

- **Introduction to Earthquake Faulting and Seismic Waves**

- Lecture 1 of 4 on earthquake hazards
- Foundation for the module
- Split into two parts:
 - Study of faults and the earthquake cycle

- **Earthquake Cycle and Faults**

- Concept of periodic build-up and release of stress on faults
- Example: magnitude 7.8 Kaikoura earthquake (November 2016, New Zealand)
 - Surface rupture: pronounced linear trend of deformation
 - Common misconception: surface ruptures are not chasms; adjacent blocks slip past each other
- **Observation of Surface Ruptures**
 - Offset roads indicate slip along a fault
 - Visual cues: fences and stream channels cut by faults

- **Fault Characteristics**

- Fault scarp: landform resulting from vertical offset
- Surface rupture indicates where the fault intersects Earth's surface
- Importance of understanding that earthquakes involve slip along faults, not just points.

- **Kaikoura Earthquake Dynamics**

- Involvement of about a dozen different faults
- Slip movement observed along the Kekarengu fault
- Epicenter: point where slip starts; just a reference point

- **Fault Plane Features**

- Fault planes exhibit corrugations and striations from repeated slip
- Smooth, polished surfaces from earthquake slip
- Seismogenic zone: typically 10-20 kilometers deep; varies in subduction zones

- **Types of Faults**

- **1. Reverse Faults**
 - Thrusting motion, leading to shortening and crustal thickening
 - Dip angle varies; classified as thrust faults if very low
 - Example: Chi-Chi earthquake (1999, Taiwan) and Himalayan thrust fault
- **2. Normal Faults**
 - One side slides down leading to extension and crustal thinning
 - Typically steeper than reverse faults
 - Examples: Hebgen Lake earthquake (1959) and Norcia earthquake (2016)
- **3. Strike-Slip Faults**
 - Lateral movement with no crustal thickening/thinning
 - Can be left-lateral or right-lateral
 - Examples: Ridgecrest earthquake (2019) and Kumamoto earthquake (2016)

- **Mapping Earthquake Surface Ruptures**

- Importance of mapping for understanding seismic hazards
- Traditional methods vs. modern satellite imagery techniques

- **Earthquake Slip Mechanics**

- Stick-slip behavior: cyclic build-up of stress followed by slip
- Earthquakes cannot be predicted due to variability in slip behavior

- **Inter-Seismic and Co-Seismic Phases**

- Inter-seismic: gradual build-up of strain, causing slight warping
- Co-seismic: rapid release of strain leading to surface offsets
- Example of actual fence offset from the Darfield earthquake (2010)

- **Long-term Earthquake Cycles**

- Geological offsets represent cumulative impacts of multiple earthquakes
- Major earthquakes re-trigger existing faults, not create new ones

- **Subduction Zone Earthquake Cycle**

- Involves vertical and horizontal motions
- Long-term convergence: overriding plate bulges and then rapidly releases during an earthquake
- Tsunami generation associated with offshore uplift during co-seismic phase

- **Conclusion**

- Overview of the mechanisms and types of faults related to earthquake dynamics and hazards.

- **Introduction to Seismic Waves**

- Two basic categories of seismic waves:

- **Surface Waves**

- Travel around the Earth's surface (analogous to ripples in a pond).
 - Slower than body waves (typically 2-3 km/s).

- **Body Waves**

- Pass through the Earth's interior.
 - Faster than surface waves, reaching distant points sooner.

- **Characteristics of Seismic Wave Propagation**

- Body waves form a curved path within the Earth.
- Material properties change with depth:
 - Silicate rocks become denser and stiffer with increasing depth.
- Seismic wave velocities:
 - Deep mantle: fastest
 - Upper mantle: slower
 - Surface: slowest

- **Types of Body Waves**

- **P Waves (Primary Waves)**

- Fastest seismic waves, arrive first.
 - Particles move in the same direction as the wave (compression).
 - Can travel through liquids (e.g., molten iron outer core).

- **S Waves (Secondary Waves)**

- Second fastest, arrive second.
 - Particles move side-to-side, perpendicular to wave direction.
 - Cannot pass through fluids.

- **Types of Surface Waves**

- **Love Waves**

- Similar particle motion to S waves (side-to-side).
 - Particles at the surface move more than those at depth.

- **Rayleigh Waves**

- Particle motion described as a retrograde ellipse.
 - Also, particles at the surface move more than those at depth.
 - Sometimes called ground roll.

- **Seismometers and Seismograms**

- Seismometers record ground vibrations caused by seismic waves.
 - Traditional design: weight/pendulum suspended from a frame.
 - Seismographs:
 - Instrument + recording device.
 - Seismogram: graphical representation of ground displacement over time.
 - Typically records motions along three X, Y, Z axes.

- **Identifying Seismic Waves on Seismograms**

- P Waves: excite vertical component, arrive first.
 - S Waves: excite radial component, arrive second.
 - Surface Waves: appear later with larger amplitudes, hence more damaging.
 - Love waves: transverse component (side-to-side).
 - Rayleigh waves: excite vertical and radial components.

- **Earthquake Early Warning Systems**

- Systems detect and locate earthquakes quickly to alert people before surface waves arrive.
 - Key to effectiveness: seismic stations surrounding the causative fault.
 - Few regions have operational early warning systems.

- **Locating Earthquakes Using Seismograms**

- P wave travel time (T_p) < S wave travel time (T_s): $T_s - T_p$ increases with distance.
 - Velocity: distance = time x velocity (for P and S waves).
 - Calculation example:

- Separation time of 90 seconds, $V_p = 6.0 \text{ km/s}$, $V_s = 3.75 \text{ km/s}$ yields a distance of 900 km to earthquake.
- Method:
 - Plot distances on a schematic map as circles.
 - Intersection of circles locates the earthquake.
- **Global Seismology**
 - Exploits refraction and reflection of body waves at Earth's major boundaries.
 - Example: Outer core is liquid as indicated by P wave shadow zone.
 - Epicentral distance defined by angles between the earthquake, Earth's center, and distance seismometer.
- **Future Topics**
 - Discuss magnitude and intensity scales in the next lecture.
 - Explore basin resonance and detailed impacts of seismic waves during future sessions.