

1 **Source parameters of earthquakes recorded near the Itoiz dam (Northern Spain)**

2 A. Jiménez<sup>1</sup>, J. M. García-García<sup>2,3</sup>, M. D. Romacho<sup>2,3</sup>, A. García-Jerez<sup>2,3</sup> and F. Luzón<sup>2,3</sup>

3 <sup>1</sup> School of Environmental Sciences, University of Ulster, Cromore Rd, Coleraine, BT52  
4 1SA, Northern Ireland. a.jimenez@ulster.ac.uk

5 <sup>2</sup>Department of Chemistry and Physics, University of Almería, Carretera de Sacramento s/n,  
6 Cañada de San Urbano, 04120, Almería, Spain.

7 <sup>3</sup>Instituto Andaluz de Geofísica, Spain.

8 **A b s t r a c t**

9 We calculate the source parameters and attenuation from earthquakes recorded  
10 near the Itoiz dam, from 2004 to 2009, with magnitudes ranging between 1.2 and  
11 5.2. We use a Genetic Algorithm in order to fit the three-component P-wave spectra  
12 with the spectral level, corner frequency and attenuation factor as searching  
13 parameters. The obtained moments range from  $1.72 \cdot 10^{11}$  to  $2.65 \cdot 10^{15}$  Nm, the radii  
14 span from 0.09 to 1.00 km, and the stress drops vary from 0.006 to 29.462 MPa.  
15 The maximum value for the Q attenuation factor is 794, and the minimum value is  
16 53. We find a good agreement between empirical and theoretical relationship  
17 between moment and magnitude. There seems to be a breakdown of self-similarity,  
18 but it could be due to the method used. We group the data by means of a Self-  
19 Organizing Map and the clusters found are related by their magnitude, and not other  
20 considerations.

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1 Key words: Source parameters, Reservoir induced seismicity, Genetic Algorithm, Self-  
2 Organizing Maps.

### 3 **1. INTRODUCTION**

4 The Itoiz dam is located in the Jaca-Pamplona basin, in the framework of the South  
5 Pyrenean Zone (Fig. 1). On September 18, 2004, a 4.6 mbLg earthquake was widely felt in  
6 the region around Pamplona, at the western Pyrenees. Preliminary locations reported an  
7 epicenter less than 20 km ESE of Pamplona and close to the Itoiz reservoir, which started  
8 impounding in January 2004. This earthquake produced a considerable social alarm about the  
9 seismic hazard in the region induced by the impoundment of the reservoir. Our goal is to  
10 better understand the mechanisms of the seismicity around the Itoiz dam, and give some  
11 insight about its origin. In order to do so, we compare the seismic parameters in that area with  
12 other where no induced seismicity is involved.

13 The region has been extensively studied since the occurrence of the September 18, 2004  
14 event. For example, Ruiz et al. (2006) analyzed the seismic series corresponding to the 18  
15 September 2004 earthquake; Luzón et al. (2009, 2010) and Durá-Gómez and Talwani (2010)  
16 studied the effect of the pore pressure due to the impoundment of the reservoir; Santoyo et al.  
17 (2010) calculated the stress produced by the reservoir near Itoiz. They showed that the  
18 aftershock sequence was indeed produced by the stress transfer caused by the 18 September  
19 2004 earthquake. Rivas-Medina et al. (2011) calculated the seismic hazard near the Itoiz dam.  
20 In a previous work (Jiménez et al., 2009; Jiménez and Luzón, 2011, 2012), we studied the  
21 main seismic clusters near the Itoiz dam. We did not find any difference between the 18  
22 September 2004 cluster and the others, except for a higher fractal dimension of the epicentre  
23 distribution.

## Source parameters at Itoiz dam

1       After the 18 September 2004 event, new stations have been deployed in order to monitor  
2 the seismic activity in the area. Among them, the University of Almería installed 5 broadband  
3 stations near the reservoir, in order to study the seismicity around the Itoiz dam from 2008 to  
4 2010. With those data, and the ones obtained from the Instituto Geográfico Nacional (IGN),  
5 we analyze the source parameters from 45 events since 2004.

6       It is usually established that reservoir induced seismicity presents lower stress drops than  
7 the tectonic earthquakes (Abercrombie and Leary, 1993). Their compilation study included  
8 hydraulic fracturing in Fenton Hill, NM (Fehler and Phillips 1991) and coring induced  
9 earthquakes from Manitoba, Canada (Gibowicz et al. 1990). In both studies the stress drops  
10 were on average one order of magnitude lower ( $\Delta\sigma \leq 10$  MPa) than those of naturally  
11 occurring earthquakes. This is still observed when the compilation is corrected to use a  
12 consistent method for all analyses using earthquake spectra. More recently Mandal et al.  
13 (1998) analyzed a set of  $M$  1.4–4.7 induced earthquakes at the Koyna-Warna reservoirs in  
14 India and found shallow earthquakes ( $1 \leq z \leq 4$  km) with very low stress drops,  $\Delta\sigma \leq 2$  MPa.  
15 However, some works do not find any difference between natural and induced events (Tomic  
16 et al., 2009).

17       Other interesting question is the breakdown of self-similarity in small earthquakes. For  
18 large earthquakes, it is established that the stress drop is constant with the moment, but  
19 previous investigations found that the corner frequency of small events increases very slowly  
20 or becomes constant with decreasing seismic moment below a certain value, implying a  
21 breakdown in the self-similarity of the rupture processes for small earthquakes (Jin et al.,  
22 2000). Analyzing earthquakes of magnitude in the range 2.5–7, Atkinson (1993, 2004) noted  
23 that the stress drop increases with magnitude (from about 0.3 to 10 MPa) until  $M = 4$ , above  
24 which it appears to have a relatively constant value in the range 10–20 MPa. Atkinson  
25 concluded that the low stress drops for small events really reflect low high-frequency spectral

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1 amplitudes and not a bandwidth limitation. Other studies, using borehole data, revealed that  
2 the apparent corner frequencies of microearthquakes are significantly higher than those  
3 estimated from surface recordings (Hauksson et al., 1987; Abercrombie, 1995). The apparent  
4 high-frequency limit to corner frequency observed using seismograms recorded at the surface  
5 may be due mainly to high attenuation in the weathered, near-surface material, as concluded  
6 by Frankel and Wennerberg (1989) and Abercrombie (1995, 1997), Bindi et al. (2001),  
7 among others. If there were a breakdown in similarity, it would mean a minimum size for the  
8 source dimension, of around 100 m, in the same way we have a maximum size given by the  
9 elastic properties of the lithosphere (Archuleta et al., 1982), so that the rupture process would  
10 not be self-similar (Mai and Beroza, 2000; Scholz, 1990).

11 In the present work, we obtain the source parameters (moment, radius and stress drop)  
12 from 45 earthquakes recorded near the Itoiz dam (Northern Spain), by using Genetic  
13 Algorithms (GA), following Jiménez et al. (2005). We use three component P- wave records.  
14 Then we analyze the results and we compare them with other events occurred in a region (the  
15 Granada basin, in Southern Spain) where we are sure that no induced seismicity is involved.

## 16 **2. DATA SELECTION AND ANALYSIS**

17 The digital data used in this work were recorded by 7 short period (1 Hz) seismic stations  
18 and 2 accelerometers (from the Instituto Geográfico Nacional, IGN, Spain), 5 broadband  
19 instruments and 4 accelerometers (from our research group). We use the three components  
20 from all instruments. The dataset comprises 45 low to moderate local earthquakes recorded  
21 by 18 three component seismic stations from 2004 to 2009 in Itoiz zone (Navarra, Spain). In  
22 Fig. 2 we show the map with all the events analyzed and the locations of the stations. All  
23 stations are located in hard rock. As Steidl et al. (1996) point out, site effects can be present.  
24 In the method section we will explain how those effects are treated. In Fig. 3 we show the

## Source parameters at Itoiz dam

1 water level at the Itoiz dam, the number of earthquakes and the magnitudes of the seismicity  
2 recorded in the region.

3 Data set was selected on the basis of a high signal to noise ratio, accurate epicentral  
4 location and sufficient separation between P and S phases. The recording affected by  
5 saturation effects and other problems were discarded. The body wave magnitude (mbLg) of  
6 the selected events, ranged between 1.2 and 5.2.

7 The location accuracy relied upon a very good reading of the first P-wave arrival and the  
8 relative large number of stations used. We used a window length that includes the maximum  
9 amplitude of the P-wave and avoids overlapping with other types of waves. Most of the  
10 events have depths of less than 10 km (between 1 and 11 km), so they are considered shallow  
11 events. The hypocentral distances are between 0.6 km and 174 km. At this distance range, the  
12 seismic records are mainly influenced by the near-surface structure of the crust because most  
13 source-station ray paths are confined to the crust (Fernández et al., 2010). In Fernández et al.  
14 (2010) they speak about a range of distances between 0 and 100 km. For larger distances, the  
15 effect of the near mantle can affect the values for the Q factors. However, we are confident  
16 that this is the range of most of our distances between source and station. The events are  
17 recorder very close to the stations in most of the cases. We only have two stations that are not  
18 very close (See Fig. 2). It should be noted that the impulsive P-wave arrival are characteristic  
19 to all selected events.

20 All the spectra studied from P-wave, were calculated using a Fast Fourier Transform.  
21 First, the signal was base-line corrected subtracting the average of all points of the record.  
22 The time series were windowed from the start of the phase by using a both ends 10 percent  
23 cosine taper. The resultant seismogram was padded with zeros to an integer power-of-2 prior  
24 to the FFT. Signal windows of varying lengths were tested in order to select a length that  
25 would avoid contamination from other phases and maintain the resolution and stability of the

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1 spectra (Garcia et al., 1996). The sampling rate is of 200 samples per second for  
2 accelerometer recording and of 100 samples per second for velocity recordings. The spectra  
3 were subsequently corrected for instrumental response. Preevent noise windows of equal  
4 length than the signal window were used to compute the signal noise relation (SNR) and only  
5 records with a SNR higher than 3 were retained. Spectral amplitudes were divided by the  
6 appropriate power of frequency to give a displacement spectrum. A total of 360 P-wave  
7 spectra are used in this study. Figure 1 shows the distribution of the epicentres of the  
8 considered earthquakes.

### 9 3. METHOD

10 Following Abercrombie (1995), and after correcting for the geometrical spreading and  
11 instrumental response, the problem is solved for the spectral level  $\Omega_0$  and the corner  
12 frequency  $f_0$ , while simultaneously correcting for path-averaged attenuation  $Q$ , by fitting P  
13 and S-wave spectra with the  $\omega^{-2}$  source model proposed by Boatwright (1978). The spectral  
14 shape is described by:

$$\Omega(f) = \frac{\Omega_0 e^{-\pi f t / Q}}{\left[ 1 + \left( \frac{f}{f_0} \right)^4 \right]^{1/2}} \quad (1)$$

15  
16  
17 where  $\Omega_0$  is the spectral level,  $f_0$  is the corner frequency,  $Q$  is the path-averaged  
18 attenuation factor, and  $t$  is the travel time. With the values of  $\Omega_0$  and  $f_0$ , the seismic source  
19 parameters can be obtained from the well-known relationships established for a circular fault  
20 (Brune, 1970; Brune, 1971; Hanks and Wyss, 1972). Additional information is the  
21 knowledge of the attenuation factor  $Q$ . It represents the loss of the energy of the waves along

1 the path between the source and the station, and it can give useful information about the  
2 structure of the earth (Del Pezzo et al., 1991).

3 We use a  $Q$  independent on the frequency. Fehler and Phillips (1991) demonstrated that  
4 variation of  $Q$  from 600 to 3000 changed the corner frequency by less than 15% from the  
5 result obtained by assuming a constant average  $Q$ . A more complex attenuation function does  
6 not result in a better fit to the data, and produces multiple equivalent solutions, in the sense  
7 that they have the same fitting accuracy (Jiménez et al., 2005). Among these other functions,  
8 we tried to include the kappa factor (García et al., 2004) accounting for the site effect. No  
9 improvement was found in using it, and a constant  $Q$  was the better choice. So, the  $Q$  values  
10 account for the attenuation along the path, and the site effect at mid-high frequencies can not  
11 be distinguished from the noise. In the aforementioned article (Jiménez et al., 2005), where  
12 we used the same method as the one we use here, we calculated the seismic parameters for a  
13 set of earthquakes that were the same as the work in (García et al., 1996), where the Snoke's  
14 method (Snoke, 1987) was performed. Both methods gave similar results. Thus, we are  
15 confident that the method is stable.

16 We use Genetic Algorithms (GA) in order to fit the three parameters that describe the  
17 spectrum. GA are methods of global optimization, which have proven effective when the  
18 models are described by a few parameters, the problem is nonlocal (the global optimum is  
19 needed, but there are many local optima) and nonlinear, and there is no a priori knowledge of  
20 the behavior of the function. In geophysics, and particularly in seismology, many problems  
21 often have such features. The basic principles of GA were established by Holland (1975), and  
22 are well described, for example, in Goldberg (1989), Davis (1991), Michalewicz (1992) or  
23 Reeves (1993).

24 The GA used in this paper has been implemented in Jiménez et al. (2005). The definitive  
25 search strategy chosen was selection by rank wheel, crossover based on fitness, and  
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1 replacement by rank wheel. This strategy is moderately elitist, because the best individuals  
2 are easily selected, but there is low selection pressure. The simple GA was improved with the  
3 reinitialization of the population when the convergence stays blocked (Jiménez et al., 2005).

4 The algorithm was tested with synthetic data and applied to the spectra of 13 earthquakes  
5 in Granada (Southern Spain). The obtained parameters are the corner frequency, the spectral  
6 level and the attenuation along the path. Hough et al. (1989) showed that the trade-off  
7 between  $Q$  and the corner frequency is strong when a wide range of values for both  
8 parameters are used to fit the data. So then it is important to use a good optimization tool to  
9 calculate those parameters. That's the reason of using a powerful tool such as a GA. In  
10 Jiménez et al. (2005) we compared the implemented GA with the commonly used Nelder–  
11 Meade algorithm (Tomic et al., 2009), and found that our technique is more appropriate for  
12 this task. For further details, see Jiménez et al. (2005).

13 For obtaining the source parameters, the best fit was chosen for introducing its spectral  
14 parameters to the relationships given by Brune (1970) and Hanks and Wyss (1972):

15 
$$M_0 = \frac{4\pi\rho v^3 \Omega_0 d}{KR} \quad (2)$$

16 
$$r = \frac{kv}{f_c} \quad (3)$$

17 
$$\Delta\sigma = \frac{7M_0}{16r^3} \quad (4)$$

18

19 being  $\rho$  the density of the medium (2.7 gm/cm<sup>3</sup>),  $v$  the velocity (5.5 km/s for the P-wave,  
20 following Ruiz et al. (2006)),  $d$  being the hypocentral distance, accounting for the  
21 geometrical spreading;  $K$  being the wave amplification at the free surface;  $R$  being the  
22 radiation pattern coefficient for the P and S- waves. Since the focal mechanism could not be

23 determined (the spectra correspond to small earthquakes), the rms averages  $R(P)=0.52$  and  
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1  $R(S)=0.63$  were used (Aki and Richards, 1980);  $k$  is a factor that depends on the model. If we  
2 use Brune's model, this factor is 0.372, but if we use Madariaga's model (Madariaga, 1976),  
3 it is 0.21. So, the radii are 1.76 times larger for Brune (1970) model, and the stress drop is 5.6  
4 times larger for the Madariaga (1976) model. The Sato and Hirasawa (1973) model lies in  
5 between. All three models are in common usage, and the model used must be considered  
6 when comparing results from different Studies (Tomic et al., 2009).

7 In order to remove the effect of the free surface in a three component record, we follow  
8 the method described in Shieh (1995). The motion of the particle we have in the record of the  
9 window where we suppose the P wave is the composition of the incident P-wave, the  
10 reflected and the SV-wave produced by the P incident. So, by means of the equations in Aki  
11 and Richards (1980), we have the horizontal and vertical components of the motion. By  
12 dividing the horizontal into the vertical component of the records, and comparing this  
13 quantity to the theoretical one, we can calculate the angle of incidence, and then remove the  
14 free surface effect (Shieh, 1995). In that way, we can calculate the spectrum of the incident P-  
15 wave. So, we first calculate the spectrum with the free surface effect removed and then fit the  
16 spectrum with the GA to obtain the source parameters. This is a very important step, since we  
17 only want the contribution of the P wave, and not that of the SV-wave, that contaminates the  
18 spectrum. We performed the same transformation for S-waves, but the separation of the SV  
19 and SH waves was very problematic, so that they were highly contaminated by other phases.  
20 Thus, we only used the P-wave for our calculations.

21 Each real spectrum was introduced in the GA implemented, with the following  
22 considerations for the fitting parameters: first, the spectral level limits for the search in that  
23 parameter were obtained by visualizing the spectrum. Although the source spectrum  
24 computed from numerical data might present large uncertainties, we gave a wide range for

25 the searching limits for the spectral level (1 or 2 orders of magnitude, depending on the  
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1 spectrum); second, the corner frequency were searched between 0.1 and 25 Hz, a reasonable  
 2 value for the magnitudes involved; and finally, a maximum of 800 was introduced for the  $Q$   
 3 values, after consulting several studies made in the zone (Pujades et al., 1990; González,  
 4 2001). The resolution for each parameter (spectral level, corner frequency and  $Q$  factor) was  
 5 of 5, 6, and 7 bits, respectively. That is, 2 to the power of 5, 6 and 7. The population (number  
 6 of models in each generation) and number of generations were 20 and 100, respectively. The  
 7 algorithm was executed three times, and the best fit was selected for calculating the source  
 8 parameters. We found that with three times only we obtained consistent results, so we did not  
 9 increase the number of runs, and therefore the computation time.

10 For each event, the average values for seismic moment, source radius and stress drop  
 11 were computed. Calculations were made using three component P-wave records. The average  
 12 values were estimated as (Archuleta et al., 1982):

$$14 \quad \bar{x} = \text{antilog}_{10} \left( \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \log_{10} x_i \right) \quad (5)$$

15 where  $N$  is the number of stations used. The reason is that the errors associated with  $\Omega_0$   
 16 and  $r$  are log-normally distributed. The standard deviation of the logarithm,  $SD(\log \bar{x})$  was  
 17 estimated by calculating the variance of the individual logarithms about the mean logarithm:

$$18 \quad SD(\log_{10} \bar{x}) = \left( \frac{1}{N-1} \sum_i^N [\log_{10} x_i - \log_{10} \bar{x}]^2 \right)^{1/2} \quad (6)$$

19  
 20 and multiplicative error factors,  $Ex$ , were calculated as:

$$22 \quad Ex = \text{antilog}_{10}(SD(\log_{10} x)) \quad (7)$$

#### 1 4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

2 In Fig. 4 we show an example of fitted spectrum. All the spectra had good visual  
3 correspondence between the fitted line and the experimental data. In Table 1 we write the  
4 results for the source parameters of all the events, with their corresponding multiplicative  
5 errors, when possible (when more than two stations recorded the earthquake). The higher  
6 errors correspond to the stress drops, because they are a derived quantity, calculated from the  
7 moment and radius. The averaged error for the moment is 2.5, and for the radius is 1.83,  
8 which are very good. Note that the smallest error in logarithmic scale is 1, which means that  
9 all the results were the same. The corner frequencies span from 1.66 to 23.44 Hz. So, the  
10 sampling rate of 100 and 200 samples/sec are appropriate for the studied data set. Note that  
11 we use Brune's model, the P-wave velocity is set at 5.5 km/s, and the minimum source radius  
12 is 0.09 km.

13 The obtained moments range from  $1.72 \cdot 10^{11}$  to  $2.65 \cdot 10^{15}$  Nm, with an average value of  
14  $8.51 \cdot 10^{13}$  Nm; the radii span from 0.09 to 1.00 km, with an average value of 0.32 km. Finally,  
15 the stress drops vary from 0.006 to 29.462 MPa, with an average value of 1.076 MPa.

16 The values we find are very similar to the ones obtained by Tusa and Gresta (2008) in  
17 southern Sicilia, with tectonic events, and magnitudes ranging from 0.7 to 4.6. The stress  
18 drops found by Prejean and Ellsworth (2001) in the Long Valley Caldera, Eastern California,  
19 range from 0.01 to 30 MPa, with magnitudes spanning from 0.5 to 5, a result which is very  
20 similar to the one obtained in the present study.

21 As we mentioned before, Mandal et al. (1998) analyzed a set of  $M$  1.4–4.7 induced  
22 earthquakes at the Koyna-Warna reservoirs in India and found shallow earthquakes ( $1 \leq z \leq 4$   
23 km) with very low stress drops,  $\Delta\sigma \leq 2$  MPa. The depths of the events in our data set vary  
24 from 0 to 11.1 km, so they are shallow earthquakes too. In Table 1 we can observe that 96%

1 of the events have stress drops lower than 2 MPa, if we use the Brune (1970) model, and 80%  
2 are lower than 2 MPa if we use the Madariaga (1976) model. In Tomic et al. (2009) they find  
3 higher stress drops, because they use the Madariaga (1976) model. For events with magnitude  
4 ranging from 0.3 to 3.1, Hua et al. (2013) found very low values for the static stress drops  
5 (from 0.01 to 0.26 MPa). It has to be noted that the highest stress drop is found for the 5.2  
6 event, and it is much higher than the stress drops found for the other earthquakes (29.462  
7 MPa for the 5.2 earthquake, and 96% of events are below 2 MPa). As can be seen in Table 1,  
8 the multiplicative error factors for the 5.2 events are low (2.19, 1.48, 1.54, for the moment,  
9 radius and stress drop), so we are confident that the high value for its stress drop is accurate.

10 Now we will analyze the results obtained for the attenuation factors. It is important to  
11 remember that we obtain the Q factors for each path, in order to compare our results with  
12 other attenuation studies done in the area of interest. In Fig. 5 we show the Q factors in  
13 function of the distance. Note that the Q factor is calculated for each path, so no error can be  
14 associated. As stated before, each fitted spectrum is the result of three calculations of the  
15 parameters with the GA, so that the obtained parameters are very stable. The maximum value  
16 is 794, and the minimum value is 53, with an average value of 444. This means that the limits  
17 imposed in the search (between 10 and 800) were reasonable, and in agreement with previous  
18 studies in the region (Pujades et al., 1990; González, 2001). We find that, in general, the  
19 attenuation factor increases up to an epicentral distance of around 50 km, indicating that the  
20 scattering of the waves reaches the Moho, which is very deep in this area: around 46-48 km  
21 (Pedreira et al., 2003).

22 Pujades et al. (1990), and more recently González (2001), calculated the Q-coda values  
23 for this region. The latter obtained  $Q_0=53$  and  $\nu=1.12$  for the ELIZ station (from the IGN), the  
24 closest to our area of study, assuming a relationship between Q and the frequency given by:

$$Q = Q_0 \left( \frac{f}{f_0} \right)^v \quad (8)$$

1            If we use the averaged value of 444 (the average value we obtained) for all the  
 2 frequencies, and assuming the same  $v$ , we would obtain  $Q_0=26$ , also very low. Note that our  
 3 distances are lower (they use data up to 300 km), and so the value for the attenuation should  
 4 be lower too (Zelt et al., 1999). If we suppose an exponent  $v=0.85$ , close to the value of the  
 5 EGRA station, also used for studying the attenuation in the Pyrenees by González (2001), the  
 6 value for  $Q_0$  would be 53. So that would be the range of parameters for the attenuation we  
 7 found, in good agreement with the studies in the region. In any case, as González (2001) says,  
 8 the relationship in Eq. (8) does not hold for a long range of frequencies, as we used in our  
 9 calculations. Also, note that we use a constant value for all the frequencies, so the  
 10 comparisons have to be taken carefully.

12            Now we are analyzing the relationship between the different magnitudes calculated. In  
 13 first place, in Fig. 6 we plot the moment versus the magnitude of the events. The best fit for  
 14 the line is  $M_L = (0.66 \pm 0.05) \log M_0 - (5.9 \pm 0.7)$ , with correlation coefficient of 0.88. This  
 15 relationship is exactly the one expected theoretically ( $M_L=2/3 \log M_0 - 6$ ) if the moment is  
 16 expressed in Nm, as we have done (Deichmann, 2006). The significance of the obtained  
 17 relationship is of  $5.89\sigma$ . This means that our calculation for the seismic moment is  
 18 theoretically consistent with the magnitude given by the IGN.

19            In order to test the hypothesis of constant stress drop, in Fig. 7 we show the relationship  
 20 between source radius and seismic moment. The lines represent the contours with constant  
 21 stress drops. As we can see, the stress drops vary, and have a high dispersion in their values.  
 22 It is a similar result to the one obtained by Tusa and Gresta (2008). We did not find a  
 23 relationship between corner frequency and moment either. There is a trend of increasing

24 moment with decreasing corner frequency, but the correlation coefficient is very low. Note  
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1 that the errors in the source radii are low (around 1 or 2 in Table 1), which means that the  
2 corner frequencies have been correctly calculated. The large errors in the stress drops are a  
3 consequence of being a parameter calculated from both moment and radius, with their  
4 associated errors.

5 In Fig. 8 we see that the stress drop increases with increasing moment. The best fit gives  
6  $\log \Delta \sigma = (0.81 \pm 0.08) \log M_0 - (5.4 \pm 1.1)$  with a correlation coefficient of 0.77, and a  
7 significance of  $6.4\sigma$ . We did not use the data with no error in the fit, because they were  
8 recorded only in 1 or 2 stations. The trend with respect to the magnitude is also positive, as  
9 Jost et al. (1998) found in injection-induced earthquakes of magnitude ranging between -2  
10 and 0. Oncescu et al. (1994), Haar et al. (1984) and Hua et al. (2012, 2013) found that stress  
11 drop increases with moment too.

12 In our data, a trend of increasing stress drop with increasing seismic moment is evident,  
13 suggesting a self-similarity violation. The breakdown in similarity that we observe is very  
14 similar to that Atkinson (1993, 2004) found in northeastern America for events having  $M_w$   
15 less than about 4, and Tusa and Gesta (2008), with earthquakes in southern Sicilia. However,  
16 Castro et al. (1995), for earthquakes with magnitude between 2.8 and 4.8 found that the stress  
17 drop decreases with increasing moment. Drouet et al. (2005) found that constant stress drop is  
18 valid for the Pyrenees in the range of magnitude 2.7-5.4, which is the opposite we found.  
19 Drouet et al. (2008) found a slight tendency to higher stress drops for higher moments in the  
20 Western Pyrenees, but they interpreted it as an effect of the finite-frequency bandwidth that  
21 they analyzed. Mori and Frankel (1990) and Smith and Priestly (1993) say that there is no  
22 apparent correlation between stress drop with moment neither with depth. We did not find  
23 any relationship between stress drop and depth, in agreement with the results in Moya et al.  
24 (2000), with events of magnitude between 3.3 and 4.9.

## Source parameters at Itoiz dam

1       Ide et al. (2003) think that the use of constant  $Q$  and/or propagation effects can introduce  
2 artificial size dependence in apparent stress measurements. They use data from boreholes,  
3 and can calculate Empirical Green Functions to correct by path and site effects. We do not  
4 have borehole data, and we can not calculate appropriate Empirical Green Functions, because  
5 most of the event have a low magnitude, so we can not use their method in order to compare  
6 the results with our assumption of constant  $Q$ .

7       Now we will compare our results near the Itoiz dam with other obtained in the Granada  
8 basin, where we know that there is not reservoir induced seismicity. The source parameters  
9 were analyzed in García et al. (1996), with earthquakes of magnitudes ranging from 1 to 3.5.  
10 We will classify the data into clusters, for both regions, the Itoiz dam and the Granada basin,  
11 by means of Self-Organizing Maps (SOM), and then we will compare the two results.

12       The SOM algorithm is a convenient, unsupervised learning method, which is widespread  
13 in various scientific fields (see references in Kohonen (2001)). They provide a way of  
14 representing multidimensional data in much lower dimensional spaces - usually one or two  
15 dimensions. This process, of reducing the dimensionality of vectors, is essentially a data  
16 compression technique known as *vector quantisation*. In addition, the Kohonen technique  
17 creates a network that stores information in such a way that any topological relationships  
18 within the training set are maintained. One of the most interesting aspects of SOM is that they  
19 learn to classify data *without supervision*. The way SOM go about reducing dimensions is by  
20 producing a map of usually 1 or 2 dimensions which plot the similarities of the data by  
21 grouping similar data items together. So SOM accomplish two things, they reduce  
22 dimensions and display similarities.

23       SOM have already been applied, in different contexts, for active seismic data sets  
24 (Essenreiter et al. 2001; Klose 2006; De Matos et al. 2007; Higgins et al., 2011) and in  
25 seismology (Maurer et al. 1992; Musil & Plešinger 1996; Tarvainen 1999; Plešinger et al.  
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1 2000; Allamehzadeh and Mokhtari, 2003; Ozerdem et al. 2006; Esposito et al. 2008; Carniel  
2 et al., 2009; Köhler et al. 2009, 2010). We will use them as a classification tool where the  
3 variables are the moment and the stress drop. We use the MATLAB functions for obtaining  
4 our clusters. The variables are the logarithm of the moment and the stress drop, divided by  
5 the sum of the logarithms in each case. In Fig. 9-10 we can see the obtained clusters. Each  
6 node represents a cluster found by the algorithm. The lines represent the nearest nodes in the  
7 clustering algorithm. We observe that the clusters are ordered by magnitude (and not by other  
8 factors such as location or time) with increasing stress drop when moment increases. It is in  
9 agreement to the previous results for the relationship between moment and stress drop. So  
10 there seems to be a clustering of the events depending on the magnitude only, for both  
11 regions. This dependence on the magnitude only for the Itoiz region was also found in  
12 Jiménez and Luzón (2011), where we analyzed the seismicity near the Itoiz dam by means of  
13 weighted complex networks. This comparison is interesting because we are analyzing two  
14 different kind of seismic sets, with supposedly different seismicity origin. SOM are classifiers  
15 that are not influenced by a priori knowledge of the data. So, the fact that both regions  
16 present the same behaviour with respect to the relationship between stress drops and  
17 moments is very important. It is also very interesting to see that time does not influence the  
18 relationship between moment and the stress drop in the data, something that could indicate an  
19 effect of the redistribution of stresses with time near the Itoiz dam, due to the impoundment  
20 of the reservoir.

21 In Fig. 11 we show the data from García et al. (1996). There we see an increase of the  
22 stress drop with increasing magnitude, as we found in the present work.

23



## 1 5. CONCLUSIONS

2 We have analyzed the seismicity near the Itoiz dam, by calculating the source parameters  
3 and attenuation from earthquakes recorded from 2004 to 2009, with magnitudes between 1.2  
4 and 5.2. We assume a Boatwright (1978) model for the source, and a spectral falloff with  $Q$   
5 not dependent on the frequency for the attenuation. The parameters to be found by the GA are  
6 the spectral level, the corner frequency, and the attenuation factor (Jiménez et al., 2005).  
7 With those data, we calculate the source parameters following Brune (1970, 1971). The  
8 obtained moments range from  $1.72 \cdot 10^{11}$  to  $2.65 \cdot 10^{15}$  Nm, the radii span from 0.09 to 1.00 km,  
9 and the stress drops vary from 0.006 to 29.462 MPa. The maximum value for the  $Q$   
10 attenuation factor is 794, and the minimum value is 53. The values we find are very similar to  
11 the ones obtained by Tusa and Gresta (2008) in southern Sicilia, with tectonic events, and the  
12 stress drops are not particularly low, as some authors think it is supposed for fluid-injection  
13 induced seismicity. The classification by means of SOM gives us clusters that depend on the  
14 magnitude, and not other considerations, in agreement with the results in Jiménez et al.  
15 (2011). It is remarkable the coincidence between the theoretical and empirical relationship  
16 between the obtained moments and the magnitude. We found an increase of the stress drop  
17 with increasing moment with high significance, which is a breakdown of the self-similarity in  
18 the process. As Ide et al. (2003) point out, the use of constant  $Q$  and/or propagation effects  
19 can introduce artificial size dependence in apparent stress measurements.

20

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Source parameters at Itoiz dam

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Table 1. Source parameters of the analyzed events. EM, Er, and Es are the multiplicative errors in moment, radius and stress drop, respectively.

<b>nsis</b>	<b>date</b>	<b>magnitude (mbLg)</b>	<b>Moment (Nm)</b>	<b>radius (km)</b>	<b>stress drop (MPa)</b>	<b>EM</b>	<b>Er</b>	<b>Es</b>	<b>number of stations</b>
1	20040916191706	3.2	8.65E+13	0.31	1.217	5.06	2.38	32.77	3
2	20040917025856	3	7.43E+12	0.21	0.346	2.47	3.08	11.82	2
3	20040918125218	5.2	2.65E+15	0.34	29.462	2.19	1.48	1.54	3
4	20040918125507	3.2	1.98E+14	0.24	6.532	-	-	-	1
5	20040918152547	2.5	1.54E+13	0.73	0.018	-	-	-	1
6	20040918195828	3.1	2.60E+13	1.00	0.011	-	-	-	1
7	20040919054023	2.8	6.73E+13	0.27	1.440	-	-	-	1
8	20040930130907	3.9	1.90E+14	0.38	1.506	1.73	2.81	15.09	3
9	20041007061630	3.4	4.55E+13	0.46	0.207	3.73	2.01	12.97	3
10	20041020164719	2.7	3.31E+13	0.34	0.355	1.76	2.27	17.48	3
11	20041023174246	2.9	1.34E+13	0.31	0.189	6.15	1.80	35.93	3
12	20041109112619	2.9	9.75E+12	0.27	0.218	2.14	2.88	11.13	2
13	20060111031417	1.5	1.72E+11	0.19	0.012	-	-	-	1
14	20060111033502	1.2	1.80E+11	0.14	0.030	-	-	-	1
15	20060111142103	1.5	4.64E+11	0.09	0.305	-	-	-	1
16	20060111143211	1.4	2.39E+11	0.12	0.066	-	-	-	1

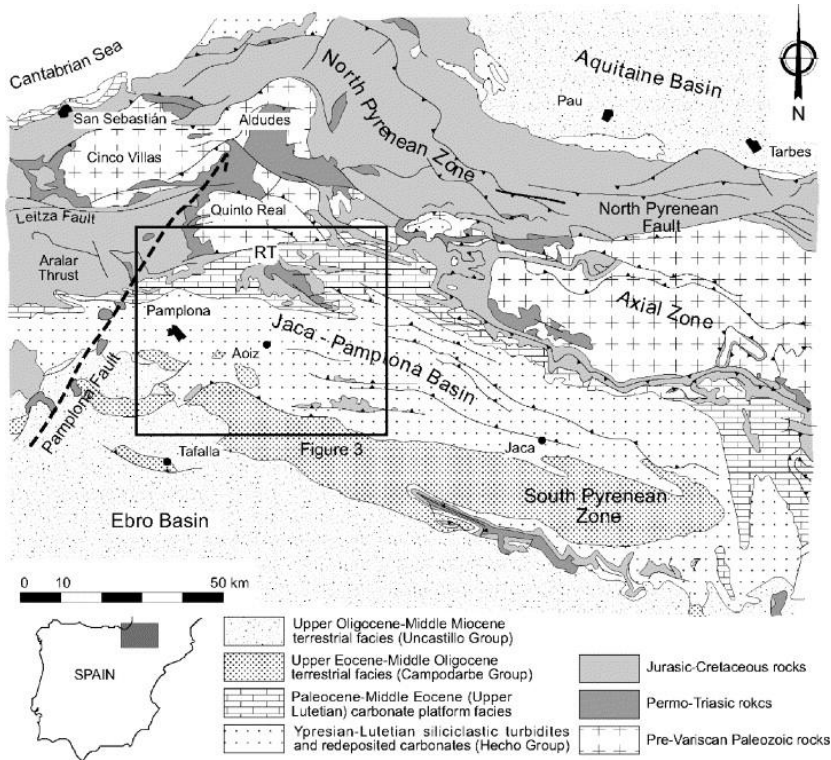
*This is a post-peer-review, pre-copyedit version of an article published in Pure and Applied Geophysics. The final authenticated version is available online at: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/s00024-014-0883-y>*

Source parameters at Itoiz dam

17	20060111184704	1.6	2.04E+11	0.16	0.021	-	-	-	1
18	20070411014540	2.9	1.51E+13	0.36	0.141	4.42	1.69	2.18	3
19	20070514125550	2.3	3.74E+12	0.17	0.342	-	-	-	1
20	20070608123322	1.9	7.94E+11	0.10	0.321	-	-	-	1
21	20070731214029	2.7	3.45E+12	0.47	0.015	1.87	1.54	6.87	2
22	20070829075318	3.1	1.39E+13	0.34	0.151	1.91	1.91	5.25	4
23	20071015205657	2.8	5.31E+12	0.20	0.306	2.69	2.10	8.56	5
24	20071122112044	2.3	3.51E+12	0.29	0.065	1.23	1.99	6.49	3
25	20071122185450	2.1	1.56E+12	0.44	0.008	2.17	1.78	3.71	3
26	20080426135505	2.8	7.40E+12	0.33	0.093	2.32	1.57	3.89	4
27	20080517041011	2.3	2.21E+12	0.32	0.030	3.12	1.51	3.54	4
28	20080526160213	2.6	2.37E+13	0.34	0.258	5.67	1.38	2.17	2
29	20080604210825	2.9	1.78E+13	0.32	0.234	1.45	1.35	1.70	2
30	20080622074755	2.4	3.29E+12	0.32	0.042	-	-	-	1
31	20080625010713	2.1	7.12E+11	0.27	0.016	3.27	1.89	4.41	4
32	20080627195904	2	4.36E+11	0.32	0.006	-	-	-	1
33	20080709082814	2	1.99E+12	0.21	0.093	1.82	1.25	3.58	2
34	20080725212446	2.7	1.41E+13	0.46	0.065	4.26	2.88	8.18	4
35	20080915041001	2.4	1.86E+12	0.15	0.234	1.13	1.41	2.48	2
36	20080916070024	2.8	4.91E+12	0.32	0.065	1.33	1.89	7.78	4
37	20080920161022	2.4	2.98E+12	0.22	0.124	1.46	1.49	4.63	3
38	20080928135600	2.4	1.47E+12	0.31	0.022	1.90	1.12	2.29	3
39	20081010133108	2.9	8.43E+12	0.19	0.516	1.94	2.27	11.67	5
40	20081126063000	2.2	2.95E+12	0.20	0.162	1.58	1.51	2.35	3
41	20081211210757	2.8	4.62E+13	0.28	0.950	2.12	1.31	1.77	4
42	20090121200701	2.9	1.18E+14	0.42	0.700	2.06	1.61	3.18	8
43	20090127212208	2.5	5.46E+13	0.73	0.063	-	-	-	1
44	20090701150326	2.6	1.02E+14	0.33	1.200	1.43	1.05	1.25	2
45	20091024200524	2.6	2.41E+13	0.33	0.282	1.08	1.43	3.12	2

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## Source parameters at Itoiz dam



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2 Figure 1. Geological setting (Ruiz et al., 2006).

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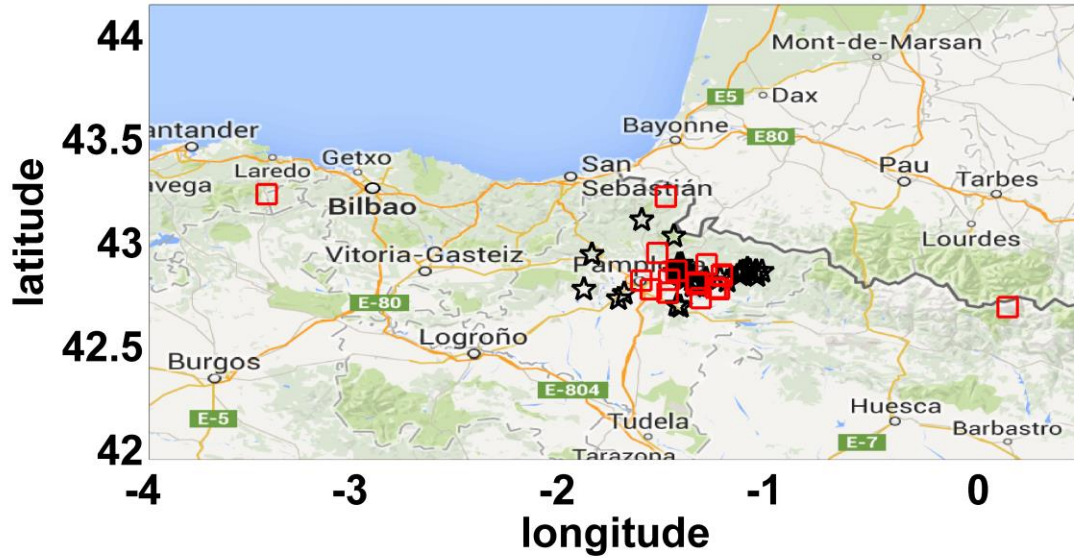
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Source parameters at Itoiz dam



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2 Figure 2. Location of the analyzed events (stars) and the stations (red squares).

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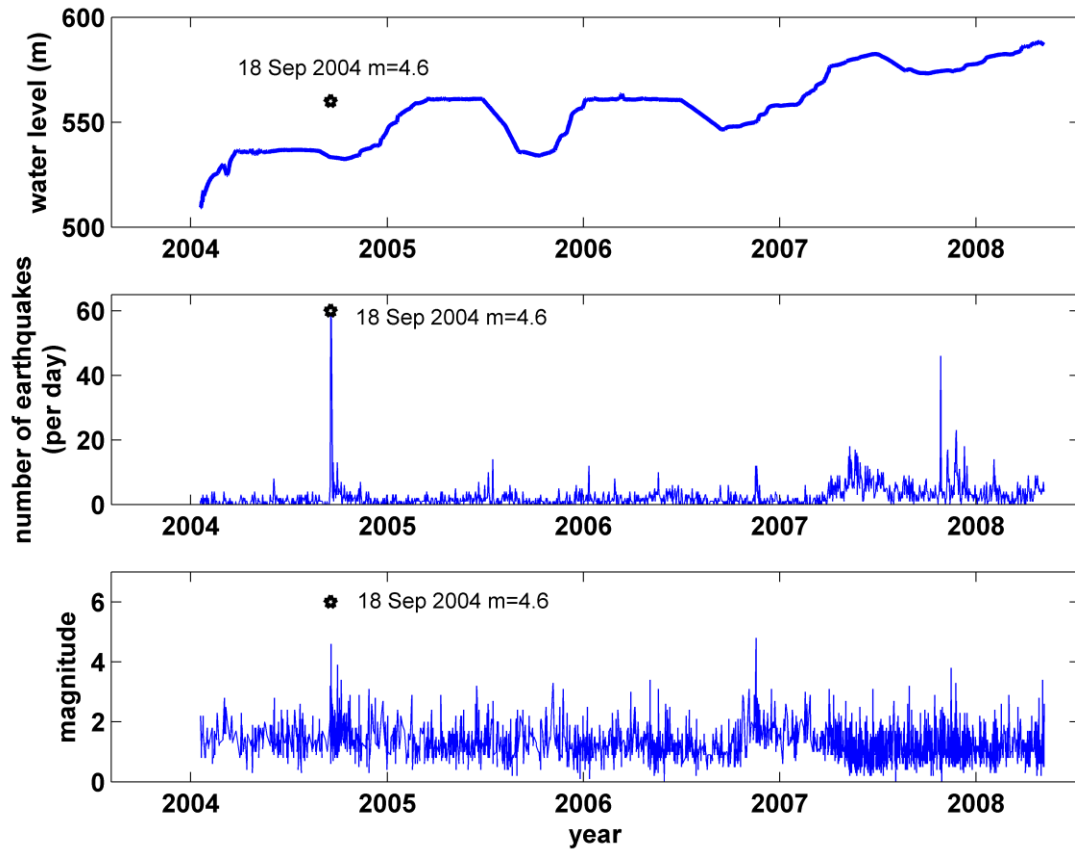
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3 Figure 3. Water level and seismicity near the Itoiz dam over time.

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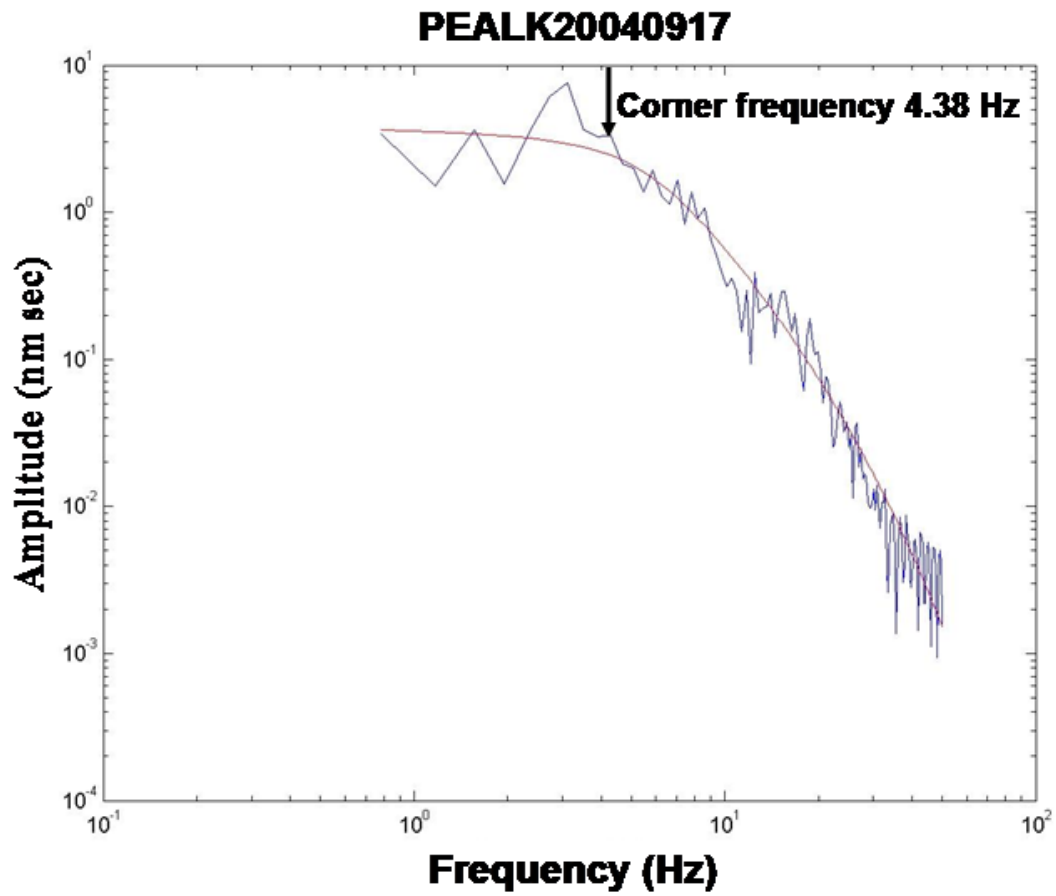
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3 Figure 4. Example of fitted spectrum. In red the fitted spectrum, and in blue the real one. The  
4 corner frequency is plotted too.

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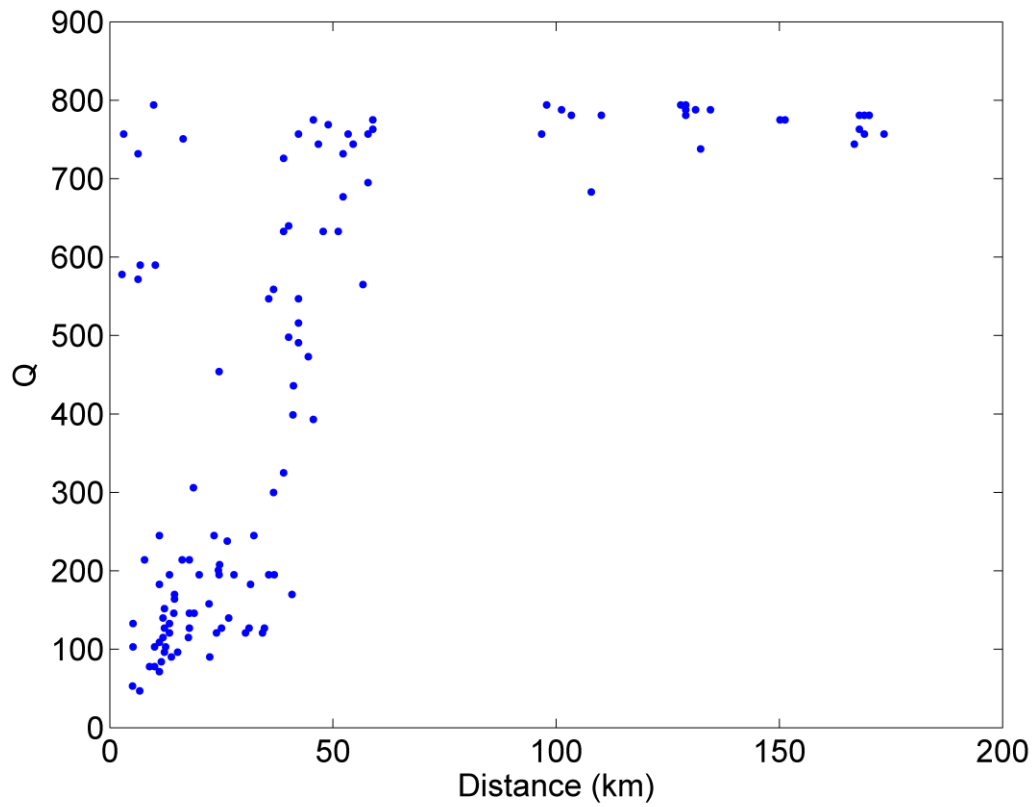
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4 Figure 5. Attenuation factors vs. distance between event and station. Each point represents  
5 only one path.

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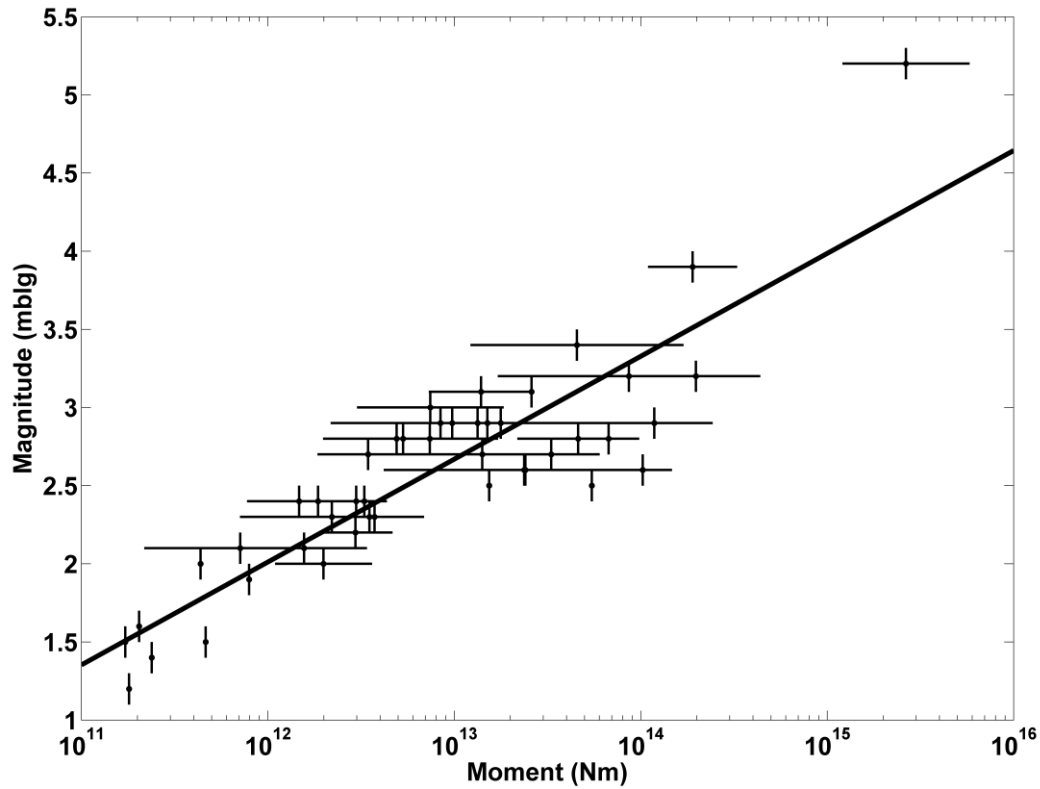
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5 Figure 6. Relationship between magnitude and moment, with their corresponding errors. We  
6 also plot the line which best fits the data. The dots with only vertical error bars were obtained  
7 by analyzing just one spectrum.

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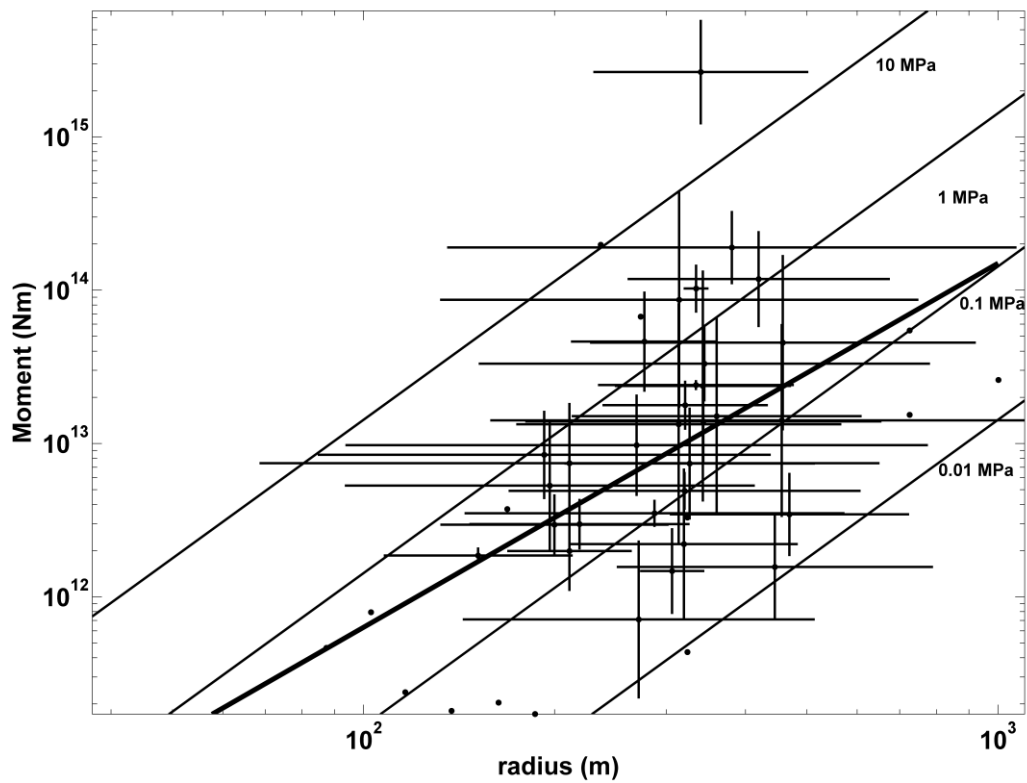
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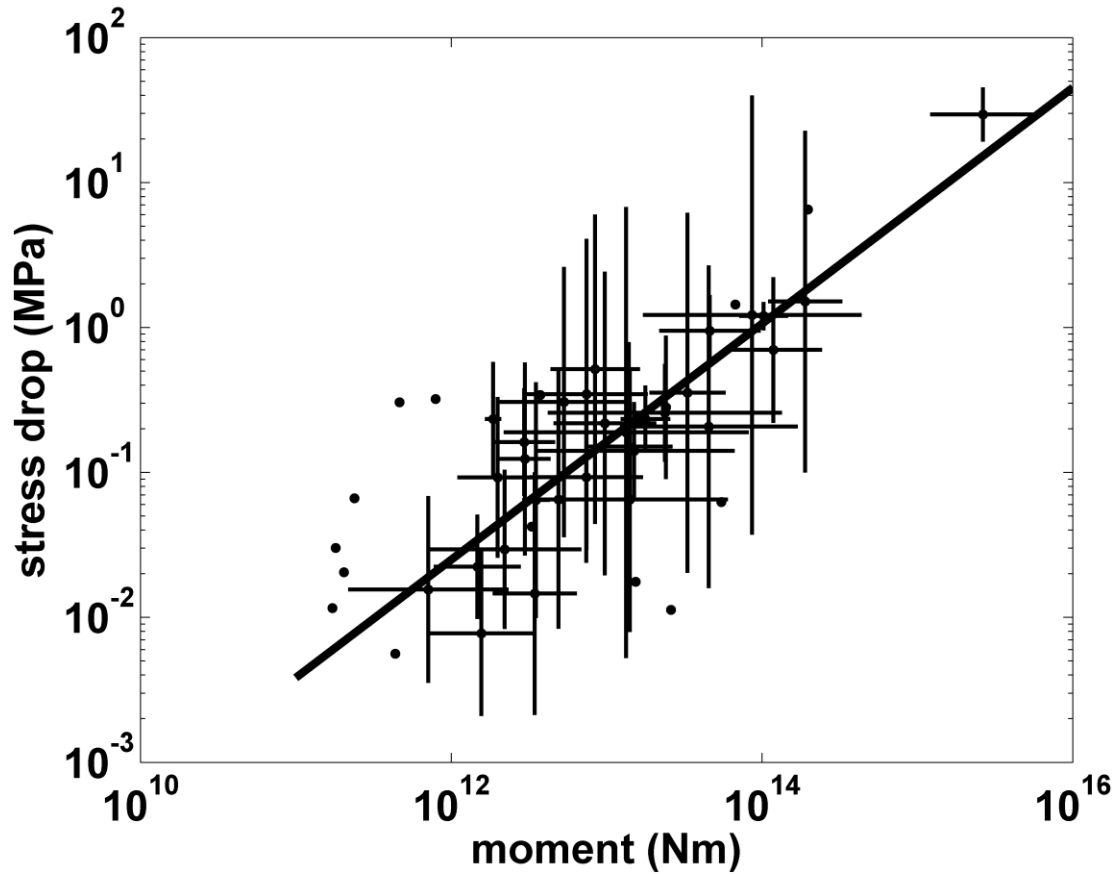
6 Figure 7. Radius vs. moment with their errors bars. The lines are contours of equal stress  
7 drops in MPa. The best fit is also presented, with a thicker line. The dots with no error bars  
8 were obtained by analyzing just one spectrum.

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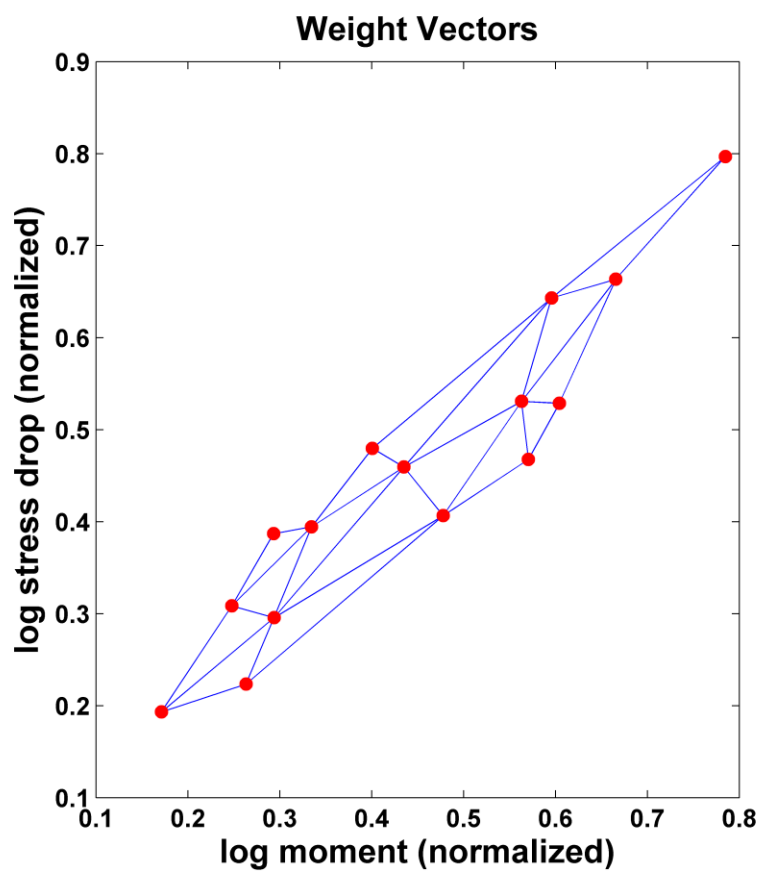
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Figure 8. Moment vs. stress drop, with the corresponding error bars. The line is the best fit, without including the data with only one or two records. The dots with no error bars were obtained by analyzing just one spectrum.

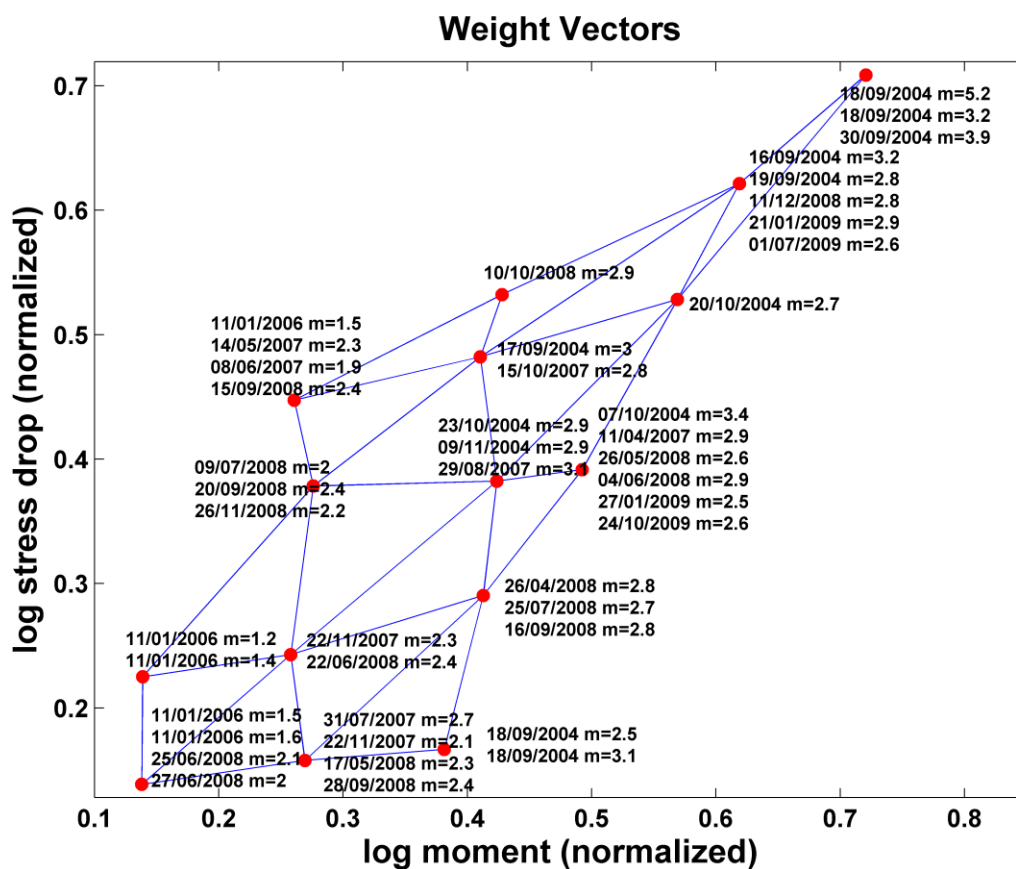
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Figure 9. Results of the SOM algorithm to the data in the Granada basin. In the x axis we represent the rescaled logarithm (in base 10) of the moment from 0 to 1, and in the y axis the rescaled logarithm of the stress drop.

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Figure 10. Results of the SOM algorithm to the data in the Itoiz dam. In the x axis we represent the rescaled logarithm (in base 10) of the moment from 0 to 1, and in the y axis the rescaled logarithm of the stress drop.

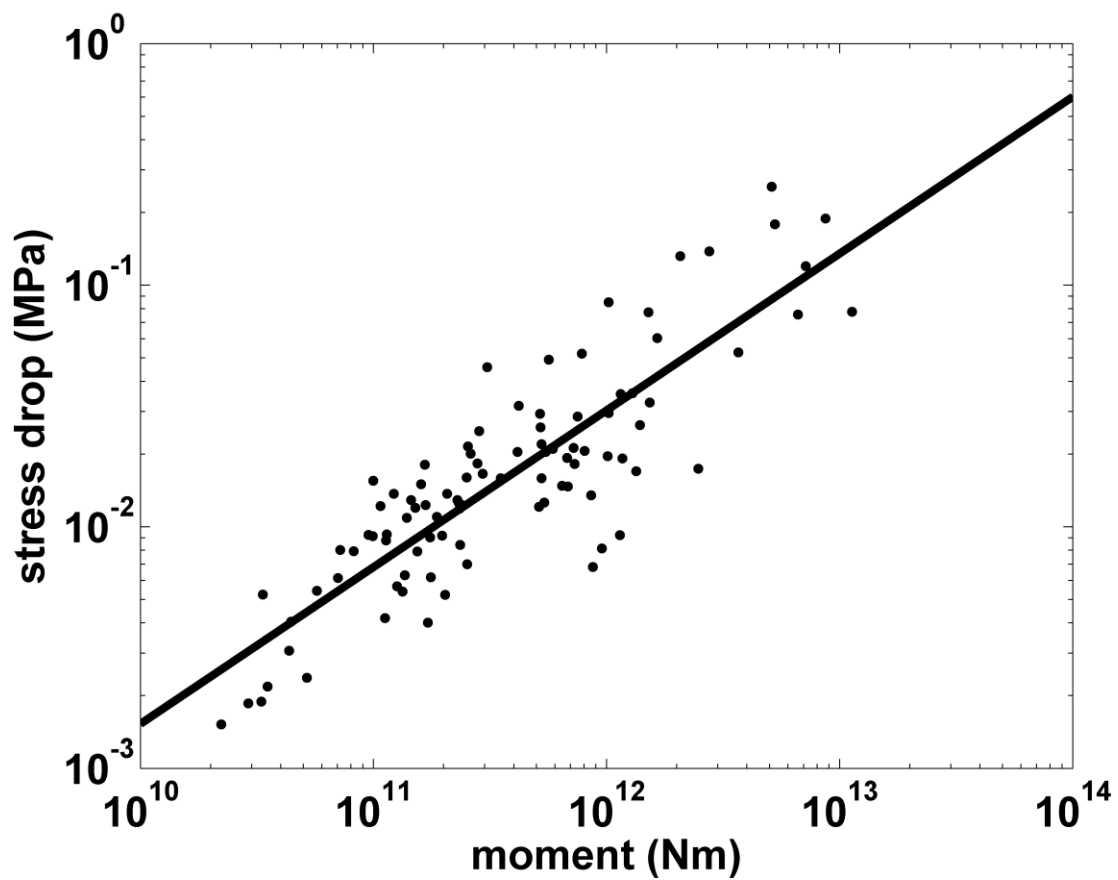
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7 Figure 11. Moment vs. stress drop, for the data in García et al. (1996). The line is the best fit.

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