

Quantitative evidence of the coupling between seismic and electromagnetic signals

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There are some reports of the coupling between seismic and electromagnetic signals from both the natural earthquakes and the active field experiments. Such coupling effect may provide some useful information of earthquake process and/or oil exploration. Although the coupling mechanisms are not well understood at the current stage, there are some candidate mechanisms, such as the electrokinetic effect and piezoelectric effect. We focused this study on seismic and electromagnetic coupling for the data observed during earthquakes or synthesized from our numerical simulation method based on electrokinetic effect and earthquake models. We presented a quantitative analysis method of the correlation between seismic and electromagnetic signals. As an example of the field data, we investigated the data recorded during the Ms5.7 Ningqiang earthquake, China. The results indicated that there is a clear coupling between seismic and electromagnetic signals. As a further example of the synthetic data of seismic and electromagnetic signals, we obtained the synthetic seismic and electromagnetic signals using our numerical simulation method and confirmed the existence of coupling between the seismic and electromagnetic signals in the synthetic data.

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