Anisotropy (and seismic attenuation) in the upper mantle from surface waves



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Vsv azimuthal anisotropy

aepth 100km

depth = 200 km

depth=370km

depth=444km

120.00 180.00 240 00 LONGITUDE

300.00

360.00

AMAX =60.00

60.00

60.00

60 00

60.00

60 00

AMAX =

AMAX =

AMAX =60.00

Vsv heterogeneities

Radial anisotropy $\xi = (Vsh/Vsv)^2$



Montagner and Tanimoto, JGR 1991; Montagner, Rev. Geophys., 1994

Building seismic models :

1) Automated waveform inversion applied to millions of waveforms (Cara and Lévêque, 1987; Debayle and Ricard 2012, 2016). Period range : 50 -250 s



100

10

500

Sv velocity and azimuthal anisotropy



Radial anisotropy

1000

2000

10000

32000





S Quality factor model



3D2016_03Sv : an automatically updated Sv-wave model of the upper mantle

(Debayle et al., GRL, 2016)

- 3D2016_03SV : SV-wave model updated up to March 2016
- 1,391,400 Rayleigh waveforms
- Includes azimuthal anisotropy
- Updated every three months following publication of the CMT catalog
- Updated model available at :
- http://perso.ens-lyon.fr/eric.debayle/
- Or as a IRIS data product at

http://ds.iris.edu/ds/products/

emc-3d2016_03sv/



3D2016_03Sv : cross-sections with respect to age

SV-wave heterogeneities in 3D2016_03Sv (Debayle et al., 2016) :



Strength of azimuthal anisotropy (Debayle et al., 2016) :



Azimuthal Anisotropy versus plate velocity

Dashed lines : strength of anisotropy; Solid lines : anisotropy projected on APM



"only plates moving faster than about 4 cm/year can produce sufficient shearing at their base to organize the asthenospheric anisotropy at the scale of the entire tectonic plates" Debayle and Ricard, EPSL, 2013

Agreement between anisotropy and APM (50-200 km)

$G.\cos(2\theta)$

- G : anisotropy strength
- *θ* : angular difference between APM and fast anisotropic direction
- Blue : strong agreement, θ <45 °, G large.
- red: poor agreement, θ >45 °, G large.



Agreement between anisotropy and APM (250-550 km)



- G : anisotropy strength
- θ : angular difference between APM and fast anisotropic direction
- Blue : strong agreement, θ <45 °, G large.
- red: poor agreement, θ >45 °, G large.



^{a) Total} Angular difference between anisotropy directions and APM

Fast-moving plates





cSlowranoving plates



Radial anisotropy model $\xi = (Vsh/Vsv)^2$ (Ho et al., in prep.)

- 400,000 Love and Rayleigh waves inverted to produce Sh and Sv models with same coverage
- Crustal corrections with Crust 1
- Fundamental and overtones up to the fifth, period range 50-250 s



















Ho et al., in prep

Azimuthal and radial anisotropy versus age

Azimuthal anisotropy (angular difference between anisotropy directions and APM)

Radial anisotropy ξ = (Vsh/Vsv)²



Fast-moving plates









Figure 4. Conceptual model of anisotropy and upper mantle seismic discontinuities in the lithosphere-asthenosphere system.

Auer et al., GRL, 2015

Depth extent of Anisotropy

(Ho et al., in prep) (from radial anisotropy) Age (mA) Pha. Prot. Arch. Frozen anisotropy 20 40 60 80 100 120 140 160 -50 -50 -100 -100 100 km Depth (km) -150 -150 Anisotropy SH>SV -200 -200 Weak anisotropy 200 km -250 -250 Anisotropy SH>SV -300 -300 300 km -350 -350 Mechanical lithosphere Asthenospheric shear zone 0.95 1.00 1.05

Azimuthal anisotropy (Debayle, et al., 2016)

Gung and Romanowicz, 2003



Sv heterogeneities (Debayle & Ricard 2012; Debayle et al., 2016)

1.10

0.90

Radial anisotropy $(\xi = (Vsh/Vsv)^2)$



Summary anisotropy :

- Radial anisotropy extends deeper (down to 350 km depth) beneath continents than beneath oceans.
 - Between 200 and 350 km, anisotropic crystals may be predominantly oriented in the horizontal plane (producing SH-waves faster than SV-waves).
- There is no ocean/continent difference in the depth extent of azimuthal anisotropy which extends down to about 200 km.
 - Between 200 and 350 km, anisotropic crystals may be be predominantly oriented in the horizontal plane but azimuthally random at very large scale (producing no significant azimuthal anisotropy).
 - This is consistent with the idea that "only plates faster than 4 cm/year organize the anisotropy at very large scale", as most continents excepted India and Australia are located on plates slower than 4 cm/year.
- Shape preferred orientation may explain the "flat" radial anisotropy beneath oceans.
- Radial anisotropy suggests broad regions of vertical flow beneath mid ocean ridges between 200 and 250 km depths.

S Quality factor model QsADR17 Adenis et al., in prep

- Based on Debayle and Ricard, (2012) fundamental and higher modes global dataset.
- Inversion of In (Q_s) at different depths
- Focussing/defocussing effects accounted for using Woodhouse and Wong (1986)
- Specific model for source excitation
- Careful data selection :
 - Data close to a node in the radiation pattern rejected.
 - Data likely to have instrument or M₀ problems rejected
 - Outliers rejected
- About 40,000 paths kept for inversion



Quality factor model QsADR17









Archeen



Correlation between QsADR17 and S velocity (3D2016_07Sv)

1.00

0.75

0.50

0.25

0.00

-0.25 -0.50

-0.75 --1.00 + 1

Correlation



Adenis et al., in prep

Attenuation and radial anisotropy in the Pacific Ocean

100 km

297

500

1000

Attenuation :

A strong attenuation was previously observed by Rommanowicz & Gung (2002) in the Pacific asthenosphere:



Thermal upwelling deflected horizontally beneath the lithosphere?

Radial anisotropy : Ho, Priestley and Debayle, to be submitted, 2016



Regions of reduced velocities and moderate or weak attenuation?

- If a significant amount of melt is present, it may reduce velocity without affecting attenuation (e.g. Shito et al., 2006):
 - Proposed by Yang et al., 2007 and Forsyth et al., 1998 to explain portions of the East Pacific Rise covered by the MELT experiment.



Summary attenuation :

- The broad attenuation anomaly in the central Pacific could result from several thermal upwelling deflected horizontally in the Pacific asthenosphere.
 - Compatible with the strong radial anisotropy with Sh waves faster than Sv waves observed between 100 and 200 km in the same region.
- Partial melt may provide an explanation for some regions where low velocities are associated with moderate or high Q, if it has a stronger effect on seismic velocities than on attenuation (Shito, 2006) :
 - May work for indonesia and eastern Asia.
 - May explain observations beneath the EP,R as observed at a more local scale after the MELT experiment (Yang et al., 2007; Forsyth, et al., 1998).

Correlation between recent Q models



QsADR17 : this study

QMU3B : Selby and Woodhouse, JGR, 2002

QRFSI12 : Dalton et al., JGR, 2008

QRLW8 : Gung and Romanowicz, GJI, 2004

Quality factor model QsADR17





Vs versus age

Archeen

Proterozoic



Depth (km)



Crustal effect on Q



Synthetic tests for attenuation





Synthetic tests for attenuation



Ray density for attenuation



Azimuthal anisotropy maps

4% peak to peak anisotropy



30° 0° -



Ray density maps (typical of modern global tomography)

0

10

100

200

400

800

1200

12000

Azimuthal distribution of rays (Voronoi diagrams after Debayle and Sambridge, JGR, 2004)



Each Voronoi cell is the smallest for which we are sure that our azimuthal coverage allows us to resolve the cos(2), sin(2) azimuthal variation of SV waves Debayle et al., 2016



Debayle et al., 2016