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1 April - 30 September 1993



Kjeller, November 1993



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The NORSAR Detection Processing system has been operated throughout the period with an average uptime of 97.3% as compared to 97.8% for the previous reporting period. A total of 2290 seismic events have been reported in the NORSAR monthly seismic bulletin. The performance of the continuous alarm system and the automatic bulletin transfer by telex to AFTAC has been satisfactory. The system for direct retrieval of NORSAR waveform data through an X.25 connection has been used successfully for acquiring such data by AFTAC. Processing of requests for full NORSAR and regional array data on magnetic tapes has progressed according to established schedules. There have been no modifications made to the NORSAR data acquisition system.

On-line detection processing and data recording at the NORSAR Data Processing Center (NDPC) of NORESS, ARCESS and GERESS data have been conducted throughout the period. FINESA data were processed until 16 May, when field work for the array refurbishment started. Data from two experimental small-aperture arrays at sites in Spitsbergen and Apatity, Kola Peninsula, have been recorded and processed in an experimental mode. Monthly processing statistics for the arrays as well as results of the IMS analysis for the reporting period are given.

Maintenance activities in the period comprise preventive/corrective maintenance in connection with all the NORSAR subarrays, NORESS and ARCESS. Other activities have involved testing of the NORSAR communications systems and work in connection with the experimental small-aperture arrays in Spitsbergen and Russia.

Starting 1 October 1991, an effort began to carry out a complete technical refurbishment of the NORSAR array. This project is funded jointly by AFTAC, ARPA and NFR. During the reporting period, we have continued evaluation and laboratory testing of technical options for field instrumentation, in particular state-of-the-art A/D converters, data acquisition and synchronization devices. During the reporting period, we have also received a complete subarray evaluation unit from Science Horizons, and this unit has been subjected to a long-term operational test in subarray 06C. In addition, we have been converting the NORSAR Detection/Event Processing software to be compatible with our UNIX-based workstations. Our detailed status regarding this work is reported on separately, most recently in a status report dated 16 August 1993.

Summaries of six scientific contributions are presented in Chapter 7 of this report.

Section 7.1 describes an experiment in continuous threshold monitoring of the Lop Nor, China, nuclear test site. The monitoring period comprised the five days up to and including the day of the latest nuclear explosion at Lop Nor (5 October 1993). NORESS, ARCESS and GERESS regional array data were used. We have been compiling daily sta-

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Section 7.2 presents some observations for the $m_b = 5.9$ Lop Nor explosion on 5 October 1993. This explosion was naturally observed on the threshold plot of Section 7.1 as a very sharp peak. The contribution summarizes the automatic processing results for all six arrays processed at Kjeller. The NORESS array has the best signal-to-noise ratio (1376.2) for this event, and by extrapolation this array would be expected to have a detectable signal for an event from Lop Nor about 2.5 magnitude units lower. ARCESS and NORSAR also show outstanding SNR. The velocity/azimuth estimates are within the expected uncertainty for all arrays. It is also noted that a large earthquake and aftershock sequence occurred in the Southern Sinkiang province only three days before the explosion, and this gave an opportunity to make some interesting comparisons, elaborated upon in this study.

Section 7.3 summarizes observations from 22 September 1993, when the US Department of Energy detonated a one kiloton conventional explosion at the Nevada Test Site (NTS), in an experiment named the Non-Proliferation Experiment (NPE). The experiment was conducted in the context of future CTBT/NPT monitoring, and it has the potential of providing data useful for discrimination between chemical and nuclear explosions. The explosion was detected automatically at three of the northern/central European arrays: NORESS, NORSAR and GERESS. The NPE explosion was detonated in the N-tunnel in Rainier Mesa very close to the hypocenters of several previous nuclear explosions, some of which had yields similar to that of the NPE explosion. In particular, we compared the NPE to the nuclear explosion "Hunters Trophy" on 18 September 1992. We found that these two explosions showed very similar characteristics, both with regard to signal shape and magnitude (4.14 for "Hunters Trophy", 4.10 for NPE, based on IMS results). With an m_h of 4.4 as given by USGS for "Hunters Trophy", it is clear that NORSAR's recordings of the NPE event confirm that this one kiloton conventional explosion produced amplitudes somewhat larger than those expected from a one kiloton fully contained nuclear explosion.

Section 7.4 describes a generic algorithm for accurate determination of P-phase arrival times. This is a continuation of our studies reported on in the previous NORSAR Semiannual Technical Summary. In that report, we focused upon an optimum processing approach for one particular mining area (Khibiny Massif). We have now developed a generic procedure to reestimate the onsets of all types of first-arriving P-phases, assuming that the phase identification is known. By applying the autoregressive likelihood technique, we have obtained automatic onset times of a quality such that 70% of the automatic picks are within 0.1 s of the best manual pick. For the onset time procedure currently used by IMS, the corresponding number is 28%. This confirms that automatic reestimation of first-arriving P-onsets using the autoregressive likelihood technique has the potential of significantly reducing the retiming efforts of the analyst.

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Section 7.5 likewise represents a follow-up on the Intelligent Post-Processing (IPP) of seismic events proposed in the previous Semiannual Technical Summary. This procedure has been shown to give a substantial improvement in location accuracy when applied to seismic events in the Khibiny Massif, Kola Peninsula. In this paper, we compare the performance of the analyst using the Analyst Review Station (ARS) to these results. As part of the study, we estimate the uncertainty in analyst time picks for phases from various regional arrays, and we discuss the implication of these uncertainties in terms of the resulting effect on location accuracy. An important conclusion inferred from this work is that, in many cases, location accuracy does *not* improve when adding new phase readings and applying current location programs.

Section 7.6 describes an application of Generalized Beamforming (GBF) applied to the W. Caucasus aftershock sequence of 29 April 1991. This sequence occurred during the GSETT-2 main phase, and the GBF results could therefore be compared to the results of the four Experimental International Data Centers (after reprocessing). The GBF association process reported more events than any of the four EIDCs, and also had the most events corresponding to the reference catalogue (Starovoit et al, 1991). In addition, the GBF method produced 17 reports that did not correspond to entries in Starovoit et al's bulletin. Each of the EIDCs also had events in this category, but not as many as the GBF process. One event reported by one EIDC and confirmed by Starovoit et al's bulletin was not reported by the GBF method. The reason was that the event had only two valid phases, and thus did not satisfy our GBF detection criterion. On the other hand, the GBF reported 4 confirmed events that were not in any of the EIDC bulletins. The study concludes that the GBF technique provides a simple and rapid way to associate large numbers of phases from an aftershock sequence with a very low false alarm rate. In fact, the GBF aftershock processing of 24 hours of data for the day in question (29 April 1991) took only 5 minutes on a SUN sparcestation 2.

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1 Summary

This Semiannual Technical Summary describes the operation, maintenance and research activities at the Norwegian Seismic Array (NORSAR), the Norwegian Regional Seismic Array (NORESS), the Arctic Regional Seismic Array (ARCESS) and the experimental Spitsbergen regional array for the period 1 April - 30 September 1993. Statistics are also presented for additional seismic stations, which through cooperative agreements with institutions in the host countries provide continuous data to the NORSAR Data Processing Center (NPDC). These stations comprise the Finnish Experimental Seismic Array (FINESA), the German Experimental Seismic Array (GERESS), and an experimental regional seismic array in Apatity, Russia.

This Semiannual Report also presents statistics from operation of the Intelligent Monitoring System (IMS). The IMS has been operated in an experimental mode, and the performance has been very satisfactory. Since October 1991, a new version of the IMS that accepts data from an arbitrary number of arrays and single 3-component stations has been operated.

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Summaries of six scientific contributions are presented in Chapter 7 of this report.

Section 7.1 describes an experiment in continuous threshold monitoring of the Lop Nor, China, nuclear test site. The monitoring period comprised the five days up to and including the day of the latest nuclear explosion at Lop Nor (5 October 1993). NORESS, ARCESS and GERESS regional array data were used. We have been compiling daily statistics of all peaks on the threshold diagram exceeding m_b 3.5 and associating these peaks to regional or teleseismic events whenever possible. Based on this experiment, it appears that this threshold (3.5), which is about 0.75 m_b units higher than for Novaya Zemlya, is representative for the combined threshold monitoring capabilities (at the 99 per cent level) of these three regional arrays.

Section 7.2 presents some observations for the $m_b = 5.9$ Lop Nor explosion on 5 October 1993. This explosion was naturally observed on the threshold plot of Section 7.1 as a very sharp peak. The contribution summarizes the automatic processing results for all six arrays processed at Kjeller. The NORESS array has the best signal-to-noise ratio (1376.2) for this event, and by extrapolation this array would be expected to have a detectable signal for an event from Lop Nor about 2.5 magnitude units lower. ARCESS and NORSAR also show outstanding SNR. The velocity/azimuth estimates are within the expected uncertainty for all arrays. It is also noted that a large earthquake and aftershock sequence occurred in the Southern Sinkiang province only three days before the explosion, and this gave an opportunity to make some interesting comparisons, elaborated upon in this study.

Section 7.3 summarizes observations from 22 September 1993, when the US Department of Energy detonated a one kiloton conventional explosion at the Nevada Test Site (NTS). in an experiment named the Non-Proliferation Experiment (NPE). The experiment was conducted in the context of future CTBT/NPT monitoring, and it has the potential of providing data useful for discrimination between chemical and nuclear explosions. The explosion was detected automatically at three of the northern/central European arrays: NORESS, NORSAR and GERESS. The NPE explosion was detonated in the N-tunnel in Rainier Mesa very close to the hypocenters of several previous nuclear explosions, some of which had yields similar to that of the NPE explosion. In particular, we compared the NPE to the nuclear explosion "Hunters Trophy" on 18 September 1992. We found that these two explosions showed very similar characteristics, both with regard to signal shape and magnitude (4.14 for "Hunters Trophy", 4.10 for NPE, based on IMS results). With an mb of 4.4 as given by USGS for "Hunters Trophy", it is clear that NORSAR's recordings of the NPE event confirm that this one kiloton conventional explosion produced amplitudes somewhat larger than those expected from a one kiloton fully contained nuclear explosion.

Section 7.4 describes a generic algorithm for accurate determination of P-phase arrival times. This is a continuation of our studies reported on in the previous NORSAR Semian-

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nual Technical Summary. In that report, we focused upon an optimum processing approach for one particular mining area (Khibiny Massif). We have now developed a generic procedure to reestimate the onsets of all types of first-arriving P-phases, assuming that the phase identification is known. By applying the autoregressive likelihood technique, we have obtained automatic onset times of a quality such that 70% of the automatic picks are within 0.1 s of the best manual pick. For the onset time procedure currently used by IMS, the corresponding number is 28%. This confirms that automatic reestimation of first-arriving P-onsets using the autoregressive likelihood technique has the potential of significantly reducing the retiming efforts of the analyst.

Section 7.5 likewise represents a follow-up on the Intelligent Post-Processing (IPP) of seismic events proposed in the previous Semiannual Technical Summary. This procedure has been shown to give a substantial improvement in location accuracy when applied to seismic events in the Khibiny Massif, Kola Peninsula. In this paper, we compare the performance of the analyst using the Analyst Review Station (ARS) to these results. As part of the study, we estimate the uncertainty in analyst time picks for phases from various regional arrays, and we discuss the implication of these uncertainties in terms of the resulting effect on location accuracy. An important conclusion inferred from this work is that, in many cases, location accuracy does *not* improve when adding new phase readings and applying current location programs.

Section 7.6 describes an application of Generalized Beamforming (GBF) applied to the W. Caucasus aftershock sequence of 29 April 1991. This sequence occurred during the GSETT-2 main phase, and the GBF results could therefore be compared to the results of the four Experimental International Data Centers (after reprocessing). The GBF association process reported more events than any of the four EIDCs, and also had the most events corresponding to the reference catalogue (Starovoit et al, 1991). In addition, the GBF method produced 17 reports that did not correspond to entries in Starovoit et al's bulletin. Each of the EIDCs also had events in this category, but not as many as the GBF process. One event reported by one EIDC and confirmed by Starovoit et al's bulletin was not reported by the GBF method. The reason was that the event had only two valid phases, and thus did not satisfy our GBF detection criterion. On the other hand, the GBF reported 4 confirmed events that were not in any of the EIDC bulletins. The study concludes that the GBF technique provides a simple and rapid way to associate large numbers of phases from an aftershock sequence with a very low false alarm rate. In fact, the GBF aftershock processing of 24 hours of data for the day in question (29 April 1991) took only 5 minutes on a SUN sparcstation 2.

2 NORSAR Operation

2.1 Detection Processor (DP) operation

There have been 82 breaks in the otherwise continuous operation of the NORSAR online system within the current 6-month reporting interval. The uptime percentage for the period is 97.3 as compared to 97.8 for the previous period.

Fig. 2.1.1 and the accompanying Table 2.1.1 both show the daily DP downtime for the days between 1 April and 30 September 1993. The monthly recording times and percentages are given in Table 2.1.2.

The breaks can be grouped as follows:

a)	Hardware failure	39
b)	Stops related to program work or error	0
c)	Hardware maintenance stops	5
d)	Power jumps and breaks	0
e)	TOD error correction	12
f)	Communication lines	26

The total downtime for the period was 127 hours and 27 minutes. The mean-timebetween-failures (MTBF) was 2.8 days, as compared to 3.6 for the previous period.

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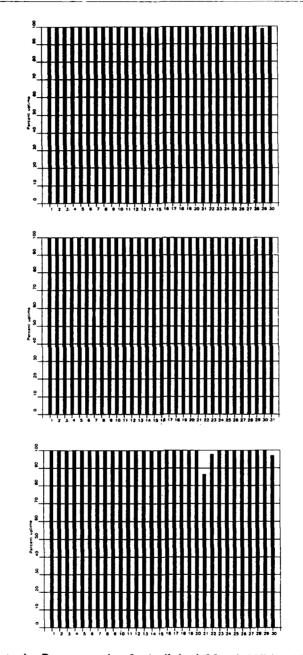
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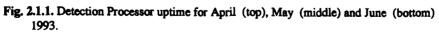
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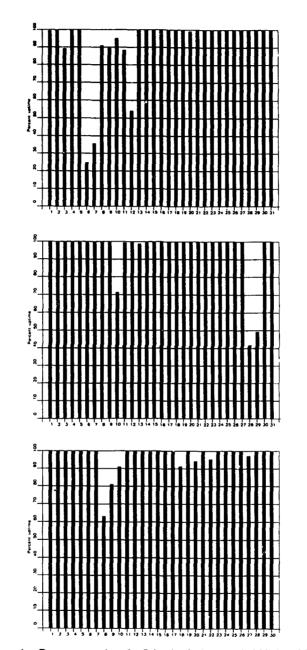
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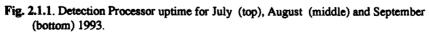
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Date	Time	Cause
21	Jun 204	5 - Line failure
22 Jun	- 00)32 Line failure
30 Jun	0700 - 0	744 Hardware failure
03 Jul	1150 - 14	127 Hardware failure
06 Jul	0304 - 04	437 Hardware failure
06 Jul	0728 -	Hardware failure
07 Jul	- 15	514 Hardware failure
08 Jul	1500 - 15	540 Hardware failure
08 Jul	2200 - 23	306 Hardware failure
09 Jul	0532 - 0	613 Hardware failure
09 Jul	1104 - 1	143 Hardware failure
09 Jul	1441 - 1	502 Hardware failure
09 Jul	2200 - 22	237 Hardware failure
10 Jul	2200 - 2	239 Hardware failure
11 Jul	1407 - 14	442 Hardware failure
11 Jul	2200 -	Hardware failure
12 Jul	- 0:	531 Hardware failure
12 Jul	0744 - 1	307 Hardware service
10 Aug	0821 - 1 :	514 Line failure
29 Aug	1000 -	Line failure
30 Aug	- 1	211 Line failure
08 Sep	1518 -	Line failure
09 Sep	- 0	428 Line failure
10 Sep	0821 - 1	030 Hardware failure
18 Sep	0817 - 1	024 Hardware failure
20 Sep	1208 - 1	316 Hardware service
22 Sep	0804 - 0	825 Hardware failure
22 Sep	2230 - 2	317 Hardware failure
27 Sep	1719 - 1	759 Hardware failure

Table 2.1.1. The major downtimes in the period 1 April - 30 September 1993.

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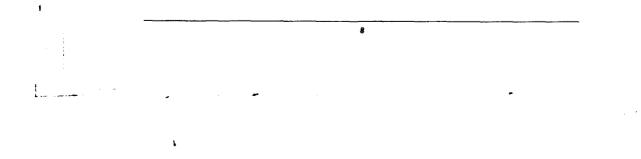
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Month	DP Uptime Hours	DP Uptime %	No. of DP Breaks	No. of Days with Breaks	DP MTBF* (days)
Apr 93	719.29	99.93	4	4	4.6
May 93	743.23	99.92	6	4	3.4
Jun 93	715.29	99.37	2	3	7.9
Jul 93	686.46	92.40	37	14	0.6
Aug 93	701.15	95.47	7	8	2.8
Sep 93	698.11	96.97	26	18	0.8
<u></u>		97.34	82	53	2.8

*Mean-time-between-failures = total uptime/no. of up intervals.

Table 2.1.2. Online system performance, 1 April - 30 September 1993.



November 1993

2.2 Array communications

General

Table 2.2.1 reflects the performance of the communications system throughout the reporting period.

The following lists the most prominent events which have affected individual and/or all systems simultaneously:

- Loss of synch
- Damaged cables
- Scheduled communications cable work (NTA)
- Unspecified work related to communications line (NTA)
- Line unit / CTV modem
- Timing problems after installation of digital central
- Failing DACCS (Digital Access Cross Connection System/NTA)
- Scheduled maintenance DACCS Lillestrøm/Hamar
- Lightning in CTV area (spec. 02B, 04C, 06C)
- Modcomp memory chip failure
- IBM disk 3656 controller failure (loss of power)
- 2701 IBM Data Adapter failure
- 2701-Modcomp data transfer stop

Detailed Summary

April (weeks 13-17), 29.3-2.5.93

The subaarray 02C was turned off 26 April at 1349 hrs due to bad status in the communications system (NO DATA). A modecomp restart 27 April reinitiated the operation.

A NORSAR stop occurred 29 April at 0903 hrs, probably due to an irregularity between the 2701 adapter and modcomp. The system was restarted at 0922 hrs.

Average outages for April, individual weeks

Week 13 (all)	:	0.004%
Week 14 (all)	:	0.014%
Week 15 (all)	:	0.0003%
Week 16 (all)	:	0.005%
Week 17 (-02C)	:	0.0009 %

May (weeks 18-21), 3-30.5.93

In the period the three subarrays 02B, 02C and 06C have been affected. Modcomp restarts reinitiated the systems again.

Average outages in May, individual weeks:

Week 18 (all)	:	0.004%
Week 19 (all)	:	0.036%
Week 20 (all)	:	0.005%
Week 21(all)	:	0.117%

June (weeks 22-26), 31.5-4.7.93

All systems were affected in the period. 04C was down 1 June between 2000 and 2242 hrs GMT in connection with scheduled cable work.

On 5 June data was lost from 02B kl 1701 GMT caused by lightning. Electricians from Rena Power Plant replaced fuses 1240 hrs GMT 7 June.

02B was affected again on 18 June between 0814 and 1230 hrs GMT. NTA carried out cable rerouting.

On 21 June 02C data disappeared after NTA/Hamar had replaced the original analog central at the NTA Sjursøen premises with a digital central (PCM). In addition, the operation also involved a change in the routing of data.

The same day NTA/Lillestrøm carried out scheduled maintenance of a DACCS in the NTA/Lillestrøm premises, affecting all the NORSAR subarrays and the 64 Kbit Spitsbergen line. All the subarrays were masked 2045 hrs GMT.

On 22 June, at 0038 hrs GMT, all the subarrays (-01A, 02C) were demasked.

On 24 June 01A resumed operation after replacing a line unit in the CTV modem.

On 30 June the communications between the 2701 Data Adapter and modem/modcomp stopped for approximately 44 minutes.

NORSAR time was set back 1 second on 1 July.

On 2 July a modcomp memory chip failed and was replaced. Downtime was approximately 2 hrs 35 minutes.

Average outage in June, individual weeks:

Week 22 (-02B)	:	0.002%
Week 23 (-02B)	:	0.002%
Week 24 (all)	:	0.002%
Week 25 (-01A,02C)	:	0.003%
Week 26 (-02C)	:	1.488%

July (weeks 27-30), 5.7-1.8.93

3 July the modcomp failed. A memory chip was replaced and the system was started again. Approximate downtime was 2.5 hrs.

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On 6 July an IBM disk controller (channel 1) lost power approximately 0304 hrs. Started again 0437 hrs.

The 2701 Data Adapter also failed on 6 July. After the +3 Volt power supply was repaired, the system was started again. NORSAR downtime was 28 hrs.

On 12 July Memorex replaced the +5 Volt power supply in the disk controller 3656 (channel 1). Between 7 and 12 July the controller stopped 28 times.

19-20 July the 04C communications line was down approximately 16.5 hrs.

At the end of July 02C was still down

Average outages in July, individual weeks:

Week 27 (-02C)	:	0.0005%
Week 28 (-02C)	:	0.0009%
Week 29 (-02C,04C)	:	0.0008%
Week 30 (-02C,04C)	:	0.002%

August (weeks 31-34), 2-29.8.93

The 02C communications problems started 21 June when the existing communications equipment was replaced (modified) with PCM equipment in the Sjusjøen area, thereby introducing timing problems. The first step in trying to solve the problem was to replace the NDPC/CTV modems as quickly as possible.

02B was down between 4 and 12 August due to a broken cable between Kjeller and Lillestrøm.

06C was down between 7 and 9 August, probably caused by synch problems.

On 10 August all the subarrays were affected by a failing DACCS in the NTA premises/ Hamar.

On 19 August 06C was again affected and resumed operation after a modcomp restart 23 August.

On 26 August NTA/Hamar carried out unspecified work related to the 01A communications system. Two days later, 28 August, the performance of the 01A communications system gradually was reduced. On 30 August 01A was declared down and masked.

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Average outages in August, individual weeks:

Week 31 (-02B,02C,06C)	:	0.001%
Week 32 (-02C)	:	3.610%
Week 33 (-02C,06C)	:	0.003%
Week 34 (-02C)	:	0.050%

September (weeks 35-39), 30.8-3.10.93

01A, which went down 28 August due to a bad cable, was restarted 13 September after repair.

Between 8 September 1306 hrs and 9 September 0428 hrs all communications systems were affected (13.5 hrs).

Reduced 01B performance started 10 September when stop messages were received pertaining to the communications lines.

7 and 8 September NTA/Lillestrøm and Hamar tried to solve the 02C communications problems. The problem started when a new PCM-system was introduced 21 June 93. Their first initiative was to install new modems here at Kjeller and in the CTV. The test revealed error-free transmission in both directions modem to modem, but failed when the remaining NORSAR equipment was attached. The conclusion was timing problems. New initiatives will be taken.

The 01B communications cable was repaired, according to NTA/Hamar, on 13 September. An attempt to start the line failed.

Between 9 and 20 September there were a large number of modcomp restarts in connection with the misalignment of data related to clock pulses.

On 22 September two stops occurred, in both cases because the data transfer between the 2701 and the high-speed modems had stopped.

Also on 23 and 29 September and 1 October there were misalignments of data related to clock pulses. In order to resynch the 06C, the modcomp was restarted 28 September.

There seems to be a connection between misalignment of data related to clock pulses and the DACCS installed in the NTA premises in Lillestrøm and Hamar. We have observed data misalignment both before and after an announced DACCS corrective maintenance 30 September (which failed). Finally, we lost data between 0915 hrs and 1130 hrs in connection with DACCS replacment at NTA/Lillestrøm.

Average outages in September, individual weeks:

Week 35 (-01A, 02C)	:	0.003%
Week 36 (-01A,01B,02C)	:	0.56 %
Week 37 (N/A)	:	
Week 38 (-01B,02C)	:	0.005%
Week 39 (-01B,02C,06C)	:	1.49 %

O.A. Hansen

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	Apr (5)	May (4)	Jun (5)	Jul (4)	Aug (4)	Sep (5)	Average
Subarrays	29.3-2.5.93	3-30.5.93	31.5-4.7.93	5.7-1.8.93	2-29.8.93	30.8- 3.10.93	1/2 year
01A	0.005	0.002	0.001 ³⁾	0.0007	0.02411)	N/A	0.006 ²³⁾
01B	0.004	0.0006	0.0006 ⁴⁾	0.001	0.00112)	N/A	0.0007 ²⁴⁾
02B	0.009	0.009	0.0004 ⁵⁾	0.001	0.013 ¹³⁾	0.012 ¹⁶⁾	0.007
02C	0.020 ¹⁾	0.012	0.006 ⁶⁾	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.012 ²⁵⁾
03C	0.005	0.0006	0.00077)	0.0004	0.000414)	0.004 ¹⁷⁾	0.001
04C	0.001	0.002	0.0018)	0.001 ¹⁰⁾	0.002 ¹⁵⁾	0.002 ¹⁸⁾	0.001
06C	0.001	0.340 ²⁾	0.001 ⁹⁾	0.001	N/A	0.006 ¹⁹⁾	0.010 ²⁶⁾
AVER	0.005	0.052	0.001	0.0008 ²⁰⁾	0.008 ²¹⁾	0.006 ²²⁾	0.005

Figures representing error rate (in per cent) followed by number 1), 2), etc., are related to legend below.

 Table 2.2.1. Communications performance. The numbers represent error rates in per cent based on total transmitted frames/week (29 Mar - 3 Oct 93).

5), 10), 13)	average 2 weeks (24,25/27.28)
2), 3), 6), 11), 13) 14), 16), 18), 19)	average 3 weeks (19,20,21/22,23,24/31,33,34/35,36,37/35,37,38)
1), 4), 7), 8), 9), 17)	average 4 weeks (13,14,15,16/22,23,24,25/25,26,27,28)
25)	average 3 months (Apr, May, Jun)
23), 24)	average 5 months (Apr, May, Jun, Jul, Aug)
26)	average 5 months (Apr, May, Jun, Jul, Sep)
20)	average 6 subarrays (01A,02B, 03C-06C)
21)	average 5 subarrays (01A-02B, 03C, 04C)
22)	average 4 subarrays (02B, 03C-06C)

NORSAR Sol. Rep. 1-92/93

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2.3 NORSAR Event Detection operation

In Table 2.3.1 some monthly statistics of the Detection and Event Processor operation are given. The table lists the total number of detections (DPX) triggered by the on-line detector, the total number of detections processed by the automatic event processor (EPX) and the total number of events accepted after analyst review (teleseismic phases, core phases and total).

	Tratal		Accepte	devents		
	Total DPX	Total EPX	P-phases	Core Phases	Sum	Daily
Apr 93	10725	1398	248	76	324	10.8
May 93	4525	830	305	92	397	12.8
Jun 93	7825	1214	292	130	422	14.1
Jul 93	6750	1146	342	68	410	13.2
Aug 93	7900	1232	285	54	339	10.9
Sep 93	9575	1418	285	113	398	13.3
			1757	533	2290	12.5

Table 2.3.1. Detection and Event Processor statistics, 1 Apr - 30 Sep 1993.

NORSAR Detections

The number of detections (phases) reported by the NORSAR detector during day 091 through day 273, 1993, was 47,524, giving an average of 263 detections per processed day (183 days processed). Table 2.3.2 shows daily and hourly distribution of detections for NORSAR.

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Table 2.3.2 (Page 1 of 4)

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Table 2.3.2. (Page 2 of 4)

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Table 2.3.2. (Page 3 of 4)

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3 Operation of regional arrays

3.1 Recording of NORESS data at NDPC, Kjeller

Table 3.1.1 lists the main outage times and reasons.

The average recording time was 99.94% as compared to 99.96% during the previous reporting period.

Date	Time	Cause
14 Jul	2245 - 2 254	Transmission line failure
03 Aug	1054 - 1224	Hardware maintenance
26 Sep	0100 - 0200	Software failure

Table 3.1.1. Interruptions in recording of NORESS data at NDPC, 1 April - 30 September 1993.

Monthly uptimes for the NORESS on-line data recording task, taking into account all factors (field installations, transmissions line, data center operation) affecting this task were as follows:

April	:	100.00
May	:	100.00
June	:	100.00
July	:	99.9 7
August	:	99.79
September	:	99.86

Fig. 3.1.1 shows the uptime for the data recording task, or equivalently, the availability of NORESS data in our tape archive, on a day-by-day basis, for the reporting period.

J. Torstveit

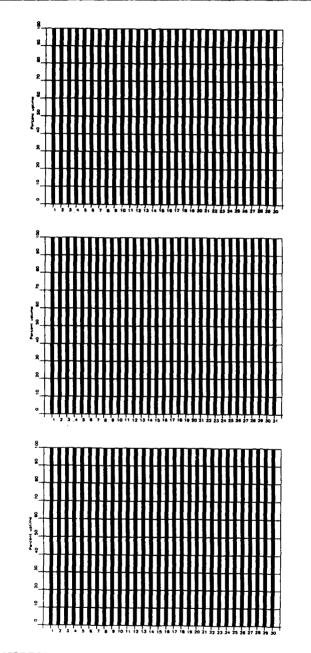
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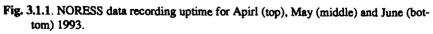
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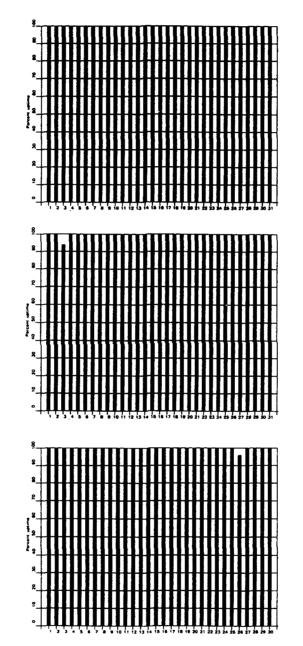
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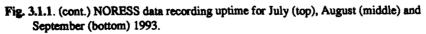
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3.2 Recording of ARCESS data at NDPC, Kjeller

Table 3.2.1 lists the main outage times and reasons.

The average recording time was 99.19% as compared to 99.61% for the previous reporting period.

Date	Time	Cause
09 Apr	1953 - 2054	Software failure
26 Apr	0231 - 0344	Satellite link failure
10 May	1028 - 1300	Powerline work HUB
11 May	1039 - 1235	Powerline work HUB
12 May	1031 - 1244	Powerline work HUB
13 May	1041 - 1227	Powerline work HUB
04 Jun	2045 -	Hardware failure HUB
05 Jun	- 0706	Hardware failure HUB
05 Jun	1035 - 1108	Hardware failure NDPC
06 Jul	1049 - 1348	Hardware failure NDPC
09 Ju l	0107 - 0515	Satellite link failure
13 Jul	0739 - 0800	Hardware failure NDPC
10 Aug	0707 - 1038	Satellite link service

Table 3.2.1. The main interruptions in recording of ARCESS data at NDPC, 1 April - 30 Septemer 1993.

Monthly uptimes for the ARCESS on-line data recording task, taking into account all factors (field installations, transmissions line, data center operation) affecting this task were as follows:

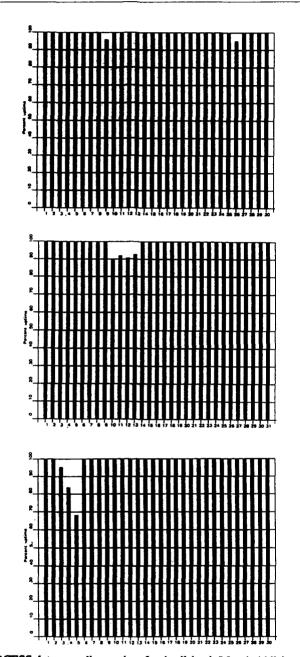
April	:	99.68%
May	:	98.82%
June	:	98.23%
July	:	98.98%
August	:	99.48%
March	:	99.96%

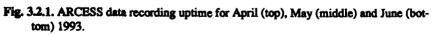
Fig. 3.2.1. shows the uptime for the data recording task, or equivalently, the availability of ARCESS data in our tape archive, on a day-by-day basis, for the reporting period.

J. Torstveit

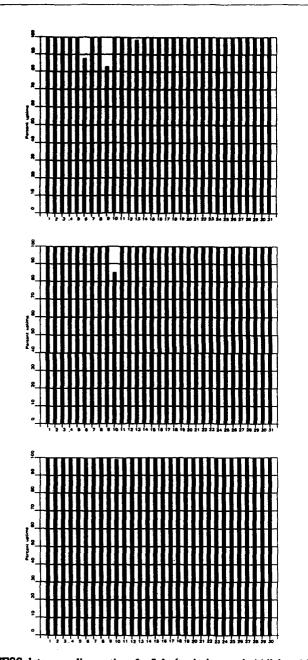


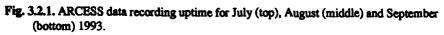
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3.3 Recording of FINESA data at NDPC, Kjeller

The HUB field system was hit by lightning on May 16 and not brought back into operation again, as work related to a planned refurbishment started shortly afterwards.

Date	Time	Cause
11 Apr	1056 -	HUB failure
12 Apr	- 0111	HUB failure
16 Apr	0832 - 1027	Transmission line test
08 May	1404 - 1 508	Transmission line failure
08 May	1524 - 1544	Transmission line failure
08 May	1551 - 1610	Transmission line failure
16 May	1342 -	HUB failure, field system upgrade

Table 3.3.1. The main interruptions in recording of FINESA data at NDPC, 1 April - 16 May 1993.

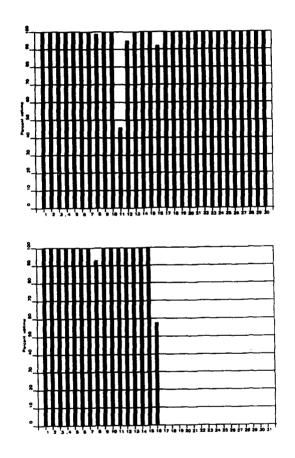
Monthly uptimes for the FINESA on-line data recording task, taking into account all factors (field installations, transmission lines, data center operation) affecting this task were as follows:

April	:	97.68%
May	:	49.99%
June	:	0.00%
July	:	0.00%
August	:	0.00%
September	:	0.00%

Fig. 3.3.1 shows the uptime for the data recording task, or equivalently, the availability of FINESA data in our tape archive, on a day-by-day basis, for the reporting period.

J. Torstveit







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3.4 Recording of Spitsbergen data at NDPC, Kjeller

The average recording time was 99.16%.

The main reasons for downtime follow:

Date	Time	Cause
12 May	1955 - 2036	Communication line failure
21 May	1944 - 2026	Communication line failure
21 May	2131 - 2313	Communication line failure
23 May	2223 - 2300	Communication line failure
21 Jun	2133 - 2316	Communication line failure
30 Jun	0743 - 0827	Communication line failure
01 Jul	1313 - 1427	Communication line failure
01 Jul	1518 - 1 612	Communication line failure
06 Jul	1750 - 1853	Communication line failure
06 Jul	1909 - 2002	Communication line failure
30 Jul	1900 - 2012	Communication line failure
02 Aug	2000 - 2141	Communication line failure
10 Aug	1146 - 1242	Communication line failure
10 Aug	1939 - 2010	Communication line failure
11 Aug	0919 - 1023	Communication line failure
12 Aug	1555 - 1 64 7	Communication line failure
03 Sep	0852 - 1136	Maintenance work at array site
06 Sep	0842 - 1000	Maintenance work at array site
22 Sep	0814 - 0938	Communication line failure
24 Sep	0439 - 0600	Communication line failure

Monthly uptimes for the Spitsbergen online data recording task, taking into account all factors (field installations, transmission line, data center operation) affecting this task were as follows:

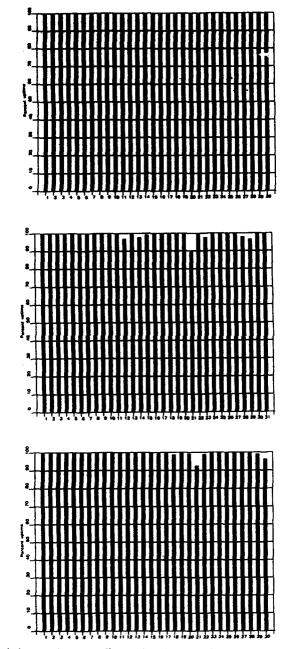
April	:	99.91%
May	:	99.07%
June	:	99.43%
July	:	98.58%
August	:	98.97%
September	:	99.00%

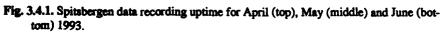
Fig. 3.4.1 shows the uptime for the data recording task, or equivalently, the availability of Spitsbergen data in our tape archive, on a day-by-day basis for the reporting period.

J. Torstveit



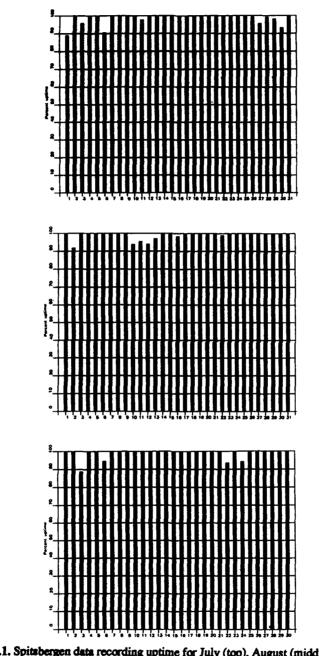
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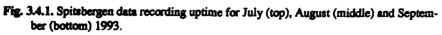






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3.5 Event detection operation

This section reports results from one-array automatic processing using signal processing recipes and "ronapp" recipes for the ep program (NORSAR Sci. Rep. No 2-88/89).

Three systems are in parallel operation to associate detected phases and locate events:

- 1. The ep program with "ronapp" recipes is operated independently on each array to obtain simple one-array automatic solutions.
- The Generalized Beamforming method (GBF) (see Ringdal and Kværna (1989), "A mulitchannel processing approach to real time network detection, phase association and threshold monitoring", Bull. Seism. Soc. Am. 79, 6, 1927-1940) processes the regional arrays jointly and presents locations of regional events.
- 3. The IMS system is operated on the same set of arrivals as ep and GBF and reports also teleseismic events in addition to regional ones.

IMS results are reported in sections 3.6 and 3.7 and GBF results in section 3.8.

In addition to these three event association processes, we are running test versions of the so-called Threshold Monitoring (TM) process. This is a process that monitors the seismic amplitude level at the regional arrays continuously in time to estimate the upper magnitude limit of an event that might go undetected by the network. The current TM process is beamed to several sites of interest, including the Novaya Zemlya test site. Simple displays of so-called threshold curves reveal instants of particular interest; i.e., instants when events above a certain magnitude threshold may have occurred in the target region. Results from the three processes described above are used to help resolve what actually happened during these instances.

NORESS detections

The number of detections (phases) reported from day 091, 1993, through day 273, 1993, was 31,905, giving an average of 174 detections per processed day (183 days processed).

Table 3.5.1 shows daily and hourly distribution of detections for NORESS.

Events automatically located by NORESS

During days 091, 1993, through 273, 1993, 2113 local and regional events were located by NORESS, based on automatic association of P- and S-type arrivals. This gives an average of 11.5 events per processed day (183 days processed). 68% of these events are within 300 km, and 89% of these events are within 1000 km.

ARCESS detections

The number of detections (phases) reported during day 091, 1993, through day 273 1993, was 72,987, giving an average of 401 detections per processed day (182 days processed).

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Table 3.5.2 shows daily and hourly distribution of detections for ARCESS.

Events automatically located by ARCESS

During days 091, 1993, through 273, 1993, 3917 local and regional events were located by ARCESS, based on automatic association of P- and S-type arrivals. This gives an average 21.5 events per processed day (182 days processed). 51% of these events are within 300 km, and 88% of these events are within 1000 km.

FINESA detections

The number of detections (phases) reported during day 091, 1993, through day 136, 1993, was 23,403, giving an average of 509 detections per processed day (46 days processed).

Table 3.5.3 shows daily and hourly distribution of detections for FINESA.

Events automatically located by FINESA

During days 091, 1993, through 136, 1993, 999 local and regional events were located by FINESA, based on automatic association of P- and S-type arrivals. This gives an average of 21.7 events per processed day (46 days processed). 52% of these events are within 300 km, and 81% of these events are within 1000 km.

GERESS detections

The number of detections (phases) reported from day 091, 1993, through day 273, 1993, was 34,424, giving an average of 190 detections per processed day (181 days processed).

Table 3.5.4 shows daily and hourly distribution of detections for GERESS.

Events automatically located by GERESS

During days 091, 1993, through 273,1993, 3444 local and regional events were located by GERESS, based on automatic association of P- and S-type arrivals. This gives an average of 19.0 events per processed day (181 days processed). 76% of these events are within 300 km, and 91% of these events are within 1000 km.

Apatity array detections

The number of detections (phases) reported from day 091, 1993, through day 273, 1993, was 159,561, giving an average of 891 detections per processed day (179 days processed).

As described in earlier reports, the data from the Apatity array are transferred by one-way (simplex) radio links to Apatity city. The transmission suffers from radio disturbances that

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results in a large number of small data gaps and spikes in the data. Although the communication protocol may correct such errors by requesting retransmission of data, this cannot presently be done at Apatity. For such error corrections, a two-way radio link is needed (duplex radio). However, it should be noted that noise from cultural activities and from the nearby lakes cause most of the unwanted detections. These unwanted detections are "filtered" in the signal processing, as they give seismic velocities that are outside accepted limits for regional and teleseismic phase velocities.

Table 3.5.5 shows daily and hourly distribution of detections for the Apatity array.

Events automatically located by the Apatity array

During days 091, 1993, through 273, 1993, 2142 local and regional events were located by the Apatity array, based on automatic association of P- and S-type arrivals. This gives an average of 12.1 events per processed day (179 days processed). 41% of these events are within 300 km, and 72% of these events are within 1000 km.

Spitsbergen array detections

The number of detections (phases) reported from day 091, 1993, through day 273, 1993, was 58,034, giving an average of 317 detections per processed day (183 days processed).

Table 3.5.6 shows daily and hourly distribution of detections for the Spitsbergen array.

Events automatically located by the Spitsbergen array

During days 091, 1993, through 273,1993, 3880 local and regional events were located by the Spitsbergen array, based on automatic association of P- and S-type arrivals. This gives an average of 23.1 events per processed day (183 days processed). 34% of these events are within 300 km, and 72% of these events are within 1000 km.

U. Baadshaug

Skj(rt Jangfr Presta Annen F¹rate Bytten Rel et Dete ļ 3 ииовияичьыи³ечеыеччи³чиячыочичы⁸во*л*ыс 2 ************ มนตดมางา<mark>นี้นต</mark>งบัณา*ยนต*มขนาวดมนแสอาางอง่ะแกมอาอื่านั้นบทแนอออ - น้อยเคลื่องขอออธิโน้มันฯ นมละ นั้นทุกละสู้มมต่อนที่ปั้นอยอดมยอฯ มนี้ยนแหล่มีอย -5 ****** ๚อี่มนมมลดดนั้มมีดอมแอ๊นี่ลьนขมอ*ด*ьแนนนี้**ь**๐ดอี่นนอังบมลแะมงแมนละภมแต 2 57 5 1 11 12 ๛มีอิมฮิกรีสีอีมกมะครีวีมาตรีวีวีขอมขะการีวีอีกกดดวีวีวีมีสรงอมีวีวีรากกรีรบีทมดวีวีท 2 ij. 8 8 5 8 50 อี*นแลส*ู้ชี่มีชี่มีสุขผวแอแอนนมมนอมีหว่ามอี่แล่วยแล่อแหนตหมุต่ามหมหายม 8 8 1 8

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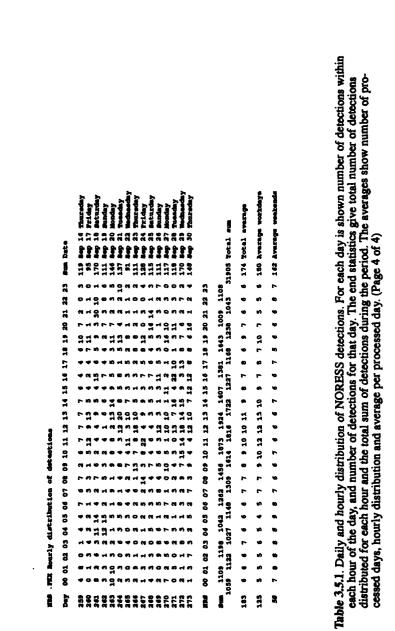
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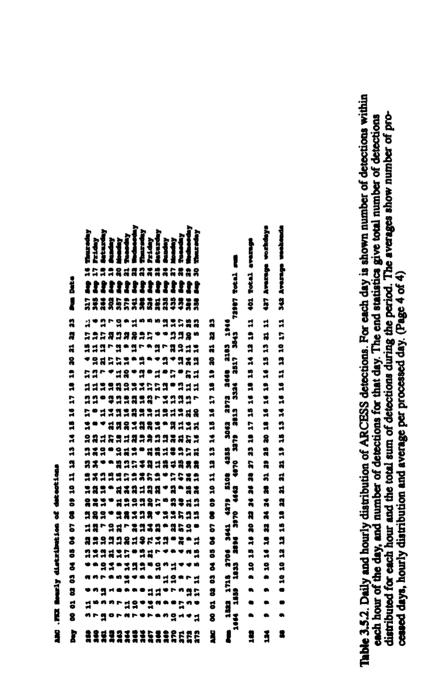
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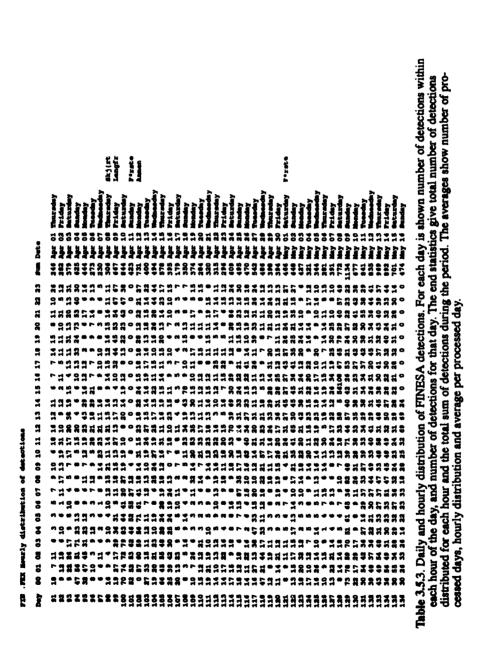
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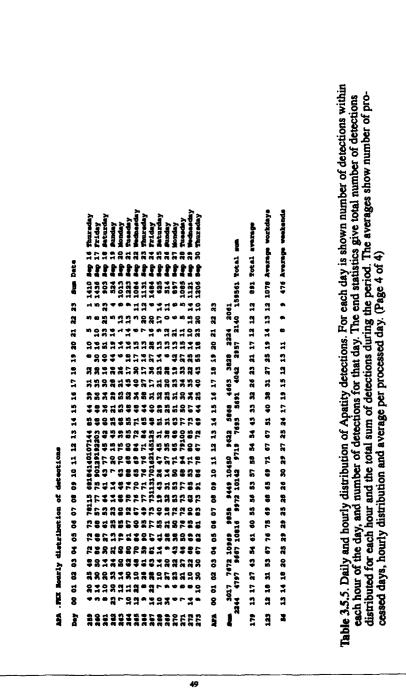
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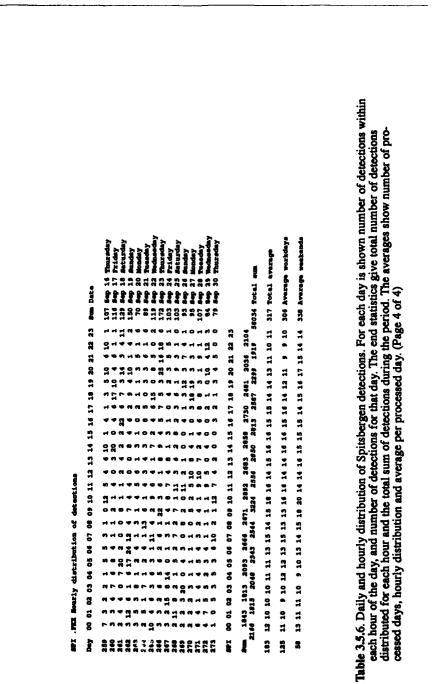
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3.6 IMS operation

The Intelligent Monitoring System (IMS) was installed at NORSAR in December 1989 and was operated at NORSAR from 1 January 1990 for automatic processing of data from ARCESS and NORESS. A second version of IMS that accepts data from an arbitrary number of arrays and single 3-component stations was installed at NORSAR in October 1991, and regular operation of the system comprising analysis of data from the 4 arrays ARCESS, NORESS, FINESA and GERESS started on 15 October 1991. As opposed to the first version of IMS, the one in current operation also locates events at teleseismic distance.

On 14 December 1992, phase detections from the Apatity array were included in the automatic phase association. The phase detections from the Spitsbergen array were made available to the analysts on 5 February 1993. These detections are not used in the automatic phase association, but can be added manually during analysis.

The operational stability of IMS has been very good during the reporting period. In fact the IMS event processor (pipeline) has had no downtime of its own; i.e., all data available to IMS have been processed by IMS.

Phase and event statistics

Table 3.6.1 gives a sumary of phase detections and events declared by IMS. From top to bottom the table gives the total number of detections by the IMS, the number of detections that are associated with events automatically declared by the IMS, the number of detections that are not associated with any events, the number of events automatically declared by the IMS, the total number of events defined by the analyst, and finally the number of events automatically declared by the set of events automatically declared by the IMS, the number of events accepted by the analyst without any changes (i.e., from the set of events automatically declared by the IMS)

U. Baadshaug B. Ferstad B.Kr. Hokland L.B. Loughran B. Paulsen

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	Apr 93	May 93	Jun 93	Jul 93	Aug 93	Sep 93	Total
Phase detections	54641	78795	67666	57248	59054	57115	374519
-Associated phases	8757	7376	6206	6395	6785	6749	42268
-Unassociated phases	45884	71419	61460	50853	52269	50366	332251
Events automatically declared by IMS	2500	2206	1935	1914	1981	2030	12566
No. of events defined by the analyst	2084	1664	1495	1542	1687	17 54	10226
No. of events accepted without modifications	1549	1336	1267	1287	1378	1354	8171

Table 3.6.1. IMS phase detections and event summary.

3.7 ESAL time-lag statistics

During two years of continuous operation, the operational performance of the IMS Expert System for Association and Location (ESAL) has in general been very good. When data are available from all arrays, and all EP-SigPro processes are working normally, ESAL processes phase detections at close to real-time speed.

From time to time, however, some process that provides ESAL with input data will fail or slow down and ESAL will fall behind real-time, waiting for the detections to become available. The Chinese test explosion on 5 October 1993, for example, was not defined until 8 hours after the event occurred because the processing of ARCESS detections was behind.

To monitor to what degree ESAL keeps up with real-time, recording of time-lag was started.

Every ten minutes, the UNIX system time (based on a GPS satellite clock) is written to a file together with the detection time last processed by ESAL (found in the timestamp database table). Once a week, the results are plotted and for each peak in the plot, an explanation is sought.

The first three of these weekly plots are displayed in Figs. 3.7.1 - 3.7.3

The sawtooth appearance of the plots is a result of the way phase detections are processed in the IMS: Each array has a separate KP-SigPro process which extracts detection parameters and writes them to a SIGPRO database common to all arrays. Once an hour, the database used by ESAL. ESAL wakes up every 30 minutes, reads the new phase detections, defines events from them and goes back to sleep for another 30 minutes. There is therefore an inherent delay of up to 90 minutes in the processing scheme. In addition, some time is spent by EP-SigPro processing each detection before it is written to the database and lastly, ESAL processes all the detections in the batch before it updates the timestamp database table. As can be seen in the plots the combined effect is that ESAL during normal operation stays between approximately 30 minutes and 2 hours behind real-time.

The plots also show examples of several different reasons for time-lag peaks: Computer hardware errors, missing data, too many detections and software stops. In the following, a detailed explanation of the reason for each peak is provided

Oct 12-13: The number of ARCESS phase detections rose from 20-50 per hour to 150-200 for a 4 hour period. This was probably caused by a temperature-fall and ice-cracking. The extra processing load was too much for the computer running the Ep-SigPro process and ESAL had to wait for the detections to become available.

Oct 14-16: Too many detections at the Apatity array. The extra, top peak on Oct 15 came from a hardware-error on an IMS computer (a broken CPU on njaard). All IMS processes were shut down while the machine was being repaired.

Oct 17: No data available from GERESS. The transmission line from Germany was down. Since GERESS data are also recorded in Bochum, the missing data could be retrieved when the line came back up. For arrays without local recording, data are lost totally when the line goes down. This is apparent in the ESAL time-lag plots: When the data transmission comes back (Oct17-Oct18) the delayed data has to be processed and there is a slowly descending, saw-toothed line. If ESAL had been waiting for data from an array with no local recording, there would be no data to process and ESAL could have proceeded with the other already-processed arrays. (This is seen as a straight, sharp drop as on Oct 28 when ARCESS came back after an outage.)

Oct 18-19: No data from the Apatity array because of problems related to positioning the satellite antenna in Apatity. To bring the ESAL-processing forward, it was decided on Oct 19 to leave Apatity temporarily out of the IMS-processing. This accounts for the sharp drop on Oct 19.

The second, smaller peak late on Oct 19 is due to a stop in the ARCESS EP-SigPro processing. The reason for the stop is not clear, but may have been caused by bad data.

Oct 20: The GetArrivals program failed on two consecutive invocations, no detections were transferred from the SIGPRO- to the IMS-database for three hours. The reason is unknown but probably database-related.

Oct 21-23: The satellite antenna problem in Apatity had been fixed. It was decided to include the Apatity array in the IMS processing again. ESAL moved slowly forward while the missing data were being retrieved from the local disk-loop in Apatity and processed.

Oct 24: A full day of continuous, error-free processing.

Oct 24: A full day of continuous, error-free processing.

Oct 25: ESAL stopped. Aborted in a time-interval where no events were defined.

Oct 26: Delayed GERESS data. Data-transmission from Germany down.

Oct 27-28: ARCESS data acquisition computer hardware error. (Faulty disk-controller on rein). The data that were not recorded during repair were lost. No processing required.

Oct 28-30: Large number of Apatity detections due to local disturbances and radio link problems.

Oct 31-Nov 1: Close to ideal processing. No major delays.

This exercise of closely monitoring the ESAL time-lags provides considerable insight into the complexity of the task of keeping a system like IMS running at close to real-time. Considering the experimental and research-oriented role of the IMS operation, the priority is, for the time being, on collecting data from all arrays before doing the network association and event location. This strategy may, however, change with changing operational requirements.

U. Baadshaug

3.8 GBF operation

Events automatically located by GBF

The automatic GBF processing was temporarily discontinued for a period of 47 days during the reporting period, but was otherwise run on a continuous basis.

During days 091 through 180, and 222 through 267, 1993, 8445 local and regional events were located by GBF. This gives an average of 62.0 events per processed day (136 days processed). 69% of these events are within 300 km of the nearest station, and 84% of these events are within 1000 km of the nearest station.

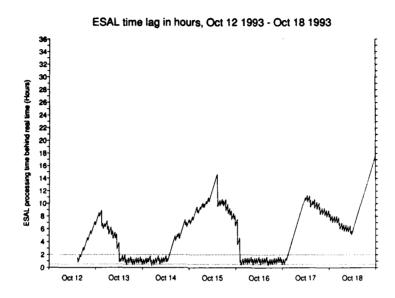
72.2% of these events were defined by 2 regional phases. Teleseismic phases are currently not used by GBF. 88.8% of all events had 3 defining phases or less.

T. Kværna

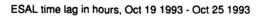


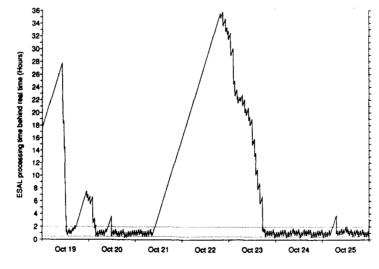
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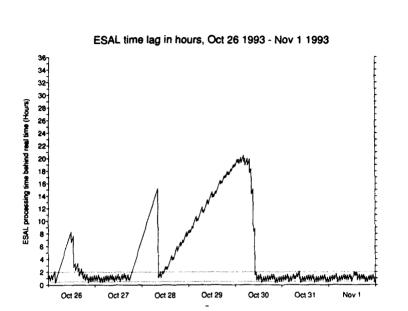


Fig. 3.7.3.

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4 Improvements and Modifications

4.1 NORSAR

NORSAR data acquisition

No modification has been made to the NORSAR data acquisition system.

The data are recorded on a 30-hour circular disk buffer on the IBM system, and archived onto 1/2 inch magnetic tapes. In addition to this, the data are now regularly transmitted to a SUN system for recording on a 48-hour circular disk buffer.

The data from the 7 subarrays are transmitted over 2400 bps leased lines between the Short and Long Period Electronic Modules (SLEMs) in the subarray vaults and a Modcomp computer at NDPC. Severe problems have occurred with the communications, and have led to problems with data quality and timing. An independent process has been developed which samples a time pulse to automatically control the timing of the old NOR-SAR system.

The transmission between IBM and SUN has also experienced problems due to old transmission devices. Thus all new processes developed for NORSAR data may be delayed due to malfunctions of the IBM-to-SUN communication processor.

NORSAR detection processing

The NORSAR detection processor has been running satisfactorily on the IBM 4381 computer during this reporting period.

Detection statistics are given in section 2. In addition to the detection processing done on IBM, the DP program is doing regular detection processing on a SUN system, using the unix-based circular disk buffer (see below). A detection SNR threshold of 20.0 triggers automatic saving of waveforms into CSS 3.0 data files.

NORSAR event processing

There have been no changes in the routine processing of NORSAR events, using the IBM system.

In parallel with the IBM processing, routine event processing is also done on a SUN computer using the "old" IBM time delay correction data base that has been converted to SUN/UNIX. The automatic solutions produced are equal to or better than the old system with a lower false alarm rate. Alert messages are sent to USGS for events above magnitude 5.5.

NORSAR refurbishment

We have purchased 6 AIM24-1 digitizers and one AIM24-3 digitizer from Science Horizons. These 7 digitizers together with 7 GPS clocks have been installed in the subarray

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06C vault. We are successfully recording data at NDPC using an experimental VSAT communication link. Details on the refurbishment effort are reported on separately.

Both short period and long period instruments of the current system are functioning well, although the long period instruments require a high amount of manual calibration. The most critical part of the old NORSAR system is the data acquisition system, in particular the disks, the Modcomp communication processor and the telecommunication lines. The refurbishment project was delayed due to lack of suitable digitizers, but it now seems to be possible to operate the AIM24 digitizers at the remote sites of the NORSAR array. After a long-term field test, we may be ready to start installation of a new data acquisition system starting summer 1994.

4.2 Regional Arrays

Detection processing

The routine detection processing of the arrays is running satisfactorily on each of the array's SUN-3/280 or Sparcstation 1 acquisition systems. The same program is used for NORSAR, NORESS, ARCESS, FINESA, GERESS, the Apatity and Spitsbergen arrays, but with different "recipes". The beam table for NORESS and ARCESS is found in NOR-SAR Sci. Rep. No. 1-89/90. The beam table for FINESA and GERESS is found in NOR-SAR Sci. Rep. No. 1-90/91. The beam table for the Apatity array is found in NORSAR Sci. Rep. No. 1-92/93, and that for the Spitsbergen array is found in NORSAR Sci. Rep. No. 2-92/93.

Detection statistics are summarized in section 3.

Signal processing. Phase estimation

This process performs f-k and polarization analysis for each detection to determine phase velocity, azimuth and type of phase, and the results are put into the ORACLE detection and arrival tables for use by the IMS.

Event Processing. Plot and epicenter determination

A description of single-array event processing is found in NORSAR Sci. Rep. No. 2-88/ 89, and NORSAR Sci. Rep. No. 2-89/90.

J. Fyen

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5 Maintenance Activities

5.1 Activities in the field and at the Maintenance Center

This section summarizes the activities at the Maintenance Center (NMC) Hamar, and NDPC activities related to monitoring and control of NORSAR, including monitoring of NORESS, ARCESS, FINESA, GERESS and the Apatity and Spitsbergen arrays.

Activities involve preventive and corrective maintenance, planning and activities related to NORSAR refurbishment (NMC/06C). Preparation of a miniarray in Amderma, Russia, involved assembling a 6-channel array (with NMC-produced amplifiers). In August 1993 P.W. Larsen (NMC) joined a delegation to Russia, where they visited Dubna near Moscow and Peleduy in Siberia in connection with array siting surveys.

The Spitsbergen installation was completed in September 1993.

NORSAR

Visits to subarrays in connection with:

- Replacement of RA-5 card
- Replacement of MP motors
- Replacement of FP motors
- Adjustment of LP seismometers, VE/NS/EW
- Adjustment of gain SP/LP channels
- Cable location
- Cable splicing
- NTA/Hamar assistance (communications check)
- Demounting six telemetry stations
- Line/modem checks
- Installation of data acquisition equipment in connections with NORSAR refurbishment

NMC

- NORSAR refurbishment preparations
- Preparation of a miniarray for Amderma in Russia, involving assembly of a sixchannel array (dispatched to Russia in June 1993)
- NGI (Norwegian Geotechncal Institute) survey (PWL) at Kjeller in connection with preparation of a 3-component noise study

NORESS

- Adjustment of offset site D8
- Fiber optical link repair

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Spitsbergen

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Installation completion

Subarray/ area	Task	Date
NORSAR		
	No visits to subarray	April
NORESS	Adjustment of DC offset site D8	20 Apr
NMC	Preparations for the NORSAR refurbishment, involving test- ing of different seismometers and digitizers.	April
NPDC	Daily checks of the following arrays have been carried out, i.e., NORSAR, NORESS, ARCESS, FINESA, GERES, Apat- ity and Spitsbergen. SP/LP instruments have been calibrated (NORSAR). Free Period (FP) and Mass Pos. (MP) were measured. Those out- side specifications adjusted (when feasible from NDPC).	April
NORSAR		
03C	Assisted the landowner in pointing out a cable in the SP point 00 area	28 May
NMC	NORSAR refurbishment continued	May
NDPC	Daily checks of the following arrays have been carried out, i.e., NORSAR, NORESS, ARCESS, FINESA, Apatity and Spitsbergen (partly). SP/LP instruments have been calibrated (NORSAR), excl. week 20. FP/ MP were measured. Those outside specifica- tions adjusted (when feasible from NDPC).	May
NORSAR		
02B	Replaced RA-5 amplifier SP ch 01	2 June
02B	Replaced MP-motor vertical seismometer	30 June
02B	Replaced MP/FP motor NS seismometer	30 June
ARCESS	NMC-staff installed a new air-condition unit	4-8 June
NMC	The Amderma miniarray prepared at the NMC dispatched to Russia	June

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Subarray/ area	Task	Date
NDPC	Daily checks of the following arrays have been carried out, i.e., NORSAR, NORESS, ARCESS, FINESA, Apatity and Spitsbergen. SP/LP instruments were calibrated (NORSAR), excl. week 26. FP/MP were measured. Those outside specifications adjusted (when feasible from NDPC).	June
NORSAR		July
04C	SP03 dead due to a bad cable. Checked gain of the remaining SP channels. Adjusted VE/EW LP seismometer. Not able to operate NS seismometer	1 July
01B	SP02 was dead due to a bad cable. Adjusted MP/FP VE/NS/ EW LP seismometer	2 July
04C	Spliced cable SP03	5 July
01B	Spliced cable SP02	7 July
02C	Replaced RA-5 SP01	8 July
02 C	Assisted NTA/Hamar in connection with a communications check. Also checked LP-channels	9 July
04C	Replaced MP/FP motors (RCDs), NS and EW LP seismo- meters	26,27 July
NMC	P.W. Larsen (NMC) took part in a survey at Kjeller 28 July in connection with preparing a 3-component noise study installation.	28 July
NDPC	Daily checks of the following arrays have been carried out, i.e., NORSAR, NORESS, ARCESS, FINESA, Apatity and Spitsbergen. SP/LP instruments were calibrated (NORSAR), excl. weeks 30, 31. FP/ MP were measured. Those outside specifications adjusted (when feasible from NDPC).	յոյ
NORSAR		August
02B(telem.)	Demounted the six telemetry stations and brought the equip- ment to the NMC	August
02B	Line check. Adjusted gain SP-channels 1, 2, 4 and 5	11 Aug
01A	Line check	31 Aug
NORESS	Repaired fiber optic link D3	25 Aug

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Subarray/ area	Task	Date
NMC	In conection with NORSAR refurbishment, Science Horizons data acquisition equipment was installed in the 06C CTV.	August
	P.W. Larsen visited Dubna near Moscow in connection with plans for upgrading the existing Peleduy station.	9-20 Aug
NDPC	Daily checks of the following arrays have been carried out, i.e., NORSAR, NORESS, ARCESS, FINESA, Apatity and Spitsbergen. SP/LP instruments were calibrated (NORSAR), excl. week 32 FP/ MP were measured. Those outside specifications adjusted (when feasible from NDPC), excl. week 32.	August
NORSAR		September
01A	Repaired SP04 cable	16,17,27, 29 Sept
02B	Repaired SP03 dable	16,17,27, 29 Sept
01A	Replaced RA-5 SP03	21 Sept
01 A	Pointed out a cable for the power company. Adjusted ch. gain SP03 and LP/NS seismometer. Adjusted MP all LP instru- ments	30 Sept
02B	Replaced Remote Centering Device (RCD), EW MP/FP	14 Sept
02B	Replaced damping coil EW seismometer	15 Sept
02B	Adjusted ch. gain sp ch 1, 4 and LP vertical channel	20 Sept
02B	Adjusted MP and FP all LP seismometers. Soldered bad con- tact on data coil vertical LP seismometer	20 Sept
06C	Cable sp03 spliced. Adjusted ch. gain sp ch 1, 3 and all LP channels. Adjusted MP and FP all seismometers	10 Sept
ARCESS	Repaired fiber optical link A2, A3, B2, B4, C2, D6 and D7	7-9 Sept
Spitsbergen	Installation completed. Cables have been laid down to the remote sites A1, A2 and B3. Only sites A0, A2, B2, B4 and B5 have good instruments. The remaining were damaged during transport.	1-6 Sept

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Subarray/ area	Task	Date
NPDC	Daily checks of the following arrays have been carried out, i.e., NORSAR, NORESS, ARCESS, FINESA, Apatity and Spitsbergen. SP/LP instruments were calibrated (NORSAR), excl. week 37. FP/ MP were measured. Those outside specifications adjusted (when feasible from NDPC), excl. week 37.	September

 Table 5.1. Activities in the field and the NORSAR Maintenance Center, including NDPC activities related to NORSAR, NORESS, ARCESS, FINESA, GERESS and the Apatity and Spitsbergen arrays 1 April - 30 September 1993.

5.2 Array status

As of 30 September 1993 the following NORSAR channels deviated from tolerances:

01A	01	8 Hz filter
	02	8 Hz filter
	04	30 dB attenuation
01B		Out of operation
02B	07	-
	08	
	09	
02C		Out of operation
03C	04	•
	08	
04C	08	
06C		Subarray out of operation from 27 September.

O.A. Hansen

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May 1993

6 Documentation Developed

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- Kværna, T. and F. Ringdal (1993): Intelligent post-processing of seismic events, Proc. Brice Workshop, Italy, Nov 93.
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Semiannual Tech. Summary, 1 Oct 92 - 31 Mar 93, NORSAR Sci. Rep. 2-92/93, NOR-SAR, Kjeller, Norway.

7 Summary of Technical Reports / Papers Published

7.1 Continuous threshold monitoring of the Lop Nor, China, test site

Introduction

The continuous threshold monitoring technique (Ringdal and Kværna, 1989) represents a new approach toward achieving reliable seismic monitoring for the purpose of verifying nuclear test ban treaties.

Traditionally, seismic monitoring has relied upon applying signal detectors to individual stations within a monitoring network, associating detected phases and locating possible events in the region of interest. This procedure has been accompanied by assessments of network capabilities for the target region, usually by applying statistical models for the noise level distribution, introducing station corrections for signal attenuation and devising a combinational procedure to determine the detection threshold as a function of the number of phase detections required for reliable location.

The statistical noise models used in these capability assessments are not able to accommodate the effect of interfering signals, such as the coda of large earthquakes, which may cause the estimated thresholds to be quite unrealistic at times. Furthermore, only a statistical capability assessment is achieved, and no indication is given as to particular time intervals when the possibility of undetected clandestine explosions is particularly high.

The continuous threshold monitoring technique alleviates these problems. It makes it possible to ascertain, at any point in time, for a given target region, the maximum magnitude of a possible clandestine explosion at a predefined level of confidence. This makes it possible to focus attention upon those specific time intervals when realistic evasion opportunities exist, while retaining confidence that no treaty violation has occurred at other times.

The continuous threshold monitoring sechnique has previously been applied experimentally in connection with the Novaya Demiye test site (Ringdal and Kværna, 1992; Kværna, 1992). This test site is within regione¹ distance of the Fennoscandian arrays, and consequently an excellent monitoring capability (m_b ~ 2.5) has been achieved for this site.

Application to the Lop Nor test site

In order to further demonstrate how continuous threshold monitoring could be performed in a practical operation situation, we have conducted an experiment during which we have applied continuous threshold monitoring to the Chines test site at Lop Nor for a five-day period. Our data base has been the regional array network NORESS, ARCESS and GER-ESS. As illustrated in Fig. 7.1.1, these three arrays are all at teleseismic distances from the test site, with excellent P-phase detection capabilities (see Fig. 7.1.2). In particular, the NORESS array has an excellent detection capability for this test site.

The parameters used in the threshold monitoring experiment are given in Table 7.1.1. For each array, we steer "optimum" P beams towards the test site, and calibrate these beams

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using actually observed signal attenuation from previous Lop Nor explosions. By focusing in this way on the target region, we can at any point in time measure the "noise magnitude" for a given phase at a given array, and combine these data to obtain a network threshold as explained in detail by Ringdal and Kværna (1989).

Results

Figs. 7.1.3-7.1.7 show the results of the monitoring experiment. Each of these figures covers one data day, starting 1 October 1993. The upper three traces of each figure represent the thresholds (i.e., 90% upper magnitude limits) obtained from the three individual arrays, whereas the bottom trace illustrates the network threshold. Typically, the individual array traces have a number of significant peaks for each 24-hour period, due to interfering events (local or teleseismic). On the network trace, the number and sizes of these peaks are greatly reduced, because an interfering event will usually not provide matching signals at all the stations. From probabilistic considerations, it can in such cases be inferred that the actual network threshold is lower than these individual peaks might indicate.

We will not discuss in detail the individual peaks on the network trace. Here, we will just note that on 2 October (day 275) an aftershock sequence occurred in the S. Sinkiang province. Furthermore, the last day, 5 October 1993, was the day of an actual nuclear explosion $(m_b = 5.9)$ at Lop Nor, and this event naturally stands out on the plot. The peak value of the network threshold plot does not represent the actual magnitude of the event, but is slightly lower (see discussion below).

As a general comment to Figs. 7.1.3-7.1.7, we note that such plots are a useful supplement to the Intelligent Monitoring System (IMS) (Bache et al, 1993), and will enable the analyst to obtain an instant assessment of the actual threshold level of the monitoring network. The peaks on the network traces may be quickly correlated with the IMS detection bulletin, in order to decide whether they originate from interfering events or from events in the target region.

Discussion

In a monitoring situation, it will be important to isolate and analyze more extensively those time intervals which offer significant evasion opportunities. Table 7.1.2 gives a statistic of the number of occasions during which the upper magnitude limit exceeded a given level. In theory, if this limit is, e.g., at 4.0, it might be possible that a clandestine $m_b = 4.0$ explosion had occurred without being detected. There are many options available to investigate such a hypothesis in more detail, although we have not attempted to do so in this study. The most immediate approach would be to analyze high-frequency signals for the time interval being considered.

It is significant that the 3-array network studied in this paper can monitor the Lop Nor test site down to m_b 3.5 or below more than 99% of the time (Fig. 7.1.8). Further improvements would clearly be possible by adding more stations to the monitoring network, especially highly sensitive stations at other azimuths than those covered by the northern

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Buropean network. This would in particular contribute to lowering the peaks due to interfering events, whereas any event truly originating in the target region would of course still stand out clearly on the combined network traces.

As a final comment, we will address the apparent contradiction that the magnitude at the time of the nuclear explosion on the threshold trace is slightly lower than the actual event magnitude. In order to explain this, we recall that the network TM calculation assumes that a "hidden" signal is "less than or equal to" the actually observed trace value for each station. While this is a correction assertion for each individual station, it can create a bias if used in a network context, assuming that there is a detectable signal present.

Strictly speaking, this model should only be used during periods with non-detectable signals, or when detections occur from events outside the target area. If there is a detection that could possibly correspond to an event in the target region, "equal" should be used instead of "less than or equal". Hence, the "worst case" (upper 90% limit) magnitude in this case would be the 90 per cent quantile of the distribution for the maximum-likelihood m_b estimate.

If this philosophy is adopted in calculating the threshold traces, it will result in a slightly increased height of the peaks that are consistent (in azimuth and velocity) with events in the target region. The "background" threshold level will not change, and the peaks that can be confidently assigned to events in other regions will be reduced in the same way as before. The resulting threshold trace computations will be slightly more complex in those cases where peaks at individual stations occur.

The above considerations amplify the importance of using TM in combination with a conventional detection/location system. Used in this way, a detectable event will be processed in the conventional way, whereas upper magnitude limits of non-detectable events will be provided by the TM method.

F. Ringdal

T. Kværna

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Station	Phase	Tr. Time	App. Vel.	Azim.	Filter	Coafig.	STA_len.	Tim. Tol.	Sta_calib.
ARC	Р	479.7	13.1	84.8	2-4Hz	A0,C,D	2.0	2.0	1.908
GER	Р	550.5	1 6 .1	67.1	0.8-2.8Hz	A0,C,D	2.0	2.0	2.023
NRS	Р	530.5	19.1	78.1	1-3 Hz	A0,C,D	1.0	2.0	1.133

Tr. time	 Travel time of phase
App. vel.	 Apparent velocity from broadband F-K measurement
Azim.	 Azimuth from broadband F-K mesurement
Filter	 Cutoffs of bandpass filter (3rd order Butterworth)
Config.	 Array configuration used in beamforming. A0,B,C means A0Z, B-ring and C-ring
STA_len.	 STA length in seconds
Tim. tol.	 Time tolerance when searching for maximum STA
STA_calib.	 Calibration factor used when converting STA values
	(in quantum units) to magnitude
	Magnitude = $log10(STA) + STA_calib$.

Table 7.1.1. Parameters used in threshold monitoring experiment.

		Day-of-Year					
	274	275	276	277	278	Total	
m _b ≥5.0	0	2	0	0	1	3	
m _b ≥4.5	0	3	0	0	1	4	
m _b ≥4.0	0	8	0	1	1	10	
m _b ≥3.75	1	13	0	2	3	19	

Table 7.1.2. Statistics of peaks in the network threshold traces.

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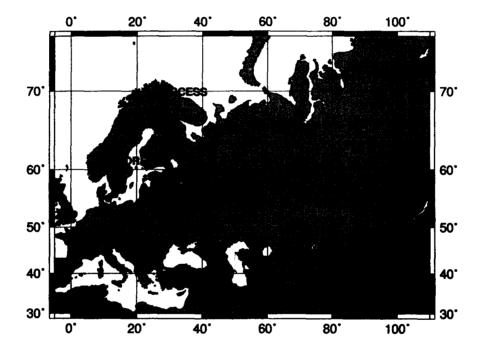
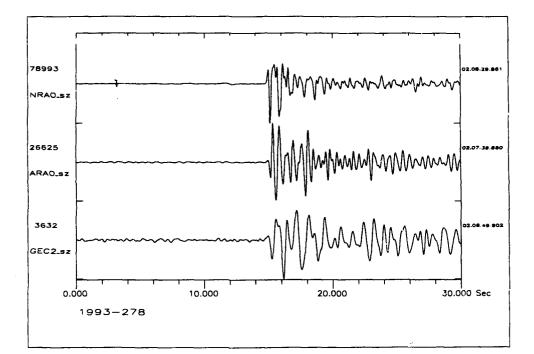
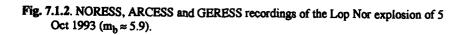
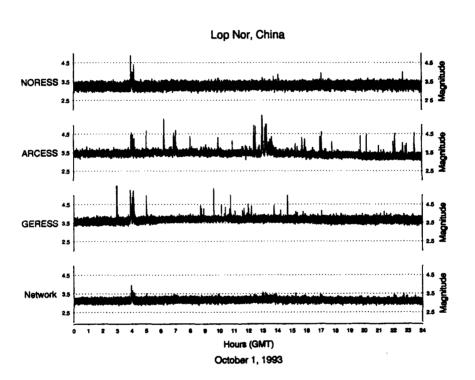


Fig. 7.1.1. Map showing the location of the Lop Nor test site and the three arrays used in the monitoring experiment.

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Fig. 7.1.3. Threshold monitoring of the Novaya Zemlya test site for day 274 (1 October 1993). The top three traces represent thresholds (upper 90 per cent magnitude limits) obtained from each of the three arrays (ARCESS, NORESS, GERESS), whereas the bottom trace shows the combined network thresholds.

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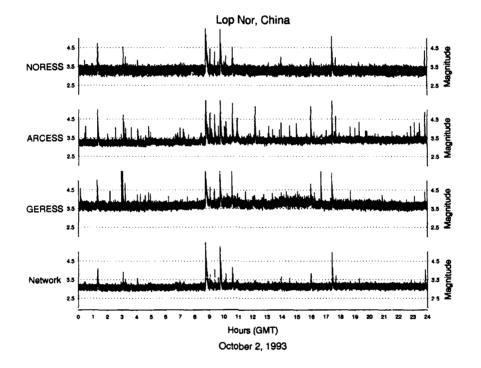
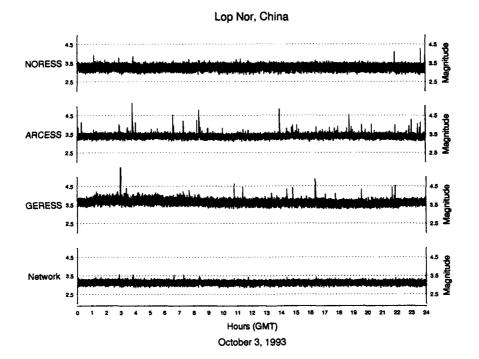
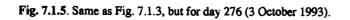


Fig. 7.1.4. Same as Fig. 7.1.3, but for day 275 (2 October 1993). The large number of threshold peaks are caused by an earthquake sequence in Sinkiang, China.



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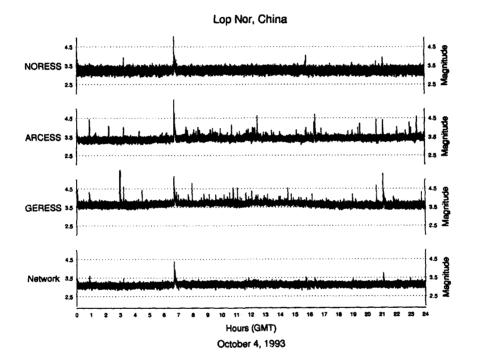
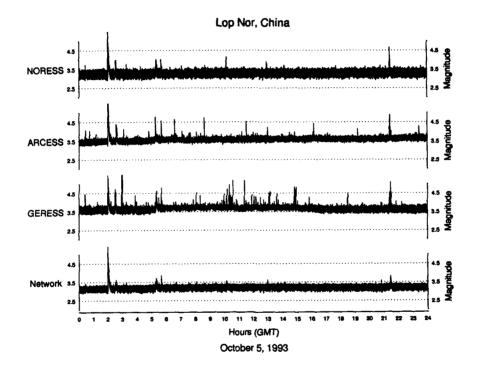
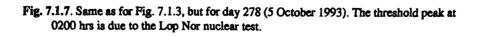


Fig. 7.1.6. Same as Fig. 7.1.3, but for day 277 (4 October 1993).

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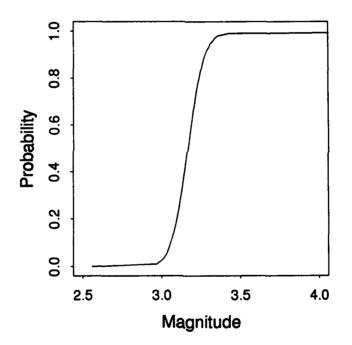


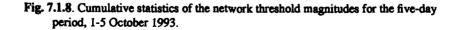




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Threshold magnitudes - Lop Nor





7.2 The Lop Nor nuclear explosion of 5 October 1993

Introduction

As described in Section 7.1, we conducted a threshold monitoring experiment for the Lop Nor test site in Southern Sinkiang, China, for several days prior to the 5 October nuclear explosion. A large earthquake and aftershock sequence occurred in the Southern Sinkiang province only three days before the explosion, and this gave an opportunity to make some interesting comparisons, elaborated upon in this study.

The Lop Nor nuclear explosion of 5 October 1993

The explosion took place on 5 October 1993, with origin time 02.00 GMT. Table 7.2.1 lists the basic parameters of the event as provided by various sources. The m_b magnitudes range from 5.65 to 5.90. The most accurate location is provided by the PDE bulletin, which uses a world-wide network for location purposes. The solutions by the Intelligent Monitoring System (IMS) (Bache et al, 1993), both automatic (IMS) and after analyst processing (ARS), are also listed. The NORSAR automatic and reprocessed solutions (based on the new SUN-based processing system) are included in the table. The SUN-based NORSAR trace plot is shown in Fig. 7.2.1.

Figs. 7.2.2 and 7.2.3 show plots of the interactive IMS processing results. The trace plots of Fig. 7.2.3 are based on array beams for the four arrays Apatity, ARCESS, NORESS, GERESS and a single channel (A0) for Spitsbergen. The FINESS array was not yet operational at the time of the explosion.

Table 7.2.2 summarizes the automatic processing results for the six arrays. The NORESS array has the best signal-to-noise ratio (1376.2) for this event, and by extrapolation this array would be expected to have a detectable signal for an event about 2.5 magnitude units lower. ARCESS and NORSAR also show outstanding SNR. The velocity/azimuth estimates are within the expected uncertainty for all arrays. Note that the Spitsbergen array is only partially installed, and this is reflected in its processing results.

Comparison with previous events

We now proceed to make a brief comparison between the 5 October 1993 explosion, the large 21 May 1992 explosion at the same site and the two largests events in the 2 October S. Sinkiang earthquake sequence.

Table 7.2.3 summarizes the PDE parameters for these four events. The 21 May 1992 explosion is comparable in m_b to the main shock of 2 October 1993, and the 5 October 1993 explosion is comparable to the 2 October 1993 aftershock. This similarity is illustrated by Fig. 7.2.3, which shows the NORESS P-wave recordings (AOZ seismometer) for the four events, all plotted to the same scale.

Fig. 7.2.4 show long-period recordings, from the NORESS broad-band seismometers for the four events. Again, the same scale is used in all four cases. The surface waves of the main earthquake have been "clipped" (for display purposes). This figure is very illustrative, and the following observations may be made.

- As expected, the main carthquake and the large May 1992 explosion have vastly different size of surface waves, in spite of their similar m_b value. Thus, discrimination based on M_s:m_b is simple in these cases.
- The October 1993 Lop Nor explosion can likewise be readily identified as an explosion on the basis of M_s:m_b at NORESS, either by measuring M_s on the "marginal" surface wave shown on Fig. 7.2.4, or by using "negative evidence" in the case of NORESS. In fact, the long-period "noise magnitude" is well below the expected M_s value for any earthquake of corresponding m_b value.
- The surface waves of the 2 October aftershock cannot be measured on NORESS recordings, and this event cannot be identified as an earthquake from NORESS data using M_s:m_b. The reason is the large coda level even one full hour after the main shock.

It has previously been found, on the basis of the GSETT-2 experiment (see section 7.6) that a modern network dominated by high-frequency arrays is very efficient in detecting aftershocks closely following large earthquakes (see also Ringdal, 1992). The reason is that the high-frequency coda drops very rabidly after the initial P onset, and the high-frequency arrays are able to exploit this drop c^{-1} in the detection processing. On the other hand, the long-period coda stays at a high level for many hours following large earthquakes, and no efficient methods have been found so far to suppress this coda sufficiently to extract very small surface waves. This is only one of many examples illustrating that the progress in recent years in seismic event detection has not been matched by a similar progress in event identification.

J. Fyen

F. Ringdal

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Ref.	Origin time	Lat	Lon	mb
IMS (automatic)	01.59.59.7	41.386	89.619	5.65
ARS	01.59.54.8	41.110	89.371	5.65
NORSAR SUN (automatic)	02.00.01.0	42.449	89.195	5.88
NORSAR Rerun SUN	02.00.01.3	41.365	87.339	5.83
PDE	01.59.56.5	41.64 7	88.681	5.90

Table 7.2.1. Location estimates by various systems of the 5 October 1993 Lop Nor nuclear explosion. Two of the estimates were made automatically (indicated in the table).

Аггау	Onset time	Res	STA/LTA	Vel	Res	Azi	Res
NORESS	278:02.08.44.398	1.71	1376.2	16.8	2.36	77.5	1.4
ARCESS	278:02.07.54.320	2.66	566.7	14.3	0.66	82.2	-14.9
GERESS	278:02.09.04.350	2.62	121.9	17.5	2.71	65.8	-2.2
Apatity	278:02.07.28.750	2.16	177.3	14.8	1.50	103.3	0.9
Spitsbergen	278:02.08.23.900	3.35	37.2	7.9	-6.17	94.0	-2.9
NORSAR	278:02.08.44.800	1.48	408.9	14.5	0.05	77.4	1.3

Table 7.2.2. Automatic detection list for the Lop Nor nuclear explosion 05 October 1993. The columns show array name, automatic SigFro onset time, onset residual relative to PDE origin time, maximum signal-to-noise ratio (STA/LTA), apparent velocity (km/sec), residual in km/sec, back-azimuth in degrees, back-azimuth residual. All residuals are relative to predictions using IASPEI91 tables and PDE origin time and location.

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Event	Ref.	Origin time	Lat	Lon	mb	Ms
Lop Nor 92	PDE	21 May 92 04.59.57.5	41.604	88.813	6.5	5.0
Lop Nor 93	PDE	05 Oct 93 01.59.56.5	41.647	88.681	5.9	4.8
Main shock	PDE	02 Oct 93 08.42.32.8	38.141	88.638	6.2	6.3
Aftershock	PDE	02 Oct 93 09.43.19.5	38.127	88.502	5 .7	5.3

Table 7.2.3. PDE parameters for four events discussed in the text.

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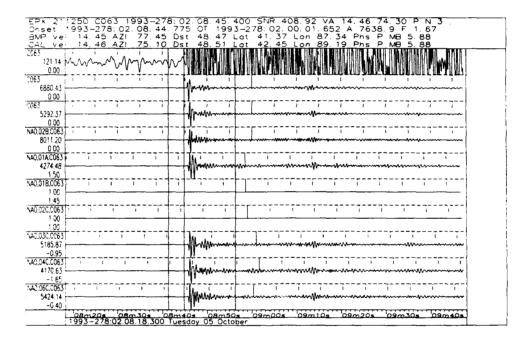


Fig. 7.2.1. Plot of the automatic NORSAR detection/event processor output for the nuclear explosion of 5 Oct 93.

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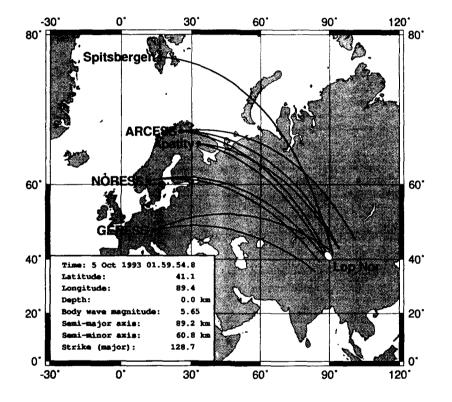


Fig. 7.2.2. Map showing the IMS solution (after analyst review) of 5 Oct 93 explosion. The great circle path for the detecting arrays (based on P and PcP estimated azimuths) are also shown.

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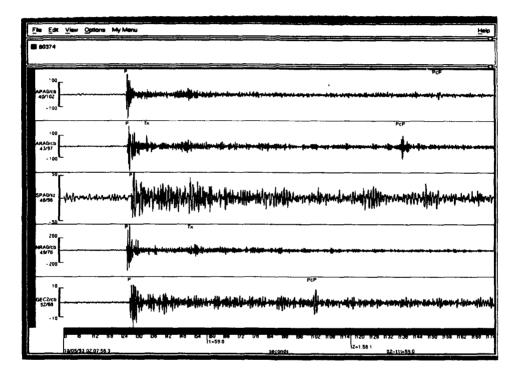


Fig. 7.2.3. P-phase waveforms of the 5 array SP traces (single sensor for Spitsbergen, otherwise array beams) for the 5 Oct 93 explosion.

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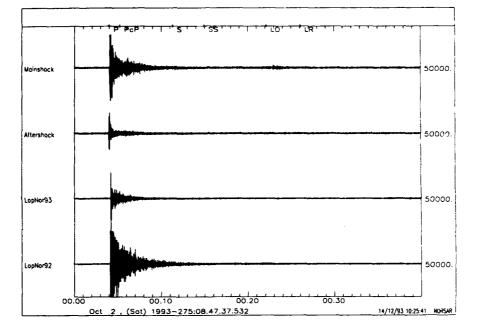


Fig. 7.2.4. NORESS P-waves (A0Z seismometer) for the four events discussed in the text. All traces are in the same scale. Note that, for display purposes, two of the traces have been "clipped".

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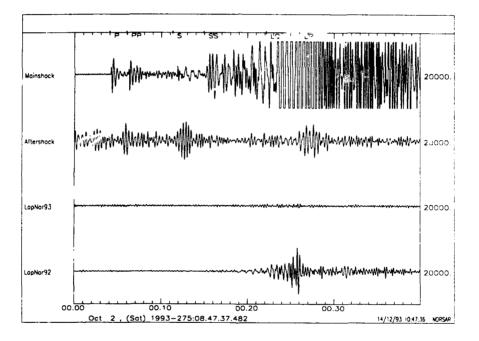


Fig. 7.2.5. NORESS surface waves (Broad-band seismometer) for the four events discussed in the text. All traces are in the same scale. Note that, for display purposes, the top trace has been "clipped".

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7.3 Observations at NORSAR of the 22 September 1993 NPE/CKE explosion at the Nevada Test Site

Introduction

On 22 September 1993, the US Department of Energy detonated a one kiloton conventional explosion at the Nevada test site (NTS), in an experiment named the Non-Proliferation Experiment (NPE) (Springer, 1993). The experiment has also been referred to as the Chemical Kiloton Experiment (CKE). The experiment was conducted in the context of future CTBT/NPT monitoring, and it has the potential of providing data useful for discrimination between chemical and nuclear explosions. The NPE explosion was detonated in the N-tunnel in Rainier Mesa very close to the hypocenters of several previous nuclear explosions, some of which had yields similar to that of the NPE explosion. Through comparison with observations from previous shots at NTS, the NPE experiment should thus offer an opportunity to determine differences in characteristics of chemical and nuclear explosions.

The NPE explosion was recorded on many especially-deployed instruments in the local and regional distance range. Preliminary reports indicate that the shot was recorded with amplitudes that were in general larger than those that would be expected from a similarsize nuclear shot.

The NPE explosion was automatically detected and located by some of the arrays in northern Europe contributing data to the NORSAR Data Processing Center (NDPC). The purpose of this short contribution is to present relevant detection and event location data for these stations, and to make comparisons with observations for a nuclear test conducted at NTS in 1992.

Data analysis

The nuclear explosion that we will compare the NPE/CKE with is the explosion conducted at NTS on 18 September 1992 and referred to as "Hunters Trophy". According to the EDR of the USGS, this explosion was conducted at 17:00:00.008 GMT, at $37^{\circ}12'24.93$ "N, $116^{\circ}12'35.94$ "W, surface elevation 2239 m and depth of burial 385 m. Magnitude is given as m_b 4.4. The NPE/CKE explosion was conducted within 1 km of "Hunters Trophy" and at about the same depth of burial.

At the time of the "Hunters Trophy" explosion, NDPC received and processed automatically data from the NORSAR large-aperture array as well as the high-frequency arrays NORESS, ARCESS, FINESA and GERESS. At the time of the NPE/CKE event, data from two additional high-frequency arrays were available, namely, the arrays at Apatity and Spitsbergen. The FINESA array was not operational at the time of the NPE/CKE event, due to work related to a refurbishment of this array.

At NDPC all data are subject to standard detection processing including beamforming, filtering and estimation of STA/LTA ratios for signal detection (EP_SigPro processing). Tables 7.3.1 and 7.3.2 show automatic detection parameters for the "Hunters Trophy" and

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NPE/CKE events, respectively. It is seen that the events are detected at NORSAR, NOR-ESS and GERESS (and "Hunters Trophy" at FINESA) at distances ranging from 73 to 83 degrees. The high-frequency small-aperture NORESS array has not only the best SNR, but broadband frequency wave number analysis is capable of estimating back azimuth and apparent velocity about as well as the larger NORSAR array. It should be noted, however, that the automatic processing of the NORSAR array is using the full array. With site-specific processing using the "best" subarrays, NORSAR beam SNR can be improved. From Figs. 7. 3.1 and 7.3.2 we see that NORSAR subarray NC6 colocated with NORESS has a larger SNR than the other subarrays. However, for <u>event location</u> the full NORSAR array will be superior to that of individual subarrays. ARCESS detected neither of the two events. The NPE/CKE event was not detected on the Apatity nor the Spitsbergen array.

The data from the high-frequency arrays are processed using the Intelligent Monitoring System (IMS). Arrivals on the various arrays are automatically associated to form events at both local, regional and teleseismic distances. IMS results, as reviewed by the analyst, are given in Figs. 7.3.3 and 7.3.4. It can be seen that the event solution for "Hunters Trophy" is better than that for the NPE/CKE event. The main reason appears to be the fact that FINESA was not operational at the time of the NPE/CKE event. The mb magnitudes as determined by IMS are 4.14 and 4.10, for the "Hunters Trophy" and NPE/CKE events, respectively.

Concluding remarks

The NORSAR, NORESS and GERESS a rays at epicentral distances ranging from 73 to 83 degrees all detected both the "Hunters frophy" explosion and the NPE/CKE event automatically. The NPE/CKE event was recorded with amplitudes that were only slightly smaller (generally by 0.1 m_b units) than those of "Hunters Trophy" (see e.g. Figs. 7.3.1 and 7.3.2, where the scaling factors to the left of the traces can be directly compared for the two events. Amplitudes at NORESS can be compared through the scaling factors in Fig. 7.3.5.) With an m_b of 4.4 as given by USGS for "Hunters Trophy", it is clear that also NORSAR's recordings of the NPE/CKE event confirm that this one kiloton conventional explosion produced amplitudes somewhat larger than those expected from a one kiloton fully contained nuclear explosion.

As expected, the signals recorded at NDPC for these two events had SNRs that were too low to permit meaningful attempts at discriminating between their nuclear and chemical origins through analysis of signal characteristics. This is illustrated in Fig. 7.3.5, which shows the optimum beams at NORESS for these two events.

J. Fyen

S. Mykkeltveit

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Агтау	Onset time	Res	STA/LTA	Vel	Res	Azi	Res
NORSAR	262:17.11.31.631	-0.83	4.8	17.7	-1.04	320.9	2.4
NORESS	262:17.11.33.970	-0.47	7.9	17.5	-1.36	323.3	4.5
ARCESS	No detection						
FINESA	262:17.11.53.250	-1.57	4.5	28.8	9.06	316.8	-13.1
GERESS	262:17.12.29.348	-0.21	5.8	18.9	-2.74	21.8	59.9
Apatity	Not installed						ļ
Spitsbergen	Not installed						

Table 7.3.3. Automatic detection information for the "Hunters Trophy" event of 18 September 1992. The columns show array, automatic EP_SigPro onset time, onset time residual, detection STA/LTA, apparent velocity in km/s, residual in km/s, back azimuth in degrees and back azimuth residual. All residuals are relative to the IASPEI91 travel time tables and USGS event parameters.

Array	Onset time	Res	STA/LTA	Vel	Res	Azi	Res
NORSAR	265:07.12.32.608	0.09	3.5	17.6	-1.21	322.9	4.6
NORESS	265:07.12.34.212	028	6.7	15.9	-2.98	323.4	4.8
ARCESS	No detection						
FINESA	Not operational			<u> </u>	·····		
GERESS	265:07.13.29.073	-0.32	5.2	13.0	-8.67	342.5	20.7
Apatity	No detection			·			
Spitsbergen	No detection						

Table 7.3.2. Automatic detection information for the NPE/CKE event of 22 September 1993. The columns show array, automatic EP_SigPro onset time, onset time residual, detection STA/LTA, apparent velocity in km/s, residual in km/s, back azimuth in degrees and back azimuth residual. All residuals are relative to the IASPEI91 travel time tables. The origin time is assumed to be 07:01:00.000, and location is assumed to be the same as that for "Hunters Trophy".

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i	1992-262:17.11.02,900 Friday 18 September

Fig. 7.3.1. NORSAR array *automatic* event plot for the "Hunters Trophy" event. The traces show from top to bottom the unfiltered (full) array beam, the filtered (full) array beam, followed by seven filtered subarray beams (subarrays NB2, NA0, NB0, NC2, NC3, NC4 and NC6). The passband used is 1.2 to 3.2 Hz. Note that subarray NA0 was out of operation at the time of this event. The vertical line marks the automatic detection time, with reference to subarray NB2. The automatic event location given is within about 4 degrees of the true location.

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- Fig. 7.3.2. NORSAR array *automatic* event plot for the NPE/CKE event. See caption for Fig. 7.3.1 for details of figure content and passband. Note that subarrays NBO and NC2 were out of operation at the time of this event. The automatic event location is within about 6 degrees of the true location.
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Fig. 7.3.3. IMS results for the "Hunters Trophy" event, as reviewed by an analyst. Detections with associated slowness values at NORESS, FINESA and GERESS are used to form the event solution.

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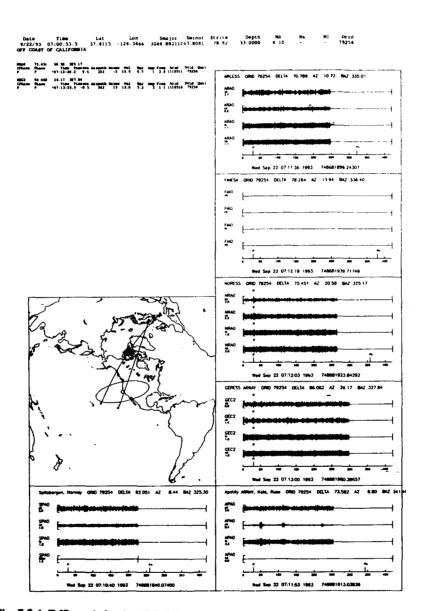


Fig. 7.3.4. IMS result for the NPE/CKE event, as reviewed by an analyst. Only information from NORESS and GERESS was available to form the event solution shown.

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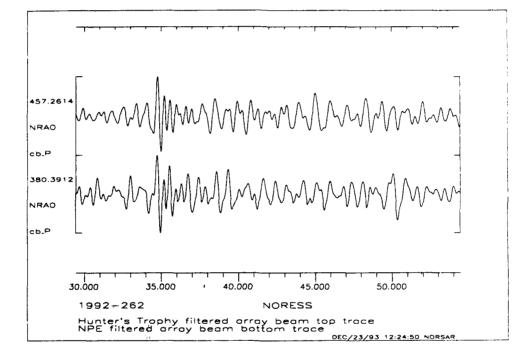


Fig. 7.3.5. Optimum NORESS array beams (with respect to steering parameters) filtered in the passband 1.2 to 3.2 Hz for the "Hunters Trophy" event (top) and the NPE/ CKE event (bottom). The two traces are aligned so that the signal onset is 5 s after the start time of the trace. The numbers to the left of the traces are amplitude scaling factors.

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7.4 A generic algorithm for accurate determination of P-phase arrival times

Introduction

A precise estimate of the onset time of seismic phases is needed to obtain an accurate event location. To obtain very precise onset times for all types of seismic signals, seismological observatories around the world mostly rely on the picks provided by their human analysts. However, the increase in the number of seismic stations worldwide has not been followed up by a similar increase in the number of analysts. The availability and operational use of reliable, automatic procedures therefore become more and more important.

In the automatic detection and signal processing module (SigPro) used for processing the regional array data at NORSAR, a two-step onset time algorithm is in use. This procedure consists of first applying a series of short-term to long-term average (STA/LTA) detectors in parallel to a set of filtered beams. When one or more of the STA/LTA detectors exceed a predefined threshold, a phase detection is declared and a detection time is found. Subsequently, a time domain phase timing algorithm is applied to the filtered beam with the highest SNR, using the detection time as the starting value. A detailed description of this algorithm is found in Mykkeltveit and Bungum (1984).

These SigPro estimates of the onset times are subsequently used by the automatic phase association and event location procedure (ESAL) of the Intelligent Monitoring System (IMS) (Bache et al, 1993) to produce a fully automatic event bulletin. The IMS currently provides for joint processing of data from six arrays located in northern and central Europe, see Fig. 7.4.1. The events in the automatic bulletin are finally reviewed and corrected by the analyst using the Analyst Review Station (ARS) of the IMS. Through the analyst review we have experienced that the phase onset times often have to be significantly adjusted. In order to improve the precision of the automatic event locations provided by the IMS and in order to reduce the analyst's workload, there is therefore a strong need to improve the precision of the automatic onset time estimates.

Autoregressive modelling has been shown to provide a useful tool in characterizing seismic noise and signals. Tjøstheim (1975a,b) applied such modelling to the seismic discrimination problem. Takanami (1991) used autoregressive models for onset time estimation for microearthquake networks. Pisarenko et al (1987) developed a general autoregressive onset time estimator, which was further elaborated by Kushnir et al (1990). In this study we will investigate the use and performance of this onset time estimation method when applied in an automatic mode under various types of conditions.

In this paper, we develop a generic procedure to reestimate the onsets of all types of firstarriving P-phases using the SigPro onset estimates as a starting point. By applying the autoregressive likelihood technique, we have obtained automatic onset times of a quality such that 70% of the automatic picks are within 0.1 s of the best manual pick. For the Sig-Pro onset time procedure currently used at NORSAR, the corresponding number is 28%. We conclude that automatic reestimation of first-arriving P-onsets using the autoregressive

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likelihood technique has the potential of significantly reducing the retiming efforts of the analyst.

Autoregressive likelihood estimation of onset time

Following Pisarenko et al (1987) and Kushnir et al (1990), the autoregressive likelihood algorithm for onset time estimation is based on regarding the signal onset as the time when the statistical features of the observed time series are abruptly changed. For each argument τ within a predefined search interval (t_1, t_2) of length N, autoregressive models of the observations within the intervals (t_1, τ) and (τ, t_2) are calculated by a Levinson-Durbin procedure. From the variances σ_1^2 and σ_2^2 of the autoregressive model residuals of the two time intervals, a maximum-likelihood algorithm is used to calculate the likelihood function $L(\tau)$ in accordance with the formula

$$L(\tau) = [\tau l n \sigma_1(\tau) - (N - \tau) l n \sigma_2(\tau)]$$
⁽¹⁾

where the argument to the maximum of $L(\tau)$ defines the onset time of the signal, see Fig. 7.4.2.

The algorithm working on single component data, hereafter denoted ESTON1, takes into account changes in both power and frequency content, and it is therefore important that the broadband signal waveforms are retained. This is very different from the onset time estimator currently used in SigPro, which only exploits power differences within the narrow frequency band with the highest signal-to-noise ratio (SNR). The algorithm working on three component data, hereafter denoted ESTON3, is in addition sensitive to changes in the polarization characteristics of the three-component observations. Following the recommendations of Pisarenko et al (1987), we have in all our calculations used autoregressive modelling of order 3.

It is noteworthy that both ESTON1 and ESTON3 require that the search be limited to a relatively short time window. If an initial event location and origin time is known, we can determine the required short time window for the search. Alternatively, the phase onsets provided by SigPro can be used to restrict the search. In any case, the autoregressive like-lihood estimation of onset time should be well-suited to a post-processing application.

Generic application; retiming of first-arriving P-phases

We have conducted an experiment in reestimating the onset time of all first-arriving Pphases defined in the automatic IMS bulletin, using the ESTON1 method. For a period of four days (September 27 - 30, 1993), 391 first-arriving P-phases associated with events in the IMS bulletin were defined. They were distributed among all the arrays shown in Fig. 7.4. 1, and originated from events at both local, regional and teleseismic distances. All P-phases were carefully retimed using an interactive signal processing package (EP) with high-resolution graphics (Fyen, 1989), and about 10% of them were rejected due to false detections or erroneous phase association, such that 350 first-arriving P-phases remained for further analysis after this manual screening process. When comparing these

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numbers to the general IMS performance (Mykkeltveit et al, 1993), it appears that this sample is fairly typical for an operational situation.

The 149 P-phases recorded during the two first days of the time period were used to tune the implementation of ESTON1. By comparing the differences between the manual and the SigPro onset times, a maximum difference of 2.8 s was observed. Consequently, the search interval to be used by ESTON1 was set to ± 3 s around the SigPro onset.

The different types of P-phases (Pg, Pn, P and PKP) spanned a wide range of signal characteristics with respect to spectral content, complexity, SNR and signature (impulsive, emergent). From extensive testing of ESTON1, we found that in order to successfully process all types of signals, we had to identify the widest possible spectral band for which the signal had usable SNR. This was done in the time domain by estimating the maximum SNR within the search interval in a series of narrow passbands. The spectral band was defined such that we initially selected the narrow frequency band with the highest SNR. If the neighboring frequency bands had an SNR within a factor of 5 of the maximum and also exceeded an SNR of 4, the spectral band was extended so as to include this band as well.

Our experiments also showed that in order to obtain stable estimates of the likelihood function $L(\tau)$, it was important to filter and decimate the data in accordance with the highest frequency of the signal spectrum. For signals with a high SNR (typically above 40) and a wide bandwidth, no filtering or decimation was needed.

We found that the onsets provided by ESTON1 were biased slightly late, and the delay appeared to be linearly dependent on the dominant period of the signal. By linear regression of all signals with SNR > 6, the bias b could be approximated by the relation $b \approx 0.38p$ where p is the dominant period of the signal. The flowchart of Fig. 7.4.3 outlines the processing steps involved in the reestimation of the arrival time of first-arriving P-phases using the ESTON1 method.

The 201 P-phases recorded during the last two days of the test period were used to evaluate the new procedure. Fig. 7.4.4a shows the difference between the manually picked onsets and the automatic onsets from SigPro versus the highest SNR measured in any narrow filter band. For comparison, Fig. 7.4.4b shows the difference between the manually picked onsets and the automatically reestimated onset times using the ESTON1 method. From comparing these two figures it is apparent that the improvement when using ESTON1 is significant for all SNRs.

To quantify the improvement, we have in Fig. 7.4.5 plotted the percentage of the observations within a range of absolute time differences between the automatic and the manual picks. For SigPro, 50 percent of the automatic onsets were within 0.23 s of the manual pick, whereas for ESTON1 the 50 percent level (median) was as low as 0.05 s.

We also divided the observations into a teleseismic and a local/regional data set. For Sig-Pro, the median time differences were about equal for the two data sets. For ESTON1, the median time difference was slightly smaller for the local/regional data set than for the tel-

eseismic. This difference could be due to generally longer dominant periods of the teleseismic P-phases.

As expected and also seen from Figs. 7.4.4a and 7.4.4b, the precision of the automatic onsets is best for high SNRs. By again dividing the observations into two data sets, one with SNR less than or equal to 10 and one with SNR greater than 10, we found that SigPro had a median difference of 0.29 s for the low SNR data set and 0.19 s for the other. The corresponding numbers for ESTON1 were 0.10 s and 0.04 s, respectively.

The implications on the analyst's retiming efforts can be illustrated by the following example: If we assume that the analyst will accept a maximum deviation of 0.1 s from the "correct" manual pick without doing retiming, we can from Fig. 7.4.5 see that 28 percent of the SigPro onsets are acceptable, whereas 70 percent of the ESTON1 onsets are acceptable. Clearly, automatic reestimation of first-arriving P-onsets using the algorithm described above has the potential of significantly reducing the retiming efforts of the analyst.

Conclusions

The results presented in this study show that very precise automatic estimates of phase onsets can be obtained with the autoregressive likelihood estimation technique. Implementation of the method requires that we have available approximate estimates of the phase arrival, and we have shown that such approximate estimates can be obtained from automatic event definitions (phase association and event location) by the Intelligent Monitoring System (IMS). In this way the autoregressive likelihood estimation method can provide phase onsets that match the human precision. This has previously been demonstrated for events from the Khibiny Massif, by quantifying the uncertainty of both manual and automatic onset estimates of various phases at the Apatity stations and at ARCESS (Kværna, 1993). Furthermore, the precision of the automatic phase picks shows very large improvement in comparison to the automatic phase onsets from the continuous processing providing input to the IMS.

We realize that in order to obtain accurate event locations, precise onset time estimates are necessary, but not sufficient. If the theoretical travel-time model used in the event location deviates from the true travel-times, the accuracy of the event locations will be reduced. Introduction of travel-time corrections as well as other aspects of accurate event location are discussed by Kværna and Ringdal (1993).

During the work with the sutoregressive likelihood estimation method, we have experienced that the display of the likelihood functions, as illustrated in Fig. 7.4.2 can assist the analyst in picking the correct phase onsets. In the context of interactive analysis of seismic data, we believe that the idea of making such likelihood functions available to the analyst should be pursued.

It is clear that when estimating arrival times by the autoregressive method, the results for specific, well-calibrated regions are more precise than can be obtained when the method is

used in a "generic" mode. Efforts should be made to extend the number of well-calibrated regions in order to make such optimum use of the method.

T. Kværna

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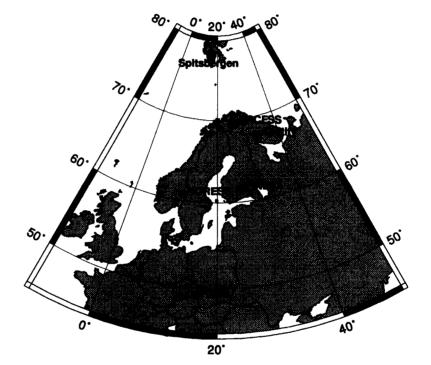
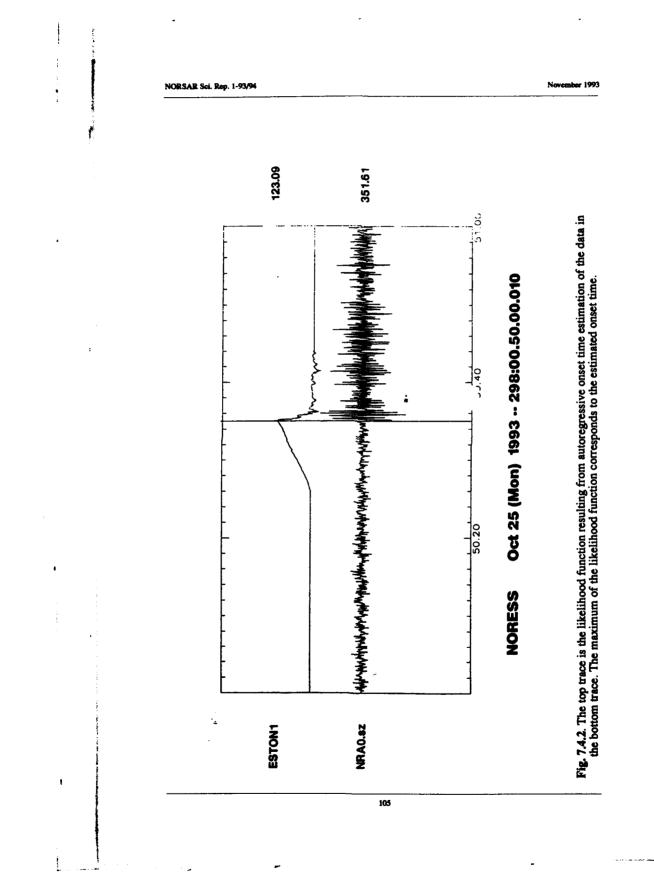


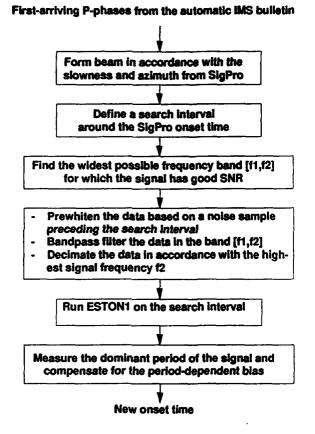
Fig. 7.4.1. Map showing the locations of the six regional arrays currently used by the Intelligent Monitoring System at the NORSAR data processing center.

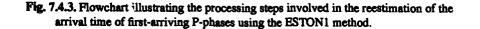


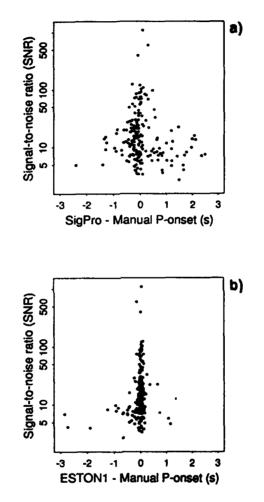
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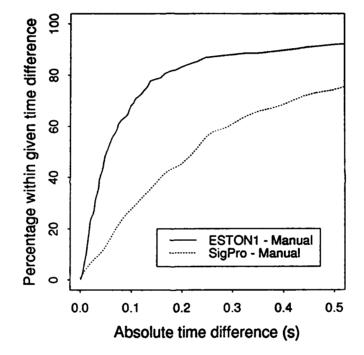
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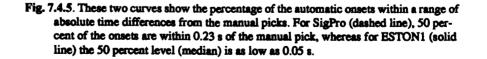
Fig. 7.4.4: This figure show the time difference between the automatic and the manually picked onsets of the 201 first-arriving P-phases analyzed in this study plotted versus the SNR of the signal.

a) shows the time differences between the automatic onsets from SigPro and the manual picks. The median absolute time difference is 0.23 s.

b) shows the time differences between the reestimated onsets from ESTON1 and the manual picks. The median absolute time difference is 0.05 s.







7.5 Onset time estimation and location of events in the Khibiny Massif, Kola Peninsula, using the Analyst Review Station

Introduction

The technique of intelligent post-processing of seismic events proposed by Kværna and Ringdal (1993) has been shown to give a substantial improvement in location accuracy when applied to seismic events in the Khibiny Massif, Kola Peninsula. In this paper, we compare the performance of the analyst using the Analyst Review Station (ARS) to these results. As part of this study, we estimate the uncertainty in analyst time picks for phases from various regional arrays (see Fig. 7.5.1), and we discuss the implication of these uncertainties in terms of the resulting effect on location accuracy. An important conclusion inferred from this work is that, in many cases, location accuracy does *not* improve when adding new phase readings and applying current location programs.

The Khibiny Massif events

Six apatite mines are located within an area of about 10 km² in the Khibiny Massif on the Kola Peninsula of Russia (see Fig. 7.5.2). A detailed description of these mines and the mining activity is found in Mykkeltveit (1992). Although we have no explicit information on the exact sizes of these mines, interpretation of various maps suggests that the typical size is about 1 km². The Kola Regional Seismological Centre has since the beginning of 1991 provided NORSAR with information on mining blasts in the six Khibiny Massif mines. Detailed information on the 58 events used in this study is given in Kværna (1993).

Kværna (1993) investigated the potential automatic use of an onset picker based on autoregressive likelihood estimation. Both a single-component version and a three-component version of this method were tested on data from events located in the Khibiny Massif, recorded at the Apatity array, the Apatity three-component station and the ARCESS array. Using this method, he was able to estimate onset times to an accuracy (standard deviation) of about 0.05 s for P-phases and 0.15-0.20 s for S-phases. He noted that these accuracies are as good as the best analyst picks, and considerably better than the accuracies of the current onset procedure used for processing of regional array data at NORSAR.

Estimating the precision of manual onset time picks

As reported by Kværna (1993), P and S onsets at two stations in Apatity, APA0 and APZ9, and the Pn onsets at ARCESS were manually picked using the interactive EP program (Fyen, 1989). Given the fact that the characteristics of the Khibiny Massif events were known, the manual phase picking was considered to be done under "optimum conditions". By "optimum conditions" we mean that the analyst utilized information on the approximate phase arrival times and looked for typical signatures of the different phases. He also selected filters and seismometer components so as to obtain the highest SNR.

For the purpose of the study reported in this paper, all events were reviewed by another analyst using the Analyst Review Station (ARS) of the IMS. This analyst made time picks

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for available phases for four arrays (NORESS, ARCESS, FINESA, APATITY) as well as for the APZ9 station. We consider the phase picks from the ARS to be obtained under socalled "operational conditions" and they may therefore be less precise than those obtained under "optimum conditions". This is due to the fact that ARS is used as a tool for routine analysis (i.e., relatively short time spent on each pick) of large quantities of data and that the analyst did not have readily available information on the characteristics of the Khibiny Massif events.

Following Sereno (1990), an unbiased estimate of the measurement variance is determined from the arrival time difference between two phase observations for repeated events in the same mine. Specifically:

$$\sigma_{1,pick}^{2} + \sigma_{2,pick}^{2} = \frac{\sum_{k=1}^{N_{mines}} \sum_{i=1}^{N_{obs}} [\Delta T_{obs_{ik}} - \langle \Delta T_{obs} \rangle_{k}]^{2}}{(N_{obs} - N_{mines})}$$
(1)

where σ_1^2 and σ_2^2 are the picking variance of each phase, $\Delta T_{obs_{ik}}$ is the *ith* observation of the arrival time difference for the *kth* mine. $\langle \Delta T_{obs} \rangle_k$ is the mean arrival time difference for the *kth* mine. N_{obs} is the total number of observations (at all mines), and N_{mines} is the number of mines.

Kværna (1993) used formula (1) in various combinations to estimate standard deviations of time picks for various phase types and stations. He found that the P-phase at APAO could be picked with a precision of $\sigma = 0.04$ seconds when the pick was made by the analyst under "optimum conditions". In the present study, we will use these P-times (for APAO) as reference, and we will assume that their standard deviation $\sigma_{2,pick}$ is 0.04. In this way, we can estimate $\sigma_{1,pick}$ directly from (1) for each mine, and average these data over the six mines (using the number of events as a weighting factor) to obtain overall estimates of the uncertainty.

Results

The resulting estimates of the precision in time picks by the analyst, using the ARS station, are presented in Table 7.5.1 and Figs. 7.5.3-7.5.4.

Fig. 7.5.3 shows the results for the Apatity array APA0 and the 3-component station APZ9. The array has a better precision for P phases (0.05 versus 0.08), probably because of a far better P-wave SNR (see Table 7.5.1). However, the 3-component station has more precise S and Rg estimates, probably because of their more impulsive nature compared to the array recordings. Note that these secondary phases have a far lower accuracy in the time picks than the P-phases. Also note that for the P and S phases the ARS analyst picks are not as precise as the automatic time picks presented by Kværna (1993).

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Fig. 7.5.4 shows the results for Pn, Sn and Lg at the three arrays ARCESS, FINESA and NORESS. Pg for ARCESS is also shown. Not unexpectedly, Pn has the most precise picks, followed by Sn and Lg. The ARCESS Pn has by far the best precision. This is reasonable in view of the very high SNR for these phases (Table 7.5.1). Note also that for FINESA and NORESS it is possible to read phases for only about half of the events or fewer.

The much larger uncertainty in FINESA and NORESS P-precision compared to ARCESS (about 0.8 versus 0.09 seconds) is noteworthy. Clearly, the location program ought to take this difference into account and weigh the data accordingly. At present no routine mechanism for doing such weighing is applied in the IMS system, although the option to do so exists.

Location results

Figs. 7.5.5-7.5.7 show plots of event locations obtained under three different scenarios. All location estimates have been made with an assumed 0 km depth.

Fig. 7.5.5 shows the location provided by the automatic IMS system with no analyst review. All the arrival times used here are taken directly from the SigPro processing, and are thus subject of significant uncertainty. The median location error is 10.6 km, which must be considered excellent for a fully automatic system. Some "outliers" are due to occasional erroneous phase identification by the automatic system.

Fig. 7.5.6 shows the results after applying intelligent post-processing to the ARCESS and Apatity arrays. The median error is now 1.9 km and the worst case error is 5.9 km.

Fig. 7.5.7 shows the results after using the analyst (ARS) reviewed data in the location procedure. The median error is 3.3 km, and the worst case error is 14.5 km. These results are much better than the automatic IMS processing, but not as good as for the intelligent post-processing.

As shown by Kværna (1993), the ARS picks for the Apatity stations and ARCESS are not quite as good as the intelligent post-processing picks. A slight degradation in location accuracy must therefore be expected. Nevertheless, we consider that a main reason why the ARS locations do not match those of the intelligent post-processing is the inclusion of NORESS and FINESA readings in the data base, without appropriate weighting. We plan to pursue this problem further in the future.

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Table 7.5.1 (2 pages)

ARCESS

	N	σ	SNR
Pn	57	0.087	52.9
Pg	53(1)	0.647	5.8
Sn	57	0.563	4.1
Lg	57	1.13	5.4

FINESA

	N	σ	SNR		
Pn	23	0.781	5.00		
Sn	28	1.465	2.67		
Lg	33	2.149	3.46		

NORESS

	N	σ	SNR		
Pn	22	0.854	6.21		
Sn	13	1.290	3.02		
Lg	12	3.360	2.81		

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APATITY ARRAY (APA0)

	N	σ	SNR
Pg	58	0.051	57.60
Lg	58	0.389	8.43
Rg	57	0.494	8.59

APATITY 3-COMPONENT STATION (APZ9)

	N	σ	SNR
Pg	58	0.080	15.20
Lg	58	0.184	7.79
Rg	57	0.254	8.89

Table 7.5.1. Basic data corresponding to Figs. 7.5.3 and 7.5.4. The entries in the tables are:

N : Number of phases analyzed (outliers in parantheses)

 σ : Estimated standard deviations (s) of ARS time picks

SNR: Geometric average of the linear signal-to-noise ratio (STA/LTA) of the N phases. SNR of non-detections have been set to 3.5 for P-phases and 2.5 for S-phases.

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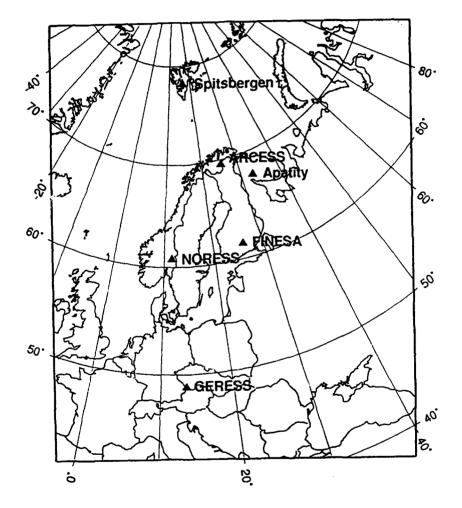
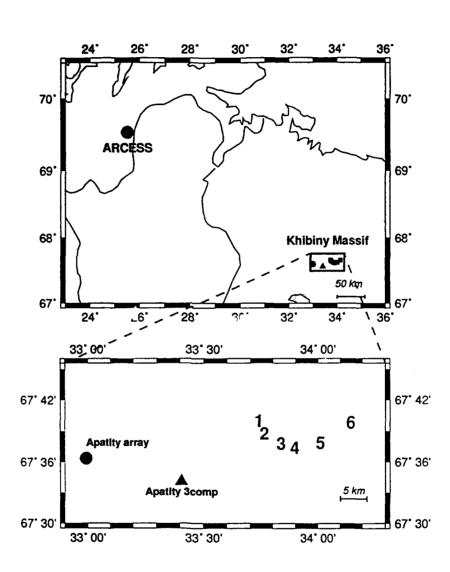
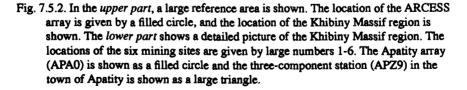


Fig. 7.5.1. Map showing the locations of the six regional arrays currently used by the Intelligent Monitoring System at the NORSAR data processing center.

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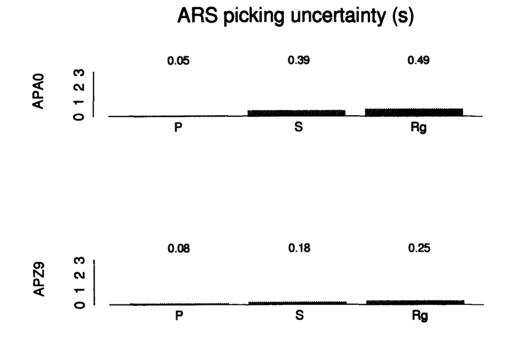
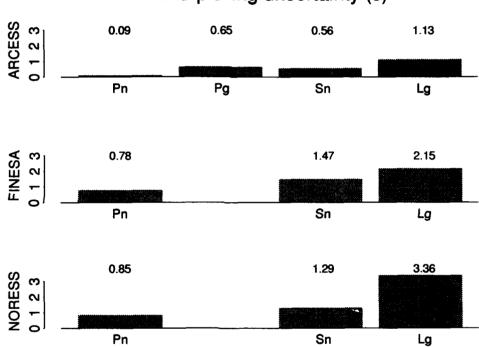


Fig. 7.5.3. Standard deviations of analyst time picks for stations APAO and APZ9 using the Analyst Review Station (ARS) for the event data base described in the text.

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ARS picking uncertainty (s)

Fig. 7.5.4. Standard deviations of analyst time picks for the arrays ARCESS, FINESA, NORESS using the Analyst Review Station (ARS) for the event data base described in the text.

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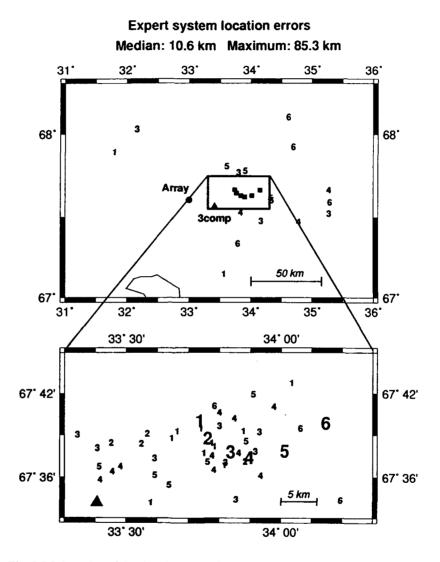
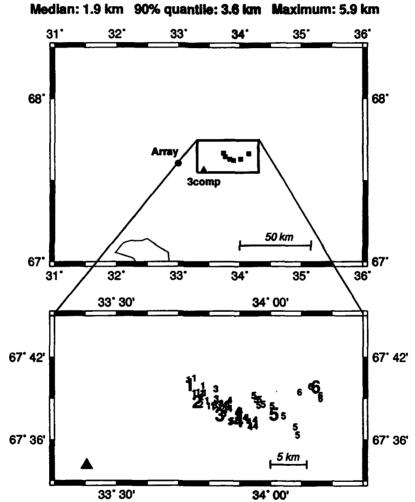


Fig. 7.5.5. Location of the six mining sites in the Khibiny Massif (large numbers 1-6) and the locations of the 58 reference events (small numbers 1-6) as given by the automatic IMS processing. In the *upper part*, a large reference area is shown, with the mines plotted as filled squares. The *lower part* shows a detailed picture for the area near the mines. The small numbers (1-6) associated with each event represent the mine in which the event actually occurred. The Apatity array is shown as a filled circle and the three-component station in the town of Apatity is shown as a filled triangle.

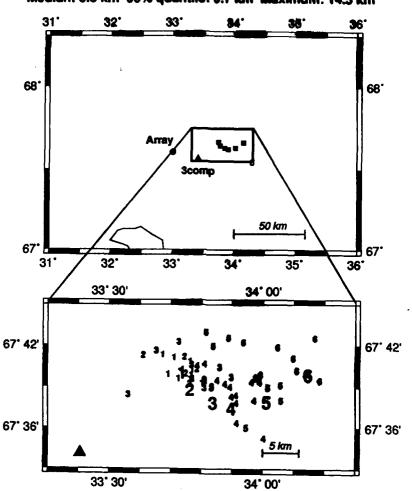


ARCESS and Apatity array location errors (uncalibrated)

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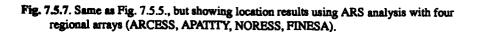
Fig. 7.5.6. Same as Fig. 7.5.5, but showing location results by the automatic post-processing method described by Kværna and Ringdal (1993). Only ARCESS and the Apatity array are used.



Analyst reviewed locations Median: 3.3 km 90% quantile: 9.7 km Maximum: 14.5 km

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7.6 Generalized Beamforming as a tool in IDC processing of large earthquake sequences

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Introduction

Generalized Beamforming (Ringdal and Kværna, 1989) is a technique for joint processing of time-aligned waveforms from a seismic network. The time-alignment is made for a grid of beampoints, and the density and spatial coverage of the beam deployment can be set without any restrictions.

The Generalized Beamforming (GBF) method has been applied successfully for phase association and event location, both at regional distances (Ringdal and Kværna, 1989; Kværna, 1990, 1992a) and in a teleseismic context (Taylor and Leonard, 1992; Kværna, 1992b). In this paper we investigate the potential of the GBF technique in achieving a rapid, preliminary association of phases for a large aftershock sequence. As is well known, such sequences are often problematic to process using conventional phase association techniques since there are so many individual phase detections that the number of possible combinations becomes very large.

The W. Caucasus earthquake sequence, April 1991

On 29 April 1991 a large earthquake ($M_s = 7.3$) occurred in western Caucasus, with coordinates 42.453N, 43.673E, h = 17 km (NEIC).

The earthquake was followed by a large number of aftershocks. According to the catalogue of Starovoit et al (1992), 114 aftershocks were recorded on the day of the main shock (29 April) and 360 aftershocks had been recorded by the end of May.

The earthquake occurred early during the Group of Scientific Experts (GSE) Second Technical Test (GSETT-2, main phase, see GSE/CRP/190/Rev.4, 1991), and caused a considerable load at the National Data Centers (NDCs) as well as the four Experimental International Data Centers (EIDCs). The day 29 April was selected as one of the days for which reprocessing was to be made at EIDCs. Consequently, this day is useful for studying the performance of the experimental global system during a day of particularly high seismic activity. Moreover, it provides an excellent opportunity to evaluate the GBF technique applied to a large aftershock sequence.

Method

We selected 11 stations from the total of 60 participating in GSETT-2 for this analysis (see Fig. 7.6.1). These 11 stations comprised those that had the best detection performance for the W. Caucasus area. Table 7.6.1 lists the stations and summarizes the GBF parameters for this experiment. Note that only one generalized beam was formed, and it was steered to 42.5N 43.5B. The time and azimuth tolerances were set in accordance with the GSE requirements, and adjusted for the beam focus area of 0.5 degrees radius. These tolerances were narrow enough to avoid many false associations, while still allowing for the typical uncertainty in detection times and automatic parameter estimates. Detection threshold was

set at 3 matching phases, and GBF detections less than 15 seconds apart were grouped together.

Table 7.6.2 shows the detection list generated by the automatic GBF process for the day in question. For each line our assessment of the detection is given (whether or not it was confirmed by the Starovoit et al bulletin and the number of EIDCs that reported the event). We note that more than 90% of the entries are in the confirmed category (either listed by Starovoit et al or reported by at least one EIDC).

Table 7.6.3 summarizes the number of detected events by the various systems. We note that the four EIDCs (reprocessed bulletins from Stockholm, Moscow, Canberra and Washington) had similar performances, and reported about half of the events in the reference catalogue. NEIC reported only one third of the reference events in their monthly bulletin. The rapid QED service (Quick Epicenter Determination) reported very few of the events.

The GBF association process reported more events than any of the four EIDCs, and also had the most events corresponding to the reference catalogue. In addition, the GBF method produced 17 reports that did not correspond to entries in Starovoit et al's bulletin. Each of the EIDCs also had events in this category, but not as many as the GBF process. It should be noted that one event reported by one EIDC and confirmed by Starovoit et al's bulletin was not reported by the GBF method. The reason was that the event had only two valid phases, and thus did not satisfy our GBF detection criterion. On the other hand, the GBF reported 4 confirmed events that were not in any of the EIDC bulletins.

We also conducted an experiment to test the likelihood of false associations. The GBF process with the parameters used in this study was run on a 7-day period prior to day 119. A false association would normally correspond to phases from a real event occurring somewhere else, but for which the phases happened to match our criteria. Table 7.6.4 shows the events associated for this 7-day period. Only six events were associated, two of which were in fact close to the beam steering point. Thus only four definite false alarms were observed during this one-week period. We conclude that the false alarm rate is very low for this processing method.

Conclusions

The GBF technique provides a simple and rapid way to associate large numbers of phases from an aftershock sequence with a very low false alarm rate. In fact, the GBF aftershock processing of 24 hours of data for the day in question (29 April 1991) took only 5 minutes on a SUN sparcetation2.

We consider that the GBF would be very useful as a preprocessor to the expert system algorithm to be applied at a future International Data Center (IDC). By first using the GBF to extract aftershock sequences, and remove the corresponding phase detections, the remaining task of associating events from other locations would be much simplified. Other applications of GBF in the context of IDC processing can also be envisaged. Furthermore,

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the interaction between GBF and threshold monitoring, in terms of eliminating "unlikely" phase associations, deserves to be studied in detail.

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Station	Туре	Lat	Lon	Distance	Phase	Trtime	Azimuth	Slowness
KIV	Single	43.95	42.68	1.57	Pn	28.87	157.33	13.73
KIV	Single	43.95	42.68	1.57	Sn	50.21	157.33	24.17
ARU	Single	56.40	58.60	16.47	Р	236.95	221.31	12.66
GAR	Single	39.00	70.30	20.57	Р	279.67	288.38	11.01
FIN	Hfarray	61.44	26.07	21.66	P	291.44	143.15	10.52
GER	Hfarray	48.85	13.70	21.68	P	291.58	95 .77	10.51
OSS	Single	46.69	10.13	24.02	Р	315.08	87.84	9.61
HIPS	Sparray	60.13	13. 68	25.33	P	327.43	120.73	9.28
NRS	Hfarray	60.73	11.54	26.55	Р	338.63	118.86	9.07
ARC	Hfarray	69.54	25.51	28.66	P	353.11	151.55	8.92
GBA	Sparray	13.62	77. 59	41.16	P	465.27	320.96	8.23
YKA	Sparray	62.49	-114.61	73.89	Р	696.14	16.68	5.87

 Table 7.6.1. Station and phase parameters used for GBF processing of the Caucasus aftershock sequence (42.5N, 43.5E, Depth 0).

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Origin time	Lat	Lon	Depth	Nph	Nsta	Tres	Mazi	Azres	Nalow	Sires	Nslv	Slvres	Starov	EIDCs
1991-119:09.12.49.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	11	11	1.45	7	4.53	7	1.15	7	1.45	Yes	4
1991-119:09.27.48.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	3	3	2.84	2	4.10	2	1.71	2	1.87	Yes	3
1991-119:09.31.05.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	3	3	1.12	3	7.45	3	1.09	3	1.74	No	3
1991-119:09.37.39.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	11	10	2.29	7	4.86	7	1.24	7	1.64	Yes	2 \
1991-119:09.38.08.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	5	5	3.53	4	4.48	3	0.93	3	1,17	No	4
1991-119:09.38.34.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	- 4	- 4	2.32	4	3.23	3	1.92	3	2.00	No	3 '
1991-119:09.41.52.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	4	3	1.23	2	7.25	1	0.93	1	2.02	Yes	3
1991-119:09.50.49.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	3	2	1.22	1	4.27	0	0.00	0	0.00	No	2
1991-119:09.54.37.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	6	5	2.87	4	5.33	3	1.01	3	1.42	Xes	4
1991-119:09.59.24.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	11	10	1.12	6	4.43	6	0.90	6	1.19	Yes	4
1991-119:10.01.15.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	9	8	2.32	5	2.94	5	0.94	5	1.05	Yes	4
1991-119:10.06.23.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	- 4	3	3.93	2	2.84	2	1.70	2	1.77	Yes	3
1991-119:10.08.37.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	3	2	1.02	1	4.27	0	0.00	0	0.00	Yes	-
1991-119:10.15.35.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	10	9	1.84	5	5.72	4	1.16	- 4	1.65	Yes	4
1991-119:10.15.57.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	5	5	2.26	- 4	4.98	3	0.98	3	1.35	No	4
1991-119:10.19.42.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	9	8	1.52	5	4.44	5	0.93	5	1.24	Yes	4
1991-119:10.30.42.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	6	5	1.21	4	6.01	3	0.91	3	1.54	Yes	4
1991-119:10.35 33.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	5	- 4	6.83	2	2.48	1	0.42	1	0.43	Yes	3
1991-119:10.41.00.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	- 4	3	1.35	2	3.48	1	0.43	1	0.52	Yes	3
1991-119:10.52.43.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	11	10	2.03	6	2.47	6	0.85	6	1.05	Yes	4
1991-119:10.53.05.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	3	3	4.25	2	10.16	2	1.30	2	2,19	No	-
1991-119:10.56.12.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	5	- 4	0.90	3	4.79	2	1.10	2	1.69	Yes	3
1991-119:11.04.31.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	9	8	2.01	- 4	4.34	4	0.60	- 4	0.94	Yes	4
1991-119:11.08.04.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	3	3	1.22	3	2.21	2	1.30	2	1.32	No	2
1991-119:11.10.14.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	10	9	2.34	5	6.35	4	0.72	- 4	1.42	Yes	4
1991-119:11.12.21.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	3	3	0.39	2	7.52	1	0.94	1	2.26	Yes	3
1991-119:11.38.38.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	4	3	0.46	2	2.29	1	0.14	1	0.14	Yes	3
1991-119:11.43.19.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	5	4	2.02	2	2.48	2	0.66	2	0.81	Yes	4
1991-119:11.5' 13	42.50	43.50	0.00	9	8	2.41	5	3.53	4	1.04	- 4	1.28	Yes	. 4
1991-119:11.20.56.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	10	9	2.98	6	6.76	5	0.77	5	1.57	Yes	4
1991-119:13.02.12.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	- 4	3	1.13	2	3.29	2	0.41	2	0.64	Yes	4
1991-119:17 12.38.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	6	5	1.79	3	5.06	3	0.23	3	0.97	Yes	4
1991-119:13.26.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	4	3	2.05	2	6.46	2	1.01	2	1.50	No	4
1991-119:13.19.50.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	6	5	0.80	2	2.29	1	0.14	1	0.14	Yes	4
19^1-119:13.27.17.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	9	8	2.64	4	7.83	3	0.33	3	1.67	Yes	4
1991-119:13.49.59.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	7	6	0.67	3	2.94	2	0.66	2	0.73	Yes	4
1991-119:13.53.10.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	5	4	0.82	2	2.93	2	0.72	2	1.03	Yes	- 4
1991-119:14.00.28.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	- 4	3	2.38	1	0.68	1	0.20	1	0.21	Yes	4
1991-119:14.20.57.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	3	2	0.49	1	4.27	1	0.82	1	1.10	No	2
1991-119:14.43.08.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	11	10	2.34	6	2.84	6	0.80	6	1.03	Yes	4
1991-119:14.43.30.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	3	3	4.90	2	6.21	2	0.31	2	1.11	No	-
1991-119:15.28.48.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	6	5	1.29	4	7.45	4	0.95	4	1.75	Yes	4
1991-119:15.38.56.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	- 4	3	2.38		11.77	1	1.90	1	2.73	Yes	2
1991-119:16.03.09.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	6	6	5.62	3	2.55	3	1.03	3	1.14	Yes	3
1991-119:16.12.49.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	5	4	1.55	2	5.70	2	1.06	2	1,47	Yes	3
1991-119:16.22.27.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	5	4	1.45	2	2.29	1	0.64	1	0.64	Yes	4

Nph	- Number of associated phases
Nsta	- Number of stations
Tres	- Mean absolute time residual
Nazi	- Number of azimuth observations
Azres	- Mean absolute azimuth residual
Nslow	 Number of slowness observations
Slres	- Mean absolute slowness residual
Nslv	- Number of horizontal slowness vector observations
Slvres	- Mean absolute horizontal slowness vector residual
Starov	- Event confirmed by Starovoit et al catalogue (Yes/No)
EIDCs	 Number of confirming EIDCs

Table 7.6.2. List of event parameters for the events detected on the generalized beam steered to 42.5°N, 43.5°E for day 119 (29 April) 1991. See text for details. (Page 1

of 2)

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1991-119:16.48.43.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	10	,	2.73	5	2.11	5	1.20	5	1.34	Yes	
1991-119:16.49.59.0	42.50	43.50	0.00		7	2.03	3	7.88	2	1.59	2	2.58	Yes	
1991-119:16.58.51.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	7	6	2.30	3	4.27	2	1.52	2	1.67	Yes	
1991-119:17.10.29.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	6	5	1.42	2	2.98	1	0.43	ī	0.47	Yes	
1991-119:17.20.40.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	3	- 3	0.57	3	6.21	2	0.89	2	1.55	No	
1991-119:17.21.27.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	7	6	1.99	Ă	3.32	3	1.48	3	1.63	Yes	
1991-119:17.34.43.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	Á.	3	2.01	ī	3.77	ĩ	2.83	ĩ	1.94	Yes	
1991-119:17.55.01.0	42.50	43.50	0.00			2.07		3.45	3	1.17	ŝ	1.28	Yes	-
1991-119:18.14.44.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	ŝ	4	3.85	2	5.75	ĩ	1.19	ĩ	1.83		
1991-119:18.17.22.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	Ă	3	2.92	ī	1.73	i	1.05	i	1.09	Yes	
1991-119:18.23.18.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	10	10	2.62	â	4.09	6	1.05	6		Yes	
1991-119:18.30.43.0	42.50	43.50	0.00		Ĩ	2.37	š	3.86	4			1.36	Yes	1
1991-119:18.51.37.0	42.50	43.50	0.00		ŝ	1.88	2	5.78	2	1.22	4	1.38	Yes	
1991-119:19.07.05.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	12	- 11	1.59	-	3.81	6	0.65	2	1.36	Yes	
1991-119:19.16.06.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	6	- 3	1.91	2			1.17	6	1.38	Yes	-
1991-119:19.19.58.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	10	9	2.78	5	4.96	2	0.74	2	1.06	Yes	4
1991-119:19.26.52.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	3	2	0.18	0	4.10	4	0.77	4	1.22	Yes	- 4
1991-119:19.44.56.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	و	8	2.26	-	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	Yes	-
1991-119:19.52.52.0	42.50	43.50	0.00		4	1.40	4	1.85	4	0.50	4	0.69	Yes	- 4
1991-119:20.01.42.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	3	2		3	2.24	2	0.18	2	0.24	Yes	- 4
1991-119:20.12.08.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	9	á	0.21	1	7.85	1	2.17	1	2.52	Yes	-
1991-119:20.19.47.0	42.50	43.50			4	1.77	4	5.59	4	0.84	4	1.33	No	- 4
1991-119:20.24.45.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	5	-	1.91	3	3.06	3	0.99	3	1.16	Yes	
1991-119:20.32.54.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	10	9	1.88	5	4.13	4	1.07	4	1.34	Yes	- 4
1991-119:21.23.16.0	42.50		0.00	9	9	0.87	5	3.50	4	1.48	- 4	1.63	Yes	- 4
1991-119:21.24.11.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	4	3	1.93	1	1.27	1	0.41	1	0.46	No	2
		43.50	0.00	8	8	1.34	5	7.72	4	1.07	- 4	1.91	Yes	4
1991-119:21.25.24.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	4	4	0.95	3	8.45	2	0.77	2	1.96	No	- 4
1991-119:21.30.32.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	3	2	2.58	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	No	3
1991-119:22.25.07.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	3	2	1.54	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	Жо	2
1991-119:22.28.25.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	10	9	2.62	5	5.00	4	0.61	- 4	1.29	Yes	- 4
1991-119:23.10.54.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	4	з	0.70	1	4.27	0	0.00	0	0.00	Yes	2
1991-119:23.17.56.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	3	2	1.13	1	4.27	0	0.00	0	0.00	Yes	-
1991-119:23.32.32.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	9	8	2.68	4	5.26	3	0.87	3	1.27	Yes	- 4
1991-119:23.32.50.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	3	3	6.58	2	4.89	2	0.70	2	1.27	No	_
1991-119:23.34,18.0	42.50	43.50	0.00	3	3	0.55	2	7.25	1	0.03	1	1.87	lio	4

Table 7.6.2 (cont.). (Page 2 of 2)

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November 1993

Source	Total number of events	Confirmed by Starovoit et al's catalogue	Not in Starovoit et al's catalogue
Starovoit et al catalogue	115	115	0
Canberra EIDC (reprocessed)	57	48	9
Stockholm EIDC (reprocessed	73	62	11
Moscow EIDC (reprocessed)	76	61	15
Washington EIDC (reprocessed)	71	58	13
GBF (automatic)	82	65	17
NEIC monthly list	35	35	0
QED list	6	6	0

Table 7.6.3. Number of events reported by various sources for $\therefore \Rightarrow W$. Caucasus sequence of 29 April 1991. From our analysis, all reported GBF events for that day were real (no false alarms). A few events reported by the EIDCs or GBF were close in time (possibly multiple events) and therefore not included as separate events in Starovoit et al's catalogue.

OFT TTPL									0.	0.32	•	1			
0 07 73 01.711 101	42 50	43.50	0.00	•1	m	3.07	ю Ю	5.01		61		0.78	Turkey	(40M	(j)
0.00.00.07.07.017.1000		43.50	00.0	- 107	n	3.52	4	1.50				86 .	S. Iran		55E)
1991-110(1/.U9.43.U				. "		1.93	-	5.77	~	2.52		۲. 50	Tadzik		712)
1991-116:22.28.43.0			200	1 1		20.1		4.04	0	0.92		1.13	Turkey		4E)
991-117:03.32.11.0							10	12.81	-	1.48	~	1.71	Hindu Xush	11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11	715)
1991-1 17:09.54.01.0 1 991-118: 03.46.32.0	42.50	4 3.50		n m	n m	1.16	1 M	8		51.13		1.28	Pers. Gulf	(28W	51E)
			(q	Num	ber of	f GBF	Number of GBF detections by day	tions b	y day						
					Day		Number of Detections	ber of tions							
					112		0		n						
					113	<u> </u>	0		r						
					114	†			r						
]	115		0								
					116		5								
					117		5		. 						
					118		1		r						
					Total		9		т—–						

a) GBF detection list, day 112-118

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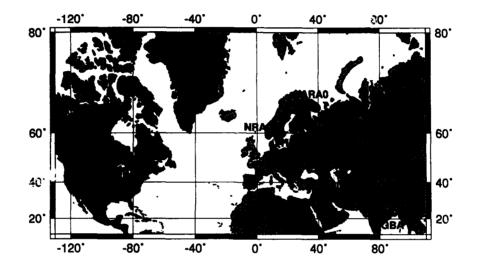


Fig. 7.6.1. Map showing the stations used for GBF processing of the Caucasus aftershock sequence.