The lithosphere-asthenosphere boundary beneath hotspots

Catherine A. Rychert University of Southampton





hotspot – lithosphere interaction What does it imply about the lithosphere?

heat or thin the lid

dynamic support

compositional root



Detrick & Crough, 1978 Li et al., 2004



Sleep, 1990

Jordan, 1979 Yamamoto & Phipps Morgan, 2009 Hall & Kincaid, 2003 hotspot – lithosphere interaction What does it imply about the asthenosphere?





[MELT, 1998]

melt



[Kawakatsu et al., 2009]



anisotropy

Chemical layer Authorical layer Thermal layer Layer 1 fozen-in anisotropy Layer 2 fozen-in anisotropy Layer 2 fozen-in anisotropy

[Yuan & Romanowicz, 2010]

hydration



[Karato, 2012]

[Schmerr, 2012]

Melt beneath the lithosphere?

How deep does it extend?



Another important unknown -Where does the plume impinge on the lithosphere?



Detrick & Crough, 1978 Li et al., 2004 Sleep, 1990

Jordan, 1979 Yamamoto & Phipps Morgan, 2009 Hall & Kincaid, 2003

Method

1) Rotate recorded waveform to P and S components.

2a) Bin data by conversion point, simultaneously deconvolve and migrate to depth in 1-D.

2b) Extended multi-taper receiver function technique and 3-D migration.



Global compilation of receiver function results. Most insitu measurements come from ocean island stations



Lithosphere-asthenosphere boundary from receiver functions

(Li et al., 2000; Li et al., 2004; Collins et al., 2002; Wolbern et al., 06; Heit et al., 2007; Li et al., 2007; Rychert et al., 2005; Rychert et al., 2007; Snyder, 2008; Kumar et al., 2005; Sodoudi et al., 2006; Ozacar et al., 2008; Angus et al., 2006; Mohsen et al., 2006; Hansen et al., 07; Kumar et al., 2007; Wittlinger and Farra, 2007; Hansen et al., 2009; Sodoudi et al., 2009; Kumar et al., 2005; Oreshin et al., 2002; Kumar et al., 2006; Sodoudi et al., 2009; Sodoudi et al., 2009; Kumar et al., 2005; Oreshin et al., 2002; Kumar et al., 2006; Sodoudi et al., 2008; Chen, 2009; Kawakatsu et al., 2009)

Afar triple junction



[Beutel et al., 2010]



Afar triple junction, 75 km depth



Velocity decreases with depth beneath the flank.

Velocity increases beneath the rift.



Strong LAB beneath flank, shallows beneath flood basalts Flank cross section Results from the migrated extended multitaper method



Strong velocity decrease likely requires a mechanism such as melting in the asthenosphere. [Rychert et al., Nature

Geo., 2012]



beneath flank.

No LAB beneath rift.

Sharp transition implies rigidity of the lid.

Flank to rift cross section Results from the migrated extended multitaper method





beneath flank.

No LAB beneath rift.

Sharp transition implies rigidity of the lid. Flank to rift cross section Results from the migrated extended multitaper method



Synthetic Waveform Modeling

11 %♥ @ 77 km Strong velocity decrease likely requires a mechanism such as melting in the asthenosphere.





Good agreement with previous/new seismic results.

Joint Ps receiver function – surface waves 70-80 km thick lid vs. no lid beneath rift [Dugda et al., 2007]. Sp receiver functions 80 km¹⁵ [Hansen et al., 2009]









surface waves [Gallagher et al., 2013] see poster!

0 - 60 km

30 km or possibly 100 km



A sharp rigid lid is imaged on the flank of the Afar rift at ~75 km depth. The transition from flank to rift is abrupt.

The sub-crustal lithosphere beneath the rift has been destroyed.

A significant velocity increase imaged beneath the rift is consistent with geodynamic predictions for the onset of decompression melting.

Its depth is shallow, indicating no significant plume influence today.

Hawaii – where a mantle plume likely exists.



Hawaii



Models to explain Hawaiian Swell



Yamamoto & Phipps Morgan, 2009 Hall & Kincaid, 2003

Models to explain Hawaiian Swell



heat flow too low [Von Herzen, et al., 1989]

Detrick & Crough, 1978 Li et al., 2004 dynamic support



Sleep, 1990

compositional root



Jordan, 1979 Yamamoto & Phipps Morgan, 2009 Hall & Kincaid, 2003

Hawaii - Results

Lithosphere-asthenosphere: 100 km depth, shallowing to 80 km beneath Island of Hawaii.

Also -

Velocity increase with depth: deepens from 110 to 150 km, 100 km west of Hawaii.





Geo., 2013]

Hawaii Waveform modeling, inferred plume axis



Hawaii Geophysical modeling – temperature, water, melt?



Hawaii – Discussion

77 – 93 km this study

Previous LAB results beneath Hawaii

95 km below sea level, previous S-to-P receiver functions [Li et al., 2004]

76 – 81 km below sea level, SS precursors [Schmerr et al., 2012]

Also, Velocity increase with depth at 130 – 140 km, previous S-to-P receiver functions [Li et al., 2001]





Hawaii - Where is plume at depth?



directly beneath Hawaii [Wolfe et al., 2009]









200 km SW [Li *et al.,* 2000]

> 700 km W

Hawaii - Conclusions



Onset of melting Increases from 110 km depth to 150 km depth

 Hawaiian plume impingement 100 km west of Hawaii

•Either approaches from west or deflected, possibly from a restite root

•Melt transport toward Hawaii along the gently sloping LAB permeability barrier and or/ via pre-existing lithospheric fracturing [Hieronymus & Bercovici, 1999]

Hawaii – What's next? Full waveform modeling confirms imaging. Also, some predicted focusing/defocusing.



[Rychert et al., in prep]





Data –

SIGNET array October 2009 – June 2011

Permanent station PAYG 1998 – 2011

Young oceanic lithosphere

Hotspot-ridge interaction



[Rychert et al., EPSL., 2013]

Station PAYG





[Harmon et al., 2009]



[Rychert et al., EPSL., 2013]

[Villagomez et al., 2007]



- LAB deeper near hypothesized plume location [Hooft et al., 2003]
- Onset of melting deeper in locations of surface wave anomalies.
- Multiple regions of deepened melting may indicate plume diversions and complex interactions with the ridge.

[Rychert et al., EPSL., 2013]

Iceland







[Rychert et al., in prep.]

Iceland



[Rychert et al., in prep.]
Iceland



[Li & Detrick, 2006]

35-25-15-0505 15 25 35 4

Comparison

		Age Ma	LAB Depth km	LAB sharpness km	Onset of Melting km
	Iceland	0	~60 50-80 (NE)	Not modeled yet	90-160
	Galapagos	0	~75 66(NE) - 82 (SW)	Unconstrained, lateral variation?	125- 145
	Afar	0	60-80 none in rift	~15 km depth (off axis)	66-75
	Hawaii	95	~80 75 (E) - 93 (W)	~10 km depth (west of Hawaii)	125- 155
250 western diverted plume plume					

Asthenosphere ~ 800 km

approach

Summary

Afar



Galapagos

Iceland









destroyed mantle lithosphere

Plume located off axisLAB thicker near plume

[Rychert et al., Nature Geo., 2012] [Rychert et al., Nature[Rychert et al., EPSL,Geo., 2013]2013]

[Rychert et al., in prep.]

Conclusions

A sharp rigid lid is imaged on the flank of the Afar rift. No mantle lid exists beneath the rift, rather a discontinuity at the onset of decompression melting, without a strong plume influence.

The base of a melt rich layer beneath Hawaii, Galapagos, and Iceland increases in depth where the plume impinges on the lithosphere.

Plume is located off-axis beneath Hawaii, Galapagos, Iceland

The LAB is deeper near the region of plume impingement, consistent with compositional definition.

Melt may be guided toward axis of volcanism via pre-existing structures.

Suggests melt is retained in the asthenosphere beneath areas of active volcanism in sufficient quantities and over significant depth ranges to be observed seismically.

Ontaong Java Plateau: a modern day analogue for the formation of the continents?



Saikiran Tharimena, see poster!



[Wolfe et al., 2009]

SSLIP – SS Lithospheric Interface Profiling Comparison to previous work



SSLIP [*Rychert & Shearer, JGR,* 2011] [Nettles & Dziewonski, 2008]











[Wolfe et al., 2009]



70 – 110 km

100-110 km thins to 50-60 km



temperatures from geochemistry (1370 - 1490° C)[Rooney et al., 2011] agrees with our predicted range (1350 – 1400° C), i.e., not significantly hotter than normal mantle.

- 2) 3) Indeed, petrologic estimates for the depth of melting in Afar (70 90 km)
 [Furman, 2007] agree with the depth of our observed seismic discontinuity.
- 3) 5) Afar rift is likely seismically slow in comparison to surrounding regions from down to ~200 km depth due channelized flow from a low viscosity asthenospehre, which provides slightly warmer material, but certainly no plume. Such a model has been used to explain similar seismic structure and low mantle potential temperatures beneath the East Pacific Rise [Toomey et al., 2002]. Lateral asthenospheric flow has also been invoked to explain diachronous volcanism and geochemical variations beneath Afar [Ebinger & Sleep, 1998].4) No plume directly beneath Afar in recent

Afar looks like the EPR @ 70 km depth



[Kustowski et al., 2008]

No significant plume influence is required!

Conclusions

A sharp rigid lid is imaged on the flank of the Afar rift at ~75 km depth. The transition from flank to rift is abrupt.

The sub-crustal lithosphere beneath the rift has been destroyed.

A significant velocity increase imaged beneath the rift is consistent with geodynamic predictions for the onset of decompression melting.

Its depth is shallow, indicating no significant plume influence today.

Hawaii – [Rychert et al., submitted] Image plume pancake and conduit

Onset of melting increases in depth 100 km west of Hawaii, in location of plume conduit





Hawaii – Discussion

Melt and compositional buoyancy may provide support for Hawaiian Swell without producing a large heat flow anomaly.

Western plume may explain high topography there in comparison to east.

Bin by conversion point. Bin radius = ³/₄ degree, 75 km depth.











Li & Detrick, 2006]





[[]Schmerr, 2012]

Lithosphere-asthenosphere boundary at tectonic transitions.

What does it imply about the lithosphere?

subduction



continent-ocean





[Huismans & Beaumont, 2011]

ridge



[MELT seismic team, 1998]

hotspot



[Rychert et al., 2013]

Good agreement with previous seismic results.

Joint Ps receiver function – surface waves 70-80 km thick lid vs. no lid beneath rift [Dugda et al., 2007].

Surface waves [Fishwick et al., 2010].



Shear wavesneed (km/s)













3.8

4.0

4.2

Shear wavesneed (km/s)

4.4

4.6



0 – 60 km 60 – 160 km

surface waves [Gallagher et al., 2013]



Body wave velocity anomalies beneath rift

depth = S-wave % velocity anomaly 100 km

Previous seismic results

SKS & surface waves – aligned melting in upper 75 km.

[Kendall et al., 2005; Bastow et al,. 2010]



P-to-S: Moho shallows, Vp/Vs high beneath rift

[Hammond et al., 2011]



Moho depth(km)

Geodynamic Modeling





Global compilation of receiver function results. Most insitu measurements come from ocean island stations



Lithosphere-asthenosphere boundary from receiver functions

(Li et al., 2000; Li et al., 2004; Collins et al., 2002; Wolbern et al., 06; Heit et al., 2007; Li et al., 2007; Rychert et al., 2005; Rychert et al., 2007; Snyder, 2008; Kumar et al., 2005; Sodoudi et al., 2006; Ozacar et al., 2008; Angus et al., 2006; Mohsen et al., 2006; Hansen et al., 07; Kumar et al., 2007; Wittlinger and Farra, 2007; Hansen et al., 2009; Sodoudi et al., 2009; Kumar et al., 2005; Oreshin et al., 2002; Kumar et al., 2006; Sodoudi et al., 2009; Sodoudi et al., 2009; Kumar et al., 2005; Oreshin et al., 2002; Kumar et al., 2006; Sodoudi et al., 2008; Chen, 2009; Kawakatsu et al., 2009)

Conclusions



A sharp rigid lid is imaged on the flank of the Afar rift at ~75 km depth. The transition from flank to rift is abrupt.

The sub-crustal lithosphere beneath the rift has been destroyed.

A significant velocity increase imaged beneath the rift is consistent with geodynamic predictions for the onset of decompression melting.

Its depth is shallow, indicating no significant plume influence today.

Hawaii –

- Method Receiver Functions
- 1) Orient OBS data using Rayleigh waves.
- 2) Rotate waveform to P and SV components.
- 3) Deconvolve with extended multitaper [Helffrich, 2006]. Filter 0.05 – 0.14 Hz
- 4) Migrate to depth [Angus et al., 2009]. Weight by SNR. Grid ³/₄° by ³/₄°, 1 km depth Migration model from P-to-S receiver functions (crust) [Leahy et al., 2010] and surface waves (mantle) [Laske et al., 2011]. Smooth based on Fresnel zone



Hawaii – hitcount map



Galapagos – hitcount map



Waveform modeling

station on seafloor.

consider range of amplitudes in data.

LAB and onset of melting: 8-20% ΔVs over < 15 km depth.

VS.

Hawaii

destroyed mantle lithosphere

Afar

- onset of melting ~75 km depth
- potential temperatures ~1350° -~1400°
- No strong plume influence

[Rychert et al., Nature Geo., 2012] [Rychert et al., Nature Geo., in revision]

- possibly subtly thinned lithosphere
- onset of melting ~150 km depth
- potential temperature increase from $^{\sim}1450^{\circ}$ to $^{\sim}1550^{\circ}$
- Hawaiian plume impingement 100 km west of Hawaii
- Deflection, possibly by a restite root

Galapagos –

lithosphere-asthenosphere

onset of melting

Galapagos







Topography [km]



A'

5

٨







S-to-p modeling data from station PAYG



hotspot – lithosphere interaction What does it imply about the asthenosphere?



Other Supporting Evidence



Africa has moved ~700 km away from the location where a plume caused flood basalt volcanism ~35 Ma [Silver et al., 1998].

Although interpreted as a thermal anomaly, the range of potential temperatures from geochemistry $(1370 - 1490^{\circ} \text{ C})$ [Rooney et al., 2011] agrees with our predicted range $(1350 - 1400^{\circ} \text{ C})$, i.e., not significantly hotter than normal mantle.

Depth of melting consistent with geochemical estimates (70 – 90 km) [Furman, 2007].



[Chang & van der Lee, 2011]





[Kustowski et al., 2008]

Channelized flow from a low viscosity asthenosphere may provide slightly warmer material, but certainly no plume [Toomey et al., 2002; Ebinger & Sleep 1998].

Global compilation of receiver function results. Most insitu measurements come from ocean island stations



Lithosphere-asthenosphere boundary from receiver functions

(Li et al., 2000; Li et al., 2004; Collins et al., 2002; Wolbern et al., 06; Heit et al., 2007; Li et al., 2007; Rychert et al., 2005; Rychert et al., 2007; Snyder, 2008; Kumar et al., 2005; Sodoudi et al., 2006; Ozacar et al., 2008; Angus et al., 2006; Mohsen et al., 2006; Hansen et al., 07; Kumar et al., 2007; Wittlinger and Farra, 2007; Hansen et al., 2009; Sodoudi et al., 2009; Kumar et al., 2005; Oreshin et al., 2002; Kumar et al., 2006; Sodoudi et al., 2009; Sodoudi et al., 2009; Kumar et al., 2005; Oreshin et al., 2002; Kumar et al., 2006; Sodoudi et al., 2008; Chen, 2009; Kawakatsu et al., 2009)

Global compilation of receiver function results. Most insitu measurements come from ocean island stations



Lithosphere-asthenosphere boundary from receiver functions

(Li et al., 2000; Li et al., 2004; Collins et al., 2002; Wolbern et al., 06; Heit et al., 2007; Li et al., 2007; Rychert et al., 2005; Rychert et al., 2007; Snyder, 2008; Kumar et al., 2005; Sodoudi et al., 2006; Ozacar et al., 2008; Angus et al., 2006; Mohsen et al., 2006; Hansen et al., 07; Kumar et al., 2007; Wittlinger and Farra, 2007; Hansen et al., 2009; Sodoudi et al., 2009; Kumar et al., 2005; Oreshin et al., 2002; Kumar et al., 2006; Sodoudi et al., 2009; Sodoudi et al., 2009; Kumar et al., 2005; Oreshin et al., 2002; Kumar et al., 2006; Sodoudi et al., 2008; Chen, 2009; Kawakatsu et al., 2009)

Hawaii -Another important unknown -Where does the plume impinge on the lithosphere?



Yamamoto & Phipps Morgan, 2009 Hall & Kincaid, 2003



Melt ponding beneath lithosphere with dykes



[Havelin et al., 2013]

Other supporting evidence-Agreement with geochemical estimates: 1500° -1600°, 150-180 km [Lee et al., 2009].

Western plume impingement may explain 'Loa' -' Kea' trend (southwest more isotopically enriched than northeast) [Bryce et al., 2005].

Melt and compositional buoyancy may support Hawaiian Swell without a large heat flow anomaly.

Western plume may explain high topography on west in comparison to east.



How can we explain plume impingement 100 km to the west?

Has the plume moved? [Tarduno et al., 2009] Sudden plume movement after ~47 My fixity seems too coincidental.

How can we explain plume impingement 100 km to the west?

Has the plume moved? [Tarduno et al., 2009] Sudden plume movement after ~47 My fixity seems too coincidental.
Angled approach? [Steinberger & Antretter, 2006]
Where is plume at depth?

How can we explain plume impingement 100 km to the west?

Has the plume moved? [Tarduno et al., 2009] Sudden plume movement after ~47 My fixity seems too coincidental.

Angled approach? [Steinberger & Antretter, 2006] Possibly...

Diverted at shallow depth? Restite root.

Hawaii - Results

Consistent with base of a melt rich layer, i.e., the onset of melting at 110 – 150 km depth.

Deepest in location of plume impingement, 100 km west of Island of Hawaii. Agrees with surface waves!

Depth of melting corresponds to potential temperatures 1450° – 1550° C [Katz et al., 2003], 100° local anomaly, 200° from ambient mantle.





[Rychert et al., submitted]