Results and perspectives from a decade of neotectonics studies in Taiwan and the Levant

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Curriculum



Teaching Experience

- Teaching Assistant 2007–2008:
- 42 hours Practical Classes

Senior B.S. level



Introduction to geological maps and construction of geological cross-sections

- 24 days Field Trips - Master Level

Geological mapping, Structural geology and tectonics, active tectonics

- Undergraduate students training:
- Odin Marc (Spring 2010)
- Chen Ya-Lin (2010-2011)
- Tseng Ya-Chu (since February 2016)

- Broadcasting science to public:
- "Fête de la Science" open-house event (2001-2007)
- On-line scientific forum for high-school students (2001-2005)



Teaching Abilities and Classes Proposal

• Ability to teach **basic geology classes** at the **bachelor level**, in particular structural geology and tectonics, physical geology, natural hazards, field classes, geodesy...

and others according to current needs.

- Proposal for in-depth master-level classes :
- Geomorphology, Quaternary geology and natural hazards
- Active tectonics and seismic hazard
- Geochronology (Quaternary or all timescales)
- Geographic Information System
- History of Geosciences and Philosophy of Science





Teaching in English

- Make the students comfortable
- Provide clear visual documents
- English-Chinese glossary of scientific terms
- Repeat...
- Develop interactive classes



Pleistocene	更新世
Fault	斷層
Luminescence dating	螢光定年
Paleo- earthquake	古地震
Taiwan Straight	台灣海峽

Research Focus: Long-term seismic behavior of active faults



=> Approach : Compare fault slip rates determined at different time scales

First reviews: Meade et al, 2013; Vernant, 2015

Research Focus:

Moving towards folding and mountain building questions

Strike-slip setting :



Simple geometry: fault slip = lateral offset Collisional setting :



More complex geometric problem:

fault slip = f (terrace deformation, fault geometry, folding mechanism)



Dead Sea fault regional setting





Present-day fault slip rate from GPS



- Campaign measurements
- Data processing
- Simple elastic modeling
- of interseismic velocity

field



Le Béon et al, 2008, JGR



4.9 ± 0.5 mm/a

[Masson et al, 2015]

Morpho-tectonic map of the Wadi Araba

- > Detailed fault trace
- > Identification of offset markers 🔶
- > Potential paleoseismologic sites 🛕



Topographic contour lines superimposed on SPOT5 image (pixel=2.5m)

Le Béon et al, 2012, Tectonics







¹⁰Be exposure ages



=> Scattered

age distribution !





Le Béon et al, 2010, JGR



Slip rate results & Fault seismic behavior

CONSTANT long-term fault slip rate = 6-7 mm/a

Inconsistent with **Geodetic slip rate** = 4.4–5.4 mm/a



Data compiled from Klinger et al, 2000; Le Béon et al, 2010, 2012, in prep; Masson et al, 2015



Slip rate results & Fault seismic behavior

VARIABLE fault slip rate over time => How? Holocene slip rate = Geodetic fault slip rate



Data compiled from Klinger et al, 2000; Le Béon et al, 2010, 2012, in prep; Masson et al, 2015



Slip rate results & Fault seismic behavior

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Late stage of the earthquake cycle ? Last earthquake in 1293 or 1458 !



Coseismic ground surface rupture :



Excavation of a paleo-seismologic trench across the active fault trace



1 m



Coseismic ground surface rupture :



Excavation of a paleo-seismologic trench across the active fault trace



1 m



Coseismic ground surface rupture :



Excavation of a paleo-seismologic trench across the active fault trace





Coseismic ground surface rupture :



Excavation of a paleo-seismologic trench across the active fault trace



1 m

Overview of the trench



Klinger, Le Béon & Al-Qaryouti, 2015, GJI

Identification of paleo-earthquakes



9 paleo-earthquakes identified,

2 of them associated with **significant vertical offset**

Identification of paleo-earthquakes



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2 of them associated with **significant vertical offset**

Timing of paleoearthquakes

Age model based on 32 ¹⁴C dates using Oxcal

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+ a 2000-year long
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historical catalog

[Ambraseys et al, 1994]

R_Date_109	a	S			<u>A 070</u>		Event Age	Return time		
R_Date_115					<u>_</u>	1				
R_Date_132								11. 50		
R_Date_106								NOEQ		
R_Date_111								since 557 yr		
R Date 11					-			slip deficit		
E1					-		Nov. 16th 1458	= 2.8 m		
R_Date_131					<u>+</u>					
R_Date_86	Samples just above	unit B						246 yr		
R_Date_74 R_Date_116	Unit B				44 44					
E2							May. 1st 1212			
R_Date_72 R_Date_134	Between C and D, a	bove E3						144 yr		
E2							1068 CE			
R_Date_16	Between C and D, b	elow E3	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·					1		
P. Date 17	2			-	8.0	+1	Trigory of clip			
Europ 1					-		rigerred silp			
R_Date_36	Ordered stratigraph	ic sequence in easter	n fault zone	A		TH	1033 CE ?	320 yr		
R_Date_147				ALA.						
R_Date_28					-					
E4				<u></u>			8th century CF	l		
Boundary top	unit D		a	-			Solicipic Crisis			
R_Date_149							Seismic Crisis	1		
E5				-	I rigerred slip	1				
R_Date_144				-		111		386 yr		
R_Date_145	Unit E			-						
R Date 121										
E6			-	_			May. 18th 363			
R_Date_13										
R_Date_14			-15.4					 3 (2) (2) (2) (3) 		
R_Date_78	Unit G			<u>.</u>				426 yr		
R_Date_46			12				8			
E7			<u></u>				63 BCE ± 275 yr			
R_Date_57								1		
R_Date_56	Below Unit G		4.00							
R_Date_54	2 52 - 53					+		> 1182 yr		
R Date 32		_								
F8		-					i i			
Esupp 2							(2707-1245) PCE	1		
E9		and the second se					[2/9/; 1245] BCE			
R_Date_02	A						I			
R_Date_37	1									
30	00 20	00 10	000 1BC	E/1CE 10	00 2	000				
	Modelled date (BCE/CE) Klinger et al. 2015, GJ									
		NIO	actica date (be				U	-		



Klinger et al, 2015, GJI

Event Age

Return time

since 557 yr

slip deficit = 2.8 m

No EQ

246 yr

144 yr

320 yr

386 yr

426 yr

> 1182 yr

Rupture scenario

- 2 different types of events:

* Earthquake ruptures dying at the fault jog * Larger earthquakes, less frequent, rupturing across the fault jog

- Proposed location of other reported historical earthquakes that we did not observe in the trench



~2.4 ky BP in GA

1588 CE in GA

35°N

31°N

Mitzpeh

Ramon D

1546 CE in N. DS

1834 CE in DS

35°3 DN

1293 CE

31°N

30°30N

10

20 km

29°30N

Perspectives #1/3

1/ Excavation at another trench site in May 2014 to compare earthquake sequences in order to test and complement our scenario

> On-going PhD thesis in IPG Paris [Lefevre et al, 2016, EGU abstract]



Perspectives #2/3

2/ At the same site:

- * A deeper trench for a longer record
- * Fault-parallel trenching to access **slip per event** (channels identified)







Perspectives #3/3

3/ At the regional scale :

Chief goal: point out the source of all historical earthquakes along the Dead Sea fault and observe how fault segments interact with each other.



Active faults at the front of Taiwan fold-and-thrust belt



Tectonic setting in central western Taiwan

Mw 7.6 Chi-Chi earthquake rupture in 1999:



Highly heterogeneous displacement field:



(Dominguez et al, 2003)



Coseismic fold growth during Chi-Chi earthquake



Coseismic fold growth during Chi-Chi earthquake



Fault-bend folding theory



Relation between relief across the fold scarp Δh and cumulative fault slip S:

S =
$$\Delta h$$
 / (sin $\theta_2 \cdot \cos \alpha_2$ - sin $\theta_1 \cdot \cos \alpha_1$)

SubsurfaceOblique faulting :geometryAzimuth of slip vector

Morphology of the Hsinshe terraces





Morphology of the Hsinshe terraces





Morphology of the Hsinshe terraces





Subsurface structure of the Chelungpu Thrust

Bedding-parallel thrust ramp with varying dip

Chi-Chi GPS slip vectors parallel to the ramp dip





5m Projected coseismic GPS vectors of Chi-Chi earthquake



Deformation of terrace T1



Deformation of terrace T1

Measurements of scarp relief Δh

for each of the 3 fold scarps.



For each scarp i:

S =
$$\Delta h_i$$
 / (sin θ_{i2} .cos α_2 - sin θ_{i1} .cos α_1)

=> 3D deformation: simultaneous determination of amplitude and azimuth of long-term slip vector

From terrace deformation to cumulative slip: T1



Cumulative slip results and fault slip rate



Long-term slip vector versus Chi-Chi coseismic displacements

- **30-ka average slip vector =** 523 ± 81 m oriented N338° ± 6°
- => Long-term slip vector parallels Chi-Chi coseismic displacements !



Coseismic displacements from Yang et al (2000), Yu et al (2001), Dominguez et al (2003)

Le Béon et al, 2014, JGR

Coseismic versus Long-term shortening along strike



Chi-Chi coseismic displacements and long-term shortening rates vary in similar proportions !

Coseismic versus Long-term shortening along strike



=> Chi-Chi could be

a characteristic earthquake !!



Tectonic setting in southwestern Taiwan



What are the significant structures accommodating shortening ? Currently and in long term ?



Sub-surface data (seismic lines + boreholes), Geodesy (InSAR + GPS), Geomorphology

Tainan Tableland

- Present-day crustal deformation:

GPS, leveling, InSAR Fast uplift ~10-12 mm/a + Transient behavior (Fruneau et al [2001], Rau et al [2003], Tung [2008], Huang et al [2009], Champenois [2011], Wu et al [2013])

Quaternary geology: (Chen & Liu [2000])
 Holocene uplift rate = 5 mm/a

- Subsurface structure ...?

Mud diapir (Liu et al [1997], Lin et al [2009]) Various fault-related fold geometries (Lacombe et al [1999], Fruneau et al [2001], Huang et al [2004], Lin et al [2007]...)





Subsurface structure North of Tainan tableland

Petroleum seismic line D5 :



[Odin MARC summer project, 2010]

Subsurface structure North of Tainan tableland



- East: continuous reflectors, no fault

West: 35° W-dipping thrust

- Detachment at 3.6 ± 0.1 km depth
- Basal shear zone
- Upper strata are syntectonic
- Beginning of growth much younger than

450 ka: 275 ± 25 ka if constant sedimentation ?

Pure-shear fault-bend fold model

[Suppe et al, 2004]



[Odin MARC summer project, 2010]

How does subsurface structure evolve southwards?



Structural axial surfaces mapping based on topography and InSAR LOS velocity :



Axial surface mapping

diamond = InSAR 1996–1999 triangle = topography

Fold of similar geometry => Extrapolation of the pure shear wedge fault-bend fold model to Tainan Tableland Slant Range Displacement Rate (cm/yr)





^{1996–1999} Envisat InSAR LOS velocity field from M-H Huang

Determination of total shortening in Tainan

Area of structural relief analysis



- Linear regression
- => Total shortening 654 ± 27 m in the direction of seismic lines



Tainan – Synthesis

- Structure :

Pure shear wedge fault-bend fold above **3.6-km-deep** detachment 37-41° W-dipping back-thrust in North

Total shortening along present-day
 GPS vectors : 710 m in North, only
 Likely increasing southward

If beginning of growth 275 ka ago,
shortening rate = 2.6 mm/a (North)
Much slower than present-day:

8-10 mm/a (North)
=> inception / mechanics of folding?

- Tainan anticline: **limited significance** for collision history in SW Taiwan



Perspectives :

Active structures and evolution of the foothills of SW Taiwan

- Draw regional cross-sections based on multi-disciplinary datasets
- => Locate and characterize active faults
- => Determine shortening at different timescales and fault/fold initiation

=> Chief goal: Restore the **evolution of the mountain belt** !



2007–2010 ALOS InSAR LOS velocity from E. Pathier



Perspectives :

Active structures and evolution of the foothills of SW Taiwan

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Integration within the Department

- New skills : Neotectonics

(Geomorphology, Quaternary geochronology, earthquake geology)

- Bridges

* Present-day and Long-term processes

 (Geodesy, Seismicity)
 * Surface deformation (Geomorphology, geodesy)
 * On-land and offshore tectonics (marine geophysics)
 * Fault seismic behavior and Fault-zone geology

* Permanent deformation and **folding** mechanism (Geomechanics)

- International collaborations :

My Research Focus = Topic of France-Taiwan collaboration

+ of incipient Taiwan-USA collaboration



Transient deformation monitored by InSAR



Area of structural relief and Shortening



Area of structural relief and Shortening



Impact of horizontal compaction on shortening



Porosity within the fold lower than porosity away from the fold

=> Shortening partly absorbed by horizontal compaction

Components of shortening :



For individual reflectors:

Structural relief shortening corrected from horizontal compaction

=

Total structural relief shortening



Ages calculated with G. Balco's program using Lal (1991) production rate and Stone (2000) scaling factors. (http://hess.ess.washington.edu/math/)





Principle of luminescence dating :



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- **30-ka average slip vector =** 523 ± 81 m oriented N338° ± 6°
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Le Béon et al, 2014, JGR

Interseismic displacement from Lin et al (2010)

Comparison with paleo-seismology studies

Late Pleistocene record:

Chi-Chi earthquakes recurrence interval :

470 ± 70 years.

Paleo-earthquake record:



