

# EarthScope Science Motivations

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- Emphasize recent results and opportunities for geochronology
- There have been interesting papers published using geochronology related to EarthScope!

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[www.earthscope.org](http://www.earthscope.org)

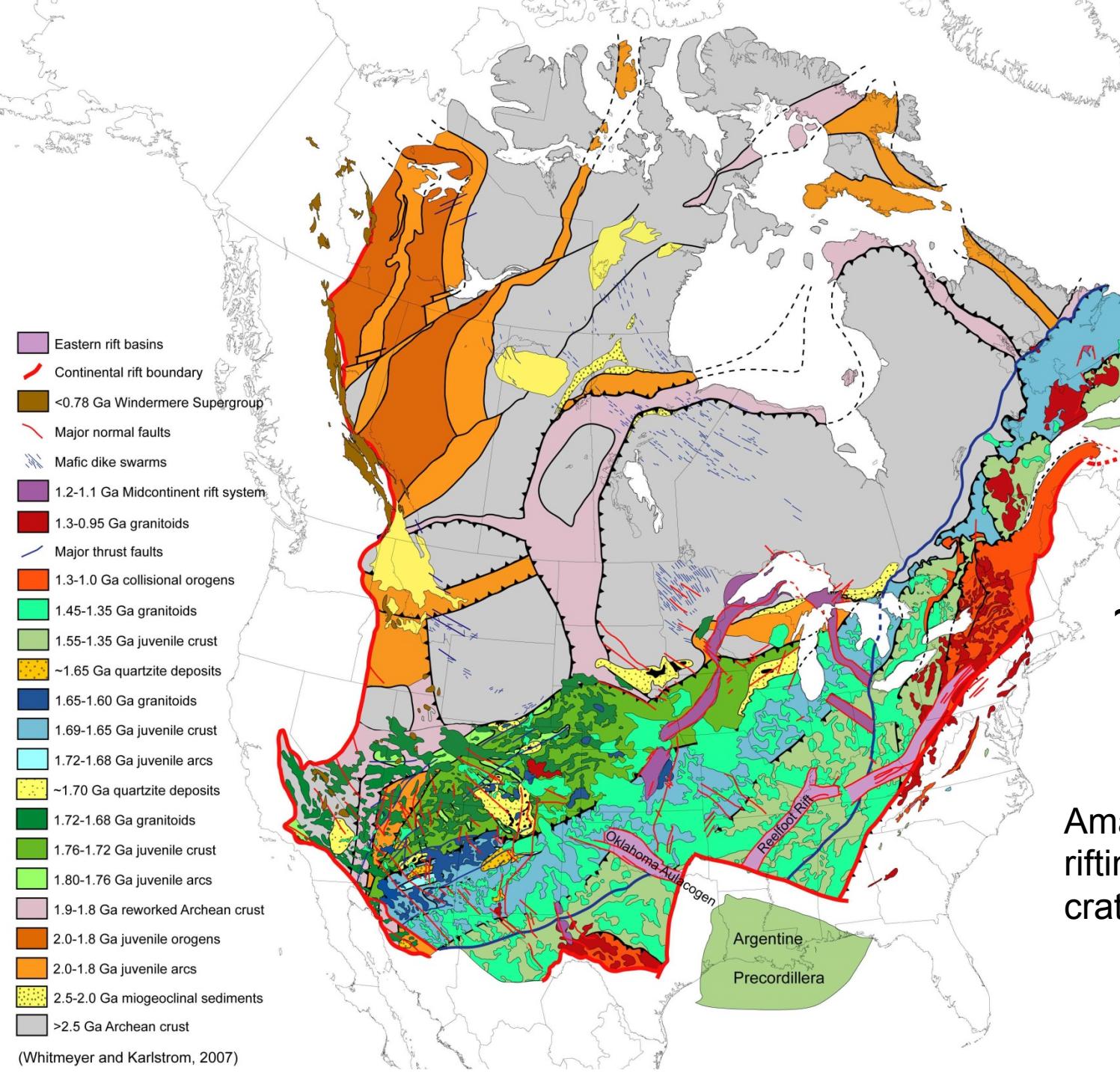
# Exploring the Structure and Evolution of the North American Continent:

Measuring the motions and the properties that constrain the processes

~ 0.535 Ga

Amalgamation and rifting manifest in cratonic interior

-Whitmeyer and Karlstrom, 2007





# Exploring the Structure and Evolution of the North American Continent:

**Measuring the motions and the properties that constrain the processes**

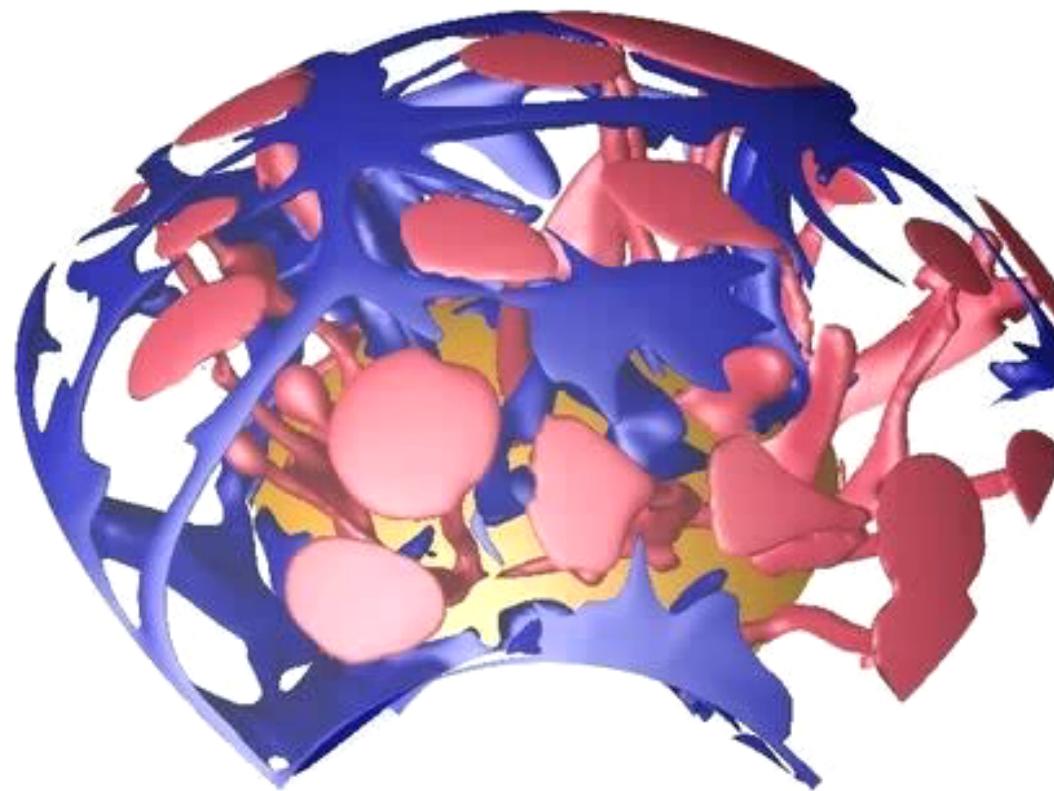
Interactive Geology Project, CU Boulder  
<http://igp.colorado.edu/animations.html>

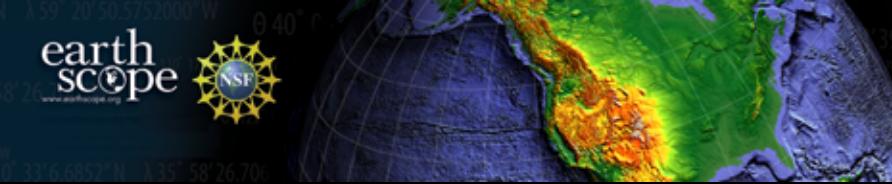
Professor Ron Blakey, Colorado Plateau Geosystems



Geodynamic simulations of mantle flow  
[mcnamara.asu.edu](http://mcnamara.asu.edu)

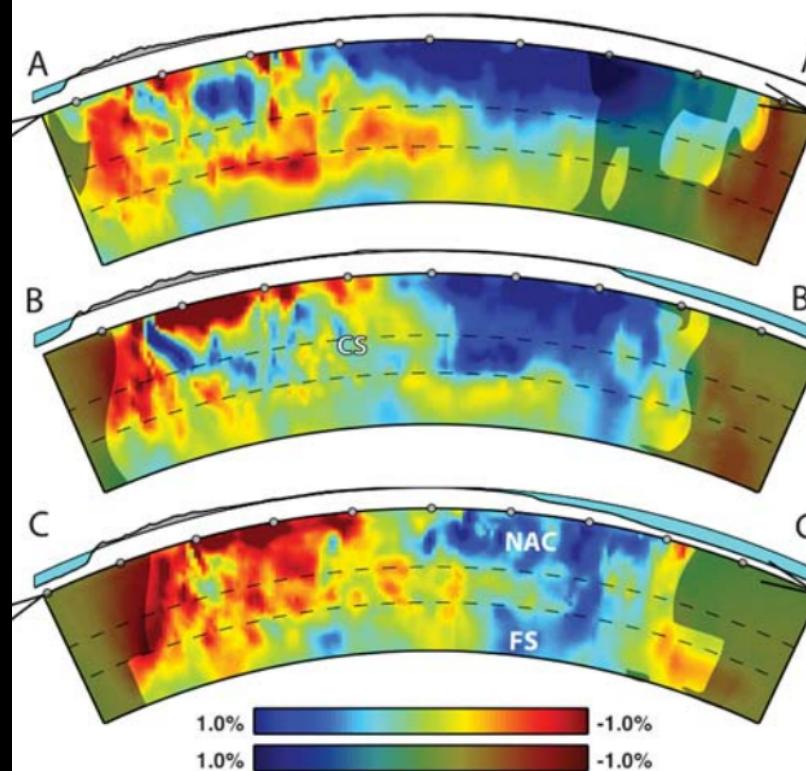
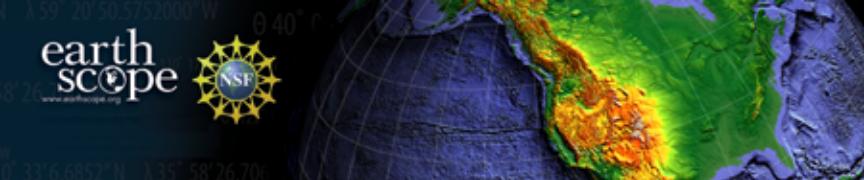
Geologic, geochronologic,  
and geophysical data are  
needed to test



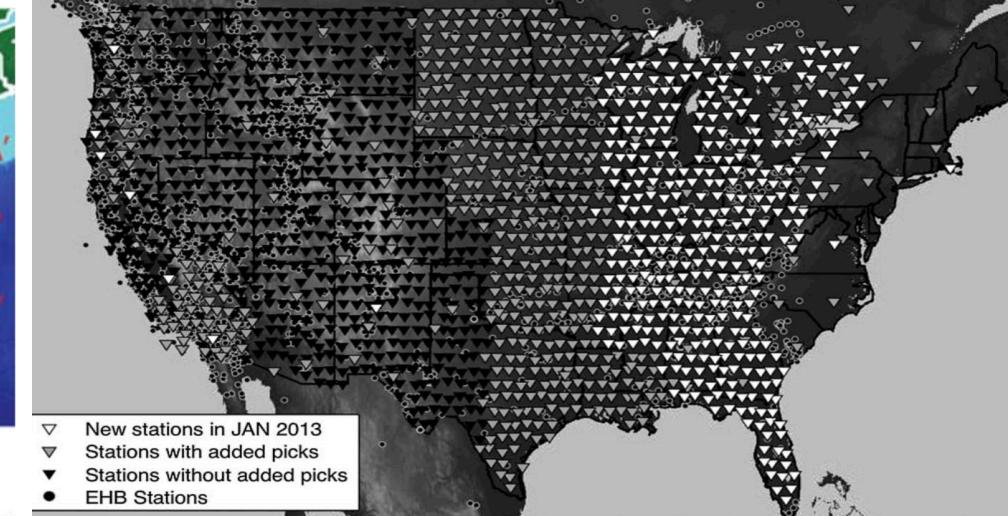


# An EarthScope Science Sampler

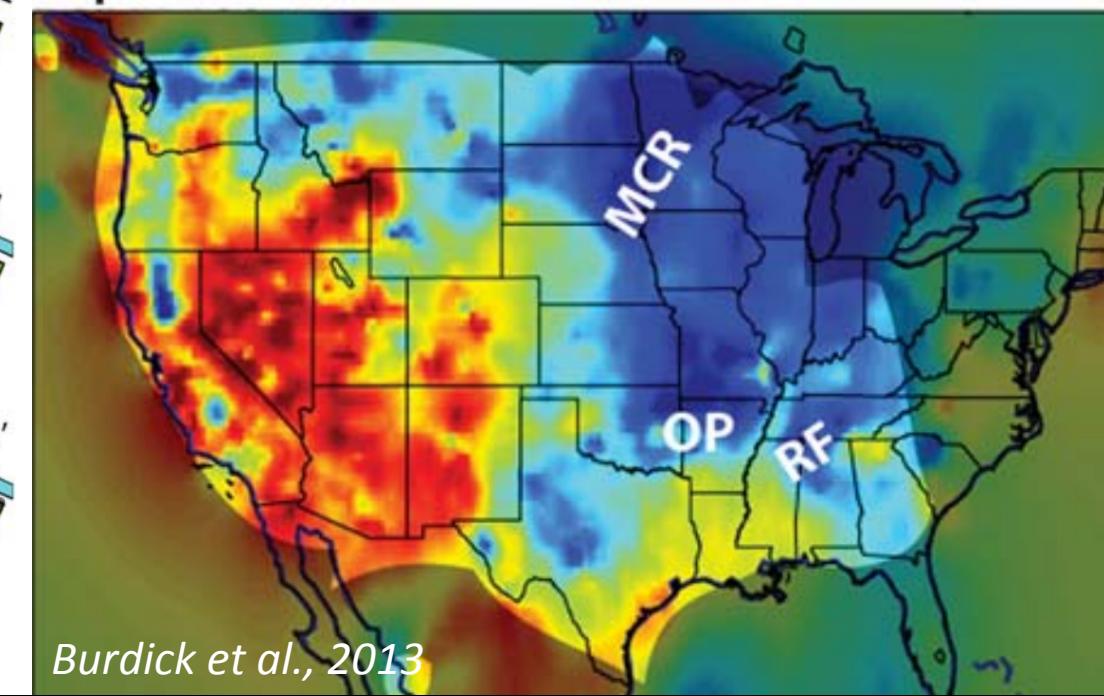




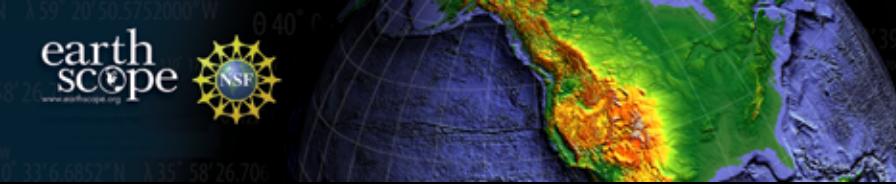
# AMAZING IMAGES OF EARTH'S INTERIOR



Depth 100 km

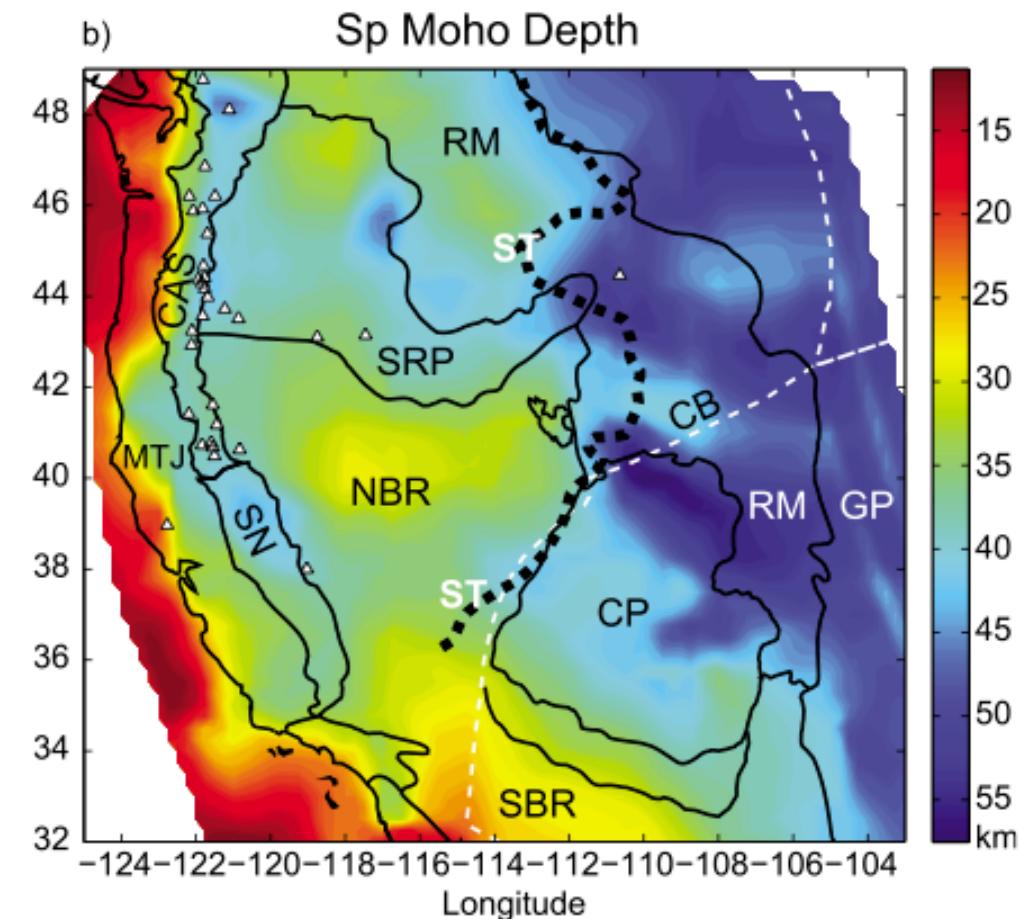
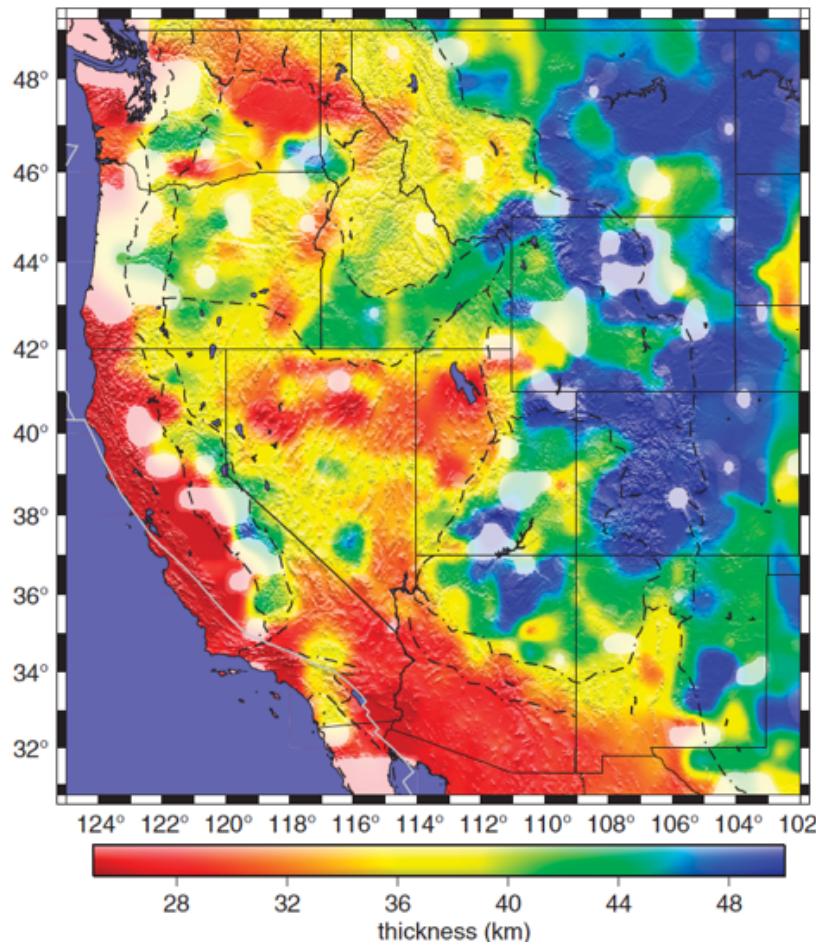


Burdick et al., 2013



*Dynamic North America*  
*Imaging the continental lithosphere*

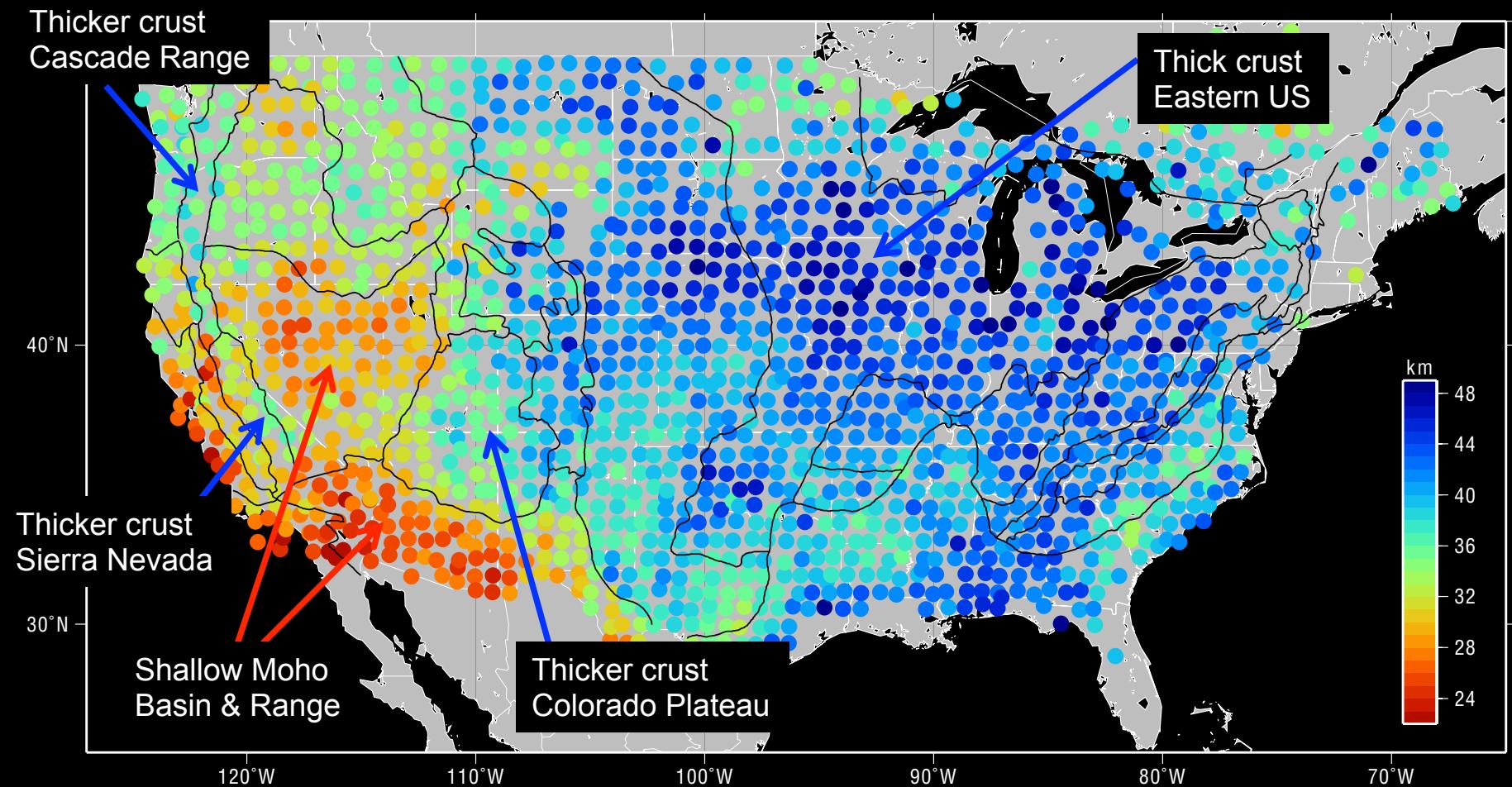
## CRUSTAL THICKNESS FROM RECEIVER FUNCTIONS



Gilbert, 2012

Levander & Miller, 2012

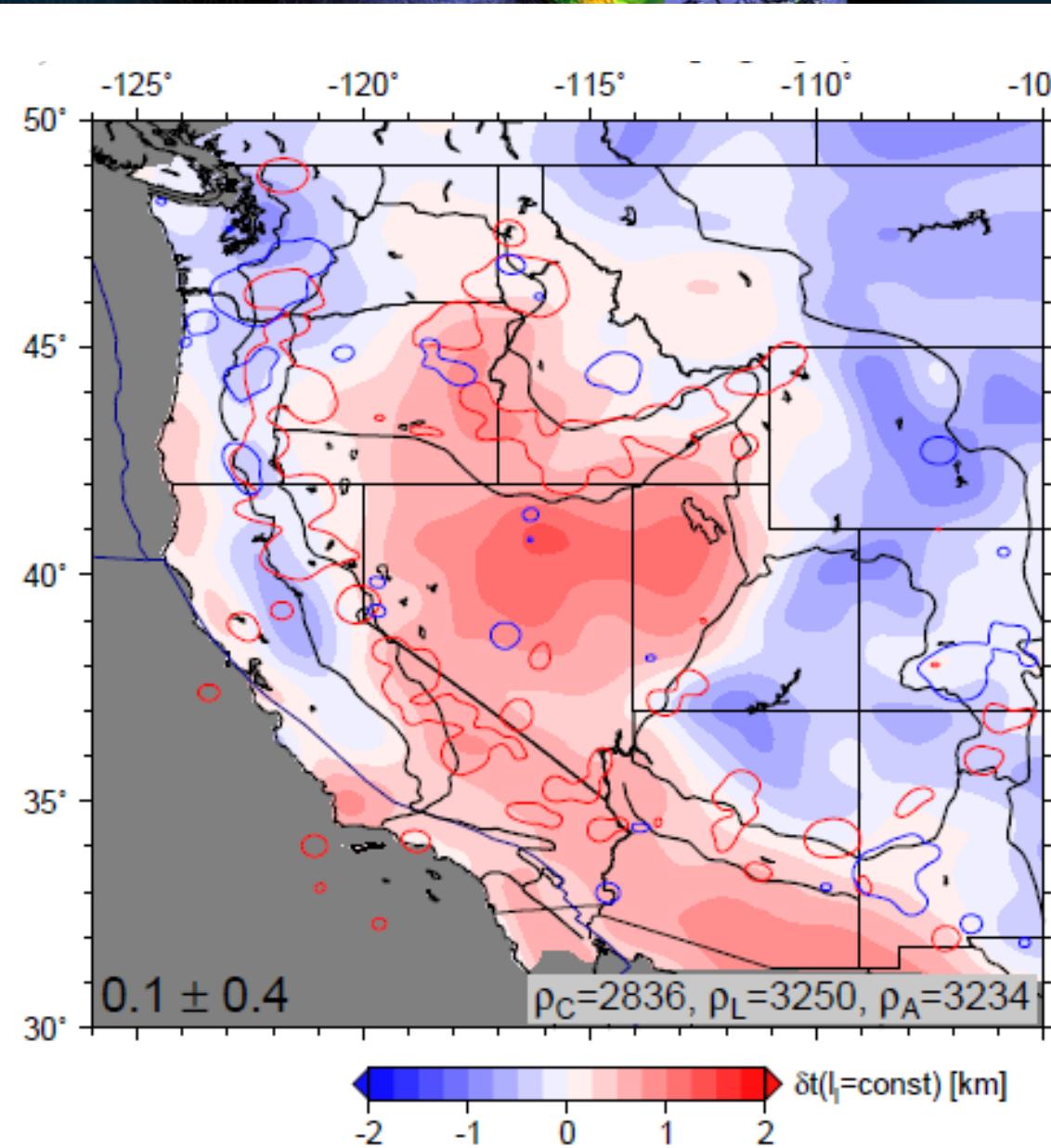
## CRUSTAL THICKNESS FROM $Pn$ STATION TIME TERMS





# Dynamic North America

## Imaging the continental lithosphere



## STATIC AND DYNAMIC SUPPORT OF TOPOGRAPHY

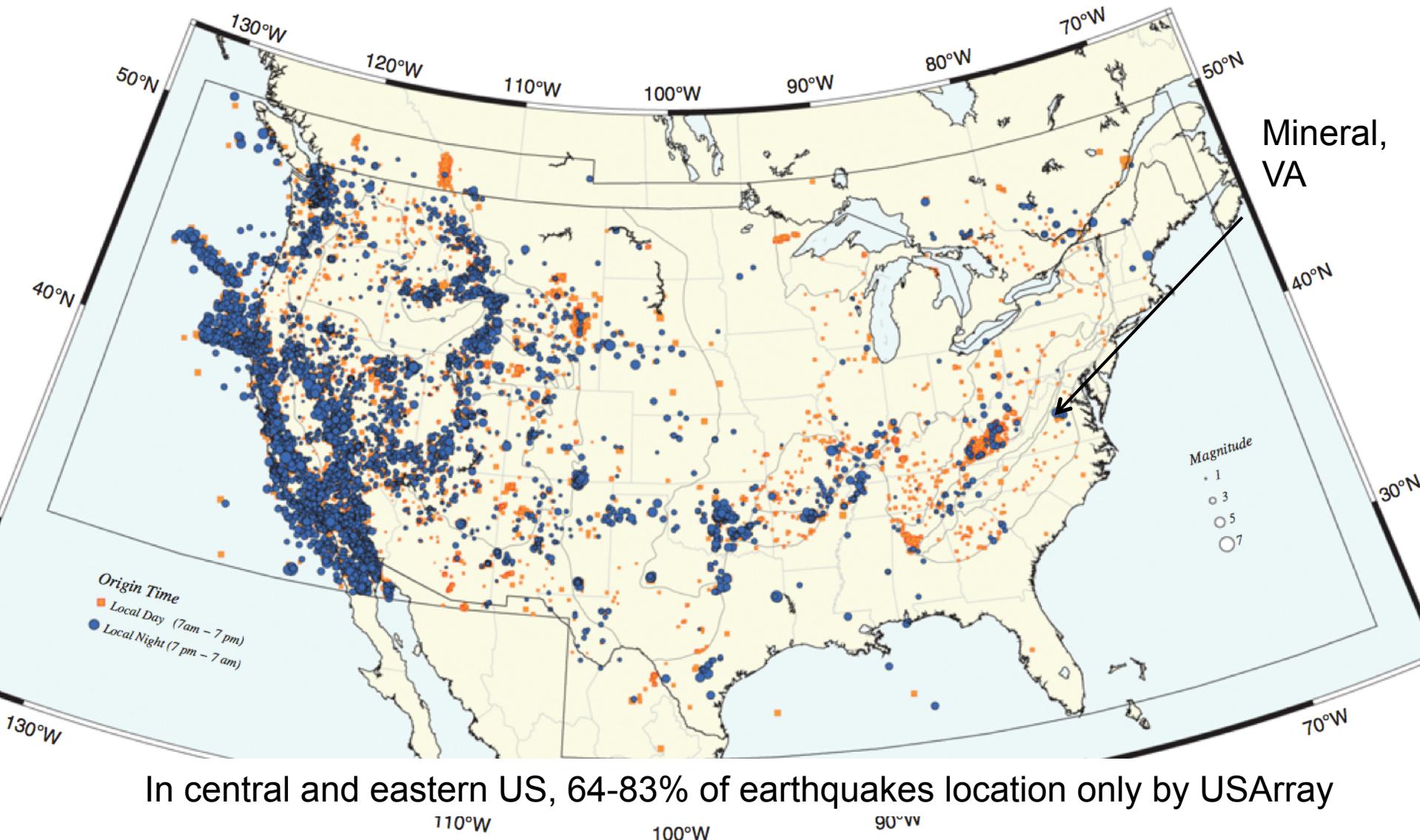
Topographic elevations not explained by variable crustal thickness.  
Lithospheric thickness variation hard to image and does not seem to explain either.  
->important interactions between vigorous upper mantle convection and intraplate deformation

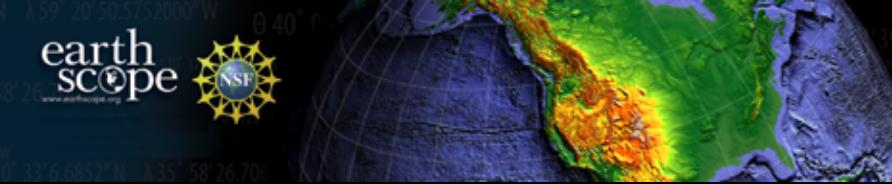
*Becker, Faccenna, Humphreys, Lowry, & Miller, EPSL 2013*

# Earthquakes located by USArray

Luciana Astiz  
*University of California, San Diego*

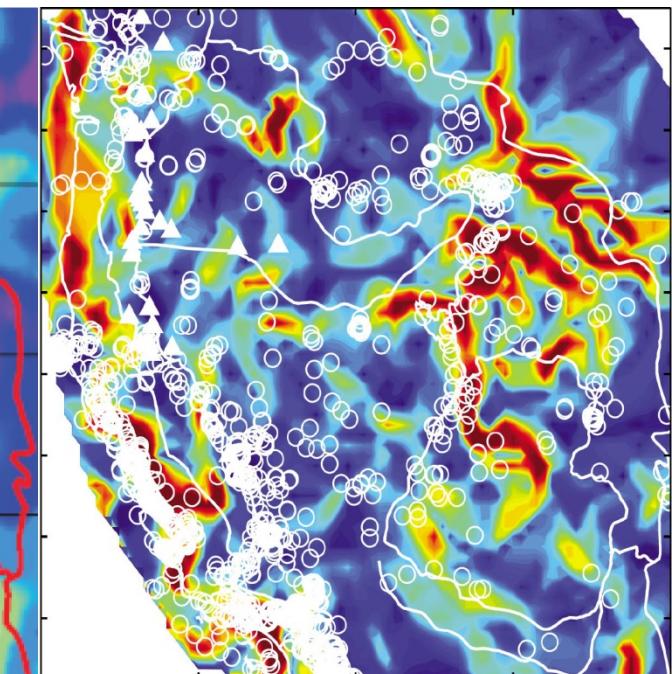
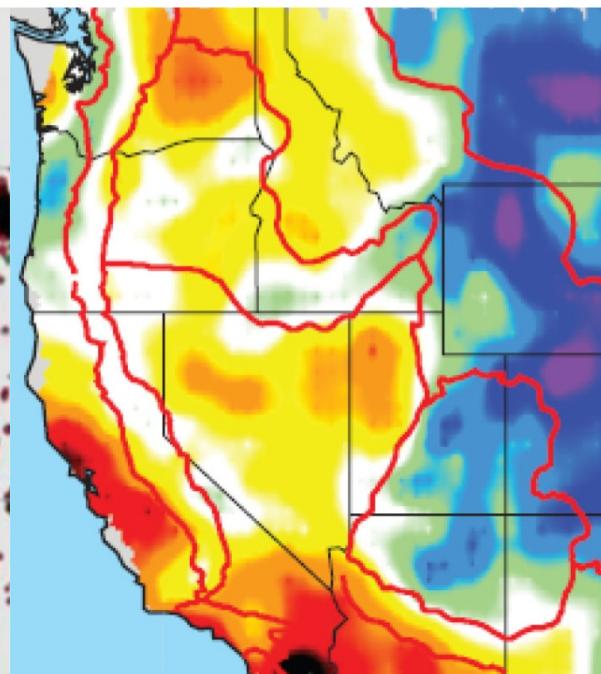
Local Day/Night seismicity in the ANF Bulletin from April 2004 to November 2013





*Dynamic North America*  
*Imaging the continental lithosphere*

## SEISMICITY CORRELATES WITH GRADIENTS IN CRUSTAL STRUCTURE



Astiz *et al.*, 2014

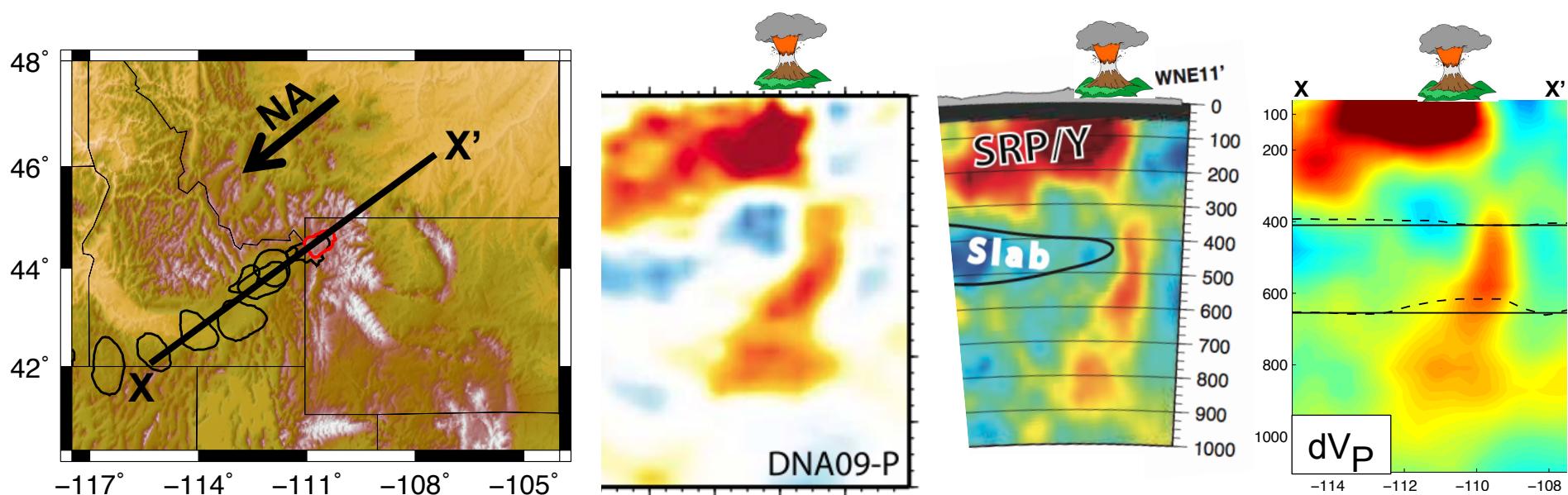
Shen & Ritzwoller, 2014

Levander & Miller, 2012



## USARRAY TOMOGRAPHY BENEATH YELLOWSTONE

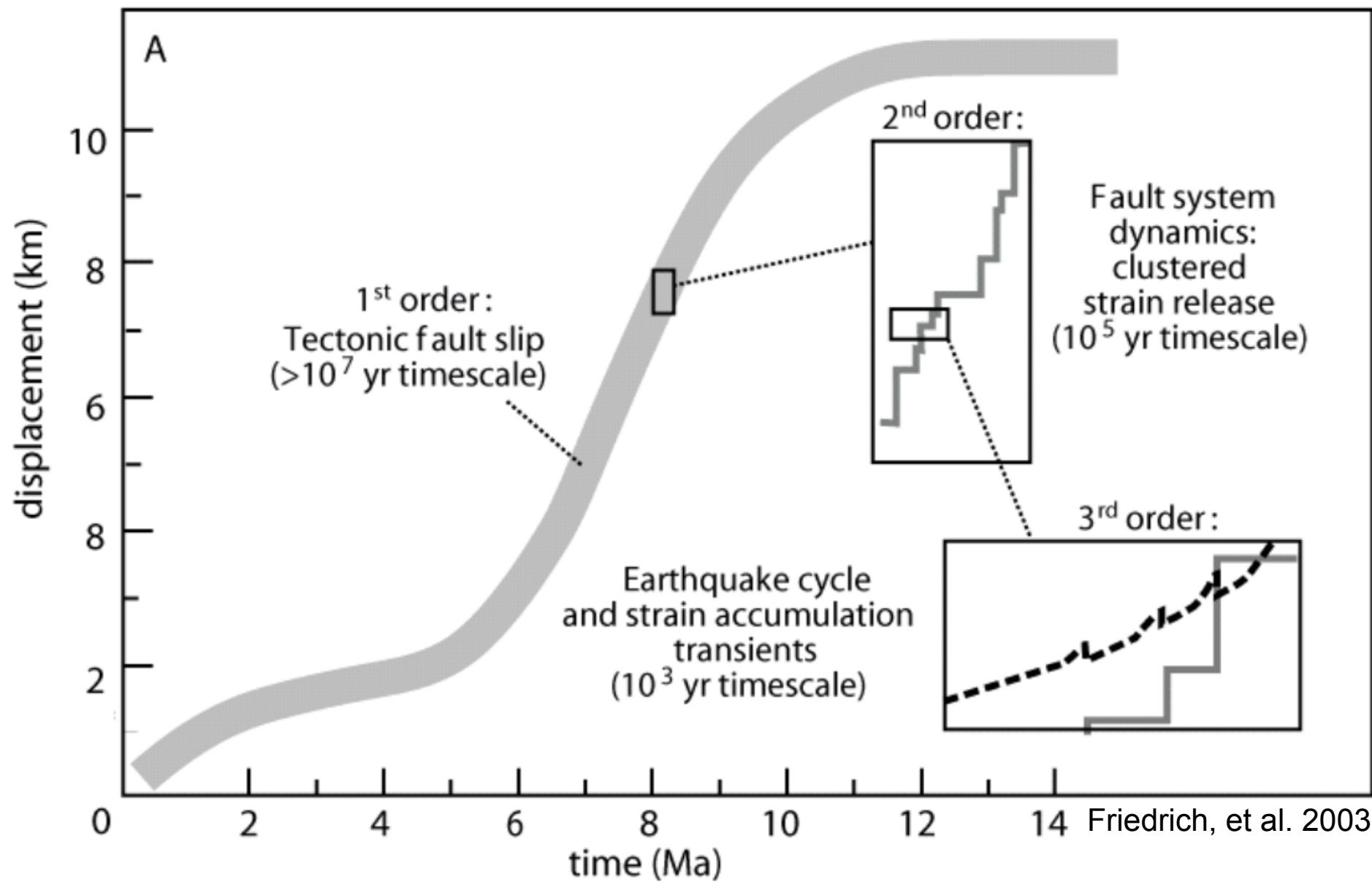
A vertically heterogeneous low-velocity anomaly extending into the lower mantle in the USArray tomography models.

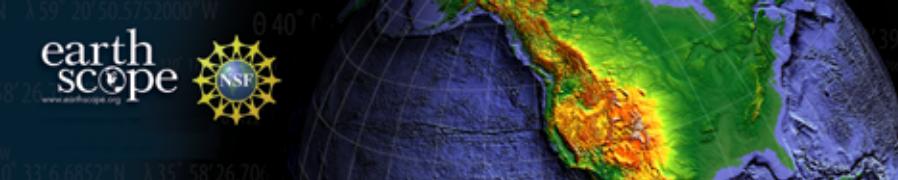


Obrebski et al. (2010) James et al. (2011) Schmandt et al. (2012)

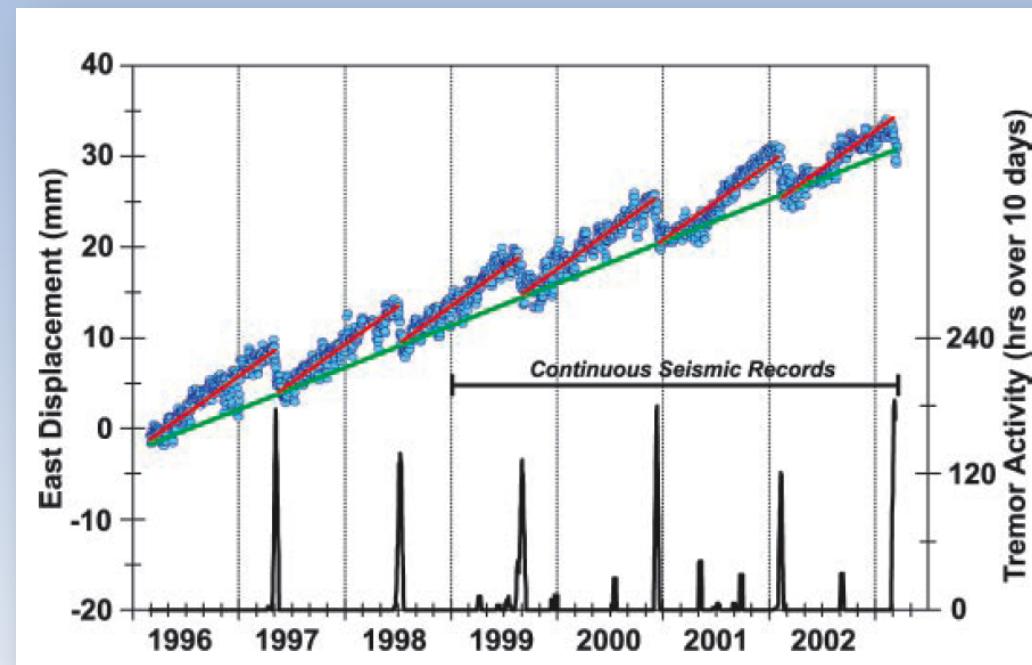


# Earth Deformation at periods of $10^1$ to $10^7$ yr



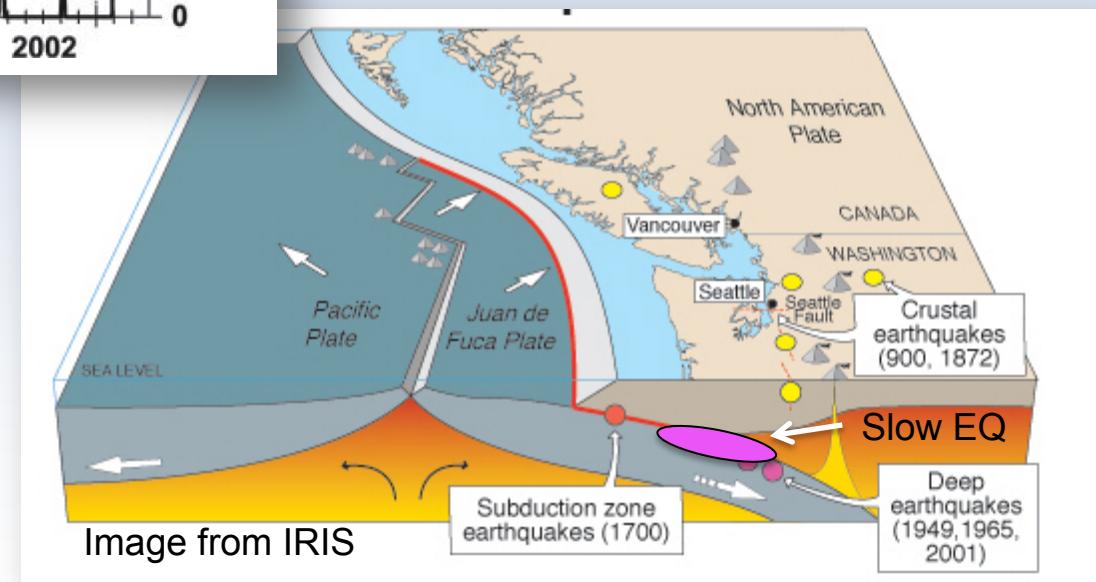


# Earthquakes, tremor and aseismic slip in Cascadia



Rogers and Dragert, 2003

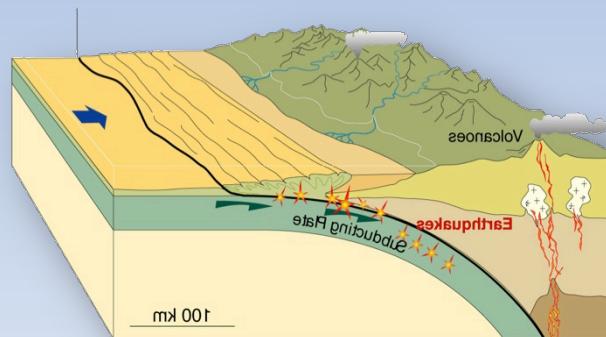
What  
Where  
When  
Why





# Cascadia: Aseismic Fault Slip Transients & Tremor

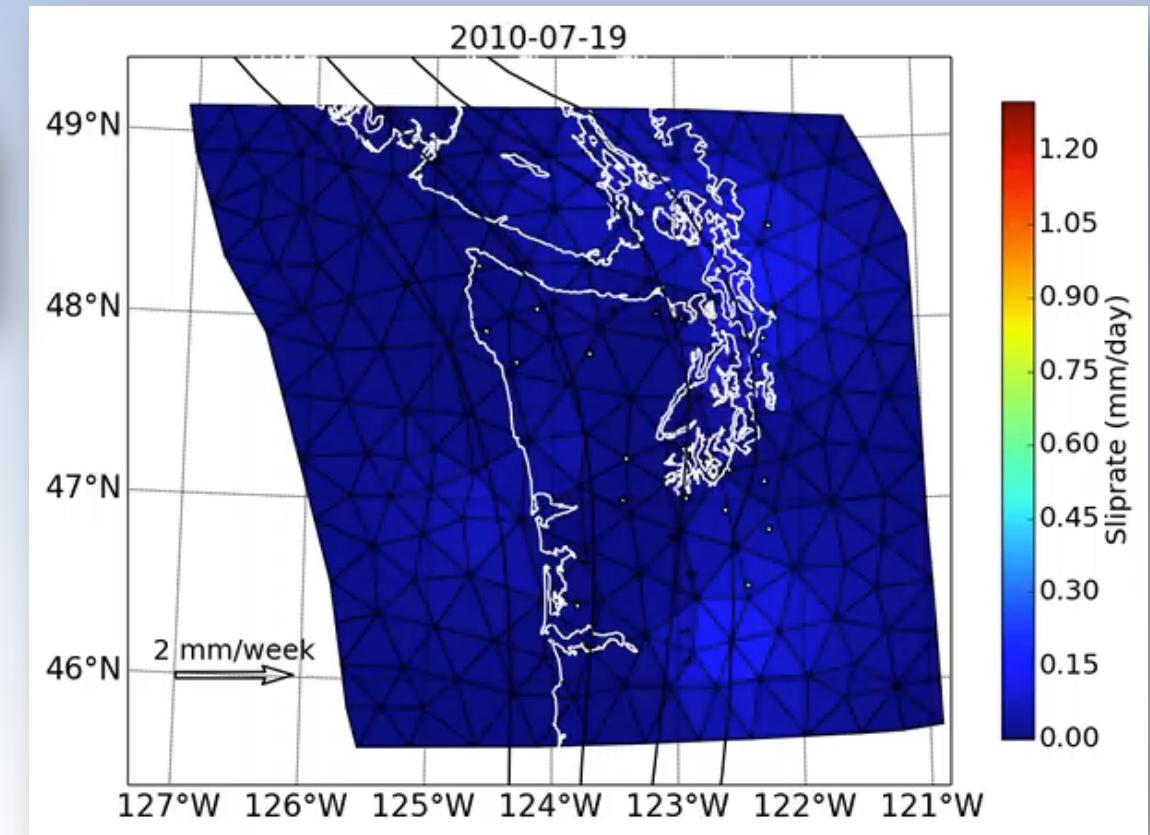
New Algorithms: Automated transient detection using sparsity based approaches



$$\begin{bmatrix} \text{ } & \text{ } & \text{ } & \text{ } \\ \diagdown & \diagup & \diagdown & \diagup \\ \text{ } & \text{ } & \text{ } & \text{ } \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} m_0 \\ m_1 \\ \vdots \\ m_{P-1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} d_0 \\ d_1 \\ \vdots \\ d_{N-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

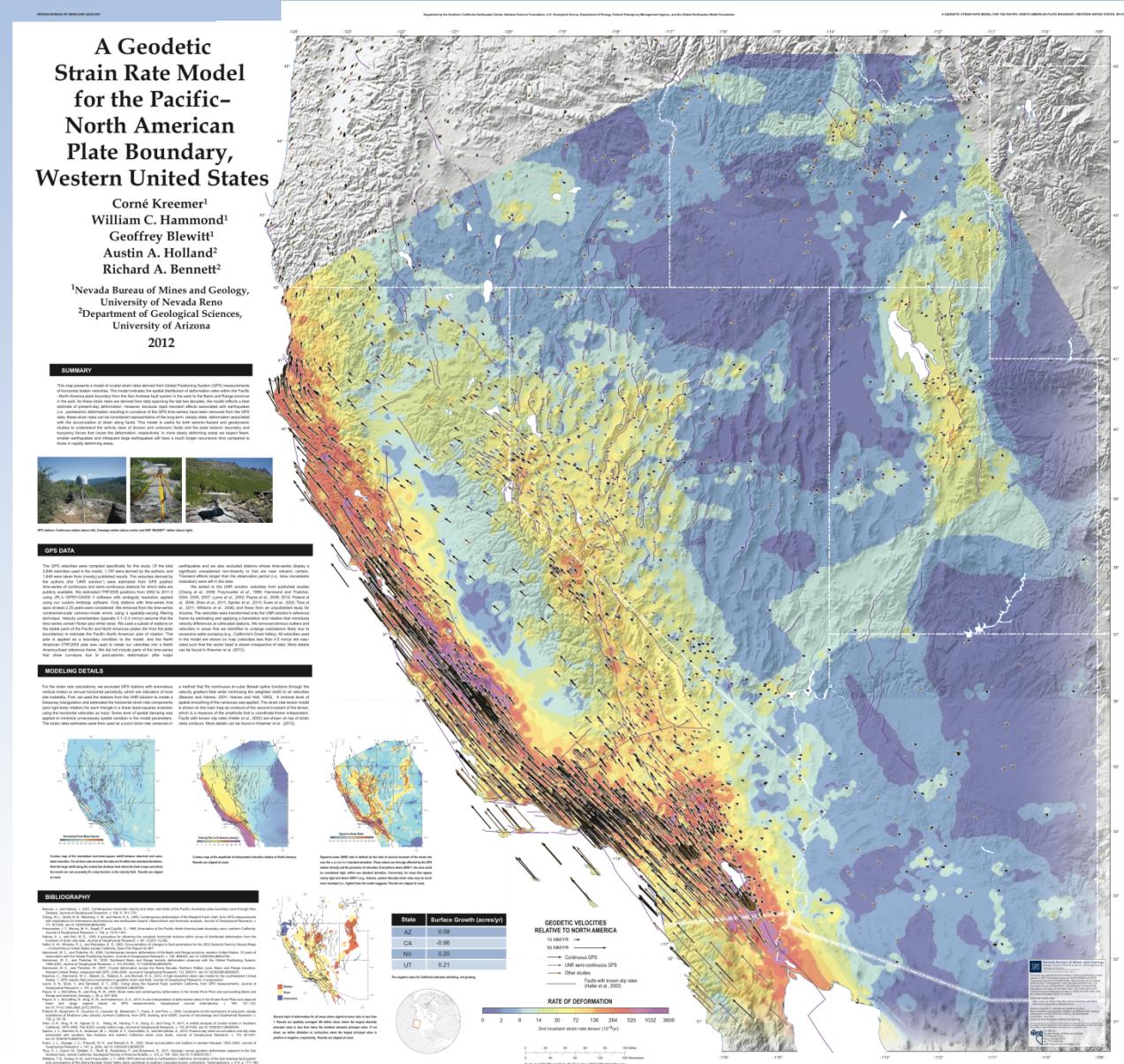
$$\mathbf{m} = \underset{\mathbf{m}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \|\mathbf{d} - \mathbf{G}\mathbf{m}\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{m}\|_0$$

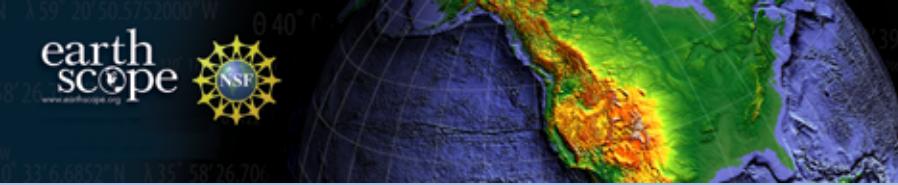
Transient slip rate and tremor vs time



Riel et al., 2014

# Pacific - North American Plate Motions



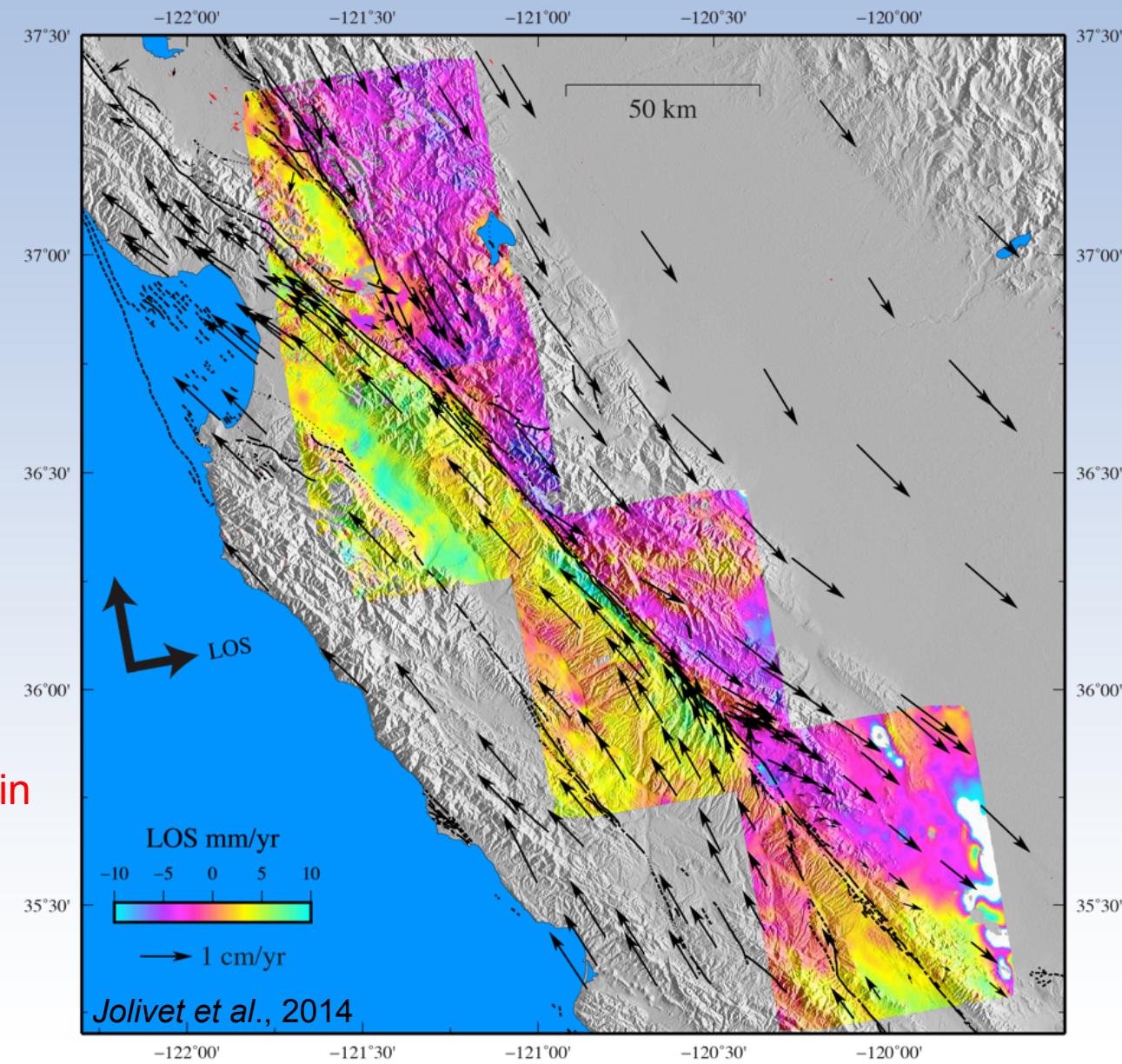


# Kinematics, dynamics & structure of the San Andreas Fault

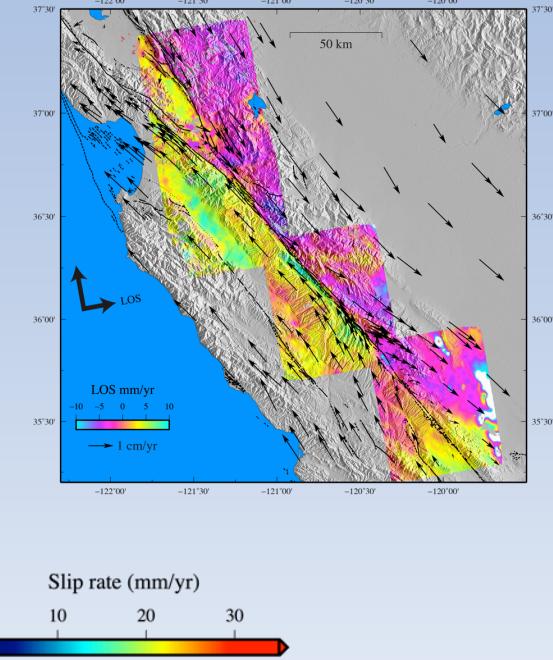
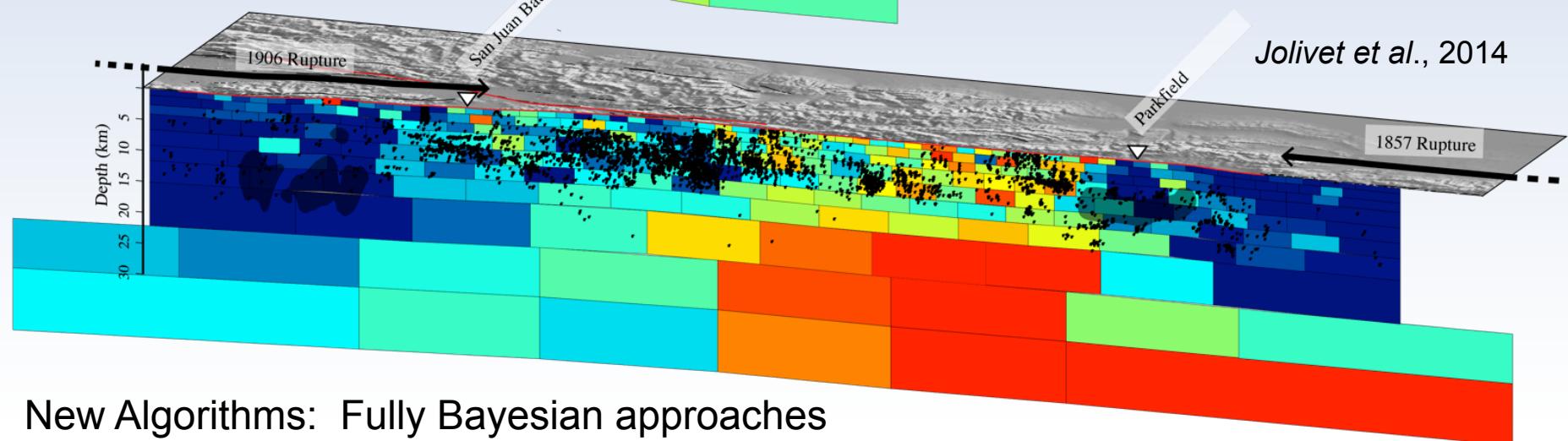
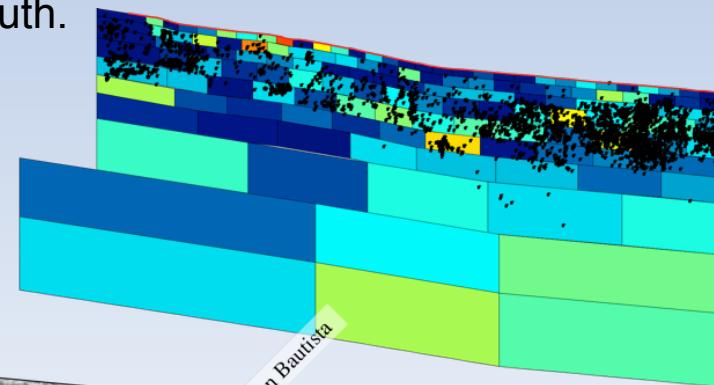
- Low strain accumulation across the Central SAF
- Previous ruptures don't overlap with creeping regions.
- Transition from creeping to locked is smooth in the north but abrupt in the south.

Satellite radar: ALOS  
GPS: PBO, BARD

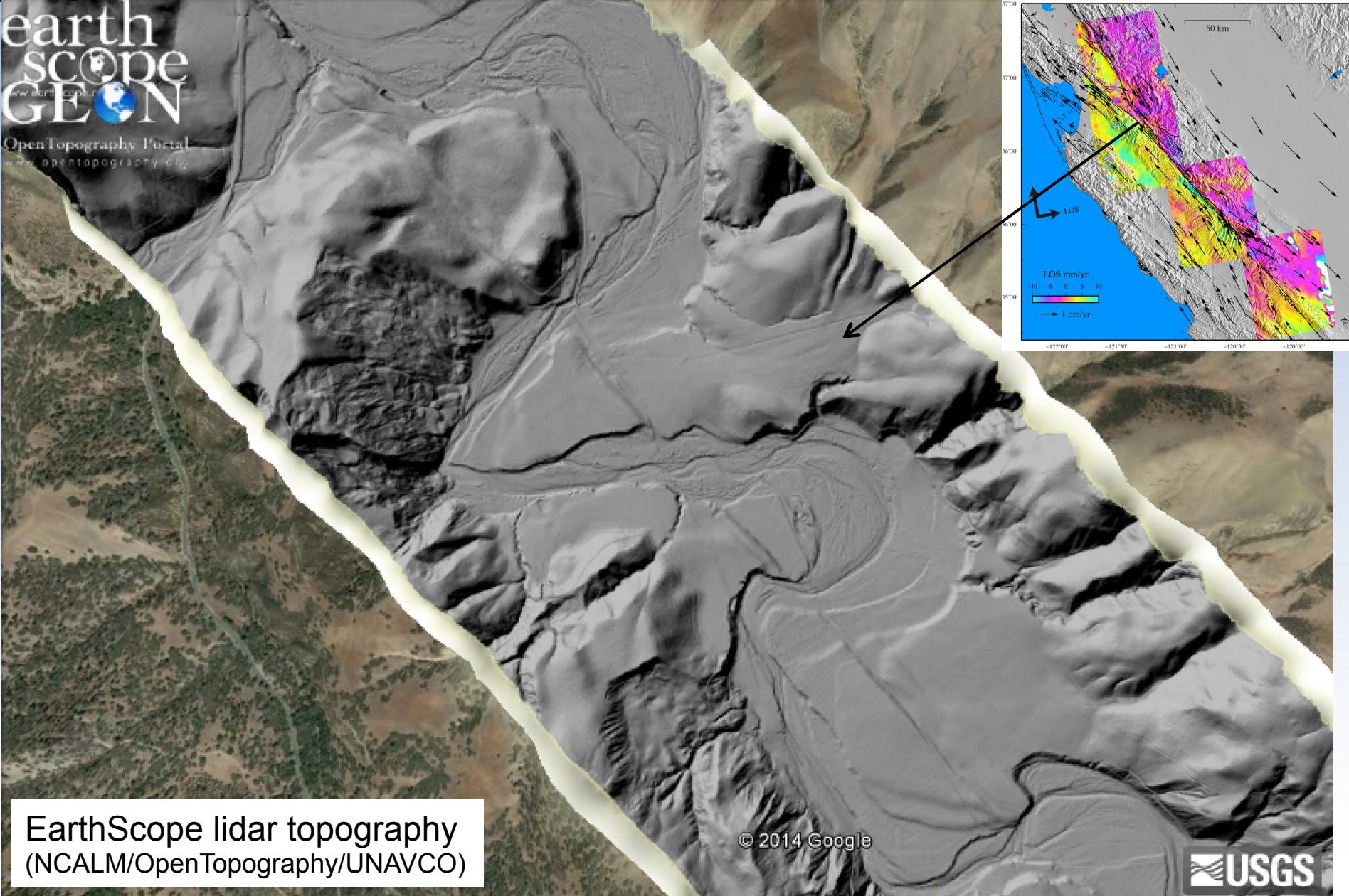
Mapping interseismic strain accumulation by merging GPS and repeat satellite radar imaging



- Low strain accumulation across the Central SAF
- Previous ruptures and creeping regions don't overlap.
- Transition from creeping to locked is smooth in the north but abrupt in the south.



New Algorithms: Fully Bayesian approaches



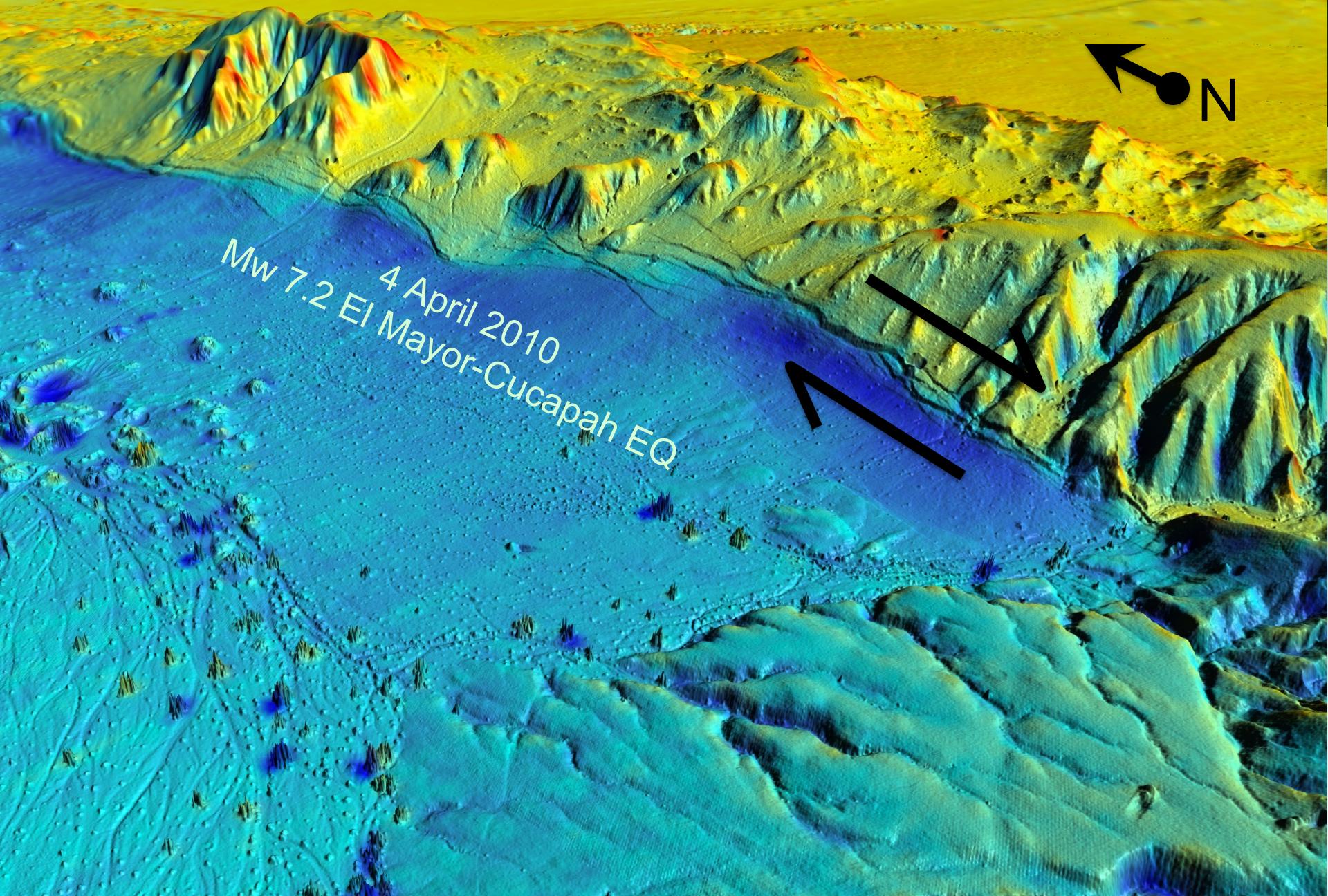
earth  
SCOPE  
GEON

OpenTopography Portal  
[www.opentopography.org](http://www.opentopography.org)

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USGS

EarthScope lidar topography  
(NCALM/OpenTopography/UNAVCO)

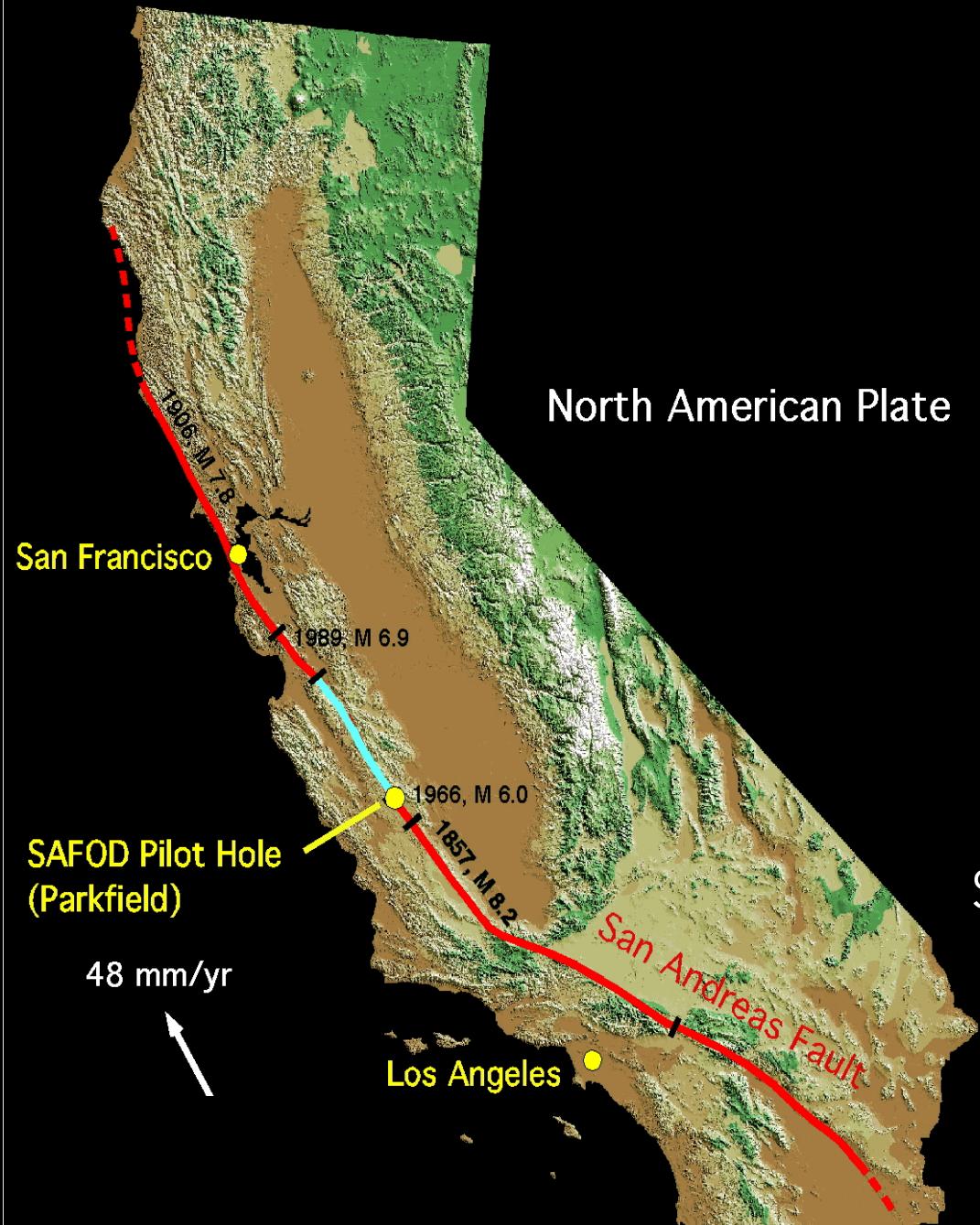


Using LIDAR to detect detailed fault offsets

Oskin, et al., 2012

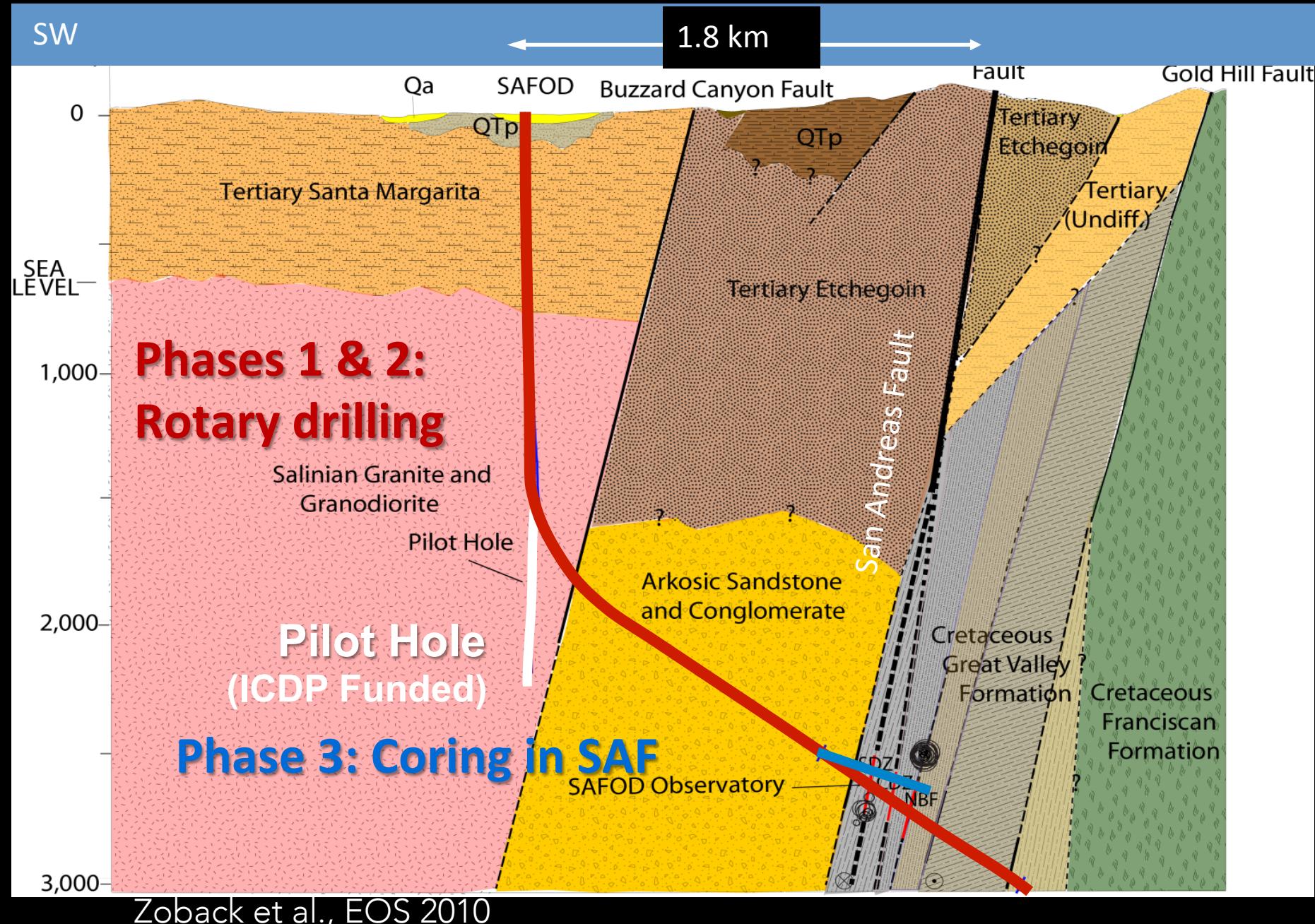
**What is the strength  
of a plate boundary  
fault at seismogenic  
depth?**

**Is it 100-200 MPa,  
 $\mu \approx 0.6$ , or 10-20 MPa,  
 $\mu \leq 0.2$  ?**



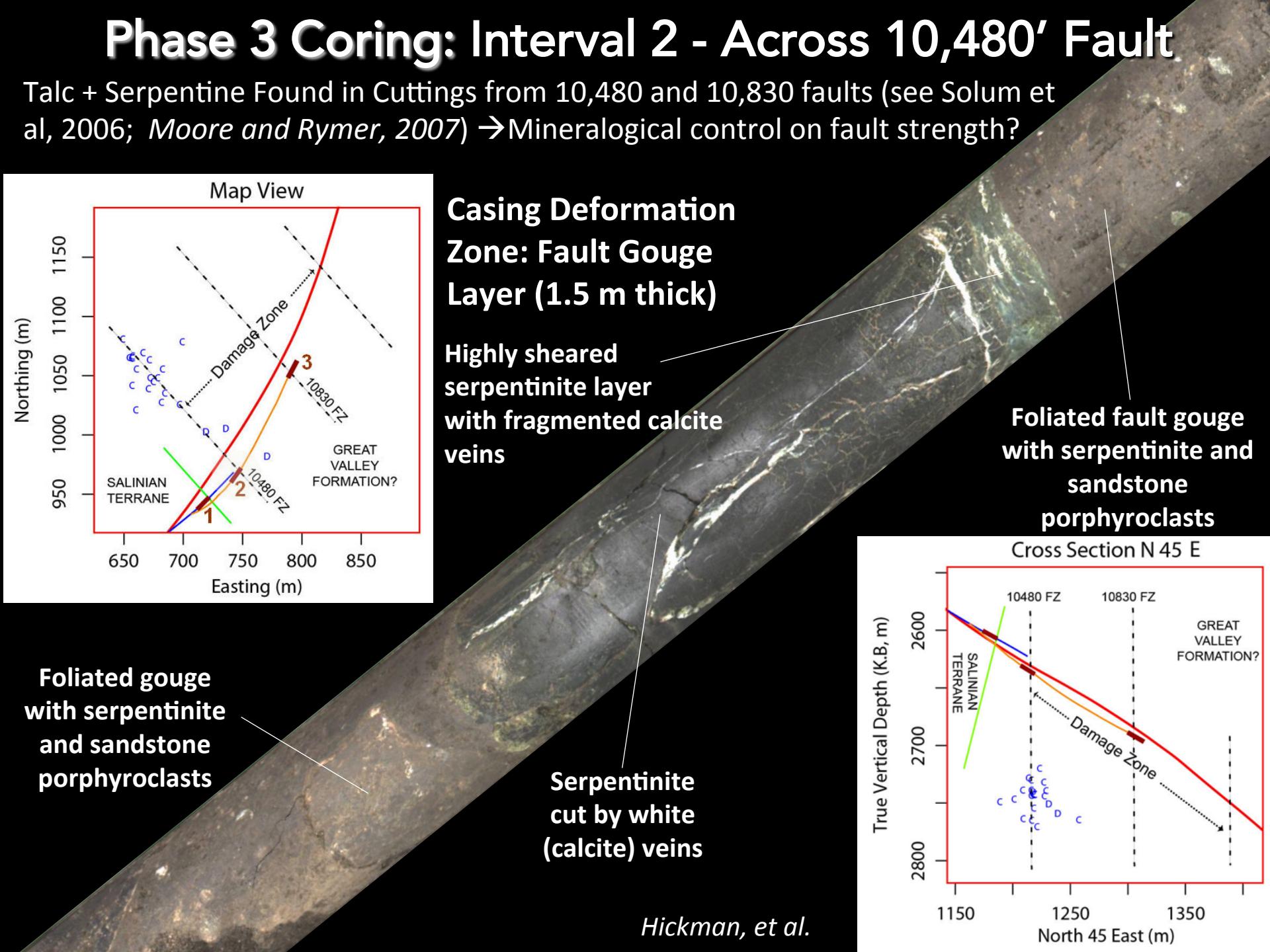
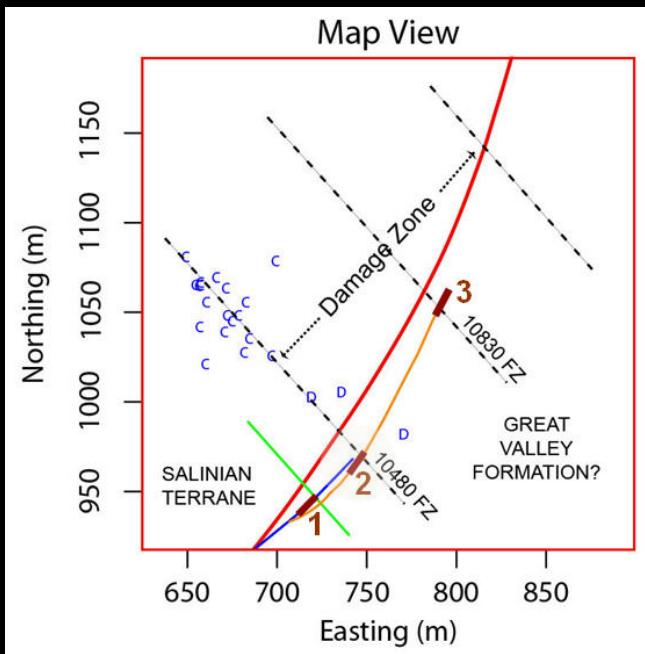
SAFOD: Determine physical and chemical processes controlling deformation and earthquake generation within an active plate-bounding fault zone

# SAFOD Geology and Drilling Plan



## Phase 3 Coring: Interval 2 - Across 10,480' Fault

Talc + Serpentine Found in Cuttings from 10,480 and 10,830 faults (see Solum et al, 2006; *Moore and Rymer, 2007*) →Mineralogical control on fault strength?



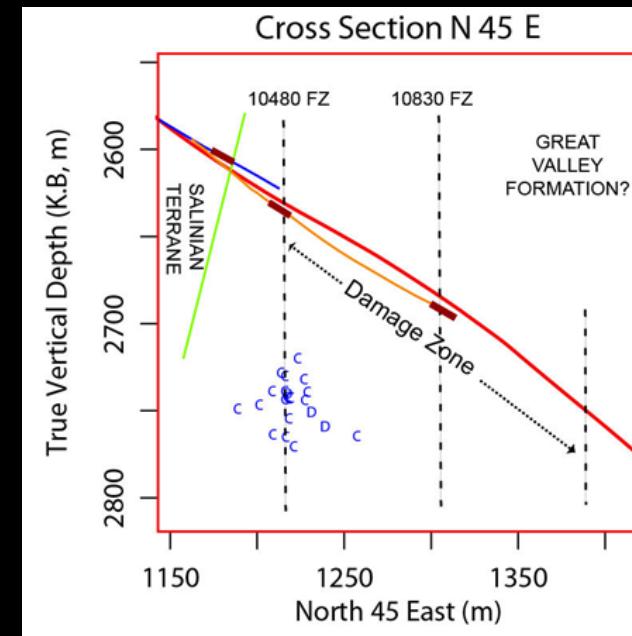
# Casing Deformation Zone: Fault Gouge Layer (1.5 m thick)

# Highly sheared serpentinite layer with fragmented calcite veins

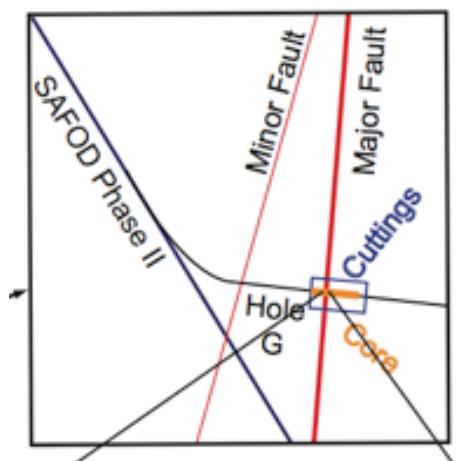
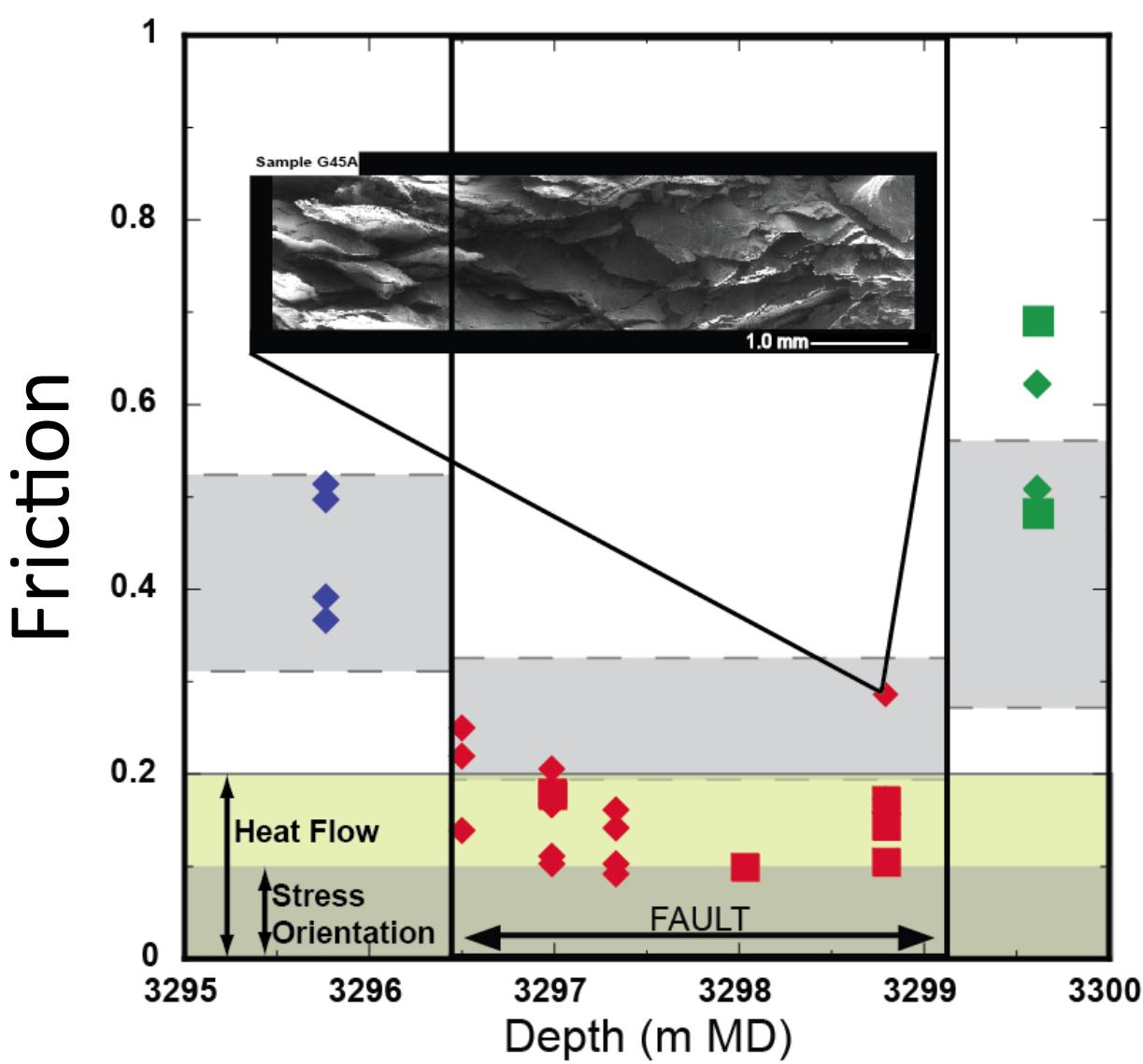
# Foliated fault gouge with serpentinite and sandstone porphyroclasts

## Foliated gouge with serpentinite and sandstone porphyroclasts

## Serpentinite cut by white (calcite) veins

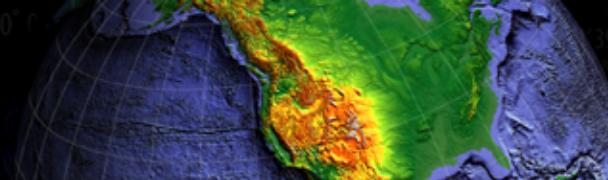


# Frictional Strength, SAFOD Phase III Core



Carpenter, Marone,  
and Saffer, 2011

Carpenter, Saffer  
and Marone, 2012



# San Andreas Fault is Profoundly Weak

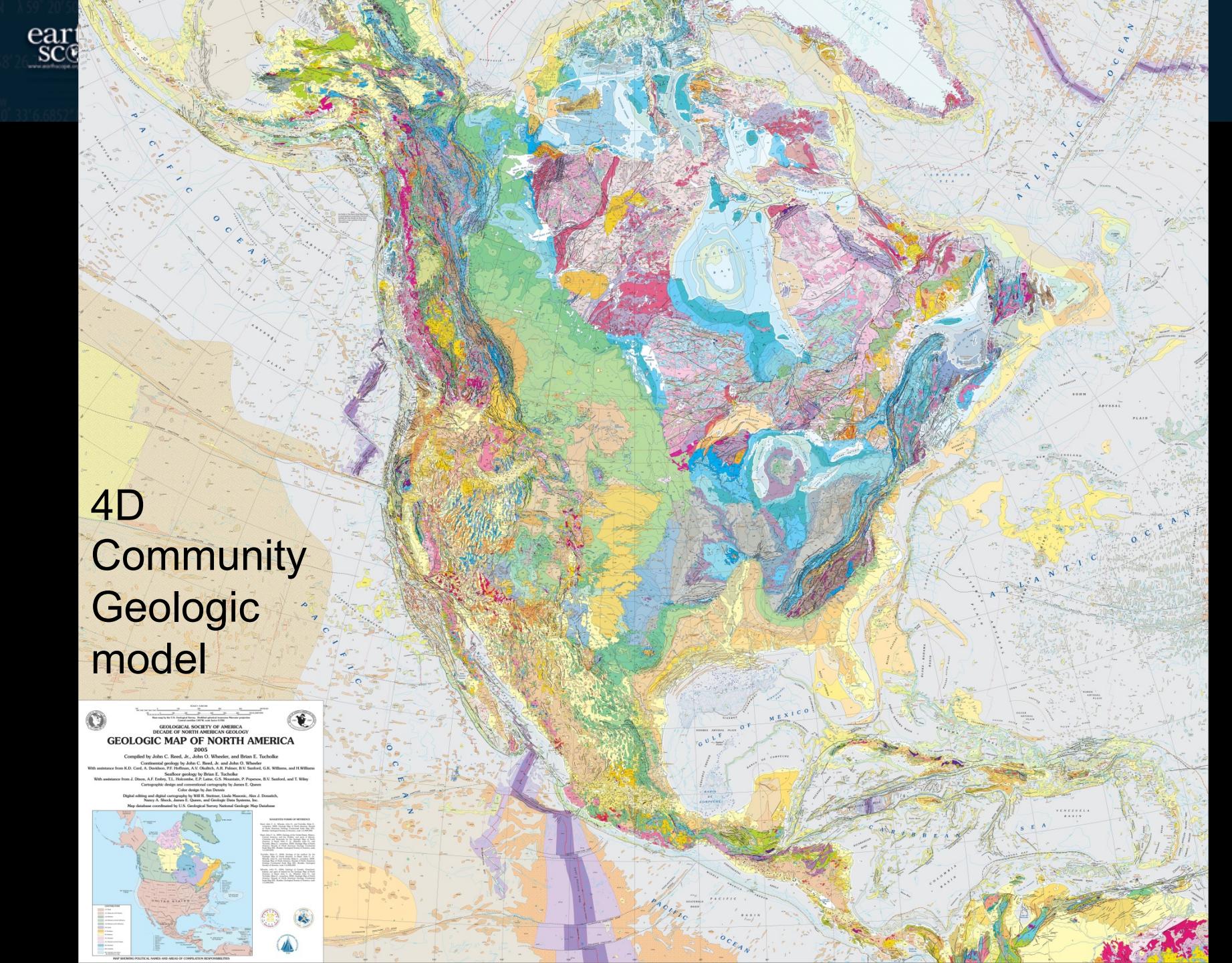
- Weakness is due to properties of fault gouge, not fluid pressure.
- Fault zone is narrow.
- Drilling laid to rest decades of debate about weakness and structure of fault zone.



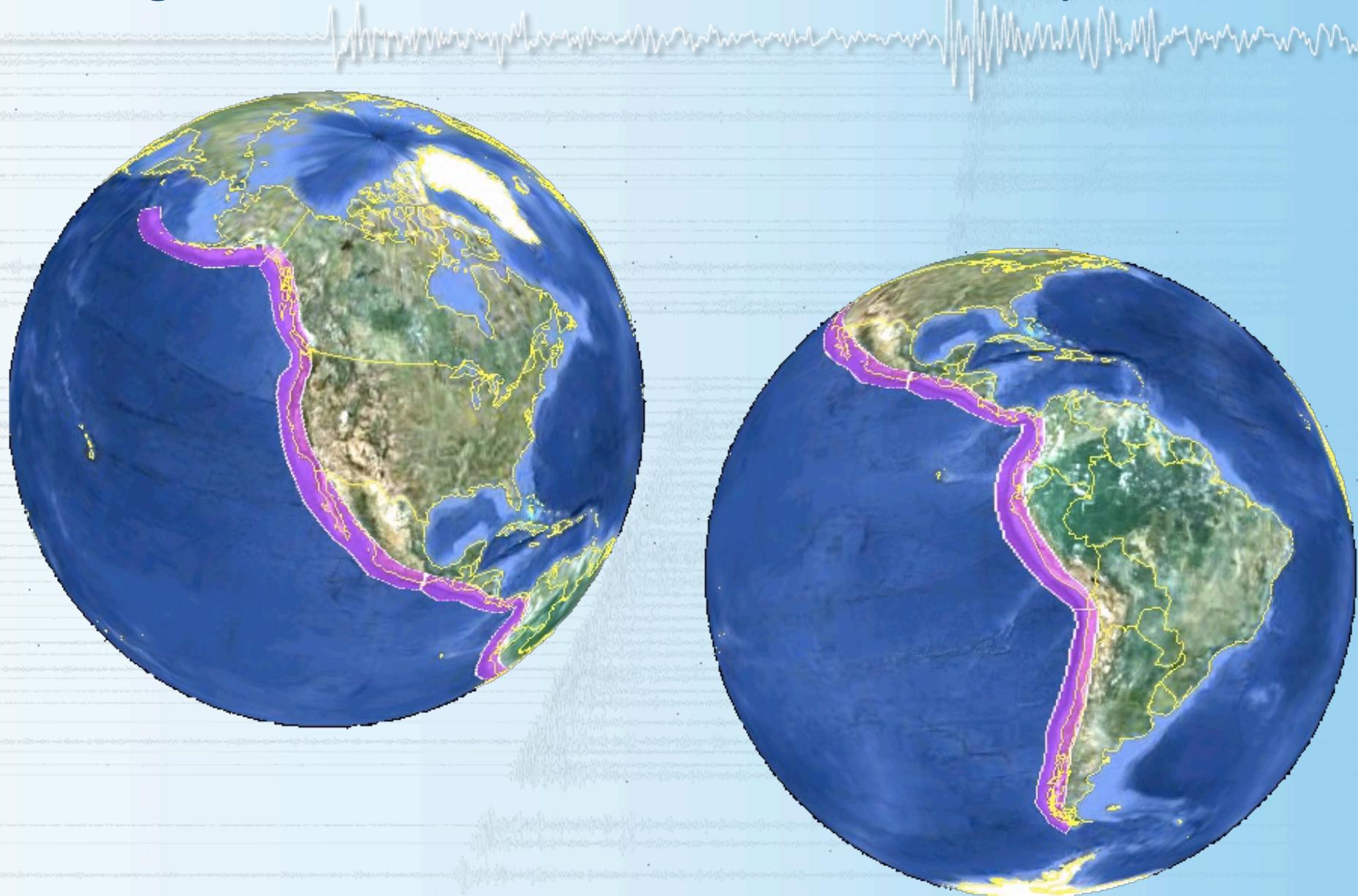
# What is next?

- What do we want to be doing in 2020?
- Build on the scientific, technical, and broader impact successes of EarthScope
- New partnerships

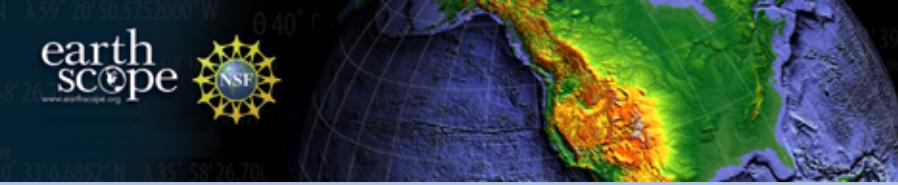




# A Big Idea: Subduction Zone Observatory



# Facilitate - Collaborate - Educate



# Understanding Subduction Zones

- Subduction Zone Observatories
  - IRIS-UNAVCO collaboration to spearhead an international effort
- Leverages a history of technical interchange and collaboration: GSN, Polar, GLISN, Polenet, TA, PBO, Reference Network, COCONet, TlalocNet
- Builds from the existing backbone and engagement of regional partners
- Basic research and societal relevance and impact
- Multidisciplinary
  - Seismology, geodesy, volcanology, atmospheric . . .
- A legacy of EarthScope beyond 2018?

-SAGE and GAGE proposals; community meetings

