

Earthquake Information

Summary:

Magnitude **Mw 8.1**

Region **SAMOA ISLANDS REGION**

Date time **2009-09-29 at 17:48:17.9 UTC**

Location **15.43 S ; 172.20 W**

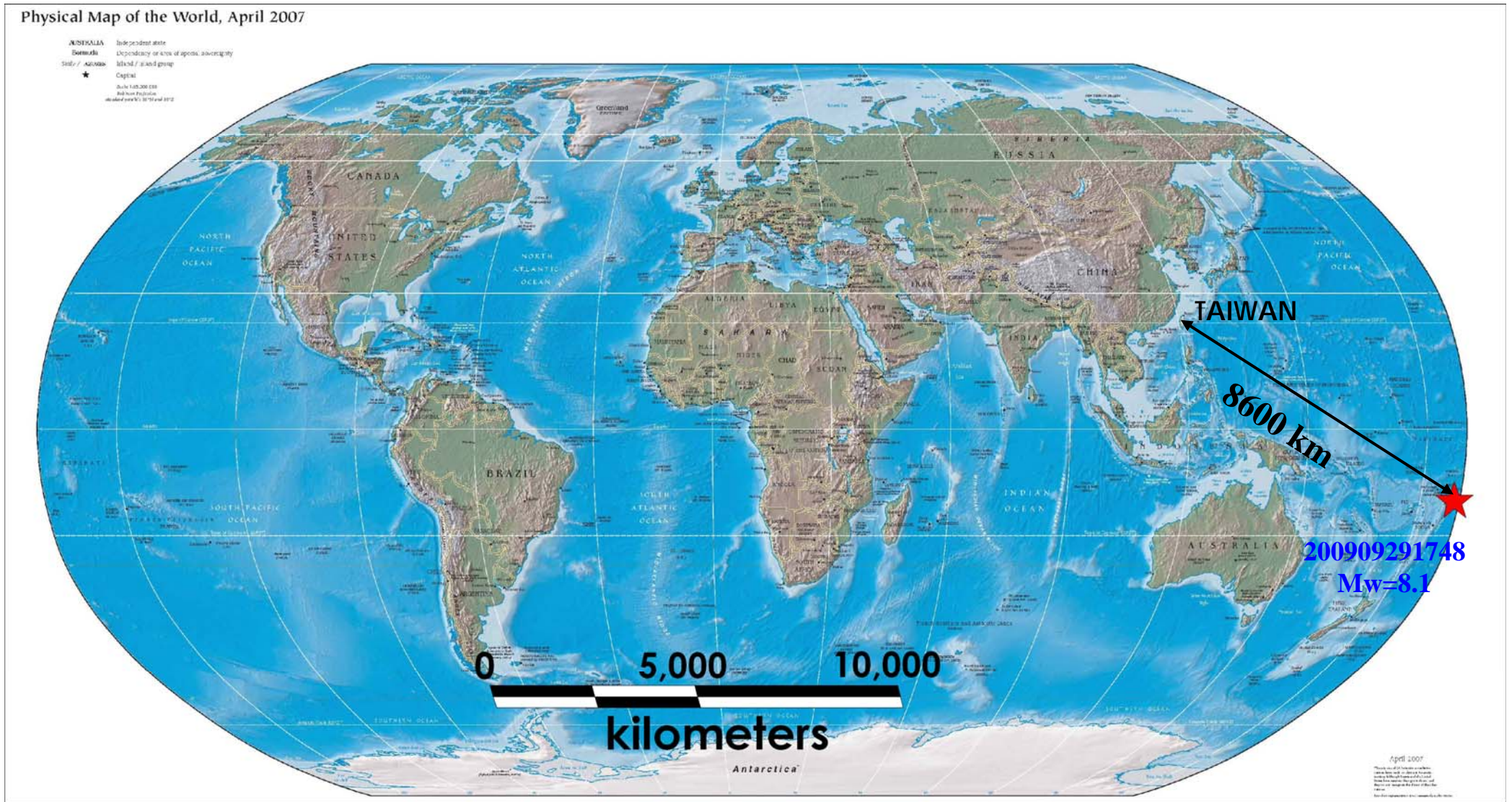
Depth **60 km**

Distances 1041 km E Suva (pop 199,455 ; local time 05:48 2009-09-30)

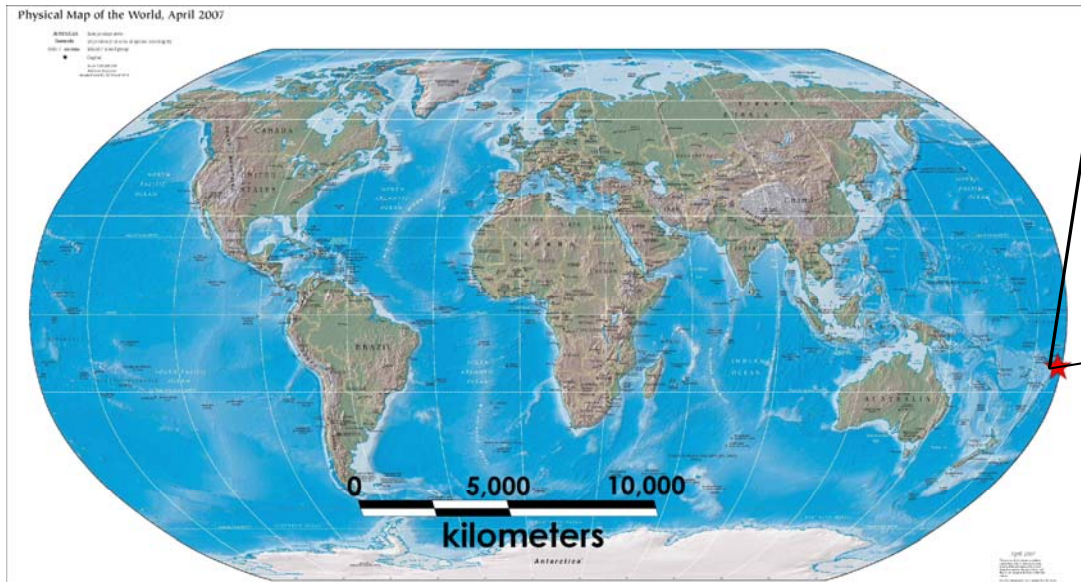
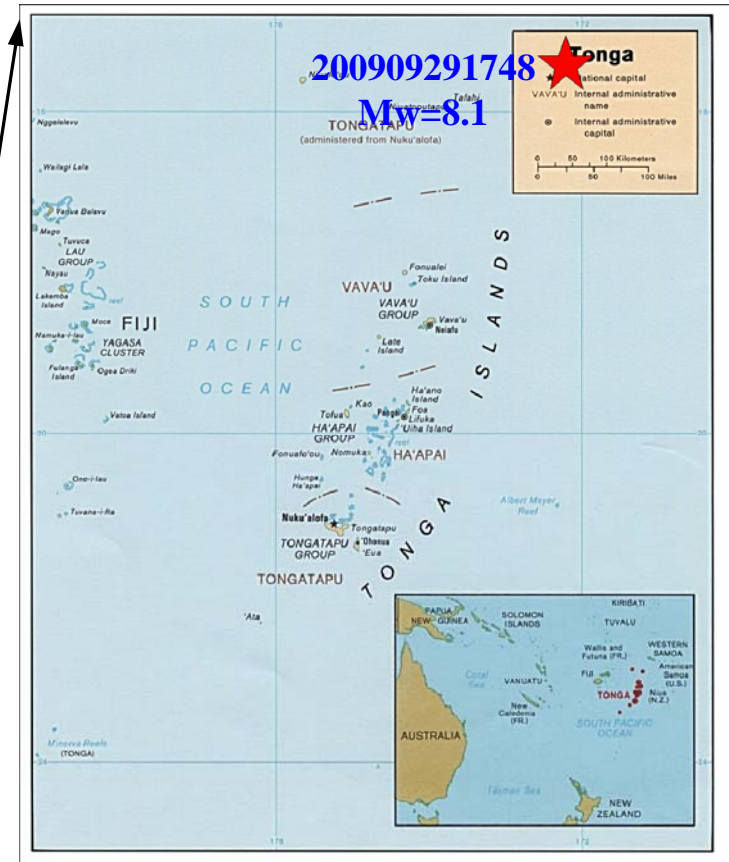
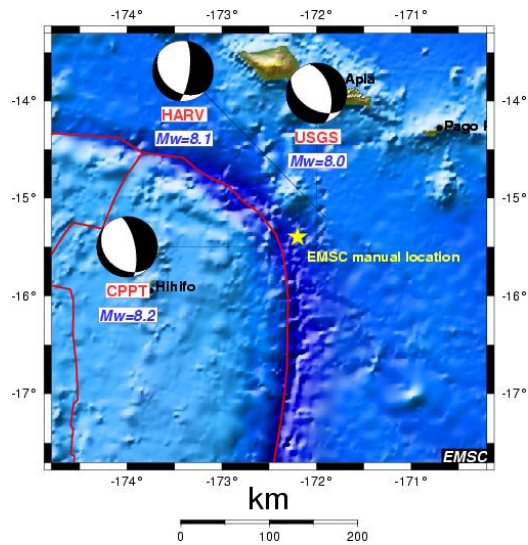
184 km S Apia (pop 40,407 ; local time 06:48 2009-09-29)

163 km S Siumu (pop 1,117 ; local time 06:48 2009-09-29)

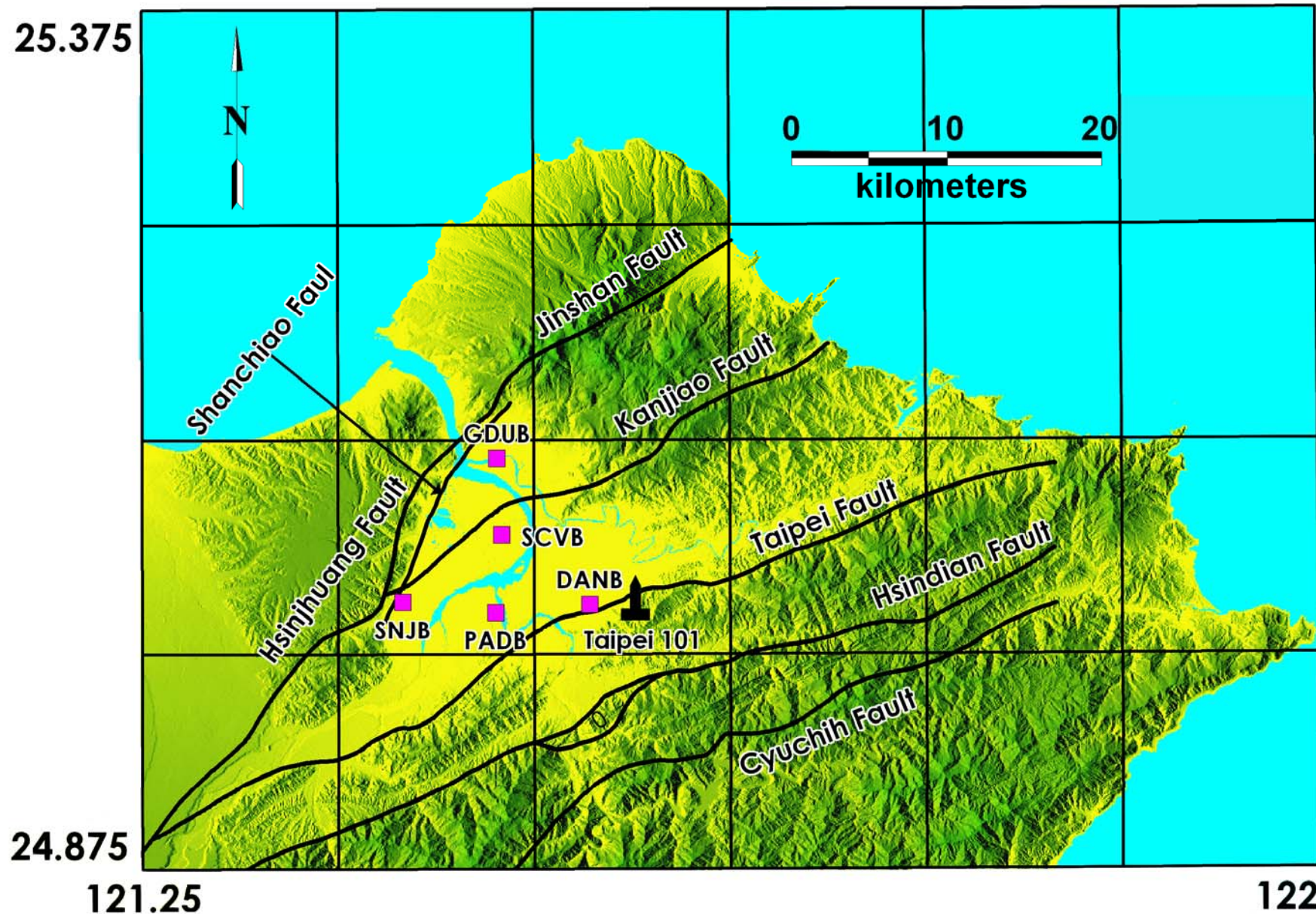
Earthquake Parameters



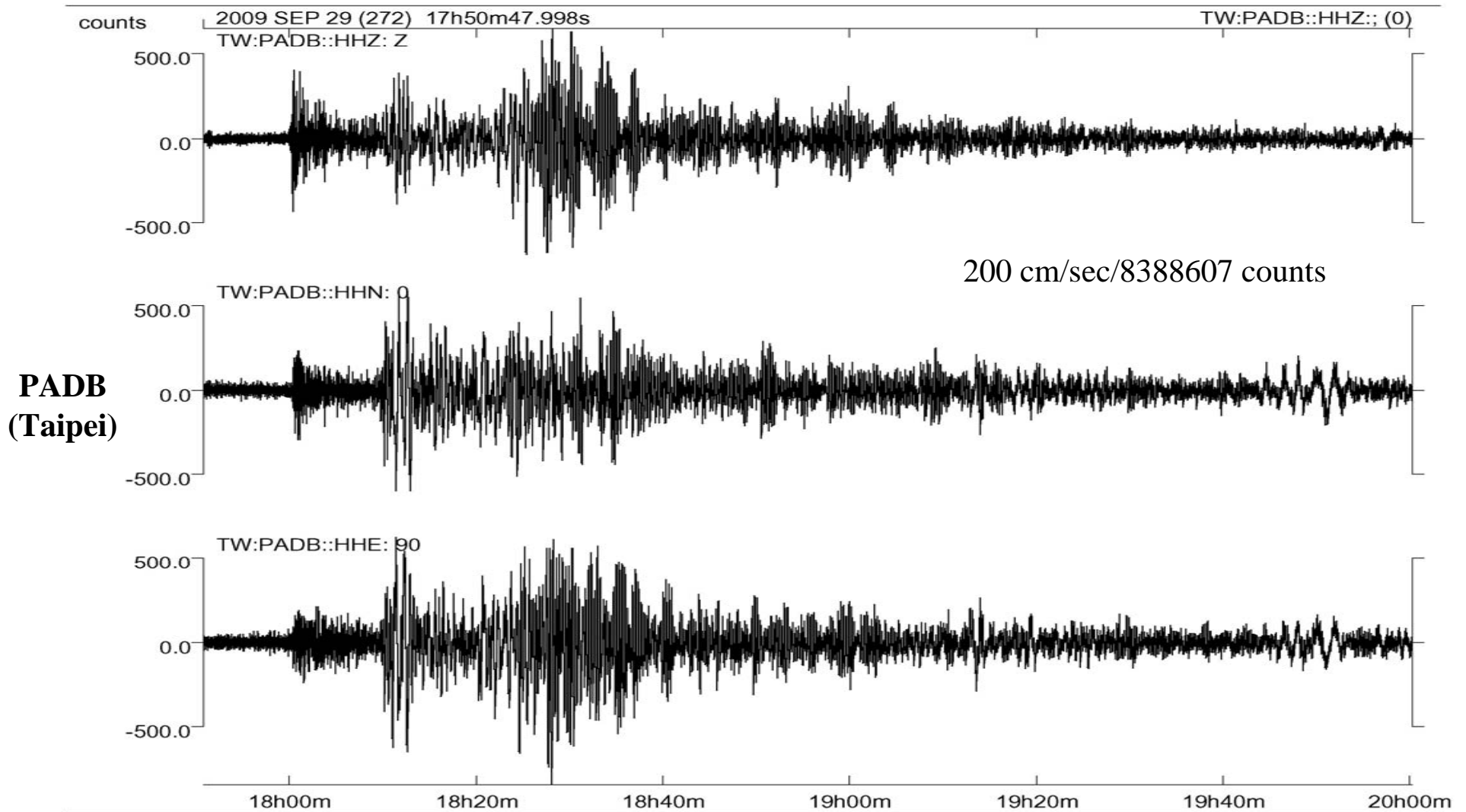
Earthquake Parameters



Broadband downhole seismic array in Taipei Basin



The velocigrams recorded by PADB at level of -100 m



Where did the tsunami hit?

Other countries affected by the Samoan tsunami

[Adam Gabbatt](#)

guardian.co.uk, Wednesday 30 September 2009 08.49 BST



People look at wreckage after a tsunami hit the village of Leone, American Samoa.

Photograph: STR/Reuters

The cluster of islands that make up **Samoa**, and the neighbouring US territory of **American Samoa**, appear to have been worst hit. Reports suggest 82 people have been killed, but officials have warned this could rise to more than 100.

Tonga, south of Samoa, is believed to have been hit by a four-metre wave. Tongan officials said they feared five deaths.

New Zealand issued a tsunami warning after the earthquake, according to news agency Reuters. The news agency said coastal towns were evacuated but this was cancelled after the waves that hit the country's northernmost point were 40cm higher.

Officials in **Hawaii** took precautions against flooding, but these were cancelled after the tsunami threat subsided, although Hawaiian residents were warned sea-level changes and strong currents could occur along Hawaii's coasts and asked to keep out of the water.

Small tsunami waves reached **Japan**, about 4,700 miles north-west of Samoa, according to the country's meteorological agency, although they were described as "very weak". There were no reports of injuries or damage in Japan.

Warnings were issued in **Australia**, where public broadcaster the ABC said 30cm higher waves were recorded but no serious damage was reported.