

Local scientists work to determine origin of Texas earthquakes



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AUSTIN (KXAN) – [When an earthquake hit Oklahoma early Saturday morning](#), people say they could feel the ground shake from Nebraska down to Texas. There’s a lot of science and equipment placed all around the country to help us know when an earthquake might happen.

But, what if there was technology that could help prevent some of these earthquakes? A [local group](#) of geologists say they aren’t there yet, but they’re working on it.

For the past 20 years Dr. Alexandros Savvaidis has studied earthquakes. Most of that time he worked in Greece but recently moved to Texas to take on the task of finding the origin of earthquakes.

“It’s exciting in the sense that we get more data that will help us to understand how the physics of the earth works,” said Dr. Savvaidis.

The program, funded by the state will cost around \$4.7 million. With that money the group will place seismometers all over the state. “We made a plan of the network based on the positions of the existing stations and the seismic activity of the state,” said Savvaidis.

The program will not only help determine the origin of earthquakes but also areas where they may have been caused by human activity and hopefully prevent them from occurring in the future.

“Define the faults and inform the public and the industry about that and provide some information to be proactive in the future because that’s the important thing with earthquakes, to be proactive.”



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