

1 *Geophys. J. Int. Revised*

2

3 Ground Motion Response to a  $M_L$  4.3 Earthquake Using Co-Located Distributed Acoustic  
4 Sensing and Seismometer Arrays

5

6 Herbert F. Wang<sup>1\*</sup>, Xiangfang Zeng<sup>1,2</sup>, Douglas E. Miller<sup>3</sup>, Dante Fratta<sup>4</sup>, Kurt L. Feigl<sup>1</sup>,  
7 Clifford H. Thurber<sup>1</sup>, and Robert J. Mellors<sup>5</sup>

8

9

10

11

12

- 13 1. Department of Geoscience, University of Wisconsin–Madison, Madison, WI 53706, USA
- 14 2. State Key Laboratory of Geodesy and Earth’s Dynamics, Institute of Geodesy and Geophysics, Chinese  
15 Academy of Sciences, Wuhan, 430077, China
- 16 3. Silixa, Ltd, 230 Centennial Park, Centennial Avenue, Elstree, Hertfordshire WD6 3SN, UK and Earth Resource  
17 Laboratory, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA 02139-4307, USA
- 18 4. Geological Engineering, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of Wisconsin–  
19 Madison, Madison, WI 53706, USA
- 20 5. Atmospheric, Earth, and Energy Division, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Livermore, CA 94550

21

22 \* Corresponding Author. Email address: [hfwang@wisc.edu](mailto:hfwang@wisc.edu).

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

March 19, 2018

33

34 **Summary**

35 The PoroTomo research team deployed two arrays of seismic sensors in a natural laboratory  
36 at Brady Hot Springs, Nevada in March 2016. The 1500 m (length) by 500 m (width) by 400 m  
37 (depth) volume of the laboratory overlies a geothermal reservoir. The surface Distributed  
38 Acoustic Sensing (DAS) array consisted of 8700 m of fiber-optic cable in a shallow trench,  
39 including 340 m in a well. The conventional seismometer array consisted of 238 three-  
40 component geophones. The DAS cable was laid out in three parallel zig-zag lines with line  
41 segments approximately 100 meters in length and geophones were spaced at approximately 60-  
42 meter intervals. Both DAS and conventional geophones recorded continuously over 15 days  
43 during which a moderate-sized earthquake with a local magnitude of 4.3 was recorded on March  
44 21, 2016. Its epicenter was approximately 150-km south-southeast of the laboratory. Several  
45 DAS line segments with co-located geophone stations were used to compare signal-to-noise  
46 (SNR) ratios in both time and frequency domains and to test relationships between DAS and  
47 geophone data. The ratios were typically within a factor of five of each other with DAS SNR  
48 often greater for P-wave but smaller for S-wave relative to geophone SNR. The SNRs measured  
49 for an earthquake can be better than for active sources, because the earthquake signal contains  
50 more low frequency energy and the noise level is also lower at those lower frequencies. ■

51 Amplitudes of the sum of several DAS strain-rate waveforms matched the finite difference  
52 of two geophone waveforms reasonably well, as did the amplitudes of DAS strain waveforms  
53 with particle-velocity waveforms recorded by geophones. Similar agreement was found between  
54 DAS and geophone observations and synthetic strain seismograms. The combination of good  
55 SNR in the seismic frequency band, high-spatial density, large N, and highly accurate time  
56 control among individual sensors suggests that DAS arrays have potential to assume a role in  
57 earthquake seismology.

58

59 **Keywords:** Distributed Acoustic Sensing (DAS), ground motion, strain, particle velocity,  
60 signal-to-noise ratio, earthquake seismology

61

62

63 **Introduction**

64       Distributed Acoustic Sensing (DAS) for sensing ground motion has been applied to  
65 geophysical studies (Parker et al., 2014; Bakku, 2015). DAS technology has the potential to  
66 image the subsurface using dense arrays whose spatial resolution is on the order of ten meters  
67 and whose dimensions can be tens of kilometers given the relatively low cost of fiber-optic cable  
68 and currently available interrogator and processing technology. The flexibility of fiber-optic  
69 cable allows for many possible geometric configurations. Its use for Vertical Seismic Profiling  
70 (VSP) in oil-and-gas reservoirs and CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration sites has been demonstrated in several case  
71 studies (Johannessen et al. 2012; Miller et al, 2012; Madsen et al. 2013; Mateeva et al. 2014;  
72 Miller et al, 2016). The fiber-optic cable can be permanently cemented behind casing in a  
73 borehole to be used for repeat surveys. Fewer examples exist of horizontal deployments. The  
74 University of Wisconsin-Madison and Silixa, Ltd. have conducted four trials beginning with a  
75 90-meter layout on lake ice (Castongia et al., 2017), a 762-meter layout at Garner Valley,  
76 California (Zeng et al., 2017a; Lancelle et al., 2017), a 9-km array at the Brady Hot Springs, NV  
77 geothermal site (Feigl and PoroTomo Team, 2017; Zeng et al., 2017b), and a 250-m array in an  
78 operating, underground limestone mine in N. Aurora, Illinois (Wang et al., 2017). Likewise,  
79 Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) and Silixa have an extensive program of  
80 deploying fiber-optic cable layouts of increasing spatial size for monitoring carbon sequestration  
81 and permafrost sites using a 150-meter receiver line and a 36-kilometer array at the Otway  
82 (Australia) carbon sequestration site (Daley et al. 2013; Freifeld et al., 2016; Yavuz et al., 2016;  
83 Dou et al., 2017; Lindsey et al., 2017). A 17-kilometer DAS array at the Nevada Test Site has  
84 been reported by Mellors et al. (2014).

85       This paper utilizes data from the Brady Hot Springs 9-km DAS array together with a co-  
86 located array of 238 three-component geophones (Fig. 1) to assess and correlate the different  
87 physical measurements obtained with the two sets of arrays. Understanding the relationship  
88 between DAS and geophone recordings is foundational for plans to apply DAS in earthquake  
89 seismology. During the 15 days of continuous recording in March 2016, both arrays recorded  
90 data from a ML 4.3 earthquake, whose epicenter at Hawthorne, NV, was about 150-km south-  
91 southeast of the field site (Fig. 2). The focal depth was 9.9 km. The data from this earthquake are  
92 the basis for examining how DAS records ground motion as a sensor for use in earthquake  
93 seismology.

94        The paper is organized as follows. 1) First, a brief overview of the Brady field experiment is  
95        provided. 2) Second, the principles of DAS are described. 3) Finally, the different characteristics  
96        of DAS are illustrated and compared with geophone responses for the M<sub>L</sub> 4.3 Hawthorne  
97        earthquake.

98

99

100      **Brady Hot Springs**

101        The DAS array at Brady Hot Springs was deployed as part of a large, coordinated  
102        hydrogeophysical experiment for Poroelastic Tomography (PoroTomo) conducted over a two-  
103        week period in March 2016 in a geothermal field operated by Ormat Technologies (Feigl and  
104        PoroTomo Team, 2017). The field laboratory encompasses a volume that covered a surface area  
105        of 1500 m by 500 m down to a depth of 400 m (Fig. 1). The subsurface geology consists of  
106        several hundred meters of alluvium beneath which is the geothermal reservoir of layered Tertiary  
107        volcanic rocks that overlie Mesozoic crystalline intrusions (e.g., Siler & Faulds, 2013; Jolie et  
108        al., 2015). Subsidence has been measured using geodetic techniques and modeled using elastic  
109        dislocations (Ali et al., 2016).

110        A variety of sensors were emplaced throughout the volume. The 8700-meter DAS fiber-  
111        optic sensing array was installed horizontally in three, parallel zig-zag patterns in a trench  
112        approximately 0.50 m in depth (Fig. 1). The array included approximately 360 meters of cable  
113        emplaced in a borehole in the southwest corner of the layout. Results for the borehole DAS using  
114        a Vibroseis source are discussed by Miller et al. (2018). DAS specifications included calibration  
115        factors that converted field recorded raw data into physical units of nanostrain per second. The  
116        array recorded continuously. DAS data associated with the analysis of the Hawthorne earthquake  
117        are available at the National Geothermal Data Repository (University of Wisconsin, 2016a).

118        A conventional, 3-component array of 238 Fairfield Nodal ZLand 3C seismometers also  
119        recorded continuously. Seismometers were buried in shallow holes at a nominal depth of 0.3 m.  
120        Nodal specifications included calibration factors that converted signal counts into physical units  
121        of micrometers per second. The Nodal Zland 3C has a natural frequency of 5 Hz and a

122 documented frequency response,<sup>1</sup> which transforms phase and amplitude of coil-case velocity  
123 into ground velocity. At 5 Hz the phase response is 90° and it approaches polarity reversal (180°)  
124 at 0.1 Hz. The amplitude response decreases about 2 decades per decade of decrease in  
125 frequency between 5 Hz and 0.1 Hz. Nodal geophone data associated with the analysis of the  
126 Hawthorne earthquake are available at the National Geothermal Data Repository (University of  
127 Wisconsin, 2016b).

128 Both active source and ambient noise studies are underway for three-dimensional,  
129 tomographic imaging of the experimental volume to determine the ability of the DAS and/or  
130 seismometer arrays to image the experimental volume (Zeng et al., 2017b; Thurber et al., 2017;  
131 Matzel et al., 2017).

132

133

#### 134 **DAS Recording of Ground Motion**

135 The ground-motion information contained in DAS data is examined in this paper in  
136 physically meaningful ways by analyzing them in conjunction with the data recorded by the  
137 geophone array. First, the physical quantity measured by DAS is described. Second, the basic  
138 signal-to-noise characteristics of DAS data are presented using the geophone results as a  
139 benchmark in both time and frequency domain. Then, several physically based relationships  
140 between DAS data and co-located geophone data are examined using different cable segments.

141

#### 142 DAS Strain-Rate Data

143 Silixa's DAS technology records ground motion as strain rate,  $\dot{\epsilon}$ , measured in the direction  
144 of the cable (Parker et al., 2014; Daley et al., 2015). Light pulses (typically 50-100 nsec long) are  
145 sent into the fiber at a rate that is typically one pulse every 100 microseconds, i.e., at a frequency  
146 of 10 kHz. At each spatial sampling location  $x$  (channel) and at each time  $t$ , the Silixa DAS  
147 interrogator passes the backscattered light over a fixed distance (gauge length)  $L$  centered at  $x$   
148 through optical components that create a coherent interference signal. The change in optical

---

<sup>1</sup> Zland 3C reference sheet: <http://static.fairfieldnodal.com/assets/media/pdf/ZLand-3C-typical-specs.pdf> and PASSCAL Instrument Center: <https://www.passcal.nmt.edu/content/fairfieldnodal-zland-3-channel-sensor>.

149 phase at each channel between successive pulses is computed and represents an accurate proxy  
150 for change in average optical length of a gauge-length segment of fiber, centered at the  
151 corresponding channel location. The data for our survey were calibrated in physical units by a  
152 gain of 11.6 nanometers per radian of optical phase change to obtain the change in displacement  
153  $u$  between pulses over the gauge length  $L$  between time steps  $t$  and  $t + dt$  (Daley et al., 2015).

154

$$155 \left[ u\left(x + \frac{L}{2}, t + dt\right) - u\left(x - \frac{L}{2}, t + dt\right) \right] - \left[ u\left(x + \frac{L}{2}, t\right) - u\left(x - \frac{L}{2}, t\right) \right]. \quad (1)$$

156

157 Dividing by  $L$  and  $dt$  gives fiber strain-rate averaged over the gauge length. The gauge  
158 length sets the spatial resolution of the DAS array, which was 10 m in the PoroTomo survey.  
159 Typical value ranges from 7 to 35 meters (Mateeva et al., 2014). In theory longer gauge lengths  
160 should lead to higher SNR but lower spatial resolution. The spatial resolution is distinct from the  
161 spatial sampling, which may be as small as 0.25 meters (Miller et al., 2016) because Silixa's  
162 acquisition system oversamples both spatially and temporally to provide denoised raw files (see  
163 Daley, et al., 2015 for a detailed discussion of the optical noise).

164 The Brady strain-rate data were provided as a two-dimensional array at 1-m spacing  
165 between channels and 1 msec in time. The general practice of time integration was adopted to  
166 convert strain rate  $\dot{\epsilon}$  to cumulative strain  $\epsilon$ . This processing step reduced optical noise.  
167 Because strain rate or strain is measured in the direction of cable, its amplitude decreases  
168 theoretically as  $\cos^2\alpha$  ("broadside effect") (Mateeva et al., 2014), where  $\alpha$  is the angle between  
169 the orientation of the cable and direction of earth particle motion for a perfectly coupled incident  
170 homogeneous compressional signal.

171 The DAS fiber cable in the Brady field is laid out in a zigzag pattern with 71 contiguous  
172 segments. To map the locations of the DAS channels, "tap" testing was performed at corners of  
173 the cable layout. The channel number associated with a sharp tap response was combined with its  
174 location by real-time GPS to provide a fiducial point identifying a specific cable channel with its  
175 UTM coordinates. Channels between tap-test locations were interpolated. Because channels  
176 within ten meters of a corner in the cable layout are influenced by the changing directional  
177 sensitivity, they are excluded from analyses that assume a constant direction for a cable segment.

178 The DAS data were stored in contiguous 30-second files in SEG-Y format. The delivered result  
179 of Silixa's processing of raw field data at the Brady site was about 45 terabytes of data.

180

181 Signal-to-Noise Ratio

182 An overview of the signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) characteristics of DAS data in the time  
183 domain is shown in Fig.3 for a four-second window around the P-wave arrival from the  
184 Hawthorne earthquake. Traces from Segments 60 through 71 comprise channels 6994 through  
185 8671. We estimate the earthquake Signal-to-Noise Ratio (SNR) by comparing root-mean-square  
186 (RMS) amplitudes in representative one-second windows before and immediately following the  
187 P arrival. For the raw strain-rate data (Fig. 3b), this computation gives signal RMS = 0.40  $\mu\epsilon/\text{sec}$ ,  
188 noise RMS = 0.09  $\mu\epsilon/\text{sec}$ , and an SNR = 4.4 or 13 dB. Because the raw signal is derived from  
189 optical interferometry, there is a small sensitivity to vibration of the interrogator that results in an  
190 easily estimated common signal present on all the DAS traces. After time-integration, which  
191 removes the interrogator system's photonic noise, and rejection of the common signal associated  
192 with interrogator shake, the data accurately represent a running 10-m average of fiber strain (Fig.  
193 3c). For the fiber strain, signal RMS = 6.9  $n\epsilon$ , noise RMS = 0.23  $n\epsilon$ , and an SNR = 30 or 30 dB, a  
194 significant improvement over the strain-rate SNR. As is evident in Fig. 3c, the noise in the strain  
195 signal consists substantially of heterogeneous propagating environmental signal. The earthquake  
196 arrival is similarly affected both by heterogeneity of the arriving signal and heterogeneity of the  
197 coupling to fiber strain, particularly at the corners of the zigzag deployment.

198 Next, we compared the signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) characteristics of several co-located  
199 DAS channels and Nodal geophones. In order to compare the same component of horizontal  
200 ground motion as DAS, the waveforms of the two horizontal components of a geophone were  
201 rotated into the direction of cable. A representative comparison is shown in Fig. 4 for Nodal  
202 geophone N131 and DAS channel CH346 in the southwestern part of the array at local  
203 coordinates X = 156.5 m; Y = -1.6 m in Fig. 1. The incident arrival from the ML 4.3 Hawthorne  
204 earthquake is at an angle of  $\sim 35^\circ$  relative to the orientation of the DAS cable segment, which is  
205 parallel to the X-axis. The noise window ('Noise' in Fig. 4) was defined to be a two-second-long  
206 interval before the P-wave arrival. The P and S windows were also chosen to be 2-second  
207 intervals after their respective arrivals. The time-domain SNR is defined to be the ratio between  
208 the maximum absolute value and the root-mean-square scatter during the noise window. For

209 comparing the SNR obtained for different DAS channels and nearby geophones, we accounted  
210 for the angle  $\alpha$  between the particle direction of the incident signal and the cable direction. The  
211 DAS strain is proportional to  $\cos^2\alpha$ , whereas the geophone velocity is linearly proportional to  $\cos$   
212  $\alpha$ . A preliminary beamforming analysis using the geophone array indicated that the incident  
213 angles of P and S waves are only a few degrees from the back azimuth to the earthquake. For  
214 CH346 the SNR uncorrected for angle  $\alpha$  was 13 for the P wave and it was 37 for the S wave.  
215 Dividing by  $\cos^2\alpha$  and  $\cos\alpha$  for DAS and geophone, respectively, the corrected SNRs were 21  
216 and 58, respectively. For N131 the P-wave SNR uncorrected for angle  $\alpha$  was 22 and the S-wave  
217 SNR was 94. The corrected SNRs were 27 and 117, respectively. Based on several dozen other  
218 comparisons, the time-domain P-arrival SNRs for geophone records ranged for the most part  
219 between 0.2 and 2 times the time-domain SNR of co-located DAS records (Fig. 5a). Although  
220 the range of SNRs was similar for the time-domain S-arrival, a significant number of geophone  
221 SNRs were greater than twice DAS SNRs (Fig. 5b), which may be related to the direction of the  
222 S-wave polarization.

223 Because of the frequency-dependent response of seismometers and DAS, the SNR is also  
224 frequency-dependent as discussed by Daley et al. (2015). Therefore, we also computed a  
225 frequency-domain SNR after obtaining the power spectral density (PSD) of noise and signal as a  
226 function of frequency using Welch's (1967) method. The left side of Fig. 6 shows spectrograms  
227 for the 50-second windows recorded by Nodal N131 and DAS CH346 that were shown in Fig. 4.  
228 The frequency content of the waveforms of the two sensors are remarkably similar as a function  
229 of time. The right side of Fig. 6 shows the power spectra for the two-second noise, P-arrival, and  
230 S-arrival windows. The P- and S-wave spectra contain more energy below 10 Hz than at higher  
231 frequencies where all three spectra converge.

232 The frequency-domain SNR was defined to be the power ratio at a given frequency. A  
233 comparison for the same example shown in Fig. 4 for the time domain SNR is shown in Fig. 7  
234 for the frequency domain SNR. The frequency-domain SNRs of DAS and the geophone are very  
235 similar. The SNRs measured for the Hawthorne earthquake at Brady were better than those  
236 Daley et al. (2015) observed for active sources. In their study, they employed datasets from an  
237 active-sweep source to compare the quality of geophone and DAS records. After stacking they  
238 investigated the SNR of DAS to geophones with the result that DAS SNR was 18-to-24 dB  
239 lower. Compared with active sources, an earthquake signal contains more low frequency energy

240 and the noise level is much lower at those lower frequencies (Fig. 7). Therefore, the SNR in our  
241 case is better even without any stacking.

242 The quality of DAS sensitivity to ground motion at the approximately 1-Hz frequency  
243 signal present in recordings of regional earthquakes is shown in Fig. 8. Two low-pass filters with  
244 cut-off frequencies of 1.0 and 0.5 Hz were applied to the raw data of co-located DAS channel  
245 0346 and geophone N131. The results show that comparable P- and S-wave signals were  
246 recorded at frequencies down to 0.5 Hz (Fig. 8).

247

248

#### 249 **DAS Strain Rate as Finite Difference of Geophone Particle Velocities**

250 Strain rate is defined mathematically by

$$251 \quad \dot{\varepsilon} = \frac{\partial \varepsilon}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right), \quad (2)$$

252

253 where  $u$  is the particle displacement in the cable direction  $x$ . The definition of strain rate in Eqn.  
254 (2) combined with the fact that DAS measures the average strain rate over the gauge length,  $L$ ,  
255 leads to a finite difference relationship between strain rate as measured by a DAS channel and  
256 particle velocity as measured by a geophone.

$$257 \quad \dot{\varepsilon}_{DAS}(x) = \frac{1}{L} \int_{x-\frac{L}{2}}^{x+\frac{L}{2}} \dot{\varepsilon}(l) dl = \frac{1}{L} \int_{x-\frac{L}{2}}^{x+\frac{L}{2}} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \frac{\partial u}{\partial l} dl = \frac{1}{L} \int_{x-\frac{L}{2}}^{x+\frac{L}{2}} \frac{\partial}{\partial l} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} dl = \frac{\dot{u}(x + \frac{L}{2}) - \dot{u}(x - \frac{L}{2})}{258 \quad L} \quad . \quad (3)$$

260

261 This relationship was derived by Bakku (2015) for a plane acoustic wave propagating along the  
262 fiber-optic cable. Eqn. (3) carries assumptions of a homogeneous medium and long wavelengths  
263 with respect to the gauge length. Eqn. (3) states that the DAS-measured strain rate is the finite  
264 difference of the particle velocity that is recorded one-half gauge length on either side of the  
265 DAS channel (Fig. 9 (top)). In other words, if there are two geophones whose compensated  
266 records represent particle velocity, the strain rate recorded by a DAS channel at the midpoint of  
267 the cable segment between them equals the difference of the two (velocity) seismograms divided  
268 by their separation distance. Eqn. (3) can be generalized to any pair of geophones spaced an  
269 integer number of gauge lengths apart by repeatedly summing channels one gauge length apart.

270 For example, if there are four geophones and three DAS channels, the sum of three DAS  
271 channels at  $x = -L$ , 0, and  $+L$  is equal to the difference of geophones at  $x = +3L/2$  and  $-3L/2$   
272 divided by  $L$  (Fig. 9 (bottom)). The intermediate geophones at  $x = -L/2$  and  $L/2$  cancel out.  
273

274

$$\dot{\varepsilon}(-L) + \dot{\varepsilon}(0) + \dot{\varepsilon}(L) = \frac{\dot{u}(-\frac{L}{2}) - \dot{u}(-\frac{3L}{2})}{L} + \frac{\dot{u}(\frac{L}{2}) - \dot{u}(-\frac{L}{2})}{L} + \frac{\dot{u}(\frac{3L}{2}) - \dot{u}(\frac{L}{2})}{L} 275 \quad (4)$$

277

$$= \frac{\dot{u}(\frac{3L}{2}) - \dot{u}(-\frac{3L}{2})}{L} . \quad 276$$

278

279 In general, the summation leads to cancellation of terms representing interior geophones  
280 leaving only the difference of geophones at the end of a line segment of length  $nL$  when the  
281 seismic wavelength is much larger than the length of the line segment.

282

283

$$\dot{\varepsilon}\left[-\frac{(n-1)L}{2}\right] + \dots + \dot{\varepsilon}[0] + \dots + \dot{\varepsilon}\left[\frac{(n-1)L}{2}\right] = \frac{\dot{u}(\frac{nL}{2}) - \dot{u}(-\frac{nL}{2})}{L}, \quad (5)$$

284

285 The finite difference relationship Eqn. (5) between DAS strain rate and geophone particle  
286 velocity was tested along several cable segments (Fig. 10 (left)). Waveforms of the two  
287 horizontal geophone components were rotated into the direction of the fiber-optic cable to obtain  
288 the same component of ground motion as the DAS channels. The records of the DAS channels  
289 were converted to nanostrain per second using the calibration factor 11.6 nanostrain per radian  
290 supplied by Silixa. The first DAS channel used in Eqn. (5) is 5 m from the first geophone in the  
291  $+x$  direction whereas the last channel is 5 m from the second geophone but in the  $-x$  direction.  
292 The interior channels used in Eqn. (5) were evenly sampled between the two ends in 10-channel  
293 (one, gauge length) steps (Fig. 10 (right)). The cable segment lengths vary from 20 to 100  
294 meters; thus, the number of DAS channels in the summation in Eqn. (5) varies from 3 to 10. The  
295 angle between the cable segments and the incident wave from the Hawthorne epicenter varies  
296 between 13° and 67°.

297 For the comparisons, the raw waveforms obtained by the geophones were converted from  
298 counts to velocity seismograms in micrometers per second using the instrument calibration and  
299 frequency response information provided by Fairfield Nodal. Both DAS strain rate and geophone

300 waveforms were bandpass filtered to select frequencies between 1 and 5 Hz. Because the shallow  
301 structures on the highway and hill sides (separated by a service road) are quite different (Zeng et  
302 al., 2017b), two series are shown for different cable segments to investigate possible effects of  
303 different incident wave azimuths and site conditions for DAS sensing versus geophones. Figs. 11  
304 and 12 show the comparison of the left- and right-hand sides of Eqn. (5) for the configuration of  
305 geophones and DAS shown in Fig. 10 for the highway and hill side traces, respectively. Highway  
306 and hill side differences were not apparent. The plots include a time shift that maximizes  
307 absolute value of the cross-correlation coefficient between the two waveforms over the 50-  
308 second window. The time shift of 0.1 seconds or less includes effects from several factors.  
309 Although the timing of both acquisition systems was supposed to be synchronized via GPS,  
310 small time differences are still present. Second, the location of DAS cable is not exactly the same  
311 as the “co-located” geophone, which introduces an additional time difference. Third, the phase  
312 response of the geophone around the resonant/natural frequency is another factor that affects the  
313 waveform.

314 The left (DAS) and right (Nodals) hand sides of Eqn. (5) show high cross-correlation  
315 coefficients and very similar waveforms. The P- and S-wave arrivals appear distinctly for each  
316 sensor type. The amplitudes for the first several cycles of the P waves are also approximately the  
317 same. The S-wave comparisons are poorer possibly due to interference from P-wave coda. The  
318 coda is associated with converted phases and locally scattered signals off small-scale  
319 heterogeneities near the surface. The coda might affect DAS differently than geophones because  
320 of differences in ground coupling. Although both the geophones and DAS cable are buried at  
321 similar depths of a few tenths of a meter, geophones are coupled with a single spike whereas  
322 DAS’ 10-meter gauge length can be irregular due to heterogeneity of the backfill or near-surface  
323 alluvium. Thus, the two sensors represent different spatial samples of ground motion.

324 In summary, the raw waveforms of the Hawthorne earthquake recorded by DAS and  
325 geophones appear very similar (Fig. 4). They do, however, sense different physical variables, are  
326 coupled differently, and have different response functions. The Silixa DAS system is configured  
327 to measure strain rate with a gauge length of 10 meters. Integrating time samples readily converts  
328 strain rate to strain. Definitions of strain in terms of displacement led to a finite-difference type  
329 of relation between DAS strain and geophone particle velocity (Eqns. (3) – (5)). Testing the  
330 equation with calibrated DAS and co-located geophones produced similar amplitudes in many

331 cases (Figs. 11 and 12), which is surprising given the obvious differences in how the two sensors  
332 are coupled to the ground. The reasonably good cycle-for-cycle amplitude match deteriorates a  
333 few cycles after an arrival, which is attributed to coda associated with near-surface scattering that  
334 dominates the noise.

335

336

### 337 **DAS as Strain Meter and Virtual Geophone**

338 The concept of DAS as virtual geophones is based on the proportionality between strain and  
339 particle velocity for a plane wave, where slowness is the constant of proportionality (Benioff,  
340 1935). Benioff (1935) and Mikumo and Aki (1963) used it to obtain phase velocity of surface  
341 waves from teleseismic earthquakes using data from a station with a co-located strain meter and  
342 seismometer. Benioff's "linear strain seismograph" was a 20-meter rod that measured the  
343 relative displacement of two piers using an electromagnetic transducer. Its base line length is  
344 similar conceptually to gauge length in the DAS array, although its two-point coupling to the  
345 earth is different than the continuous coupling of DAS cable buried in a shallow trench.

346

#### 347 Relationship between Strain and Particle Velocity

348 The strain-particle velocity relationship was presented in the context of DAS by Daley et al.  
349 (2015) and Bakku (2015). For a plane wave propagating in the x-direction,  $u(x, t) =$   
350  $A(x)e^{i(kx-\omega t)}$ . Assuming  $A(x)$  is constant,

351

$$352 \epsilon = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \pm \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \pm \frac{1}{c} \dot{u}, \quad (6)$$

353

354 where  $1/c = k/\omega$  is the apparent slowness in the cable direction (also assumed to be constant),  $\dot{u} =$   
355  $\partial u / \partial t$  is particle velocity as measured by a conventional seismometer, and the sign is positive  
356 when the cable channel number increases in the direction of wave propagation. Eqn. (6) will  
357 serve as the initial basis for comparing a DAS channel with a co-located geophone. The  
358 proportionality constant  $1/c$  can be obtained using a phase velocity obtained from moveout in the  
359 time domain from traces recorded in a DAS cable segment. Alternatively, it can be obtained as  
360 the ratio  $k/\omega$  in the frequency-wavenumber ( $f-k$ ) domain. The time domain approach will be used

361 to convert a Nodal geophone trace to strain and the  $f$ - $k$  domain approach will be used to convert a  
362 DAS channel trace to particle velocity. The comparisons will be limited by how the physical  
363 coupling of each sensor to the subsurface affects its recording of ground motion.

364

### 365 Converting Particle Velocity to Strain using Time-Domain Moveout

366 The apparent slowness is obtained in the time domain by tracking arrivals of a coherent  
367 phase of the P-wave arrival from the Hawthorne earthquake along a DAS cable segment. The  
368 locations of three geophones co-located with a DAS cable segment were chosen for the test are  
369 shown in Fig. 13. The cable segments ranged between about 50 and 200 meters in length. The  
370 apparent P-wave phase velocities ranged between 1124 and 1450 m/s from the best-fitting slopes  
371 obtained from the moveouts shown in Fig. 14. The apparent P-wave phase velocity is mainly  
372 controlled by two factors: P-wave velocity and incident direction. The  $V_p$  in the top 50 meters  
373 obtained from tomography is about 1300 m/s (Thurber et al., 2017), but strong heterogeneity is  
374 also present. The lower frequency of an earthquake arrival might also introduce uncertainty into  
375 picking the arrival. As was done in the previous section, the co-located DAS channel and  
376 geophone traces on a cable segment were bandpass filtered between 1 and 5 Hz after conversion  
377 from raw data to physical units. The time-domain moveout velocities were used to scale the  
378 Nodal traces (compensated for instrument response) and convert them to equivalent strain via  
379 Eqn. (6). The resulting comparisons between the three co-located DAS channels and geophones  
380 are shown in terms of strain for the P-wave arrival in Fig. 15 and for the S-wave arrival in Fig.  
381 16. Although two of the three examples for each phase show comparable waveforms, the results  
382 are poorer visually and have lower cross-correlation coefficients than examples of the finite  
383 difference comparisons based on Eqn. (5) (Figs. 11 and 12). Given the small number of  
384 examples, no correlation could be made between the fit and the spatial location (highway side or  
385 hill side) of the cable segment.

386 We suspect that variable coupling along the cable segment adjacent to the co-located  
387 geophone may be responsible for the poorer match, although variable coupling should also play a  
388 role in the DAS-geophone comparison based on Eqn. (5). Controlled tests in uniform medium  
389 with uniform coupling are needed to investigate Eqns. (5) and (6) rigorously.

390

391 Converting Strain Rate to Particle Velocity in  $f$ - $k$  Domain

392 DAS strain-rate data can also be converted to particle velocity by processing a cable  
393 segment in the  $f$ - $k$  domain. As in the previous section, the raw DAS data were first converted to  
394 strain by integrating with respect to time. The strain waveforms were then Fourier-transformed in  
395 two dimensions from the time-space domain to the  $f$ - $k$  domain. The transform coefficients  $A(k, \omega)$   
396 were scaled by  $k/\omega$  because multiplication by  $k$  is equivalent to integration with respect to the  
397 spatial variable  $x$  and division by  $\omega$  is equivalent to differentiation with respect to the time  
398 variable  $t$ . Thus, integrating strain with respect to  $x$  converts it to displacement and  
399 differentiating the result with respect to time converts it to particle velocity (Eqn. (2)). Therefore,  
400 we obtain particle velocity for each channel when  $(k/\omega) \cdot A(k, \omega)$  is inversely transformed back to  
401 the time-space domain. Note that the procedure scales the Fourier coefficients  $A(k, \omega)$  by the  
402 slowness  $k/\omega$ , which is summarized below as MATLAB pseudo-script.

403

404  $\dot{u} = \text{ifft2}((k / \omega)A(k, \omega))$ . (7a)

405 where  $A(k, \omega) = \text{fft2}(\varepsilon(x, t))$ . (7b)

406 The particle-velocity waveforms calculated by Eqn. (7) from a DAS cable segment can then  
407 be used to compare co-located DAS channels and geophones (compensated for instrument  
408 response and rotated into the cable direction) directly. Eqn. (7) converts a DAS channel into a  
409 “virtual geophone.”

410 Out of 54 co-located pairs of DAS and geophones, we chose 6 to compare particle velocities  
411 calculated from Eqn. (7) with those obtained from geophones (Fig. 17). The comparisons span  
412 the whole array. Because the noise level is much lower below 5 Hz, all waveforms were band-  
413 pass filtered between 1 and 5 Hz. Two series of examples are shown: three pairs on the hill side  
414 (Fig. 18), and three pairs on the highway side (Fig. 19). The DAS waveform has been  
415 transformed to a particle velocity using the  $f$ - $k$  transform described by Eqn. (7) and the geophone  
416 waveform is scaled by dividing by the ratio of the root-mean-square amplitude of the geophone  
417 trace to that of the DAS trace (G/D in the left panel). As with the comparisons of DAS and  
418 geophones in the previous section, time-shifted cross-correlation was used to optimize the fit.  
419 The DAS virtual geophone and geophone waveforms fit each other well for the first couple of  
420 cycles in both the P and S windows. As with the DAS and geophone comparison of Eqn. (5),  
421 converted phases and locally scattered signals due to small-scale heterogeneity near the surface

422 might lead to differences in the P-wave coda recorded by DAS with its 10-meter spatial  
423 averaging and geophones with their point coupling. Generally speaking,  $f$ - $k$  scaling did not  
424 improve the waveform fit over the direct comparison of DAS strain versus a co-located  
425 geophone's particle velocity. Sometimes  $f$ - $k$  scaling introduced a phase shift (e.g., N060), which  
426 might be due to changes in coupling along a cable segment.

427 In summary, a DAS cable segment can be used to convert its strain waveform into a particle-  
428 velocity waveform. Eqn. (7) was tested for the Brady array in two ways. In the time domain,  
429 apparent velocities, and hence, its reciprocal, slowness, were obtained by tracking the phase of  
430 an arrival along a cable segment. In the  $f$ - $k$  domain, slowness was obtained using a cable segment  
431 for the 2-D Fourier transforms of Eqn. (7). The velocity or slowness was then used to scale the  
432 DAS strain rate for comparison with geophone particle-velocity waveforms (Figs. 15-16 and  
433 Figs. 18-19, respectively). The comparisons using calibrated values produced results  
434 significantly worse than tests of the finite difference Eqn. (5), as measured by cross correlation  
435 coefficients, although reasonably good matches were obtained for a couple of cycles after an  
436 arrival. One possible reason is that the coda can contain several superposed signals with different  
437 signs. The coda waves are associated with geologic heterogeneity, such as small scatterers (e.g.  
438 Poletto et al., 2016), which could affect the DAS waveform differently than a geophone's,  
439 because DAS spatially averages over 10 meters whereas the geophone is a point sensor.

440

441

#### 442 **Synthetic Strain Seismograms**

443 Several synthetic strain seismograms were computed for the Hawthorne event to guide  
444 interpretation of the empirical observations. The University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) generates a  
445 list of moment tensor solutions using the using the inversion code of Ichinose et al. (2014). The  
446 code creates Green's functions for the available moment tensor solution  
447 (<http://www.seismo.unr.edu/Earthquake> accessed on 12/3/17) to compute displacement  
448 seismograms for any point in the region. The forward calculation used the 1-D Western US  
449 velocity model of Ritsema and Lay (1995). The displacement seismograms can then be rotated  
450 into the radial direction towards the earthquake epicenter and pairs of seismograms half a gauge  
451 length on either side of a DAS channel location can be differenced in space to yield strain  $du/dx$ .

452 Comparisons of DAS and geophone waveforms were made with synthetic strain  
453 seismograms for a segment of fiber that is approximately aligned with the back azimuth to the  
454 earthquake (Fig 20). Waveforms from four DAS channels were selected and integrated to yield  
455 strain. Also, waveforms from two geophones that are approximately co-located at the ends of the  
456 cable segment were rotated and integrated with respect to time to obtain displacement and  
457 differenced with respect to space to provide an alternate strain estimate. These are plotted  
458 together with the synthetic strain seismogram at the midpoint of the cable segment. As the  
459 synthetics are limited to a maximum frequency of about 0.5 Hz, due to the relatively simple  
460 model, and the geophone's corner frequency is 5 Hz, the strain waveforms derived from them  
461 were band passed from 0.25 to 0.5 Hz. Figure 20 shows the filtered results, which are trace-  
462 normalized and aligned by origin time.

463 The synthetic strain seismogram matches the geophone's well, except for the P wave, which  
464 is poorly recorded at these frequencies by the geophone, although evident at higher frequencies.  
465 The synthetics show a clear Rayleigh wave train about 60 seconds after the P, which is likely  
466 pronounced due to the simple velocity model, as more complex (and realistic) models tend to  
467 decrease the Rayleigh amplitude. The DAS signals resemble the synthetics for the channels at  
468 the ends of the cable segment; the P wave, in particular, is well matched. The slight difference in  
469 azimuth (< 20°) between the synthetics and the DAS does not have a significant effect on the  
470 seismograms.

471  
472

### 473 Discussion

474 Both DAS and geophone arrays at Brady Hot Springs clearly recorded the regional  $M_L = 4.3$   
475 Hawthorne earthquake on March 21, 2016. Its epicenter was 150-kilometers SSE (159°) from the  
476 Brady natural laboratory. The co-located arrays provided the opportunity to compare the signal-  
477 to-noise characteristics of DAS and geophone data and to examine how their physical quantities  
478 are related to each other. These results provide insights into the potential for implementing DAS  
479 as a seismic array. A DAS array can contain a very large number of time-synchronous sensor  
480 points at meter-scale spatial density over distances that are tens of kilometers in length. DAS,  
481 however, records only a single component of strain and it is directionally sensitive.  
482 Theoretically, it has zero sensitivity to broadside motion. Lindsey et al. (2017) found that DAS

483 and a broadband seismometer gave essentially identical estimates of main body wave arrival  
484 times, peak ground accelerations, and coda for a M3.8 Alaska Range earthquake recorded 150-  
485 km away in Fairbanks. They found as well that DAS did not record P-wave phases as well as the  
486 seismometer. Phase identification can be problematic using a single-component point sensor  
487 (Bormann et al., 2014), because polarization analysis, which is widely used to identify phase  
488 or to suppress noise (Schimmel and Gallart, 2003), cannot be used with DAS data. Other  
489 factors influence the earthquake waveforms recorded by a DAS array – optical system noise,  
490 signal and noise strengths and spectra, near-surface heterogeneity, and coupling of ground  
491 motion with the cable. The influence of the near-field geology of the cable array is assessed by a  
492 map of time-domain SNRs (Fig. 21) in which every tenth DAS channel is represented by a dot  
493 and contours are based on the SNR of the east component of geophones. The correlation between  
494 the two values suggests that the SNR of DAS is controlled mostly by site effects. In general, the  
495 central part of the “PoroTomo Natural Lab” is a low-velocity zone on tomography slices  
496 (Thurber et al., 2017) and also shows low SNR. Another indicator of local heterogeneity was  
497 observed by Miller et al. (2018) in interpreting two Vertical Seismic Profiles (VSPs) in borehole  
498 56-1 located in the southwest corner of the array (Fig. 1). Distinctly different statics corrections  
499 were required for two profiles in which one Vibroseis source was to the northeast by 260 m and  
500 the other source was 260 m to the southwest. Strong site effects dominated directional sensitivity  
501 as we found no correlation between cable direction and SNR (Fig. 22). The crosses denote the  
502 measured SNR of the P-wave, which would be expected to vary only as a function of  $\cos^2\alpha$ , if  
503 directional sensitivity were the only variable. All the P-wave SNRs should be a single value.  
504 However, the plot shows that the measured SNR fluctuates widely for channels on cable  
505 segments for which  $\cos^2\alpha$  is constant, which could be the result of local heterogeneity or variable  
506 coupling of the cable to the ground. A best-fit linear regression of SNR versus  $\cos^2\alpha$  (red line)  
507 shows that the deviations do not show any trend with broadside angle. Variable near-surface  
508 geology, variable coupling or the changing direction of cable segments reduce wavefield  
509 coherency across the array, but it appears that the first two possibilities dominate at the Brady  
510 site.  
511  
512  
513

514 **Conclusions**

515 The performance of overlapping arrays of 8.7 km of DAS cable and 238 geophones was  
516 studied using P- and S-wave arrivals from a  $M_L = 4.3$  earthquake whose epicenter was 150 km  
517 away. Both arrays showed highly similar waveform traces in recording P- and S-wave ground  
518 motion from the earthquake. The signal-to-noise ratio of DAS cumulative strain is improved over  
519 raw strain rate. The signal-to-noise ratio of a single DAS channel was generally lower by a factor  
520 of two when compared to geophones at earthquake body-wave frequencies of a few Hertz, but  
521 increases at lower frequencies. The signal-to-noise ratios of both DAS and geophones varied  
522 with local geological heterogeneity. The SNRs measured for the Hawthorne earthquake at Brady  
523 were better than observed for active sources.

524 A comparison of DAS strain waveform as a finite difference of two geophone waveforms  
525 worked well in several test cases. Also, the strain waveforms measured by DAS correlated well  
526 with particle-velocity waveforms measured by geophones for the first couple of cycles after an  
527 arrival. Apparent velocities were obtained both by analyzing DAS data in the time domain and in  
528 the  $f$ - $k$  domain. The amplitudes of the strain waveforms computed from geophone waveforms  
529 were comparable to those of DAS waveforms, although the waveforms themselves showed  
530 variable cross-correlation values. Synthetic strain seismograms can be a useful tool to  
531 provide a controlled baseline for first-order comparisons. In general, the physics of ground  
532 motion measured by DAS and geophones were confirmed. DAS has significant potential for  
533 contributing to seismic array analysis of regional earthquakes.

534

535

536 **Acknowledgments**

537 We are extremely grateful to Fan-Chi Lin (University of Utah), Amanda Thomas  
538 (University of Oregon), and Marianne Karplus (University of Texas-El Paso) for contributing  
539 their Fairfield Nodal Zland 3-component sensors to our project. We thank Michelle Robertson  
540 (LBNL) and the T-REX crew; Joe Greer, Thomas Coleman and the Silixa team; John Akerley,  
541 Paul Spielman, Janice Lopeman and Ormat Technologies; Neal Lord; and the PoroTomo field  
542 deployment personnel.

543 The paper was greatly strengthened by thorough and thoughtful reviews by editor Martin  
544 Schimmel and reviewer Pavel Golikov.

545 The work presented herein was funded in part by the Office of Energy Efficiency and  
546 Renewable Energy (EERE), U.S. Department of Energy, under Award Number DE-EE0006760.  
547 X. Zeng was also partially supported by the Hundred Talents Program of the Chinese Academy  
548 of Sciences. R. Mellors' contribution was prepared by LLNL under contract DE-AC52-  
549 07NA27344R.  
550  
551

552

553 **References**

554 Ali, S. T., Akerley, J., Baluyut, E. C., Cardiff, M., Davatzes, N. C., Feigl, K. L., Foxall, W.,  
555 Fratta, D., Mellors, R. J., Spielman, P., Wang, H. F. & Zemach, E., 2016. Time-series  
556 analysis of surface deformation at Brady Hot Springs geothermal field (Nevada) using  
557 interferometric synthetic aperture radar. *Geothermics*, **61**, 114-120.

558

559 Bakku S. K., 2015. Fracture Characterization from Seismic Measurements in a Borehole, PhD  
560 Thesis, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, MA, USA.

561

562 Benioff, H., 1935. A linear strain seismograph, *Bull. Seismol. Soc. Am.*, **25**, 283-309.

563

564 Bormann, P., Klinge, K., & Wendt, S., 2014: Data Analysis and Seismogram Interpretation, in  
565 Bormann, P. (Ed.), *New Manual of Seismological Observatory Practice 2 (NMSOP-2)*,  
566 Potsdam : Deutsches GeoForschungsZentrum GFZ, pp. 1—126. DOI:  
567 [http://doi.org/10.2312/GFZ.NMSOP-2\\_ch11](http://doi.org/10.2312/GFZ.NMSOP-2_ch11).

568

569 Castongia E., Wang H.F., Lord N., Fratta D., Mondanos M., & Chalari A., 2017. An  
570 Experimental Investigation of Distributed Acoustic Sensing (DAS) on Lake Ice, *Journal of*  
571 *Environmental and Engineering Geophysics*, **22**(2), 167-176.

572

573 Daley T. M., Freifeld B. M., Ajo-Franklin J., Dou S., Pevzner R., Shulakova V., Kashikar S.,  
574 Miller D. E., Goetz J., Henninges J., & Lueth S., 2013. Field testing of fiber-optic  
575 Distributed Acoustic Sensing (DAS) for subsurface seismic monitoring, *The Leading Edge*,  
576 **32**(6), 699-706.

577

578 Daley T. M., Miller D. E., Dodds K., Cook P., & Freifeld B. M., 2015. Field testing of modular  
579 borehole monitoring with simultaneous distributed acoustic sensing and geophone vertical  
580 seismic profiles at Citronelle, Alabama, *Geophysical Prospecting*, **64**(5), 1318-1334.

581

582 Feigl, K. L., & PoroTomo Team (2017). Overview and Preliminary Results from the PoroTomo  
583 Project at Brady Hot Springs, Nevada: Poroelastic Tomography by Adjoint Inverse  
584 Modeling of Data from Seismology, Geodesy, and Hydrology. *Geothermal, Proceedings*,  
585 42<sup>nd</sup> Stanford Geothermal Workshop, Stanford University, Stanford, CA. Stanford  
586 University, Stanford, California, February 13-15, 2017, SGP-TR-212, 15 pp.

587

588 Freifeld, B. M., Pevzner, R., Don, S., Correa, J., Daley, T. M., Robertson, M., Tertyshnikov, K.,  
589 Wood, T., Ajo-Franklin, J., Urosevic, & M., Gurevich, B., 2016. The CO2CRC Otway  
590 Project deployment of an Areal Distributed Acoustic Sensing Network Coupled with  
591 Permanent Rotary Sources, *78<sup>th</sup> EAGE Conference & Exhibition 2016*, Vienna, Austria, 30  
592 May – 2 June 2016.

593

594 Ichinose, G., Roman-Nieves, J. and G. Kraft., 2014. Moment Tensor Inversion Toolkit (MTINV)  
595 Documentation, Manual and Tutorial,  
596 <http://crack.seismo.unr.edu/htdocs/students/Ichinose/mtinv/mtinv.pdf> (accessed  
597 Dec. 12, 2018).

598

599 Johannessen K., Drakeley B., & Farhadiroushan M., 2012. Distributed Acoustic Sensing - a new  
600 way of listening to your well/reservoir, *SPE Intelligent Energy International* held in Utrecht,  
601 The Netherlands, 27–29 March 2012, SPE 149602, 9 pp.

602

603 Jolie, E., Moeck, I., & Faulds, J. E., 2015. Quantitative structural–geological exploration of fault-  
604 controlled geothermal systems–A case study from the Basin-and-Range Province, Nevada  
605 (USA), *Geothermics*, **54**, 54–67.

606

607 Lancelle C., Baldwin J. A., Lord N. E., Fratta D., Chalari A., & Wang H. F., 2017. Using  
608 Distributed Acoustic Sensing (DAS) for Multichannel Analysis of Surface Waves (MASW)  
609 to evaluate ground stiffness, *Near Surface Geophysics*, submitted.

610

611 Lim I., Ning C., & Sava, P., 2016. Multicomponent distributed acoustic sensing. *SEG Technical  
612 Program Expanded Abstracts 2016*, pp. 5597–5602. doi: 10.1190/segam2016-13952981.1

613

614 Madsen K.N., Dümmong S., Kritski A., Pedersen Å.S., Finfer D., Gillies A., & Travis P., 2013.  
615 Simultaneous Multiwell VSP in the North Sea Using Distributed Acoustic Sensing, *75<sup>th</sup>  
616 EAGE Conference & Exhibition incorporating SPE EUROPEC 2013*, London, UK, 10-13  
617 June 2013, 5 pp.

618

619 Mateeva A., Lopez J., Potters H., Mestayer J., Cox B., Kiyashchenko D., Wills P., Grandi S.,  
620 Hornman K., Kuvshinov B., Berlang W., Yang Z., & Detomo R., 2014. Distributed acoustic  
621 sensing for reservoir monitoring with vertical seismic profiling, *Geophysical Prospecting*,  
622 **62**, 679–692.

623

624 Matzel, E., Zeng, X., Thurber, C., Luo, Y., & Morency, C., 2017. Seismic Interferometry Using  
625 the Dense Array at the Brady Geothermal Field. *Proceedings, 42<sup>nd</sup> Stanford Geothermal  
626 Workshop*, Stanford University, Stanford, California, February 13–15, 2017, SGP-TR-212, 4  
627 pp.

628

629 Mellors R. J., Pitarka A., Kuhn M., Stinson B., Ford S. R., Snelson C., & Drachenberg D., 2014.  
630 Fiber Optic Acoustic Sensing (FOAS) Far-Field Observations of SPE 3, *Seismological  
631 Research Letters*, **85**(2), 450 (abstract).

632

633 Mikumo, T. & Aki, K., 1964. Determination of local phase velocity by intercomparison of  
634 seismograms from strain and pendulum instruments, *J. Geophys. Res.*, **69**, 721–731.

635

636 Miller D., Parker T., Kashikar S., Todorov M., & Bostick T., 2012. Vertical Seismic Profiling  
637 using a fibre-optic cable as a Distributed Acoustic Sensor, *74<sup>th</sup> EAGE Conference &*

638        *Exhibition incorporating SPE EUROPEC 2012, Copenhagen, Denmark, 4-7 June 2012, 5*  
639        pp.  
640  
641        Miller D. E., Daley T. M., White D., Freifeld B. M., Robertson, M., Cocker, J., & Craven, M.,  
642        2016. Simultaneous Acquisition of Distributed Acoustic Sensing VSP with Multi-mode and  
643        Singlemode Fibre Optic Cables and 3C- Geophones at the Aquistore CO<sub>2</sub> Storage Site,  
644        *CSEG Recorder*, June 2016, 28-33.  
645  
646        Miller, D.E, Coleman,T., Zeng, X., Patterson, J.R., Reinisch, E., Cardiff, M.A., Wang, H.F.,  
647        Fratta, D., Trainor-Guitton, W., Thurber, C.H., Feigl, K., & the PoroTomo Team, DAS and  
648        DTS at Brady Hot Springs: Observations about coupling and coupled interpretations,  
649        *Proceedings*, 43rd Stanford Geothermal Workshop, Stanford University, Stanford, CA.  
650        Stanford University, Stanford, California, February 12-14, 2018.  
651  
652        Parker T., Shatalin S. V., & Farhadiroshan M., 2014. Distributed Acoustic Sensing - A new tool  
653        for seismic applications, *First Break*, **32**(2), 61-69.  
654  
655        Poletto, F., Finfer, D., Corubolo, P., & Farina, B., 2016. Dual wavefields from distributed  
656        acoustic sensing measurements, *Geophysics*, **81**(6), D585-D597.  
657  
658        Ritsema, J. & Lay, T., 1995. Long-period regional wave moment tensor inversion for  
659        earthquakes in the western United States, *J. Geophys. Res.*, **100**, 9853-9864.  
660  
661        Schimmel, M., & Gallart, J. (2003). The use of instantaneous polarization attributes for seismic  
662        signal detection and image enhancement. *Geophysical Journal International*, **155**(2), 653-  
663        668.  
664  
665        Siler D.L. & Faulds J.E., 2013. Three-Dimensional Geothermal Fairway Mapping: Examples  
666        From the Western Great Basin, USA, *Geothermal Resources Council Transactions*, **37**, 327-  
667        332.  
668  
669        Thurber, C., Zeng, X., Parker, L., Lord, N., Fratta, D., Wang, H., Matzel, E., Robertson, M.,  
670        Feigl, K., & PoroTomo Team, 2017. Imaging seismic structure of geothermal reservoir with  
671        large N array at Brady Hot Springs, Nevada, 2017 Annual meeting of Seismological Society  
672        of America, Denver, CO (abstract).  
673  
674        University of Wisconsin. (2016a). PoroTomo Project - Subtask 6.2: Deploy and Operate DAS  
675        and DTS arrays - DAS Earthquake Data [data set]. Retrieved from  
676        <https://gdr.openei.org/submissions/848>. <https://dx.doi.org/10.15121/1334285>.  
677  
678        University of Wisconsin. (2016b). PoroTomo Subtask 6.3 Nodal Seismometer Earthquake Data  
679        [data set]. Retrieved from <https://gdr.openei.org/submissions/846>.  
680        <https://dx.doi.org/10.15121/1334284>.  
681

682 Wang, H.F., Zeng, X., Lord, N.E., Fratta, D., Coleman, T., MacLaughlin, M., 2017. Field trial of  
683 Distributed Acoustic Sensing in an active room-and-pillar mine, 2017 Fall meeting of  
684 American Geophysical Union, New Orleans, LA, 11-15 Dec. (abstract S33F-03).  
685

686 Welch, P. D., 1967. The use of Fast Fourier Transform for the estimation of power spectra: A  
687 method based on time averaging over short, modified periodograms, *IEEE Transactions on*  
688 *Audio and Electroacoustics*, AU-15 (2), 70–73.  
689

690 Yavuz S., Freifeld B. M., Pevzner R., Tertyshnikov K., Dzunic A., Ziramov S., Shulakova V.,  
691 Robertson M., Daley T. M., Wood T., Kepic A., & Urosevic M., 2016. Kinmetrics EPI ES-T  
692 buried DAS and geophone arrays: preliminary results from CO2CRC Otway project, 78<sup>th</sup>  
693 *EAGE Conference & Exhibition 2016*, Vienna, Austria, 30 May – 2 June 2016.  
694

695 Zeng X., Lancelle, C. Thurber C., Fratta D., Wang H. F., Lord N., Chalari A., & Clarke A.,  
696 2017a. Properties of ambient noise cross-correlation functions obtained from a Distributed  
697 Acoustic Sensing array at Garner Valley, California, *Bull. Seismol. Soc. Am.*, **107**, 603-610.  
698

699 Zeng, X., Thurber, C., Wang, H., Fratta, D., Matzel, E., & PoroTomo Team, 2017b. High-  
700 resolution Shallow Structure Revealed with Ambient Noise Tomography on a Dense Array.  
701 *Proceedings*, 42<sup>nd</sup> Stanford Geothermal Workshop, Stanford University, Stanford,  
702 California, February 13-15, 2017, SGP-TR-212, 5 pp.  
703

704

705

706

707

708 **Figure Captions**

709

710 Figure 1. PoroTomo natural laboratory and DAS cable layout at Brady Hot Springs. The  
711 boundaries of the natural laboratory are shown as a grey rectangle. The surface DAS cable is  
712 shown by the blue line and geophones are denoted with crosses. The injection, production, and  
713 observation wells are indicated with red, blue, and green solid circles, respectively. A 340-m  
714 long DAS cable was installed in Well 56-1. Highway I-80 and service road are denoted with  
715 solid and dashed green lines, respectively.

716

717

718 Figure 2. Location of Hawthorne earthquake ( $M_L = 4.3$ ,  
719 <https://earthquake.usgs.gov/earthquakes/eventpage/nm00536374>) 150-km south-southeast of  
720 Brady Hot Springs.

721

722

723 Figure 3. (a) DAS traces in (b) and (c) are for 12 cable segments shown in red on the cable map.  
724 Ray direction from Hawthorne earthquake is shown as blue arrow. (b) Raw DAS recording of  
725 strain rate. Time is seconds after origin time of  $M_L 4.3$  Hawthorne earthquake. (c) Integration  
726 with respect to time of raw DAS from strain rate to strain. Noise and P-wave signals were  
727 averaged within the red boxes to obtain SNR of 4.4 for strain rate and 30 for strain.

728

729

730

731 Figure 4. Example comparison of normalized DAS strain rate (blue) and raw geophone coil-case  
732 velocity (red) records for March 21, 2016 Hawthorne earthquake. Boxes show the two-second  
733 time windows that were used to obtain noise and signal for P and S-wave arrivals. The geophone  
734 record was scaled to match its peak amplitude to that of DAS. The inset map shows location of  
735 DAS segment (red line) and geophone (green triangle).

736

737

738

739 Figure 5. Comparison of time domain SNR of P- (left) and S-wave (right) arrivals of co-located  
740 raw geophone coil-case velocity and raw efDAS strain rate records. Slopes of  $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, and 2 are  
741 shown for reference as dashed lines.

742  
743

744 Figure 6. Spectrogram (left side) and power spectral densities (PSD) for P-wave and S-wave  
745 arrivals and noise for raw Geophone N131 coil-case velocity (top right) and raw DAS CH 346  
746 strain rate (bottom right) records.

747  
748

749 Figure 7. Comparison of frequency-domain SNR of P- (left) and S-(right) wave arrivals for raw  
750 Geophone N131 coil-case velocity (red) and raw DAS CH 346 strain rate (blue) records.

751  
752

753 Figure 8. Comparison of DAS CH0346 strain rate (blue) and geophone N131 case coil (red)  
754 waveforms for raw and low-pass P- and S-waves cut off (lp c) at 0.5 and 1 Hz.

755  
756

757 Figure 9. (Top) Illustration of Eqn. (3) for two geophones spaced 1-gauge-length L apart where a  
758 DAS channel located at the midpoint is the finite difference of a pair of geophones particle-  
759 velocity recordings. The triangles are geophones and the circle is a DAS channel; (Bottom)  
760 Illustration of Eqn. (4) for two geophones spaced 3-gauge-lengths apart in which case the sum of  
761 the three DAS channels is equal to the difference of the two geophones at the end of the segment  
762 divided by L.

763  
764

765 Figure 10. (Left) Map showing locations of DAS cable segments (red) and geophone pairs used  
766 in Eqn. (5). The Hawthorne-to-Brady direction is shown as a black arrow. (Right) Geometry of  
767 each DAS cable segment and geophone pairs. The horizontal axis is distance along cable for  
768 each line segment.

769

770  
771 Figure 11. Highway side test of Eqn. (5). Compensated geophone ground velocity (red) and DAS  
772 strain rate waveforms (blue) were bandpass filtered between 1 and 5 Hz and aligned using the  
773 best-fit, time-shifted cross correlation. Both P and S-wave arrivals are shown. On the left set of  
774 panels, the DAS and geophone waveforms have been offset vertically for clarity. The geophone  
775 waveform has been divided by gauge length L according to Eqn. (5) so that both plotted traces  
776 are in units of nanometers/second. The cross-correlation coefficient (CC) between the two  
777 waveforms and the angle between the DAS cable segment and earthquake arrival are shown. The  
778 middle column expands the time scale for the P-wave arrival and the right column expands the  
779 time scale for the S-wave arrival. (Top) Cable segment CH498- CH541, (Middle) Cable segment  
780 CH398 – CH441. (Bottom) Cable segment CH1761-CH1815.

781  
782  
783 Figure 12. Hill side test of Eqn. (5). Compensated geophone ground velocity (red) and DAS  
784 strain rate waveforms (blue) were bandpass filtered between 1 and 5 Hz and aligned using the  
785 best-fit, time-shifted cross correlation. Both P and S-wave arrivals are shown. See caption of Fig.  
786 11 for details. (Top) Cable segment CH5434-5492. (Middle) Cable segment CH5900-CH5921.  
787 (Bottom) Cable segment CH7009-CH7102.

788  
789  
790 Figure 13. Three co-located DAS channels and geophones (red triangles) were compared using  
791 Eqn. (6). DAS cable is shown in green line.

792  
793  
794 Figure 14. The apparent velocities of the P-wave arrival measured from raw DAS strain rate  
795 traces along cable segments near the three geophones shown in Fig. 13. The gray-scale shading  
796 represents amplitude while three individual traces are shown in blue. The apparent velocities are  
797 obtained from the best-fit slopes shown by the red lines. (a) CH 0482 – 0688 is 1124 m/s. (b) CH  
798 2068 – 2113 is 1452 m/s. (c) CH 8431 – 8643 is 1185 m/s.

799  
800

801 Figure 15. Three P-arrival comparisons of co-located DAS channels (blue) and geophones (red)  
802 using Eqn. (6) and apparent velocities from Fig. 14. DAS traces are strain and geophone traces  
803 are ground velocity after compensating for instrument response. DAS and geophone traces were  
804 bandpass filtered between 1 and 5 Hz after conversion from raw data to physical units. The  
805 apparent velocities, ratios of RMS amplitudes, and cross-correlation coefficients of geophone  
806 and DAS signals are shown in upper left corner of each panel.

807

808 Fig. 16. Three S-arrival comparisons of co-located DAS channels (blue) and geophones (red) for  
809 P-wave arrival using Eqn. (6) and apparent velocities from moveout (not shown). DAS traces are  
810 strain and geophone traces are ground velocity after compensating for instrument response. DAS  
811 and geophone traces were bandpass filtered between 1 and 5 Hz after conversion from raw data  
812 to physical units. The apparent velocities, ratios of RMS amplitudes, and cross-correlation  
813 coefficients of geophone and DAS signals are shown in upper left corner of each panel.

814

815 Figure 17. Six co-located DAS channels and geophones (red triangles) were compared using  
816 Eqn. (7). DAS cable is shown in green line. The arrow is the direction of the incident wavefield  
817 from the Hawthorne earthquake.

818

819

820 Figure 18. Hill side test of Eqn. (7). Compensated geophone ground velocity (red) and DAS  
821 time-integrated strain waveforms (blue) were bandpass filtered between 1 and 5 Hz and aligned  
822 using the best-fit, time-shifted cross correlation. In the left column, the DAS and geophone  
823 waveforms have been offset vertically for clarity in the left set of panels. The middle column  
824 expands the time scale for the P-wave arrival and the right column expands the time scale for the  
825 S-wave arrival. (Top row) N026 and CH 5642. (Middle row) N049 and CH 5558. (Bottom row)  
826 N060 and CH 7107.

827

828

829 Figure 19. Highway side test of Eqn. (7). See caption of Fig. 18 for details. (Top row) N134 and  
830 CH 874. (Middle row) Cable segment N141 and CH 2417. (Bottom row) N147 and CH 3017.

831

832 Figure 20. Comparison of synthetic strain seismogram, DAS channels, and geophone finite  
833 difference.

834

835

836 Figure 21. Time-domain DAS and geophone SNR map for (a) P-wave arrival and (b) S-wave  
837 arrival. Dots are the SNR of every 10th DAS channel and contours are based on the SNR of the  
838 east component of geophones, which is a good approximation of site effects.

839

840

841 Figure 22. DAS P-wave SNR (crosses) versus  $\cos^2\alpha$  (red line), which corrects for directional  
842 sensitivity. The absence of correlation with cable orientation relative to horizontal particle  
843 direction is evidence that site effects dominate the SNR.

844

845

846

847

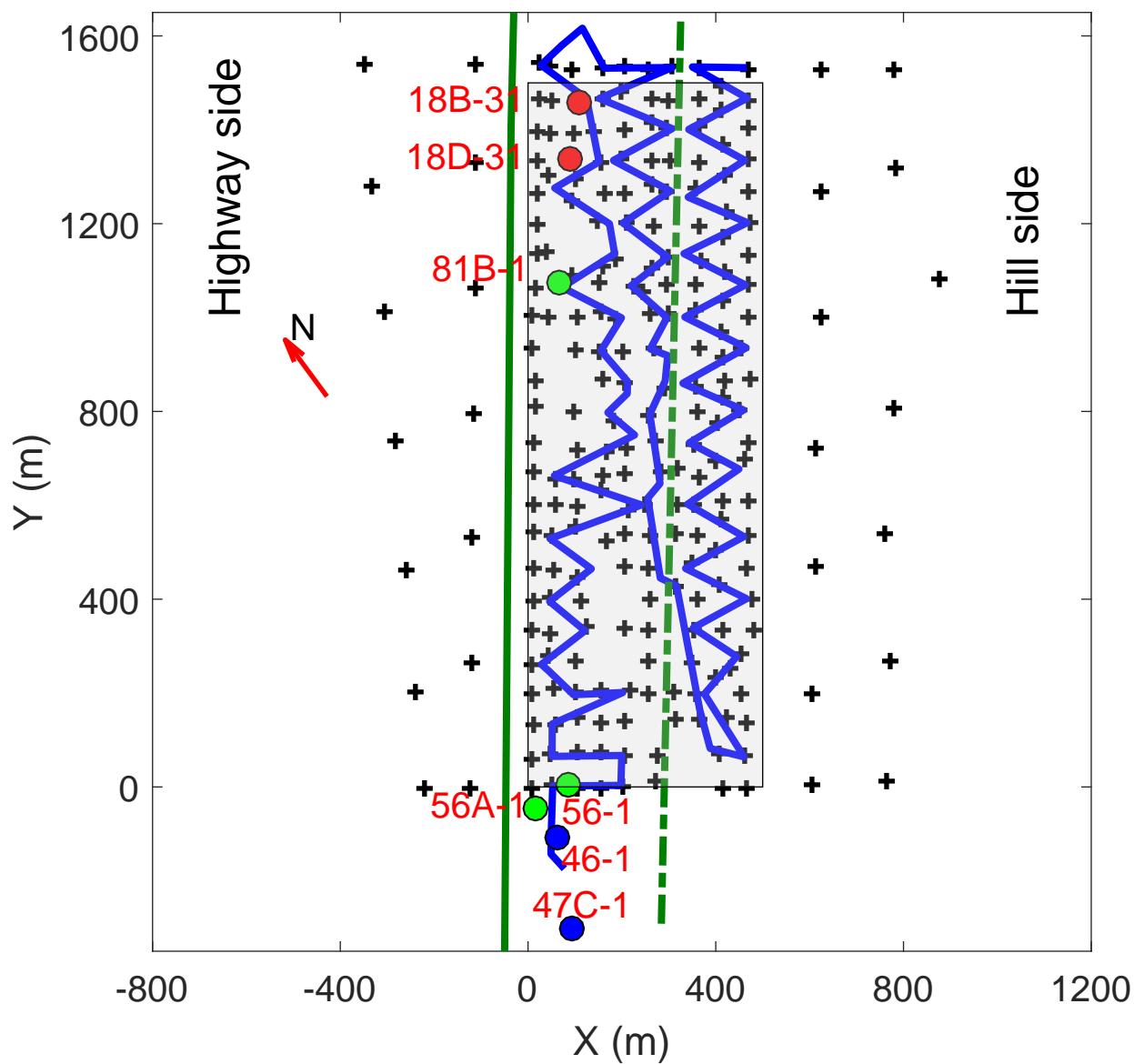
848

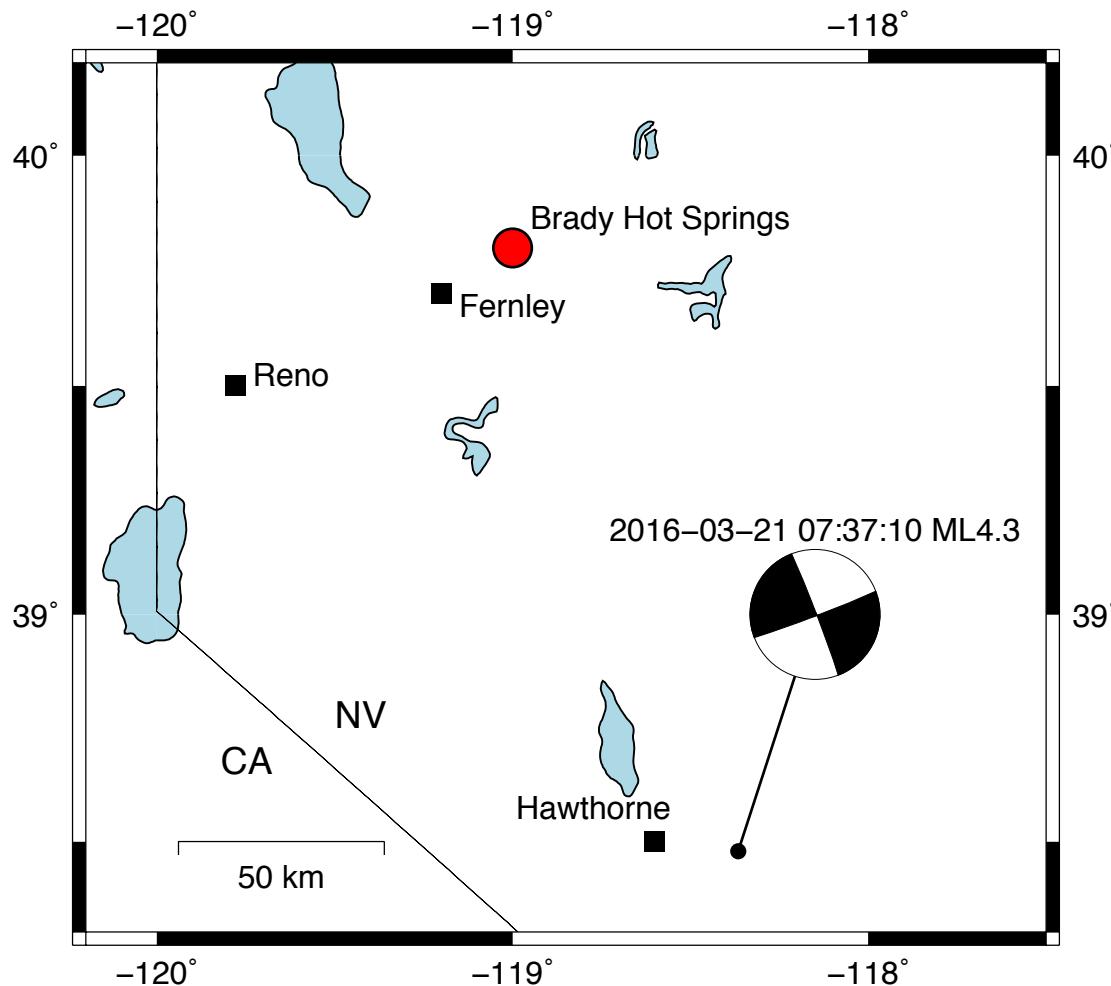
849

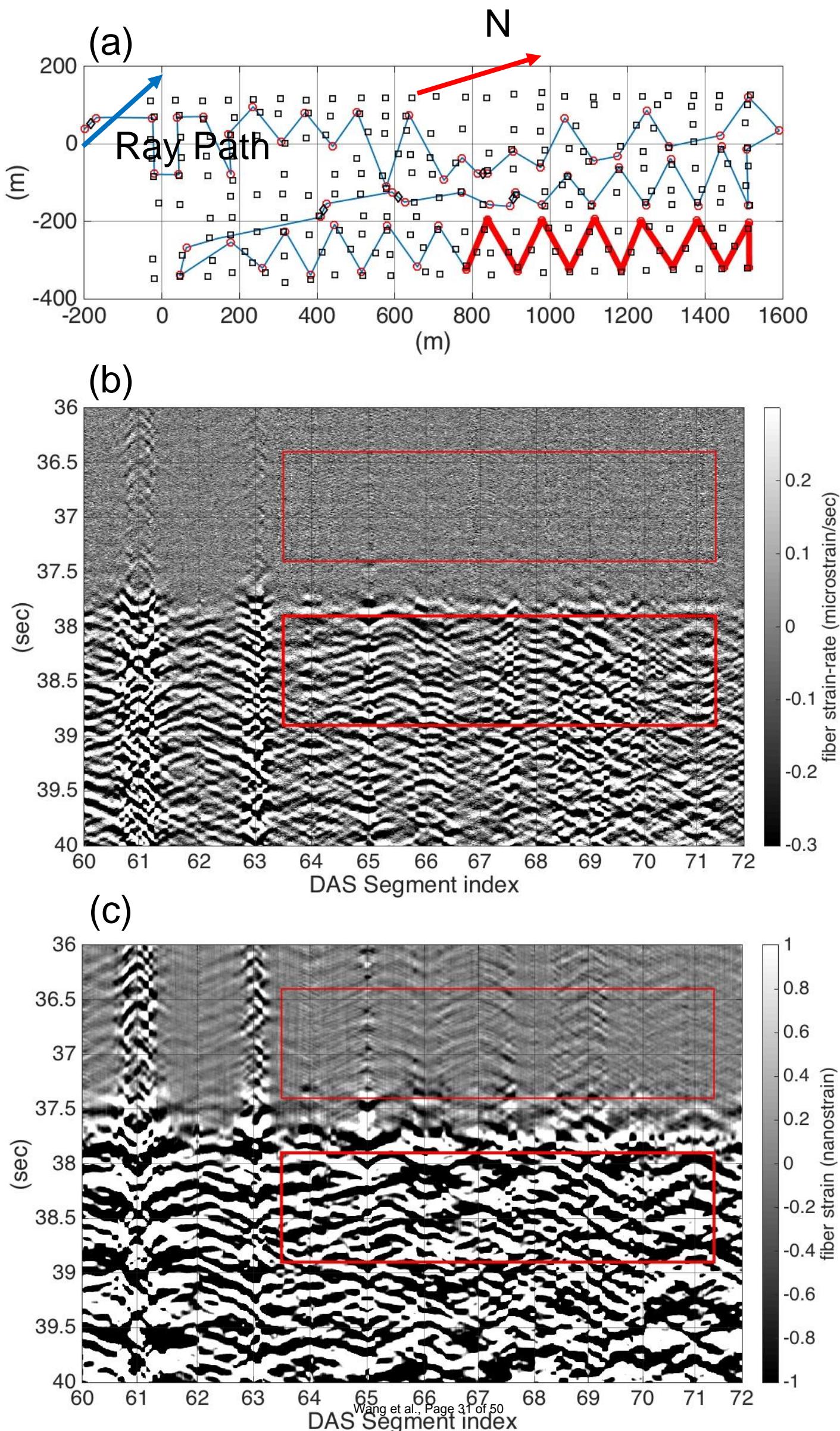
850

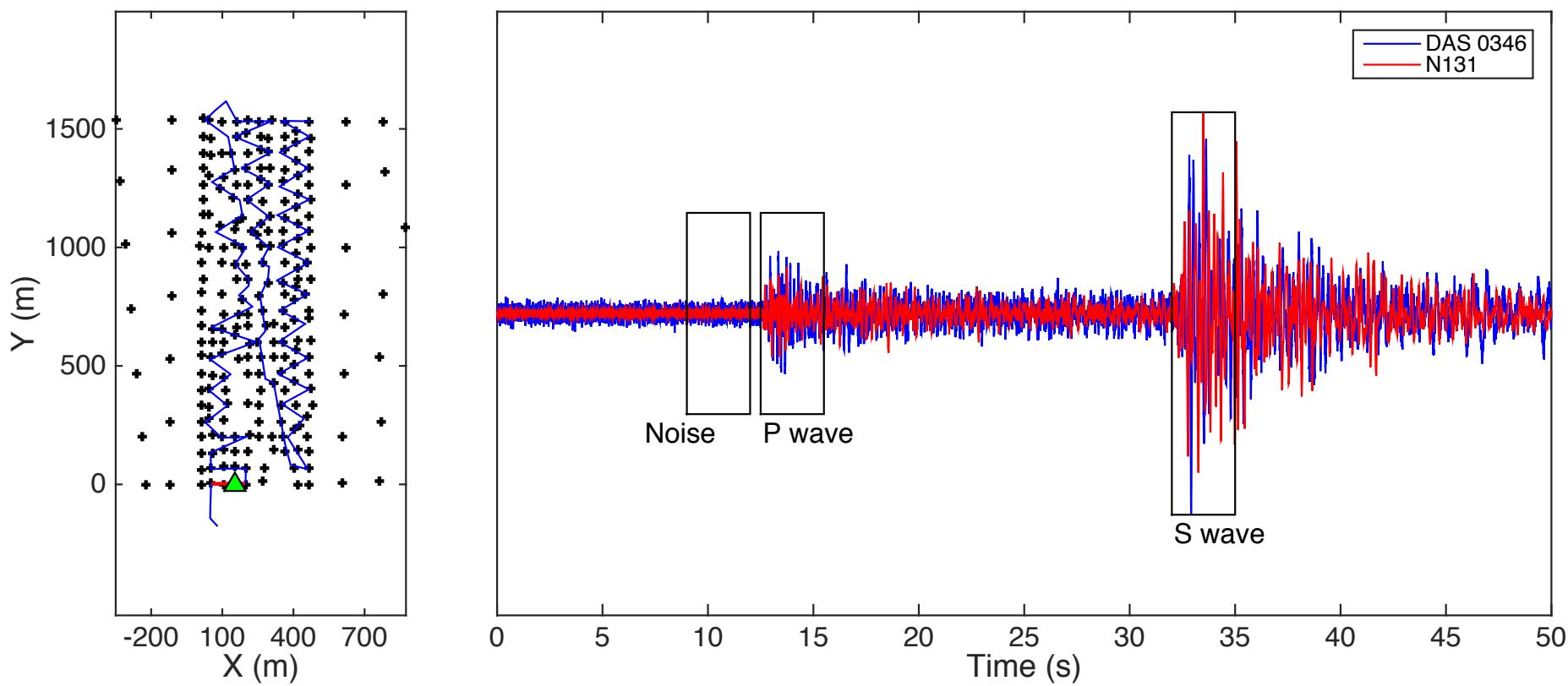
851

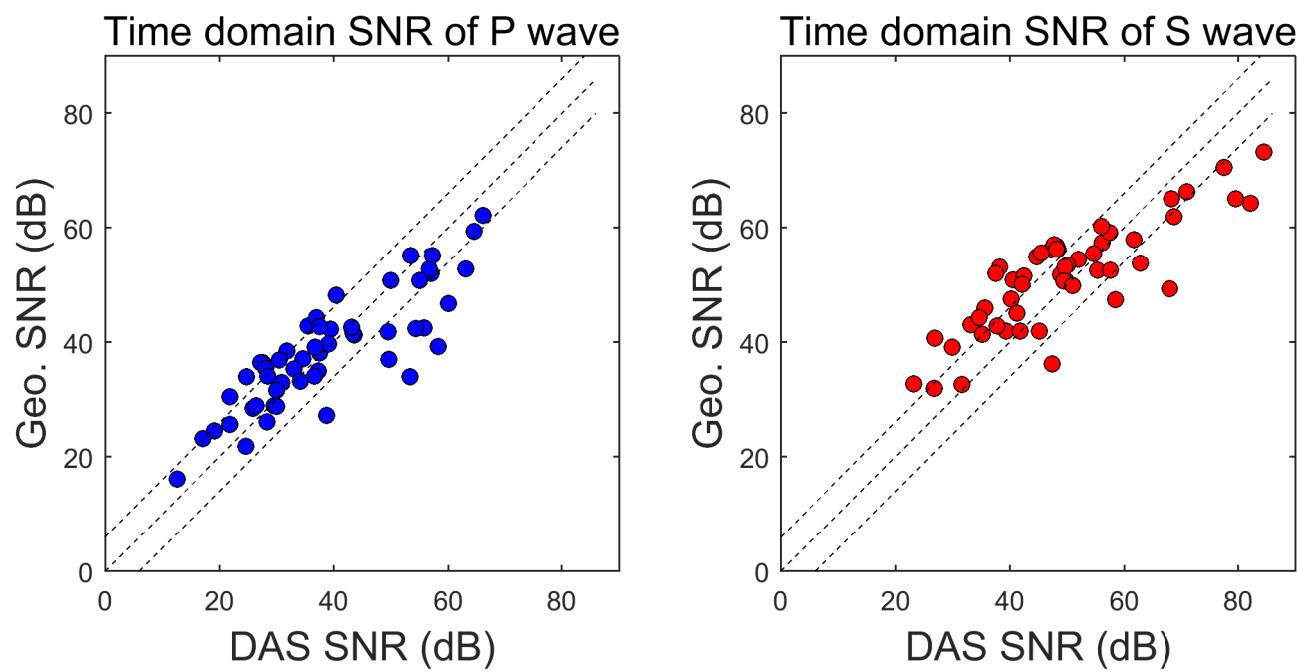
Fig. 1

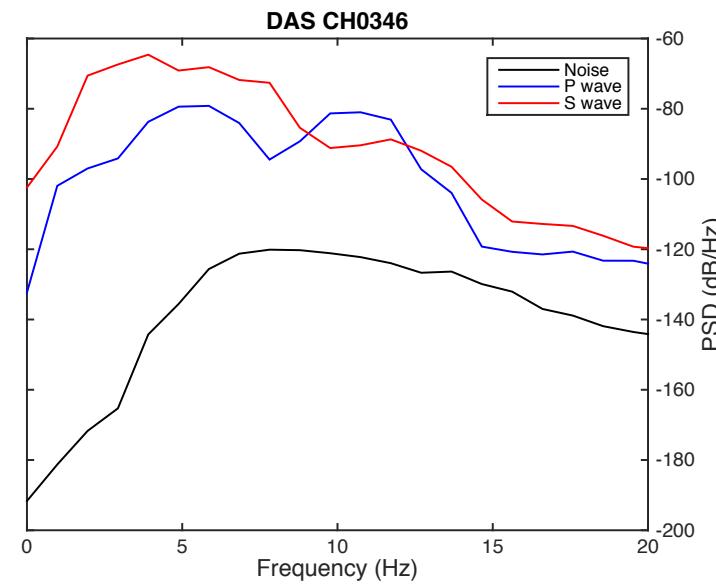
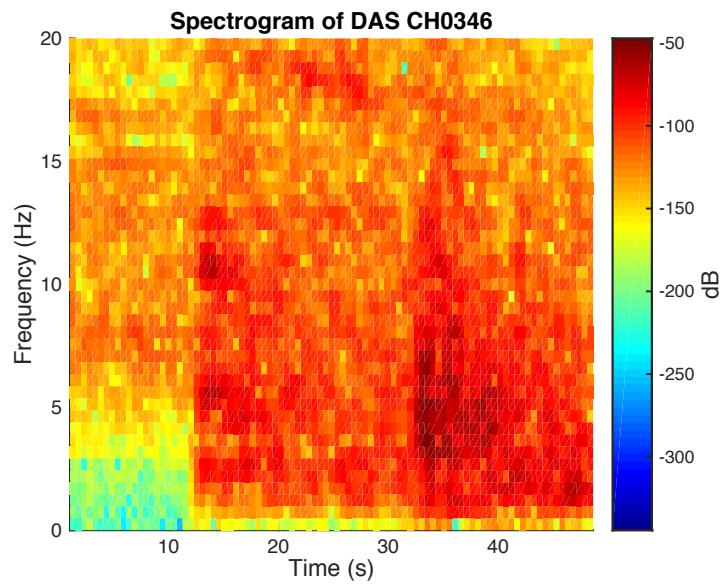
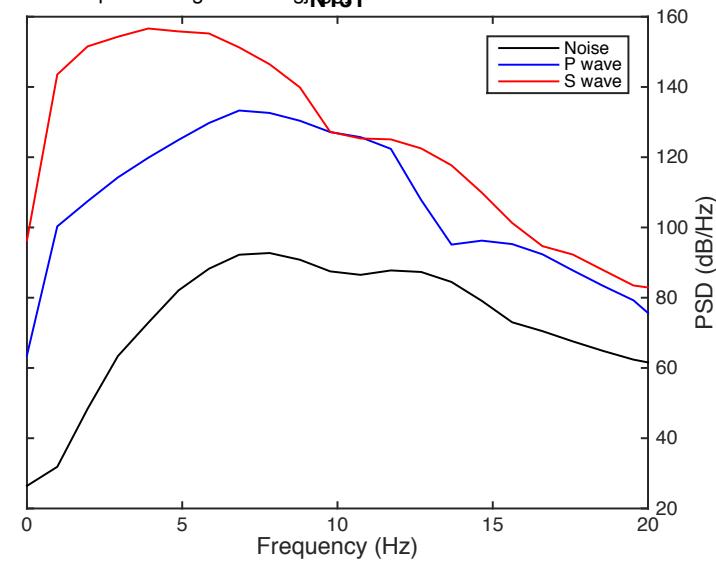
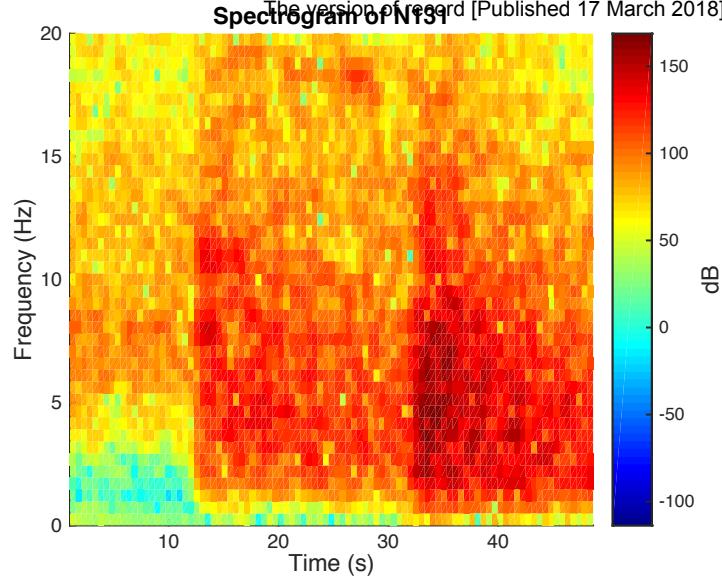


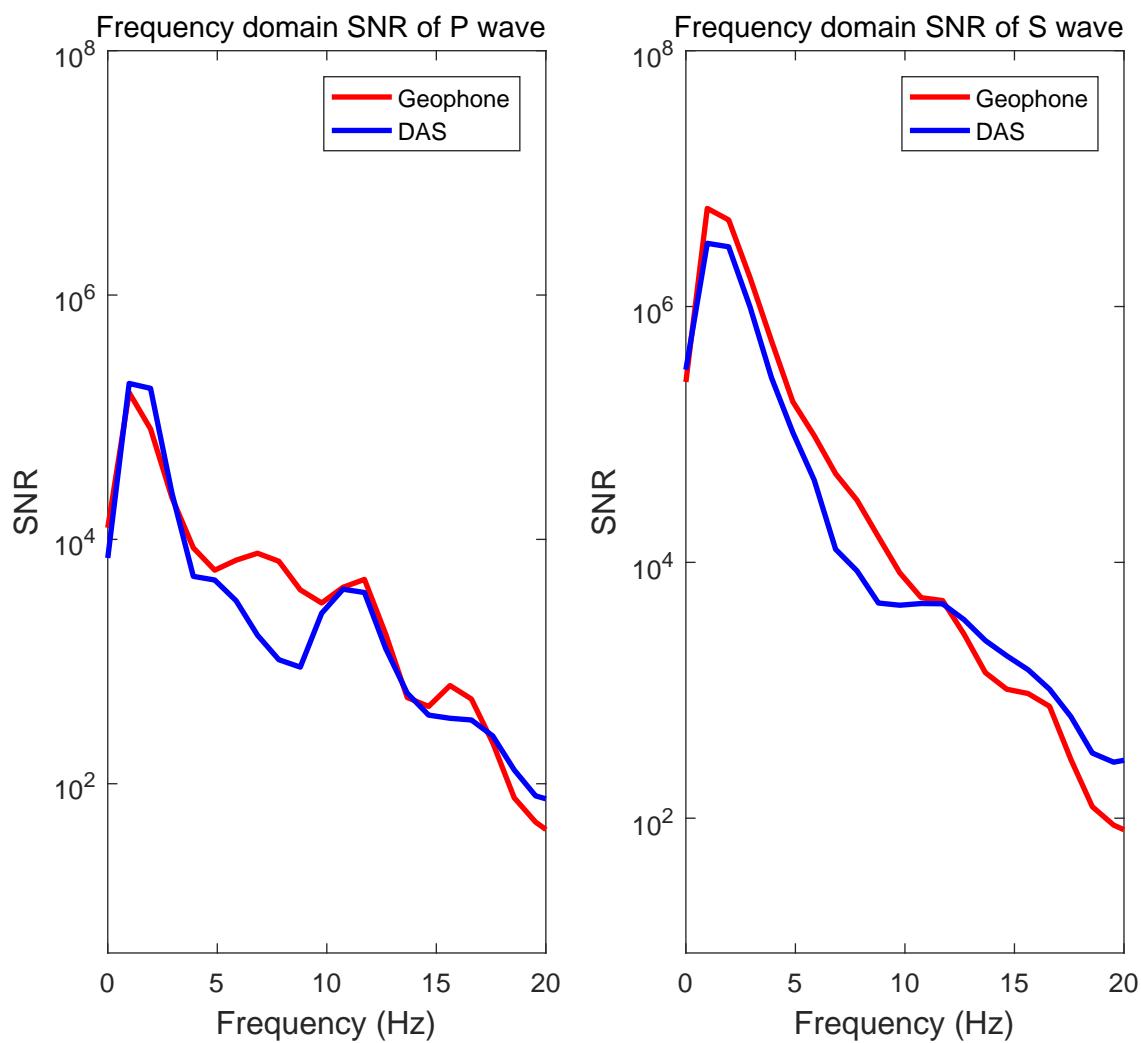


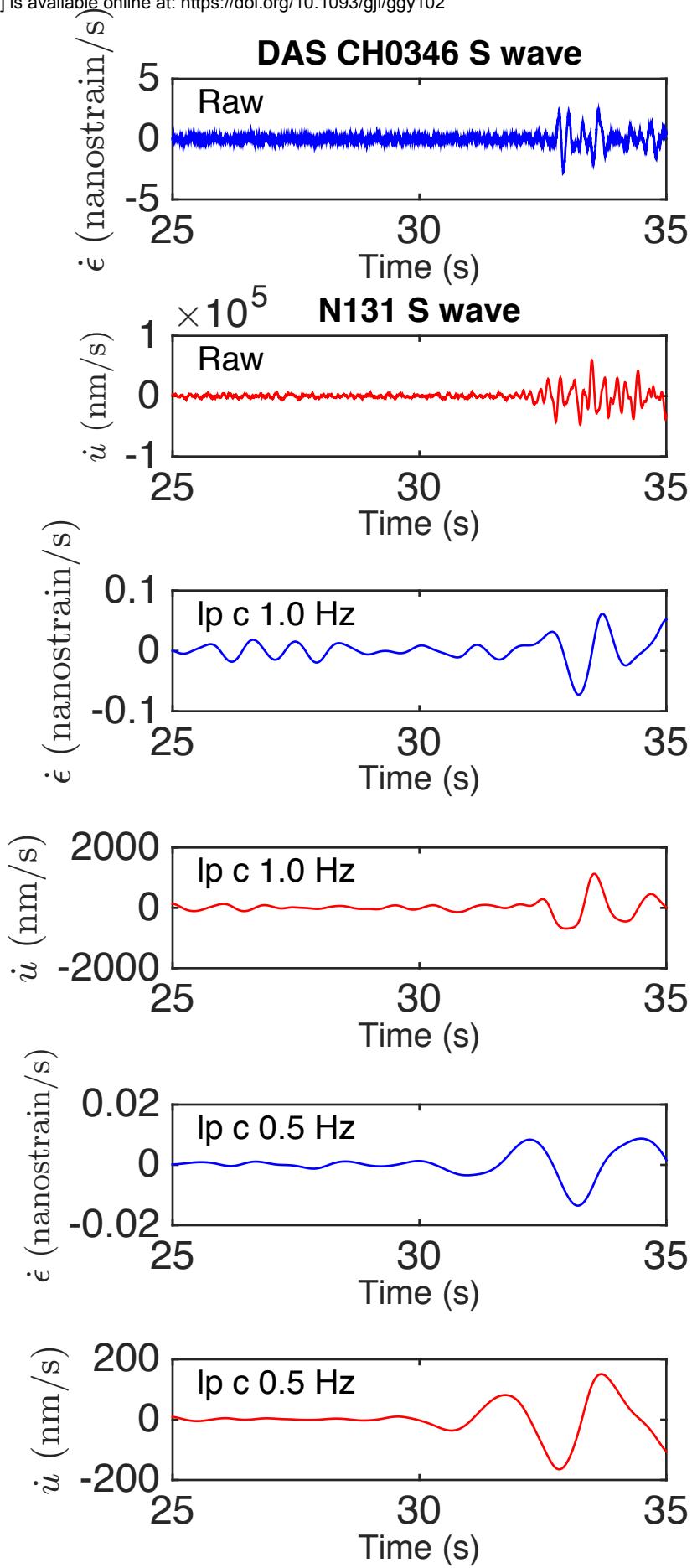
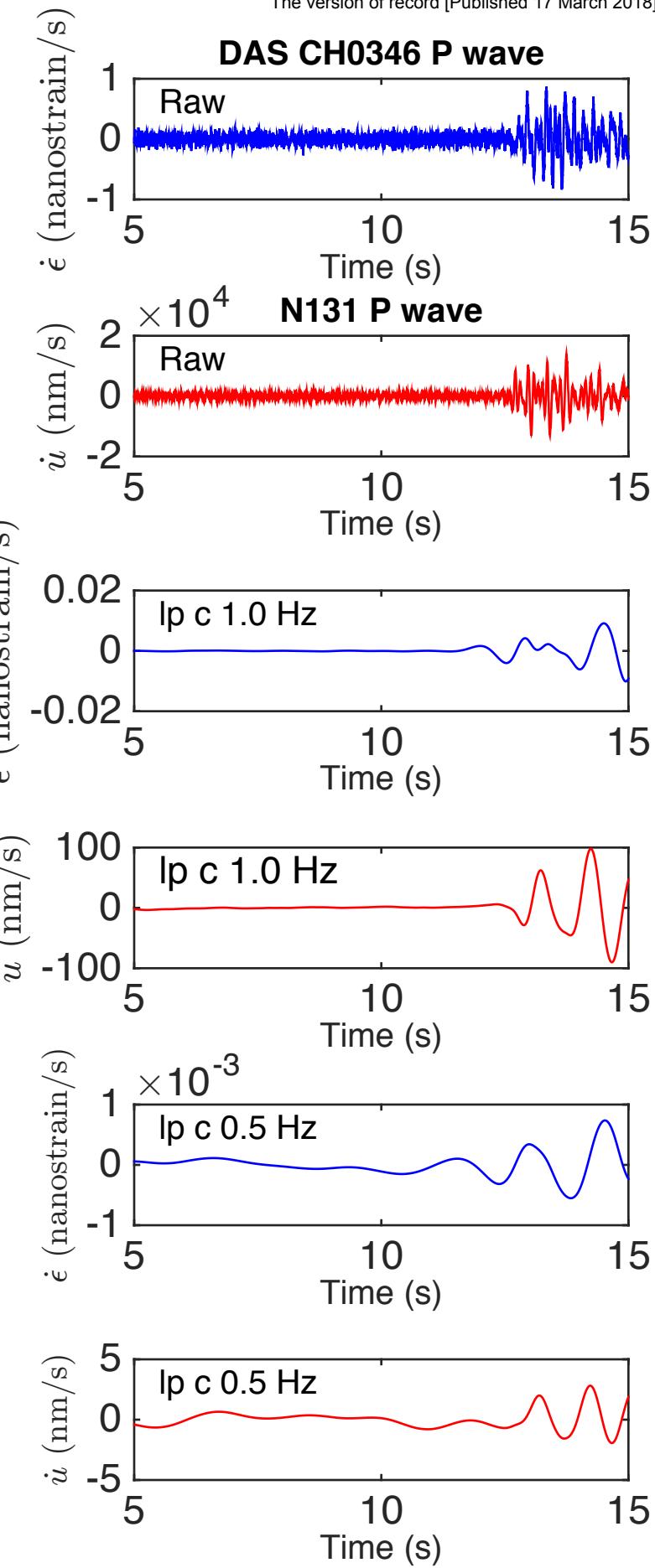


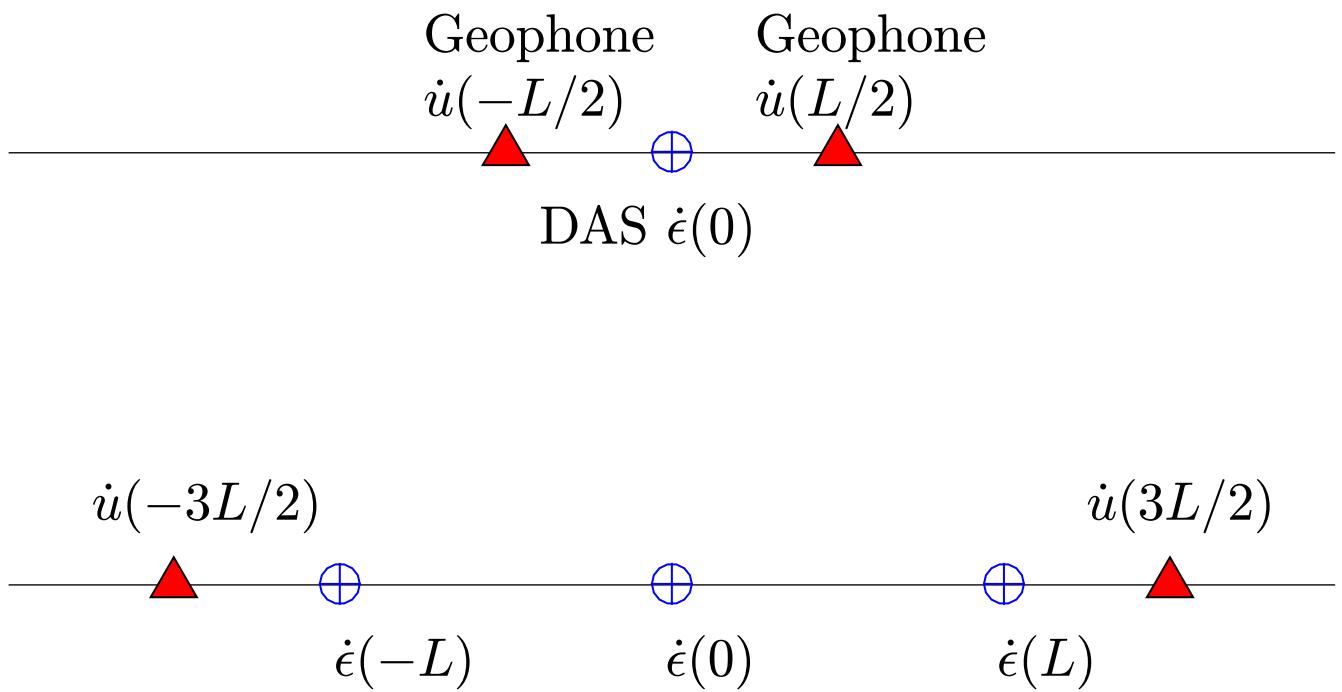


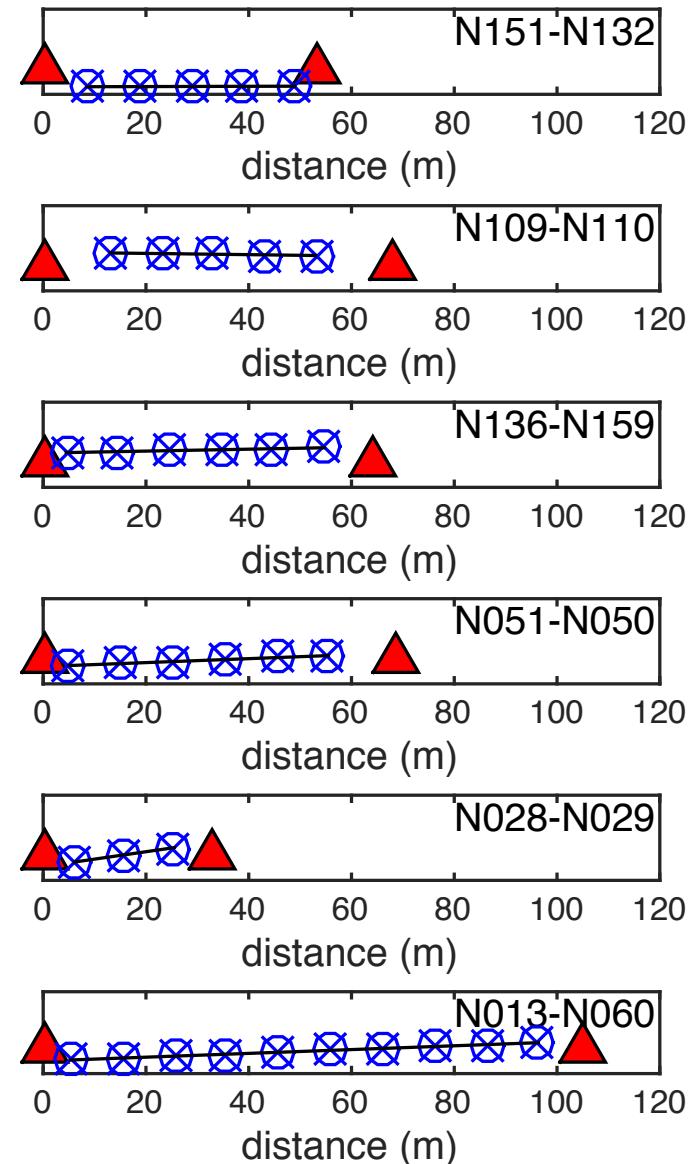
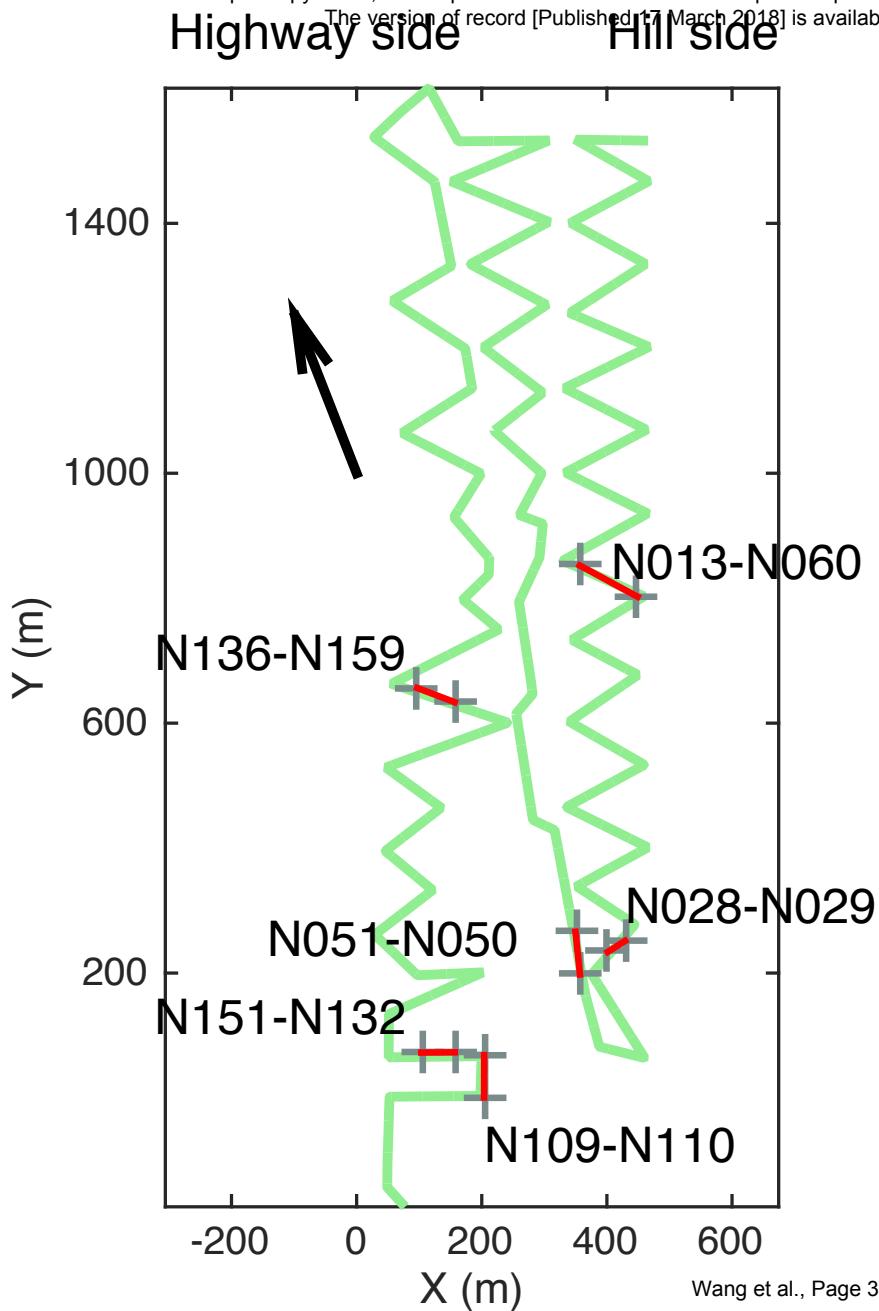


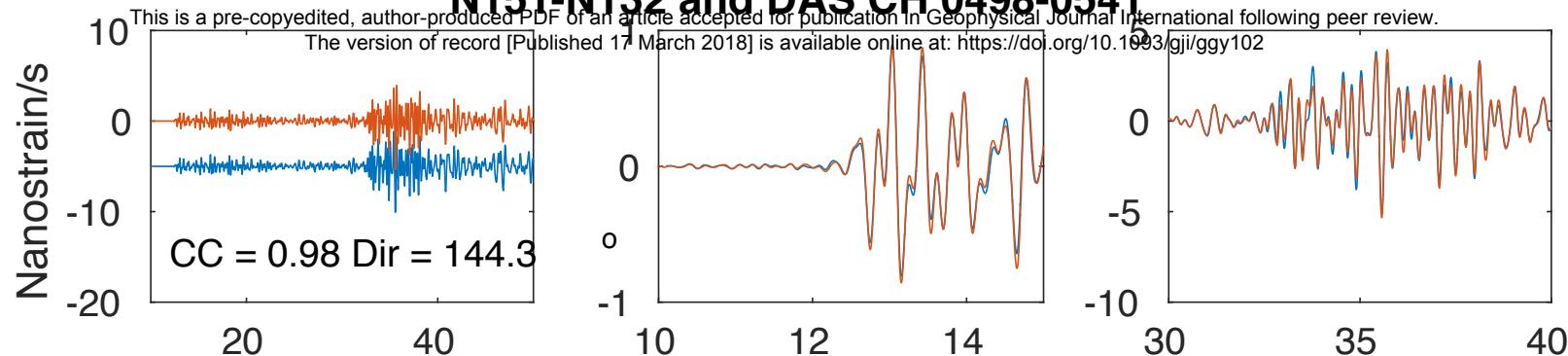
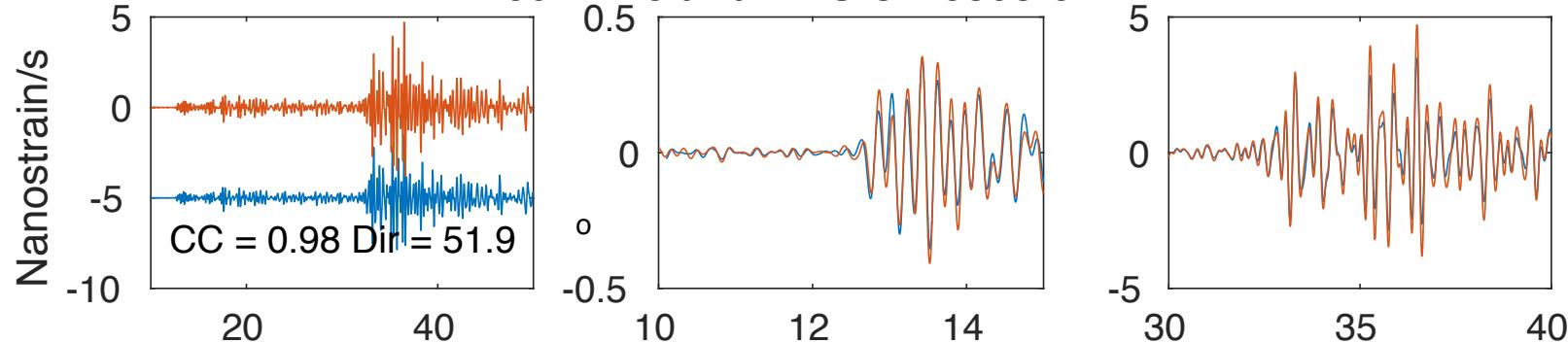
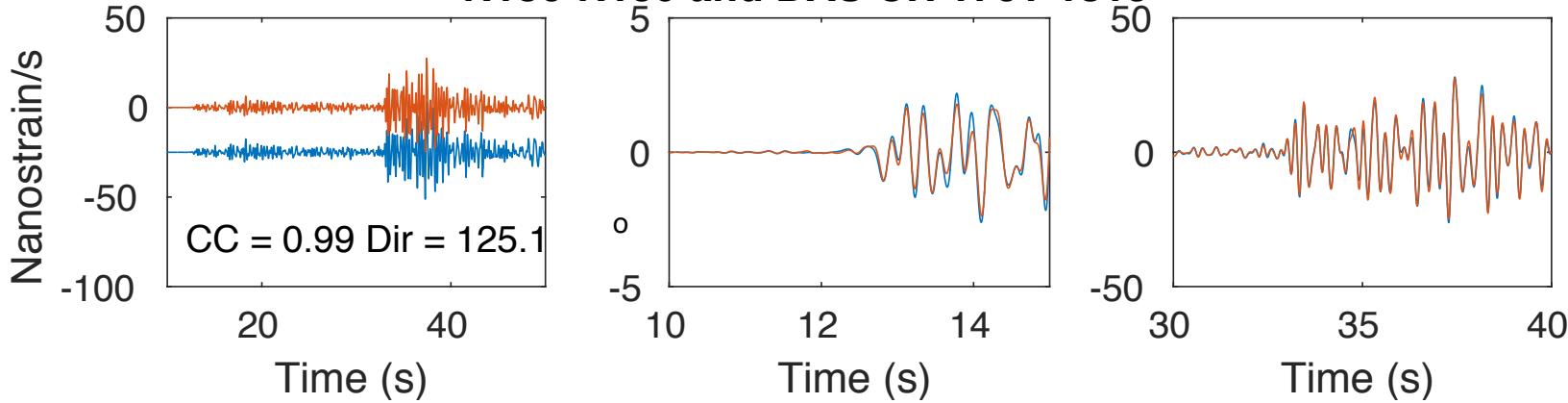


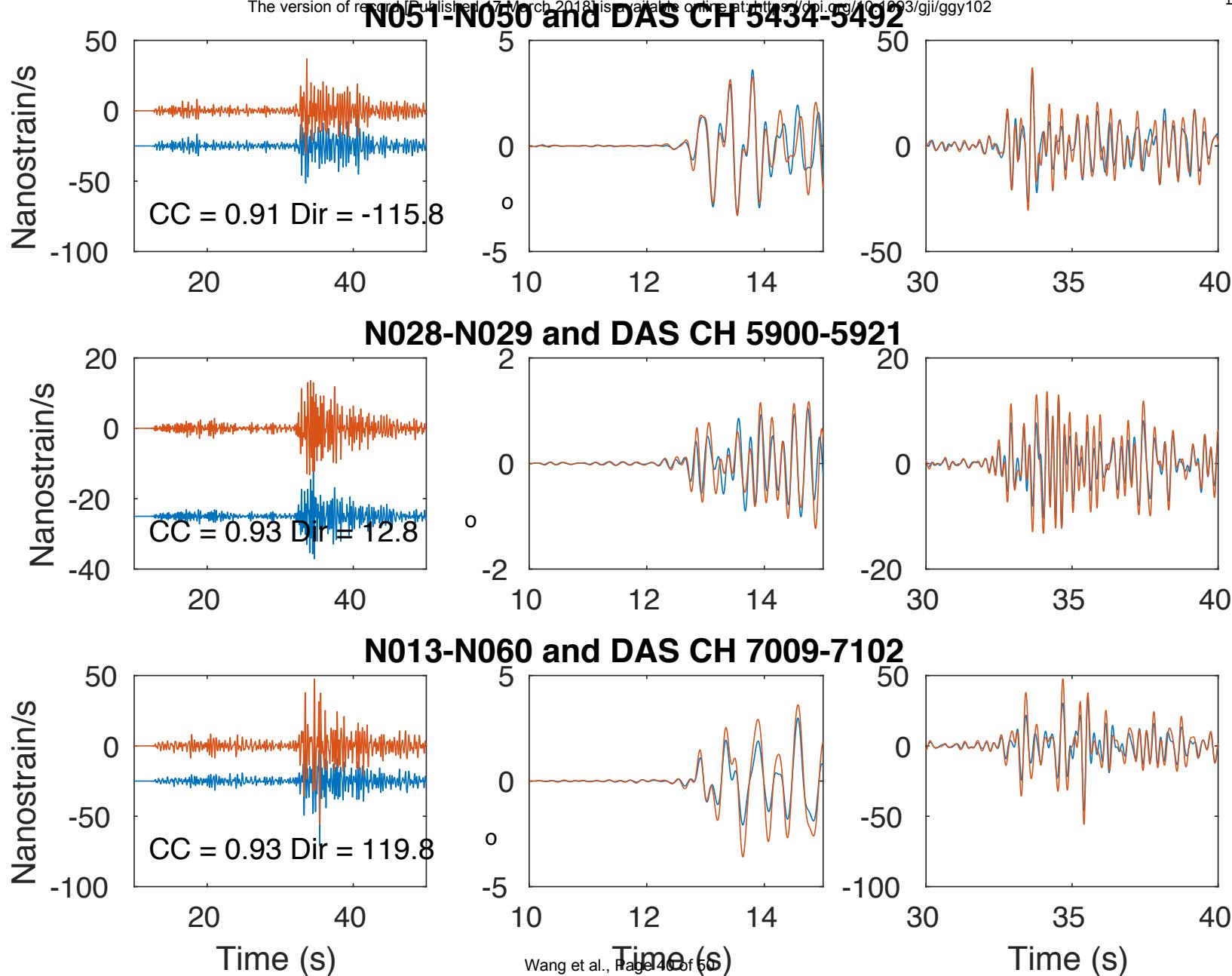


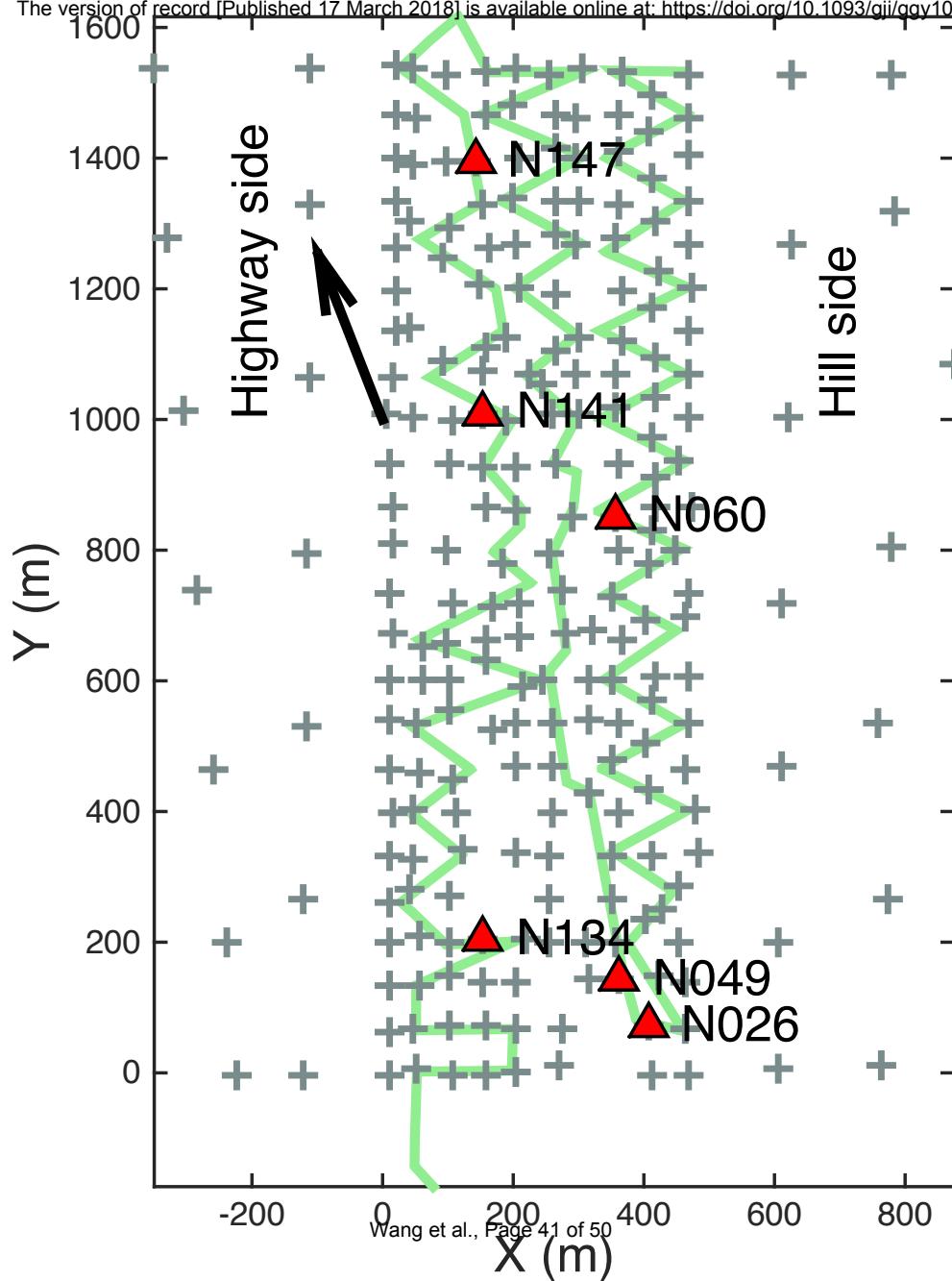


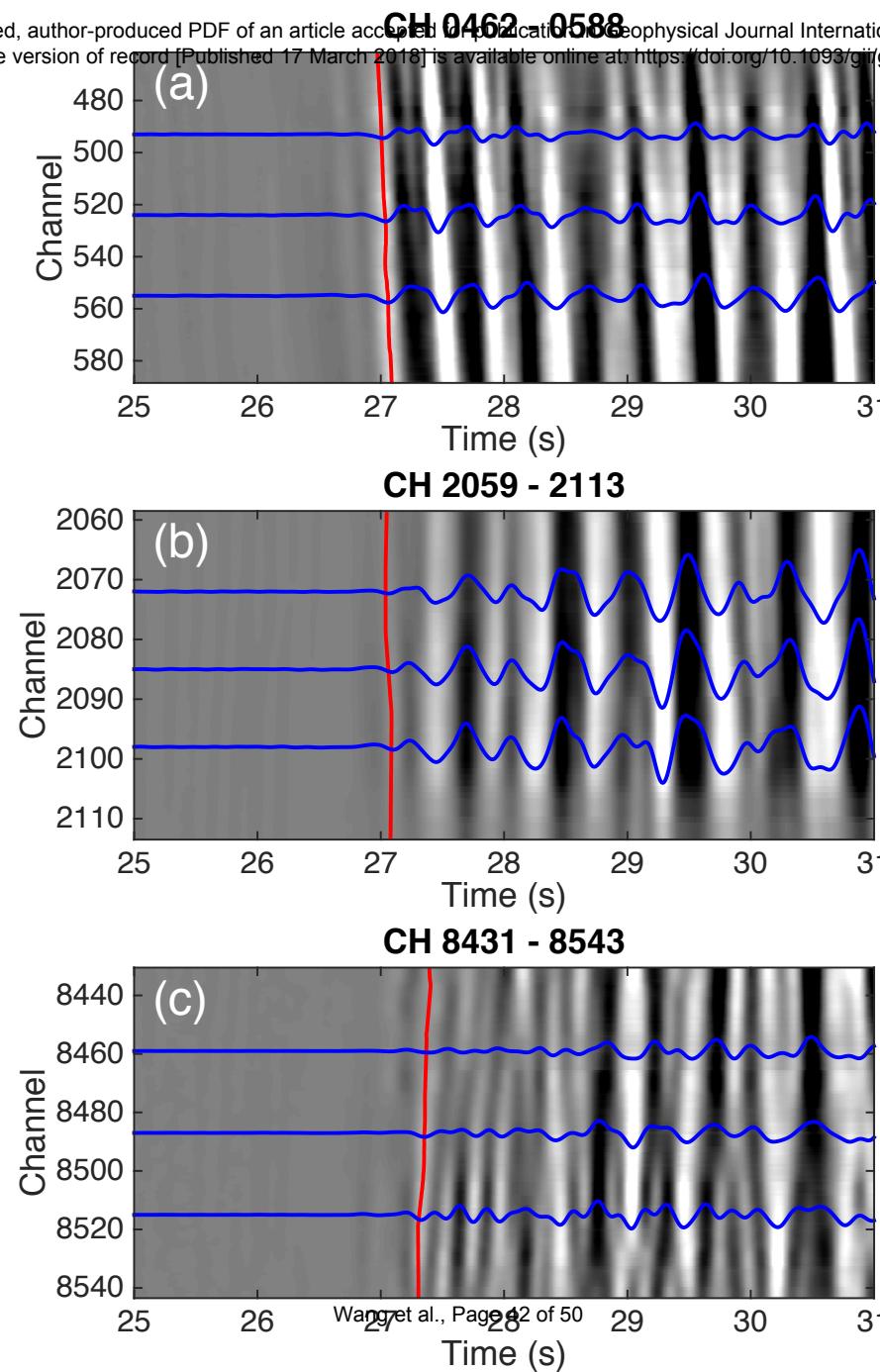


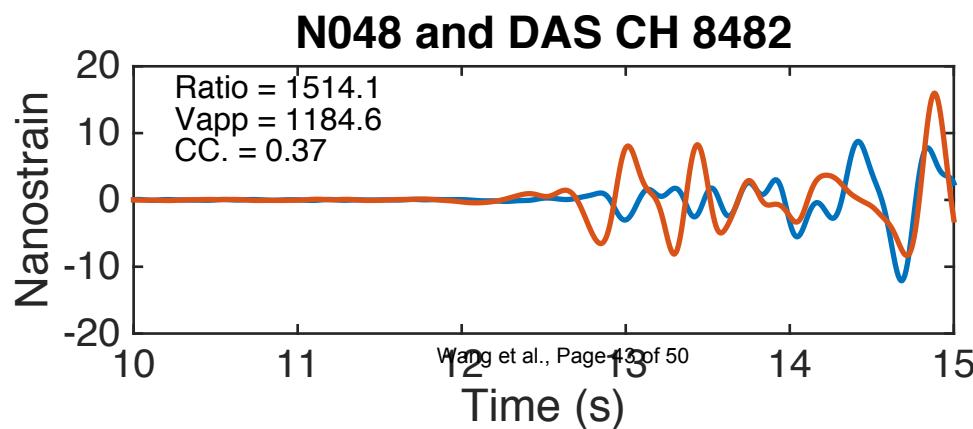
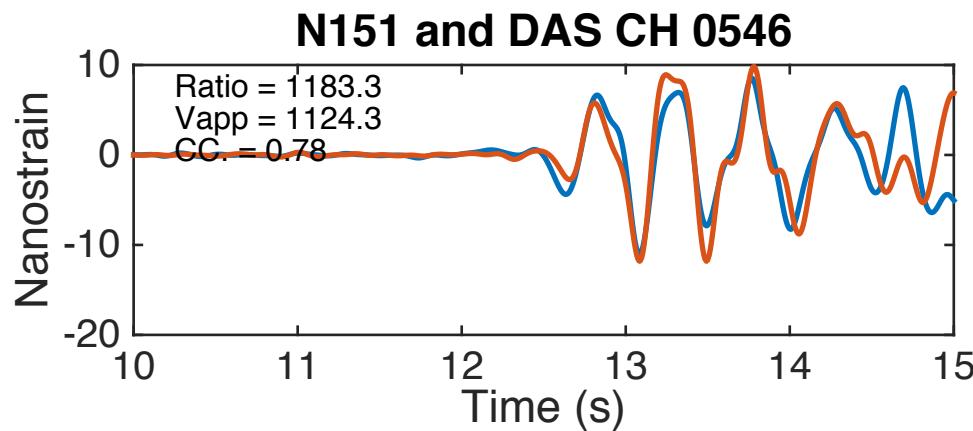
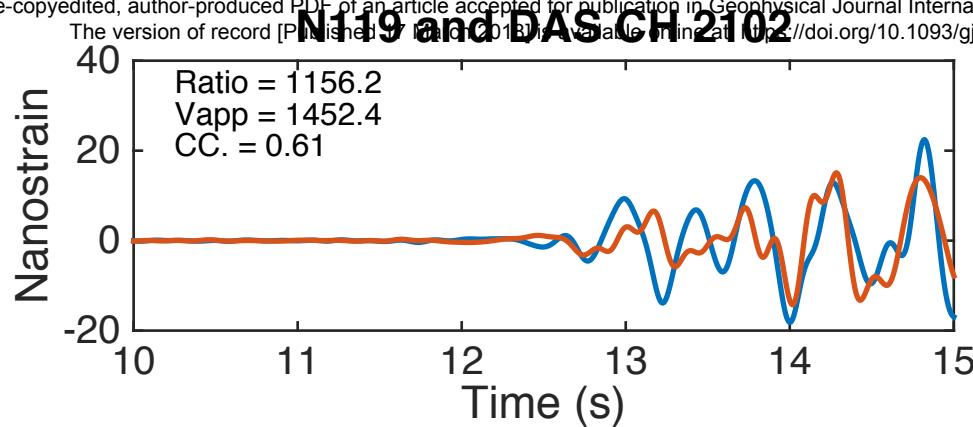


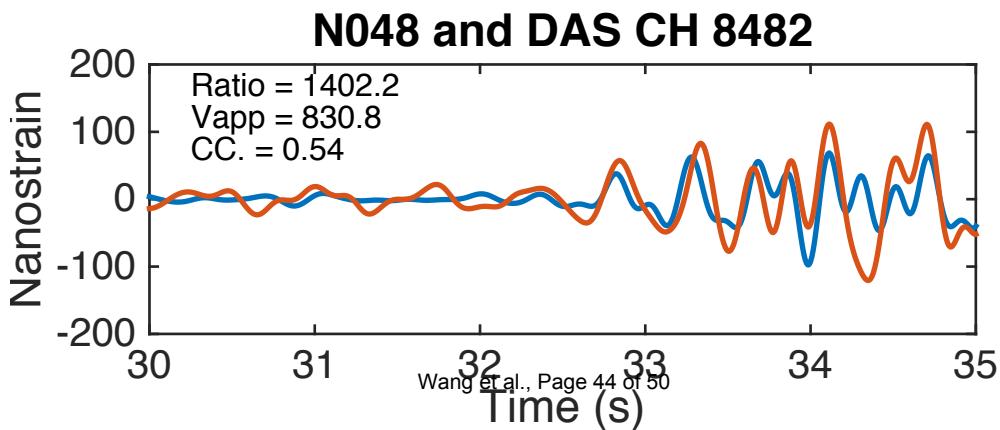
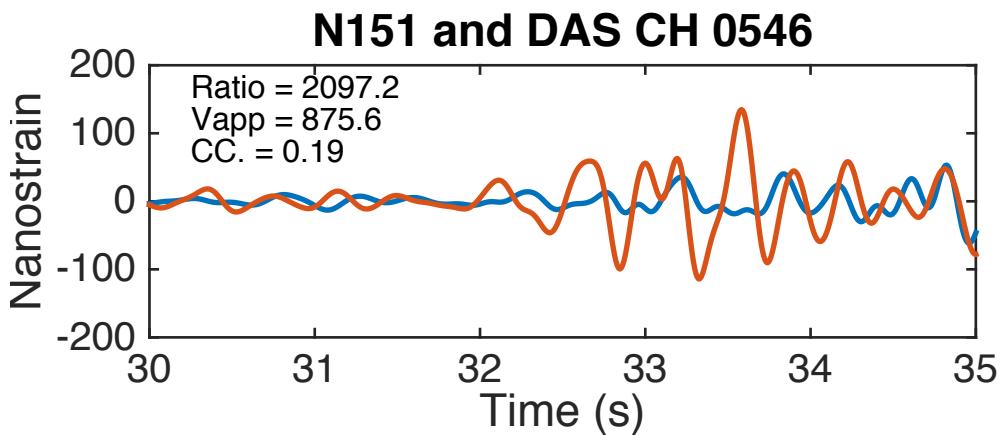
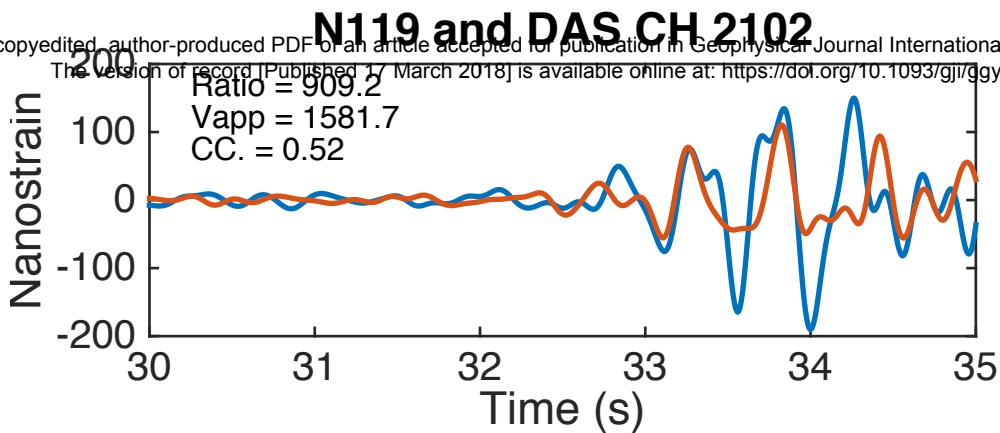
**N151-N132 and DAS CH 0498-0541****N109-N110 and DAS CH 0398-0441****N136-N159 and DAS CH 1761-1815**

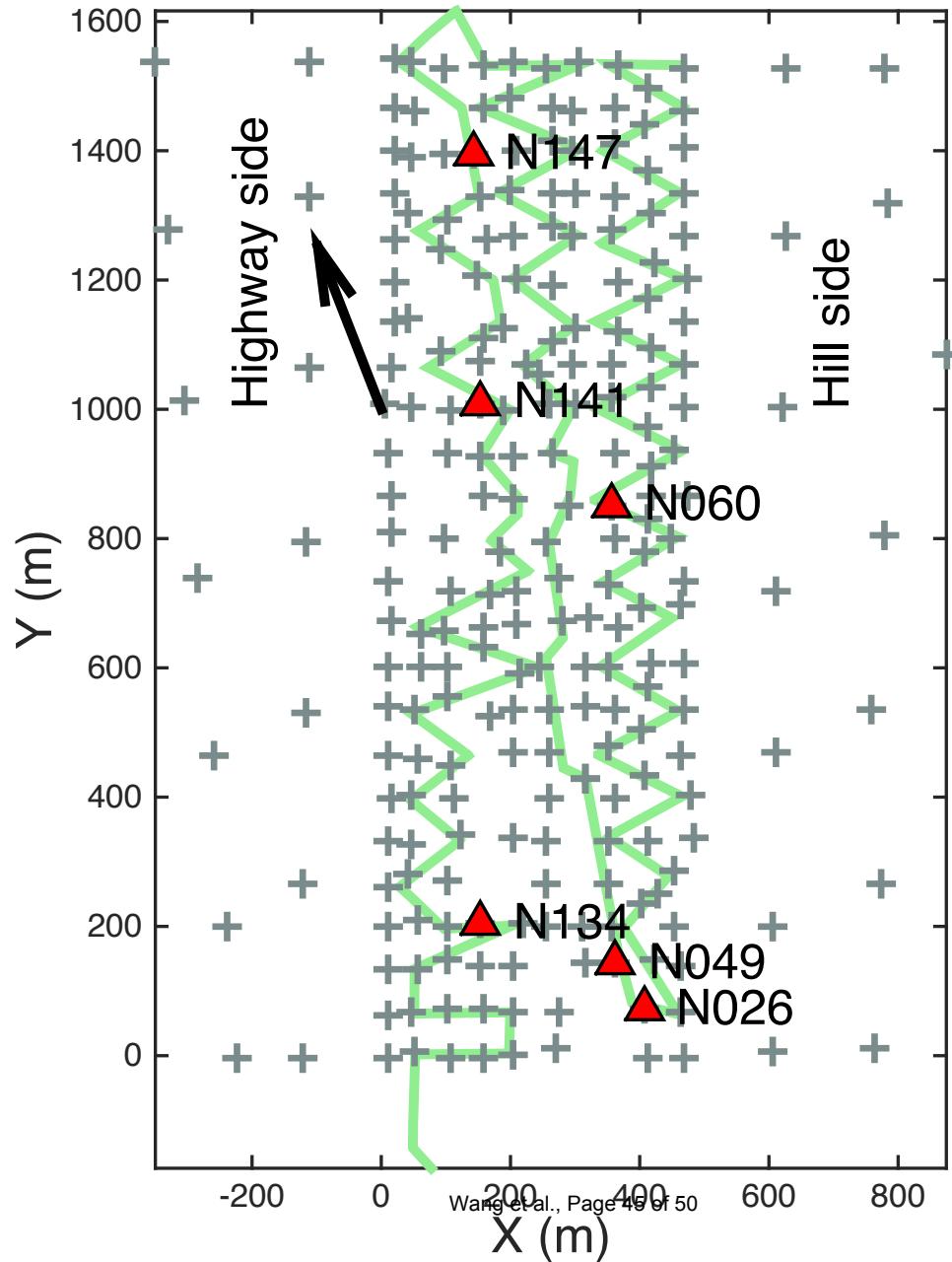


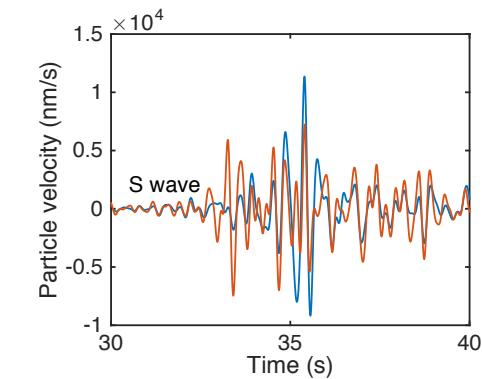
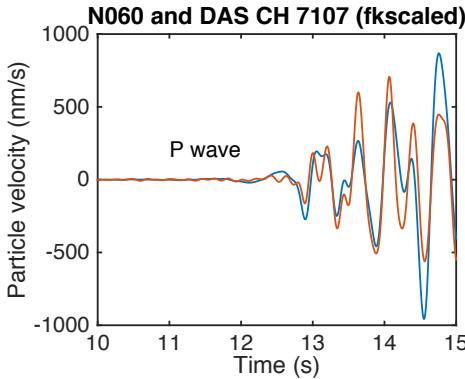
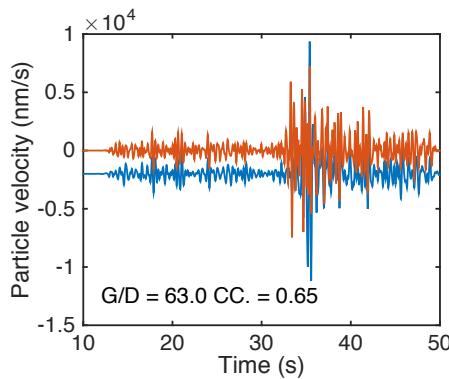
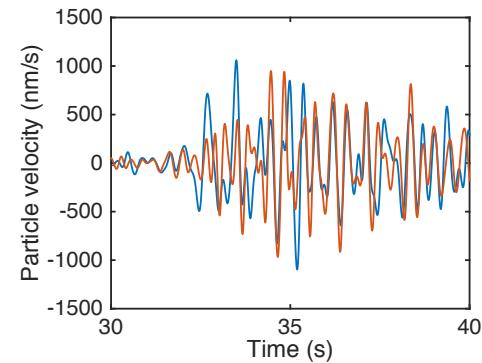
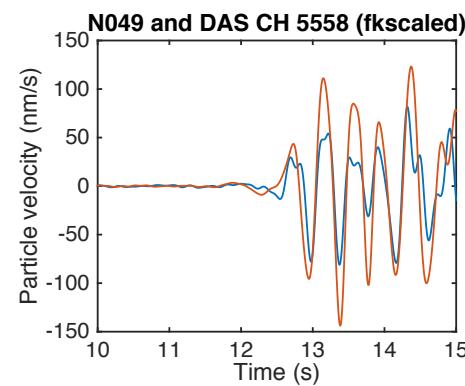
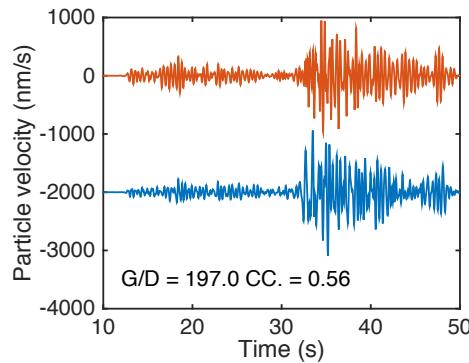
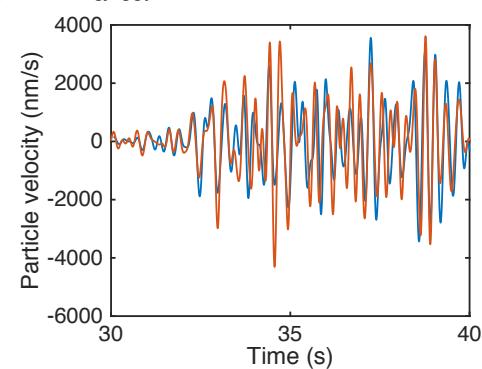
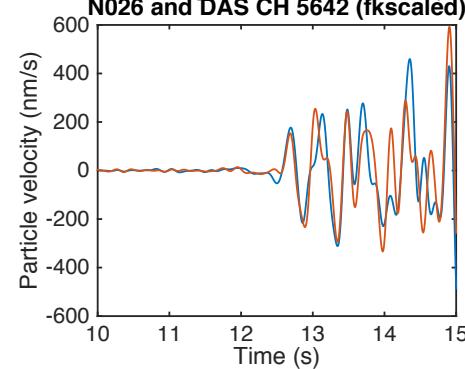
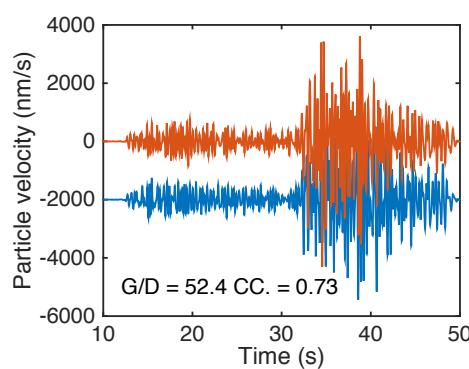


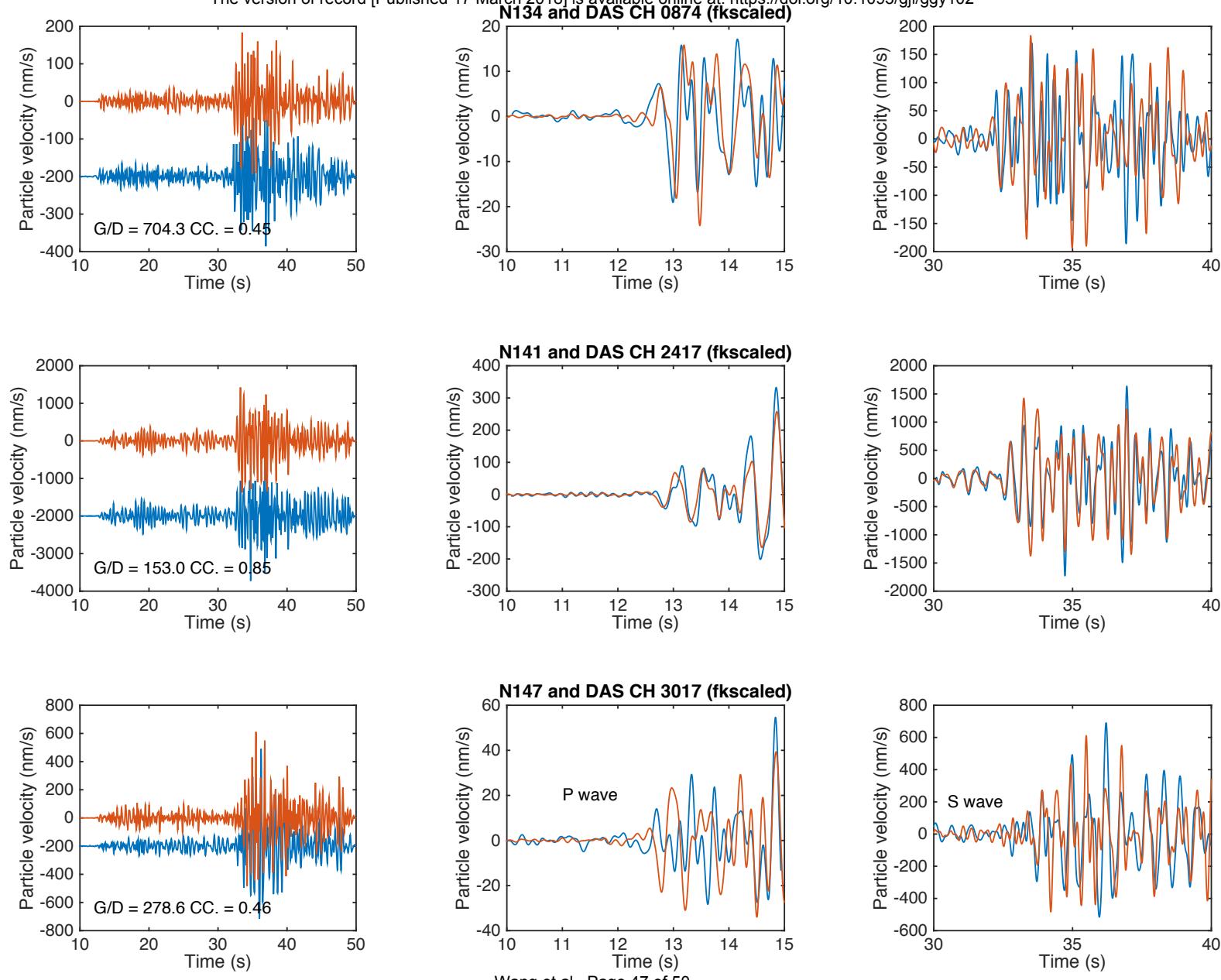


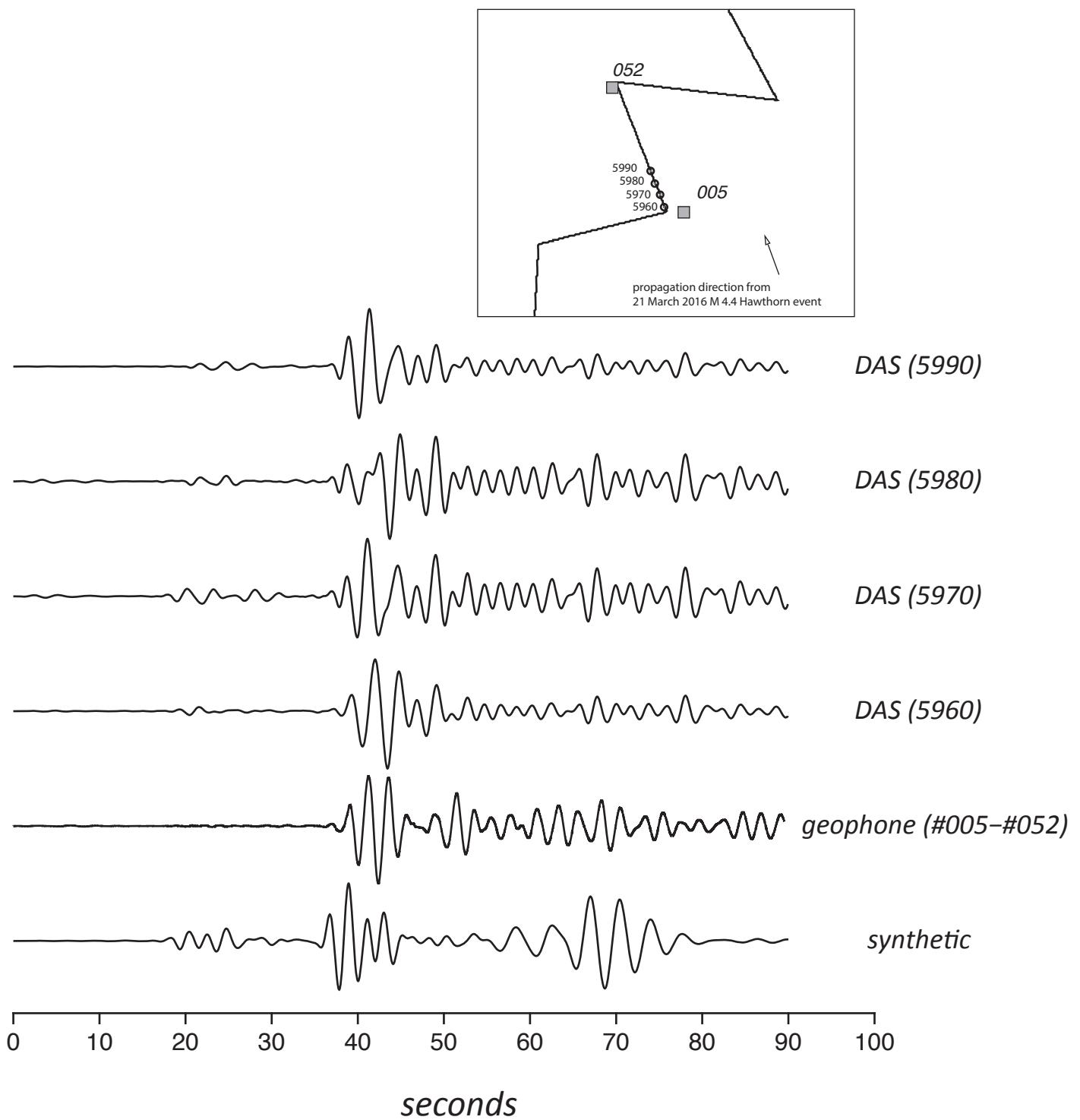




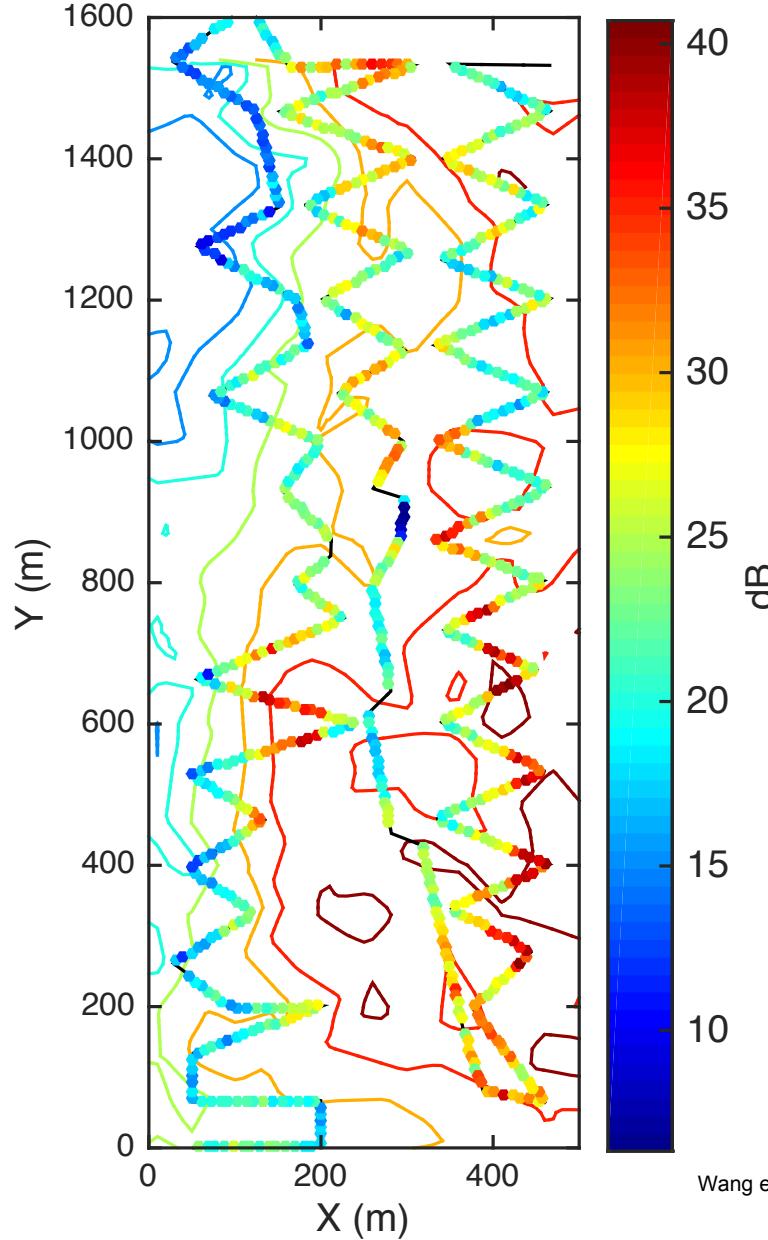








Time domain SNR of P wave of DAS



Time domain SNR of S wave of DAS

