

Mantle

Lithosphere

Dynamic Feedbacks Between Mantle Flow and Global Tectonics

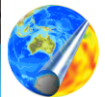
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EarthBYTE
Building a Virtual Earth



Laboratoire de Géologie de Lyon
Terre Planètes Environnement

ETH zürich



Hypothesis: use the same physics for lithosphere and convecting mantle

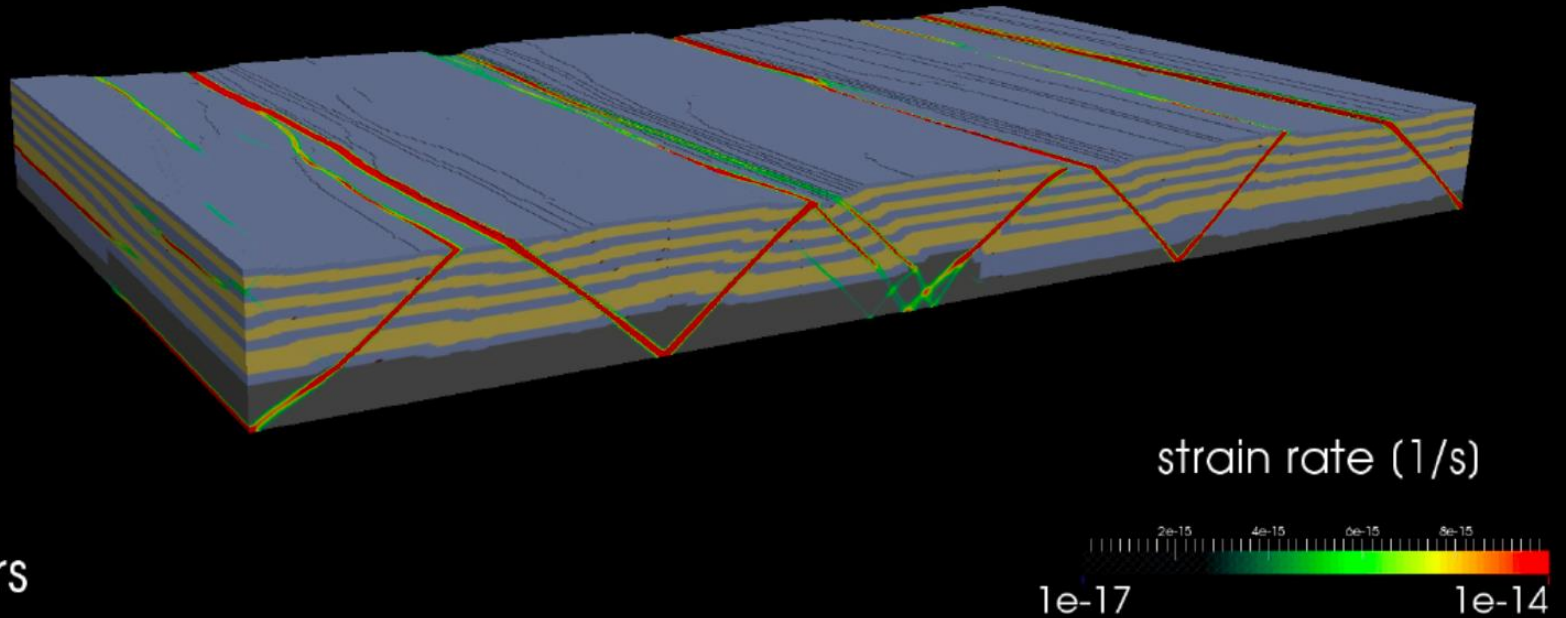


Image by B. Kaus



Strength > Stress



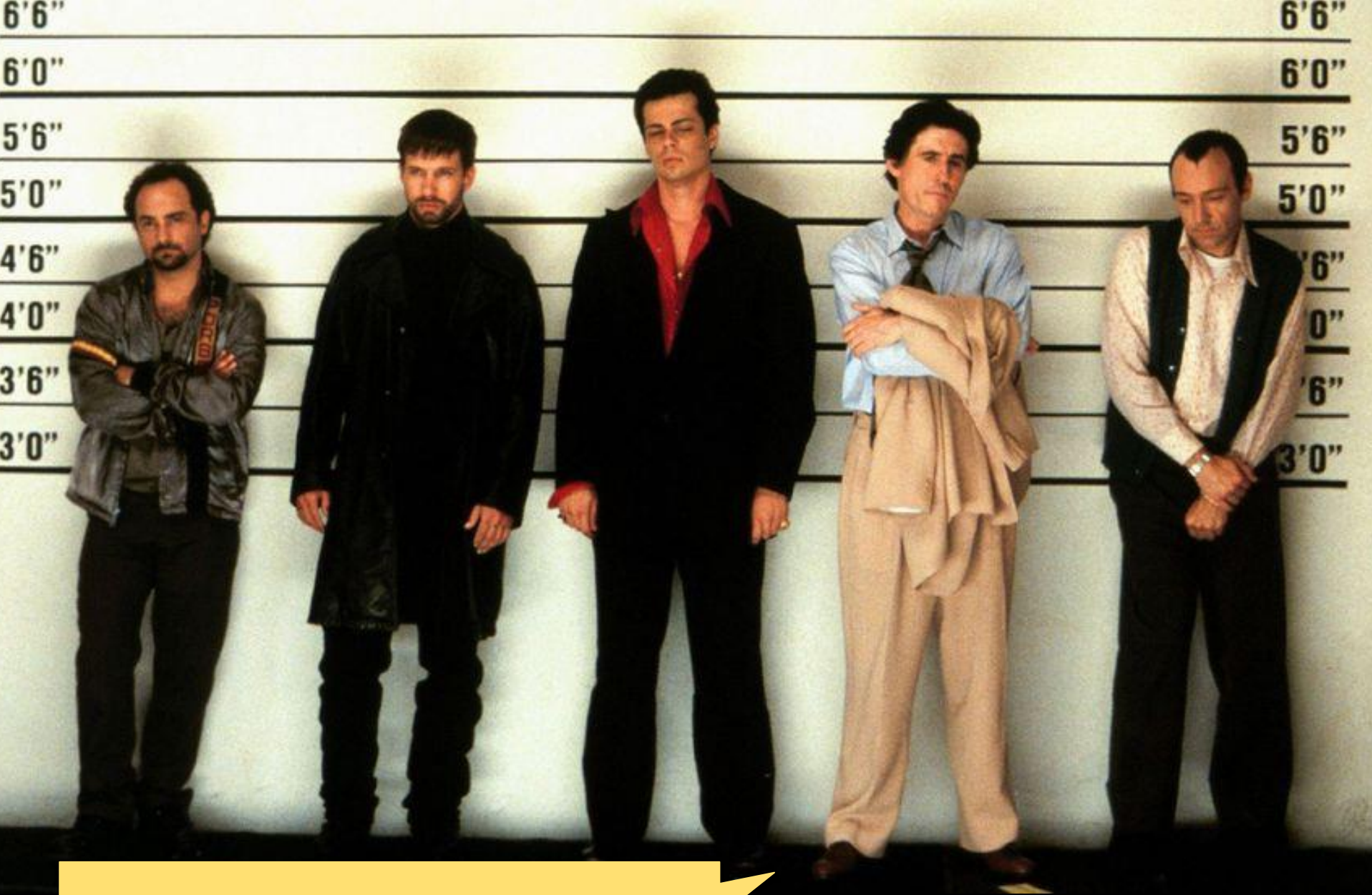
Strength < Stress

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{u} = 0$$

$$-\vec{\nabla}P + \vec{\nabla} \cdot [\eta(\partial_i u_j + \partial_j u_i)] = Ra(T - RC)\vec{e}_r$$

$$\partial_t T + \vec{u} \cdot \vec{\nabla} T = \nabla^2 T + Q,$$

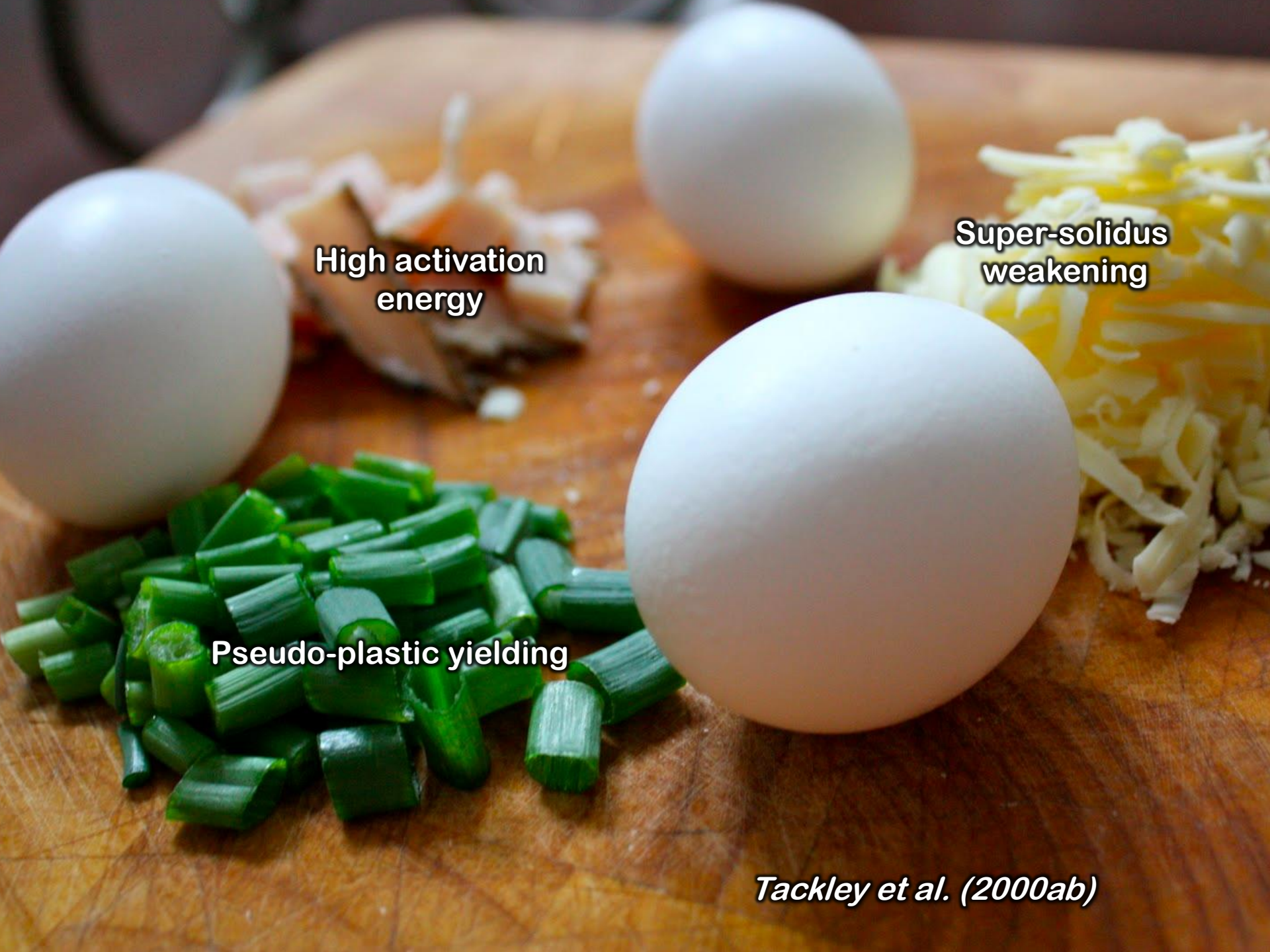
$$\frac{\partial C}{\partial t} + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) C = 0.$$



Deformation mechanisms?

~~Plan A~~

Plan B

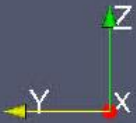
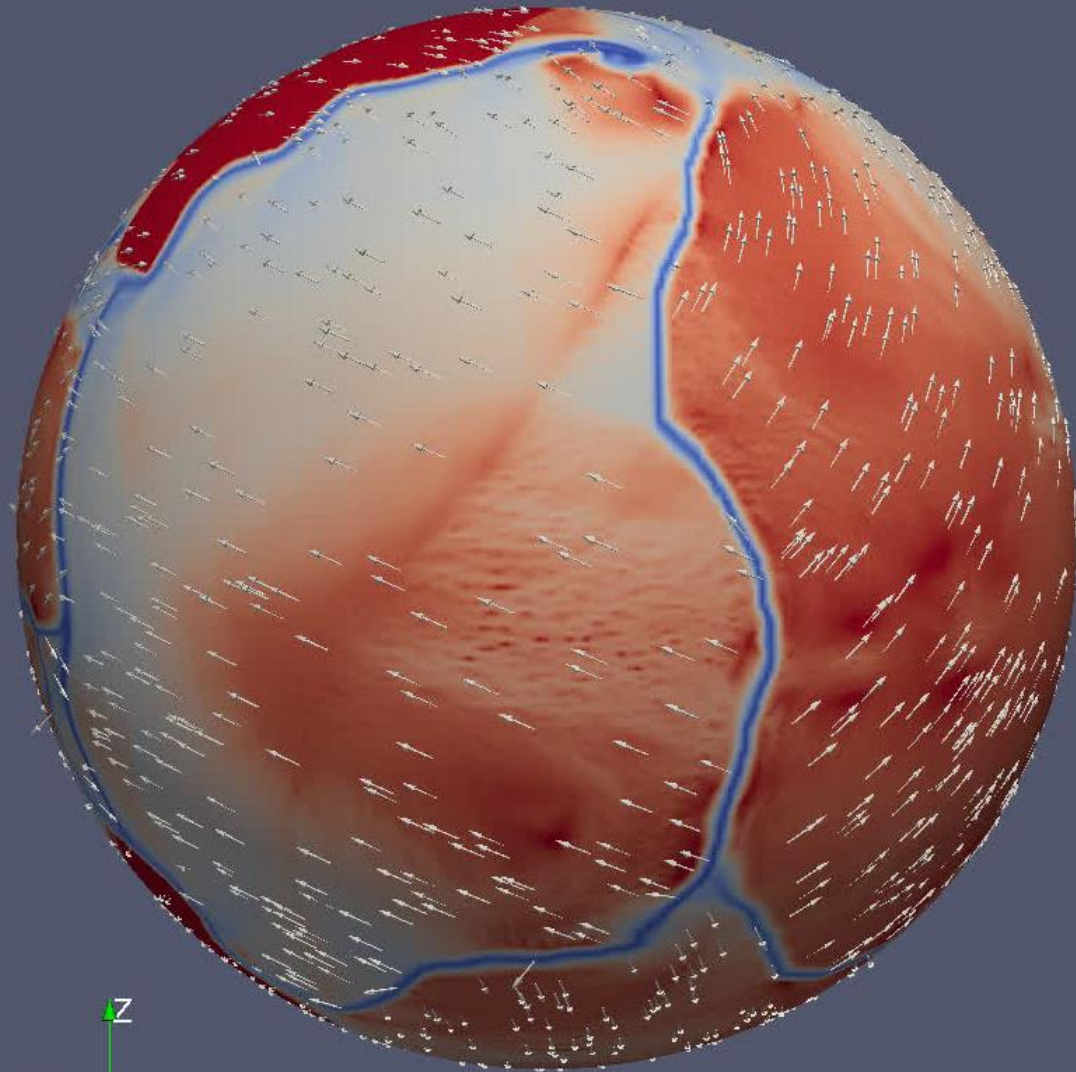


High activation
energy

Super-solidus
weakening

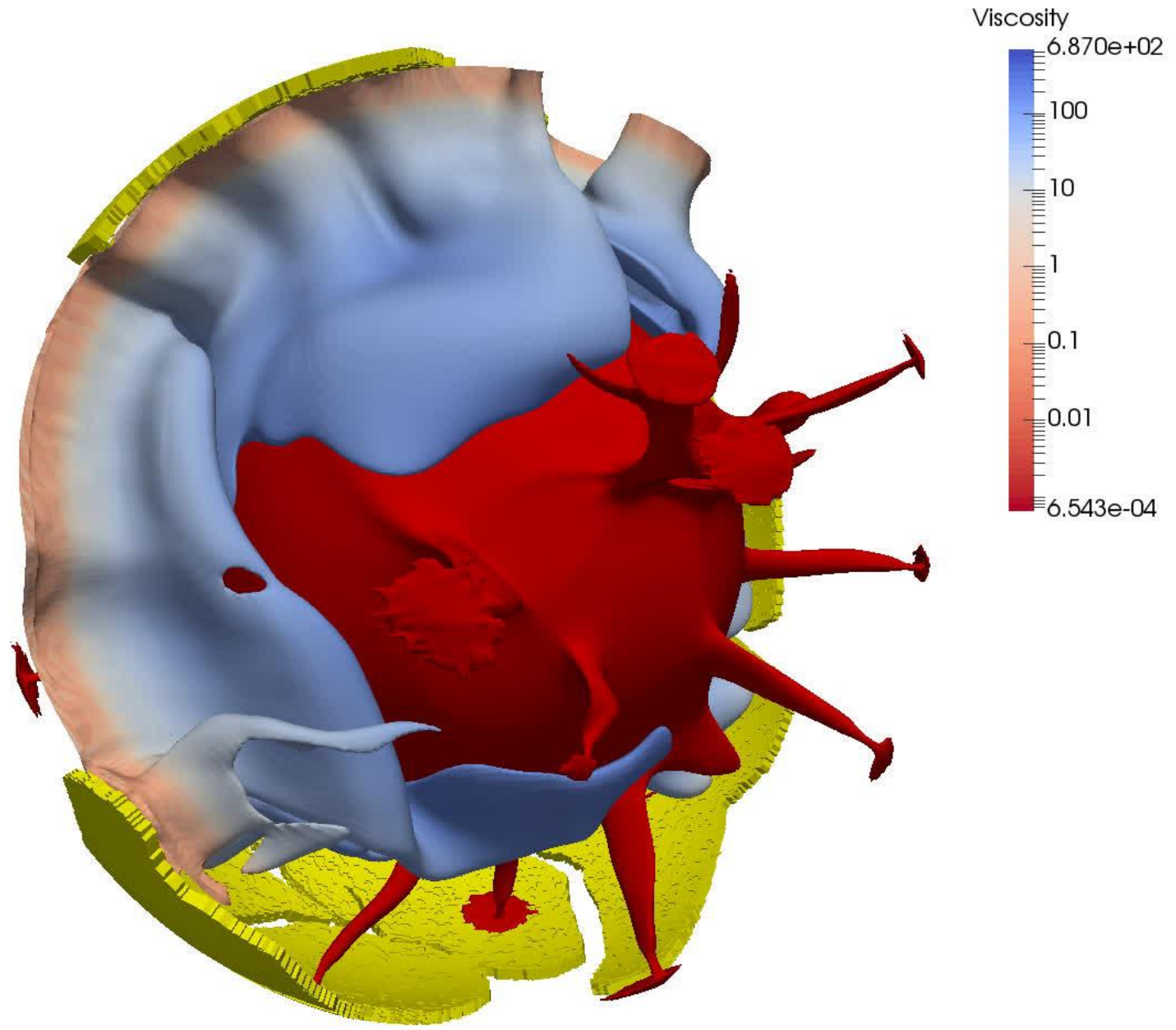
Pseudo-plastic yielding

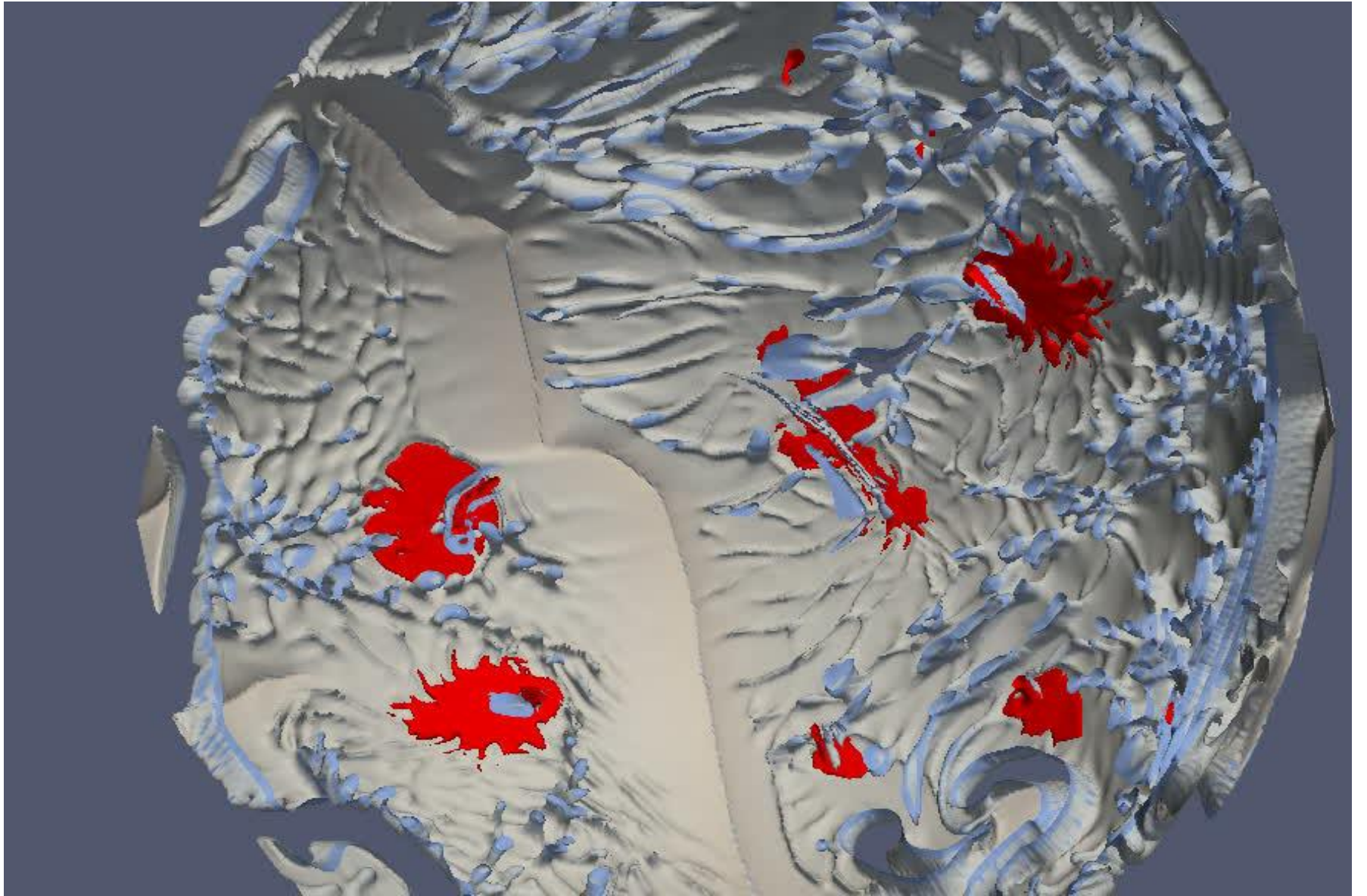
Tackley et al. (2000ab)



Viscosity



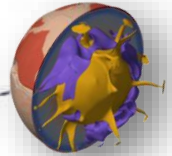




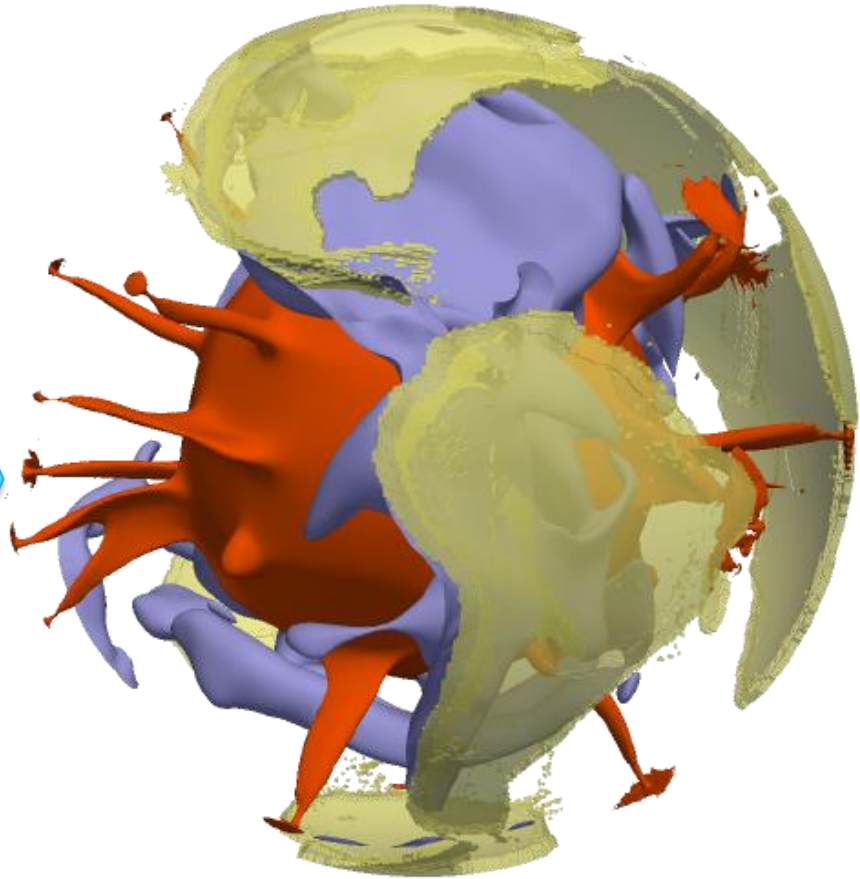
A forecast experiment



**Swinging and turning:
Impose plates since
200Ma until 50 Ma**

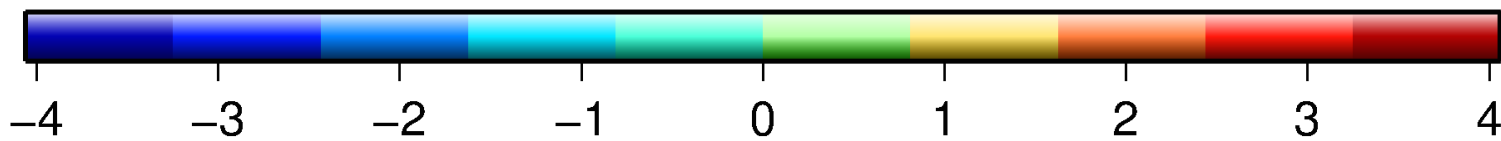
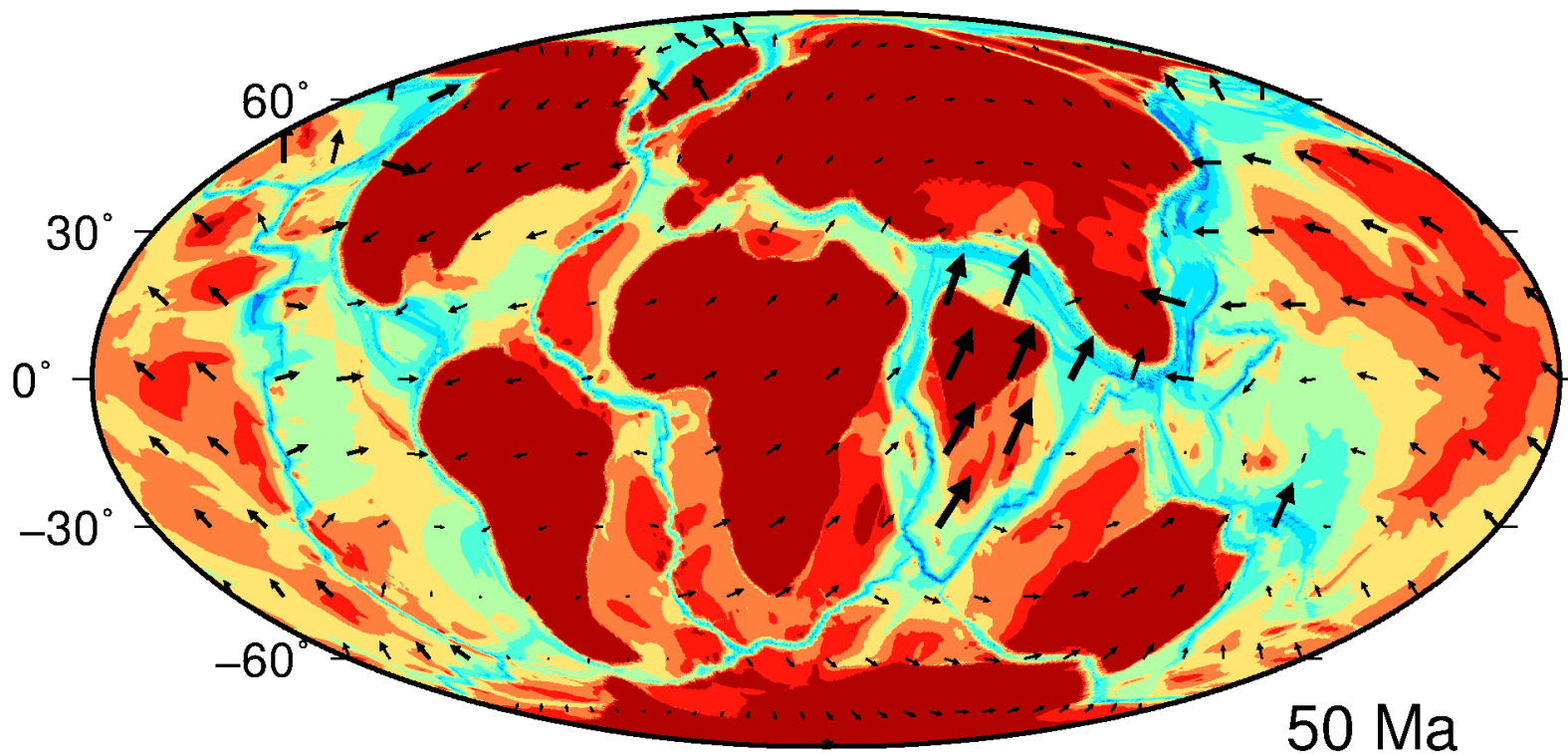


See Bello et al., EPSL 2015

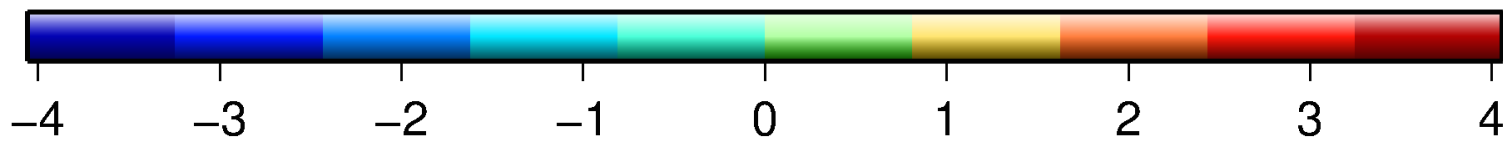
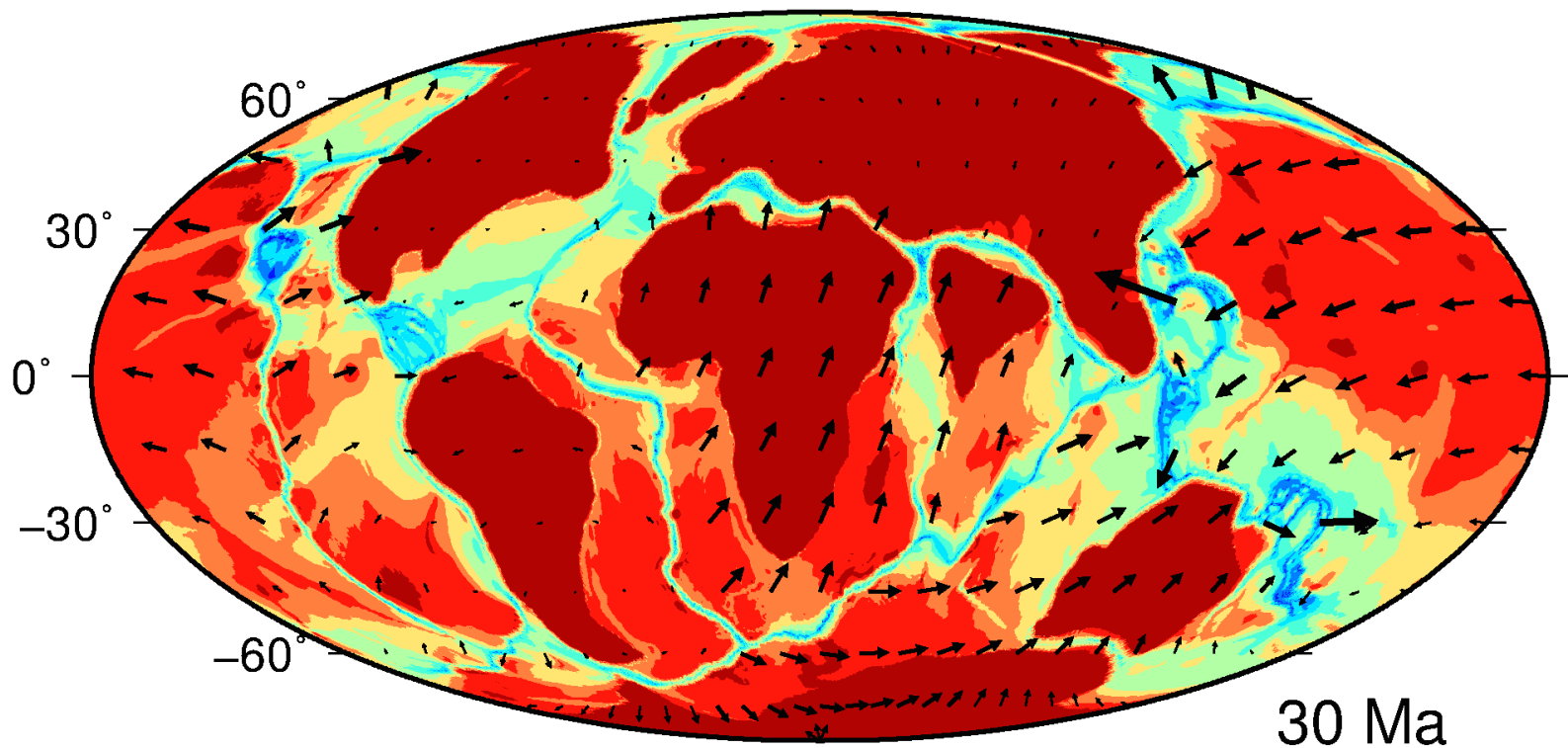


Free flight until 0Ma

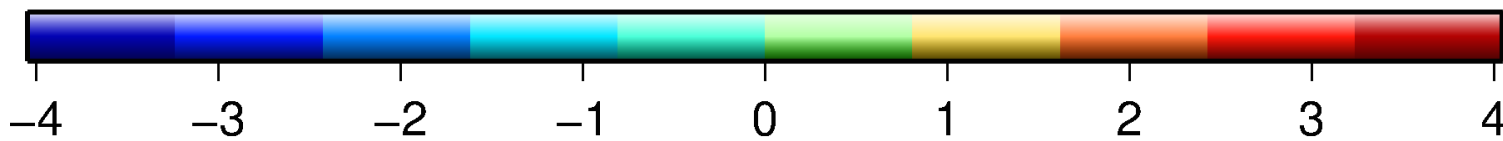
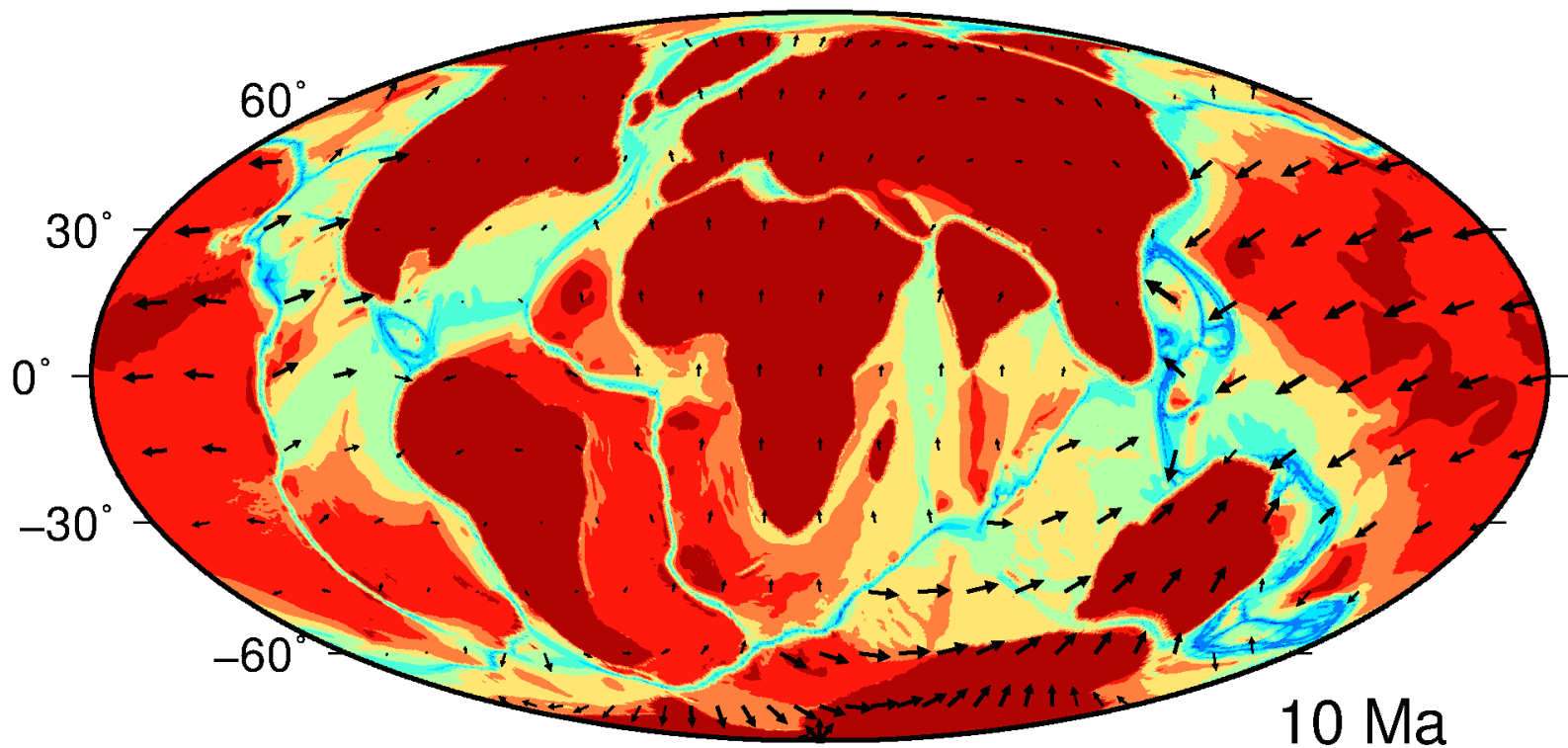




$\log_{10}(\text{Viscosity})$

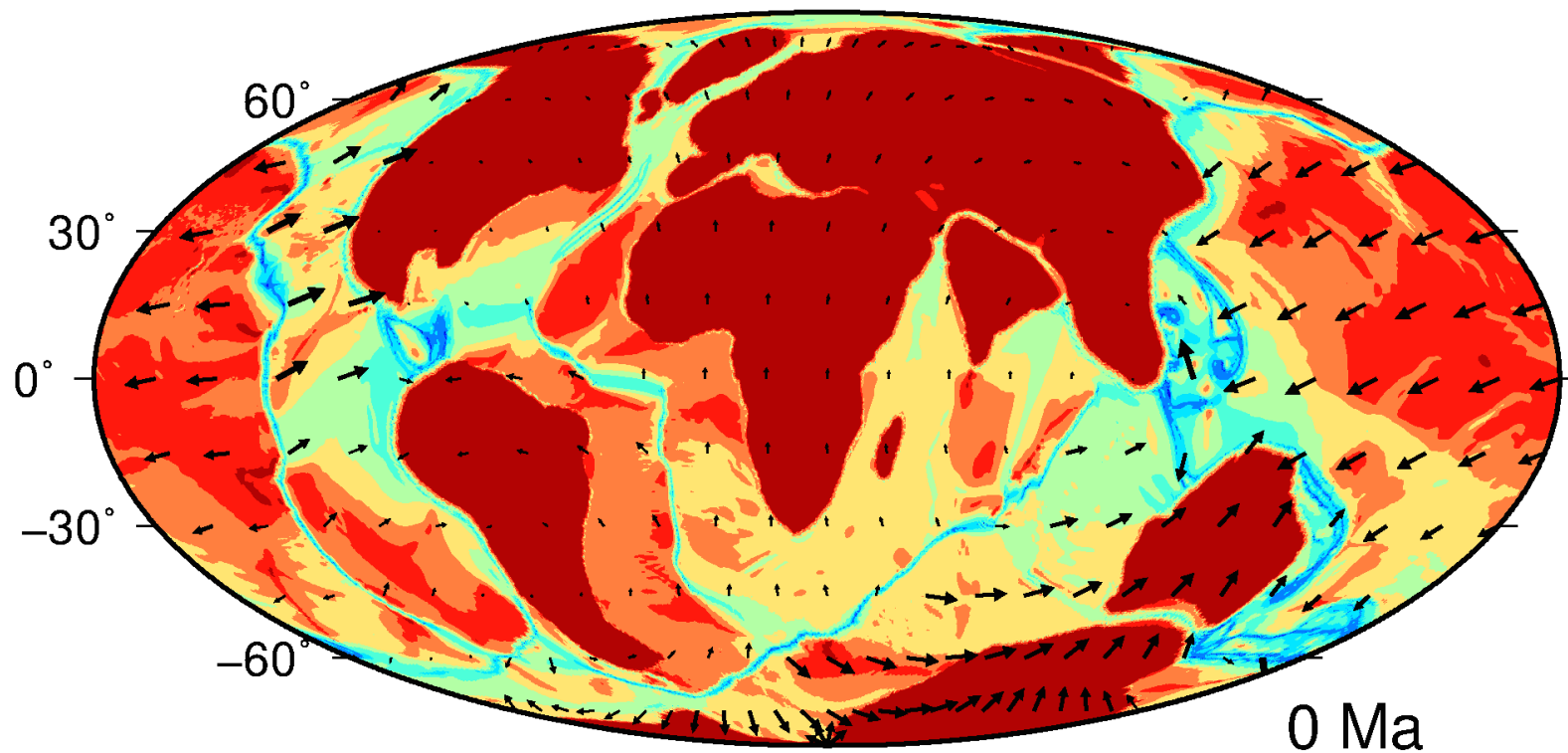


$\log_{10}(\text{Viscosity})$

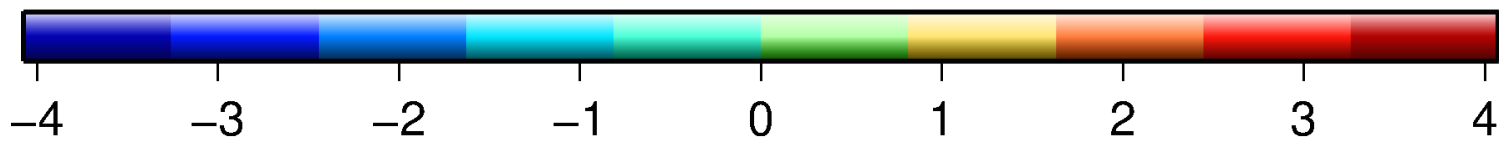


$\log_{10}(\text{Viscosity})$

Today

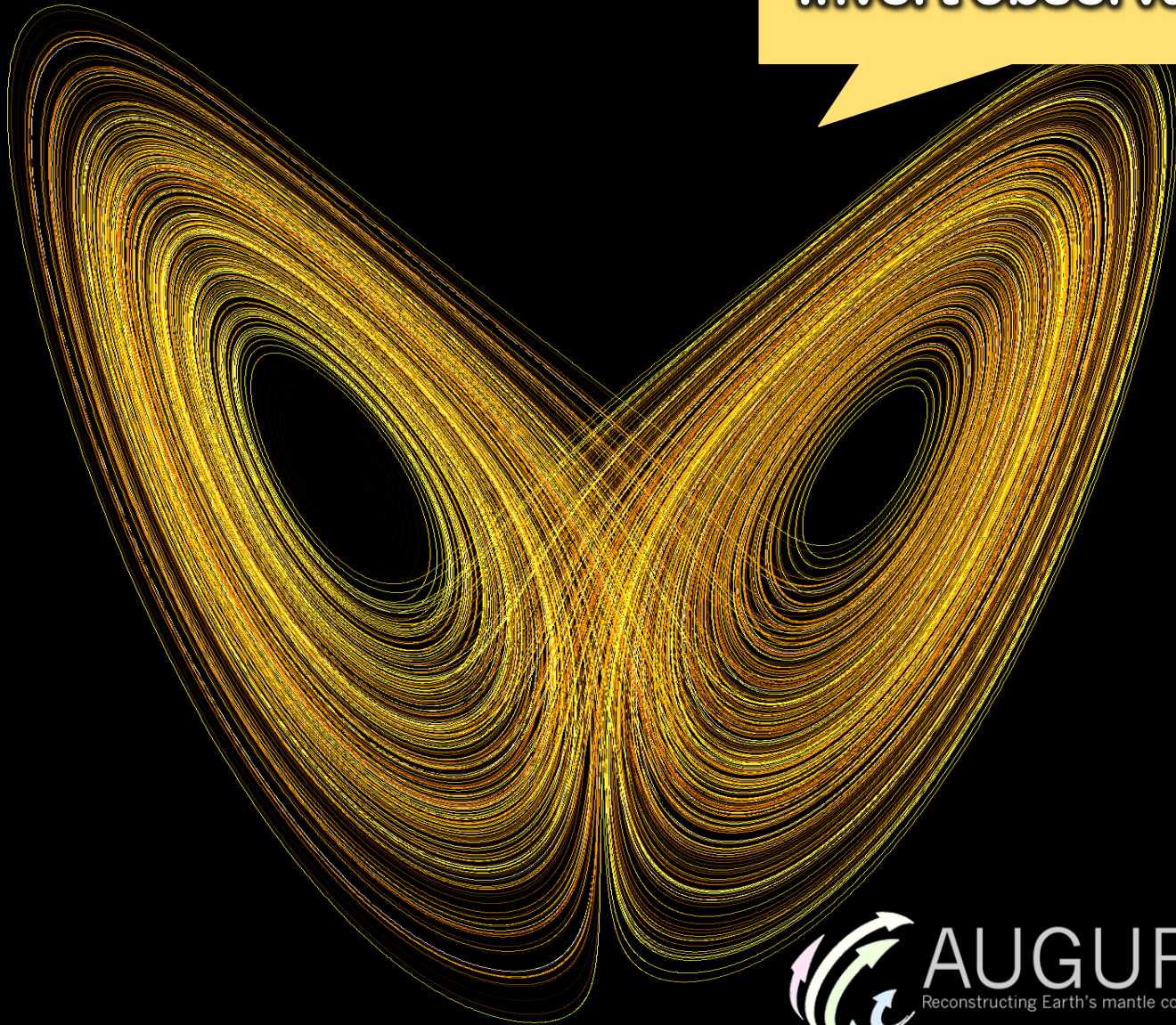


0 Ma



$\log_{10}(\text{Viscosity})$

Invert observations





Divergence

Transform zones



Vorticity

Viscosity

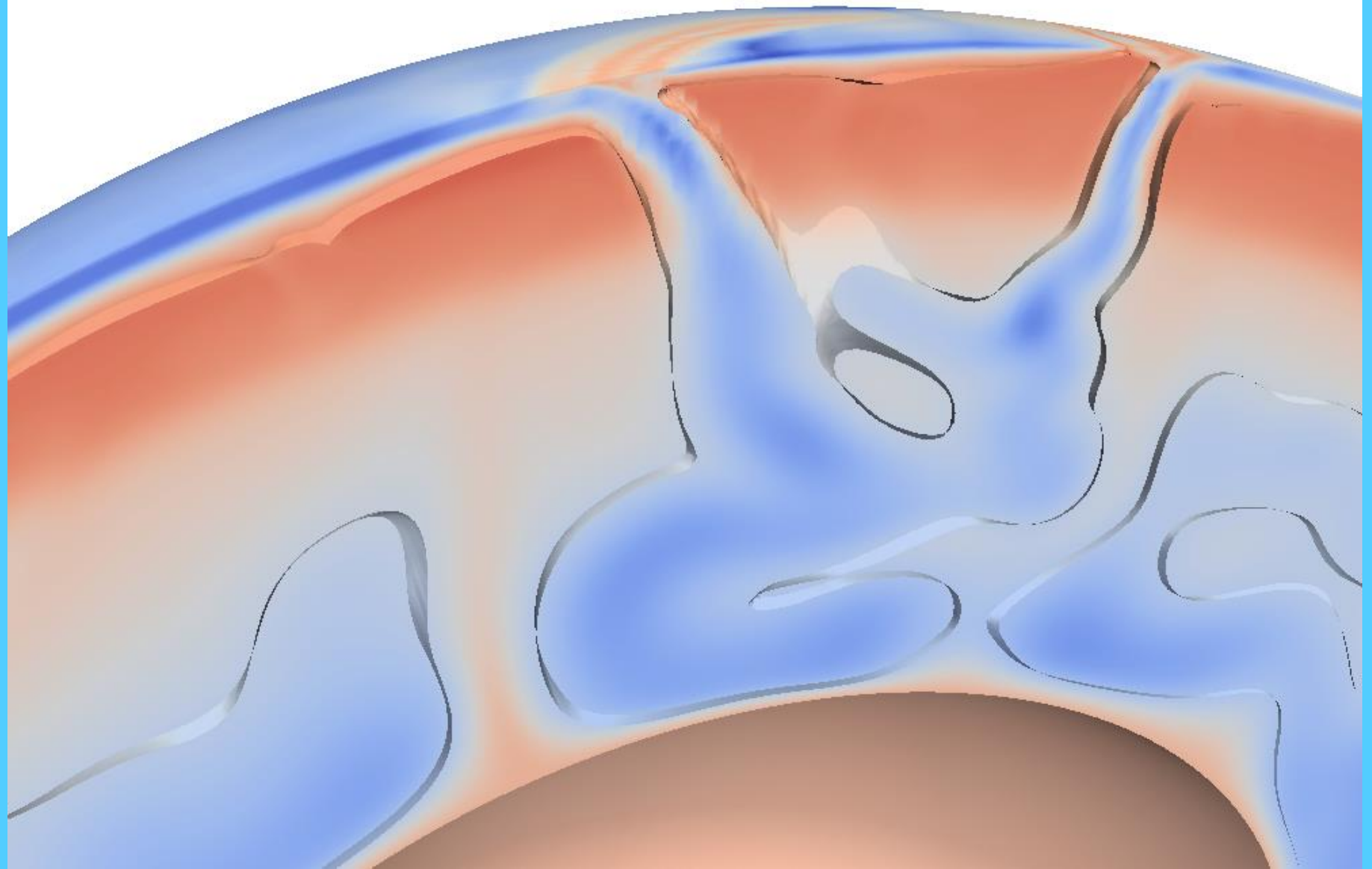
0.01

1

100

0.000131

1e+04



Viscosity

