



*Geodynamic Processes
at Rifting and
Subducting
Margins*

NSF GeoPRISMS Program

Successor to MARGINS,
(Thanks Geoff!)

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... Relationships to Fault Slip Behavior

What is GeoPRISMS

- ✧ **Community-driven, NSF-funded, cross-divisional, interdisciplinary, amphibious investigations of the origin and evolution of continental margins, and associated geodynamic processes**
- ✧ **Focus on rifts and subduction zones:**
 - ✧ Where geodynamic processes are most active
 - ✧ Where continental crust is formed and modified
 - ✧ Where geology and society intersect
 - ✧ Where economic resources form and are found
- ✧ **Shoreline-crossing:**
 - ✧ Where most rifts and subduction zones occur
 - ✧ Geologic & geodynamic processes span the shoreline
 - ✧ Where focused, interdisciplinary, cross-divisional efforts needed
- ✧ **Guided by a community-developed science plan; coordinated by a national office and steering committee; enabled by YOU!**

Two Initiatives

Rift Initiation and Evolution

- ✧ Where and why continental rifts initiate
- ✧ Fundamental rifting processes; feedbacks in time & space
- ✧ Controls on the architecture of rifted continental margins
- ✧ Mechanisms & consequences of fluid & volatile exchange

Subduction Cycles and Deformation

- ✧ Controls on size, frequency & slip behavior of subduction plate boundaries
- ✧ Spatial-temporal deformation patterns during seismic cycle
- ✧ Linkages between volatile release & rheology of plate boundary interface
- ✧ Volatile storage, transfer, & release in subduction systems
- ✧ Geochemical products of subduction; continent creation
- ✧ Subduction zone initiation and arc system formation
- ✧ Feedbacks - surface processes & subduction dynamics

Two Initiatives

Rift Initiation and Evolution

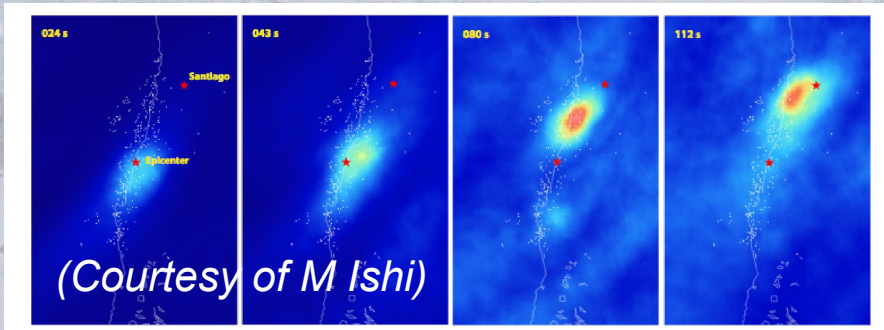
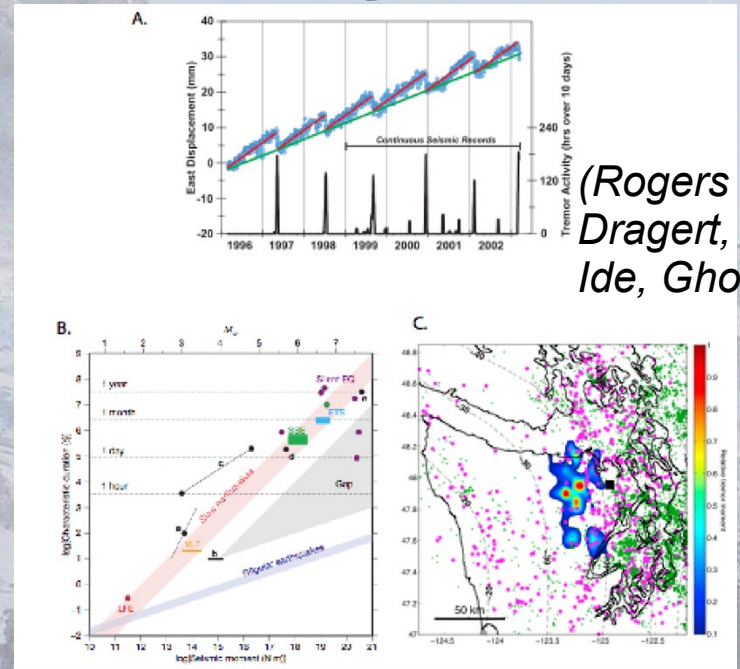
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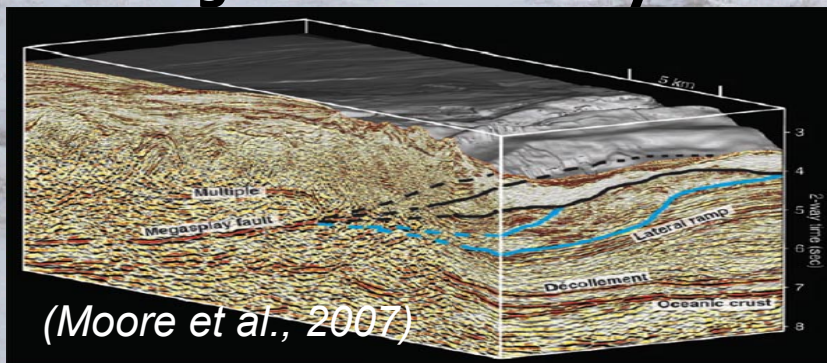
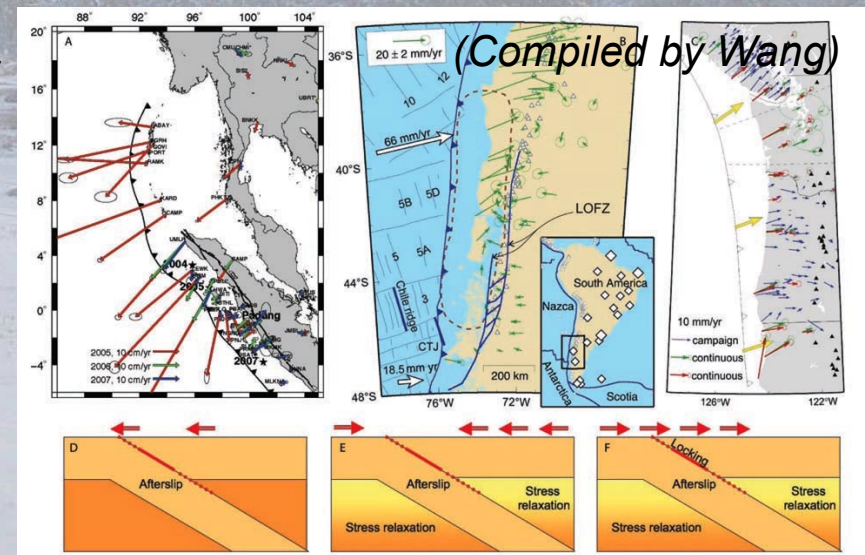
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Fault Slip Related SCD Questions

✧ What governs the size, location, & frequency of great subduction earthquakes? How do these relate to spatial / temporal variations in slip behaviors?

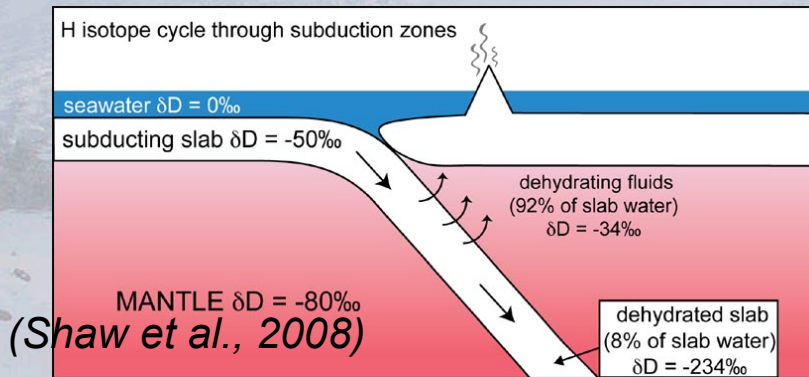


✧ How does deformation across the subduction plate boundary evolve in space and time, through the seismic cycle?

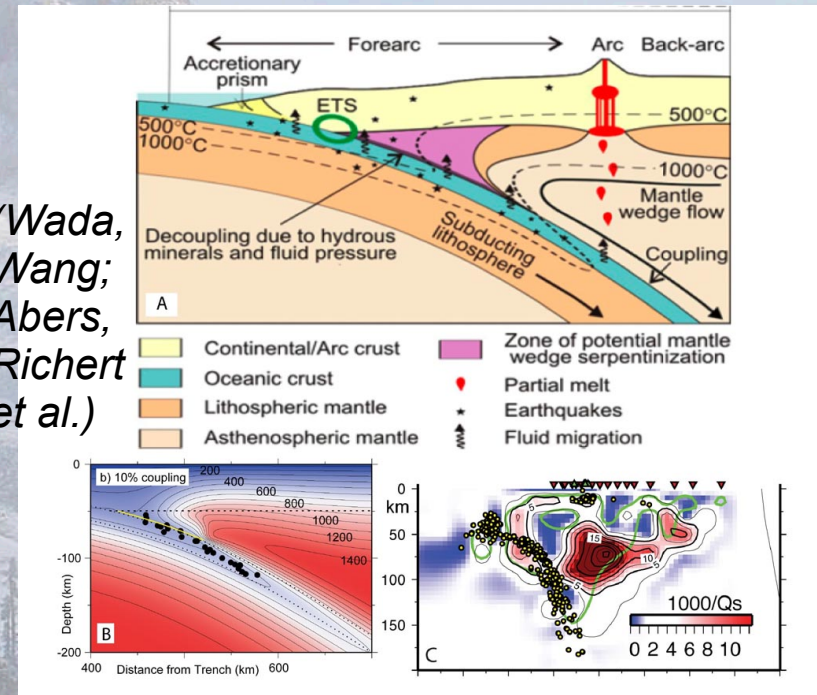


Fault Slip Related SCD Questions

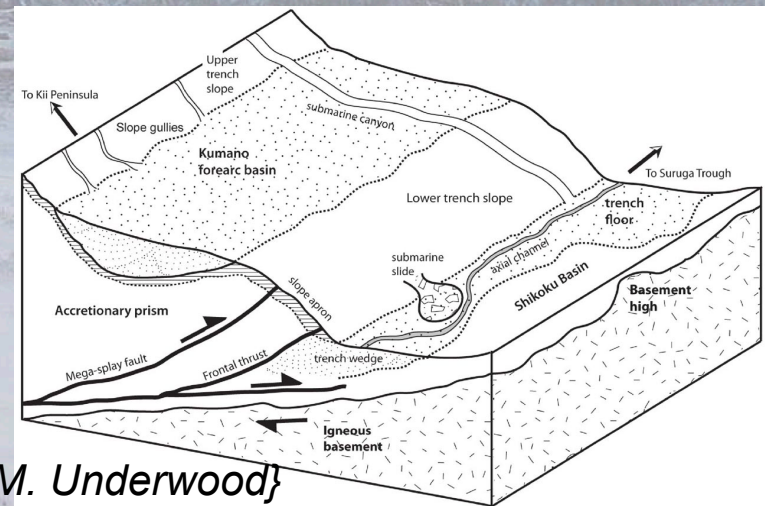
✧ How do volatile release and transfer affect rheology and dynamics of plate interface?



(Wada, Wang; Abers, Richert et al.)

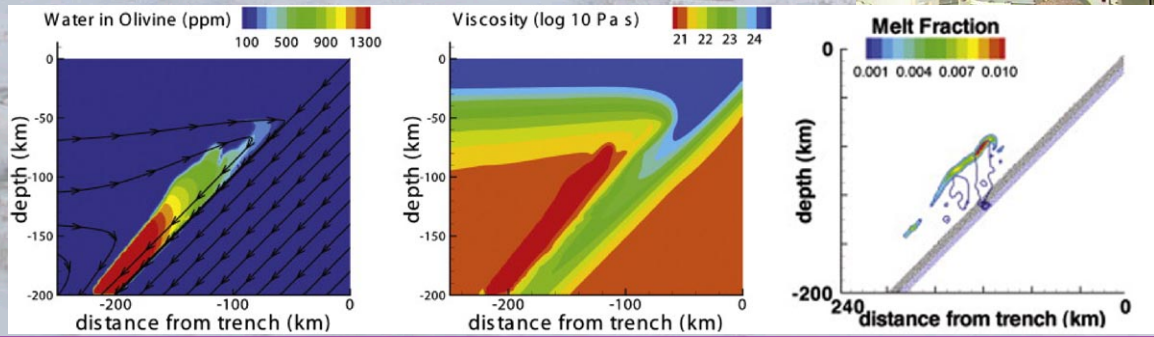
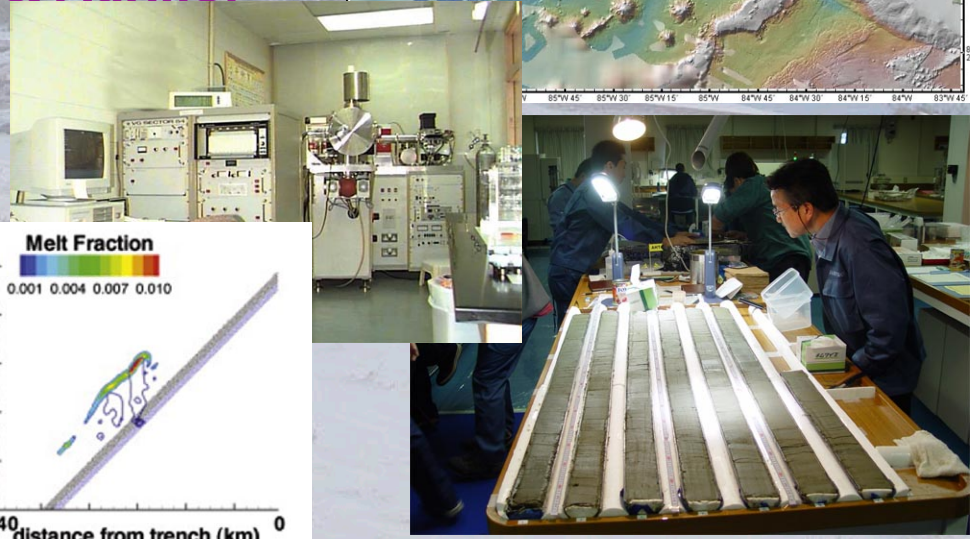
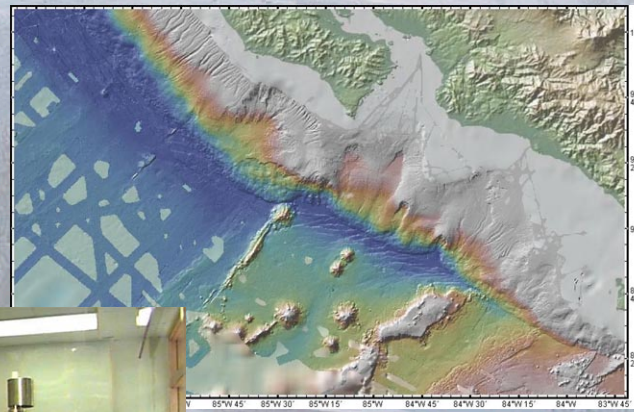
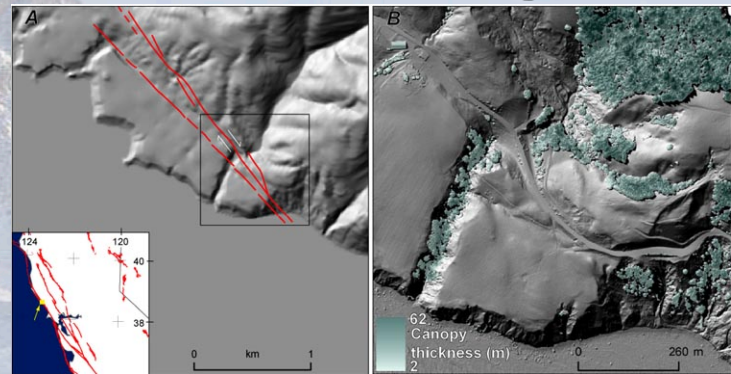
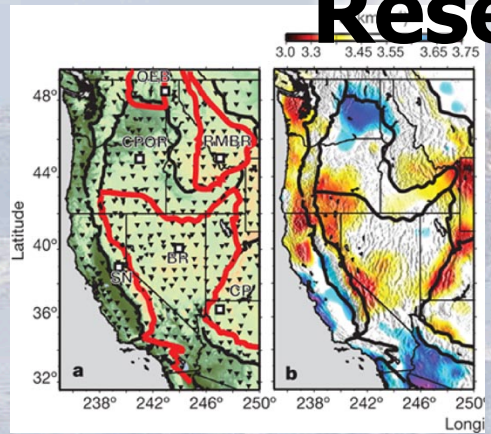


✧ What are the critical feedbacks between surface processes & subduction zone mechanics and dynamics?



Research Strategies

- ❖ Onshore-Offshore
- ❖ Interdisciplinary
- ❖ Community driven
- ❖ **Seismology**
- ❖ **Geodesy & Remote Sensing**
- ❖ **Other Geophysics (Heat Flow, MT, EM)**
- ❖ **Drilling, Coring & Logging (IODP, ICDP)**
- ❖ **Field Observations (Terrestrial & Marine)**
- ❖ **Experimental & Analytical**
- ❖ **Numerical Modeling**



Opportunities for You

- ✧ **Help define science & implementation priorities: What, where, and how to best meet science objectives?**
 - ✧ Attend planning and implementation workshops (incl. Cascadia WS)
 - ✧ Contribute white papers
 - ✧ Stay informed, e.g., sign up for GeoPRISMS listserv/ mailing list
- ✧ **Write proposals >> next solicitation ~July 2011**
 - ✧ Science proposals guided by the Final Science Plan (on-line)
 - ✧ Postdoctoral Fellowship proposals
- ✧ **GeoPRISMS Outstanding Student Presentations**
 - ✧ AGU - Apply on-line by Nov 20
- ✧ **Collaborate with GeoPRISMS scientists**
- ✧ **RIE Implementation Workshop** (Nov 4-6, Santa Fe, NM)
- ✧ **SCD Implementation Workshop** (Jan 5-7, Austin, TX)
- ✧ **AGU GeoPRISMS Forum** (Dec 14, Westin San Francisco)

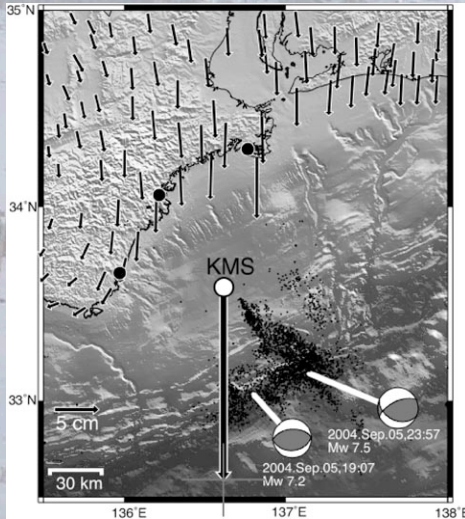
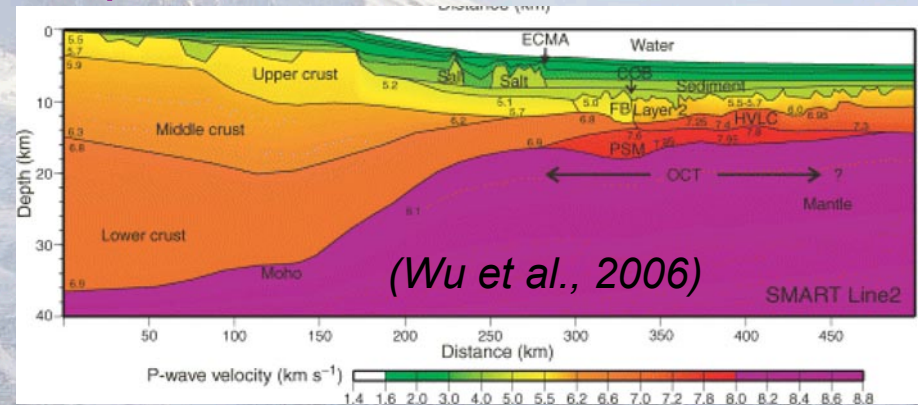
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Why Cross-Divisional (EAR and OCE)

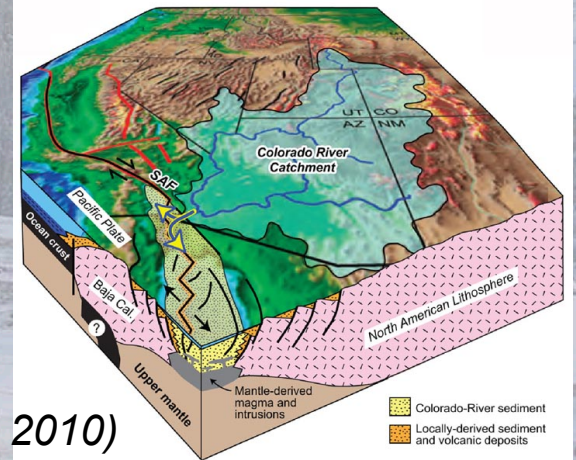
✧ Continental margins and processes span the shoreline

- ✧ Crustal & lithospheric structures
- ✧ Surface displacements
- ✧ Fault processes



- ✧ Volatile fluxes
- ✧ Erosion, transport & deposition

e.g., Cascadia Initiative



✧ Collaboration and interdisciplinary exchange of knowledge are critical to understanding the entire system

Initiative Implementation Workshops

✧ **RIE:** Santa Fe
Nov 4-6, 2010

✧ **SCD:** TBA
early Jan, 2011



✧ Objectives:

- ✧ Refine initiative themes and key unanswered questions in DSP
- ✧ Resolve which themes require Primary focus sites to answer
- ✧ Prioritize the scientific objectives, themes, and questions
- ✧ Identify, justify, and select 1-2 Primary Sites per initiative
- ✧ Outline research approaches & timetables for themes & sites
- ✧ Identify and charge the final Science Plan writing team

GeoPRISMS Mission

... investigate the coupled geodynamics, earth surface processes, and climate interactions that build and modify continental margins over a wide range of timescales (from s to My), and cross the shoreline, with applications to margin evolution & dynamics, construction of stratigraphic architecture, accumulation of economic resources, and associated geologic hazards and environmental management.