

# An attempt to reconcile friction experimental measurements with seismological observations

*S. Nielsen, E. Spagnuolo, S. Smith,  
M. Violay, G. Di Toro, A. Niemeijer*

*with the guest participation of:*

*L. Malagnini, E. Tinti, M. Cocco*



Istituto Nazionale di  
Geofisica e Vulcanologia



European Research Council  
Established by  
the European Commission



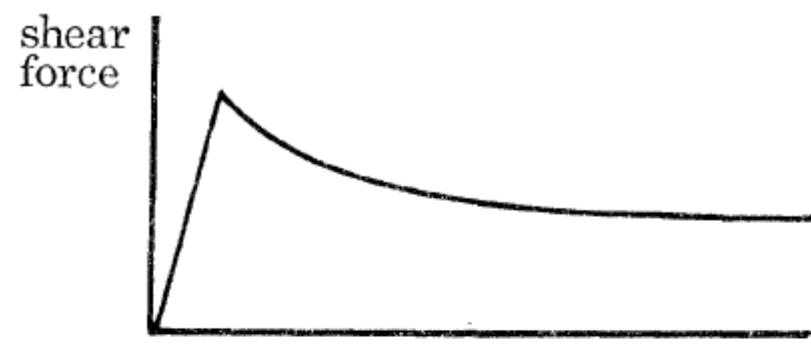
UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI  
DI PADOVA

# Objectives

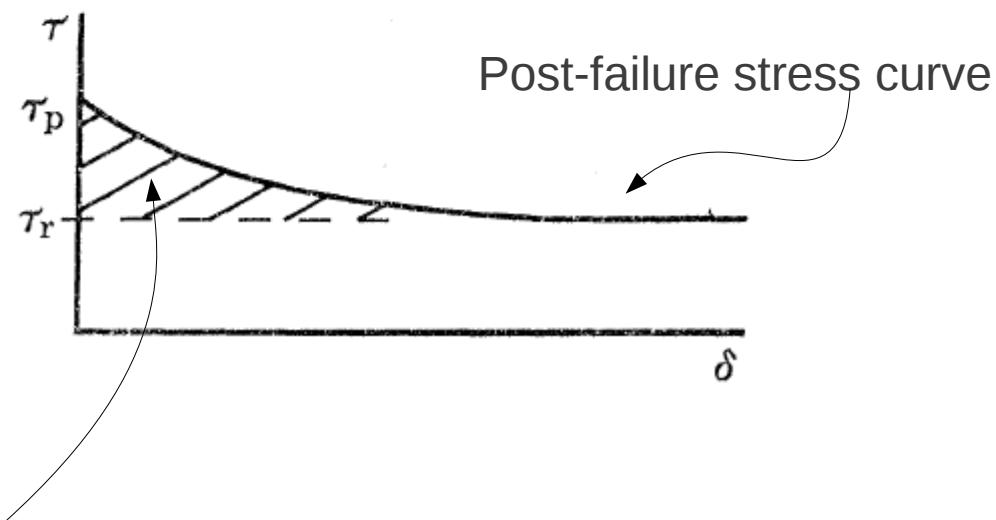
- **Measure fracture energy  $G$  from high-velocity friction experiments**
  - **Estimate fracture energy  $G'$  from earthquakes**
  - **Compare the two**
- 
- And, if lucky, generate a big fight

# Old ideas, new data

- Palmer & Rice, 1973:  
equivalence between *fracture energy* and integration of the post-failure stress-displacement curve
- Teng-Fong Wong, 1983:  
Extrapolate laboratory rock-mechanical measures of fracture energy G to earthquakes
- High velocity friction experiments  
Hirose & Shimamoto 1995; Di Toro & al. 2006; Nielsen & al. 2008, ...
- Earthquake data estimates  
Abercrombie & Rice, 2005; Mori et al. 2003; Ide et al, 2003; Kanamori et al. 1993, 2003; McGarr 2000; Venkataraman et al. 2000, 2002, ...



relative  
displacement



Post-failure stress curve

Fracture energy or  $G$

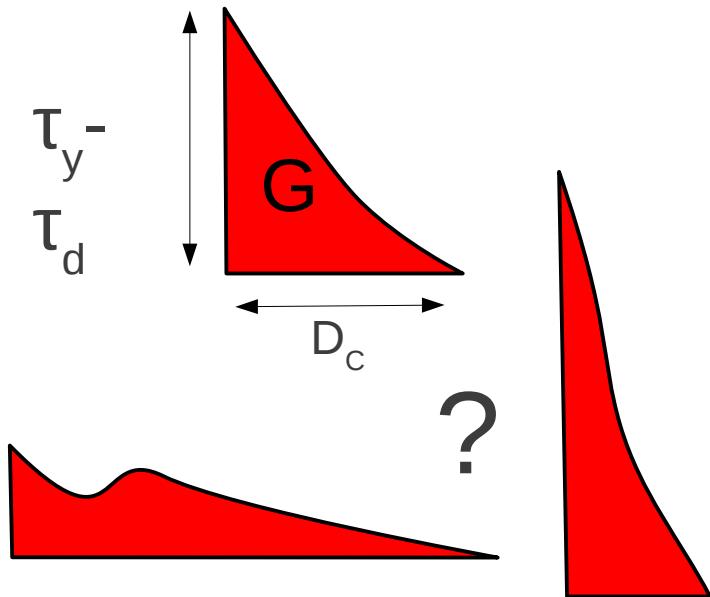
From Palmer and Rice, 1973

“Lacking detailed knowledge of the rupture process, the value of  $G$  is the minimum amount of information required for any meaningful modeling of the source dynamics”.

T.-F. Wong (1982)

# Resolution of dynamic parameters

$$G \approx \frac{1}{2} D_c (\tau_y - \tau_d)$$



(a) Asperity model, heterogeneous  $\tau_0$

Initial Stress  $\tau_0$



Yield Stress  $\tau_y$

$T_u = 12.5 \text{ MPa}$

Slip weakening distance

$D_c = 0.8 \text{ m}$

Final Slip



(b) Barrier model, heterogeneous  $\tau_0$

Initial stress  $\tau_0$

$T_e = 12 \text{ MPa}$

Yield stress  $\tau_y$



Slip weakening distance

$D_c = 0.8 \text{ m}$

Final Slip



(c) Barrier model, heterogeneous  $D_c$

Initial stress  $\tau_0$

$T_e = 11.4 \text{ MPa}$

Yield stress  $\tau_y$

$T_u = 12.5 \text{ MPa}$

Slip weakening distance

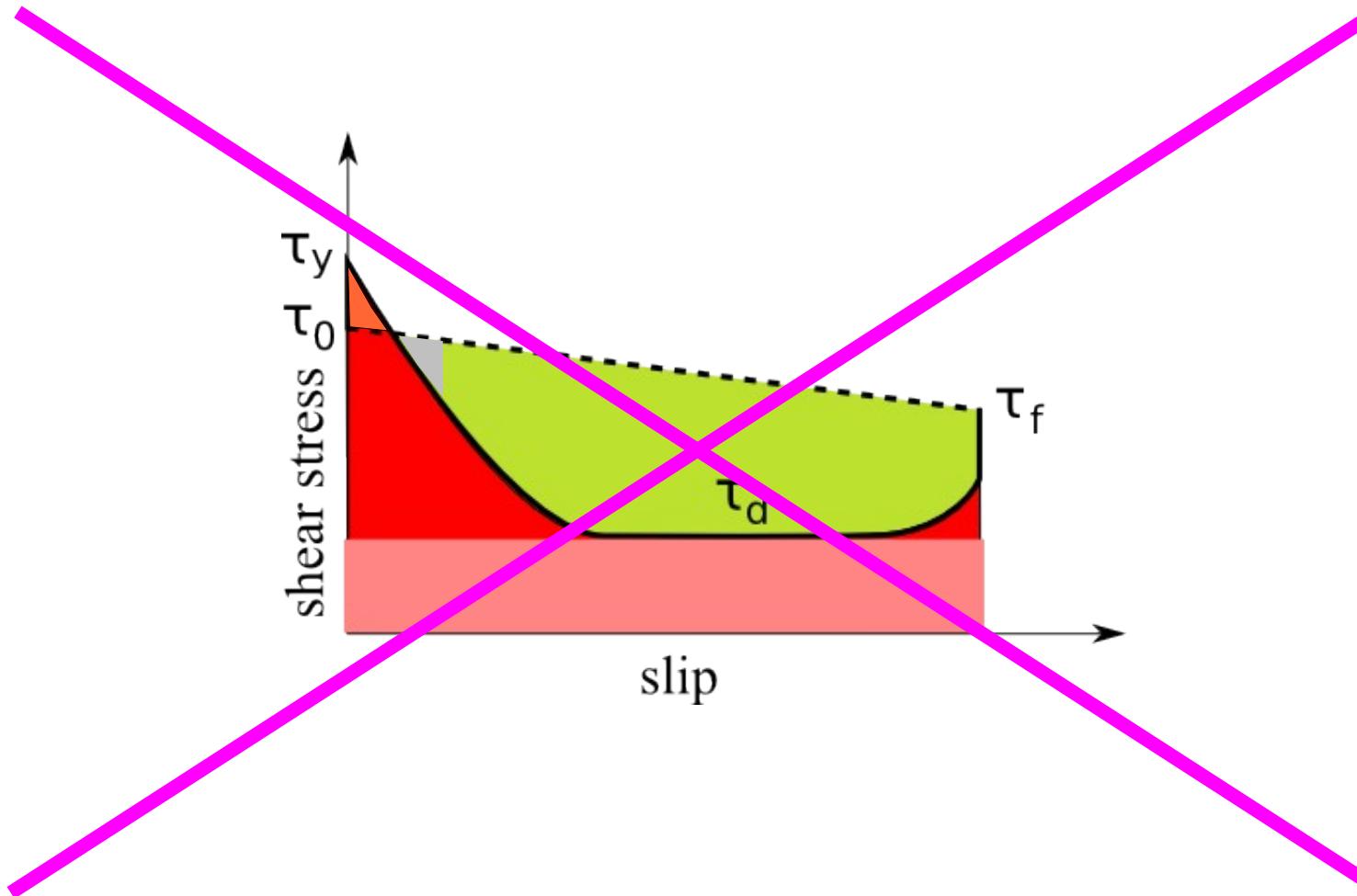


Final Slip



From Peyrat, Olsen & Madariaga 2004

# Energy balance

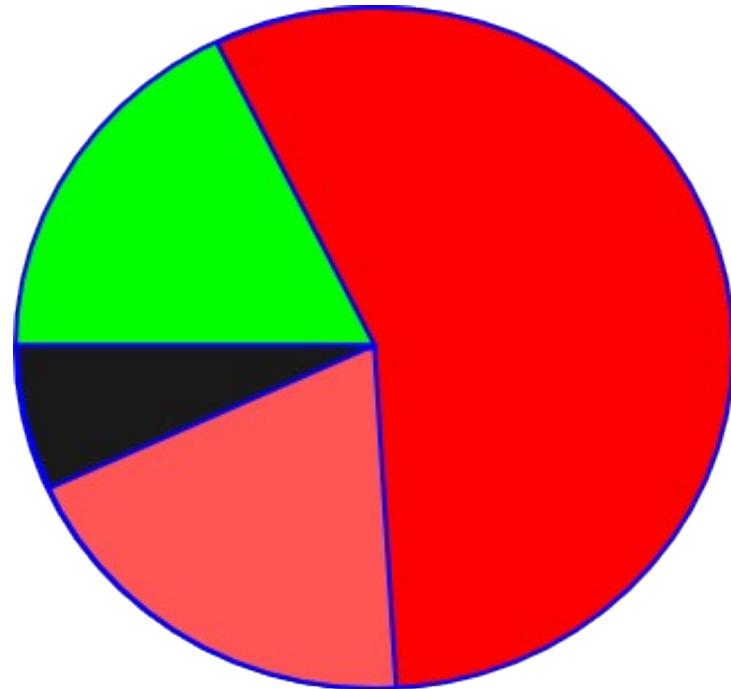


Censored...

# Energy balance

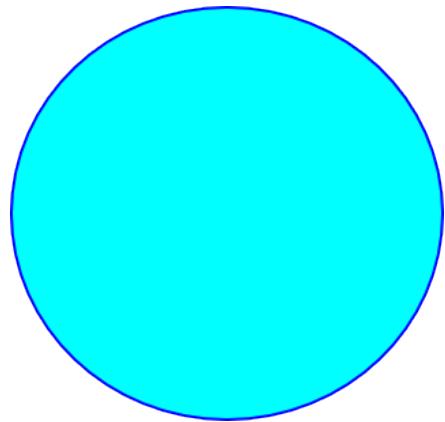
*From Knopoff, Kostrov, Dahlen, Kanamori...*

To the pie-chart energy balance!

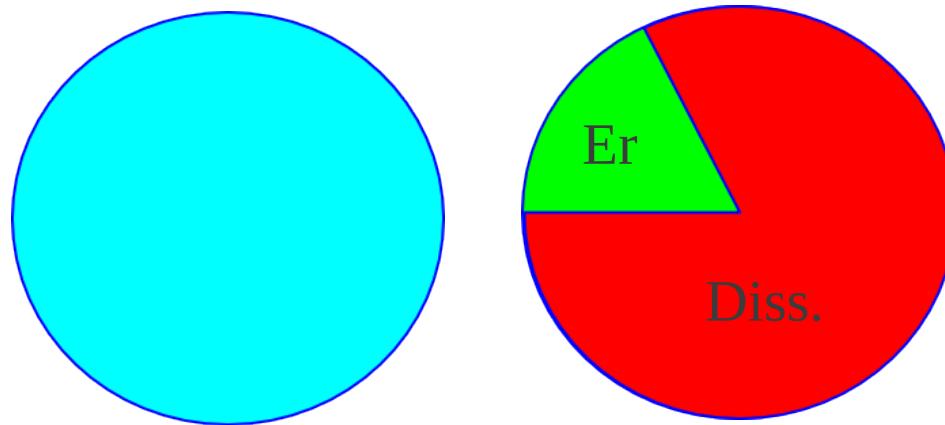


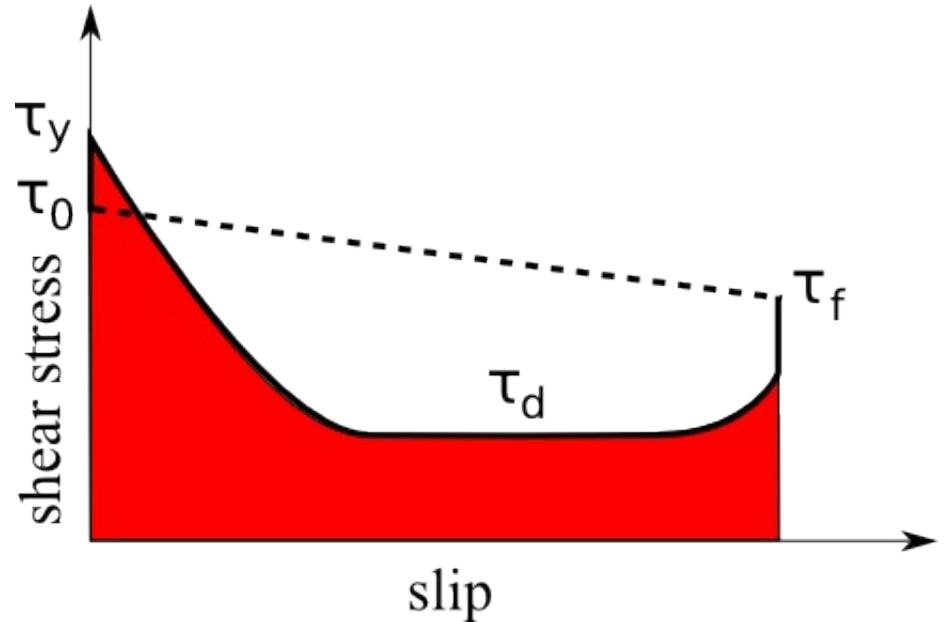
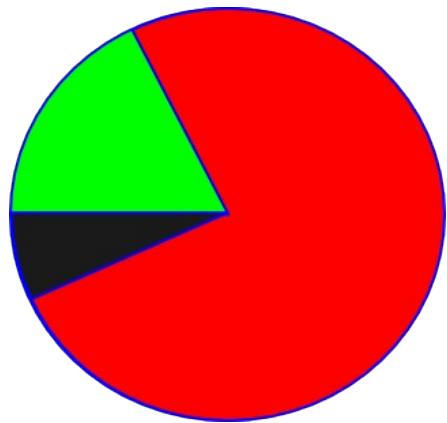
# Total released potential energy

$$\Delta W = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Sigma} (\tau^0_{ij} + \tau^f_{ij}) \Delta u_i v_j dV$$



$$\Delta W = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Sigma} (\tau^0_{ij} + \tau^f_{ij}) \Delta u_i v_j dV = Er + Diss.$$





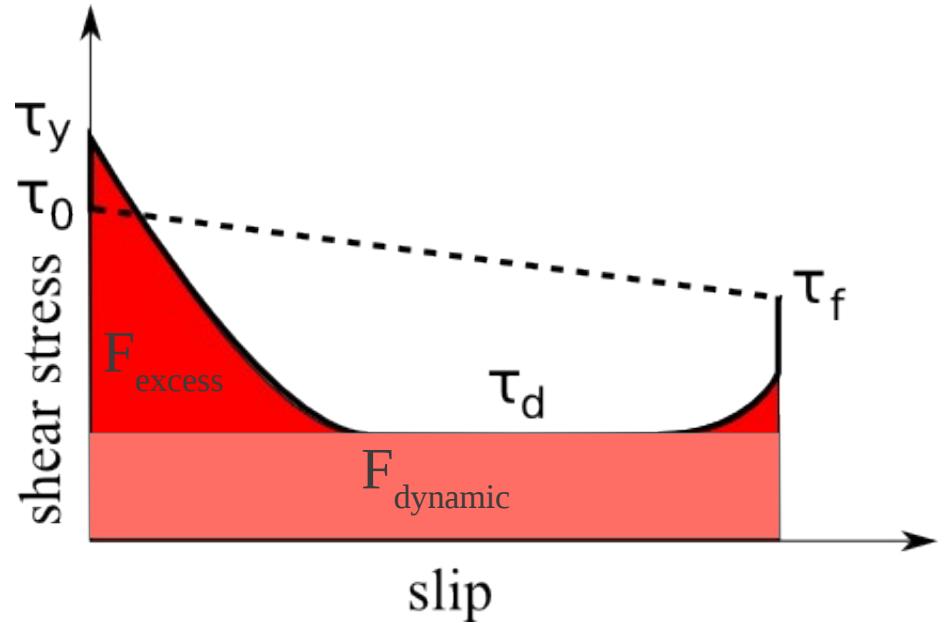
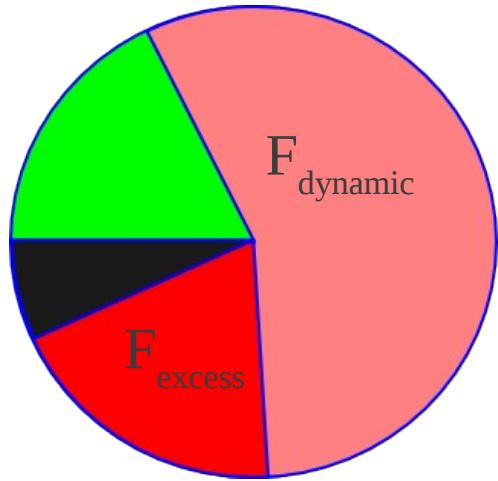
$$\Delta W = \underbrace{\int_{\Sigma} 2\gamma_{\text{eff}} dS}_{\text{Originally,}} + \underbrace{\int_{t_0}^{t_1} dt \int_{\Sigma(t)} \sigma_{ij} \Delta \dot{u}_i v_j dS}_{\text{Friction}} - \underbrace{\int_{t_0}^{t_1} dt \int_{S_0} \sigma_{ij} \dot{u}_i n_j dS}_{\text{Radiated energy (waves)}}$$

Dissipation

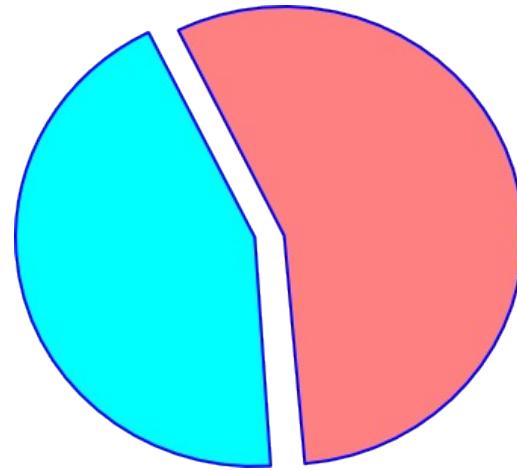
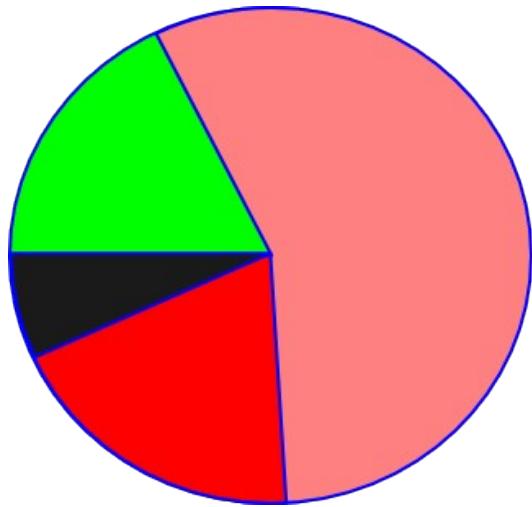
Er

“singular terms”

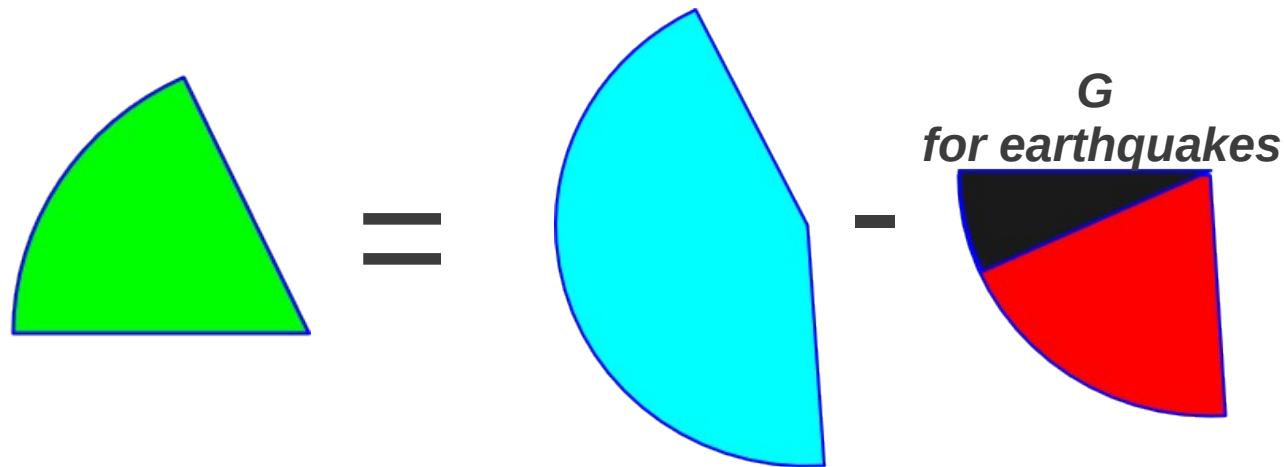
(but rather damage  
In the general sense)



$$F = \underbrace{\int_{t_0}^{t_1} dt \int_{\Sigma(t)} \sigma_{ij}^d \Delta \dot{u}_i v_j dS}_{\text{Work of: } F_{\text{dynamic}}} + \underbrace{\int_{t_0}^{t_1} dt \int_{\Sigma(t)} \sigma_{ij}^e \Delta \dot{u}_i v_j dS}_{\text{Work of: } F_{\text{excess}}}$$

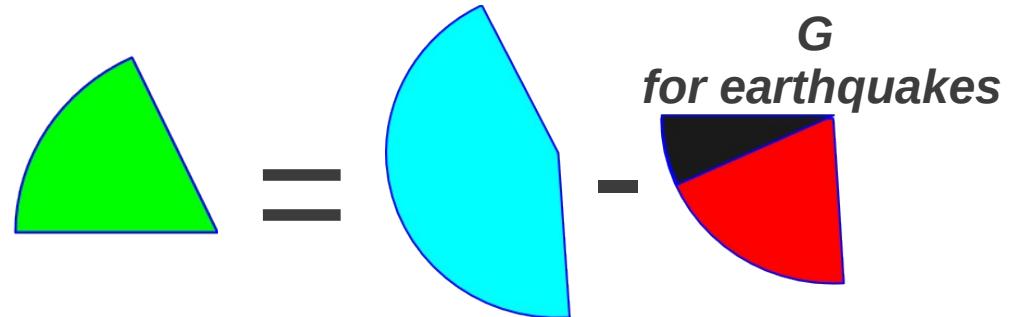


*Only if dynamic and final stress are the same, we can write:*

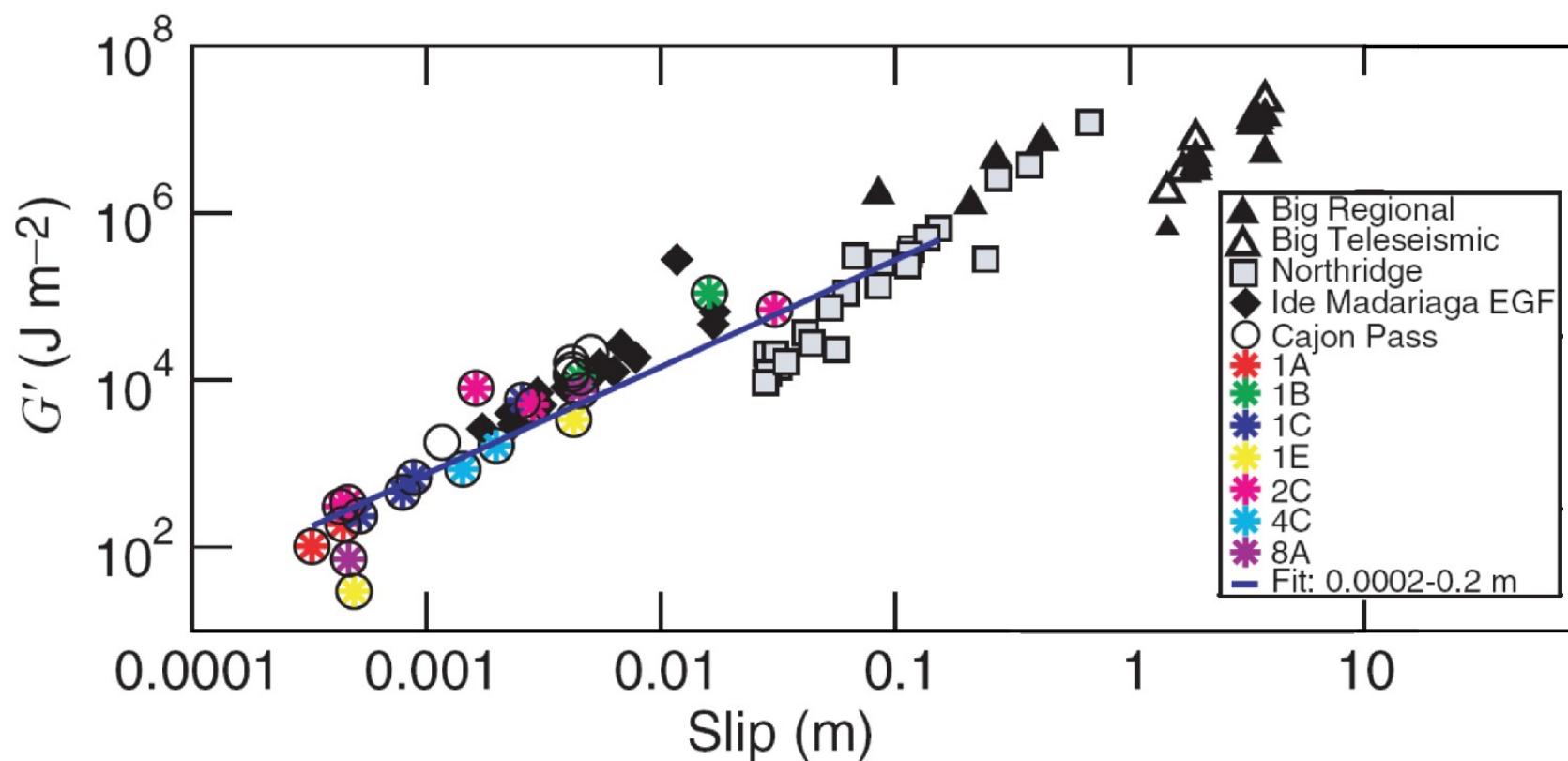


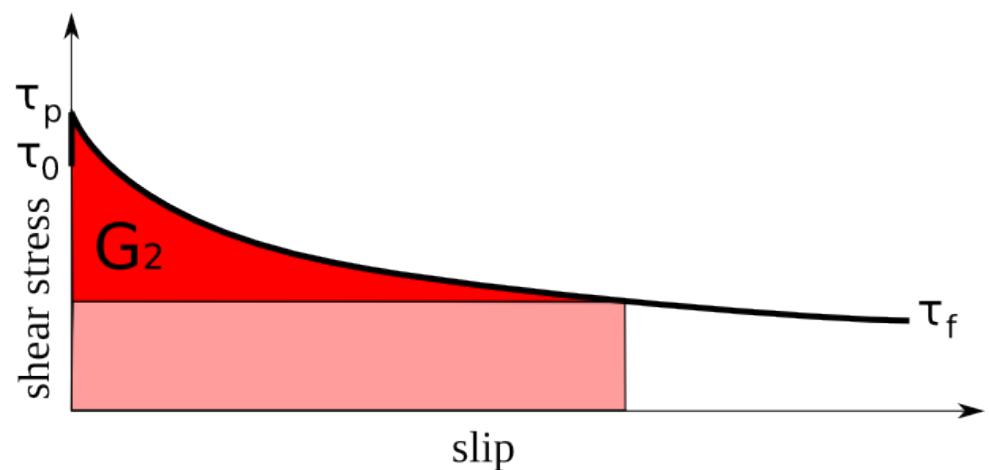
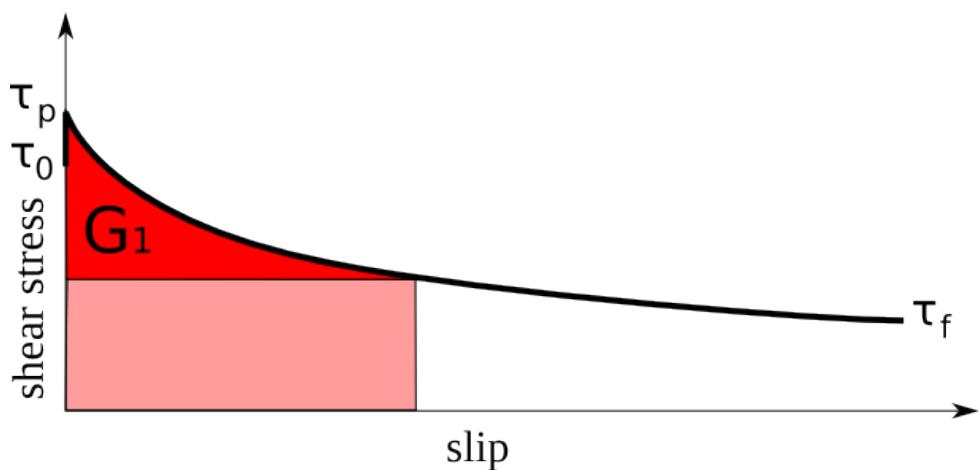
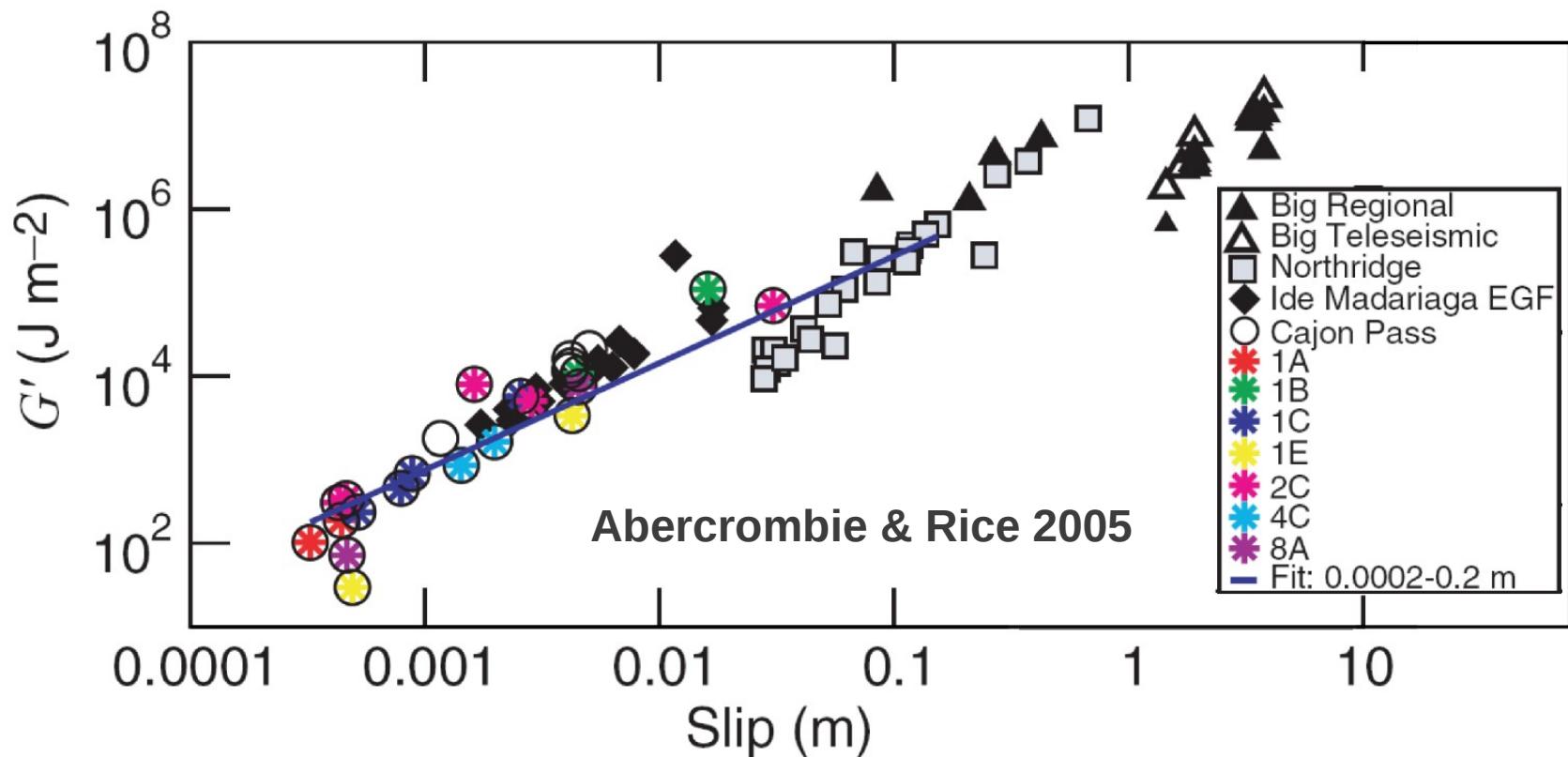
$$E_R = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Sigma} (\sigma_{ij}^0 - \sigma_{ij}^1) \Delta u_i v_j dS - \left( \int_{\Sigma} 2\gamma_{\text{eff}} dS + \int_{t_0}^{t_1} dt \int_{\Sigma(t)} \dot{\sigma}_{ij}^e \Delta u_i v_j dS \right)$$

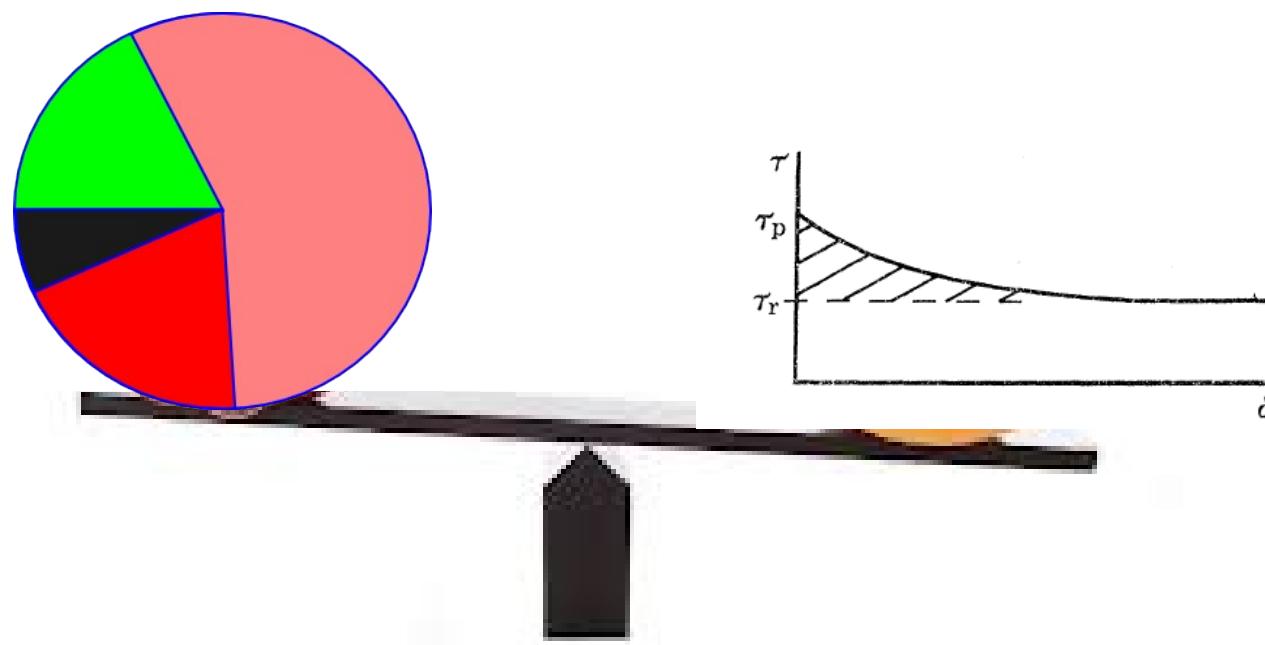
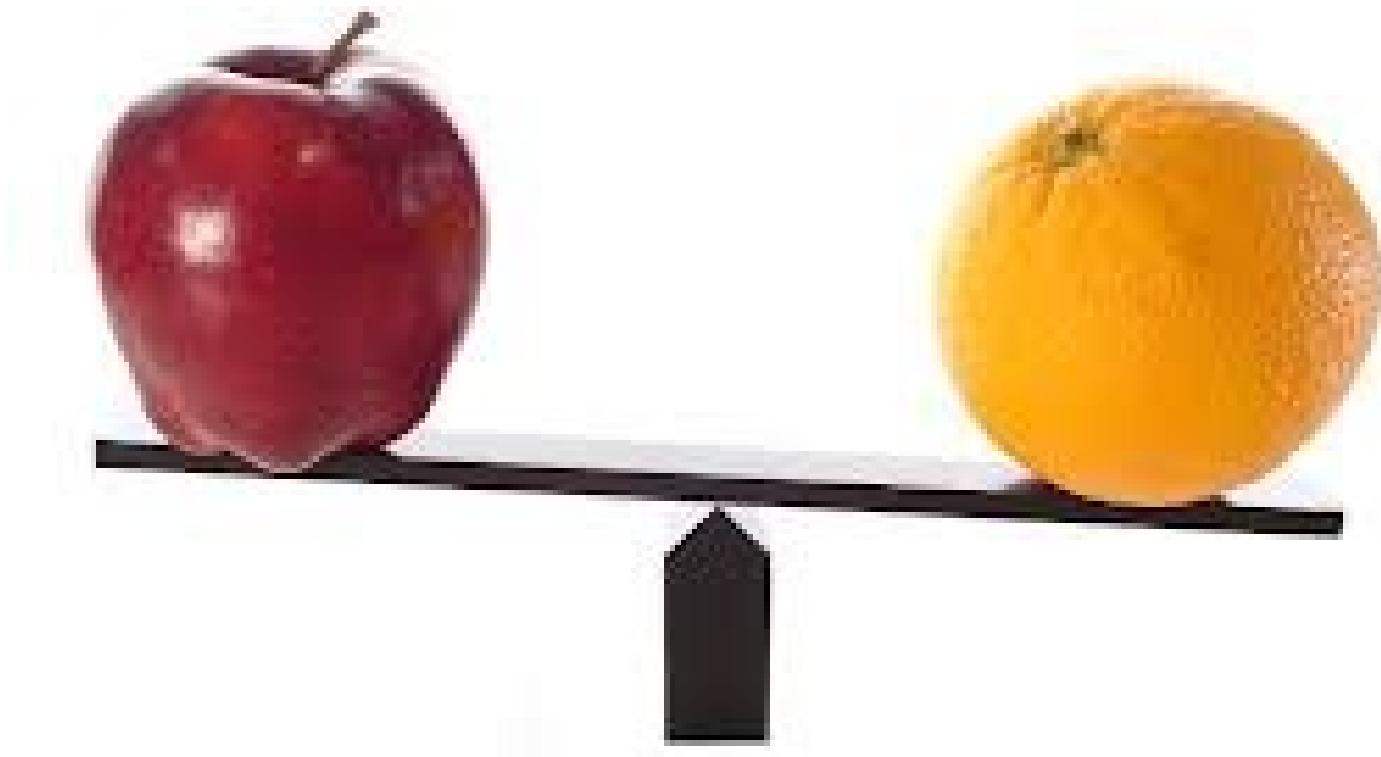
Kostrov, 1974 revisited



Abercrombie & Rice 2005

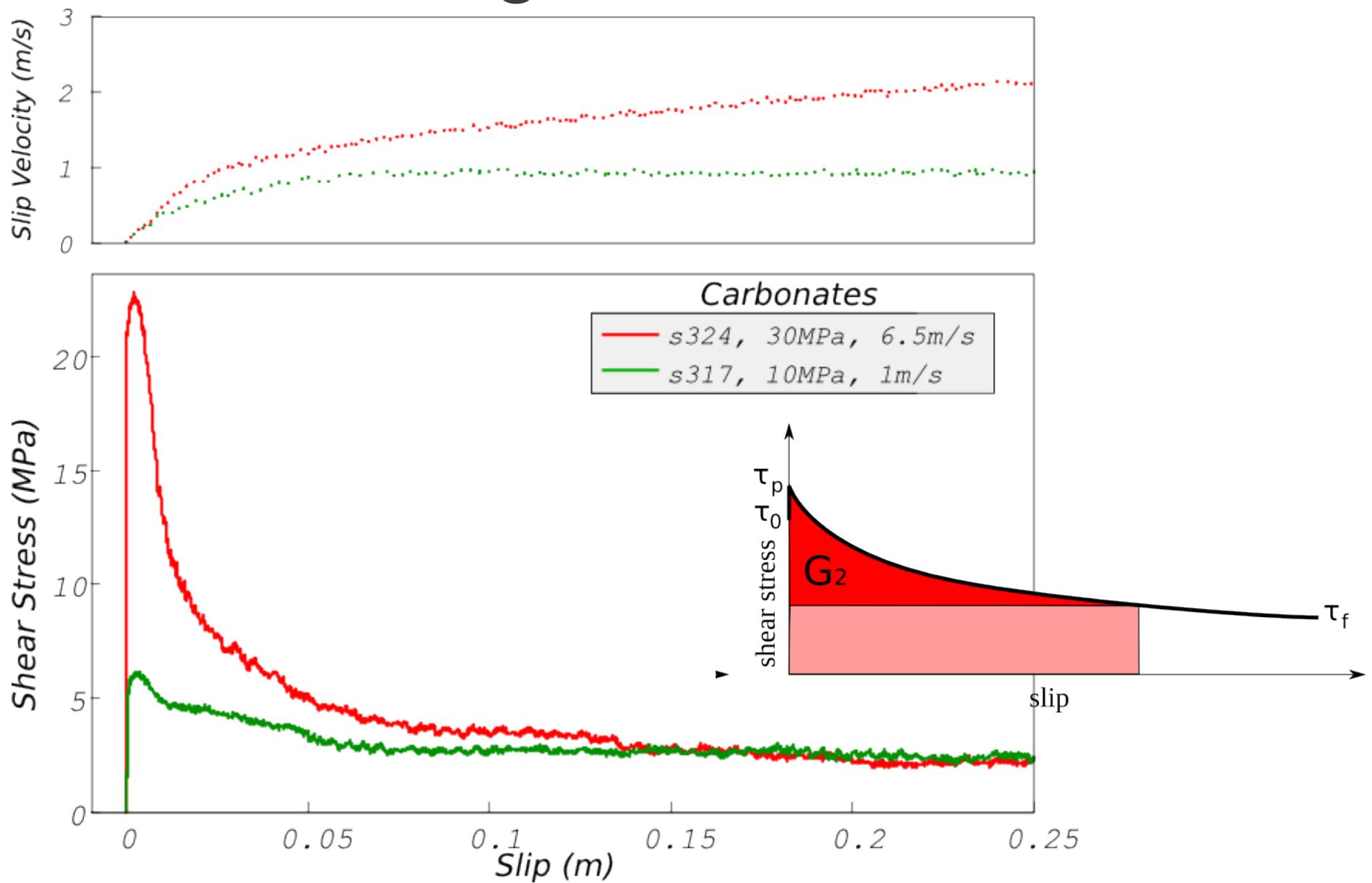


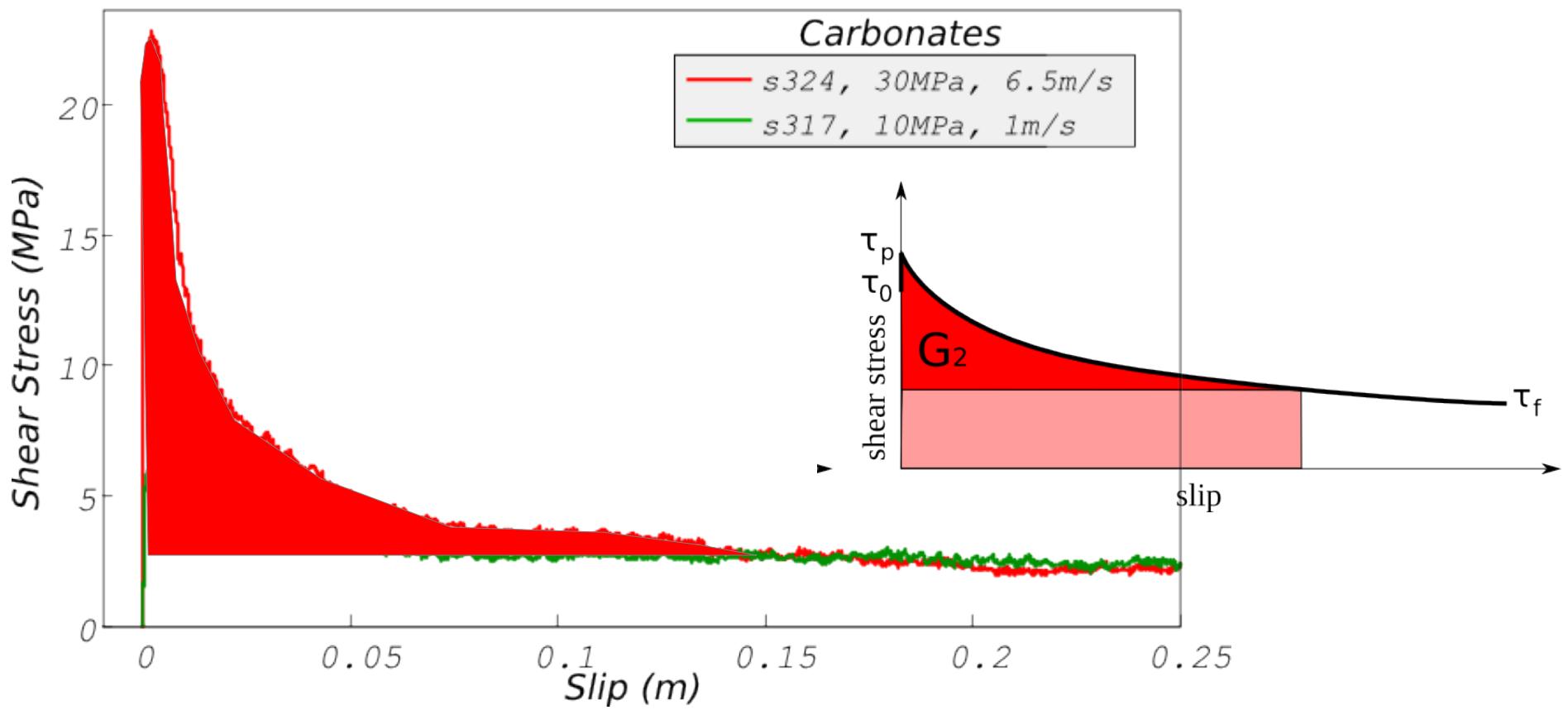
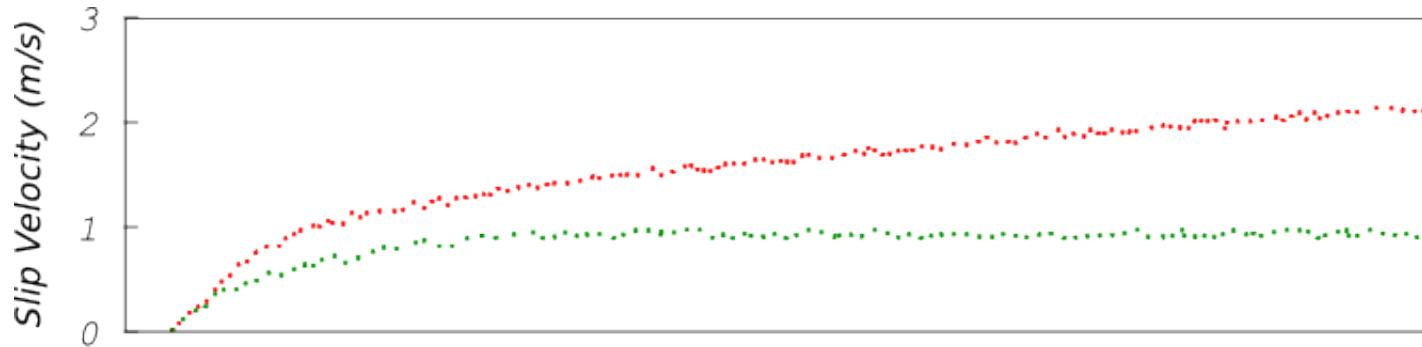




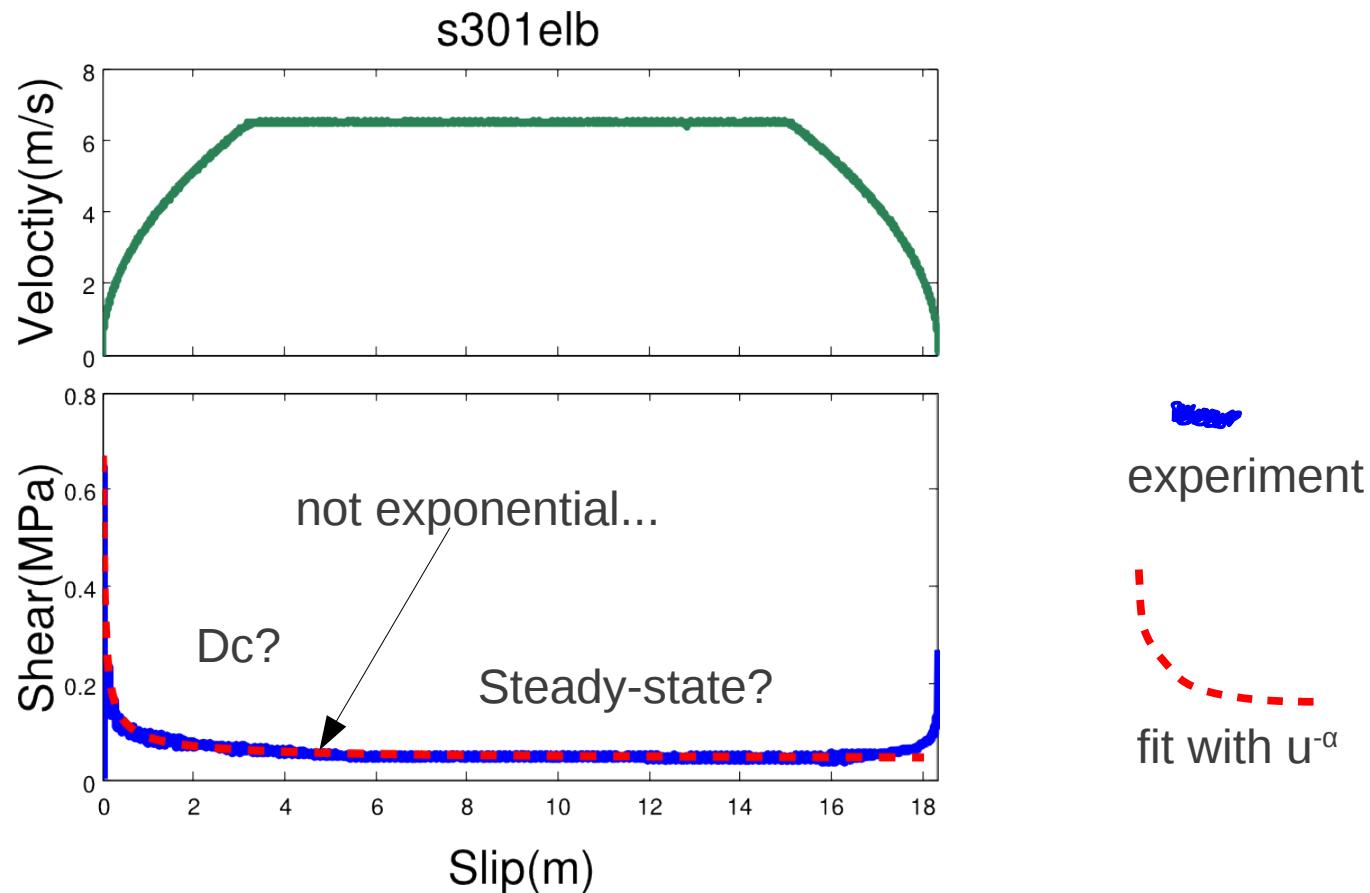
PS:Thanks to R. Abercrombie for introducing fruit in the discussion on wednesday

# Let's go to the lab...





# Weakening and Dc



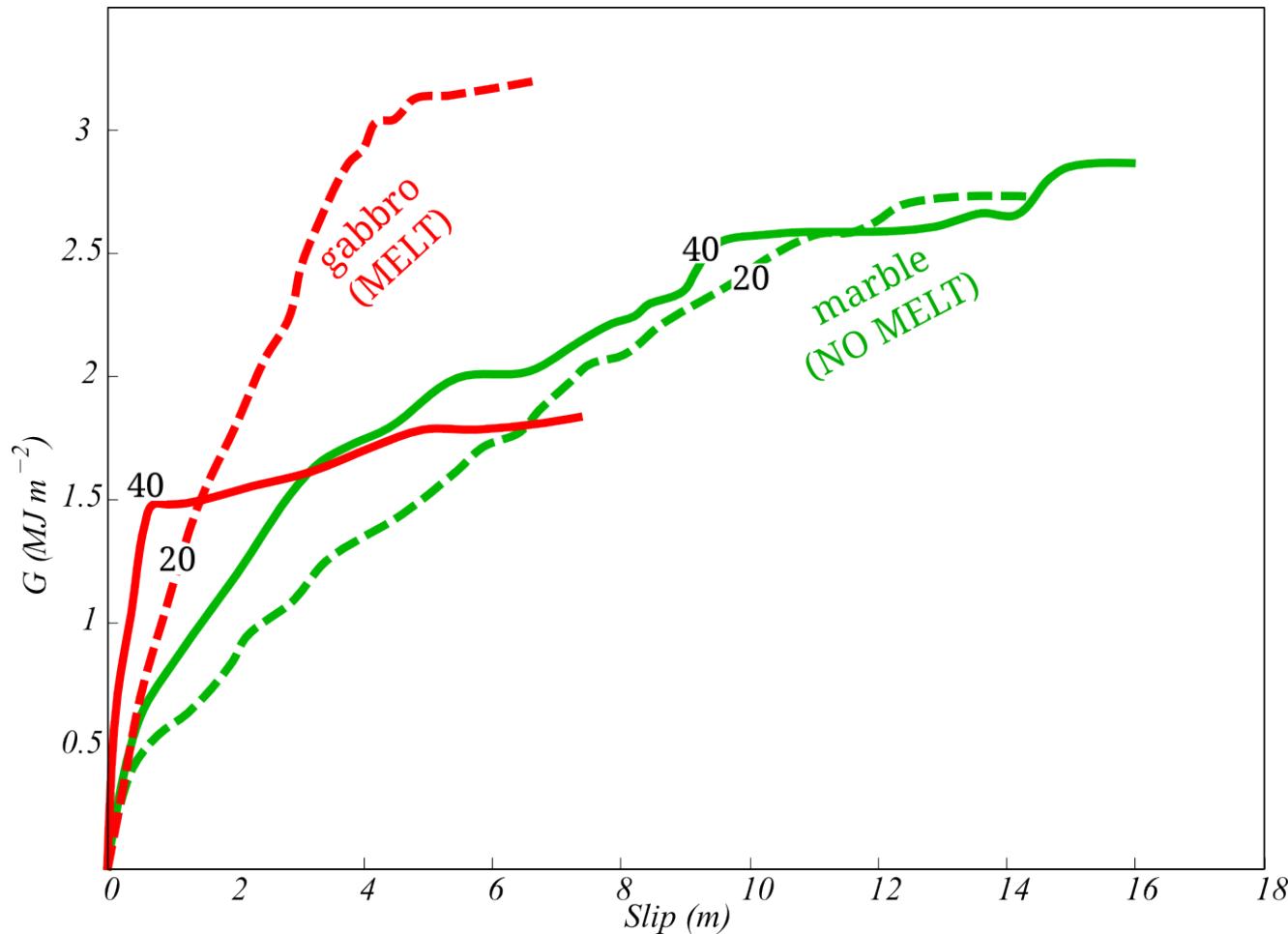
Problems:

- 1) Dc is highly dependent on definition and measuring technique
- 2) Dc is meaningless if the weakening is a sort of *powerlaw*
- 3) Dc cannot be compared directly to earthquake observation

$$\begin{aligned}\tau &= A(u - u_0)^{-\alpha} + \tau_{ss} \\ G &= \frac{A u_0^{1-\alpha}}{\alpha - 1} - \frac{A u_0 (u + u_0)^{-\alpha}}{\alpha - 1} - \frac{A u \alpha (u + u_0)^{-\alpha}}{\alpha - 1}\end{aligned}$$

$$\left.\begin{aligned}\tau &\approx A u^{-\alpha} + \tau_{ss} \\ G &\approx C_1 u^{1-\alpha}\end{aligned}\right\} \quad u \gg u_0$$

# G & steady-state for carbonatic or silicatic rock

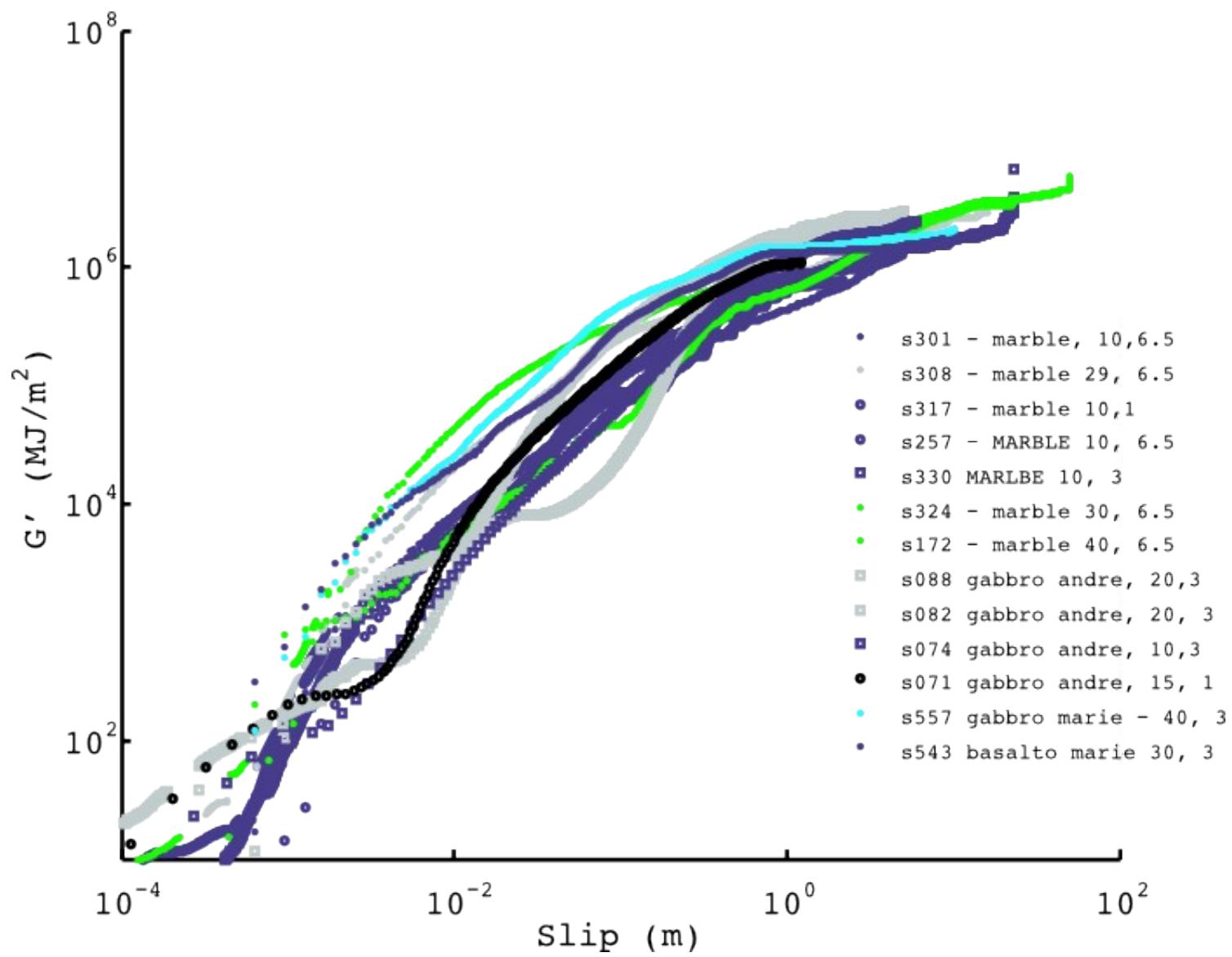


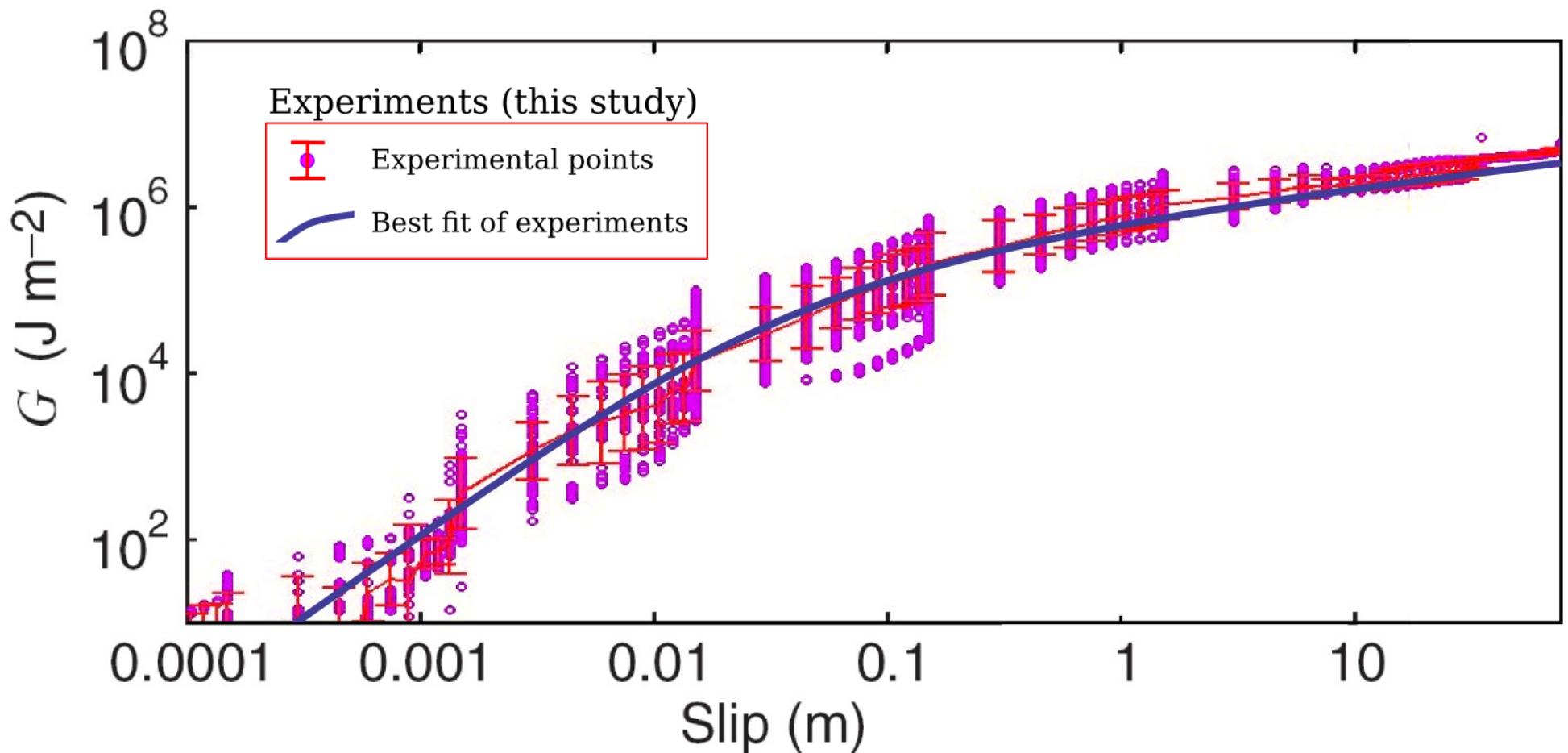
# The big picture?

How to apply this to earthquakes?

Beyond the variability, let us seek for an  
“average” scaling on large intervals of slip

(in log log scale,  
all birds of a feather flock together)





Malagnini et al. 2012 (in prep):

**Northridge 1994 + afts.**

**HectorMine 1999**

**Tottori 2000**

**Parkfield 2004**

**Aquila 2009 + afts.**

SanGiuliano 2002

Oklahoma 2011

Virginia 2011

Noto-Hanto 2007

Niigata 2004

Iwate 2008

Honshu 2011

Fukuoka 2005

Chuetsu 2004

Baja

Aqaba 1995

San Simeon 2003

Colfiorito 1997

Wells

Chi Chi 1999

Ferrara 2012 + afts

Abercrombie & Rice 2005, Rice 2005 and references  
therein (Mori et al. 2003; Ide et al, 2003; Kanamori et  
al. 1993, 2003; McGarr 2000; Venkataraman et al.  
2000, 2002):

**Northridge 1994 + afts.**

**Hector Mine 1999**

**Tottori 2000**

**Landers 1992**

**Imperial Valley 1971 + afts.**

**Colfiorito 1997**

**Kobe 1995**

Sierra Madre 1991

Loma Prieta 1989

Miochacan 1985

San Fernando 1971

Borah Peak 1983

North Palm Springs 1996

Tinti & Cocco (per. Com.)

**Northridge 1994**

**Hector Mine 1999**

**Tottori 2000**

**Landers 1992**

**Imperial Valley 1971**

**Colfiorito 1997**

**Kobe 1995**

**Parkfield 2004**

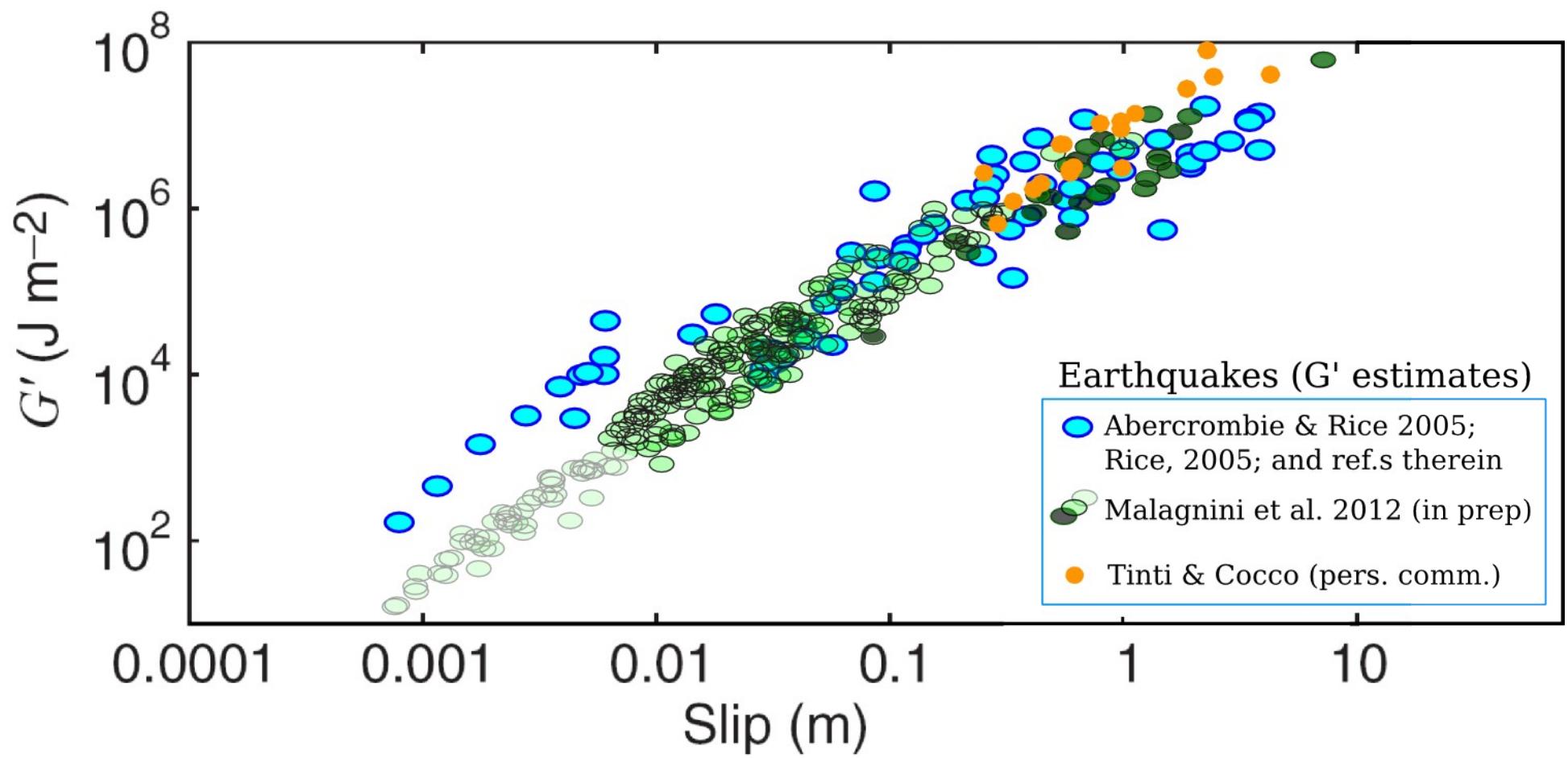
**L'Aquila 2009**

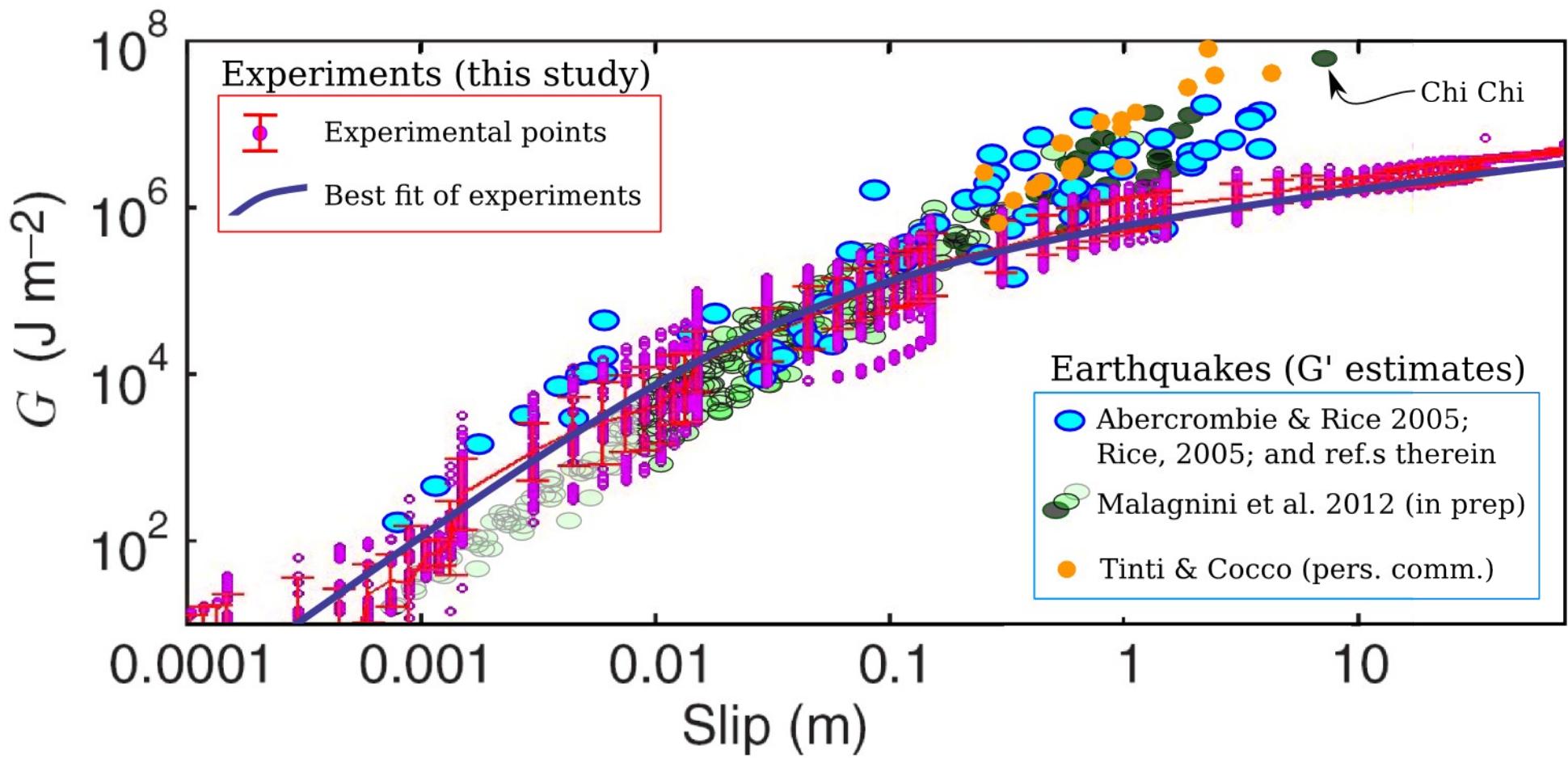
Fukuoka

Morgan Hill

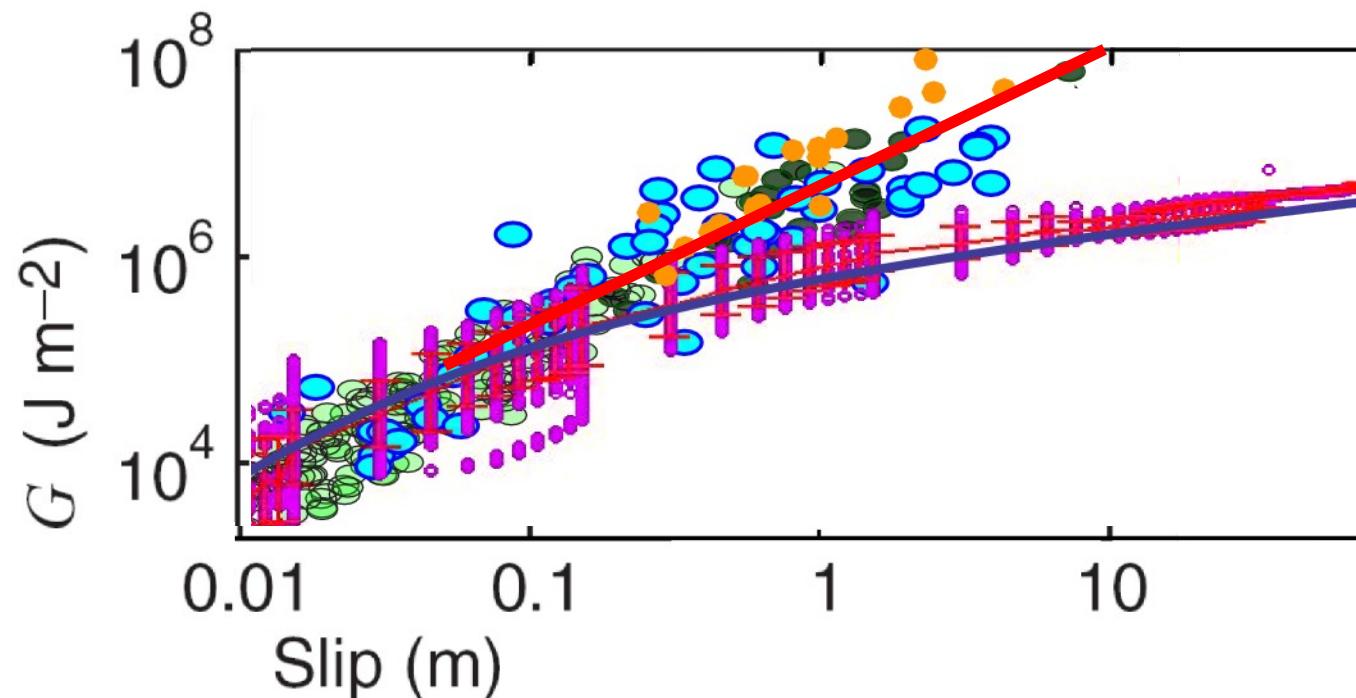
Denali

Seki

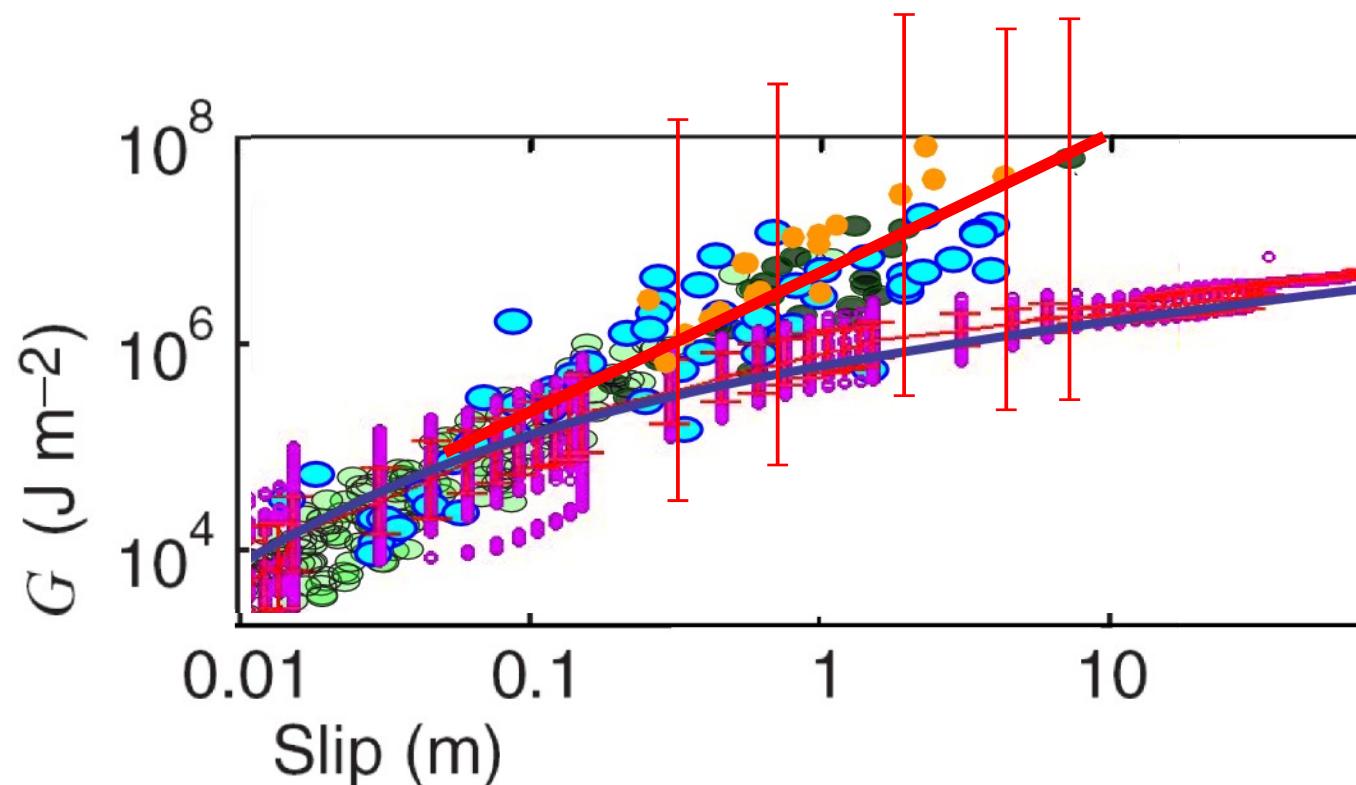




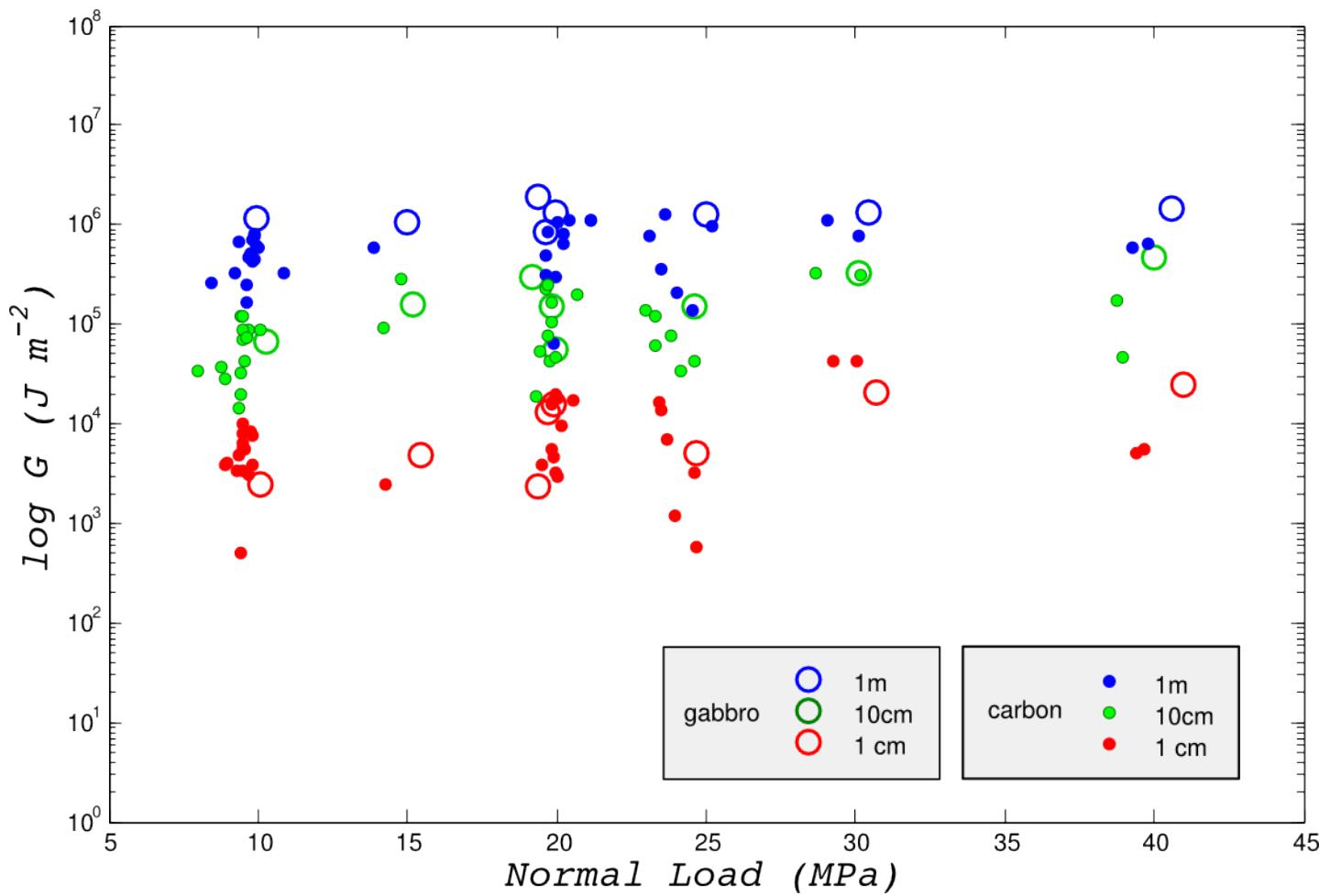
Is there a misfit at slip  $\geq 0.1\text{m}$   
and  
how to interpret it?



# Error bar (?) of Es estimates?



# Normal stress upscaling? Probably not...

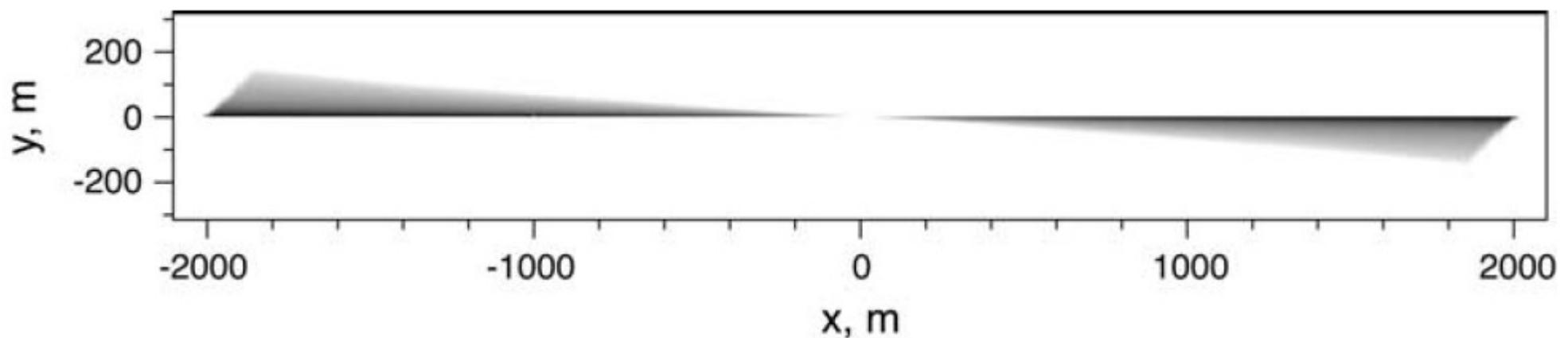


# Off-fault damage

(1) damage zone increasing

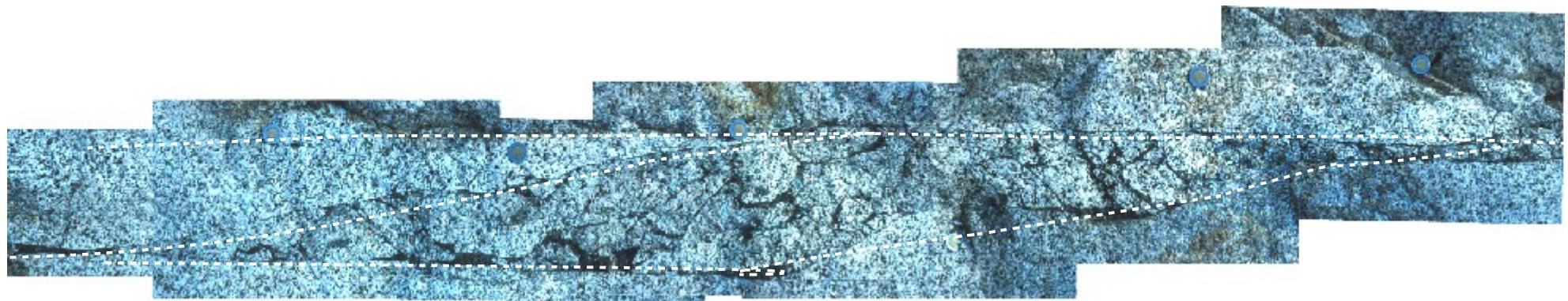
with L

$$G \propto U$$



Andrews 2005

# Off-fault damage (2) non-planarity and off-fault strain



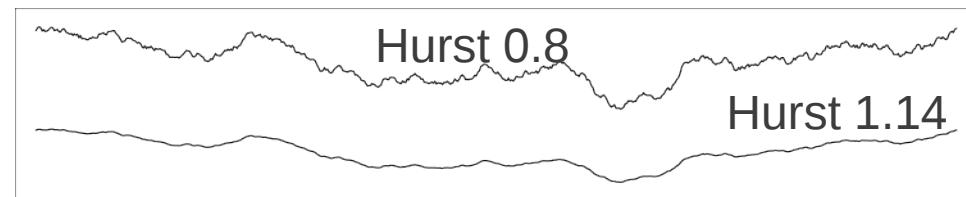
# Additional work of elastic strain in the surrounding volume of a non-planar, self-affine fault

$$G_r \propto w_{el.} \propto E U^{2H-1} \quad (H=\text{Hurst exponent})$$

$$H=0.8 \rightarrow G \propto U^{0.6}$$

$$H=1.0 \rightarrow G \propto U$$

$$H=1.14 \rightarrow G \propto U^{1.28}$$



# Conclusions

Up to slip  $\approx 30$  cm:

$G$  from frictional dissipation alone shows a distribution with slip compatible with estimates of  $G'$  from real earthquakes

At slip  $> 30$  cm:

$G$  (friction) and  $G'(\text{eq.})$  diverge  $G' > G$

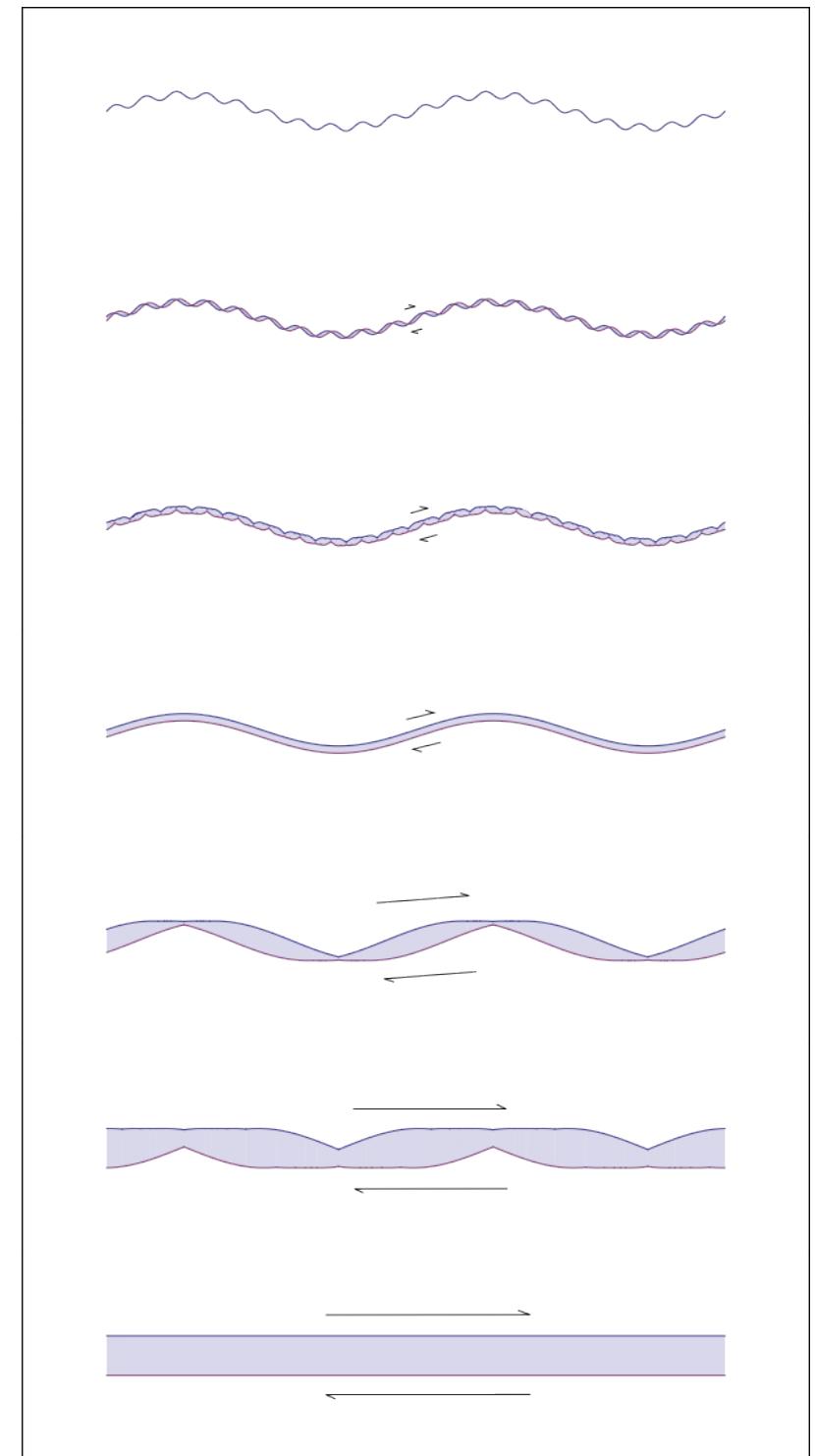
Extra dissipation sources in real eq: off-fault damage due stress concentration or to non-planarity of the fault.

Upscaling and homogenization issues (we compare global behavior to local behavior)

If we believe these estimates then  $G' - G$  can give us a measure of non-frictional dissipation during earthquakes







Stress and strain due to slip on a sinusoidal fault:

$$\sigma_{ij}(x, y) = E \left( a + b \frac{2\pi y}{\lambda} \right) \frac{hu}{\lambda^2} g(2\pi x/\lambda) \exp(-2\pi y/\lambda)$$

$$\varepsilon_{ij}(x, y) = \left( c + d \frac{2\pi y}{\lambda} \right) \frac{hu}{\lambda^2} g(2\pi x/\lambda) \exp(-2\pi y/\lambda)$$

Work of elastic strain for  $u \sim \lambda$ :

$$dw = \sigma_{ij} d\varepsilon_{ij} = \sigma_{ij}(u) \varepsilon'_{ij}(u) du$$

Self-affine surface with Hurst exponent H:

$$h = \gamma \lambda^H$$

$$dw \propto E h^2 u / \lambda^3 du$$

$$w \propto \int_{u=0}^{u=\lambda} E h^2 u / \lambda^3 du$$

$$w = 1/4 \pi^3 \gamma^2 (2 - \nu) E U^{2H-1}$$

for  $U = 1$  m we obtain  $w \approx 2.5 \cdot 10^8$  J m<sup>-2</sup>

# For a self-affine fault topography:

$$\rho_h(k) = c k^{-H - \frac{1}{2}}$$

Wavenumber  $k$

Integration over wavenumbers:

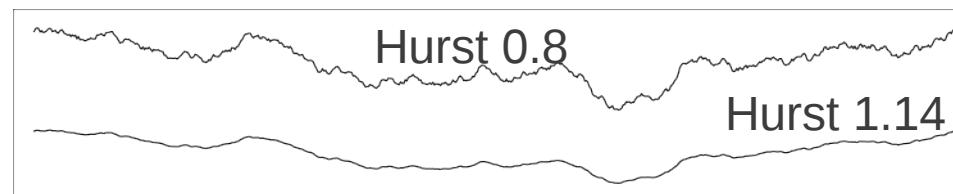
$$w \propto E \int_{2\pi/U}^{\infty} k^{-2H} dk$$

$$G_r \propto w \propto E U^{2H-1}$$

$$H=0.8 \rightarrow G \propto U^{0.6}$$

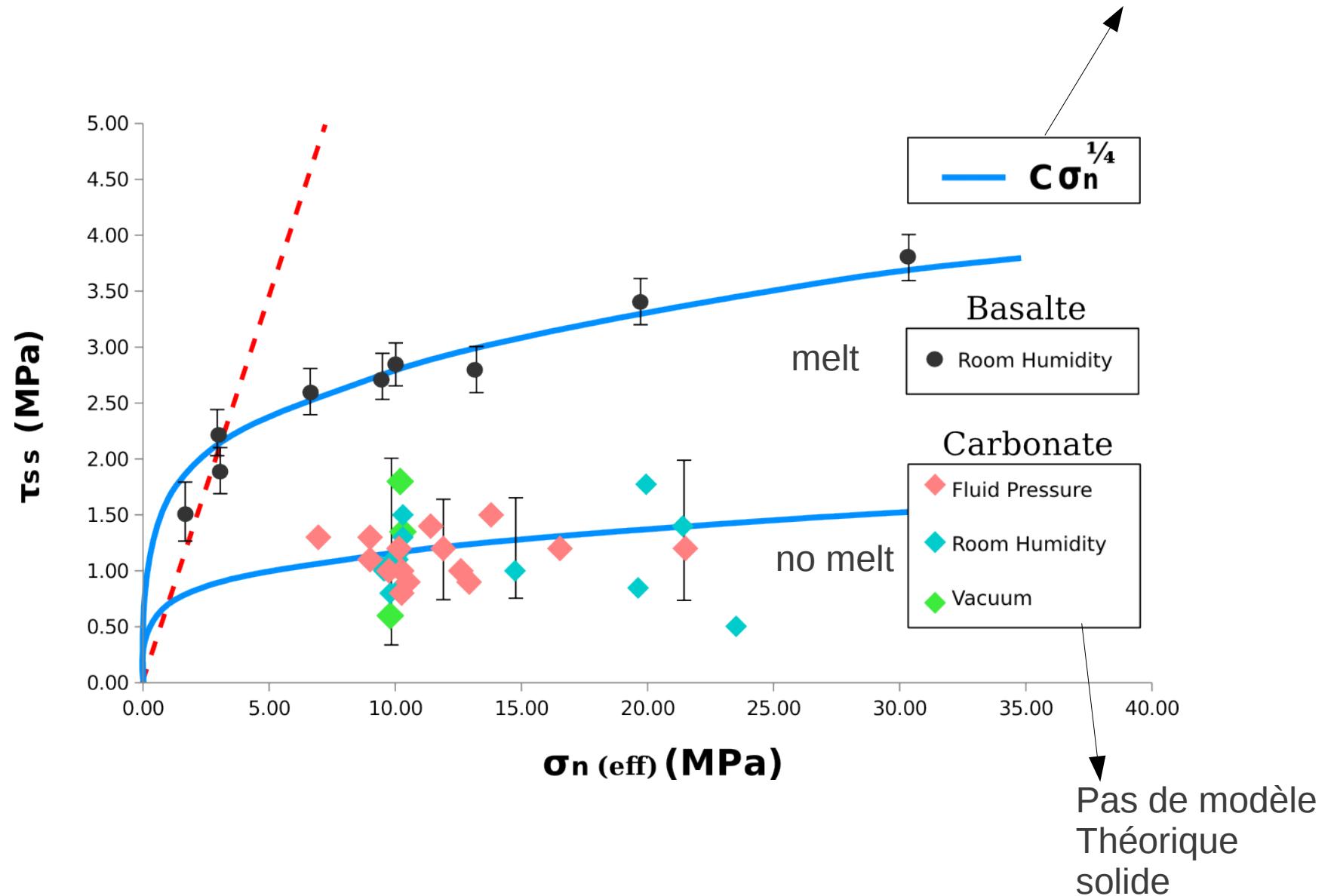
$$H=1.0 \rightarrow G \propto U$$

$$H=1.14 \rightarrow G \propto U^{1.28}$$

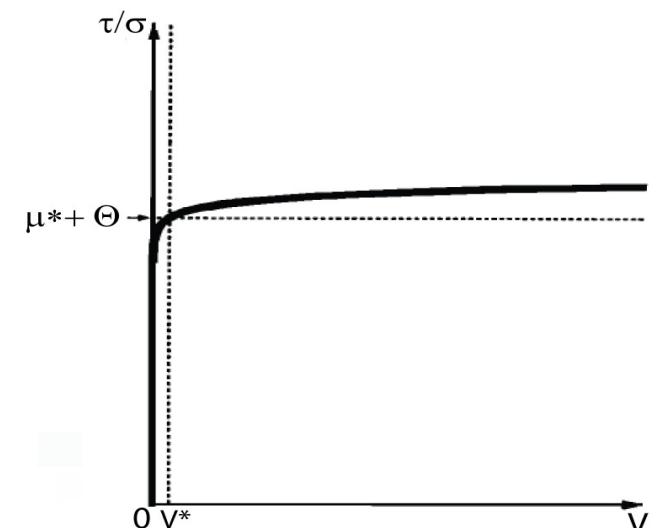
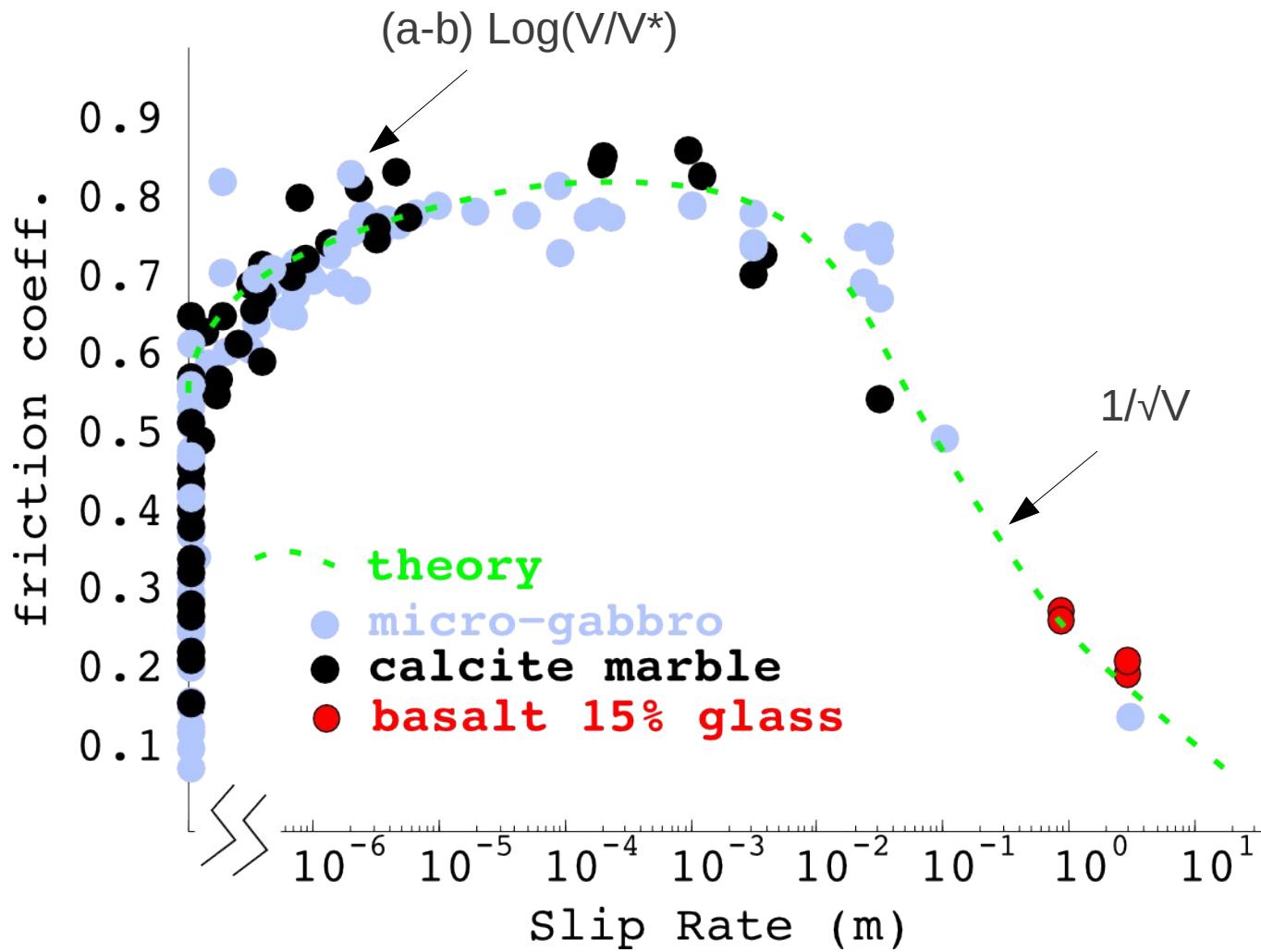


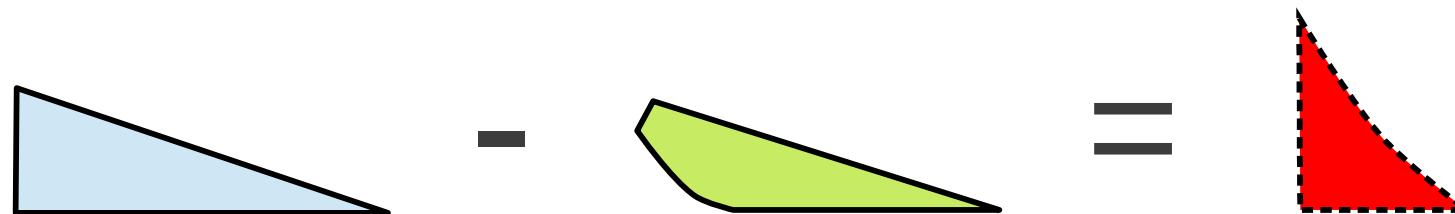
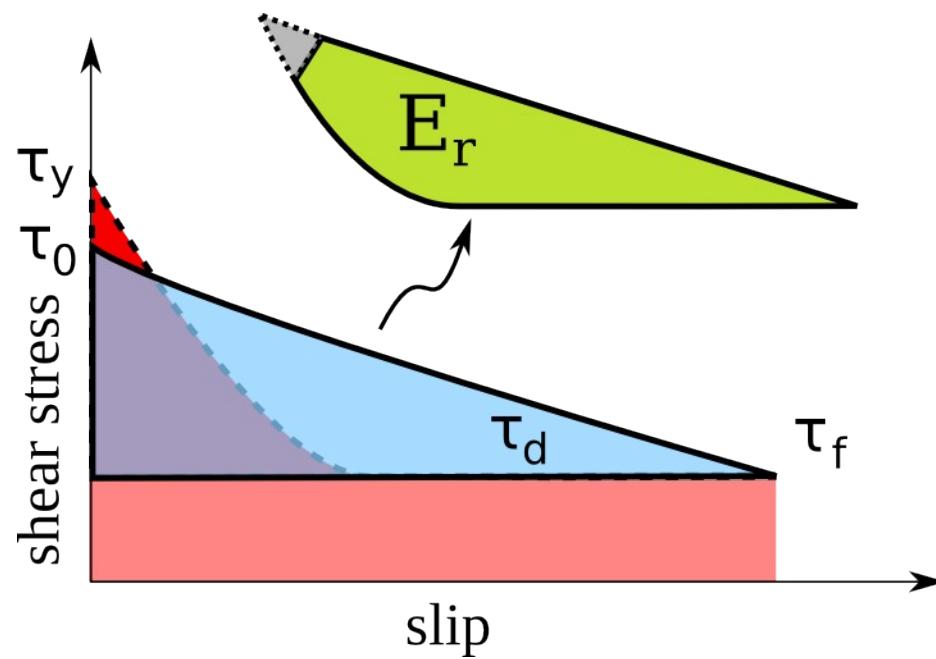
# Lubrification

Modèle théorique  
Friction melt  
Nielsen et al 2008

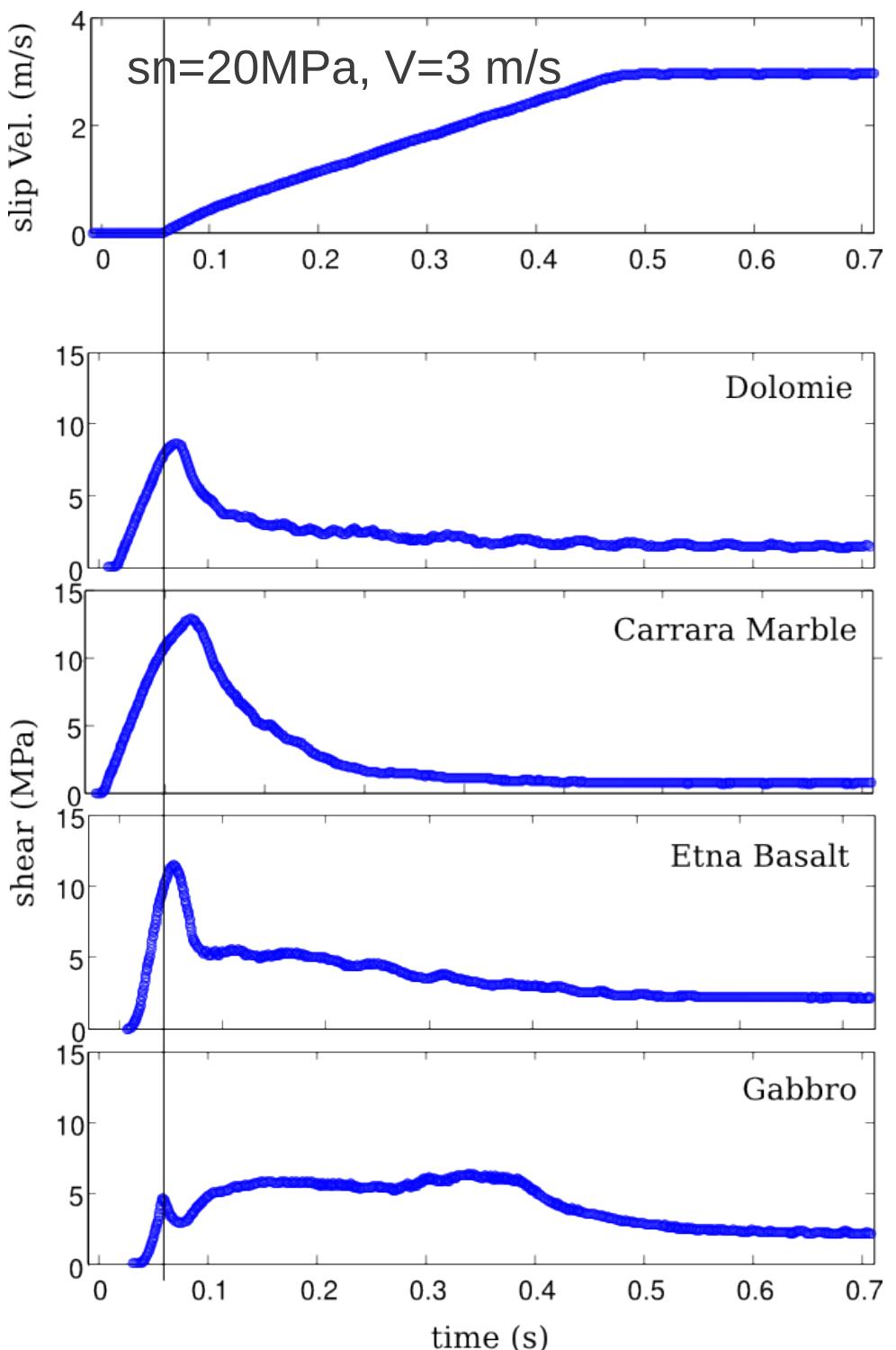
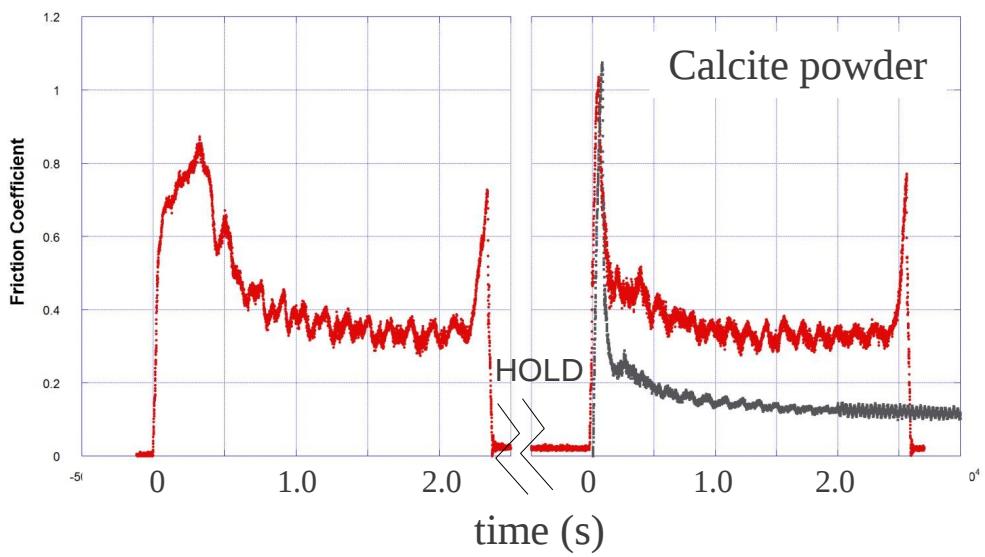


# Transition stable/instable état stationnaire

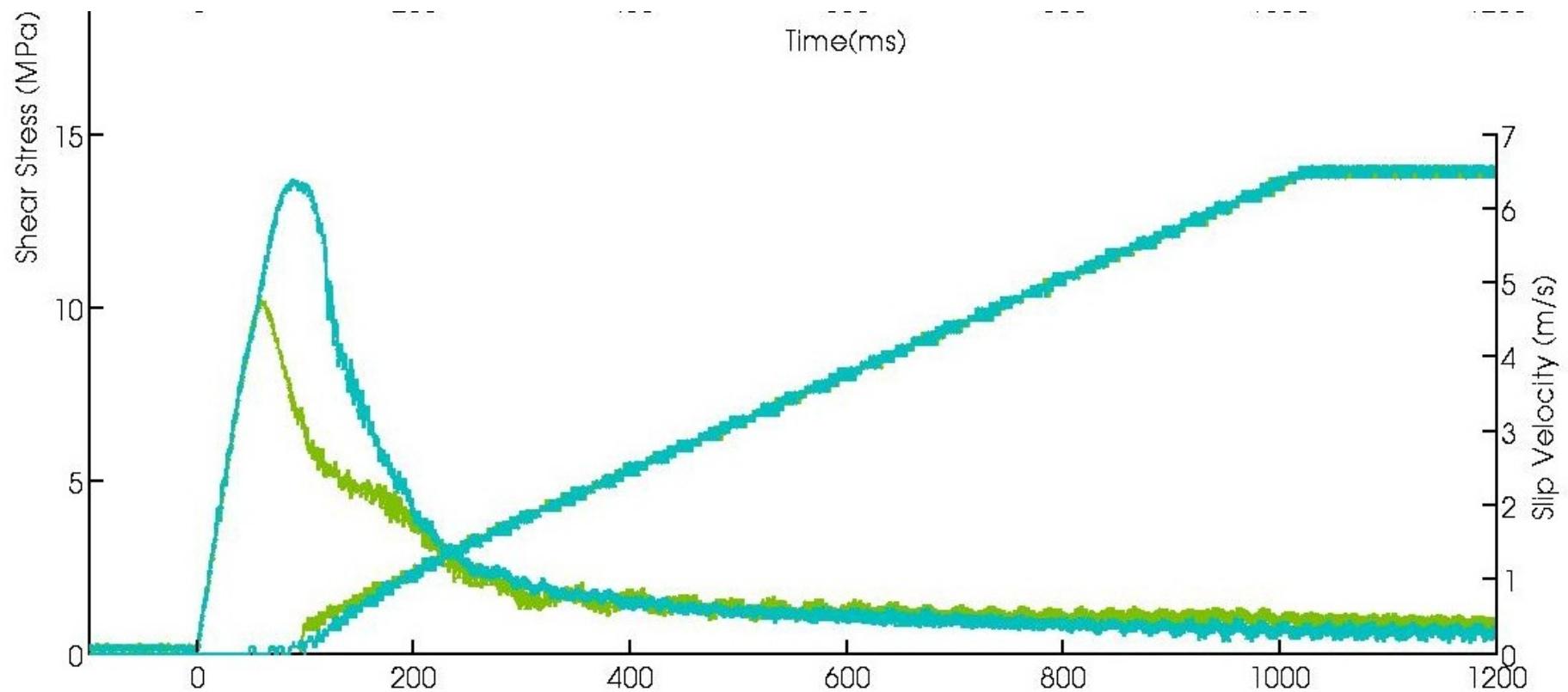




# Various lithologies



# Calcite and Dolomite



# To do

Add data from Tinti et al.

Experimental examples

Difficulties in defining  $D_c$  in experiments

Different  $G$  curves

Off fault dissipation

Fault roughness and  $H$

Powerlaw fit and integration: equations

Rice's fit with therm. press. Model

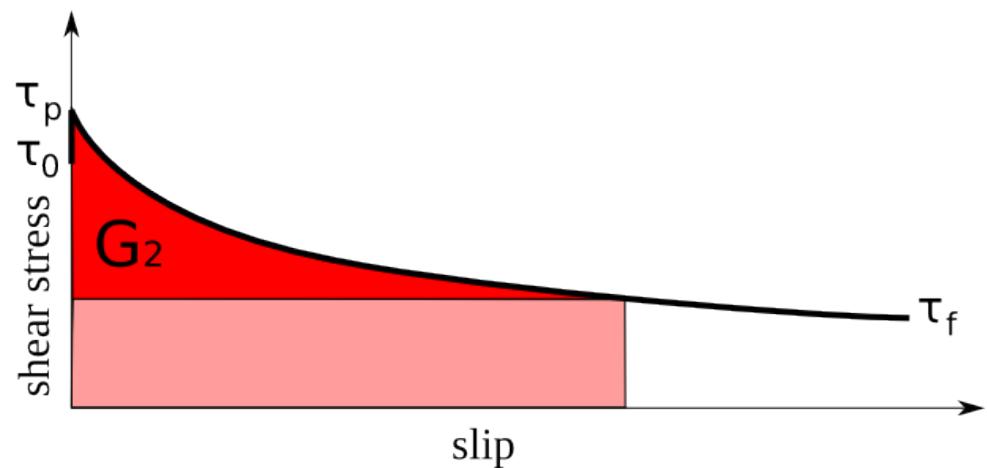
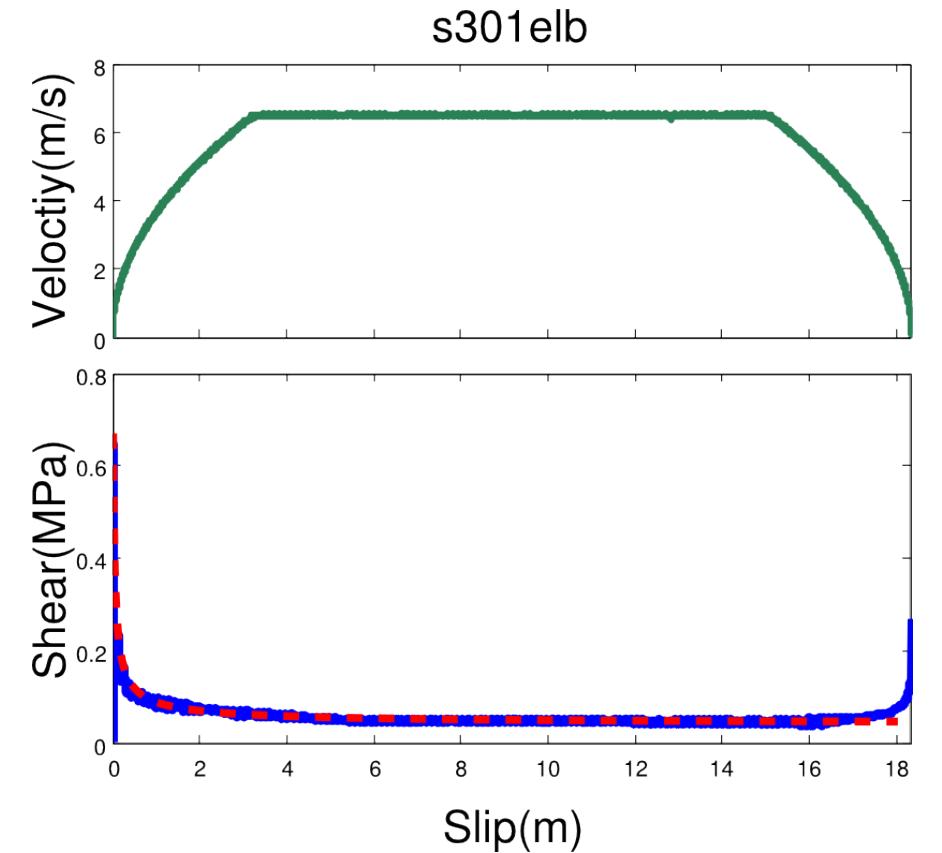
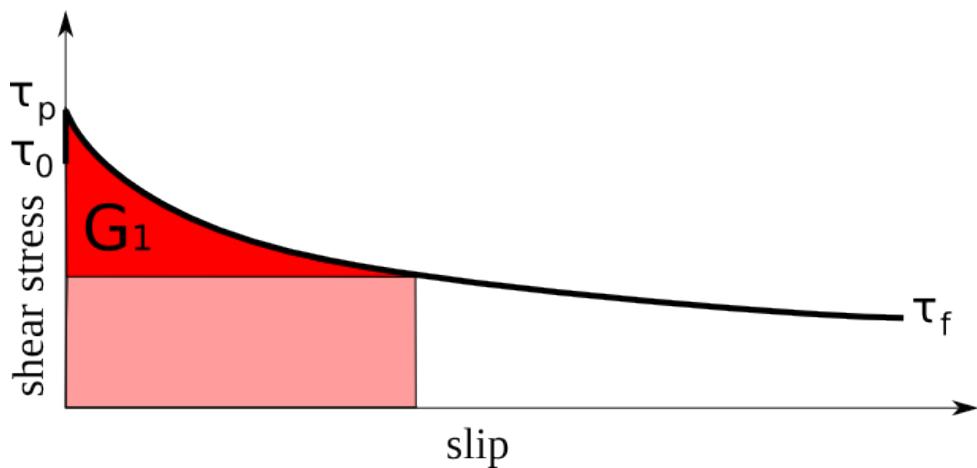
Normal stress dependence

Velocity load time history

Total stress drop / large stress drop?

# Weakening and G

*...how to get rid  
of details*



# G

*S. Nielsen, E. Spagnuolo, S. Smith,  
M. Violay, G. Di Toro, A. Niemeijer*

*with the guest participation of:*

*L. Malagnini, E. Tinti, M. Cocco*



Istituto Nazionale di  
Geofisica e Vulcanologia



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI  
DI PADOVA