

A model for ductile shear initiated by shear fracture: Application to short term and secular fault slip.

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# What? Where? How?

- **INTRO:** Modeling Large Deformation.
- **GEOLOGY:** The Semi-Brittle Transition, Ductile Shear Zones.
- **MODEL:** Modeling the YSE with the Brittle Ductile Transition.
- **PHYSICS:** Analytic formulation and modeling of fracture events for Brittle-Ductile materials.
- **TEST:** Slow Slip Events.

# The problem of deformation

- It can be stated with two equations:

- A force balance:

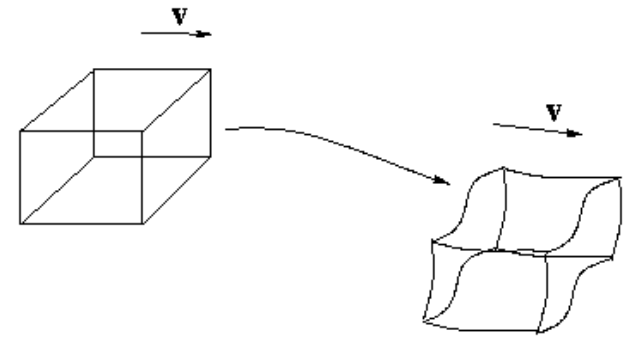
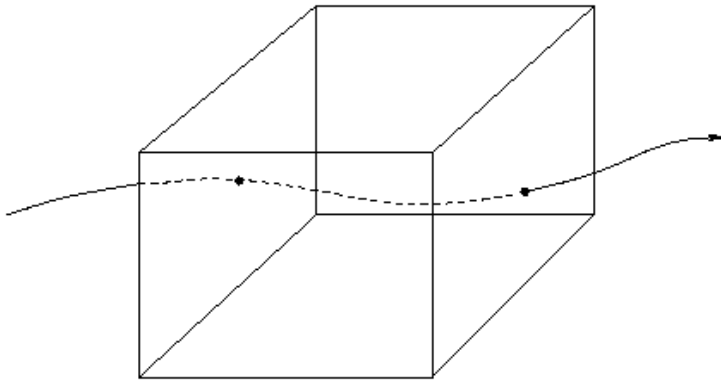
$$\frac{\partial \sigma_{ij}}{\partial x_j} + \rho g_i = 0,$$

- A constitutive relationship:

$$\sigma_{ij} = f(\sigma_{ij}, \varepsilon_{ij}, \dot{\varepsilon}_{ij}, \dots).$$

which defines a relationship between the strain and stress.

# Eulerian vs. Lagrangian



- Viscoplastic approach that uses Stokes flow in an Eulerian grid that is adjusted for large deformation (Arbitrary Eulerian Lagrangian (ALE), Particle In Cells (PIC) are also suitable).
- Elastoplastic and viscoelastic that uses the quasi-static formulation of the equation of motion in a Lagrangian grid. This is the traditional mechanical engineering approach.

# Lagrangian Large deformation

- Remeshing needed every time the mesh is too distorted: **Innaccurate!!**
- The coupling with fluids in the Lagrangian mesh is not conservative (remeshing + distortion).
- Explicit vs. Implicit.

# Eulerian Large deformation (visco-plastic, no true elasticity + rigid body) (GALE, etc...)

- Uses the equilibrium Equation:

$$\frac{\partial \sigma_{ij}}{\partial x_j} + \rho g_i = 0$$

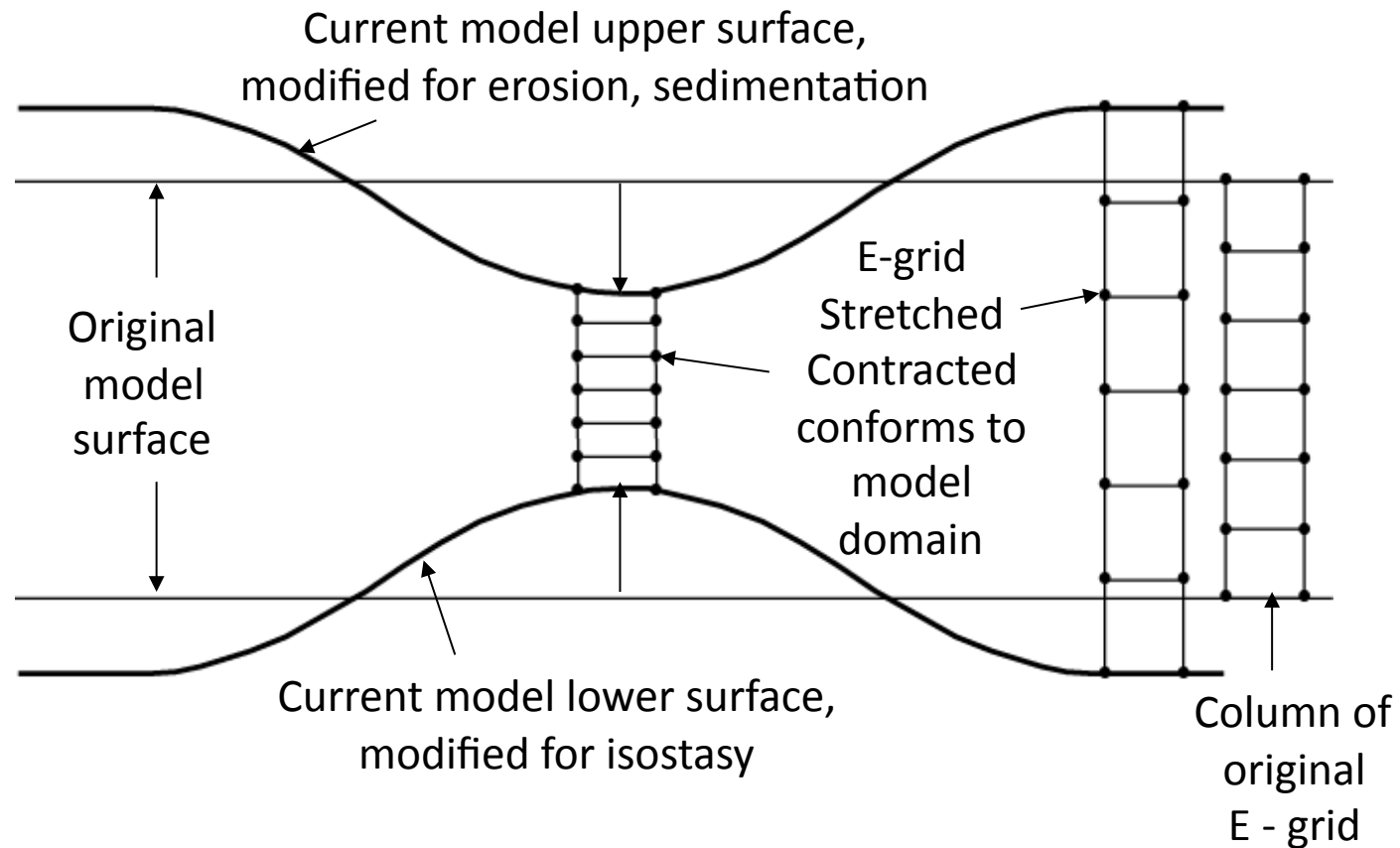
- With viscous Incompressible Flow:

$$\sigma_{ij} = -p\delta_{ij} + 2\eta\dot{\epsilon}_{ij} \text{ and using } \dot{\epsilon}_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\partial v_i}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial v_j}{\partial x_i} \right)$$

- It leads to Stokes Equation:

$$-\frac{\partial p}{\partial x_j} + \eta \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( \frac{\partial v_i}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial v_j}{\partial x_i} \right) + \rho g_j = 0 \quad j = 1,2$$

## E – Remeshing to Conform to Model Domain



Finite element problem is solved on the E- grid.

The E – grid is stretched/contracted vertically to conform to the material domain.

# Possible: Eulerian formulation of an elastic solid (Duddu, Lavier, Calo).

Momentum balance:

$$\rho \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{v} \right) = \rho \mathbf{f} + \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma}.$$

Mass balance:

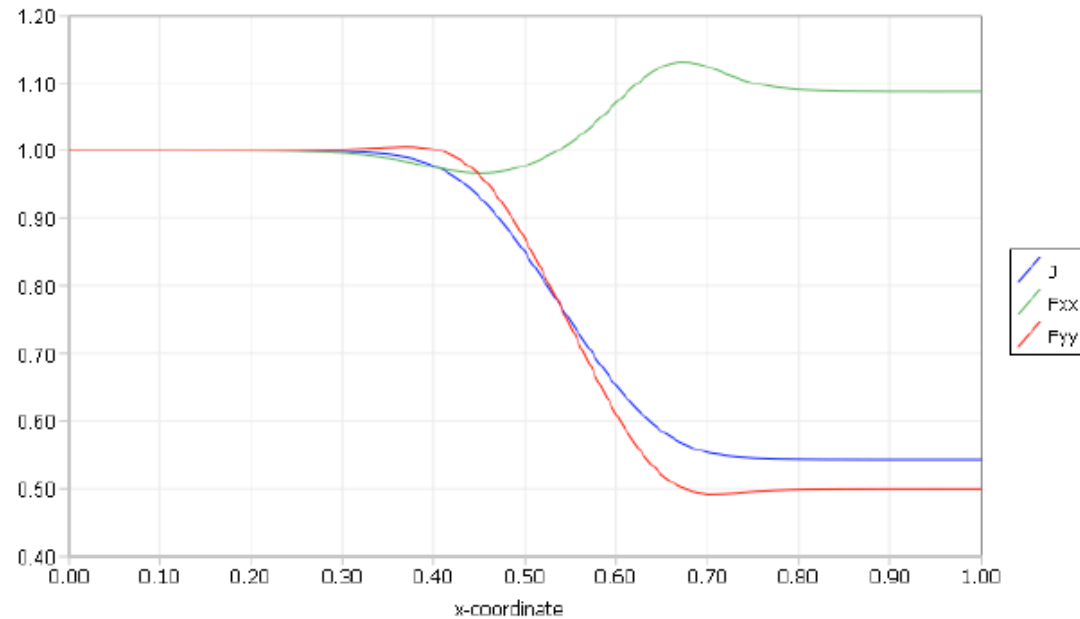
$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla J - J \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0,$$

Transport of deformation gradient:

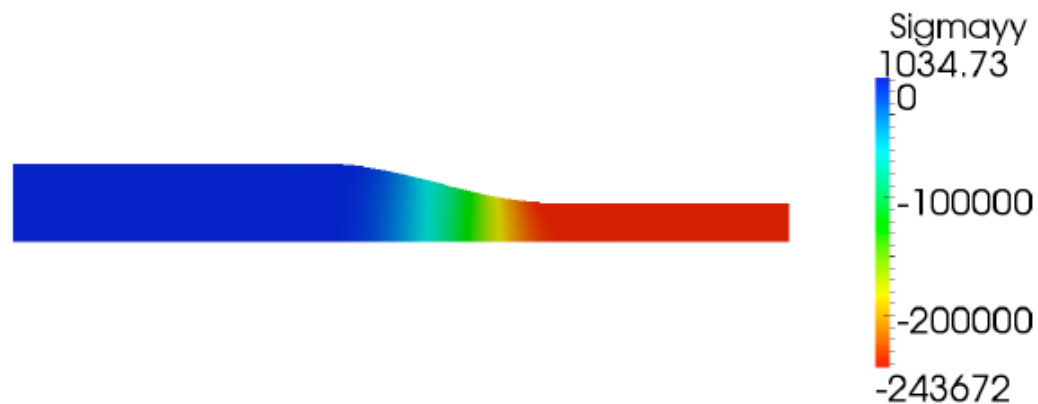
$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{F}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{F} = \mathbf{l} \cdot \mathbf{F},$$



# Infancy: stability analysis

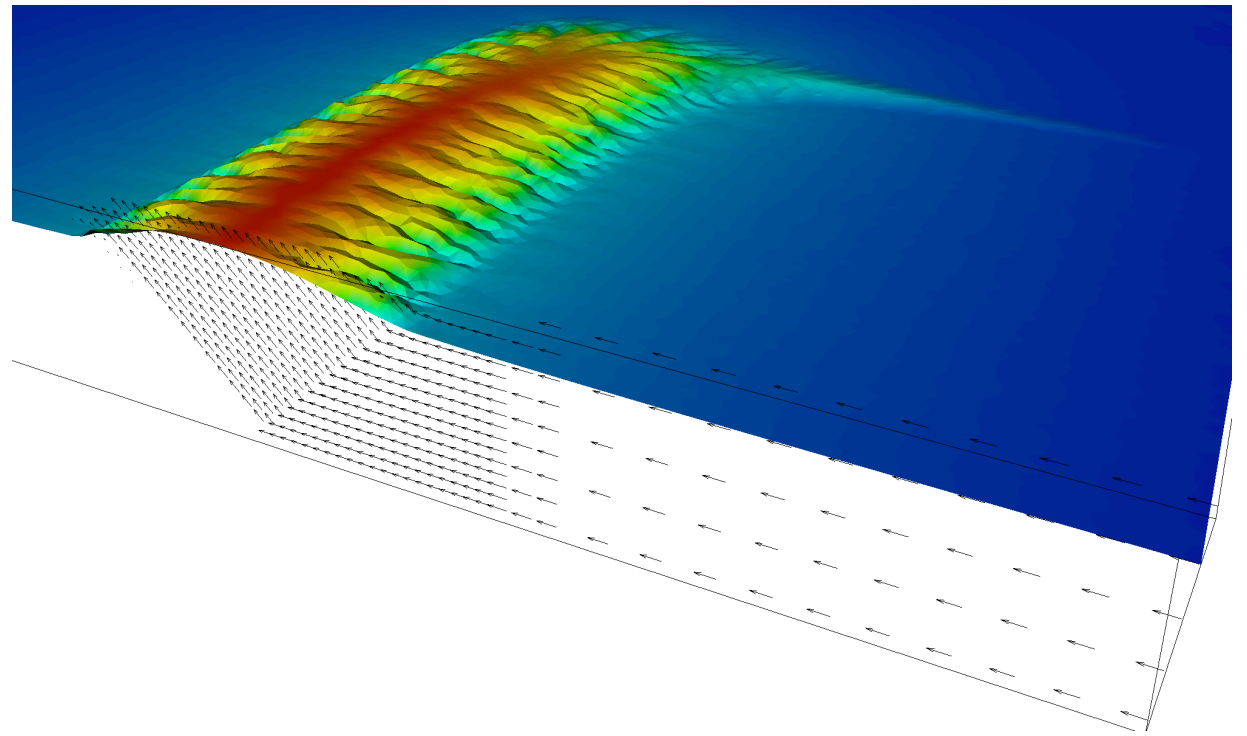
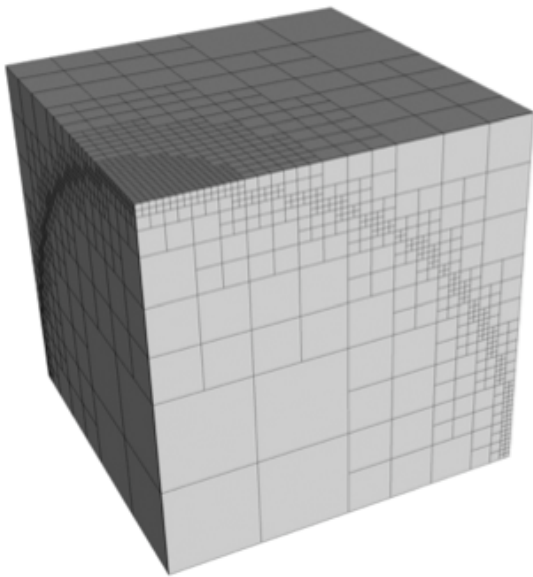


(a) Data along the line joining (0,0,0) and (1,0,0)



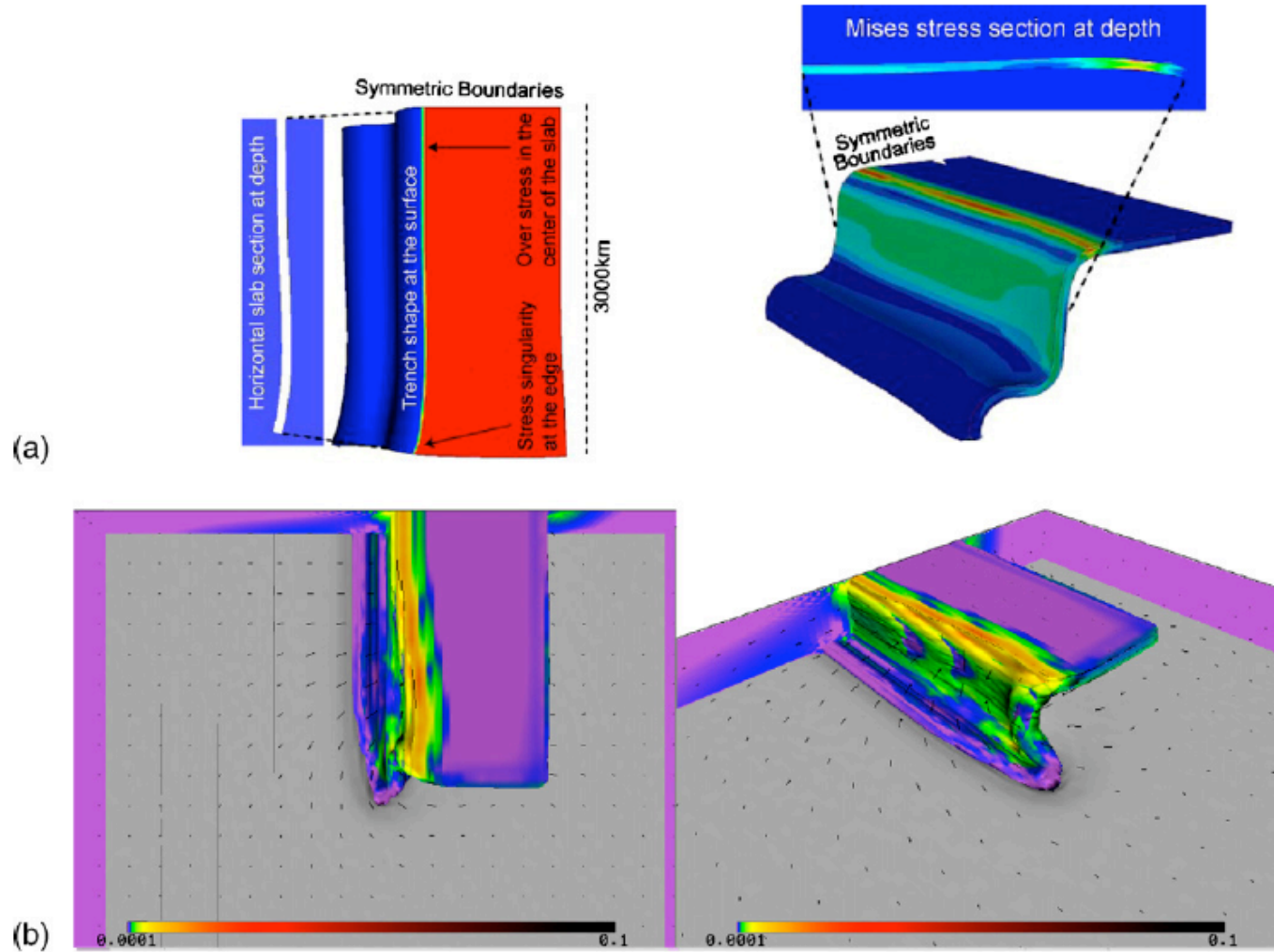
(b) Cauchy stress,  $\sigma_{yy}$  in MPa

# DOUAR (Braun et al., 2008)



# UNDERWORLD (L. Moresi)

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

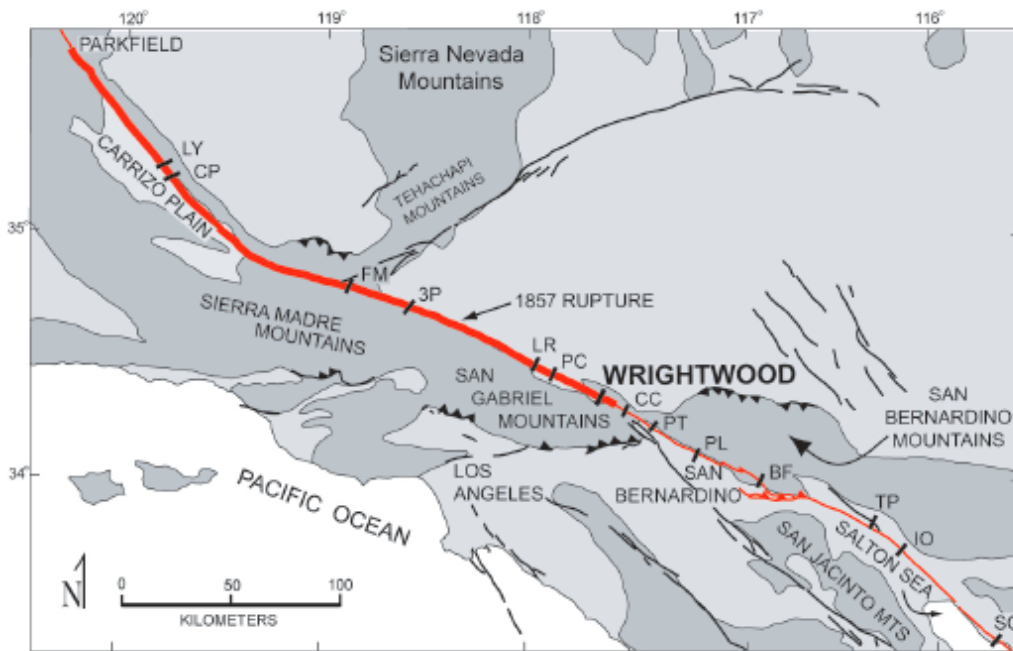


OzBench et al., 2008.

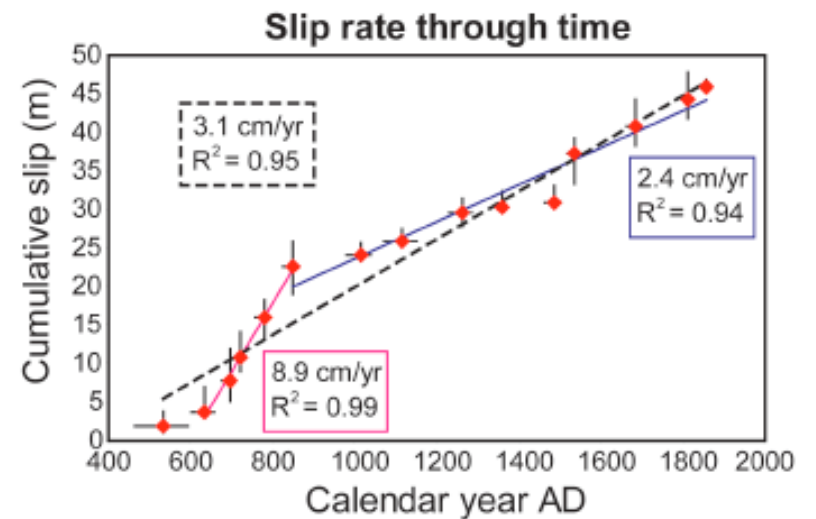
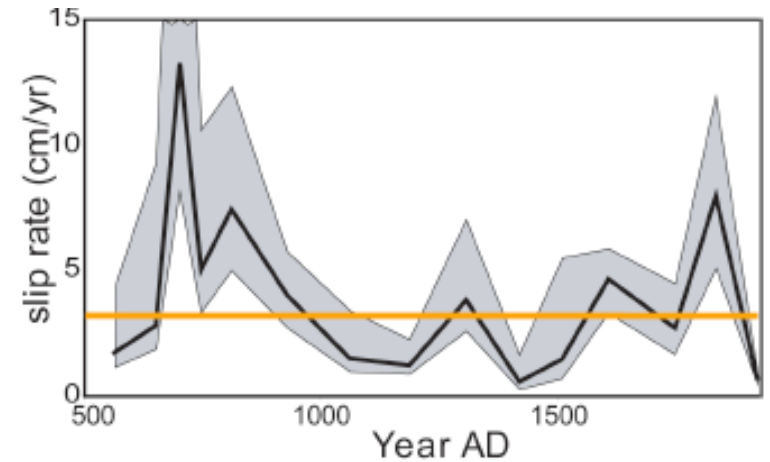
# What constitutive update?

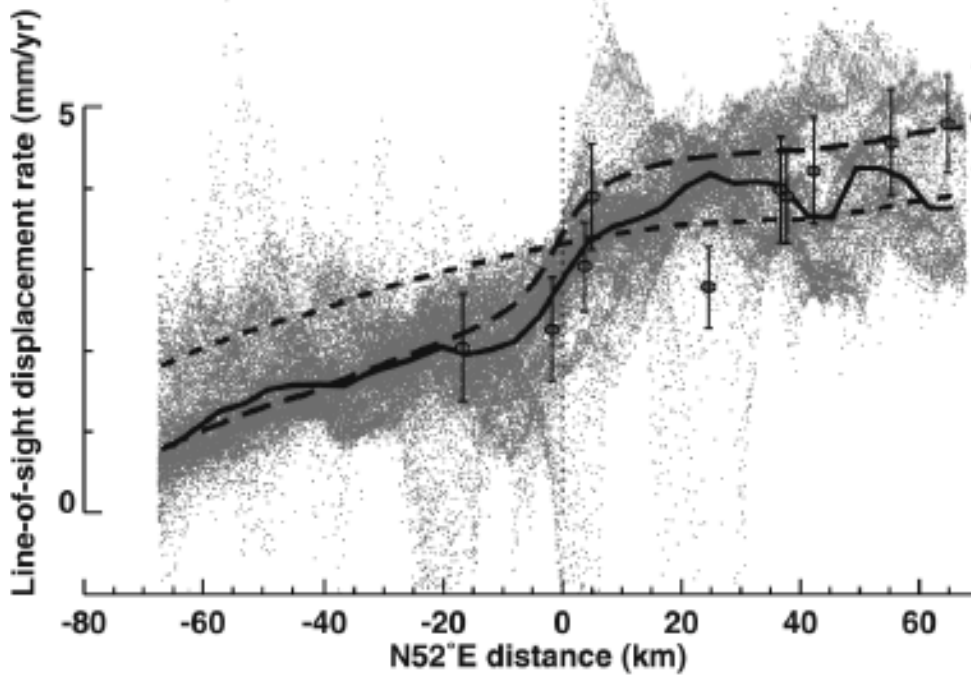
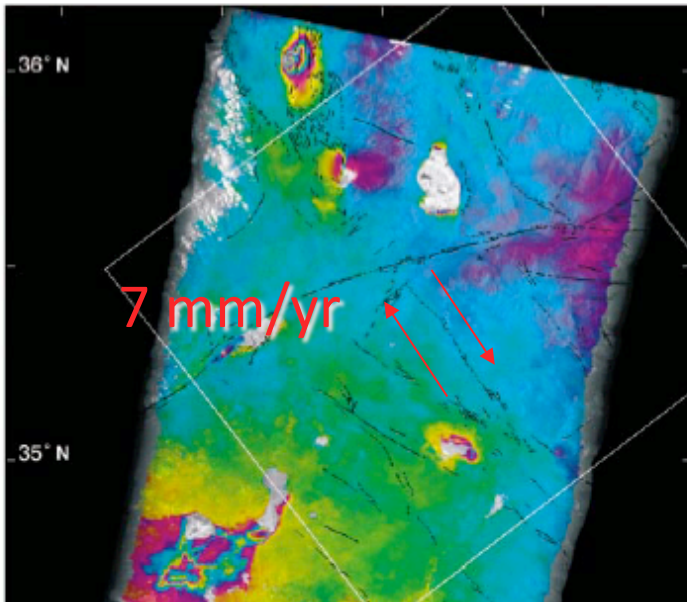
- If we want to understand deformation over 100s of seismic cycle we need to add anelastic behavior with true elastic behavior.
- Why not just “visco-elastic”?
  - Ubiquitous occurrence of plastic deformation in crust
- Why not just “elasto-plastic”?
  - Observation of viscous relaxation of stress in the crust
  - Localization is possible, but rate-dependence is desired.

# Possible secular oscillations in slip rate on fault zones.

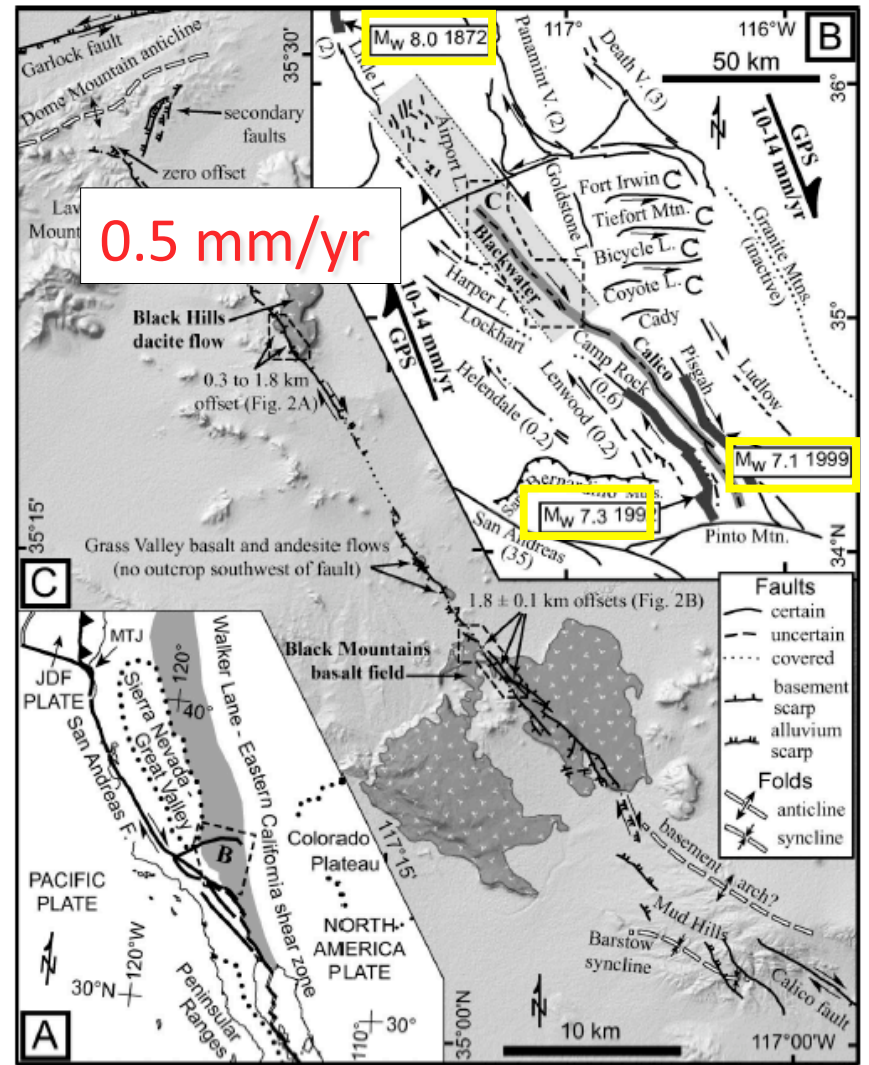


Weldon, 2004.





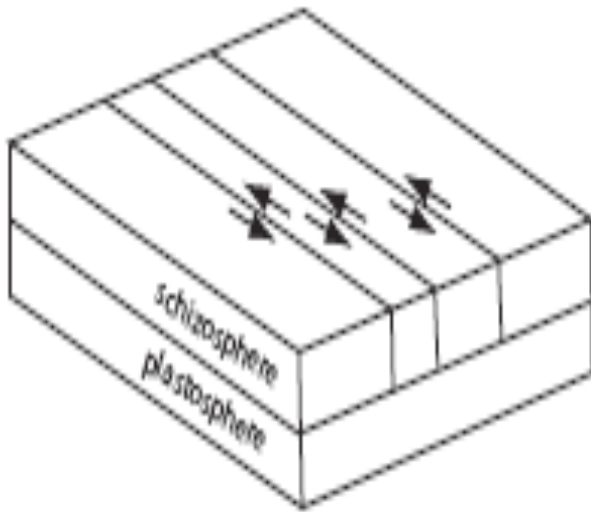
Peltzer et al., 2001



Oskin et al., 2004

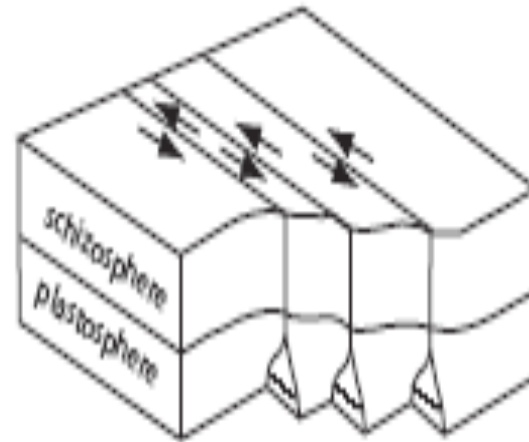
# Time dependent behavior.

CRUSTAL VISCOELASTIC COUPLING



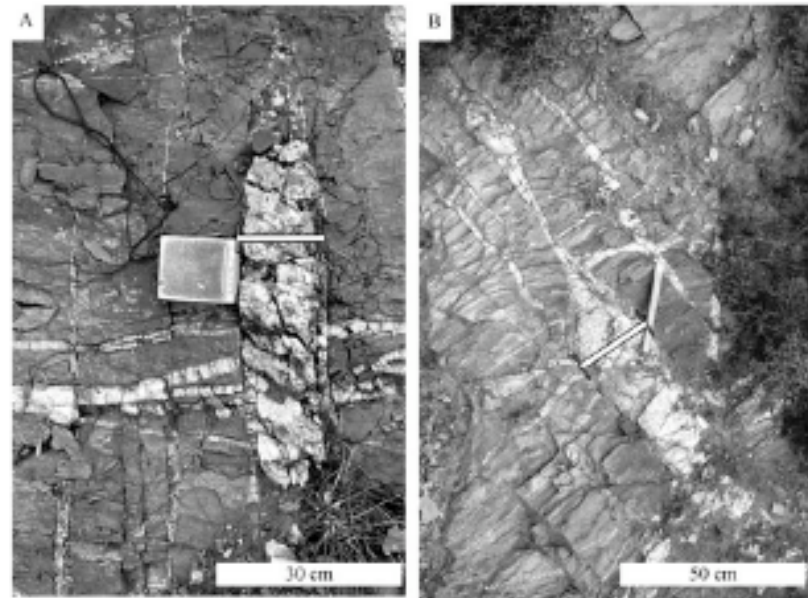
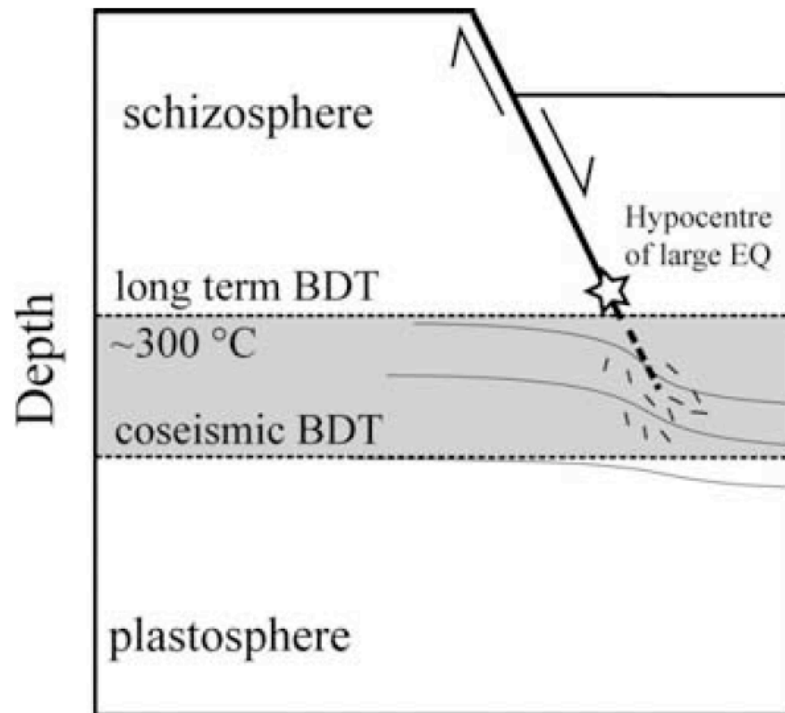
(Savage et al, 1999)

DEEP SLIP MODEL



(Scholz, 2002)

# Semi-brittle fractures



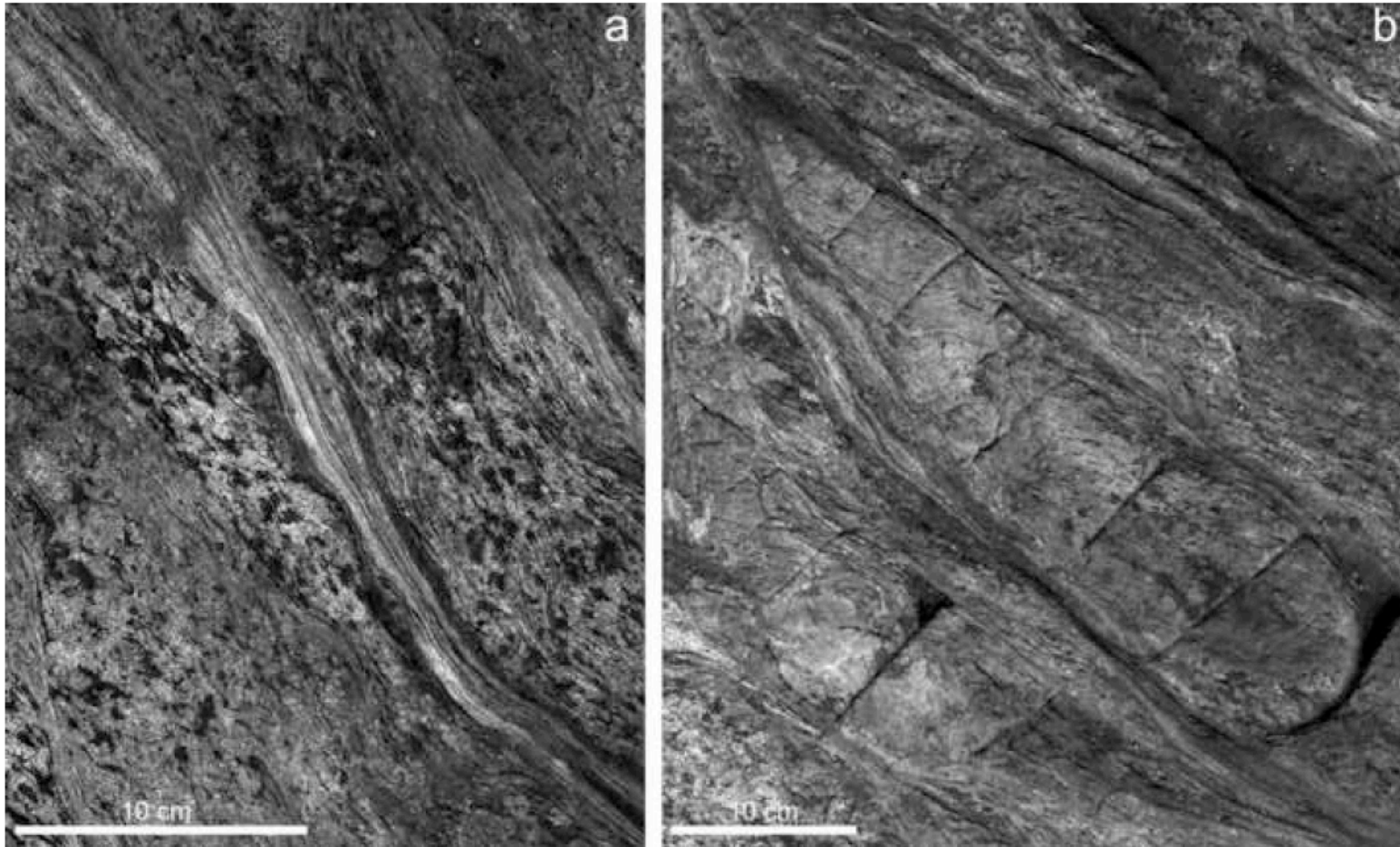
Nütscher and Stöckhert, 2008.



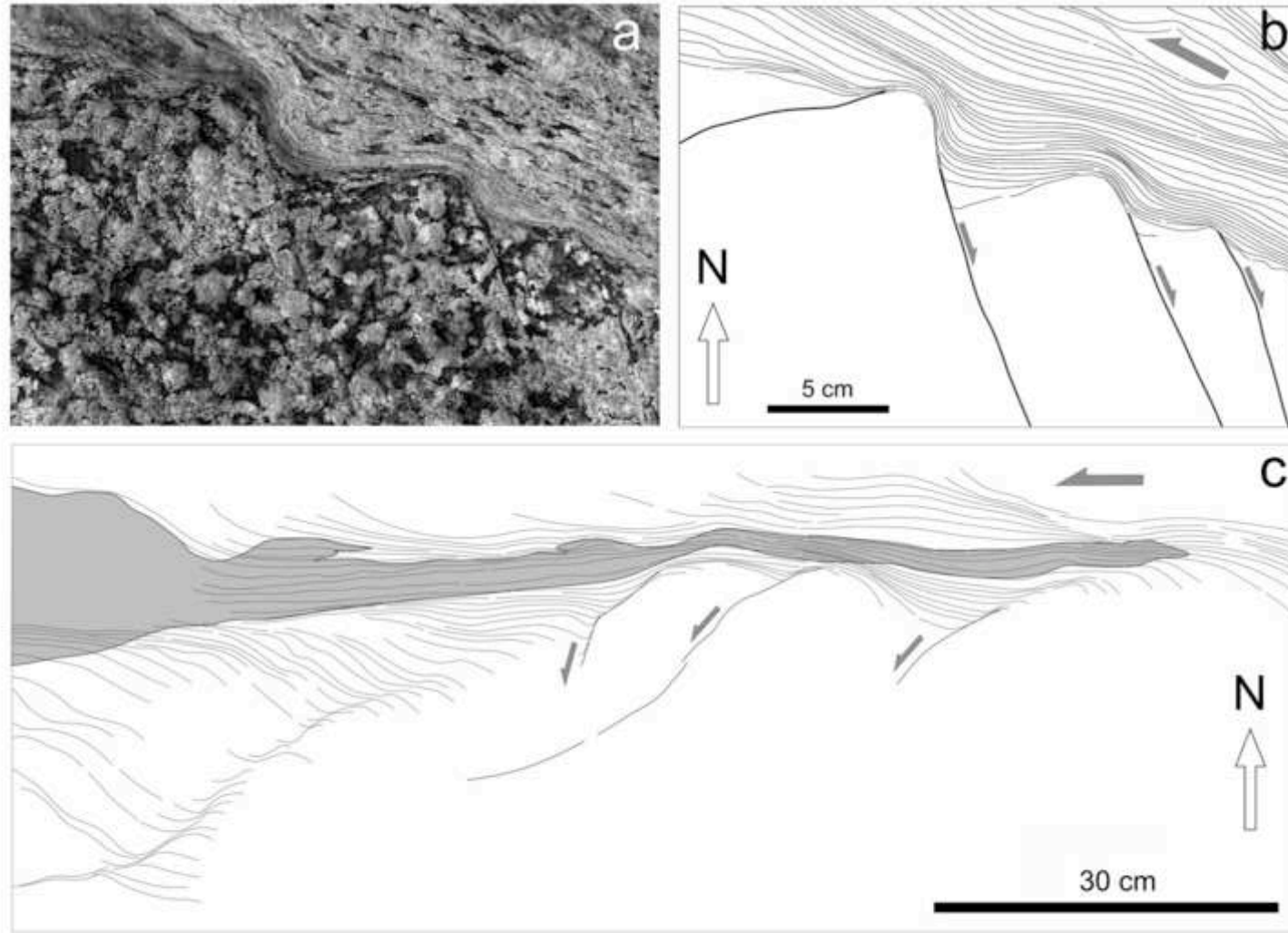
## Localization in Greenschist (300°C to 450°C) to amphibole facies (450°C to 600°C).

- Localization in ductile shear zone is initiated by shear fractures (dilation). Fluids aid the localization (i.e. dynamic recrystallization, dissolution, etc) and form fluid filled fractures that can accommodate slip (Manktelow, Pennachioni, Handy, Carreras, etc...). It is a strain dependent phenomena.
- Localization is a strain rate dependent phenomena. Phenomena such as dynamic recrystallization provide the bifurcation necessary for localization. (Braun, Chery, Hirth, etc...).

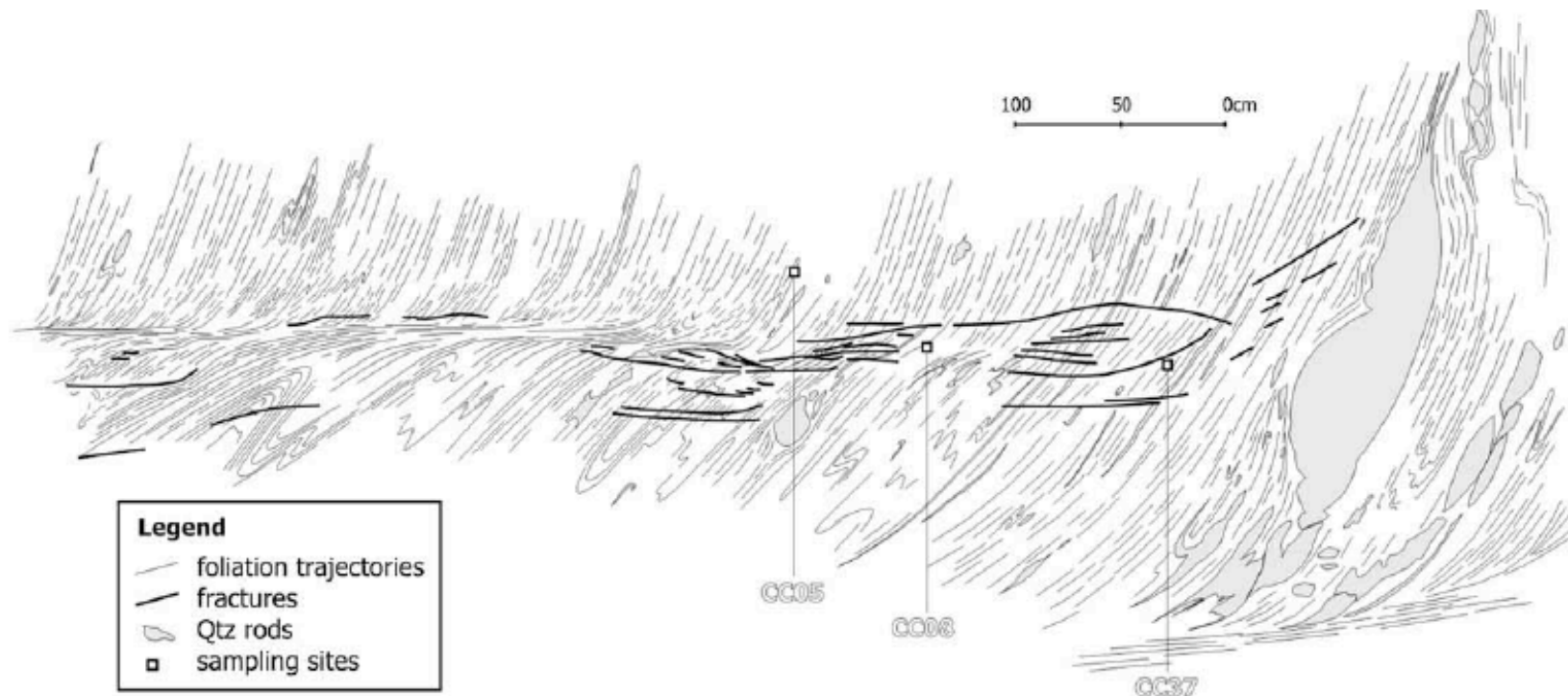
# Rainy Lake Zone, Oblique strike-slip, Greenschist to Amphibole facies



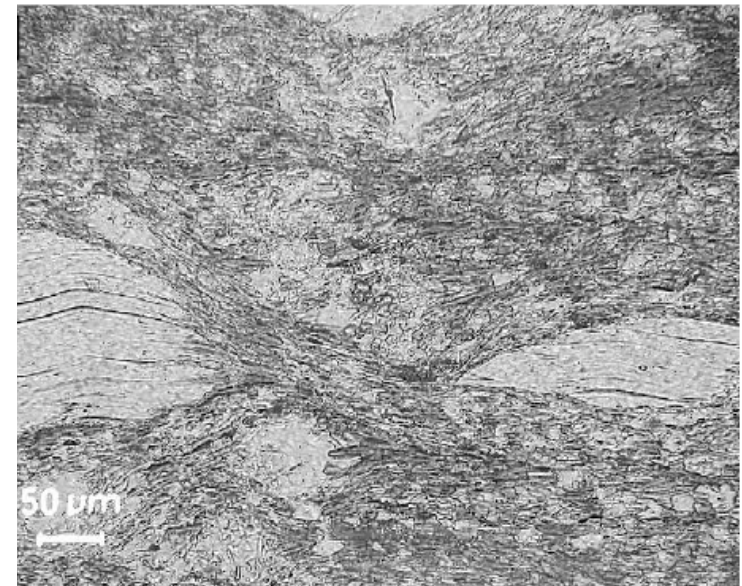
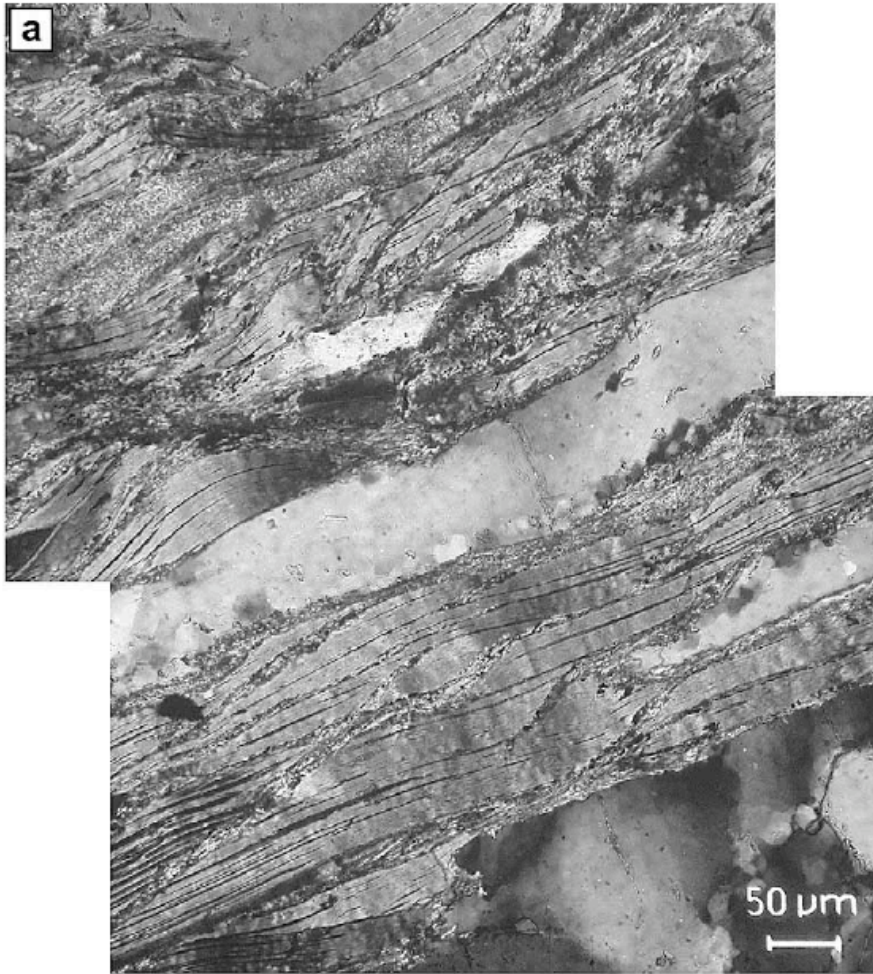
# Rainy Lake Zone, Oblique strike-slip, Greenschist to Amphibole facies



# Cap de Creus Peninsula, Greenschist facies



# Cap de Creus Peninsula, Greenschist facies



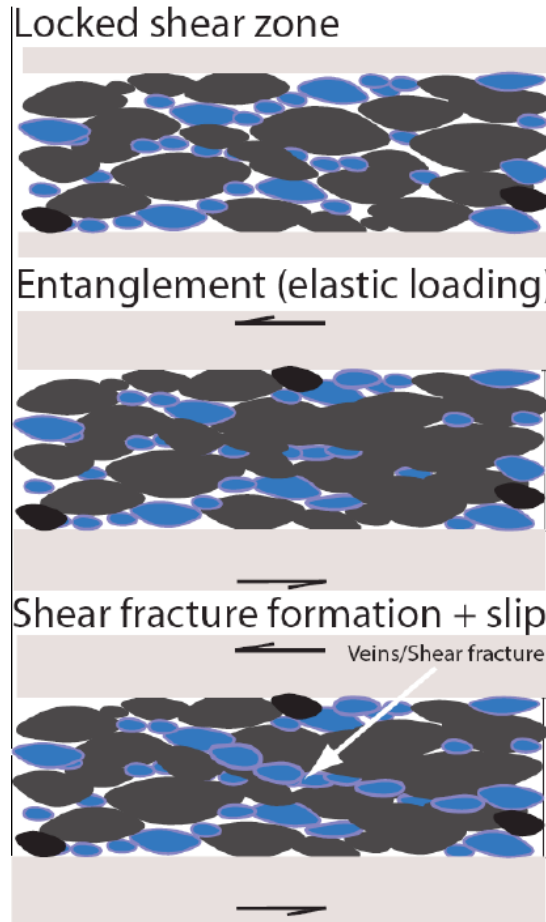
# Cordillera Darwin (with Nick Hayman and Ian Dialzel)



# Mafic dikes in silicic matrix, Amphibole facies.

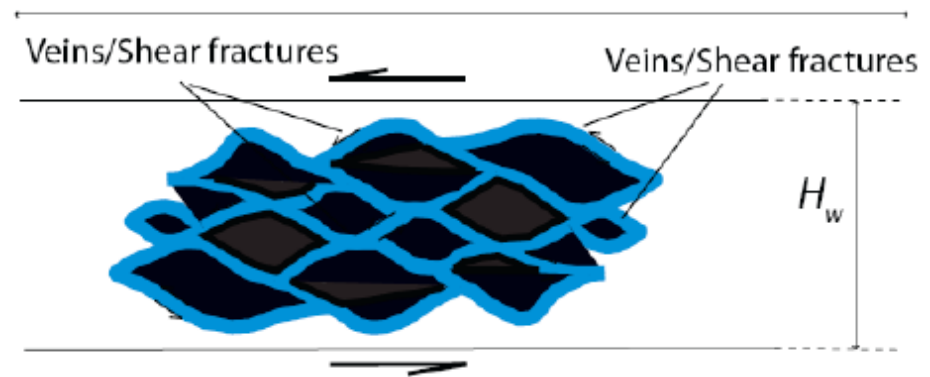


# Physical Model: 1D (continued)



- Weak mineral phase
- Strong mineral phase

## Anastomosing shear zone



Lavier and Bennett, 2010



# Semi-brittle failure

- As strain accumulate by Mohr Coulomb failure aqueous fluid facilitate weakening:
  - By accumulation of brittle deformation.
  - By accumulation of plastic creep, likely dislocation creep → Diffusion creep

# Failure criterion formulation (.

$$\int_0^{\varepsilon} \sigma d\varepsilon = C$$

We assume that the Mises Stress is constant.

We chose C consistent with ductile failure at the plastic transition for quartz.

$$\sigma \int_0^{\varepsilon} d\varepsilon = 4.10^6 J$$

$$\sigma \varepsilon_c = 4.10^6 J$$

# Strain energy density

$$\int_0^{\varepsilon_c} \sigma^H d\varepsilon = C$$

$$\varepsilon_c = \varepsilon_b^e + \varepsilon_d^p$$

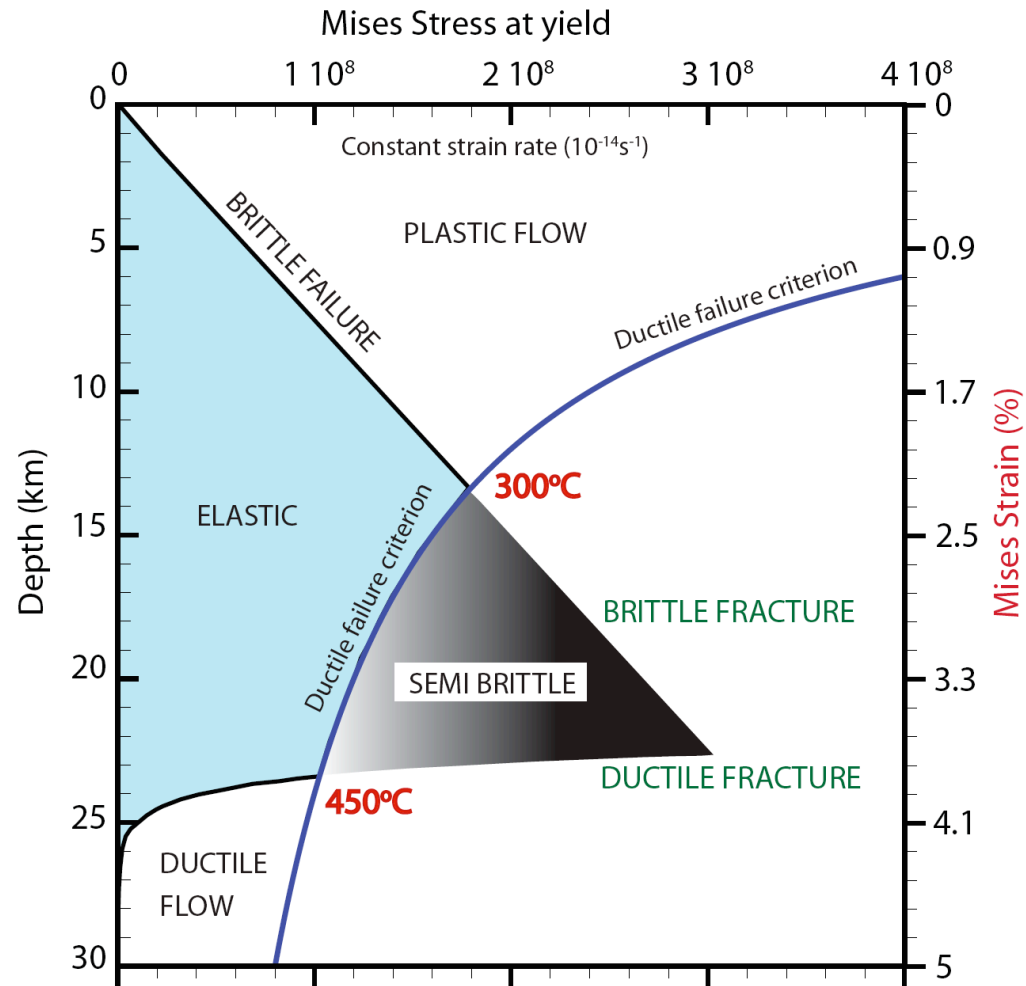
Elastic strain at failure

$$\varepsilon_b^e \approx \frac{\sigma_{Mohr}}{E} \text{ where } \sigma_{Mohr} \text{ is the stress at the}$$

Mohr-Coulomb failure criteria.

$$\varepsilon_d^p \approx \frac{C}{\sigma_{creep}} \text{ where } \sigma_{creep} \text{ is the dislocation}$$

creep stress.



# Forced localization: Parameterization of Rheology.

Mohr-Coulomb Elasto-Plastic.

Cohesional and frictional.

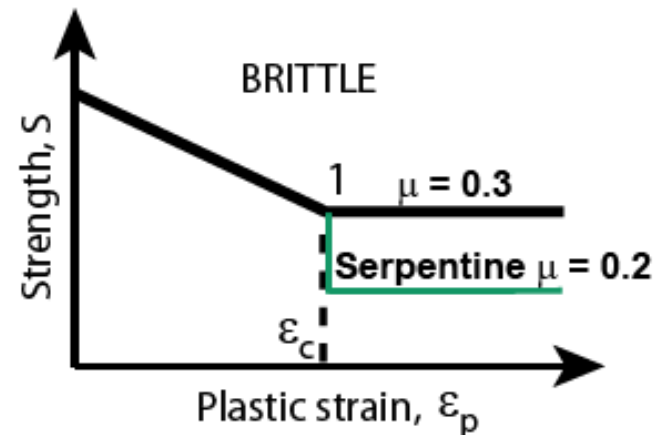
Cohesion and friction loss.

Power law creep.

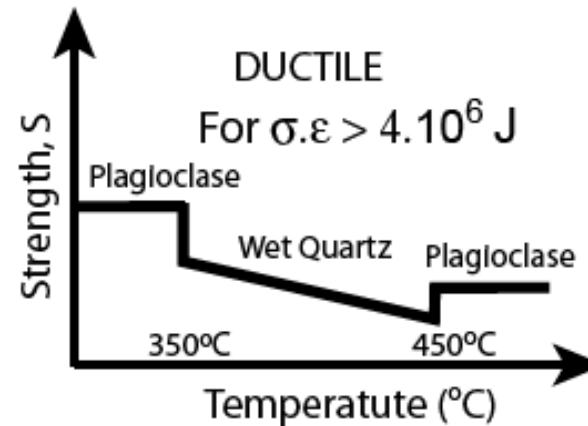
Bi-mineralic viscosity weakening.  
(Plagioclase → → → → wet quartz)

## Parameterization of shear localization.

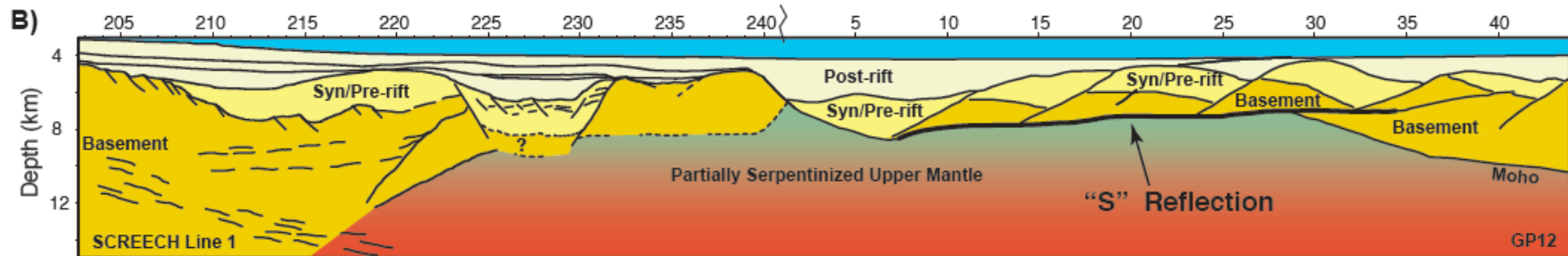
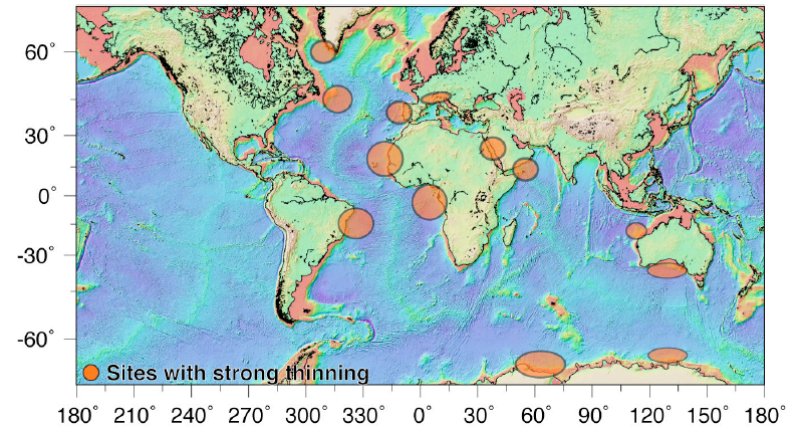
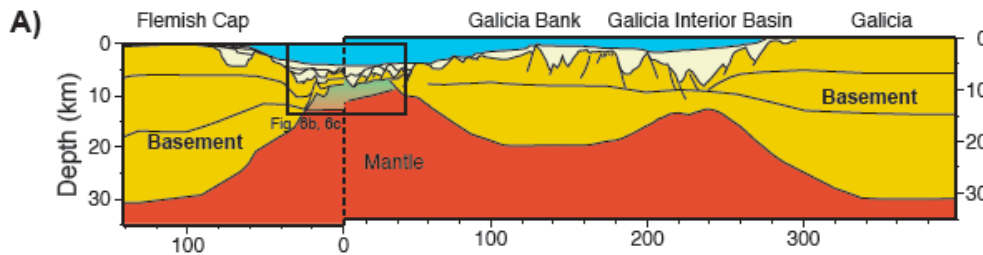
b)



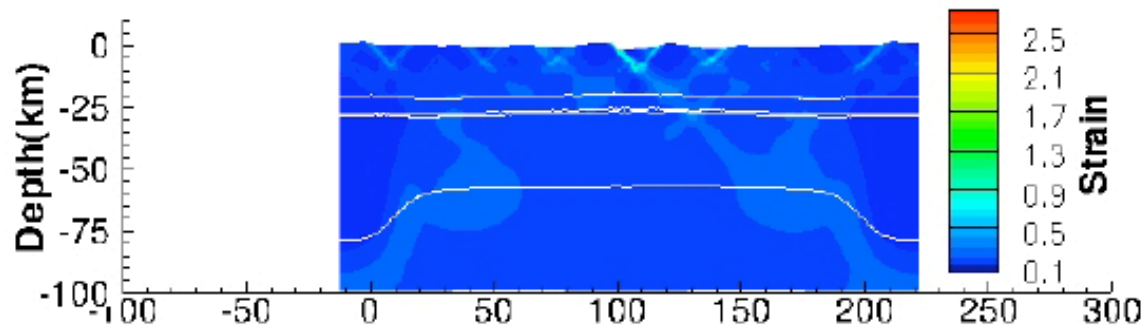
c)



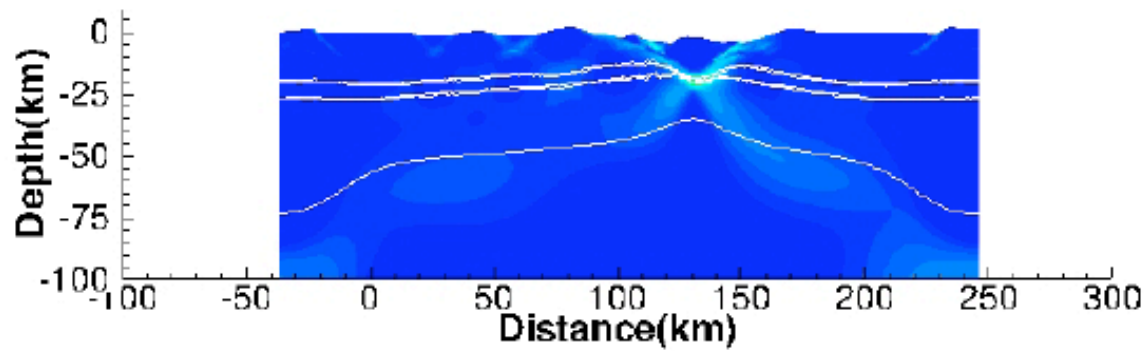
# Extreme thinning with little faulting



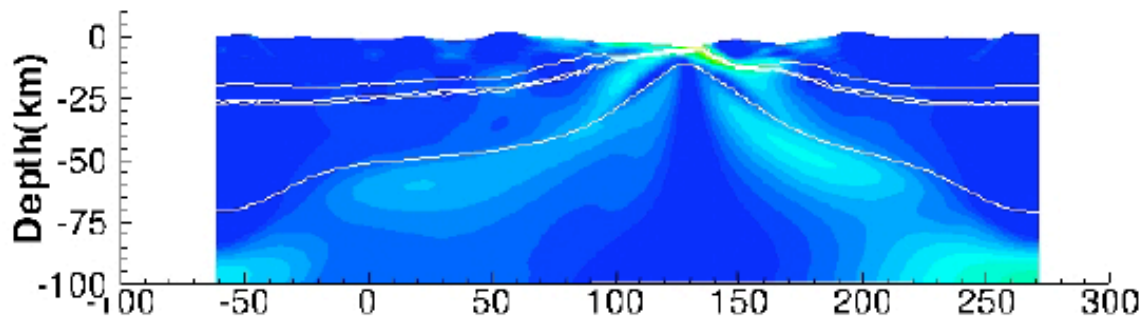
Hopper et al, 2007



STRETCHING



THINNING

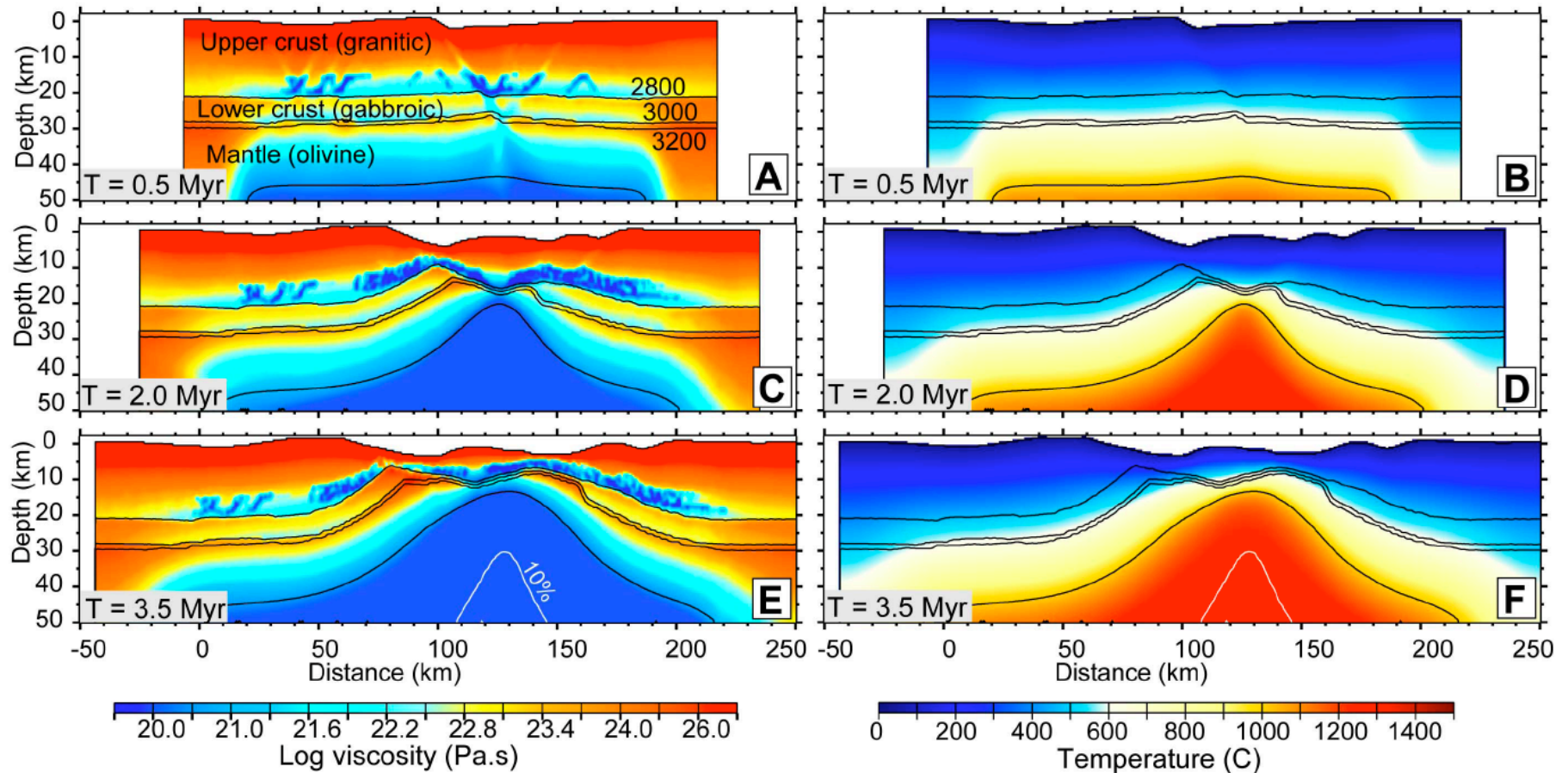


EXHUMATION



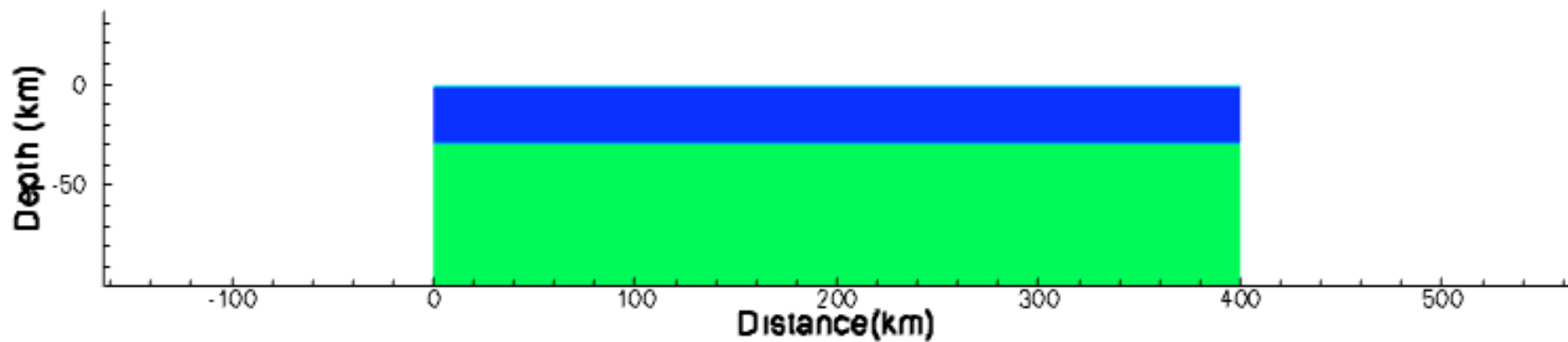
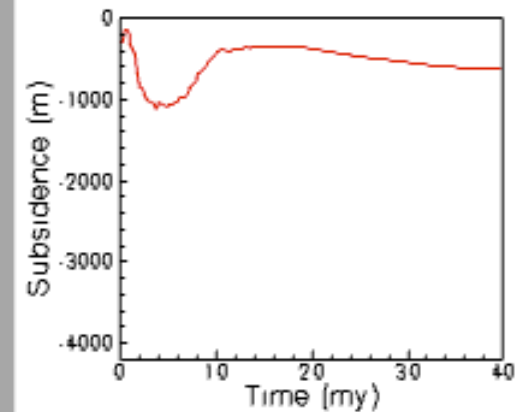
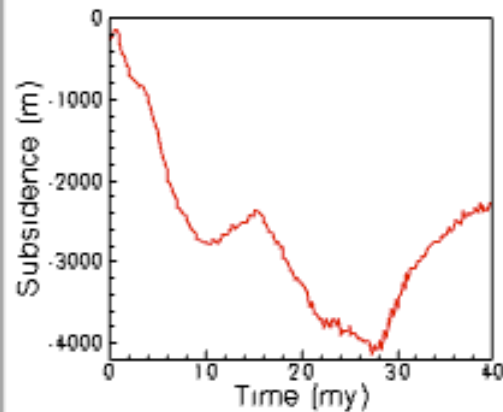
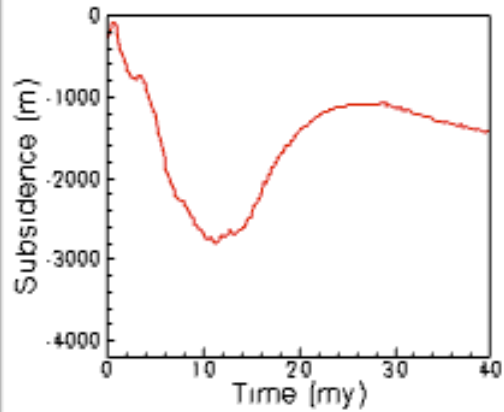
# Modeling rifting with pervasive weakening in the middle crust

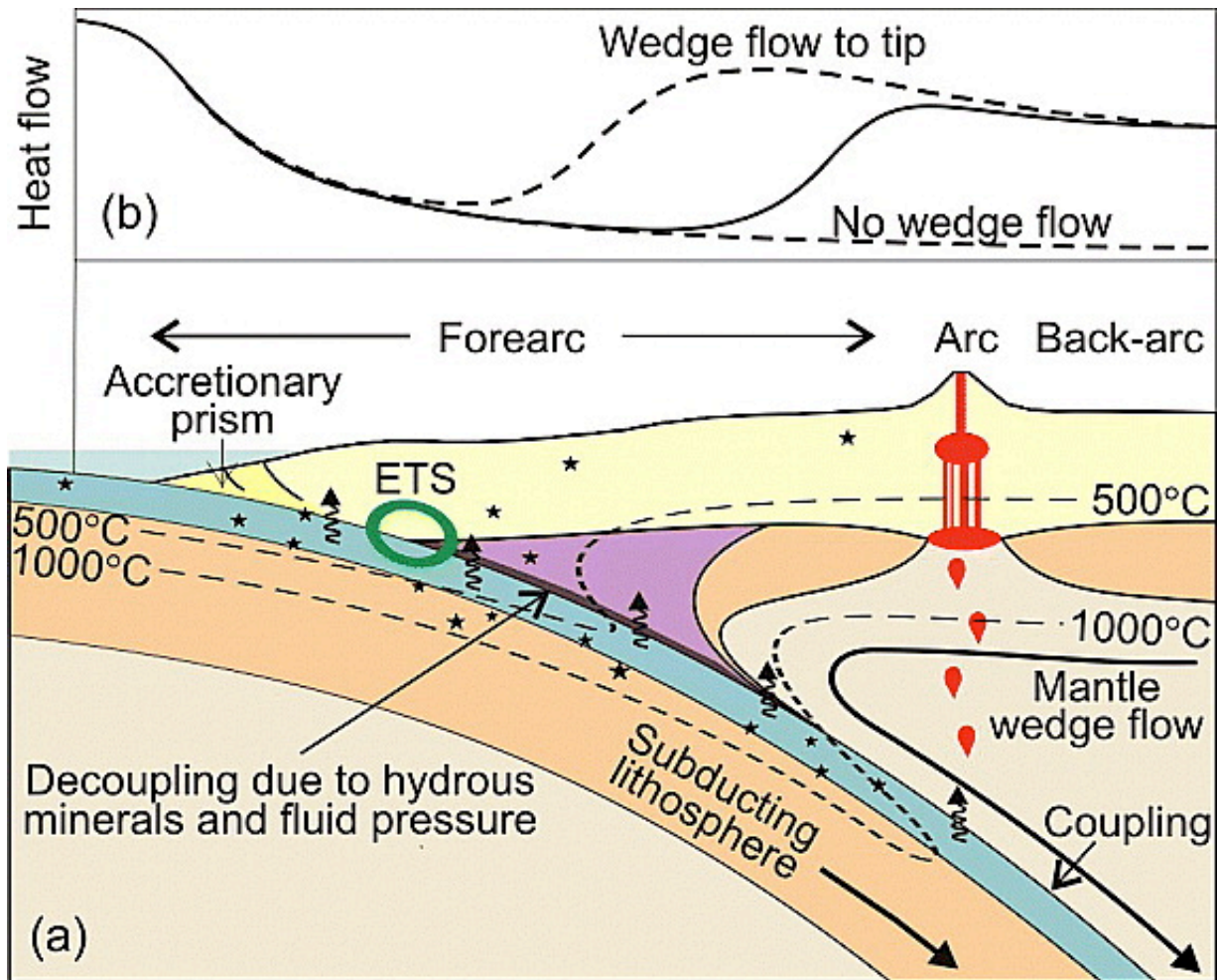
FAST EXTENSION = 2.5 cm.yr<sup>-1</sup>











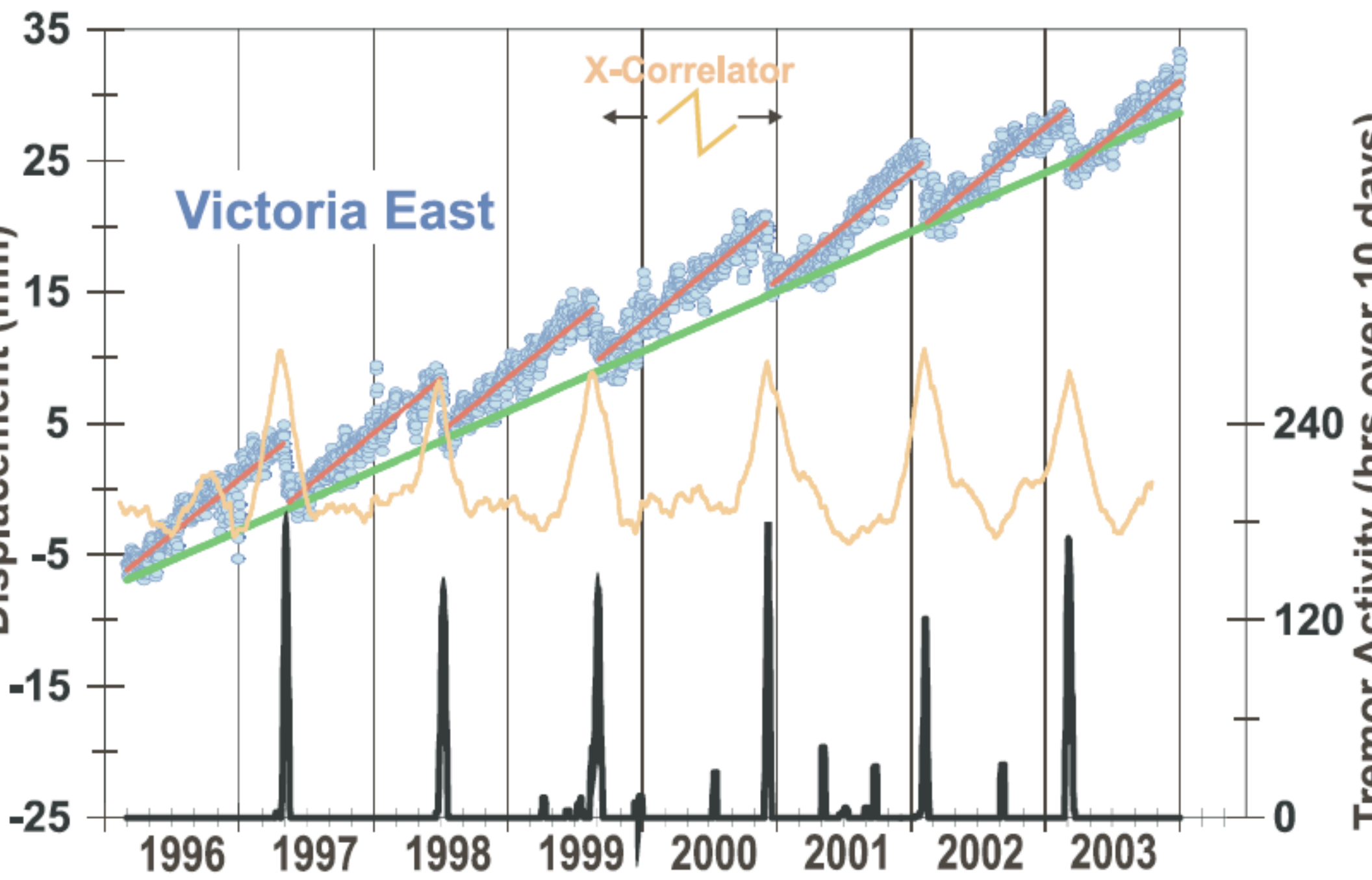


# Boudinage at lithospheric scale





- |   |                       |   |   |
|---|-----------------------|---|---|
|  | Continental/Arc crust |  | Zone of potential mantle wedge serpentinization |
|  | Oceanic crust         |  | Partial melt                                    |
|  | Lithospheric mantle   |  | Earthquakes                                     |
|  | Asthenospheric mantle |  | Fluid migration                                 |

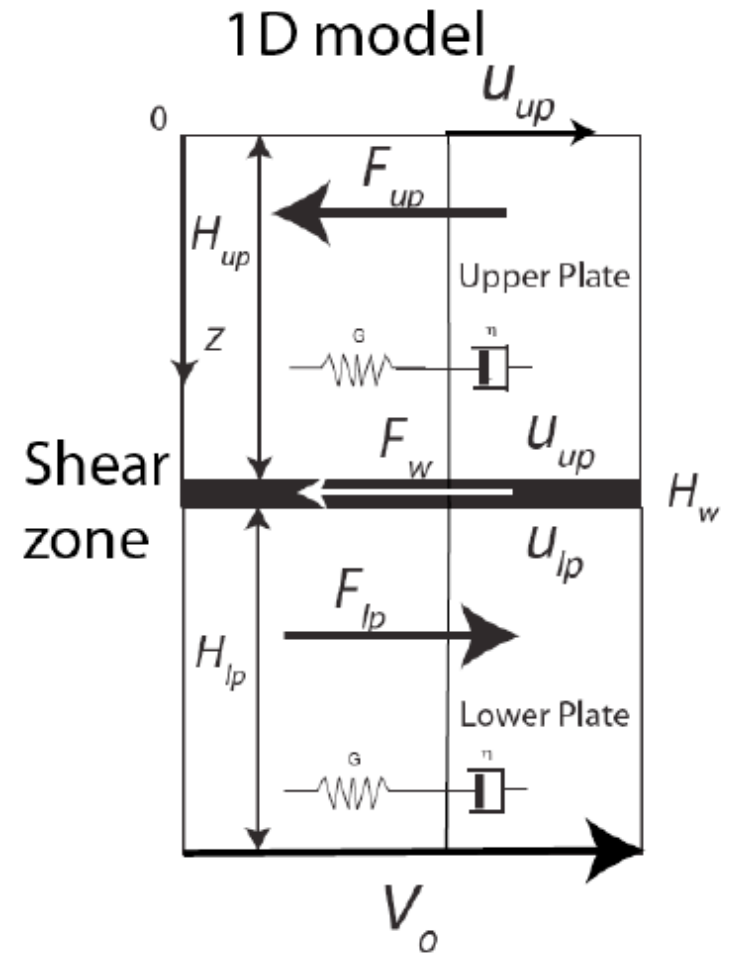


# Physical Model: 1D (continued)

$$\ddot{S} + D\dot{S} + \omega_o^2(S + S_c) = 0$$

$$D = G(\bar{\eta}_L + \bar{\eta}_w) / \bar{\eta}_L \bar{\eta}_w$$

$$\omega_o^2 = Gv' / S_c \bar{\eta}_L \bar{\eta}_w$$



# Model

- Force balance

$$\frac{1}{H_{up}} \int_0^{H_{up}} \tau_{up} dz + \frac{1}{H_w} \int_{H_{up}}^{H_{up}+H_w} \tau_w dz - \frac{1}{H_{lp}} \int_{H_{up}+H_w}^{H_{up}+H_w+H_{lp}} \tau_{lp} dz = 0$$

or

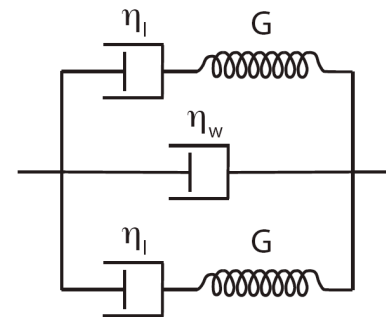
$$\bar{\tau}_{up} + \bar{\tau}_w - \bar{\tau}_{lp} = 0$$

- Rheology

$$T_i \frac{d\bar{\tau}_i}{dt} = -[\bar{\tau}_i - \bar{\eta}_i \bar{u}_i]$$

- Bi-viscous Model

$$\ddot{S} + G \left( \frac{1}{\bar{\eta}_w} + \frac{1}{\bar{\eta}_L} \right) \dot{S} = 0$$



- Dynamic form

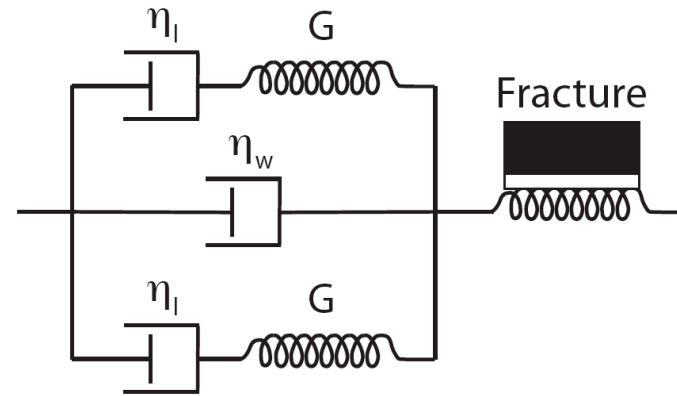
$$\frac{\bar{\eta}_L \bar{\eta}_w}{G} \ddot{S} = -\bar{\tau}_w - \bar{\eta}_L \dot{S}$$

$$\frac{MLT^{-2}}{L^2} = \sum \frac{F}{L^2}$$

# Slip oscillator

Perturbation is a circular fracture of stiffness,  $v'$  that corresponds to an asperity.

$$\bar{\tau}_f = \frac{7\pi v}{12S_c} (S + S_c)$$



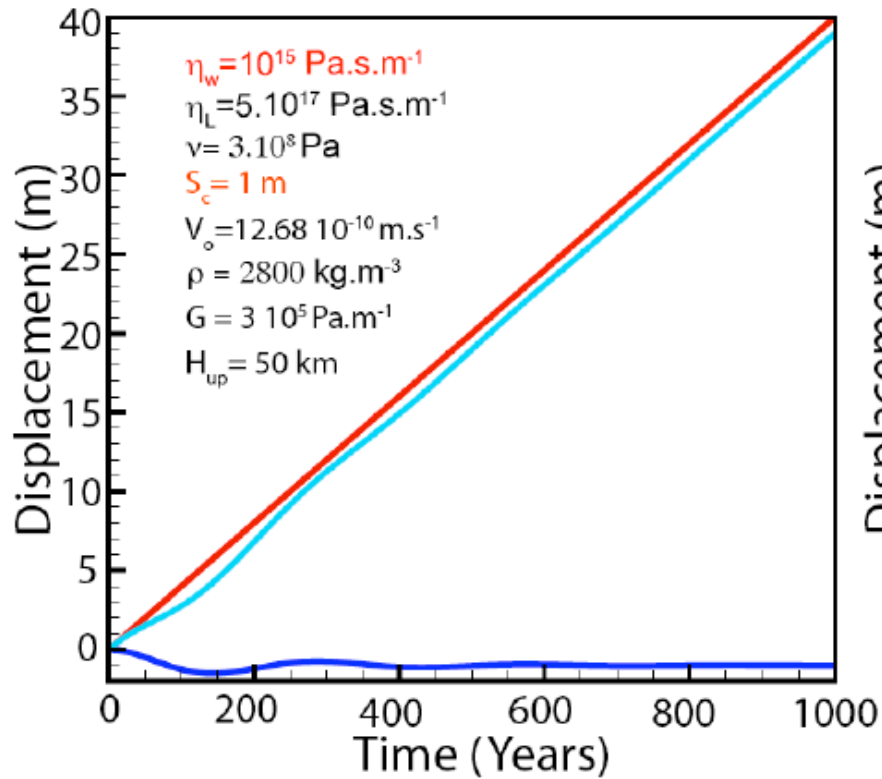
$$\frac{\bar{\eta}_w \bar{\eta}_L}{G} \ddot{S} + (\bar{\eta}_L + \bar{\eta}_w) \dot{S} + \frac{v'}{S_c} (S + S_c) = 0$$

or

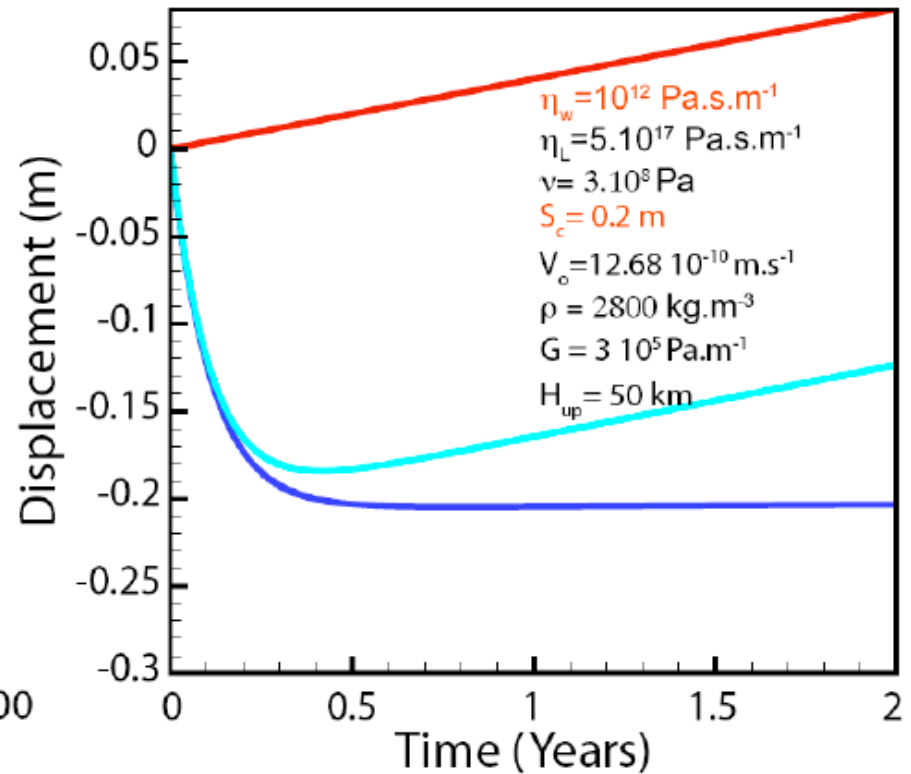
$$\ddot{S} + G \frac{(\bar{\eta}_L + \bar{\eta}_w)}{\bar{\eta}_w \bar{\eta}_L} \dot{S} + \frac{Gv'}{\bar{\eta}_w \bar{\eta}_L S_c} (S + S_c) = 0$$

# Solutions

a) Underdamped oscillator

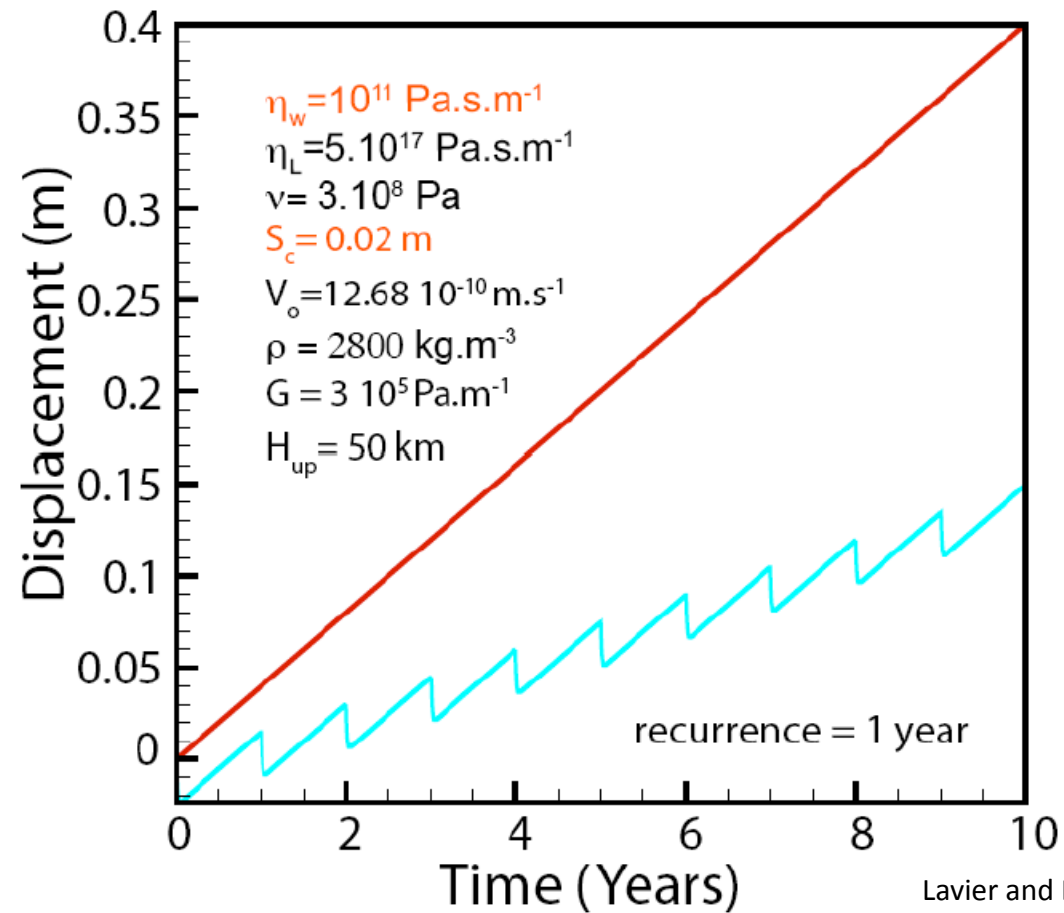


b) Overdamped oscillator



# Physical Model: 1D (continued)

Overdamped oscillator





# Critical behavior

$$S_c = \frac{4\nu'\bar{\eta}_L\bar{\eta}_w}{G(\bar{\eta}_L + \bar{\eta}_w)^2}$$

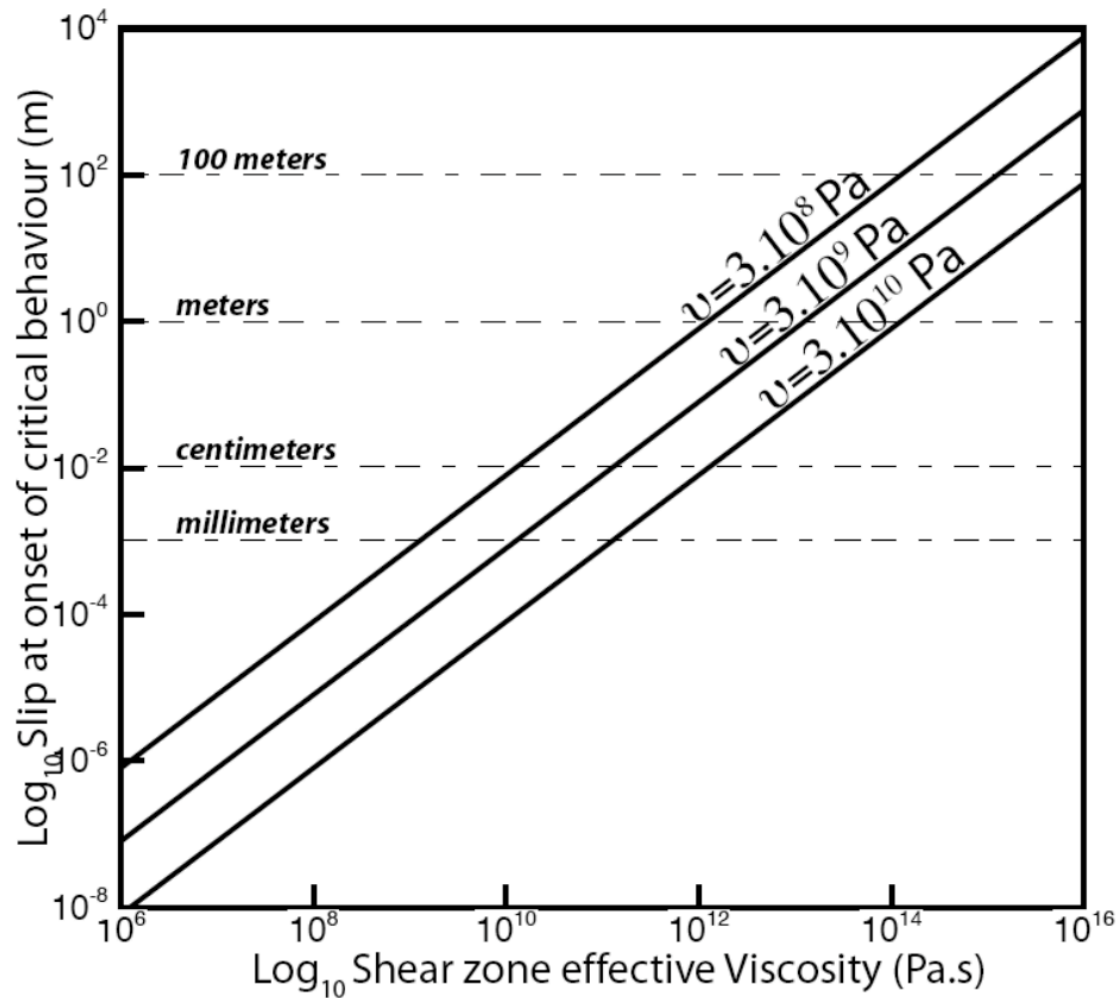
$$E \frac{S_c}{H_w} = \frac{4\nu'\eta_L\eta_w H_L^2}{(\eta_L H_w + \eta_w H_L)^2}$$

or for  $\eta_L \gg \eta_w$

$$\tau_{loading} = 4\nu' \frac{\eta_w H_L}{\eta_L H_w}$$

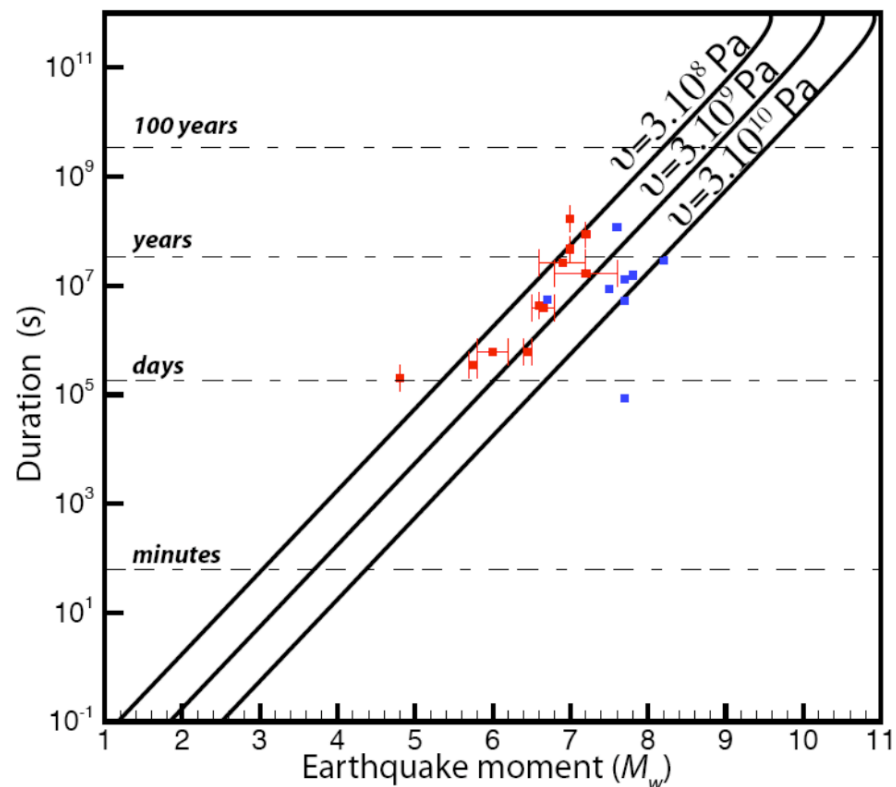
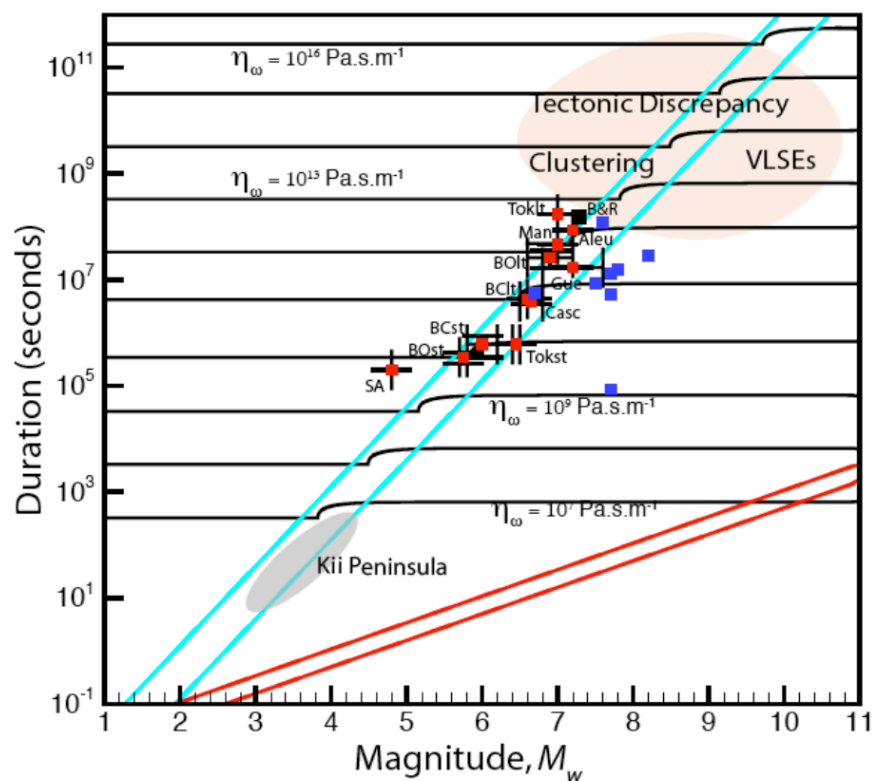
# Fracture or asperity diameter

Fracture length at critical

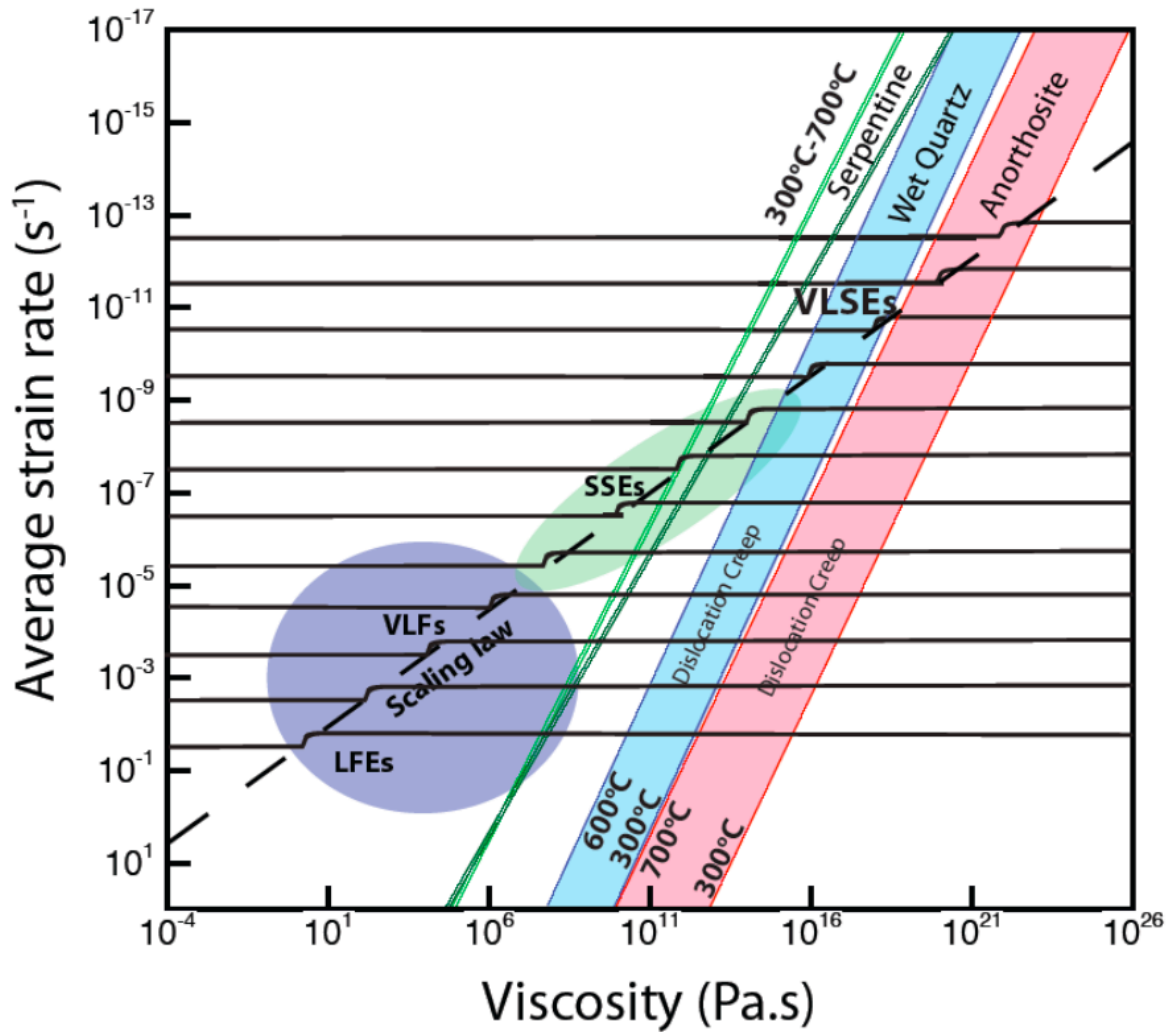


# Comparison to slow slip and postseismic after slip scalings

Moment vs. duration at critical

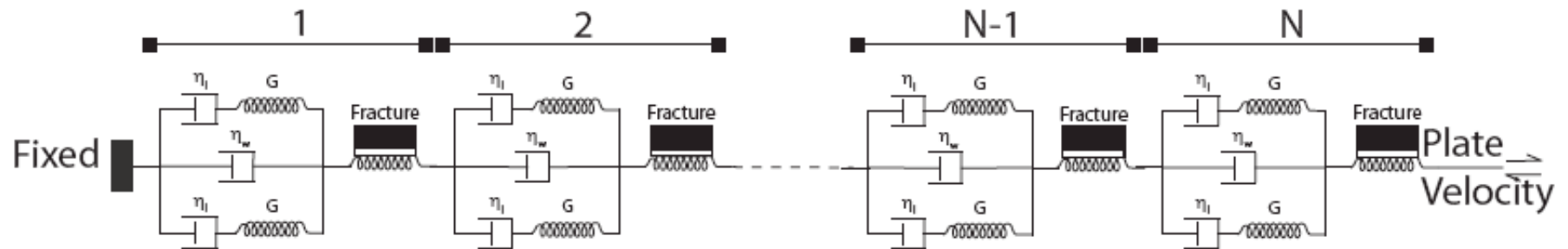


# Comparison of scaling with rheology



In 2D the oscillator becomes a wave equation that propagates slip,  $u(x,t)$ .

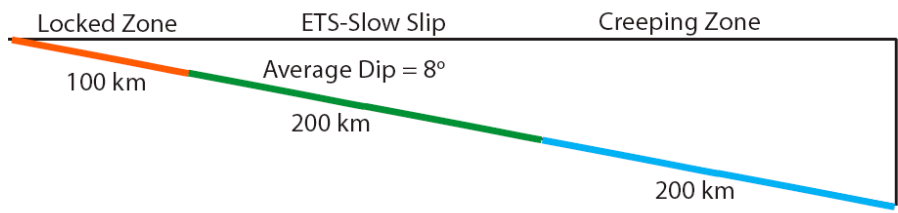
FAULT ZONE REPRESENTATION, LENGTH  $W$



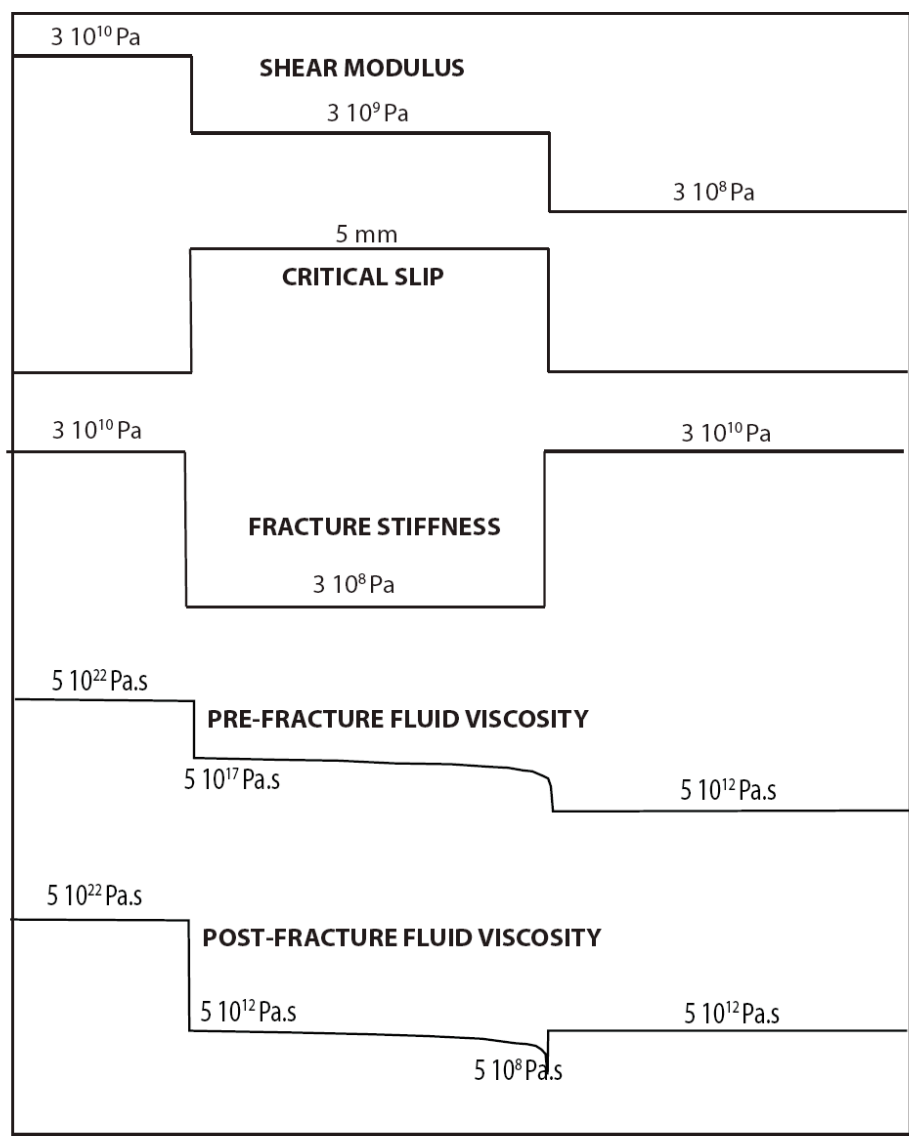
$$\frac{\partial^2 u(x,t)}{\partial t^2} + D \frac{\partial u(x,t)}{\partial t} - W^2 \omega_o^2 \frac{\partial^2 u(x,t)}{\partial x^2} = 0$$

$$D = G(\bar{\eta}_L + \bar{\eta}_w) / \bar{\eta}_L \bar{\eta}_w$$

$$\omega_o^2 = Gv' / S_c \bar{\eta}_L \bar{\eta}_w$$



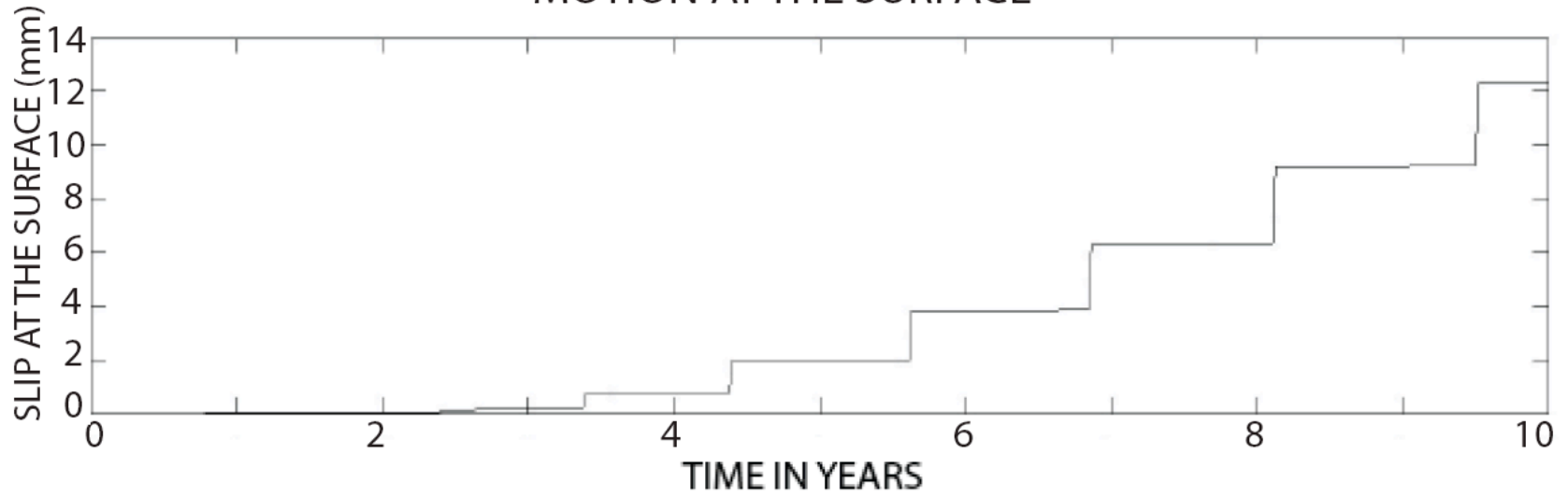
**MODEL  
SETUP**



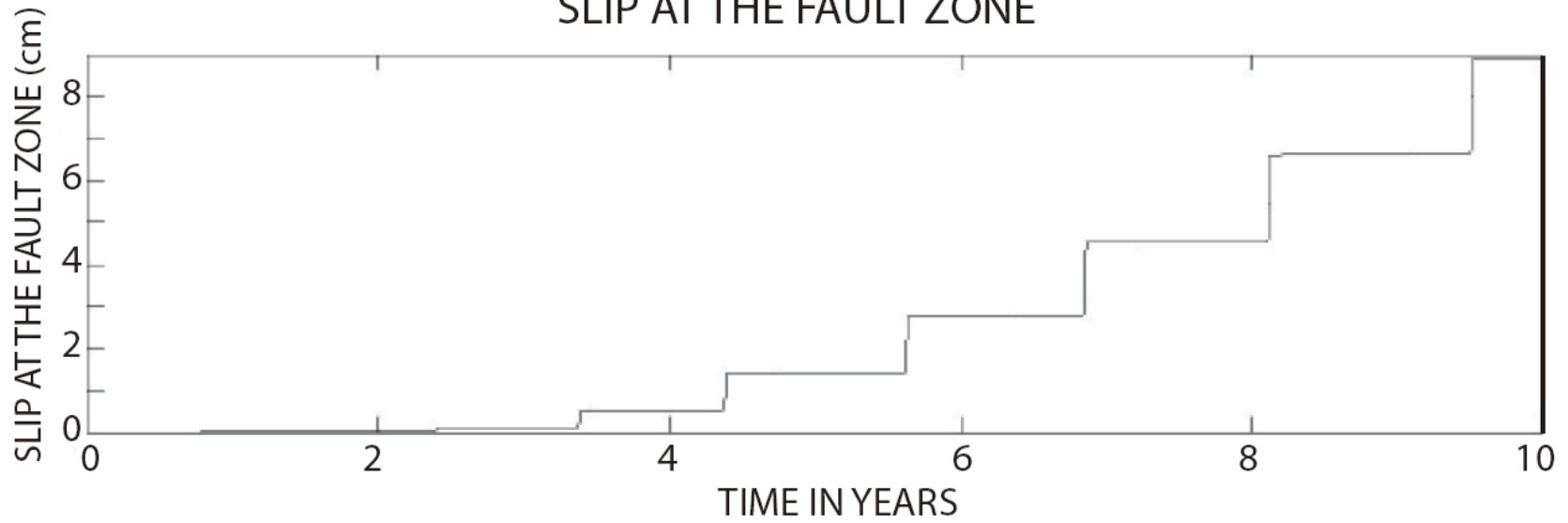
**Crystal Growth in fracture to stick again after an event.**

# FRAME OF REFERENCE: UPPER PLATE

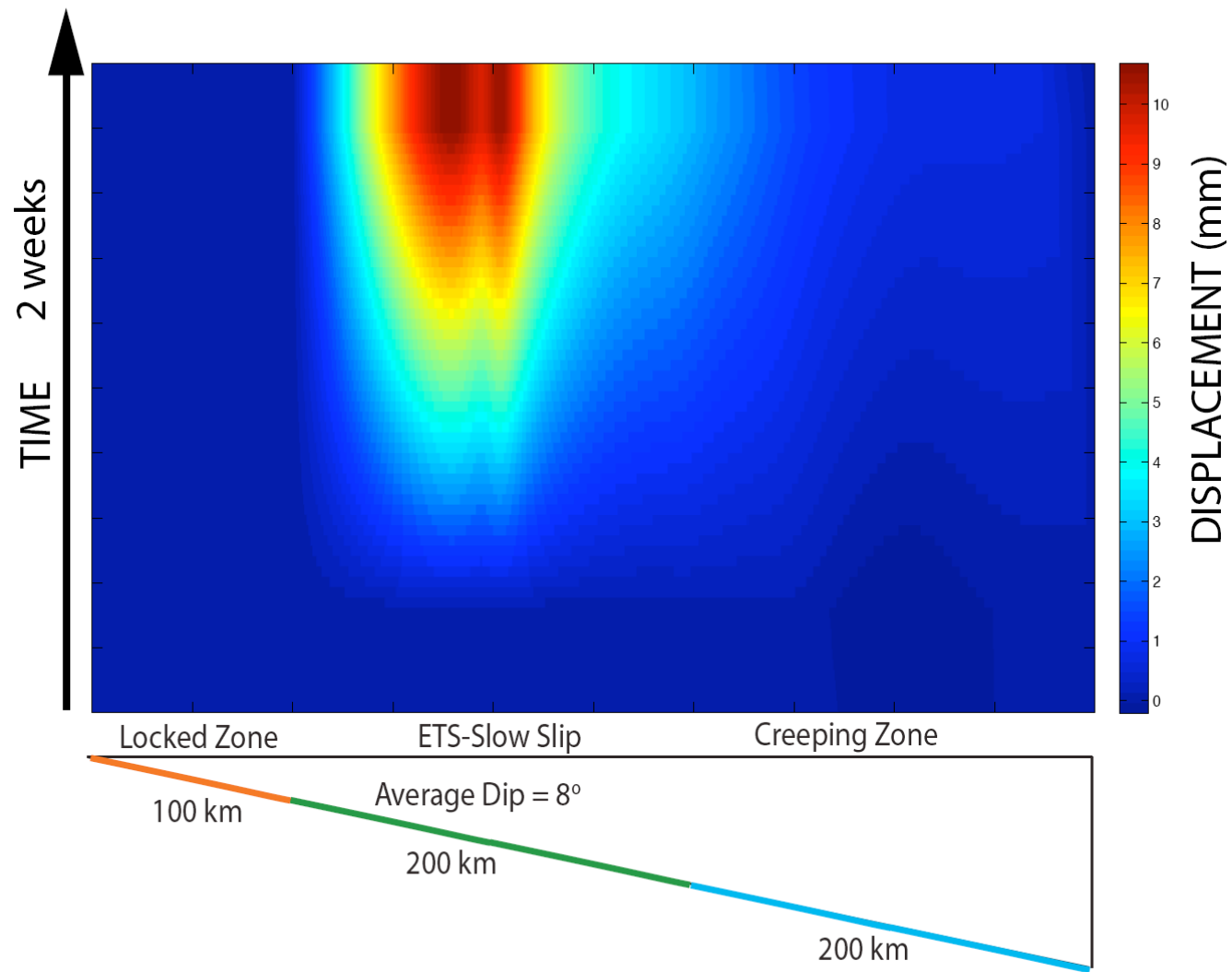
## MOTION AT THE SURFACE



## SLIP AT THE FAULT ZONE



# DISPLACEMENT AT THE SURFACE





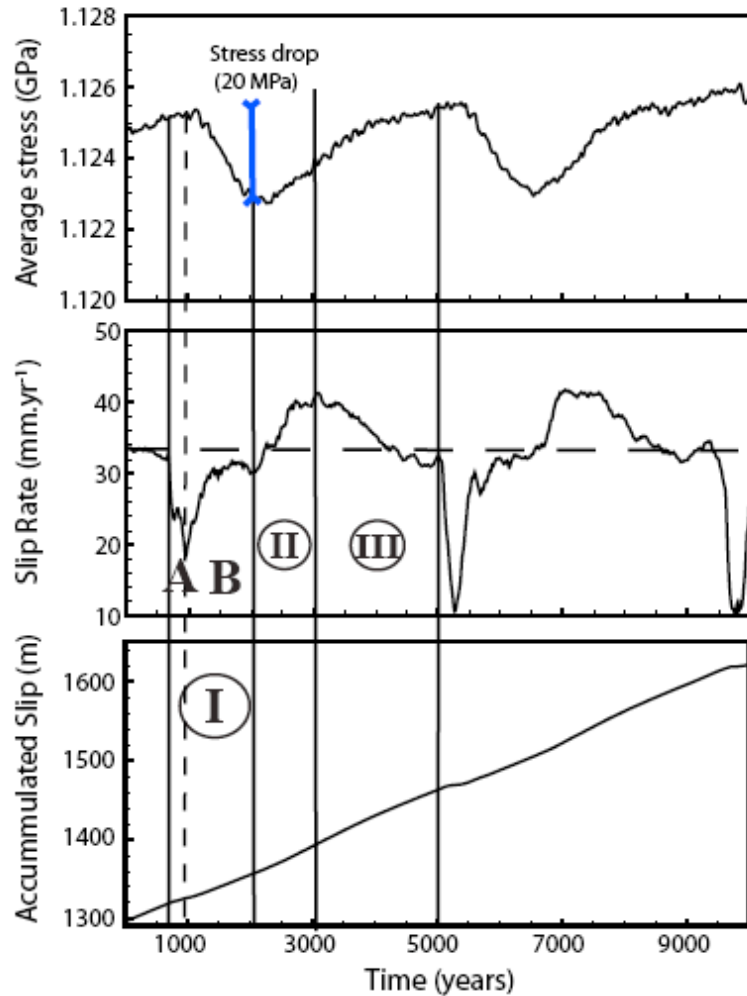
# CONCLUSIONS

- A possible model for ductile shear zone creep by accumulation of event is posited.
- Aqueous fluids in the ductile shear zone are critical. (Fluid cycle in the subduction zone)
- Possible Very Large Slow Events (VLSEs) although data are still controversial.

# Numerical solution

a)

SAN ANDREAS FAULT TYPE  
Fast far field rate 35 mm.yr<sup>-1</sup>



c) Ductile shear zone viscosity limited to  $10^{20}$  Pa.s  
Fast far field rate 35 mm.yr<sup>-1</sup>

