



*The Abdus Salam*  
**International Centre for Theoretical Physics**

United Nations  
Educational, Scientific  
and Cultural Organization

International Atomic  
Energy Agency



**H4.SMR/1642-5**

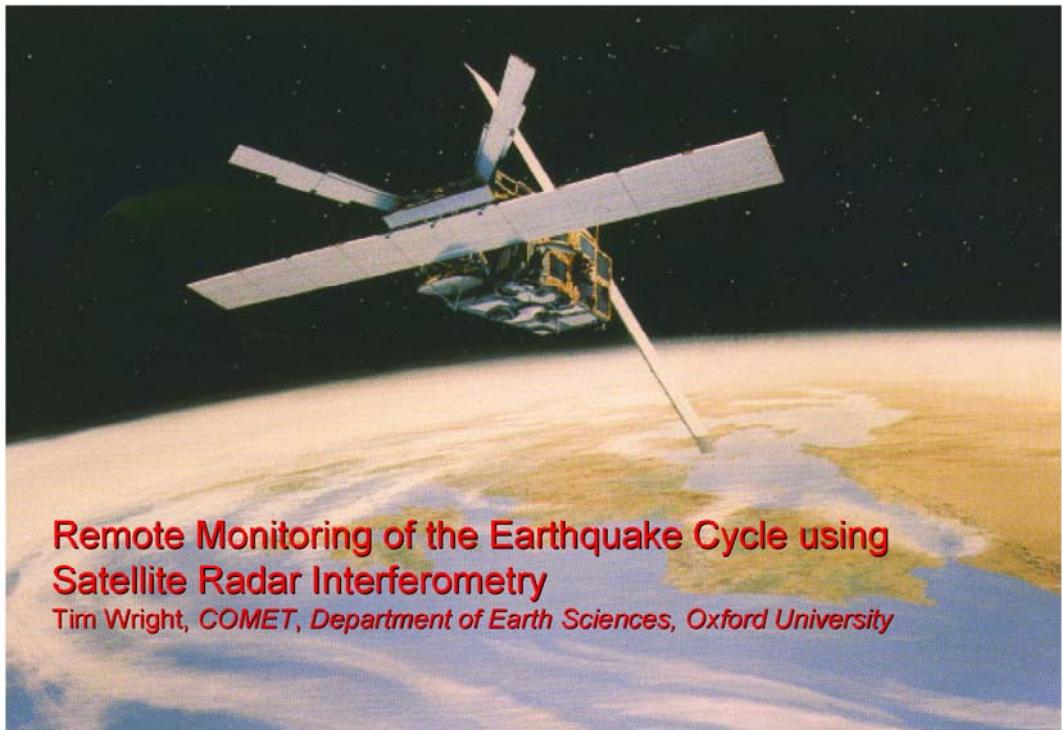
**"IAG-IASPEI Joint Capacity Building Workshop on  
Deformation Measurements and Understanding Natural  
Hazards in Developing Countries"**

**17 – 23 January 2005**

**Mapping Deformation of the Earthquake Cycle  
with InSAR**

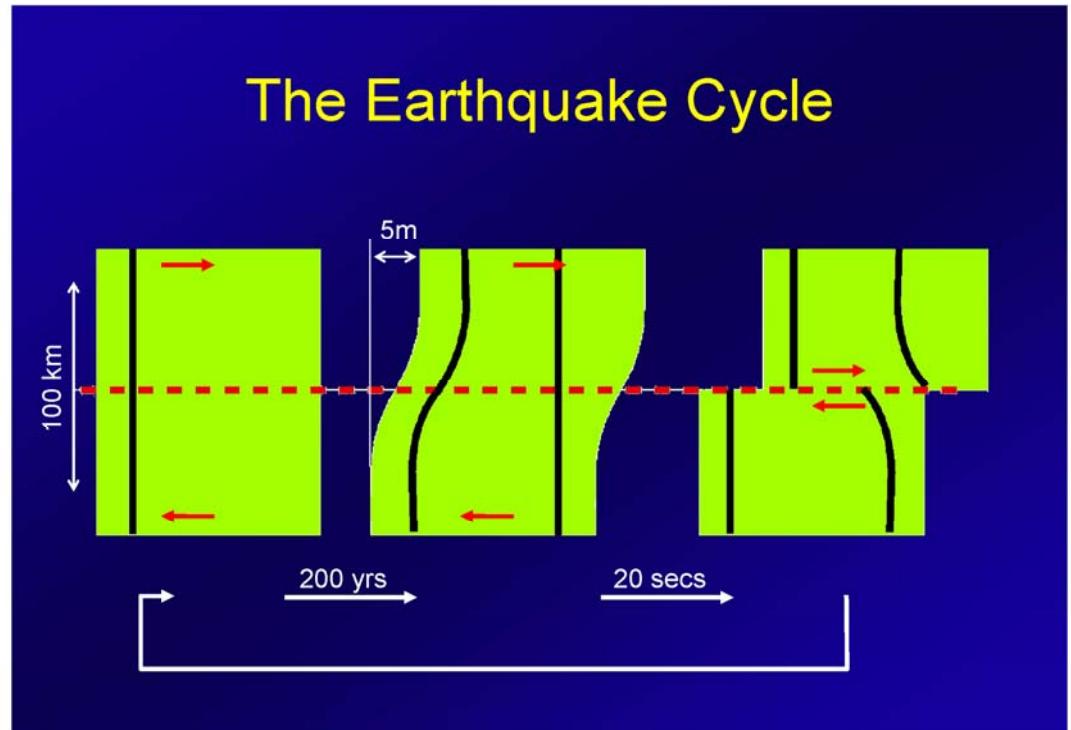
*T.Wright*

*University of Oxford  
U.K.*



## Remote Monitoring of the Earthquake Cycle using Satellite Radar Interferometry

Tim Wright, COMET, Department of Earth Sciences, Oxford University

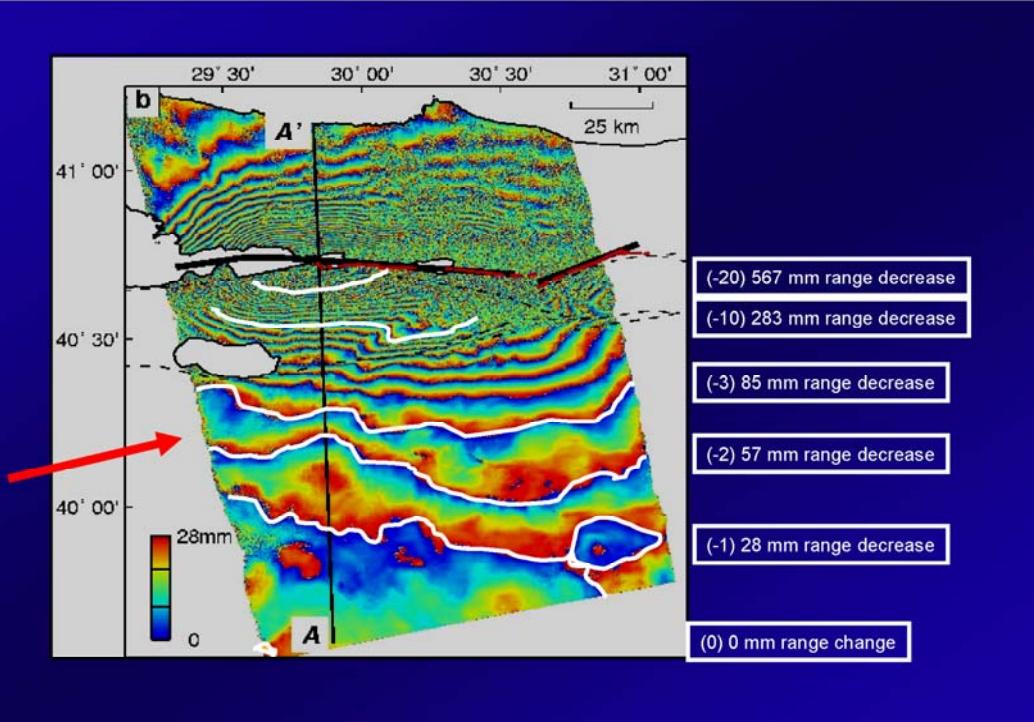


## Outline

- The Earthquake Cycle
- Simple elastic dislocation modelling
- Case study: The 2003 Bam earthquake
- Measuring Interseismic deformation with InSAR
- Other EQ cycle phenomena
- Exploiting Envisat and the ERS archive

17 August 1999, Izmit Earthquake





## Elastic Dislocation Modelling

OKSAR3 (in today's practical) takes 9 'friendly' fault parameters:

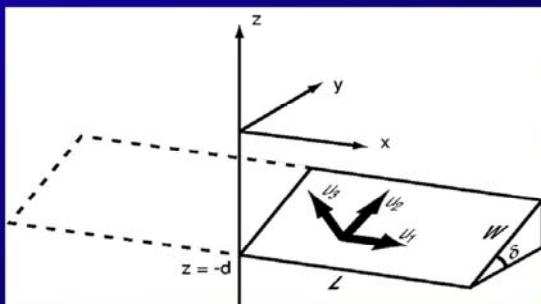
- x, y-position of centre of fault's surface projection in a map projection [2]
- Strike, Dip and Rake of fault (Aki, and Richards convention) [3]
- Magnitude of earthquake slip vector ( $u_3 = 0$ , i.e. no opening) [1]
- Top and Bottom Depths (measured vertically), Fault Length [3]



To define a rectangular fault dislocation, need 10 parameters:

- Location of fault x,y,z ( $x=y=0, z = -d$ ) [1]
- Length, Width and dip of the fault ( $L, W, \delta$ ) [3]
- Slip components ( $u_1 = \text{strike-slip}; u_2 = \text{dip-slip}; u_3 = \text{tensile}$ ) [3]
- 3D Displacements can be calculated for a point  $(x_{\text{obs}}, y_{\text{obs}})$  in the fault-centred reference frame, where the x-axis points along strike. [3]

## Elastic Dislocation Modelling

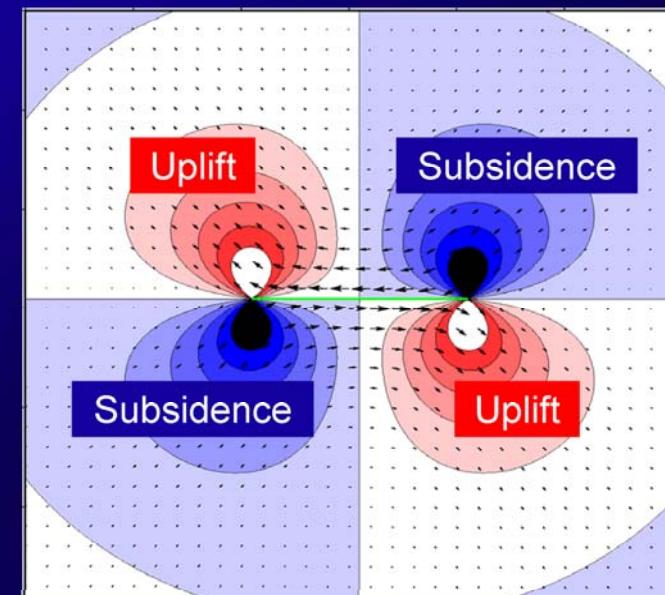


Y. Okada, 1985. Surface deformation due to **shear** and tensile faults in a half-space. *Bull. Seism. Soc. Am.*, 75, 1135-1154

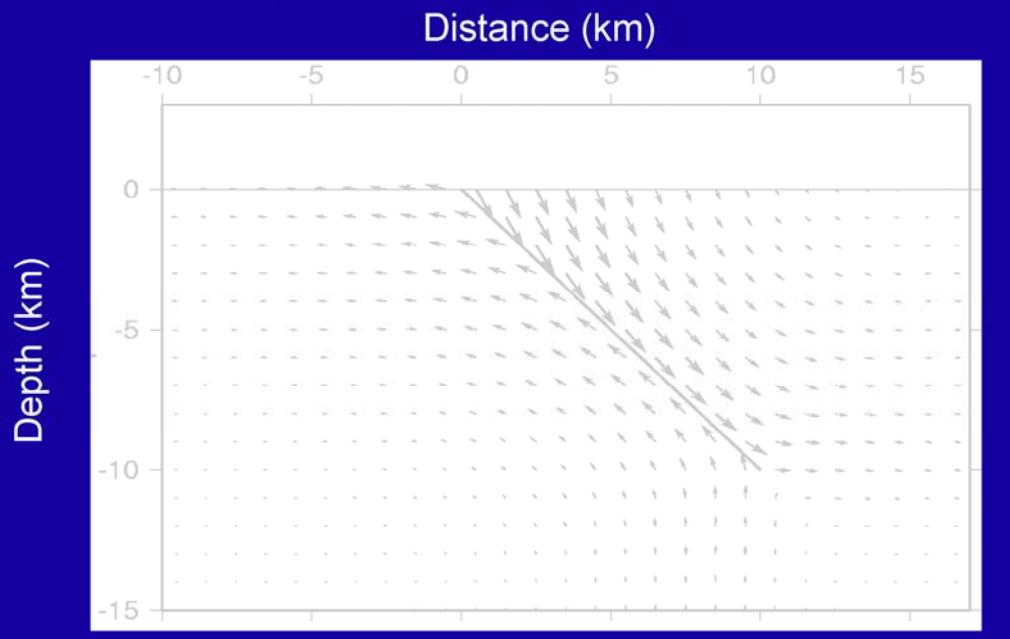
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## Surface displacements of strike-slip faults



## Displacements of normal faults



## Surface Displacements and Source Parameters of the 2003 Bam (Iran) Earthquake from Envisat ASAR Imagery

Gareth Funning<sup>1</sup>, Barry Parsons<sup>1</sup>, **Tim Wright<sup>1</sup>**,  
Eric Fielding<sup>2,3</sup>, James Jackson<sup>2</sup> and Morteza Talebian<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> COMET, Department of Earth Sciences, University of Oxford, UK

<sup>2</sup> COMET, Department of Earth Sciences, University of Cambridge, UK

<sup>3</sup> Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Caltech, USA

<sup>4</sup> Geological Survey of Iran, Tehran, Iran

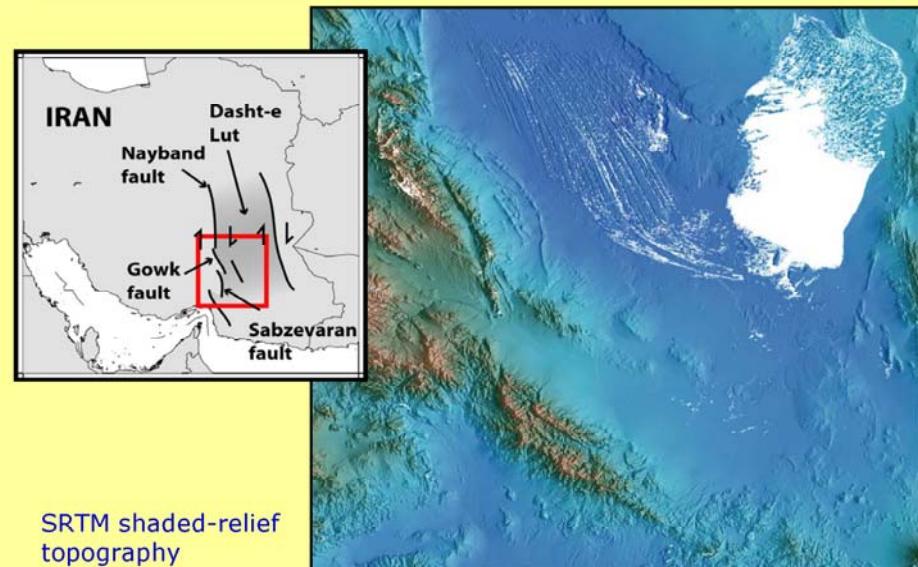
## Determining best-fit elastic models

- Calculating the predicted displacements from a specified fault geometry (forward modelling) is relatively easy.
- The inverse problem (finding the model that fits a given set of displacements) is harder:
  - Finding the fault geometry is a non-linear inversion problem.
  - Determining slip distributions for a fixed fault geometry is a linear problem.

26th December 2003,  $M_w$  6.6



## Tectonic setting



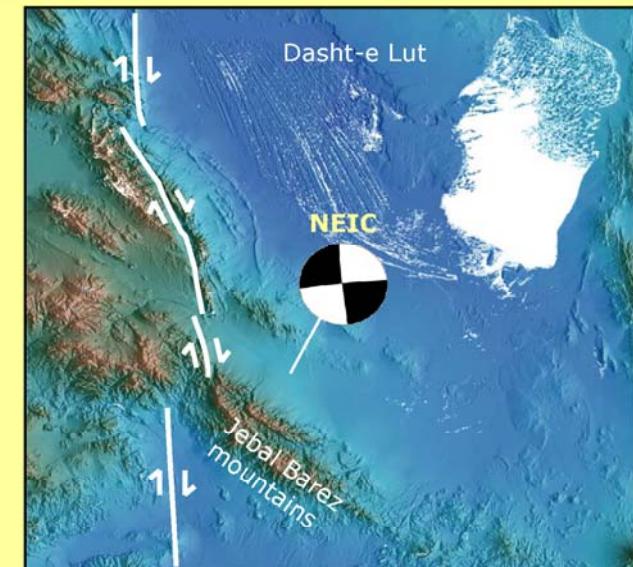
## Tectonic setting

Nayband fault

Gowk fault

Sabzevaran fault

SRTM shaded-relief topography



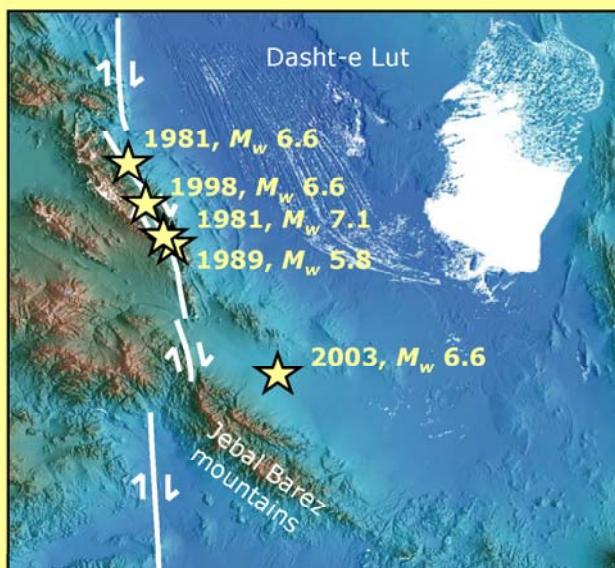
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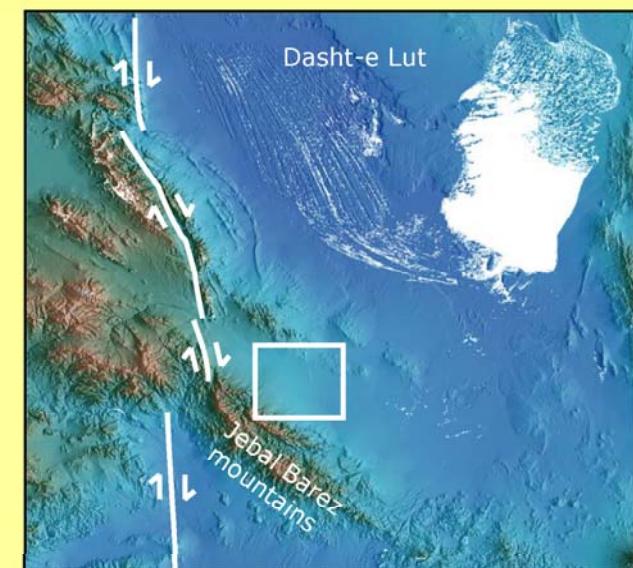
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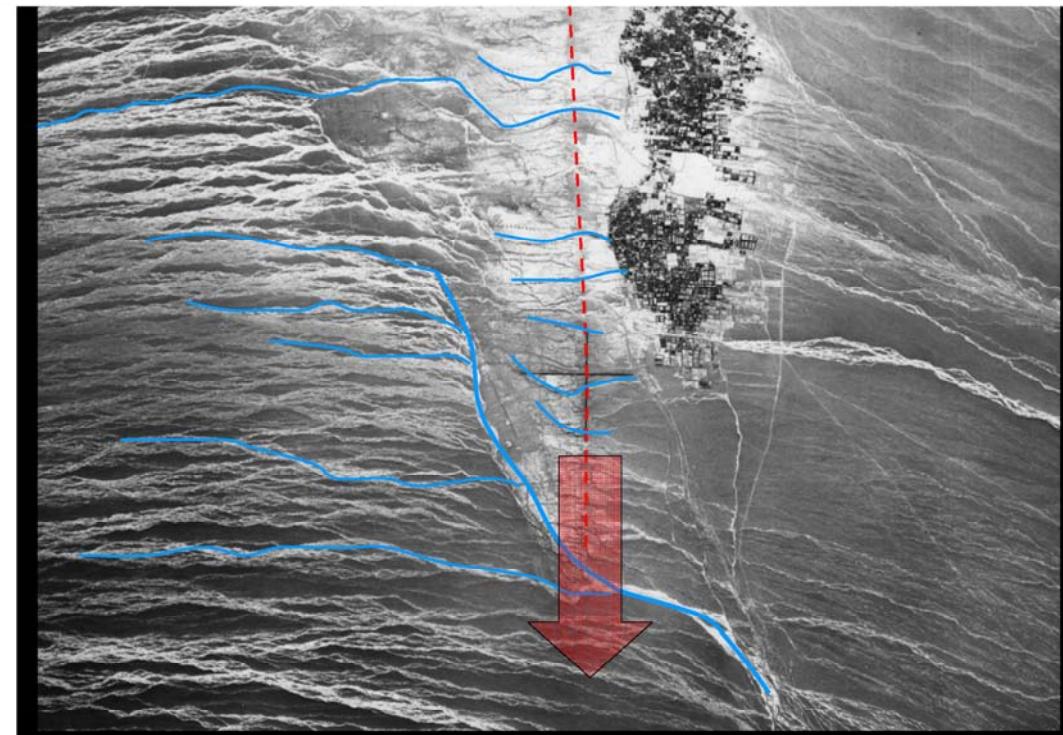
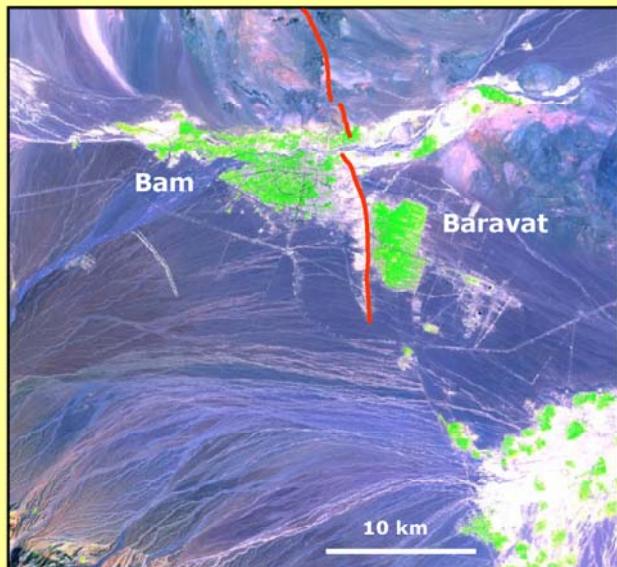


## The Bam area

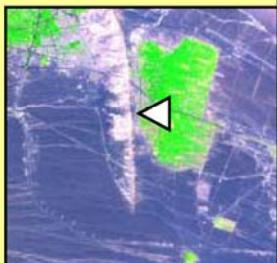
Main geomorphic features of the Bam area:

2: The Bam fault –  
a prominent ridge  
running between  
Bam and Baravat

LANDSAT-7 ETM  
541 false colour  
green=vegetation



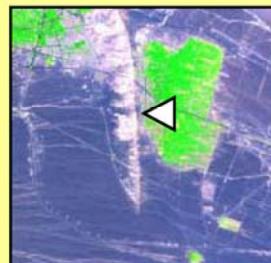
## The Bam fault



The Bam fault is  
marked by a 20m-  
high ridge



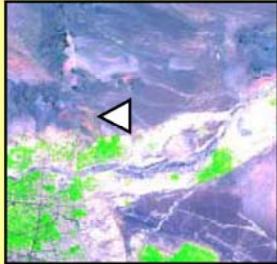
## The Bam fault



Post-earthquake  
field surveys found  
only minor cracking  
at the foot of the  
ridge...



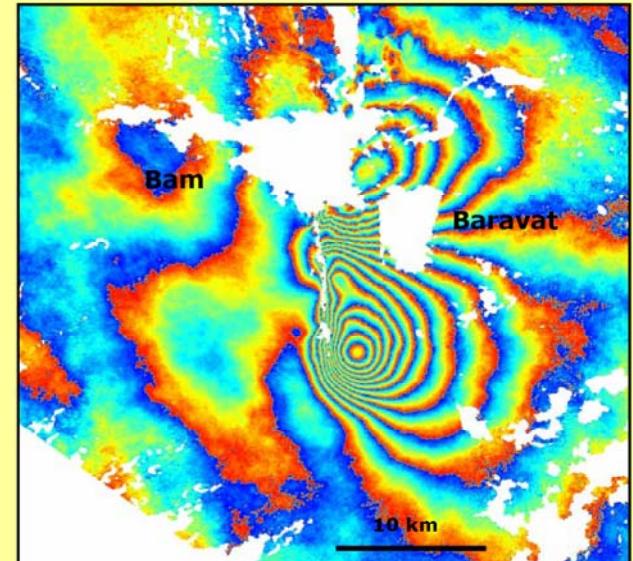
## The Bam fault



...and fault ruptures observed in the north were also minor (< 5 cm offset)



## Preliminary InSAR data



First Bam interferogram  
(each colour cycle=2.8cm of deformation)

Constructed from Envisat ASAR data released for free by ESA

## The Bam fault ?

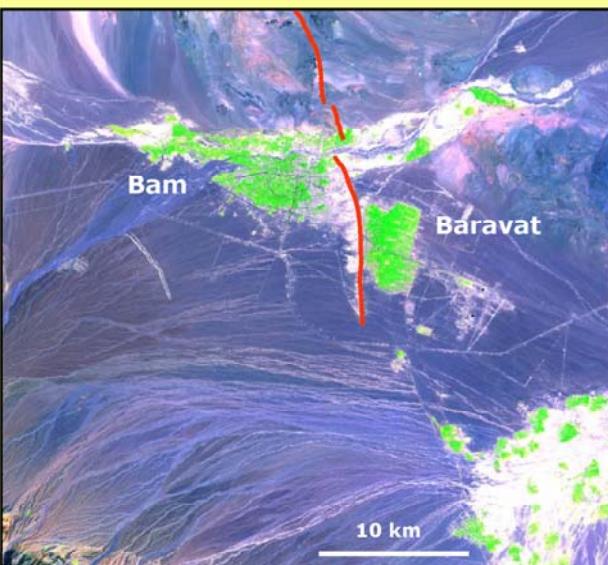
### BUT...

More damage in Bam than Baravat

Peak vertical acceleration of ~1g in central Bam

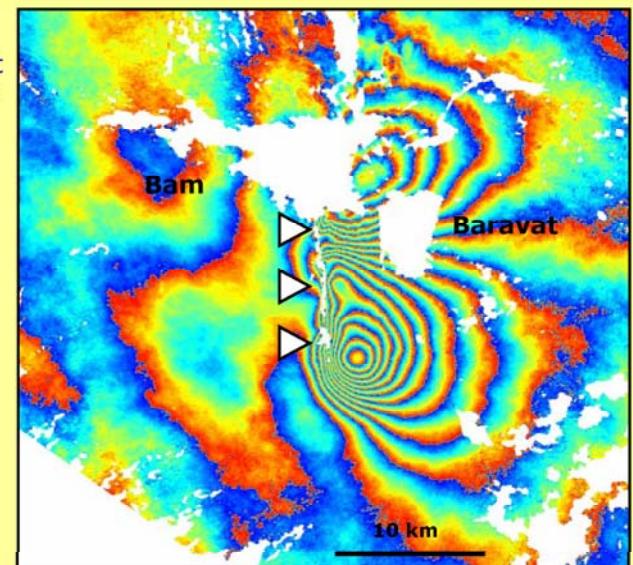
Very small surface rupture on Bam fault

LANDSAT-7 ETM 541 false colour green=vegetation



## Preliminary InSAR data

There is a prominent band of incoherence running S of Bam



First Bam interferogram  
(each colour cycle=2.8cm of deformation)

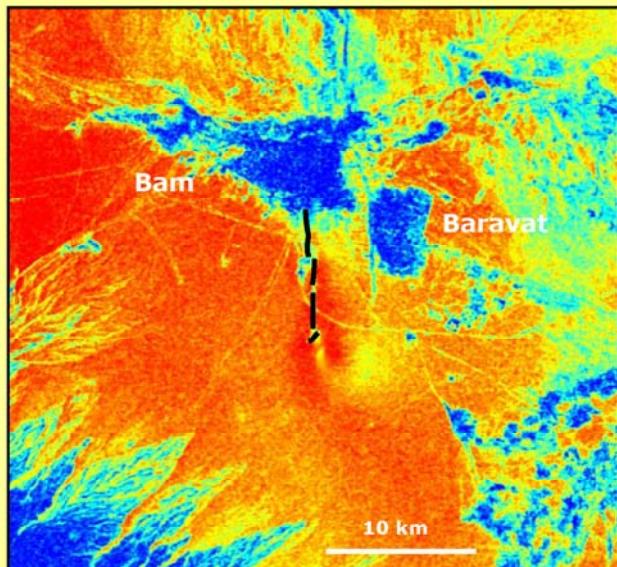
Constructed from Envisat ASAR data released for free by ESA

## The Bam earthquake main fault

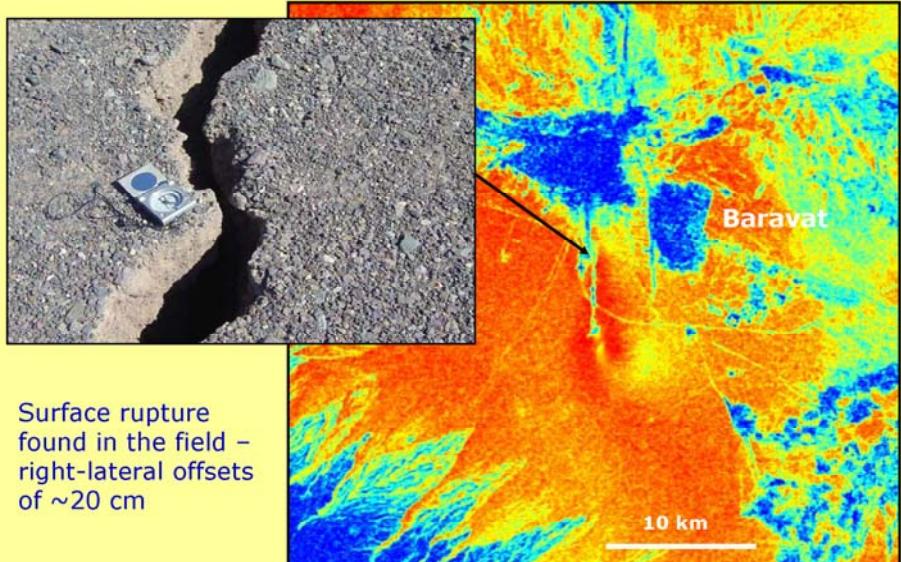
Low coherence indicates vegetation and surface damage

Interferometric coherence  
Red = high  
Blue = low

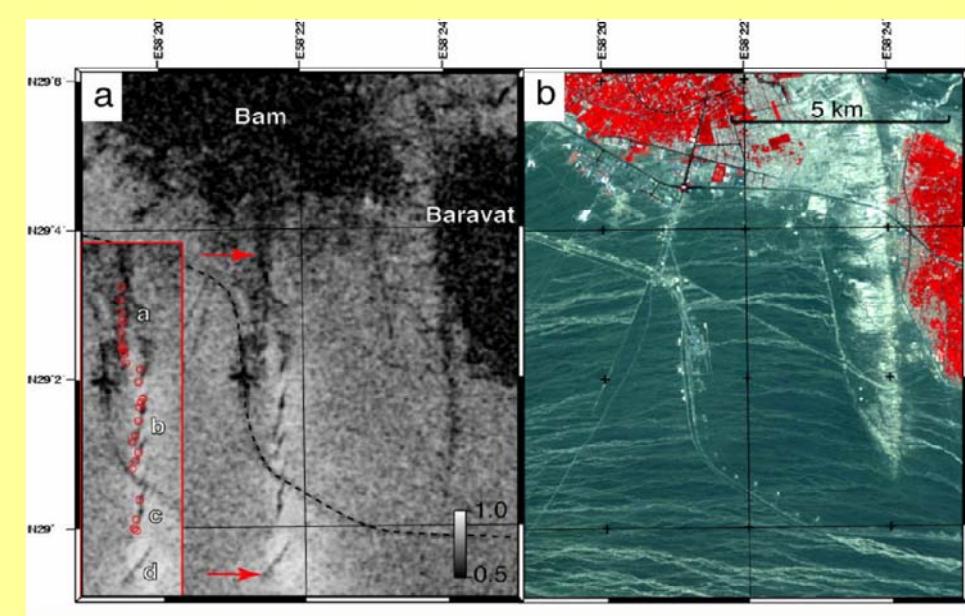
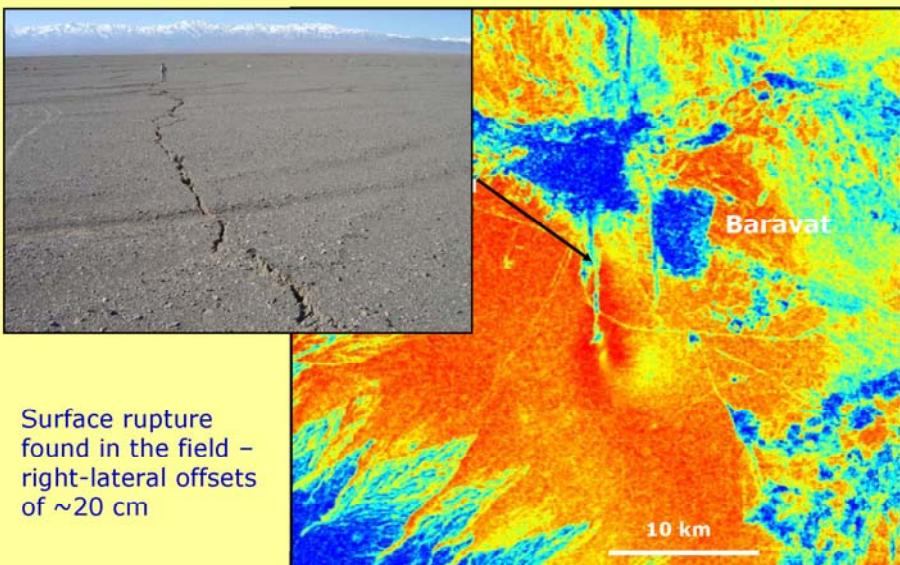
Constructed from  
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released for free by  
ESA



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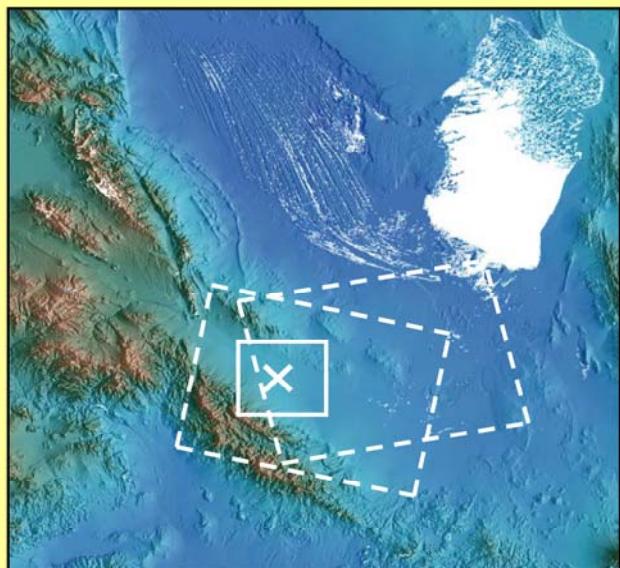


## The Bam earthquake main fault



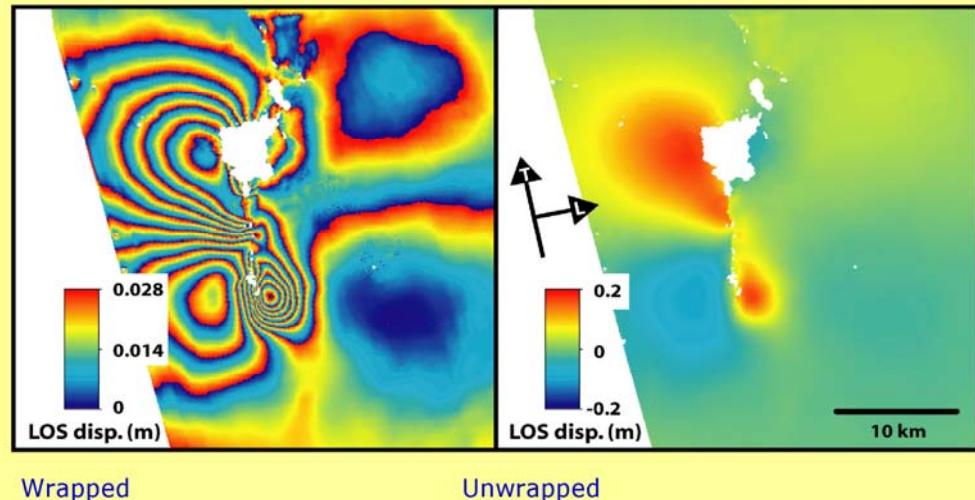
## ASAR data for the Bam earthquake

SRTM shaded-relief topography



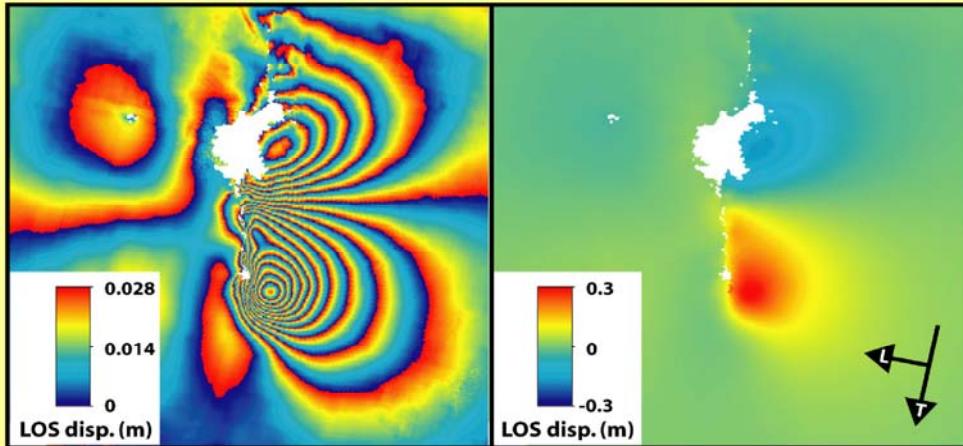
## Ascending track interferogram

Track 385, beam mode I2, 16/11/2003 – 25/01/2004



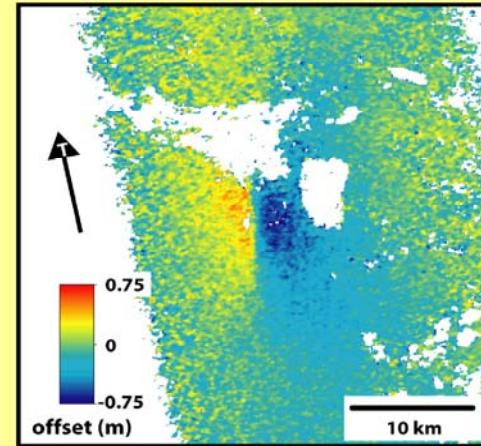
## Descending track interferogram

Track 120, beam mode I2, 03/12/2003 – 07/02/2004

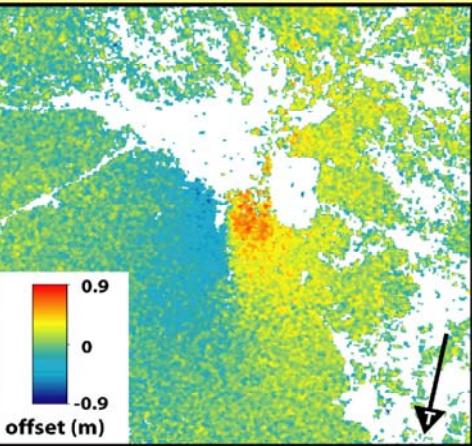


## Azimuth offsets

Ascending



Descending



## Determining 3D displacements

If the 3D displacement at a pixel is given by

$$\mathbf{u} = [u_x, u_y, u_z], \text{ then...}$$

$$\text{Ascending interferogram, } d_1 = \text{los}_A \bullet \mathbf{u}$$

$$\text{Descending interferogram, } d_2 = \text{los}_D \bullet \mathbf{u}$$

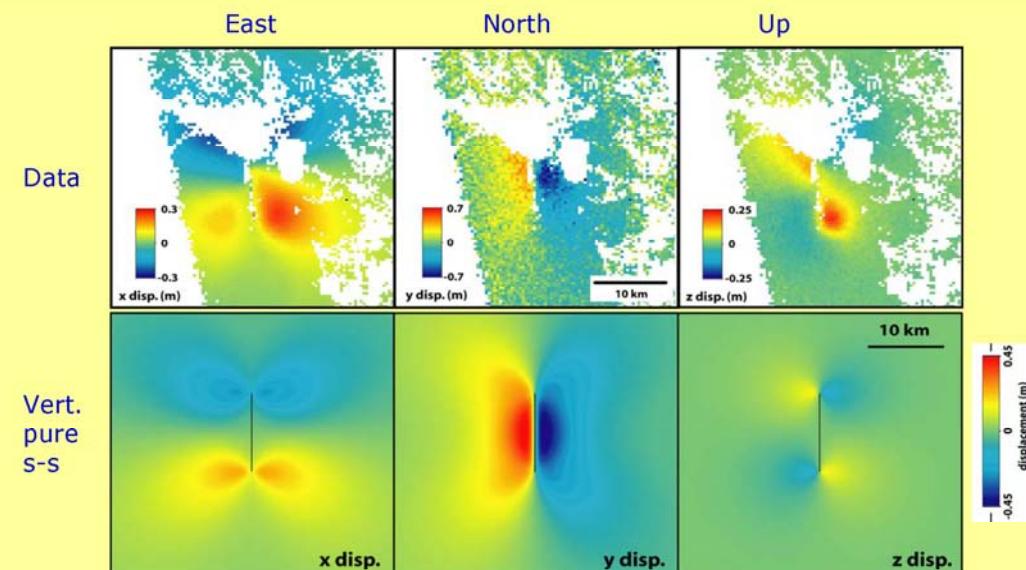
$$\text{Ascending az. offsets, } d_3 = \text{los}_{AO} \bullet \mathbf{u}$$

$$\text{Descending az. offsets, } d_4 = \text{los}_{DO} \bullet \mathbf{u}$$

Which can be rewritten as a matrix equation,  
 $\mathbf{d} = \mathbf{L}\mathbf{u}$ , and solved for  $\mathbf{u}$ .

See e.g. Wright, T.J., B. Parsons, Z. Lu., Geophys Res. Lett. 30(18), p.1974, 2003

## Bam earthquake 3D displacements

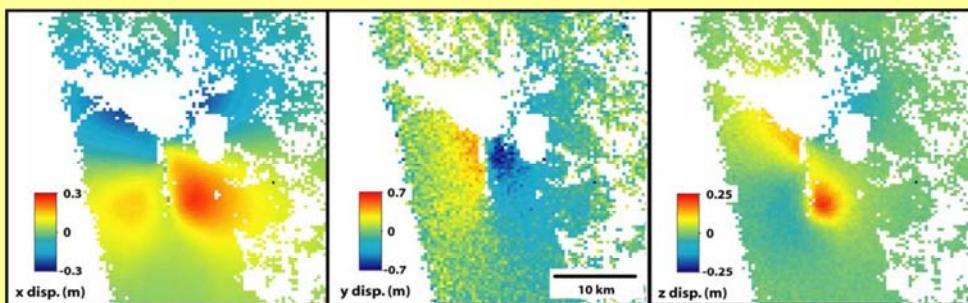


## Bam earthquake 3D displacements

East

North

Up



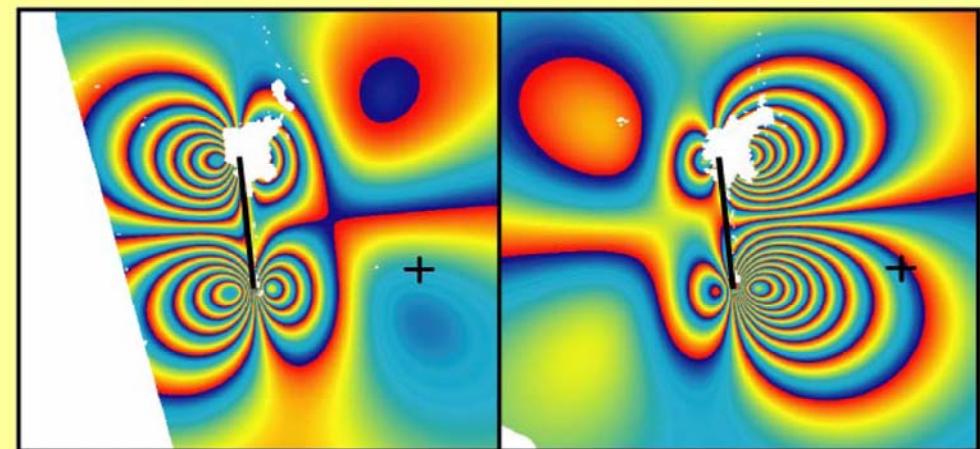
$$\sigma = 0.01 \text{ m}$$

$$\sigma = 0.09 \text{ m}$$

$$\sigma = 0.01 \text{ m}$$

## Single fault, uniform-slip model

Strike 354 dip 84 rake -177 slip 2.2m length 12km top 1.1km b'm 9.3km

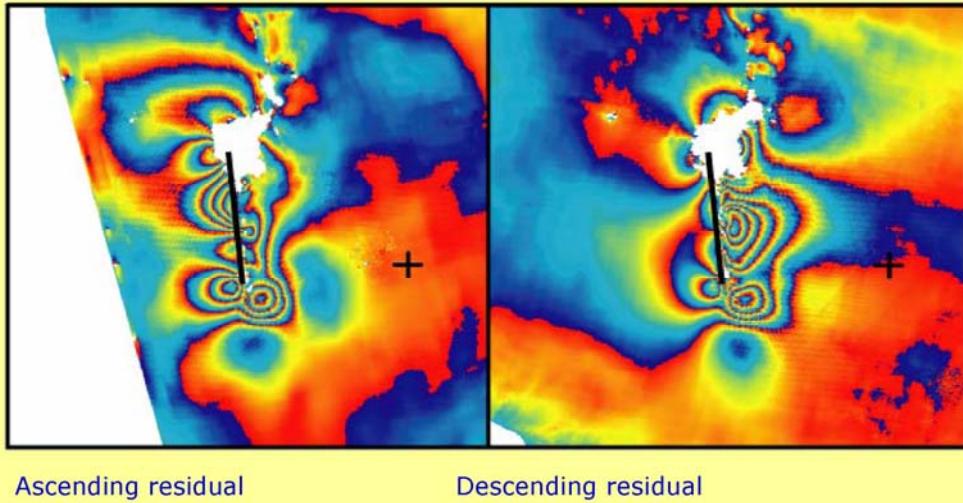


Ascending model

Descending model

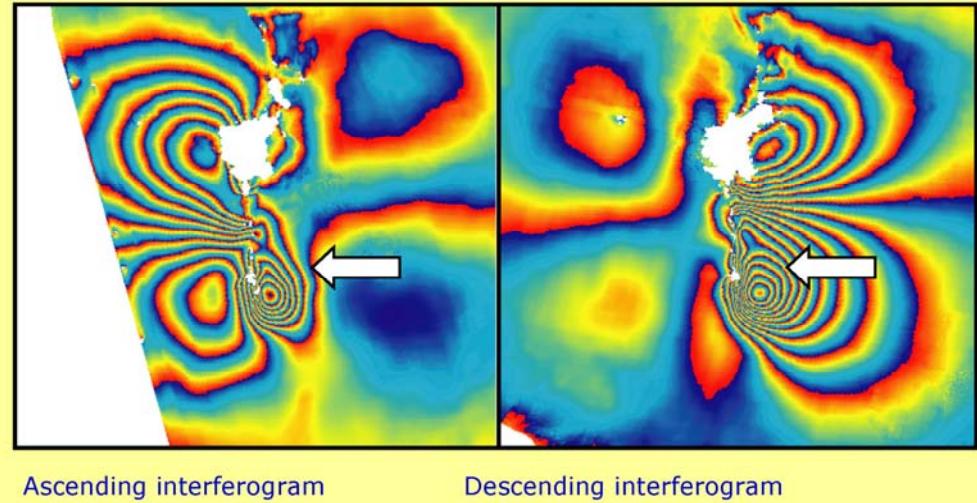
## Single fault model

Large residuals, especially in SE quadrant (rms = 25 mm)

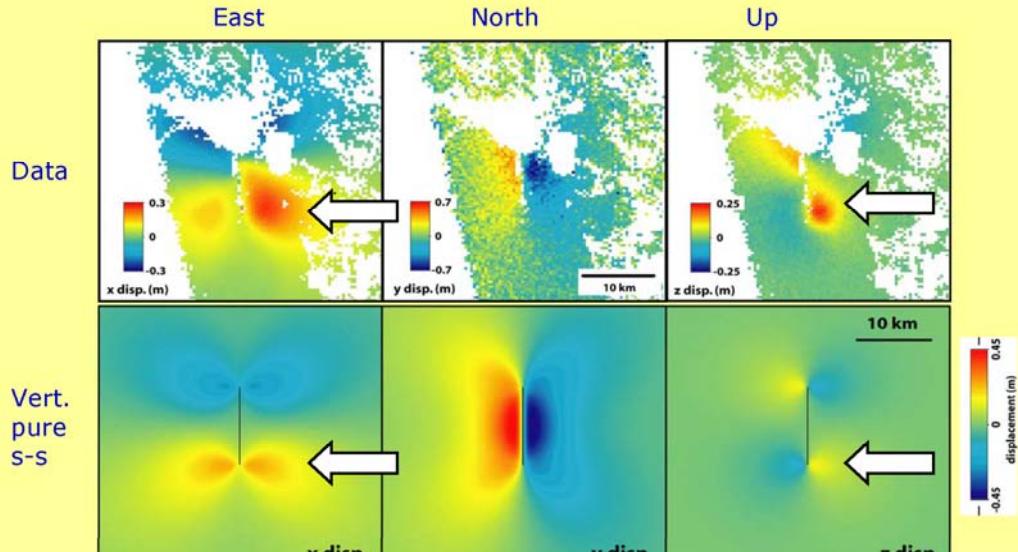


## Is it a single fault...?

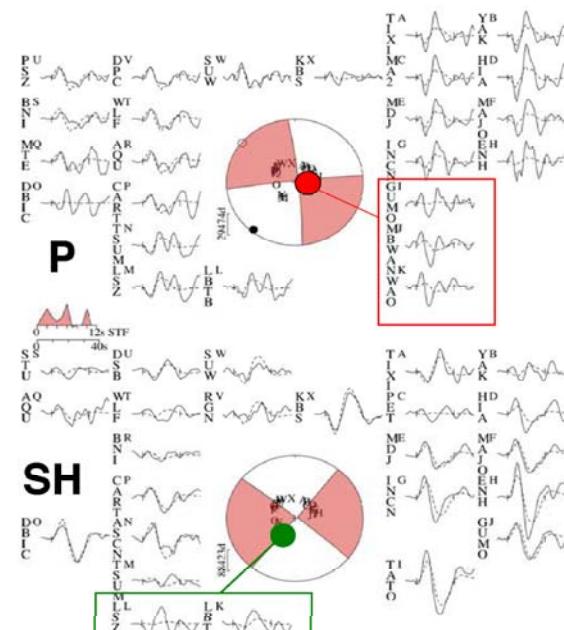
There is an 'extra' amount of displacement in the SE quadrant



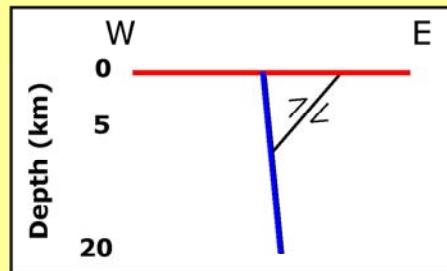
## Bam earthquake 3D displacements



Bam 031226: single source  
354/86/182/6/7.6E18



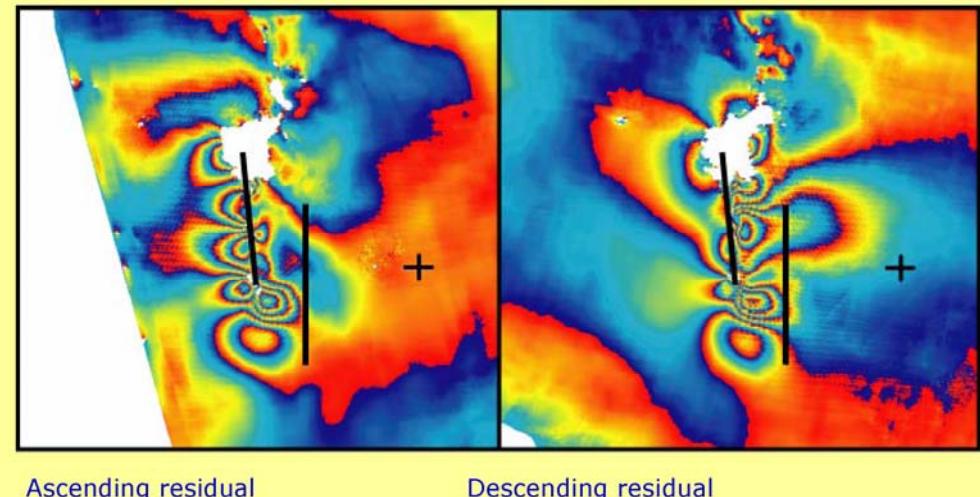
## Two fault model



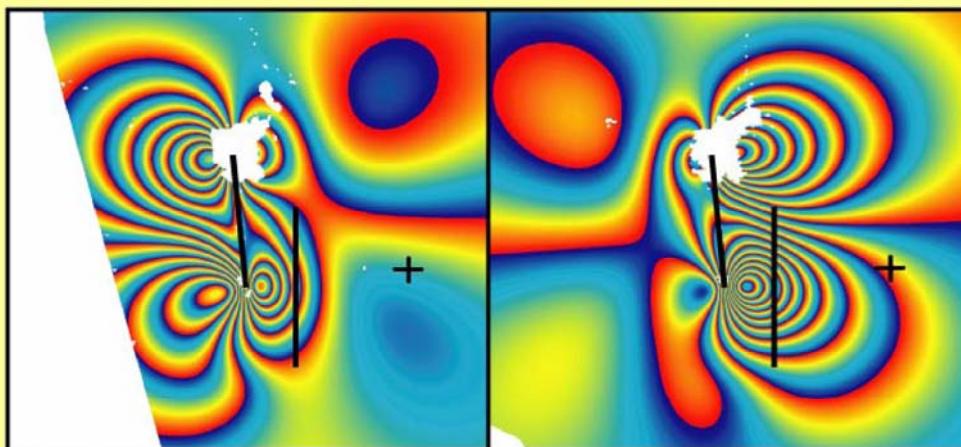
- Main fault: strike 354, dip 85, rake -178, slip 2.1m, length 12km, top 1.2km, bottom 9.8km,  $M_0 7.6 \times 10^{18}$  Nm
- Secondary fault: strike 180, dip 63, rake 149, slip 1.8m, length 15km, top 6.0km, bottom 7.2km,  $M_0 1.3 \times 10^{18}$  Nm

## Two fault model (uniform slip)

Improved fit in SE quadrant (rms = 17 mm)



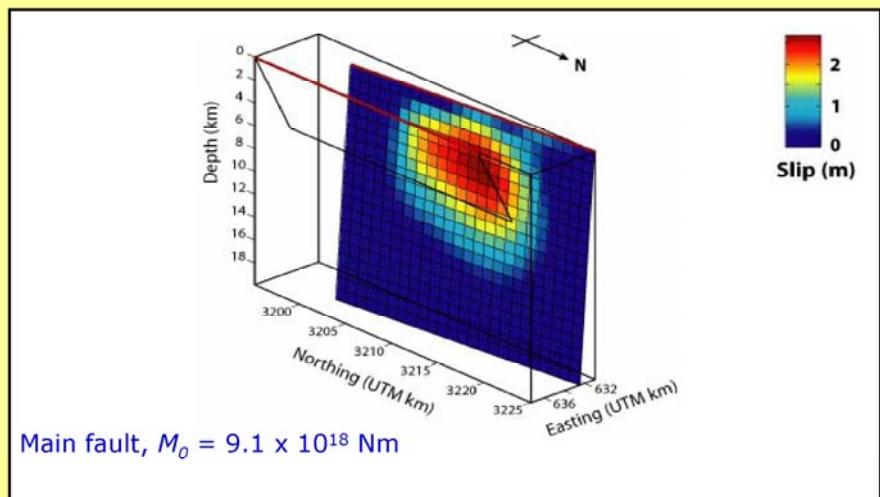
## Two fault model (uniform slip)



Ascending model

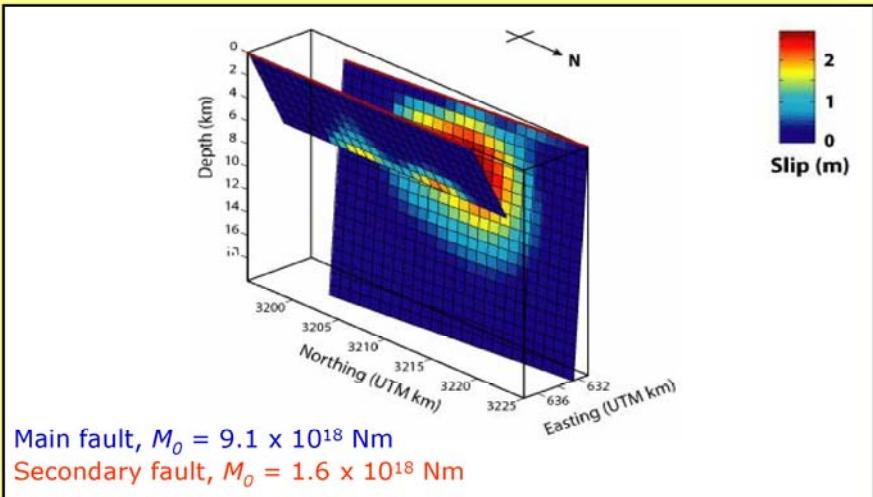
Descending model

## Variable slip model



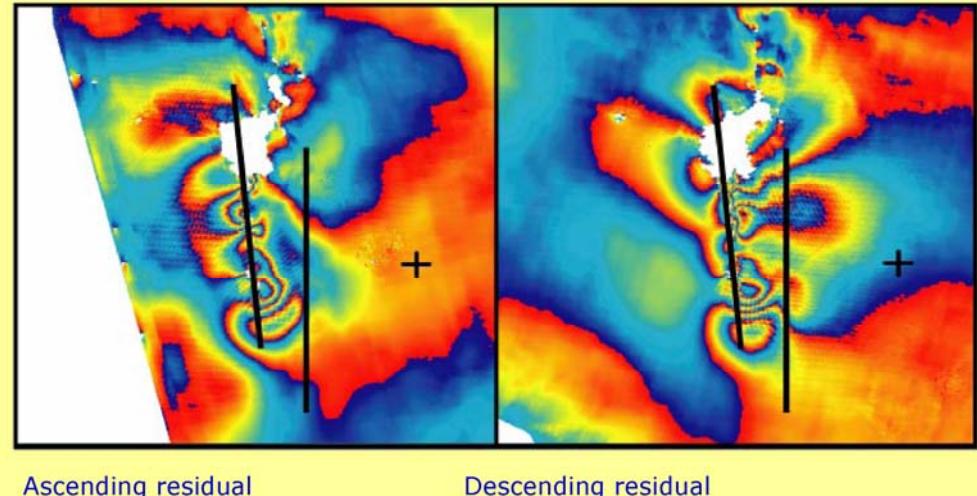
Main fault,  $M_0 = 9.1 \times 10^{18}$  Nm

## Variable slip model

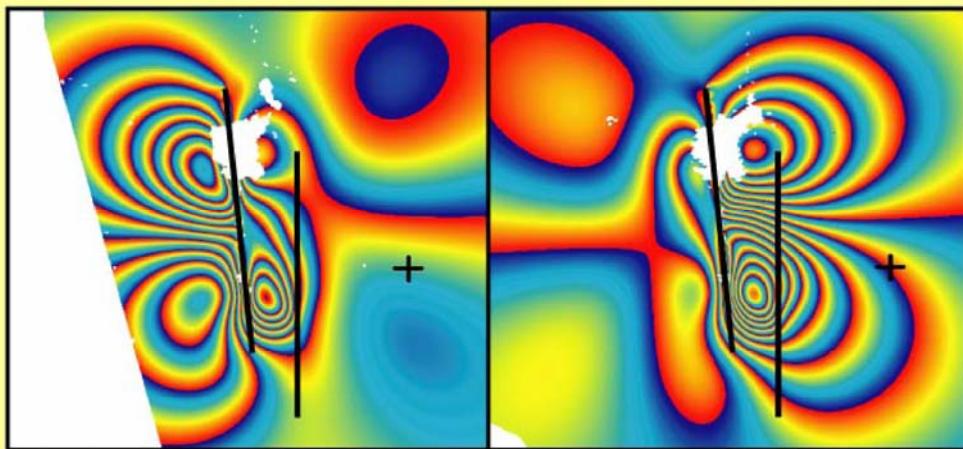


## Variable slip model

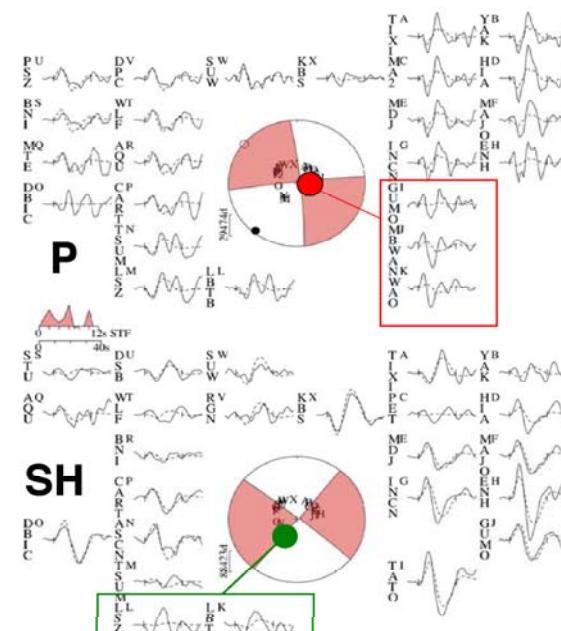
Significantly improved fit (rms = 13 mm)



## Variable slip model



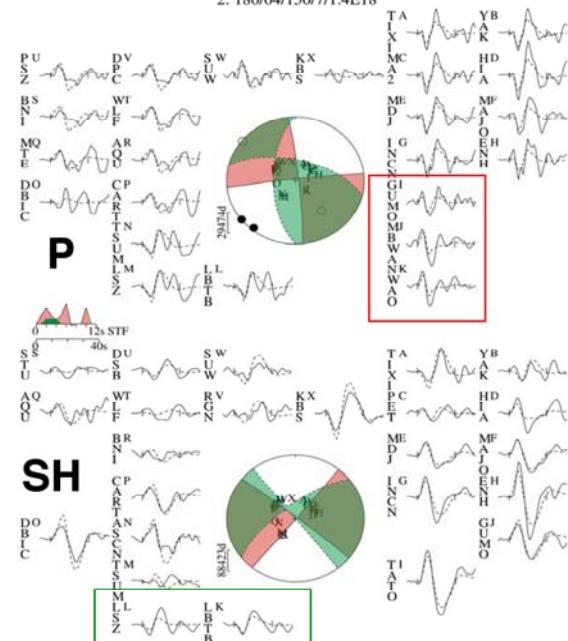
Bam 031226: single source  
354/86/182/6/7.6E18



### Bam 031226: two sources

1: 354/86/182/6/7.6E18

2: 180/64/150/7/1.4E18



## Two fault model

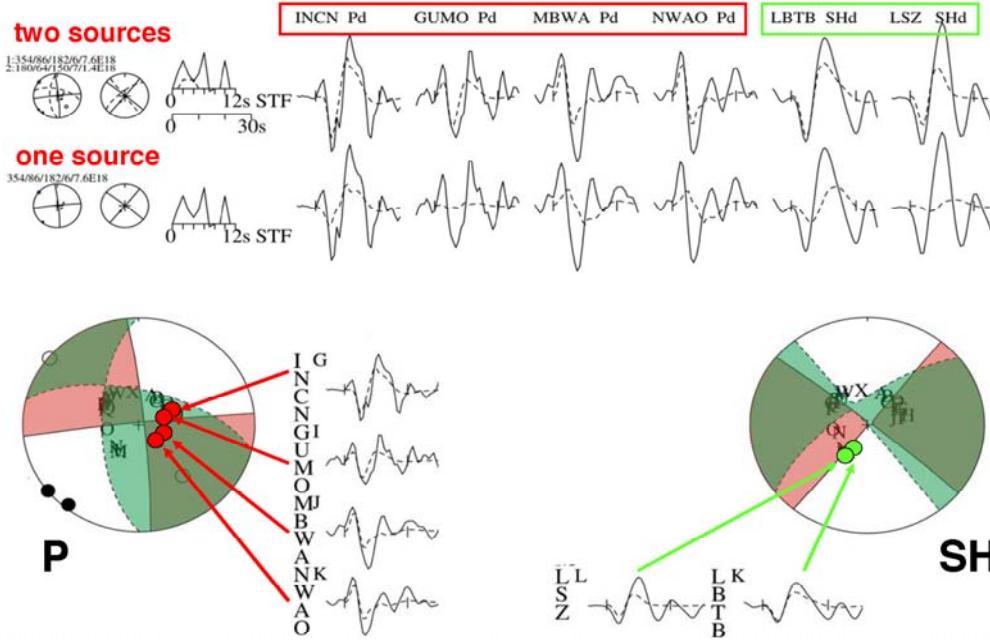
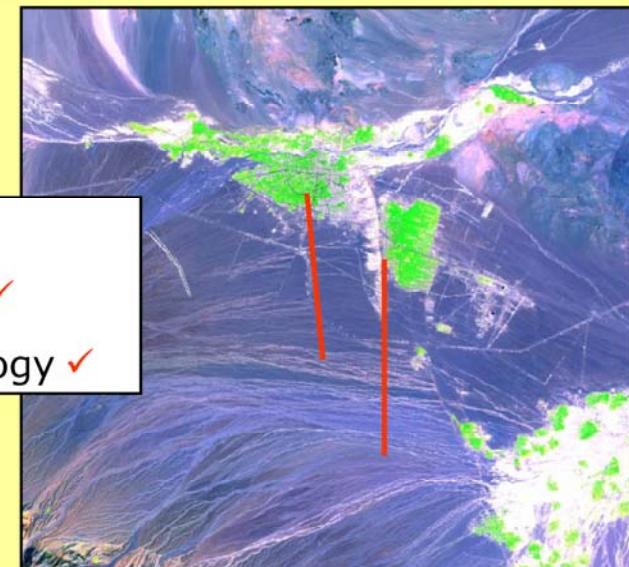
Secondary fault appears to be a southward continuation of the Bam fault

Geodesy ✓

Seismology ✓

Geomorphology ✓

LANDSAT-7 ETM  
541 false colour  
green=vegetation



**Arg-e Bam citadel stood for over 300 years and the human history of Bam extends back for  $\sim$  2000 years**

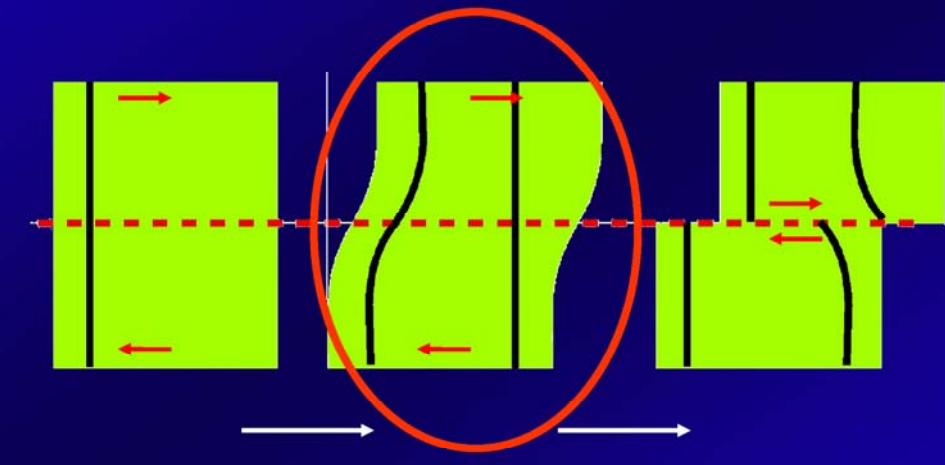
**In all of that time, there had been no reports of earthquakes in the Bam area (Ambraseys & Melville, 2002)**

**Arg-e Bam citadel stood for over 300 years and the human history of Bam extends back for  $\sim$  2000 years**

**In all of that time, there had been no reports of earthquakes in the Bam area (Ambraseys & Melville, 2002)**

**1<sup>st</sup> rupture for this fault OR  
Geomorphic signature of the fault is buried by flood deposits**

## The Earthquake Cycle



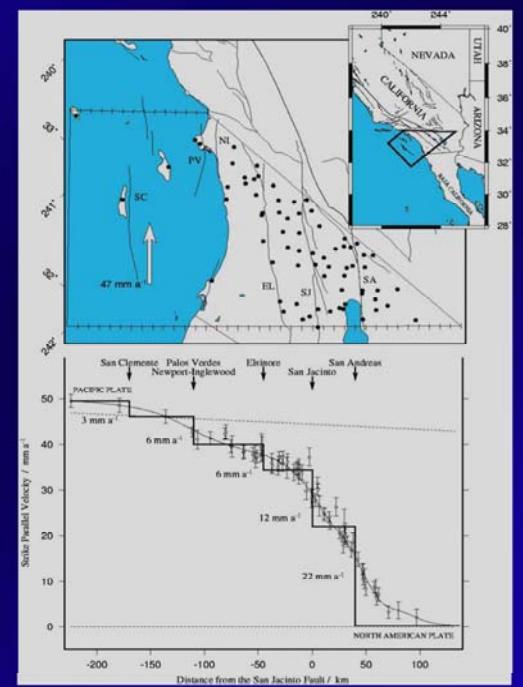
## Interseismic Strain

Why are we interested?

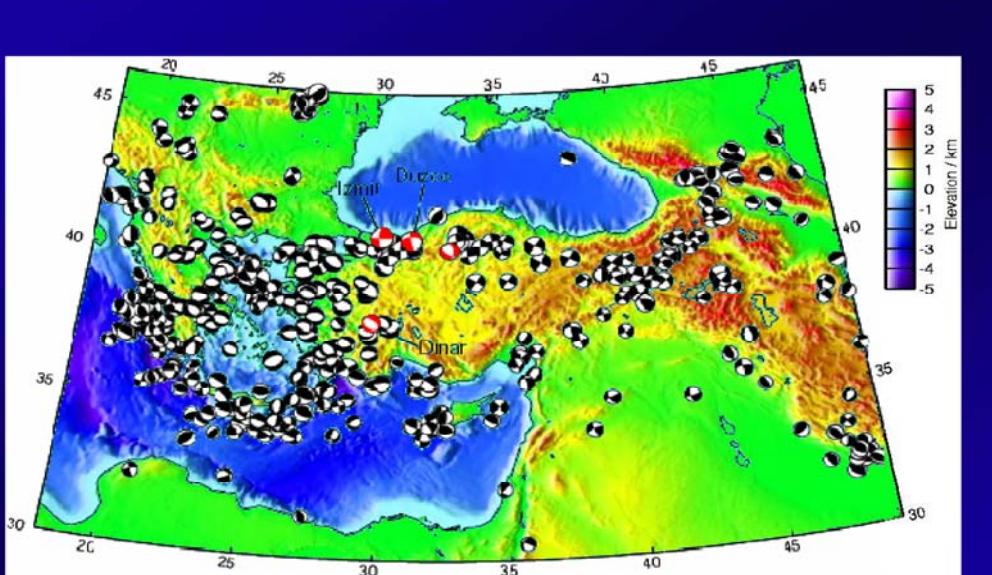
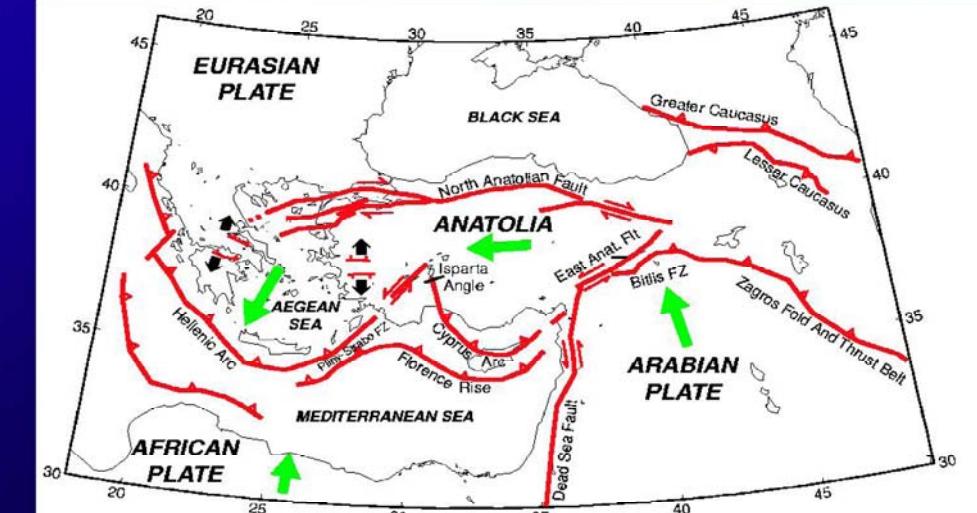
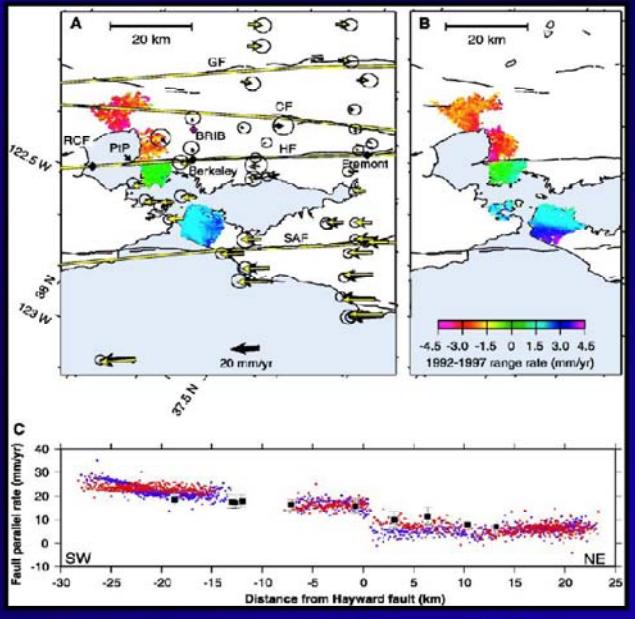
- Earthquakes
- Constrain models of continental tectonics and the earthquake cycle
- Observations biased by distribution of GPS sites

Why is it difficult with InSAR

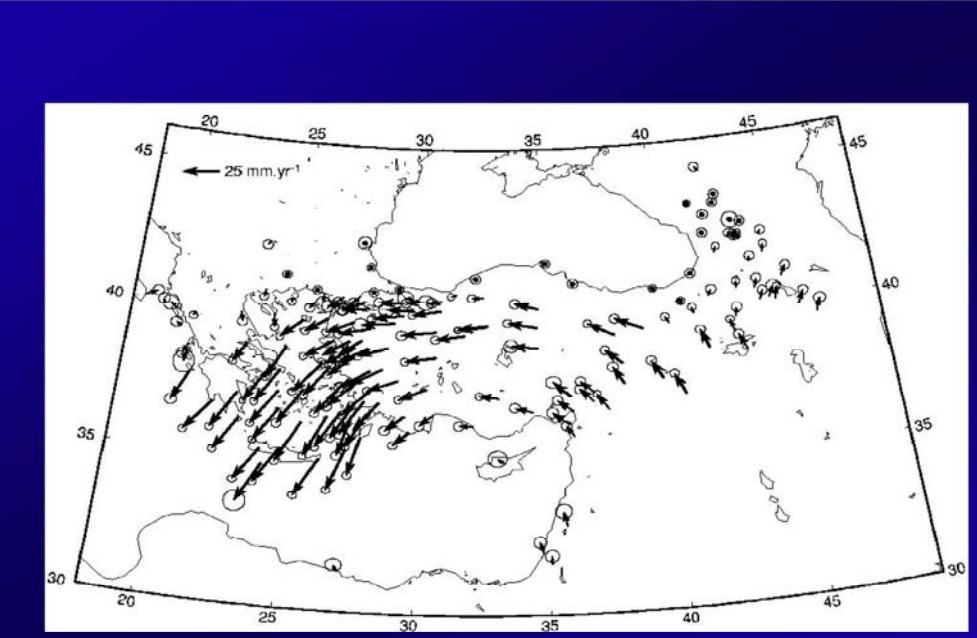
- SMALL SIGNAL
- Noise from atmosphere, orbits and topographic errors
- Maintaining coherence



Interseismic Fault creep  
– Hayward Fault, California

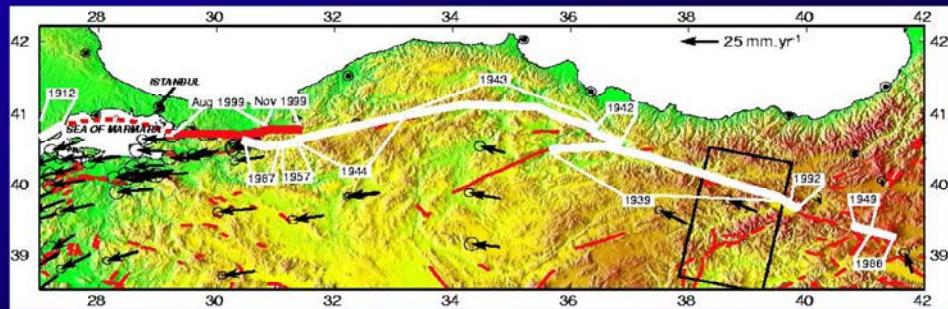


Seismicity: 1894 – 1988 (Most events with  $M_w > 6$ ; Jackson & McKenzie, 1988)  
1976 – 2000 (Most events with  $M_w > 5$ ; Harvard CMT)



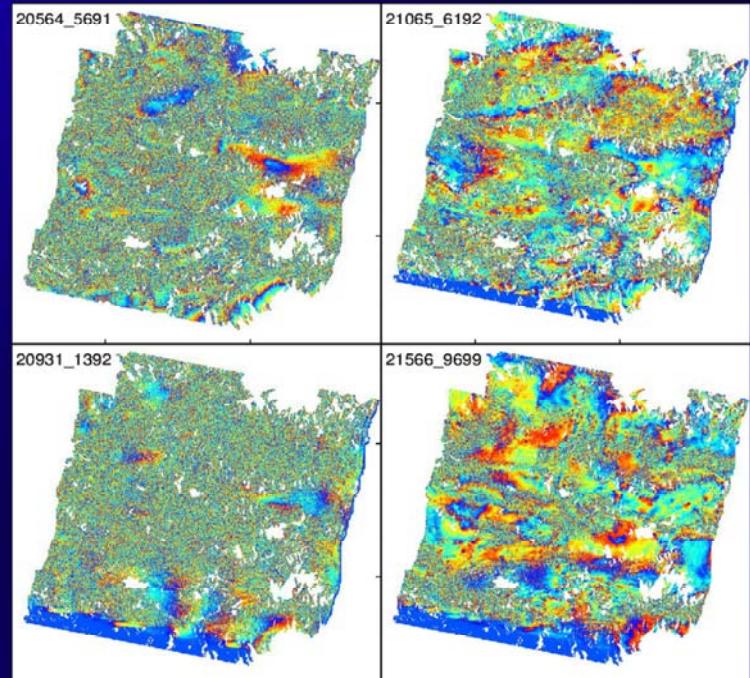
(McClusky et al, JGR, 2000)

## The North Anatolian Fault

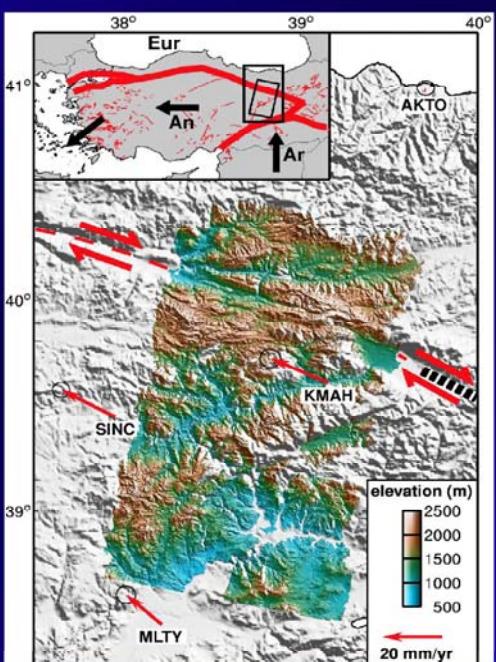
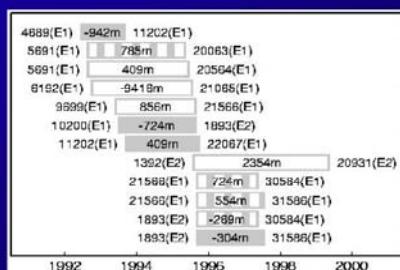


- ~1300 km long
- Slip rate from GPS =  $24 \pm 1$  mm/yr
- 20<sup>th</sup> Century earthquake sequence
- Single strand in most places
- Good GPS in west, poor in east
- Orientation good for InSAR

## Incoherent

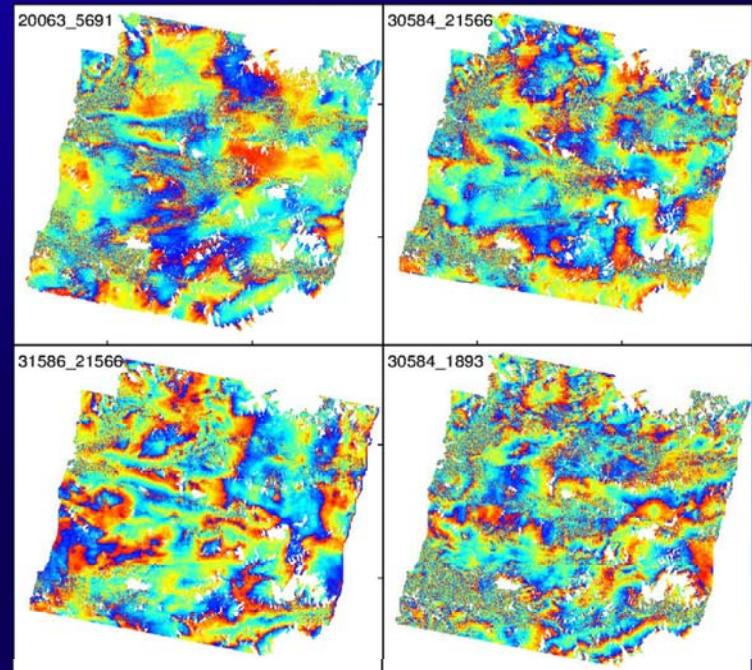


## Track 35

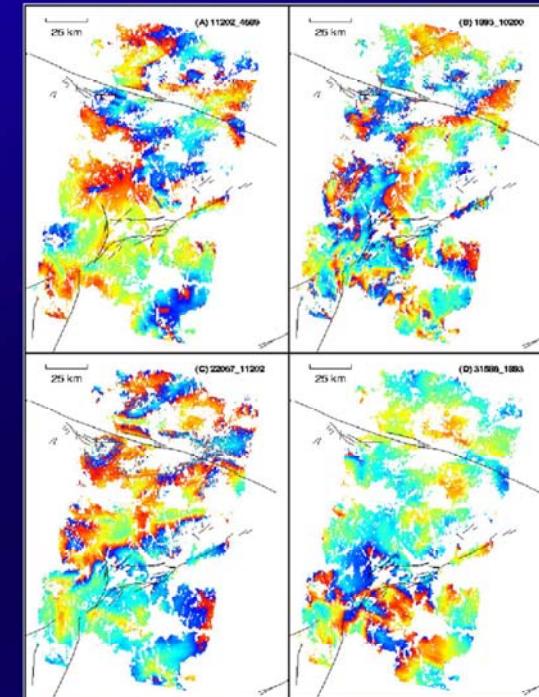
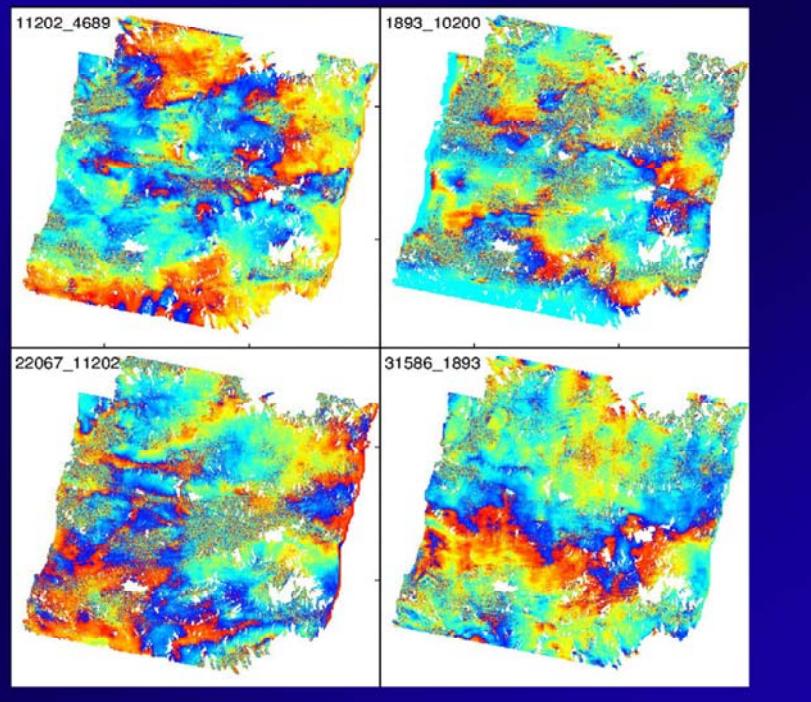


- Processed 12 interferograms
- $1 \text{ yr} < \Delta t < 4 \text{ yrs}$
- $h_a > 250\text{m}$

## Strong atmospheric signal

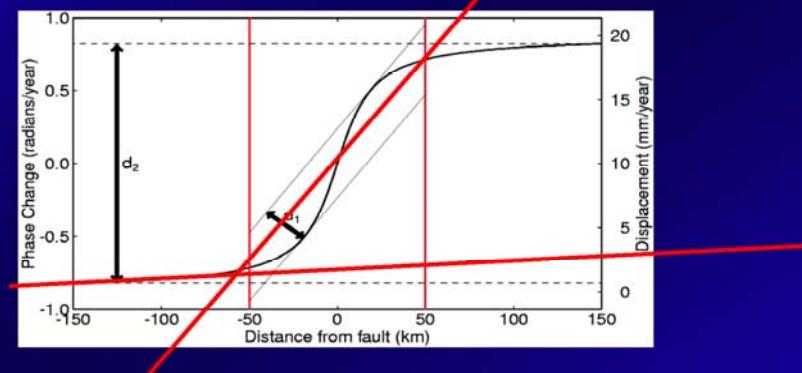


Good

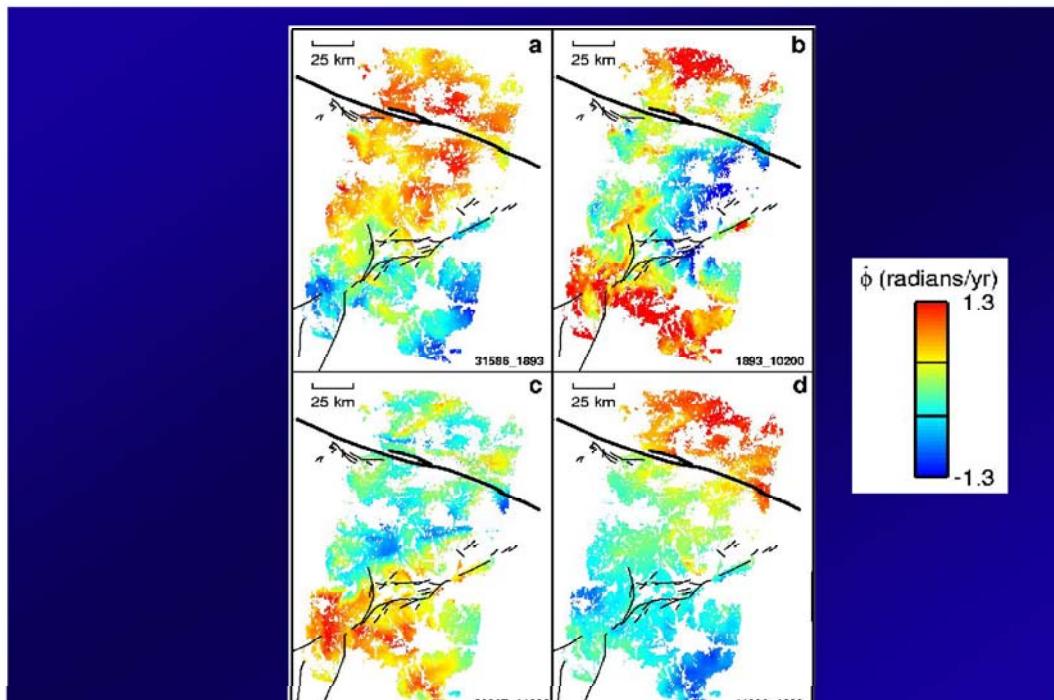


## Orbital error ?

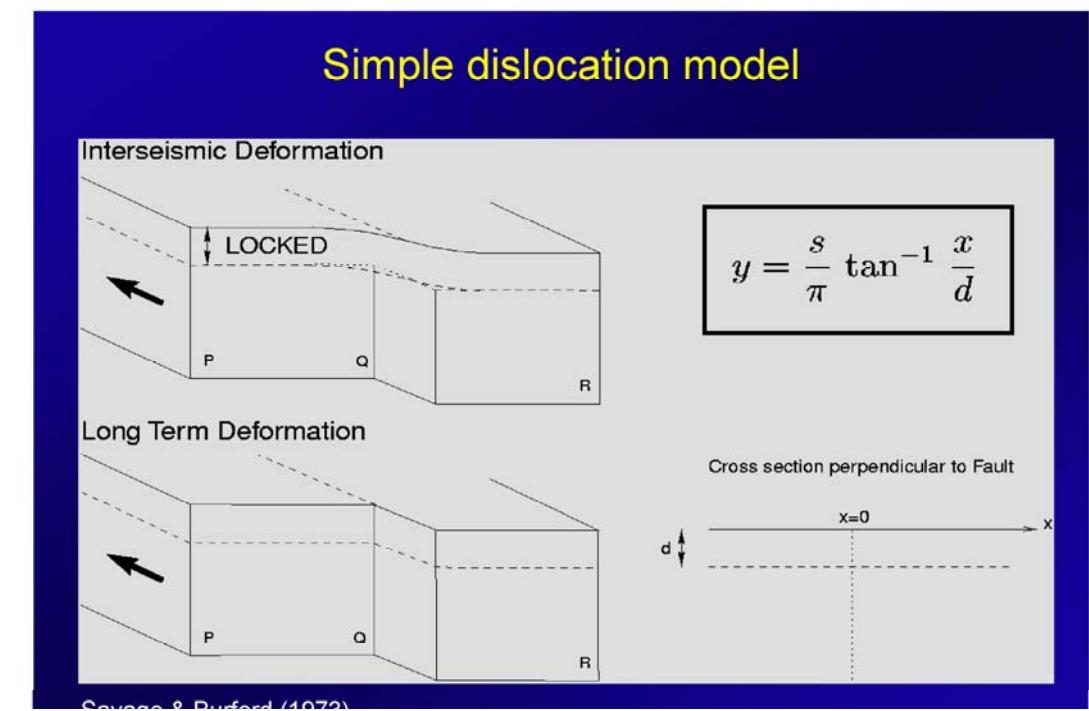
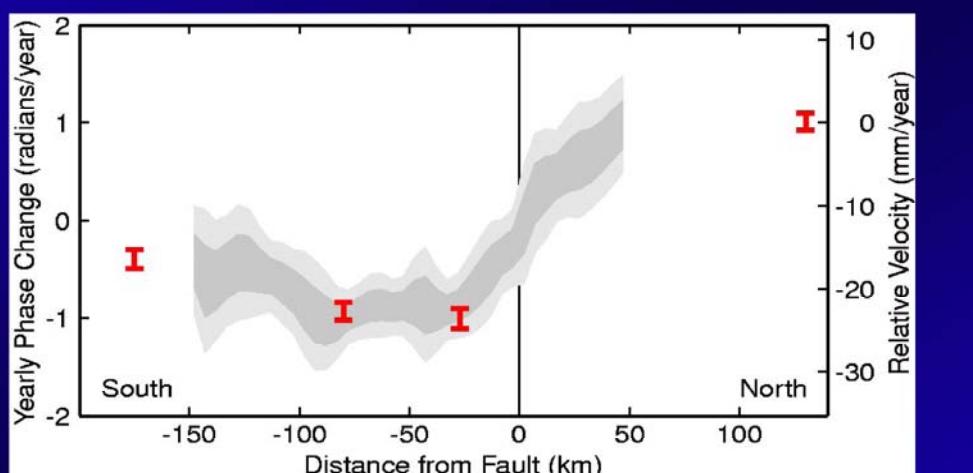
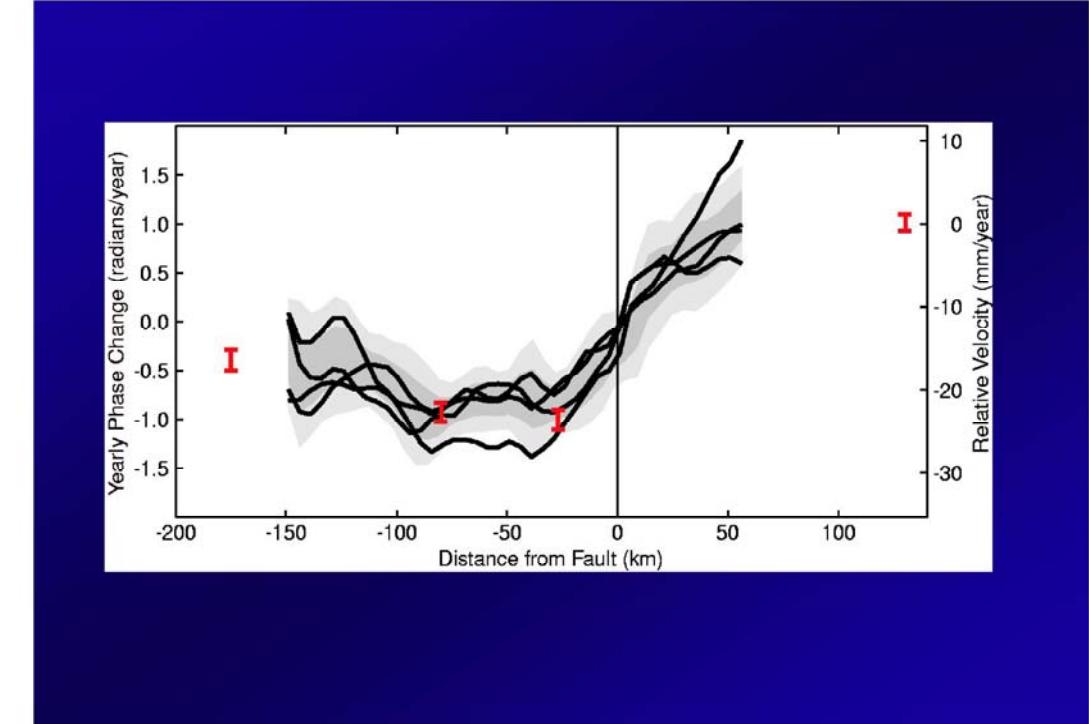
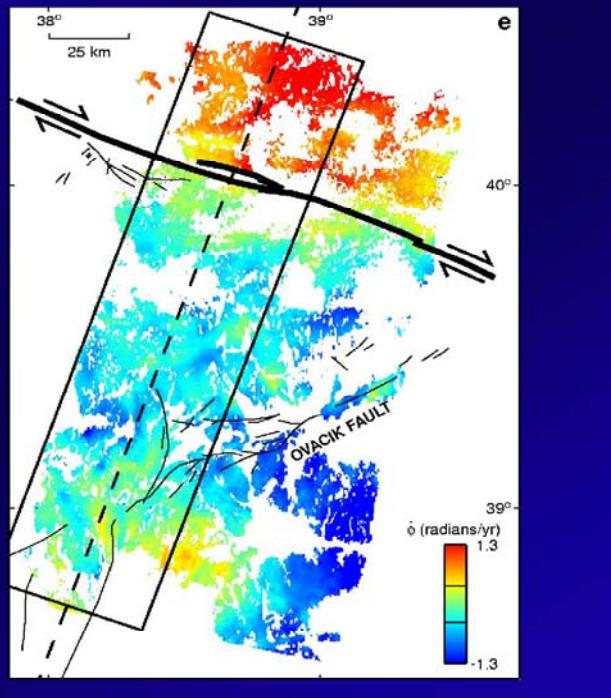
- If only have 100 km of data  $\Rightarrow$  ambiguity between orbit error and deformation



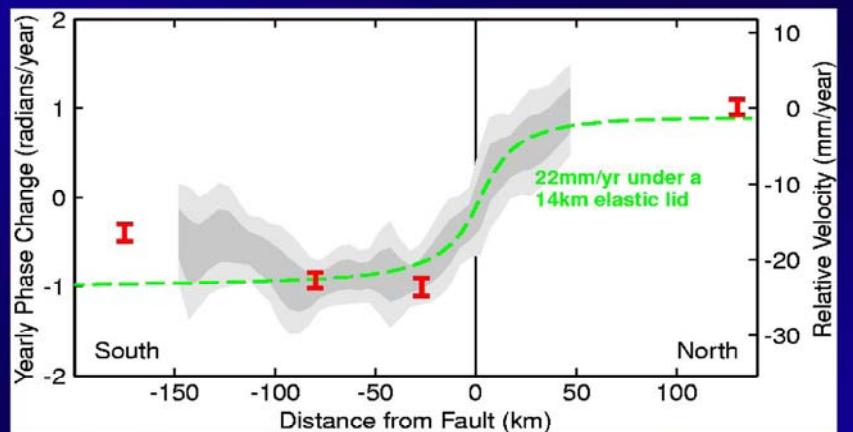
- Extend profile to South  $\Rightarrow$  impossible to fit linear orbital tilt to expected signal



$$\text{Stack} = \frac{|I_1 + I_2 + I_3 + I_4|}{\Sigma \text{ (time intervals)}}$$

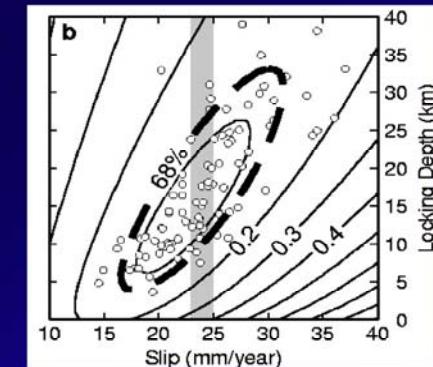


## Simple dislocation model



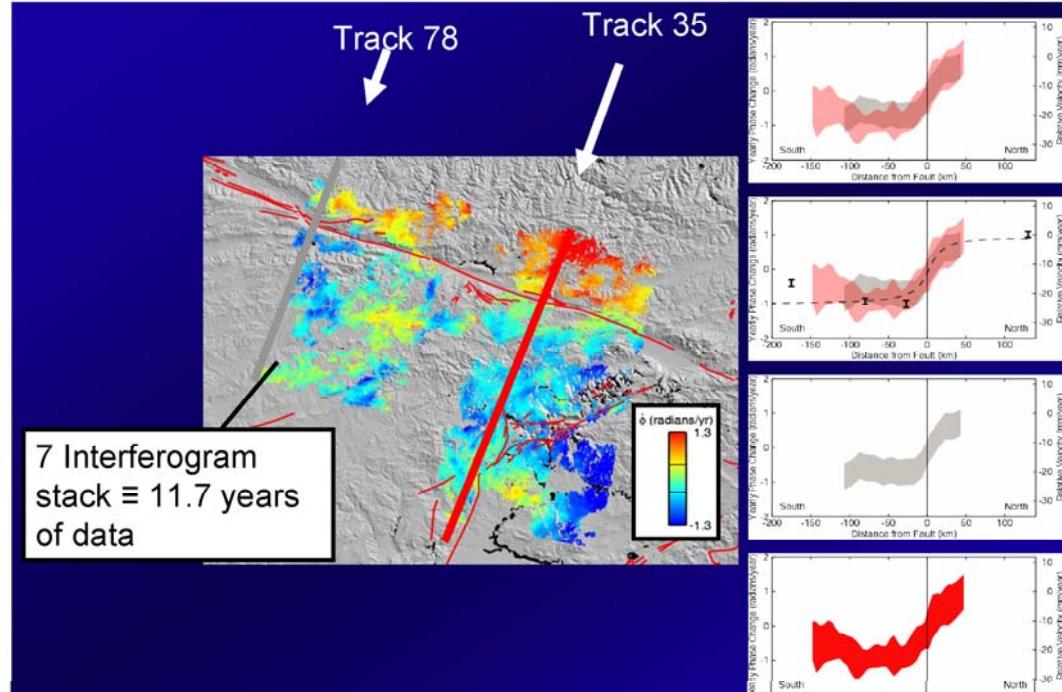
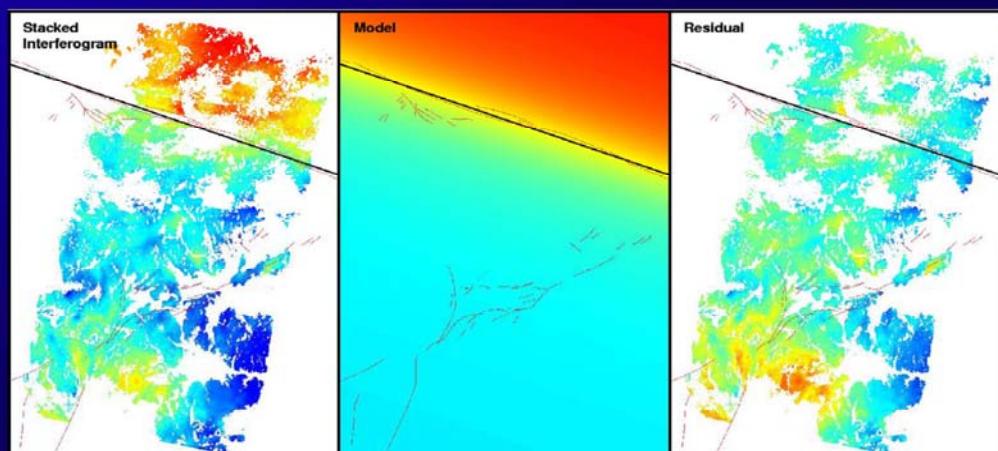
## Simple dislocation model

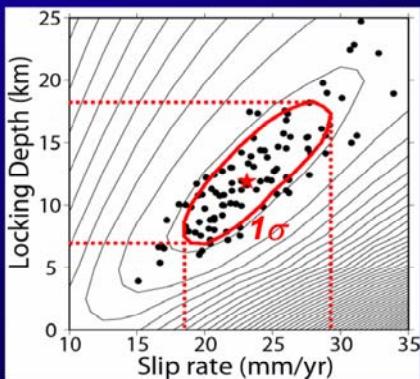
- Determine uncertainties with Monte-Carlo simulation approach
  - Find best fit model to 100 profiles perturbed using the estimated error
  - Range of parameters found  $\Rightarrow$  uncertainties on parameters
  - Strong trade-off between slip and locking depth
- Slip = 17-32 mm/yr
- Locking Depth = 5-33 km
- If GPS slip rate of  $24 \pm 1$  m/yr is correct  
 $\Rightarrow$  locking depth =  $18 \pm 6$  km



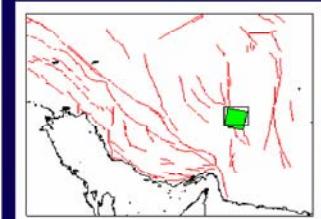
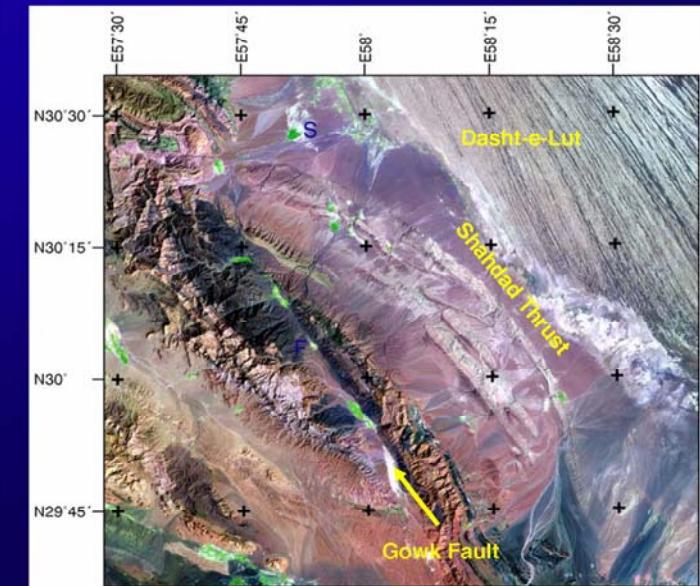
Wright, Parsons and Fielding, GRL 2001

## Simple dislocation model

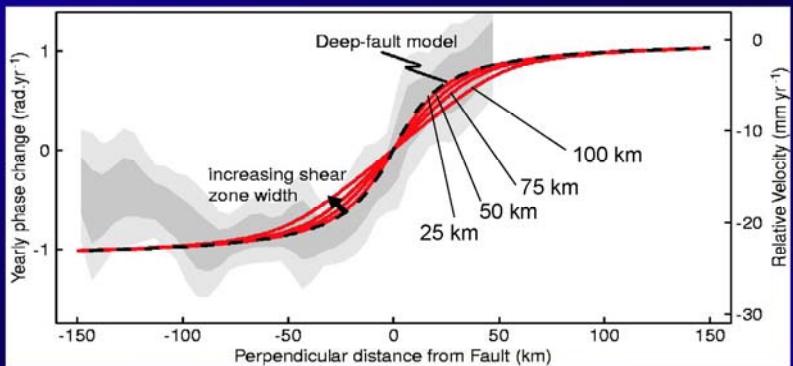




### Triggered Slip on the Shahdad Thrust, Eastern Iran

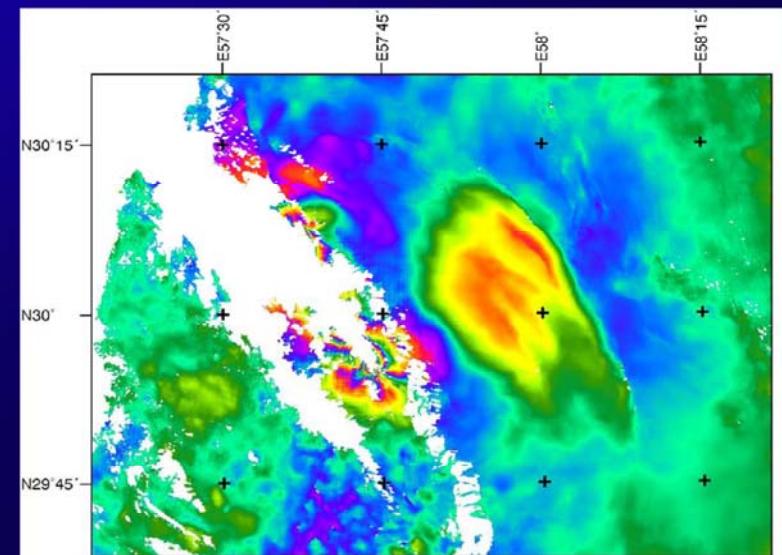


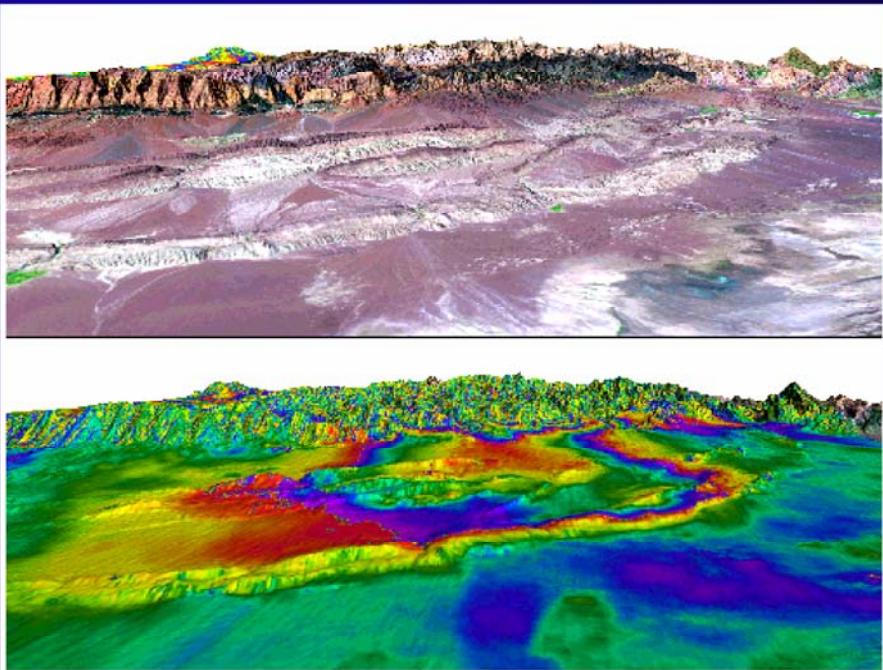
How wide is the shear zone at depth?



- For an 18 km elastic lid, a  $\sim 60$  km wide shear zone at depth ( $\pi \times$  lid thickness) cannot be distinguished from a deep, planar fault.

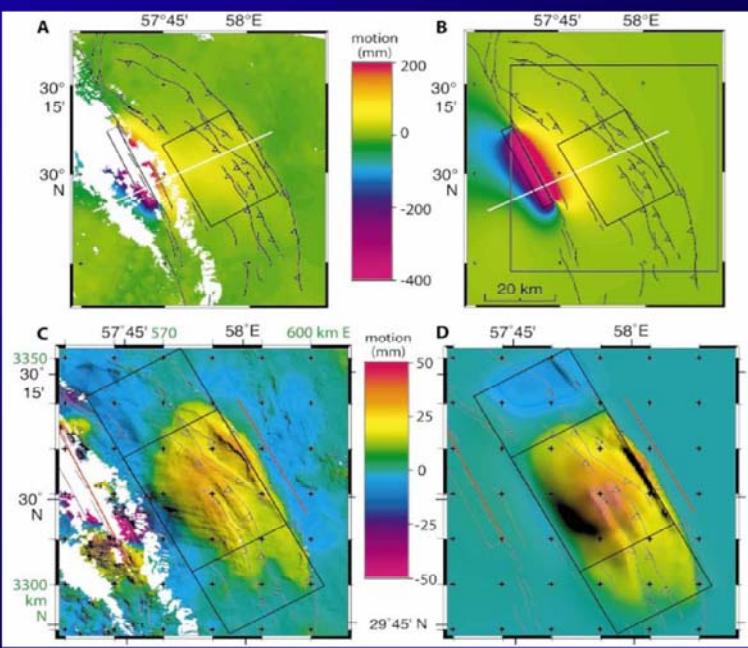
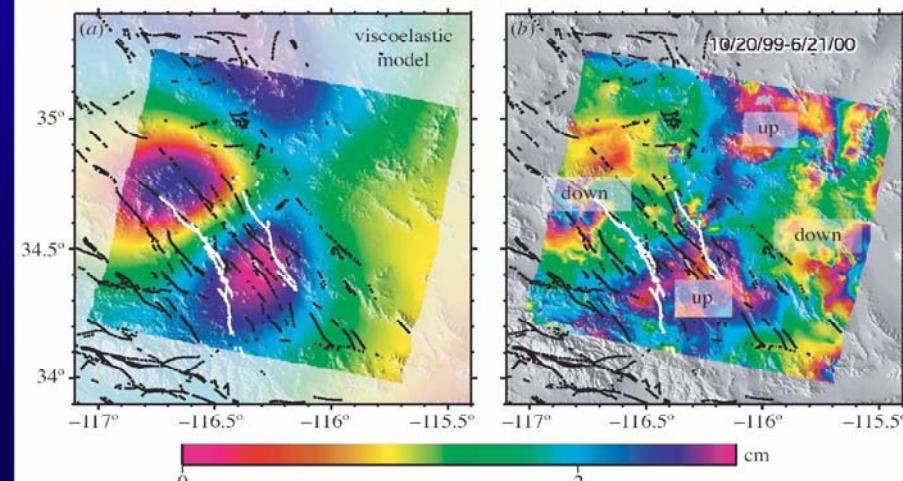
### SAR Interferogram for the $M_w$ 6.6 Fandoqa Earthquake, 14 March 1998, Eastern Iran





## Postseismic Deformation

$M_w \sim 7.1$  Hector Mine Earthquake, October 16, 1999:  
Rapid Postseismic Relaxation of upper mantle?  
(Pollitz, Wicks & Thatcher, 2001)

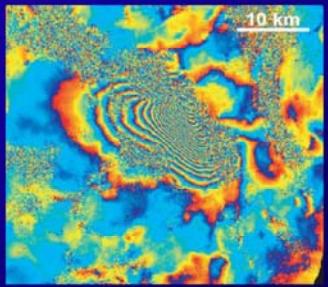


## Exploiting Envisat and the ERS archive

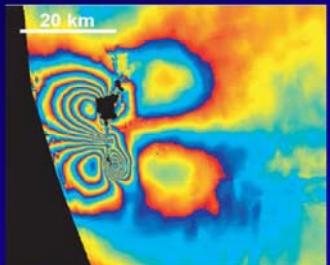
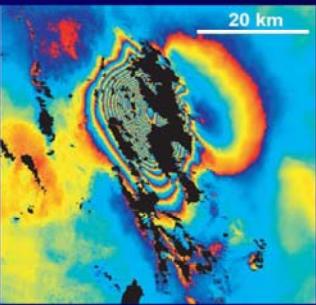
- Coseismic interferograms for upper-crustal earthquakes  $> M_5.5$  [ $< 8.0?$ ].
- Interseismic deformation for faults with “reasonable” rates and “favourable” orientations.
- Postseismic transients for large earthquakes.
- Slow earthquakes, triggered aseismic slip and other unexpected phenomena.

*If ground cover is suitable!*

# The practical class



Interpretation and modelling of  
3 coseismic interferograms



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