

TECHNICAL PROBLEMS AND ERRORS IN EARTHQUAKE CATALOG STUDIES

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Abstract. Technical problems arising in studies of earthquake catalogs are described. To simplify access to the seismic data stored in different formats, we advise creating a unified setup file describing the catalog under investigation. Typical errors in the catalogs are considered. In the period of manual data processing, many errors occurred as a result of human component. However, our experience of studies in earthquake catalogs from various regions of the world evidences that error frequency continues to be large even after introduction of new computer technologies. We concluded that technical errors are in all the catalogs we studied. This fact should be taken into account when using a catalog.

Keywords: earthquake catalogs, data formats, errors, technical problems.