




Mega-earthquakes rupture flat megathrusts

Quentin Bletery, Amanda M. Thomas, Alan W. Rempel, Leif Karlstrom, Anthony Sladen and Louis De Barros (November 24, 2016)
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Editor's Summary

Mega-earthquakes go the flat way

Megathrust faults in subduction zones cause large and damaging earthquakes. Bletery *et al.* argue that certain geometric features of the subduction zones relate to earthquake size. The key parameter is the curvature of the megathrust. Larger earthquakes occur where the subducting slab is flatter, providing a rough metric for estimating where mega-earthquakes may occur in the future.

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