

**A model of Seismic Focus and Related Statistical  
Distributions of Earthquakes**

**Application to Vrancea, Romania**

**Some other issues in Theoretical Seismology**

**apoma laboratory, 2005**

## Summary

- 1 Introduction
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- 3 A focus model
- 4 Temporal distribution, energy distribution
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## Introduction

- Little consensus
- A model of seismic focus, Omori-type parameter on geometrical grounds, time, energy and magnitude distributions, logarithmic distributions and recurrence law, seismicity rate and mean recurrence time; regular seisms
- Application to Vrancea, Romania

-Accompanying seismic activity, foreshocks and aftershocks, Omori's law, self-replication, Euler's relationship, , Bath's law, rate of released energy

-Amplification factors

-Non-linear elasticity; a non-linear wave equation with cubic anharmonicities

## Gutenberg-Richter law. Critical zone

Gutenberg-Richter law (1956-1935)

$$\ln E = a + bM, \quad E/E_0 = \exp(bM), \quad a \simeq 10, \quad b = 3.5$$

( $E$  in  $J$ ; errors up to a factor of 10)

Critical radius  $E \sim R^3$

$$\ln(R/R_0) = bM/3 \simeq 1.17M$$

Threshold energy, radius

## A model of Seismic Focus

$$\partial E / \partial t = -v \text{grad} E \sim (1/r) \frac{E + E_0}{t + t_0}, \quad r = 1/3$$

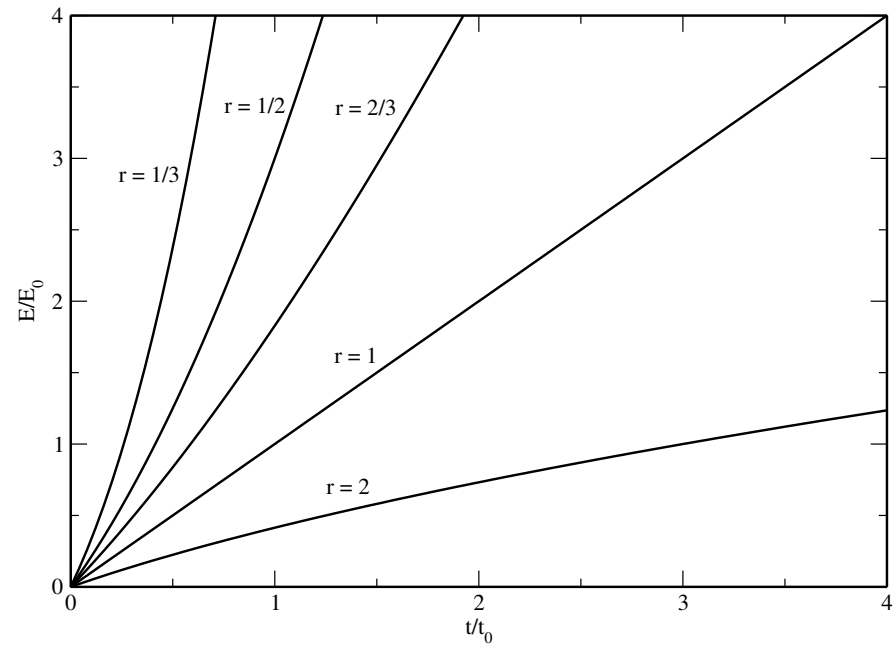
$$1 + t/t_0 = (1 + E/E_0)^r$$

(power-type, Omori-type law); geometric Omori-type parameter  $r$

Mean recurrence time

$$t = t_0 e^{\beta M}, \quad \beta = br = 1.17$$

Threshold time; rate of seismicity



Reduced energy vs reduced time for the focus model, for various  $r$  values



## Temporal distribution

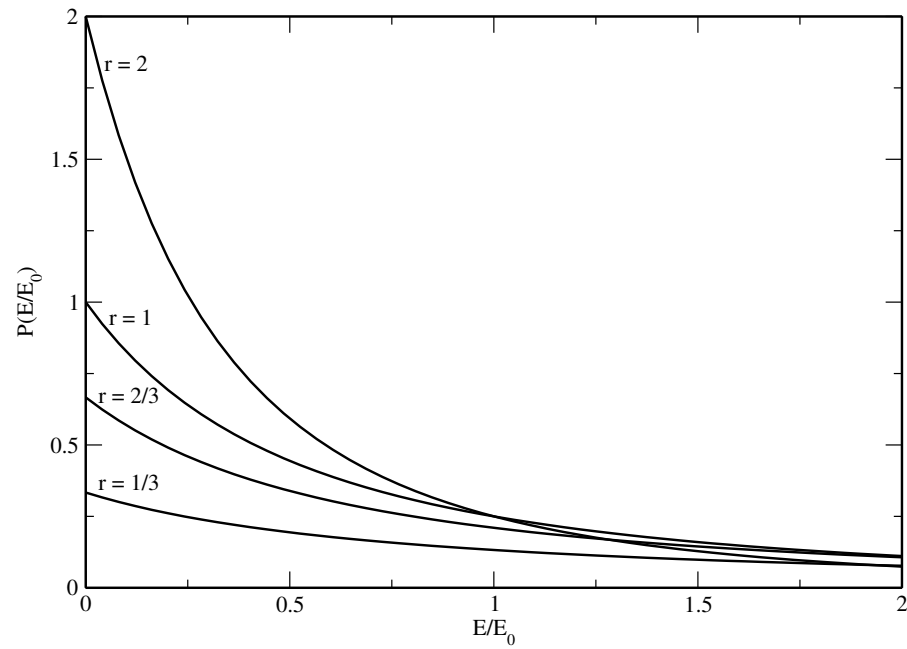
Temporal frequency:  $N_0 = T/t_0$ ,  $N = T/(t + t_0)$

$$N/N_0 \sim 1/(1 + t/t_0)$$

$$dN/N_0 = \frac{dt/t_0}{(1 + t/t_0)^2} = \frac{r}{E_0} \cdot \frac{dE}{(1 + E/E_0)^{1+r}}$$

Omori-type (power law) energy distribution

$$P(E)dE = \frac{r}{E_0} \cdot \frac{dE}{(1 + E/E_0)^{1+r}} \simeq \frac{rE_0^r}{E^{1+r}}dE$$



Energy probability distribution for various  $r$  values

## Magnitude distribution

$$P(M)dM = \frac{\beta e^{bM} dM}{(1 + e^{bM})^{1+r}} \simeq \beta e^{-\beta M} dM$$

Log distribution  $\lg(\Delta N/T) \sim A - BM$  , agreement empirical data  
( $\Delta M = 0.1$ )

$$A = \lg(\beta \Delta M/t_0) \simeq 4.6 , B \simeq 0.6 , 5.5 < M < 7.3$$

$$\beta = 2.3B \sim 1.38 \text{ vs } \beta = 1.17$$

-agreement. Seismicity rate:  $1/t_0 \sim 10^5 - 10^6$  per year (worldwide)

## Recurrence law

$$P_{ex} = 1/(1 + e^{bM})^r, \quad (> M)$$

$$\ln(N_{ex}/N_0) = -r \ln(1 + e^{bM}) \simeq -\beta M$$

$$\ln(N_{ex}/T) \simeq -\ln t_0 - \beta M$$

(a certain universality in  $B = \beta/2.3 \simeq 0.6$ )

## Mean recurrence time

$$t_r = t_0 e^{\beta M} \quad (> M) \quad \left(\text{or } \frac{t_0}{\beta \Delta M} e^{\beta M} \quad M \text{ to } M + \Delta M\right)$$

$$P_r = (1/t_r) e^{-t/t_r}$$

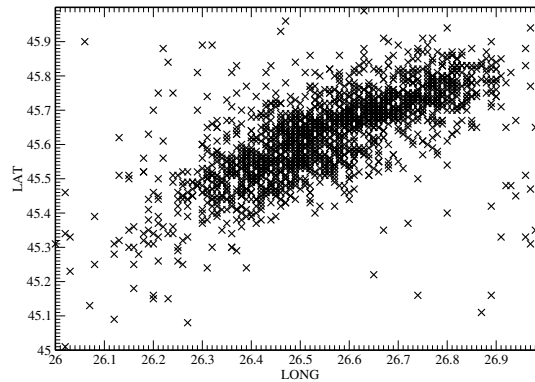
for fixed mean recurrence time (maximize the entropy!)

Accuracy  $\delta t_r = (\sqrt{2} - 1)t_r \Rightarrow 41\%$ ; little practical usefulness for prediction

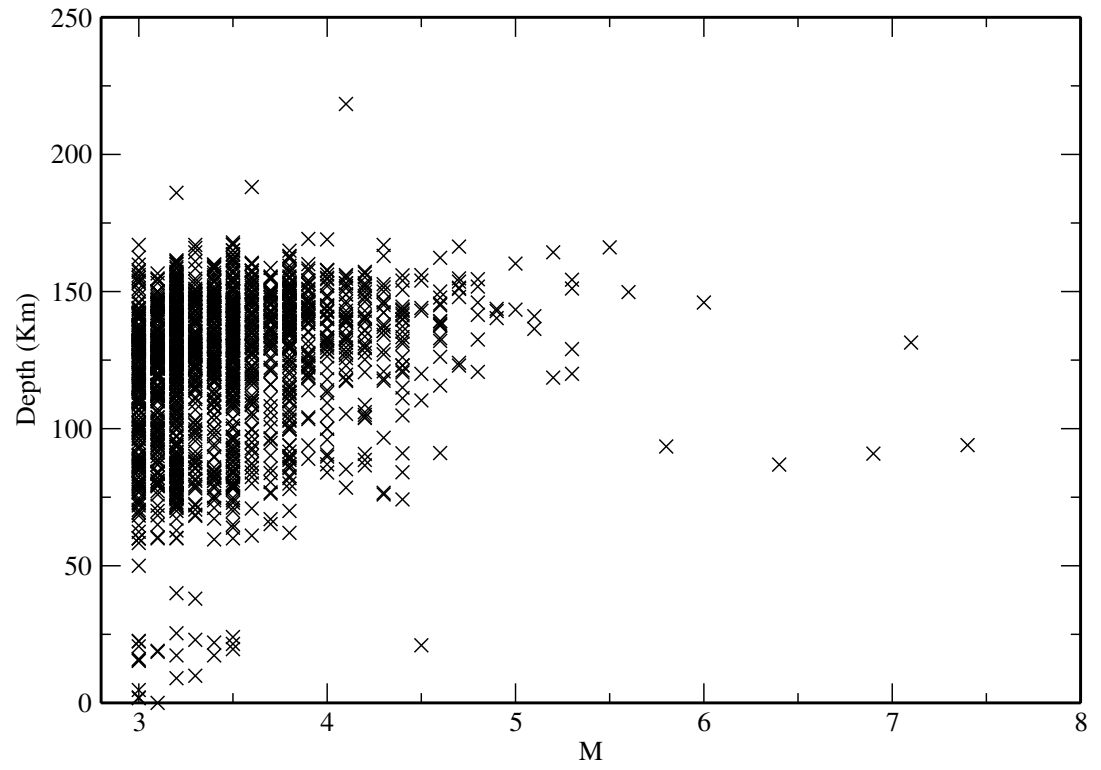
## Vrancea Earthquakes

1999 Vrancea earthquakes, (moment) magnitude  $M > 3$ , from 1974 to 2004 (30 years)

(Romanian Earthquake Catalogue, updated 2005)



Geographical distribution (latitude 45.7N, longitude 26.6E)



Depth distribution

Magnitude distribution (error  $\Delta M = 0.1$ )

M=3.0	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.9	4.0	4.1
$\Delta N=245$	230	362	143	176	230	109	72	147	56	48	41

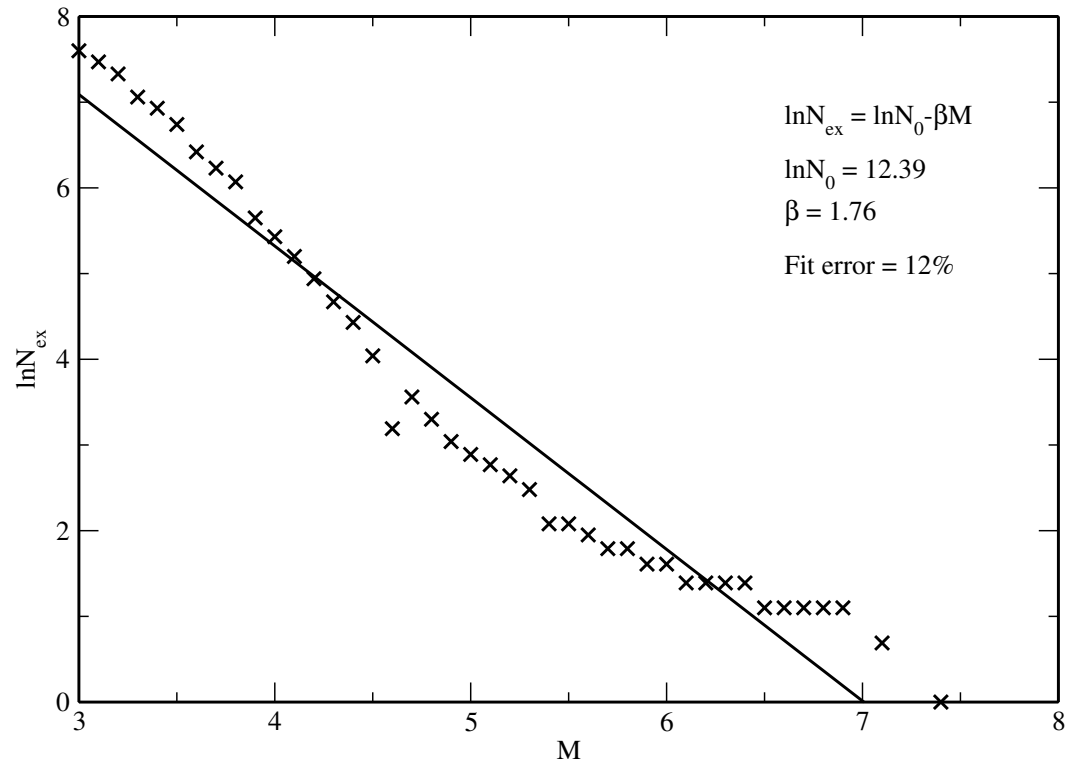
M=4.2	4.3	4.4	4.5	4.6	4.7	4.8	4.9	5.0	5.1	5.2	5.3
$\Delta N=33$	23	27	7	15	8	6	3	2	2	2	4

M=5.4	5.5	5.6	5.7	5.8	5.9	6.0	6.1	6.2	6.3	6.4	6.5	6.6	6.7
$\Delta N=0$	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0

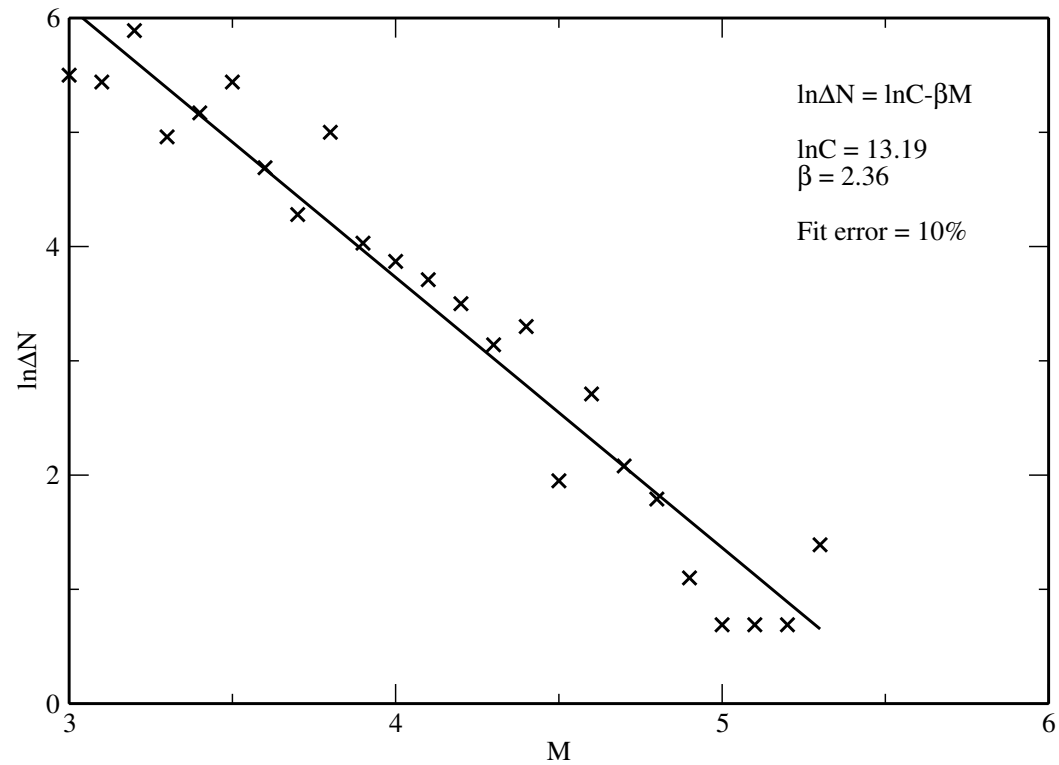
M=6.8	6.9	-	7.1	-	7.4
$\Delta N=0$	1	-	1	-	1



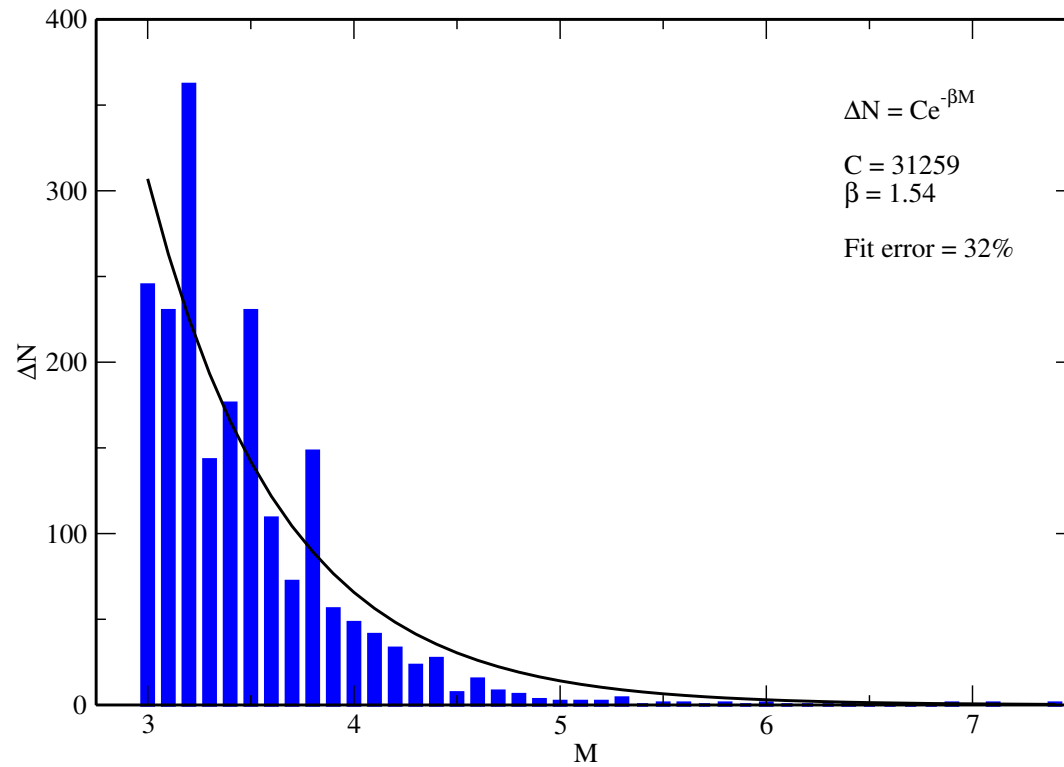
## Three fits



Recurrence law  $\ln N_{ex} = \ln N_0 - \beta M$  fitted to cumulative distribution



Logarithmic distribution  $\ln \Delta N = \ln C - \beta M$  fitted to data



Exponential distribution  $\Delta N = C \exp(-\beta M)$  fitted to data

## Conclusions:

-quality vs accuracy of the fits (as many data as possible, slow variation, little scattering)

-average fit parameters

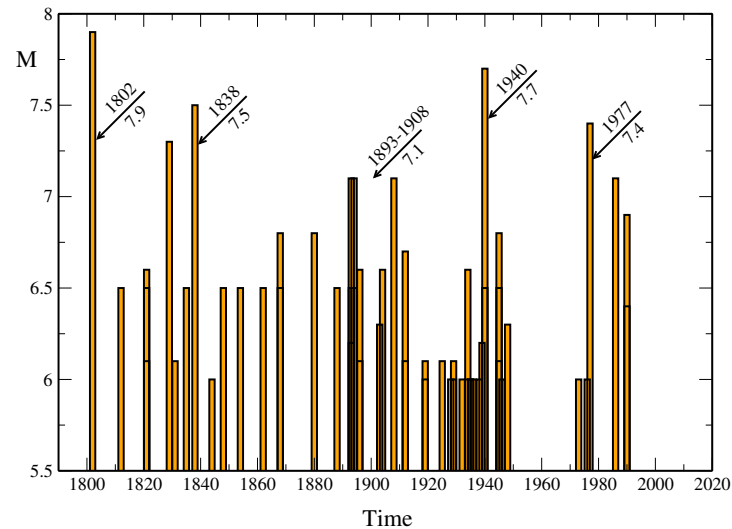
$$-\ln t_0 = 9.68, \beta = 1.89 \quad (B = \beta/2.3 = 0.82)$$

(18%)

$-r = 0.54$  ( $1/r = 1.85$ )  $\sim$  effective dimension 2 for Vrancea focal fault?

$-t_r$  34.9years (41% $\sim$ 14.3years)  $M > 7$

-logarithmic oscillations? (critical-point theory?)



Vrancea earthquakes with (moment) magnitude  $M > 6$  in the last two centuries (Romanian Earthquakes Catalogue, 2005)

1802,  $M=7.9$     1829,  $M=7.3$     1838,  $M=7.5$     1893,  $M=7.1$ ,    1894,  
 $M=7.1$     1908,  $M=7.1$     1940,  $M=7.7$     1977,  $M=7.4$     1986,  $M=7.$

## Accompanying seismic activity. Omori's law

- regular earthquakes vs foreshocks and aftershocks; main shock,  $|\tau|$
- generating distribution  $p(x)$ , any  $x$  (time, magnitude, energy)
- self-replication

$$P(x) = p(x) + r(x)P(x) = p(x) + \frac{p(x)}{p_0}P(x)$$

$$P(x) = \frac{p(x)}{1 - p(x)/p_0}$$

Euler's transform; singular at origin ( $p_0 = p(x = 0)$ ); generalized Omori's law

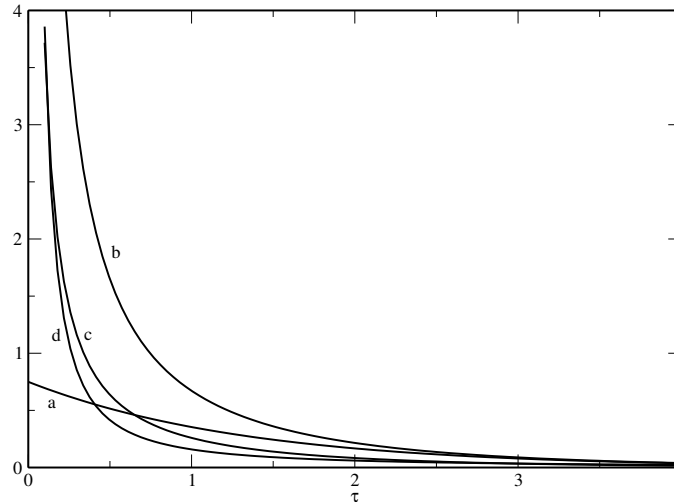
-self-consistency  $p(x + y) = p(x)r(y)$  , exponential  $p(x) = \alpha \exp(-\alpha x)$   
(generating distribution)

-time distribution ( $\alpha = 1/t'_c = 2/t_r$ , from  $|\tau| \rightarrow 0$ )

$$P(\tau) = \frac{\alpha}{\exp(\alpha\tau) - 1}$$

- $P(\tau) = \tau_c^{\gamma-1} / |\tau|^\gamma$  ,  $\gamma = 1^+$ ; Omori's law

-sudden fall, long tail



Exponential distribution  $\alpha \exp(-\alpha\tau)$  for  $\alpha = 0.75$  (curve *a*), self-replication distribution  $\alpha/[(\exp(\alpha\tau) - 1)]$  for  $\tau > \tau_c = 1$  (curve *b*), normalized self-replication distribution (curve *c*) and normalized Omori's law  $(\gamma - 1)\tau_c^{\gamma-1}/\tau^\gamma$  for  $\gamma = 1 - 1/\ln(\alpha\tau_c)$  (curve *d*). The normalized distributions exhibit a sudden fall, and a possible long tail for small  $\alpha$ .



## Bath's law

$$P(m) = \beta e^{-\beta|m|}, \quad \bar{m} = 0, \quad \delta m = (m^2)^{1/2} = \sqrt{2}/\beta$$

-average greatest aftershock by  $\sqrt{2}/\beta \simeq 1.2$  lower in magnitude ( $\beta = 1.17$ )

-distribution in "energy"

$$P(E) = (rE_0^r/E^{1+r})(1+E_0/E)^{-1-r} \rightarrow E_0(1+r)e^{-(1+r)E_0x}, \quad x = 1/E = 1/\varepsilon$$

-rate of released energy

$$dn/d\tau \sim 1/|\tau|, \quad d\varepsilon/d|\tau| = -(1+r)E_0t'_c/\tau^2$$

## Critical-point Theory

$$\frac{r}{E_0} \cdot \frac{dE}{(1 + E/E_0)^{1+r}} = Ah(\tau)dt, \quad \tau = t_c - t$$

$$h(\tau) = \frac{1 - m}{\tau_0} (\tau/\tau_0)^{-m}, \quad 0 < m < 1$$

$$\ln(E/E_0) \simeq -\frac{1 - m}{r} \ln(\tau/\tau_0)$$

$$\ln(R/R_0) \simeq -\frac{1 - m}{3r} \ln(\tau/\tau_0)$$

self-similarity  $h(\alpha\tau) = \beta h(\tau)$ ; logs oscillations  $\sim \cos(const \cdot \ln \tau)$

Critical exponent  $m$

$$E \sim \tau^{(m-1)/r} \iff d\varepsilon/d|\tau| \sim 1/\tau^2$$

$$m = 1 - 2r = 1/3?; = 0?$$

## Amplification factors

### 1 Local seismic effects. Forced linear harmonic oscillator with friction

$$m\ddot{x} + kx + \alpha\dot{x} = f, \quad \omega^2 = k/m, \quad \lambda = \alpha/2m\omega, \quad \omega' = \omega(1 - \lambda^2)^{1/2}$$

$$x = \frac{1}{\omega'} \int_0^t d\tau (f/m) e^{-\lambda\omega(t-\tau)} \sin \omega'(t - \tau)$$

**2 Resonance,**  $f = f_0 \cos \omega_0 t$

$$x = \frac{f_0}{2m\lambda\omega^2} (1 - e^{-\lambda\omega t}) \sin \omega t$$

Maximum displacement  $d_{max} = 2f_0/m\omega_0^2$  (from  $ac_{max} = f_0/m$ )

Displacement amplification factor

$$F_d = |x|_{max} / d_{max} \cong \frac{1}{4\lambda} (1 - e^{-\lambda(2k+1)\pi/2}), \quad \omega t \cong (2k+1)\pi/2, \quad k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

Typical values:  $F_d \simeq 1.18, 1.96, 2.75, 3.53$ ; on increasing time

Similarly for velocities (highest amplification) and accelerations

### 3 Shocks

$$f = -f_0 \Delta t e^{-\Delta^2 t^2 / 2}$$

Amplification

$$F_d = 1/\sqrt{2\pi e}, \quad F_v = 1, \quad F_a = 2.28,$$

concentrated in acceleration.

### 4 Local effects

-amplification factors different for different locations

-amplification decreases with increasing magnitude (empir, ?)→non-linear effects

-extended local effects (propagation of seismic waves)

## Non-linear elasticity

### 1 Axially anisotropic solid

Density of elastic energy

$$\mathcal{E}_{el} = \lambda u_{ii}^2 + \mu u_{ij}^2 + \tau u_{i3}^2 + \sigma u_{33}^2 + \nu u_{33} u_{ii}, \quad i, j = 1, 2$$

Elastic waves

$$\omega_1^2(\mathbf{q}) = \frac{1}{2\rho} (2\mu q_{\perp}^2 + \tau q_3^2)$$

$$\omega_{2,3}^2(\mathbf{q}) = \frac{1}{4\rho} ([4(\lambda + \mu) + \tau] q_{\perp}^2 + (\tau + 4\sigma) q_3^2 \pm \pm \left[ \left[ [4(\lambda + \mu) - \tau] q_{\perp}^2 + (\tau - 4\sigma) q_3^2 \right]^2 + 4(\tau + 2\nu)^2 q_3^2 q_{\perp}^2 \right]^{\frac{1}{2}})$$

- highly-non-linear dispersion (quartic, mode coupling)
- mixed polarizations
- extension to including non-linearities



## 2 Non-linear diffusion

-diffusion in complex-structure bodies, statistic fluid model, non-equilibrium; localization of seismic waves in heterogeneous structures; en diff like particles?

-non-linear diffusion equations

$$\frac{1}{S} \frac{\partial n}{\partial t} = \Delta n \pm A(\text{grad}n)^2$$

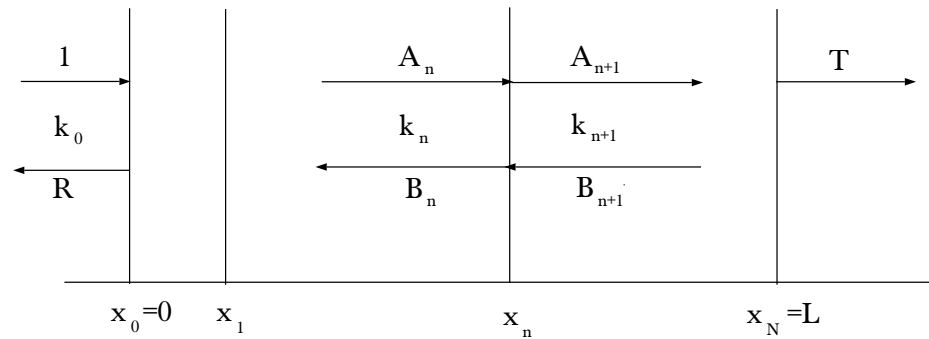
-solution (2-dimensional)

$$n \sim \frac{1}{A} \ln \left| \ln \left( r^2 / 4tS \right) \right|, \quad r^2 / 4tS \ll 1$$
$$n \sim -\ln \left| (r - r_0) / 2\sqrt{tS} \right|, \quad \left| (r - r_0) / 2\sqrt{tS} \right| \ll 1$$

-spatial auto-organization (disk, rings), slow diffusion fronts

### 3 Geometric rays approximation

-quasi-classical approximation, geometric optics, rays



$$\psi_n(x) = A_n e^{ik_n x} + B_n e^{-ik_n x}, \quad x_{n-1} < x < x_n, \quad n = 0, 1, \dots, N + 1$$

$$T e^{ikx} = M_N M_{N-1} \dots M_1 M_0 \begin{pmatrix} e^{ik_0 x} \\ R e^{-ik_0 x} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\psi(x) = \frac{C}{\sqrt{k(x)}} e^{\pm i \int_{x_0}^x k \cdot dx}$$

-refraction, advanced dispersion, defects in inhomogeneous structures

## 4 A non-linear equation of elastic waves

-longitudinal deformations, cubic anharmonicity

$$\partial^2 u / \partial t^2 = (\partial^2 u / \partial x^2) [v_l^2 + v^2 (\partial u / \partial x)]$$

-solution

$$u(t, x) = g(t - t_0) \int_0^x dx f(x - x_0) - (v_l/v)^2 x + c$$

$$g(t) = |s| \left[ \sqrt{3} \frac{1 - \operatorname{cn}(\sqrt{\sqrt{3}} |s| |\omega t|)}{1 + \operatorname{cn}(\sqrt{\sqrt{3}} |s| |\omega t|)} - 1 \right] \operatorname{sgn}(\omega^2), \quad g(0) = -s, \quad \dot{g}(0) = 0$$

$$f \sim |h| \operatorname{sgn}(\omega/v)^2 + (\omega/2v)^2 x^2, \quad x \sim 0; \quad f \sim (\omega/2v)^2 x^2, \quad x \rightarrow \pm\infty$$

-singularity of the solution

$$t_n = (4K/|\omega| \sqrt{\sqrt{3}|s|})(n + 1/2), \quad (K \simeq 4)$$

$$g \sim 1/\omega^2 (t - T)^2$$

-unbound energy, finite-time ruptures in structure, dislocations at spatial limits

-quasi-plane waves, asymptotic series

$$u = a \cos(\omega t - kx) + \frac{1}{16} \varepsilon a^2 k^2 (x + v_l t) \cos[2(\omega t - kx)] + \\ + \frac{1}{128} \varepsilon^2 a^3 k^4 (x + v_l t)^2 [\cos[3(\omega t - kx)] - \cos(\omega t - kx)] + \dots,$$

-perturbational parameters:  $\varepsilon = (v/v_l)^2$ ,  $ak \sim a/\lambda$ ,  $lk \sim (x + v_l t)/\lambda$

-finite-distance, finite-time non-linear effects, for small amplitudes

-amplification factors  $F = 1 + \varepsilon al/4\lambda^2$

-non-linear coupling, longitudinal ( $u$ ) and transverse ( $v$ ) deformations

$$u_0 = a \cos(\omega_1 t - k_1 x), \quad v_0 = b \cos(\omega_2 t - k_2 x); \quad v_1 = B \sin(\Omega t - K x), \\ \Omega = \omega_1 \pm \omega_2, \quad K = k_1 \pm k_2$$

-resonance

$$B = \frac{1}{2} abk_2 \frac{v_l^2 k_1 k_2}{\Omega^2 - v_t^2 K^2}, \quad \omega_2 = \omega_1 (1 + v_t/v_l)/2$$

-attenuation, different-directions coupling (directivity effects)