

Integration of seismology, geodesy, and mantle dynamics for grand challenge Earth science problems

Thorsten W Becker
University of Southern California
Los Angeles

Workshop on Future Seismic and Geodetic
Facility Needs in the Geosciences

Leesburg VA

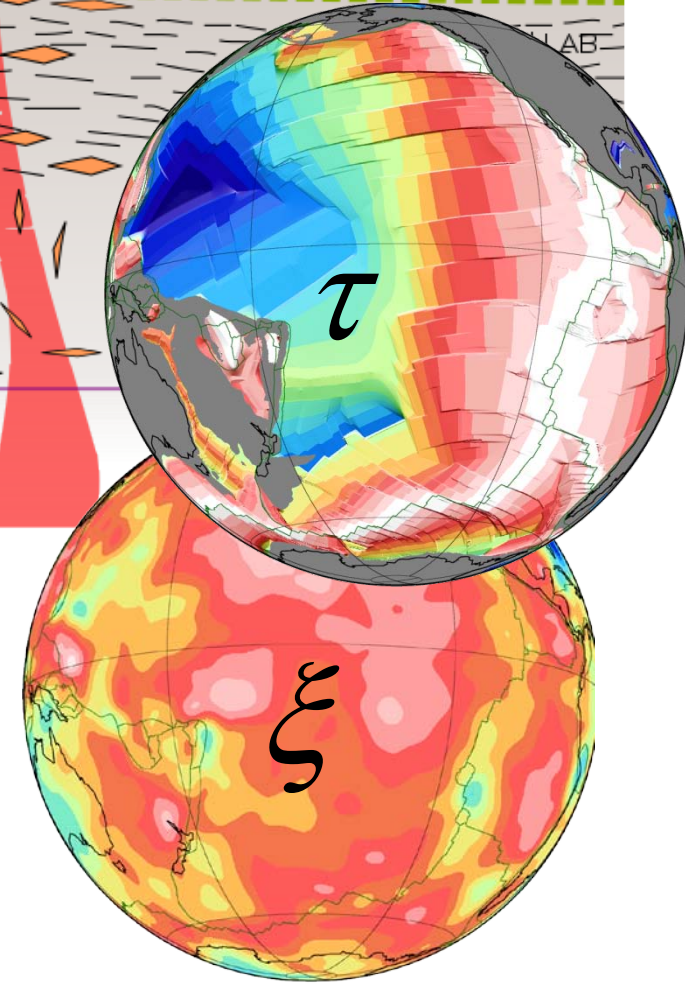
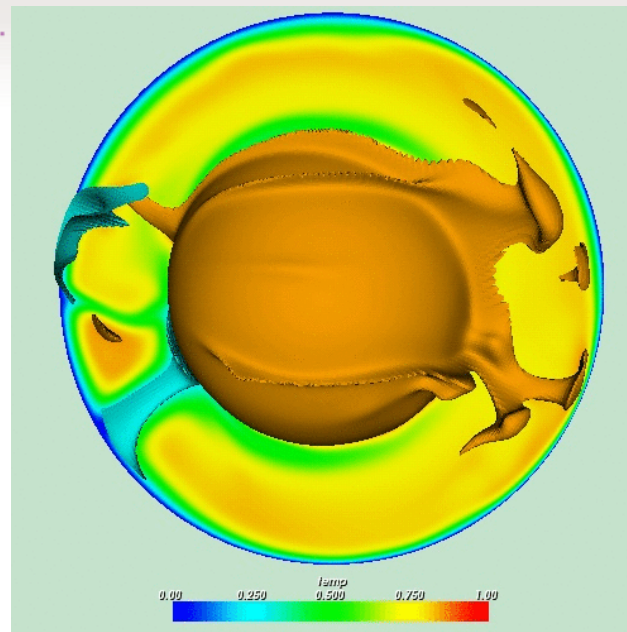
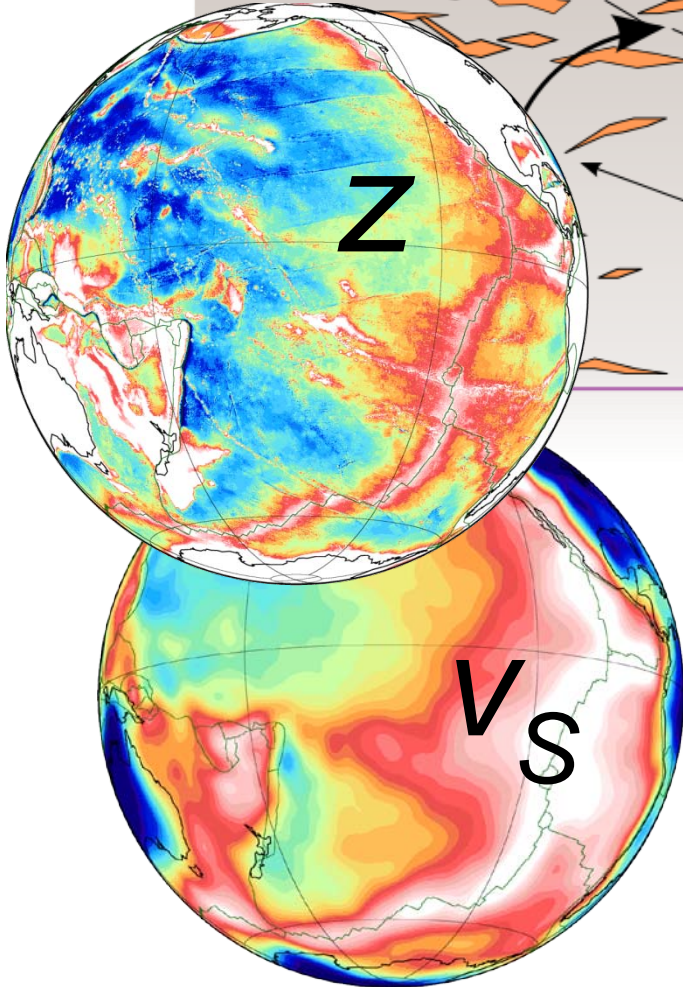
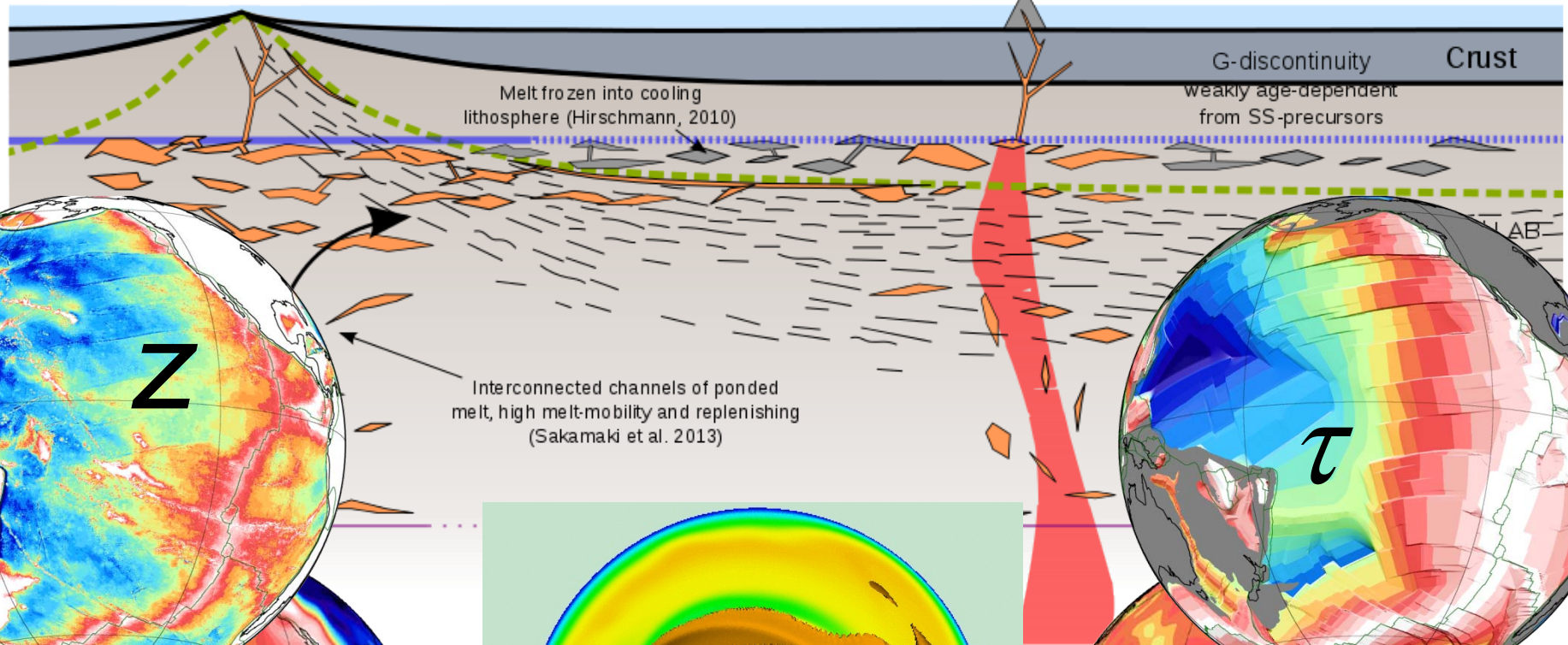
May 4, 2015

Oceanic system: Reference model, no more?

(Plate tectonics = thermal boundary layer)

Spreading center

Hotspot



Subduction: Transients in tectonic loading at megathrusts

- constitutive law for faults?
- plate boundary evolution?
- strain localization?
- hazard assessment?

Change in GPS network velocities
pre Tohoku M9

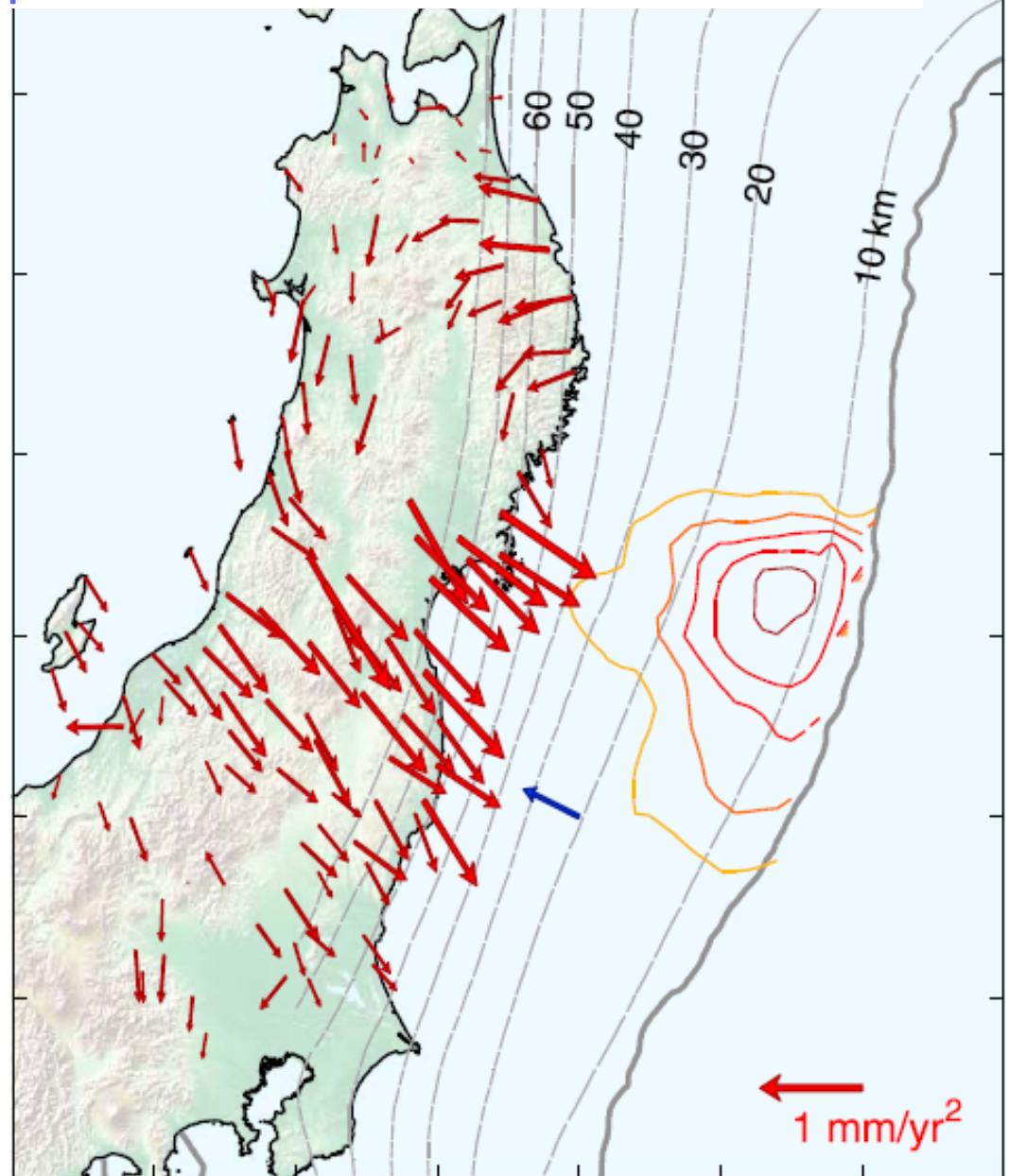
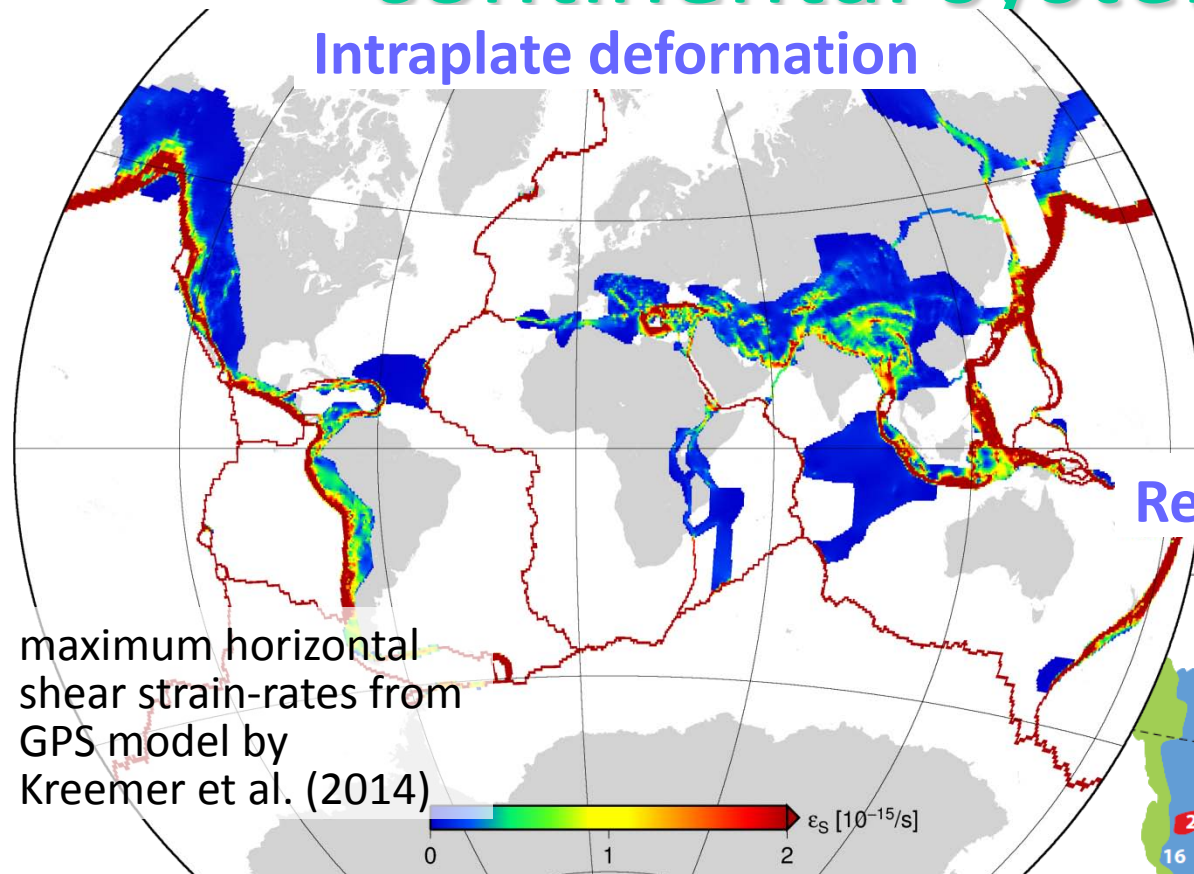


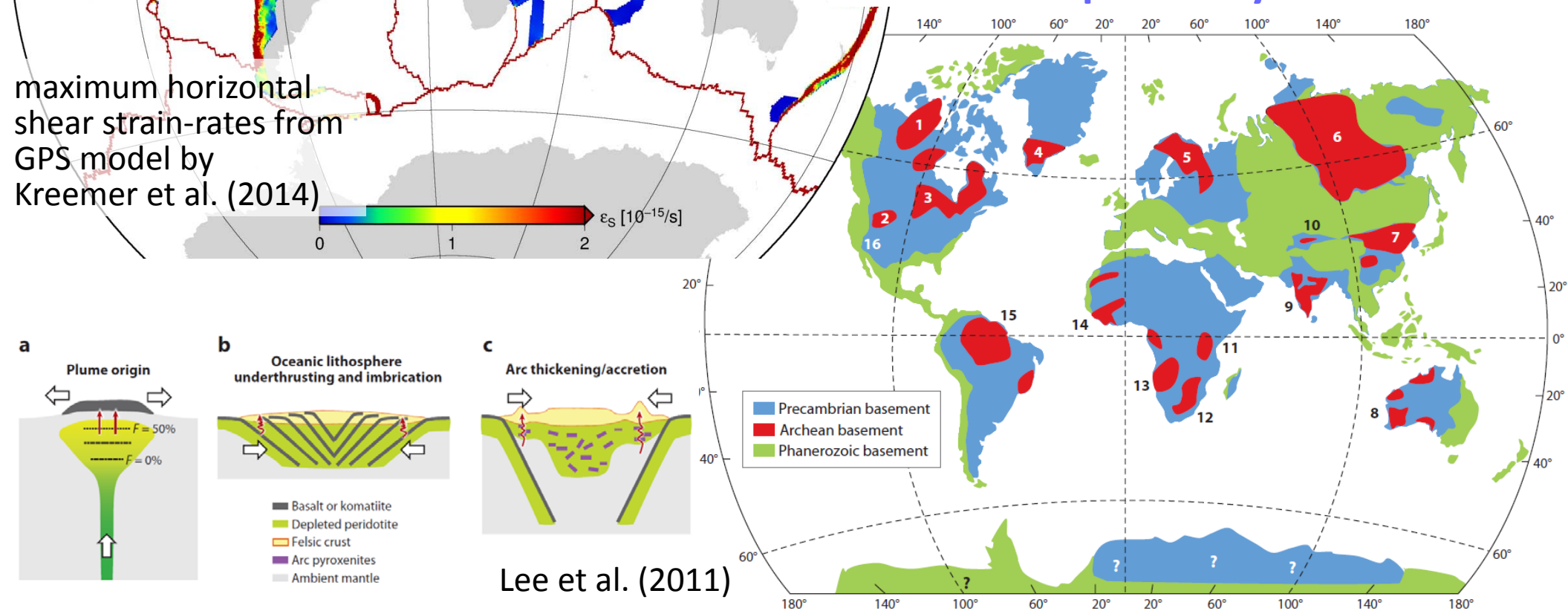
Plate tectonics 2.0 has to explain continental system dynamics

Intraplate deformation

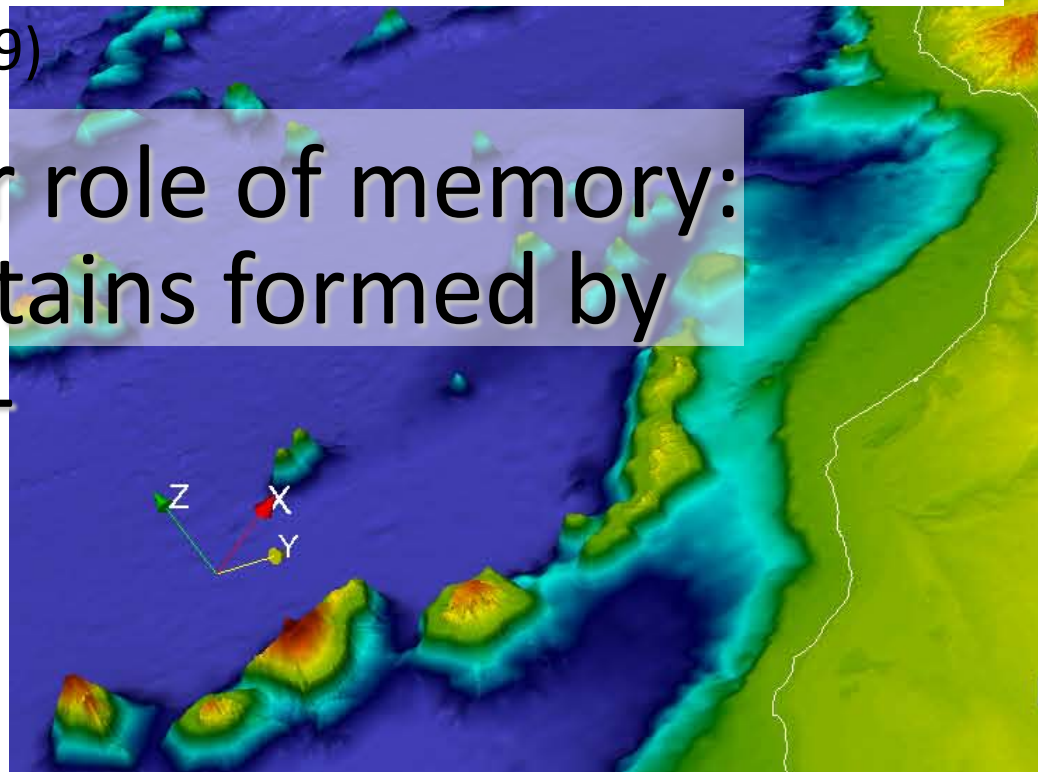
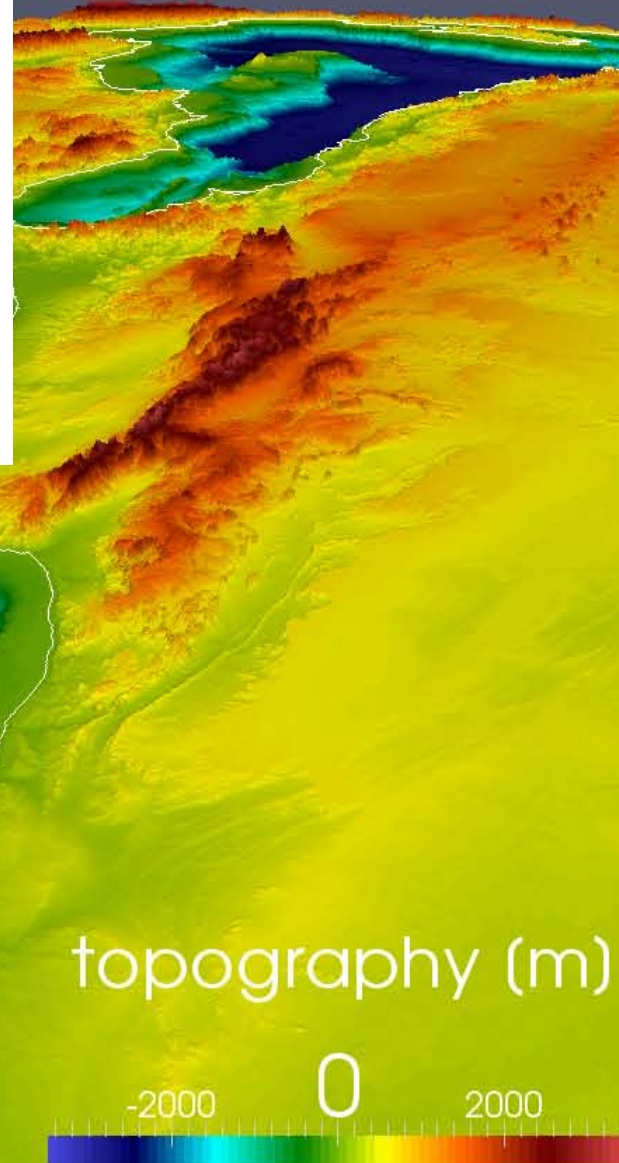
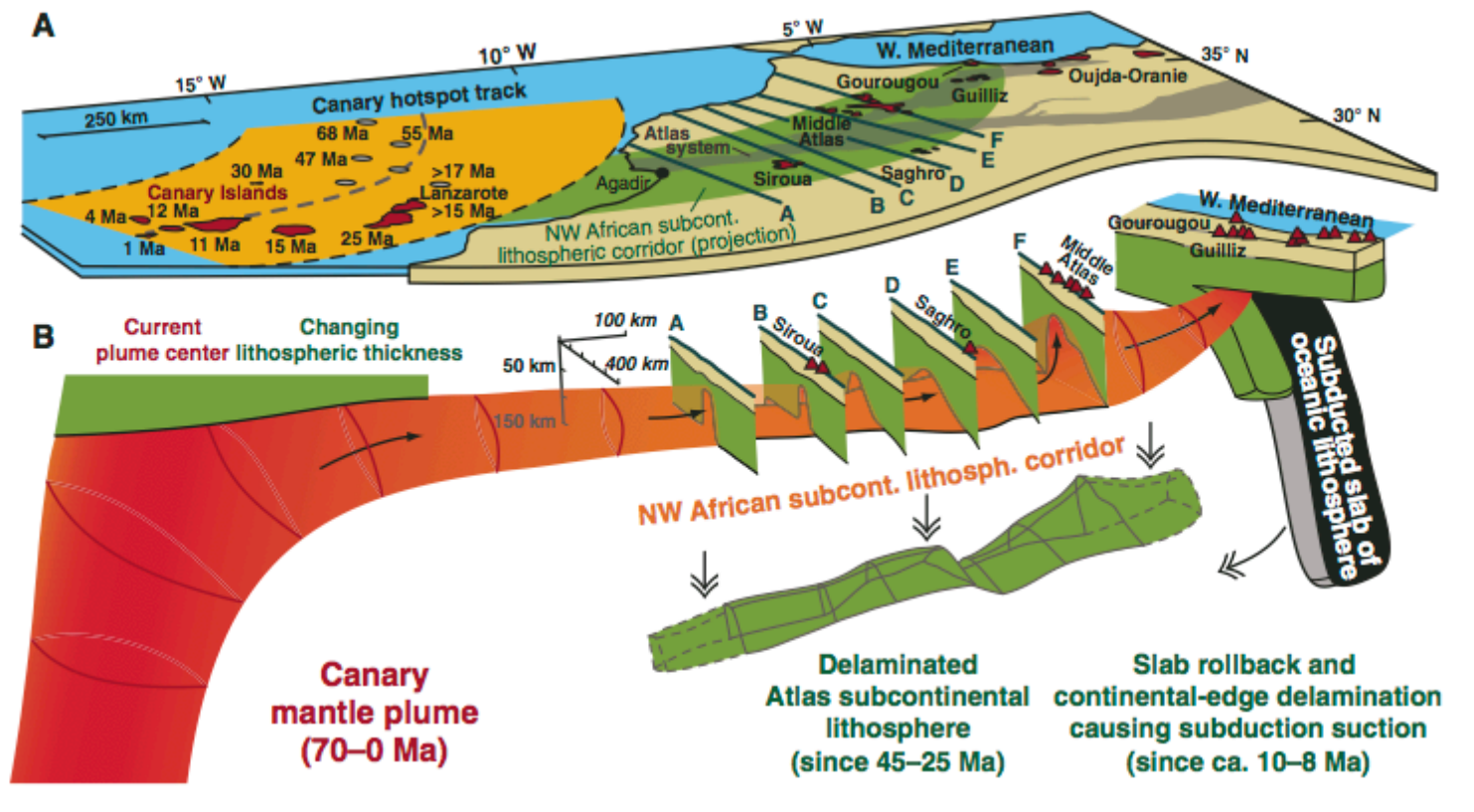


- Link surface deformation (present and past) to deep mantle dynamics

Recorder of planetary evolution



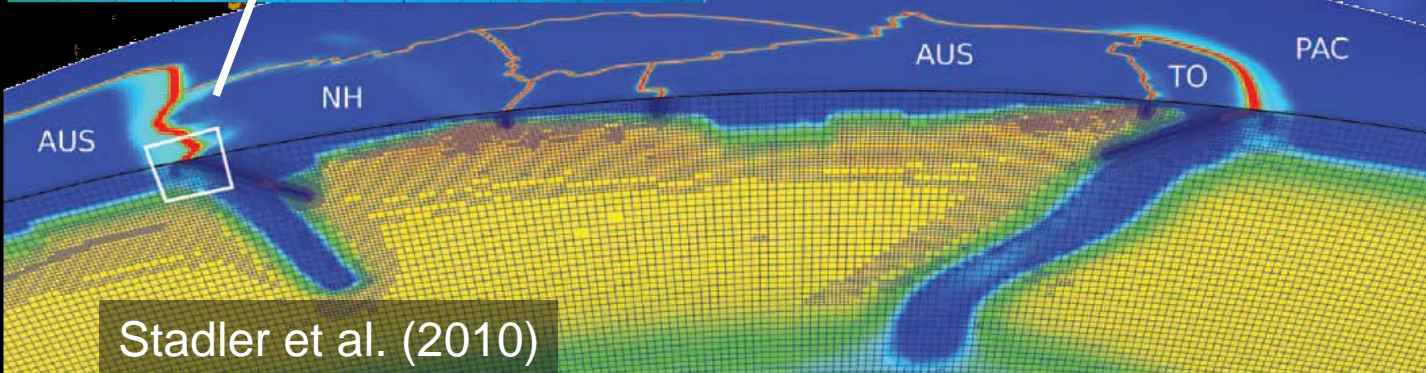
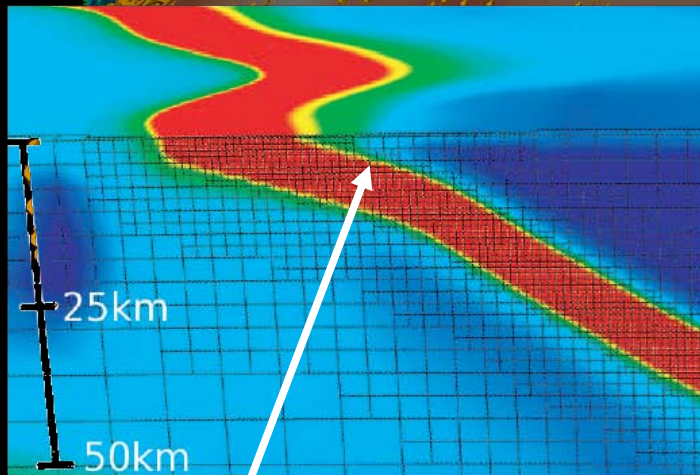
Lee et al. (2011)



Duggen et al. (2009)

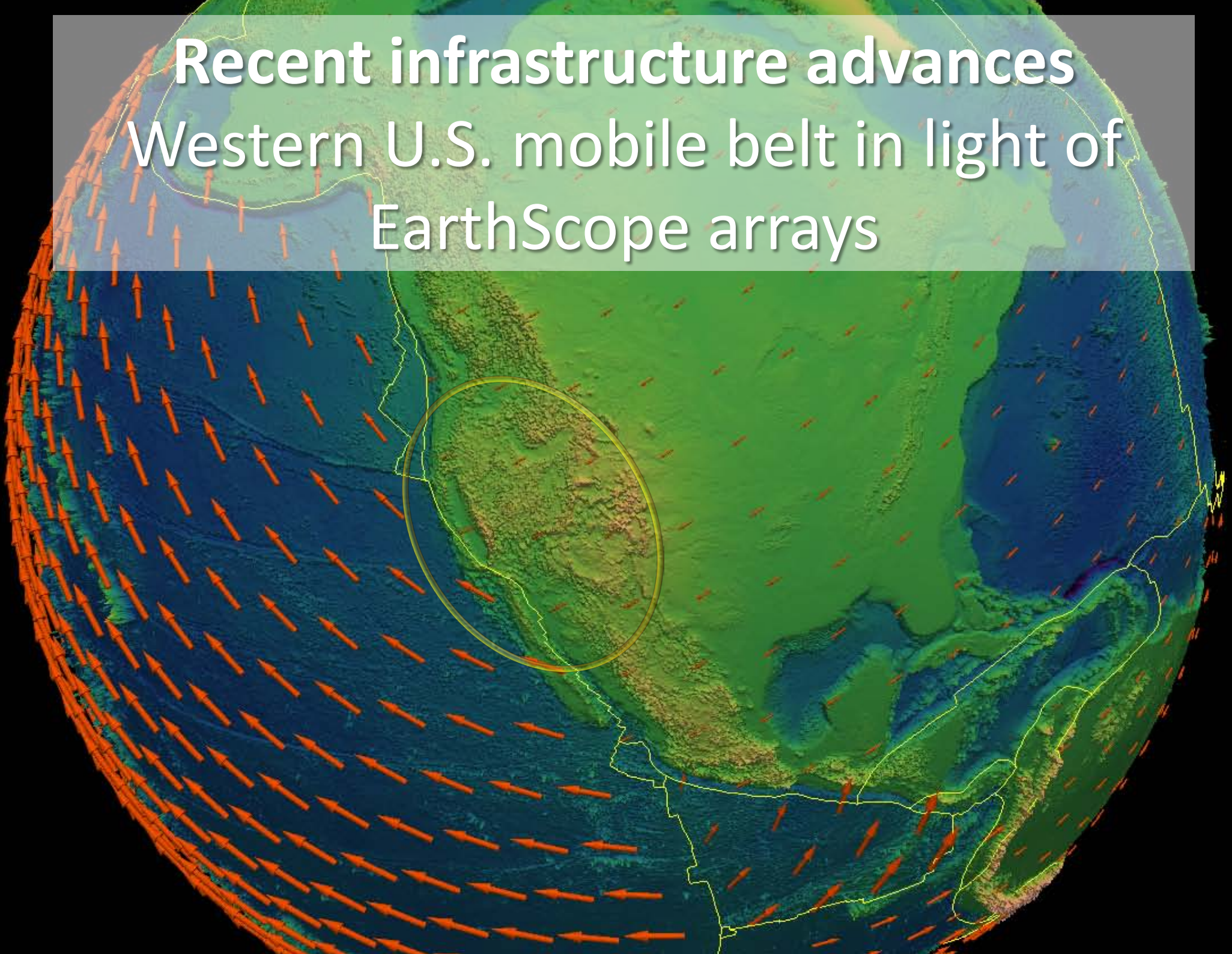
Example for role of memory:
 Atlas mountains formed by
 slab-plume-
 continental
 plate
 interaction

Recent geodynamics advances: Integrated, applied, inverse methods



Stadler et al. (2010)

Recent infrastructure advances Western U.S. mobile belt in light of EarthScope arrays

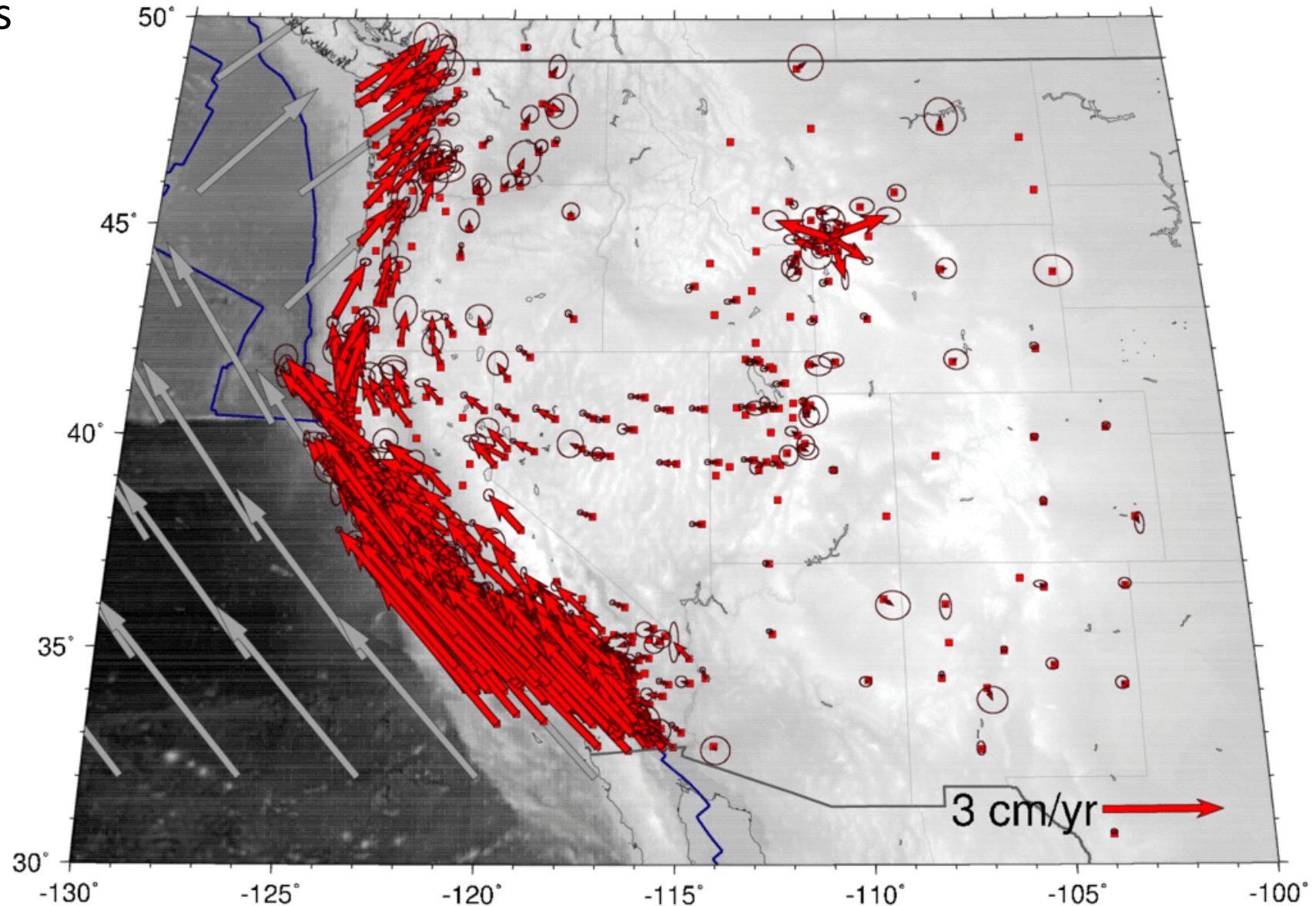


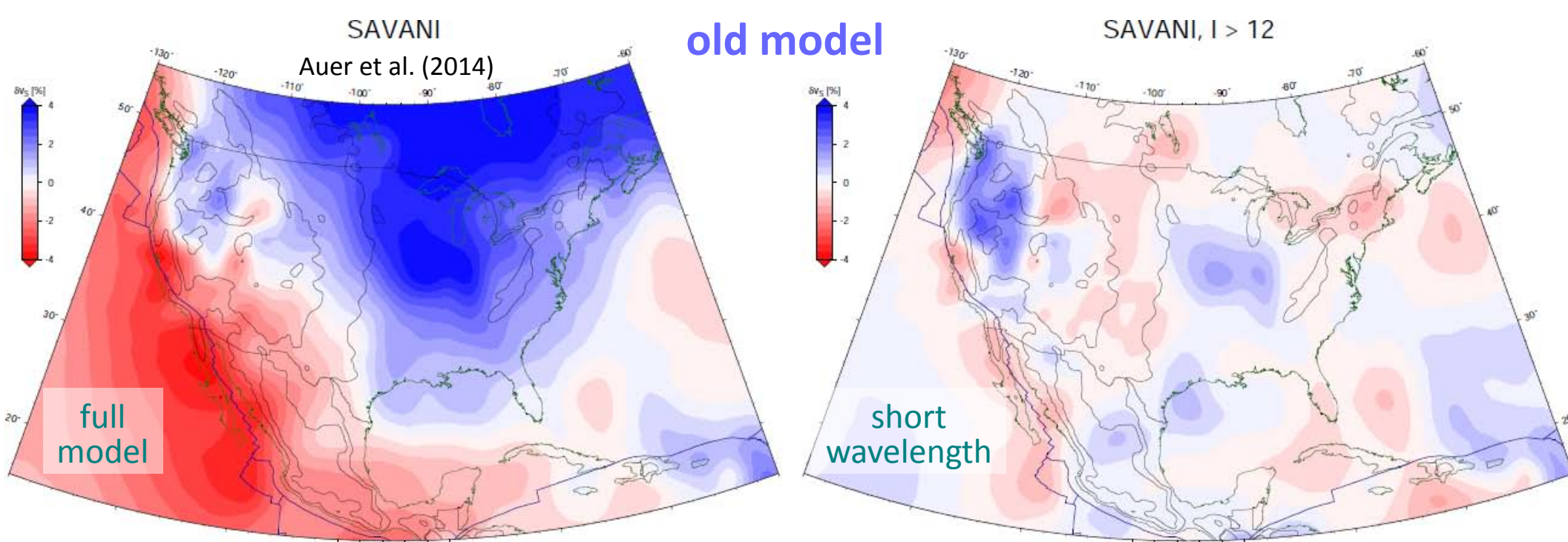
Sustained operations

PBO

Release date: 2006-09-21

- Key for seismology and geodesy as well as support for analysis efforts

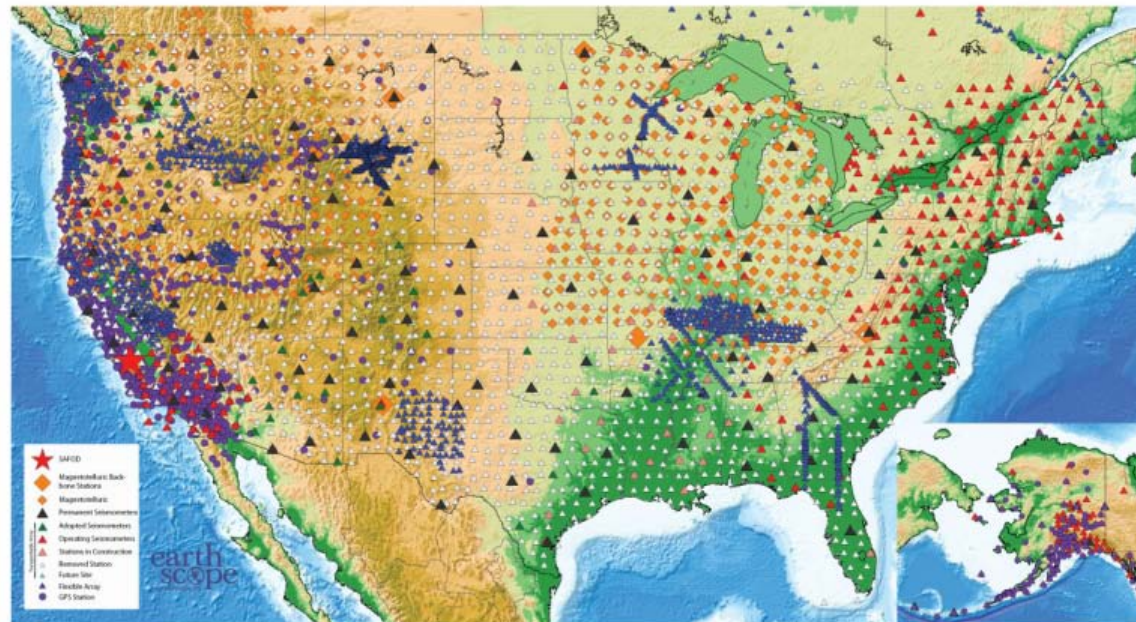


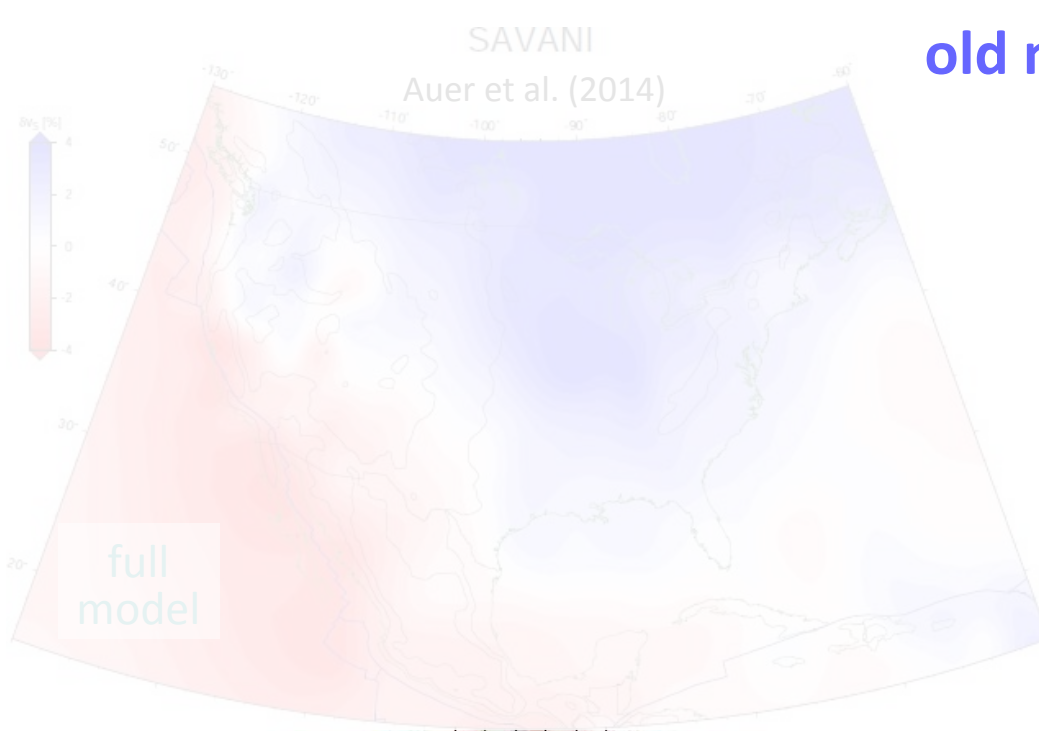


seismic shear wave tomography maps at 200 km depth

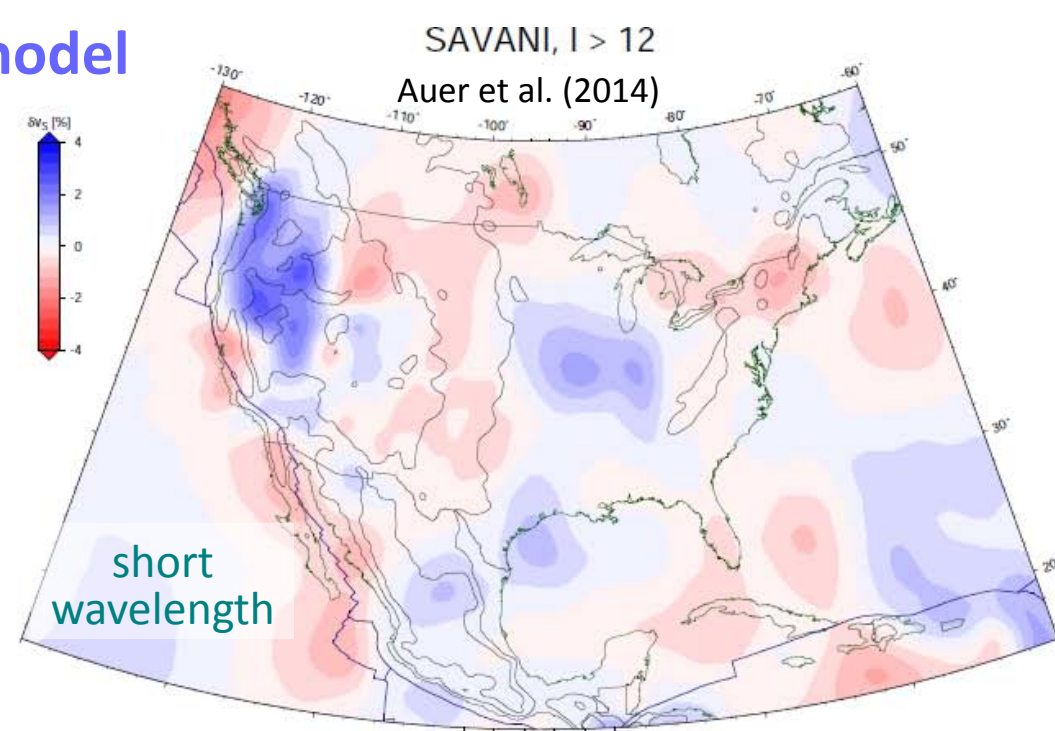
EarthScope Stations Status as of April 2015

Pre
USArray
tomography

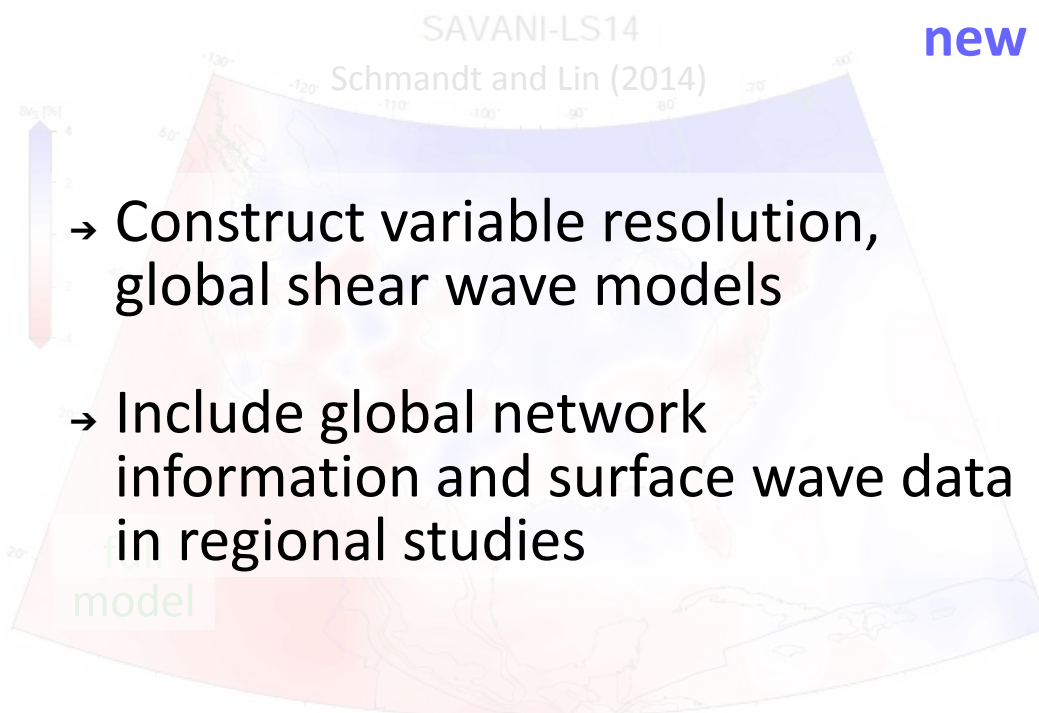




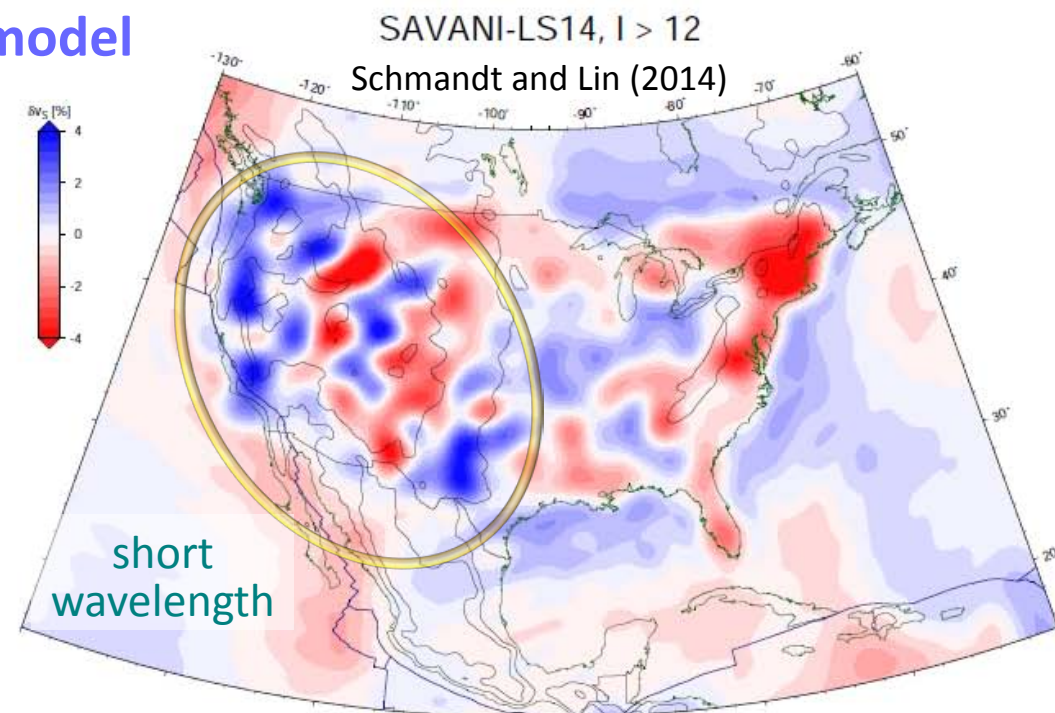
old model



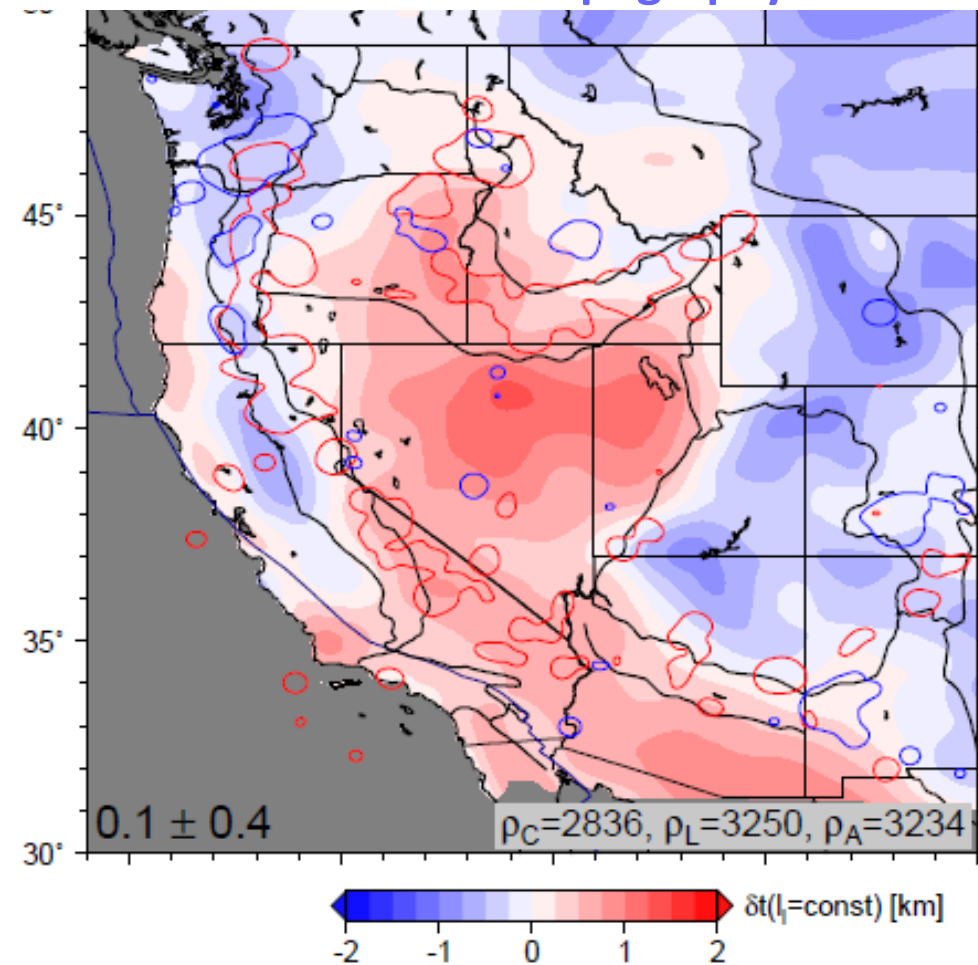
seismic shear wave tomography maps at 200 km depth



new model



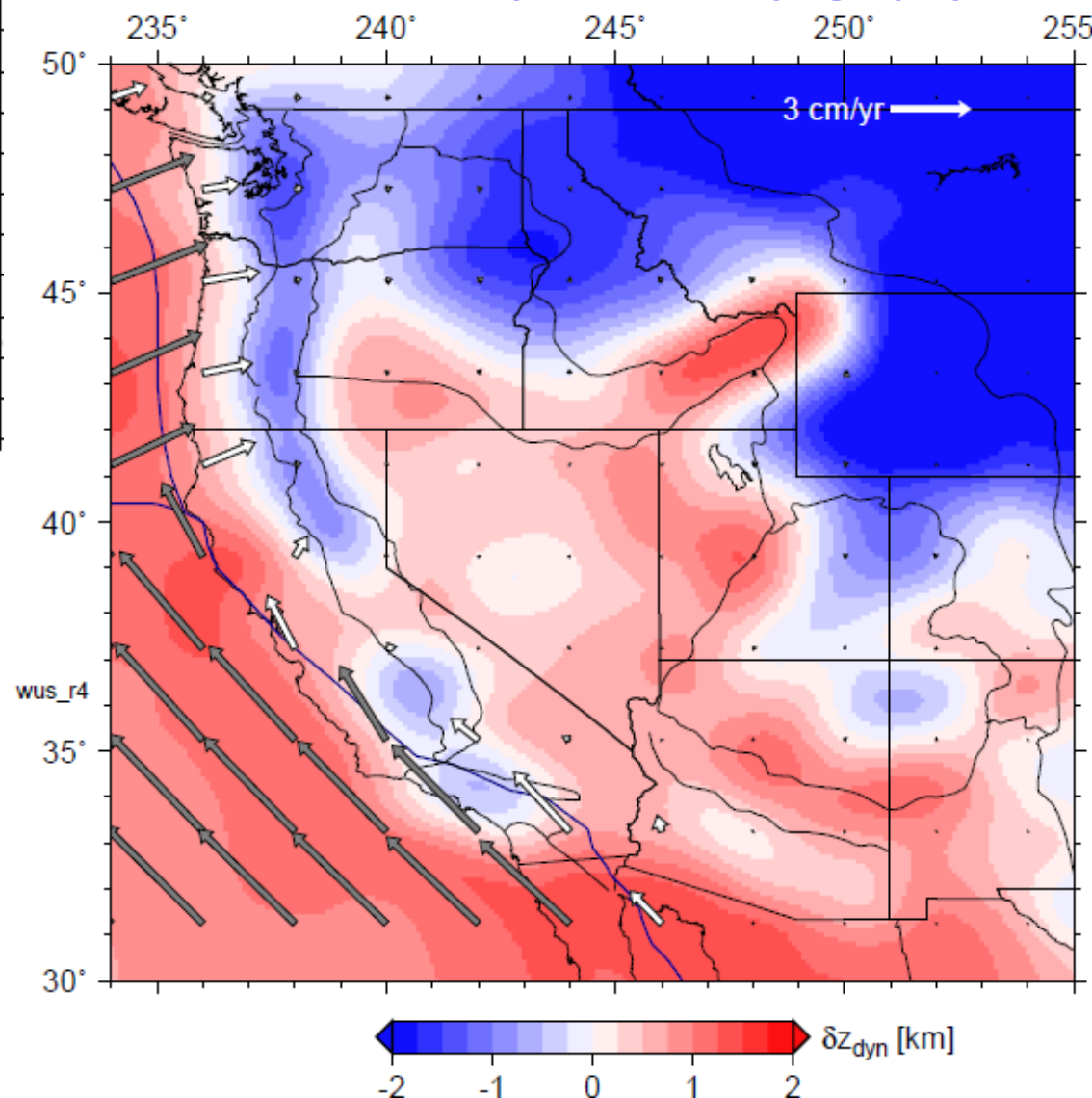
residual topography



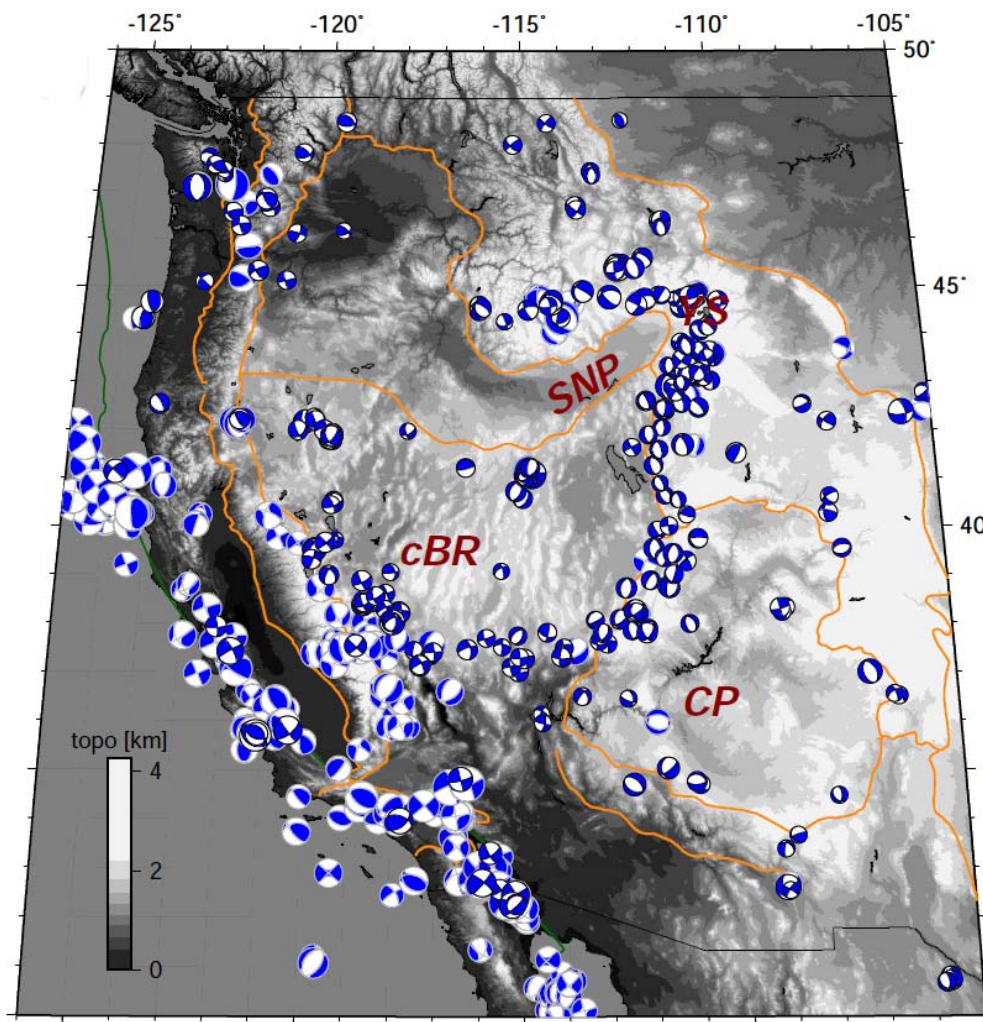
- mantle flow induced “dynamic” topography matches non-isostatic residual
- Composition, radial anisotropy, or remaining *uncertainty in crustal models* causing complications

Still sorting out what this all means:
Match between residual and
dynamic topography

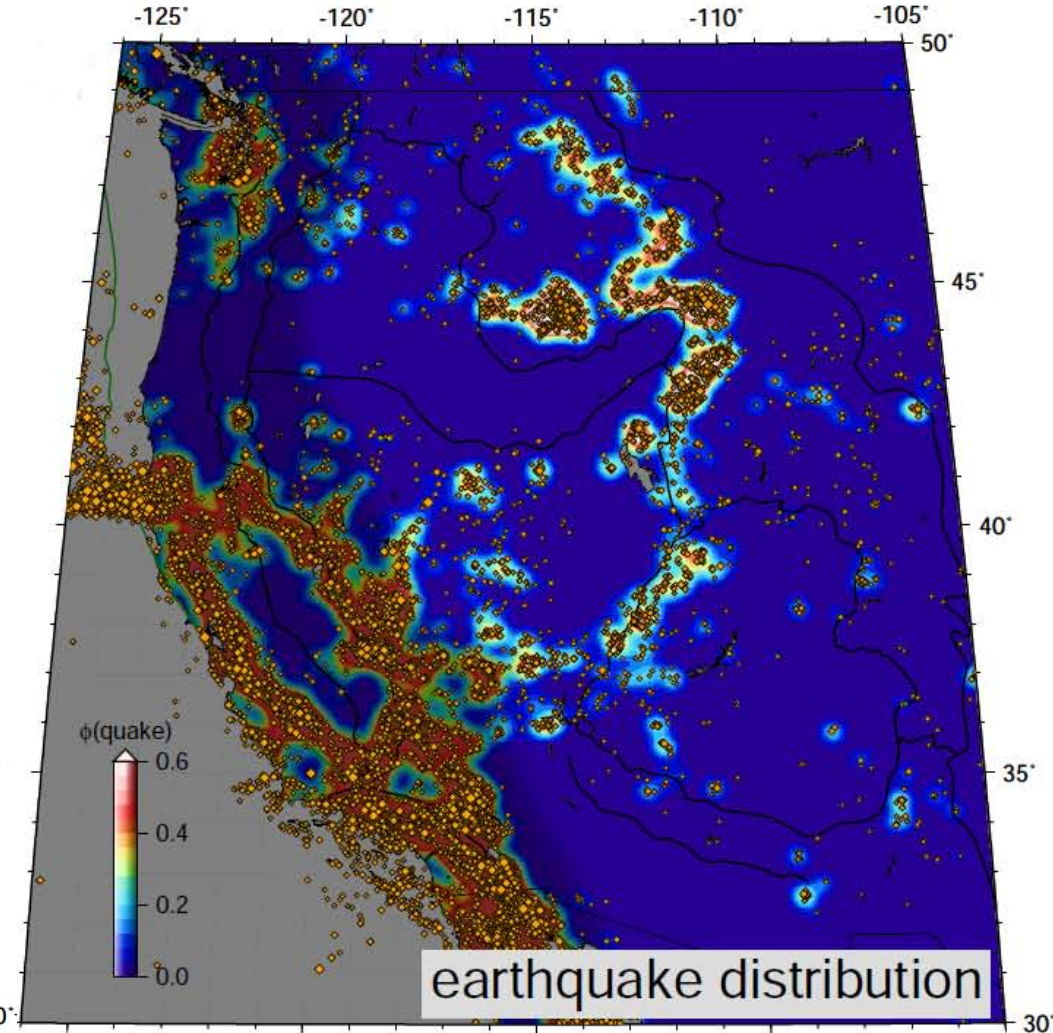
mantle flow predicted topography



One continental dynamics question: Origin of intraplate seismicity?

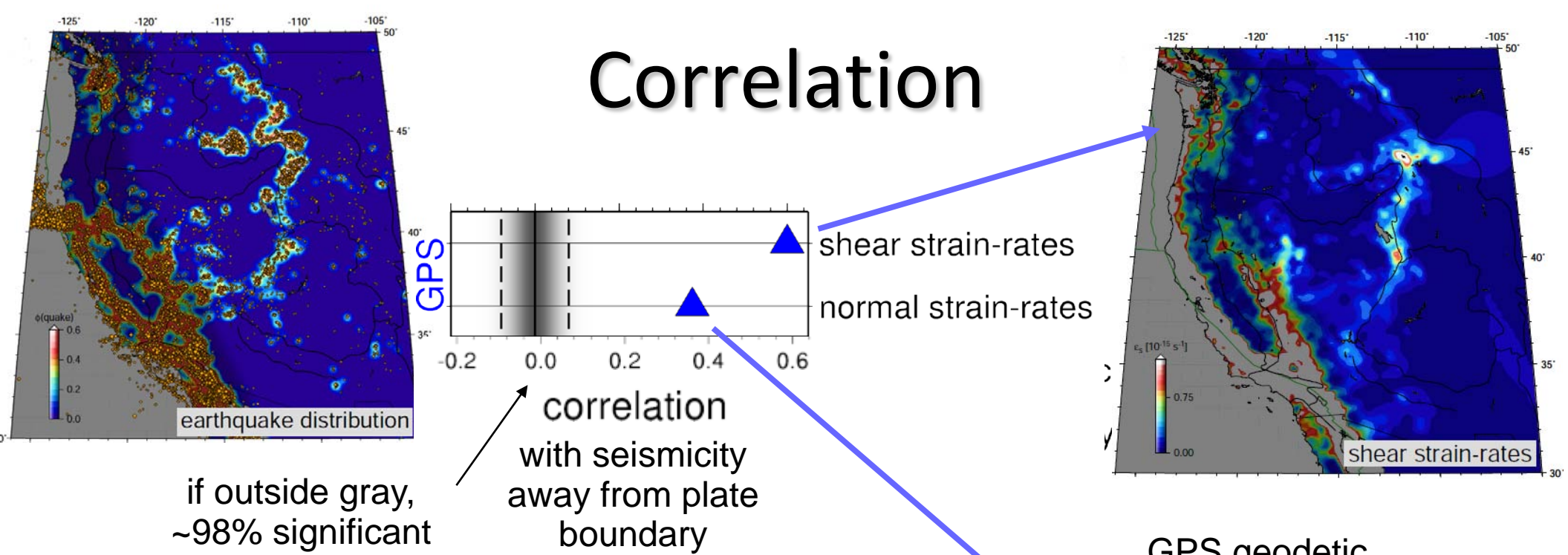


gCMTs and SLU catalog



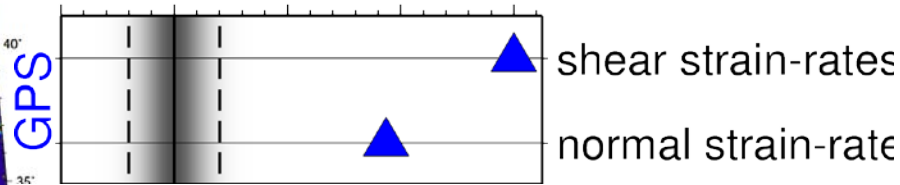
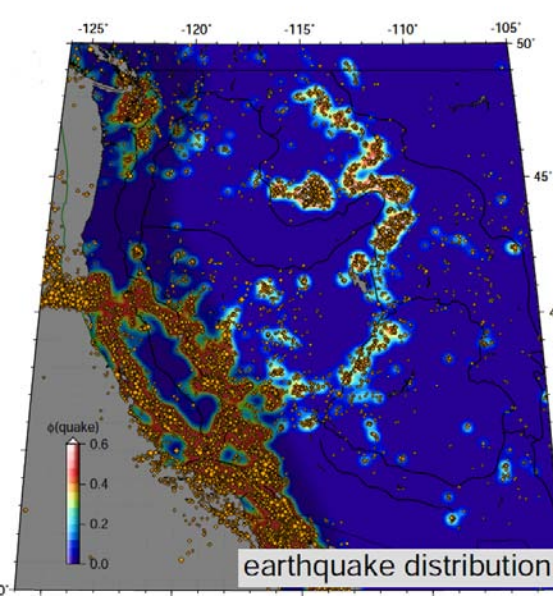
ANSS and Engdahl catalog events,
smoothed seismicity

Correlation

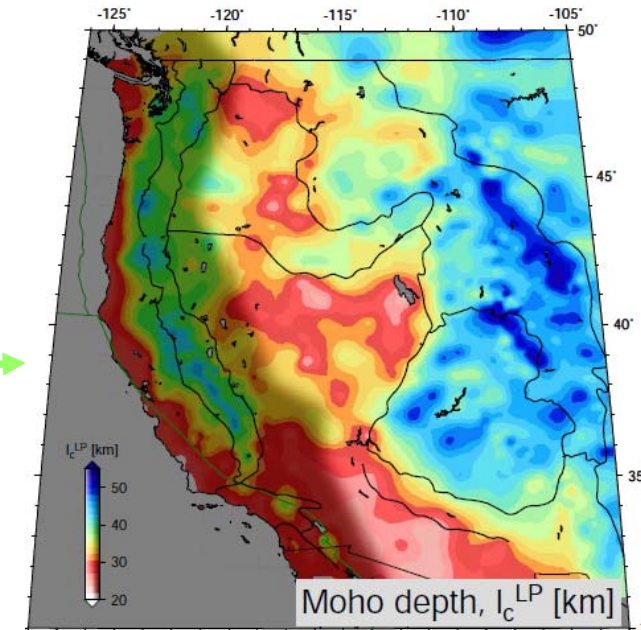
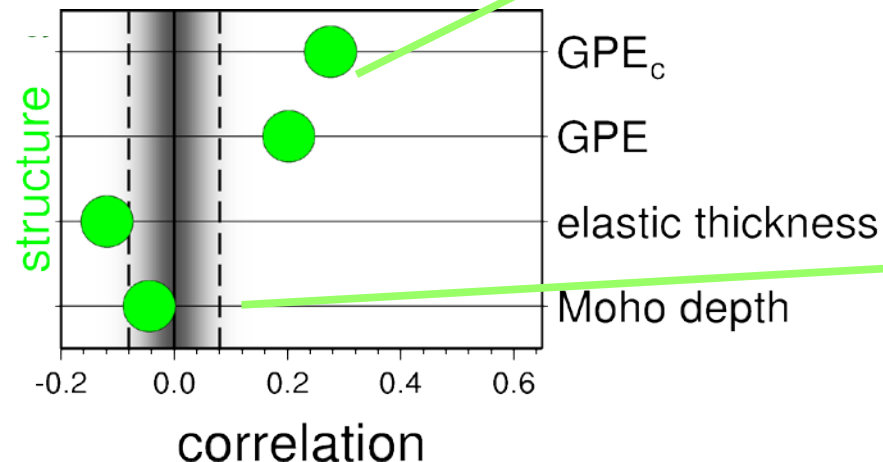
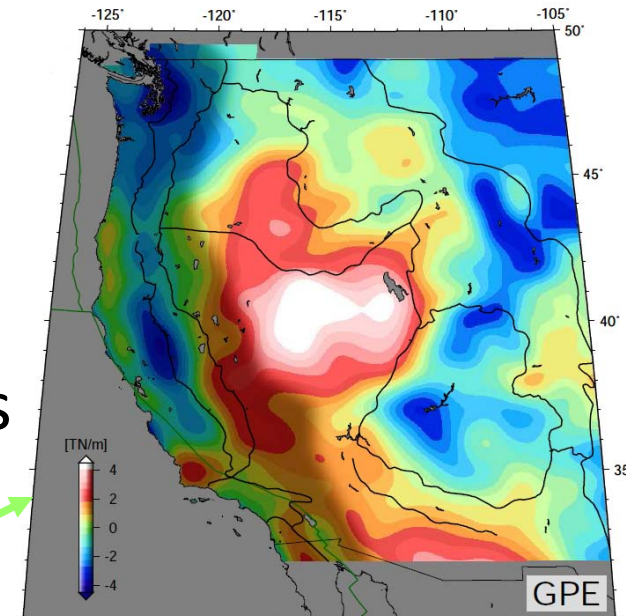


- kinematic constraints from GPS based crustal deformation model match seismicity
- not too surprising, but good baseline, and indicates little aseismic deformation

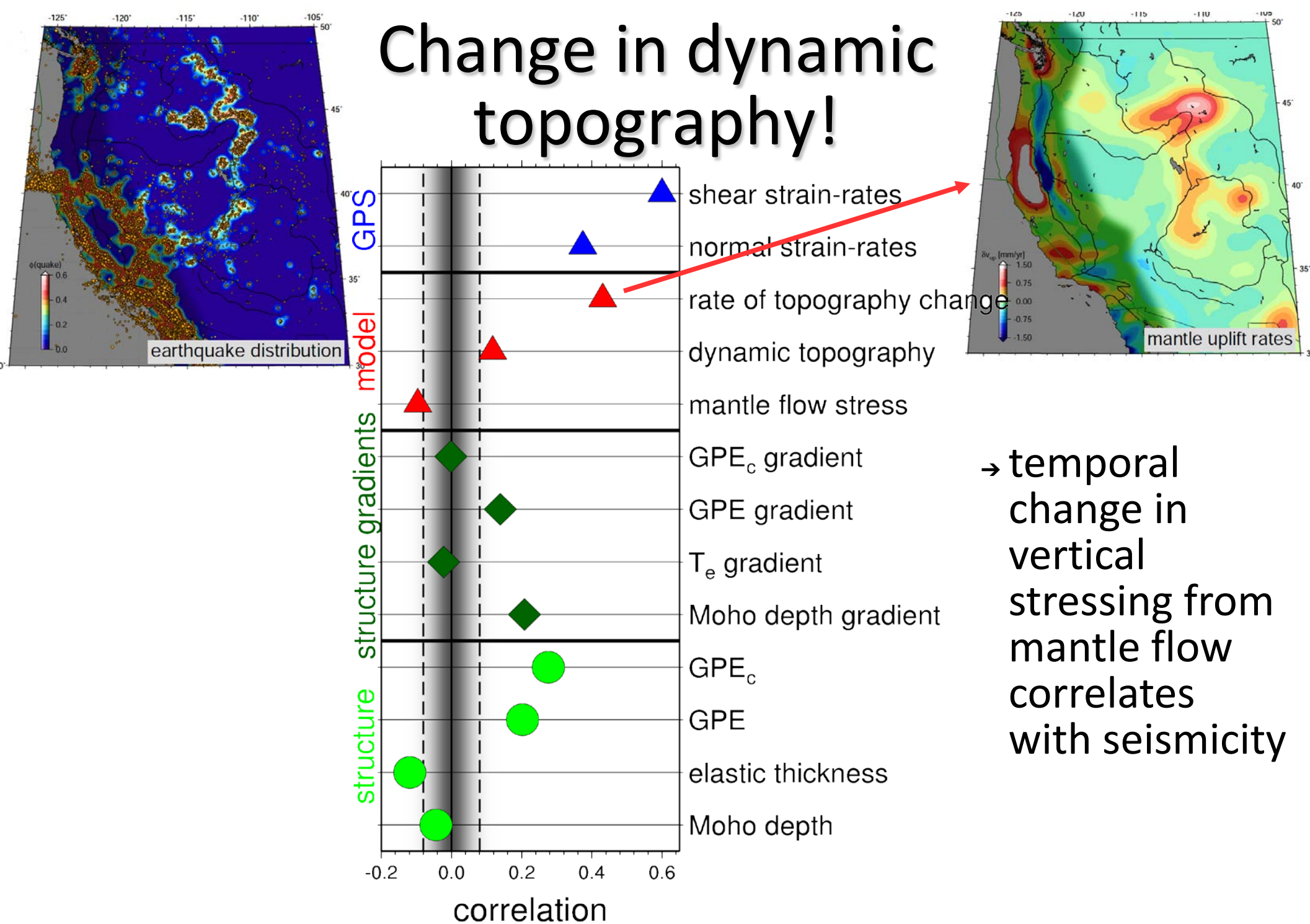
Structure as an explanation?



- gravitational potential energy (GPE) variations will lead to loading stresses
- structure of lithosphere may matter



Change in dynamic topography!

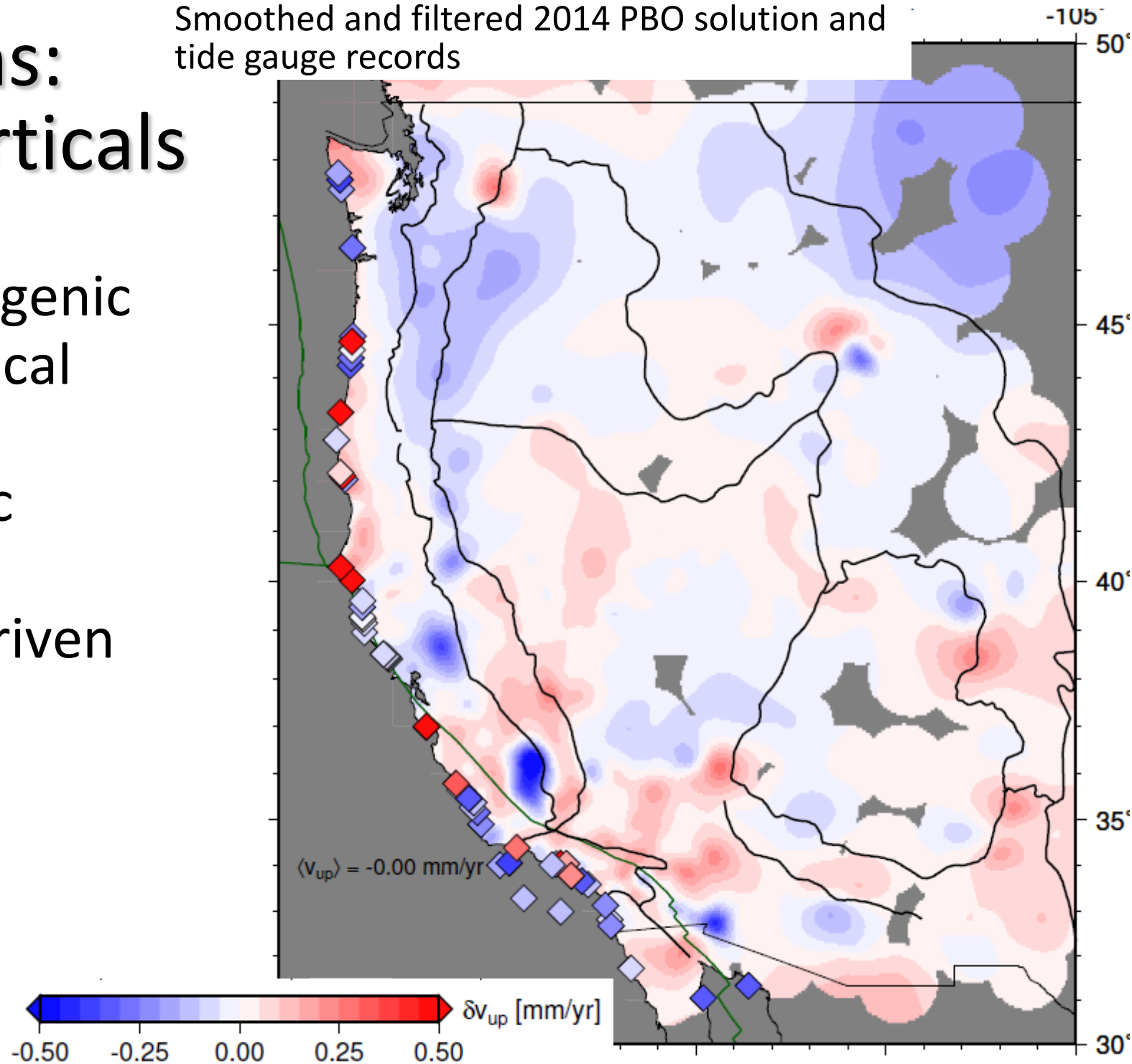


→ temporal change in vertical stressing from mantle flow correlates with seismicity

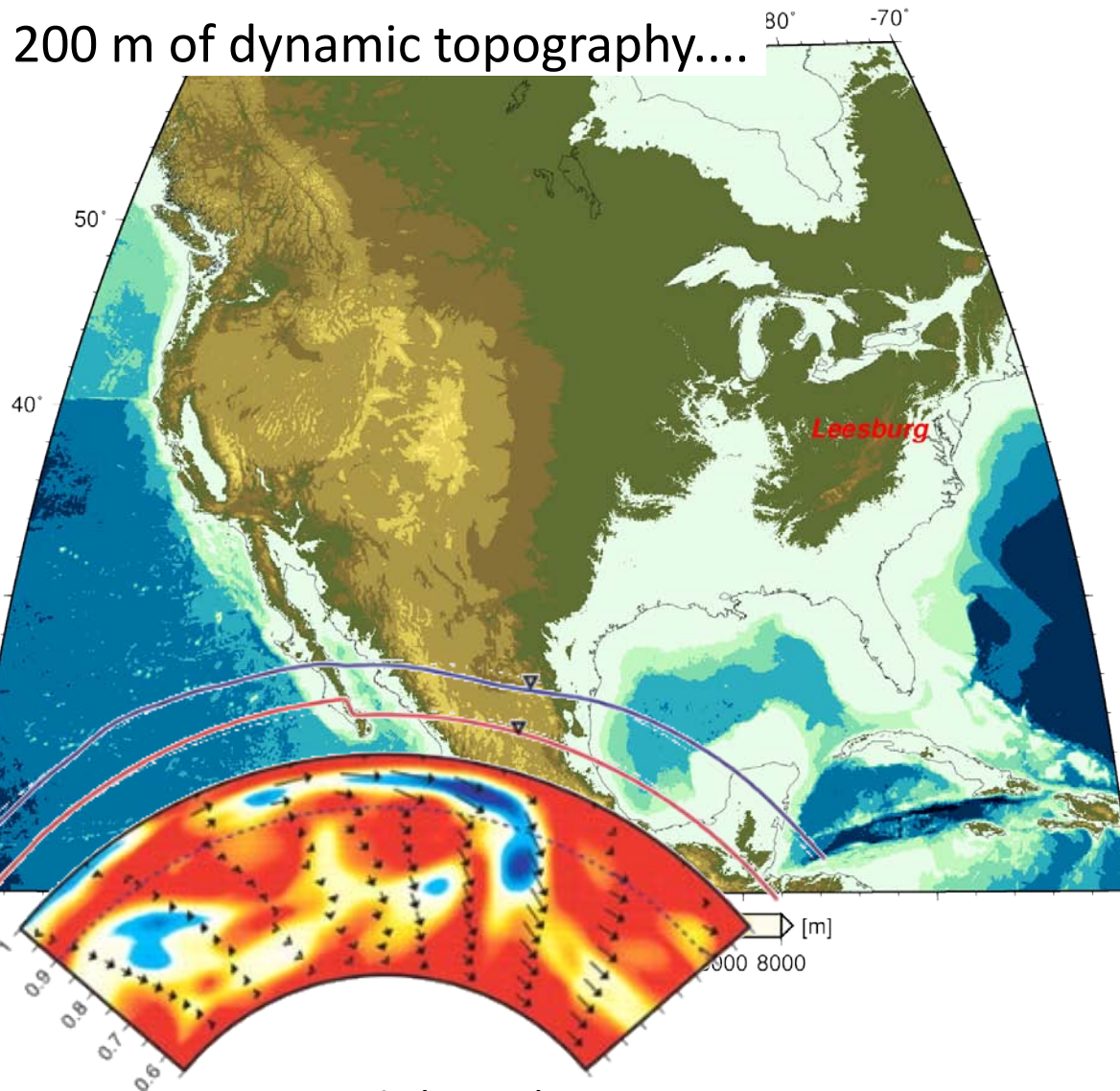
Questions: (GPS) verticals

- x anthropogenic
- x hydrological
- x erosional
- x magmatic
- x tectonic
- x mantle driven

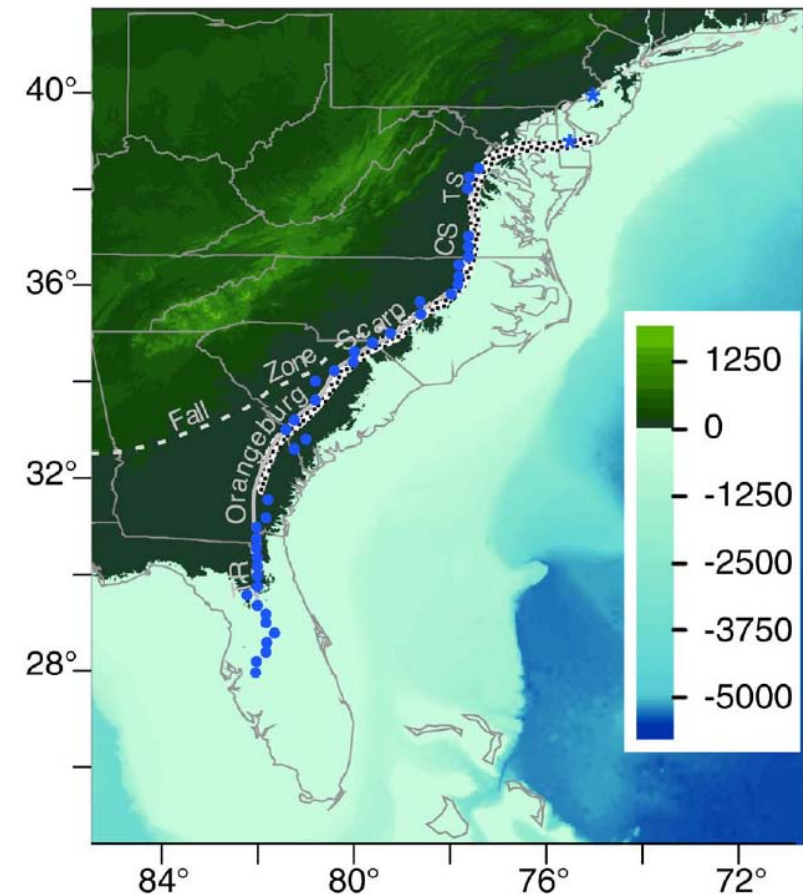
Smoothed and filtered 2014 PBO solution and
tide gauge records



Evolution of topography, example of solid Earth – surface interactions

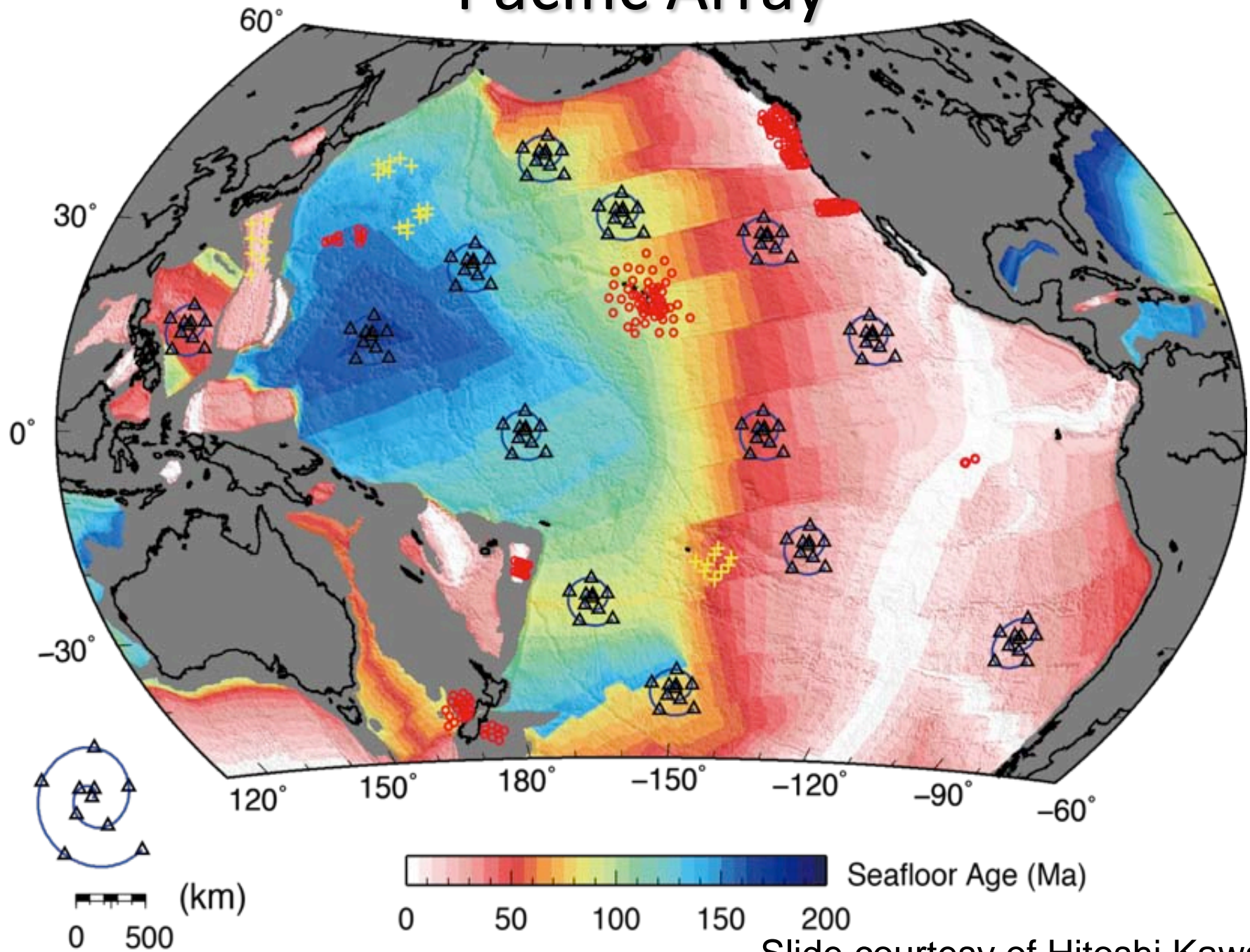


Liu et al. (2008)



Rowley et al. (2013)

Moving forward: Pacific Array



Slide courtesy of Hitoshi Kawakatsu

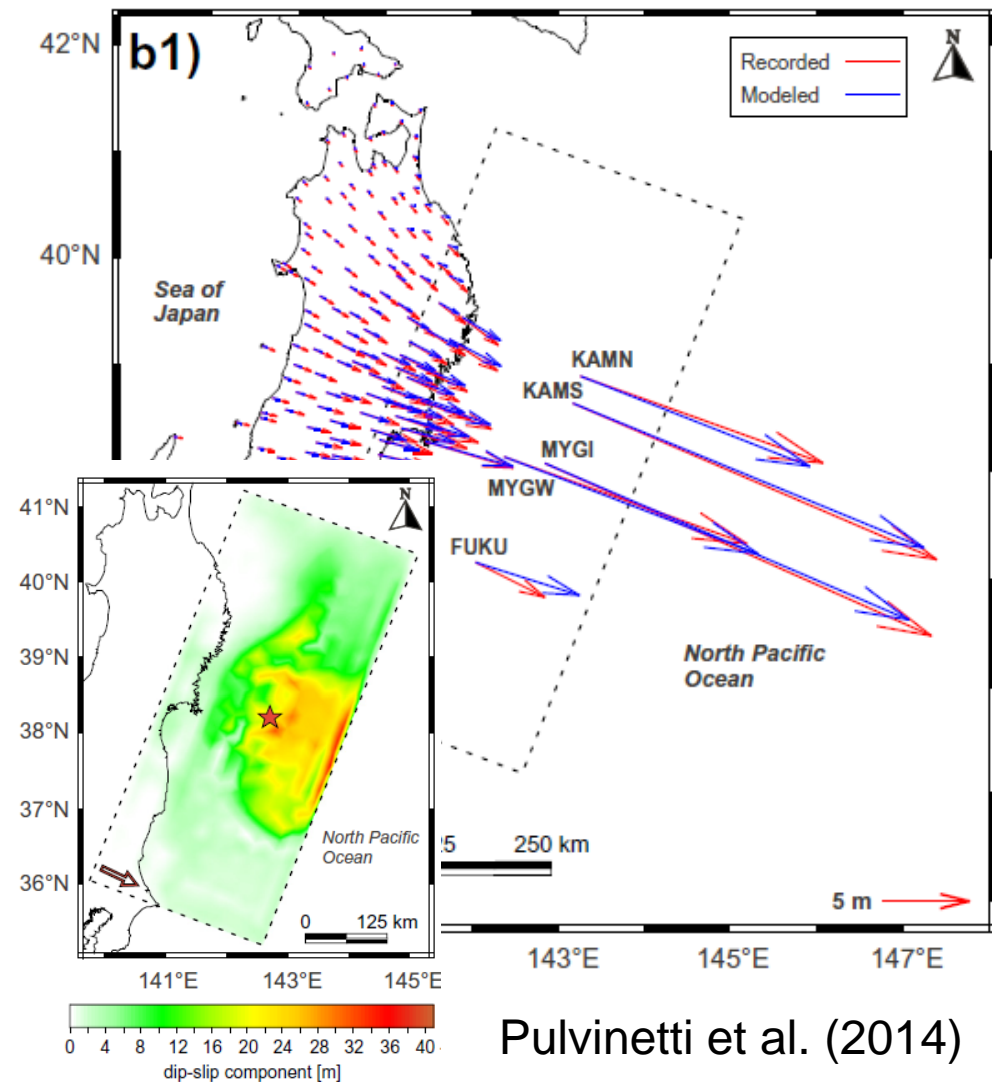
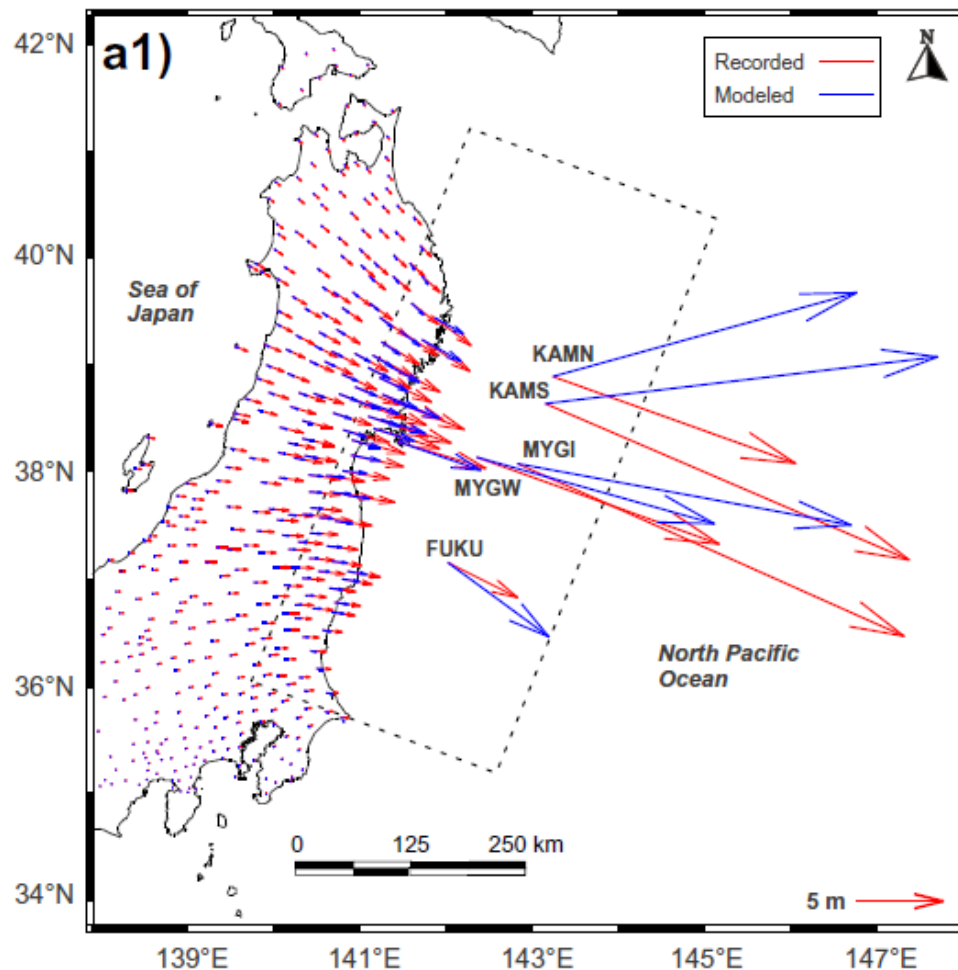
Moving forward:

Seafloor observatories (seafloor “GPS”, cables, cf. Japan)

Tohoku M9 slip inversions

Direct

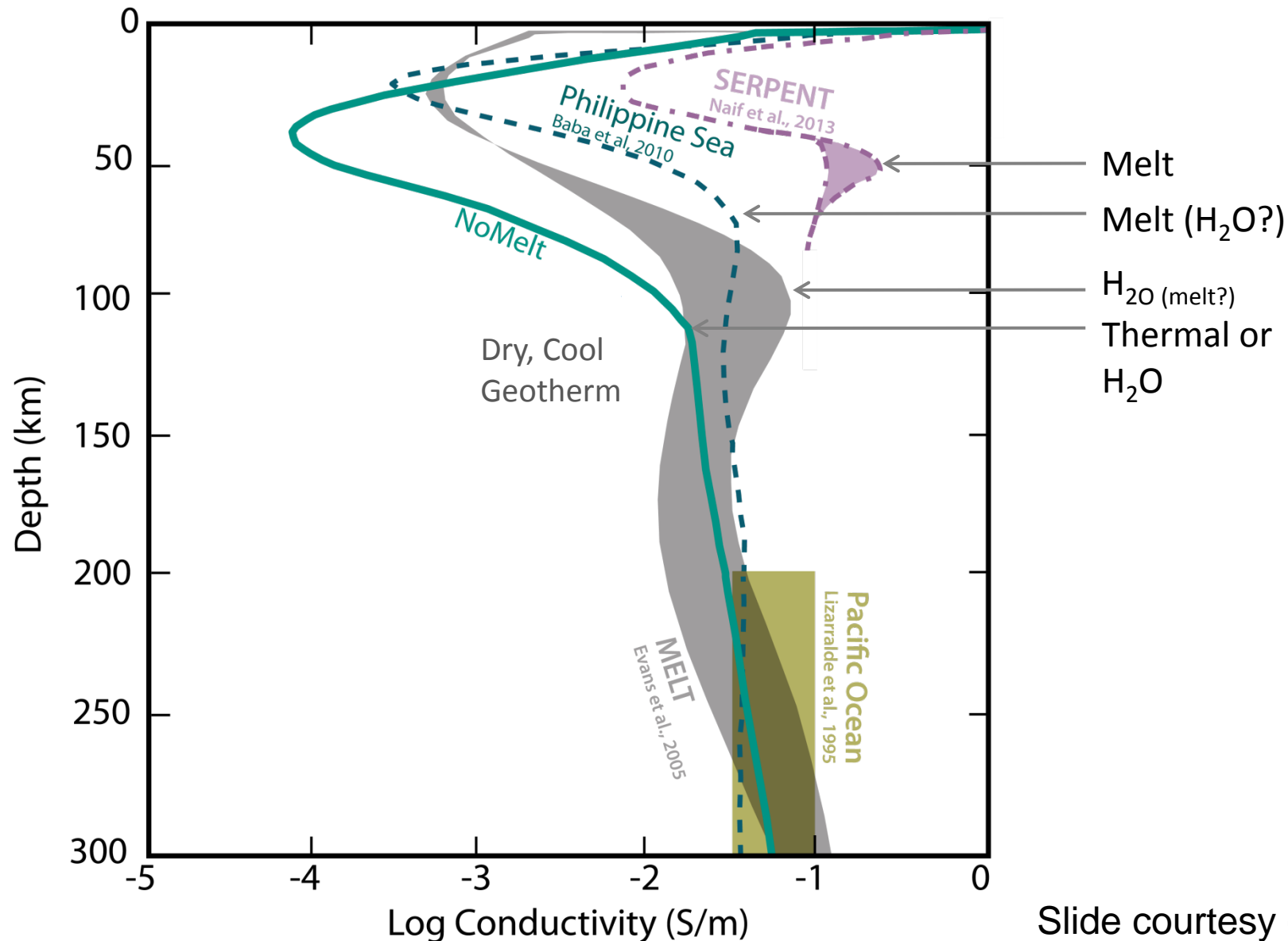
Optimized (no DEM)



Pulvinetti et al. (2014)

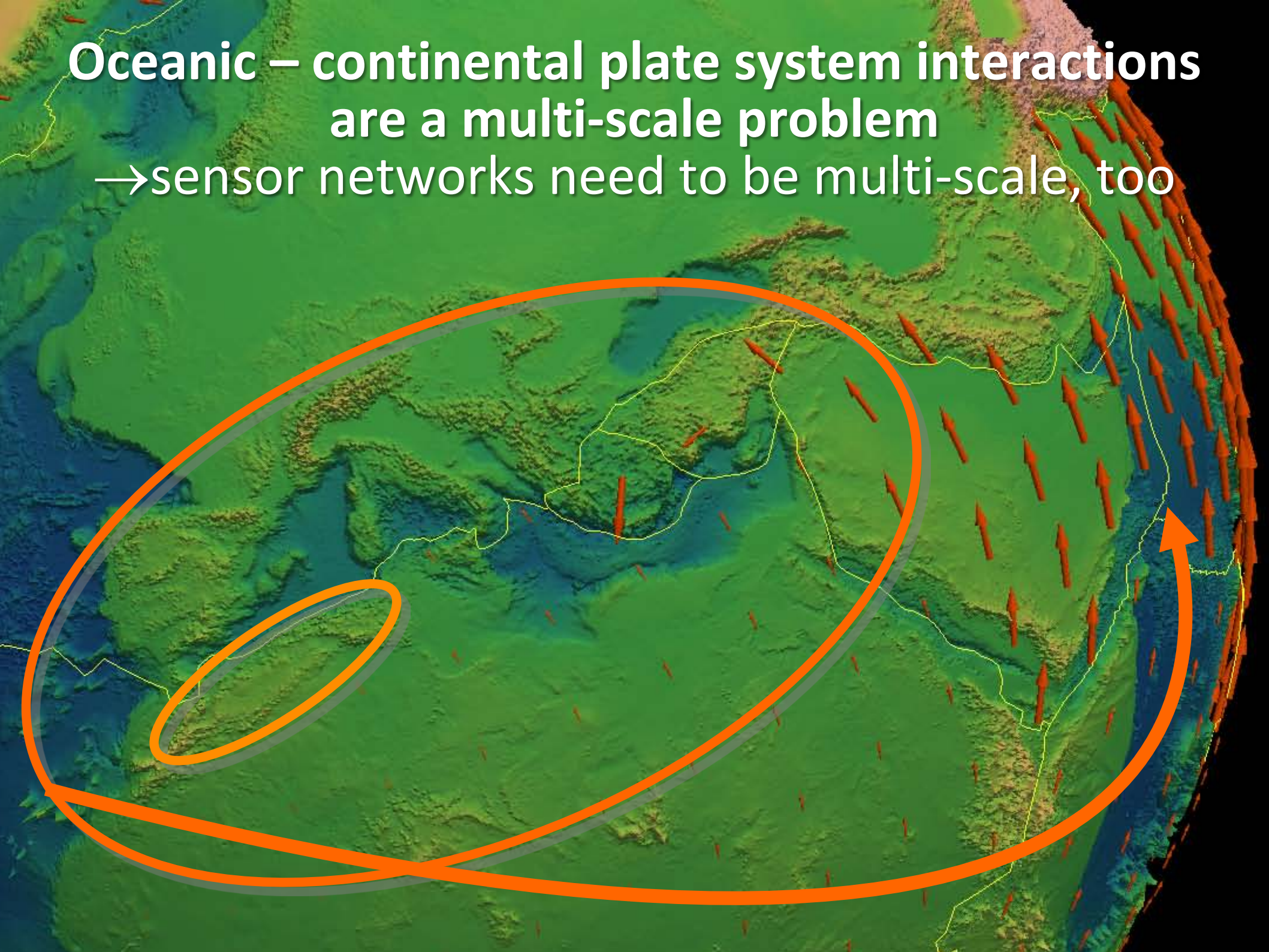
Moving forward:

Joint sensor networks (seismic, MT, GPS, ...) and inversions



Slide courtesy of Rob Evans

**Oceanic – continental plate system interactions
are a multi-scale problem**
→ sensor networks need to be multi-scale, too

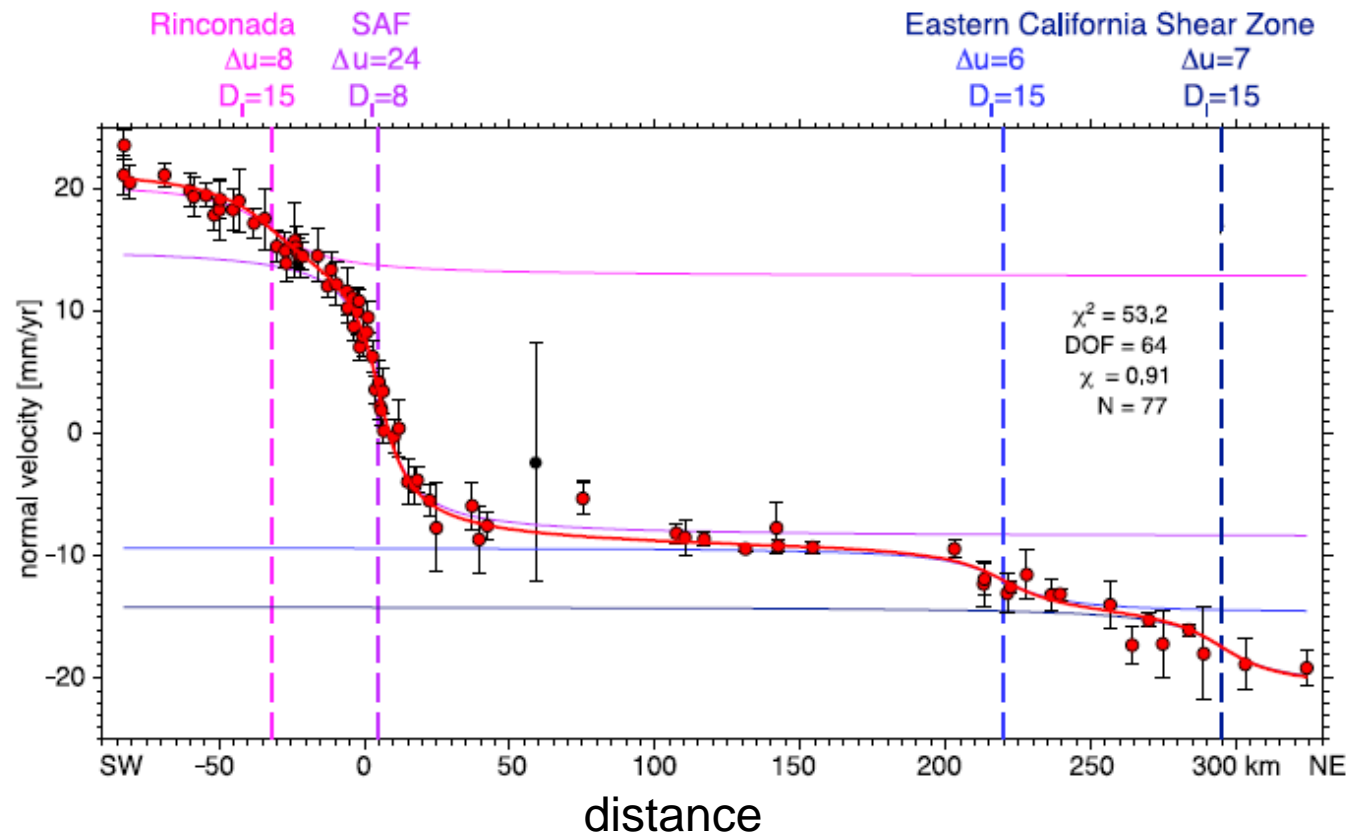


Moving forward:

Densification (more data is always better...)

- GPS, InSAR and dense seismology across faults
- Intermediate-period seismometer deployments for crustal structure (passive-active)
- ...

Carrizo plane GPS profile



Moving forward:

Community models

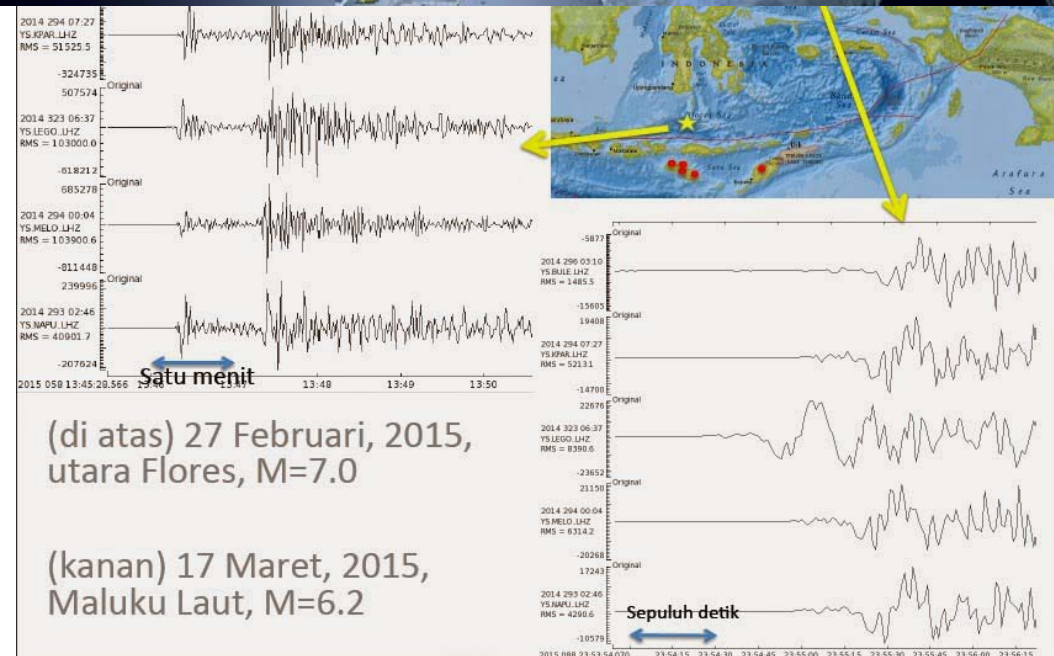
- Flavors:
 - Crustal velocity and strain-rate model
 - Crustal structure model
 - Lithospheric model
 - Mantle model
 - Rheology model
- Error bars! (...)
- Geodynamic models
 - Even if micro-scale is poorly constrained, utility in integration
 - The path is more important than the goal (cf. SCEC Community Stress Model)
- Open, collaborative data sharing
- Open, collaborative method sharing
- Reproducible and entirely published workflows

Moving forward:

Synthetic data libraries for hypothesis testing

shakemovie.princeton.edu

PRINCETON
UNIVERSITY
0:00:00



(di atas) 27 Februari, 2015,
utara Flores, M=7.0

(kanan) 17 Maret, 2015,
Maluku Laut, M=6.2

Moving forward:

A community computing facility

- Problems:

- Solid Earth may be falling behind when it comes to high performance computing
- Our scientific problems are unique (mixed determined, data gaps, assimilation challenges,...) and require different flavors of methods, making knowledge transfer from other fields tricky
- Access to resources is a concern for many

- Solution?

- Dedicated solid Earth machine or allocation
- Driven by science community
 - Rally around *solid Earth* grand challenge questions

Moving forward:

People

- interdisciplinary community building
- interdisciplinary education
- addressing method gaps
- facilitation of collaboration

