

## ECORD/ICDP – MagellanPlus Workshop Series Program http://www.essac.ecord.org

## Scientific report for ECORD MagellanPlus Workshop Series Program

# Submarine Paleoseismology: Using giant piston coring within IODP to fill the gap in long-term records of great earthquakes

Zürich, Switzerland July 16-18, 2015

**Report to ESSAC** 

by Michael Strasser Antonio Cattaneo Ken Ikehara Ceclia McHugh

## 1. SUMMARY

21st century earthquakes demonstrated that our perspective on earthquakes is limited by short historical and even shorter instrumental records. Such data are inadequate to fully characterize Earth's complex and multi-scale seismic behavior and its consequences. Examining prehistoric events preserved in the geological record is the only way to deliver observational data constraining theoretical earthquake recurrence models and assess extreme worst-case scenarios of future great earthquakes. Many large earthquakes affect offshore environments. Shaking of seafloor can trigger landslides or surficial sediment resuspension that evolve downslope into debris flows and turbidity currents, and mud density flows, respectively. In subaquatic environments, the sedimentary record provides high sensitivity and continuity, so extreme-event deposits are better preserved and easier to date than their terrestrial counterparts. The concept of studying subaquatic event deposits for paleoseismology is increasingly being applied in various settings. These studies, which are mostly based on conventional 10-m-long cores, demonstrate the potential to advance our understanding of earthquake recurrence. However, due mostly to the lack of longer cores, these studies often focus on time periods too short to provide robust input for long-term seismicity evaluation and advanced seismic hazard assessments. With ECORD opening their mission specific platform (MSP) approach to include giant piston coring within IODP, a new horizon has opened up for designing and performing objective-driven multi-coring expeditions fully dedicated to the rapidly growing field of submarine paleoseismology. IODP is uniquely positioned to address the complex feedback mechanisms between earthquake shaking and its manifestation in the marine archive, to eventually provide longer records to constrain earthquake recurrence far beyond historical catalogues.

The workshop was held in Zürich from 16-18 July 2015 to discuss and define a strategy how and where we could best make use of giant piston coring efforts within IODP to make some major advancements in submarine paleoseismology. 59 participants (24 students/early-career scientists) from 14 countries, and representing a broad spectrum of expertise ranging from marine geology to seismology, attended the workshop. The first day was devoted to overview presentation of major scientific themes and questions. This set the ground for the following group discussion that generically discussed objectives, needs, opportunities and challenges for submarine paleoseismology within IODP. The second day featured several presentations and posters by participants about their own perspective on the state-of-the-art and future opportunities for submarine paleoseismology, followed by group discussion to identify potential study areas and scientific approaches.

Already before the workshop, we had identified the Japan Trench as an ideal study area and submitted an IODP Pre Proposal (Proposal 866-Pre, Japan Trench Paleoseismology). Workshop discussion during the first two days revealed endorsement of the Japan Trench as a primary target for understanding causes, consequence and recurrence of submarine earthquake and tsunamis. The 3<sup>rd</sup> day was dedicated to develop IODP Proposal 866 full based on input from the previous workshop days. The constructive discussions and clearly defined action plan constitute a critical step towards the development of a competitive full proposal, with submission date targeted in 2016. Furthermore, the workshop also identified high potential for the application of submarine paleoseismology within IODP to advance our understanding of long-term earthquake histories in the Mediterranean Sea, and the Hikurangi and Cascadian Margins. Workshop discussion nurtured emerging needs and great opportunities for these regions, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of the workshop also featured group discussion to define action plans to beginning to develop additional IODP submarine paleoseismology proposals.

## 2. RATIONAL AND OBJECTIVES OF THE SUBMARINE PALEOSESIMOLOGY WORKSHOP

As awakened by the unexpectedly destructive force of nature during recent 21<sup>st</sup> century great earthquakes, it is now becoming increasingly clear that our perspective of earthquakes is limited by short historical and even shorter instrumental records. Such data are inadequate to fully characterize Earth's complex and multi-scale seismic behavior and its consequences. Examining prehistoric events preserved in the geological record is the only way to deliver observational data constraining theoretical earthquake recurrence models and assess extreme worst-case scenarios of future great earthquakes.

Many (and mostly all subduction zone) large earthquakes affect offshore environments. Shaking of seafloor can trigger landslides or surficial sediment resuspension that evolve downslope into debris flows and turbidity currents, and mud density flows, respectively. Widespread shaking causes nearly synchronous sediment instability at widely separated sites, producing widely distributed event deposits, a coincidence not expected with most other trigger for sediment density flows. Exceptional super-typhoons might have comparable spatial footprints, but initiation of sediment remobilization would be limited to relatively shallow waters. In subaquatic environments, the sedimentary record provides high sensitivity and continuity, so extreme-event deposits are better preserved and easier to date than their terrestrial counterparts. Due to the eustatic sealevel fluctuation, for example, coastal records (e.g. tsunami deposits) only cover the last 8 ka of Holocene highstand.

The concept of using turbidites for paleoseismology has been applied along various subduction zones. These studies, which are mostly based on conventional 10-m-long cores, demonstrate the potential to advance our understanding of earthquake recurrence. However, due mostly to the lack of longer cores, these studies often focused on time periods too short to provide robust input for long-term seismicity evaluation and advanced seismic hazard assessments. Some recent studies, tracking inferred earthquake-related event deposits further back in time by investigating records cored by the CALYPSO coring system demonstrate the potential of using giant piston coring for paleoseismologic applications. These studies, however, mostly have been performed on cores initially taken with some primary paleo-oceanographic objectives and site location might not have been optimized for paleoseismologic objectives. Site localization is a key issue, however, since feedback between earthquake shaking and its eventual manifestation in the stratigraphic record are complicated, as there is no simple relationship between initiating process, type of flow and resulting deposits. Several studies also found rather fragmentary records. Consequently, there is an ongoing debate about caveats and criteria for reliable interpretations of turbidites, especially with respect to recognition of their triggering mechanisms.

With ECORD opening their mission specific platform (MSP) approach to include giant piston coring within IODP, a new horizon has opened up for designing and performing objective-driven multi-coring expeditions fully dedicated to the rapidly growing field of submarine paleoseismology. The multi-disciplinary framework of scientific "ocean discovery" has evolved from an exercise in recovering a basic record of ocean and earth history towards the investigation of the detailed dynamics of interrelated driving processes. Thus, **IODP is uniquely positioned to** also address the complex feedback mechanisms between earthquake shaking and its manifestation in the marine archive, to **eventually provide longer records to constrain earthquake recurrence** far beyond historical catalogues. This

directly will help addressing **IODP** science plan Challenge 12, with potential partnerships to other programs of international earthquake and seismic hazard research (e.g. ESC, NEHRP, NIED).

We have identified the Japan Trench as an ideal study area and submitted an IODP Pre Proposal (Proposal 866-Pre, Japan Trench Paleoseismology) using a multi-coring approach by MSP giant piston coring to recover continuous upper Pleistocene-to-Holocene stratigraphic successions comprising event-deposits, for which the detailed stratigraphic fingerprint and spatial-temporal distribution can be analyzed for proxy-evidence of great earthquakes. There is a high potential of using turbidites and other sedimentary features to reconstruct a long history of great earthquakes off NE Japan. Proposal 866-Pre has the following objectives:

**Objective 1:** Identify the sedimentological, physical, chemical, and biogeochemical proxies of event deposits in the sedimentary archive that allow for confident recognition and dating of past earthquakes.

**Objective 2:** Explore the spatial and temporal distributions of such proxies and investigate how they relate to fault characteristics and rupture areas of great earthquakes across the entire Japan Trench subduction system

**Objective 3:** Elucidate the long-term recurrence pattern of events similar to 2011 Tohoku earthquake

Our Proposal was positively reviewed by the Science Evaluation Panel (SEP) in January 2015: According to the Evaluation Letter, "SEP was pleased to see this new proposal and believe there is scope to provide important testing and development of a technique being increasingly used for hazard assessment" and "strongly" encouraged us to develop a Full proposal. Furthermore, SEP stated that "Although care must be taken with applying the method of turbidite paleoseismology, the panel did feel that significant progress, with global applicability, can be made in the Japan Trench in testing and developing the technique, initially building on what sedimentary deposits were generated from the 2011 event itself"

With this encouragement this workshop aimed at developing the full proposal for Japan Trench Paleoseismology. We aim at creating a highly competitive proposal with strong potential for opening new avenues of research in the field of submarine paleoseismology. Therefore, the workshop aimed at more general discussing among experts ranging from marine geologists to seismologists to define the best strategy *how* and *where* we could best make use of giant piston coring efforts within IODP. This included critically reviewing the various approaches to identify gaps, challenges and potential for further development within and eventually strengthening the Japan Trench Paleoseismology proposal. Furthermore, participants were encouraged to design ideas for additional proposal.

In summary, the workshop aimed at featuring high-level discussion and stimulating new avenues for the rapidly growing submarine paleoseismology community.

## 3. PARTICIPANTS

\* PhD students or early career scientist, Cursive supported by ECORD Magellan Plus fund

Name	First Name	Affiliation	Country
*Allin	Joshua	National Oceanography Centre Southampton (NOCS)	UK
*Arai	Kazuno	Japan Agency for Marine Earth Science and Technology (JAMSTEC)	Japan
Barnes	Phil	National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA)	New Zealand
Beck	Christian	University of Grenoble	France
*Beeson	Jeff	Oregon State University	U.S.
*Bernhardt	Anne	University of Potsdam	Germany
Brother	Daniel	United States Geological Survey (USGS)	U.S.
Cattaneo	Antonio	Institut Français de Recherche pour l'Exploitation de la Mer (IFREMER)	France
Chapron	Emanuel	Université Toulouse	France
*Clare	Mike	National Oceanography Centre Southampton (NOCS)	UK
Dalla Valle	Giacomo	Istituto ISMAR/CNR - Institute of Marine Sciences, Bologna	Italy
Eglinton	Timothy	ETH Zürich	Switzerland
Fäh	Donat	ETH Zürich	Switzerland
Goldfinger	Chris	Oregon State University	U.S.
*Grall	Céline	Lamont / Columbia Univ.	U.S.
Guiterrez-Pastor	Julia	ETH Zürich	Switzerland
*Guyard	Hervé	Institut de Physique du Globe de Paris	France
*Hausmann	Rachel	Orgegon State University	U.S.
Howarth	Jamie	GNS Science	New Zealand
Ikehara	Ken	Geological Survey of Japan, AIST	Japan
*Kioka	Arata	University of Tokyo	Japan
Kodaira	Shuichi	Japan Agency for Marine Earth Science and Technology (JAMSTEC)	Japan
*Kremer	Katrina	ETH Zürich	Switzerland
Kürcer	Akin	General Directorate of Mineral Research and Exploration (MTA)	Turkey
Lamarche	Geoffroy	National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA)	New Zealand
Leau	Helene	Institut Polaire Français (IPEV)	France
Malgesini	Giuseppe	D'Appolonia S.p.A Geosciences	Italy
Marco	Shmulik	Tel Aviv University	Israel
McHugh	Cecilia	QueensCollege, Columbia Univ.	U.S.
Meier (Coble)	Katherine	United States Geological Survey (USGS)	U.S.
Moernaut	Jasper	Univ. Austral da Chile	Chile

## PARTICIPANTS (continued) \* PhD students or early career scientist, Cursive supported by ECORD Magellan Plus fund

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Nakamura Vasuvuki Janan Agency for Marine Farth Science and Technology (IAMSTEC)	
Tasayani Japan Agency for Marine Latti Science and Technology (JAMISTEC)	apan
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*Patton Jay Humbodt State University U.	.S.
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*Pouderoux Hugo Univ. Rennes Fra	rance
Proust Jean Noel Centre national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS) Renne Fra	rance
*Reusch Anna ETH Zürich Sw	witzerland
*Rui Bao ETH Zürich Sw	witzerland
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## 4. WORKSHOP AGENDA

Thursday July 16 (Day 1)				
Start		Session	Leading person	
8:30	9:00	Registration and gathering		
9:00	9:15	Welcome, Introductions & Workshop Goals	Michi Strasser, Tim Egliton	
9:15	9:45	MSP Giant Piston Coring within IODP, Calypso coring system on Marion Dufresne, giant piston coring on new JAMSTEC vessel	Antonio Cattaneo, Helene Leau, and Shuichi Kodaira	
9:45	10:15	KEYNOTE: Can we reconcile seismicity analysis and paleoseismology?	Stefan Wiemer	
10:15	10:45	Coffee Break and Posters	SV Service	
10:45	11:15	KEYNOTE: dynamic loadings related to earthquake shaking and soil behavior	Nabil Sultan	
11:15	11:45	KEYNOTE: Triggers and dynamics of Sediment gravity flows	Pete Talling	
11:45	12:15	KEYNOTE: Seismic Sediment Gravity flows: Implications for active tectonic margin deposits & Stratigraphy	Hans Nelson	
12:15	12:45	KEYNOTE: Earthquake triggered sedimentation: lessons learned and future challenges	Cecila McHugh	
12:45	14:00	Lunch at venue and Posters	SV Service	
14:00	15:30 BREAKOUT SESSIONS, to discuss objectives, needs, opportunities and challenges			

- Group I: What do we need to learn/know about "earthquake site characterization", site precondition, other processes affecting site location etc, from auxiliary studies accompanying giant piston coring efforts?
- Group II: What type of sampling and analyses are needed to develop (earthquake) event stratigraphy. What auxiliary studies can be done on giant piston cores retrieved with paleoseismological objectives
- Group III: What types of results are needed from the paleo record as robust input to earthquake statistics (randomness, cycles, clusters)? How about dealing with uncertainties, incomplete records, what is statistically relevant etc.?

what	is statisti	cally relevant etc.?		•		
15:30	16:00	Coffee Break and Posters SV Service				
16:00	17:30	Report and Discussion from Break out groups: 15 min summary presentation -15 min Discussion / group	Group leaders			
17:30	18:00	Plenary Discussion and Wrap up Day 1	Steeri	ing Committee		
19:45		Social Dinner @ Zeughauskeller				
		http://www.zeughauskeller.ch/en/home				
	Friday July 17 (Day 2)					
Start		Session Leading pers		Leading person		
8:30	10:15	Presentation by participants about their own perspective on state-of-the-art and				
	future opportunities for submarine paleoseismology					
Ikehara, K.		Turbidite paleoseismology along the Japan Trench				
Polina, A.		Seismo-tubidite sedimentation in the Ionian Sea				
Sumner, E. Turbidite Palaeoseismology and the Sumatran Margin						
Pouderoux, H. Turbidite paleoseismology of the northern Hikurangi subduction margin of NZ						
Barnes, Ph. Advancing Hikurangi subduction paleoseismology: Where to from here?  Shoulik M. Doad Sea Fault seismites preserved in drill cores and outgroups: Ashiovements and open issues.						
Shmulik, M. Dead Sea Fault seismites preserved in drill cores and outcrops: Achievements and open issues  Spiess, V. The Shelf Canyon Swatch of No Ground – The role of earthquakes and other triggers for the						
supply mechanisms to the world's largest sedimentary fan system						
10:15	10:45	Coffee Break and Posters SV Service				
10:45	12:30	Presentation by participants continued				
Cattaneo, A. Holocene Paleoseismology from the Algerian Margin						
Beck, Ch.	Beck, Ch. Local estimation of paleo-magnitudes along an active fault strand using co-seismic sedimentary					
events: an attempt for the Sea of Marmara's Central Basin						

Clare, M.	term cored sequences?		can we best acquire and analyse long-		
Onder Woo		A Holistic View of Sediment Dispersal in Subduction Zones, with Implications for Paleoseismology			
Goldfinger	finger, C. Location, Location, Location: An illustrated guide to site selection and sediment dynamics for subduction plate boundaries			sediment dynamics for	
Seeber, L.	•				
12:30	14:00	Lunch at venue and Posters		SV Service	
14:00	15:30	BREAKOUT SESSIONS, to identify potential study	areas with sp	pecific objectives,	
I		needs, opportunities and challenges:			
	_	ps may be defined either by seismotectonic setting	-		
settin	g, resear	ch disciplines or others depending on input from 1	st day discuss	ion	
15:30	16:00	Coffee Break and Posters		SV Service	
16:00	17:30	Report and Discussion from Break out groups: 15 min Group leaders		Group leaders	
		summary presentation -15 min Discussion for each group			
17:30	18:00	Plenary Discussion and Wrap up Day 1 Steering Comm		Steering Committee	
		Saturday July 18 (Day 3)			
•		ed to develop the 866Full Japan Trench Paleoseismo	• .	•	
out grou	ıps forme	ed to discuss potential for proposal development in the Hikurangi Margin	the Mediteri	ranean Sea and along	
Start		Session	Person who takes the lead		
8:30	9:30	Review of PrePropsal 866-Pre and SEP	Mike Underwood		
		evaluation in light of the previous two			
		workshop days and Project Strategy Discussion			
9:30	10:00	Update on Site survey data and future data	Yasu Nakamura and Shuichi		
		acquisition plans & Discussion about needs	Kodaira		
10.00	10,20	and priorities  Coffee Break and Posters	CV/ Compiler		
10:00	10:30		SV Service		
10:30	11:00	Update from recent piston-coring and upcoming coring campaigns & Discussion	Ken Ikehara	,	
		about needs and priorities			
		about ficcus and priorities			

Continued project strategy discussion, Discuss

strawman proposal outline and break-groups /

Reports Break out groups & defining schedule

**Steering Committee** 

SV Service

SV Service

**Group Leaders** 

Steering Committee

BREAKOUT SESSIONS, detailed outline, figures, references and identification of

11:00

12:00

13:30

15:00

15:30

16:30

12:00

13:30

15:00

15:30

16:30

writing groups

Lunch at venue and Posters

Coffee Break and Posters

and further action plan

action items and writing tasks

Wrap up day 3 and closing remarks

A II:	La alazza	Posters @display throughout the workshop
Allin	Joshua	Different controls on canyon filling and flushing events in Central Portuguese Margin canyons
Arai	Kazuno	Possibility for the occurrence of tsunami-generated turbidity currents: Insights from the 2011 Tohoku-Oki Earthquake.
Barnes	Phil	Advancing Hikurangi subduction paleoseismology: Where to from here?
Beeson	Jeff	Mapping the Northern Segment of the San Andreas Fault: Fault Zone Characteristic & Turbidite Paleoseismology
Bernhardt	Anne	Potentially suitable sectors for turbidite paleoseismology along the Chilean continental margin
Brother	Daniel	Marine paleoseismic studies along the U.S. West Coast and Alaska: highlights from the USGS Coastal and Marine Geology Program
Chapron	Emanuel	Paleoseismological potential of fjords basin fills located at plate boundaries : a case study from Reloncavi Fjord, Northern Patagonia, Chile
Dalla Valle	Giacomo	Submarine Landslides in the South-Adriatic basin: implications for paleoseismic analysis and margin sedimentation
Goldfinger	Chris	Land-Marine Paleoseismic Integration for the Washington Cascadia Margin
Grall	Céline	Title related to submarine paleoseismology
Guyard	Hervé	Paleoseismology in the Lesser Antilles arc from offshore turbidites (expeditions GWADASEIS, IODP 340, and CASEIS)
Hausmann	Rachel	Marine and lacustrine paleoseismology: How turbidite records within a narrow latitudinal zone reveal seismic shaking levels of great historic Cascadia earthquakes
Kioka	Arata	Submarine mud volcanoes as very-long term natural paleoseismometers
Kremer	Katrina	Non-seismic forcing of submarine landslide along convergent margins
Kürcer	Akin	General Directorate of Mineral Research and Exploration (MTA) of Turkey: Active Tectonic, Paleoseismology and Marine Researches
Meier (Coble)	Katherine	Influence of depositional environment on turbidite records: Examples from high-resolution datasets offshore southern California
Moernaut	Jasper	What can we learn from Chilean lake turbidites?
Palamenghi	Luisa	The SoNG' Sand Pile: A simplified autigenic sedimentary dynamic system
Rui	Вао	Determination of Radiocarbon Age Distributions of Organic Matter in Hadal Sediments in the Japan Trench by Ramped PyrOx/AMS
San Pedro	Laurine	Possible origin and sedimentary processes of megaturbidites in the Ionian Sea (Central Mediterranean Sea)
Seeber	Leonard	Mega-turbidites in the Lomboc forearc Basin of the Sunda Arc: Markers for deformation in mega-earthquakes?
Strasser	Michael	Tracking past earthquakes in the Sediment record along the Japan Trench. The IOD Proposal 866-Pre "JTRACK-PaleoSEIS"
Sugisaki	Saiko	Optical dating for marine sediments: implications for sedimentation mechanisms
Szczucisnki	Witold	Tsunami / storm sedimentary record on outer continental shelf of Andaman Sea
Reusch	Anna	Correlative landslide and sediment expulsion deposits as paleoseismic tools
Tappin	David	Title related to submarine paleoseismology

#### 5. OUTCOMES OF THE WORKSHOP

The workshop was highly successful in accomplishing the following:

- Compiling and discussing objectives of submarine paleoseismology that can be addressed by giant piston coring research within IODP.
- There while also identifying needs and challenges in understanding the sedimentary environment and seismotectonic setting by site survey analyses and ancillary projects as key prerequisite for successful submarine paleoseismology studies
- Assembling and sharing state of knowledge from existing data and projects across various sedimentary and tectonics regimes
- Discussing strategies in selecting potential coring sites and determining the specific mythologies (in particular chronostratigraphic methods) to be applied on core data to meet the science objectives
- Fully involving early career researches in leading group discussion and participating in the workshop
- Starting the process of IODP proposal developments (i.e. endorsement of the Japan Trench as a primary target for understanding causes, consequence and recurrence of submarine earthquake and tsunamis (developing IODP Proposal 866 full for submission targeted in 2016), as well as also identifying high potential for the application of submarine paleoseismology within IODP to advance our understanding of long-term earthquake histories in the Mediterranean Sea, and the Hikurangi and Cascadian Margins.

#### 6. POST WORKSHOP ACTION PLAN

Following the workshop in July the workshop group is working together to

- Write a white paper highlighting needs and opportunities of submarine paleoseismology within IODP aiming at contribution to *Scientific Drilling* in 2016.
- Organize a session on Mediterranean Sea Paleoseismology during the upcoming EGU conference in April 2016
- Co-editing a thematic issue on submarine paleoseismology to be published by Marine Geology in 2016
- Continuing joint efforts in Japan Trench site-survey data collection and compilation to strengthen input to IODP Proposal 866 full, focusing on finalization of proposed coring sites selection feasible for Mission Specific Platform giant piston coring action
- Focusing objectives of Japan Trench paleoseismology proposal and clearly outlining how hypothesis would be tested through MSP giant piston coring
- Preparing submission of IODP Proposal 866 full in 2016

## 7. SPENDING OF THE MAGELLAN PLUS GRANT

The Magellan Plus workshop funds were € 15.000. Additional funding was provided by NSF through the U.S Science Support Program; and contributions by the Swiss National Science Foundation, the Swiss Academy of Science, the Swiss Seismological Service, the International Associations of Sedimentologists and ETH Zürich. These combined funds enabled participation of scientists regardless of their country of origin, a wider range of scientific expertise, more participation from early career scientists (including PhD students) and significant progress on development of the scientific theme and preparation of the MSP giant piston coring IODP proposals during the workshop.

The table below provides details of expenditure in EUR of the € 15.000 Magellan Plus grant

Travel and Accommodation support of 16 ECORD scientists (cursive in table 4 - Participants)	11194
Subsistence during the workshop	3806



Magellan Plus Workshop on Submarine Paleoseismology, July 16-18 2015, Zürich, Switzerland