How fast were the ECMA SDRs emplaced?



...The band of thick igneous crust may have a volume of as much as 2.7×10^6 km³, classifying it among the world's large igneous provinces.

(Kelemen & Holbrook, 1995; Deccan 1.6 x 10⁶ km³)



Talwani et al., (1995)

- "To produce the ECMA it is necessary that [the SDRs] possess a single magnetic polarity"
- The average reversal frequency of the GMT is ~0.5 Myr
- Is this a reasonable assumption?
- What type of magnetic anomalies do SDRs produce as reasonable extension rates?
- Globally, why don't we observe any high amplitude <u>negative</u> anomalies above SDRs?



200 mm/yr = 50 km / 0.5 Myr * 2 (half to full)





Distance (km)







SDR Magnetic Properties

- NRM cancels out at reasonable rates due SDR flow geometries
- SDR basalts have high susceptibilities
- High susceptibility materials will produce a positive anomaly when exposed to Earth's field



- ECMA is an <u>induced</u> <u>anomaly</u>
- ECMA produced by:
 - Thick (5-10 km) & wide (50-100 km) extrusive package
 - Susceptibility contrast with continental crust
 - Elevated basement
- Formed at
 - Rates of ~10-20 mm/yr
 - Over 5-20 Myr
- Explains the global lack of large negative anomalies over SDRs

