

# Seismic-afterslip characterisation of the 2010 Mw 8.8 Maule earthquake based on moment tensors inversion

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## Seismic-afterslip characterization of the 2010 $M_W$ 8.8 Maule, Chile, earthquake based on moment tensor inversion

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[1] On February 27th 2010, a  $M_W$ 8.8 earthquake struck the coast of south-central Chile, rupturing  $\sim$ 500 km along the subduction interface. Here we estimate the amount of seismically-released afterslip (SRA) and the mechanisms underlying the distribution of aftershocks of this megathrust

[interior.gob.cl/filesapp/listado\\_fallecidos\\_desaparecidos\\_27Feb.pdf](http://interior.gob.cl/filesapp/listado_fallecidos_desaparecidos_27Feb.pdf).

[3] The segment that ruptured in 2010 was previously identified as a mature seismic gap [Campos *et al.*, 2002; Ruegg *et al.*, 2009] and coincides with the region affected by

Thanks to: Andreas Rietbrock and Isabelle Ryder (Liverpool)  
Matt Miller (Concepción)  
Marcelo Assumpção (São Paulo)

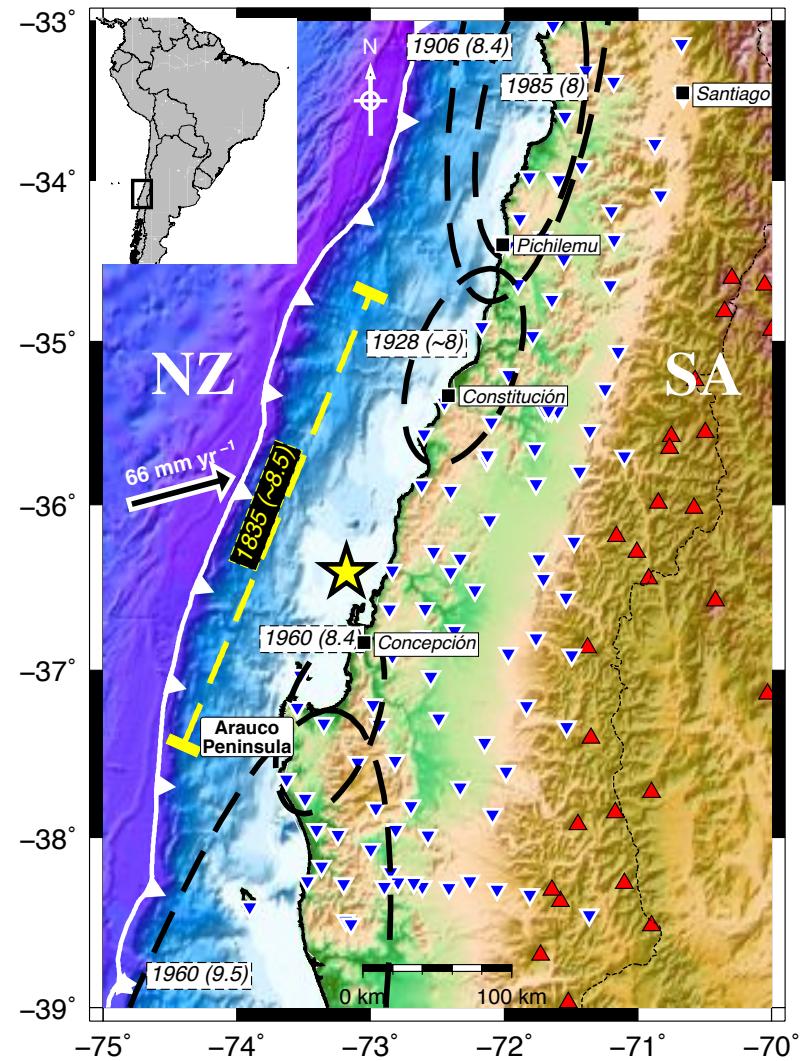
# Motivation and Hypothesis

- Agreement with published co-seismic slip models?
- Previous studies on aftershocks distribution. Goal → Quantification
- Similarities with Tohoku-oki earthquake
- Seismic-afterslip modelling

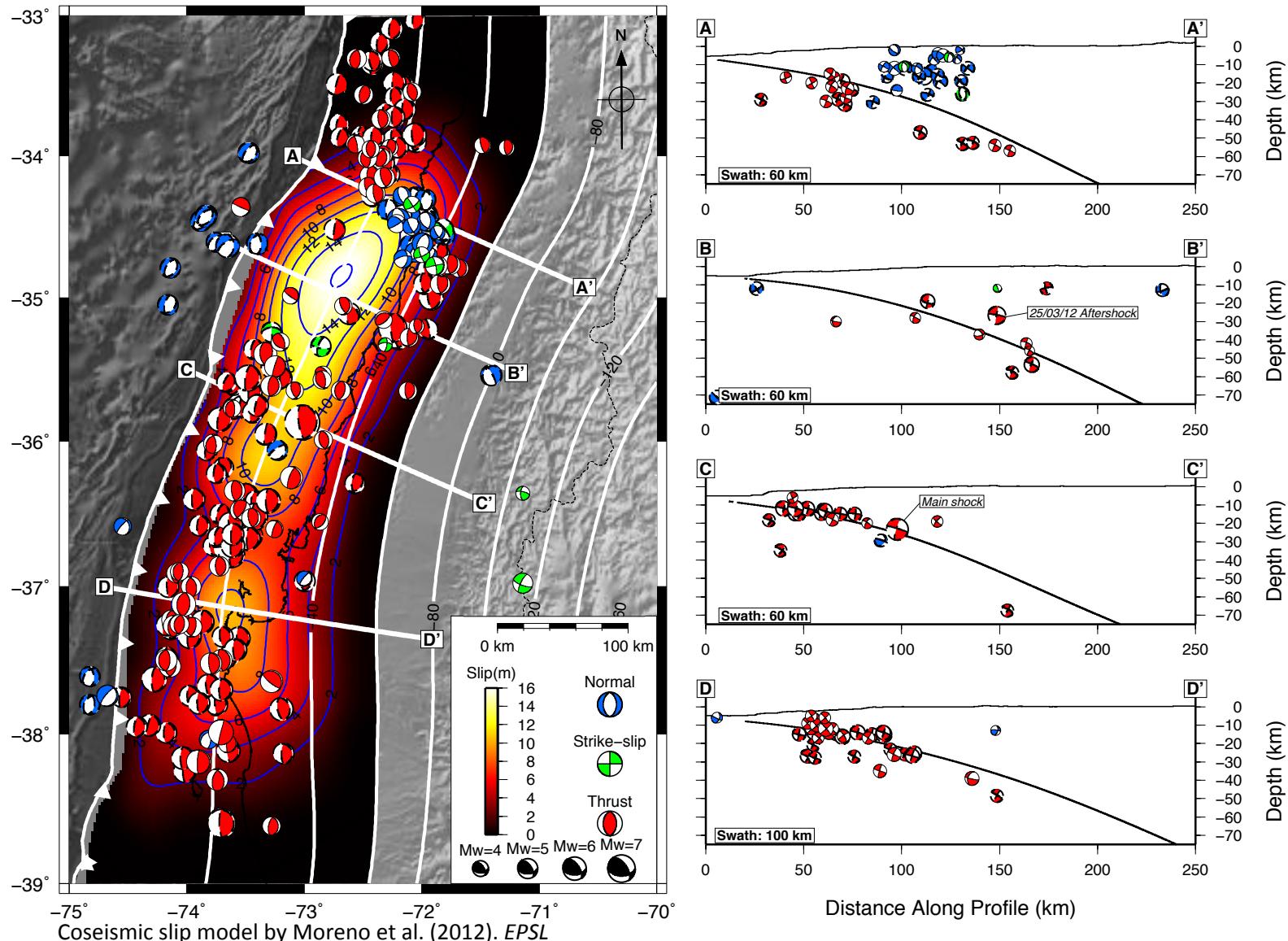
**Hypothesis:** Aftershocks occur outside area of highest co-seismic slip

# Introduction to the Study

- IMAD dataset
- Full-waveform moment tensor inversion  
ISOLA software (125 events)  
Sokos & Zahradník, 2008. *Comput. Geosc.*
- Fixed epicentral locations  
Rietbrock et al., 2012. *GRL*
- + relocated GCMT solutions Mw>5 (145 events)

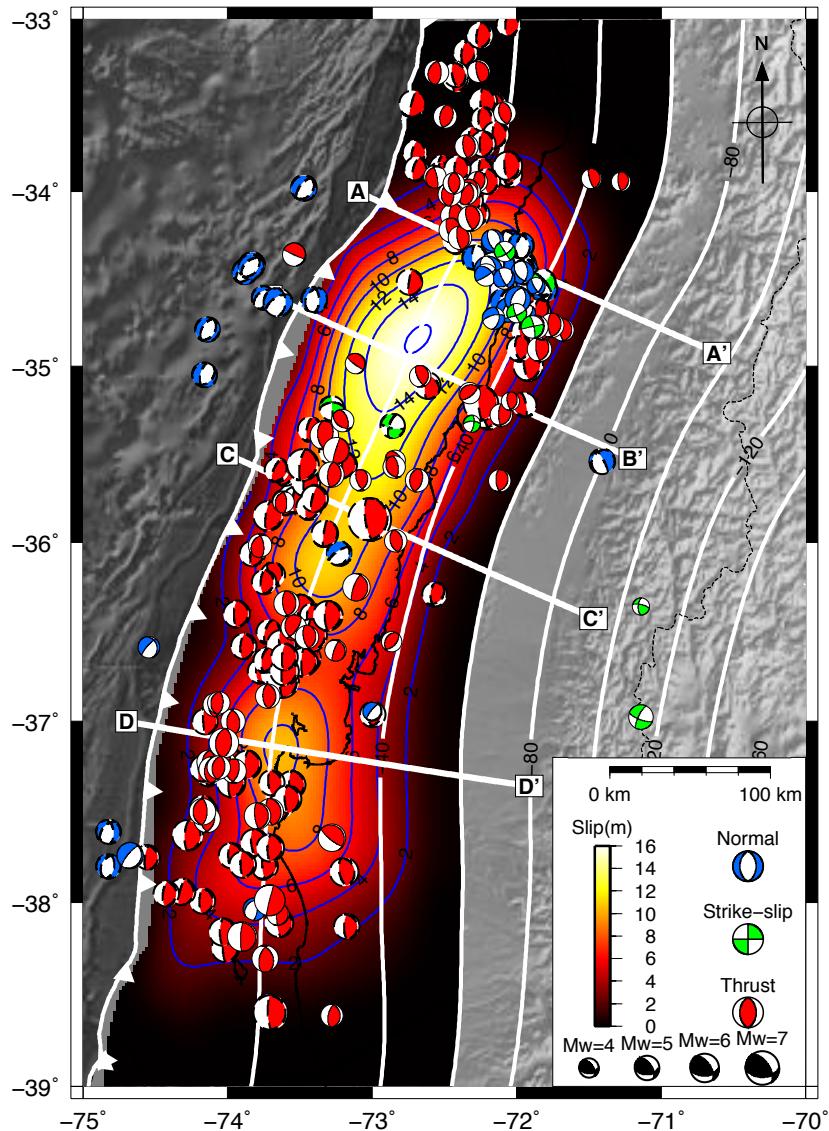


# Results



Coseismic slip model by Moreno et al. (2012). EPSL

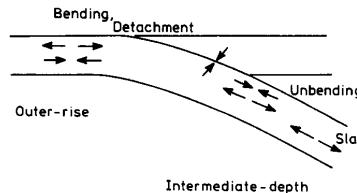
# Results



## ➤ Normal outer-rise events

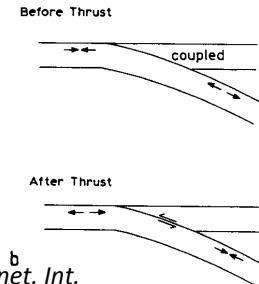
Bend-faulting

STATIC



Lay et al. (1989). *Phys. Earth Planet. Int.*  
Christensen & Ruff (1988). *JGR*

DYNAMIC



## ➤ Normal events in Pichilemu area

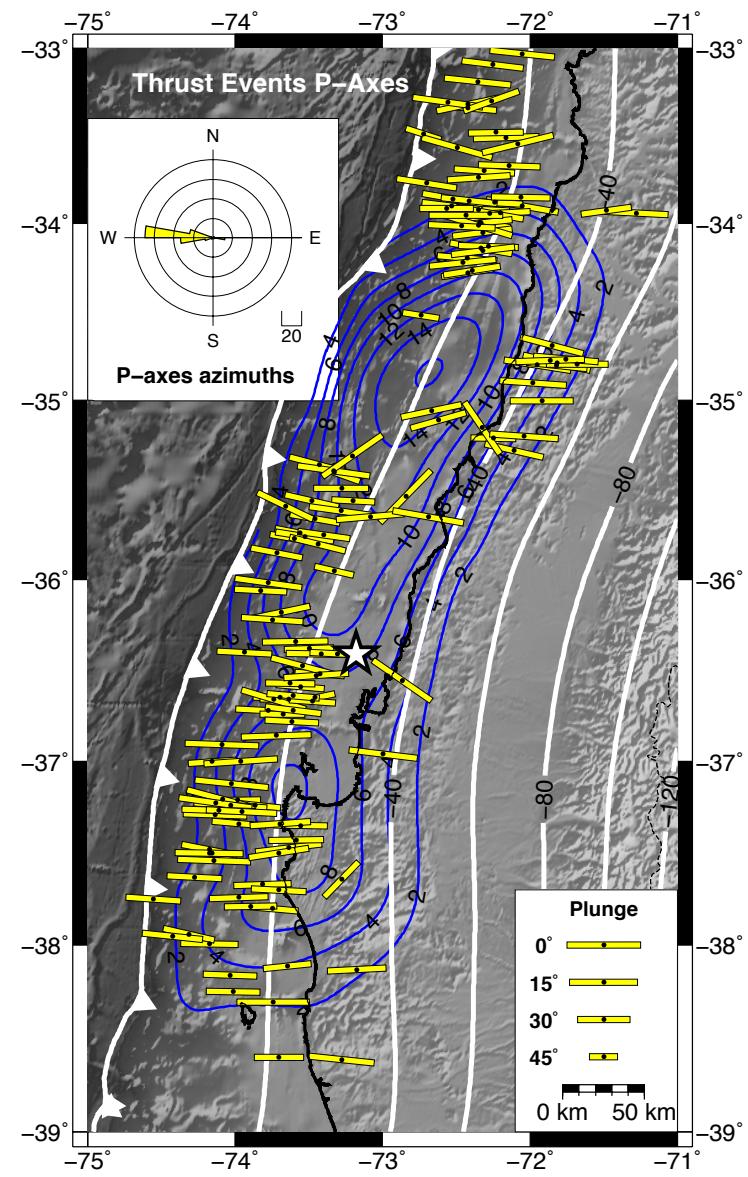
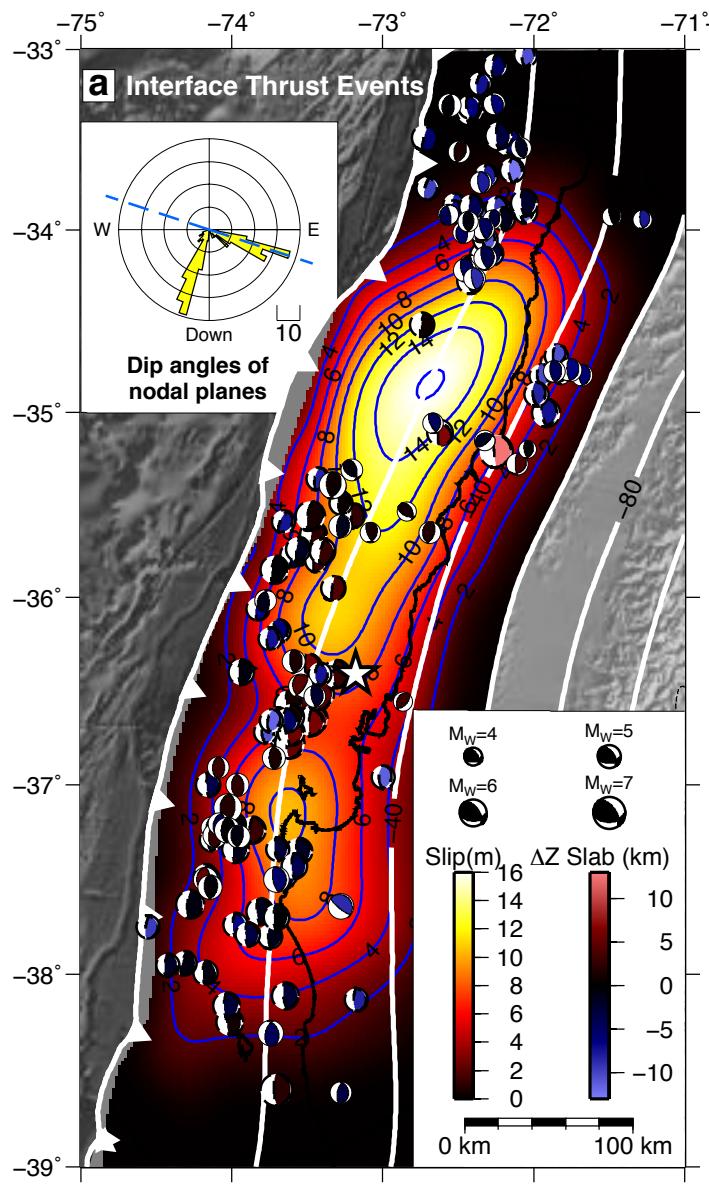
Ryder et al. (2012). *GJI*; Farías et al. (2011). *Tectonics*  
Japan – Kato et al. (2011). *EPS*.

## ➤ Crustal strike-slip events

e.g.: Mw5.1 at ~37°S/71°W associated to NW structures  
in Nevados de Chillán volcano.

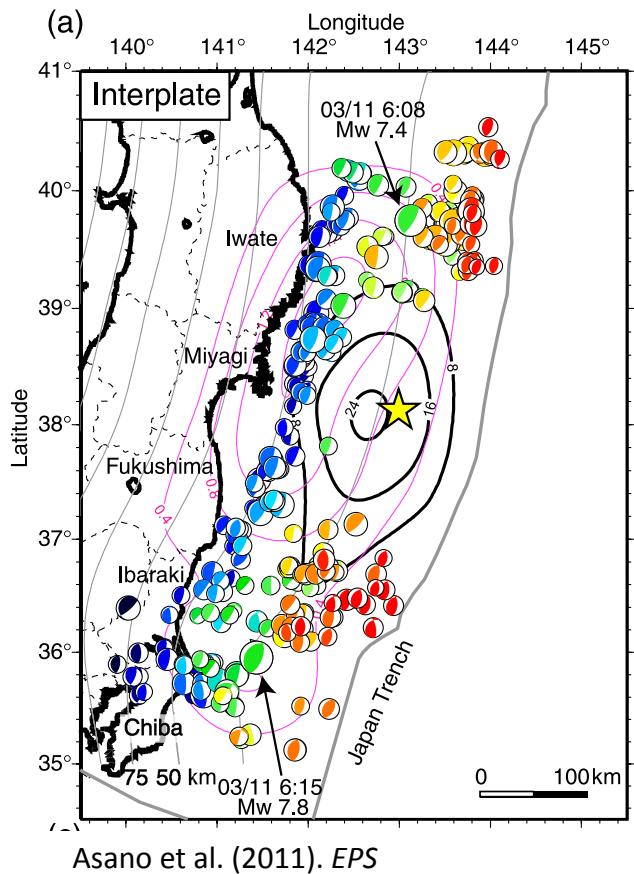
## ➤ Interface Thrust aftershocks

# Interface Thrust Aftershocks

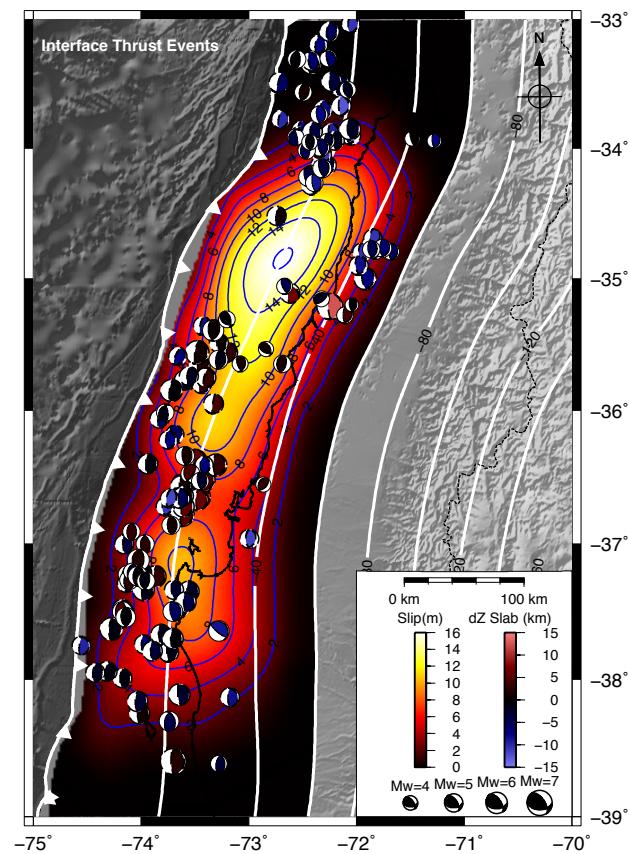


# Interface Thrust Aftershocks

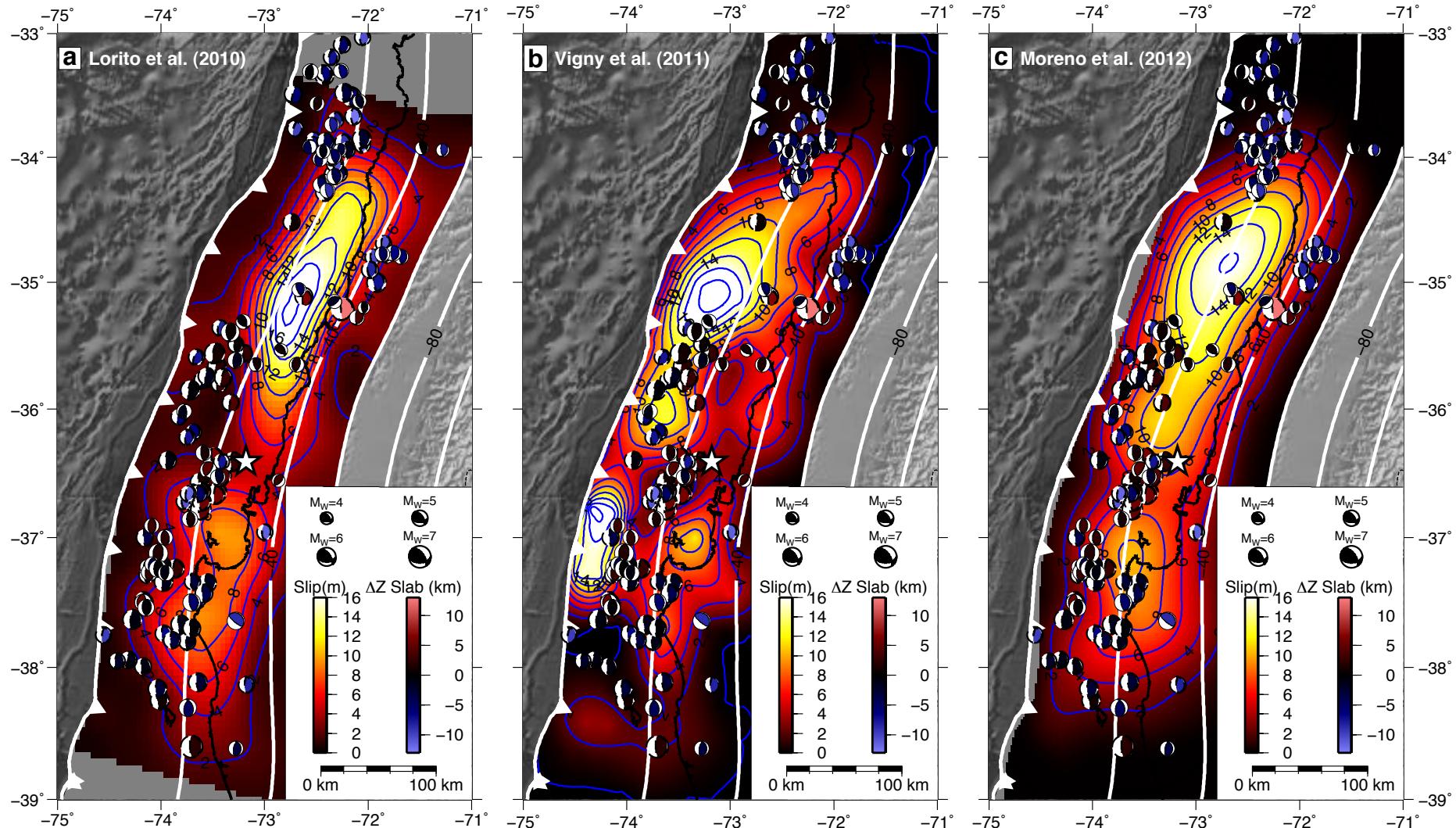
Japan, 2011



Chile, 2010



# Distribution of Thrust Aftershocks VS Published Co-seismic Slip Models



# Seismically-released Afterslip (SRA) Modelling

**Mw** from MT inversion



**Length**

$$\log_{10} L = -2.37 + 0.57M_w$$

**Width**

$$\log_{10} W = -1.86 + 0.46M_w$$

ISOLA  
Sokos & Zahradník, 2008.

Scaling Relations  
Blaser et al., 2010. BSSA



$$S = \frac{M_0}{\mu A}$$

s = slip (m)

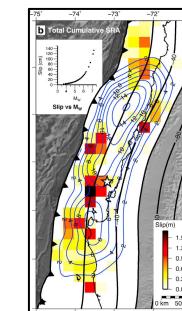
Seismic Moment  $\rightarrow M_0 = 10^{(1.5*M_w+16.1)}$

Shear Modulus  $\rightarrow \mu = 39 \text{ Gpa}$

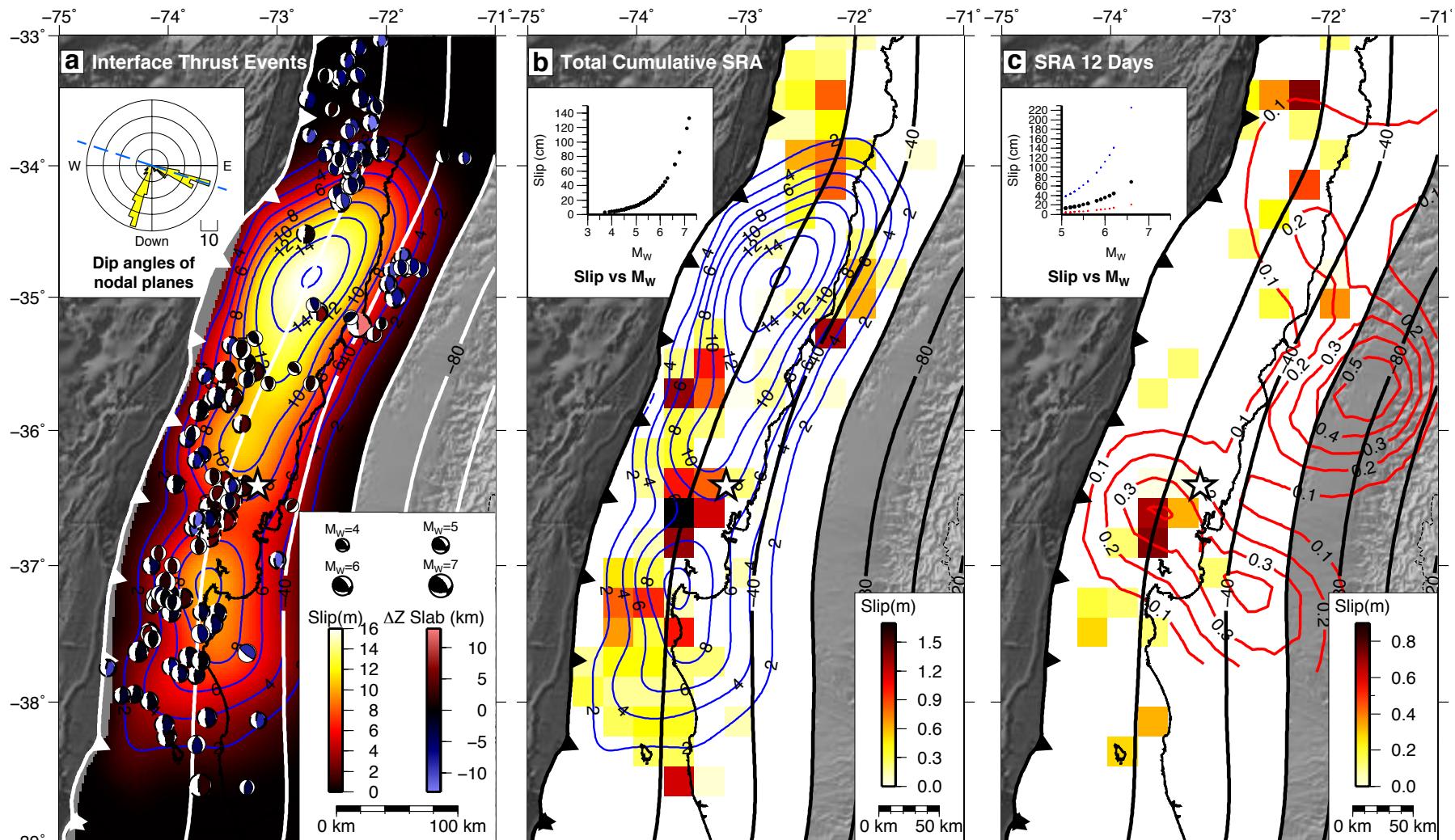
Fault Area  $\rightarrow A = L \times W$

Seismic Moment Equation  
Aki, 1966

Modelling of cumulative slip in tiles of 25x25 km



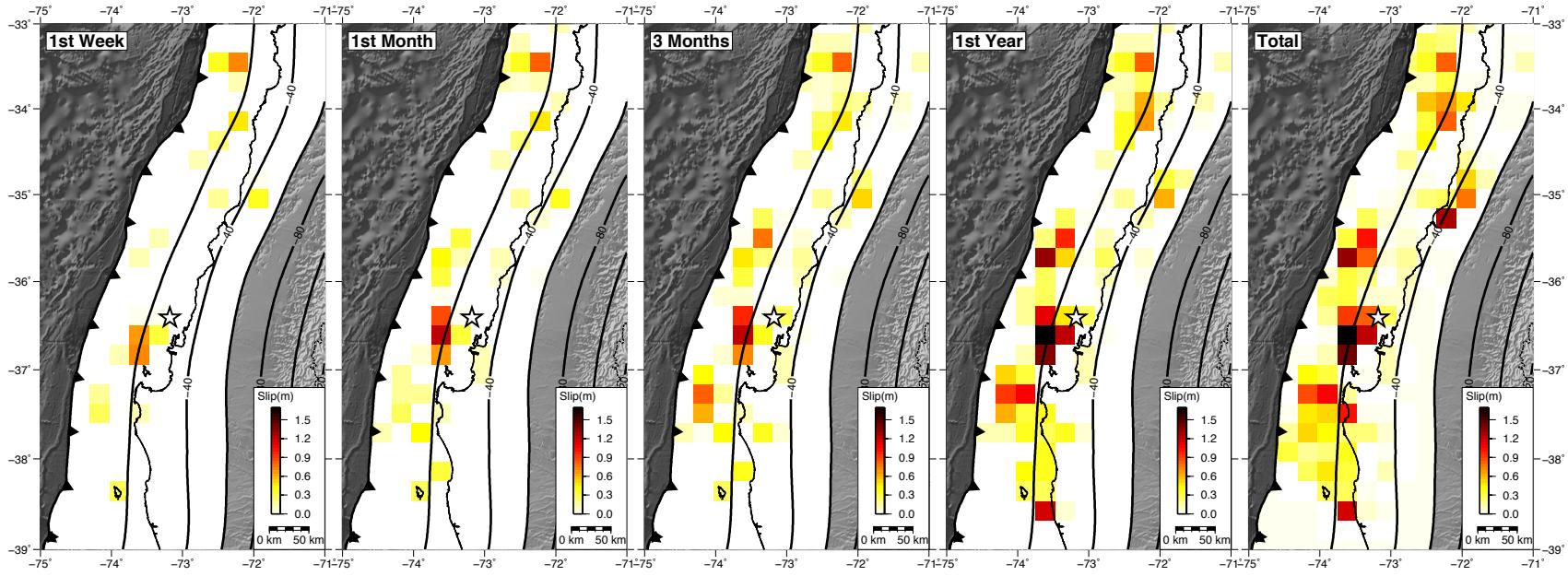
# SRA Model



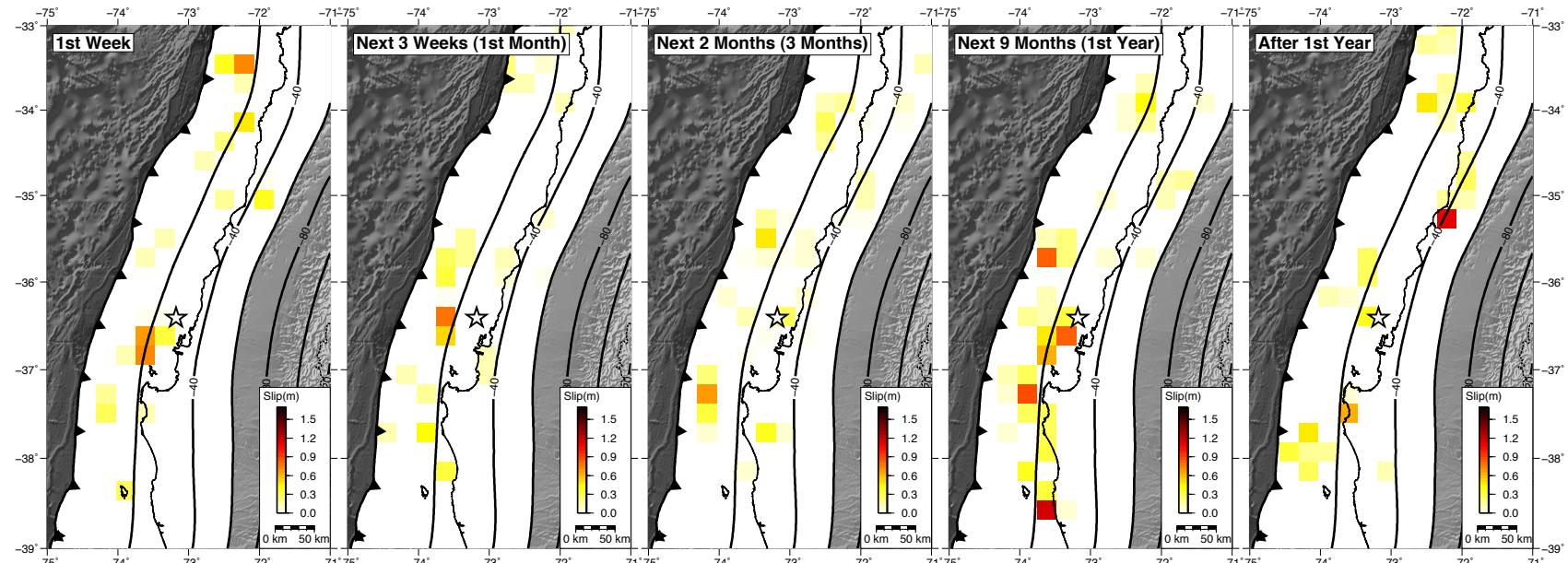
Interface thrust events and SRA model. Interface events were defined as those located at depths within 13 km (GCMT) and 6 km (this work) from the top of the slab respectively. **a)** Coseismic slip model [Moreno et al., 2012] and interface thrust events colored by vertical distance from the top of the slab. Inset: histogram of frequency of thrust events according to their nodal planes' dip angles; dashed blue line indicates dip angle of mainshock (megathrust plane). **b)** Cumulative SRA. Inset: exponential relationship between calculated  $M_w$  and slip. **c)** Cumulative SRA model for the 12-day period following the mainshock. Red contour lines show the 12-day postseismic afterslip model proposed by Vigny et al. [2011] every 0.1 m. Inset: same as 3b, including  $1\sigma$  of slip from scaling relationships (blue and red dots).

# SRA Progression In Time

Cumulative



Non-Cumulative



# Quantification of Aftershocks Distribution

$$R_{ds} = \frac{(N_{ds} / N_t)}{(A_{ds} / A_t)}$$

$R_{ds}$  → Normalized seismicity occurring within a given slip range (ds) relative to its areal distribution

$N_{ds}$  → Number of events occurring within a given slip range ds

$N_t$  → Total number of events

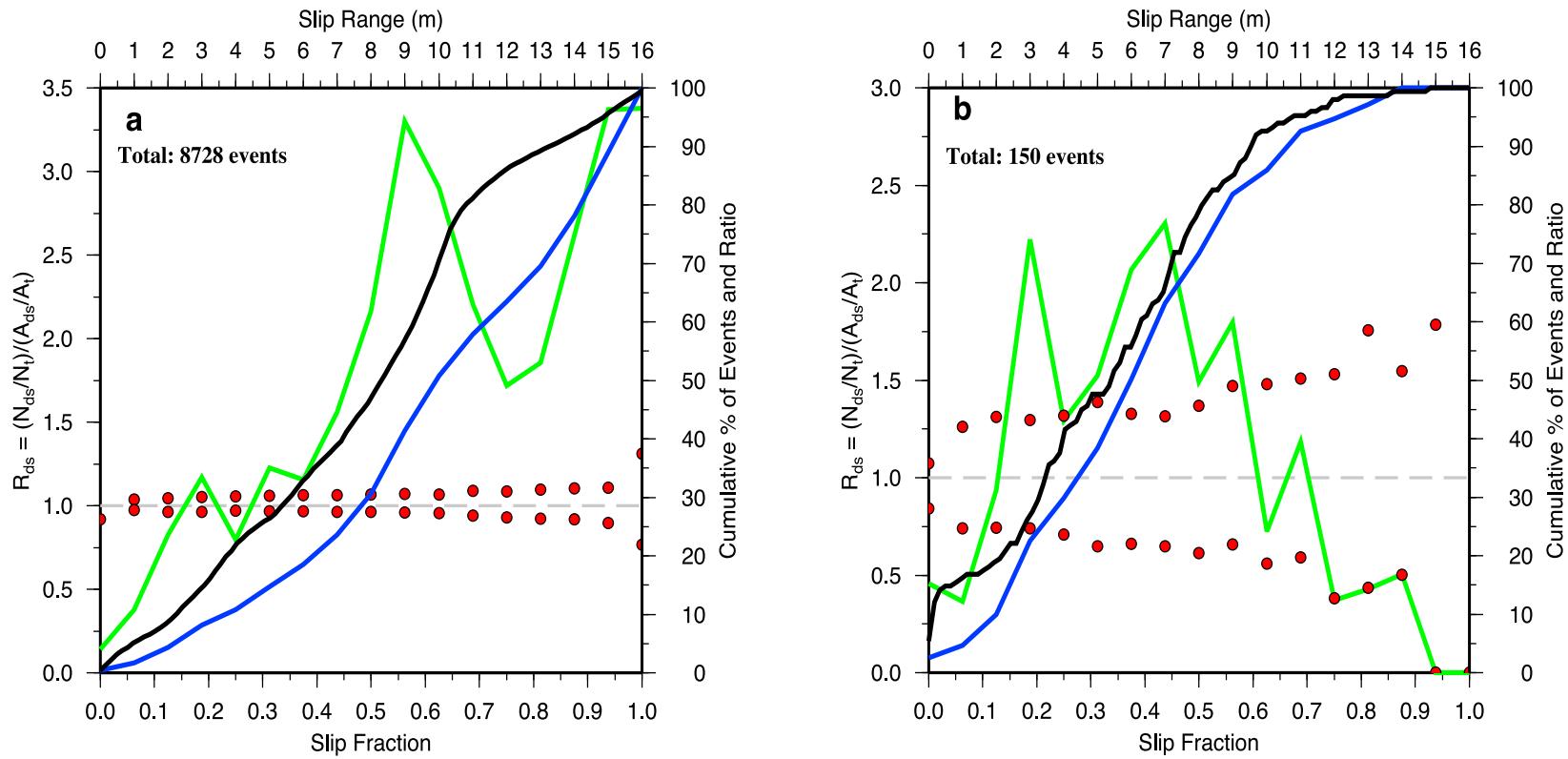
$A_{ds}$  → Area covered within a given slip range ds

$A_t$  → Total area

If  $R_{ds} > 1$  → Seismicity greater than average

If  $R_{ds} < 1$  → Seismicity smaller than average

# Quantification of Aftershocks Distribution



Histograms of aftershock distribution for **(a)** interface events from expanded catalogue published by Rietbrock et al. [2012], **(b)** largest interface thrust events. Green line shows  $R_{ds}$  values (left axis), blue line corresponds to the cumulative percentage of  $R_{ds}$  values (right axis), black line is the cumulative percentage of events (right axis). Red dots indicate one standard deviation values of  $R_{ds}$  for randomly distributed events test.

# Conclusion

- ❖ Catalogue of 270 RMT solutions
- ❖ Thrust faulting dominates (70%). Normal faulting in the Pichilemu area
- ❖ Absence of major thrust aftershocks in main coseismic slip patches
  - ➔ Bulk of intraplate stress released co-seismically
  - ➔ No major slip can occur post-seismically
- ❖ Interplate thrust aftershocks located on dislocation tips
- ❖ Highest SRA value (1.7 m) located in between the two main patches of coseismic slip

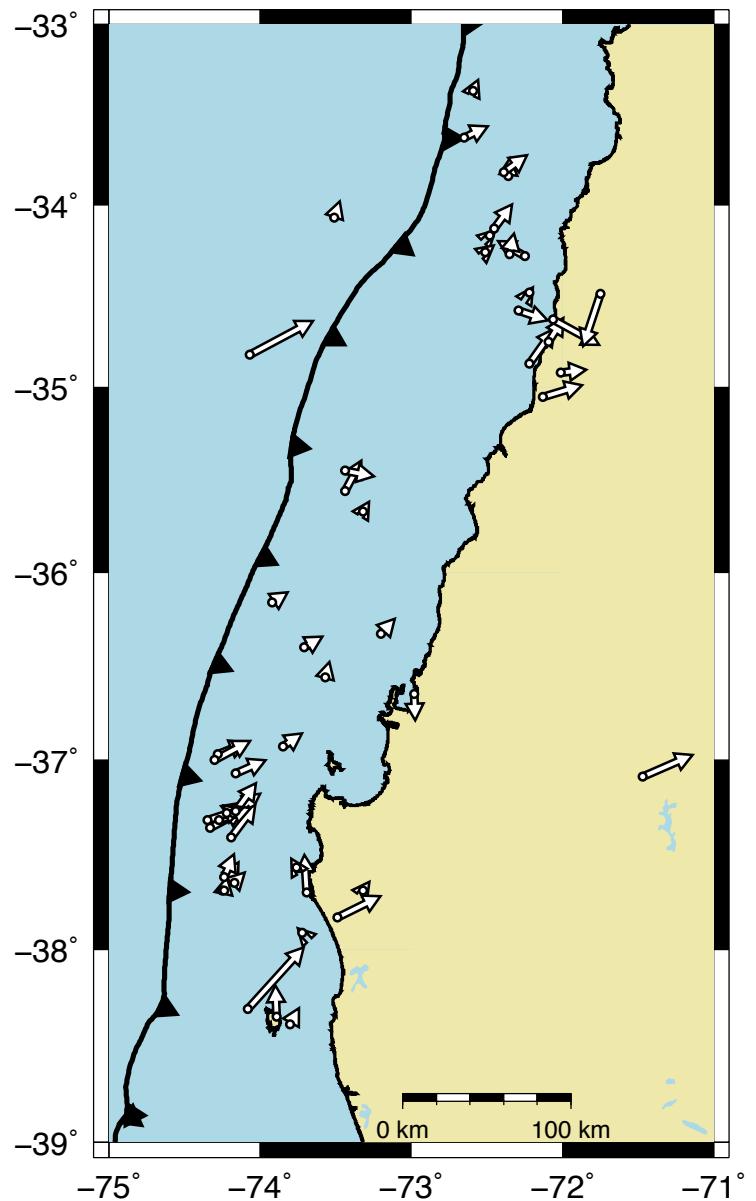
## Distribution Quantification:

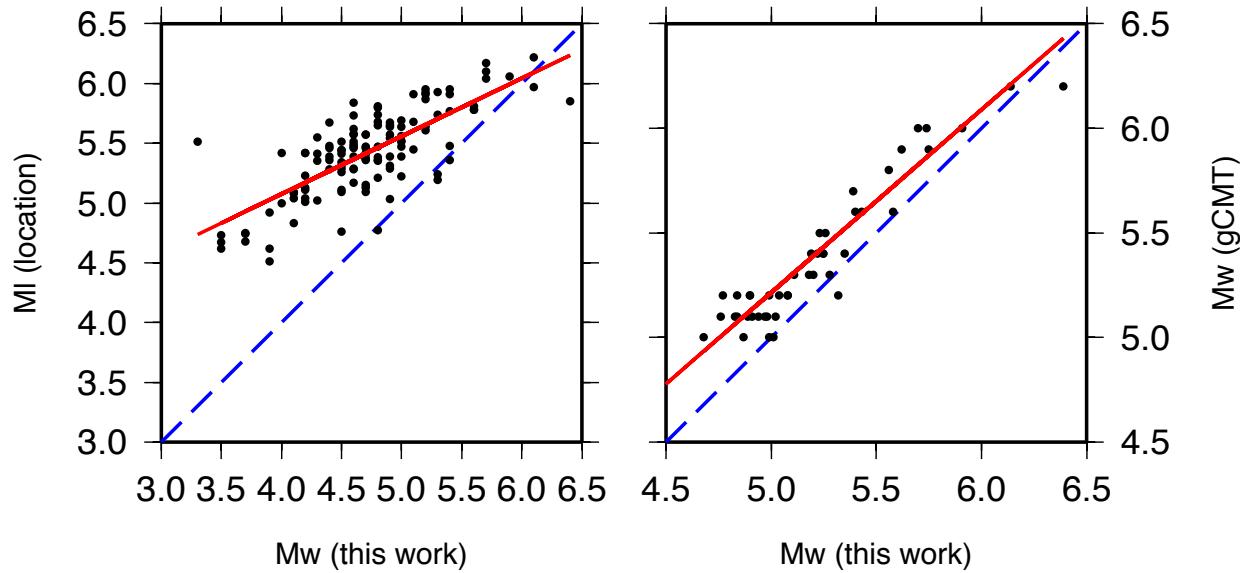
- ❖ Largest thrust aftershocks (>M4) occur in intermediate coseismic slip areas ( $0.2\text{-}0.7 S_{\max}$ )
- ❖ Smaller events in areas of larger coseismic slip ( $>0.85 S_{\max}$ ) associated to damage zone
- ❖ Method transferable to other tectonic environments/major earthquake.



## Relocation of GCMT events

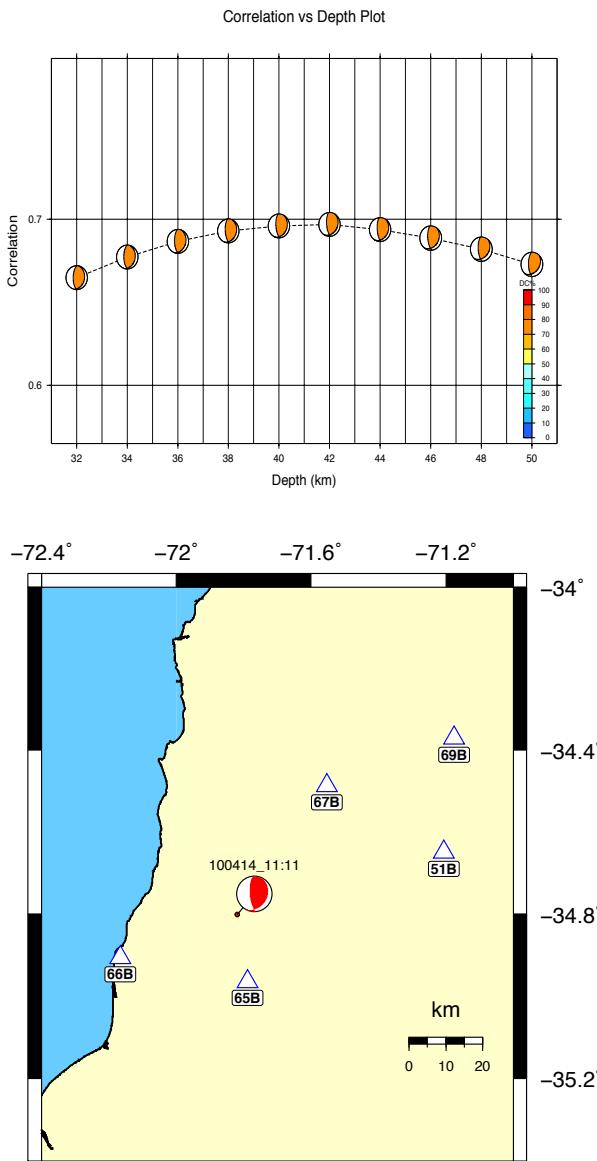
- GCMT events are biased to the southwest, towards the trench, for central-south Chile
- Similar biases for PDE (USGS) and PTWC (NOAA) catalogues (but different directions)
- Important for early tsunami warnings specially when close to the coastline!



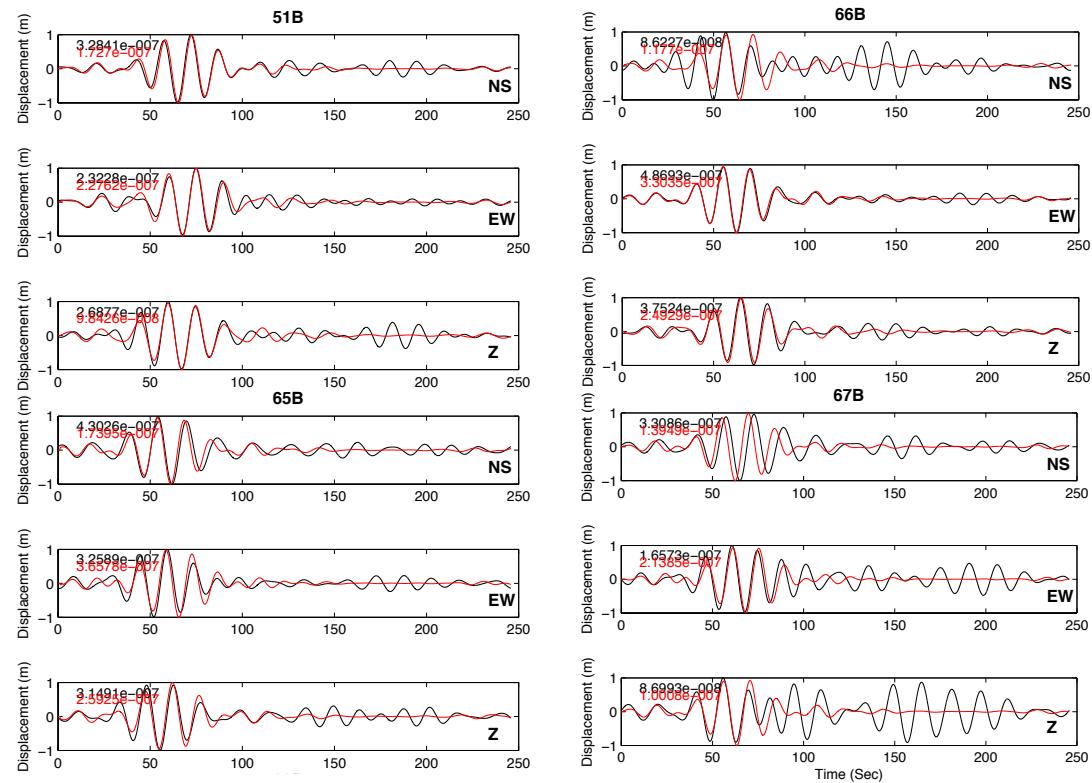


**Supplementary Figure 2.** Comparison of obtained magnitudes. Left plot shows local magnitudes [Rietbrock et al., 2012] versus  $M_w$  obtained in this work. Right plot shows GCMT magnitudes versus this work's magnitudes.

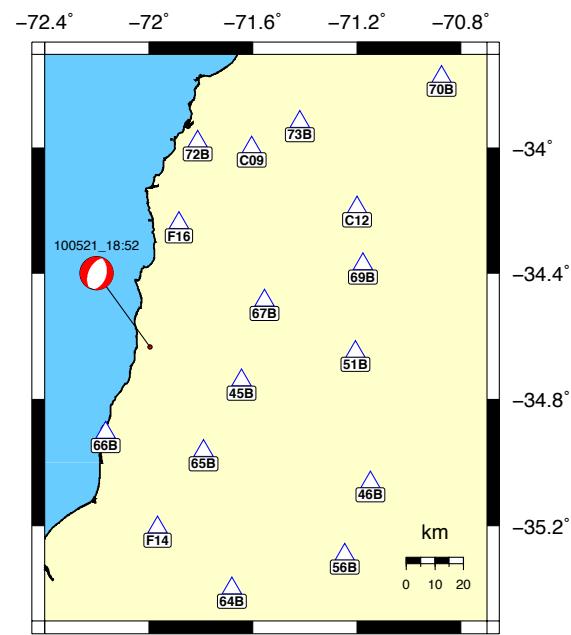
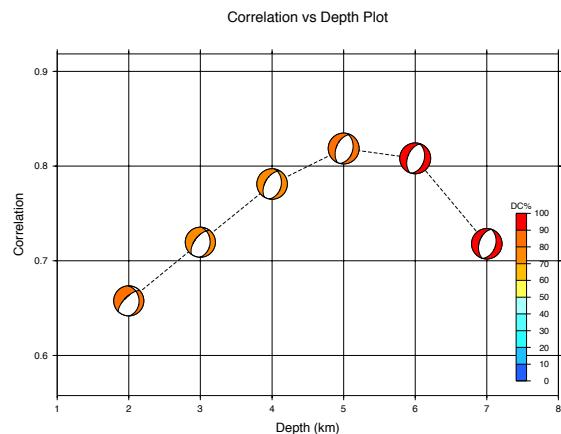
# Example 1



Origin Time: 2010-04-14 11:11:48.05  
Centroid Time: +1.14 s  
Centroid Location: -34.80S -71.82W  
Centroid Depth: 42 km  
Mw: 3.7 DC%: 77.3 CLVD%: 22.7  
Variance Reduction: 0.60  
Correlation: 69%



## Example 2



Origin Time: 2010-05-21 18:52:07.40  
Centroid Time: +0.06 s  
Centroid Location: -34.62S -71.99W  
Centroid Depth: 5 km  
Mw: 5.3 DC%: 94.3 CLVD%: 5.7  
Variance Reduction: 0.89  
Correlation: 87%

