### Pacific ORCA: Science update

**Co-authors**: Jim Gaherty (Northern Arizona U.) Josh Russell (U. Syracuse) Joseph Phillips (Northern Arizona U.) Anant Hariharan (UCSB) Don Forsyth (Brown U.) Lun Zhang (UC Santa Barbara) Colleen Dalton (Brown U.)

### Zach Eilon (UC Santa Barbara)

# h..... ACIFIC .R.C.A. OBS Research into Convecting Asthenosphere



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MSROC Community Meeting Science Update (pre-AGU 2023)





### Science questions - dynamic oceanic LAB



### Imaging SSC

### Weeraratne et al., 2007



### **Pacific Array of Arrays**



## Pacific ORCA experiment

![](_page_4_Figure_1.jpeg)

100% instrument recovery

![](_page_4_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_5_Picture_0.jpeg)

### **Teleseismic data**

![](_page_6_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_6_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_6_Picture_3.jpeg)

## Travel time tomography - SSC imaged!

### Key observations

- ±2% P-wave velocity anomalies in upper mantle
- Lineations parallel to plate motion + gravity anomalies
- Wavelength 200-300 km
- Depth of strongest anomalies 180-280 km
- 40 Ma Onset age (hmm..)

Eilon et al., 2022

![](_page_7_Picture_8.jpeg)

![](_page_7_Figure_9.jpeg)

![](_page_7_Figure_10.jpeg)

![](_page_7_Picture_11.jpeg)

### Vs to Gravity

- Collapse tomography to 2.5-D (along rolls)
- Collapse gravity variations down to 1-D (along rolls)
- Predict 1-D grav. from 2-D tomo.
  - Convert from velocity variation to temperature variation (fraught)
  - Convert from temperature to density variation (assume a)
  - Compute surface gravity anomalies (upward continuation)

![](_page_8_Picture_7.jpeg)

![](_page_8_Figure_8.jpeg)

# Velocity, attenuation from surface waves

- Earthquake and ambient noise Rayleigh waves
- Low velocities of Young ORCA upper mantle
- VERY high attenuation  $(Q_s \sim 30)$  in confined layer
- Observations not reconcilable with simple cooling - if temp. alone

![](_page_9_Figure_5.jpeg)

Russell et al., in prep

![](_page_9_Picture_7.jpeg)

![](_page_10_Figure_0.jpeg)

Russell et al., in prep

![](_page_10_Picture_2.jpeg)

**DI 13B–0032** (Mon PM)

![](_page_11_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_12_Figure_0.jpeg)

Russell et al., in prep

![](_page_12_Picture_2.jpeg)

DI 13B-0032 (Mon PM)

## **Emerging story**

- Highly dynamic small scale convective system
- Thin, dynamically crucial asthenosphere (damp, melt-laden, deformed)
- Rheological gradients

![](_page_13_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_13_Figure_5.jpeg)

### **Emerging story**

- Is this area typical?
- Early for SSC
- Extra warm?
- Extra wet?

![](_page_14_Figure_5.jpeg)

![](_page_14_Figure_6.jpeg)

### SW phV and anisotropy

![](_page_15_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_15_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_15_Figure_3.jpeg)

### Phillips et al., in prep

![](_page_15_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_15_Picture_8.jpeg)

b.

![](_page_15_Picture_9.jpeg)

Joey Phillips

![](_page_16_Figure_0.jpeg)

Period (s)

### SW anisotropy

![](_page_17_Figure_1.jpeg)

Phillips et al., Russell et al., in prep

![](_page_17_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_17_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_17_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_18_Picture_1.jpeg)

## **Travel time tomography - more mysteries**

### Key observations

- ±0.5s P-wave travel time variations
- ±1s S-wave travel time variations
- Consistent across frequency bands
- Coherent back-azimuthal patterns

Hariharan et al., in prep

![](_page_19_Picture_7.jpeg)

-20

-32

-33

-34

-35

-36

-37

-38

![](_page_19_Figure_9.jpeg)

## **Travel time tomography - more mysteries**

![](_page_20_Figure_1.jpeg)

 $\blacktriangleright$  ±2%  $\delta$ Vs variations

Perhaps lineations Perhaps APM-parallel

Hariharan et al., in prep

![](_page_20_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_20_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_20_Picture_7.jpeg)

# Plug - upcoming experiment OBSIC

Galapagos triple-junction MORfest

Emphasis	Deploy	Recover	Stations
CNR, PCR	01/2025	~03/2026	A&B 44 BBOBS
CNR, TJ	~03/2027	~05/2028	C&D 42 BBOBS

### Science party on each cruise

- I Jr faculty/postdoc co-Chief Sci.
- 3-6 watch standers
- Bonus science opportunities...

![](_page_21_Figure_7.jpeg)

![](_page_22_Picture_0.jpeg)

Questions?

### Pacific ORCA experiment - data issues

![](_page_23_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_23_Picture_2.jpeg)

### **Science questions - dynamic oceanic LAB**

- How do plates cool?
- What causes seismic NVGs (if not the plate)?
- What gives rise to off-axis, non-age-progressive volcanism?
- What causes elongated freeair gravity anomalies?
- Does lithosphere chemically exchange with –10° asthenosphere?
- How does lithosphere move over asthenosphere?

-150°

**0°** 

### Filtered Gravity (mGal)

![](_page_24_Picture_9.jpeg)

-130° -120° -140° -110°

![](_page_24_Figure_12.jpeg)

![](_page_24_Picture_13.jpeg)

# **Gravity and Topography**

- De-spike (remove seamounts)
- 80km gaussian convolution filter
- ► 10<sup>6</sup>-10<sup>1</sup> m gaussian bandpass filter

### **ORCA FAA (mGal)**

![](_page_25_Figure_5.jpeg)

### **ORCA Differential Bathymetry (m)**

![](_page_25_Figure_7.jpeg)

-130° –132°

![](_page_25_Picture_9.jpeg)

## **Gravity and Topography**

Free Air Coherence Normalized cross spectrum measure of similarity of gravity and bathymetry fields averaged over wavenumber bands

Free Air Admittance Ratio of power in gravity vs. bathymetry spectra (2-D Fourier) averaged over wavenumber  $Z_{FA}(k) = \frac{G_{FA}(k)}{H(k)}$ bands

![](_page_26_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_26_Picture_5.jpeg)