

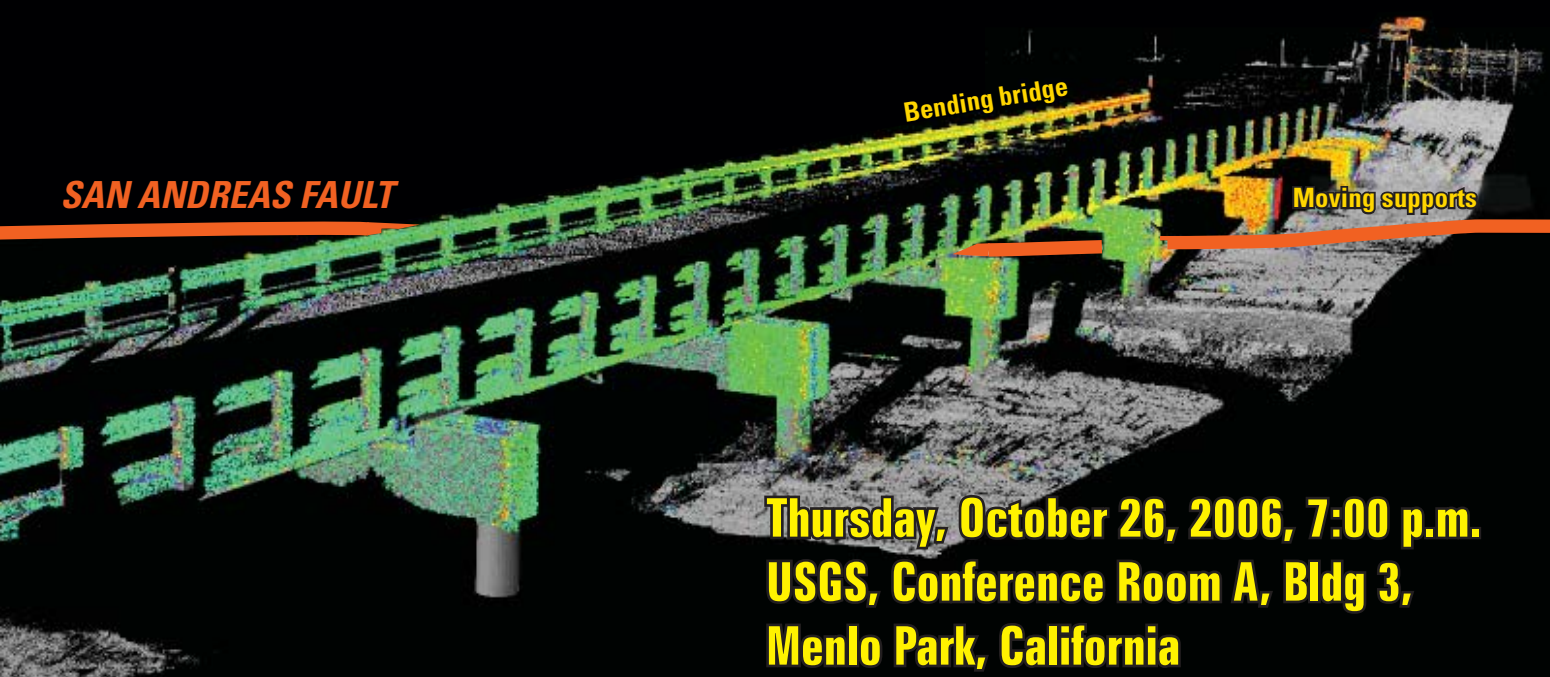
THE PARKFIELD 2004 EARTHQUAKE

Lessons From the
Best-Recorded Quake in History

By Andy Michael,
Geophysicist

- To record high-quality measurements close to a large earthquake, the right instruments have to be in the right place at the right time
- Such a convergence happened, for the first time ever, on September 28, 2004, when a magnitude 6 quake struck the San Andreas Fault near Parkfield, California
- The fault at Parkfield is monitored by a dense and diverse network of instruments designed to record events before, during, and after a quake (the Parkfield Earthquake Prediction Experiment)
- Parkfield was chosen for this experiment because a magnitude 6 earthquake had struck that area every two or three decades since at least 1857
- New data from the 2004 event provide important lessons about earthquake processes, prediction, and the hazards assessments that underlie building codes and mitigation policies

SAN ANDREAS FAULT



Thursday, October 26, 2006, 7:00 p.m.
USGS, Conference Room A, Bldg 3,
Menlo Park, California