



Repetition of M8 seismic clusters in Mongolia: paleoseismic investigations

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R. Braucher, D. Bourlès (CEREGE, Aix-en-Provence)

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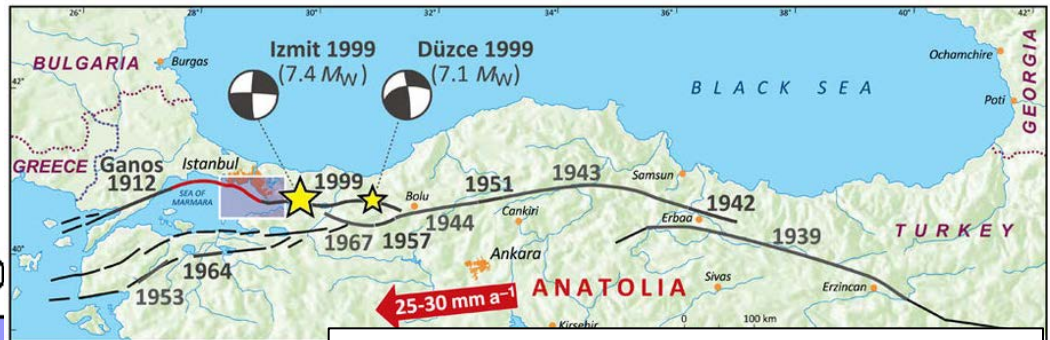
S. McGill (California State University)

A. & S. Arzhannikov (Russian Academy of Sciences, Irkutsk)

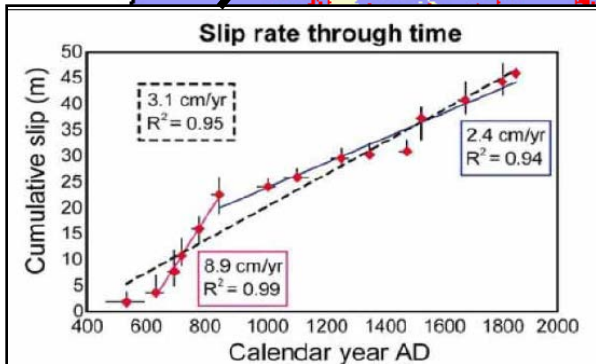
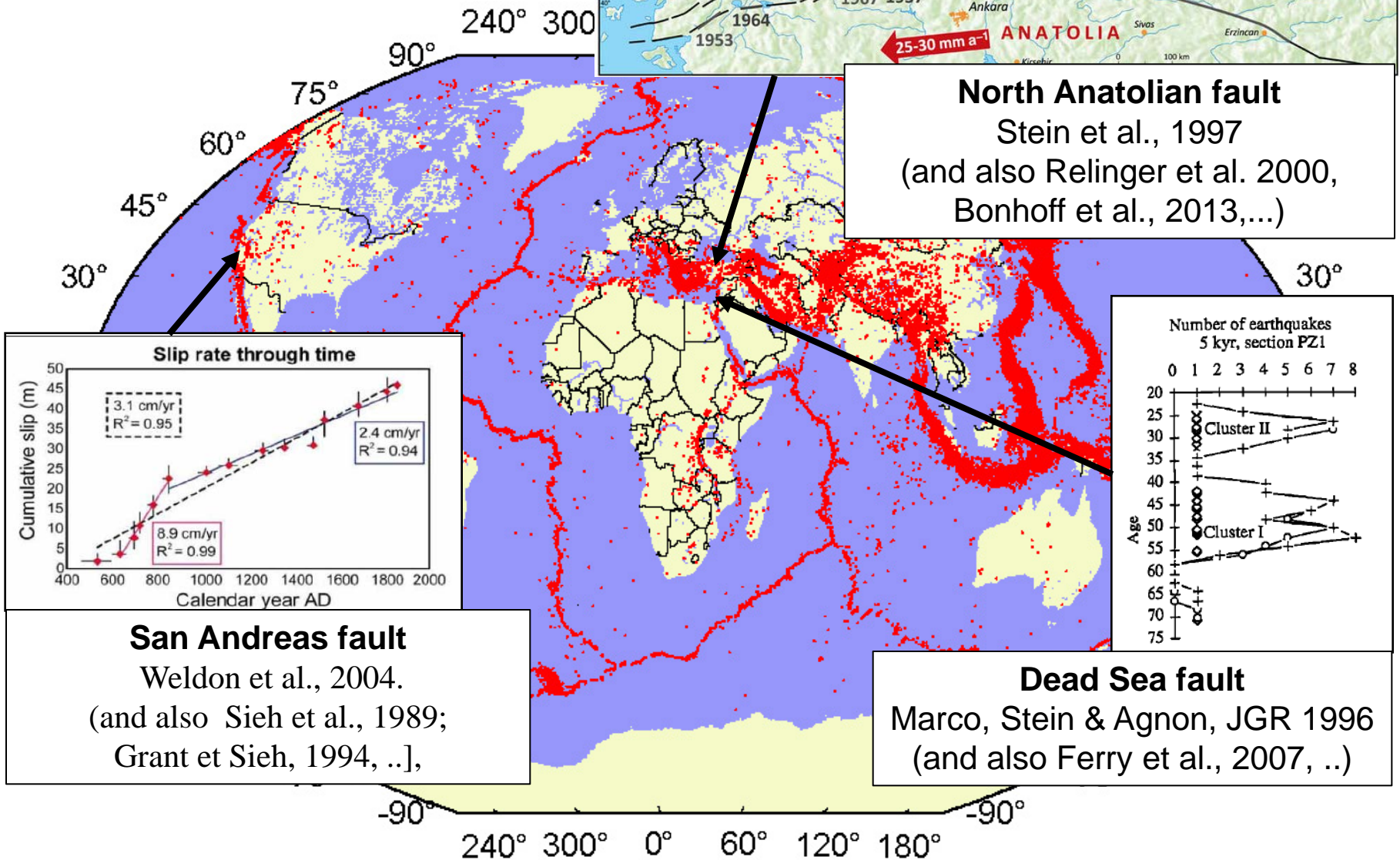
(*):

- 1: PhD 2000, now at Geosciences Environnement Toulouse (GET)
- 2 PhD 2006, now at Isterre - Université Savoie Mont Blanc Chambéry
- 3: PhD 2010, now at CEREGE - University Aix-Marseille
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- 5: in progress
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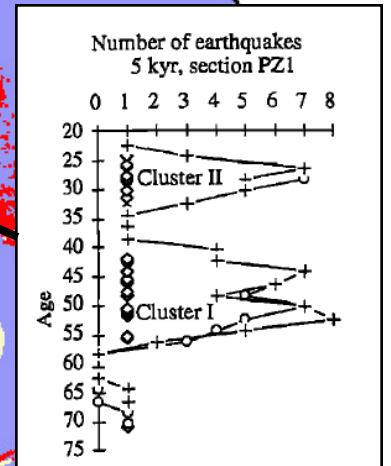
Seismic clustering along fault zones



North Anatolian fault
 Stein et al., 1997
 (and also Relinger et al. 2000,
 Bonhoff et al., 2013,...)



San Andreas fault
 Weldon et al., 2004.
 (and also Sieh et al., 1989;
 Grant et Sieh, 1994, ..),



Dead Sea fault
 Marco, Stein & Agnon, JGR 1996
 (and also Ferry et al., 2007, ..)

Regional seismic clusters (several faults)

California

Landers 1992 (Mw7.3)
Hector Mine 1999 (Mw7.1)

Eastern California shear zone (ECZ)
(Rockwell et al. 2000)

Eastern Mediterranean region

Earthquake storms in the late bronze age
(Nur & Cline 2000)

IV-VI centuries AD (Stiros 2001)

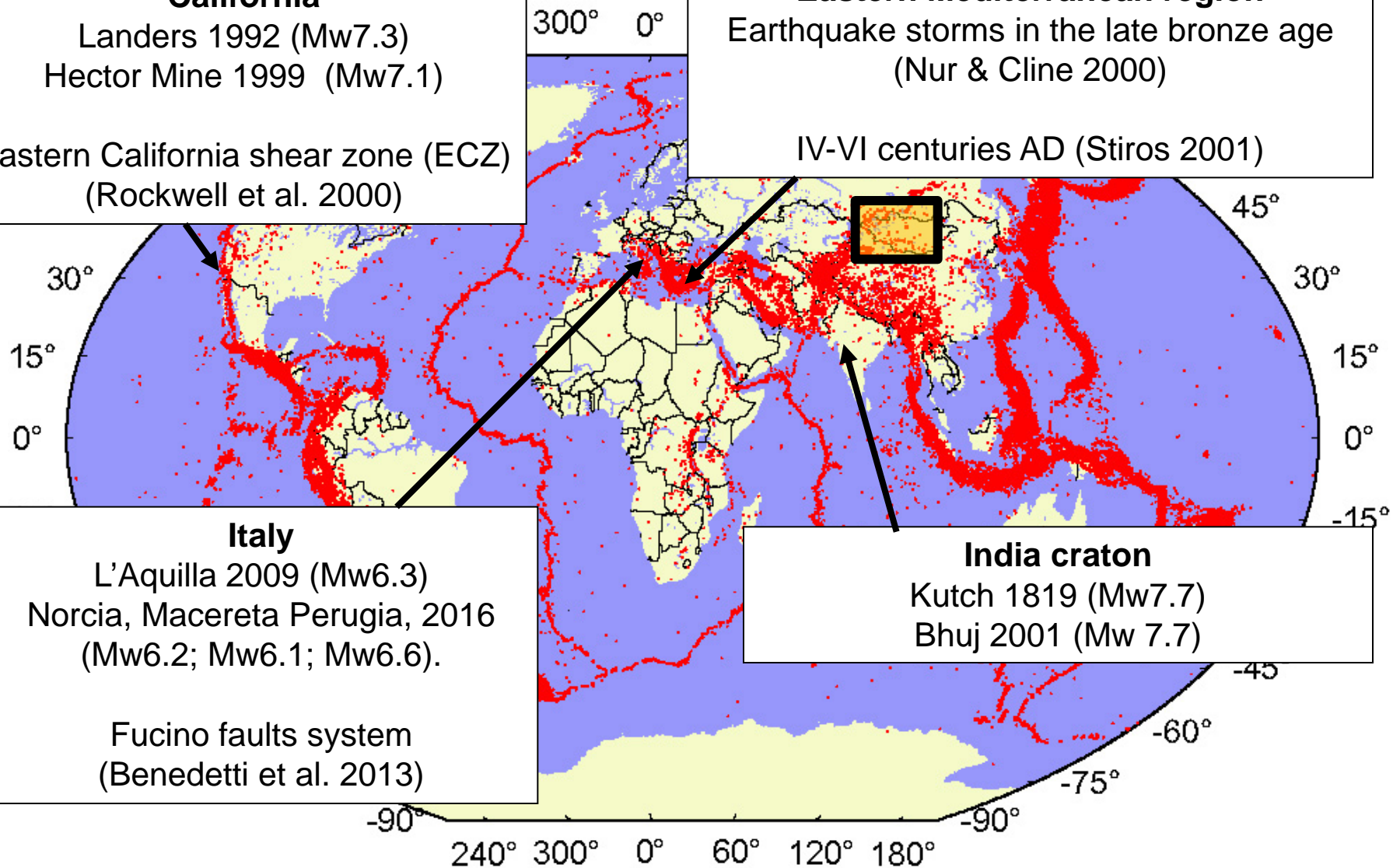
Italy

L'Aquila 2009 (Mw6.3)
Norcia, Macerata Perugia, 2016
(Mw6.2; Mw6.1; Mw6.6).

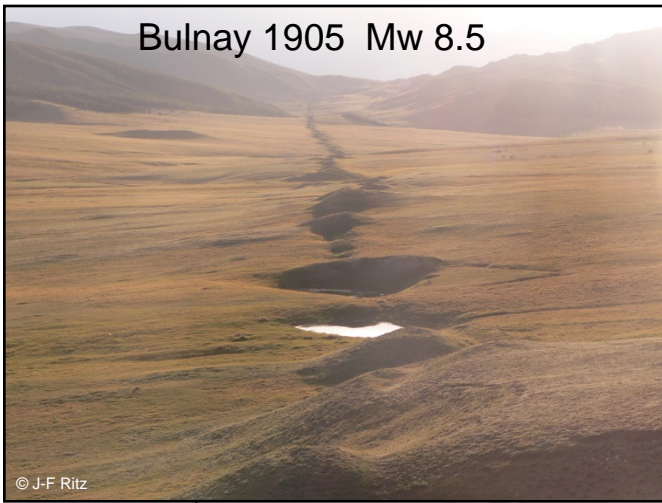
Fucino faults system
(Benedetti et al. 2013)

India craton

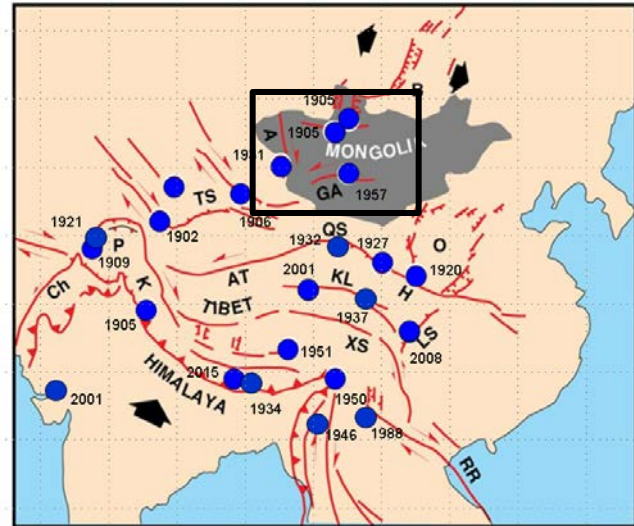
Kutch 1819 (Mw7.7)
Bhuj 2001 (Mw 7.7)



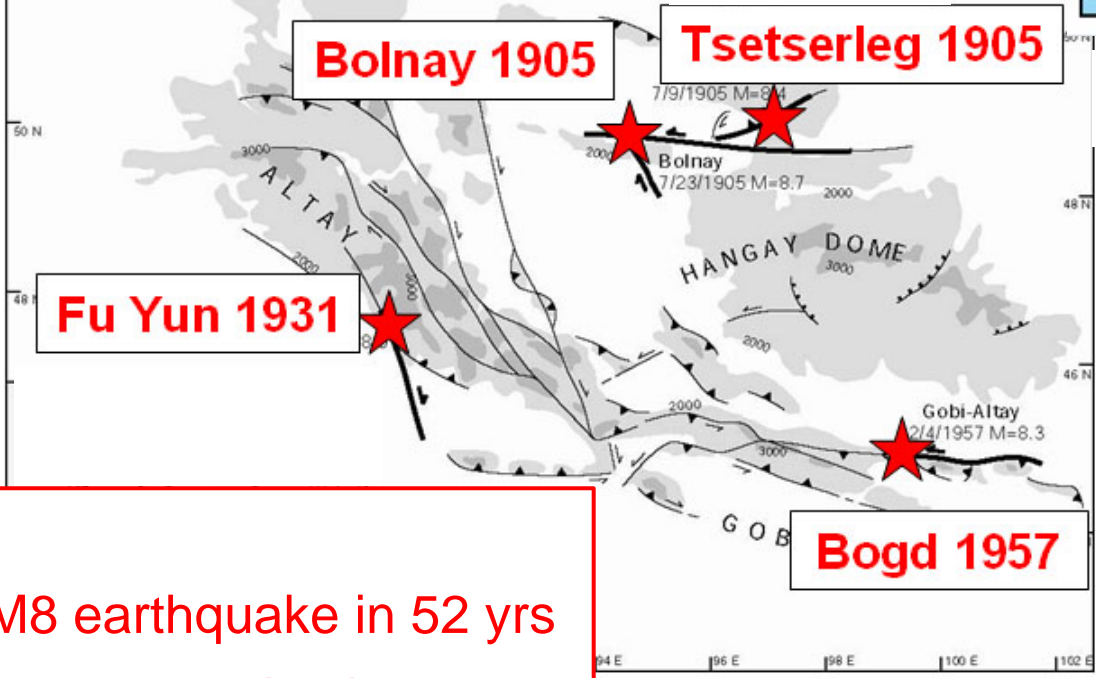
Bulnay 1905 Mw 8.5



© J-F Ritz



Asie Centrale: séismes de M7.8+ depuis 1900 AD

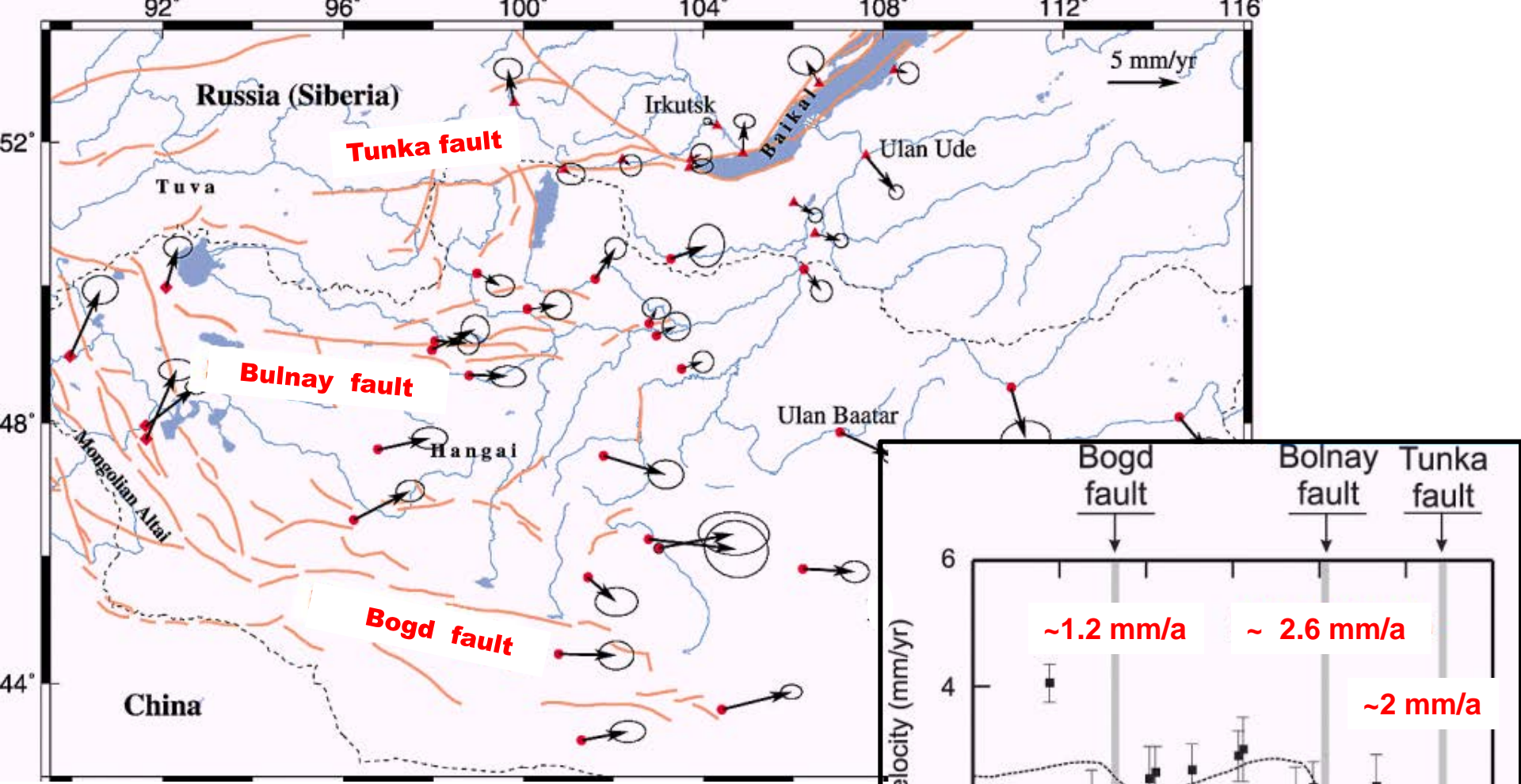


Four M8 earthquake in 52 yrs
⇒ XX century seismic cluster



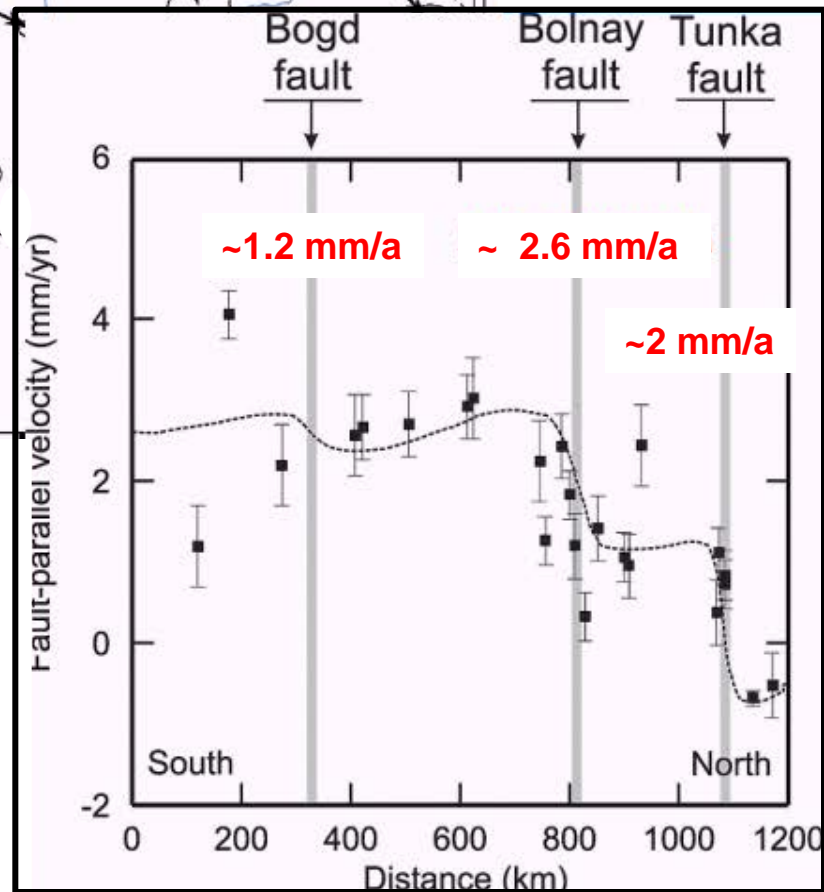
© J-F Ritz

Bogd 1957 Mw 8.0

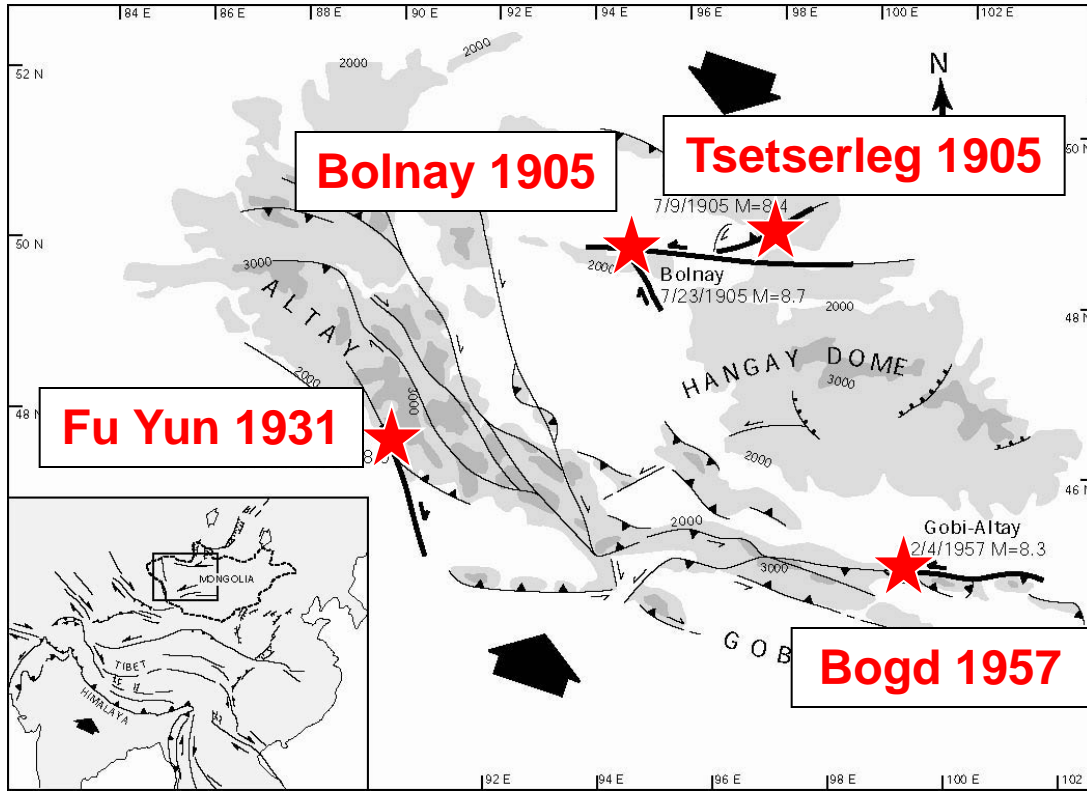


GPS measurements (mm/yr) in Mongolia

Calais et al. (2003); Vergnolle et al., (2003)

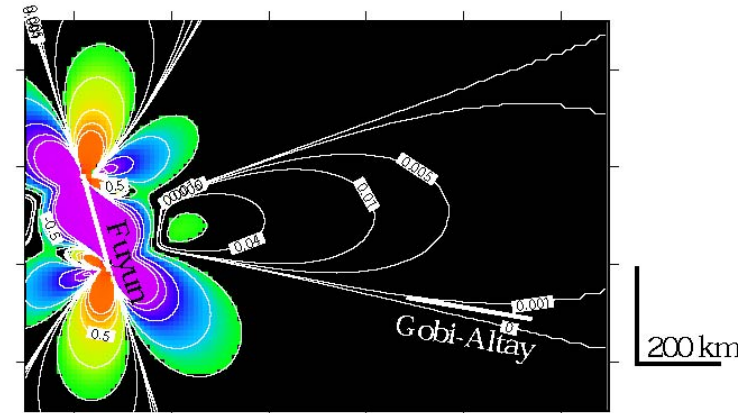


4 major events (M8) in 52 years, slow faults (~1mm/a)

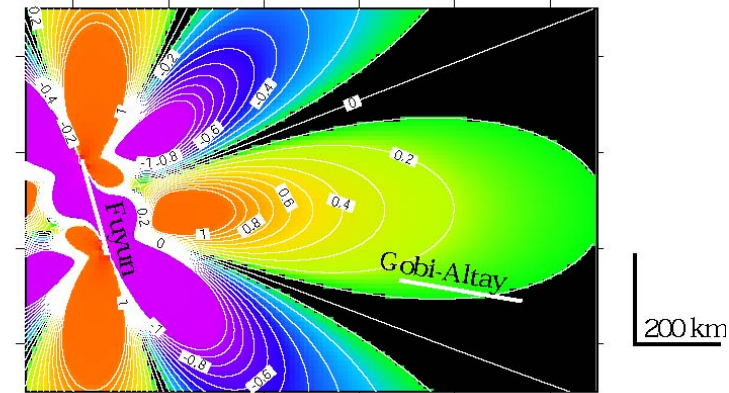


Chéry, Carretier, Ritz (2001)

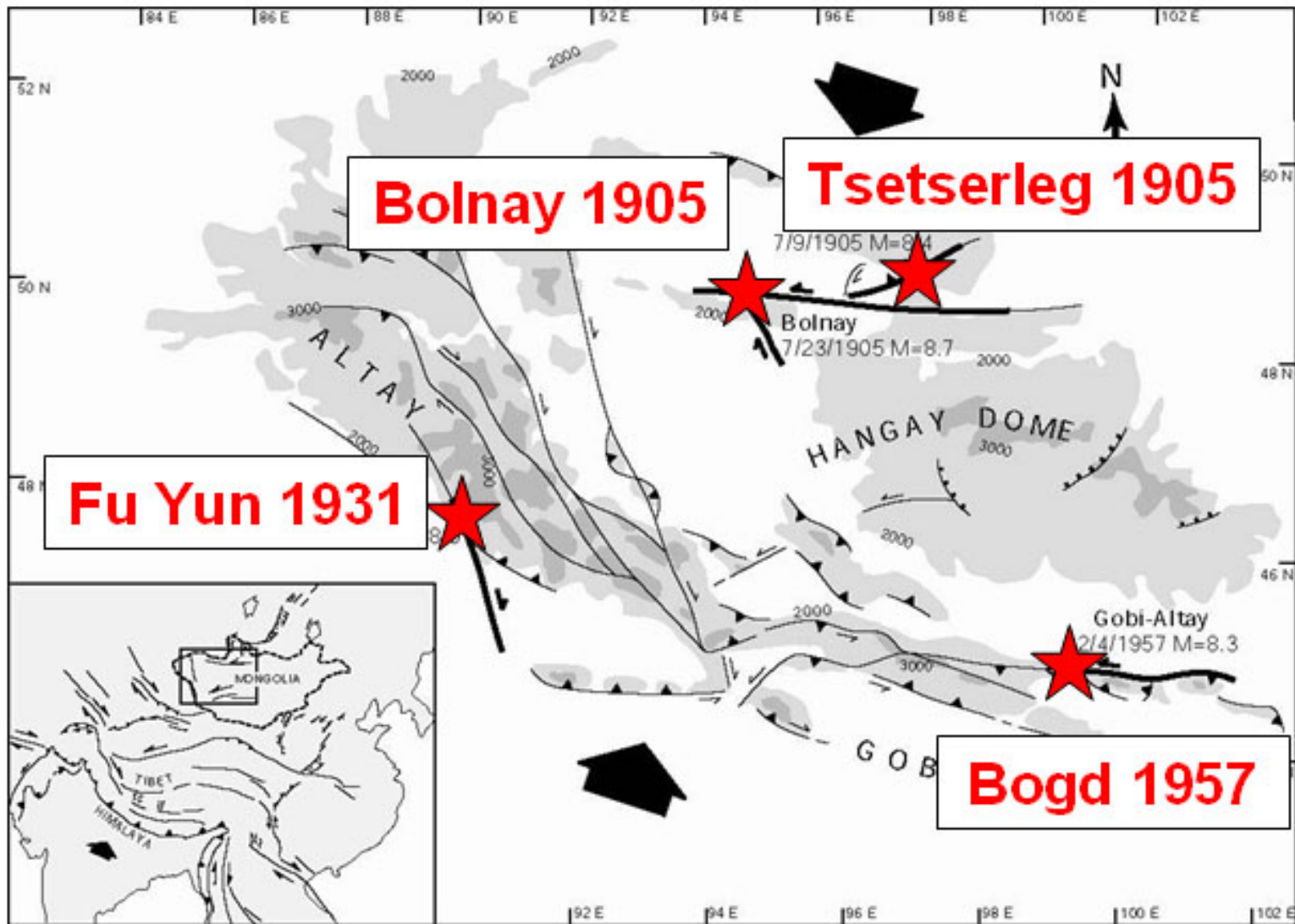
Model: post-seismic visco-elastic stress transfert
would explain this regional seismic clustering



-1.0 -0.1 0.1 1.0 bar
Co-seismic stress transfert
(upper elastic crust)

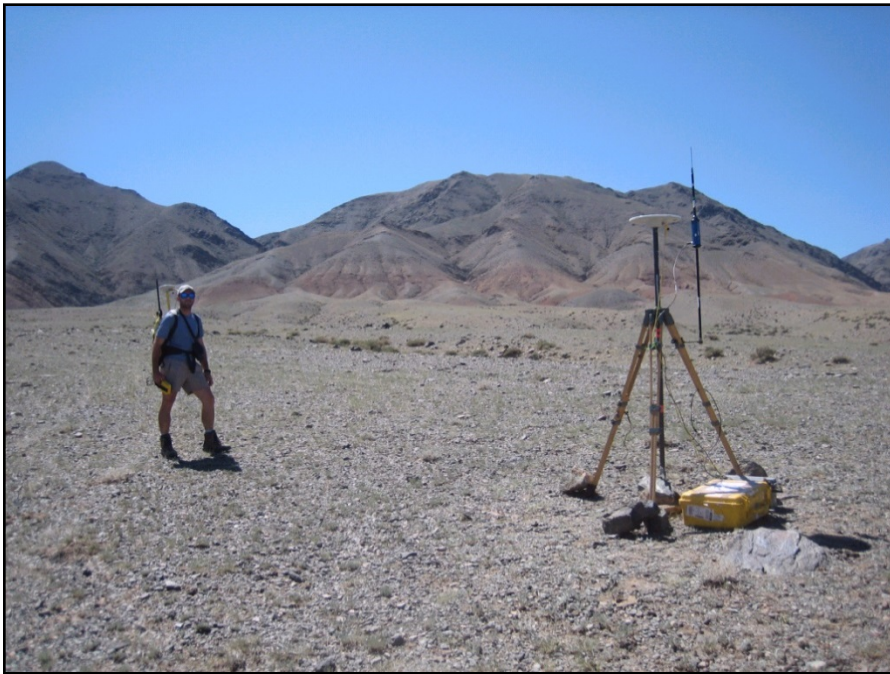


-1.0 -0.1 0.1 1.0 bar
Post-seismic stress transfert
(visco-elastic lower crust)



Can we see the repetition of this M8 seismic cluster in paleoseismic records ?

⇒ Paleoseismologic investigations along the Bogd and the Bulnay faults



Morphotectonic analysis

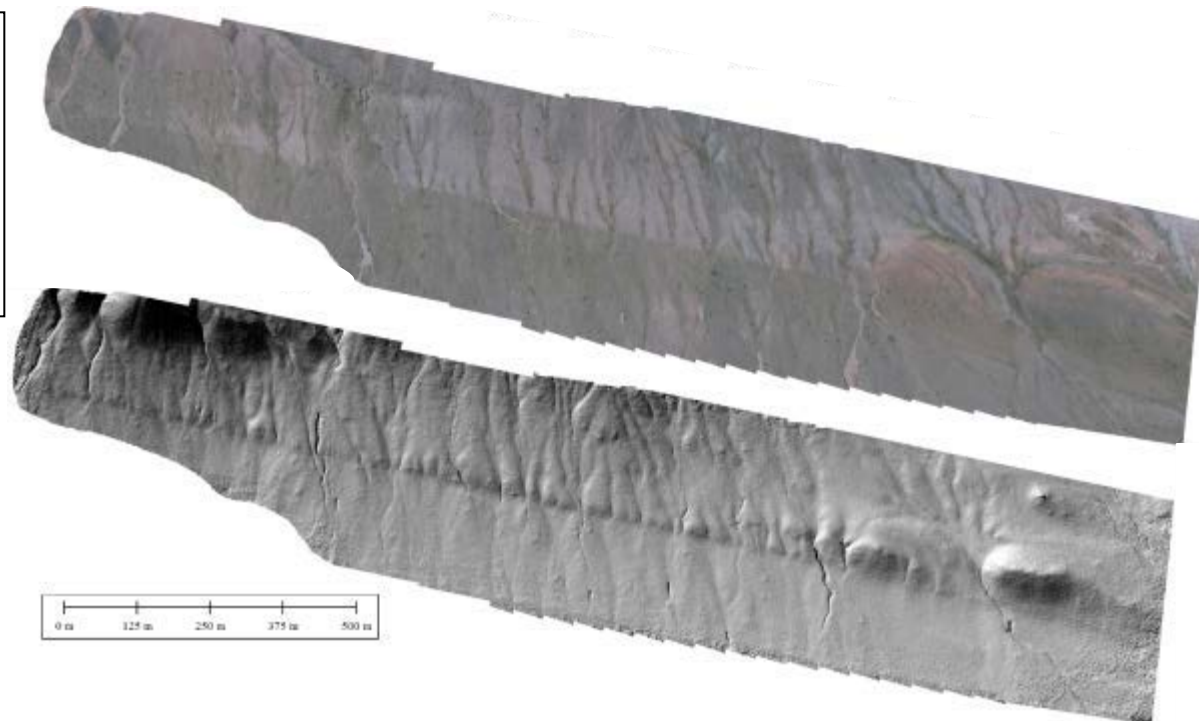
Slip rate: cumulative D / cumulative T
 $(SR = D_c / T_c)$ mm/yr

If unit coseismic D_u is constant
 $SR = D_u / T_u \Rightarrow (T_u = D_u / SR)$ years

Measuring offsets (D_c , D_u)
 Analysing the slip distribution

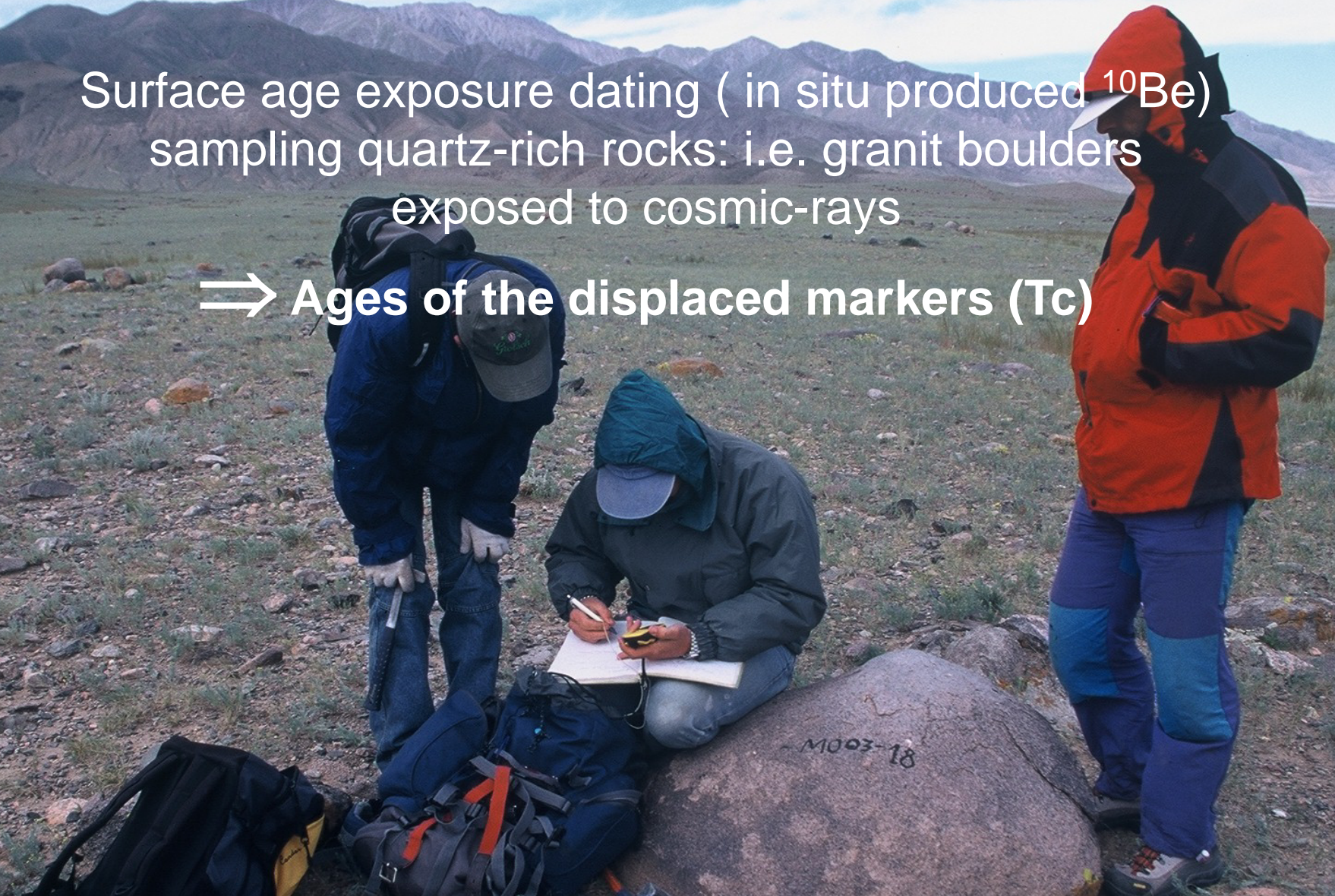
⇒ Mapping Quaternary geomorphology

- Satellite imagery
- Aerial photographs
- Field: microtopography (DEM):
 GPS RTK, KAP, Scanner, Drone



Surface age exposure dating (in situ produced ^{10}Be)
sampling quartz-rich rocks: i.e. granit boulders
exposed to cosmic-rays

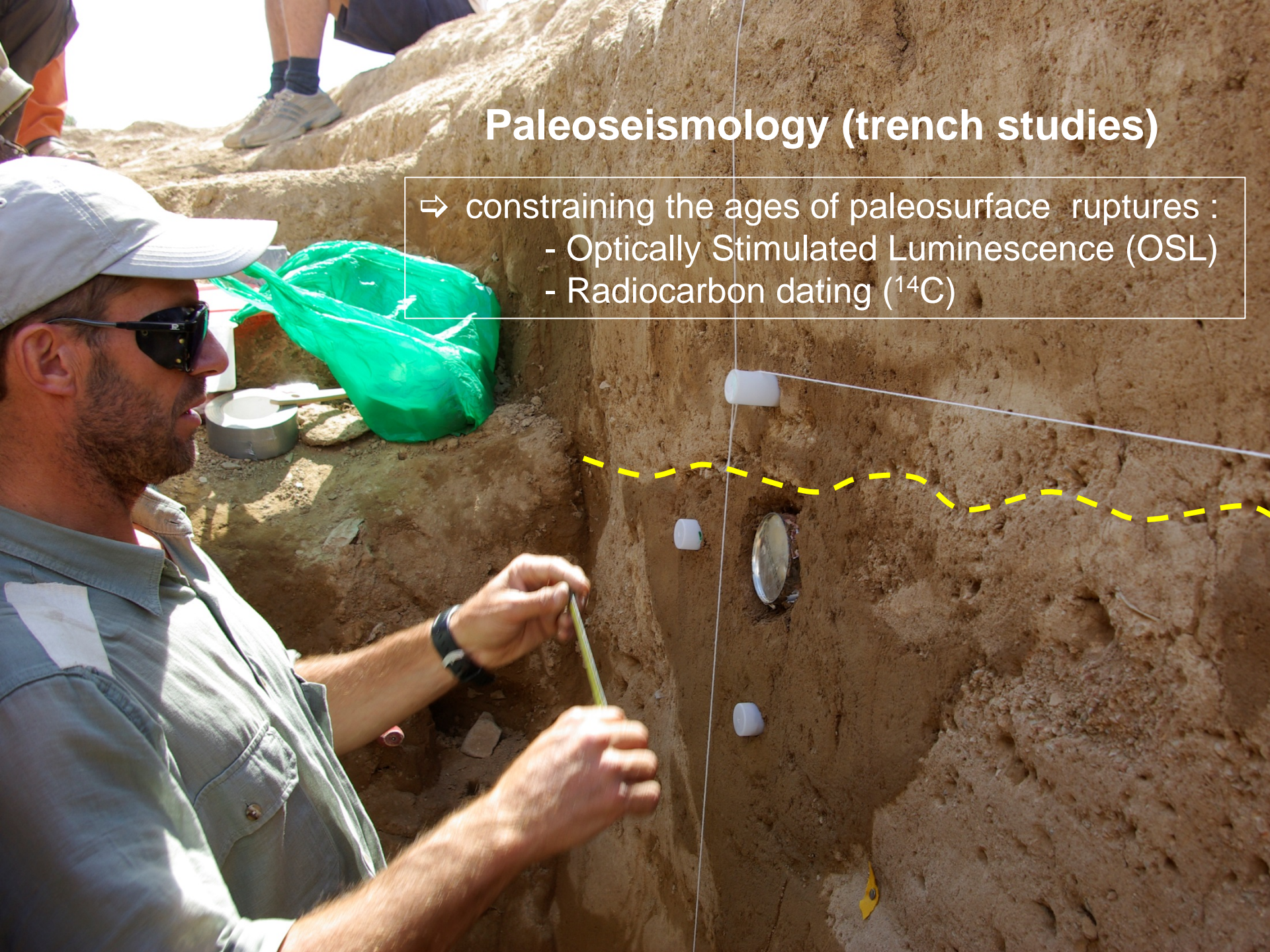
⇒ Ages of the displaced markers (T_c)



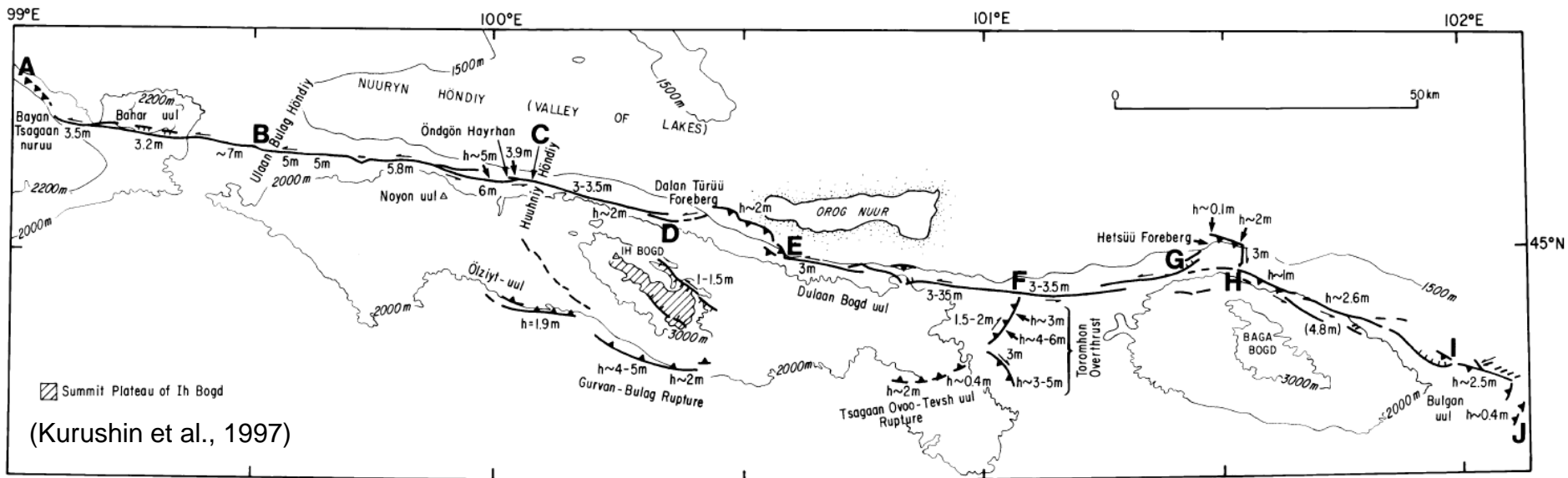
Combining cumulative offsets (D_c) and ages (T_c)
allows determining slip rates ($SR = D_c/T_c$) along faults

Paleoseismology (trench studies)

- ⇒ constraining the ages of paleosurface ruptures :
- Optically Stimulated Luminescence (OSL)
 - Radiocarbon dating (^{14}C)



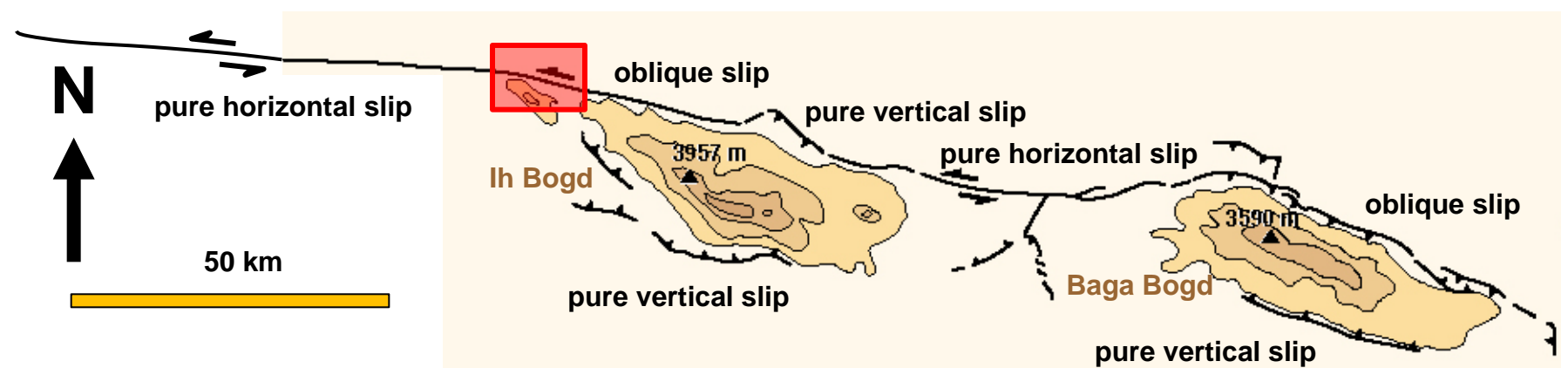
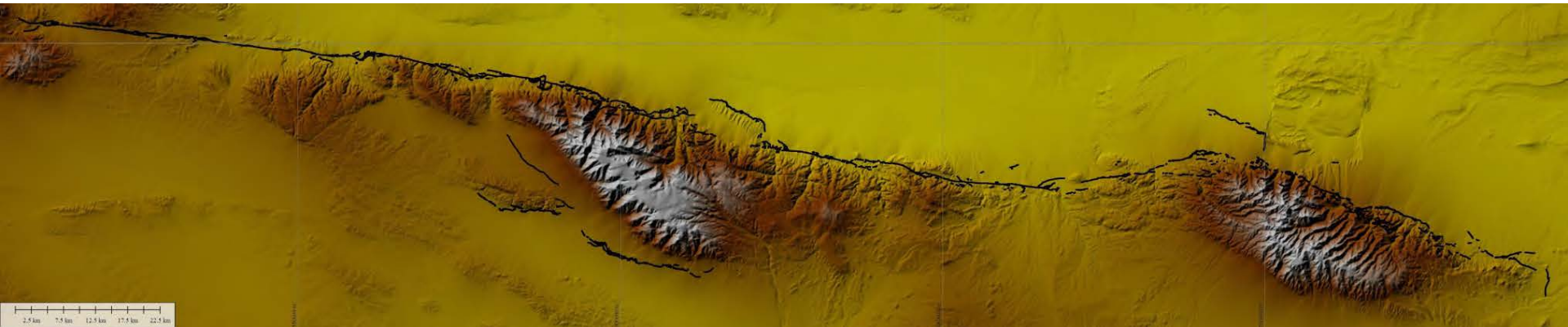
1957 M8 Gobi-Altay earthquake surface rupture



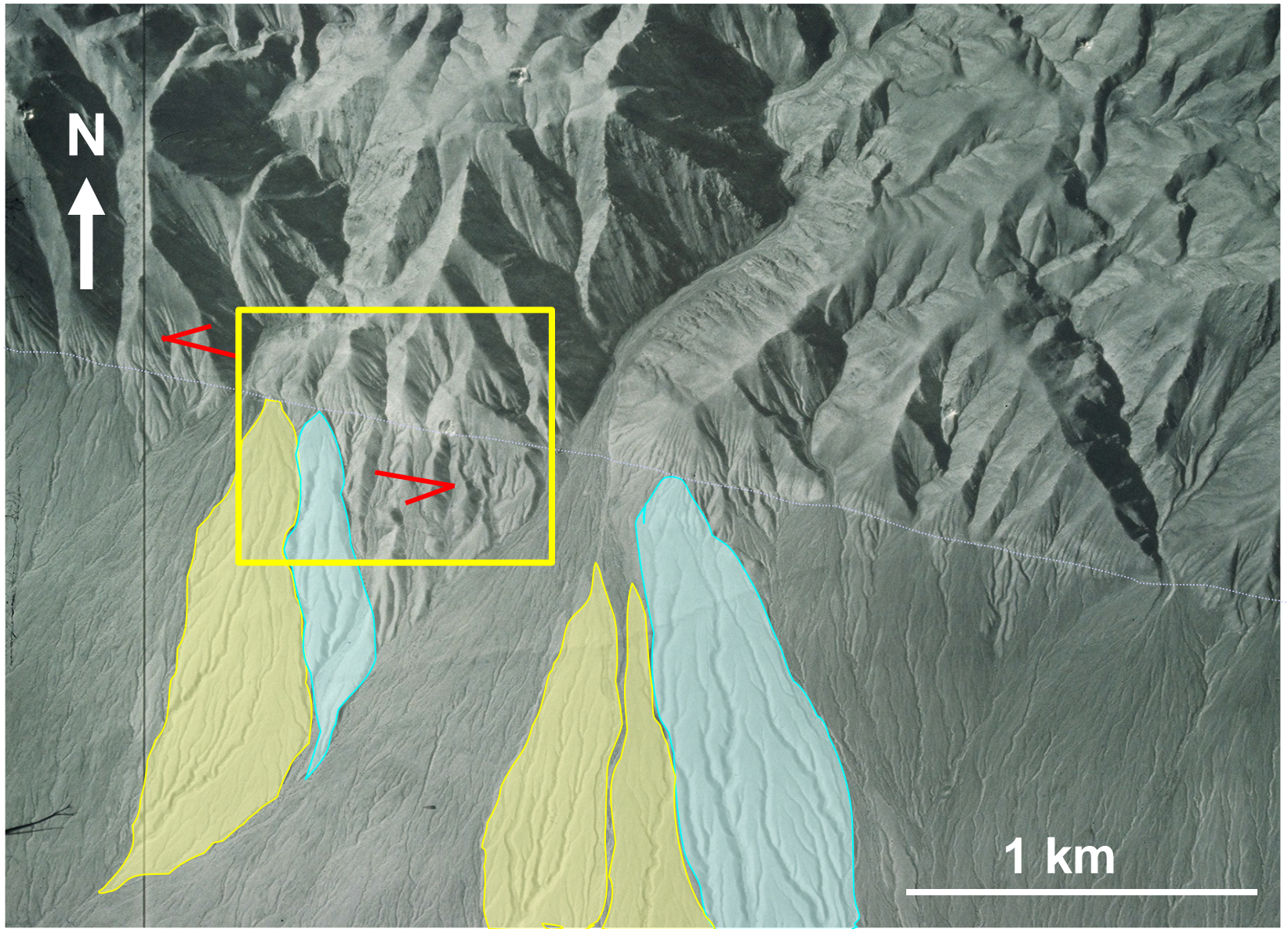
260 km long strike-slip fault with horizontal slip 3-6 m, (+ 100km “secondary” reverse faulting)



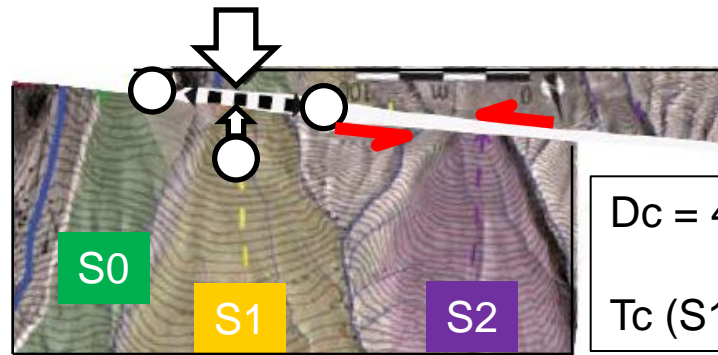
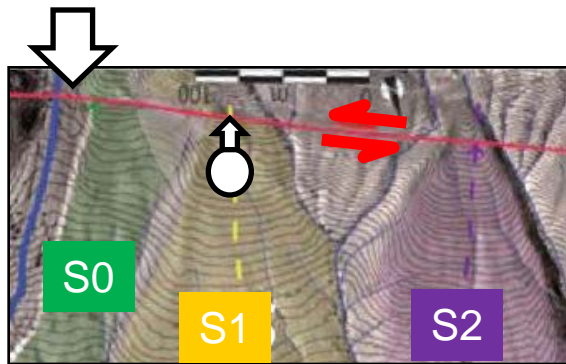
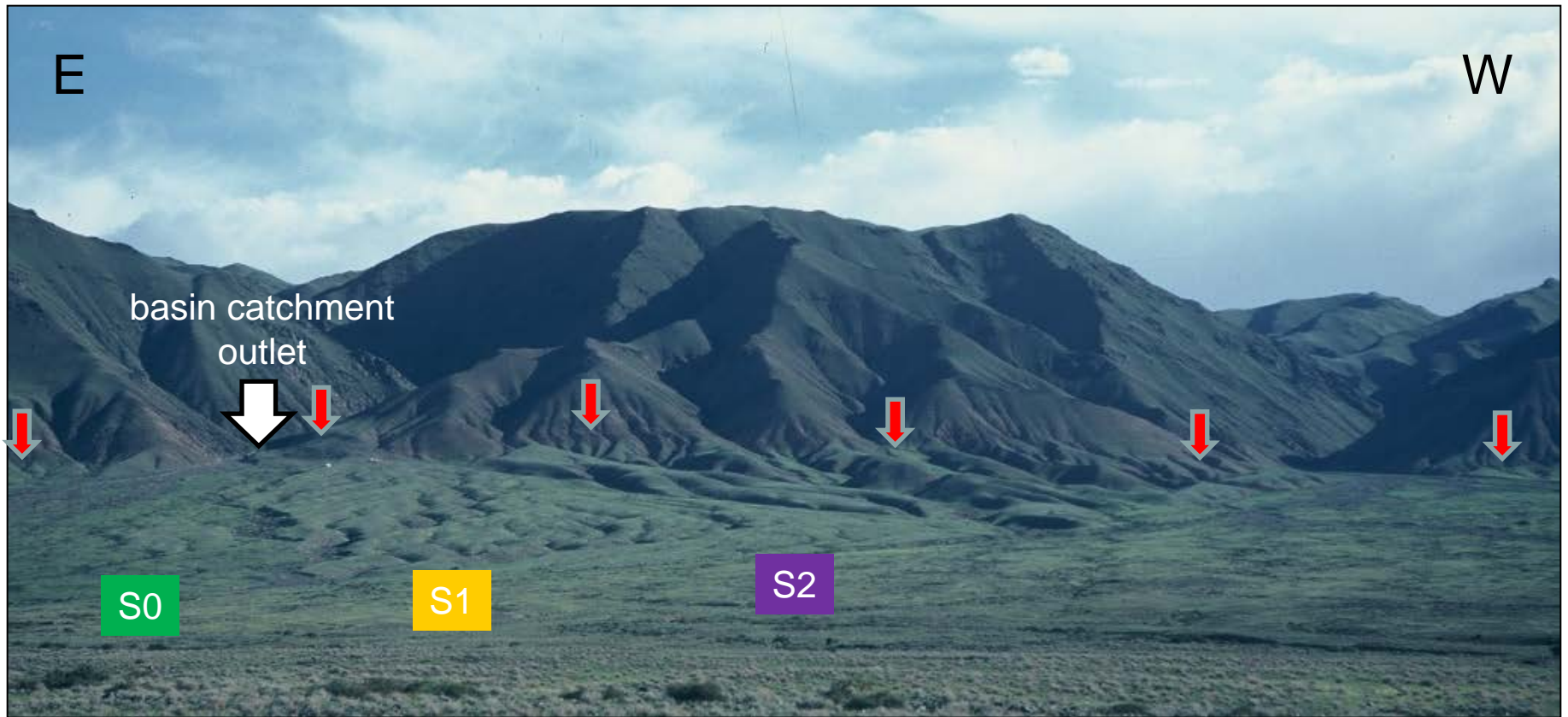
Close correlation between the geometry and the kinematics of 1957 rupture, and the topography



Bogd fault (Noyan Uul): aerial picture (USSR 1958)



Cumulative left-lateral displacements of alluvial fans

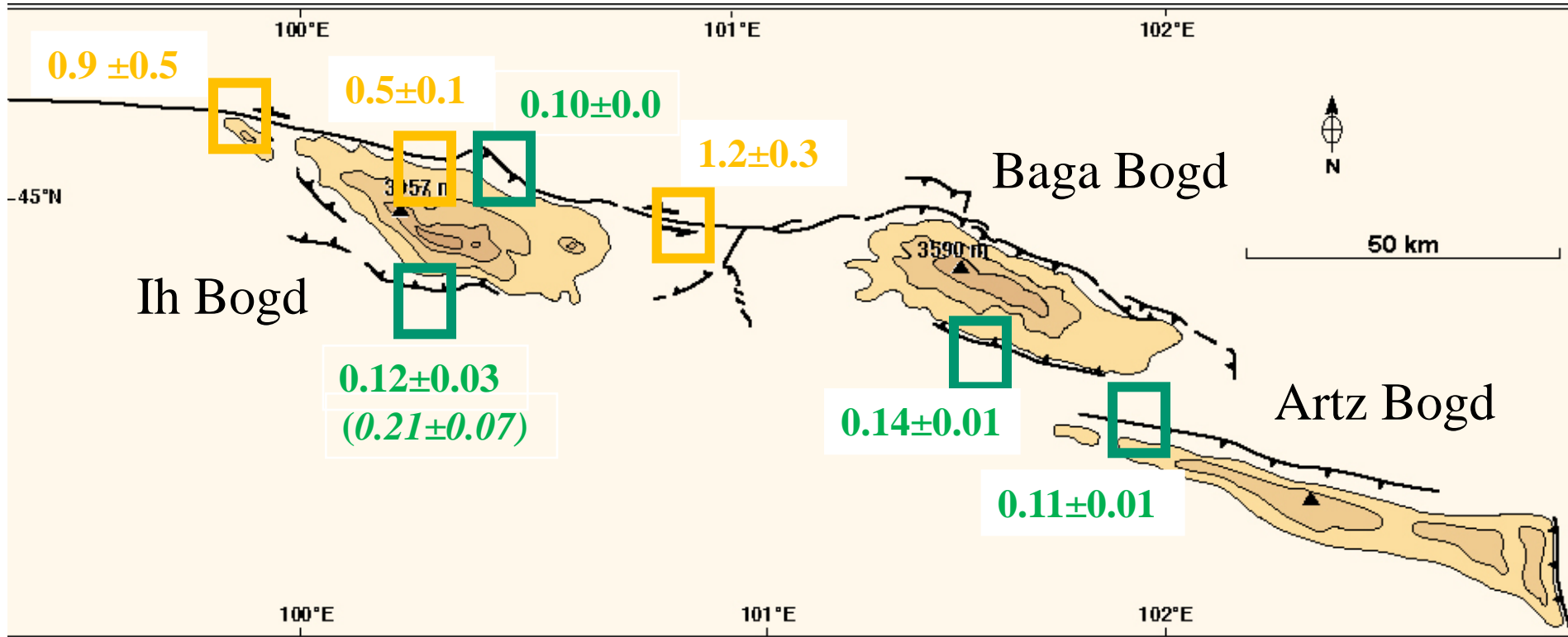


$D_c = 46 \text{ m} - 139 \text{ m}$

$T_c (S1) = 108 \text{ ka}$

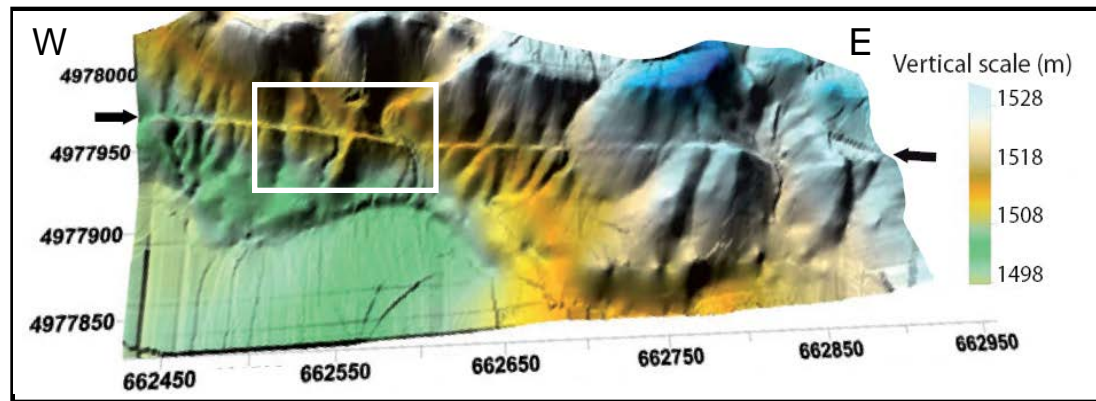
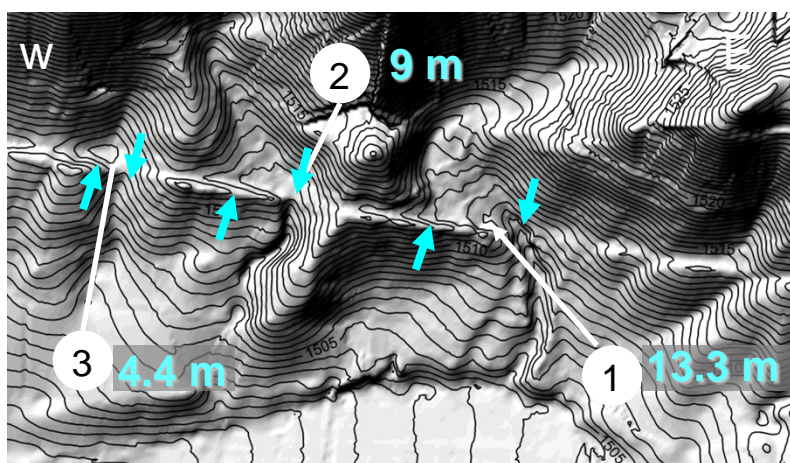
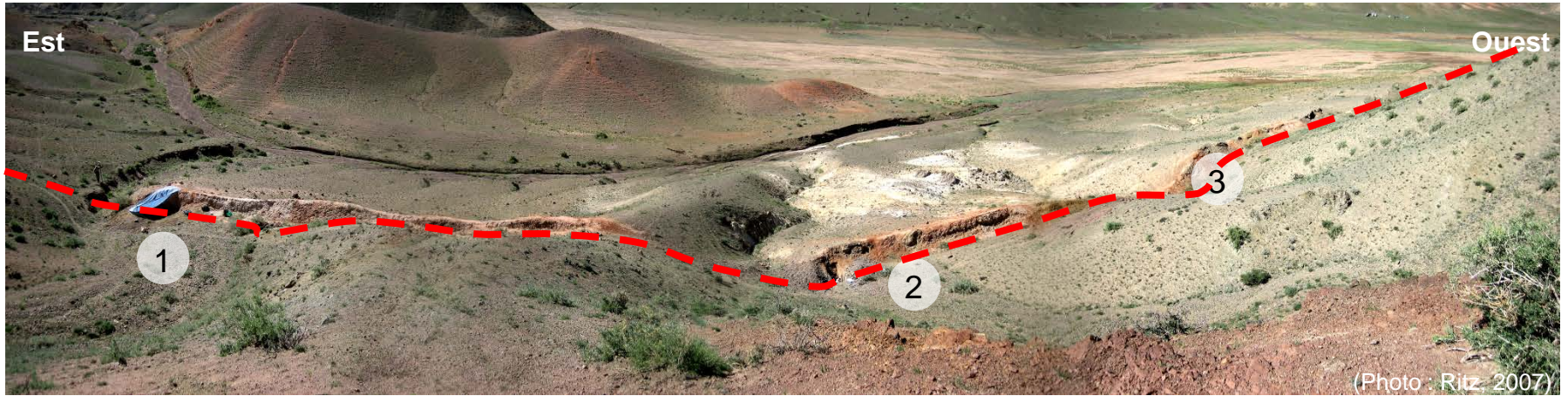
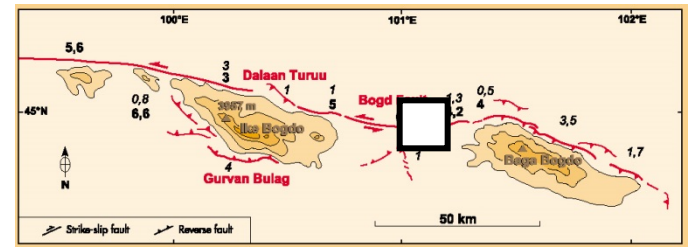
Horizontal slip rate (SR) : $0.9 \pm 0.4 \text{ mm/yr}$

Horizontal and vertical slip rates along the Gurvan Bogd fault system (mm/yr)

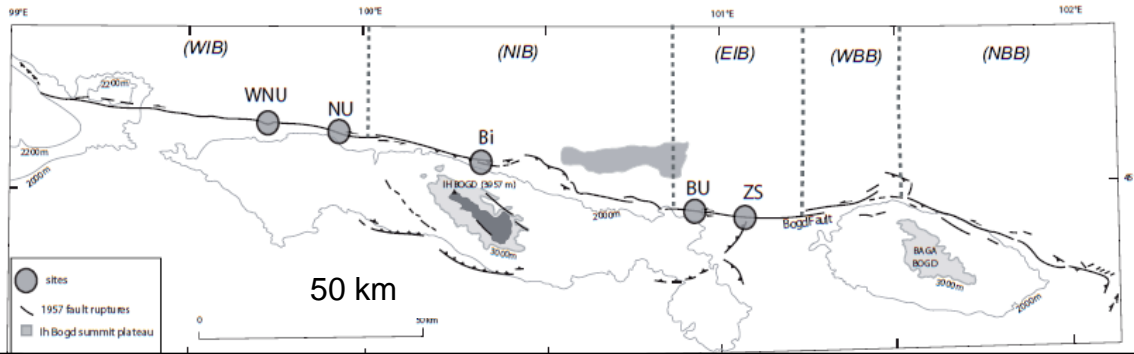
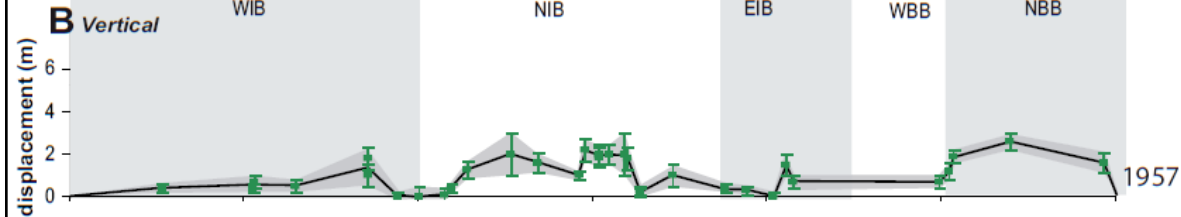
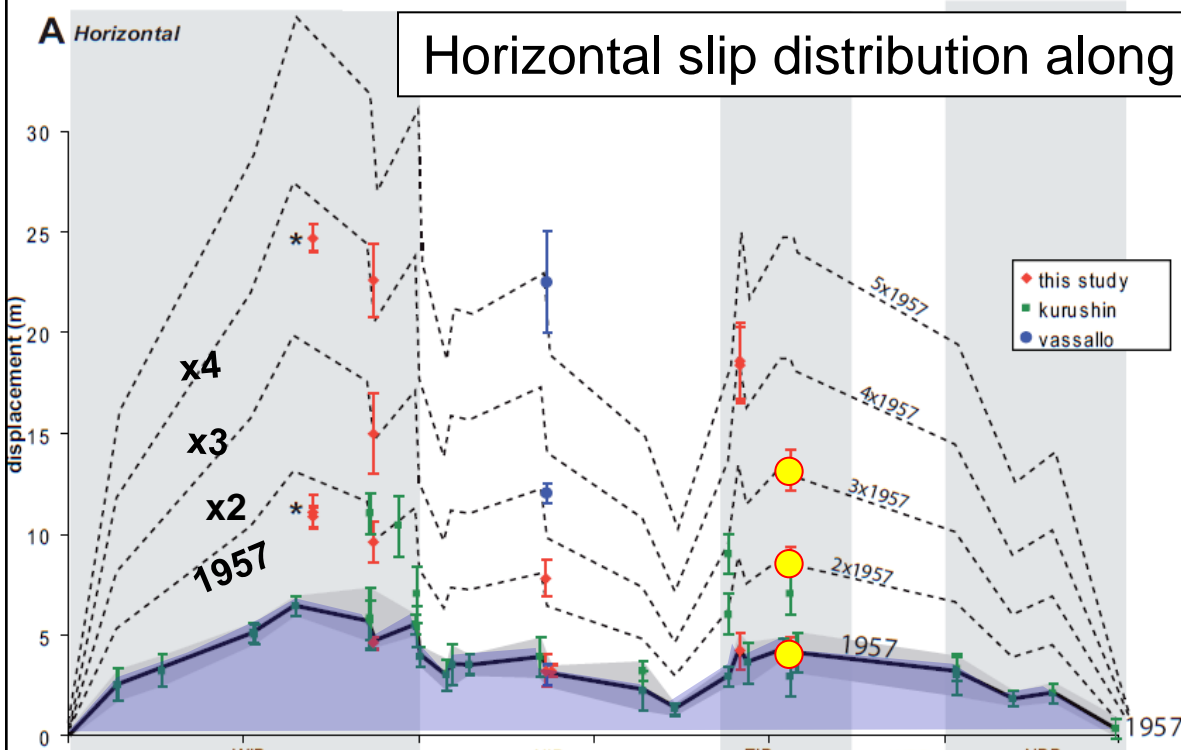


Ritz et al., 1995, 2003; Vassallo et al., 2005; 2007; Rizza et al., 2011

Slip distribution along the Bogd fault



Horizontal slip distribution along the Bogd fault

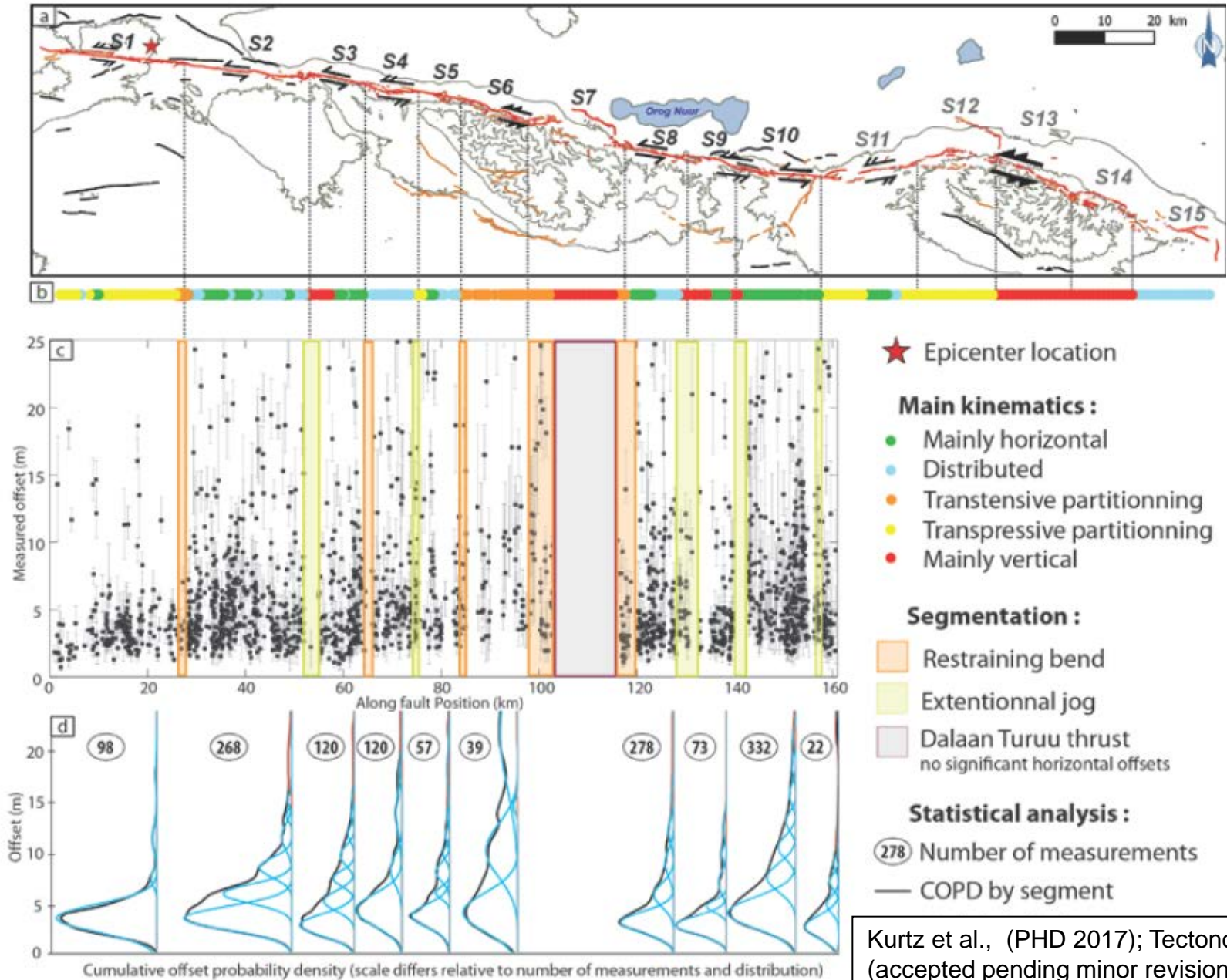


90 measurements

slip distribution of cumulative offsets multiple of the 1957 slip distribution

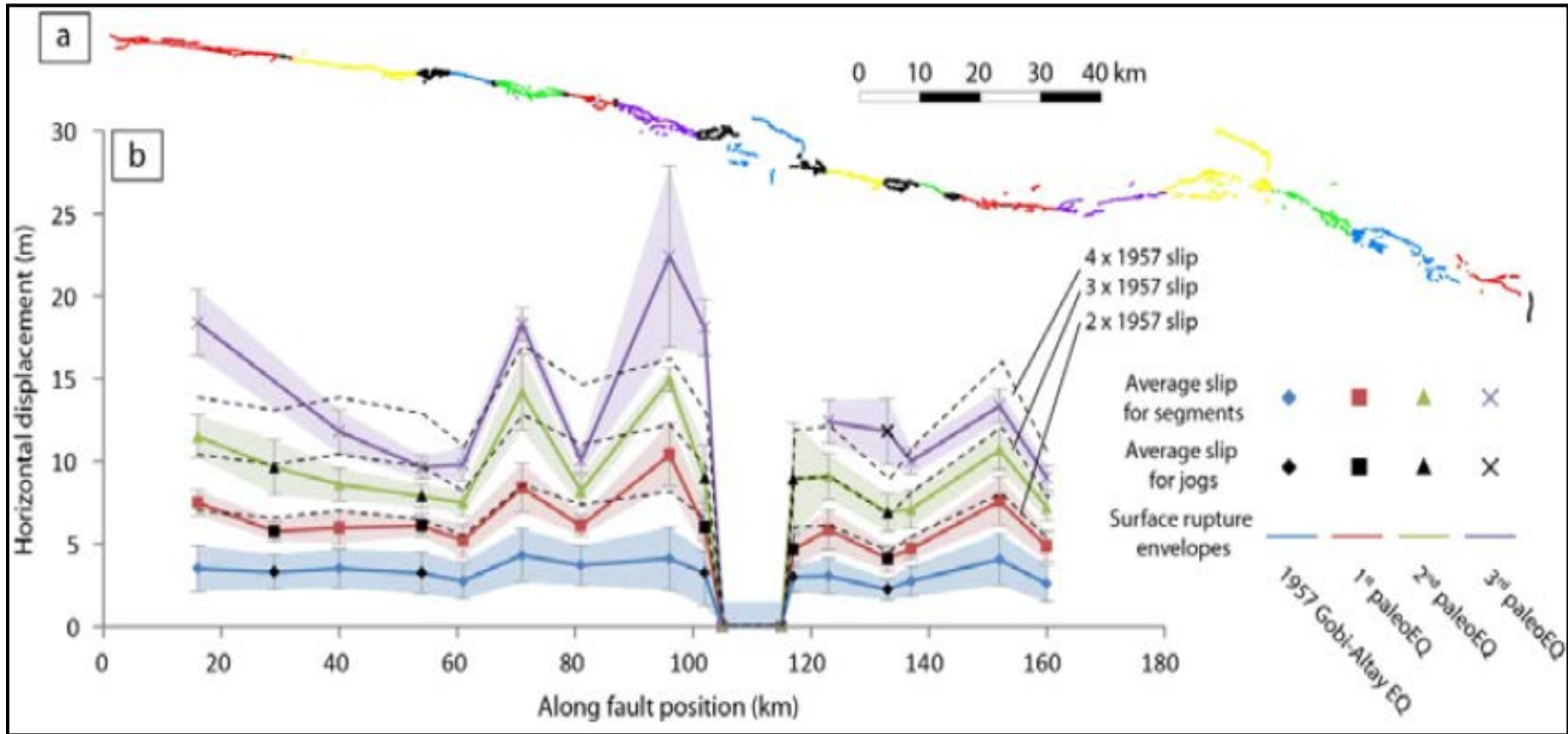
«characteristic» slip distribution suggested

Statistics: Cumulative Offset Probability Densities (COPD) analysis of the horizontal slip distribution from aerial photographs (~1500 measurements)



Kurtz et al., (PHD 2017); Tectonophysics, (accepted pending minor revisions)

Mean horizontal offset / segment from COPD analysis



Kurtz et al., (PHD 2017); Tectonophysics (accepted pending minor revisions)

⇒ Characteristic slip distribution confirmed

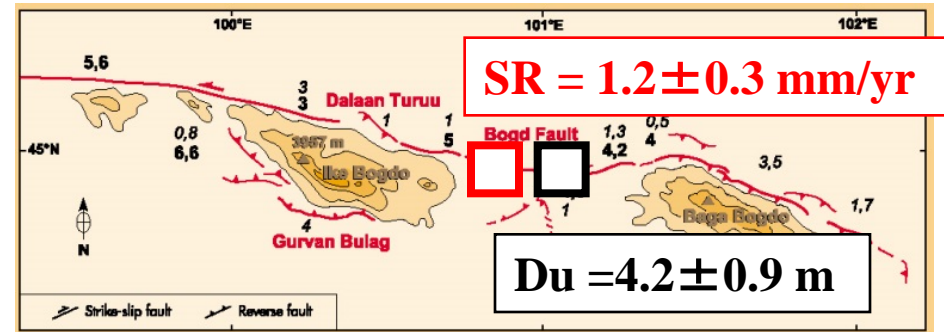
Timing of past events along the Bogd fault

$$SR = Du / T \Rightarrow Tu = Du / SR$$

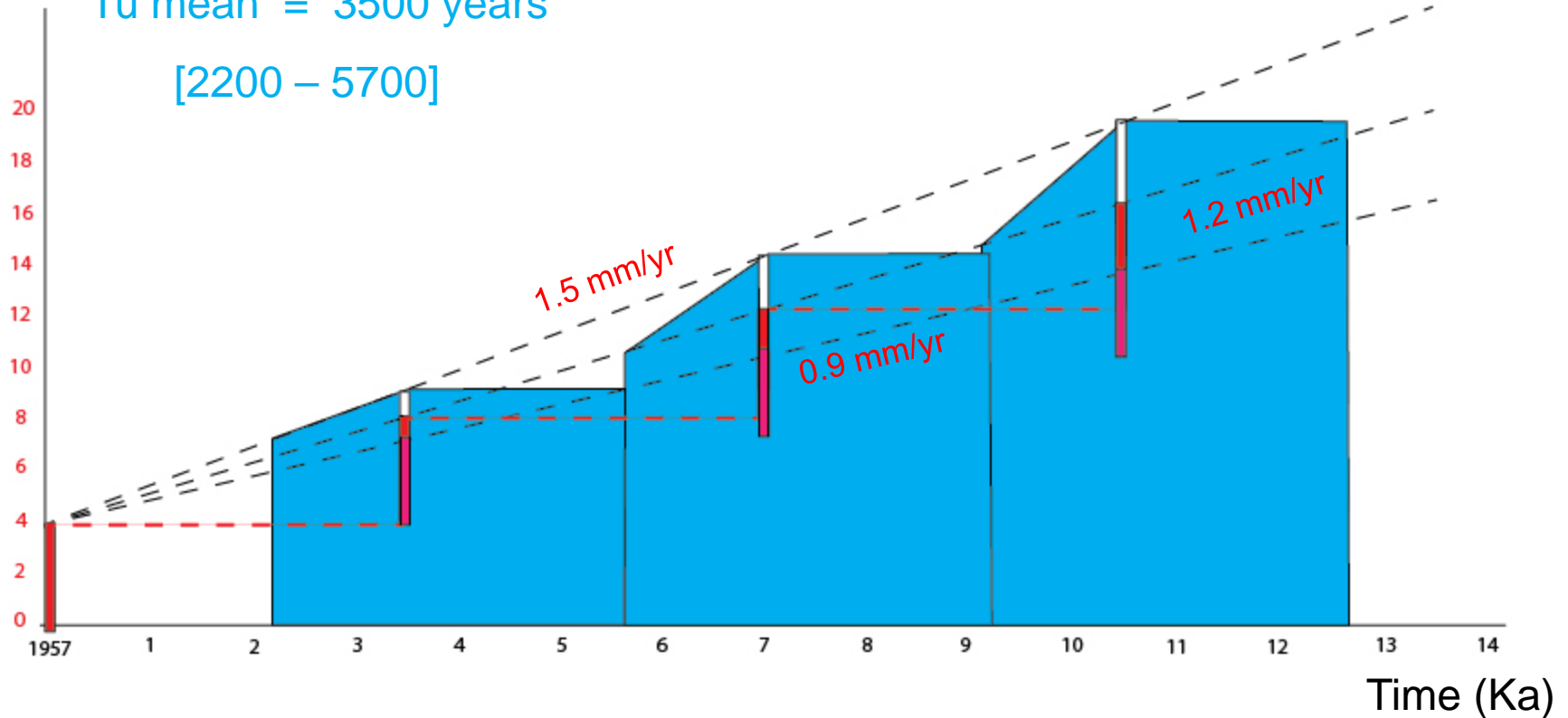
$$Tu = 4.2 \pm 0.9 / 1.2 \pm 0.3$$

$$Tu \text{ mean} = 3500 \text{ years}$$

$$[2200 - 5700]$$



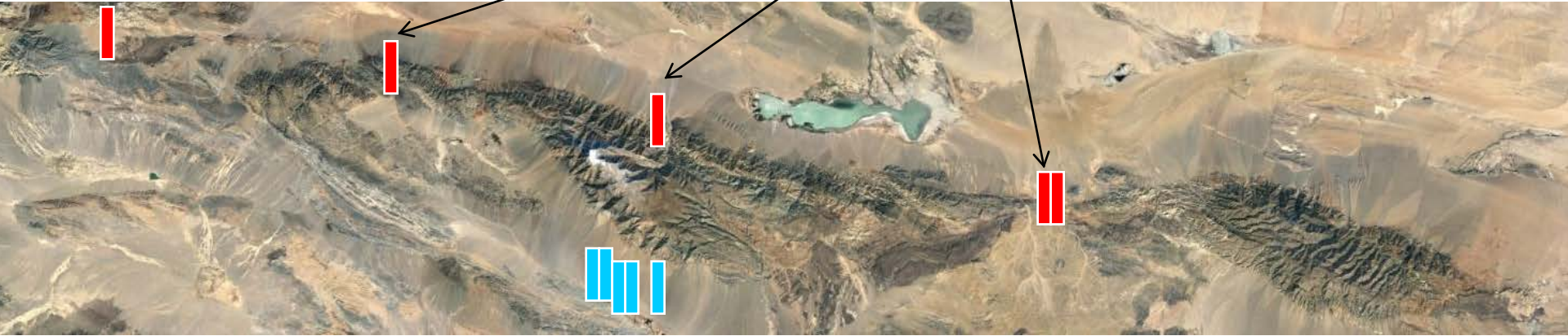
Displacements (m)



Paleoseismology (trench studies)

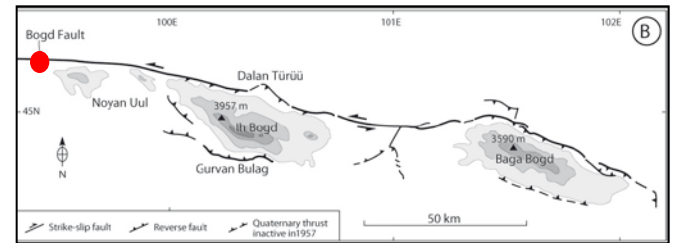
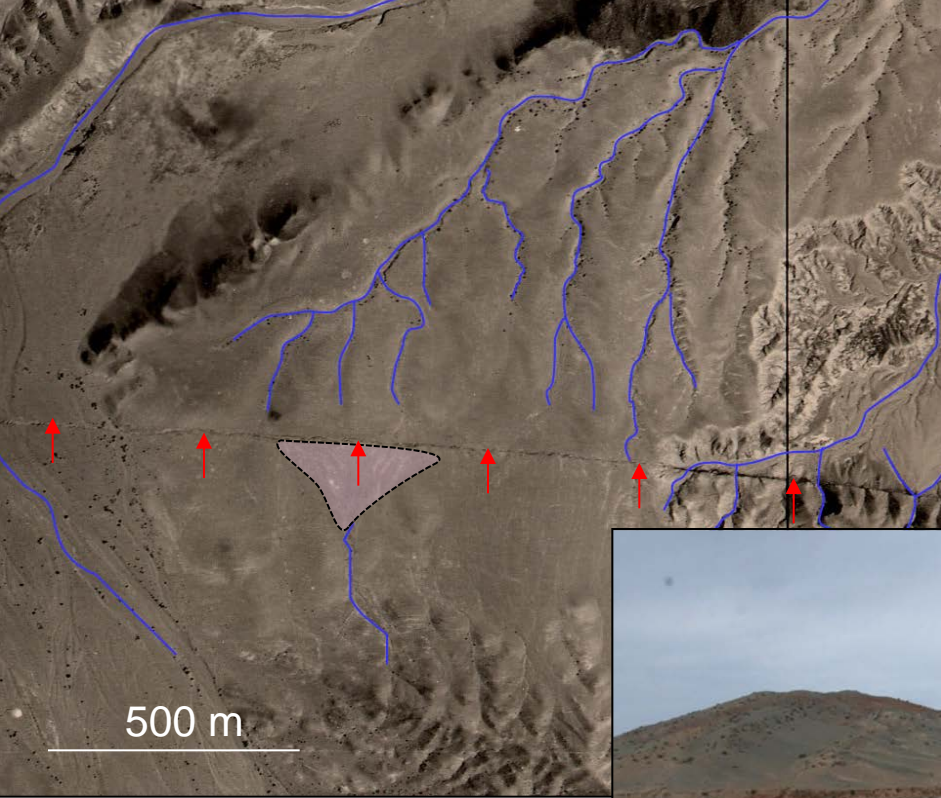
Ritz et al., Géochronique 2009

Rizza, PhD 2010

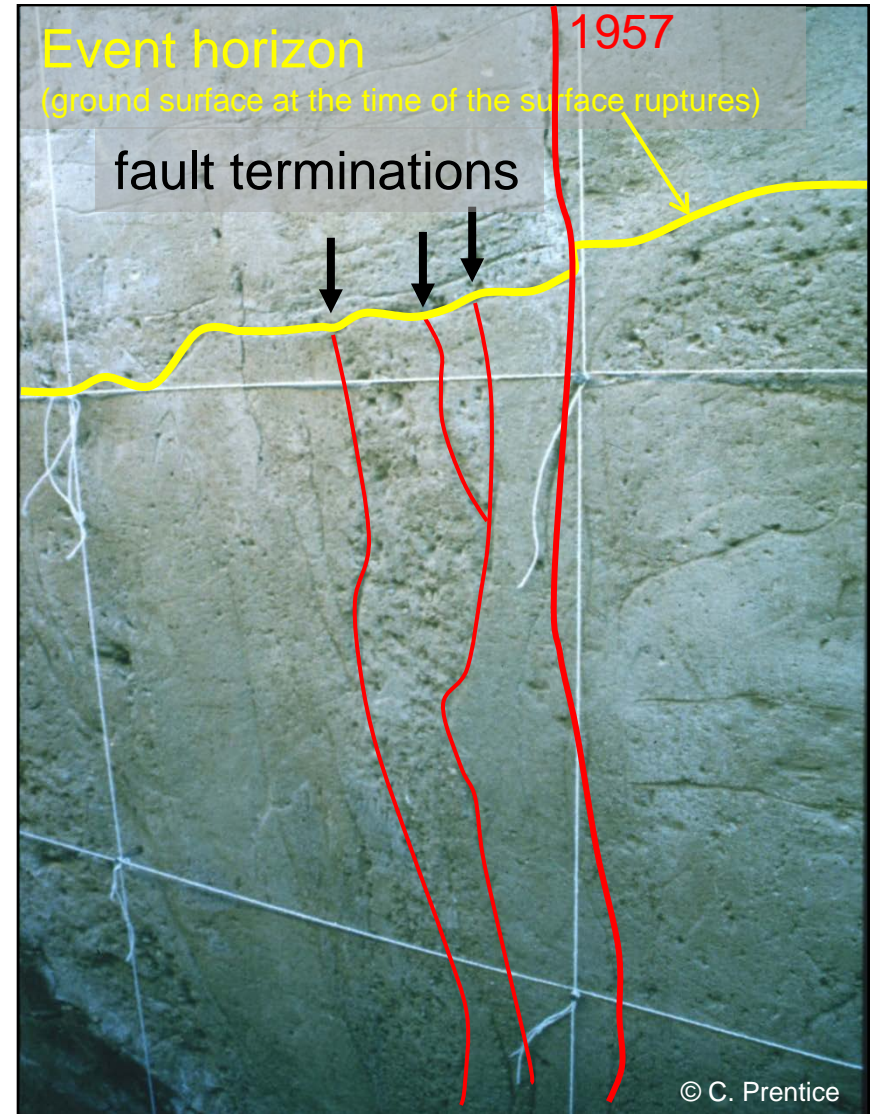


Prentice et al., JGR, 2002

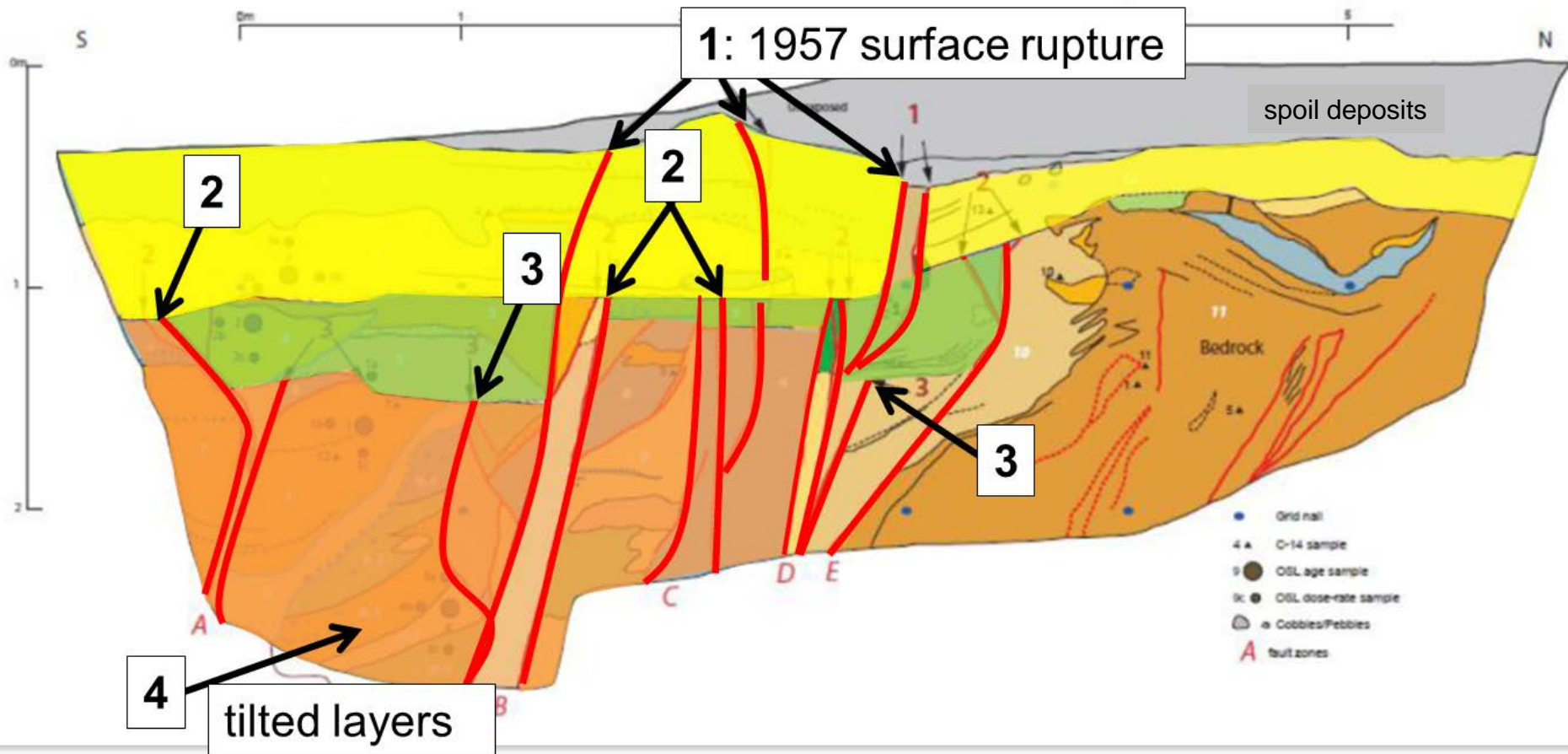
Bogd fault (Ulan Bulag)



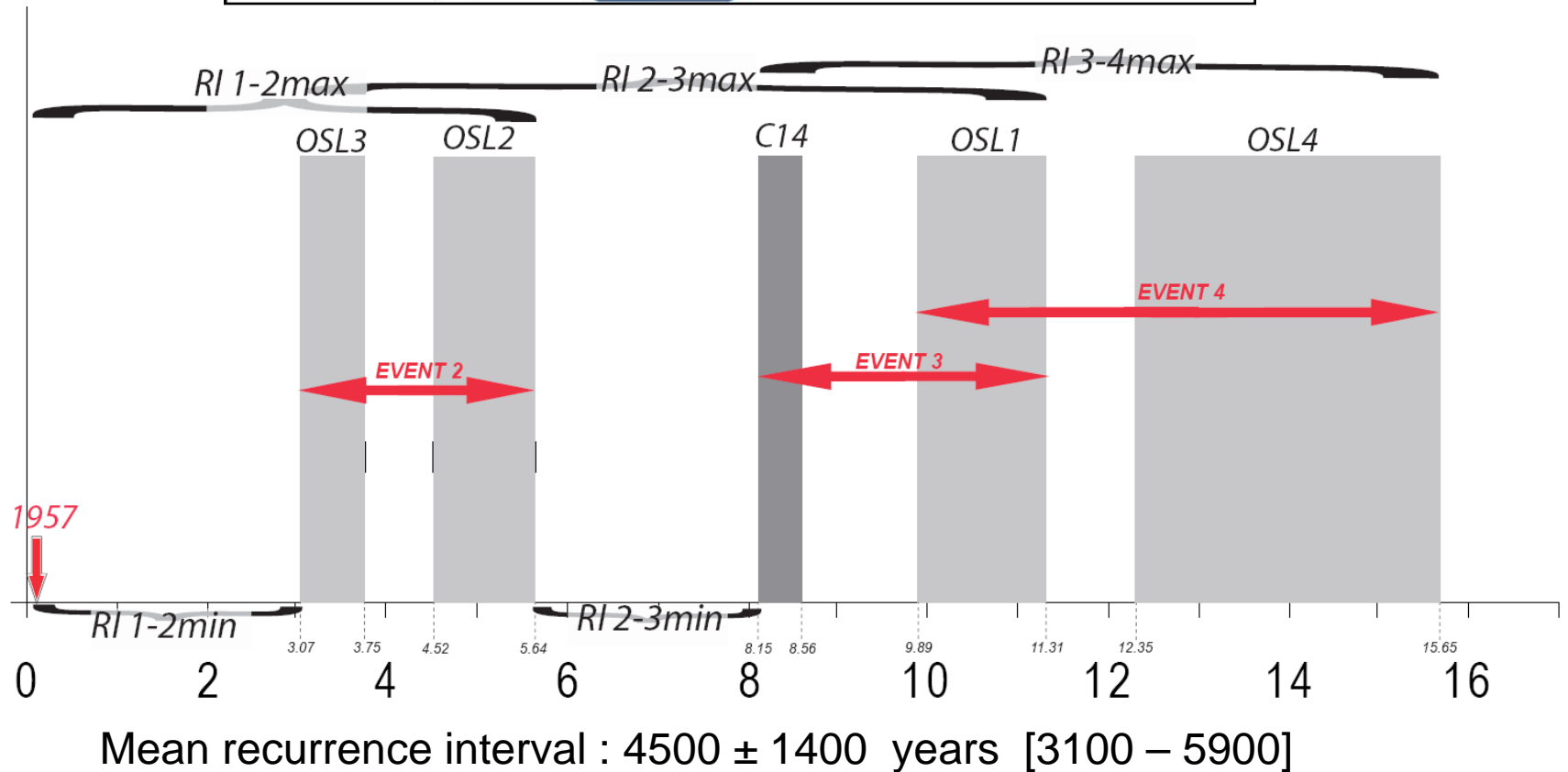
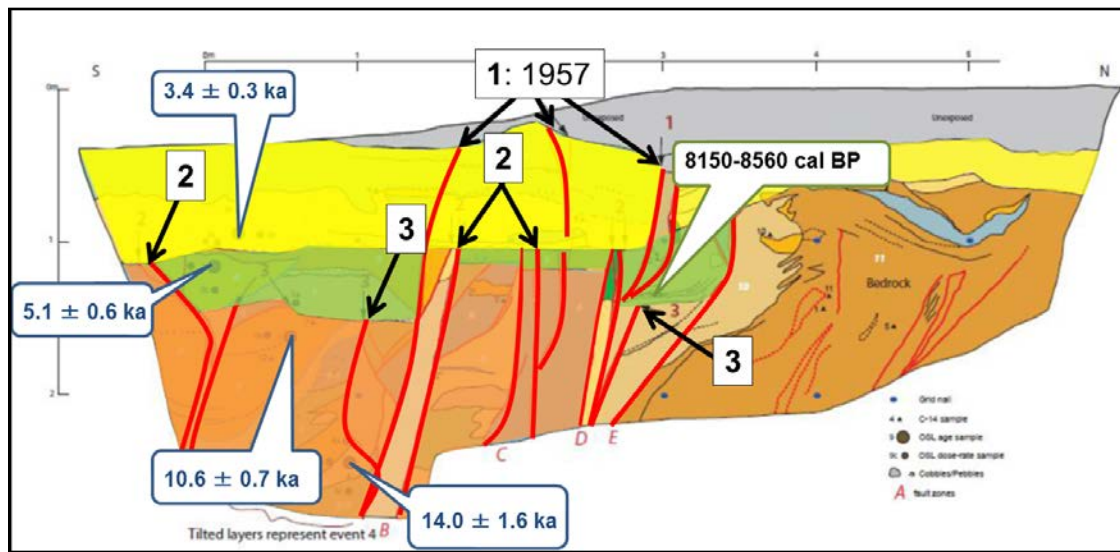
Logging young quaternary deposits and their deformations



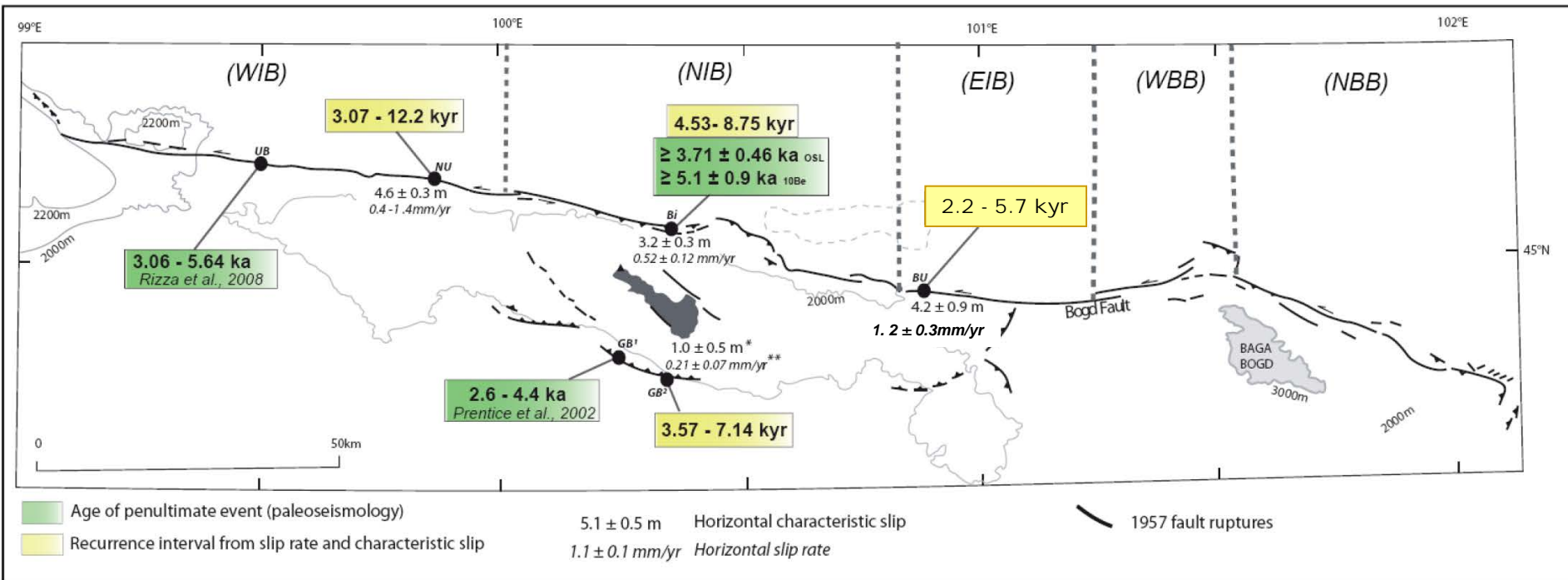
Trench Log



● 4 events

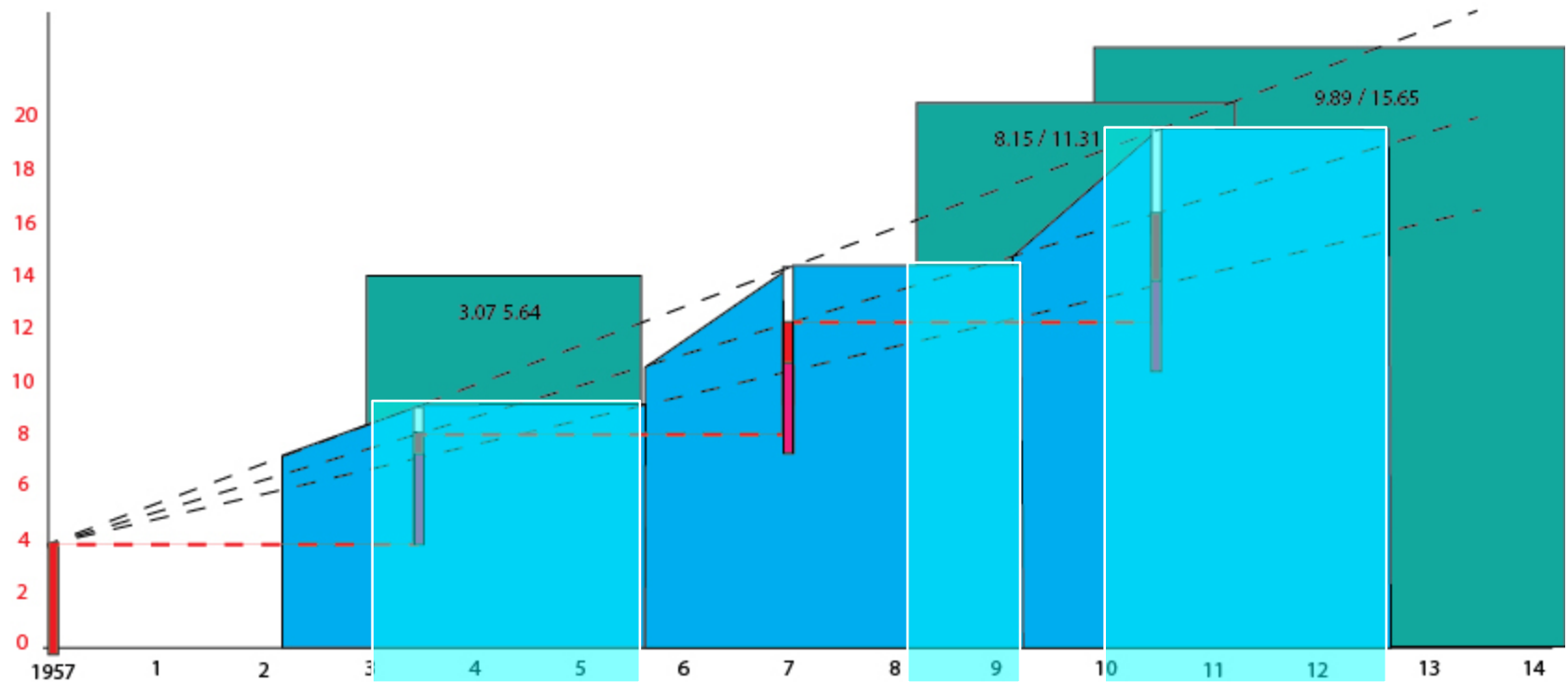


Timing of past events along the Bogd fault



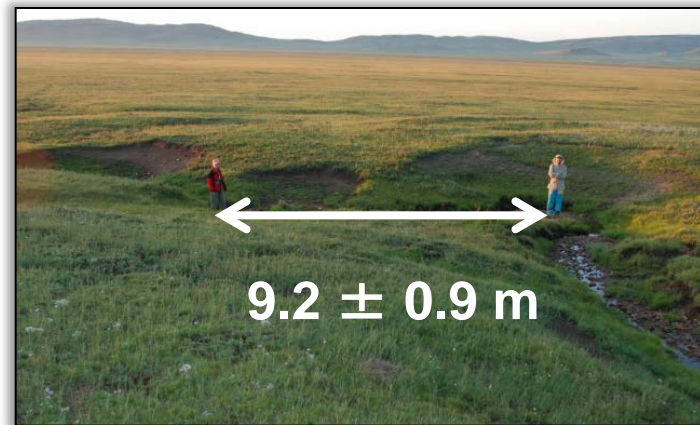
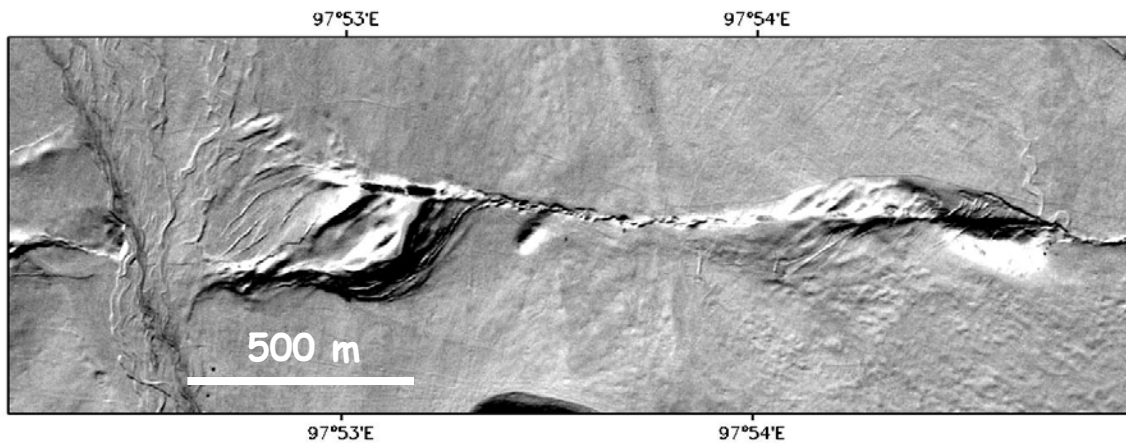
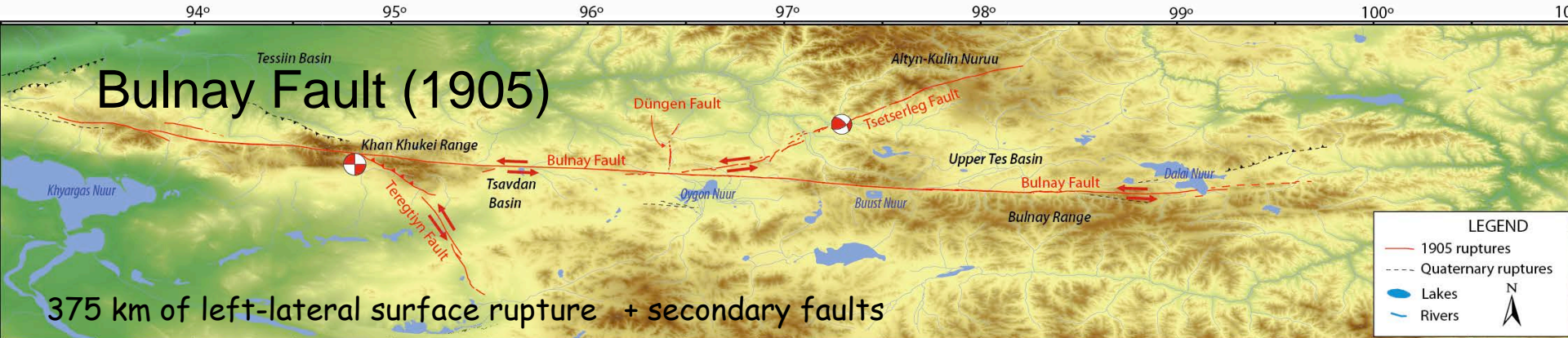
Timing of past events along the Bogd fault

morphotectonic and paleoseismic results

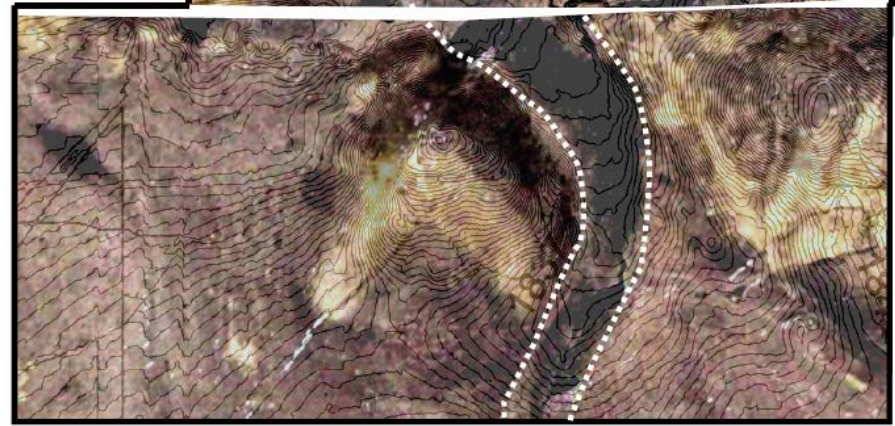
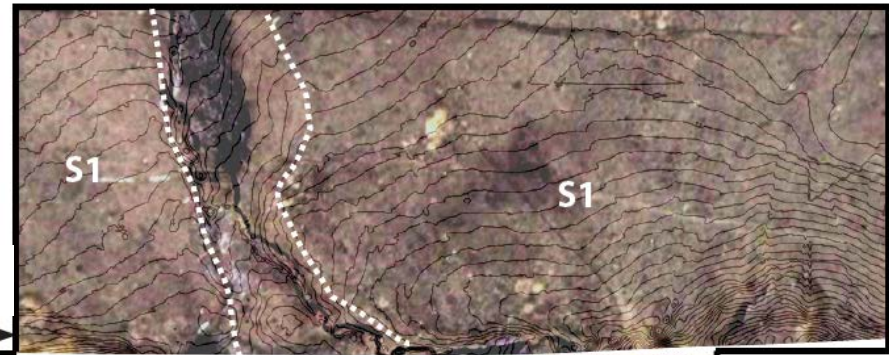
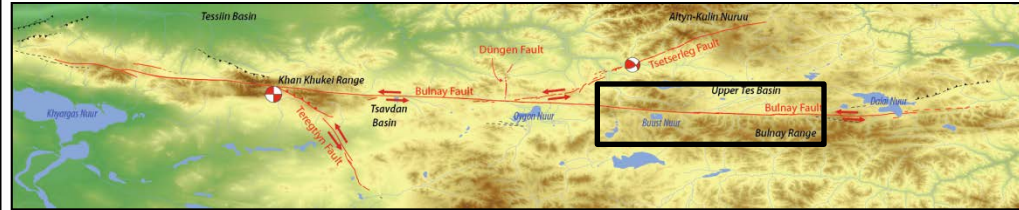
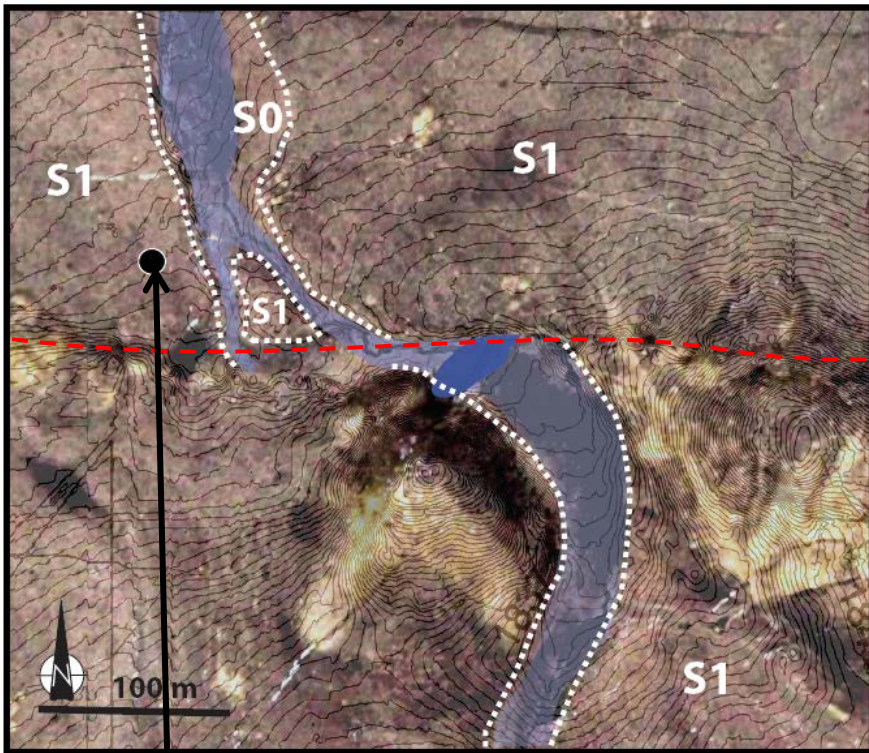


What about the Bulnay Fault ?

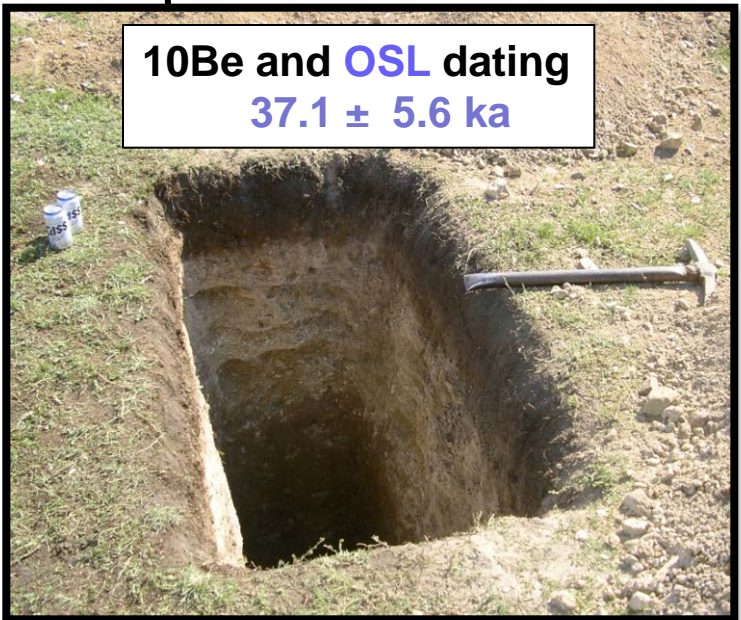




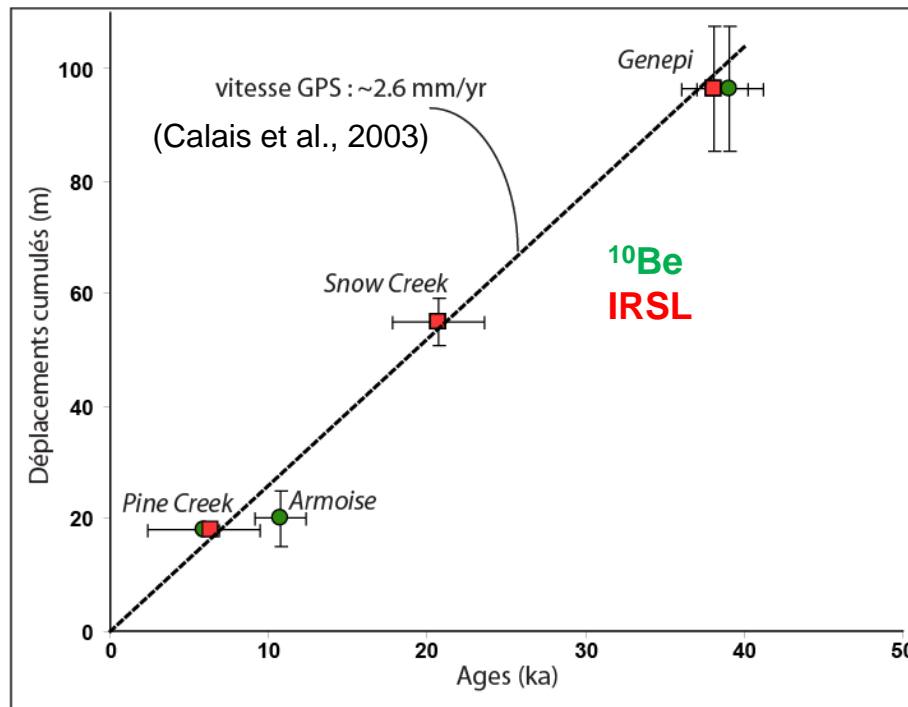
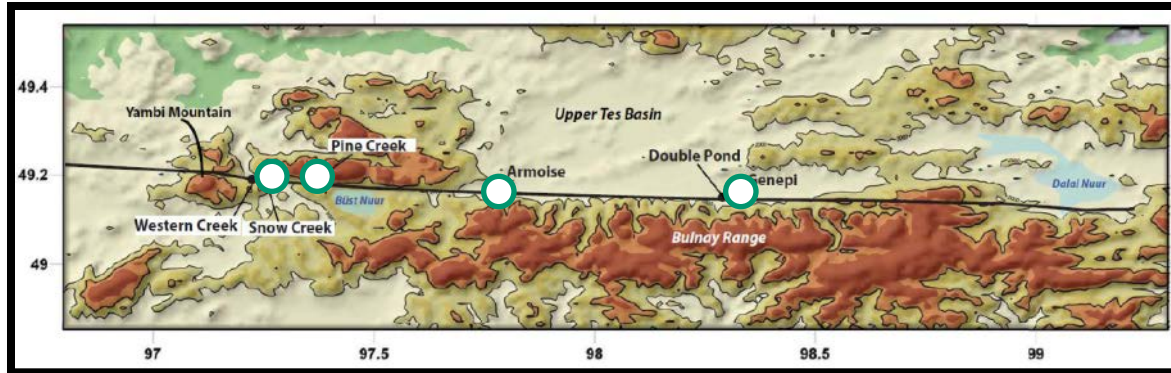
Slip rate along the Bulnay Fault



10Be and OSL dating
 37.1 ± 5.6 ka



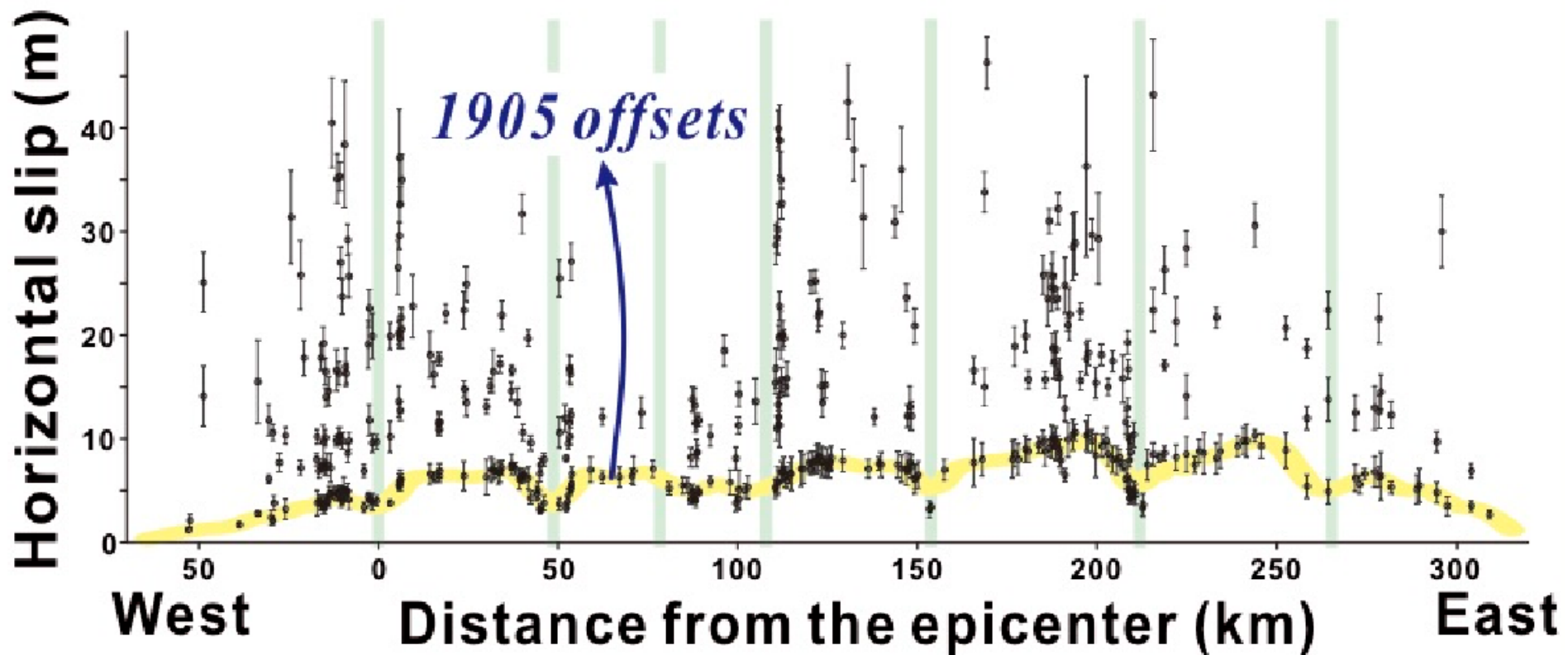
SR = 2.6 ± 0.8 mm/yr



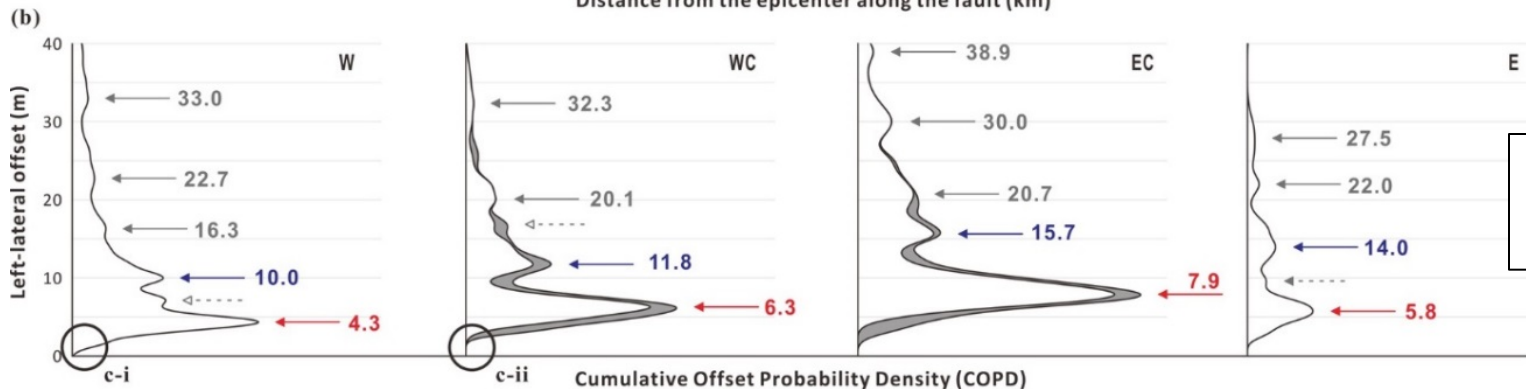
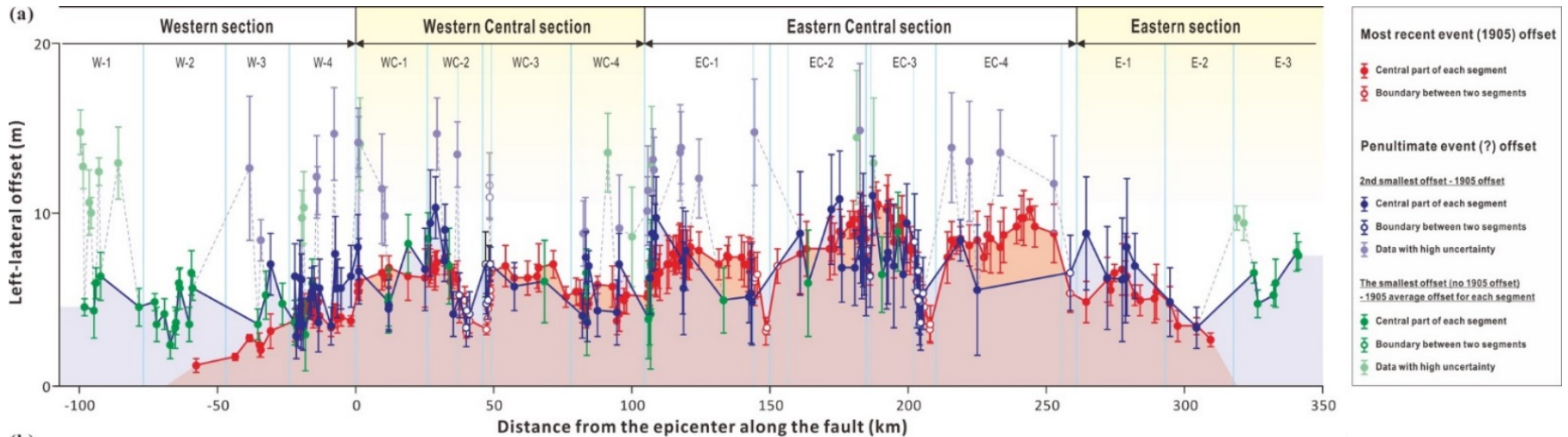
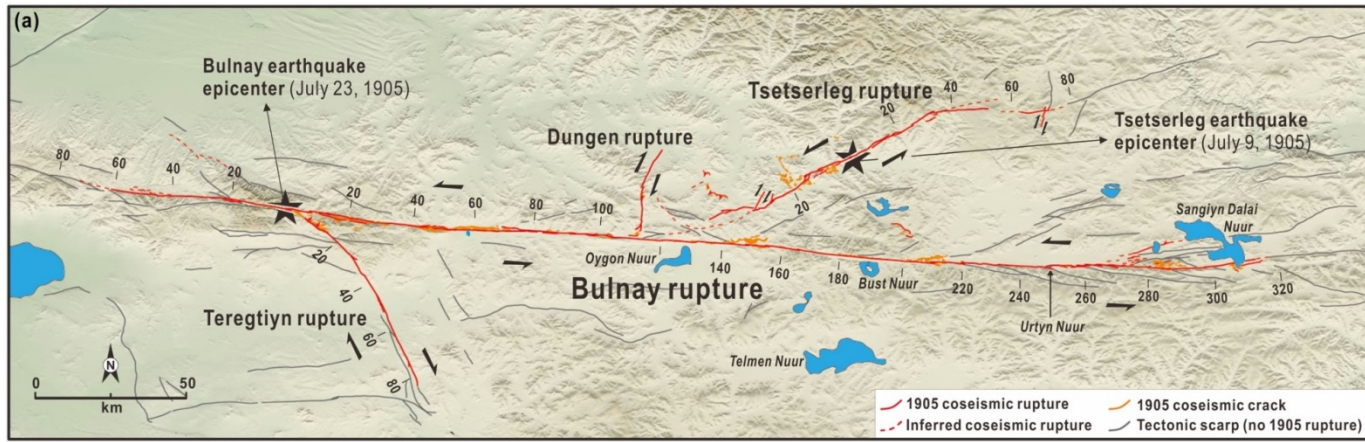
Rizza et al., BSSA 2015

Slip rate: 3.1 ± 1.7 mm/yr (Genepi site: 2.6 ± 0.8 mm/yr)

Slip distribution analysis along the Bulnay fault
from Pleiades satellite images

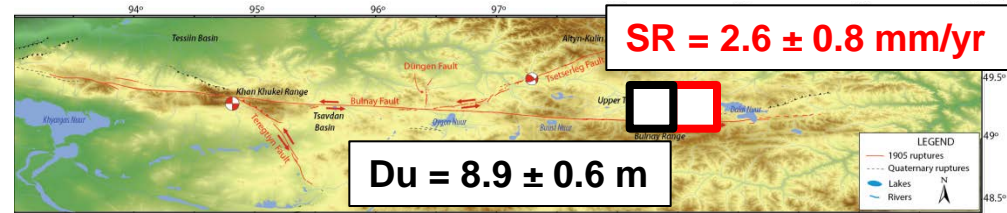


Penultimate event on the Bulnay fault (characteristic slip)



Choi & Klinger
 IAG Ulan Bator 2017
 PATA-days NZ 2017

Timing of past events along the Bulnay fault

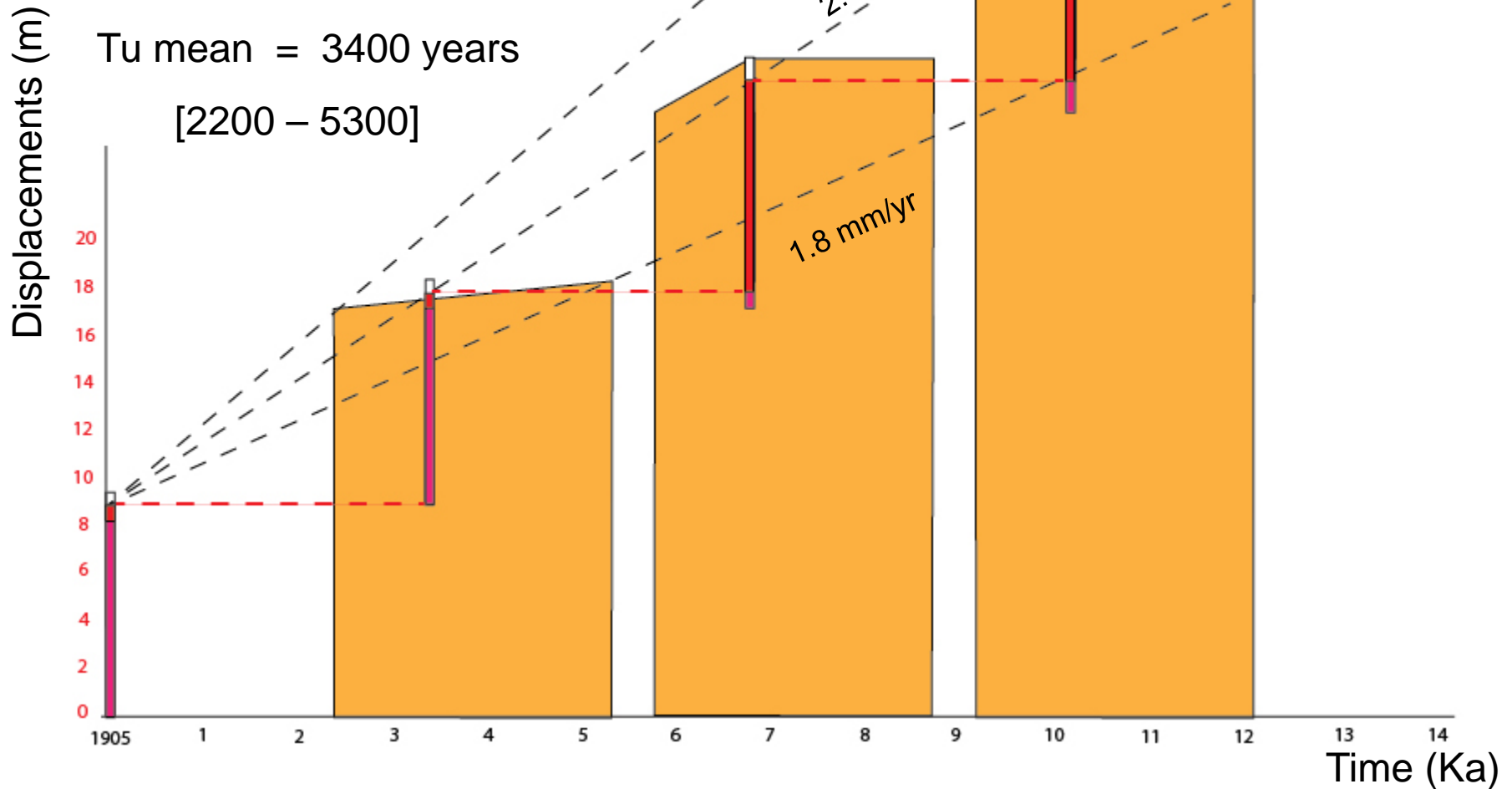


$$SR = Du / Tu \Rightarrow Tu = Du / SR$$

$$Tu = 8.9 \pm 0.6 / 2.6 \pm 0.8$$

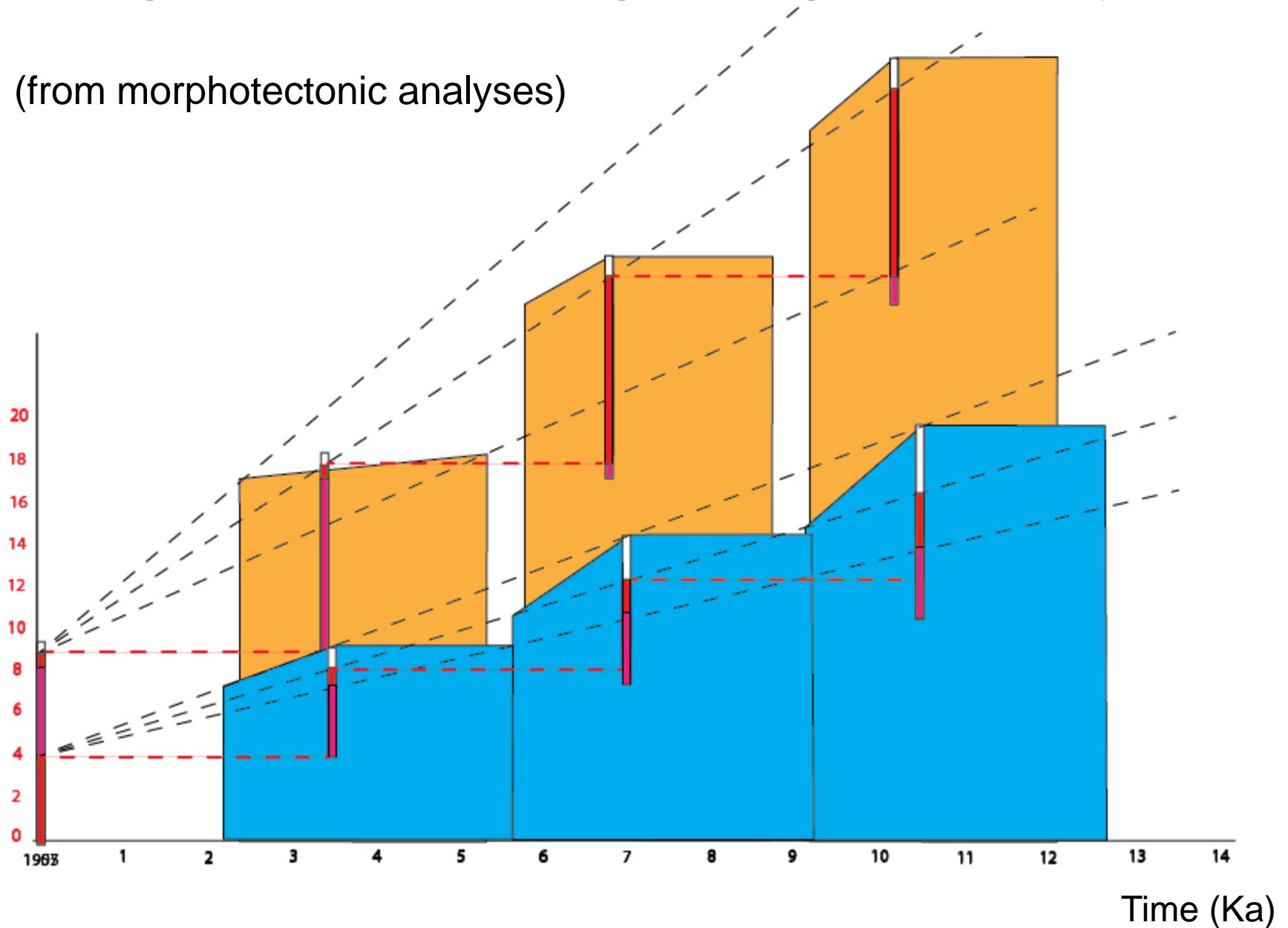
$$Tu \text{ mean} = 3400 \text{ years}$$

[2200 – 5300]

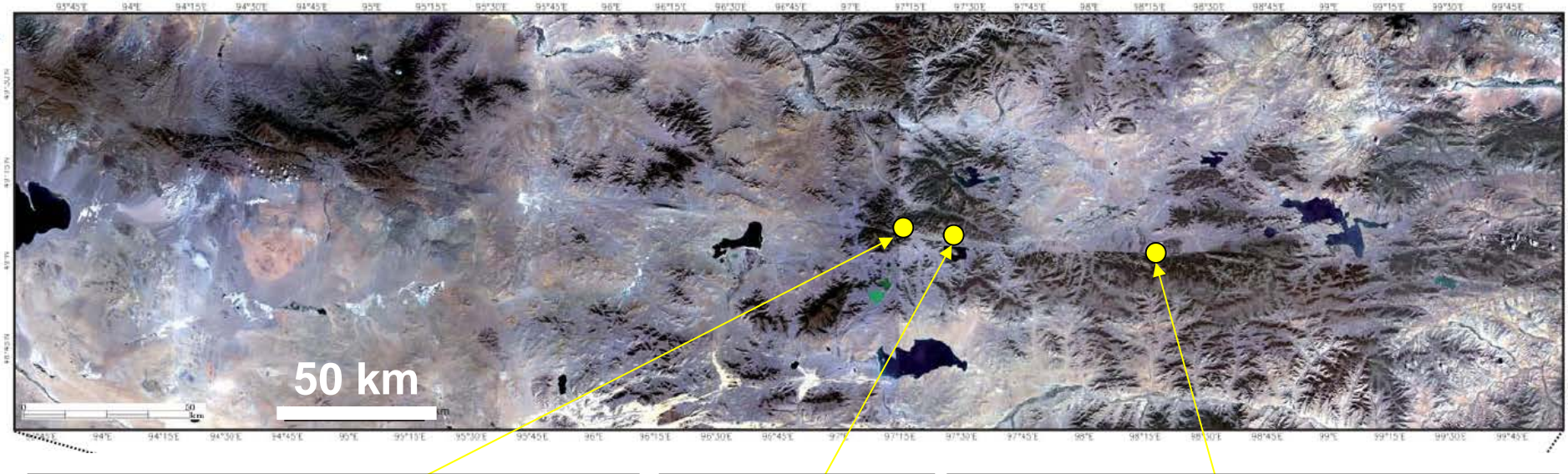


Timing of past events along the Bogd and Bulnay faults

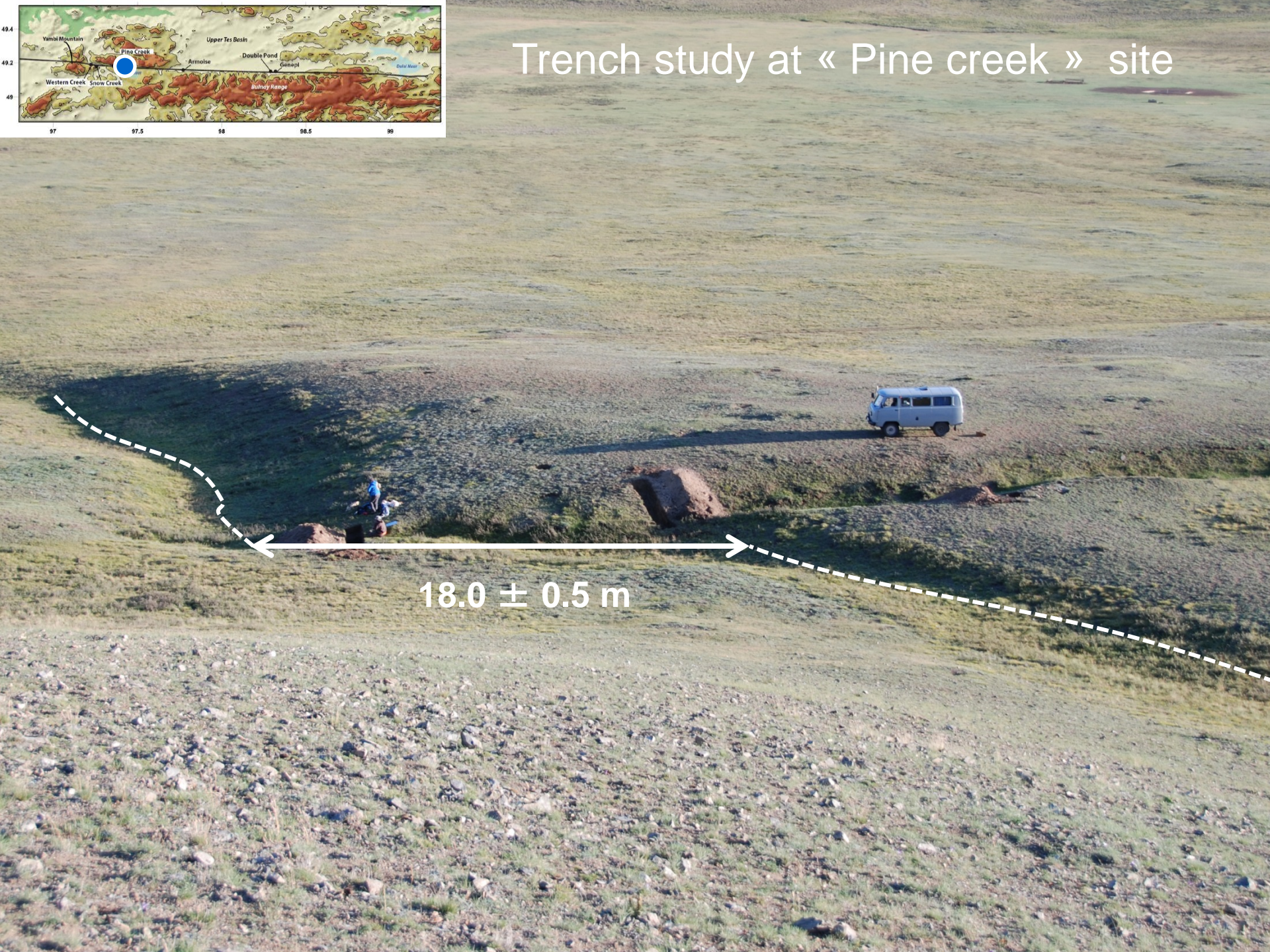
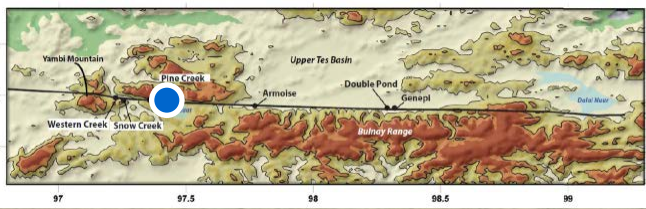
(from morphotectonic analyses)



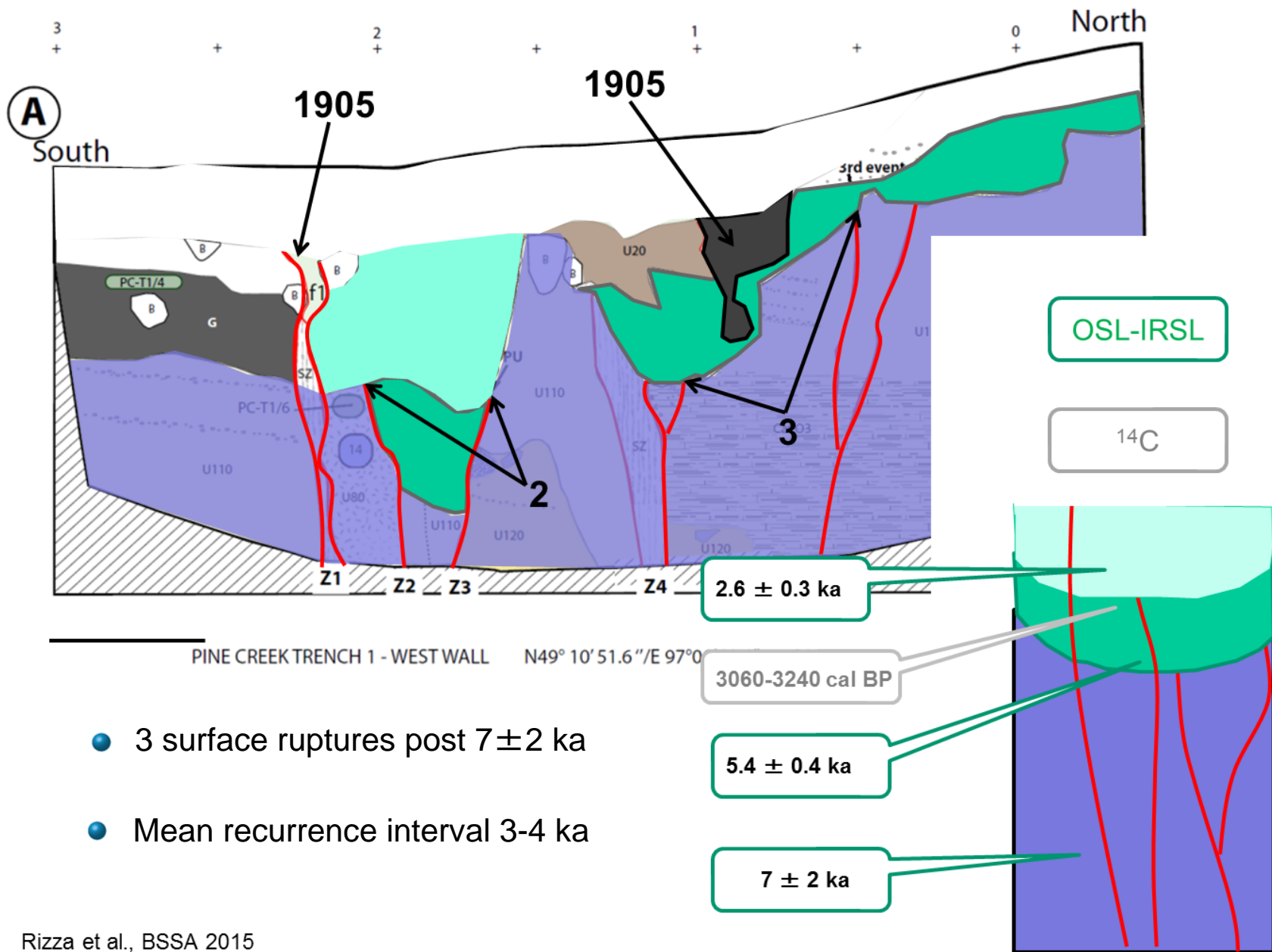
Paleoseismology



Trench study at « Pine creek » site



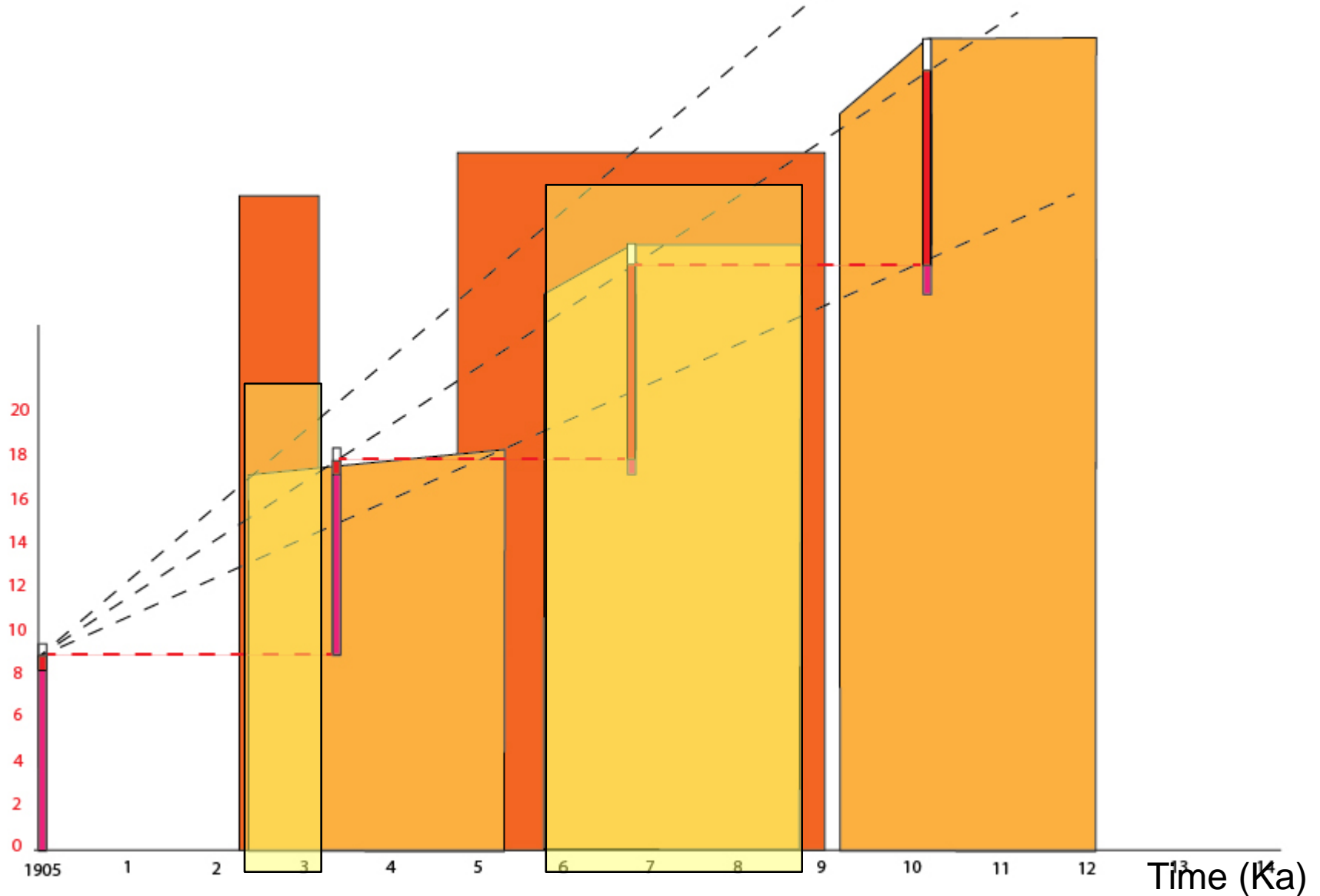
18.0 ± 0.5 m



- 3 surface ruptures post 7 ± 2 ka
- Mean recurrence interval 3-4 ka

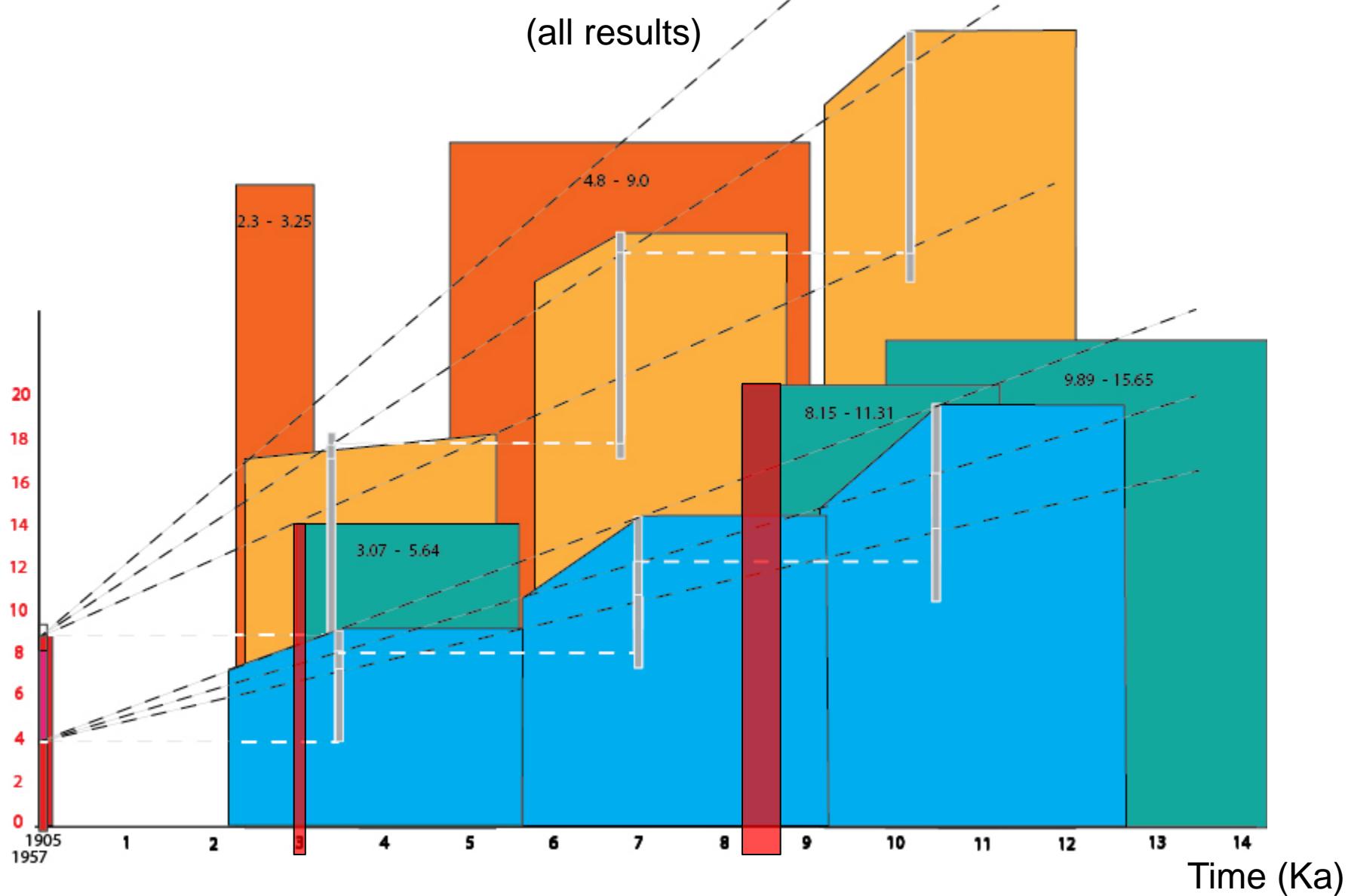
Timing of past events along the Bulnay fault

morphotectonic and paleoseismic results

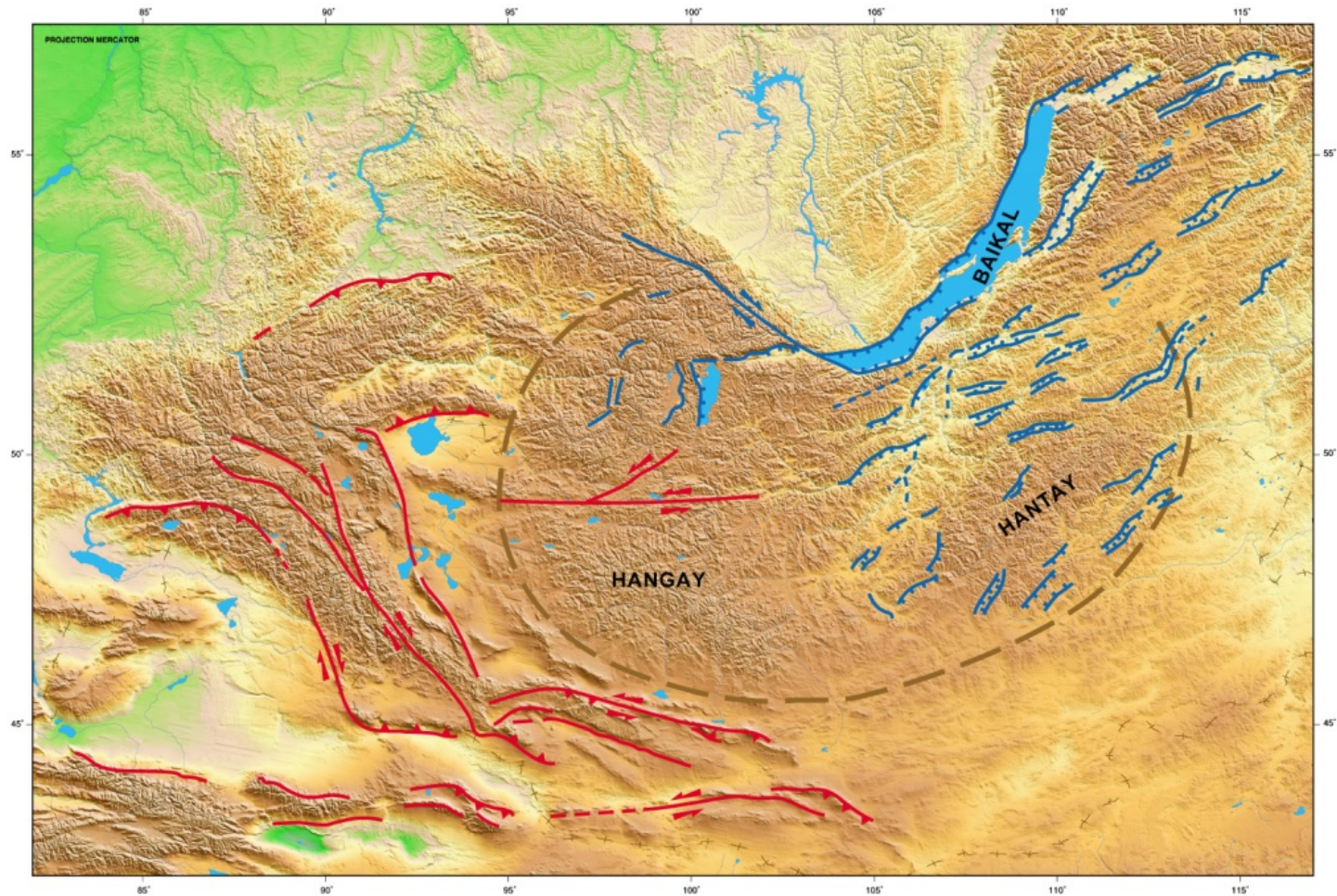


Timing of past events along the **Bogd** and **Bulnay** faults

(all results)



Previous M8 seismic clusters associating Bogd and Bulnay faults may have occurred in the past

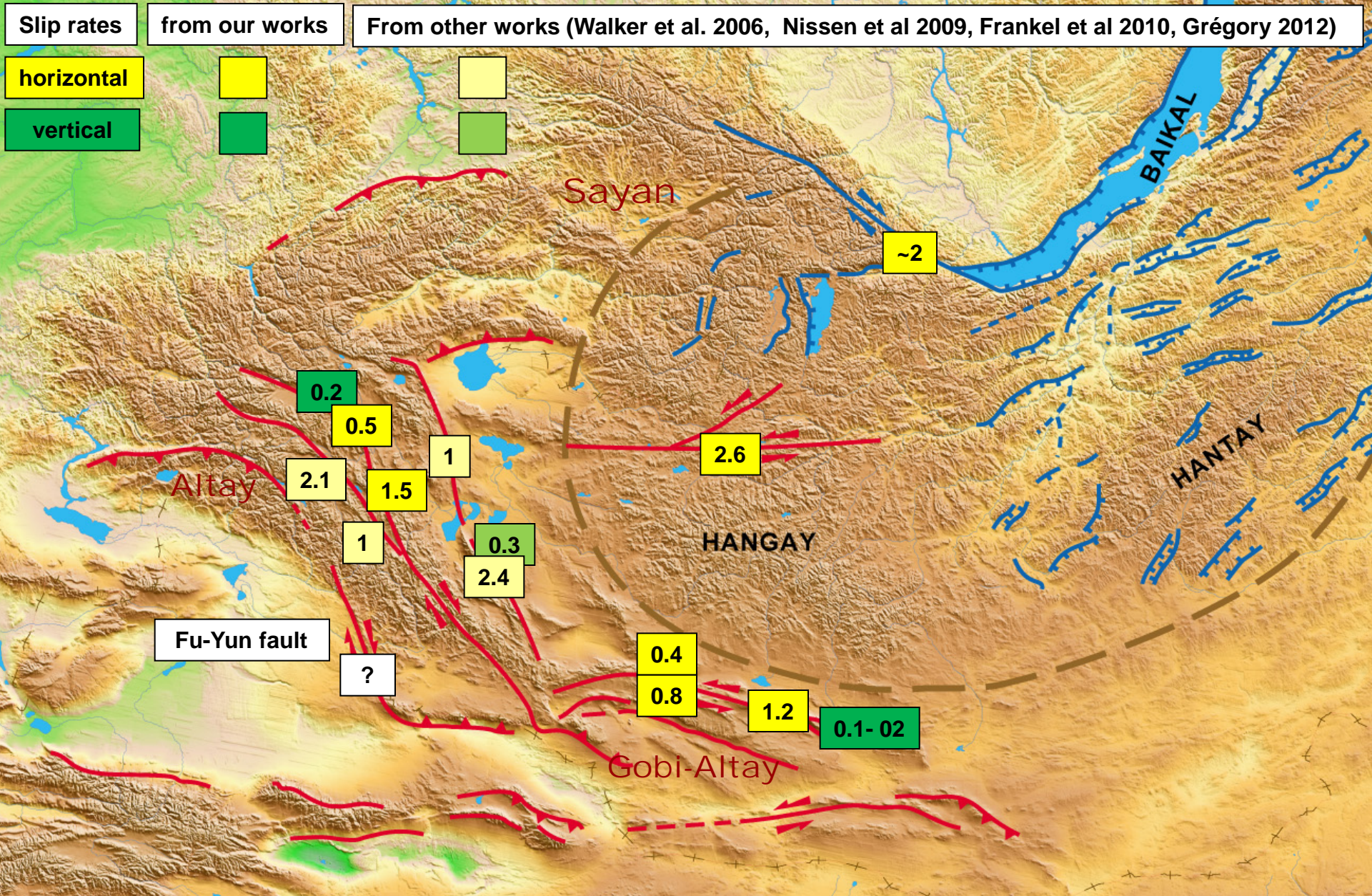


What about the timing of other large ruptures in western Mongolia ?

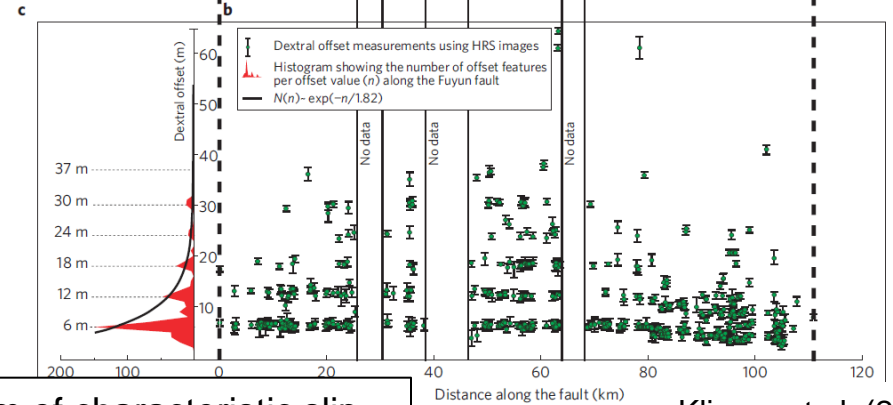
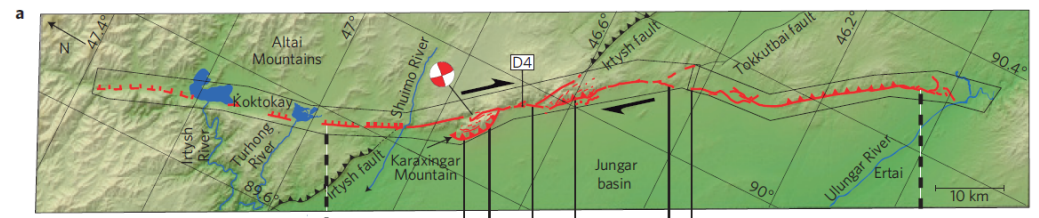
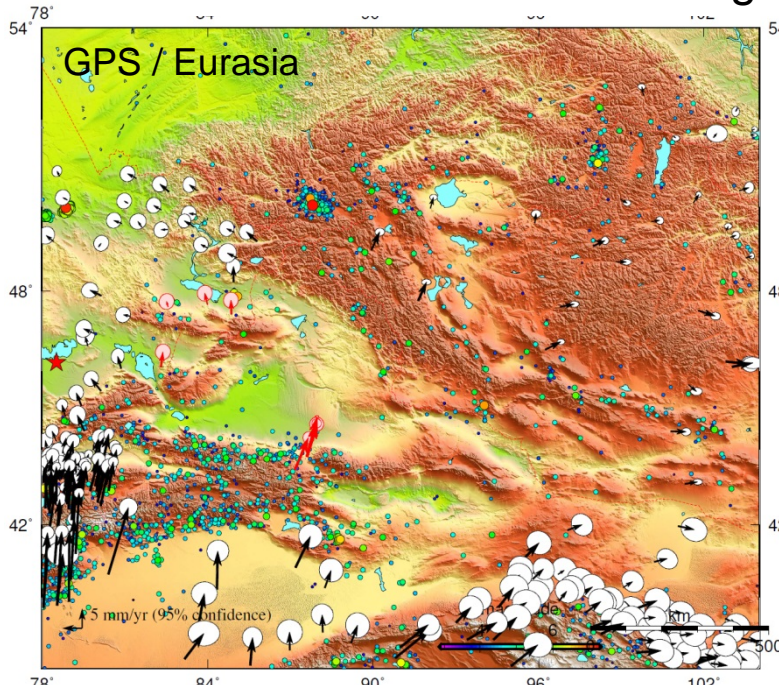
Do the other faults break also during seismic clusters ? Or “randomly” ?

What is the distribution in space and in time of seismic ruptures in western Mongolia ?

Upper Pleistocene - Holocene slip rates (100.000 years) mm/yr

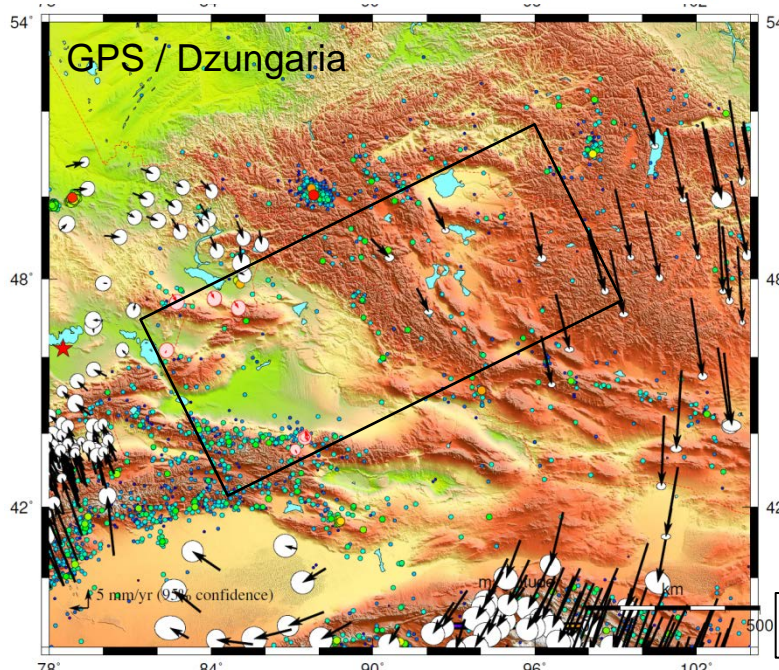


What about the timing of past events along the Fu-Yun fault ?

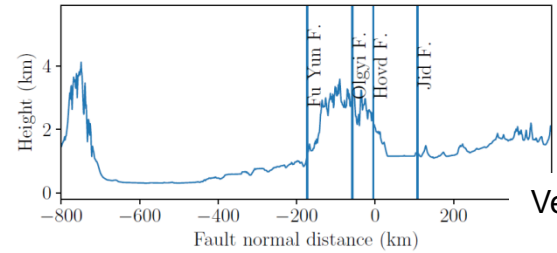
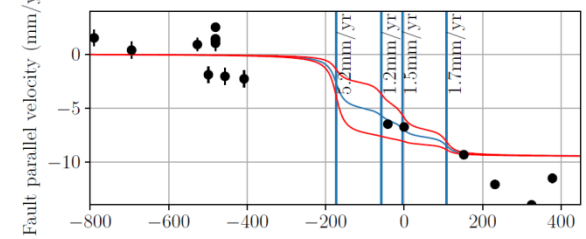


6 m of characteristic slip

Klinger et al. (2011)



What about the slip rate ?

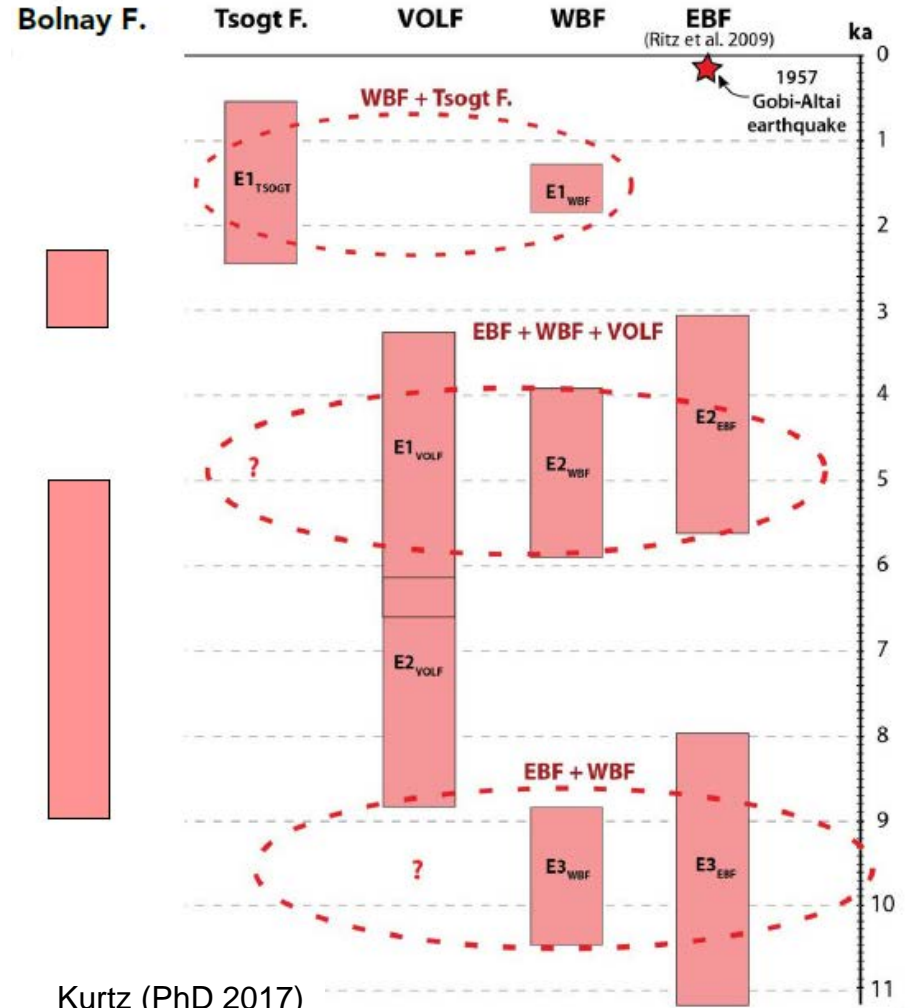
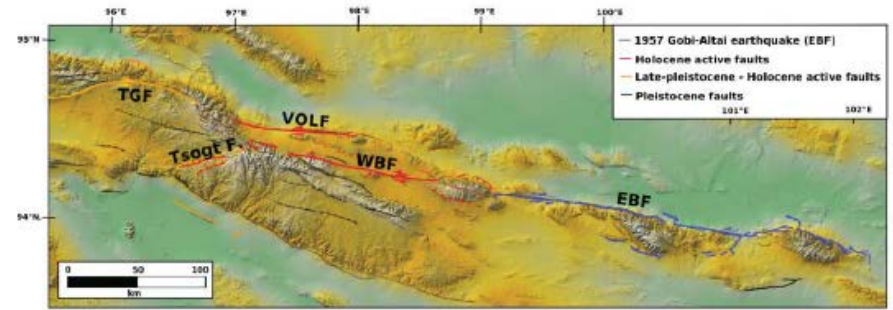
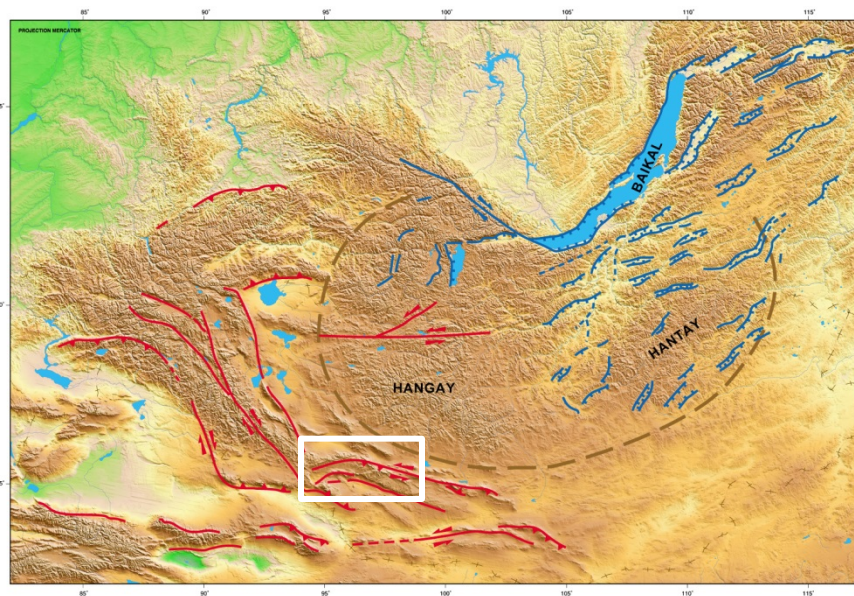


Vernant (pers. com.)

After GPS : between 1.5 and 7 mm/yr (max)

Paleoseismology:

Timing of past earthquakes in western Gobi-Altay





Thank you