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On the correlation between regions of seismic activity and crustal strain rates inferred from GPS measurements of a velocity field on the territory of the Central Tien Shan

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Using the velocity of recent movement of the crust of a sizable terrestrial areas (the Central Tien Shan) measured by GPS we evaluate the strain rate tensor. The components of the tensor turn out to be equal to the gradients of the velocity field. The areas of the extreme values of the gradients of the velocity components coincide with regions of the majority of earthquakes.