

# Summer School

## Shanghai Observatory

趙丰 Benjamin Fong Chao  
Institute of Earth Sciences  
Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan

# Outline

- Linear expansion
  - Vector space
  - Fourier analysis
  - Spherical harmonics
  - EOF/PCA
- Normal modes
  - of musical instruments
  - of Earth
- Inverse problems
- Earth's rotation
  - “Astronomical”
  - “Geophysical”
- Gravity and Geomagnetism

# Vector space

- Dimensionality
- Addition
- Null vector
- Scaling / multiplication
- Unit vector
- Inner product
- norm
- Basis
- Projection / component

# Tensor of degree $n$

- Scalar ( $n = 0$ )
- Vector ( $n = 1$ )
- Tensor of  $n = 2$ ; (matrix)
  - stress
  - strain
- Tensor of  $n = 4$ :
  - elasticity / compliance

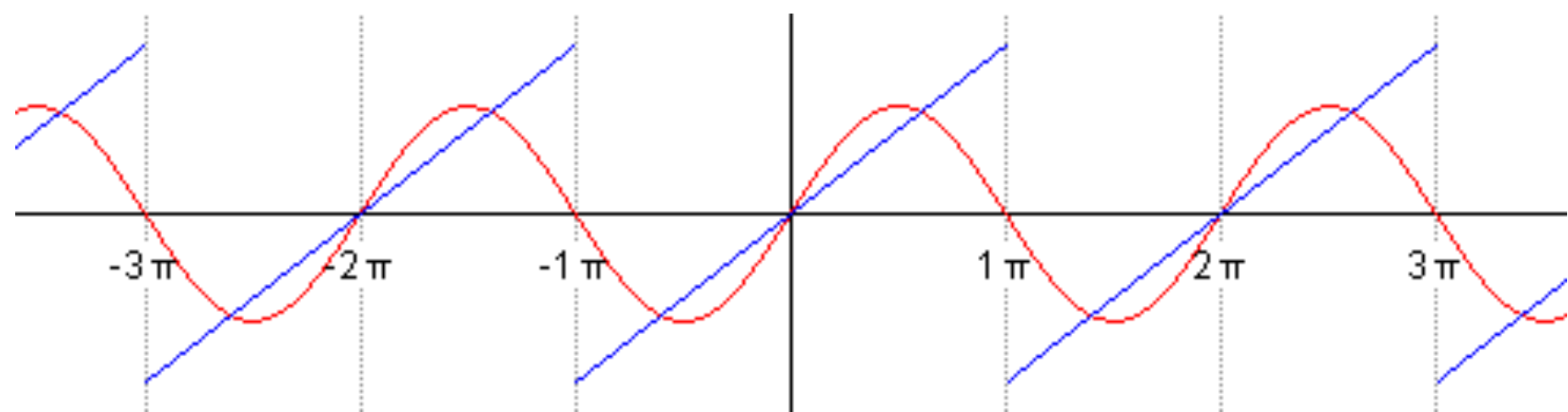
$$\sigma_{ij} = c_{ijkl} \epsilon_{kl}$$

# Hilbert space

- “Function space”
- Infinite dimension
- domain
- Inner product
- Orthogonality
- Basis function
- Completeness

# Fourier analysis

- Basis function = sinusoids
- Cartesian coordinates of dimension  $n$
- Orthogonal
- Complete



# Spherical Harmonics

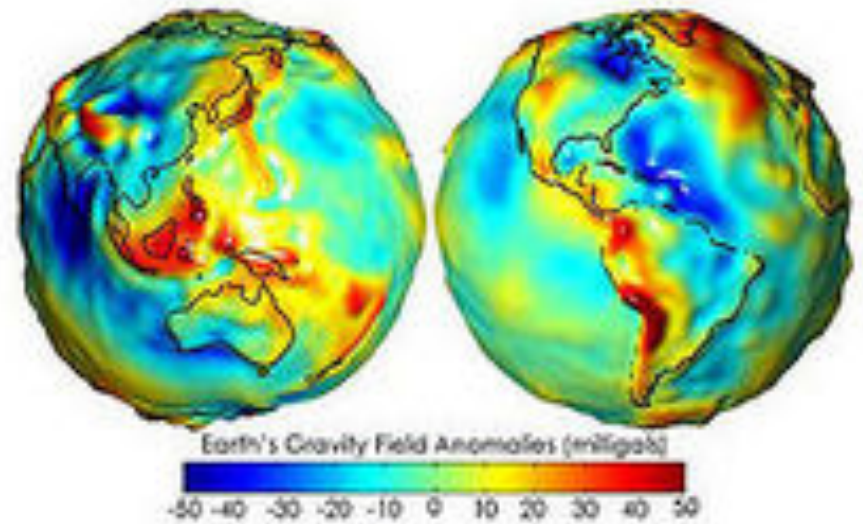
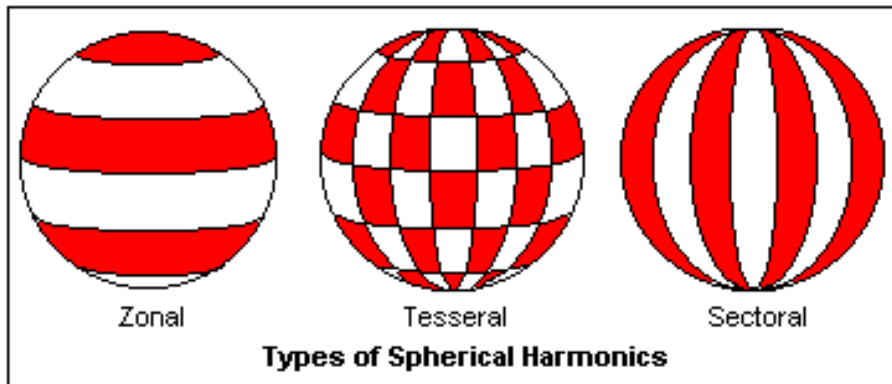
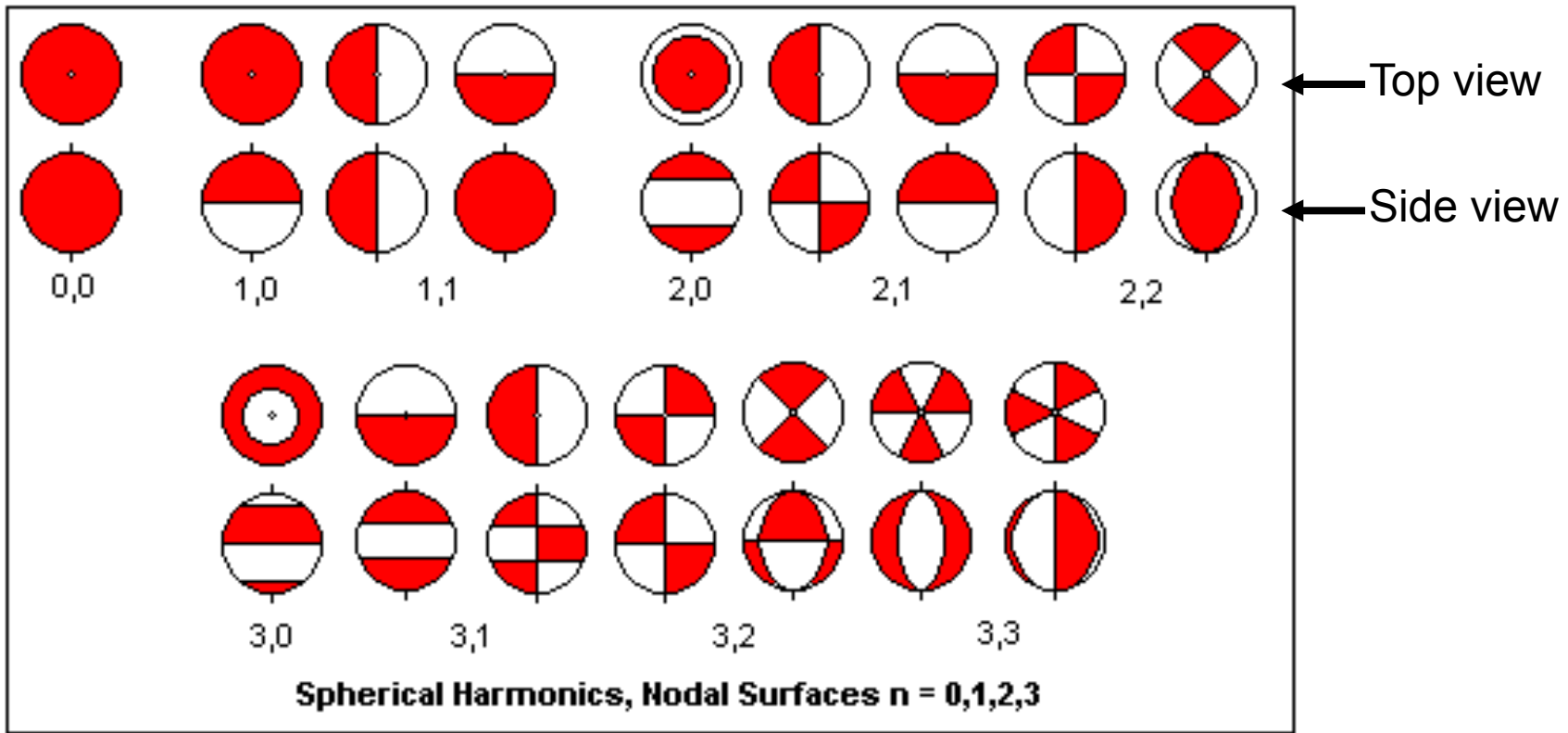
- Spherical coordinates
- Satisfying Laplace equation
- Solid harmonics (3-D)
- Surface harmonics (2-D)
- Legendre functions
- Orthogonal
- Complete



$$Y_l^m(\theta, \phi) = \sqrt{\frac{2l+1}{4\pi} \frac{(l-m)!}{(l+m)!}} P_l^m(\cos \theta) e^{im\phi}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} Y_{00} = \frac{1}{(4\pi)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \\ Y_{10} = \left(\frac{3}{4\pi}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \cos(\theta) \\ Y_{1\pm 1} = \mp \left(\frac{3}{8\pi}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \sin(\theta) e^{\pm i\phi} \\ Y_{20} = \left(\frac{5}{16\pi}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} (3 \cos^2(\theta) - 1) \\ Y_{2\pm 1} = \mp \left(\frac{15}{8\pi}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \cos(\theta) \sin(\theta) e^{\pm i\phi} \\ Y_{2\pm 2} = \left(\frac{15}{32\pi}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \sin^2(\theta) e^{\pm 2i\phi} \end{array} \right.$$

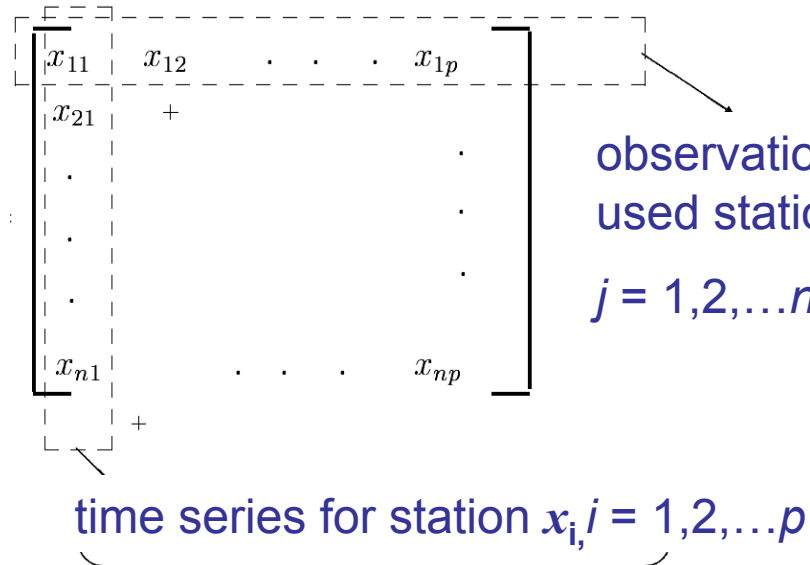
$$\int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\pi (Y_l^m)^* Y_{l'}^{m'} \sin \theta d\theta d\phi = \delta_{ll'} \delta_{mm'}$$



# EOF (Empirical Orthogonal Function)

- decomposing data matrix into “mode of standing-oscillations”
- presented by spatial pattern and temporal series.

Data matrix  $D(x,t)$ :



Decomposed:  $D(x, t) = \sum_i S_i(x) T_i(t),$

EOF = the eigen-solutions of the covariance matrix of  $D : R = D^T D$

Spatial pattern  $S_i(x)$  = eigenvectors (orthogonal)

Time series  $T_i(t)$  = projection of  $F$  onto the  $i$ -th eigenvector (orthogonal)

% variance = eigen-value

# Normal modes

- Musical instrument
  - Wave equation
  - Boundary condition
  - Propagating wave / normal mode duality
  - 1-D: string
  - 2-D: drum
  - 3-D:
- Earth

# What is music?

Satisfying the wave equation ( $n$ -D) under boundary conditions:

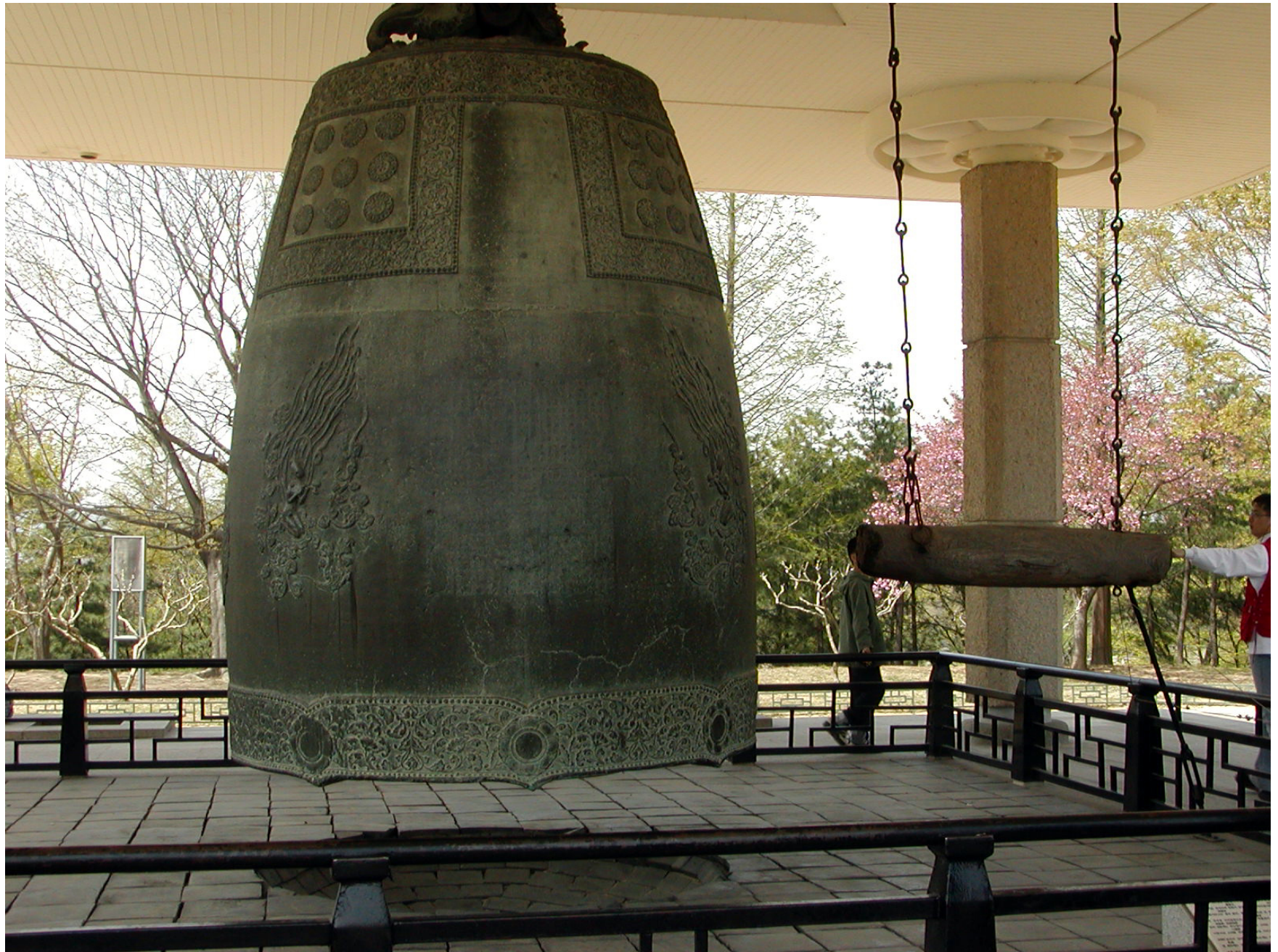
Oscillation of the bell ( $\mathbf{r}, t$ )

=  $\Sigma$  (of all normal modes,  $\left[ \frac{\omega}{\omega_0} \right]$ )

amplitude (depending on where, how hard you strike, etc., called “excitation”.)

\* normal-mode eigenfunction ( $\mathbf{r}$ ) (depending on the physical property of the bell, e.g, if symmetric, sinusoids in 1-D, Legendre or Bessel functions in 2-D, etc. Earth is 3-D = 2-D + 1-D.)

\*  $\exp(i\omega t)$  ( $\omega$  is the normal-mode eigenfrequency, or “natural” resonance frequency = music tones, with imaginary part = natural decay. Quantized because of boundary conditions.)



# A typical seismogram

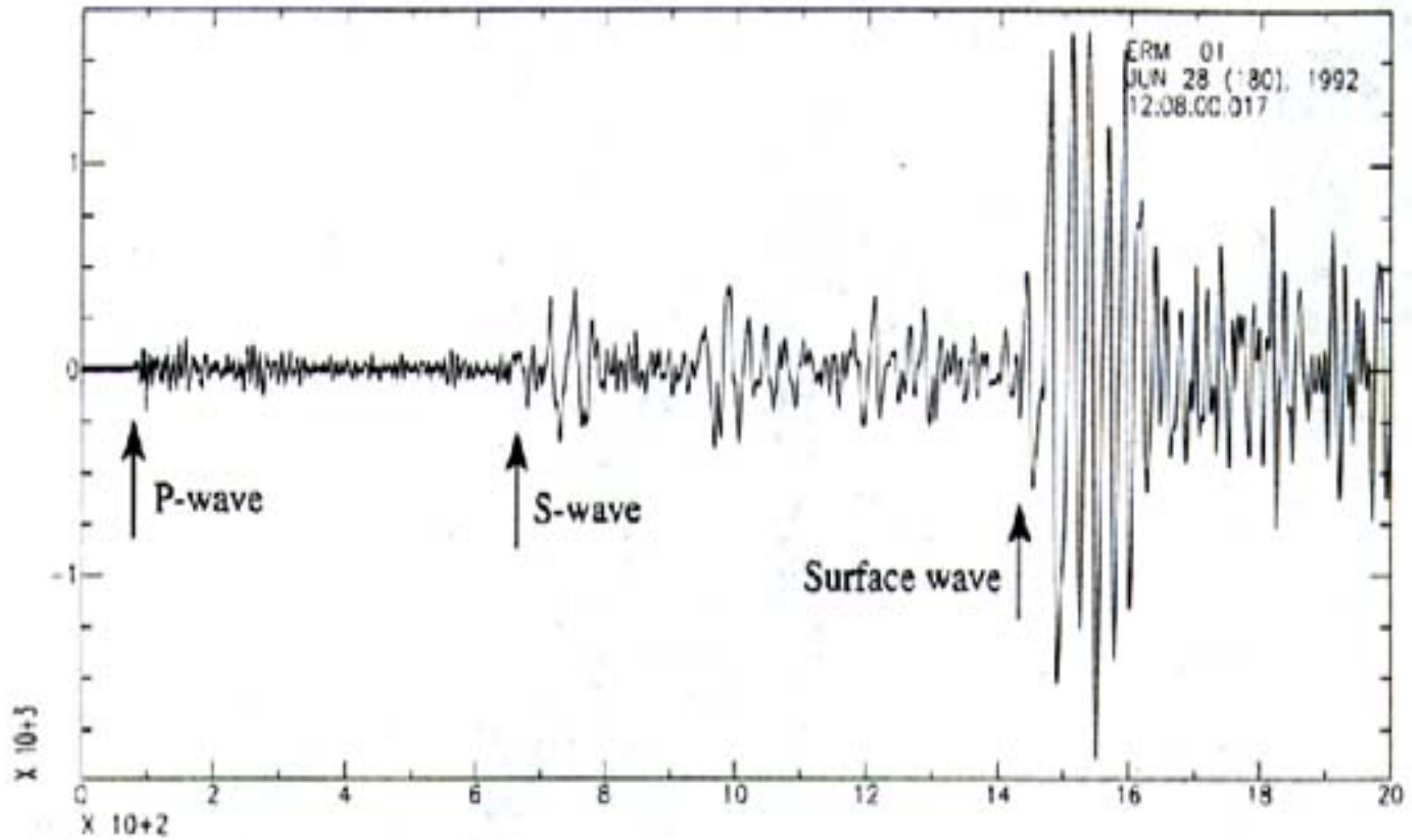
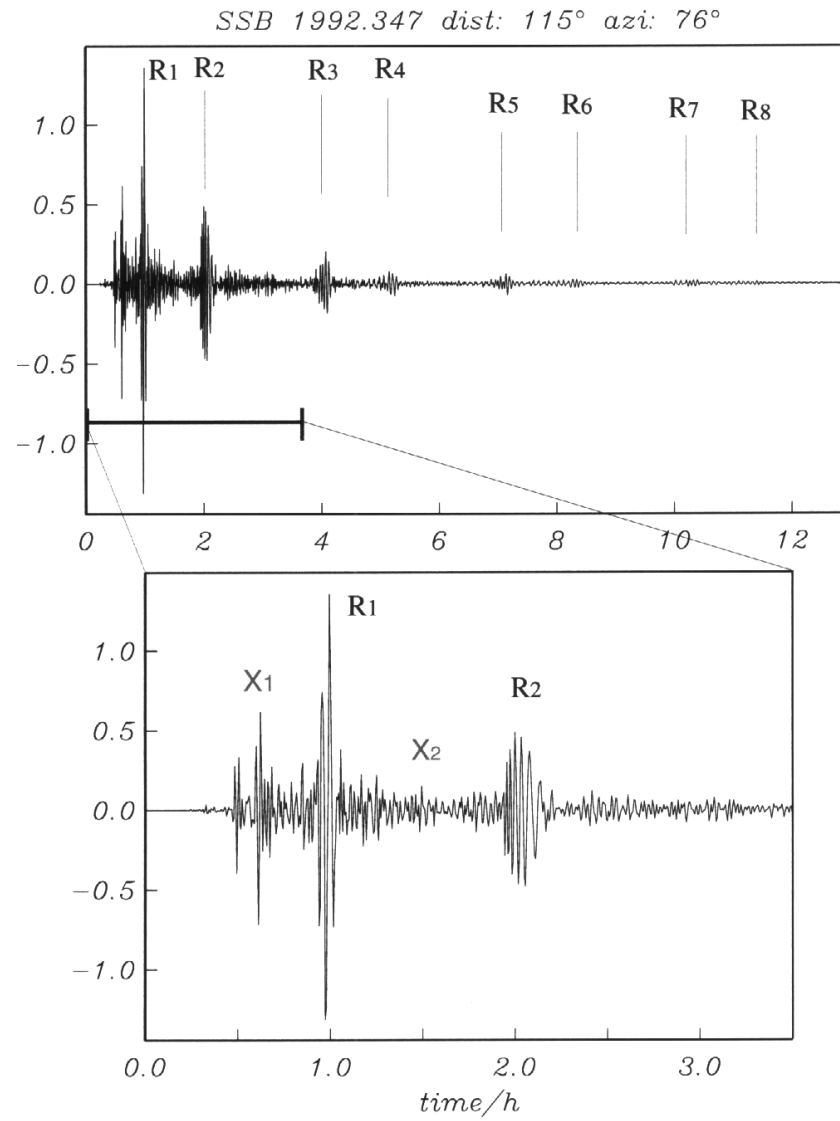


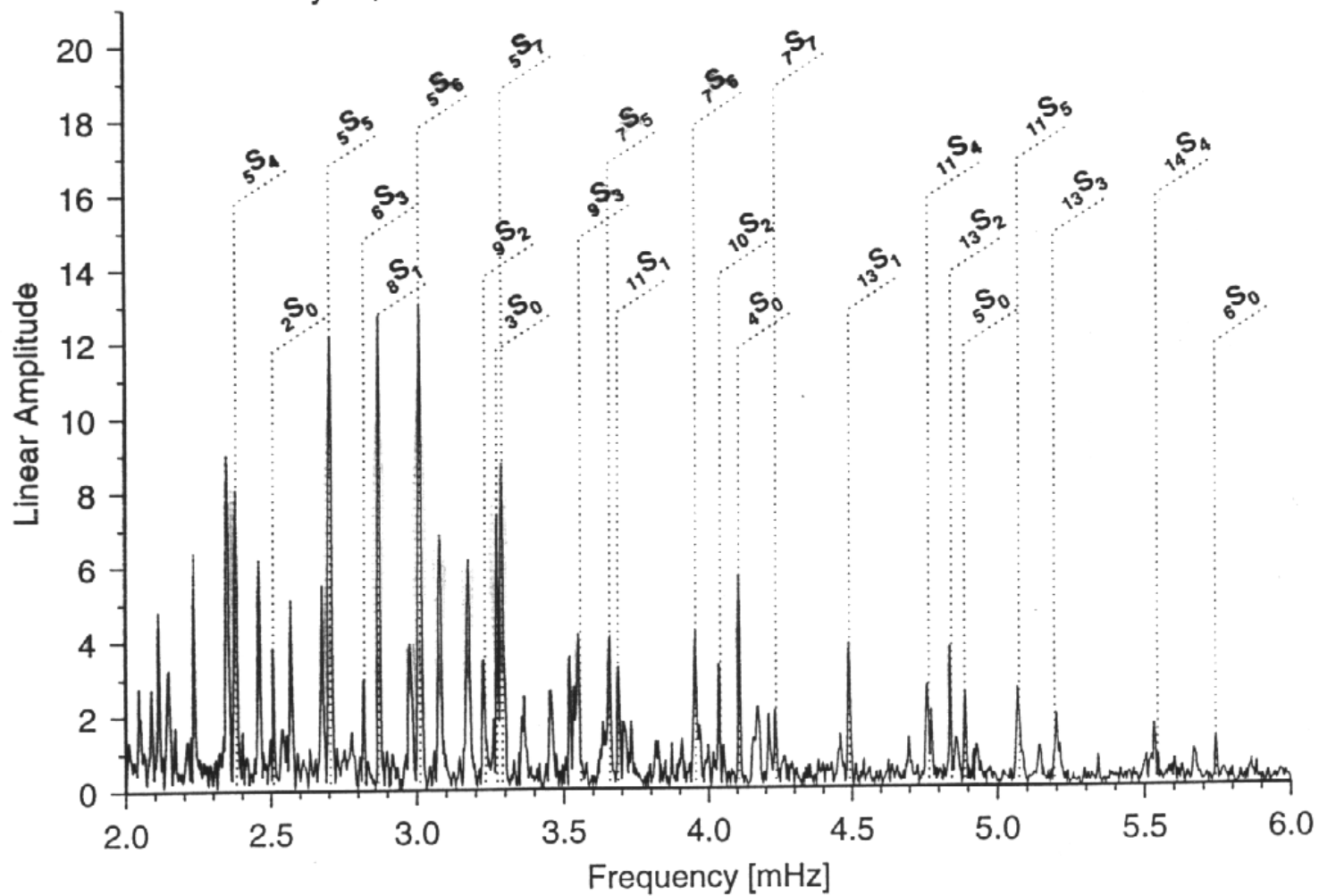
FIGURE 6.4 A seismogram.



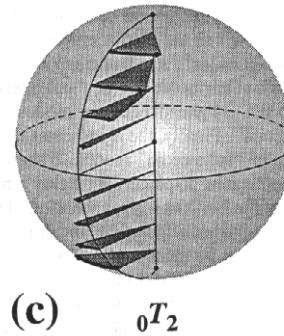
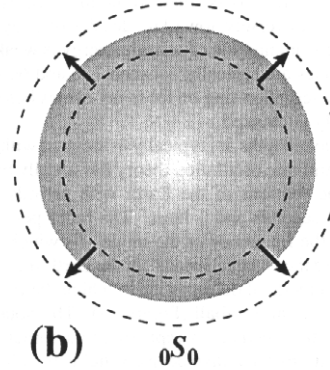
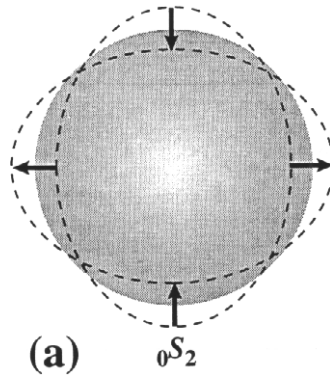
Travelling waves versus standing waves



July 31, 1970 Colombian event recorded at Payson, Arizona

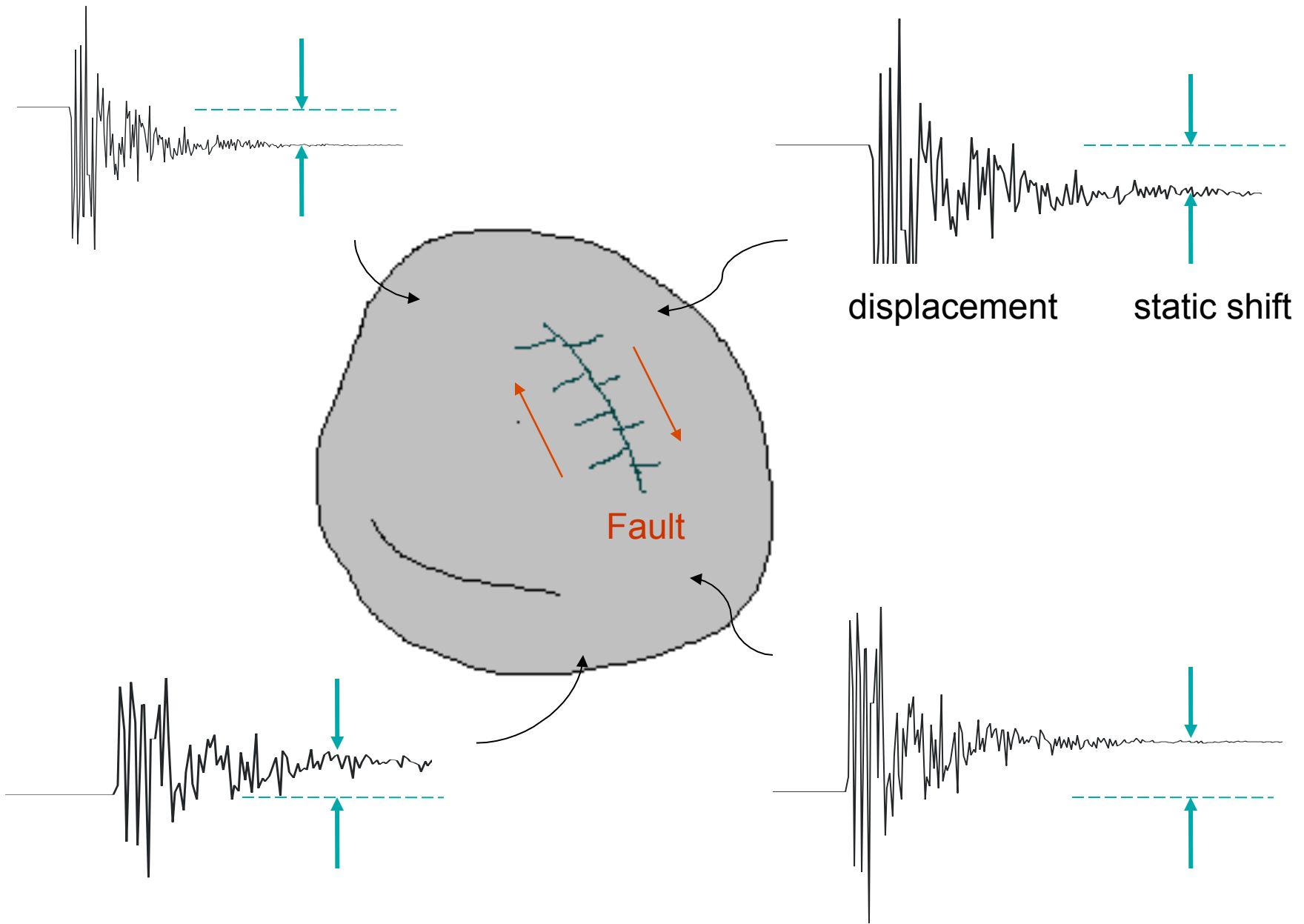


# Different classes of free oscillations



Spheroidal, Radial, and Toroidal

Static displacement produced by a "fault" in an elastic body



# Earthquake Displacement Field

- Equation of motion

$$\nabla \tau + \mathbf{f}_g + \mathbf{f}_s = \rho(\mathbf{r}) \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{u}}{\partial t^2}$$

- Solve by expanding displacement field

$$\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{r}, t) = \sum_k a_k(t) \mathbf{u}_k^*(\mathbf{r})$$

## Normal mode eigenfunctions

$$\mathbf{u}_k(\mathbf{r}) = {}_n U_l(r) Y_l^m(\theta, \phi) \hat{\mathbf{r}} + {}_n V_l(r) \frac{\partial Y_l^m}{\partial \theta} \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} + {}_n W_l(r) \frac{1}{\sin \theta} \frac{\partial Y_l^m}{\partial \lambda} \hat{\boldsymbol{\lambda}}$$

## Expansion coefficients (note the static limit)

$$a_k(t) = \frac{M_0}{\omega_k^2} \hat{\mathbf{M}} : \mathbf{E}_k^*(\mathbf{r}_s) [\exp(i\omega_k t) + 1]$$

## Co-Seismic Displacement Field

$\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{r}) = \text{oscillations} + \text{static displacement}$

$$= 0 \text{ (as } t \rightarrow \infty) + \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \omega_k^{-2} \mathbf{u}_k(\mathbf{r}) \mathbf{M} : \mathbf{E}_k^*(\mathbf{r}_f)$$

(Gilbert, 1970)

---

Eigen-mode  $(\mathbf{u}_k(\mathbf{r}), \mathbf{E}_k(\mathbf{r}_f), \omega_k, k = \text{spheroidal and toroidal})$   
from SNREI model (e.g., 1066A, B; PREM)

Moment tensor  $\mathbf{M}$ : from Global CMT catalog

# The Scripps gang

## Inverse theory / Normal mode



George Backus



Freeman Gilbert

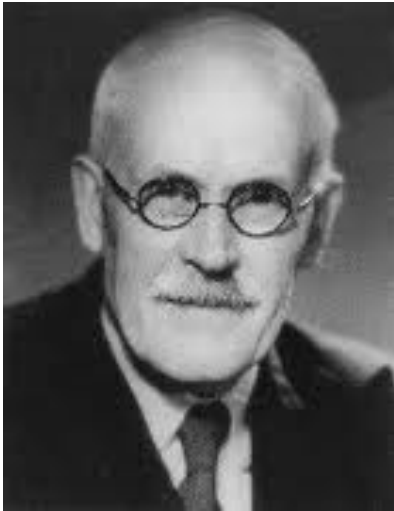


Robert Parker



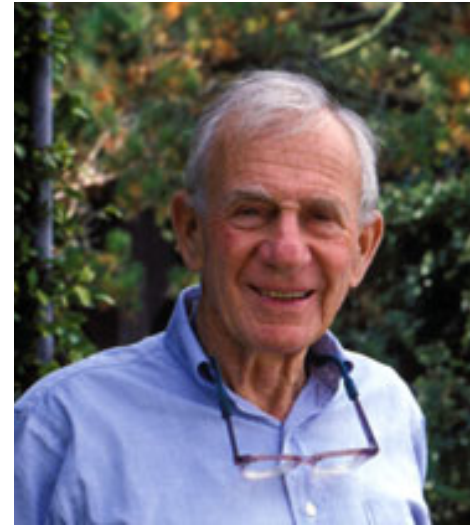
Guy Masters

# Earth Rotation



Sir Harald Jeffreys  
(1891-1989)

Gordon MacDonald  
(1929-2002)



Walter Munk



Kurt Lambeck

Tony Dahlen  
(1942-2007)



John Wahr

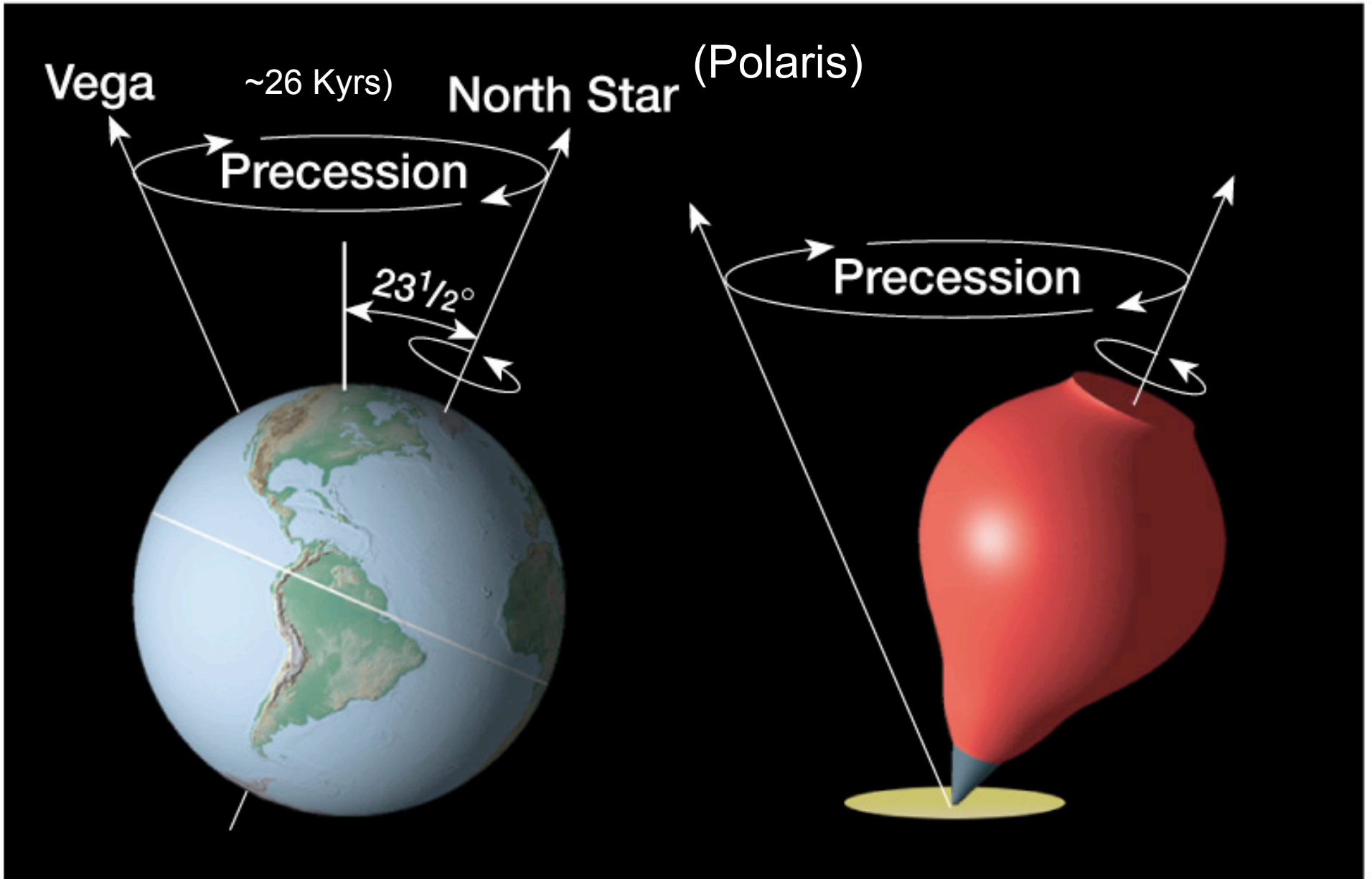
“The Earth precesses/nutates  
like a top.”

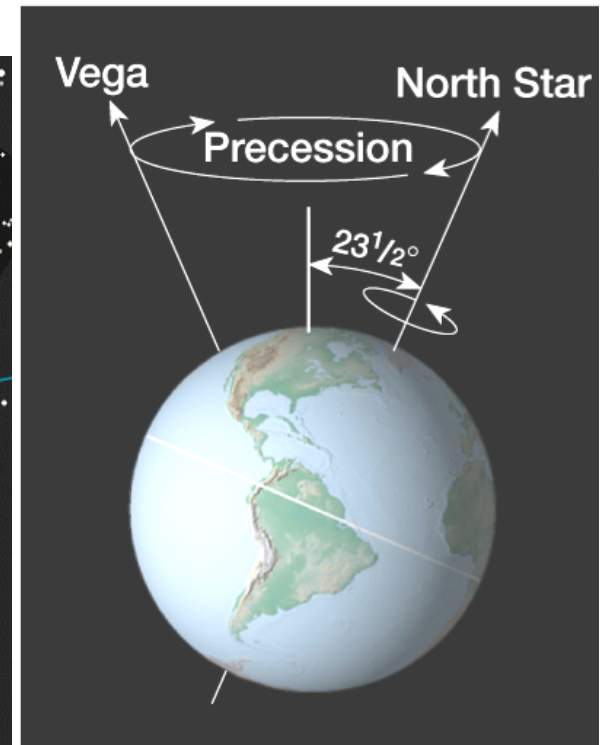
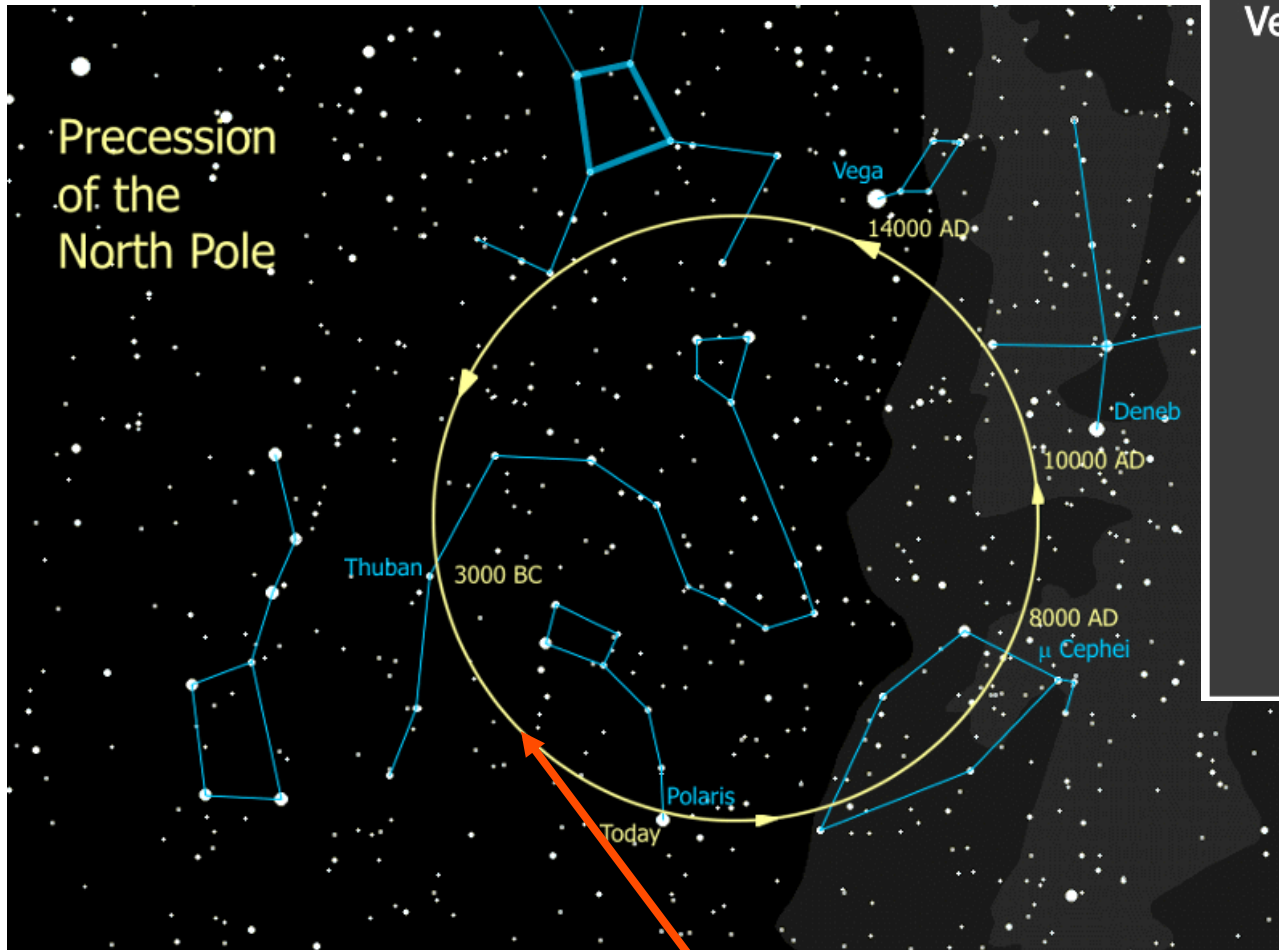
“The Earth librates  
like a physical pendulum.”

“The Earth wobbles  
like a frisbee.”



“The Earth **precesses/nutates** like a **top**.”





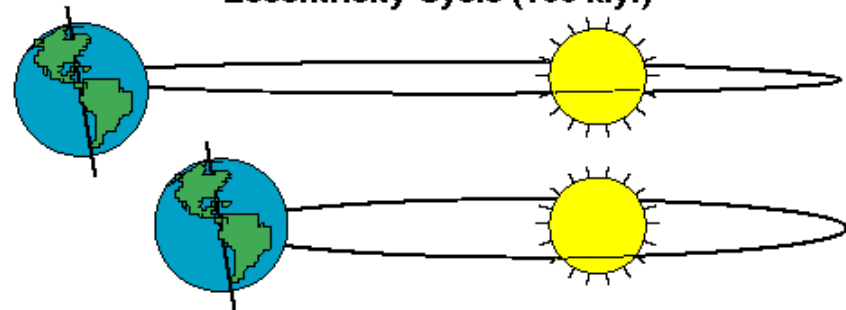
子曰：為政以德，譬如北辰，居其所，而眾星拱之。  
《論語·為政》

“The Earth wobbles like a frisbee.”

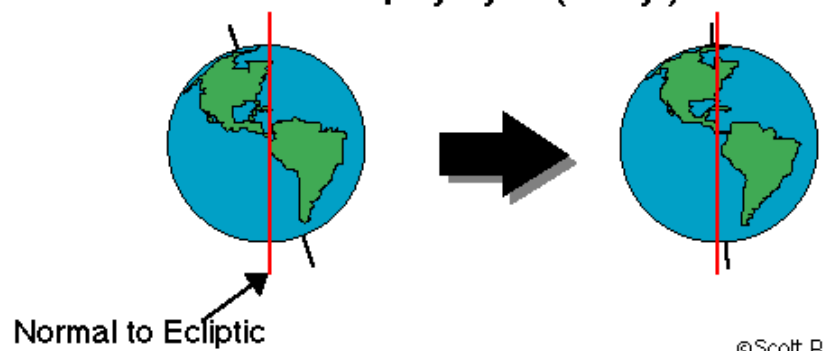


# Milankovitch Cycles

**Eccentricity Cycle (100 k.y.)**

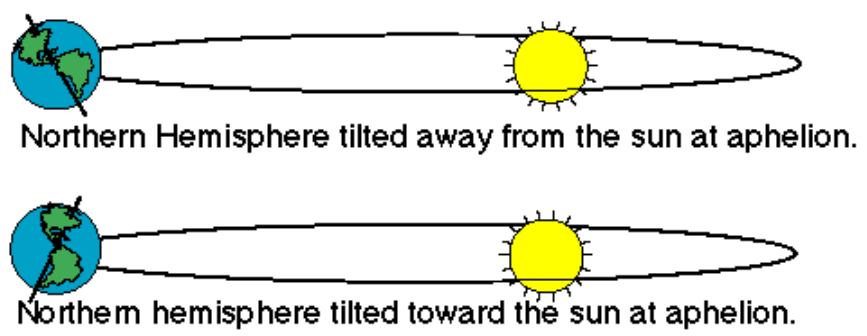


**Obliquity Cycle (41 k.y.)**

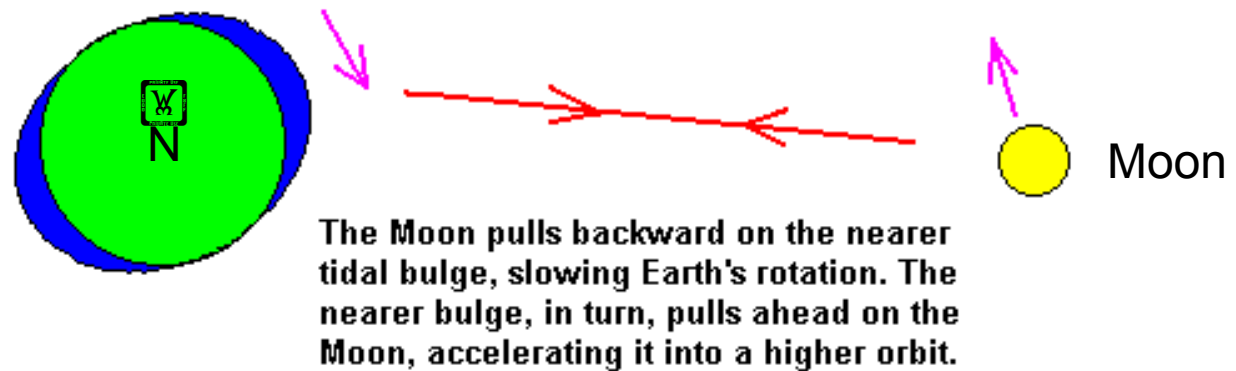
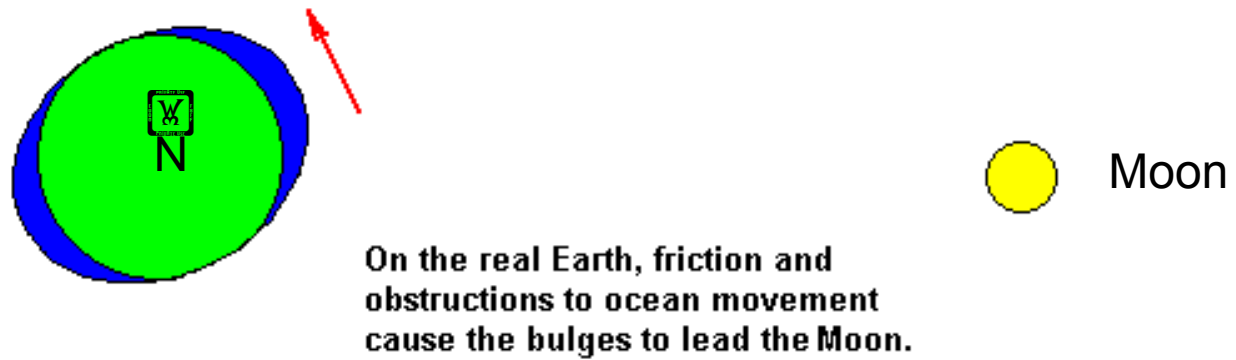
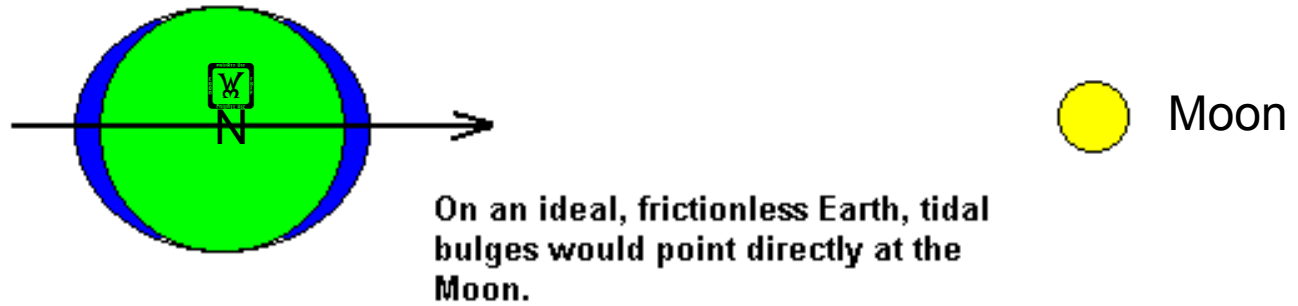


©Scott Rutherford (1997)

**Precession of the Equinoxes (19 and 23 k.y.)**



# Tidal Braking: Slowing down Earth's rotation and pushing away the Moon



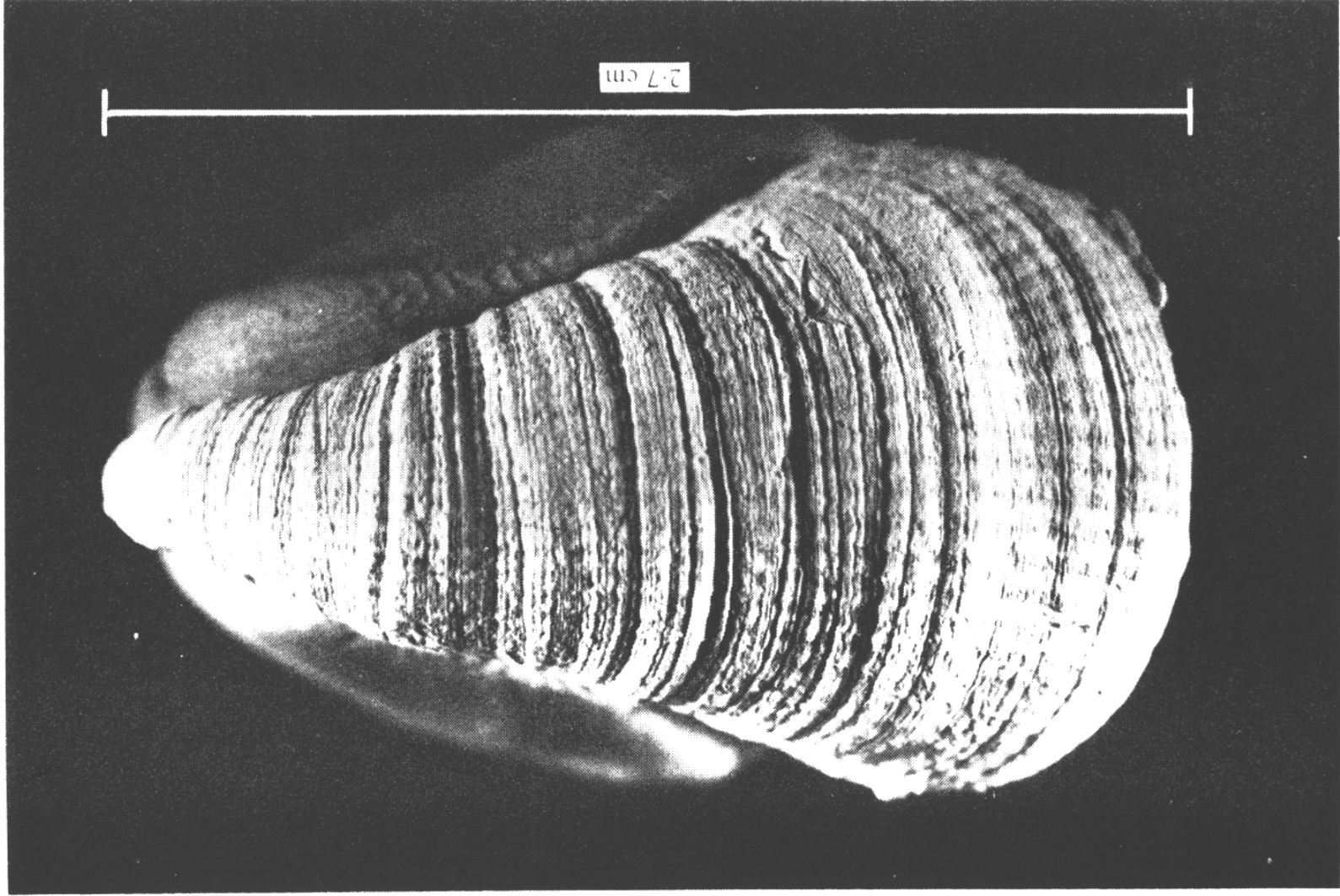
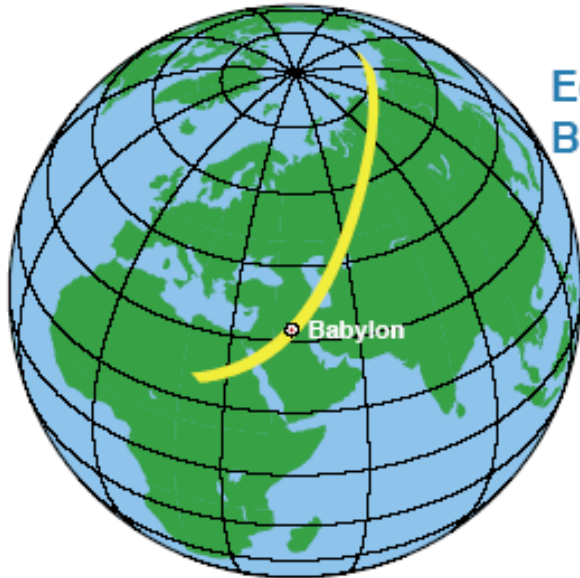


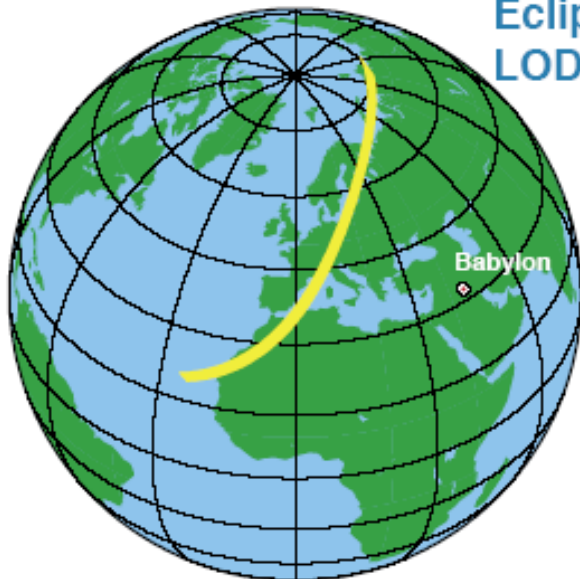
Figure 11.6. Middle Devonian coral epitheca from Michigan, U.S.A., illustrating 13 well-developed bands, each with an average of 30.8 ridges (modified by C. T. Scrutton)

# Secular Braking of Earth's Rotation

## Determination of $d\Omega/dt$ from Ancient Eclipses



Eclipse path on  
BC 136 April 15



Eclipse path if  
LOD = constant



Babylonian diary from the year 87 BC (©The British Museum).

$$\Delta T = 11680 \pm 460 \text{ seconds (3.2 hrs)}$$

(Uncertainties are strict upper/lower bounds)

(Assumes modern  $dn/dt = -26''/\text{cy}^2$ )

$$\text{Implies } d\Lambda/dt = 1.71 \pm 0.07 \text{ ms/century}$$

A Babylonian day was  $\sim 37$  ms shorter than ours.

**A very precise estimate from one single eclipse!**

Eclipse path from Fred Espenak, GSFC

## Co-Seismic Effects on Earth's Rotation

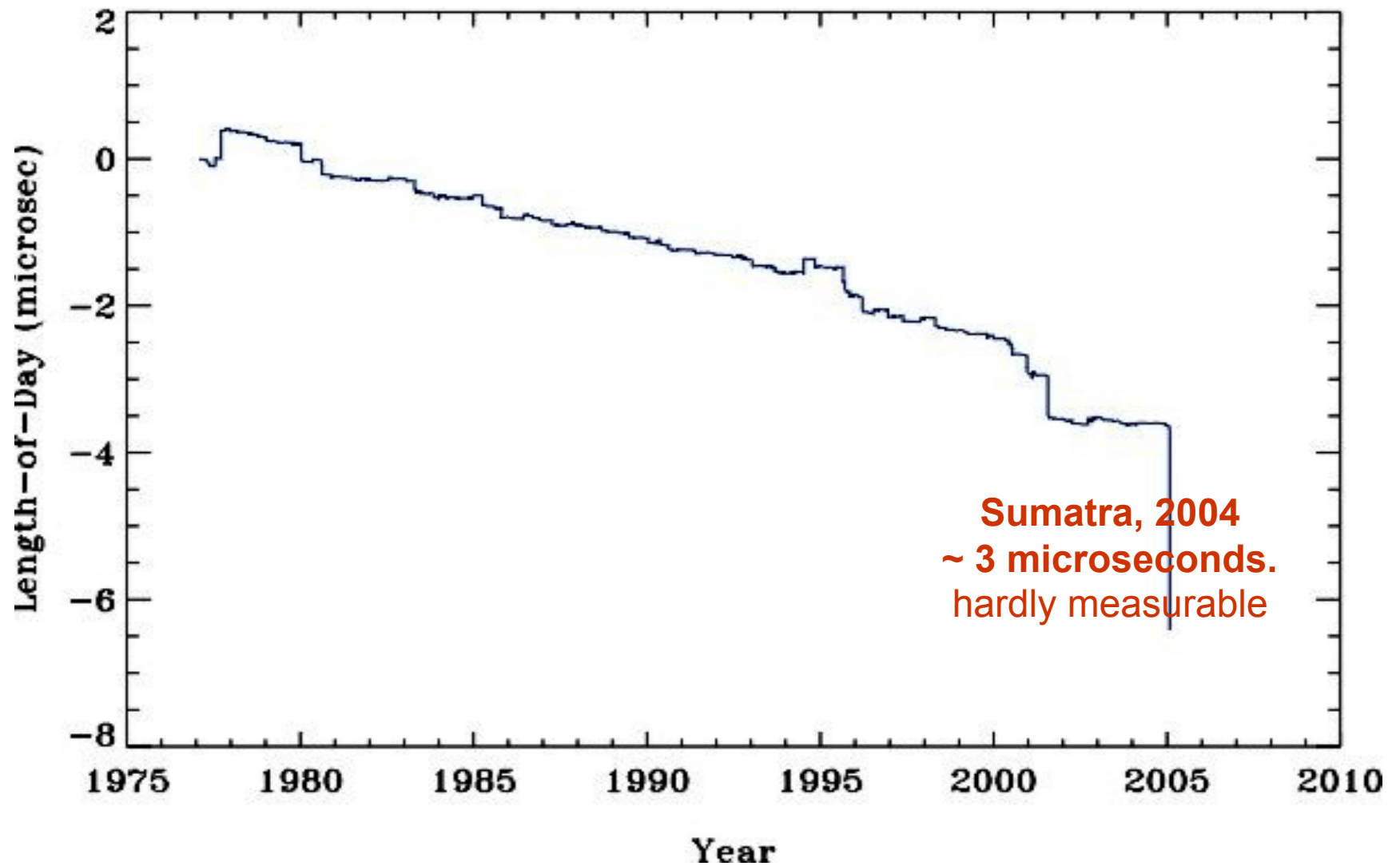
- **Milne (1906); Cecchini (1928)**
- **Munk & MacDonald (1960)**
- **Alaska earthquake (1964), Press (1965)**
- **Mansinha & Smylie (1967; +)**
- **Ben-Menahem & Israel (1970; +)**
- **Rice & Chinnery (1972)**
- **Dahlen (1973)**
- **Dziewonski & O'Connell (1975)**
- **Smith (1977)**
- **Souriau & Cazenave (1985)**
- **Gross (1986)**
- **Chao & Gross (1987; +)**
  - using normal mode summation (Gilbert, 1970)
  - In terms of seismic moment tensor (Harvard CMT catalog)
  - need (SNREI) Earth model (PREM) and normal mode eigen-functions (Masters)
  - similar formulas for changes in gravity field, energy, etc.



# Seismic Moment Tensor

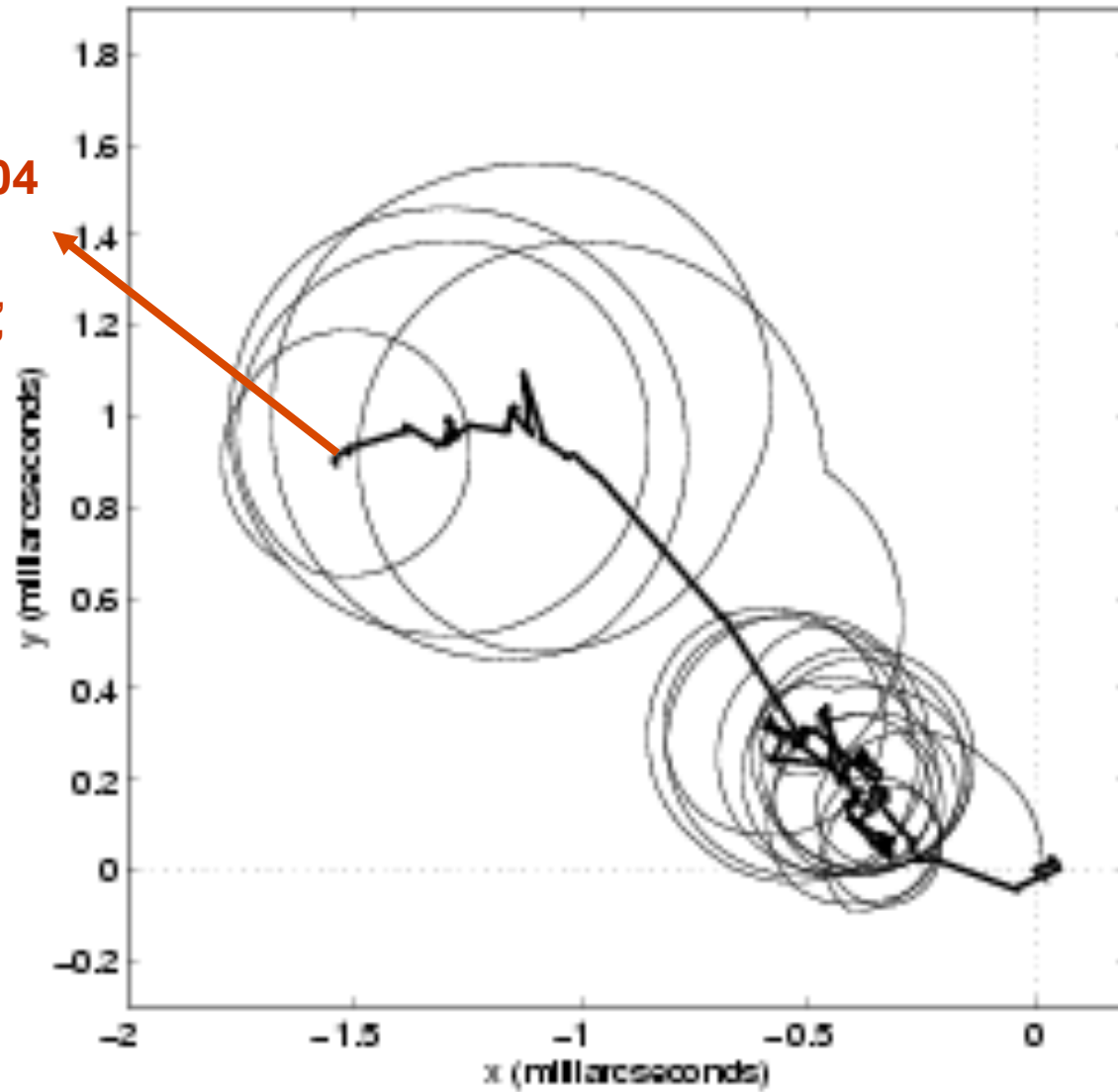
- Contains all information about source mechanism (magnitude, fault direction, slip angles, etc.)
- 2nd-order tensor (conservation of linear momentum)
- Symmetric tensor, only 6 independent parameters (conservation of angular momentum)
- Magnitude (seismic moment)  $[M:M]^{1/2}$  is a good measure of earthquake size  
=> moment scale (vs. Richter scale)

# Cumulative change in Length-of-Day by earthquakes since 1976



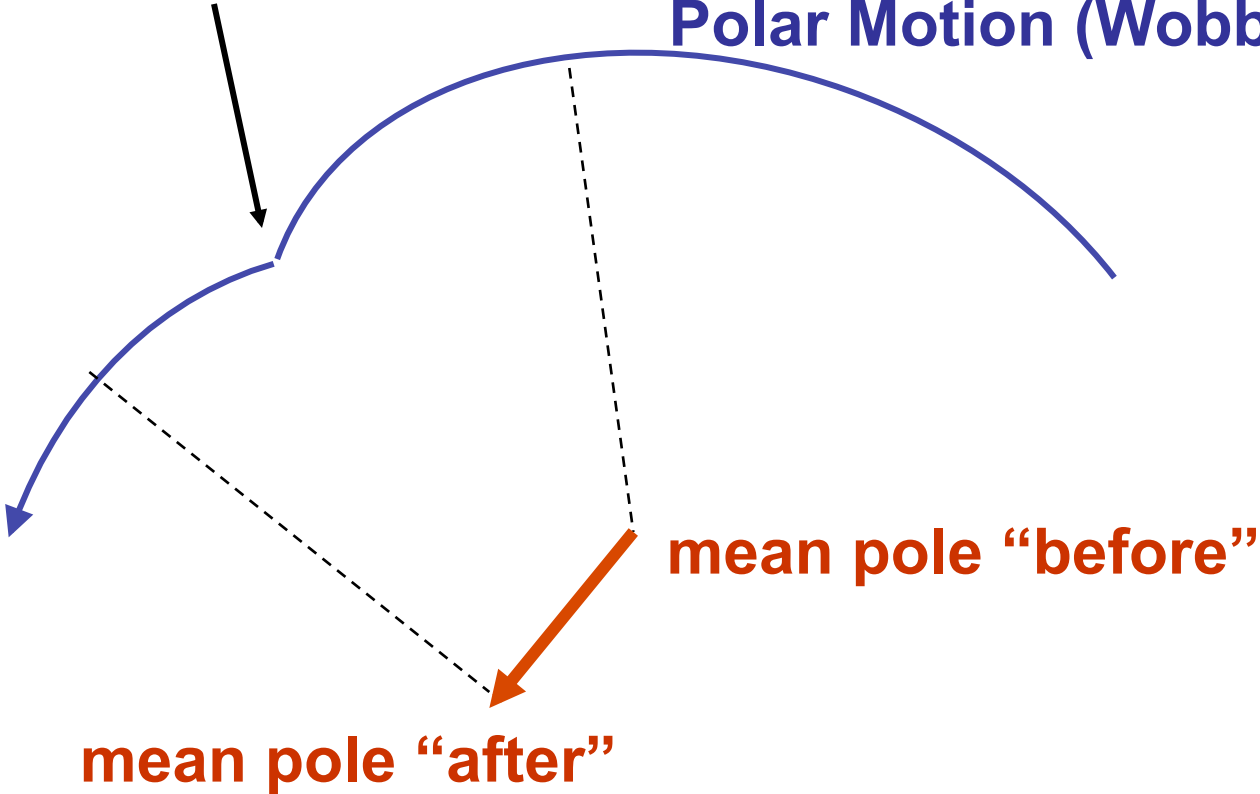
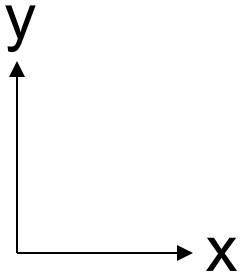
# Cumulative “Mean” Pole Position shift by earthquakes, 1976-1999

**Sumatra, 2004**  
~ 2.5 cm.  
Measurable,  
but “buried”



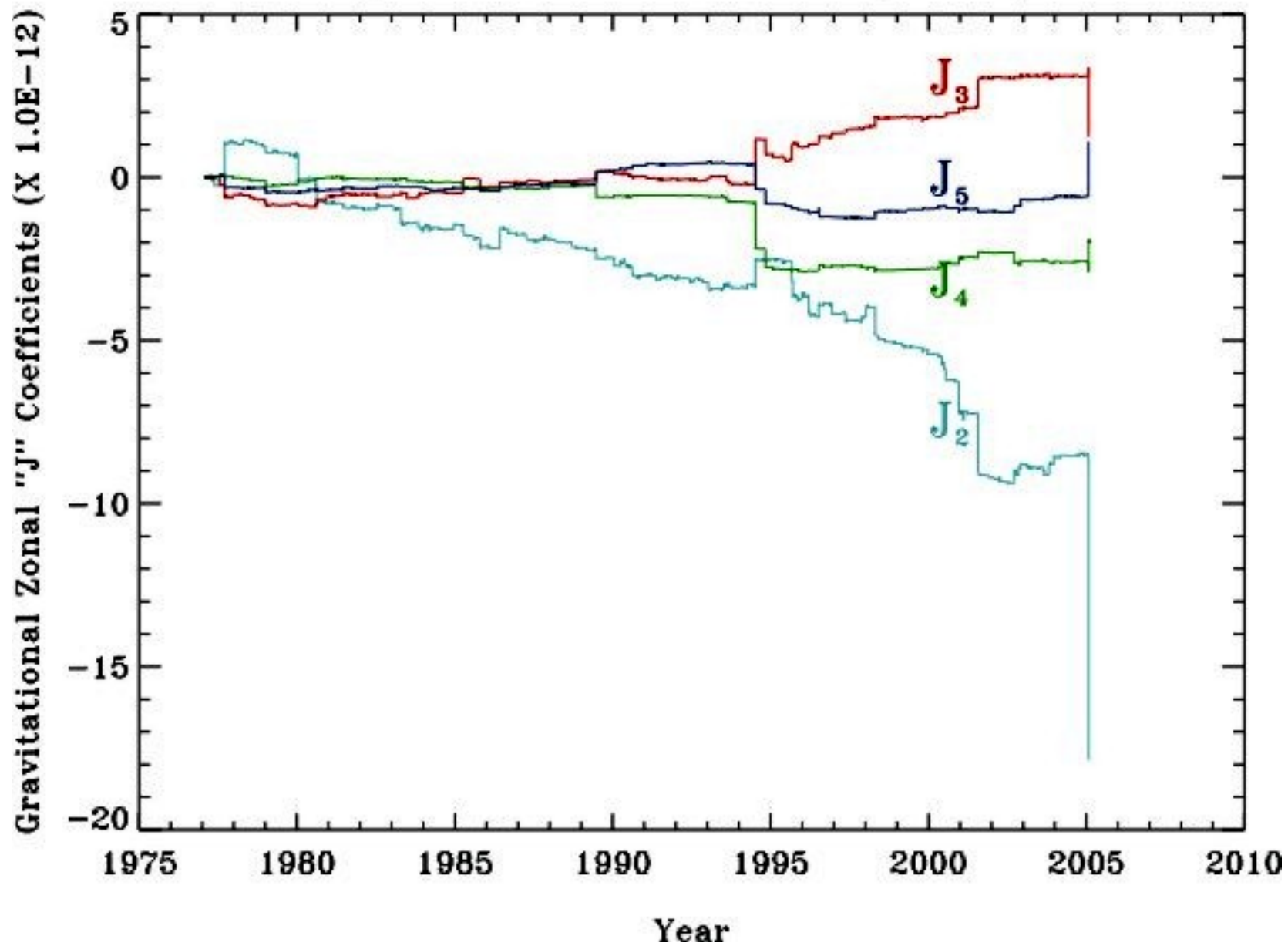
**Earthquake  
(step function excitation)**

**Polar Motion (Wobble)**

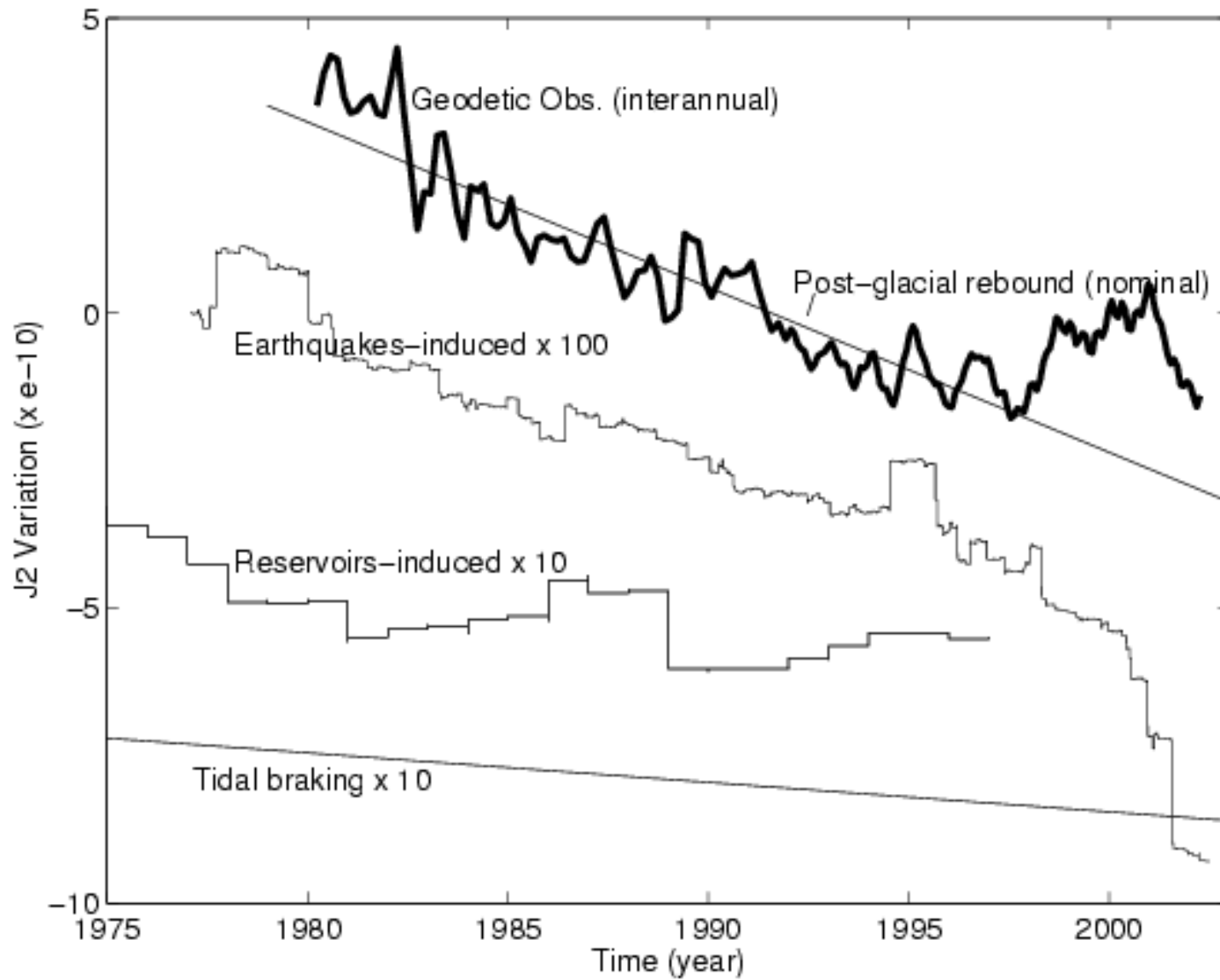


發生時間	地點	地震規模	日長改變量	自轉軸偏移量	自轉軸偏移方向
1957/3/9	阿拉斯加	9.1	(資料不足)	(資料不足)	(資料不足)
1960/5/22	智利	9.5	-8.4 $\mu\text{s}$	68 cm	115 °E
1964/3/27	阿拉斯加	9.2	+ 6.8 $\mu\text{s}$	23 cm	198 °E
2004/12/26	蘇門答臘	9.3	-6.8 $\mu\text{s}$	7 cm	127 °E
2010/2/27	智利	8.8	-1.3 $\mu\text{s}$	8 cm	112 °E
2011/3/11	日本	9.1	-1.6 $\mu\text{s}$	15 cm	139 °E

Cumulative change due to 22369 major earthquakes  
(based on Chao & Gross, 1987)



# Long-term changes in Earth's oblateness $J_2$



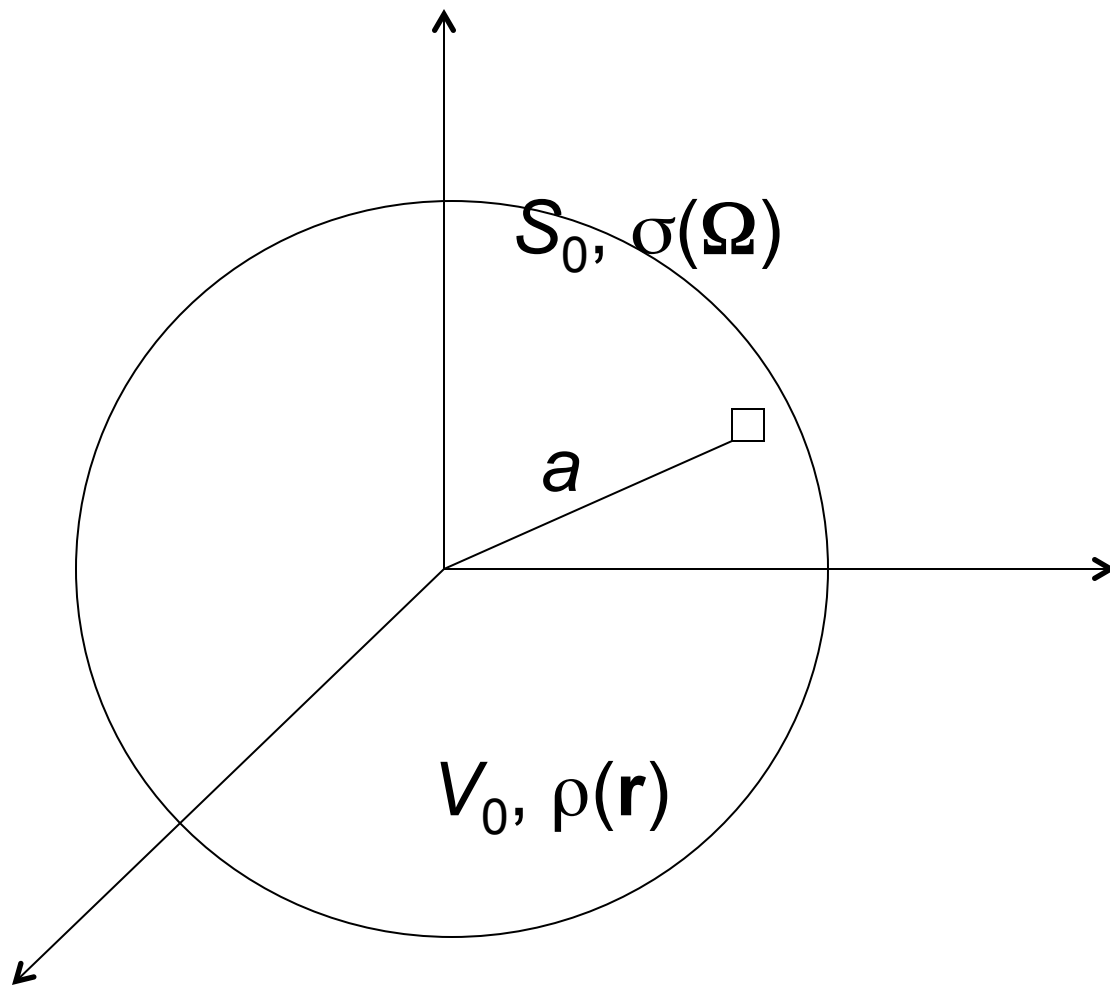
## Limitation of (time-variable) gravity signal

***“You don’t know where it comes from!”***

- Low spatial resolution
- Non-uniqueness in inversion
- Sum of all sources



$U(\mathbf{r})$



$S_0, \sigma(\Omega)$

$a$

$V_0, \rho(\mathbf{r})$

## Gravitational Potential Field

- Newton's gravitational law

$$U(\mathbf{r}) = G \iiint_{V_0} \frac{\rho(\mathbf{r}_0)}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_0|} dV_0$$

- Addition theorem

$$1/|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_0| = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-n}^n (2n+1)^{-1} (r_0^n / r^{n+1}) Y_{nm}^*(\Omega) Y_{nm}(\Omega_0)$$



Multipole expansion of gravity field

$$U(\mathbf{r}) = G \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-n}^n \frac{1}{(2n+1)r^{n+1}} \left[ \iiint_{V_0} \rho(\mathbf{r}_0) r_0^n Y_{nm}(\Omega_0) dV_0 \right] Y_{nm}^*(\Omega)$$


## Gravitational Potential Field (Geoid)

- Multipole expansion of Newton's formula:

$$U(\mathbf{r}) = G \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-n}^n \frac{1}{(2n+1)r^{n+1}} \left[ \int \int \int_V \rho(\mathbf{r}_0) r_0^n Y_{nm}(\Omega_0) dV_0 \right] Y_{nm}^*(\Omega)$$

- Conventional expression (satisfying Laplace Eq. in terms of Stokes Coeff.):

$$U(r, \theta, \lambda) = \frac{GM}{a} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=0}^n \left( \frac{a}{r} \right)^{n+1} P_{nm}(\cos \theta) (C_{nm} \cos m\lambda + S_{nm} \sin m\lambda)$$


$$C_{nm} + iS_{nm} = \frac{1}{(2n+1)Ma^n} \int \int \int_V \rho(\mathbf{r}) r^n Y_{nm}(\Omega) dV$$

# 3-D Gravitational Inversion

- Multipole expansion

$$U(\mathbf{r}) = G \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{m=-n}^n \frac{1}{(2n+1)r^{n+1}} \left[ \int \int \int_V \rho(\mathbf{r}_0) r_0^n Y_{nm}(\Omega_0) dV_0 \right] Y_{nm}^*(\Omega)$$

$2n + 1$  (known) multipoles for each degree  $n$

- Moment expansion

$$U(\mathbf{r}) = G \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{\alpha, \beta, \gamma \geq 0}^{\alpha + \beta + \gamma = n} \frac{(-1)^n}{\alpha! \beta! \gamma!} \left[ \int \int \int_V x_0^\alpha y_0^\beta z_0^\gamma \rho(\mathbf{r}_0) dV_0 \right] \frac{\partial^n}{\partial x^\alpha \partial y^\beta \partial z^\gamma} \left( \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}|} \right)$$

$(n+1)(n+2)/2$  (unknown) moments for each  $n$



“Degree of deficiency” of knowledge is  $n(n-1)/2$  for each degree  $n$ .

<b>Degree <math>n</math></b>	<b># multipoles (<math>2n + 1</math>)</b>	<b># moments (<math>(n+1)(n+2)/2</math>)</b>	<b>Degree of deficiency <math>n(n-1)/2</math></b>
<b>0</b>	<b>1 (monopole)</b>	<b>1 (total mass)</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>3 (dipole)</b>	<b>3 (center of mass)</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>5 (quadrupole)</b>	<b>6 (inertia tensor)</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>7 (octupole)</b>	<b>10 (3rd moment)</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>100</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>5151</b>	<b>4950</b>

The degree of deficiency as a function of spherical harmonic degree  $n$  in the 3-D gravitational inversion.

Additional physical/mathematical constraints leading to unique solutions:

- minimum shear energy
- maximum entropy of  $\rho$
- minimum norm-2 variance for the lateral distribution
- .....

## 2-D gravitational Inversion on a spherical shell $S_0$

$$C_{nm} + iS_{nm} = \frac{a^2}{(2n+1)M} \int \int_{S_0} \sigma(\Omega) Y_{nm}(\Omega) d\Omega$$

$\sigma(\Omega) = \sum_{n,m} \sigma_{nm} Y_{nm}^*(\Omega)$


⇒  $\sigma_{nm} = \frac{(2n+1)M}{4\pi a^2} (C_{nm} + iS_{nm})$

It is possible to mimic ANY external field by means of some proper surface density on  $S_0$ .

## 2-D gravitational Inversion on a spherical shell $S_0$ (cont'd)

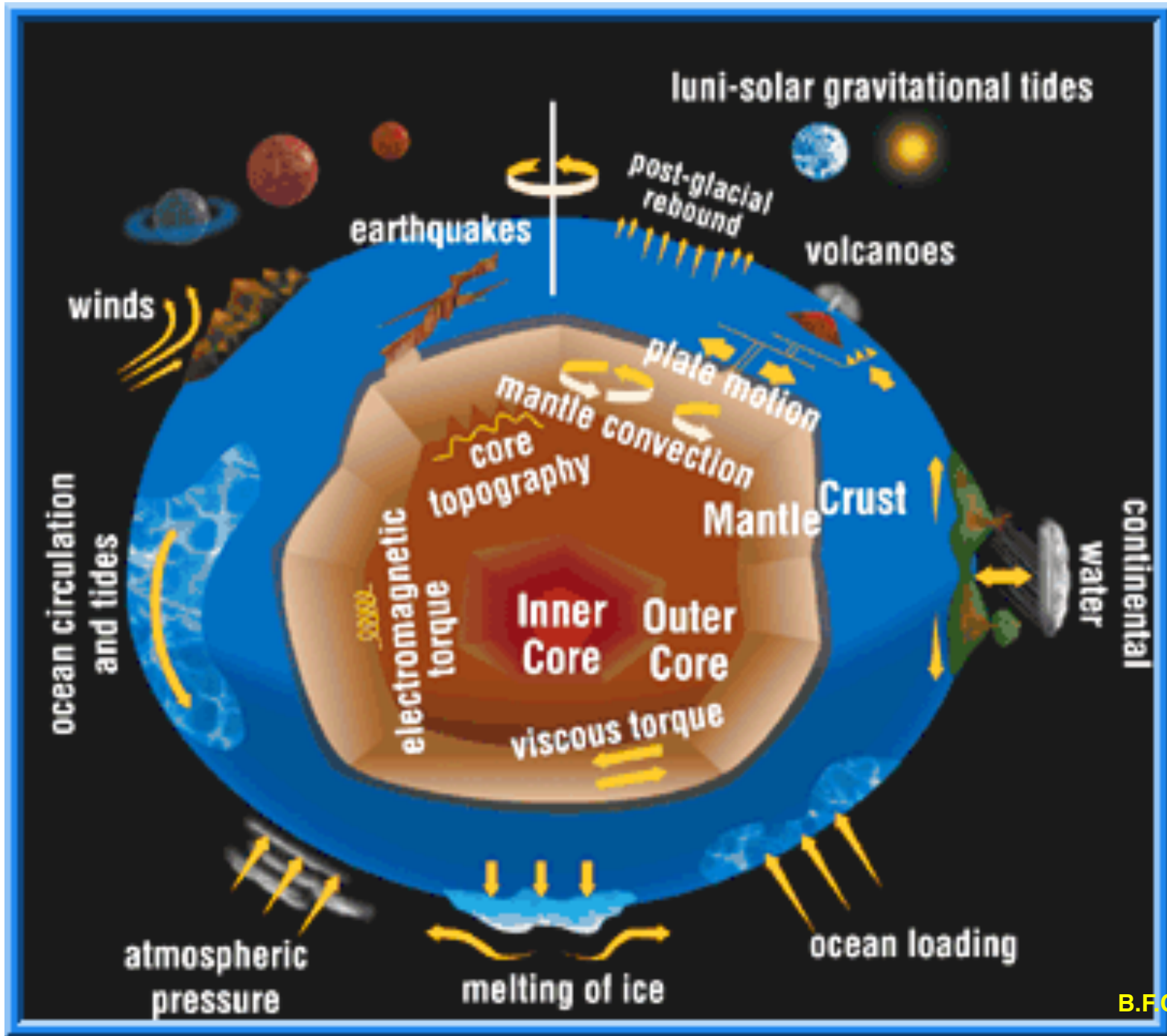
For CHANGES due to mass redistribution on  $S_0$  (taking into account of loading effect), in Eulerian description:

$$\Delta C_{nm}(t) + i \Delta S_{nm}(t) = \frac{a^2 (1 + k'_n)}{(2n + 1)M} \int \int \Delta \sigma(\Omega; t) Y_{nm}(\Omega) d\Omega$$


$$\Delta \sigma_{nm}(t) = \frac{(2n + 1)M}{4\pi a^2 (1 + k'_n)} \left[ \Delta C_{nm}(t) + i \Delta S_{nm}(t) \right] \text{ Unique!}$$

← Loading effect “undone”





# (near) Surface Mass Transports

- Earth ellipticity  $\sim \frac{1}{2}$  of  $1/300$   $a \sim 10$  km
- Atmosphere scale height  $\sim 10$  km
- Ocean  $< \sim 5$  km
- Land hydrology  $<$  a few km
- Crustal/topography change  $< \sim 30$  km

# Nice things about spherical harmonics:

- Wavelength, or spatial resolution,  
 $\sim 40,000/2N$  km  $\implies$  Concept of spectrum
- Altitude attenuation  $\sim r^{-n+1}$
- Geoid: Stokes Coeff.  $(C_{nm}, S_{nm})$
- Gravity Disturbance:  $(n+1)^*(C_{nm}, S_{nm})$
- Gravity Anomaly:  $(n-1)^*(C_{nm}, S_{nm})$
- Surface Mass Change:  $(2n+1)^*(\Delta C_{nm}, \Delta S_{nm})$

## Conclusions

for the [external gravity => mass density] inversion:

- The **3-D** inversion is non-unique (well-known).
- This **3-D** non-uniqueness is associated with the radial (depth) dimension.
- Comparing the (spherical harmonic) multipole expansion and the moment expansion => The degree of deficiency in inversion is  $n(n-1)/2$  for each degree  $n$ .
- The **2-D** inversion on a spherical shell is unique.
- In terms of spherical harmonics this **2-D** uniqueness is convenient and useful in (global) time-variable gravity studies (such as GRACE).