

Measuring Horizontal Co-seismic Deformations from Optical Images, Complementarity of Satellite and Aerial Data

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In complement to seismological records, the knowledge of the ruptured fault geometry and co-seismic ground displacements are key data to investigate the mechanics of seismic rupture. This information can be retrieved from sub-pixel correlation of optical images. We are investigating the use of SPOT satellites images and aerial images. When used together, precise measurements close and further away from the fault zone area can be delivered. The techniques developed here are attractive due to the operational status of a number of optical imaging programs and the availability of archived data. However, uncertainties on the imaging system itself and on its attitude dramatically limit the technique. We overcome these limitations by applying an iterative corrective process allowing for precise image registration that takes advantage of the availability of accurate Digital Elevation Models with global coverage (SRTM). This poster presents three applications of this technique by showing accurate and dense horizontal co-seismic displacement field induced by the 1999 Hector-Mine earthquake in California (Mw 7.1), the 1999 Izmit earthquake (Mw 7.4), Turkey and the 1992 Landers earthquake in California (Mw 7.3).





