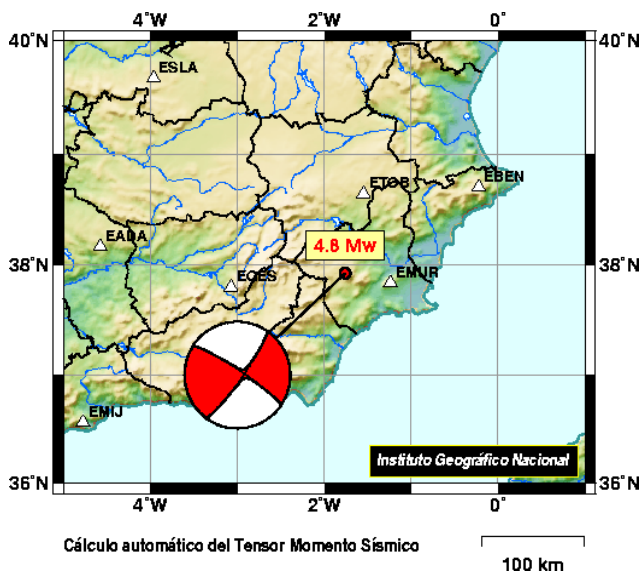


Rapid preliminary field report for the 29th January 2005 Lorca earthquake in Spain

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Summary

Last Saturday's earthquake (**4.6**(mbLg) IGN; **4.4** USGS; **4.4** (M_L) EMSC) caused moderate damage to both traditional and engineered structures in locations NW of the Spanish town of Lorca, in the SE corner of the Iberian peninsula. Damaged locations lie SW of the epicenter suggesting the NE-SW trending Crevillente fault zone in accordance with the focal mechanism. I_0 of at least EMS 6+ has been observed in the towns of La Paca and Zarcilla, suggesting a high stress drop, a SW-wards rupturing shallow event and possible trapping and amplification of seismic energy in the quaternary clays of the area.



View looking east across epicentral area

Damage to traditional structures

1.1 Drift of loadbearing masonry walls.



Damage to traditional structures

1.2 Fall of roof eaves.



1.3 Wall failure



1.4 Gable wall failure



1.5 Shear Damage



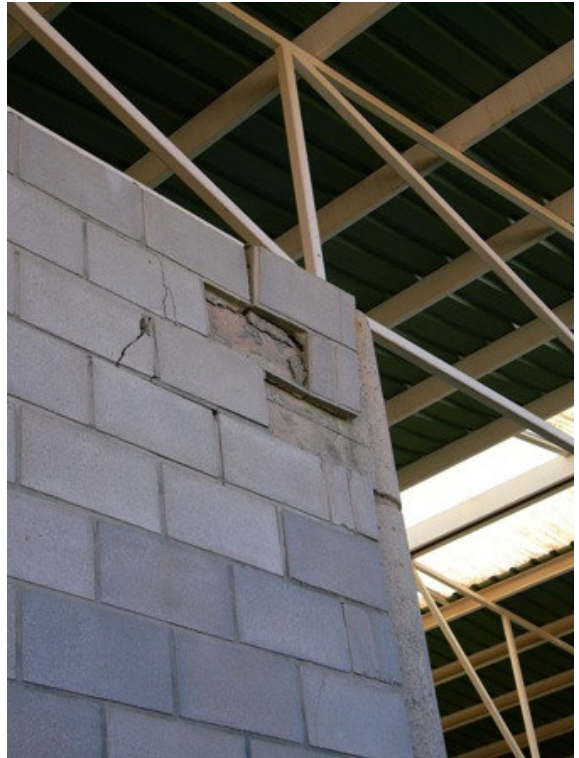
1.6 Roof Damage



Damage to engineered structures

2.1 Shear damage to masonry infill panels





Damage to objects and furniture



