

**Ionospheric anomalies possibly
associated with $M > 6.0$ earthquakes in
the Japan area during 1998-2010 and
the 20110311 Tohoku Earthquake
($M_w 9.0$)**

K. Hattori¹, S. Kon¹, S. Hirooka¹, T. Ichikawa¹,
M. Nishihashi¹, and J-Y., Liu²

1: Graduate School of Science, Chiba University

2: National Central University, Taiwan

Outline

- Introduction
- Data processing
- Case studies
- Statistical study during 1998-2010
- Summary
- 20110311 M9 EQ

Introduction

Preseismic TEC change

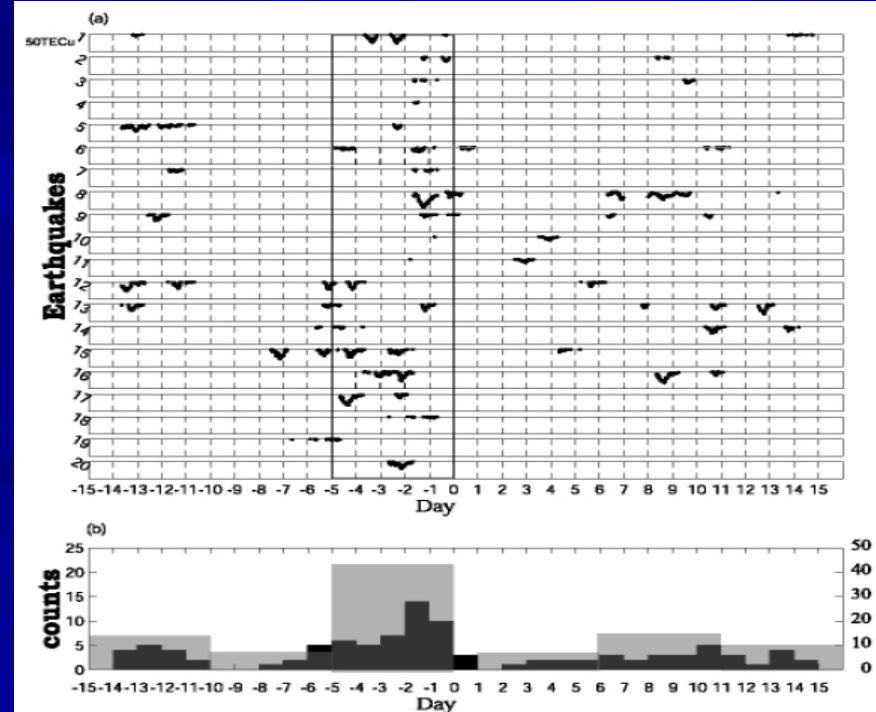
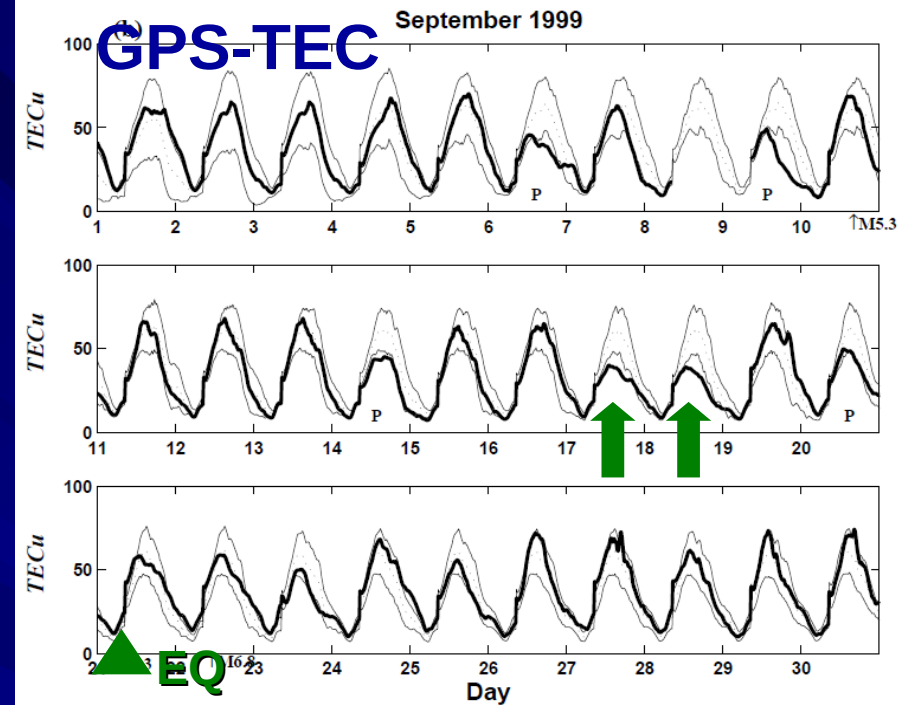
The 1999 Chi-Chi EQ

GPS-TEC decreased significantly 3, 4 days before EQ. (Liu et al., 2001, 2004)

Statistical Analysis in Taiwan

From statistical analysis, the ionospheric anomalies appeared 1 - 5 days before M5.0 earthquakes in Taiwan.

(Liu et al., 2004, 2006)



Introduction

- We investigate the **temporal & spatial extent** of the Total Electron Content (TEC) anomalies prior to large EQs in Japan area (GPS-TEC and GIM-TEC).
- In order to clarify the association between EQ activity and TEC anomalies, we conduct case and the **statistical analysis** using **GIM** data during 1998- 2010.
- We investigate possible anomalies associated with the 20110311 Mw9.0 EQ.

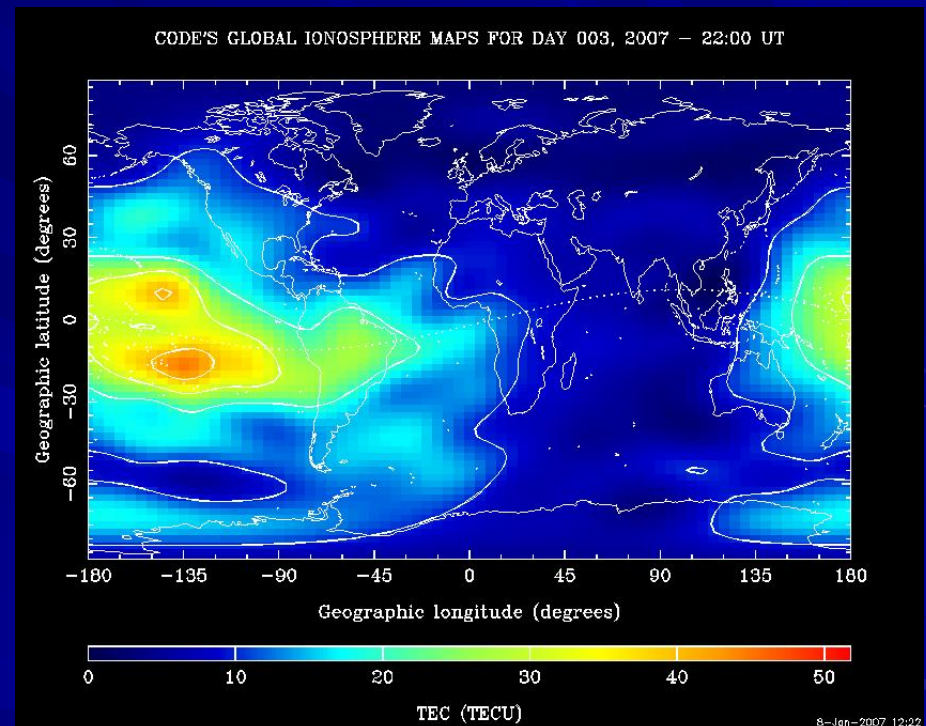
Global Ionosphere Maps (GIM)

We use global TEC data-set produced by the Center for Orbit Determination in Europe (CODE).

Spatial resolution :
2.5 degrees in latitude
5 degrees in longitude
Time resolution : 2 hours



In order to be able to observe TEC values at a certain location, we extracted data from the GIM and linearly interpolated to yield a 15-min resolution and 1 degree resolution.



Example of GIM data (22UT, Jan. 3, 2007)

[illegible]

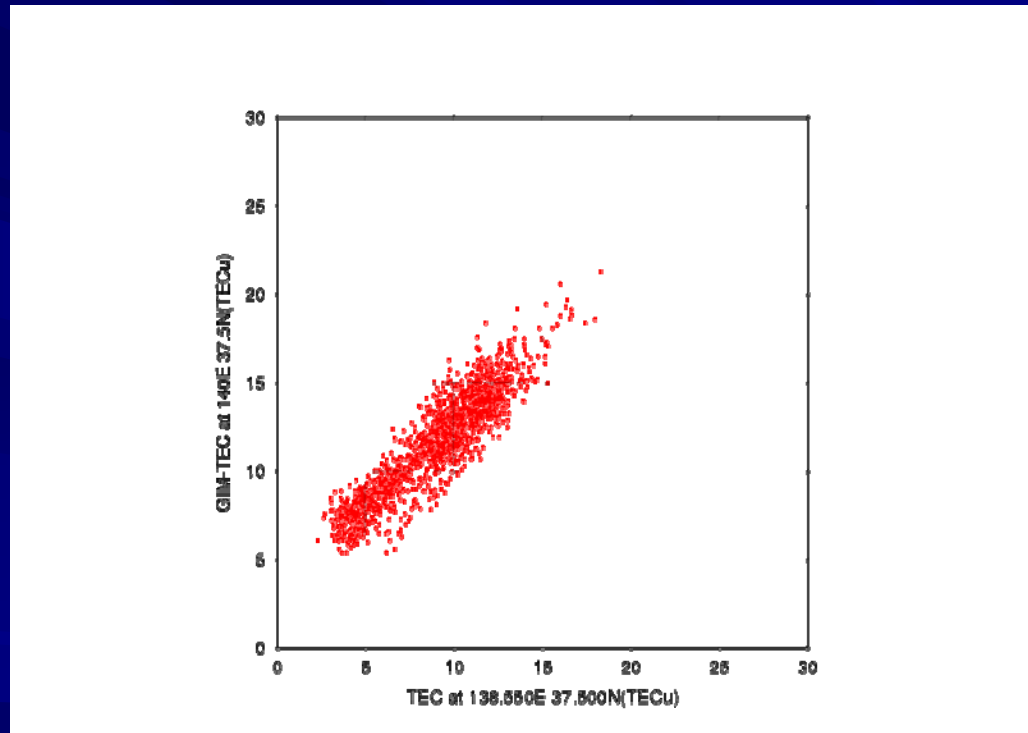
http://aiuws.unibe.ch/ionosphere/codnet_abbr.pdf

Correlation between TEC & GIM-TEC

(2004/09.2004/12)

TEC: (37.50° N, 138.55° E)

GIM-TEC: (37.50° N, 140.00° E)



R=

(Unit: TECU)

Correlation between TEC and GIM-TEC is high
not concerned the geomagnetic activity.

Advantage & disadvantage of GIM

Advantage

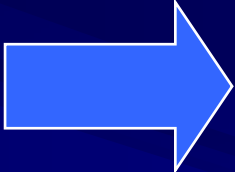
- We can see global TEC variation easily & efficiently.
- We can process TEC data without GPS analysis software like the GAMIT.
- We can analyze TEC variation in the area of lack of GPS stations.
- GIM is no missing data for 12 years (1998~).

Disadvantage

- GIM is interpolated using the spherical harmonics.
- Spatial-temporal resolution of the GIM is low.
(However, EIA can be identified.)

Computation of TEC* & GIM-TEC*

To remove daily variation of TEC
and identify abnormal signals associated with EQs

 We computed the **15 days backward mean values**,
and the associated standard deviation (σ)
as a reference at specific times.

Then, we derived the normalized Δ TEC (TEC*).

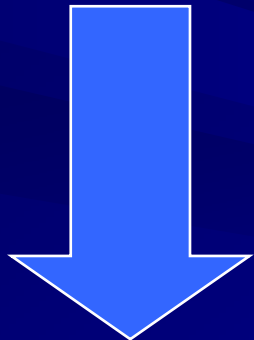
$$\text{TEC}^*(t) = \frac{\text{TEC}(t) - \overline{\text{TEC}}(t)}{\sigma(t)} \quad \leftarrow \text{(computed using RINEX files)}$$

$$\text{GIM-TEC}^*(t) = \frac{\text{GIM-TEC}(t) - \overline{\text{GIM-TEC}}(t)}{\sigma(t)}$$

Removal of geomagnetic storm effect

To remove geomagnetic storm effect,
we defined a criterion as follows;

Dst index < -60 nT : geomagnetic storm



TEC could depress about a few hours
to 2 days after geomagnetic storm onsets.
(Kelley, 1989; Davies, 1990)

We removed the TEC data of geomagnetic
storm period for 2 days after storm onset.

Japan region

- Case study

1. The 20041023 Chuetsu EQ (M6.8) and the its aftershock (M6.1).

2. The 20070716 Chuetsu-Oki EQ (M6.8)

(Kon, Nishihashi, and Hattori, *J. Asian Earth Sciences*, 41, 410-420,2011)

- Statistical study

EQs from1998 to 2010 (12 years)

(Kon, Nishihashi, and Hattori, *J. Asian Earth Sciences*, 41, 410-420,2011)

- Validation

The 20110311 Tohoku EQ (Mw9.0)

- Tomography

(Hirooka, Hattori, and Takeda, *Radio Science*, 2011 in press)

(Hirooka, Hattori, and .Takeda, *NHESS*, 2011)

Case Study 1

The 20041023 Chuetsu EQ

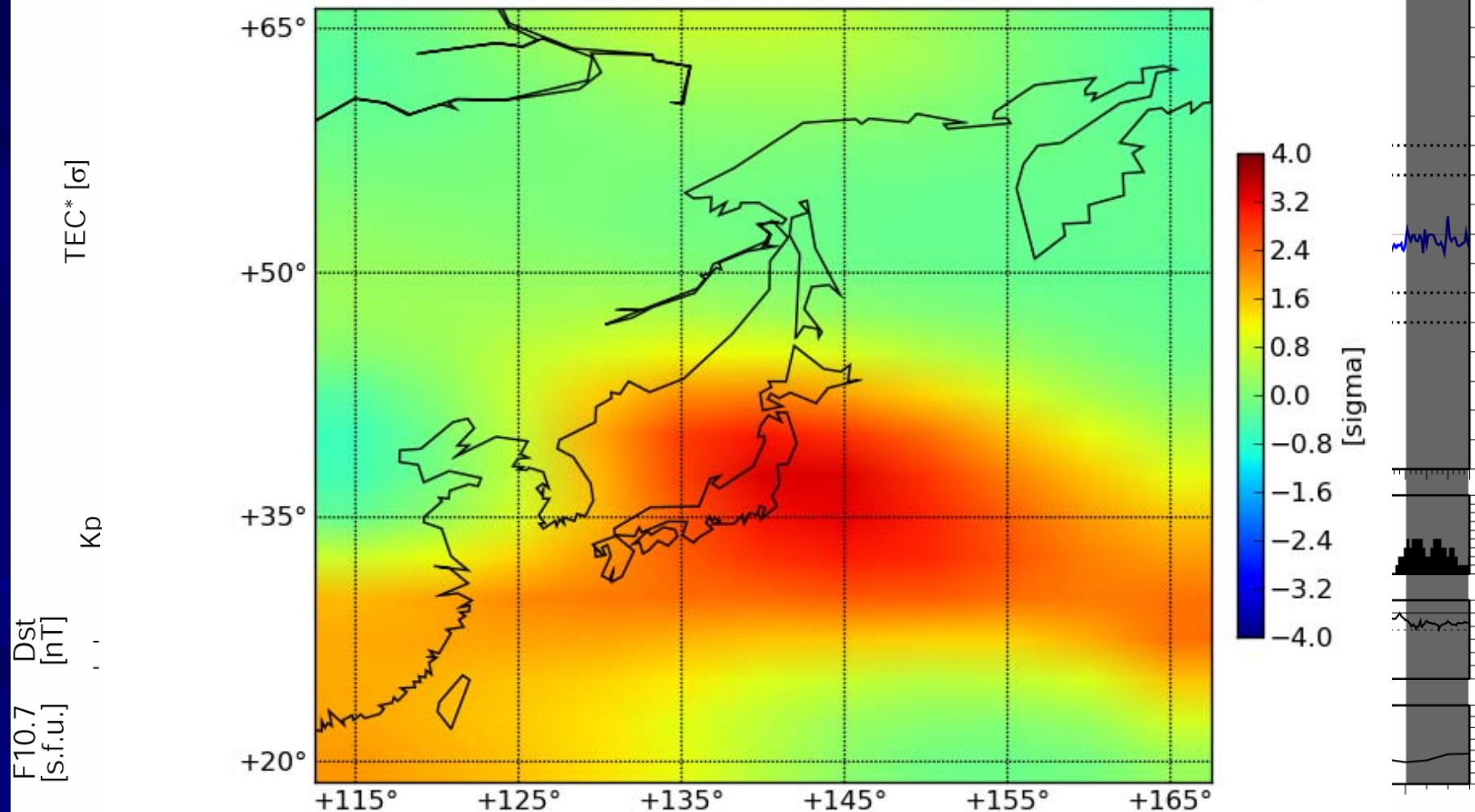
2004/10/23 08:56UT

M: 6.8

Denth: 23km

Spatial Distribution of anomalous TEC

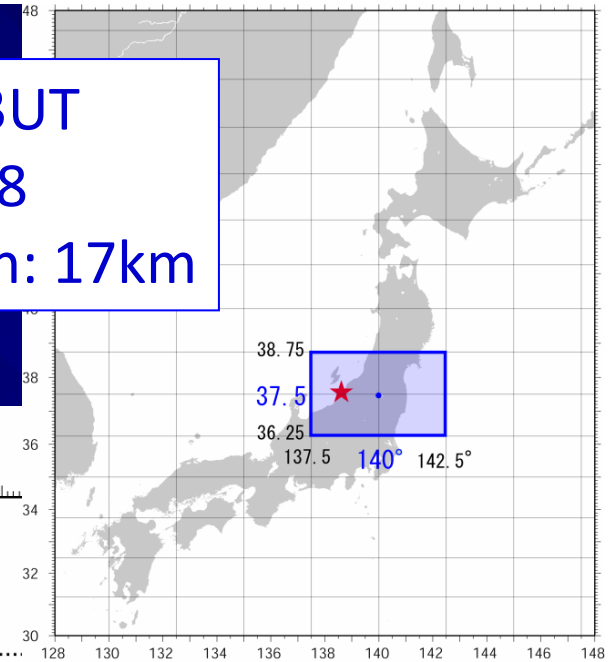
CODG GIM 15days TEC* Map 2004-10-20 12:00 UTC DOY: 294



Case Study 2

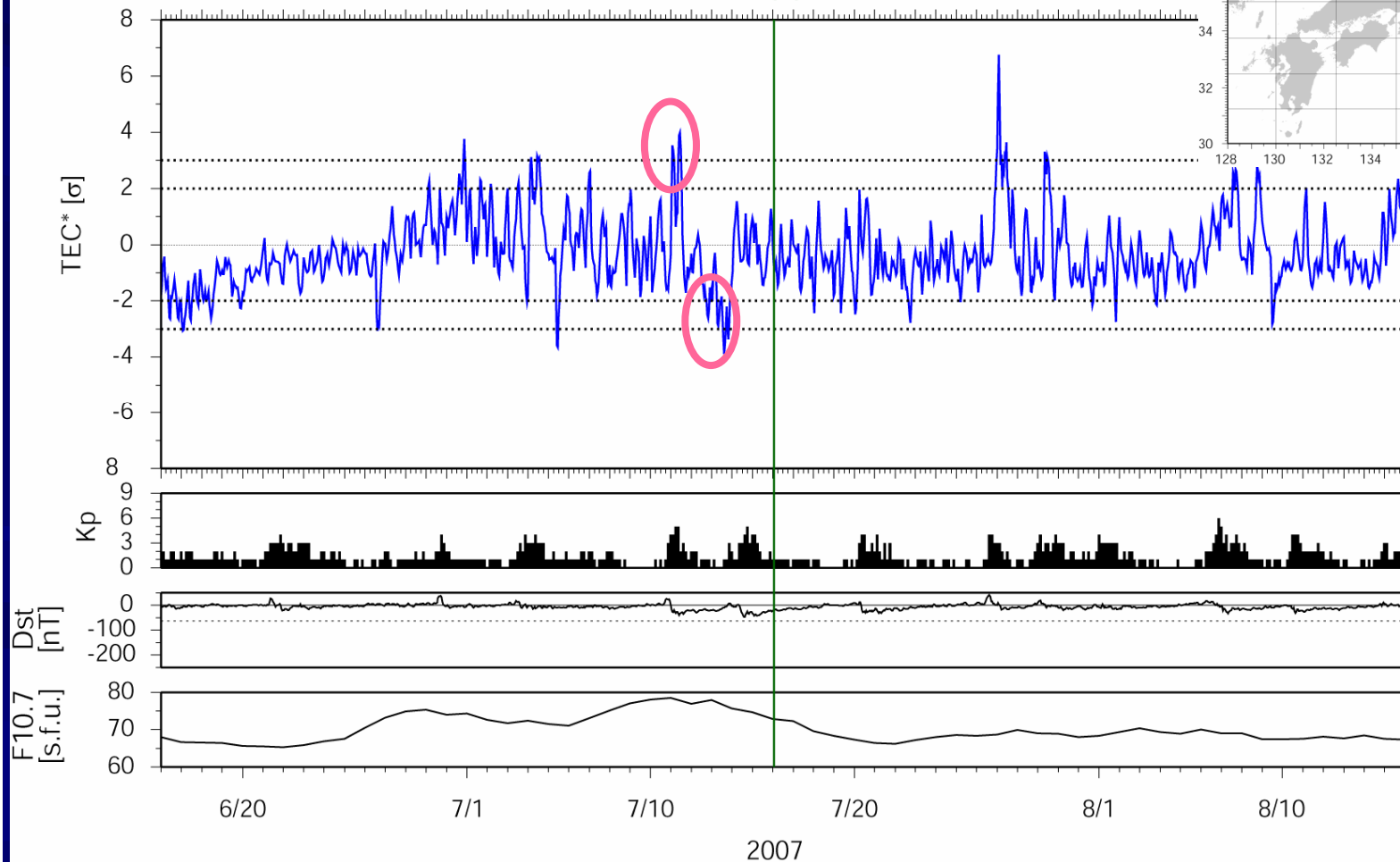
The 20070716 Chuetsu-Oki EQ

01:13UT
M: 6.8
Depth: 17km

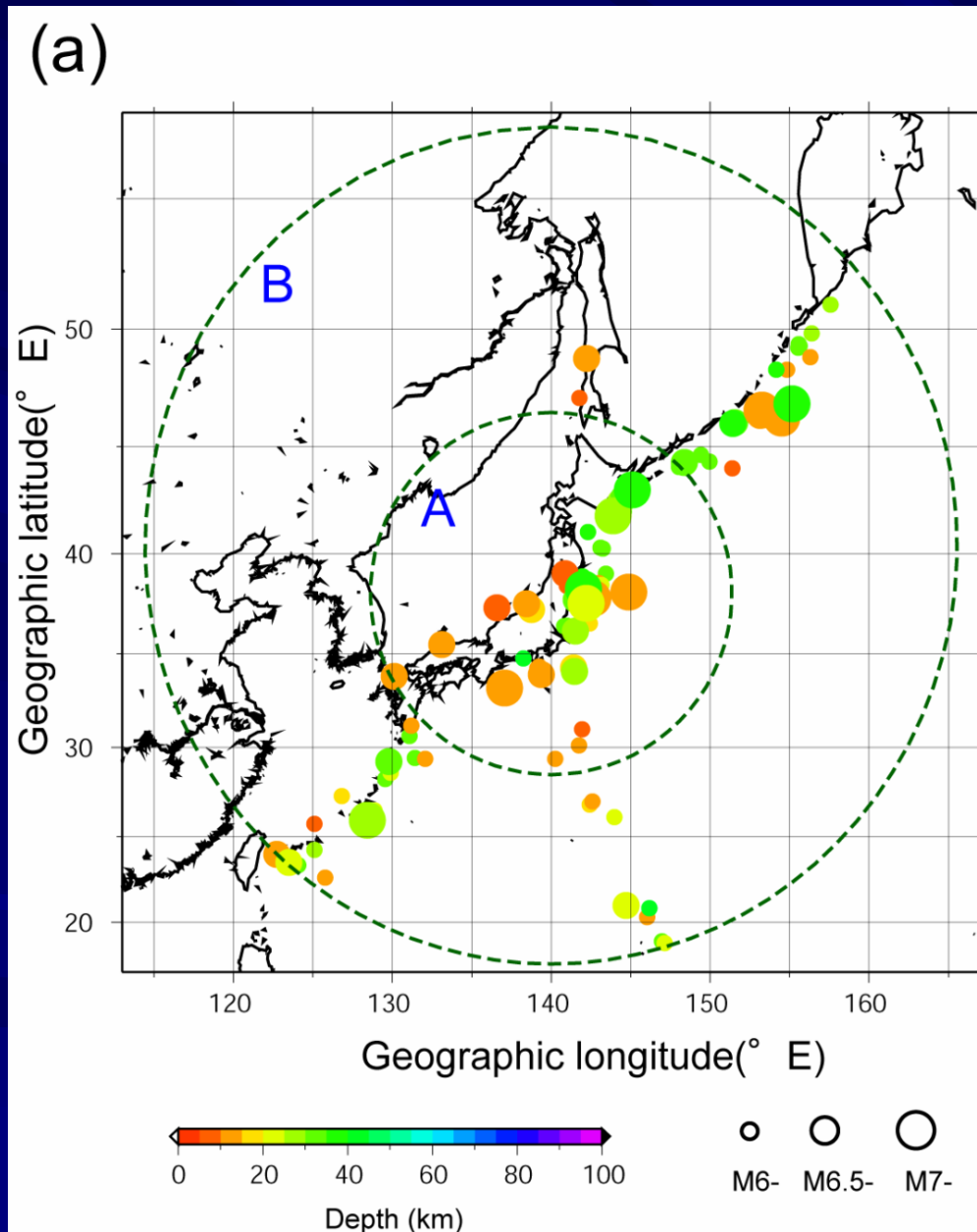


The 2007 offshore mid-Niigata Earthquake

M6.8



Statistical analysis of GIM-TEC* anomalies



GIM-TEC* data:

37.5° N, 140° E (Niigata Prefecture)

May 1998 – May 2010
12 years

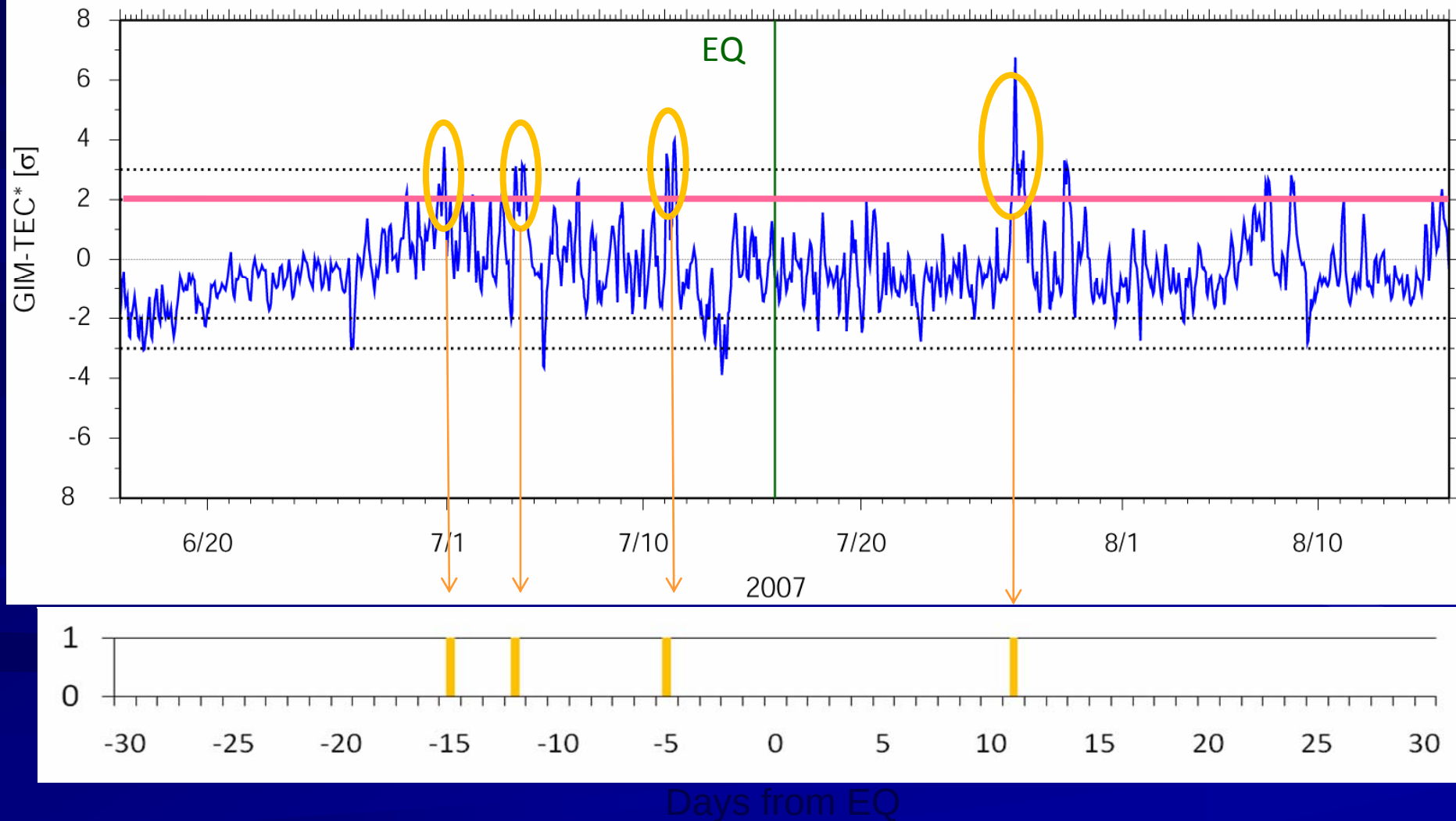
Earthquake data:
USGS

Analyzed earthquakes:
M ≥ 6.0, Depth ≤ 40 km

From 37.5° N, 140° E ,
A. 0. R. 1,000km (52 EQs)
B. 1,000. R. 2,224km (52 EQs)

Superposed Epoch Analysis...

Definition of Anomaly: Count 1 when GIM-TEC* exceeds 2.(-2.) criterion greater than 10 hours/day.



Superposed Epoch Analysis 2.

Repeat for the EQ in the study

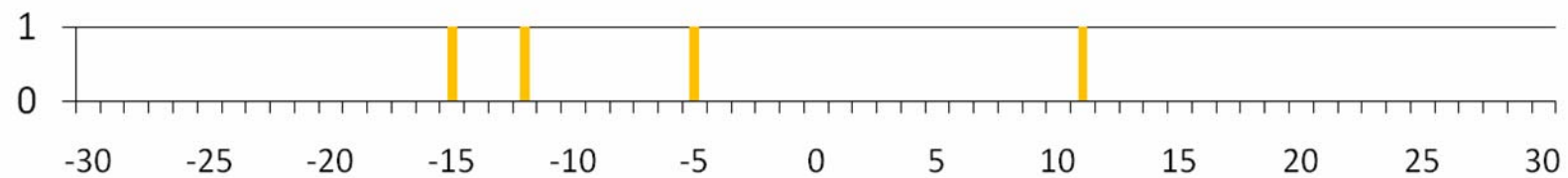
EQ 1



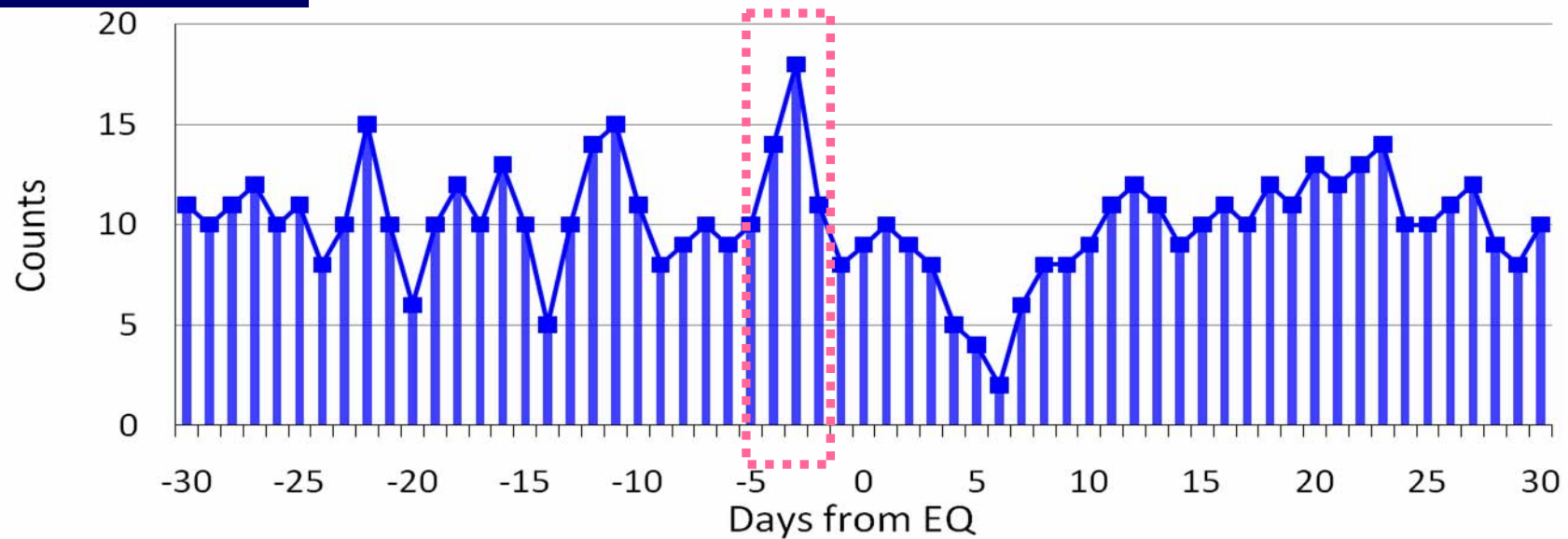
EQ 2



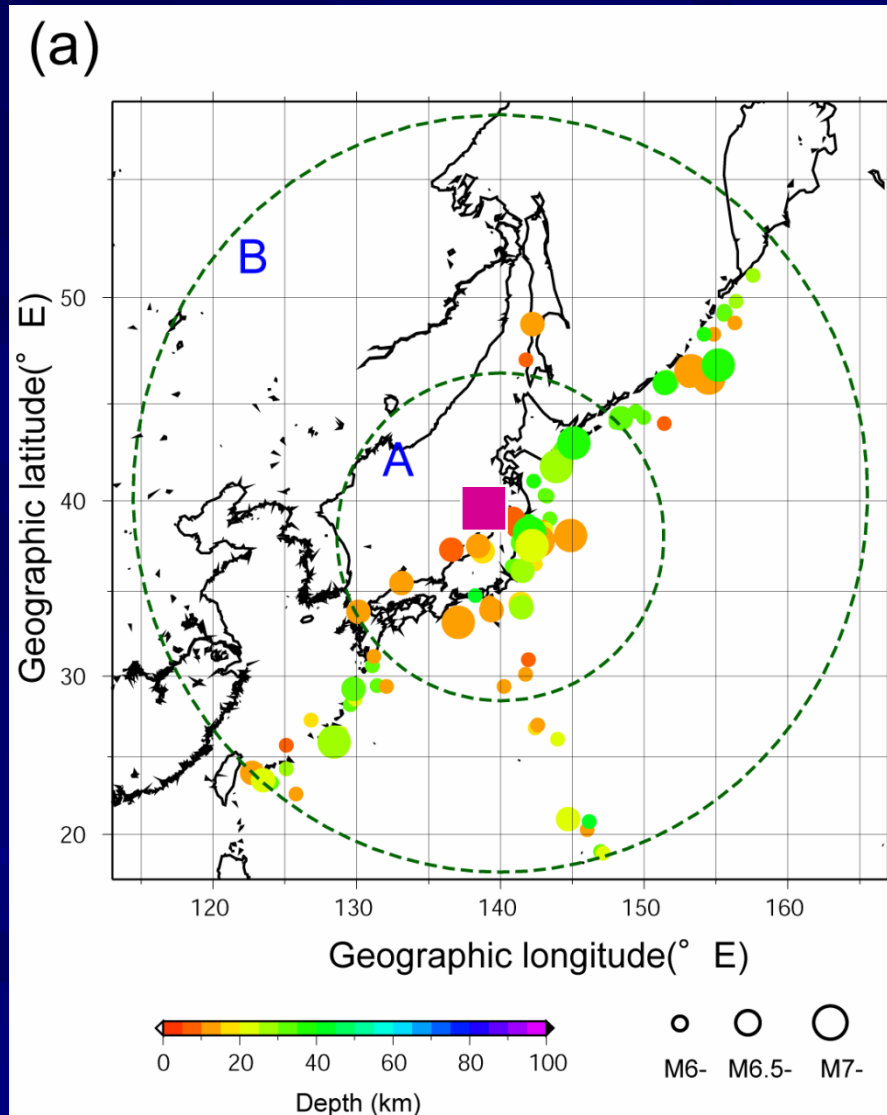
EQ N



Summation



Superposed Epoch Analysis 3



EQ with $M > 6.0$ around Japan

$M \geq 6.0$, $D < 40 \text{ km}$

37.5° N , 140° E

A. 0.R.1000 km (52 EQs)

B. 1000.R.2224 km (52 EQs)

[Evaluation of significance]

➤ Random-mean

“Choose 52 days over 12 years data randomly and perform SEA.

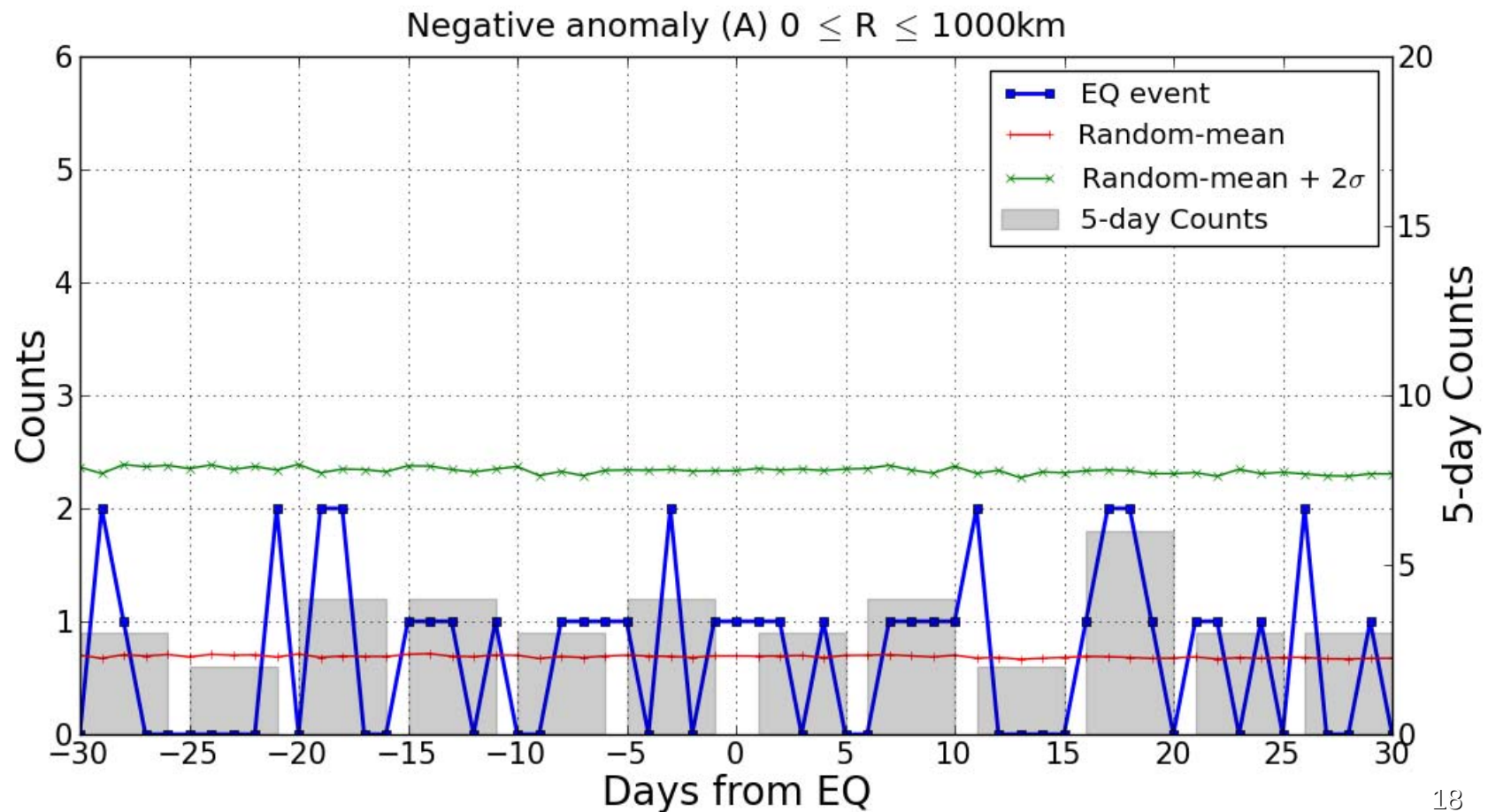
Repeat above process 10,000 times and take average.

➤ Random-mean+ 2σ

Results of Superposed Epoch Analysis 1.

Negative GIM-TEC* anomaly

0.R.1000km.52EQs.

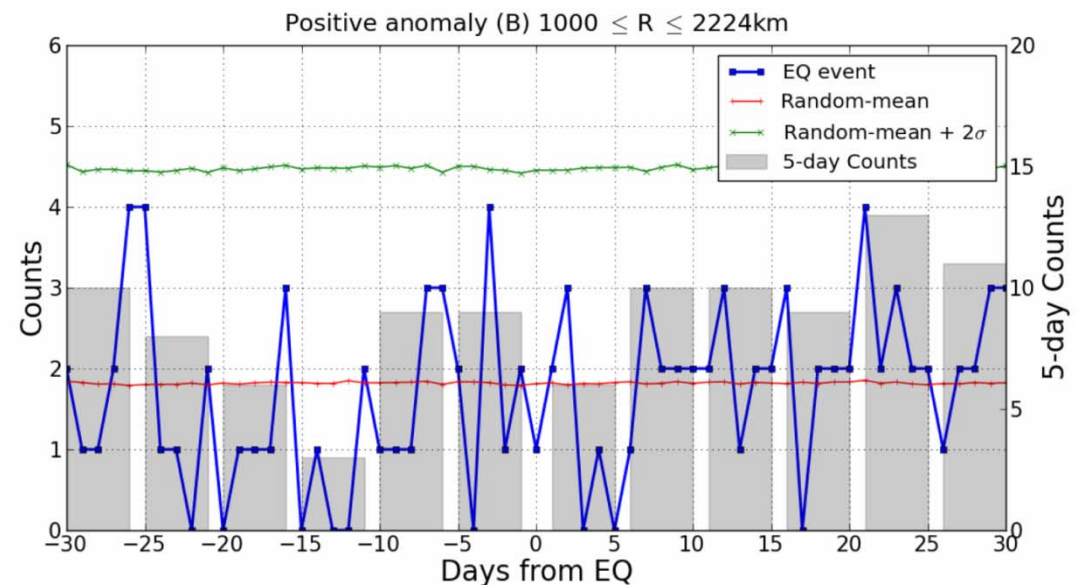
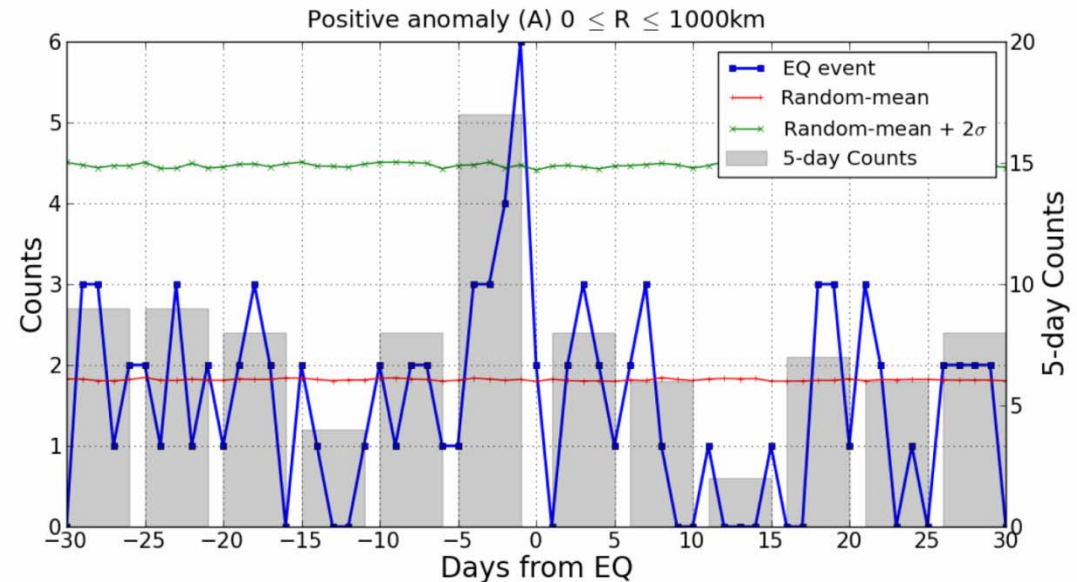


Results of Superposed Epoch Analysis 2

Positive GIM-TEC* anomaly

[Region A]
 $0 < R < 1000$ km
52 EQs $M \geq 6.0$

[Region B.]
 $1000 < R < 2224$ km
52 EQs $M \geq 6.0$

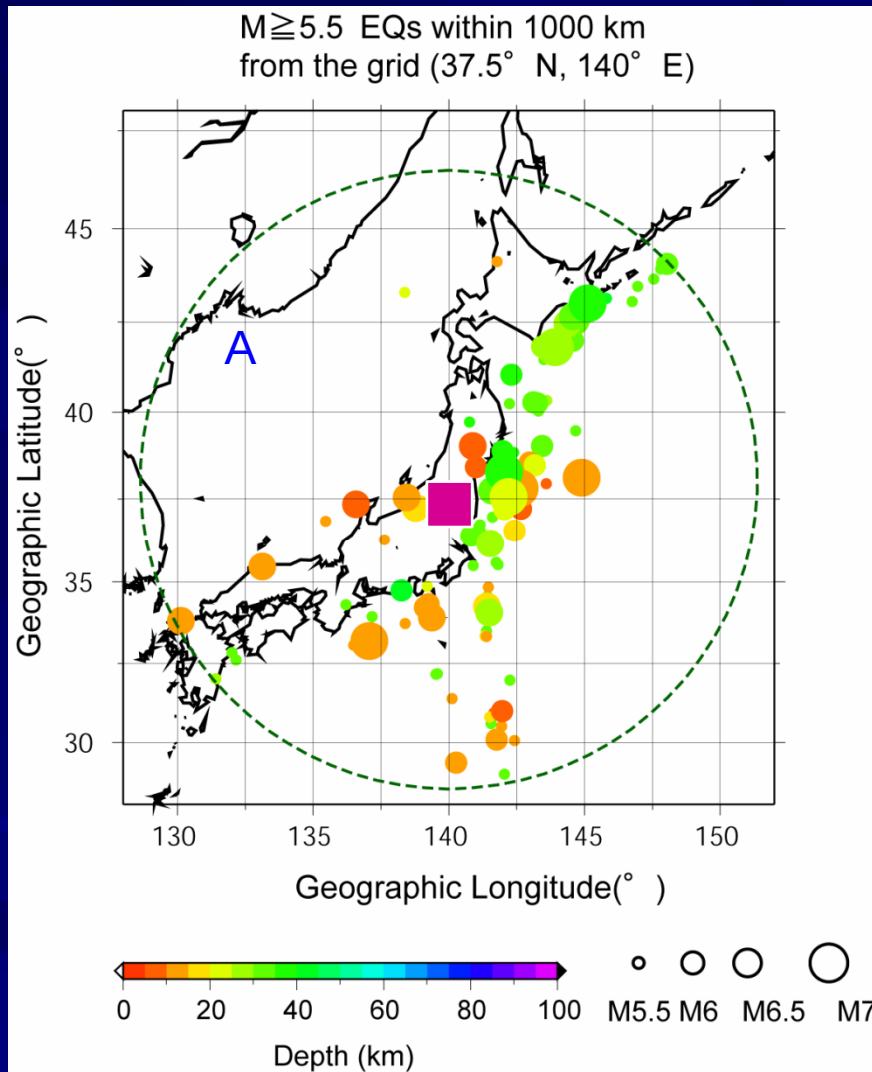


Results of Superposed Epoch Analysis.3.

Magnitude dependence



Target : Region A



[Number of EQs and M]

Region A: Depth < 40 km

(a). $M \geq 5.5$, 140 EQs

(b). $M \geq 5.6$, 119 EQs

(c). $M \geq 5.7$, 98 EQs

(d). $M \geq 5.8$, 79 EQs

(e). $M \geq 5.9$, 66 EQs

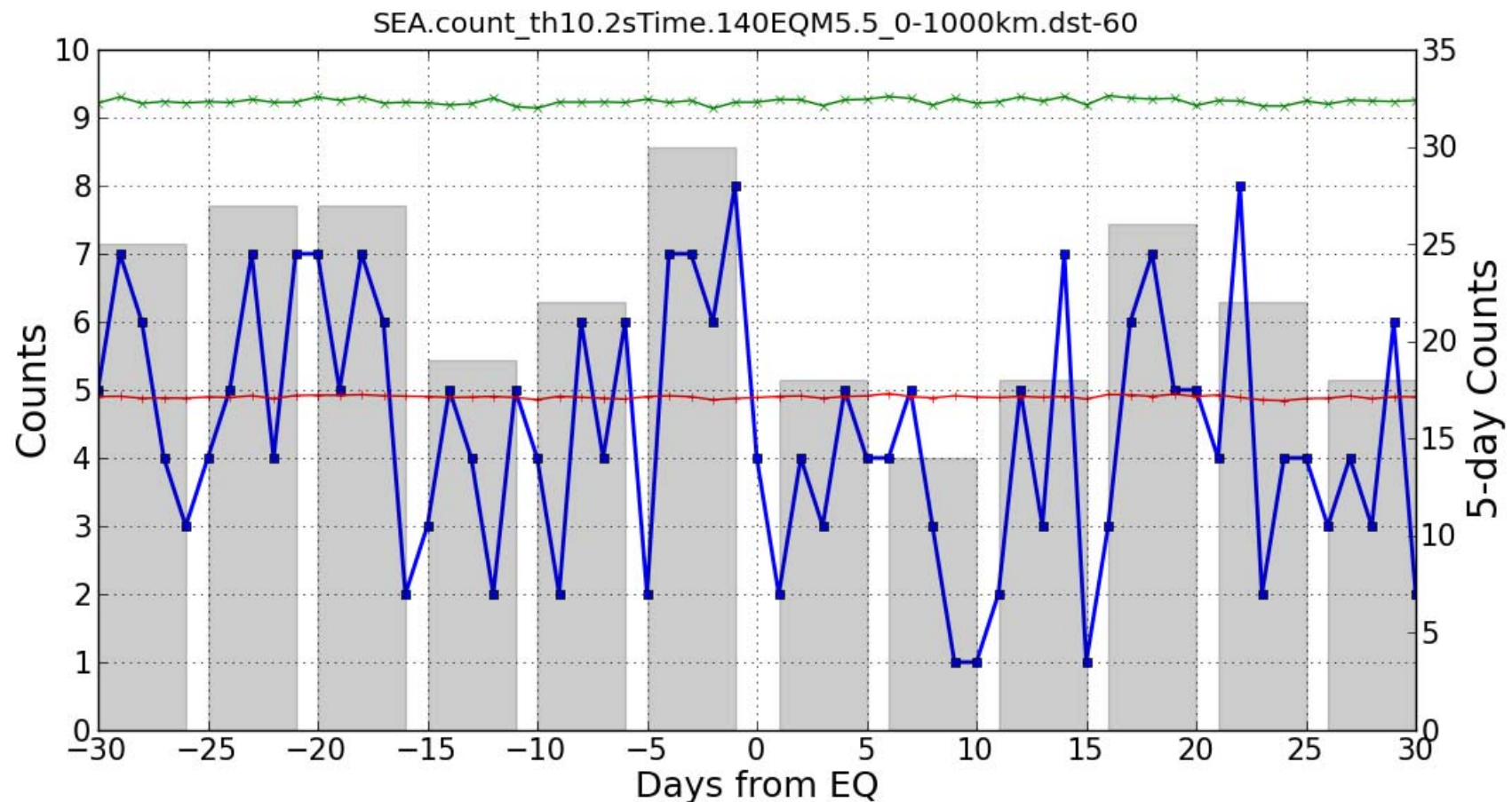
(f). $M \geq 6.0$, 52 EQs

EQ map for Region A : EQ $\geq$ M5.5

Results of Superposed Epoch Analysis 2

Positive GIM-TEC* anomaly

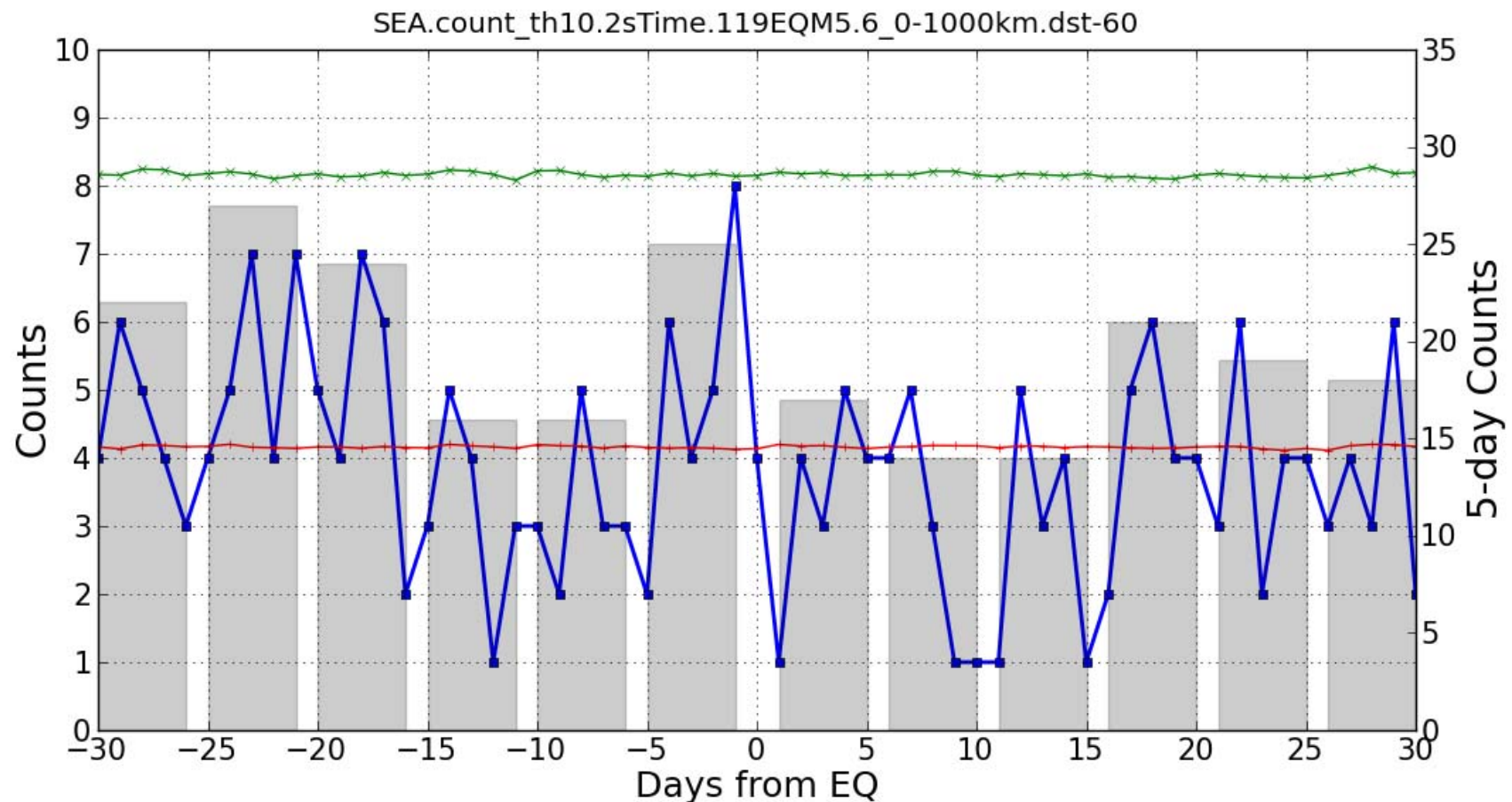
$M \geq 5.5$ 140EQs
(Region A: $0 < R < 1000$ km)



Results of Superposed Epoch Analysis 4

Positive GIM-TEC* anomaly

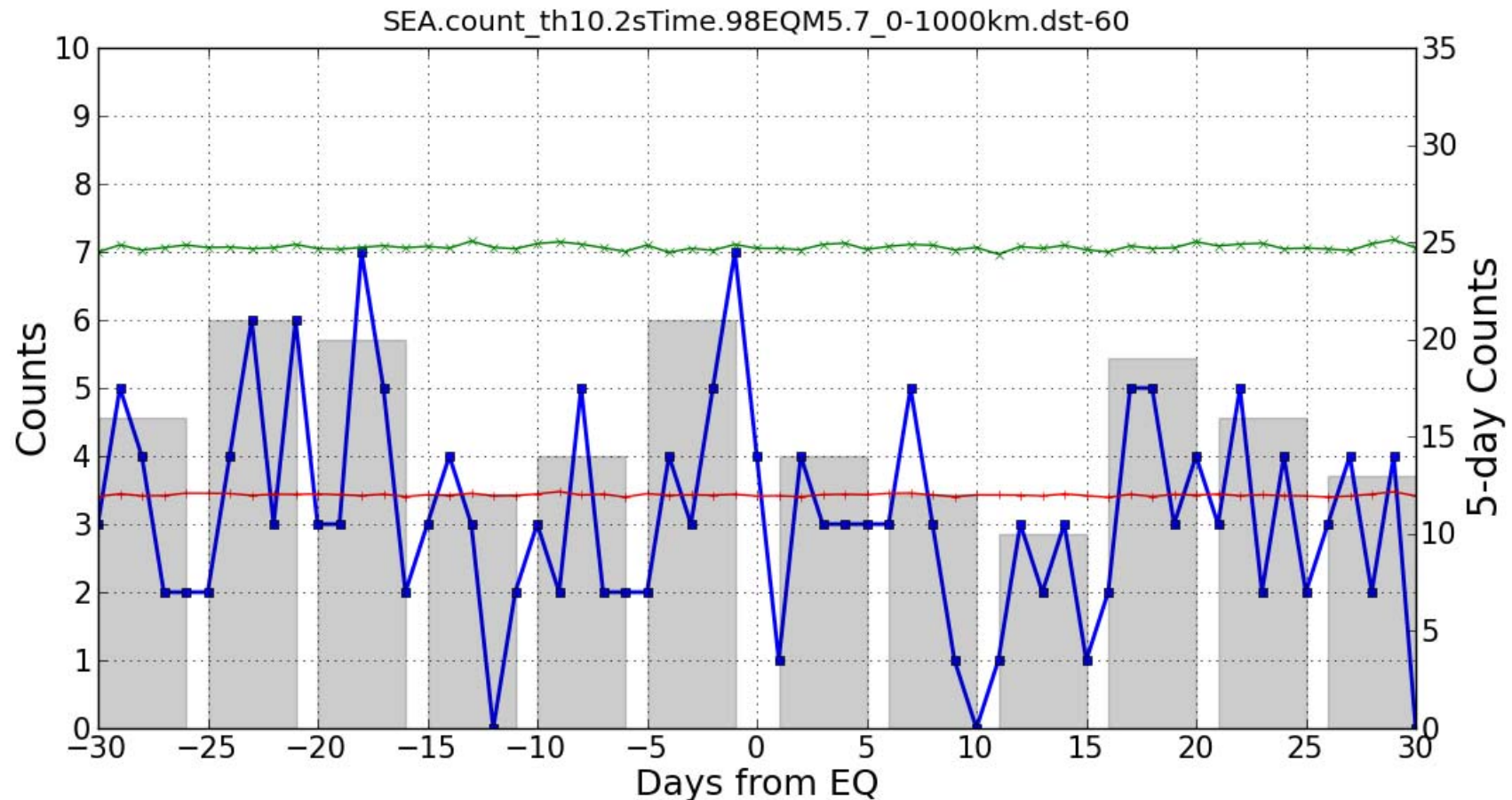
M ≥ 5.6 140EQs
(Region A: $0 < R \leq 1000$ km)



Results of Superposed Epoch Analysis 4

Positive GIM-TEC* anomaly

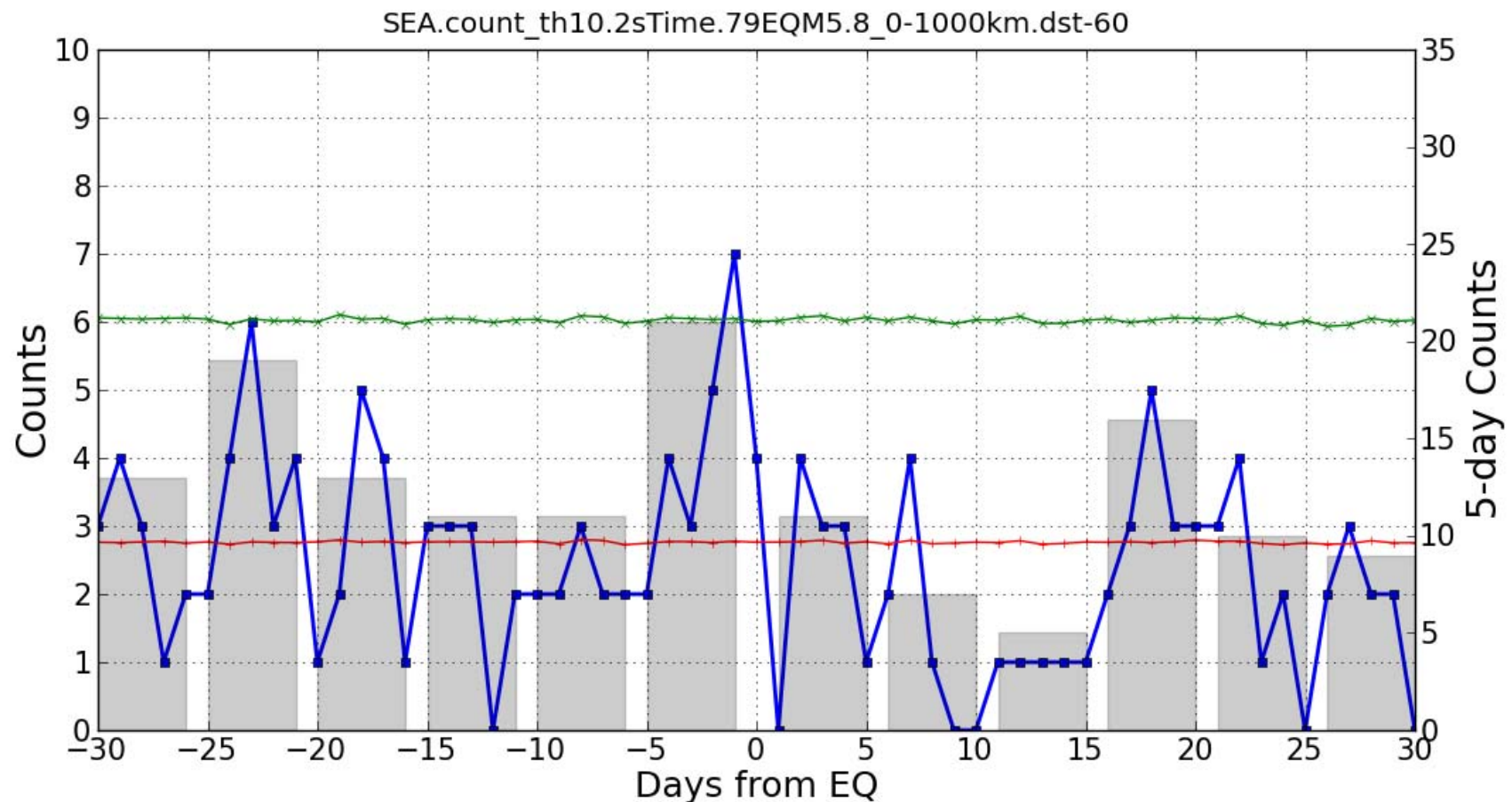
$M \geq 5.7$ 140EQs
(Region A: $0 < R < 1000$ km)



Results of Superposed Epoch Analysis 4

Positive GIM-TEC* anomaly

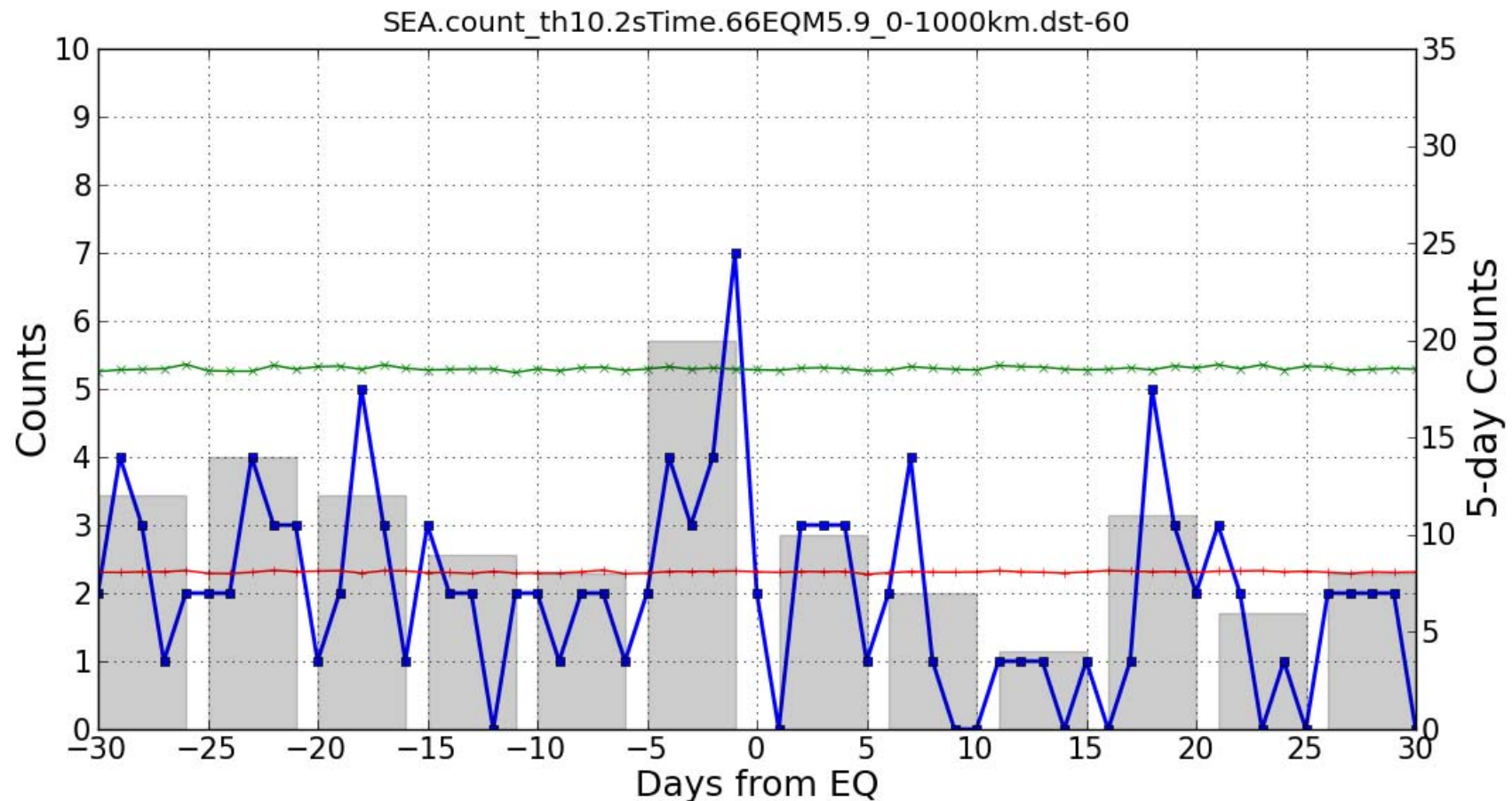
M $\geq$ 5.8 140EQs
(Region A: $0 < R \leq 1000$ km)



Results of Superposed Epoch Analysis 4

Positive GIM-TEC* anomaly

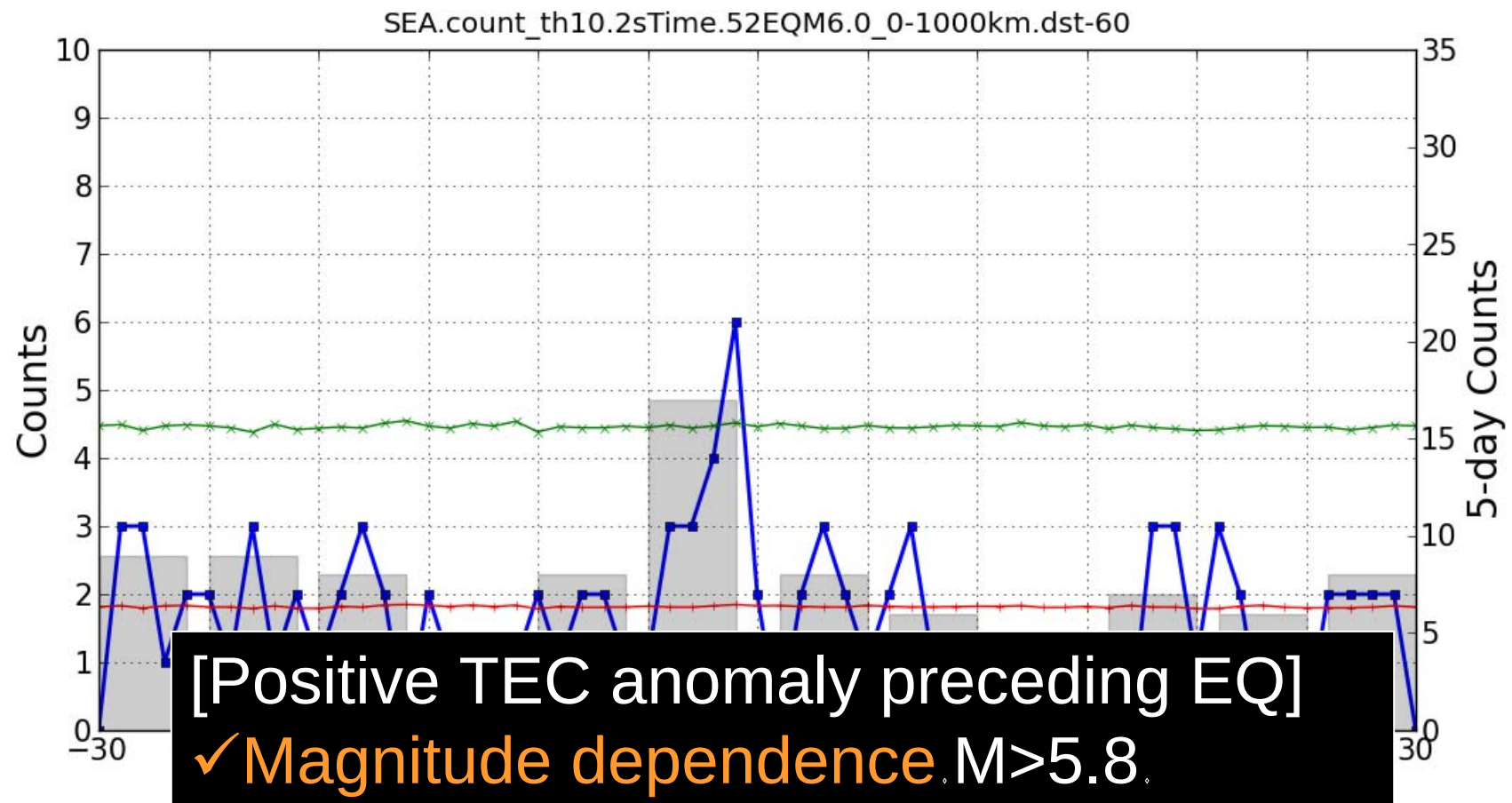
$M \geq 5.9$ 140EQs
(Region A: $0 < R \leq 1000$ km)



Results of Superposed Epoch Analysis 4

Positive GIM-TEC* anomaly

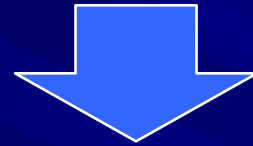
$M \geq 6.0$ 140EQs
(Region A: $0 < R \leq 1000$ km)



SEA for TEC anomaly

Statistical Analysis of Seismic Activities based on TEC Anomalies

- Validation of SEA of TEC anomaly based on Seismic events
- Validation for practical earthquake forecast



SEA of seismic activities based on TEC anomaly

The number of days of positive GIM-TEC* anomaly: 155 days
(May 1998/ – May 2010 (12 years) at (37.5N, 140E) for GIM)

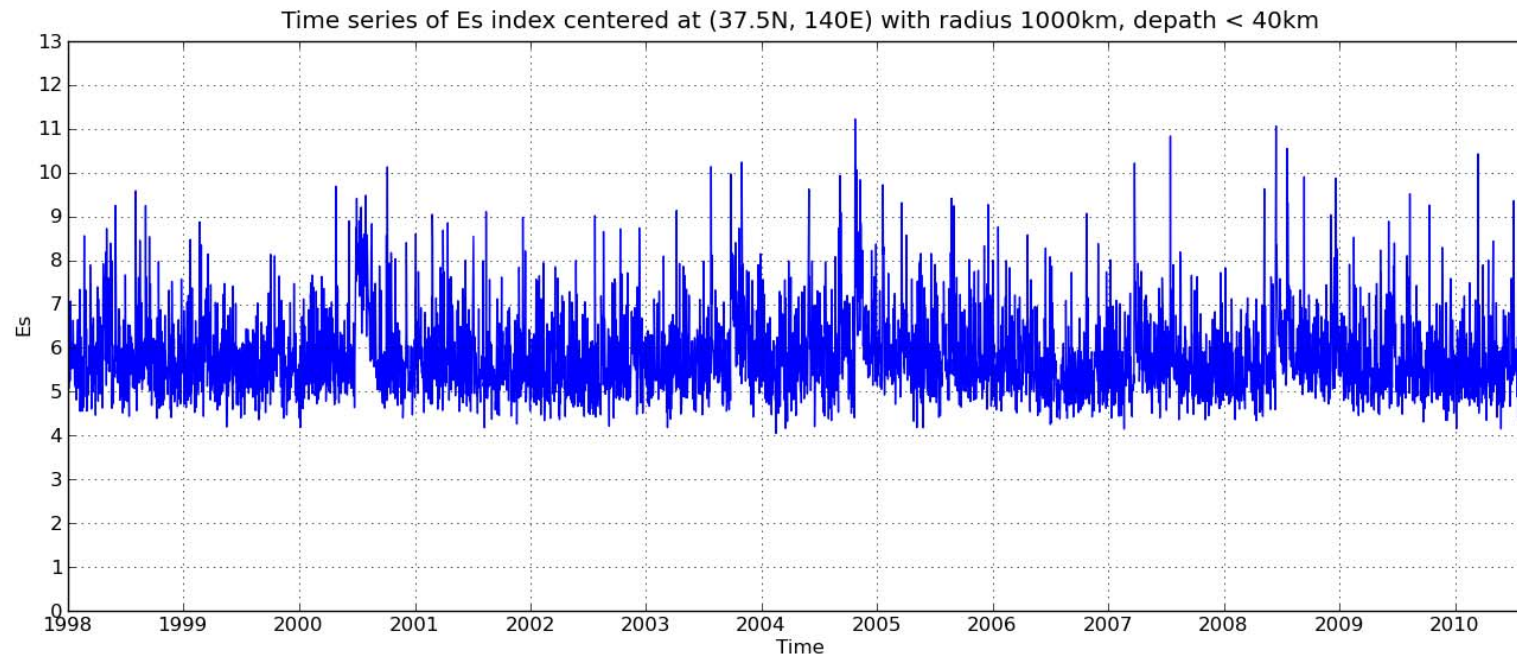
Definition of seismic activity for SEA

Es index

$$Es = \log \sum_{1\text{day}} \frac{10^{4.8+1.5M}}{r^2}$$

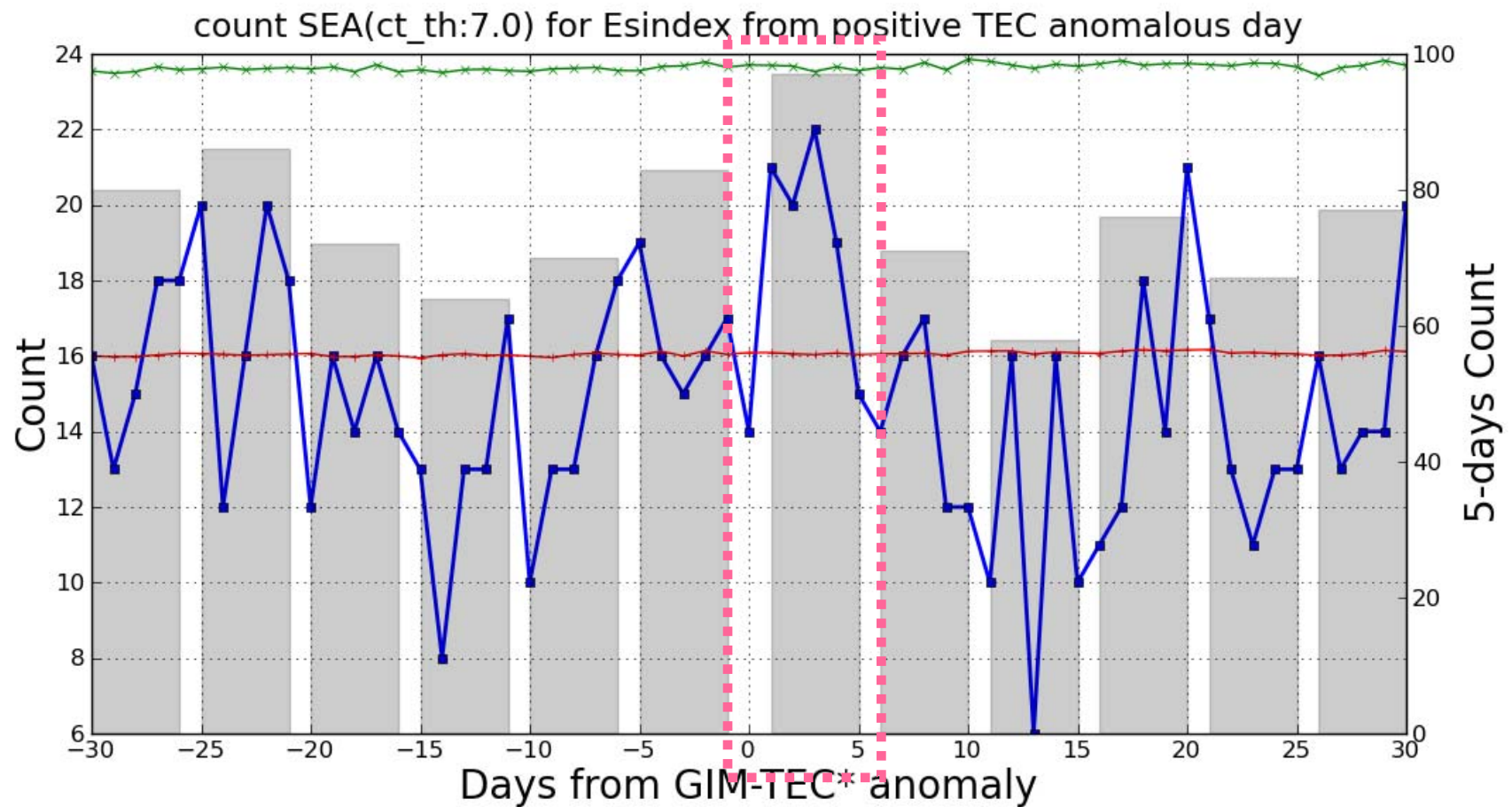
Daily sum of the seismic energy
at the site
 r : hypocenter distance

Hirano and Hattori., JAES, 2011



Results of SEA for Seismic Activity

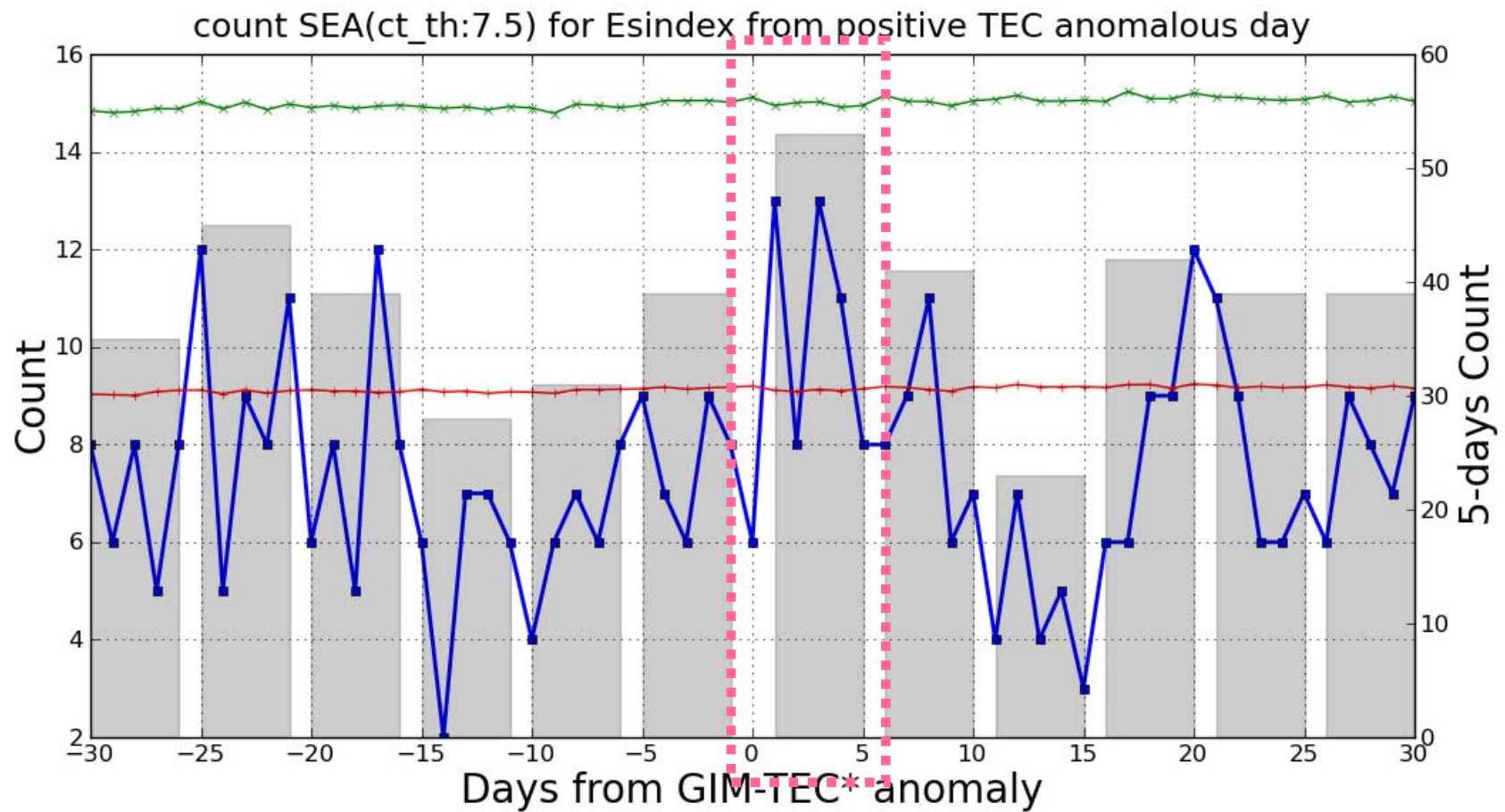
Count for Es index .7.0



The day of positive GIM-TEC* anomaly

Results of SEA for Seismic Activity

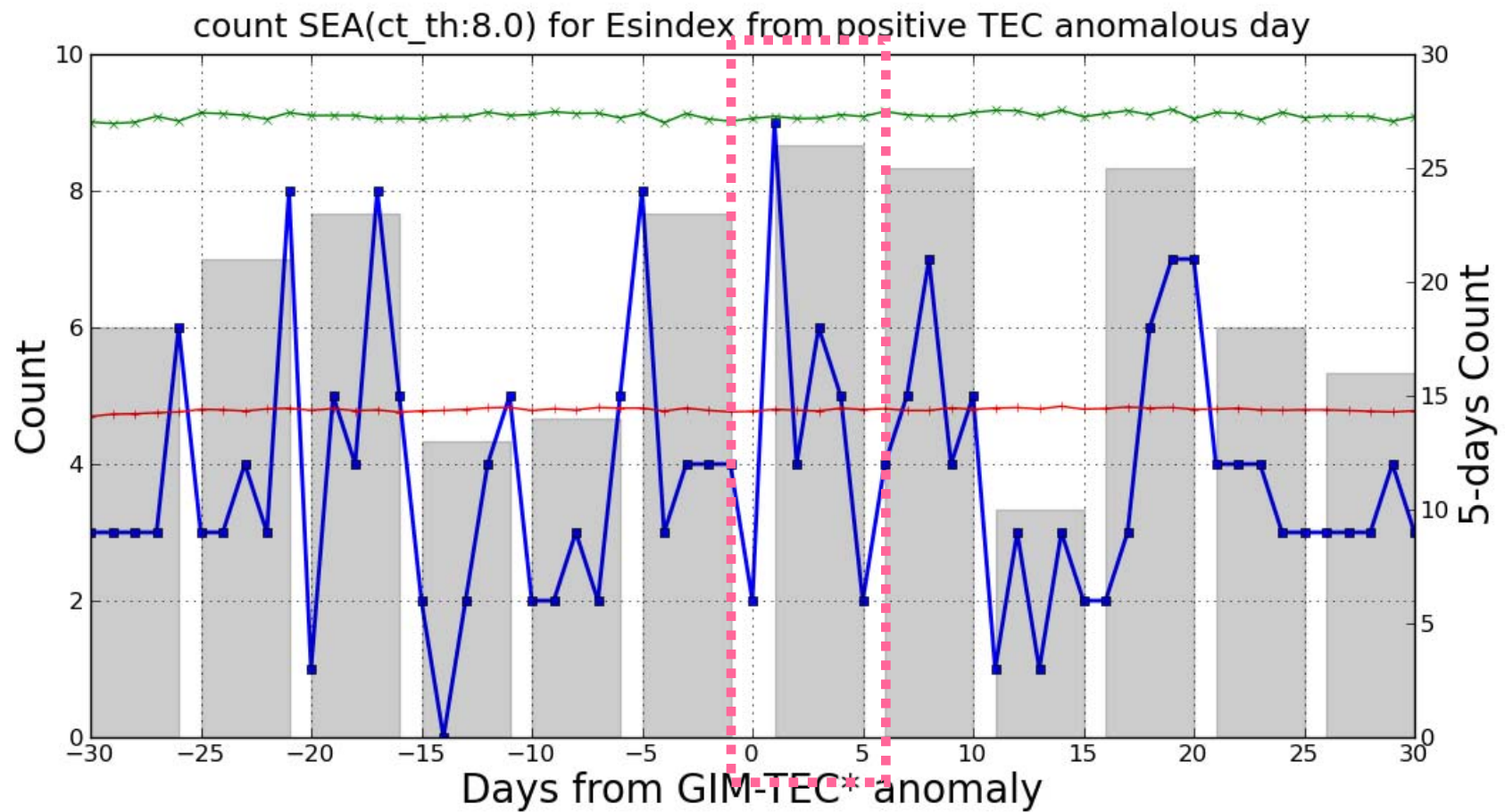
Count for Es index .7.5



The day of positive GIM-TEC* anomaly

Results of SEA for Seismic Activity

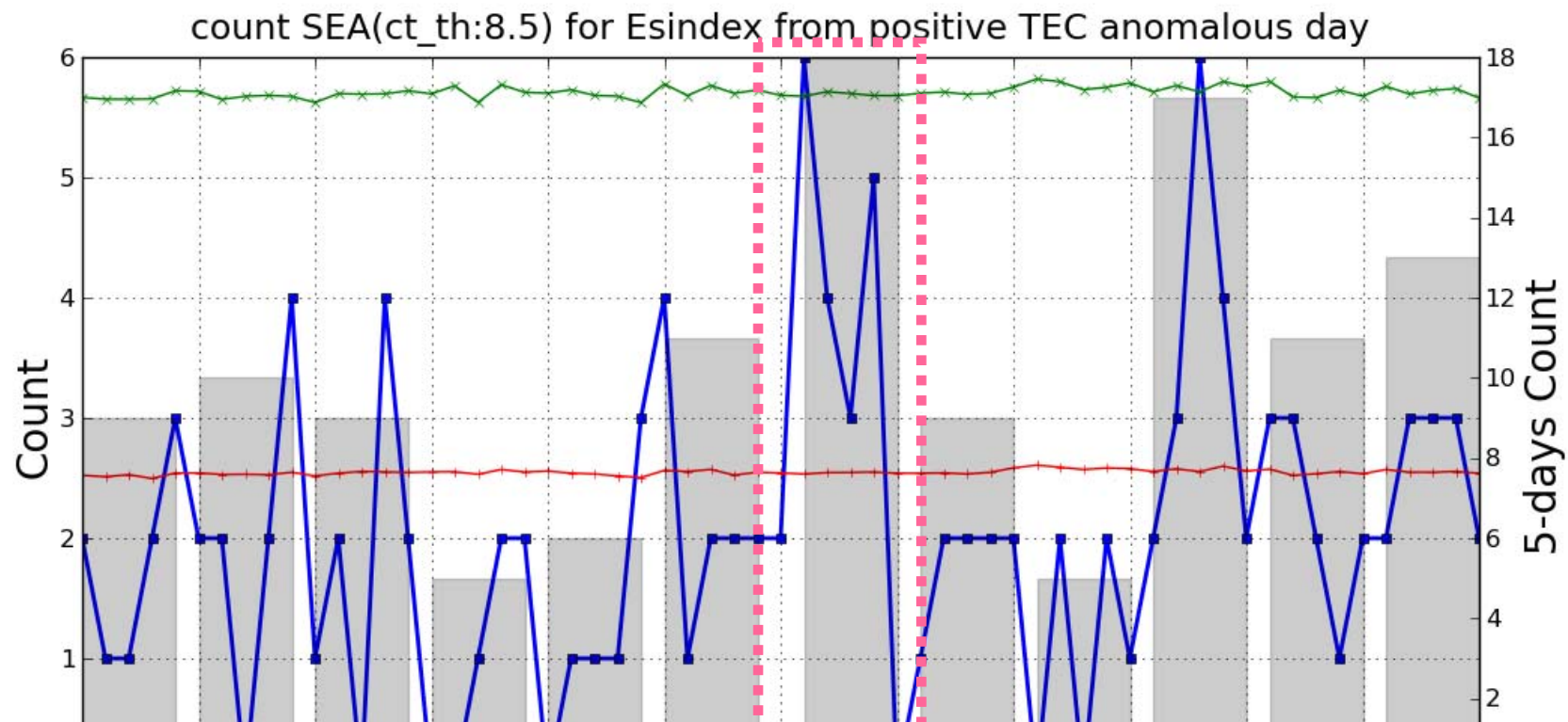
Count for Es index .8.0



The day of positive GIM-TEC* anomaly

Results of SEA for Seismic Activity

Count for Es index .8.5



Regional seismic activity seems to be **activated 1-5 days after the appearance of positive TEC anomaly**

→ **Good agreement with results of SEA for TEC anomaly**

The day of positive GIM-TEC* anomaly

Summary

EQ-based SEA analysis.



EQ with $M \geq 6.0$, $D \leq 40$ km around Japan
Increase of positive TEC anomalies 1-5 days
before the EQ (Especially, 1 days before)

- ✓ Epicentral distance dependence
- ✓ Magnitude dependence (Especially $M \geq 5.8$)

Consistent results

TEC-based SEA analysis.

1-5 days after the positive anomaly
Tendency of increase of the EQ activity

Regions for SEA

Around Mexico

....Geographical coordinate
(105°W, 20°N)
Geomagnetic coordinate
(35.28°W, 28.16°N)

Around China Sichuan, Qinghai EQs.

Geographical coordinate
(103.6°E, 31.0°N)
Geomagnetic coordinate
(176.16°E, 20.88°N)

Around Japan

Geographical coordinate
(140°E, 37.5°N)
Geomagnetic coordinate
(151.09°W, 28.71°N)

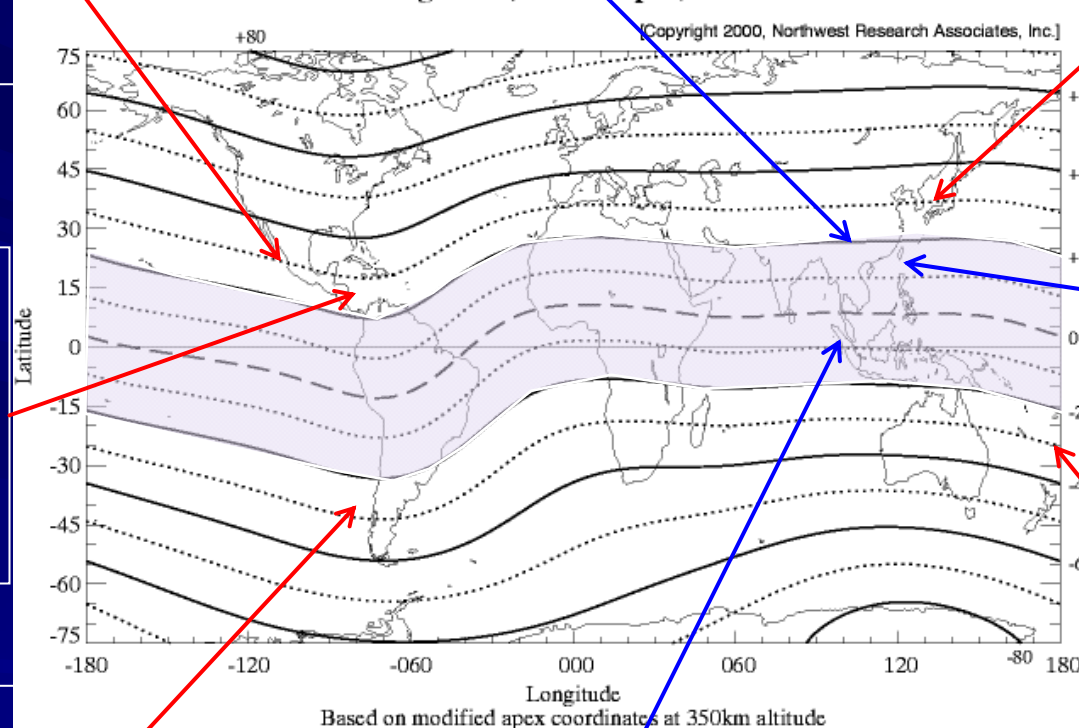
Around Haiti

Geographical coordinate
(80°W, 15°N)
Geomagnetic coordinate
(8.29°W, 24.79°N)

Around Chile

Geographical coordinate
(75°W, 37.5°S)
Geomagnetic coordinate
(2.49°W, 27.34°S)

Geomagnetic (350km Apex) Latitudes



Around Taiwan Chi-Chi EQ.

Geographical coordinate
(120.8°E, 23.9°N)
Geomagnetic coordinate
(168.0°W, 14.0°N)

Around Indonesia (Sumatra EQs)

Geographical coordinate
(95.8°E, 3.3°N)
Geomagnetic coordinate
(168.0°E, 6.49°S)

Around NZ

Geographical coordinate
(180°E, 25°S)
Geomagnetic coordinate
(103.03°W, 27.52°S)

Summary & Discussion

Latitude dependence of EQ-related TEC anomaly (Kon, Master thesis 2011)

Study Area		Positive GIM-TEC* Anomaly	GIM-TEC* Negative Anomaly
Low Latitude	Taiwan.M $\geq$ 6.0.	x	1 - 5 days before
	Southern China.M $\geq$ 6.0.	x	4 – 6days before
	Indone		2 days before
Mid-latitude	Mex.		x
	Haiti.M $\geq$ 6.0.	1.5days before	x
	Chile.M $\geq$ 5.5.	11.15.26.25 days before	21.25 days before
	NZ.M $\geq$ 6.0.	6.15 days before	x

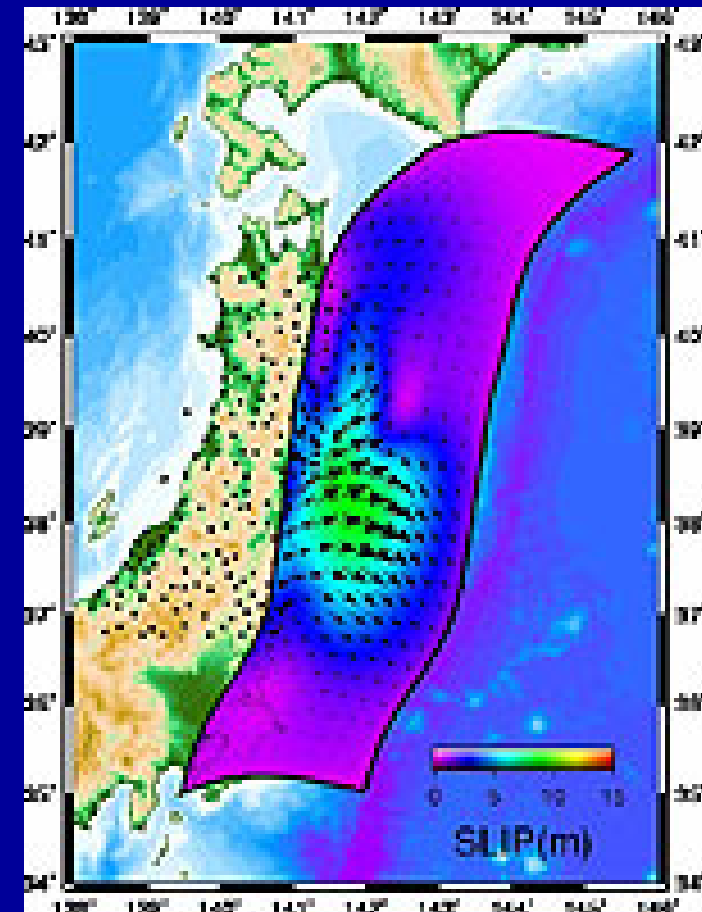
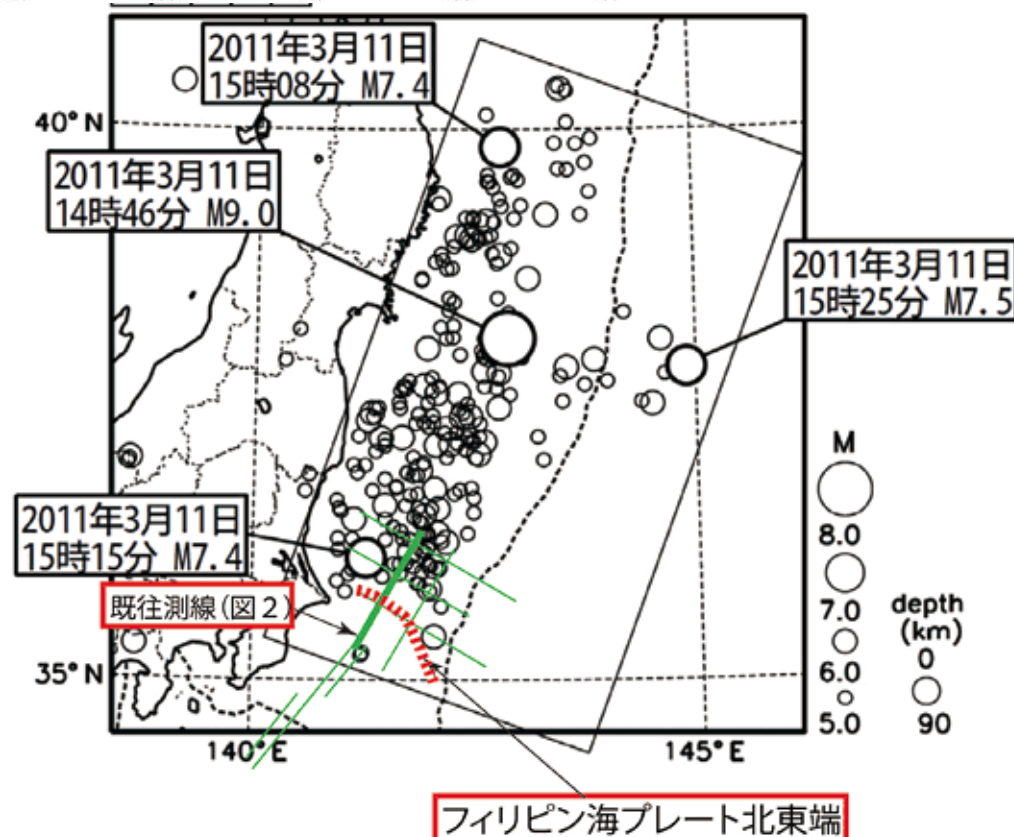
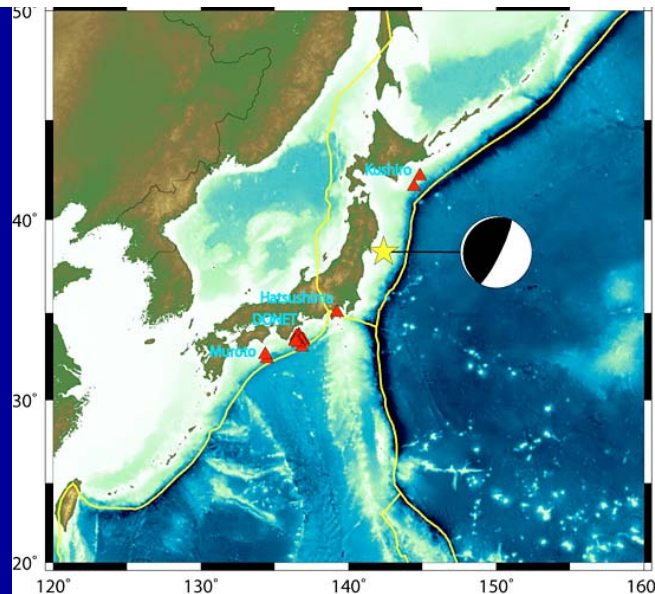
Mechanism of EQ-related
Ionospheric Anomalies

The 20110311 Tohoku EQ

2011/03/11 14:36UT

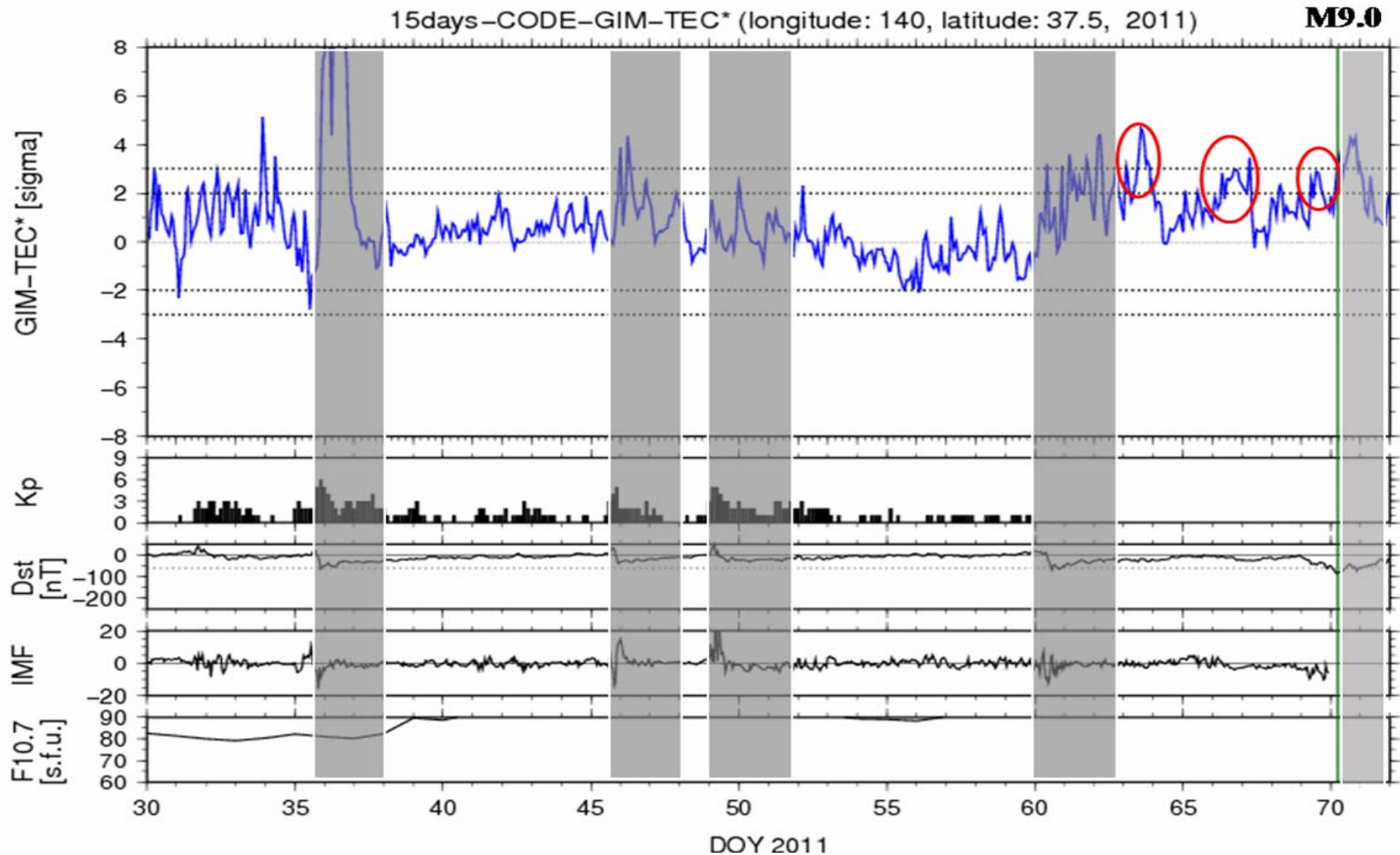
M: 9.0

Depth: 24km



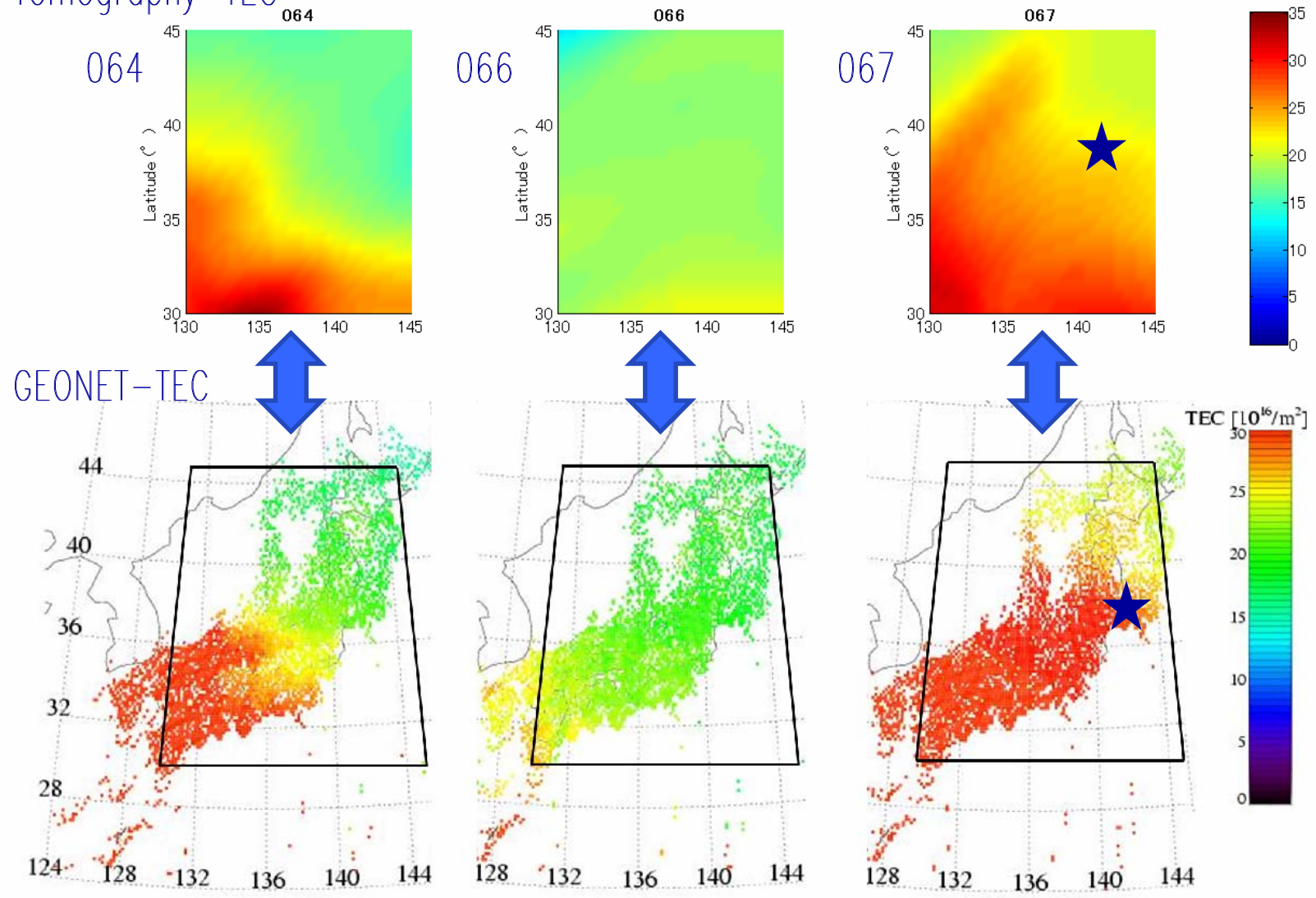
The 20110311 M9.0 Tohoku EQ

GIM-TEC*



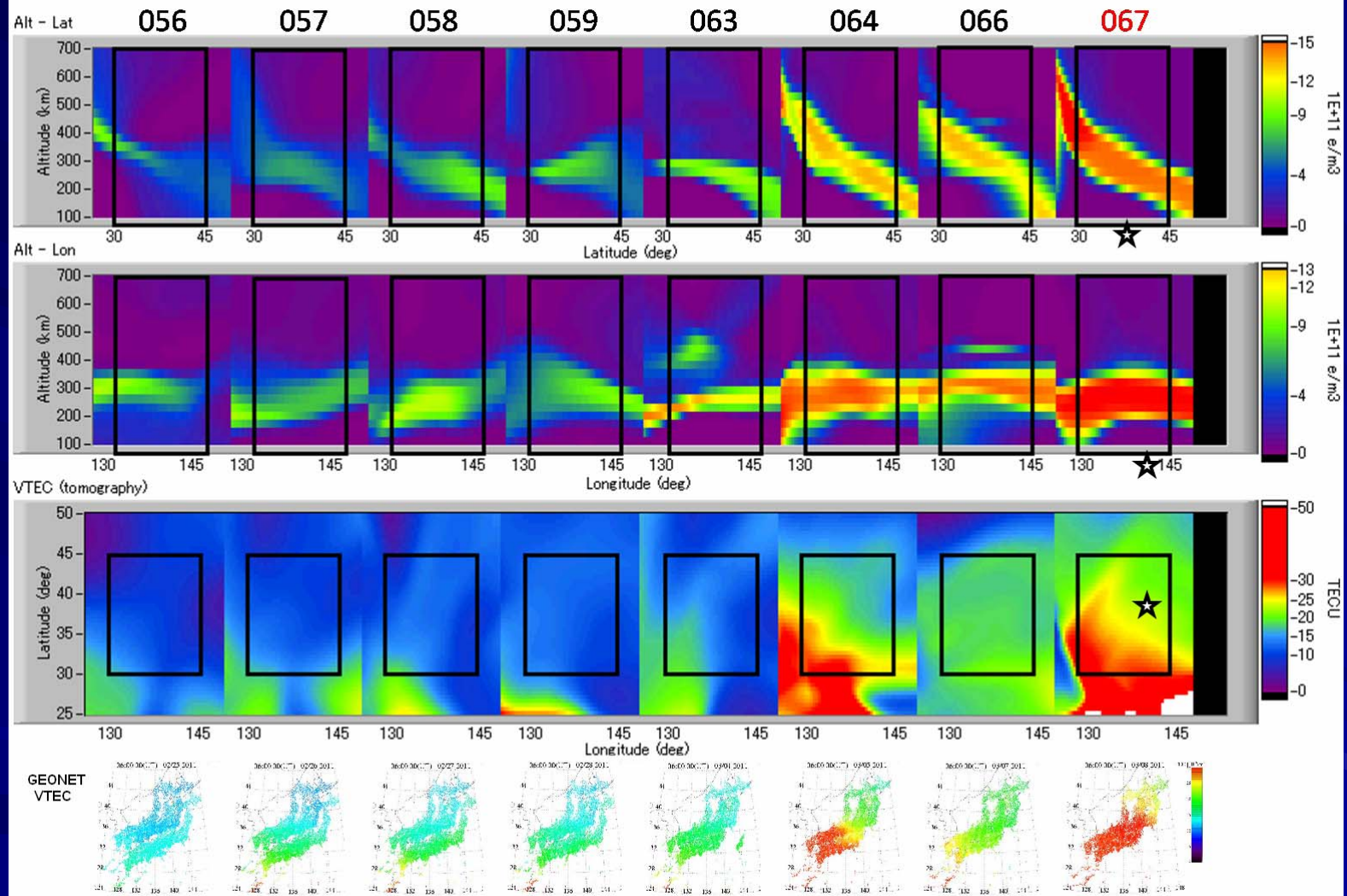
Comparison of integrated images (100 – 700 km) with GEONET-TEC map

Tomography-TEC

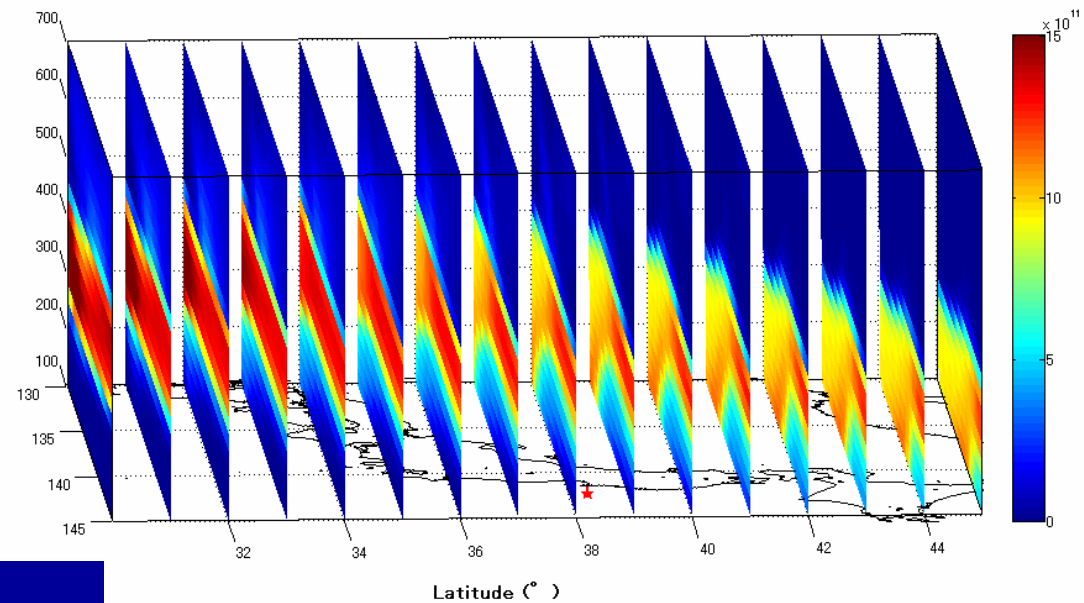
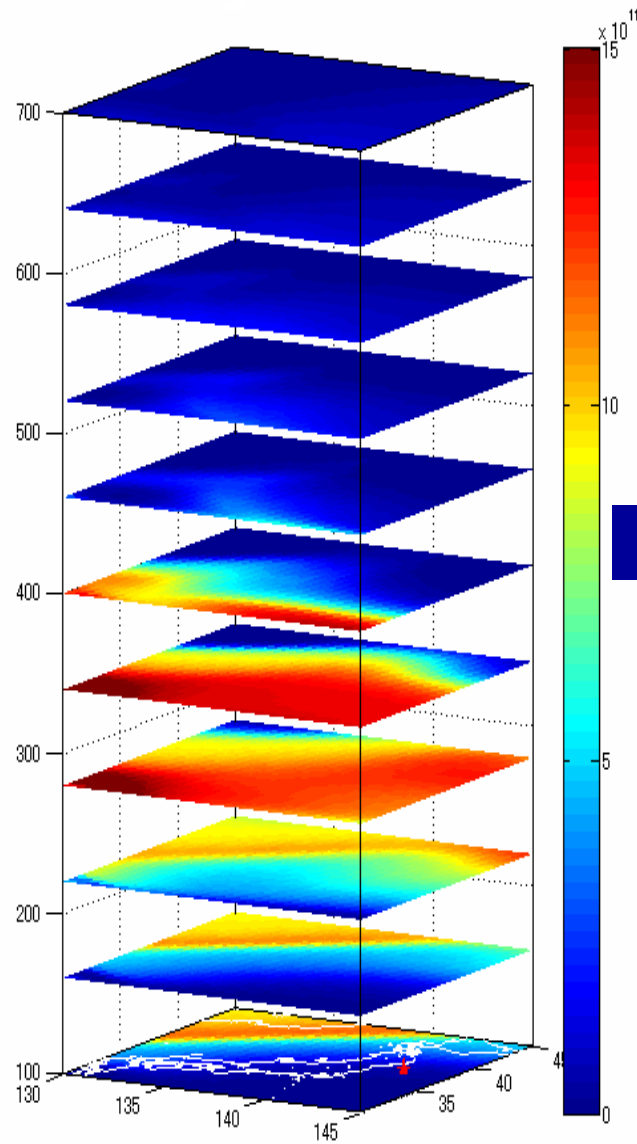


Good agreement with GEONET-TEC map

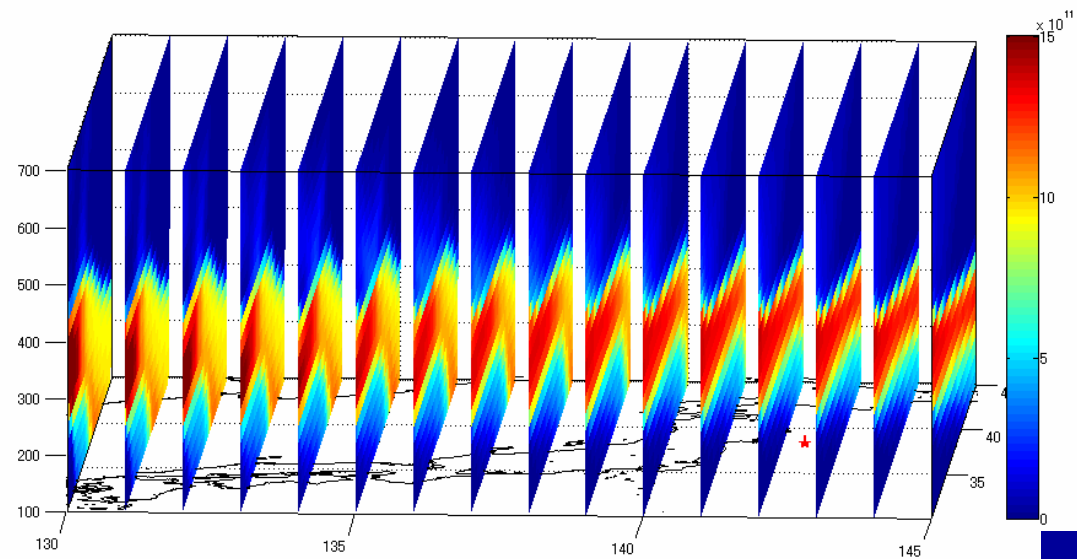
06:00 UT ± 2.5 min



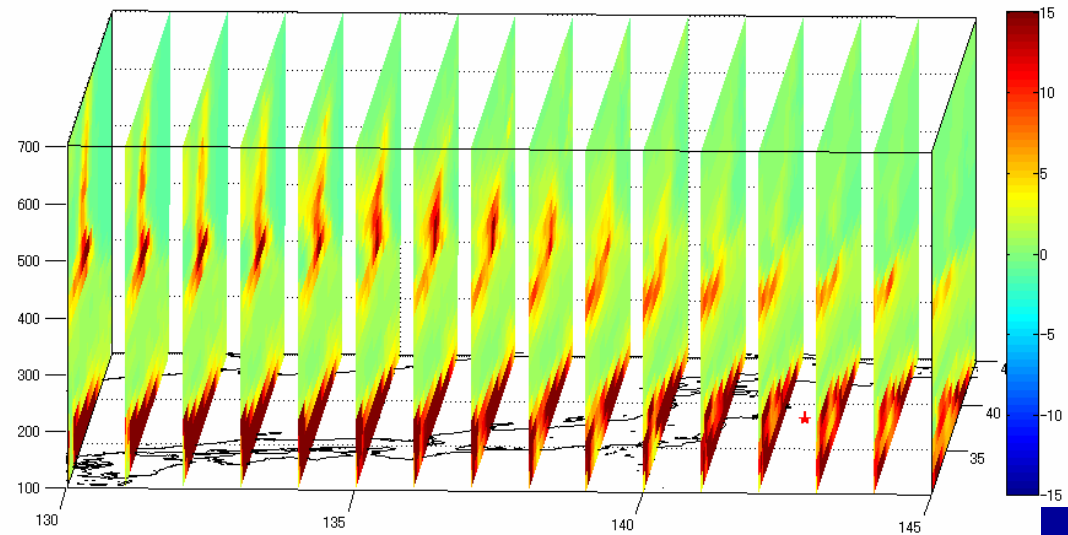
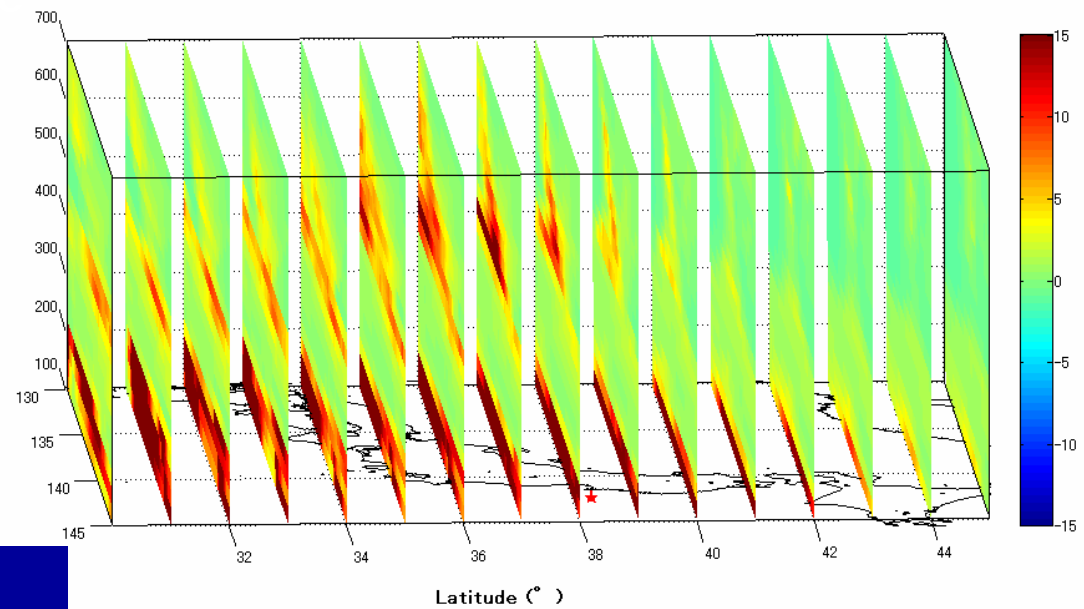
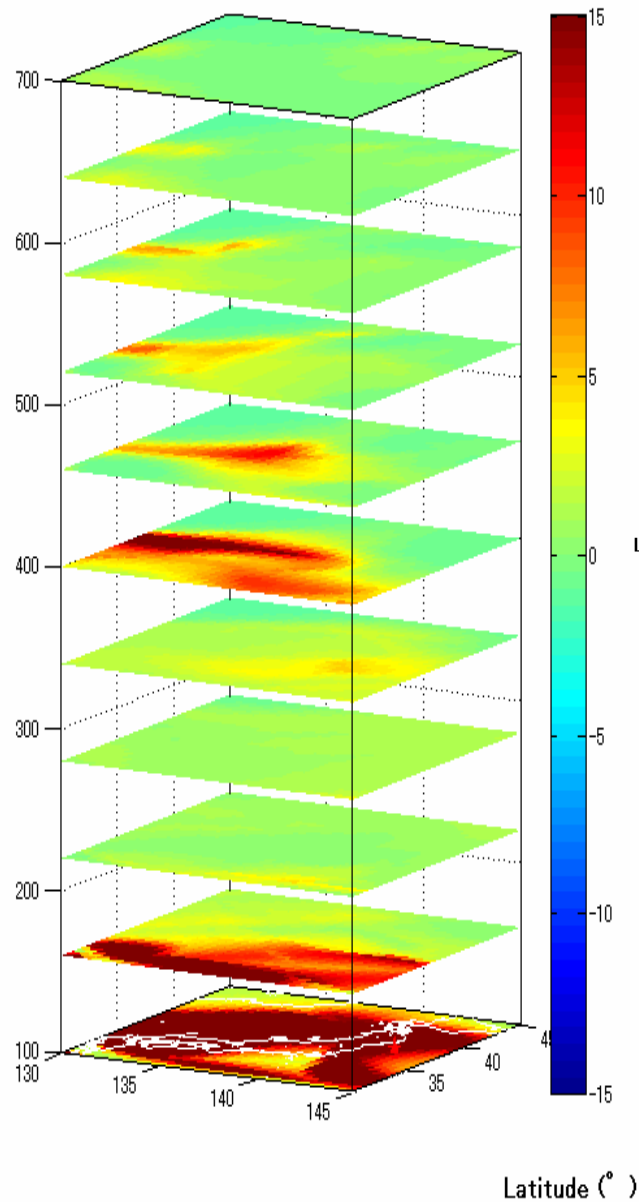
Result of tomographic analysis (absolute)



sensitivity

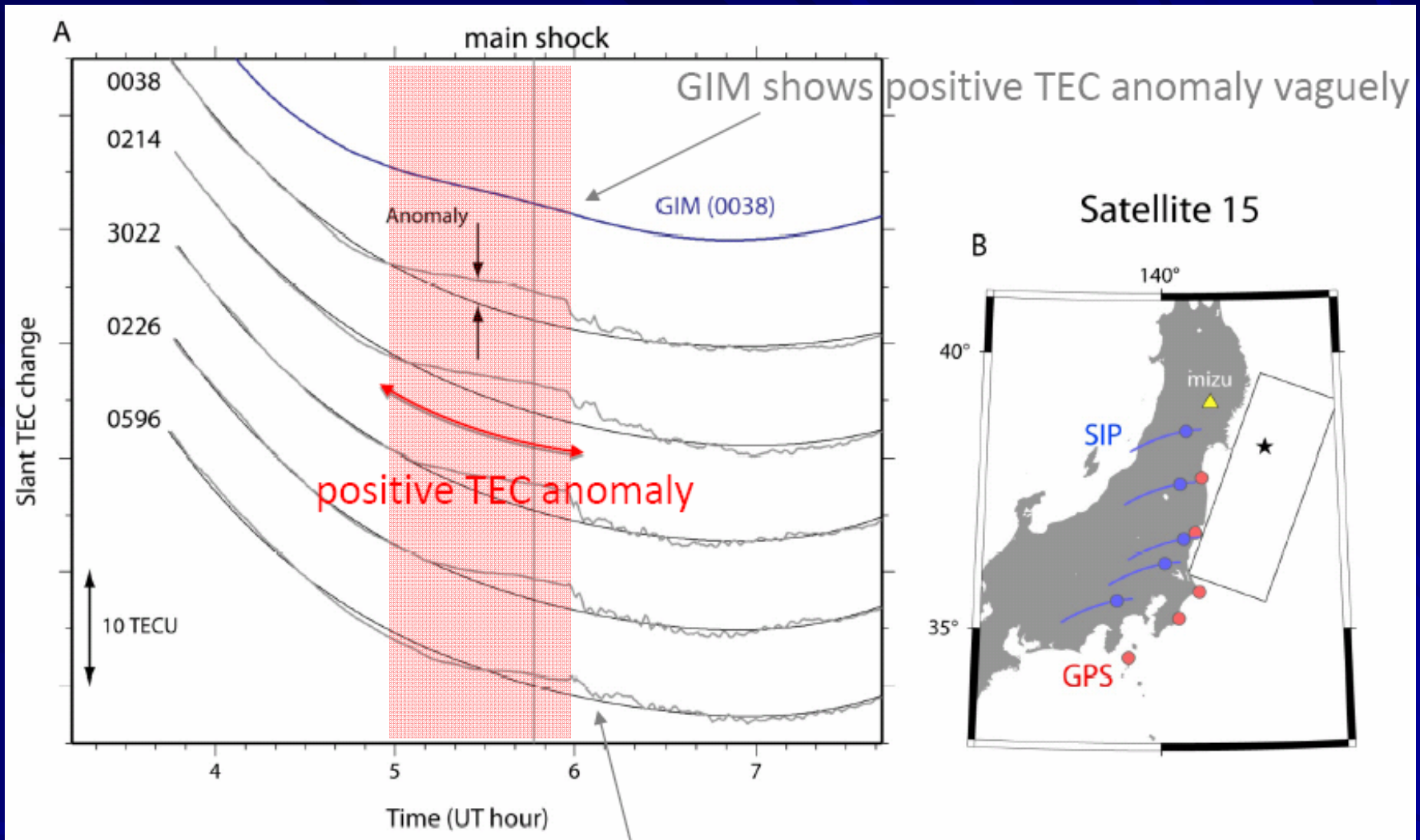


Result of tomographic analysis (normalized)



Anomaly 40 min before the main shock

reported by Heki 2011



Heki, 2011

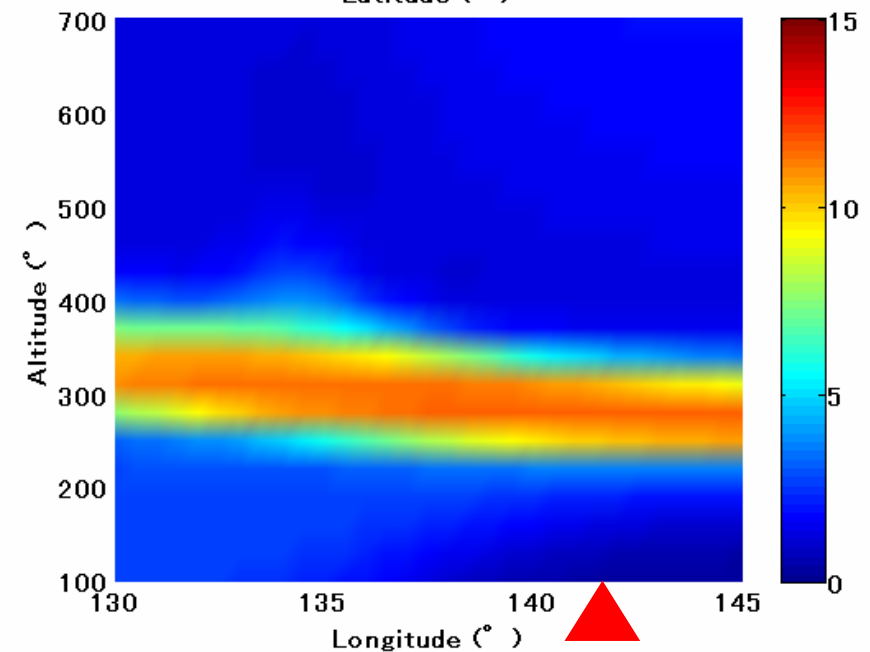
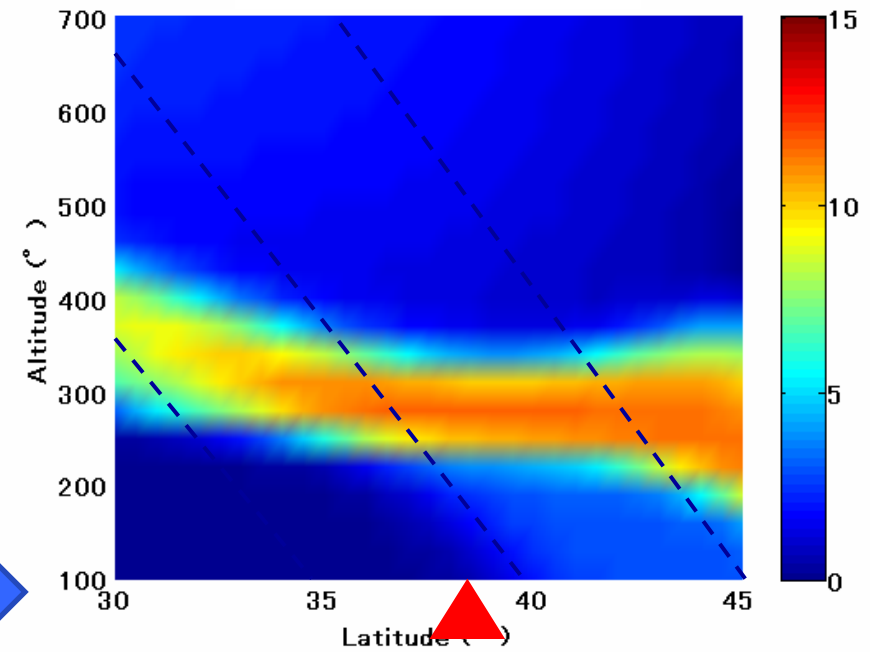
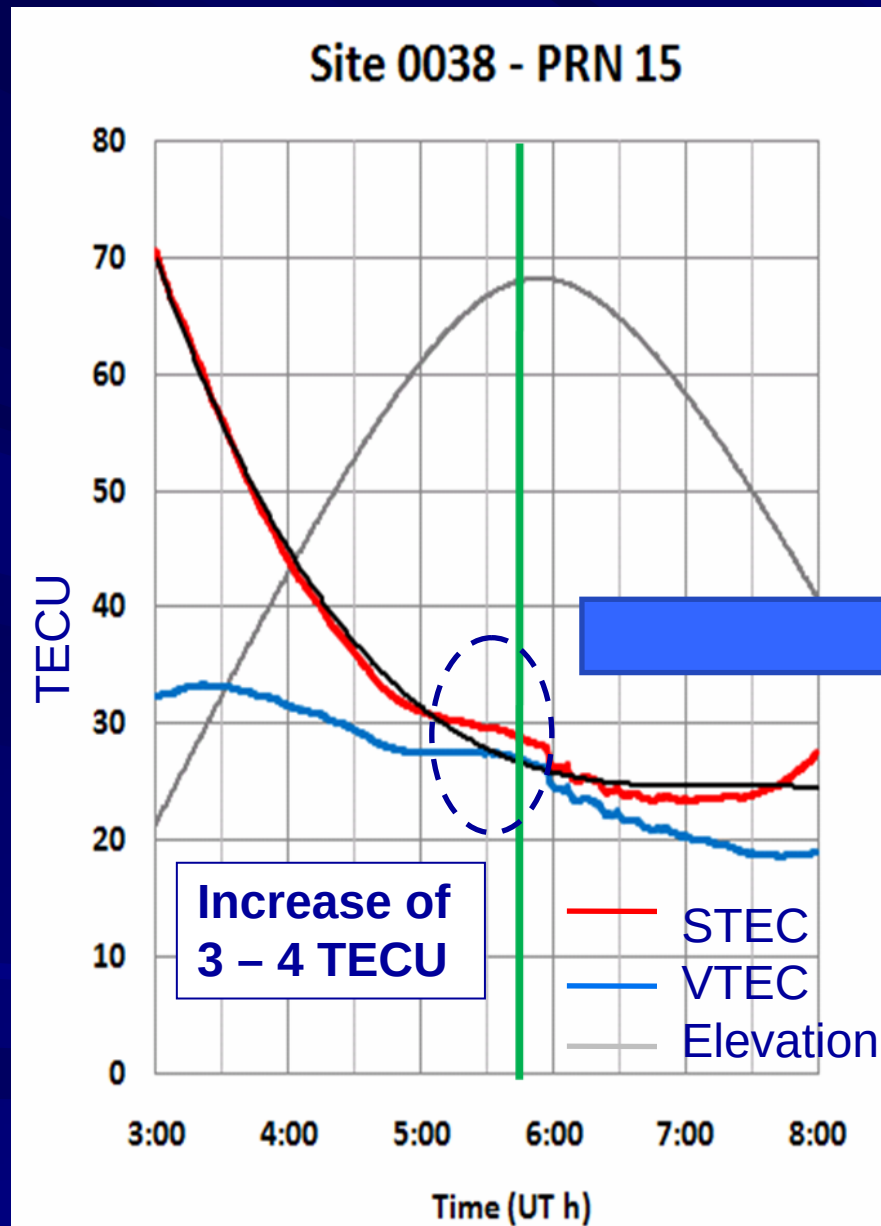
-Appearance of 40 min before EQs (~M9)



.....

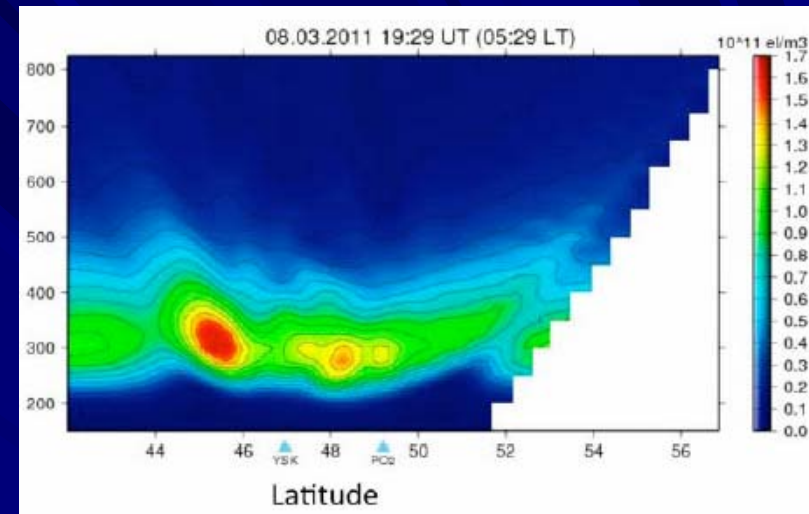
...STEC, VTEC.....

Tomography 05:45UT ± 5 min, (1 min before EQ)

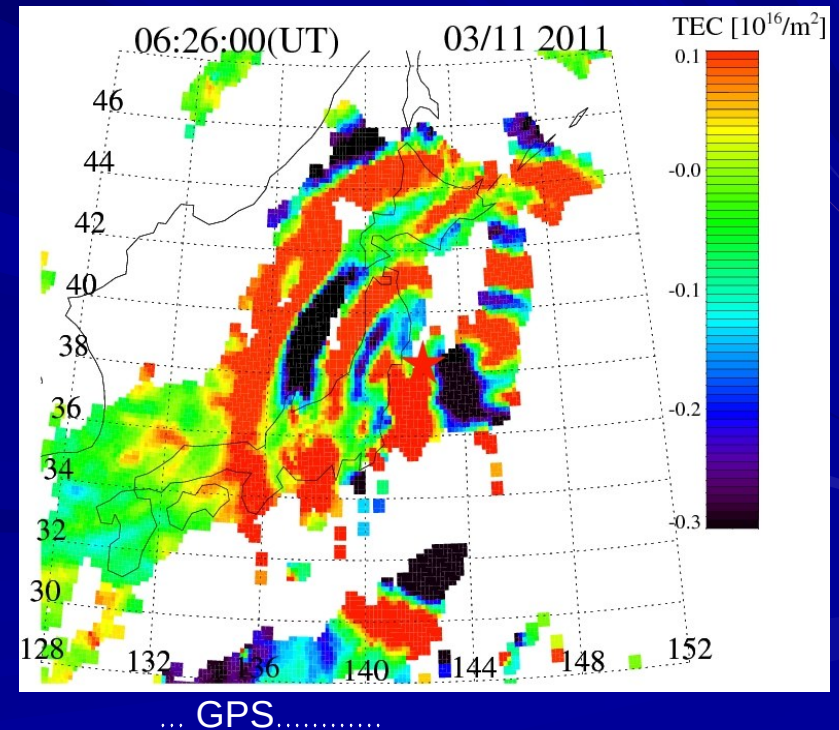


Future problem for tomography

- .Improvement of electron density reconstruction for lower ionosphere
- .Joint inversion with LEO data/ ionosonde data etc.
- .Time series analysis
- .visualization of Plasma flow and electric fields.
- .Reconstruction of co-seismic changes



Ouzounov et al, 2011



Thank you for your attention.