Imaging Crust and Mantle Structure beneath the D'Entrecasteaux Islands from Rayleigh Wave Tomography

Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY | EARTH INSTITUTE

Ge Jin, James Gaherty, Geoff Abers, YoungHee Kim, Zach Eilon, Roger Buck, Ron Varave AGU 2012 Fall Meeting: T43E-2719 Contact Email: ge.jin@ldeo.columbia.edu

Introduction

Ultra high pressure (UHP) terranes are generally considered as continental crustal material being subducted to mantle depth and then exhumed to surface. The youngest UHP rocks in the world are found in the D'Entrecasteaux Islands, Papua New Guinea. These 7-8 Ma coesite-eclogite face rocks indicate different geological history from other UHP rocks for the exhumation process not associating with the subduction either spacially or temporally. The burial of these UHP rocks is thought to be during the arc-continent collision between Australian Plate and Papua New Guinea mainland about 58Ma ago (Lus et al., 2004, Ellis et al., 2011). And afterwards they remained mantle depth for 30Ma before rapidly exhumed to surface from 5Ma at the rate around 1cm/yr (Baldwin et al., 2004; Gordon velocity for different frequency ω . et al., 2012).

Evidences show strong relation between the exhumation and the west propagation of Woodlark Rift, which is an active transition zone from continental rifting to seafloor spreading. Strong crustal extension may favor the exhumation in two ways: reversing subduction that extract UHP continental crust along the paleo-subduction channel, or thinning the upperplate crust to help the buoyant UHP rocks penetrate through as diapirs.

In this study we investigate the dynamic processes driving uplift and extension using Rayleigh wave phase velocity imaging for both teleseismic and ambient noise measurement to explore the crust and upper mantle structure across this region.

Data

Method

Ambient Noise

Because short intra-station distance violate the far-field estimation of timedomain ambient noise method, we applied the original Aki's spectral formulation which was further developed by Eskström et al., 2009. The key result of these papers can be presented as equation ??:

$$\bar{\rho}(r,\omega) = J_0 \left(\frac{\omega}{c(\omega)}r\right) \tag{1}$$

where $ar{
ho}$ is the real part of normalized cross-spectrum, $c(\omega)$ is the phase

In this study, we fit the whole Bessel function in the interested frequency band instead of counting only zero-crossings of cross-spectrum.

Array-based GSDF

Array-based GSDF method measures the Rayleigh wave phase difference between nearby stations by fitting a five-parameter wavelet to the narrowband filtered cross-correlation of the seismograms. The wavelet can be presented as (Gee & Jordan, 1992):

$$F_i WC(t) \approx A \exp\left[-\frac{\sigma_i^2 (t - t_g)^2}{2}\right] \cos\left[\omega_i (t - t_p)\right]$$
 (2)

where F_i is the ith narrow-band filter function, W is window function, Cis the cross-correlation function, σ_i is the band width of the filter, σ_i is the center frequency of the filter, t_q and t_p are the relative group delay and phase delay between these two stations, perspectively.

Eikonal Tomography

For each "event", Eikonal tomography reconstruct the slowness vector of wave field based on the phase difference measurement between nearby stations. In this study, event wave field can be either the Rayleigh wave of an earthquake, or Green functions from one station's ambient noise crosscorrelation with all other stations. Any phase difference measurement δt between two stations can be presented as:

$$\delta t = \int_{\vec{r}} \vec{S} \cdot d\vec{r} \tag{3}$$

where $ec{S}$ is the slowness vector for the event, $ec{r}$ is a path connecting two stations. We found that the great circle path between these two stations provides most stable inversion result.





