# **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







### <sup>10</sup>Be 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** 

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# Timing of paleoearthquakes

Age model based on 32 <sup>14</sup>C dates using Oxcal

```
+ 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					<ul> <li>3 (2) (2) (2) (3)</li> </ul>		
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				<b>U</b>	-		



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 $\Delta h$ 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  $\Delta h$ 

for each of the 3 fold scarps.



For each scarp i:

S = 
$$\Delta h_i$$
 / (sin  $\theta_{i2}$ .cos  $\alpha_2$  - sin  $\theta_{i1}$ .cos  $\alpha_1$  )

=> 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)





<sup>1996–1999</sup> 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 :**

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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/)



![](_page_63_Figure_0.jpeg)

#### Principle of luminescence dating :

![](_page_63_Figure_2.jpeg)

### Long-term slip vector versus Chi-Chi coseismic displacements

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![](_page_64_Figure_3.jpeg)

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:

![](_page_65_Figure_5.jpeg)

![](_page_65_Figure_6.jpeg)