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NORSAR LOCATION CALIBRATIONS AND TIME DELAY CORRECTIONS

by
K. A. Berteussen

Kjeller, 13 January 1974



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NORSAR LOCATION CALIBRATIONS AND TIME DELAY CORRECTIONS

by

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ABSTRACT

Deviations from theoretical expected values are observed both for slowness and travel time for P-signals crossing the array. These observed anomalies are presented. At NORSAR these are corrected for both when performing beamforming and when locating events. The method used is explained and the effect of these corrections both on signal detectability and event location is shown to be quite profound. Some simple crust models, i.e., plane dipping Moho and a Moho which is a curved interface, are tested and found to be able to explain at most 25 per cent of the observed squared deviations.

1 INTRODUCTION

It is well known that the observed time delays for signals crossing a seismic array exhibit considerable deviations from the theoretically expected values. Especially in case of the LASA array (Large Aperture Seismic Array, Montana, USA) several studies have been made of slowness and travel time anomalies for the purpose of determining the local structure, as well as inhomogeneities in the lower mantle, f. ex., Greenfield and Sheppard (1969), Glover and Alexander (1969), Chinnery and Toksöz (1967), Zengeni (1970), Iyer (1971), Iyer and Healy (1972), Engdahl and Felix (1971), Davies and Sheppard (1972). Also for other arrays there have been similar analyses, f. ex., Niazi (1966), Otsuka (1966), Otsuka (1966a), Johnson (1967), Johnson (1969), Corbishly (1970), Husebye et al (1971). At NORSAR few studies of this type have been made so far - Noponen (1971) and Gjøystdal et al (1973). All the above-mentioned studies have been concerned with what may be termed, loosely speaking, the average or deterministic part of the crustal structure and upper mantle beneath the array. There is,

however, a large amount of scatter in the data, which so far seems to be investigated in detail by very few authors: Mack (1969), Aki (1973), Capon (1974) and Dahle et al (1974).

The objective of this report is to present the P-wave slowness and travel time anomalies observed at NORSAR and to explain how these are corrected for (Chapter 2 and 3). The effect of these corrections is presented in the form of measurements of gain in signal detectability and in event location capability (Chapter 4). Some tests will be made whether or not the observed anomalies can be explained by conventional crust models (plane dipping Moho (Chapter 3) or a Moho which is a curved interface (Chapter 5)).

2 DEFINITIONS

2.1 NORSAR Location Calibrations

Let the observed slowness components for a recorded event be UXO and UYO. The corresponding theoretical components, denoted UXC and UYC are calculated from the NOAA epicenter solution using a smoothed version of Herrin's (1968) travel time tables. (The UX-axis points west, while the UY-axis points south.)

The calibration components for the point UXO, UYO in slowness space are then

$$DUX = UXC - UXO$$

$$DUY = UYC - UYO \quad (2.1)$$

After having observed the components UX,UY, the corrections (DUX,DUY) should thus be added in order to get the components (UXC,UYC) corresponding to the correct solution. (See appendix for program guide.)

2.2 NORSAR Time Delay Corrections

The slowness components (UXO,UYO) discussed in section 2.1 are calculated by least squares fitting of a plane wavefront to a set of time delays measured on the subarray beams. These are denoted D(I), (I=1,NSUB), where NSUB is the number of subarrays. (Corrections within subarrays are not considered in the current system.) These observed delays do not fit exactly to a plane wavefront. Let DPWF(I), (I=1,NSUB), be the set of delays corresponding to the plane wavefront. The region corrections for the point UXO,UYO in slowness space are then given by the following equation:

$$DEV(I) = DPWF(I) - D(I) \quad I=1,NSUB \quad (2.2)$$

If the problem is to form a beam aimed at the point UX,UY, this can be done by applying the following subarray delays

$$D(I) = DPWF(I) - DEV(I) \quad I=1,NSUB \quad (2.3)$$

where DPWF is calculated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} DPWF(I) &= -(X(I) \cdot UX + Y(I) \cdot UY) \\ &= (X(I) \cdot \sin(AZ) + Y(I) \cdot \cos(AZ)) \cdot U \end{aligned} \quad (2.4)$$

$$I=1,NSUB$$

X(I), Y(I) are east/west and north/south coordinates respectively (km) for subarray I. AZ is direction of approach (azimuth) for the plane wavefront and U is slowness.

One should note that the DEV(I) definition in eq. 2.2 also includes deviations caused by elevation differences, i.e., the DEV(I) parameter may be considered as a sum of two independent factors

$$DEV(I) = D_{INH}(I) + D_{ELV}(I) \quad (2.5)$$

$D_{INH}(I)$ is the part of the deviation which is caused by real inhomogeneities in the earth. $D_{ELV}(I)$ is the part of the deviation which occurs because the instruments do not have the same elevation. If the P-velocity in the crust under NORSAR is assumed to be V_C and $Z(I)$ is the elevation difference between subarray I and the reference plane, $D_{ELV}(I)$ may be calculated as follows.

$$D_{ELV}(I) = Z(I) \cdot \left(\frac{1}{V_C^2} - \frac{\sin^2 i_C}{V_C^2} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} = Z(I) \cdot \left(U_C^2 - U^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad (2.6)$$

3 DATA

3.1 Construction of Data Base

The data base of regional time delay corrections and location calibrations is built up by covering slowness space with a set of triangles. The vertices, or nodes, of these triangles are real data points, and associated with each there are regional correction and calibration data. The regional corrections and calibrations for a certain point in slowness space are then predicted by barocentric interpolation from the values at the vertices (nodes) of the triangle in which the point is situated. For each node there are thus 24 data values, 22 region corrections (one for each subarray) and 2 calibration values (for the UX and UY direction respectively). The set of nodes and their connections are denoted the region correction data base (IBM, 1972).

Fig. 3.1 shows the node points of the current data base (implemented 30 Nov 72) plotted in slowness space. Each node point is based on the observations for one event or it may be constructed by averaging the deviations for several events. The events used for each node, and the corresponding phase are listed in Table 3.1. The delays are calculated by using an iterative cross-correlation procedure (Bungum and Husebye (1971)) after having applied a 1.0-3.0 Hz bandpass (third order recursive Butterworth) filter in order to ensure good signal-to-noise ratio. For some of the events with node numbers less than 52, a 0.8-2.5 Hz bandpass filter has been used. The difference between these two filters is however not believed to be significant in this context (Bungum and Husebye (1971)). It should be noted that for certain areas in slowness space the corrections and calibrations will be interpolations between node points which are based on different phases. According to Engdahl and Felix (1971) the anomalies are found to vary continuously from one phase to another at the LASA array. For example, node 60 is based on PKP observations, while node 99 and 44 are based on P-observations. Inside the triangle 88-99-44 the interpolated values will thus be based on both PKP and P observations.

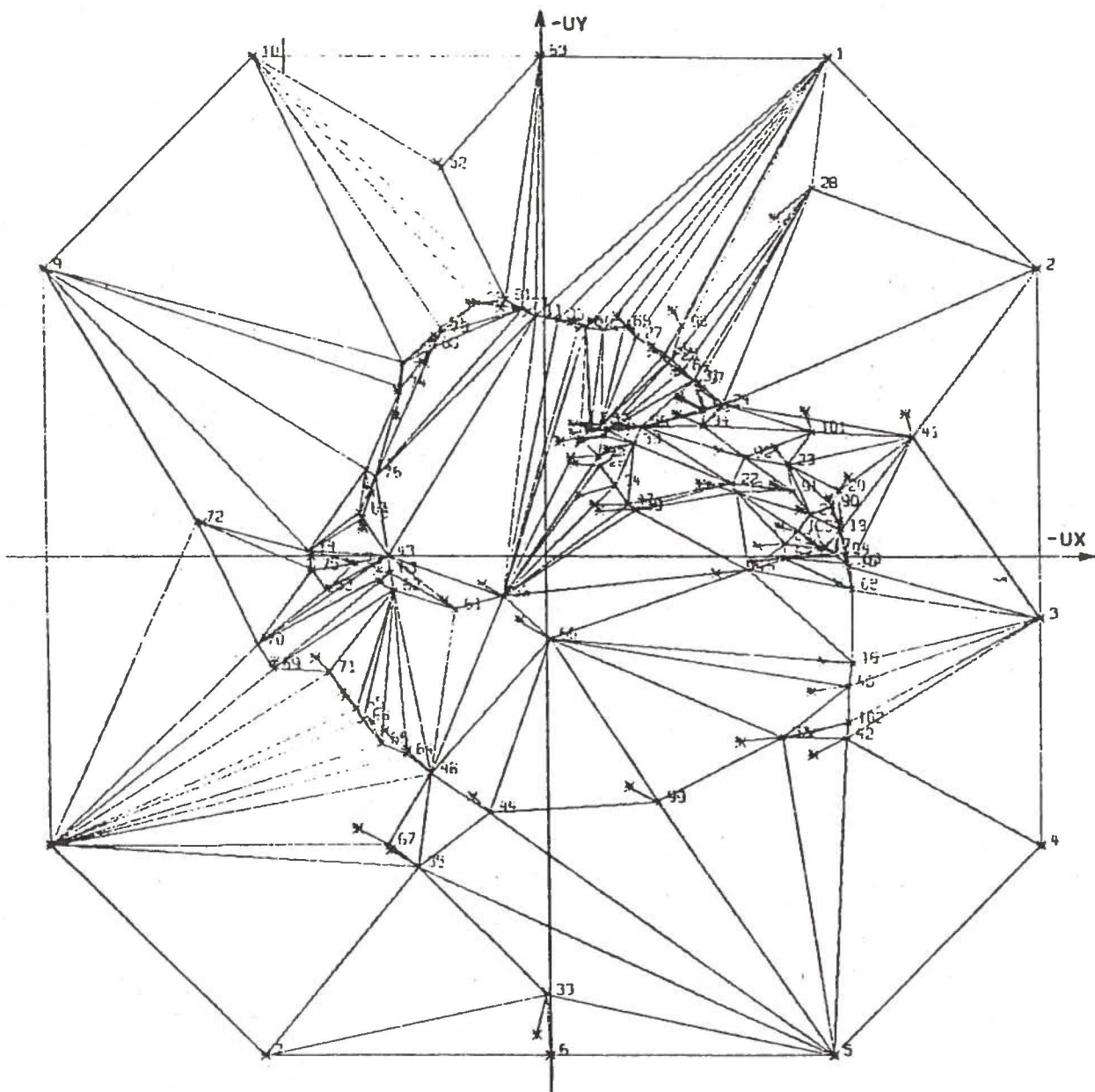


Fig. 3.1 Location calibration vectors as implemented 30 November 72, plotted in slowness space. For each node the observed (node number) and corrected value (star) are indicated.

Node	Event Date	Region	Lat	Lon	m_b	Phase	Dist	Azi
11	09/04/71	Unimak Island Region	55.0N	163.4W	5.8	P	64.3	356.3
12	05/14/71	Chipas, Mexico	16.2N	94.0W	4.8	P	83.0	290.8
13	06/05/71	Costa Rica	9.3N	84.2W	5.4	P	84.0	279.1
14	06/27/71	Mona Passage	19.1N	67.9W	4.9	P	68.0	270.0
15	07/24/71	Todzhik-Sinkiang Border	39.5N	73.2E	5.6	P	42.2	90.1
16	06/26/71	Southwest Sumatra	5.3S	96.9E	5.8	P	92.7	95.8
17	05/03/71	Tibet	30.8N	84.5E	5.4	P	55.7	87.2
18	07/24/71	Iran	30.4N	59.9E	5.0	P	44.2	110.6
19	07/03/71	Kirgiz-Sinkiang Border	41.3N	79.3E	4.9	P	44.8	83.3
20	06/06/71	Eastern Kazakh SSR	49.9N	77.8E	5.5	P	37.8	75.5
21	05/22/71	Tibet	32.4N	92.1E	5.6	P	58.1	79.8
22	05/03/71	Mindanao, Philippine Is.	8.7N	124.1E		P	93.4	65.3
23	06/28/71	Northern China	39.9N	106.2E	5.2	P	58.4	63.8
24	06/06/71	Sea of Japan	40.8N	133.3E	4.5	P	68.3	43.5
25	06/29/71	Kurile Islands	45.3N	151.7E	4.8	P	69.4	28.3
26	05/22/71	South of Kermadec Is.	33.1S	179.2W		PKP	151.5	17.6
27	06/11/71	Off East Coast Kamchatka	51.4N	159.3E	4.8	P	65.1	21.1
	11/03/71	"-	52.3N	159.1E	4.9	P	64.4	21.0
	11/24/71	"-	52.9N	159.2E	6.3	P	63.8	20.7
	05/27/72	Kamchatka	54.9N	156.3E	5.7	P	61.3	21.9
28	09/27/71	Novaya Zemlya	73.4N	55.1E	6.4	P	20.6	34.7
29	07/25/71	Near Islands, Aleutians	52.1N	173.1E	5.8	P	66.4	11.8

TABLE 3.1

Events used in the NORSAR location calibrations and time delay corrections. The epicenter location is based on the NOAA solution.

Node	Event Date	Region	Lat	Lon	m_b	Phase	Dist	Azi
30	06/10/71	Fox Islands, Aleutians	52.2N	170.6W	5.3	P	67.1	1.0
31	03/15/71	Hokkaido, Japan Region	41.7N	143.7E	5.4	P	70.7	35.5
32	04/15/71	Eastern Gulf of Aden	12.9N	48.5E	5.0	P	55.2	133.4
33	07/29/71	Northern Italy	44.7N	10.2E	4.3	P	16.1	181.6
34	03/15/71	New Hebrides Is.	15.5S	167.6E	5.4	PKP	131.7	30.4
35	07/02/71	Morocco	34.1N	5.2W	4.6	P	28.7	208.5
36	07/09/71	Near Coast of C.Chile	32.5S	71.1W	6.6	PKP	114.2	246.6
	11/28/71	Chile-Argentina Border	29.8S	69.5W	5.9	PKP	111.1	246.6
	02/09/72	Near Coast of S. Chile	51.8S	74.0W	5.5	PKP	131.0	235.0
37	07/08/71	Southern Nevada	37.1N	116.1W	5.5	P	73.1	318.2
38	03/26/71	Southeastern Alaska	60.3N	141.0W	5.5	P	60.3	343.8
39	03/15/71	New Hebrides Island	15.5S	167.6E	5.4	SKP	131.7	30.4
40	04/12/71	Southern Iran	28.3N	55.6E	6.0	P	44.1	116.8
41	03/23/71	Ural Mountains Region	61.3N	56.5E	5.6	P	21.7	68.6
42	05/22/71	Turkey	38.8N	40.5E	6.0	P	28.7	126.5
43	07/27/71	Peru-Ecuador Border Reg.	2.7S	72.4W	6.3	P	89.1	262.9
	09/09/71	Near West Coast Colombia	2.3N	78.9W	4.8	P	87.9	270.9
	02/09/72	South of Panama	4.9N	82.4W	4.9	P	87.3	275.3
44	09/30/71	South Atlantic Ocean	0.5S	4.8W	6.0	P	62.4	197.7
45	08/08/71	Kermadec Islands	30.6S	178.1W	5.2	PKP	149.2	15.0
	02/09/72	---	30.5S	177.6W		PKP	149.1	14.3

Table 3.1 (cont.)

Node	Event Date	Region	Lat	Long	M _b	Phase	Dist	Azi
46	07/15/71	South of Fiji Isl.	25.2S	178.4E	5.3	PKP	143.4	18.9
47	07/26/71	New Britain Region	5.2S	152.2E	6.4	PKP	117.3	44.3
48	08/05/71	C.Mid-Atlantic Ridge	0.9S	22.1W	6.3	P	66.6	216.4
49	07/27/71	Andamon Isl. Region	13.8N	95.8E	5.4	P	75.6	87.4
50	11/06/71	Rat Islands	51.5N	179.1E	6.8	P	67.5	7.9
51	03/13/71	Vancouver Isl. Region	50.6N	130.0W	5.7	P	64.4	333.6
52	11/26/71	Eastern Greenland	79.4N	17.8W	5.2	P	20.5	345.4
53	09/27/71	South of Fiji Islands	25.3S	177.2W	4.7	PKP	144.0	12.5
	10/08/71	"-	25.9S	177.2W	4.8	PKP	144.7	12.7
	12/08/71	"-	25.4S	177.3W	5.1	PKP	144.1	12.6
54	09/12/71	South of Fiji Islands	26.7S	177.1W	5.8	PKP	145.5	12.6
55	01/15/72	Tonga Islands	18.3S	174.6W	5.6	SKP	137.3	7.7
56	11/11/71	South of Fiji Islands	25.5S	179.9E	5.1	PKP	143.9	16.9
	01/01/72	"-	25.6S	179.6E	5.0	PKP	144.0	17.4
	03/30/72	"-	25.8S	179.7E	4.7	PKP	144.2	17.3
57	01/02/72	South of Fiji Islands	24.9S	180.0W	4.5	PKP	143.3	16.6
	02/19/72	"-	25.3S	179.6E	4.6	PKP	143.6	17.3
	02/25/72	"-	25.1S	179.7W	5.2	PKP	143.5	16.3
58	09/01/71	New Hebrides Islands	14.6S	167.2E	4.6	SKP	130.8	30.8
59	09/25/71	East New Guinea Region	6.5S	146.6E	6.3	PKP	116.6	50.8

Table 3.1 (cont.)

Node	Event Date	Region	Lat	Long	M _b	Phase	Dist	Azi
60	10/23/71	South Sandwich Is. Region	57.2S	25.5W	5.6	PKP	121.1	202.1
	11/23/71	"-	55.6S	27.9W	5.1	PKP	120.0	204.2
	12/19/71	"-	59.6S	26.1W	5.1	PKP	123.4	201.5
	01/08/72	"-	55.8S	28.7W	6.2	PKP	120.4	204.7
	02/25/72	"-	60.6S	25.7W	6.0	PKP	124.3	200.8
	02/25/72	"-	60.8S	26.5W	5.3	PKP	124.6	201.2
	03/09/72	"-	56.1S	27.5W	5.3	PKP	120.6	203.8
	04/06/72	"-	57.9S	26.6W	5.4	PKP	121.9	202.5
61	09/08/71	Banda Sea	6.5S	120.6E	5.5	PKKP	109.8	66.5
	09/10/71	"-	5.9S	130.6E	6.2	PKKP	109.4	66.2
62	10/28/71	Peru-Brazil Border Reg.	8.0S	74.4W	4.9	P	94.6	261.9
	01/12/72	Western Brazil	6.9S	71.8W	5.9	P	92.4	260.3
	01/21/72	"-	6.7S	71.9W	5.6	P	92.3	260.4
63	03/20/72	Northern Peru	6.8S	76.8W	6.1	P	94.7	264.6
	03/20/72	"-	6.6S	76.8W	5.4	P	94.6	264.7
	03/20/72	"-	6.8S	76.8W	5.4	P	94.8	264.7
64	02/13/72	C.Mid-Atlantic Ridge	0.9N	28.4W	5.4	P	67.0	223.5
	04/11/72	"-	0.9N	28.3W	6.0	P	66.8	223.4
65	04/08/72	C. Mid-Atlantic Ridge	8.1N	38.8W	5.4	P	64.1	236.9
66	01/05/72	C. Mid-Atlantic Ridge	3.3N	31.3W	4.9	P	65.6	227.4

Table 3.1 (cont.)

Node	Event Date	Region	Lat	Long	M _b	Phase	Dist	Azi
67	02/27/72	West of Gibraltar	34.8N	9.1W	4.7	P	29.1	215.4
68	10/15/71	C. Mid-Atlantic Ridge	7.7N	37.3W	5.0	P	63.9	235.3
69	08/03/71	North Atlantic Ridge	28.4N	39.2W	5.0	P	46.4	248.8
70	11/22/71	North Atlantic Ridge	30.2N	42.7W	5.2	P	46.5	253.7
71	02/05/72	North Atlantic Ridge	14.6N	45.1W	5.0	P	61.1	246.4
72	09/08/71	North Atlantic Ocean	53.8N	35.3W	4.9	P	25.4	274.9
	04/03/72	"-	54.3N	35.1W	5.4	P	25.1	275.6
	04/03/72	"-	54.3N	35.1W	5.2	P	25.0	275.7
73	11/20/71	Vancouver Island Region	48.8N	129.5W	5.5	P	66.2	332.5
74	02/20/72	Gulf of California	29.9N	113.6W	5.4	P	78.9	313.1
75	09/30/71	Virgin Islands	18.1N	64.5W	4.9	P	67.2	266.3
76	08/20/71	Off Coast of Chiapas, Mex.	13.4N	92.4W	5.8	P	84.8	287.9
	09/23/71	Near Coast of Chiapas, Mex	14.5N	93.8W	4.5	P	84.4	289.7
	03/07/72	"-	14.6N	93.8W	4.8	P	84.3	289.7
	03/08/72	"-	14.4N	93.9W	4.9	P	84.6	289.8
	03/08/72	"-	14.6N	93.9W	4.9	P	84.4	289.8
77	11/25/71	Alaska Peninsula	56.4N	160.7W	5.3	P	62.9	354.7
	02/21/72	"-	55.9N	158.3W	5.7	P	63.3	353.2
	02/24/72	"-	55.8N	158.3W	5.3	P	63.4	353.1
	03/24/72	"-	56.1N	157.2W	6.0	P	63.0	352.5

Node	Event Date	Region	Lat	Long	M _b	Phase	Dist	Azi
78	02/07/72	Costa Rica	8.5N	83.9W	5.5	P	84.9	278.3
79	02/15/72	Northern Colombia	6.8N	73.0W	5.0	P	81.1	267.9
80	04/07/72	Off Coast of Oregon	42.6N	126.3W	5.6	P	71.1	328.0
81	04/07/72	Southern Alaska	60.1N	152.8W	5.1	P	58.7	350.5
82	03/10/72	Near Coast of Venezuela	10.8N	62.9W	5.2	P	72.7	261.1
84	12/26/71	Kurile Islands	43.5N	147.9E	5.2	P	70.3	31.8
	02/18/72	"-	43.6N	147.8E	4.7	P	70.2	31.8
	05/29/72	"-	43.5N	147.7E	4.4	P	70.3	31.9
85	01/13/72	Kurile Islands	46.8N	152.5E	5.2	P	68.3	27.3
	02/26/72	"-	46.8N	152.6E	4.9	P	68.4	27.2
	03/25/72	"-	48.0N	153.2E	5.8	P	67.3	26.4
	04/16/72	"-	46.5N	152.5E	4.5	P	68.6	27.4
86	09/29/71	Off East Coast Kamchatka	55.4N	163.6E	5.0	P	62.1	17.2
	12/16/71	Near East Coast Kamchatka	55.9N	162.9E	5.0	P	61.5	17.4
	12/17/71	Off "-	55.5N	163.9E	5.5	P	62.0	16.9
	12/29/71	Komandarsky Isl. Region	55.2N	164.5E	5.0	P	62.4	16.6
87	03/20/72	Andreanof Is., Aleutians	51.3N	179.2W	6.0	P	67.9	6.8
88	08/04/71	Hindu Kush Region	36.4N	70.8E	5.0	P	44.5	95.1
	10/14/71	Afgahnistan-USSR Border	36.4N	71.0E	5.1	P	44.7	94.9
89	11/05/71	Andoman Islands Region	10.2N	93.0E	5.7	P	77.3	91.8

Node	Event Date	Region	Lat	Long	M _b	Phase	Dist	Azi
90	01/02/72	Southern Sinkiang Prov.	41.8N	84.5E	5.2	P	47.0	78.8
	04/09/72	Northern -"-	42.2N	94.7E	5.9	P	46.8	78.3
	04/09/72	Southern -"-	42.0N	84.6E	4.8	P	46.9	78.5
91	08/16/71	Szechwan Prov., China	28.9N	103.7E	5.5	P	66.6	72.7
	08/16/71	-"-	28.8N	103.6E	5.4	P	66.6	72.8
	04/08/72	-"-	29.6N	101.8E	5.3	P	65.1	73.8
92	12/09/71	Northeast of Taiwan	25.6N	124.4E	5.3	P	78.6	57.6
	04/17/72	Taiwan Region	24.3N	122.5E	5.1	P	78.9	59.8
	04/21/72	-"-	24.1N	122.5E	5.1	P	79.1	59.9
93	04/25/72	Mindoro, Philippine Is.	13.5N	120.5E	5.4	P	87.6	66.4
	04/26/72	-"-	13.5N	120.6E	5.0	P	87.7	66.4
	04/26/72	-"-	13.2N	120.3E	5.1	P	87.8	66.8
	04/27/72	-"-	13.4N	120.4E	5.2	P	87.6	66.5
	05/26/72	-"-	13.3N	120.4E	5.2	P	87.7	66.6
94	10/25/71	South of Honshu, Japan	30.0N	137.1E	5.3	P	79.5	45.4
95	03/08/72	South of Honshu, Japan	33.3N	140.6E	4.9	P	77.6	41.2
96	03/02/72	South of Honshu, Japan	33.4N	140.8E	5.7	P	77.6	40.9
	03/18/72	Off E.Coast Honshu, Japan	33.5N	141.2E	5.0	P	77.7	40.7
97	04/05/72	Hokkaido, Japan Region	42.0N	142.3E	5.2	P	70.2	36.4
98	09/30/71	Eastern Siberia	61.6N	140.3E	5.4	P	51.9	28.0

Table 3.1 (cont.)

Node	Event Date	Region	Lat	Long	M _D	Phase	Dist	Azi
99	04/18/72	Lake Tanganyika Region	3.0S	28.7E	5.4	P	65.1	160.3
100	03/07/72	Burma-India Border Reg.	23.3N	94.9E	4.3	P	67.1	83.1
101	08/31/72	Central Russia	52.3N	95.4E	5.5	P	44.2	61.2
102	01/14/72	Iran-Iraq Border Region	32.8N	46.9E	5.1	P	36.5	123.6
103	01/12/72	Tadzhik-Sinkiang Border	37.7N	75.1E	5.6	P	45.6	90.2
104	02/20/72	Tibet	34.6N	80.3E	4.8	P	50.6	88.2

Also note that nodes 1-10 and 83 are just defined border points and thus are not based on observations. The calibrations and corrections for these points are zero. For events with apparent velocity less than say 10 km/sec, there is thus no reason to ask for corrections. For apparent velocity less than 8.4 km/sec, the corrections are not defined. This will be a point outside the grid shown in Fig. 3.1.

Table 3.2 lists for each node point its location in slowness space (UX,UY), its calibrated location (UCX,UCY), and the regional corrections for this node point. As mentioned above, nodes 1-10 and node 83 have no regional corrections and no calibration, which may also be seen from this table.

3.2 Location Calibrations

Fig. 3.2 shows the NORSAR location calibration vectors plotted in slowness space. The tail of the vector is the point where the event(s) have been observed, while the head of the arrow gives the theoretical point (the NOAA solution). Fig. 3.3 shows the azimuth effect of the vectors as a function of azimuth. That is, the vertical axis gives observed minus theoretical azimuth, while the horizontal axis is theoretical azimuth. Fig. 3.4 shows the observed slowness minus theoretical values as a function of azimuth. Analysis of other types of data indicates that the Moho interface in this area is not horizontal (Kanestrøm (1971)). The simplest possible model is therefore to try an interface which is a dipping plane. The calibrations based on P-observations have been grouped and averaged in intervals with 10 degrees spacing in azimuth. Assuming a velocity contrast of 6.6/8.2 (Kanestrøm (1971)) the dipping plane which gives the minimum squared difference between observed and predicted calibration vectors has been found. The predicted calibration vectors, that is, the calibration vectors caused by a specified dipping plane, were calculated by using the formulae developed by Niazi (1966). However, note that on p. 494 in Niazi's paper $\cos(r')$ should be replaced by $-\cos(r')$ once in eq. 6 and two times in eq. 7 (in the equation for n and the equation for m). The plane found has an upward dip direction 94 degrees clockwise from north, and the dip angle is 6 degrees. With another velocity contrast, this angle would of course change. (A contrast of 6.2/8.2 gives for example a dip angle of 4 degrees.) This model with a dipping plane somewhere in the upper mantle or at the crust-mantle interface is able to explain 36 per cent of the observed squared calibrations. That is, after the calibration effect of this plane is included, the mean square length of the location calibration vectors has been reduced with 36 per cent. On Figs. 3.3 and 3.4 the smooth curve shows the calibration effect of this minimum square error plane as a function of azimuth for events with epicenter distance 60 degrees from NORSAR.

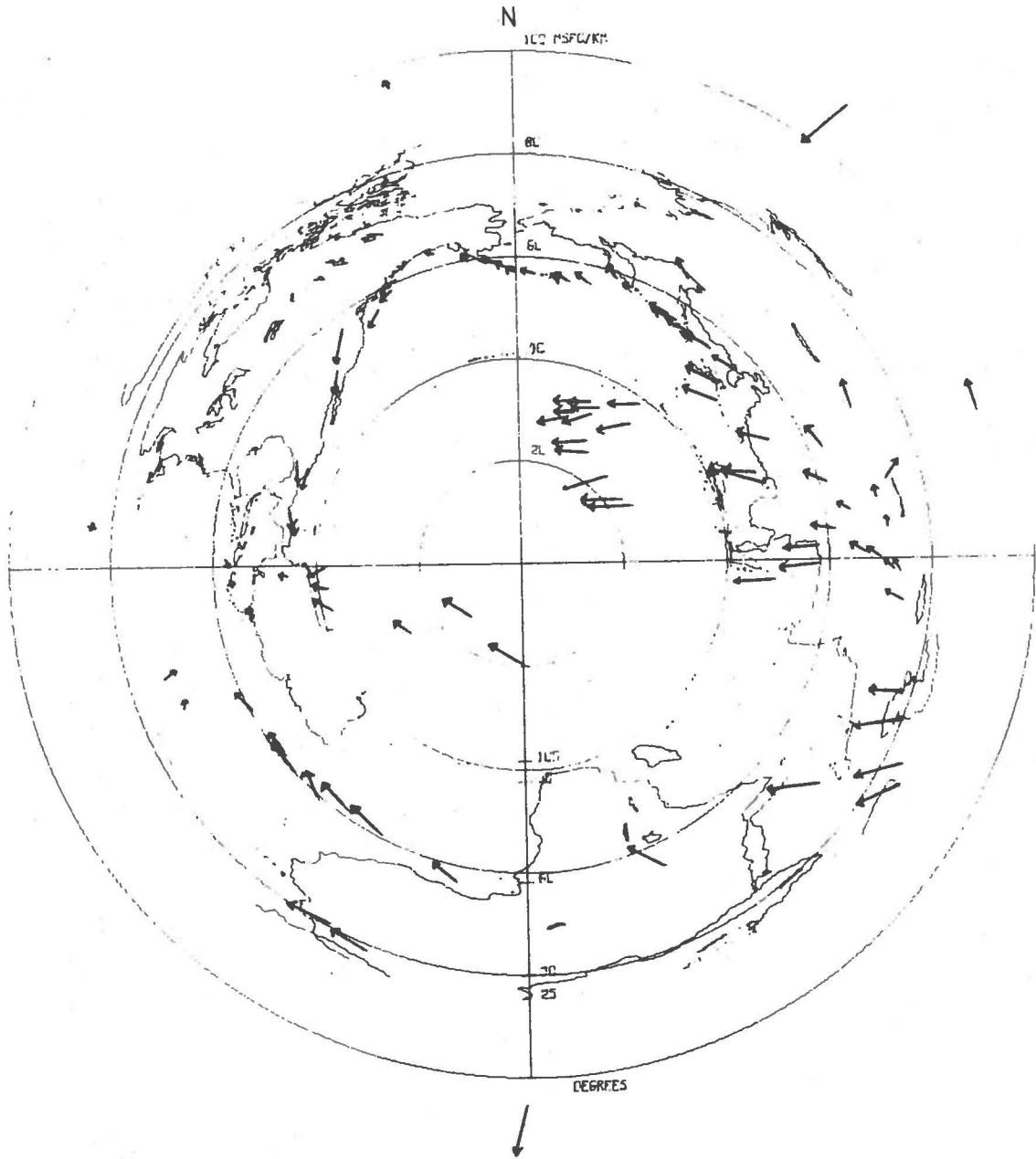


Fig. 3.2 Location calibration vectors plotted in slowness space. The tail of the arrow represents the observed point, while the head represents the NOAA solution.

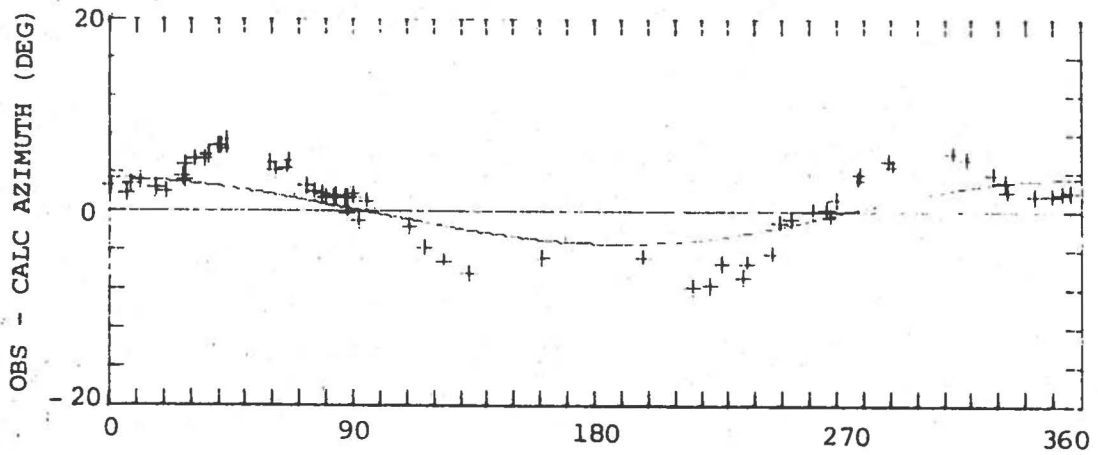


Fig. 3.3 Observed minus calculated (NOAA) azimuth as a function of calculated azimuth. The smooth curve represents the azimuth calibration effect of the dipping plane which best fits the data.

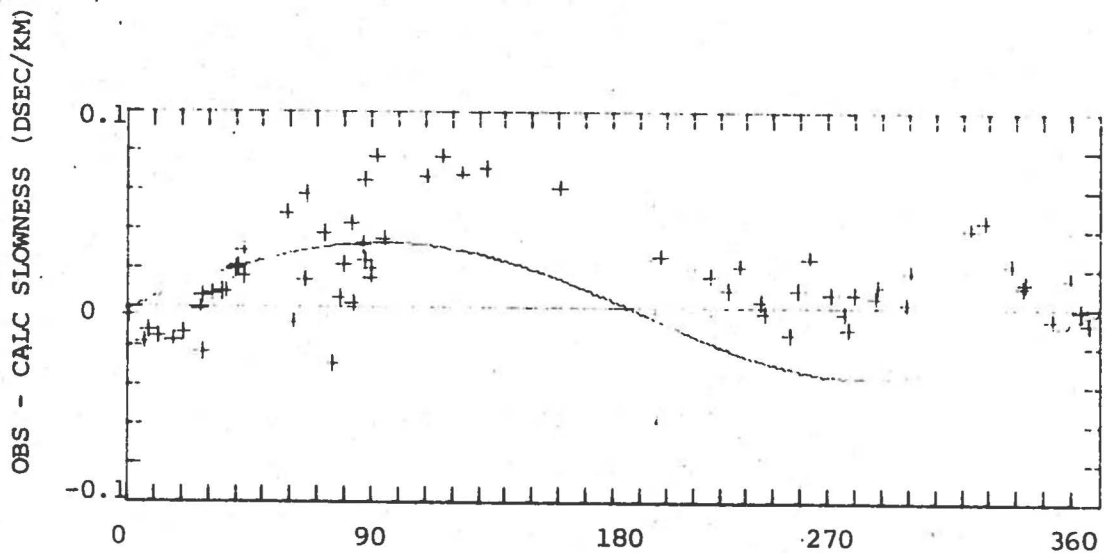


Fig. 3.4 Observed minus calculated (NOAA) slowness as a function of calculated azimuth. The smooth curve represents the slowness calibration effect of the dipping plane which best fits the data.

3.3 Time Delay Corrections

The observed regional corrections for the 22 subarrays are plotted as a function of theoretical azimuth in Fig. 3.5. For each node point the average of the corrections and the effect of elevation differences have been removed. In Fig. 3.5 only data corresponding to P-phases has been included.

The most striking feature in Fig. 3.5 is that the corrections vary relatively slowly with azimuth. From Fig. 3.2 it is seen that the P-phase data is mostly confined to a relatively narrow velocity range; it is therefore difficult to get an estimate of how much the corrections vary with slowness. However, in the azimuth interval from 45° to 100° there is also some coverage in slowness. From Fig. 3.5 it occurs that also in this azimuth interval there is relatively little variation in the data with slowness. The only clear exception from this is subarray 06B, where some of the P-phases have the same deviations as core phases. Fig. 3.6 contains all the data in Fig. 3.5, plus the data for core phases. For the subarrays 01A, 05B, 05C 09C, and 10C the core phase data are markedly different from the P-phase data, while for the rest of the subarrays there is no clear difference between the two data sets. The conclusion is thus that the deviations have a clear variation with azimuth, and that they at six subarrays also exhibit some variation with slowness.

Travel time residuals for ordinary stations are commonly approximated with the equation (Bolt and Nuttli (1966), Lilwall and Douglas(1969), Payo (1971))

$$T_{\text{RESID}} = A + B \cdot \sin(\sigma + \phi) \quad (3.1)$$

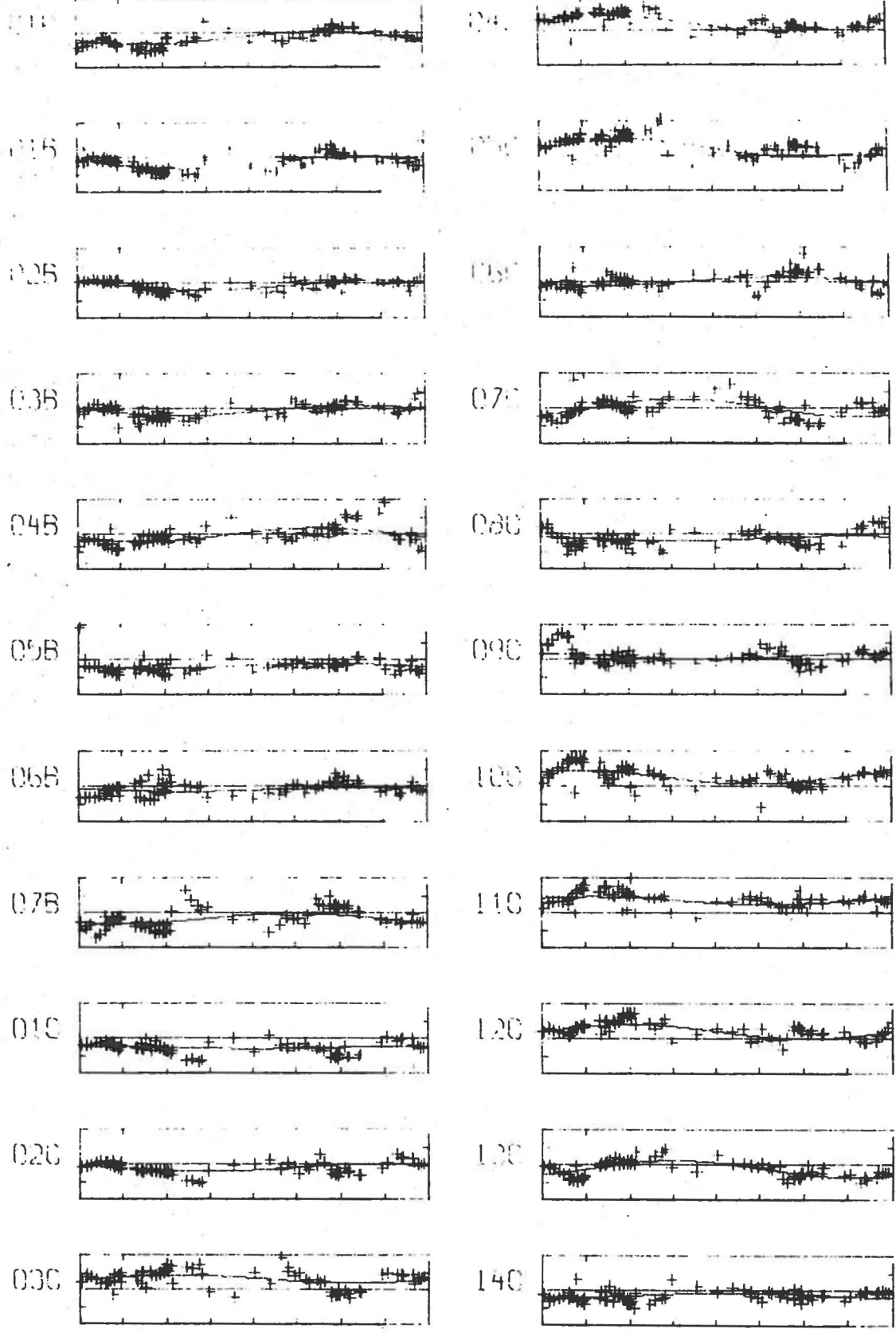


Fig. 3.5 Observed regional corrections as a function of theoretical (NOAA) azimuth. Only P-phase data has been used. The vertical axis goes from -0.5 to +0.5 seconds, while the horizontal axis goes from 0 to 360 degrees azimuth. The smooth curve represents the best fit to eq. (3.1).

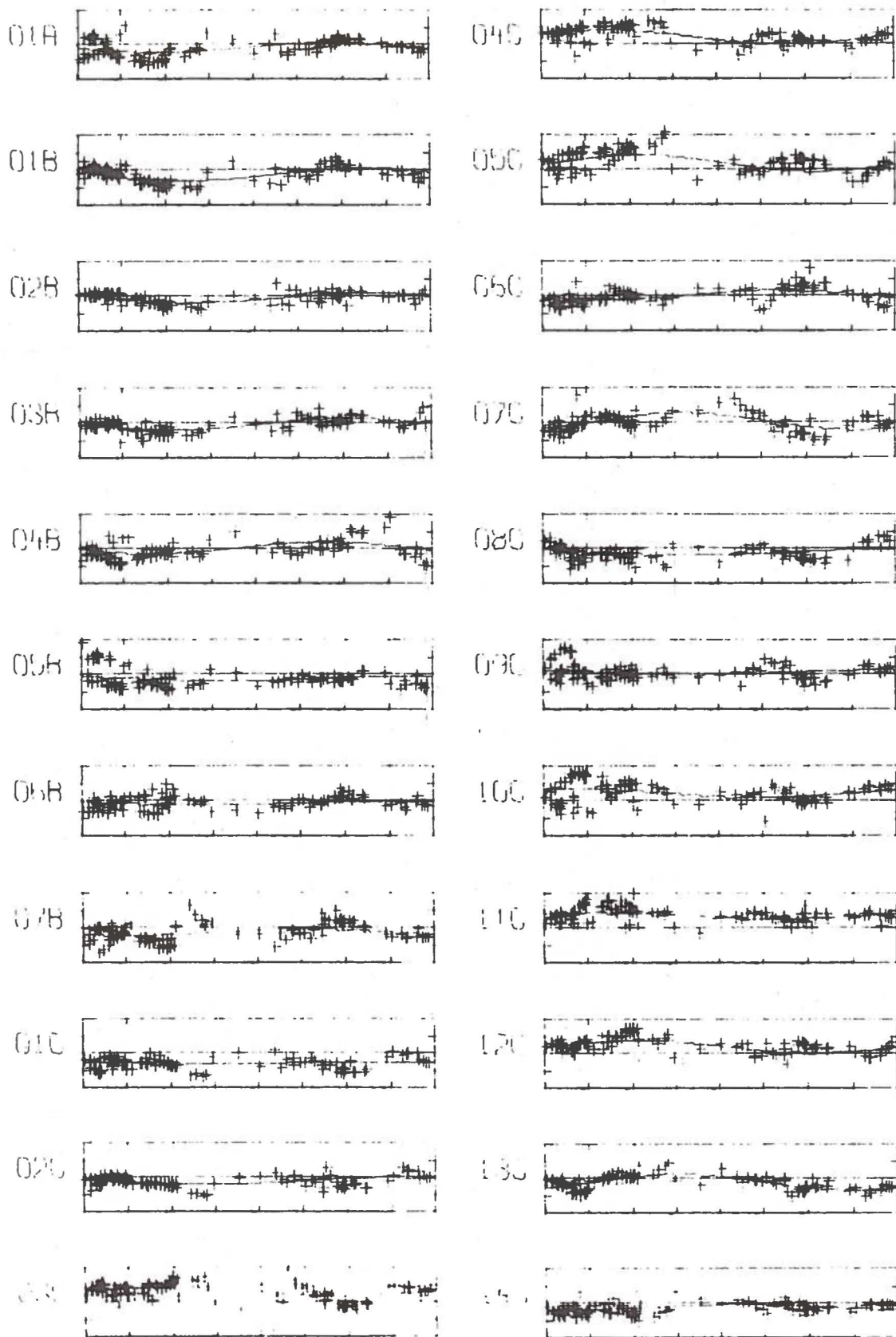


Fig. 3.6 Observed regional corrections as a function of theoretical (NOAA) azimuth. All data are used. The vertical axis goes from -0.5 to $+0.5$ seconds, while the horizontal axis goes from 0 to 360 degrees in azimuth. The smooth curve represents the best fit to eq. (3.1).

where σ is station azimuth and the 'early direction' is $(3/4 \pi - \phi)$. This has been done also for the NORSAR regional corrections. The difference from the more common situation is of course that we here are talking of residuals between stations instead of absolute travel time residuals. On Fig. 3.5 and Fig. 3.6 the smooth curve is the least squares approximation of the data to equation 3.1. Before performing the approximation, the data was grouped and averaged in intervals of 10 degrees in azimuth in order to avoid that the cluster of data between 0 and 90 degrees in azimuth should have too much influence.

The values obtained for A, B and the 'early direction' are listed in Table 3.3 for the case where only P-phase data have been used. In the table are also listed the percentage reduction in mean square deviations by just subtracting the mean, corresponding to using only A in eq. 3.1 (Model 1). The next columns (Model 2) give the percentage reduction in mean square deviations by using the whole equation 3.1. As an average it is seen that A in eq. 3.1 can account for 33.6 per cent of the squared deviations, while using the whole equation 3.1 one can account for 52.2 per cent as a mean.

As will be seen, this model (2) is the one which best fits the data. For single stations there are several ways to interpret such a model (Nuttli and Bolt (1969), Lilwall and Douglas (1969), Payo (1971)). In this case with 22 stations so close together it is difficult to invert the mathematical model into physically reliable structures. For each single subarray the deviations could for example be interpreted as being caused by a plane dipping interface with depth, dip and updip direction given from A, B,

TABLE 3.3

A, B and early direction for each subarray (see eq. 3.1). Only P-phase data used. Model 1 gives reduction in mean square deviations by using only A, that is, by just subtracting the normalized mean deviations for each subarray. Model 2 gives reduction mean square deviations by using the whole eq. 3.1.

Sub No.	Name	A	B	Early Direction	Model 1 Improvement (%)	Model 2 Improvement (%)
1	01A	-0.075	0.089 ± 0.031	72 ± 22	34.2	60.2
2	01B	-0.076	0.094 ± 0.030	112 ± 20	35.1	60.2
3	02B	-0.032	0.068 ± 0.017	134 ± 18	18.6	55.4
4	03B	-0.026	0.077 ± 0.025	108 ± 20	9.0	46.1
5	04B	-0.007	0.099 ± 0.040	69 ± 25	0.2	27.8
6	05B	-0.094	0.037 ± 0.021	78 ± 36	58.7	63.5
7	06B	-0.046	0.029 ± 0.020	109 ± 44	26.4	31.2
8	07B	-0.083	0.075 ± 0.036	44 ± 30	28.9	41.8
9	01C	-0.131	0.020 ± 0.023	179 ± 64	69.5	70.3
10	02C	-0.051	0.058 ± 0.023	132 ± 25	24.3	38.4
11	03C	0.150	0.055 ± 0.031	284 ± 35	58.4	62.1
12	04C	0.103	0.115 ± 0.019	251 ± 11	46.7	75.1
13	05C	0.104	0.131 ± 0.031	271 ± 14	32.1	58.1
14	06C	0.008	0.064 ± 0.028	68 ± 27	0.7	23.7
15	07C	0.004	0.126 ± 0.039	326 ± 20	0.1	33.1
16	08C	-0.064	0.038 ± 0.026	141 ± 43	27.0	31.4
17	09C	0.042	0.049 ± 0.027	171 ± 34	13.4	21.0
18	10C	0.127	0.095 ± 0.021	218 ± 14	57.0	74.4
19	11C	0.174	0.057 ± 0.020	234 ± 23	79.0	83.6
20	12C	0.099	0.101 ± 0.020	273 ± 12	46.1	70.5
21	13C	-0.061	0.119 ± 0.028	228 ± 15	24.6	64.8
22	14C	-0.066	0.036 ± 0.019	20 ± 32	48.0	55.5
Average					33.6 ± 22.4	52.2 ± 18.5

and the 'early direction' (eq. 3.1). However, it is quite impossible to combine these planes in a way such that all the 22 equations (3.1) could be satisfied. In Section 5 this point will be considered further by introducing a curved interface.

In Fig. 3.7 is shown a histogram of the deviations presented in Fig. 3.6. There is a skewness in the distributions and a test for normality also shows that this data cannot be accepted as having a normal distribution (at a 0.05 level).

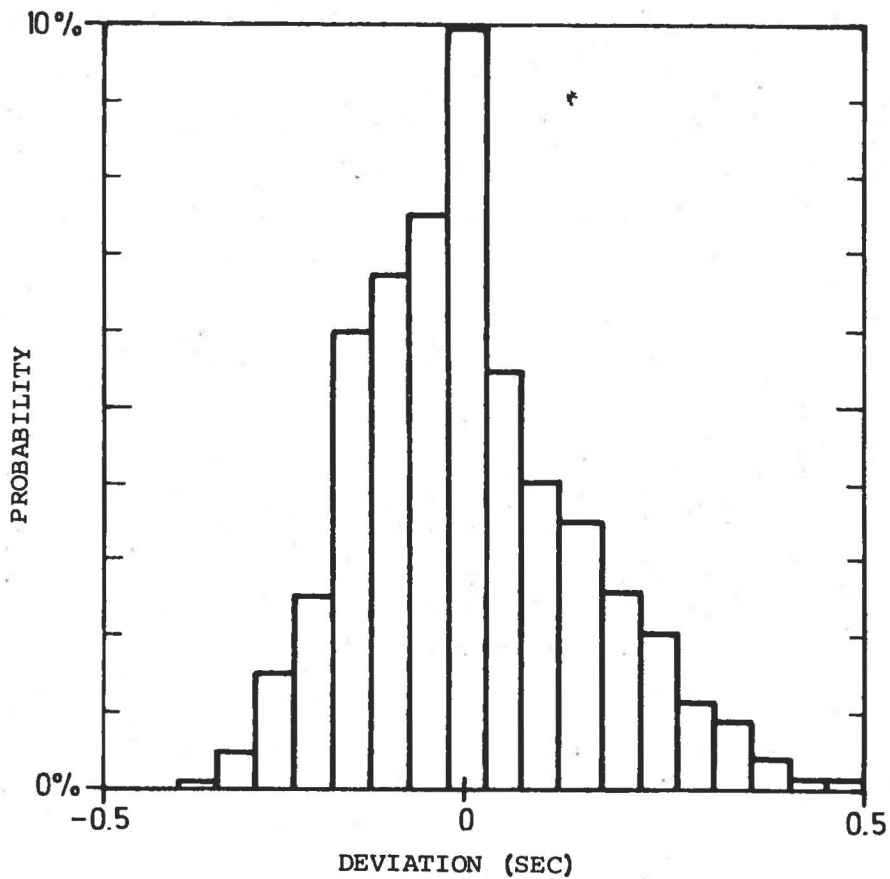


Fig. 3.7 Histogram of deviations.

4.1 Mislocation

From the foregoing data presentation it is obvious that the calibrations do have a profound influence on the location capability of the array. In order to get an estimate of this, the following procedure has been applied. For the part of the data based on P-phases the head and the tail of the arrows shown in Fig. 3.2 have been converted into real latitude and longitude, assuming epicenter depth of 33 kilometers. The distance between the two points is then calculated, and the cumulative distribution is finally found. This is presented in Fig. 4.1. Because of the skew data distribution, the average is of little interest. However, from Fig. 4.1 it is seen that for P-phases 10 per cent of the calibrations are less than 150 km, 10 per cent are greater than 1100 km and the median is 450 km. For the period from April 1972 until March 1973 Bungum and Husebye (1974) have reported a median location difference between NOAA and NORSAR epicenter solutions of 145 km for P-phases, while the 90% level was 490 km. It should here also be noted that until 30 November 1972, the old correction base was in use. The effect of the calibration vectors is thus quite obvious. The regions where NORSAR had the worst location performance were according to their paper Central America and Mid-Atlantic Ridge, which both were supplemented with several new nodes, so especially for these regions a better performance is expected in 1973.

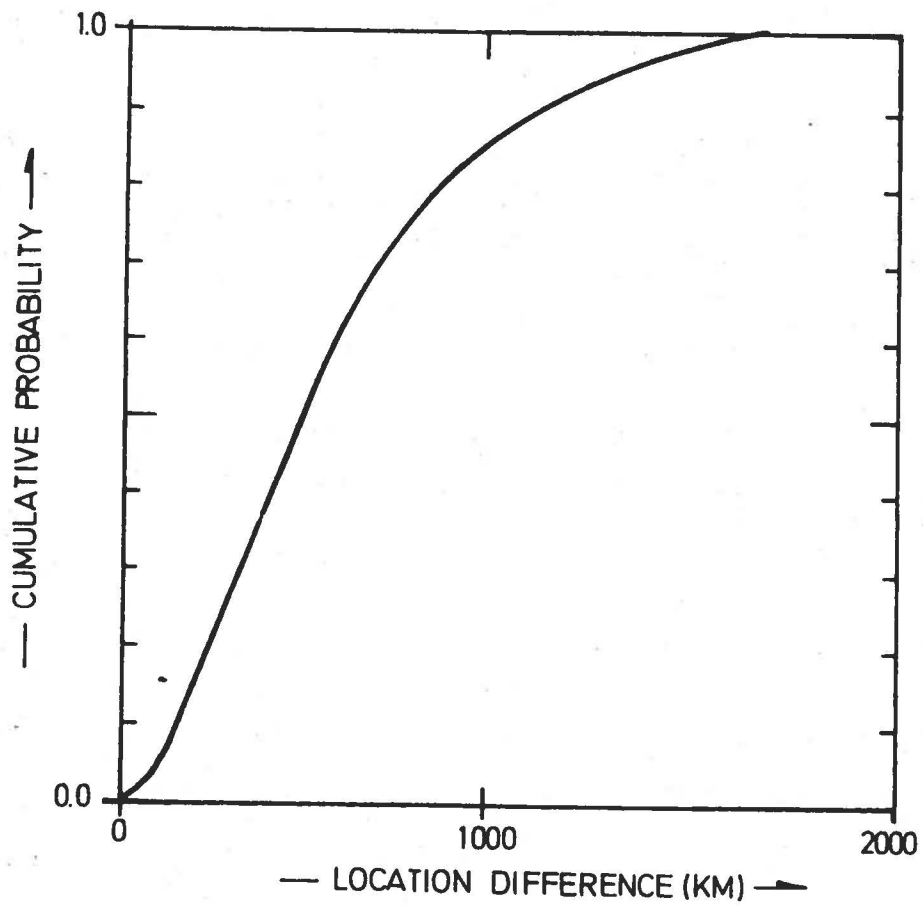


Fig. 4.1 Cumulative distribution of the length of the location calibration vectors transformed into real space. Only P-phase data are used.

4.2 SNR Gain

The array's event detection capabilities depend critically on the quality of the steering delay data used in the beamforming process. The loss in array beam gain due to erroneous time delays is frequency dependent and can be expressed as (Steinberg 1965):

$$\text{Loss(in dB)} = 170 (\sigma/\tau)^2 \quad (4.1)$$

where σ is the standard deviation in the time delay measurements, and τ is the dominant signal period. For P-phases Bungum and Husebye (1974) found a mean value of τ equal to 0.83 seconds. The standard deviation of the region corrections is 0.147 seconds. If these numbers are used in the equation (4.1), we find that the expected loss when no region corrections are used in beamforming is 5.3 dB.

The SNR gain from applying region corrections and calibrations has been calculated by analyzing 479 events randomly selected in the period November 1972 until September 1973. In the first case the procedure was to measure the difference in SNR between the beam this particular event was detected on (in the Detection Processor (DP)) and the beam DP would have used if no regional corrections had been available. The filter applied was the same as that used in DP in this period (1.2-3.2 Hz bandpass). The results for these calculations are presented in Fig. 4.2, Curve I. From this it is seen that without regional corrections 10% of the events would have a loss of 0.7 dB or less in DP while 10% would have a loss of 9.5 dB or more. This first number is only partially real, since the procedure applied necessarily implies that some noise detections have been included. It is therefore likely that the values given here is somewhat conservative and that therefore less than 5% of the events actually have

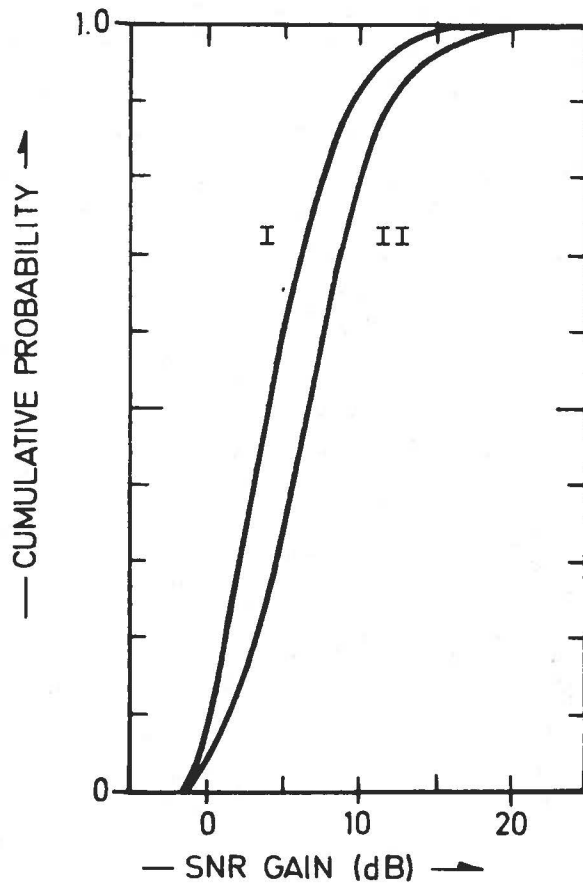


Fig. 4.2 Cumulative distribution of signal-to-noise (SNR) gain in DP. Curve I is for region corrections only, while Curve II gives the gain distribution when both region corrections and calibrations are applied.

a gain in SNR if no corrections were used. The median of the data set is 4.5 dB while the mean value is 5.2 dB. From formula 4.1 the theoretically expected value was 5.3 dB. From the considerations above, it is likely that the value of 5.2 dB should be moved somewhat upwards. The conclusion which can be drawn from this is that the corrections introduced are close to optimal. This of course does not mean that new nodes would be of no use.

The difference in SNR between the original DP beam and the beam DP would have used if neither calibrations nor region corrections had been available has also been

measured. The distribution for this is plotted in Curve II, Fig. 4.2. In this case it is seen that 10% of the events would have a loss of 1.5 dB or less, while 10% of the events would have a loss of 12.5 dB or more. The median for this distribution is 6.8 dB, while the mean is 7.4 dB. The mean SNR gain by applying only regional corrections was 5.2 dB. The location calibrations thus seem to give an SNR gain which in mean is 2.2 dB.

The mean length of the calibration vectors is 0.005 sec/km. From the response pattern of the array a mis-steering of 0.005 sec/km in slowness space is expected to imply a beam loss of approximately 3 dB when measured from the peak response and assuming a signal period of 0.83 seconds. The observed mean value of 2.2 dB thus at least quantitatively indicates that the calibrations behave fairly satisfactorily with regard to SNR improvement.

5.1 Introduction

As mentioned in Chapter 1, several hypotheses have been put forward in order to explain the types of deviations described here. Mainly they have been interpreted as the single or combined effect of lateral inhomogeneities at three different locations along the ray path. One, bending of the ray at the source side of the path, explained as the effect of down-dipping tectonic plates, two, bending of the ray at its deepest (turning) point, and three, inhomogeneities in the crust and upper mantle at the receiver side of the ray path. These last inhomogeneities have usually been interpreted as a Moho interface which deviates from the horizontal plane. More recently scattering caused by small random variations in the index of refraction have been found to be able to explain a large part of the anomalies observed at LASA (Aki 1973, Capon 1974). Such studies have also been performed at NORSAR (Capon and Berteussen 1973), where the conclusion so far is that the scattering in the upper mantle and crust under NORSAR is too strong to be explained by the Chernov theory (Chernov 1960). Further studies on this subject are in progress (Dahle et al 1974).

As mentioned before, the mantle-crust interface has been found to exhibit considerable variations in this area (Kanestrøm 1971). An experiment will therefore be made in order to find out how much of the deviations that possibly can be explained by a depth varying interface located somewhere in the crust or upper mantle beneath NORSAR. To be more specific, this interface will be given a reference depth of 33 km and the P-velocities below and above this interface are set to 8.2 and 6.6 km/sec respectively. The aim is then to find the curved interface which can explain as much as possible of the deviations which are observed.

5.2 Data

For this study we will recompute our region corrections so they give deviations relative to the predicted NOAA wavefront, that is:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{DEV}_{\text{NOAA}}(I) = & -(U_{X_{\text{NOAA}}} - U_{X_{\text{PWF}}}) \cdot X(I) & (5.1) \\ & -(U_{Y_{\text{NOAA}}} - U_{Y_{\text{PWF}}}) \cdot Y(I) \\ & + \text{DEV}(I) \end{aligned}$$

$\text{DEV}_{\text{NOAA}}(I)$ is the deviation for subarray I relative to the NOAA wavefront for the particular node considered, and the rest of the symbols should be self-explanatory. The part of these deviations which were from P-waves were then averaged in intervals of 10 degrees in azimuth. Fig. 51. shows the average of this data (the contours drawn). The arrows give the 'early direction', calculated as in Section 3.3. The length of the arrows are proportional to the factor B in equation 3.1.

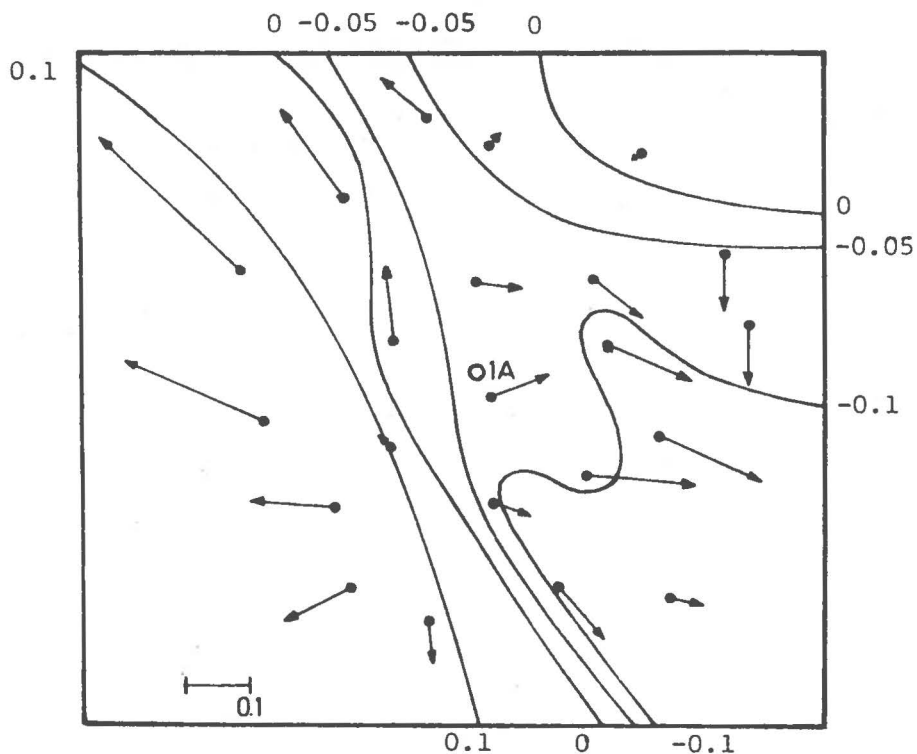


Fig. 5.1 Contours for average deviations relative NOAA wavefronts (sec) Only P-phase data has been used. The length of the arrow is proportional to B in equation 3.1 while the direction gives the early direction.

5.3 Data Analysis

In section 3.2 the dipping plane which best could explain the NORSAR calibrations was found to have an updip direction of 94° clockwise from north and a dip angle of 6° when a velocity contrast of 6.6/8.2 was assumed. This dipping plane is able to explain 17.9 per cent of the squared deviations relative to NOAA (Table 5.1). The equation for this plane may be written

$$Z = A + B \cdot X + C \cdot Y \quad (5.2)$$

The values for A, B and C are given in row 1 on Table 5.1. Our coordinate system is then centered in the array's center with X-axis towards east, Y-axis towards north and Z-axis upwards.

Since a dipping plane cannot satisfactorily explain the deviations, we will go further and try a second degree interface. The equation for this is:

$$Z = A + BX + CY + DX^2 + EXY + FY^2 \quad (5.3)$$

A first approximation of the coefficients A, B, ..., F are found in the following way. For each set of deviations there also is given a theoretical azimuth and apparent velocity. This makes it possible to calculate where the ray is expected to cross the horizontal Moho interface with depth equal to 33 km. The depth (Z) and (X,Y) coordinates of this point are then changed so as to make the corresponding deviation equal to zero. This procedure will give us a set of 22 points (X,Y,Z) for each of the normalized data points. Through this

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TABLE 5.1

Table of coefficients for best plane, second degree interface and third degree interface. Per cent reduction in mean squared deviations is also listed for the three models.

Model	A	B·10 ³	C·10 ³	D·10 ³	E·10 ³	F·10 ³	G·10 ⁶	H·10 ⁶	I·10 ⁶	J·10 ⁶	% Gain
Plane	-33.0	90.4	22								17.9
2nd degree	-33.4	99.3	-7.9	0.47	-2.0	0.3					21.4
3rd degree	-33.3	222.9	13.1	0.003	-1.55	0.17	33.	-13.5	-51.0	-3.9	24.3

set of points is then fitted, by the method of least squares, a second degree polynomial as described in eq. 5.3. This polynomial is our first estimate of the equation which describes the interface we are searching. When the interface can be described in this way, ray-tracing is especially simple and not very time-consuming on a computer. The next step has therefore been to vary all the coefficients in eq. 5.3 systematically. For each set of coefficients conventional ray-tracing has been applied in order to find the deviations this particular interface would give for our data points. The best interface is then the interface where the sum of the squared differences between predicted and observed deviations has been reduced to a minimum. The coefficients for this surface are listed in row 2, Table 5.1. As also can be seen from Table 5.1, this interface is able to explain only 21.4% of the squared deviations. The depth contours for this interface are plotted in Fig. 5.2.

The next step was to repeat the above procedure except that this time a polynomial of third order was used.

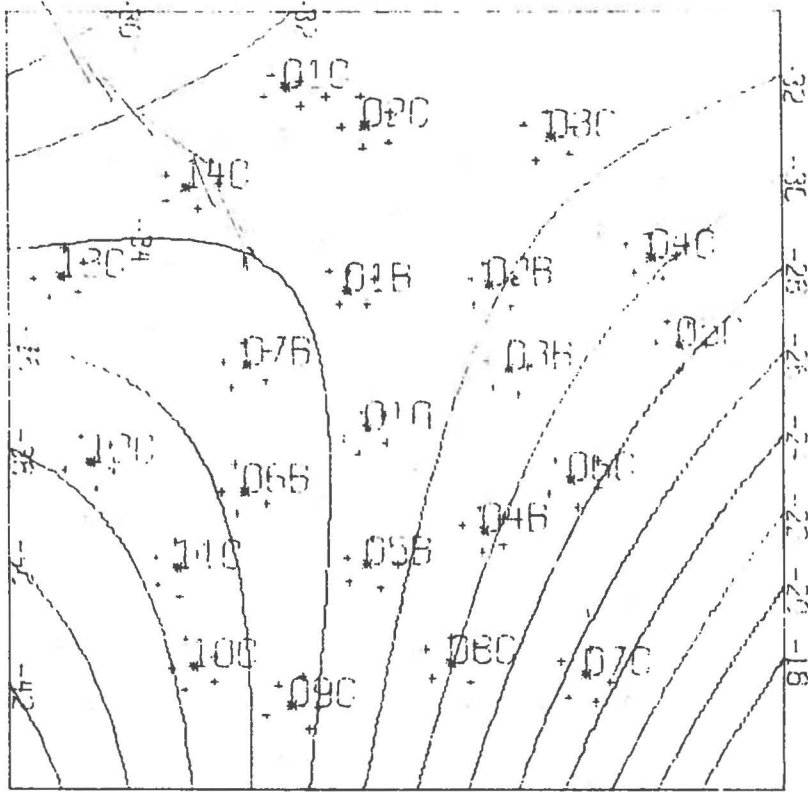


Fig. 5.2 Depth contours for best 2nd degree interface.
 $V_C = 6.6$ km/sec, $V_M = 8.2$ km/sec. The NORSAR array
 configuration is also included.

The equation for this is:

$$Z = A + BX + CY + DX^2 + EXY + FY^2 + GX^3 \quad (4.4)$$

$$+ HX^2Y + IXY^2 + JY^3$$

The coefficients for this interface are listed in row 3 of Table 5.1. This interface is able to explain 24.3% of the observed squared deviations. The contours for this are drawn in Fig. 5.3.

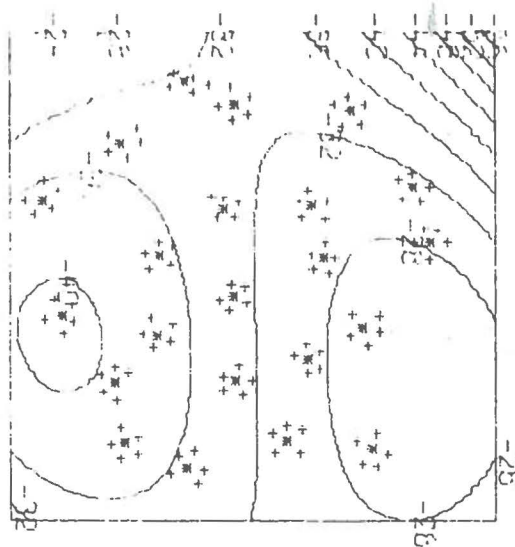


Fig. 5.3 Depth contours for best 3rd degree interface.
 $V_C = 6.6$ km/sec, $V_M = 8.2$ km/sec.

5.4 Discussion

As seen from Figs. 5.2 and 5.3, the interfaces found do exhibit such large elevation differences that their geophysical reality is questionable. To increase the order of the polynomial to higher degrees than 3 cannot be done because we then will end up with such a detailed map that simple ray theory may not be used. If the velocity in the crust above the interface is set to 6.2 km/sec, a second degree polynomial found in the same way as described in the above section will be able to explain 24.9% of the squared deviations. The contours for this interface are shown in Fig. 5.4. The conclusion is that it is not possible to construct a geophysically trustworthy interface which is able to explain more than say 25% of the sum of the squared deviations observed at NORSAR. It thus seems that in order to explain the bulk of the deviations observed, other models have to be introduced; that is, models where wave scattering and possibly multipathing take a more important part.

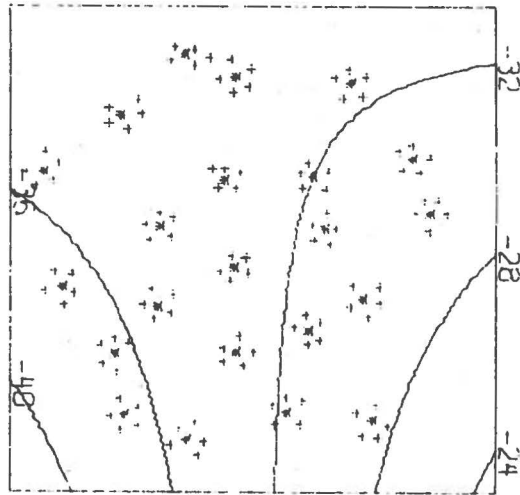


Fig. 5.4 Depth contours for best 2nd degree interface.
 $V_C = 6.2$ km/sec, $V_M = 8.2$ km/sec.

To make it quite clear, the figures 5.2, 5.3 and 5.4 are not thought of as representing a real interface. The intention with these figures and the section above is to show that the kind of deviations observed exhibits such large variations that they cannot be explained satisfactorily by any kind of relatively simple interfaces. Thus the effect of varying Moho depth cannot be dominant in this data base. In order to say something about the shape of the Moho interface, other types of data therefore have to be used (Kanestrøm 1971).

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PROGRAM GUIDE

A subroutine SPREGC is available for those wanting to use NORSAR's corrections and calibrations. This routine has to be run on NORSAR disk N-13 (where the data is stored) and accepts the following calls.

1. Decalibration

CALL SUDCAL(UXC,UYC,UXO,UYO)

Input: UXC,UYC (sec/km), slowness components corresponding to theoretical (correct) event location.

Output: UXO,UYO (sec/km), expected observed slowness components.

2. Calibration

CALL SUCAL(UXC,UYC,UXO,UYO)

Input: UXO,UYO (sec/km), observed slowness components.

Output: UXC,UYC (sec/km), calibrated slowness components, to be used when transforming the observation to latitude and longitude.

3. Region Corrections

CALL SPREGC(UX,UY,DEV)

Input: UX,UY (sec/km), slowness components.

Output: DEV(I), I=1,22, region corrections for subarray 1 to 22 in seconds.