

Megathrust locking encoded in subduction landscapes

Bar Oryan

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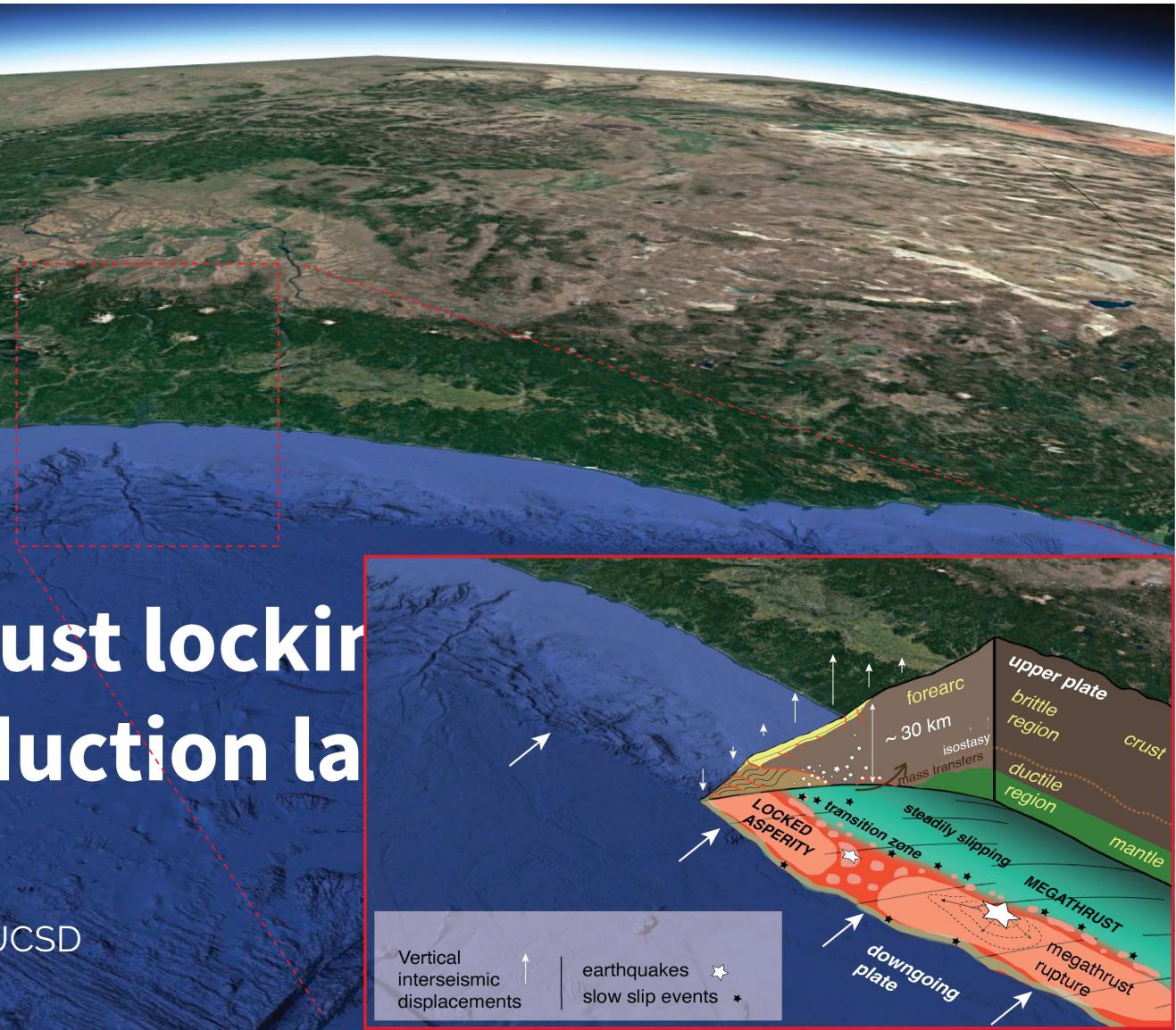
✉ boryan@ucsd.edu

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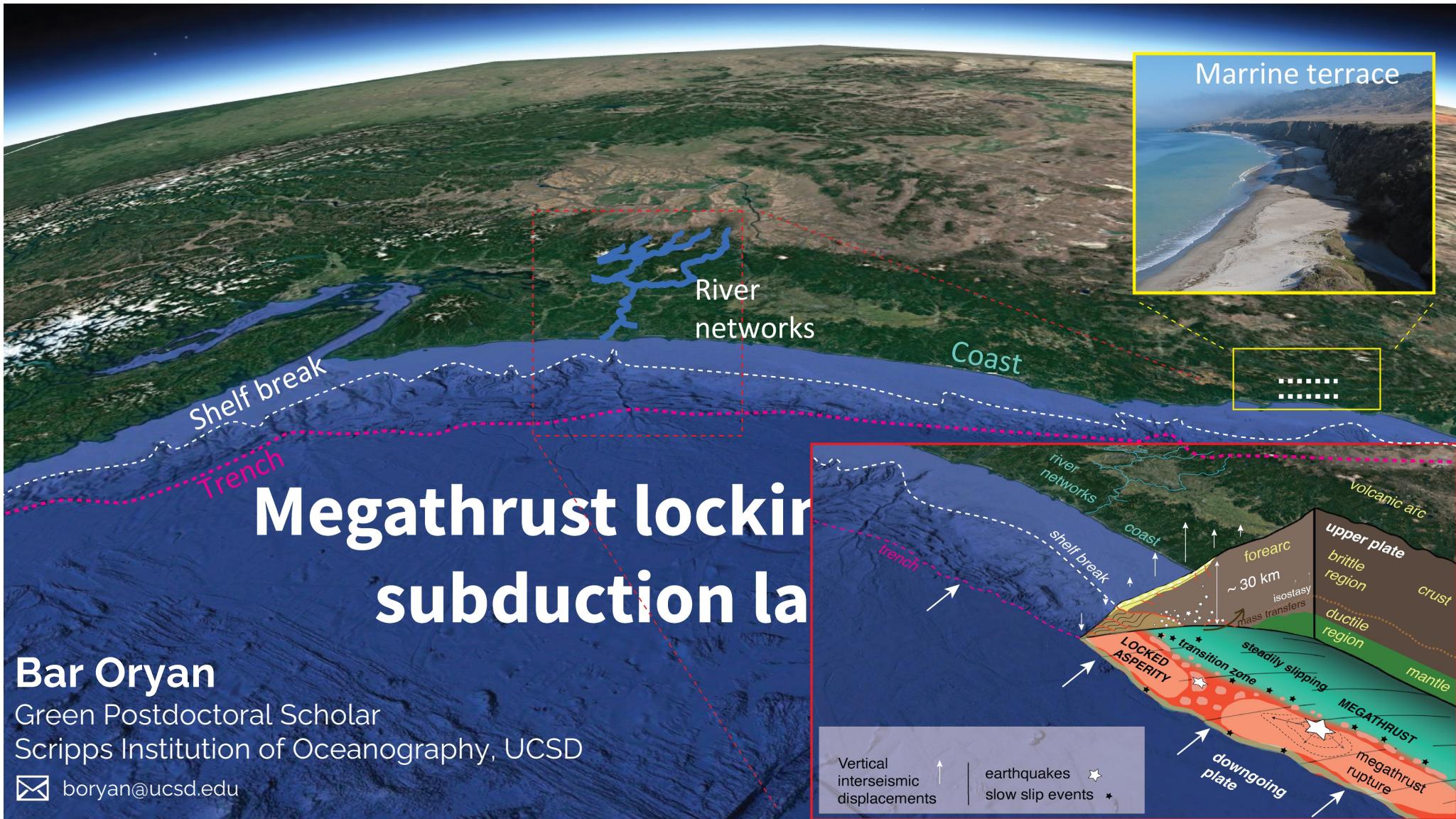


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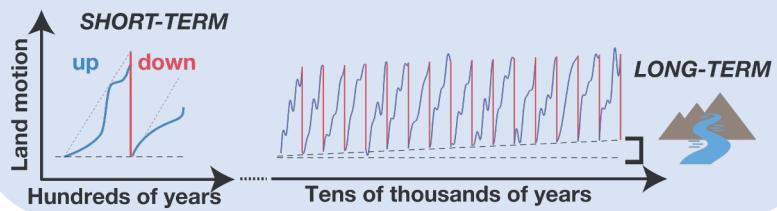
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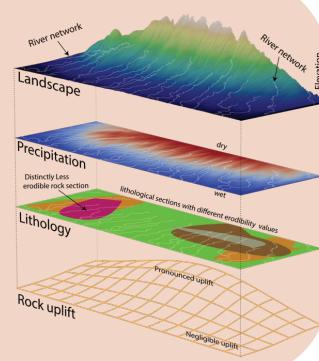


TALK OUTLINE

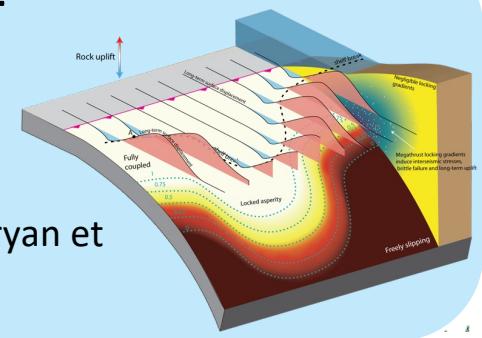
Introduction



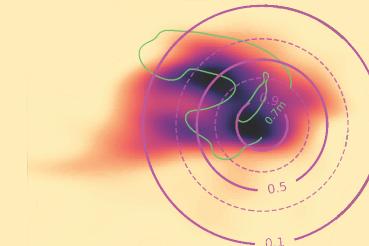
Inferring Long-Term Tectonic Uplift from Bayesian Inversion of Landscapes [Oryan et al. in review]



Fingerprints of Megathrust Locking in Subduction Landscapes [Oryan et al., 2024]



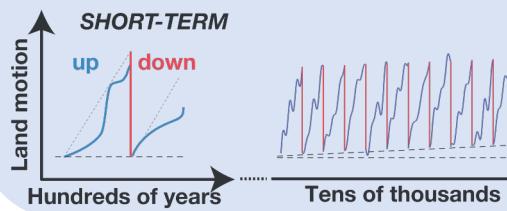
Future research



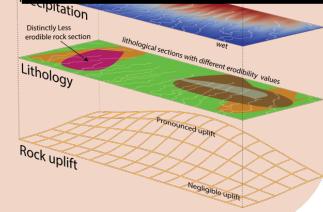
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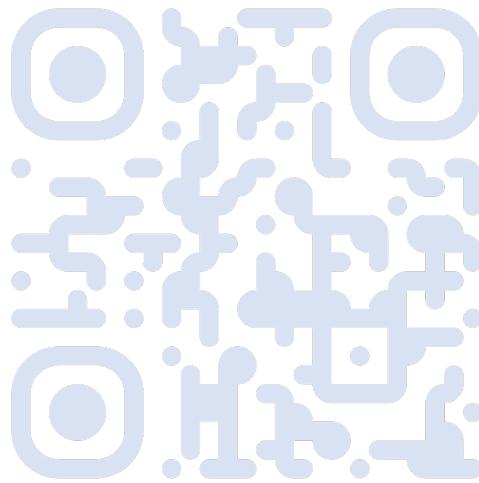
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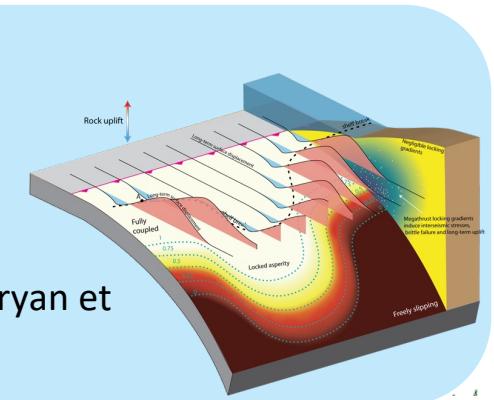
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Scan me for slides and references.



[Oryan et



ture research



Section 1 - Introduction



Utagawa Kokunimasa, woodblock print, 1896

GREAT MEGATHURST EARTHQUAKES IN THE PAST 20 YEARS

1. 2004 Sumatra-Andaman Earthquake (Mw 9.3)

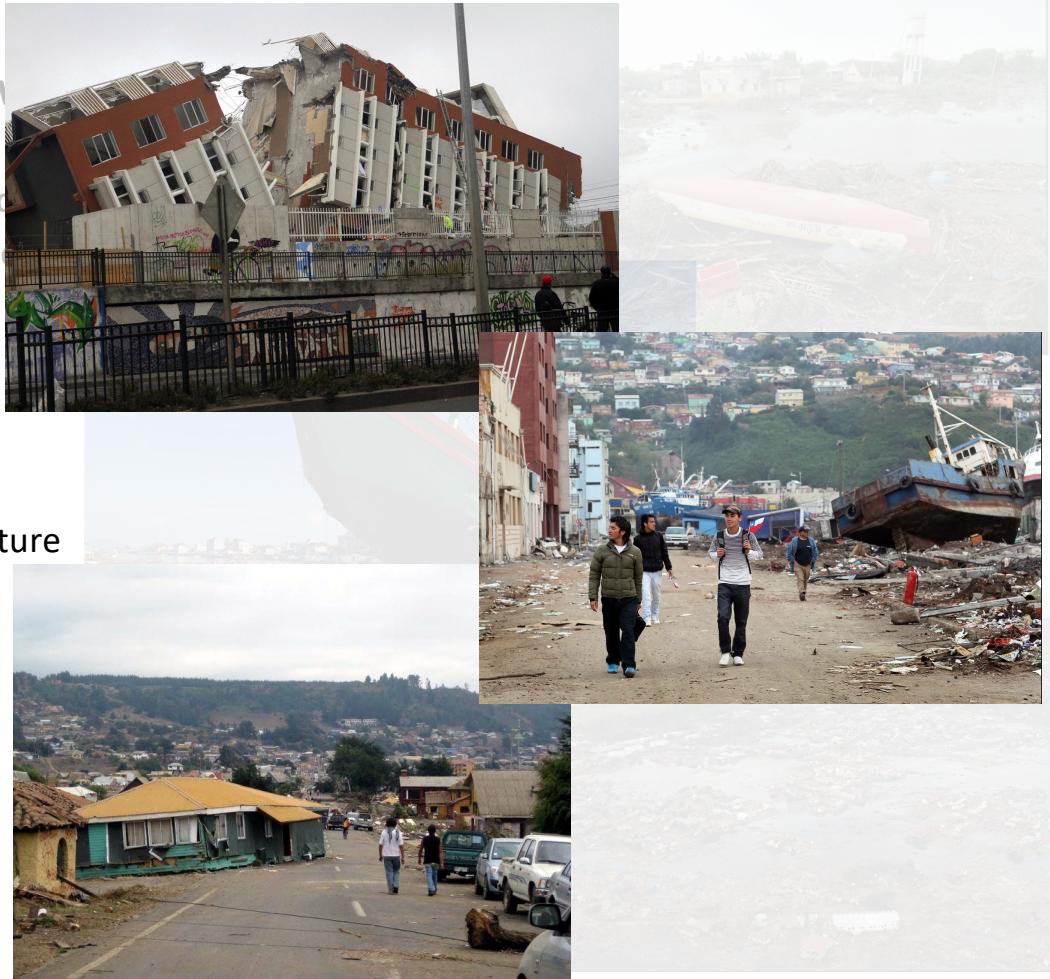
- **Date:** December 26, 2004
- **Location:** Off the west coast of northern Sumatra, Indonesia
- **Impact:** Triggered a catastrophic tsunami, causing over 230,000 deaths across 14 countries.



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2. 2010 Maule Earthquake (Mw 8.8)

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- **Impact:** Over 500 fatalities and extensive infrastructure damage, including port and road failures.



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3. 2011 Tōhoku Earthquake (Mw 9.1)

- **Date:** March 11, 2011
- **Location:** Off the east coast of Honshu, Japan
- **Impact:** Generated a massive tsunami, leading to nearly 16,000 deaths and the Fukushima nuclear disaster.



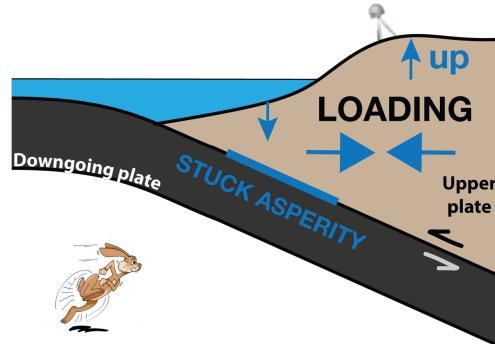
EARTHQUAKE CYCLES IN SUBDUCTION ZONES



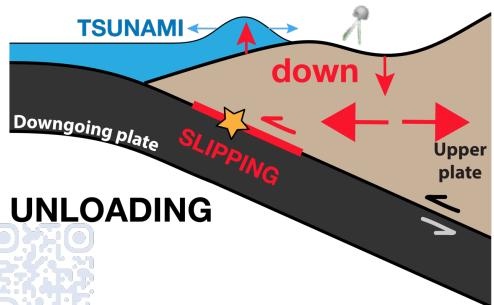
Long-term: downgoing plate descends beneath the upper plate in stick-slip fashion.



Interseismic: locked section is "stuck". Creeping section moves slowly.

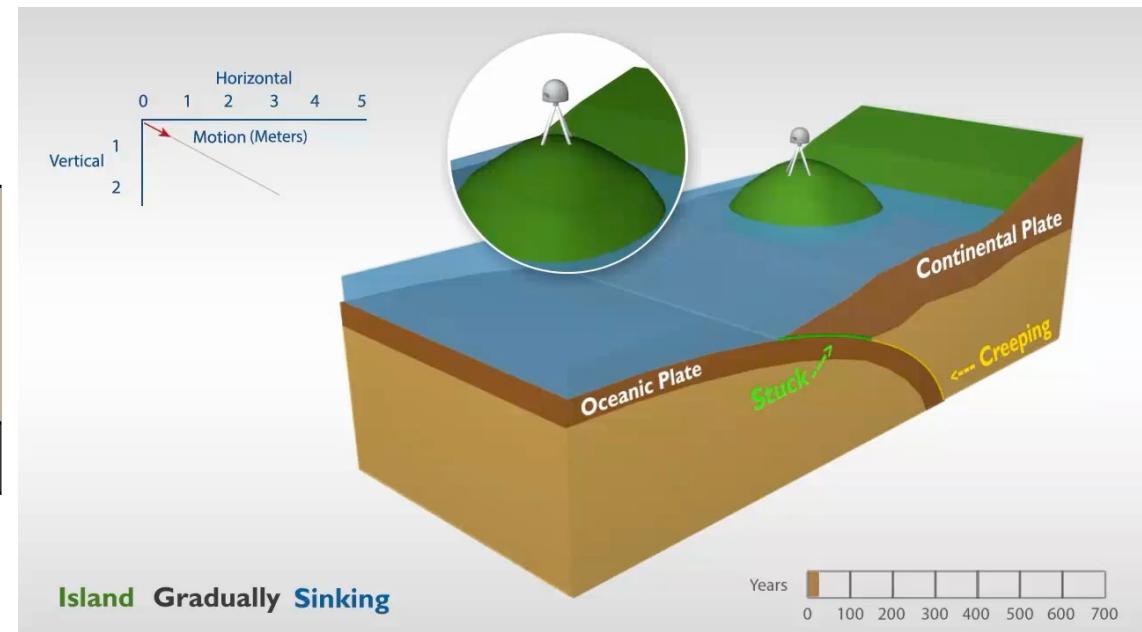


Stress build up



Coseismic: locked section moves abruptly.

Stress release



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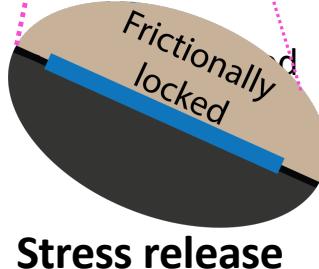
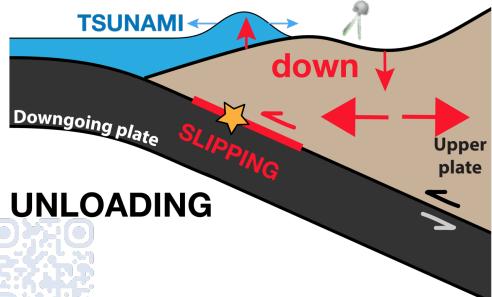


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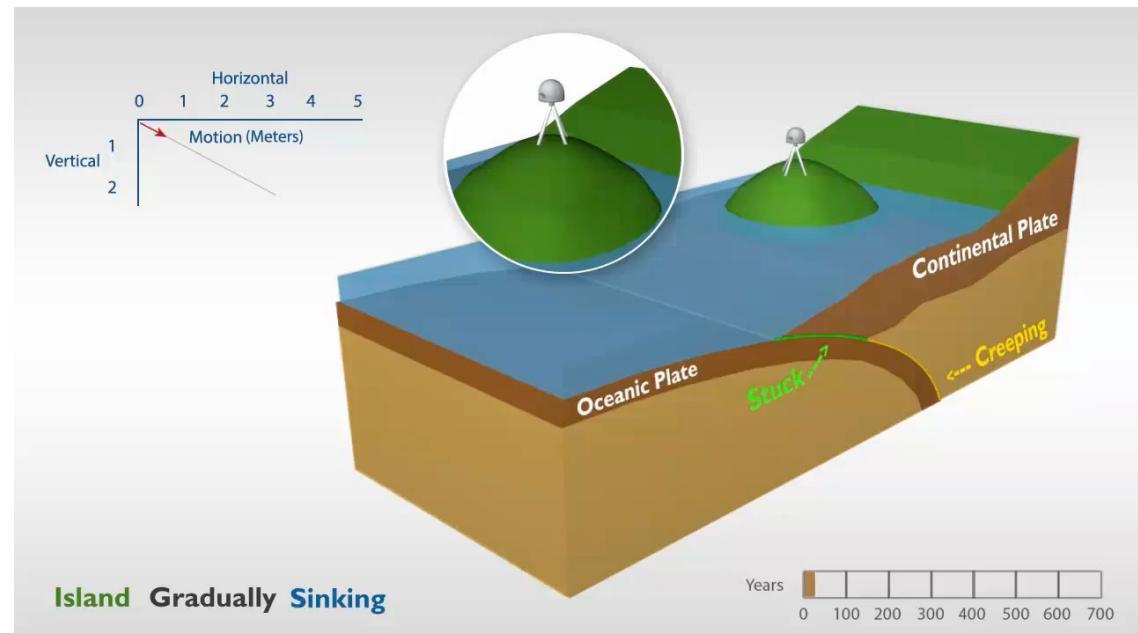


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UNLOADING



EARTHQUAKE CYCLES IN SUBDUCTION ZONES

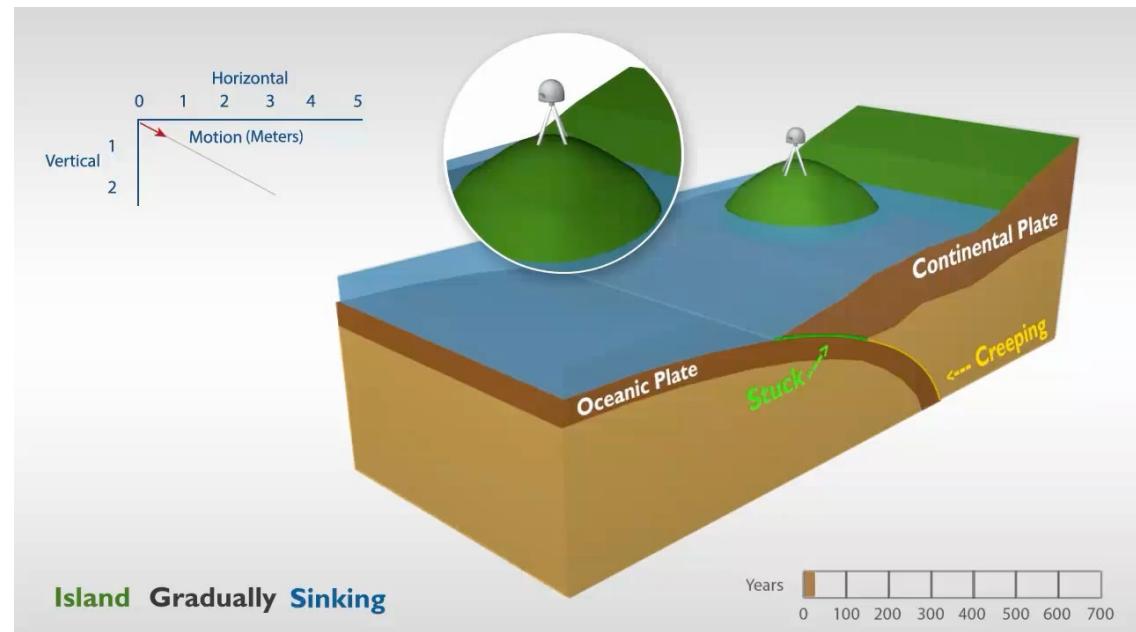
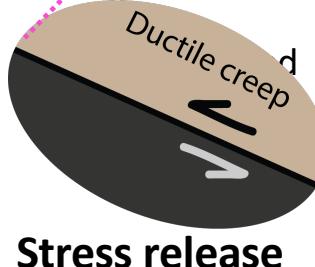
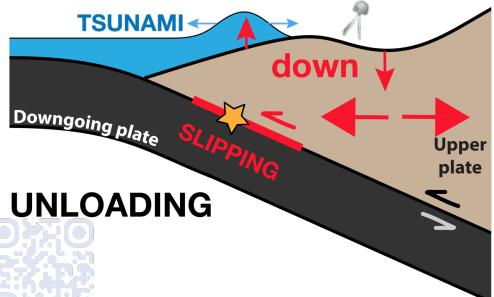


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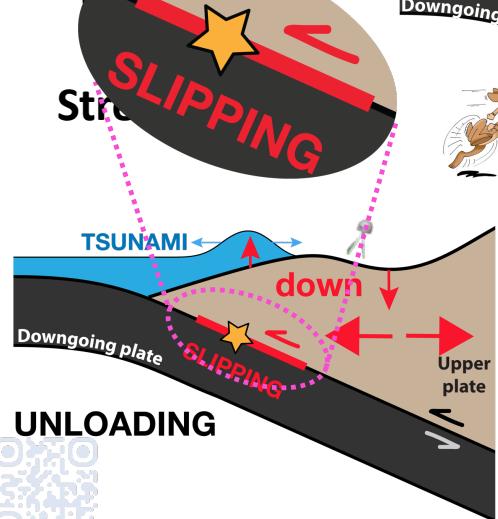
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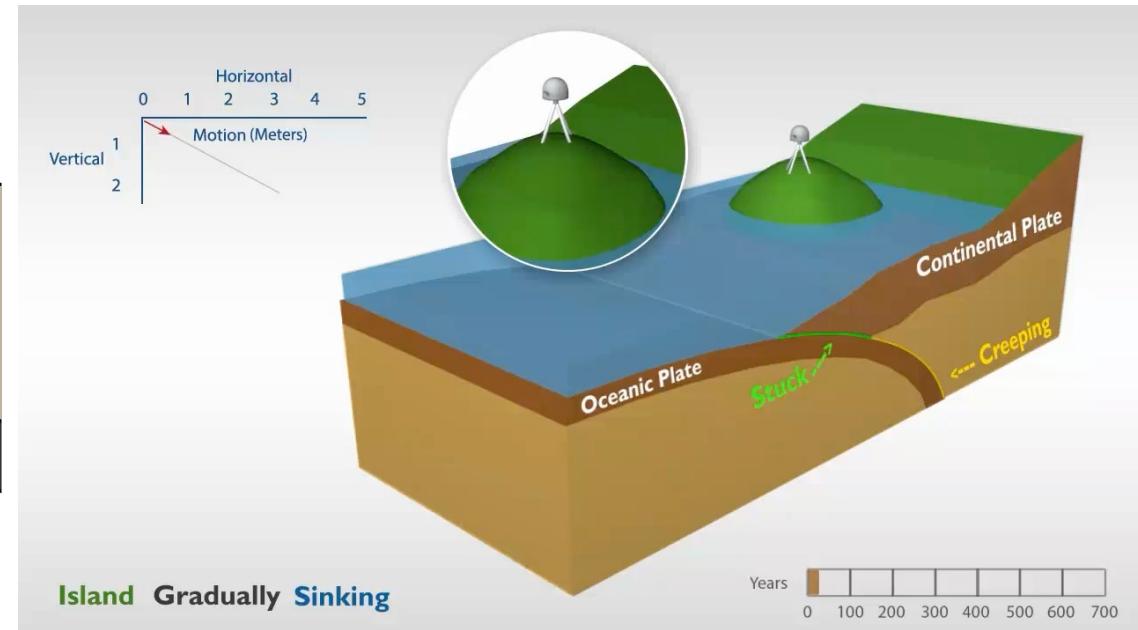
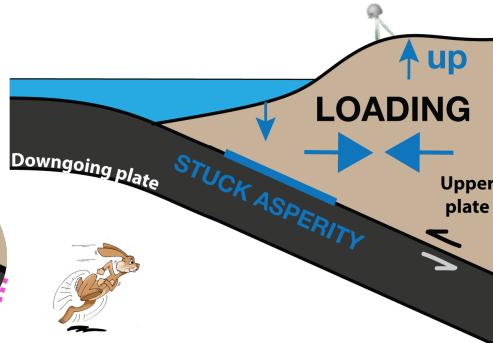


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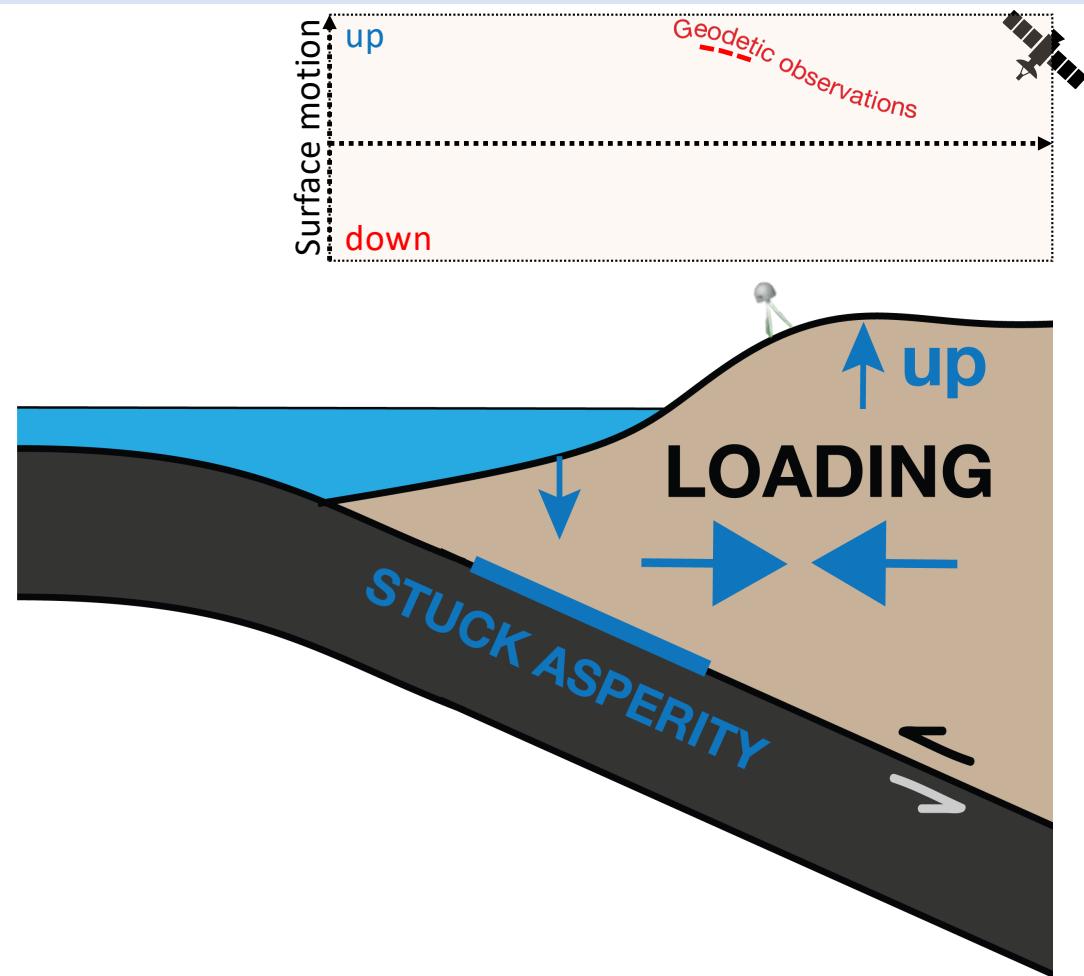
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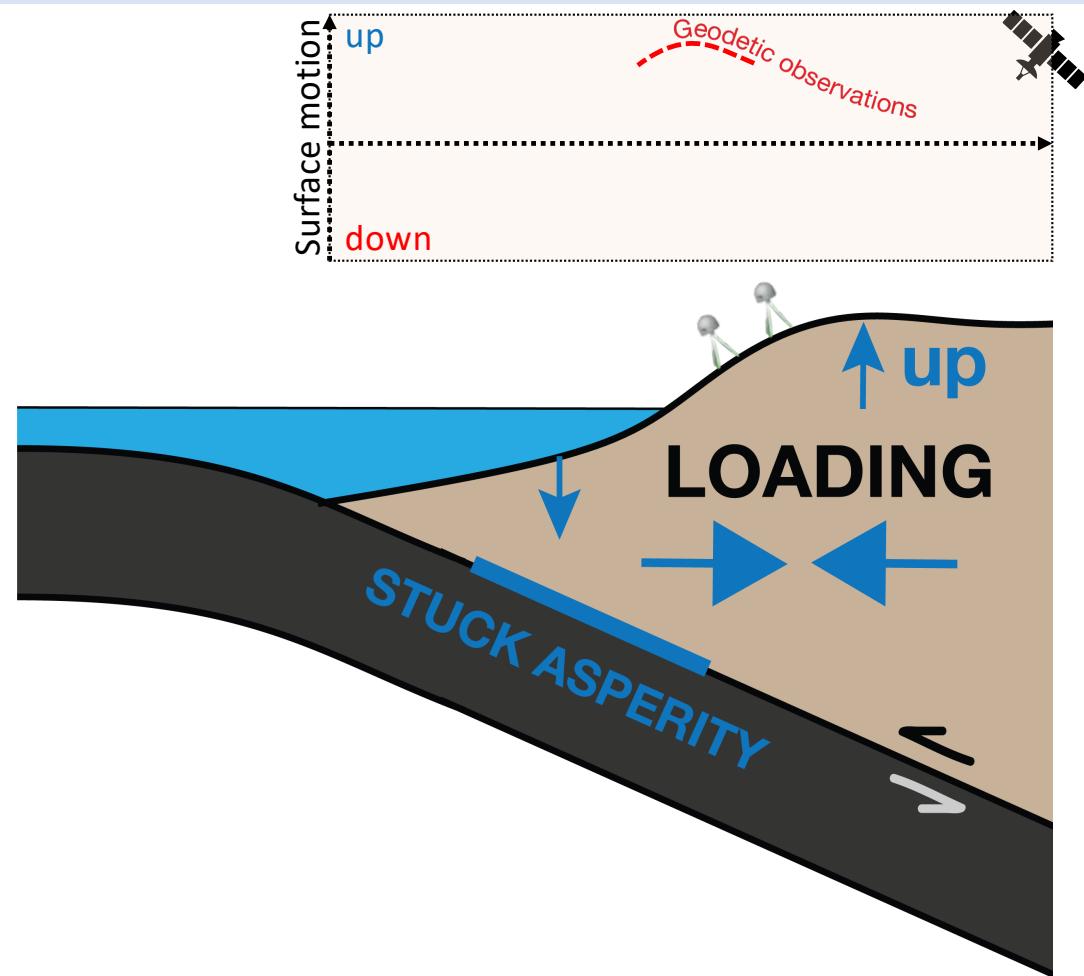
CONSTRAINING MEGATHRUST HAZARD IN SUBDUCTION ZONES

- Deployment of GNSS stations and InSAR data collection have greatly improved the availability of geodetic data in recent decades.



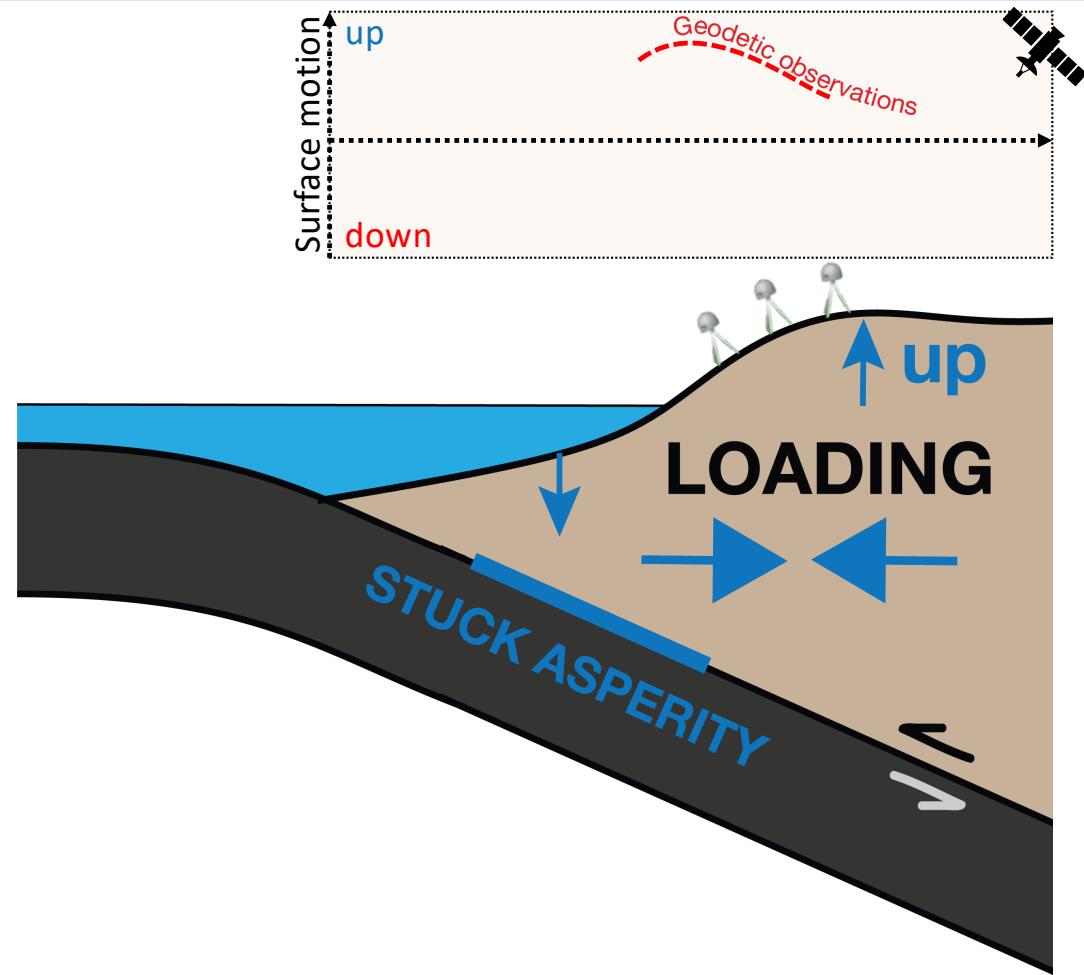
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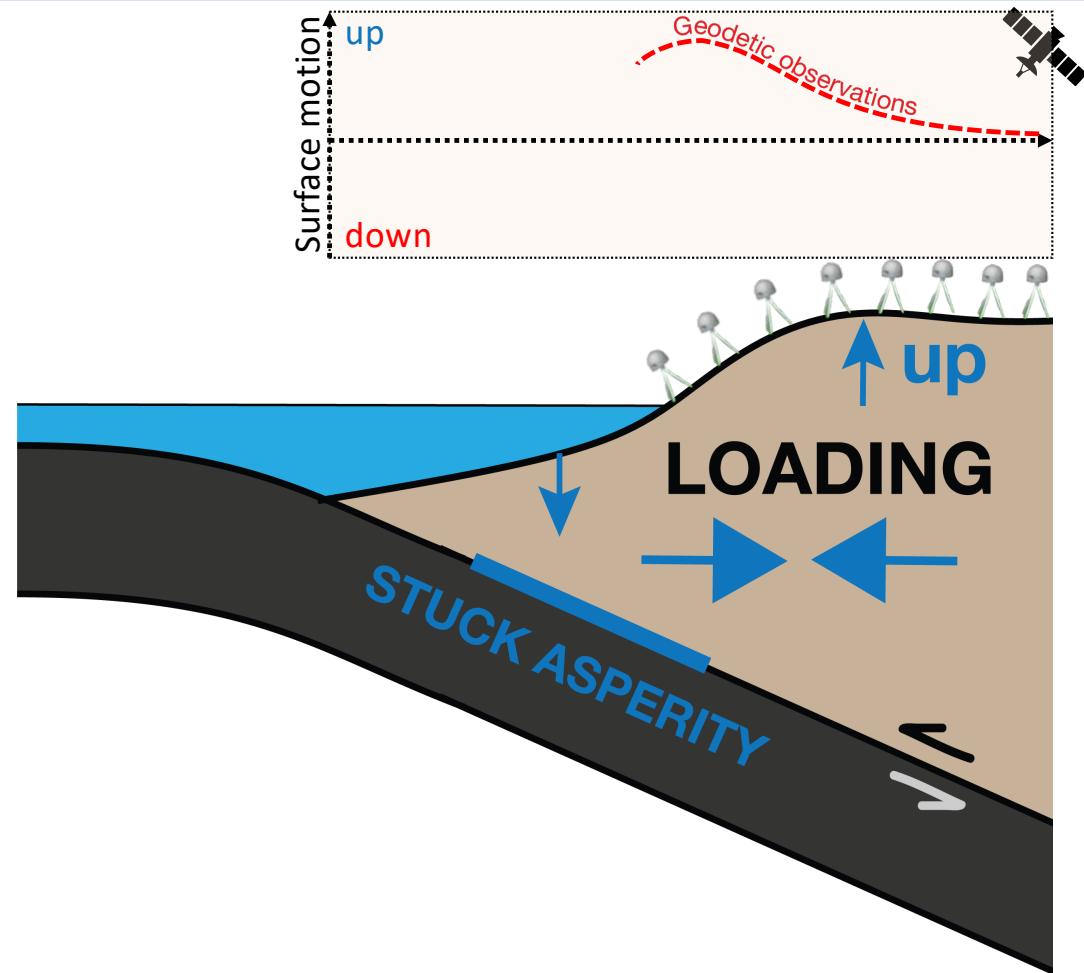
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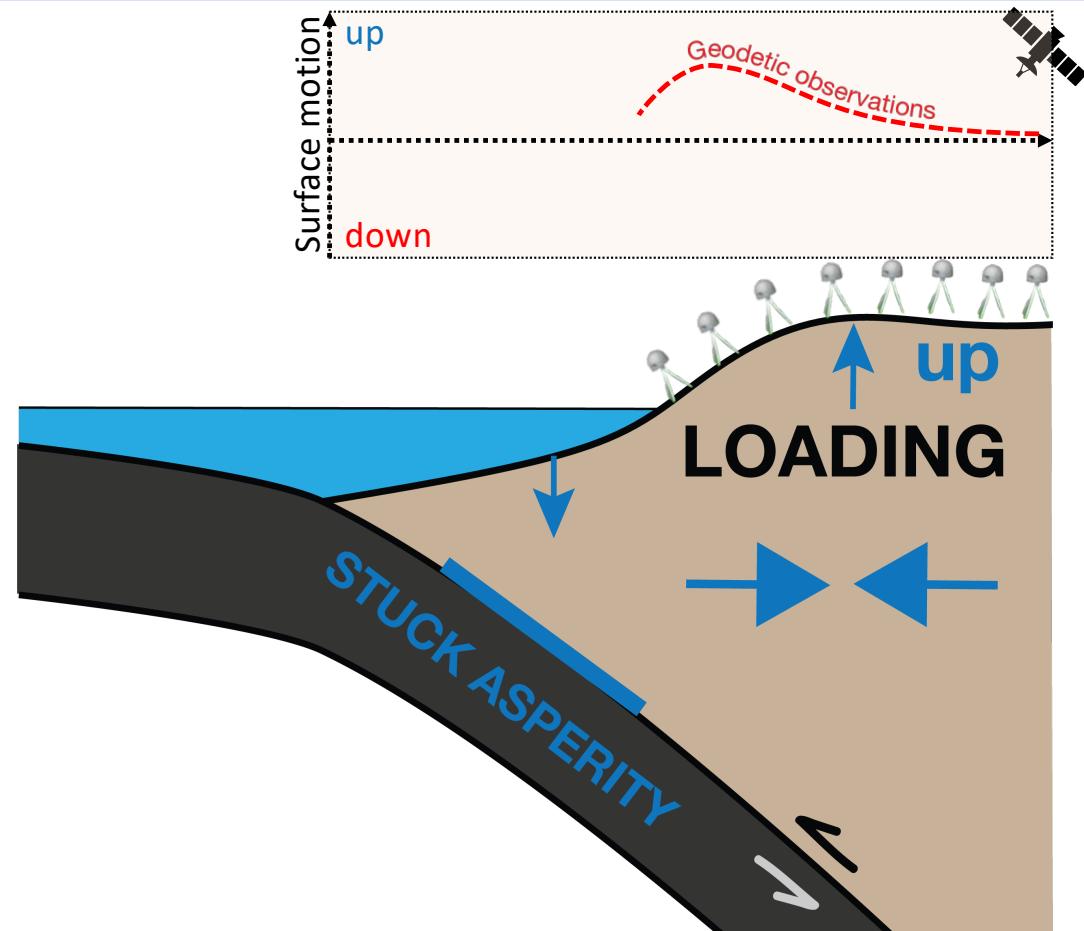
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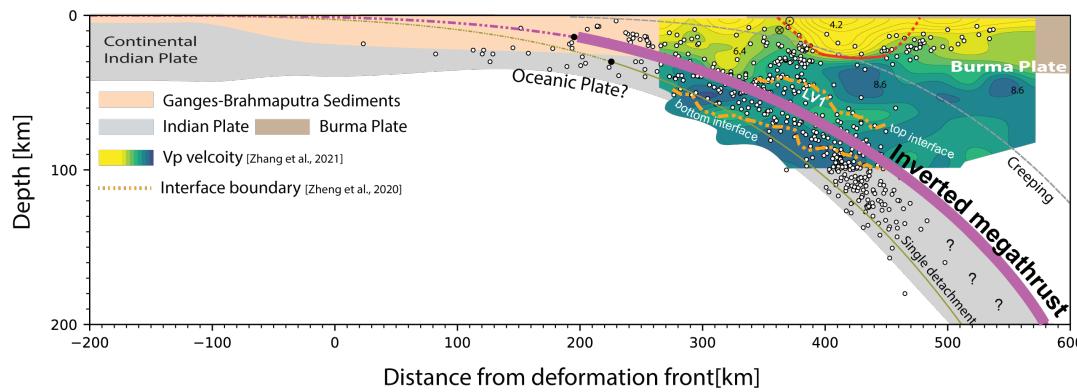
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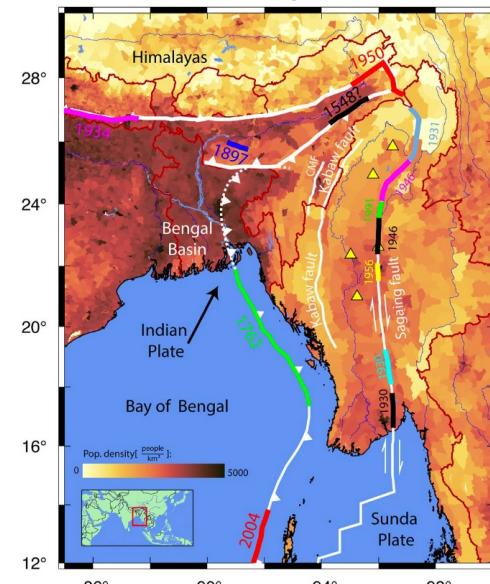
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Inversion of Indo-Burma megathrust geometry from GNSS data [Oryan et al., 2023]



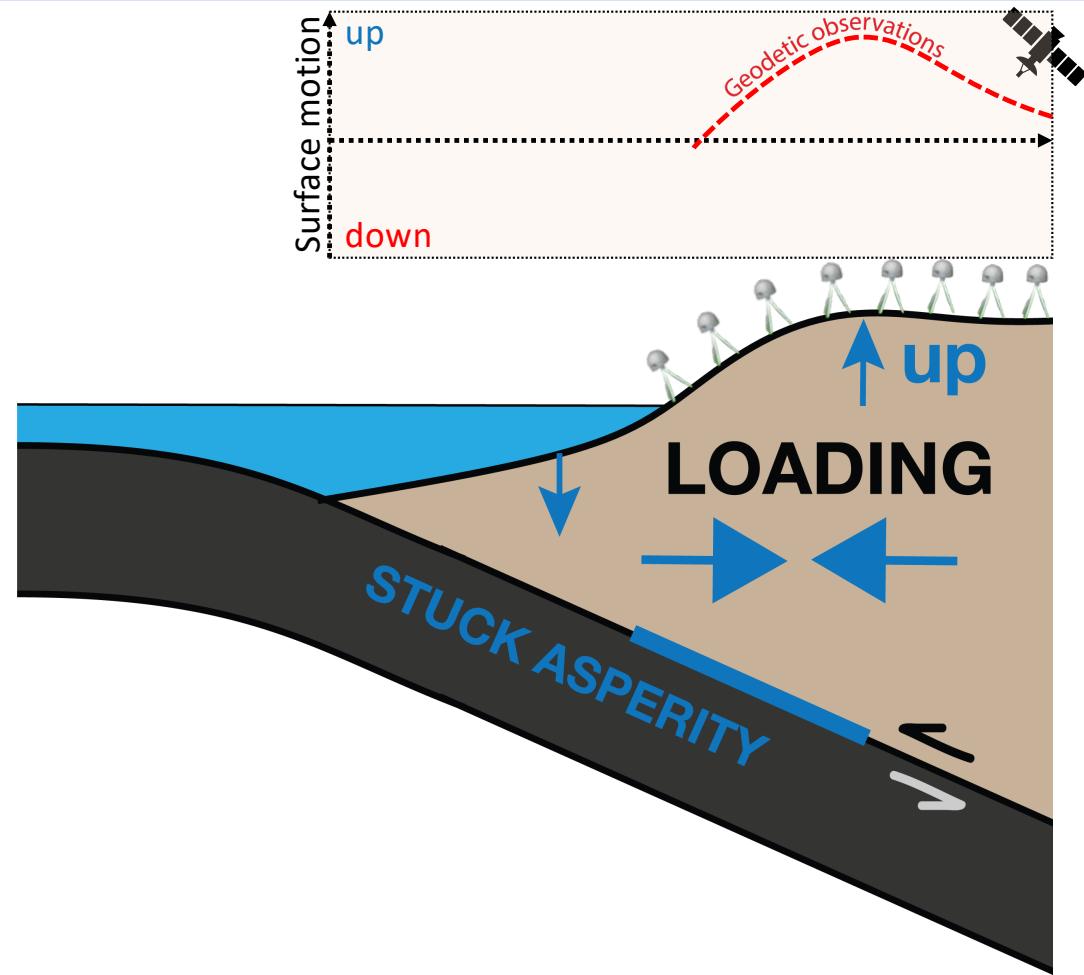
- Inversion for **megathrust convergence rate** and **geometry** underscores the hazard associated with the Indo-Burma megathrust and its potential impact on approximately 200 million people living in the Bengal Basin.

Population density and previous earthquakes in the Indo-Burma subduction zone region [Oryan et al., 2023]



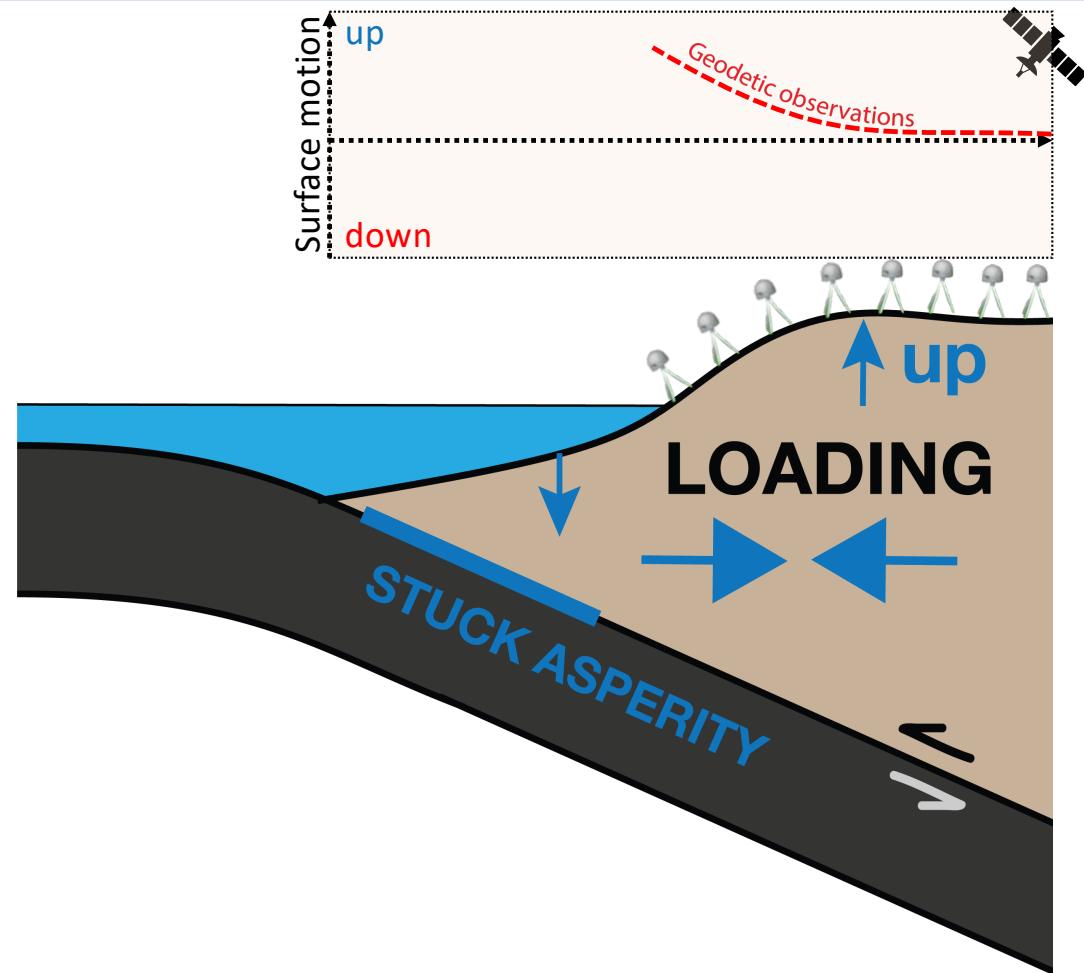
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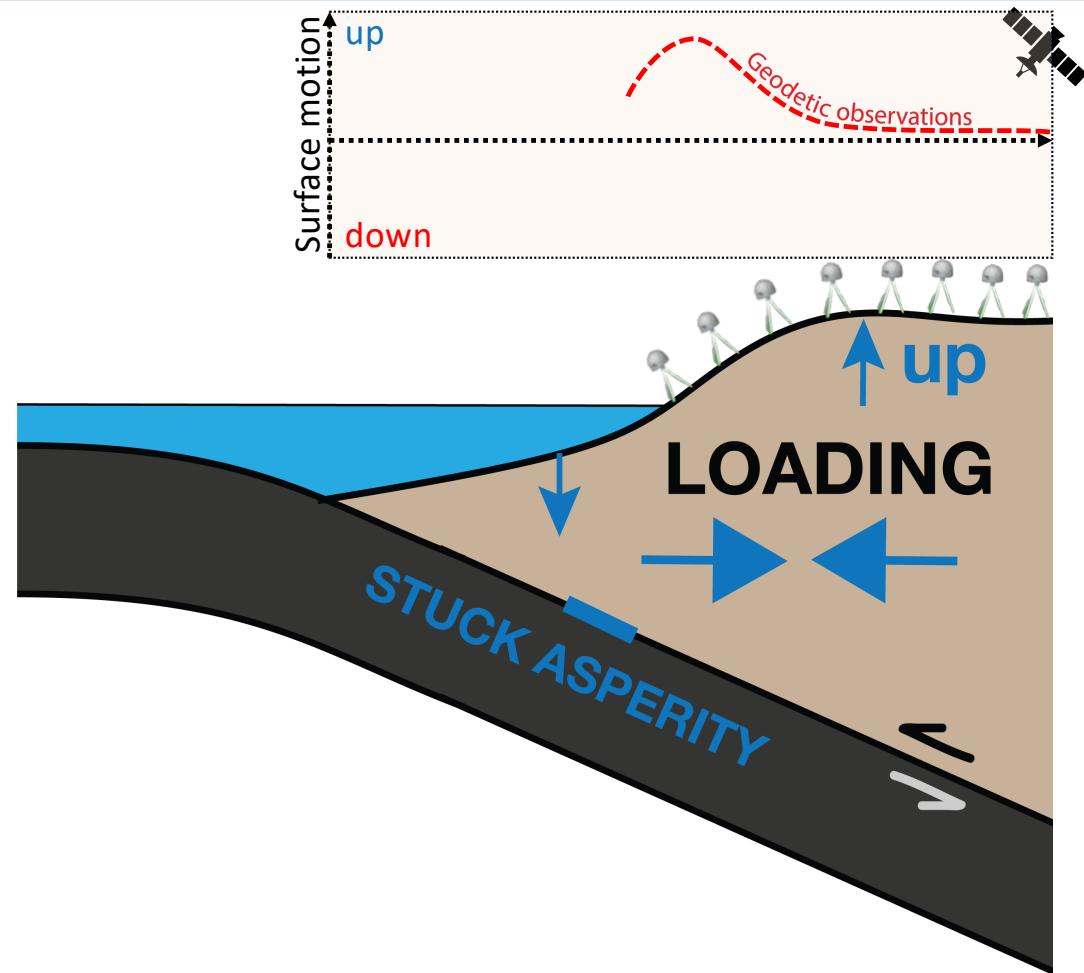
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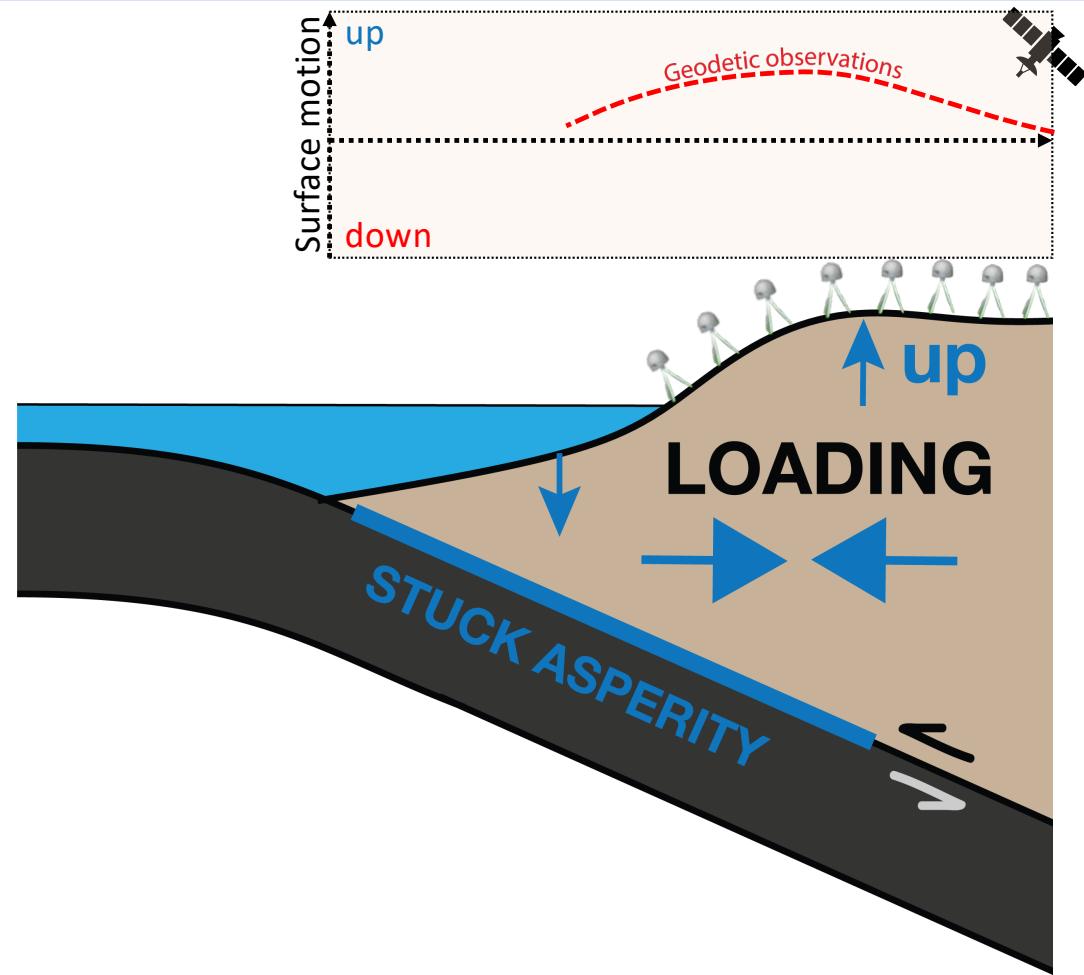
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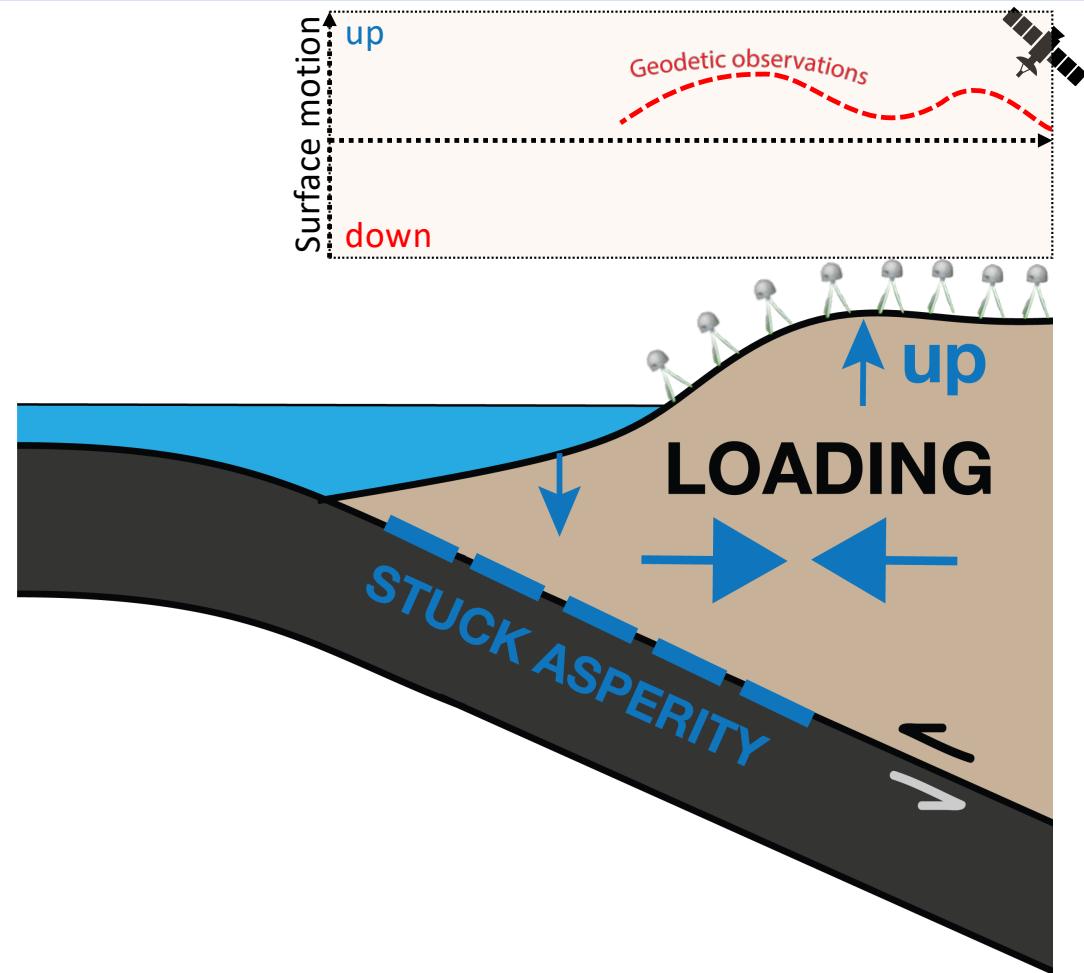
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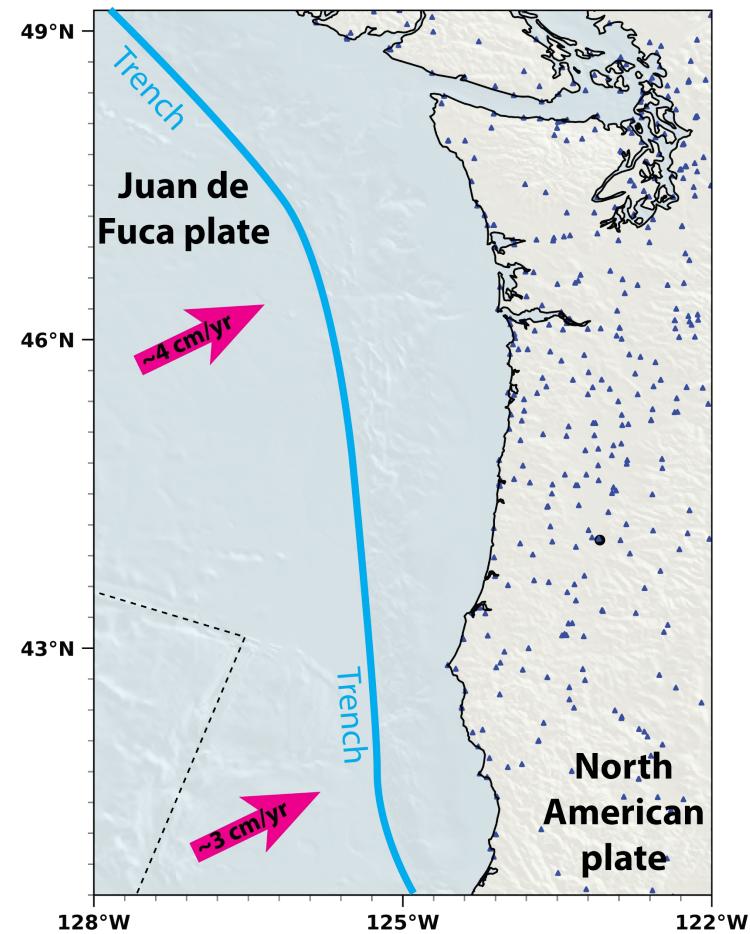


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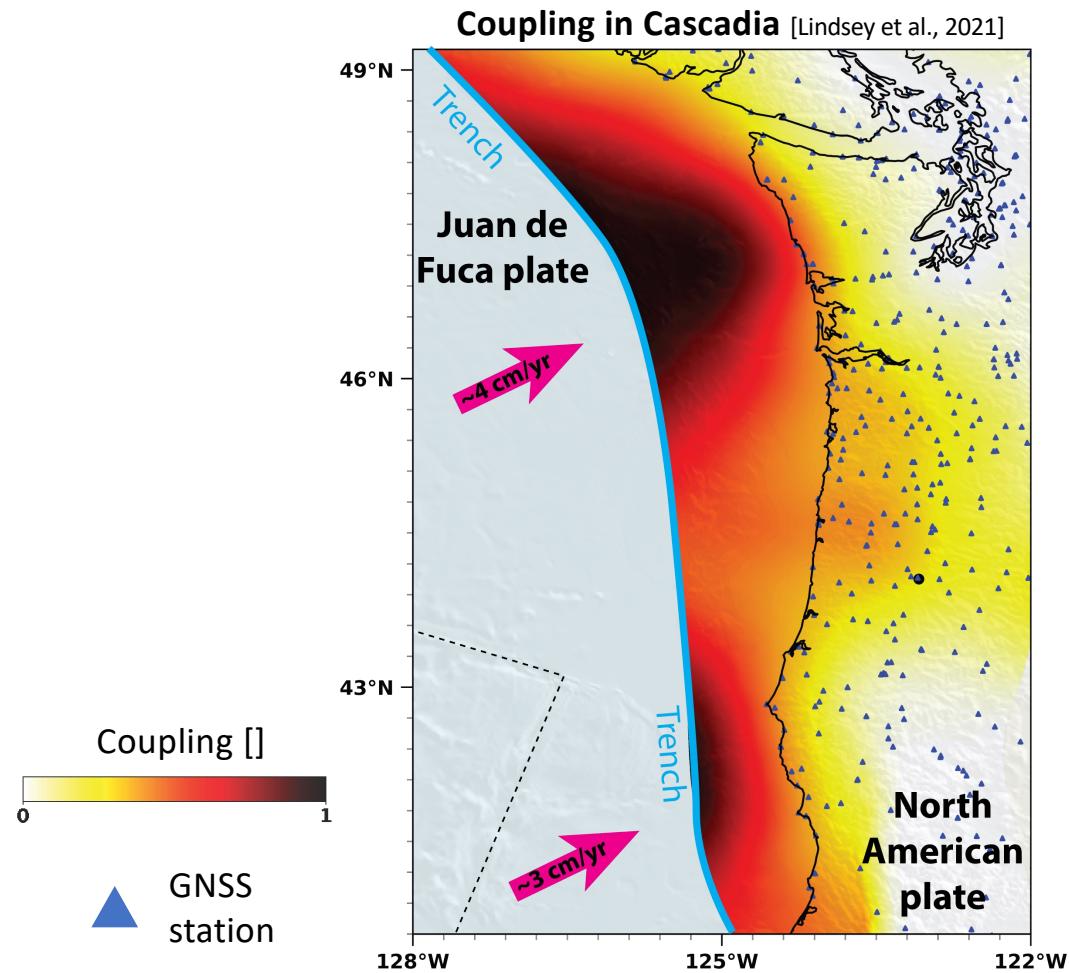


GNSS
station



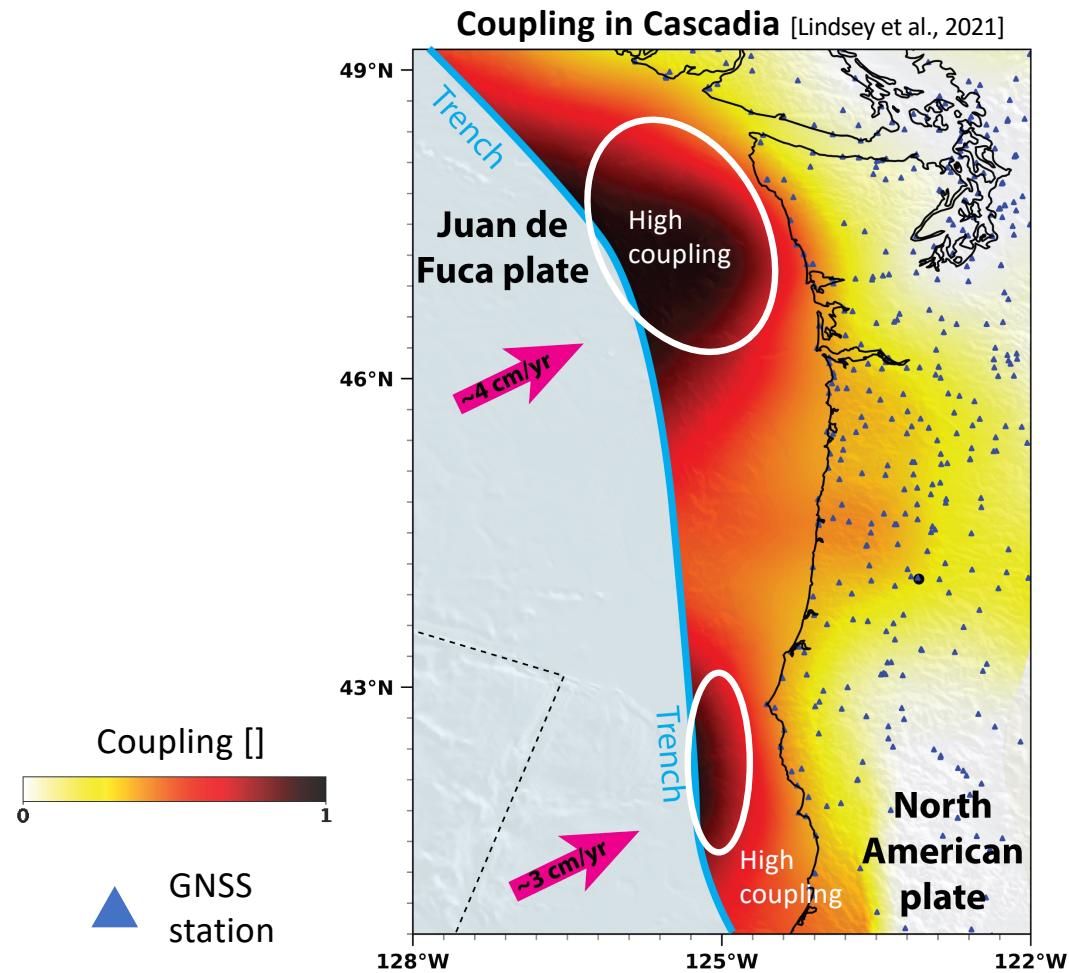
CONSTRAINING MEGATHRUST HAZARD IN SUBDUCTION ZONES

- Locked asperities along the megathrust are often represented using coupling maps.



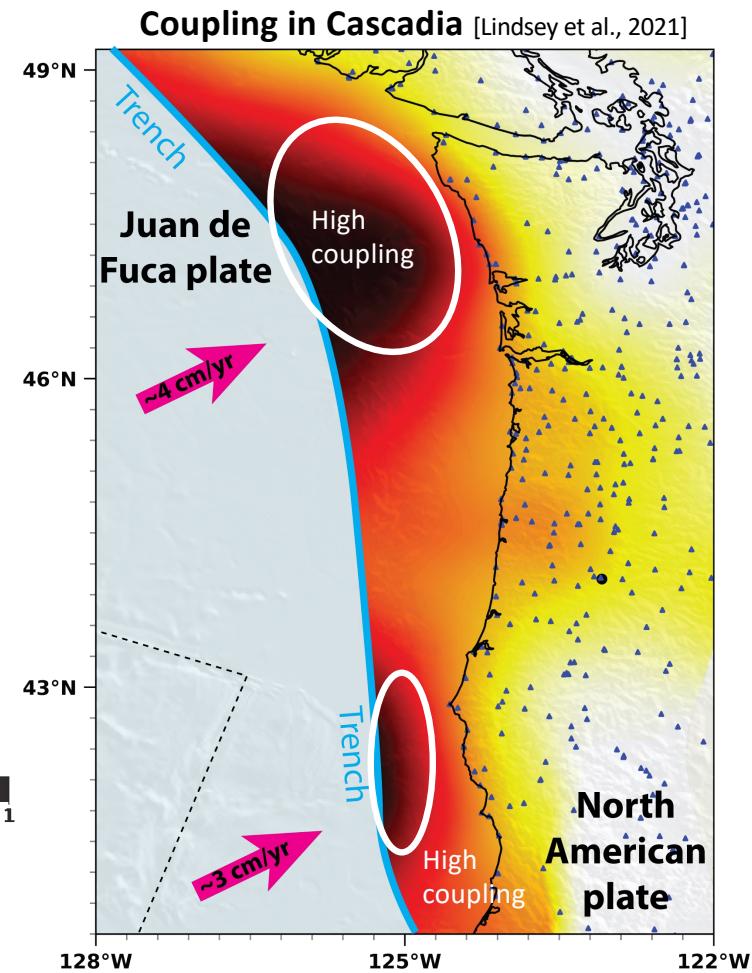
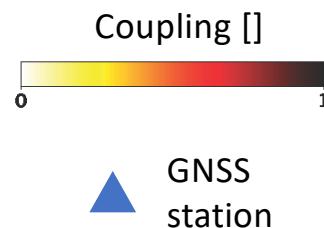
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- Regions with high coupling values are considered locked and stationary.



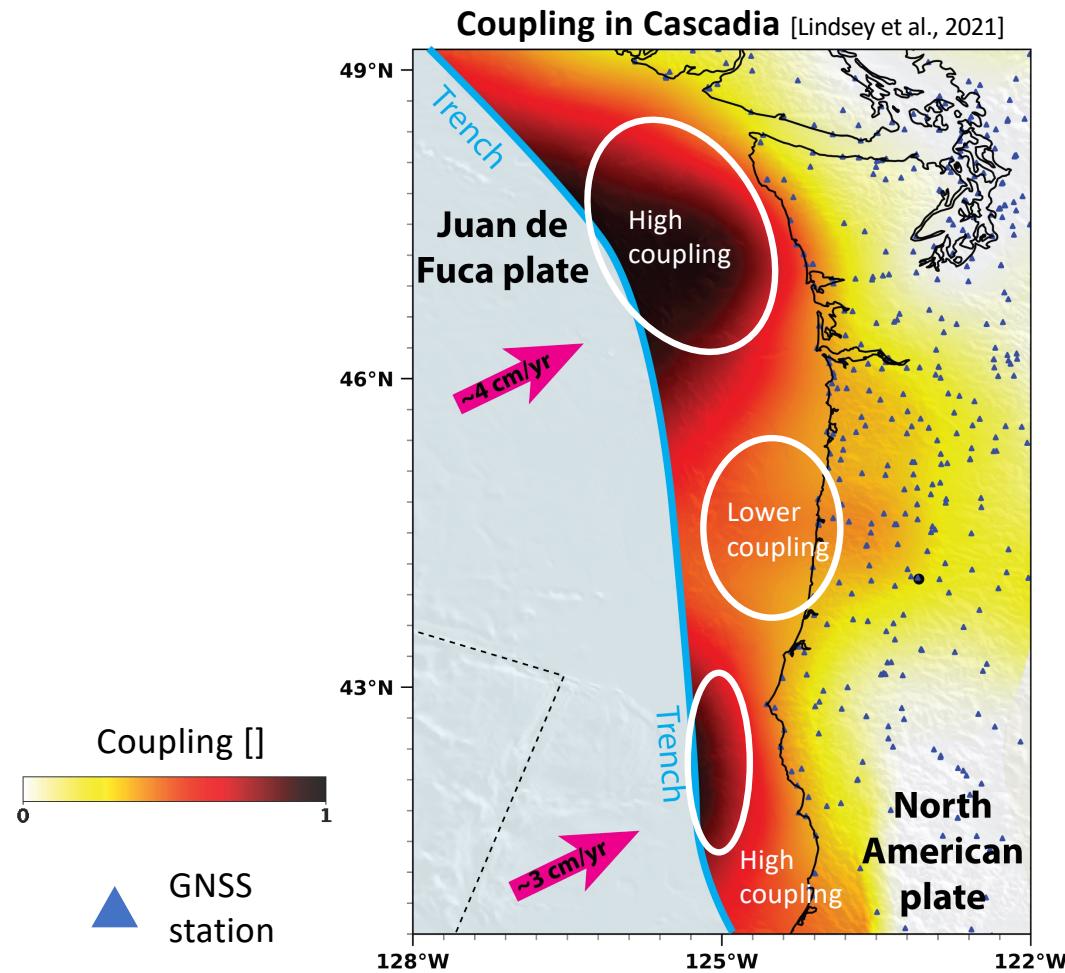
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- These locked regions are believed to accumulate interseismic stresses and are more likely to generate megathrust events.



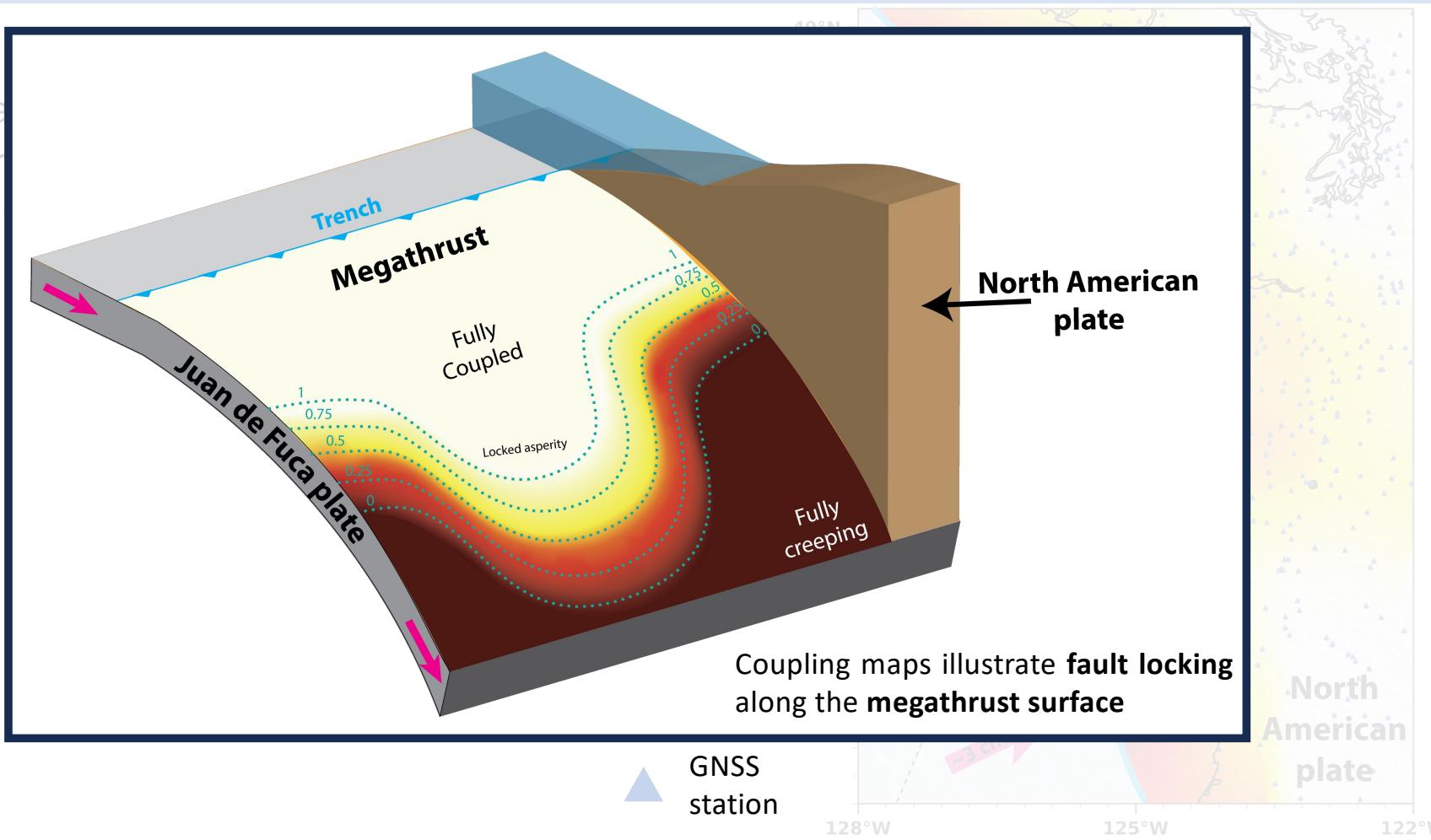
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- In contrast, regions with low coupling values are thought to creep during the interseismic period and are less likely to rupture.



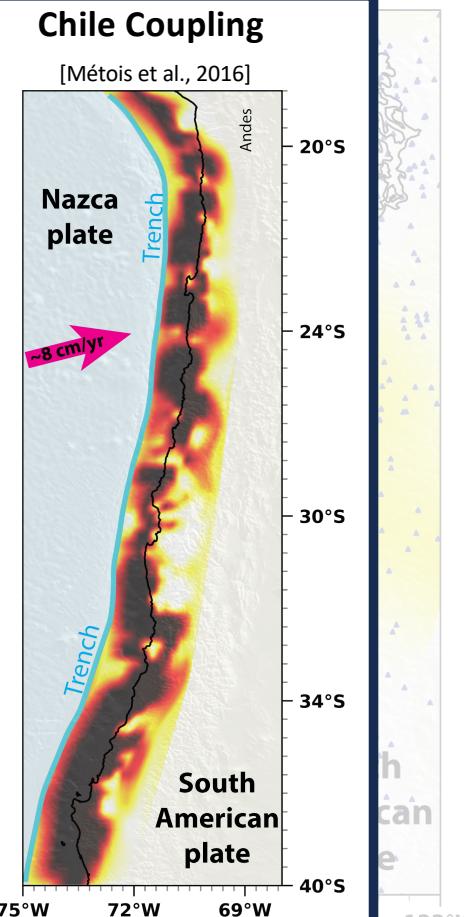
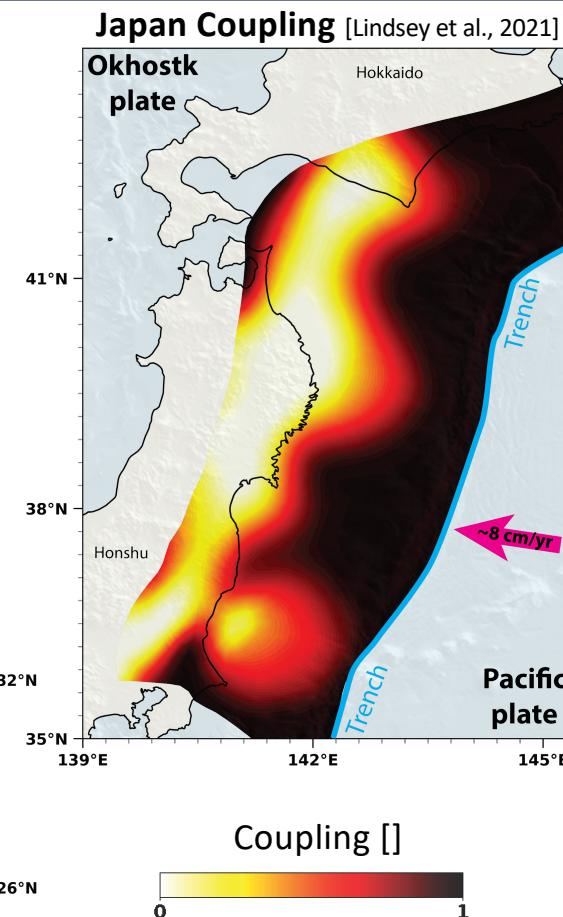
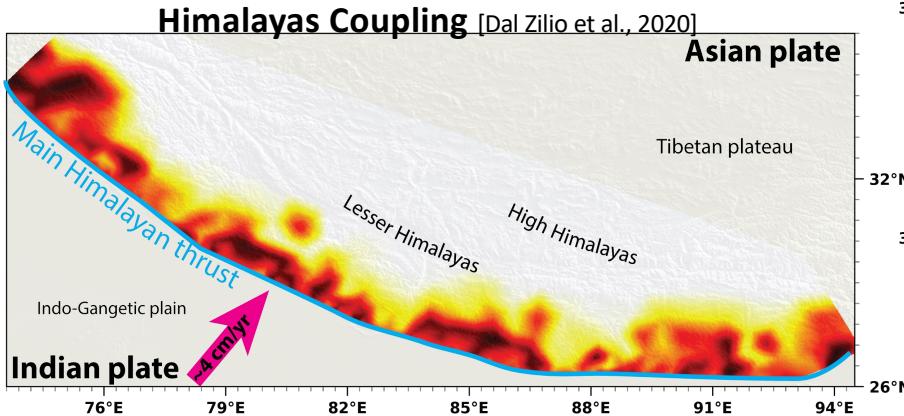
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- Locked area of megathrust using coupling maps

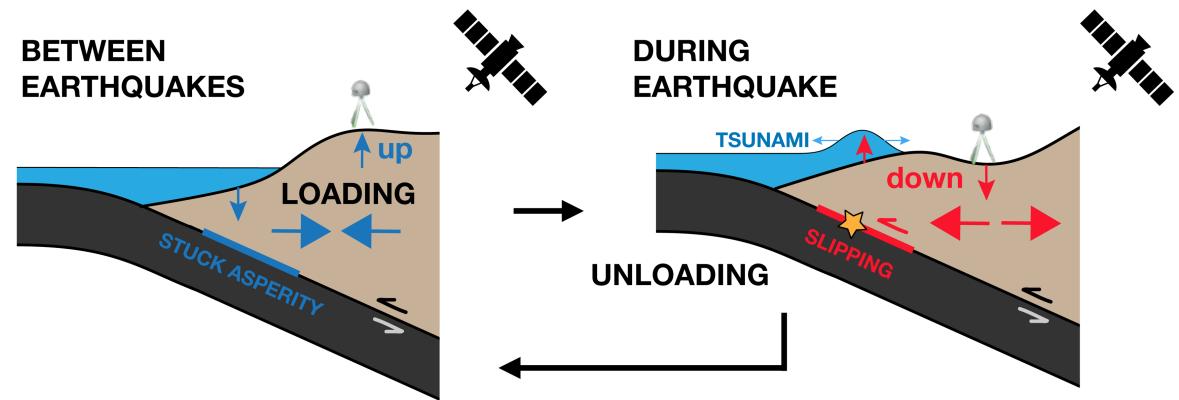


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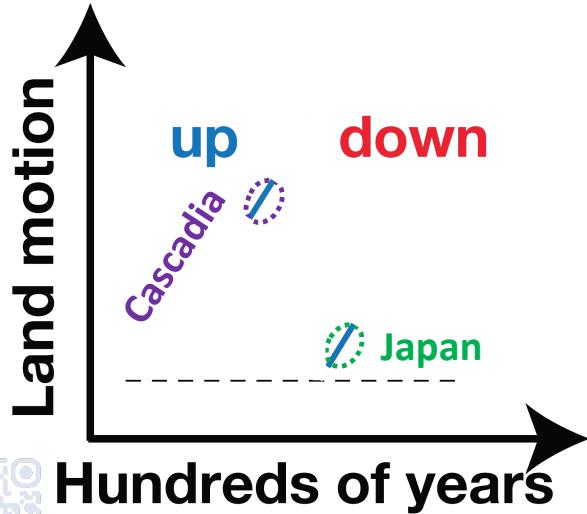
Coupling maps are used to illustrate fault locking variability across **nearly all megathrusts where geodetic data is available.**



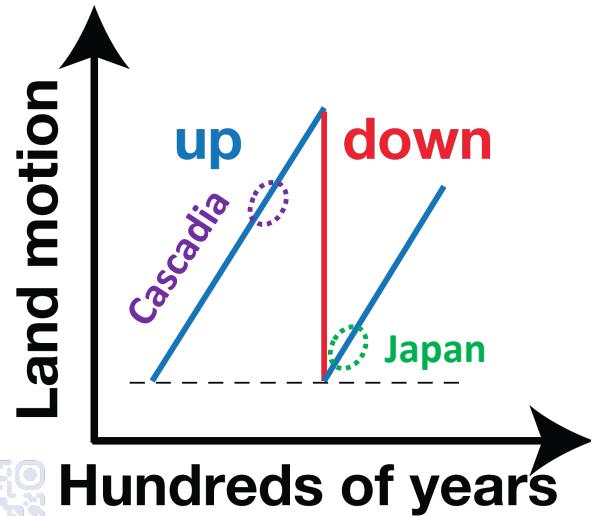
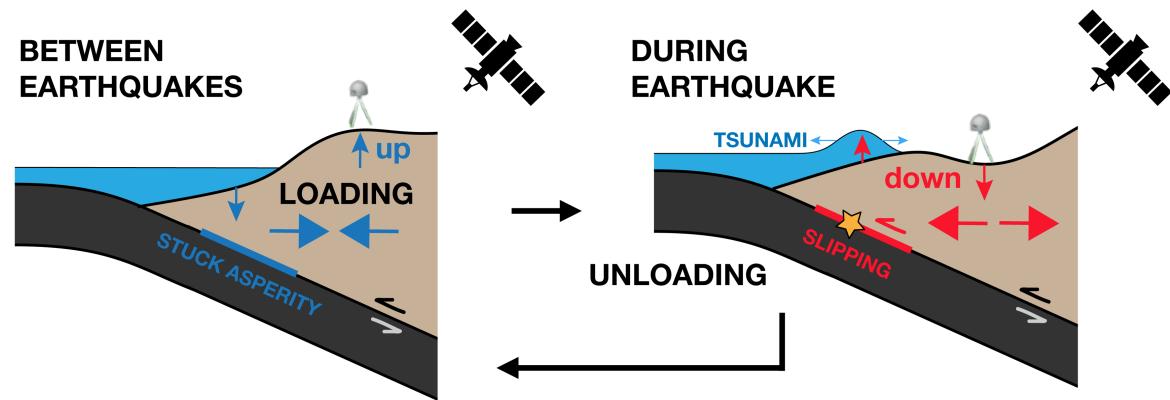
TEMPORAL LIMITATIONS OF GEODETIC DATA COVERAGE



- Geodetic data only captures a **small fraction** of the timescale over which **earthquake cycles operate**.



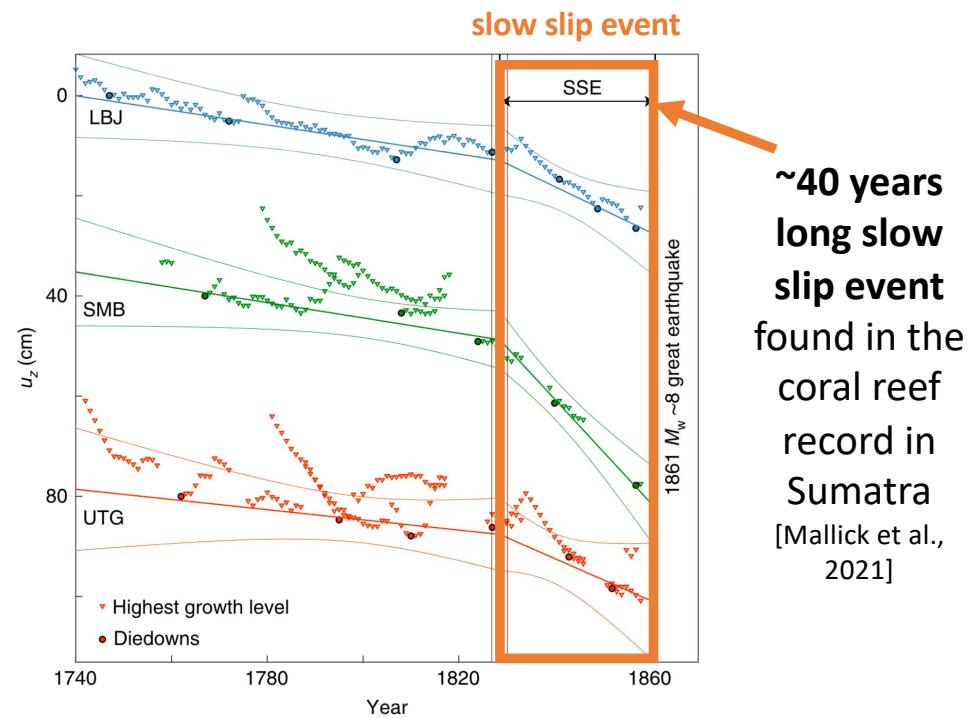
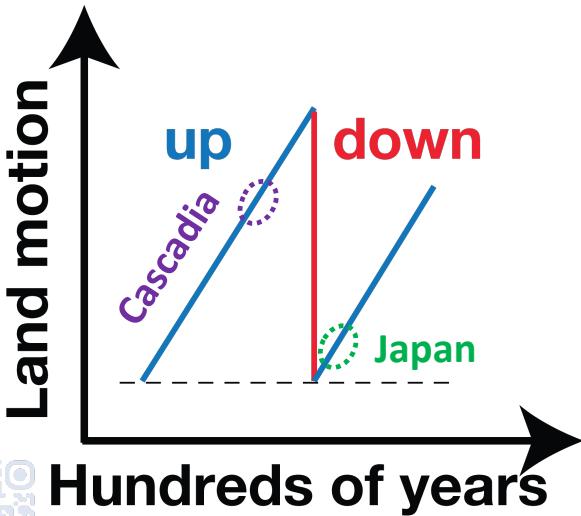
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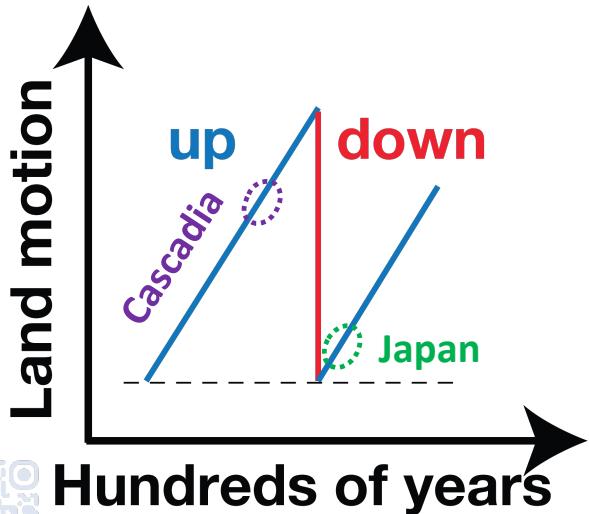


Geodetic observations indicate that the state of **coupling may evolve through time**.

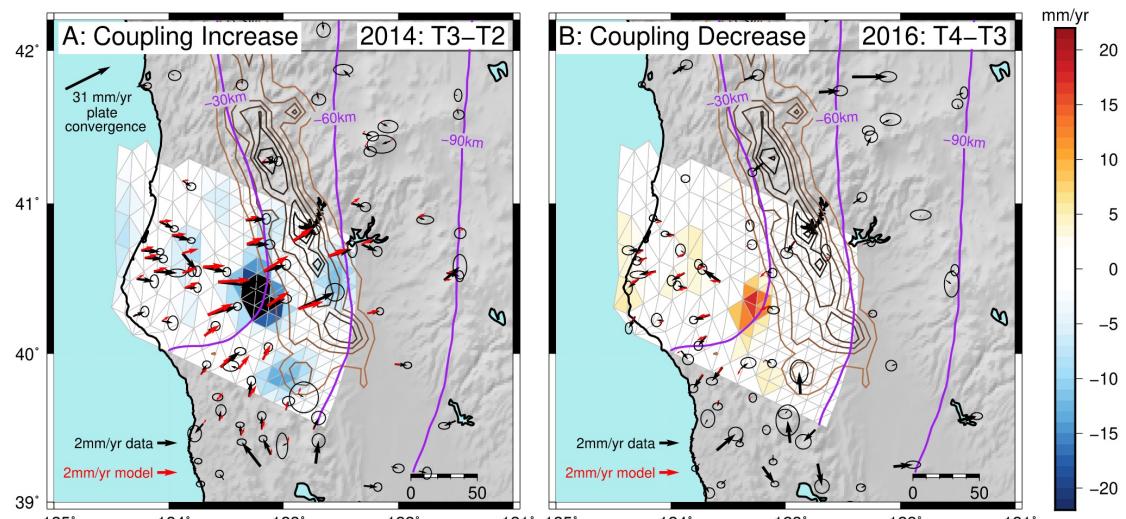
~40 years long slow slip event found in the coral reef record in Sumatra
[Mallick et al., 2021]

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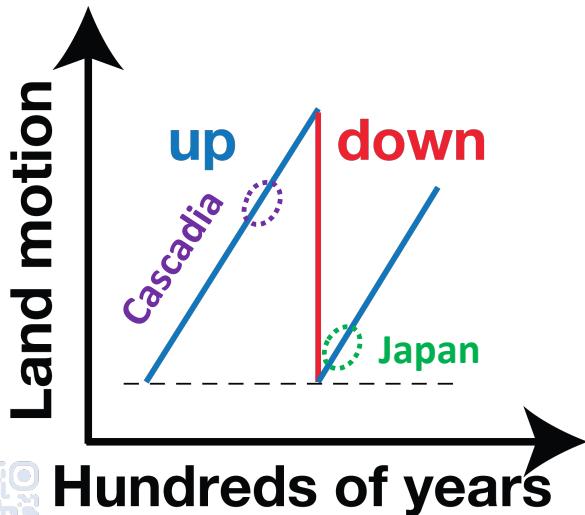
Cascadia coupling varies between 2014 and 2016 possibly driven by fluid migration [Materna et al., 2019]



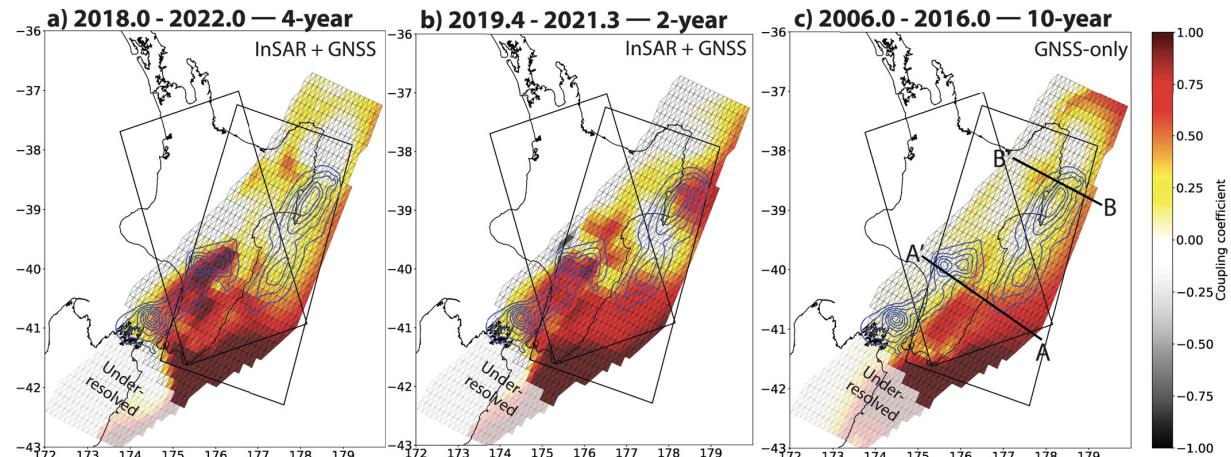
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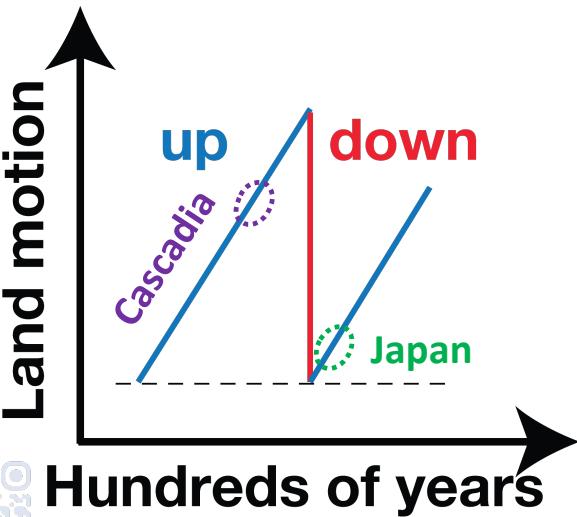
Locking in Hikurangi Subduction Zone variations based on different temporal resolution [Maubant et al., 2023].



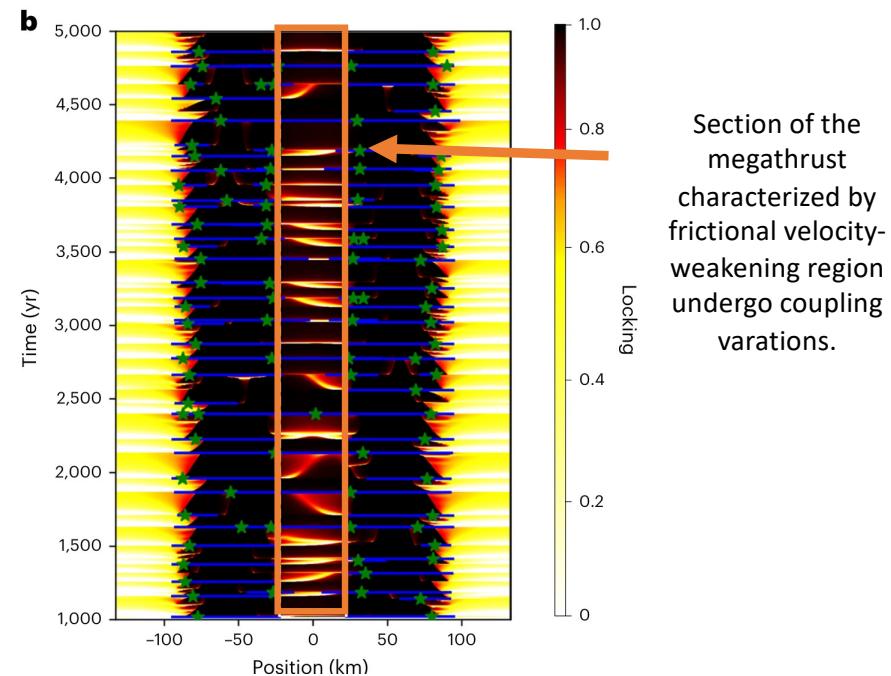
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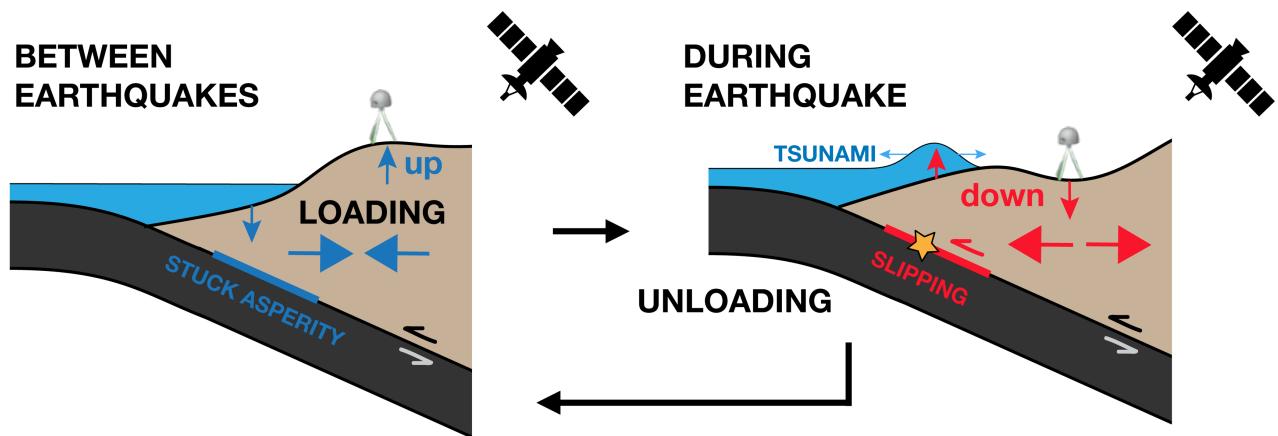
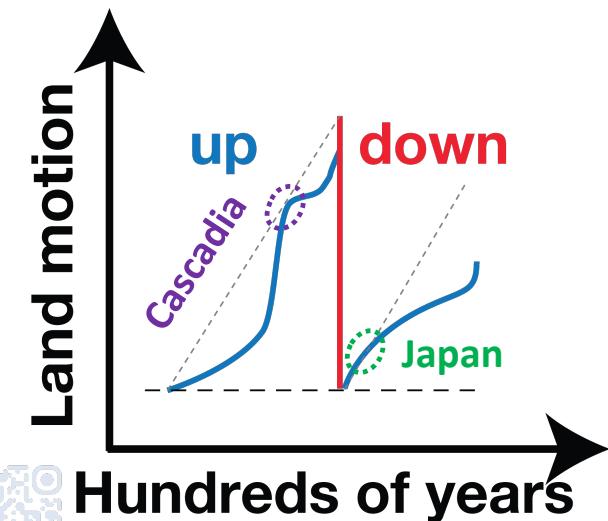
Velocity-weakening regions along the megathrust may **undergo significant changes in coupling** [Molina-Ormazabal et al., 2023].



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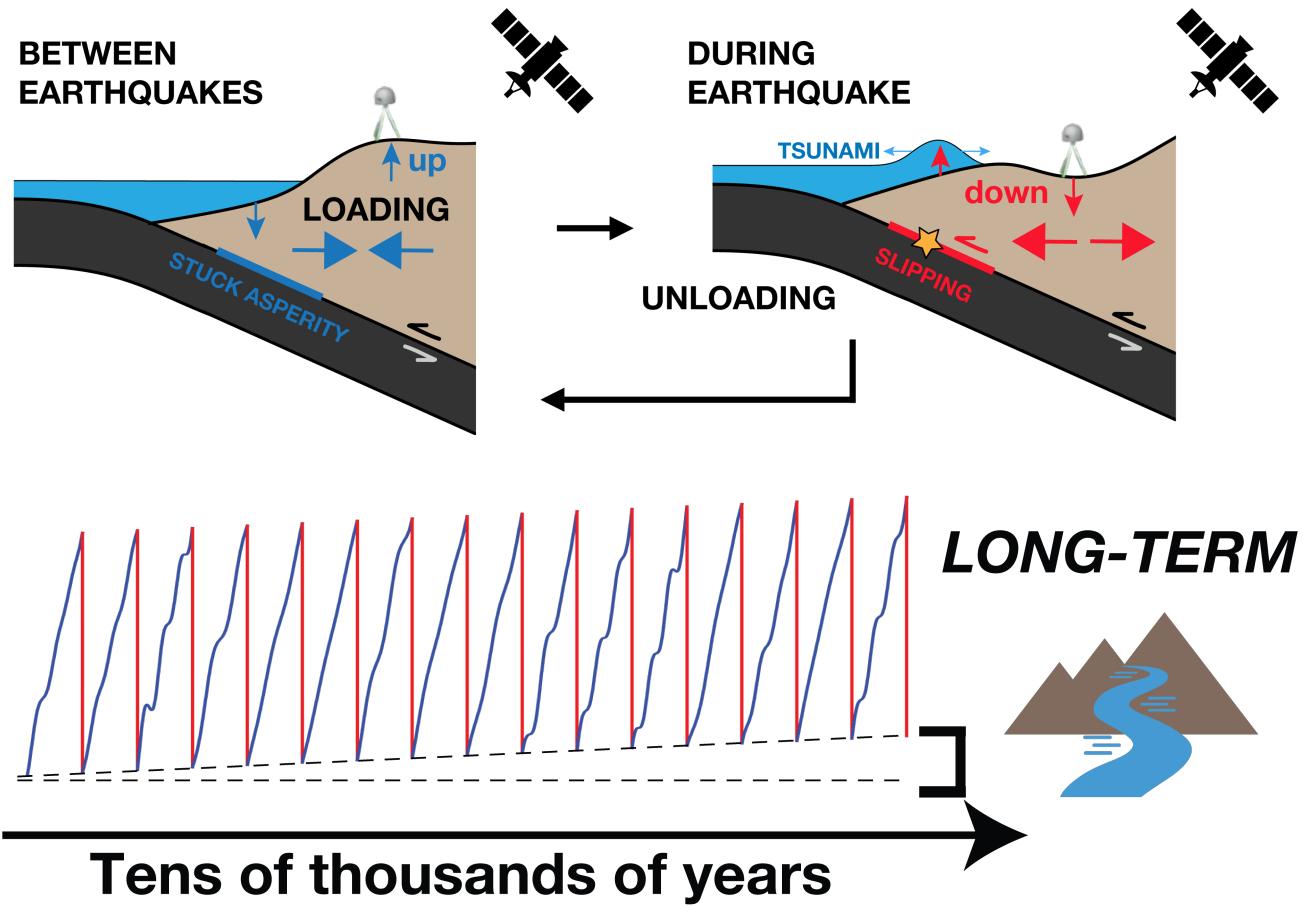


Current geodetic efforts to constrain coupling may be overlooking key deformation components.



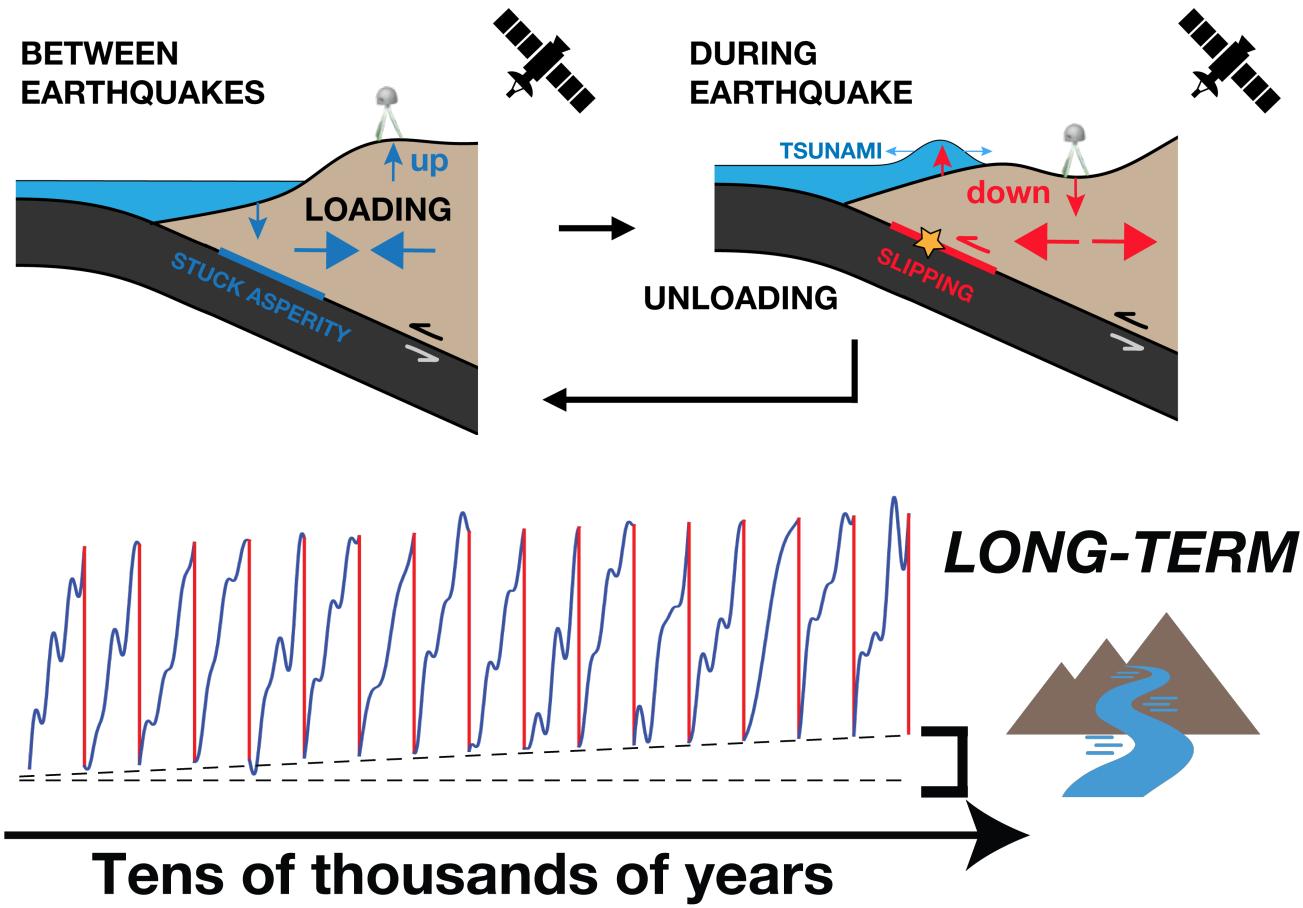
SUBDUCTION LANDSCAPES AS LONG-TERM RECORDS OF EARTHQUAKE CYCLES DEFOMATION

Landscapes record deformation on time-scales of hundreds of thousands of years and could point to the persistent plate locking.



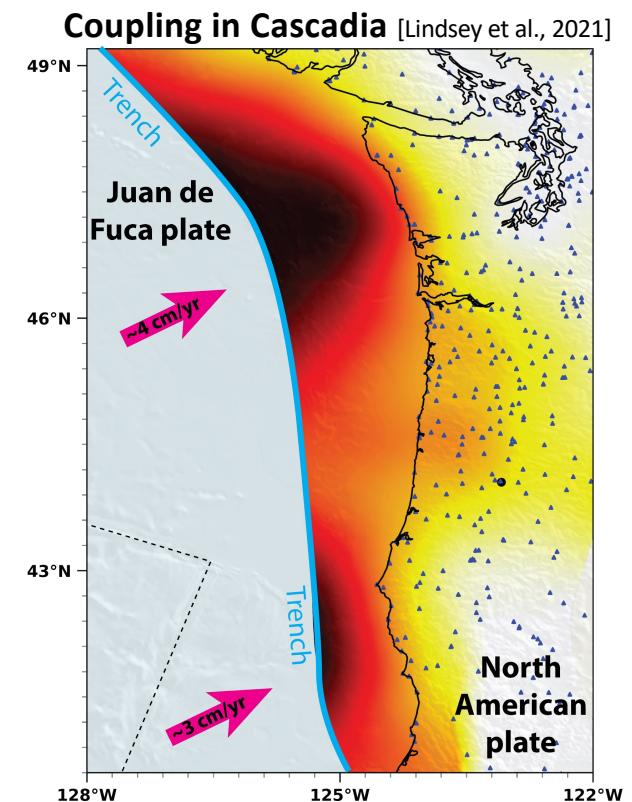
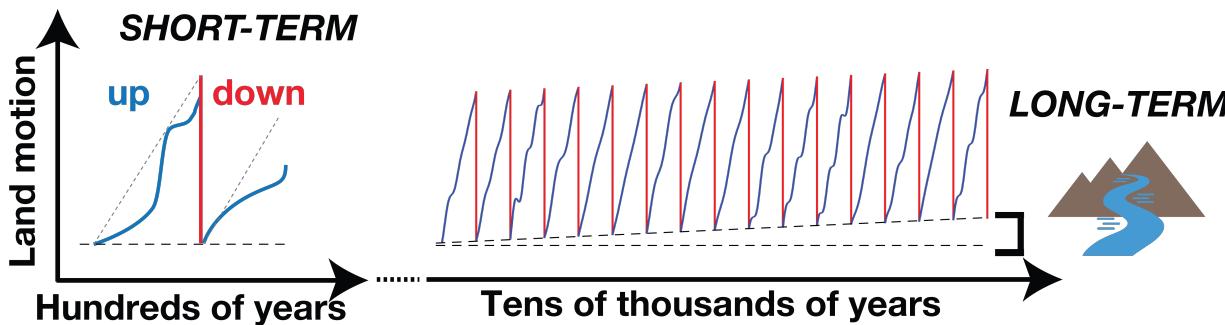
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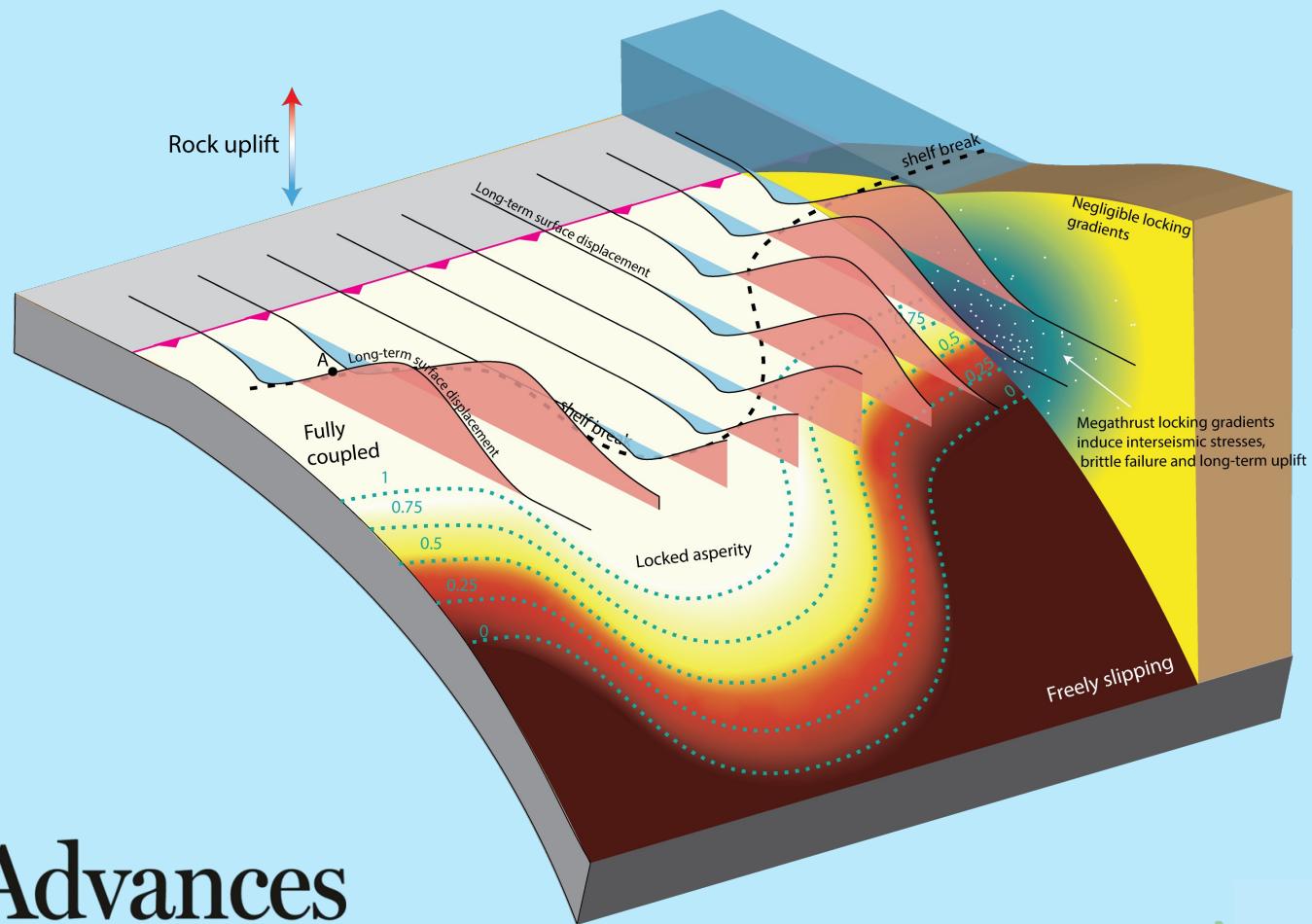


KEY POINTS SO FAR

- Geodetic documentation of upper plate deformation help constrain the hazard associated with megathrust earthquakes.
- Geodetic data captures only a **small fraction** of the timescale over which **earthquake cycles operate**.
- **Landscapes record deformation** on time-scales of **hundreds of thousands of years** and could point to the **persistent plate locking**.



Section 2 - Fingerprints of Megathrust Locking in Subduction Landscapes

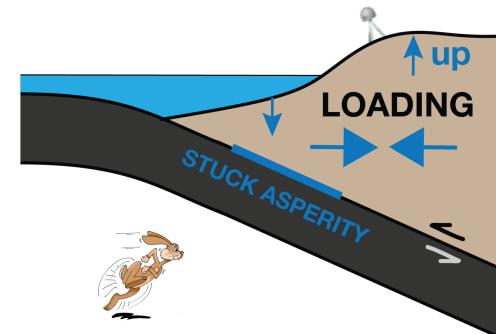
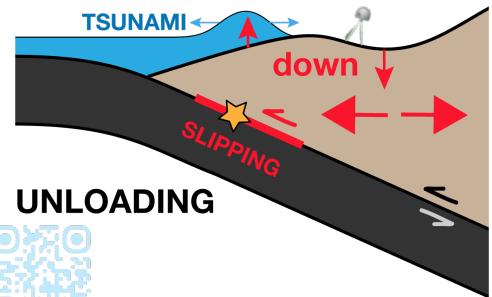


ELASTIC EARTHQUAKE CYCLES IN SUBDUCTION ZONES

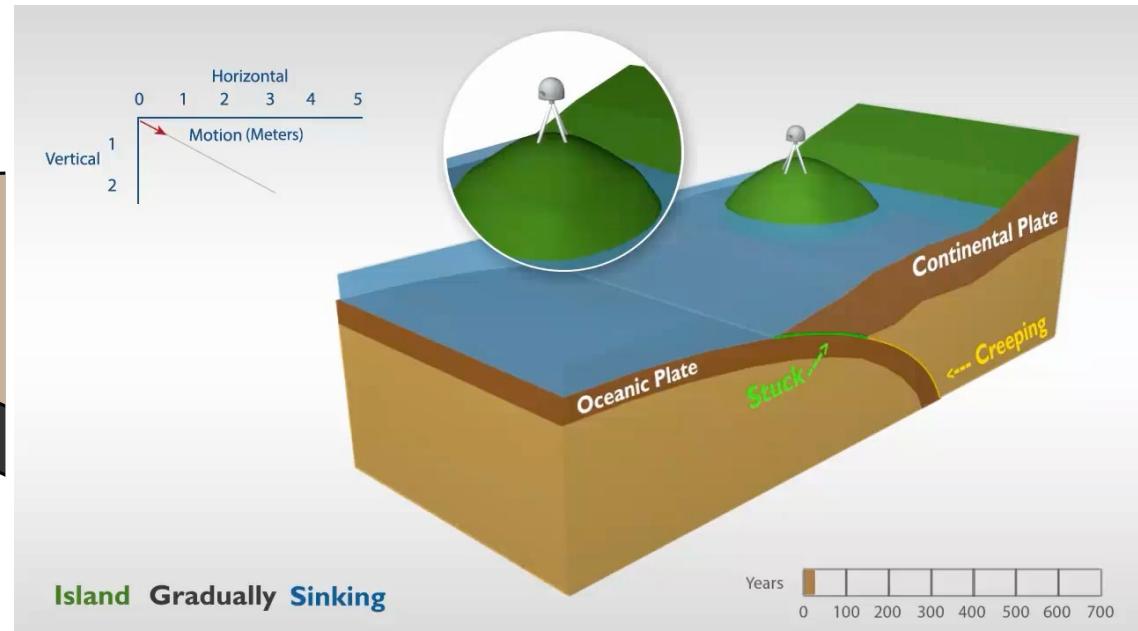


Long-term: downgoing plate descends beneath the upper plate in stick-slip fashion.

Interseismic: locked section is “stuck”. Creeping section moves slowly. Upper plate deform elastically



Coseismic: locked section moves abruptly. Upper plate deform elastically in an opposite sense.

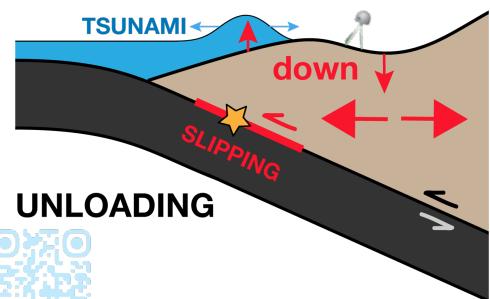


ELASTIC EARTHQUAKE CYCLES IN SUBDUCTION ZONES

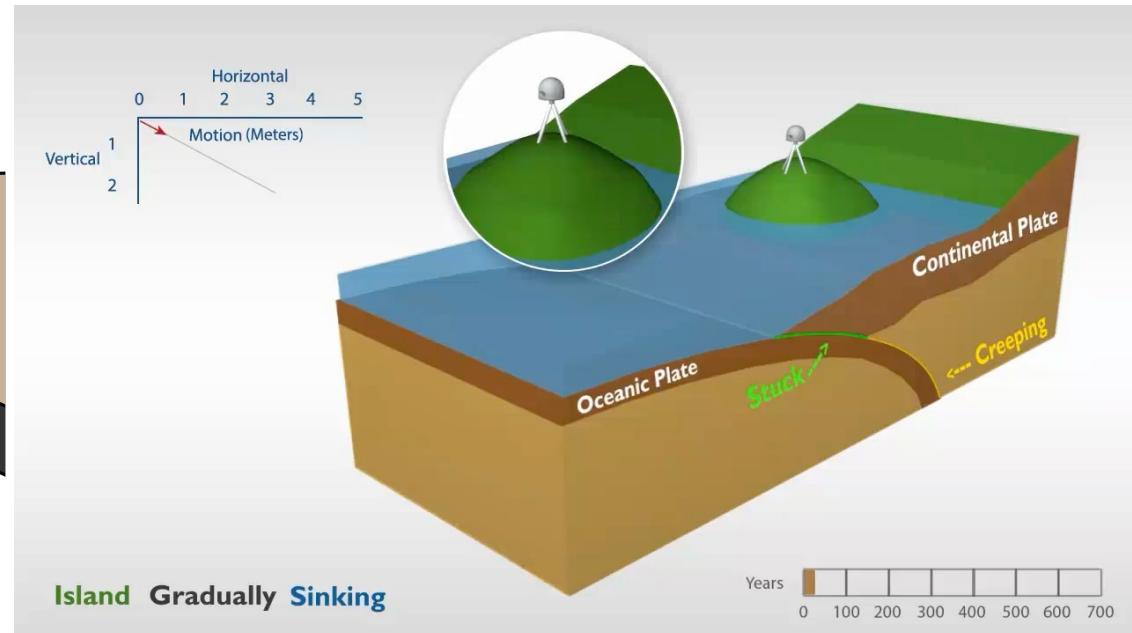
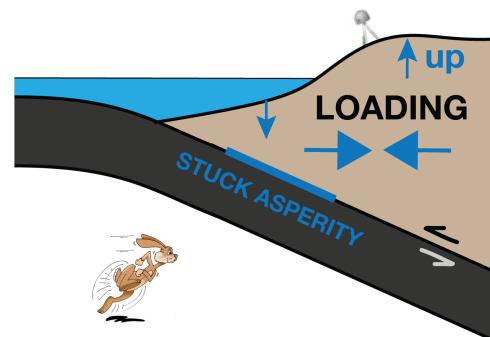


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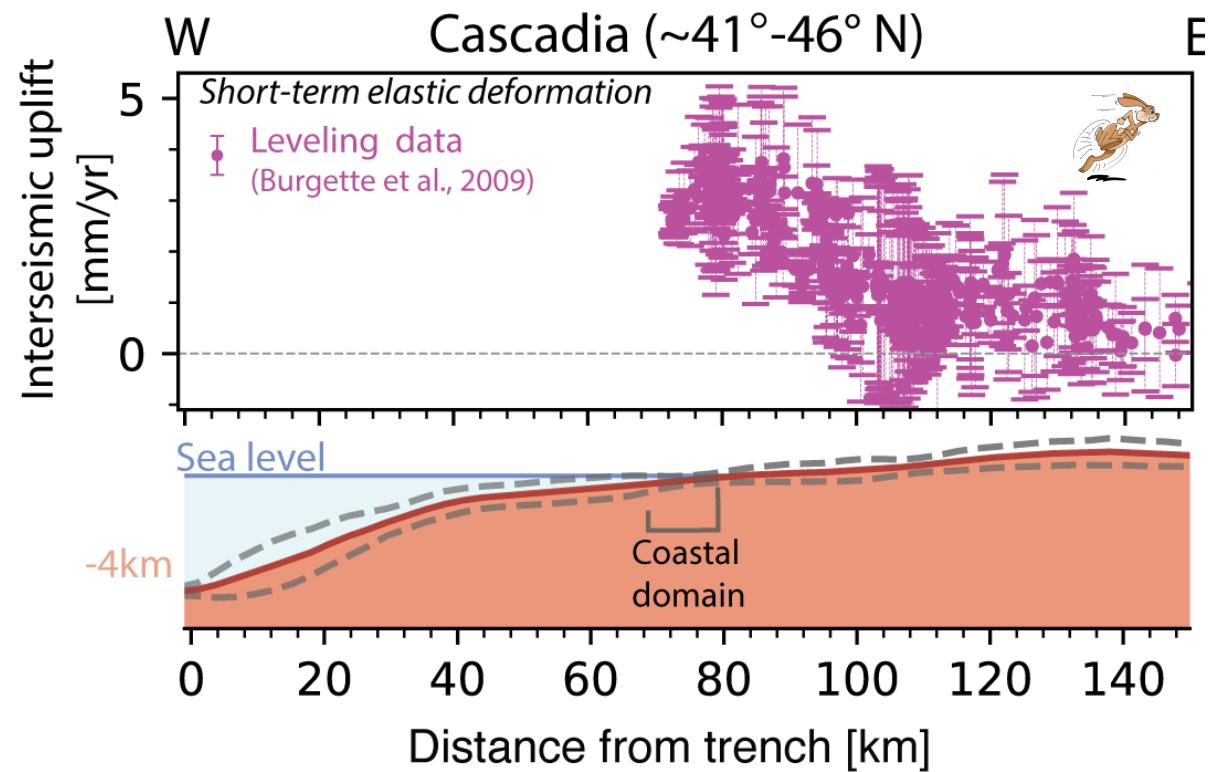


Coseismic: locked section moves abruptly. Upper plate deform elastically in an opposite sense.



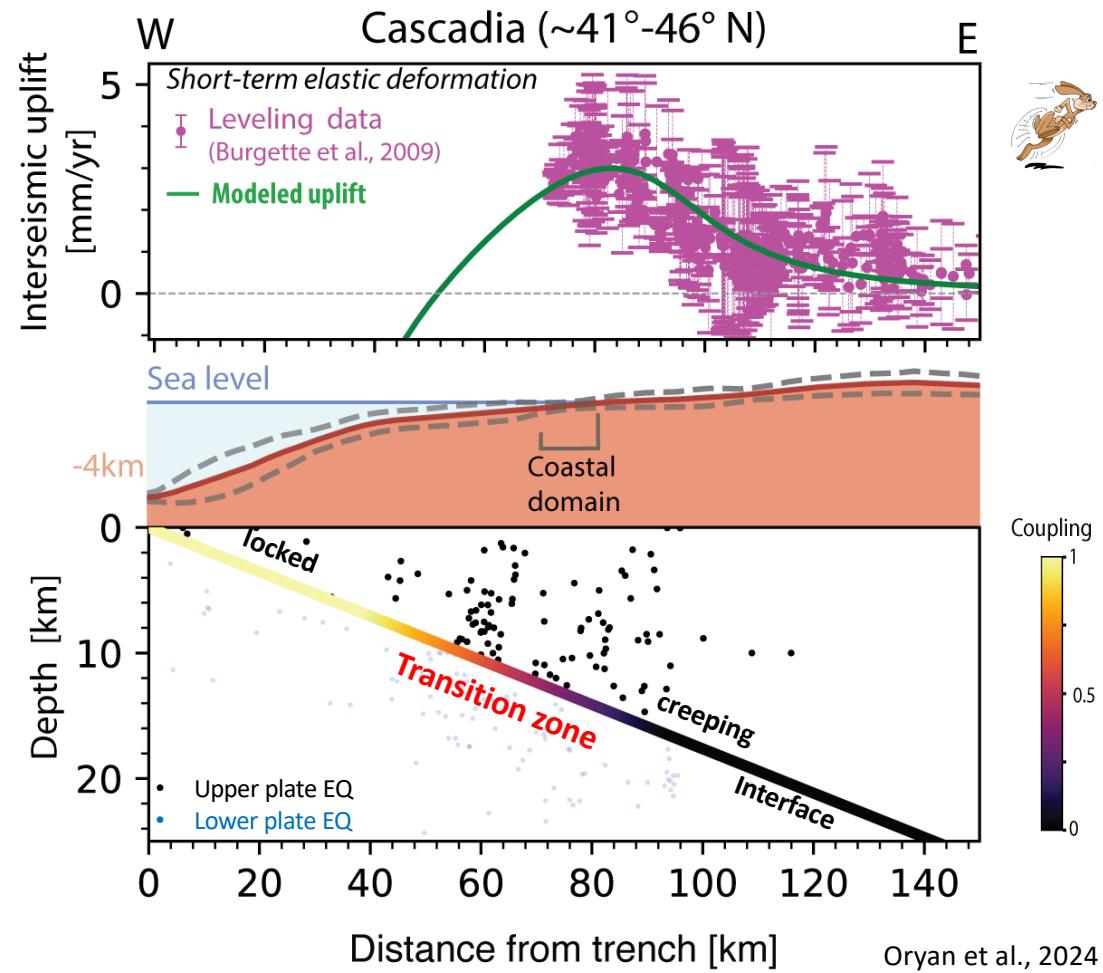
No off-fault permanent deformation!

SHORT-TERM DEFORMATION IN CASCADIA



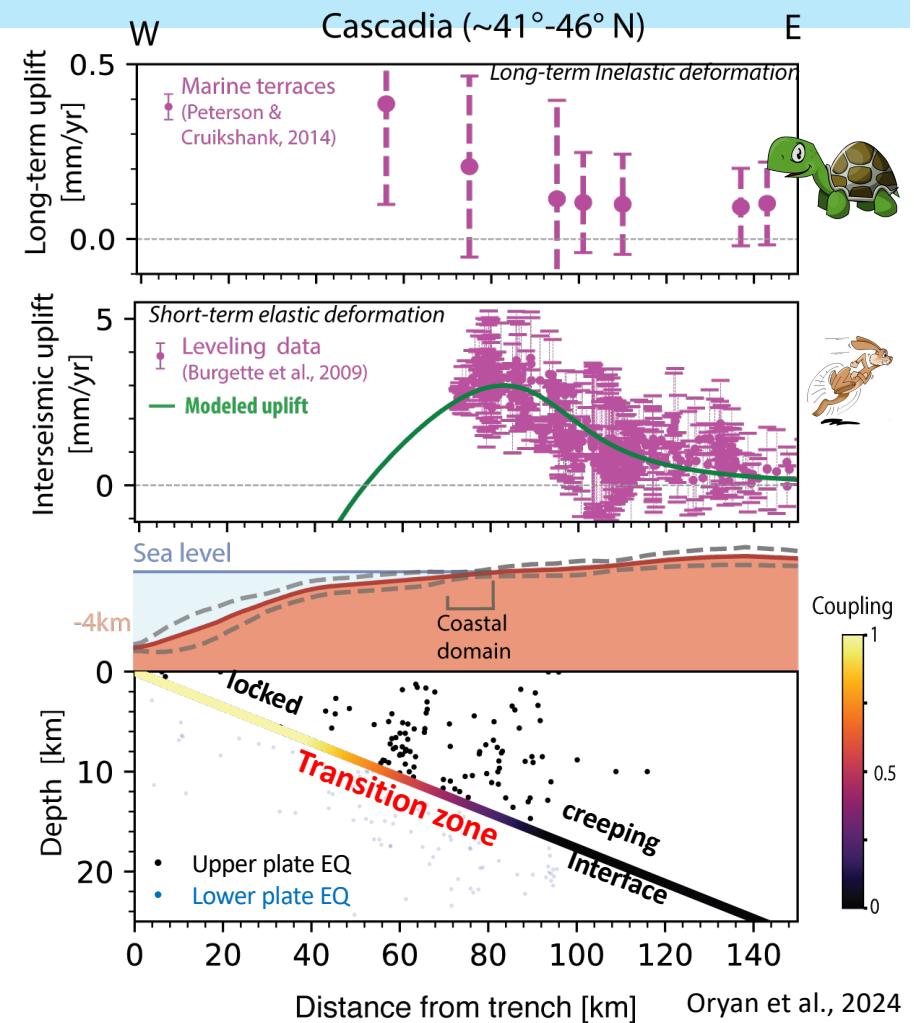
SHORT-TERM DEFORMATION IN CASCADIA

- Short-term (**elastic**) uplift shows a peak above the transition zone.



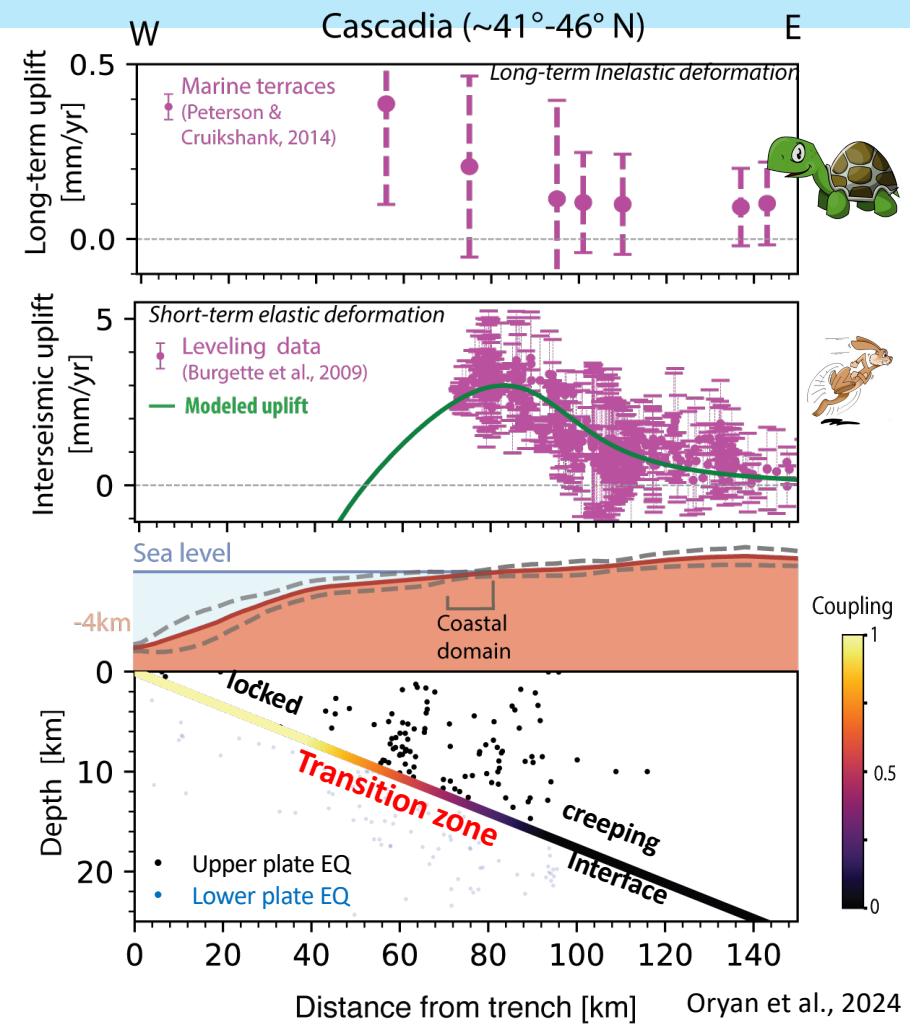
SHORT- AND LONG-TERM DEFORMATION IN CASCADIA

- Short-term (elastic) uplift shows a peak above the transition zone.
- Long-term (inelastic) uplift aligns with the short-term deformation, peaking above the transition zone.



SHORT- AND LONG-TERM DEFORMATION IN CASCADIA

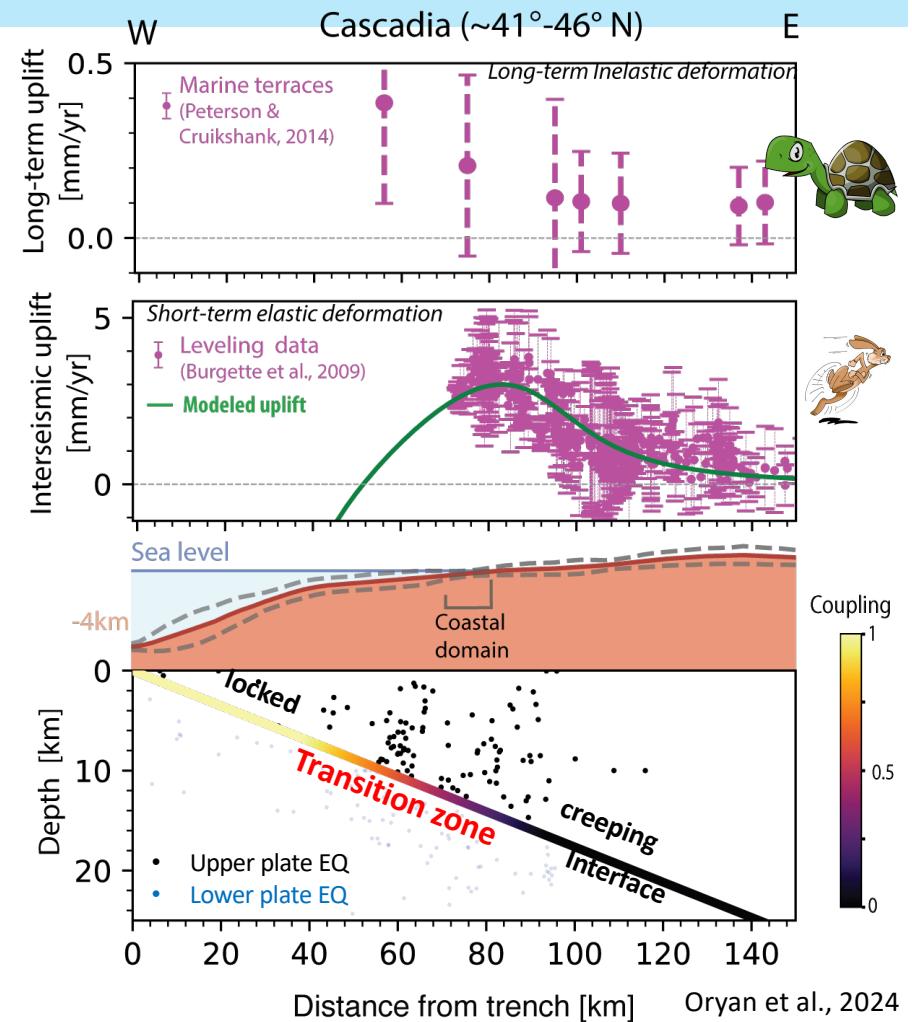
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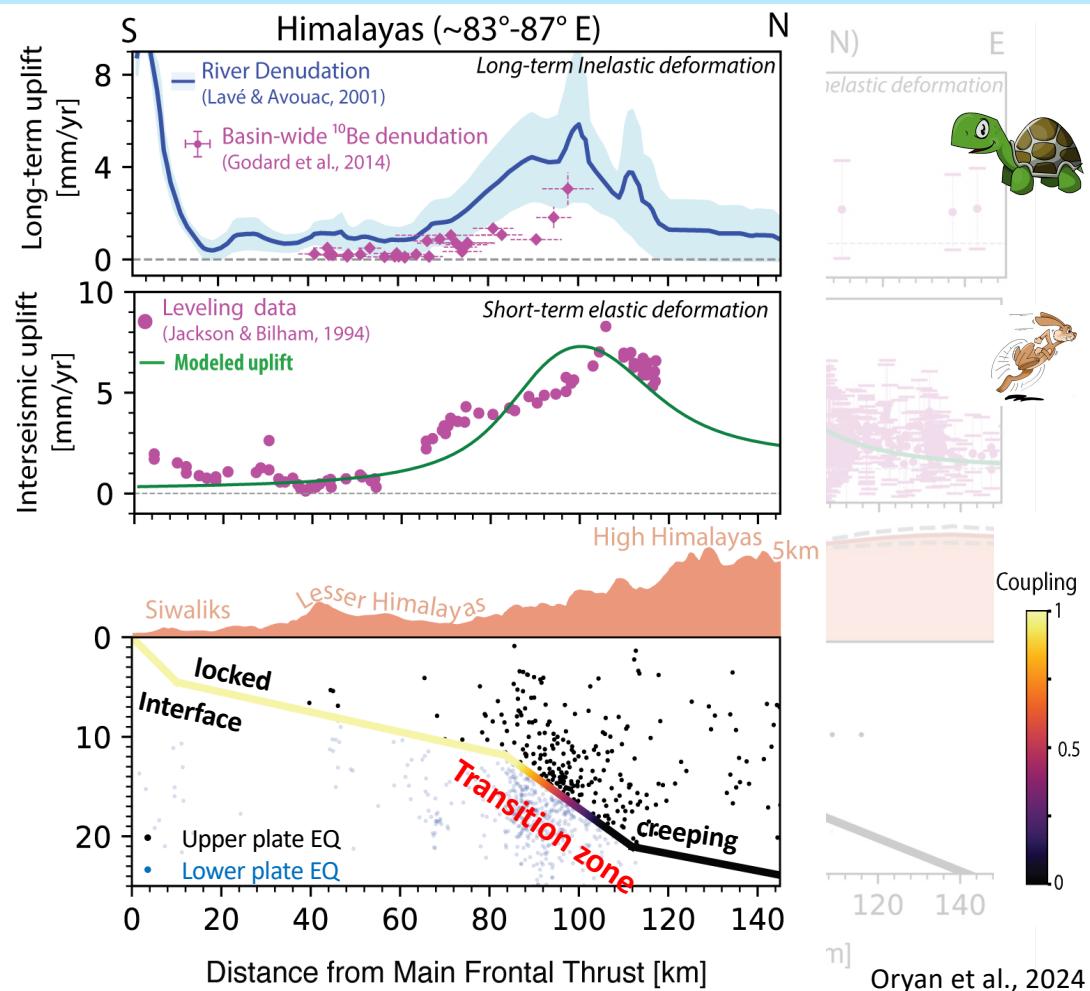
Short- (elastic**) and Long-term (**inelastic**) deformation coincide.**



SHORT- AND LONG-TERM DEFORMATION IN HIMALYAS

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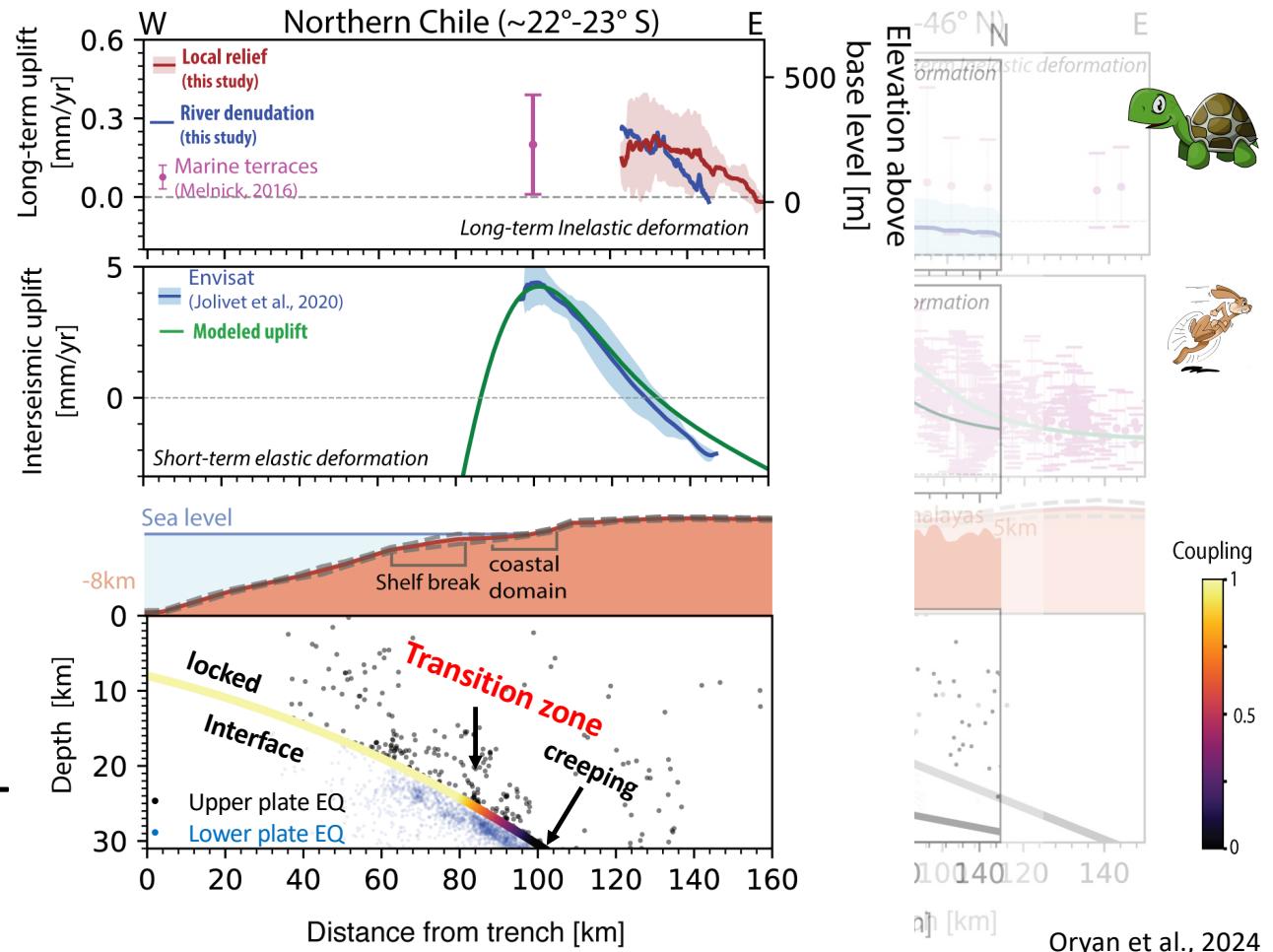
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SHORT- AND LONG-TERM DEFORMATION IN CHILE

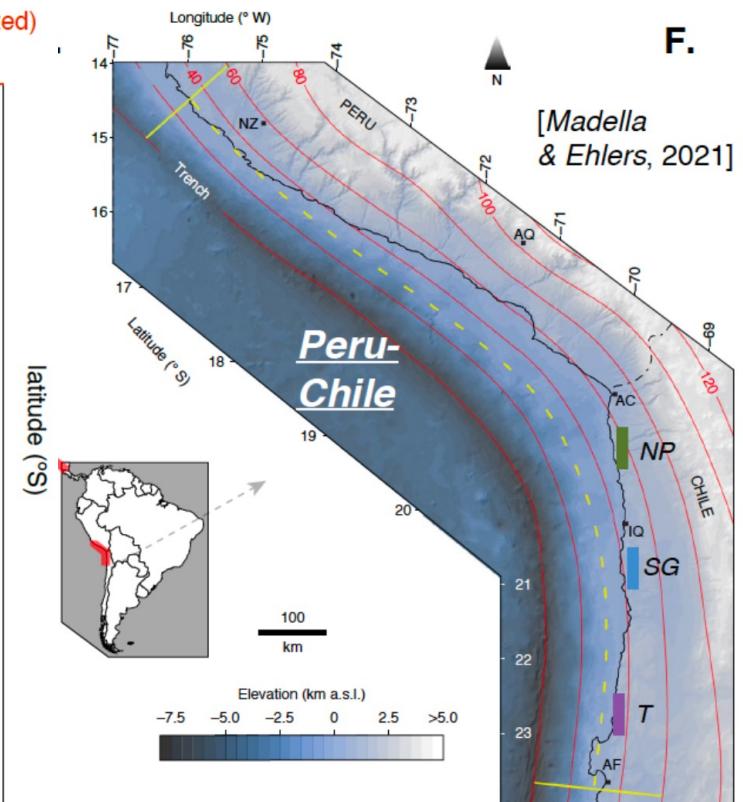
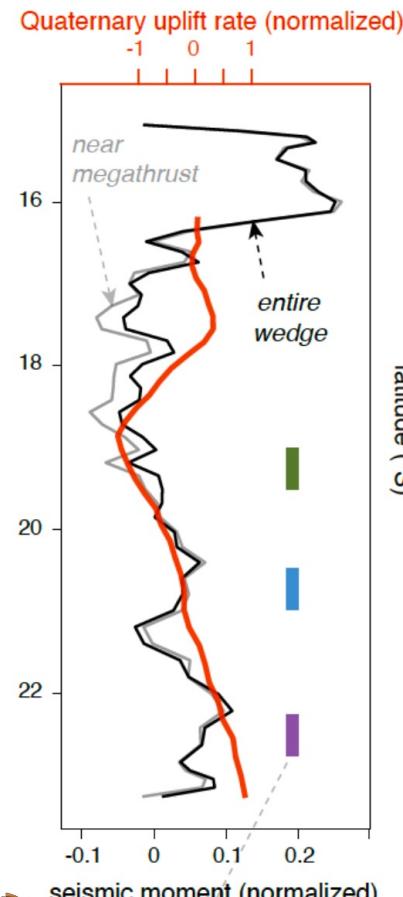
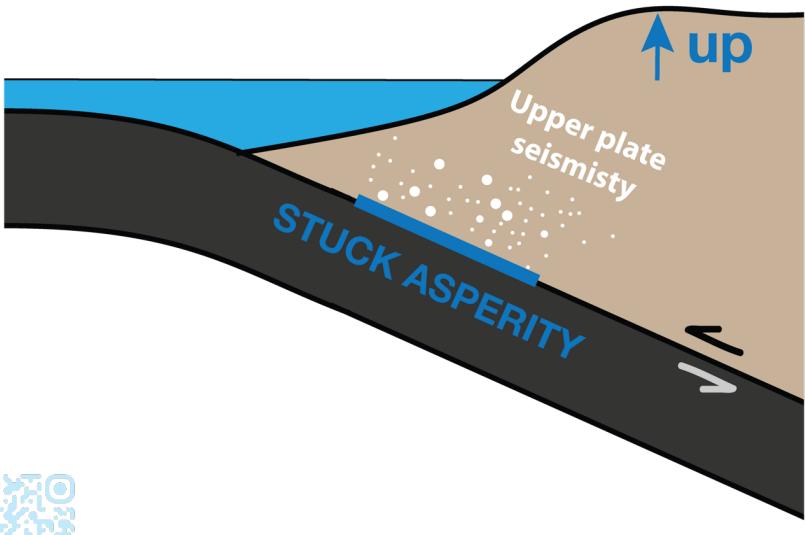
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Short- (elastic**) and Long-term (**inelastic**) deformation coincide.**



UPPER PLATE SEISMISTY AND LONG-TERM UPLIFT IN CHILE

Moment release of earthquakes within a distance of 15km of the interface correlates with **long-term coastal uplift** rates along the coast of Chile.



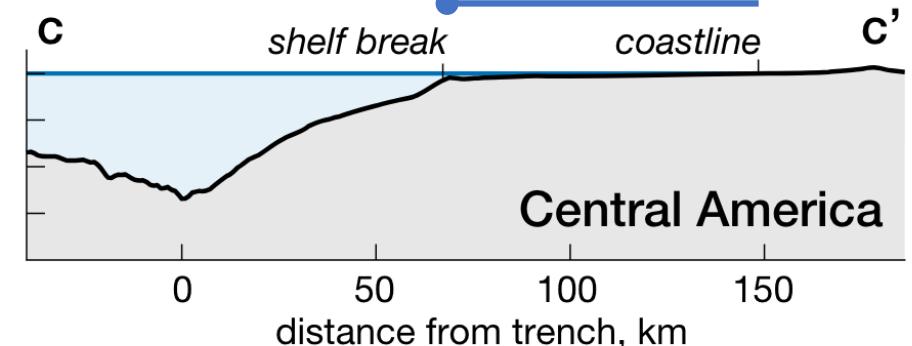
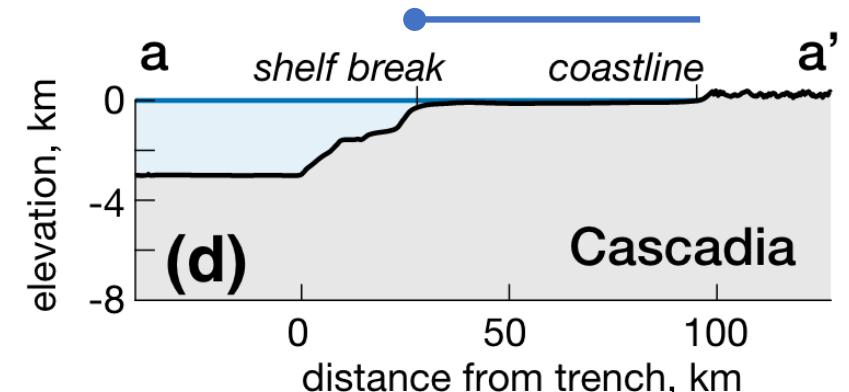
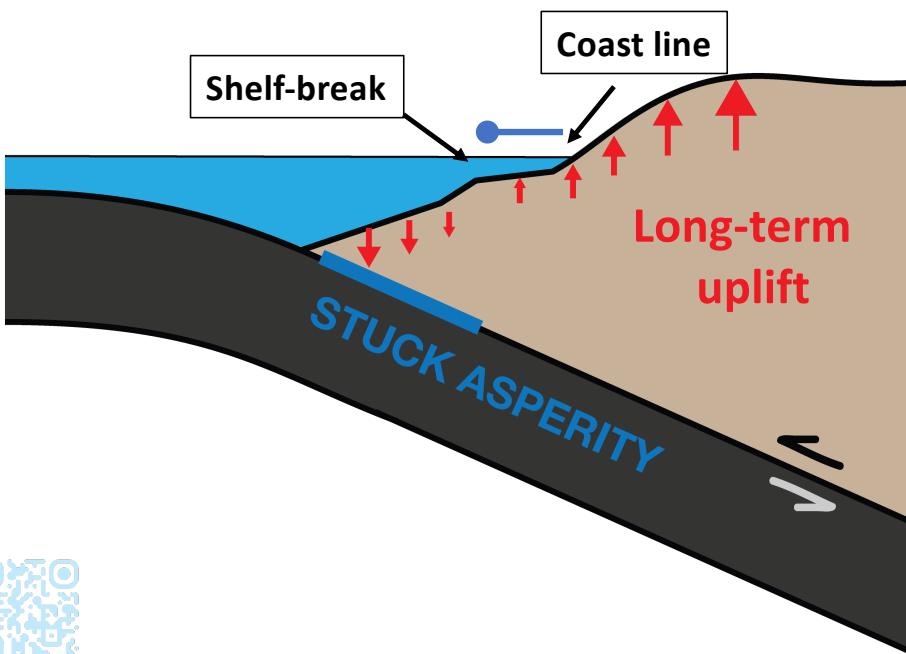
Regions of active upper plate faulting:

North Pisagua | Salar Grande | Tocopilla



WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM SHELF BREAKS?

Shelf breaks in active margins are considered a **hinge line**, separating the field of **long-term uplift** from **subsidence**.

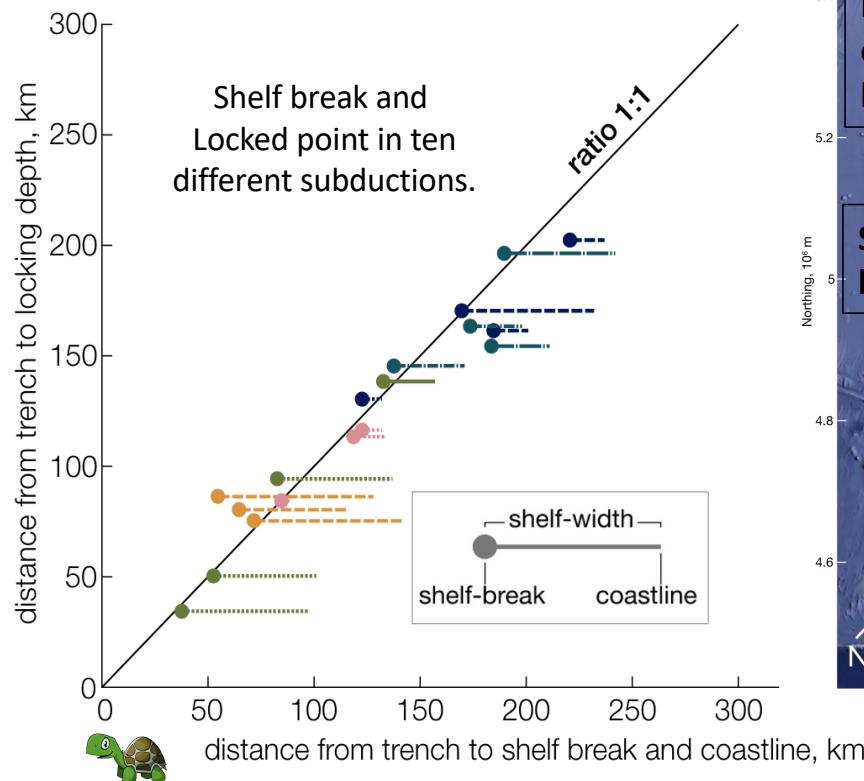
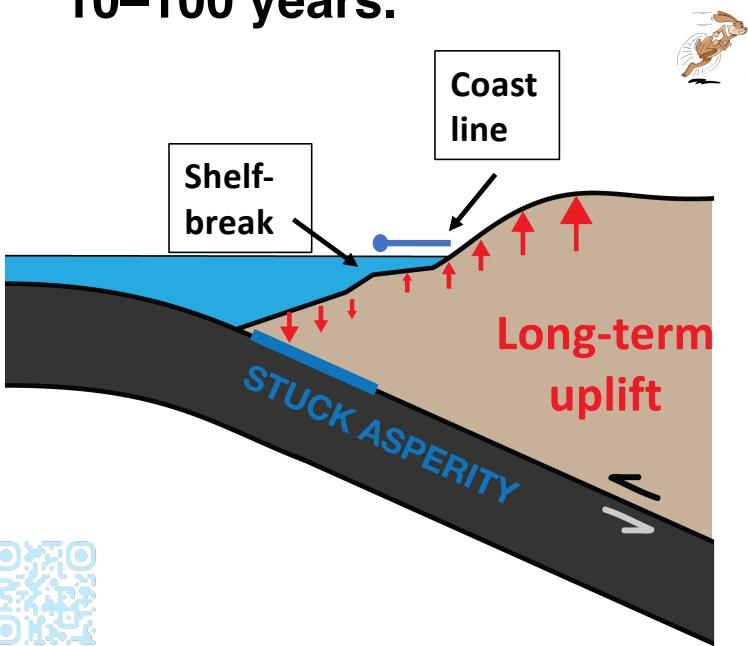


Malatesta et al., 2021

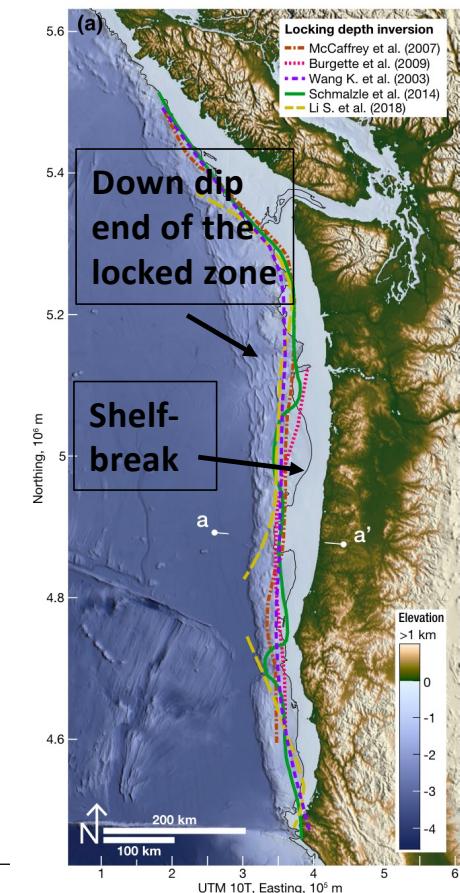


WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM SHELF BREAKS?

The morphology of active margins, evolving on time scales of **100s of kyr** shows similarities to ongoing deformation documented over **10–100 years**.



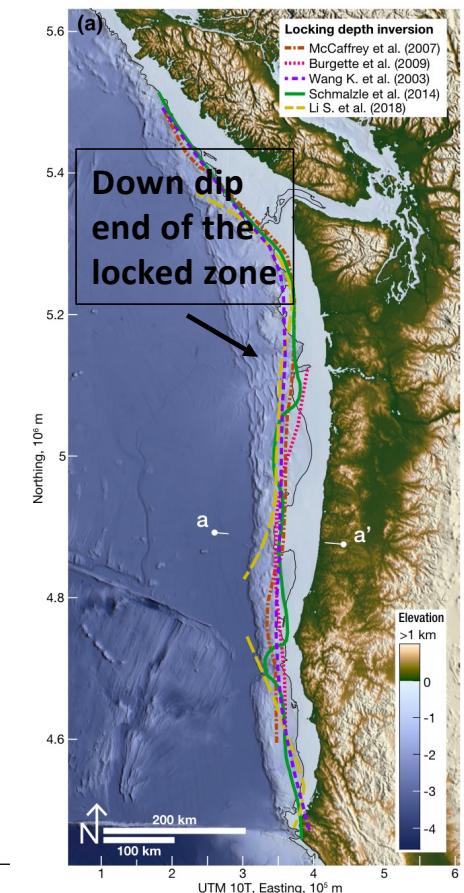
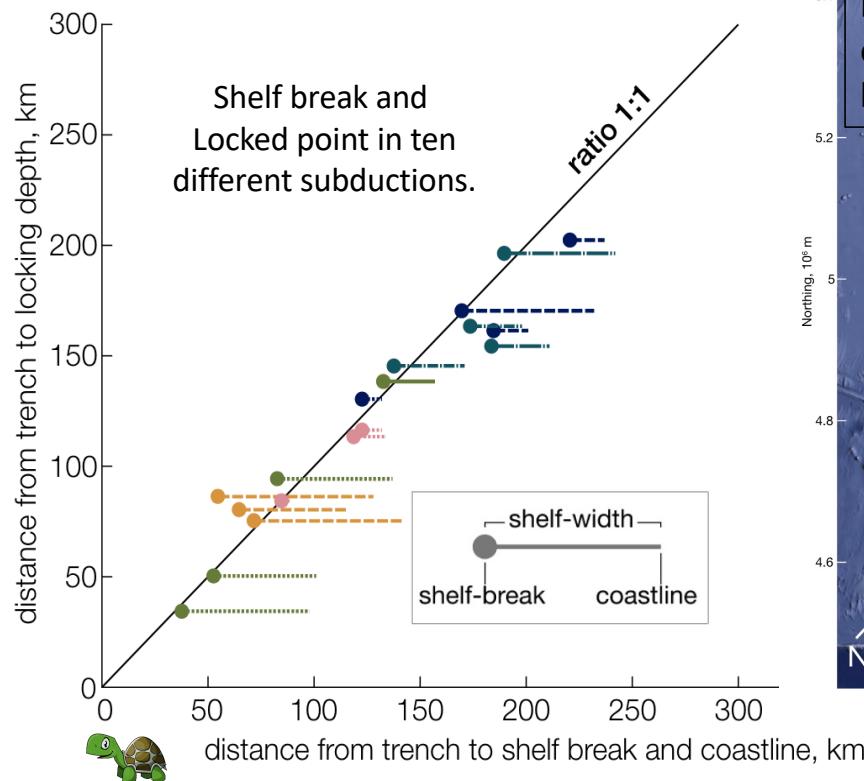
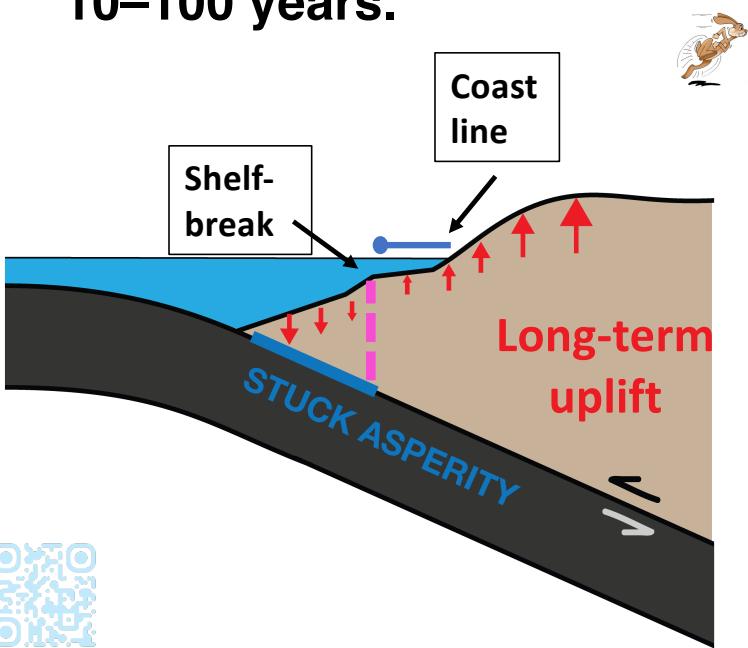
Shelf break and down dip end of the locked zone coincide [Malatesta et al., 2021]



Malatesta et al., 2021

WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM SHELF BREAKS?

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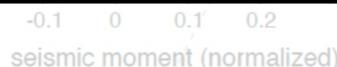
Malatesta et al., 2021

UPPER PLATE SEISMISTY AND LONG-TERM UPLIFT IN CHILE

Moment release of earthquakes within a distance of 15km of the interface correlates with long coastal uplift rates along the coast of Chile.

Short- (elastic) and Long-term (inelastic) deformation align!

[Wells et al., 2003; Song & Simons 2003; Meade 2010; Saillard 2017; Jolivet et al., 2020; Malatesta et al., 2021 ;Madella & Ehlers; 2021 and others]



D.



Regions of active upper plate faulting:

North Pisagua

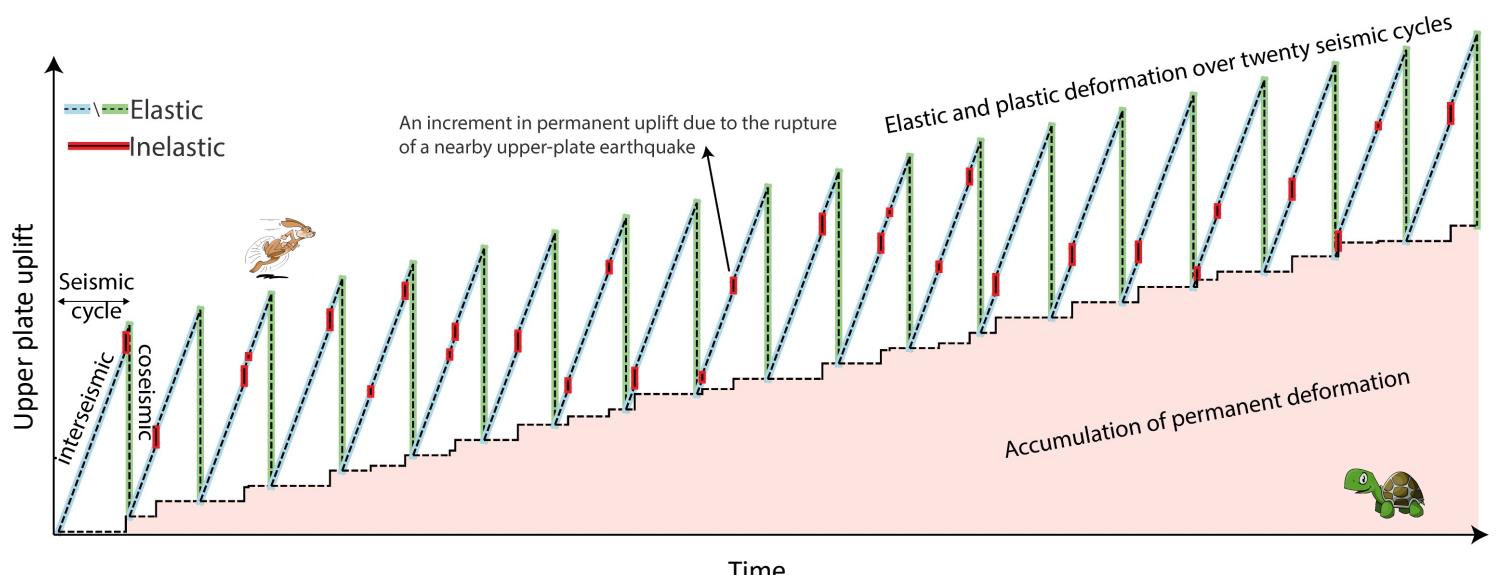
Salar Grande

Tocopilla



HOW INTERSEISMIC FAULT LOCKING IMPRINTS SUBDUCTION LANDSCPES ?

- **Interseismic upper plate stresses** induced by locking gradients push parts of the upper plate to **failure** generating overriding plate earthquakes.
- Repeated **failure** over multiple earthquake cycles explains the overlap between short- and long-term deformation.

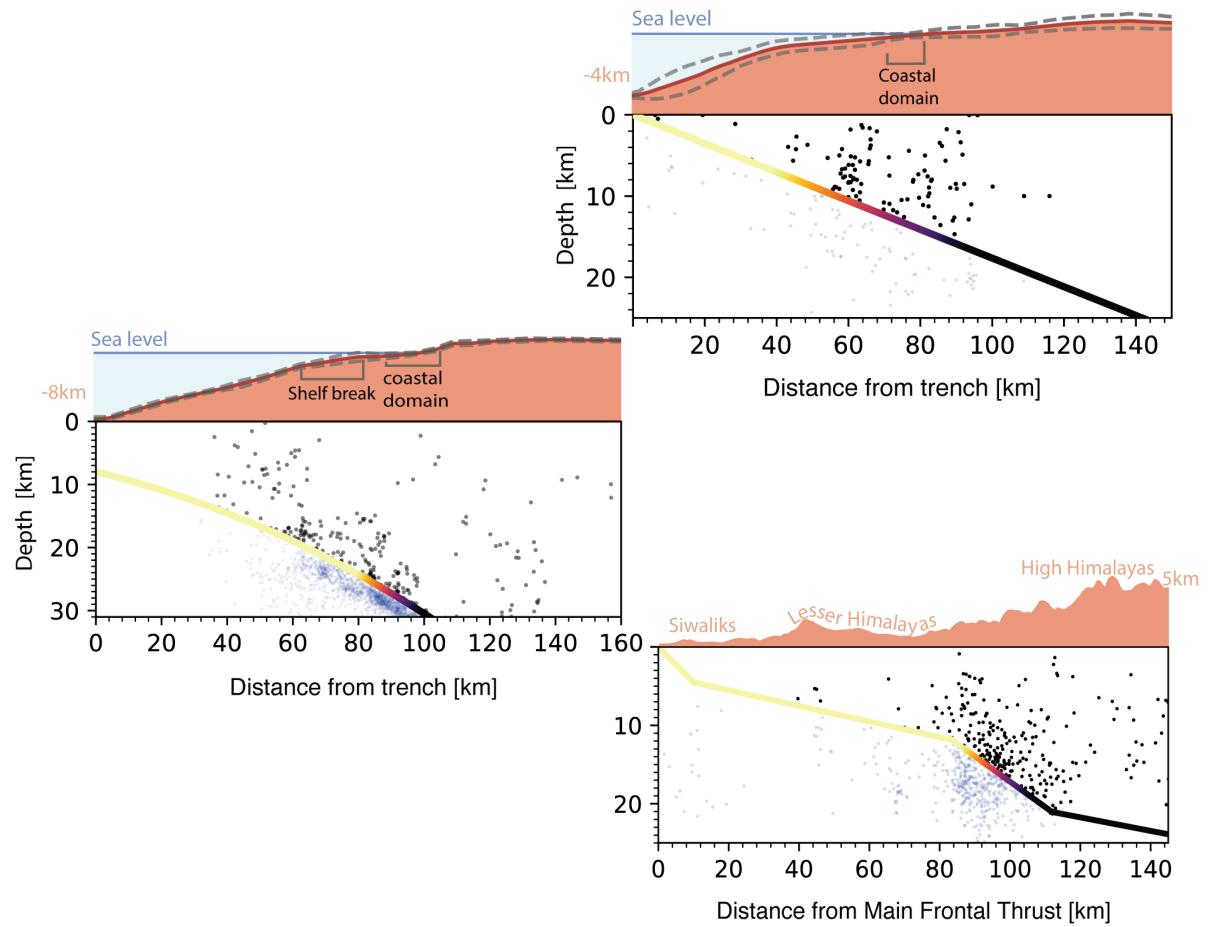


Oryan et al., 2024



MODELING INTERSEISMIC INELASTIC DEFORMATION ACROSS UPPER PLATES

- Current interseismic recorded seismicity represents a **snapshot of the long-term processes** that gradually shape topography.
- We extend the upper plate seismic record by generating upper plate earthquakes, **representing the complete signature of earthquake cycles.**



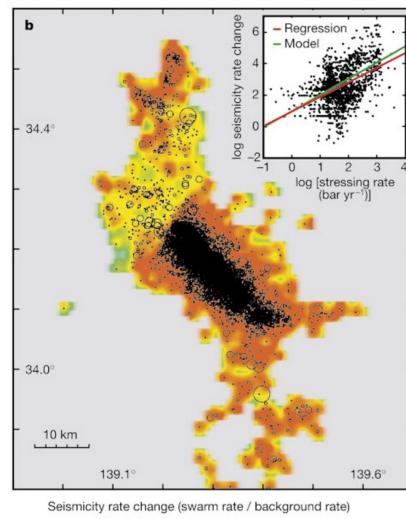
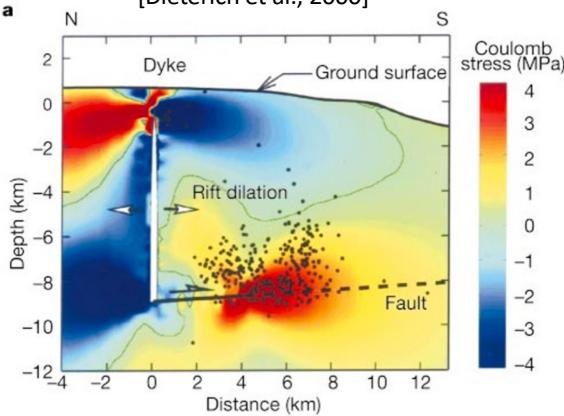
Oryan et al., 2024



MODELING INTERSEISMIC INELASTIC DEFORMATION ACROSS UPPER PLATES

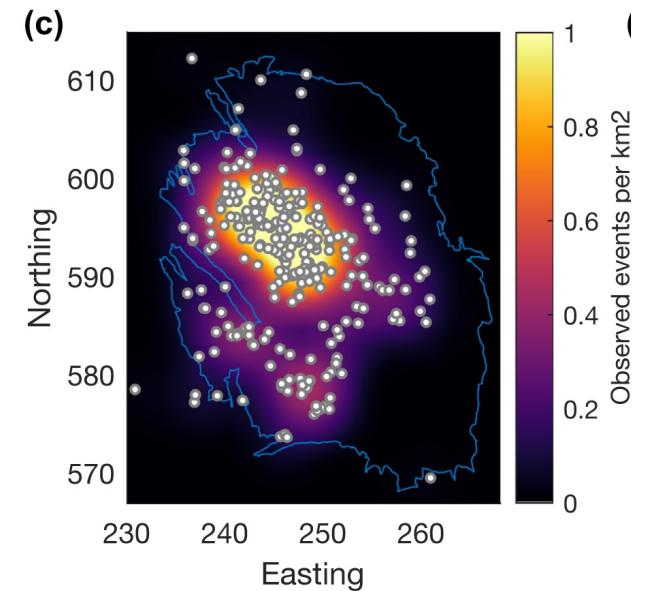
We rely on the Dieterich approach and link **seismicity rate** with **temporal and spatial stressing rates**.

Inverting earthquake rate data to infer stress changes
[Dieterich et al., 2000]



Predicting seismicity distribution arising from magma intrusions
[Toda et al., 2002]

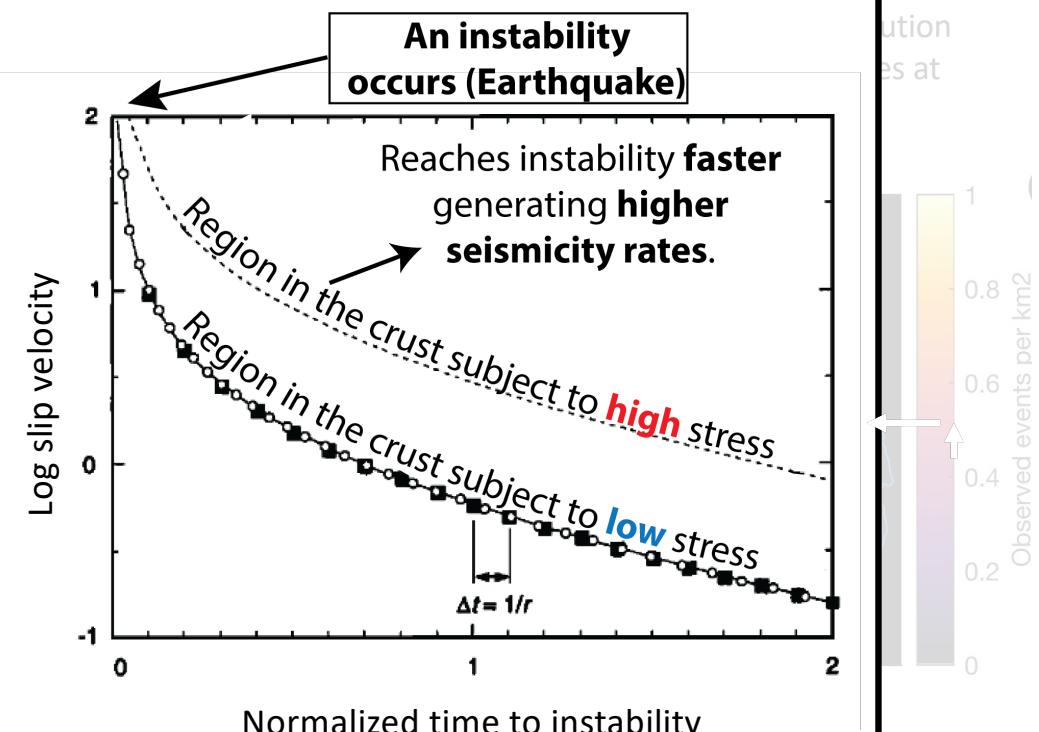
Predicting seismicity distribution from induced stress changes at Groningen gas field
[Heimisson et al., 2021]



MODELING INTERSEISMIC INELASTIC DEFORMATION ACROSS UPPER PLATES

- The Dieterich approach models the crust as a series of independent nucleation points governed by rate-and-state friction, progressing toward instability.
- Higher stressing rate will reduce the time to reach instability.

Underlying assumption:
 The state variable, θ , in rate-and-state friction follows $\frac{\theta\dot{\delta}}{D_c} \gg 1$ so $\theta = \theta_0 \exp(-\frac{\delta}{D_c})$ and as such the slip velocity:

$$\dot{\delta} = \left\{ \left[\frac{1}{\dot{\delta}_0} + \frac{H\sigma_n}{\dot{\tau}} \right] \exp\left(-\frac{\dot{\tau}t}{A\sigma_n}\right) - \frac{H\sigma_n}{\dot{\tau}} \right\}^{-1}.$$


MODELING INTERSEISMIC INELASTIC DEFORMATION ACROSS UPPER PLATES

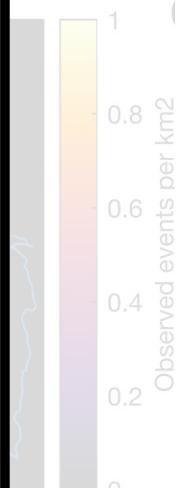
- We rely on the Dieterich approach with stress

Predicting seismicity distribution
changes at

The Dieterich framework is widely used to describe the **spatial** and temporal distribution of **seismicity from changes in stress and stress rate:**

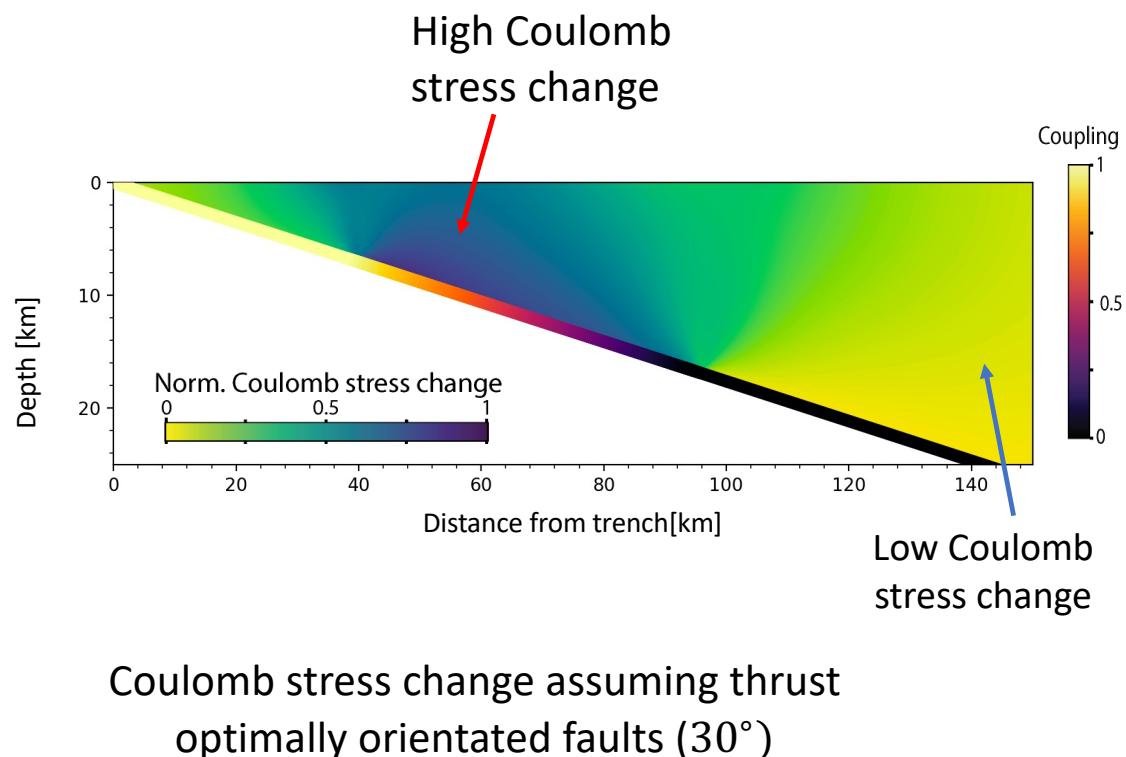
a
2
0
-2
-4
-6
-8
-10
-12

[Stein et al. (1997); Parsons et al. (2000); Toda et al. (2002); Helmstetter & Shaw (2006); Segall & Lu (2015); Kroll et al. (2017); Heimisson & Segal (2018); Cappa et al. (2019); Hager et al. (2021); Toda & Stein (2022); Heimisson et al. (2022) and more]



MODELING INTERSEISMIC INELASTIC DEFORMATION ACROSS UPPER PLATES

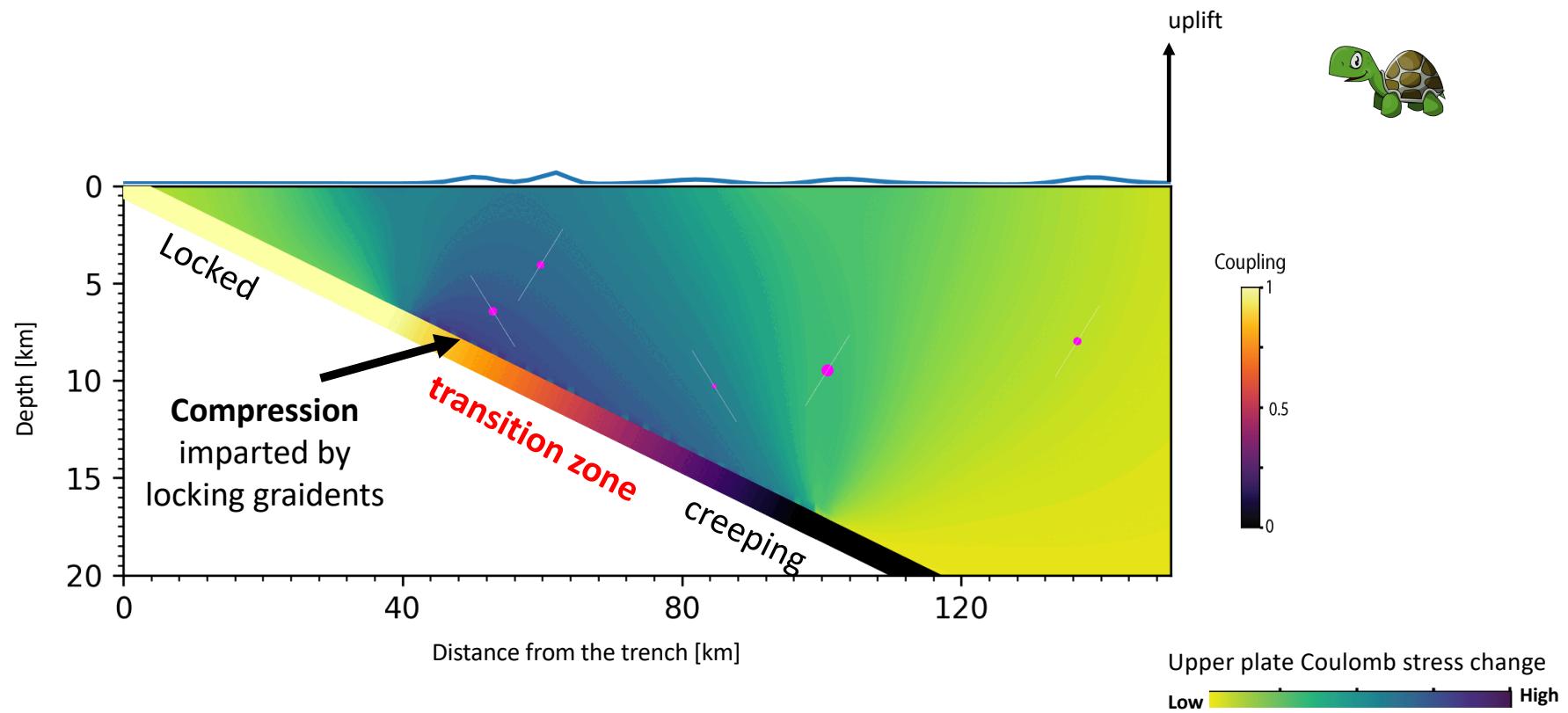
- We compute upper plate Coulomb stress change imparted by **locking gradients**.
- We **populate millions of synthetic earthquakes** spanning thousands of years and dozens of seismic cycles according to the **Coulomb stress change**.
- Apply the Okada solution to compute **cumulative long –term surface displacements** from seismic events.



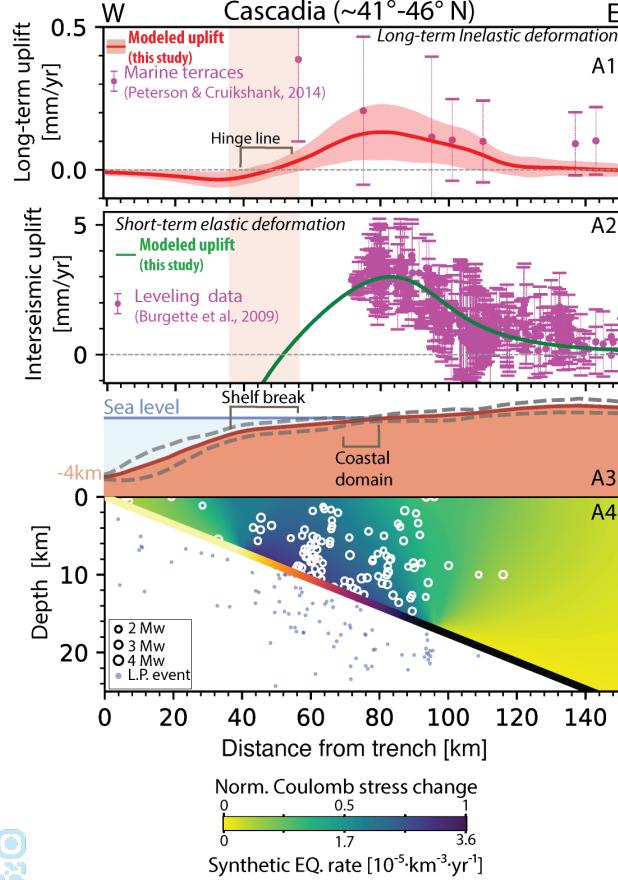
MODELING INTERSEISMIC INELASTIC DEFORMATION ACROSS UPPER PLATES

10 degree dip, fully locked to 40km

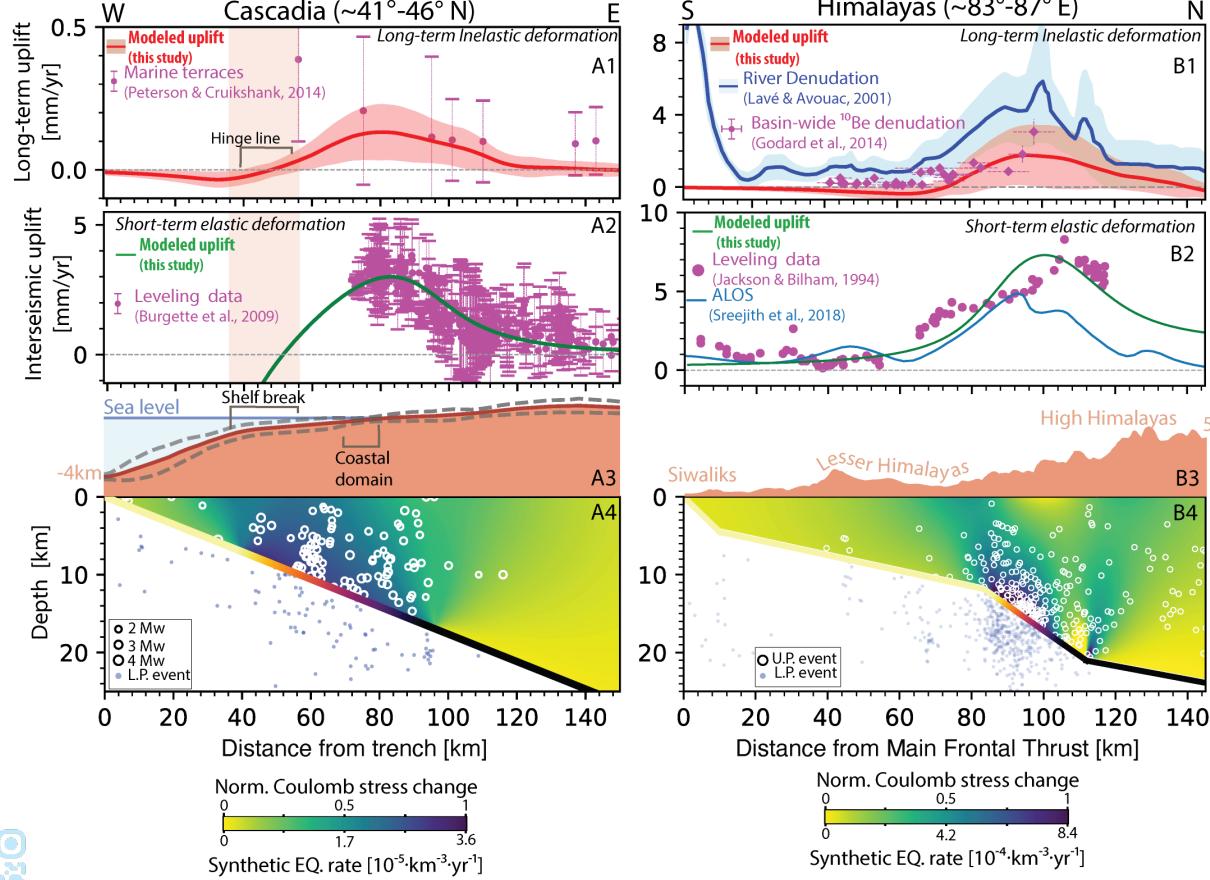
Uplift during three seismic cycles producing average **long-term** rate of 0.1 mm/yr



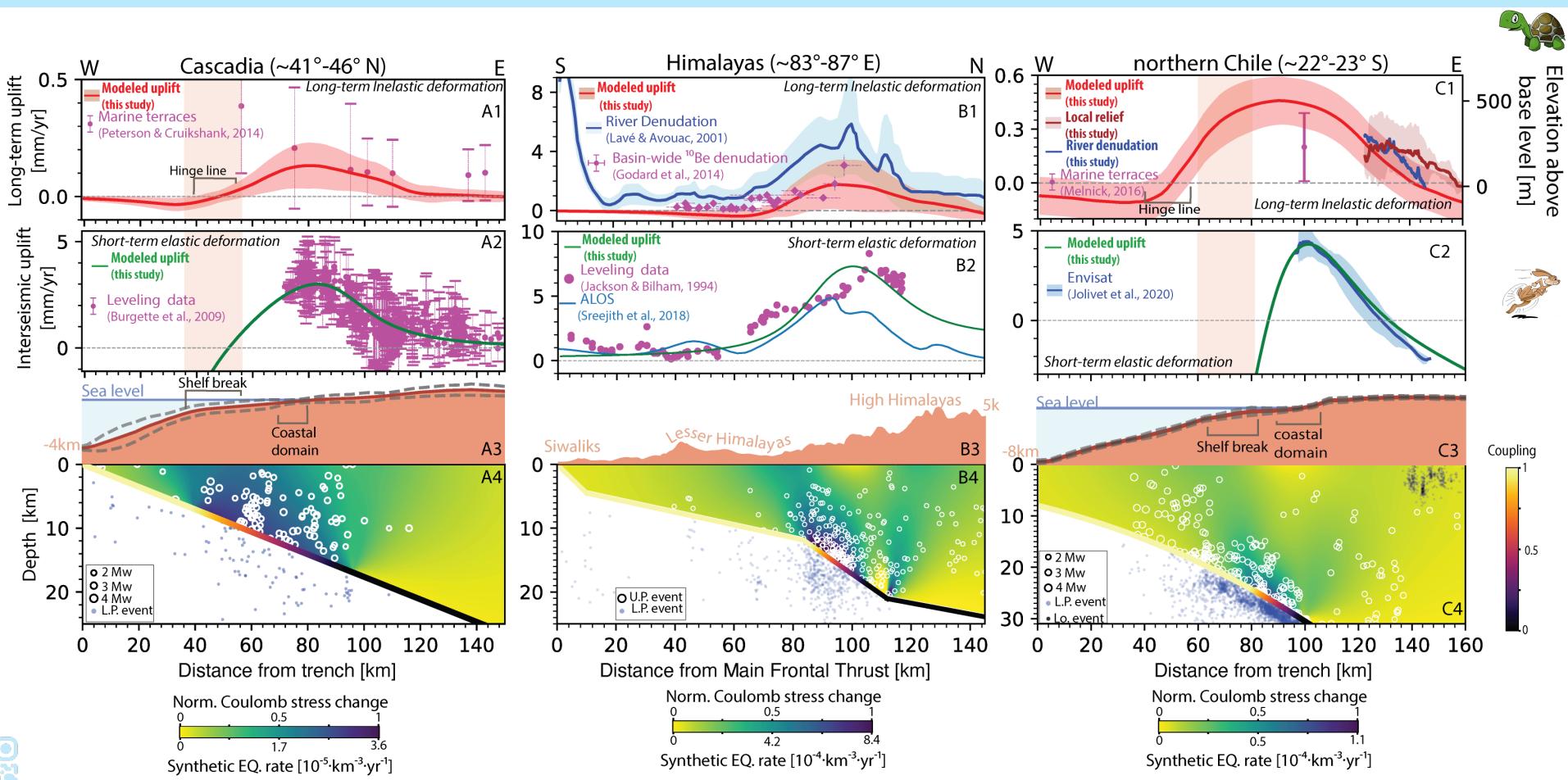
DEFORMATION IN CASCADIA, HIMALYAS AND CHILE



DEFORMATION IN CASCADIA, HIMALYAS AND CHILE



DEFORMATION IN CASCADIA, HIMALYAS AND CHILE

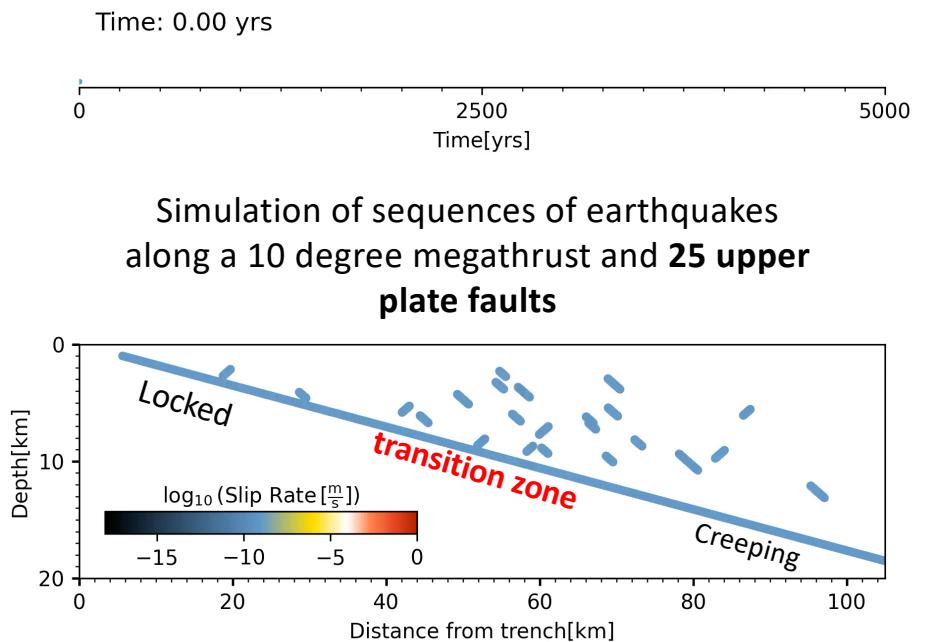


Oryan et al., 2024



MODELING INTERSEISMIC INELASTIC DEFORMATION ACROSS UPPER PLATES

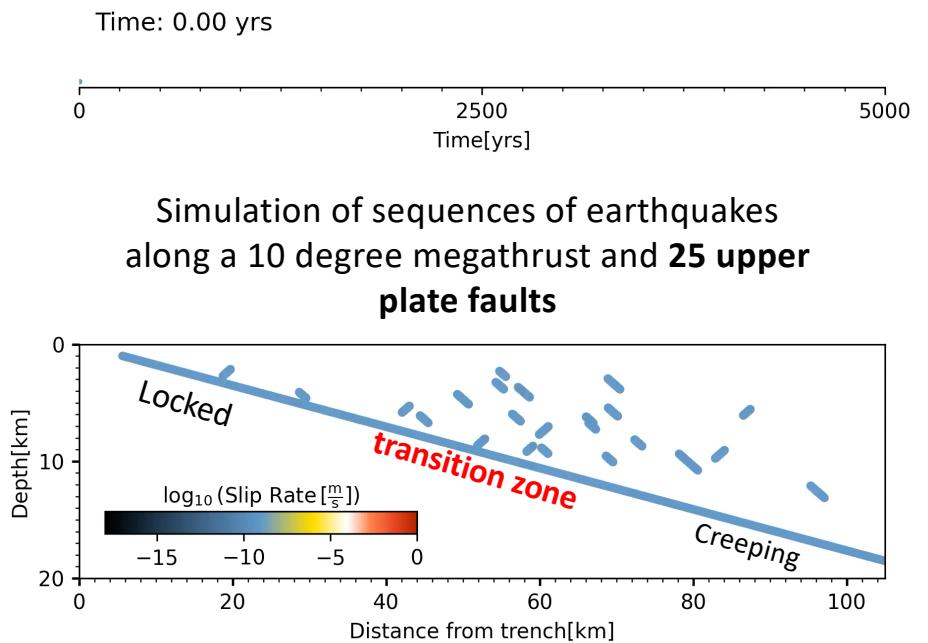
- Simulations of seismic cycles along a megathrust fault, combined with discrete, randomly distributed upper plate faults governed by rate-and-state friction laws, reveal that:
 - Upper plate faults can **fail interseismically** and generate earthquakes.



Oryan et al., in prep.

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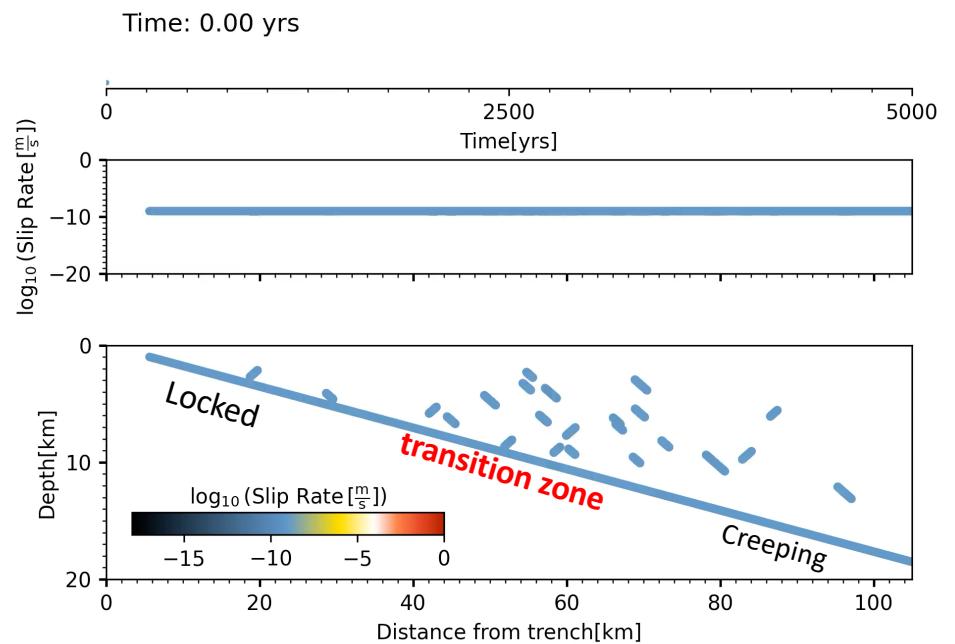


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Simulation of sequences of earthquakes along a 10 degree megathrust and **25 upper plate faults**

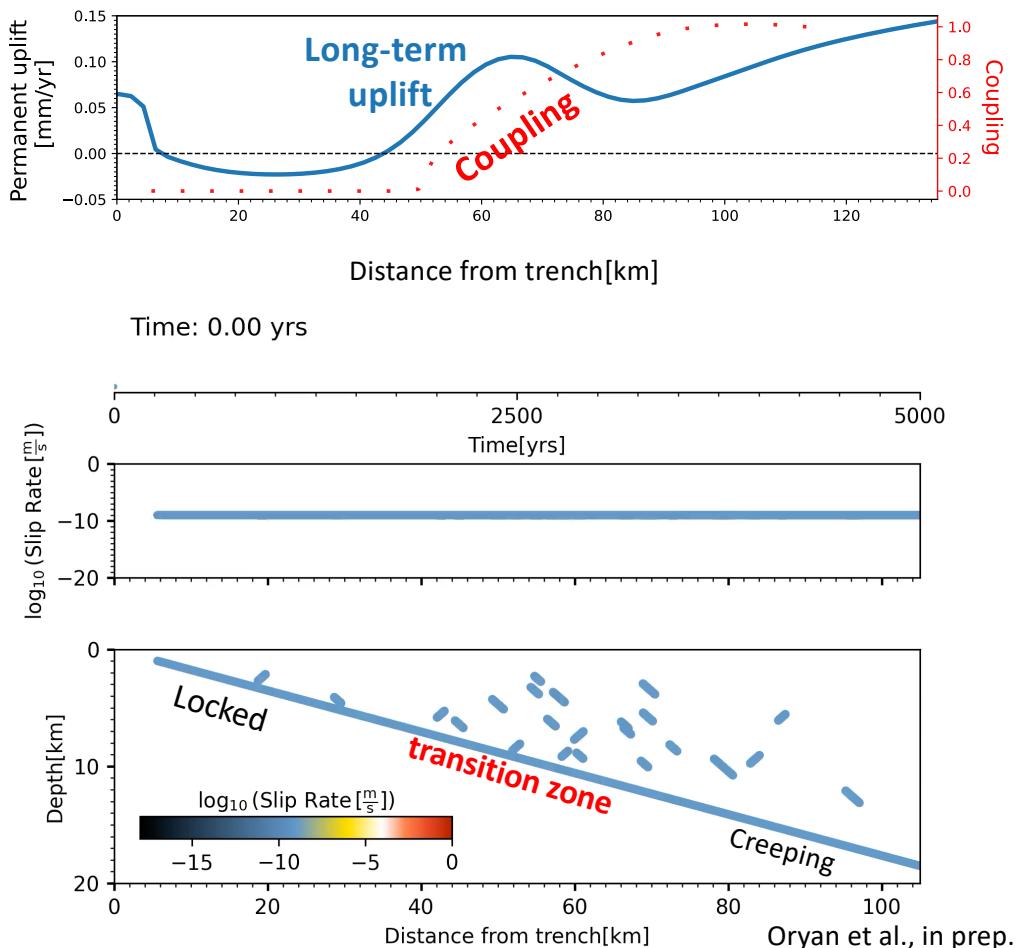


MODELING INTERSEISMIC INELASTIC DEFORMATION ACROSS UPPER PLATES

- Simulations of seismic cycles along a megathrust fault, combined with discrete, randomly distributed upper plate faults governed by rate-and-state friction laws, reveal that:
 - Upper plate faults can **fail interseismically** and generate earthquakes.
 - **Permanent uplift**, observed after four seismic cycles, **peaks above the transition zone**.



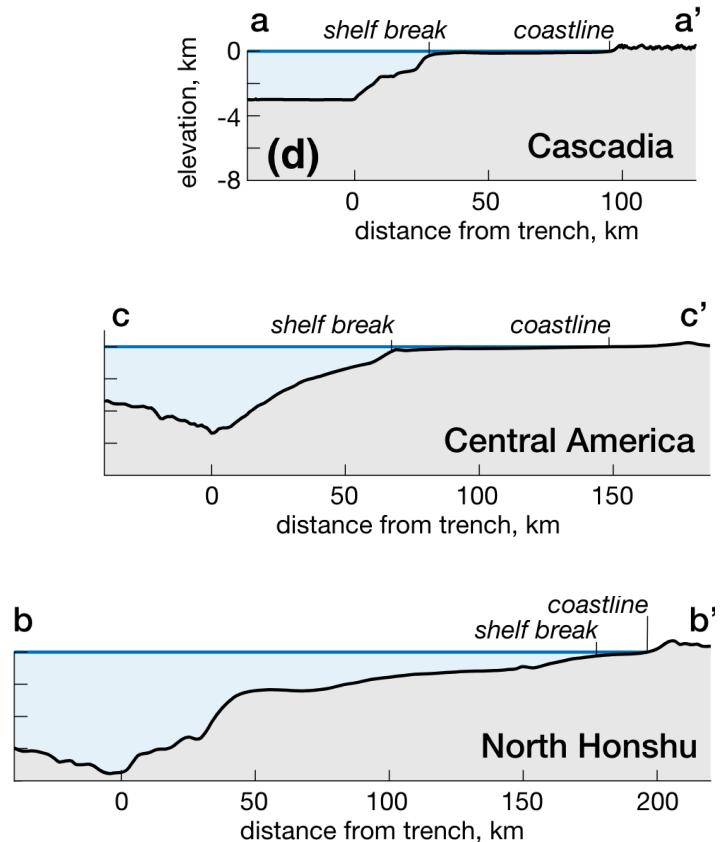
Oryan et al., in prep.



Oryan et al., in prep.

IMPLICATIONS FOR LONG-TERM PLATE COUPLING

- Our results imply that the downdip pattern of megathrust locking tends to **remain steady over hundreds of thousands of years**.
- Could the absence of a landscape signature indicative of frequent changes in megathrust coupling?

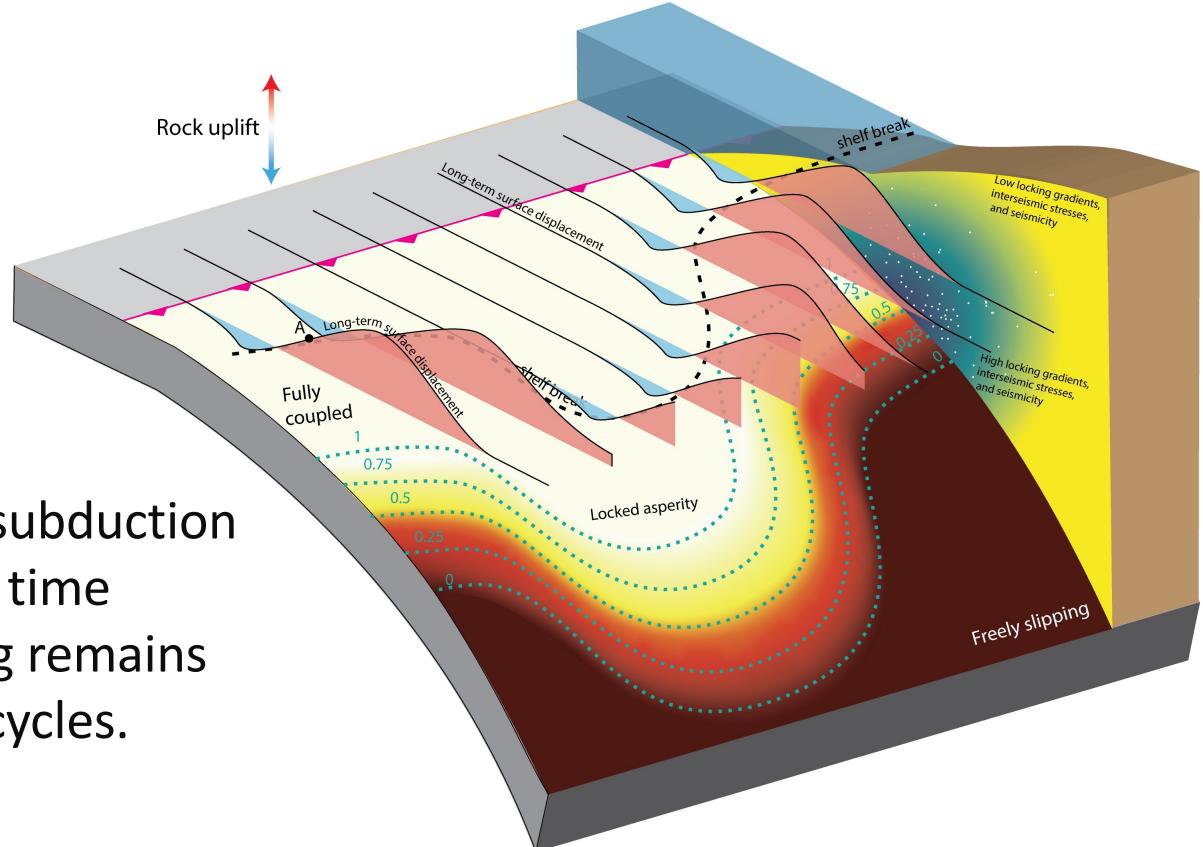


Malatesta et al [2021]

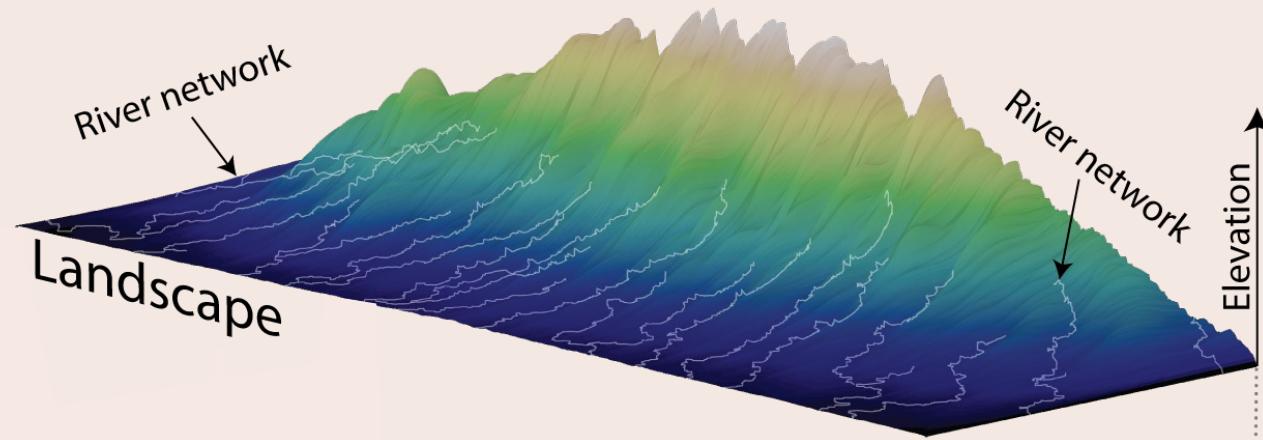


KEY POINTS SO FAR

- Variations in the degree of **megathrust locking** generate increments of **non-recoverable brittle deformation** within the overriding plate.
- This is expressed primarily as interseismic **upper plate seismicity**.
- Over time, this process **imprints** subduction landscapes one seismic cycle at a time
- This hints that megathrust locking remains stable over multiple earthquake cycles.

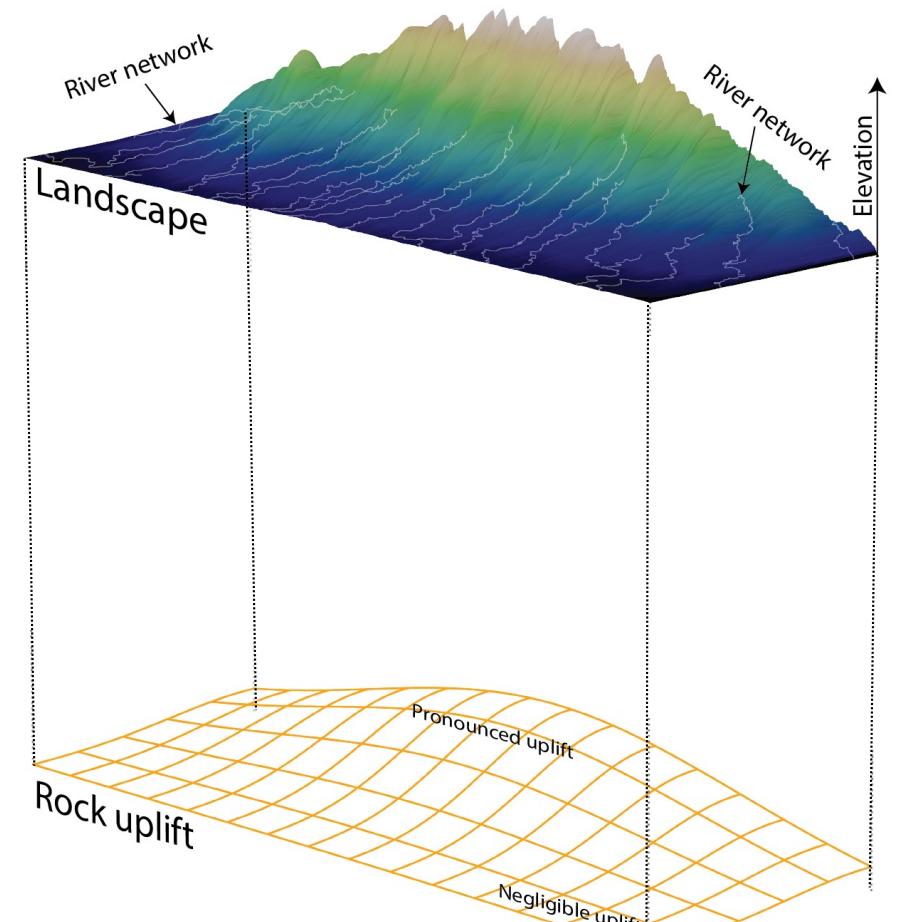


Section 3 - Inferring Long-Term Tectonic Uplift from Bayesian Inversion of Landscapes



INFERRING LONG-TERM TECTONIC UPLIFT FROM BAYESIAN INVERSION OF LANDSCAPES

- Landscapes encode the forcing of **tectonic uplift**

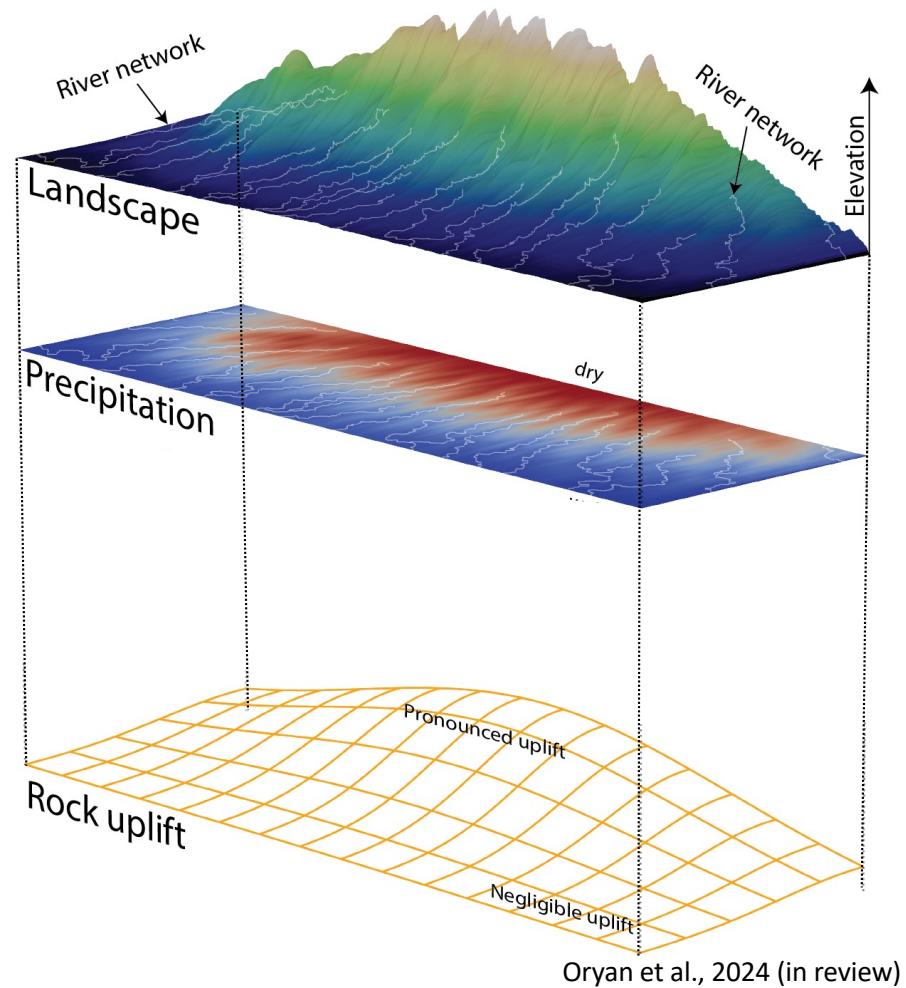


Oryan et al., 2024 (in review)



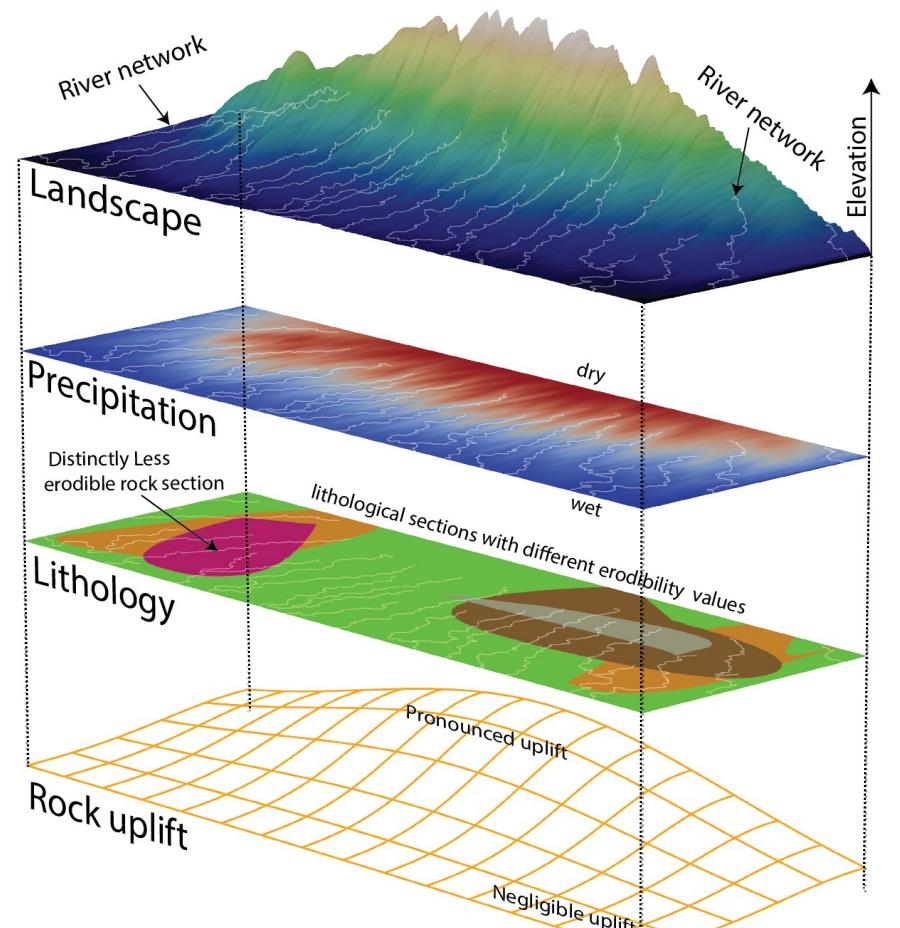
INFERRING LONG-TERM TECTONIC UPLIFT FROM BAYESIAN INVERSION OF LANDSCAPES

- Landscapes encode the combined forcing of **tectonic uplift** and erosion driven by **climate**



INFERRING LONG-TERM TECTONIC UPLIFT FROM BAYESIAN INVERSION OF LANDSCAPES

- Landscapes encode the combined forcing of **tectonic uplift** and erosion driven by **climate** and **rock erodibility**.

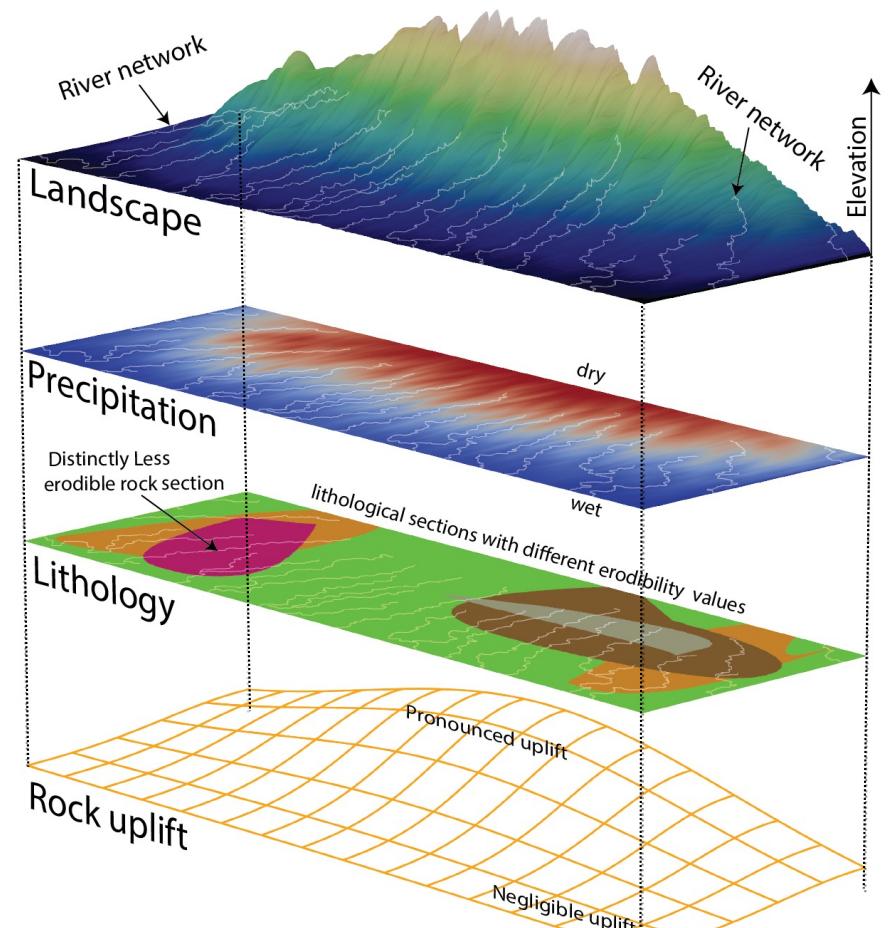


Oryan et al., 2024 (in review)



INFERRING LONG-TERM TECTONIC UPLIFT FROM BAYESIAN INVERSION OF LANDSCAPES

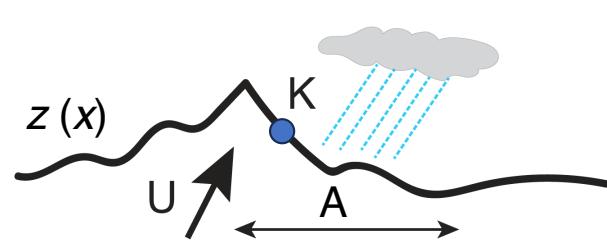
- Landscapes encode the combined forcing of **tectonic uplift** and erosion driven by **climate** and **rock erodibility**.
- Disentangling their contributions is essential for using landscapes as quantitative records of crustal deformation.



Oryan et al., 2024 (in review)



RIVER INCISION AT STEADY STATE



$$U(X) \uparrow = \downarrow K(x)A^m(x)S^n(x)$$

Tectonic
uplift

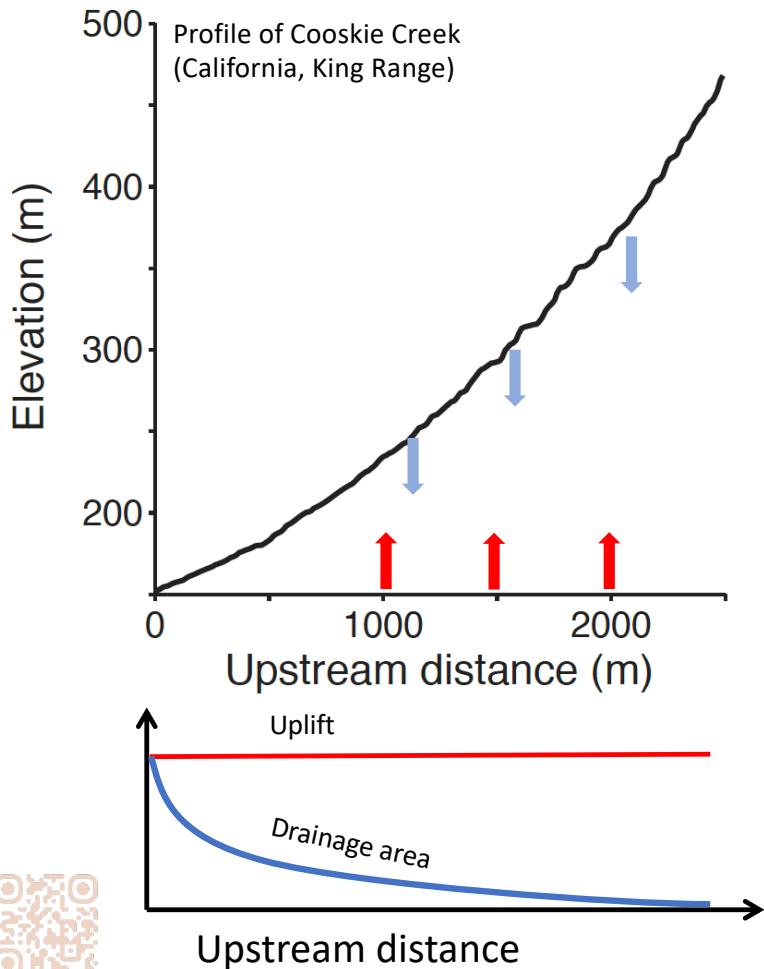
Local incision rate
(faster for steeper slope S , with more water flowing and larger erodibility)

Parameters:

- erodibility (K)
- drainage area (A)
- exponents (m, n)



RIVER INCISION AT STEADY STATE



$$U(X) \uparrow = \downarrow K(x)A^m(x)S^n(x)$$

Tectonic
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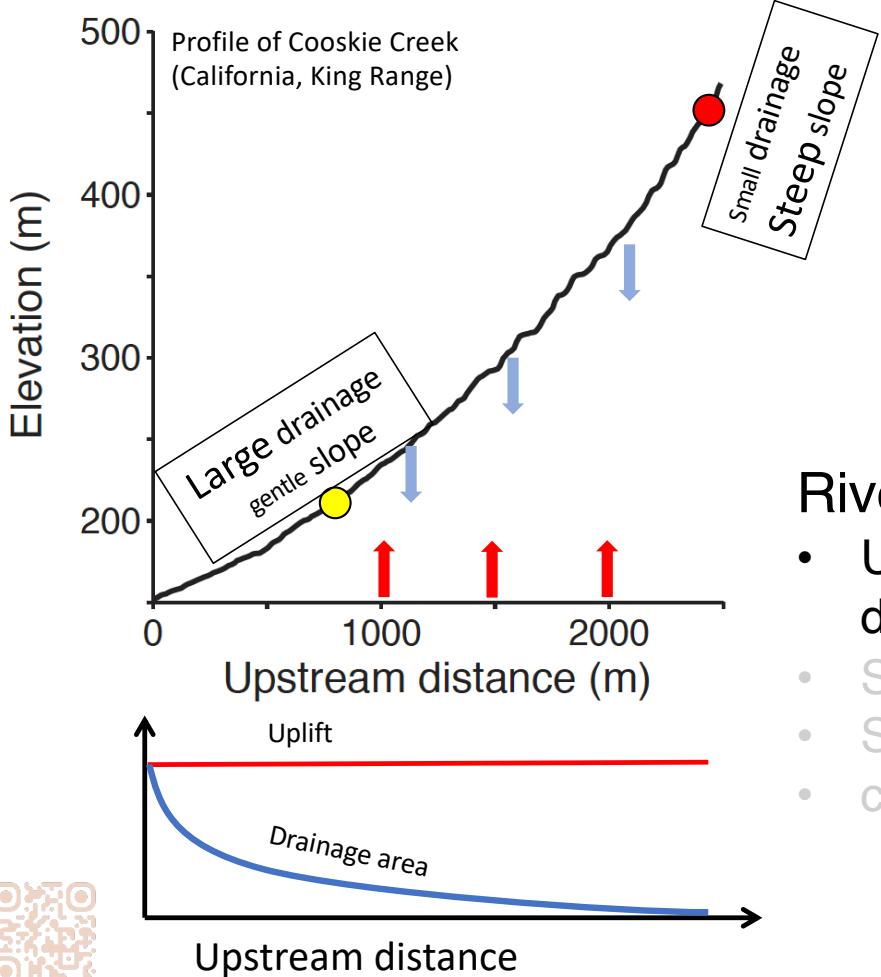
Parameters:

- erodibility (K)
- drainage area (A)
- exponents (m, n)

River concavity reflects:

- Upstream decrease in drainage area
- Shape of uplift
- Spatially variable erodibility
- climate

RIVER INCISION AT STEADY STATE



$$U(X) \uparrow = \downarrow K(x)A^m(x)S^n(x)$$

Tectonic
uplift

Local incision rate
*(faster for steeper
slope **S**, with more
water flowing and
larger erodibility)*

Parameters:

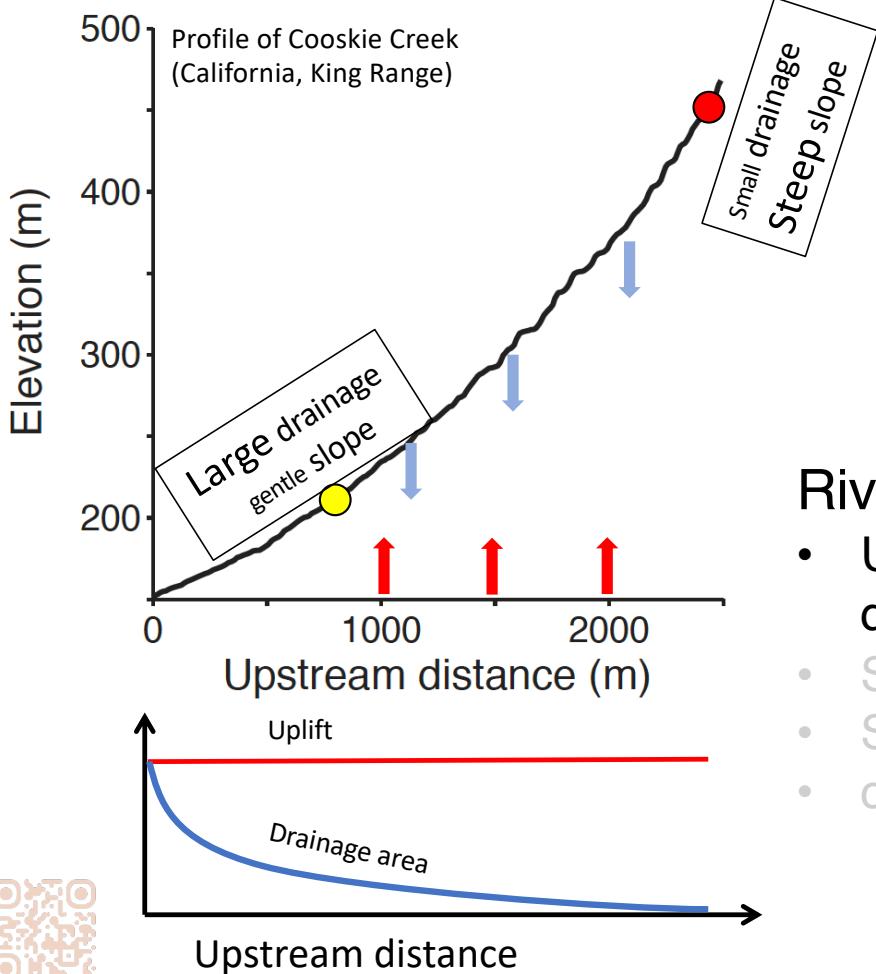
- erodibility (**K**)
- drainage area (**A**)
- exponents (**m, n**)

River concavity reflects:

- Upstream decrease in drainage area
- Shape of uplift
- Spatially variable erodibility
- climate



RIVER INCISION AT STEADY STATE

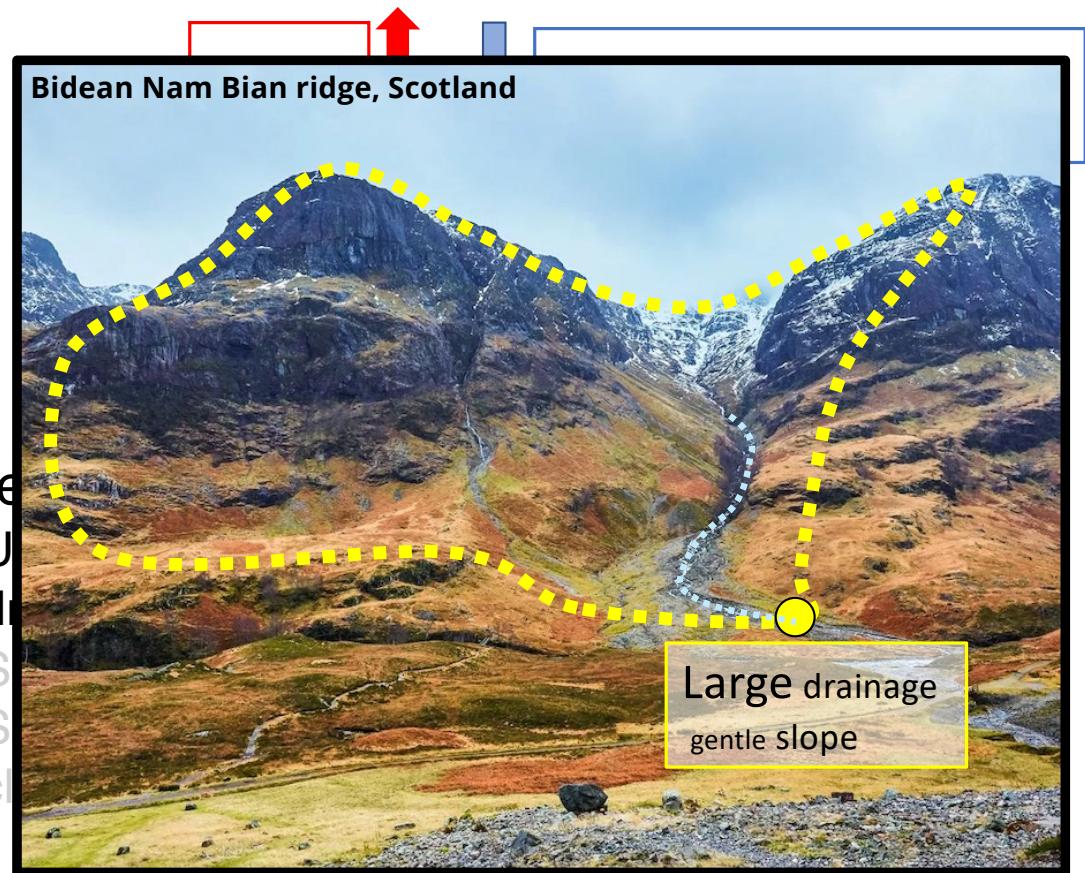
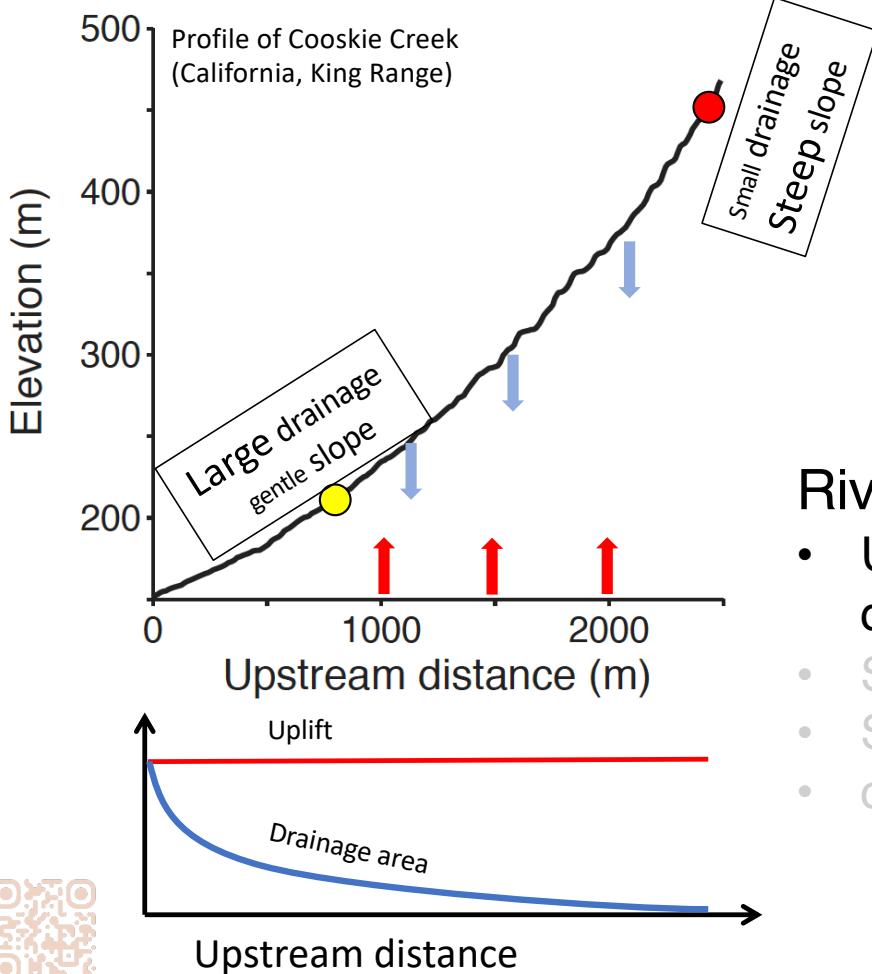


River incision at steady state

- Uplift due to isostasy
- Sediment supply
- Climate
- Tectonics

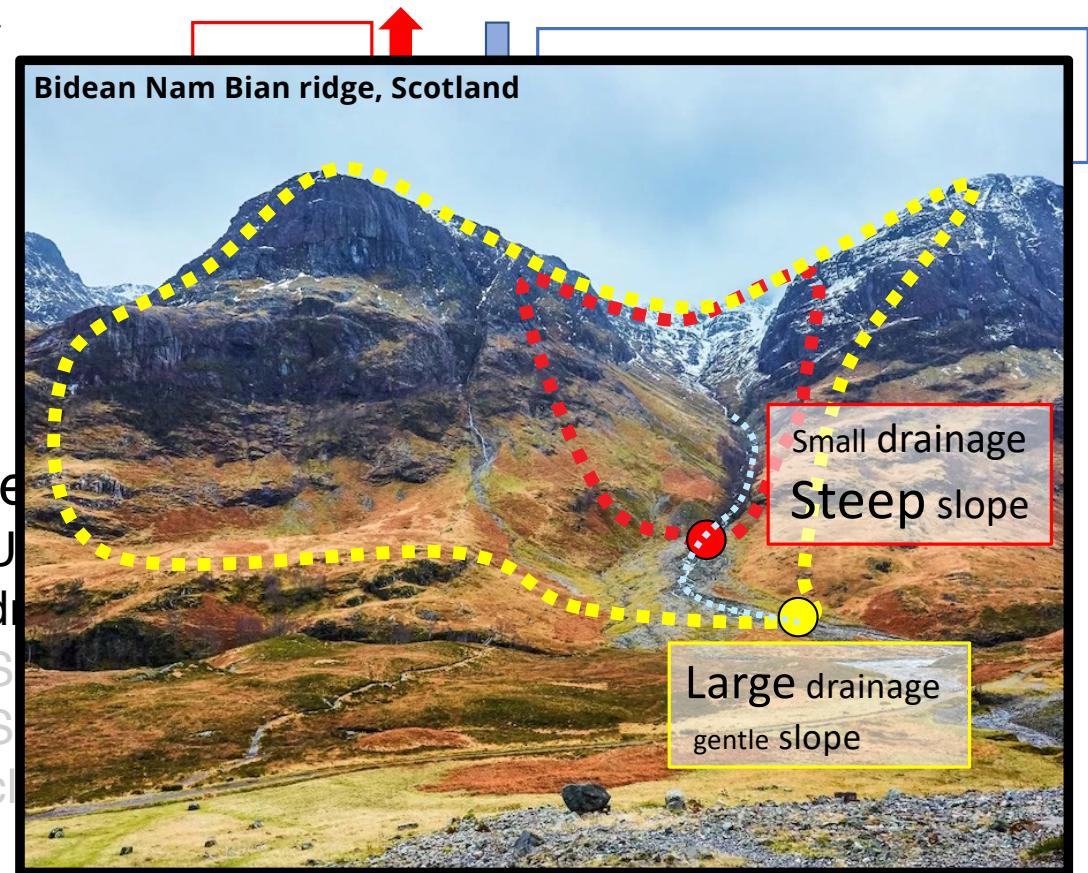
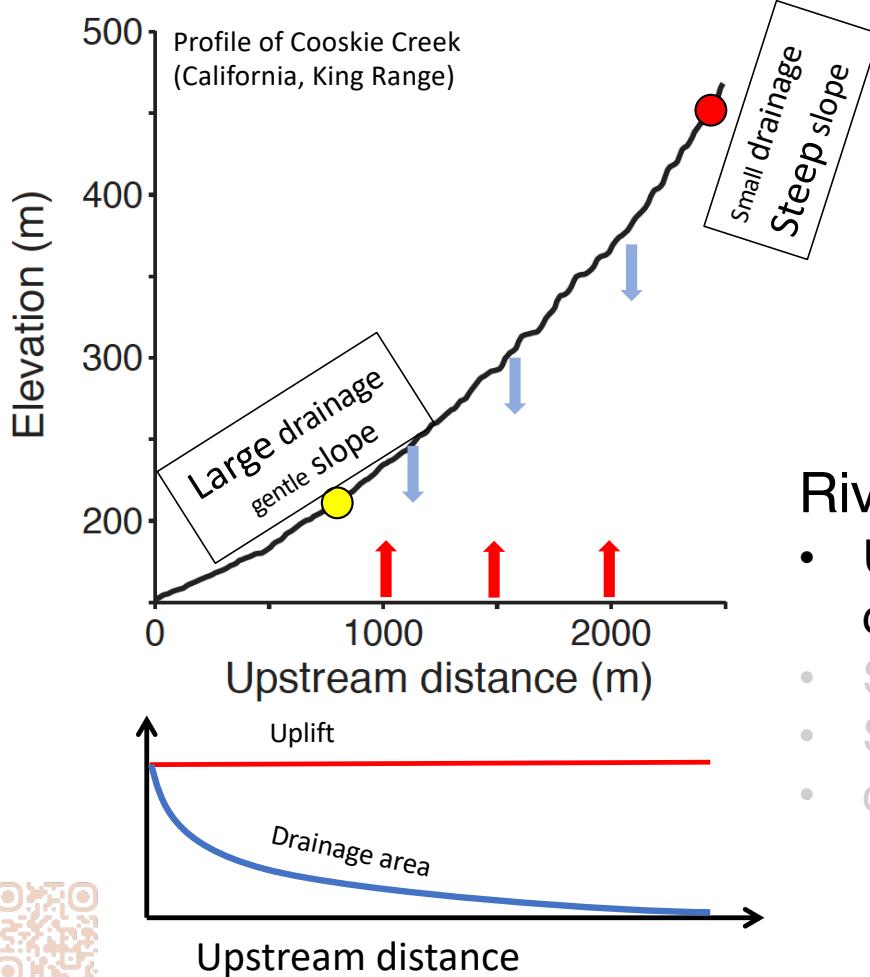
Perron & Royden, 2013

RIVER INCISION AT STEADY STATE



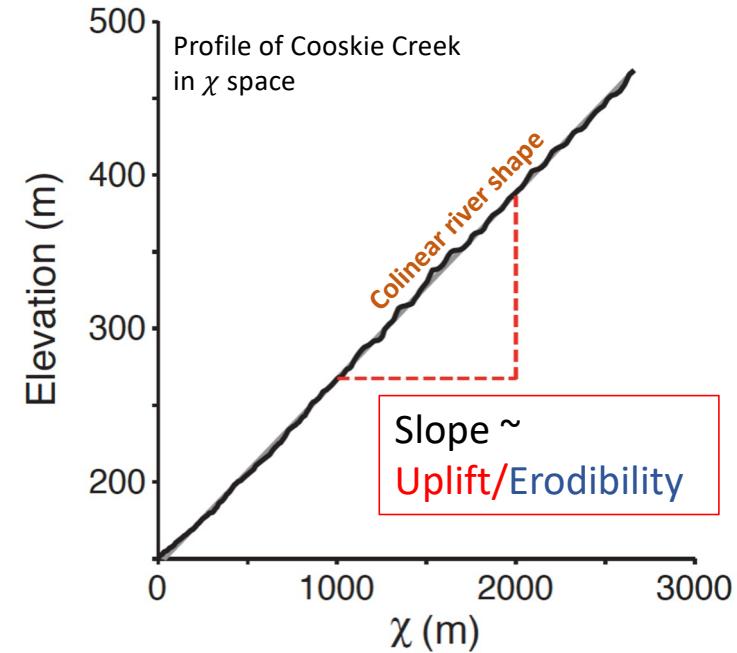
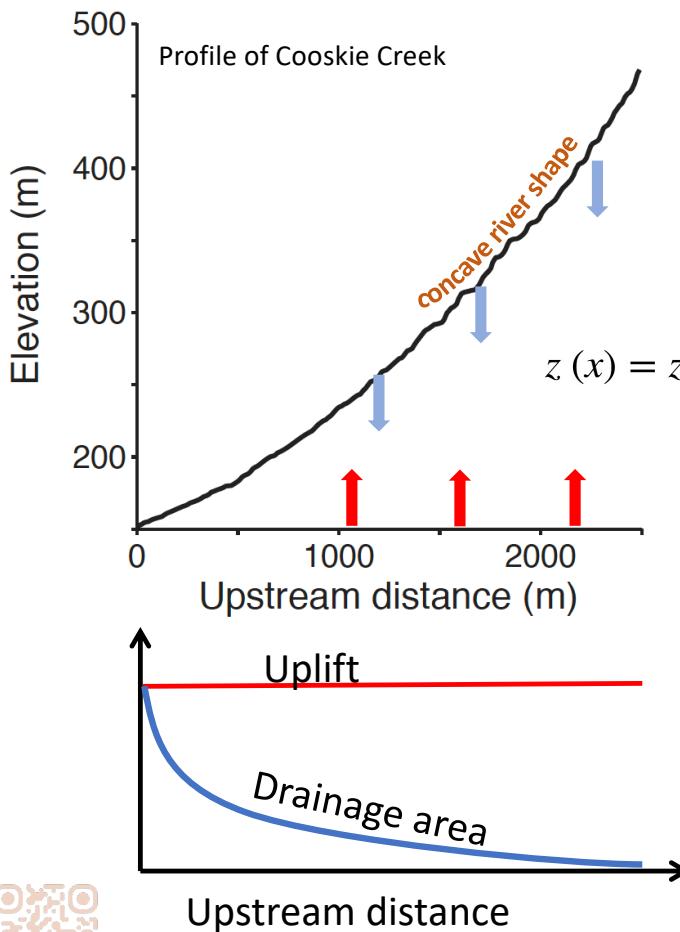
Perron & Royden, 2013

RIVER INCISION AT STEADY STATE



Perron & Royden, 2013

χ - TRANSFORMATION OF RIVERS

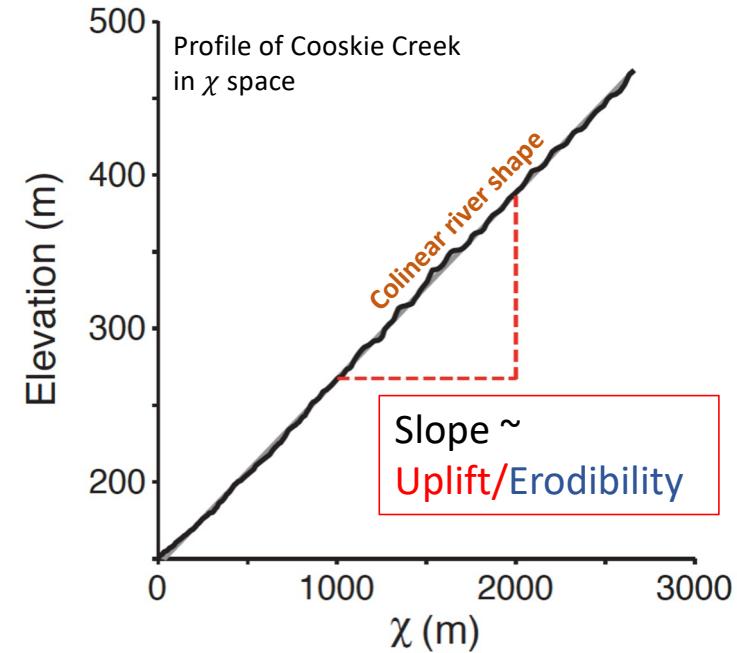
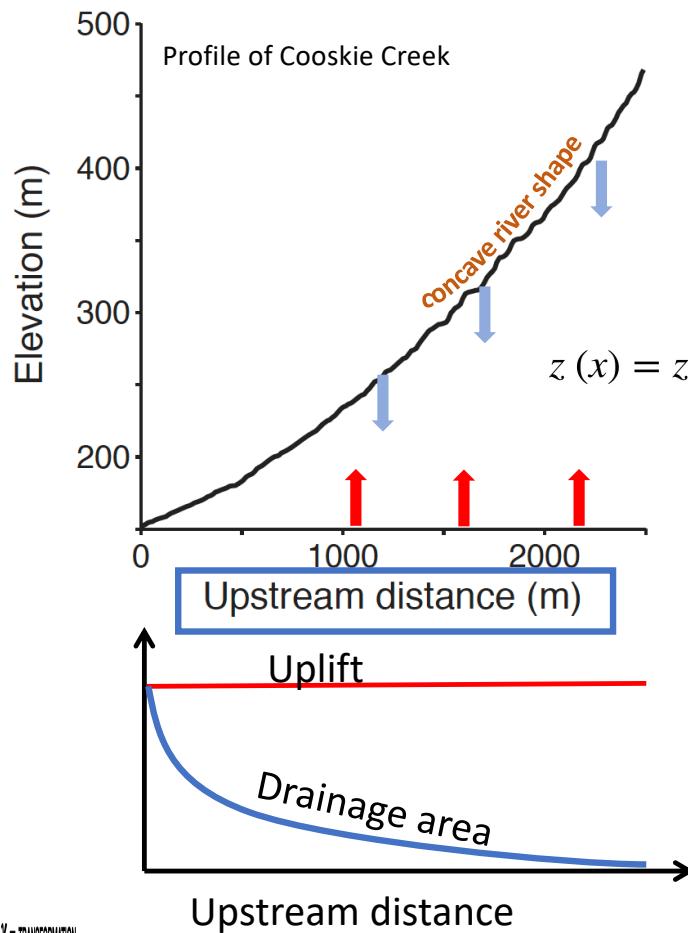


Corrects for upstream decrease in drainage area while assuming uniform spatial uplift

Perron & Royden, 2013



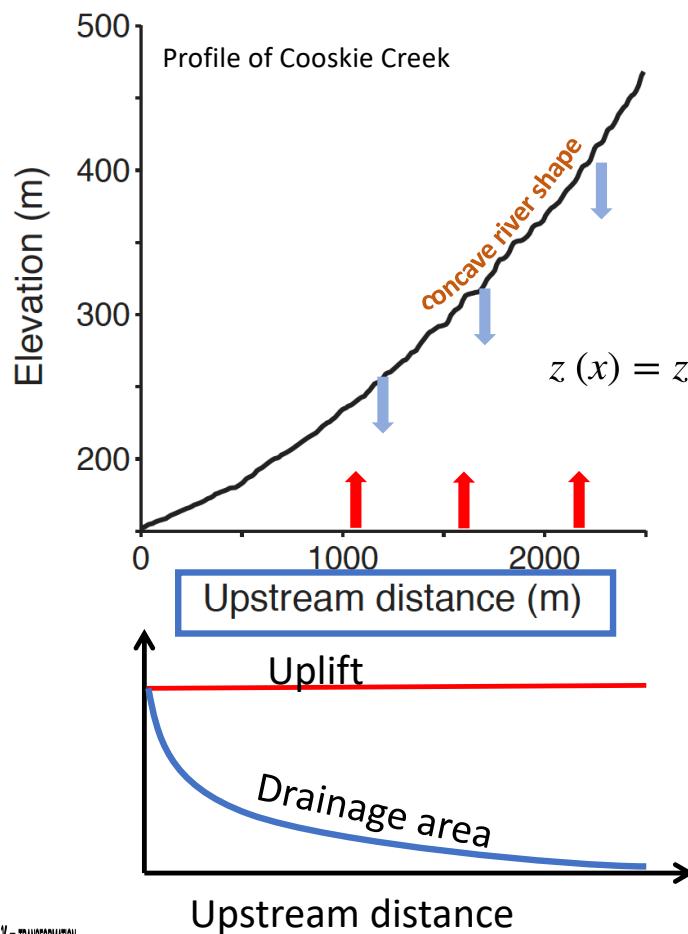
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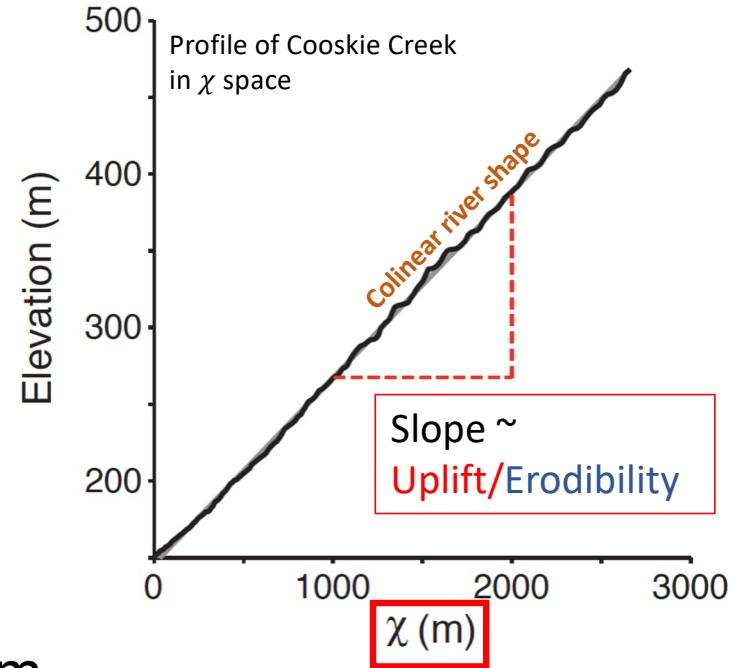
Perron & Royden, 2013

χ - TRANSFORMATION OF RIVERS



$$z(x) = z_b + \left(\frac{U_0}{K_0 A_0} \right)^{\frac{1}{n}} \underbrace{\int_{x_b}^x \left(\frac{A_0}{A^*(x)} \right)^{\frac{m}{n}} dx}_{\chi}$$

χ - TRANSFORMATION



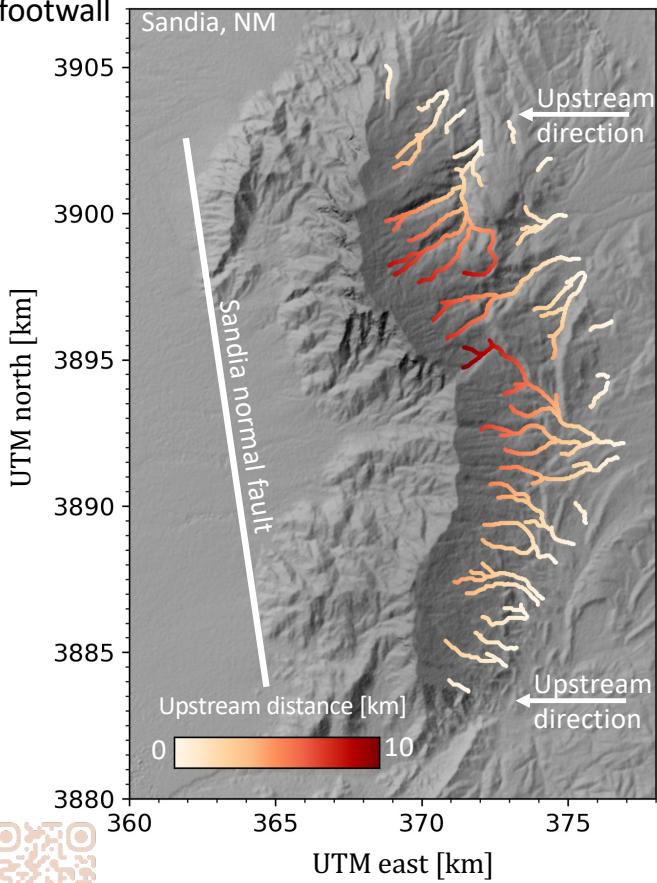
Corrects for upstream decrease in drainage area while assuming uniform spatial uplift

Perron & Royden, 2013

χ - TRANSFORMATION OF RIVER PROFILES IN SANDIA

Application to simple tectonic settings - normal fault

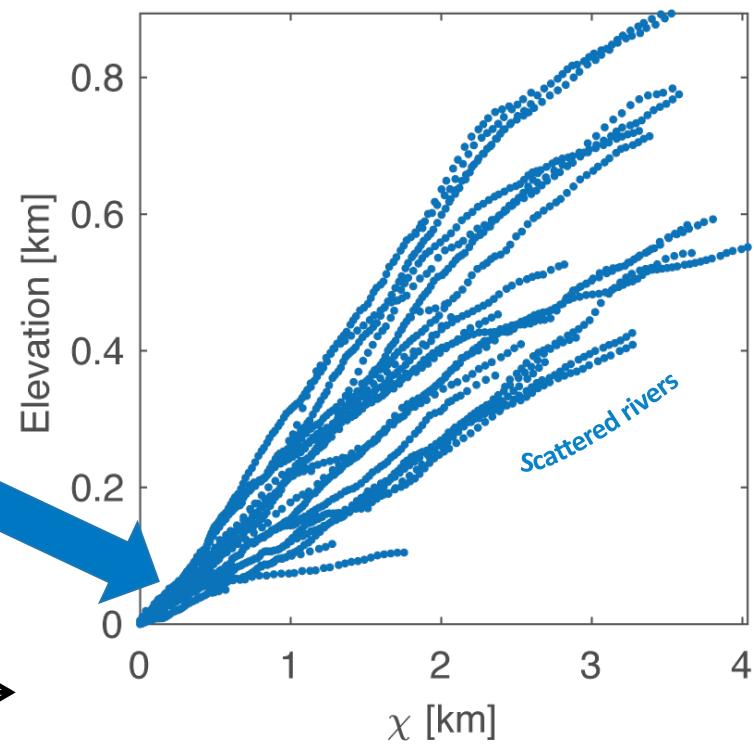
footwall



River concavity reflects:

- Upstream decrease in drainage area
- Shape of uplift
- Spatially variable erodibility and climate

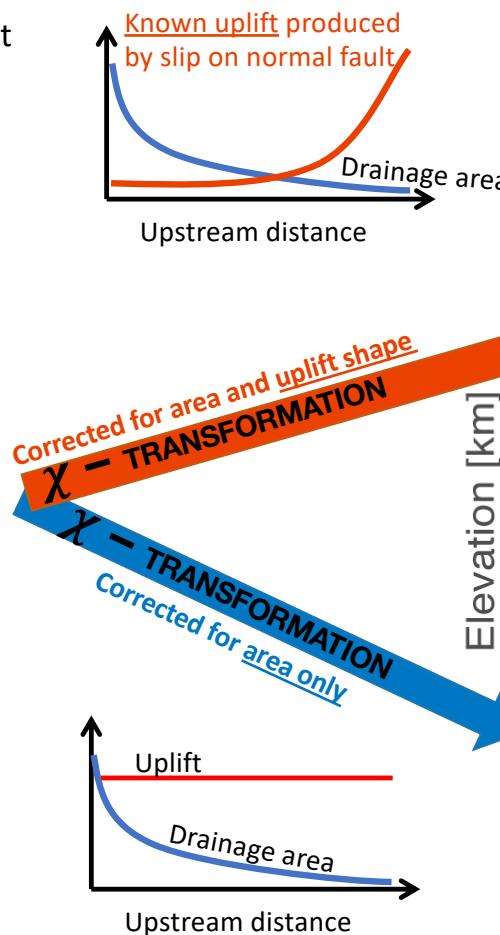
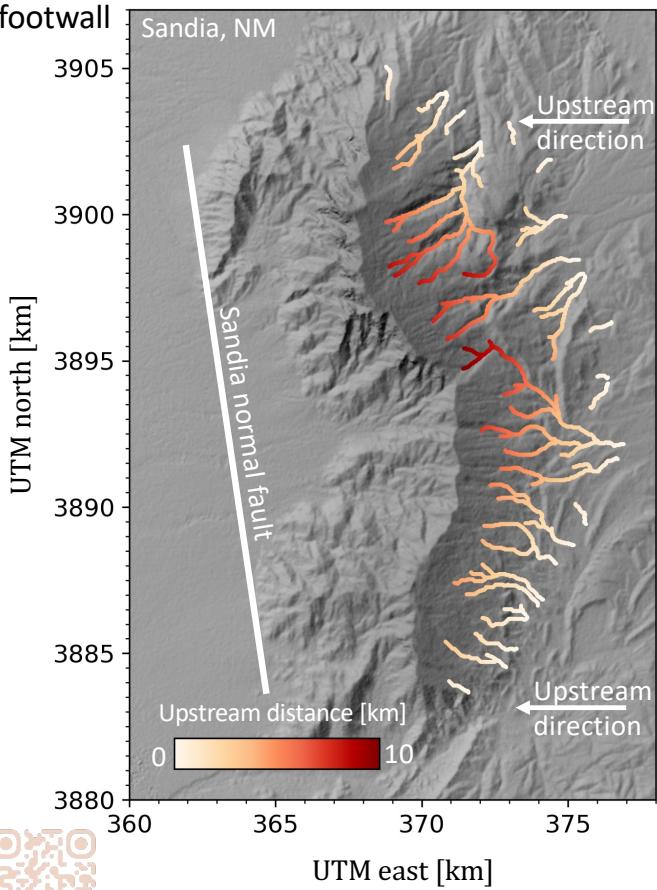
χ space -Sandia rivers



Olive et al., 2022

χ - TRANSFORMATION OF RIVER PROFILES IN SANDIA

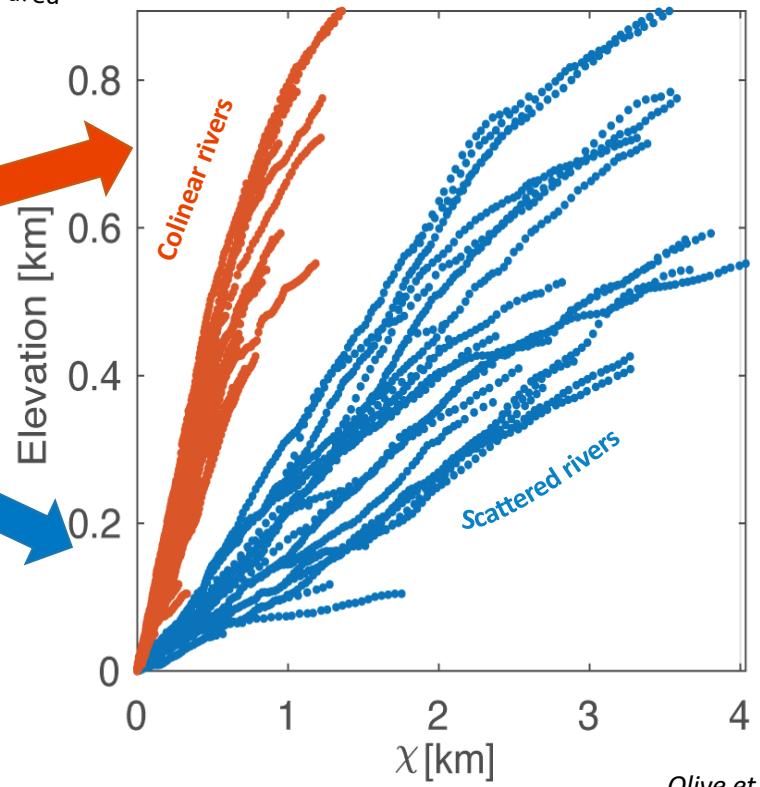
Application to simple tectonic settings - normal fault footwall



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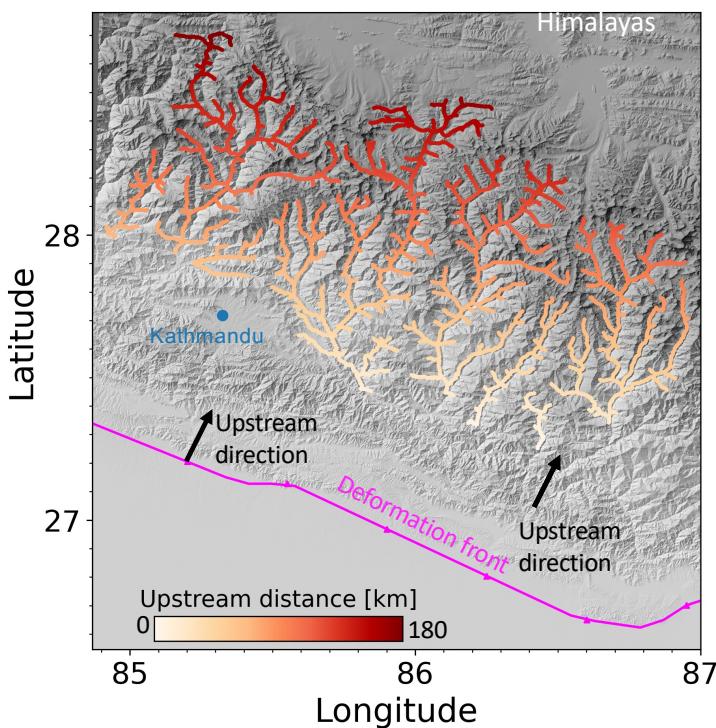
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Olive et al., 2022

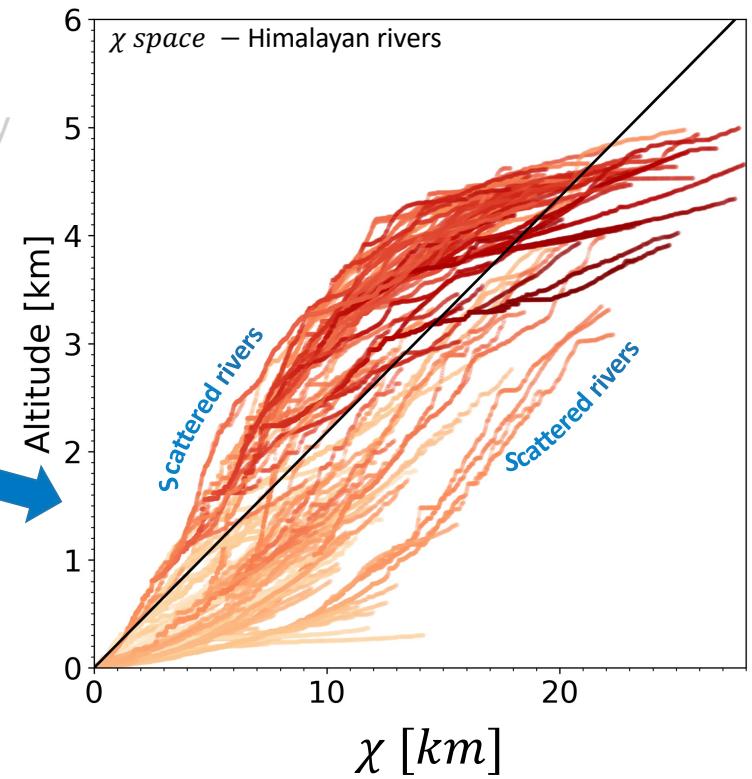
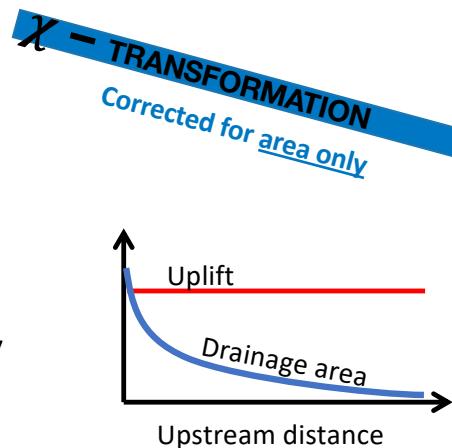


χ - TRANSFORMATION OF RIVER PROFILES IN THE HIMALAYAS

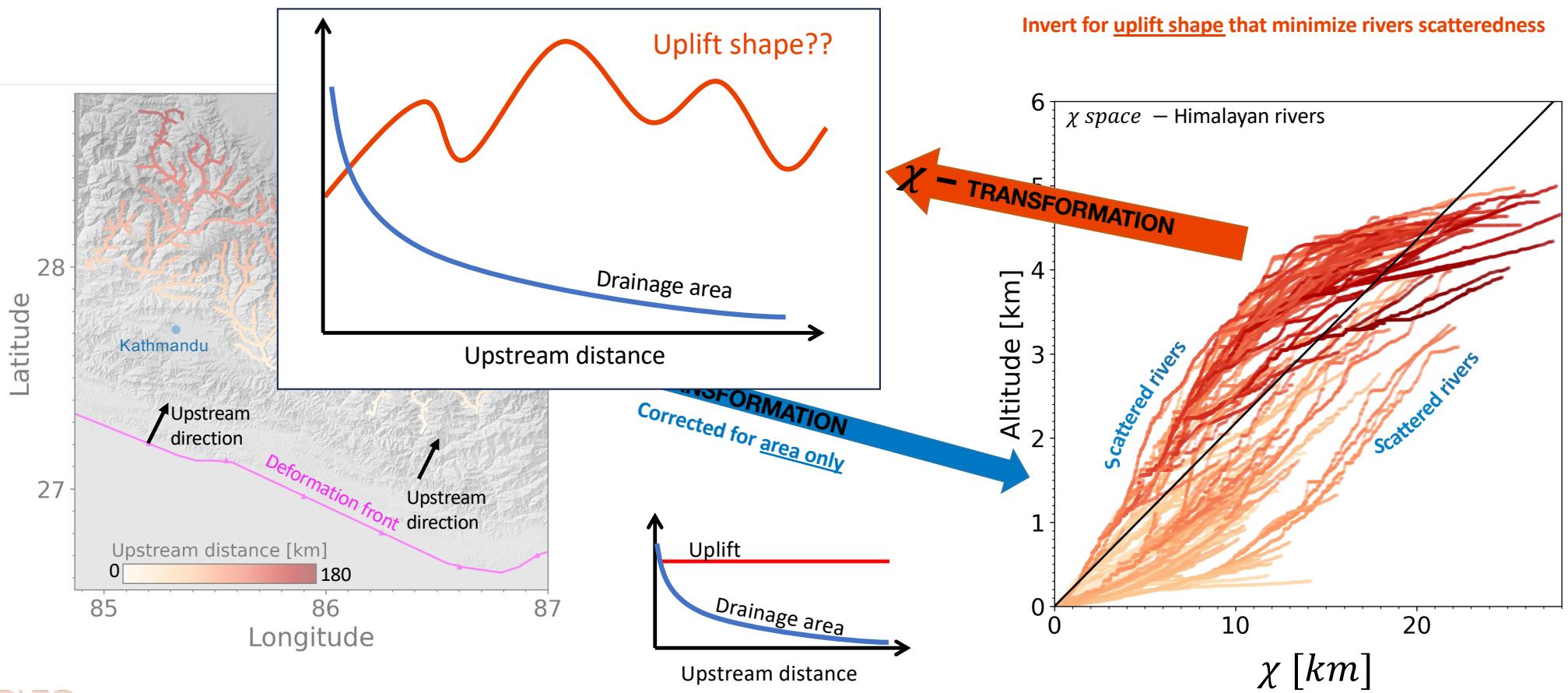


River concavity reflects:

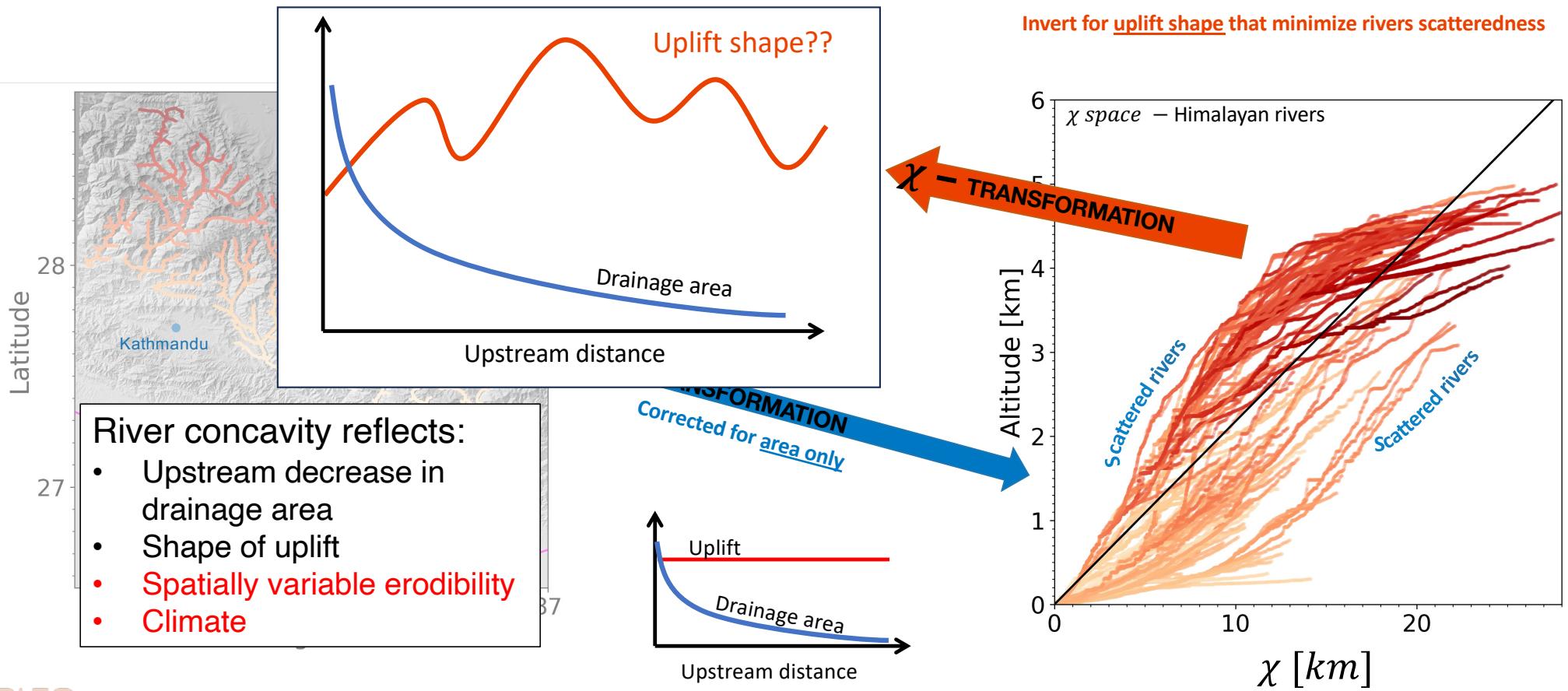
- Upstream decrease in drainage area
- Shape of uplift
- Spatially variable erodibility
- climate



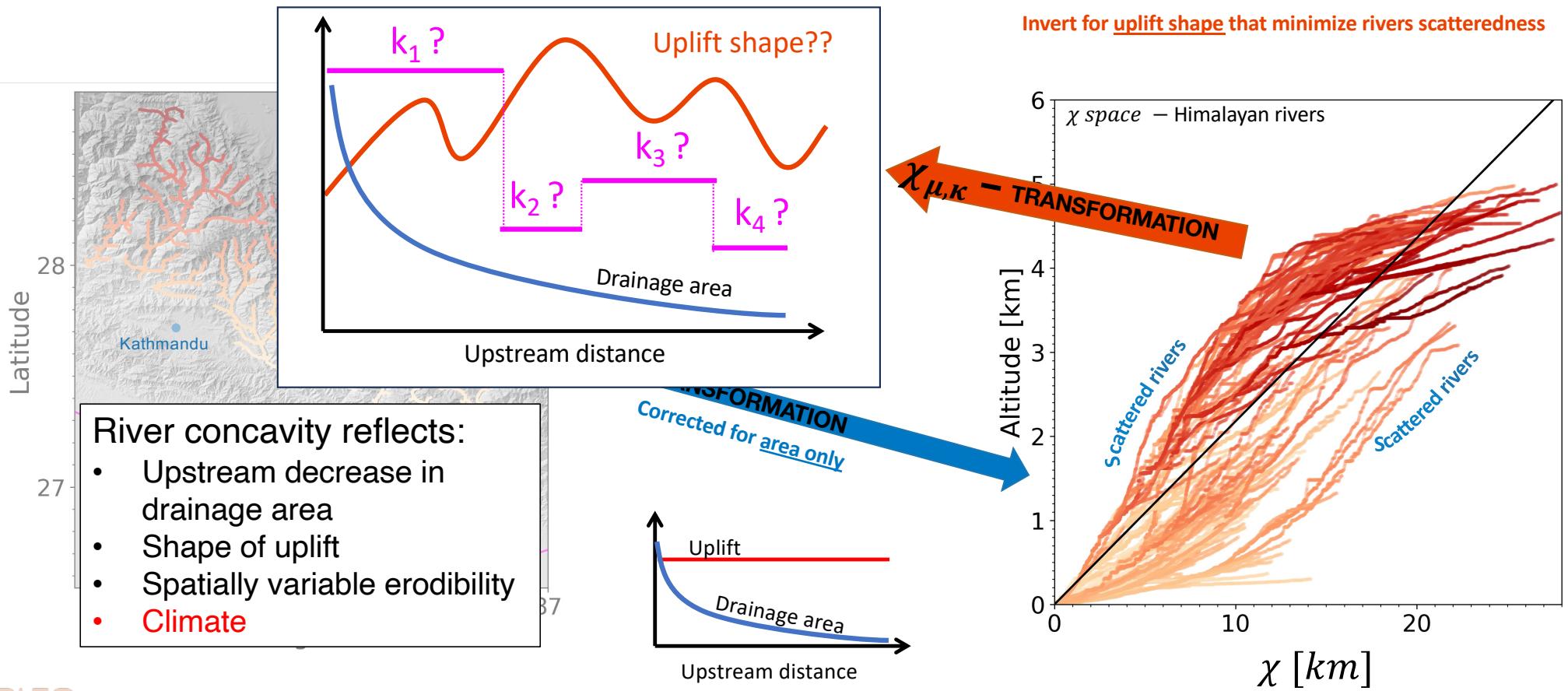
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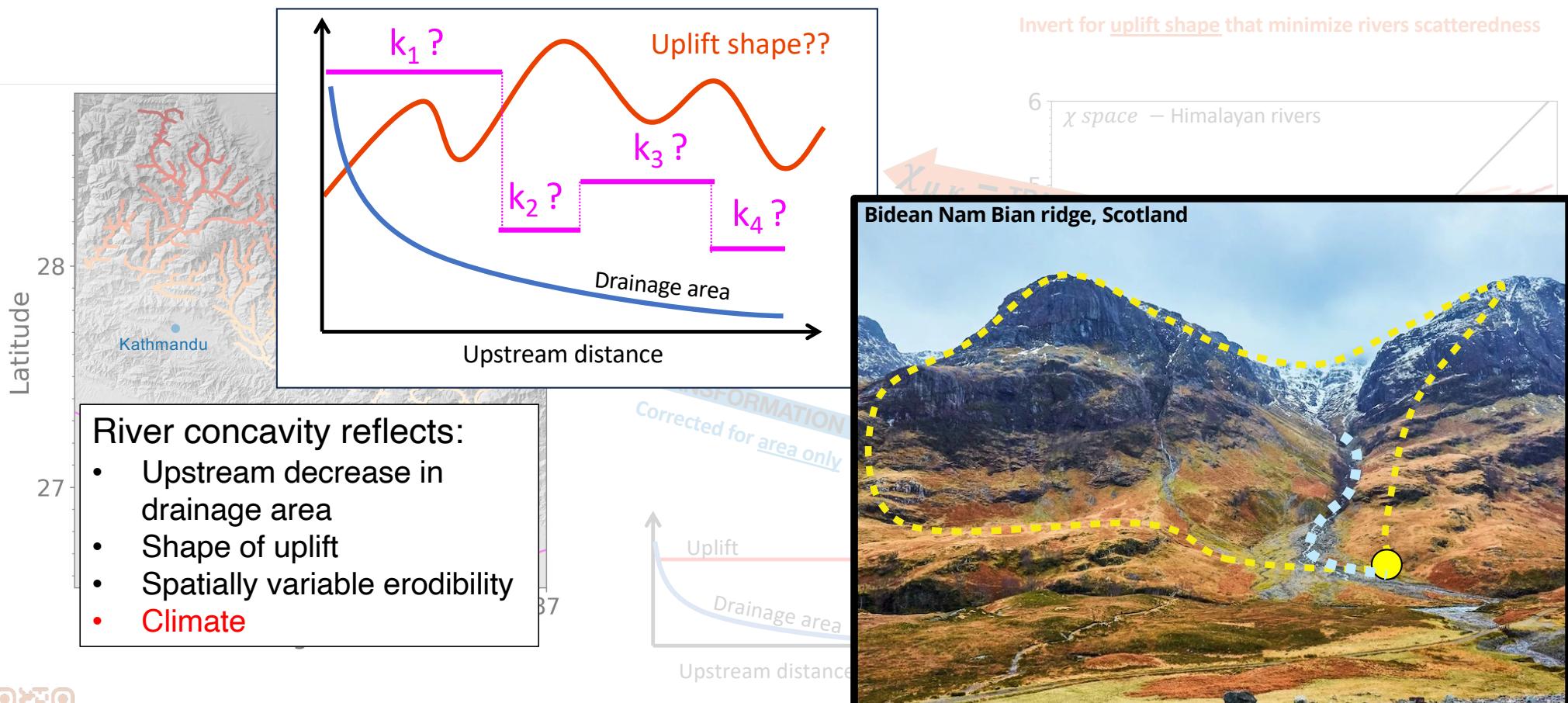
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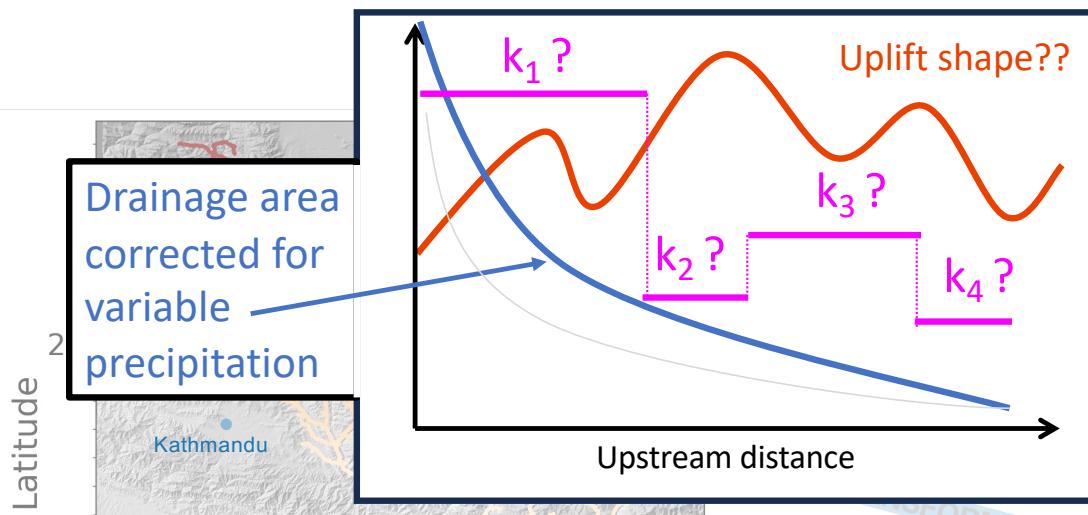
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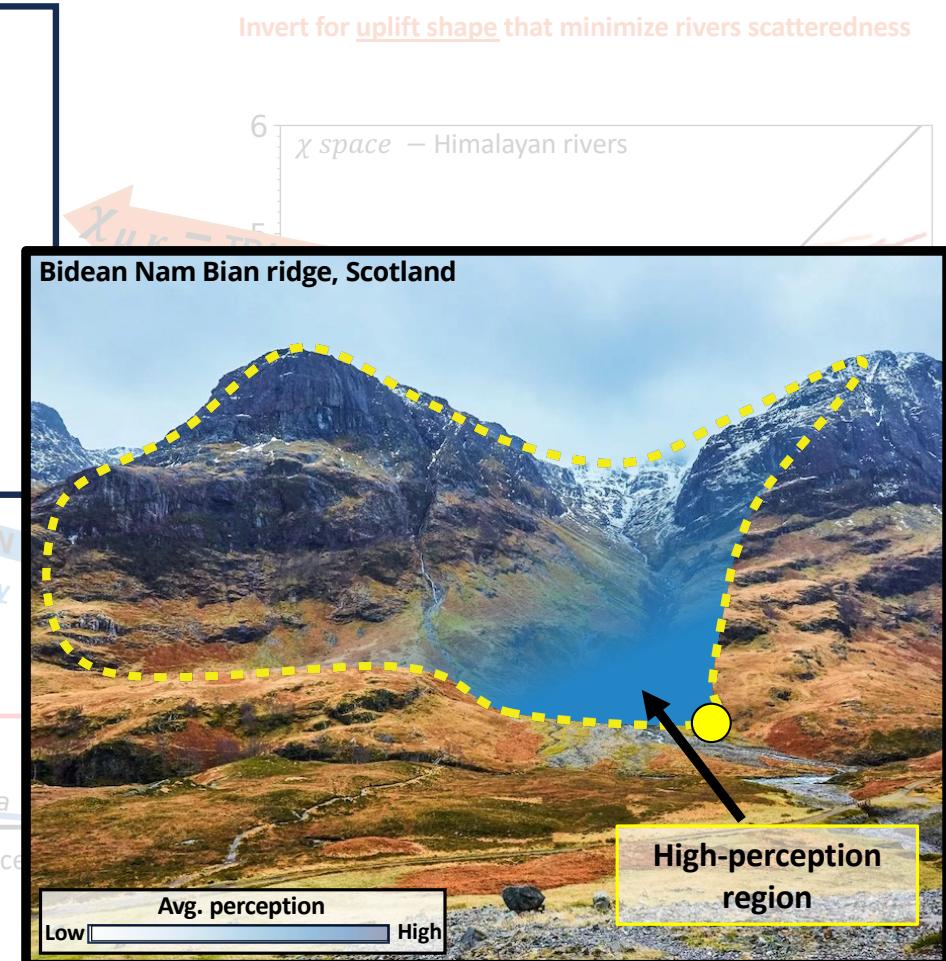
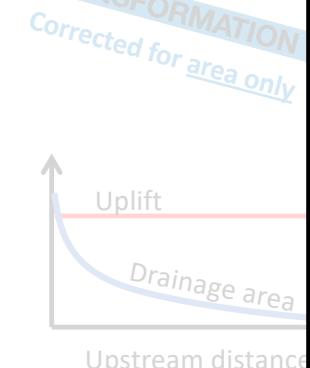


$\chi_{u,k}$ – TRANSFORMATION OF RIVER PROFILES IN THE HIMALAYAS

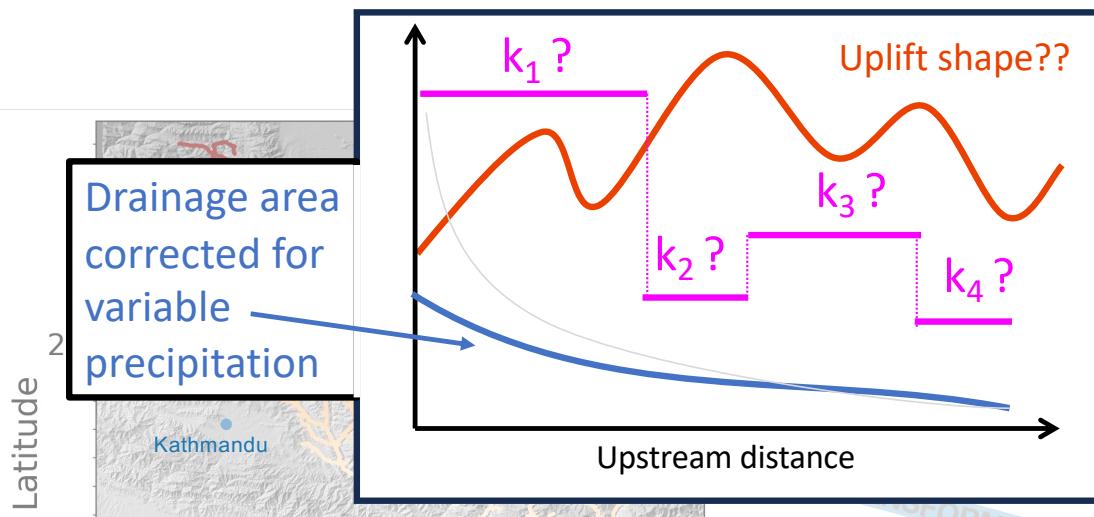


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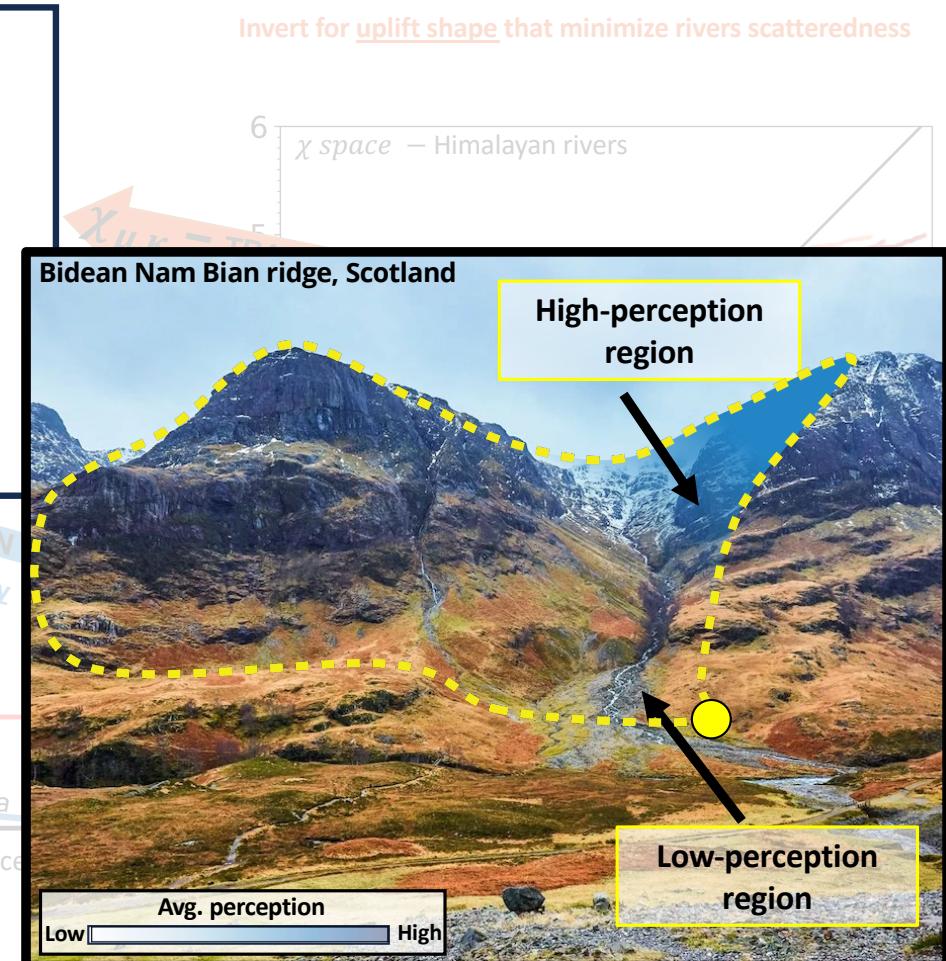


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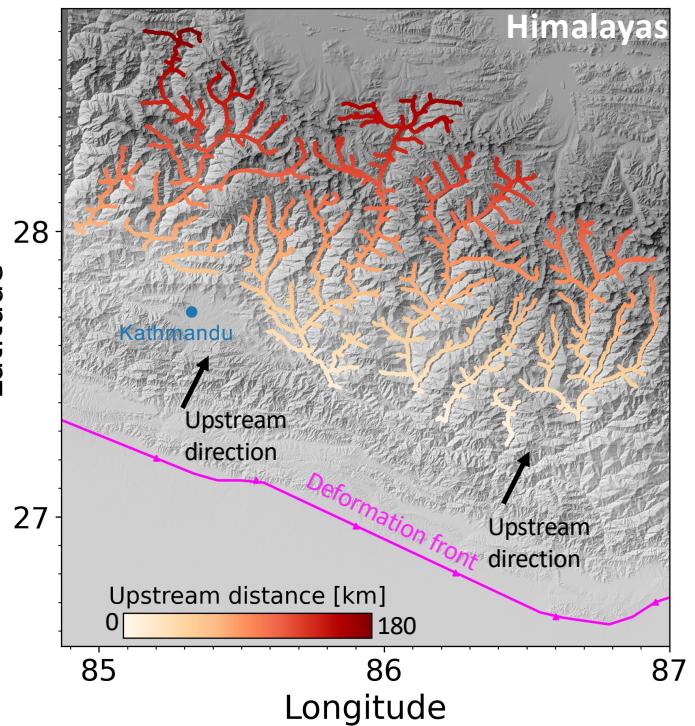


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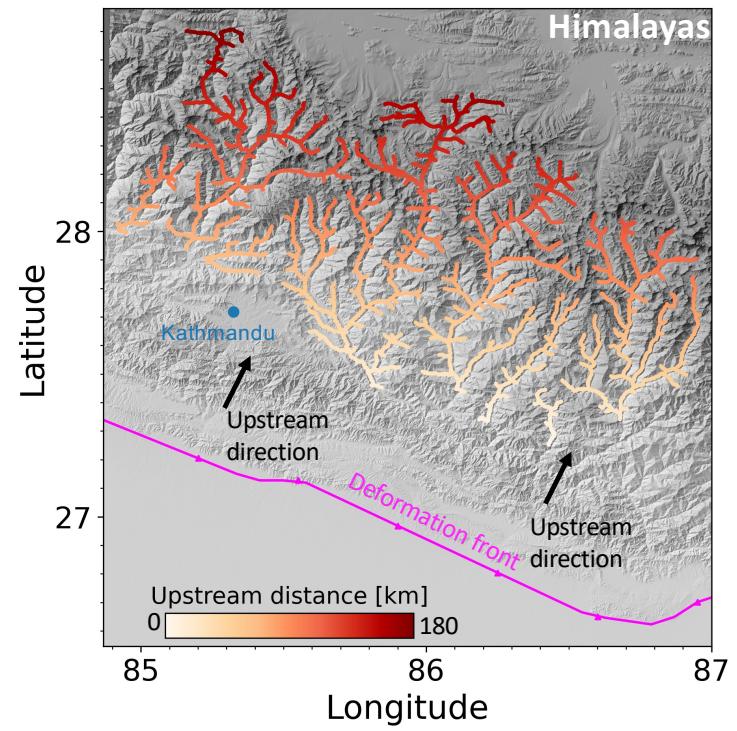
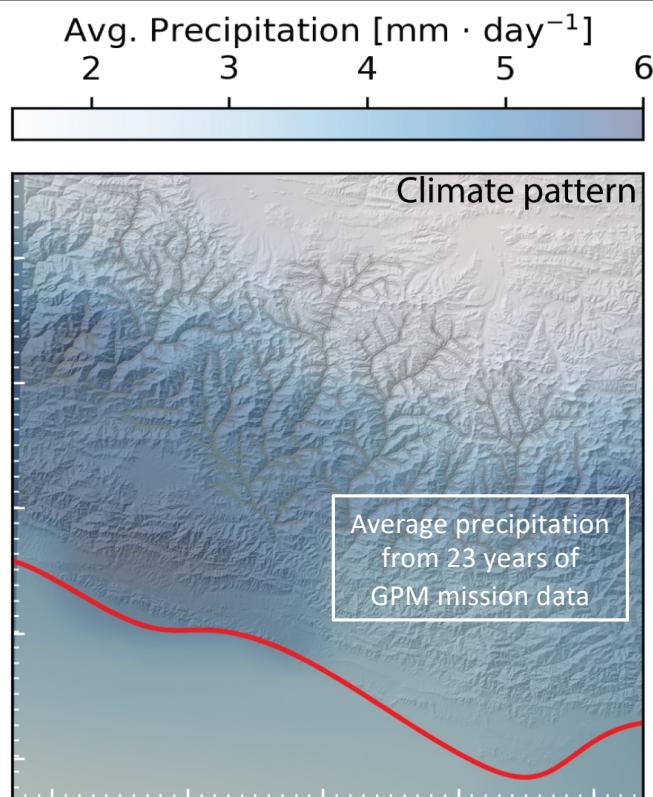


INVERTING HIMALAYAS USING $\chi_{u,k}$ TRANSFORMATION



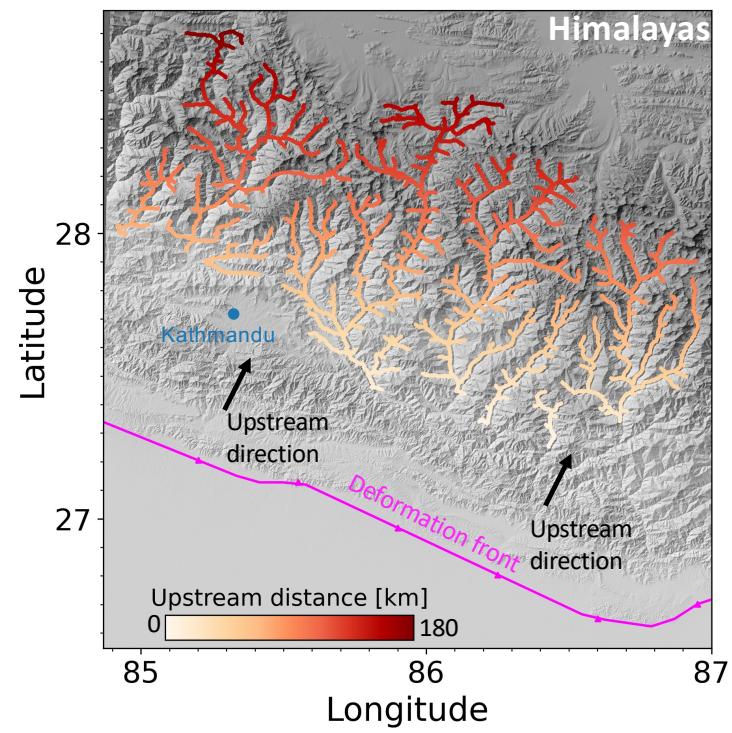
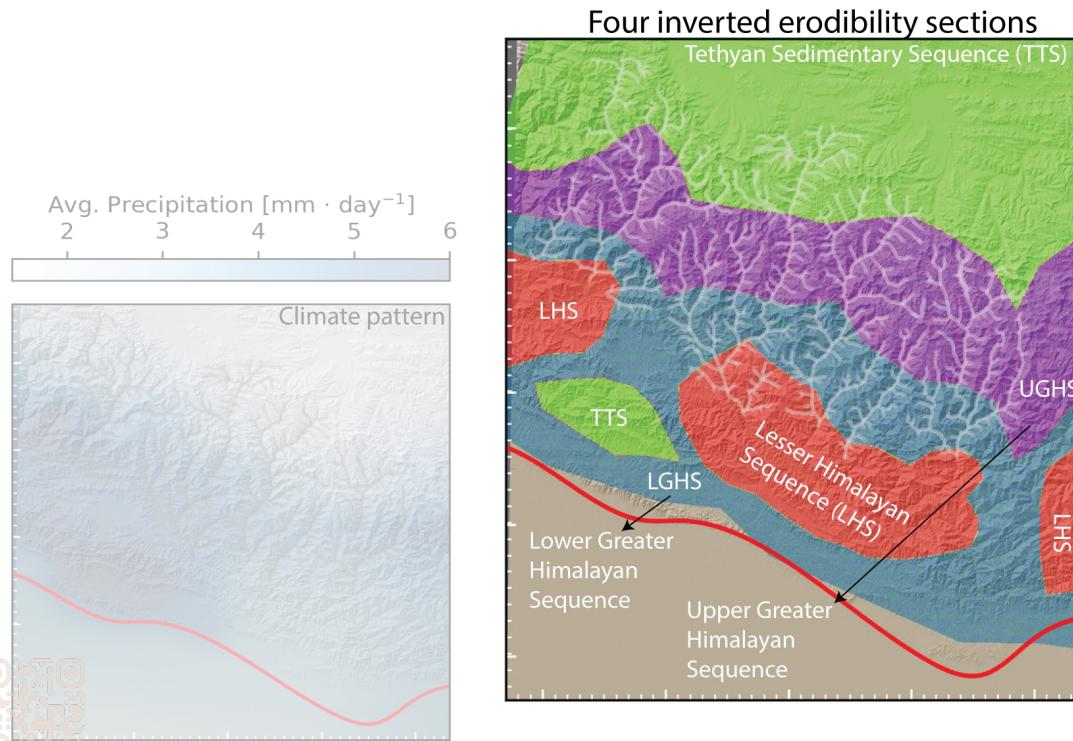
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INVERTING HIMALAYAS USING $\chi_{u,k}$ TRANSFORMATION

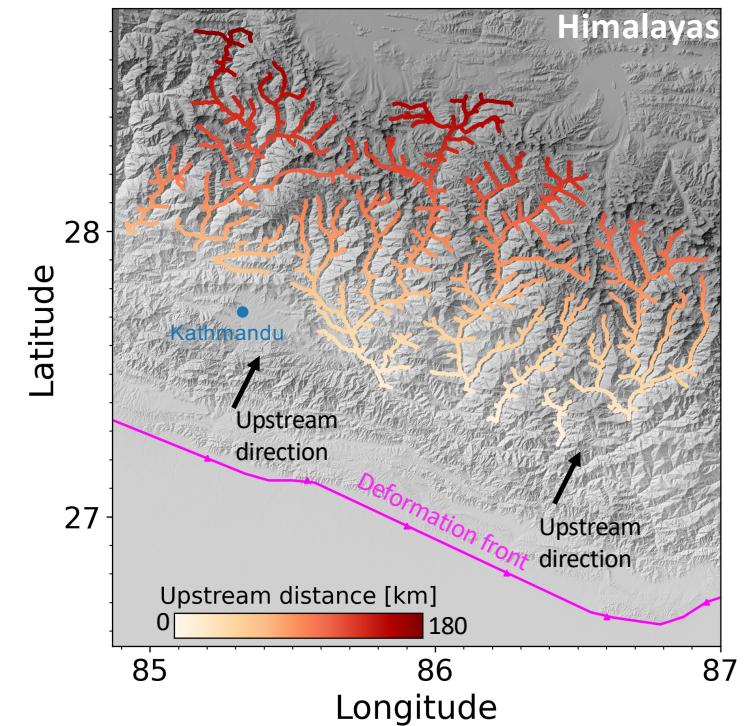
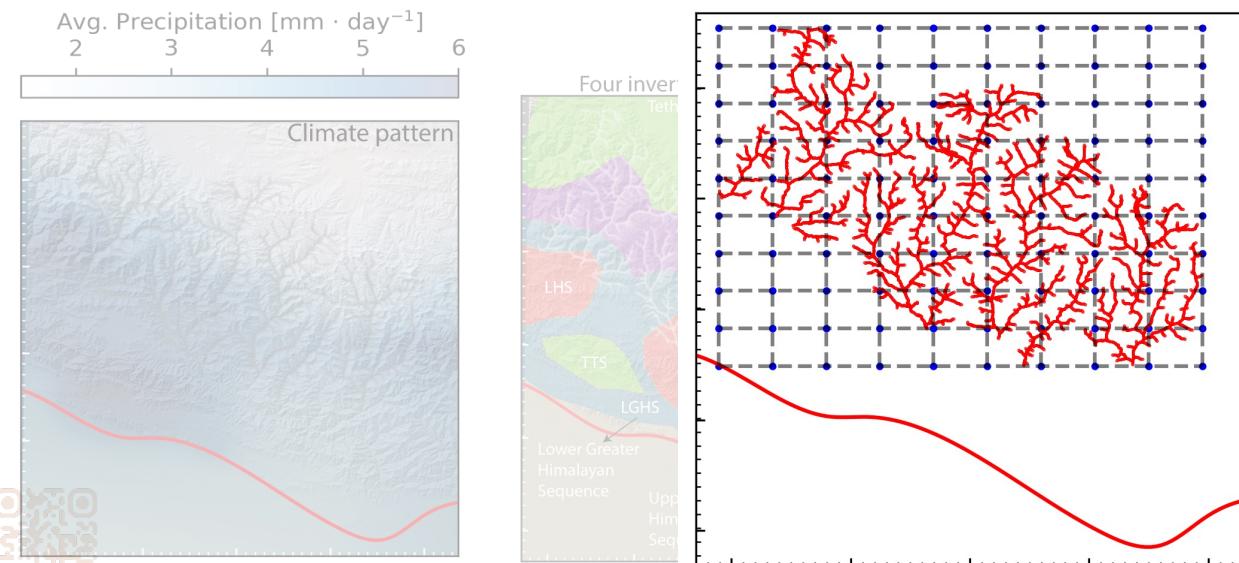
1. Compute drainage area corrected for climate [e.g., Leonard & Whipple, 2021; Leonard 2023].
2. Map the spatial distribution of major lithological sections for piecewise rock erodibility values.



Oryan et al., in review

INVERTING HIMALAYAS USING $\chi_{u,k}$ TRANSFORMATION

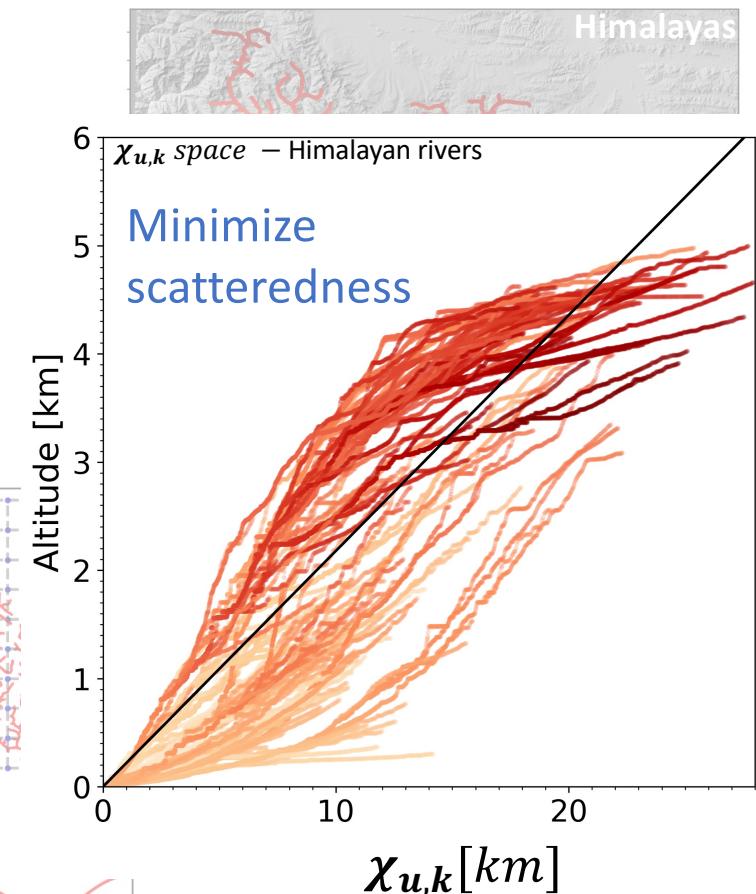
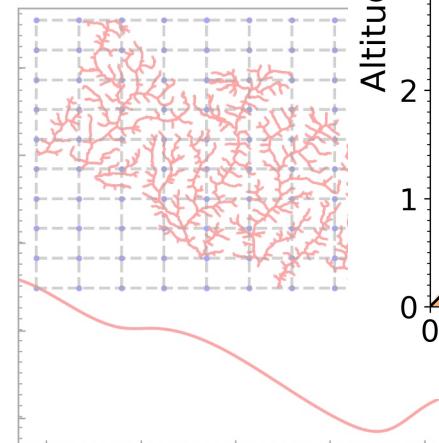
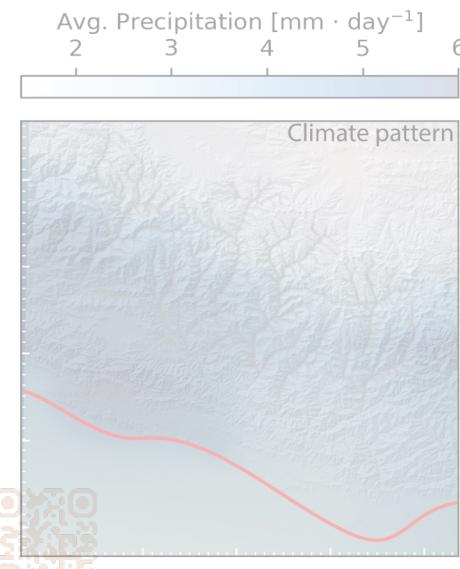
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Oryan et al., in review

INVERTING HIMALAYAS USING $\chi_{u,k}$ TRANSFORMATION

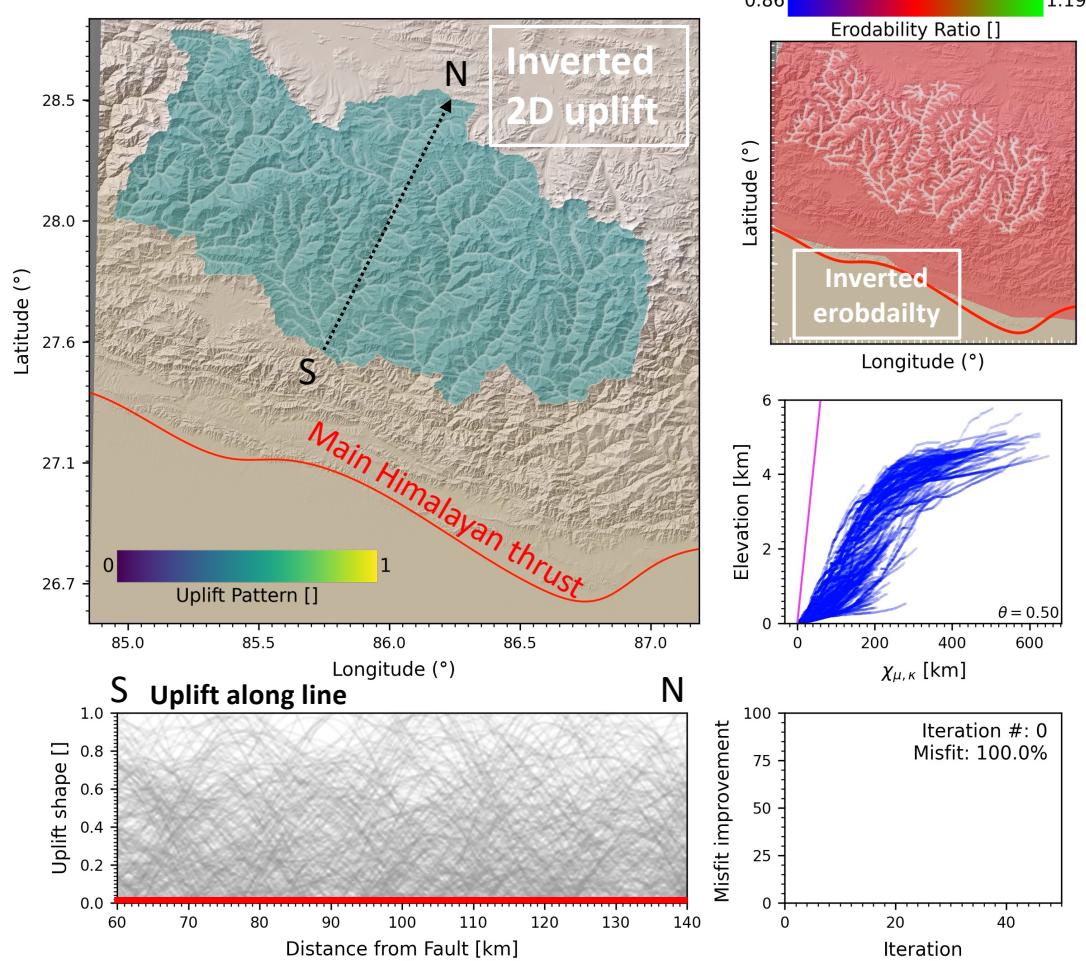
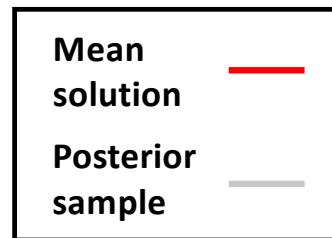
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3. Describe 2D uplift surface using interpolating B-spline functions extending across the river network.
4. Invert for uplift and erodibility values minimizing $\chi_{u,k}$.



Oryan et al., in review

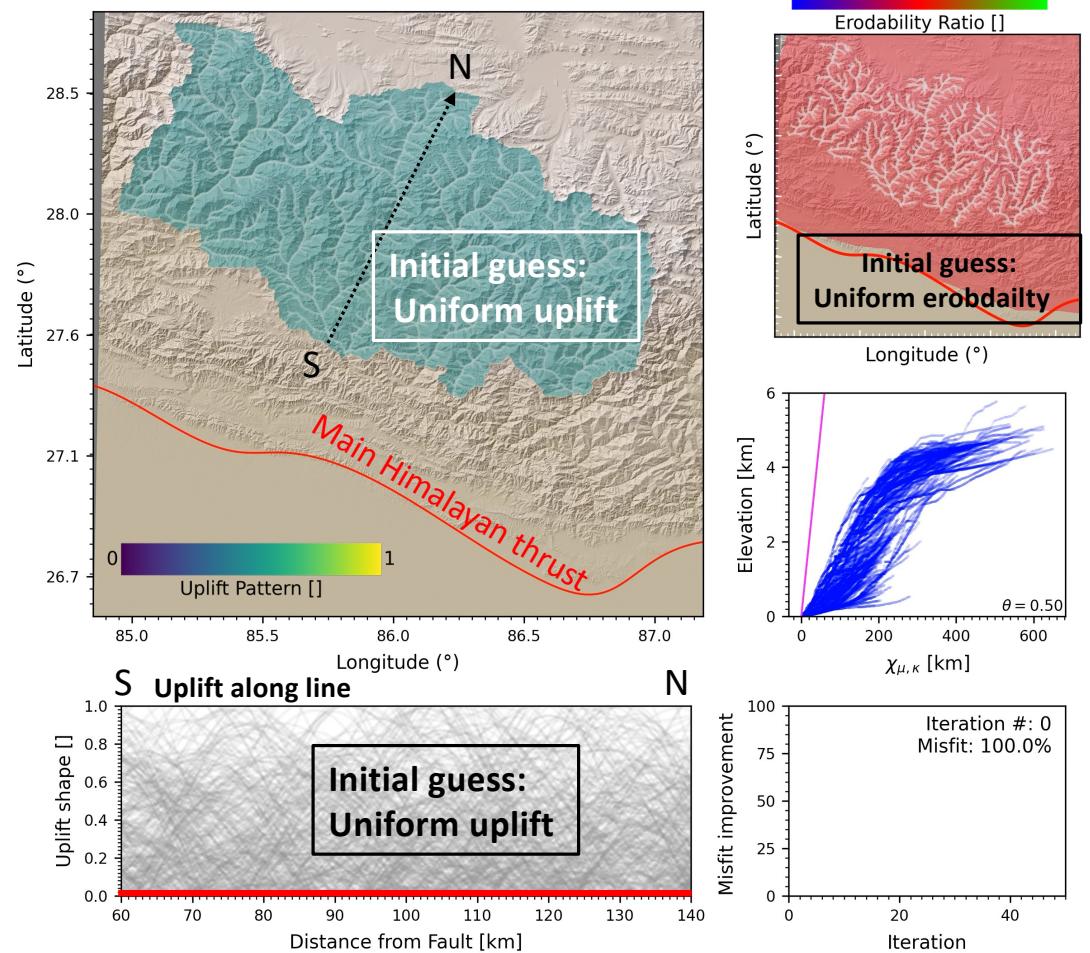
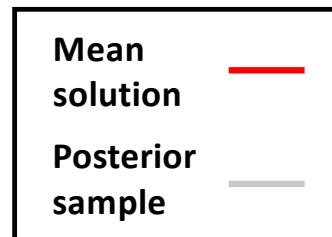
INVERTING HIMALAYAS USING $\chi_{u,k}$ TRANSFORMATION

- Inversion of 120,000 river nodes spanning 18,000km² using Bayesian Quasi-Newton inversion method.
- Inverting for 144 parameters describing the uplift pattern and 4 erodibility values that best linearizes river profiles in $\chi_{u,k}$ space.



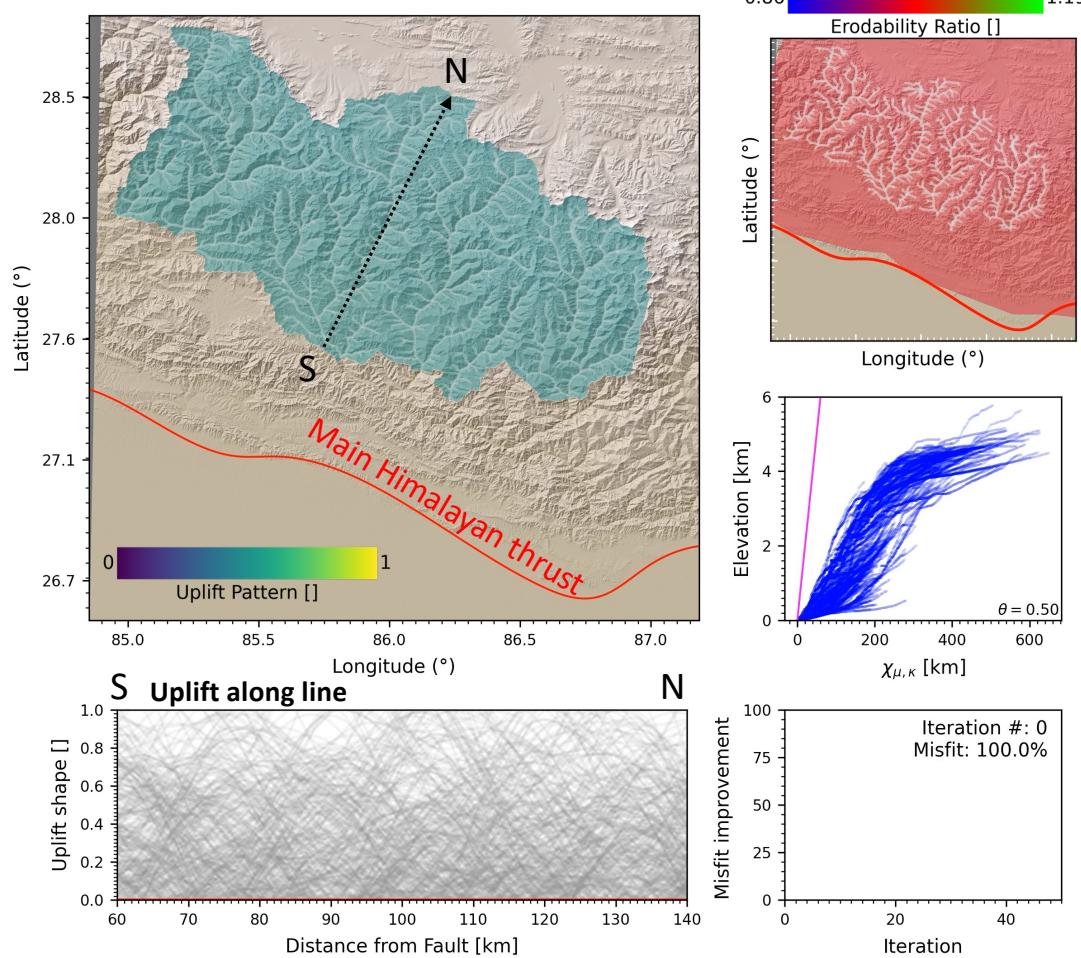
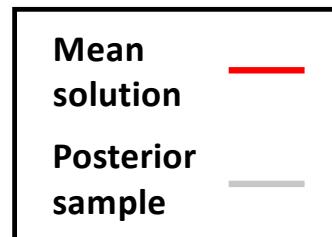
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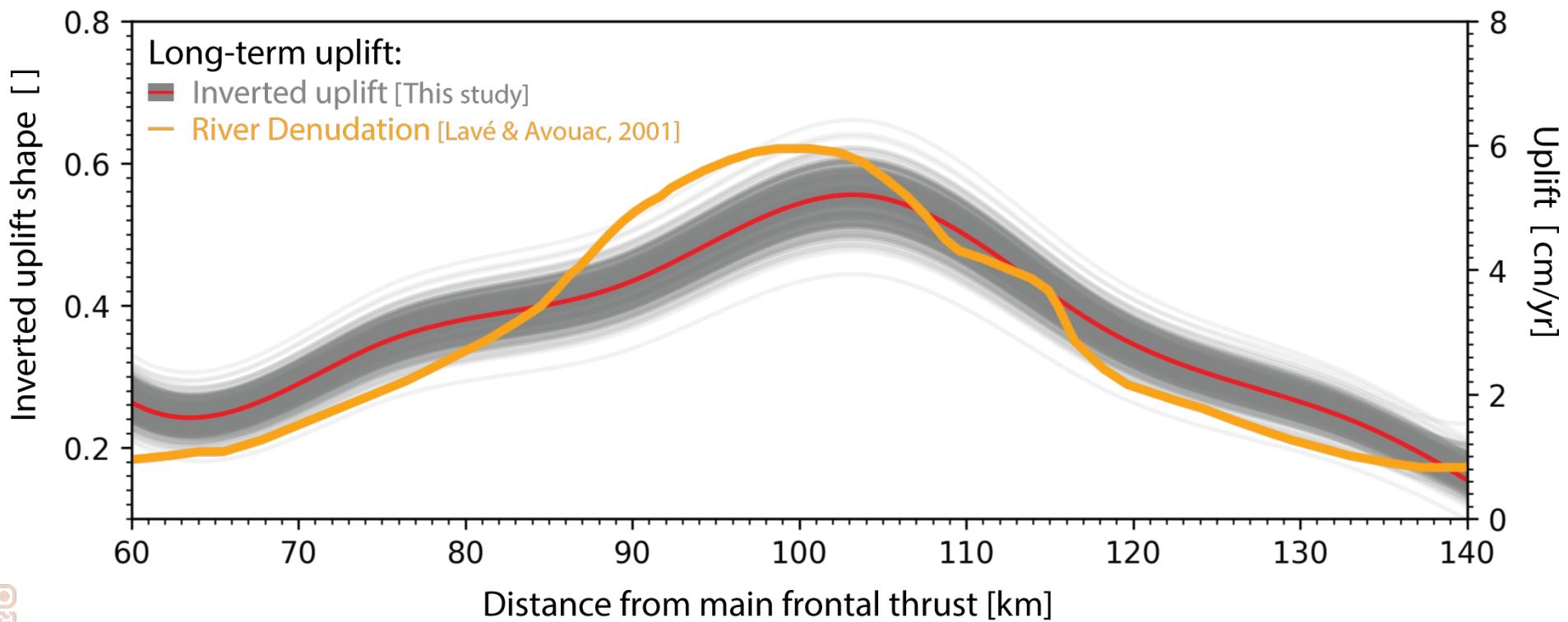
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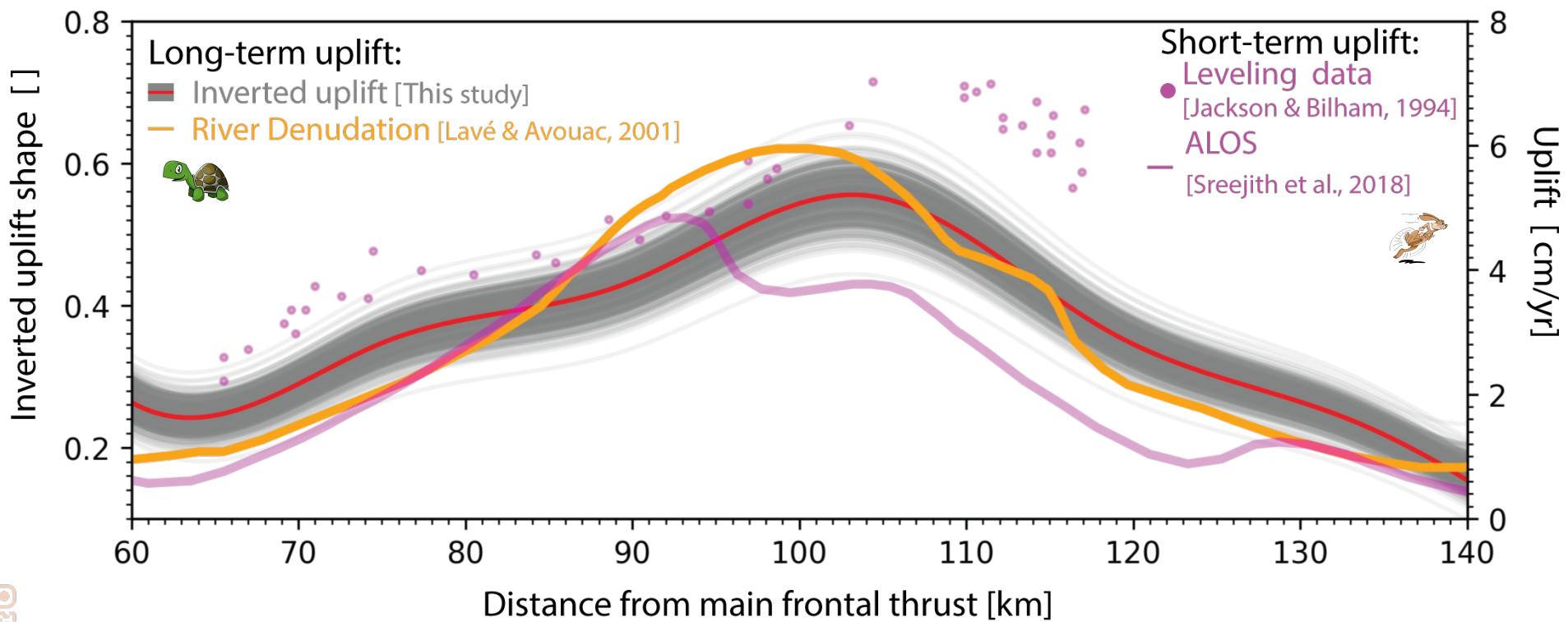
RETRIEVED UPLIFT PATTERN RESEMBLE PREVIOUS ESTIMATES

- Inferred long-term uplift matches denudation rates.



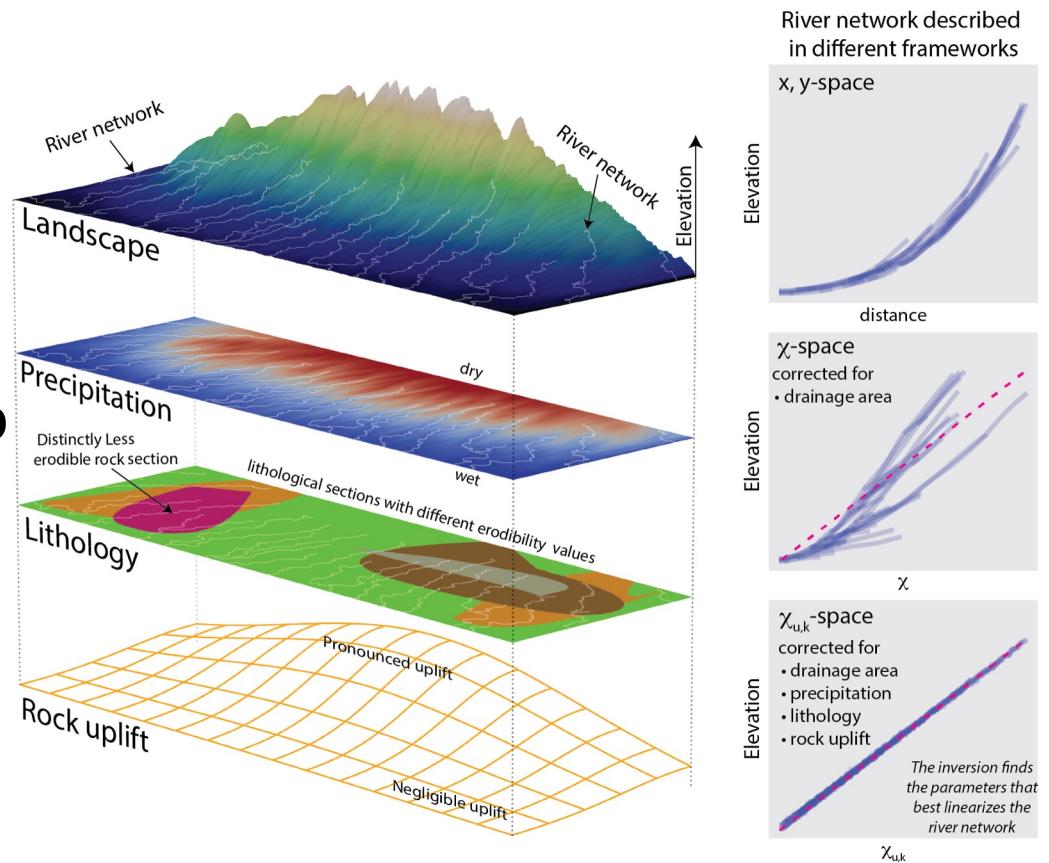
RETRIEVED UPLIFT PATTERN RESEMBLE PREVIOUS ESTIMATES

- Inferred long-term uplift matches denudation rates.
- Uplift shape is comparable with shape of short term interseismic uplift.



KEY POINTS SO FAR

- Inversion in $\chi_{u,k}$ space can disentangle the contributions of tectonics, climate and erodibility from landscapes.
- This approach opens the door to leveraging time-averaged signals preserved in landscapes to infer crustal deformation across different timescales.



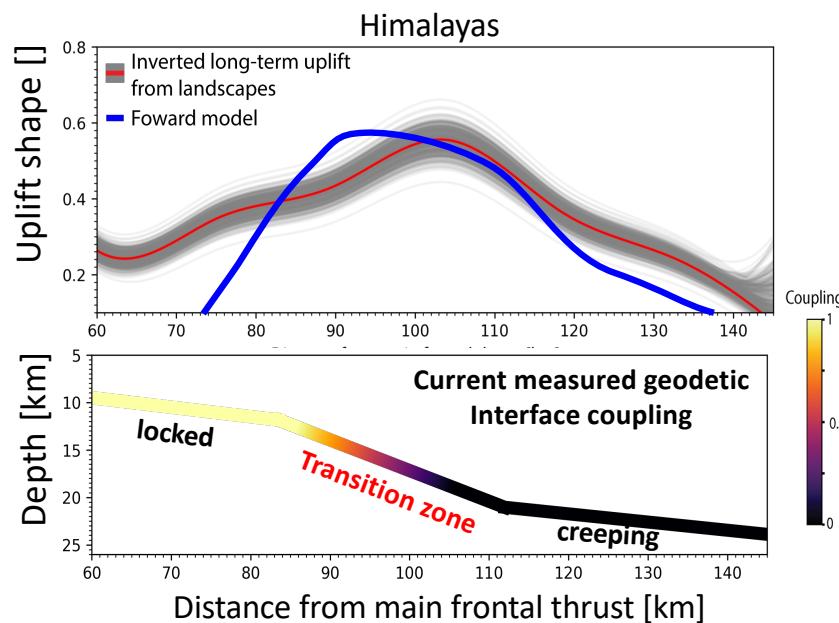
Section 4 – Research Program at the University of Oregon



UNIVERSITY
OF OREGON

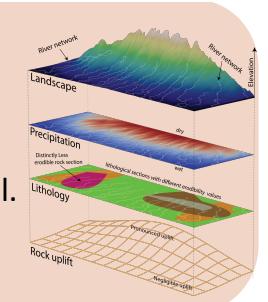
INVERTING LANDSCAPES FOR PERSISTENT PLATE LOCKING

- My group will use the frameworks described in sections 2 and 3 to **invert forearc landscapes for long-term megathrust coupling**.

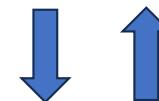


Observational data

Inferring Long-Term Tectonic Uplift from Bayesian Inversion of Landscapes [Oryan et al. in review]

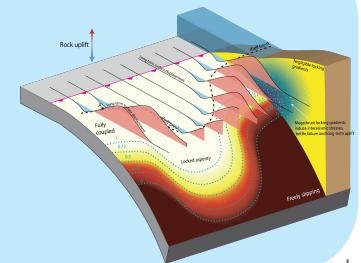


Landscape $\xrightarrow{\hspace{1cm}}$ Long-term Uplift



Forward model

Fingerprints of Megathrust Locking in Subduction Landscapes [Oryan et al., 2024]

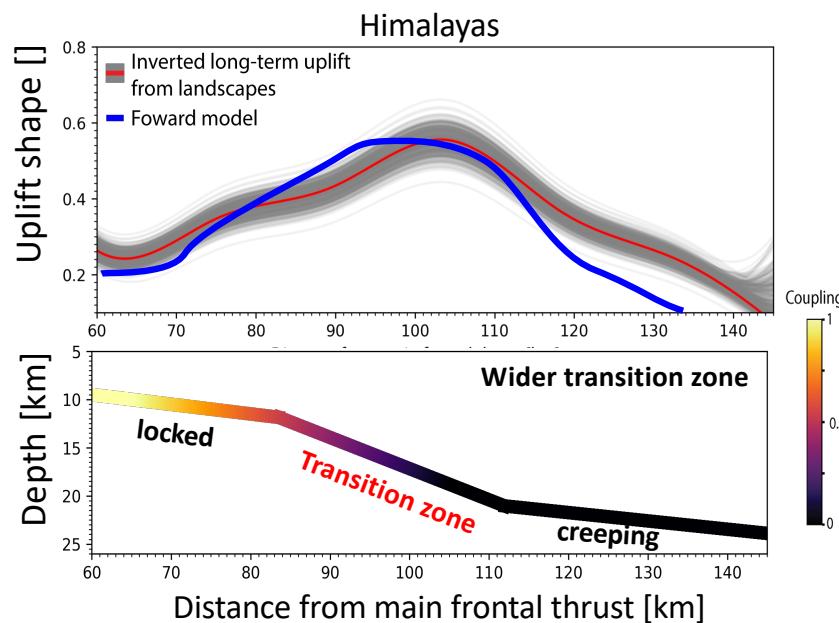


Coupling $\xrightarrow{\hspace{1cm}}$ Long-term Uplift



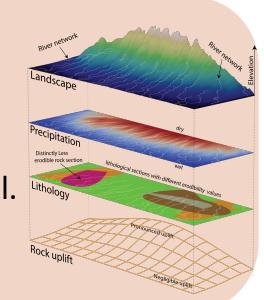
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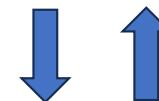


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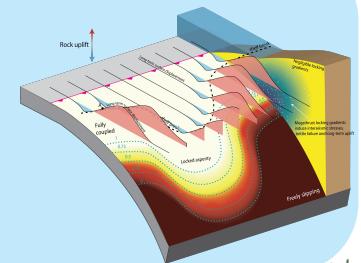


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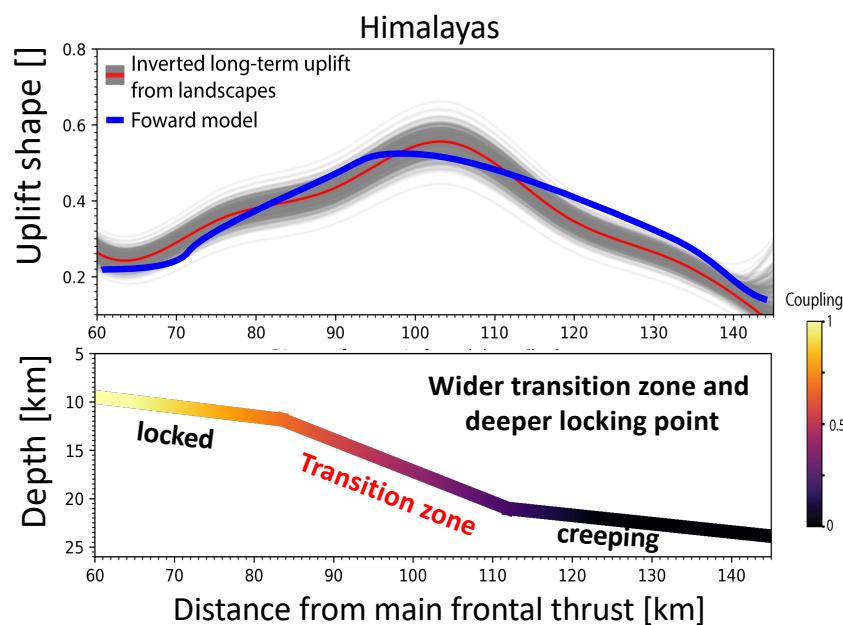


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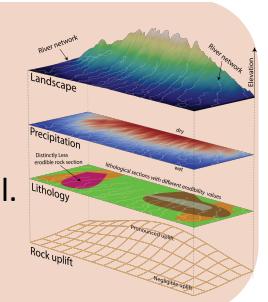
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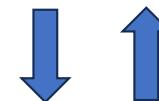


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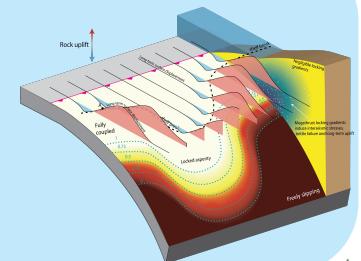


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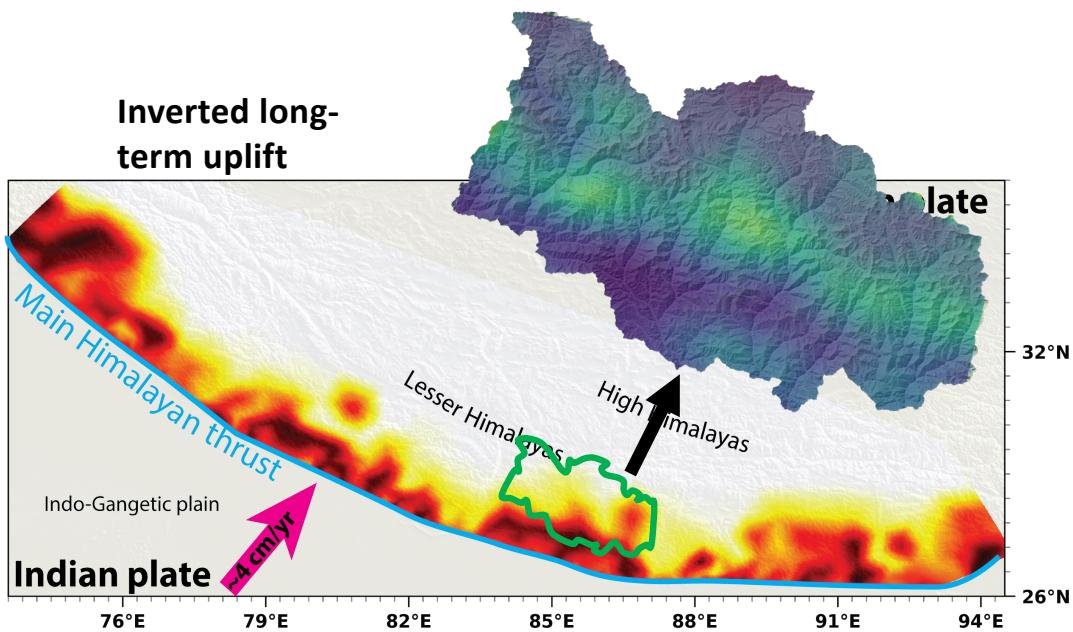


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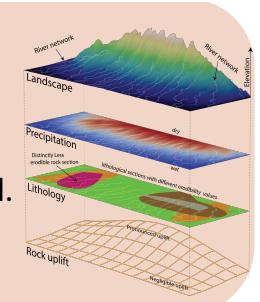
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Observational data

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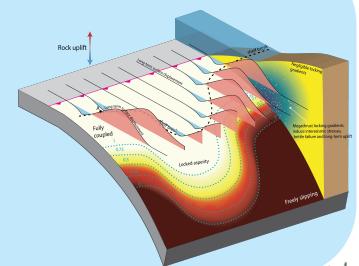


Landscape $\xrightarrow{\hspace{1cm}}$ Long-term Uplift



Forward model

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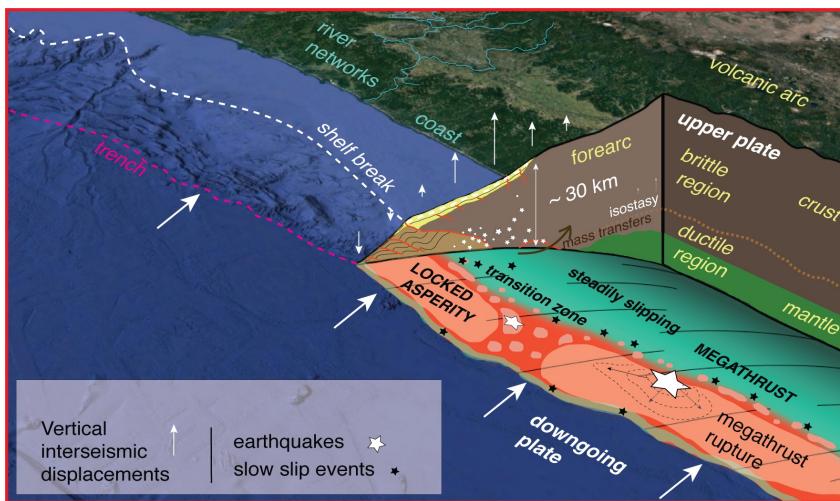


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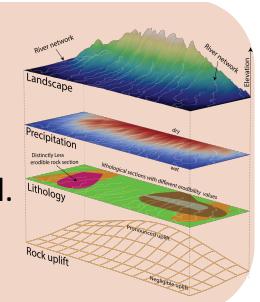
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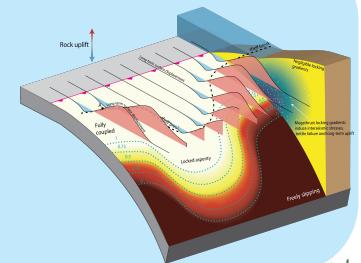


Landscape \rightarrow Long-term Uplift



Forward model

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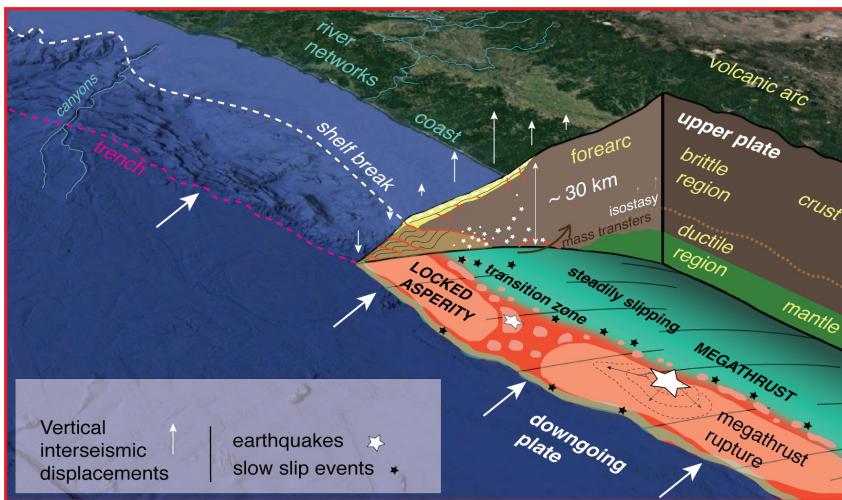


Coupling \rightarrow Long-term Uplift



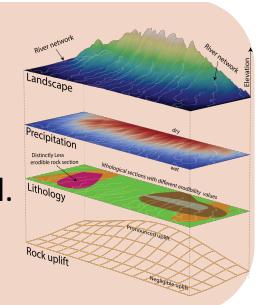
INVERTING LANDSCAPES FOR PERSISTENT PLATE LOCKING

- My group will use the frameworks described in sections 2 and 3 to **invert forearc landscapes for long-term megathrust coupling**.
- We will strive to expand our observational record and use **submarine canyons**.



Observational data

Inferring Long-Term Tectonic Uplift from Bayesian Inversion of Landscapes [Oryan et al. in review]

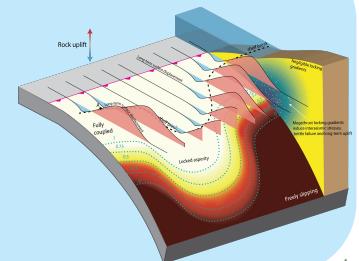


Landscape $\xrightarrow{\hspace{1cm}}$ Long-term Uplift



Forward model

Fingerprints of Megathrust Locking in Subduction Landscapes [Oryan et al., 2024]

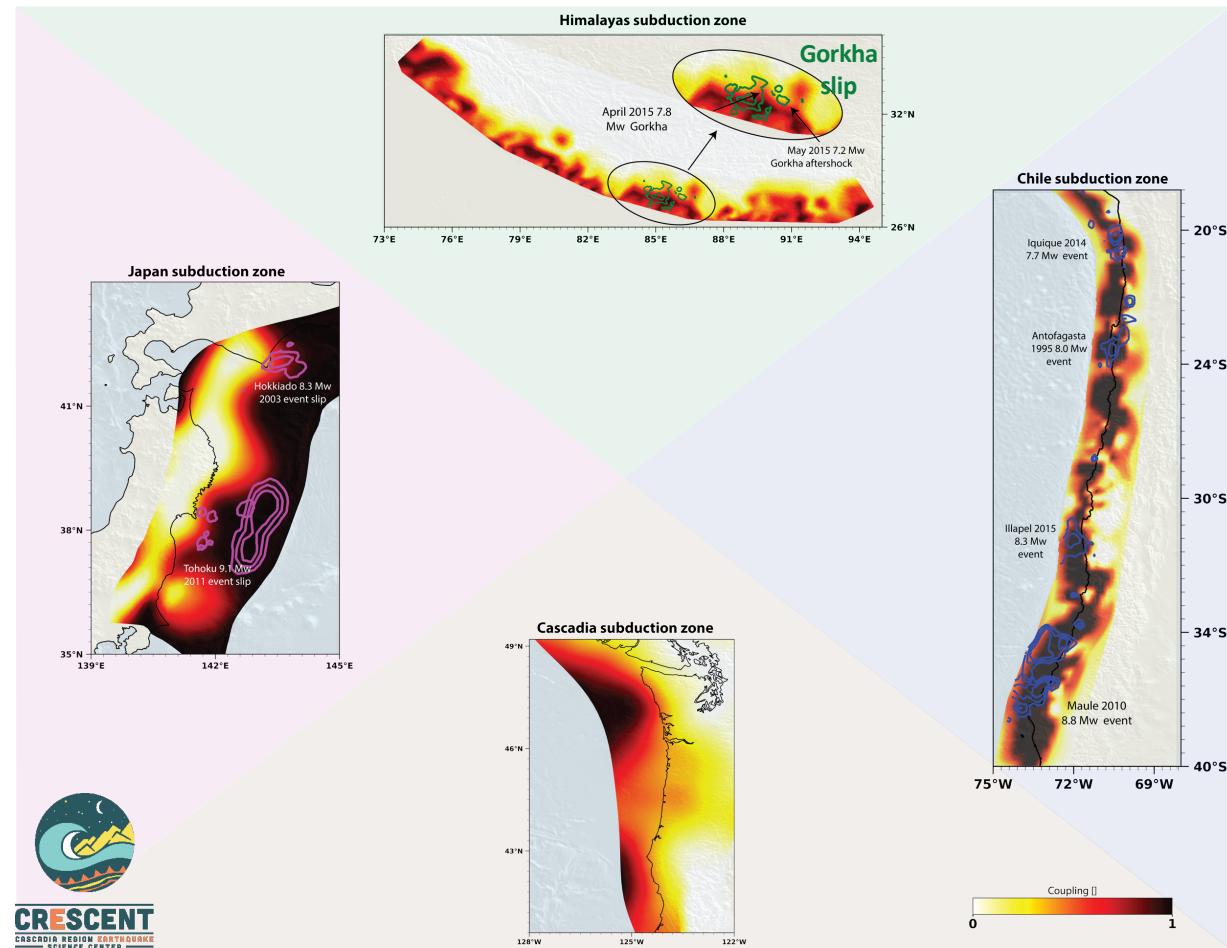


Coupling $\xrightarrow{\hspace{1cm}}$ Long-term Uplift



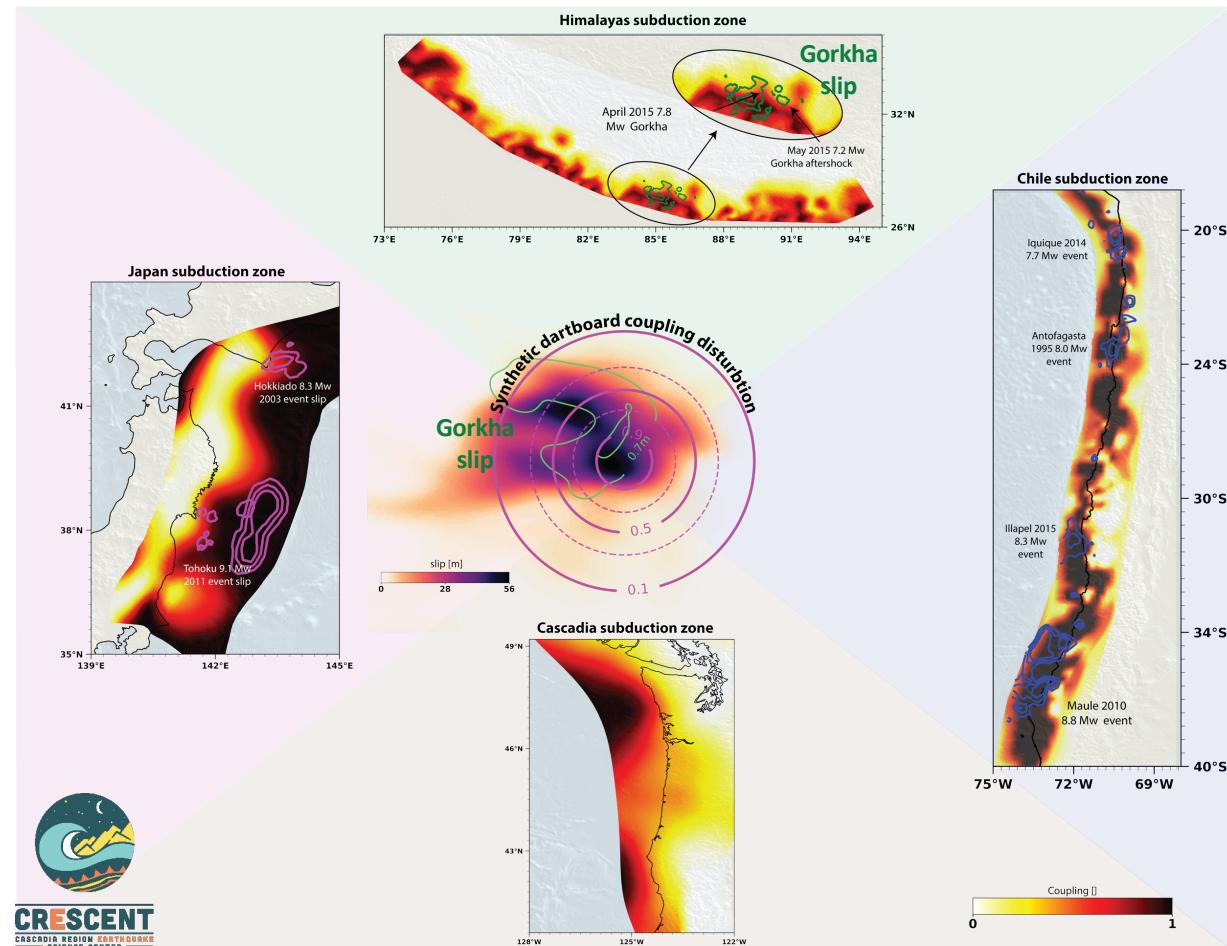
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- My group will use machine learning and optimal transport tools to compute geodetically and physically consistent geometric mappings between megathrusts.



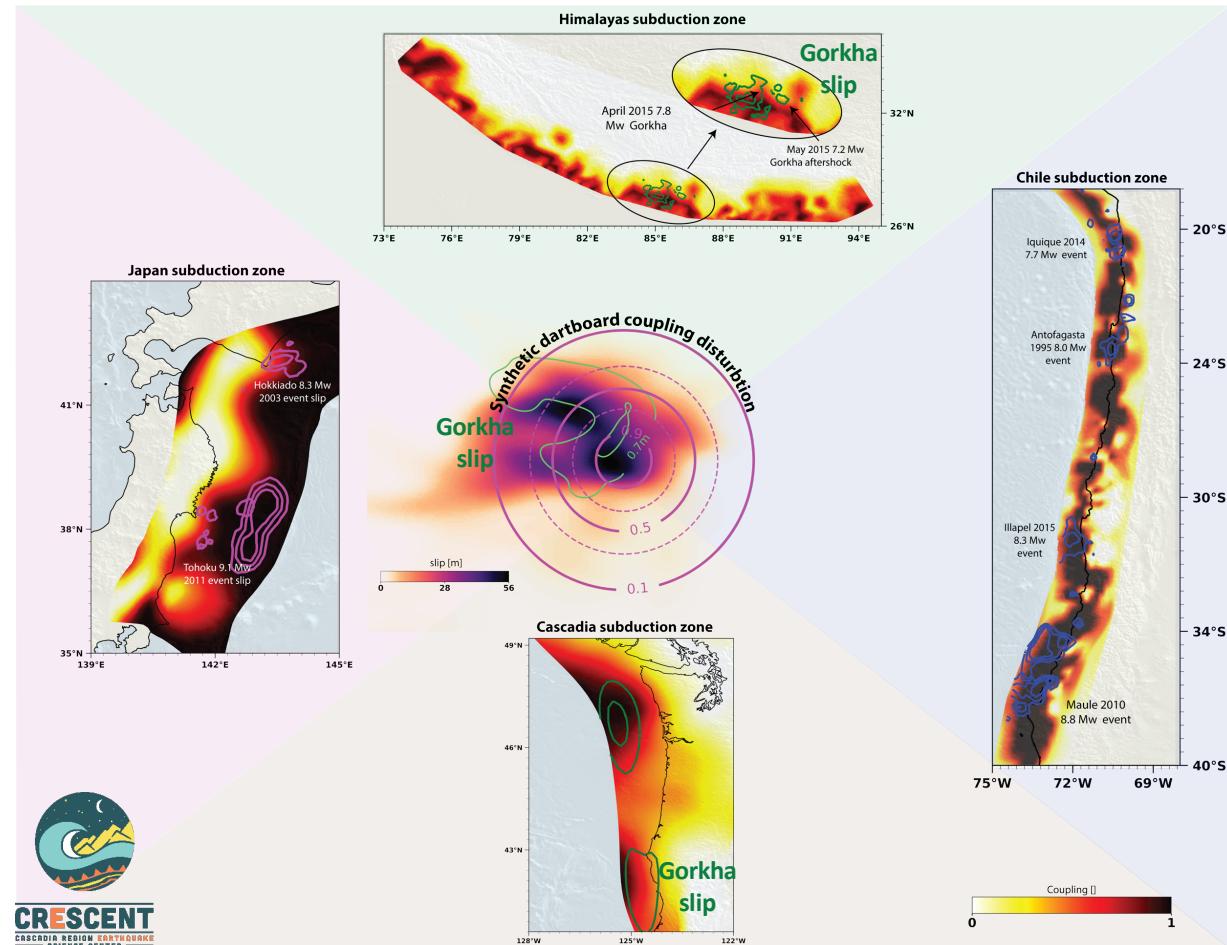
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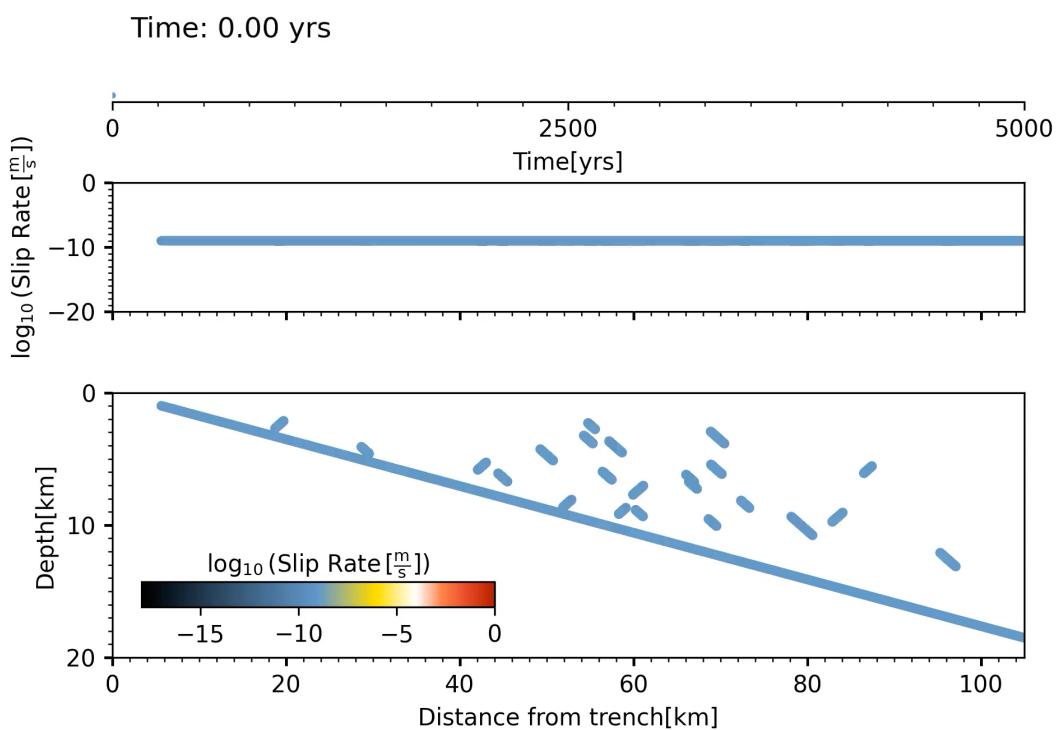
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- My group will use machine learning and optimal transport tools to compute geodetically and physically consistent **geometric mappings between megathrusts**.
- This approach will **extend our seismo-geodetic observational record** several-fold and allow us to assess seismic hazard more robustly.



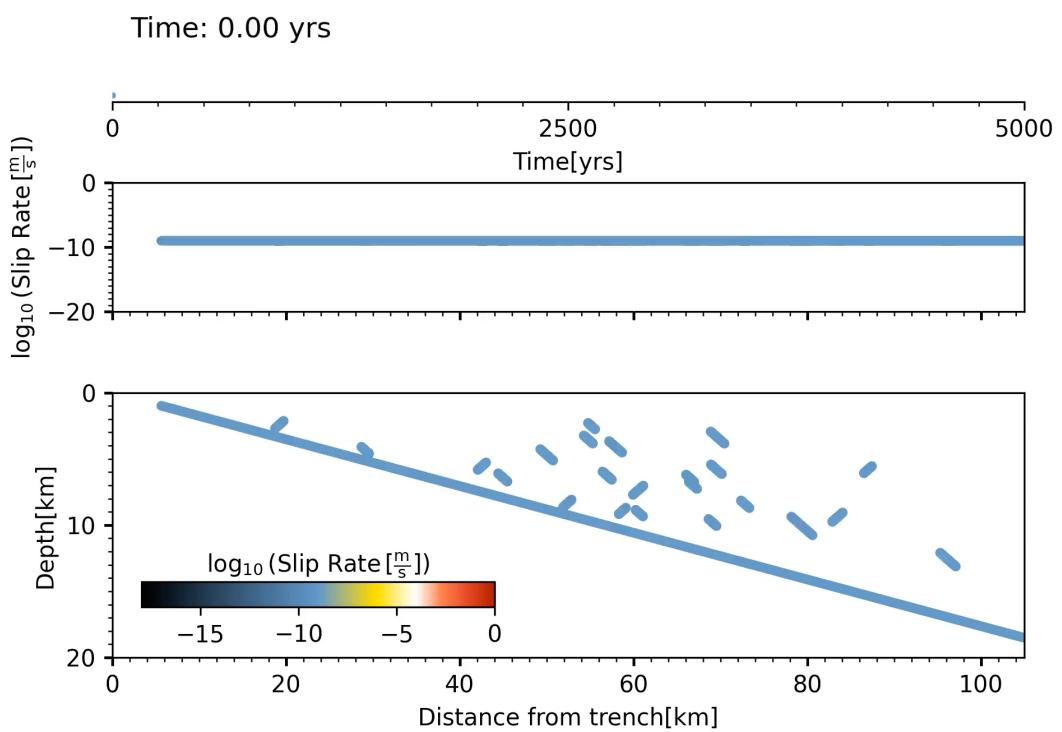
THE ENERGY BUGDET OF EARTHQUAKE CYCLES

- **Investigating Seismic Cycle Dynamics:** Using SEAS simulations, my group will explore how non-recoverable strain accumulation in the overriding plate impacts earthquake dynamics and the coseismic period.



THE ENERGY BUGDET OF EARTHQUAKE CYCLES

- **Investigating Seismic Cycle Dynamics:** Using SEAS simulations, my group will explore how non-recoverable strain accumulation in the overriding plate impacts earthquake dynamics and the coseismic period.
- **Unraveling Energy Distribution in Subduction Zones:** We will study the rheological properties that govern the balance between elastic deformation (fueling earthquakes) and inelastic strain (shaping subduction zone landscapes).



Oryan et al., in prep.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



Alice Gabriel
Boris Gailleton
Dave May
Jean-Arthur Olive
Jeena Yun
Lucile Bruhat
Luca Malatesta
Mike Steckler
Roger Buck
Romain Jolivet

