

# **Understanding the Earth by Stacking Receiver Functions: The H-K Method**

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Office**

**ASI Kuwait, January 20, 2013**



**Who Am I?**

*Halfway along a 20 mile walk,  
Fimmvörðuháls vent,  
Iceland, April 2010*

hiker, gardener, cook, softball  
outfielder, traveler

From: Florida, USA  
Schools: U. South  
Carolina (B.S.)  
U. Arizona (Ph.D.)



Currently  
(near) here:

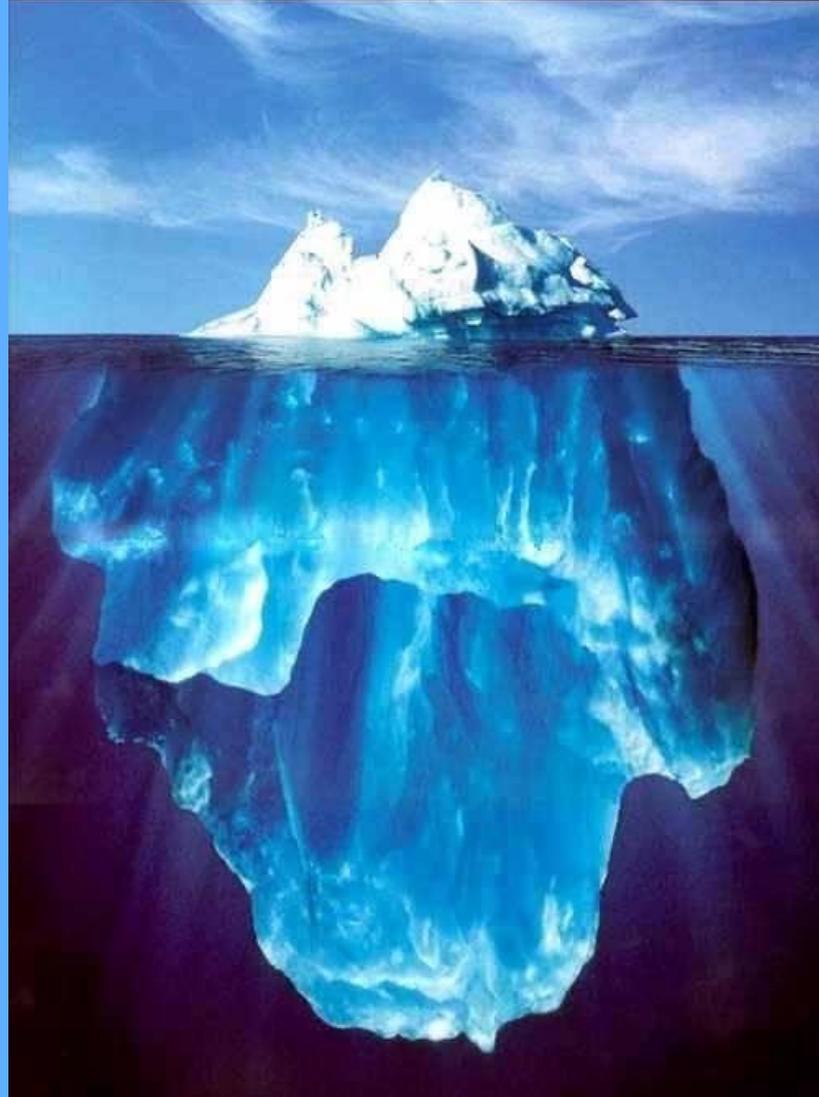


# Mt. Whitney, California,

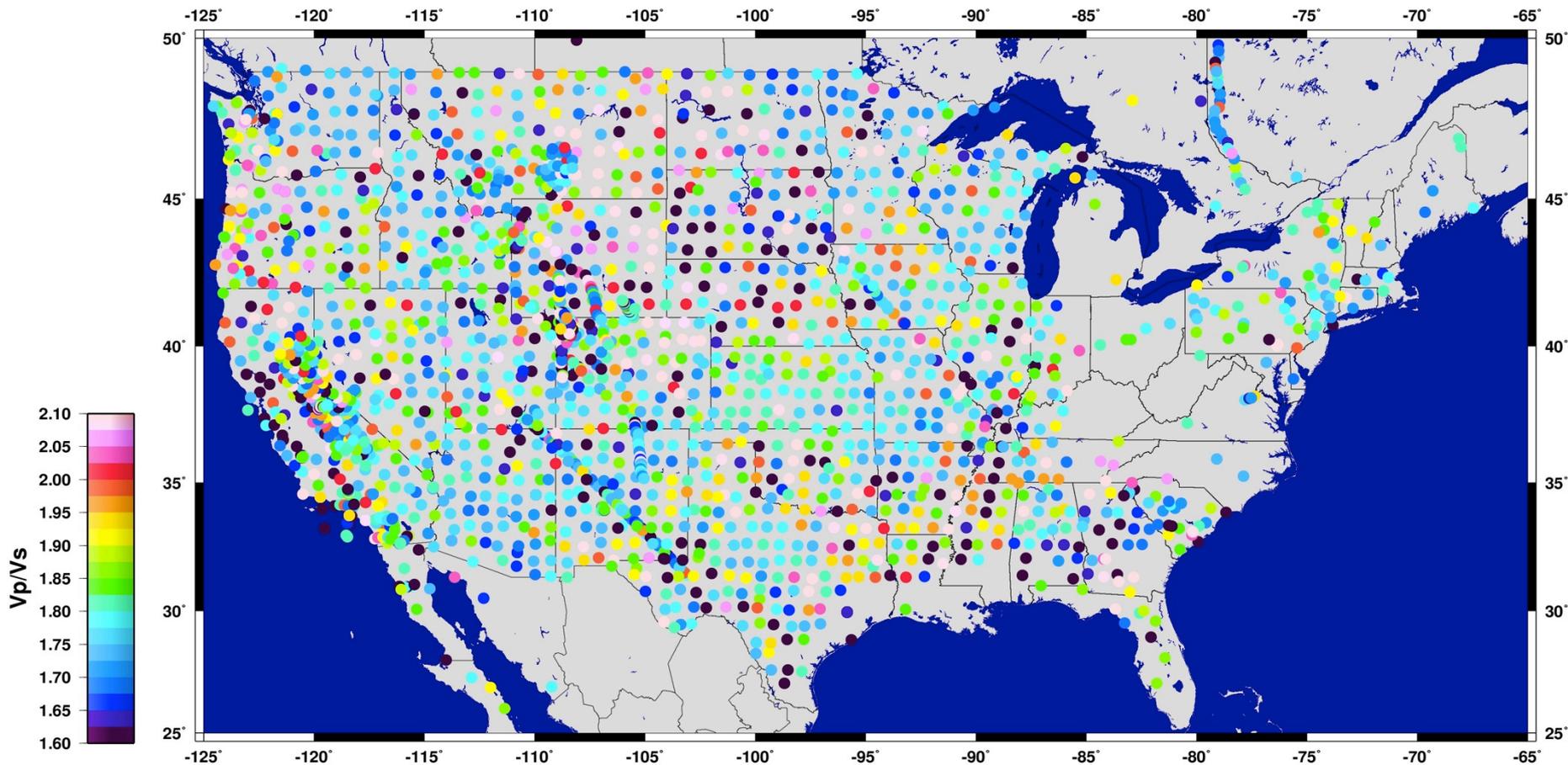


? ? ? ? ?

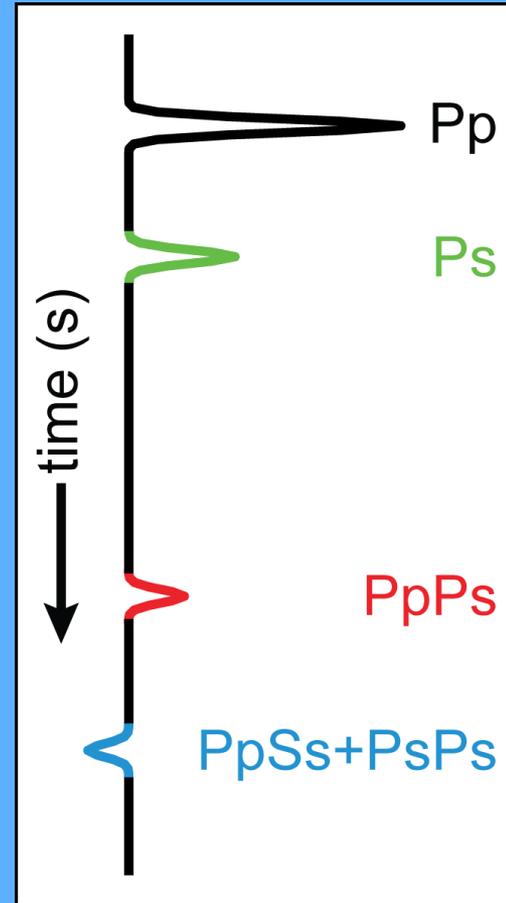
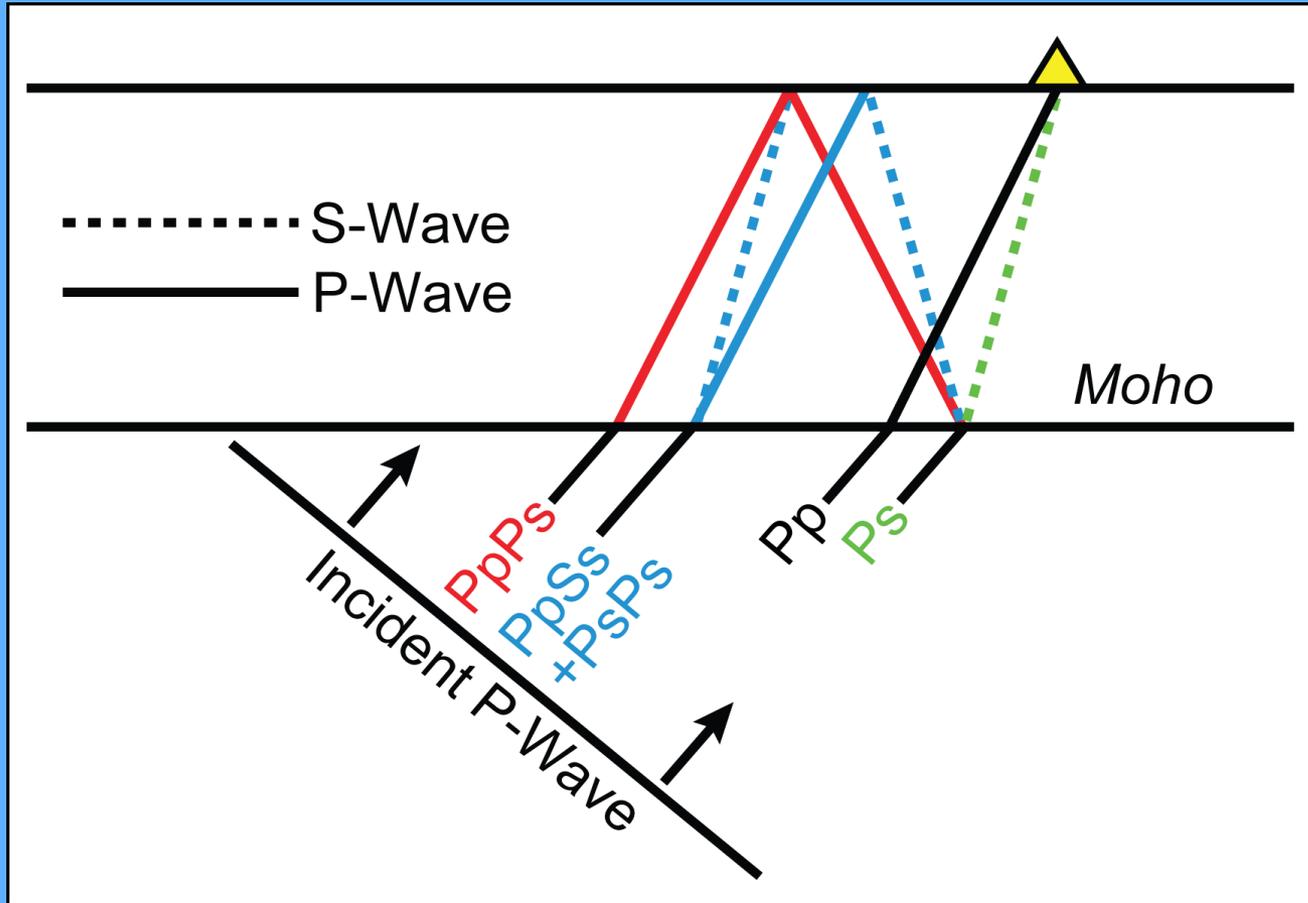
# The tip of the iceberg...



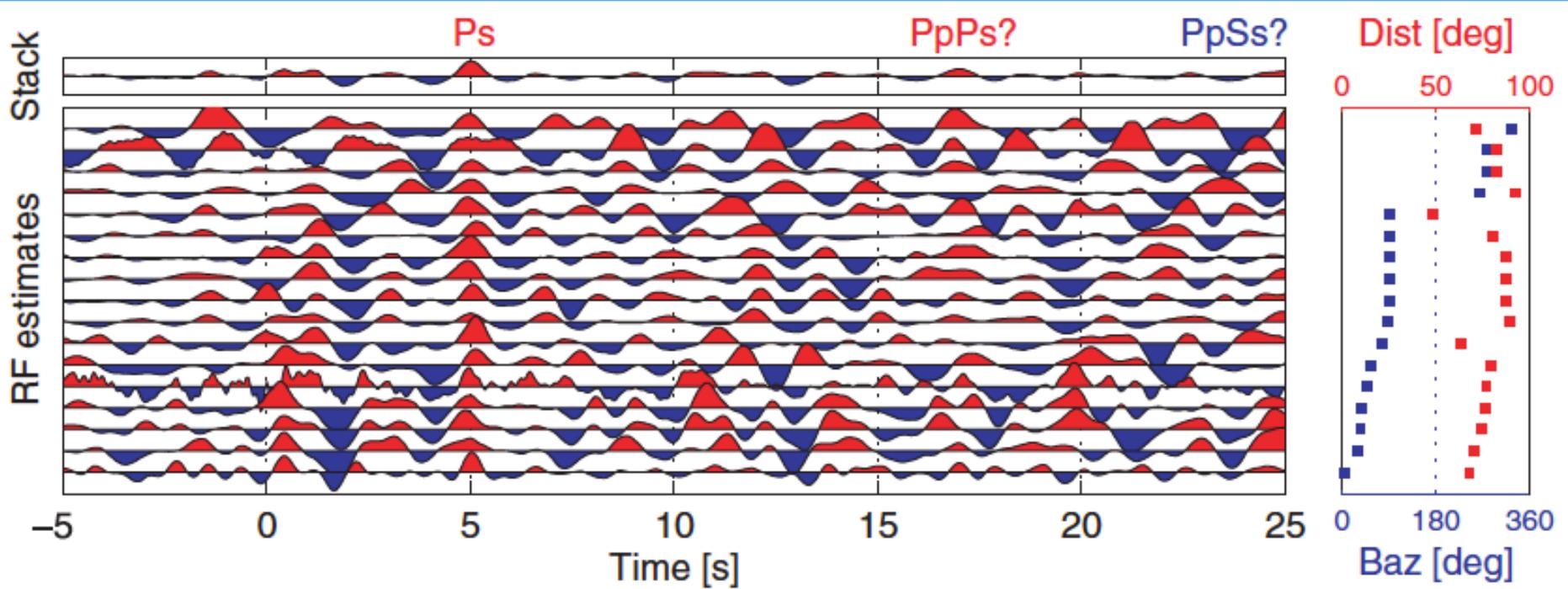
# EARS Best Estimate of $V_p/V_s$ (2013/01/17 12:03:01 UTC)



# Receiver Functions

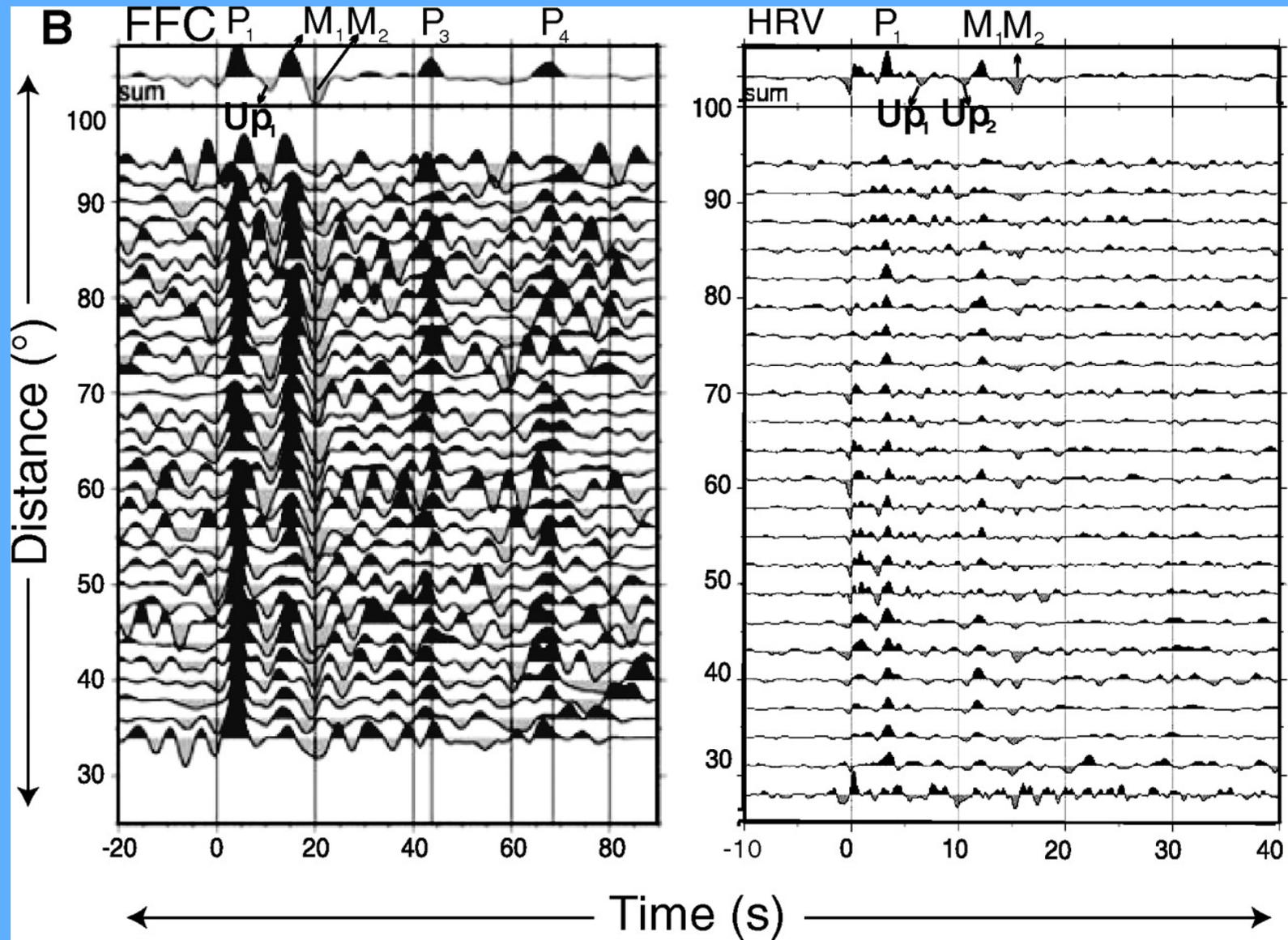


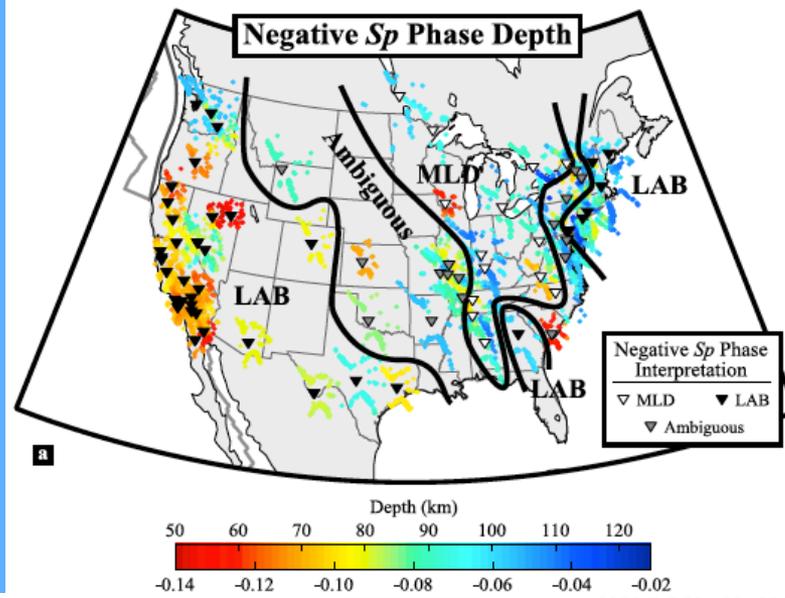
# Importance of Stacking



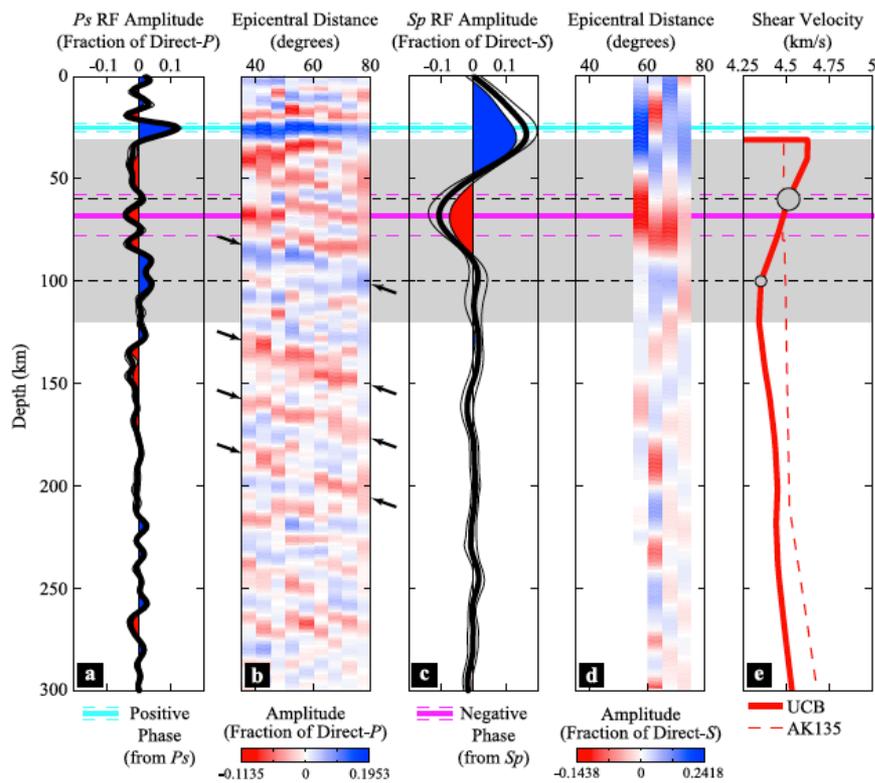
- Suppresses noise
- Emphasizes coherent signals
- S/N ratio grows by  $\sqrt{\#}$  of RFs

Svenningsen et al., 2007

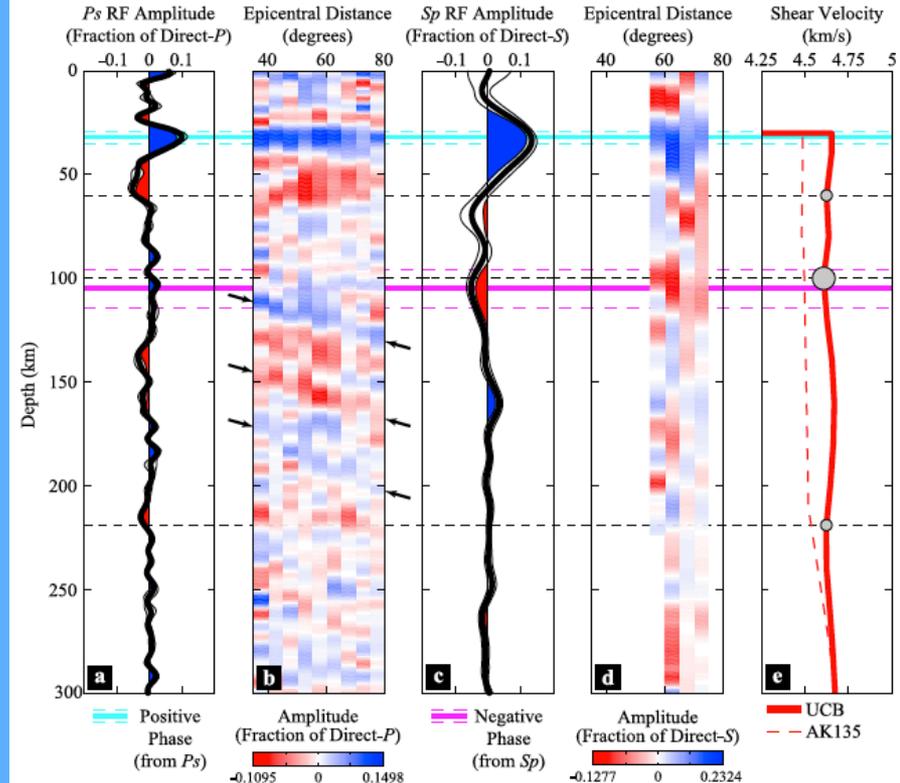




**VTV (CI) - San Andreas Fault**

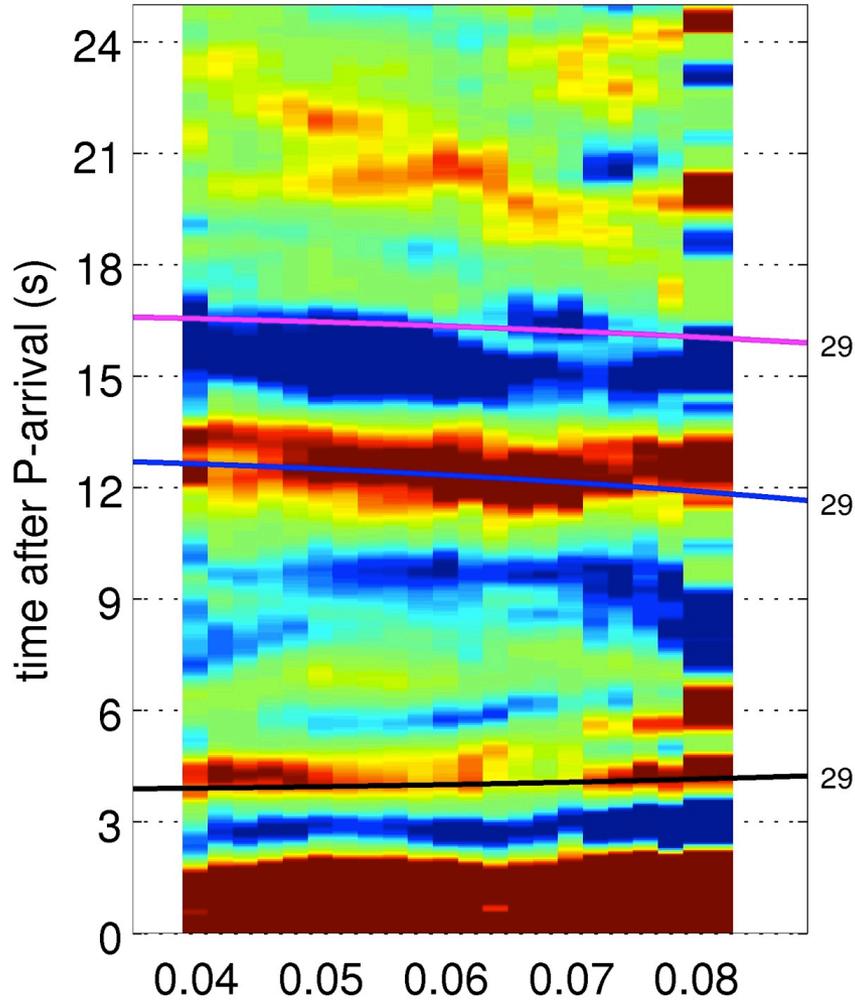


**SDMD (LD) - Atlantic Margin, Maryland**

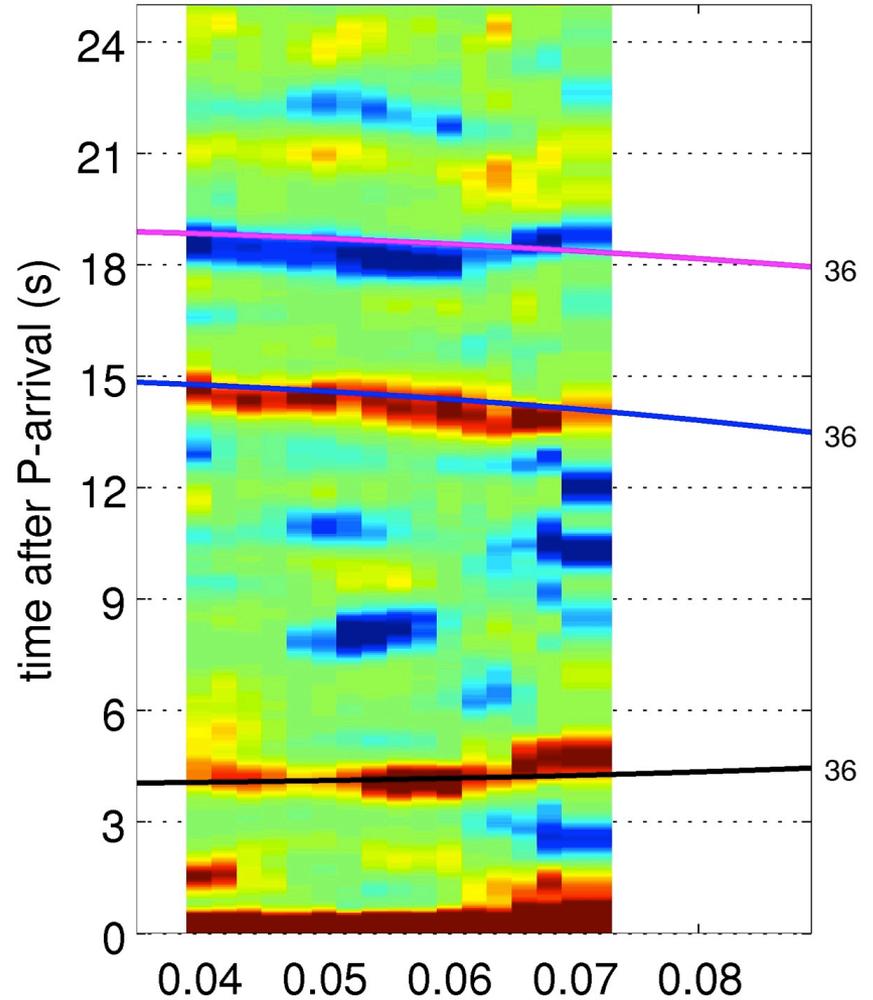


# Arrivals vs. Ray

COP:  $V_p=6.42$   $K=1.85$  #RFs=108



NWG31:  $V_p=6.5$   $K=1.72$  #RFs=46

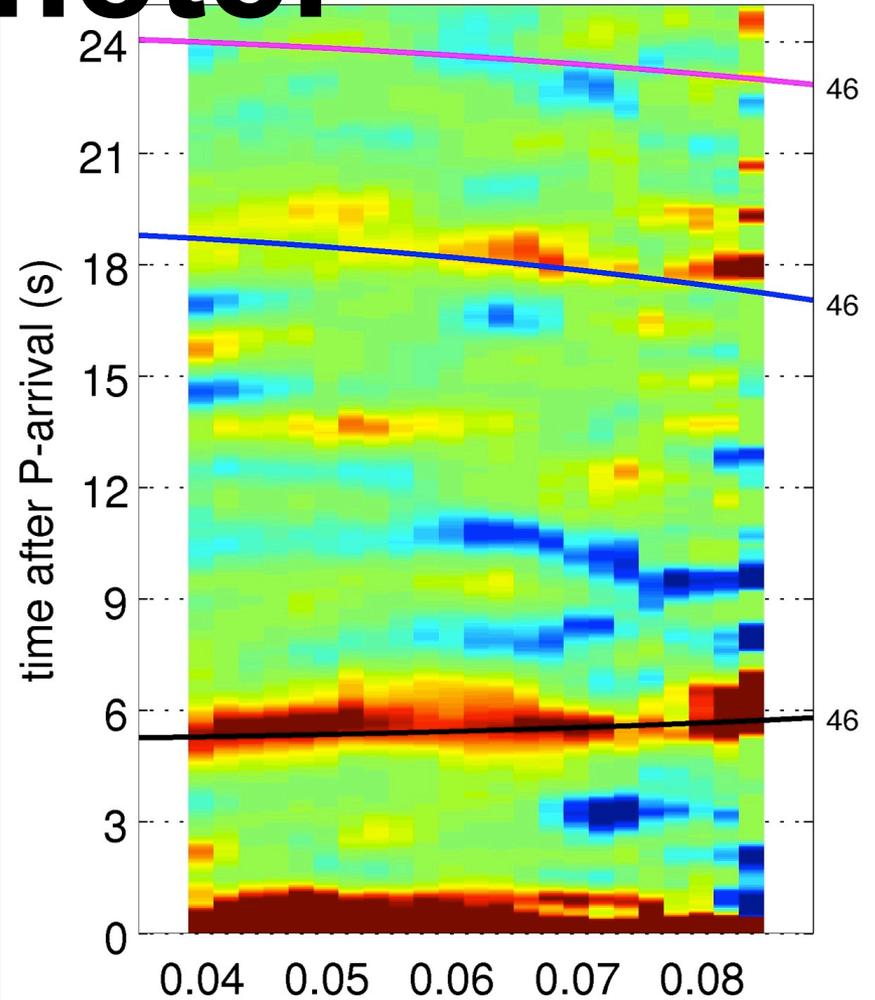
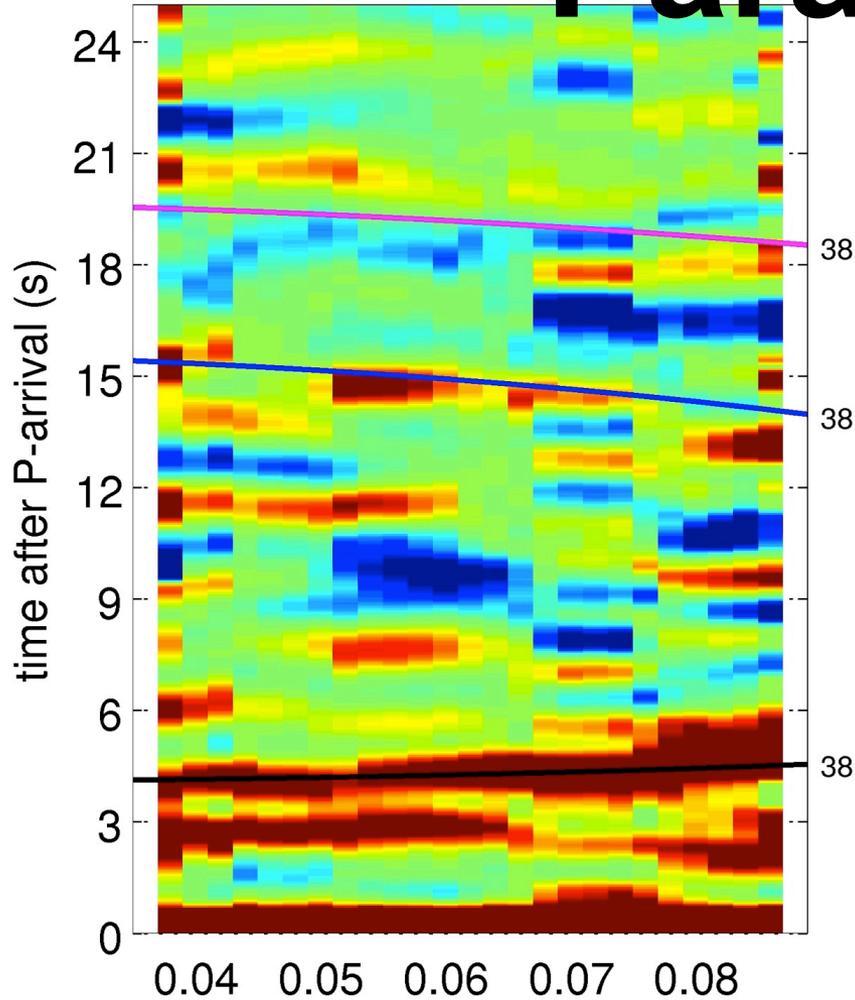


# Arrivals vs. Ray

## Parameter

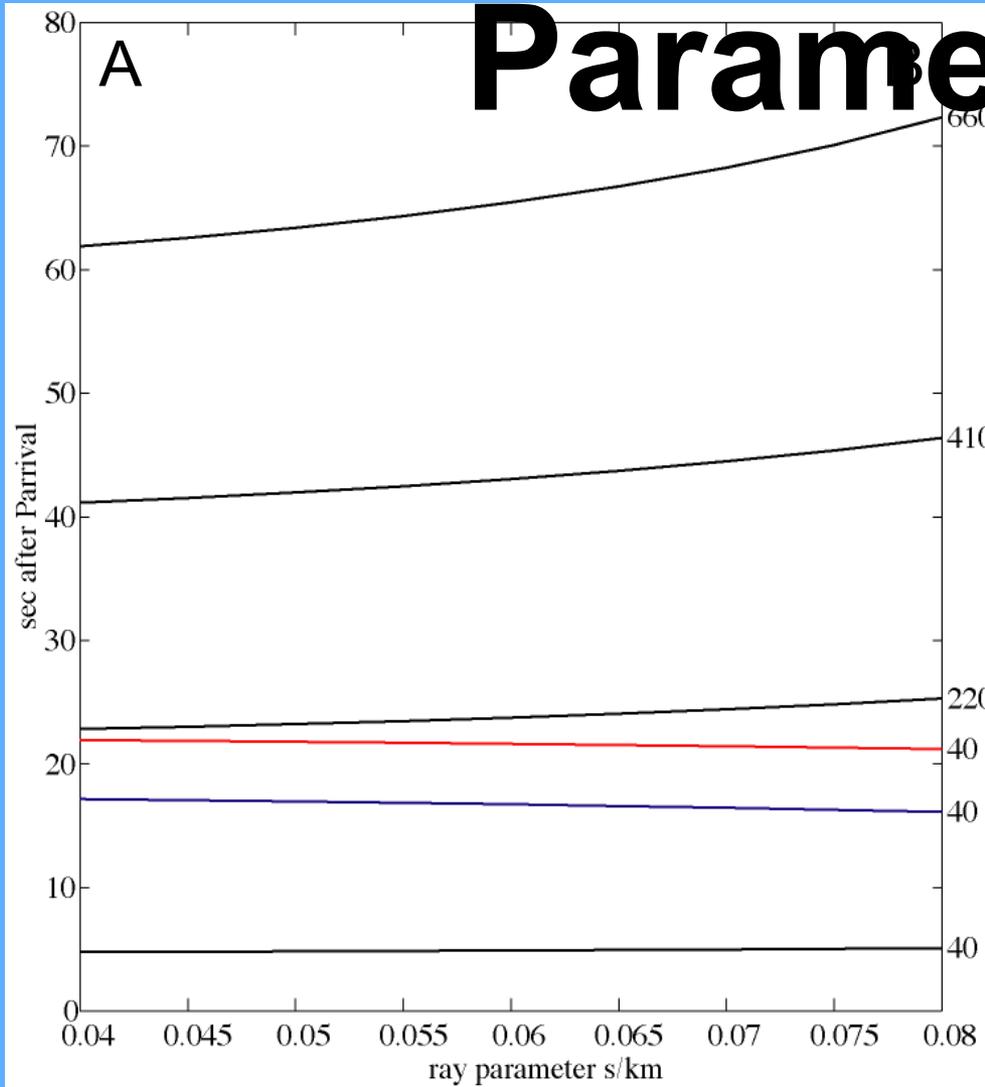
KONO:  $V_p=6.56$   $K=1.7$  #RFs=98

CGF:  $V_p=6.62$   $K=1.75$  #RFs=98

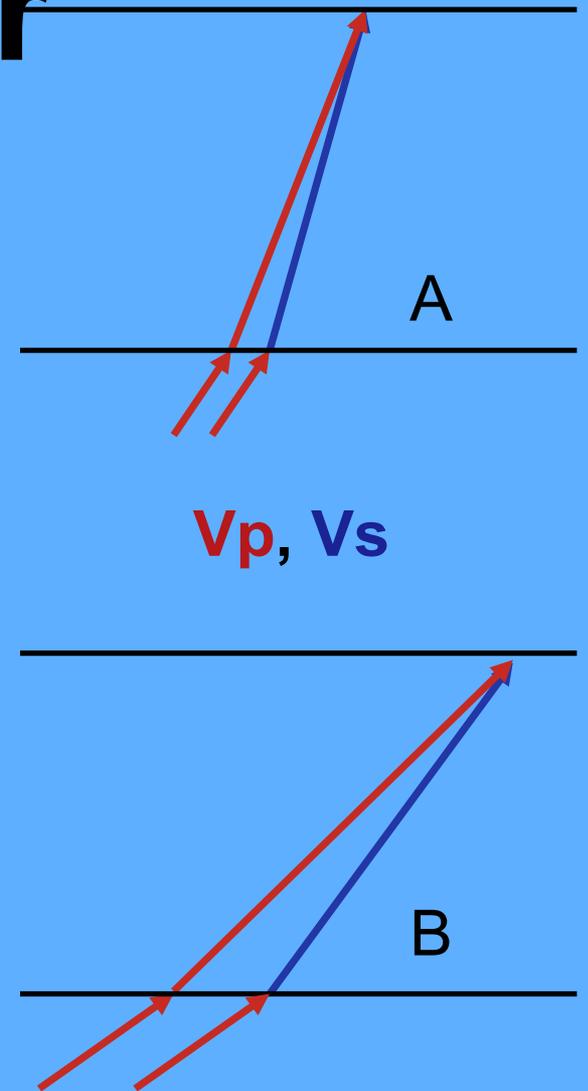


# Arrivals vs. Ray

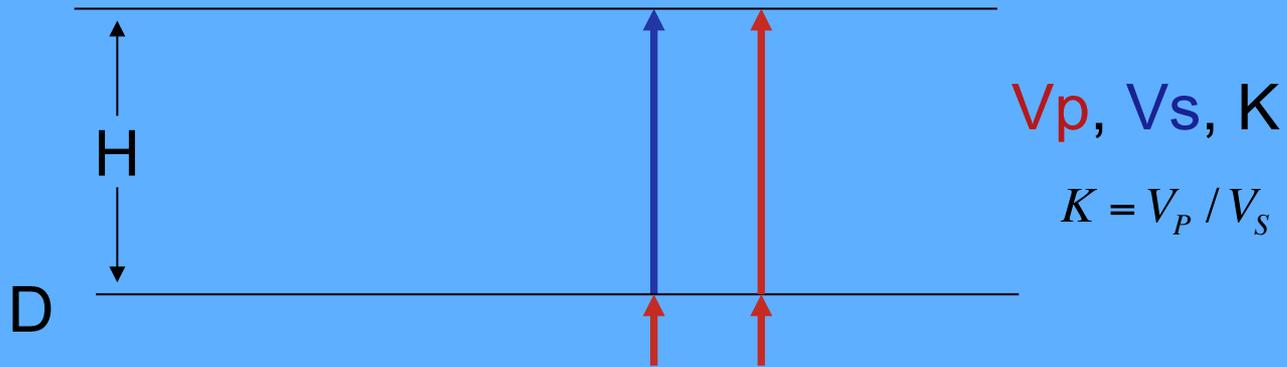
## Parameter



angle of incidence →



# arrival time of vertically incident S-wave after P-wave

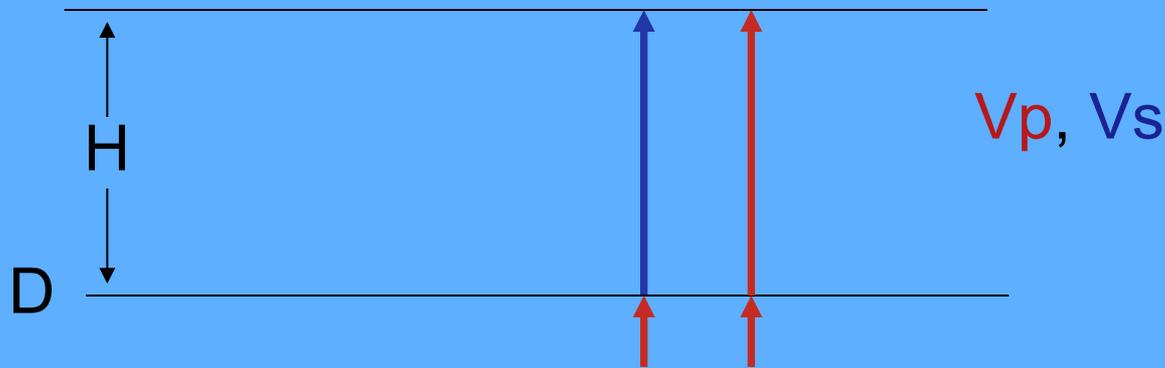


$$t_{Ps} = \int_D^0 \frac{1}{V_S(z)} - \frac{1}{V_P(z)} dz$$

Easy! Take the integral of the S-wave slowness  
minus P-wave slowness

# Within a layer of constant velocities

$$t_{Ps} = \Delta T_{Ps} = \frac{\Delta z}{V_S} - \frac{\Delta z}{V_P}$$

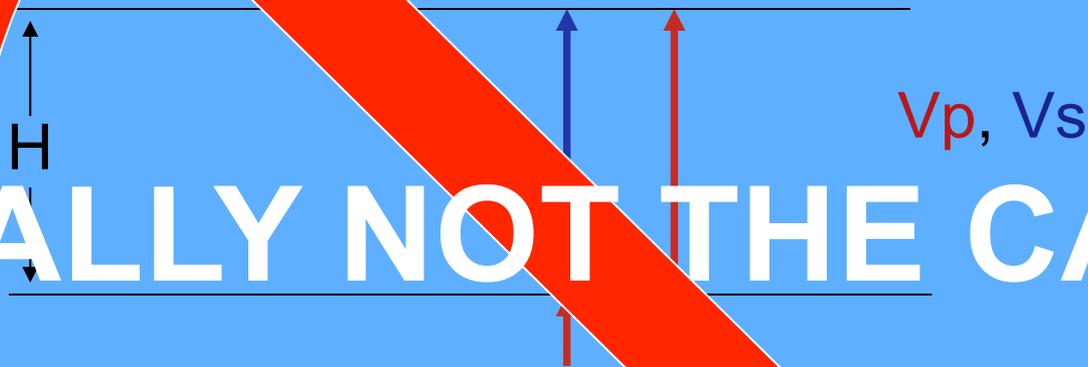


Find the expected arrival time for vertically traveling P and S waves in layer with  $V_S=3.5$  km/s,  $V_P=6.4$  km/s,  $H=40$  km.

$$t_{Ps} = \frac{40\text{km}}{3.5\text{km/s}} - \frac{40\text{km}}{6.4\text{km/s}} = 11.4\text{s} - 6.25\text{s} = 5.1\text{s}$$

Within a layer with constant velocities

$$= \Delta T_{Ps} = \frac{\Delta z}{V_S} - \frac{\Delta z}{V_P}$$

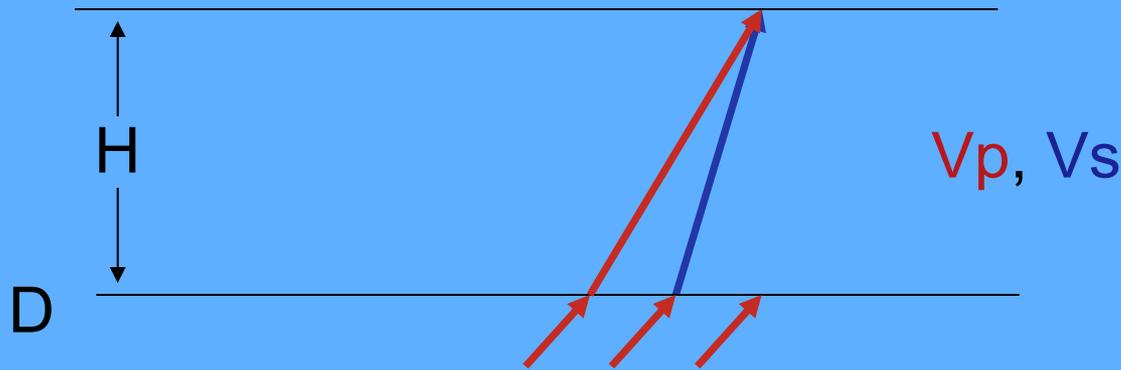


**USUALLY NOT THE CASE!**

Find the expected arrival time for vertically traveling P and S waves in a layer with  $V_S=3.5$  km/s,  $V_P=6.0$  km/s,  $H=40$  km.

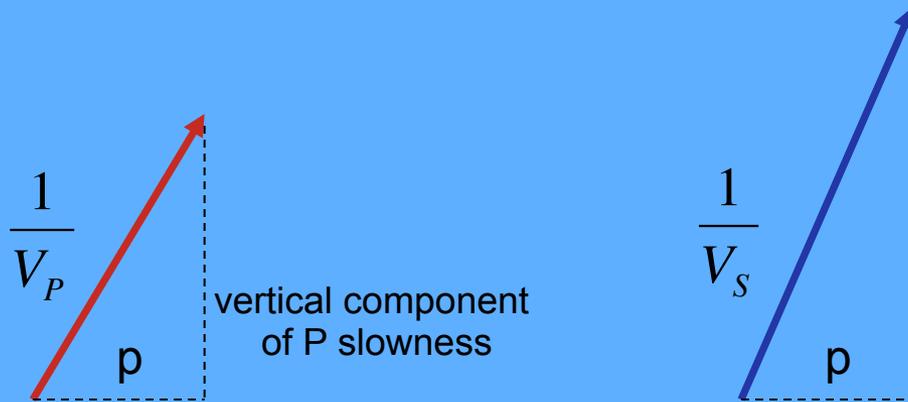
$$t_{Ps} = \frac{40 \text{ km}}{3.5 \text{ km/s}} - \frac{40 \text{ km}}{6.0 \text{ km/s}} = 11.4286 \text{ s} - 6.6667 \text{ s} = 4.7619 \text{ s} \approx 4.8 \text{ s}$$

# Arrival time of a non-vertically incident Pds wave



$$t_{Ps} = \int_D^0 \sqrt{V_S(z)^{-2} - p^2} - \sqrt{V_P(z)^{-2} - p^2} dz$$

Need to know  $V_p$ ,  $V_s$ , and  $p$  (slowness) of the incident P-wave



vertical component  
of S slowness

$V_p, V_s, K$

vertical  
component of P  
slowness  $= \sqrt{V_P^{-2} - p^2}$

vertical  
component of S  
slowness  $= \sqrt{V_S^{-2} - p^2}$

$p$  is constant

$$t_{Ps} = \int_D^0 \sqrt{V_S(z)^{-2} - p^2} - \sqrt{V_P(z)^{-2} - p^2} dz$$

$$= 40 * \sqrt{3.5^{-2} - 0.06^2} - \sqrt{6.4^{-2} - 0.06^2}$$

$$= 5.4 \text{ s}$$

we have done examples solving the forward problem of calculating what TIME a phase from a given depth would arrive

Given depth,  $V_p$ ,  $V_s$ , and  $p$ , we found  $t$ .

$$t_{Ps} = \int_D^0 \sqrt{V_S(z)^{-2} - p^2} - \sqrt{V_P(z)^{-2} - p^2} dz$$

now we want to solve for what depth a phase was produced depending on its arrival time

with constant  $V_s$  and  $V_p$  that do not depend on depth arrival time equation becomes:

$$t_{Ps} = z(\sqrt{V_s^{-2} - p^2} - \sqrt{V_p^{-2} - p^2})$$

solving then for depth  $z$

$$\frac{t_{Ps}}{\sqrt{V_s^{-2} - p^2} - \sqrt{V_p^{-2} - p^2}} = z$$

we pick the arrival time of the Ps phase,  
calculate  $p$ , and assume  $V_p$ , and  $V_s$

$$\frac{t_{Ps}}{\sqrt{V_S^{-2} - p^2} - \sqrt{V_P^{-2} - p^2}} = z$$

Pds arrival time = 5 s,  $p = 0.06$  s/km  
and  $V_p = 6.4$  km/s and  $V_s = 3.5$  km/s

$$\frac{5}{\sqrt{3.5^{-2} - 0.06^2} - \sqrt{6.4^{-2} - 0.06^2}} = z$$

$$\frac{5}{\sqrt{3.5^{-2} - 0.06^2} - \sqrt{6.4^{-2} - 0.06^2}} = z$$

$$z = 37 \text{ km}$$

how sensitive is this value of  
z to our assumptions?

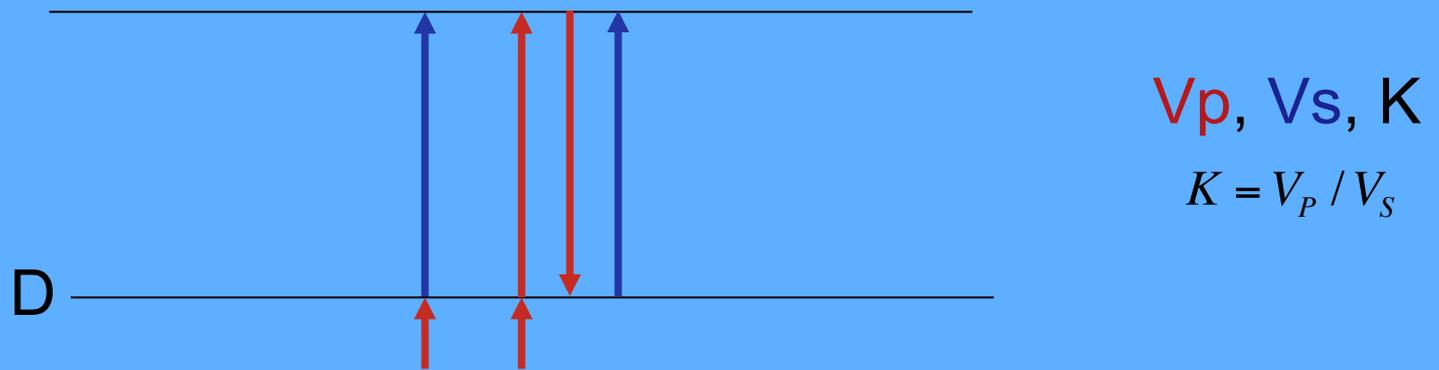
# Vary $V_p$ to observe the SMALL effect on crustal thickness estimates

$V_p$ (km/s)	K ( $V_p/V_s$ )	$V_s$ (km)	$\rho$ (s/km)	H (km)
6.10	1.73	3.53	0.06	40.12
6.14	1.73	3.55	0.06	40.36
6.18	1.73	3.57	0.06	40.60
6.22	1.73	3.60	0.06	40.84
6.26	1.73	3.62	0.06	41.08
6.30	1.73	3.64	0.06	41.32
6.34	1.73	3.66	0.06	41.56
6.38	1.73	3.69	0.06	41.79
6.42	1.73	3.71	0.06	42.03
6.46	1.73	3.73	0.06	42.27
6.50	1.73	3.76	0.06	42.50
6.54	1.73	3.78	0.06	42.74
6.58	1.73	3.80	0.06	42.97
6.62	1.73	3.83	0.06	43.21
6.66	1.73	3.85	0.06	43.44

# Vary $V_p/V_s$ to observe the LARGE effect on crustal thickness estimates

<b><math>V_p</math> (km/s)</b>	<b>K (<math>V_p/V_s</math>)</b>	<b><math>V_s</math> (km)</b>	<b><math>\rho</math> (s/km)</b>	<b>H (km)</b>
6.40	1.70	3.76	0.06	43.67
6.40	1.72	3.72	0.06	42.48
6.40	1.74	3.68	0.06	41.36
6.40	1.76	3.64	0.06	40.29
6.40	1.78	3.60	0.06	39.28
6.40	1.80	3.56	0.06	38.31
6.40	1.82	3.52	0.06	37.40
6.40	1.84	3.48	0.06	36.52
6.40	1.86	3.44	0.06	35.69
6.40	1.88	3.40	0.06	34.90
6.40	1.90	3.37	0.06	34.13
6.40	1.92	3.33	0.06	33.41
6.40	1.94	3.30	0.06	32.71
6.40	1.96	3.27	0.06	32.04
6.40	1.98	3.23	0.06	31.40

# arrival time of vertically incident PpPs-wave after P-wave



$$t_{Ps} = \int_D^0 \frac{1}{V_P(z)} + \frac{1}{V_P(z)} + \frac{1}{V_S(z)} - \frac{1}{V_P(z)} dz$$

$$t_{Ps} = \int_D^0 \frac{1}{V_P(z)} + \frac{1}{V_S(z)} dz$$

as we saw for the direct Ps wave the arrival time is:

$$t_{Ps} = \int_D^0 \sqrt{V_S(z)^{-2} - p^2} - \sqrt{V_P(z)^{-2} - p^2} dz$$

following the progression explained for the PpPs reverberation phase, its arrival time is:

$$t_{PpPs} = \int_D^0 \sqrt{V_S(z)^{-2} - p^2} + \sqrt{V_P(z)^{-2} - p^2} dz$$

similarly the PsPs + PpSs arrival time is:

$$t_{PsPs+PpSs} = \int_D^0 2\sqrt{V_S(z)^{-2} - p^2} dz$$

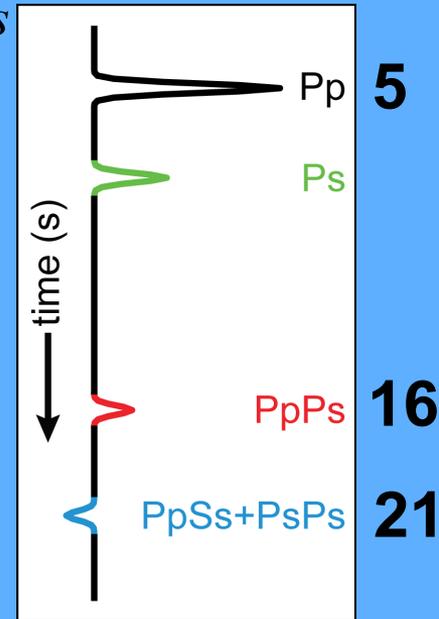
we pick the arrival times of the Pds, PpPs,  
and PsPs+PpSs phases, calculate  $p$ , and  
assume  $V_p$ , and  $V_s$

$$\frac{16}{\sqrt{3.5^{-2} - 0.06^2} + \sqrt{6.4^{-2} - 0.06^2}} = z_{PpPs}$$

$$37.7 \text{ km} = z_{PpPs}$$

$$\frac{21}{2\sqrt{3.5^{-2} - 0.06^2}} = z_{PsPs+PpSs}$$

$$37.6 \text{ km} = z_{PsPs+PpSs}$$



Pds time = 5 s, PpPs = 16 s, PsPs+PpSs time = 21  
s,  $p = 0.06$  s/km and  $V_p = 6.4$  km/s and  $V_s = 3.5$  km/s

$$37.6km = z_{PsPs+PpSs}$$

$$37.7km = z_{PpPs}$$

$$37.0km = z_{Ps}$$

How do we account for these differences?

Are they all resulting from an interface at the same depth?

Were the phases all picked correctly?

Could we have made an incorrect assumption?

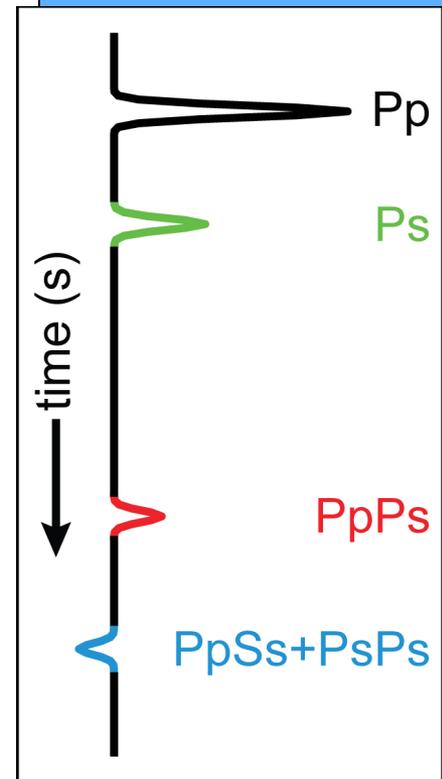
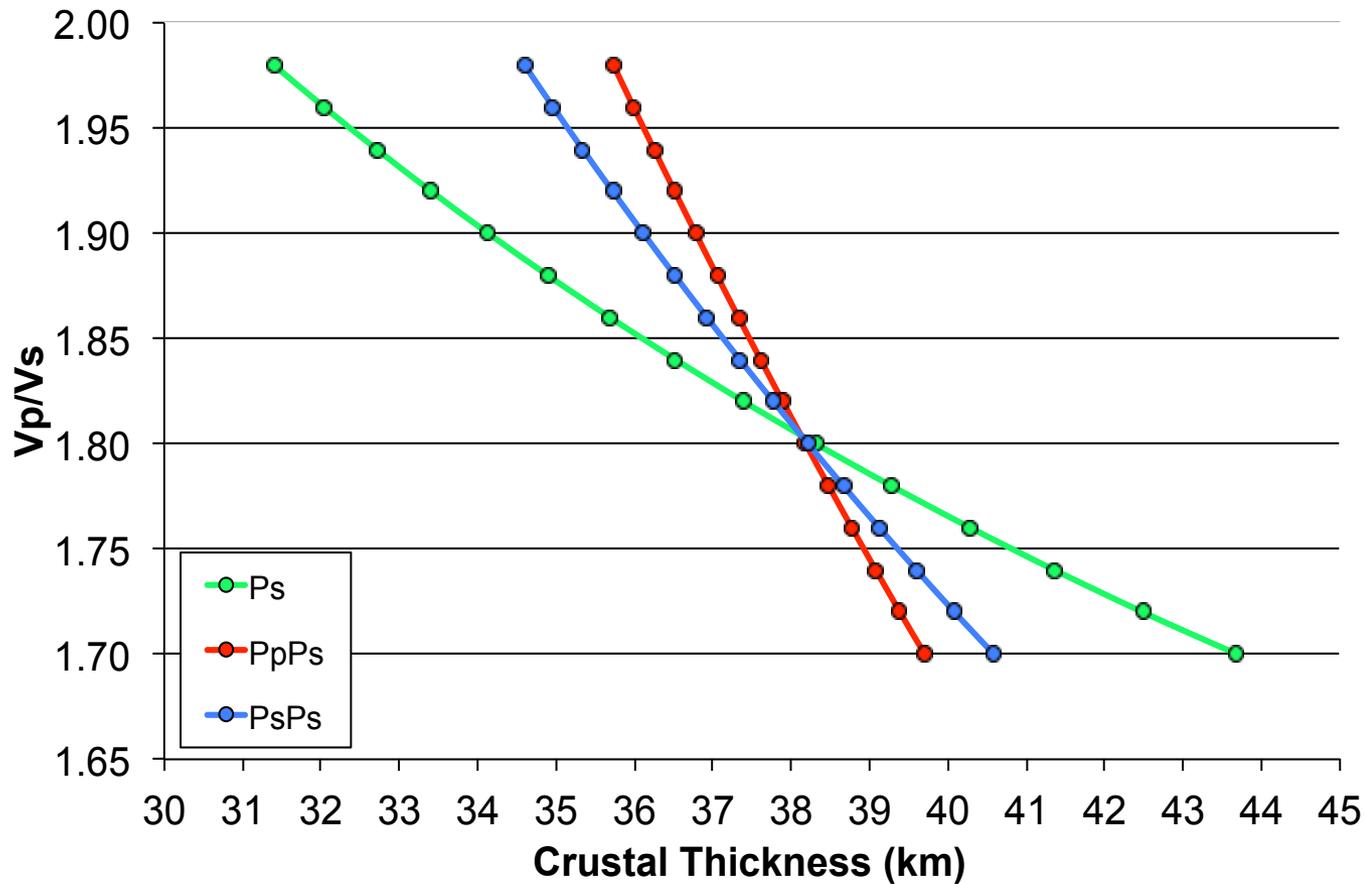
keep  $V_p$  constant and vary  $V_p/V_s$ , each system has a different behavior

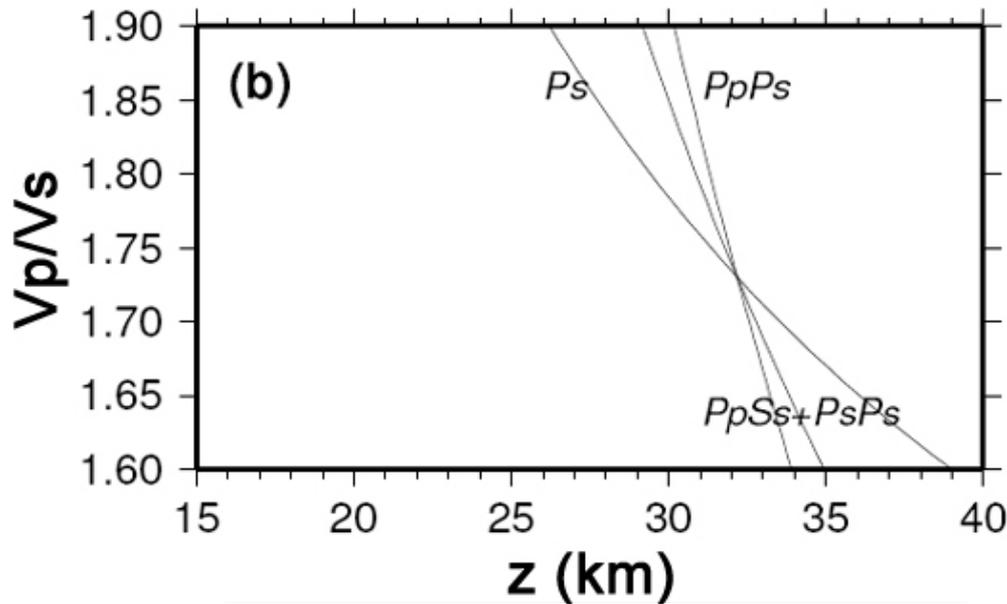
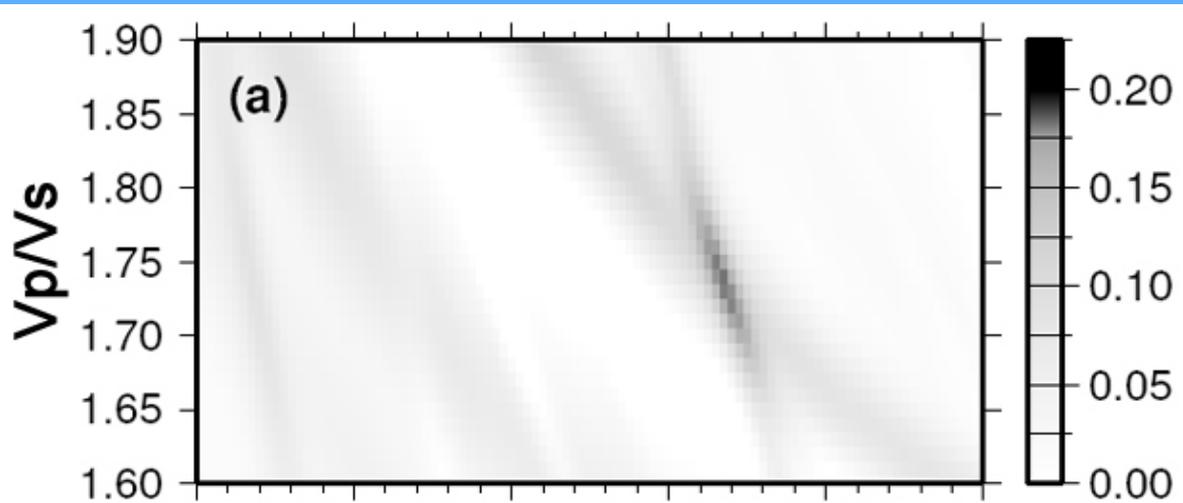
$$Z_{P_s} \quad Z_{PpP_s} \quad Z_{P_sP_s+PpS_s}$$

$V_p$ (km/s)	K ( $V_p/V_s$ )	$V_s$ (km)	$\rho$ (s/km)	H (km)	H (km)	H (km)
6.4	1.70	3.76	0.06	43.7	39.7	40.6
6.4	1.72	3.72	0.06	42.5	39.4	40.1
6.4	1.74	3.68	0.06	41.4	39.1	39.6
6.4	1.76	3.64	0.06	40.3	38.8	39.1
6.4	1.78	3.60	0.06	39.3	38.5	38.7
6.4	1.80	3.56	0.06	38.3	38.2	38.2
6.4	1.82	3.52	0.06	37.4	37.9	37.8
6.4	1.84	3.48	0.06	36.5	37.6	37.3
6.4	1.86	3.44	0.06	35.7	37.3	36.9
6.4	1.88	3.40	0.06	34.9	37.1	36.5
6.4	1.90	3.37	0.06	34.1	36.8	36.1
6.4	1.92	3.33	0.06	33.4	36.5	35.7
6.4	1.94	3.30	0.06	32.7	36.2	35.3
6.4	1.96	3.27	0.06	32.0	36.0	35.0
6.4	1.98	3.23	0.06	31.4	35.7	34.6

Only 1  $V_p/V_s$  value leads the travel-times to a unique convergence on a certain thickness.

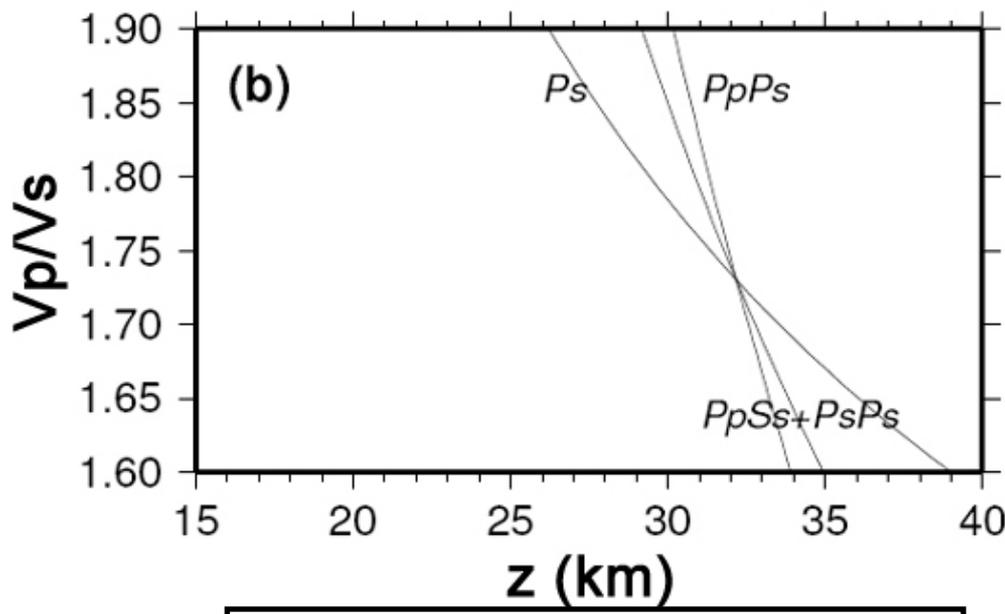
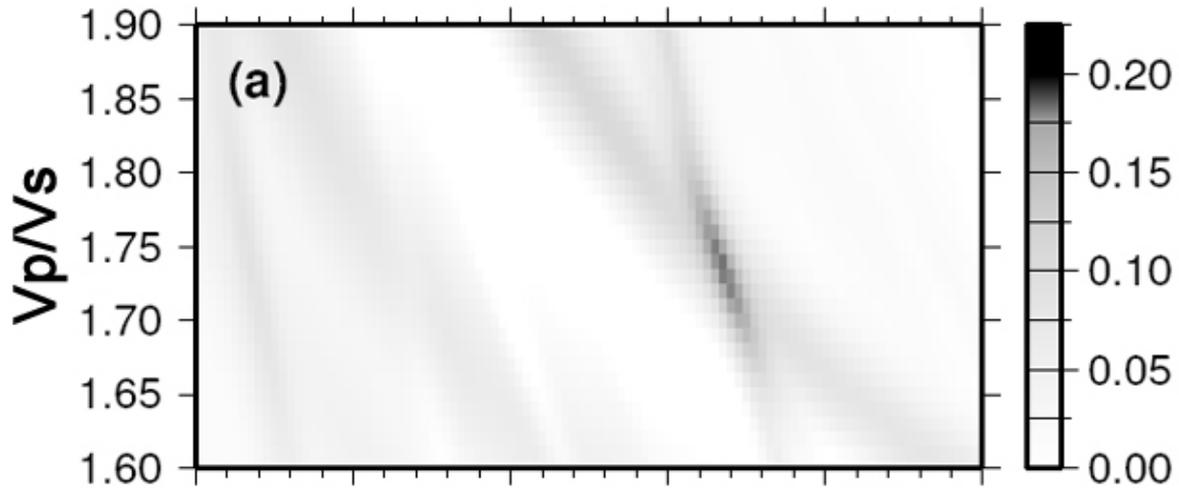
**Crustal Thickness vs.  $V_p/V_s$**





6-12 months  
of events  
needed for  
good solution

Zhu and Kanamori, 2000



Zhu and Kanamori, 2000

$$W1 = 0.7$$

$$W2 = 0.2$$

$$W3 = 0.1$$

or

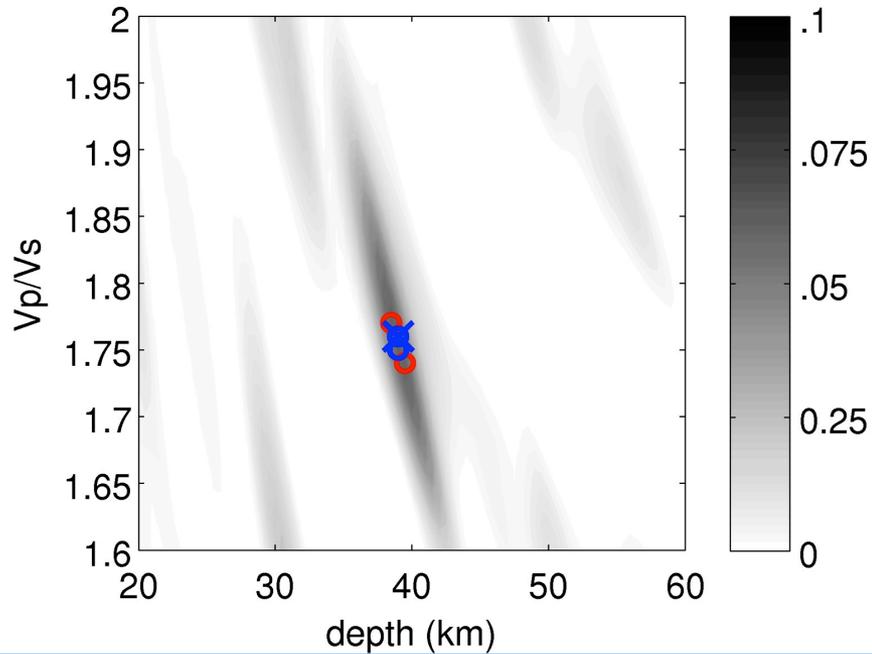
$$W1 = 0.34$$

$$W2 = 0.33$$

$$W3 = 0.33$$

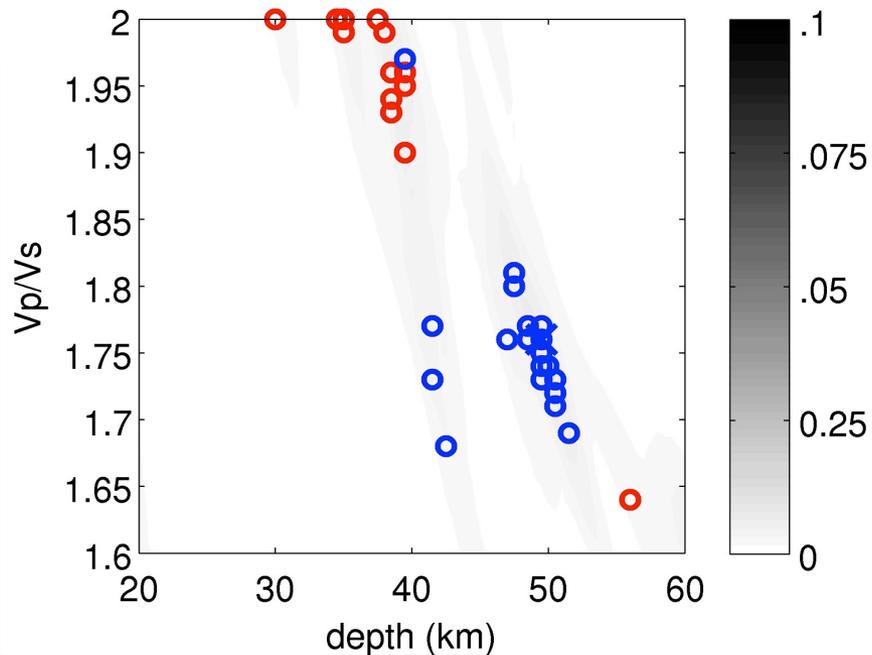
$$S(z, V_P / V_S) = w_1 r(t_1) + w_2 r(t_2) - w_3 r(t_3)$$

NB201:  $V_p=6.52$   $K=1.76$   $H=39$  #RFs=173



GOOD

NWG10:  $V_p=6.54$   $K=1.76$   $H=47.8$  #RFs=43



BAD

# A Review: 3 Equations

$$z = \frac{t_{Ps}}{\sqrt{V_S^{-2} - p^2} - \sqrt{V_P^{-2} - p^2}}$$

We Know:  
 $t$  and  $p$

$$z = \frac{t_{PpPs}}{\sqrt{V_S^{-2} - p^2} + \sqrt{V_P^{-2} - p^2}}$$

We Assume:  
 $V_p$

$$z = \frac{t_{PpSs+PsPs}}{2\sqrt{V_S^{-2} - p^2}}$$

We Calculate:  
 $z$  and  $V_s$  (giving  
us  $V_p/V_s$ )

# Example: Arizona

Temporary Station LEMN



GSN Station TUC

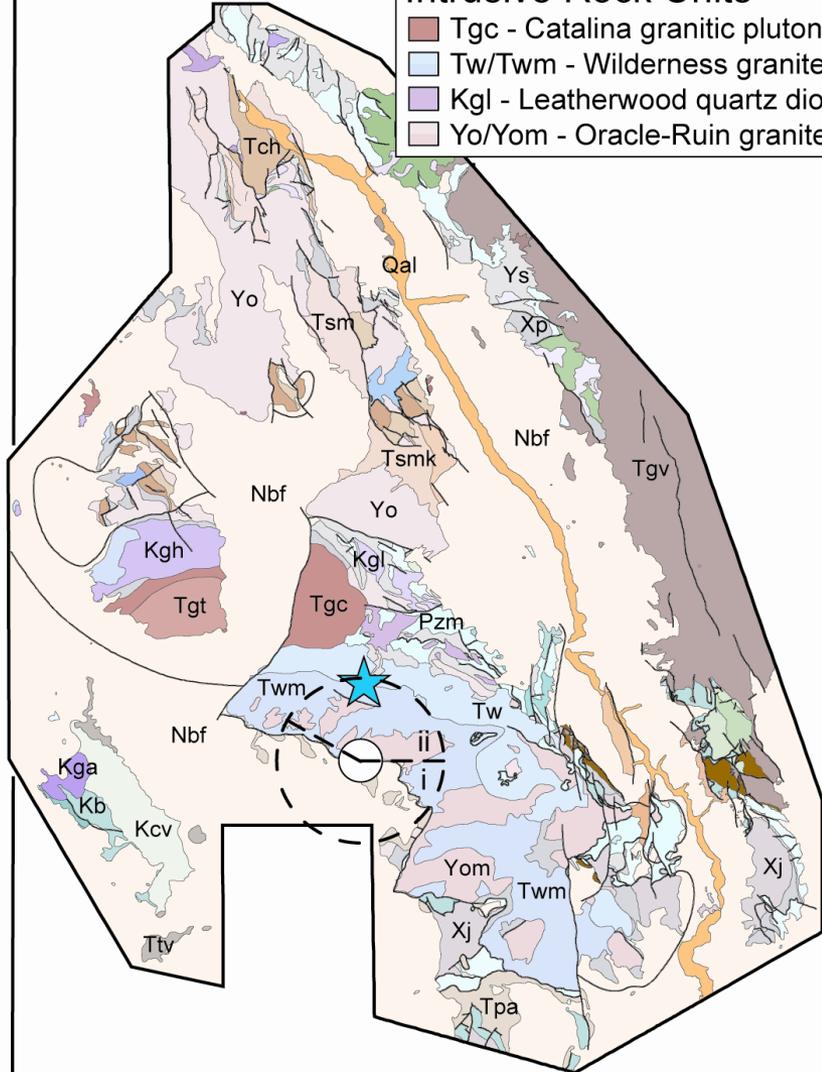
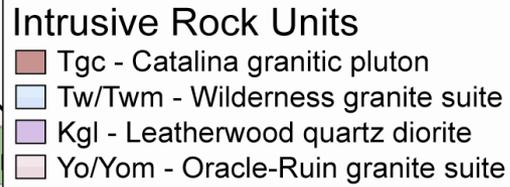


Me



# Example: Arizona

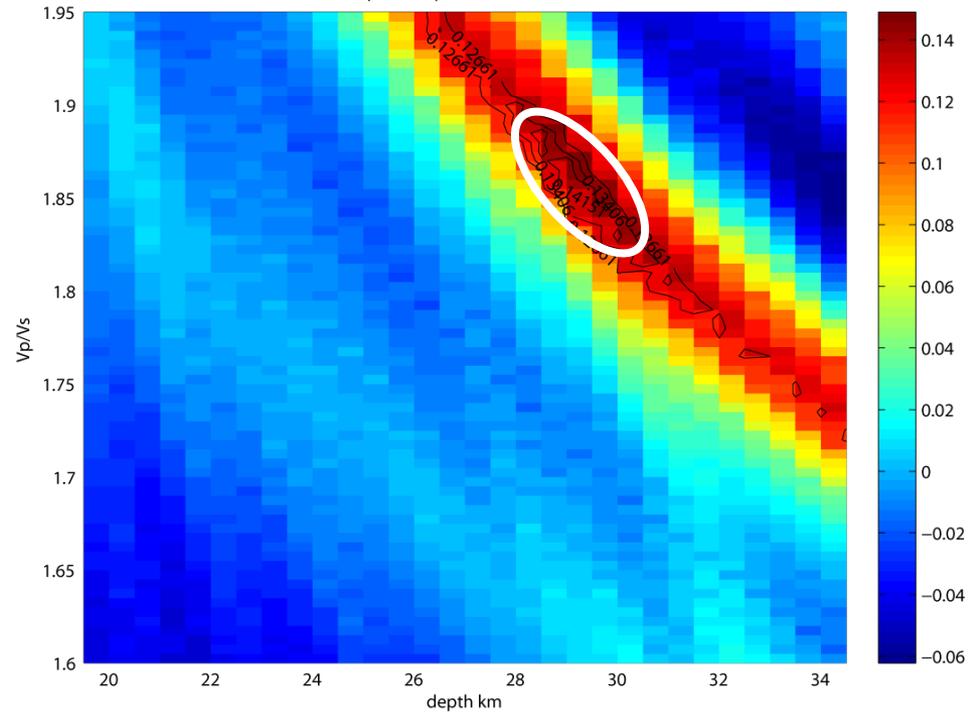
33°15' N



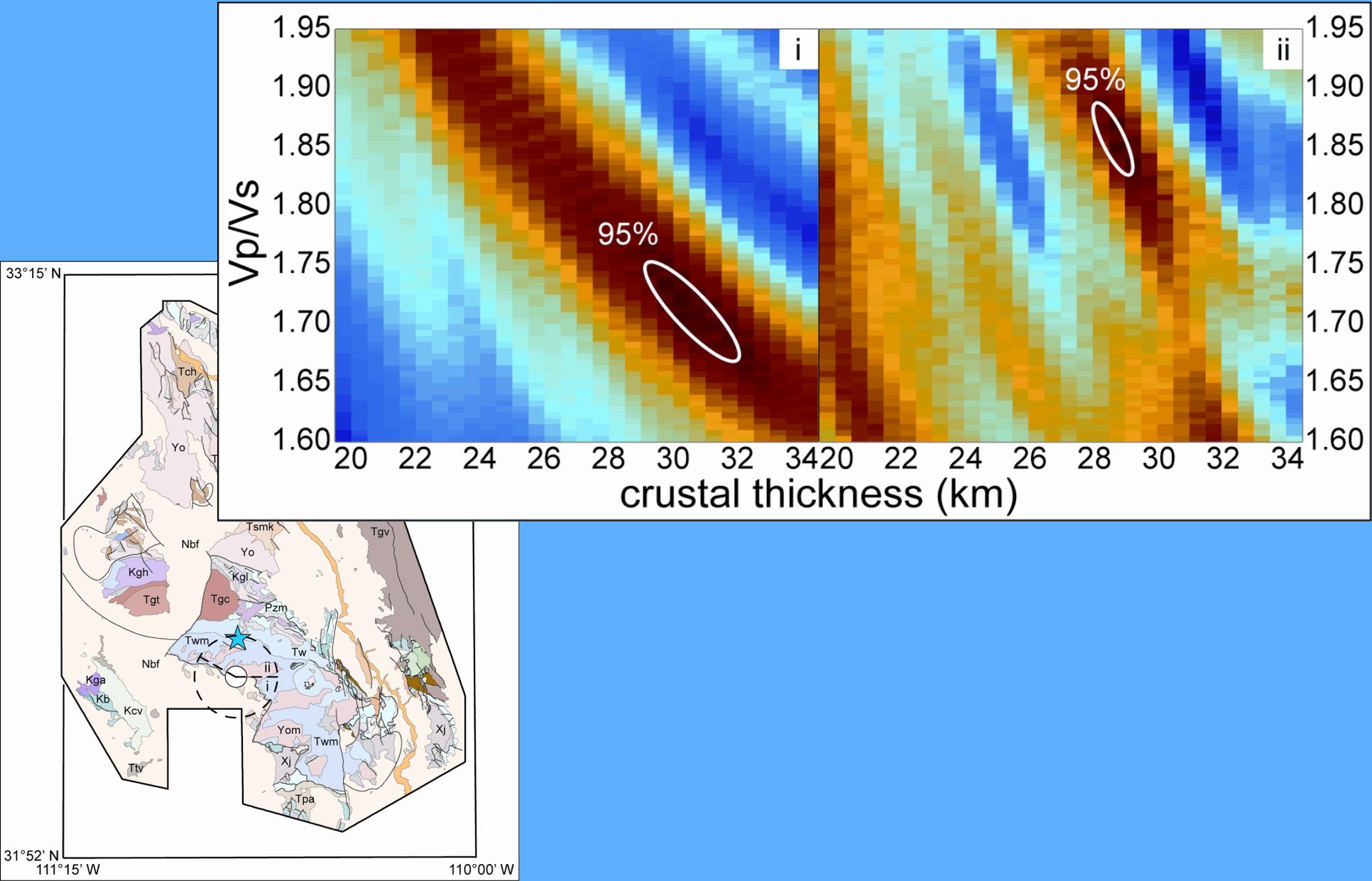
111°15' W

110°00' W

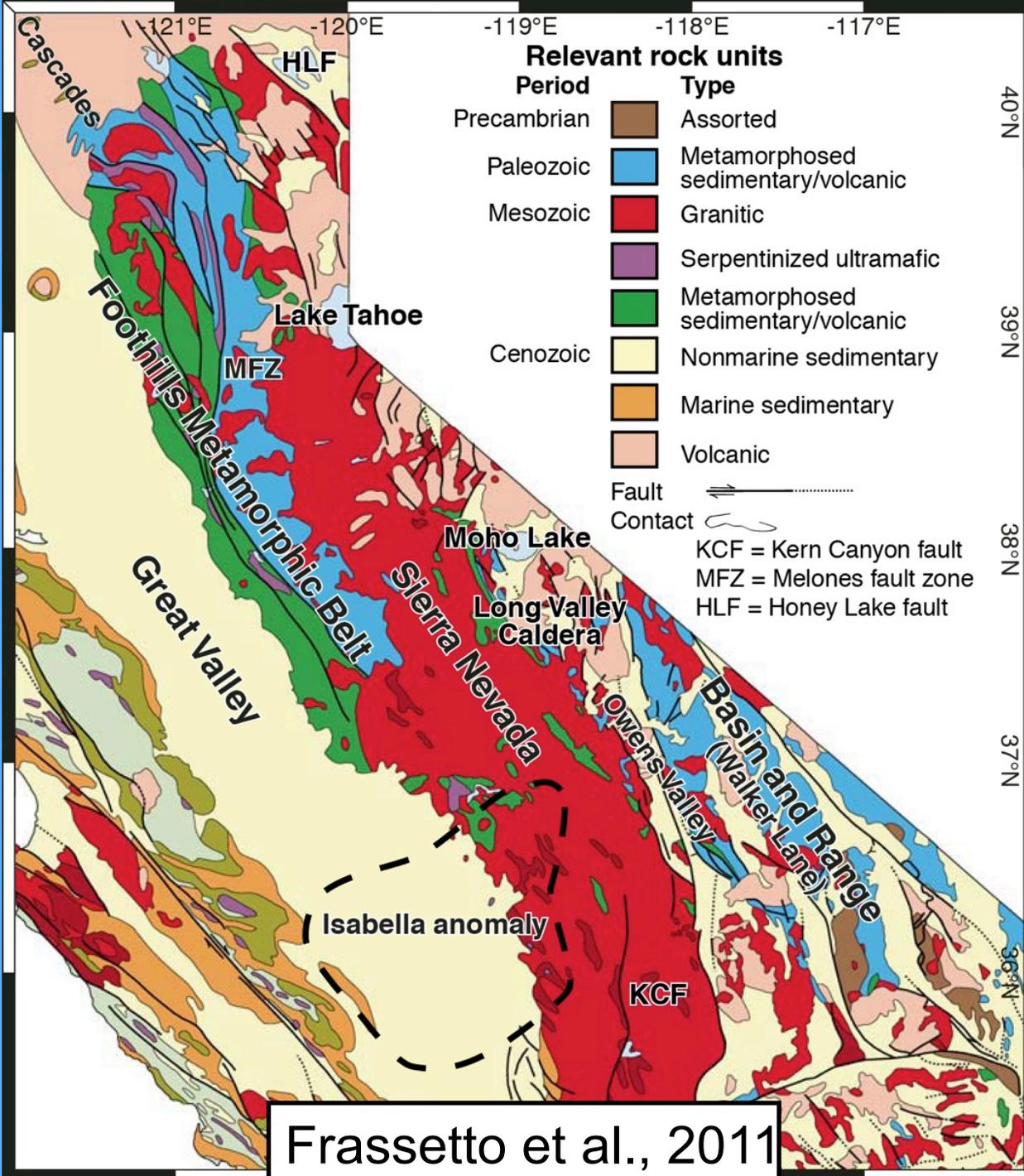
LEMN a = 5.0 Vp = 6.2 Vp/Vs = 1.86 Moho = 29km



# Example: Arizona

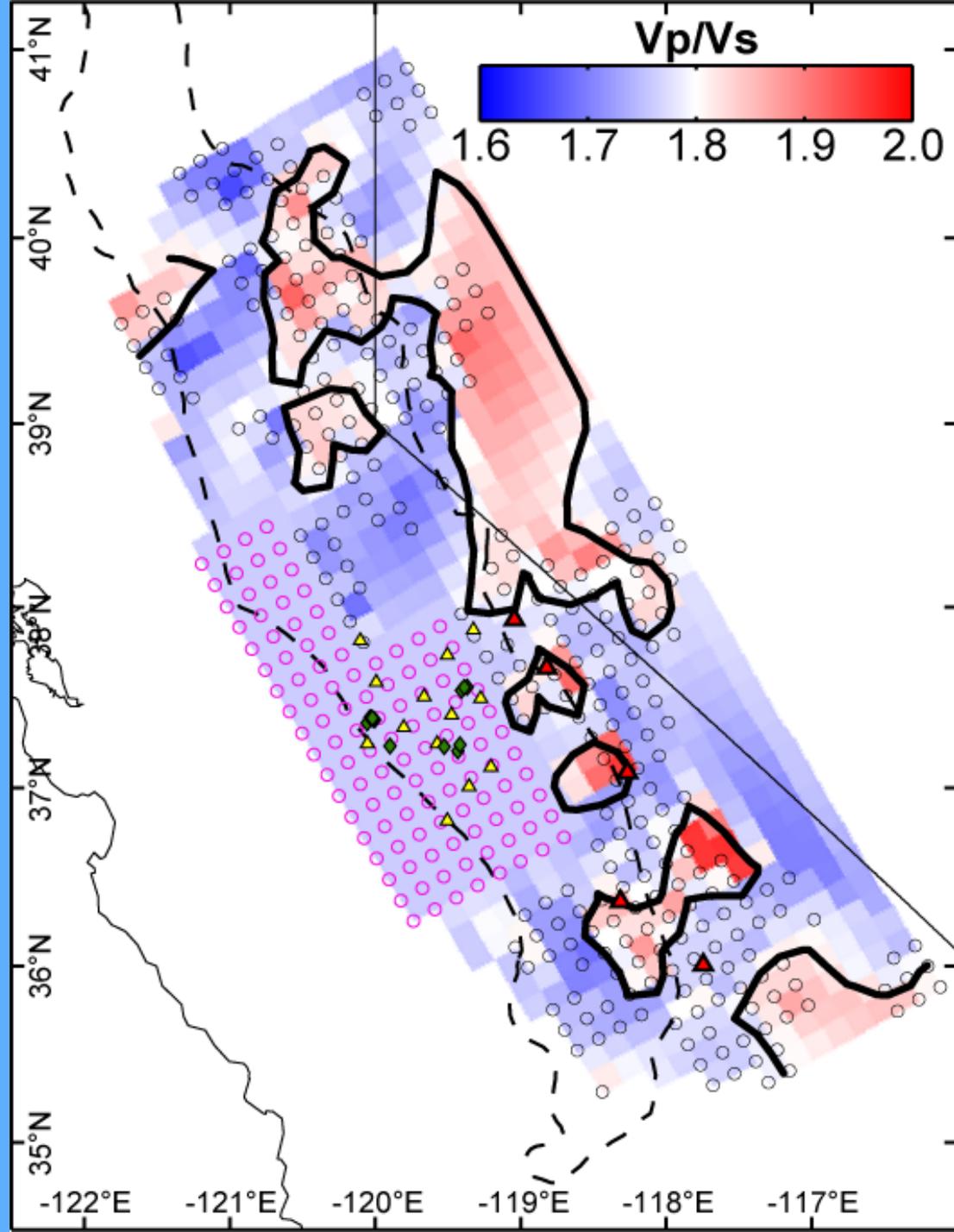


# Example: California

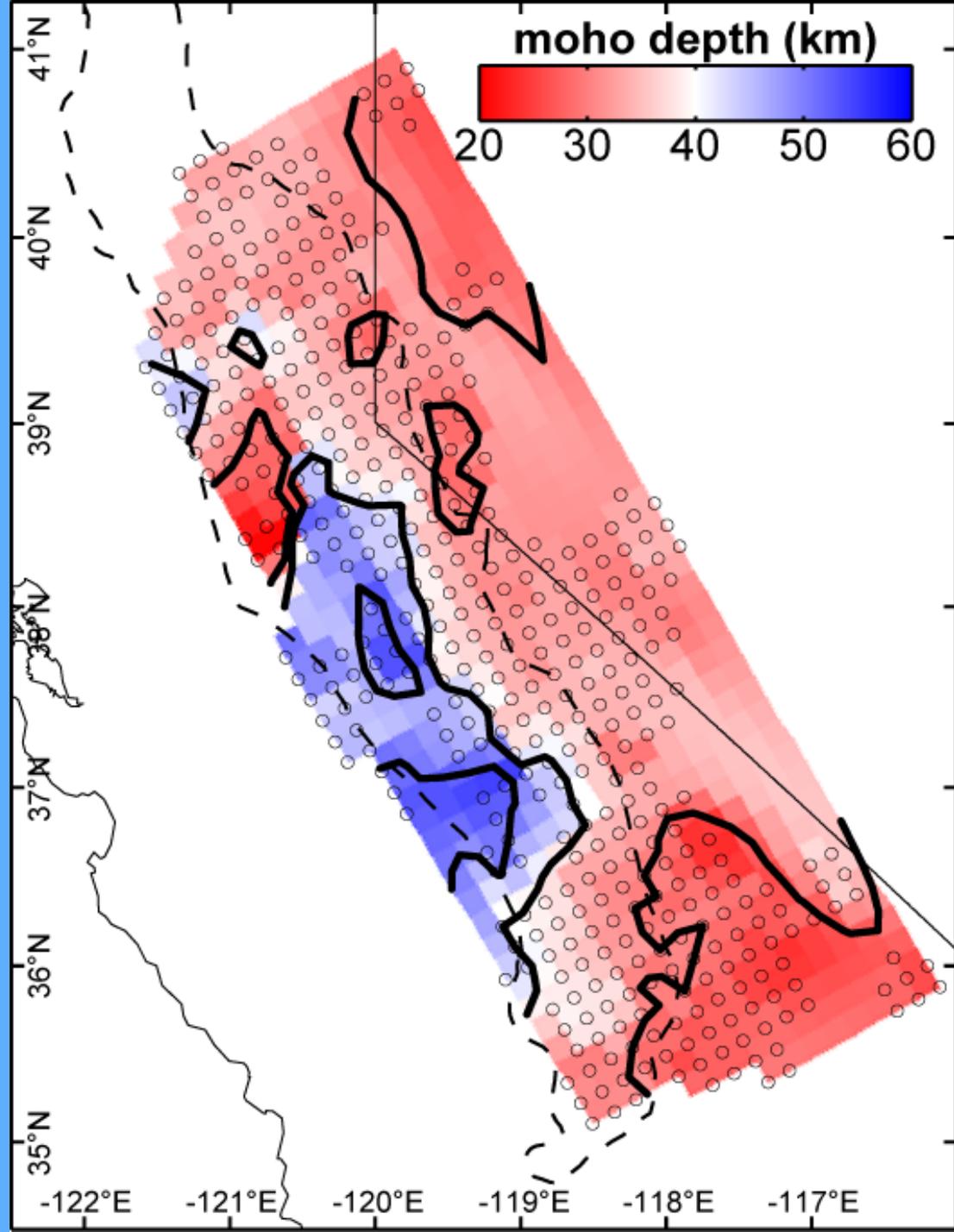


Frassetto et al., 2011

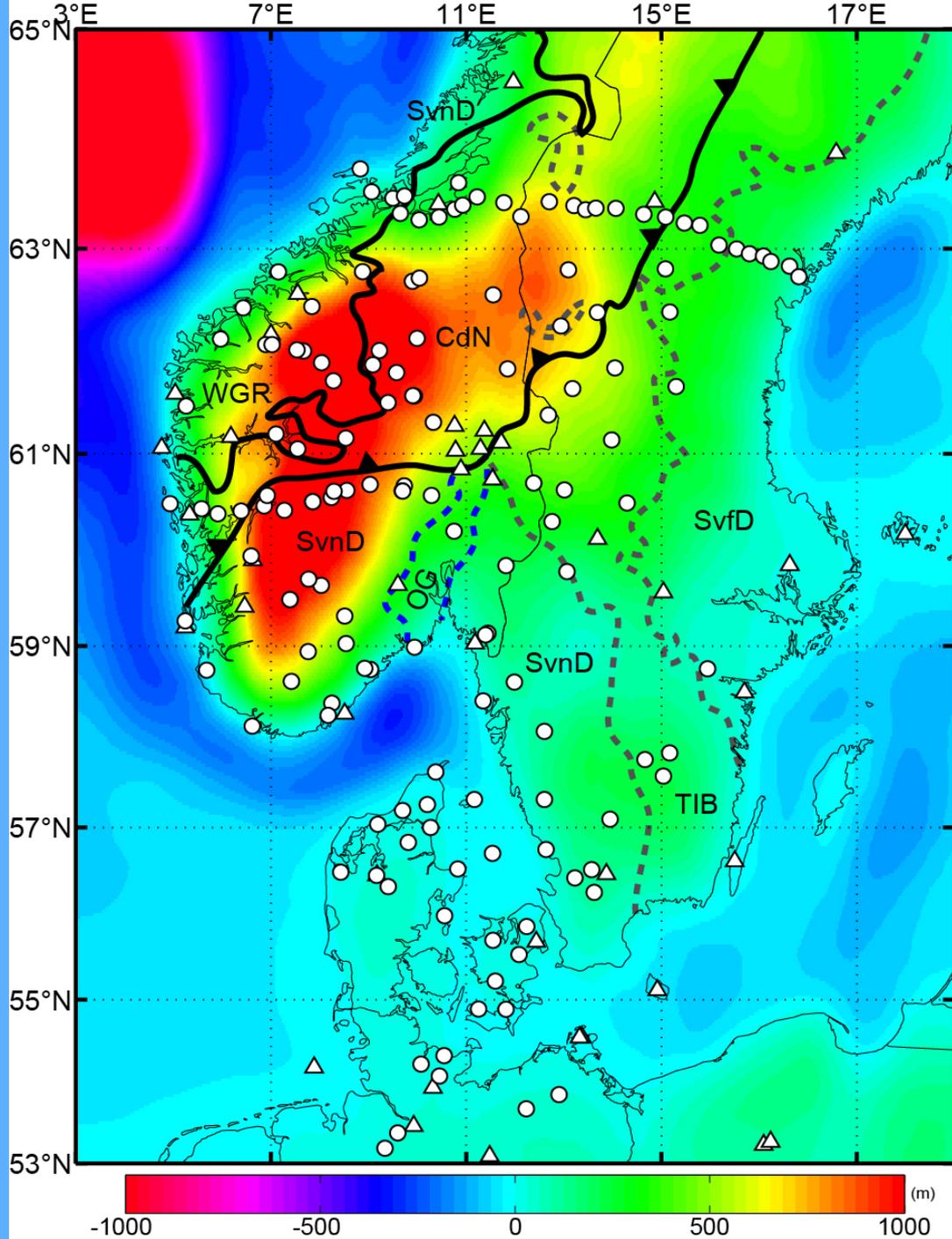
# Example: California a



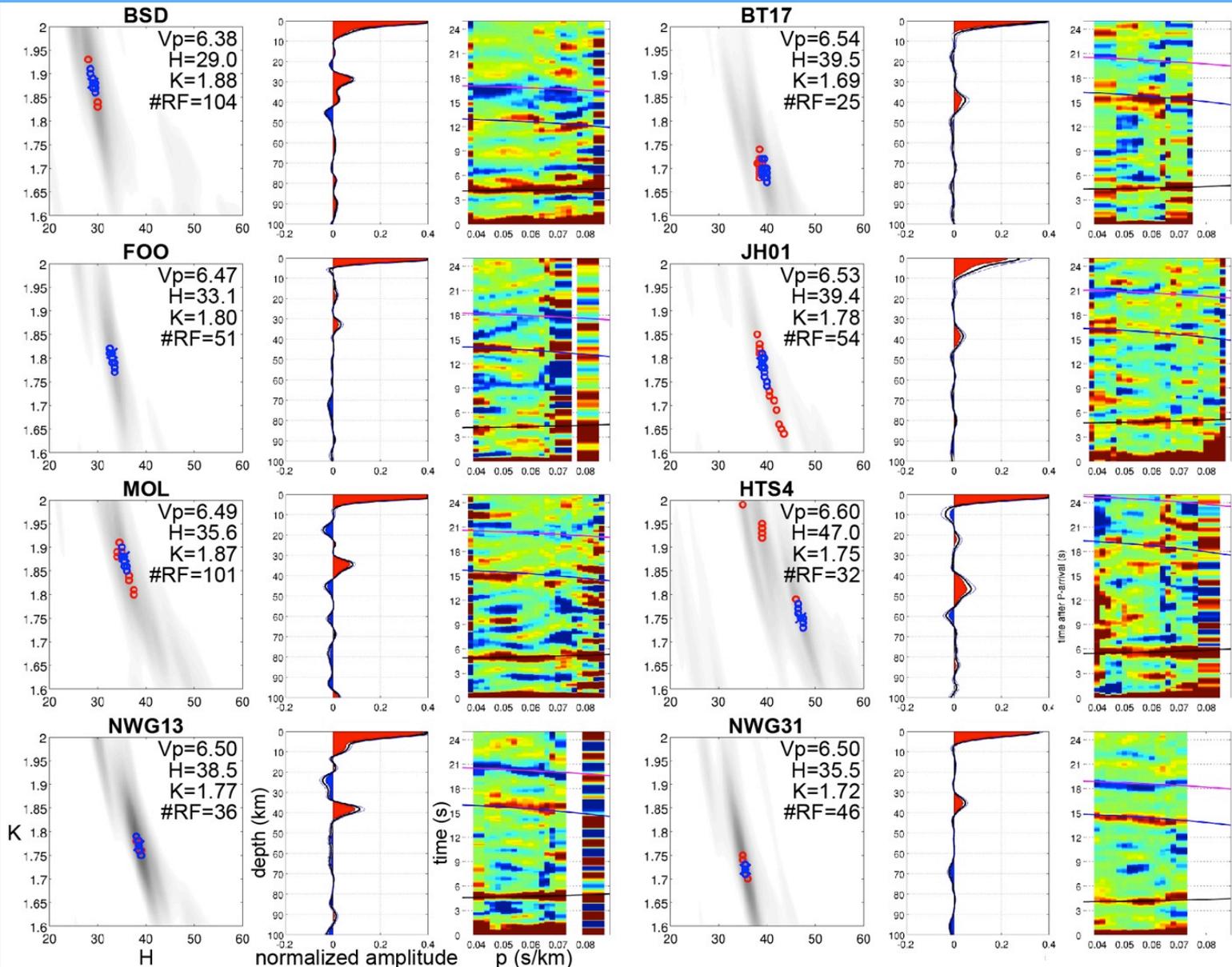
# Example: California a



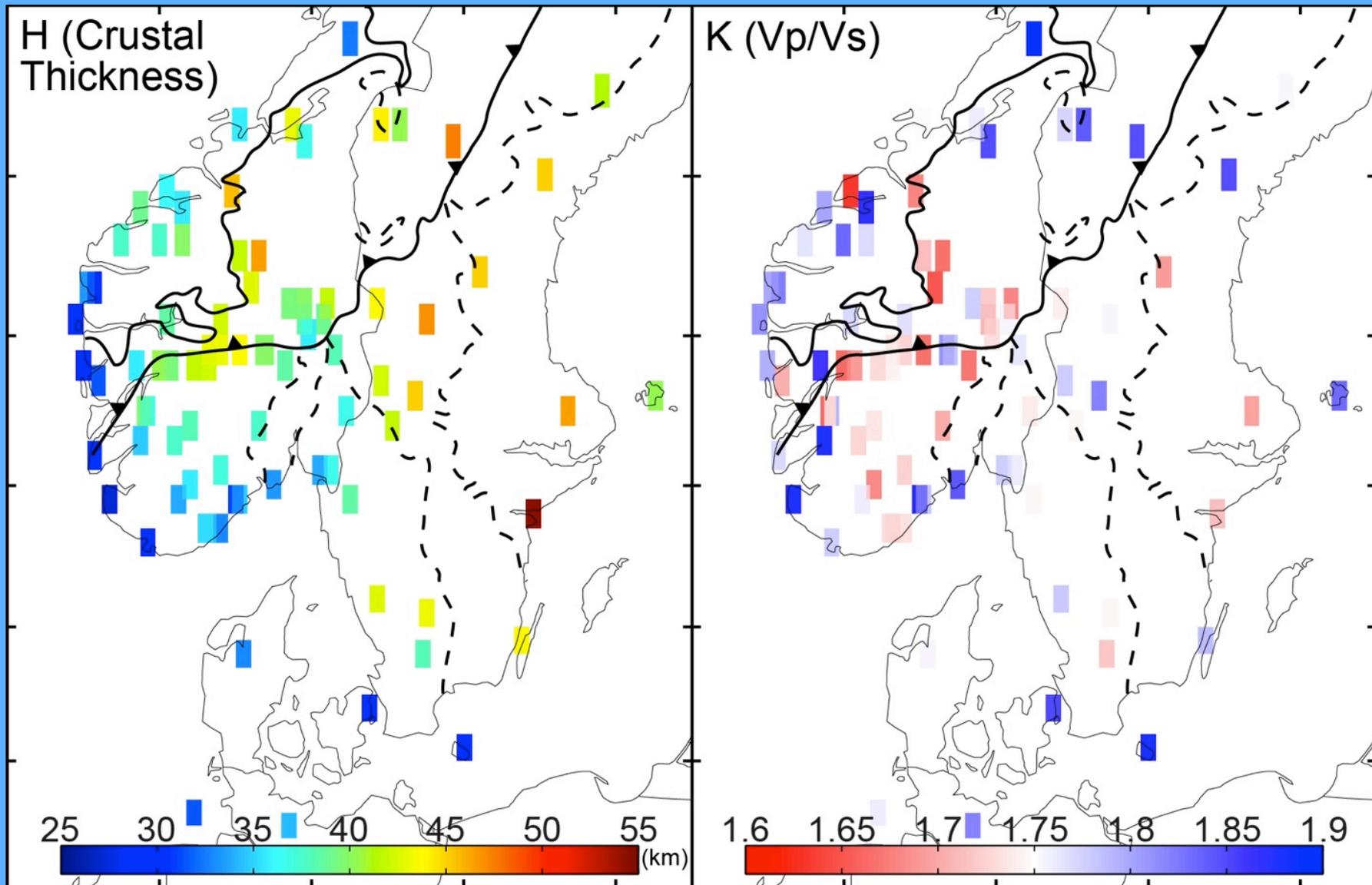
# Example: Norway



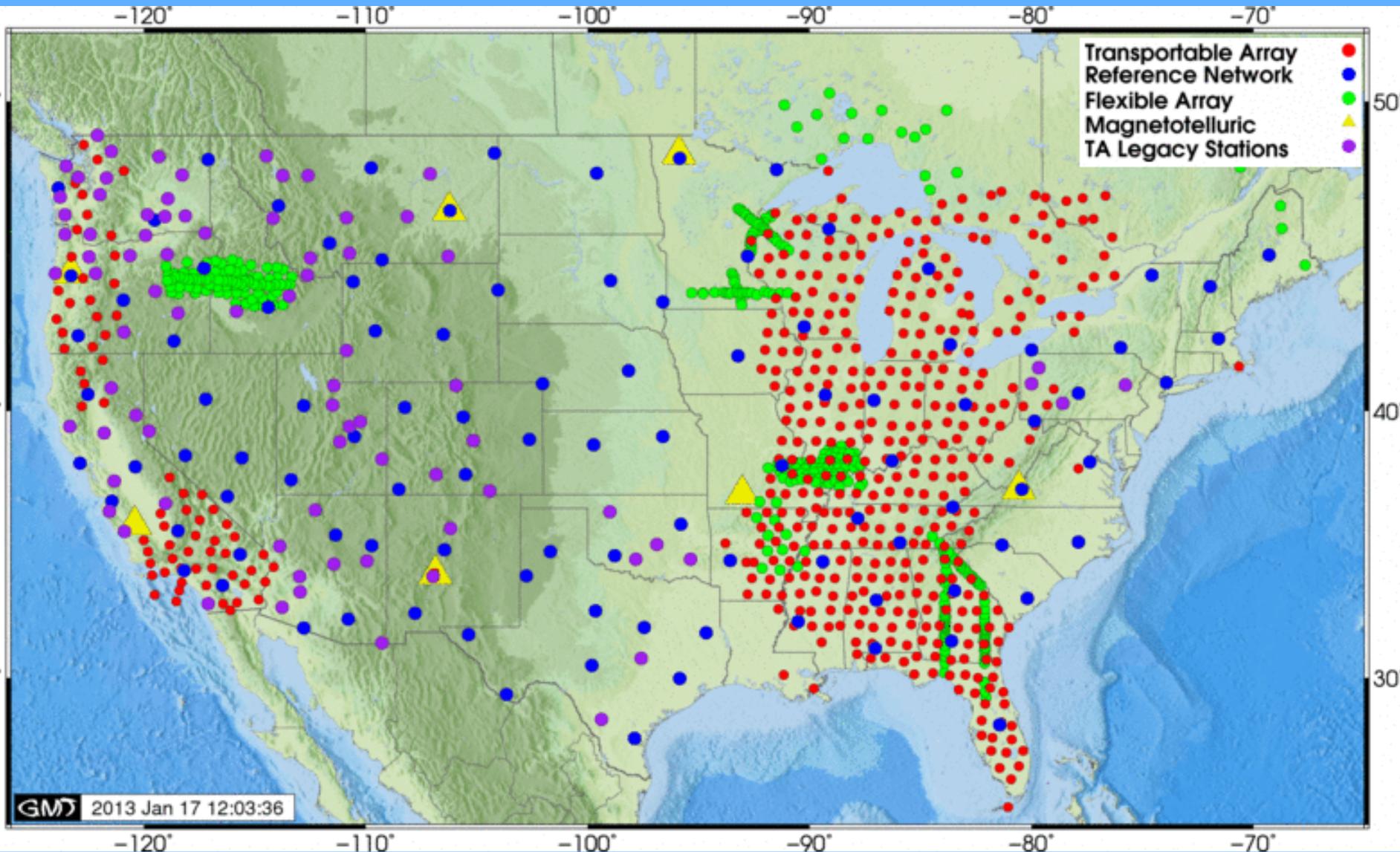
# Example: Norway



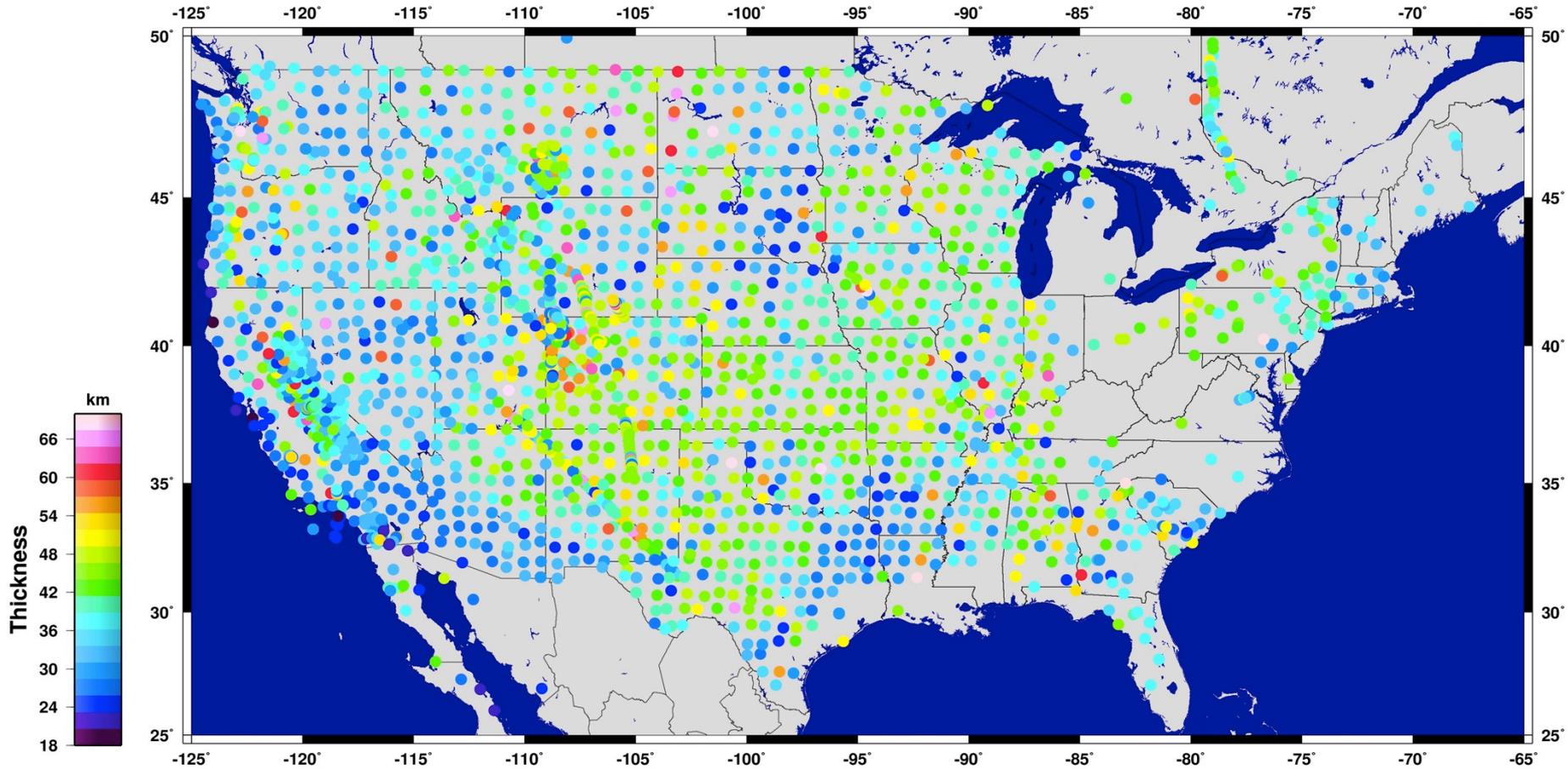
# Example: Norway



# Example: USArray

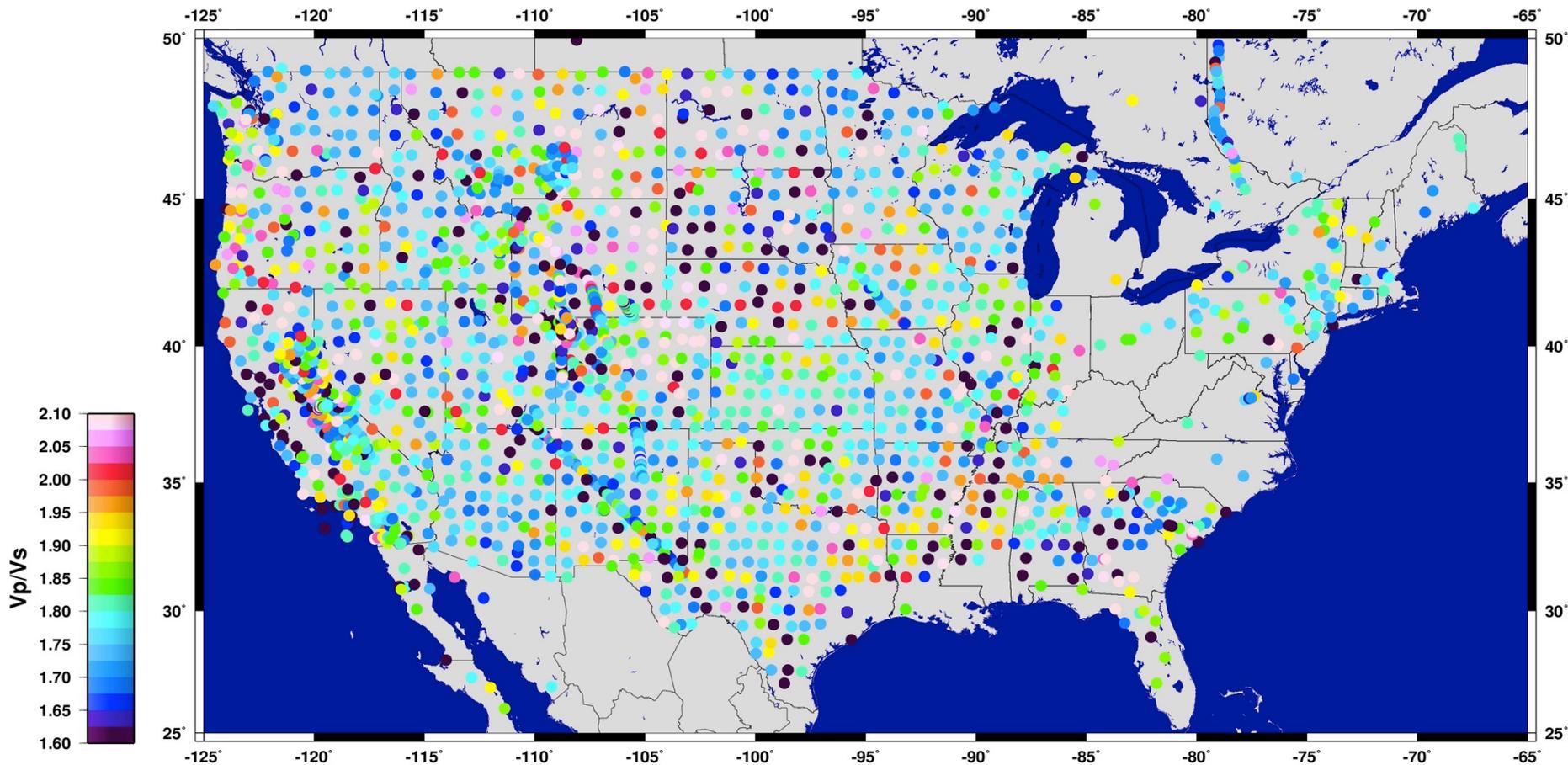


## EARS Best Estimate of Thickness (2013/01/17 12:03:01 UTC)

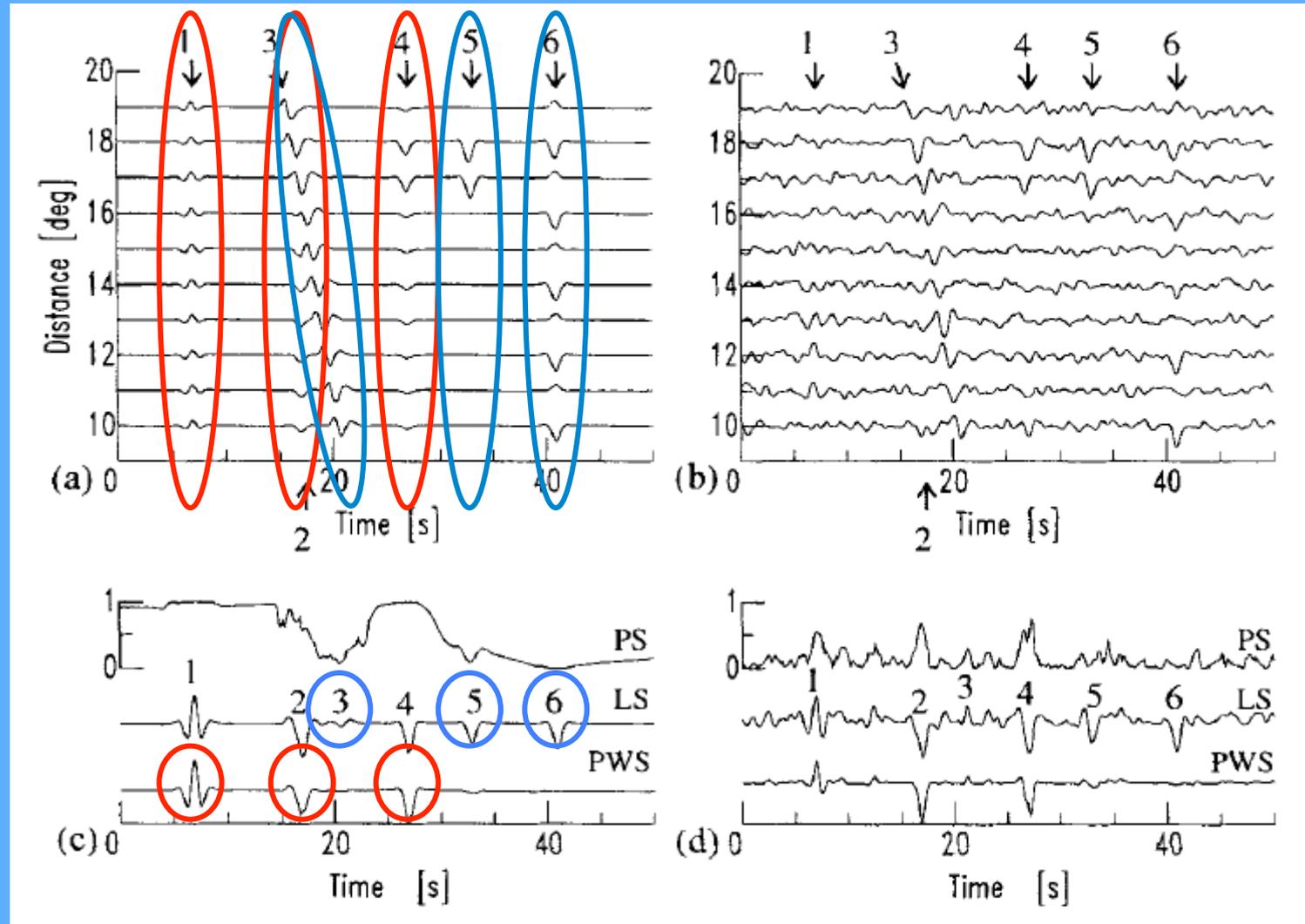


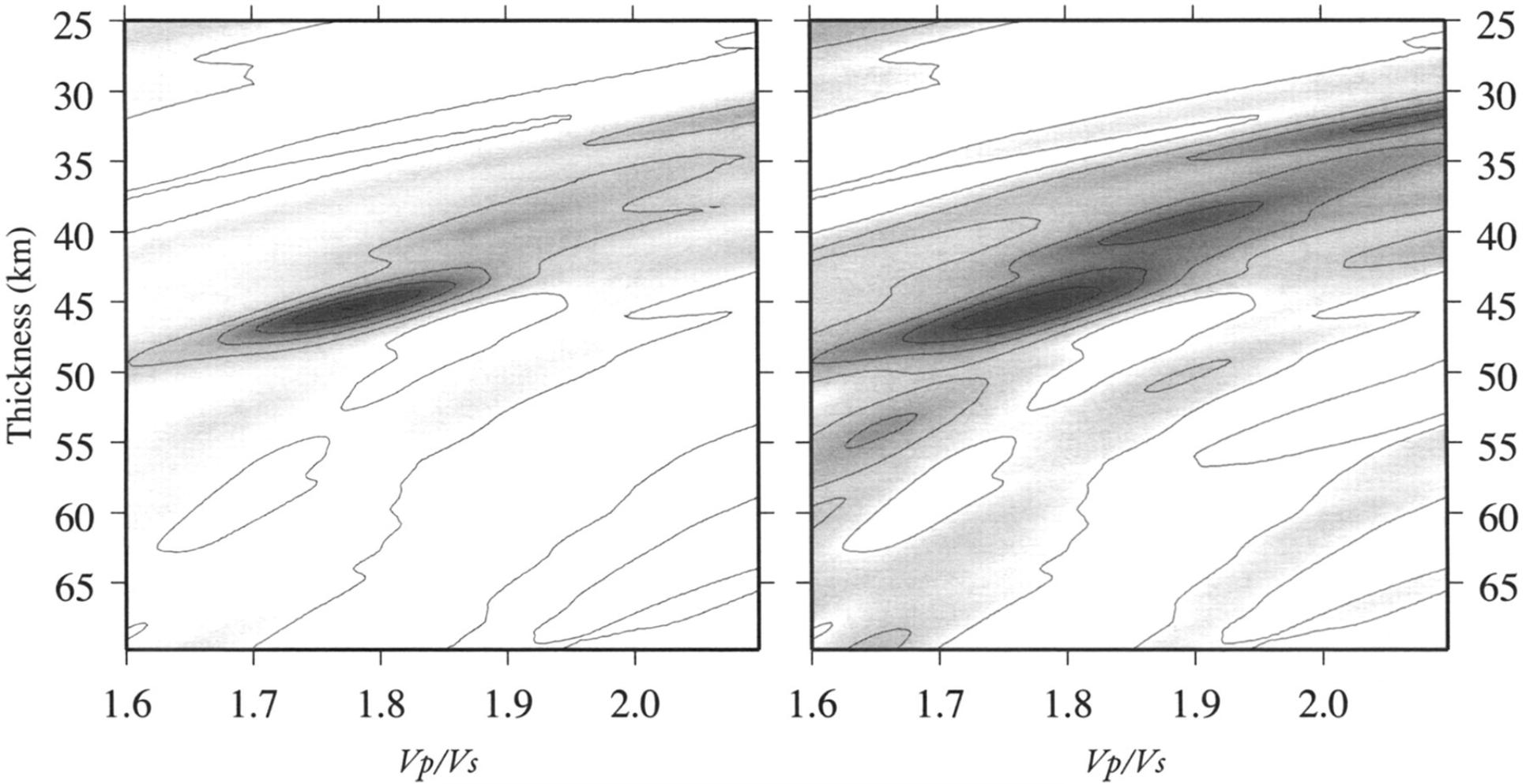
<http://www.iris.edu/dms/products/ears/>

# EARS Best Estimate of $V_p/V_s$ (2013/01/17 12:03:01 UTC)



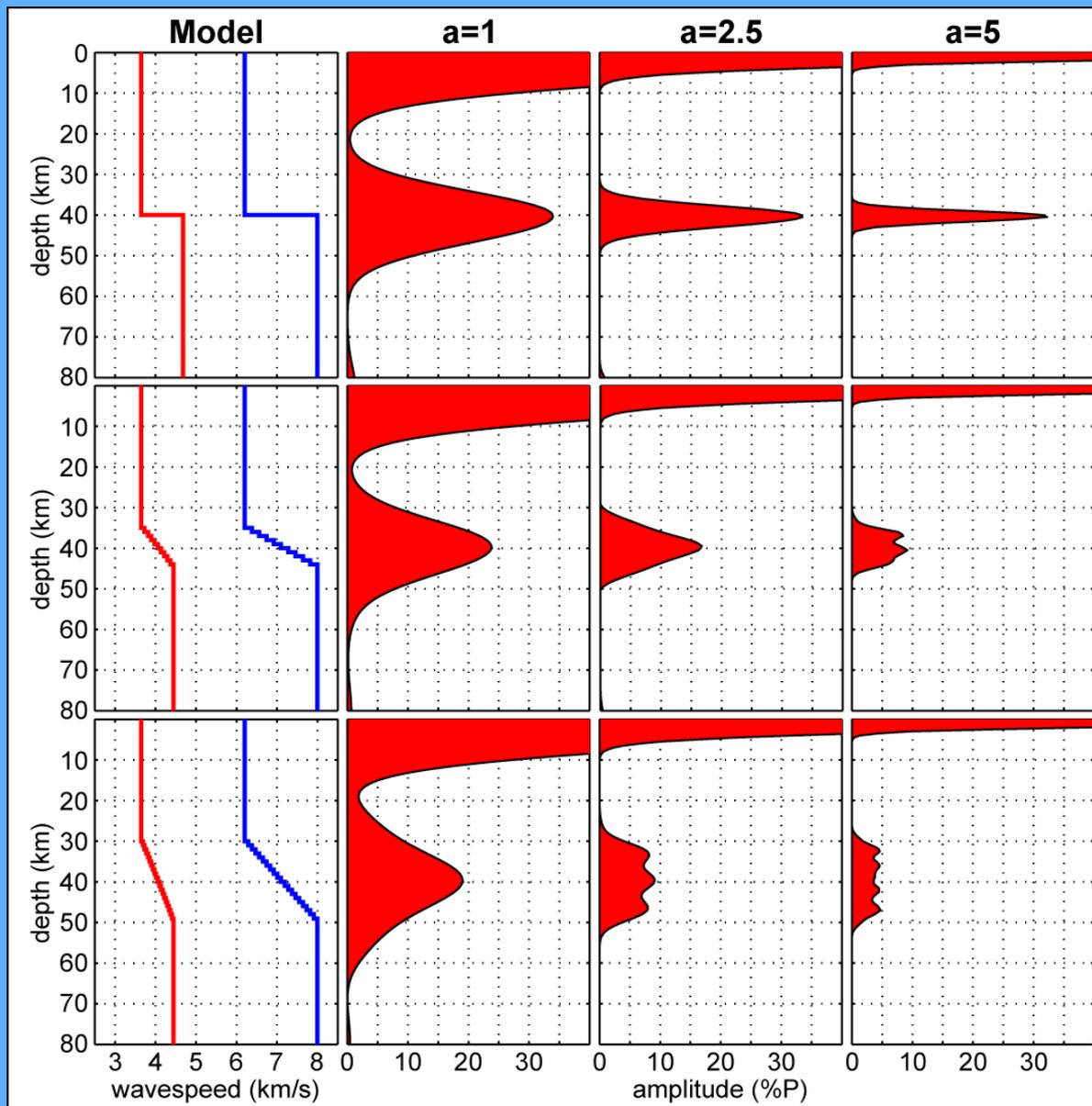
# Phase Weighting



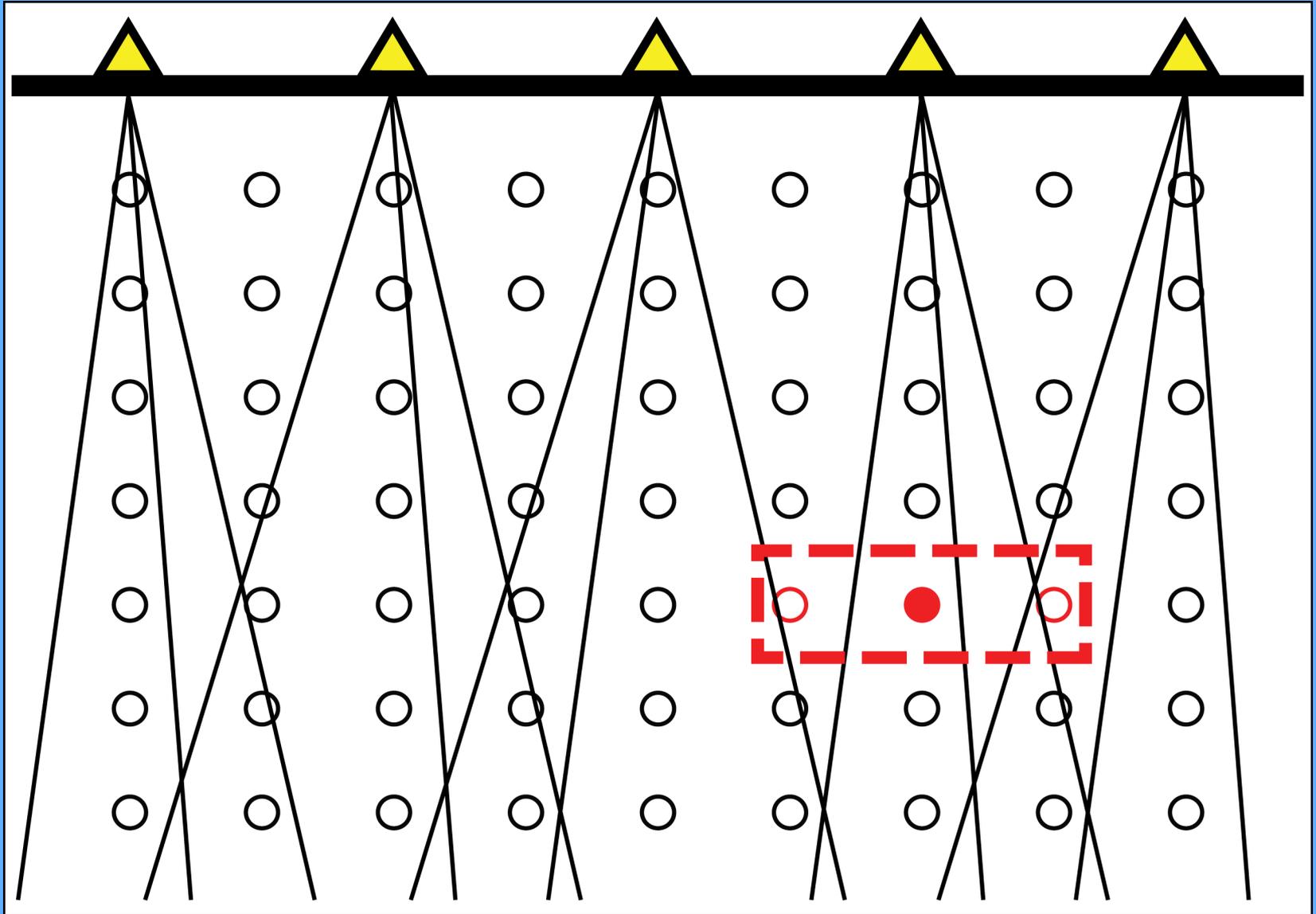


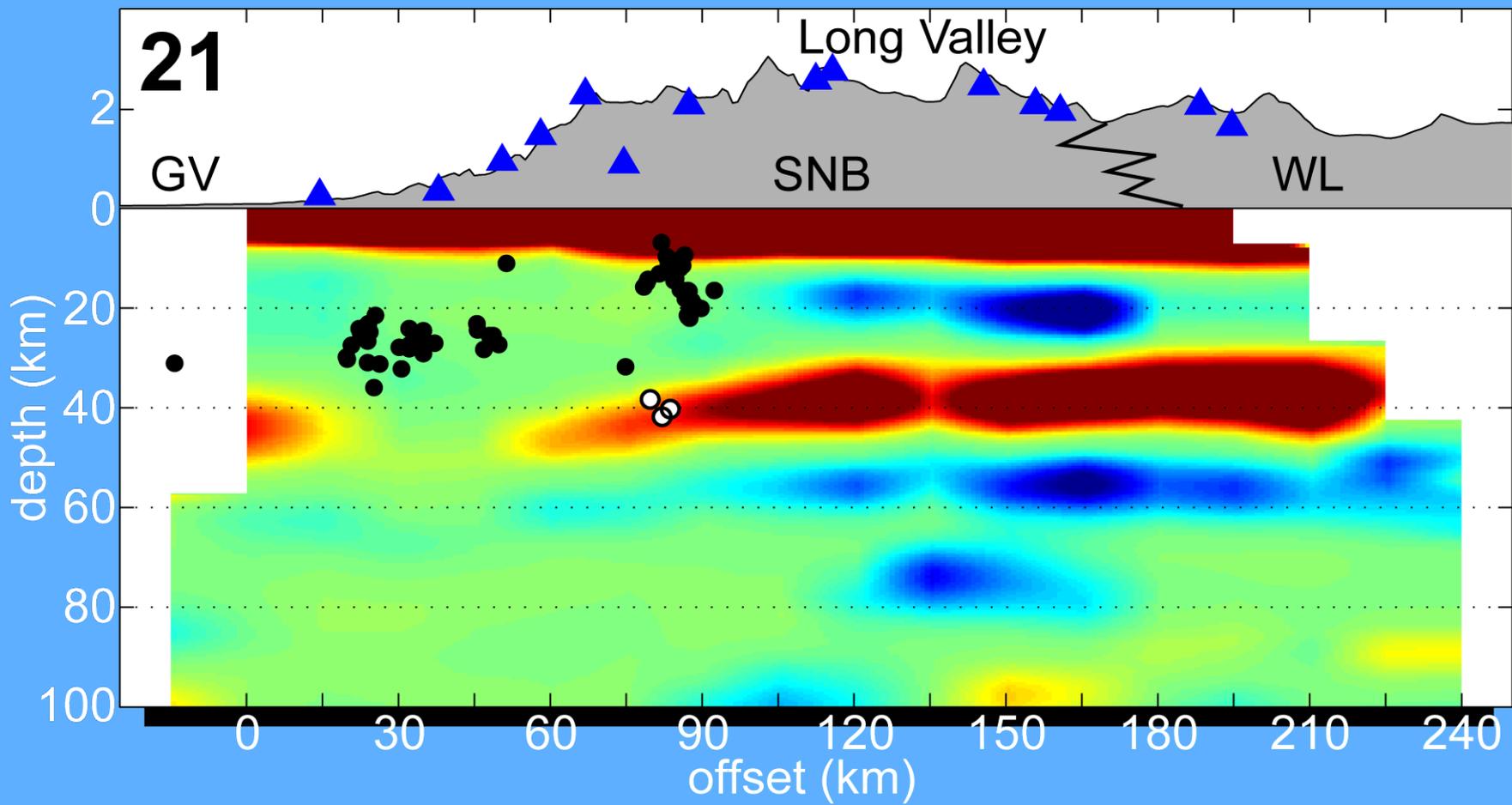
Crotwell and Owens, 2005

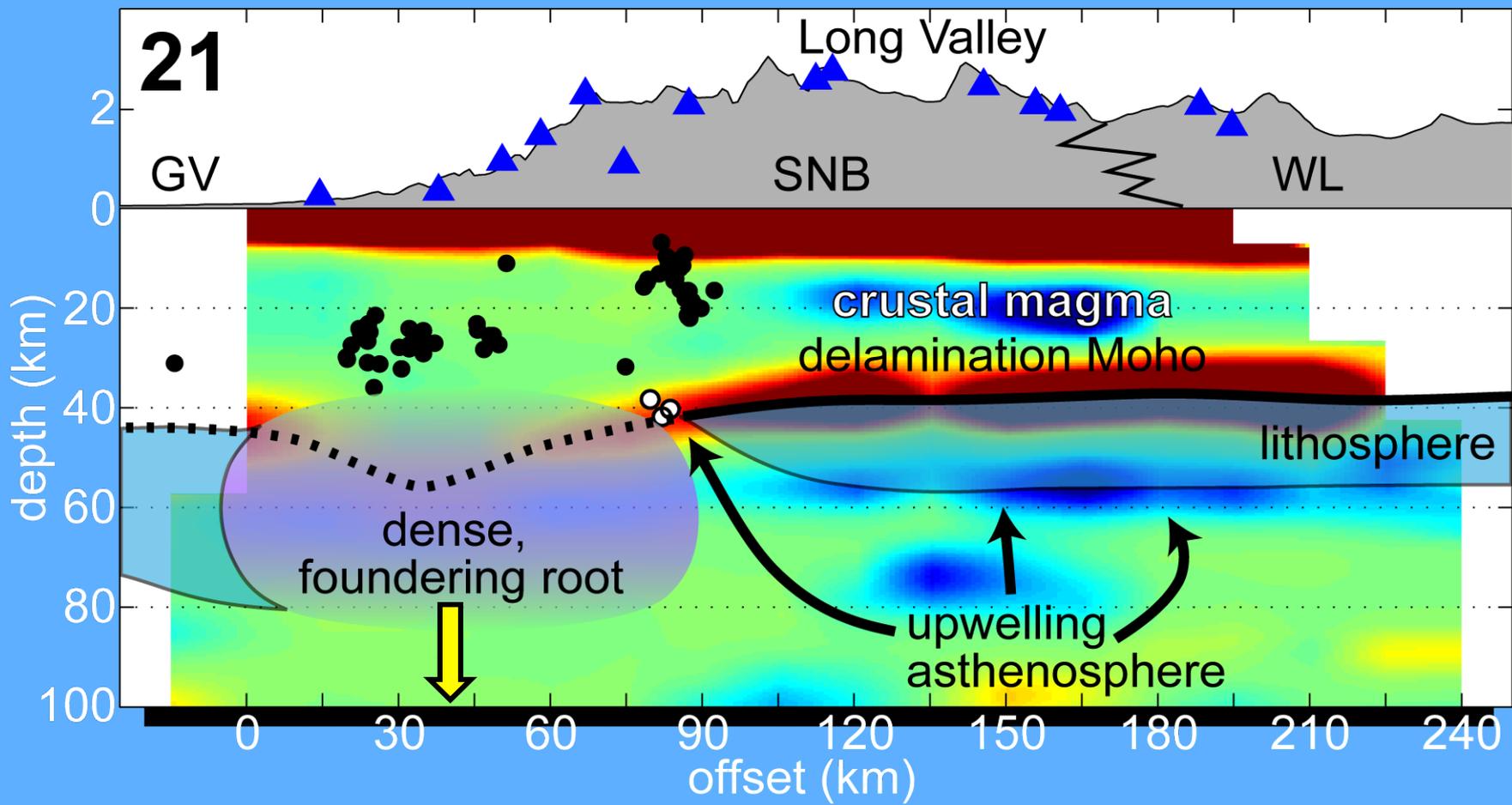
# Interface Resolution



# CCP Stacking







A scenic landscape featuring a calm blue lake in the foreground, surrounded by rocky, light-colored hills and sparse green trees. The sky is a vibrant blue, filled with large, fluffy white clouds. Overlaid on the center of the image is the word "Questions?" in a large, bold, yellow sans-serif font.

**Questions?**