

GEOSYSTEMICS and ENTROPY of EARTHQUAKES

A vision of our planet and a key of access

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Outline

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1. INTRODUCTION: WORLD IS CHANGING



- growing population
- global warming
- pollution
- biodiversity reduction
- geohazards









- & greater weakness against disasters
- reduction of resources



Man is both affecting and affected

EARTH: Interconnected system



Temporal and Spatial Scales



2. Earth as a Complex System

Points in bold from *Baranger, 2001*

A complex system contains many constituents interacting nonlinearly, and interdependent;

This is the specific case of our planet, composed by an enormous number of subsystems and elements and sub-elements, placed into around 10¹² km³ of solid volume and much more larger volume of its oceans, coversphere, biosphere and gaseous atmosphere.

3. A complex system possesses a structure spanning several scales.

- Earth phenomena range from atomic scale to thousand km scale, from almost instant processes to billion year timescale;
- **4.** and it is capable of emerging behaviour. Concepts of : surprise, capability of change, self-reproduction (autopoiesis) and self-organization, mixing. For instance, Wilson cycle and cybertectonics of Earth.

5. It is characterised by an interplay between chaos and non-chaos,

- This point indicates that chaos can emerge sporadically, due to some change of boundary conditions under which the phenomenon is occurring.
- 6. and between cooperation and competition. Positive and negative feedbacks in Earth processes (e.g. see Gaia Hypothesis)





The aim of science is not things themselves, but the **relations between things;** [...] outside those relations there is no reality knowable.

Henri Poincaré in "Science and Hypothesis", 1905

3. Geosystemics: definition



Transfer of knowledge from "classic" disciplines MATHEMATICS, PHYSICS (GEOPHYSICS), CHEMISTRY (GEO CHEMISTRY), BIOLOGY, GEOLOGY, INFORMATICS (GEOINFORMATICS)

& more recent disciplines SYSTEMICS¹ and CYBERNETICS²

to **Geosystemics**

(trans-disciplinary approach)



Geosystemics studies Earth system from the holistic point of view, looking with particular attention at self-regulation phenomena and relations among the parts composing Earth (De Santis, WSEAS, 2009)

¹ Systemics is the science of complex systems studied from a holistic point of view (in their wholeness) (e.g. Klir, 1991).

² *Cybernetics* is the science that studies phenomena of self-regulations and communications among natural and artificial systems (Wiener, 1948).





Ask anybody what the physical world is made of, and you are likely to be told "matter and energy". Yet if we have learned anything from engineering, biology and physics, **information** is just as crucial an ingredient.

Jacob D. Bekenstein in Scientific American (2003)



Geosystemics: Science /2



Not only energy and matter are important, but also (sometime even more) Information, self-regulation, nonlinear coupling, emergent behaviour, irreversibility which are decisive ingredients of Geoscience, and matter of study for *Geosystemics*.

Geosystemics puts the emphasis on **contextuality** and **interactions** among the elements of Earth System, on the **cause-effect relationships**, on various sub-systems couplings and on both **production** and **transfer of Information** (Shannon, 1948) from a sub-system to another.



Science /3



Geosystemics overcomes traditional boundaries between science, mathematics and philosophy, between harmony and diversity, invariance and variability, simplicity and complexity, symmetry and asymmetry, uniformity and diversity, order and disorder, reversibility and irreversibility, which all together characterise Earth's evolution.

Universal tools (e.g. fractal dimension, phase space, degrees of freedom, information and **entropy) + Multi-scale/parameter/platform observation** help in this challenge.

4. Universal tools Fractal dimension



In a fractal with N=N(ϵ) elements with size ϵ covering the whole structure, the fractal dimension D is defined as:

$$D = \lim_{\varepsilon \to 0} \frac{\log N(\varepsilon)}{\log 1/\varepsilon}$$



This figure shows an example of fractal interpretation that has been given for the core-mantle boundary of Earth, from the study of the geomagnetic field over the last 400 years (De Santis & Barraclough, *PEPI*, 1997).

Universal tools Phase Space



The **phase space** of a dynamical system is the ideal space where each state of the system can be represented by a single point. The minimum number *E* of phase space axes, which contain all orbits of the dynamics, defines **the degrees of freedom** of the system, i.e. the number of variables that are required to describe that system. *E* is also said **embedding dimension**.



Theorem for Reconstruction of pseudo space phase (Takens, 1981)

This figure shows an example of phase space reconstruction that has been given for the geomagnetic field in 3 observatories for the last 150 years (De Santis et al., *Fractals*, 2002).



Shannon Entropy



Shannon Entropy (Shannon, 1948) of a "system" characterized by Nindependent states and a probability distribution $p_i(t)$ Claude E. Shannon

$$H(t) = -\sum_{i=1}^{N} p_i(t) \cdot \log p_i(t)$$

if $p_i(t) = 0$ then we impose log $p_i(t)=0$

Some Physical Interpretations

- 1. Measure of **disorder**
- 2. Measure of the **average information content** missing to the knowledge about the state of the system;
- 3. Measure of **unpredictability** of the state of the system among many alternatives;
- 4. Measure of the **degree of dispersion** of an observable among the **system's parts**



Other Universal tools Shannon Information and Entropy over a sphere

If B(t) is a physical quantity defined over a sphere, we can write it as sum of orthonormal spherical harmonics Ψ_n^m with maximum degree *N* (which defines the smallest detail of the representation), i.e.

$$B(t) = \sum_{n=1}^{N} \sum_{m=0}^{n} c_n^m(t) \psi_n^m \quad \text{then} \quad \left| I(t) = -H = \sum_{n=1}^{N} p_n(t) \cdot \ln p_n(t) \right|$$

where $p_n(t)$ is the probability to have a certain *n*-degree spherical harmonic *power* contribution instead of another (De Santis et al. 2004):

$$p_{n} = \frac{\langle B_{n}^{2} \rangle}{\langle B^{2} \rangle} = \frac{\sum_{m=0}^{n} (c_{n}^{m})^{2}}{\sum_{n'=1}^{N} \sum_{m=0}^{n'} (c_{n'}^{m})^{2}}$$

5. Entropy of Earthquakes



> Any attack to the problem of earthquake is worth doing



> Our approach (geosystemics) is holistic (not against reductionism but in parallel/complementary):

- earth as a whole,
- phenomenon in its most important macroscopic features

--> Here we will see some cases

Some empirical statistical laws

On all earthquakes:

1. Gutenberg-Richter Law (1944) The rate of earthquakes occurrence (number of earthquakes N in a certain time interval) in a given region follows an exponential law of the magnitude M.

(small earthquakes are many more than larger ones).

$$\log N = a - bM \qquad (b \cong 1)$$

Case of M5 in Italy: 1/year Case of M6 in Italy: 0.1/year, i.e. 1/10 yrs. M7 0.01/year, 1/100 yrs



Some empirical statistical laws On the aftershocks:

2. Omori Law (1894; modified by Utsu in 1961): inverse power law of the rate n of aftershosks occurrence

with $p \cong 1$



Some empirical statistical laws

On the aftershocks:

4. Felzer & Brodsky (2006): inverse power law of the probability P of having an aftershosk at distance r from the mainshock epicenter (at least up to 100 km)



Entropy of Earthquakes









main-shock is not a singularity it is a part of a population of events

Magnetic Transfer Function Entropy

In the frequency domain the time variations of the components **X**,**Y**,**Z** of the geomagnetic field observed at Earth surface are each other coupled:

 $Z(\omega) = A(\omega) X(\omega) + B(\omega) Y(\omega)$

 $A(\omega)$ and $B(\omega)$ are the Magnetic Transfer Functions which are related with the conductivity at a certain depth inversely proportional to the square root of frequency ω .

The (normalised) entropy contribution of the harmonic ω_i is given by :



Entropy of Earthquakes: 25 Wavelet Entropy of satellite magnetic signal

From Fourier analysis \rightarrow the spectral entropy (Powell and Percival, 1979)

$$S = -\sum_{i} P_{i} \ln P_{i} \quad \text{where} \quad P_{i} = \frac{|f_{i}|^{2}}{\sum_{i'} |f_{i'}|^{2}} \quad \text{for frequency} \quad f_{i}$$

It measures how energy "concentrates" or "spreads" in frequency.

Wavelet analysis decomposes a signal f(t) both in time and scale (or frequency)

$$f(t) \longrightarrow W(s, \tau) \qquad S_{W} = -\sum_{s,\tau} \log_{2}(p_{s,\tau}) \qquad \text{Example 26th Dec, 2004} \\ \text{Sumatra EQ, M9} \qquad Wavelet Entropy \qquad W$$



6. SPACE-TIME FOCALIZATION



THE CASES OF M6.3 L'Aquila (2009) and M5.9 Emilia (2012) EARTHQUAKES

An attempt to solve an important *conundrum* of seismology:

How does the stress at the tectonic plates transfer to an individual fault?







Lessons learnt from L'Aquila /1







Lessons learnt from L'Aquila /2







Lessons learnt from L'Aquila /3 INGV



Focalization of earthquakes



A partial Mogi doughnut (Mogi, 1969):

1. Former seismicity at the periphery 2. the present seismicity filled the gap

De Santis, Geosystemics & Entropy, Samarkand (Uzbekistan), 21 May, 2013

arthouake Pattern Reco













De Santis, Geosystemics & Entropy, Samarkand (Uzbekistan), 21 May, 2013



De Santis, Geosystemics & Entropy, Samarkand (Uzbekistan), 21 May, 2013





Focalization confirmed from space: IR thermal anomaly from satellite

Qin et al., Annals Geoph., 2012

De Santis, Geosystemics & Entropy, Samarkand (Uzbekistan), 21 May, 2013

Date (1999-2011)







Infrared Detection Experiment of Compressed-shearing Loaded Rock





Original Settings Settings Settings rotated by 90° Experiments made in the frame of SAGA-4-EPR by Proff Liu and Wu of NEU (China)

t=001s







t=080s















30.00

29.85

29.70-

29.55

29.40

29.25

29.10

28.95

28.80





t=106s



30.00

29.85

29.70-

29.55

29.40

29.25

29.10-

28.95

28.80









t=110s















Conclusions on Emilia Focalisation



•Seismicity that happened before the recent EMILIA earthquakes is compatible with a partial **Mogi doughnut** model characterized by a precursory space-time focalization process.

•The time evolution has behaved as a critical point process both in space and in time.

• A simple laboratory model was able to grasp some the most important features of the focalization process.



7. OTHER APPLICATIONS A systemic approach to investigate Deep Seafloor

Seafloor Station deployed several times down to **3000 m depth** in Tyrrhenian Sea

Under the European Projects:

GEOSTAR ORION EMSO

A recent effort: Deep sea and subseafloor frontier **DS3F** Project

http://www.deep-sea-frontier.eu/



Instruments:

Seismometer Magnetometers Gravimeter Currentmeter

From **Multiparameter** monitoring to **Trans-disciplinary** analysis

Beranzoli et al., PEPI, 1998

The Deep Sea White Paper





Geomagnetism Normalised Entropy over a sphere



Geomagnetism and climate SAA and mean sea level



Kullback-Leibler (1951) Relative Entropy

$$K_L(p_1, p_2) = \int p_1(s) \ln[p_1(s) / p_2(s)] ds$$

 $K_{\rm L} = 0.05 - 0.06$ (0.20 - 0.40 for surrogate data)

8. Conclusions



1. We defined a new systemic approach (*vision*) to Earth system study called **GEOSYSTEMICS**

where multi-platform/parameter/scale observations are fundamental to take a whole picture of our planet

2. Fundamental tools (*keys*) have been proposed, mainly based on
- Entropy and Information

measuring the whole & the relationships among components

- 3. We showed an important application to Seismology (*disclosing the relationship between b-value and entropy*)
- 4. and then something about focalisation of the process (cases of 2009 L'Aquila and 2012 Emilia earthquakes)
- 5. Together with some other applications
- Future can provide other cases of application in other fields of Earth sciences.

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