



Deformation and anisotropy of physical properties: From the crystal to the rock and plate scale - 1

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*Internal Geophysics School
2021 Les Houches*

What will we talk about?

- *Many physical properties, not only seismics, are anisotropic*
- *Physical causes of anisotropy at:*
 - *the crystal scale? The crystals structure!*
 - *at larger scales? Deformation!*
- *How rocks deform ductilely and why they become anisotropic (in short)*
- *Using forward models to constrain the interpretation of flow patterns from seismic anisotropy : the D" example*
- *Why inverting flow patterns from seismic data is not possible?*
- *Viscous anisotropy: the memory of deformation*

How will we work?

- *Course = 1h (questions welcome @ anytime)*
- *15 minutes of discussion in groups of 5-6 on what was clear / not clear (take notes!)*
- *15 minutes plenary discussion of the not clear points*



Anisotropy - variation of a physical property depending on the direction in which it is measured

Oxford Dictionary

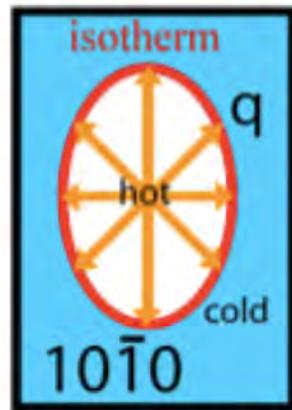
Physical properties

- *Elasticity : seismic wave propagation*
- *Electrical/Magnetic/Thermal Conductivity*
- *Optical properties*
- *Strength/viscosity*

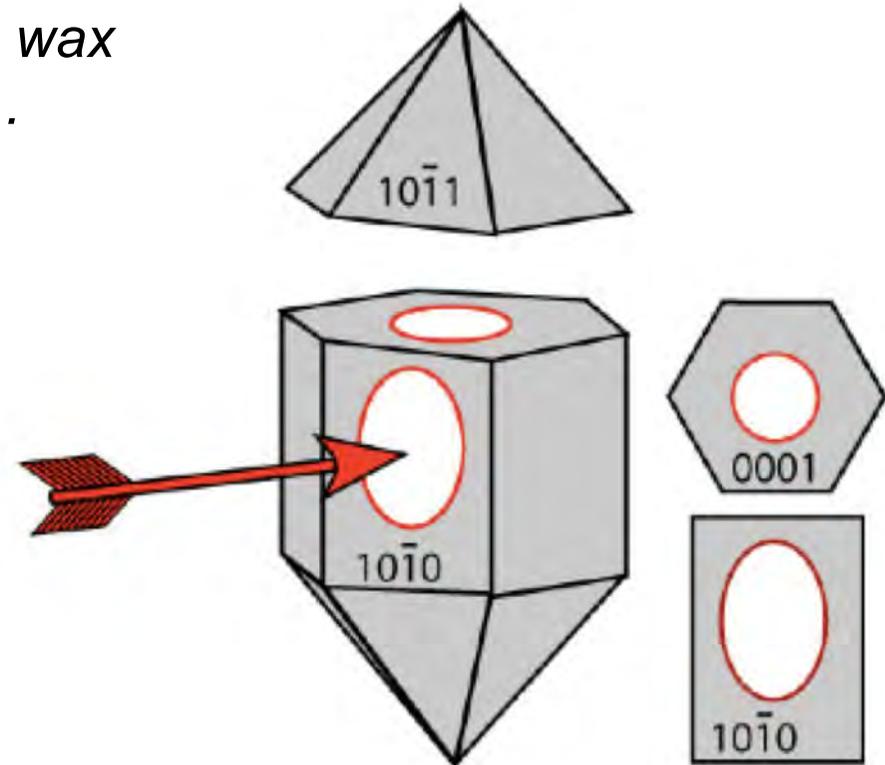


Heat diffusion in a quartz crystal

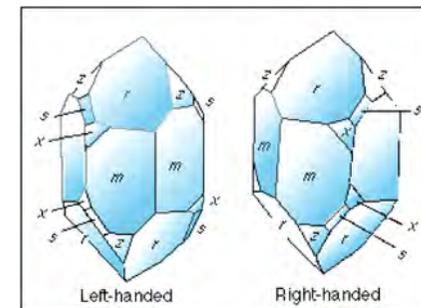
If we cover a quartz crystal with wax and touch it with a hot needle ...



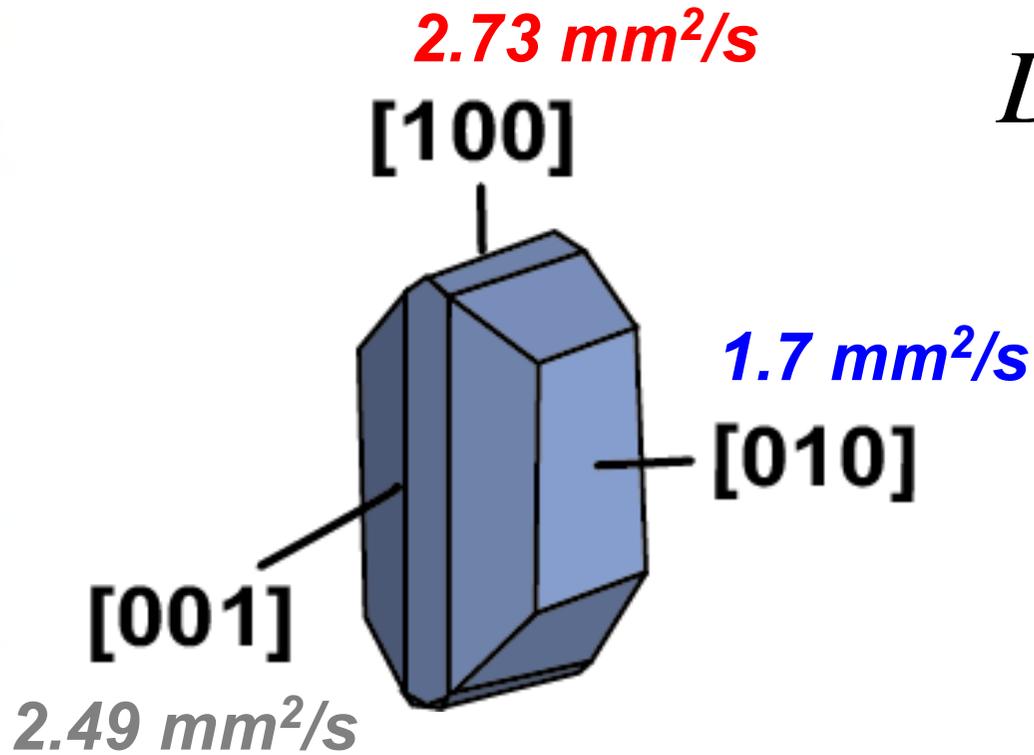
Radial heat flux (q)
(controlled by crystal
properties not boundary
conditions)



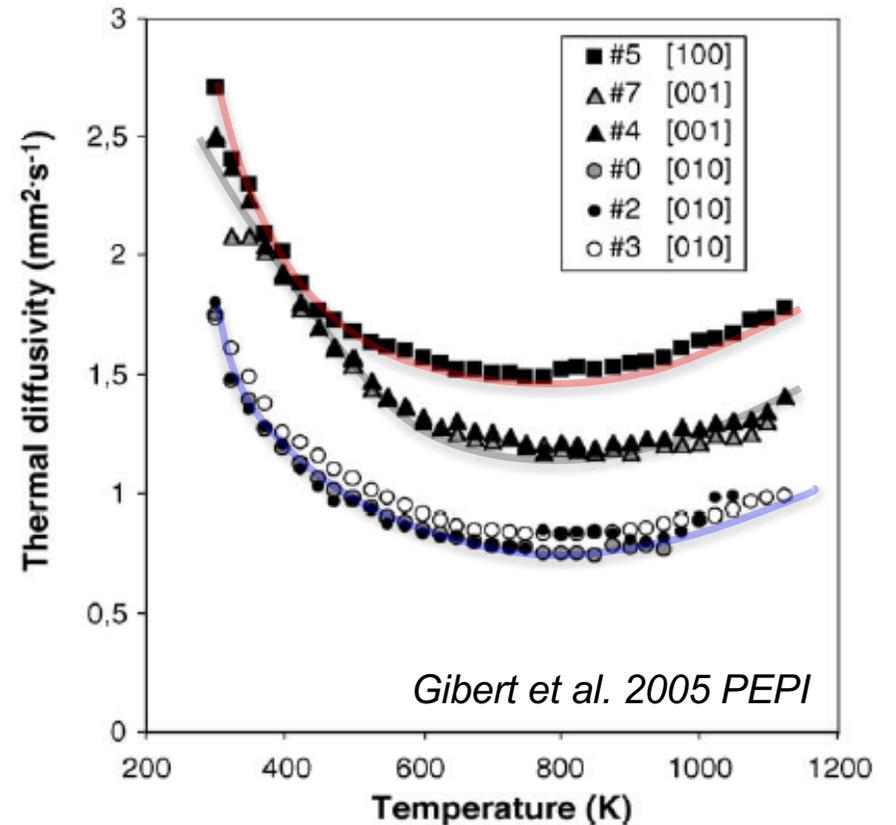
Melting figures are \neq in \neq crystallographic faces!



Heat diffusion in an olivine crystal

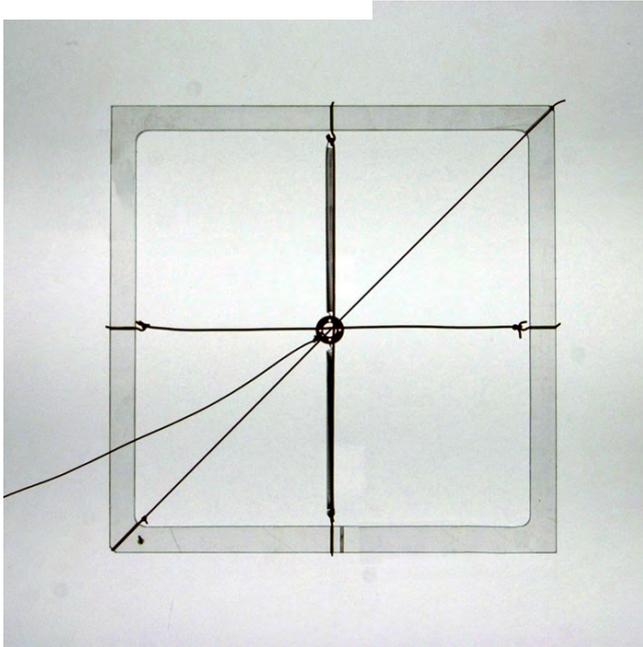


$$D_{[100]} = 1.6 * D_{[010]}$$



Mechanical anisotropy – elastic behaviour

initial state

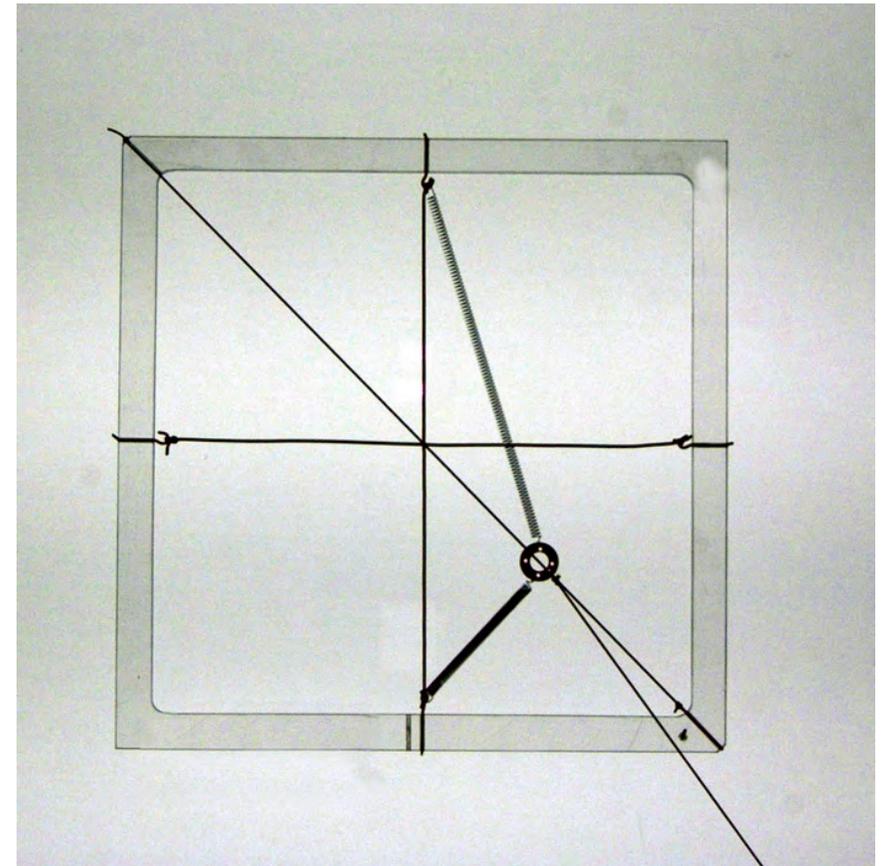


Springs with different strengths

How does this affect the displacement of the ring?

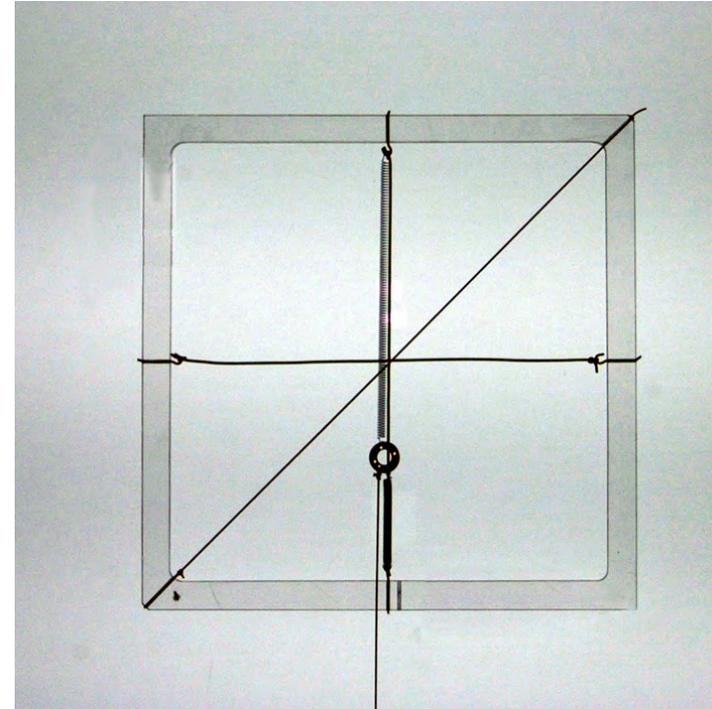
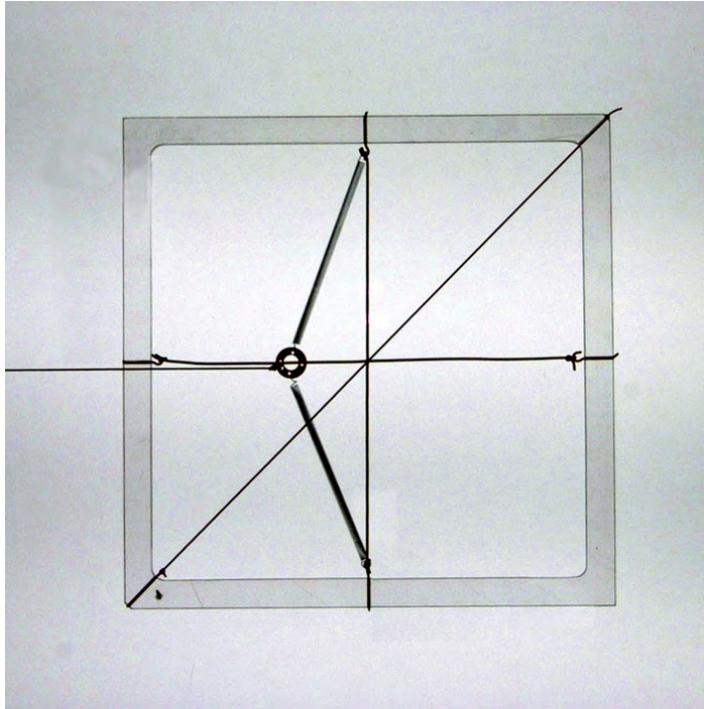
To displace the ring at 45° , the force must be applied with an angle $\neq 45^\circ$

➤ **Displacement not necessarily parallel to applied stress**



Mechanical anisotropy – elastic behaviour

Springs with different strengths

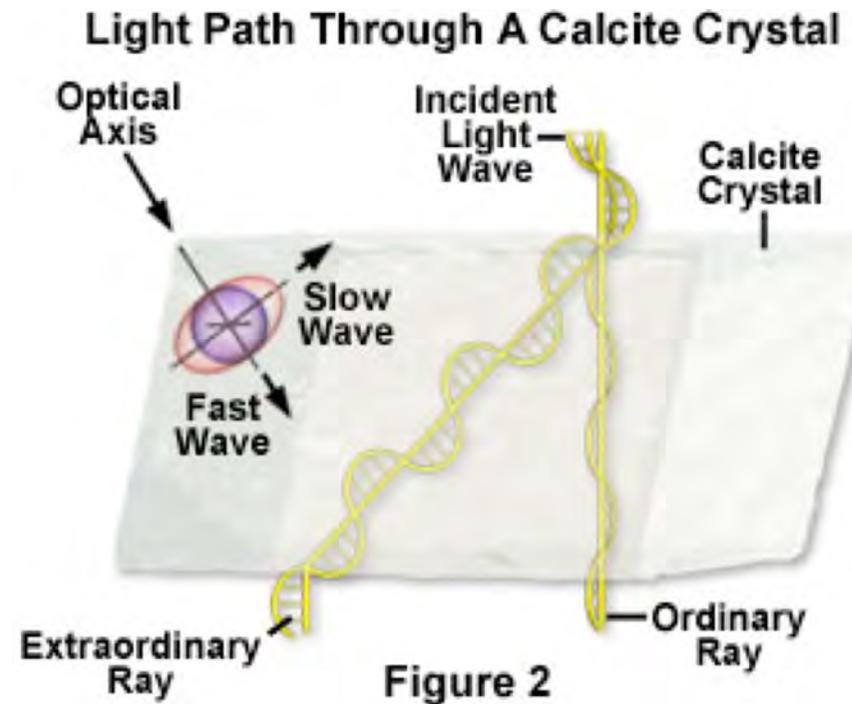


Principal directions (eigen directions of the tensor):

Displacement // applied force, BUT the force needed to obtain the same displacement is \neq

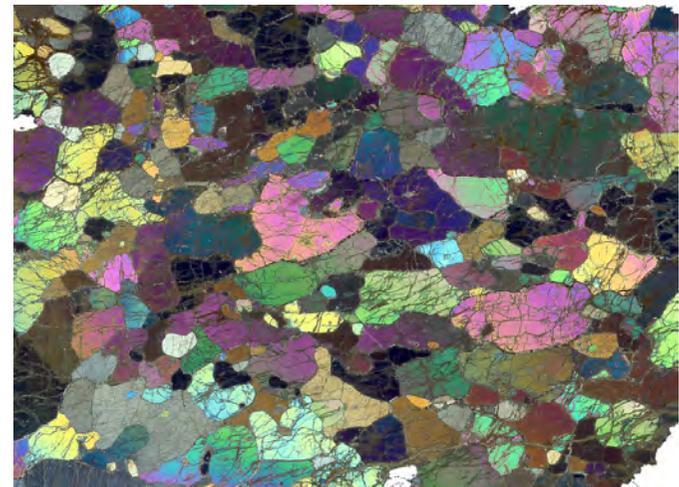
An example of anisotropy well known by geology students ...

Optical birefringence



In a crystal, an EM wave is decomposed in 2 waves polarized in orthogonal directions, which are function of the crystal structure. The 2 waves propagate at \neq velocities.

Polarization colors: function of the anisotropy (difference in velocity) & path length



Anisotropic physical properties

2nd rank tensor (properties that relate 2 scalars)

- *Thermal diffusivity and conductivity*
- *Electrical conductivity...*

Variation of the property is function of the sampling direction

4th rank tensor (properties that relate 2 tensors)

- *Elasticity : Variation of the seismic velocities function of the sampling direction AND of the polarisation of the waves (also EM waves)*
- *Viscosity*

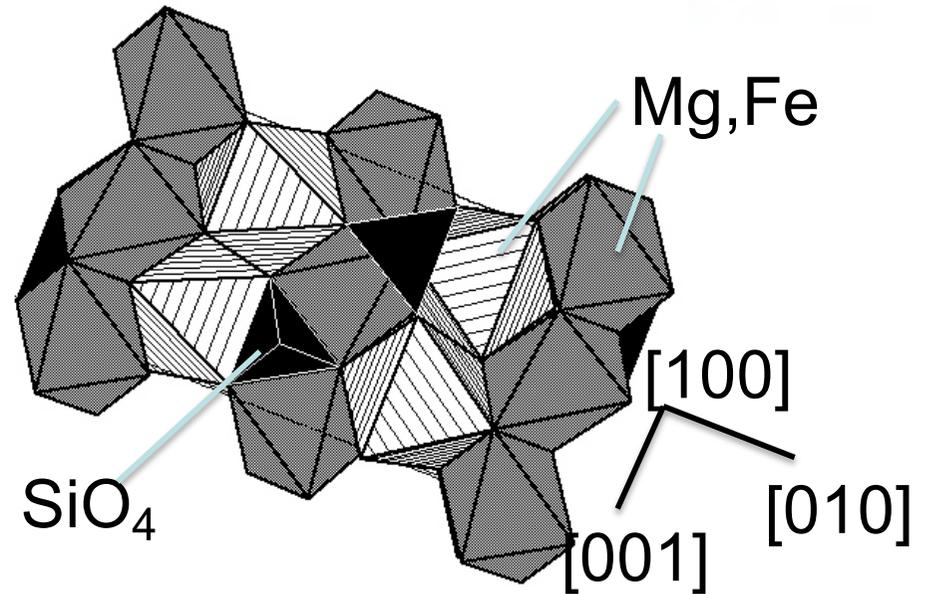
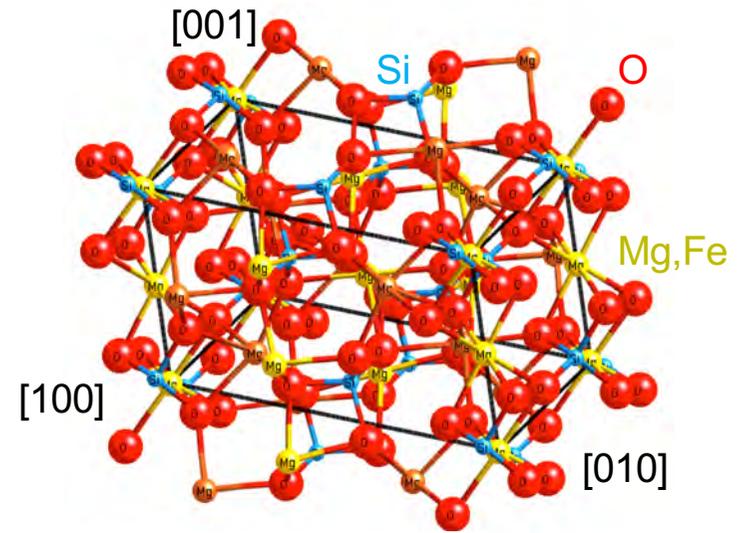
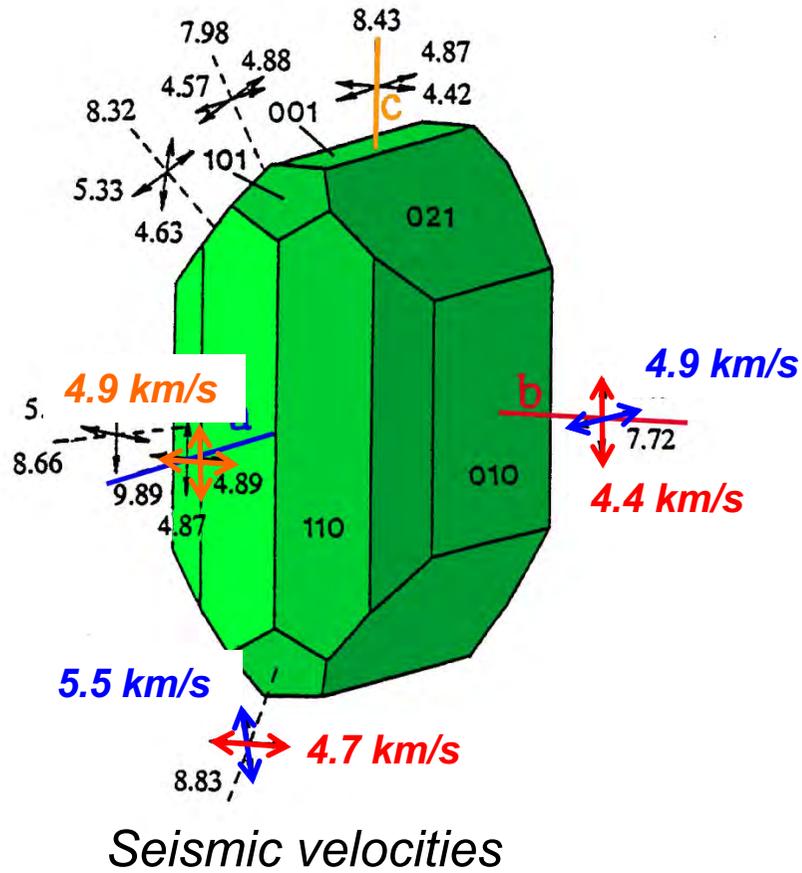
A vertical strip on the left side of the slide contains four distinct images: a top section of layered sedimentary rock in shades of brown and tan; a middle section of rugged, reddish-brown desert mountains; a lower section of a colorful, wavy mineral specimen with green, blue, and white patterns; and a bottom section containing three logos: the CNRS logo (a blue circle with white text), the logo of the Institut de Physique de Grenoble (a red circle with a white 'A' and 'INSTITUT DE PHYSIQUE DE GRENOBLE' around it), and the logo of the University of Grenoble Alpes (a blue square with a yellow 'U').

What produces anisotropy?

1- In a grain (crystal)

(crystals = bricks that compose the rocks)

Olivine = $(Mg,Fe)SiO_4$



Why is a crystal anisotropic?

*Periodic atomic arrangement with \neq liaisons in \neq directions
Symmetry of the crystal structure controls the anisotropy*

A vertical strip on the left side of the slide contains four distinct images: a top section showing layered sedimentary rock in shades of brown and tan; a middle section showing a rugged, reddish-brown mountain range; a lower section showing a colorful, wavy pattern of green, blue, and white, likely representing a geological cross-section or a mineral specimen; and a bottom section containing three logos: the CNRS logo (a blue circle with white text), a red circular logo with a white symbol, and a blue square logo with a white 'U' shape.

What produces anisotropy?

1- In a crystal

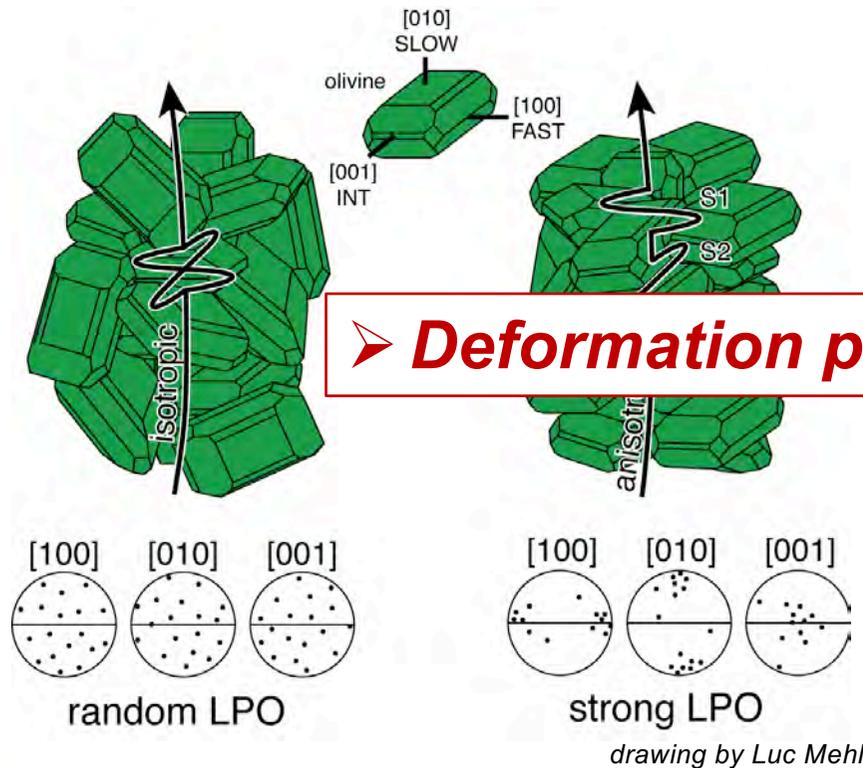
2- In a rock (sample scale = cm to m)

*3- At the scale of geophysical observations
(10s to 100s of km)*

Rock-scale anisotropy results from

Intrinsic anisotropy

Crystal or Lattice Preferred Orientation (CPO or LPO) of anisotropic minerals :



Extrinsic anisotropy

Organized intercalation of materials with **very \neq properties**
@ scale \ll observation one
Oriented melt/fluid inclusions

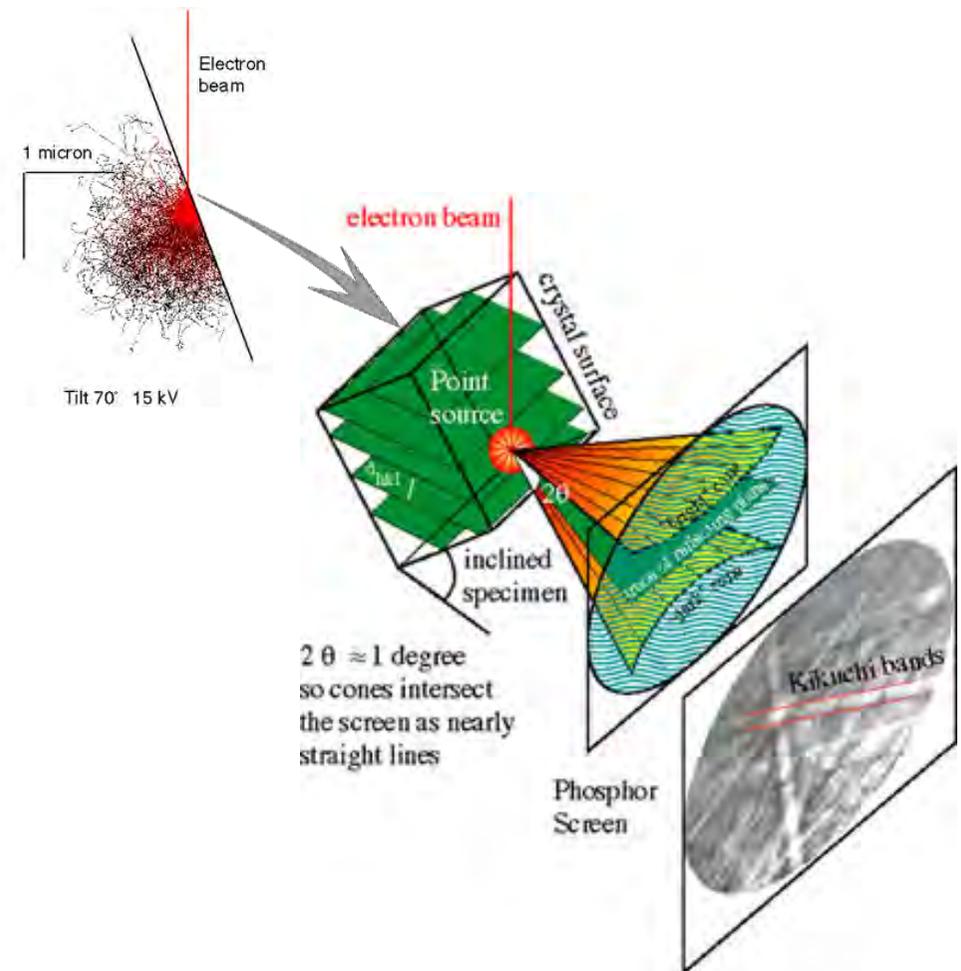
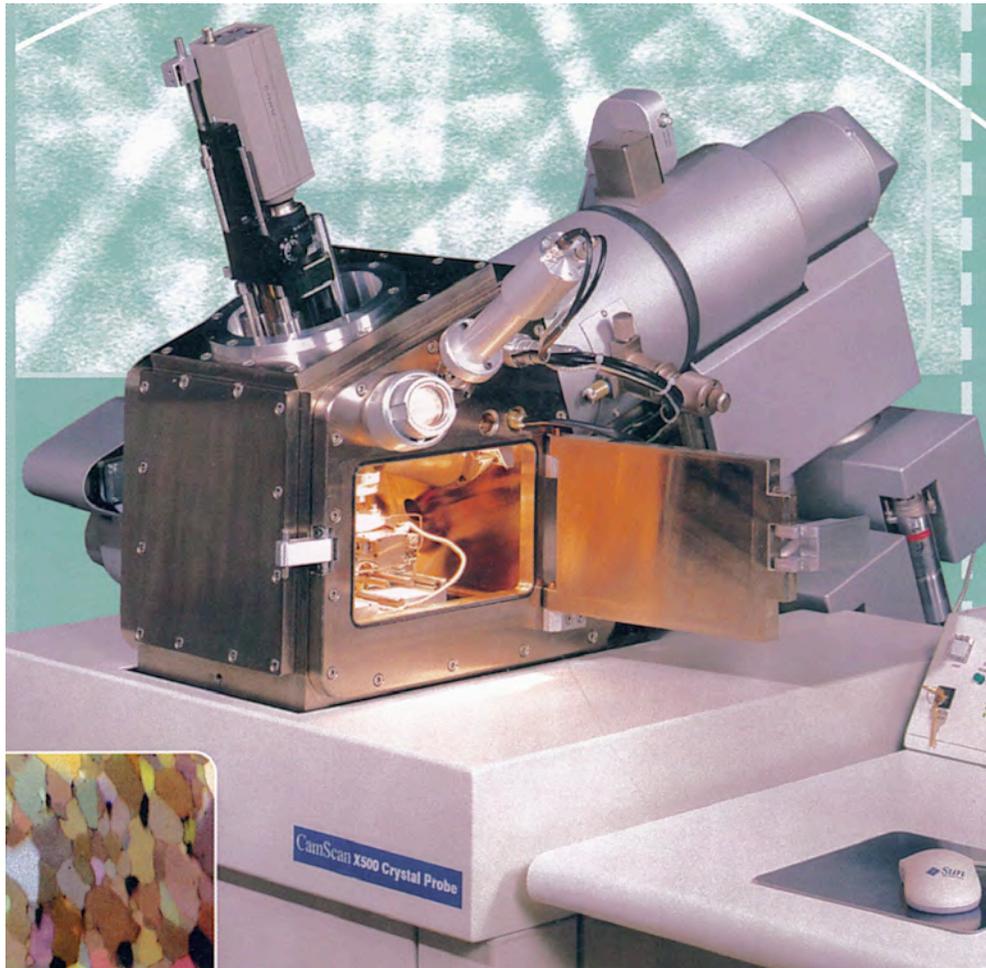


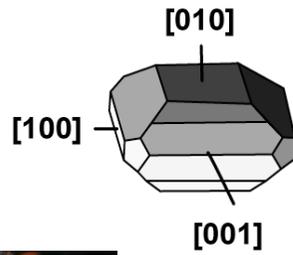
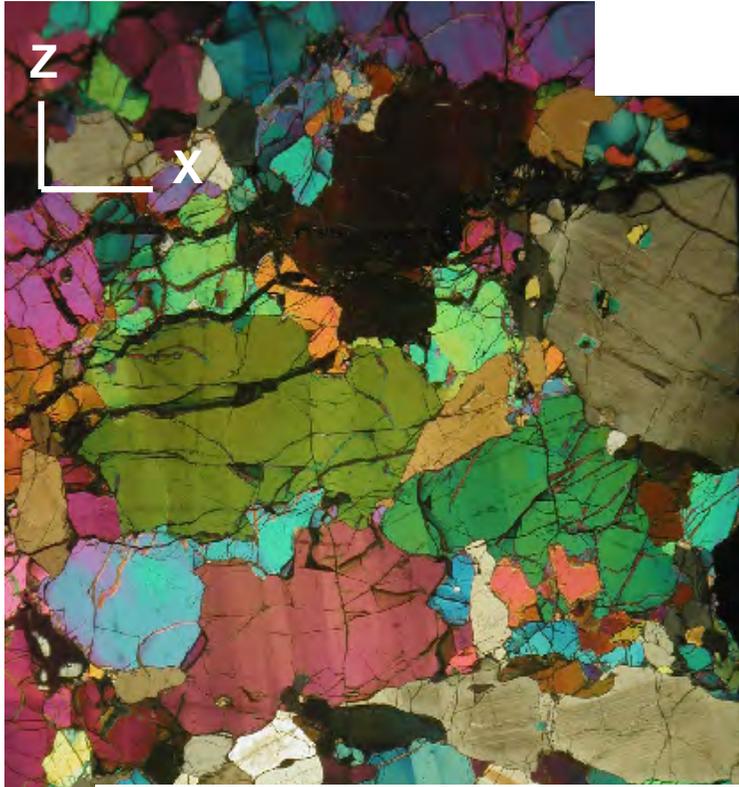
Open fractures
Compositional layering...

**Intrinsic @ extrinsic anisotropy may coexist
(and interfere constructively or destructively)**

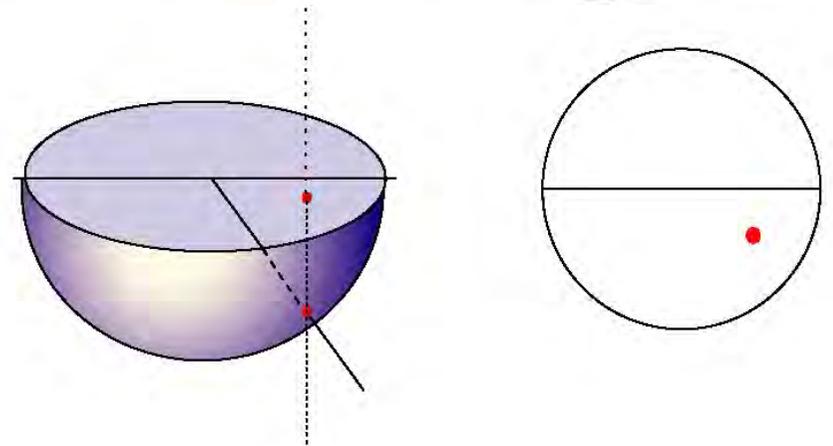
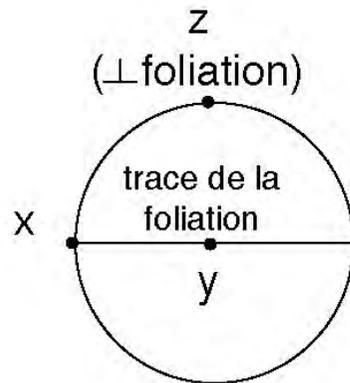
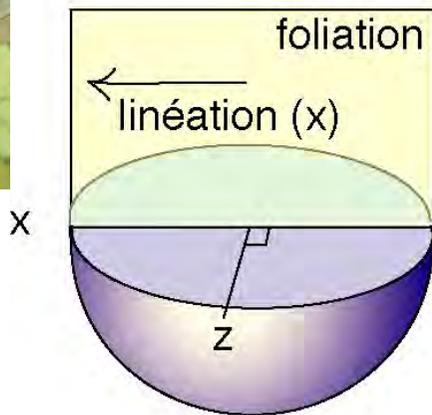
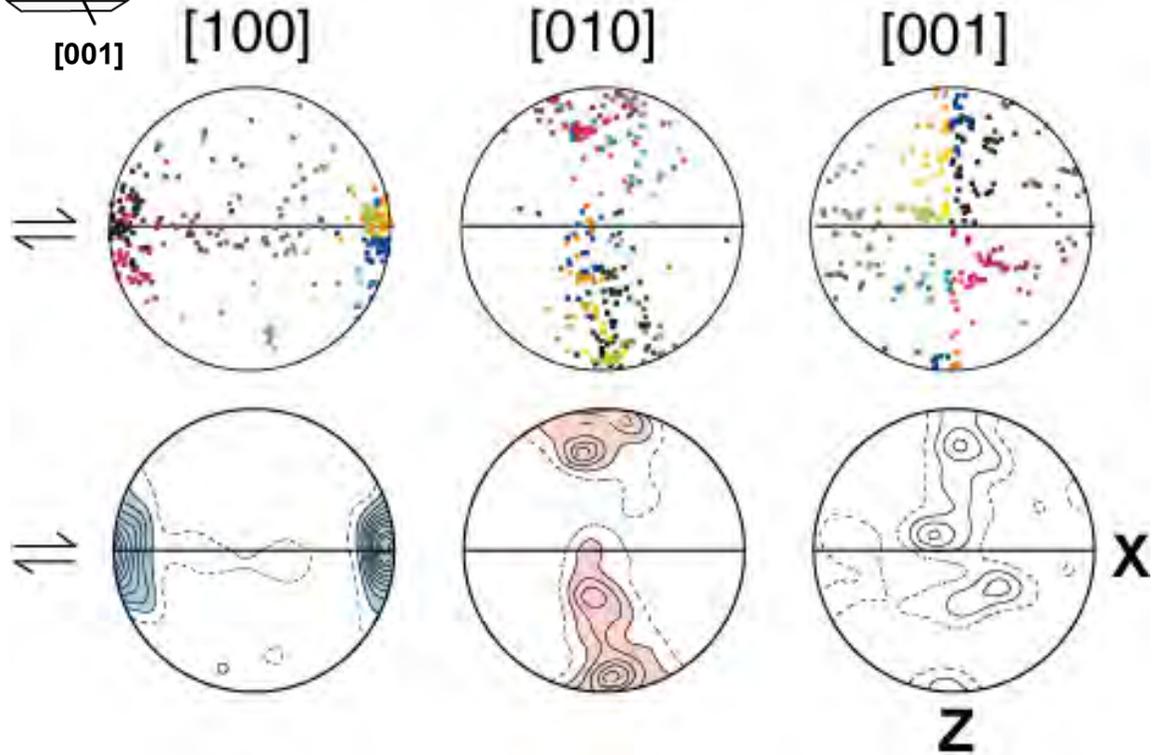
Crystal preferred orientations can be measured

In a SEM by the analysis of electron backscattered diffraction patterns (EBSD)



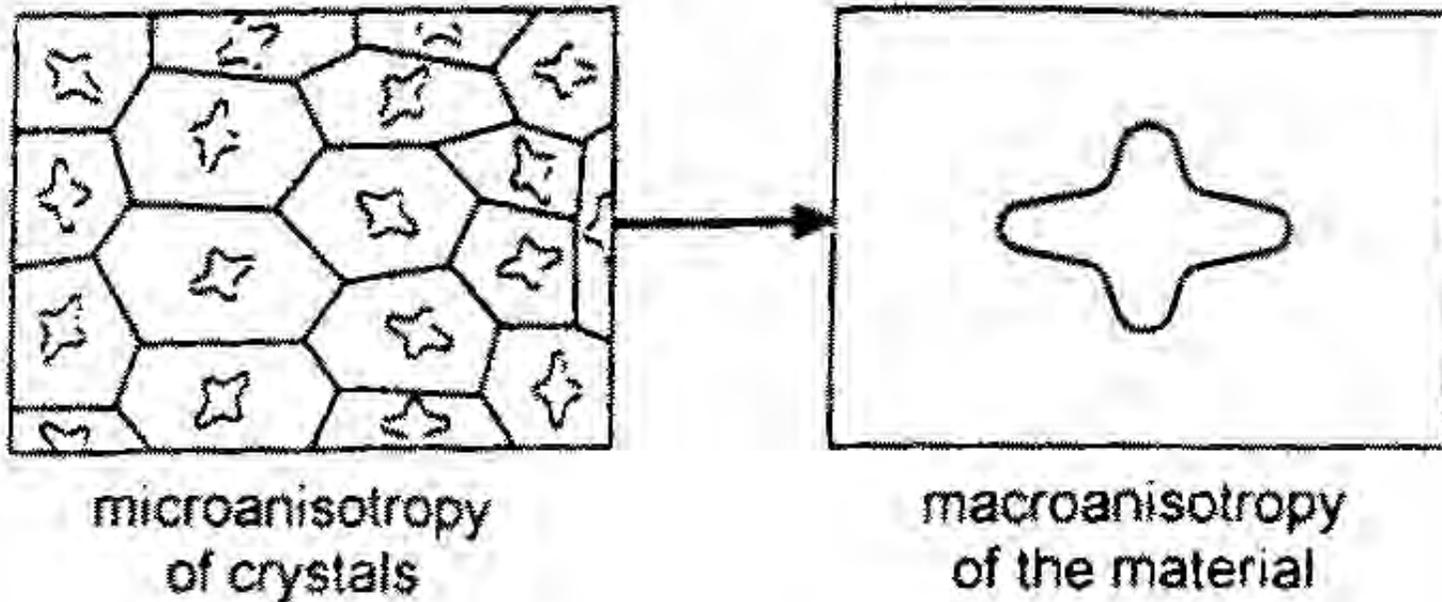


olivine



How to determine anisotropic properties at the rock scale?

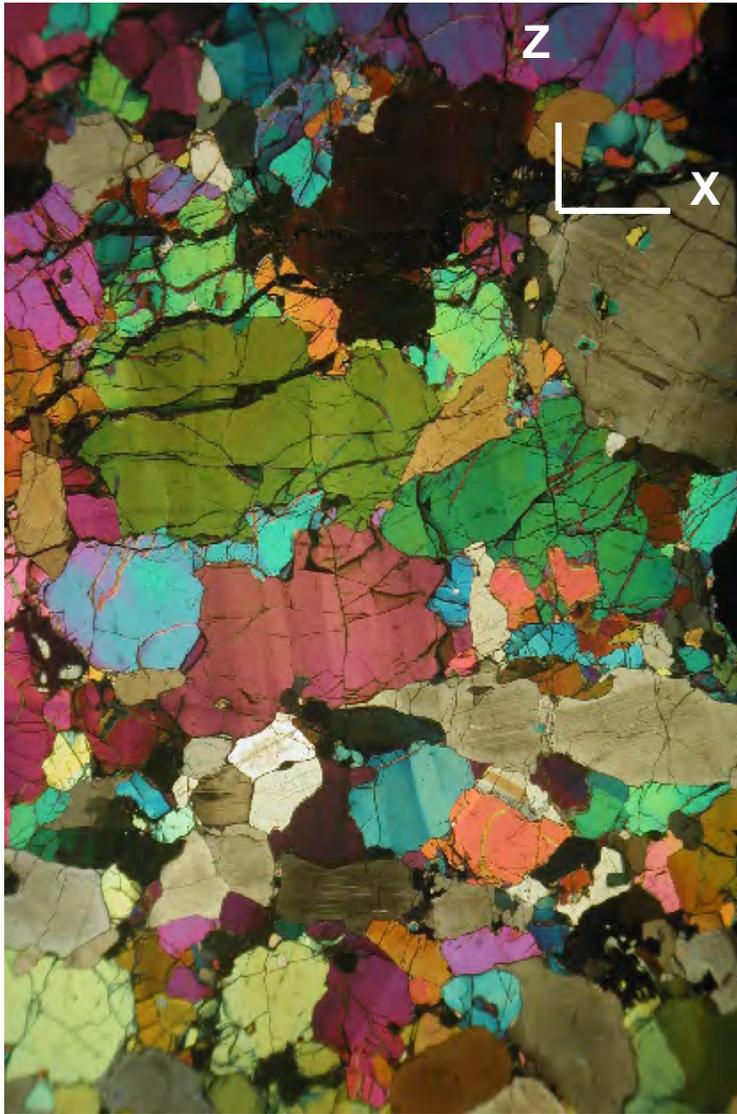
rock = aggregate of anisotropic crystals



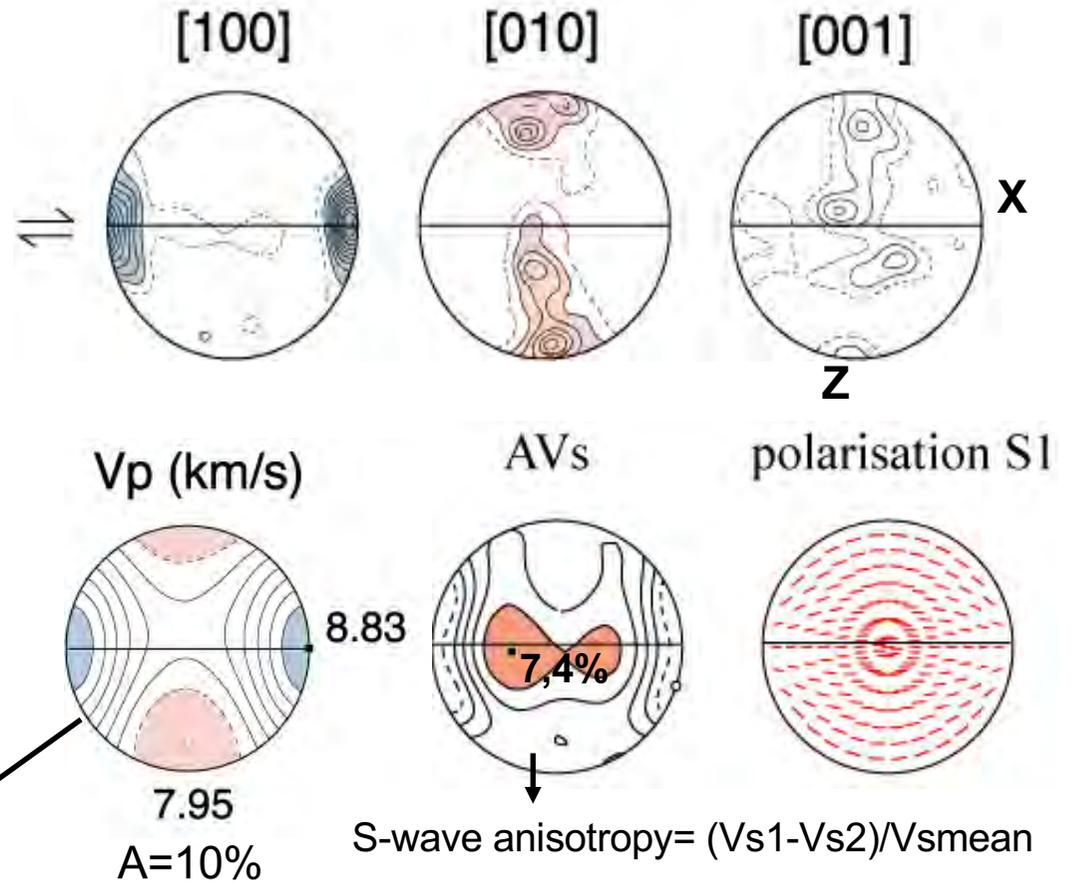
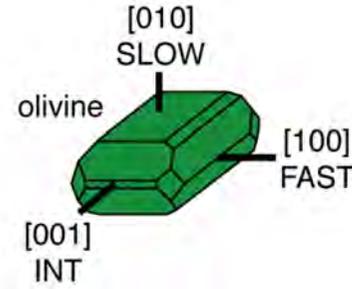
volumetric averaging as function of:

- mineralogical composition***
- orientation of the crystals***

Simplest approach – works fine for thermal and elastic anisotropy



In the upper mantle, olivine ($\geq 60\%$ vol.) controls the anisotropy



P-wave velocity: $F(\text{propagation direction})$



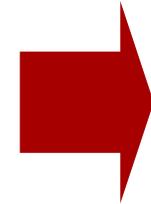
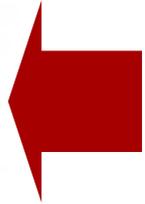
The orientation of the crystals is the key factor for transferring anisotropy to large scales

How do crystal preferred orientations form and evolve?

Relation between flow patterns and CPO



Deformation (flow) of ice Ih (the ice we see on the Mt Blanc)



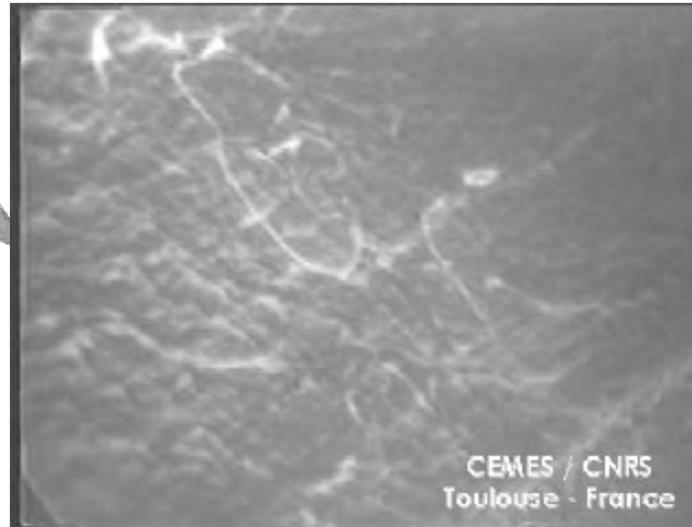
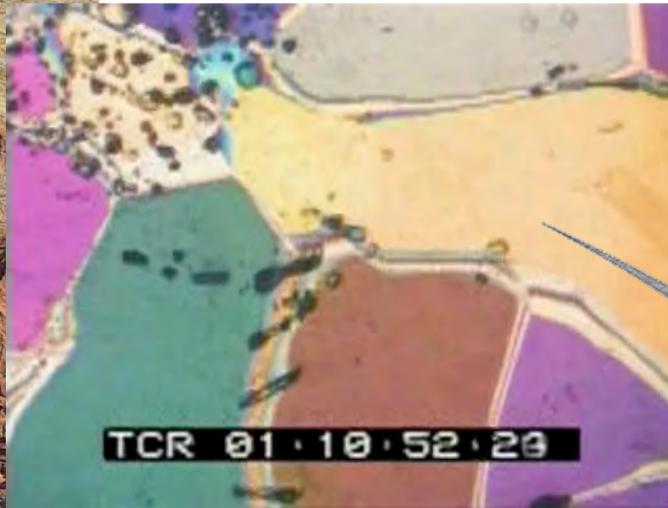
≠ colors : ≠ crystal orientations



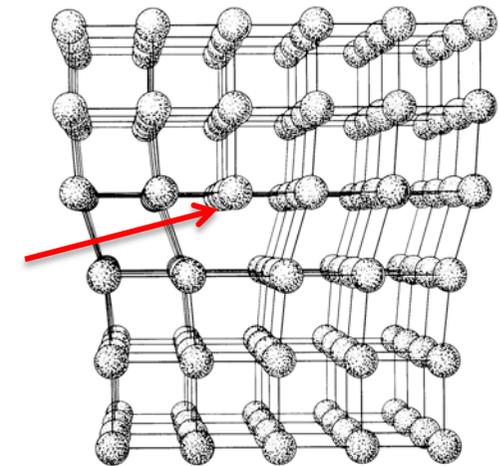
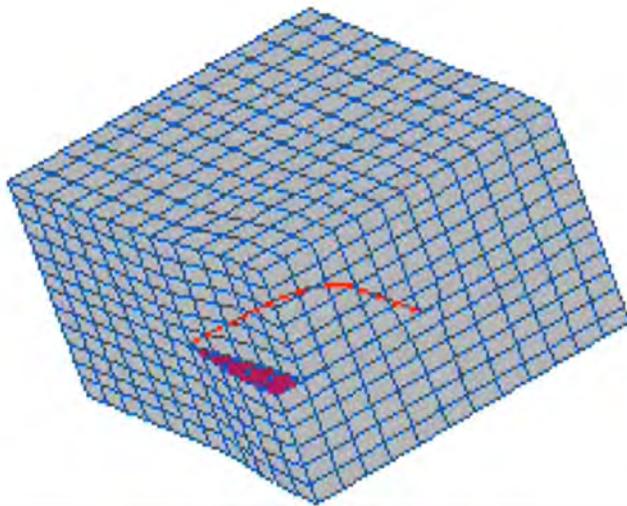
*Polycrystalline ice
Optical microscope – cross-polarized light
C. Wilson - Univ. Melbourne, Australia*

Ductile deformation (flow) of crystalline solids (rocks, but also ice, metals...)

Dislocation creep



Multiplication & glide of dislocations in a Ti alloy
Transmission electron microscopy



Dislocation = defect in the atomic arrangement in a crystal
= line of atoms not fully connected

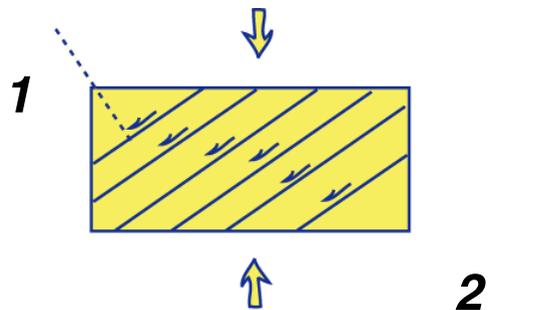
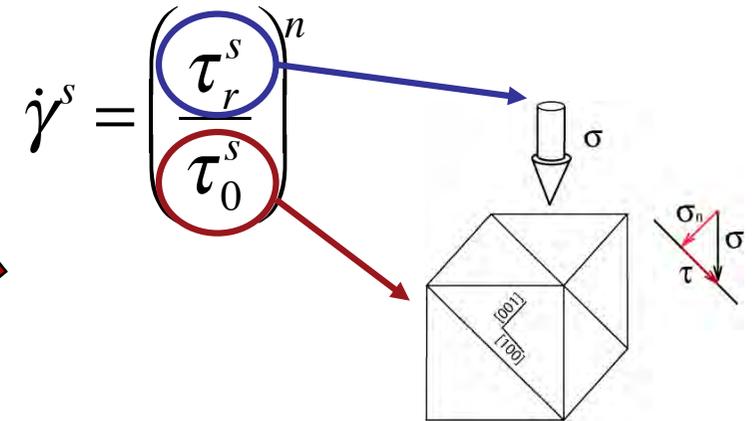
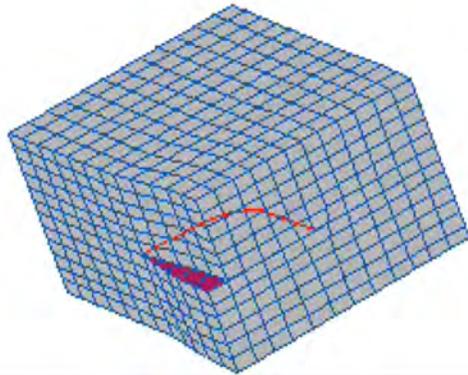
Motion (glide) of dislocations
= shear deformation of the crystal



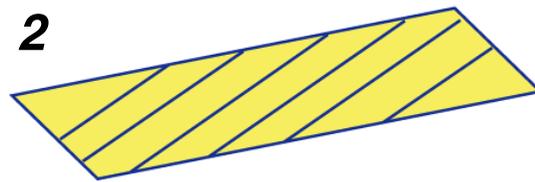
How to form crystal preferred orientations by deformation (dislocation creep)

within a grain (crystal):

strain = motion of dislocations on well-defined crystal planes & directions



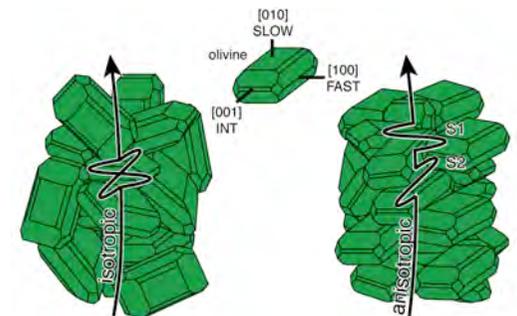
Shape change is constrained by the crystal structure



Not always compatible with boundary conditions



rock (polycrystal) : interaction with neighbours

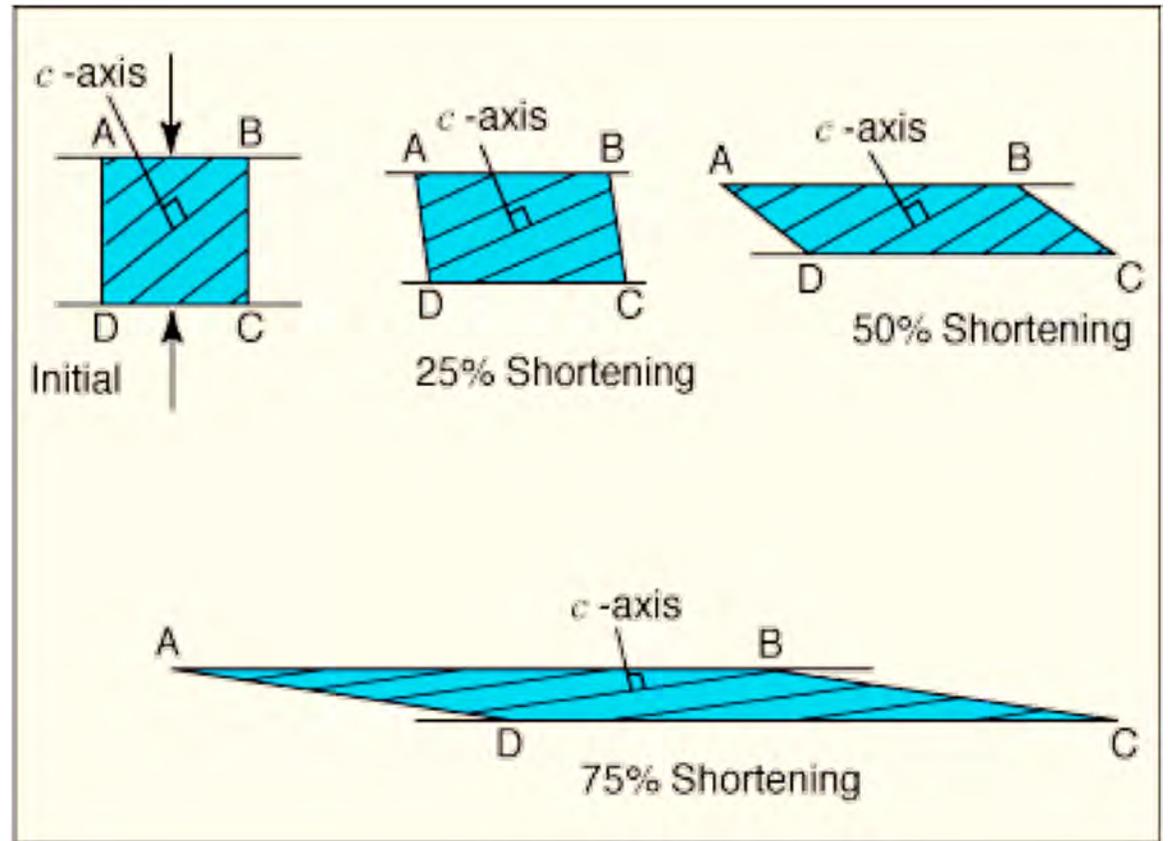
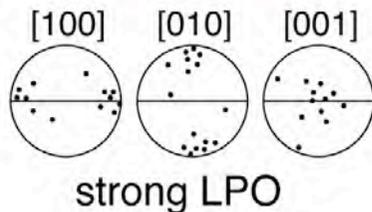
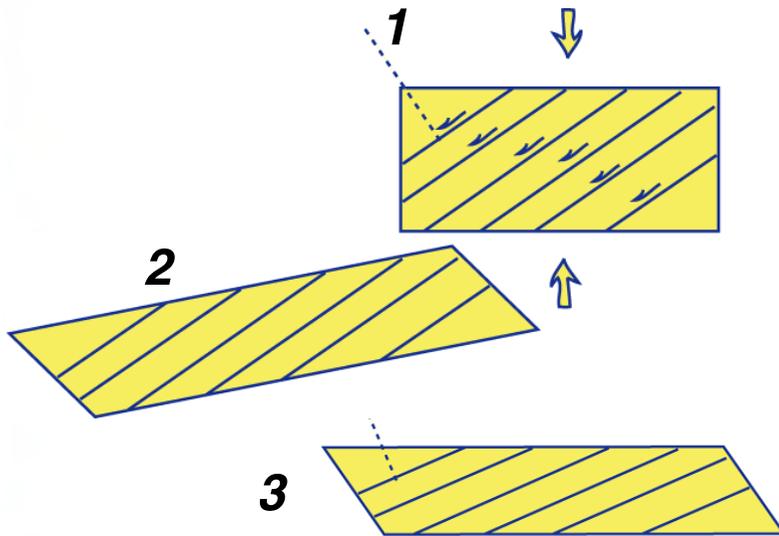


strain compatibility = rotation of the crystal

Why does dislocation glide produce crystal preferred orientations?

motion of dislocations on a small number of crystal planes & directions (weaker bonds) = crystal deformation has limited degrees of freedom

*strain compatibility → rotation of the crystal
 ➤ development of a crystal preferred orientation
 = all crystals tend to a common orientation*





- **parameters controlling CPO evolution during deformation by dislocation creep**

- ✓ **active slip systems, which depend on the crystal structure and on:**

 - temperature**

 - deviatoric stress (or strain rate)**

 - pressure**

 - water**

 - melt**

- ✓ **deformation geometry**

- ✓ **dynamic recrystallisation**

- **preservation / destruction of CPO & anisotropy?**

↓
**annealing /
static grain
growth**

↘
**reactions / crystallization of new
minerals under static conditions**



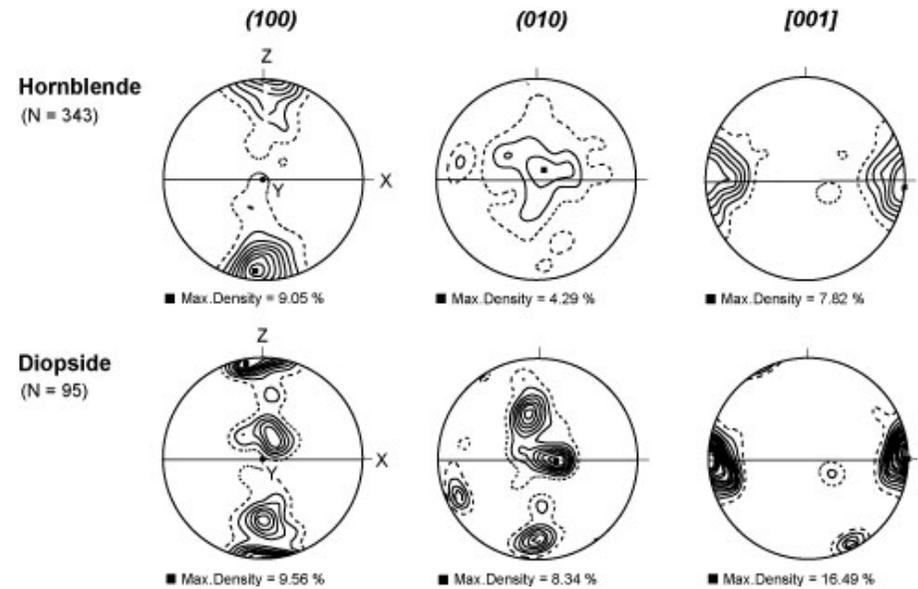
Dislocation glide is not the sole process producing crystal preferred orientations, but it is the most important

*Magmatic flow:
Deformation of a
crystal mush*



© B. Ildefonse, Géosciences Montpellier

*Oriented crystallization
during reactions & phase
transformations:
Inheritance of the orientation
of the parent mineral*

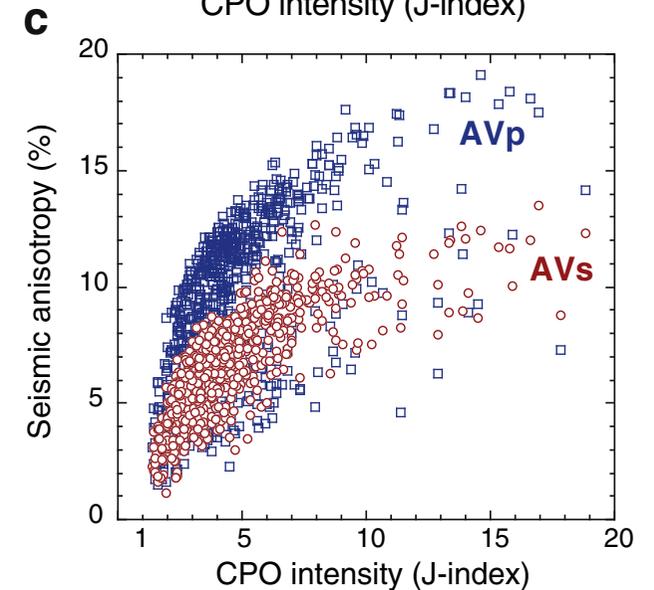
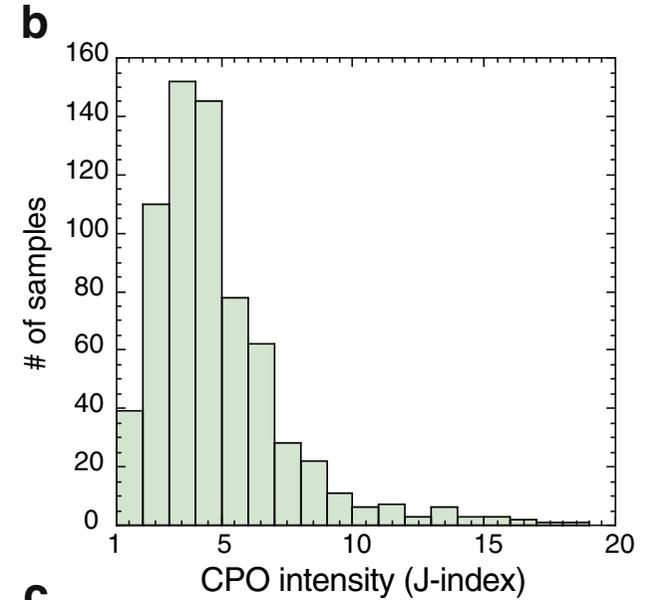
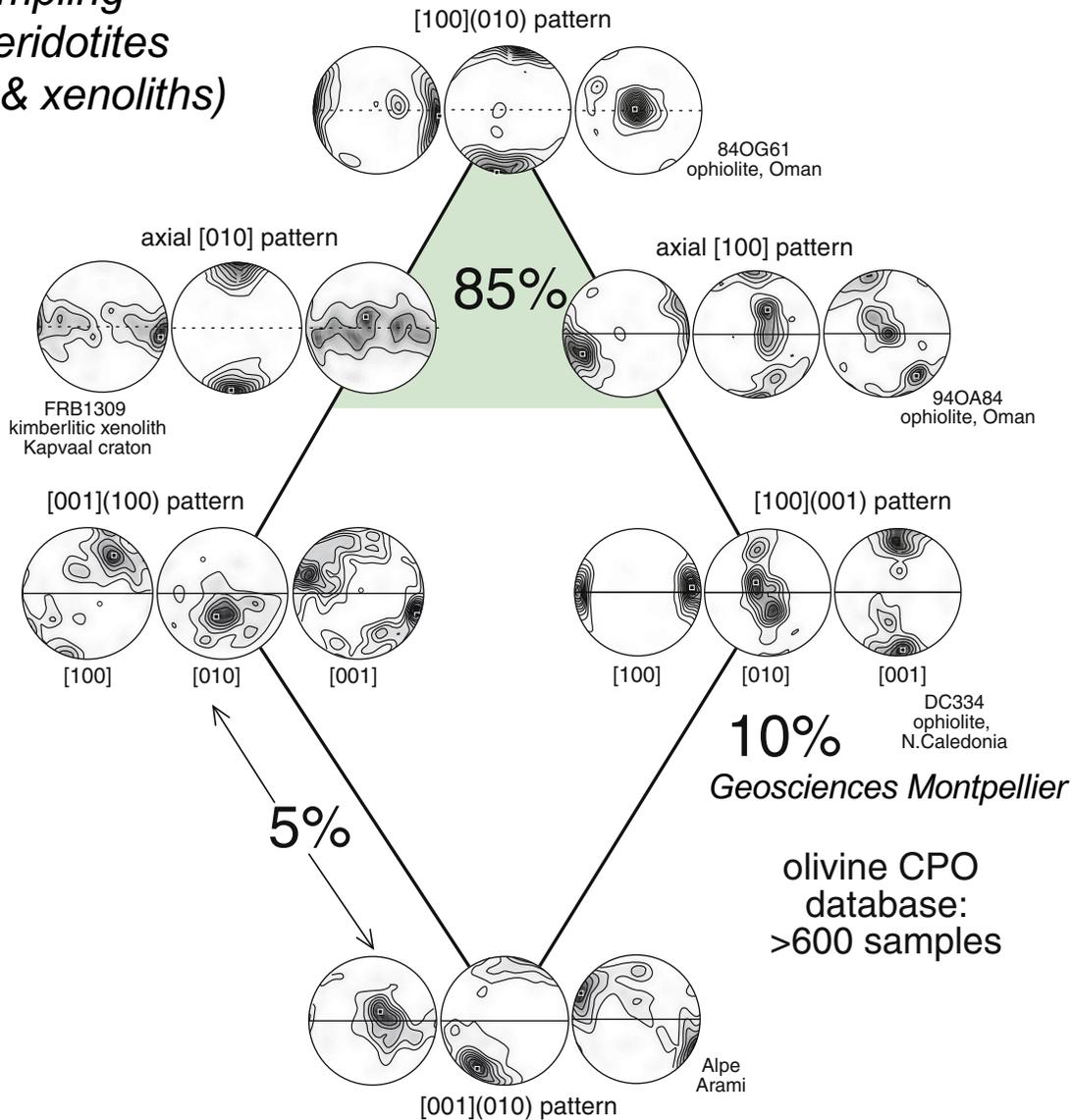


*Diffusion creep with
anisotropic diffusivity /
crystal growth*

*hornblende + plg = magma + diopside
(amphibolite 80% hb)*

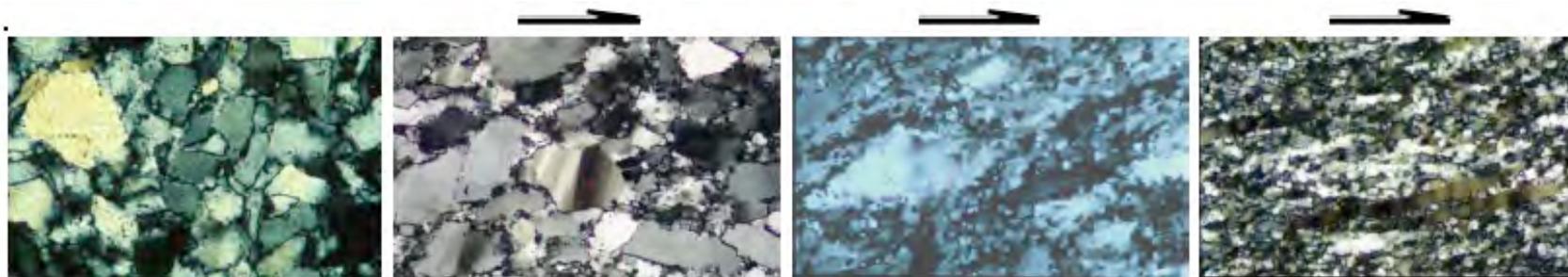
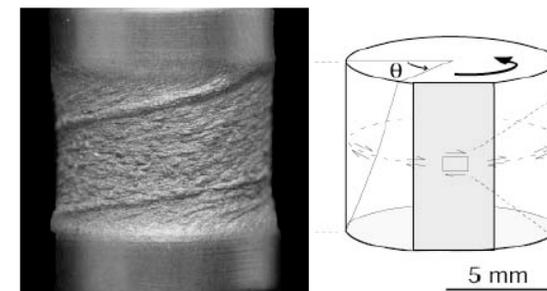
✓ *Strain-induced olivine crystal preferred orientations & anisotropy are ubiquitous in the upper 200 km mantle*

*Direct sampling
mantle peridotites
(massifs & xenoliths)*



Torsion experiments: Olivine HT-MP

- Simple Shear deformation
- evolution $CPO = F(\text{strain})$



$\gamma = 0$

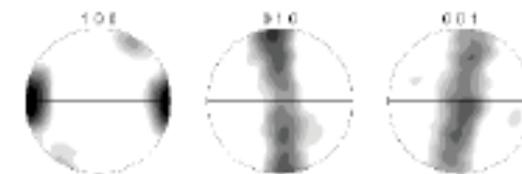
$\gamma = 0.5$

$\gamma = 2$

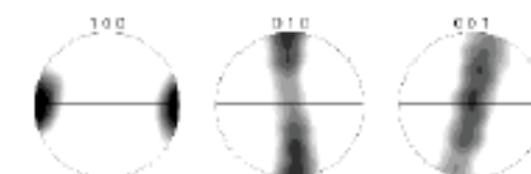
$\gamma = 5$



$\gamma = 1$



$\gamma = 3$



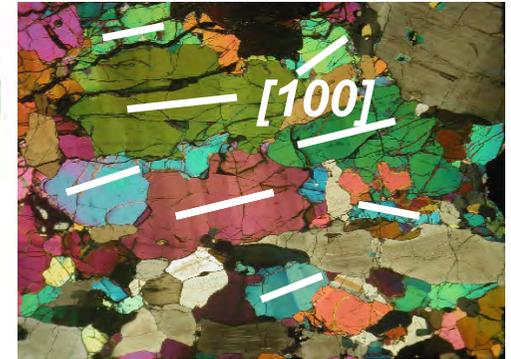
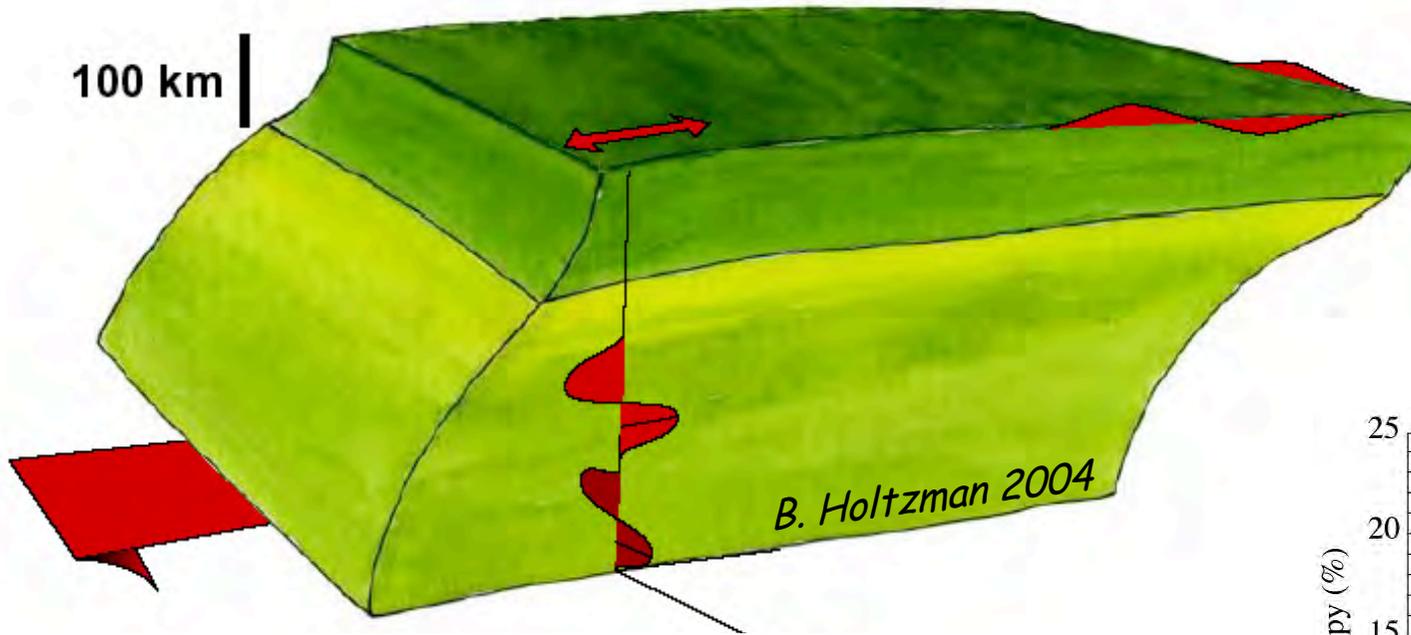
$\gamma = 6$

Low strain: $\gamma = 1$ to 3
Fast evolution of CPO
[100] → shear direction

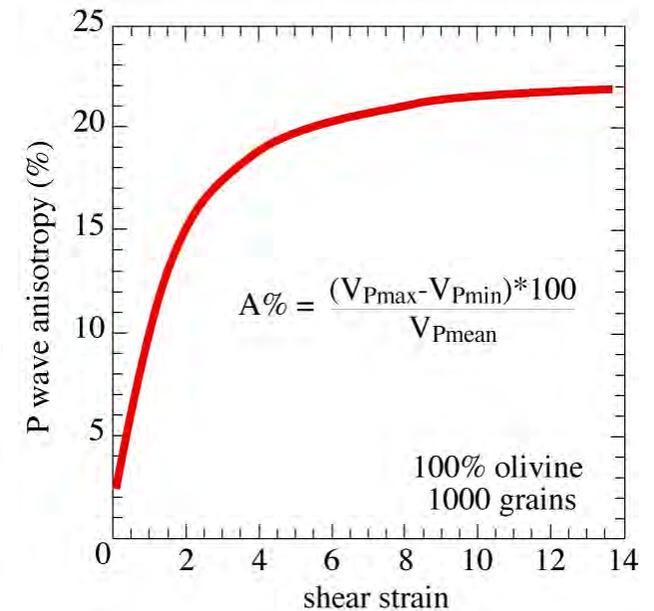
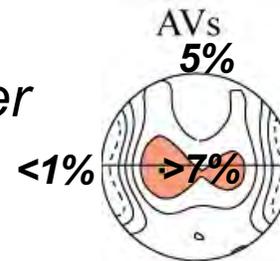
High strain: $\gamma > 3$
Slow evolution of CPO
[100] // shear direction



Simple key to qualitatively "read" seismic anisotropy observations in the SHALLOW MANTLE (>250 km):



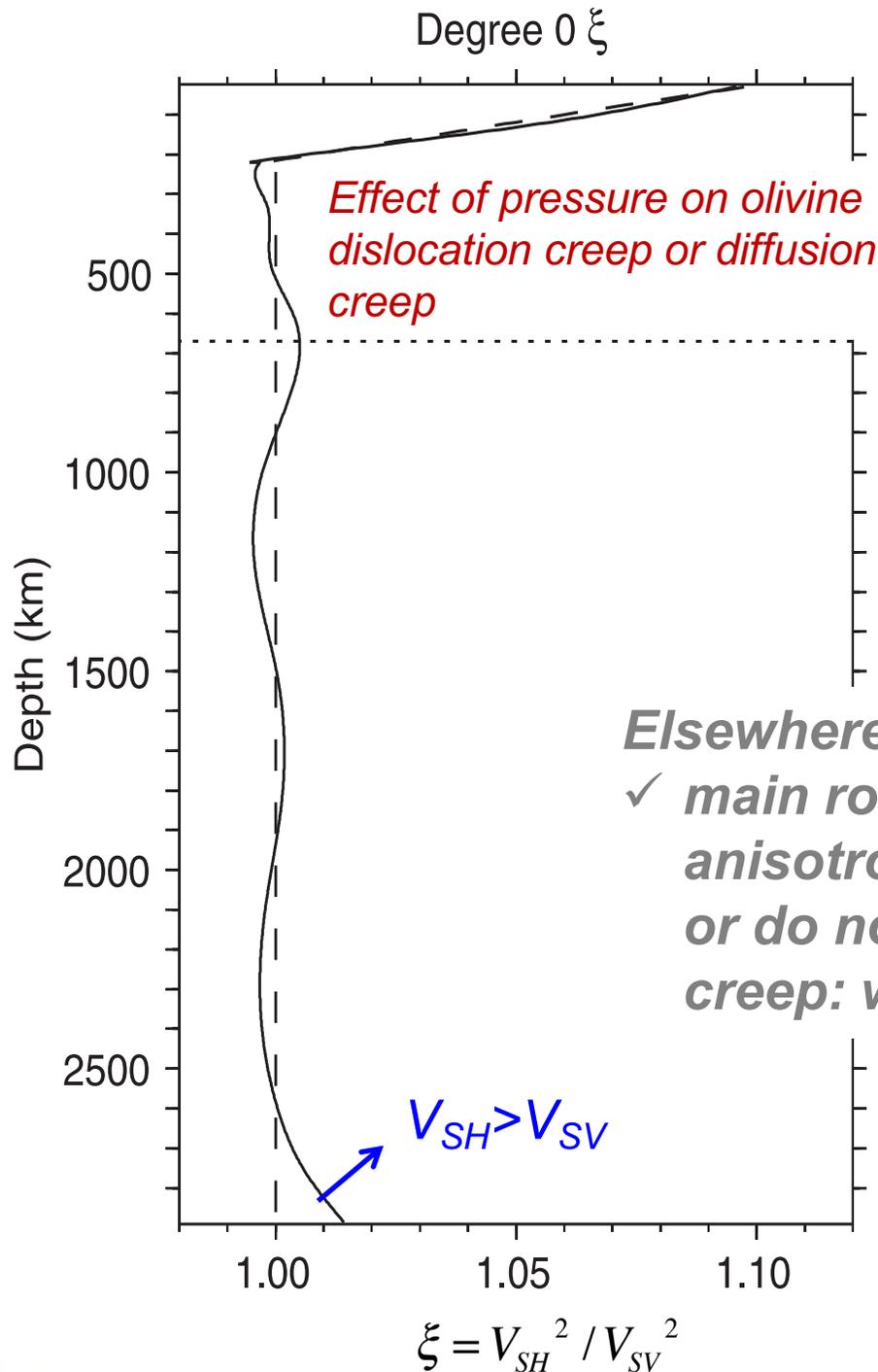
Fast direction of P & Rayleigh propagation, polarisation fast S-wave = flow direction
 delay time ~ thickness of the anisotropic layer and orientation of the flow plane



May not work for deformation in presence of melt or water : subduction zones
Does not work at high pressure (below 250 km) : change in dominant slip system
 ➤ ≠ olivine crystal preferred orientations



Global 1D radial anisotropy



The upper 200-250 km of the Earth is highly anisotropic

Crust

Open fractures, melt, compositional layering...

CPO of micas, amphibole

Upper mantle

CPO of olivine

Aligned melt pockets (asthenosphere)

Elsewhere in the mantle?

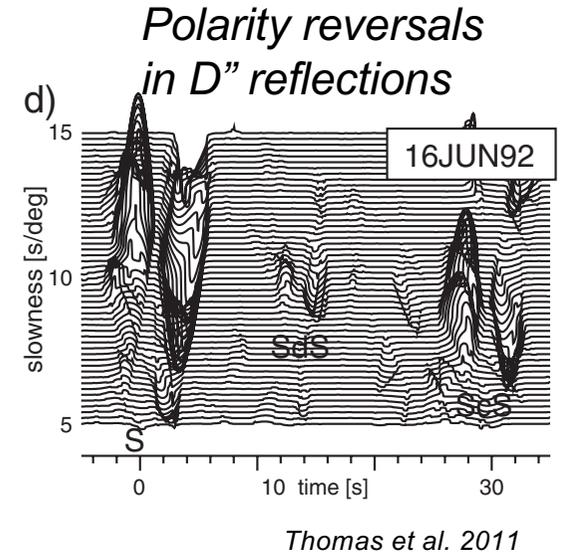
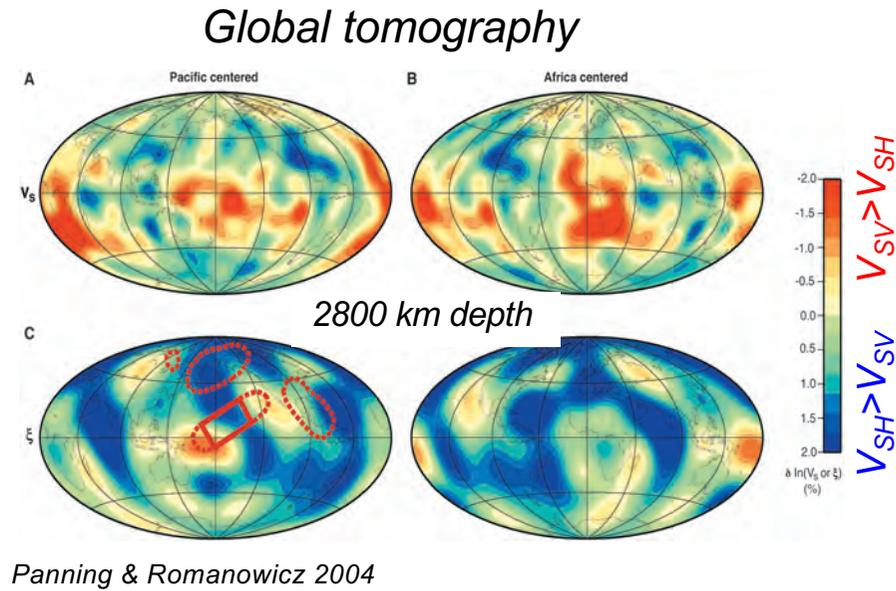
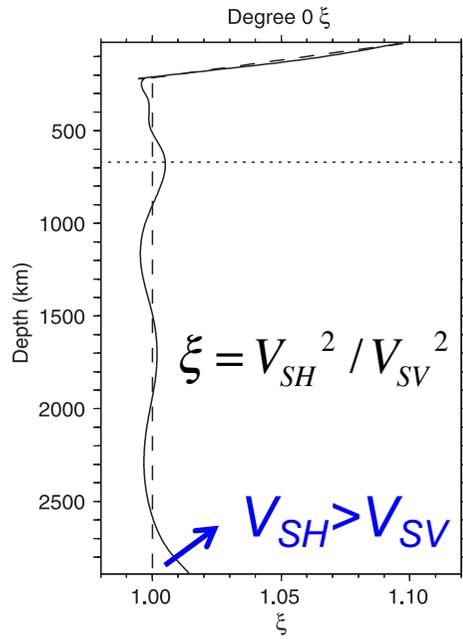
✓ *main rock-forming minerals less anisotropic (cubic): ringwoodite or do not deform by dislocation creep: wadsleyite, bridgemanite*

Clear anisotropy also in D''

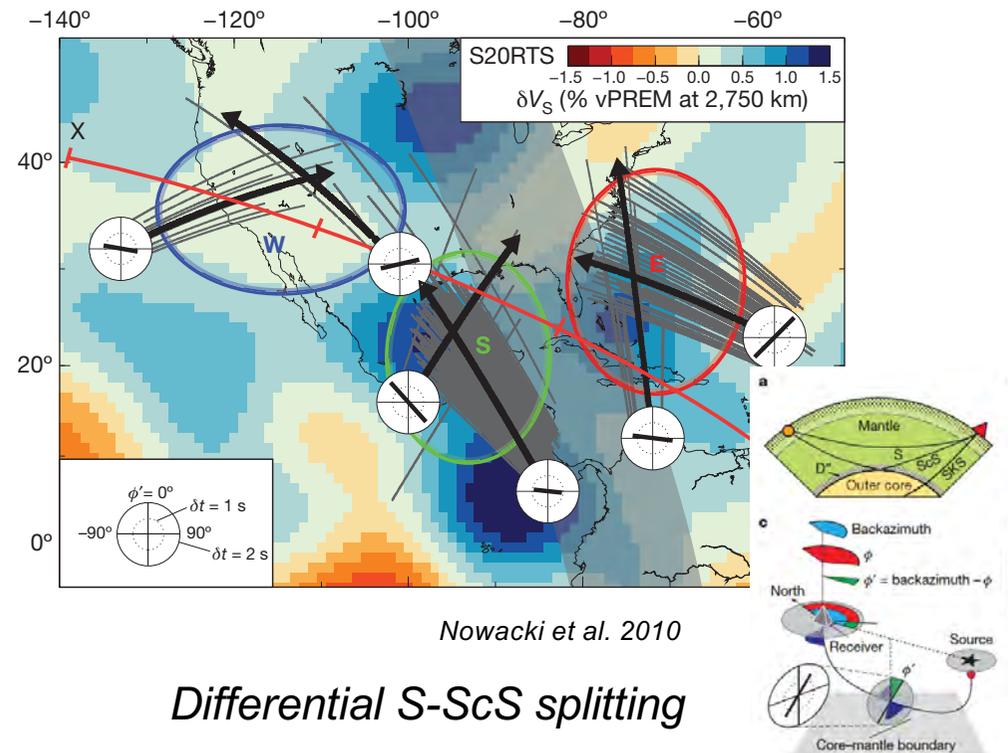
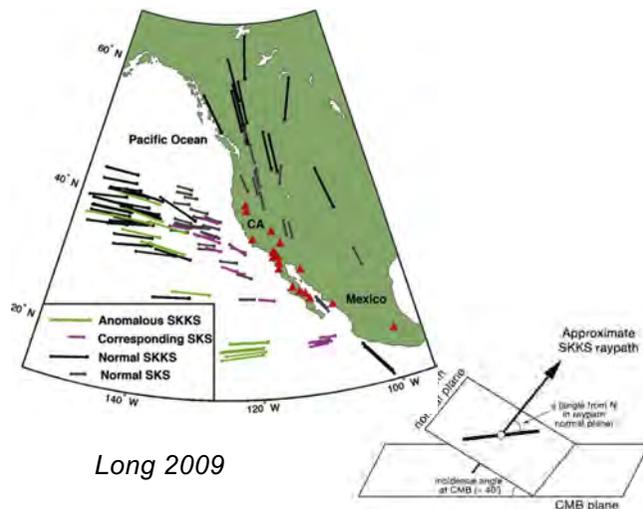
CPO of postperovskite & ferropericlase + layering?



Seismic anisotropy in D'': observations



Discrepancy in SKS - SKKS splitting



What do we need for using these data to “map” deformation in D”?

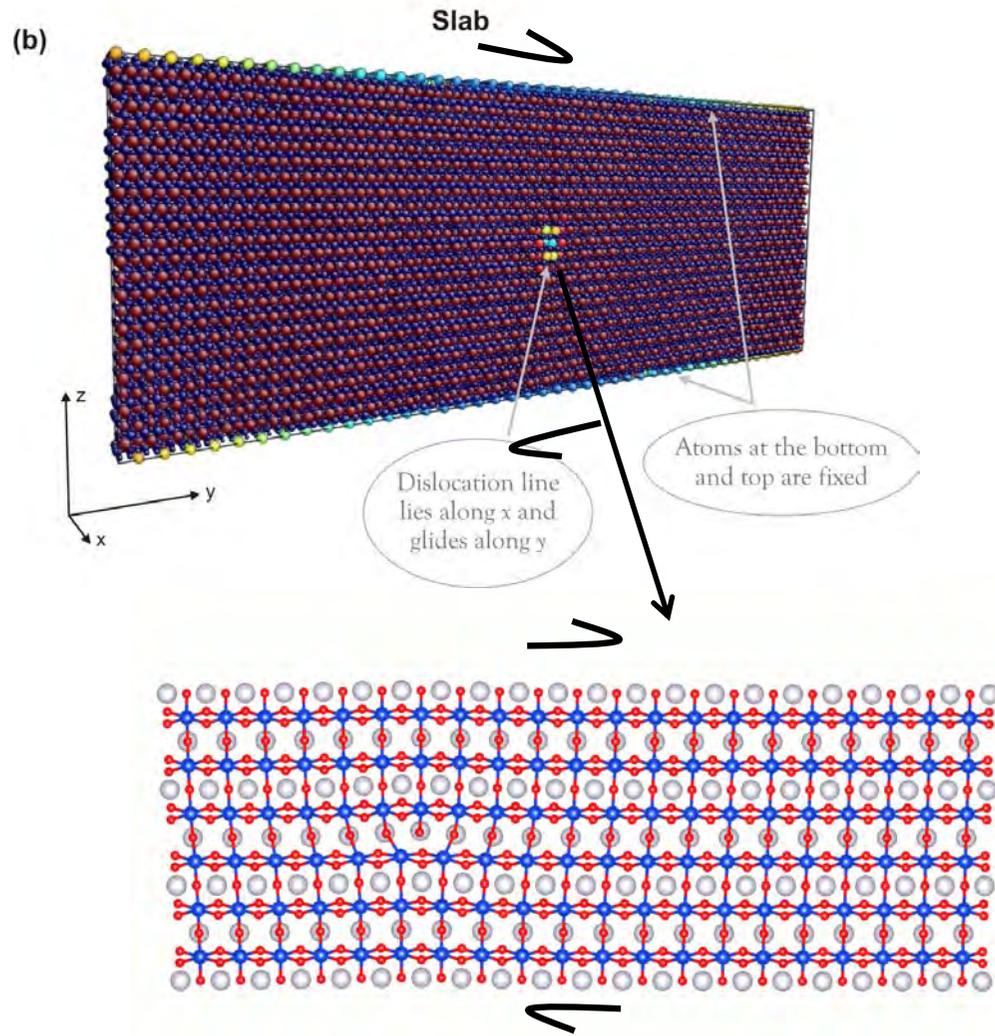
➤ ***Forward models of deformation and seismic anisotropy***

- 1. Knowledge on the constitutive minerals deformation:
at the crystal scale : which deformation mechanisms?
at the rock scale : crystal preferred orientation as a function of strain*
- 2. Knowledge on the minerals' seismic properties at high T & P*
- 3. Calculation of the resulting seismic anisotropy*
- 4. Finite-frequency modelling of wave propagation in an anisotropic Earth*

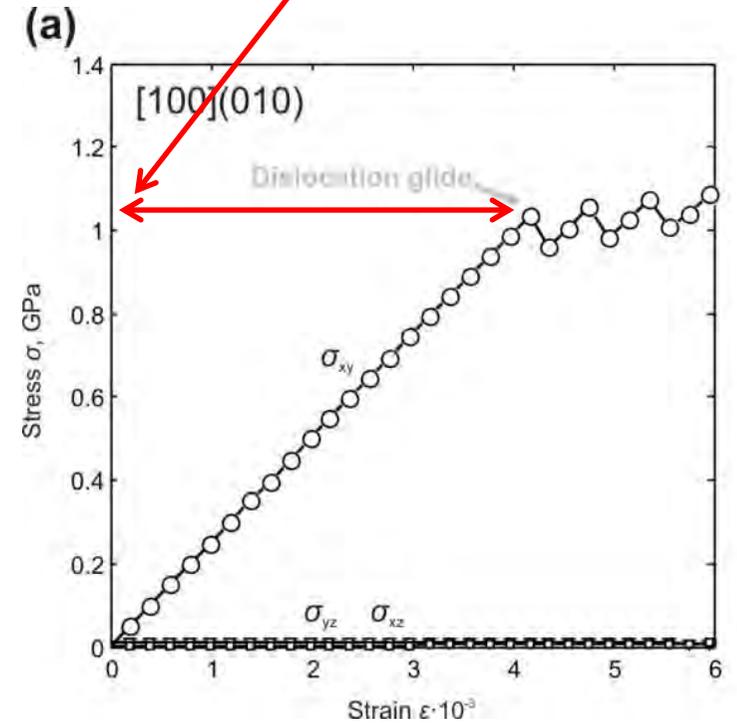


How does PPV deform?

1. Atomic-scale modeling of dislocations structure & glide at 0 K, 120GPa



Peierls stress \sim critical resolved shear stress for dislocation glide



A. Goryaeva, PhD 2016, Goryaeva et al. PCM 2015a,b, 2017



Alexandra Goryaeva
Philippe Carrez
Patrick Cordier

UMET
Unité Matériaux Et Transformations



How does PPV deform?

- Atomic-scale modeling of dislocations glide at D'' temperatures, pressures & strain rates

Anisotropic Lattice Friction of PPV

@ 0 K & 120 GPa

System	Edge σ_p (GPa)	Screw σ_p (GPa)
[100](010)	< 0.1	1
[100](011)	~0.12	> 11
[100](001)	~0.1	17.5
[001](010)	2	3
$\frac{1}{2}\langle 110 \rangle \{110\}$	2.8 → twinning	0.7

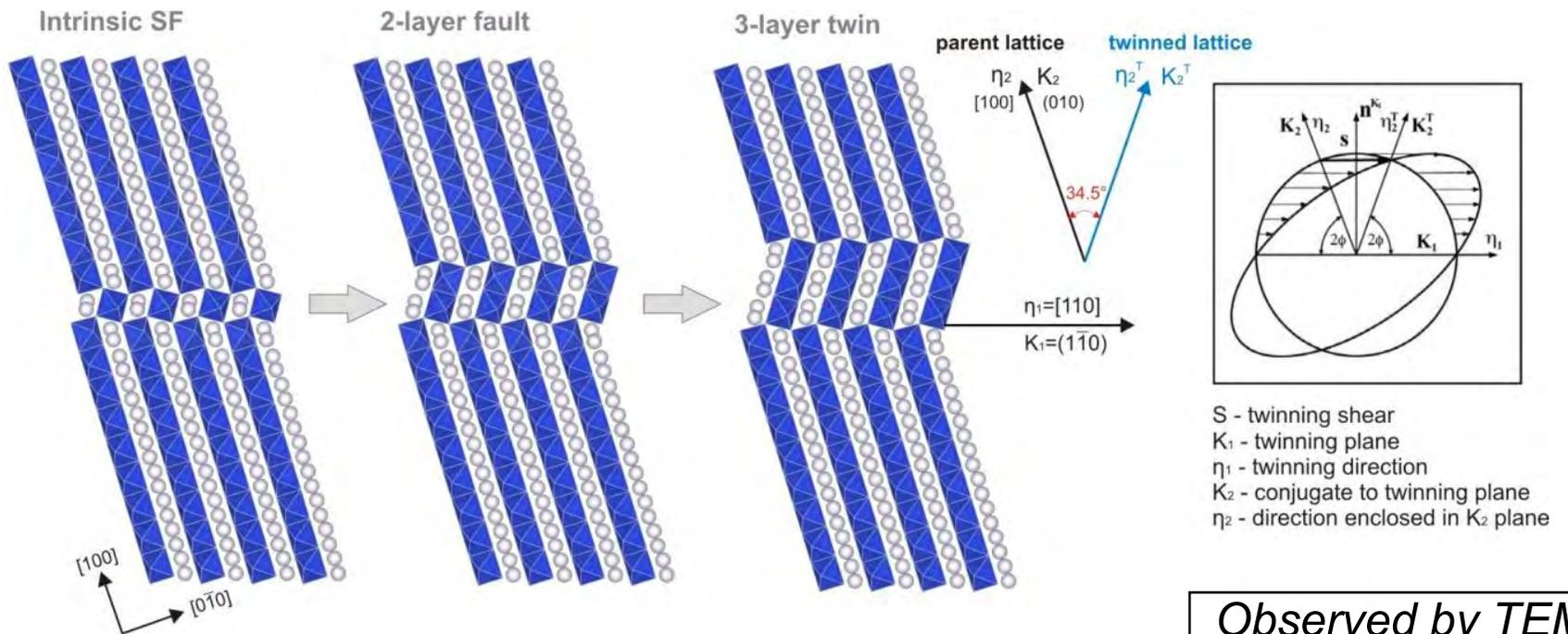
NEW!

A. Goryaeva, PhD 2016, Goryaeva et al. PCM 2015a,b, 2017



How does PPV deform? Twinning

$\langle 110 \rangle \{110\}$ twinning: rotation by 34.5° around $[001]$
Abrupt change of orientation = effect on texture evolution



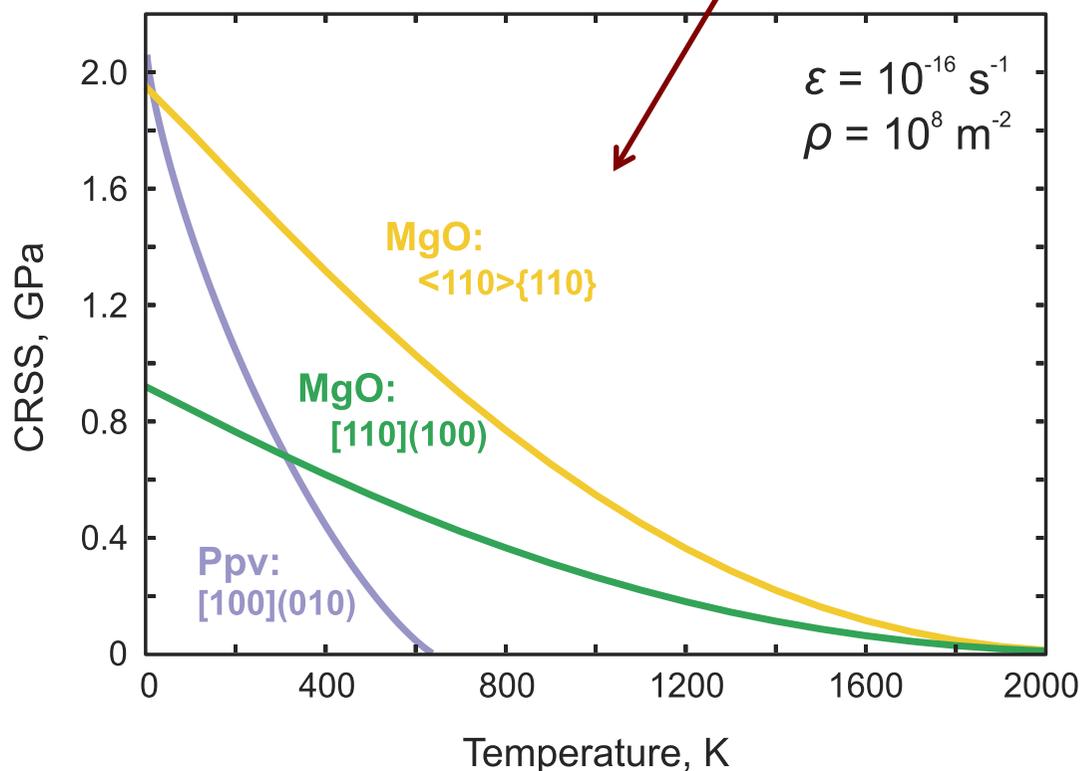
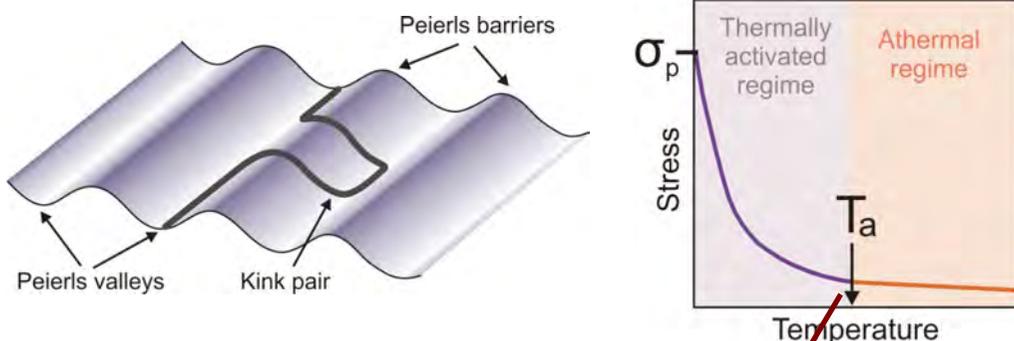
➤ Accommodates strains // $[100]$ & $[010]$

Observed by TEM
in CaIrO_3 PPV
(Miyajima et al. 2010;
Niwa et al. 2012)



How does PPV & MgO deform under D'' conditions?

Atomic-scale modeling of dislocation glide @ **high T ($\geq 2000\text{K}$)**
high P (120GPa)
low strain rates (10^{-16} s^{-1})



At D'' temperatures ($>2000\text{K}$):

Dislocation glide is easy
(requires low stresses)

&

independent on T
for both PPv and MgO

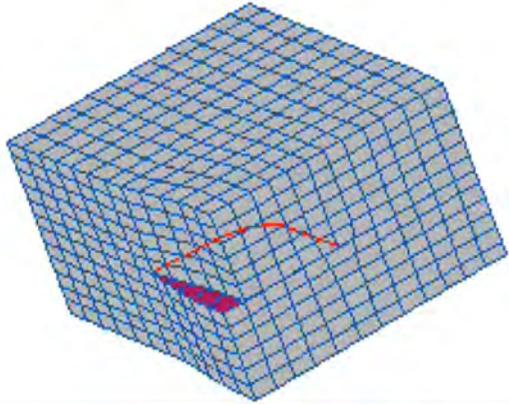


Modelling the deformation of a rock = polycrystalline aggregate

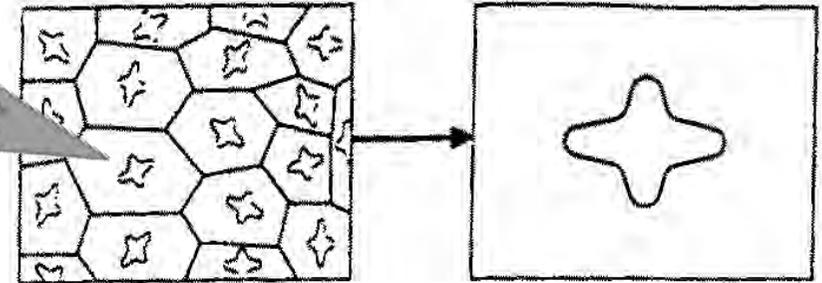
Viscoplastic self-consistent models (VPSC)

within a grain (crystal):

Lebensohn & Tomé 1993

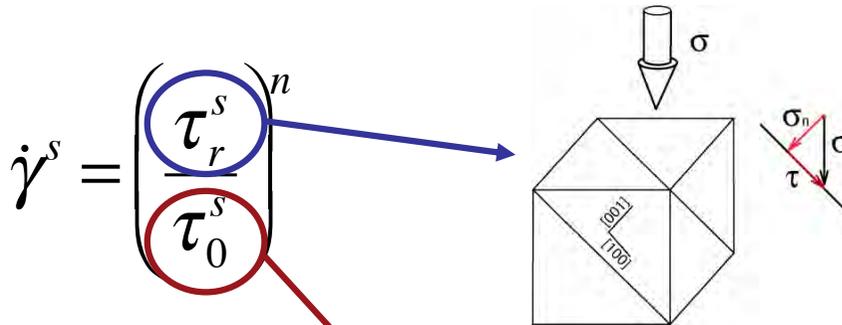


rock (polycrystal)
deformation:



strain = motion of dislocations
on well-defined crystal
planes & directions

behavior of the aggregate
(rock) =
average of crystals' behaviors



$$\dot{E}_{ij} = \langle \dot{\epsilon}_{ij} \rangle \quad \Sigma_{ij} = \langle \sigma_{ij} \rangle$$

$$\dot{\epsilon}_{kl} - \dot{E}_{kl} = -M_{ijkl} (\sigma_{ij} - \Sigma_{ij})$$

Input: slip systems' strength,
initial texture & mechanical
solicitation (stress or velocity
gradient tensor)

Output: evolution of crystal
orientations & mechanical response
(strain rate or stress tensor)



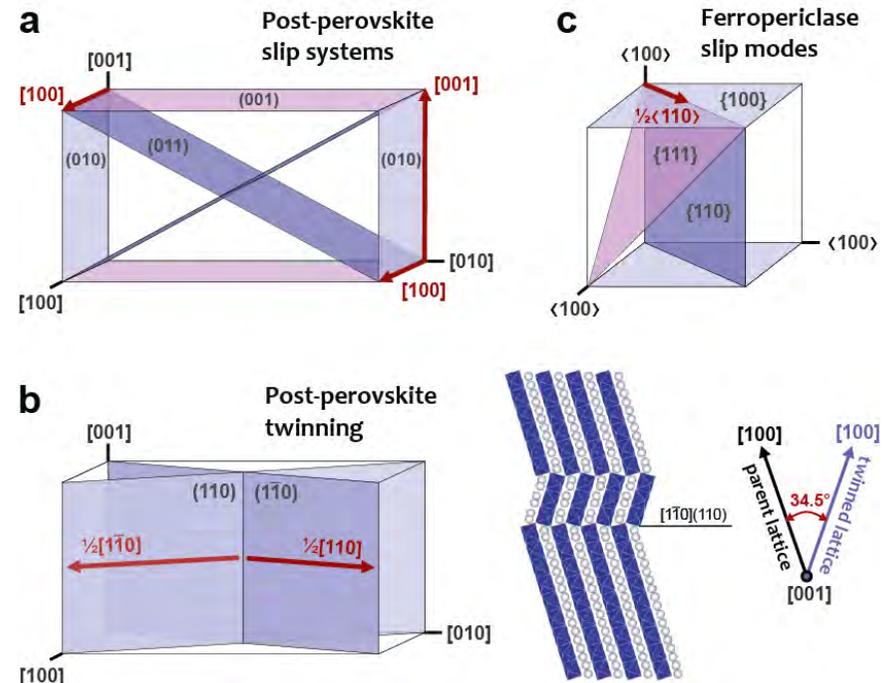
Modelling the deformation of a D'' rock ~ aggregate of 70% MgSiO₃ PPV + 30% MgO crystals

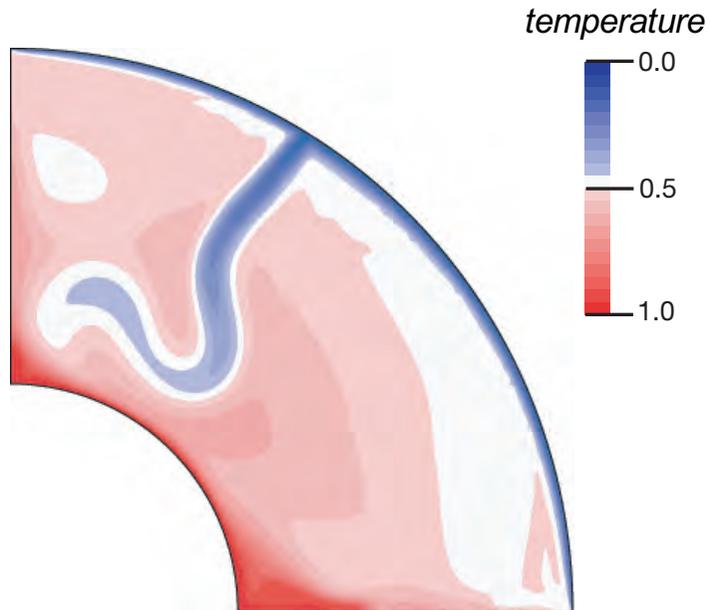
MgSiO₃ PPV

Slip system	CRSS
[100](010)	1
[100](011)	10
[100](001)	20
[001](010)	1 / 3
$\frac{1}{2} \langle 110 \rangle \{110\}$ twinning	3 / not active

MgO

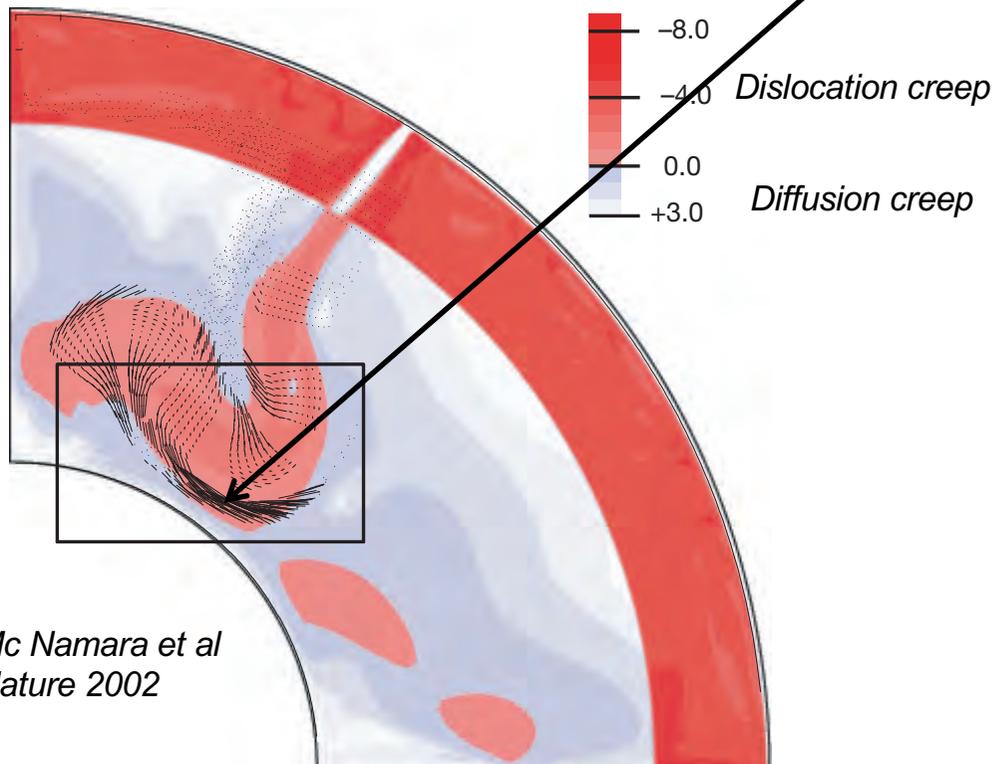
Slip system	CRSS
$\langle 110 \rangle \{110\}$	1
$\langle 110 \rangle \{111\}$	5
[100]{110}	1





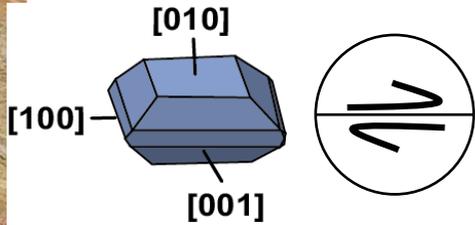
Which deformation in D'' ?

- Flow patterns can be very complex:
 - folding of the slabs...
- BUT** the highest strain domains:
 - stretching subparallel to CMB



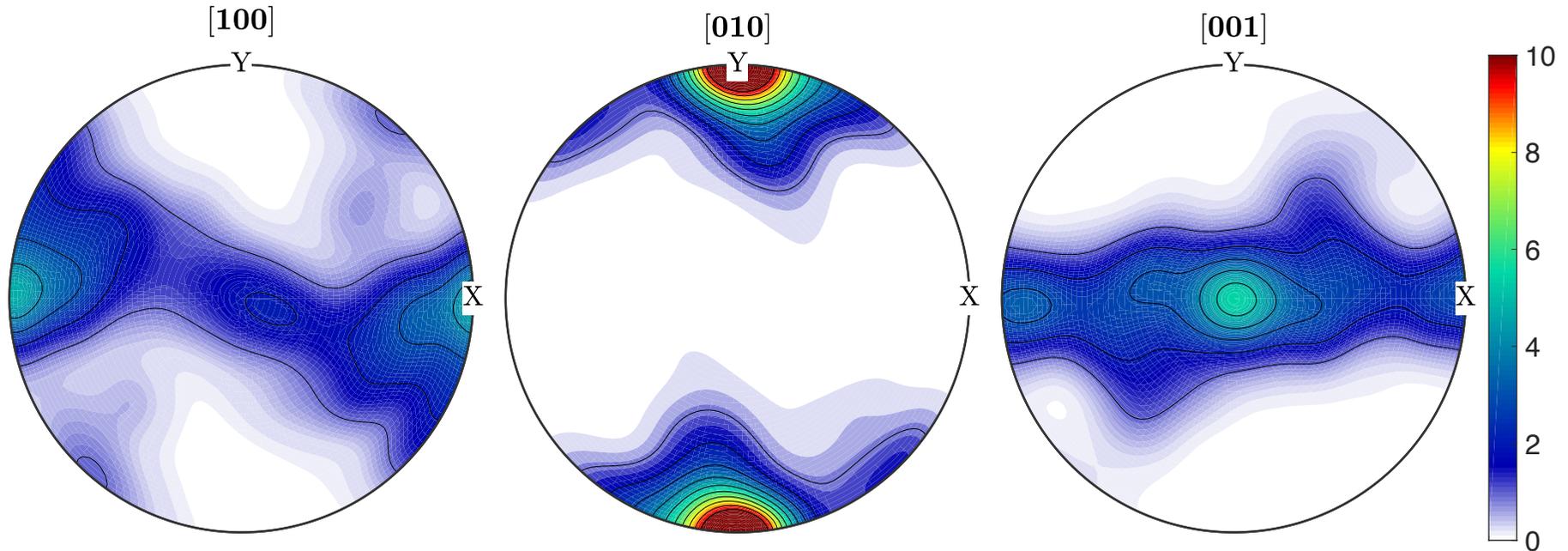
Mc Namara et al
Nature 2002

Modelling the deformation of a 70% PPV – 30% MgO aggregate

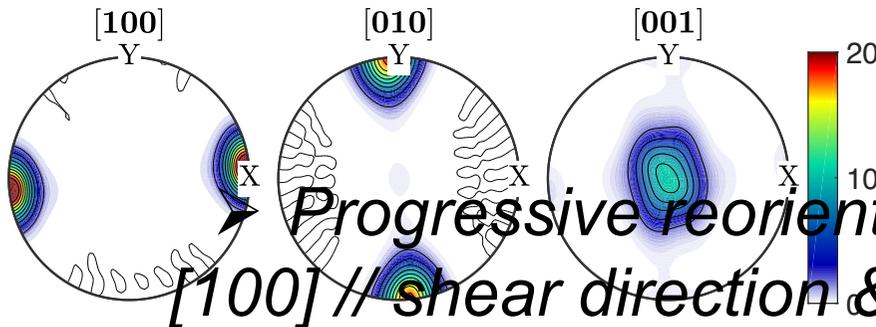


PPV texture evolution with increasing strain
twinning active

Tommasi et al. EPSL 2018



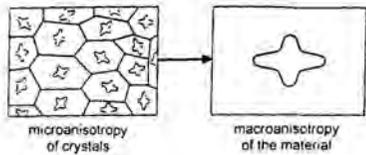
Shear strain of 10



→ No twinning – shear strain of 10
 Progressive reorientation of the crystal leading to
 $[100] //$ shear direction & $[010] //$ normal to shear plane

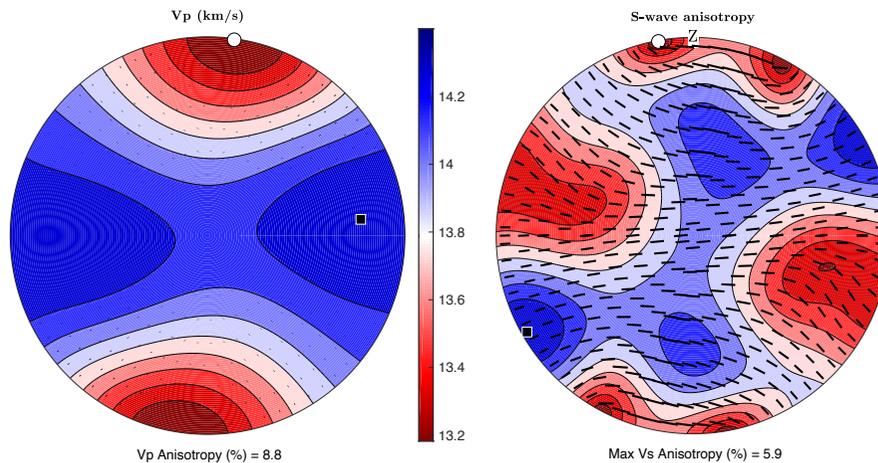
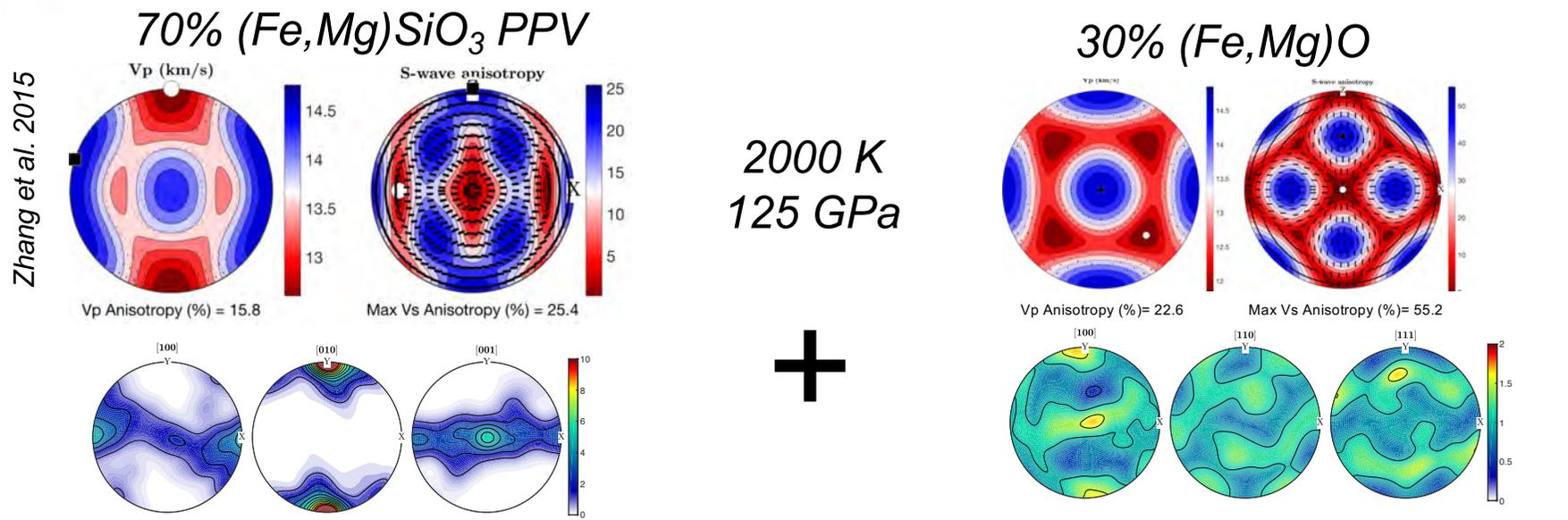
➤ Twinning = faster rotation but slower intensification of the CPO
 dispersion of $[100]$ & $[010]$ = rotation by 34° around $[001]$





Seismic anisotropy at the rock scale

rock = aggregate of anisotropic crystals

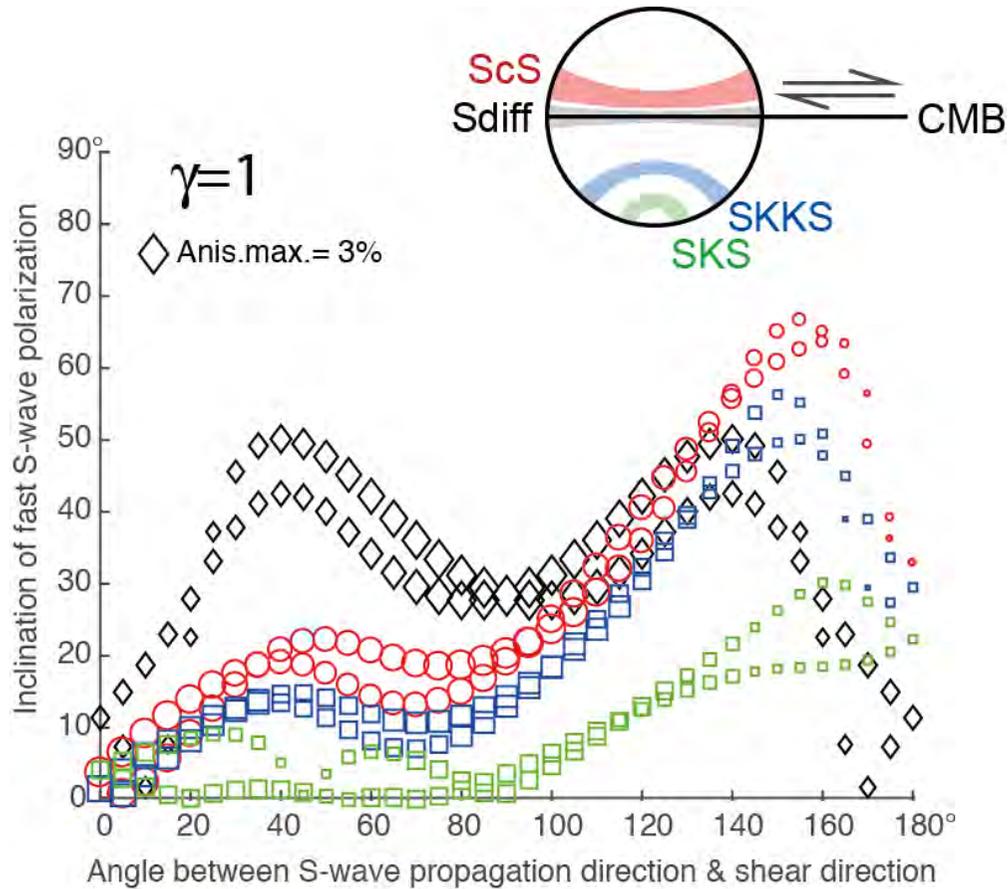
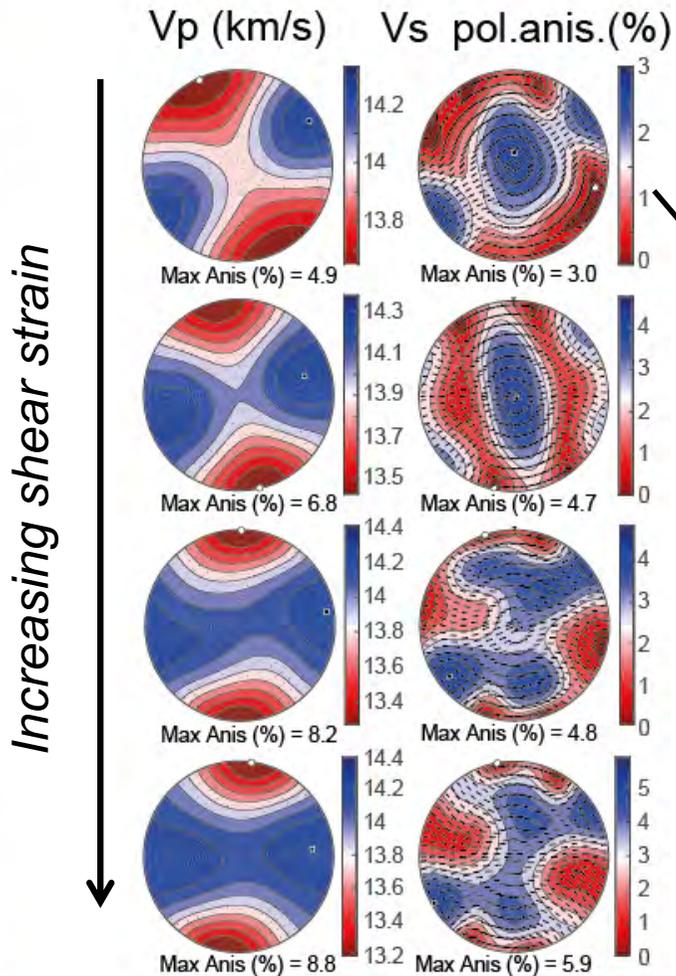
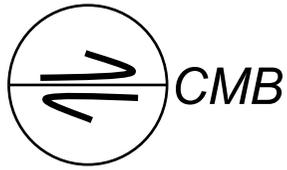


volumetric averaging of the single crystal properties function of:

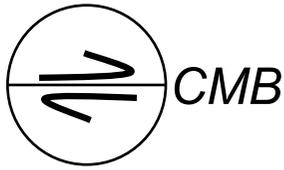
- mineralogical composition
- orientation of the crystals



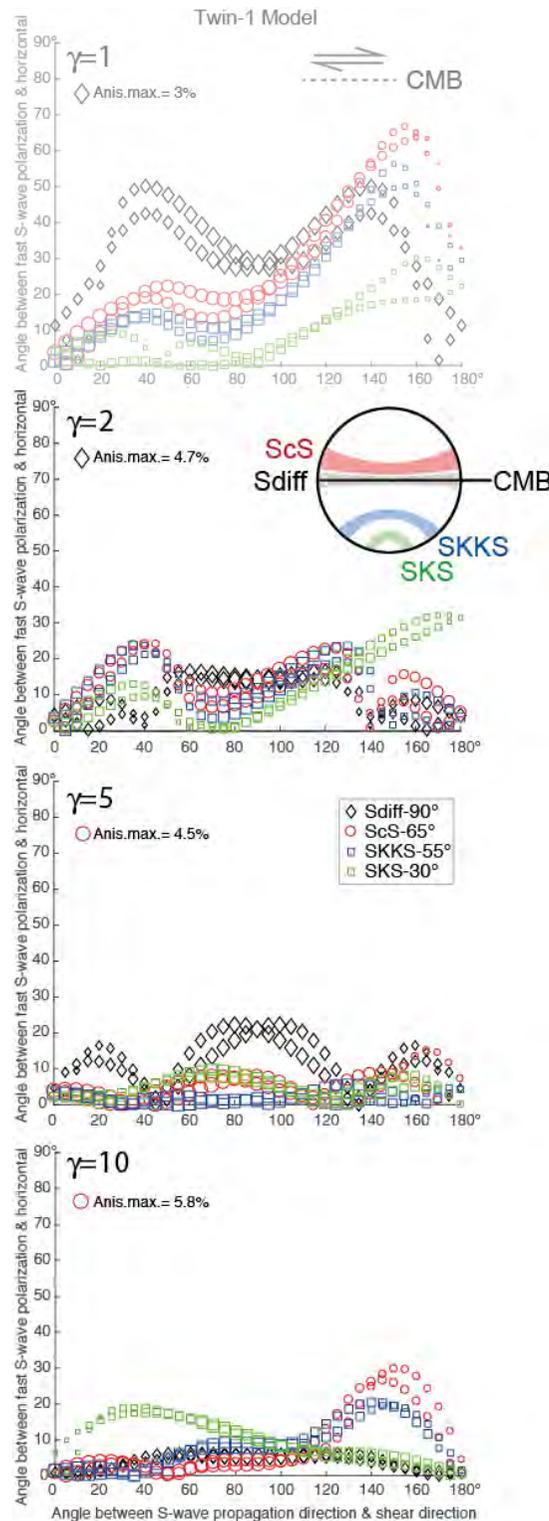
Seismic anisotropy of a PPV+MgO aggregate deformed in simple shear parallel to the CMB at 2000 K, 125 GPa



At low shear strains:
 fast polarization & birefringence depend strongly on propagation direction
 Sdiff, ScS, SKKS fast polarization may be inclined by up to 50-60° to relatively to the horizontal



Increasing shear strain



Seismic anisotropy of a PPV+MgO aggregate deformed in simple shear parallel to the CMB at 2000 K & 125 GPa

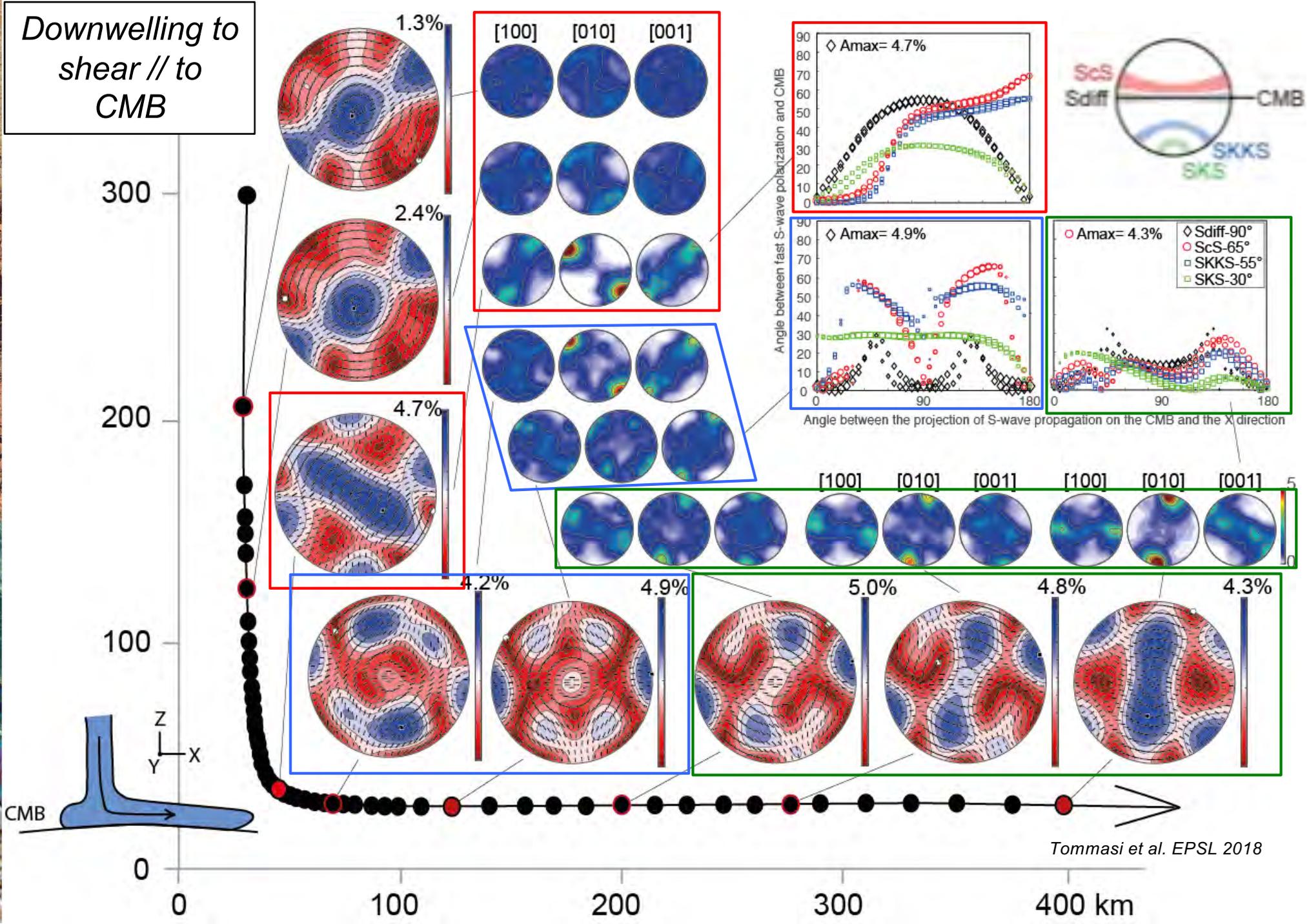
*At low shear strains:
fast polarization & birefringence depend strongly on propagation direction
Sdiff, ScS, SKKS fast polarization inclined by up to 50-60°*

Max inclination of fast polarization decreases with increasing shear strain

*At high shear strains:
Fast polarizations mainly subhorizontal, but birefringence still depends on propagation direction*

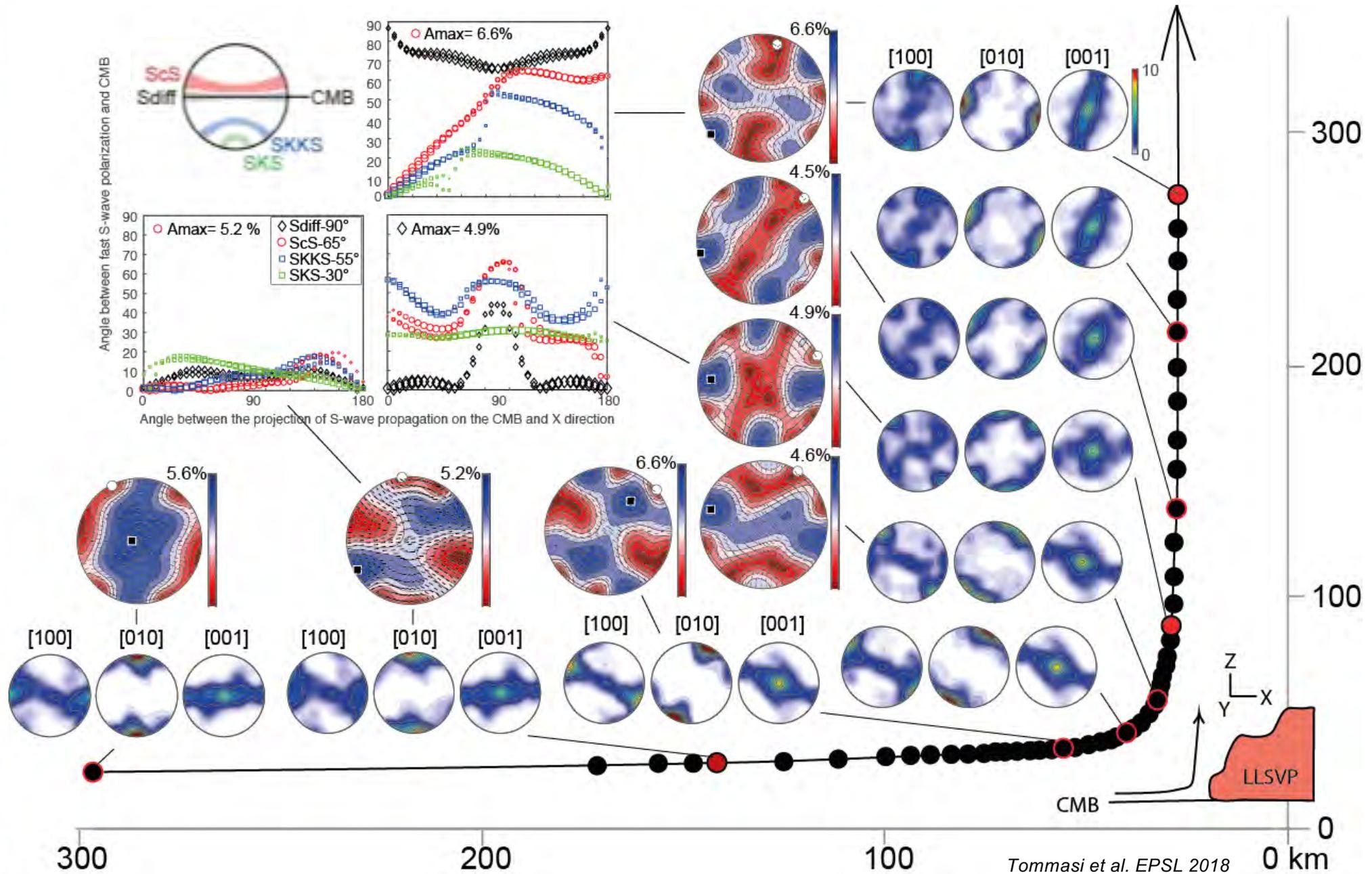
Tommasi et al.
EPSL 2018

CPO and seismic anisotropy evolution in response to a change in flow direction



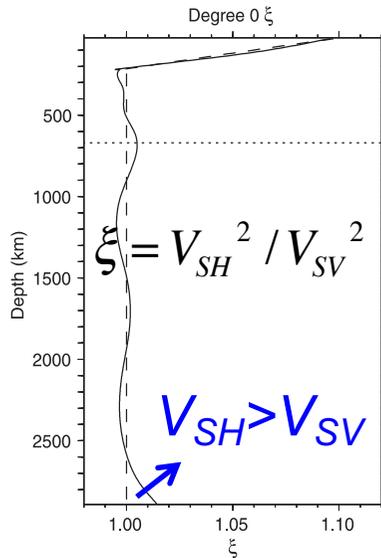
CPO and seismic anisotropy evolution in response to a change in flow direction

Shear // to CMB to upwelling at the border of a Low Shear Velocity Province



Seismic anisotropy in D'': Observations vs. model predictions

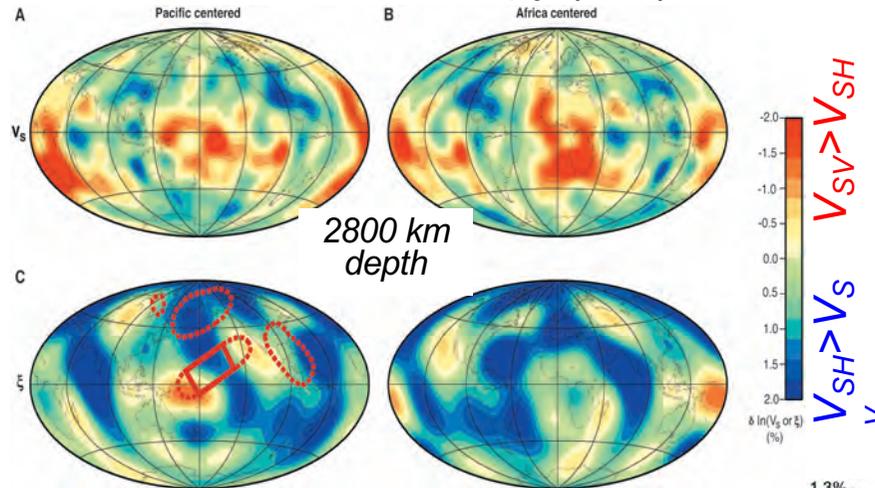
1D global average



Panning & Romanowicz
Science 2004

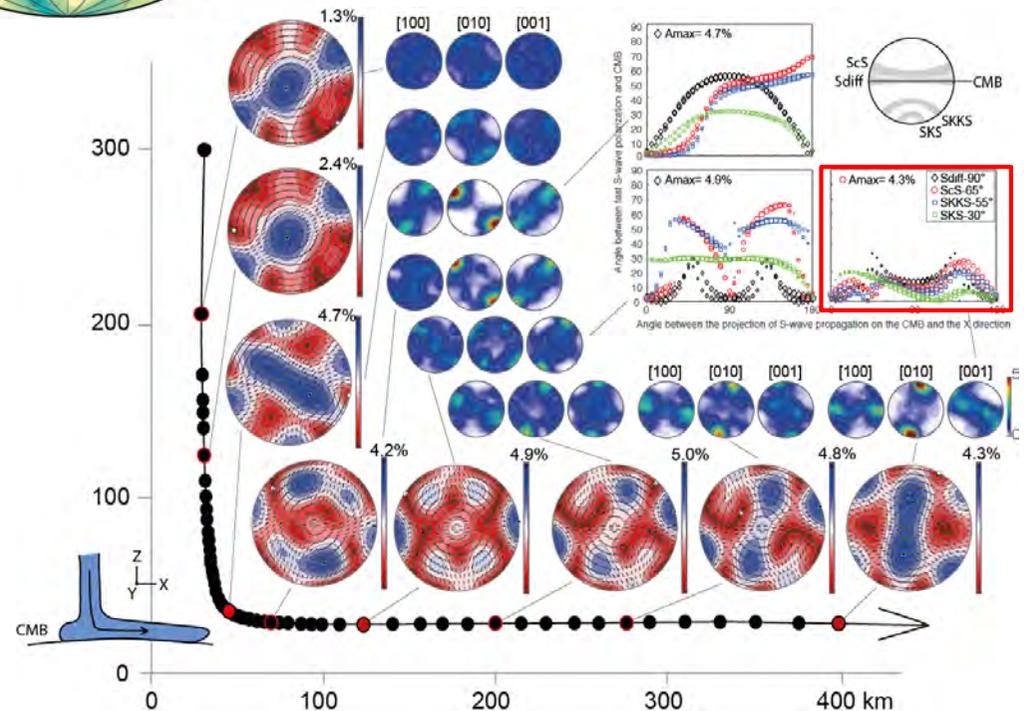
Anisotropic tomography

S-wave velocity anomalies (A,B)
and radial anisotropy (C,D)



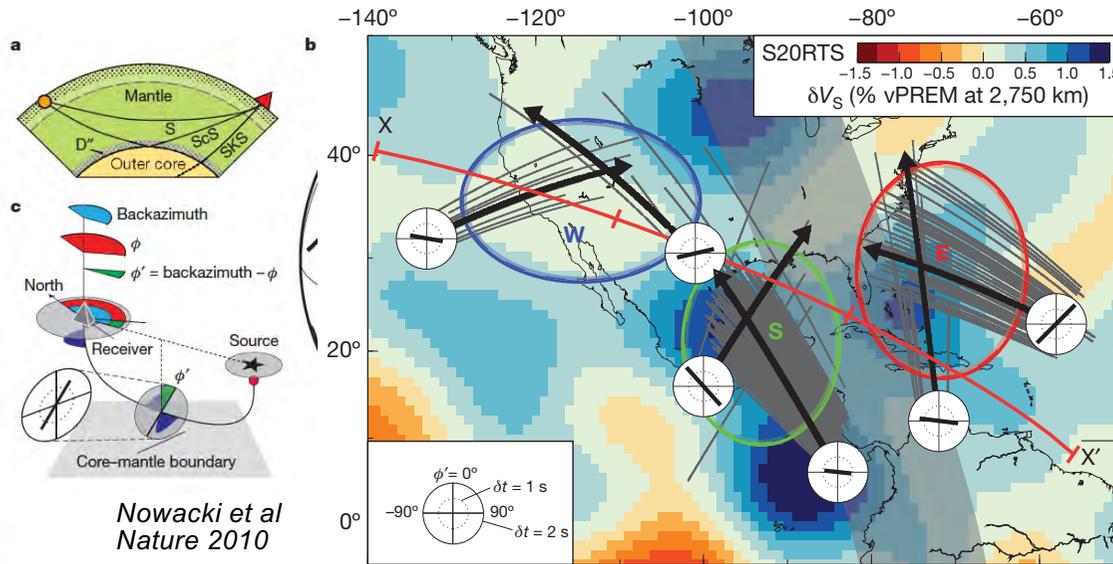
- Predominance of $V_{SH} > V_{SV}$
- Strong $V_{SH} > V_{SV}$ anisotropy mainly in high velocity domains
- $V_{SV} > V_{SH}$ = smaller areas, mainly low velocity domains

- Shear parallel to the CMB dominates the average flow pattern in D''



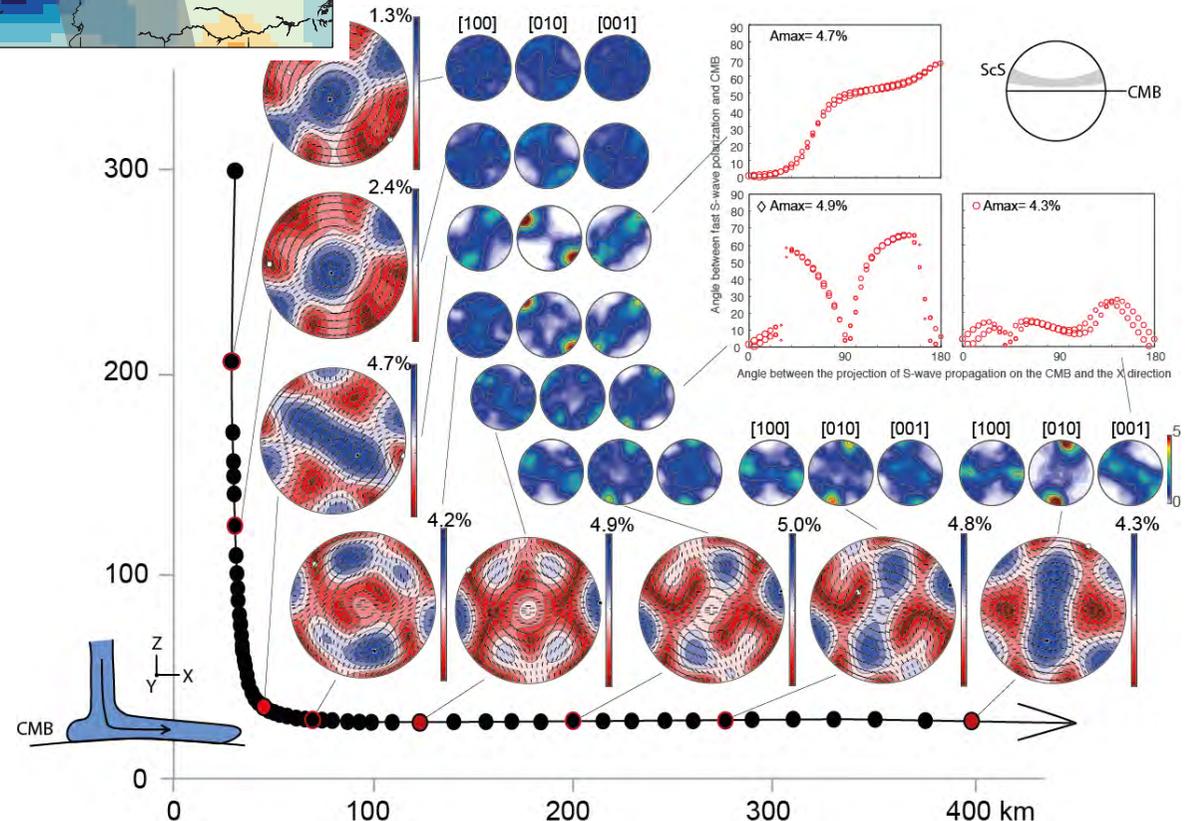
Seismic anisotropy in D'': Observations vs. model predictions

Differential S-ScS splitting



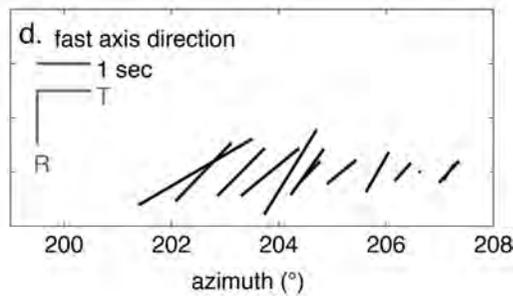
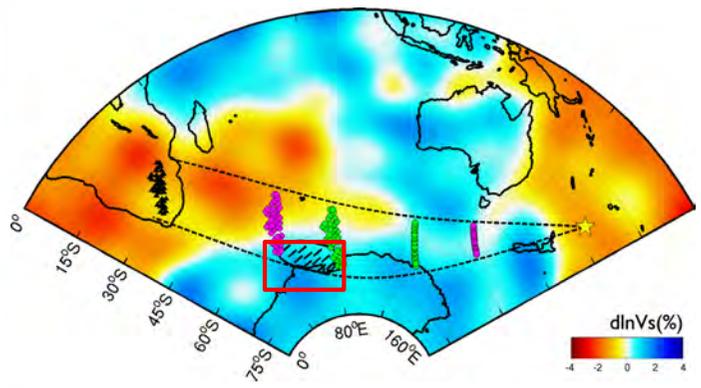
- Different splitting in cross-cutting ray paths = anisotropy depends on propagation direction
- Fast polarizations either sub-parallel or inclined relative to CMB

- Fast ScS polarizations inclined by $>30^\circ$ to CMB only observed in or near vertical flow domains
- Consistent with the observations = paths sampling high velocity regions (downwellings)
- Predicted (local) anisotropy \gg measured values : integration of spatially Δ signal

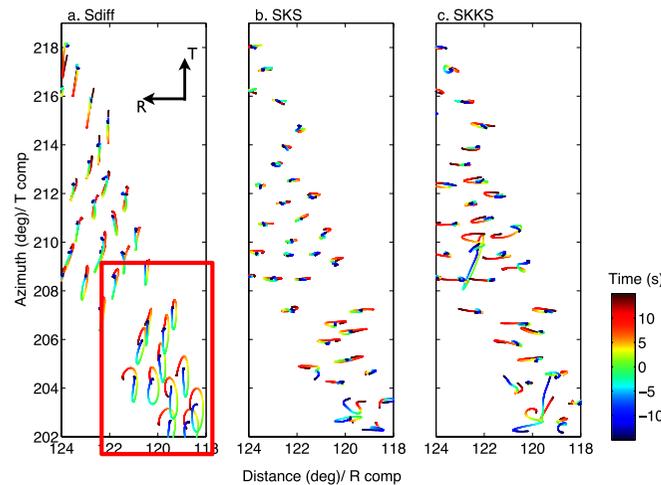


Seismic anisotropy in D'': Observations vs. model predictions

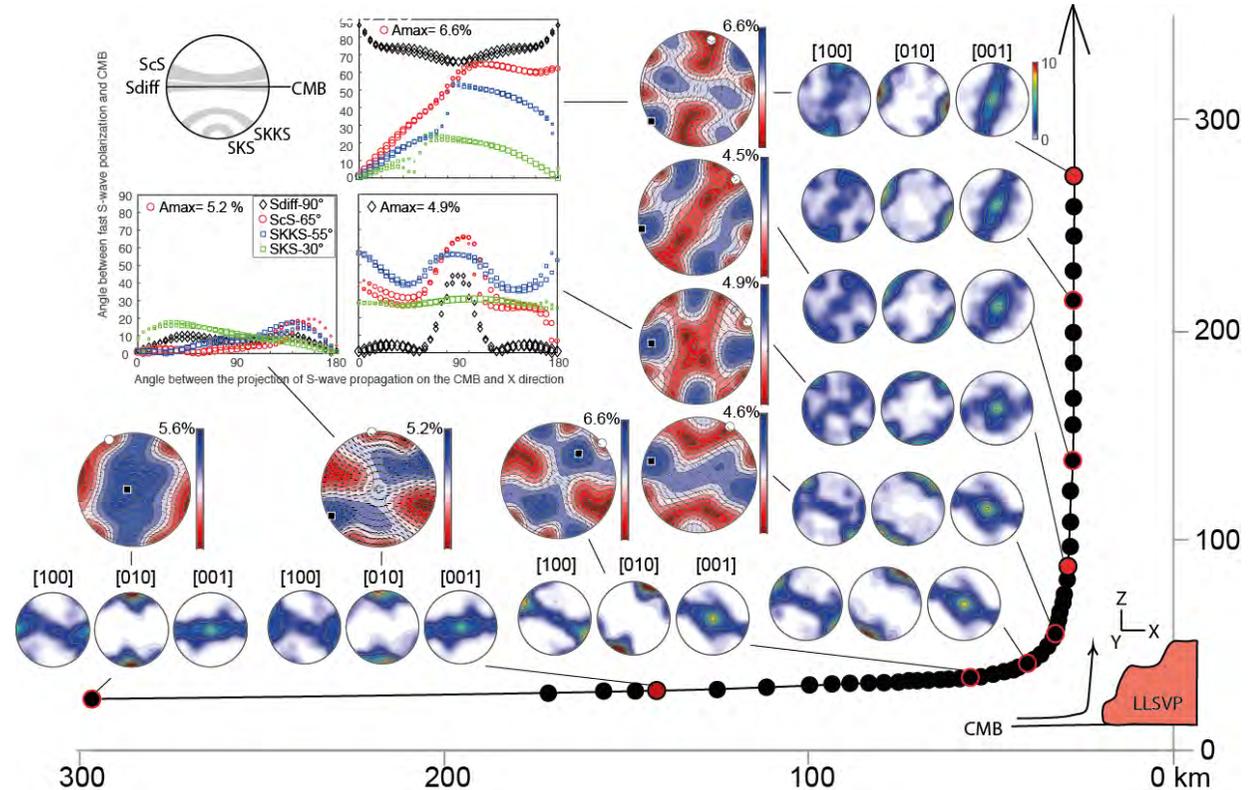
Sdiff splitting – 3D waveform modeling



Cottaar & Romanowicz GJI 2013



- Fast Sdiff polarizations inclined by 45° to CMB observed at southern border of the African LLSVP
- No clear SKS or SKKS anisotropy signal



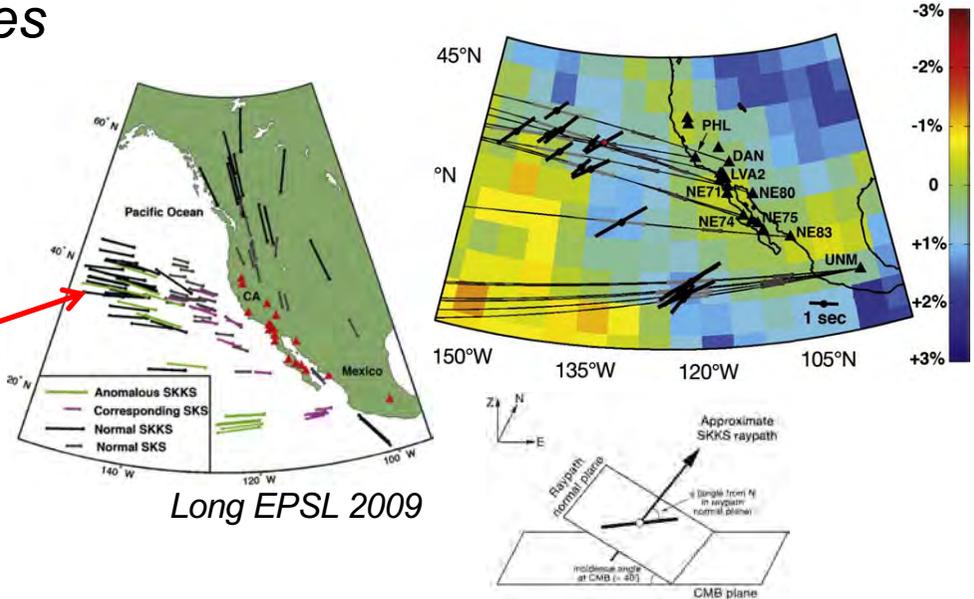
- Fast Sdiff polarizations inclined relatively to CMB predicted in the upwelling path



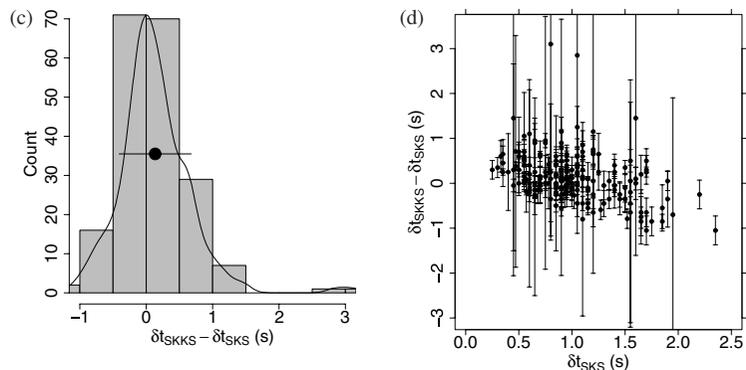
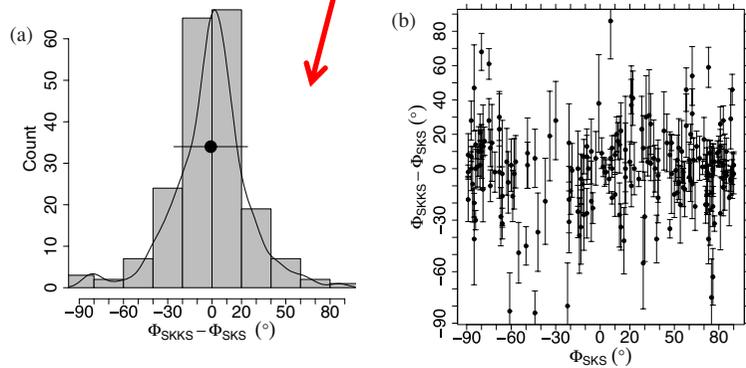
Seismic anisotropy in D'': Observations vs. model predictions

SKKS-SKS splitting discrepancies

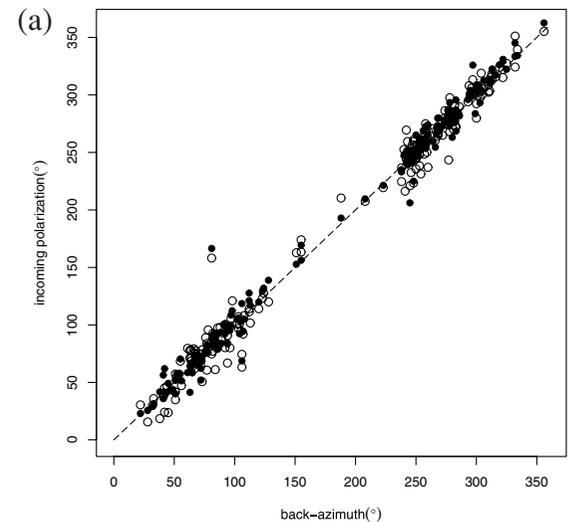
- Similar paths in the upper mantle, but different ones in D''
- BUT rare observations & often consistent & discrepant observations overlap



- Also, splitting in D'' should deviate the initial polarization of SKS & SKKS from the back-azimuth : rarely observed!

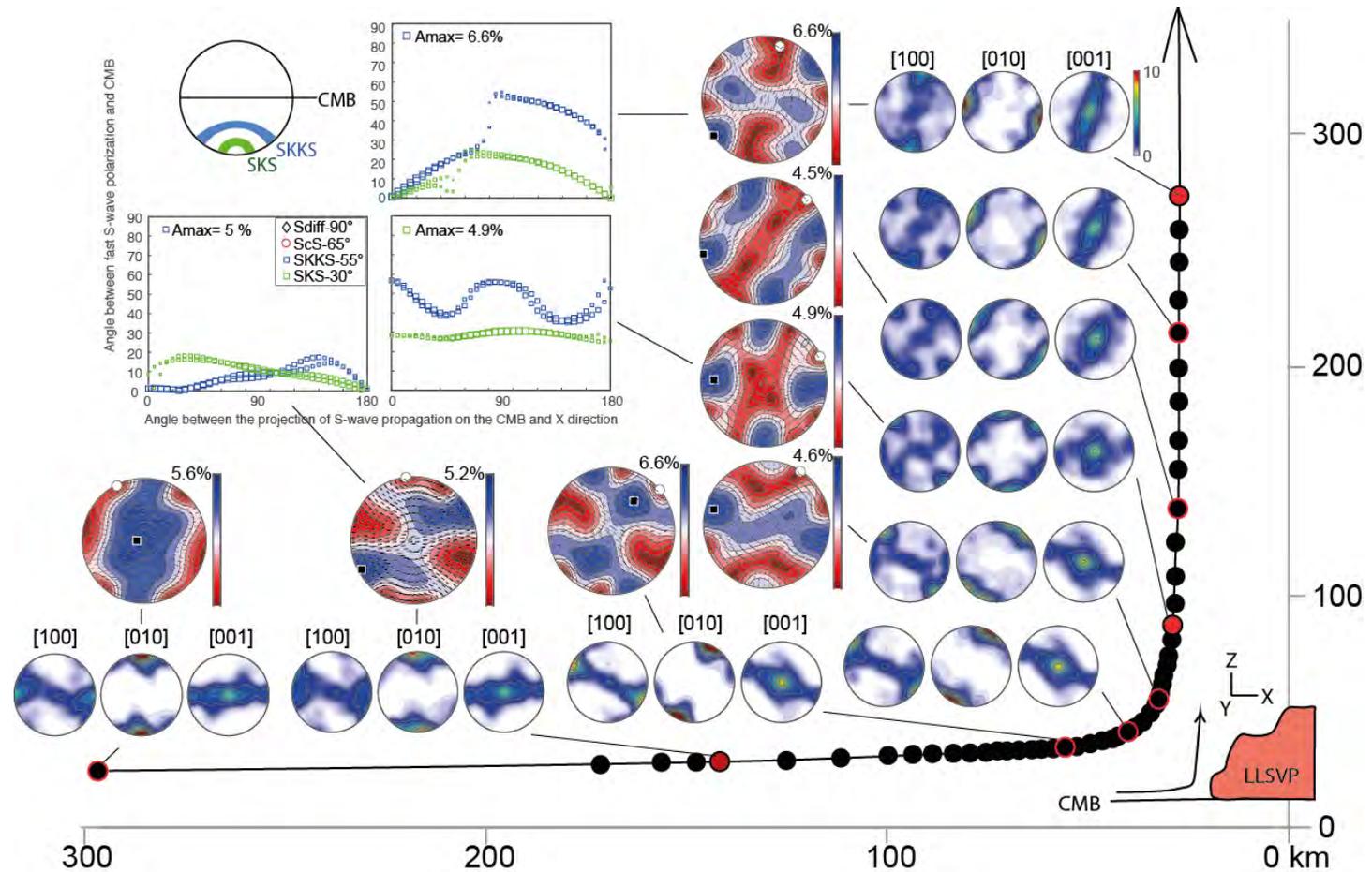


Restivo & Helffrich GJI 2006



Seismic anisotropy in D'' : Observations vs. model predictions

SKKS-SKS splitting



- Clear SKS & SKKS birefringence for most propagation directions for both horizontal shearing & vertical flows. SKS & SKKS signals often \neq .
- Why this anisotropy is not “seen” by most SKS & SKKS waves?
Hypothesis : Finite-frequency effects – averaging of the signal over large volumes with lateral variations in the flow pattern



*Atomic scale models of the deformation of PPV & MgO + VPSC models : **prediction of the evolution of CPO as a function of strain**, which can be translated into seismic anisotropy patterns.*

*Most **observations of seismic anisotropy in D''** might be explained by an anisotropic PPV-rich D'' deforming by dislocation creep with dominant activation of **[100](010) & 001 slip + twinning**.*

Inclined fast polarizations imply departures from flow // to CMB.

Low observed delay times imply heterogeneity of flow at scales < 1000 km

BUT: *Seismic waves integrate the signal over large volumes in D''.*

No simple key for the interpretation of the observations.

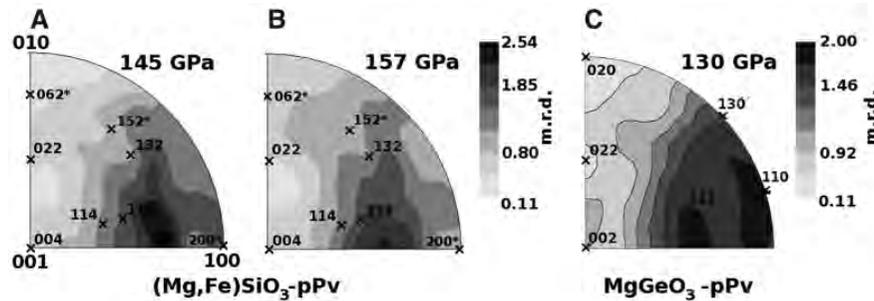


Open question: ≠ between model predictions & experiments

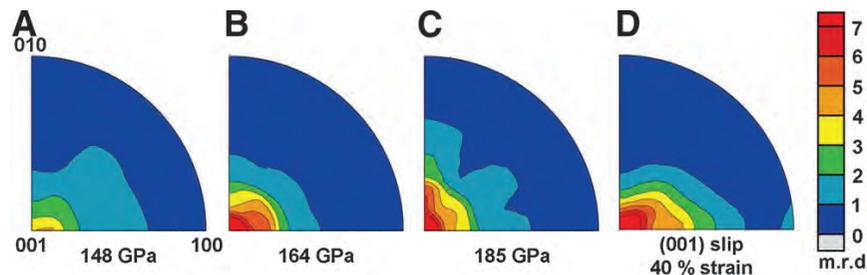
Diamond anvil cell experiments on $MgSiO_3$ PPV at D'' p, T conditions
In situ texture measurements by X-ray diffraction; stresses 5-10 GPa

VPSC simulations based on atomic scale modeling of dislocation glide

145-157 GPa, 1700-2000 K stresses 7.2-8.5 GPa
148-185 GPa, 3500 K stresses 5-10 GPa



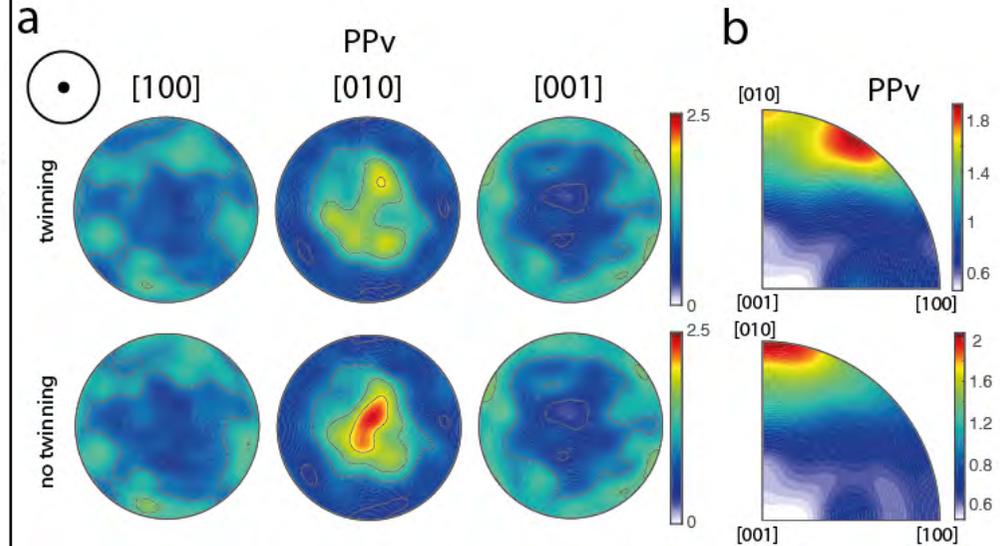
Merkel et al. 2007 Science



Miyagi et al. 2010 Science

Textures inherited at phase change + glide on (001) & {110} planes?

20% shortening

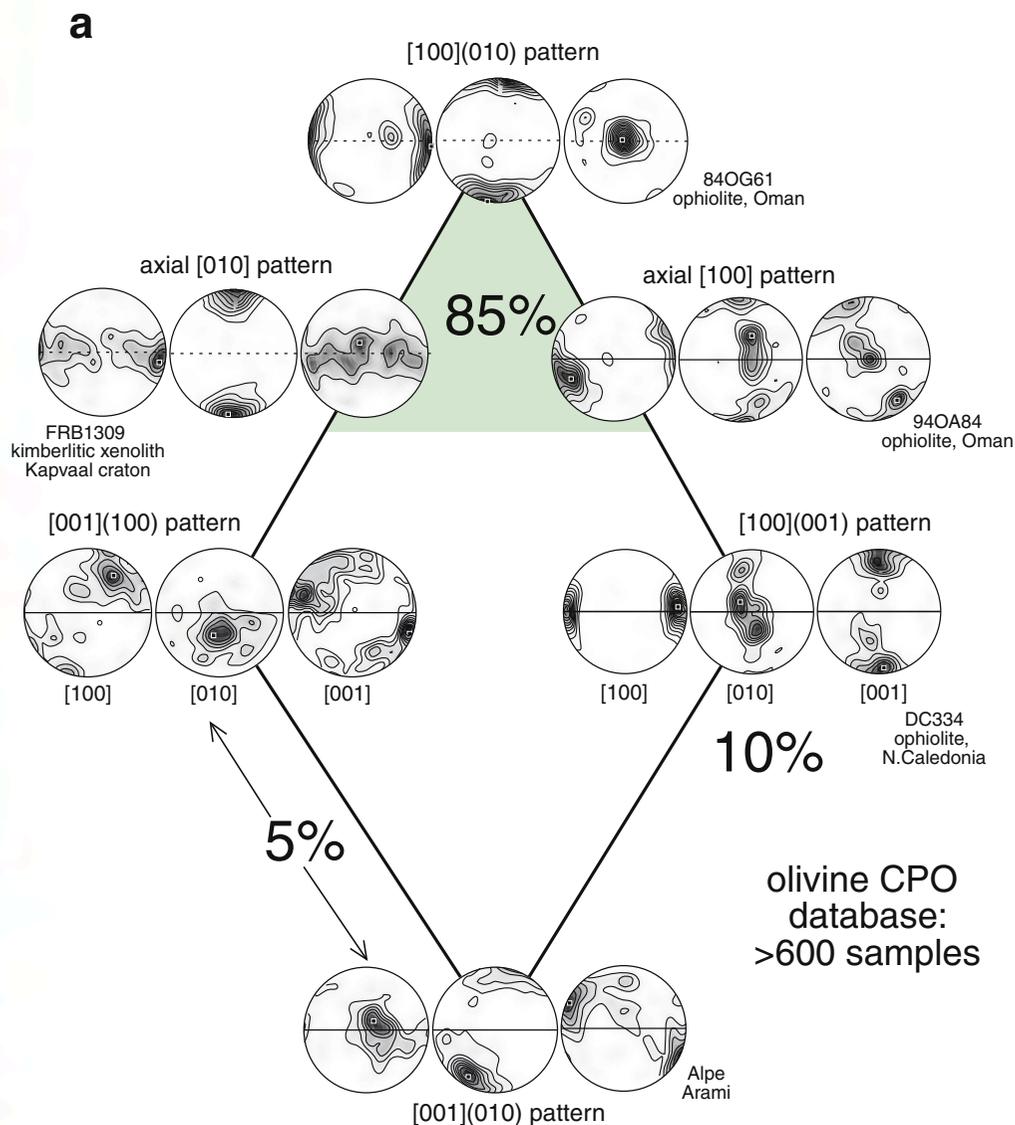


Dominant glide on [100](010) & [001](010)

➤ **Texture inheritance + stresses in experiments >> mantle stresses?**



Why even for the upper mantle inverting deformation patterns from seismic anisotropy is not possible?



- *Incomplete seismological sampling ... full anisotropy tensor is never sampled*
- *Splitting data integrates the anisotropy along the path; discrimination of different contributions only possible by differential analysis*

- *Different processes / flow geometries produce similar olivine CPO*
- *Olivine CPO produced under \neq conditions have \neq orientations relation to flow pattern, but may only be discriminated in the deformation reference frame, which is not known!*