Shattering a plate boundary: the 2016 Mw 7.8 Kaikōura earthquake



Presenter: **Pilar Villamor**, GNS Science On behalf of many, many others...



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14 November 2016 Kaikōura Earthquake

This talk

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- Background
- During the Kaikōura Earthquake
 - Seismicity
 - Surface Rupture, coastal deformation
 - InSAR and GNSS
 - Ground motions
 - Rupture model, energy release
 - Landslides, tsunami, liquefaction

After the Kaikoura Earthquake

- Postseismic deformation
- Slow slip events

Surface rupture of the Papatea Fault displacing the coastal platform, road, railway and hill country.





Background

 The 14 Nov event occurred in the region between the Hikurangi subduction system of the North Island and the oblique collisional regime of the South Island (Alpine Fault)

Major elements of New Zealand Plate Boundary

- Hikurangi Subduction Zone
- North Island Dextral Fault Belt
- Alpine Fault
- Marlborough Fault System





Historic Seismicity

Tectonic domains

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Active faults Nairau fault Nairau fault Avatere fault Clarence fault	exercise	Name of County o		High and the second sec	Cape Pallast Cope Pallast Cope Pallast Cope Pallast Cope Pallast Cope Pallast Cope Pallast Cope Pallast Cope Pallast	ang Trout 50 km
Hope faut. A	North Canterbury	faults		Onshore • Wairau,	c. 3 mm/yr	
mpstandalee	Onshore			• Awatere,	c. 6 mm/yr	I
the Hun Hum	• Hundalee,	c. 0.5-1.5 mm/yr		 Clarence, 	c. 3 mm/yr	I
south it	• The Humps,	??	·	 Hope Fault, 	c. 20 - 30 mm/yr	
The Lowry arataut	• Lowry,	c. 0.5-1.5 mm/yr		 Kekerengu, 	c. 20 - 26 mm/yr	
Kathla	• Kaiwara,	c. 0.2-1.2 mm/yr		Offshore		
the set the	Offshore			• Needles,	c. 16 mm/yr	1
	• NorthCant10,	c. 1-3		 Chancet, 	c. 3 mm/yr	I
	NorthCant13	c. 0.3 mm/yr		• Vernon,	c. 4.5 mm/yr	
0 10 20	NorthCant8,	c. 0.1-0.4 mm/yr		• Nicholson B.,	c. 11 mm/yr	
km			·	• Boo Boo,	c. 11 mm/yr	

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Known active faults and rates

GNSS: Interseismic velocity from data spanning 1998 – 2016

Sigrun Hreinsdottir et al 2017



Faults from NZ active fault database; Velocities in ITRF14-Pacific plate fixed reference frame

The 14 November 2016 Mw 7.8 Kaikōura Earthquake Location and aftershocks

Duration: Shaking lasted about 2 minutes Total of 17,492 earthquakes 549 of those earthquakes were M4-4.9 61 were M5-5.9

Focal Mechanisms





Effects on the landscape

Surface fault rupture

- Over a dozen major faults
- ~180 km rupture length
- up to ~12 m of displacement

Coastal uplift

- ~100 km of coast uplifted
- Variable, up to ~5 m

Tsunami

• Local run-up up to ~7 m

Landslides

- Tens of thousands
- Many landslide dams

Liquefaction

- Locally significant, but
- Nothing approaching severity of liquefaction in Christchurch during the 2010-2011 Canterbury EQ sequence

21 faults, 180 km of surface rupture Litchfield et al., in review

Hundalee Fault





NE trend thrust , ~ 1m vertical

E-W trend thrust , cumulative ~ 2m vertical



Leader Fault

The Woodchester Wall



Kekeregu fault 12 m max

horizontal slip ~9 m

Photo: Julian Thomson

Kearse et al., 2017 and submitted Little et al., 2017 and submitted

Photo: Tim Little

Papatea Fault

Eastern coastal trace (left-lateral, reverse)

NZ faults tend to have large SEDs for rupture length





Lagridge et al., 2017, in review

Litchfield et al., 2017, in review

Post-Nov 14 multibeam mapping and sub-bottom profiling of the Needles and Chancet faults



Kearse et al., in review



Coastal deformation: uplift and subsidence

- Approximately 110 km of the coastline underwent deformation
- Most areas went up, and by a substantial amount
- A significant stretch of low amplitude coastal subsidence north of the Clarence River
- Deformation characterised by high variability
 - Sharp changes around fault ruptures
 - 3 major & 5 minor fault ruptures across coast
 - Broad uplift around Kaikoura Peninsula & northwards related to an offshore fault

Clark et al., 2017



175°E

176°E

174°E



Satellite interferograms

Surface deformation: new techniques.. Slightly different results

- Optical pixel tracking using various types of satellite images, orthophotos, etc.
- 3D differential analysis on satellite images and lidar data; Different 3D differential codes

The Papatea Fault



We are starting to have a much better understanding of co-seismic kinematics, rather that assuming typical halfspace elastic dislocations, e.g, Papatea Bock

Fault ruptures in the North Canterbury contractional domain

- Beautiful example of rupture on non-mature faults
- Dextral and sinistral strike-slip, reverse
- N-S trends are along Mesozoic fabric, NW trends current tectonic regime,



Ground Motions: Intensity





GeoNet, 15000+ felt reports

Nick Horspool

Ground Motion: Large Peak Ground Acceleration



- PGA confirmed up to 1.3g (Ward station)
- Horizontal PGA > 1g recorded in the top of the South Island (Ward, Kekerengu) and the epicentral region (Waiau).
 Lower accelerations recorded in Kaikoura
- Ground shaking significantly lower in Christchurch than Wellington due to northward rupture from epicentre and distribution of fault slip

When and where was the energy released?

Video Yoshi Kaneko & Julian Thomson; https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1DybzjUsjN0



Numerous fault source models

- Using one or various of:
- surface deformation from satellite images
- near field seismology
- teleseismic data

Source models unknown: rupture of the Kekerengu fault

Clark et al., 2017; Hamling et al., 2017

Double displacement in depth

Holden et al., accepted

Fault ruptured twice



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Source models unknowns: role of the Papatea fault

Holden et al., accepted

Benites et al in prep.: Modelling the near field strong ground motion . Papatea Fault breaks with Mw = 6.9Non-double couple at Papatea

Postseismic slip

Hreinsdottir et al in prep

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AFTER SLIP & SLOW SLIP EVENTS Time-dependent geodetic inversions (cGPS and InSAR) done with TDefnode.

- Kapiti slow slip event and afterslip beneath northern South Island still ongoing. Afterslip = Mw 7.3, Kapiti SSE = Mw 7.1
- Slip on interface beneath northern SI required by a large uplift/subsidence pair in northern South Island, and eastward motion of sites east of Kekerengu/Jordan Thrust

Wallace et al., 2017 Nature

Insights.....thoughts for discussion

Hazards assessment challenges:

- Multi-fault ruptures: How can we account for this complexity in seismic hazard model? Do we need to allow for multiple-segments if we cannot rule out that scenario? (E.g, JordaN-Kek-Needles)
- How much complexity have we missed in historic events that had no INSAR, GNSS, dense seismic instrumentation? In paleo-events? Are earthquakes complex by nature?
- Is this earthquake representative of the type of ruptures in this region or the odd event? (Papatea Ft)
- Coseismic coastal uplift... how would have we interpreted this event as a prehistoric one? A subduction event? Separate crustal events?
- What other tectonic environments can this complexity be predicted?

Fault mechanics/ fault slip models

- Dynamic and static triggering. Connection between co-seismically rupturing faults (why did the Hope Fault not rupture)? direct impact on how we model fault sources for hazard
- Multidisciplinary approach to better understand fault slip models: we are doing really well but nature is continuously challenging us. Data type and quality, and an oversimplified crustal rheology can account for variety in the models.

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