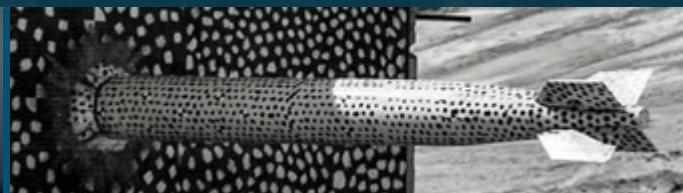
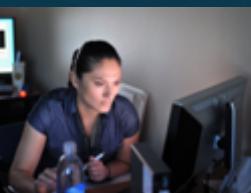




Sandia  
National  
Laboratories

# SALSA3D



*Presented By*

**Andrea Conley**

The views expressed here do not necessarily represent the views of the U.S. Department of Energy or the United States Government.



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# Motivation



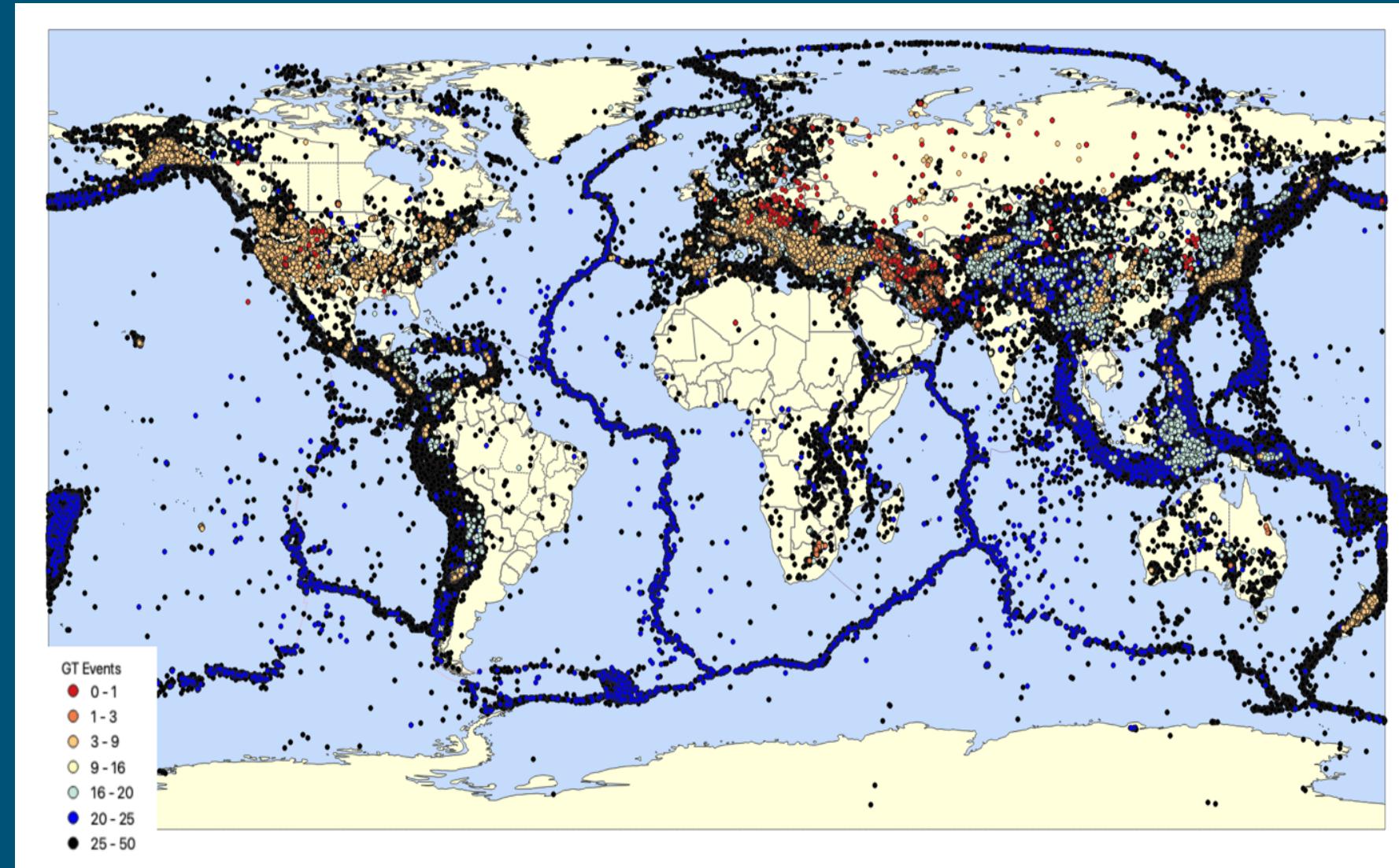
- The location of a suspect nuclear event is important because the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty specifies the international community may conduct an onsite inspection in an area of  $1000 \text{ km}^2$
- The location of the suspected event should be known to at least this accuracy and precision
- To get accurate event locations, accurate travel-time predictions are required
- **Our primary goal is to make global slowness models that provide the most accurate travel-times and travel-time uncertainties possible**
  - Known geology is used as a sanity check to confirm model is reasonable, but feature identification is not a primary goal

**640K events (523K more than in 2017)**

**>20K stations (8K more than in 2017)**

**>2M rays (more will be included in future)**

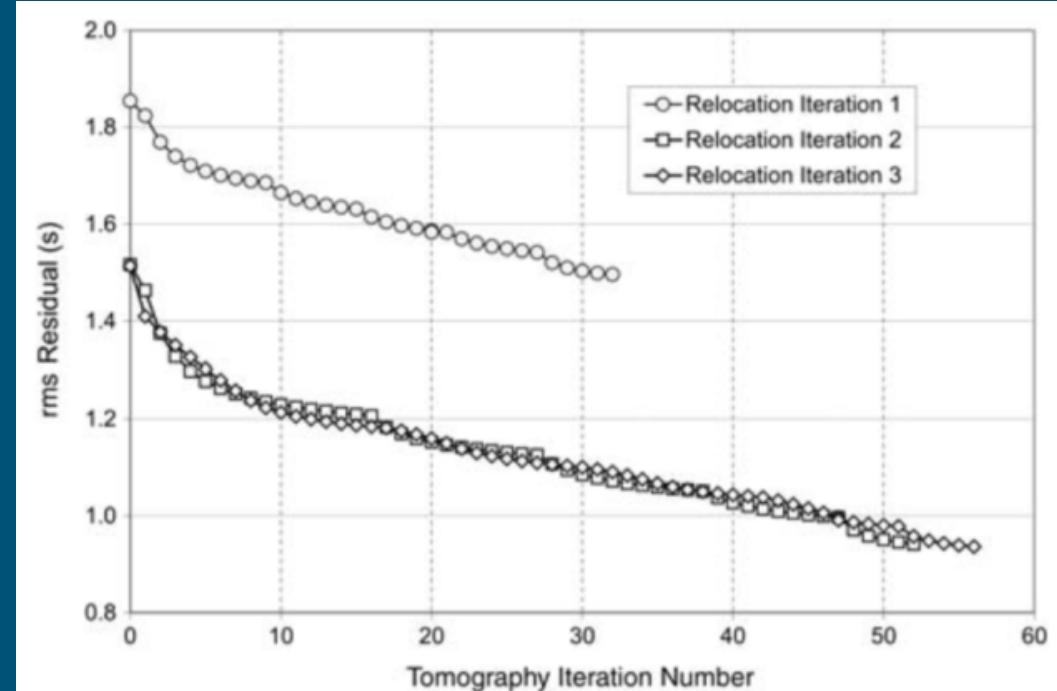
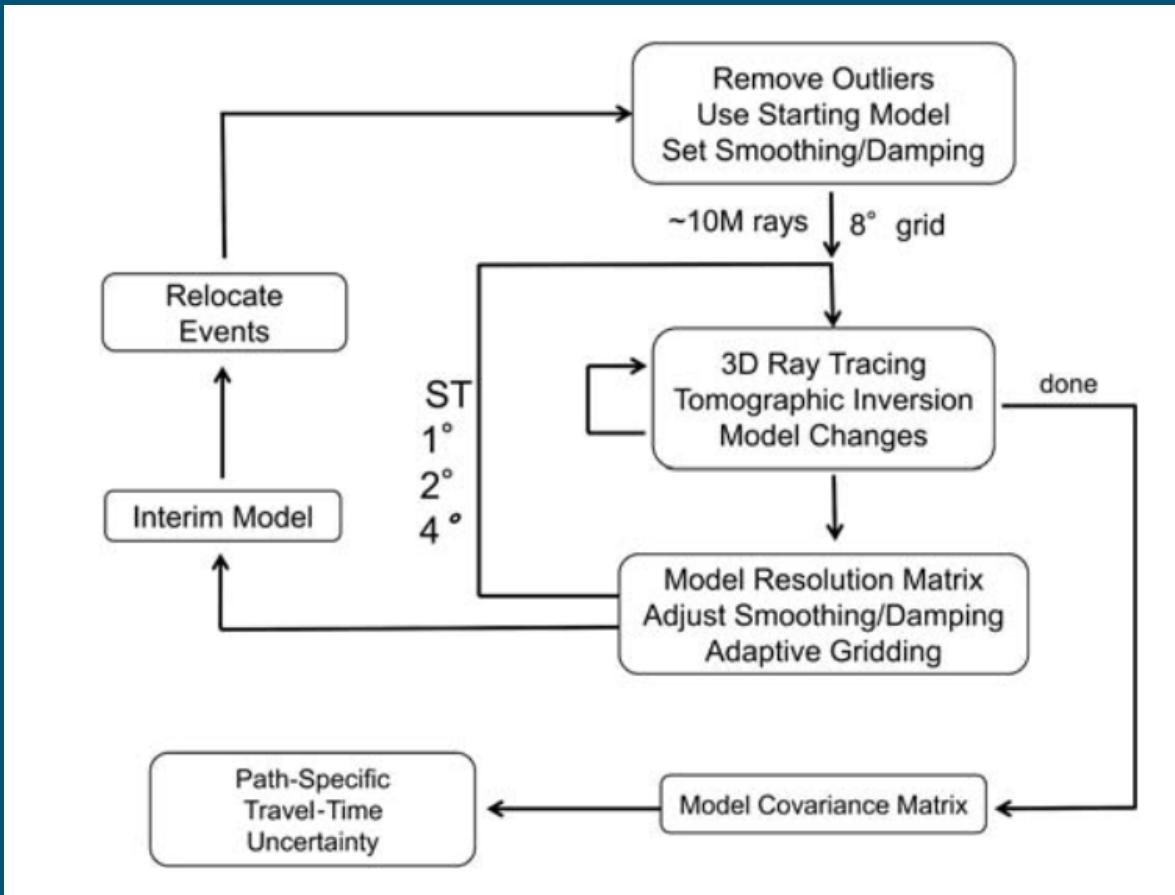
- GT ranges from 0 to 50
- Currently using P and Pn phases
  - Will expand to secondary phases
- Future models will include an S model, a joint P- and S-model, a P model with both mantle and crust inverted for, and a P model with OBS data included



Ground Truth (GT) as defined in Bondar et al. (2004), GJI

# Tomographic Procedure

## Figures from Ballard et al. (2016), BSSA



**Figure 6.** Root mean square (rms) residual versus tomography iteration number. The final rms residual of 0.94 represents a reduction of 50% from the starting model.

- Typically perform ~3-10 iterations of the innermost loop, ~4-5 iterations of the middle loop, and ~2-3 iterations of the outer loop

# Travel Time Prediction Uncertainty



The standard least squares tomography solution seismic slowness,  $s$ , is formulated given an  $m \times n$  set of non-linear travel time path length weights,  $A(s)$ ; a vector of  $n$  associated path residuals,  $d$ ; an  $n \times n$  Bayesian inferred prior model covariance matrix,  $C_m$ . The Bayesian prior model parameters are used to constrain the solution in model regions possessing little or no data. This formulation can be written as

$$\begin{bmatrix} C_d^{-1/2} A(s_k) \\ \alpha C_m^{-1/2} \end{bmatrix} \Delta s^{k+1} = \begin{bmatrix} C_d^{-1/2} (d - A(s_k) s_k) \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad s^{k+1} = \Delta s^{k+1} + s^k$$

Where  $C_d$  are the data variances associated with the travel time path weights,  $\alpha$  is a damping parameter applied to ensure solution stability, and the non-linear solution is updated in an iterative manner ( $k$ ) until convergence is obtained ( $\Delta s \approx 0$ ). Applying standard solution techniques, the posterior model covariance,  $\tilde{C}_m$ , and the model resolution,  $R_m$ , can be discovered and written as

$$\tilde{C}_m = [A^T C_d^{-1} A + C_m^{-1}]^{-1} \quad R_m = \tilde{C}_m A^T C_d^{-1} A = I - \tilde{C}_m C_m^{-1}$$

Given these definitions we can formulate the travel time and associated uncertainty of an arbitrary ray path,  $p$ , given its grid node vector of path length weights ( $W_p = \langle w_{pj} \rangle$ ) as

$$\tilde{t}_p = \sum_{j=0} w_{pj} \tilde{s}_j \pm \tilde{\sigma}_p \quad \tilde{\sigma}_p = \sqrt{W(\tilde{s}_m) \tilde{C}_m W^T(\tilde{s}_m) + W(s_m) C_m W^T(s_m)}$$

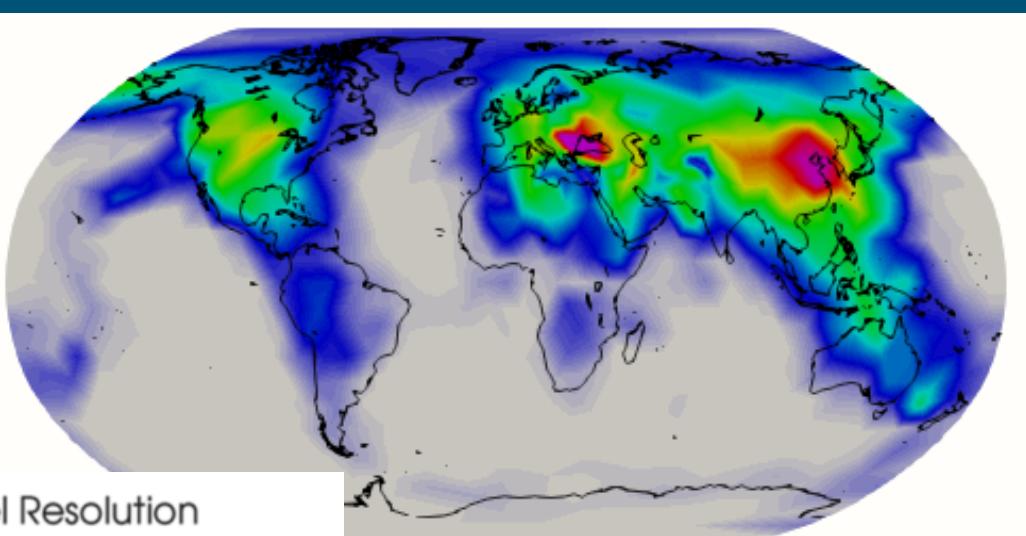
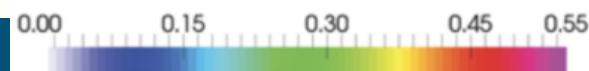
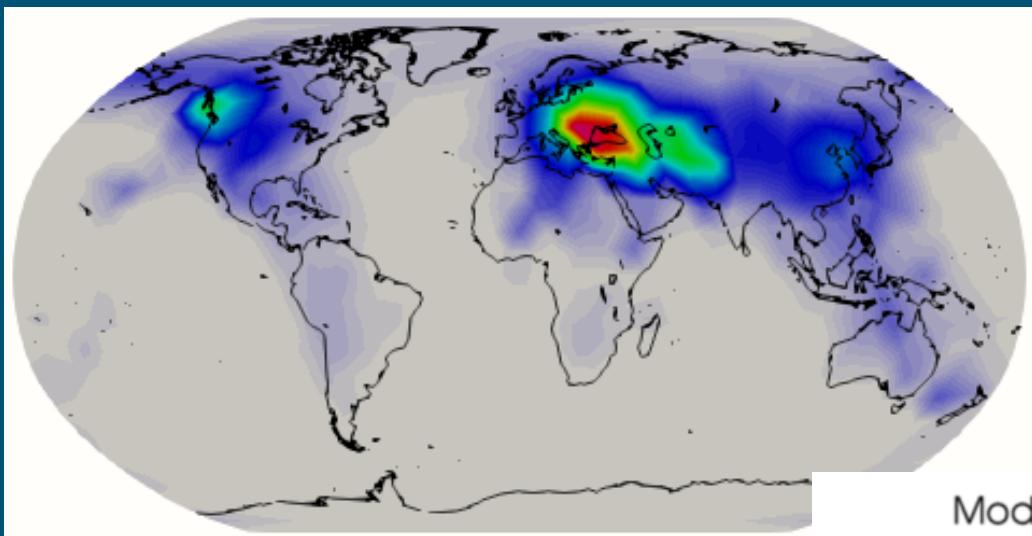
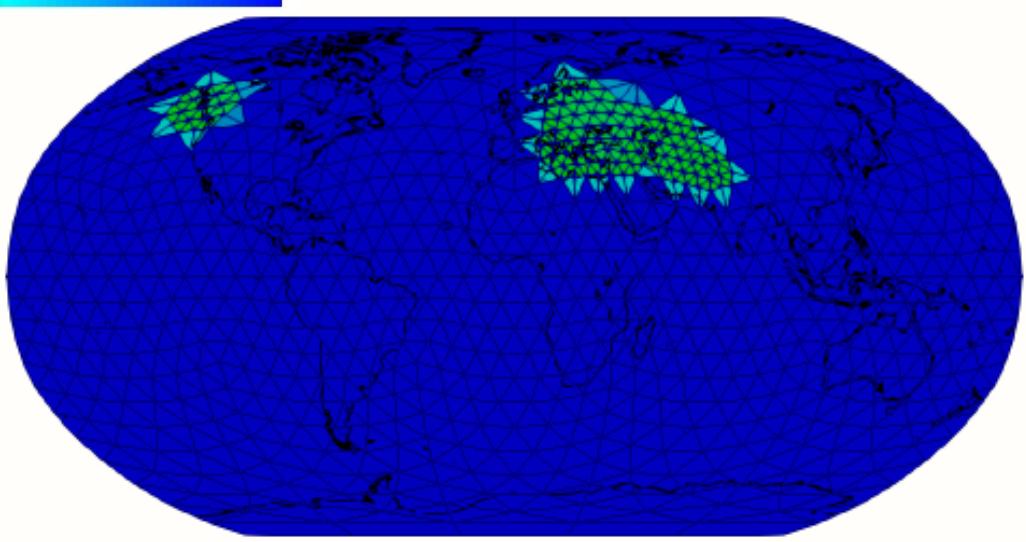
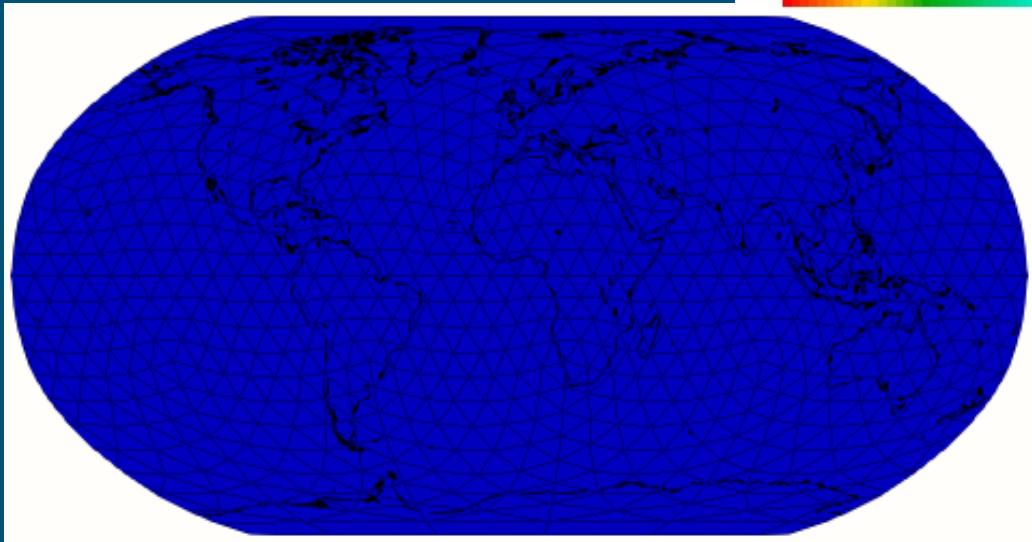
Here  $W(\tilde{s}_m)$  imply weights for nodes along the path  $p$  that lie in regions of the posterior model (the mantle), while  $W(s_m)$  define weights for nodes along the path that lie in prior model regions for which slowness updates were not computed (the crust).

# Grid and Model Resolution

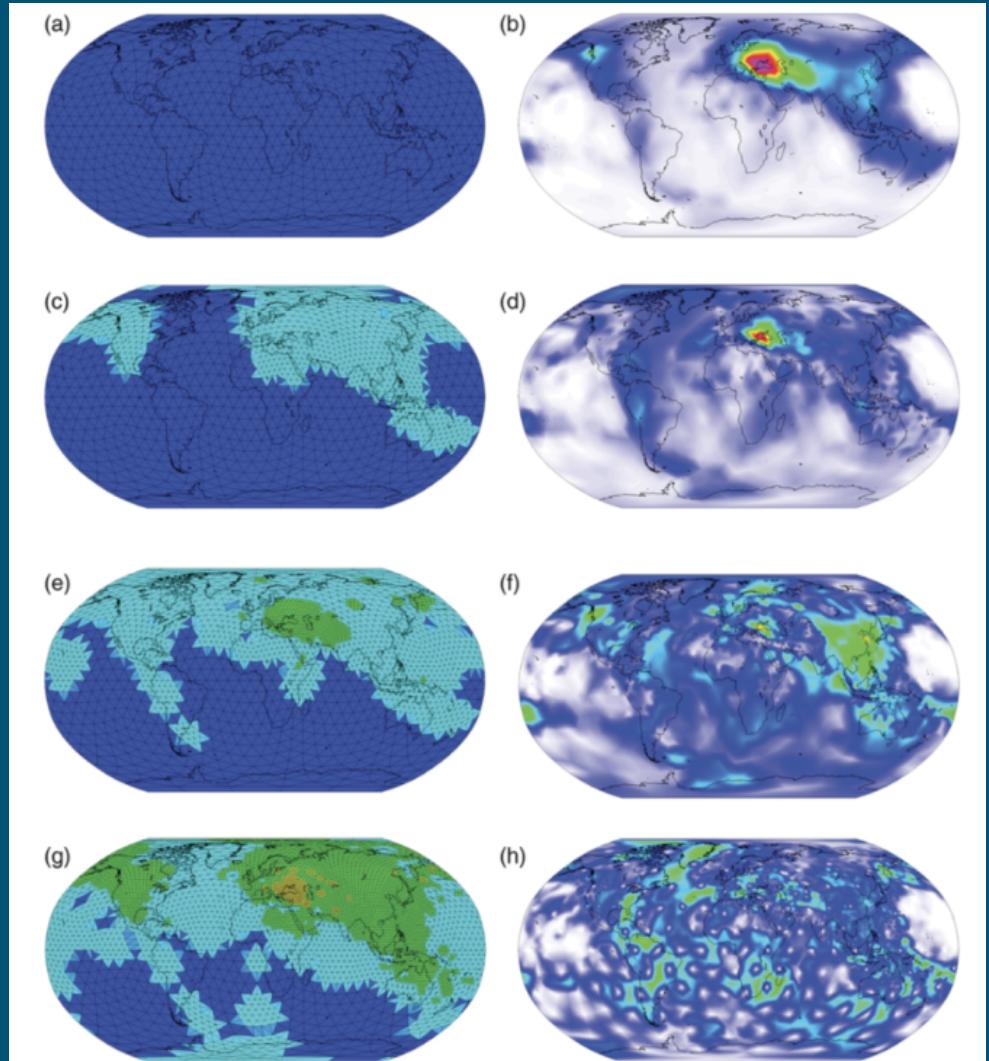
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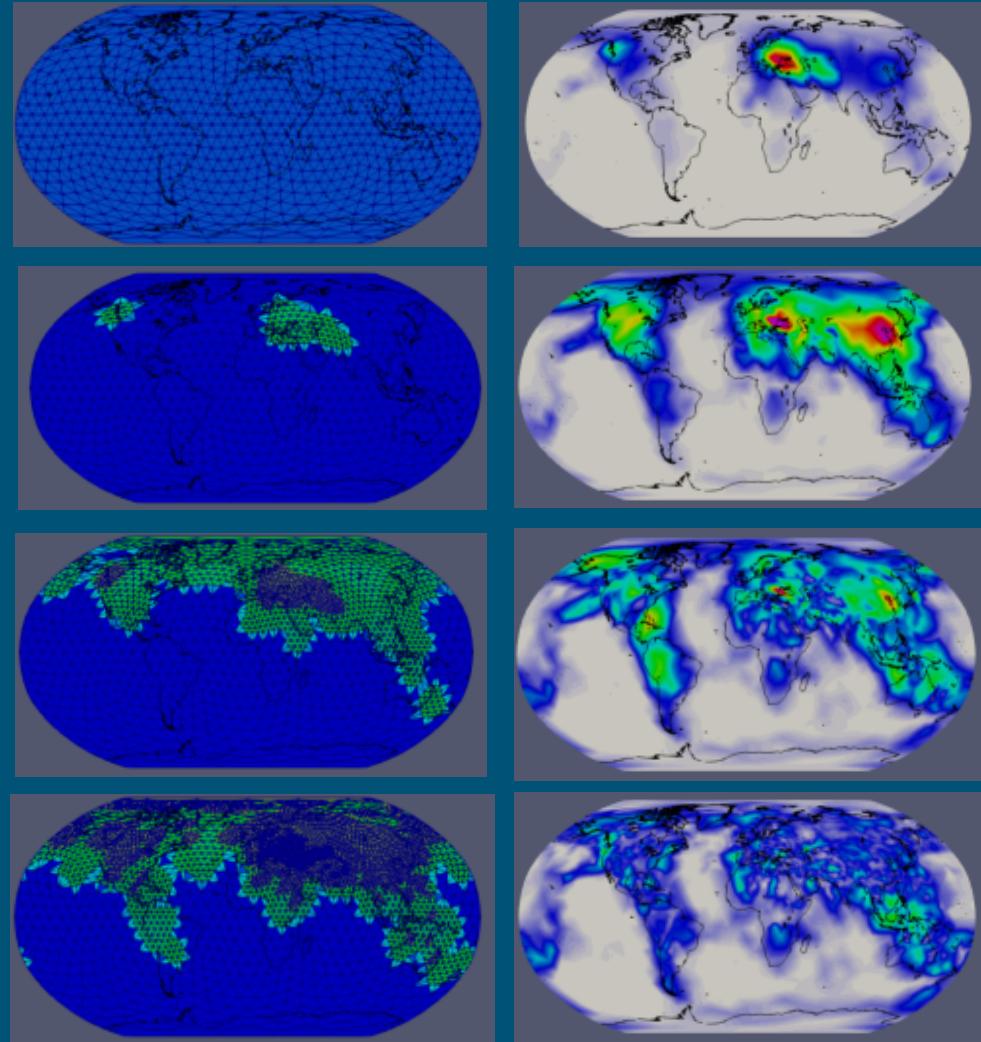
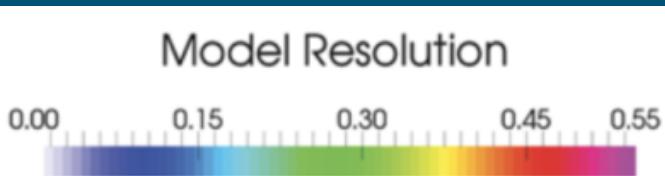
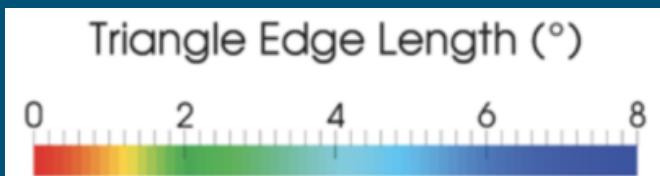
Triangle Edge Length (degrees)



# Grid and Model Resolution



Ballard et al.  
(2016), BSSA

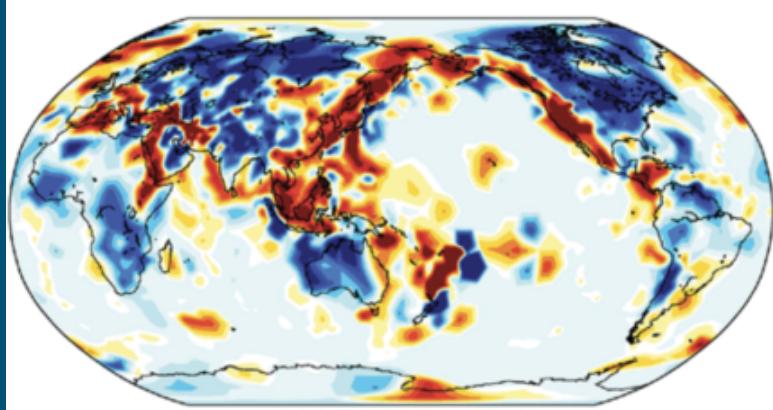


# Mantle Slowness at 800 km depth

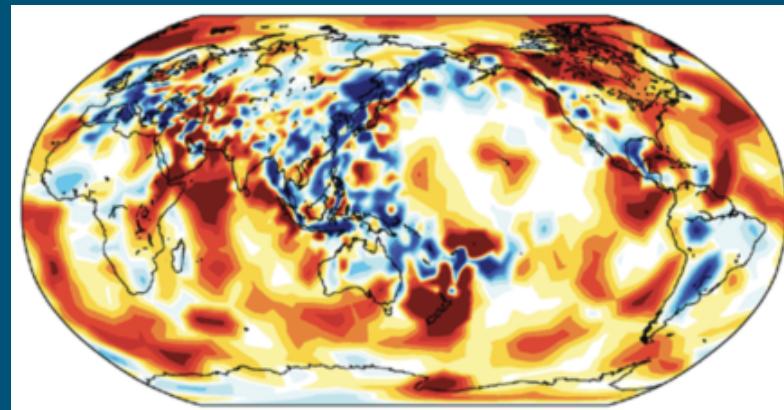
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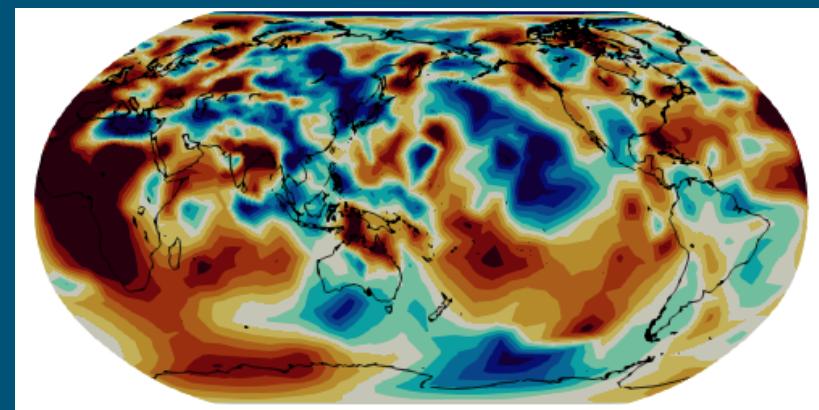
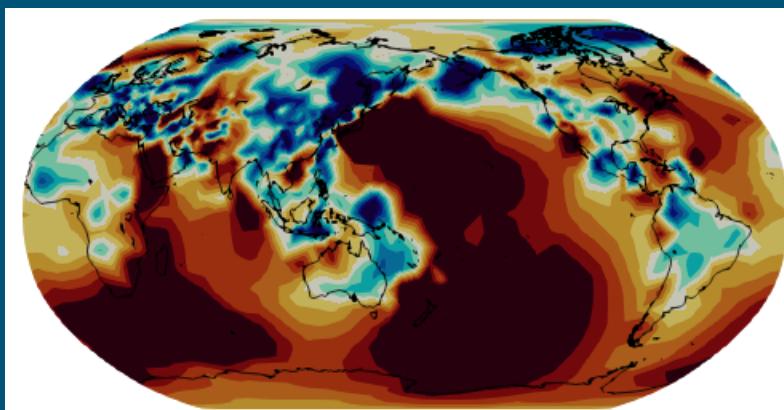
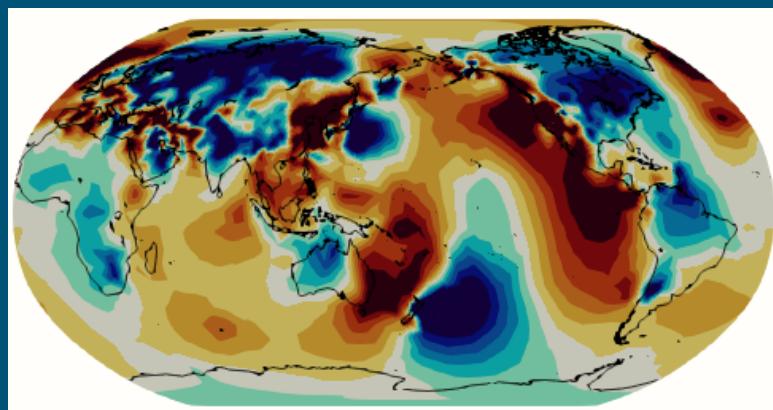
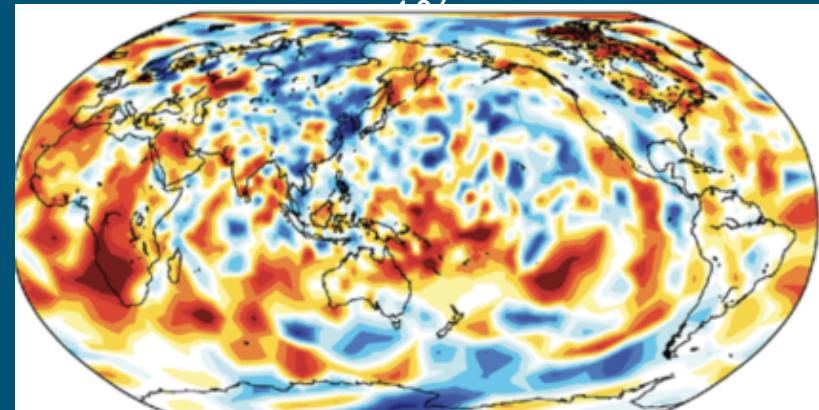
100 km  
 $\pm 3\%$



500 km  
 $\pm 2\%$



2500 km  
 $\pm 1\%$



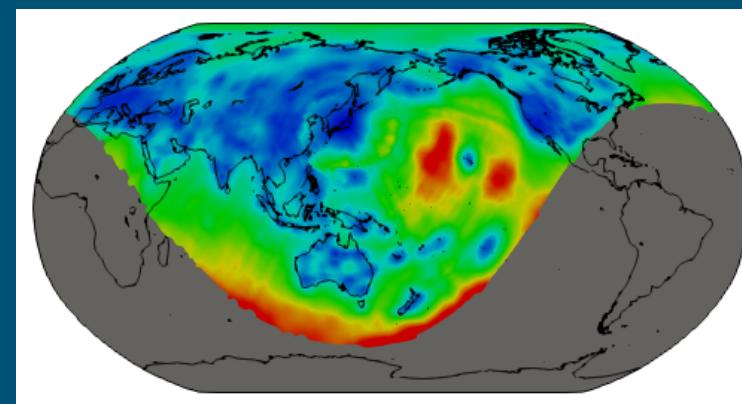
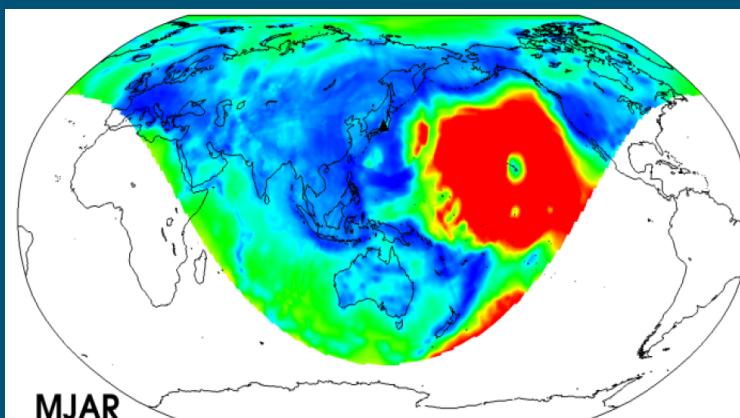
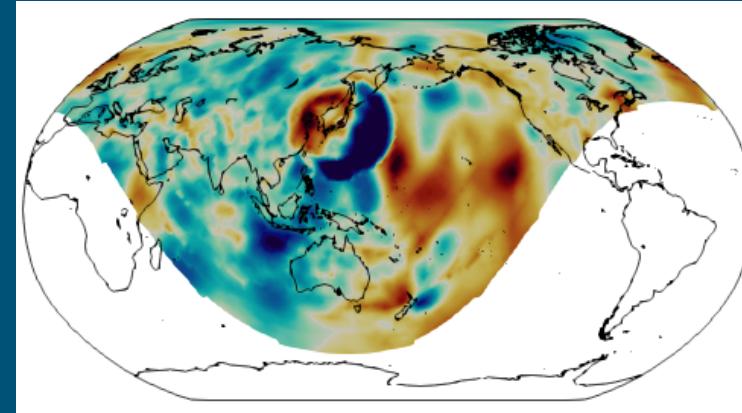
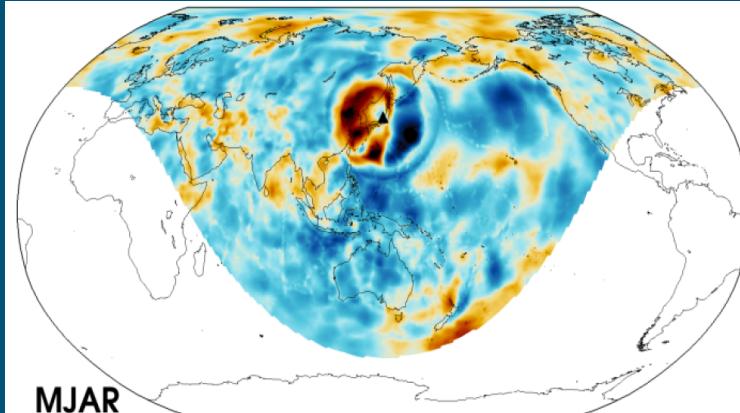
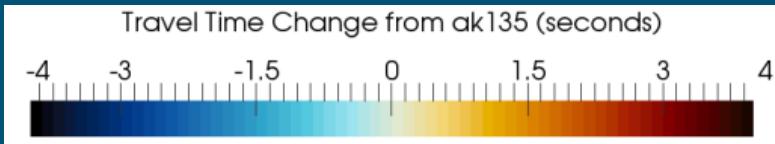
- Top Row: Ballard et al. (2016), BSSA (2 relocation iterations)

- Bottom Row: Current model after 5 adaption iterations

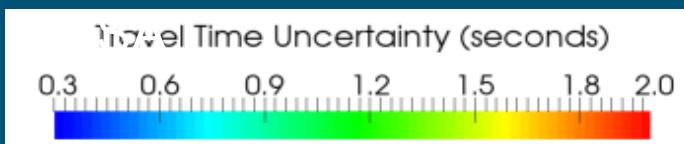
# Travel Time Prediction and Uncertainty



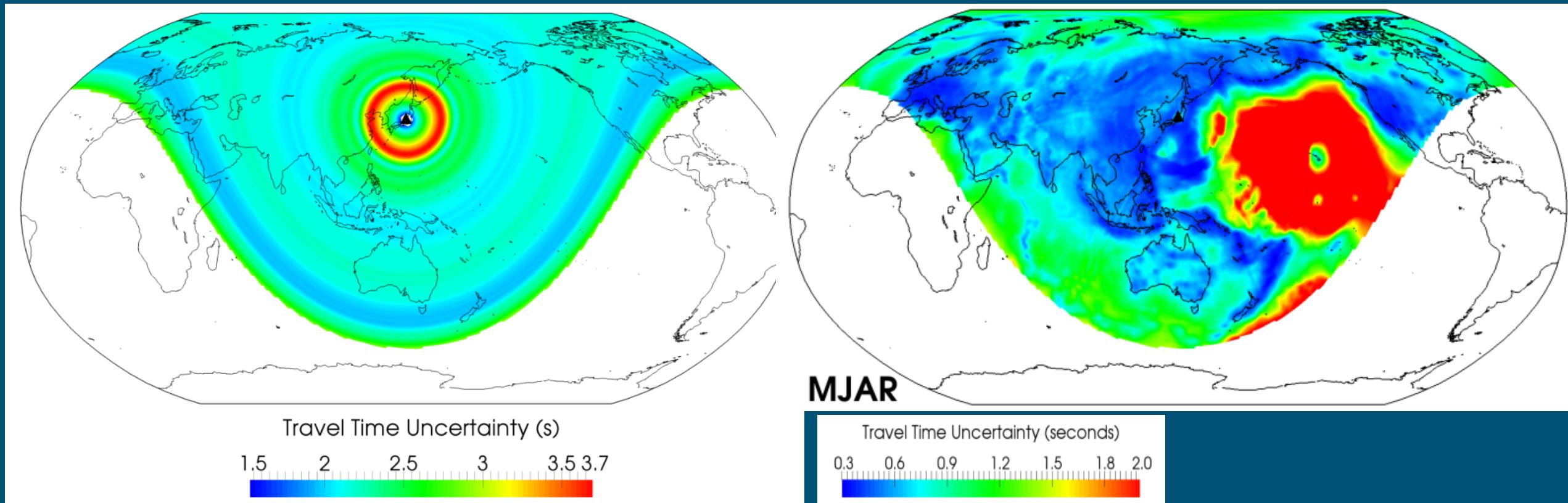
10



Ballard et al. (2016),



# Comparison with Standard Uncertainty

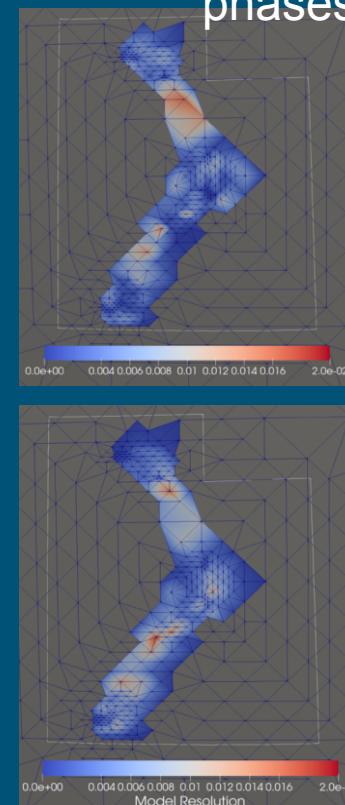
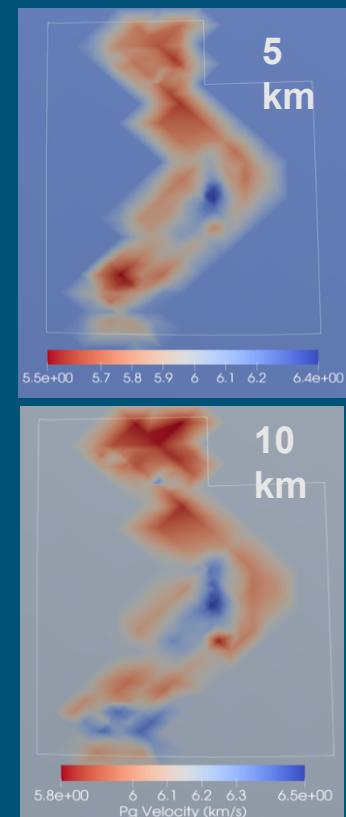
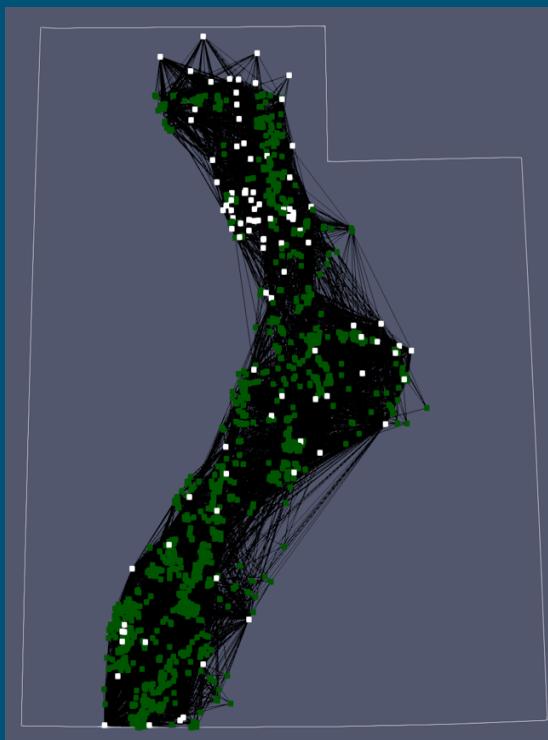


Figures from Ballard et al. (2016), BSSA

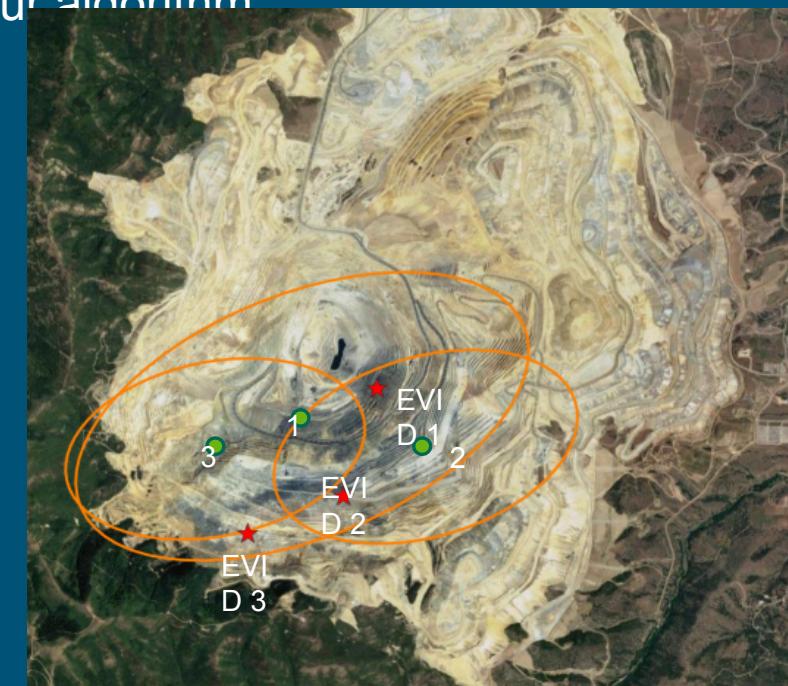
# Utah Model



- We want to extend the SALSA3D model to include the crust as well as the mantle in our inversions
- As an initial step towards this goal, we created a local crustal Pg velocity model along the Wasatch Front, Utah using arrivals provided by the UUSS to assess the applicability of our tomography approach to crustal tomography.



- We successfully generated a model that resulted in feasible event relocations using analyst-picked and ground-truth mining events.
- Having established feasibility, we are now conducting crustal waveform modeling to understand and accurately implement crustal phases in our algorithm.



**Event relocations of 3 GT events at Bingham Mine with 95% coverage ellipses.**

# Summary and Future Work



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- We are in the process of generating our first new SALSA3D model since 2017.
  - The new model will use data from up to 523K more events and 20K more sites than in 2017.
  - Generating an updated P model allows new staff to learn how to create SALSA3D models while simultaneously improving upon past models.
  - The new model will include secondary phases, which will be added in one-by-one to assess the effects of each phase.
- We successfully computed a model covariance matrix for our model which allows us to calculate path-dependent travel time uncertainty estimates.
- The new model appears similar to older models on the continents after just one relocation iteration.
  - More work needs to be done to correct artifacts in the oceans, which likely result in part from the inclusion of a water layer.
- As a first step toward inverting the crustal model for SALSA3D, we verified that our tomography approach is feasible by creating a reasonable local crustal velocity model in Utah.
  - We are now performing crustal waveform modeling to improve our understanding of how regional phases can be used in our inversions.
- We will eventually include OBS data provided by LANL to investigate mantle velocities beneath the oceans.
- We have begun work to implement a joint inversion capability for SALSA3D. We will begin with joint P- and S-wave inversions and extend to surface waves and gravity in the future.
- Similar to SALSA3D, we intend to develop a 3D velocity model for S-wave travel time prediction.



Ballard, S., J. R. Hipp, M. L. Begnaud, C. J. Young, A. V. Encarnacao, E. P. Chael, W. S. Phillips (2016) SALSA3D – A Tomographic Model of Compressional Wave Slowness in the Earth’s Mantle For Improved Travel Time Prediction and Travel Time Prediction Uncertainty, *Bulletin of the Seismological Society of America*, Vol. 106, No. 6, pp. 2900-2916, December 2016, [doi: 10.1785/0120150271](https://doi.org/10.1785/0120150271).

Ballard, S., J. Hipp, B. Kraus, A. Encarnacao, and C. Young (2016). GeoTess: A generalized Earth model software utility, *Seismol. Res. Lett.* 87, no. 3, [doi: 10.1785/0220150222](https://doi.org/10.1785/0220150222).

Ballard, S., J. R. Hipp and C. J. Young (2009). Efficient and Accurate Calculation of Ray Theory Seismic Travel Time through Variable Resolution 3D Earth Models, *Seismological Research Letters* v 80, 6 [doi: 10.1785/gssrl.80.6.989](https://doi.org/10.1785/gssrl.80.6.989).