



## Analysis of fault damage-zones using 3D seismic coherence in the Anadarko Basin, Oklahoma

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1 **Analysis of fault damage-zones using 3D seismic coherence in the Anadarko**  
2 **Basin, Oklahoma**

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7 **ABSTRACT**

8 Fault damage-zones may significantly affect subsurface fluid migration and the development  
9 of unconventional resources. Most analyses of fault damage-zones are based on direct field  
10 observations, and we expand these analyses to the subsurface by investigating the damage-zone  
11 structure of a 32-km ( $\sim 10^5$  ft) long right-lateral strike-slip fault in Oklahoma. We used the 3D  
12 seismic attribute of coherence to first define its regional and background levels, and then  
13 evaluated the damage-zone dimensions at multiple sites. We found damage-zone thickness of  
14  $\sim 1600$ m (5,300 ft) at a segment that is dominated by subsidiary faults, and it is slightly thicker at  
15 a segment with a pull-apart basin. The damage-zone intensity decays exponentially with distance  
16 from the fault core, in agreement with field observations and distribution of seismic events. The  
17 coherence map displays a strong asymmetry of the damage-zone between the two sides of the 3D  
18 fault, which is related to the subsidiary structures of the fault-zone. We discuss the effects of  
19 heterogeneous stress field on damage-zone evolution through the detected subsidiary structures.  
20 It appears that seismic coherence is an effective tool for subsurface characterization of fault  
21 damage-zones.

24

## INTRODUCTION

25 FAULT-ZONE STRUCTURE

26 Field analyses of fault-zones has revealed three primary components: fault core, damage-  
27 zone, and protolith (Figure 1) (Caine et al., 1996; Sagy et al. 2001; Kim et al., 2004; Savage and  
28 Brodsky, 2011). The fault core is a discrete, quasi-tabular shear zone, comprised of gouge layers  
29 that accommodates most fault displacement. If the fault is composed of strands with several  
30 anastomosing segments, its core could be up to meters thick (e.g., Faulkner et al., 2010; Savage  
31 and Brodsky, 2011). The fault core could be a sealing zone with thick clay bodies (e.g. Billi et  
32 al., 2003), a permeable conduit (e.g. Caine et al., 1996), or both, depending on the fault's state in  
33 its seismic cycle (e.g. Sibson, 1990). The damage-zone is constituted of fractured, brecciated,  
34 and pulverized rocks derived from the protolith and are generally confined to a zone on the scale  
35 of a kilometer between the fault core and intact protolith (Sibson, 2003; Rempe et al., 2013;  
36 Busetti et al., 2012). The fracture sets within the damage-zone often provide a high permeability  
37 conduit for fluid flow (Billi et al., 2003). The fault core and damage-zone may vary along strike,  
38 owing to fault-related diagenesis, segmentation and evolution (Laubach et al., 2014). The  
39 structural complexity within the damage-zones, and particularly the distribution and openness of  
40 its fracture networks, can significantly affect the migration, accumulation and leakage of  
41 subsurface fluids (e.g., Caine et al., 1996; Faulkner et al., 2010; Ellis et al., 2012) and earthquake  
42 rupture characteristics (e.g., Weng et al., 2016).

43 Characterization of the structure of a subsurface fault zone, without borehole data, can be  
44 done only indirectly because fracture networks are invisible to seismic data. The properties of  
45 subsurface fault patterns, including geometry and internal architecture, can be determined, for  
46 example, by using seismic attributes (Chopra and Marfurt, 2007). Application of seismic

47 mapping to a submarine fold thrust system can detect structural deformation by recognition of  
48 reduced signal through volumes (Iacopini and Butler, 2011; Iacopini et al., 2012). The concept  
49 of a seismic distortion zone enhanced the understanding of the associated damage of a thrust  
50 system at seismic scales. This seismic characterization method is further used for fault structure  
51 and its surrounding deformation that is defined as a seismic disturbance zone (Iacopini et al.,  
52 2016). Even though the fracture networks are invisible at seismic scale, their cumulative effects  
53 could be detected as distortion of the signal (Chopra and Marfurt, 2010; Li et al., 2015).  
54 Numerical simulations of synthetic fault models and associated seismic responses shows the  
55 potential to characterize the damage zones using seismic attributes and seismic tomography, as  
56 presented by Botter et al. (2016, 2017). Their workflow provides information on fault structure at  
57 different seismic resolutions, through the seismic images determined by the discrete element  
58 modeling.

59 The present study utilizes 3D seismic attributes for the analysis of damage and splays of a  
60 large, subsurface strike-slip fault in Oklahoma. It is demonstrated that the utilized seismic  
61 approach can reveal the dimensions and shapes of damage-zones with indications of the  
62 deformation intensity. We further show that the detected subsurface damage-zone display similar  
63 scaling relation to well documented field observations.

#### 64 DAMAGE-ZONE DIMENSION

65 It is commonly observed that the intensity of fracturing and deformation within a fault  
66 damage-zone decays with distance from the fault core toward the protolith (e.g. Caine et al.,  
67 1996; Sagy et al. 2001; Katz et al., 2003; Savage and Brodsky, 2011; Rempe et al., 2013). Sagy  
68 et al. (2001) analyzed a system of joints within dolomite layers close to a large normal fault of  
69 the Dead Sea basin. The joint density, reported by the FSR (Fracture-Spacing-Ratio) = layer

70 thickness/joint spacing, decreased significantly from FSR = 28 close to the fault core to a  
71 background value of 2-3 at ~100 m (330 ft) away from the core (Figure 2a). Wilson et al. (2003)  
72 analyzed the brittle deformation around the Punchbowl fault in California. They found that the  
73 density of subsidiary fractures in the sandstone decreases from about ~90 fractures/m at the sub-  
74 fault core, to a regional background of ~20 fractures/m at about 10 m (33 ft) distance (Figure  
75 2b). In general, the observed damage decay can be fit by a power function or an exponential  
76 function (Figure 2), for example, the fracture density ( $D$ ) decays as fault-normal distance ( $x$ ):

$$D = a e^{-bx}$$

77 where  $a$  and  $b$  are constants that reflect physical properties related to the layer thickness or  
78 brittleness of the rock (Cowie et al., 1995).

79 Determination of the dimension of subsurface damage-zones is challenging. Peng et al.  
80 (2003) used synthetic wave modeling to determine a thickness of ~100 m (330 ft) for a shallow  
81 fault in Landers, California. They found that the fault-zone has a ~50% decrease in seismic  
82 velocity compared to the surrounding protolith. Powers and Jordan (2010) analyzed the variation  
83 of seismicity rate around right-lateral strike-slip faults in California (Figure 2c). In the fault core,  
84 the number of seismic events is ~120 per km (~3,300 ft) normal to the fault, and this seismicity  
85 rate decayed to 20/km (~66,000 ft) at a distance of 10 km (~33,000 ft) by a power-law  
86 relationship with distance from the fault core. Their estimates of thicknesses of the damage-  
87 zones ranged from 120 m (~400 ft) to 440 m (~1400 ft) along Elsinore-Temecula segment of the  
88 southern San Andreas California fault system. Valoroso et al., (2014) used high-resolution  
89 earthquake locations to evaluate the damage zone of the L'Aquila normal fault, Italy. They found  
90 damage zone thicknesses ranging 0.5 km (~1,600 ft) to 1.5 km (~5,000 ft) with damage intensity  
91 decaying at an exponential rate with distance from the fault core, which is in general agreement

92 with field observations. Additional information can be derived from borehole logs. For example,  
93 the drilling across the San-Andreas fault near Parkfield, revealed a 200 m (~660 ft) thick  
94 damage-zone based on reduced seismic velocities (e.g. Zoback et al., 2011).

## 95 **DAMAGE-ZONE OF A SUBSURFACE STRIKE-SLIP FAULT: 3D SEISMIC ANALYSIS**

### 96 APPROACH AND OBSERVATIONS

97 We investigate the damage-zone of the El Reno fault (ERF), a 32 km (~10<sup>5</sup> ft) long, right-  
98 lateral, strike-slip fault in the Anadarko Basin, Oklahoma. The analysis utilizes the 3D seismic  
99 attribute “coherence” which is defined as the energy of the coherent part of seismic traces  
100 divided by the average acoustic energy of the input seismic traces (Chopra and Marfurt, 2007;  
101 Chopra and Marfurt, 2010). This attribute is commonly used to identify lateral discontinuities,  
102 under the premise that its low values indicate discontinuities in layers, for example usage to  
103 detect faults and damage zones in the subsurface (e.g., Chopra and Marfurt, 2007; Liao et al.,  
104 2013; Iacopini et al., 2016; Botter et al., 2017). Here, we focus on utilizing coherence for  
105 characterization of seismic scale damage-zone in 3D to demonstrate the practical effectiveness of  
106 this attribute for damage-zone analysis for an onshore case of a large fault in an oil province.

107 The study area is in central-west Oklahoma (inset Figure 3) where the Devonian Woodford  
108 Shale was deposited in the Anadarko, Arkoma, and Ardmore Basins (Paxton et. al., 2006;  
109 Cardott, 2008) during a global sea-level transgression (Johnson, 1988; Lambert, 1993). The  
110 Woodford Shale is an important petroleum source rock in the United States midcontinent,  
111 characterized as a laminated unit with alternating brittle and ductile layers (Slatt et al., 2010).  
112 The quartz- and calcite-rich brittle layers are fractured by layer-perpendicular open fractures

113 (Bernal et al., 2012). Gale et al. (2014) observed widely distributed small fractures with heights  
114 < 3 cm in thin chert layers of the Woodford.

115 The seismic data analyzed here were collected in 2012, and it includes nine narrow azimuth  
116 surveys that were reprocessed and prestack time migrated using a single datum and the same bin  
117 size (33.5 by 33.5 m or 110 ft by 110 ft). The frequency ranged from 10 to 60 Hz yielding the  
118 increased impedance as positive amplitude. The coherence volume calculations followed the  
119 procedure of Marfurt and Rich (2010).

120 The general features of the study area are displayed by a time structure map co-rendered with  
121 a map-based extraction from the seismic coherence volume at the Woodford Shale level (Figure  
122 3b). The dark zone (within the red box) indicates a north-south fault in the eastern part of the  
123 area that is the El Reno fault (ERF). Our previous study (Liao et al., 2013) indicated that the ERF  
124 is a right-lateral strike-slip fault based on two distinguishing features: 1) it is a vertical fault with  
125 several sub-parallel vertical segments (Liao et al., 2013), which is typical feature of strike-slip  
126 faults (Harding, 1985; Christie-Blick and Biddle, 1985); and 2) the relatively small vertical  
127 throw (~80 m or 260 ft) is in contrast to the large fault length of 32 km (~10<sup>5</sup> ft or 20 mi), and  
128 vertical extent of at least 900 m (~3,000 ft) (Figure 4).

129 The structure of the ERF at its intersection with the top of the Woodford Shale is displayed by  
130 the coherence map (Figure 3). The structure includes a system of folds and flexures that are most  
131 intense within a zone around the primary fault zone (Liao et al., 2017). We interpret this  
132 structure as the damage-zone of ERF, and evaluate its thickness in 11 horizontal, fault-normal  
133 sections of coherence. These sections are spaced at ~1500 m (5,000 ft) intervals along the ERF  
134 (marked 'C' in Figure 3). The seismic amplitude and coherence section samples are presented in  
135 Figure 4, and the coherence profiles are displayed in Figure 5.

136 It has been shown that between the Rayleigh limit and distinctive seismic response scale,  
137 seismic attributes could be interpreted to track structure details by an image processing  
138 procedure (Liao et al., 2013; Iacopini et al., 2016). Figure 4 displays vertical sections of  
139 amplitude (Figure 4 a, b) and coherence (Figure 4 c, d) along line C2 and C8 (defined in Figure 3)  
140 that are perpendicular to ERF. These sections reveal a few discrete vertical zones, with the ERF  
141 (red, dashed box) as the most prominent zone. The amplitude signals are strongly disturbed  
142 around the vertical fault zones, which is enhanced by the low coherence maps. The vertical fault  
143 zones are comprised of several vertical segments that become wider with depth. These seismic  
144 disturbance zones are analyzed here as the seismic damage zone of two structural types (type 1 in  
145 Figure 4a, c, and type 2 in Figure 4b, d) along the strike-slip fault. The internal character of these  
146 structural types is discussed below.

147 The profiles display three general zones of coherence intensity (Figure 5; note inverted scale  
148 of the coherence): 1. Zones of high coherence,  $> 0.9$ , observed away from the ERF; 2. Zones of  
149 intermediate coherence, 0.8-0.9, within the ERF zone (gray in Figure 5); and 3. A zone of low  
150 coherence, 0.4-0.8, within the ERF (pink in Figure 5). The coherence levels in 3D-seismic  
151 analysis indicate the intensity of structural disturbance and discontinuities (Chopra and Marfurt,  
152 2010). As fracturing and faulting disturb the continuity of geologic features, we regard the three  
153 coherence zones of Figure 5 as indicating three levels of damage intensity. The high coherence  
154 zone is the protolith zone away from the fault, the intermediate level zone is the damage-zone,  
155 and the low coherence level zone is the fault core that is most intensely damaged, which is  
156 defined here as the 'seismic fault core'. We apply this interpreted zonation in the synthesis  
157 below.



158 We further explored the validity of the above interpretation of damage-zones by plotting the  
159 root mean square (RMS) of the seismic amplitude along the same profiles of Figure 5. We regard  
160 the amplitude RMS as a proxy for the reduction of the seismic intensity due to damage and found  
161 that the amplitude RMS at the Woodford Formation horizon corresponds well to the coherency  
162 plots of Figure 5. Yet, while the coherency sections revealed both fault core (pink) and damage  
163 zone (grey), the amplitude RMS plots did not display the core (Figure 6).

#### 164 SYNTHESIS

165 We noted that the width of the damage-zone (gray in Figure 5) is asymmetric with respect to  
166 the seismic core-zone (pink in Figure 5), and based on this asymmetry, we separated the  
167 coherence profiles into two types. Type 1, which includes profiles C1-C7 (Figure 5a), displays a  
168 strong asymmetry in which the damage-zone is ~1,100 m (3,600 ft) wide in the western block of  
169 ERF and only ~75 m (250 ft) wide in the eastern block. A core-zone (pink), of ~400 m (1312 ft)  
170 width, separates the two blocks. Type 2, which includes profiles C6-C11 (Figure 5b), has a  
171 ~1,600 m (5,400 ft) thick damage-zone (coherence < 0.9), that includes a central core-zone of  
172 ~500 m (1,600 ft) width. This type displays a gentler asymmetry with a western damage-zone of  
173 ~760 m (2,500 ft) width, and an eastern damage-zone of ~380 m (1,200 ft) width. These types  
174 correspond to different structural styles that were recognized by Liao et al., (2017). Type 1  
175 corresponds to ERF segments with multiple, subsidiary Riedel faults trending at 15°-30° with  
176 respect to the main trend (red dash lines illustrated R faults in Figure 3a, or refer to Liao et al.,  
177 2017). Type 2, on the other hand, is associated with segments of ERF with pull-apart basin (e.g.,  
178 area between profiles C8-C9 in Figure 3).

179 The dimensions and shapes of the identified coherence zones (Figure 5), which we interpret as  
180 damage-zones, can be compared to equivalent features of exposed damage-zones. First, both

181 types displayed asymmetry of damage-zone width with respect to the seismic fault-core (Figure  
182 5), and similar asymmetry has been observed in field cases and derived in theoretical models.  
183 Dor et al., (2006) found a systematic asymmetry of damage and pulverization distribution along  
184 multiple fault segments of the southern part of the San Andreas system in California. The  
185 pulverized rocks along these faults were typically associated with fault segments that separate  
186 rock bodies of different elastic properties. This association suggests that the asymmetric damage  
187 is related to preferential rupture propagation during earthquakes (Ben-Zion and Shi, 2005; Xu et  
188 al., 2012b; Ampuero and Mao, 2016). It was modeled in rupture simulations of bi-material faults  
189 that this preferred propagation direction would lead to strong strain asymmetry between the two  
190 sides of the fault (Cochard and Rice, 2000; Shi and Ben-Zion, 2006; Dalguer and Day, 2009;  
191 Ampuero and Mao, 2016).

192 To examine depth variations of the damage-zones, we plotted a sequence of coherence  
193 profiles at 50 ms time intervals that are similar to the single depth sections of Figure 5. The  
194 damage zones, marked grey in Figure 7 for type 1 (a) and type 2 (b), are wider ( $>1000$  m or 3280  
195 ft) within the central part of the fault (e.g., intervals 1950-2000 ms in Figure 7a), and are thinner  
196 upward and downward (e.g., 1800ms or 2150ms, Figure 7a). Similar width variations can be  
197 observed for a type 2 segment (Figure 7b). This reduction of damage-zone width from fault  
198 center towards its margins, fits the well-documented observation that the largest displacement  
199 along a fault which is, in general, within its central region (Walsh and Watterson, 1987; Cowie  
200 and Scholz, 1992). However, the change in damage zone width from shallow to deep could be  
201 possibly influenced by differences in the connectivity of the various strands in subsurface, which  
202 is not to be discussed in this paper.

203 We further compare the geometry of the coherence zones to damage distribution in field  
204 studies. Figure 8a shows the normalized density of fractures as a function of normalized distance  
205 from the fault zone for the aforementioned three examples using seismic data (Powers and  
206 Jordan, 2010) and outcrop data (Sagy et al., 2001; Wilson et al., 2003). The curves of normalized  
207 density fit well the above exponential model (equation 1) with slightly different coefficients, a  
208 and b, that reflect the fault lithology and geometry. Figure 8b shows the normalized coherence of  
209 the two fault blocks in type 1 (average values of C1-C7), displaying an exponential decay of the  
210 coherence as a function of increasing distance from the core. Within a wider damage-zone, the  
211 deformation consists of subsidiary faults indicated by two pulses of coherence values (Figure  
212 8c). Similar patterns of coherence (average of C6-C11) are observed in type 2 (Figure 8de).  
213 Figure 8e illustrate the extreme coherence anomaly of the eastern fault block of the pull-apart  
214 basin. These two types indicate that the thickness of a damage-zone covers a distance of two  
215 orders of magnitude.

## 216 DISCUSSION

217 The damage-zone of a fault can develop by various mechanisms. For example, earthquake  
218 propagation along a fault radiates seismic waves that could damage the surrounding blocks (e.g.  
219 Andrews, 1994, Dor et al., 2006). The intensity of this damage was analyzed and simulated  
220 based on the stress distribution during rupture and fault properties (Ben-Zion and Ampuero,  
221 2009; Xu et al. 2012b), and the analyses showed that the damage-zone thickness depends  
222 primarily on fault depth, pre-earthquake stresses, and the intensity of stress drop during rupture  
223 (Ampuero and Mao, 2017). For example, a 15 km ( $\sim 5 \times 10^4$  ft) deep strike-slip fault is expected to  
224 generate a  $\sim 400$  m (1300 ft) thick damage zone for typical crustal conditions (Ampuero and  
225 Mao, 2017). The vertical extent of the present El Reno fault is about 900 m ( $\sim 3,000$  ft) and thus

226 the expected damage-zone due to earthquake rupture is less than 100 m. As our analysis revealed  
227 a much thicker damage-zone (~ 1600 m or 5,000 ft), we propose that most of the observed  
228 damage is associated with the following evolution of fault growth. First, the early stages of fault  
229 evolution is characterized by development of multiple fractures and small faults that precede the  
230 localized slip in the core-zone, due partly to the merger and coalescence of these smaller  
231 structures (e.g., Reches and Lockner, 1994; Heesakkers et al., 2011a, b). A large strike slip fault,  
232 like the present El Reno fault, evolves over extended time, and may develop a complex damage  
233 distribution that generates a wide zone. Experimental works have shown that strike slip faults  
234 typically initiate as a wide, simple-shear zone with multiple secondary structures (Riedel shears,  
235 P shears), that eventually merge into a complex fault-zone (Naylor et al., 1986; Reches 1988;  
236 Liao et al., 2013). This process forms a wide damage-zone that continues to deform internally  
237 due to the non-planar, intersecting relation of the coalesced secondary faults. Such evolution may  
238 lead to a rough fault core (Sagy et al., 2001), and the slip along such a rough fault generates a  
239 heterogeneous stress field comparable to the scale of the roughness (Dieterich and Smith, 2009;  
240 Powers and Jordan, 2010). Figure 9 displays a model calculation of the stress distribution at the  
241 proximity of a rough strike-slip fault (Chester et al., 2005). This stress field leads to further  
242 damage by branching of multiple secondary faults and general fracturing, particularly in the  
243 more tensile area (Reches, 1988), as well as multiple short folds and flexures. The ERF, studied  
244 here, is likely to be at a mature stage of its development, and we argue that the above processes  
245 prevailed during its activity forming the damage-zones with reduced seismic coherence.

## 246 **Conclusions**

247 The present analysis of the damage-zone of El Reno fault in Oklahoma by using seismic  
248 attributes led to the following conclusions:

- 249 1. The analysis shows the effectiveness of using the 3D seismic attribute of coherence for  
250 characterization of the structural features of large fault-zones.
- 251 2. The thickness variations of the damage-zone of the El Reno segments fit an exponential  
252 decay with distance from the fault core. This scaled decay function agrees with field  
253 observations over different scales, and may be applied to characterize damage zone  
254 dimensions in the subsurface.
- 255 3. It is suggested that the pattern and scale of damage-zone thickness is controlled by the  
256 secondary structures that develop during fault evolution.

257

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259

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435

#### 436 **Author Vitae**

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470 **Figure captions:**

471 **Figure 1.** Schematic diagram showing the fault zone architectural components for a strike  
472 slip fault (after Caine et al., 1996). Red indicates fault core, grey for damage-zones, and the  
473 protolith is removed.

474

475 **Figure 2.** Density of fault damage as a function of fault normal distance from the fault center:

476 a) Joint density versus fault normal distance by Sagy et al. (2001), FSR=Fracture-Spacing-Ratio;

477 b) Fracture density versus fault normal distance (data number #DP10) by Wilson et al. (2003); c)

478 Seismic events versus fault normal distance by Powers and Jordan (2010); d) and schematic

479 diagram shows the decay relationship between inferred damage parameter versus fault normal

480 distance. Note a and b are coefficients of  $D = a e^{-bx}$ .

481

482 **Figure 3.** a) Two-way travel time (TWT) map of the top of the Woodford Shale indicating  
483 its large-scale structure of gently dipping ( $<2^\circ$ ) to the southwest. The time structural is co-  
484 rendered with the 3D determined coherence of a horizontal surface at this depth. The dark  
485 lineaments (Interpreted R faults are marked by red dash lines in the zoom-in figure in the right)  
486 reveal structural elements, including the north-south El Reno fault zone within the red rectangle.  
487 Note transparent color is used for high coherence area. General location of the study area in the  
488 Anadarko Basin, Oklahoma (red star in Oklahoma). b) Seismic amplitude map co-rendered with  
489 the coherence along the top of the Woodford Shale. Index (C1, C11) show lines of sampling  
490 numbered S to N, with 1520m (~ 5000 ft) in space.

491

492 **Figure 4.** Seismic amplitude and coherence across section maps normal to the El Reno  
493 fault in the study area. a) and b) are amplitude maps of section C2 and C8 respectively (showed  
494 in Figure 3), red rectangles indicate the fault area corresponding to the area of low coherence  
495 value in c) and d).

496

497 **Figure 5.** Profiles of the coherence values across El Reno fault at the Woodford Shale  
498 level. Profiles locations in Fig. 3. Note the inverse scale of the coherence. Zones of coherence  
499 values below background coherence are interpreted as damage-zones. Coherence reduction  
500 intensity shown in colors: Pink- intense; grey- gentle; white- background. a) Damage-zones  
501 along the type 1 segment of El Reno fault characterized by Riedel shear sub-faults (C1-C7  
502 sections in Fig. 3b). b) Damage-zones along the type 2 segment of El Reno fault characterized by  
503 a pull-apart basin (C6-C11 sections in Fig. 3b).

504

505 **Figure 6.** Profiles of the root mean square (RMS) amplitude values across El Reno fault at  
506 the Woodford Shale level. Profiles locations in Fig. 3. Zones of abnormal low values are  
507 interpreted as damage-zones. a) Damage-zones along the type 1 segment of El Reno fault (C1-

508 C7 sections in Fig. 3b). b) Damage-zones along the type 2 segment of El Reno fault (C6-C11  
509 sections in Fig. 3b).

510

511 **Figure 7.** Coherence damage-zones variations with depth intervals from 1800ms to 2500ms.  
512 a) Type 1 segment with Riedel shear sub-faults). b) Type 2 segment with pull-apart basin. The  
513 zone of low coherence values below background coherence indicates the damage-zone (colored  
514 in grey).

515




516 **Figure 8.** a) Normalized damage density (fractures or seismic events) as a function of  
517 normalized distance from the fault zone. Three examples from references (Sagy et al., 2001;  
518 Wilson et al., 2003; Powers and Jordan, 2010). All data are well fit by the model  $D = a e^{-bx}$   
519 where coefficients a and b are determined by different fault lithology and geometry. b)  
520 Normalized coherence (average of C1-C7) as a function of normalized distance from the fault  
521 zone for right block and c) left block of type 1 segment of El Reno fault with Riedel shear sub-  
522 faults (shown by the two arrows). d) Normalized coherence (average of C6-C11) as a function of  
523 normalized distance from the fault zone for right block with fault wall of type 2 segment of El  
524 Reno fault with pull-apart basin and e) left block in ERF.

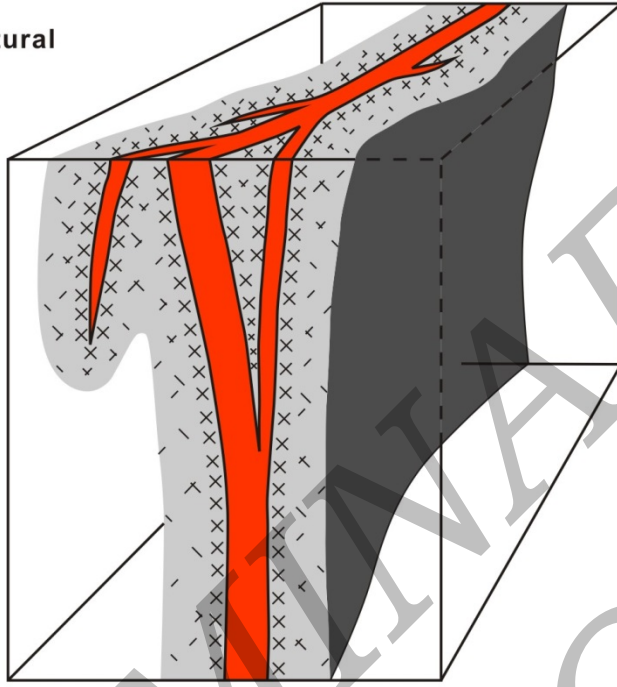
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526 **Figure 9.** Schematic presentation of the fault model with (a) heterogeneous stress field over  
527 a scaling region (Dieterich and Smith, 2009; Powers and Jordan, 2010) (a), and the associated  
528 damage-zones (Chester 2005) (b).

529 Figure 1:

**Fault zone architectural components**

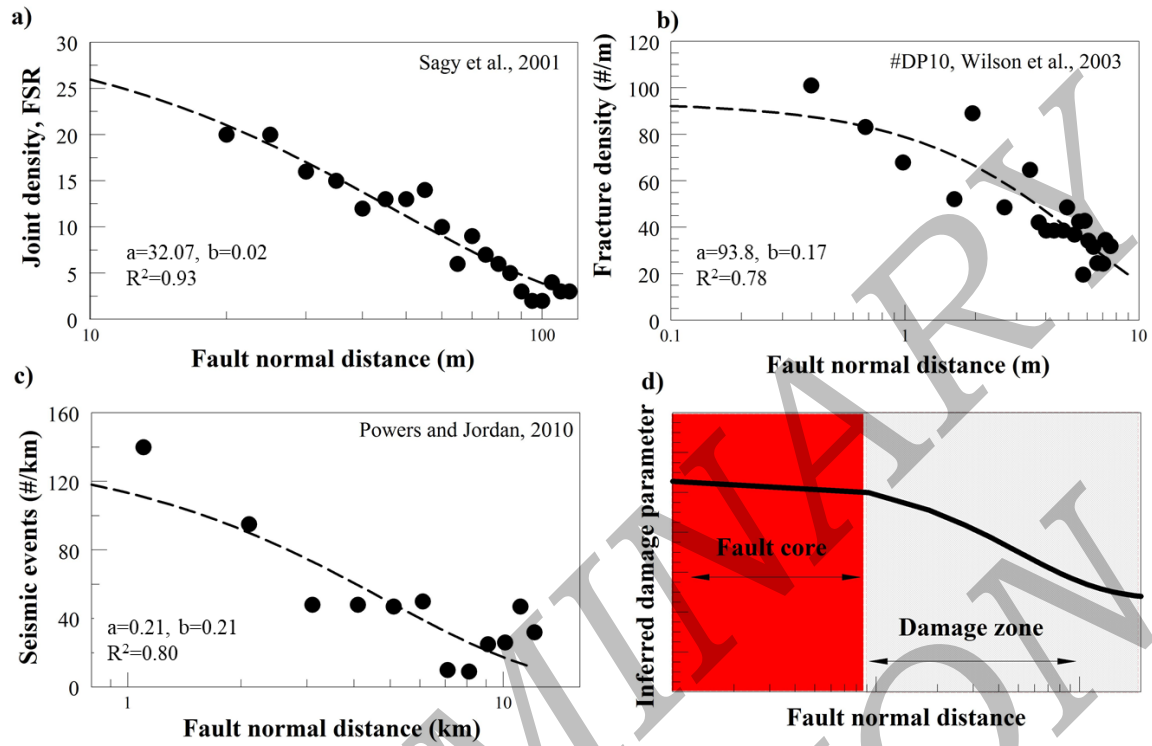
-  Fault core
-  Damage zone
-  Protolith



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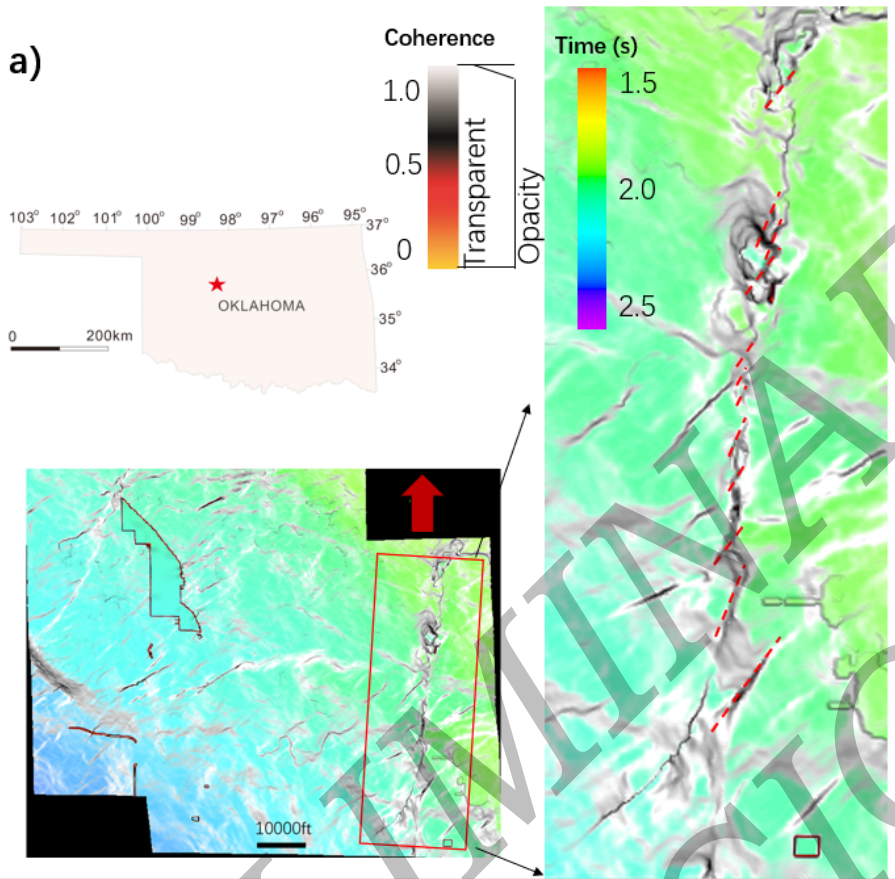
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532 Figure 2:

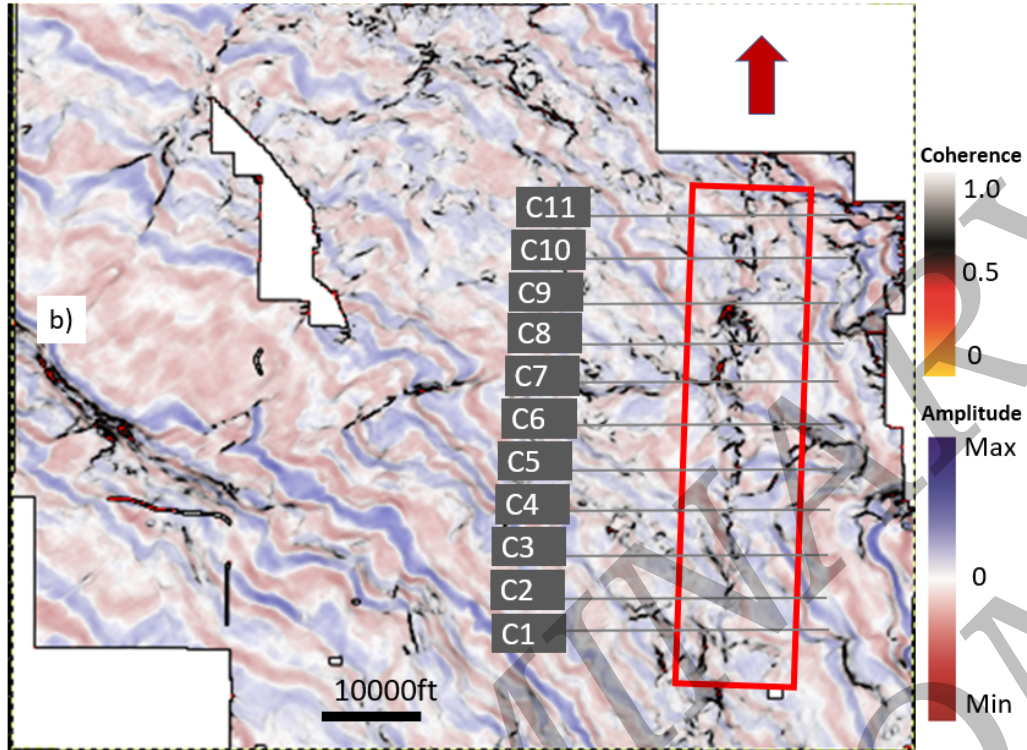


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537 Figure 3:



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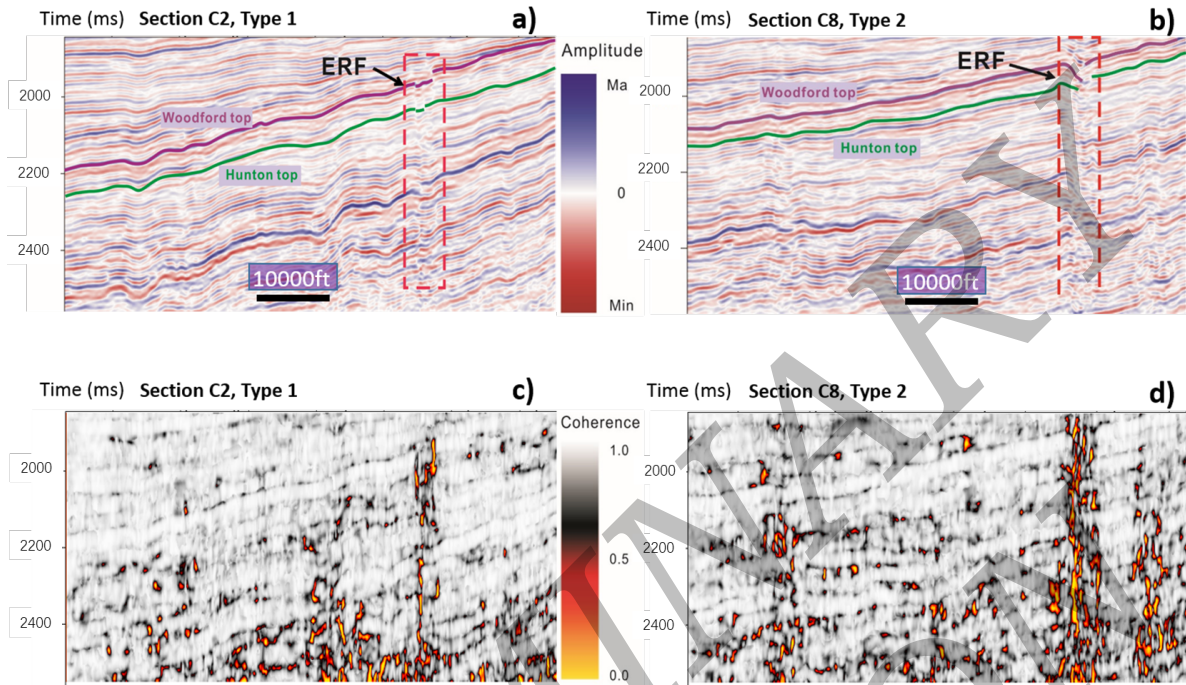


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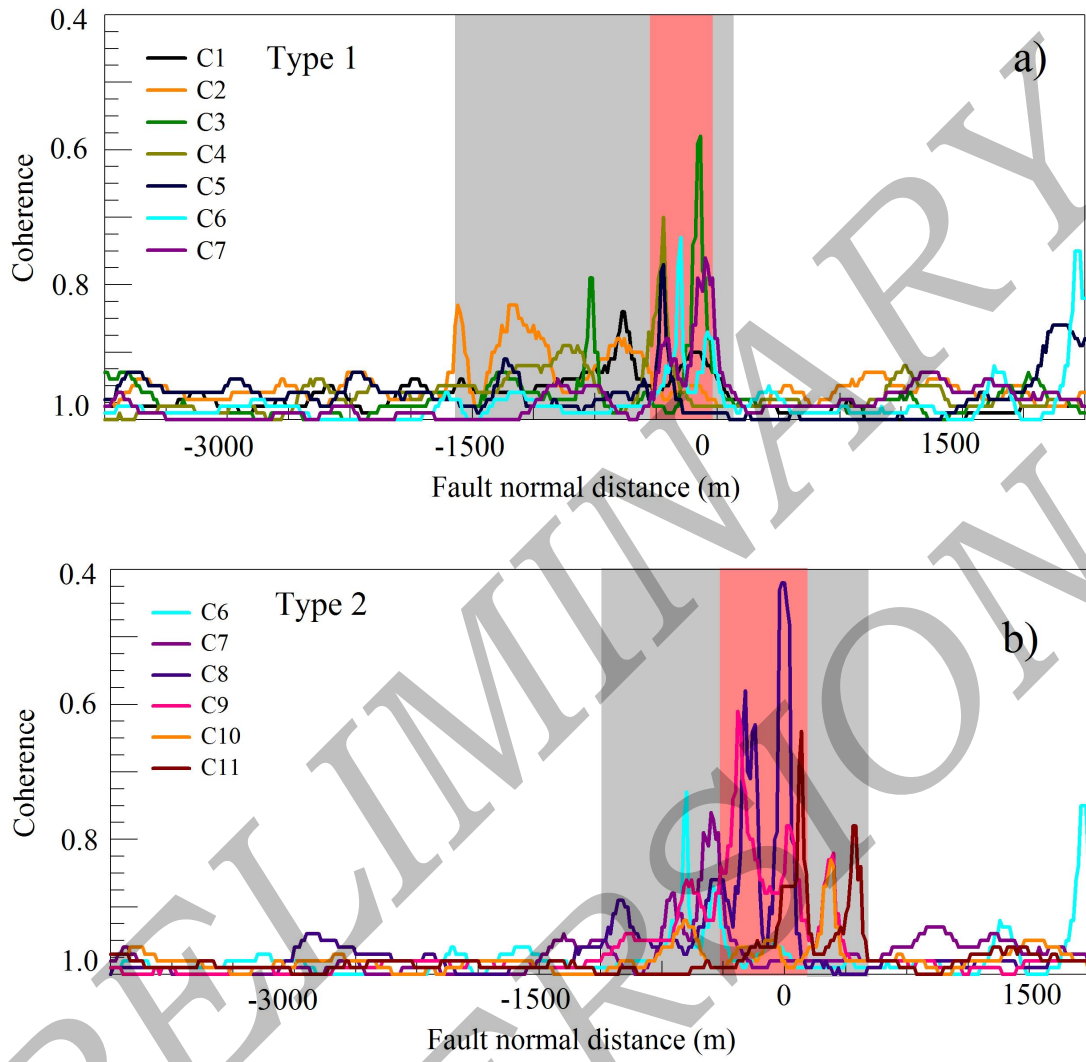
542 Figure 4



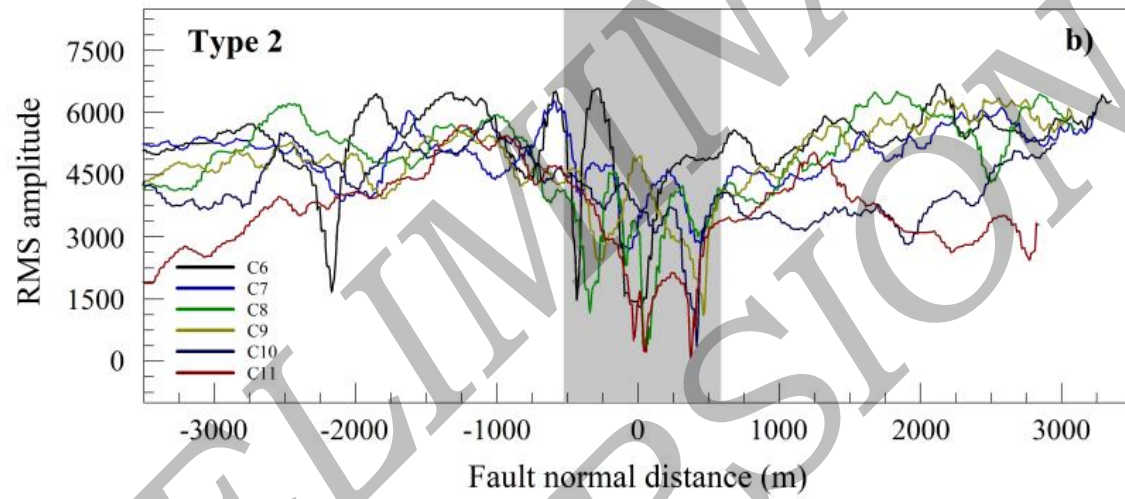
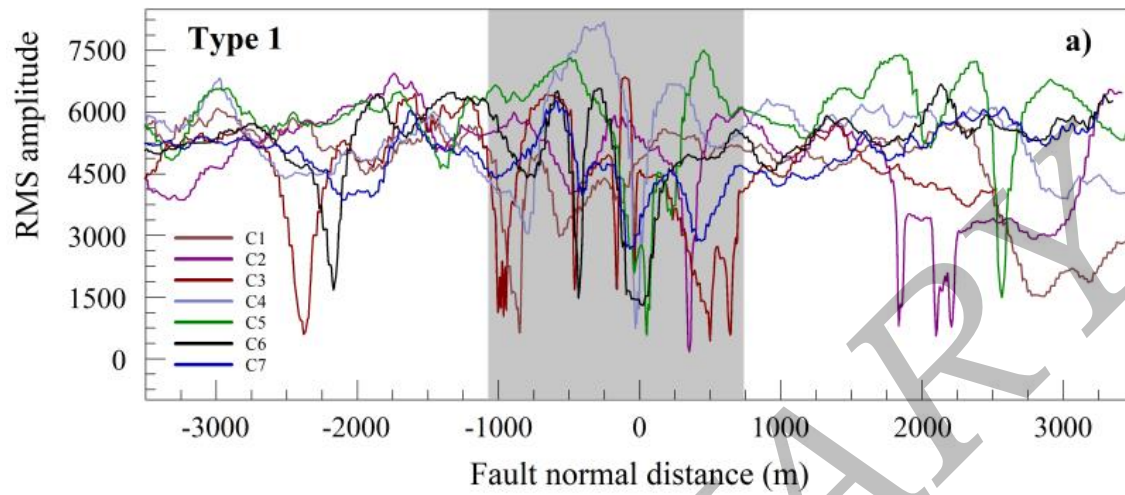
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544 Figure 5:

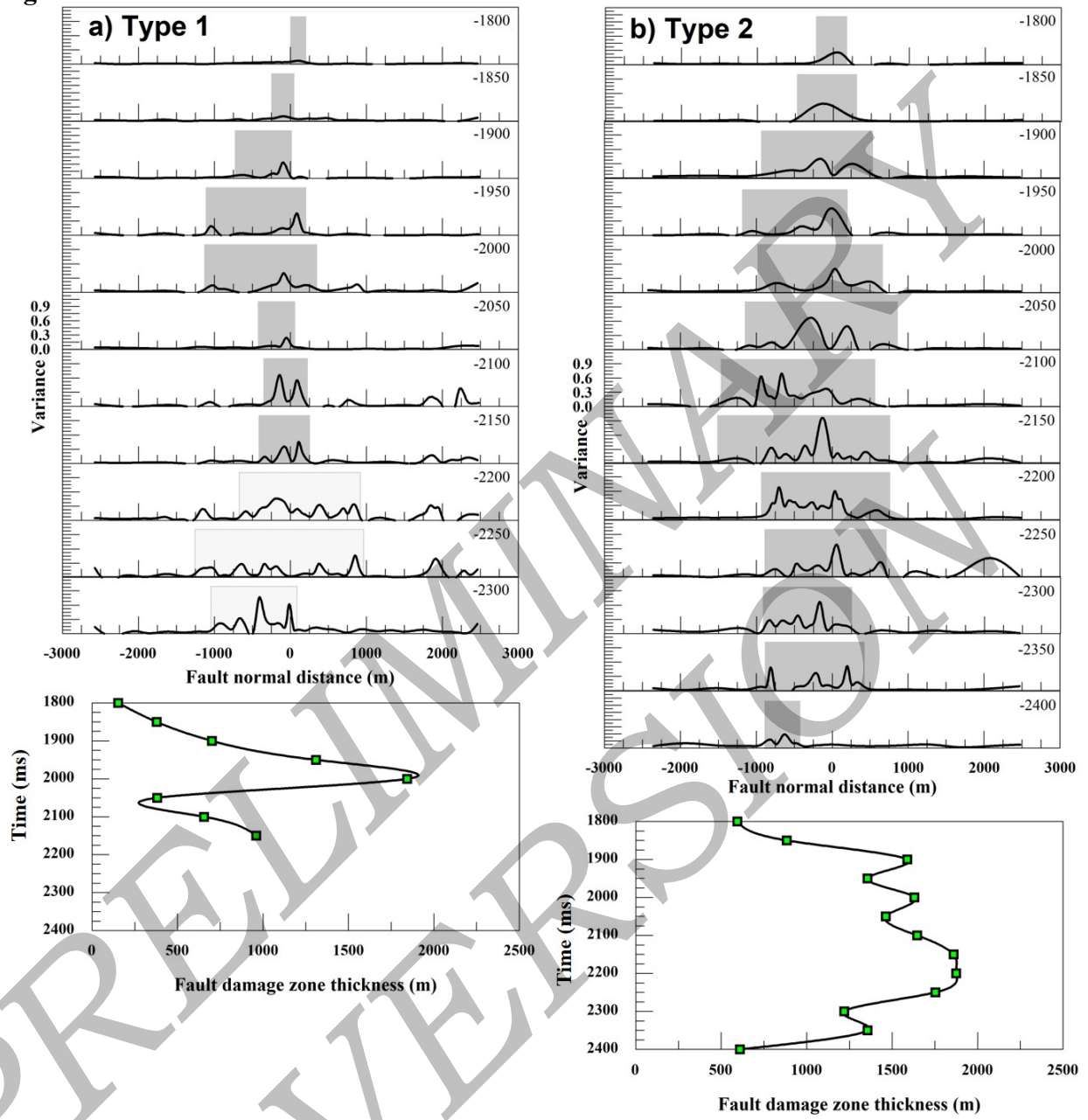


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548 **Figure 6**



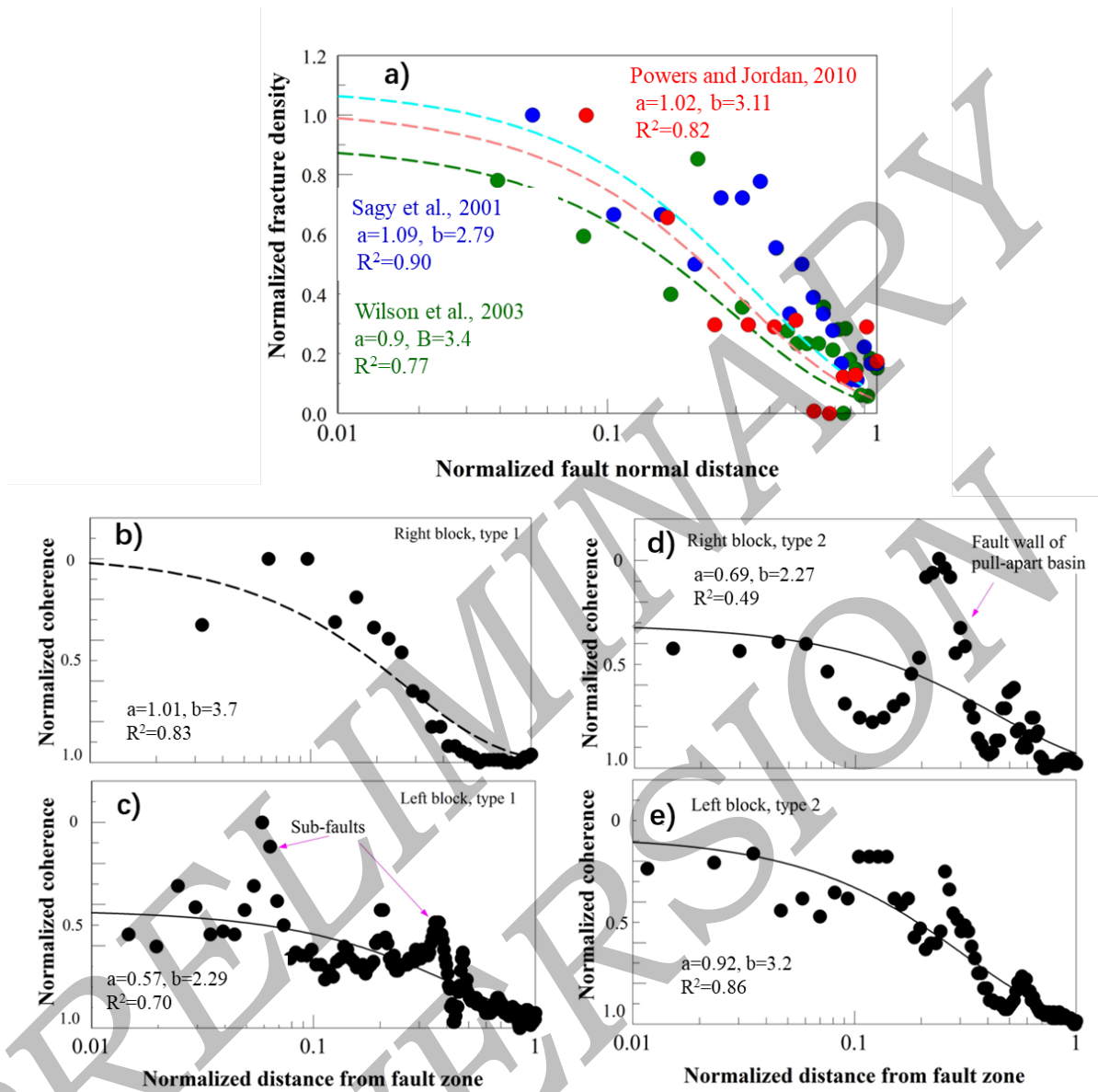
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551 **Figure 7:**



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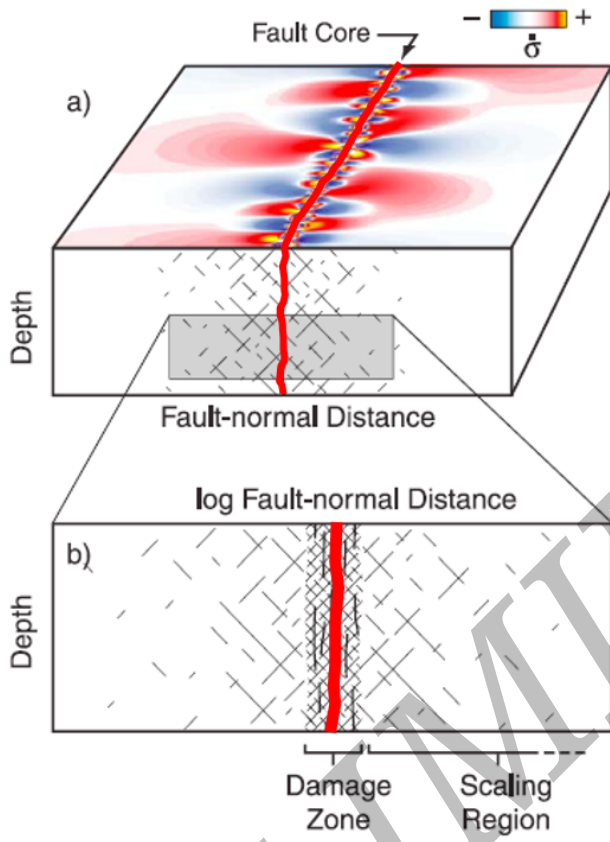
555 Figure 8:



556

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558 Figure 9:



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