

PhD Study Opportunity in New Zealand and New Caledonia

Apply: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/fgr>

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New Caledonia ophiolite emplacement

Dramatic forces are required to uplift Earth's mantle and exposed it at the surface as an ophiolite. This happened in New Caledonia during formation of the western Pacific Ring of Fire in the Eocene. The scientific problem of how ophiolites are emplaced, and a connection to large-scale subduction zone initiation remains a mystery. The international community is developing international onshore (ICDP) and offshore (IODP) drilling proposals to investigate this in New Caledonia. We are in the process of deploying an array of onshore broadband seismometers there, and we recently collected offshore seismic reflection and IODP data. We seek a geophysics PhD candidate to assist with fieldwork in New Caledonia and to analyse earthquake data, with a focus on understanding crustal structure of the ophiolite. The project is conceived in association with the Geological Survey of New Caledonia, and a large international collaboration is expected by the end of the study.

