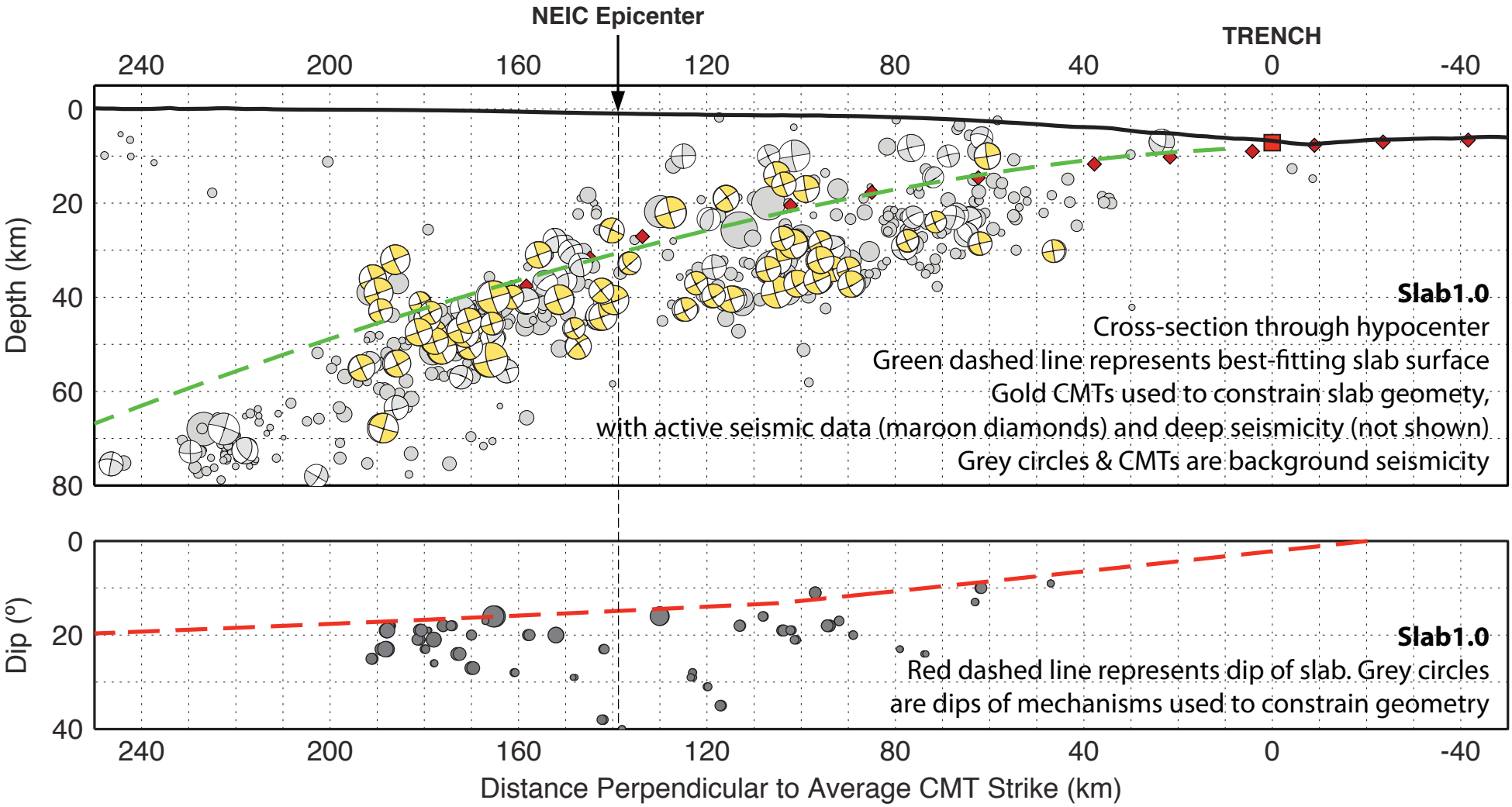




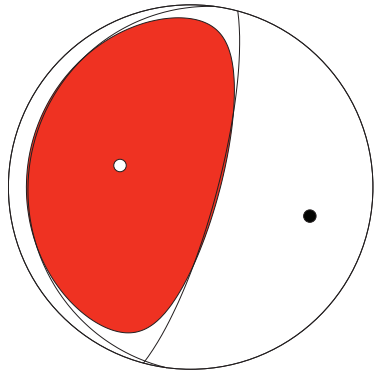
# Tohoku, Japan Earthquake: Source Region Slab Geometry



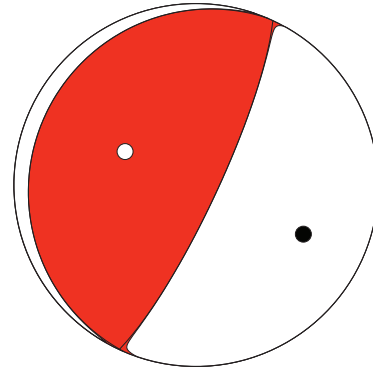
# Tohoku, Japan Earthquake: Source Region Slab Geometry



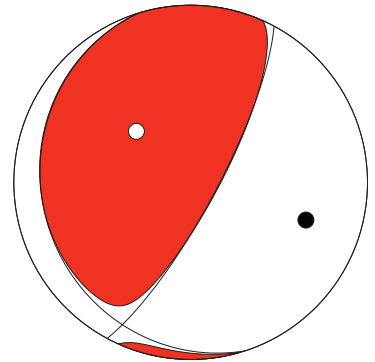
# Tohoku, Japan Earthquake: Moment Tensor Solutions (Faulting Mechanisms)



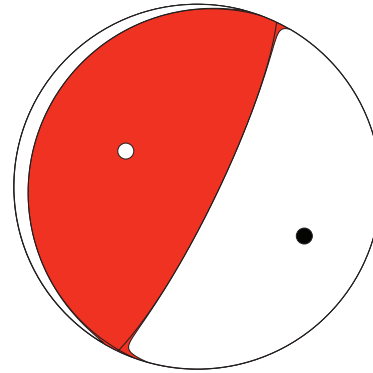
USGS Research Centroid  
Moment Tensor  
Mw 8.9  
Distributed ~34 minutes  
after OT  
(Jascha Polet, Cal Poly Pomona)



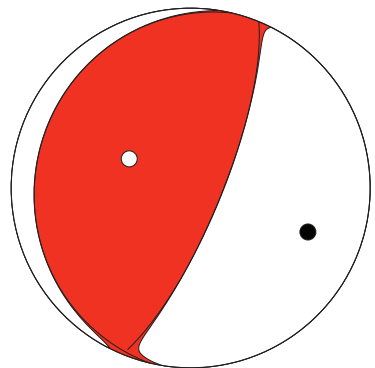
global Centroid Moment  
Tensor V1  
Mw 9.1  
Released 7 hrs after OT



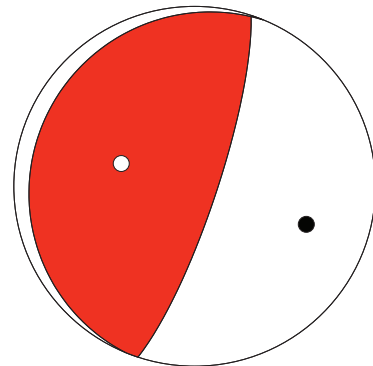
USGS W-Phase V1  
Mw 8.9  
Released 1 hr after OT



global Centroid Moment  
Tensor V2  
Mw 9.1  
Released ~ 3 days after OT



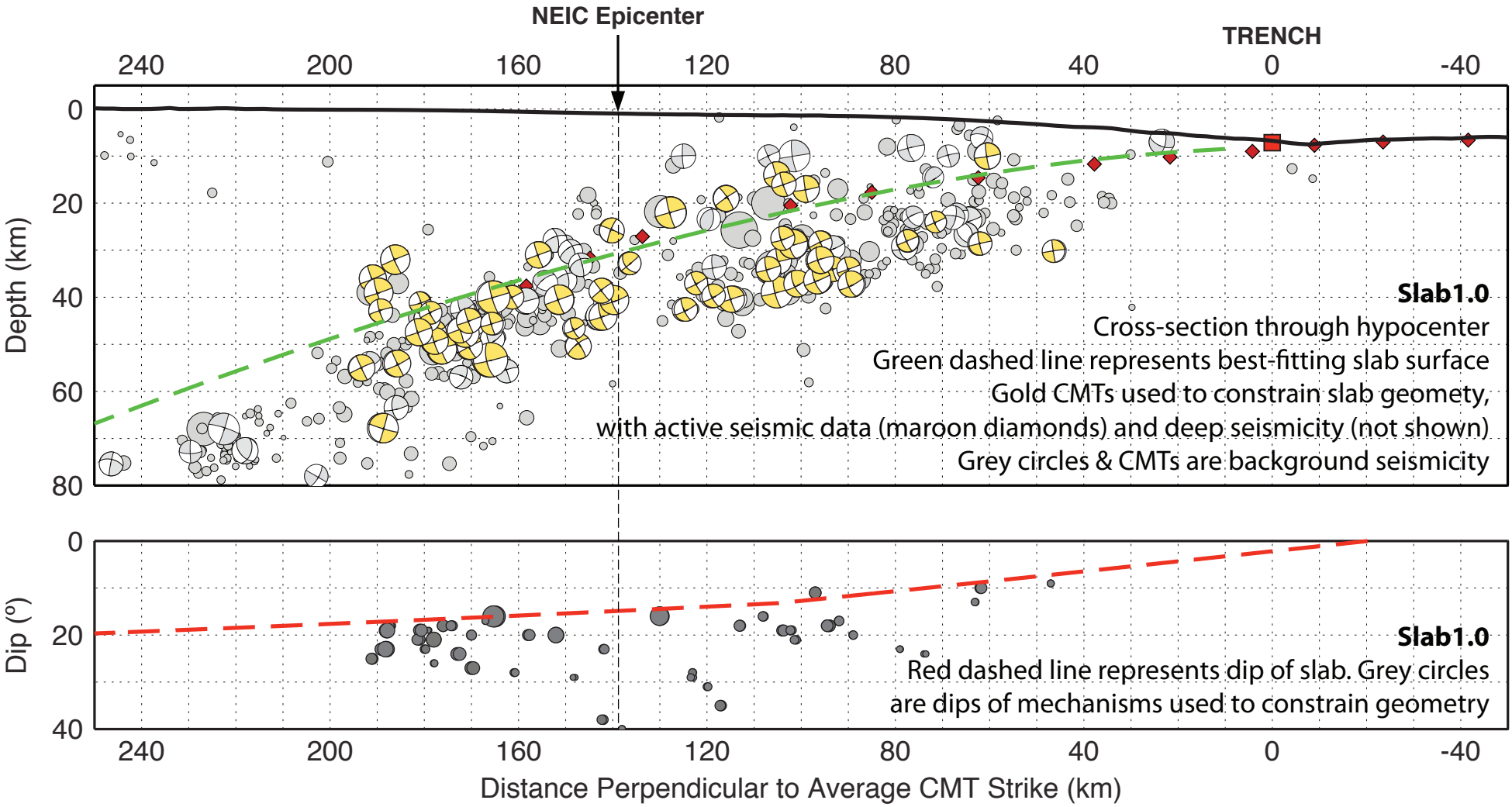
USGS W-Phase V2  
Mw 9.0  
Released 6 hrs after OT



Earthquake Research  
Institute, Japan, CMT V1  
Mw 9.0

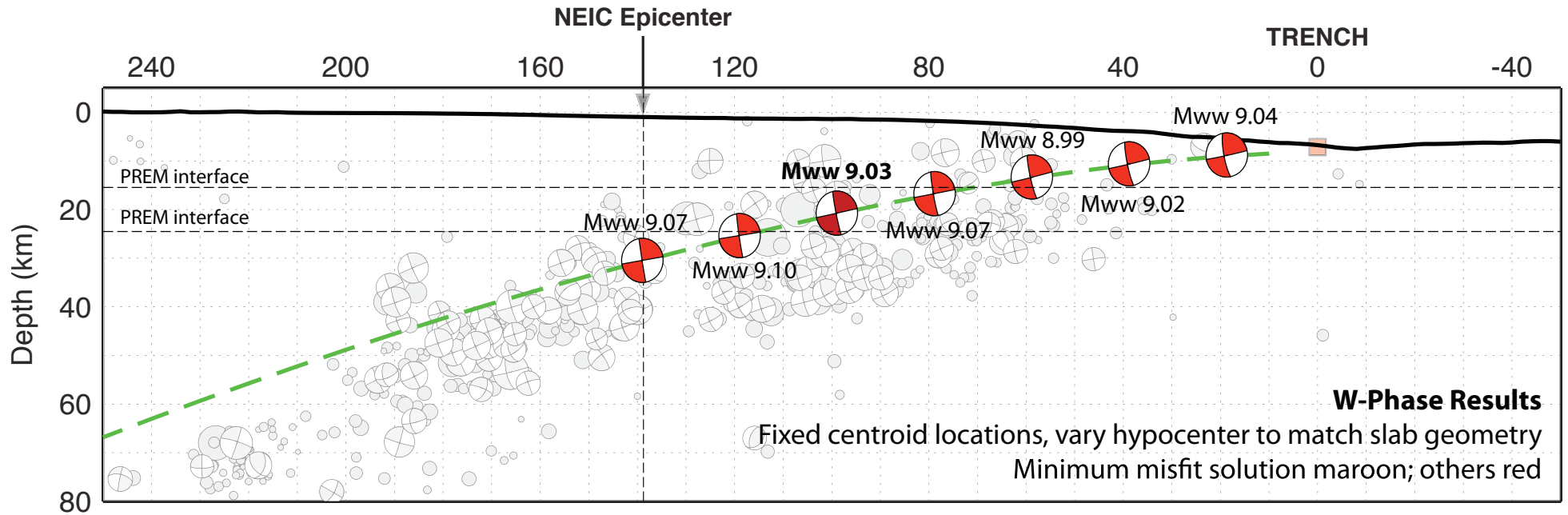


# Tohoku, Japan Earthquake: Source Region Slab Geometry



# Tohoku, Japan Earthquake: Moment Tensor Analysis

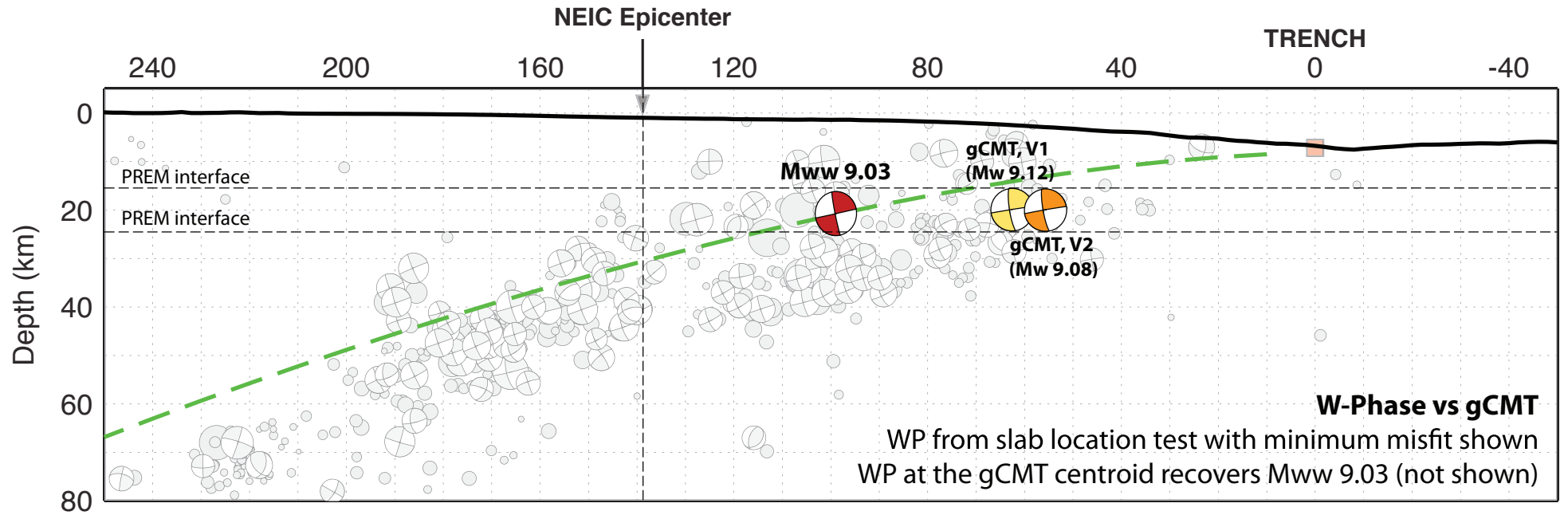
## Dip/Depth Sensitivity





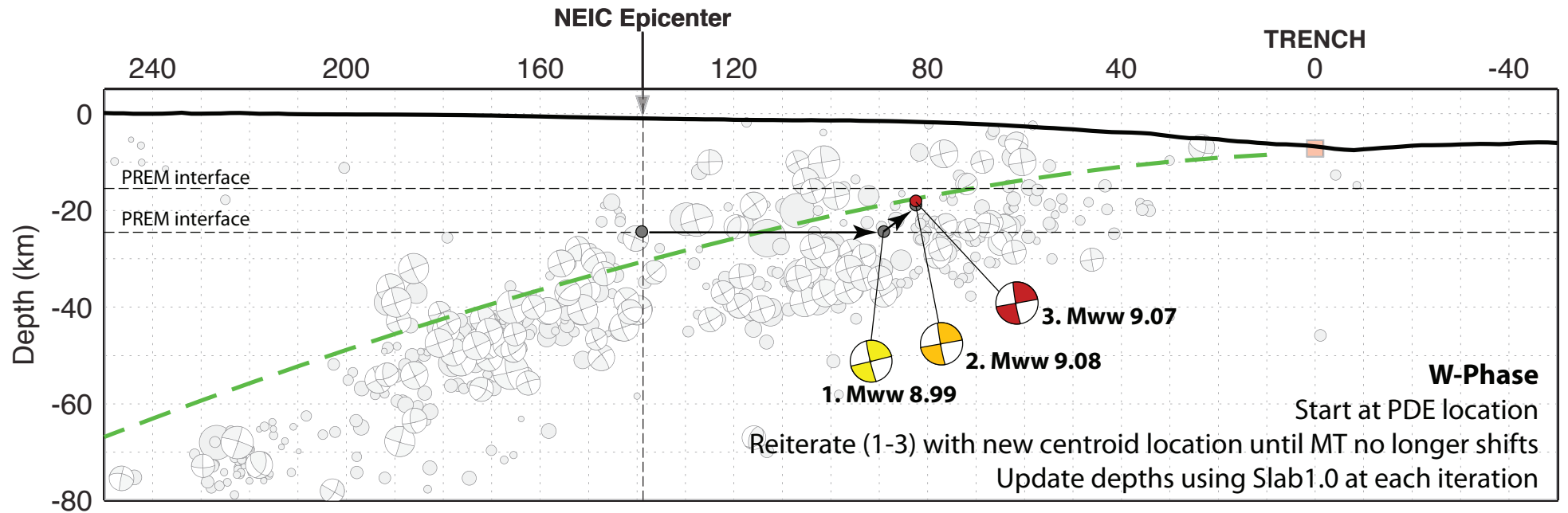
# Tohoku, Japan Earthquake: Moment Tensor Analysis

## Dip/Depth Sensitivity



# Tohoku, Japan Earthquake: Moment Tensor Analysis

## Dip/Depth Sensitivity



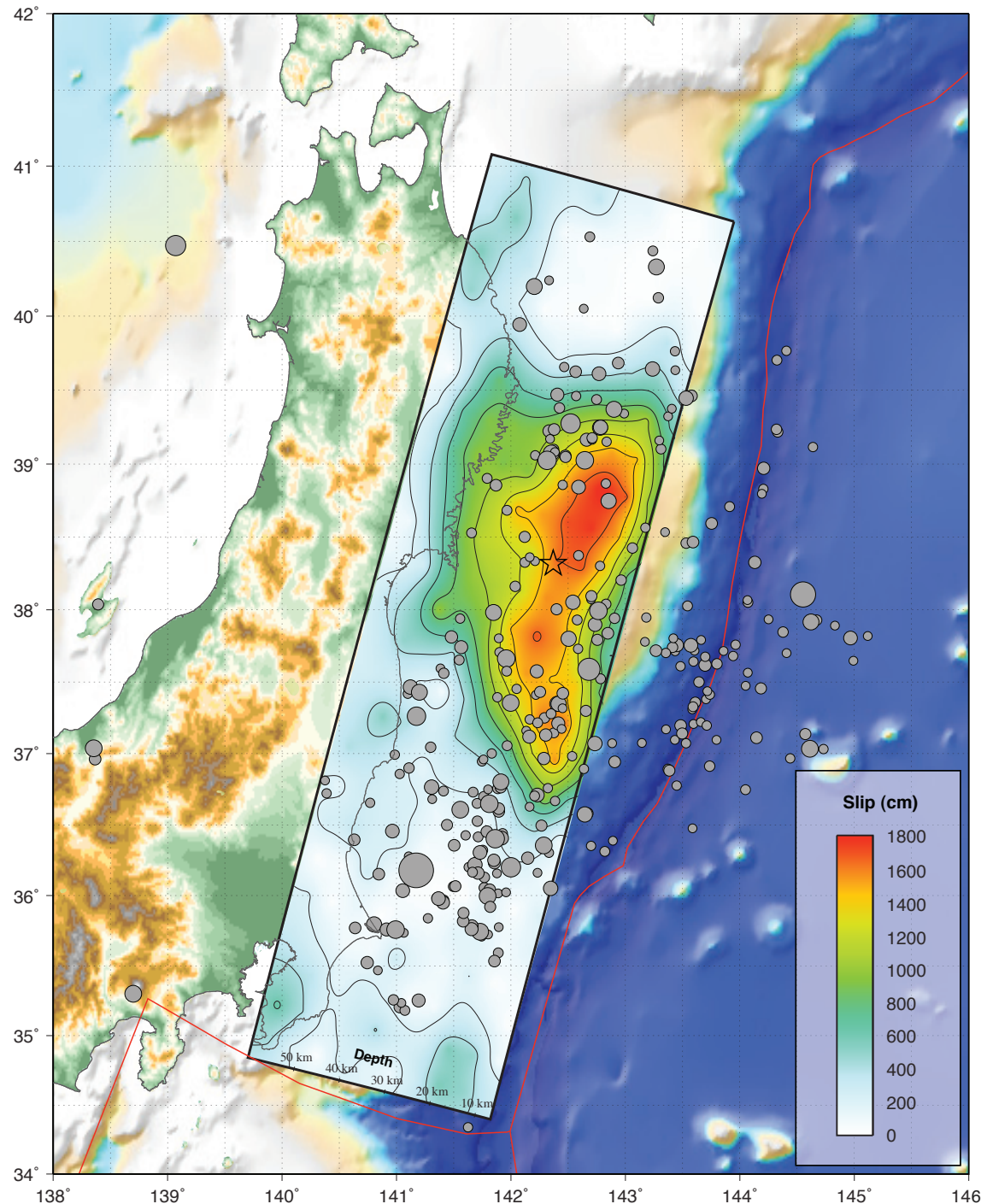
# Tohoku, Japan Earthquake: Finite Fault Model

## USGS V1 - 7 hrs after OT

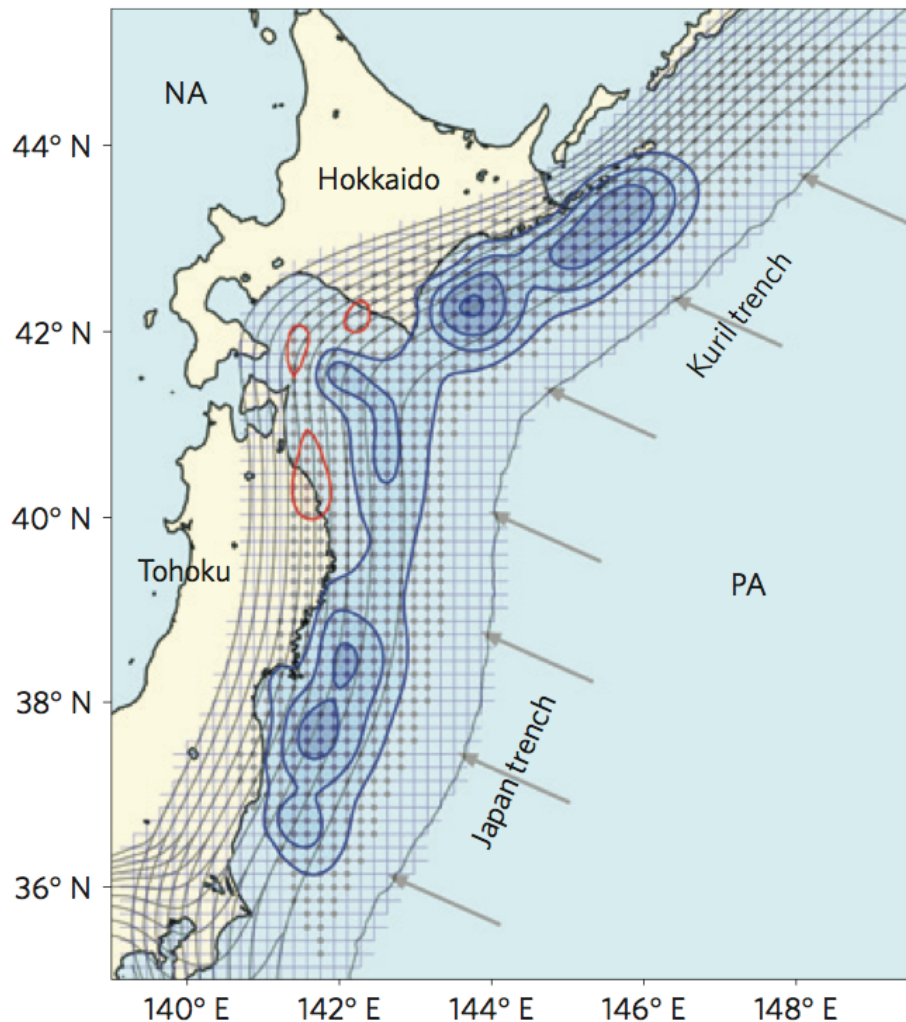
Compact rupture, mostly bilateral about epicenter, peak slip up dip of hypocenter.

Rupture was likely restricted to the shallow trench, and GPS vectors suggest slip did not reach the plate boundary beneath the coastline.

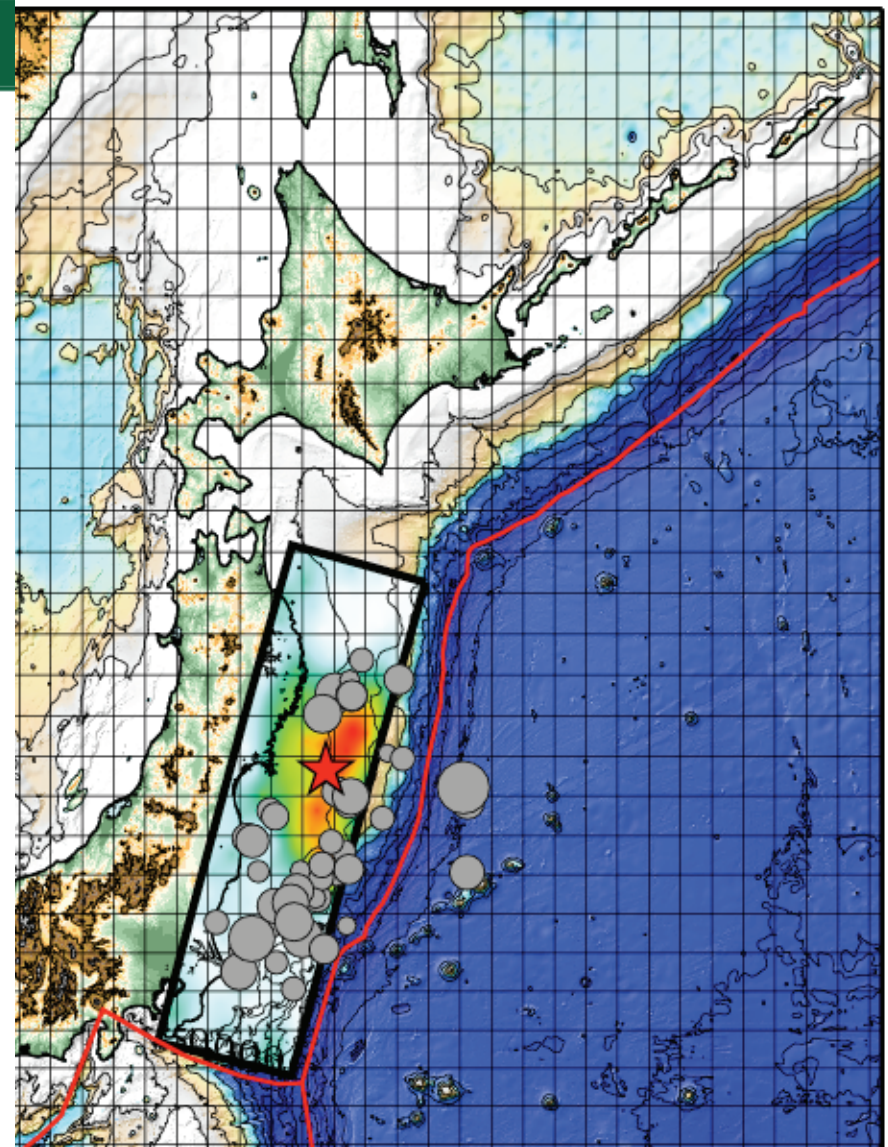
Peak slips closer to 30+ m, inferred from updated modeling.





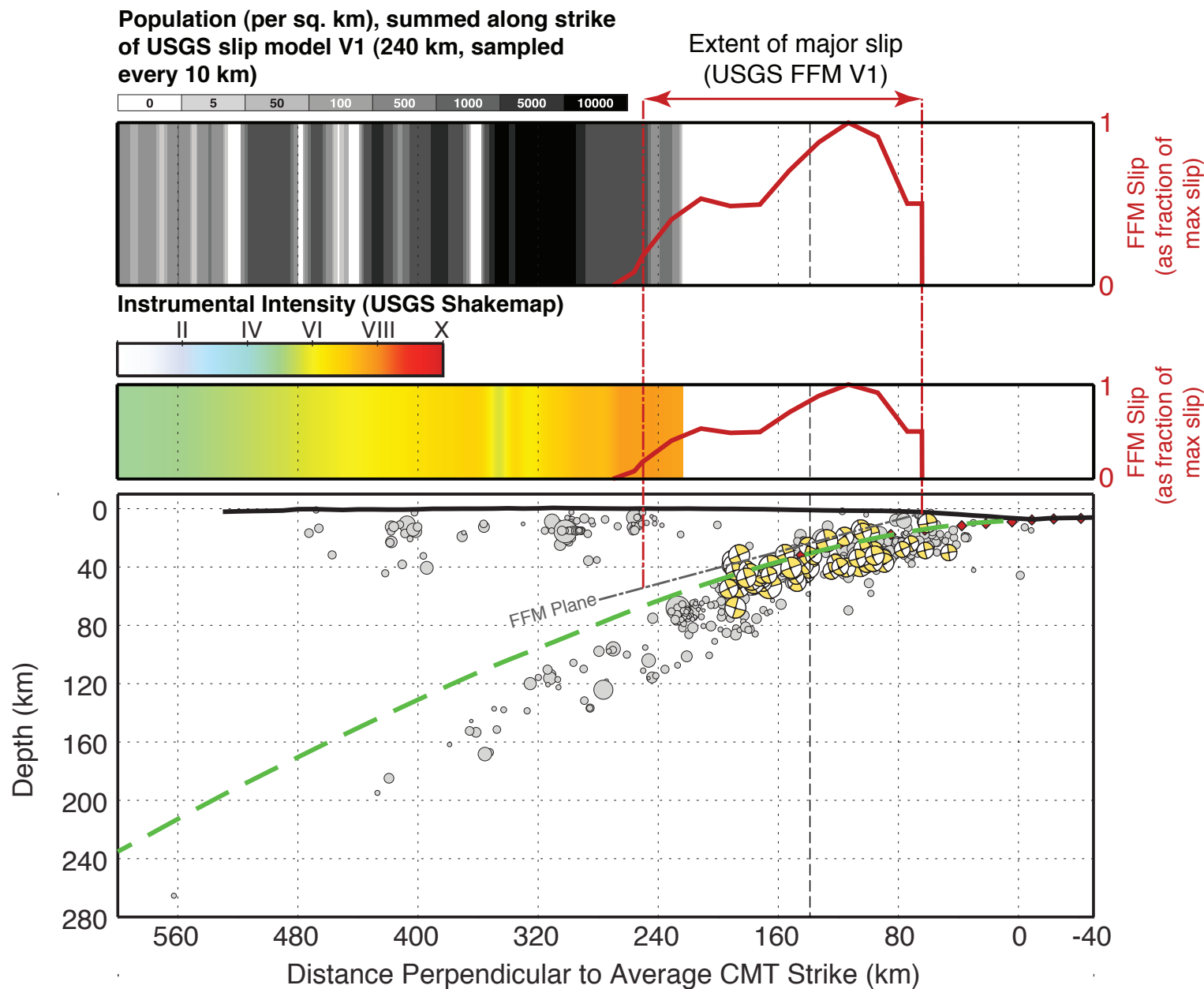


**Figure 3 | Inverted slip-deficit rate distribution.** The blue and red contours show, respectively, the inverted slip-deficit and slip-excess rates at intervals of  $3 \text{ cm yr}^{-1}$ . The grey dots indicate the central points of bi-cubic B-splines distributed on the North American/Pacific plate interface. The arrows indicate the relative plate motion calculated from NUVEL-1A (ref. 18).



Finite Fault Model USGS V1 - Comparison with locking estimates (Hashimoto et al. , 2009, Nat. Geo.)

# Tohoku, Japan Earthquake: Population Exposure & Shaking Intensities vs Slab Geometry & Slip Extent



Note that slip during the earthquake likely did not extend to the depths of the plate boundary directly under the Japan coastline as shown here, because GPS data indicate that the coastline moved down coseismically.



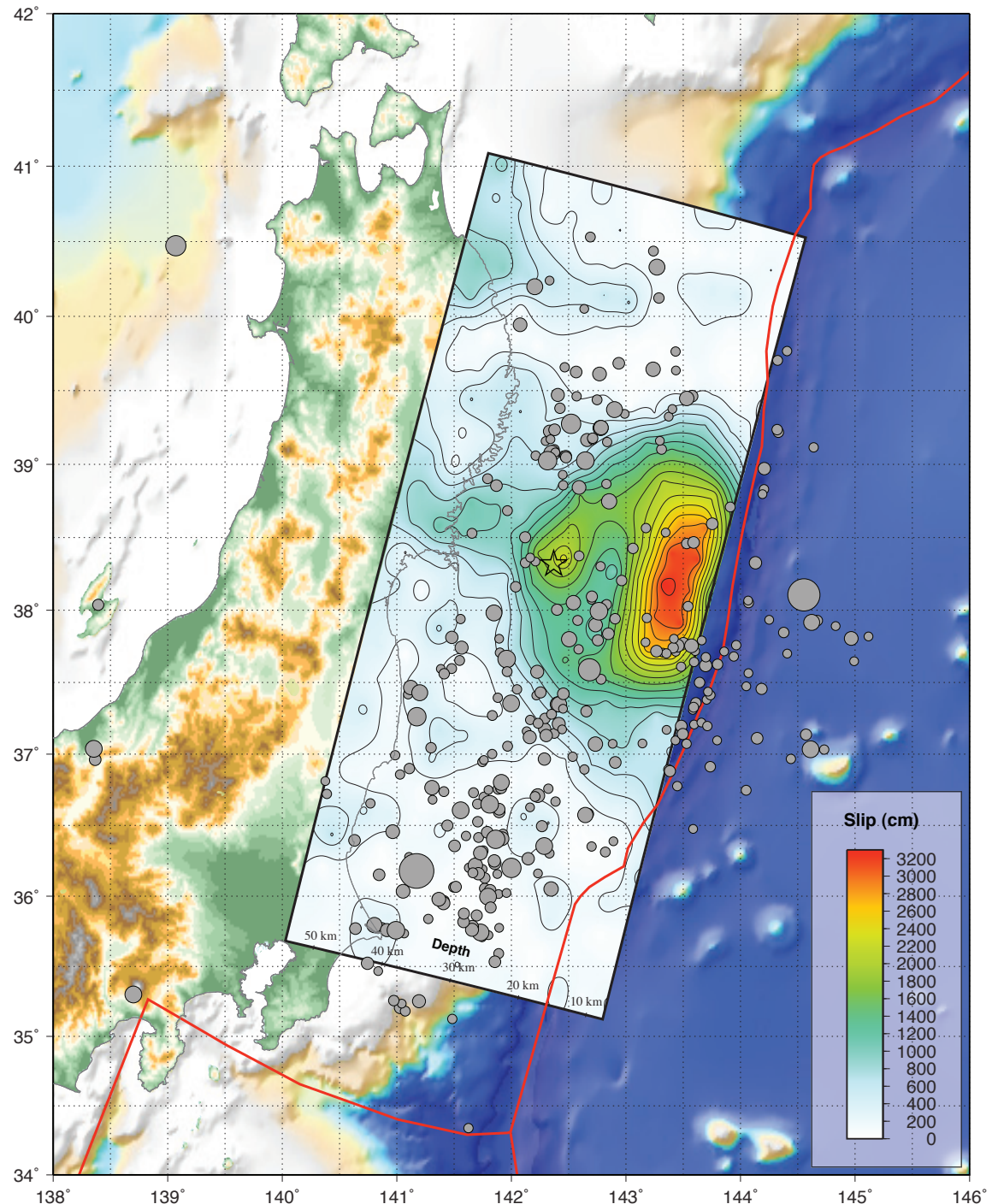
# Tohoku, Japan Earthquake: Finite Fault Model

## USGS V2 - 2011/03/18

Updated modeling shows peak slips of 30+ m, depending on the parameterization of rupture velocity. This updated model shows peak slip of ~32 m, using a range of rupture velocity from 1.25 - 3 km/s.

Models with constant rupture velocity show slips of 40-50 m, all at shallow depths. This may imply that the up-dip nature of rupture is well resolved, but peak slips are not.

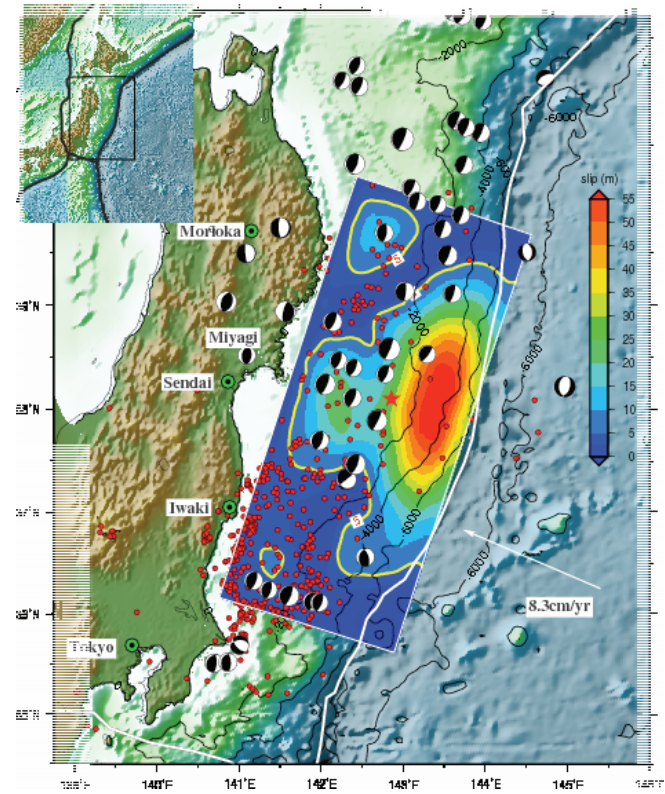
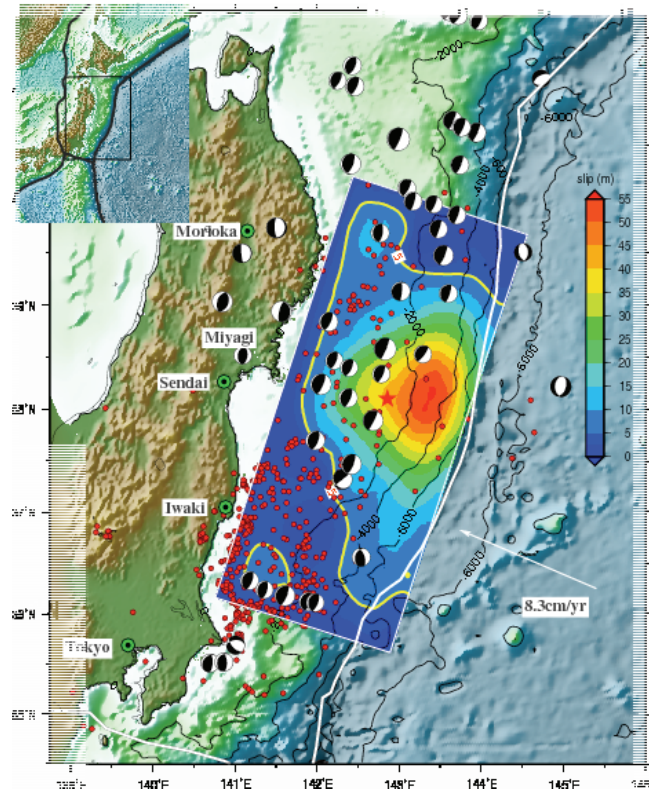
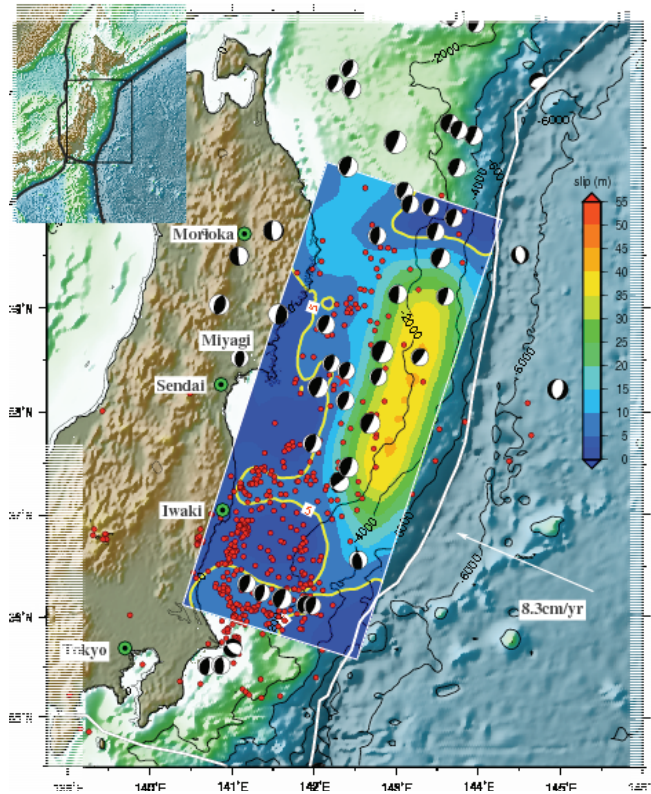
'Low' slip regions near the fault edges, and fault base, are also poorly resolved.





# Tohoku, Japan Earthquake: Finite Fault Model

## U. California, Santa Barbara



Version 1  
NEIC Hypocenter

Version 2  
JMA Hypocenter  
(50 km ESE)

Version 3  
Body & Surface Waves  
realigned using the  
03/09/2011 Mw 7.3  
foreshock.

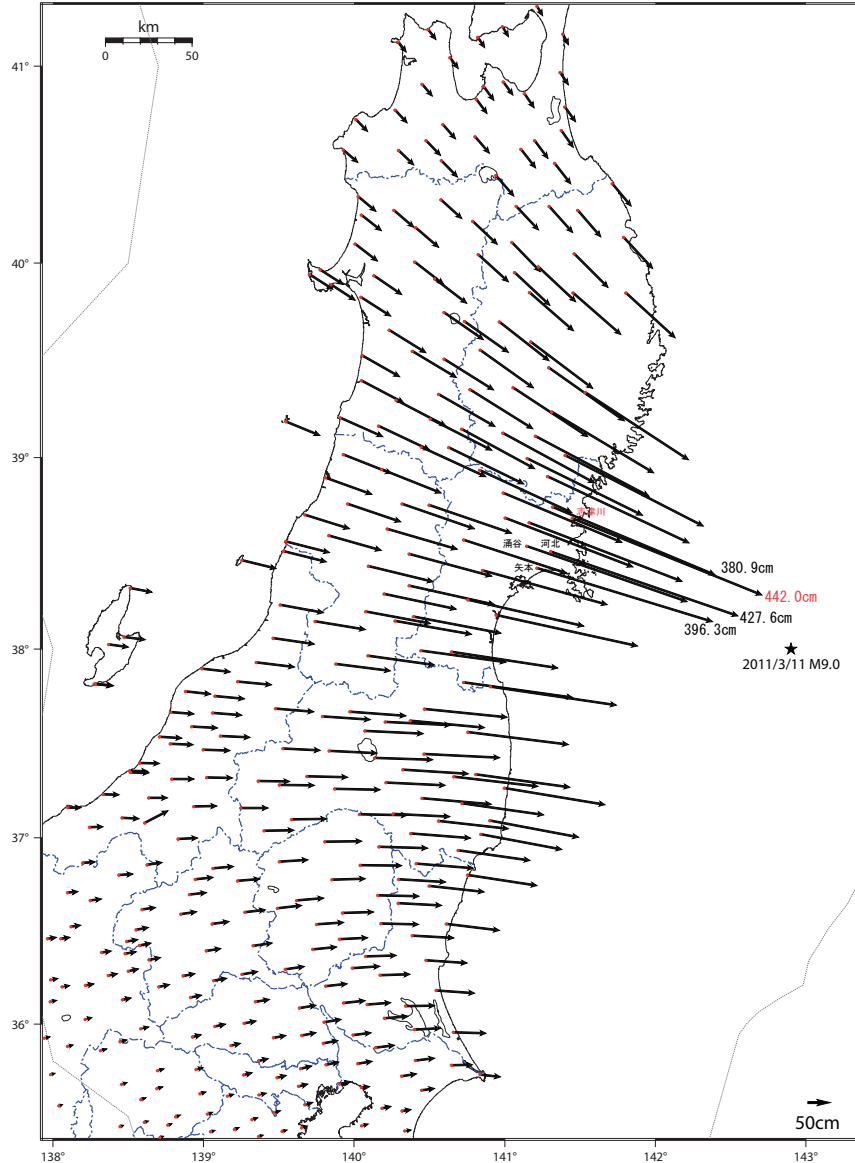
# Tohoku, Japan Earthquake: GPS Displacements

## Geospatial Information Authority of Japan

変動ベクトル図（水平）

暫定

基準期間：2011/03/01 21:00 - 2011/03/09 21:00  
比較期間：2011/03/11 18:00 - 2011/03/13 03:00



[基準：R3速報解 比較：Q3迅速解]

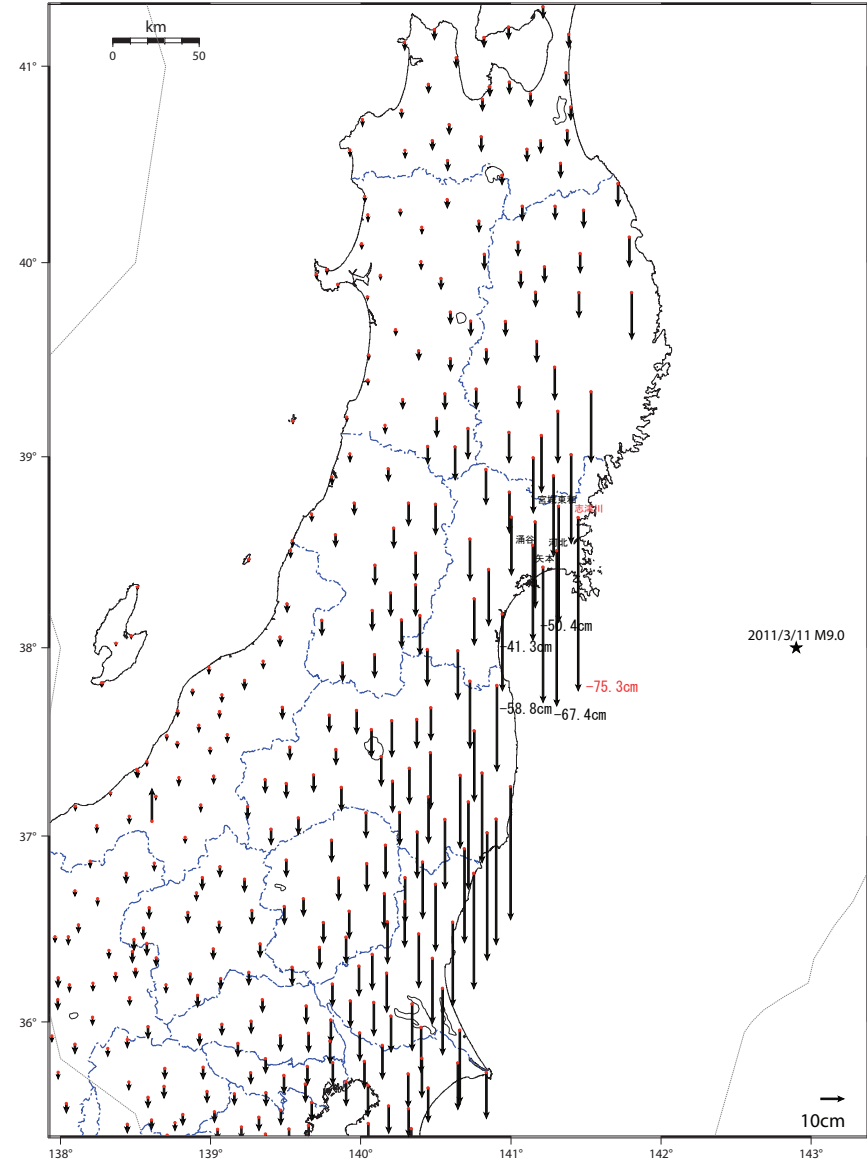
☆固定局：三隅（950388）

国土地理院

変動ベクトル図（上下）

暫定

基準期間：2011/03/01 21:00 - 2011/03/09 21:00  
比較期間：2011/03/11 18:00 - 2011/03/13 03:00



[基準：R3速報解 比較：Q3迅速解]

☆固定局：三隅（950388）

国土地理院



## Tohoku, Japan Earthquake: Other Groups

Many groups have published (online) slip models for this earthquake; below is a list of some of these (note this is not complete):

Geospatial Information Authority, Japan (using regional GPS data):

<http://www.gsi.go.jp/cais/topic110315-index-e.html>

Charles Ammon, Penn State; Thorne Lay, UCSC; Hiroo Kanamori, Caltech:

<http://eqseis.geosc.psu.edu/~cammon/Japan2011EQ/>

Caltech Tectonics Observatory:

[http://tectonics.caltech.edu/slip\\_history/](http://tectonics.caltech.edu/slip_history/)

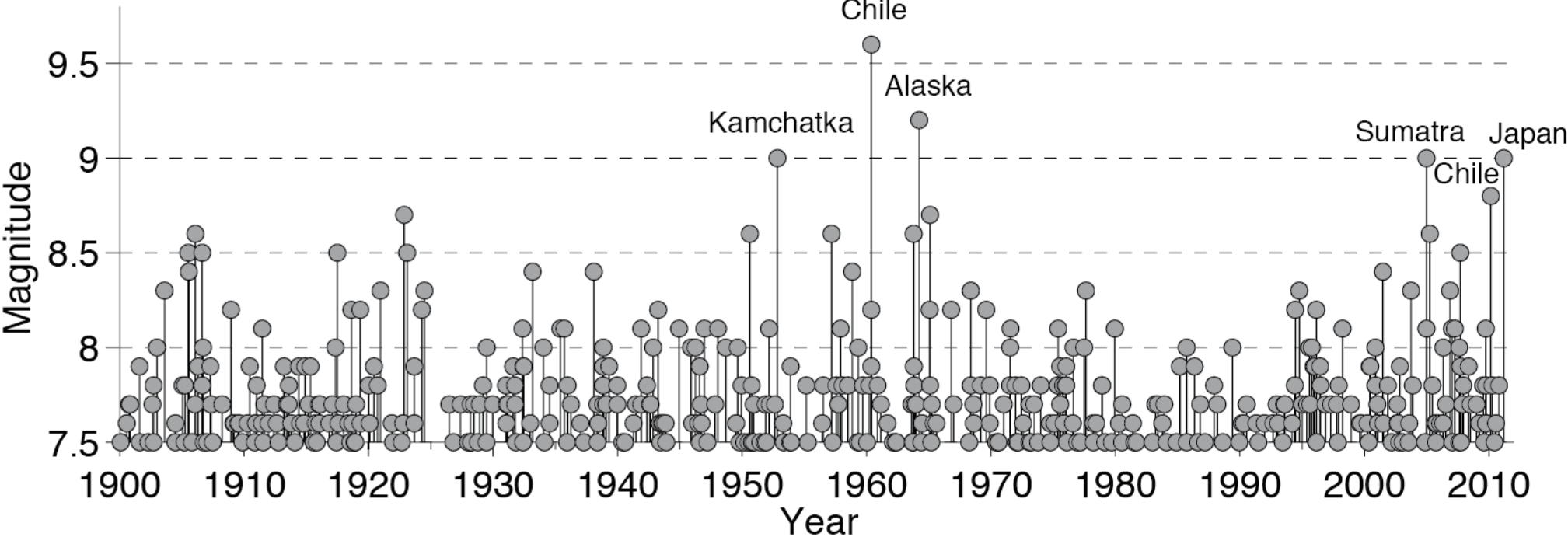
Yuji Yagi, Naoki Nishimura, University of Tsukuba:

<http://www.geol.tsukuba.ac.jp/~yagi-y/EQ/Tohoku/>

For a more comprehensive list of models, and results from other analyses, see the special IRIS website:

<http://www.iris.edu/news/events/japan2011/>

# A History Of Large Earthquakes



Data: USGS PAGERCAT 1900-2008, USGS-NEIC & gCMT 2008-present

Figure courtesy of Charles Ammon, after Ammon et al., SRL, 2010