# Noise tomography of North America Using USArray

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- I. A few words about EarthScope and USArray
- 2. Surface-wave studies of the crust and mantle
- 3. Tomography using noise and Aki's method
- 4. Remarkable images of US crust (and basins)!





### rth American Continent

Unlocking the Secrets of the North American

## Secrets of the No

## Unlocking the Secrets of the North American Continent

An EarthScope Science Plan for 2010–2020



## 2-year deployments - 2000 sites uniform instrumentation systematic quality control



# The speed of surface waves (Love and Rayleigh) depend on the shallow structure of the Earth

BULLETIN OF THE GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA Vol. 70, PP. 229–244, 11 FIGS. MARCH 1959

#### DETERMINATION OF CRUSTAL STRUCTURE FROM PHASE VELOCITY OF RAYLEIGH WAVES PART III: THE UNITED STATES

BY MAURICE EWING AND FRANK PRESS

#### Abstract

Variations in phase velocity of Rayleigh waves from the Samoa earthquake of April 14, 1957 are reported for the United States. These variations are correlated with topography and Bouguer gravity anomaly on a continental scale, demonstrating regional isostatic compensation. The correlation of phase-velocity variations with crustal-thickness changes is justified, and permits specification of the mechanism of compensation as the regional Airy system.

Regional average crustal thicknesses are: Peninsular Ranges and Southwestern Desert, 40 km; Basin and Range Province, 48 km; Rocky Mountains, 47 km; Interior Plains, 35-41 km; Appalachian Mountains, 40 km.



Noise cross correlations - two approaches:

Diffuse and equipartitioned 3-D wavefield: - leads to Green function (Campillo, ...)

Lots of traveling surface waves:

- leads to Bessel function (Aki, 1957)









## What about the Fourier transform?



$$\overline{\rho}(r,\omega_0) = J_0\left(\frac{\omega_0}{c(\omega_0)}r\right)$$

"This formula clearly indicates that if one measures  $\overline{\rho}(r, \omega_0)$  for a certain r and for various  $\omega_0$ 's, he can obtain the function  $c(\omega_0)$ , i.e., the dispersion curve of the wave for the corresponding range of frequency  $\omega_0$ ".



Recipe for tomographic success:

- I. Correlate continuous recorded signals at all pairs of USArray stations in 4-h windows (note - this is a big calculation)
- 2. Stack all correlation functions for each pair
- 3. Determine zero crossings of stacked cross-correlation spectra
- 4. Determine phase velocities using Aki's formula
- 5. Invert phase-velocity observations to determine phase-velocity maps

(no one-bit, no whitening, no nuthin')

















What are we looking at?

Mainly elastic effects of the crust

Including strong signals of slow sediments



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Mainly elastic effects of the crust

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Compare with predictions from CRUST 2.0





### Mantle structure from surface waves













I. The Transportable Array of USArray allows spatially uniform mapping of surface-wave dispersion across the US using noise tomography

2. Aki's spectral approach works well for automation

3. Extremely slow Love and Rayleigh velocities along the Gulf coast (and in other areas) are not matched by current models of the crust

4.Very low VS is needed (high VP/VS ratio) to explain the signals from the basins