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# VII. SUMMARY OF TECHNICAL REPORTS / PAPERS PUBLISHED

# VII.1 Yield determination of Soviet underground nuclear explosions at the Shagan River Test Site

### Introduction

The signing of the Threshold Test Ban Treaty (TTBT) by the United States and the Soviet Union in 1974, which limits the size of underground nuclear explosions, focused attention on methods for estimating the size of explosions. Since 1974, considerable research efforts have been devoted to developing various methods of yield estimation, and much progress has been achieved. Reviews of some of these developments may be found in the report OTA-ISC-361 (1988) published by the U.S. Congress, Office of Technology Assessment, and by Bache (1982), Heusinkveld (1982), Lamb (1988) and Storey et al (1982).

In this paper, we focus on the problem of determining yields by teleseismic methods for a set of explosions conducted at the Shagan River test site near Semipalatinsk, USSR. We have analyzed all the events reported by the ISC or NEIC to have occurred at this site between 1965 and 1988, a total of 96 events. As a basis for the yield estimation we have used body-wave magnitude (mb) determined from global network data as well as two additional explosion source size estimators. The first additional method is the long-term level of the reduced displacement potential,  $\Psi_{\infty}$ , which in this paper is measured from the initial explosion-generated P pulse recorded at four UK array stations. The second additional method is based on estimating the energy of the Lg wave train recorded at the NORSAR and Gräfenberg arrays for each explosion. The emphasis of the paper is on assessing the combined utility of these three methods to obtain relative yields of explosions, but we will also briefly address the estimation of absolute yields from the available seismic information.

## The Shagan River test site

The principal Soviet testing area for nuclear explosions is located near the city of Semipalatinsk in Eastern Kazakhstan. Marshall, Bache and Lilwall (1985) identify three distinct test sites within this area: Shagan River, Degelen Mountains and Konystan. After 1976, all of the largest Soviet nuclear tests have been conducted at the Shagan River site, and our discussions in this paper will focus on this area.

A review of available information on the tectonics and geology of the Eastern Kazakhstan area can be found in Leith (1987). Geologically, he describes the test area as located within the Kazakh fold system, which is a complex of deformed Paeozoic rocks along the eastern edge of the so-called "Kazakh shield". Seismically, the region is characterized by relatively modest earthquake activity, but it is noteworthy that some of the explosions at the Shagan River test site have been accompanied by a significant amount of tectonic release (Helle and Rygg, 1984; Given and Mellman, 1986).

A map summarizing the surface geology of the Shagan River area is shown in Fig. VII.1.1. This map is based on imagery from the SPOT satellite as well as information available from the literature (Sukhonikov, Akhmetov and Orlov, 1973; Izrael, 1972; Peyre and Mossakovsky, 1982). A particularly noteworthy feature is the presence of two approximately parallel faults extending across parts of the test site. One of these, the Chinrau fault, appears to show evidence of recent offset on SPOT imagery to the region northwest of Shagan River (Leith, 1987).

Also identified from the satellite observations, and indicated on Fig. VII.1.1, is a crater formed by the explosion of 15 January 1965. This location has been used as a reference point in the relocation of explosions in the test area (Marshall et al, 1985), using the Joint Epicenter Determination method described by Douglas (1967). In the further analysis presented in this paper, we will refer to epicenters calculated from this procedure to the extent such data area available.

# Data base

The data base for this study consists of seismic recordings for 96 presumed nuclear explosions at the Shagan River test area, occurring from 1965 through 1988 and located by the ISC or NEIC.

Data sources are the four UK array stations: (Eskdalemuir (ESK), Scotland, Yellowknife (YKA), Canada, Gauribidanur (GBA), India, and Warramunga (WRA), Australia, in addition to the two large arrays NORSAR in Norway and Gräfenberg (GRF) in the Federal Republic of Germany.

The four UK arrays have been in operation since the mid-1960s and are described in detail by Mowat and Burch (1977). Briefly, these are medium-aperture arrays (10-30 km diameter), with 19 or 20 verticalcomponent Willmore SP seismometers deployed in two roughly perpendicular lines. Their outputs are recorded on analog or digital magnetic tape. The sampling rate, for both digitally recorded data and digitized analog data, is 20 samples per second.

The NORSAR array (Bungum, Husebye and Ringdal, 1971) was established in 1970, and originally comprised 22 subarrays, deployed over an area of 100 km diameter. Since 1976 the number of operational subarrays has been 7, comprising altogether 42 vertical-component SP sensors (type HS-10). In this paper, analysis has been restricted to data from these 7 subarrays. Sampling rate for the NORSAR SP data is 20 samples per second, and all data are recorded on digital magnetic tape.

The Gräfenberg array (Harjes and Seidl, 1978) was established in 1976, and today comprises 13 broadband seismometer sites, three of which are 3-component systems. The instrument response is flat to velocity from about 20 seond period to 5 Hz. Sampling rate is 20 samples per second, and the data are recorded on digital magnetic tape.

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### Source size estimators

Network m<sub>b</sub> magnitude

Body-wave magnitudes averaged over a well-distributed global network have traditionally been the most commonly used measure for yield estimation purposes. In recent years the maximum-likelihood technique (Ringdal, 1976; Christoffersson, 1980) has become widely accepted as a means to obtain m<sub>b</sub> estimates that avoid bias due to detection threshold characteristics at individual network stations.

Maximum-likelihood m<sub>b</sub> for the explosions in the present data base have been computed at Blacknest applying the method of Lilwall, Marshall and Rivers (1988). Note that this method uses a standardized set of stations and includes individual station corrections for the Shagan River area. The station observations given in the Bulletin of the ISC have been used in these computations, except for events after 1986, where the data have been obtained from the NEIC monthly earthquake data report.

Reduced displacement potential,  $\Psi_{\infty}$ 

The reduced displacement potential  $\Psi(t)$  is a convenient mathematical description of the source function of an explosion, assuming a spherical wave in an ideal, infinite homogeneous, isotropic elastic solid. It is directly related to the moment function  $M_0(t)$  of the explosion as follows (Mueller, 1973):

$$M_0(t) = 4\Pi \rho v_p^2 \Psi(t)$$

(1)

where  $\rho$  is the density of the medium and  $v_p$  is the compressional wave velocity.

The long-term (static) level of  $M_0(t)$  is often denoted the seismic moment of the explosion, and is a measure of the seismic source size.

Thus, the long-term level of  $\Psi(t)$ ,  $\Psi_{\infty}$ , can be used to estimate source size, assuming that the source material properties are known.

The method used in this paper for estimating  $\Psi_{\infty}$  is based on UK array data and has been described in detail by Stewart (1988).

# Lg magnitude

The seismic Lg wave propagates in the continental lithosphere and can be observed from large explosions as far away as 5000 km in shield and stable platform areas (Nuttli, 1973; Baumgardt, 1985). Lg is generally considered to consist of a superposition of many higher-mode surface waves of group velocities near 3.5 km/s, and its radiation is therefore expected to be more isotropic than that of P waves. Thus, full azimuthal coverage is not essential for reliable determination of Lg magnitude. Furthermore, Lg is not affected by lateral heterogeneities in the upper mantle, which can produce strong focussing/defocussing effects on P-waves, and therefore contribute to a significant uncertainty in P-based  $m_b$  estimates.

Nuttli (1986a) showed that the amplitudes of Lg near 1 second period provide a stable estimate of magnitude,  $m_b(Lg)$  and explosion yield for Nevada Test Site explosions. He also applied his measurement methods to Semipalatinsk explosions (Nuttli, 1986b), using available WWSSN records to estimate  $m_b(Lg)$  and yields of these events.

Ringdal (1983) first suggested a method to determine Lg magnitudes based on digitally recorded array data. The main idea was to improve the precision of such estimates by averaging over time (computing RMS values over an extended Lg window), frequency (using a bandpass filter covering all frequencies with significant Lg energy) and space (by averaging individual array elements). The method, which can also be used for P coda magnitude estimation, has been described by Ringdal and Hokland (1987) and Ringdal and Fyen (1988).

#### Data analysis

Results from applying the analysis methods described in the preceding section are summarized in Table VII.1.1. The following comments apply:

Origin times and epicentral information of each event are those calculated at Blacknest using ISC and NEIC data for events up to and including 1985, and are taken from NEIC listings for later events. The magnitude  $(m_b)$  values have been computed as earlier described.

For each event an indicator is given corresponding to a subdivision of the Shagan River area into three main areas. These are defined by the two faults marked on Fig. VII.1.1 and an assumed prolongation of the stippled lines indicated on that figure. The three areas are denoted "NE" (Northeast), "TZ" (transition zone between the faults) and "SW" (Southwest), respectively.

Estimates of log  $\Psi_{\infty}$  in Table VII.1.1 are network averages using UK array data. The number of stations available and standard deviations of the estimates are listed for each event. Individual array measurements for most of the events may be found in Stewart (1988).

NORSAR and Gräfenberg (GRF) Lg magnitude estimates are noise-corrected array averages, obtained by applying individual bias corrections for each array element. The number of operative array channels are given for each event. Standard deviations of the array averages have been computed taking into account both the number of sensors and the signalto-noise ratios (for details, see Ringdal and Fyen, 1988). Estimates have been made for all events for which array recordings were available, except those with too low Lg signal-to-noise ratio to allow reliable measurement. Table VII.1.1 also contains weighted averages (discussed later in this section) of the NORSAR and GRF Lg magnitudes. The Lg magnitude estimates in Table VII.1.1 are, except for a few minor revisions, consistent with those presented in earlier Semiannual Reports. We have not included corrections for epicentral distance differences in this paper, since these are small to begin with, and also difficult to estimate accurately given the limited knowledge of local attenuation in the Shagan River area.

As noted by Ringdal and Fyen (1988), the Lg array estimates at NORSAR and Gräfenberg may be made with very high precision, due to the large number of channels (up to 42 and 13, respectively). Thus, the standard deviation across NORSAR of individual measurements is typically 0.07 magnitude units for uncorrected data, and 0.035 units when individual channel corrections are applied. The precision of NORSAR averages are thus better than 0.01 units for high SNR events, but somewhat poorer at lower SNR. At Gräfenberg, the standard deviation of the mean values is typically 2-3 times that of NORSAR, depending on the number of available channels. It should be noted that this high precision does not necessarily imply a correspondingly high degree of accuracy in estimating Lg source energy since the effects of near-source geology remain unknown.

In the comparison which follows of the various source size estimators, we will in particular focus on the subdivision of the Shagan River site into apparently geophysically distinct subregions. Marshall et al (1985) discuss this feature in detail, showing that explosions in the northeast and southwest portions of the test site produce distinctly different P waveforms when recorded at the UK arrays. We note that their northeast region also includes the area denoted by us as a transition zone (TZ). We will pursue this subdivision further by analyzing the differences between P-based and Lg-based magnitude measurements, and later discuss the implications for yield estimation.

Figs. VII.1. 5 through VII.1.8 are scatter plots comparing pairs of source size estimators. In all these figures, we use the following

symbols for the three subareas: open squares (SW), filled squares (NE) and crosses (TZ).

We first compare the two P-based estimators,  $m_b$  and  $\log \Psi_{\infty}$ . Fig. VII.1.2 shows that they are quite consistent, with no systematic difference between the SW, TZ and NE events. In assessing the scatter in this plot, we must take into account that many of the  $\Psi_{\infty}$  estimates are based on data from only one or two arrays (Table VII.1.1). The least-squares fit to this data set, assuming no errors in  $m_b$ , is:

 $\log \Psi_{\infty} = 1.1 m_{\rm b} - 2.57$  (± 0.11) (2)

where the standard deviation of 0.11 refers to the set of residuals in  $\log \Psi_{\infty}$  relative to the straight line fit.

We next compare the two Lg-based measurements. Fig. VII.1.3 shows a scatter plot of NORSAR versus GRF Lg magnitudes for all events (54) measured at both arrays. The straight line represents a least squares fit to the data, assuming no errors in NORSAR magnitudes, and is given by

 $m_{Lg}(GRF) = 1.15 \cdot m_{Lg}(NORSAR) - 0.90 \quad (\pm 0.042)$  (3)

We note that the two arrays show excellent consistency, although there is some increase in the scattering at low magnitudes. There is no significant separation between events from NE, TZ and SW areas with regard to the relative Lg magnitudes observed at the two arrays.

Fig. VII.1.4 shows a subset of these data (35 events), using only events for which we have the most reliable Lg estimates (at least 6 stations for each array, and estimated standard deviation of  $m_{Lg}$  less than 0.04). We note that the scatter is significantly reduced (the standard deviation in the vertical direction is now only 0.031 units, compared to 0.042 units for the entire data set), thus emphasizing the excellent consistency between NORSAR and Gräfenberg. The slope (1.15) of the straight-line fit in Figs. VII.1.3 and VII.1.4 is slightly greater than 1.00, a tendency also noted by Ringdal and Fyen (1988). The interpretation of this observation is somewhat uncertain; a possible explanation is scaling differences in the Lg source spectrum (Kværna and Ringdal, 1988), in combination with the response differences of the NORSAR and GRF instruments. It is interesting in this connection to note that Patton (1988) observed significant differences between stations in slopes for M(Lg) versus yield, when studying a network of stations recording Nevada Test Site explosions.

In the comparison which follows of P and Lg-based magnitudes, we find it convenient to use as reference a weighted average of the NORSAR and GRF Lg magnitudes. This average is obtained by first using equation (3) to adjust the GRF values to "equivalent" NORSAR magnitudes, and then use the inverse variance obtained from Table VII.1.1 as weighting factors in the averaging procedure. The resulting values, which we denote  $m_{Lg}$ , are listed as the rightmost column in Table VII.1.1.

In Fig. VII.1.5,  $m_b$  is plotted versus  $m_{Lg}$  defined above for all events with both measurements available. Three lines, with slopes restricted to 1.0, have been drawn, representing the three subregions. To obtain improved reliability in calculating the intercepts, we have in that calculation used only events of  $m_{Lg} \ge 5.5$ , and required that NORSAR Lg measurements are available. The resulting relationships are:

SW	region:	$m_{b} - m_{Lg} + 0.05$	( <u>+</u> 0.041)	. •	(4a)
ΤZ	region:	$m_b = m_{Lg} - 0.02$	(± 0.031)		(4b)
NE	region:	$m_{b} = m_{Lg} - 0.10$	( <u>+</u> 0.047)		(4c)

Taking into account the number of observations in each group, the average bias estimates  $(m_b - m_{Lg})$  and their precisions are: 0.05  $\pm$  0.007 (SW region), - 0.02  $\pm$  0.009 (TZ region) and - 0.10  $\pm$  0.012 (NE region). In light of the low standard deviations, the differences in bias values are highly significant, and we note that the NE and SW regions differ by as much as 0.15 magnitude units in this regard.

Fig. VII.1.6 shows a plot of  $m_{Lg}$  versus "adjusted"  $m_b$ , using the regional correction factors given above. We note that the consistency is excellent, although there are two outliers in the plot (Events 25 and 28 of Table VII.1.1). Event 25 is small, and both the  $m_b$  and  $m_{Lg}$  measurements for this event are uncertain. Event 28 has an  $m_{Lg}$  measurement based on only 3 GRF channels, with no NORSAR data available, and is therefore less precisely determined than the majority of data points. The standard deviation of the  $m_b-m_{Lg}$  differences in Fig. VII.1.6 is 0.050 magnitude units, which is reduced to 0.039 units if the two outliers are disregarded.

Fig. VII.1.7 shows a comparison of  $m_{Lg}$  to log  $\Psi_{\infty}$  observations. We note a tendency for the SW events to exhibit relatively larger values of log  $\Psi_{\infty}$  than events from the other two regions. However, this bias is less pronounced than that previously observed for  $m_b$  versus  $m_{Lg}$ . Partly, this is due to increased scatter in the data, since the log  $\Psi_{\infty}$  measurements are based only on a few observations. Nevertheless, it would appear that log  $\Psi_{\infty}$  is less sensitive than  $m_b$  to regional bias effects. This can be explained by the longer wavelengths used in log  $\Psi_{\infty}$ measurements in combination with the fact that log  $\Psi_{\infty}$  to a large extent avoids the pP contamination that may adversely influence  $m_b$  measurements.

Requiring at least 3 individual array measurements for log  $\Psi_{\infty}$ , and using a slope of 0.9 suggested from Fig. VII.1.2 and the general consistency between  $m_b$  and  $m_{Lg}$ , we obtain the following two relations (marked on the figure)

SW :  $m_{Lg} = 0.9 \cdot \log \Psi_{\infty} + 2.35$  (± 0.05) (5a) NE and TZ :  $m_{Lg} = 0.9 \cdot \log \Psi_{\infty} + 2.43$  (± 0.075) (5b)

Note that the NE and TZ regions have been grouped together in this case, as we in our analysis have not been able to identify any systematic differences for this data set.

Fig. VII.1.8 shows magnitude differences  $m_b - m_{Lg}$  plotted as a function of event location, using only events of  $m_b \ge 5.5$  and requiring NORSAR Lg data to be available. The subdivision of the test site as earlier discussed is marked on the figure. The systematic differences, in particular between the NE and SW parts of the test site, are clearly seen. If we attempt to explain this anomaly as resulting from the systematic differences in P recordings only, we obtain a relative  $m_b(P)$ bias of about 0.15  $m_b$  units between these two areas. We consider this a realistic interpretation, since it is well known that P-waves are subject to strong focusing effects in the upper mantle, both underneath the source and the receiver. However, the possibility of an  $m_b(Lg)$  bias contributing to the mentioned difference cannot be entirely ruled out.

## Yield estimation

Yield of the 15 January 1965 explosion

Determination of the appropriate <u>absolute</u> magnitude-yield relationship for explosions at a specific test site requires knowledge of the true yields and testing conditions of some number of representative explosions at that particular site. In the case of the Shagan River nuclear test site, thus far, there has been a discussion in the literature of the yield of only one explosion. This explosion was conducted on 15 January 1965 within the Soviet Peaceful Nuclear Explosion program for the purpose of constructing a reservoir.

We have reviewed available data on this explosion, and obtained a yield estimate which we will use in calibrating the various magnitude-yield relationships. Clearly, in the absence of more detailed calibration data, the relationships will have a significant uncertainty. This applies especially in the absolute yield levels, whereas the <u>relative</u> yield estimates between explosions will be somewhat better constrained.

In IAEA proceedings, the yield of the 1965 explosion is quoted as "above 100 kt". Myasnikov et al (1970) indicates that the scaled

apparent radius is 51 m/kt<sup>1/3,4</sup>, which for a crater radius of 204 m gives a yield of 111 kt. Myasnikov et al (1970) uses a scaled depth of burst for this explosion equal to 50 m/kt<sup>1/3,4</sup>. The depth of emplacement is reported to be 200 m (Kedrovskiy, 1970; Izrael, 1972; Myasnikov et al, 1970), which corresponds to the same yield estimate. For the purposes of the work presented here, the yield of the 15 January 1965 explosion is taken to be 111 kt.

# Available seismic data

Turning now to the question of relating this yield to the observed data, we first note that the 1965 explosion differs from all the other explosions in our data base by not being fully contained. This means that the interference effects between P and pP will be different for this event and the others.

Our  $\Psi_{\infty}$  measurements rely on the characteristics of the initial positive P-pulse of the explosion, and are therefore less affected by the free surface reflection. However, our m<sub>b</sub> estimate of the 15 January 1965 explosion is likely biased low. The actual bias may, from theoretical considerations, typically approach 0.1-0.2 m<sub>b</sub> units (Marshall et al, 1979; McLaughlin et al, 1988).

We have reviewed available data for 46 Shagan River explosions recorded at EKA, comparing the maximum peak-to-peak amplitude (c) (the phase which is normally used for magnitude estimation) and the initial zeroto-peak amplitude (a). The average values of  $r = \log (c/a)$  for contained explosions were 0.78 (SW), 0.77 (TZ) and 0.72 (NE), with an overall mean of r = 0.75. The corresponding value for the 15 January 1965 explosion was r = 0.62.

Assuming that the initial pulse is unaffected by pP, this would suggest that a correction factor of about 0.13  $m_b$  units would be appropriate. Since the uncorrected  $m_b$  value for the 1965 explosion was 5.87, we consequently obtain an estimated  $m_b$  value of 6.00 for a contained

explosion of the same size as the 15 January 1965 event. We note that McLaughlin et al (1988) obtained a similar correction factor (0.13) based on theoretical considerations, whereas their observational data indicate a slightly higher value of 0.16 (McLaughlin, personal communcation).

No Lg measurements are available for NORSAR or GRF for the 1965 event. Nuttli (1986b) estimates  $m_{Lg} = 5.87$  for this explosion, but we note that his estimates for events before 1979 tend to be lower (by 0.08 magnitude units on the average) than NORSAR  $m_{Lg}$  observations, and his value would therefore correspond to a NORSAR  $m_{Lg}$  of about 5.95.

# Magnitude-yield relationship

Our basic assumption will be that  $m_{Lg}$ , as a yield estimator, is largely independent of the geological variations within the Shagan River test site. This suggests that a single yield-magnitude relationship would be appropriate, and we ill in the following assume a relation of the form

 $m_{Lg} = 0.9 \log Y + k$ 

where k will be estimated using data from the 15 January 1965 explosion. The slope of 0.9 in (6) is consistent with our previous relations between log  $\Psi_{\infty}$ ,  $m_{\rm b}$  and  $m_{\rm Lg}$ , taking into account that log  $\Psi_{\infty}$  has previously been found to scale to logY with a slope of 1 (Stimpson, 1988; Gillbanks et al, 1989).

Since the NORSAR or GRF  $m_{Lg}$  for the 15 January 1965 explosion is not known, we need to estimate it indirectly, and then insert the value in (6) for Y = 111 kt in order to obtain an estimate of k. For this purpose, we use the previously discussed estimates of  $m_b$ , log  $\Psi_{\infty}$  and  $m_{Lg}$  (Nuttli), with the proper adjustments for regional and other bias factors. 48

(6)

- (i) For  $m_b$ , the value of 6.00 for an explosion in the TZ region corresponds (by 4b) to  $m_{Lg} = 6.02$ .
- (ii) For log  $\Psi_{\infty}$ , the value of 3.87 in the TZ region corresponds (by 5b) to  $m_{Lg} = 5.91$ .
- (iii) For Nuttli's  $m_{Lg}$ , the value of 5.87 corresponds, as earlier mentioned, to NORSAR  $m_{Lg} = 5.95$ .

The average (5.96) of these three values is then taken as our best estimate of  $m_{Lg}$  for a fully contained explosion of Y = 111 kt. Inserted in (6), this gives k = 4.12, i.e.:

 $m_{Lg} = 0.9 \log Y + 4.12$ 

In line with our previous considerations, the formula (7) will then be applicable to the entire test site and this enables us to estimate yields for all explosions for which  $m_{Lg}$  has been determined.

Supplementary yield estimates from  $m_b$  and log  $\Psi_{\infty}$  can now be calculated by using (7) in conjunction with the regionally based formulas (4a-c) and (5a-b).

We obtain, by direct substitution for m<sub>b</sub>:

SW	region	:	$m_{b} = 0.9 \cdot 10$	рд Y + 4.17	(8a)
ΤZ	region	:	$m_{b} = 0.9 \cdot 1c$	og Y + 4.10	(8b)
NE	region	:	$m_b = 0.9 \cdot 1c$	g Y + 4.02	(8c)

and for log  $\Psi_{\infty}$ :

SW	region	:	$\log \Psi_{\infty} = \log Y + 1.97$	(9a)
NE	and TZ regions	:	$\log \Psi_{\infty} = \log Y + 1.88$	(9b)

(7)

We note that the constant terms in equations (9a-b) are between the values earlier determined for water-saturated rock at the Nevada Test Site (Gillbanks et al, 1989) and granite at the French test site in S. Algeria (Stimpson, 1988), which were 1.8 and 2.0, respectively.

Table VII.1.2 summarizes yield estimates of individual Shagan River explosions, using the formulas developed earlier. Both P and Lg-based estimates are listed, together with their (logarithmic) average value for each event. The P-based yields represent a weighted average between  $m_b$  and log  $\Psi_{\infty}$  estimates, using the inverse variances as weighting factors. Here, we use for log  $\Psi_{\infty}$ , the standard deviations listed in Table VII.1.1, and for  $m_b$  a standard deviation of 0.04, which is the average of the deviations relative to NORSAR  $m_b(Lg)$  within each of the three regions.

#### Discussion

A method, combining several measurements of the radiated seismic energy of underground nuclear explosions, has been developed which offers the possibility for precise yield estimates in a relative sense. A reliable assessment of the results presented here would require access to independently measured yields, which, with the exception of the data on the 1965 explosion given here, currently is not available. We note, however, that the yield estimate quoted by Sykes and Ekström (1989) of 115-122 kt for the explosion of 9/14/88 compares closely with the values of 113-117 kt derived independently in this study.

It has been noted in this paper that the estimation of the <u>absolute</u> values of the yields by the method presented here relies on knowledge of the yield and geophysical conditions of a single explosion. The estimation of <u>absolute</u> yields by this method relies on a number of critical assumptions, including the assumption that the yield value taken in this study is the appropriate yield, the assumption of correcting the bodywaves for depth of burial effects, the assumption of the equivalent Lg value of the 1965 explosion, and the assumption that

the corrected magnitude values for the 1965 explosion are representative of explosions in that area. Incorrect assumptions in these areas would lead to different yield estimates than those given in Table VII.1.1. For instance, a 10% increase in the assumed yield of the 1965 explosion would result in a 10% increase in the predicted yields in Table VII.1.1.

Our measurements on  $\Psi_{\infty}$  show general consistency with maximum likelihood  $m_b$  estimates from a global network, and have the advantage of requiring only a few stations for reliable measurement. Furthermore, the associated estimates of P-pulse rise time and duration provide important information related to source corner frequency and near-source geology. These parameters, as discussed by Stewart (1988), are useful for identifying systematic differences between the NE and SW Shagan areas, although determining the source of these differences would require more information on site geology than is currently available.

The  $m_{Lg}$  measurements presented in this paper, based on NORSAR and Gräfenberg array recordings, show excellent promise to provide very precise relative yields of individual explosions, but would again require calibration data to determine more reliably the absolute yields. Part of the reasons for this high precision lies in the fact that our Lg magnitudes, as discussed before, are based on averaging the observed Lg signals both in time, frequency and space. The basic assumption is that Lg generation at the source is largely azimuth independent and also independent of local variations in geology.

Because of the large distances (more than 4000 km) from Semipalatinsk to NORSAR and Gräfenberg, reliable measurements of Lg magnitudes can only be made at these arrays for explosions of approximately  $m_b = 5.5$ or greater. This corresponds to about 30-40 kilotons for fully coupled explosions, depending on the location within the test site. In order to apply the method to smaller events, seismograph stations at shorter epicentral distances, with good Lg propagation paths, must be avail-

able. Again, each station must be individually calibrated in order to obtain reliable estimates.

This paper has demonstrated that observations from three distinct subregions of the Shagan site show systematic differences, supporting and extending earlier studies (e.g., Marshall et al, 1985), suggesting that the NE and SW areas are characterized by different geophysical properties. In particular, the P-Lg magnitude bias shows systematically different behavior for these regions.

This variation, as illustrated in Fig. VII.1.8, is in fact quite smooth, and indicates a knowledge of precise epicenter location would make possible, through interpolation, to obtain an estimate of P-Lg bias also for events for which Lg magnitudes are not available. Such events could be low-magnitude explosions, "double" explosions (for which Lg magnitude would represent the combined yields), explosions followed by large earthquakes causing interference with the Lg wavetrain or events occurring during outage times for the stations reporting Lg measurements.

It is noted that the current bilateral negotiations on nuclear testing offer the possibility for validated yields of future explosions at the Shagan River nuclear test site. Such additional yield information is invaluable in testing, and modifying if necessary, the teleseismic yield estimation method developed in this report.

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No.	ORIGIN DATE	ORIGIN TIME	LAT	LON	мв	LOG RDP N	STD	*** NORSA M(LG) N	R **** STD	***** GR M(LG) N	F ***** STD	FINAL M(LG)	SUB- REGION
1	01/15/65	5 59 58.4	49.940N	79.010E	5.870	3.87 1	0.14		-		-	-	TZ
2	06/19/68	5 05 57.5	49.982N	79.003E	5.280	5.51 4	0.07		-		-	-	
2	11/30/09	3 32 37.1	49.913N	70.701E	4 940	2 98 4	0.10		-		-	-	T7:
ŝ	02/10/72	5 02 57 5	50 014N	78.878F	5,270	3.22 2	0.10		-		-	-	NE
6	11/02/72	1 26 57.6	49.923N	78.815E	6.160	4.38 1	0.14	6.118 42	0.014		· -	6.118	SW
7	12/10/72	4 27 07.3	50.001N	78.973E	5.960	4.36 2	0.10	6.116 42	0.009		-	6.116	NE
8	07/23/73	1 22 57.6	49.962N	78.812E	6.170		-	6.199 40	0.006		-	6.199	ΤZ
9	12/14/73	7 46 57.2	50.044N	78.987E	5.790	3.84 1	0.14	5.868 42	0.033		:	5.868	NE
10	04/16/74	5 52 57.4	50.041N	78.943E	4.350	2.25 1	0.14		-		-	- :	NE
11	05/31/74	3 26 57.5	49.950N	78.852E	5.810	3.88 1	0.14	5 / 11 / 2	0.024		-	5 411	12
12	10/10/74	0 32 37.0 5 44 54 0	49.9(9N	70.090E	5 500	3 07 3	0.08	5 708 42	0.024			5 708	NE
13	06/27/75	5 36 57 3	49.94JN	78 926F	5 510	3 55 3	0.00	5 547 42	0 057			5.547	17
15	06/30/75	3 26 57.6	50.004N	78.957E	4.520	2.40 3	0.08				<b>_</b> '	-	NE
16	10/29/75	4 46 57.3	49.946N	78.878E	5,610	3.42 4	0.07	5.629 42	0.046	÷ _	-	5.629	ΤZ
17	12/25/75	5 16 57.2	50.044N	78.814E	5.690	3.59 4	0.07	5.801 42	0.035		-	5.801	NE
18	04/21/76	5 02 57.2	49.890N	78.827E	5.120	3.02 3	0.08		-				SW
19	06/09/76	3 02 57.2	49.989N	79.022E	5.070	3.08 3	0.08	5.199 42	0.089		-	5.199	NE
20	07/04/76	2 56 57.5	49.909N	78.911E	5.850	3.89 1	0.14	5.810 42	0.009	5.783 4	0.024	5.810	SW
21	08/28/76	2 56 57.5	49.969N	78.930E	5.740	3.68 3	0.08	5.735 41	0.013	5.655 5	0.052	5.735	12
22	11/23/76	5 02 57.5	50.008N	78.963E	5.790	3.81 3	0.08		-	5 702 3	0.057	5.7/1	NE CU
23	12/0///0	4 20 27.4	49.922N	18.040E	5 750	3 80 1	0.10	5 677 /1	0 035	5 5 7 3 3	0.000	5 855	รม รม
24	05/29/11	2 30 37.0	50 006N	78 8695	5 200	3 04 4	0.14	5 077 40	0.000		0.050	5 077	NE
26	09/05/77	3 02 57 3	50 035N	78 921F	5 730	3.93.3	0.08	5.897 40	0.017	5.769 3	0.036	5.879	. NE
27	10/29/77	3 07 02.5	50.069N	78.975E	5.560	3.75 3	0.08	5.792 41	0.043	5.685 3	0.041	5.757	NE
28	11/30/77	4 06 57.4	49.958N	78.885E	5.890	3.92 2	0.10		· -	5.716 3	0.041	5.753	ΤZ
29	06/11/78	2 56 57.6	49.898N	78.797E	5.830	3.87 4	0.07	5.752 39	0.029	5.724 4	0.039	5.755	SW
30	07/05/78	2 46 57.5	49.887N	78.871E	5.770	3.82 4	0.07	5.794 39	0.010			5.794	SW
31	08/29/78	2 37 06.3	50.000N	78.978E	5.900	3.98 4	0.07	6.010 39	0.008	6.010 6	0.022	6.010	NE
32	09/15/78	2 36 57.4	49.916N	78.879E	5.890	3.90 3	0.08	5.908 38	0.018	E 472 4	0 000	5.400	SW
33	11/04/78	2 02 27.5	20.034N	78.943E 78 708E	5 040	2.00 4	0.07	5 077 30	0.000	5 886 2	0.025	5 071	R C U
34	02/01/79	4 12 57 6	50 090N	78 870F	5 200	3 30 3	0.00		0.015		0.015	2.771	NE
36	06/23/79	2 56 57.5	49.903N	78.855E	6.160	4.08 3	0.08	6.056 21	0.009	6.123 4	0.021	6.064	SW
37	07/07/79	3 46 57.3	50.026N	78.991E	5.840	3.73 3	0.08	5,969 38	0.008	5.938 7	0.021	5.966	NE
38	08/04/79	3 56 57.1	49.894N	78.904E	6.130	4.13 4	0.07	6.099 39	0.008	6.117 9	0.015	6.100	SW
39	08/18/79	2 51 57.1	49.943N	78.938E	6.130	4.13 4	0.07		-	6.145 7	0.017	6.126	ΤZ
40	10/28/79	3 16 56.9	49.973N	78.997E	5.980	3.92 2	0.10	6.053 34	0.010	6.046 8	0.023	6.051	NE
41	12/02/79	4 36 57.5	49.891N	78.796E	5.990	3.84 2	0.10	5.917 28	0.021	5.938 11	0.025	5.929	SW
4Z	12/23/79	4 56 57.4	49.916N	78.755E	6.130	3.92 1	0.14		-	6.045 9	0.021	6.039	SW
43	04/25/80	5 56 57.5	49.973N	78.755E	5.450	5.46 3	0.08		-	E E74 44	0 105	5 4 2 7	SW
44	06/12/80	20 21.0	49.98UN	79.001E	5.520	3.33 3	0.08	5 493 44	0 026	5 7/6 0	0.105	5 704	
4.2	00/29/80	2 22 21.1	47.737N 40 021N	10.013E	5.070	6 36 4	0.07	J.00J 10	0.020		-0.040	5.100	3W SU
47	10/12/80	3 34 14 1	49 961N	79.028F	5 880	3.95 4	0 07	5.925 28	0.013	5.933 13	0.034	5.927	NE
48	12/14/80	3 47 06.4	49.899N	78.938E	5.930	3.98 4	0.07	5.929 28	0.018	5.944 10	0.027	5.936	TZ

<u>Table VII.1.1.</u> List of presumed explosions from the Shagan River area used in this study. The table includes, for each event, date, origin time, latitude, longitude, m<sub>b</sub> (maximum likelihood), log  $\Psi_{\infty}$  (with number of stations and standard deviation of estimate), NORSAR and Gräfenberg M<sub>Lg</sub> (including number of available channels and estimated precision of measurement), a weighted average of M<sub>Lg</sub>, adjusted to NORSAR M<sub>Lg</sub> scale and a region identifier. (Page 1 of 2)

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No.	ORIGIN DATE	ORIGIN TIME	LAT	LON	MB	LOG RDP N	STD	*** NORSAR ** N(LG) N S1	** D	***** GRI M(LG) N	***** STD	FINAL M(LG)	SUB- REGION
49	12/27/80	4 9 8.1	50.057N	78.981E	5.870	3.89 3	0.08	5.939 27 0.0	)14	5.885 11	0.034	5.933	NE
50	03/29/81	4 03 50.0	50.007N	78.982E	5.490	3.38 3	0.08	5.556 28 0.0	85	5.437 11	0.184	5.548	NE
21	04/22/81	1 17 11.3	49.885N	78.810E	5.940	4.07 3	0.08	5.908 28 0.0	22	5.956 11	0.027	5.929	SW
22	05/27/81	5 58 12.5	49.985N	78.98UE	5.300	3.32 4	0.07	2.420 2/ U.U	115	4 104 0	0 0 1 5	2.420	
22	10/10/01	2 17 10.3	49.91UN	70.9135	6.000	4.10 4	0.07	5 095 74 0.0	100	5 054 0	0.015	5 081	- 11 CU
55	11/20/81	3 35 08 6	47.723N	78 8605	5 620	4.034	0.07	5 581 28 0 1	02	5 5 1 1 1 2	0.021	5 580	3# 5U
56	12/27/81	3 43 14 1	49 923N	78 795F	6 160	4 19 2	0 10	6 074 34 0 6	02	6 092 10	0 020	6 075	SW
57	04/25/82	3 23 05.4	49 903N	78 913F	6 030	4.16.2	0.10	6 077 35 0 0	08 .	6.058 11	0 017	6.072	ŤŽ
58	07/04/82	1 17 14.2	49.960N	78.807E	6.080	4.24 2	0.10						SW
59	08/31/82	1 31 00.7	49.924N	78.761E	5.200	3.03 4	0.07				-	_	SW
60	12/05/82	3 37 12.6	49.919N	78.813E	6.080	4.01 3	0.08	5.990 31 0.0	19	6.002 13	0.020	5.996	SW
61	12/26/82	3 35 14.2	50.071N	78.988E	5.580	3.60 4	0.07	5.658 39 0.0	)50	5.597 13	0.067	5.655	NE
62	06/12/83	2 36 43.5	49.913N	78.916E	6.020		-	6.072 25 0.0	09		-	6.072	TZ.
63	10/06/83	1 47 06.5	49.916N	78.764E	5.950			5.870 19 0.0	33	5.843 13	0.043	5.868	SW
64	10/26/83	1 55 04.8	49.901N	78.828E	6.040	3.92 3	0.08	6.000 33 0.0	21	6.036 13	0.021	6.016	SW
65	11/20/83	3 27 04.4	50.047N	78.999E	5.330	3.44 1	0.14	5.409 30 0.1	70		-	5.409	NE
66	02/19/84	3 57 03.4	49.885N	78.745E	5.770	3.71 3	0.08	5.725 29 0.0	138	5 575 43		5.(2)	SW
01	03/07/84	2 39 00.4	50.049N	78.934E	5.560	3.30 1	0.14	5.098 29 U.L	202	5 057 12	0.108	5.000	NE.
40	05/29/84	5 19 UO.2 1 00 03 5	49.912N	78.933E	5 000	5.75 1	0.14	5 870 75 0 0	112	5 803 13	0.043	5 867	1 L S U
70	04/23/04	3 13 12 /	47.727N	70 0065	6 010	4 10 3	ດ້າຂ	6 072 33 0 0	00	6 128 13	0.015	6 079	NE
71	07/14/84	1 09 10 5	49 893N	78 8845	6 100	3 97 1	0 14	6 054 32 0 0	07	6 064 12	0 015	6.054	SW
72	09/15/84	6 15 10.1	49.985N	78.883F	5.040		-				-	-	SW
73	10/27/84	1 50 10.6	49.920N	78.777E	6.190	4.13 3	0.08	6.085 33 0.0	)11	6.145 13	0.016	6.098	SW
74	12/02/84	3 19 06.3	49.989N	79.011E	5.770	3.80 2	0.10	5.880 29 0.0	20	5.860 12	0.036	5.880	NE
75	12/16/84	3 55 02.7	49.926N	78.820E	6.120	4.06 2	0.10	6.048 29 0.0	10	6.038 13	0.014	6.043	SW
76	12/28/84	3 50 10.7	49.866N	78.703E	6.000	4.00 3	0.08	5.985 35 0.0	09	5.947 13	0.021	5.980	SW
77	02/10/85	3 27 07.5	49.888N	78.781E	5.830	3.82 4	0.07	5.803 40 0.0	)24	5.801 13	0.058	5.806	SW
78	04/25/85	0 57 06.5	49.914N	78.902E	5.840	3.65 2	0.10	5.858 29 0.0	)45	5.838 9	0.047	5.859	ΤZ
79	06/15/85	0 57 00.7	49.898N	78.845E	6.050	3.99 1	0.14	5.976 30 0.0	109	6.031 13	0.017	5.98/	SW
80	06/30/85	2 39 02.6	49.848N	78.658E	5.920	3.95 2	0.10	5.931 30 0.0	109	5.906 13	0.017	5.928	SW
81	07/20/85	0 55 14.4	49.936N	(8./8)E	5.890	3.80 2	0.10	5.801 57 0.0	175	5.870 12	0.051	5.807	58
02	05/12/8/	1 27 17.2	49.939N 49.939N	70.023E	5.310	2.20 4	0.07		000	6 127 11	0 017	5.210	5 W C U
8/	04/03/01	1 07 06.0	47.720N	78 6016	5 020	4.00 4	0.07	5 001 33 0.0	120	5 015 12	0 026	5 910	รม
85	06/20/87	0 53 04 8	49.000N	78 7356	6 030	4 00 3	0.08	5 972 36 0.0	07	5.947 10	0 028	5.971	SW
86	08/02/87	0 58 06 8	49.880N	78.917F	5.830	3.97 3	0.08	5.871 30 0.0	11	5.853 11	0.022	5 871	SW
87	11/15/87	3 31 06.7	49.871N	78.791E	5.980	4.02 4	0.07	5.974 37 0.0	008	5.984 13	0.022	5.975	ŚŴ
88	12/13/87	3 21 04 8	49.989N	78.844E	6.060	4.17 2	0.10	6.093 31 0.0	10	6.067 12	0.015	6.082	SW
89	12/27/87	3 05 04.7	49.864N	78.758E	6.000	4.08 2	0.10	6.046 31 0.0	)11	6.033 13	0.019	6.042	SW
90	02/13/88	3 05 05.9	49.954N	78.910E	5.970	4.01 3	0.08	6.042 26 0.0	09	6.045 13	0.029	6.042	ΤZ
91	04/03/88	1 33 05.8	49.917N	78.945E	5.990	4.15 2	0.10	6.063 31 0.0	07	6.071 13	0.014	6.063	ΤŽ
92	05/04/88	0 57 06.8	49.928N	78.769E	6.090	4.06 3	0.08	6.044 31 0.0	08	6.068 13	0.020	6.046	SW
93	06/14/88	2 27 06.4	50.045N	79.005E	4.800	2.55 2	0.10						NE
94	UY/14/88	4 00 00.0	49.870N	78.820E	6.030	4.05 2	0.10	5.969 37 0.0	110	5.970 12	0.043	5.969	SW
72	11/12/88	5 30 05.8	50.056N	(8.991E	5.200		-	F 004 77 0 0			-	5 904	Nt T7
70	12/17/88	4 18 06.8	49.818N	18.91UE	2.800		-	5.801 57 0.0	010		-	2.801	12

Table VII.1.1. (Page 2 of 2)

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I	EVENT		ESTIN	IATED	YIELDS
NO	DATE	REG	LG	P	COMB
	01/15/65				111+1
2	06/19/68	NE	_	26	26
วั	11/30/69	ጥፖ		135	135
4	$\frac{1}{06}/\frac{30}{71}$	ΤZ	-	100	100
5	02/10/72	NE	-	24	24
6	11/02/72	SW	166	168	167
7	12/10/72	NE	165	159	162
8	07/23/73	TZ	204	200	202
10	$\frac{12}{16}/\frac{14}{74}$	NENE	88	93	90
11	05/31/74	ጥፖ	_	81	81
12	10/16/74	ΤŽ	27	26	27
13	12/27/74	NE	58	36	46
14	04/27/75	$\mathbf{TZ}$	39	39	39
15	06/30/75	NE	. =	4	4
16	10/29/75	TZ	47	44	46
1 A	$\frac{12}{23}/5$	NE Cw	/4	00 11	11
19	06/09/76	NE	16	15	15
20	07/04/76	SW	76	74	75
21	08/28/76	TZ	62	66	64
22	11/23/76	NE	77	91	84
23	12/07/76	SW	63	65	64
24	05/29/17	SW	51 12	58	54
25	00/23/77	NE	90	85	88
27	10/29/77	NE	66	55	60
28	11/30/77	TZ	65	<u>9</u> 9	80
29	06/11/78	SW	66	72	69
30	07/05/78	SW	72	62	67
31	08/29/78	NE	126	123	125
32	$\frac{09}{15}$	SW	9/	85	91
32	11/29/78	SW	114	103	108
35	$\frac{11}{02}/01/79$	NE		26	26
36	06/23/79	SW	145	155	150
37	07/07/79	NE	113	97	105
38	08/04/79	SW	158	149	154
39	08/18/79	TZ	169	180	174
40	10/28/79	NE	140	1200	142
4⊥ 42	12/02/79	SW SW	136	145	140
43	04/25/80	SW	±30 -	27	27
44	06/12/80	NE	47	<b>4</b> 6	47
45	06/29/80	SW	58	50	54
46	09/14/80	SW		189	189
47	10/12/80	NE	102	117	109
- 48	12/14/80	TZ	104	112	T08

<u>Table VII.1.2.</u> Estimated yields for the explosions of Table VII.1.1, as discussed in the text. For each event (except for Event 1, see text), we list a) yield estimate based on Lg waves (NORSAR and GRF), b) yield estimate based on P waves ( $m_b$  and log  $\Psi_{\infty}$ ) and c) a combined estimate, obtained by logarithmic averaging of a) and b). (Page 1 of 2)

EVENT NO DATE	REG	ESTIM LG	ATED P	YIELDS COMB
EVENT NO DATE 49 12/27/80 50 03/29/81 51 04/22/81 52 05/27/81 53 09/13/81 54 10/18/81 55 11/29/81 56 12/27/81 57 04/25/82 58 07/04/82 59 08/31/82 60 12/05/82 61 12/26/83 63 10/06/83 64 10/26/83 65 11/20/83 65 11/20/83 65 11/20/83 66 02/19/84 67 03/07/84 68 03/29/84 69 04/25/84 70 05/26/84 71 07/14/84 72 09/15/84 73 10/27/84 74 12/02/84 75 12/16/84 76 12/28/84 77 02/10/85 78 04/25/85 79 06/15/85 81 07/20/85 81 07/20/85 81 07/20/85 81 07/20/85 81 07/20/85 81 07/20/85 81 07/20/85 82 03/12/87 83 04/03/87 84 04/17/87 85 06/20/87 86 08/02/87 87 11/15/87 88 12/13/87 89 12/27/87	R - E R - NNSNTSSSTSSSNTSSNSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSSS	ESTIM LG 103 39 102 31 162 117 429 148 121 148 27 61 54 95 150 141 158 90 137 175 859 102 87 151 148 102 87 144 88 117 125 117 127 144 148 117 127 144 148 151 151 137 137		YIELDS COMB 107 40 100 29 162 114 41 156 147 139 133 124 52 142 91 120 28 60 53 92 85 157 138 9163 89 140 112 72 83 120 95 84 18 143 95 114 81 110 123 129
89 12/27/87 90 02/13/88 91 04/03/88 92 05/04/88 93 06/14/88 94 09/14/88 95 11/12/88	SW TZ SW NE SW NE	137 137 144 138 113	111 123 133 133 7 117 20	123 129 138 136 7 115 20

Table VII.1.2. (Page 2 of 2)

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Fig. VII.1.1. Surface geology of the Shagan River area. The crater from the 15 January 1965 explosion is indicated. Note the two faults marked on the figure.



Fig. VII.1.2. Array network log  $\Psi_{\infty}$  plotted against maximum likelihood  $m_b$ . Open and filled symbols denote SW and NE events, respectively, whereas crosses denote TZ events. The line drawn through the data is the best least squares straight line, assuming no error in  $m_b$ . The dotted lines correspond to plus/minus two standard deviations in the vertical direction.



Fig. VII.1.3. Gräfenberg  $m_{Lg}$  plotted against NORSAR  $m_{Lg}$ . The line drawn through the data is the best least squares fit, assuming no error in NORSAR  $m_{Lg}$ . The dotted lines correspond to plus/minus two standard deviations. Note the consistency between SW events (open symbols), NE events (filled symbols) and TZ events (crosses).



<u>Fig. VII.1.4.</u> Gräfenberg  $m_{Lg}$  plotted against NORSAR  $m_{Lg}$  for wellrecorded events, i.e., requiring at least 6 sensors available, and a precision of measurement better than 0.04 for each array. Note the reduction in scatter compared to Fig. VII.1.3.



Fig. VII.1.5. NORSAR/GRF  $m_{Lg}$  plotted against maximum likelihood  $m_b$ . Note the difference between SW events (open symbols), NE events (filled symbols) and TZ events (crosses). A straight line has been fitted to each of these three subsets, with a slope restricted to 1.00.



<u>Fig. VII.1. 6.</u> NORSAR/GRF  $m_{Lg}$  plotted against "adjusted  $m_b$ ", i.e.,  $m_b$  values adjusted for average bias in each of the three subregions. Note the excellent correspondence, with the exception of two outliers as discussed in the text.



Fig. VII.1.7. NORSAR/GRF  $m_{Lg}$  plotted against network averaged log  $\Psi_{\infty}$ , requiring at least three station observations for the latter. The two stippled lines (slope of 0.9) represent linear fits to the SW events and the NE/TZ events, respectively. Symbol conventions are as in Fig. VII.1.2.



Fig. VII.1.8. Plot of magnitude residuals (maximum likelihood  $m_{\rm b}$  minus  $m_{\rm Lg})$  as a function of event location for events of  $m_{\rm b} \geq 5.50$ . Only events with NORSAR data available have been included. Plusses and circles correspond to residuals greater or less than zero, respectively, with symbol size proportional to the deviation. Location estimates are those in Table VII.1.1, and only events prior to 1986 (which have the most precise locations) have been included. Note the systematic variation within the Shagan River areas, with different patterns in the three subregions.