

What are the relative roles of discrete & transient events in the breakup of continents and the onset of seafloor spreading?

And, hazard implications
Cindy Ebinger



Objectives

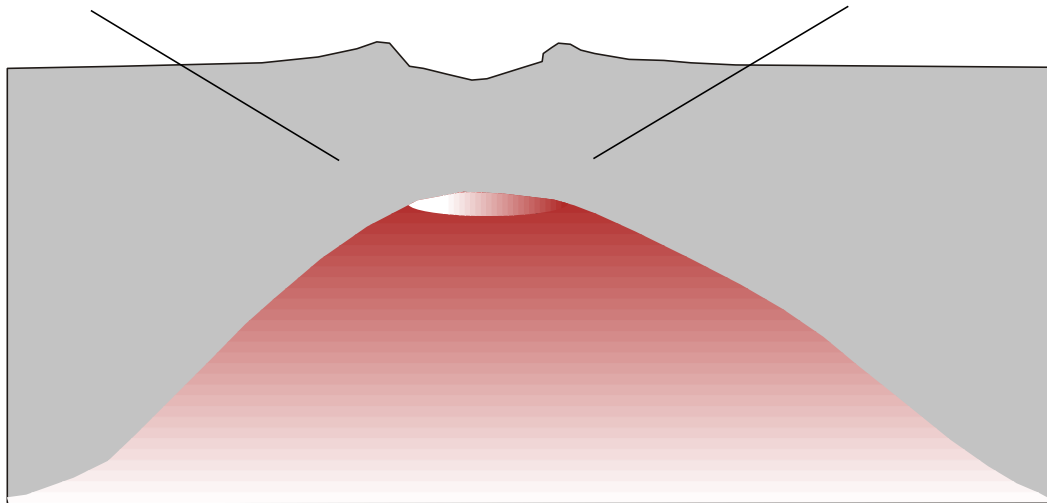
- Briefly review rift to rupture concepts. **What part of the EQ + magma chamber overpressure cycles is captured in any study area ?**
- **Highlight consensus and contention in terms of time-space patterns of strain accommodation in lithosphere**
- Quantify strain accommodation during discrete events in magmatic and amagmatic rift zones, including faults above propagating dikes, and compare with classic 'time-averaged' deformation (10's -1000's of rifting cycles) ?
- **Role of fluids**
- **Emphasize critical need for space-based, drone, land, marine techniques and multi-disciplinary approaches to solve fundamental questions**
- **Broader Implications: Rifts provide key clues into tectono-magmatic triggering of eruptions**

deep faults
calderas,
lakes

recharge



dikes, sills,
lavas



As rifting progresses to seafloor spreading, % strain accommodated by magma intrusion increases to ~100%. How does 'wet lithosphere' deform?

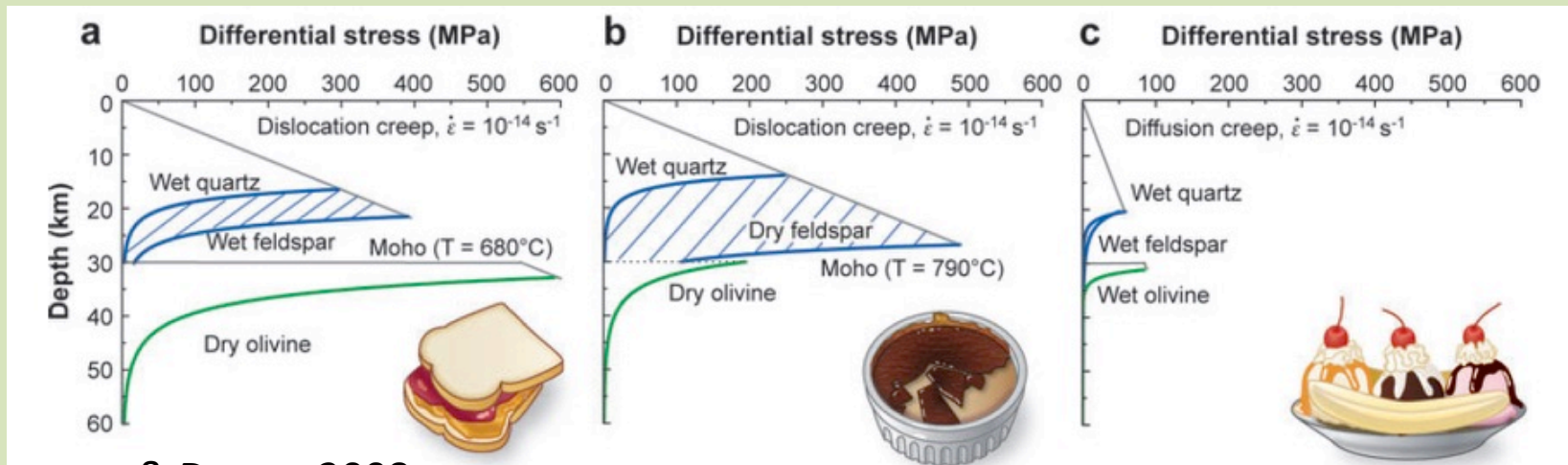
Space-time response of plate depends on rheology

crustal unloading

Questions – ask Fischer – Thursday AM

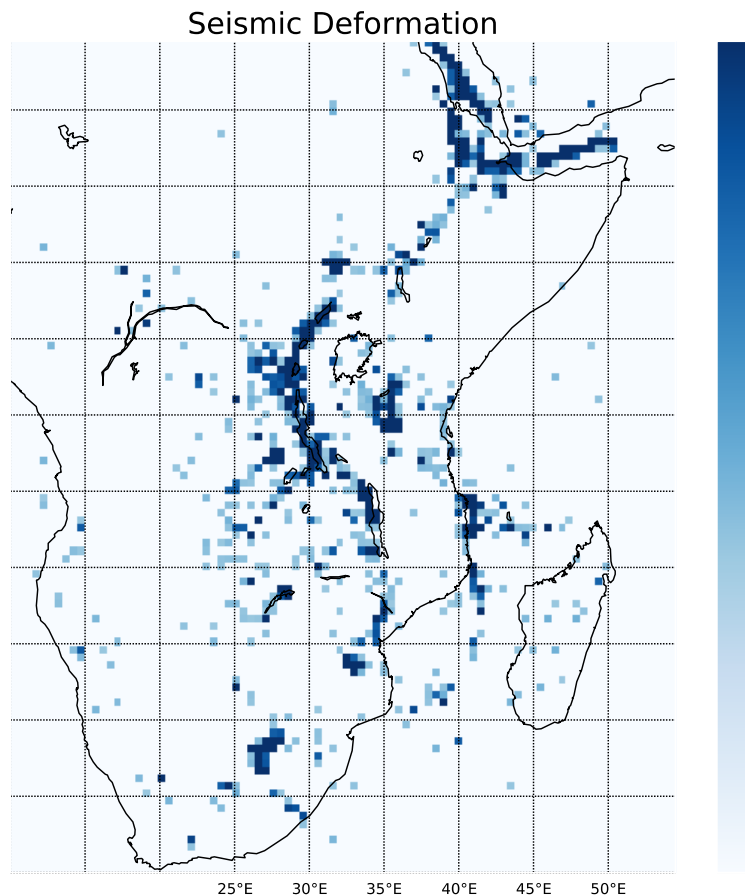
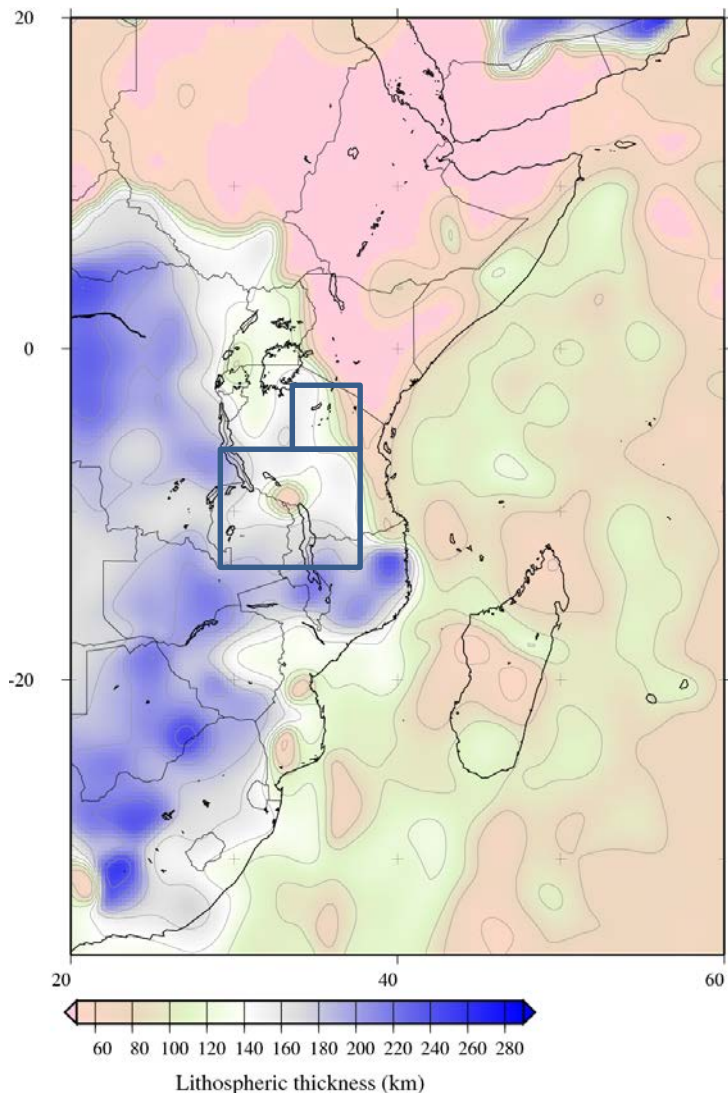
Rheology

- Elastic behavior in parts or all of crust, upper mantle, depending on geotherm; composition, hydration state
- Visco-elastic behavior – strong time dependence – post-seismic, post-intrusion deformation > steady plate motion.
- Where rock pores are filled with fluids, poroelastic effects are superposed - added complexity and added deformation (e.g., 1990 Dobi, Afar sequence)



Extensional strain and magmatism widely distributed in highly variable lithosphere— What is stable?

GPS –
 sparse, E
 side: Saria,
 Bendick,
 Stamps,
 Floyd, King,
 Birhanu,
 Elliott

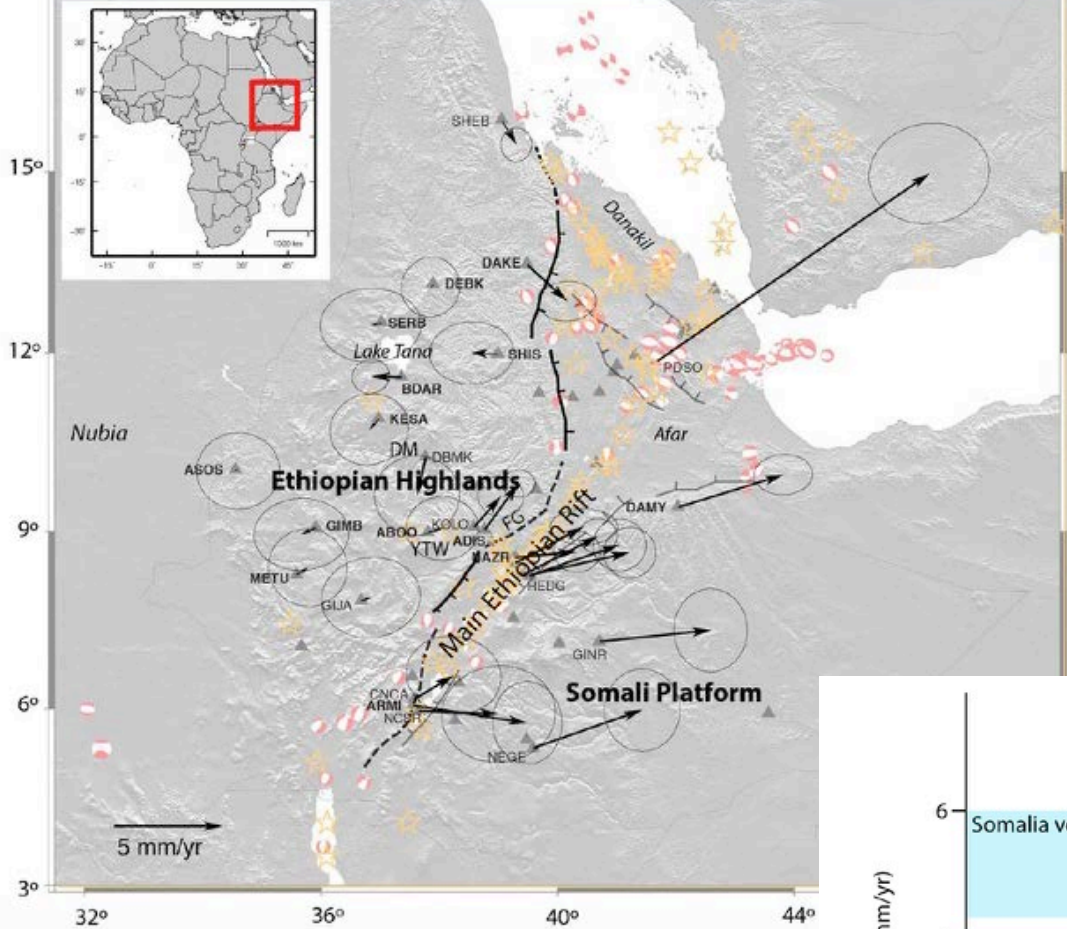


Surface wave model - Fishwick et al., in review

Seismic moment
 release: NEIC
 catalogue; 1973-
 7/2017

Seismic moment release using NEIC (complete to ca M 4.5).

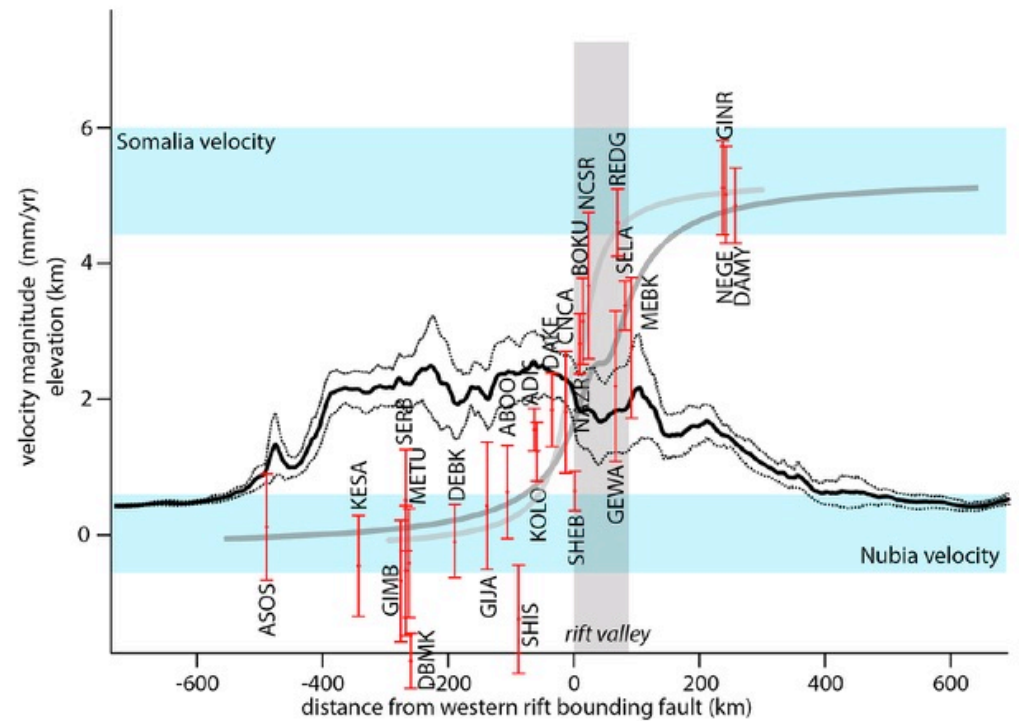
$M_0 = \mu A s$ where μ is shear modulus of rock at EQ source, A = area of fault plane, s is slip



Geodetic and seismic evidence that strain has localized to narrow zone after < 15 My rift evolution in MER and Afar.

Ca. 150 km-wide plate boundary deformation zone vs 1000 km in magma-poor /initially thicker lithosphere

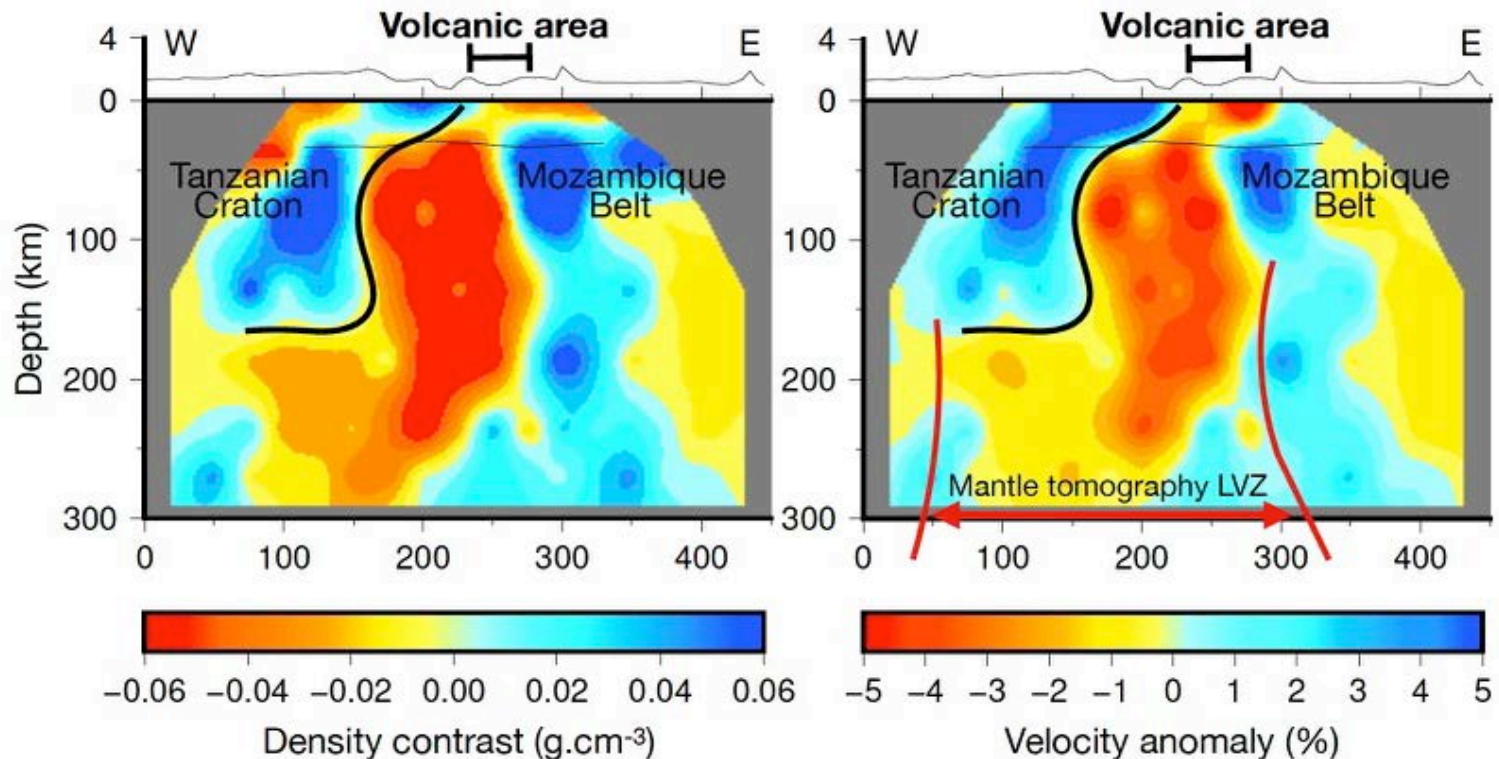
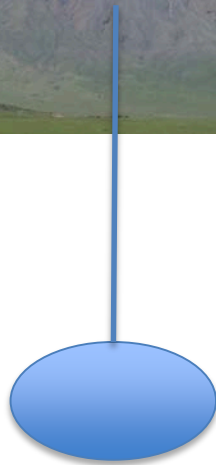
East-directed velocity with distance from rift – **Birhanu, Bendick, Fisseha, Lewi, Lloyd, King, Reilinger, GRL 2016**





< 5 Ma rift in at cratonic lithosphere edge. Evidence for edge-driven erosion of cratonic root? – suggested by short length scale of SKS splitting.

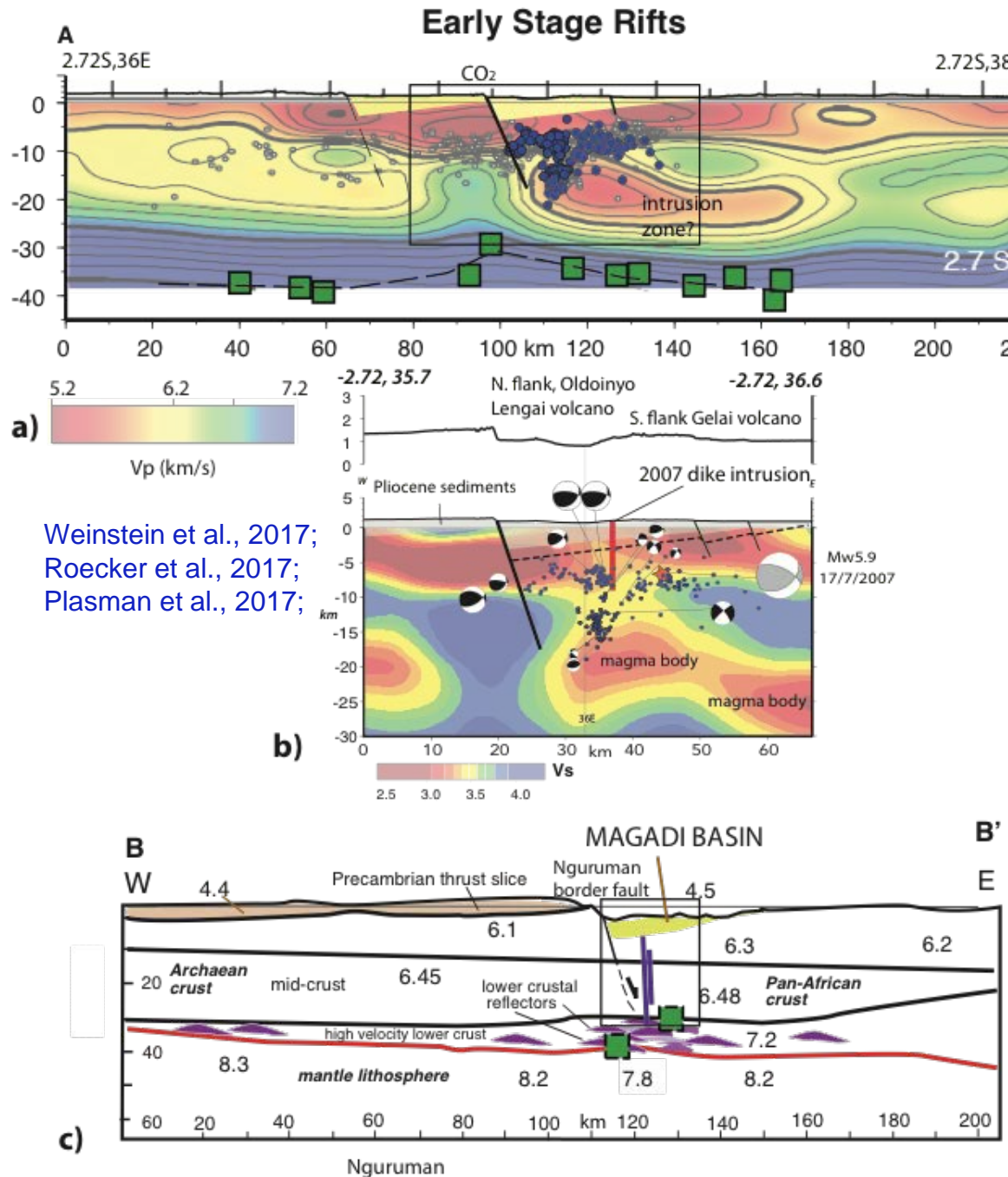
Tiberi et al., GJI, 2018; van Wijk, Currie, Ebinger & Reiss, almost submitted



- CO₂ flux along fault systems in Natron-Magadi basins. Mantle sourced fluids (metasomatic fluids, magma production). $71 \pm 33 \text{ Mt y}^{-1}$ - ca. 11 % of global budget

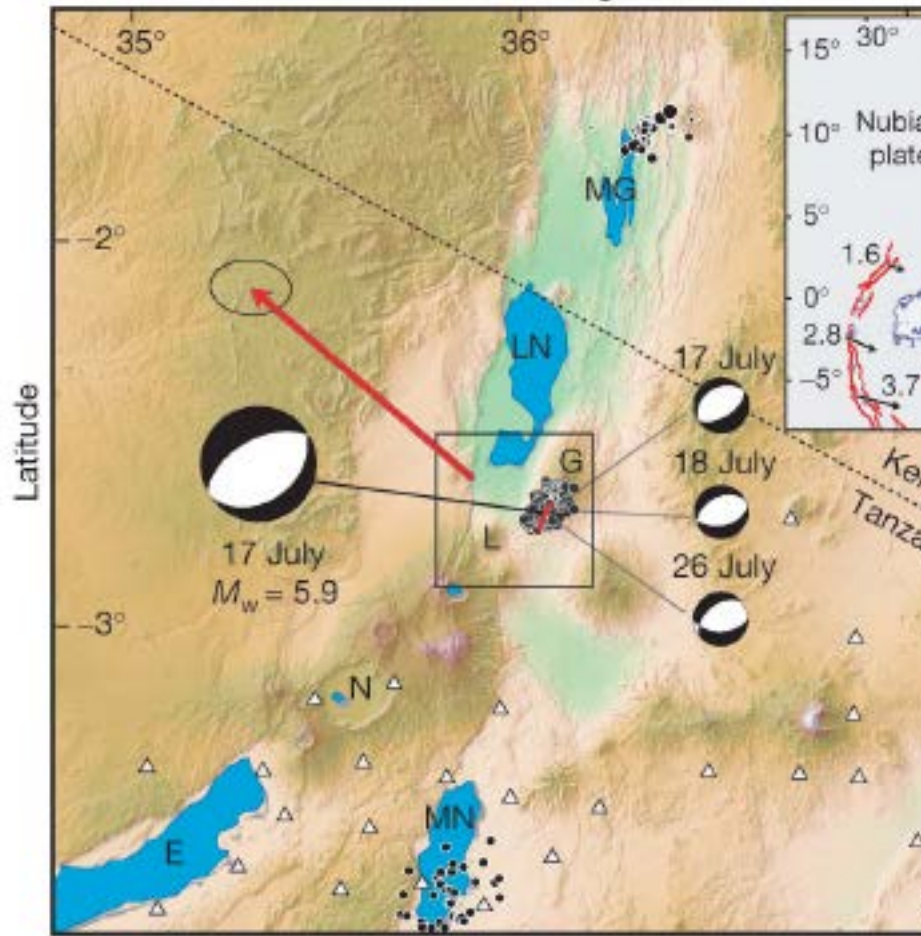
- Fault zones penetrate to ~ 25 km and are permeable pathway for volatiles; lower crustal seismicity is caused by high pore pressures around magma intrusions; slip along border faults.

- Rates of crustal accretion $5\text{-}90 \text{ km}^3 \text{ km}^{-1} \text{ My}^{-1}$ comparable to



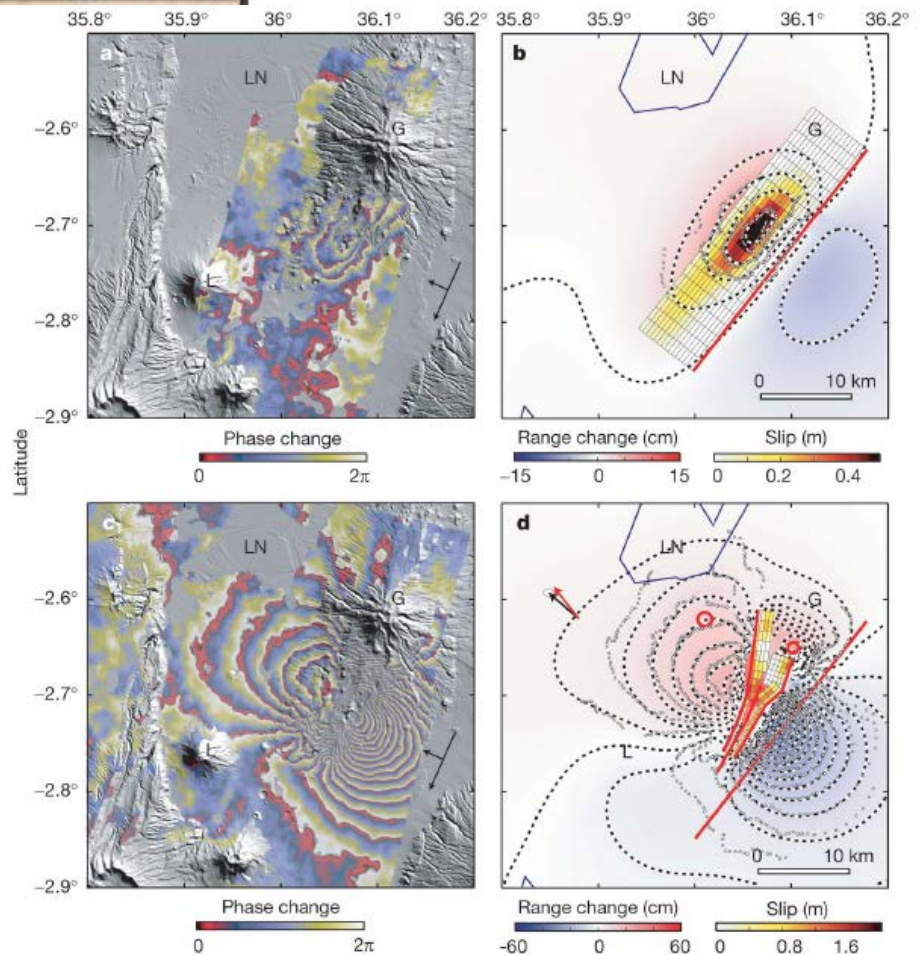
Weinstein et al., 2017;
 Roecker et al., 2017;
 Plasman et al., 2017;

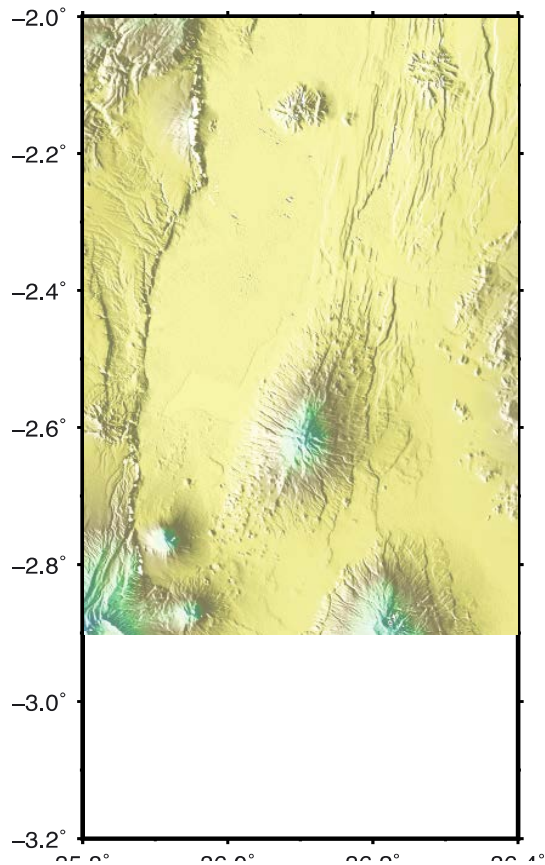
Longitude



Calais et al.,
Nature, 2008;
updated in Oliva et
al., GRL, 2019

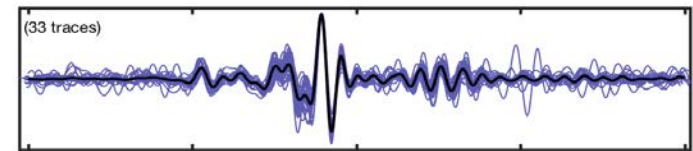
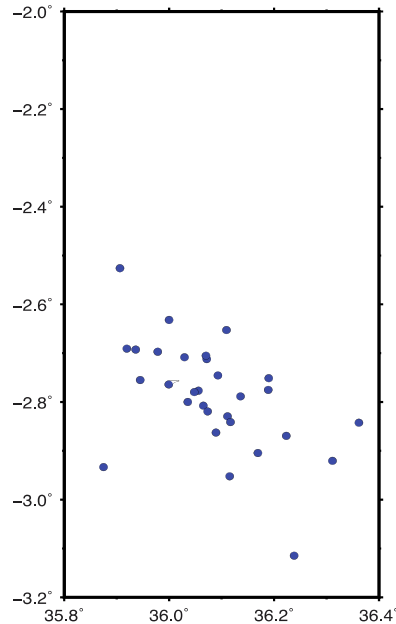
Fault slip above sill on 17 July, dike intrusion on 26 July; eruption in August. At least 65% deformation occurred aseismically.



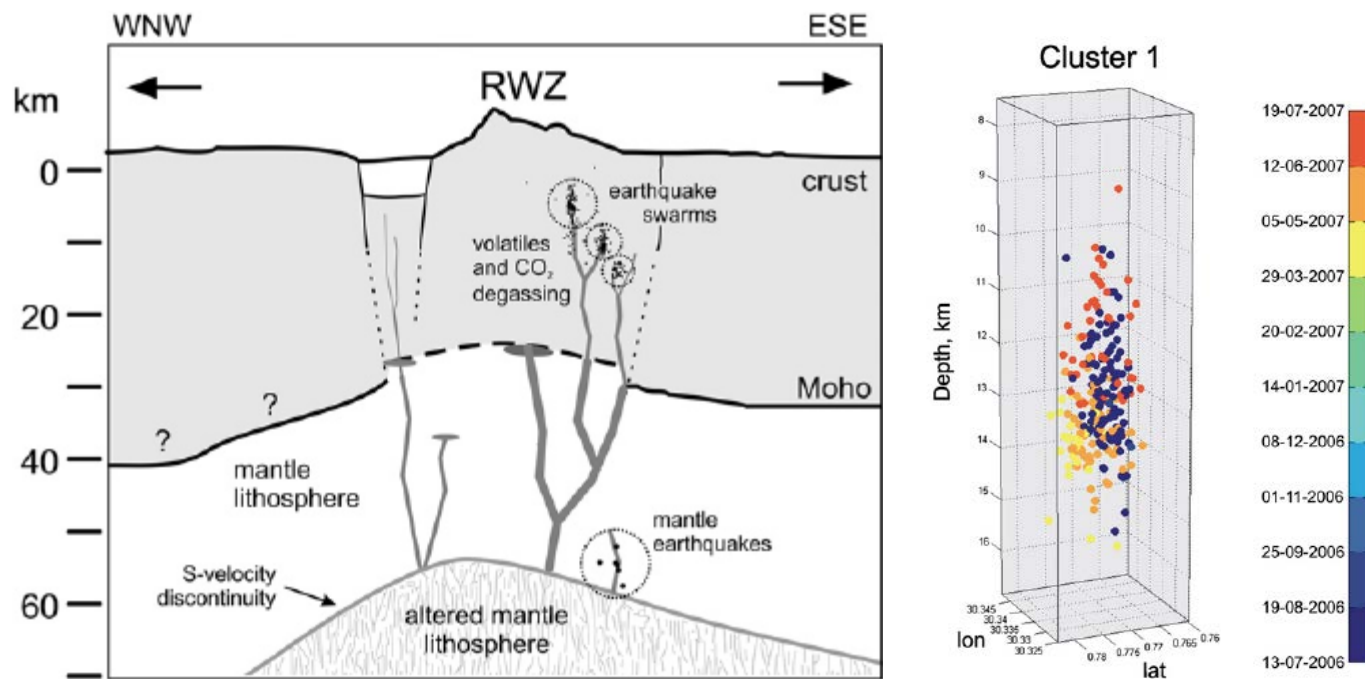


Dike intrusion occurs in between the large events detectable with satellite geodesy: Earthquakes in 2013 show large dilatational component and correlate with dike intrusion EQs from 2007. 30 similar events between 1995-2017 found using cross correlation of waveforms from permanent station KMBO - Sarah Jaye Oliva

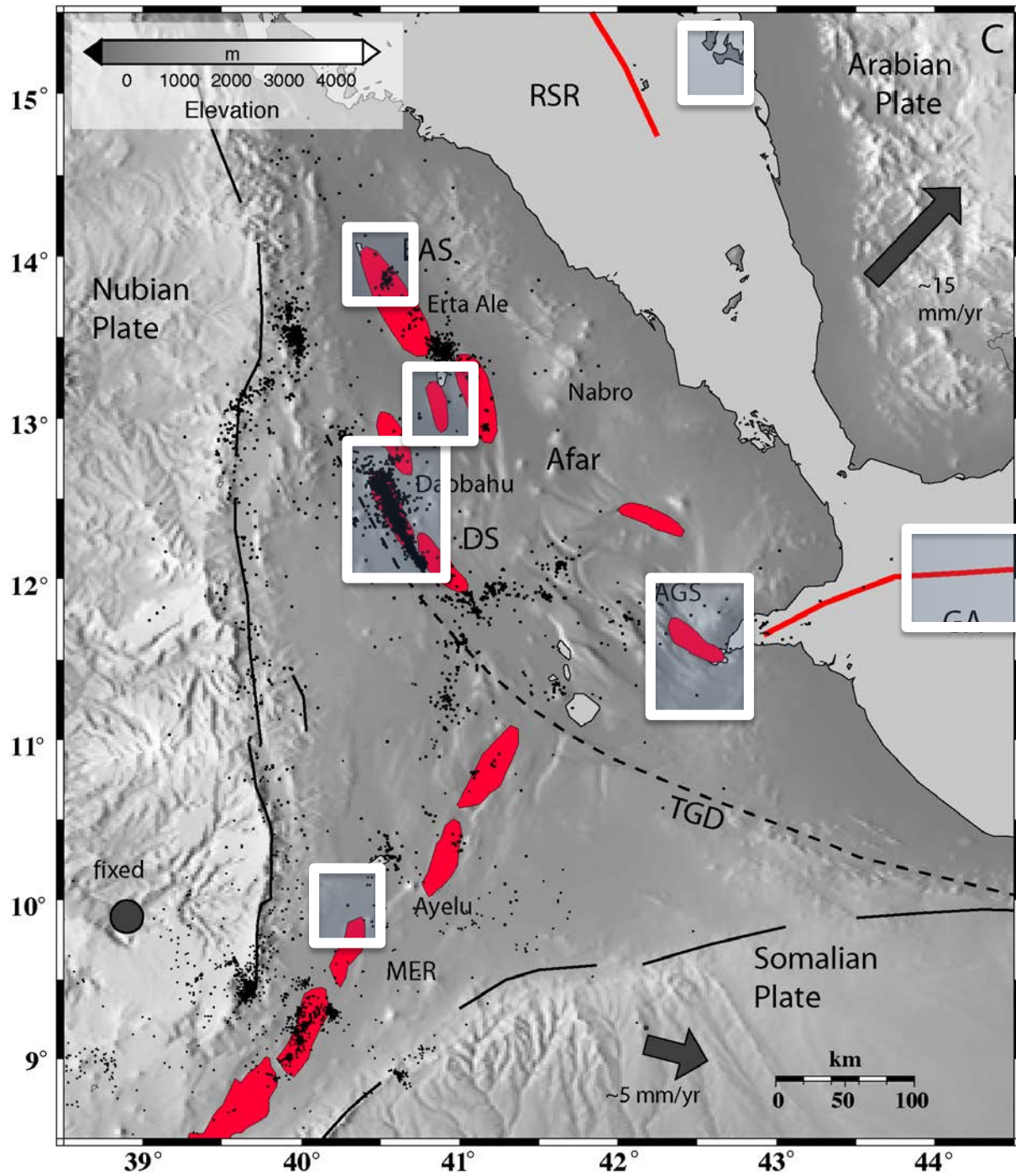
Oliva et al., GRL, 2019
and poster



Upward-migrating earthquake swarms in upper mantle and crust – Albert-Edward rift zone, Western rift ; Petrology, melt inclusions indicate pervasive CO₂-rich fluids



Ps, Sp RF constrain crust, mantle depths – Lindenfeld et al. Tectono, 2012; Homuth et al., 2015; Wallner and Schmeling, 2010.



Afar Depression

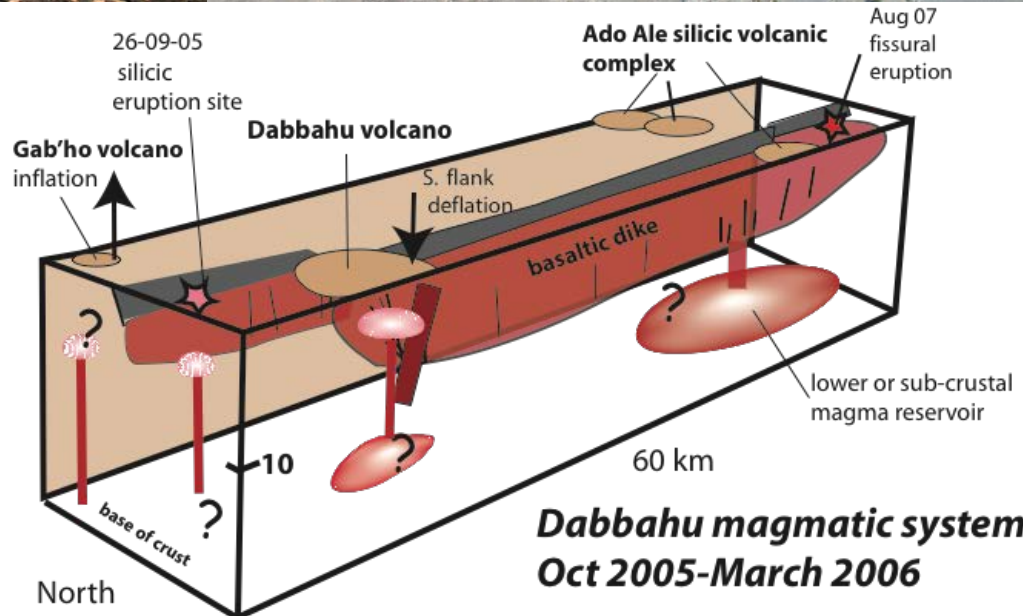
Zones of
Holocene-
Recent magma
intrusion =
volcanoes +
dike intrusion
zones

Boxes outline
historic fissural
eruptions and
dike intrusion
zones

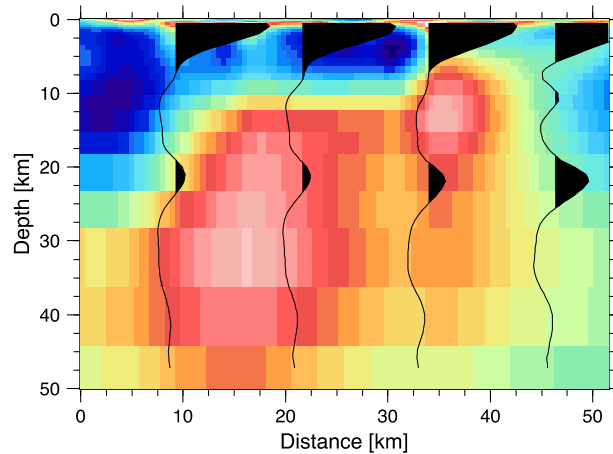


Ca. 35 km-long, 8 m-wide dike induced unrest at Dabbahu volcano, and peralkaline eruption at small cone near Gab'ho volcano

Ebinger et al., 2008



Fluid-filled
cracks above
magma bodies
with ~20%
melt (Desissa
et al., 2013)
Comparison of
MT and
seismic
imaging, and
geoelectric
and crust +
mantle seismic
anisotropy



Post-intrusion
deformation –
'aftershocks'

NW-
propagating
and SE-
propagating
dikes from
magma
chamber at
segment
center Ayele
et al. 2007

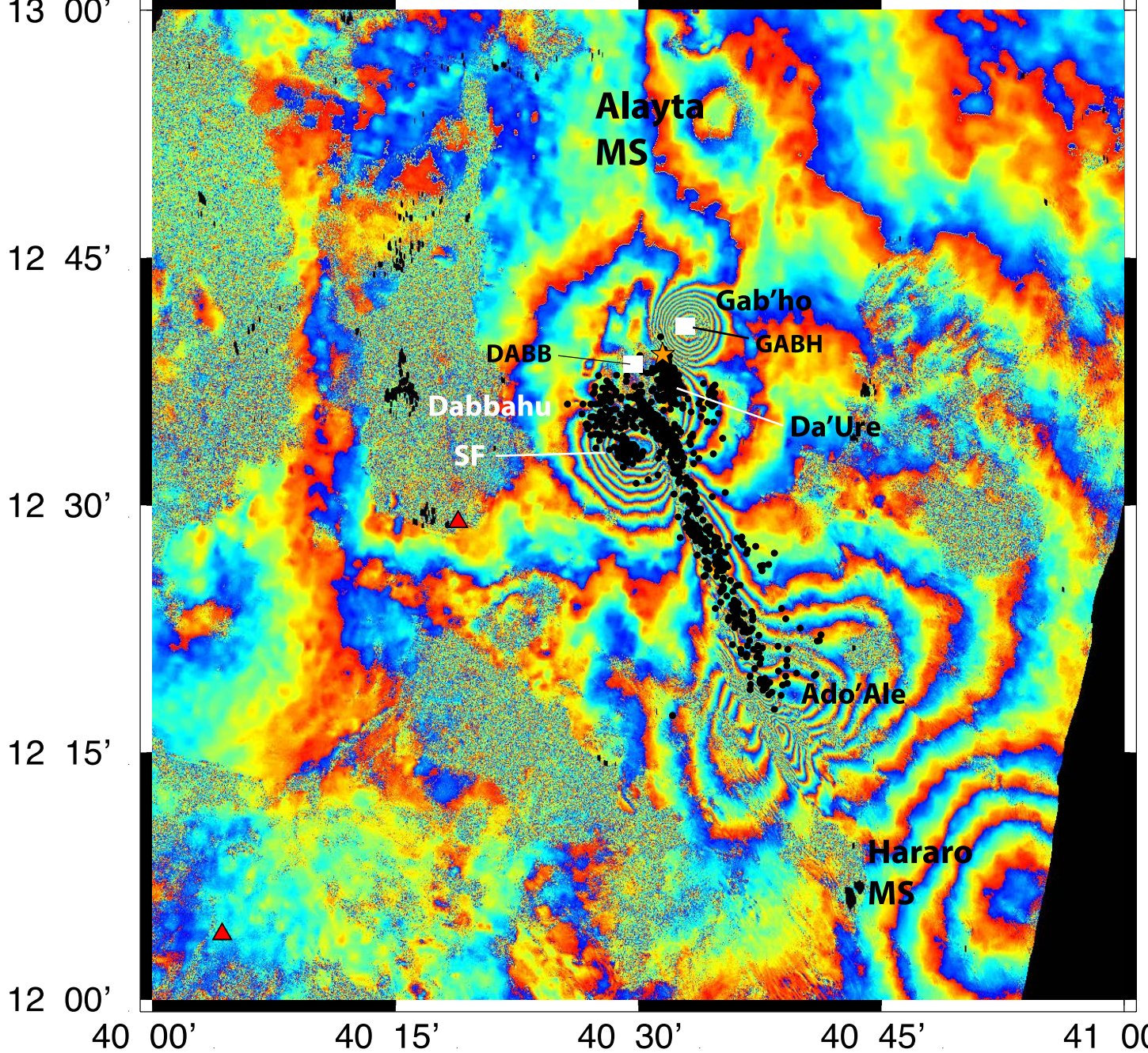
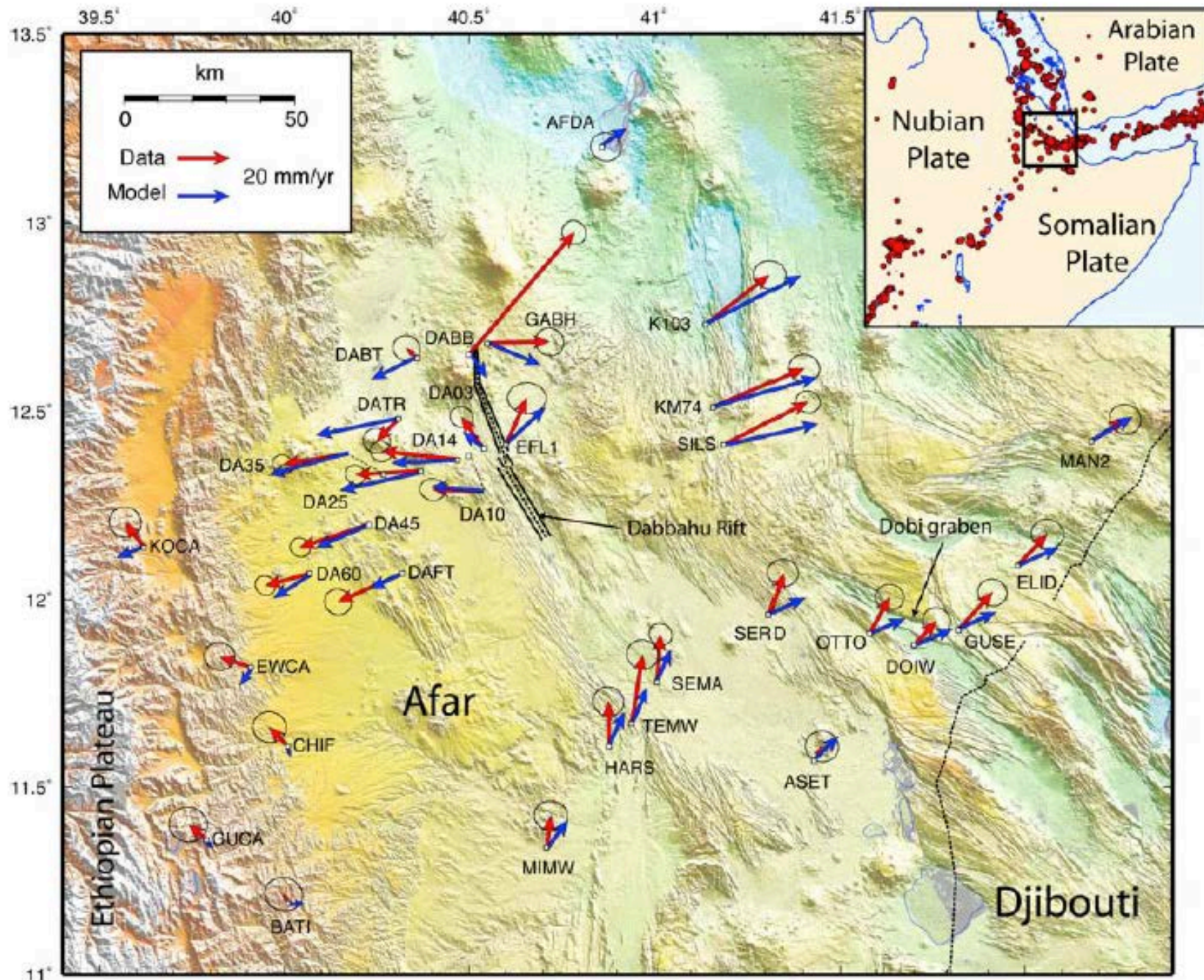
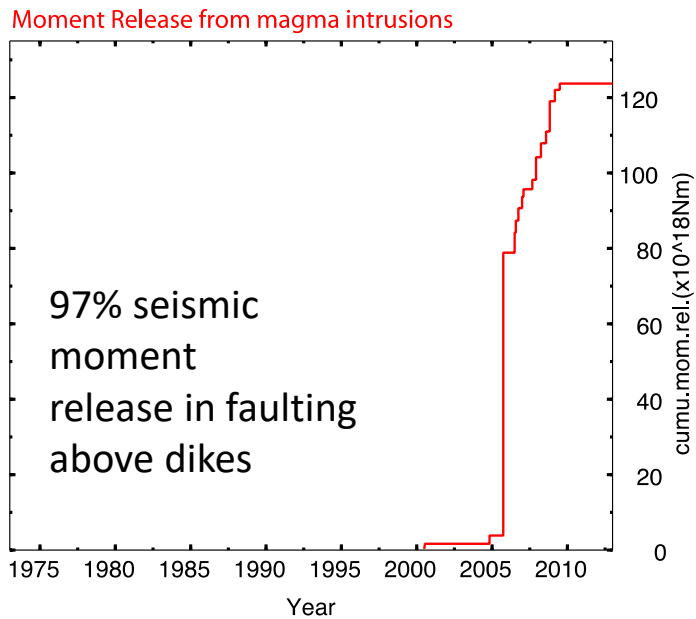
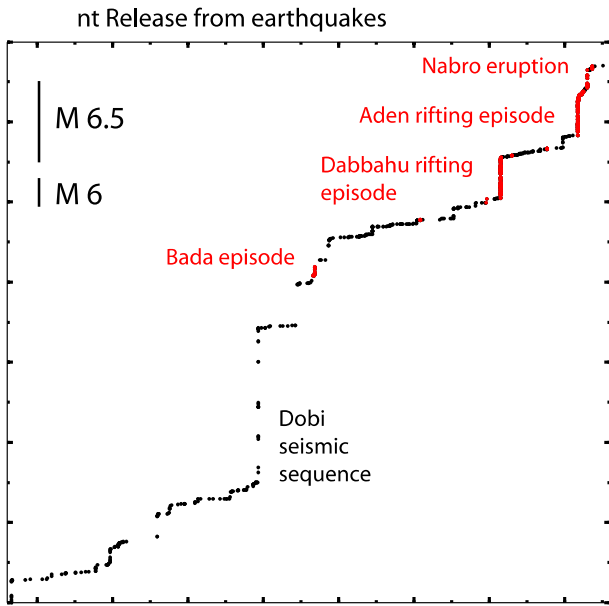
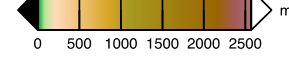


Figure 9, Ebinger et al.





Rifting at plate rupture:

Punctuated opening via dike intrusion: opening rates 2-3 times greater than interseismic cycle

Seismic moment \ll than geodetic moment – strain accommodated by frequent magma intrusions.

Poroelastic effects enhanced deformation in 1990 Dobi EQ sequence - Noir et al. 2011; Iceland – Jonsson et al. 2001

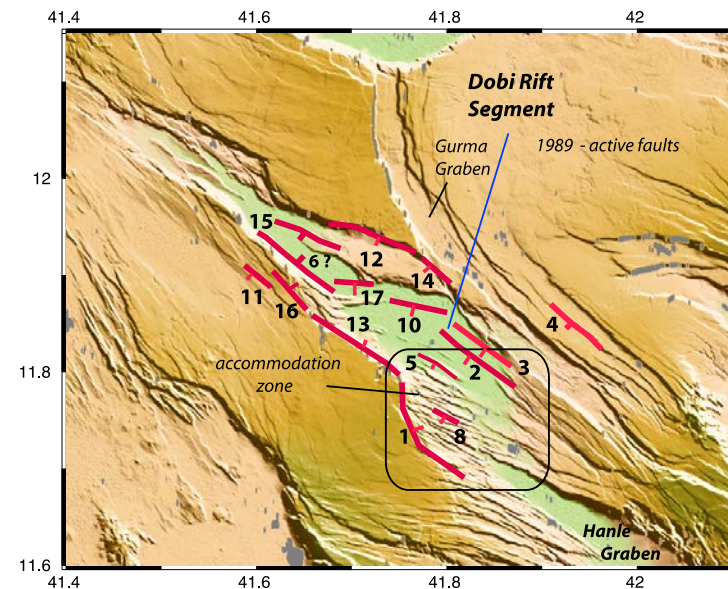
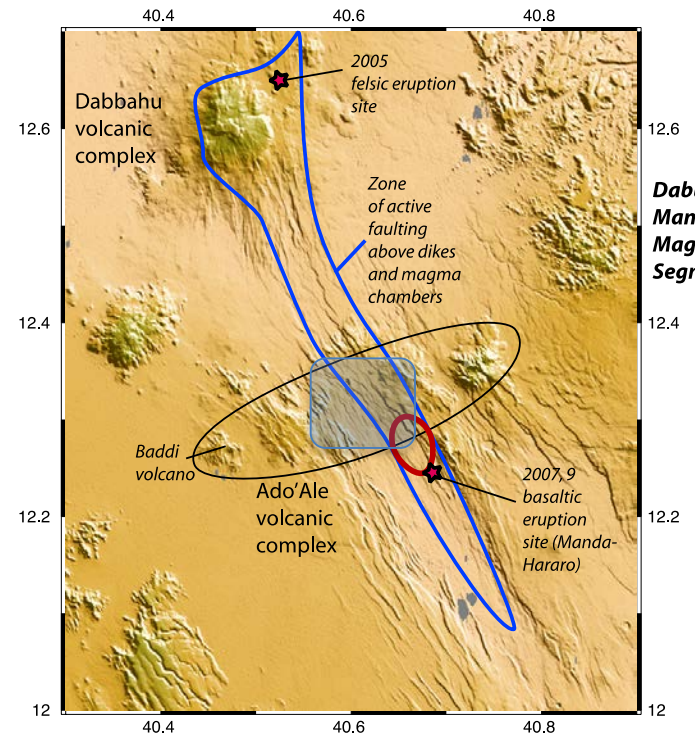
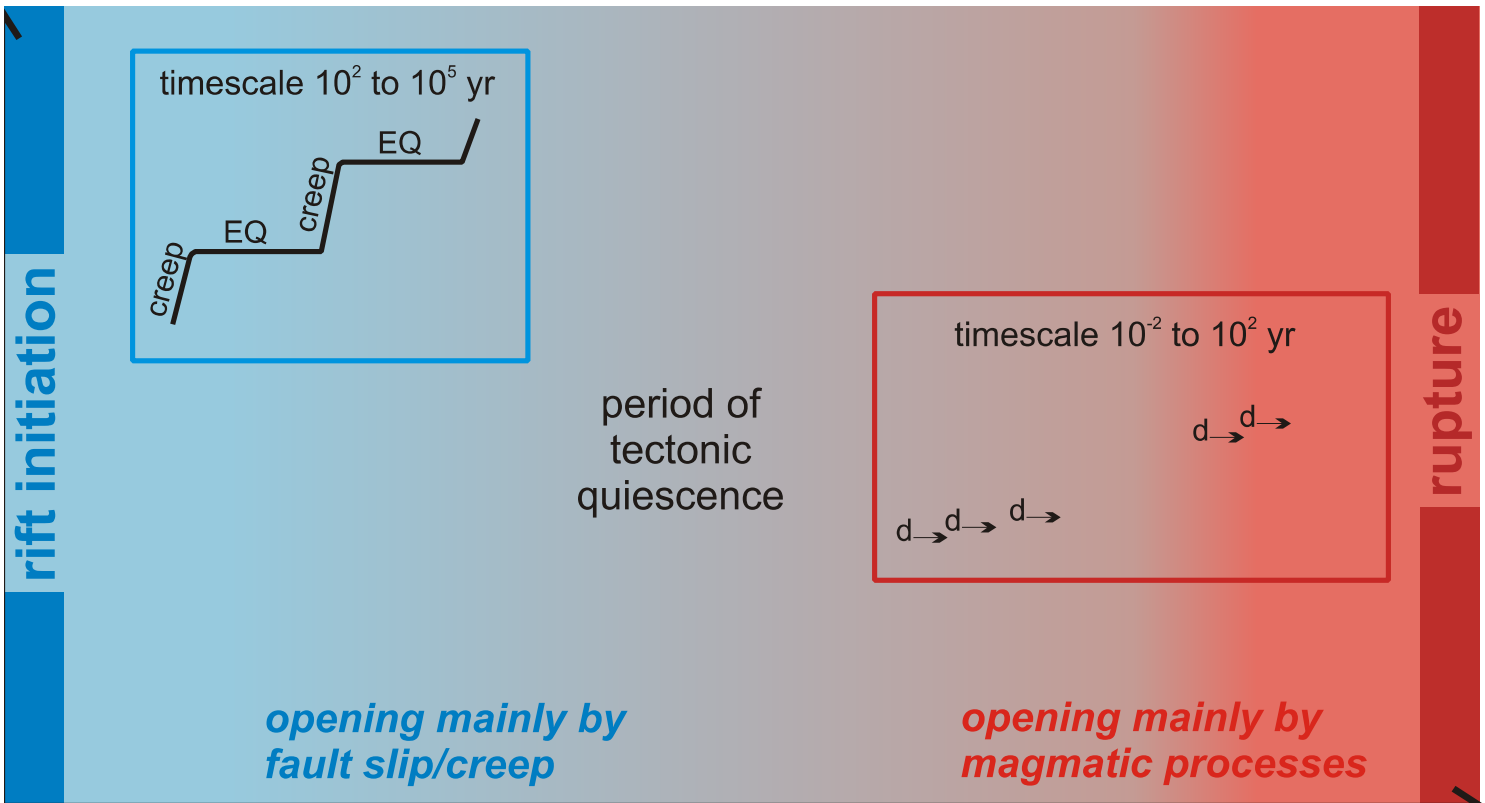


Figure 4, Ebinger, van Wijk, Keir



3 Rift Fault-Dike Triggered Eruptions

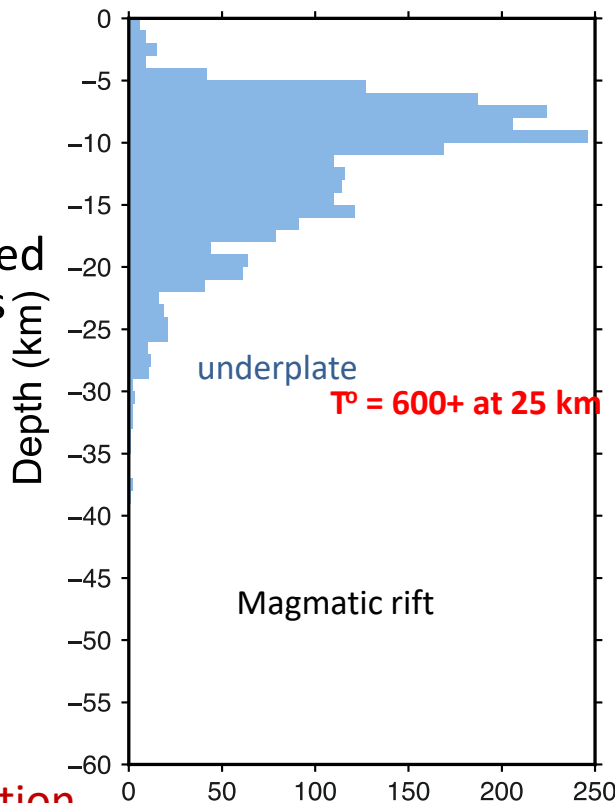
- 2005 Afar – dike triggered pantellerite eruption and activity at Dabbahu volcano 2005 -
- 2007 Natron –Manyara – fault-dike-eruption at Oldoinyo Lengai
- Oranui, Taupo – 27 ka ??

Allan, A.S., Wilson, C.J., Millet, M.A. and Wysoczanski, R.J., 2012. The invisible hand: Tectonic triggering and modulation of a rhyolitic supereruption. *Geology*40(6), pp.563-566.

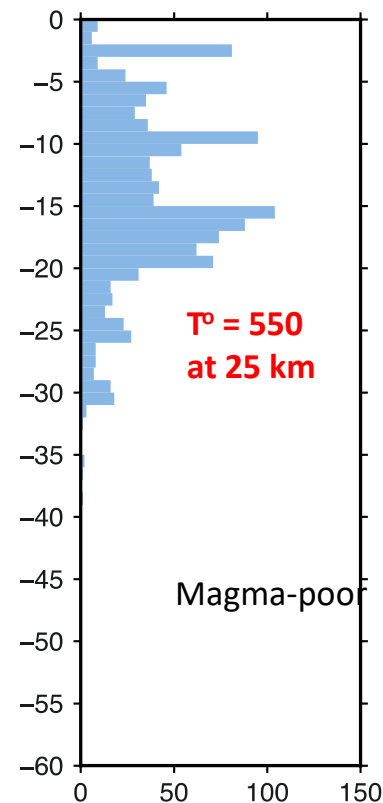
New insights in lower crust and upper mantle rheology— all rifts with more mantle than crustal thinning

- SEGMeNT shows less activity
- No magma-involved (sills) earthquakes like CRAFTI
- No mantle earthquakes like TANGA

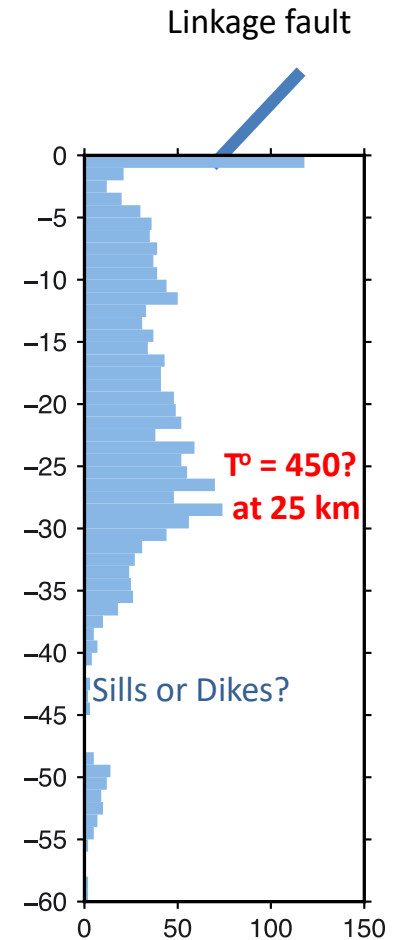
Blatant self-promotion to illustrate abundance of lower crustal EQs



Weinstein et al., 2017



In prep.



Lavayssiere, Drooff et al. Tectonics 2019

Conclusions

- Magma intrusion aided by volatile release accommodates large % of lithospheric extension in EAR
- intrusive : extrusive ~ 10:1; 1/3 crust new igneous

Sectors with crustal magma reservoirs

- Strain is accommodated by magma intrusion, slow-slip, viscous relaxation; seismic energy release via dike-induced faulting
- Inter-seismic period is strongly dependent upon the magma replenishment cycle.

Sectors lacking active chambers

- Strain is accommodated by fault slip, creep – seismic 1/3 geodetic strain **Need more continuous GPS to evaluate role of aseismic deformation**

Both magmatic and amagmatic rifting events produce the long-term fault displacements, and maintain the along-axis rift architecture through repeated episodes of faulting, intrusion, and post-



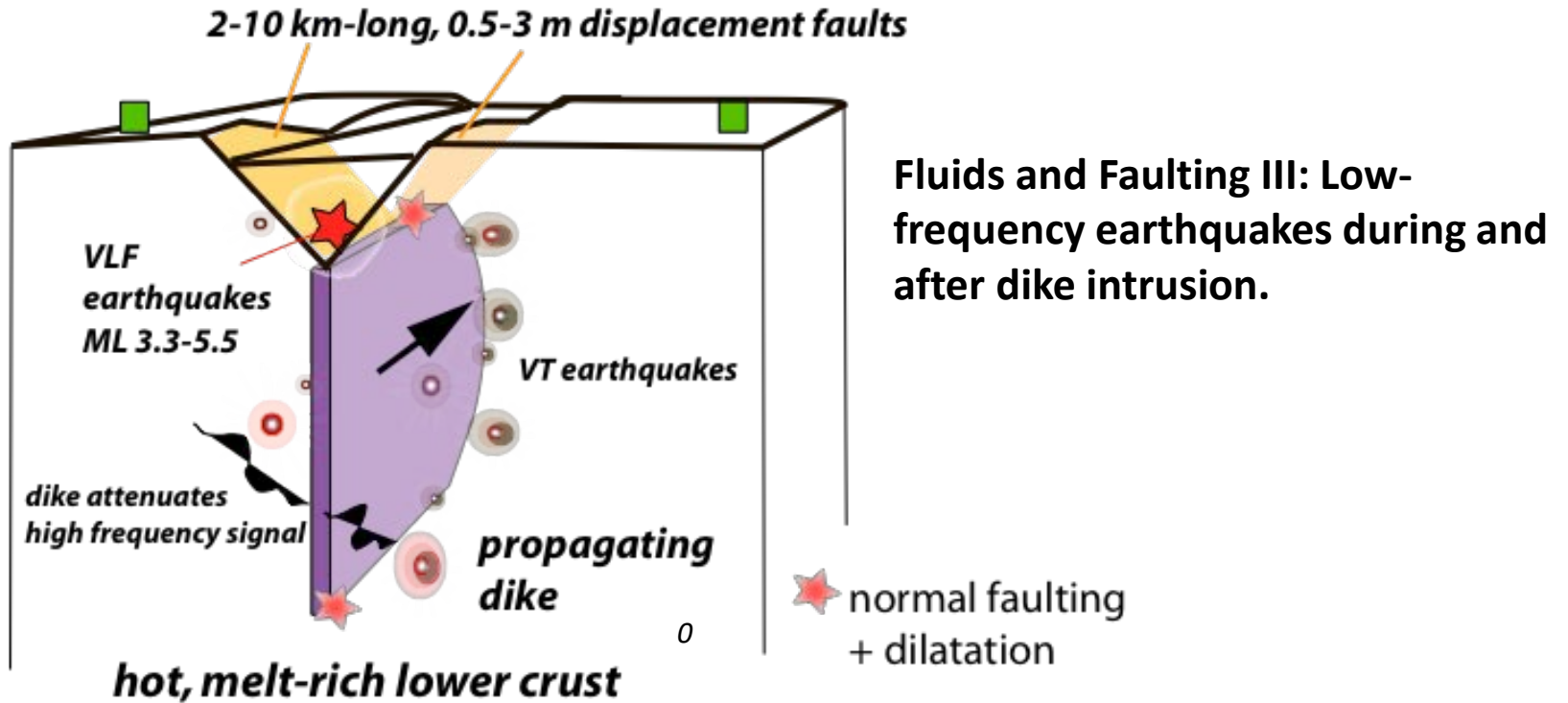
March expedition to mid-segment. JRowland

Characteristic morphology created by faulting above dikes – short, large displacement faults - < 1 m/s propagation rate. Dike earthquakes $M_L < 5.6$

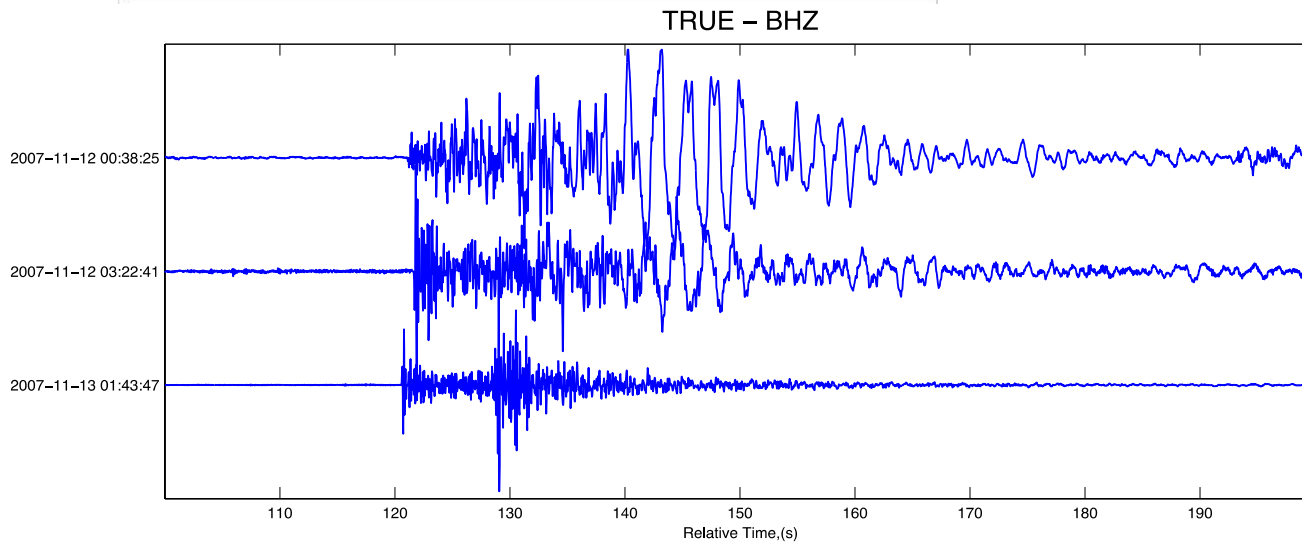
$M_0 = \mu L W s$ where μ is shear modulus of rock at EQ source, L is length of fault plane, W is fault width, and average fault s is slip; $M_0 = 4 \times 10^{16}$ Nm

Dabbahu dikes: slip 1-3 m (0.5 expected from normal fault EQs worldwide)

- Mean fault length (lidar) = 2.5 km
- Width ~ 1 km (focal depths < 2.5 km)
- Some are low-frequency EQs (< 2 Hz) during intrusion cycle have normal fault mechanisms (<10% non-CLVD)

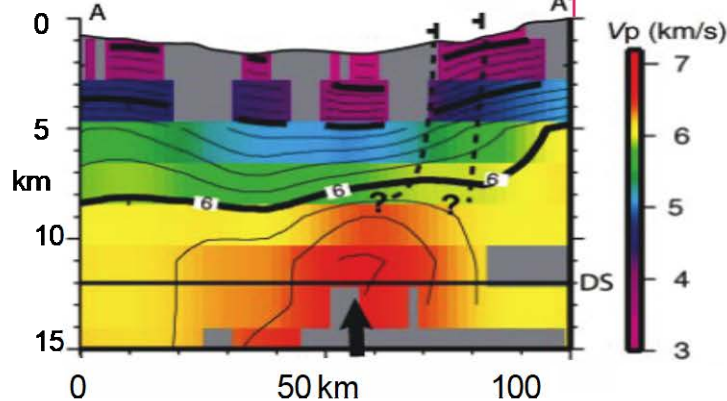


Fluids and Faulting III: Low-frequency earthquakes during and after dike intrusion.

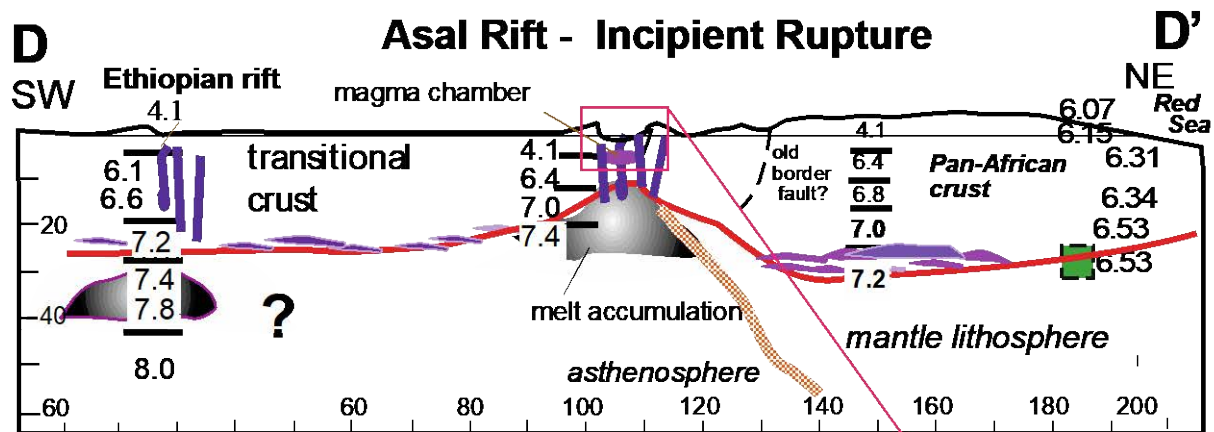




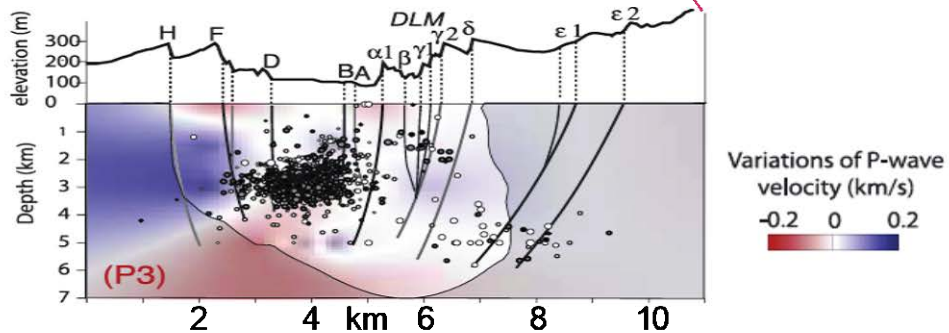
a) **HMC**



b)

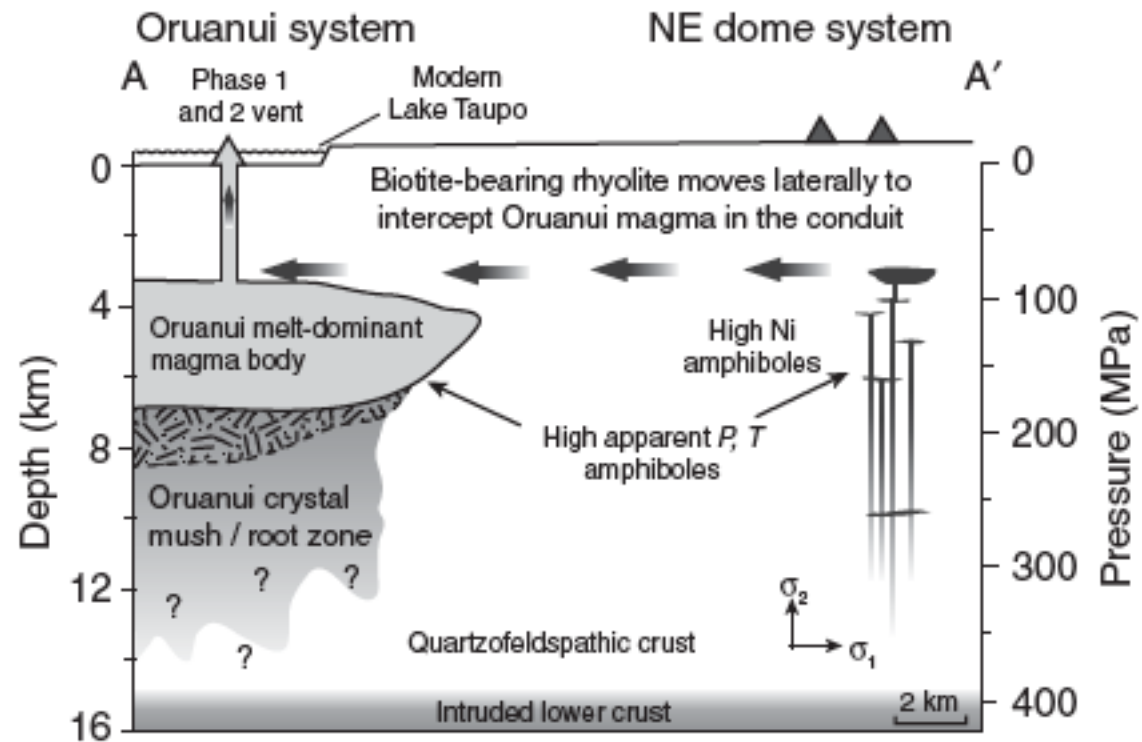
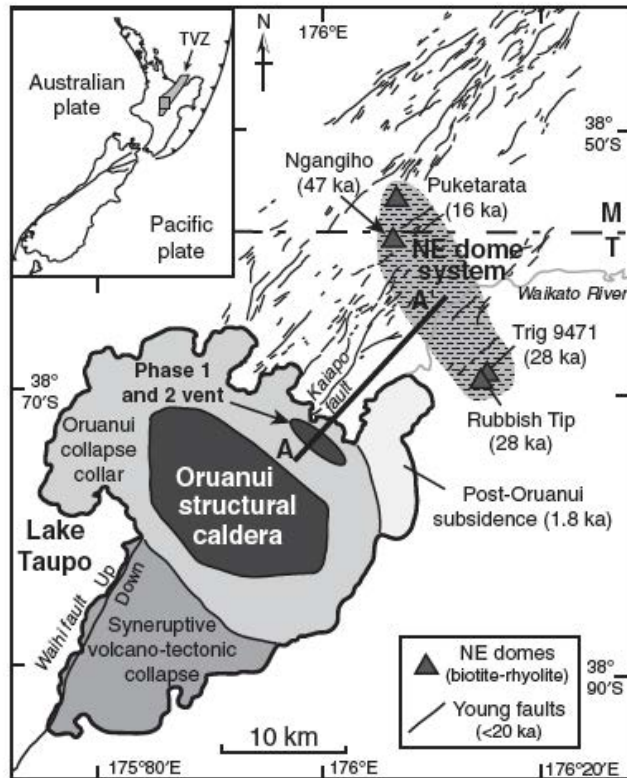


c)

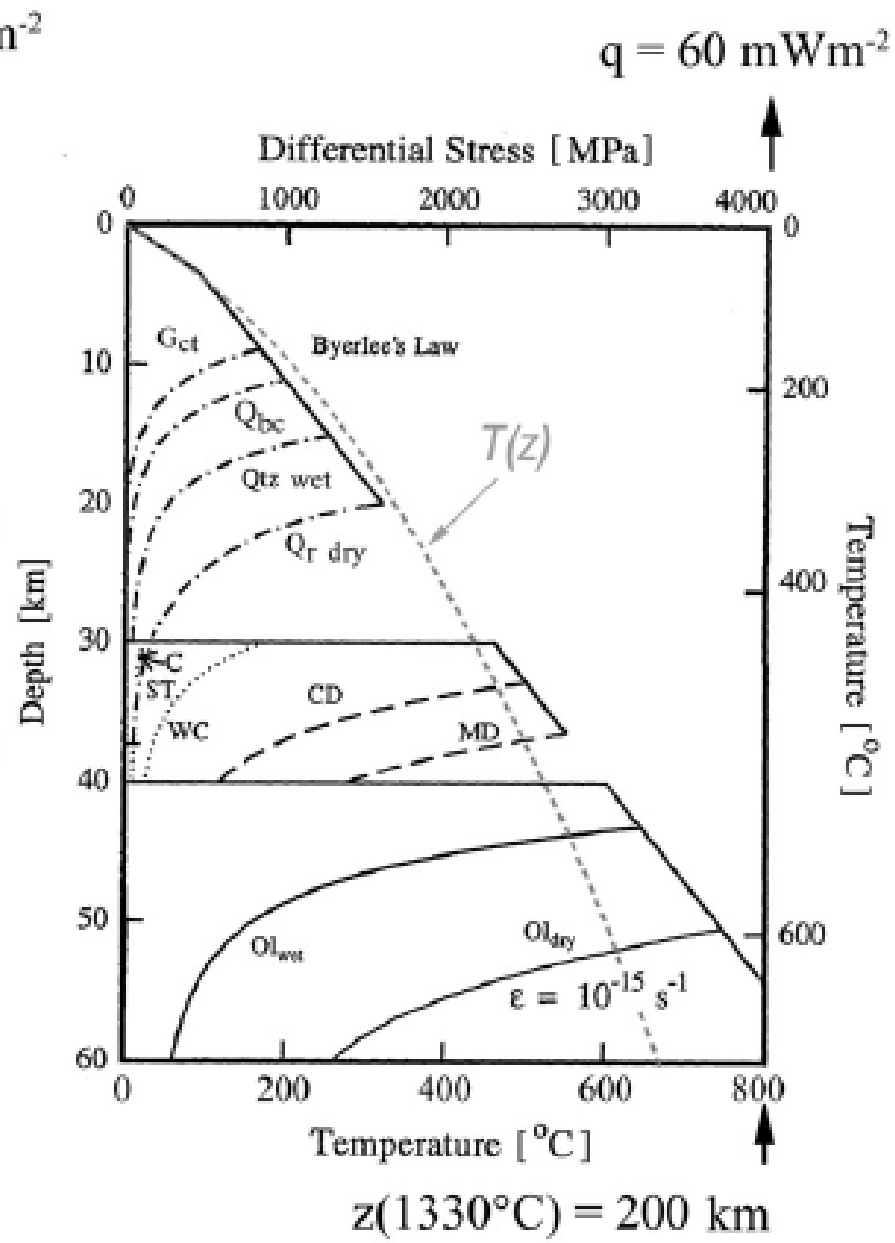
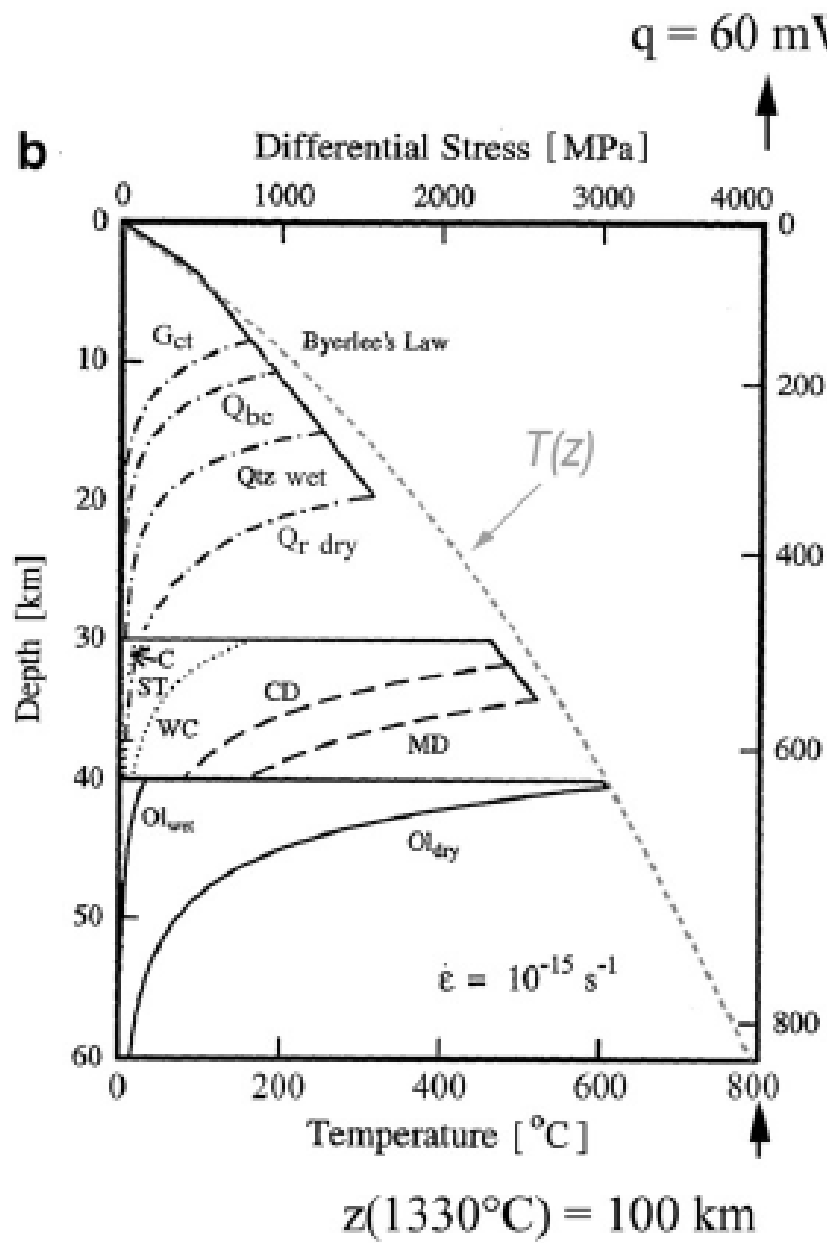


d)

Ancient example? 27 ka super-eruption; 530 km³ lava; chemical mixing Allan et al., 2012; dike-triggering may explain Stop-start nature of eruptions



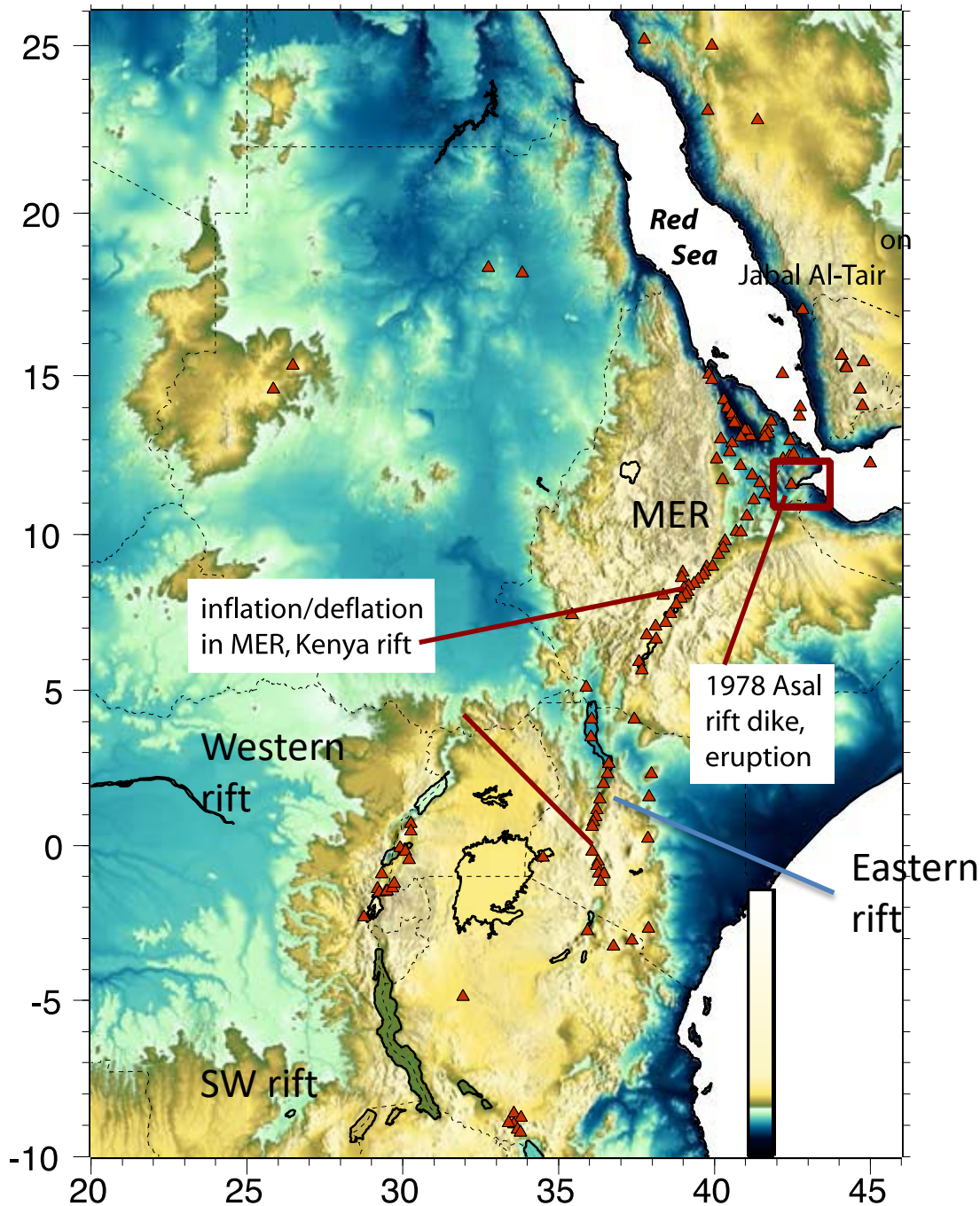
Allan, A. S., Wilson, C. J., Millet, M. A., & Wysoczanski, R. J. (2012). The invisible hand: Tectonic triggering and modulation of a rhyolitic supereruption. *Geology*, 40(6), 563-566.



Burov, 2011

z_{lith} = 100 km

z_{lith} = 200 km



Confirmed magma intrusion and volcanic eruption events within the East African rift system: triangles, Holocene volcanoes (www.si.edu).

2009 Lunayyir Harrat dike intrusion (Pallister et al., 2009); 2007 Jebal Al Tair eruption (Carn); 2008 Dallafilla rifting episode (Pagli et al., 2012); 2005-2011 Dabbahu rifting episode (e.g., Yirgu et al., 2006; Belachew et al., 2011); 2010 Gulf of Aden submarine rifting episode (Shuler and Nettles, 2010; Ahmed et al., 2012); 1978 Asal rifting episode (Abdallah et al., 1979); Main Ethiopian rift magma inflation episodes (Biggs et al., 2011); Eastern rift magma inflation episodes (Biggs et al., 2009); 2002 Nyiragongo eruption and dike intrusion (e.g., Tedesco et al., 2006; Wauthier et al., 2011); multiple Nyiragongo, Nyamuragira eruptions.

