



Crustal Deformation and Seismicity of Northeast China Following the 2011 Tohoku Mw9.0 Earthquake from GPS Measurements

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Abstract: Using the GPS observations on northeastern China and southeast of Russian Far East over the period of 2012–2017, we derived a velocity field within the ITRF2014, by fitting GPS time series with a multi-term functional model incorporating annual and semi-annual signals, linear trend as well as offsets. We subsequently transformed the velocity field into a Eurasia-fixed velocity field and analyzed its spatial characteristics. By taking the multi-scale spherical wavelet approach, we calculated

strain rate tensors and analyzed the spatial distribution of various resolving scales. Meanwhile we investigated the contribution due to the post-seismic relaxation of the Mw 9.02011 Tohoku, Japan earthquake. The results show that the velocity field relative to the Eurasian plate generally moved southwestward. The movements between Yilan-Yitong Fault and Nenjiang Fault is characterized by clockwise rotation, but other regions moves southeastward with a good consistency in orientation and an increase in

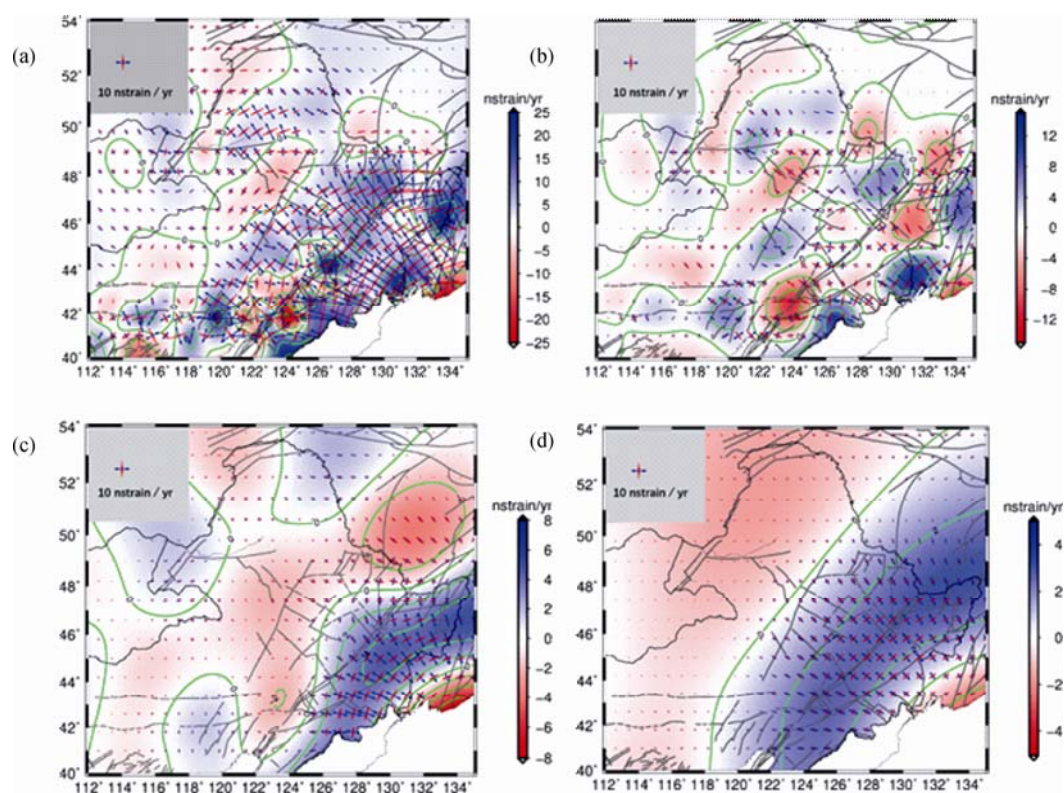


Fig. 1. Multi-scale principal strain rate and dilation rate.

(a) Scales 2-9; (b) Scale 6; (c) Scale 5; (d) Scale 4. Dilation rate is colored in scale; Unit in the color bar is nano-strains per year. Conjugate arrows represent principal strain rates.

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intensity east of Mishan-Dunhua Fault. The motions for the Dunhua-Mishan Fault and the Yilan-Yitong Fault are characterized by extensions of 3.96 ± 0.04 mm/yr and 0.71 ± 0.05 mm/yr, respectively. The fault-parallel motion is negligible for the two faults. Principal strain rates were dominated by NW-SE extension and NE-SW compression. The dilation rates show that it is undergoing compression for the southern portion of Yilan-Yitong Fault, northern end of the Nenjiang Fault and the southeast of Russian Far East. The deformations were generally oriented SE due to the post-seismic viscoelastic relaxation of the 2011 Mw 9.0 Tohoku earthquake, inversely proportional with the epicentral distances. The corresponding principal strain rates were also characterized by NW-SE extension and NE-SW compression. The dilations were characterized as contraction for the southern segment of the Yilan-Yitong Fault and the Mishan-Dunhua Fault, the northern end of the Nenjiang Fault and Russian Far East. Localized maximum shear rates were identified around the southern borderland between northeastern China and the southeast of Russian Far East. After the subtraction of the contribution due to the viscoelastic relaxation from the observed velocity, the principal strain rates were also characterized by NW-SE extension and NE-SW compression. The dilation rates were

significant in the southern end of the Yilan-Yitong Fault and the Mishan-Dunhua Fault, over the Second Songhuajiang Fault and the southern borderland between northeast China and Russian Far East. The maximum shear rates are still significant for the above regions, indicative of fast and continuing strain buildup there.

Key words: Northeast China, multi-scale spherical wavelet, strain rate field, the 2001 M_w 9.0 Tohoku earthquake, post-seismic viscoelastic relaxation.

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