



# Simultaneous ELF Magnetic Field Monitoring of Earthquakes from a Nano-Satellite (QuakeSat) and a Ground Network

IWSE L3-3

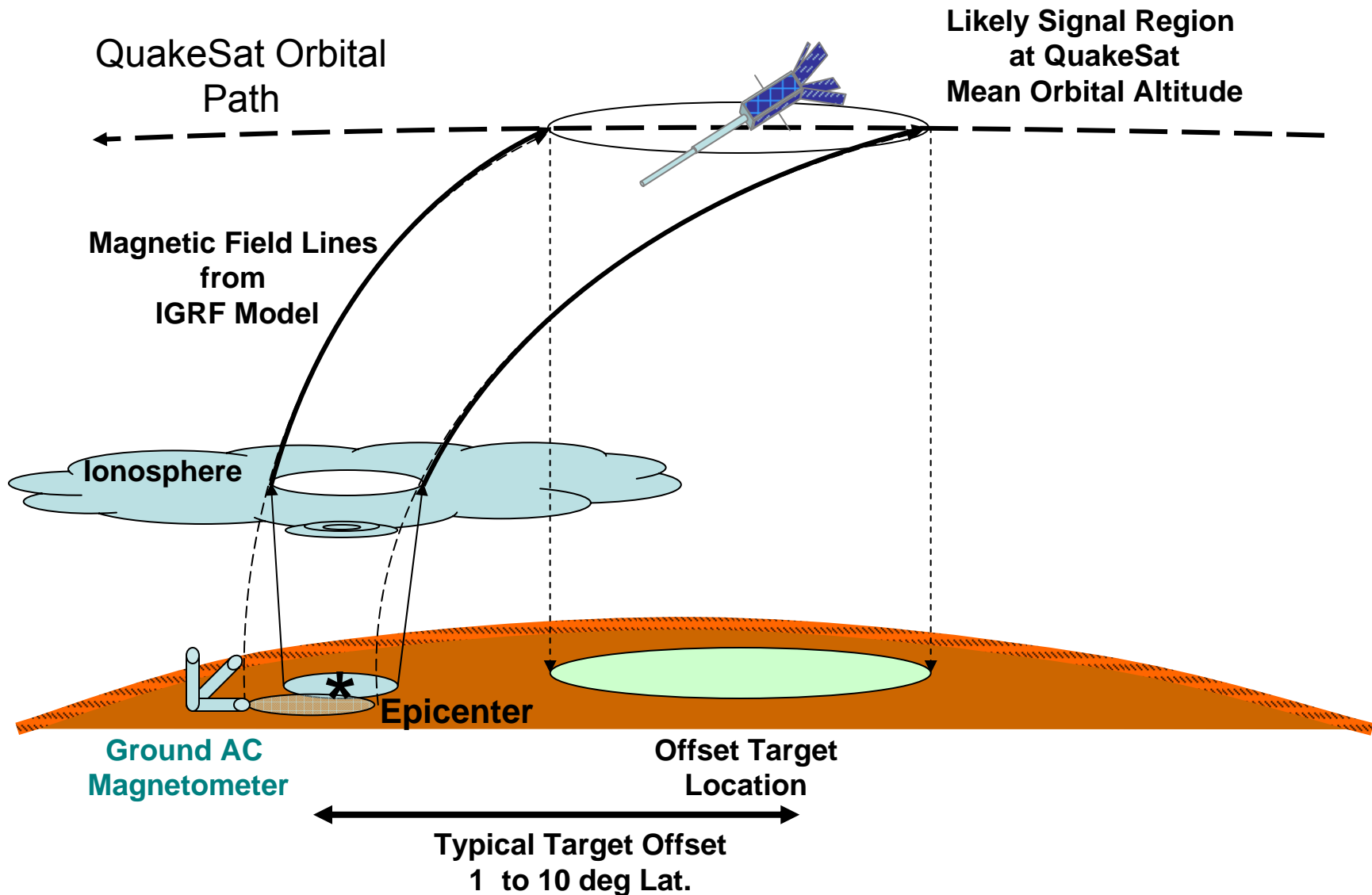
March 17, 2005

Tom Bleier

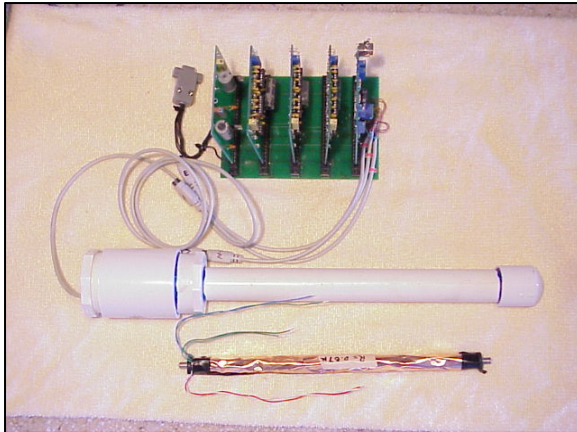
(650) 473-9870 [tbleier@quakefinder.com](mailto:tbleier@quakefinder.com)

Clark Dunson

(650) 814-4258 [cdunson@quakefinder.com](mailto:cdunson@quakefinder.com)



# Ground Magnetometers



High School System



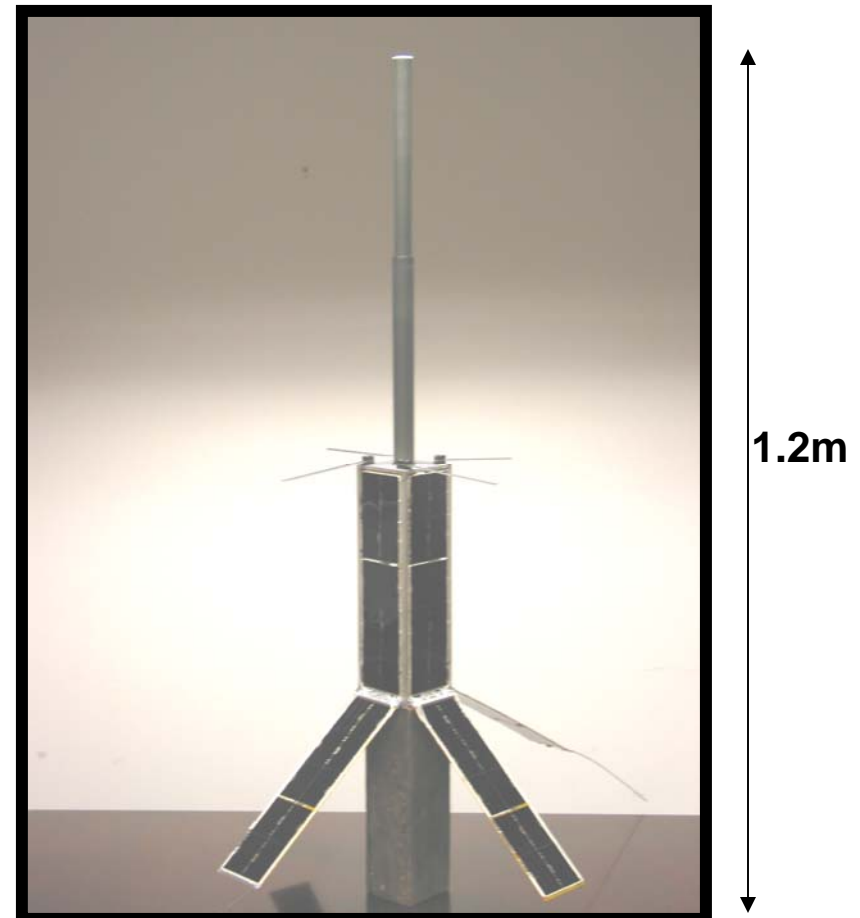
Commercial QF 1000 and 1003 Systems

**0.3 to 4 Hz BW**  
**3pT noise floor**  
**20 Hz sample rate, raw data stored @ site**  
**300 sec RMS data displayed daily on web site**



- High School  
•3 axis mag.
- QF-1000  
•3 axis mag.
- QF-1003  
•3 axis mag.  
•GPS  
•GlobalStar  
•Air Conduct.  
•Geophone

- **QuakeSat on orbit (June 30, 2003 to Dec 2004)**
  - 840 km circular, sun synch orbit (dawn-dusk)
  - Single axis search coil magnetometer, small E-field dipole
  - 4 channels (one at a time)
    - 1-10 Hz B
    - **10-150 Hz B (primary channel)**
    - 130-150 Hz E and B
    - 10-1000 Hz B
  - Sensitivity – noise floor
    - 5pT at 1000 Hz
    - **15 pT at 100 Hz**
    - 30 pT at 10 Hz
  - 2 ground stations
    - Stanford
    - Fairbanks Alaska
    - **9600 baud, half duplex**

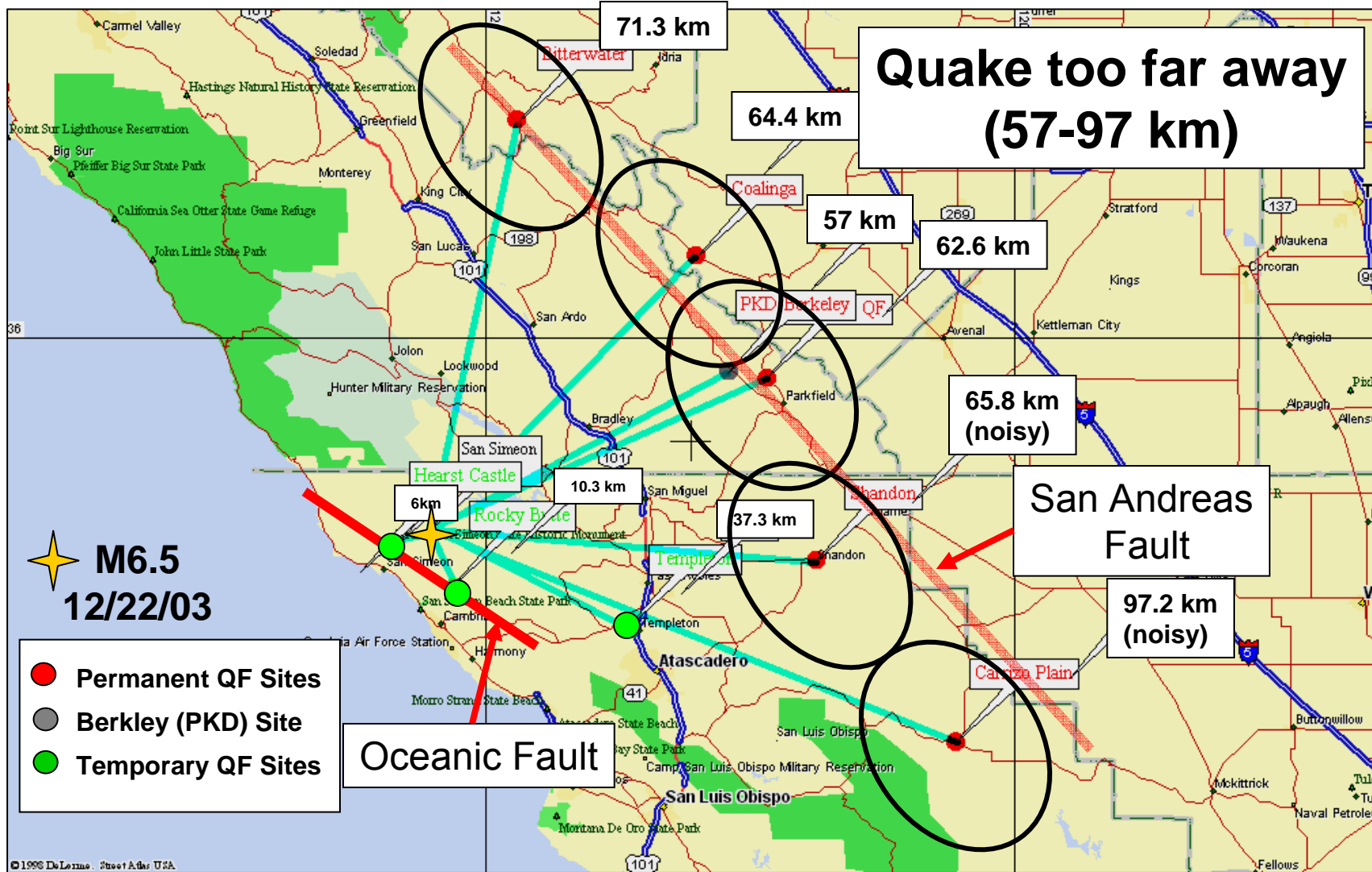


# **San Simeon ELF Observations**

**Ground Monitors**  
(Berkeley and QuakeFinder)



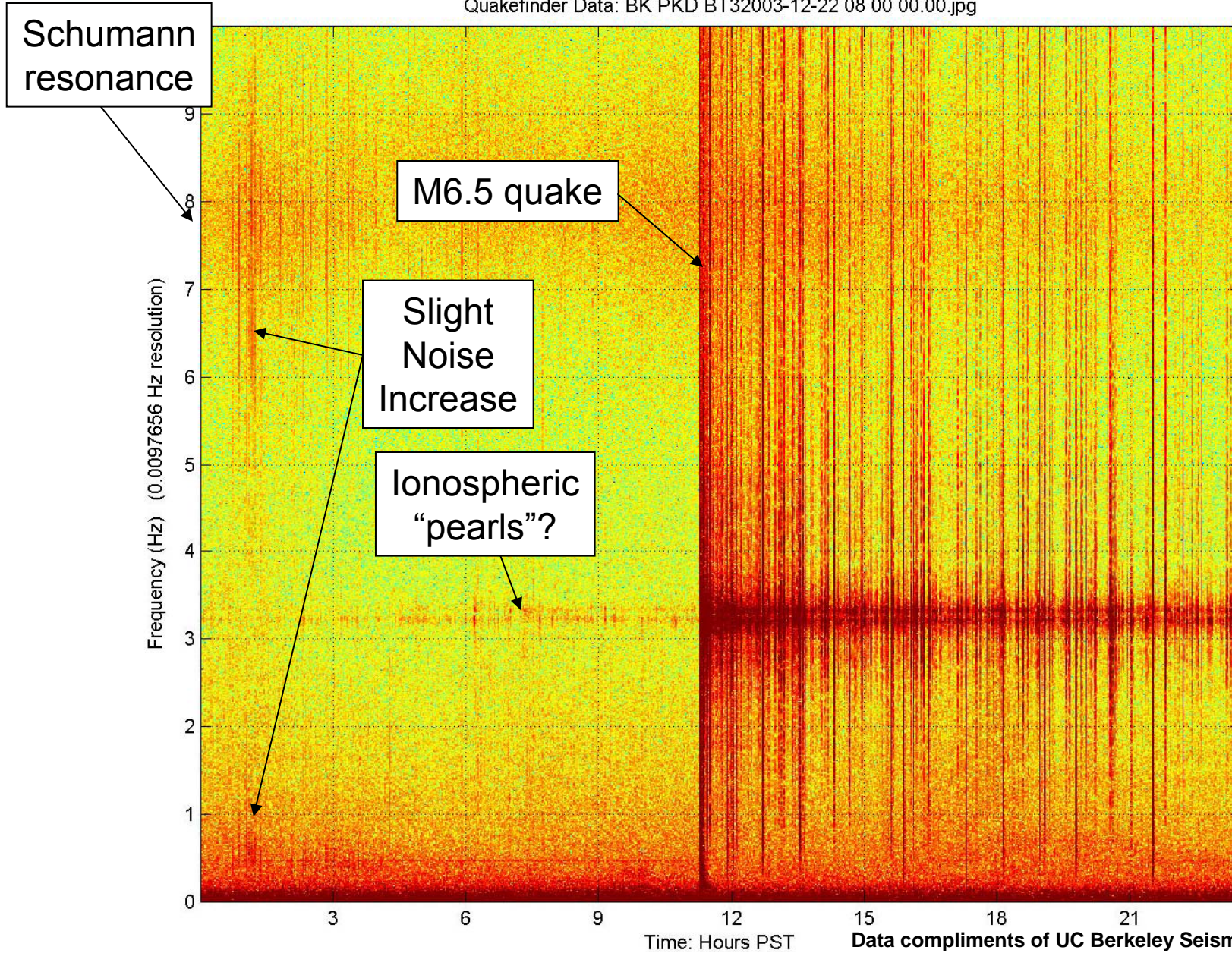
# ELF Monitor Site Locations with Distances to San Simeon M6.5



# Enlargement: San Simeon M6.5 12/22/03

Quakefinder Data: BK PKD BT32003-12-22 08 00 00.00.jpg

10 Hz







# **San Simeon ELF Observations**

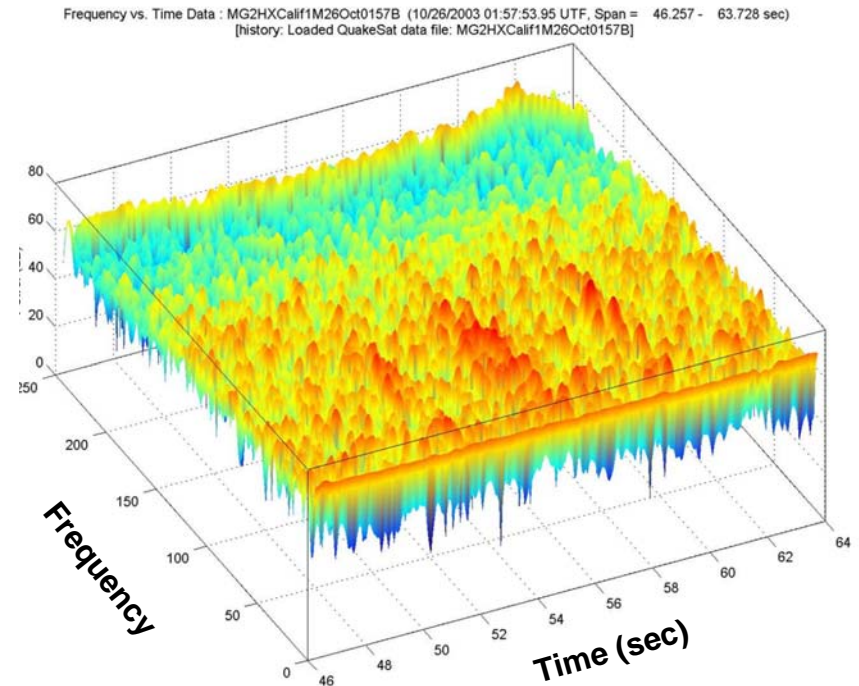
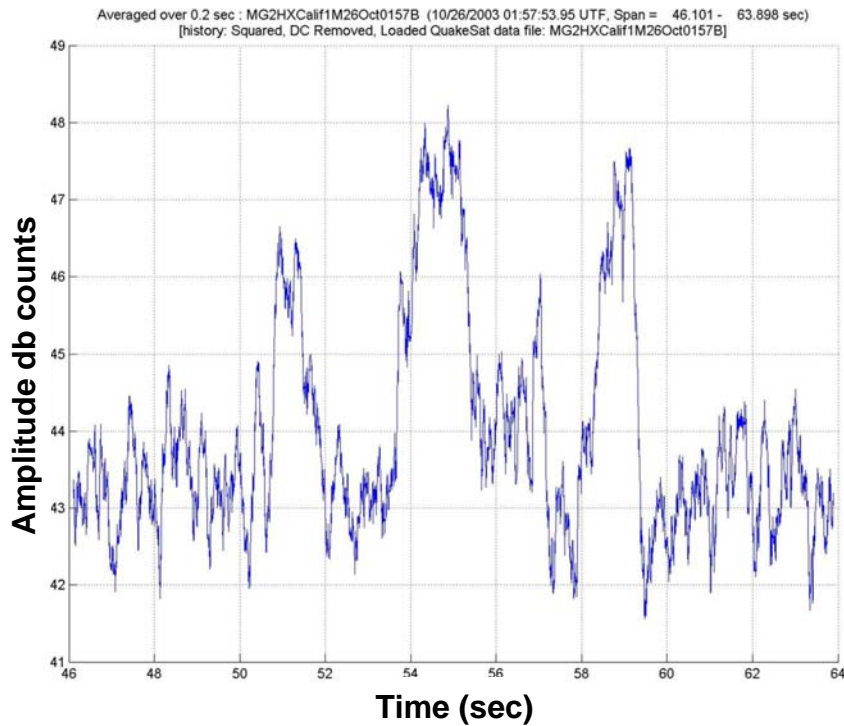
**QuakeSat**



# San Simeon Earthquake -57 days

Power

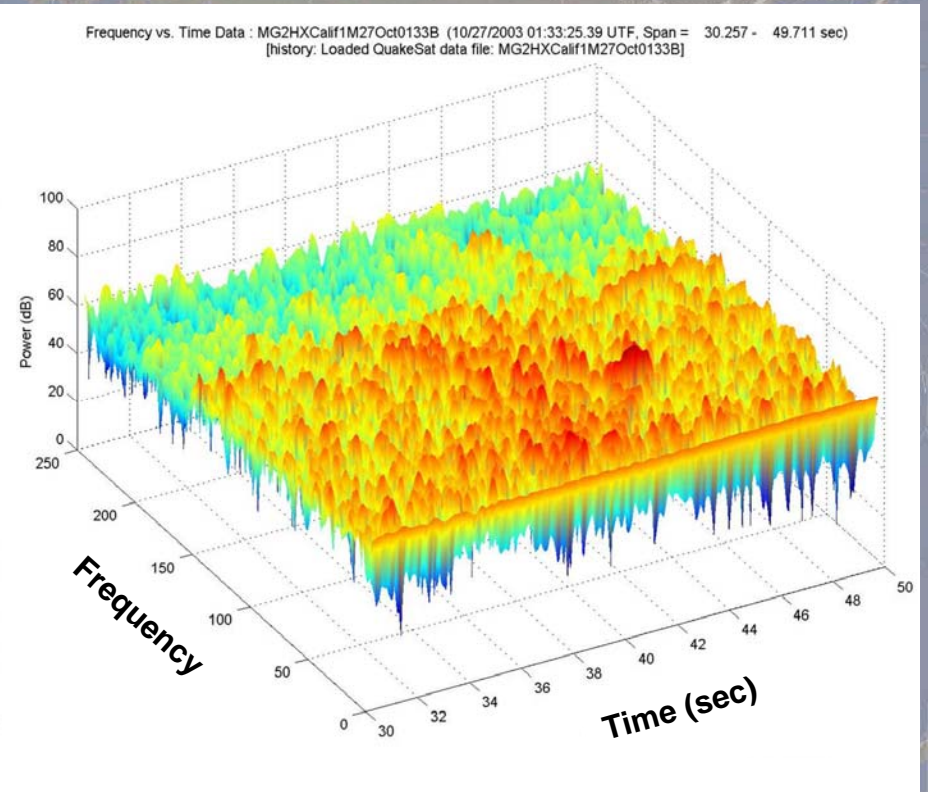
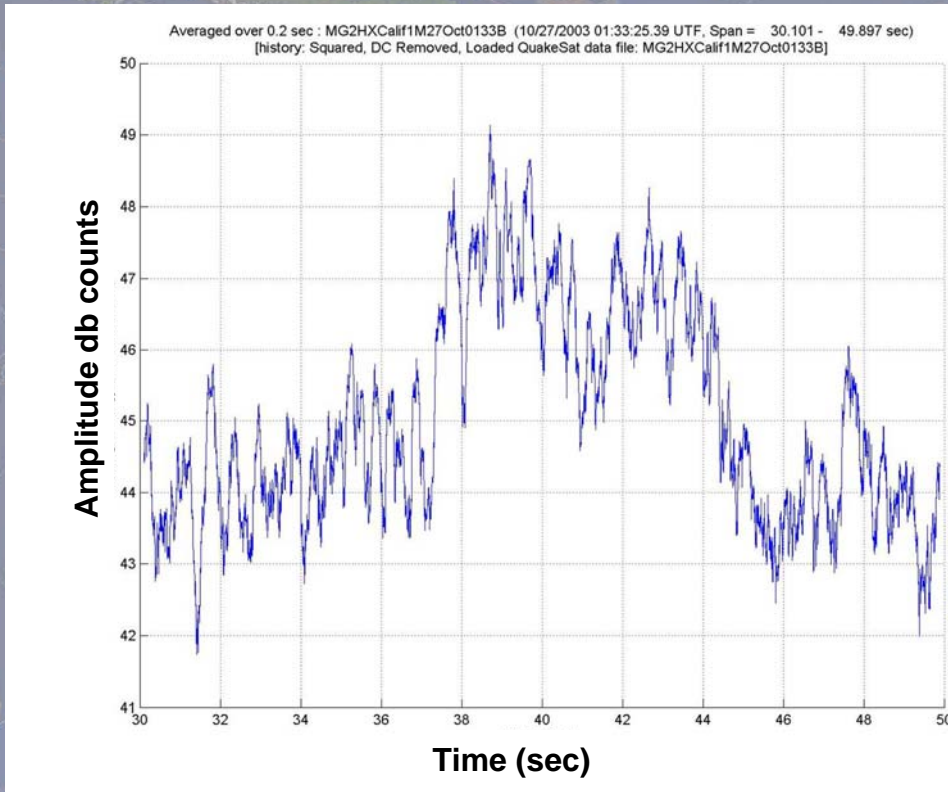
Frequency (10-150 Hz)



# San Simeon Earthquake -56 days

Power

Frequency (10-150 Hz)

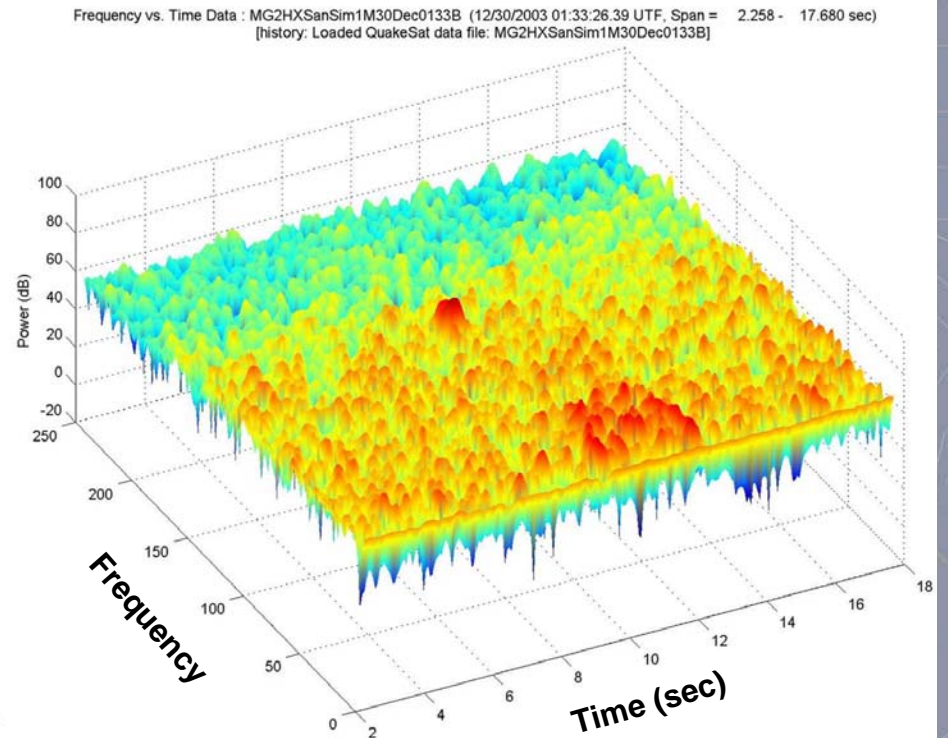
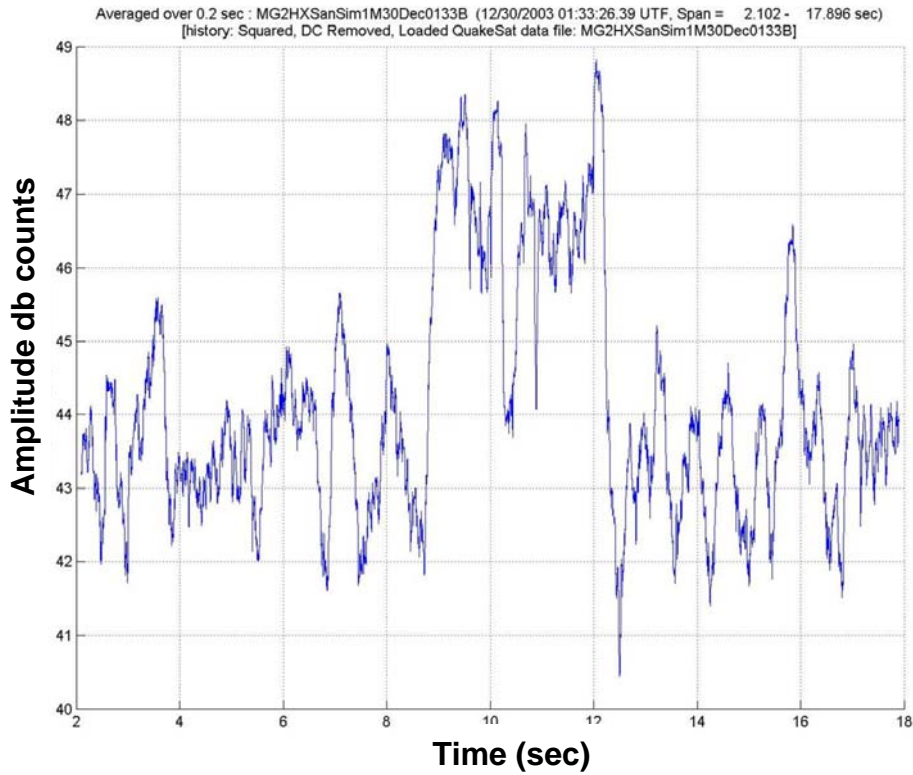




# San Simeon Earthquake +8 days

Power

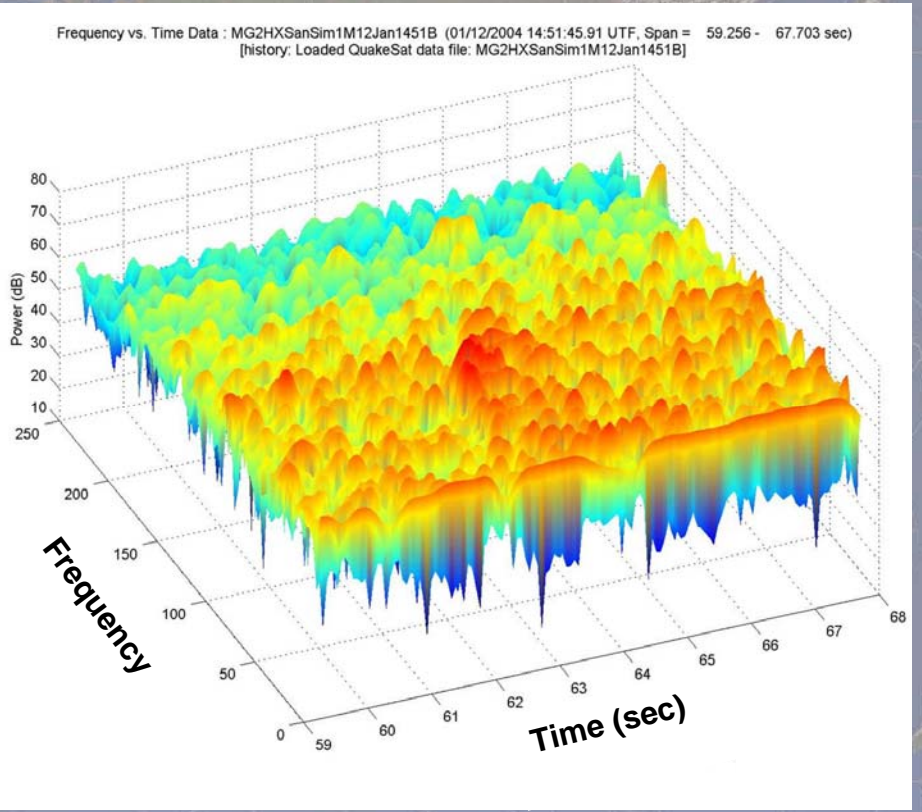
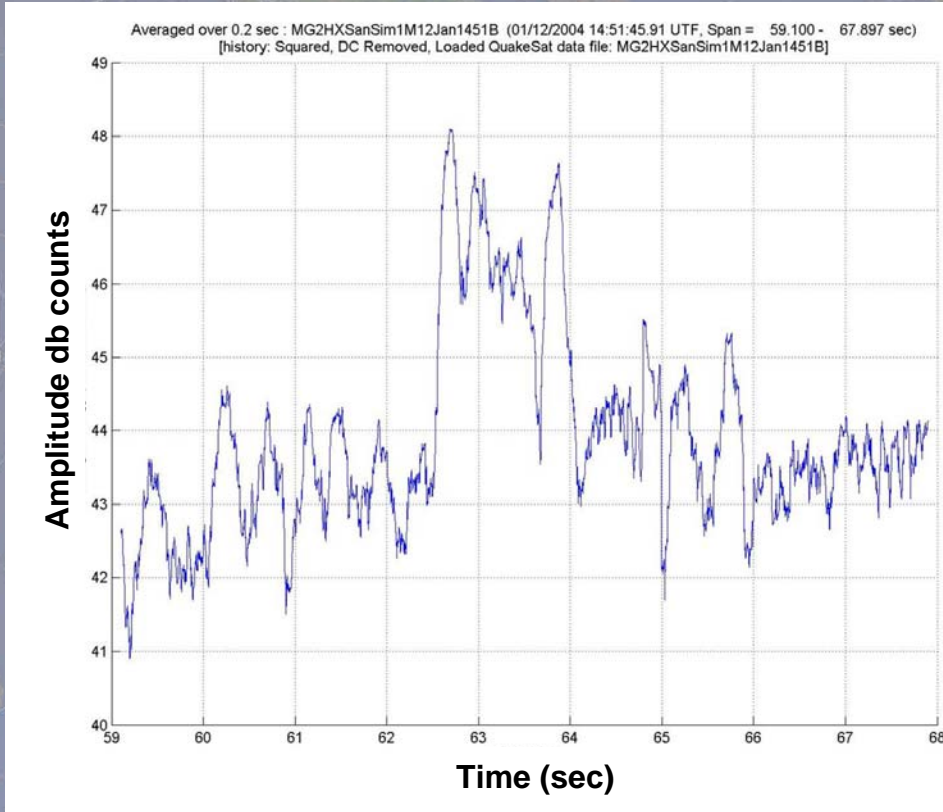
Frequency (10-150 Hz)



# San Simeon Earthquake +21 days

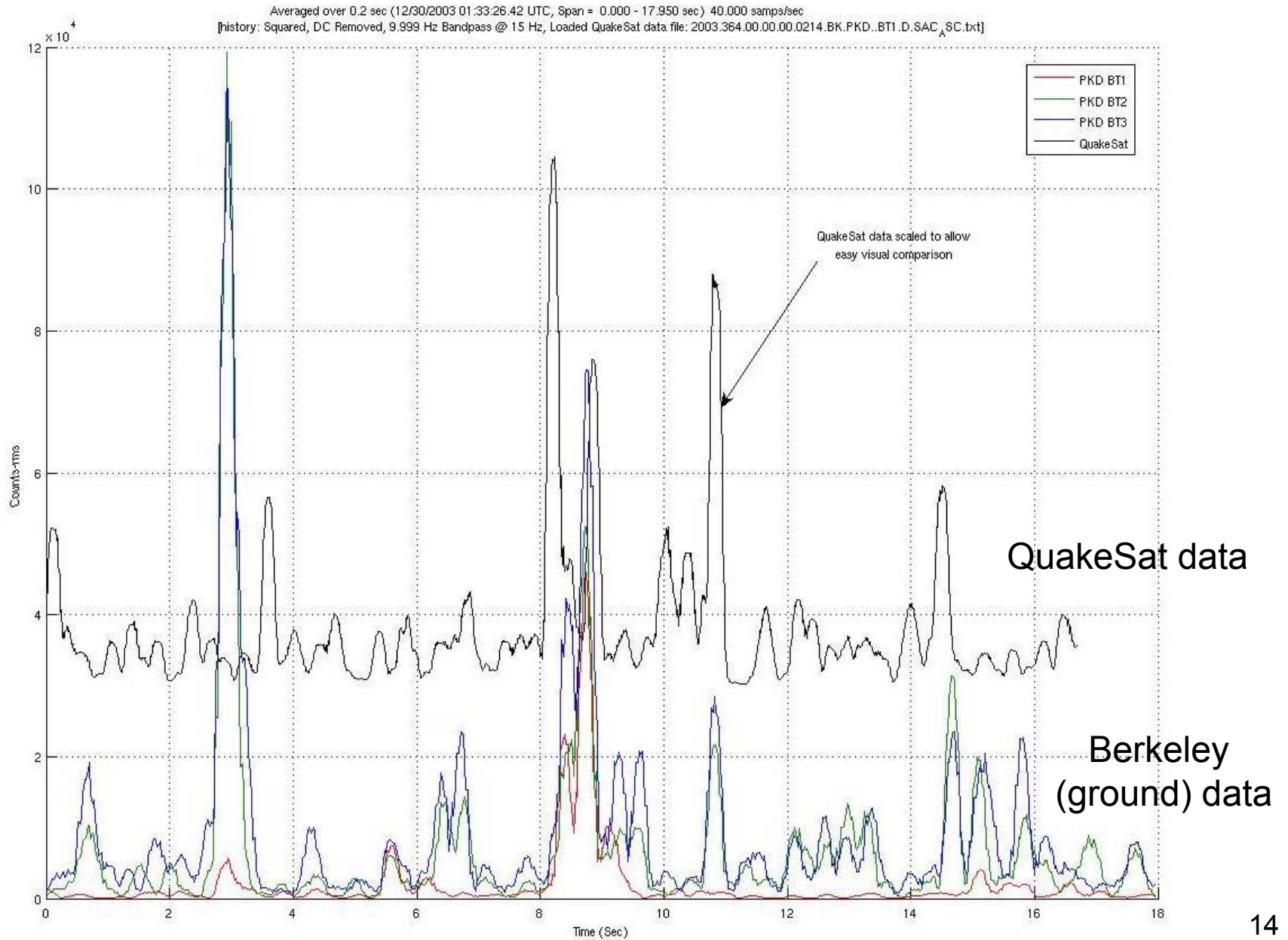
Power

Frequency (10-150 Hz)





# Correlation between QuakeSat and Berkeley signals (San Simeon + 8 days)





# **Parkfield M6.0 Quake**

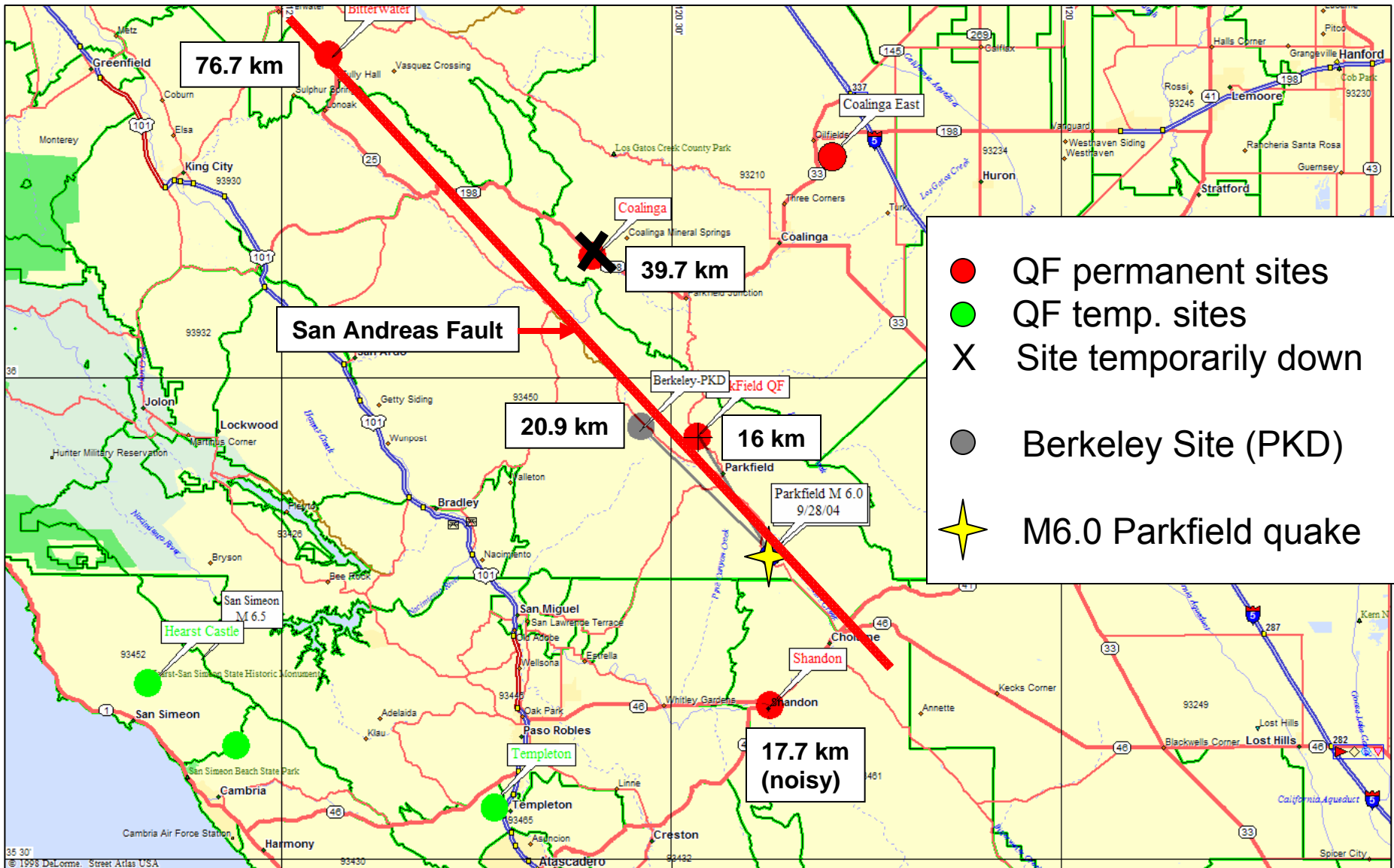
**9/28/04**

**10:15:24 PDT**

**09:15:24 PST**

**17:15:24 UTC**

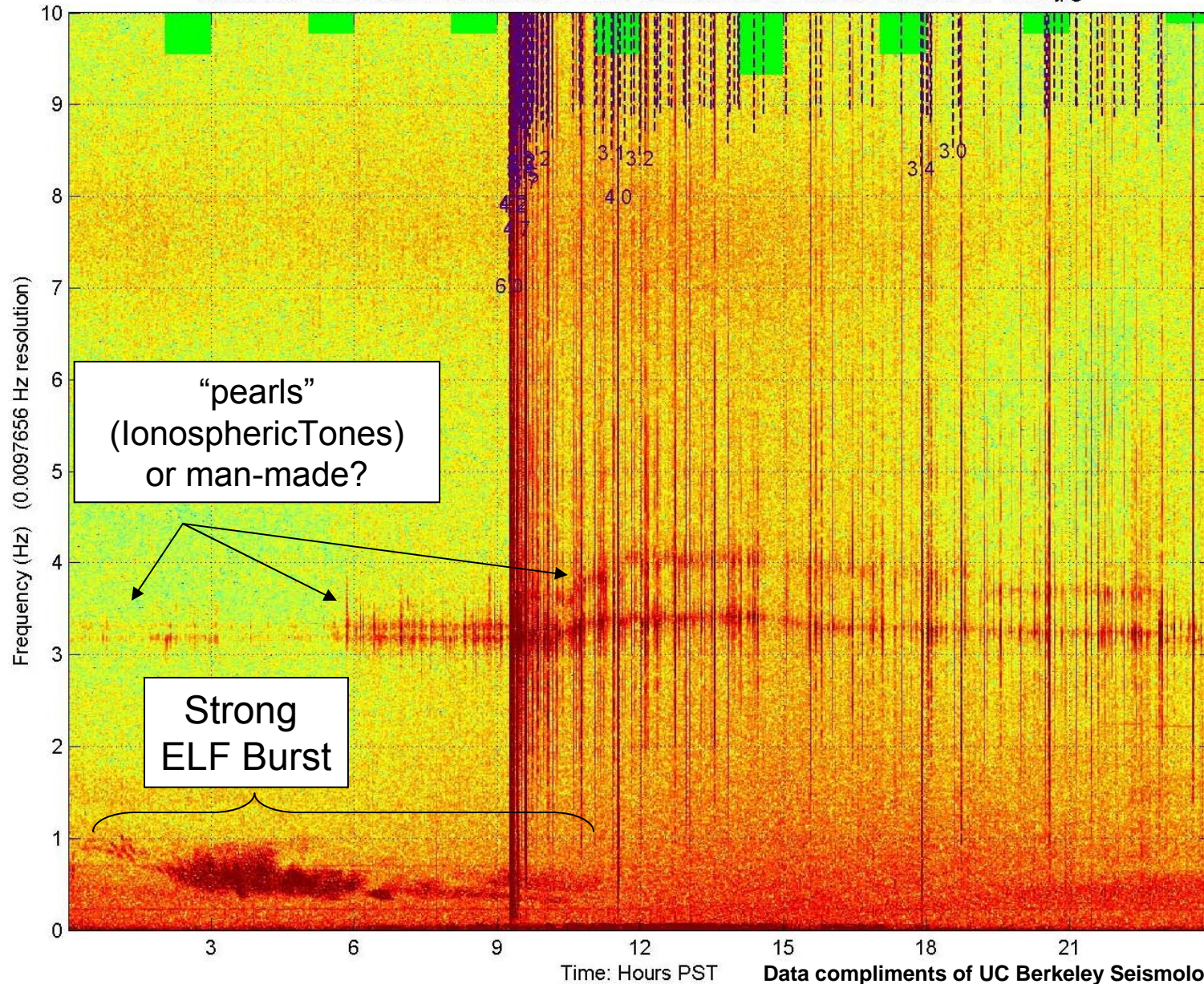
# Parkfield M6.0 and ELF sites





# Berkeley Data (0-10 Hz) Day of quake Sept 28, 2004

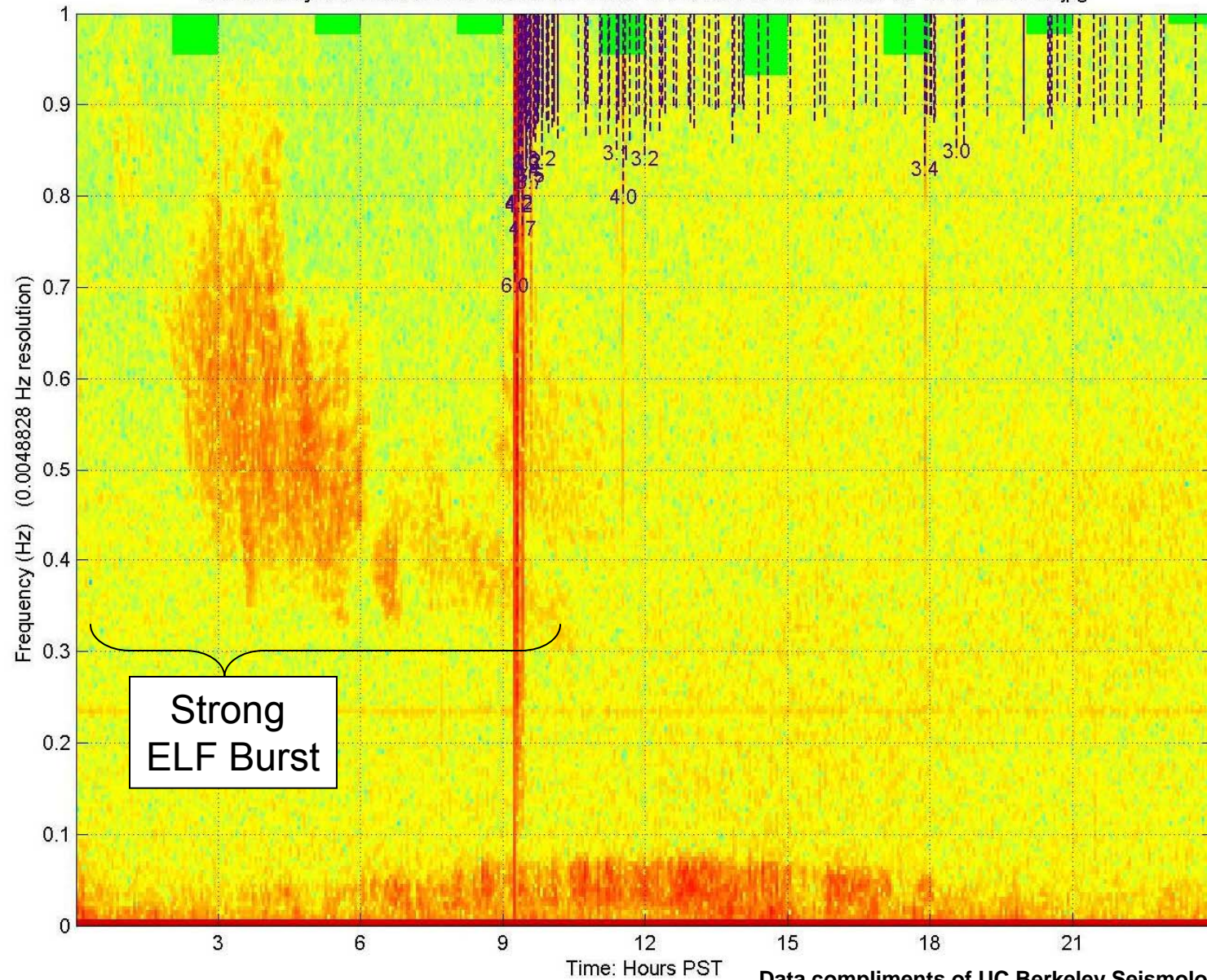
Quakefinder Data: 2004.272.07.59.18.5214.BK.PKD..BT3.D.SAC ASC2004-09-28 07 59 18.52.jpg



# Berkeley Data

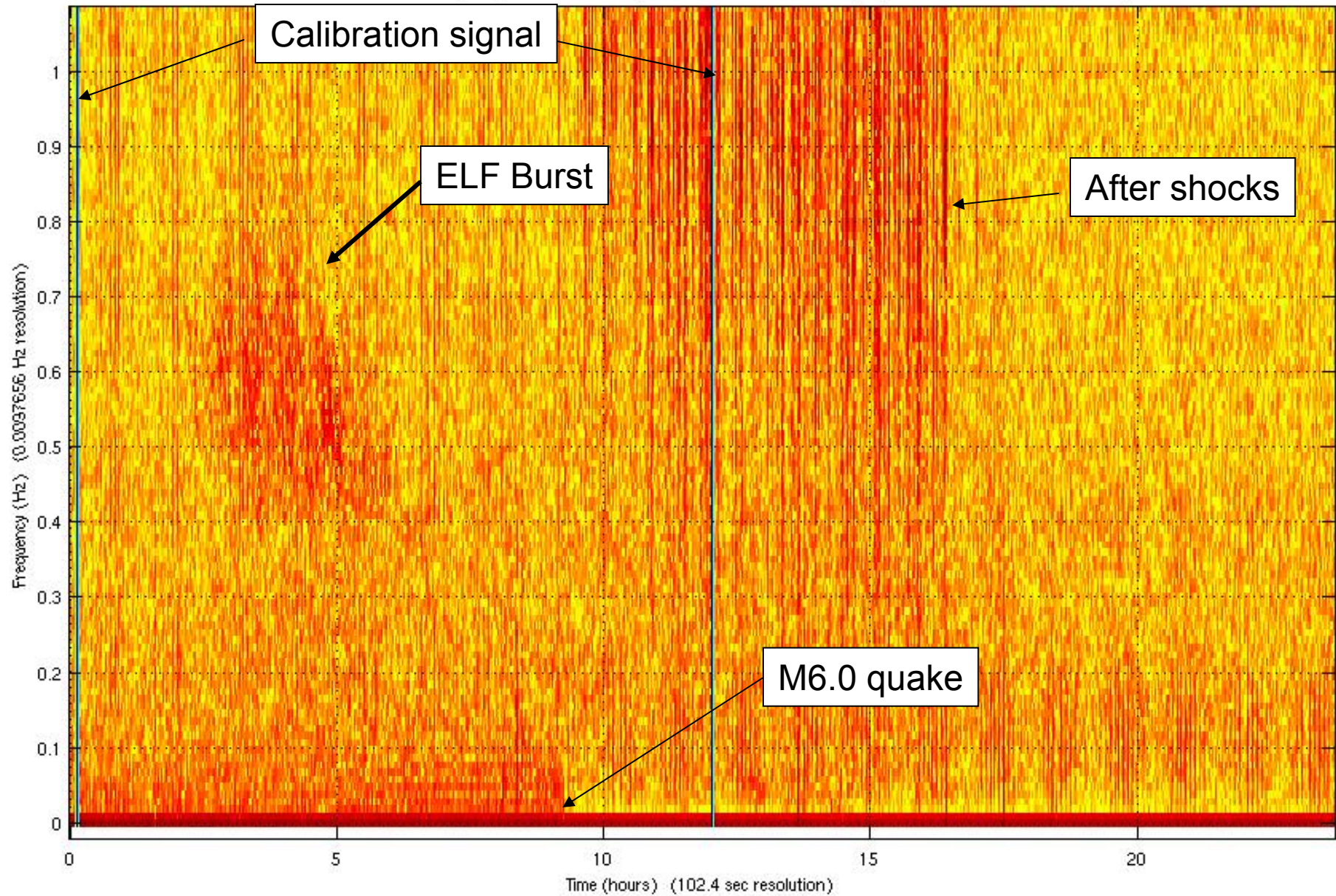
## Day of quake (Expanded to 0-1 Hz)

UC Berkeley Data: 2004.272.07.59.18.5214.BK.PKD..BT3.D.SAC ASC2004-09-28 07 59 18.52.jpg



# QF Parkfield station (day of quake)

EQTracker Channel 1 Frequency vs. Time Data : (00/00/0000 00:00:00.00 UTF, Span = 51.200 - 86272.000 sec)

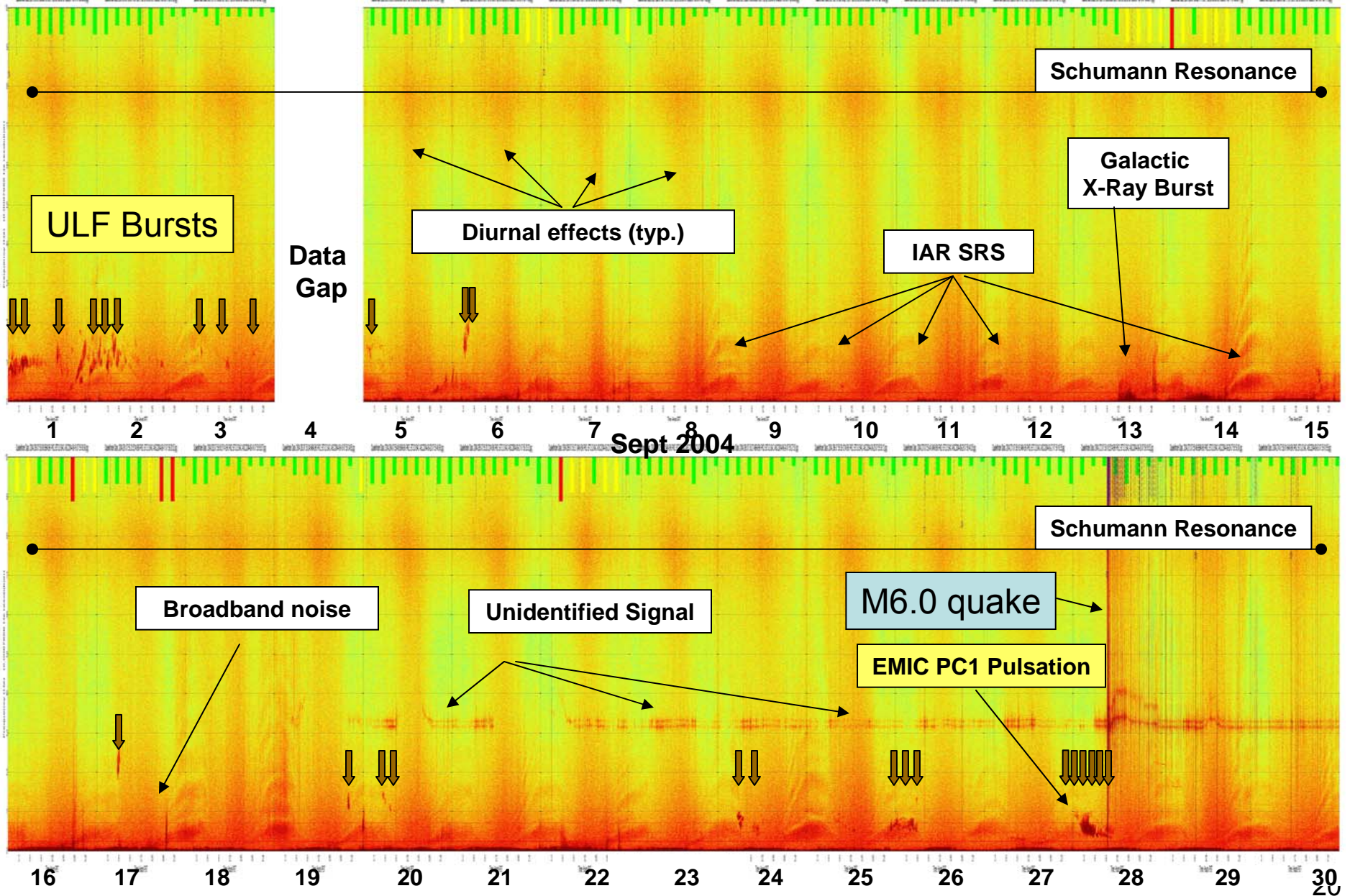




# Berkeley Data (0-10 Hz)

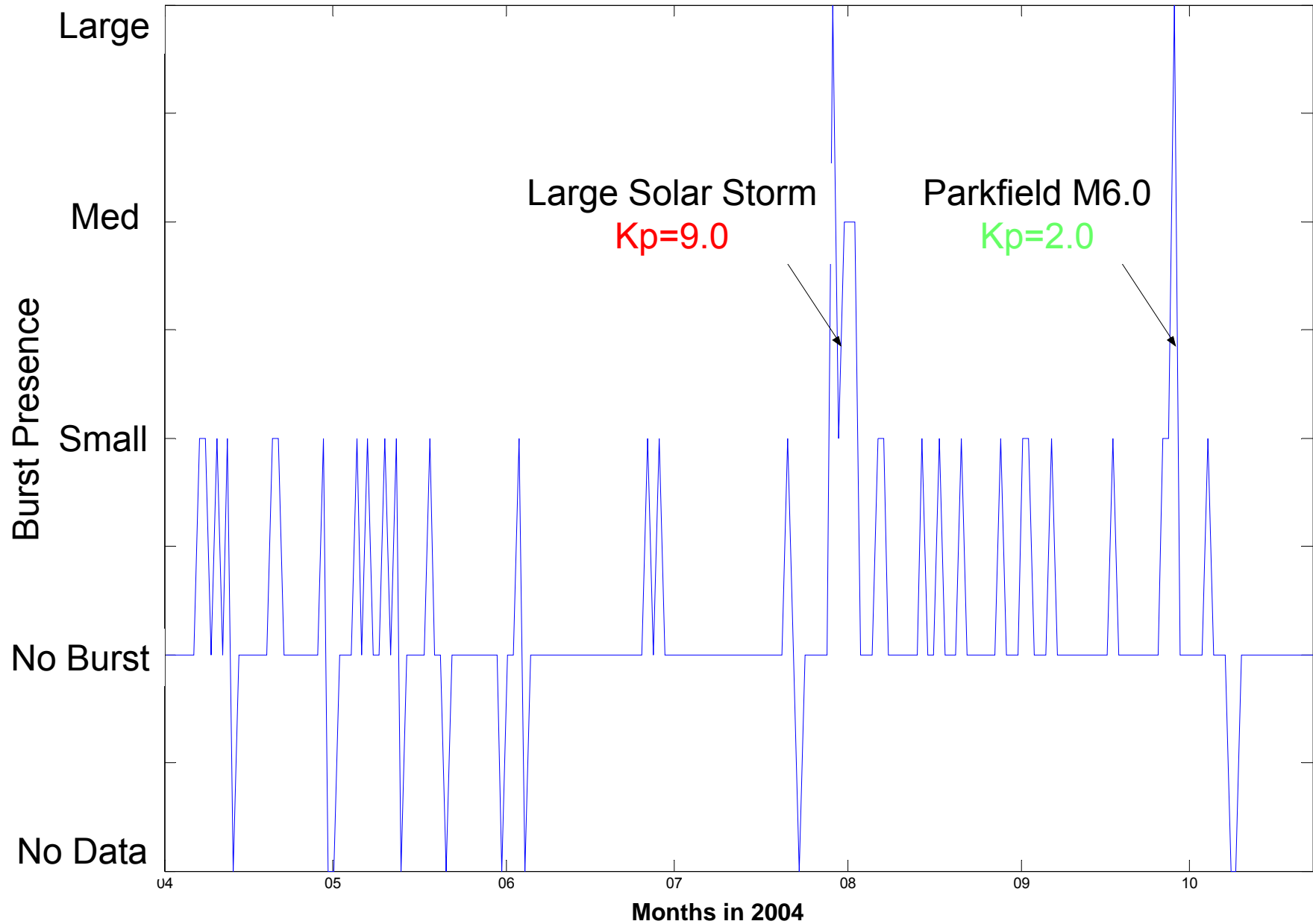
## Sept 1-30, 2004

Data compliments of UC Berkeley Seismological Lab

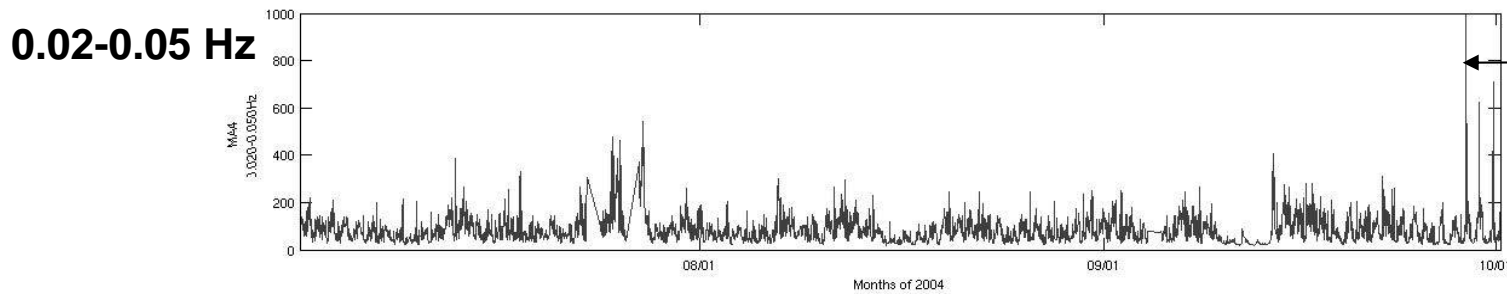
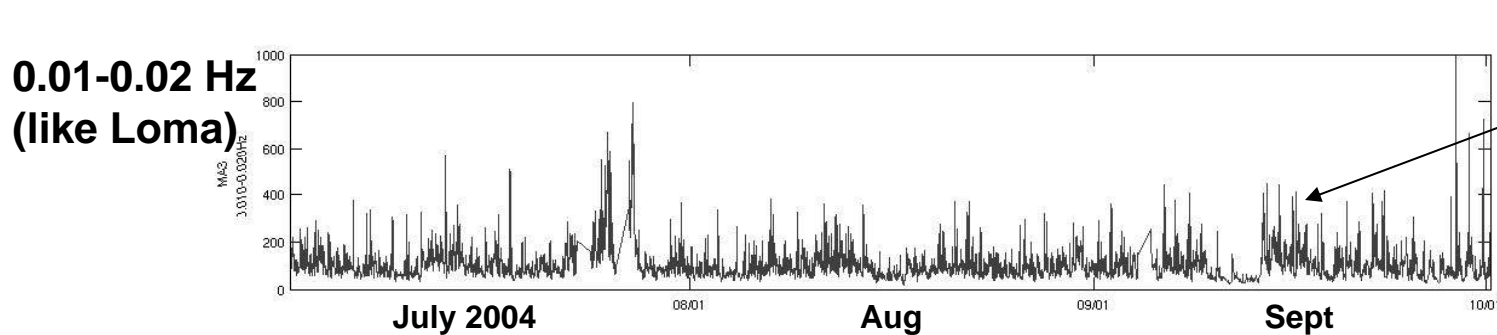
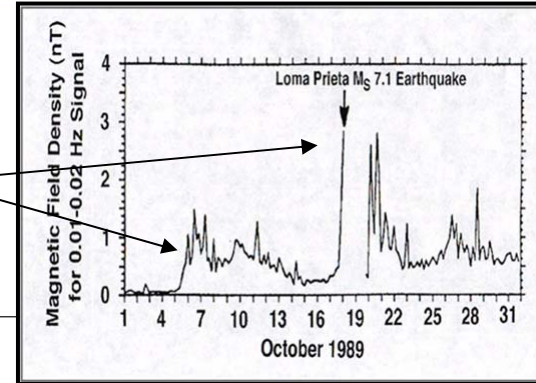
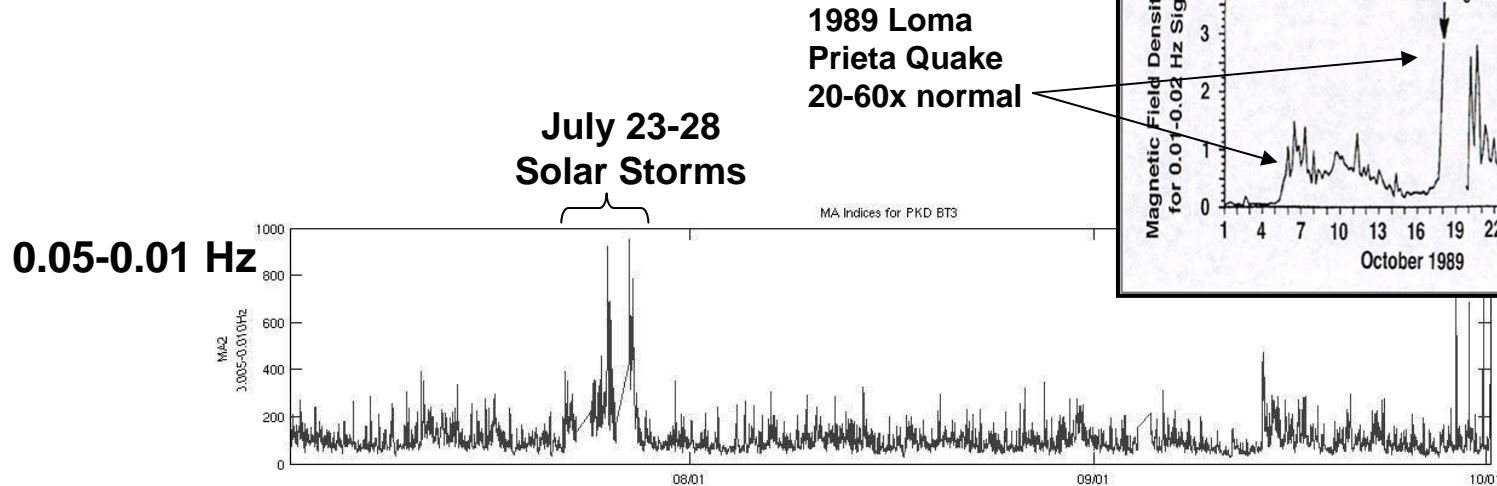


- **Diurnal Effect**
  - Increased activity due to daytime and solar excitation of ionosphere.
- **Shumann Resonance**
  - Resonating cavity between ground and ionosphere.
  - Captures broadband EM impulses like lightning.
- **ULF Waves**
  - **EMIC Waves (PC 1-2 pulsations)**
    - Electromagnetic ion cyclotron (EMIC) instability near the equator.
    - Pearls—structured PC1 waves.
    - IPDP Pulsations- Intervals of diminishing periods.
  - **Spectral Resonance Structures (SRS)**
    - Likely caused by Ionospheric Alfvén resonators.
    - Varies with time of day, season, and solar activity.
    - Harmonics up to second Schumann resonance.
- **Broadband Noise**
  - Often related to CME shocks hitting the Earth.
  - Galactic X-ray bursts

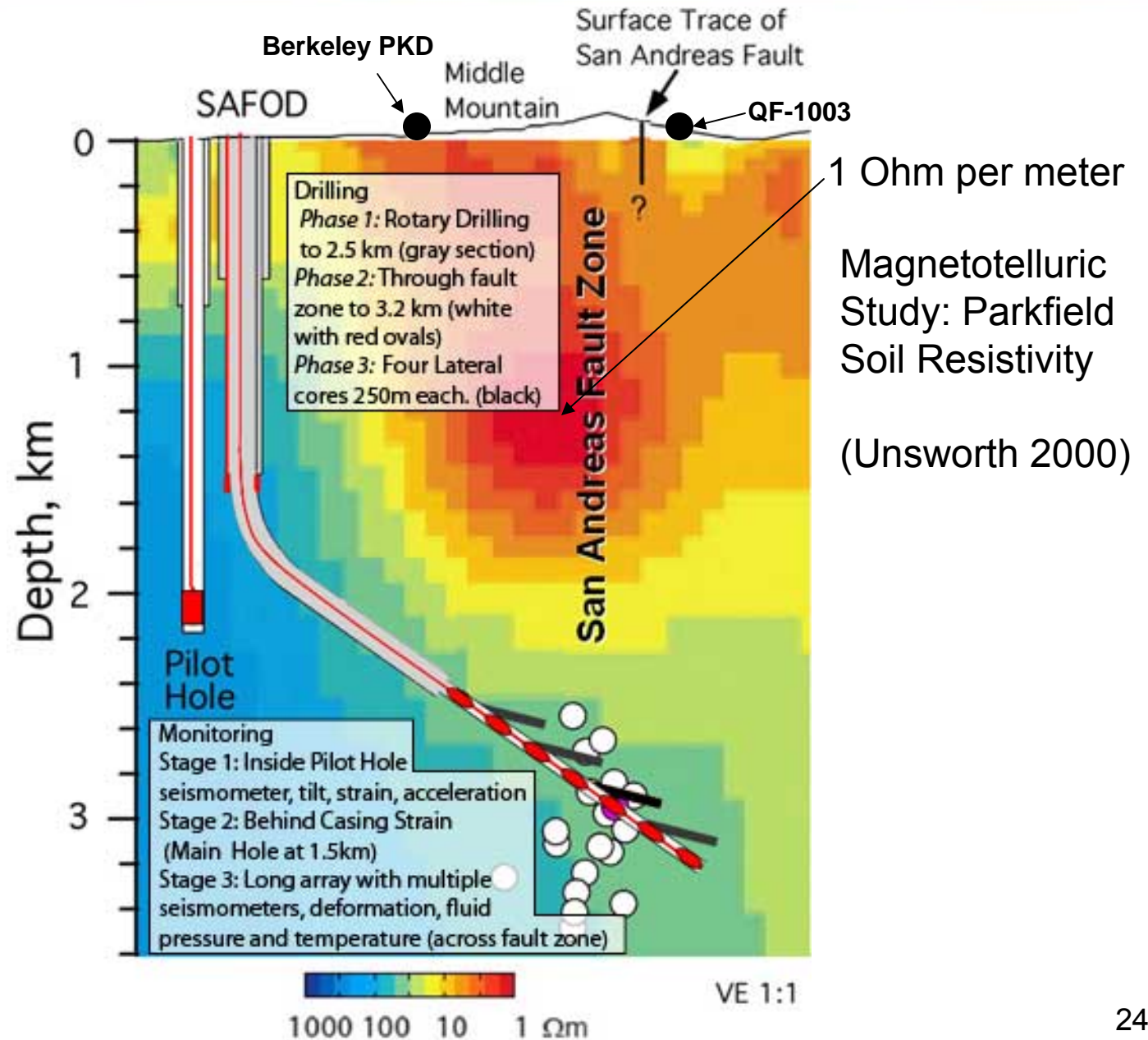
# Night ELF Bursts: Mar to Oct '04



# Loma Prieta Vs Parkfield ULF Signals



# Conductivity of Ground Attenuates Signal





- **Ground monitor data**

- May have been too far away to detect the San Simeon signal (60 km Vs 15 km range est.)
- Small number of “unusual signals, 3.2 Hz”

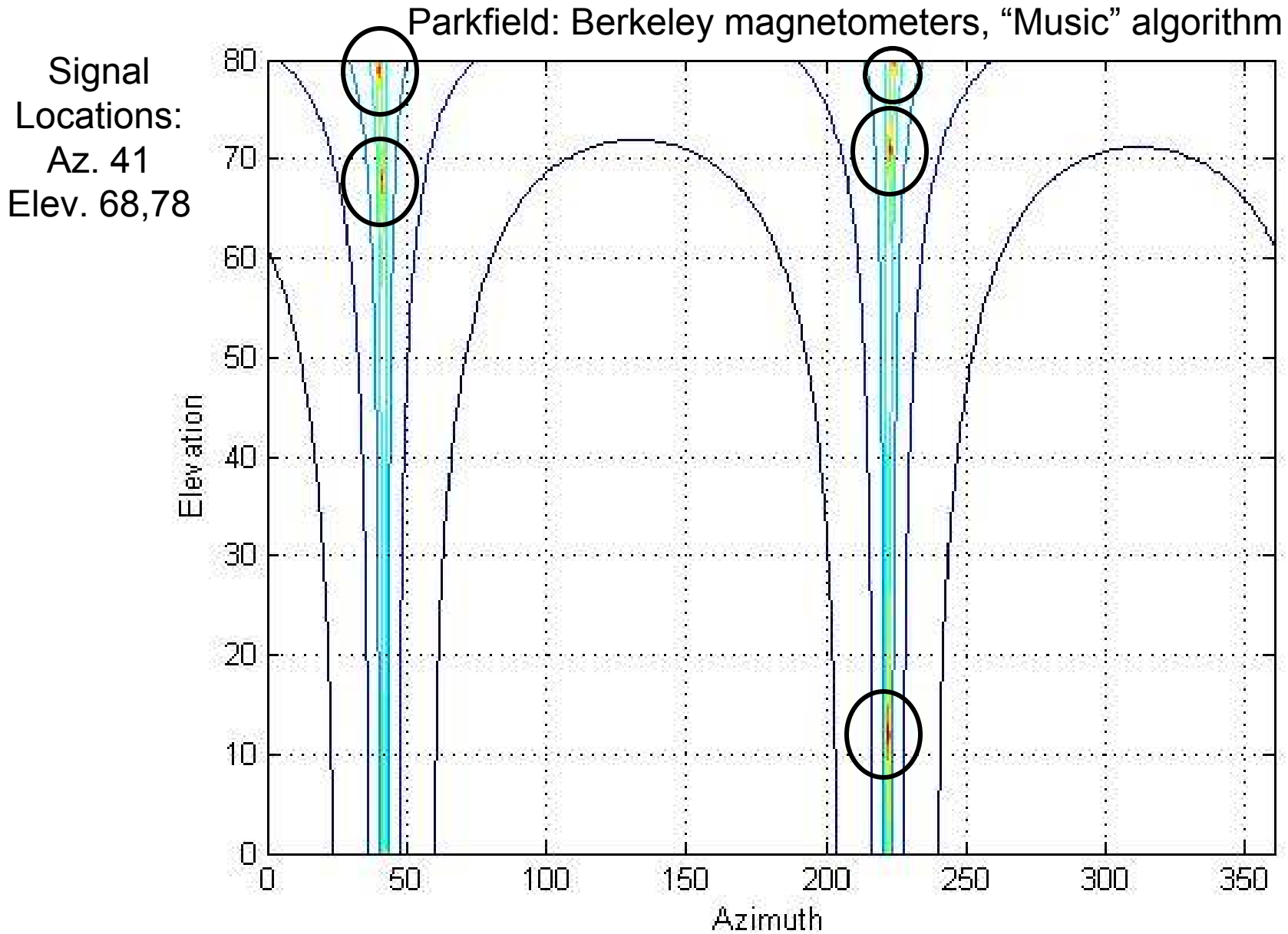
- **QuakeSat data**

- ELF wideband noise (10-140 Hz) bursts seem to appear near several quakes
  - Not confirmed yet-DEMETER data
- Some correlation with ground data (+8 day)
  - Need more samples

- **Ground monitor data:**
  - Parkfield did not duplicate Loma Prieta
    - No 20 X increase at 0.01 Hz (Brine layer near quake)
  - Strange ELF bursts prior to quake at 0.3 to 0.9 Hz (Ionospheric origin, but low solar activity?)
  - Strange ELF tones (pearls?) at 3.2 Hz
    - Seen at PKD and QF Parkfield vertical channels only
- **Satellite data:**
  - QuakeSat and DEMETER: no valid data



# Backup Charts



USGS Earthquake Hazards Program: Earthquake Report: CENTRAL CALIFORNIA - Netscape

File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Window Help

EQ http://neic.usgs.gov/neis/eq\_depot/2003/eq\_031222/ Search

Mail AIM Home Radio My Netscape Search Shop Bookmarks

HOME | ABOUT US | EQ GLOSSARY | FOR TEACHERS | PRODUCTS & SERVICES | DID YOU FEEL IT? | FAQ | SEARCH

**Earthquake Activity**

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**Current Earthquakes**

[USA](#)  
[World](#)

**ShakeMaps**

**Seismogram Displays**

**Past & Historical Earthquakes**

**Earthquake E-Mail Notification**

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**Earthquake Activity in the Last**

## Magnitude 6.5 CENTRAL CALIFORNIA 2003 December 22 19:15:56 UTC

**Preliminary Earthquake Report**  
U.S. Geological Survey, National Earthquake Information Center  
World Data Center for Seismology, Denver



**Magnitude** 6.5

**Date-Time** Monday, December 22, 2003 at 19:15:56 (UTC) - Coordinated Universal Time  
Monday, December 22, 2003 at 11:15:56 AM local time at epicenter  
[Time of Earthquake in other Time Zones](#)

**Location** 35.71N 121.10W


**Depth** 7.6 kilometers

**Region** CENTRAL CALIFORNIA

**Reference** 10 km (5 miles) NE of **San Simeon, California**  
35 km (20 miles) WNW of **Paso Robles, California**  
55 km (35 miles) S of **King City, California**  
320 km (200 miles) S of **SACRAMENTO, California**

**Location Quality** Error estimate not available, held by USGS NEIC to another agency's solution

**Location Quality** not available



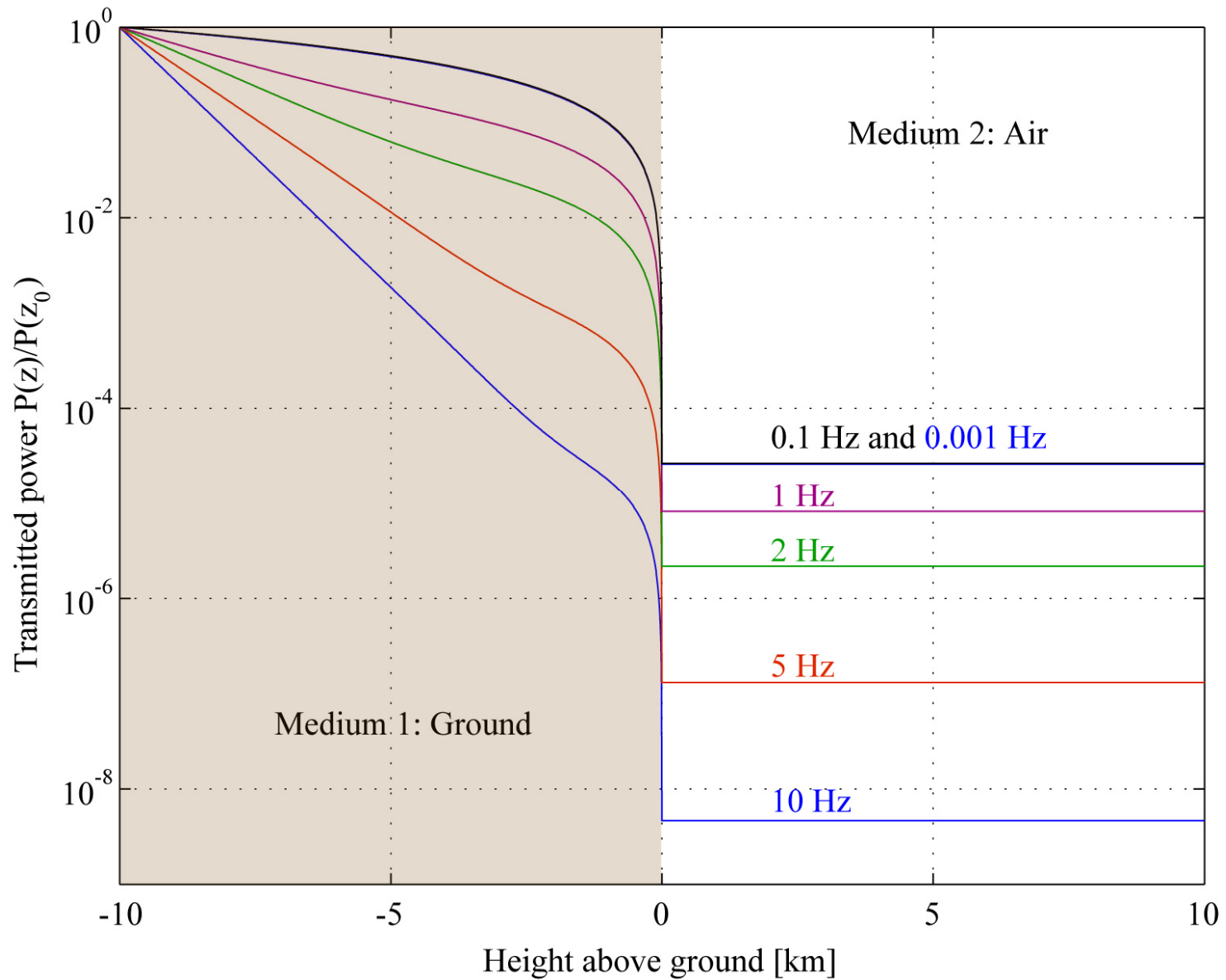


# Propagation Modeling

Dr. Jacob Bortnik  
UCLA Post Doc

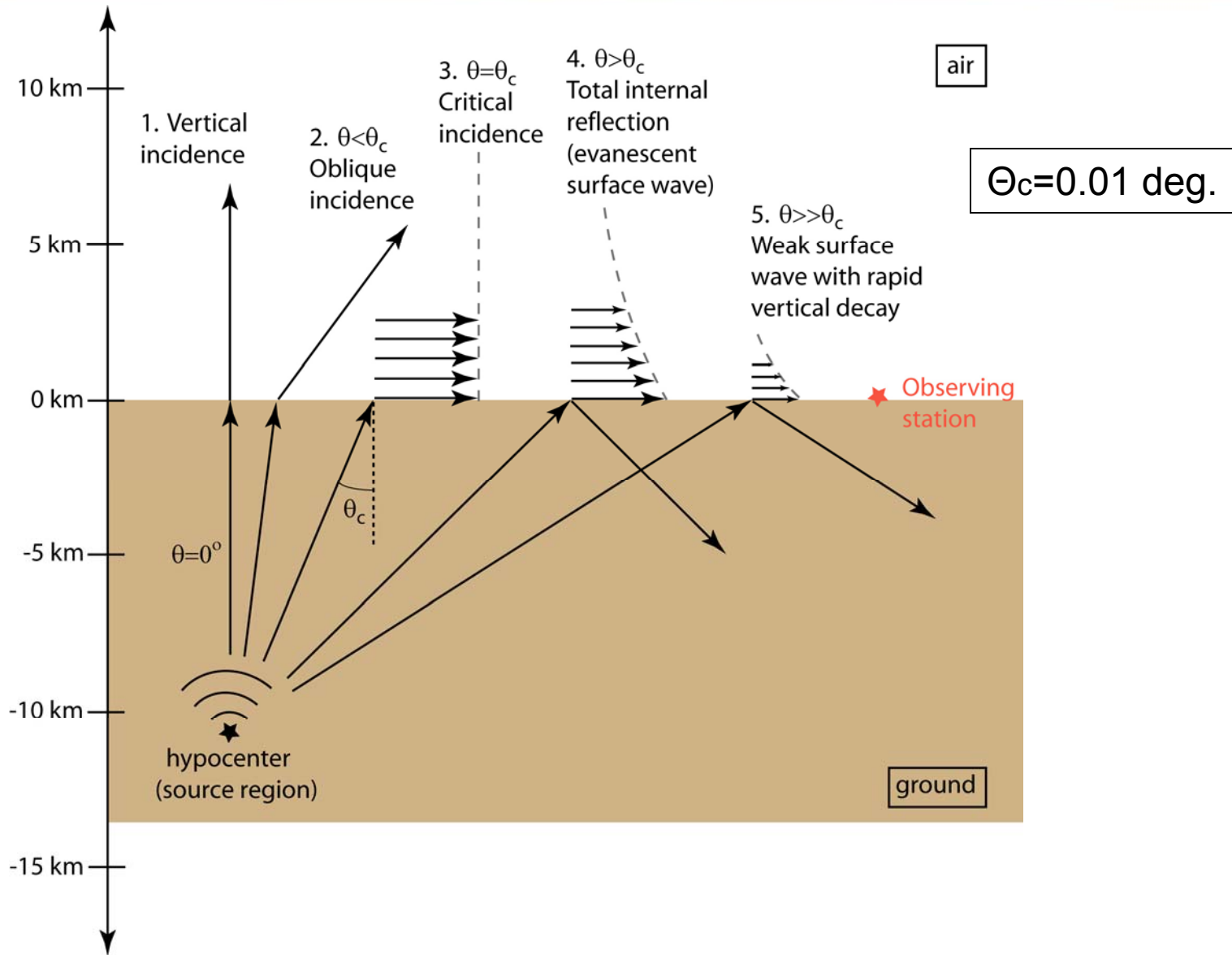
Full Wave Model using Maxwell's Equations

# Attenuation by Frequency (ELF-VLF) for Below Ground to Air

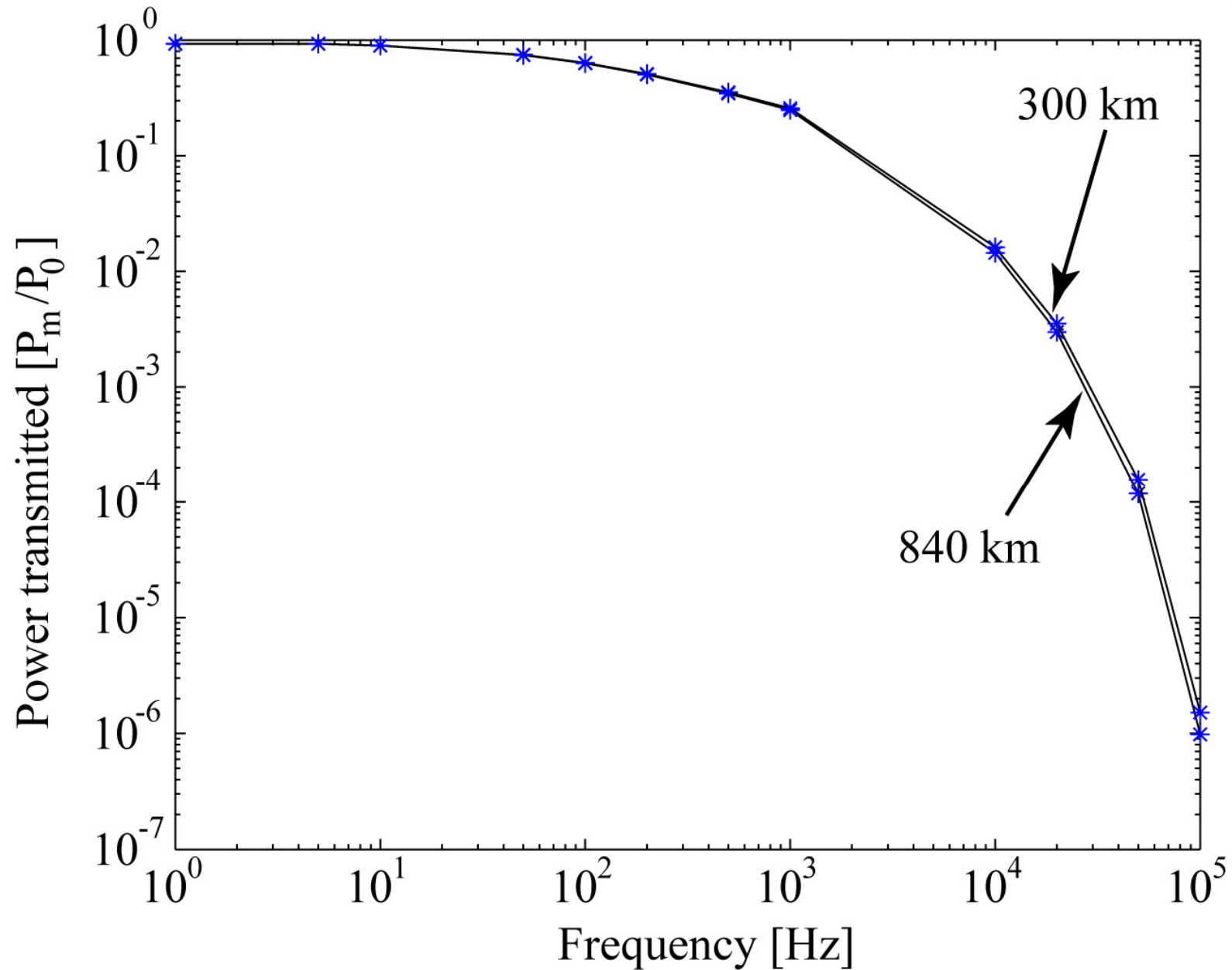




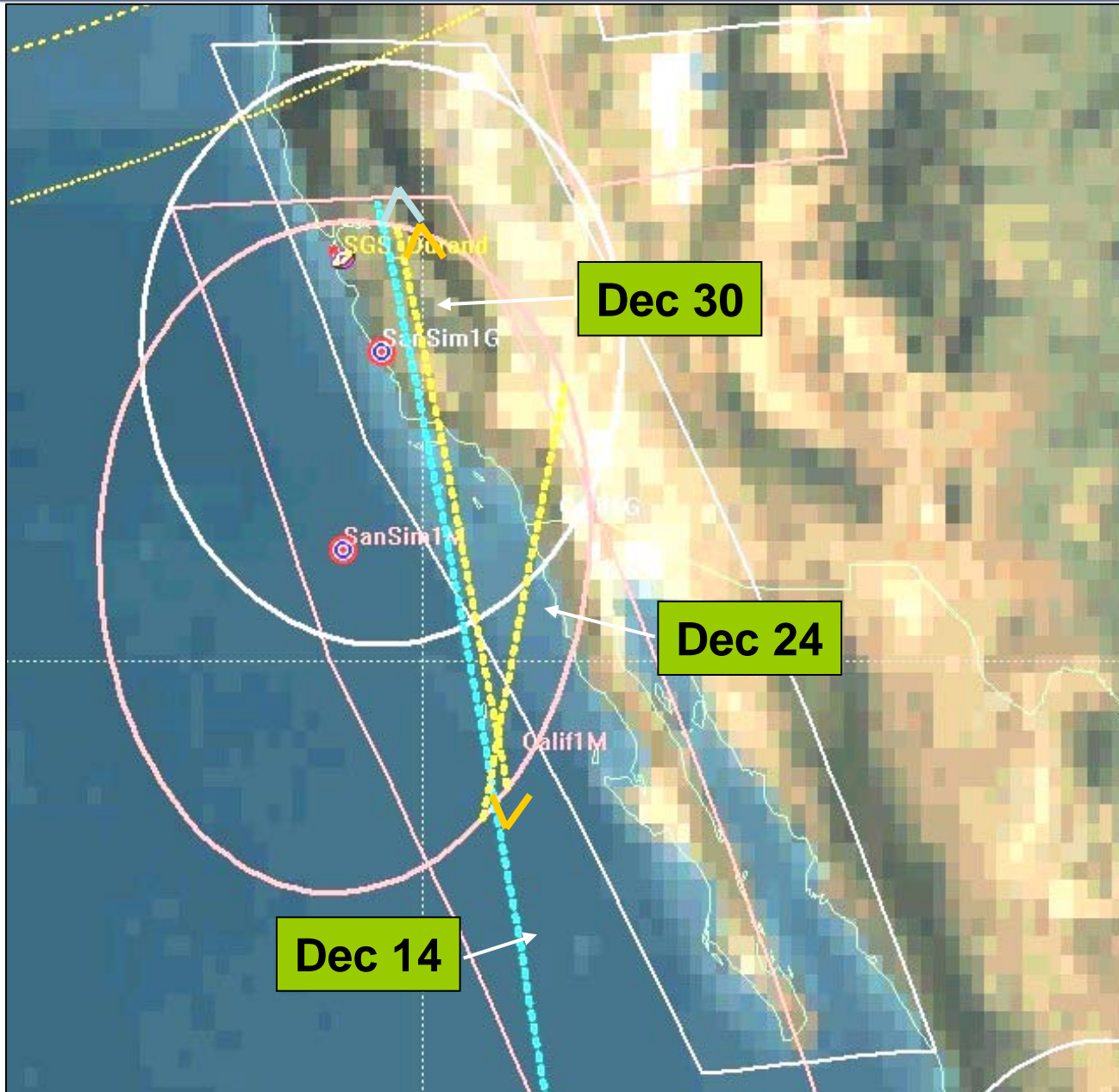
# Signal Refraction



# Ionospheric ELF/VLF Attenuation



- **2000 + Worldwide Magnetometer Collections**
- **Eliminated most internal noise sources**
  - Small boom with pico-tesla magnetometer
  - Reprogrammed on-board computer
    - watchdog, beacon, software processes
  - Digital filtering on ground
    - telemetry modem
- **Detected natural signals**
  - Whistlers (Lightning), Auroral Chorus,
  - **20+** signatures of unknown origin while targeting active seismic zones



Did we see the same type of signal  
around other quake events?



# Major Earthquakes of Magnitude 6+

Dominican Rep Earthquake	
Signal Date	Days from EQ
9/22/2003	EQ
10/22/2003	+31

Japan Earthquake (9/25/03)	
Signal Date	Days from EQ
9/25/2003	EQ
10/6/2003	+9

Japan Earthquake (10/31/03)	
Signal Date	Days from EQ
10/22/2003	-9
10/23/2003	-8
10/23/2003	-8
10/31/2003	EQ
11/18/2003	+18
12/24/2003	+54

New Zealand Earthquake	
Signal Date	Days from EQ
11/2/2003	EQ
12/24/2003	+52
12/30/2003	+58

Xin, China Earthquake	
Signal Date	Days from EQ
12/1/2003	EQ
12/11/2003	+10
12/13/2003	+12
1/2/2004	+32
1/6/2004	+36

San Simeon Earthquake	
Signal Date	Days from EQ
10/26/2003	-56
10/27/2003	-55
12/22/2003	EQ
12/30/2003	+8
1/12/2004	+21

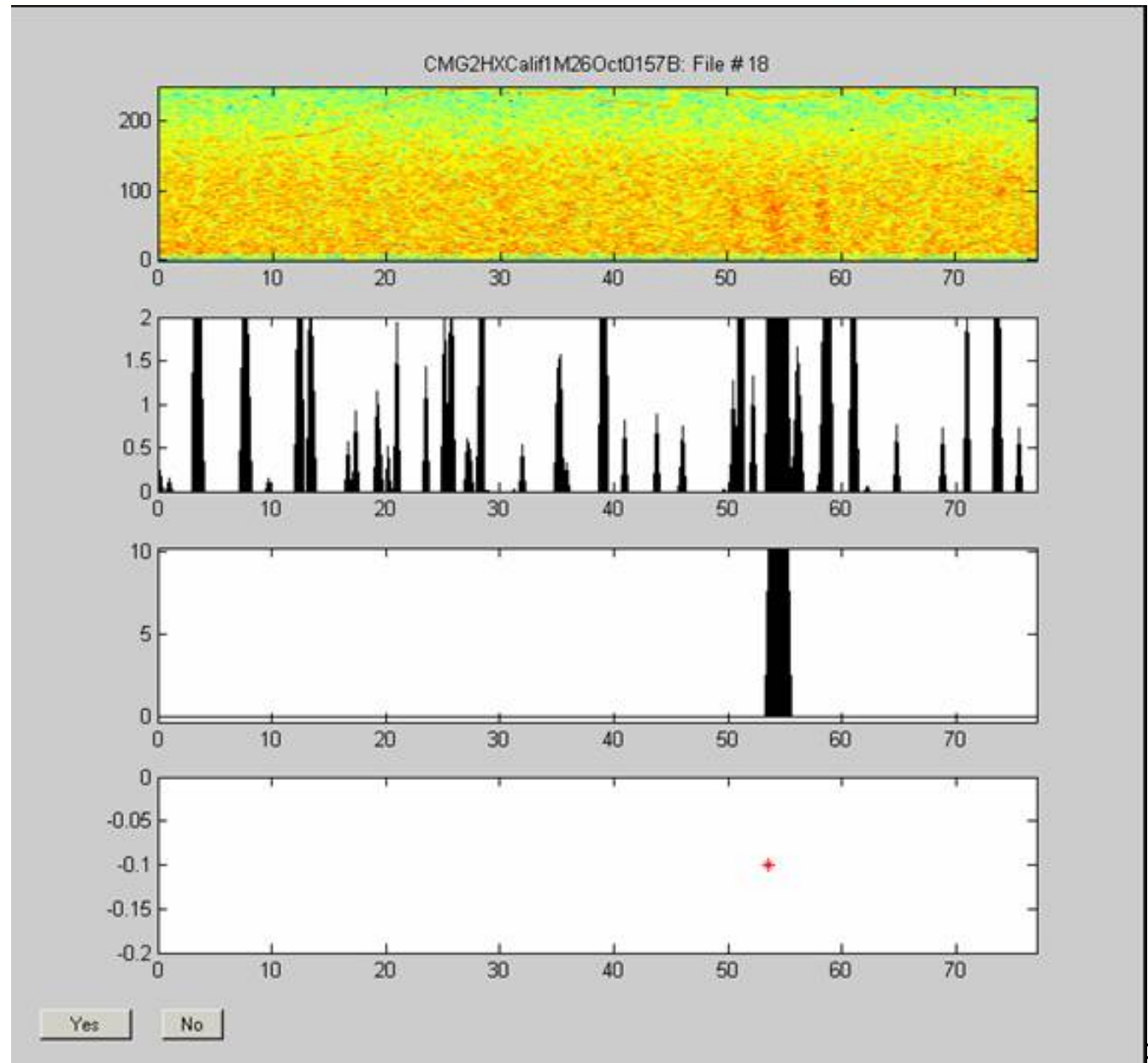
Iran Earthquake	
Signal Date	Days from EQ
9/10/2003	-67
12/16/2003	-10
12/26/2003	EQ
1/19/2004	+24

Sat. Collection  
Spectrogram

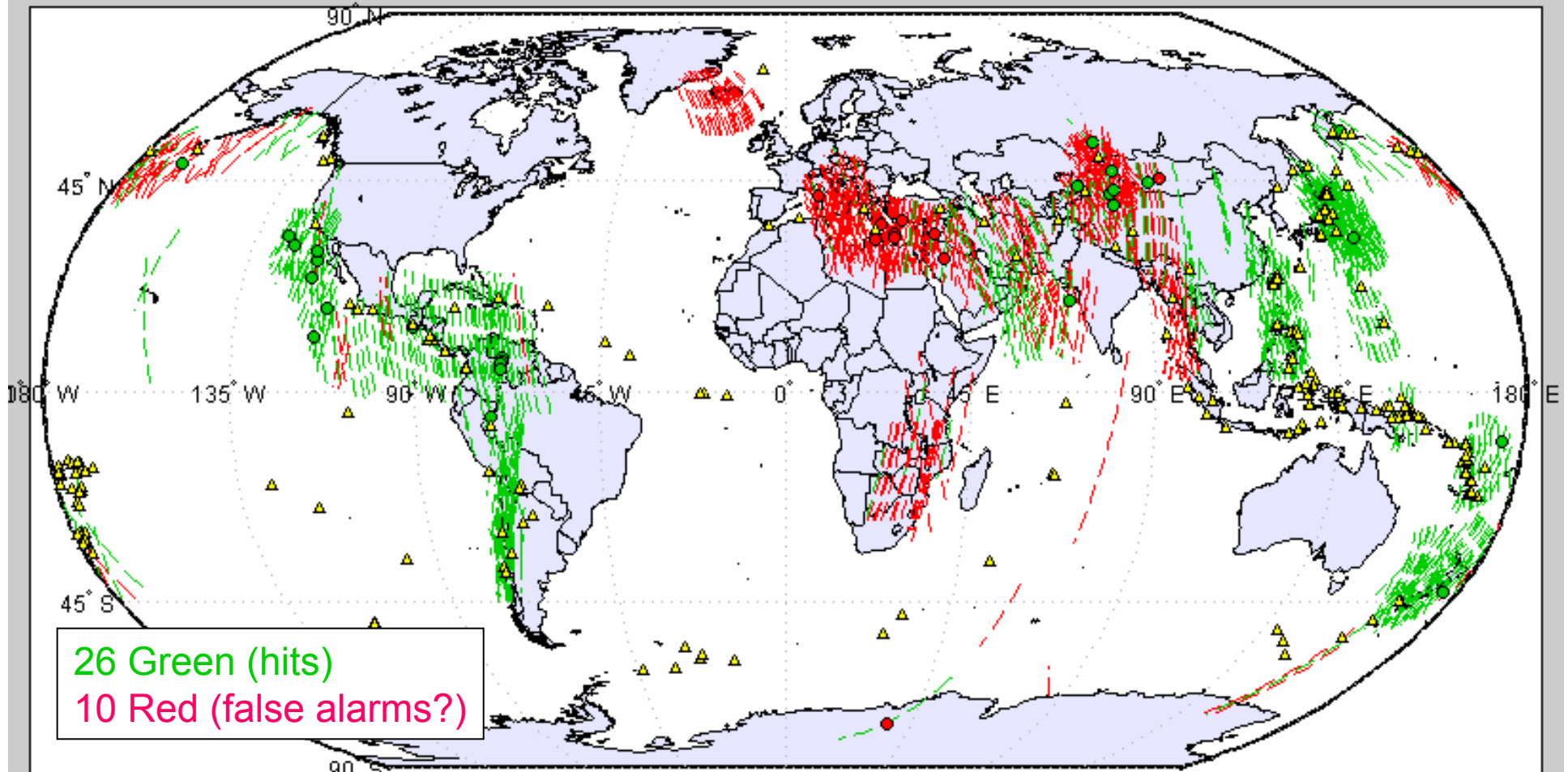
Raw Correlation:  
-Matched filter  
(0.2 sec by 10-80 Hz)

Refined Correlation:  
-Adjustable threshold  
(1 Sec, energy spread)

Manual Selection:  
-Accept/Reject



# World wide hits / false alarms



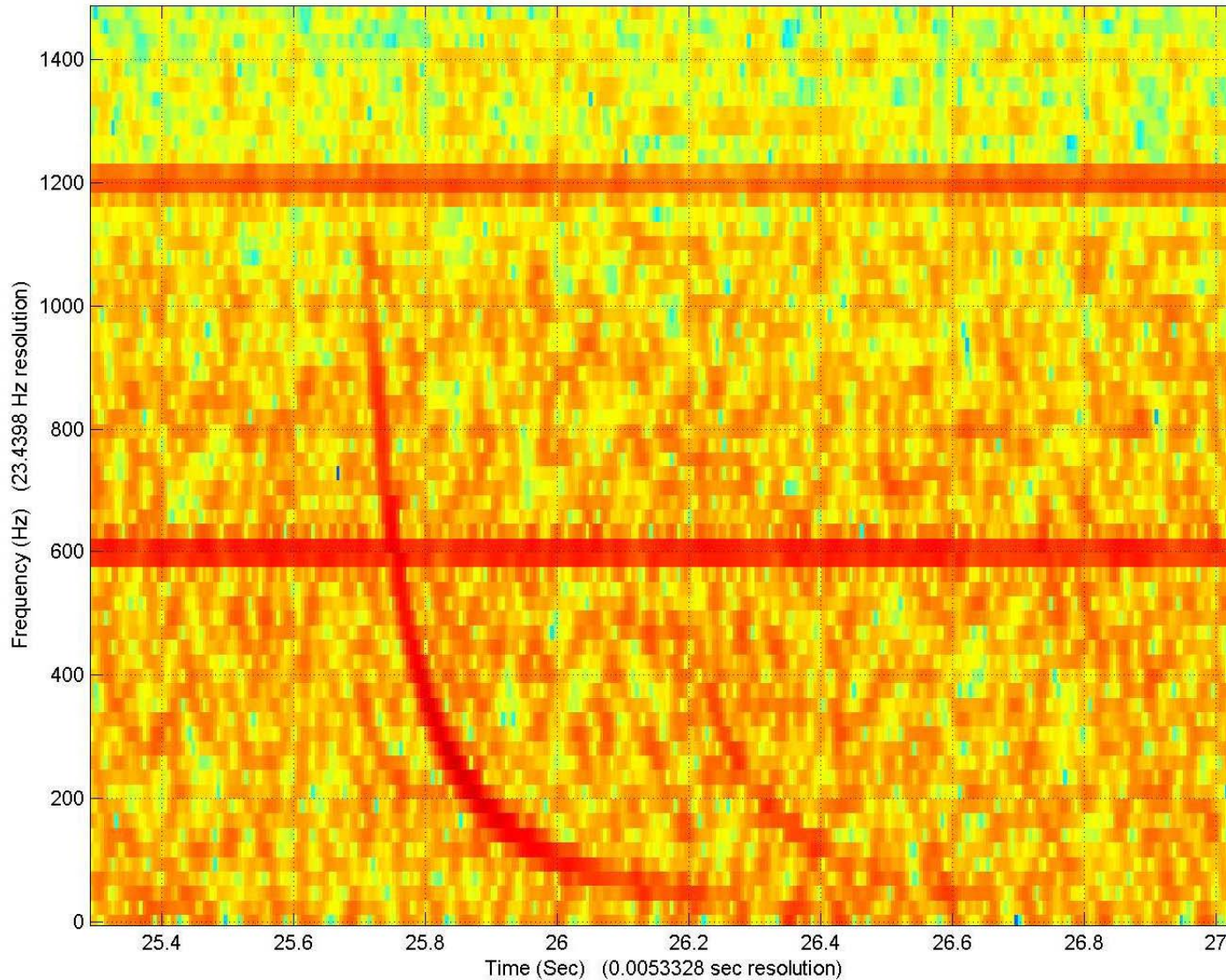
26 Green (hits)  
10 Red (false alarms?)

- ▲ = Earthquake of magnitude 6+ within collection timeline (Sept '03 to Feb '04)
- = ELF Burst: at least one earthquake within 1000 km and +/-60 days of (hit)
- = ELF Burst: no earthquakes exist within 1000 km and +/-60 days (false alarm)
- Satellite ground traces: no earthquakes within 1000 km and +/- 60 days
- Satellite ground traces: at least one quake within 1000 km and +/- 60 days



How can one distinguish  
signal originating from the ground  
Vs  
noise from the satellite or a signal  
from space?

Frequency vs. Time Data : MG3XXCSouthUS30Apr1209B (04/30/2004 12:11:48.80 UTF, Span = 0.021 - 59.978 sec)  
 [history: Loaded QuakeSat data file: MG3XXCSouthUS30Apr1209B]



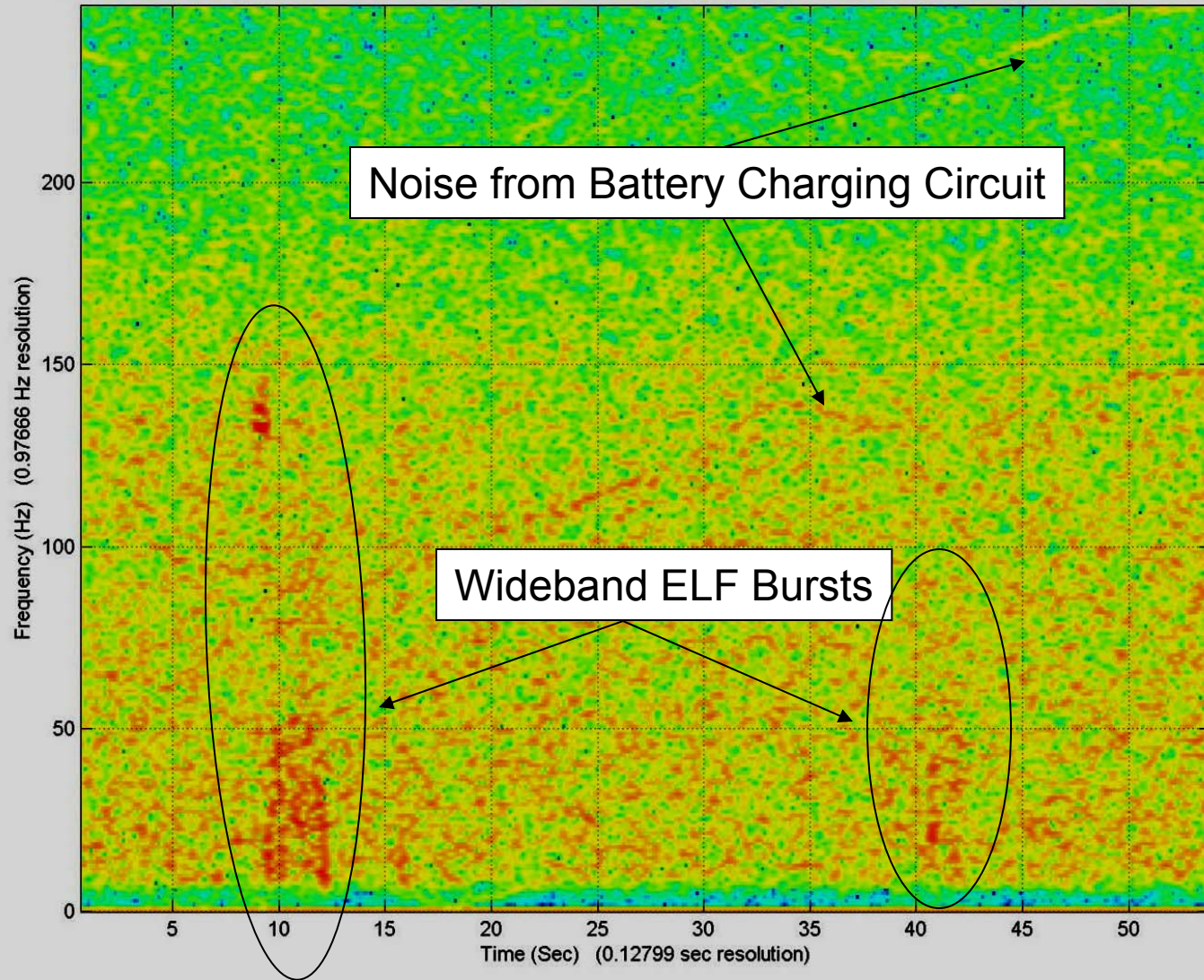
Impulsive signals propagate through ionosphere in a dispersive manner

Higher frequencies arrive sooner

Lower frequencies Arrive later

Is this an important feature for earthquake signatures?

Frequency vs. Time Data : MG2HXSsanSim1M30Dec0133B.raw (Time: 12/30/2003 01:33:26.39 UTC, Span = 0.512 - 180.846 sec)



2 important features

- Broadband energy
- Dispersive (right tilt)

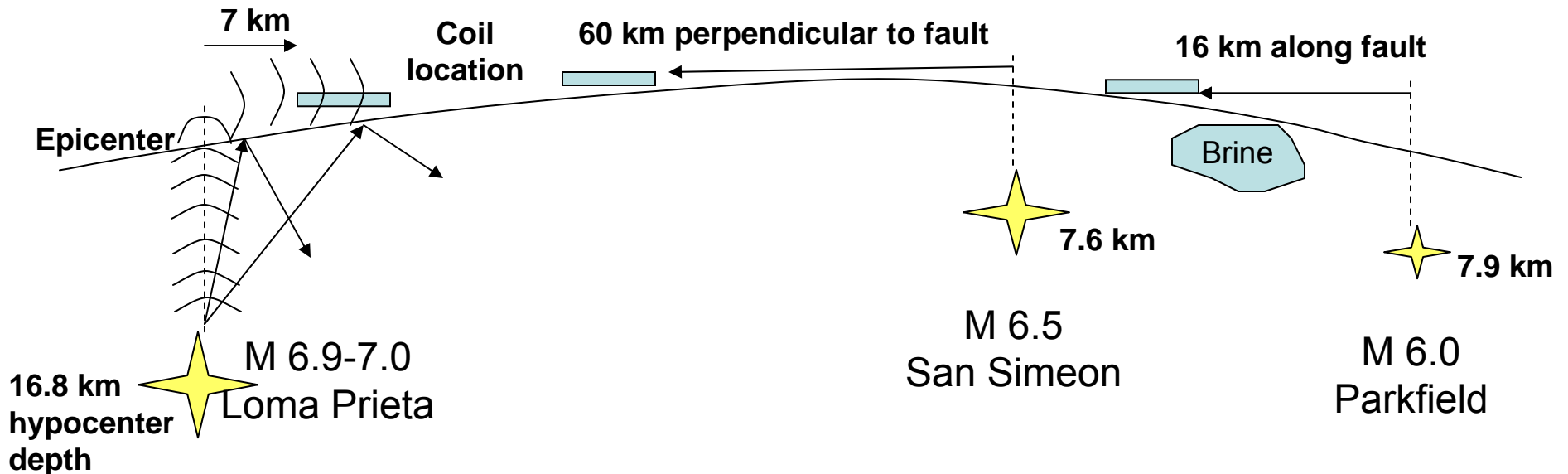
# Signal Strength Variations

Why do some quakes have higher  
ULF/ELF signals?

# Loma Prieta Vs San Simeon Vs Parkfield

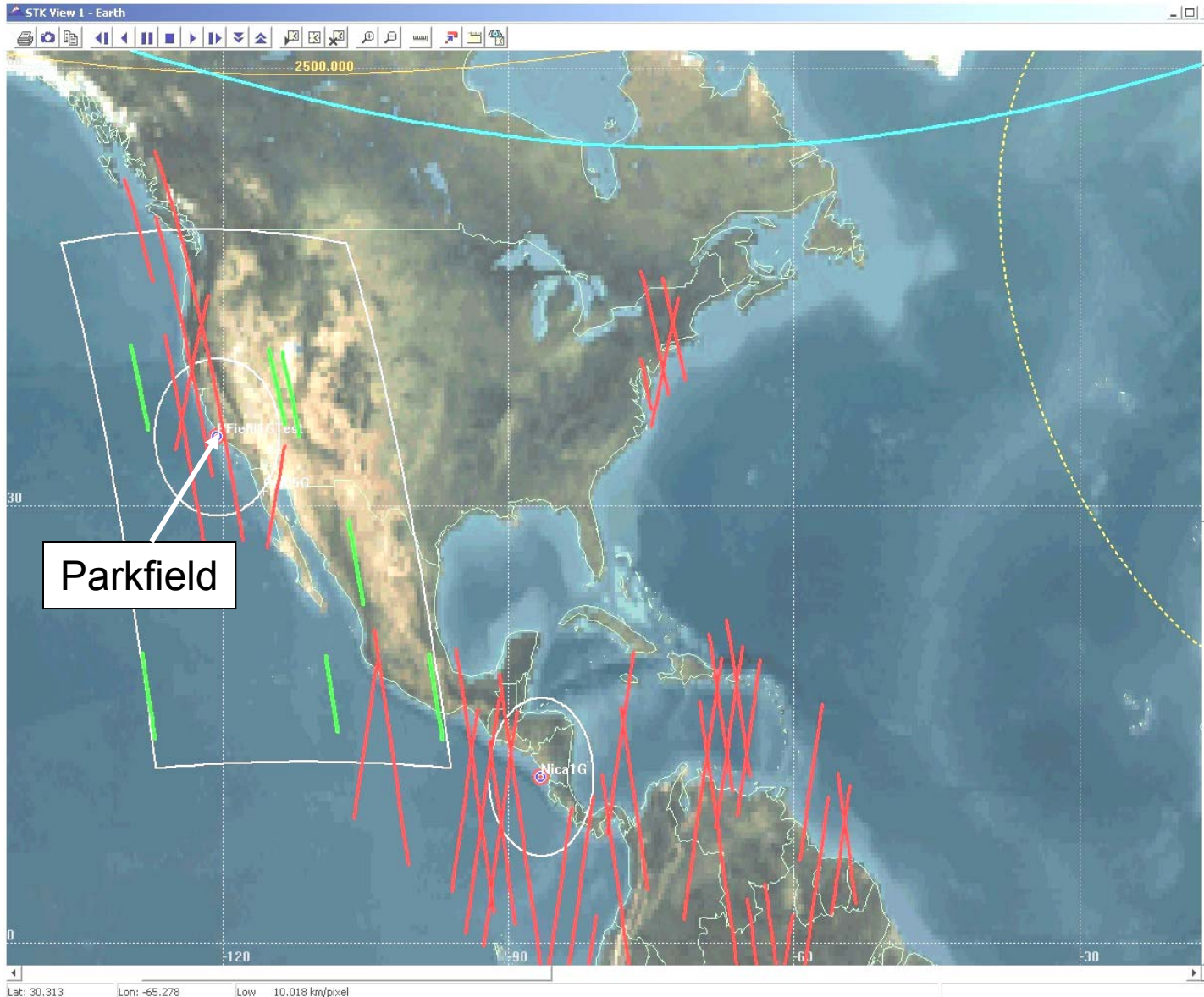
## Factors Influencing Propagation and reception S/N:

- Magnetic dipole moment (source signal strength)
- Depth of hypocenter
- Conductivity of rock structure
- Frequency of signal (skin effect)
- Distance of epicenter to sensor (coil)
- Direction of sensor from epicenter (along fault?)
- Sensitivity of sensor (instrument noise floor)
- Ambient area (man-made noise)
- Solar activity (noise)



# Satellite Coverage

Over Parkfield



## QuakeSat: (green)

- Power starved
- Few collections
- Bad geometry
- No signals

## DEMETER: (red)

- Mag Torque coils operating over Parkfield area