Earthquakes:

An Informational Presentation

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Overarching Objective

With a deeper understanding of earthquakes the class will be able to make more educated decisions as to which parameters may provide the simple stark model with material improvements



Background Information

- Causes of earthquakes: natural vs. artificial
- Earthquake clusters: aftershock, swarm, storm
- Effects of Earthquakes



Measurement of Earthquakes

- Explanation of Moment magnitude scale and Mercalli intensity scale
- Different Seismic Waves: P wave, S wave, Surface wave



Relating Back to Prediction Model

- ETAS Model
- Simple Stark Model
- Next Steps: Patterns in seismic waves, cyclical comparisons, data in clusters?

Cause of Earthquakes



Natural Earthquakes

When tectonic plates move under the Earth's surface, energy is created and seismic waves are released. These waves stem from the epicenter and are responsible for the damage caused by quakes.

Building up Strain

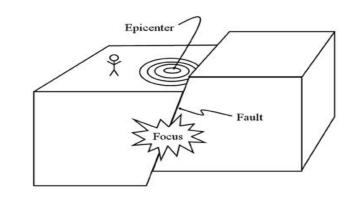
As earthquakes build up stress the formation of the rocks between two faults become deformed.

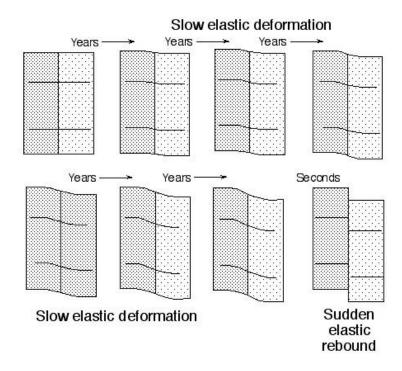
These rocks are elastic, meaning they have memory of their original shape, so when frictional pressures become too much, the rocks rebound and all the stored energy is released.

Artificial Earthquakes

Less relevant are man made earthquakes, although they could be important in fine tuning the model.

Man made earthquakes typically result from changing the mass in specialized regions, such as when drilling, mining, or building a dam.





Fault Ruptures



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Inter-Seismic Slip

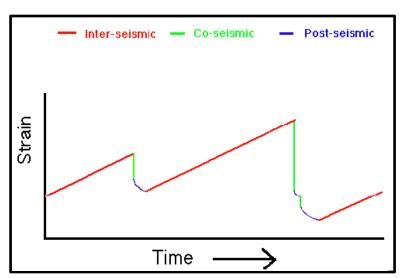
Period when strain accumulates irregularly but repeatedly rupture the fault. This is vast majority of the fault cycle.

Co-Seismic Slip

Moment when the earthquake happens and the faults have accumulated too much strain. Elastic rebound causes the earthquake.

Post Seismic Slip

A fault will continue to accumulate significant slip after an earthquake, but this soon decays back to inter-seismic slip

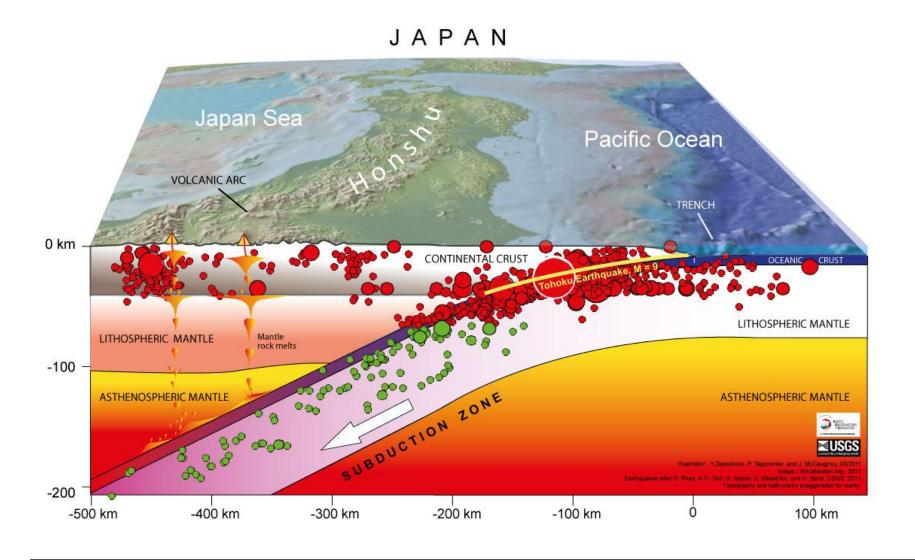


Super Earthquakes

Faults can only release so much energy, but sometimes faults borrow energy from nearby faults to create super earthquakes with magnitude 9 and above. Example: Tohoku Japan (2011, Magnitude 9). All of these earthquakes occur along subduction zones, where tectonic plates collide / dive under each other.

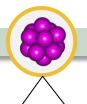
Example: Subduction Zone





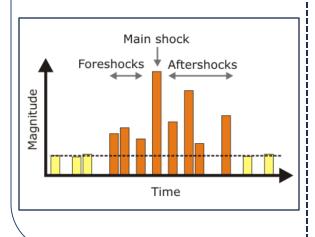
Earthquake Clusters





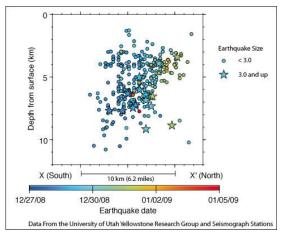
Aftershock

An earthquake that occurs right after the original earthquake. The aftershock is always of smaller magnitude. The challenge is classifying proceeding quakes.



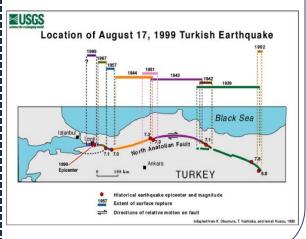
Swarm

An earthquake swam is a series of earthquakes hitting a small area in a short amount of time. Unlike aftershocks, there is no main earthquake. Ex. Yellowstone 2004



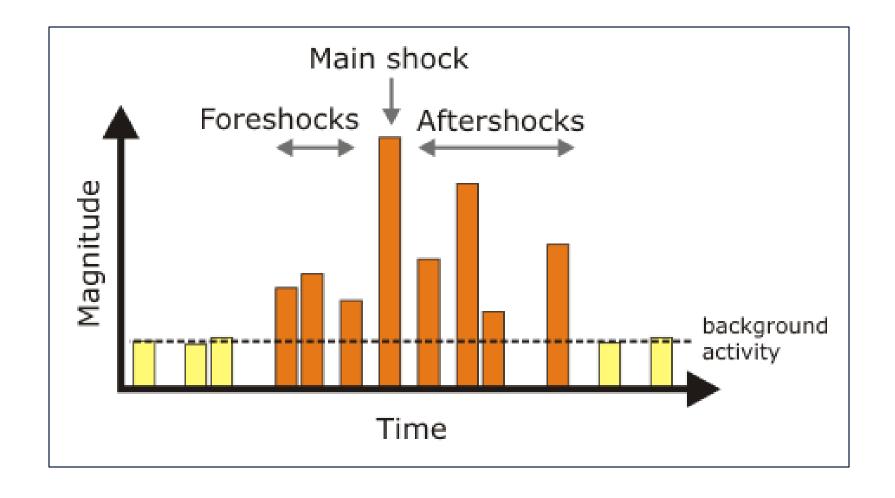
Storm

Earthquake storms are when earthquakes strike adjacent segments of a fault in clusters, over years. Triggered by stress redistribution of predecessors.



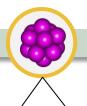


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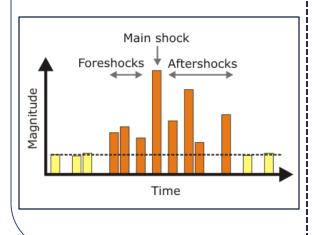
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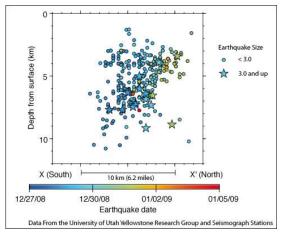
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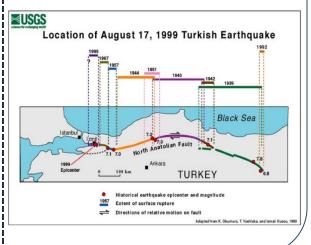
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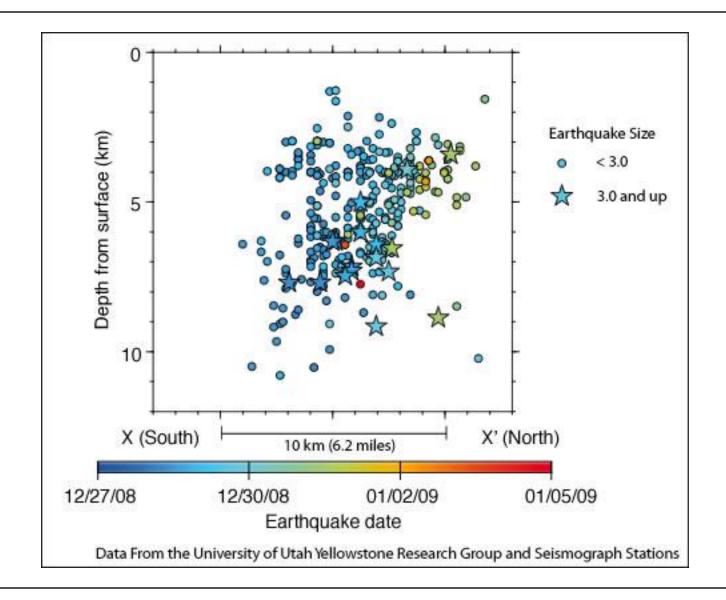
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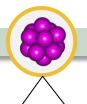


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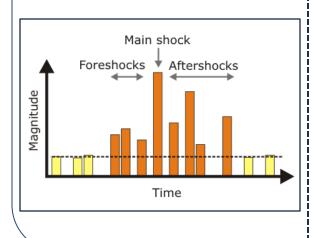
Earthquake Clusters





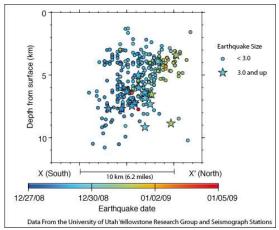
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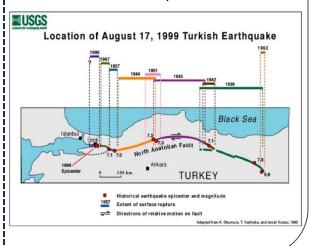
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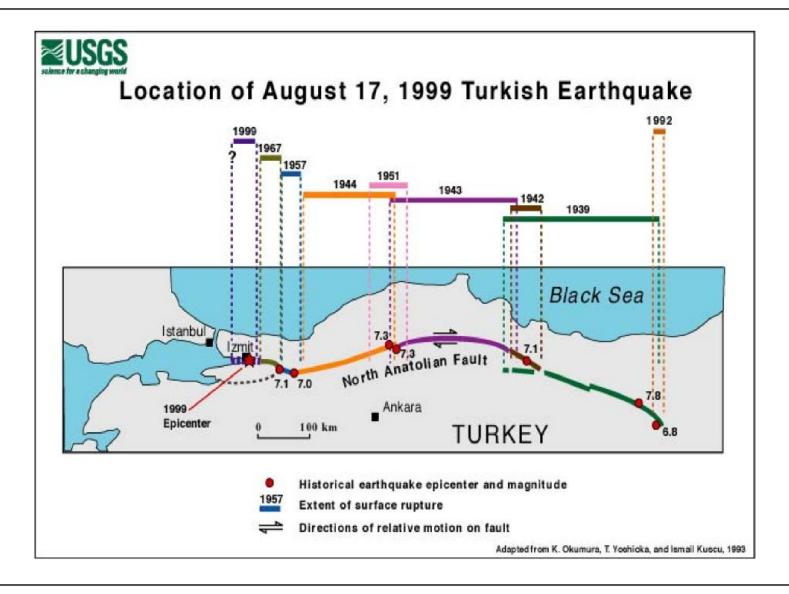
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Background Measurement Analysis Conclusion

Effects of Earthquakes



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Shaking / Ground Rupture



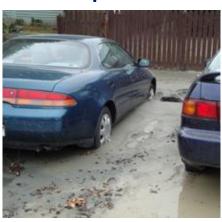
Landslides



Fires



Soil Liquefaction



Tsunami



Floods



Measuring Magnitude

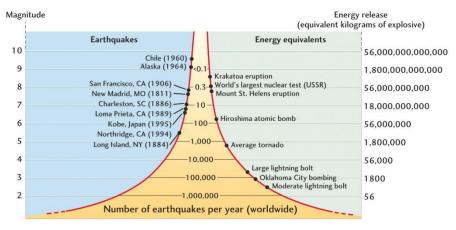


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Moment Magnitude Scale

The successor of the Richter scale. The MMS measures the **energy released**. The Richter scale could not measure earthquakes accurately from further than 600km of the epicenter, and had an upper limit. The MMS corrected these shortcomings.



Mercalli Intensity Scale

Measures the **intensity** of an earthquake based on impact to Earth's surface and human made constructs. Goes from I (instrumental) to XII (catastrophic)

Level of Instrumental Earthquake		Detected only by seismographs	
I	Instrumental	Detected only by seismographs	
II.	Feeble	Noticed only by sensitive people.	
III	Slight	Resembling vibrations caused by heavy traffic	
IV	Moderate	Felt by people walking; rocking of free standing objects	
V	Rather strong	Sleepers awakened and bells ring	
VI	Strong	Trees sway, some damage from overturning and falling objects.	
VII	Very strong	General alarm, cracking of walls	
VIII	Destructive	Chimneys fall and there is some damage to buildings	
IX	Ruinous	Ground begins to crack, houses begin to collapse and pipes reak.	
Χ.	Disastrous	Ground badly cracked and many buildings are destroyed. There are some landslides	
XI.	Very Disastrous	Few buildings remain standing; bridges and railways destroyed water, gas, electricity and telephones out of action	
XII	Catastrophic	Total destruction; objects are thrown into the air, much heaving, shaking and distortion of the ground.	

Seismic Waves



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There are three types of waves: P waves, S waves, and surface waves. P and S waves are body waves, and precede the surface waves. Seismic waves are responsible for the movement of the Earth and the damage quakes cause.

	P Wave	S Wave	Surface Wave
Description	Primary, and fastest wave following an earthquake	Second wave felt after an earthquake	Arrives after body waves and have lower frequency
	 Can move through solid rocks, liquids, and even gases 	 Move only through solids and displace rock particles outwards, 	Rayleigh – Rolls along the ground, causes shaking
		perpendicular to its path	Love – Moves horizontally acrossthe crust, fastest surface wave
Facts	 Dogs can hear P waves and bark hysterically before a quake hits Moves by compression and 	The properties of S waves are the reason scientists believe Earth's outer core is liquid	Surface waves are primarily responsible for the destruction caused by earthquakes
	dilation Arrives as an abrupt thud	 Stopped at the liquid layer in the Earth's core 	Effects are diminished for deeper earthquakes
Impact	Low High	Low High	Low High

Background Measurement Analysis Conclusion

ETAS Model / Stark Model



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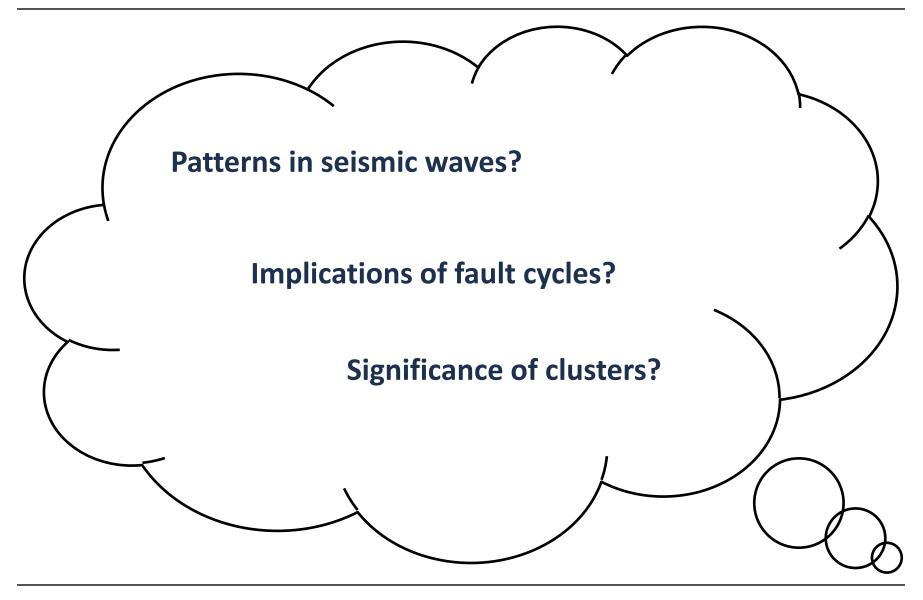
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Next Steps: Potential Parameters



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Background Measurement Analysis Conclusion