

Comparing long-term and short-term fault slip-rates across Iran

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Google Earth

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Image Landsat

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200 m



The Leverhulme Trust



THE ROYAL
SOCIETY
CELEBRATING 350 YEARS



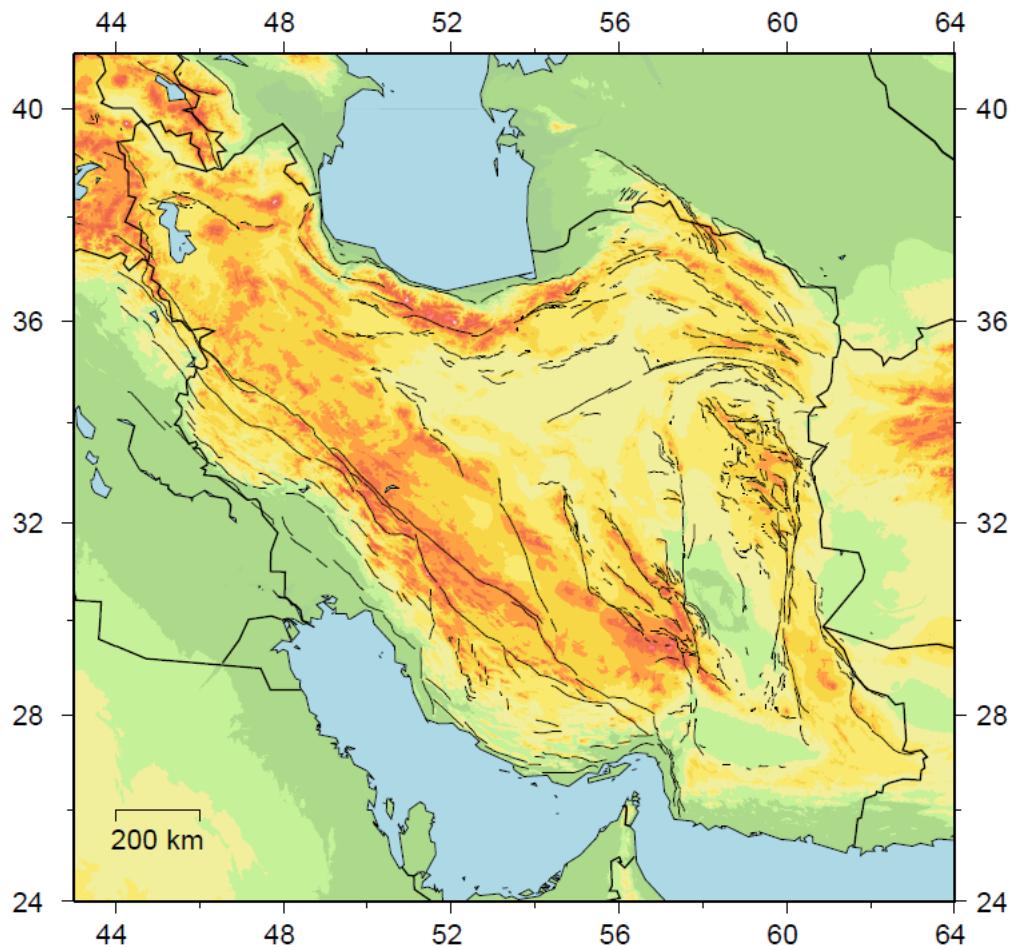
Earthquakes
without
Frontiers

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ECONOMIC & SOCIAL RESEARCH COUNCIL



COMET
CENTRE FOR OBSERVATION & MODELLING
OF EARTHQUAKES, VOLCANOES & TECTONICS

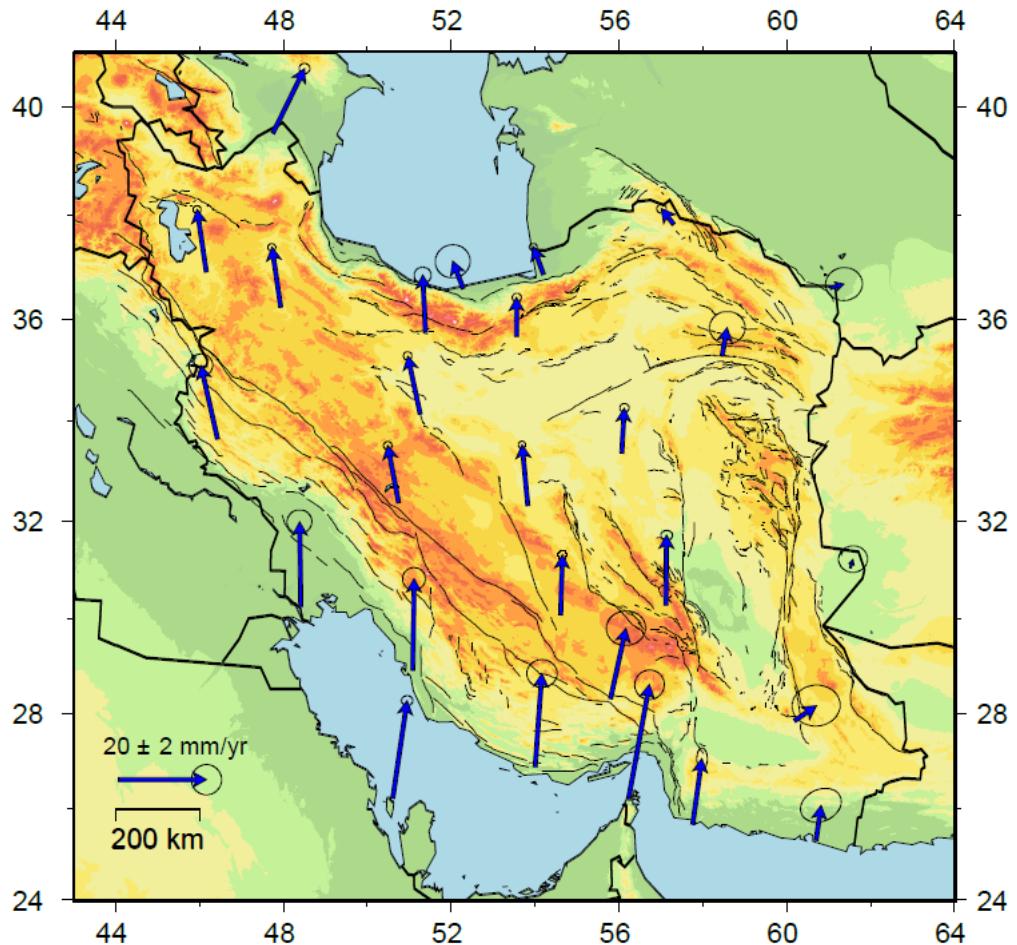
GPS velocity field - 2003



GPS velocity field - 2004

Vernant et al., 2004a

Vernant et al., 2004b



GPS velocity field - 2008

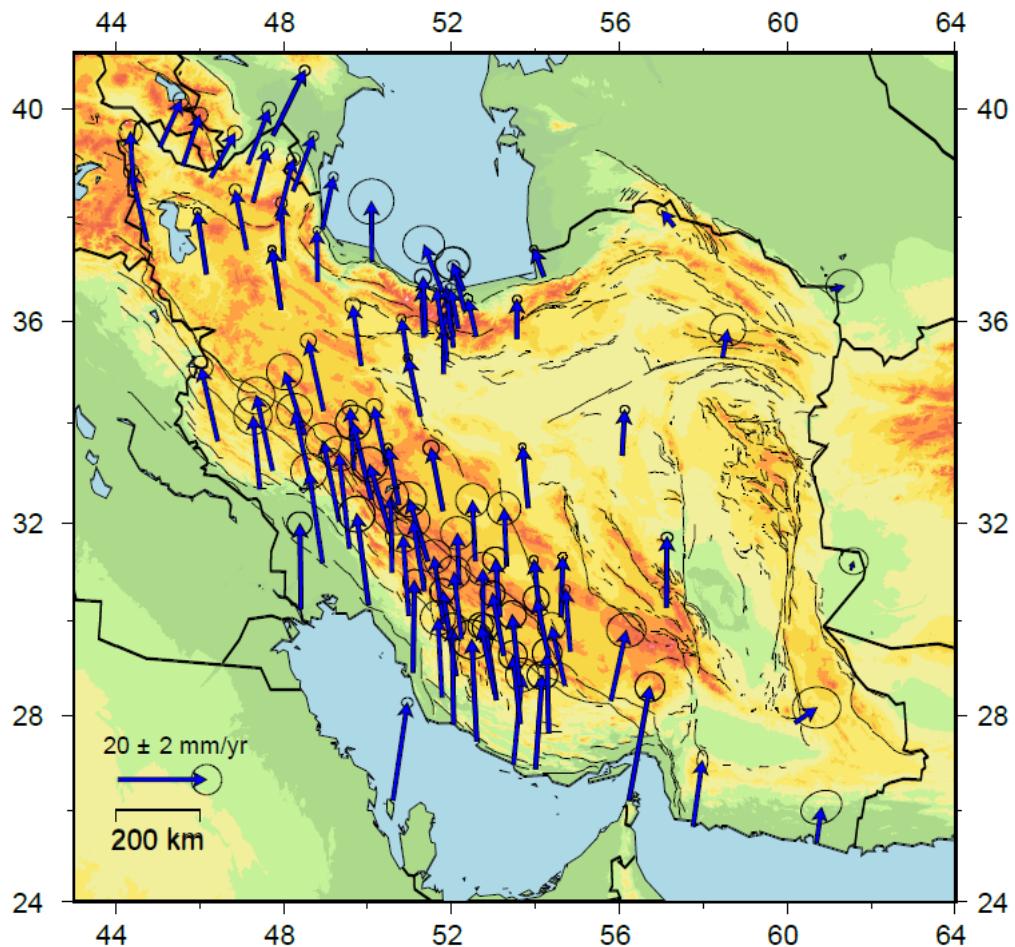
Vernant et al., 2004a

Vernant et al., 2004b

Walpersdorf et al., 2006

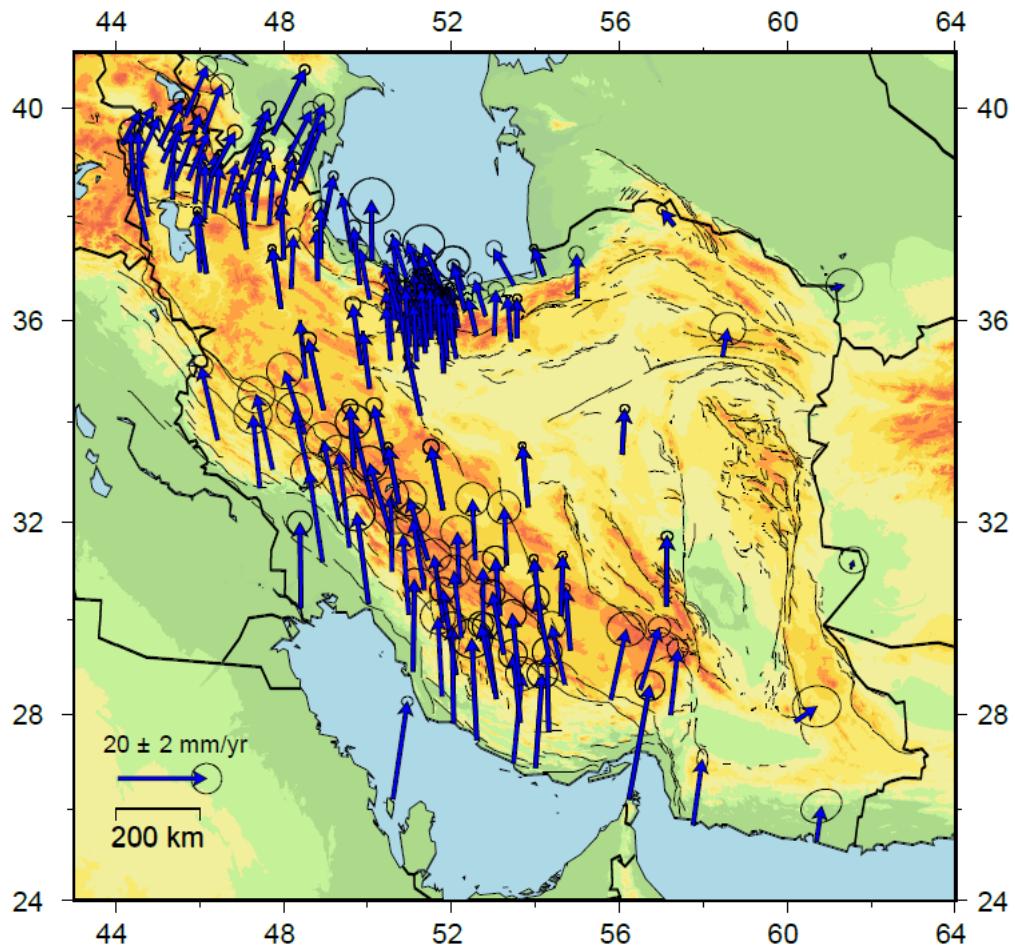
Masson et al., 2006

Tavakoli et al., 2008



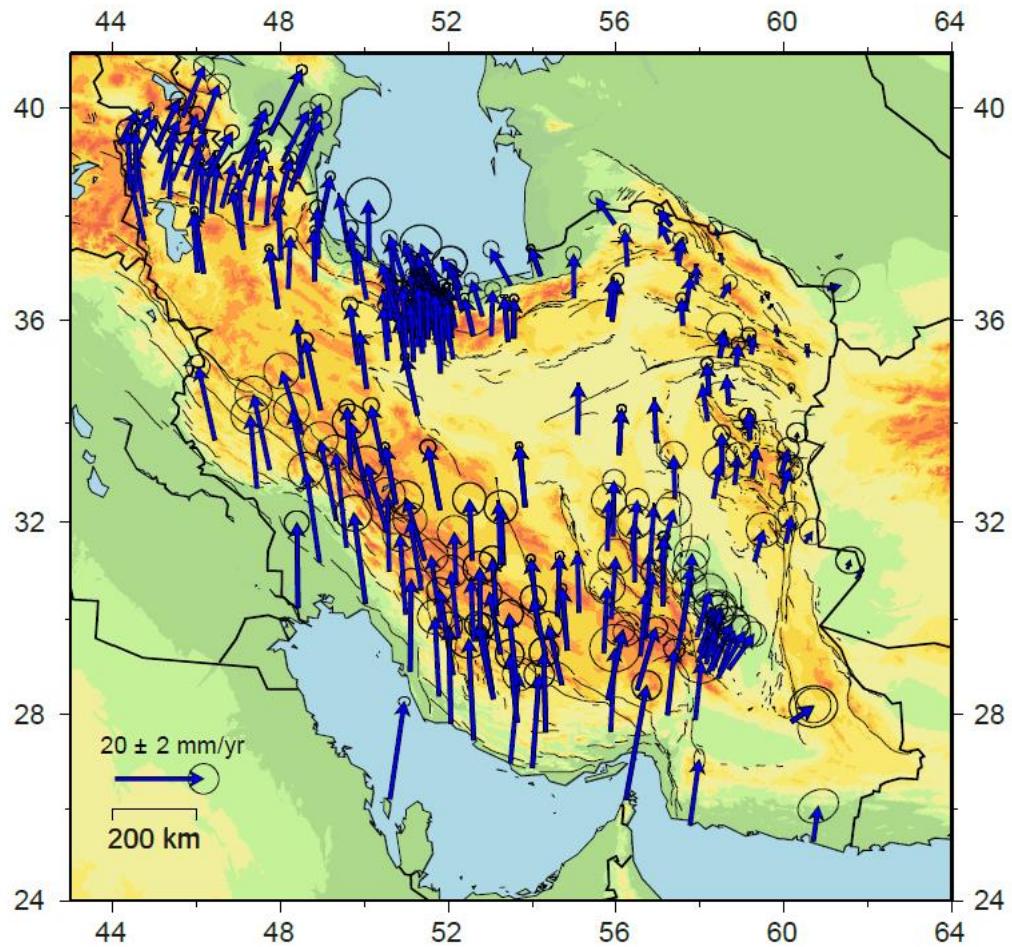
GPS velocity field - 2011

Vernant et al., 2004a
Vernant et al., 2004b
Walpersdorf et al., 2006
Masson et al., 2006
Tavakoli et al., 2008
Djamour et al., 2010
Djamour et al., 2011



GPS velocity field - 2014

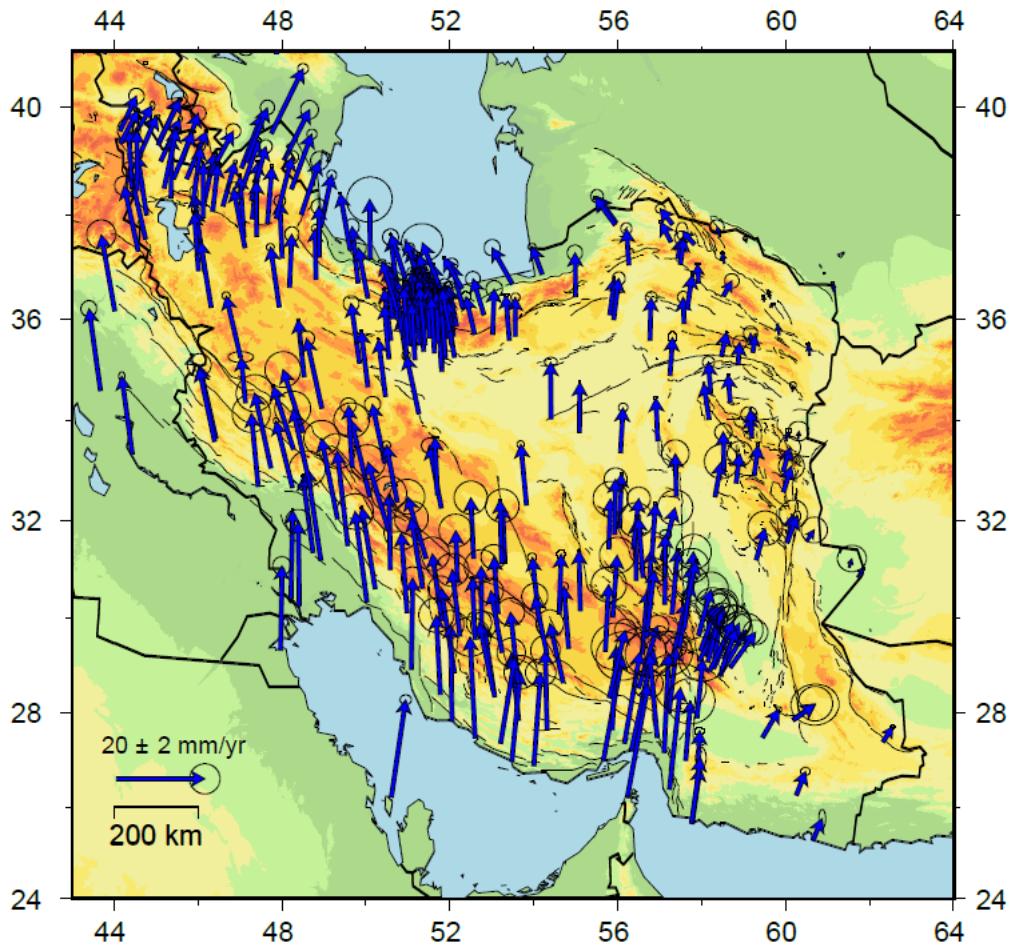
Vernant et al., 2004a
Vernant et al., 2004b
Walpersdorf et al., 2006
Masson et al., 2006
Tavakoli et al., 2008
Djamour et al., 2010
Djamour et al., 2011
Mousavi et al., 2013
Walpersdorf et al., 2014



GPS velocity field - 2018

Vernant et al., 2004a
Vernant et al., 2004b
Walpersdorf et al., 2006
Masson et al., 2006
Tavakoli et al., 2008
Djamour et al., 2010
Djamour et al., 2011
Mousavi et al., 2013
Walpersdorf et al., 2014
Khorrami et al., in review

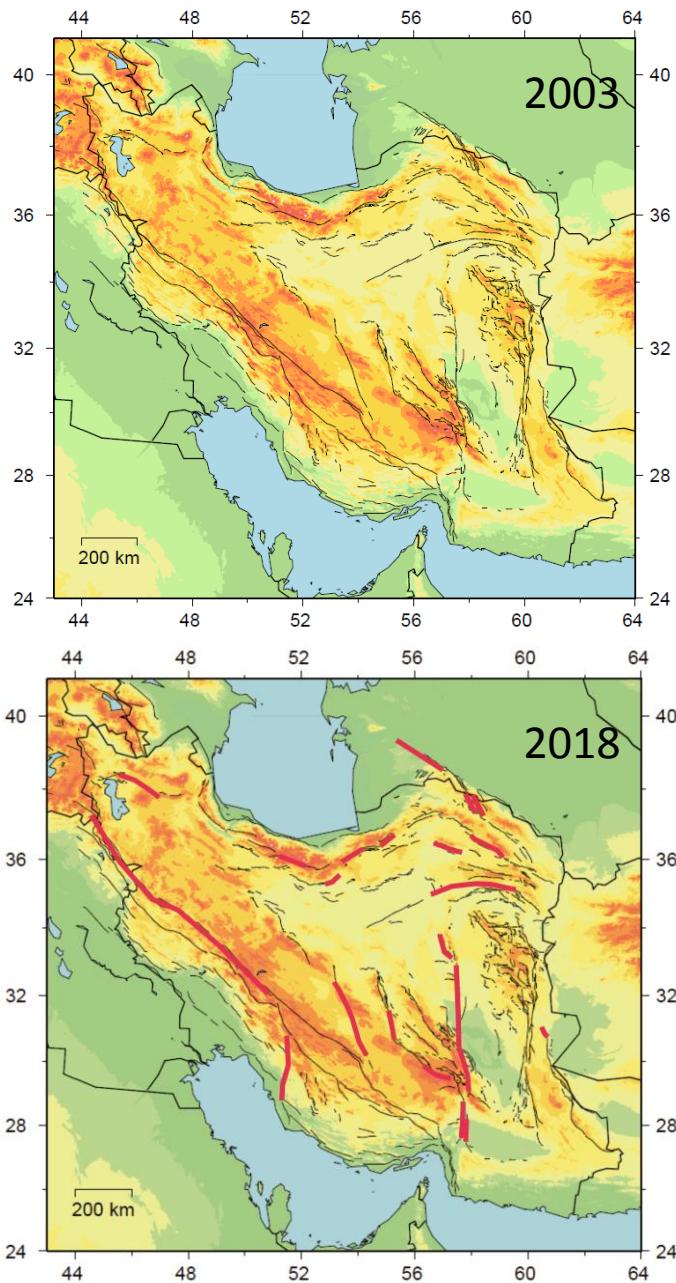
Plus interseismic strain
accumulation from InSAR



Geomorphic slip-rates

A number of studies ...

- Hessami et al., 2003
- Ritz et al., 2003
- Regard et al., 2005
- Regard et al., 2006
- Fattahi et al., 2006
- Fattahi et al., 2007
- Le Dertz et al., 2009
- Shabanian et al., 2009
- Hollingsworth et al., 2010
- Walker et al., 2010
- Rizza et al., 2011
- Walker and Fattahi, 2011
- Javidfakhr et al., 2011
- Fattahi et al., 2011
- Rizza et al., 2013
- Fattahi et al., 2014
- Farbod et al., 2016



(Apologies if I have missed anyone off)

Comparing long-term and short-term rates

Are measurements of present-day interseismic strain accumulation representative of the long-term slip-rates on the faults?

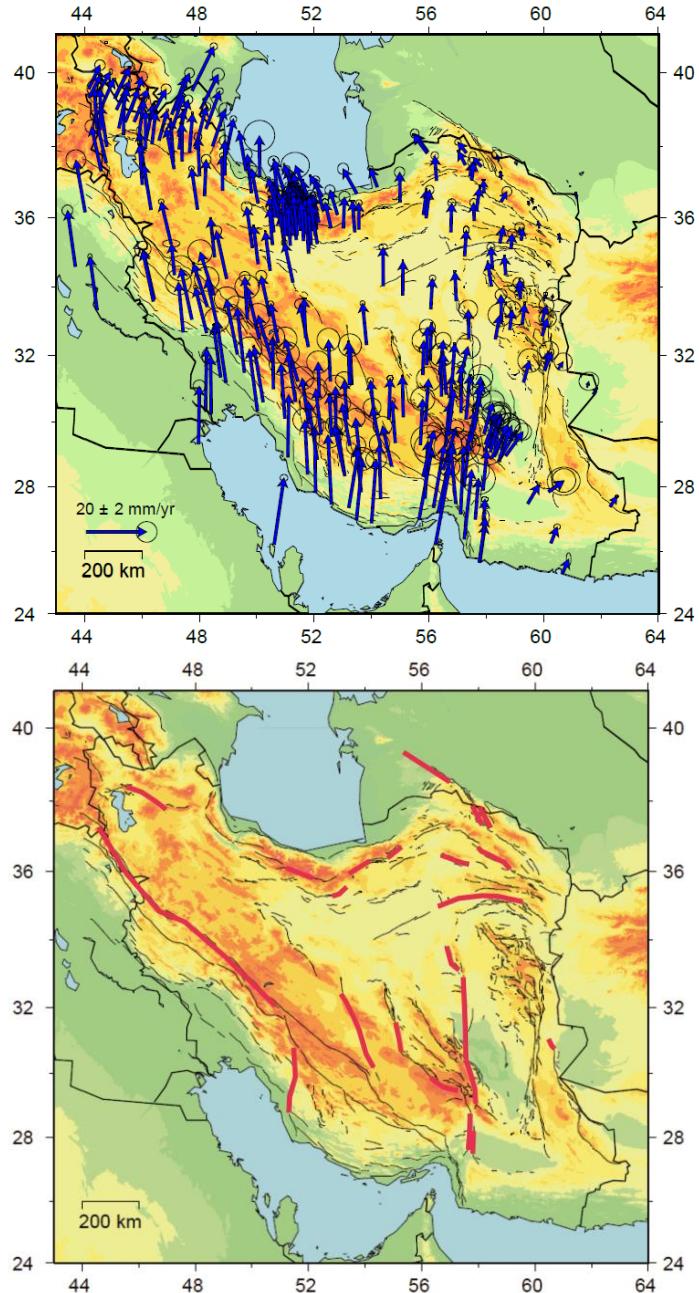
Or

Can we use long-term fault slip-rates to infer what is happening at the present day

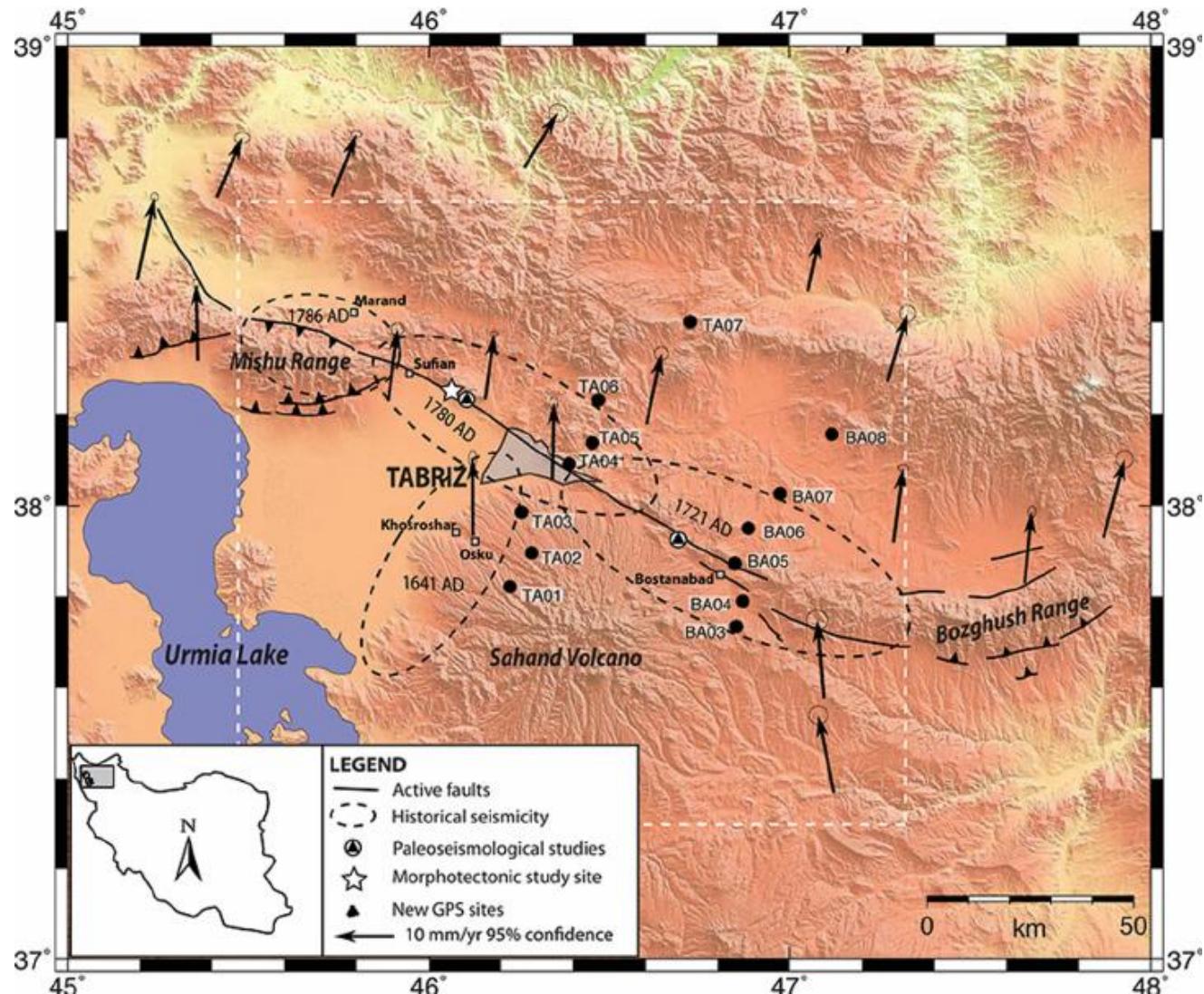
In many parts of Iran the faults are too closely spaced to resolve with GPS

Analysis restricted to a few ‘simple’ areas, where there is only one or a small number of major active faults

We are presenting a simplified view – not appropriate for earthquake hazard studies

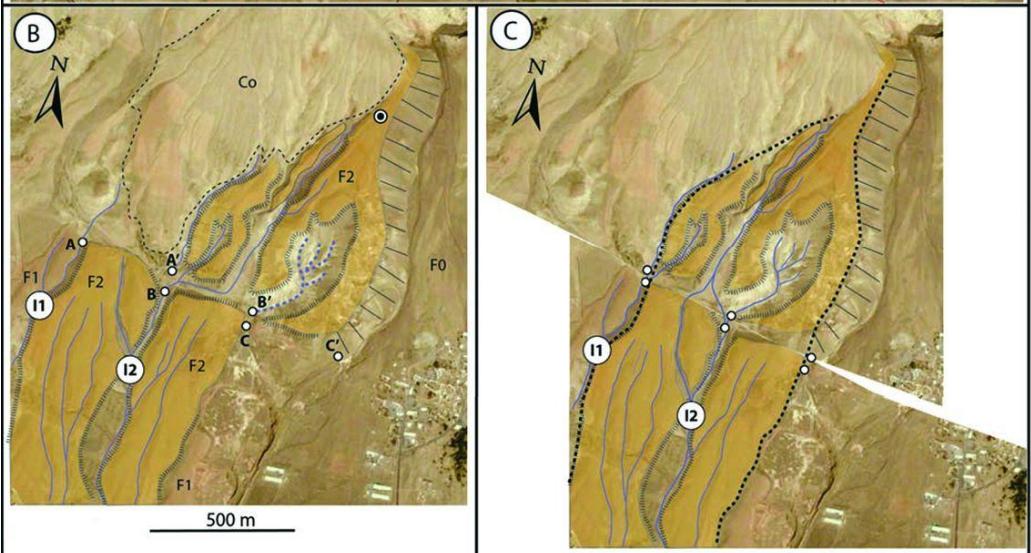
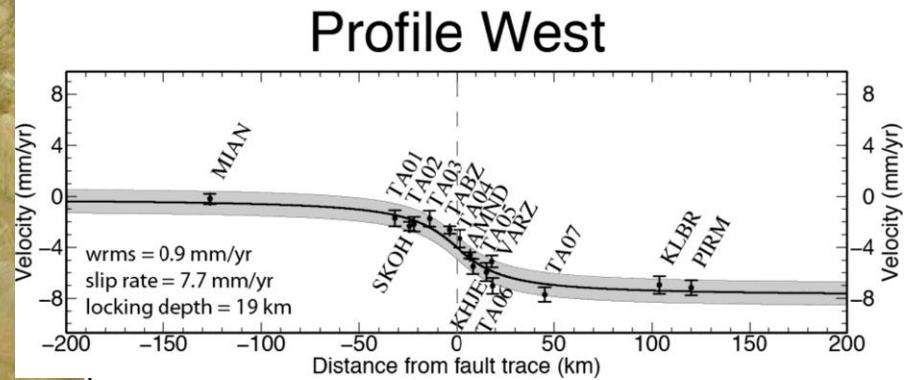
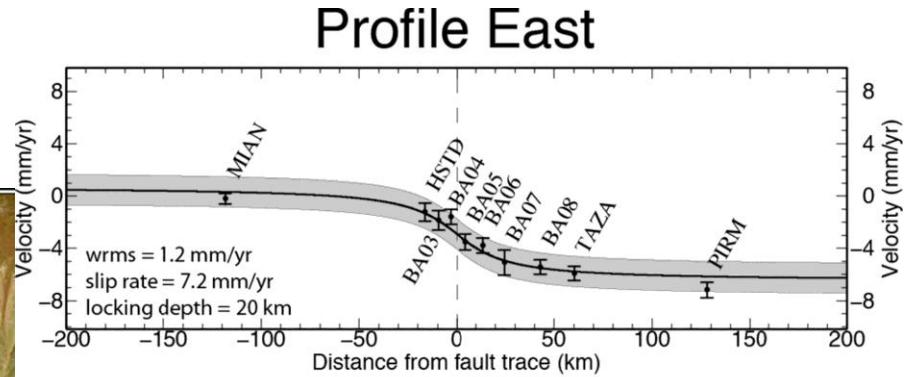
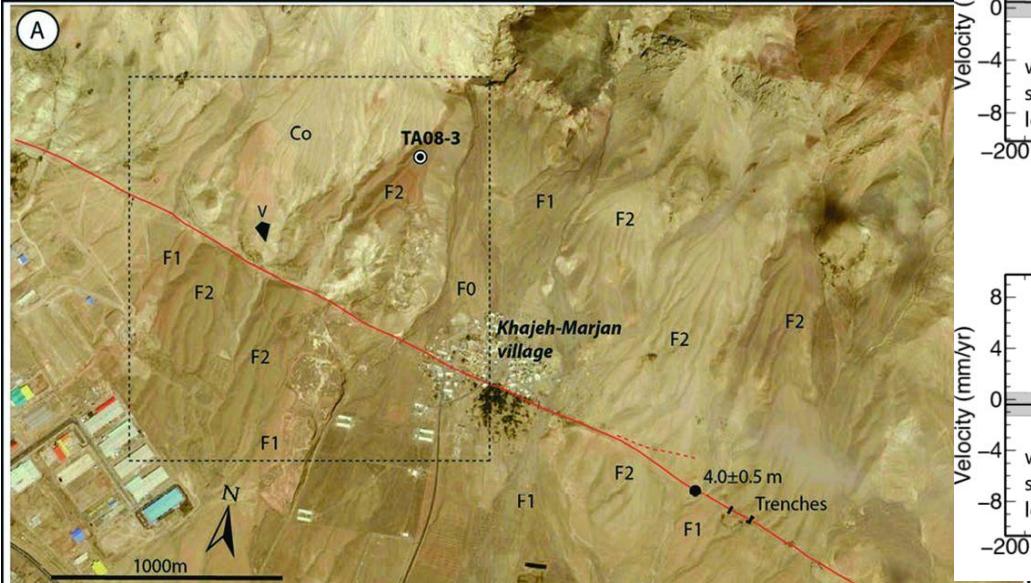


Comparison: The Tabriz Fault



Rizza et al., 2013

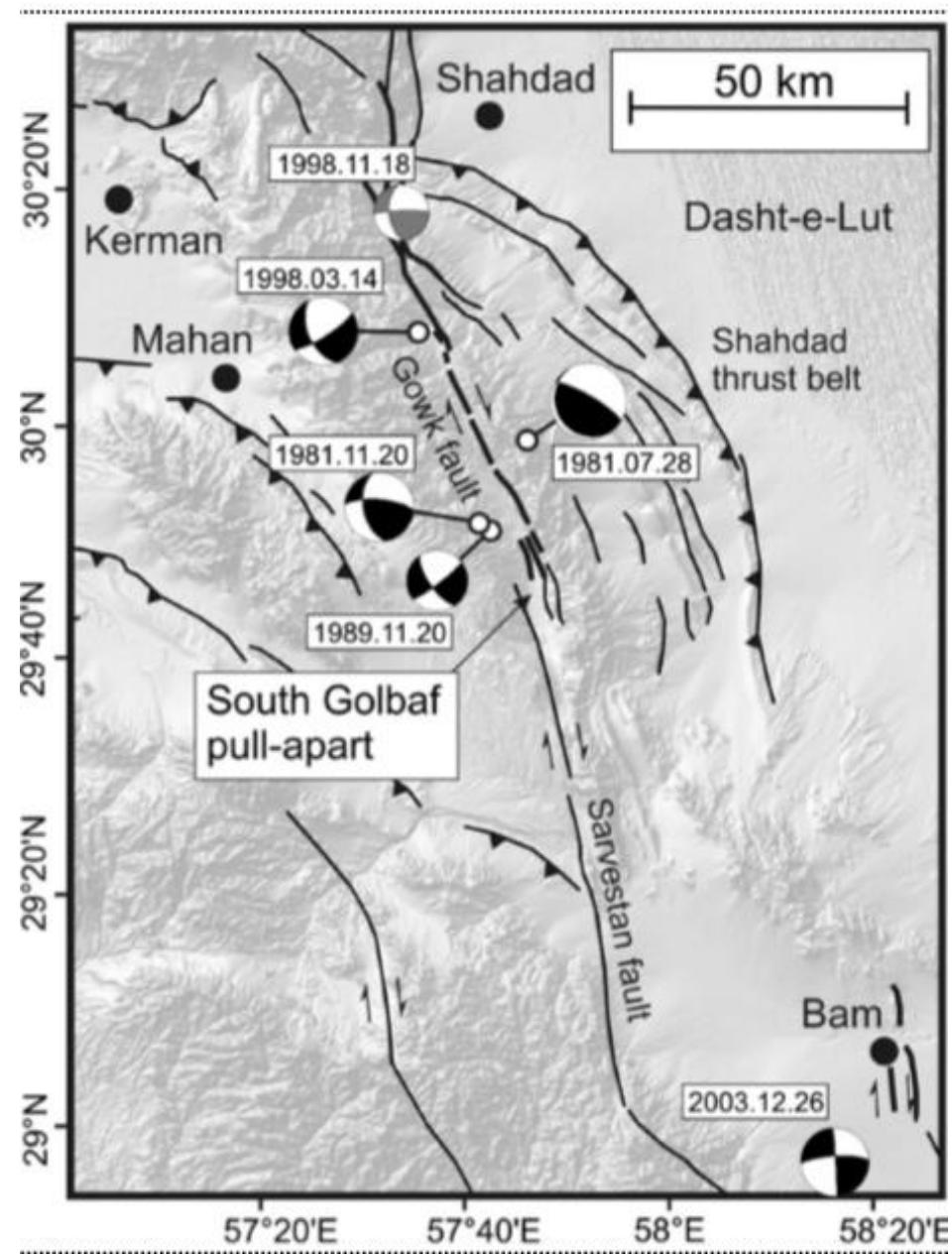
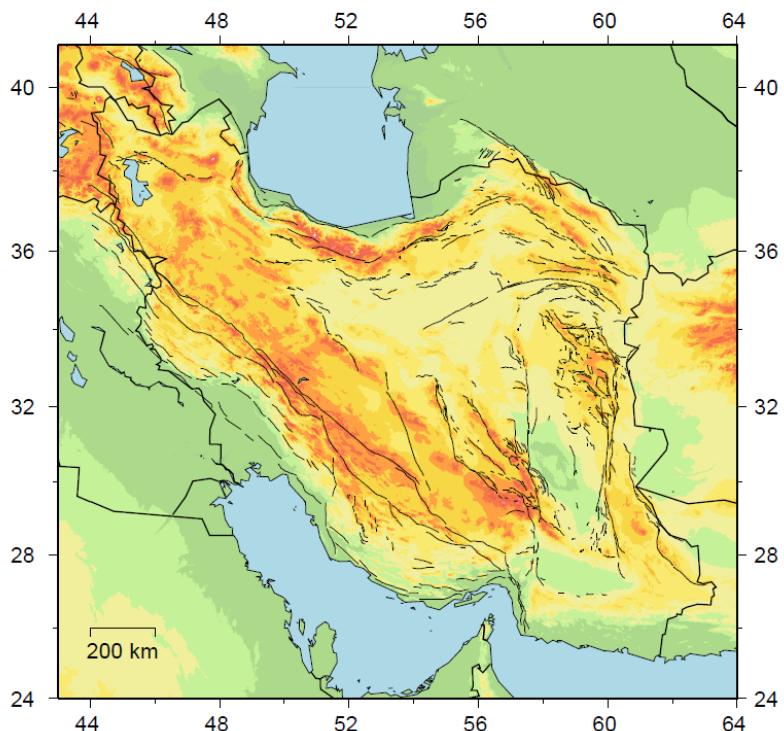
Comparison: The Tabriz Fault

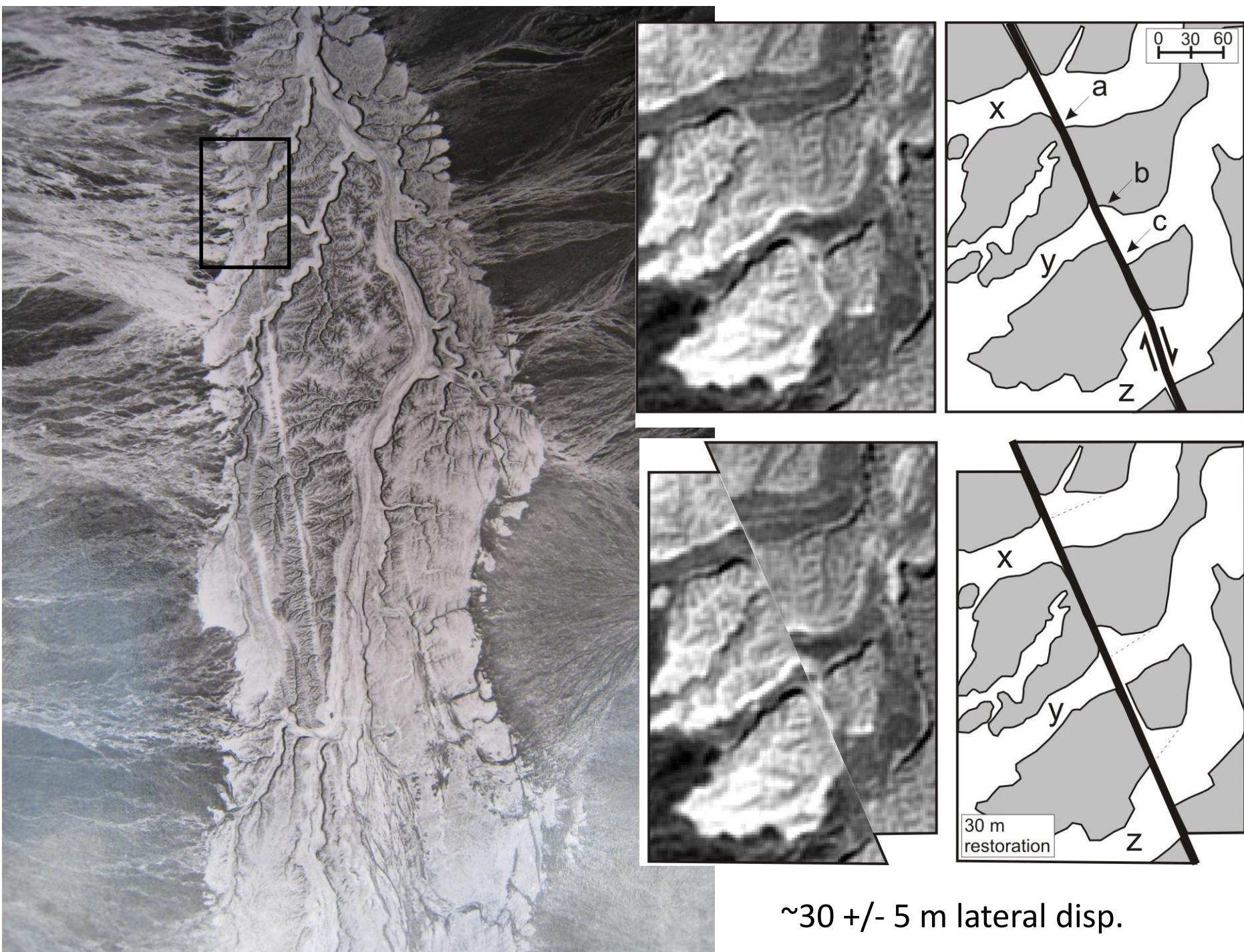


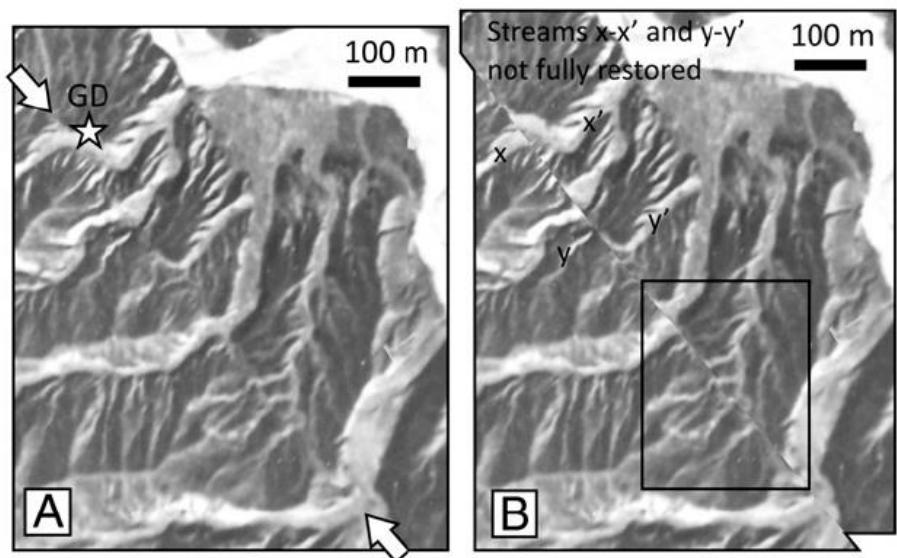
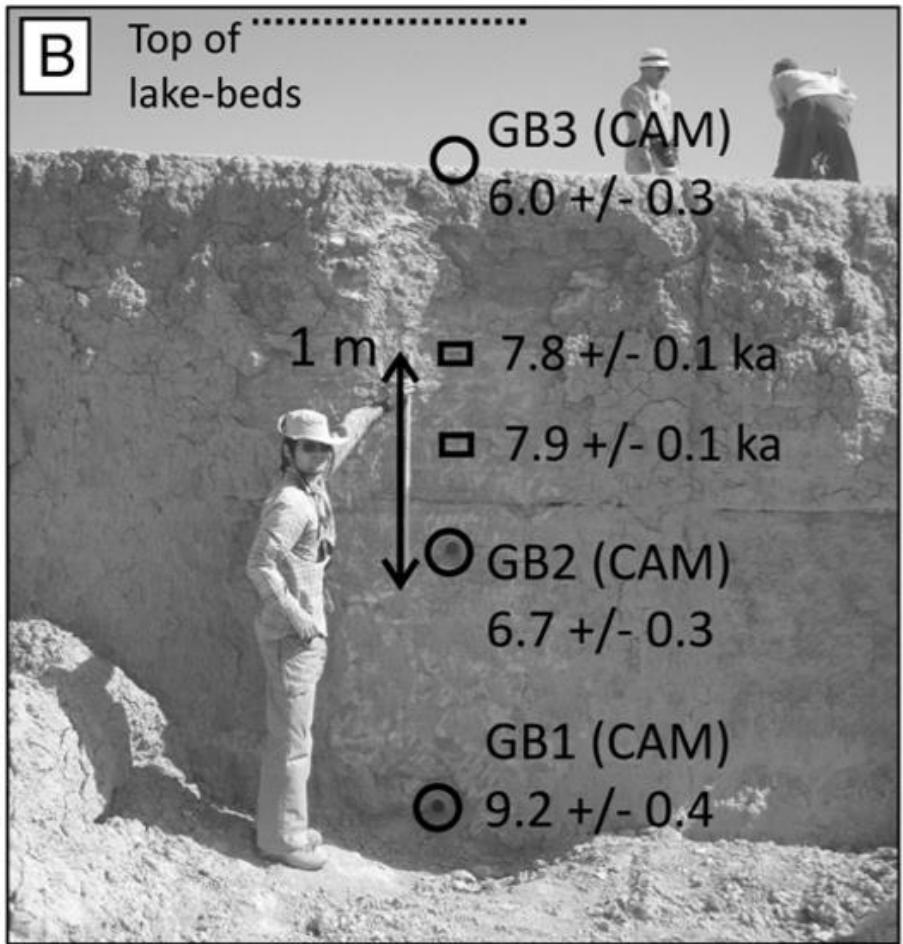
GPS slip-rate: $7.3 \pm 1.3 \text{ mm/yr}$
PS InSAR: $6 \pm 3 \text{ mm/yr}$

Displacement: $320 \pm 40 \text{ m}$
Age: $\sim 45 \text{ ka}$ (OSL, IRSL)
Slip-rate: $6.5\text{-}7.3 \text{ mm/yr}$
 (c.f. Hessami et al., 2003)

Comparison: The Gowk Fault





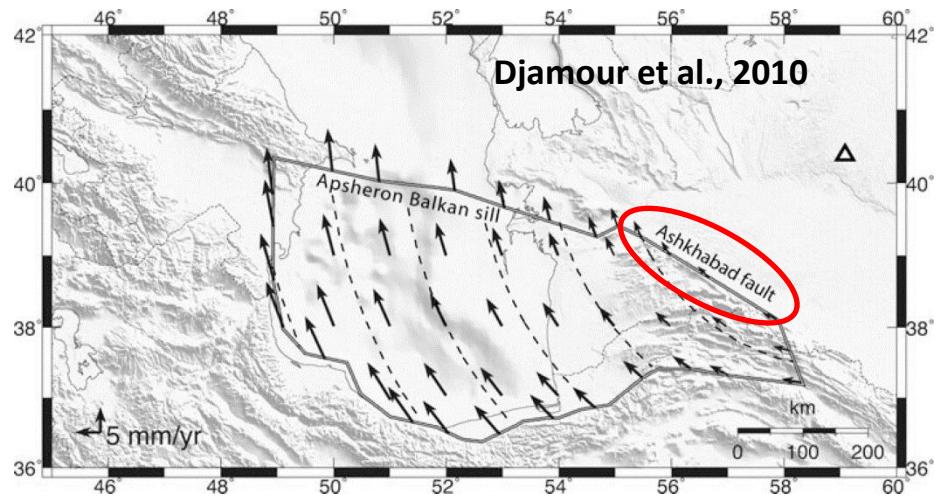
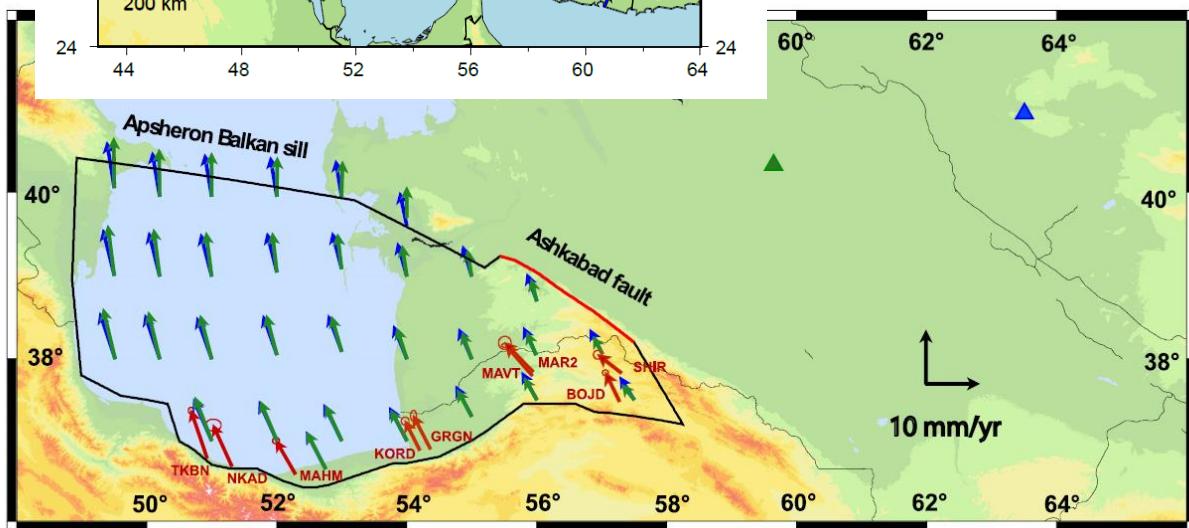
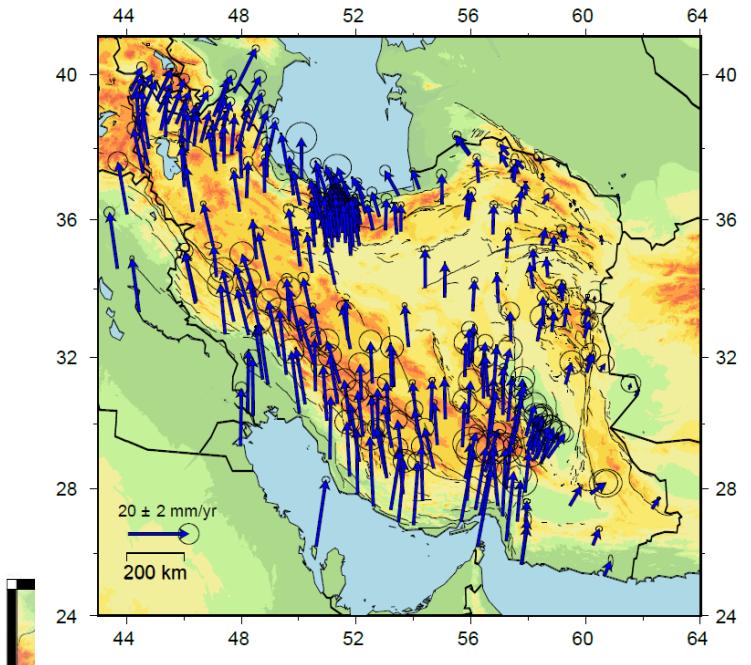


Displacement: 60 +/- 5 m
Age at surface: 12.9 +/- 0.7 ka
Slip-rate: 4.4-4.9 mm/yr
(Fattahi et al., 2014)

Displacement: 30 +/- 5 m
Age at surface: 6.3 +/- 0.2 ka
Slip-rate: 3.8 – 5.7 mm/yr
(Walker et.al. 2010; Fattahi et al., 2014)

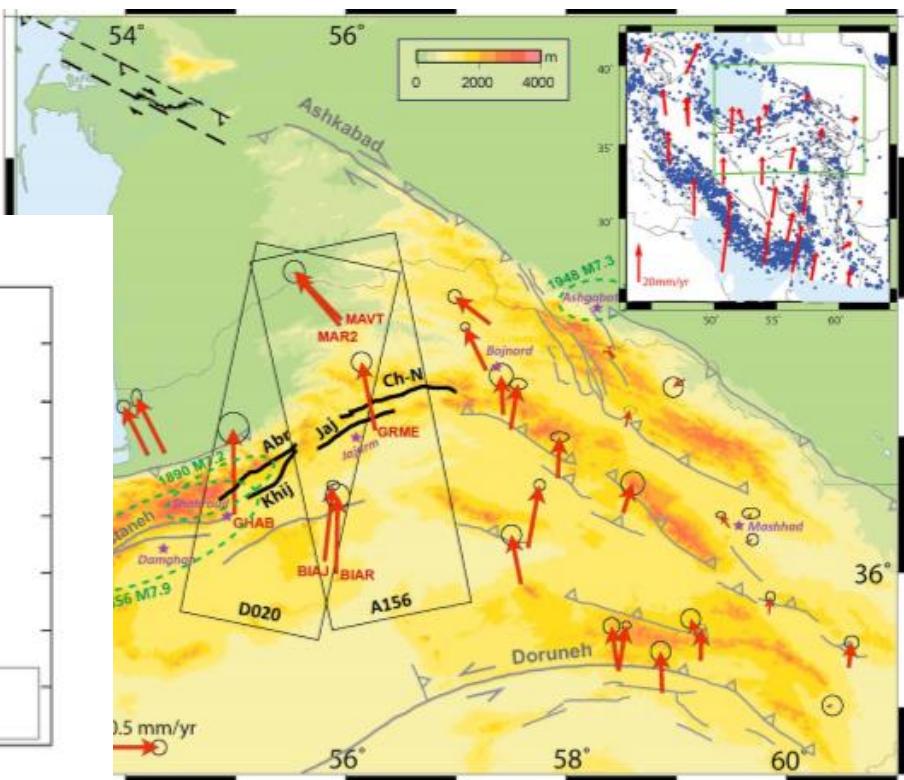
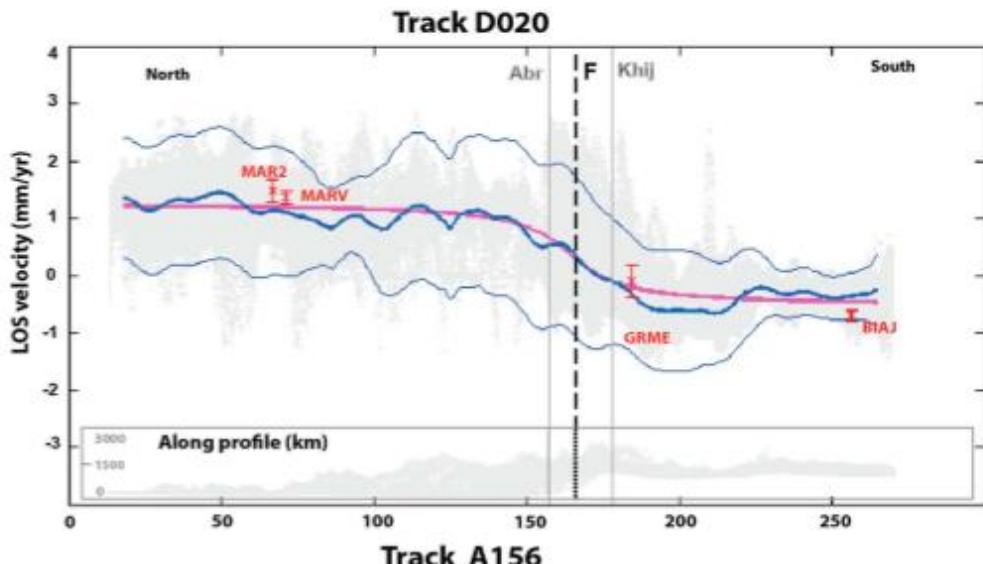
GPS rate: 4.4 +/- 0.4 mm/yr
(Walpersdorf et al., 2014)

Comparison: The eastern Caspian



Predicts relatively slow slip-rates along the eastern margins

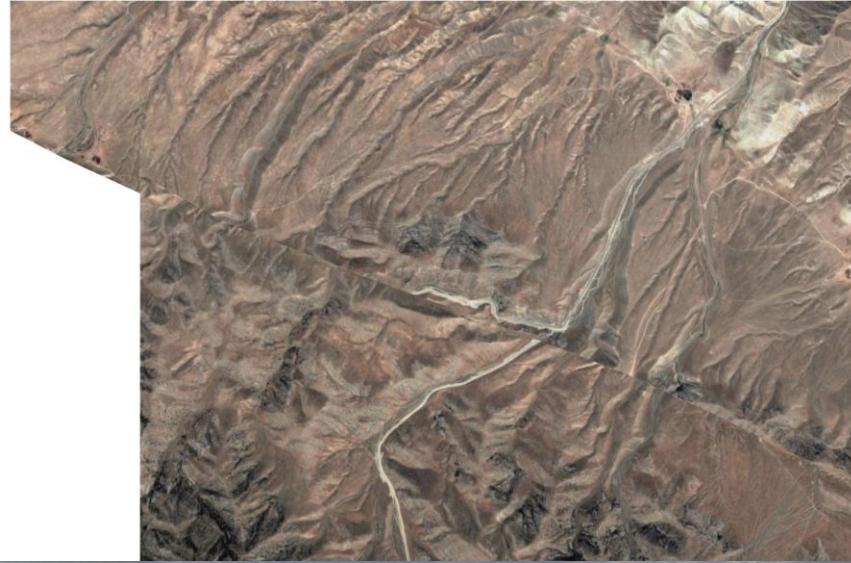
- Slip-rate is: **4.0-5.5 mm/yr**
- Agreement between RADAR, GPS, and geology ($\sim 4\text{-}7 \text{ mm/yr}$)
- No historical earthquakes - hazard



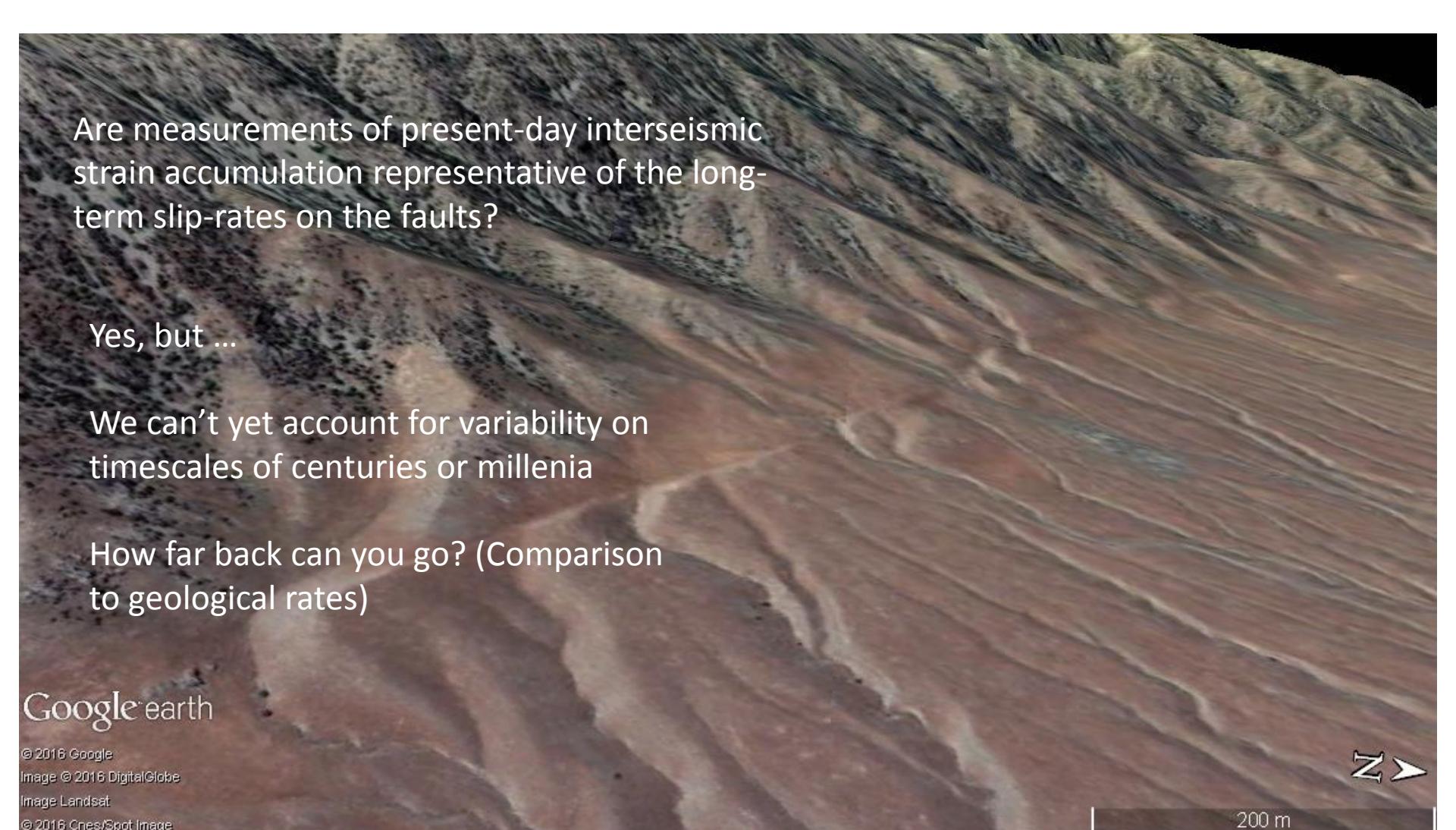
InSAR has been used for the Ashkabad fault, but gives a range of values: **6-12 mm/yr (Walters et al., 2013)**

GPS suggests either **7.5 mm/yr** or **3 mm/yr (Djamour et al., 2010; Mouzavi et al., 2013)**

So we can try and measure the slip rate using fieldwork



Age ~100 ka (uncorrected
for fading)

A high-angle aerial photograph showing a landscape with prominent, wavy geological fault lines. The terrain is a mix of brown, tan, and greenish-brown colors, indicating different rock types and soil compositions. The fault lines create a distinct pattern of linear depressions and ridges across the hillside.

Are measurements of present-day interseismic strain accumulation representative of the long-term slip-rates on the faults?

Yes, but ...

We can't yet account for variability on timescales of centuries or millenia

How far back can you go? (Comparison to geological rates)

Google Earth

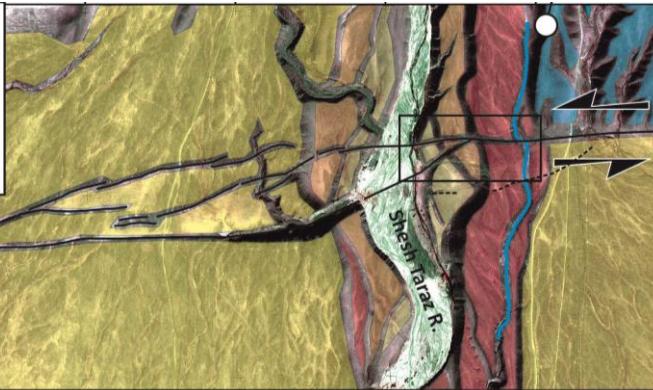
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Image © 2016 DigitalGlobe
Image Landsat
© 2016 CNES/Spot Image



200 m

Thank you

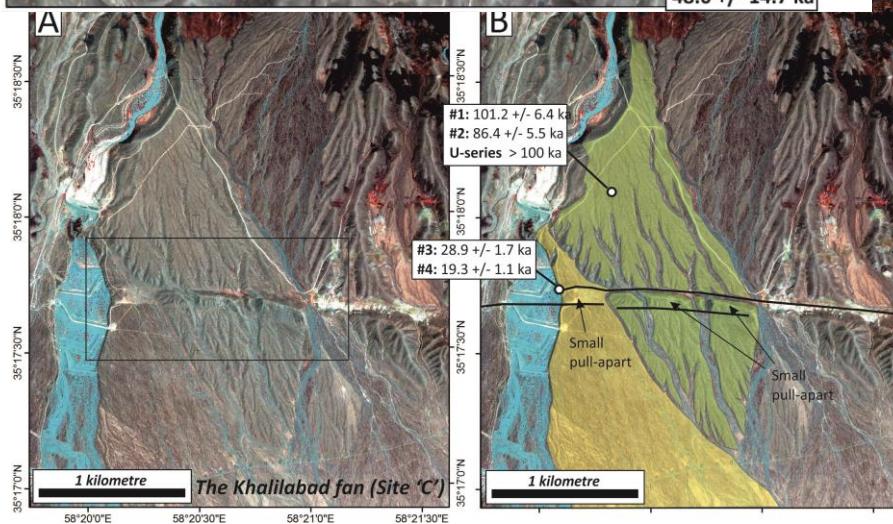
Alluvial fan abandonment	
F1a	9.2 +/- 1.8 ka
	10.7 +/- 4.3 ka
F1	10.6 +/- 1.3 ka
Inset river terraces	
T1	8.2 +/- 2.8 ka
T2	7.9 +/- 3.1 ka
Fattah et.al. (2007)	



25 m in ~10 ka



150 m in ~50 ka



~50 m in 20 ka
260 m in 100 ka