

3rd QUEST Workshop - 2012



QUantitative estimation of **E**arth's seismic sources and **ST**ructure

Deep structure of crust and mantle beneath Iberia and western Mediterranean from P and S receiver functions and SKS waveforms

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INGV



IPE



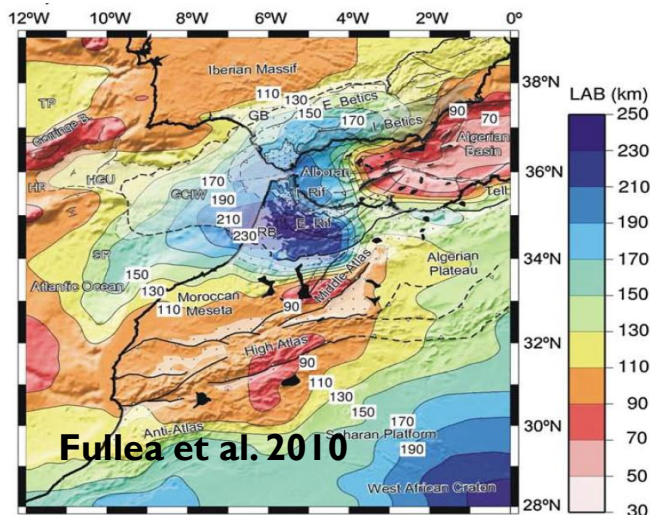
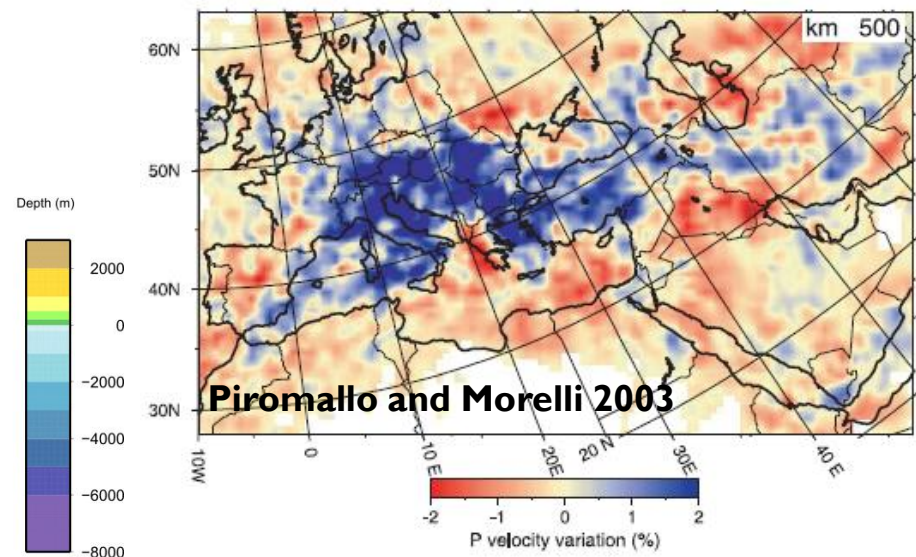
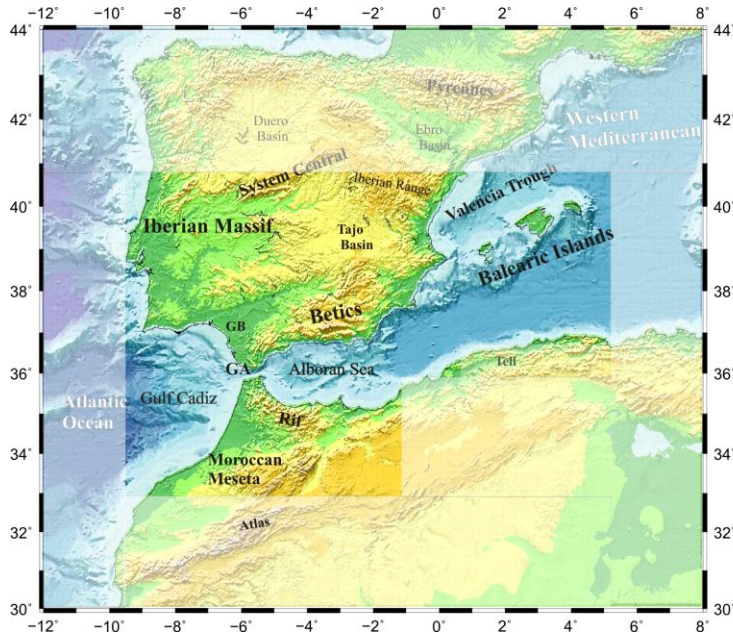
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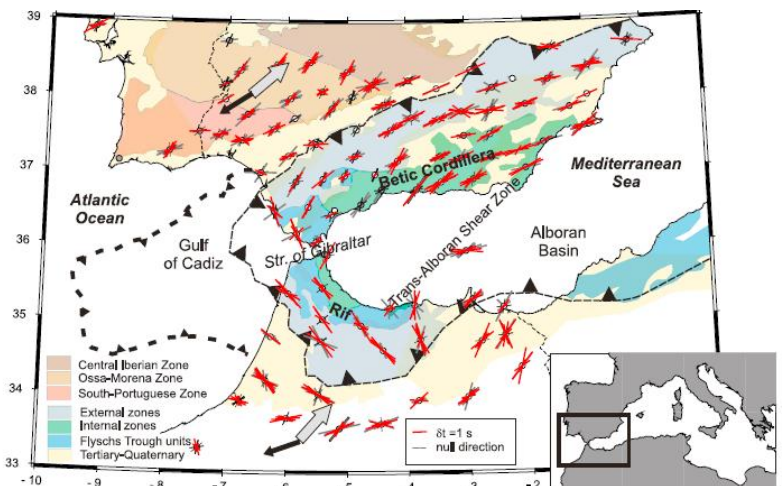
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Motivation

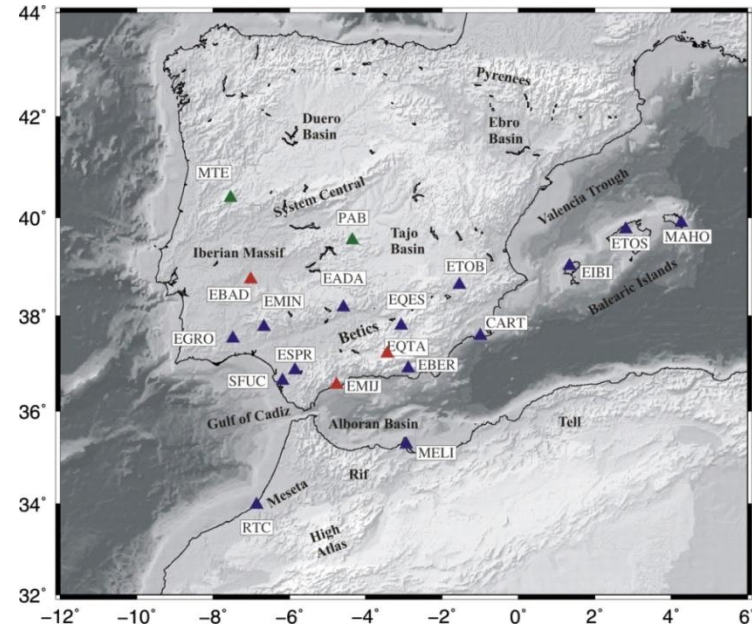


Diaz et al., 2010



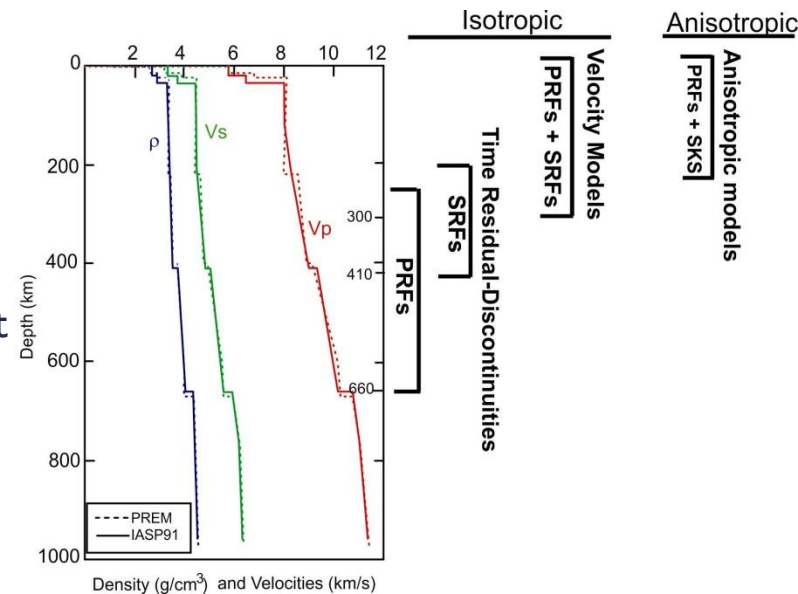
Objectives

- To map the topography of the main inner discontinuities, particularly in the mantle Transition Zone;
- To understand the structure of the lithosphere-asthenosphere;
- To improve our understanding of the anisotropy and heterogeneity in the Iberia and western Mediterranean region;

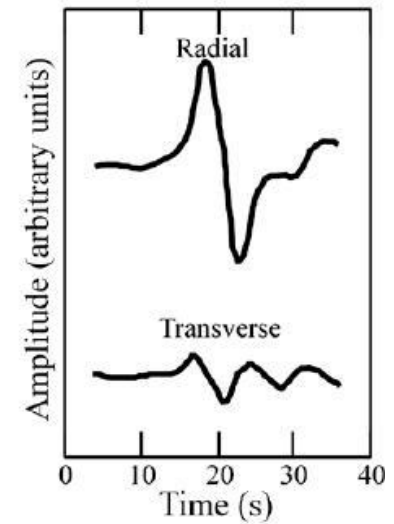
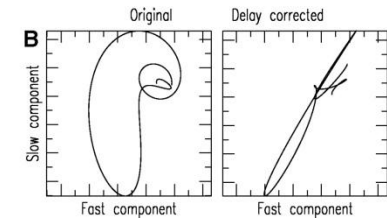
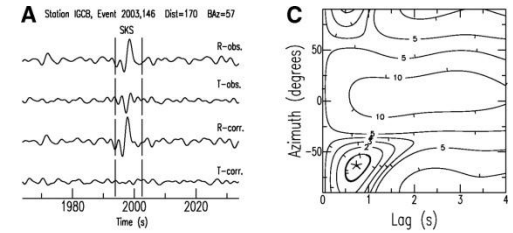
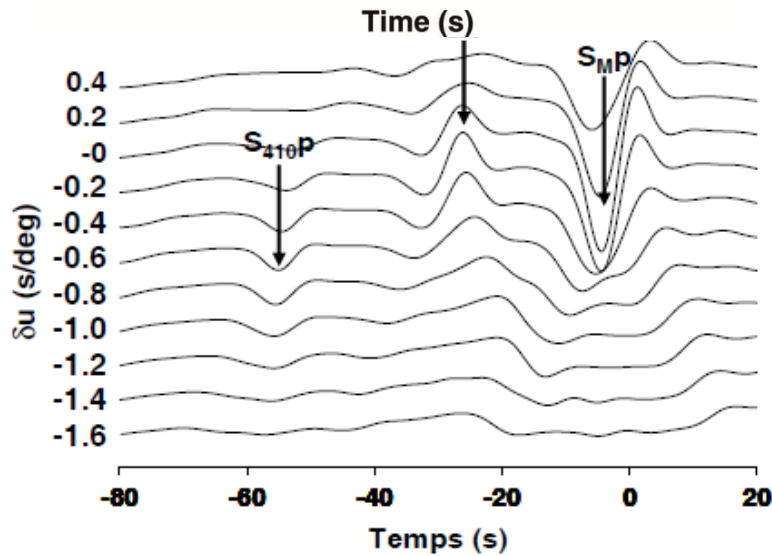
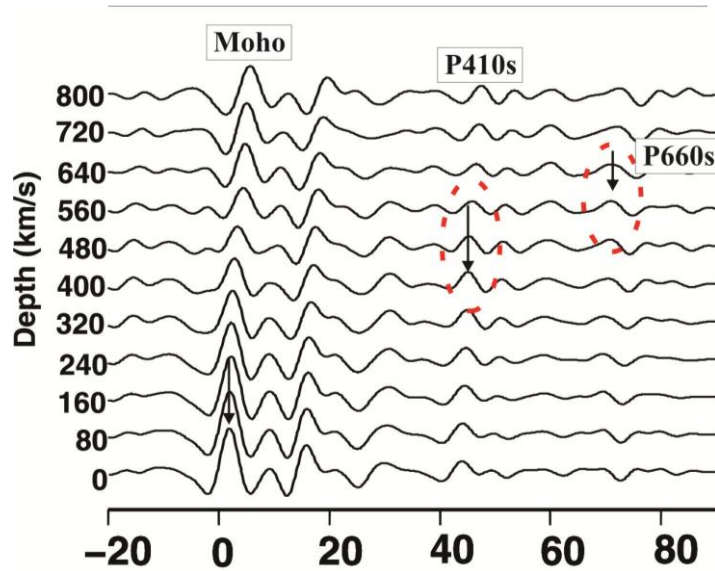


Methods

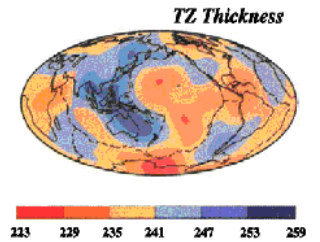
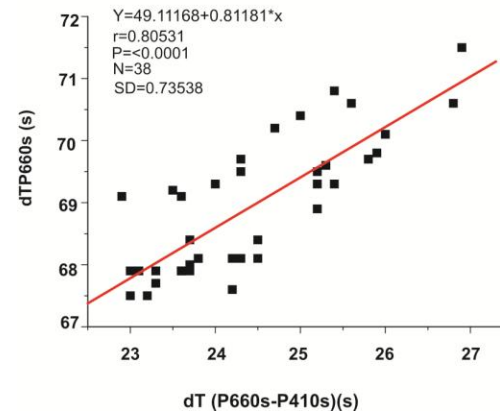
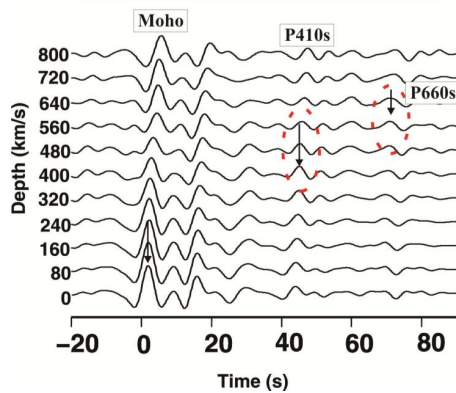
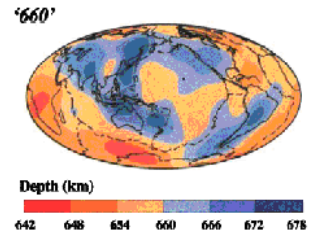
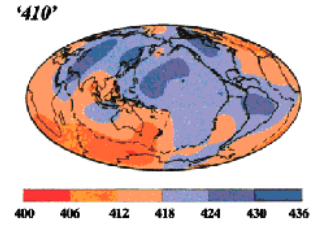
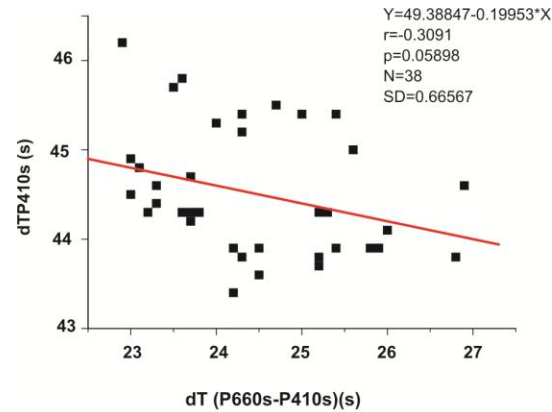
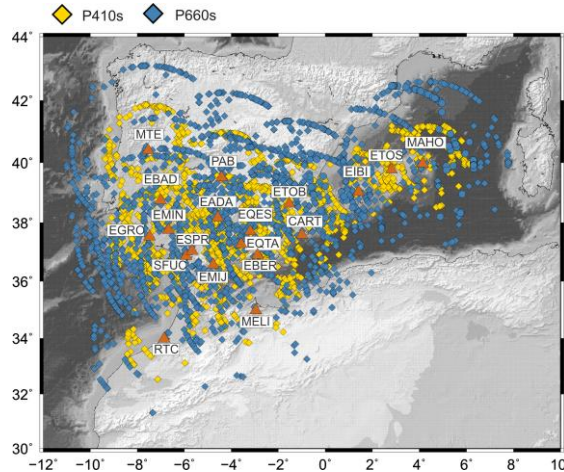
- P Receiver Functions (Vinnik, 1977)
- S Receiver Functions (Farra and Vinnik, 2000)
- Joint inversion of PRFs and SRFs (e.g. Kiselev et al., 2008)
- SKS Splitting (e.g. Vinnik et al., 1989)
- Joint inversion of PRFs and SKS (e.g. Vinnik et al., 2002)



Data Processing



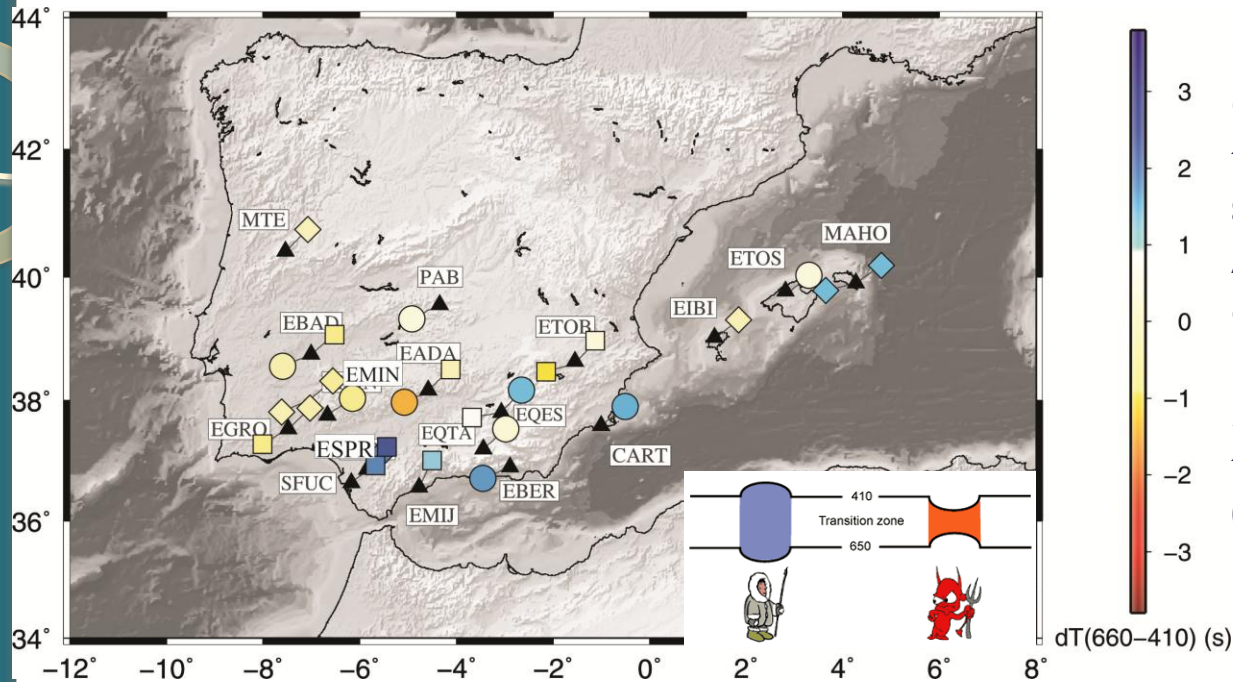
Results of the Transition Zone



Flanagan and Shearer, 1998

- The dependence of P410s on the differential time is a few times weaker than of P660s;
- This correlation means that the thickness of the TZ is controlled by topography on the 660-km;
- This is in line with what is seen on the global scale.

Differential time between P660s-P410s. The time residual relative to the standard time of 24 s is shown by color code.



• The largest residuals (of $\sim +1.5$ s) are observed in the coastal region of Spain and at Balearic islands. Accordingly the thickness of the TZ is by ~ 15 km larger than the standard 250 km. At most stations the residuals are close to 0 s.

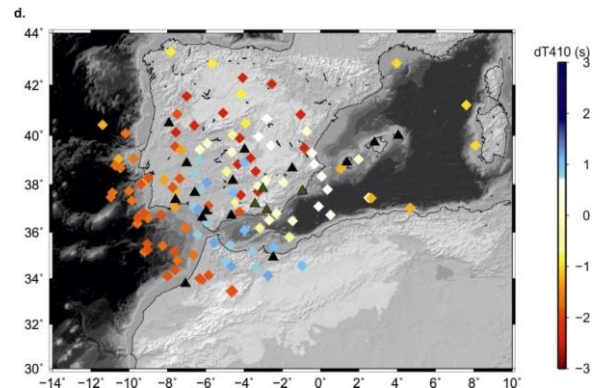
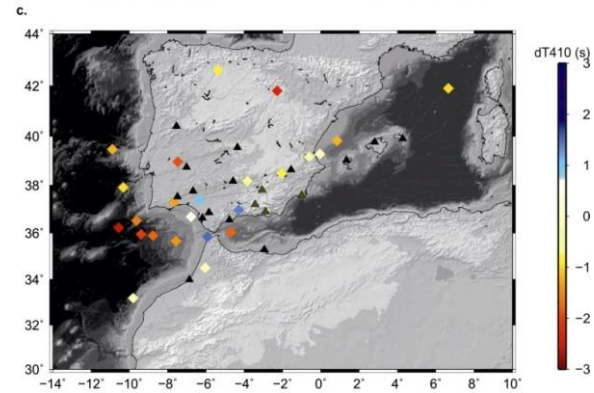
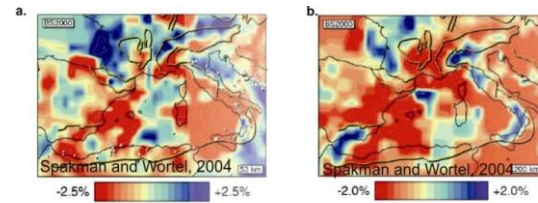
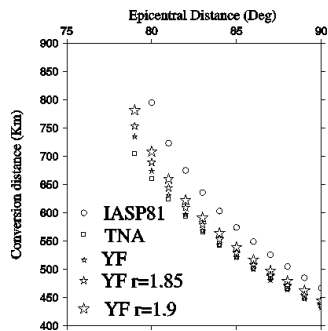
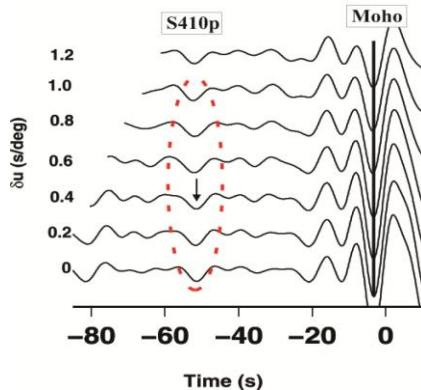
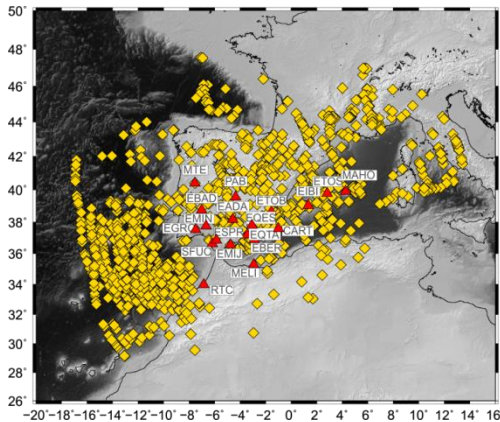
	Discontinuity	Clapeyron
410 km	exothermic	> 0
660 km	endothermic	< 0

• Over the anomalous TZ our analysis reveals a zone of reduced velocity in the upper mantle

- We interpret the variable depth of the 660-km discontinuity as an effect of subduction;



Residual time of S410p

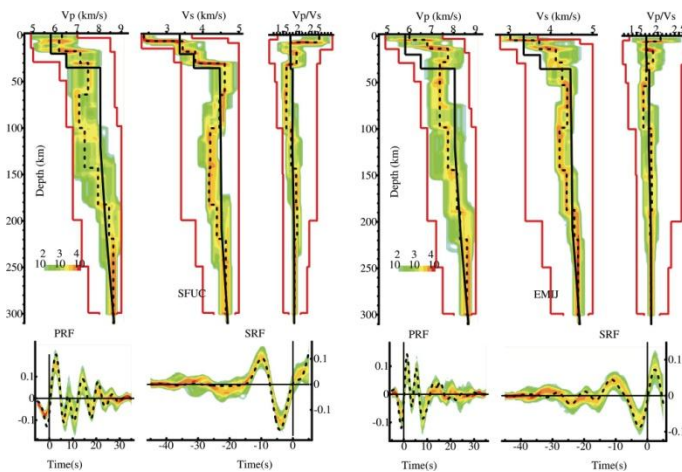


Most of the residuals times of S410p, excluding few data points, are negative with the average near 1.5 s. The reasons are:

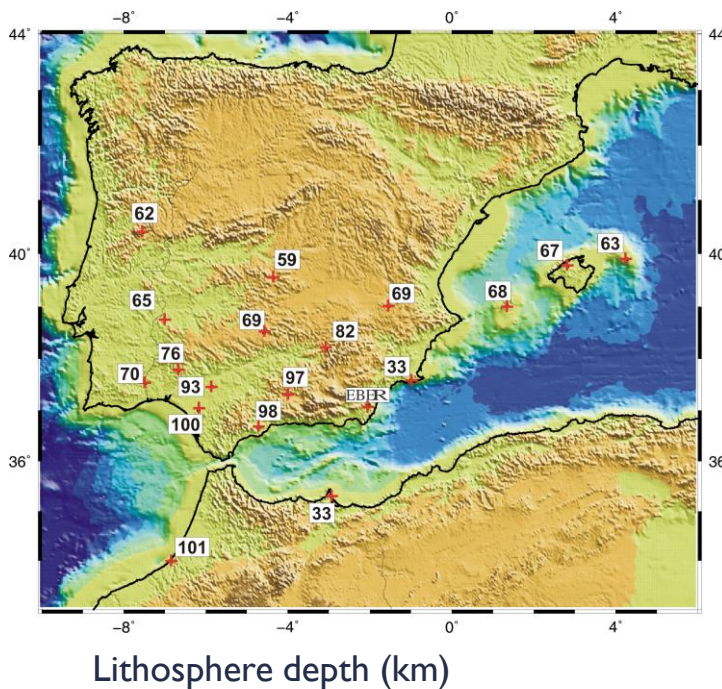
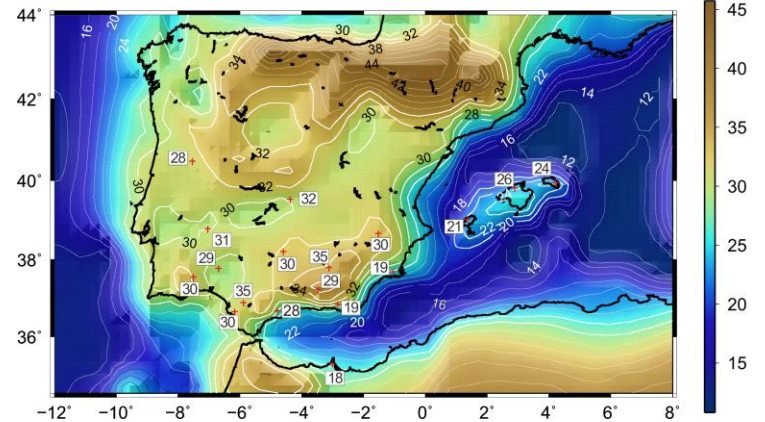
- high V_p/V_s ratio in the crust and upper mantle (0.05 higher than the normal in a layer 115 km thick)
- depression on the 410-km discontinuity of ~ 11.5 km



Joint inversion P and S receiver functions



Moho depth (km)



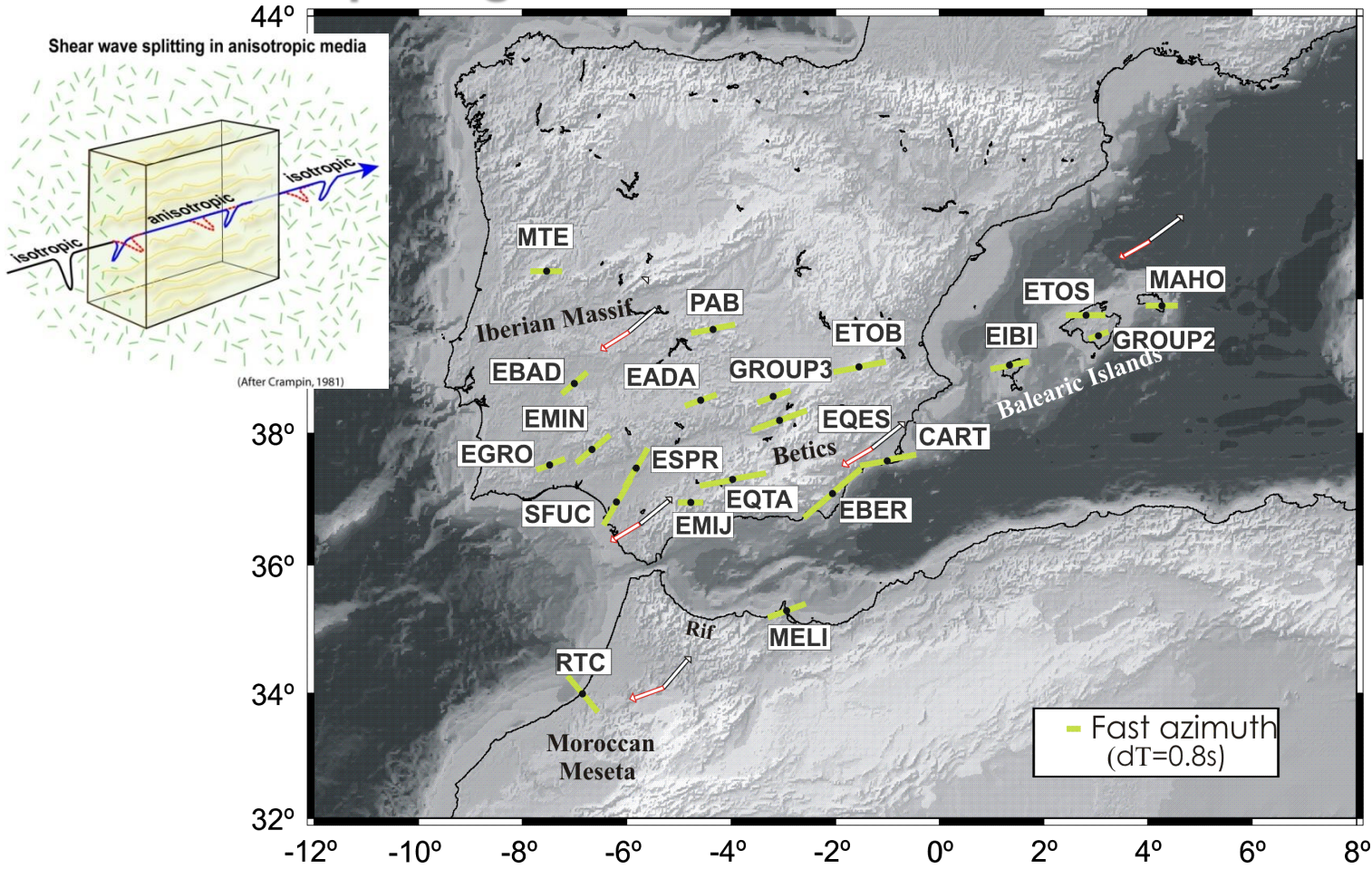
✓ All velocity models contain a high velocity mantle lid, which is underlain by a low S velocity layer.

✓ The depth of the boundary between the lid and the LVZ at most stations is 65 ± 5 km

✓ At several stations sampling the upper mantle of the Mediterranean we observe evidence of destruction of the lid, where it is either not observed or its lower boundary is at a depth of ~ 30 km.

✓ At a few stations (Gibraltar, North Africa) the depth of this boundary is around 100 km.

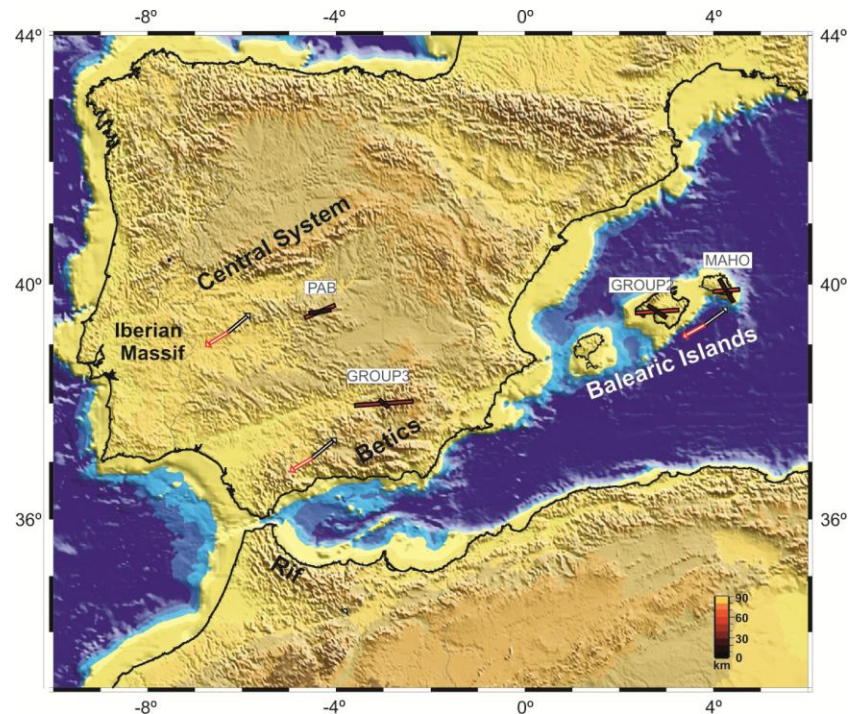
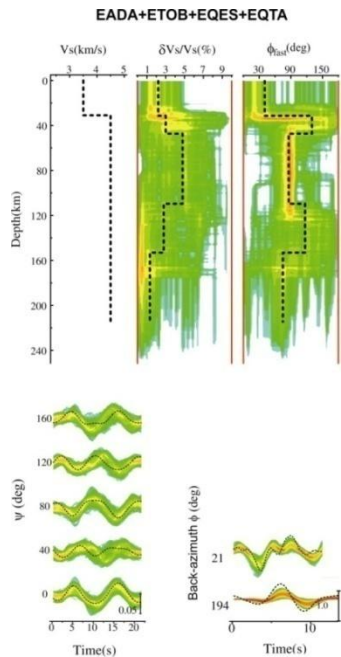
SKS + SKKS splitting



Splitting SKS/SKKS results shown at the seismic stations used in the present study. The white arrows indicate the local direction of local absolute plate motion from no net rotation model NUVEL-1 [black contour] and HS3-NUVEL-1A [red contour].



Joint inversion of PRFs and SKS waveforms



- The first results of this analysis indicate that a strong anisotropy ($\sim 5\%$) is localized in a depth range from ~ 50 km to ~ 120 km. Most of this range corresponds to the LVZ (asthenosphere).
- The fast direction of anisotropy (90 deg) in the asthenosphere corresponds to present-day or recent mantle flow. In the upper mantle can be interpreted as frozen in the lithosphere;
- The effect of the asthenosphere in the SKS splitting is much larger than the effect of the subcrustal lithosphere;



Conclusions

- The compilation of a dataset of nearly 2600 P receiver functions and nearly 2200 S receiver functions allows us to obtain a reliable and stable image of the seismic structure in Iberia and western Mediterranean.
- The joint inversion of PRFs and SKS waveforms, which we only could apply for a restricted number of stations, is a very promising methodology. It offers the possibility of not only constraining the anisotropy with depth but also to discriminate the presence of different anisotropic layers.

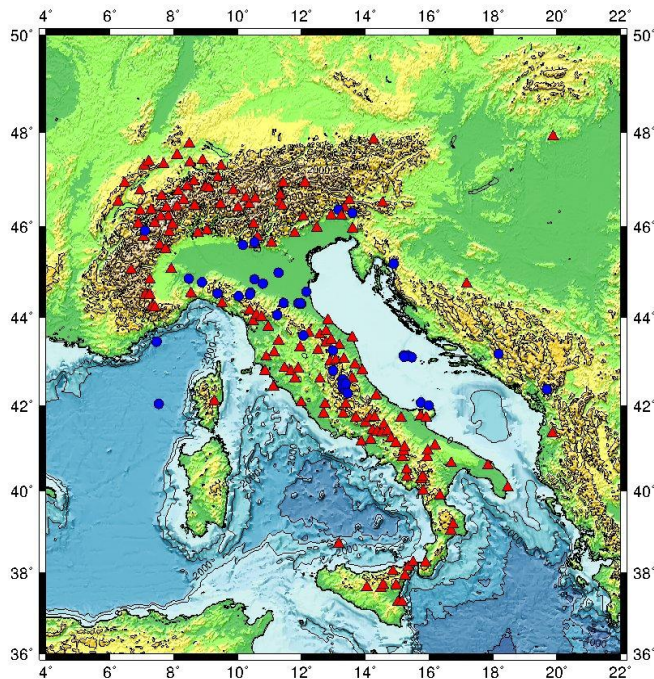
Nevertheless, the knowledge about the structure in this complex region is far from being finished. A better understanding of the seismic anisotropy pattern beneath Iberia and western Mediterranean may provide important keys to understand who has the main role on the structure of the upper mantle: **heterogeneity or anisotropy**.



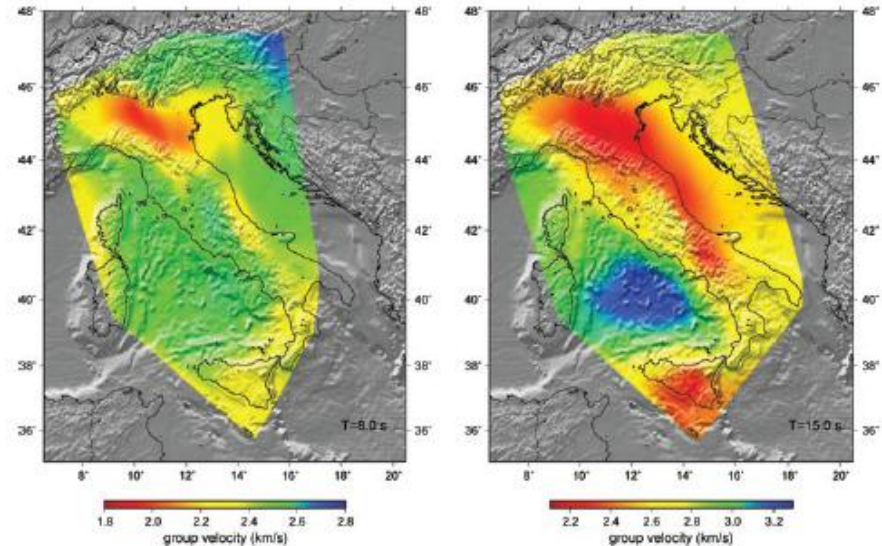
High-resolution surface wave tomography of Italian and Alpine territory using earthquake data

I. Morais, A. Morelli

QUantitative estimation of Earth's seismic sources and STructure



Ambient seismic noise analysis in Italy



Li et al., 2010

