Lessons Learned from a Decade of Operating the USArray Transportable Array



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EarthScope (2003-2018)

Study the three dimensional structure and evolution of the North American Continent

- 3.2 km borehole into San Andreas Fault
- 1100 permanent GPS stations
- 74 borehole strainmeters
- 6 laser strainmeters
- 78 borehole seismometers
- 100 Permanent seismic stations

- 400 transportable seismic stations occupying 2000 sites
- 20 magnetotelluric campaign systems
- 7 magnetotelluric backbone stations
- 100 campaign GPS stations
- 2146 campaign seismic stations



Me (2007)

0.4







eart

>700 temporary stations, typically deployed for a few months up to a year





196 "permanent" broadband stations

earth



USArray through 2014



- Major seismometer deployment in support of EarthScope
- IRIS operates and collects TA data directly, all data are immediately open







• 400 stations, 70 km spacing, 2 years/station deployed, +1,700 stations total

Deployment completed on schedule and under budget



11 Years of TA Stations



2010 Maule Example



February 27, 2010, NEAR COAST OF CENTRAL CHILE, M=8.8



2011 Virginia Example

earth scope





Lessons Learned

What "best practices" made the TA successful?





Lesson 1



Have a clearly defined organization (different tasks – different people):

- Permitting (<u>STUDENTS</u> found most sites, private landowners)
- Construction/Removal Teams (Honeywell Contractors)
- Installation Team (Honeywell Contractors)
- Array Operations Center (PASSCAL Instrument Center) Coordinates permitting, crew schedules, procurements, equipment inventory and testing, etc.
- Array Network Facility (Univ. California-San Diego) Monitors metadata, data flow, overall network performance, state of health, creates event catalogs (Jennifer Eakins & Juan Reyes)
- IRIS Data Management Center Handles waveform quality assessment (Mary Templeton)



Lesson 2

Standardized, autonomous design optimizes activities

Same design, construction materials, and hardware. Sites were selected for uniform installation and to operate undisturbed for at least 2 years.



Typical TA Station



TA station design evolved (cautiously), but was always standardized.

earth

SCO



Typical TA Station



Uniform Design

- Plastic molded vault design
- Modular communications (90% cell modems, 10% VSAT)
- Vault interface enclosure
 - Encloses everything but the DAS and seismometer
- Low-power autonomous operation (batteries charged off 1 or more panels)





Station deployment treated as a high-precision manufacturing operation

Lesson 3

Data Monitoring and Quality Control: Completeness + integrity, signal quality

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TA WHTX	Att	05	0		10m35s	8m11s	0			161	33	0	24	23m	729k	100%	7	-10	-6	260	12.8V	82mA		
TA_034A	Att	05	0	1	35	14h2m44s	1	100%	0%	2	1	0	2.4k	26m	901k	100%	9	4	-8	30C	12.5V	61mA	1	
TA_035A	vz	0s	0	1	35	3h40m33s	1	100%	0%	26	359	0	2.7k	29m	822k	100%	20	7	1	32C	12.5V	60mA	1	
TA_035Z	vz	0s	0	1.1	35	17h48m27s	1	100%	0%	2	1	0	2.8k	30m	904k	100%	10	-4	-8	28C	13.4V	56mA	1	
TA_109C	1.1	0s	0	1.1	25	17h47m58s	1	95%	0%	1	1	0	2.8k	30m	911k	100%	-6	-14	0	24C	13.2V	67mA	1	
TA_121A	VZ	0s	0	1	95	17h48m35s	1	100%	0%	1	1	0	2.4k	22m	839k	100%	26	-41	14	22C	13.2V	72mA	0	
TA_133A	vz	0s	0	1	35	10h51m58s	1	99%	0%	3	2	1	2.9k	30m	912k	100%	10	14	10	25C	12.9V	60mA	1	
TA_134A	٧Z	Os	0	1	35	17h48m37s	1	100%	0%	2	1	0	2.9k	30m	904k	100%	34	-3	-28	24C	12.6V	61mA	1	
TA_135A	Att	05	0	1	35	8h59m28s	1	100%	0%	2	1	0	2.9k	30m	900k	100%	-34	-8	8	22C	12.9V	59mA	1	
TA_136A	Att	05	0		35	10h46m3s	1	100%	0%	2	44	0	2.8k	30m	904k	100%	9	21	-11	23C	12.6V	58mA	1	
TA_137A	VZ	05	0		35	9h39m53s	1	100%	0%	2	1	0	2.9k	31m	903k	100%	-19	-34	-16	220	13.1V	61mA		
TA_138A	V2	05	0		3 5-	2h5/m13s 3b1m4fr	1	978	0%	4	17	0	2.9k	31m	920k	100%	11	-13	-1/	250	12.37	58mA		
TA 1404	VZ	05	0					-												210	12.6V	61mA		
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earth scope

TA Real-time Data Return

2505 days of data 6 days with 100% data return 97.78% Median daily data return



State-of-Health Review

- Real-time monitoring
 - Detect problems
 - · Initiate corrective actions
- Station QC & SoH on the web







Automated Procedures

Automated process for command, capture, analysis of calibration signals





White noise calibration processing results

Real-time noise analysis identifies performance issues

Lesson 4



- Direct measurement of orientation of all stations on install/removal
 - Uses fiber-optic gyroscope
 - Measures orientation to < 0.2°
 - Validates empirical estimates
- As of 2011, 95.6% of the TA stations have polarization anomalies within +-3°.
- In 2008, this number was 79.9%.







Atmospheric Acoustic Transportable Array



- Addition of barometers and infrasound to TA (NSF-MRI award to UCSD) in 2010
- TA became platform to better understand major atmospheric/ weather signals.

Atmospheric Gravity Waves on the TA Catherine deGroot-Hedlin et al.



Atmospheric Acoustic Transportable Array









Moving to Alaska



www.usarray.org/alaska



Test Stations (2011-2013)

- Sensor: 3-component "post-hole" broadband seismometer
- Datalogger & local data storage
- Flexible power & telemetry





- Toolik Lake test station
 installed August 2011
- 6 others in 2012 & 2013

Main Deployment (2014-2017)





- ~280 new & upgraded sites by 2018, spaced 85 km
- Mostly down-hole hammer or augured holes
- Complex logistics



New Practices... Even Better Data





TA Science Highlights

Crustal thickness measurements, Buehler and Shearer



Tip of the iceberg... at least 293 peer-reviewed USArray papers just during 2009-2013



Exploring the Structure Se and Evolution of the North American Continent

Resolution Before







Bassin et al., 2000 AGU Fall Meeting

earth scope

Resolution After



Shen and Ritzwoller, CU-Boulder, 2013 AGU Fall Meeting

earth scope

Improved Event Detection

A large percentage of events only reported by ANF with TA data Astiz et al., *SRL*, 2014



Looking eastward, the Array Network Facility made a high percentage of unique event detections.



Characterizing Small Earthquakes



Injection triggered earthquakes, Barnett Shale Frolich, *PNAS*, 2012 Remote earthquake triggering at injection sites Van der Elst et al., *Science*, 2013



TA deployment provided the opportunity to study uptick in seismicity in central and eastern U.S.

Better Understanding Great Earthquakes







Backprojection analysis of Maule Kiser and Ishii, GRL, 2011



New Seismic Images



Ambient noise tomographic imaging Ritzwoller et al., *CR*, 2011



TA "Super" GMV







People Make it Happen

USArray Transportable Array Team Photo on Completion of the TA in the Lower-48 States October 1, 2013



Want More Info?

On the Web

- EarthScope www.earthscope.org
- USArray

www.usarray.org

• IRIS

www.iris.edu

 National Science Foundation www.nsf.gov

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NSF

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