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Eikonal Tomography of the Southern California Plate Boundary Region

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20 **Abstract**

21 We use Eikonal tomography to derive phase and group velocities of surface waves for the plate
22 boundary region in southern California. Seismic noise data in the period range 2 and 20 s
23 recorded in year 2014 by 346 stations with ~1-30 km station spacing are analyzed. Rayleigh and
24 Love wave phase travel times are measured using vertical-vertical and transverse-transverse
25 noise cross-correlations, and group travel times are derived from the phase measurements. Using
26 the Eikonal equation for each location and period, isotropic phase and group velocities and 2-psi
27 azimuthal anisotropy are determined statistically with measurements from different virtual
28 sources. Starting with the SCEC Community Velocity Model, the observed 2.5-16 s isotropic
29 phase and group dispersion curves are jointly inverted on a $0.05^\circ \times 0.05^\circ$ grid to obtain local 1D
30 piecewise shear wave velocity (V_s) models. Compared to the starting model, the final results
31 have generally lower V_s in the shallow crust (top 3-10 km), particularly in areas such as basins
32 and fault zones. The results also show clear velocity contrasts across the San Andreas, San
33 Jacinto, Elsinore and Garlock faults, and suggest that the San Andreas fault southeast of San
34 Gorgonio Pass is dipping to the northeast. Investigation of the non-uniqueness of the 1D V_s
35 inversion suggests that imaging the top 3 km V_s structure require either shorter period (≤ 2 s)
36 surface wave dispersion measurements or other types of dataset such as Rayleigh wave
37 ellipticity.

38

39 **1. Introduction**

40 The boundary between the North American and Pacific plates in Southern California (SC)
41 has several major faults, including the San Andreas Fault (SAF), San Jacinto Fault (SJF),
42 Garlock Fault (GF), and Elsinore Fault (EF). These and other faults separate the SC crust into
43 several distinctive geologic provinces including the Southern Central Valley, Sierra Nevada and
44 Mojave Desert in the north; the Western, South-Central and Eastern Transverse Ranges plus
45 Eastern California Shear Zone (ECSZ) in the center; and the Ventura Basin, Los Angeles (LA)
46 Basin, Peninsular Ranges, and Salton Trough in the south (Fig. 1). Having a good 3D
47 tomographic model is crucial for understanding structural properties such as continuity and

48 dipping of the major faults, and providing an accurate framework for inversions of earthquake
49 source properties, calculations of seismic ground motion and other topics.

50 Several local and regional tomographic models of SC with a variety of spatial scales (0.5 km
51 to the entire SC) and resolutions (tens of meters to >5 km) have been developed in previous
52 studies. Methods using fault zone phases (e.g. Qiu et al., 2017; Share et al., 2017; Qin et al.,
53 2018), body wave travel times (e.g. Allam et al., 2012, 2014; Share et al., 2019), surface wave
54 tomography based on earthquakes (e.g. Alvizuri & Tanimoto, 2011; Prindle & Tanimoto, 2006;
55 Yang & Forsyth, 2006) and ambient noise (e.g. Zigone et al., 2015; Barak et al., 2015; Berg et
56 al., 2018), joint inversion of body and surface waves (e.g. Fang et al., 2016), and full inversion of
57 waveforms with periods ≥ 2 -5s (e.g. Tape et al., 2010; Lee et al., 2014) have been applied in this
58 region. Each of these models resolves different components of the crustal structures due to
59 variations in data sensitivity and quality (e.g. uncertainty), non-uniqueness and parameterization
60 of the inversion process (e.g. regularization and smoothing). A combination of tomographic
61 models that incorporates different types of data and seismic network configurations provides a
62 clear illustration of the structural complexity in the SC region (e.g., Shaw et al., 2015).

63 Noise based surface wave tomography has been shown to be effective in resolving 3D Vs
64 crustal structure either for the entire SC region (e.g. Barak et al., 2015) or more focused local
65 areas (e.g. Zigone et al., 2015; Fang et al., 2016). Although the noise sources are not
66 isotropically distributed in the SC plate boundary region, the biases in surface wave dispersions
67 measured from ambient noise cross-correlations (ANC) have been shown to be minor (e.g.
68 Hillers et al., 2013). Surface waves are typically assumed to propagate on the great circle path
69 connecting the virtual source and receiver, and the corresponding velocity structures are resolved
70 using all available source-receiver pairs (Barmin et al., 2001).

71 In contrast to the conventional surface wave tomography method, Eikonal tomography
72 accounts for ray bending and determines phase velocities by solving the Eikonal equation across
73 phase travel time maps (Lin et al., 2009). Through statistical analysis of velocity measurements
74 obtained from different sources, isotropic phase speeds together with azimuthal anisotropy and
75 corresponding uncertainty estimates can be determined. Eikonal tomography method was first
76 applied across the USArray (Lin et al., 2009), and the derived isotropic phase results were shown
77 to be slightly slower, on average, compared to those from straight-ray tomography, particularly

78 in SC. The differences suggest that it is necessary to take the ray bending effect into
79 consideration in order to obtain better phase velocity estimates.

80 In the present paper, we use the ANC computed from stations of the regional SC seismic
81 network and apply Eikonal tomography to resolve phase and group velocity maps. The results
82 have finer grid size (i.e. $0.05^\circ \times 0.05^\circ$), broader period range toward short periods (i.e. 2.5s-16s),
83 and better data coverage compared to previous studies (e.g. Lin et al., 2009; Roux & Ben-Zion,
84 2017). In section 2, we describe the data used in the study and the necessary processing steps to
85 calculate reliable ANC for each station pair. Considering the vast number of station pairs, we
86 adopt the modified automatic Frequency Time Analysis (FTA) developed by Bensen et al.
87 (2007) and Lin et al. (2008) to obtain both phase and group dispersion measurements. Following
88 the flow chart shown in Figure 2, we describe the procedures to measure the surface wave travel
89 times as a function of period for every station pair in section 3.

90 In section 4.1, we review the methodology of Eikonal tomography and its underlying
91 assumptions. Different from previous Eikonal tomography studies (e.g. Lin et al., 2009, 2013;
92 Ritzwoller et al., 2011; Gouédard et al., 2012; Xu et al., 2016) that use evenly spacing seismic
93 arrays, the station spacing for the SC seismic network is rather irregular, with ~ 1 -5 km near SJF
94 and SAF, ~ 5 km in LA and Ventura basins, and ~ 10 -30 km in Mojave desert and ECSZ (Fig. 1).
95 We thus also discuss the inclusion of several additional quality control criteria to ensure the
96 reliability of the resulting phase velocities. Furthermore, we derive group velocities from a
97 modified Eikonal tomography procedure, which is also discussed in section 4.1. The resulting
98 isotropic phase and group speeds (section 4.2) are used to infer a new V_s model for the SC plate
99 boundary region.

100 The V_s inversion is first performed at each grid cell and then assembled together to construct
101 the final 3-D V_s model in section 5. The final surface wave phase speed and V_s models are
102 compared to tomographic models obtained from previous studies, and the prominent geological
103 structures that observed in our models are discussed in section 5.2. The technical improvements
104 and updated geophysical knowledge achieved in our final models are summarized in Section 6.
105 In addition to resolving better some crustal components, the results complement the existing
106 knowledge on large-scale fault structures (velocity contrasts, fault dipping) in the SC plate
107 boundary region.

108

109 **2. Data**

110 We download all available continuous waveforms recorded by 346 stations (with 299 being
111 three-component; Fig. 1) in the SC plate boundary region during the entire year of 2014. Seismic
112 stations from several SC seismic networks, including the Anza network (AZ; Vernon, 1982), the
113 California Integrated Seismic network (CISN), the San Jacinto Experiment network (YN;
114 Vernon & Ben-Zion, 2010), the Plate Boundary Observatory Borehole network (PB), the
115 Southern California Seismic network (CI; SCEDC, 2013), and the UC Santa Barbara
116 Engineering Seismology Network (SB) are used. This combined seismic network includes 238
117 broadband and 108 short-period sensors, covering the ~600 km aperture study region with
118 typical station spacing varying from 1 km to 30 km.

119 Noise preprocessing steps are essential to increase the quality and accuracy of surface wave
120 signals extracted from the noise cross-correlation method (e.g. Shapiro & Campillo 2004;
121 Bensen et al., 2007; Poli et al., 2012; Boue et al., 2013; Zigone et al., 2015). In this study, we
122 follow closely to the method described by Zigone et al. (2015) to compute daily ANC between
123 all available station pairs and components. The computed multi-component ANC are then rotated
124 to the coordinate system of vertical (Z), radial (R), and transverse (T) directions by viewing one
125 station as the source and the other as the receiver (Lin et al., 2008). Figs. 3a&b shows the
126 resulting daily ANC for ZZ component at two example station pairs – the coast parallel pair DJJ-
127 GOR and the coast perpendicular pair GSC-SDD. For both station pairs, coherent surface wave
128 arrivals are observed on both positive and negative correlation time lags in the daily cross-
129 correlograms throughout the year. These daily correlation functions are stacked over the entire
130 year to further enhance the signal to noise ratio (SNR; Figs. 3c&d). In this paper, we use the
131 stacked ZZ and TT component ANC to measure the Rayleigh and Love wave travel time
132 dispersions, respectively. Since higher mode surface waves (e.g. blue star in Fig. 4) are only
133 observed in ANC at high frequencies (e.g. 2-5s) for specific station pairs (e.g. across basins), all
134 subsequent results and discussions refer to the fundamental mode surface waves.

135 In SC, ambient noise seismic waves are mostly excited from oceanic waves in the
136 southwestern direction (e.g. Kedar & Webb, 2005; Hillers et al., 2013), which results in the

137 asymmetry of ANC particularly for coastline normal station pairs (e.g. Figs. 3b&d). Despite the
 138 apparent noise directionality, earlier studies suggest that surface wave dispersion can still be
 139 reliability extracted from ANC in this area (e.g. Shapiro et al., 2005; Hillers et al., 2013). To
 140 further enhance the signal and effectively homogenize the noise wavefield, we calculate the
 141 “symmetric signal” by folding and averaging the waveforms on both the positive and negative
 142 time lags (e.g. Lin et al., 2007). In general, the symmetric signal often has a higher SNR (due to
 143 the suppression of incoherent noises within the two time lags) and allows the dispersion curve to
 144 be determined across a broader period range. We note that the Eikonal tomography approach
 145 used in this study determines local surface phase velocities based on relative travel time
 146 measurement and is also less sensitive to inhomogeneous noise source distribution as discussed
 147 in Lin et al. (2013).

148

149 **3. Automated dispersion picking**

150 Figure 4 shows the one-year stacked ZZ component ANC and the symmetric narrow
 151 bandpass filtered signals for the example coastline normal station pair GSC-SDD. Clear period
 152 dependent travel time and SNR can be observed. Considering the vast number of ANC (~ 40,000
 153 for ZZ component and ~ 30,000 for TT component), we adopt a modified automated dispersion
 154 picking algorithm of Bensen et al. (2007) to extract surface wave travel times for periods
 155 between 2s and 20s. The procedures are described in detail below.

156

157 **3.1 Frequency Time Analysis (FTA)**

158 Figure 5 illustrates the standard procedures of FTA applied on the example station pair GSC-
 159 SDD. First, we taper the time series using a window (dashed lines in Fig. 5a) that outlines the
 160 surface wave signal (i.e. between the assumed 4.0 km/s and 1.5 km/s maximum and minimum
 161 velocities) and define the waveforms in the window with an assumed velocity lower than 1.5
 162 km/s as the noise. Then, a series of Gaussian narrow bandpass filters centered on different
 163 angular frequencies, ω_k , $G(\omega, \omega_k) = \exp\left\{-\alpha\left[\frac{(\omega - \omega_k)}{\omega_k}\right]^2\right\}$, are applied to the tapered

164 waveform. Here α is a unitless parameter that controls the width of the Gaussian filter, which we
 165 set to 20 based on trial and error. Then the amplitude and phase components of the filtered
 166 signal, $S^f(t, \omega_k)$, can be written as:

$$167 \quad S^f(t, \omega_k) = |A(t, \omega_k)| \cdot e^{i\varphi(t, \omega_k)}, \quad (1)$$

168 where $|A(t, \omega_k)|$, $\varphi(t, \omega_k)$ are the corresponding envelope and phase functions in the time
 169 domain, and t is the lapse time. The envelope and phase functions at 7s are illustrated in Fig. 5b.
 170 Figure 5c shows a 2-D amplitude diagram that aligns the envelope functions with respect to the
 171 corresponding central periods $T_k = 2\pi/\omega_k$. This 2-D amplitude diagram is later used to
 172 determine travel time dispersion in section 3.2

173 For different station pairs, the period range in which we can extract good quality surface
 174 wave signals can vary significantly. To determine the proper period range for FTA, we first set a
 175 maximum cut-off period as $T_{\max} = \Delta/(2c) \approx \Delta/6$ to satisfy the far field approximation (Bensen et
 176 al., 2007). Here Δ is the interstation distance in kilometers, and c is the assumed reference phase
 177 velocity and is set to be 3 km/s (Fig. S1). In the case of $T_{\max} > 20$ s, we set $T_{\max} = 20$ s. Then, we
 178 calculate the preliminary period dependent SNR as the ratio between the maximum amplitude of
 179 the envelope function and the root mean square amplitude within the noise window. For each
 180 ANC, we only perform FTA for the period range in which the SNR is larger than 5.

181

182 3.2 Determination of phase traveltime dispersions

183 The surface wave phase travel time dispersion can be obtained from the phase function
 184 $\varphi(t, \omega_k)$ using equation derived in Lin et al. (2008) by assuming the source phase ambiguity
 185 term λ equal to 0:

$$186 \quad t_{ph}(\omega) = \left[\varphi(t, \omega_k) + \omega t - \frac{\pi}{4} - N \cdot 2\pi \right] / \omega. \quad (2)$$

187 Here, N is the cycle skipping ambiguity term, which can be resolved using a reference dispersion
 188 relation. Note that the instantaneous angular frequency $\omega = \partial\varphi(t, \omega_k) / \partial t$ can be slightly
 189 different from the central angular frequency ω_k of the applied filter. To resolve cycle skipping
 190 ambiguity, N , we take advantage of the existing high-resolution Community Velocity Models for
 191 SC (i.e. Shaw et al., 2015 – CVM-H15.1; Lee et al., 2014 – CVM-S4.26). First, we compute
 192 synthetic phase travel time dispersion for each station pair based on the model CVM-S4.26. At
 193 each grid point, we extract the 1-D P- and S-wave velocity depth profiles and calculate the
 194 corresponding phase velocity dispersion curves (Herrmann, 2013). By compiling these phase
 195 velocity dispersion curves at all locations, we construct a series of 2-D phase velocity maps at
 196 different periods. For each period, we calculate the synthetic surface wave phase travel time for
 197 every station pair based on the 2-D phase velocity map using the fast marching method (Sethian,
 198 1996). The model predicted pairwise phase travel time dispersion curve is then used as a
 199 reference to constrain the travel times measured through the ANC.

200 Ideally, phase travel time can be measured at any selection of lapse time t within the surface
 201 wave window following equation 2. But, in practice, phase travel time is often evaluated at the
 202 time of the envelope peak, $t = t_g(\omega)$, to guarantee a maximum SNR (e.g. Aki & Richards, 2002;
 203 Lin et al., 2008). Figure 4 shows the envelope functions and corresponding $t_g(\omega)$ for various
 204 periods (red star), and we find the global maximum at 2s period is abnormally fast (i.e. faster
 205 than the signals observed at longer periods). This indicates that either the noise source
 206 distribution is not sufficiently homogeneous or the signal is dominated by strong body waves or
 207 higher mode surface waves (e.g. Boué et al., 2016; Ma et al., 2016; Savage et al., 2013) at this
 208 period. In this case, instead of evaluating the phase travel time at the global peak, the lapse time
 209 of another local maximum should be used (i.e. the blue star in Fig. 4). Considering the vast
 210 number of station pairs used in this study, we develop an automatic procedure to filter out these
 211 abnormal envelope peaks. First, we set a “reasonable travel time range” for each station pair and
 212 rule out envelope peaks (both local and global ones) that are outside the range as well as those
 213 peaks with SNR less than 5. Considering the envelope should propagate slower than the phase,
 214 we use the phase travel time predicted from the reference CVM-S4.26 model (red dashed lines in

215 Fig. 4 and Fig. 5c) to determine the lower bound for group travel time $t_g(\omega)$. In addition,
 216 considering the CVM-S4.26 model is derived using data with frequencies lower than 0.2 Hz (Lee
 217 et al., 2014) and it may yield poor predictions at short periods, we further reduce the lower bound
 218 based on a linearly varying scale of 5% and 0% between 2s and 20s period (black dashed curve
 219 in Figure 5c).

220 After filtering out erroneous envelope peaks, we further require the candidate $t_g(\omega)$ (e.g. red
 221 stars in Fig. 5c) to be continuous as a function of periods. To ensure the continuity, we use the
 222 second order derivative edge detection algorithm to find possible jumps in the $t_g(\omega)$ dispersion
 223 curve, and fix the discontinuity, if detected, following the procedure of Bensen et al. (2007).

224

225 3.3 Determination of group traveltimes dispersions

226 Theoretically, the surface wave group travel time is given by the lapse time, $t_g(\omega)$, where
 227 the envelope function $|A(t, \omega_k)|$ reaches the maximum amplitude (Aki & Richards, 2002). In
 228 Figure 5, we use the surface wave from the symmetric signal of the one-year stacked ANC to
 229 demonstrate the picking process (Fig. S2 for results using causal and acausal sides). Figure 6
 230 shows the resulting Rayleigh wave phase travel time along with the continuous $t_g(\omega)$ dispersion
 231 curves measured at the casual side, acausal side, and the symmetric signal of the correlation
 232 function for station pair GSC-SDD. While consistent phase travel time dispersion curves are
 233 obtained from all three cases, significant discrepancies are observed between the $t_g(\omega)$
 234 dispersion curves, especially at longer periods ($> 15s$), suggesting that the peak of envelope
 235 function is sensitive to noise and often associated with large uncertainties (Fig. 6d and Fig. 7a).
 236 Therefore, in this study, instead of determining group travel time based on $t_g(\omega)$ (e.g. Barak et
 237 al., 2015; Zigone et al., 2015), we simply derive the group travel time from the smoothed phase
 238 dispersion using the following relation:

$$v_{gp} = v_{ph} - \lambda \cdot \partial v_{ph} / \partial \lambda. \quad (3)$$

where v_{ph} and v_{gp} represent the smoothed phase and resulting group dispersions in the form of average velocities (i.e. $v_{ph} = \Delta/t_{ph}$, $v_{gp} = \Delta/t_{gp}$) and λ is the wavelength given by $2\pi \cdot v_{ph} / \omega$. Here, we use the observed phase dispersion to first invert for a 1D Vs model and then predict the smoothed phase velocity dispersion to stabilize the first derivative in equation 3 (Fig. 7).

Although the phase derived group travel times do not provide additional independent constraints to the earth structure, using both phase and group dispersion curves stabilizes the 1-D Vs inversion and yields better results of Vs structure than those using phase dispersions alone. This is mostly due to the differences in depth sensitivity kernels of the group and phase velocities (Fig. S3) that helps reducing non-uniqueness inherent in the inversion (Moschetti et al., 2010; Li et al., 2012; Herrmann, 2013).

250

251 3.4 Quality control

As Eikonal tomography determines velocities based on first order spatial derivative of travel time maps, the result is very sensitive to erroneous travel time measurements (e.g. Lin et al., 2009). Because of that, it is crucial to identify and remove as much erroneous travel time measurements as possible. In this section, we introduce the following three selection criteria to control the quality of the travel times measured following procedures in section 3.2 and 3.3:

(1) Consistency between symmetric, causal, and acausal signals. Here we reject dispersion measurements with inconsistent phase dispersion between causal, a-causal, and the symmetric component signals. Here we calculate the phase travel time differences between measurements of the symmetric and causal components at each period, and select the period range that yields discrepancies less than 5%. Such period range can also be obtained by comparing phase dispersions of the symmetric and acausal signals. The phase dispersion curves within the union of these two period ranges are considered to be robust. A complete description of the determination of consistency between phase travel time dispersion curves can be found in the supplementary material (Appendix I).

266 (2) Consistency with the reference model. As no major discrepancy is expected between the
267 observed and reference predicted dispersion curves in particularly at the long periods, two
268 additional selection criteria are introduced for phase dispersion measurements. First, the
269 predicted and observed travel time difference at the longest measurable period (T_1) should be
270 smaller than $0.3T_1$. Second, the average predicted and observed travel time difference in the
271 top one-third of the measurable period range should be smaller than 0.4 of the average period
272 in that range. Dispersion curves that do not satisfy the above criteria are discarded.

273 (3) Minimum period range requirement. Since the predicted reference dispersion curve is
274 only considered reliable at periods larger than 5s (Lee et al., 2014), we reject all dispersion
275 curves with either the longest measurable period T_1 smaller than 6s or the measurable period
276 range shorter than 2.5s.

277 Figure 8 shows the histograms of the phase and group travel times that pass the above quality
278 selection criteria for 3s, 7s, and 11s Rayleigh and Love waves. Since there are fewer three-
279 component stations in the seismic network and the SNR of Love waves is generally smaller than
280 that of Rayleigh waves, the total number of travel time measurements is significantly higher (i.e.
281 ~40%-50% more) for Rayleigh waves. Based on the distributions of the measurements, we find
282 that the width of the histogram (i.e. standard deviation) decreases as period increases, and the
283 histograms of Love waves are wider than those of Rayleigh waves. These observations are likely
284 due to higher degree of lateral heterogeneity at shallower depth and the broader spatial sensitivity
285 of longer period waves. Since SNR is lower at shorter periods, the poor quality of short period
286 dispersion measurements also contributes to the large width of the corresponding histogram. The
287 median average speed (i.e. peak of the histogram) increases with period, which is consistent with
288 the fact that shear wave velocity generally increases with depth, and is faster for Love waves.

289

290 **4. Eikonal tomography**

291 4.1 Methodology

292 Different from the traditional straight-ray tomography (e.g. Barmin et al., 2001), Eikonal
293 tomography accounts for ray bending in the surface wave propagation and is based on the

294 Eikonal equation

$$295 \quad \vec{s}_{ij} = \bar{e}_{ij} / \mathbf{v}_{ij} = \nabla \tau_i(\bar{x}_j), \quad (4a)$$

296 which is derived from the 2-D Helmholtz wave equation (e.g. Wielandt, 1993; Lin & Ritzwoller,
297 2011) by neglecting the term associated with the amplitude Laplacian:

$$298 \quad \frac{1}{\mathbf{v}_{ij}^2} = \left| \nabla \tau_i(\bar{x}_j) \right|^2 - \frac{\Delta A_i(\bar{x}_j)}{A_i(\bar{x}_j) \omega^2}, \quad (4b)$$

299 where i and j indicate the virtual source and grid point indexes, \vec{s} and \bar{e} are local slowness and
300 the unit vectors orienting towards the wave propagation direction, τ_i is the phase travel time, \bar{x}_j
301 is location of the j -th grid cell, A is the wave amplitude, and ω is the angular frequency. In
302 Eikonal tomography, phase velocity structure can be simply inferred locally by applying the
303 inverse operator – the spatial gradient to the phase travelttime field without constructing the
304 forward operator. It is straightforward and computational less intensive compared to the straight-
305 ray tomography. Lin and Ritzwoller (2011) refers the phase velocity derived from Eikonal
306 equation as the “apparent” phase velocity and that calculated via Helmholtz equation as
307 “corrected” phase velocity. These two velocities are approximately equal when 1) the angular
308 frequency, ω , is sufficiently high or 2) the amplitude field is smooth enough so that the
309 amplitude Laplacian is negligible. Although the group travel time does not obey the Eikonal
310 equation 4a, based on the assumption that the propagation of the surface wave envelope is the
311 same as indicated by the phase front, we can apply a modified version of Eikonal equation:

$$312 \quad \vec{s}_{ij}^g = \bar{e}_{ij} / \mathbf{v}_{ij}^g = \nabla \tau_i^g(\bar{x}_j), \quad (5)$$

313 to infer the local group velocity, where \vec{s}_{ij}^g , \mathbf{v}_{ij}^g , and τ_i^g represent the local group slowness
314 vector, group speed, and group travel time field, respectively.

315 Following the procedure developed in Lin et al. (2009), for each common station, all
316 available phase or group travel times associated with the central station (Fig. S4a) are used to
317 construct a travel time map on a $0.05^\circ \times 0.05^\circ$ grid (Fig. S4b). The minimum curvature

318 interpolation method (Smith & Wessel, 1990) is used. Despite all the quality selection criteria we
319 developed in section 3.4, to obtain smooth travel time map, we impose additional quality control
320 criteria to remove outlier travel times that are not consistent with their nearby measurements.
321 Specifically, we reject any travel time measurement that meets any of the two following
322 conditions: 1. The amplitude of travel time gradient at the station location is less than 0.25 s/km
323 or larger than 2 s/km (green circles in Fig. S4c). 2. While the first criterion is capable of
324 identifying most of the low quality data, trial and error indicates that the resulting speed maps are
325 more stable by further removing measurements that produce large curvature values. The
326 curvature of travel time field at the station location is identified as an outlier when larger than 2
327 times the standard deviation computed over the entire map ($\geq 0.07\text{s/km}$ for 2.5s and $\geq 0.04\text{s/km}$
328 for 16s; red circles in Fig. S4c). This step is necessary as the station spacing is highly irregular
329 and the second order derivative is more effective in detecting outliers when data coverage is
330 sparse. After removing the outliers, new travel time maps are then regenerated and phase
331 propagation direction and local phase and group slowness can be evaluated through equation 4a
332 (Fig. S4d) and equation 5 at each grid point.

333 Unlike the Eikonal tomography performed on USArray by Lin et al. (2009), the southern
334 California seismic network used in this study is highly irregular (Fig. 1) with regions that have
335 various distinctive station spacing configurations: $\sim 1\text{-}5$ km near the major faults, and ~ 5 km
336 within basin areas, and $\sim 10\text{-}30$ km for other regions (e.g. ECSZ). Because of this uneven station
337 distribution, it is essential to identify regions with robust and reliable travel time interpolation,
338 and only estimate the travel time gradient within these areas. We first adopt the criteria used in
339 Lin et al. (2009), including truncation of regions that are within two wavelengths of the virtual
340 source location, “three- out of four-quadrant selection criterion” with a searching radius of 50
341 km, and comparison of phase travel time interpolation with two different surface tension (Figs.
342 S5a&b).

343 In order to further tackle the irregular array configuration, we introduce the concept of
344 “station configuration error” and further remove regions that are highlighted by large error
345 values. Similar to the idea of a synthetic checkerboard test (Lévêque & Wittlinger, 1993), which
346 provides an estimation of the spatial resolvability for specific data coverage, we perform
347 synthetic tests to evaluate the station configuration error for Eikonal tomography. First, for each

348 virtual source, we compute the synthetic travel times for the same station configuration assuming
 349 a homogeneous phase speed v_{syn} . Then we apply Eikonal tomography to the synthetic travel
 350 times and obtain an estimated 2-D phase speed map with v_i^{inv} representing the local phase speed
 351 at the i -th grid cell. The station configuration error δ_i at the i -th grid point is defined as

$$352 \quad \delta_i = \left| v_{syn} - v_i^{inv} \right| / v_{syn}. \quad (6)$$

353 Here we use a threshold of 0.025 to further truncate regions with poor station coverage (Fig.
 354 S6c).

355 Figure 9 shows the resulting phase velocity maps for 7s Rayleigh waves using 4 different
 356 stations as the virtual source. Colors and arrows represent the estimated local phase speed and
 357 propagation direction, respectively. Patterns that match well with the surface geological feature,
 358 such as low velocity zones in LA basin, Salton Trough, and near faults, are consistently observed
 359 in all the maps. However, there are also differences found between these maps. Part of these
 360 differences can be explained by azimuthal anisotropy. In general, the phase velocity map based
 361 on individual effective source (Fig. 9) is noisy due to erroneous phase travel times that we are
 362 unable to remove completely using the quality selection criteria. However, previous Eikonal
 363 tomography studies (e.g. Lin et al., 2009, 2013) showed that these errors could be significantly
 364 suppressed through stacking. The resolution of the resulting speed maps is controlled by the grid
 365 size and local station spacing (e.g. Fig. 12 of Lin et al., 2009), suggesting a spatial resolution of
 366 5-15 km in the center areas with dense station coverage and 15-30 km in regions on the edge.

367 Since a non-negligible azimuthal anisotropy effect is observed in this region (Fig. S6), to
 368 avoid biases in the stacking process, for each location, we first weight each slowness
 369 measurement s_i inversely proportional to the number (n_i) of measurements that has an azimuth
 370 different from the target measurement by less than 20° :

$$371 \quad s'_i = \frac{1}{n_i} s_i. \quad (7)$$

372 Let normalization coefficients $\eta = \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{n_i}$ and $\xi = \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{n_i^2}$, then the weighted mean slowness, s_0 ,
 373 and the corresponding standard deviation, σ_{s_0} , are given by:

$$374 \quad s_0 = \frac{1}{\eta} \sum_{i=1}^N s'_i, \quad (8a)$$

$$375 \quad \sigma_{s_0}^2 = \frac{\xi}{\eta^3 - \eta \cdot \xi} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{n_i} (s_i - s_0)^2, \quad (8b)$$

376 where N is the total number of slowness measurements available at the location from different
 377 virtual sources.

378

379 4.2 Isotropic phase and group speed maps

380 Figures 10 and 11 show the resulting stacked isotropic phase and group speed maps for 3s,
 381 7s, and 11s Rayleigh waves with corresponding uncertainty distributions. The isotropic speed
 382 maps for Love waves are shown in Figs. S7&S8. Azimuthal anisotropy can also be derived for
 383 each location at different periods (e.g. Fig. S6), but in this paper, we only focus on the isotropic
 384 phase and group velocities. The anisotropy results will be discussed in a separated study.

385 The isotropic phase and group speed maps at 3s (top left of Fig. 10, 11, S7, and S8) agree
 386 well with the surface geology. Low velocity zones (LVZ) are observed at Southern Central
 387 Valley, basins (e.g. LA basin, Ventura basin, San Bernardino basin), Salton Trough, and
 388 complex fault junctions (e.g. SGP, the Trifurcation area in SJFZ). Higher velocities (~ 3 km/s) are
 389 seen in regions such as the Peninsular Ranges. The LVZ below the basins and Salton Trough
 390 show a flower-type structure (e.g. Zigone et al., 2015), width decreases with depth or period.
 391 Clear velocity contrasts are found across surface traces of the major faults (e.g. SJF, SAF). The
 392 Peninsular Ranges have the fastest velocity values of the entire map for all periods. Consistent
 393 with the increasing histogram peak velocity with period shown in Fig. 8, faster velocities are
 394 observed for the isotropic phase and group maps at longer periods. The obtained Rayleigh wave
 395 phase and group speed maps are generally similar to results from previous studies (Barak et al.,

396 2015; Zigone et al., 2015; Roux & Ben-Zion, 2017) in the overlapping area, with our phase and
397 group velocities being slightly slower beneath basins (e.g. LA basin and Ventura basin) and
398 showing sharper velocity contrast across the SAF southeast to the SGP at shorter periods (< 7 s).

399 The uncertainties, calculated using equation 8b, provide an estimate of the variability in
400 velocities derived from different virtual sources. Larger uncertainties are observed at shorter
401 periods. This may indicate the quality of isotropic speed maps is lower or the azimuthal
402 anisotropy (e.g. Fig. S6) is larger at the shorter period compared to those at the longer period. In
403 addition, while the spatial distribution of uncertainties is similar, larger values are also observed
404 for the group speed than the phase speed, as phase dispersion is intrinsically smoother and more
405 stable than group dispersion (eq. 3). In addition, we find larger uncertainty values at the edge of
406 the model (e.g. south of Salton Trough, Southern Central Valley), and this is due to a poor
407 azimuthal and station coverage. The uncertainty distributions for Love waves (Fig. S7&S8) show
408 a similar pattern but with generally larger values, as both the data quality is poorer and the depth
409 sensitivity is larger at shallower depths (Fig. S3) for Love waves than Rayleigh waves.

410

411 **5. Shear wave velocity inversion**

412 **5.1. Methodology**

413 In section 4.2, 2-D isotropic phase and group speed maps for Rayleigh and Love waves at
414 different periods are derived. These period-dependent isotropic phase and group speed maps can
415 be used to infer the V_s structure. In this study, we adopt the iterative 1-D V_s inversion scheme of
416 Herrmann (2013) to construct our final 3D shear wave velocity model for the SC plate boundary
417 region. We use the Southern California Community Velocity Models CVM-H15.1 as our
418 reference starting model.

419 In each of these 1-D V_s inversions, to avoid overshooting, we use a damping factor of 50 in
420 the first 3 iterations, and then lower it to 5 for another 20 iterations. In the process, we fix the
421 V_p/V_s ratio and Moho depth, and use the differential smoothing constraint to prevent unrealistic
422 (e.g. large jumps, oscillating-like) shape in the final inverted 1-D V_s profile. Once the final
423 inverted V_s profile is obtained, we correct the topography effect by simply subtracting the

424 elevation value from the depth of the Vs profile and assemble all the corrected 1-D Vs profiles to
 425 construct the final pseudo-3D Vs model for the entire region. To evaluate the performance of
 426 every 1D Vs inversion, we define misfit χ as

$$427 \quad \chi = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left[\left(v_i^{obs} - v_i^{pred} \right) / \sigma_i^{obs} \right]^2}, \quad (9)$$

428 where n is the number of input dispersion data points, v_i^{obs} and v_i^{pred} denote the input and model
 429 predicted dispersion wave speed for the i -th data point, σ_i^{obs} is the corresponding data
 430 uncertainty. A χ value less than 1 indicates, on average, the model predicted dispersion curves
 431 fit the input dispersion curves within the corresponding uncertainties. Therefore, we set a
 432 threshold of 2 to reject inverted Vs profiles with poor data fitting. In addition, we can also
 433 compute the χ value for the initial model and compare it with that of the final model to estimate
 434 the general variance reduction.

435 Due to the limited period range (i.e. 2.5-16s) of the input surface wave dispersion curves, the
 436 result of the inverted models can be somewhat sensitive to the reference starting model used, and
 437 this sensitivity can vary with depth. Figure 12 shows the comparison between the inverted 1-D
 438 Vs profiles obtained using CVM-H15.1 and CVM-S4.26 as the reference starting model at an
 439 example grid point near the SGP. Despite the differences in the reference starting model, the
 440 resulting misfits from both inversions are almost the same, and the inverted Vs profiles are also
 441 consistent between 3 km and 25 km, suggesting the inverted result in this depth range is well
 442 constrained by our data. However, large discrepancies are observed in the top 3 km and below
 443 the Moho, suggesting the Vs values are not well constrained beyond the 3-25 km depth range,
 444 and thus are heavily biased by the initial model. In order to further quantify how the inverted Vs
 445 values are constrained at different depths, we use an improved Neighborhood Algorithm (NA)
 446 developed by Wathelet (2008) to assess the non-uniqueness of the 1-D Vs inversion. By
 447 exploring the physical parameter space (i.e. layer thickness, V_p , V_s , and density), the NA
 448 method can find a collective of models that fits the dispersion data within a given misfit range
 449 (e.g. Sambridge, 1999). Here we use the variability of all these Vs models as a function of depth
 450 to infer the uncertainty.

451 Figure 13 shows an example of such exploration using NA at an example grid cell in the
452 SGP. In the example, we parameterize the 1-D model with 7 layers (6 layers with linearly
453 increasing V_s and flexible thickness + a bottom half space). After 200 iterations with 40,200
454 models being tested, we then select the series of 1-D V_s profiles with misfits less than 1.5 times
455 the lowest misfit of all models. The surviving 1-D V_s profiles are shown as the gray shaded area
456 in Fig. 12 and the uncertainties at each depth can be estimated as the corresponding width of the
457 gray shaded area. Consistent with what we observed in the comparison between inverted results
458 using different initial models (Fig. 12a), the uncertainty shows much larger values at shallow
459 depth (i.e. top 3 km) and below 25 km. Consistent observations are seen at several other grid
460 points that are located at some of the representative geologic provinces (Fig. S9), thus in later
461 sections, we only focus our discussions on the depth range of 3-25 km. For the V_s structures in
462 the top 3 km, one can defer to either the V_s model presented in Berg et al. (2018), in which
463 shallow structure is better constrained by H/V ratio, or the geotechnical layer added in the CVM-
464 H15.1 or CVM-S4.26.

465 As the V_s depth sensitivity kernels for Rayleigh wave dispersions are different from those of
466 Love wave dispersions (Fig. S3), joint inversion of both Rayleigh and Love wave dispersion
467 curves could imply stronger constraint in the V_s inversion. However, Rayleigh and Love wave
468 velocity dispersions are sensitive to different V_s structures, V_{SV} and V_{SH} , respectively. Thus,
469 following Zigone et al (2015), we only perform the V_s inversion separately for Rayleigh and
470 Love waves to account for differences both in data quality and (apparent) radial anisotropy (Fig.
471 S10). Considering the quality of the isotropic Rayleigh wave phase and group speed maps is
472 much higher than those for Love waves, we only focus on the discussion of the V_s model from
473 jointly inverting the Rayleigh wave phase and group dispersion curves, while the V_s model
474 derived from Love wave data can be found in the supplementary material.

475

476 **5.2. 3-D shear wave velocity model**

477 Figure 14 summarizes results associated with the linearized 1-D V_s joint inversions using
478 Rayleigh wave phase and group dispersion curves. The misfit corresponding to the CVM-H15.1
479 (Fig. 14a) and CVM-S4.26 (Fig. 14c) suggest that the surface wave dispersions predicted by the

480 initial models are, in general, inconsistent (i.e. large χ values) with the final results obtained
481 from the Eikonal tomography (Figs. 14b&d). The misfit distribution for the final inverted Vs
482 models is similar regardless of which initial model is used. We prefer the final Vs model inverted
483 using CVM-H15.1 as the initial model since: 1) Topography is considered in CVM-H15.1 but
484 ignored in CVM-S4.26; 2) The misfit histogram suggests a slightly smaller χ value for CVM-
485 H15.1 than CVM-S4.26; 3). Also, the 1-D Vs profiles of CVM-H15.1 are generally simpler than
486 those of CVM-S4.26 (e.g. Fig. 12).

487 Map views of the final Vs model and differences from the initial model CVM-H15.1 at
488 depths of 3 km, 5 km, 7 km, 10 km, 15 km, and 20 km are shown in Figs. 15, 16, and 17. Since
489 the Vs inversion is performed at each individual grid node, the lateral resolution of the resulting
490 Vs maps is comparable to those of the surface wave speed maps estimated in section 4.1 (i.e. 5-
491 15 km near the center and 15-30 km near the edge). The largest differences are observed
492 underneath basins, such as the Salton Trough, and part of ECSZ for depth between 3 km and 10
493 km. This is consistent with the fact that the χ misfit values are significantly reduced in these
494 regions (Fig. S11). In general, we observe the following prominent features:

495 1). The Southern Central Valley is characterized by LVZ and it changes rapidly to high
496 velocity Sierra Nevada foothills. This is consistent with the surface geology and previous
497 tomographic imaging results (e.g. Tape et al., 2010; Lee et al., 2014; Berg et al., 2018).

498 2). The Ventura and LA basins are well confined and highlighted by the slowest velocities of
499 the entire map in the top 3-7 km.

500 3). A LVZ is observed within the junction southeast to SGP between SJF and SAF.

501 4). Clear LVZ with a width of ~ 20 km is observed centered on the section of SAF southeast
502 of the SGP (Fig. 17). This is consistent with results obtained by Share et al. (2019). Different
503 from the initial model (Fig. S12), this LVZ likely reflecting fault damage is still clearly observed
504 up to a depth of 5 km. A LVZ is also observed around the SJF in the top 5 km.

505 5). We observe a clear north-south oriented fast velocity block that cuts through the SGP at 5
506 km and 7 km depth, leading to a flipping of the velocity contrast polarity across the fast velocity
507 anomaly. This agrees well with the observation of velocity contrast reversal across the SAF
508 northwest and southeast of the SGP (Share & Ben-Zion, 2016),

509 6) The V_s around the ECSZ is much slower after the inversion, particularly for the region
510 north to SGP for depths from 5 km to 10 km (Fig. 17), which corresponds well with the area that
511 has large damage volume in Ben-Zion and Zaliapin (2019).

512 7) The Salton Trough is imaged with a well-defined shape of LVZ extended to depth 7 km in
513 our final V_s model. Compared to the initial model, the velocities are much slower (~ 0.3 km/s) in
514 the top 3-7 km.

515 8) Different from the initial model, a clear shift in the velocity contrast interface location is
516 observed by comparing V_s at 10 km and 15 km for our final V_s model at the south SAF (Fig.
517 17), indicating a northeast dipping fault plane.

518 9) The highest velocities are observed in the Peninsular Ranges, and a sharp velocity contrast
519 from west to east at greater depth (7-15 km; white vertical line in Fig. 17) that corresponds to the
520 Hemet step-over (Marliyani et al., 2013) is observed much clearly in the final model.

521 10) Velocity contrasts across major faults (e.g. SAF, SJF) previously imaged in other
522 tomography (e.g. Fang et al., 2016; Share et al., 2019) and fault zone head wave studies (Share
523 and Ben-Zion, 2016, 2018) are observed clearly in the final V_s model.

524 Figure 18 presents V_s profiles for six cross-sections crossing the SAF at different locations
525 from the north (AA') to south (FF'). In each profile, V_s structures between 3 km and 20 km are
526 displayed. These cross-sections show the following features:

527 1) The LA basin is deeper, with a maximum depth of ~ 10 km, and larger in our final V_s
528 model than the initial model. This is consistent with the LA basin inferred from the geology-
529 based velocity model of Magistrale et al. (1996), which has an average depth of ~ 5 km and
530 maximum depth of 10 km.

531 2) Beneath the LA basin, there is a low-velocity fault-plane-like block dipping towards the
532 northeast.

533 3) The SJF is identified as a near-vertical-dipping fault in DD' centered on a localized LVZ.

534 4) Pronounced deep (15-20 km) low velocity body is found beneath SGP, which is likely
535 linked to large damage volume indicated in the study of Ben-Zion and Zaliapin (2019).

536 5) The south SAF is found to be a localized fault associated with a velocity contrast interface
537 and dipping to the northwest.

538 6) Localized LVZ with much slower ($\sim 0.2\text{-}0.3$ km/s) velocities extend to 7 km beneath the
539 ECSZ. These features are seen much more clearly in our final Vs model compared to the CVM-
540 H15.1 (Fig. S13).

541

542 **6. Discussion & Conclusions**

543 We obtain 3-D tomographic images of S wave velocities with a grid size of 0.05° in the SC
544 plate boundary region using Eikonal tomography (Lin et al., 2009; section 4) and 1-D linearized
545 Vs inversion scheme (Herrmann, 2013; section 5). The study employed one year of continuous
546 seismic data recorded on more than 300 stations in SC. The preprocessing steps discussed in
547 Zigone et al. (2015) are first utilized to compute reliable daily ANC for every station pair
548 throughout the year (section 2), and then phase and group travel time dispersion relations are
549 extracted automatically from the surface waves reconstructed from all the one-year stacked
550 cross-correlation function (section 3). The Eikonal tomography allows for rapid derivation of
551 statistically robust and reliable isotropic Rayleigh and Love wave phase and group velocities
552 between 2.5s and 16s. The final 3-D Vs model, with resolutions of 5-15 km in the center and 15-
553 30 km near the edge, is inferred by jointly inverting the resulting isotropic phase and group
554 dispersion curves through a series of 1-D linearized Vs inversions at all the grid points.

555 The study incorporates the following methodological improvements:

556 1). An automatic surface wave dispersion-picking algorithm based on frequency-time
557 analysis is developed. To maximize the number of measurements at shorter periods (e.g. ≤ 3 s)
558 while simultaneously minimizing false detections, we perform the automatic picking procedure
559 not only on the symmetric signals but also on both the positive and negative time lags of the
560 correlations. Comparisons between results obtained from different components of the correlation
561 functions help filtering out erroneous measurements identified through inconsistency.

562 2). The determination of phase travel time dispersion picking employs model-predicted travel
563 time dispersion curve from the CVM-S4.26 to avoid cycle skipping (N in equation 2).

564 3). The group travel time dispersion picked using the method of several earlier studies (e.g.
565 Barak et al., 2015; Zigone et al., 2015) is found to be sensitive to noise and has larger
566 uncertainty. We therefore derive group traveltimes dispersion using the obtained phase travel time

567 dispersion following equation 3, which improves the accuracy of the measurements (Figs.
568 6d&7a).

569 4). In addition to the quality control criteria developed in Lin et al. (2009), we introduce
570 station configuration error to identify regions that have unreliable gradient estimates due to poor
571 data coverage (section 4.1; Fig. S5). This further improves the quality of the final stacked
572 velocities.

573 5). We use both the phase and group dispersion curves to invert for Vs structures, which
574 yields better inversion results (section 5.1).

575 6). The resolvability of the iterative 1-D Vs inversion is determined typically qualitatively
576 using depth sensitivity kernels of surface wave velocity (Fig. S3; e.g. Zigone et al., 2015). Here
577 we use a neighborhood algorithm (Wathelet 2008; Zigone et al., 2019) to evaluate the non-
578 uniqueness of the inversion quantitatively. The resulting uncertainties show small values at the
579 depth range of ~3-25km, at which the Vs profiles inverted using different initial models are
580 consistent. This suggests that although Rayleigh wave group velocities at 3s have sufficient
581 sensitivity and can constrain the Vs structures in the top 3 km (e.g. Barak et al., 2015; Zigone et
582 al., 2015), the Vs values in the top 3 km from such 1-D inversion are non-unique and likely be
583 biased by the initial model.

584 The resulting tomographic model of Vs using Rayleigh wave data is consistent overall with
585 previous inferences on the large-scale velocity structure in SC (e.g. Tape et al., 2010; Allam et
586 al., 2012; Lee et al., 2014; Zigone et al., 2015; Barak et al., 2015; Fang et al., 2016; Berg et al.,
587 2018; Share et al., 2019). However, we find a large discrepancy between the surface wave
588 dispersions obtained in this study and those predicted by the SCEC community velocity models,
589 particularly for regions inside the basins and around fault zones (Figs. S11&S15). The surface
590 wave imaging results derived in the current study provide likely better results on these structural
591 features owing to the denser data and methodology improvements included in the current study.
592 In addition, we observed several important features not included in the initial models including a
593 reversed polarity of the velocity contrast across the segments of SAF that are southeast and
594 northwest to the SGP and a northeast dipping SAF southeast to the SGP.

595 Comparisons between our model results and the distribution of rock damage estimated in
596 Ben-Zion and Zaliapin (2019) from the background seismicity yields a good correlation between

597 the LVZ and large estimated damage volumes in the ECSZ (Fig. 17) and at depths of ~15-20 km
598 beneath the SGP (DD' of Fig. 18). The low velocity anomalies in the ECSZ seem to coincide
599 with the rupture zones of the M6.1 Joshua Tree, M7.3 Landers, and M6.3 Big Bear earthquakes
600 happened in 1992. The large damage volume beneath the SGP may be related (Lyakhovsky &
601 Ben-Zion, 2009) to a significant change in Moho geometry below the South-Central Transverse
602 Ranges (Zhu & Kanamori, 2000; Ozakin & Ben-Zion, 2015).

603 Compared to the initial models, our final Vs model better characterizes the fault zones in the
604 upper crust, which are illuminated by LVZ centered on the fault surface traces in the top 3-7 km.
605 Interestingly, the LVZ underneath the SJF is less significant compared to initial models,
606 particularly beneath the trifurcation area, suggesting the area may not be as localized as the south
607 SAF. In addition, we observe a low velocity strip beneath the LA basin dipping northward to ~15
608 km depth with an angle of ~30° (CC' of Fig. 18). The estimated surface location, dipping
609 direction and angle, and depth range of the low velocity strip coincide with features of the Puente
610 Hills blind-thrust system imaged by Shaw et al. (2002). The estimated ~3-5% velocity reduction
611 of the low velocity strip compared to the surrounding structures (CC' of Fig. 18) is consistent
612 with the fact that the Puente Hills blind-thrust system is capable of generating Mw6.0+
613 earthquake (Shaw et al., 2002).

614 The results from noise-based Eikonal tomography significantly improve the fitting of the
615 Rayleigh wave dispersion measurements (Fig. 14) by updating the Vs structures in the top 3-20
616 km for the southern California plate boundary region, particularly near fault surface traces. To
617 obtain reliable Vs structures in the top 3 km, either surface wave velocity dispersion at higher
618 frequencies (e.g. > 1 Hz; Lin et al., 2013) or joint inversion with other types of measurements
619 such as Rayleigh wave H/V ratio (e.g. Berg et al., 2018) are required. Our new model shows
620 more detailed features in the upper crust (section 5.2) than the initial models; however, the
621 results should be validated by comparing synthetic waveforms using this model to ANC or
622 recordings of local earthquakes (e.g. Ma et al., 2008; Taborda et al., 2016; Fang et al., 2016). In
623 addition, the final 3-D velocity model is constructed based on a two-step inversion scheme and
624 the assumption that the amplitude field is sufficiently smooth. This implies that the model may
625 not perform well in explaining earthquake waveforms recorded around and inside basins, which
626 can potentially be improved by using the Helmholtz tomography (equation 4b).

627 The final Vs model using Love wave data is shown in Figs. S14-S19. Consistent features in
628 the Vs structures are observed, including as misfit histogram and distribution (Figs. S14&S15),
629 localized LVZ in the top 5 km related to fault damage (Fig. S16), fault-like-structure with a
630 dipping angle of $\sim 30^\circ$ beneath LA basin, and prominent low velocity body located between 15-
631 20 km depth beneath SGP (Fig. S17). Some discrepancies are found between the derived Vs
632 models from Rayleigh and Love waves, such as the observation of dipping SAF is clear in the
633 Rayleigh wave results (EE' & FF' in Fig. 18) but not in those of Love waves (Fig. S18). These
634 differences appear to be quite large particularly below 7 km. Since a non-negligible ray bending
635 is observed in the surface wave propagation (e.g. Fig. 9), the transverse component of the ANC
636 is no longer normal to the interstation path; a correction in the TT tensor rotation may result in a
637 smaller discrepancy between results using Rayleigh and Love waves. The observed differences
638 between imaging results using data from Rayleigh and Love waves suggest the existence of
639 significant apparent radial anisotropy, which may be caused by transverse isotropy (e.g.
640 Moschetti et al., 2010a) or 3D structural effects (e.g. Levshin & Ludmila Ratnikova, 1984). The
641 radial and 2-psi azimuthal anisotropy can provide additional information on crustal properties
642 (e.g. Moschetti et al., 2010b; Lin et al., 2011) in the study region and will be the subject of a
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644

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655

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866

867 **Figure Captions**

868 Figure 1. Location map of 346 (299 three-component sensor in red) seismic stations
869 (triangles) used for imaging the Southern California (SC) plate boundary region. Ambient noise
870 cross-correlations (ANC) computed at two example station pairs (green lines) are shown in Fig.
871 3. The green square shows the location of the grid point used in Fig. 12. Surface traces of large
872 faults together with the state and national boundaries are shown as black lines. Localities of the
873 major faults and geologic provinces in SC are labeled. Cross sections of the final inverted shear
874 wave velocities (V_s) are shown for the blue lines crossing San Andreas Fault at various locations
875 in Fig. 18.

876 Figure 2. Flow chart of the procedures to obtain shear wave velocity model using Rayleigh
877 waves extracted from the vertical-vertical (ZZ) component one-year stacked ANC. Same process
878 can be applied to Love waves extracted from transverse-transverse (TT) component data.

879 Figure 3. Daily ANC for the entire year 2014 computed at Vertical – Vertical (ZZ)
880 component of the (a) coast-parallel pair DJJ–GOR and (b) coast perpendicular pair GSC–SDD.
881 Red, green and blue represent positive, zero and negative amplitude values, respectively. The
882 black dashed lines outline Rayleigh wave signals at both positive and negative time lags. (c) One
883 year stacked cross-correlation at components of ZZ, TT, RR, ZR, ZT, and RT computed at
884 station pair DJJ-GOR. (d) Same as (c) for pair GSC-SDD. Noise source directionality is clearly
885 observed in both pairs and for all components as evidenced from differences in negative and
886 positive time lags of the ANC.

887 Figure 4. The top black trace shows the one-year stacked ZZ component correlation function
888 recorded at station pair GSC-SDD. The corresponding symmetric signal, by folding and
889 averaging (FA) the positive and negative time lags, is displayed in red. The symmetric signal is
890 then filtered at periods 2s, 3s, 5s, 7s, 10s, 15s, and 20s, and the filtered waveform and
891 corresponding envelope are shown in blue and black, respectively. The surface wave window is
892 defined as an average velocity range of 1.5 km/s to 4.5 km/s, whereas an average velocity less
893 than 1.5 km/s outlines the noise window. Signal to noise ratio (SNR) is calculated for each
894 envelope global peak (red star). Reference phase traveltimes calculated using the

895 CVM-S4.26 is illustrated as the red dashed curve. The blue star shows the location of a local
896 maximum of the envelope filtered at 2s.

897 Figure 5. Example of frequency-time analysis performed on the symmetric correlation
898 function shown in Fig. 4. (a) The symmetric correlation (black) is first tapered using a window
899 bounded by the moveout range of 4 km/s and 1.5 km/s. (b) The waveform after tapering and
900 filtering using a Gaussian narrow bandpass filter centered at period 7s is denoted by the blue
901 signal. Phase and envelope functions are calculated and shown in red and black, respectively.
902 The white star indicates the envelope peak with the corresponding travel time showing as green
903 dashed lines. (c) Frequency-time diagram. After applying a series of Gaussian narrow bandpass
904 filters centered on periods from 2s to 20s on the tapered signal shown in (a), envelope functions
905 are arranged by the corresponding center periods. The amplitudes are illustrated as colors from
906 blue to red indicating values from 0 to the maximum. The envelope shown in (b) is depicted at
907 the white dashed lines. The red dashed curve denotes the reference phase travelttime dispersion
908 curve calculated using model CVM-S4.26. Local and global maximums of all the envelope
909 functions are shown as symbols of black plus & green circles, and red circles, respectively. Here
910 we discard any envelope maximums (black plus) that are below the black dashed lines.

911 Figure 6. Rayleigh wave group and phase travel time dispersion results for example station
912 pair GSC-SDD. (a) The black solid curve represents the group travel time dispersions measured
913 using waveform at the symmetric signal. The corresponding phase travel time dispersion is
914 shown as the red solid curve. The blue dashed curve represents the model predicted phase travel
915 time dispersion using CVM-S4.26. Phase travel time dispersions with one cycle skipped
916 ($N=N_0\pm 1$ in eq. 2; red dashed curves) are shown for visual comparison. (b) Same as (a) measured
917 at the negative time lag. (c) Same as (a) using the positive time lag. (d) Comparison of all the
918 group (black dashed) and phase (red dashed) dispersion results. The blue and green solid curves
919 represent the final phase and group dispersion measurements.

920 Figure 7. Derivation of group travelttime dispersion curve for Rayleigh waves. Panel on the
921 left shows the measured phase travelttime dispersion curve (solid blue curve in Fig. 6d) in term of
922 average velocity as red dots. A 1-D Vs inversion is performed to fit the phase dispersion starting
923 with the 1-D Vs profile (black curve in the right panel) averaged over the entire CVM-S4.26 as
924 the initial model. The phase dispersion curve (red curve in left panel) of the best fitting 1-D Vs

925 profile (red curve in right panel) gives the smoothed phase dispersion curve, and the
926 corresponding group dispersion (black curve in the left panel) is calculated following equation 3.

927 Figure 8. Histograms of phase (blue) and group (orange) travel time measurements for
928 Rayleigh (top panels) and Love (bottom panels) waves at 3s (left panels), 7s (middle panels), and
929 11s (right panels). The total number of the travel time measurements for each histogram is
930 indicated as well.

931 Figure 9. Eikonal phase velocity maps computed at period 7s by using stations (a) GOR, (b)
932 GSC, (c) IRM, and (d) OLI as the virtual source. Azimuths of the gradient are illustrated with
933 arrows.

934 Figure 10. Isotropic phase velocities (a-c) and corresponding uncertainty distributions (d-f) of
935 Rayleigh waves at 3s, 7s, 11s.

936 Figure 11. Same as Fig. 10 for isotropic Rayleigh wave group velocity.

937 Figure 12. (a) Illustration of the iterative 1-D Vs inversion of Herrmann (2013) at an example
938 grid cell in San Gorgonio Pass located at $-117^\circ, 34^\circ$. The left panel shows the comparison
939 between the Rayleigh wave group (in blue) and phase (in red) velocity dispersion measurements
940 (solid circles) and the best fitting results (solid curves). The error bar indicates the uncertainty
941 estimated from eikonal tomography (eq. 8b). Rayleigh wave dispersion curves of the initial
942 model are also displayed as dashed curves. The χ misfit values for both the initial and best fitting
943 1-D Vs profiles are indicated at the top left corner. The black and red curves in the right panel
944 denote the initial (CVM-H15.1) and best fitting 1-D Vs models. An estimation of non-uniqueness
945 of the 1-D inversion is illustrated by the gray shaded area given by Fig. 13d. The depth
946 dependent width of the gray shaded area is indicative of the inversion uncertainty and shown as
947 the gray curve. (b) Same as (a) for using CVM-S4.26 as the initial model. The blue curve in the
948 right panel represents the best fitting 1-D Vs profile obtained in (a).

949 Figure 13. Illustration of Neighborhood Algorithm (Wathelet, 2008) inversion results. The 1-
950 D Vp and Vs profiles explored in the inversion are colored according to their misfit, and those
951 with misfit values less than 1.46 are shown in (a) and (b). The corresponding group and phase
952 velocity dispersion curves are displayed in (c) and (d). Models with misfit larger than 1.5 times

953 the minimum misfit value (i.e. 0.41) are discarded, and the minimum and maximum of all the
954 acceptable 1-D Vs profiles at different depth depict the gray shaded area shown in Fig. 12.

955 Figure 14. Histograms of probability (in gray; PDF) and cumulative (blue curve; CDF)
956 density distributions for χ misfit. (a) χ misfit values computed for CVM-H15.1 following
957 equation 9 for all available grid cells. (b) Same as (a) for the best fitting Vs model using CVM-
958 H15.1 as the initial model. (c) Same as (a) for CVM-S4.26. (d) Same as (a) for the besting fitting
959 Vs model using CVM-S4.26 as the initial model. The corresponding spatial distributions of the
960 χ misfit values are shown in Fig. S11.

961 Figure 15. Left panels show map view of the final inverted Vs model at 3 km (top), 5 km
962 (middle), and 7 km (bottom) depths. The Vs model within the black box (top left panel) are
963 displayed using a narrower color palette in Fig. 17. Model CVM-H15.1 is used as the initial
964 model here, and the right panels illustrate the differences in Vs between the final and initial Vs
965 models at 3 km, 5 km, and 7 km depths. See Figure S12 for corresponding Vs maps of the initial
966 model.

967 Figure 16. Same as Fig. 15 at depths of 10 km (top), 15 km (middle), and 20 km (bottom).

968 Figure 17. Zoom in of Vs maps for regions near SJF and SAF (black box in left top panel of
969 Fig. 15) at depths 3 km (top left), 5 km (middle left), 7 km (bottom left), 10 km (top right), 15
970 km (middle right), and 20 km (bottom right). The white ellipses outline the major features (i.e.
971 low velocity anomaly and velocity contrast) that are more prominent in the final Vs model than
972 the initial model.

973 Figure 18. Cross sections of the final inverted Vs model at locations indicated as blue lines in
974 Fig. 1. Localities of major faults, basins, and geomorphic provinces are labeled on the top
975 topography curve. The red dashed lines beneath LA basin at profile CC' denote a linear low
976 velocity zone that is likely associated with the Puente Hills blind-thrust system (Shaw et al.,
977 2002). In addition, a deep low velocity anomaly outlined by the black dashed circle at profile
978 DD' may be related to the large damage volume estimated in Ben-Zion & Zaliapin (2019). The
979 black dashed lines at cross sections DD', EE', and FF' denote the potential fault planes of SAF

980 or SJF. See Figure S13 for corresponding cross sections of the initial model (CVM-H) and the
981 perturbations.

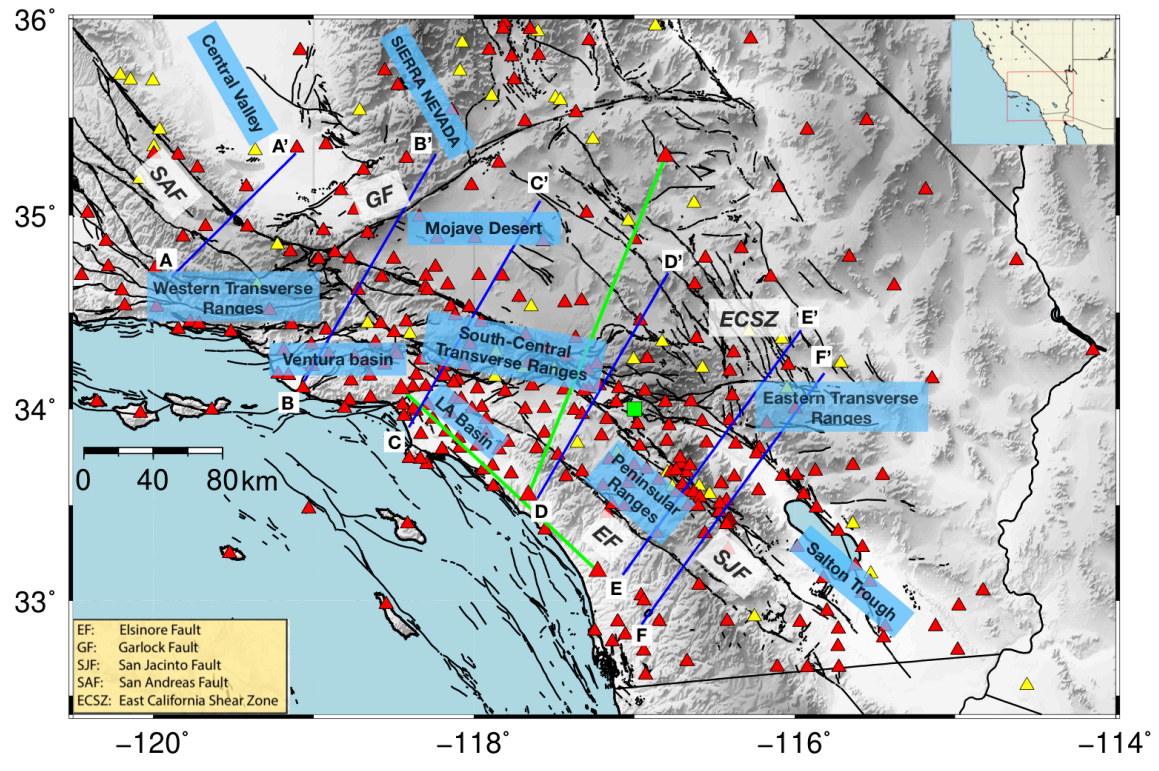


Figure 1

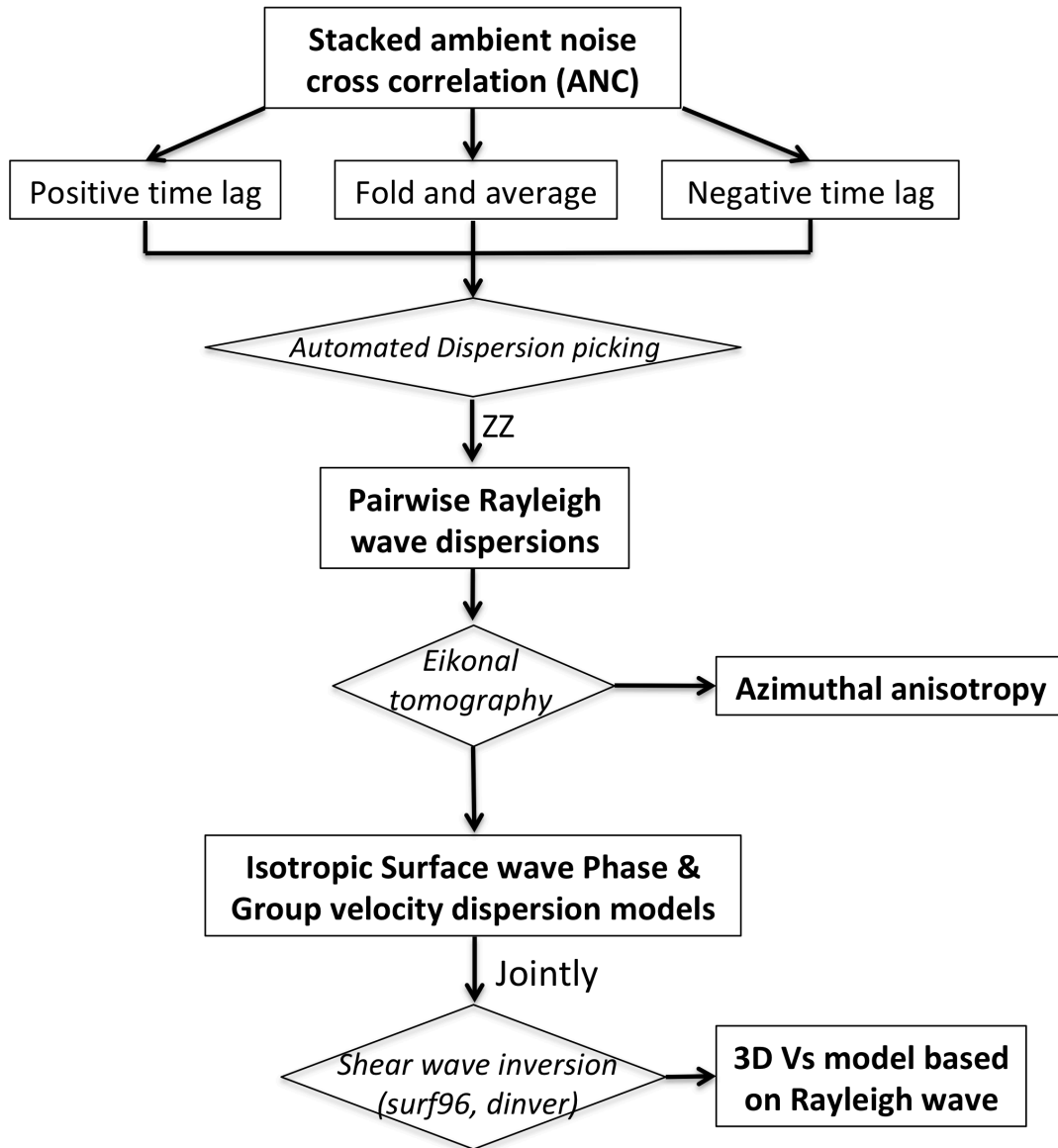


Figure 2

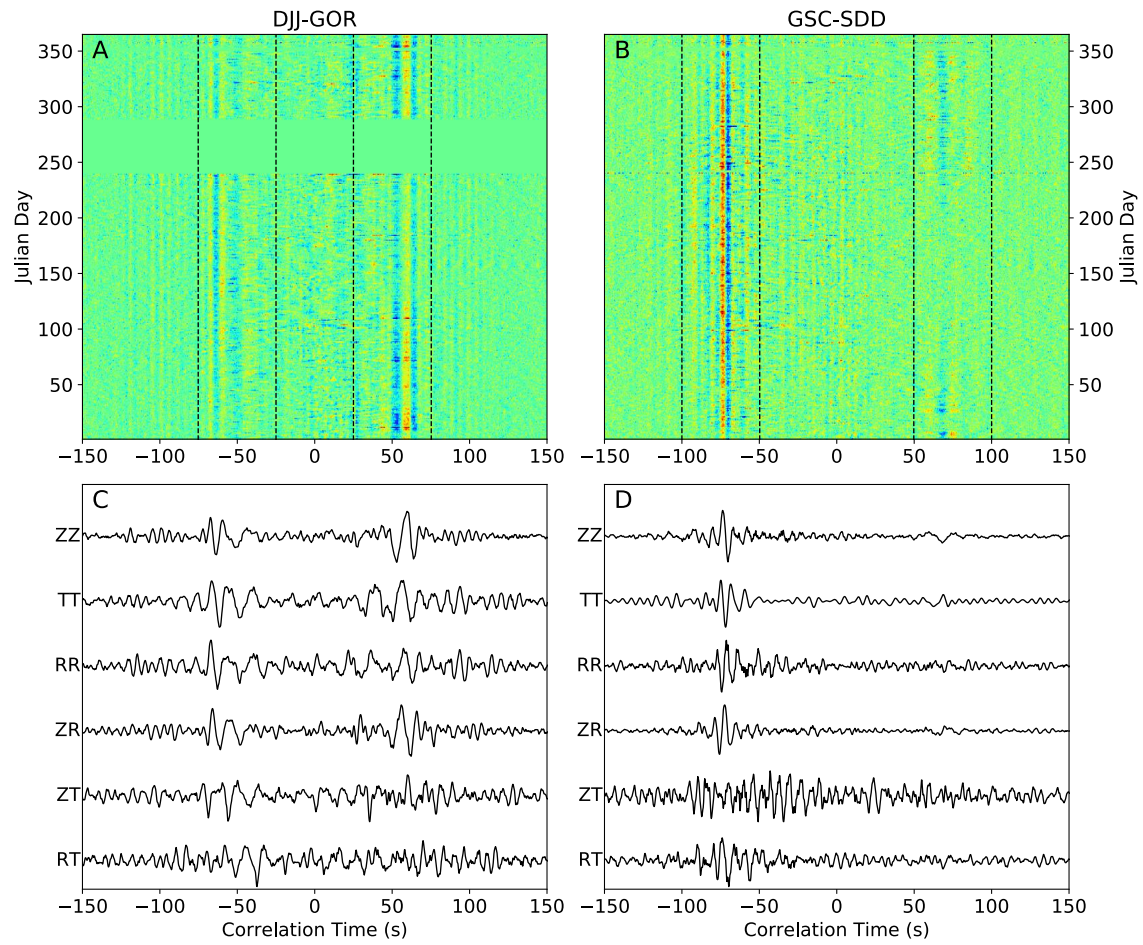


Figure 3

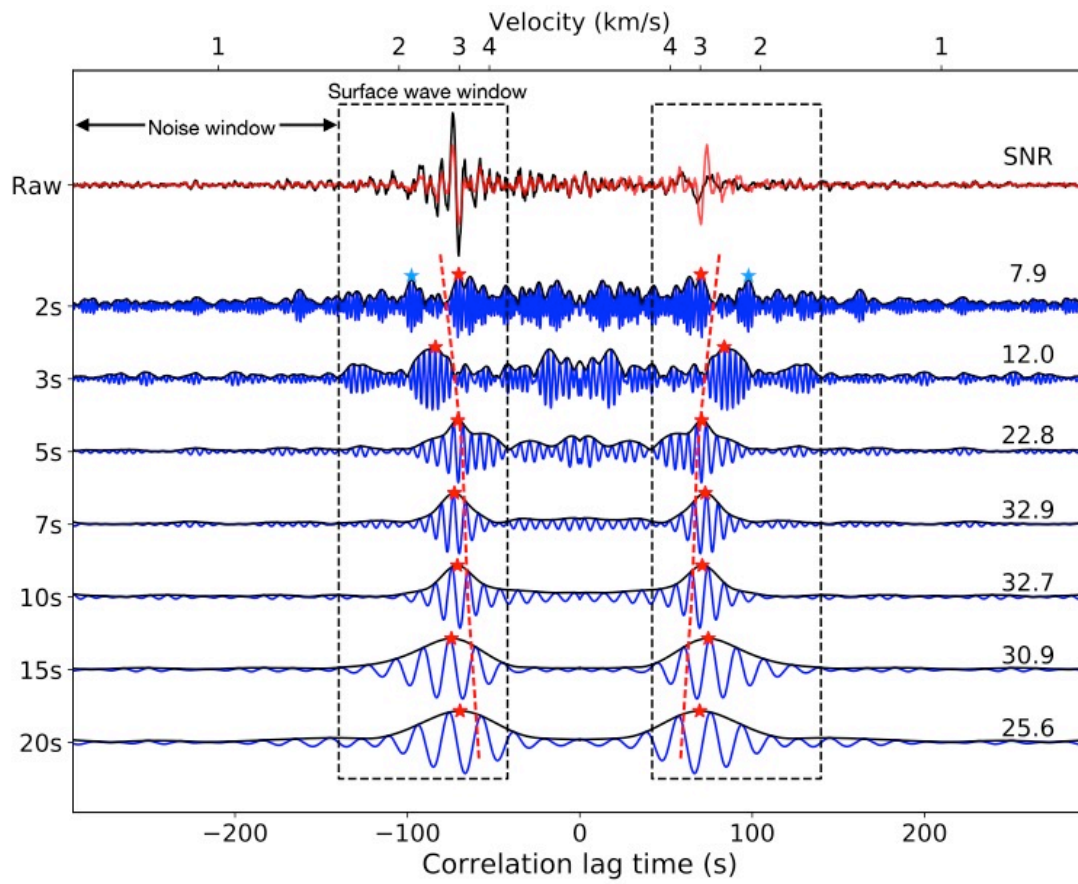


Figure 4

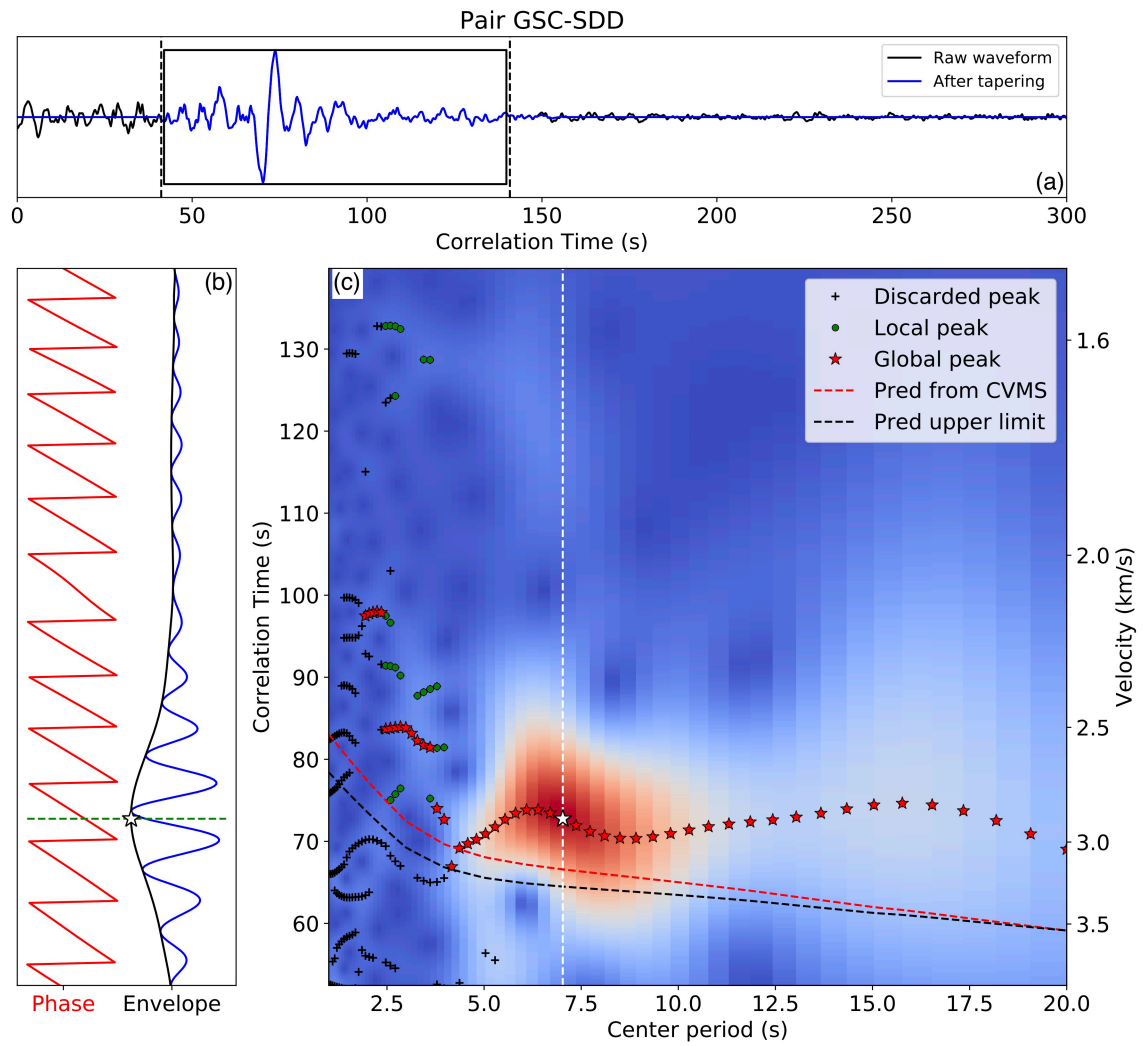


Figure 5

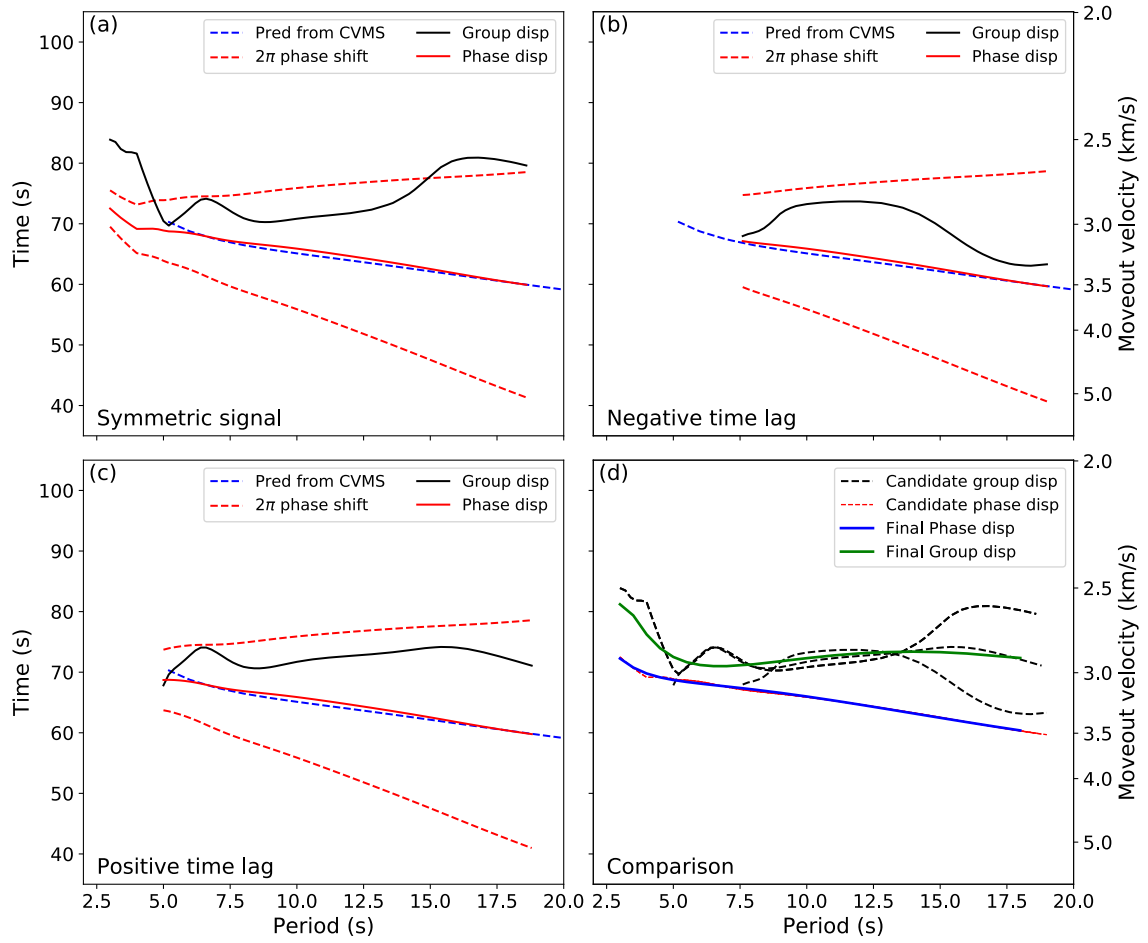


Figure 6

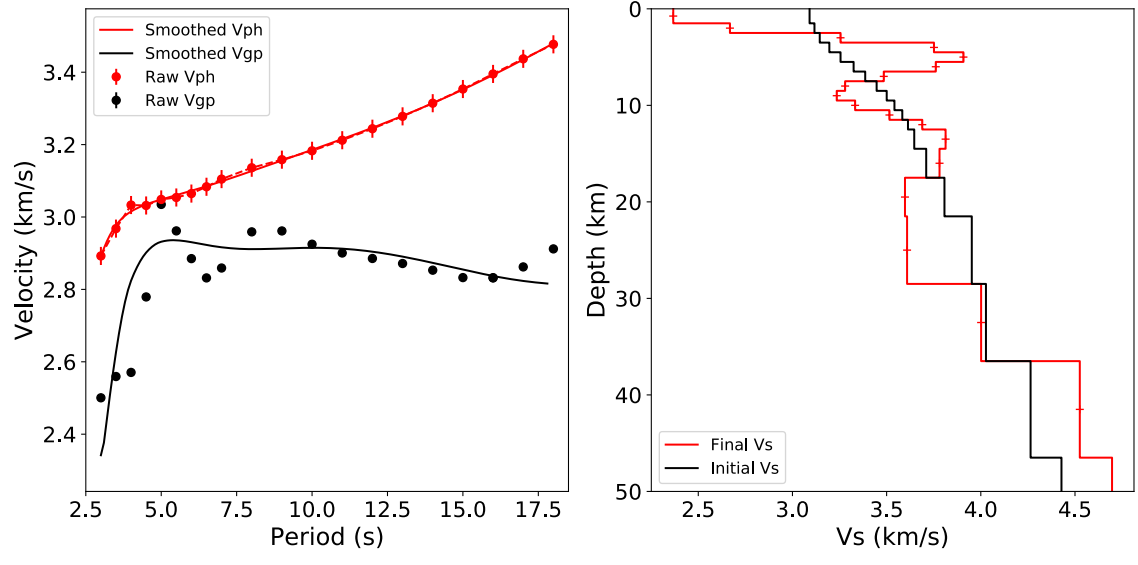


Figure 7

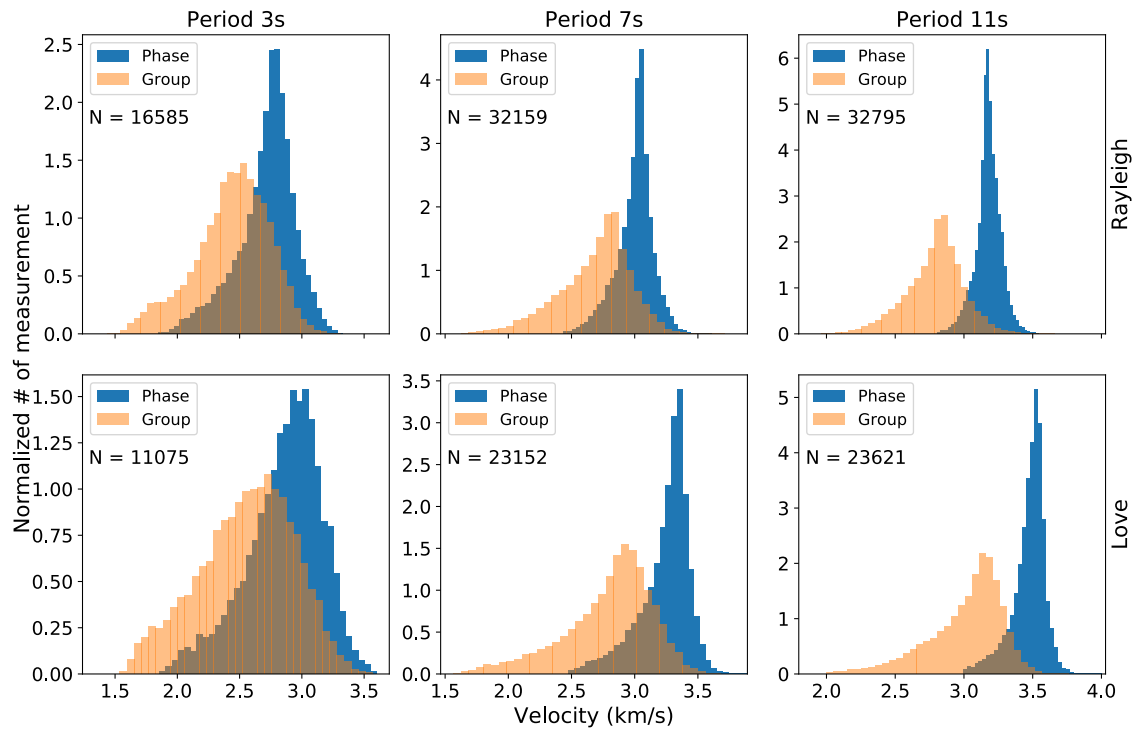


Figure 8

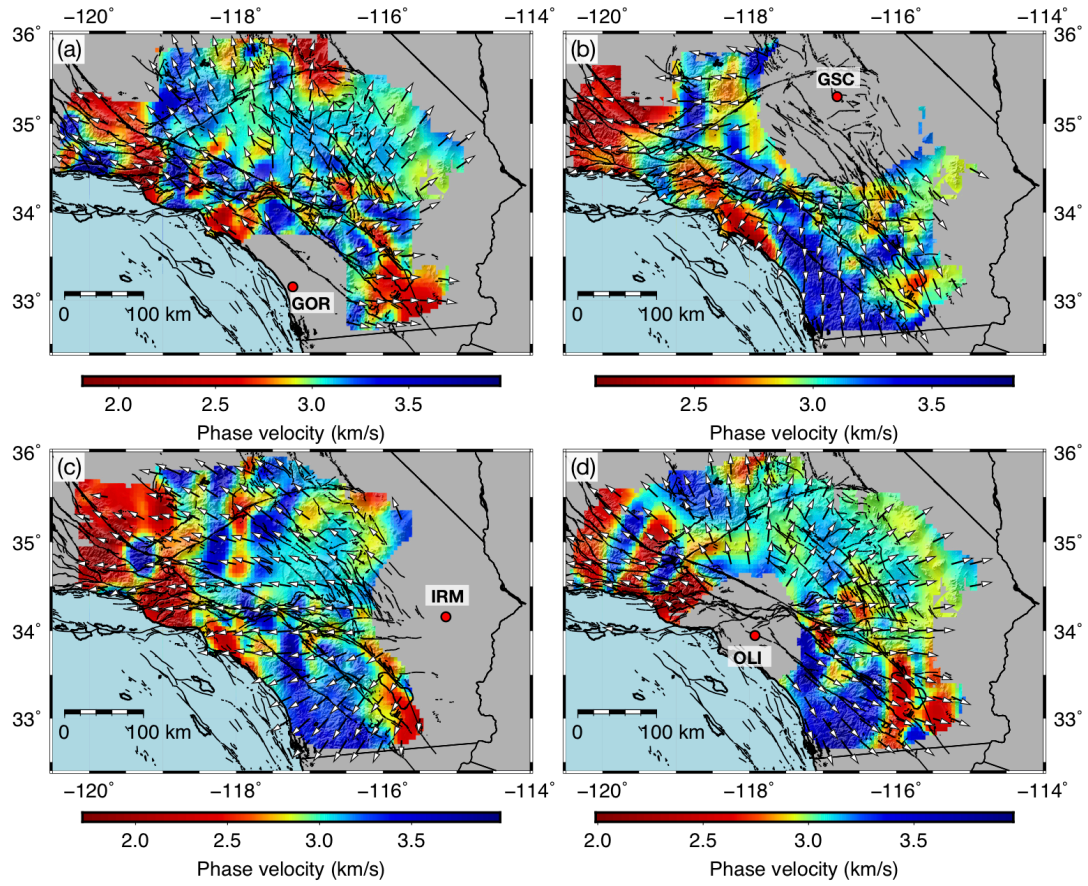


Figure 9

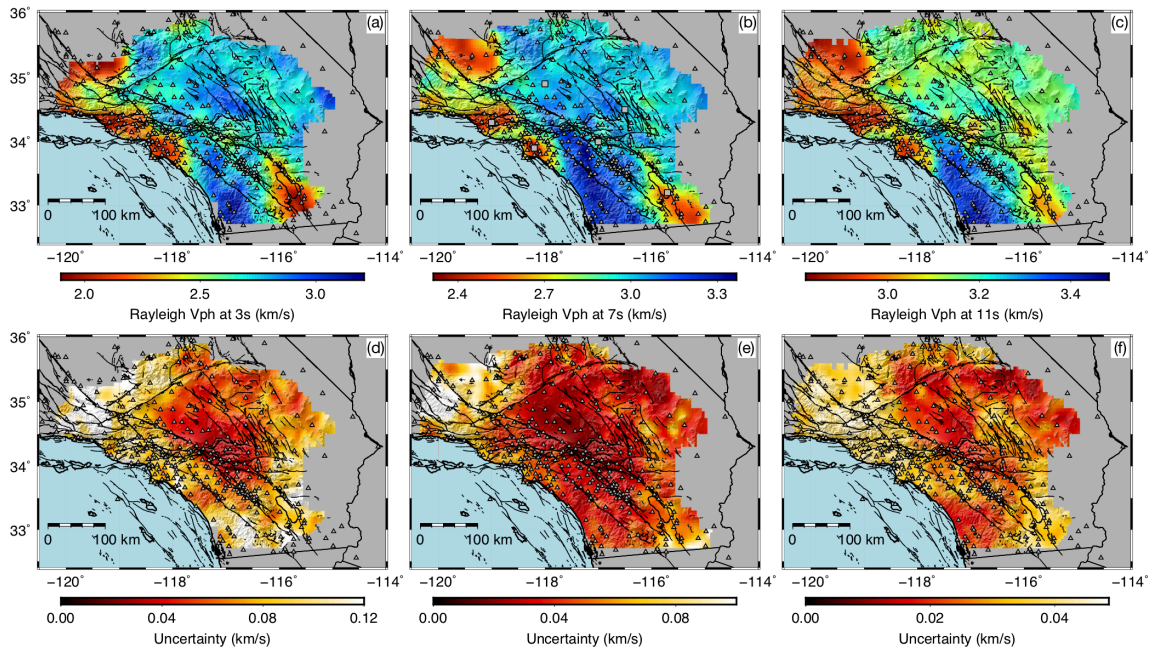


Figure 10

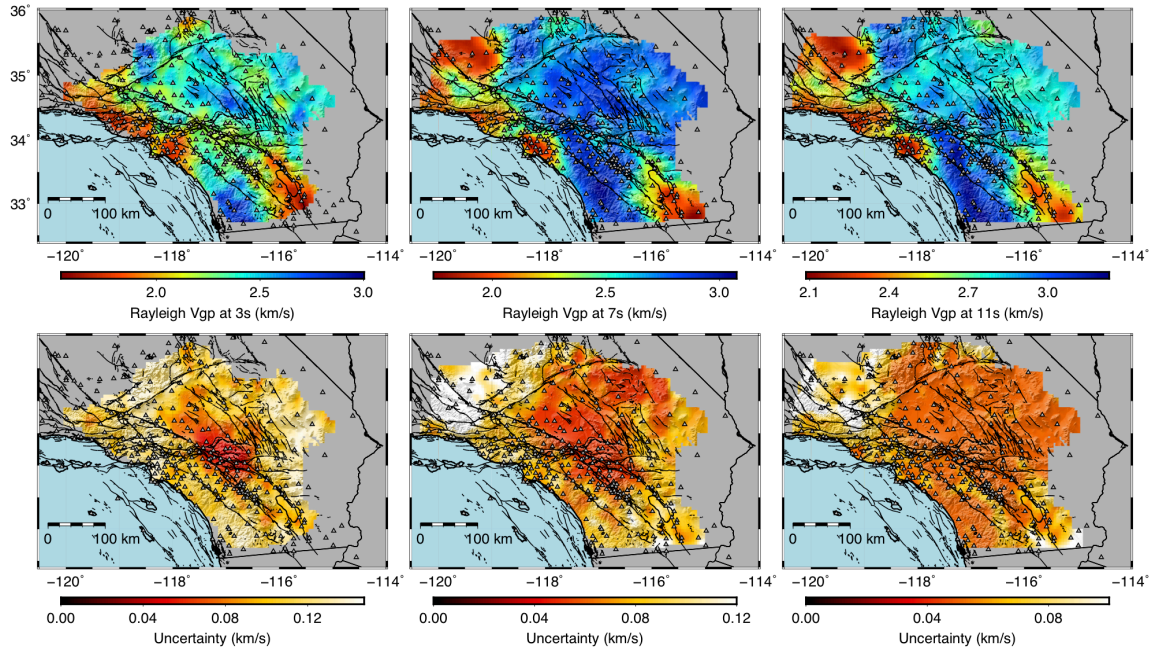


Figure 11

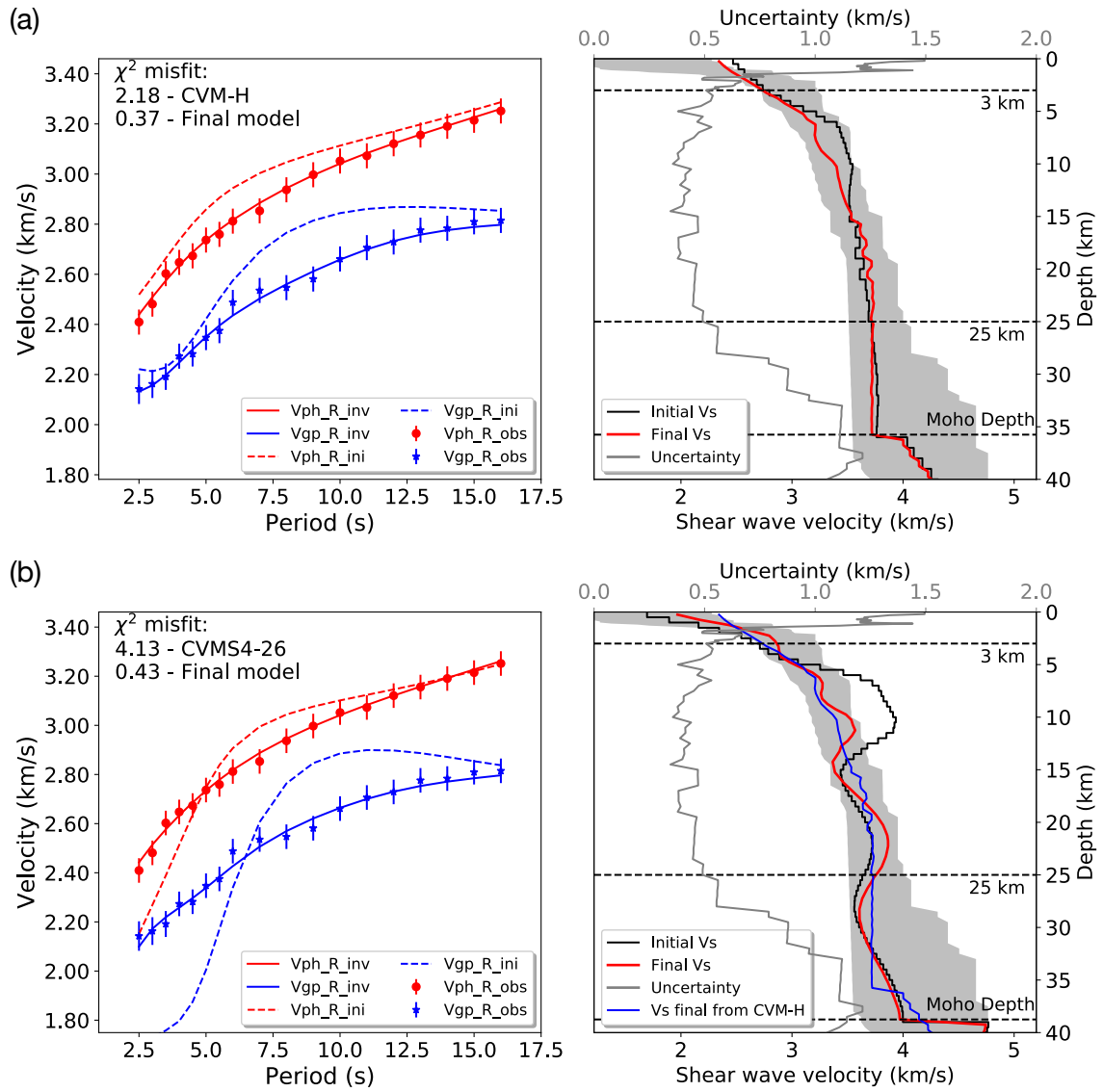


Figure 12

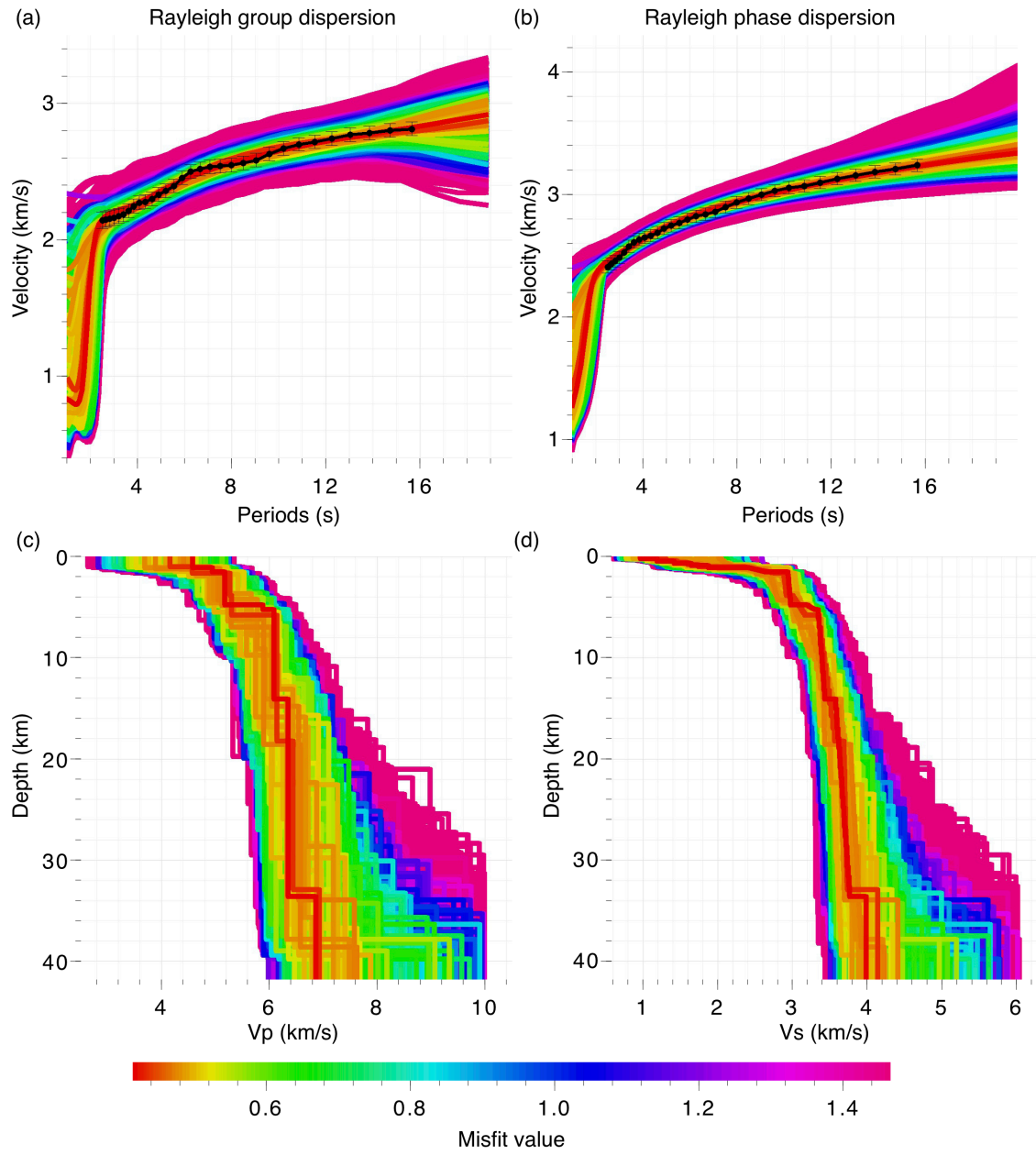


Figure 13

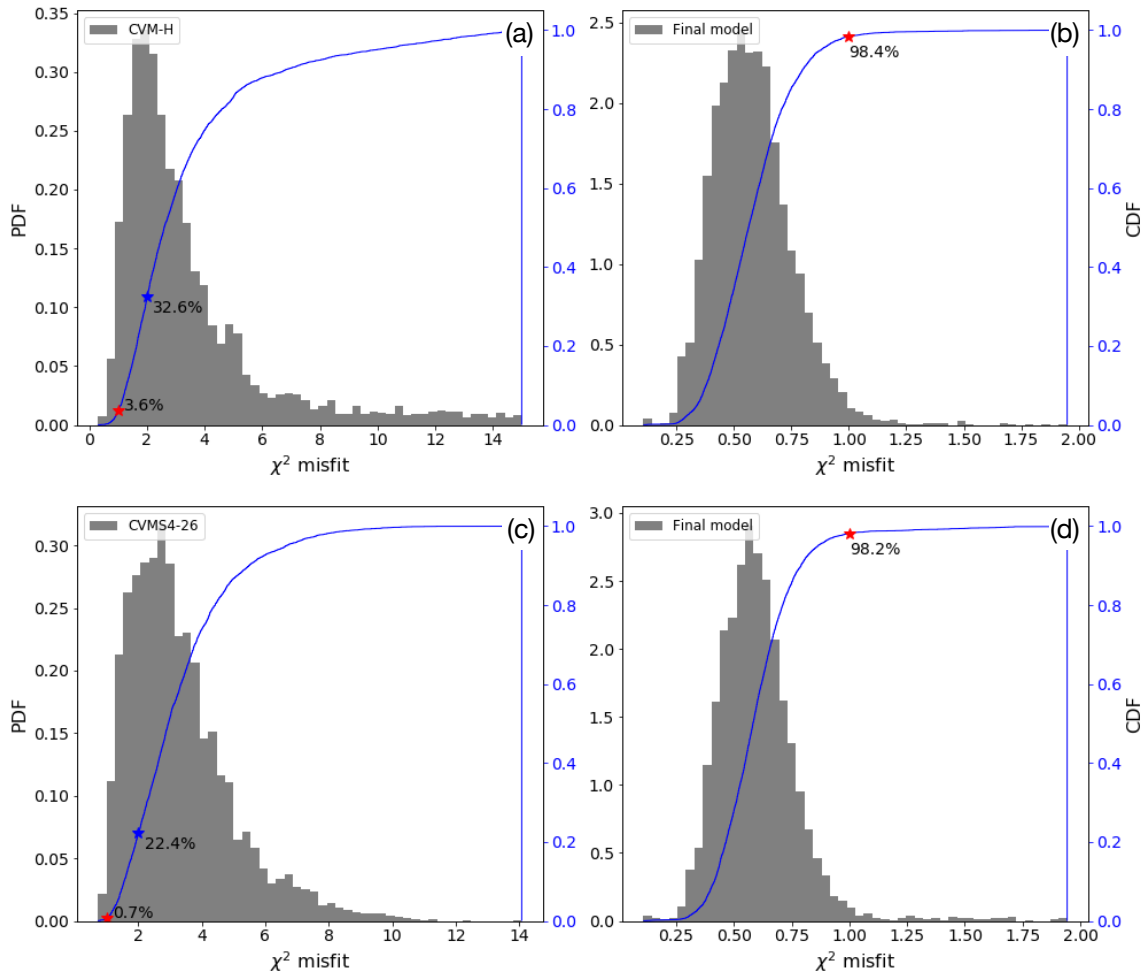


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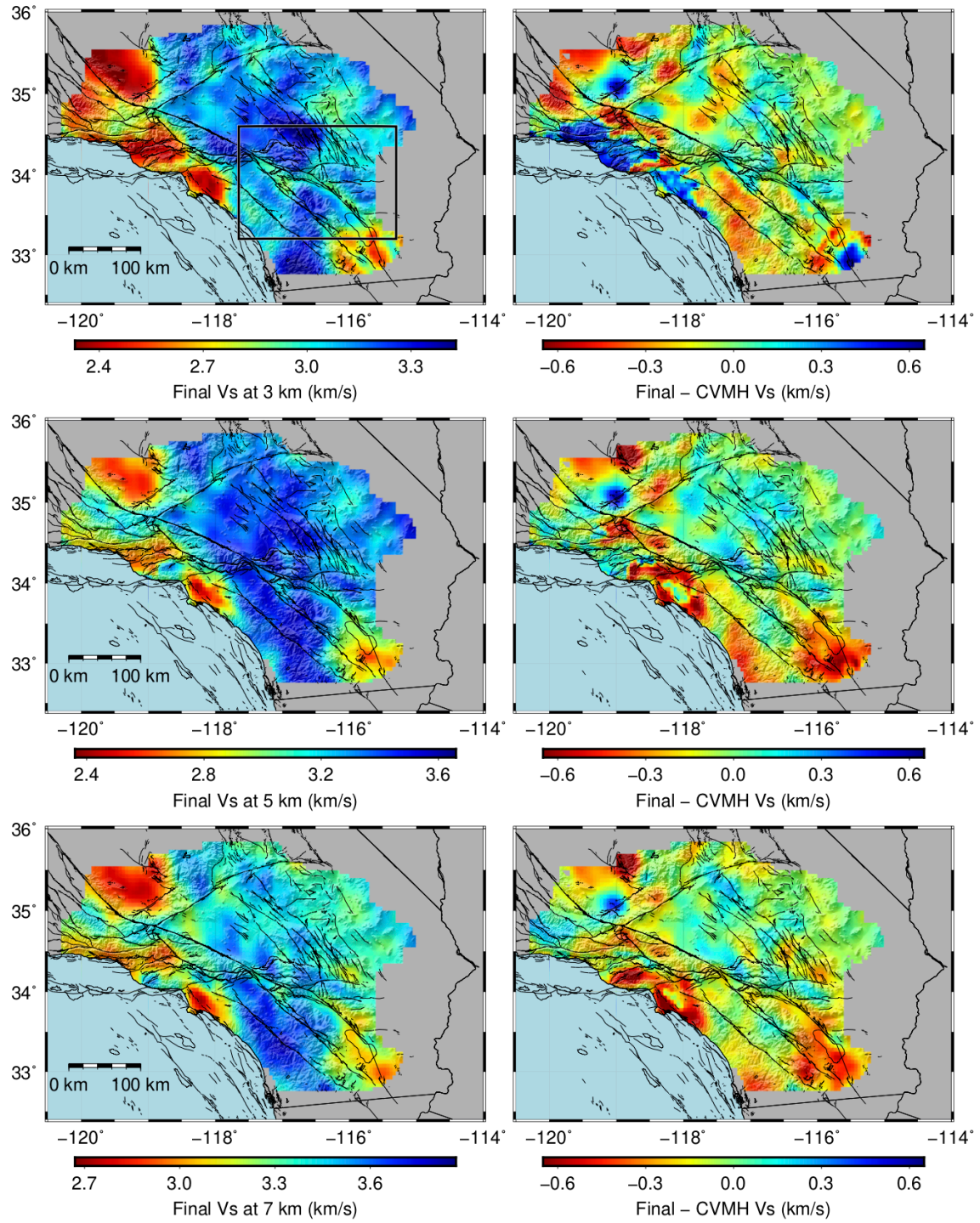


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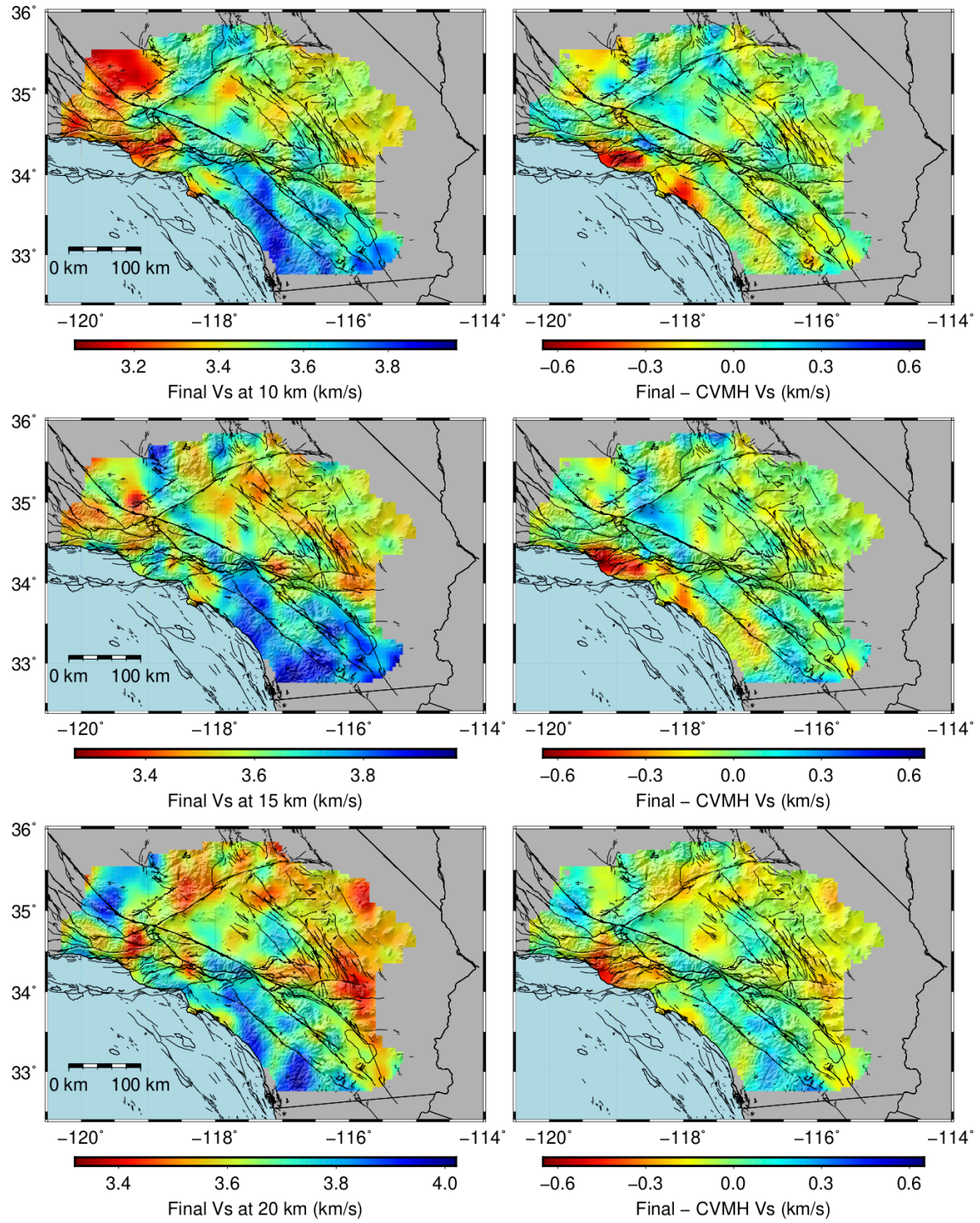


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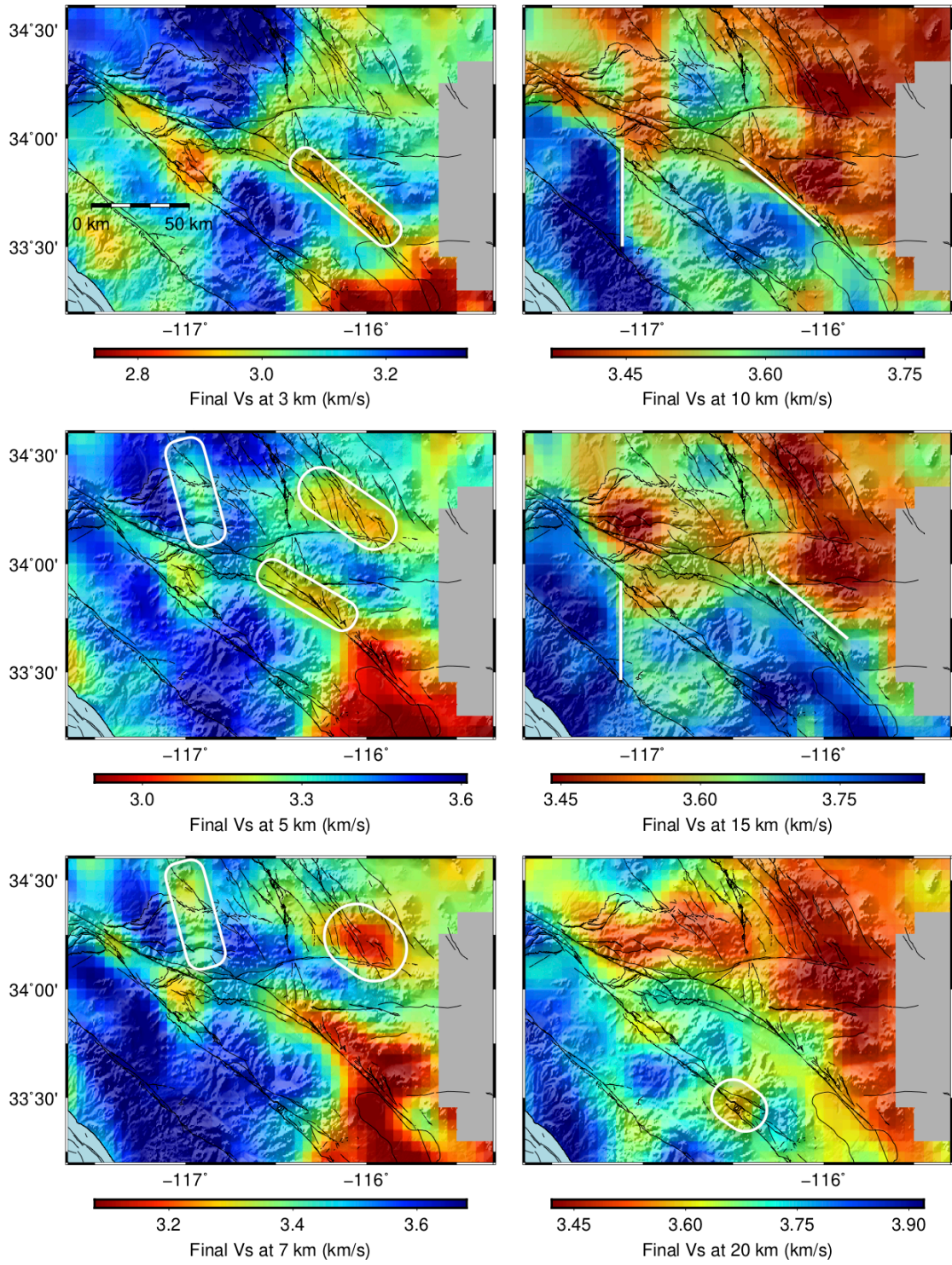


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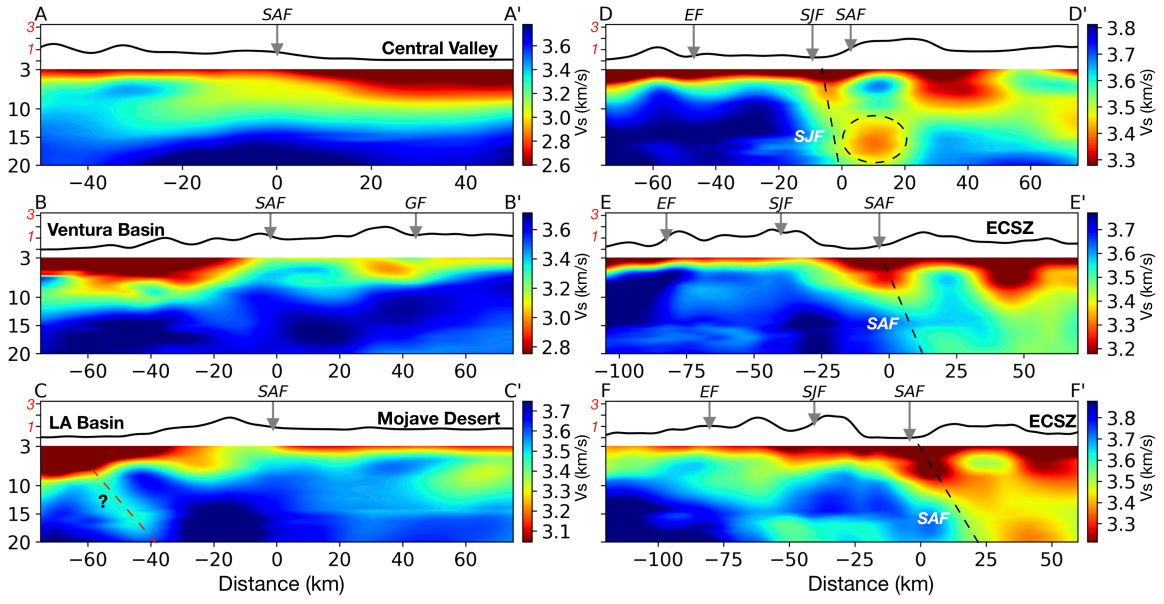


Figure 18