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Subsurface data, analogue and numerical models: an integrated approach to reconstruct and constrain active fault systems (Sciacca Fault, Italy)

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- 2) University of Massachusetts
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- 4) University of Trieste

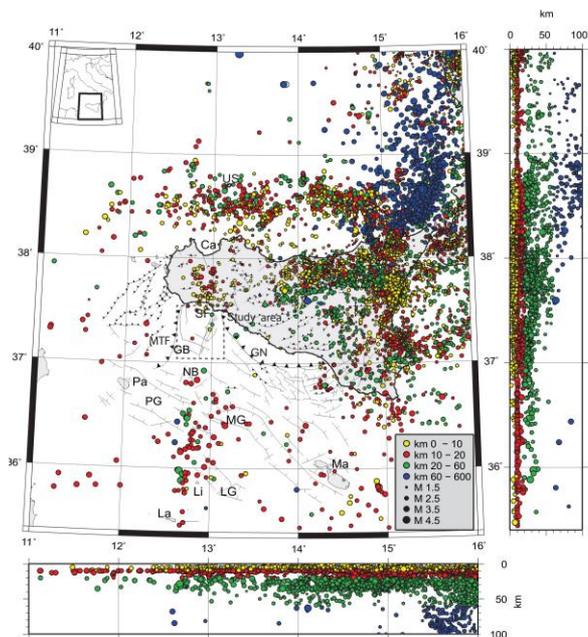


Outline

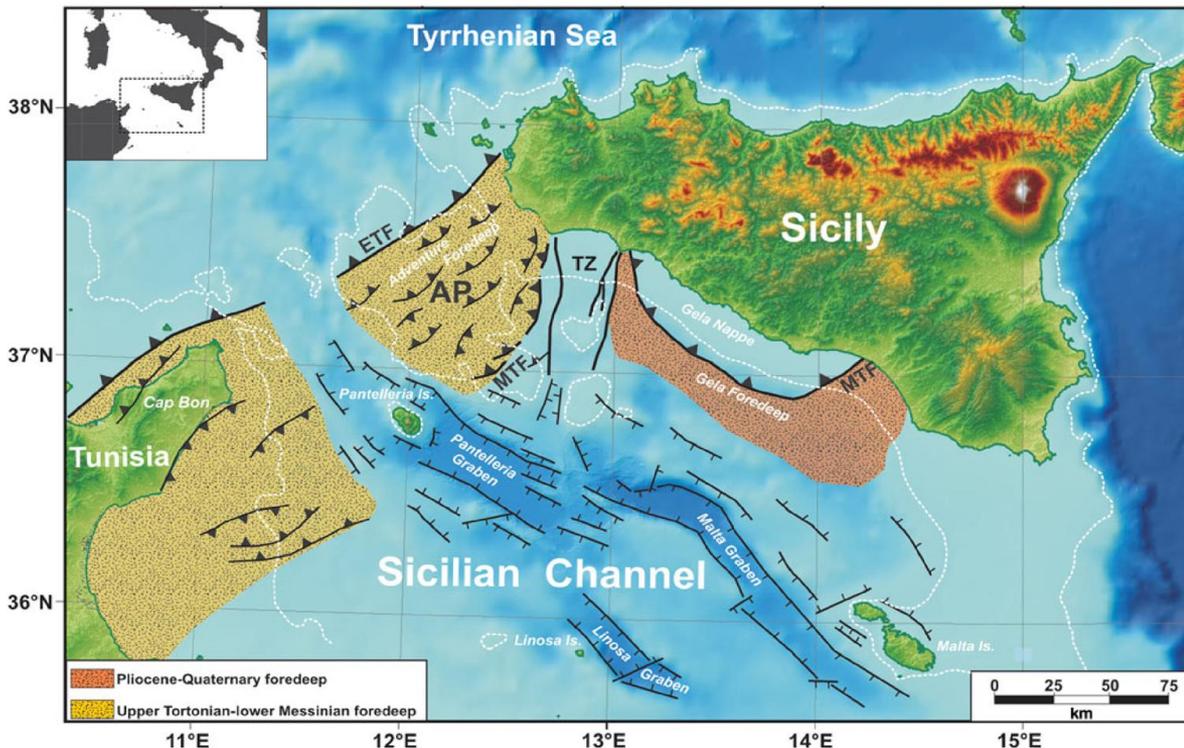
- Introduction
 - Study area
 - Dataset/Goal of the research
- Methodes
 - Seismic interpretation
 - Analogue modelling
- Proposed geological model
- Active tectonics
- Numerical modelling
- Conclusion

Introduction – study area

- Complex geological/geodynamic setting
- Good coverage of seismic dataset+previous work
- Active tectonics



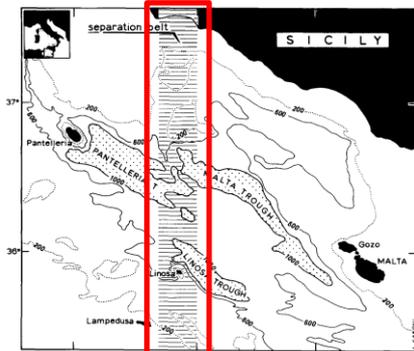
Calo & Parisi et al., 2014



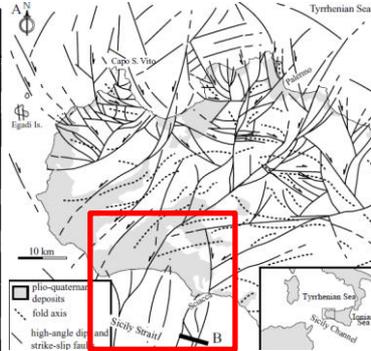
Civile et al., 2015

Introduction – study area

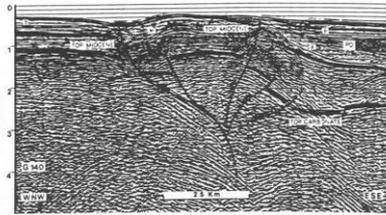
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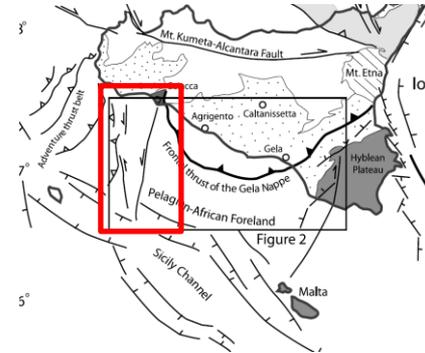
Argnani, 1990



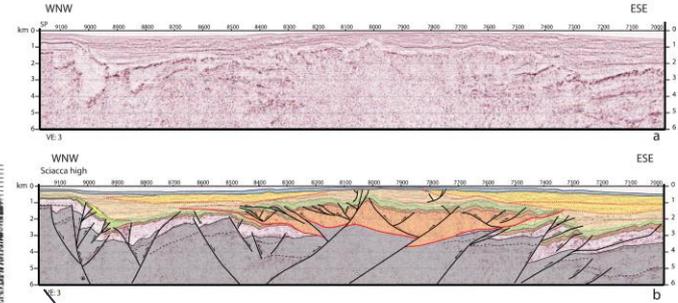
Nigro & Renda, 2002



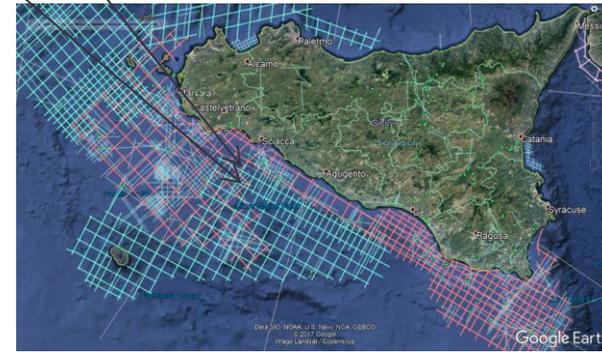
Argnani, 1990



Ghissetti et al., 2009



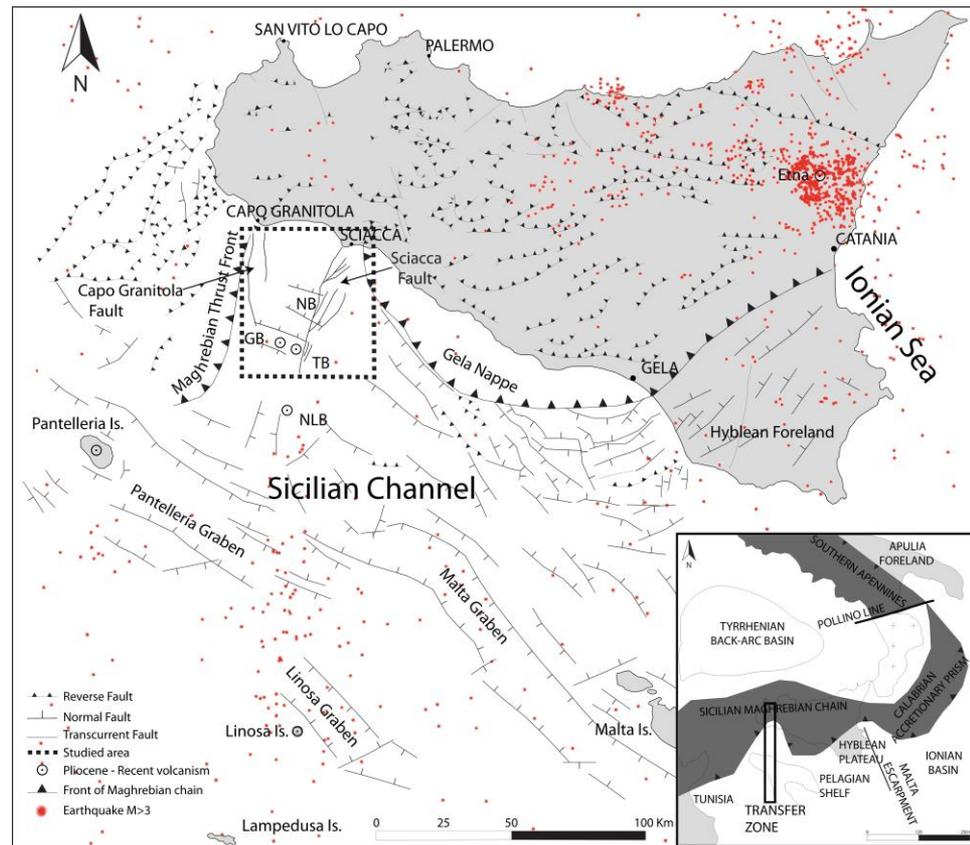
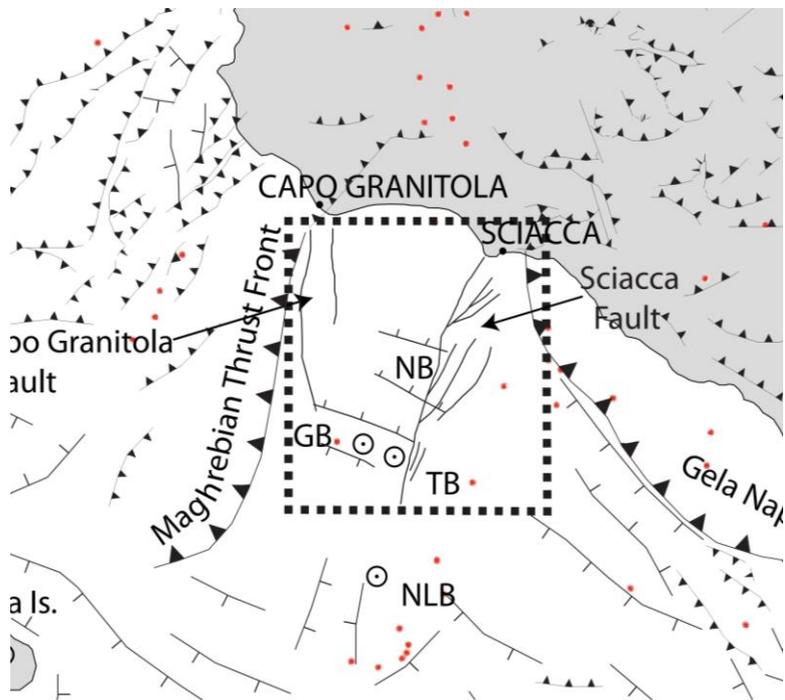
Ghissetti et al., 2009



Google Earth

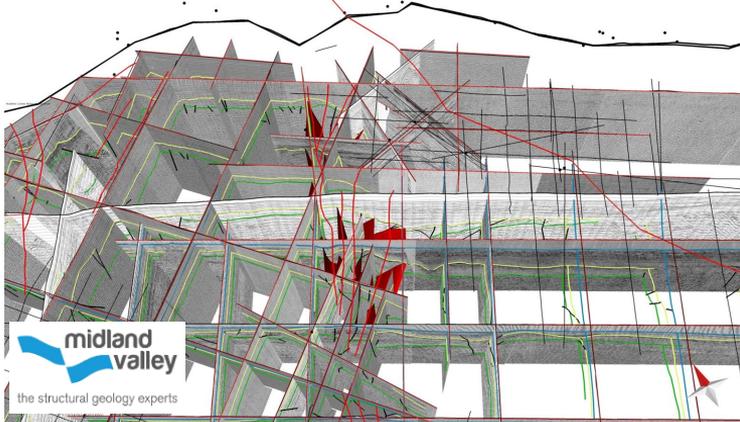
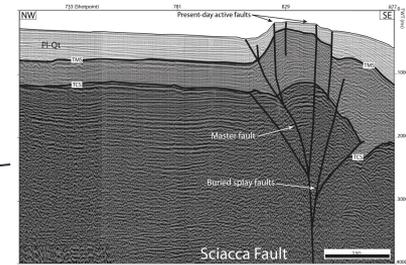
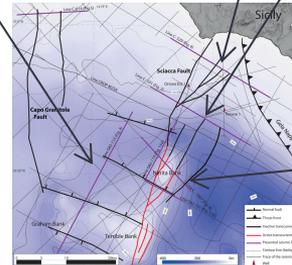
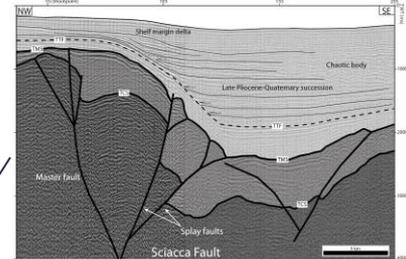
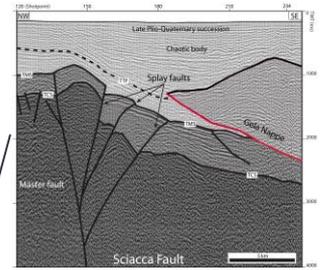
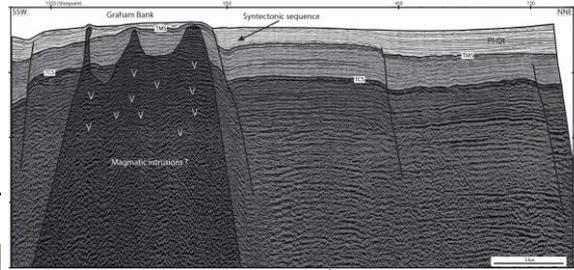
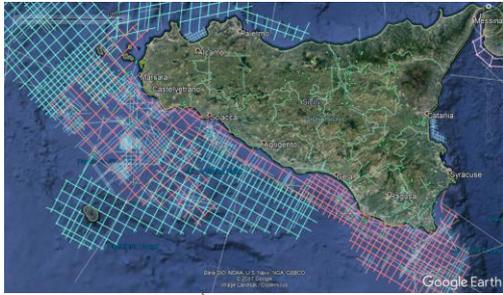
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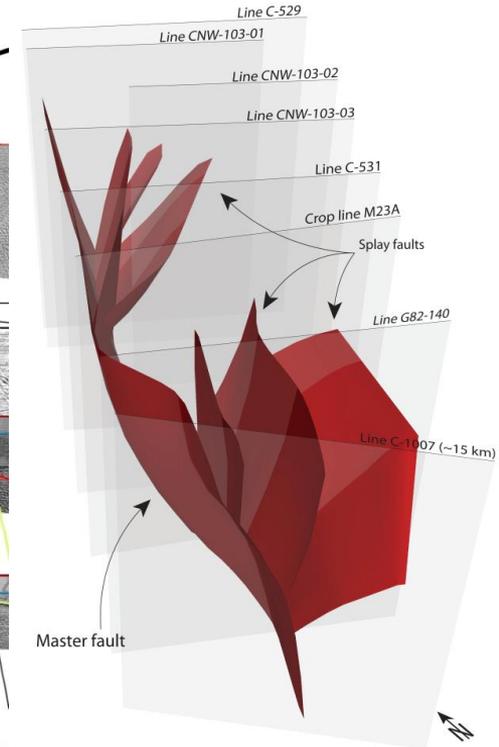
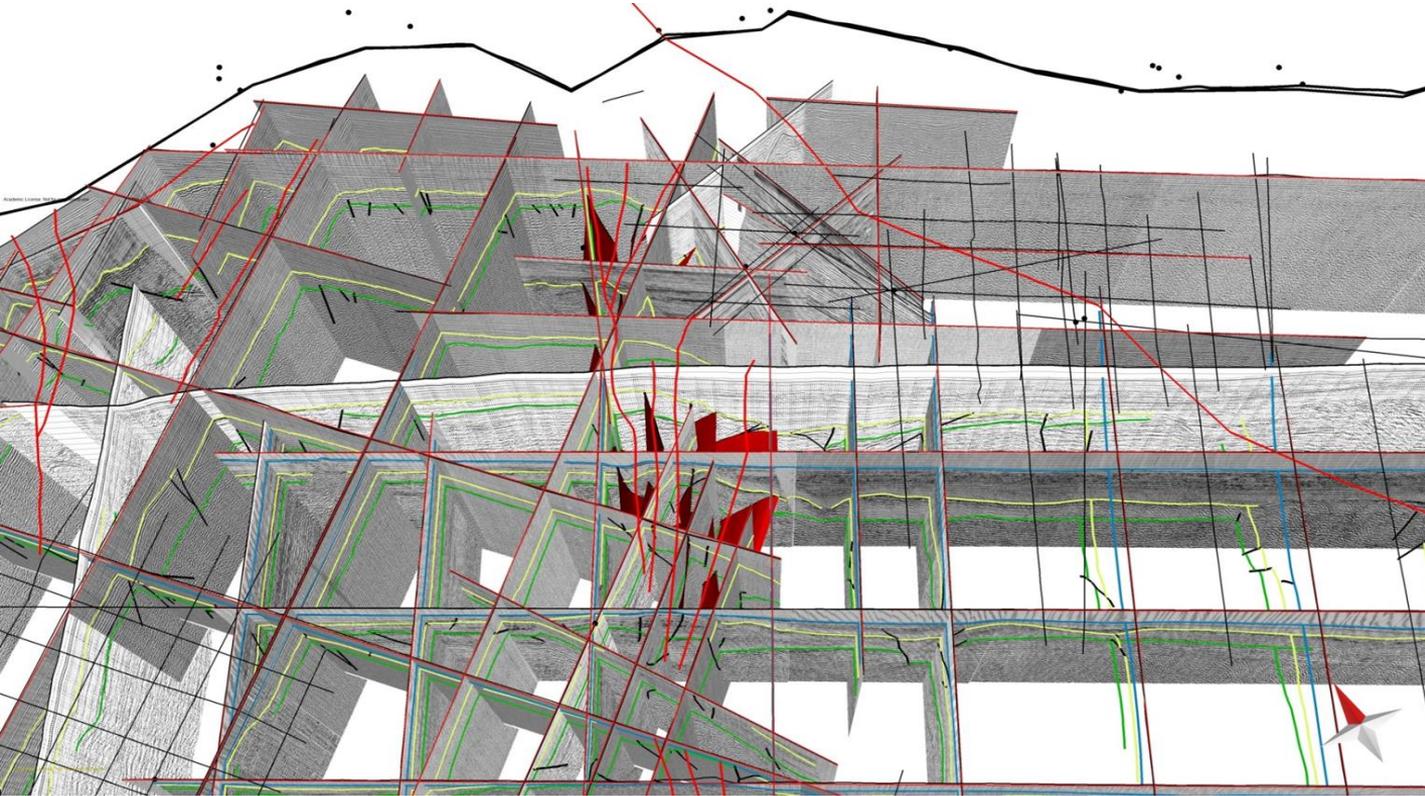
Methodes – Seismic interpretation

- ViDEPI project - Italian Commercial Zones “G” and “C”
- Convert the raster files to SEG-Y format files and georeferenced
- Uploaded and interpreted using the MOVE® software



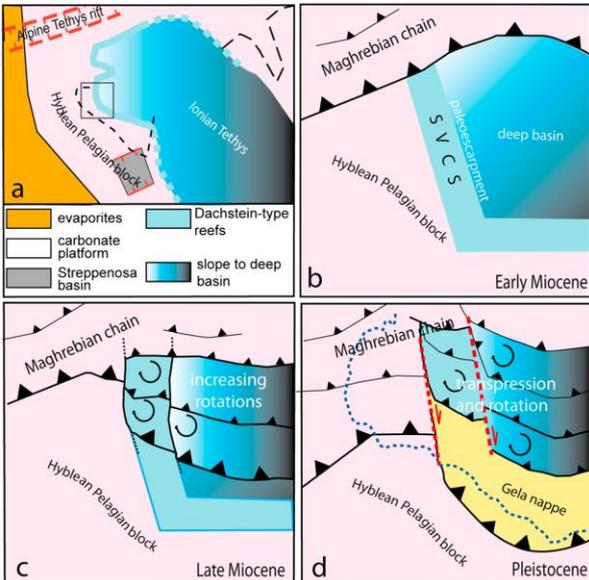
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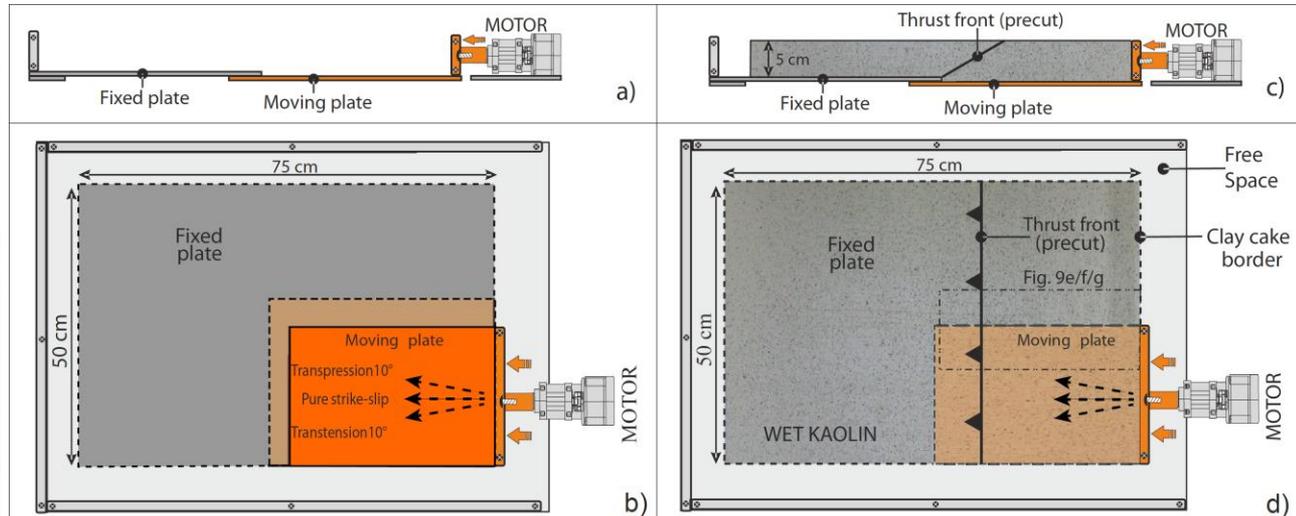


Methodes – Analogue modelling

- Analogue material (kaolin) has been impregnated with 60% of water content by mass, so reaching a density of 1.65 g/cm³. Cohesion: 60-140 Pa (Eisenstadt and Sims, 2005)
- 1 cm corresponds to about 0.1-1.0 km in nature
- Speed of deformation - 0.02 mm/s

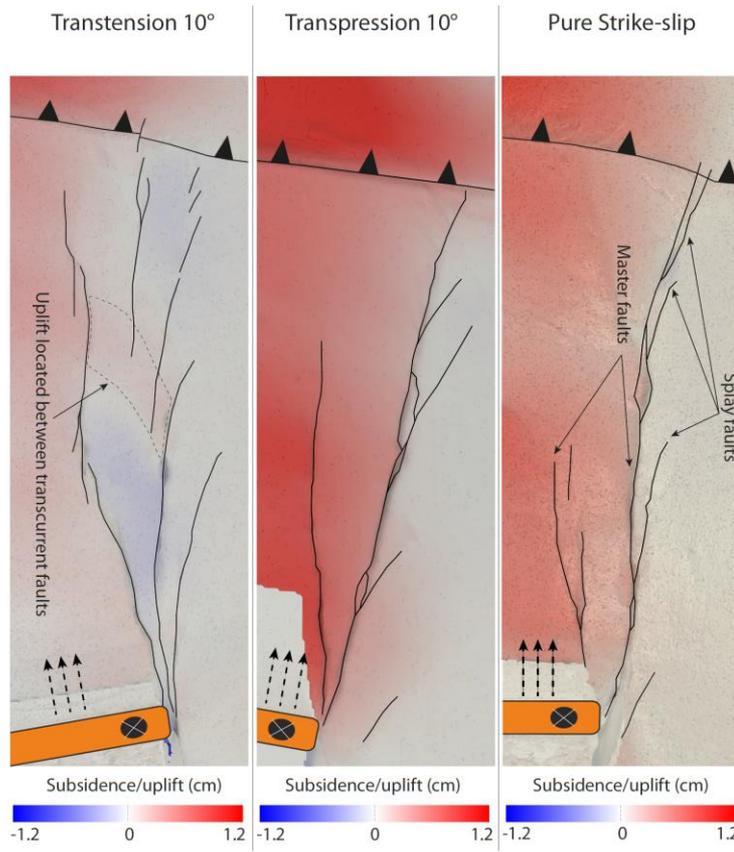
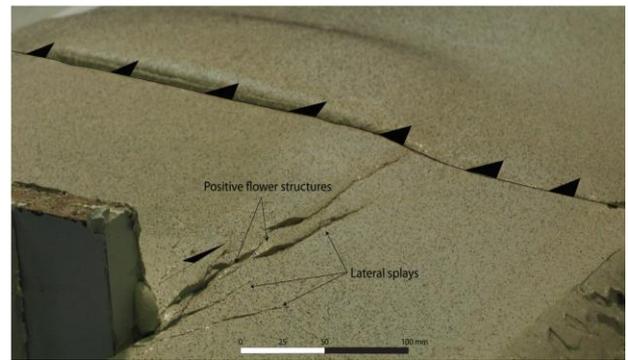
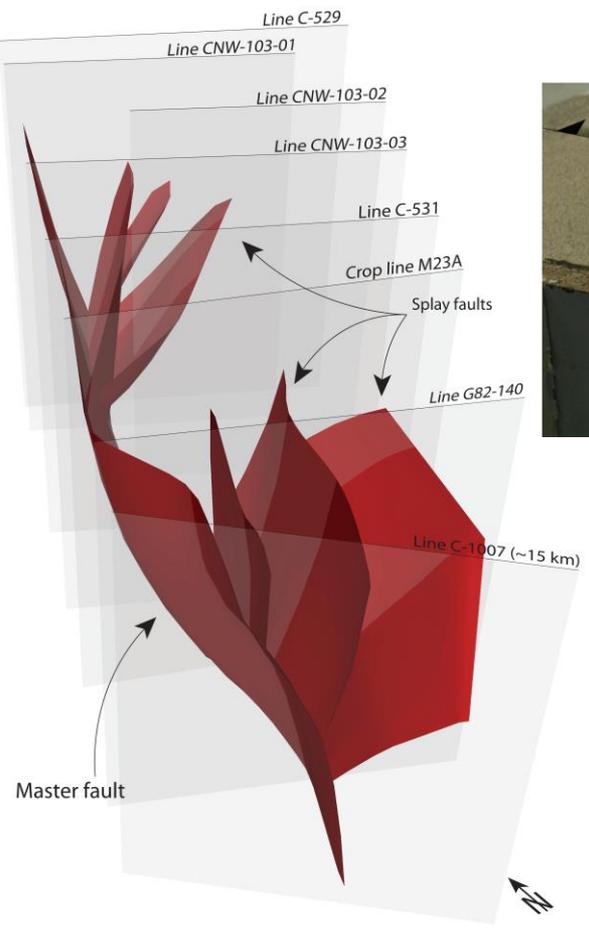


Di Stefano et al., 2015



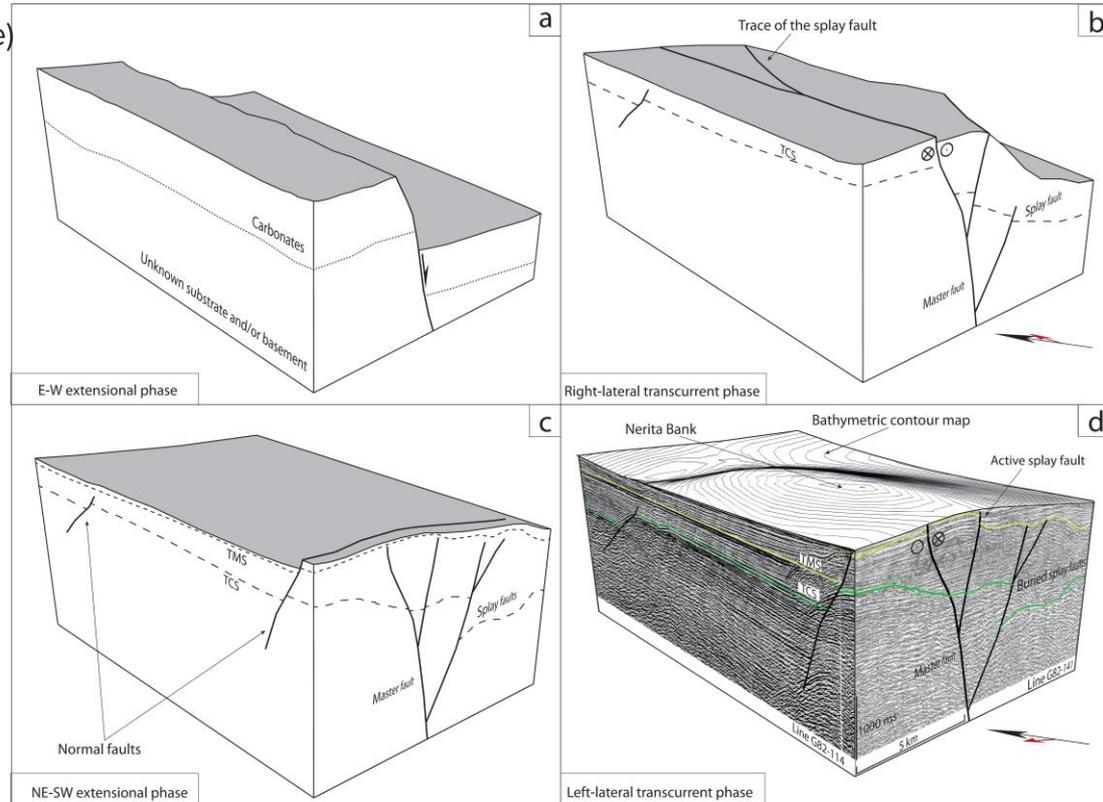
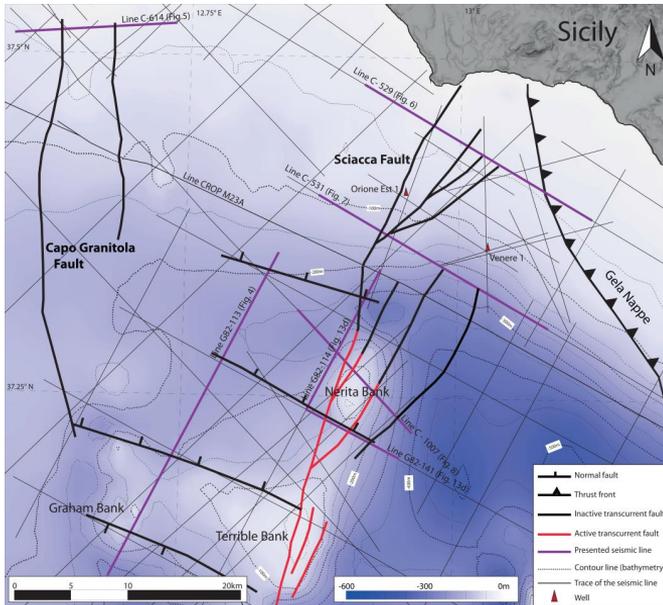
Fedorik et al., in press

Results: 3D vs. analogue modelling



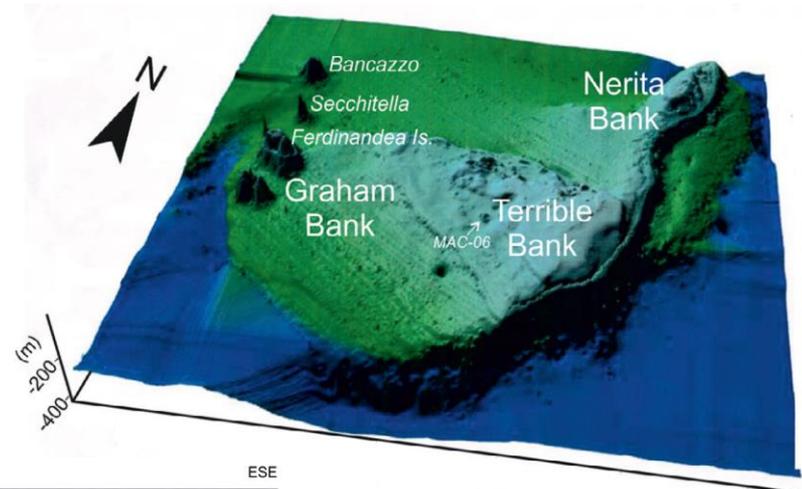
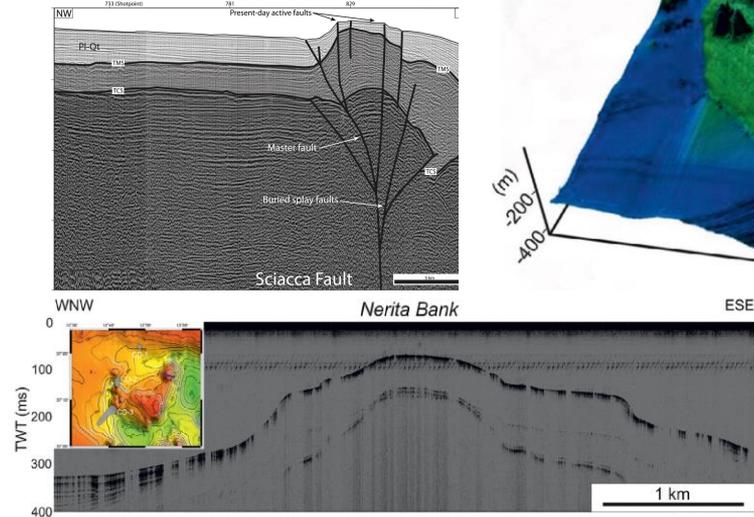
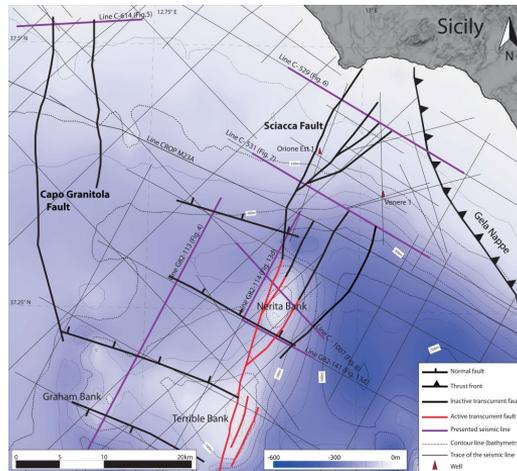
Proposed geological model

- Probably active up to Miocene as a high angle normal
- Right-lateral transcurrent fault (Early Pliocene)
- NW-SE-oriented normal faults
- Left-lateral partial reactivation



Active tectonics

Calò and Parisi (2014) provide evidence, through seismological analysis, of a wide active sub-vertical fault zone (at least 200–250 km long) crossing western Sicily and the Sicilian Channel

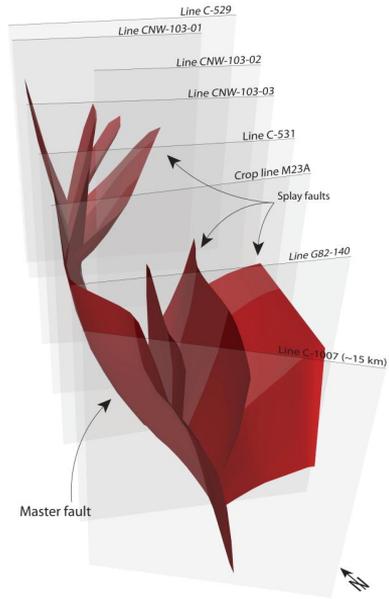


Falzone et al., 2009

Lodolo et al., 2017

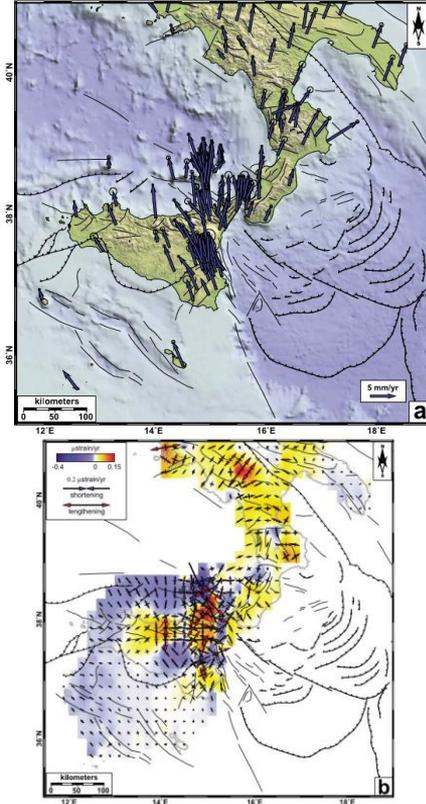
Validation through numerical models

3D fault pattern



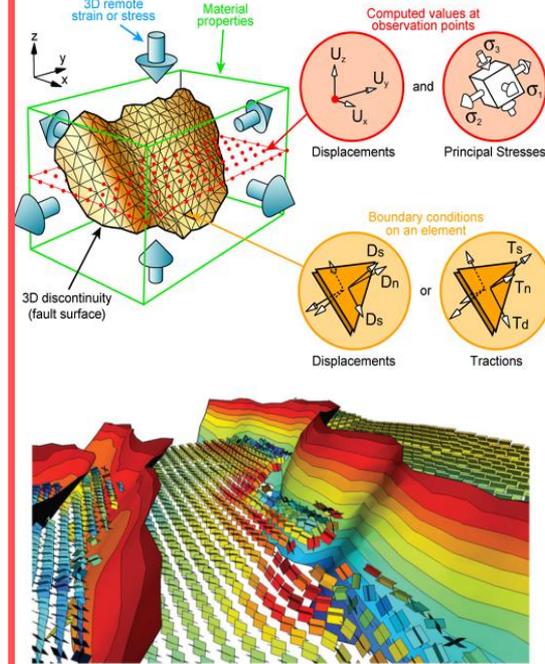
Fedorik et al., in press

boundary conditions



Palano et al., 2012

Software (Poly 3D)



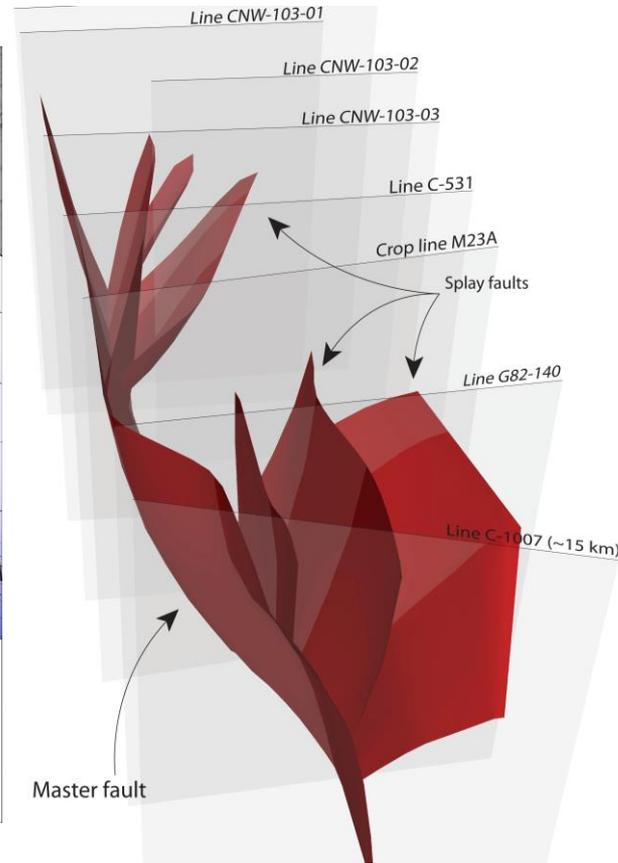
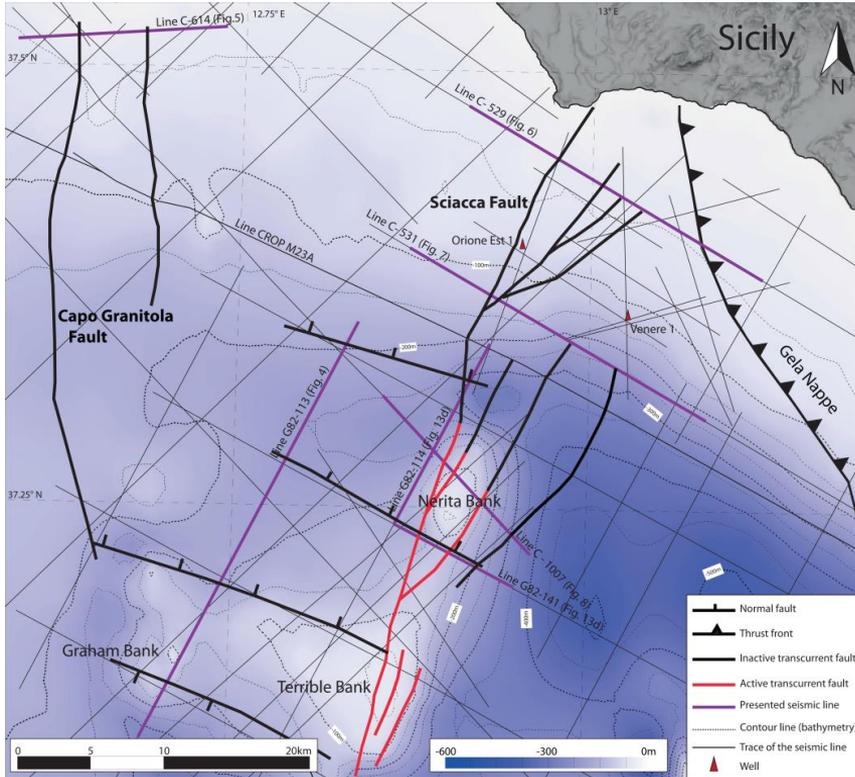
Poly 3D-Courtesy of TOTAL

Mentoring

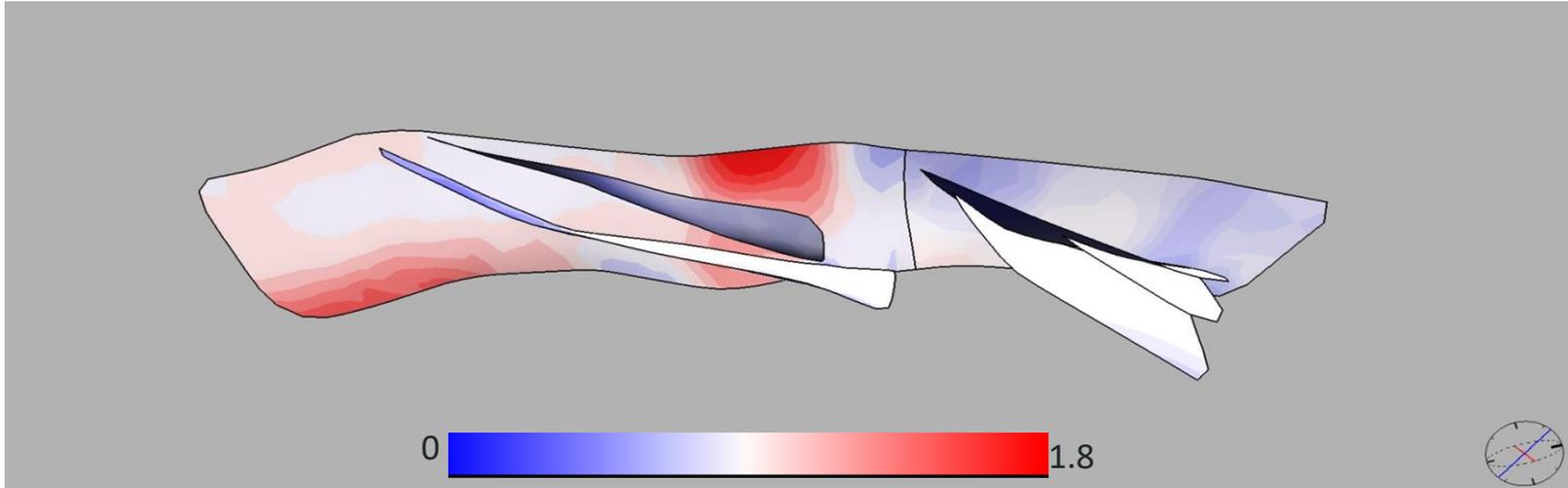


Prof. Michele Cooke

From structural map to 3D model to numerical model



Numerical model: first results



Fedorik et al., in prep

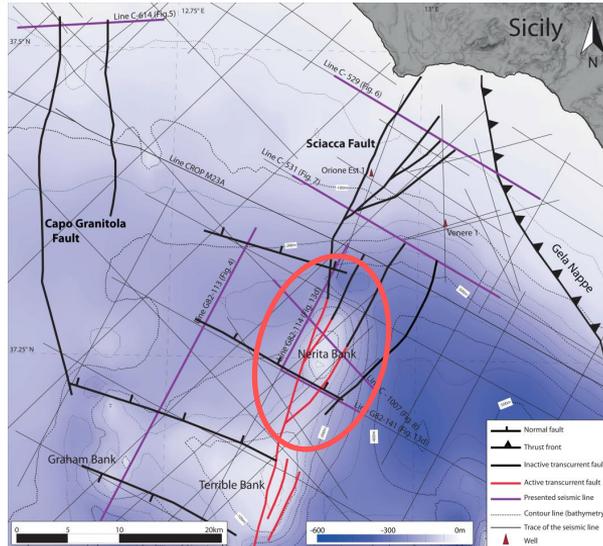
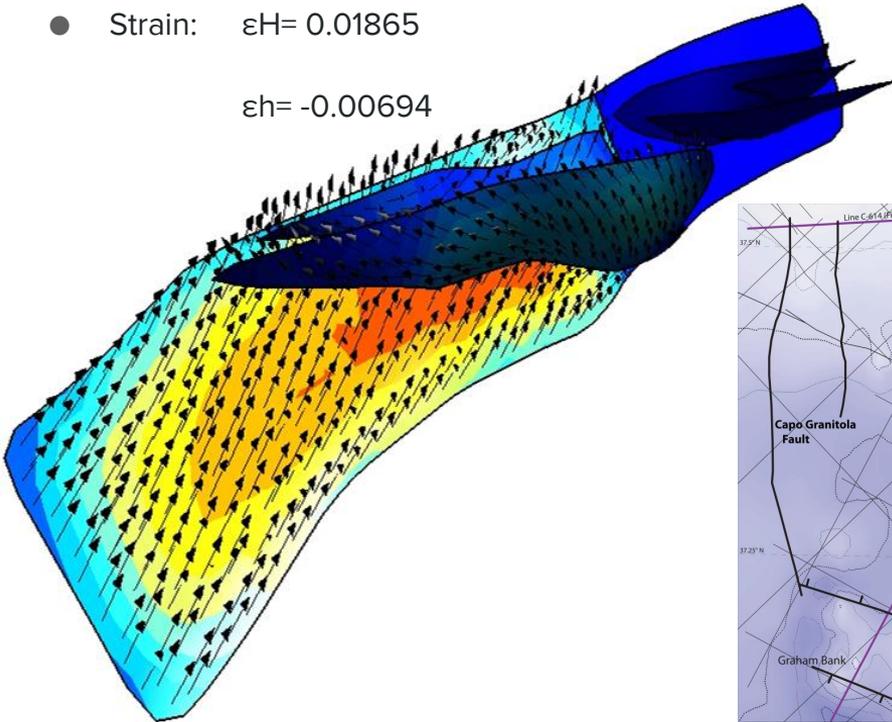
- All faults locked
- Azimuth of ϵ_H : N147
- Strain: $\epsilon_H = 0.01865$
 $\epsilon_h = -0.00694$

$$\text{Slip potential} = \sigma_s / \sigma_n$$

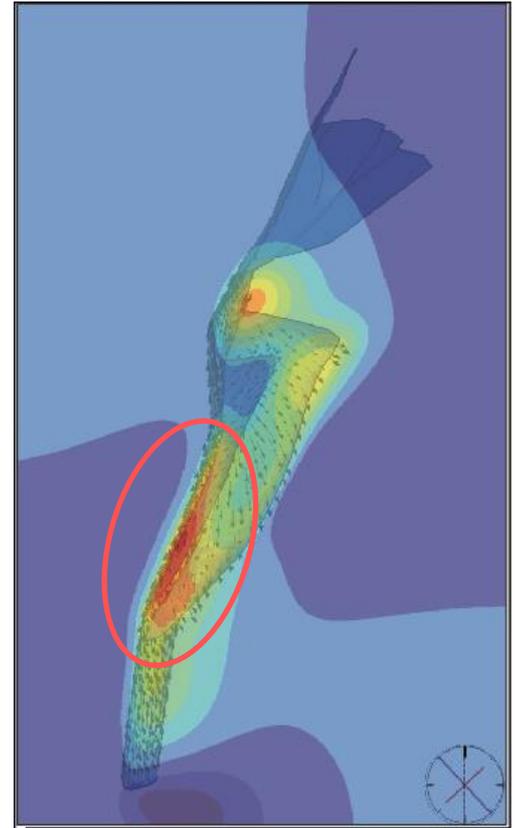
Uplift pattern

- Northern faults locked
- Azimuth of ϵ_H : N147
- Strain: $\epsilon_H = 0.01865$

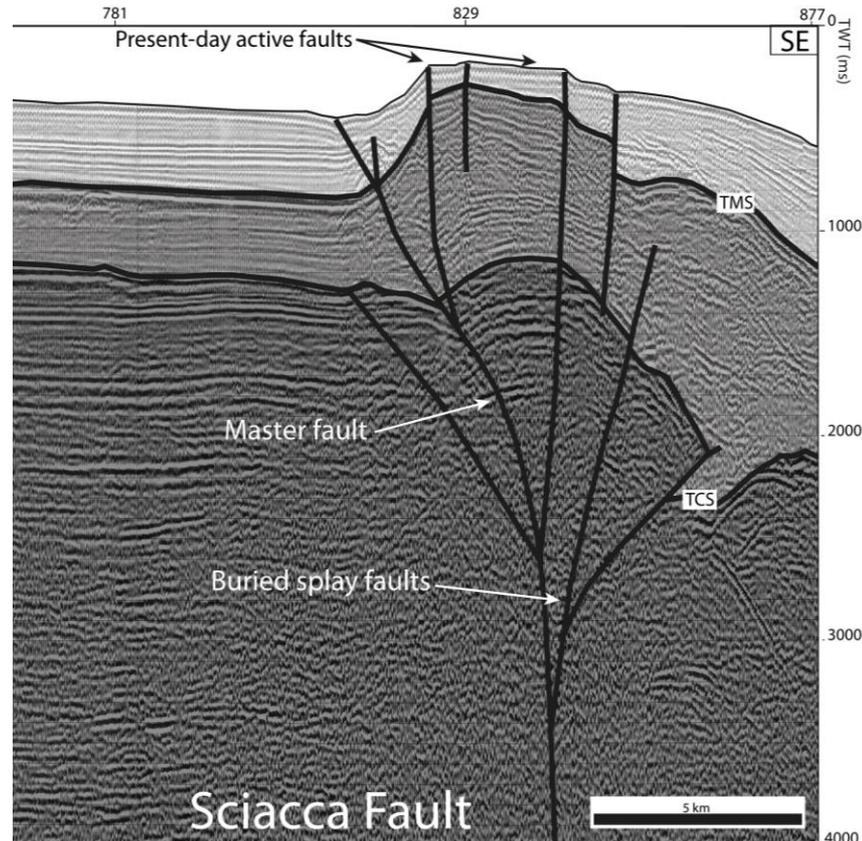
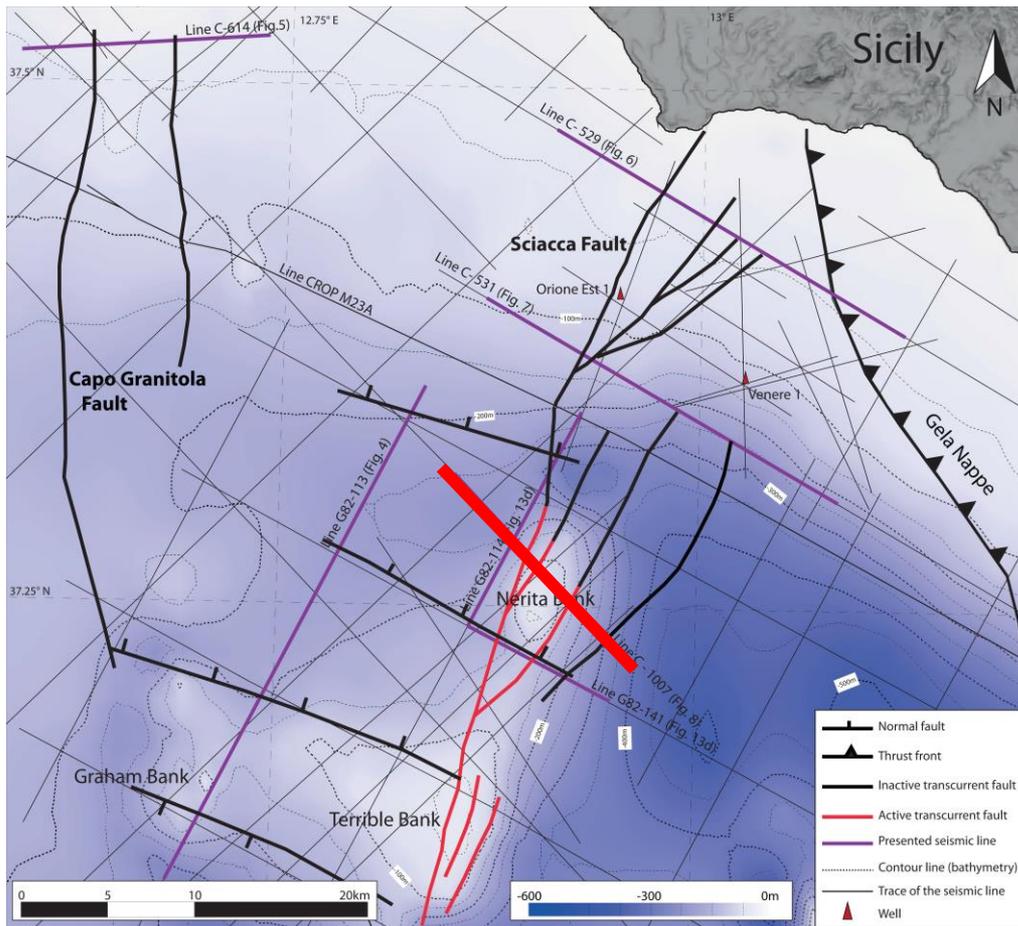
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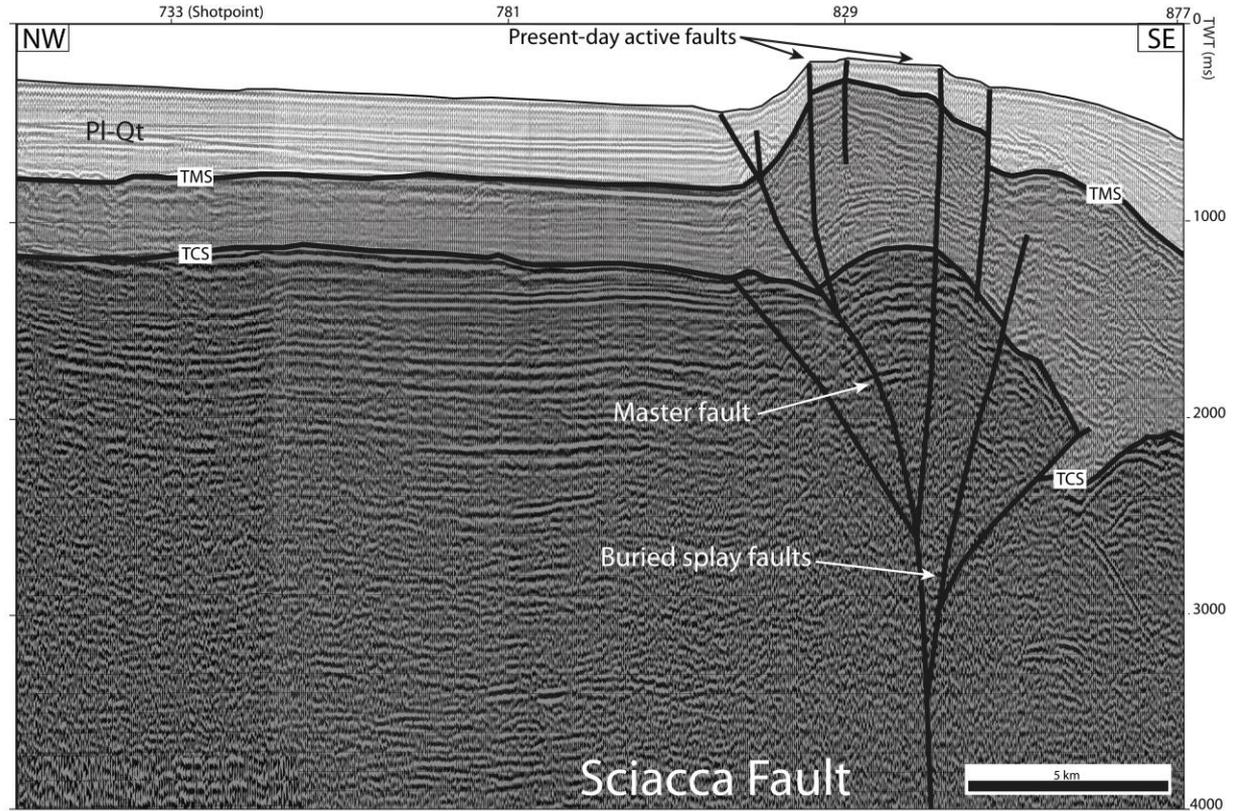
Fedorik et al., in prep



Back to data



Back to data



Conclusions

- Available seismic data have been interpreted to build up a new structural map of the Sciacca fault system
- A digital 3D model has been carried out
- Analogue models helped us to constrain the past kinematics and tectonic evolution of the Sciacca fault system
- Seismological+GPS data were used to constrain the present day kinematics of the Sciacca fault system
- Numerical models were used to test the effects of the Sciacca fault system activity and validate our interpretation
- We suggest that the Sciacca fault system was deformed as right-lateral fault during the Late Miocene –Early Pliocene
- Nowadays the southern part of the Sciacca fault system shows clear evidences of activity (with left-lateral kinematics)
- Numerical models show similar uplift pattern as seen along the Nerita and Eastern side of the Terrible banks
- New and more refined data (chirp) can be of help to detect tectonic activity also along the northern sectors of the Sciacca fault system.

Thank you

