

New Zealand Reference Frame Case Study

Nic Donnelly and Graeme Blick
Land Information New Zealand

Fundamental role of the reference frame

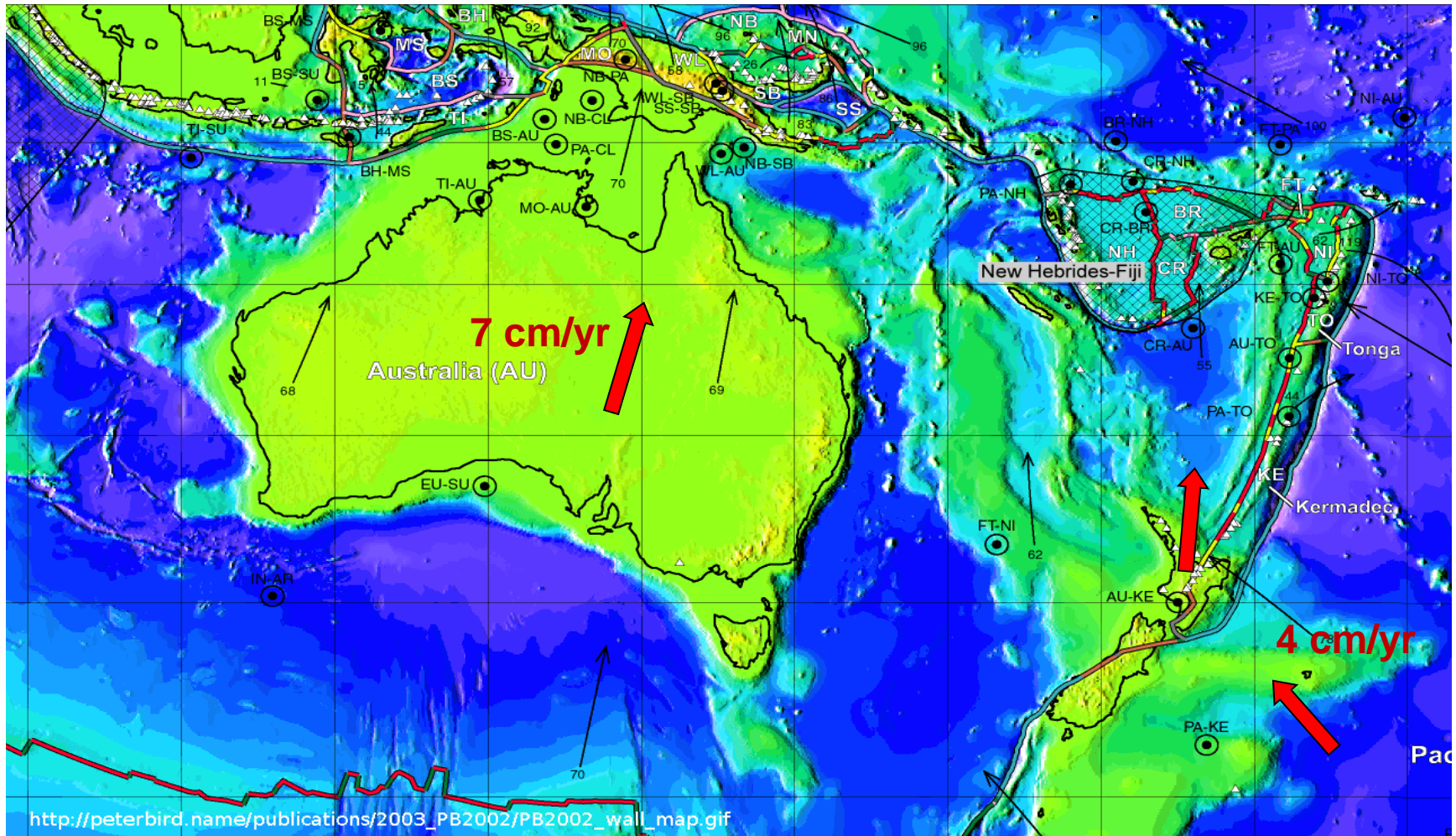
Requirements of a National Reference System

- A coordinate framework that is **accurate, stable, reliable and accessible**
- Direct **linkage** to International Reference Frames
- **Simple** for users to connect to and use
- **Physical infrastructure** may include GNSS CORS and traditional geodetic survey marks
- Systems and tools to allow connection to the coordinate reference system and **transformation** of legacy data to the current reference system

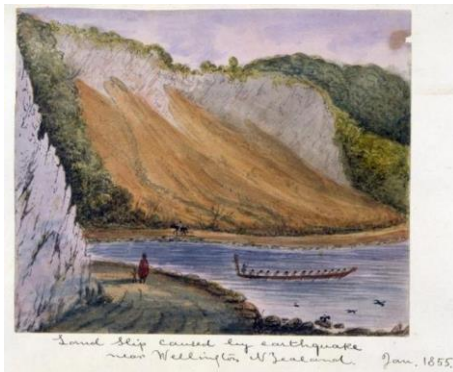


- **Tectonic setting**
- **Geodetic datum**
 - NZGD2000
 - PositionNZ
 - Deformation models
- **Vertical datum**
 - NZVD2016

Tectonic setting of New Zealand



Significant historic earthquakes



West Wairarapa 1855



Napier 1931



Edgecumbe 1987



Murchison 1929



Inangahua 1968



Christchurch 2011

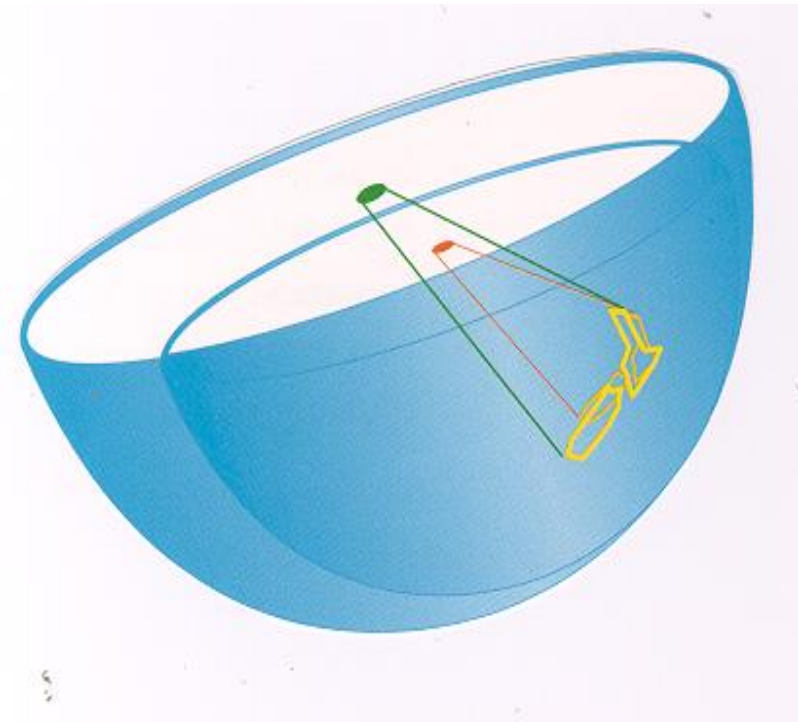
Introduction of NZGD2000

1998 – NZ introduced NZGD2000 (ref epoch 1 Jan 2000)

- geocentric origin
- aligned with the ITRS
- ITRF96 with epoch 2000.0 coordinates

NZGD2000 - semi-dynamic datum

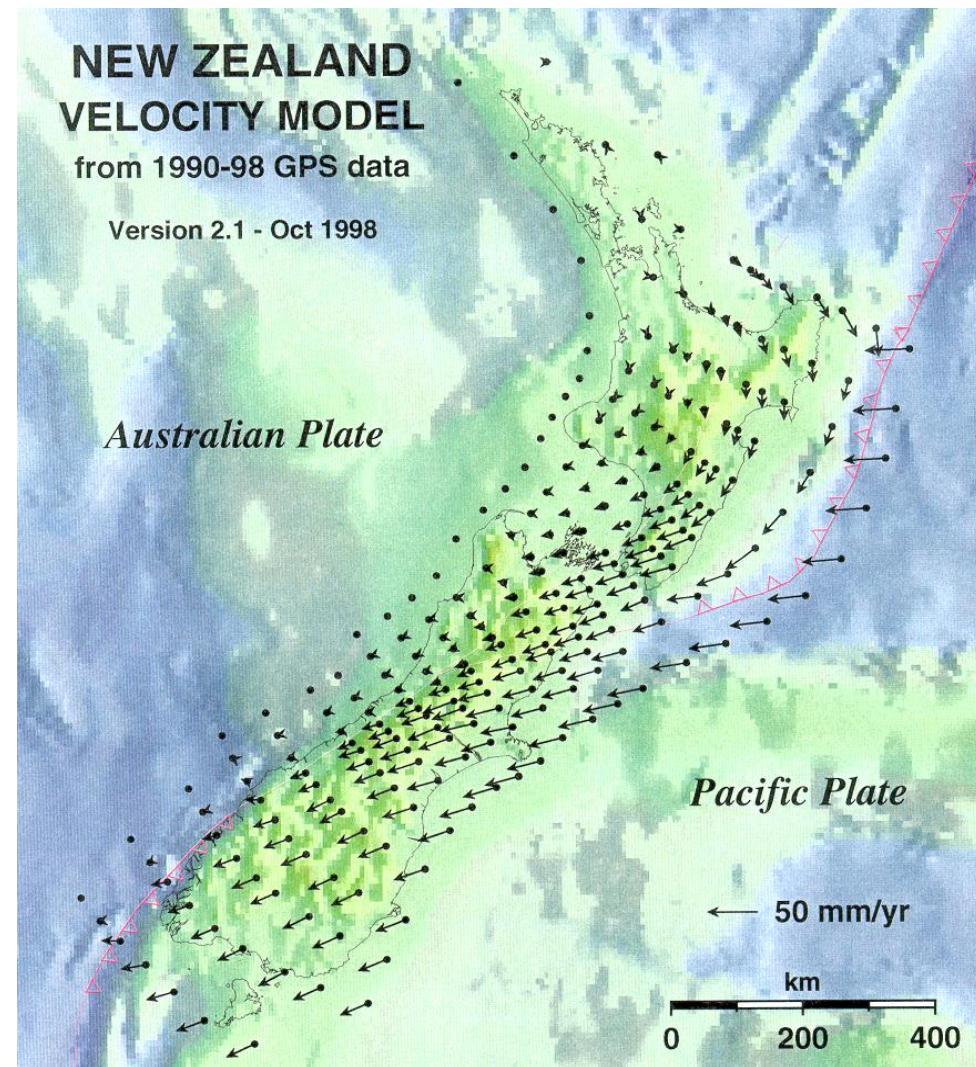
- generalised motion of points
modelled using a deformation
model



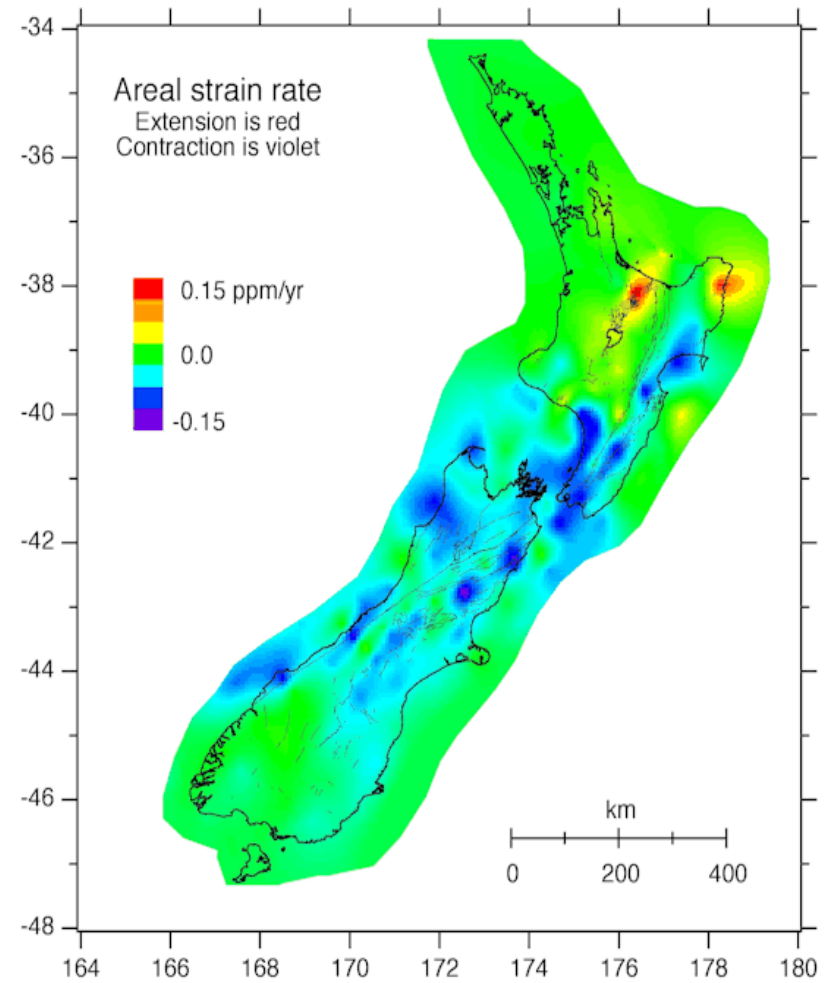
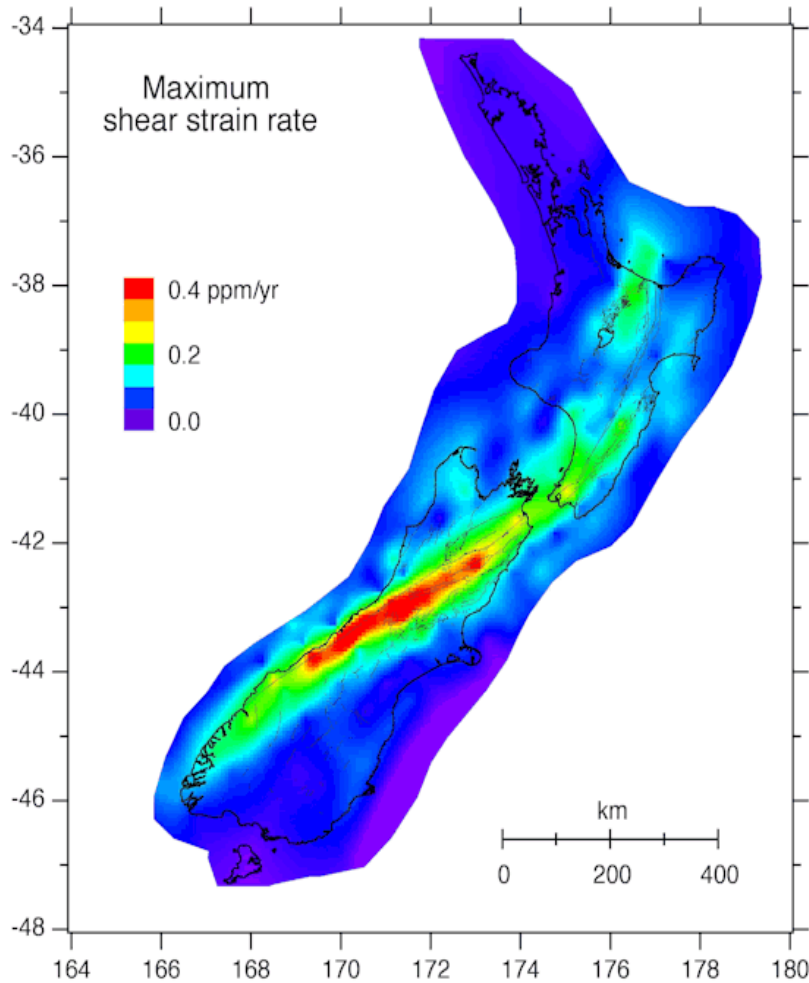
Introduction of NZGD2000

Semi-dynamic datum

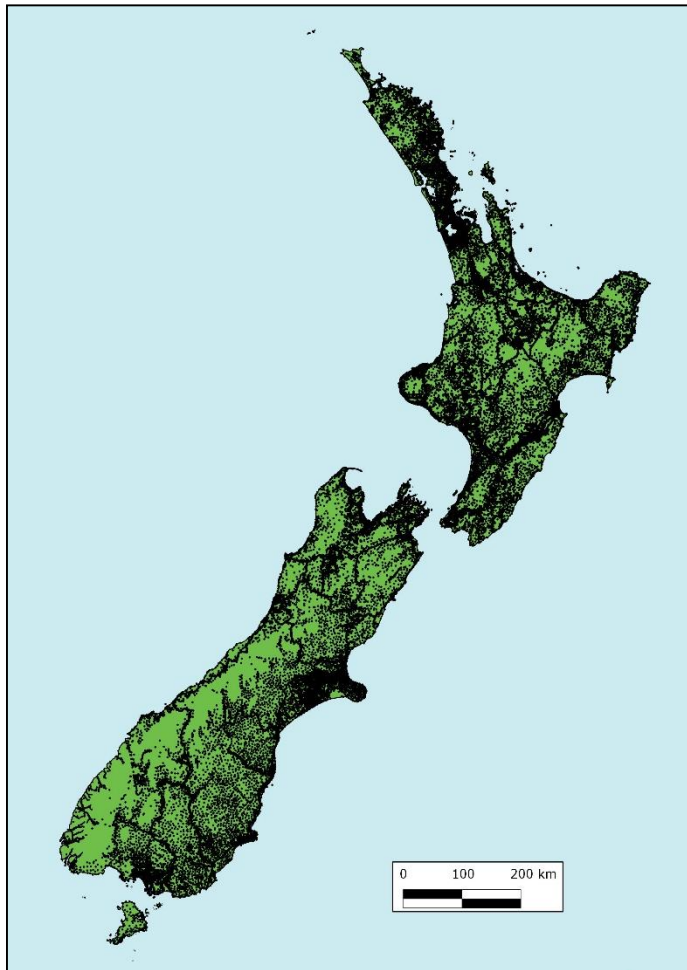
- current deformation model has horizontal constant velocities only
- initially generated using repeat surveys between 1992 and 1998
- enables propagation of coordinates and observations between reference epoch and observation epoch
- for many uses has the **appearance of a static datum**



Measuring deformation - strain



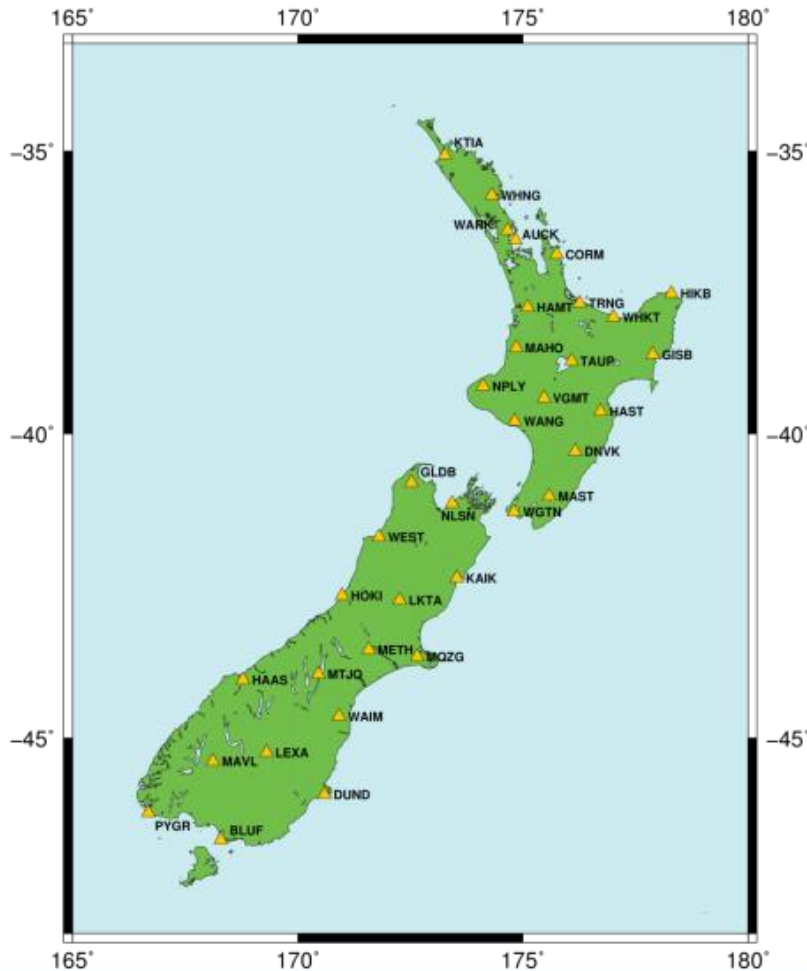
Connecting to the datum



100,000+ control marks



Connecting to the datum



PositionNZ Network

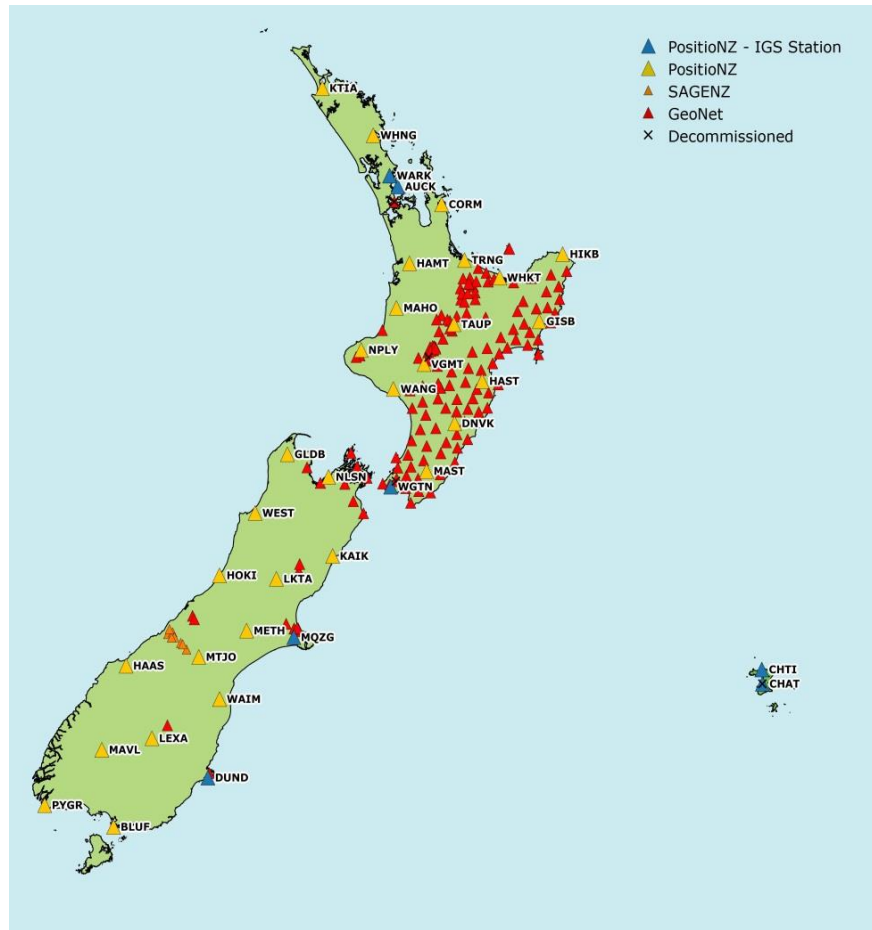
35 on the mainland of NZ

1 on the Chatham Islands

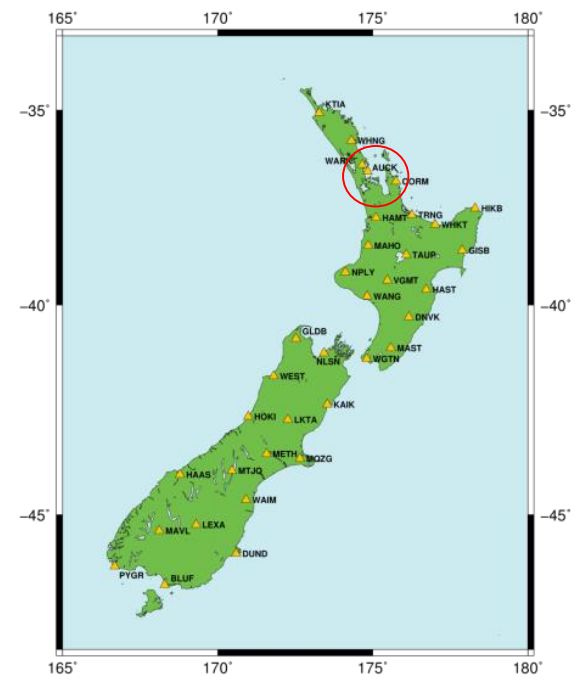
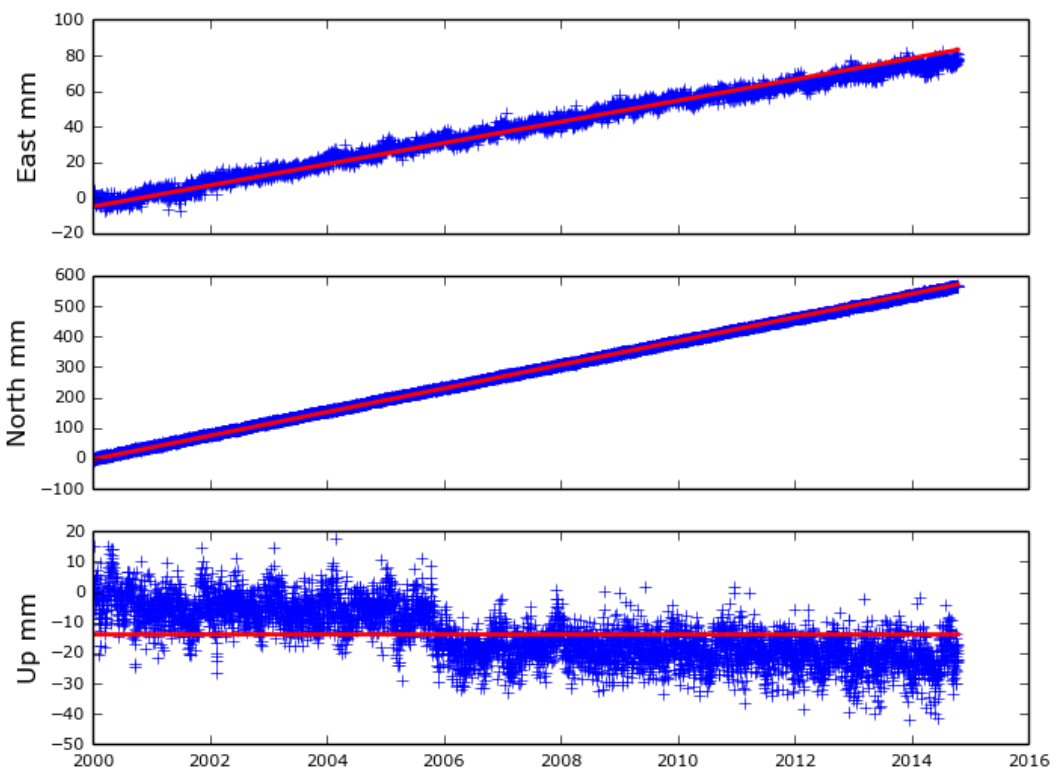
3 in Antarctica



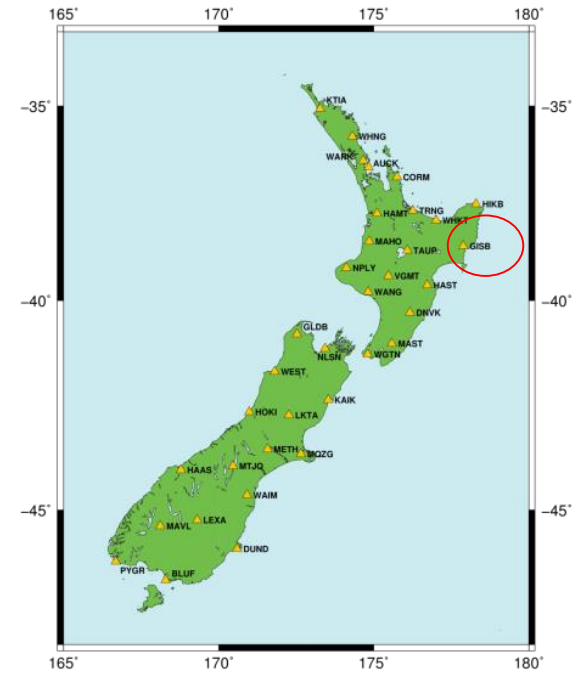
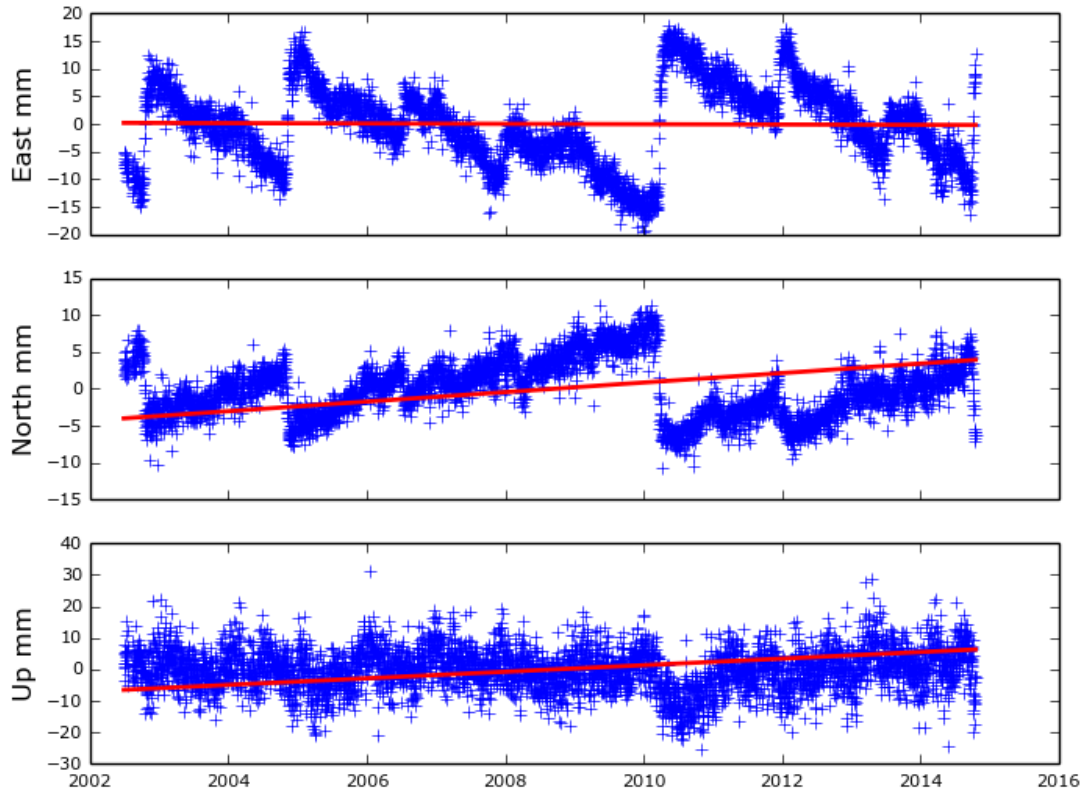
GEONET



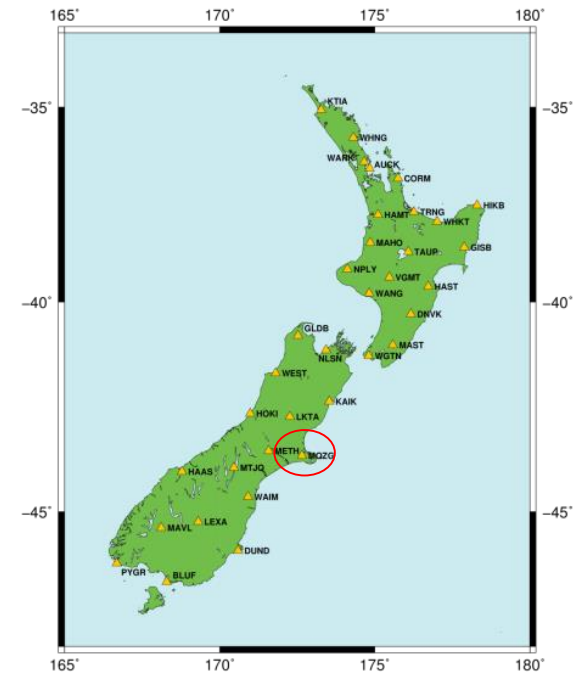
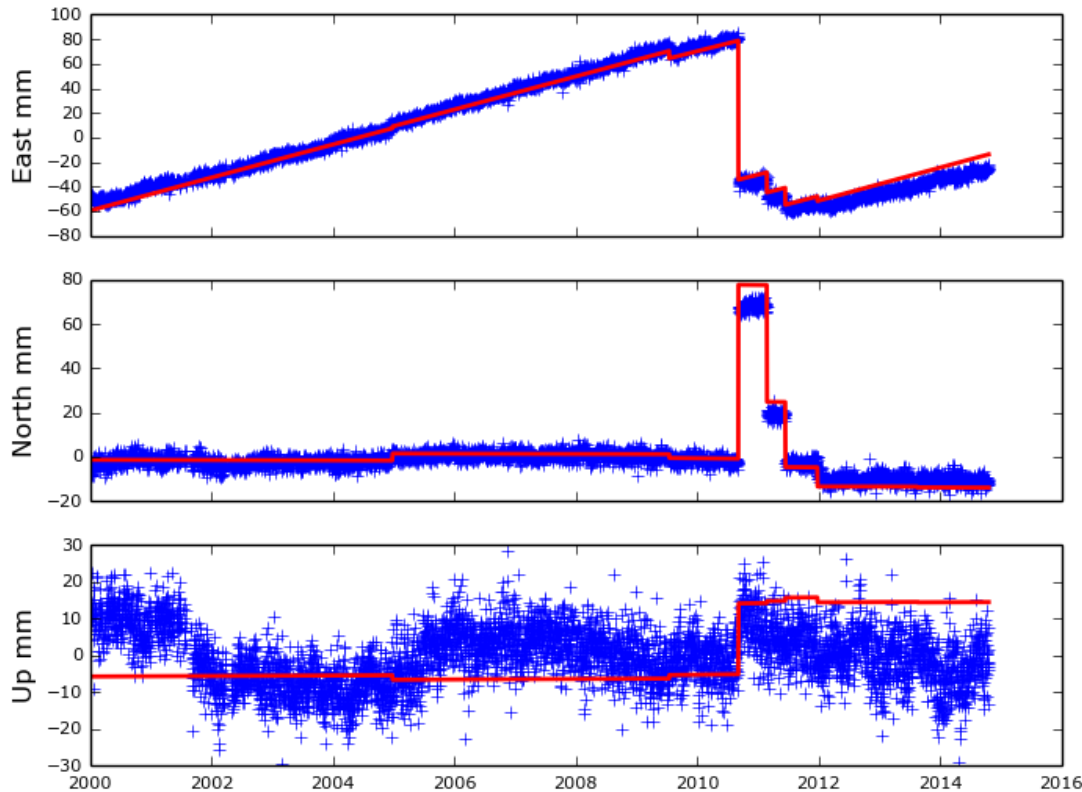
Auckland - stable



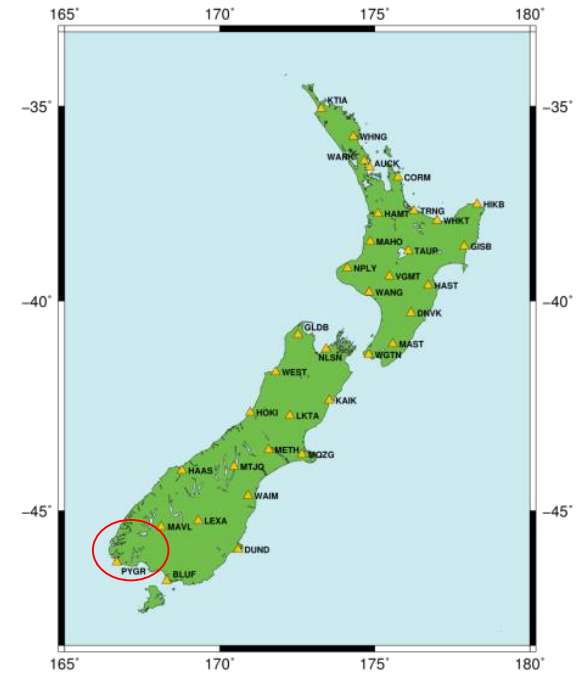
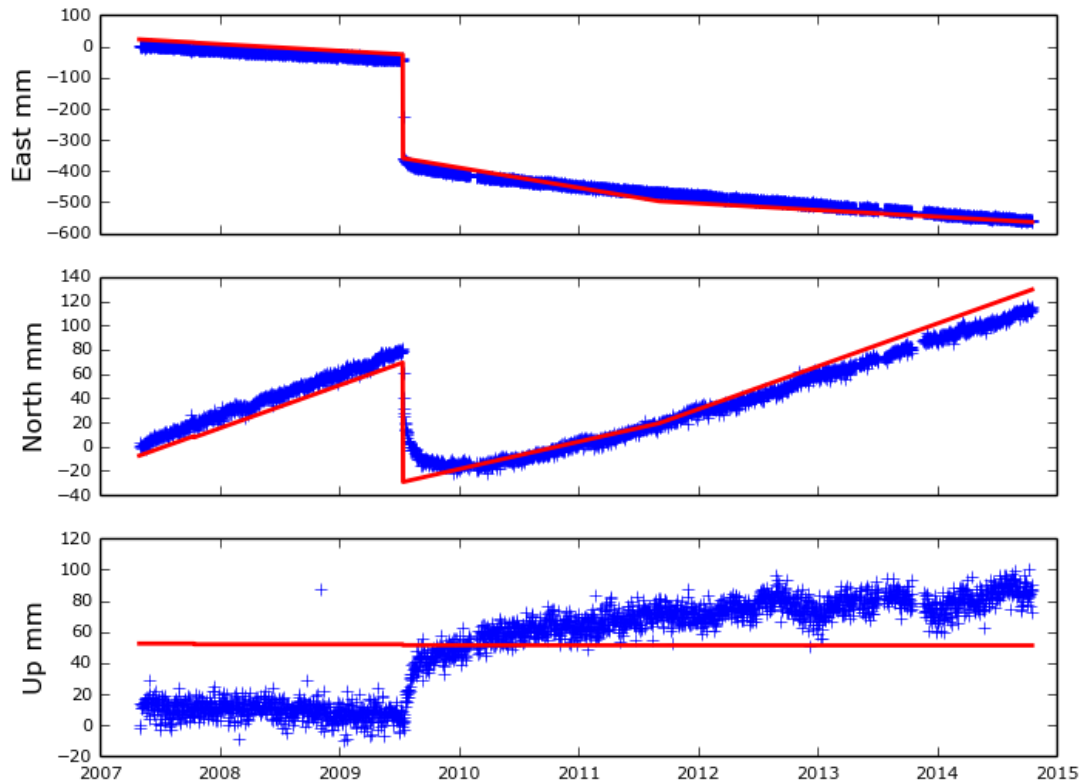
Gisborne – slow earthquakes



Christchurch – Canterbury earthquakes



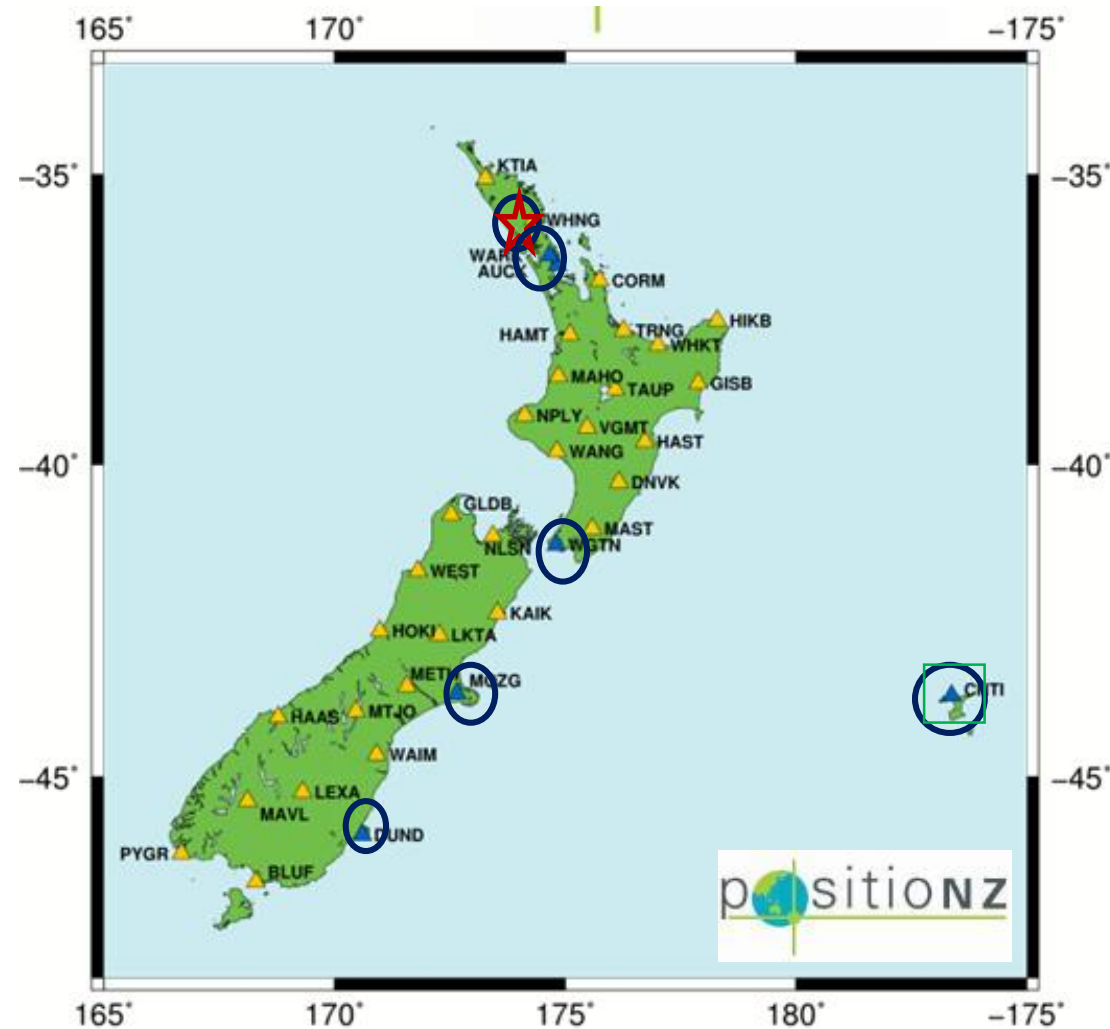
Fiordland postseismic recovery



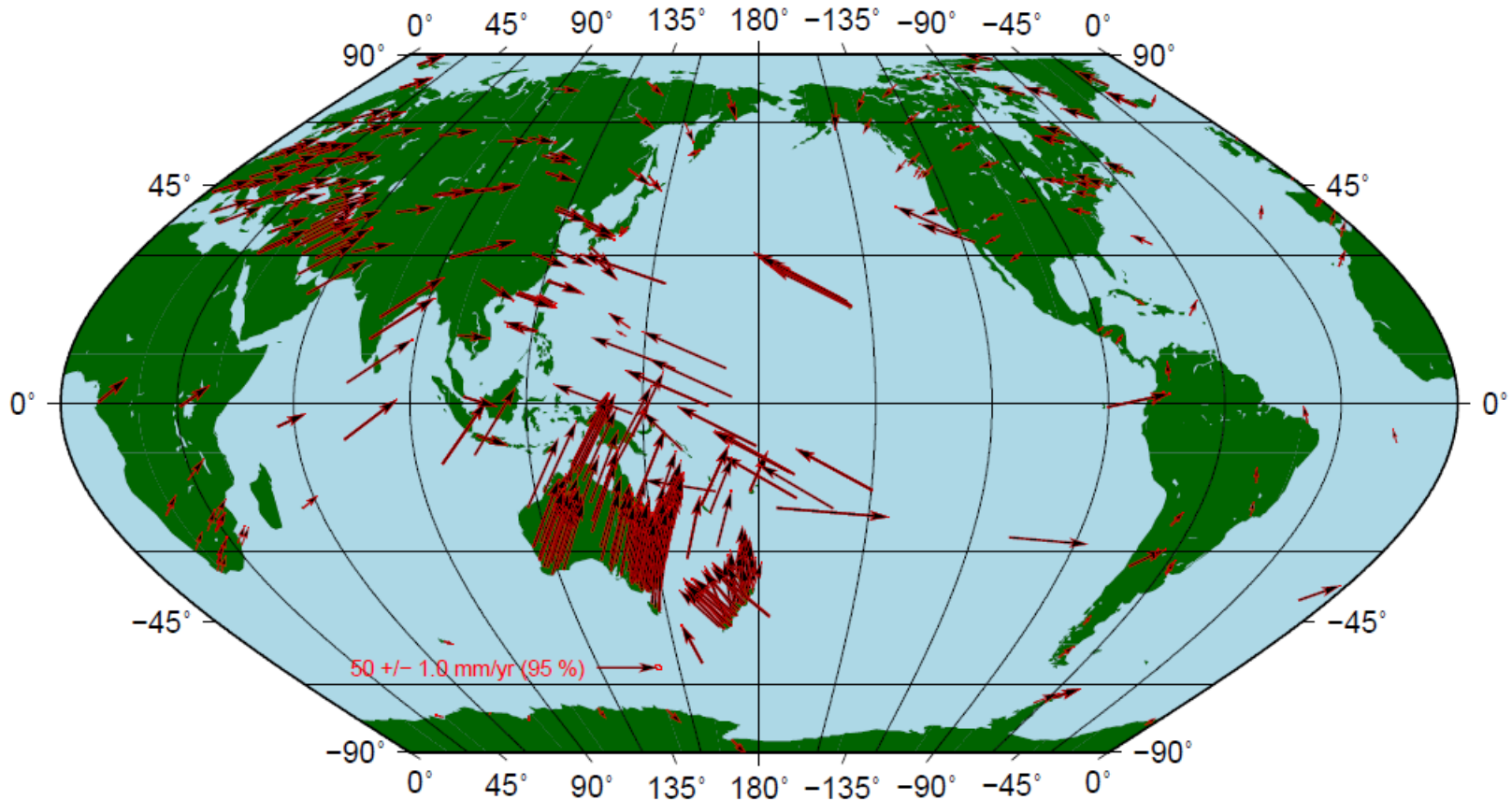
Contribution to ITRF



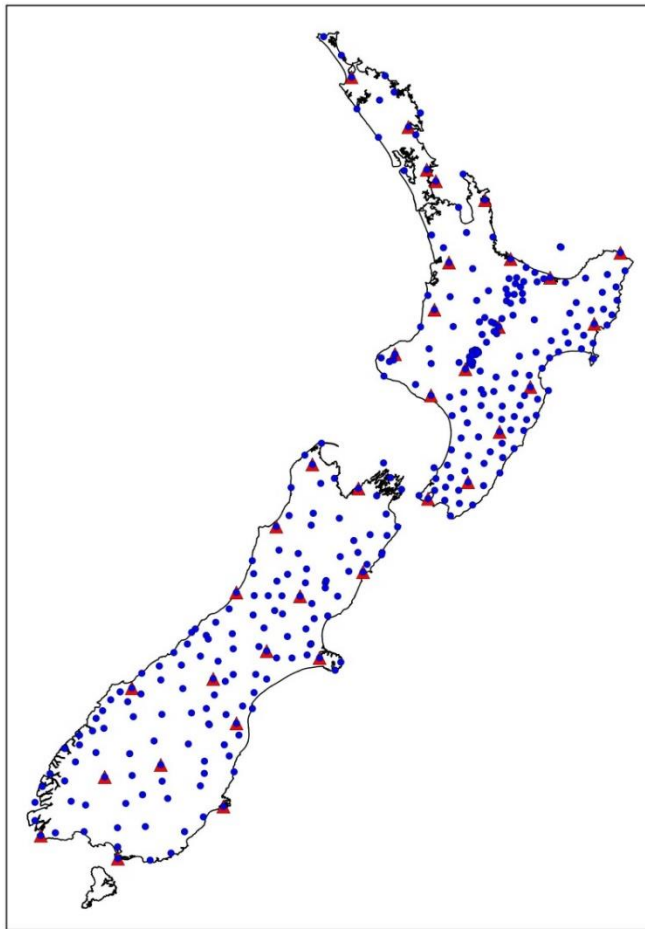
- CORS ○
- VLBI ☆
- DORIS □



Contribution to Asia Pacific Reference Frame (APREF)

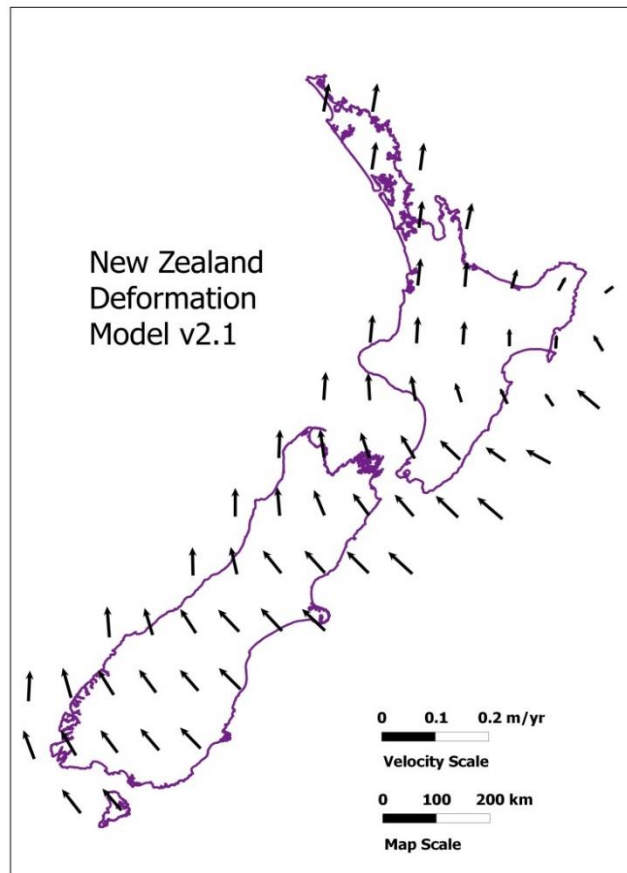


National deformation monitoring network



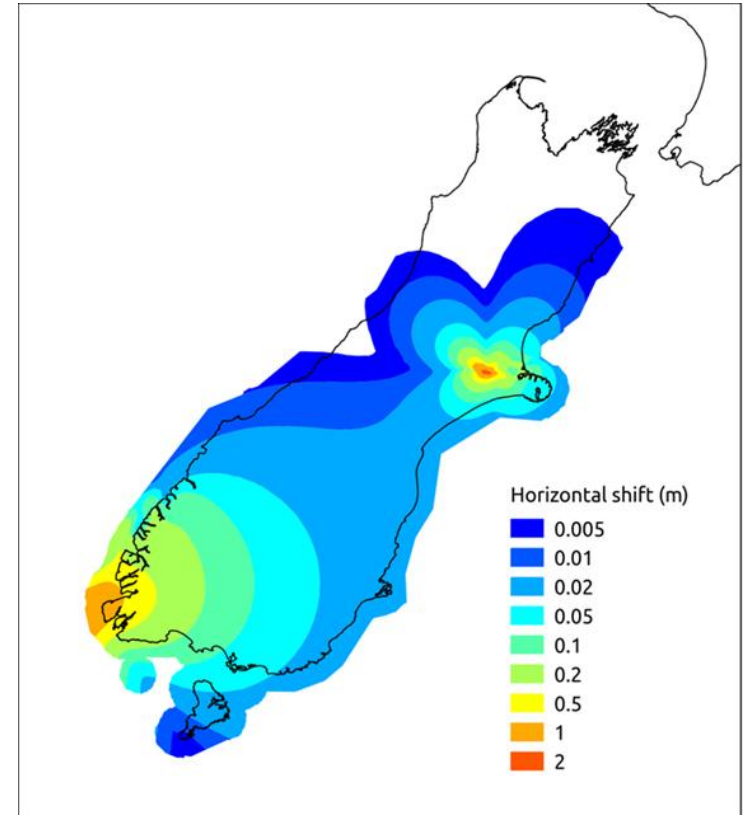
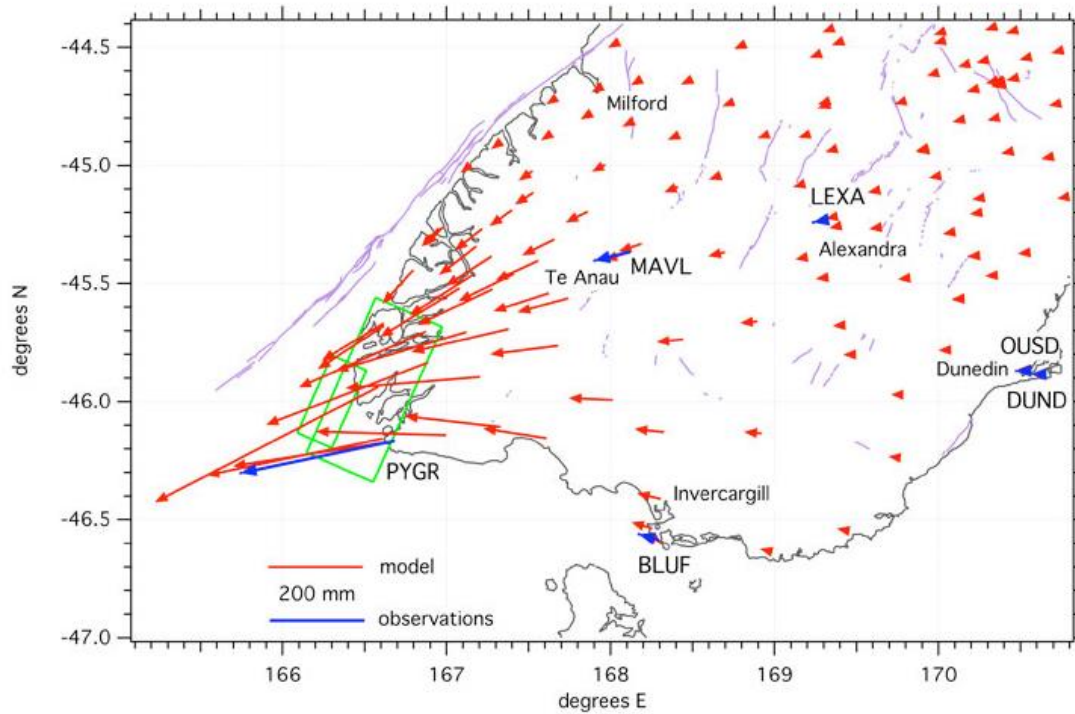
National Deformation Monitoring Network (NDMN),
- campaign stations measured every 8 years.

Enhancing the Deformation Model

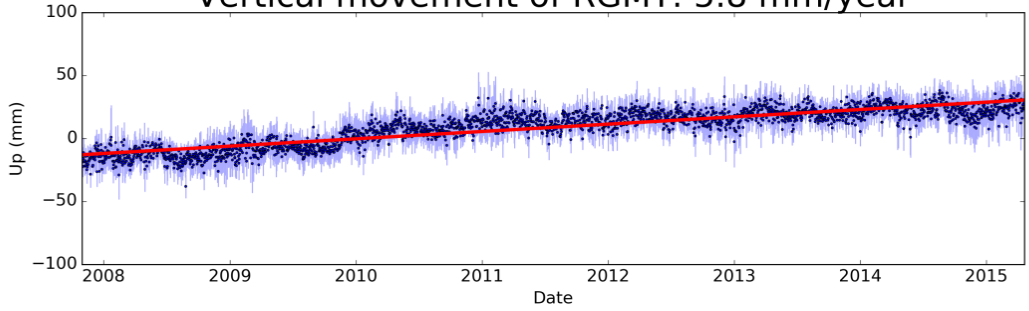


Horizontal model only
Continuously updated and
refining

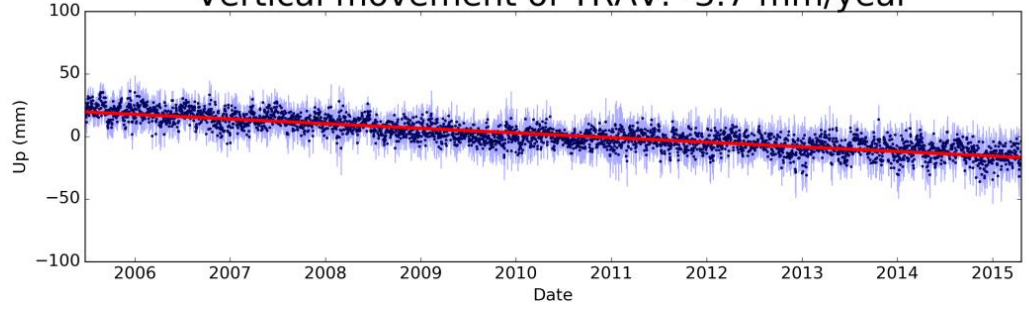
Adding patches



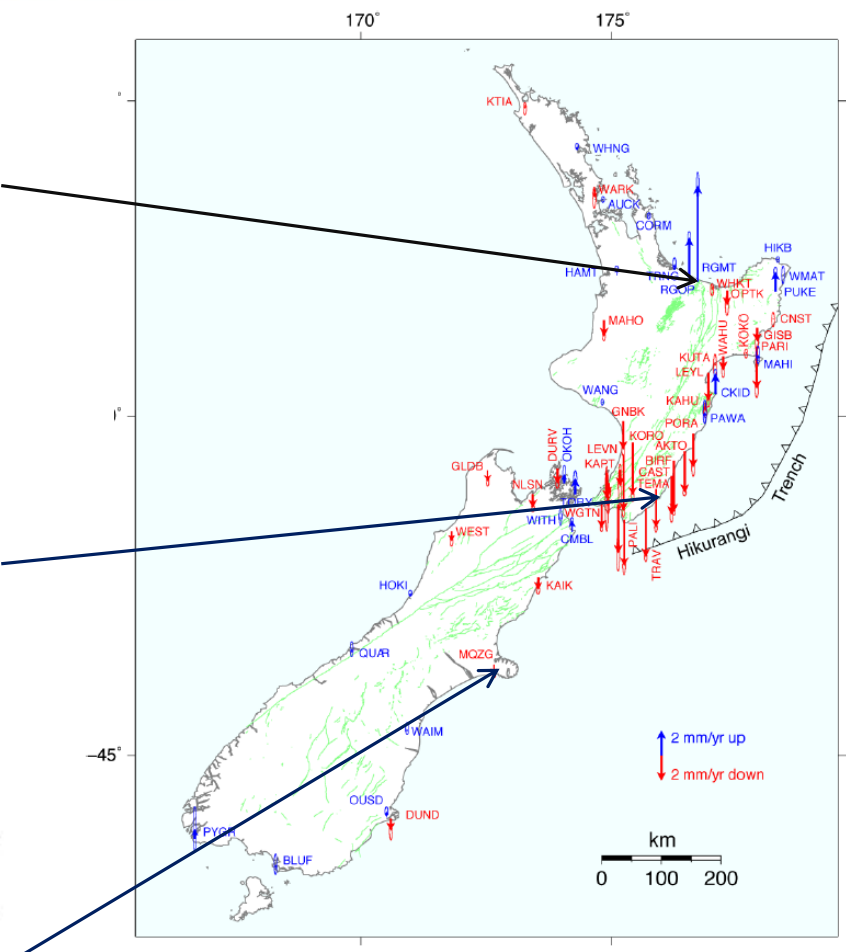
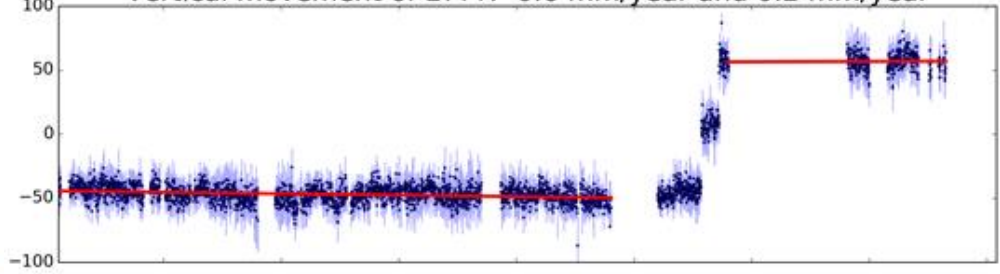
Vertical movement of RGMT: 5.8 mm/year



Vertical movement of TRAV: -3.7 mm/year



Vertical movement of LYTT: -0.6 mm/year and 0.2 mm/year



Beavan, R.J.; Litchfield, N.J. 2012. Vertical land movement around the New Zealand coastline: implications for sea-level rise, *GNS Science Report 2012/29*

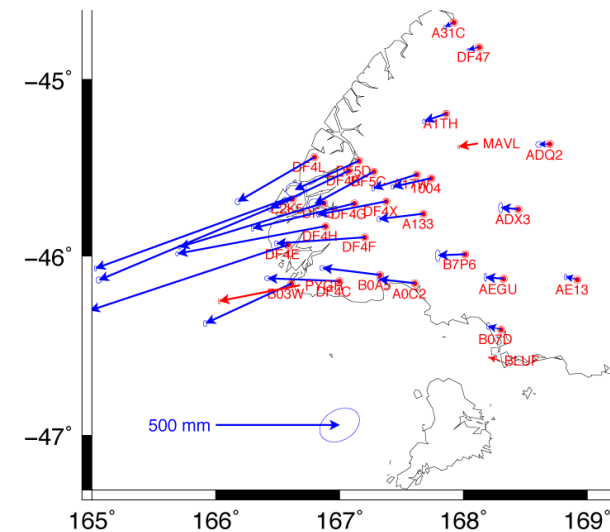
Where are we at

What has gone well

- Good user acceptance
- The incorporation of a deformation model in NZGD2000 has enabled the life of the datum to be lengthened and new observations to be integrated with old observations
- Accuracy of datum has been maintained
- Alignment of new and old geodetic data through a single national adjustment

Issues

- Managing the deformation model
- Accuracy of deformation model versus CORS real time positions
- Managing the spatial alignment of the cadastral system



New Zealand Vertical Datum 2016

- Published in June 2016
- Based on NZGeoid2016
- 3 cm nominal accuracy
- Transformation surfaces to local datums

