

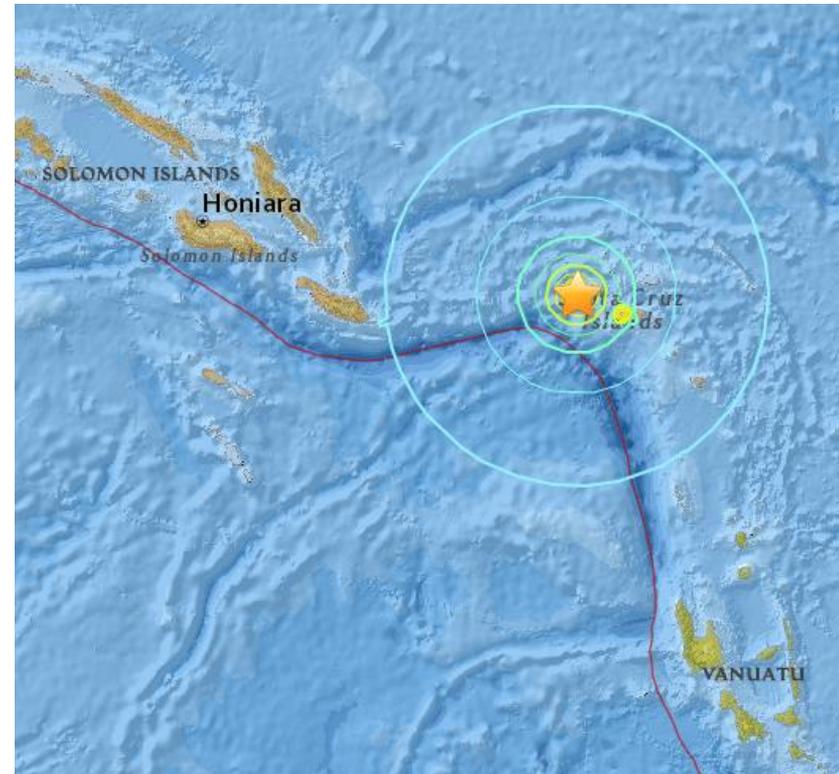
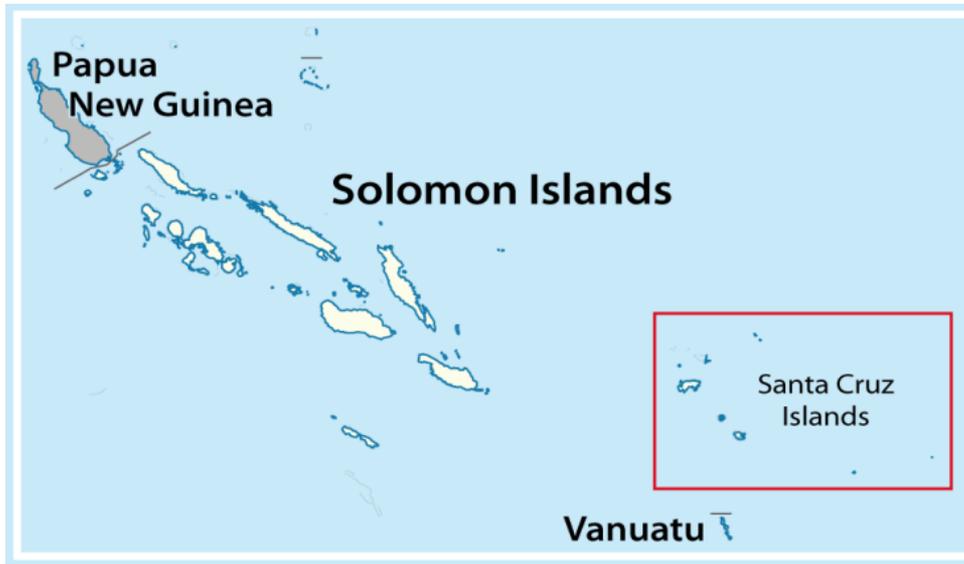
Magnitude 7.0 SOLOMON ISLANDS

Saturday, July 18, 2015 at 02:27:33 UTC



A 7.0 magnitude earthquake struck offshore in the Solomon Islands. The earthquake occurred northwest of Lata, Nendö at a depth of 10 kilometers, according to the US Geological Survey.

No injuries or damage have been reported.



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Nendö, the island closest to this earthquake experienced very strong shaking.

Lata, located in the northwestern part of the island, is its chief town and the provincial capital.

Modified Mercalli Intensity



Perceived Shaking

Extreme

Violent

Severe

Very Strong

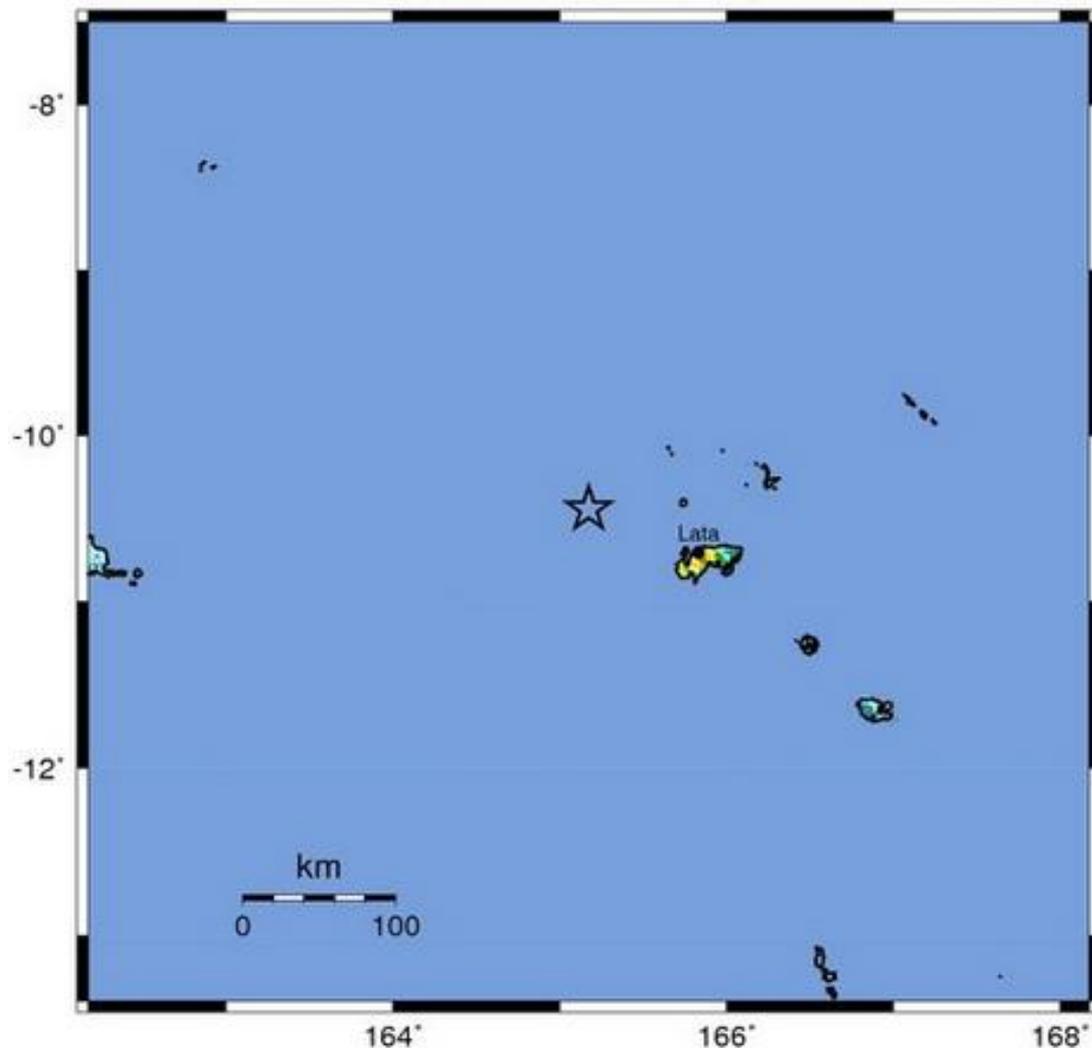
Strong

Moderate

Light

Weak

Not Felt

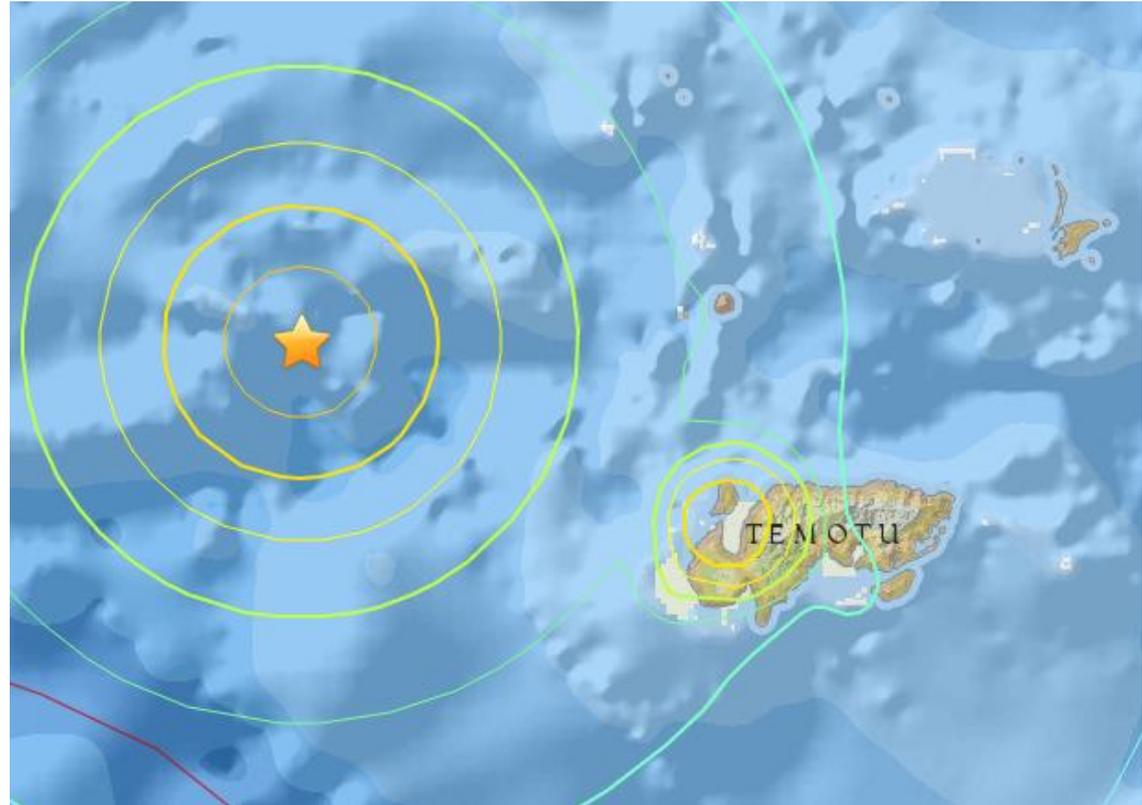


USGS Estimated shaking Intensity from M 7.0 Earthquake

The USGS PAGER map shows the population exposed to different Modified Mercalli Intensity (MMI) levels.

5,000 people experienced very strong ground shaking during this earthquake.

MMI	Shaking	Pop.
I	Not Felt	--*
II-III	Weak	4k*
IV	Light	16k
V	Moderate	7k
VI	Strong	5k
VII	Very Strong	5k
VIII	Severe	0k

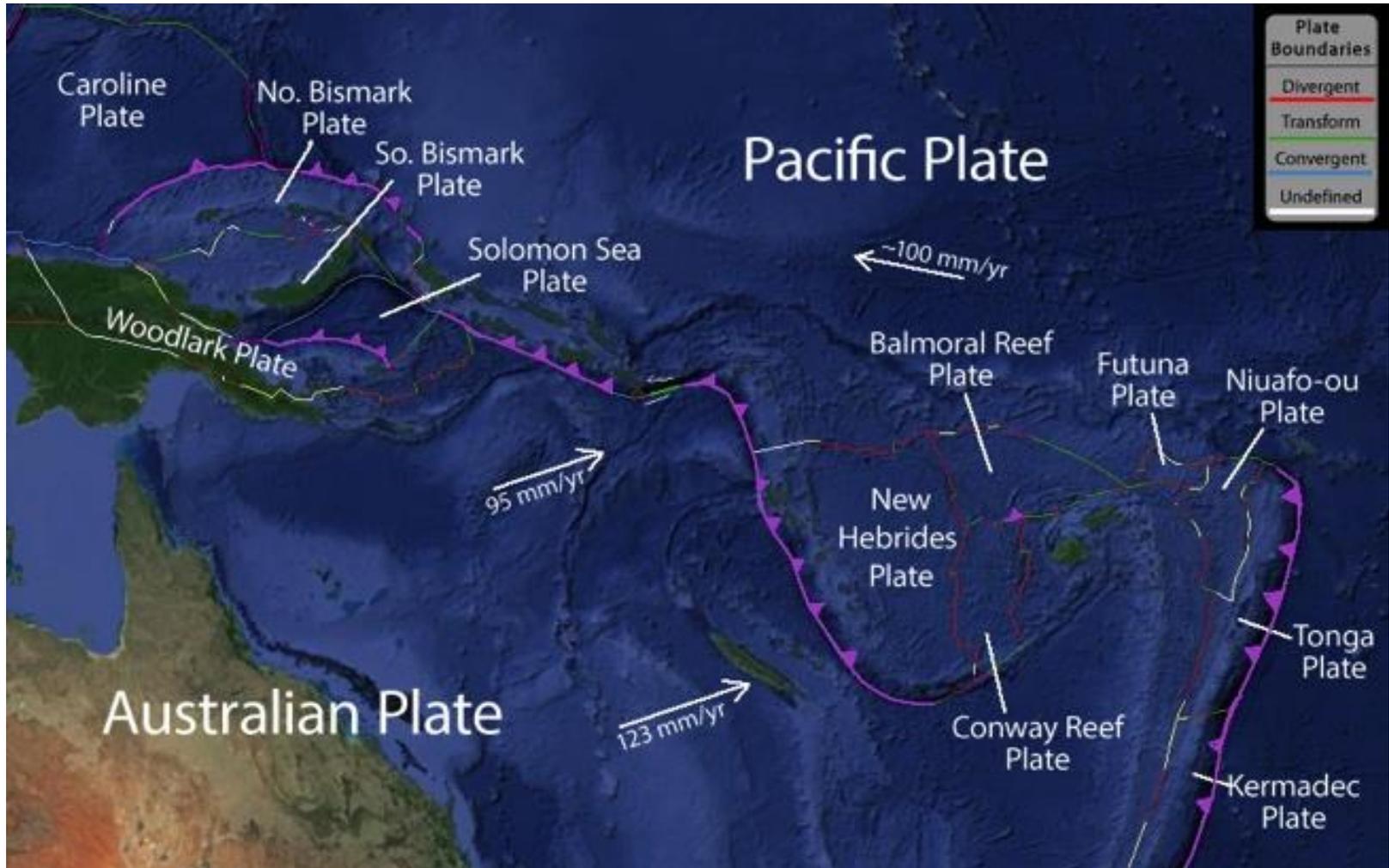


The color coded contour lines outline regions of MMI intensity. The total population exposure to a given MMI value is obtained by summing the population between the contour lines. The estimated population exposure to each MMI Intensity is shown in the table.

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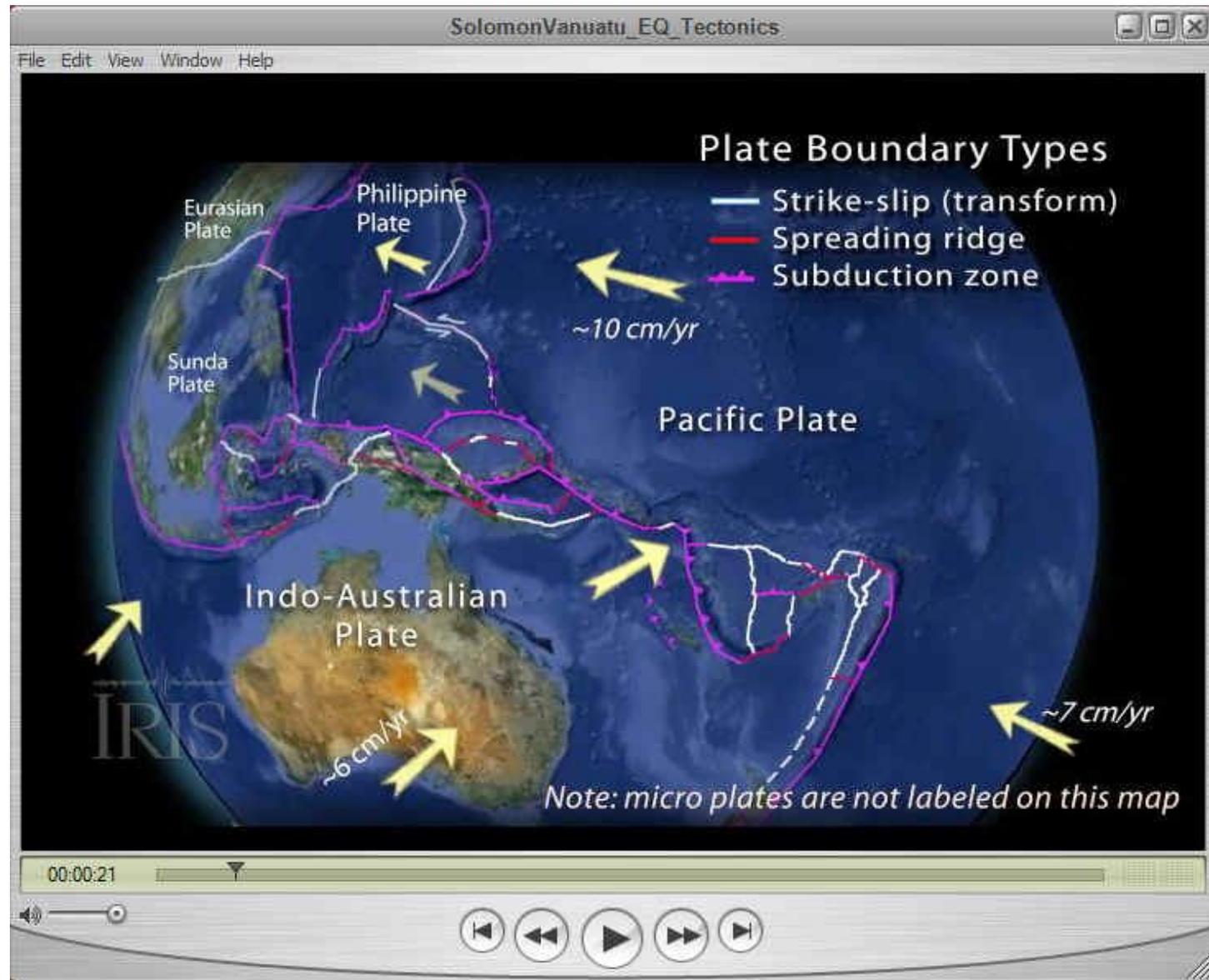
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This regional map shows the complexity of major tectonic plates and microplates due to the convergence between the Australian and Pacific plates.



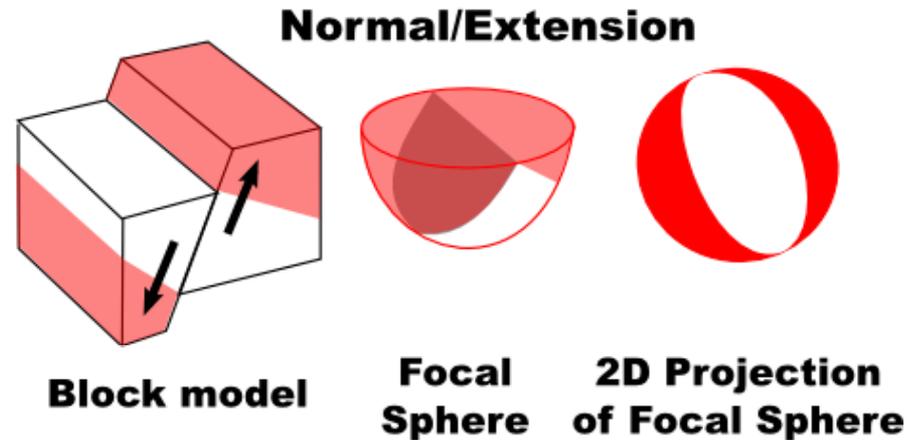
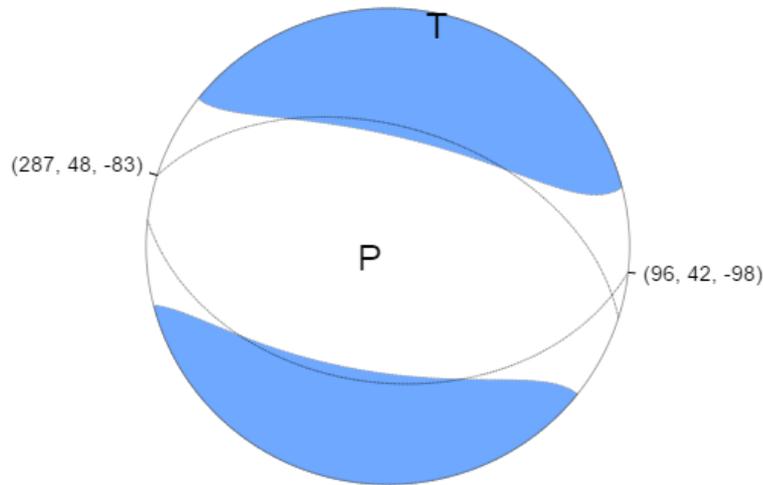
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Regional tectonic complexities involving the convergence of the Australian and Pacific Plates.

This earthquake occurred as a result of shallow extensional faulting in the Pacific Plate. In the region of this earthquake, the Australian Plate converges with and subducts beneath the Pacific Plate, moving towards the east-northeast at a rate of approximately 94 mm/yr.

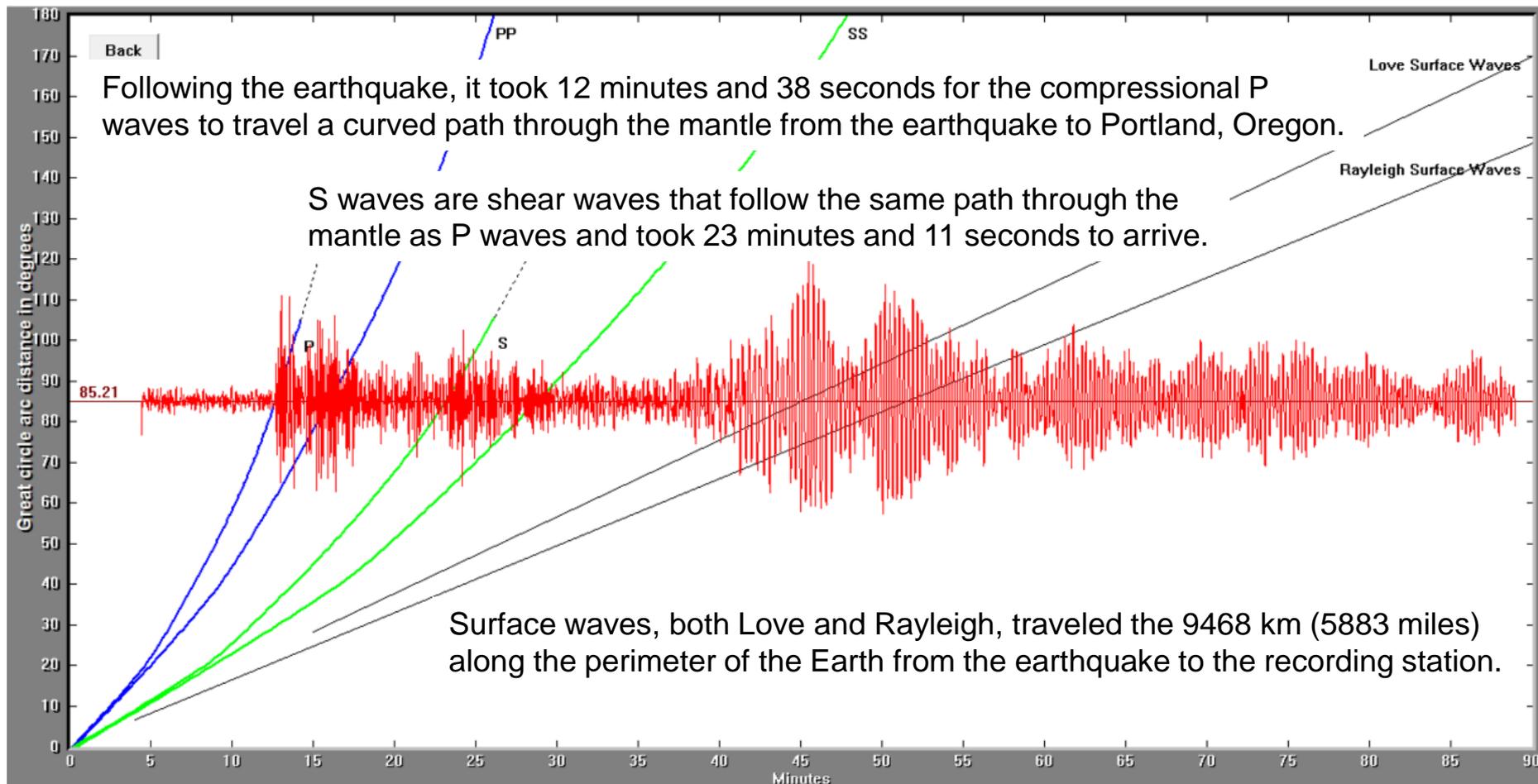


Shaded areas show quadrants of the focal sphere in which the P-wave first-motions are away from the source, and unshaded areas show quadrants in which the P-wave first-motions are toward the source. The letters represent the axis of maximum compressional strain (P) and the axis of maximum extensional strain (T) resulting from the earthquake.

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The record of the M7.6 earthquake on the University of Portland seismometer (UPOR) is illustrated below. Portland is 9468 km (5883 miles, 85.30°) from this earthquake.



Teachable Moments are a service of

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