

Comparative analysis of transform fault evolution from seismic anisotropy along the San Andreas system

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University of Colorado
Boulder

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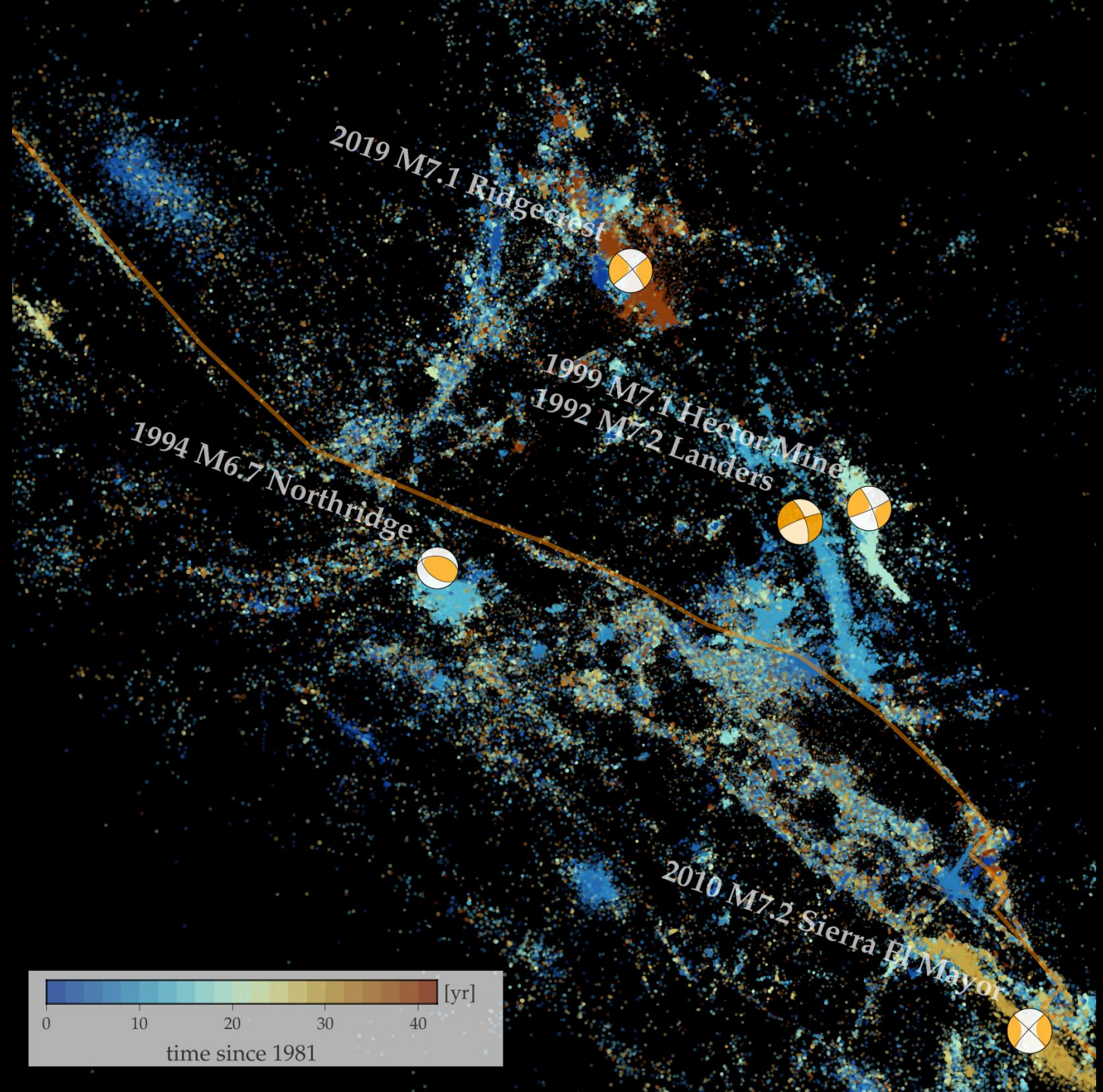
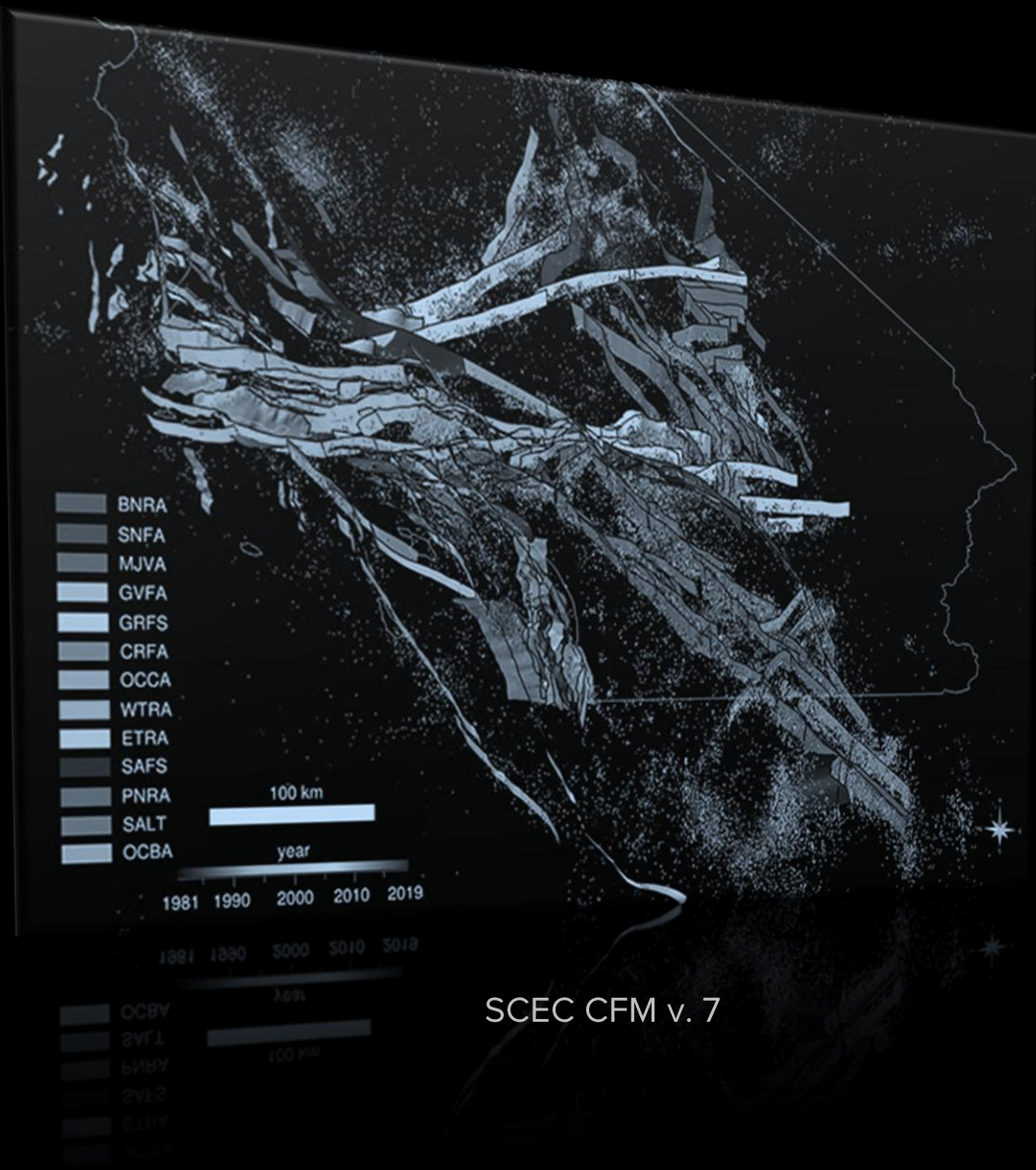
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TEXAS Geosciences
The University of Texas at Austin

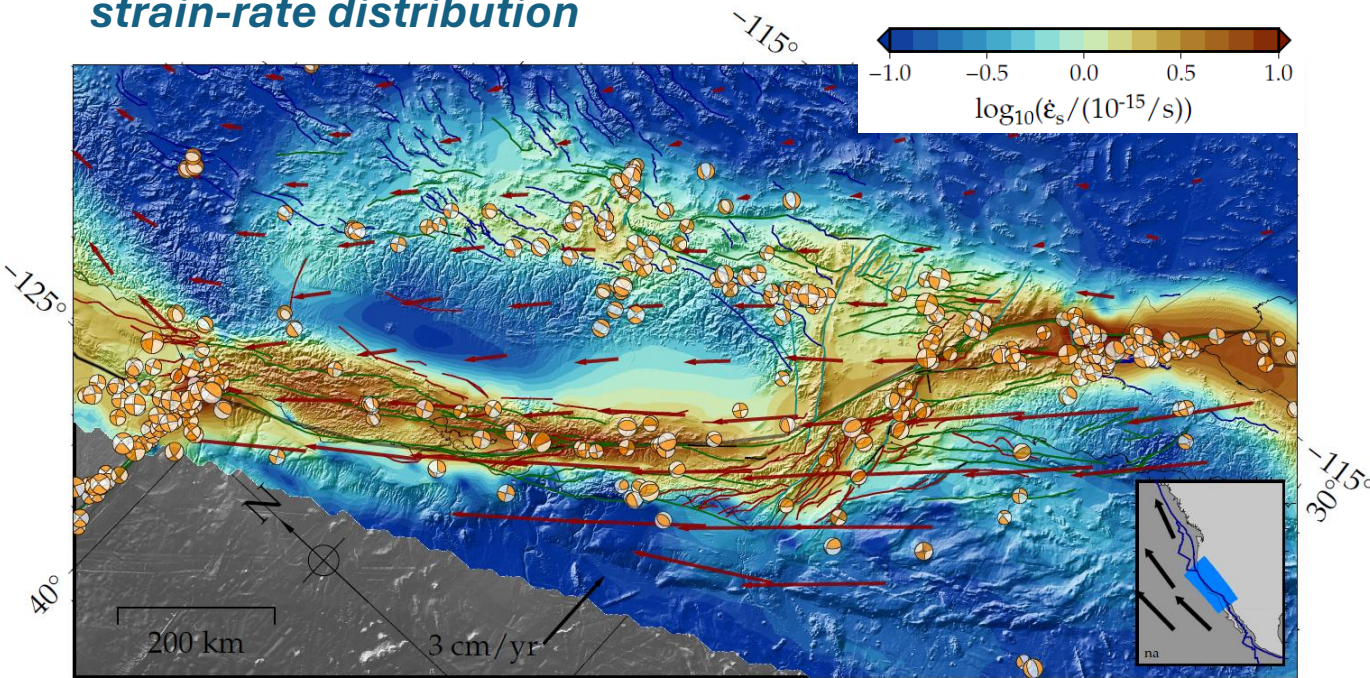


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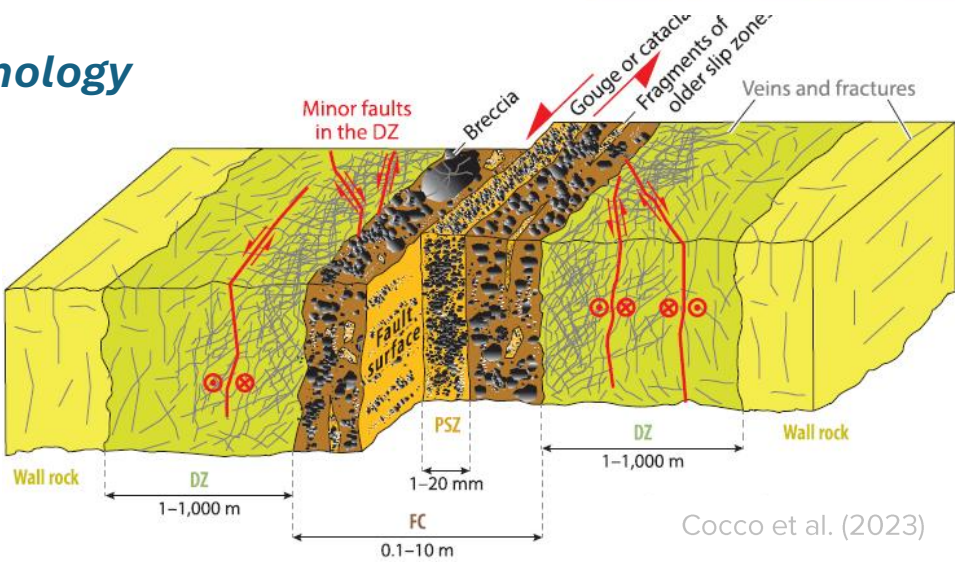


Fault system evolution

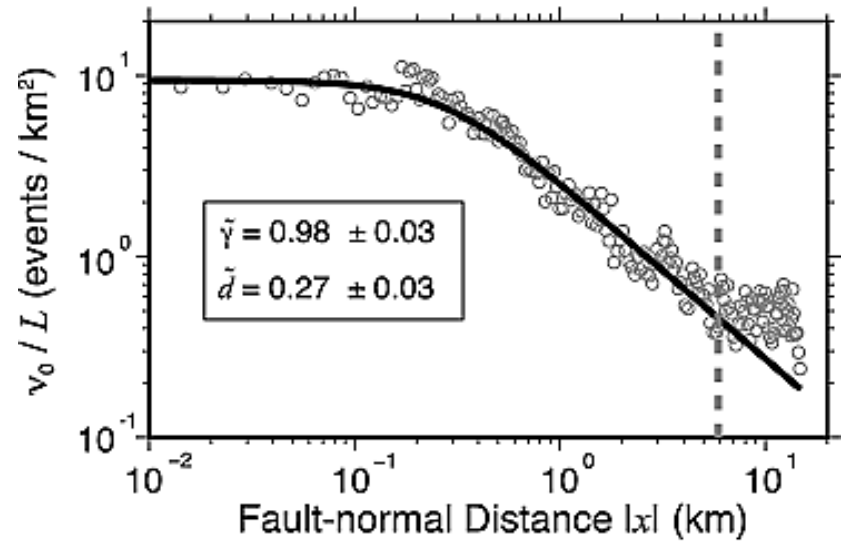
strain-rate distribution



lithology

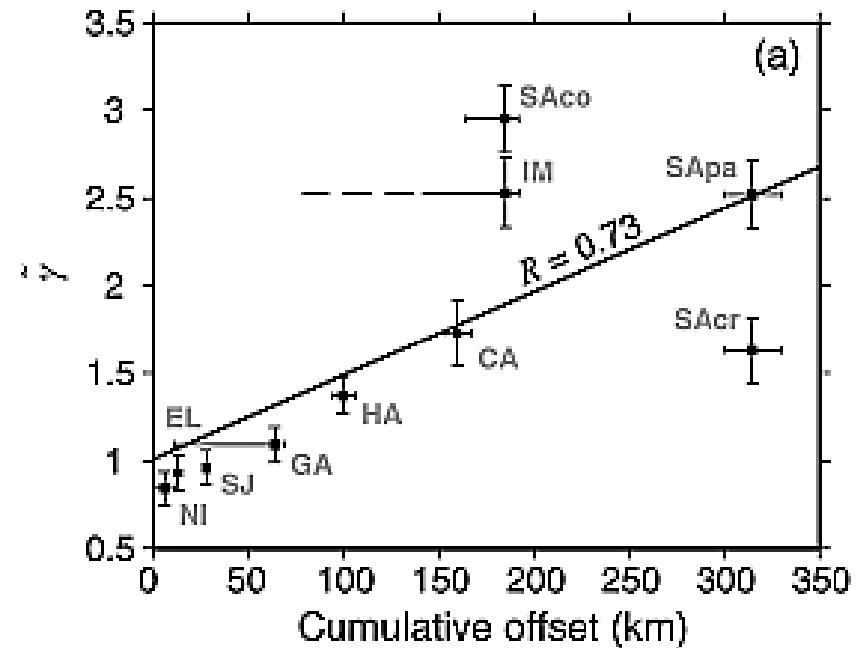


Off fault seismicity



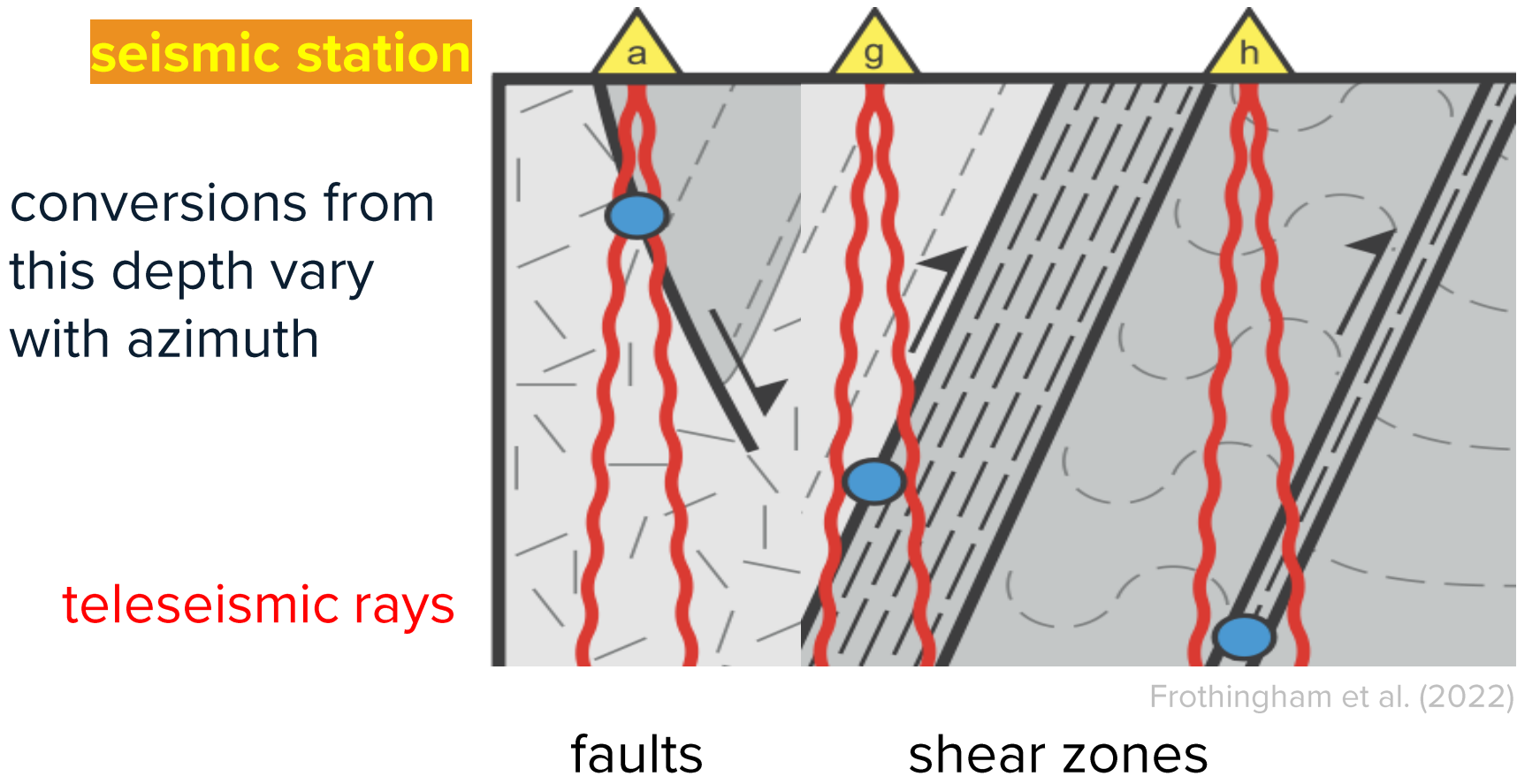
seismicity distribution

Off fault seismicity rate of decay



Puster and Jordan (2010)

Fault and shear zone imaging with receiver function anisotropy

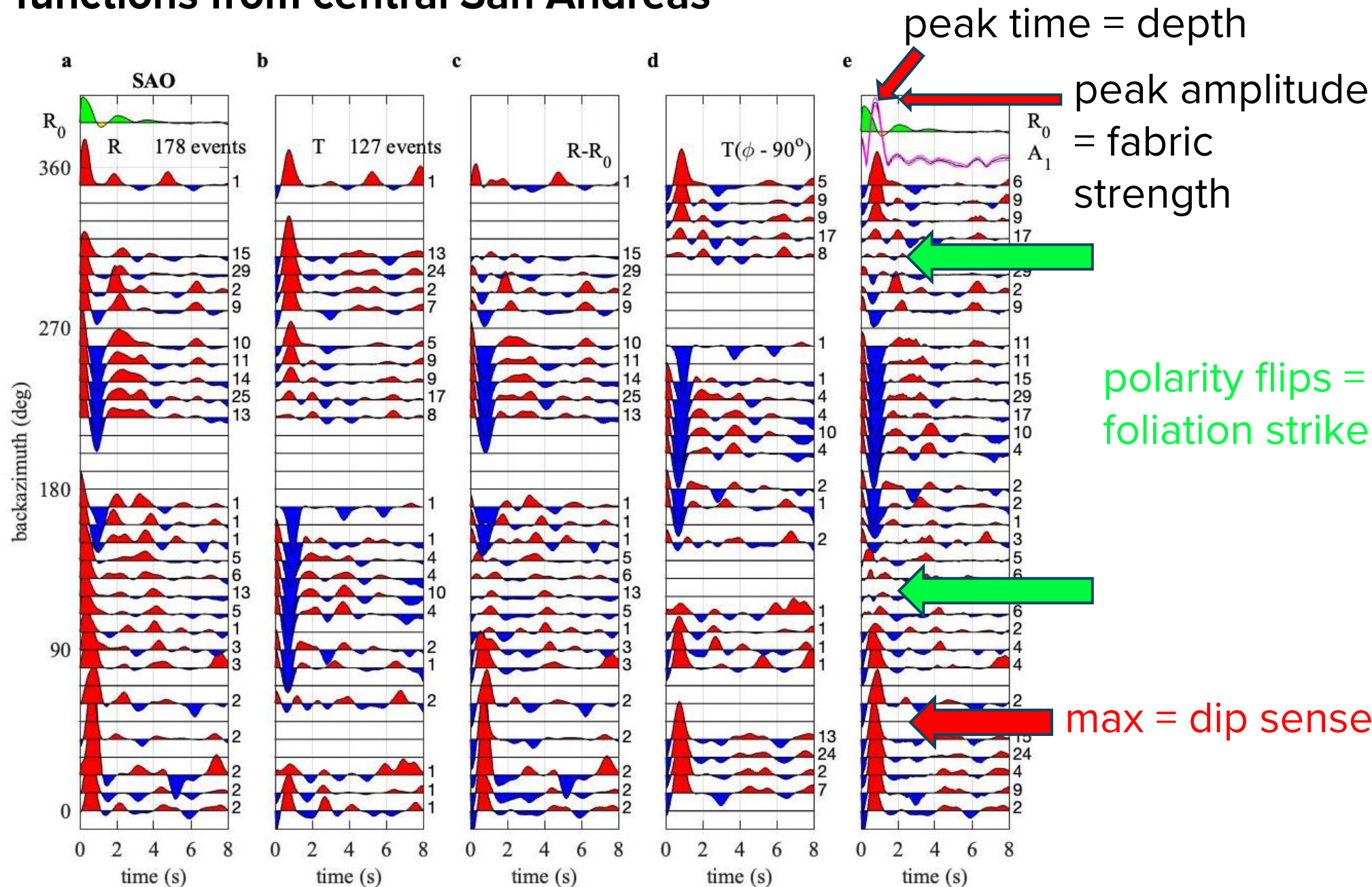


Example receiver functions from central San Andreas

Station SAO

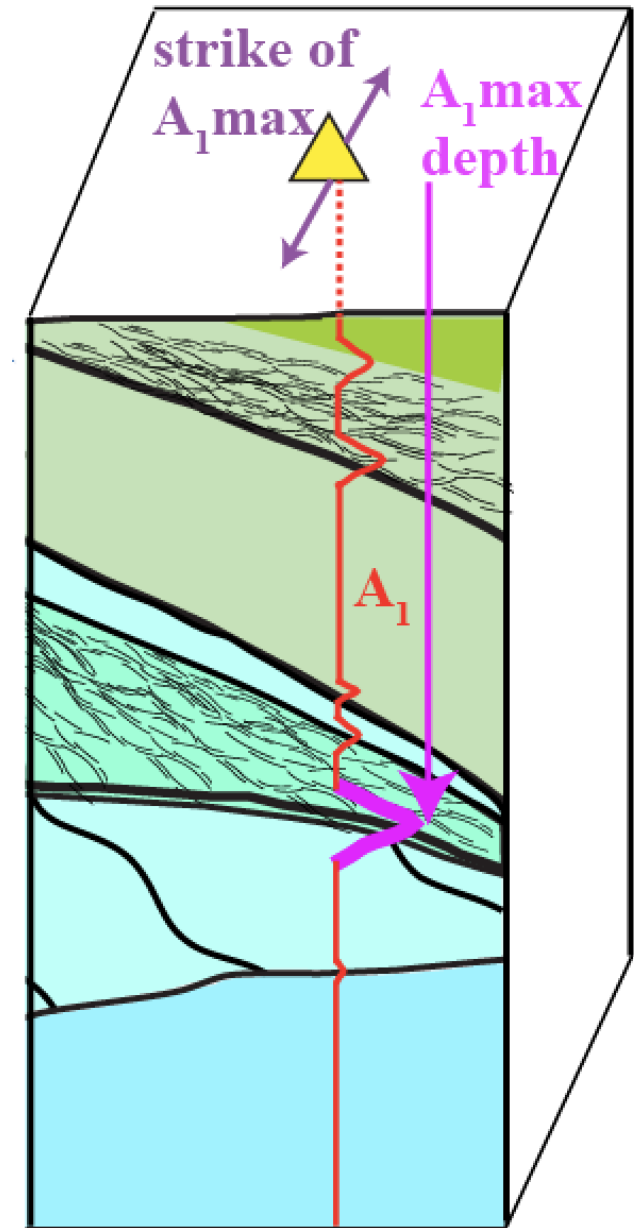
2 km from SAF
surface trace

Large
conversion
from ~6 km
depth



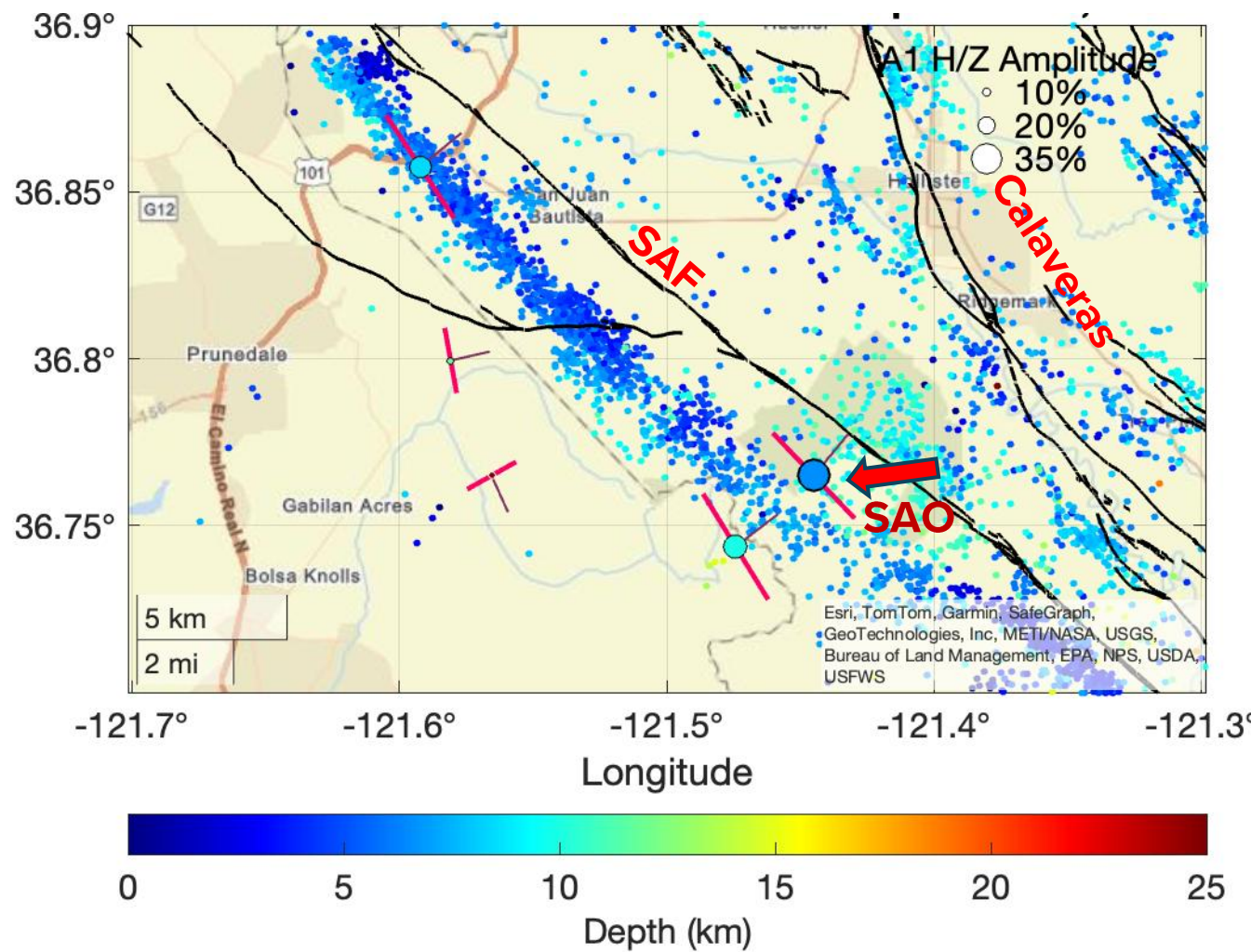
Imaged fabric contrasts: Receiver function (RF) anisotropy parameters

- Depth (from time)
- Fabric strike at contrast (from first azimuthal harmonic phase)
- **Strength of fabric at contrast** (from harmonic amplitude), A_1
- Dip sense of dipping fabric (from phase)

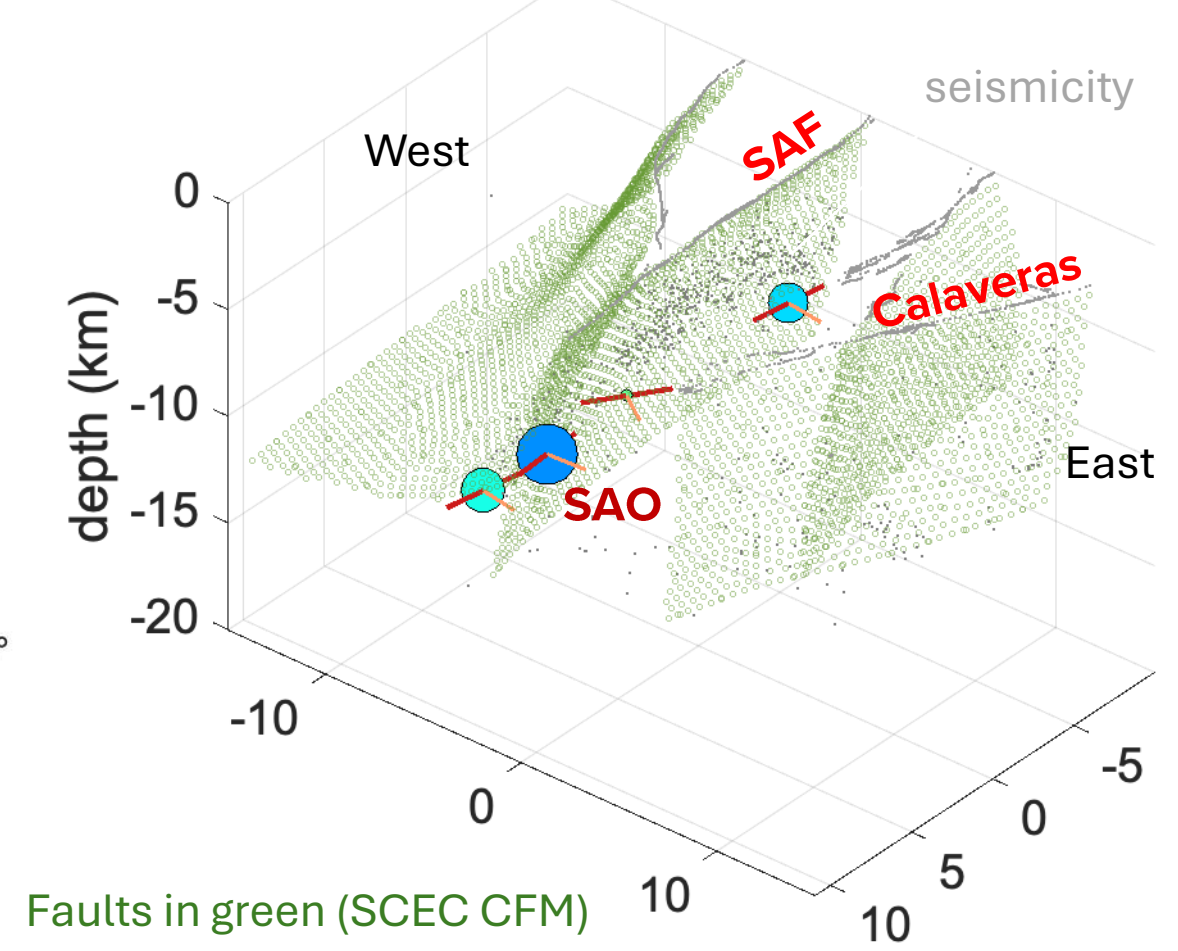


RF results: San Andreas (SAF) near Calaveras fault junction

Station SAO from waveform example



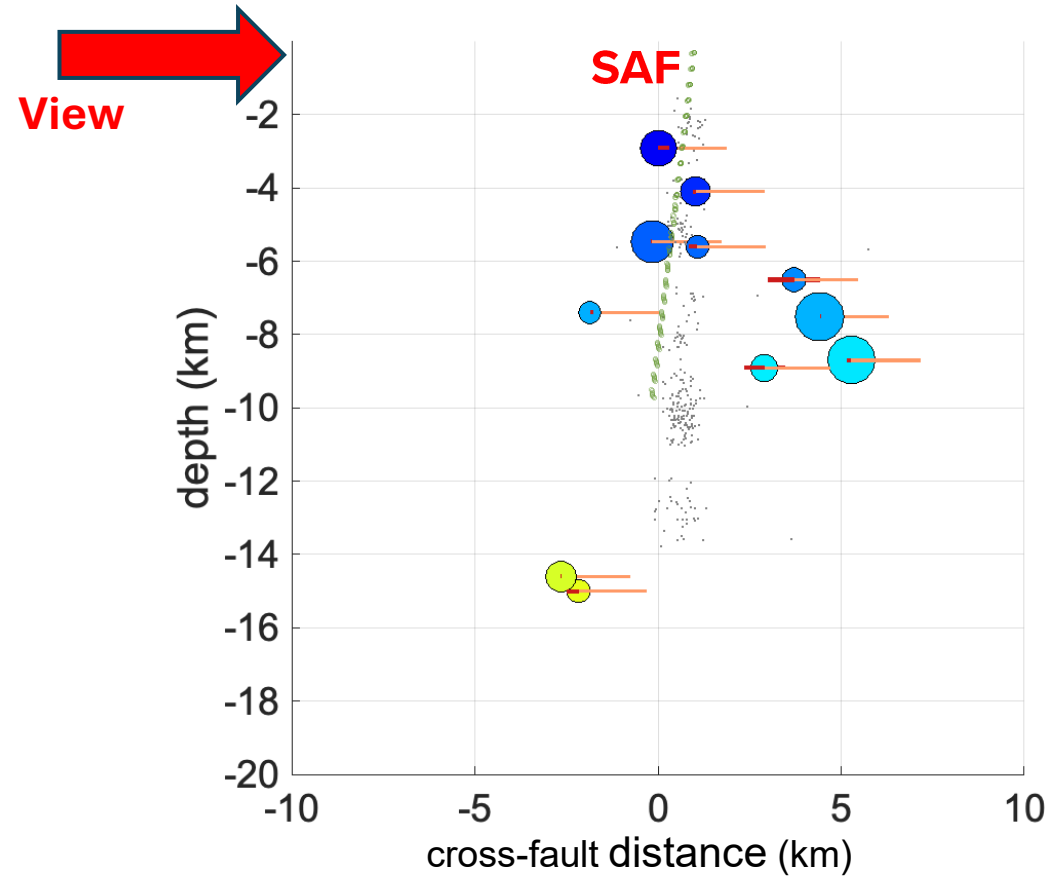
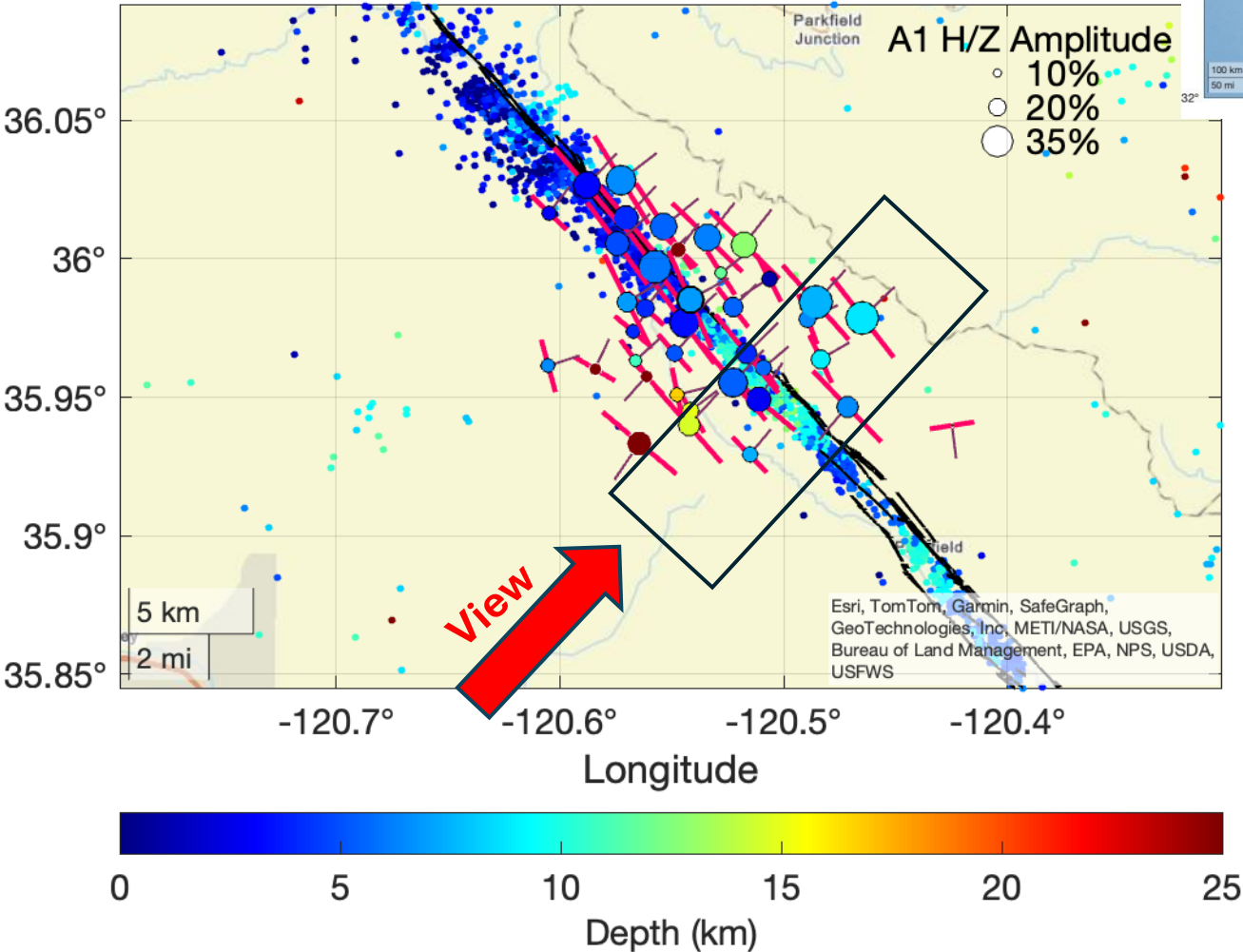
- strike || SAF
- conversion depth just below seismicity



RF results: SAF near Parkfield/SAFOD



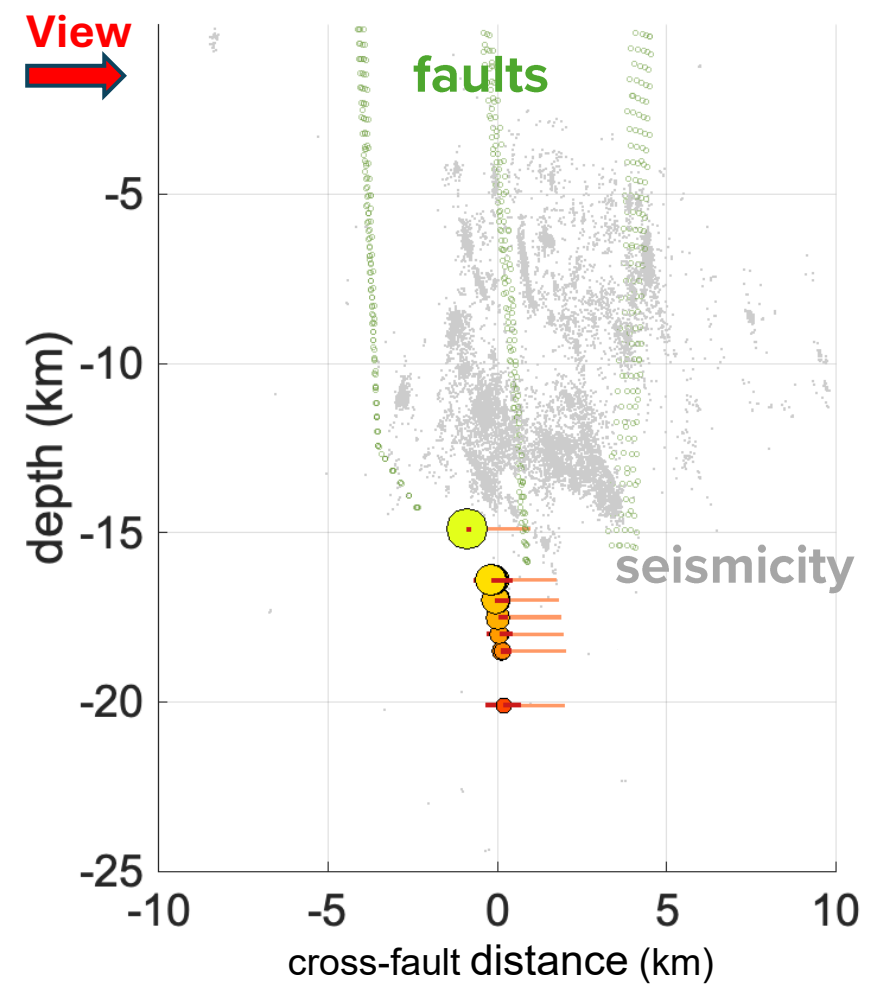
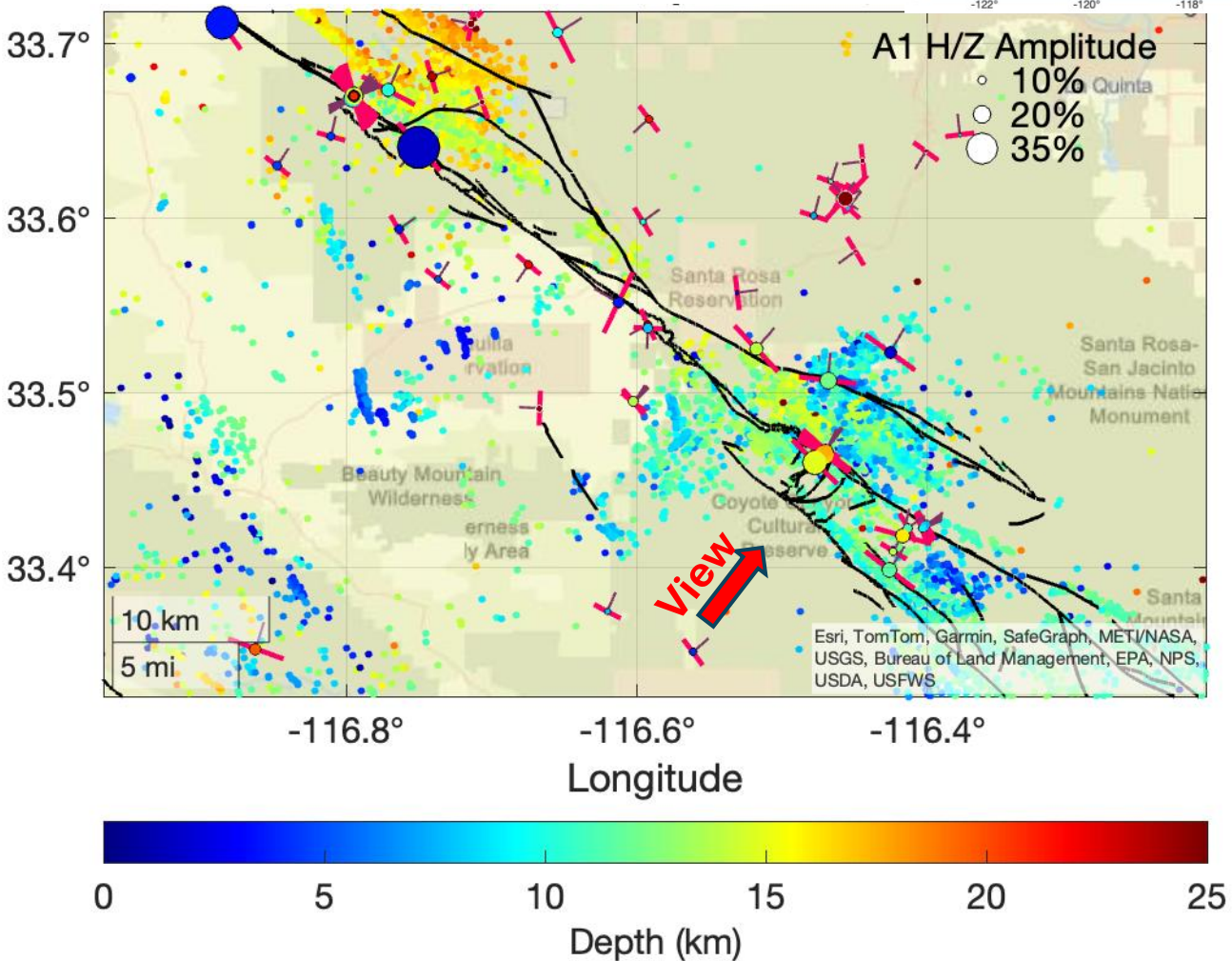
- strike || SAF
- dip sense to NE on both(!) sides of fault
- contrasts deepen away from fault



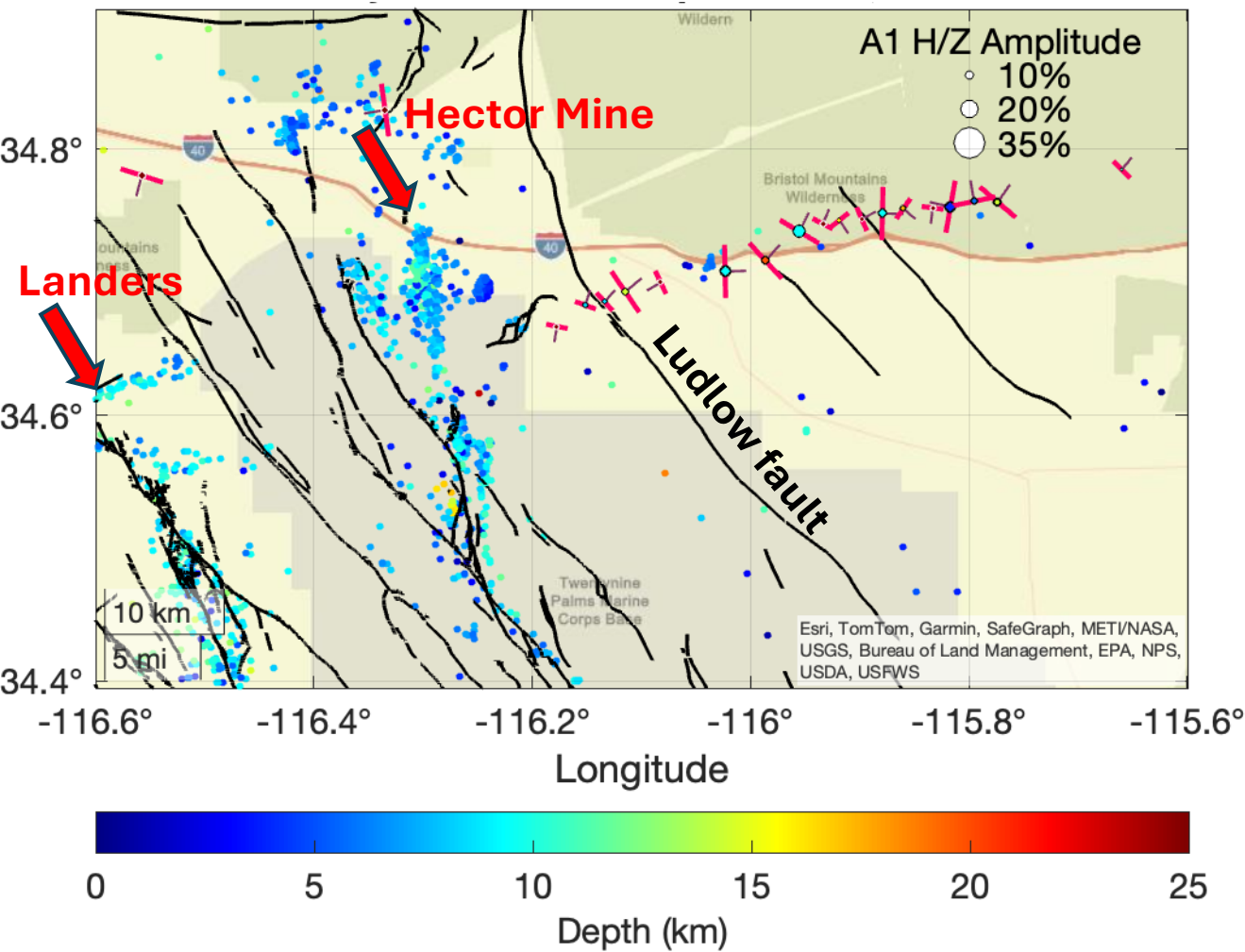
RF results: San Jacinto fault zone



- dense station line in trifurcation
- strike II fault strands
- conversions below seismicity
- amplitudes decrease below brittle ductile transition



RF results: Mojave – Eastern California shear zone

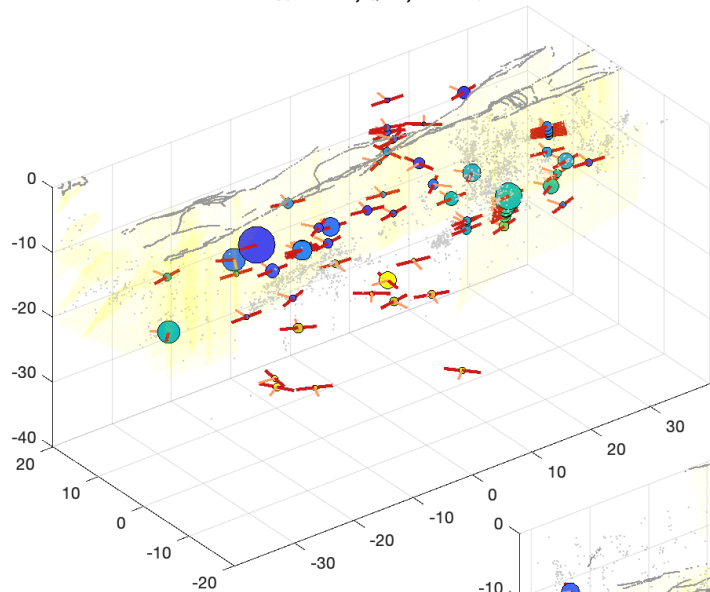


- very small amplitudes, dips to NE
- somewhat fault-parallel, more scatter

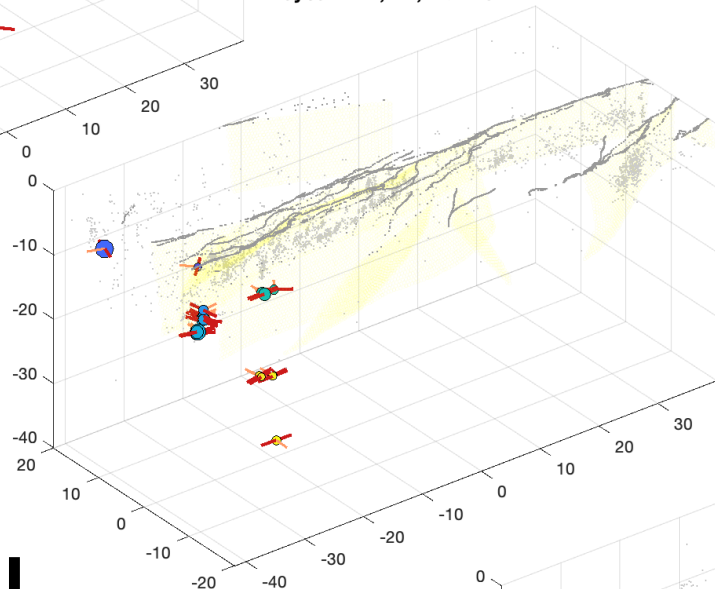


UTIG broadband seismometer deployment (2018 – 2021)

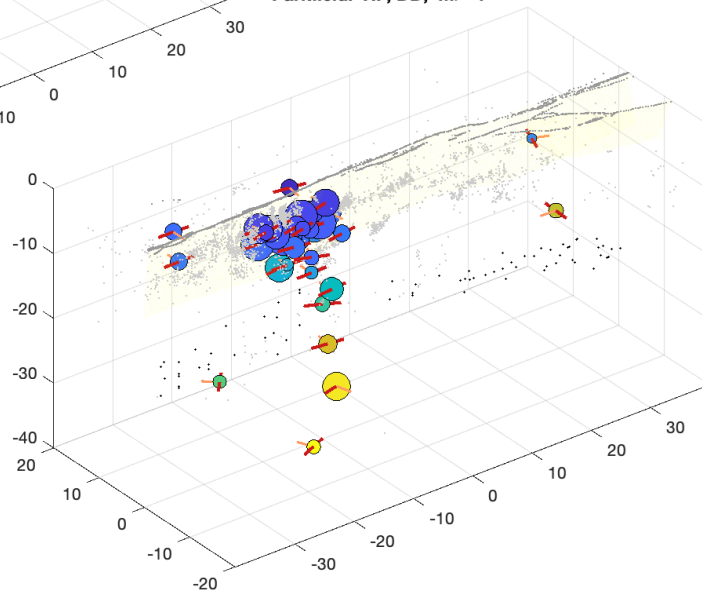
SJFZ: RF, QTM, $M \geq 1.5$



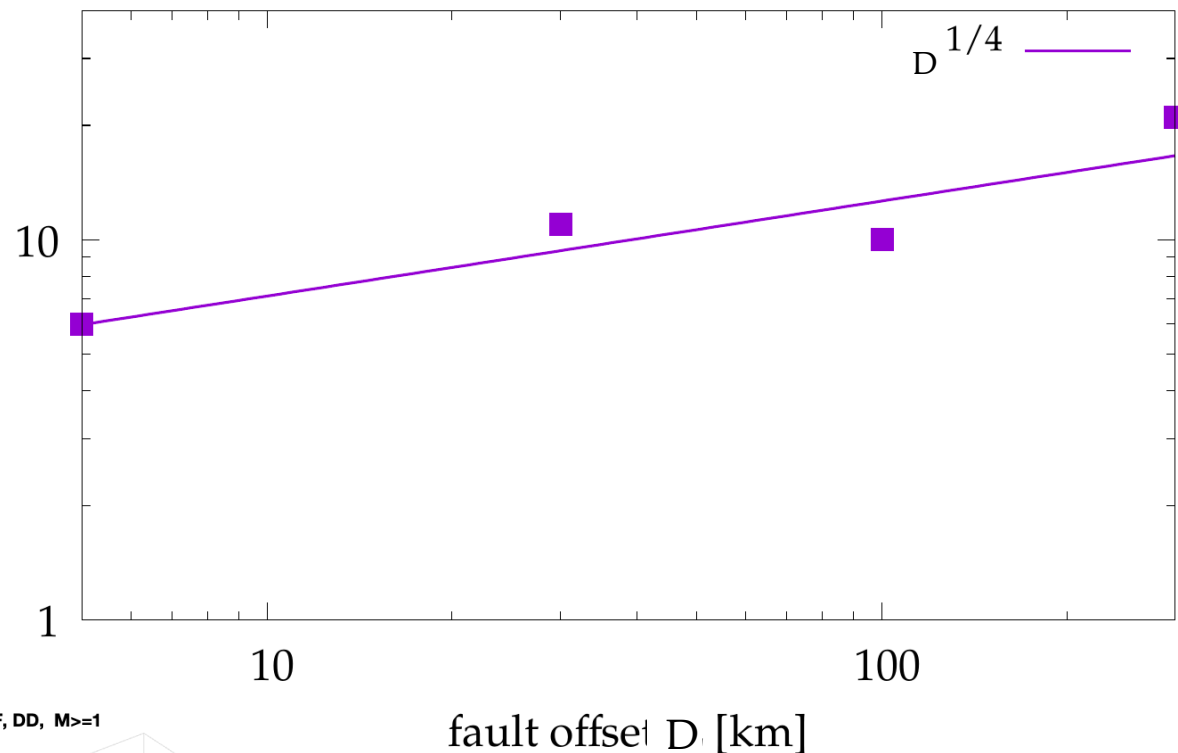
HayCalv: RF, DD, $M \geq 1.5$



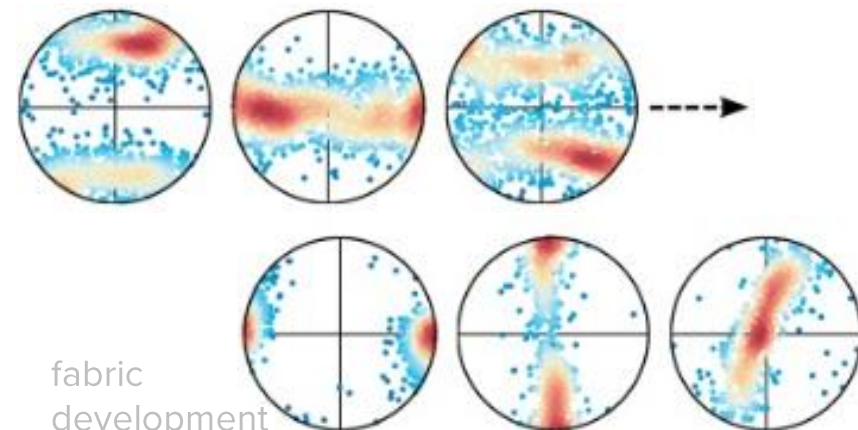
Parkfield: RF, DD, $M \geq 1$



fabric strength, A_1 [%]



fault offset D [km]



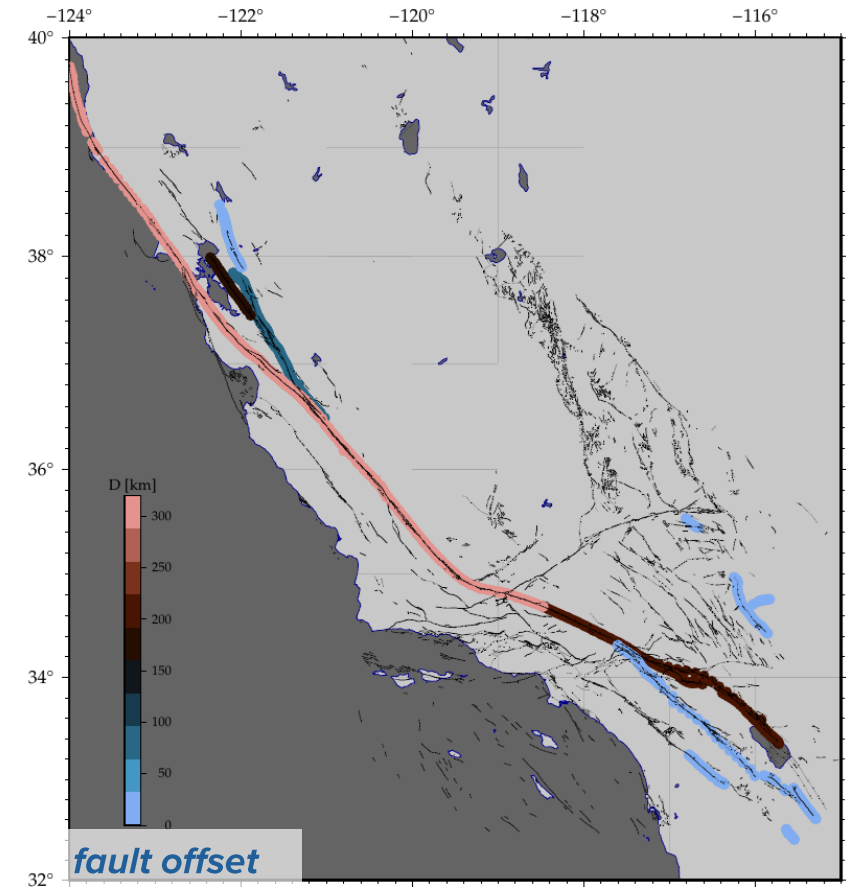
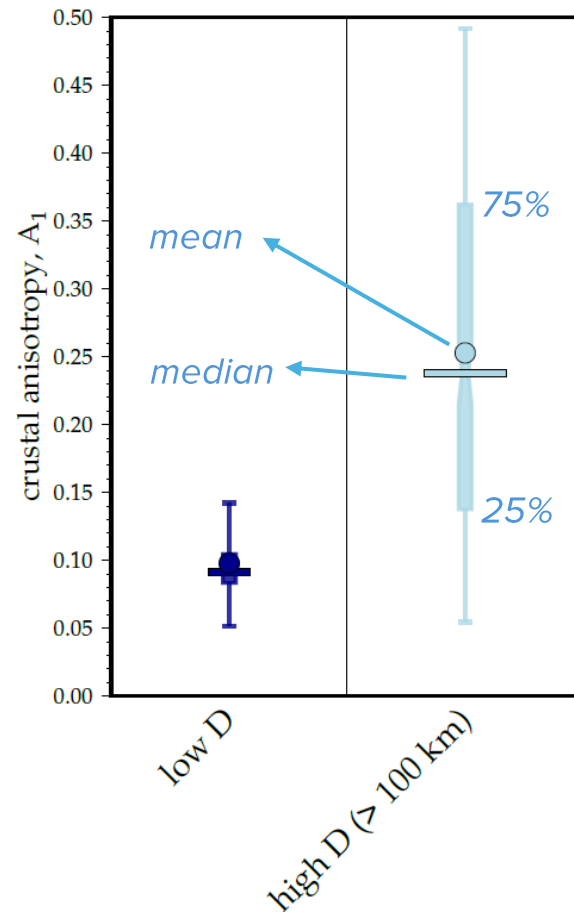
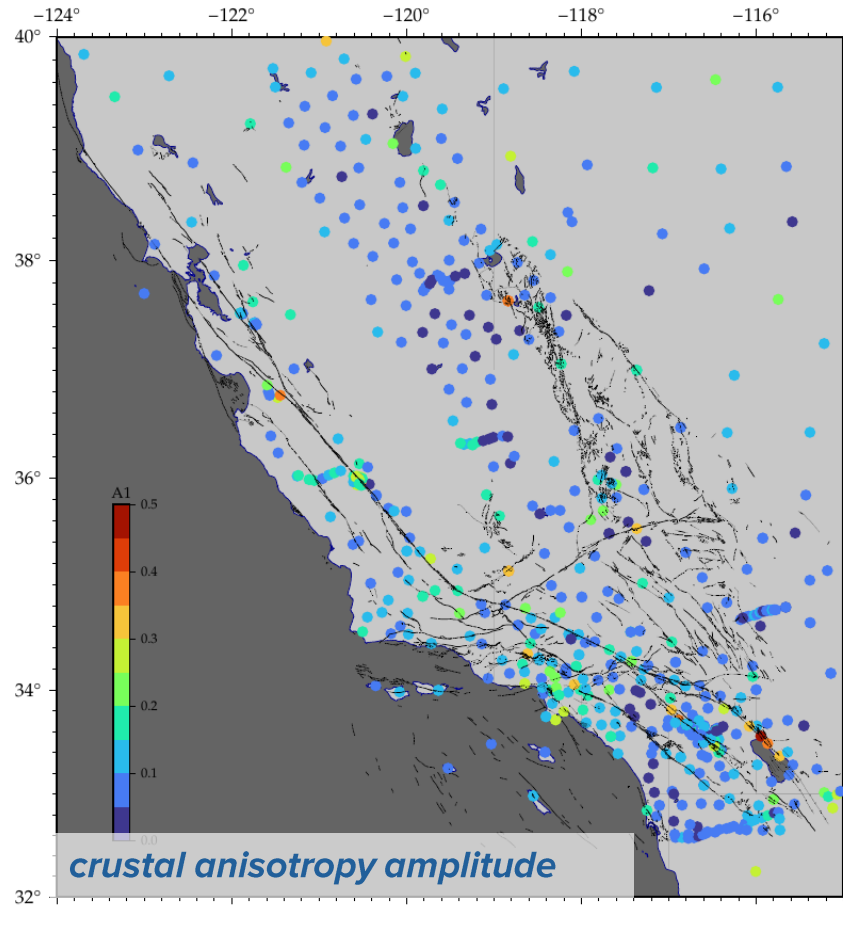
fabric
development
under shear

Hansen et al. (2016)

**Does crustal
anisotropy reflect
strain localization and
crystallographic fabric
formation?**

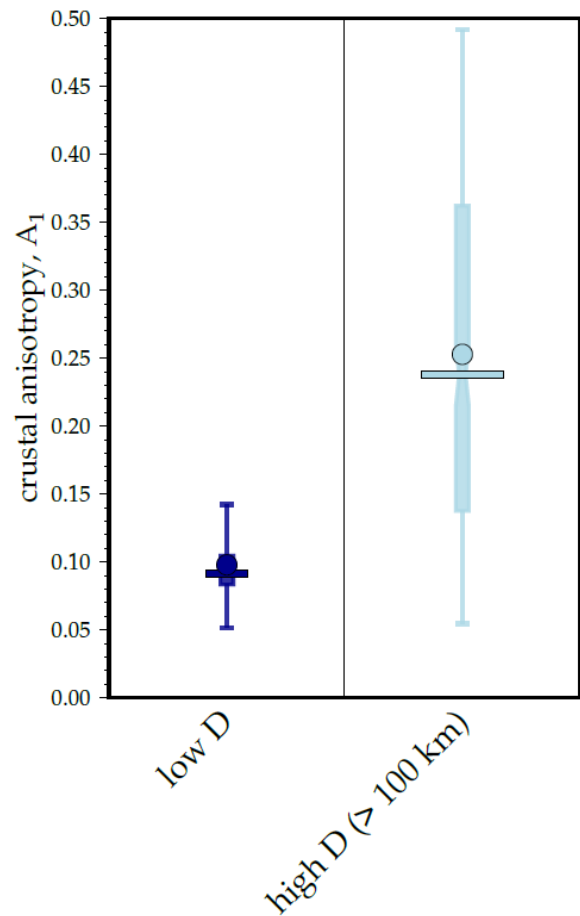
Crustal anisotropy versus fault offset

*distribution of crustal anisotropy strength
(within 5 km of fault)
for low and high age/offset (D) regions*

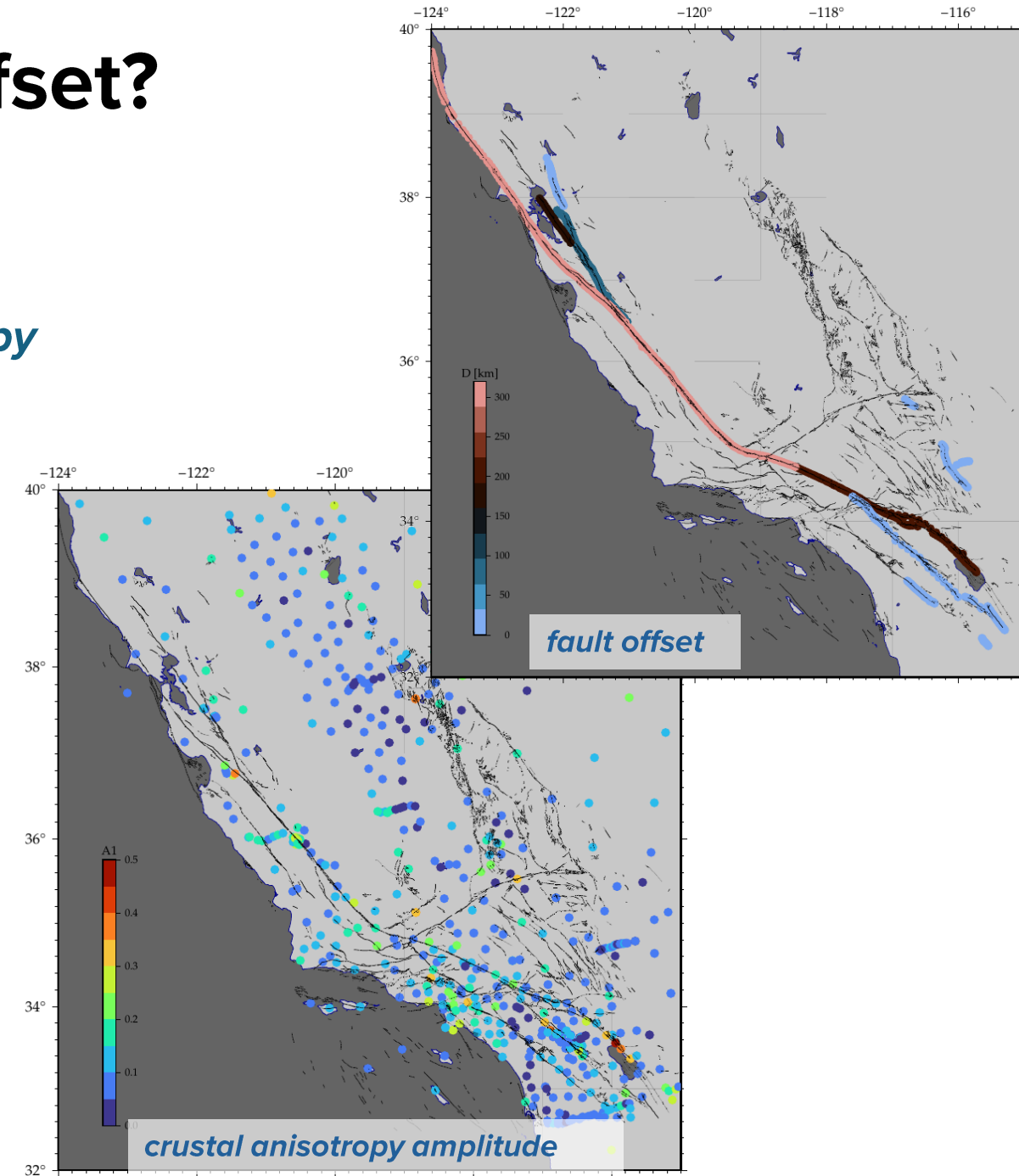
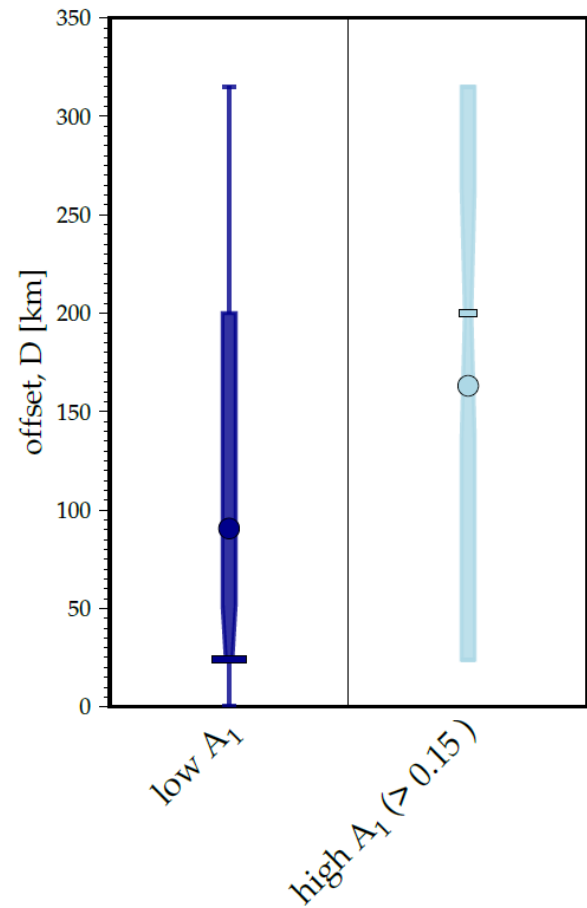


Crustal anisotropy vs. fault offset?

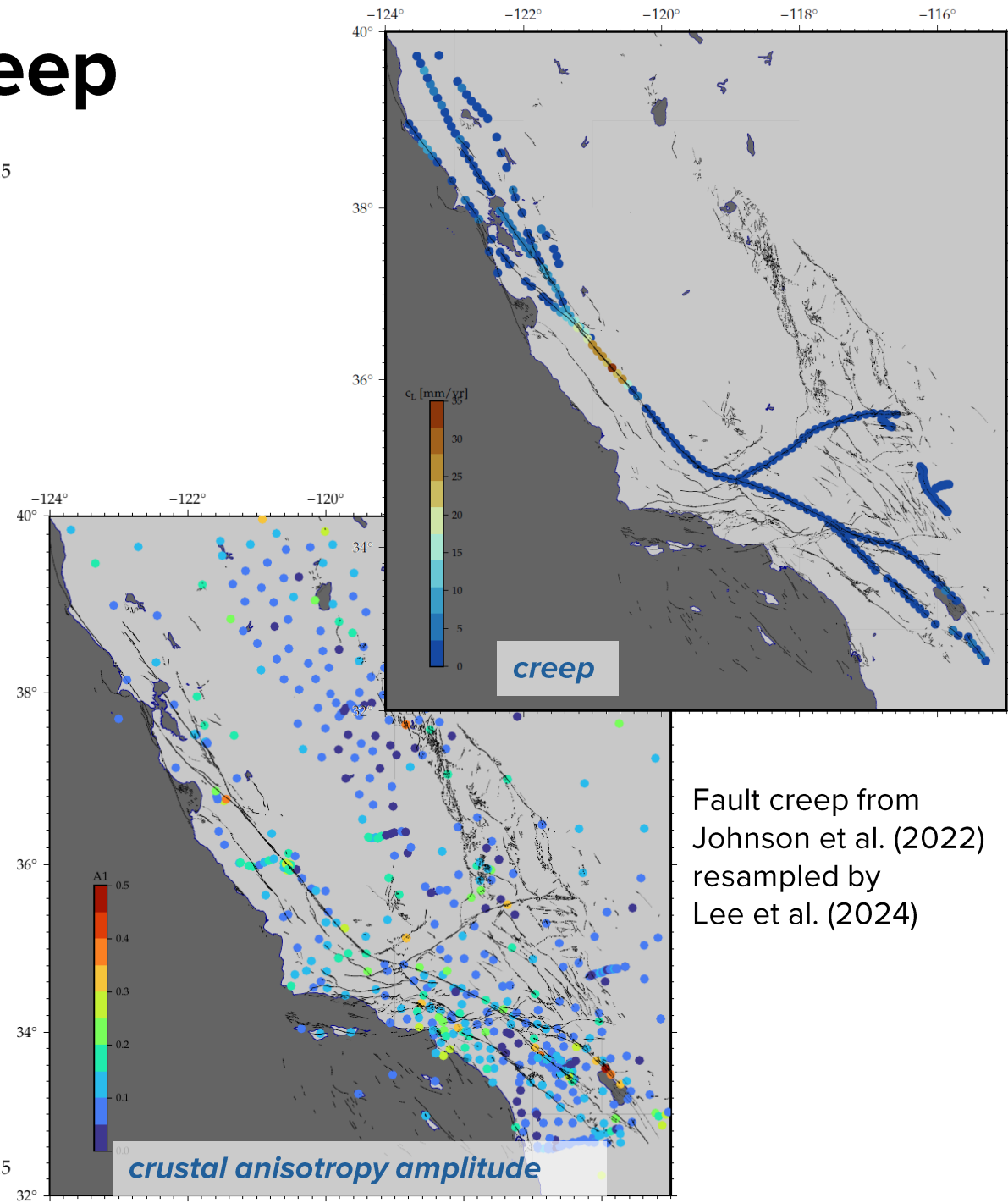
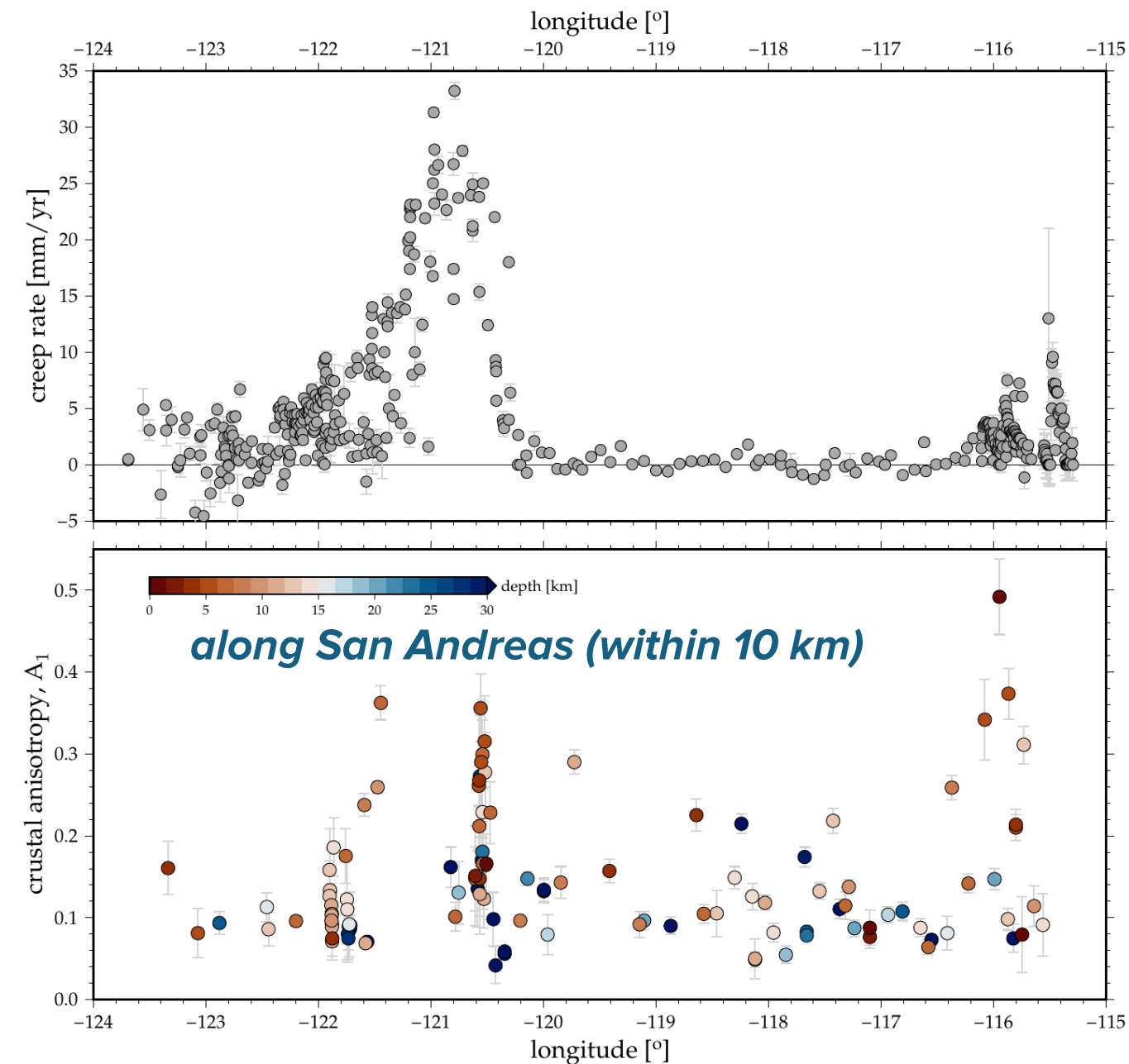
*crustal anisotropy strength
for low and high offset*



*offset for
low and high anisotropy*

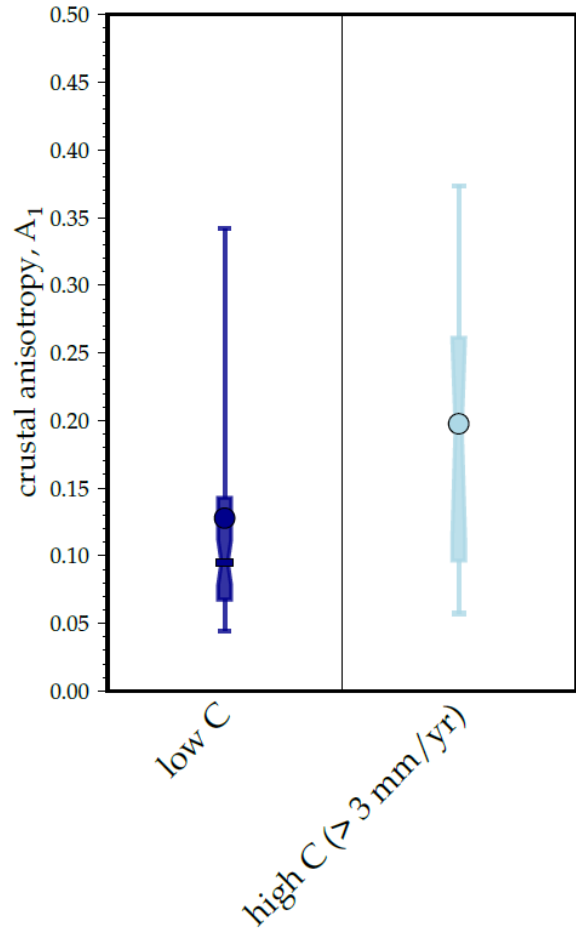


Crustal anisotropy vs. fault creep

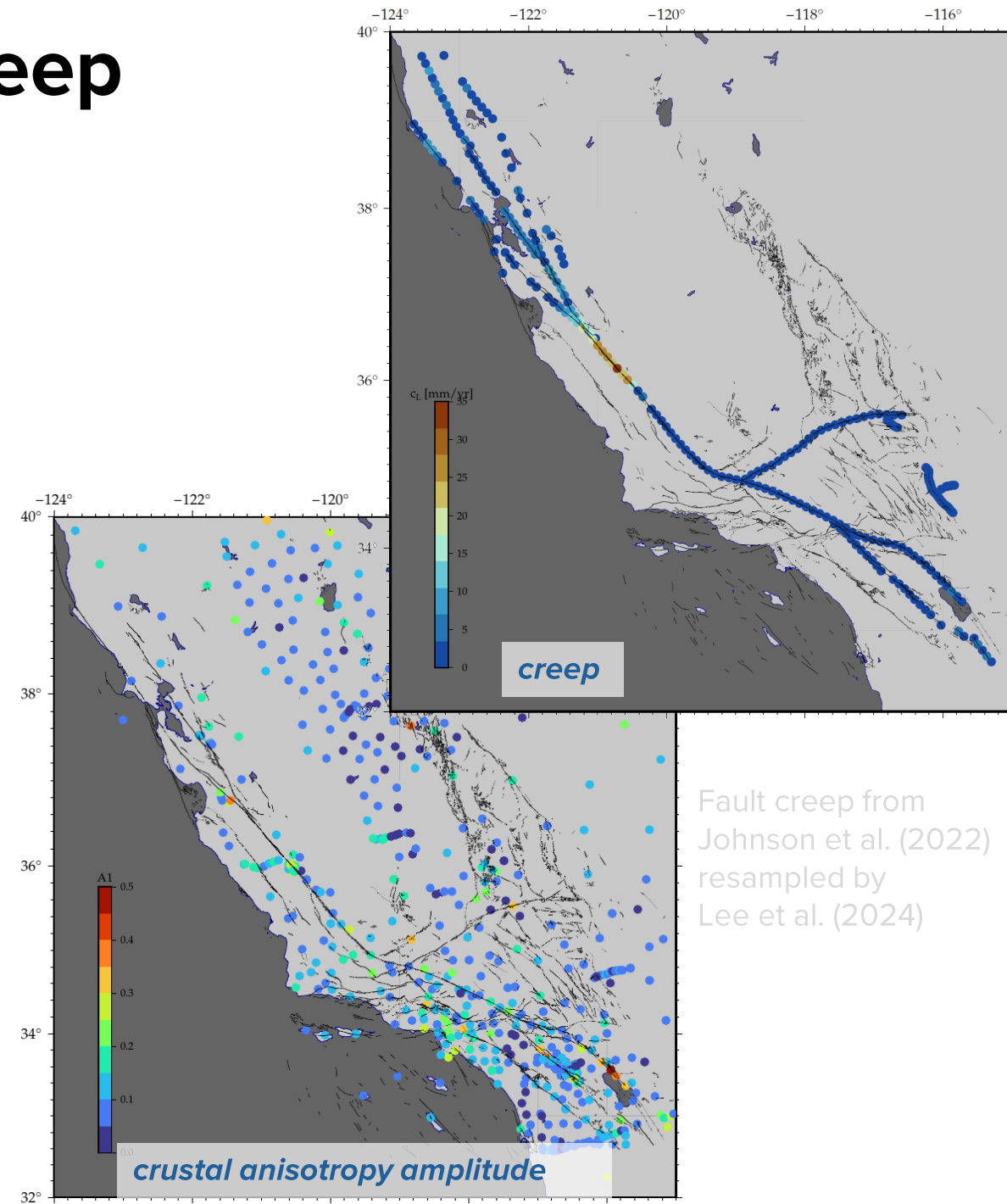
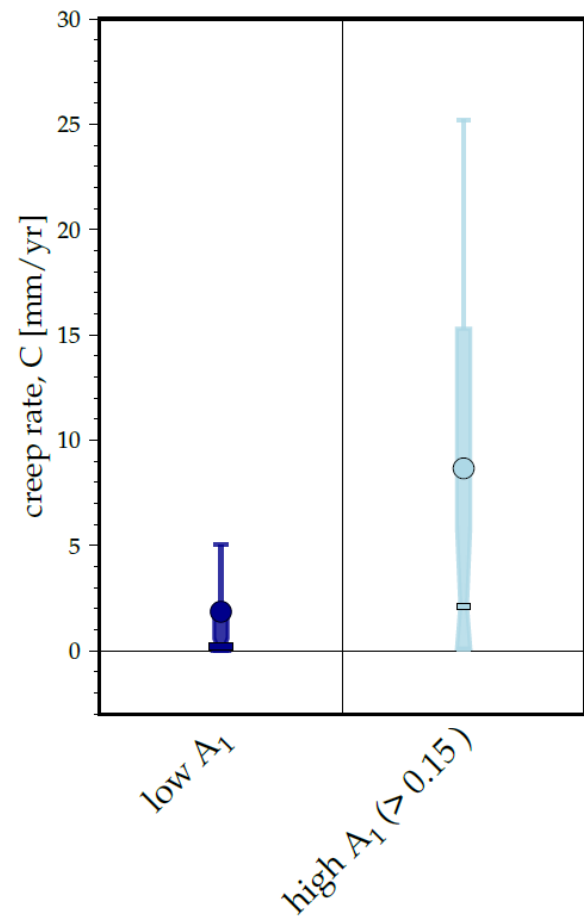


Crustal anisotropy vs. fault creep

*crustal anisotropy strength
for low and high creep*

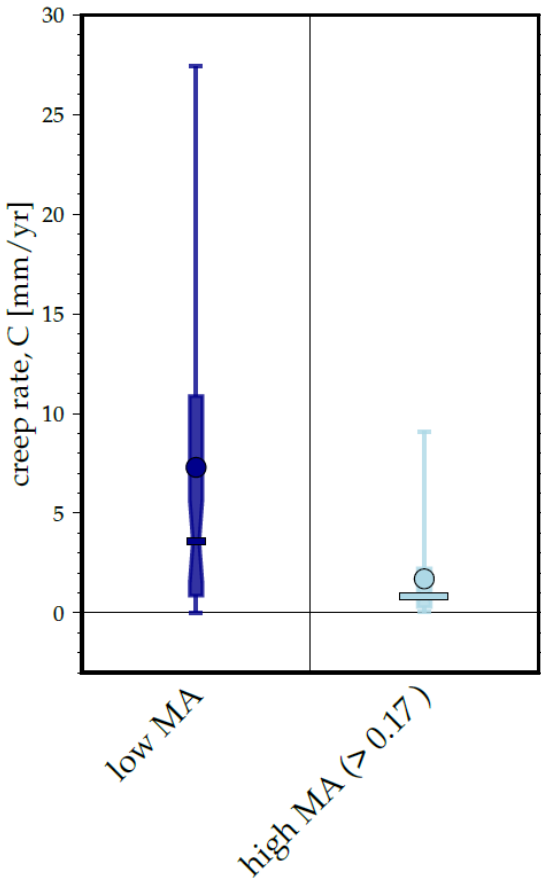


*creep for
low and high
anisotropy*

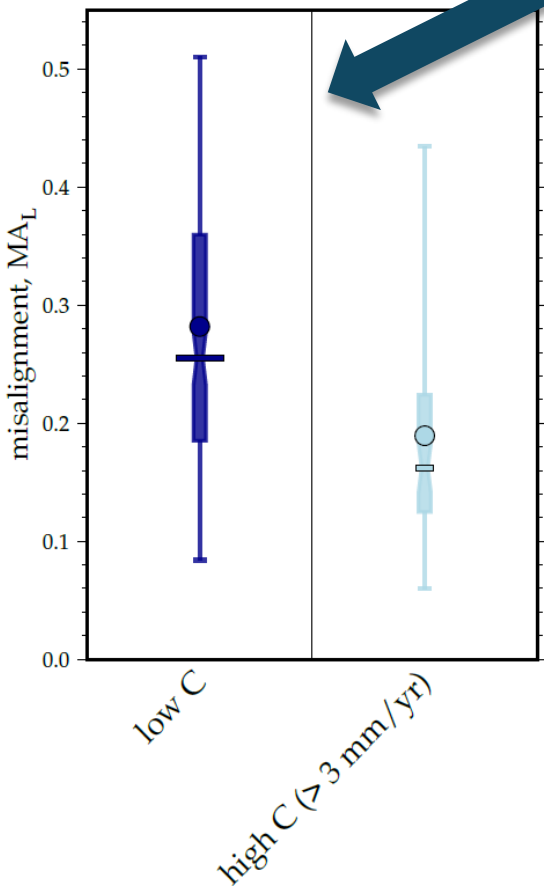


Fault misalignment vs. creep

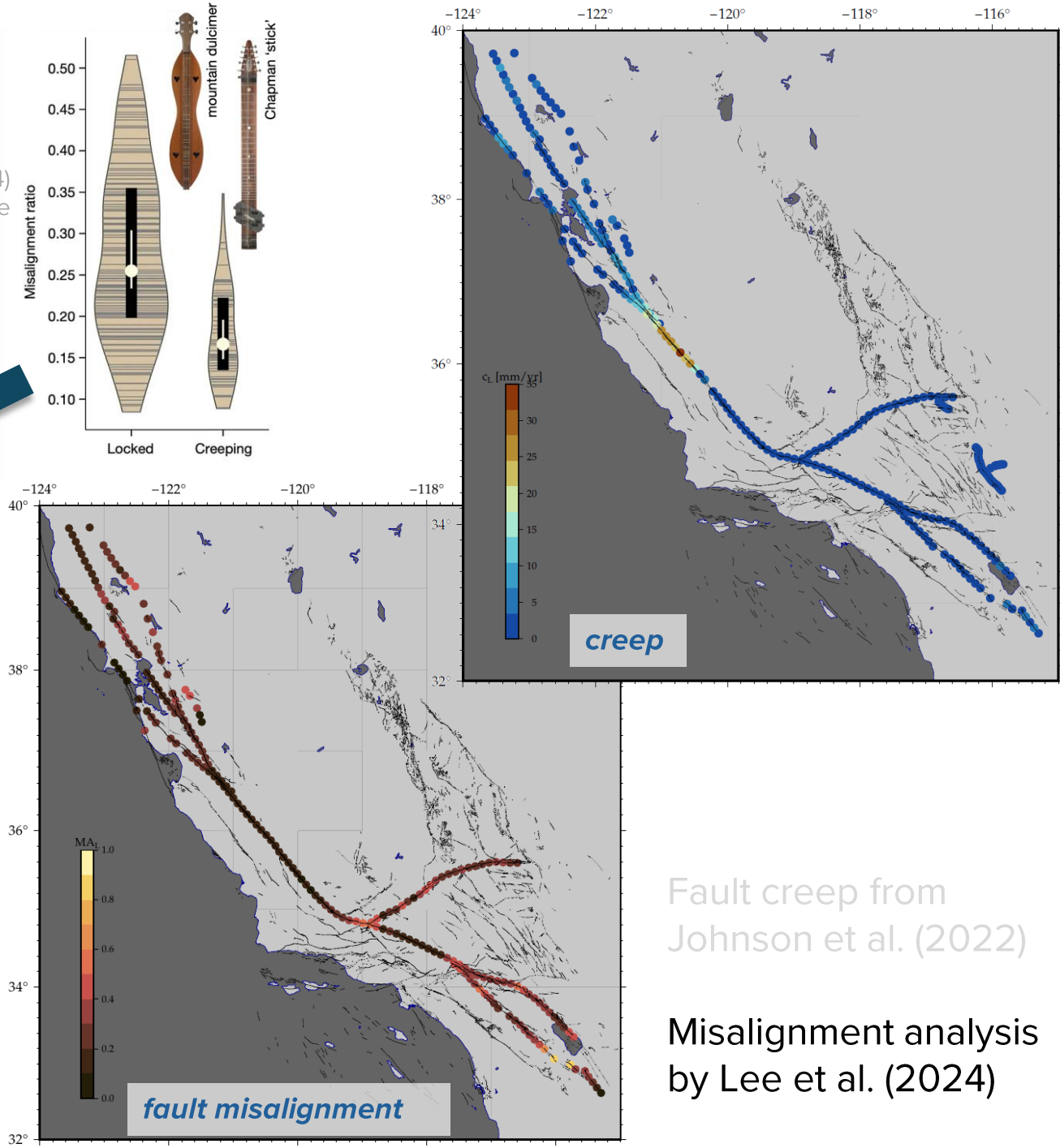
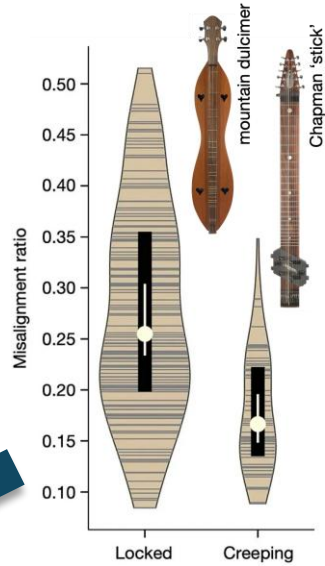
creep for low and high misalignment



misalignment for low and high creep



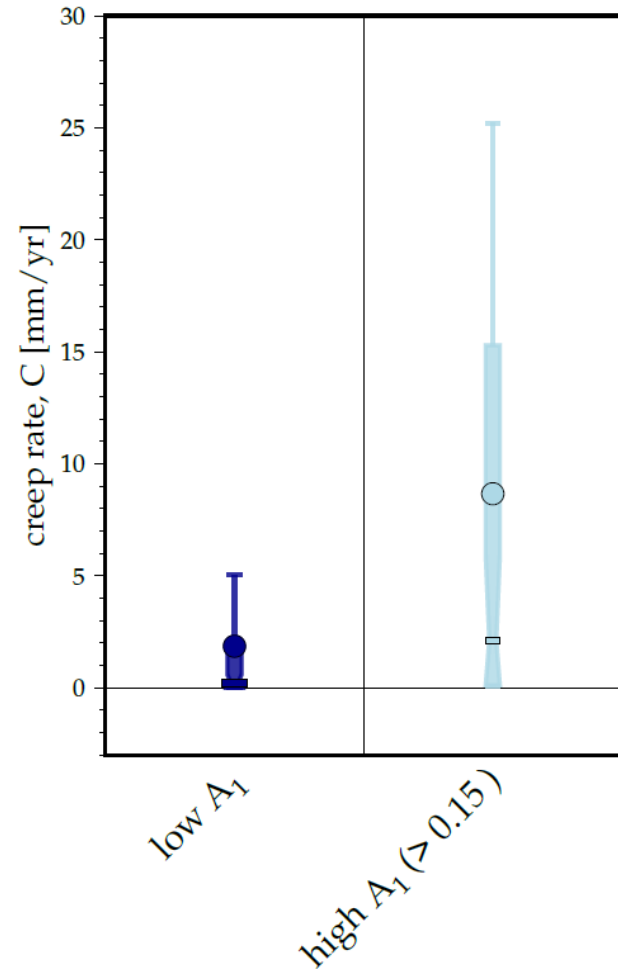
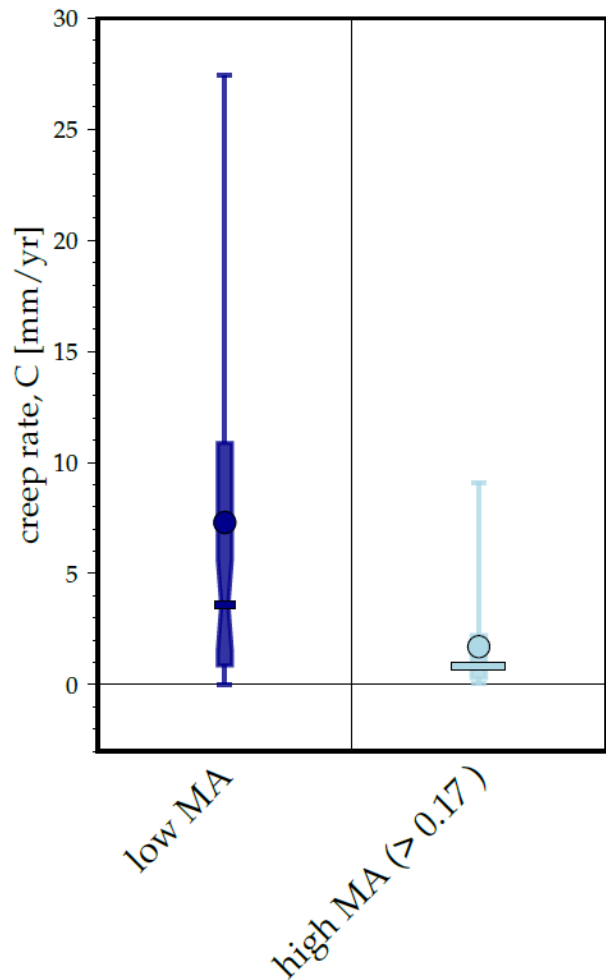
Bradley & Hubbard (2024)
version of Lee et al.'s figure



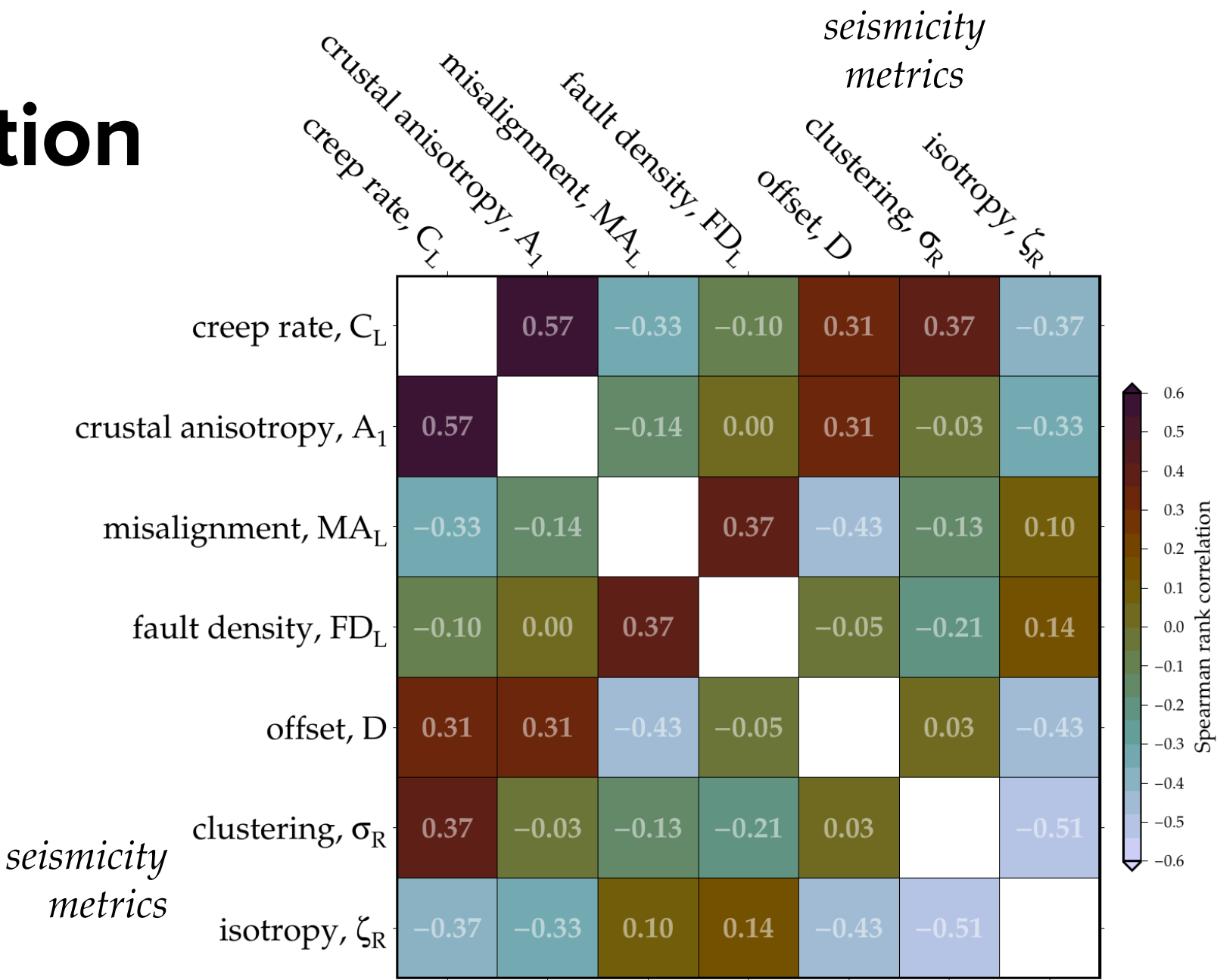
Fault creep from
Johnson et al. (2022)

Misalignment analysis
by Lee et al. (2024)

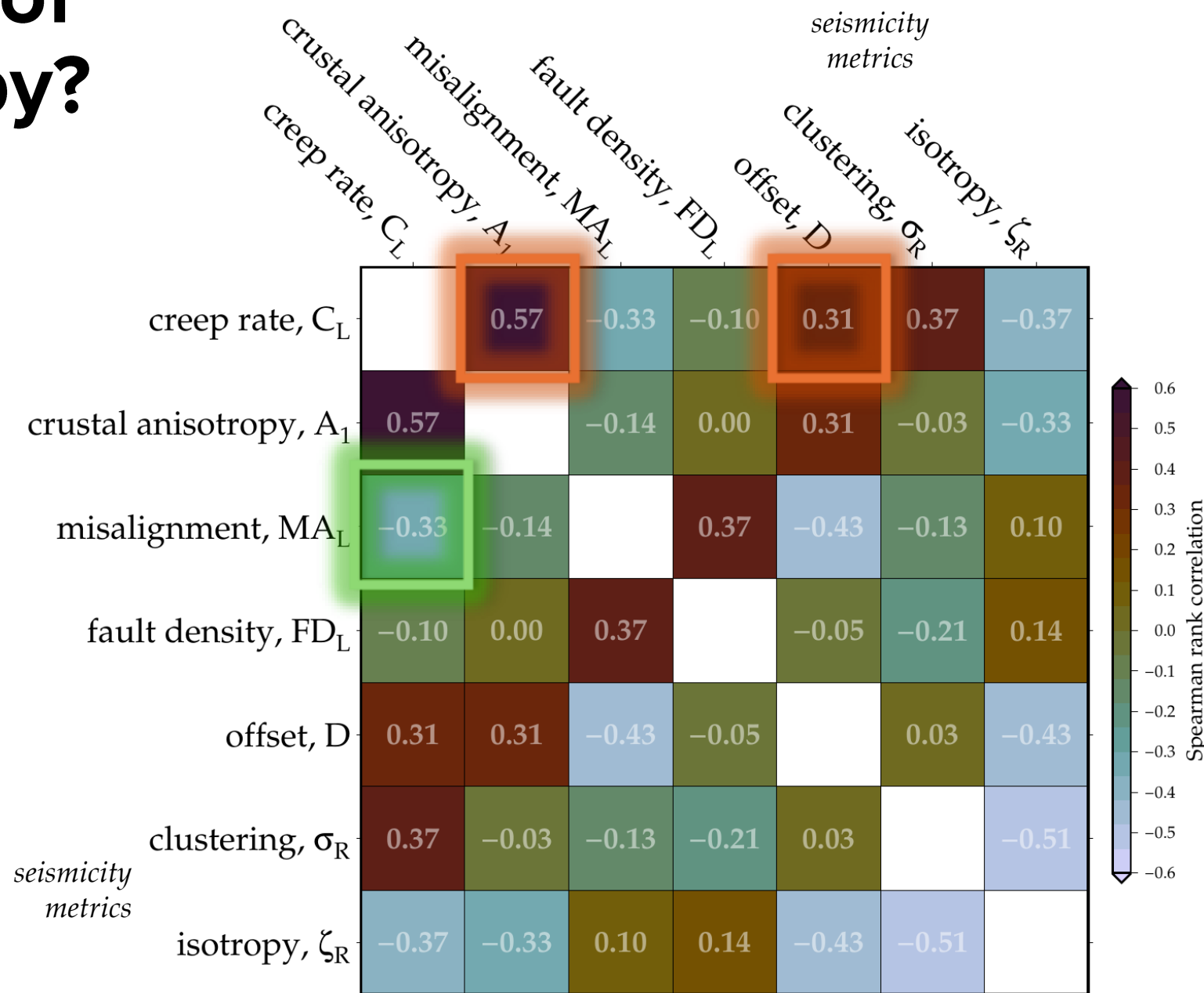
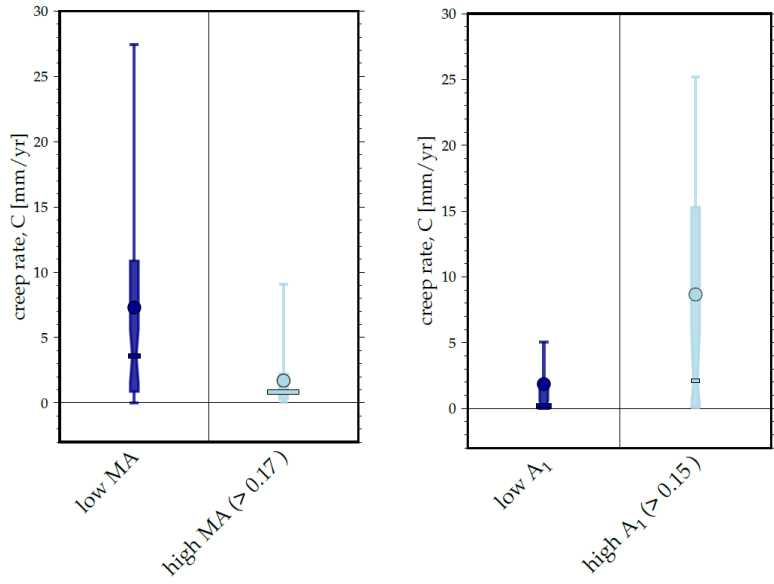
Crustal anisotropy better predictor of creep than fault misalignment?



Cross correlation



Lithological control of creep and anisotropy?



Conclusions

- fault creep along the San Andreas correlates with
 - crustal anisotropy (A_1 from receiver functions),
 - clustering of seismicity, and
 - to a lesser degree, with misalignment (cf. Lee et al., 2022)
- crustal anisotropy reflects a mix of
 - fault zone evolution (correlation with offset) and
 - geological history (via creep, i.e. likely rock type controlled)
- expanded set of constraints for plate boundary evolution, to be integrated in constitutive laws