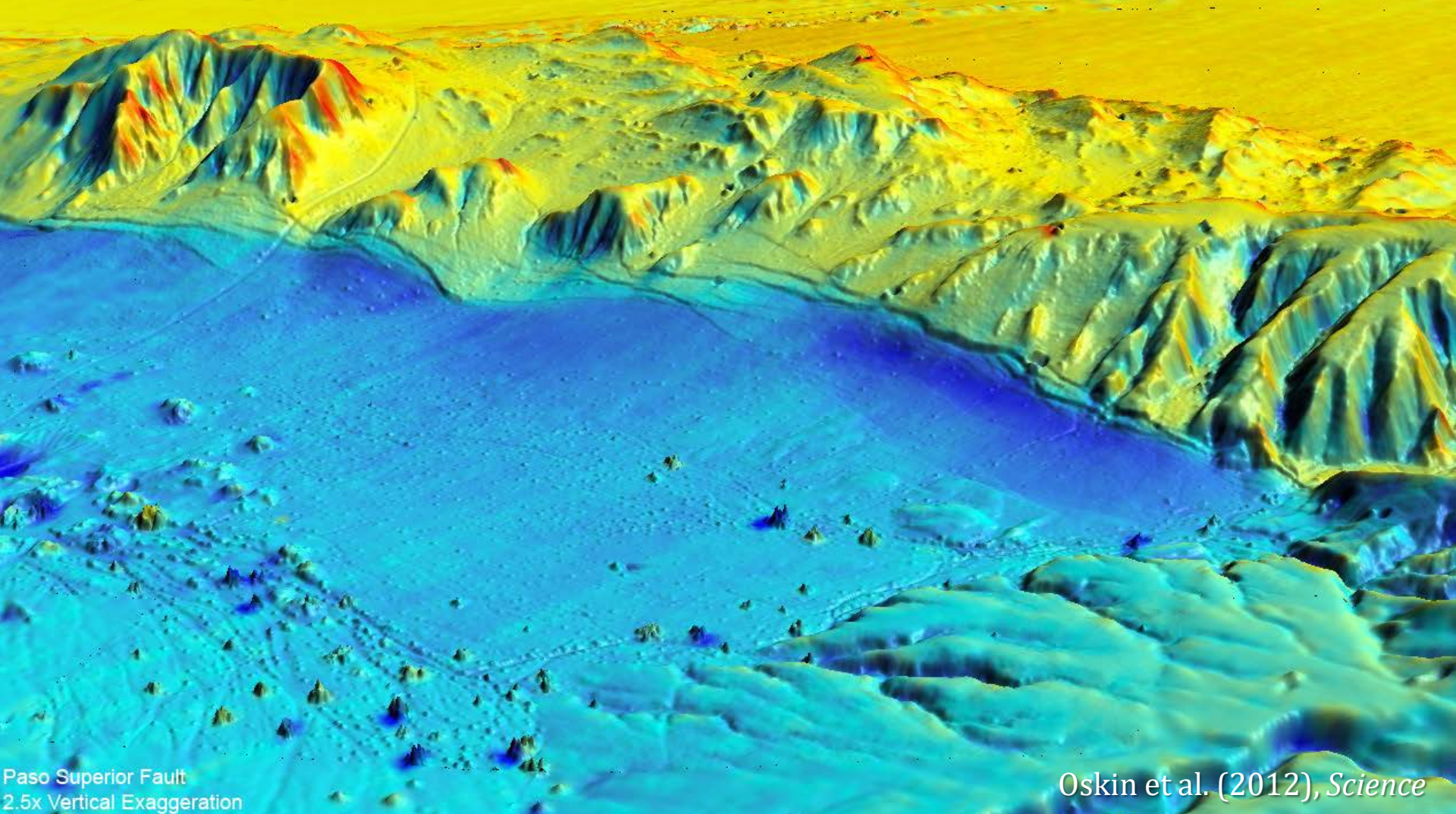


# Aligning point clouds and topographic change detection



Edwin Nissen (Colorado School of Mines)

*Thanks to:* Ramon Arrowsmith, Srikanth Saripalli, Aravindhan Krishnan (ASU), Adrian Borsa (Scripps), Craig Glennie (Houston), Alejandro Hinojosa-Corona (CICESE), Tadashi Maruyama (AIST), Austin Elliott, Mike Oskin (UC Davis)

# Aligning point clouds and topographic change detection

- Multi-temporal topography
- Earthquake examples:
  - scientific motivation
  - aligning (registering) topography data with ICP
  - 2008 Iwate earthquake (Japan)
  - 2011 Fukushima earthquake (Japan)
  - 2010 El Mayor Cucapah earthquake (Mexico)
- Other applications

Paso Superior Fault  
2.5x Vertical Exaggeration

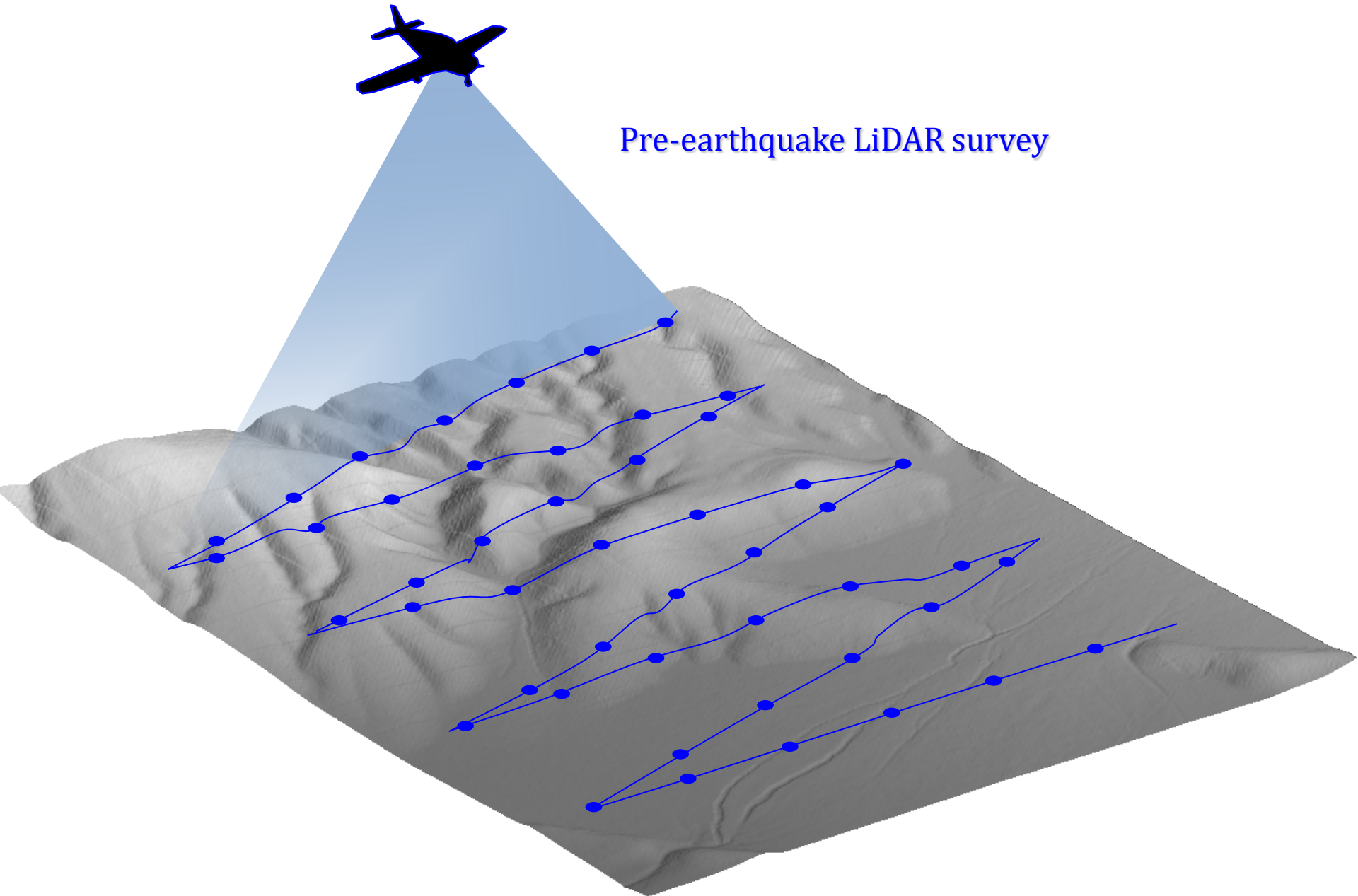
# Aligning point clouds and topographic change detection



[www.opentopography.org](http://www.opentopography.org)

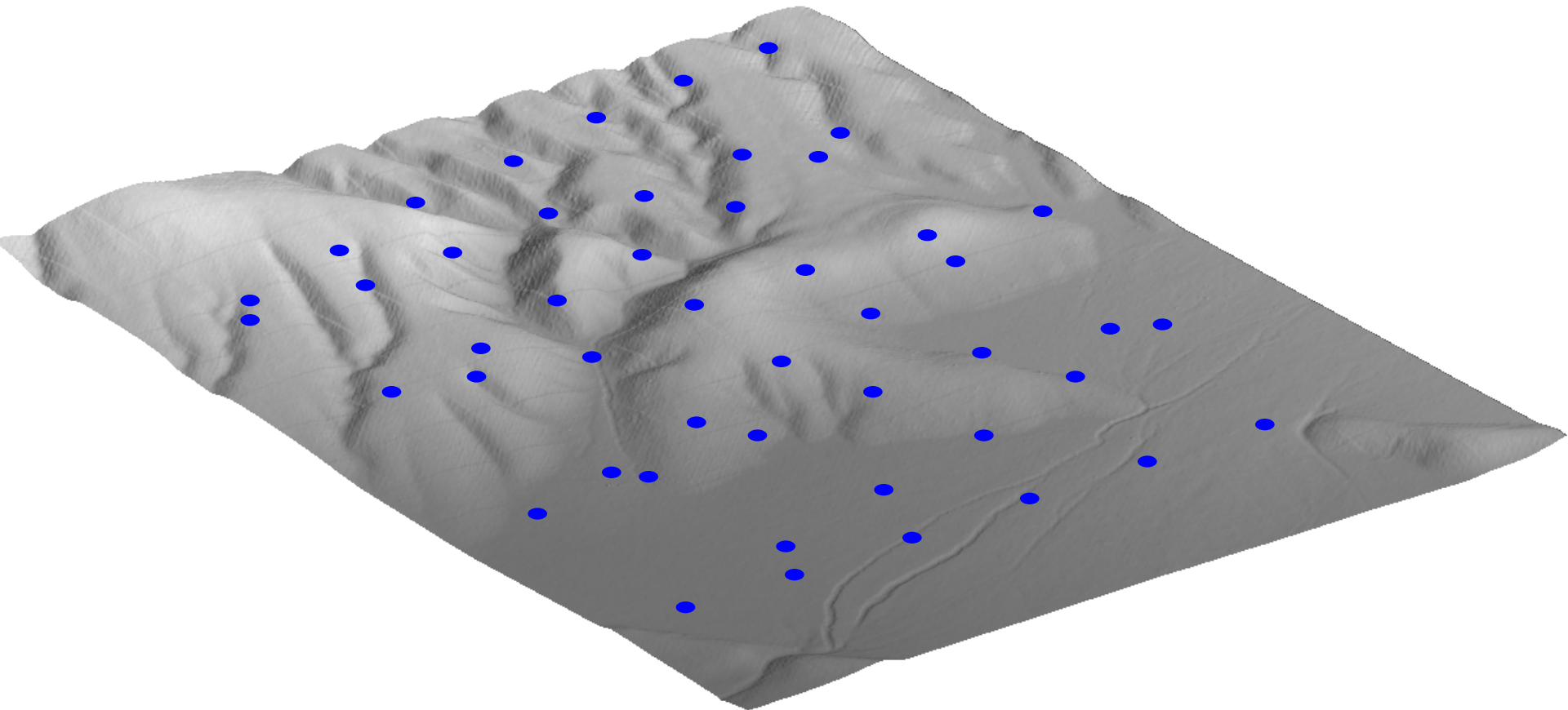
- There is now a “baseline” of lidar topography on many active faults in the western US
- After an earthquake, repeat lidar data can be collected and differenced

# 3-D earthquake deformation from repeat lidar

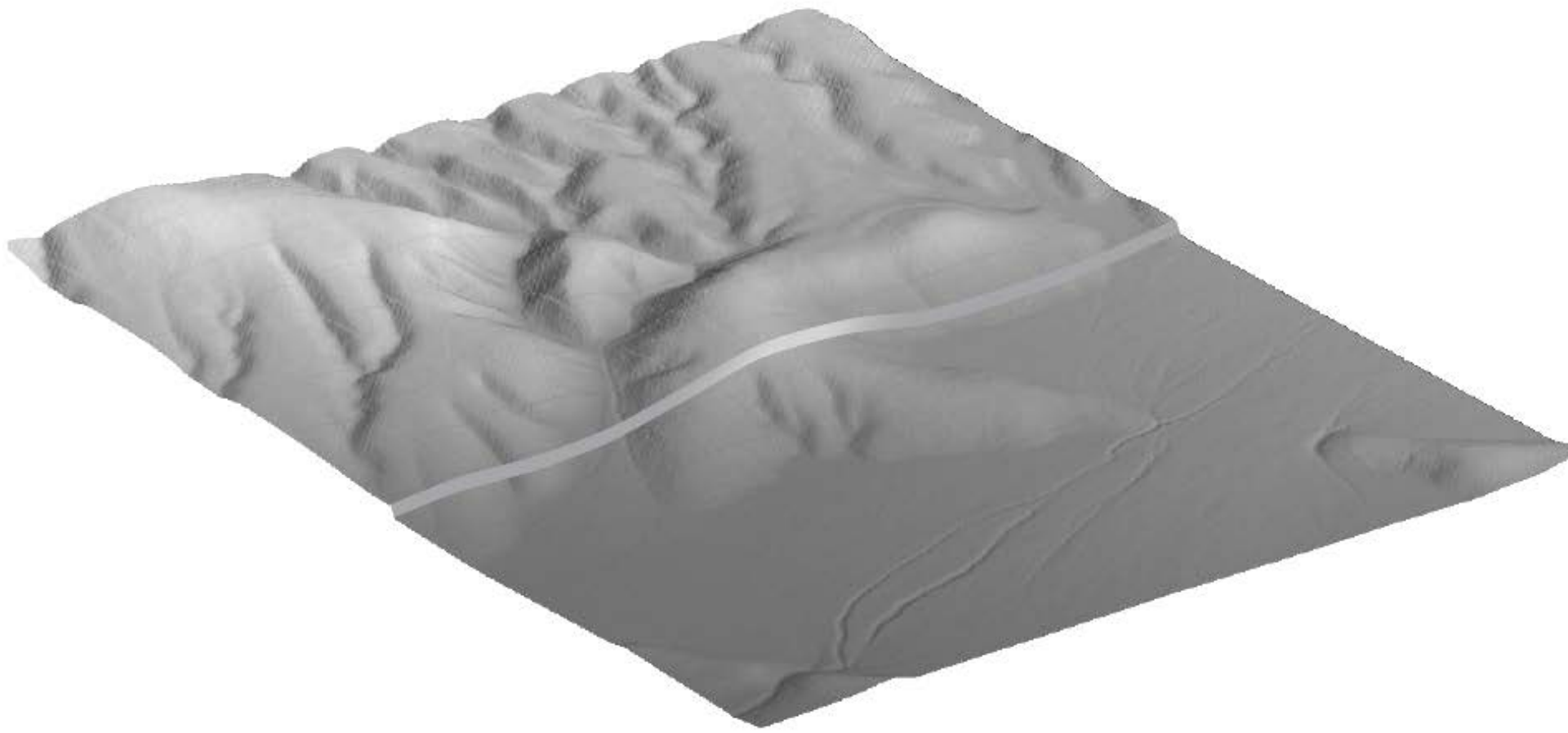


# 3-D earthquake deformation from repeat lidar

Pre-earthquake point cloud

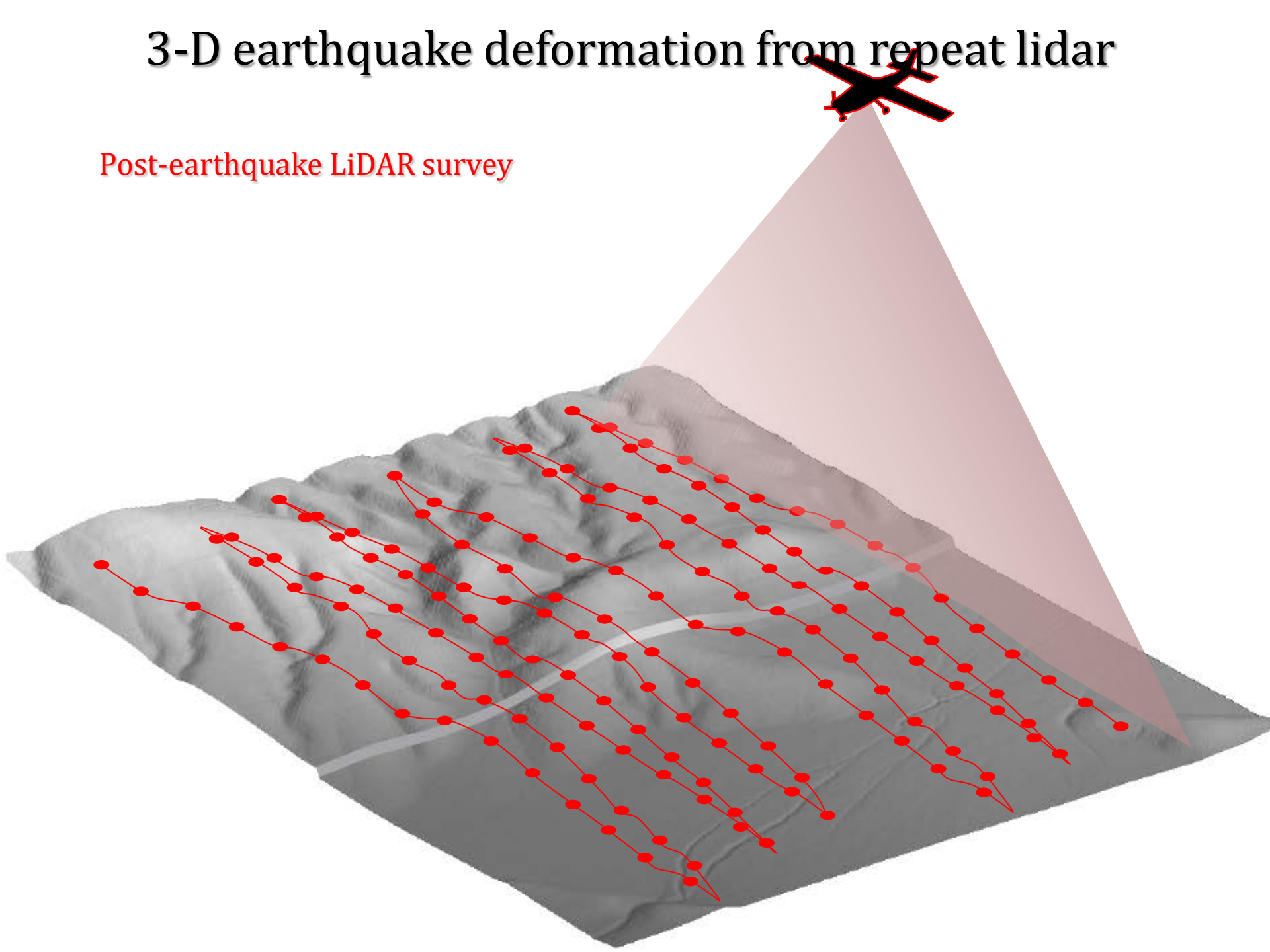


# 3-D earthquake deformation from repeat lidar



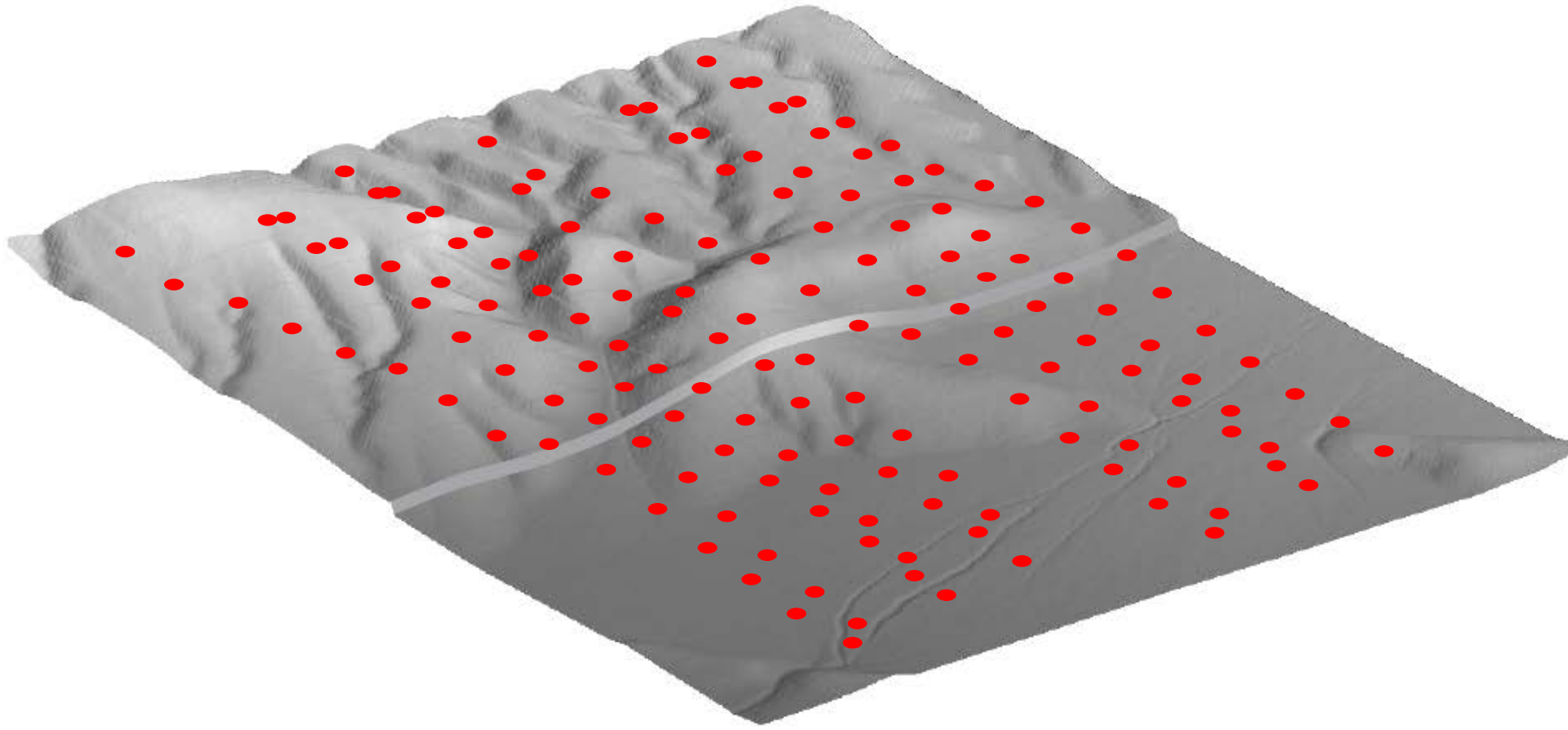
# 3-D earthquake deformation from repeat lidar

Post-earthquake LiDAR survey



# 3-D earthquake deformation from repeat lidar

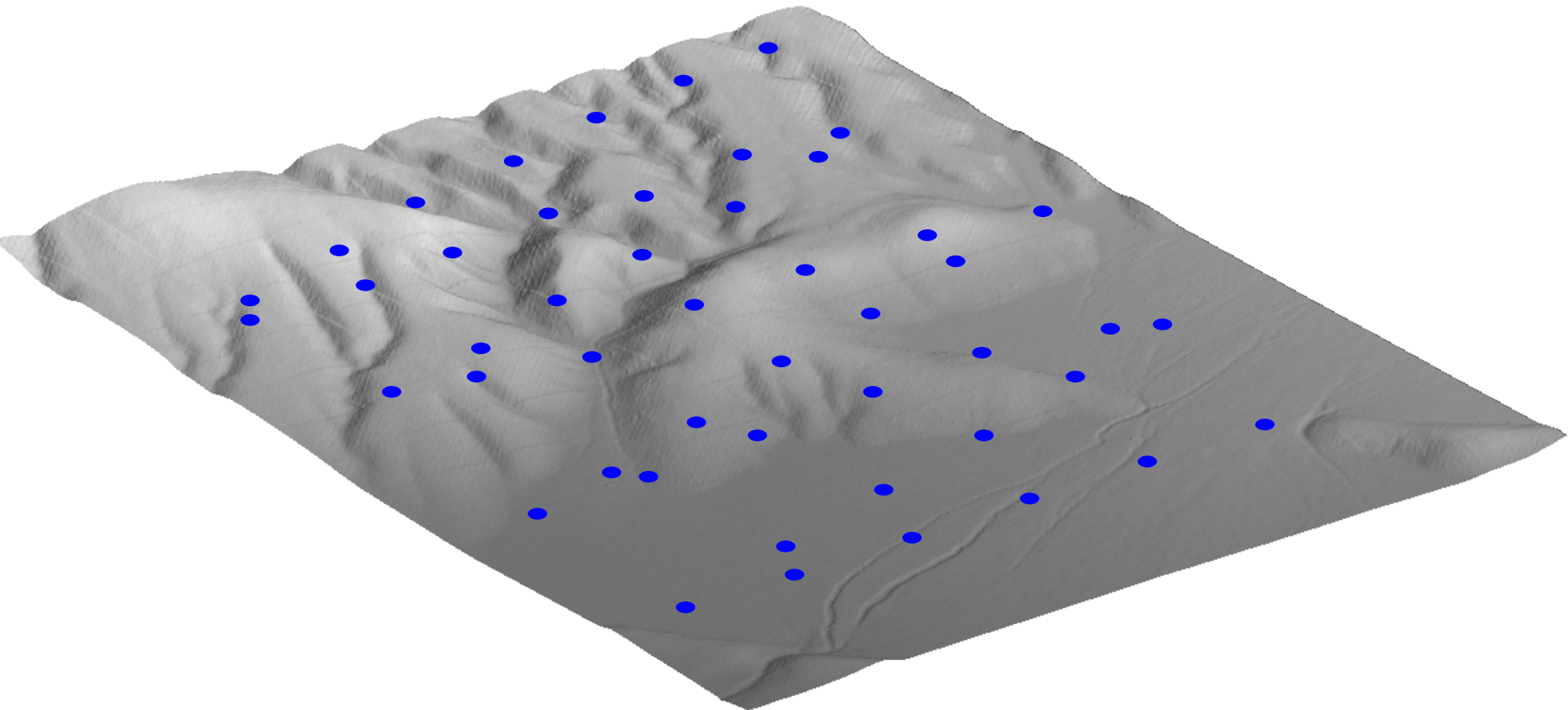
Post-earthquake point cloud





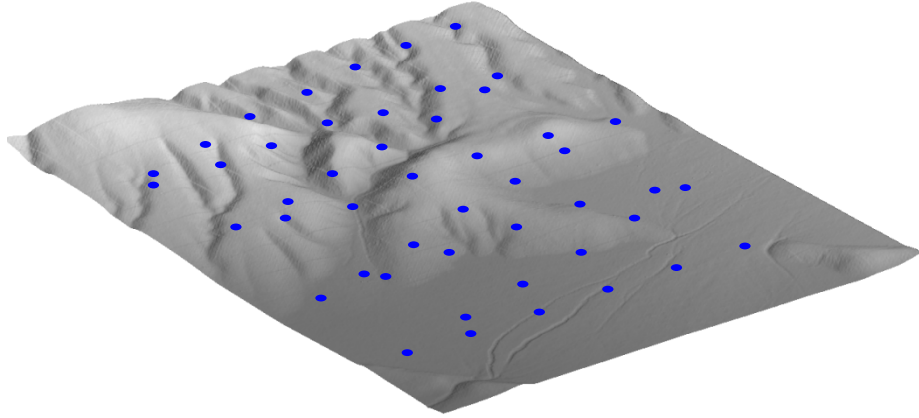
# 3-D earthquake deformation from repeat lidar

Pre-earthquake point cloud

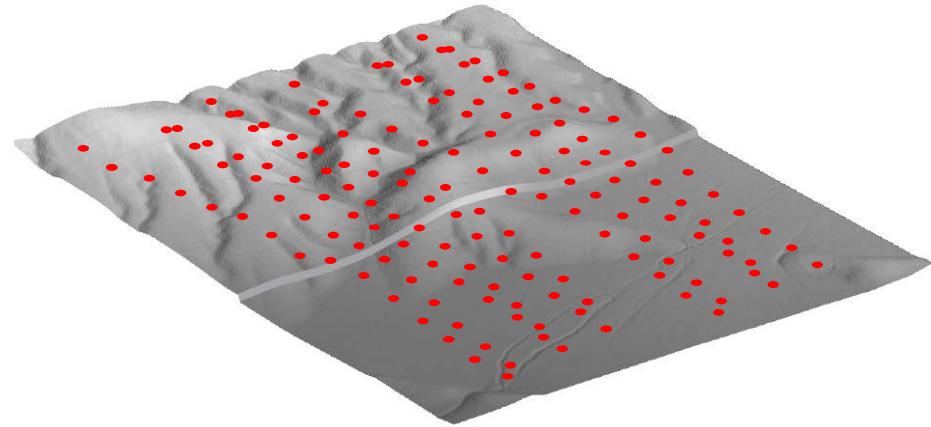


# 3-D earthquake deformation from repeat lidar

Pre-earthquake point cloud



Post-earthquake point cloud

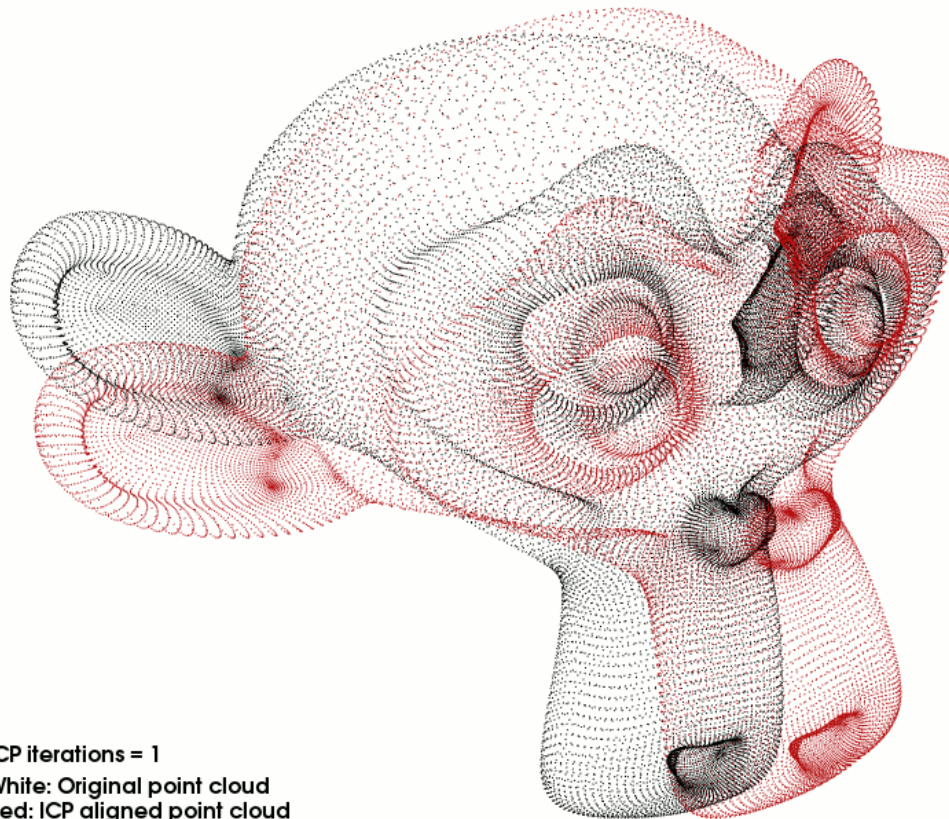


## The Challenges of LiDAR differencing

- Data are irregularly spaced (we can rasterize them, but lose information doing so)
- There can be large mismatches in point density (legacy datasets vs modern surveys)
- ... and mismatches in data quality and metrics (third party vs research-grade)
- Treatment of vegetation returns in forested areas

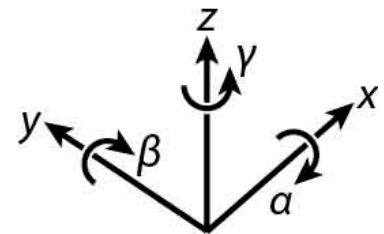
# 3-D earthquake deformation from repeat lidar

- The **iterative closest point** algorithm (ICP) is a method for registering (aligning) irregular point clouds, well known in computer vision and medical imaging
- ICP minimizes closest point pair distances using iterative **rigid-body transformations**, each one comprising a **translation**  $[ t_x t_y t_z ]$  and a **rotation**  $[ \alpha \beta \gamma ]$



ICP iterations = 1  
White: Original point cloud  
Red: ICP aligned point cloud

$$\Phi = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -\gamma & \beta & t_x \\ \gamma & 1 & -\alpha & t_y \\ -\beta & \alpha & 1 & t_z \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

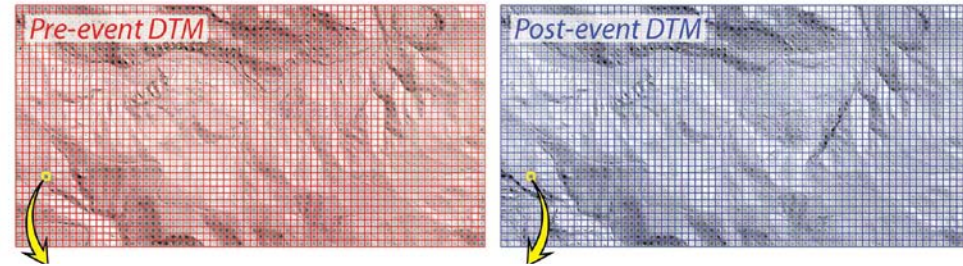


# 3-D earthquake deformation from repeat lidar

- The **iterative closest point** algorithm (ICP) is a method for registering (aligning) irregular point clouds, well known in computer vision and medical imaging
- ICP minimizes closest point pair distances using iterative **rigid-body transformations**, each one comprising a **translation**  $[ t_x t_y t_z ]$  and a **rotation**  $[ \alpha \beta \gamma ]$

- (1) the two LiDAR datasets are first split into square “cells”

1 Split both datasets into square cells



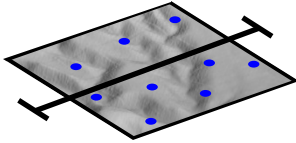
- (2) ICP is run on each equivalent pair of cells.

The **translation**  $[ t_x t_y t_z ]$  corresponds to the cell displacement

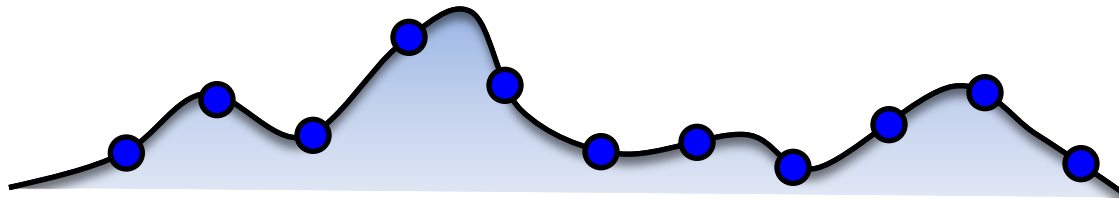
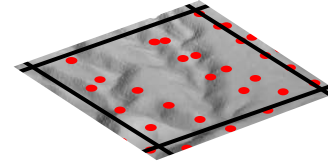
- (3) this is repeated for the next pair of cells

# Iterative Closest Point algorithm (ICP)

Pre-earthquake cell

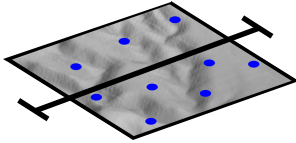


Post-earthquake cell

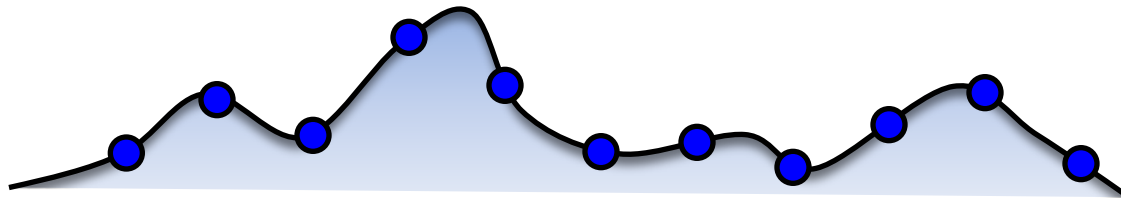
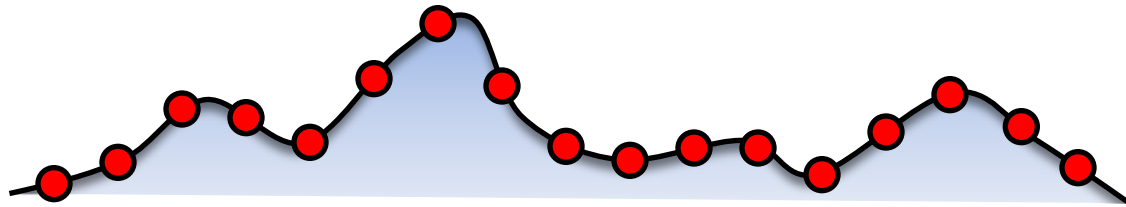
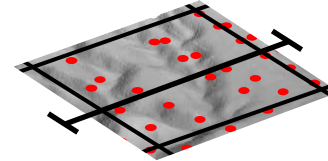


# Iterative Closest Point algorithm (ICP)

Pre-earthquake cell

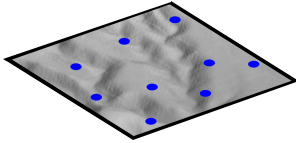


Post-earthquake cell

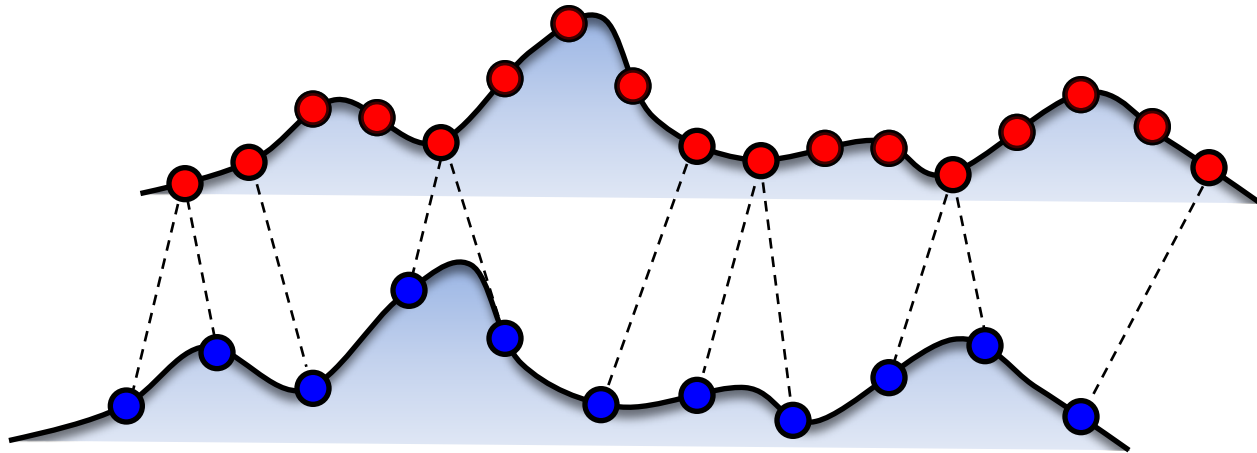
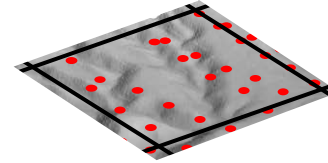


# Iterative Closest Point algorithm (ICP)

Pre-earthquake cell

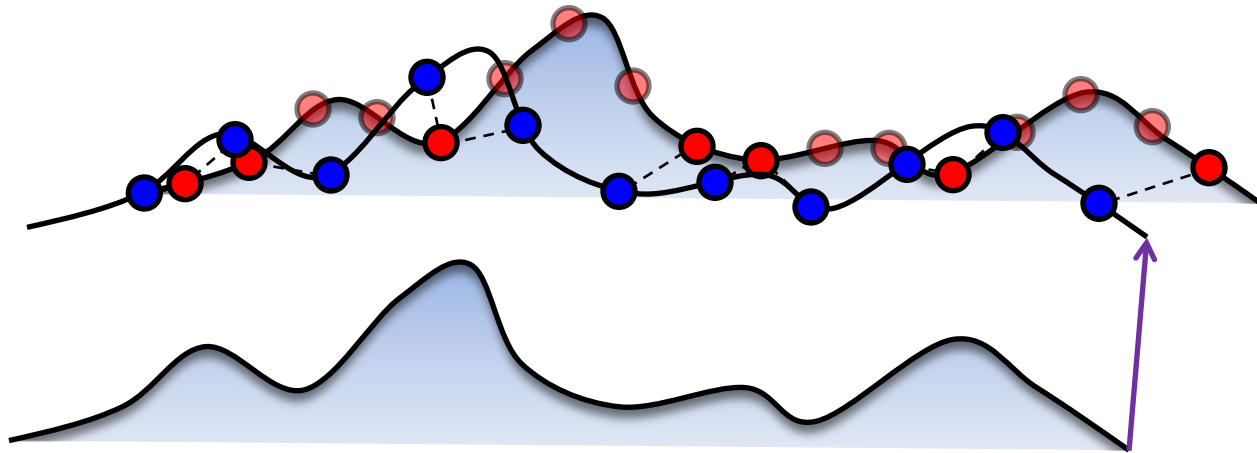



Post-earthquake cell



Find closest points

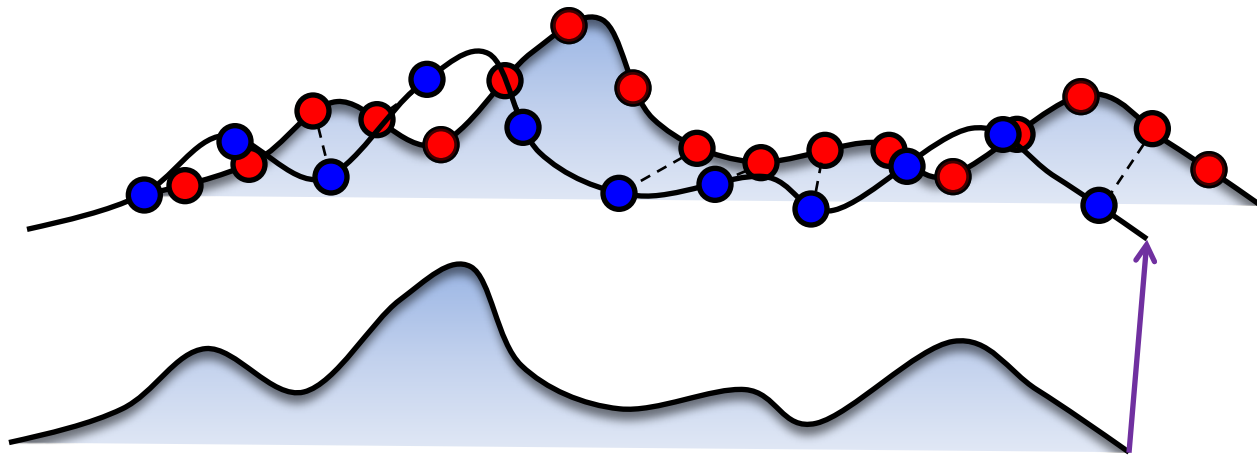
# Iterative Closest Point algorithm (ICP)



Iterate  Find closest points  
Transform point cloud  $\phi = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -\gamma & \beta & t_x \\ \gamma & 1 & -\alpha & t_y \\ -\beta & \alpha & 1 & t_z \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$



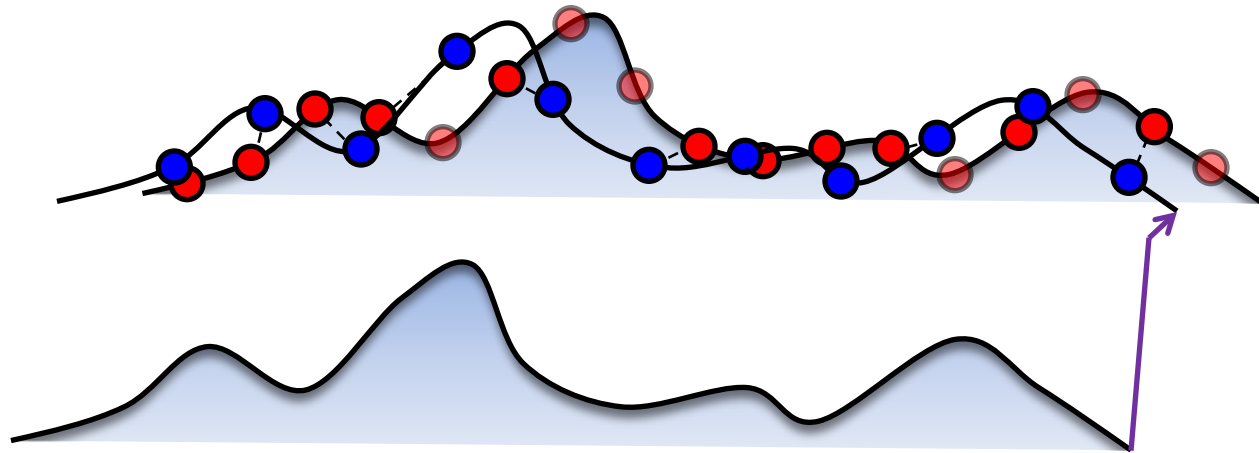
# Iterative Closest Point algorithm (ICP)



Find closest points

Transform point cloud

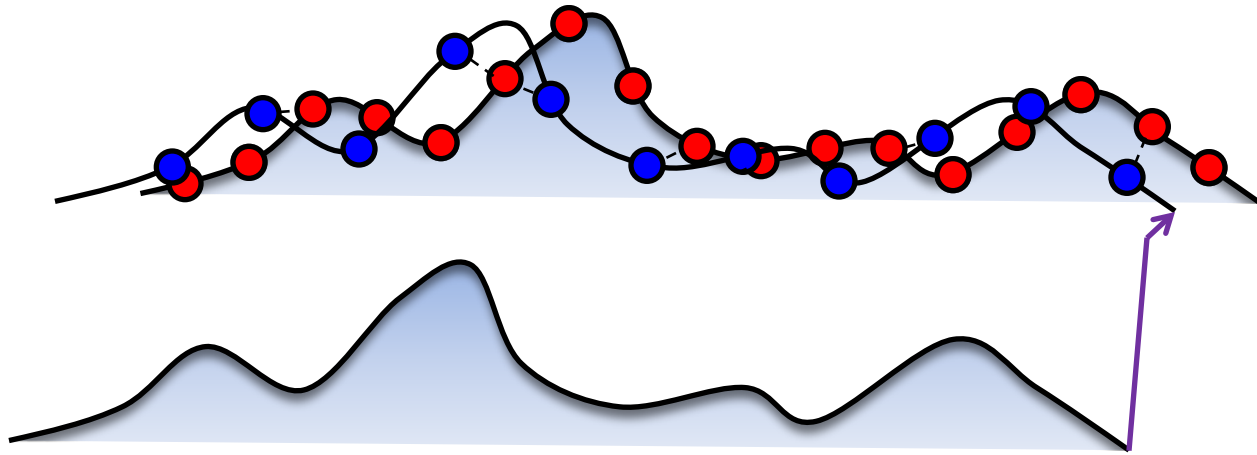
# Iterative Closest Point algorithm (ICP)



Find closest points

Transform point cloud

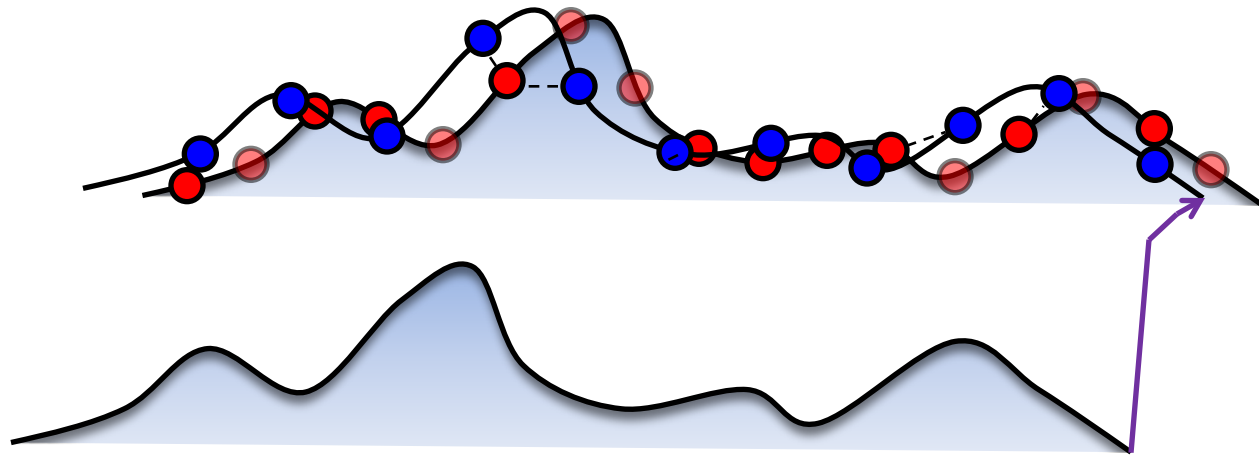
# Iterative Closest Point algorithm (ICP)



Find closest points

Transform point cloud

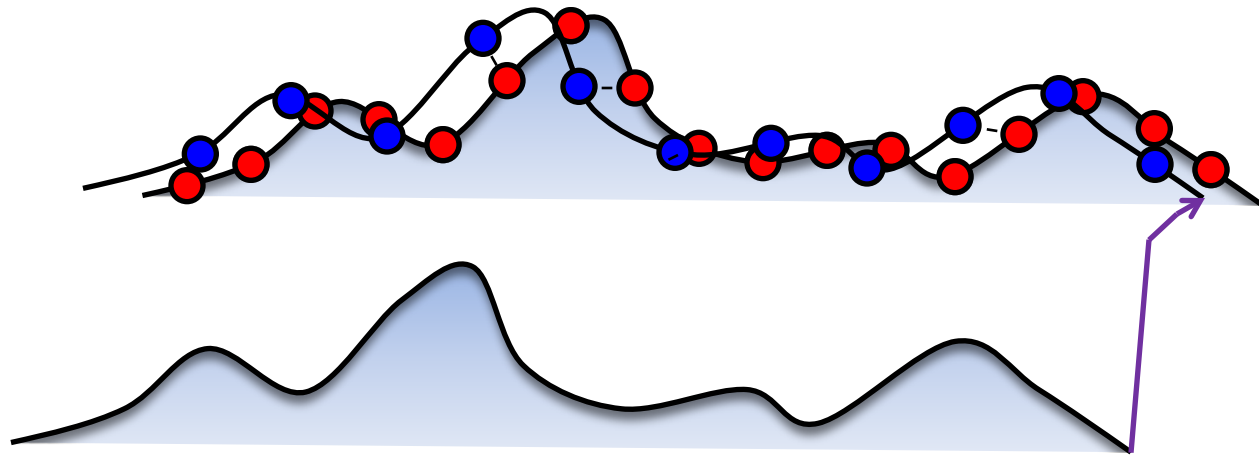
# Iterative Closest Point algorithm (ICP)



Find closest points

Transform point cloud

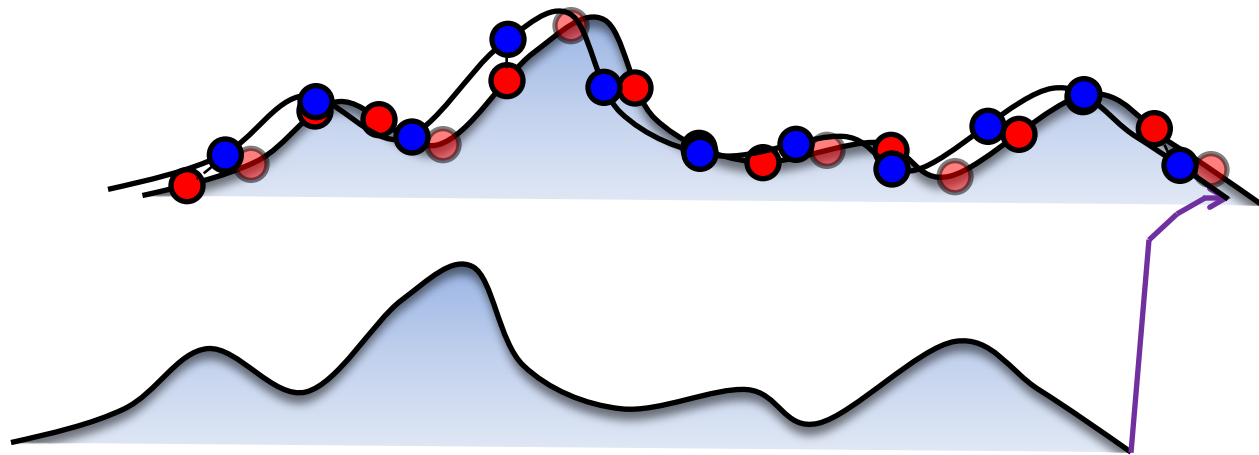
# Iterative Closest Point algorithm (ICP)



Find closest points

Transform point cloud

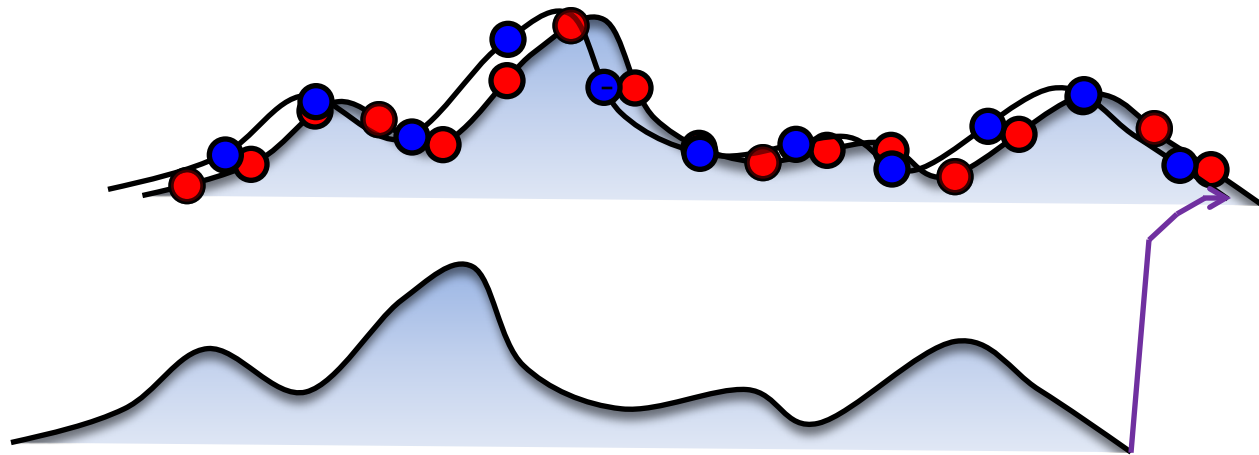
# Iterative Closest Point algorithm (ICP)



Find closest points

Transform point cloud

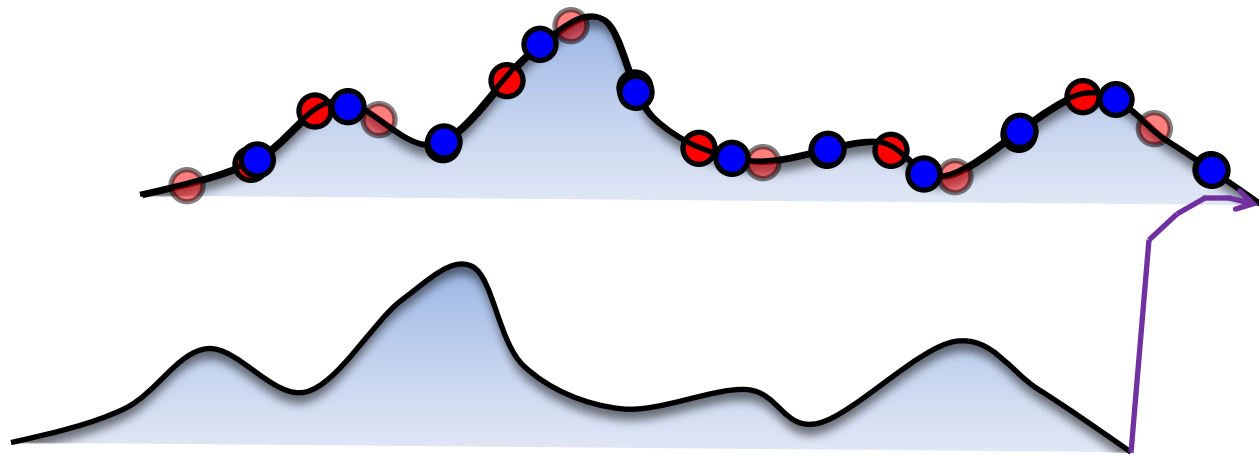
# Iterative Closest Point algorithm (ICP)



Find closest points

Transform point cloud

# Iterative Closest Point algorithm (ICP)

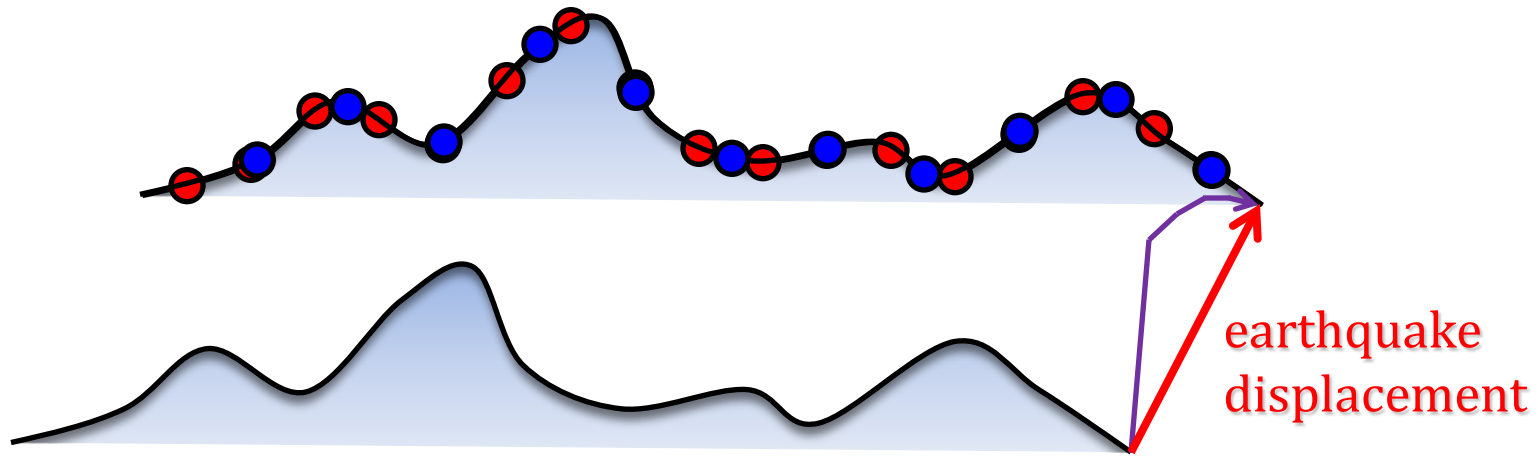


Find closest points

Transform point cloud



# Iterative Closest Point algorithm (ICP)



Find closest points

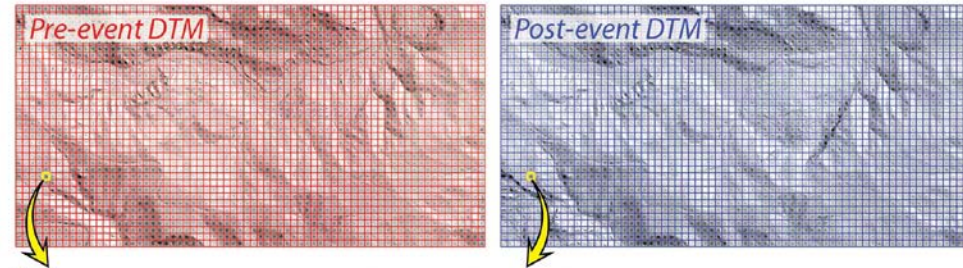
Transform point cloud

# 3-D earthquake deformation from repeat LiDAR point clouds

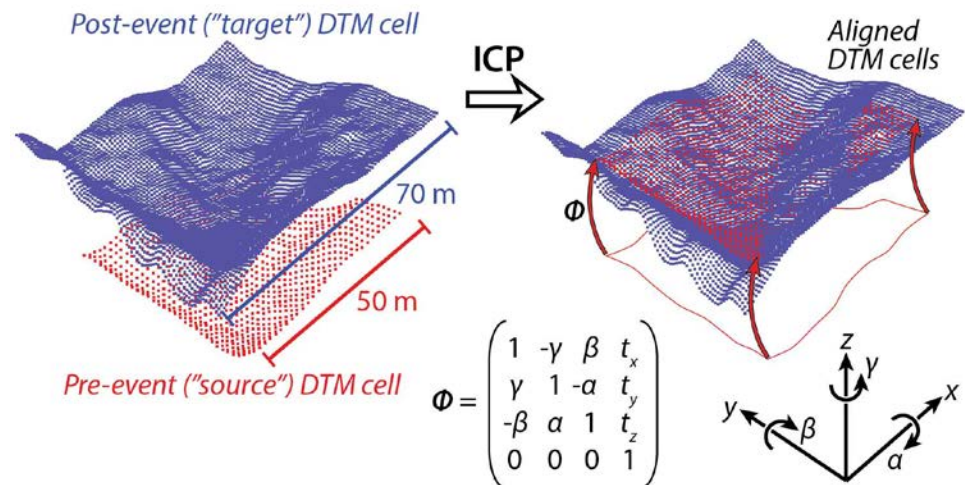
## Caveats

- ICP will not work if there are large changes to the shape of the cell, e.g. through landsliding
- ICP will generate spurious results in areas that are very planar

1 Split both datasets into square cells

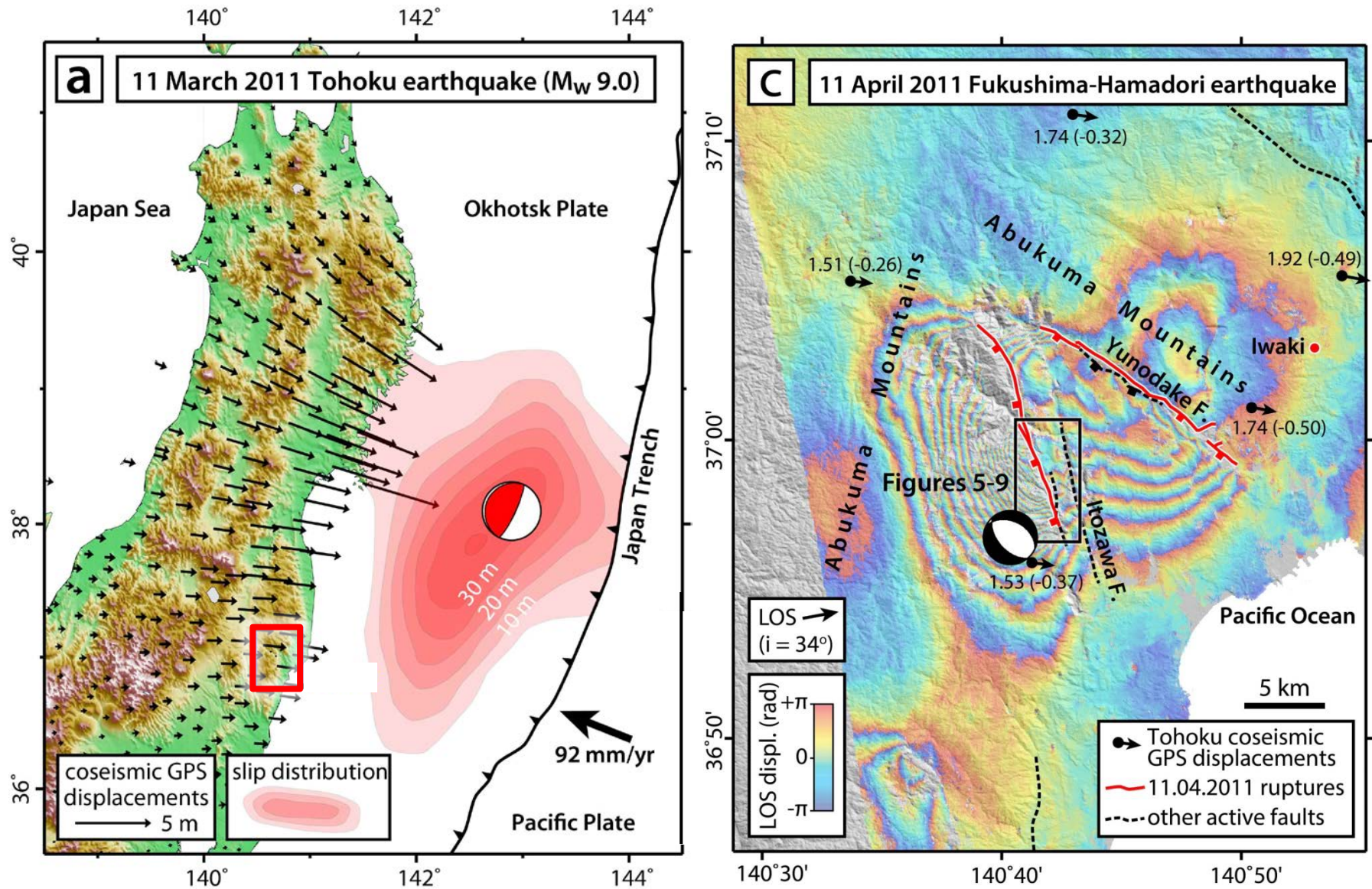


2 Take two equivalent cells and align with ICP

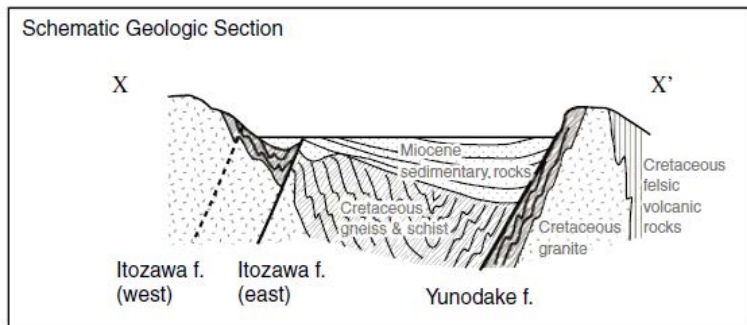
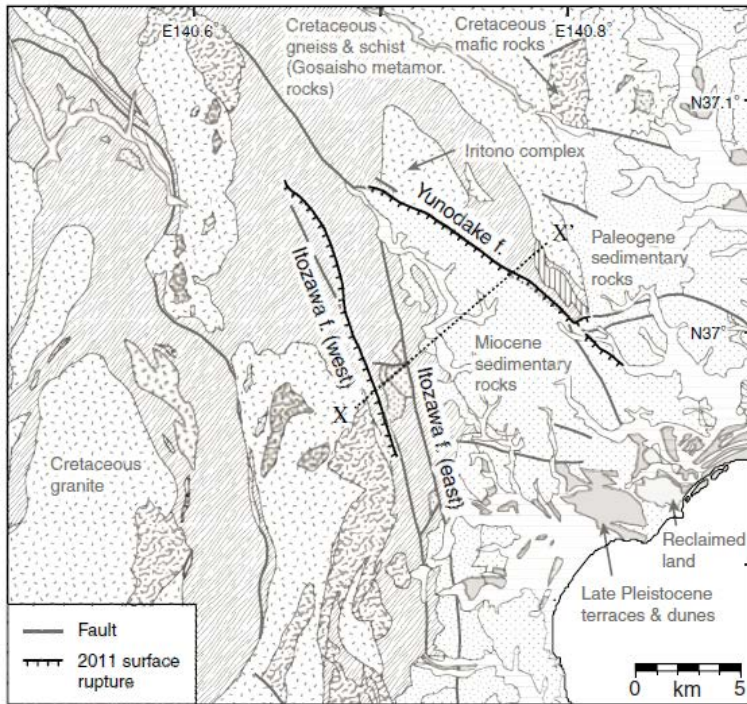


3 Move on to next pair of cells and repeat step 2

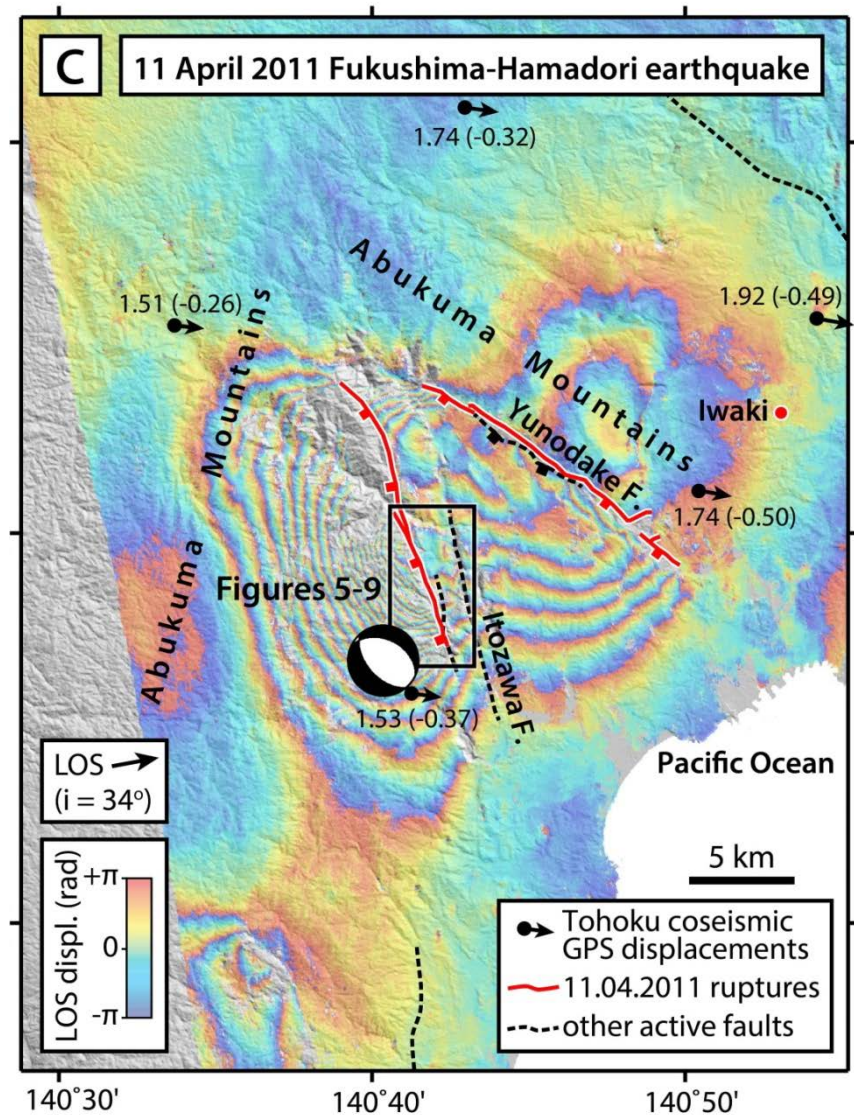
# 11 April 2011 Fukushima-Hamadori earthquake



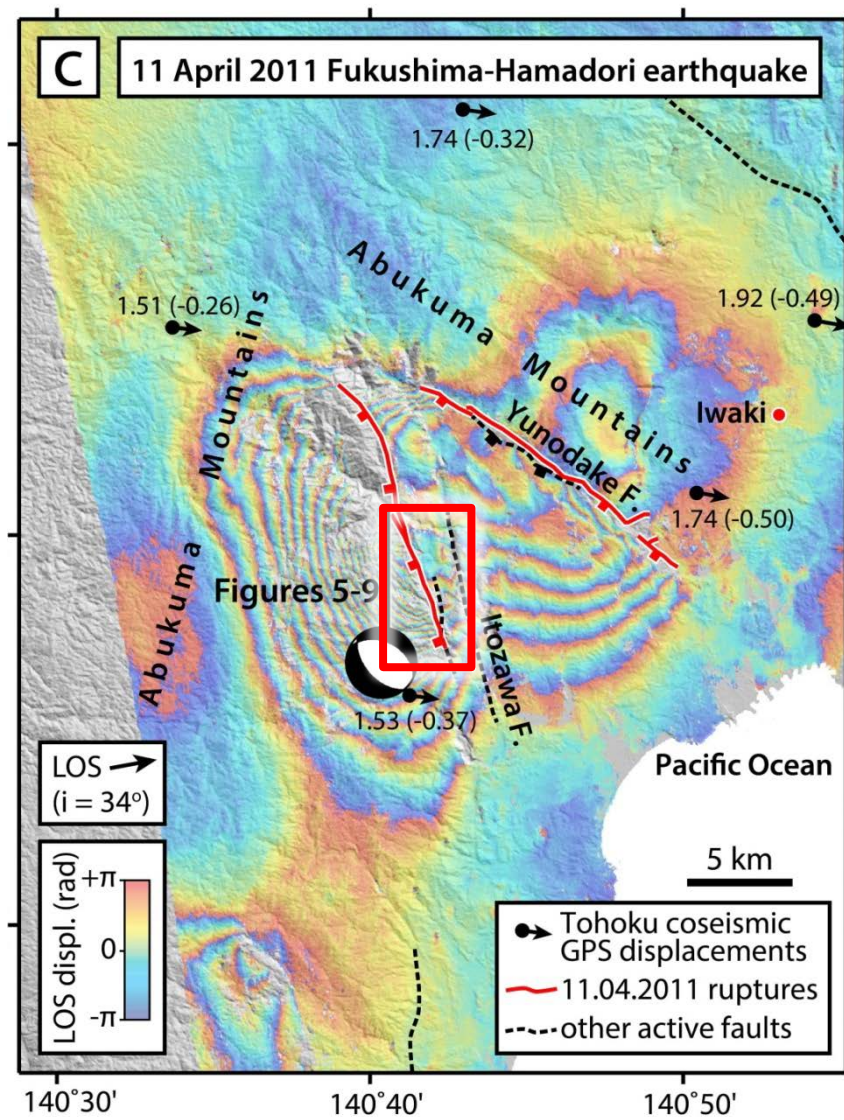
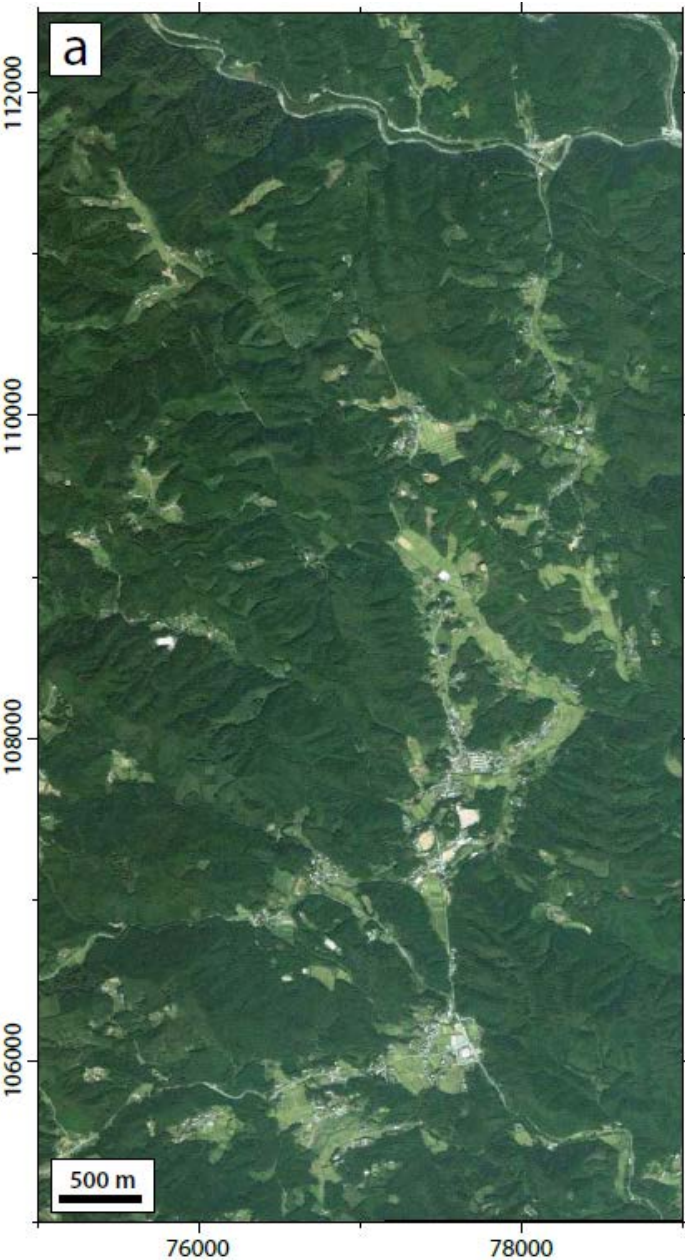
# 11 April 2011 Fukushima-Hamadori earthquake



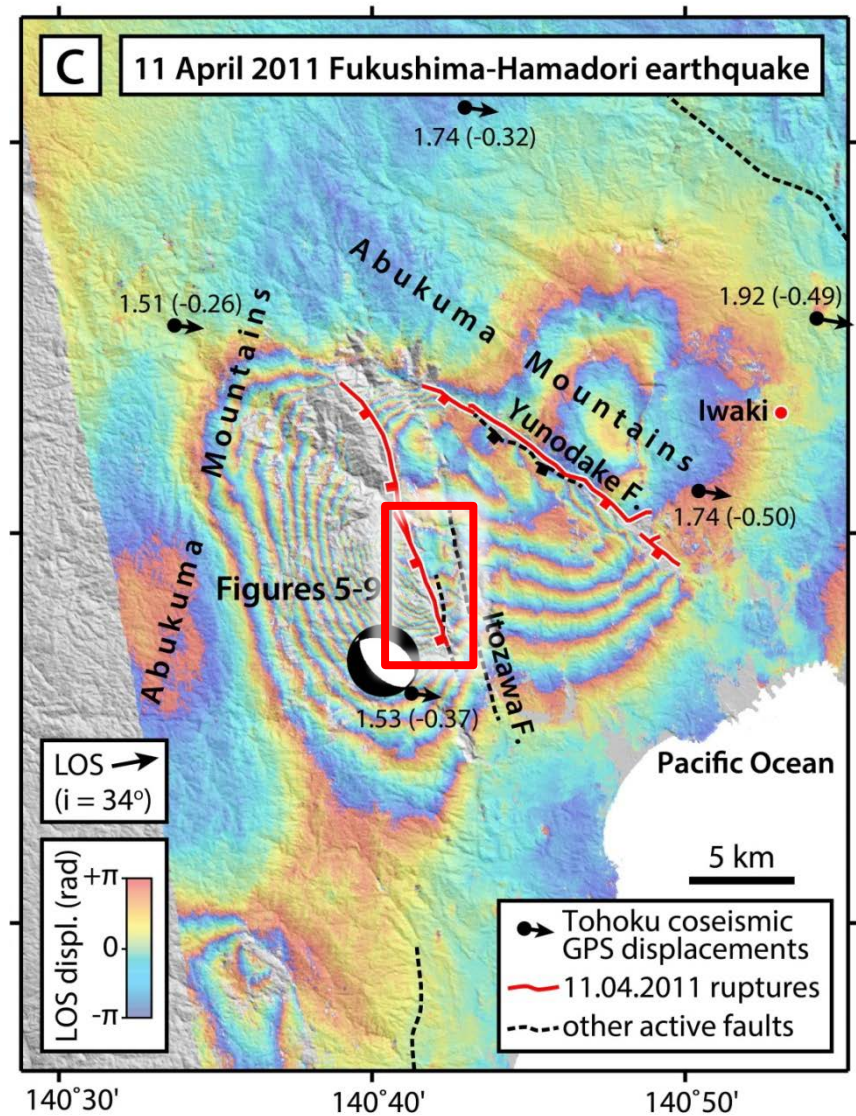
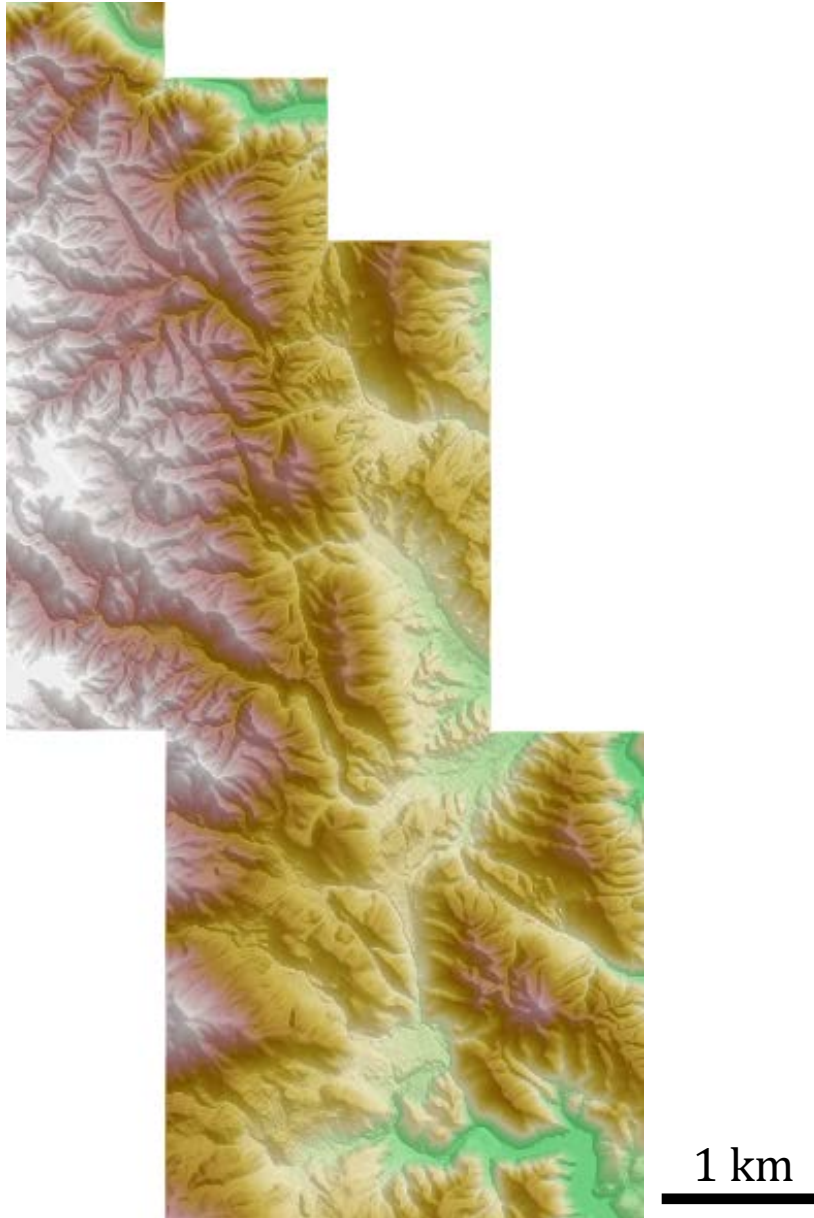
Toda & Tsutsumi (2013), BSSA



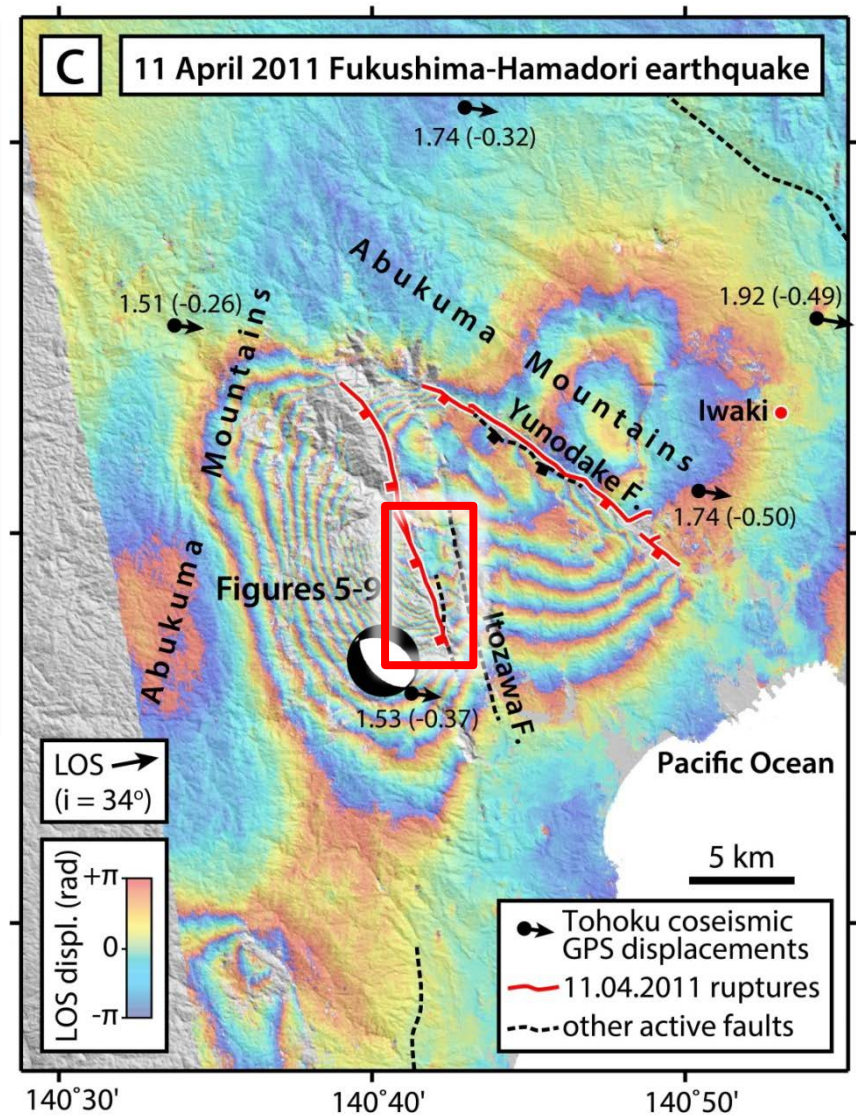
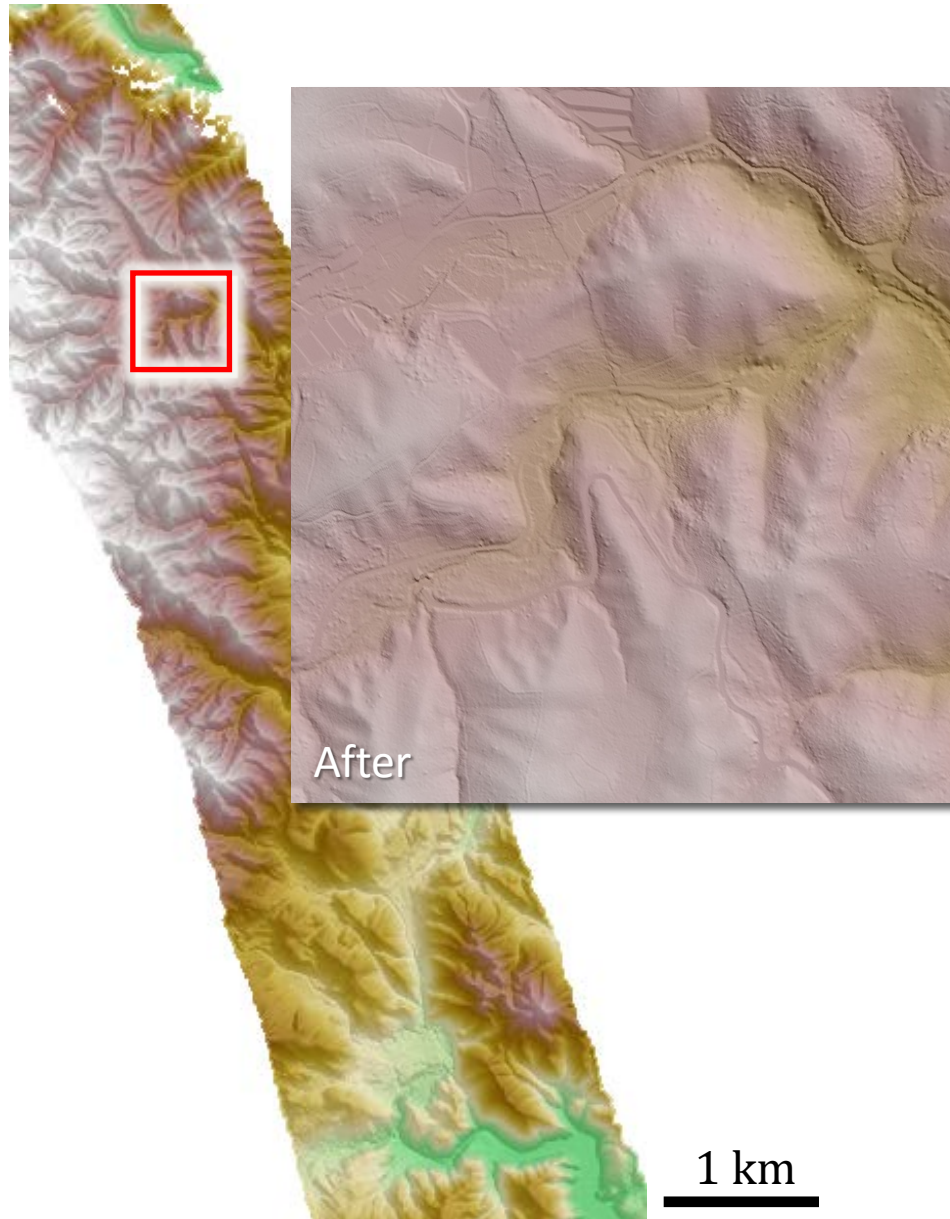
# 11 April 2011 Fukushima-Hamadori earthquake



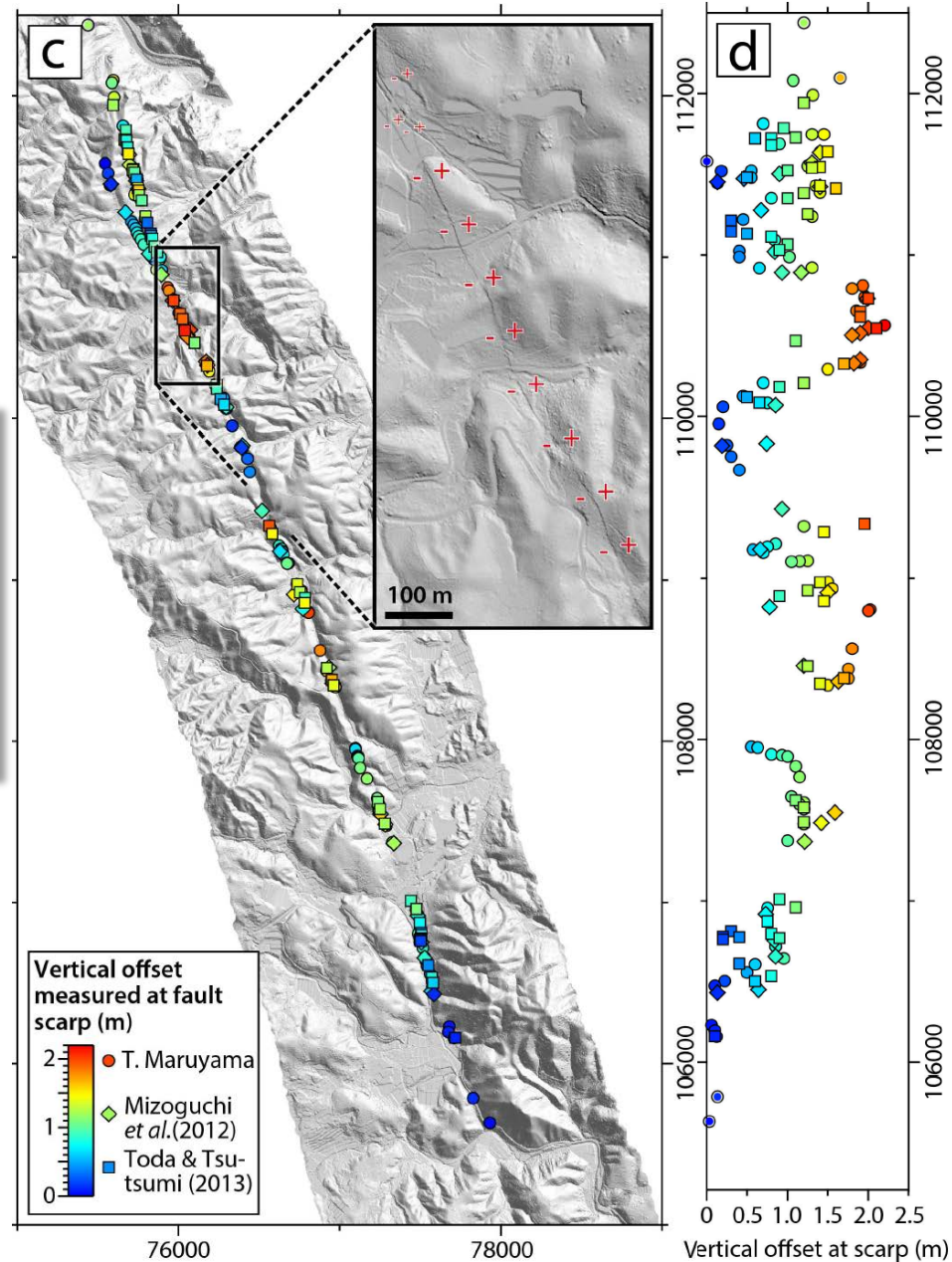
# 11 April 2011 Fukushima-Hamadori earthquake



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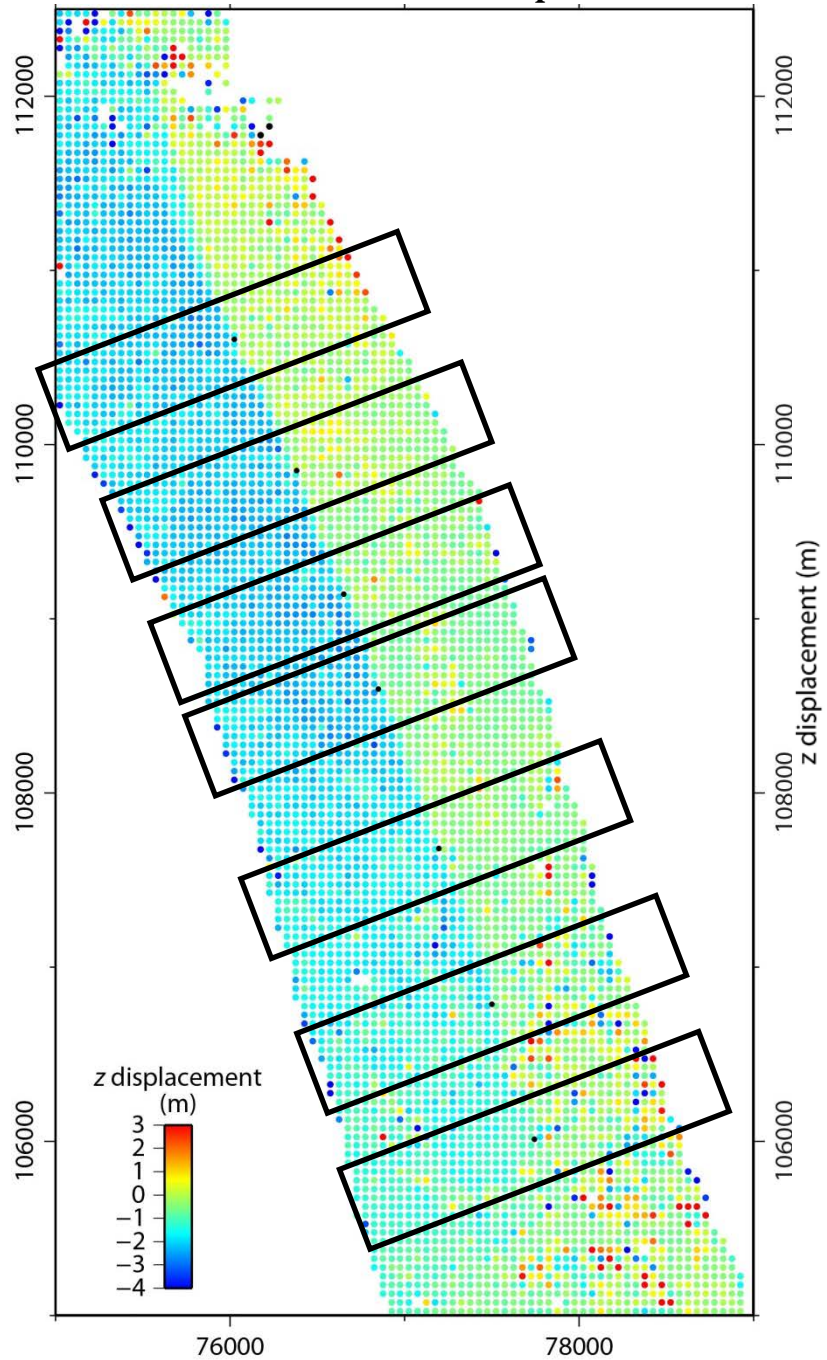


# 11 April 2011 Fukushima-Hamadori earthquake

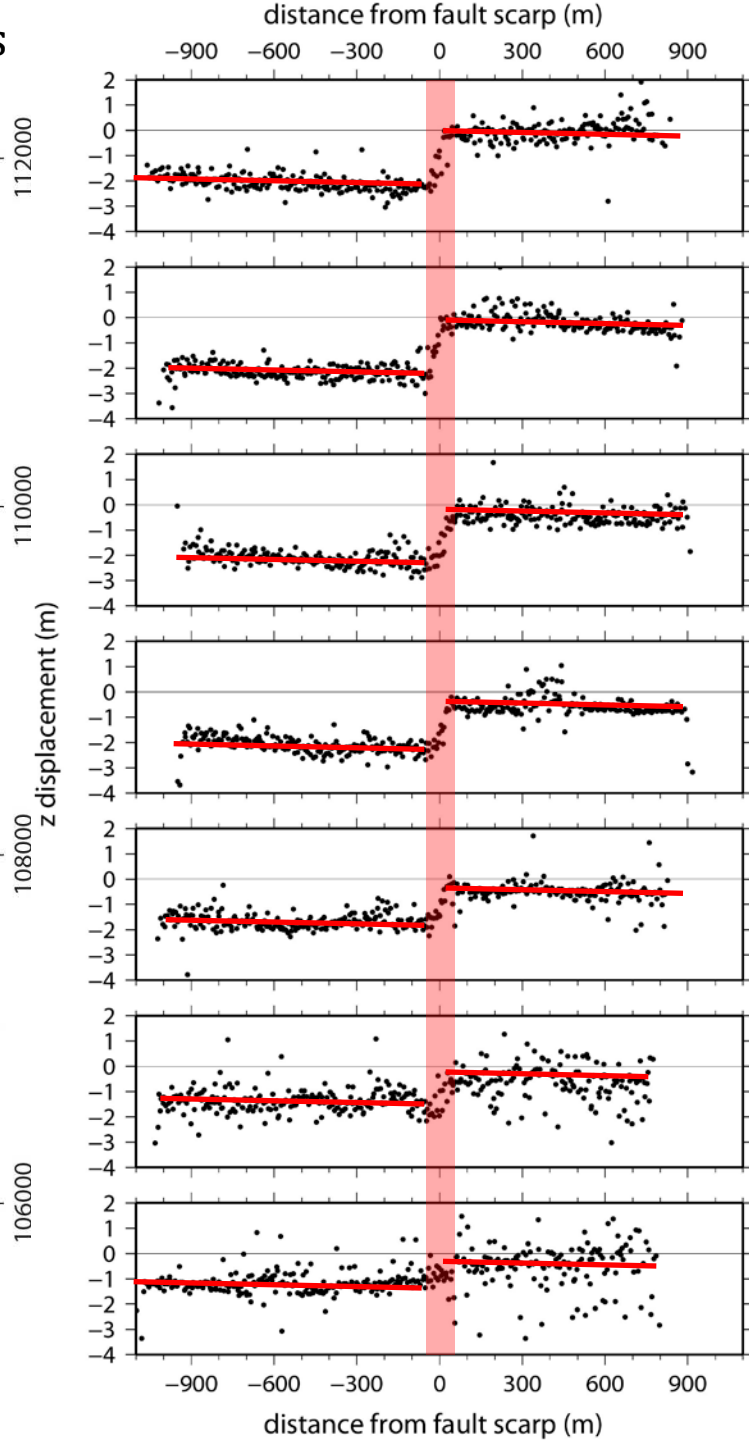
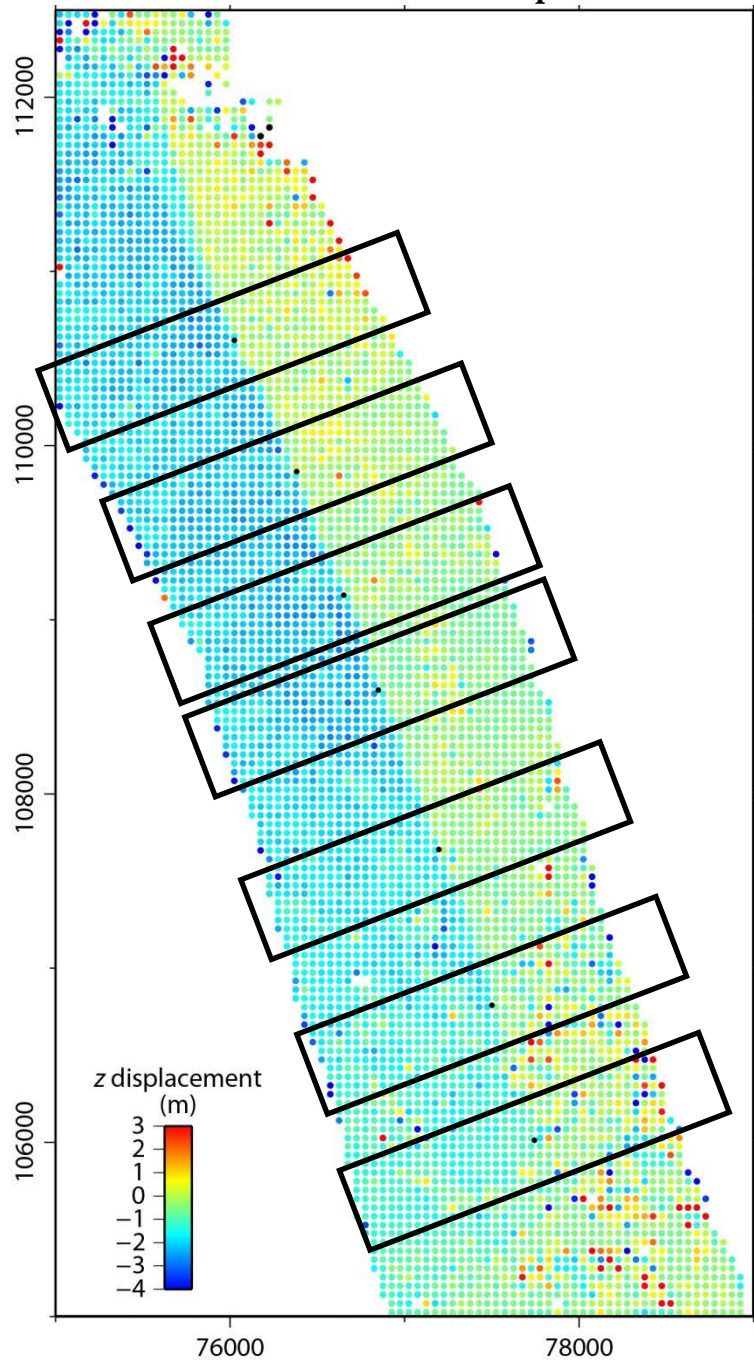




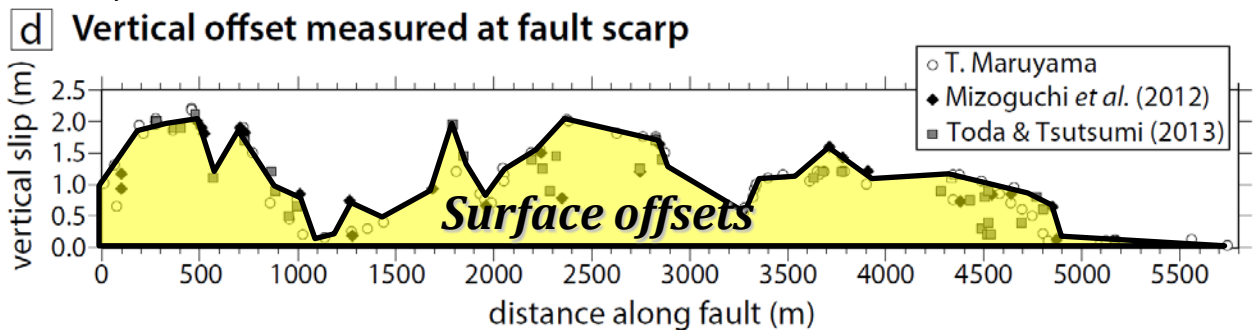
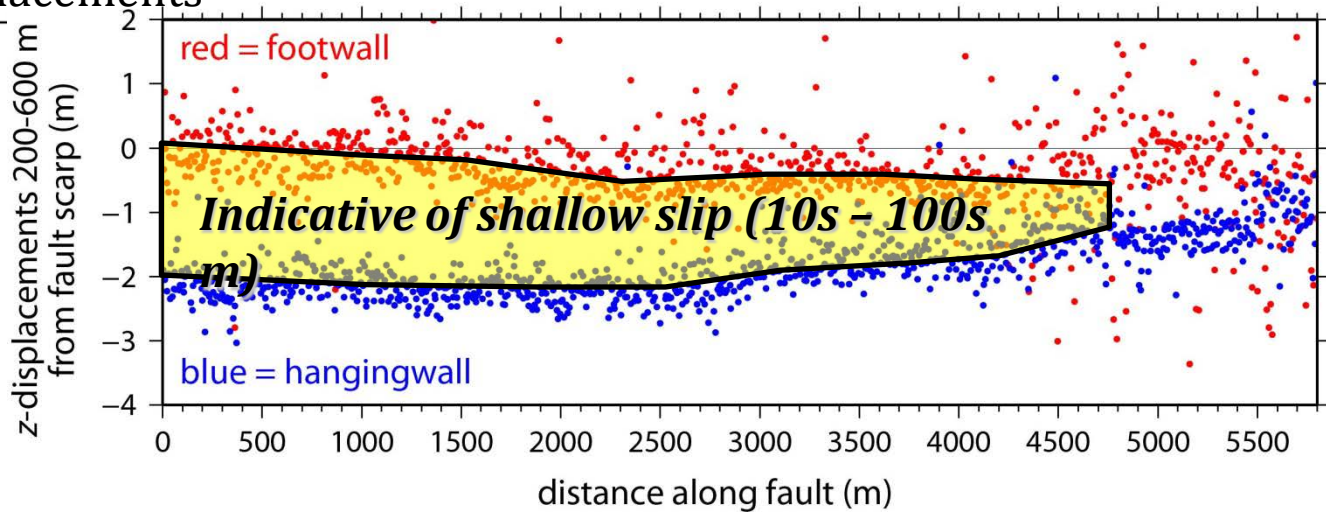
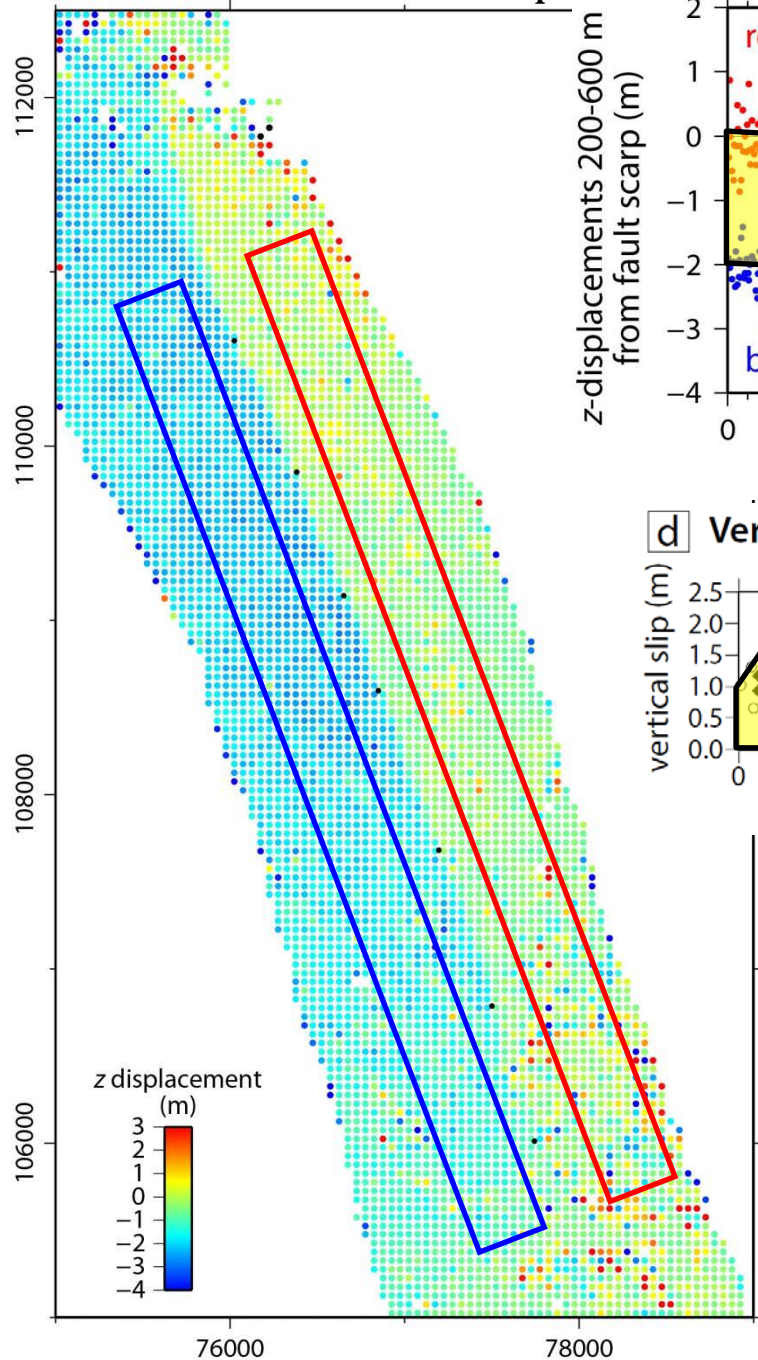
# 2005-2011 vertical displacements



# 2005-2011 vertical displacements

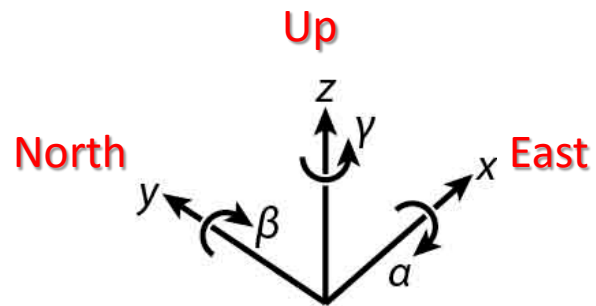
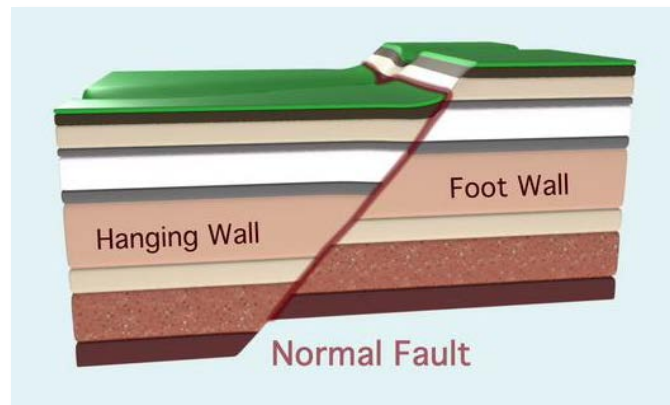
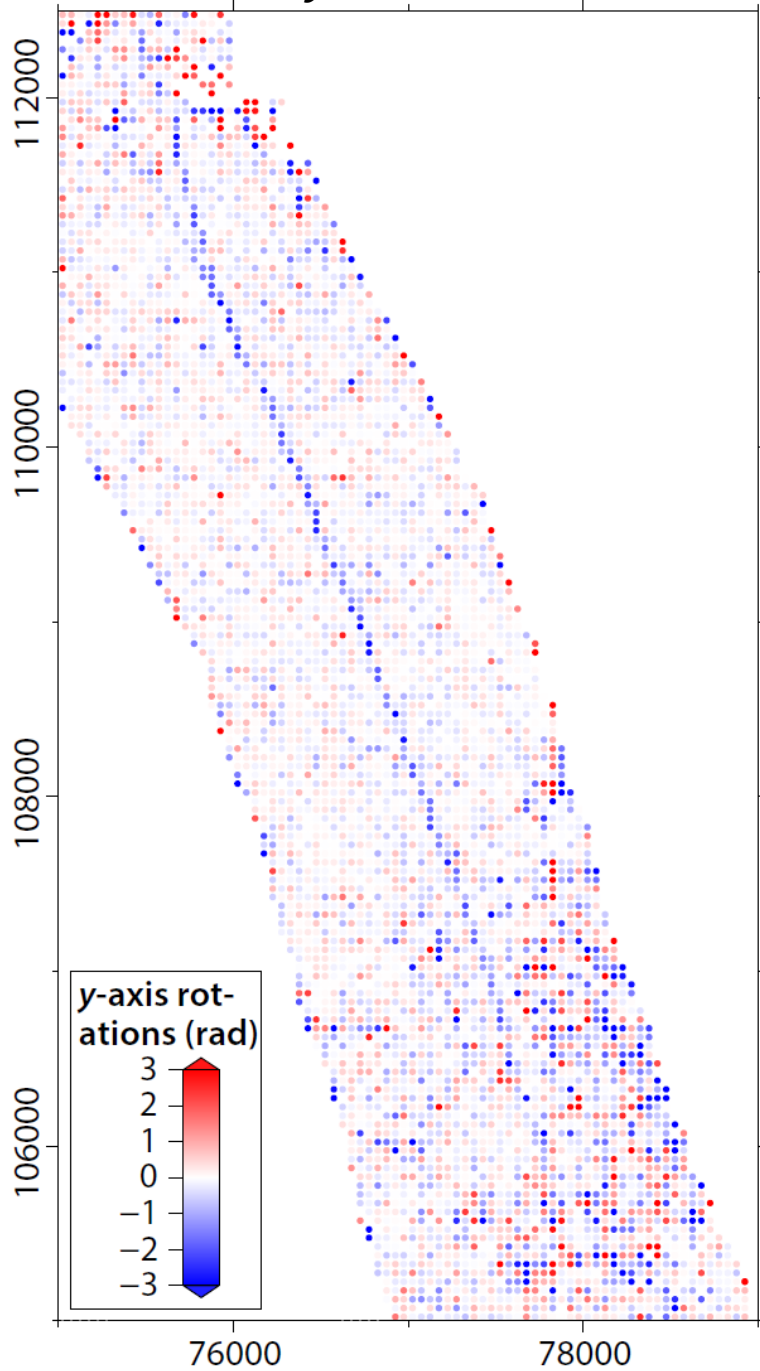


# 2005-2011 vertical displacements

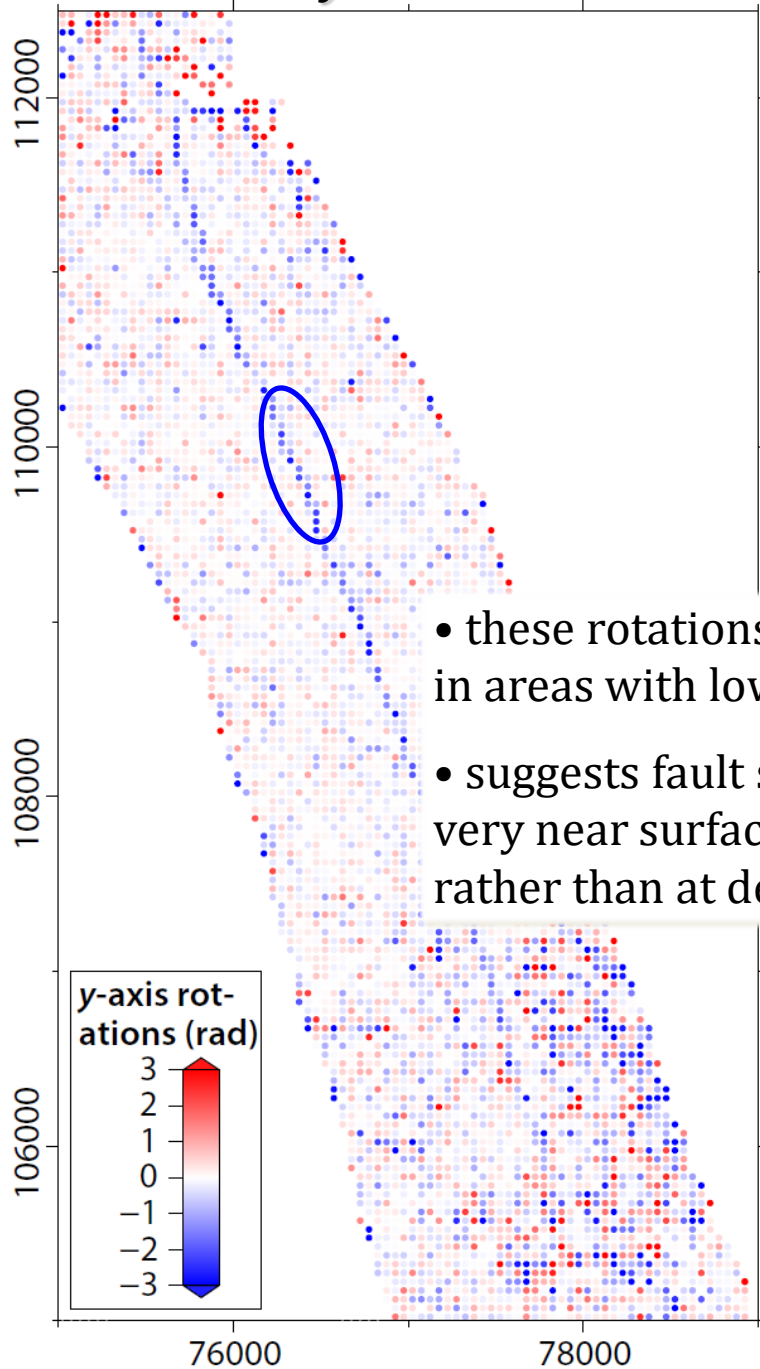


- Slip at depths of a few hundred meters appears to vary smoothly
- In many places, only a small proportion of the slip makes it to the surface

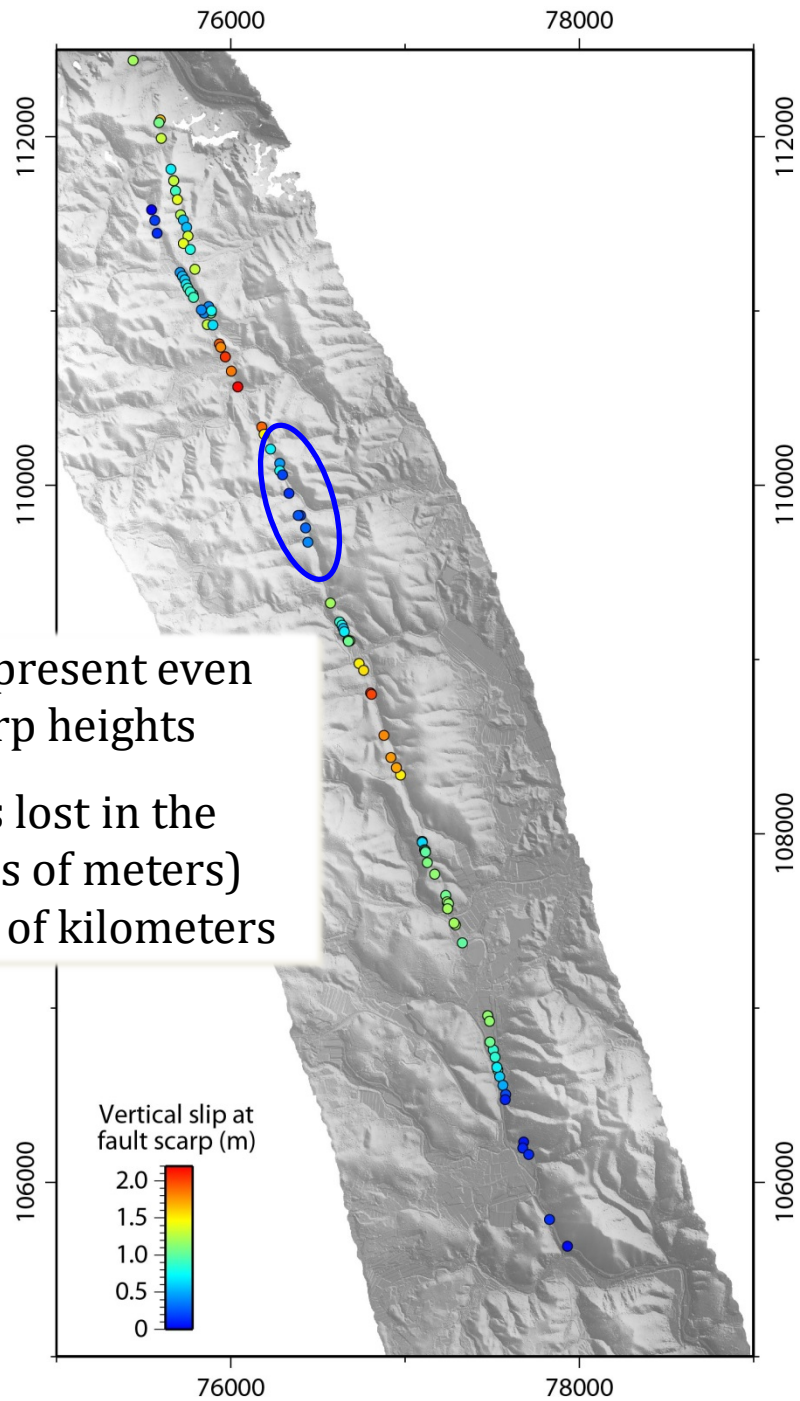
# 2005-2011 y-axis rotations



# 2005-2011 y-axis rotations

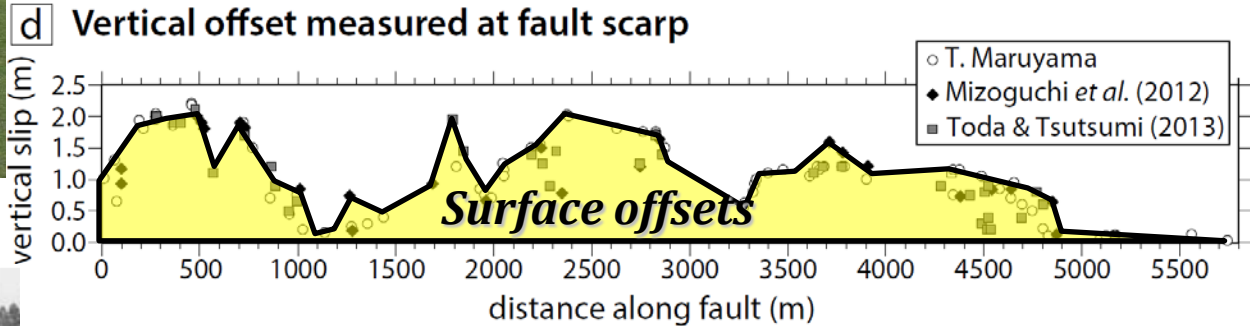
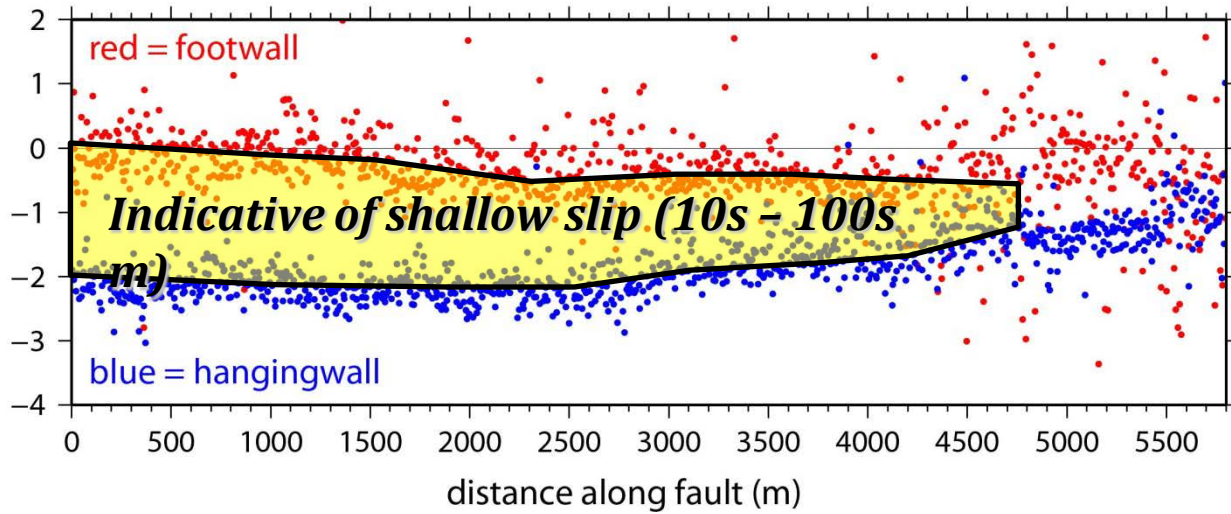


- these rotations are present even in areas with low scarp heights
- suggests fault slip is lost in the very near surface (10s of meters) rather than at depths of kilometers





Darfield rupture (Quigley *et al.* 2010)



Izmit rupture (Rockwell *et al.* 2002)

- Slip at depths of a few hundred meters appears to vary smoothly
- In many places, only a small proportion of the slip makes it to the surface
- Reflects off-fault deformation in the shallow subsurface?