'Sharp sides' in mantle convection

Seismic multipathing in thermal and thermochemical models

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The 3D Earth, 1984



After Dziewoński, JGR, 1984



Ritsema et al., GJI, 2010



Ritsema et al., GJI, 2010

shear velocity variation from 1-D

+1.5%

-1.5%



Involved with convection?

Ritsema et al., GJI, 2010

shear velocity variation from 1-D

+1.5%

-1.5%

- ~3% (or more) of mantle volume
- Involved with convection?
- 'Hidden reservoirs'?

2300 km



2300 km



Thermal v. thermochemical **Density** Bulk sound velocity

 $V_{\rm P} = \sqrt{\frac{\frac{4}{3}\mu + K}{\rho}} \quad V_{\rm S} = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{\rho}} \quad V_{\phi} = \sqrt{\frac{K}{\rho}}$



2300 km

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Ishii & Tromp, Science, 1998; Masters et al., Geophysical Monograph, 2000

2300 km



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Thermal v. thermochemical

Lateral velocity gradients



Lekić et al., 2012; Ni et al., 2005

'Sharp sides': multipathing



'Sharp sides': multipathing



Convection simulations



Davies et al., 2012

Conversion to seismic properties

Stixrude & Lithgow-Bertelloni, 2005, 2011; Goes et al., 2004

Lateral gradients: models

3D effect: seismic simulations

3D effect: seismic simulations

Synthetics v. data

Nowacki et al., in prep.

Data

Synthetics v. data

Nowacki et al., in prep.

40

50

Synthetics v. data

Data

Nowacki et al., in prep.

Synthetics v. data

Data

Nowacki et al., in prep.

Data

Synthetics v. data

Nowacki et al., in prep.

Data

Synthetics v. data

40

50

Nowacki et al., in prep.

Synthetics v. data

30

40

50

Data

Nowacki et al., in prep.

Synthetics v. data

TC

Data

Time rel. Sdiff in ak135 / s

Nowacki et al., in prep.

Frequency-wavenumber (fk) analysis

fk analysis: multipathing

fk analysis: multipathing

100-15 s

100-5 s

$Multipathing \ in \ S_{diff}$

T no ppv, paths to 3680 km radius, $|\nabla V_S|$ 50 km above CMB

T no ppv, paths to 3680 km radius, $|\nabla V_S|$ 100 km above CMB

T no ppv, paths to 3680 km radius, $|\nabla V_S|$ 300 km above CMB

T no ppv, paths to 3680 km radius, $|\nabla V_S|$ 400 km above CMB

TCB no ppv, paths to 3680 km radius, $|\nabla V_S|$ 50 km above CMB

TCB no ppv, paths to 3680 km radius, $|\nabla V_S|$ 100 km above CMB

TCB no ppv, paths to 3680 km radius, $|\nabla V_S|$ 300 km above CMB

TCB no ppv, paths to 3680 km radius, $|\nabla V_S|$ 400 km above CMB

TCB ppv, paths to 3680 km radius, $|\nabla V_S|$ 400 km above CMB

TCB ppv, paths to 3680 km radius, $|\nabla V_S|$ 400 km above CMB

Pile morphology

Three chemistries: mantle, thermochemical piles, oceanic crust а

Pile morphology

a Three chemistries: mantle, thermochemical piles, oceanic crust

c Zoomed chemistry fields

Garnero et al., Nature Geosci, 2016

Pile morphology

a Three chemistries: mantle, thermochemical piles, oceanic crust

b Temperature field

c Zoomed chemistry fields

Garnero et al., Nature Geosci, 2016

• Sharp gradients arise even in thermal models of convection

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- Both T and TCB models lead to multipathing

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- Both T and TCB models lead to multipathing
- Sharp sides may not represent Have we already what we think they do detected plumes?

TC

Gradient V_S / km s⁻¹ °⁻¹

finni

Next

Effect of ppv

Radius = 3630 km

Nowacki et al., in prep.

Ranges in velocities

T no ppv, 100 km above CMB

TCB no ppv, 100 km above CMB

T ppv, 100 km above CMB

TCB ppv, 100 km above CMB

Lateral gradients: models (no ppv)

Lateral gradients: models (with ppv)

Reference

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Nowacki et al., in prep.

Effect of ppv

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Nowacki et al., in prep.