ISCNEWS

October to December 2020 www.isc.ac.uk

Up and running, despite the worldwide calamity



ISC-EHB extended to 2017



The ISC-EHB dataset, widely used in geotectonics and studies of the inner structure of the Earth, has been extended to include well-constrained events of 2017 from the

ISC Bulletin. As always, this dataset comes with cross sections of seismicity (1964-2017) in subduction zones around the world. ISC-EHB is currently looked after by *Bob Engdahl*, *Hara Gkarlaouni* and *Burak Sakarya*.

New in Dataset Repository

Two new datasets were submitted to the ISC <u>Dataset Repository</u> for open access long-term safekeeping by the authors of recent scientific publications referring to these datasets. The first, a machine-learning generated catalog for the Magna, Utah 2020 earthquake, was submitted by *Ben Baker* of the *University of Utah Seismograph Stations* in United States. The second, a list of Mw magnitudes extracted from the rebuilt ISC Bulletin, was submitted by *Domenico Di Giacomo* of the ISC. Both datasets were assigned a DOI obtained via *Crossref*.

Rebuild-II article is out

With support from *AOGS*, the <u>2nd open access</u>



article explaining the results of the ISC Bulletin Rebuild project has been published in *Geoscience Letters*. ISC users are encouraged to familiarise themselves with the improvements for the 1964-

2010 period, especially the changes to ISC magnitudes widely used in studies of seismic hazard and calibrations of seismic network data.

Shipment from Uppsala

The ISC relies on help and support given by seismic networks and data centres worldwide.



Whilst making space in their offices, seismologists from *Uppsala University* in Sweden came across historical station bulletins useful for the advancement of the ISC-GEM catalogue. All items, missing in ISC collection, have been kindly shipped

to the ISC and received by the ISC data guardians. We thank *Björn Lund* and other colleagues in Uppsala.

Tom Garth formally joins



Since 2017, *Thomas Garth* worked as a Postdoctoral Research Associate at the Department of Earth Sciences in the University of Oxford. This appointment was jointly funded by the ISC and ERC research grant of Professor *Karin Sigloch*. Tom worked between Oxford and ISC to introduce the calculation of probabilistic source time functions and depths into ISC operations. During this time, Tom has also been instrumental in setting up techniques of efficient depth phase picking, based on waveforms available on-line. As planned, at the end of the three-year term, Tom has joined the ISC staff as a Seismologist/ Senior Developer.

The Grexit

The hardworking Greek diaspora was the second largest among the ISC staff. We couldn't believe our luck, thinking perhaps that the global warming has changed the humidity and air temperatures in the UK to levels acceptable to southern Europeans. Sadly, driven by an explosive mixture of Brexit, Covid and various personal circumstances, the last two Greeks, *Kostas Lentas* and *Hara Gkarlaouni* moved back to the country of perpetual sun at the beginning of November, catching a plane just a few days before Greece itself experienced a lockdown. Both have been accepted to work on EU-funded project at the *National Observatory of Athens* (NOA).

During his seven years at the ISC, *Kostas Lentas* has been instrumental in extending and updating the IDC Link to the ISC database – the web-based service that the ISC runs for CTBTO and its National Data Centres. In addition, Kostas set up a routine that produced the first set of ISC source mechanisms, based on polarities of first arrivals, both reported to the ISC and measured at the ISC using openly available waveforms. As a side product, Kostas also built the time histories for stations in the international registry that indicate possible periods of reversed polarities.

In her three years at the ISC, *Hara Gkarlaouni* made a solid contribution to the analysis and rebuild of the ISC Bulletin, extension and publicising the ISC-EHB dataset as well as picking highly valuable arrival times of depthphases that helped to constrain the hypocentre depths in ISC Bulletin, ISC-EHB and ISC-GEM catalogue. In the departure photo, taken at Heathrow airport, Hara is guarding her musical instrument and suitcases of herself and Kostas, who sadly did not feel in a position to be photographed.



50 years ago

As pointed out by our Honorary Seismologist *Robin Adams*, in the first week of November 1970, the 1st meeting of the ISC Governing Council was kindly hosted by the Royal Society at the Carlton House Terrace in London. In attendance were the representatives of the six paying ISC Members (Canada, New Zealand, Sweden, UK, USA and USSR) and a few observers, including that of UNESCO.

After its establishment in ~1964, the ISC was first run by a committee of IASPEI. It was only in 1969 at the IASPEI Assembly in Madrid that its Working Statutes were adopted, and the Governing Council and ExecCom set up. More details are in <u>Robin's</u> and <u>Chris Argent's</u> historical notes on the ISC website.

The first full-time Director, *Edouard Arnold* was elected at that torrid 1970 meeting in London to supersede *Pat Willmore*, who worked parttime whilst also serving as the head of the *Global Seismology Unit* at the *Institute of Geological Sciences* in Edinburgh.



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