

On the Deep Structure and Process in the Island Arcs of Southeast Asia

By

Yasumoto SUZUKI* & Kisaburō KODAMA*

The deep structure of island arcs bordering the west of the Pacific basin has been studied by many geoscientists in relation to the distribution of intermediate and deep earthquake foci. It is generally accepted that they are located in a certain earthquake zone that dips away from the oceanic trench to the continent. BENIOFF (1955) classified their space distribution into two types, namely marginal continental and oceanic, and concluded the place where the intermediate and deep earthquakes occur is just a kind of the thrust plane, along which the continental blocks are overriding the oceanic ones. Recently, TAKEUCHI and UYEDA (1965) explained them by the convection current hypothesis in the upper mantle. The regional patterns of earthquake generating stresses seem to support these hypotheses (HONDA et al. 1957, BALAKINA 1967, RITSEMA, 1957).

The authors doubted those hypotheses and reexamined the data on the distribution of hypocenters (GUTENBERG and RICHTER, 1954) and the earthquake generating stresses (FARA, 1964) in the Indonesian archipelago.

The earthquake foci in the region are displayed in Figs. 1, 2 and 3. It might be concluded from these figures that nearly all deep earthquake epicenters are confined to such inland sea basins as Java, Flores, Banda and Celebes seas. The depth of those foci is relatively uniform in the regions. Intermediate earthquakes about 200 km depth occur along the Molucca pass and southeast of Mindanao. Along the island arcs from Sumatra to Philippines many shallow and intermediate shocks are recorded. From these data it might be concluded that the depth of the hypocenters increases continuously from the outside of the arcs to the continent in the first approximation as Berlage (UMGROVE, 1949) pointed out.

The authors think that this is all a mere show. The distribution of earthquake foci is not continuous as supposed from the figure drawn by Berlage but there is discontinuity in the area between the island arcs and the inland sea basins. The relative independence of seismic activity in both regions might be read from Fig. 4 of the vertical NE-SW section along the south of Philippines.

* Fuel Department

The opinion might be substantiated by the radiation pattern of earthquakes in both regions (Figs. 6, 7, 8). The earthquake generating stresses in the inland sea basins are characterized by the general tendency that the maximum compression axes are nearly vertical and their horizontal components are roughly parallel to the island arcs, on the other hand the maximum tension axes are nearly horizontal and perpendicular to the arcs. The generating stresses of earthquakes along the island arcs are in a striking contrast to those in the inland sea basins. They are generally characterized by the horizontal component of maximum compression axes to be perpendicular to the island arcs and that of maximum tension axes to be parallel to them, as many authors pointed out already. Along the Molucca pass the maximum compression axes are perpendicular to the topographical features as seen from Fig. 6.

Those phenomena stated above might be very difficult to be explained either by the thrust plane hypothesis or the convection current hypothesis. The authors think that the seismic activity is relatively independent in each tectonic unit of islands and inland sea basins. This shows the deep processes in each tectonic unit are relatively independent, so the crustal deformation should be explained by the deep process beneath each unit. The current hypothesis supposed by VENING MEINESZ (1954) must be rejected.

It is said that the inland sea basins are formed in the young geologic time (BELOUSSOV et al. 1961, van BEMMELLEN 1954) and the process is now in progress. The intermediate and deep seismic activities in the basins would be related to the oceanization which is very important in the recent geotectonic movement. The horizontal tension state may be explained by the process. The same conclusion came from the study of seismic activity in the Japanese islands (Y. SUZUKI, 1968 a, b)

The acknowledgement: The authors are grateful to Dr. M. ICHIKAWA, the Meteorological Agency, for his many valuable suggestions.

References

- BALAKINA, L. M., VVEDENSKAYA, A. V., MISHARINA, L. A. & SHIROKOVA, E. I. (1967): *The stress state in earthquake foci and the elastic stress field of the earth*. Izv. Earth Physics, 6, p. 3~15 (English transl.).
- BELOUSSOV, V. V. & RUDITCH, E. M. (1961): *Island arcs in the development of the earth's structure (especially in the region of Japan and the Sea of Okhotsk)*. Jour. Geol. 10, p. 647~658.
- BENIOFF, H. (1955): *Seismic evidence for crustal structure and tectonic activity*. Geol. Soc. Amer., Spec. Paper 62, p. 61~74.
- FARA, H. D. (1964): *A new catalogue of earthquake fault plane solutions*. Bull. Seismol. Soc. Amer., 54, p. 1491~1517.
- GUTENBERG, P. & RICHTER, C. F. (1954): *Seismicity of the earth and associated*

- phenomena*. Princeton Univ. Press, N. J.
- HONDA, H., MASATSUKA, A. & EMURA, K. (1956) : *On the mechanism of the earth quakes and the stresses producing them in Japan and its vicinity (second paper)*. Sci. Rep., Tôhoku Univ., Ser. 5, Geophys. 8, p. 186~205.
- RITSEMA, A. R. (1957) : *On the focal mechanism of southeast Asian earthquakes*. Pub. Dominion Obs., Ottawa, 20, p. 341~368.
- SUGIMURA, A. & UYEDA, S. (1967) : *A possible anisotropy of the upper mantle accounting for deep earthquake faulting*. Tectonophysics, 5, p. 25~33.
- SUZUKI, Y. (1968 a) : *Seismicity and tectogenesis in the Japanese islands and their neighbourhood*. Rep. Geol. Surv. Japan, no. 228, p. 1~33.
- SUZUKI, Y. (1968 b) : *Earthquake generating stress and recent crustal deformation in central Japan*. Bull. Geol. Surv. Japan, 19, p. 519~528.
- TAKEUCHI, H. & UYEDA, S. (1965) : *A possibility of present-day regional metamorphism*. Tectonophysics, 2, p. 59~68.
- UMGROVE, J. H. F. (1949) : *Structural history of the east Indies*. Cambridge Univ. Press.
- VAN BEMMELEN, R. W. (1954) : *Mountain building* Martinus Nijhoff, Hague.
- VENING MEINESZ, F. A. (1954) : *Indonesian archipelago: a geophysical study* Bull. Geol. Soc. Amer., 65, p. 143~164.

東南アジアの島弧の深部構造とそこでの変化過程について

鈴木 尉元 小玉 喜三郎

要 旨

東南アジアの島弧の震源分布と発震機構の資料を再検討した。その結果、深発地震の震央は、弧内海盆にその分布が大体限られること、その中ではあまり深度変化はみられないこと、これと浅～中発地震の発生する島弧の震源とは不連続的に移りかわると考えられることを述べた。発震機構の資料によると、弧内海盆に起こる地震の起震歪力と島弧のそれともきわめて対照的で、従来、対流説がよりどころとしていたような分布をとらないことをのべた。

Table 1

Date day. m. y.	Epicentral coordinates	Depth (R)	Mag.	Pres Tens Null (Azimuth, Plunge)		
04. 06. 30	06. 5 S 128. 5 E.	06		S 25W22	S 89 E 45	N 48W37
28. 03. 31	07. S 129. 5 E.	01		S 10W15	S 87 E 25	N 52W60
24. 06. 33	05. 0 S 104. 2 E.	00		S 14W18	N 35W63	S 83 E 18
24. 06. 33	05. 0 S 104. 2 E.	00	7. 5	N 32 E 12	S 46 E 45	N 69W43
10. 04. 34	07. S 116. E.	00		S 55W 2	N 35W 6	S 53 E 83
10. 04. 34	07. 0 S 116. 0 E.	00	6. 8	S 55W02	N 35W06	S 53 E 83
29. 06. 34	06. 7 S 123. 7 E.	11		N 38 E 34	S 32 E 27	S 87W44

地質調査所月報 (第20卷 第11号)

Date day. m. y.	Epicentral coordinates	Depth (R)	Mag.	Pres	Tens	Null
				(Azimuth, Plunge)		
04.10.35	06. N 125. E.	07		N50W52	S 84E33	S 17W17
25.11.35	05.5N 094.0E.	00	6.5	S 5E60	N65W16	N33E24
28.12.35	00.2S 098.0E.	00	7.9	S 27E13	N58E22	N88W62
20.01.36	06. N 127. E.	01		N40E 1	S 50E 7	N61W83
28.04.36	06.5S 129. E.	03		N 2W43	S 81W 7	S 17E46
08.05.36	05.7S 112.7E.	09		N18E78	S 18W12	N72W 0
10.06.36	05.5S 147. E.	02		N56E 2	S 33E31	N37W59
23.08.36	06. N 095. E.	01		S 10E 0	N80E44	S 80W46
23.08.36	06.0N 095.0E.	00	7.3	S 9E 4	N77E42	S 85W48
05.04.37	01. S 133. E.	01		S 10E18	N78E 8	N35W71
01.07.37	03.0N 096.0E.	01	6.7	S 28E69	N24E14	N70W16
11.08.37	06.5S 116.5E.	09		S 50W57	N10W18	N89E27
11.08.37	06.5S 112.7E.	09		S 11W66	N11E24	N79W 0
27.09.37	08.8S 110.8E.	00	7.2	S 14E17	N74E 8	N41W71
01.02.38	05. S 131.5E.	00		S 6W 4	S 85E10	N61W79
01.02.38	05.0S 131.5E.	00	8.2	S 6W 4	S 85E10	N61W79
08.04.38	06.0S 094.5E.	01	6.0	S 67E19	S 26W 9	N40W69
18.08.38	03.8S 102.8E.	01		N30W18	S 30E72	N60E 0
18.08.38	04.0S 103.0E.	01	6.9	N64W10	N43E58	S 20W30
25.08.38	05.0S 102.0E.	00	6.9	N36W21	S 52W 4	S 48E68
20.10.38	09.2S 123.0E.	01		S 20W44	N55W15	N49E43
15.11.38	04.8S 098.9E.	00				S 38E78
15.11.38	05.0S 099.0E.	00	6.5	S 36E13	N45E35	S 71W52
21.12.39	00. 123. E.	02		S 13E14	N30E71	S 80W12
21.03.40	10.5S 107.5E.	00		S 67E 6	N23E 1	N73W84
21.03.40	10.5S 107.5E.	00	6.8	S 67E 6	N23E 1	N73W84
28.03.40	14.5N 120.5E.	02		N88W 1	N 3E24	S 1E66
28.03.40	14.2N 120.5E.	02	6.8	N88W 1	N 3E24	S 1E66
18.06.40	05.4N 123.0E.	08		N45W88	S 45E02	N45E 0
22.06.40	00. 122.5E.	03		S 3E 1	N86E58	S 87W32
22.09.40	08.0N 124.0E.	10		S 5E68	N72E 5	N20W22
22.09.40	07.5N 123.5E.	10		N16E47	S 82W21	S 24E36
07.10.40	05. N 126. E.	01		N13E46	S 71E 5	S 24W44
31.01.41	06.5S 128.5E.	03		S 8W52	N26W33	N75E17
04.02.41	09. N 124. E.	09		N39E71	N58W 2	S 32W19
25.02.41	09. S 125. E.	02		S 4W23	N77E34	N60W47
26.06.41	12.5N 092.5E.	00		N34W40	S 34E50	N56E 0
26.06.41	12.5N 092.5E.	00	8.1	N28E41	S 37W48	S 58E 5
17.09.41	00.1N 122.7E.	03		N36E46	S 52E 2	S 40W43
27.11.41	06.6S 121.1E.	07		S 79E51	N18W22	S 58W31
08.04.42	13.2N 120.5E.	00		S 53E13	N34E15	S 75W70
08.04.42	13.2N 120.5E.	00		S 53E13	N34E15	S 75W70
28.05.42	00. 124. E.	01		S 13E16	N75E 5	N31W73
25.07.42	11.5N 124.5E.	01		S 66W18	N23W 1	N69E72
29.07.42	02.7S 127.7E.	00		S 00W85	N00W05	N90E 0
29.07.42	02.8S 127.8E.	00	7.0	S 00E85	N00W05	S 90W 0

On the Deep Structure and Process in the Island Arcs of Southeast Asia (Y. SUZUKI & K. KODAMA)

Date day. m. y.	Epicentral coordinates		Depth (R)	Mag.	Pres	Tens	Null
					(Azimuth, Plunge)		
01.04.43	06.5 S	106. E.	00		N14W16	S 46W60	N84E24
01.04.43	06.5 S	106.0E.	00	7.0	N14W16	S 46W60	N84E24
25.05.43	07.5N	127.5E.	00		N81E19	S 8E 3	N90W71
25.05.43	07.5N	127.5E.	00	7.9	N81E19	S 8E 3	N90W71
08.06.43	01.0 S	101.0E.	00	7.4	S 42W57	N64E31	N32W10
09.06.43	01.0 S	101.0E.	00	7.6	S 15W53	N47E32	N53W15
30.06.43	07. S	122. E.	11		N41W 0	S 49W29	N49E61
06.11.43	05.7 S	134. E.	00		S 27E 33	S 66W 4	N18W56
06.11.43	05.8 S	134.0E.	00	7.6	S 27E 33	S 66W 4	N18W56
26.11.43	02.5 S	100.0E.	01	7.1	S 16E12	N60E47	S 84W40
01.12.43	04.5 S	144. E.	01		S 54E13	N35E 4	N73W77
05.01.44	03.5 S	102.0E.	00	7.0	N18W 4	N75E32	S 66W58
22.03.44	08.5 S	123.5E.	03		S 28E 6	N59E30	S 73W60
31.03.44	05.5 S	131. E.	00		S 12E14	S 82W14	N35E70
31.03.44	05.5 S	131.0E.	00	7.0	S 12E14	S 82W14	N35E70
26.04.44	00.7 S	133.5E.	00		N37W 7	S 50W24	N69E65
26.04.44	00.8 S	133.5E.	00	7.2	N37W 7	S 50W24	N69E65
27.04.44	01. S	133. E.	00		N16W 6	N79E37	S 66W53
27.04.44	01.0 S	133.0E.	00	7.4	N16W 6	N79E37	S 66W53
15.11.44	04.5N	127.5E.	00		N35E50	S 35W40	N55W 0
15.11.44	04.5N	127.5E.	00	7.2	S 35W35	N35E55	N55W 0
22.04.45	05. N	123. E.	10		S 30W47	N83E29	N25W28
09.05.45	07.5 S	124. E.	08		N39E48	S 34E15	S 68W38
16.10.45	00.	123.7E.	00		N18E 0	S 72E38	N72W52
16.10.45	00.0N	123.8E.	00	7.1	S 18W 0	S 72E38	N72W52
17.01.46	06.2 S	147.7E.	01		N66W18	S 23W 3	S 78E72
17.01.46	06.2 S	147.8E.	01	7.2	N66W18	S 23W 3	S 78E72
26.03.46	03.0 S	102.0E.	00	6.7	S 45W 7	S 47E14	N20W47
08.05.46	00.5 S	099.5E.	00	7.1	S 65W16	N17W26	S 52E59
15.06.46	03. S	128. E.	01		N80E21	S 9E 3	S 88W68
10.11.46	08.0 S	078.0W.	00		N83E 6	S 3E34	N15W55
27.05.47	01.7 S	135.5E.	01		S 30E24	S 62W 4	N19W65
27.05.47	01.8 S	135.5E.	01	7.3	S 30E24	S 62W 4	N19W65
27.05.47	01.7 S	135.5E.	01		S 22E34	S 79W16	N 9E52
27.05.47	01.8 S	135.5E.	01	7.2	S 22E34	S 79W16	N 9E52
24.01.48	11. N	122. E.	00		S 31W12	S 60E 5	N 8E77
24.01.48	11.0N	122.0E.	00	8.2	S 31W12	S 60E 5	N 8E77
28.01.48	01.5N	126.5E.	01		S 68W51	S 27E 4	N60E39
01.03.48	03. S	127.2E.	00		S 76E 6	S 18W36	N 5E53
01.03.48	03.0 S	127.2E.	00	7.5	S 76E 6	S 18W36	N 5E53
27.03.49	03.2N	127.7E.	00		N55E 7	S 35E 7	N80W80
27.03.49	03.2N	127.8E.	00	7.0	N55E 7	S 35E 7	N80W80
23.04.49	07.5 S	120.7E.	00		N45E65	S 45W25	N45W 0
23.04.49	07.5 S	120.8E.	00	7.1	S 45W25	N45E65	N45W 0
23.04.49	08. S	121. E.	01		S 45W12	S 58E45	N34W43
30.04.49	07. N	125. E.	02		N63W 1	S 27W32	N29E58

地質調査所月報 (第20卷 第11号)

Date day. m. y.	Epicentral coordinates	Depth (R)	Mag.	Pres (Azimuth, Plunge)	Tens	Null
09.05.49	05.0 S 095.0 E.	00	6.7	S 4E29	N53E45	N75W31
24.06.49	06.2 S 105.7 E.	00		S 0W27	N71E34	N60W45
24.06.49	06.4 S 105.8 E.	00	7.0	S 0W27	N71E34	N60W45
07.08.50	07.5 N 124.5 E.	01		S80E 2	S11W31	N 7E59
14.09.50	00.5 N 127. E.	03		N 6E 6	S84E 0	S 6W84
19.09.50	02. S 138.5 E.	00		S73W35	N 8W12	S82E52
19.09.50	02.0 S 138.5 E.	00	6.9	S73W35	N 8W12	S82E52
08.10.50	04. S 128.5 E.	00		S25E27	N62E 6	N40W63
08.10.50	04.0 S 128.5 E.	00	7.6	S25E27	N62E 6	N40W63
02.11.50	07.5 S 129. E.	03		S 1W32	N83W10	N22E56
02.11.50	07.5 S 129.0 E.	03	7.5	S 5W35	N78W 9	N24E52
17.02.51	07. S 146. E.	03		N89E43	S29W29	N39W34
29.11.51	00.5 N 120.5 E.	00		N18E20	N81W22	S34E60
29.11.51	00.5 N 120.5 E.	00	6.5	N18E20	N81W22	S34E60
29.11.51	00.5 N 120.5 E.	00		S86E22	S15W25	N32W55
29.11.51	00.5 N 120.5 E.	00	6.5	S86E22	S15W25	N32W55
11.02.52	05.5 S 109.8 E.	10		S35E38	N55E 0	N35W52
14.02.52	07.7 S 126.5 E.	00		S 8E11	N81E 8	N45W76
19.03.52	09.5 N 126.0 E.	00		S15E58	N75E 0	N15W32
08.05.52	02.5 N 127. E.	00		S69W 3	S22E 9	N 3W81
08.05.52	02.5 S 127.0 E.	00	6.7	S69W 3	S22E 9	N 3W81
13.07.52	03.1 S 127.0 E.	00		N88E18	S40W64	N 8W18
13.07.52	03.1 S 127.0 E.	00		N88E18	S40W64	N 8W18
06.11.52	05. S 145.5 E.	00		S19W 0	N71W14	S71E76
06.11.52	05.0 S 145.5 E.	00	7.3	S19W 0	N71W14	S71E76
20.01.53	01.5 N 126.0 E.	00		S44E50	N 5W33	S72W19
06.04.53	07.3 S 131.0 E.	00		S19E44	S76W 5	N 9W46
25.06.53	08.5 S 123.5 E.	00		N69E 0	S21E 8	N21W82
07.07.53	01.0 N 100.0 E.	03		N67W13	N52E63	S18W22
13.11.53	03.5 N 096.0 E.	00		N64E 1	N27W 1	S18W89
02.12.53	02.7 S 141.5 E.	00		N45W11	N45E 0	S45E10
01.01.54	09.0 S 123.5 E.	01		S 9W17	N75W19	N61E64
20.02.54	06.9 S 124.5 E.	09		N59E47	N68W29	S 4W28
03.03.54	05.5 S 142.5 E.	00		S56W14	N33W 6	N78E75
06.06.54	03.0 S 135.5 E.	00				N21W 0
02.07.54	13.0 N 124.0 E.	00	7.0	N71E 1	S19E 1	N64W88
03.07.54	06.5 S 105.5 E.	01		S37W22	N37E68	N53W 0
20.09.54	01.5 S 120.5 E.	00		S36W46	S80E23	N 7W35
03.10.54	01.5 S 127.5 E.	00		N65E 4	S25E10	N48W79
02.11.54	08.0 S 119.0 E.	00		S48W 9	S44E14	N 9W74
31.03.55	08. N 124. E.	00		N44E 1	S45E24	N47W66
31.03.55	08.0 N 124.0 E.	00	7.5	N44E 1	S45E24	N47W66
17.05.55	06.5 N 094. E.	00		N71E 8	S18E11	N55W76
17.05.55	06.5 N 094.0 E.	00	7.2	N71E 8	S18E11	N55W76
29.05.55	10. S 110.5 E.	00		S17E24	N72E 1	N21W66
29.05.55	10.0 S 110.5 E.	00	6.5	S17E24	N72E 1	N21W66

On the Deep Structure and Process in the Island Arcs of Southeast Asia(Y. SUZUKI & K. KODAMA)

Date day. m. y.	Epicentral coordinates	Depth (R)	Mag.	Pres	Tens	Null
				(Azimuth, Plunge)		
21. 08. 55	03. 0 S 137. 5 E.	00		N26 E 8	N69W35	S 53 E54
15. 09. 55	05. S 134. 5 E.	00		S 89 E40	S 4W 4	N82W50
15. 09. 55	05. 0 S 134. 5 E.	00	6. 7	S 89 E40	S 4W 4	N82W50
10. 02. 57	10. N 126. E.	00		S 73W12	N 8W39	S 31 E49
10. 02. 57	10. 0 N 126. 5 E.	00	6. 7	S 73W12	N 8W39	S 31 E49
10. 02. 57	10. N 26. 1 E.	00		S 31W13	S 60 E 4	N12E77
10. 02. 57	10. 0 N 126. 5 E.	00	6. 8	S 31W13	S 60 E 4	N12E77
10. 02. 57	10. 5 N 126. 5 E.	00		S 28W 6	S 62 E 3	N 1 E84
10. 02. 57	10. 5 N 126. 5 E.	00	6. 7	S 28W 6	S 62 E 3	N 1 E84
11. 02. 57	10. N 126. E.	00		S 23W 2	S 67 E 2	N22W87
11. 02. 57	10. 0 N 126. 0 E.	00	6. 5	S 23W 2	S 67 E 2	N22W87
23. 03. 57	05. 5 S 131. E.	01		N77 E38	N15W 3	S 72W52
23. 03. 57	05. 5 S 131. 0 E.	01	7. 0	N77 E38	N15W 3	S 72W52
16. 04. 57	04. 5 S 107. 5 E.	09		S 72 E64	N26W 4	N62W25
16. 04. 57	04. 5 S 107. 5 E.	09	7. 5	S 72 E64	N26W 4	N62W25
02. 05. 57	07. 5 S 120. E.	09		S 84 E54	S 14W 6	N72W36
02. 05. 57	07. 5 S 120. 0 E.	09	6. 7	S 84 E54	S 14W 6	N72W36
22. 06. 57	01. 5 S 137. E.	00		S 82 E 5	S 8W 5	N37W83
22. 06. 57	01. 5 S 137. 0 E.	00	7. 2	S 82 E 5	S 8W 5	N37W83
24. 09. 57	05. 5 N 127. 5 E.	00		S 42W28	N48W 0	N42E62
27. 09. 57	08. 7 S 110. 7 E.	00		S 14 E17	N74 E 8	N41W71
25. 06. 58	03. 0 S 144. 5 E.	00				
25. 06. 58	03. 0 S 144. 5 E.		6. 3	S 2W 0	S 88 E 0	N 0 E90
15. 08. 58	01. 5 N 125. 0 E.	03	6. 8			

(after FARA (1964))

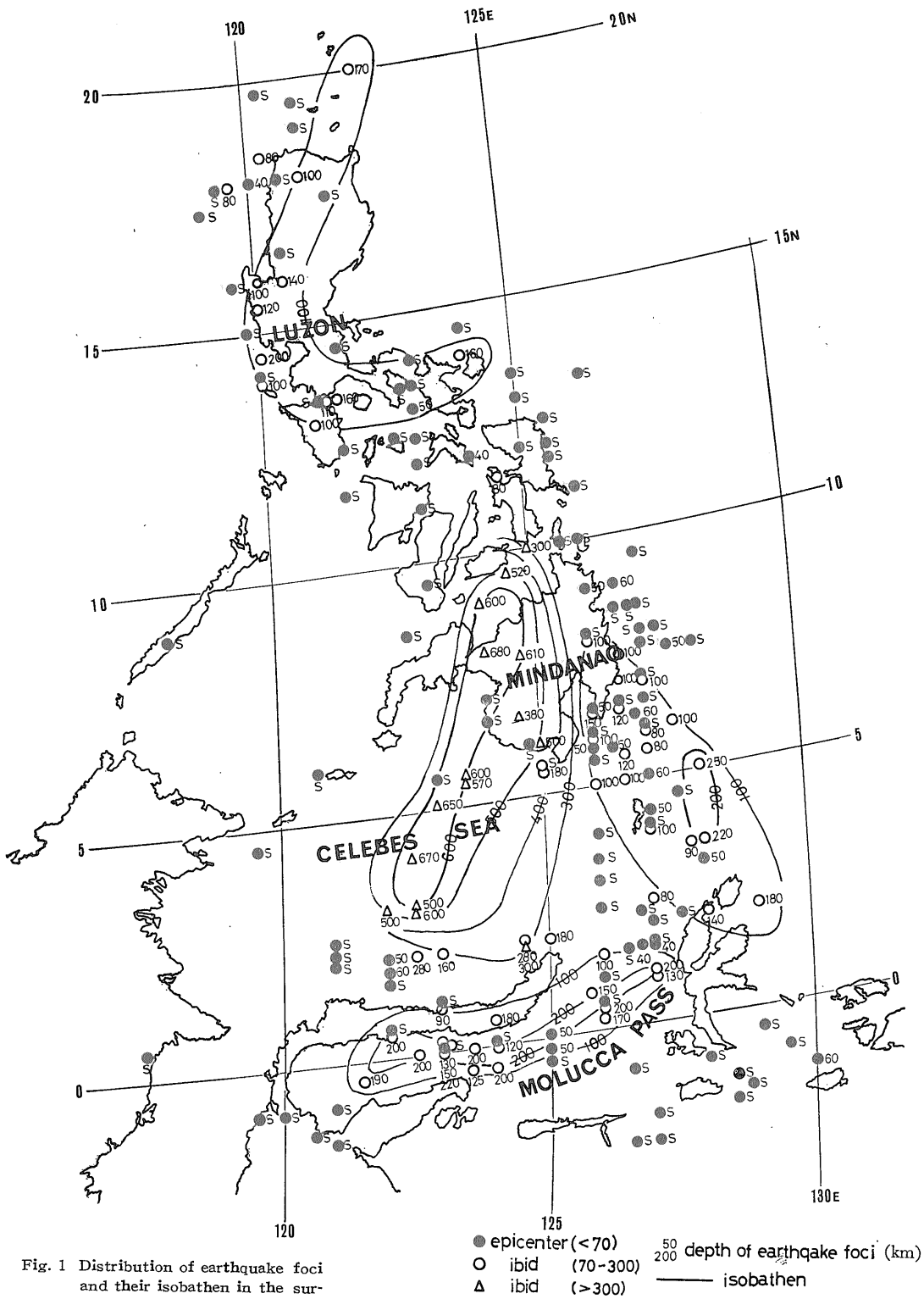


Fig. 1 Distribution of earthquake foci and their isobathen in the surroundings of the Philippines.

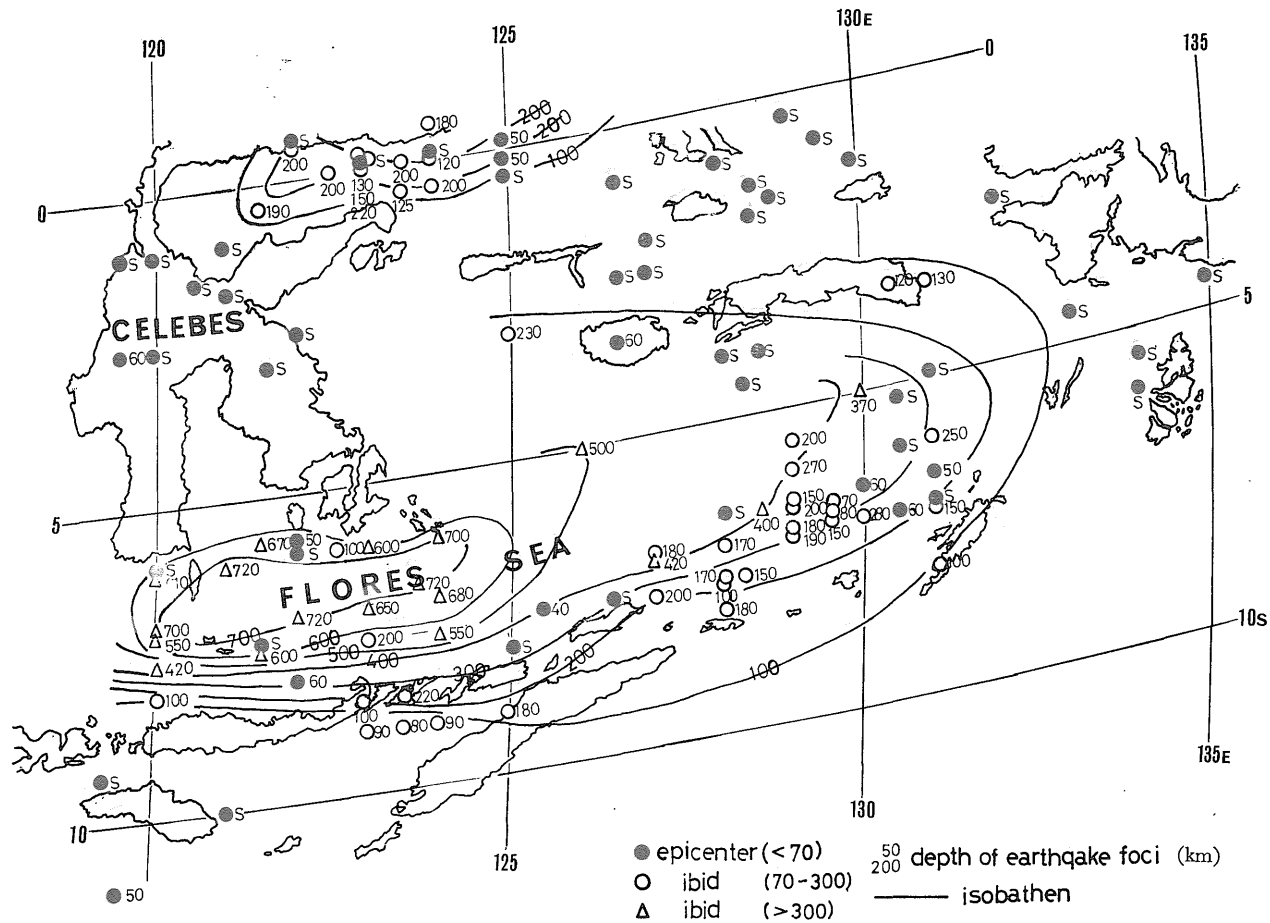
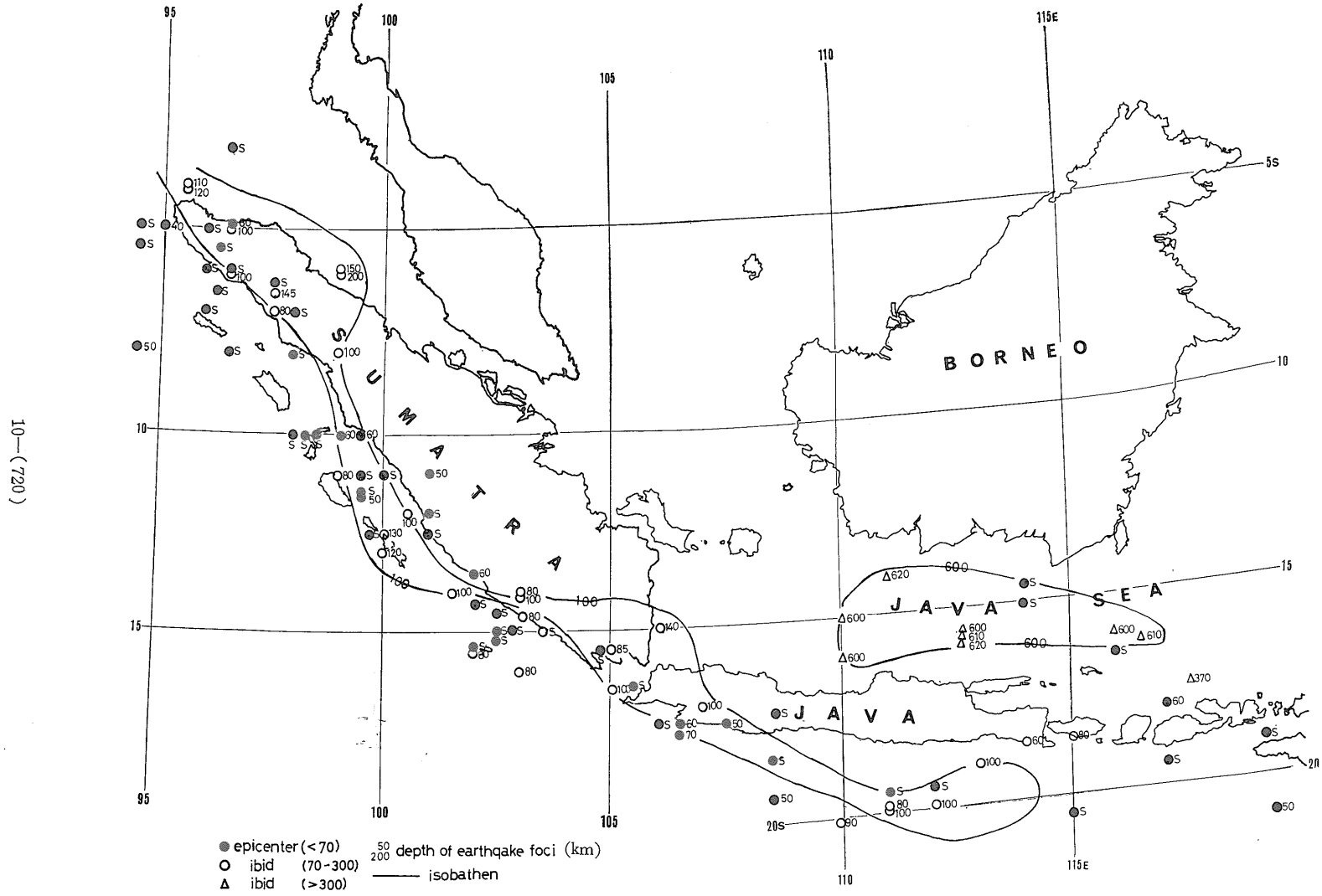


Fig. 2 Distribution of earthquake foci and their isobathen in the surroundings of Flores sea.



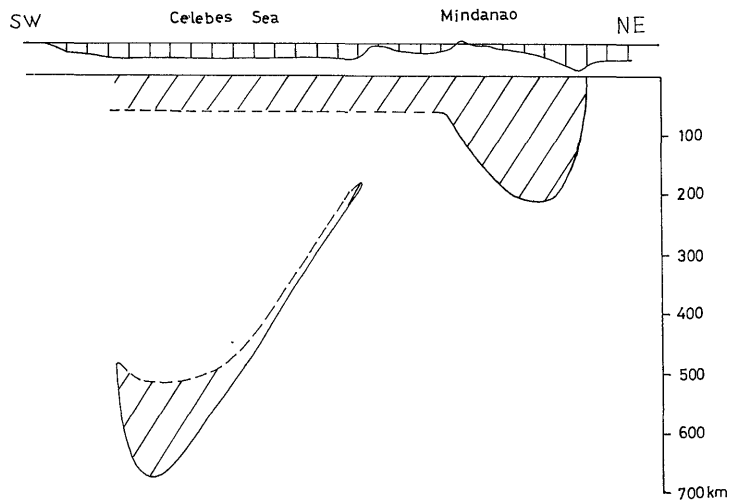


Fig. 4 Schematic section of topography (upper) and earthquake foci (lower) in the region from Mindanao to Celebes sea.

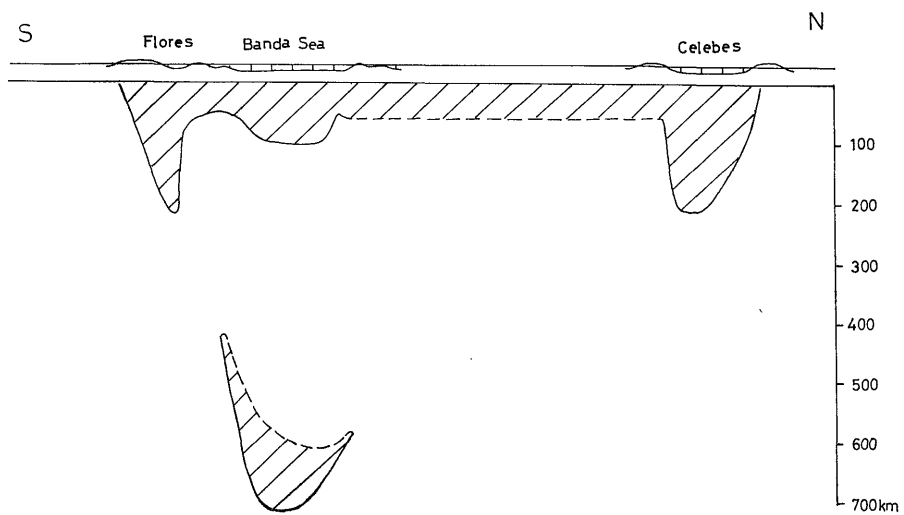


Fig. 5 Schematic section of topography (upper) and earthquake foci (lower) in the region from Celebes to Flores sea.

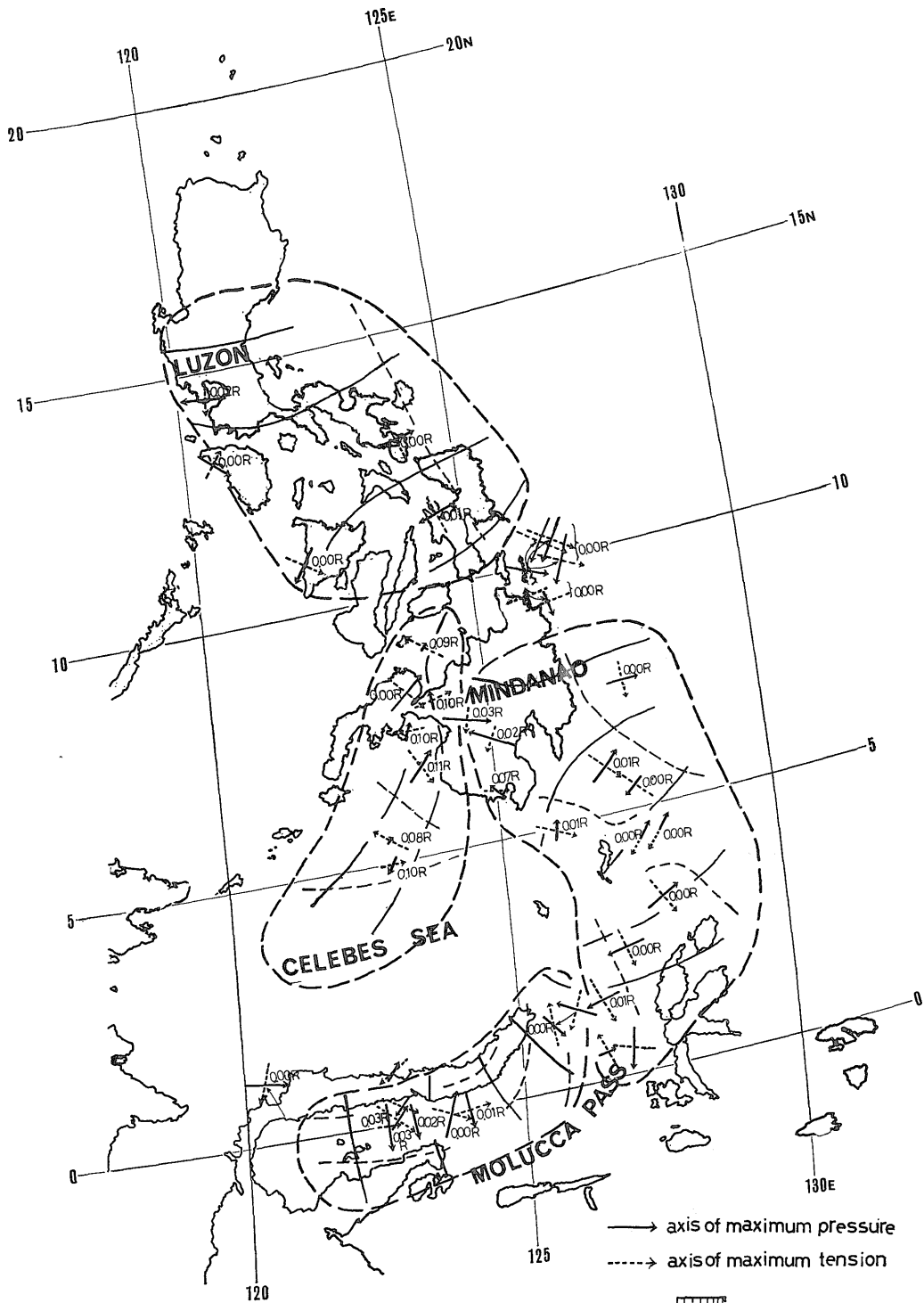


Fig. 6 The direction of maximum pressure (solid lines) and maximum tension (dotted lines) in the surroundings of the Philippines. Arrow indicates the direction of inclination. Length of each line is proportional to the cosine of the plunge.

—→ axis of maximum pressure
 - - - - -→ axis of maximum tension
 001R depth of focus

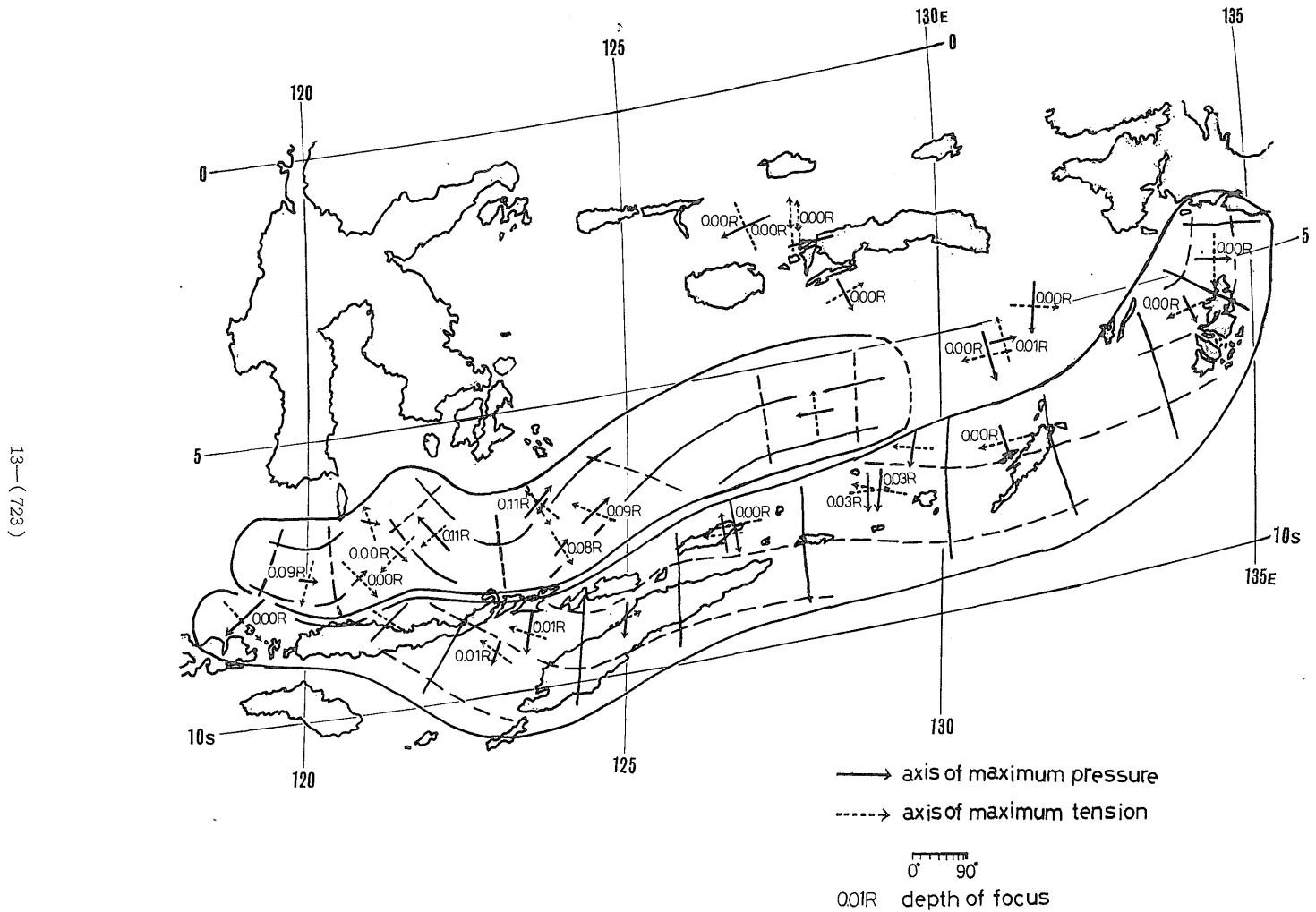


Fig. 7 The direction of maximum pressure (solid lines) and maximum tension (dotted lines) in the surroundings of Flores sea.

