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## 3D Geological model of the central Po Plain (Italy): subsurface geopotentials vs geological risks

Maesano F.E.<sup>1</sup>, D'Ambrogi C. <sup>1</sup>, Ferri F. <sup>1</sup>& the Italian GeoMol Team<sup>2</sup>

1) ISPRA – Servizio Geologico d'Italia

2) The Italian GeoMol Team

Burrato P., Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia – INGV (Roma);

Cagnoni A., Regione Lombardia, DG Territorio, Urbanistica e Difesa del suolo, (Milano);

Molinari F.C., Servizio Geologico, Sismico e dei Suoli – Regione Emilia-Romagna (Bologna);

Monesi E., Università degli Studi di Milano (Milano), CNR IGAG (Roma);

Piccin A., Regione Lombardia, DG Territorio, Urbanistica e Difesa del suolo, (Milano);

Scardia G., CNR IGAG (Roma), Instituto de Geociências e Ciências Exatas - Universidade Estadual Paulista (Sao Paulo, Brasil);

Torri G., Servizio Geologico, Sismico e dei Suoli – Regione Emilia-Romagna (Bologna);



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Istituto Superiore per la Protezione  
e la Ricerca Ambientale



Geologische Bundesanstalt



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Géosciences pour une Terre durable

brgm

Regionalverband  
Bodensee-Oberschwaben

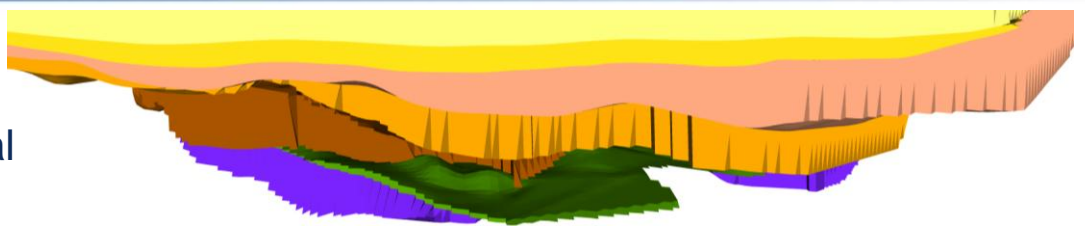


Regione  
Lombardia

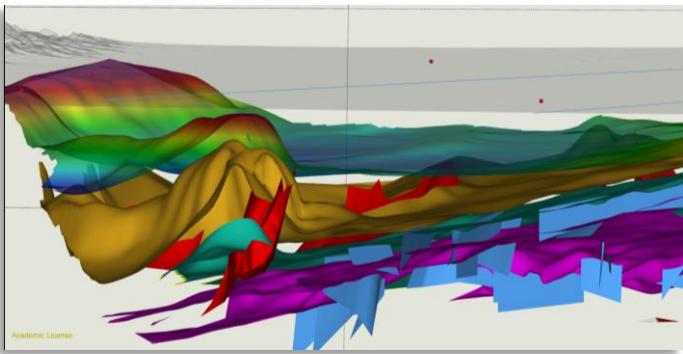
# Goals of the GeoMol Project

Transnational/transregional 3D geological models

Common criteria of model building and analysis



**Italian pilot area** – 3D geological model for the assessment of **geothermal** potential and focus on the **tectonic structures** (e.g. area of the 2012 earthquake)



3D geological model is a pre-requisite for

- Full geometrical knowledge of geological structures (rock volumes, faults)
- Assessment of subsurface geopotentials
- Support to environmental impact evaluation



## Alpine Foreland Basins – 3D models in flat areas

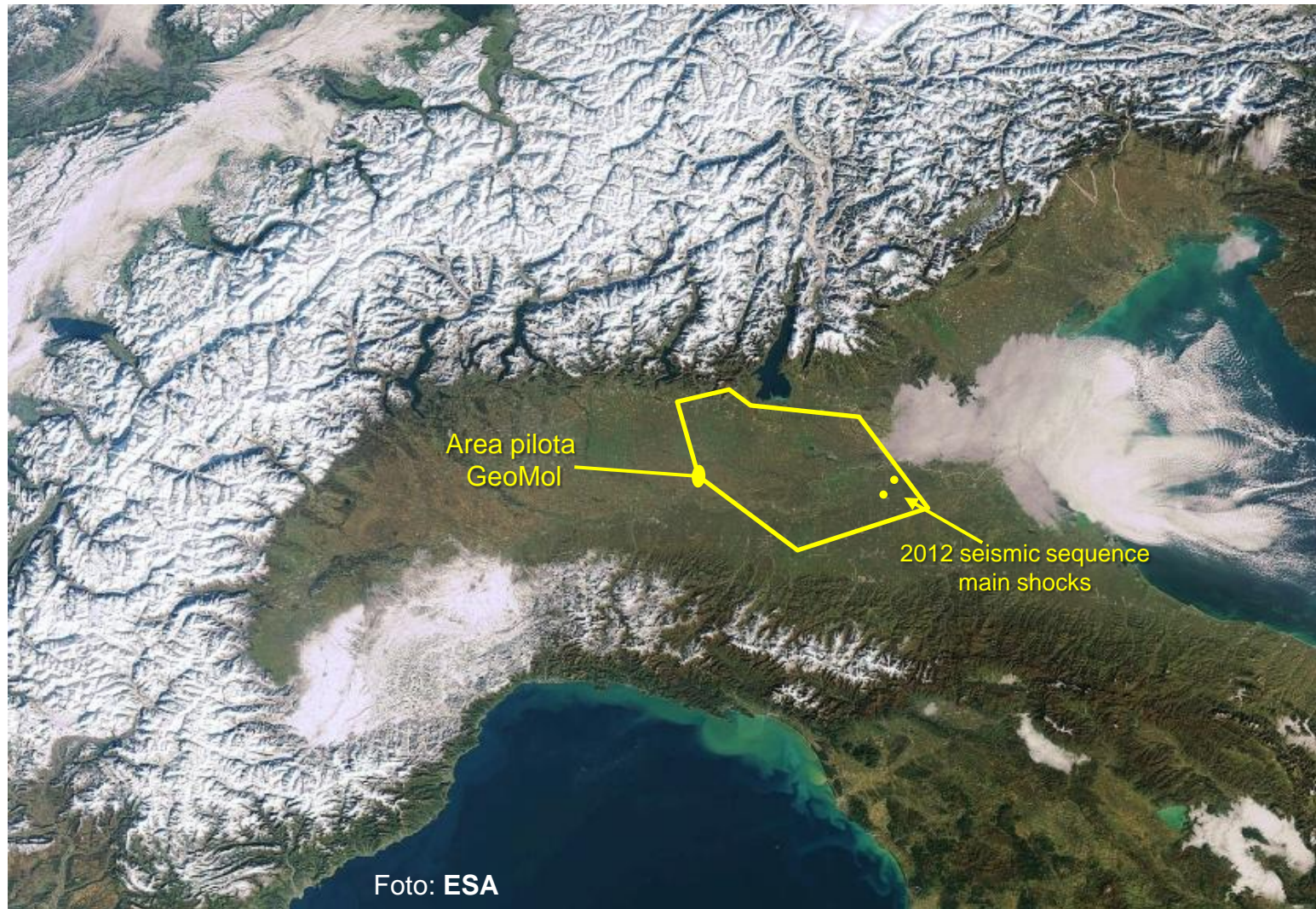
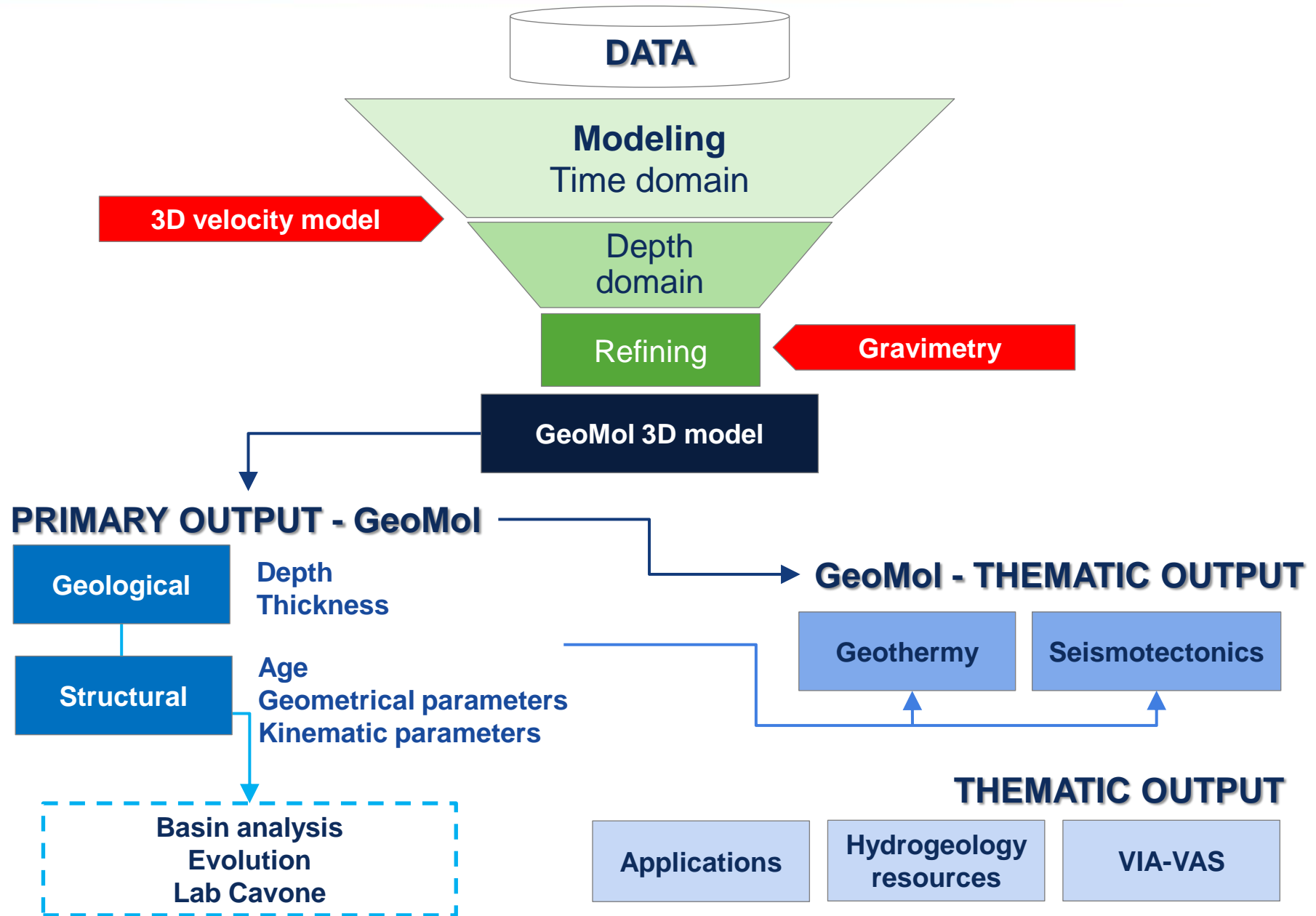
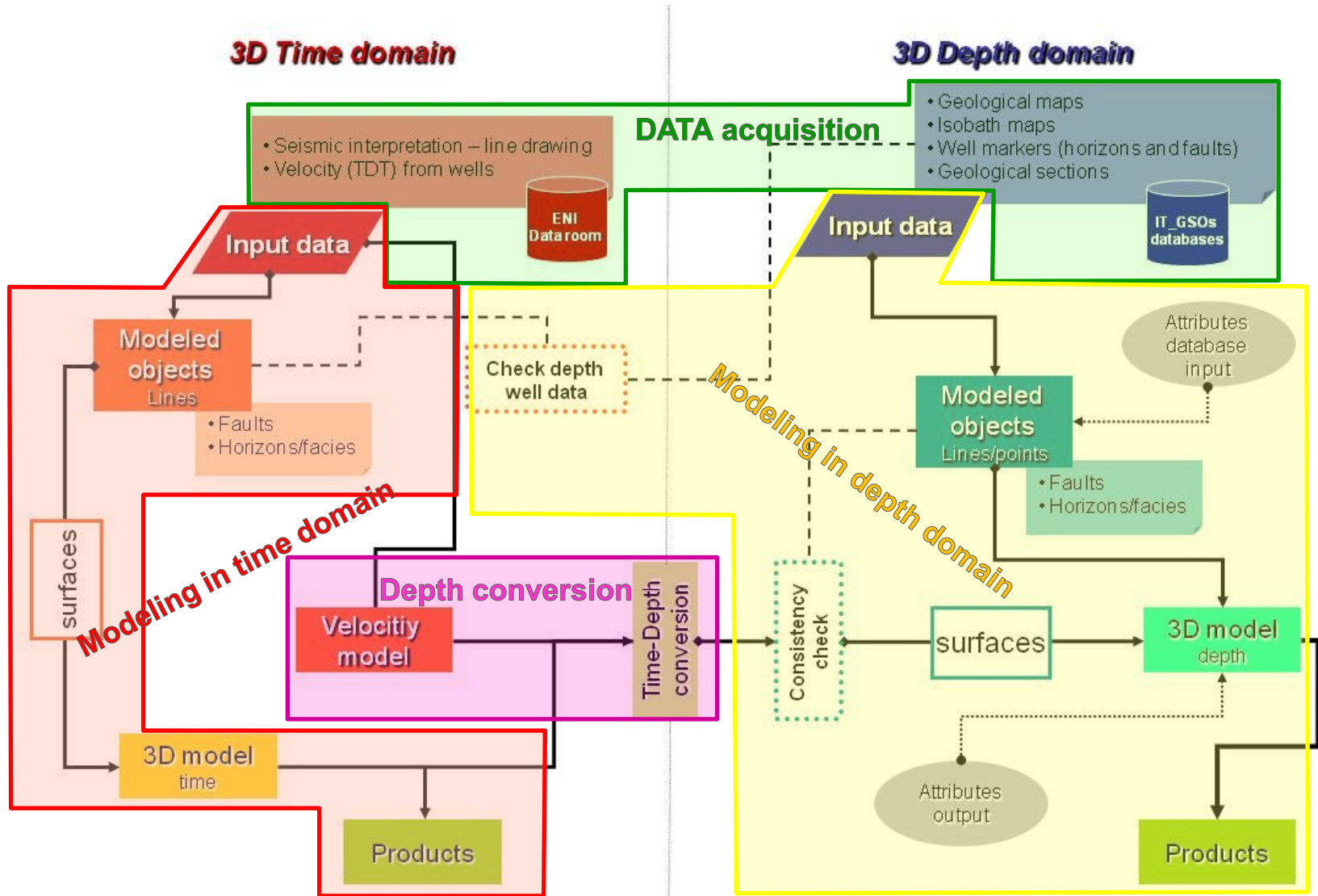


Foto: ESA



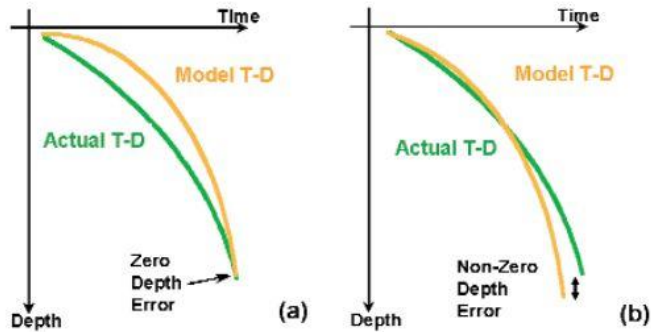




# Velocity model

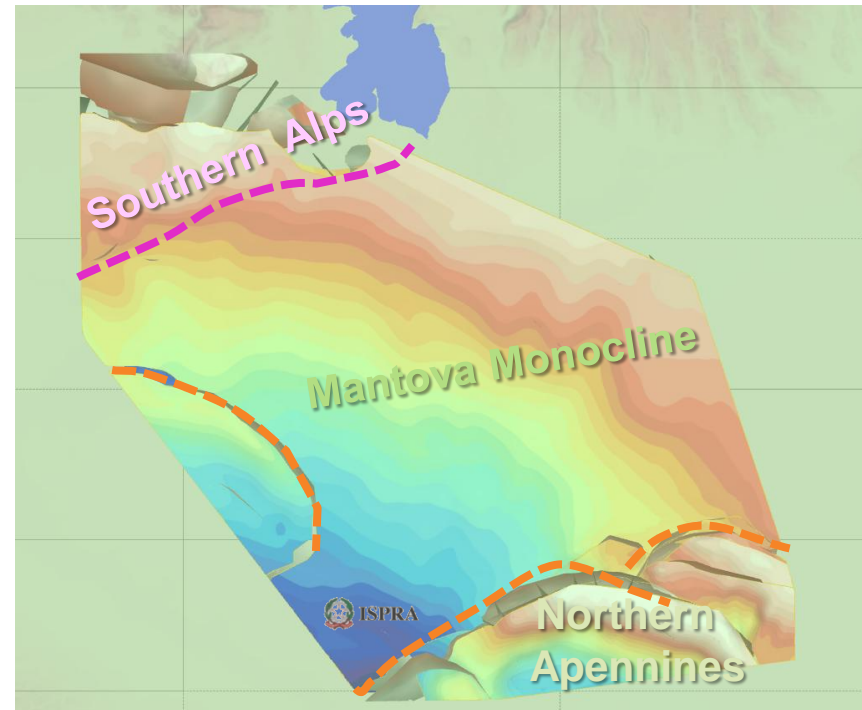
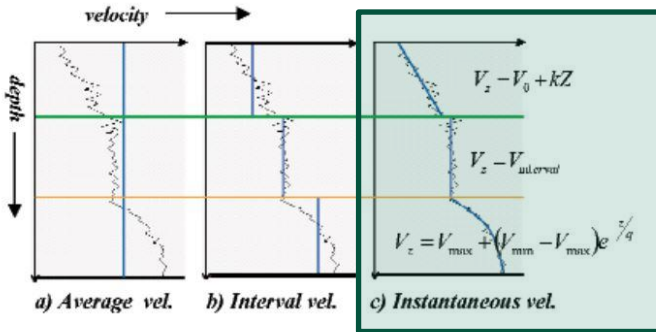
From the model in time domain to depth domain

Depth conversion strategies



Zero error in depth at base, but poor velocity model

Better velocity model: closer fit to actual T-D curve overall

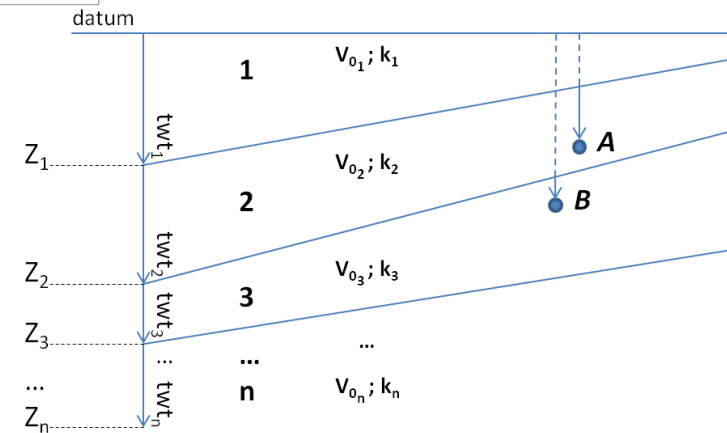
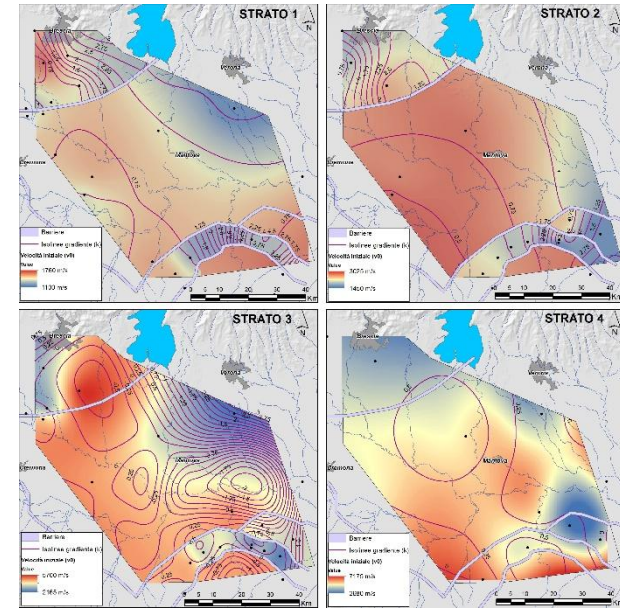
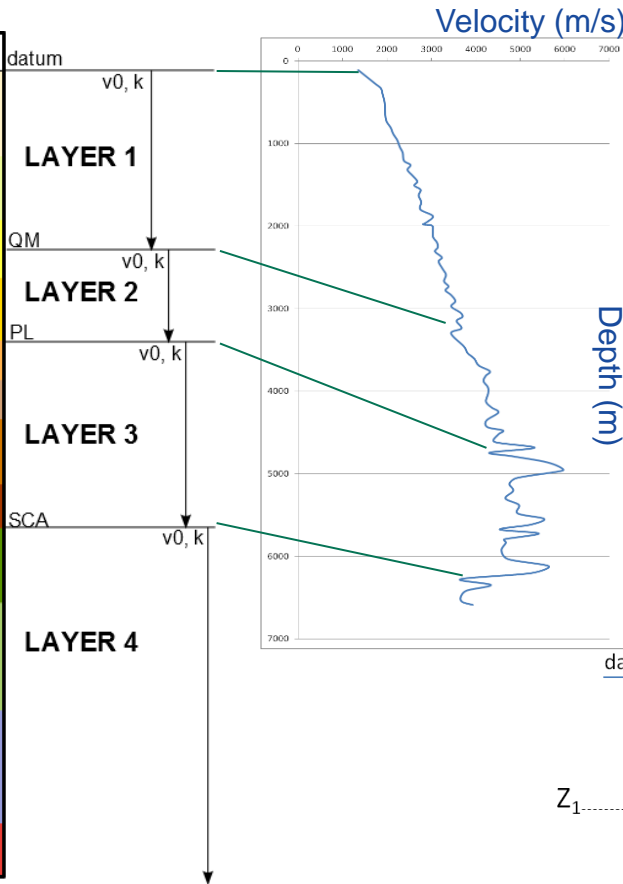


3D instantaneous velocity model

# Velocity model

## From the model in time domain to depth domain

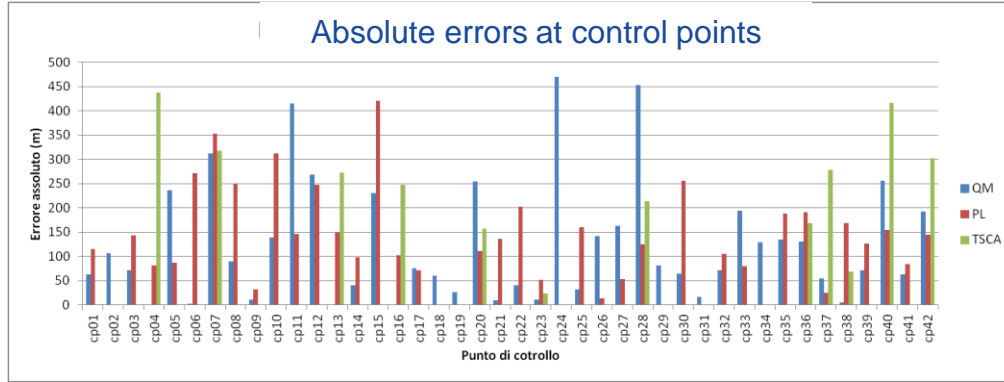
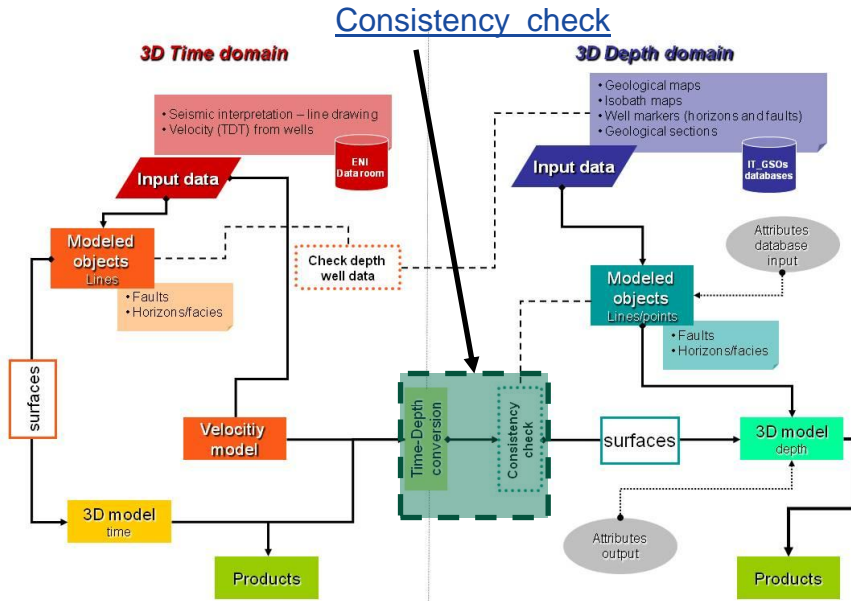
	UNIT NAME	HORIZON NAME
Pleistocene	PLCc	QC3
	PLCb	QC2
	PLCa	QC1
	PLMd	QM3
	PLMc	QM2
	PLMb	QM1
	PLMa	GEL
Pliocene	PL	PL
Upper Miocene	MESb	ME3
	MESa	ME1
	MIO	ME1
Eocene	EQ-OL	MLW
	EQ-OL	SCA
Early Cret	K-PAL	MAI
		MAI
Middle Jurassic	J-K	NOR
		NOR
Late Triassic	TR-J	TE
		TE
Permian	P-TR	TE





# Consistency check

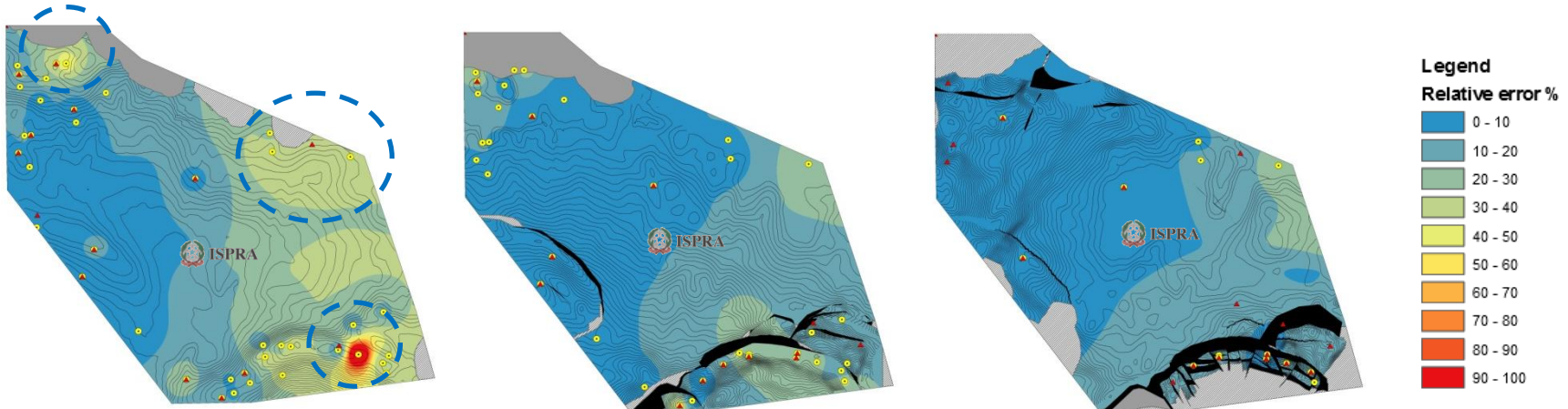
## Validation with control points (wells) and uncertainty assessment



**Average absolute errors**

QM 130 m  
PL 150 m  
Top Scaglia 250 m

### Uncertainty maps after depth conversion

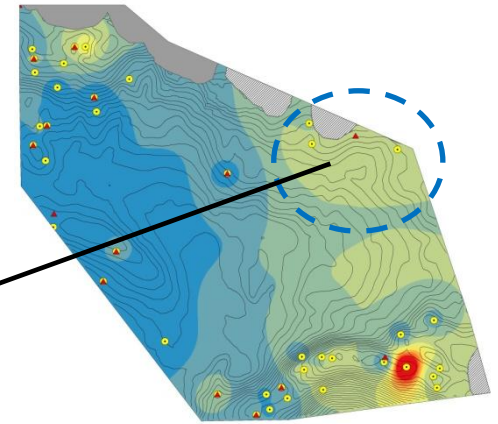
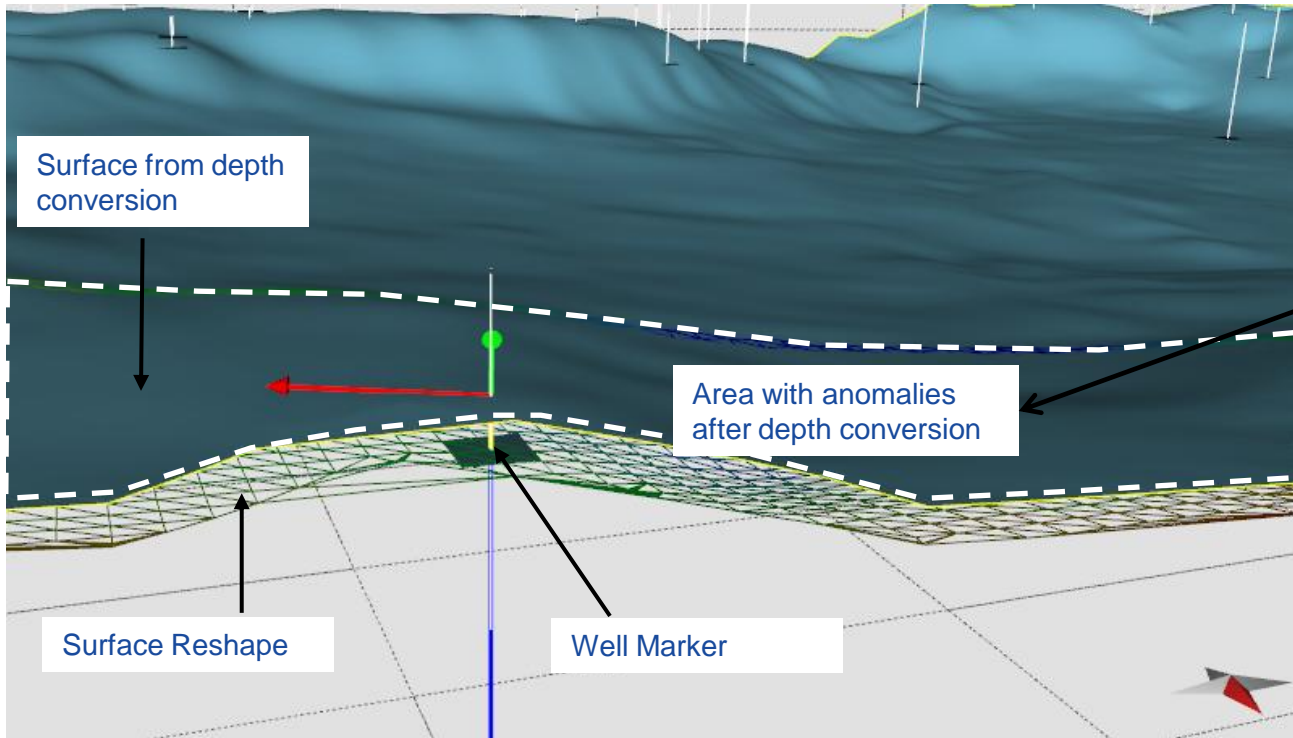




# Refining

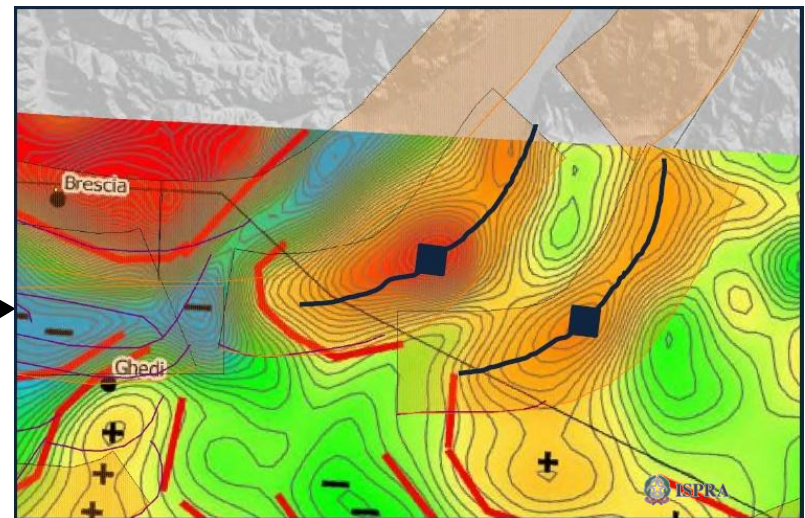
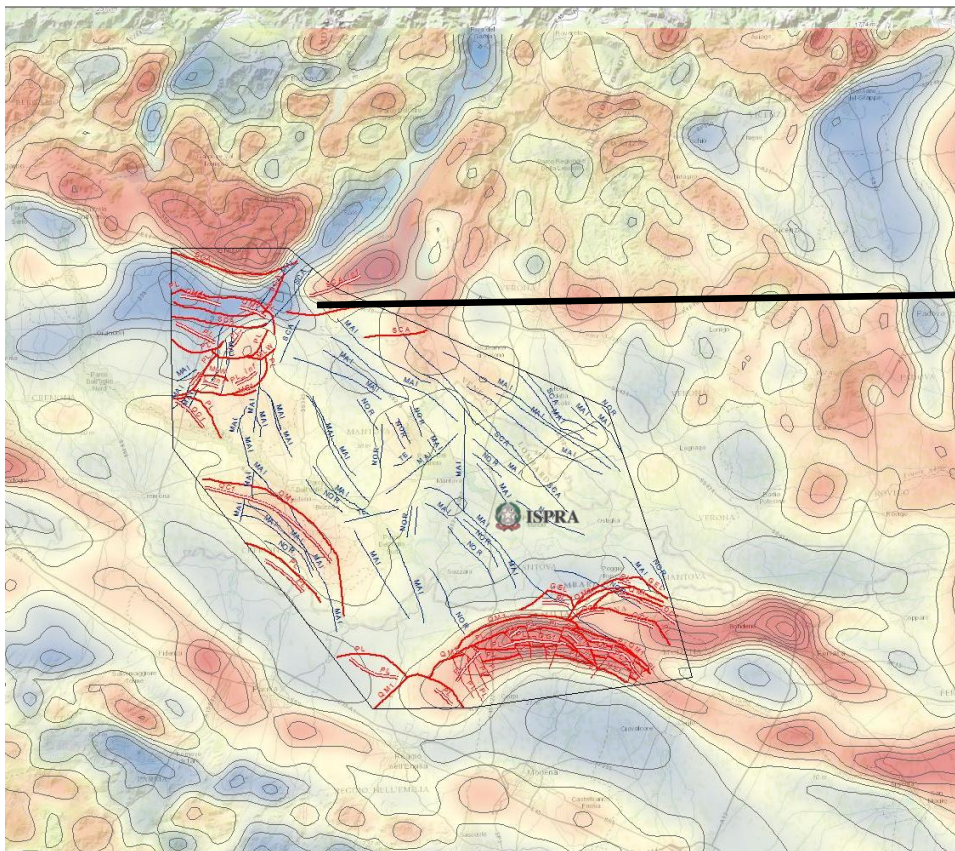
## Editing surfaces in depth

Correction of anomalies due to non-homogeneous distribution of velocity constraints



## Refining and integration with independent datasets

Structural interpretation integrated with processing of gravimetric data



Filters applied to the gravimetric anomalies help to interpret the structural setting in problematic areas

# The 3D model of the Italian pilot area

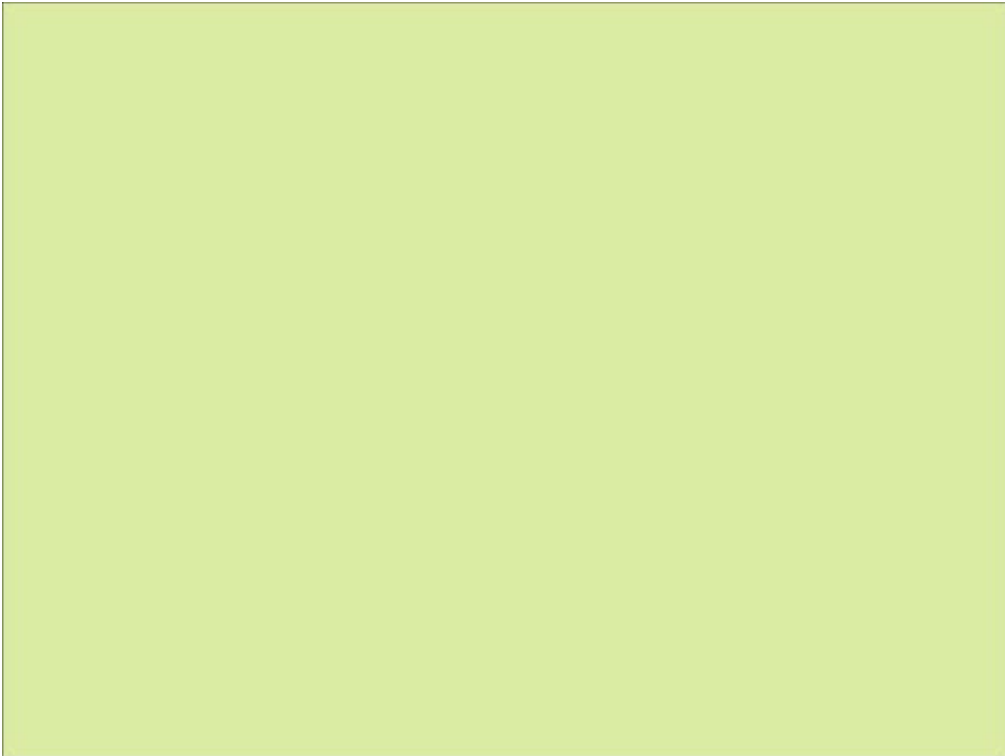
Stratigraphic Scheme

	UNIT NAME	HORIZON NAME
Pleistocene	PLCc	QC3
	PLCb	QC2
	PLCa	QC1
	PLMd	QM3
	PLMc	QM2
	PLMb	QM1
	PLMa	GEL
Pliocene	PL	PL
	MESb	ME3
Upper Miocene	MESa	ME1
	MIO	MLW
Lower Miocene	Gonfolite	MLW
	EO-OL	SCA
Early Cret	K-PAL	MAI
	J-K	NOR
	TR-J	TE
Lower Triassic	P-TR	TE

11 unconformity

L2 Oligo-Miocene detachment level

L2 Upper Carnian detachment level



4 Top

15 horizons

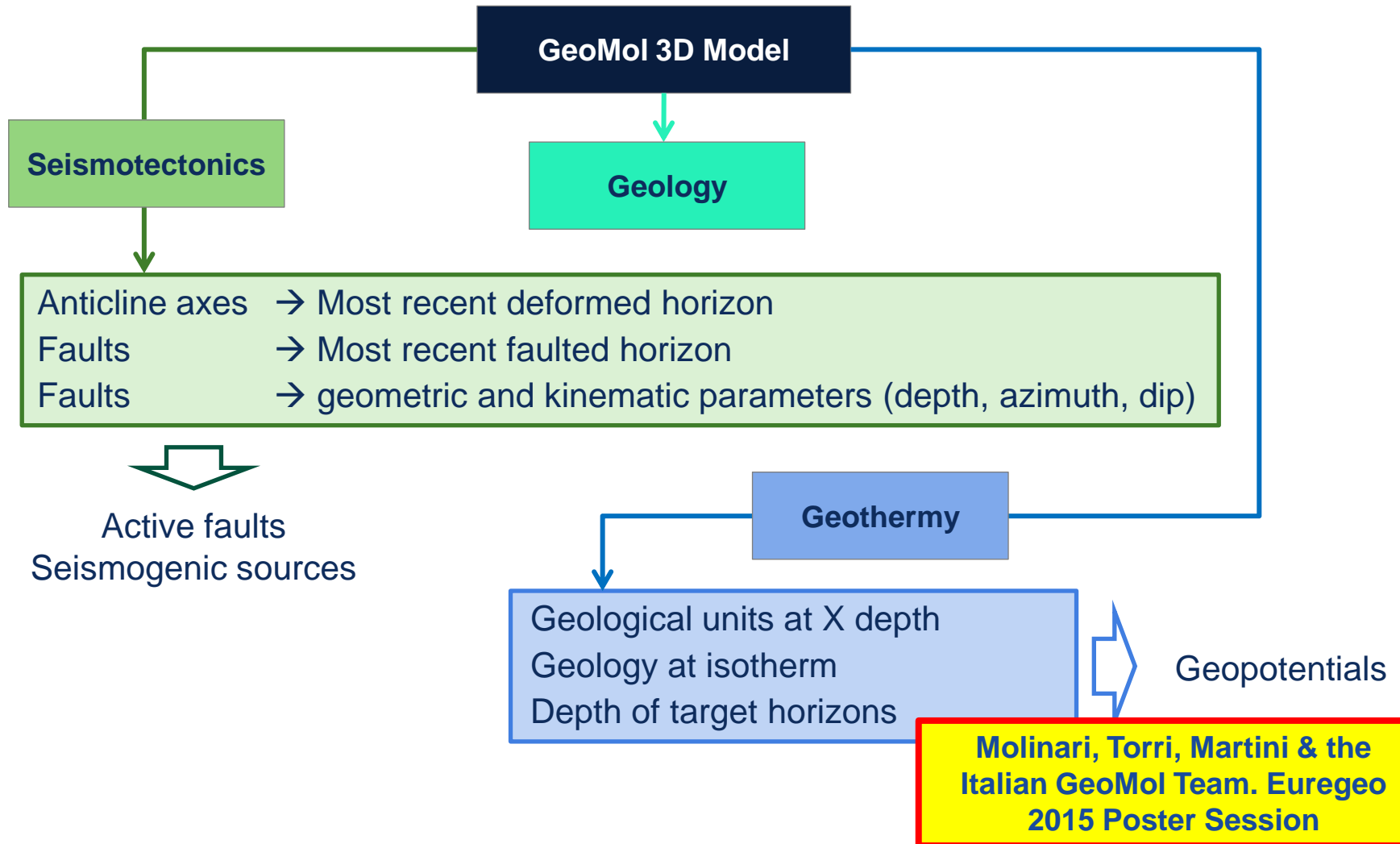
(7 horizons in the Pleistocene succession)

132 faults

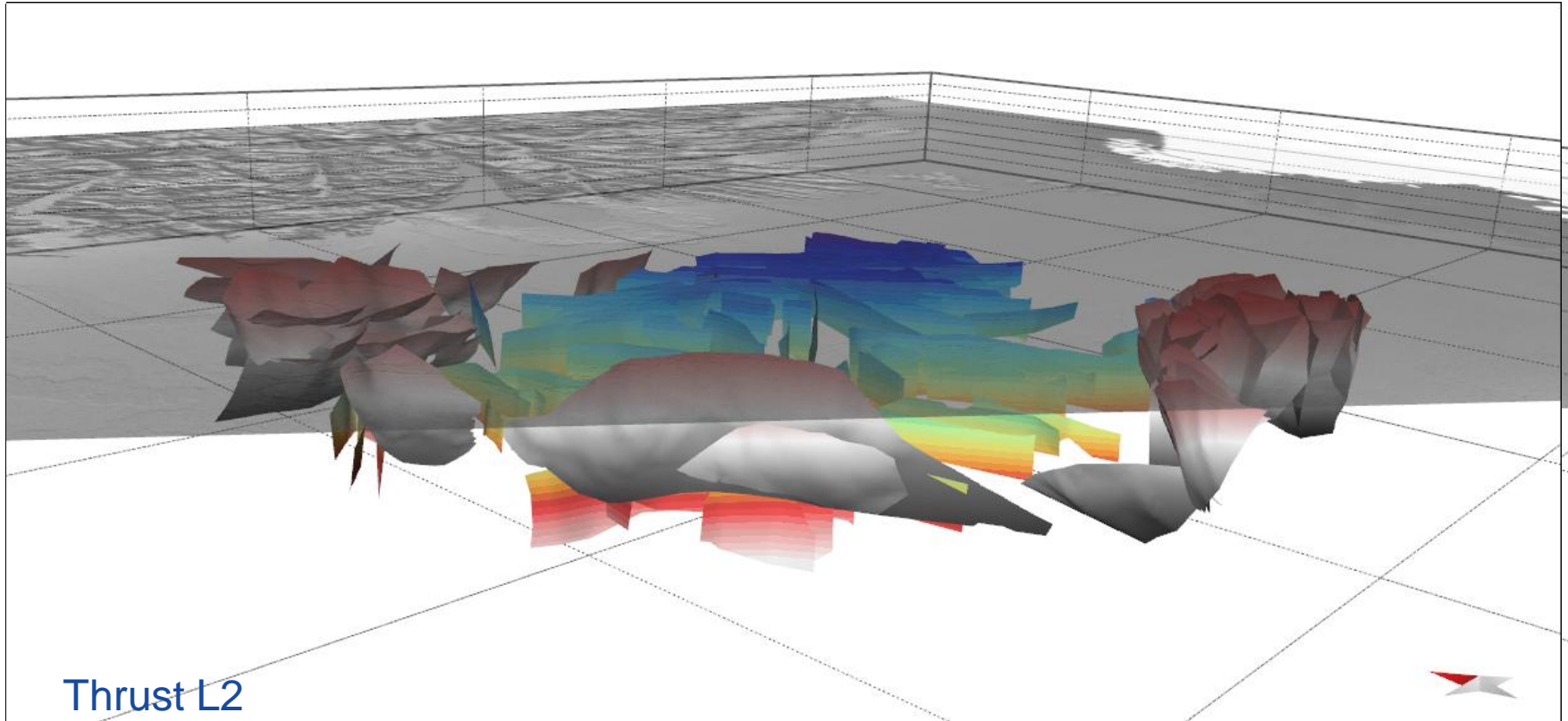
500x500 m horizontal resolution



## 3D Model and thematic outputs

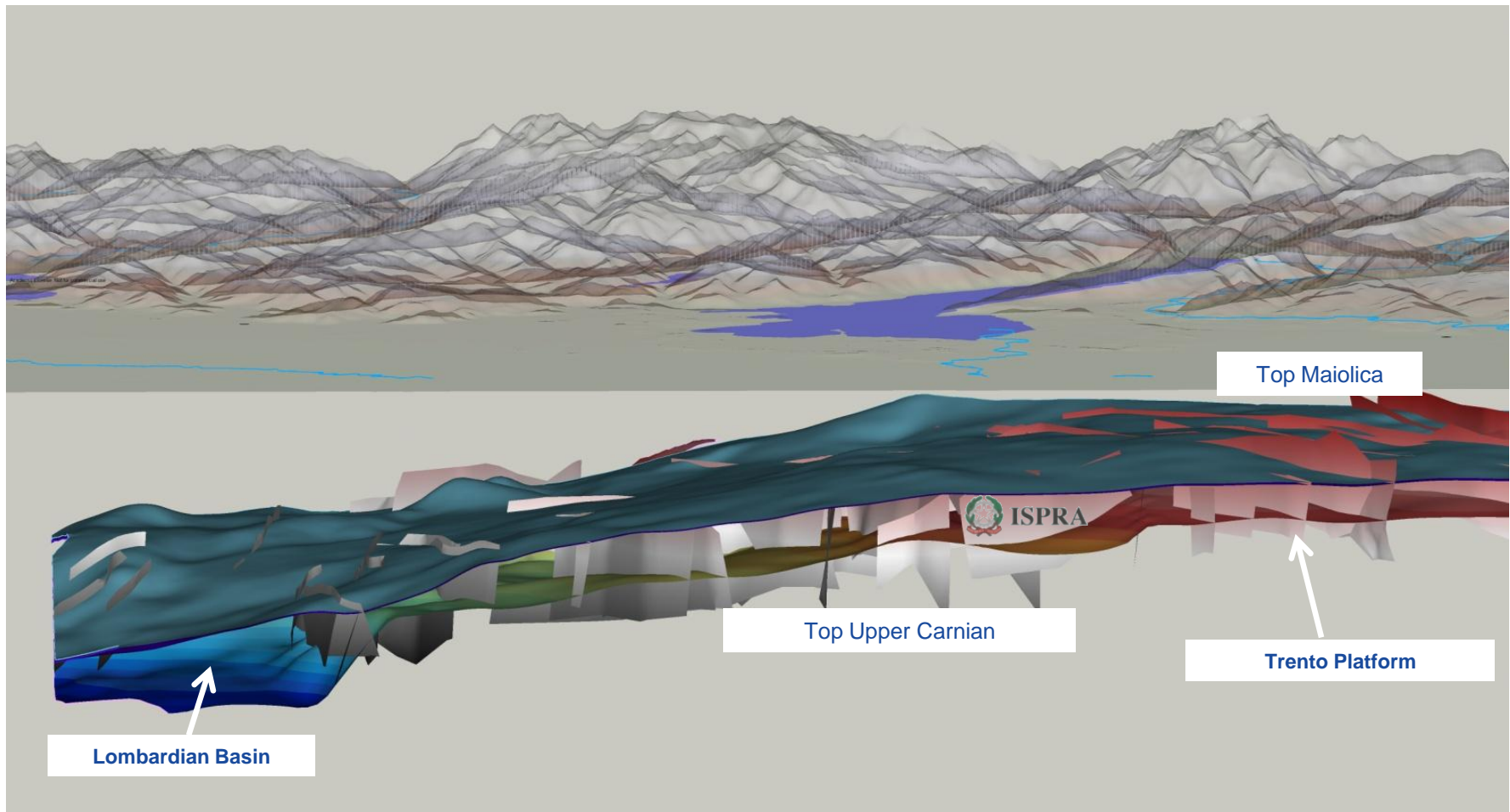


## Geology: Fault sets



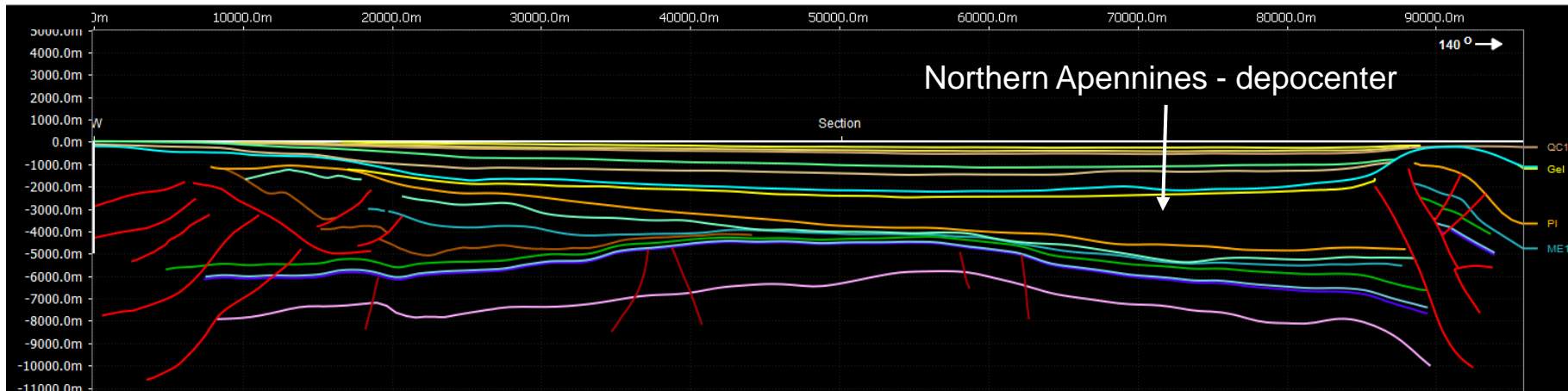
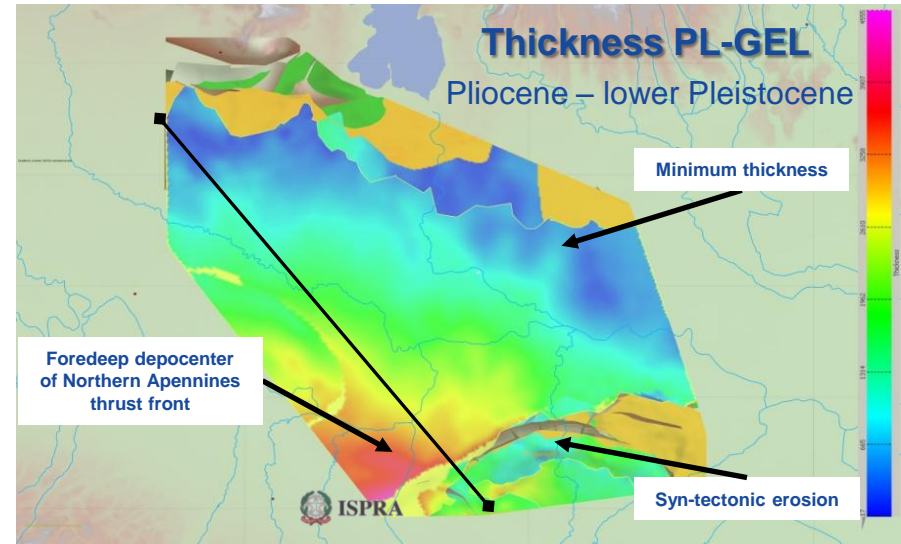
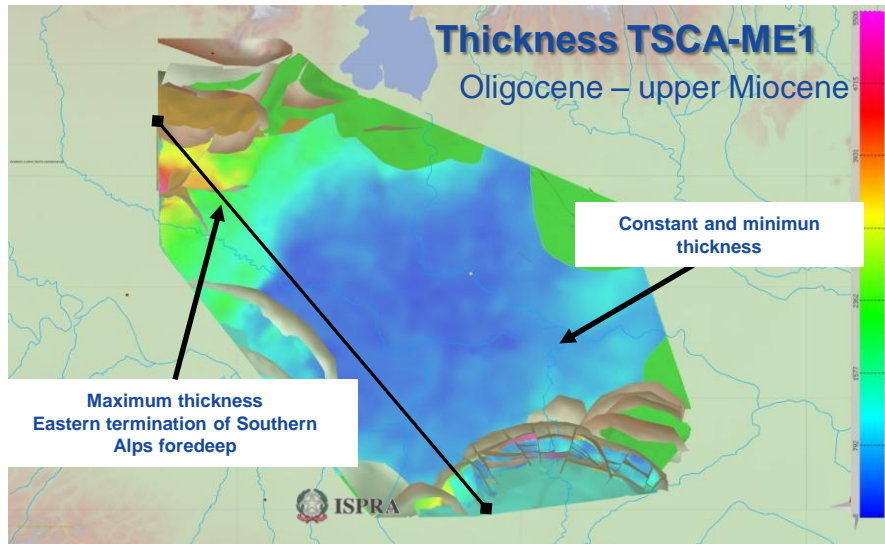
Thrust L2

## Geology: paleogeographic reconstruction





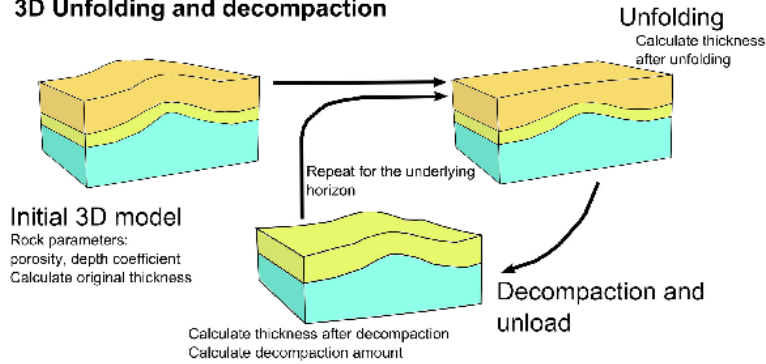
# Geology: Foredeep evolution



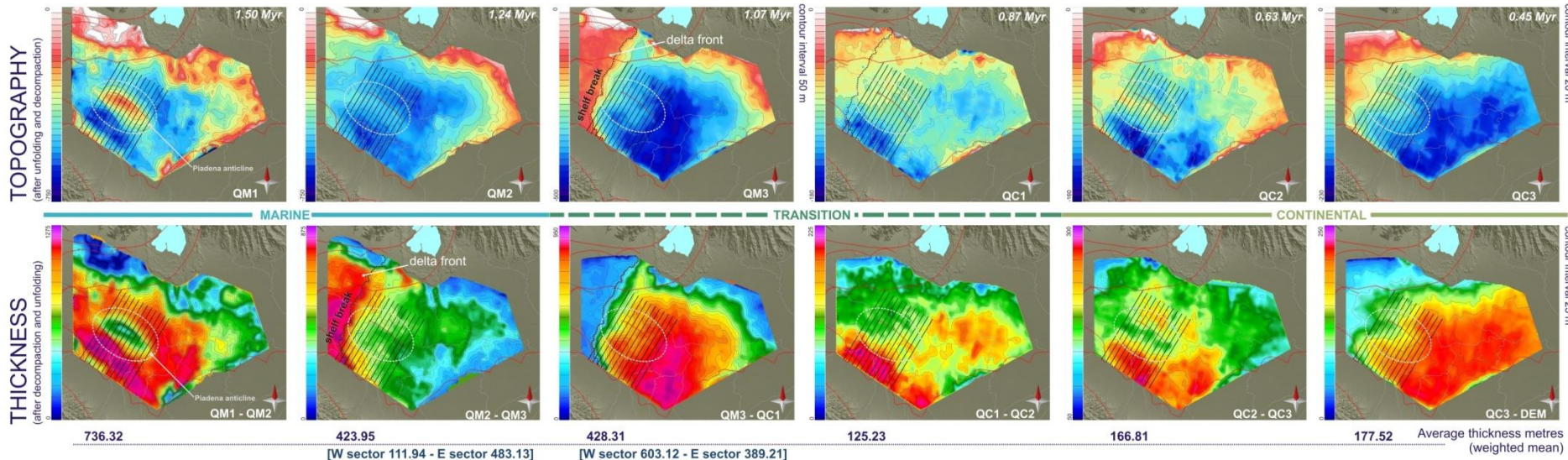
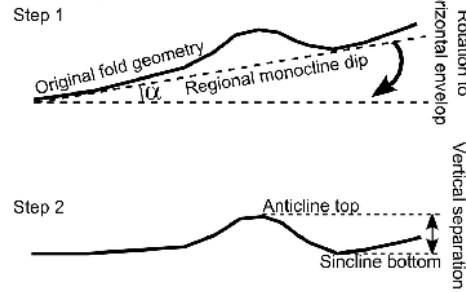
# Geology: Pleistocene Basin Analysis

**Workflow**

## 3D Unfolding and decompaction



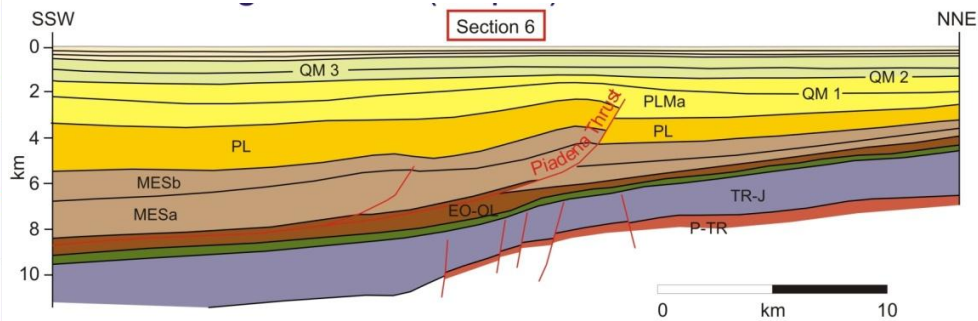
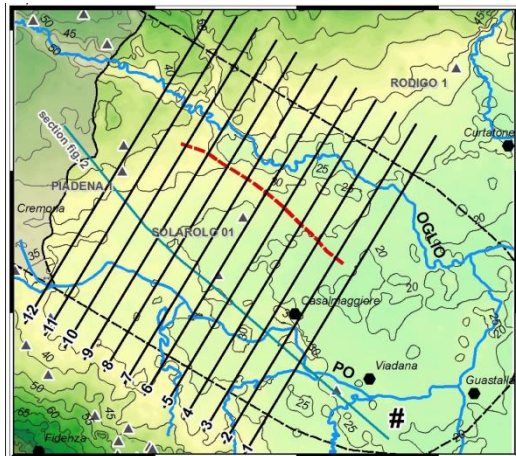
## C) Regional tilting and vertical separation



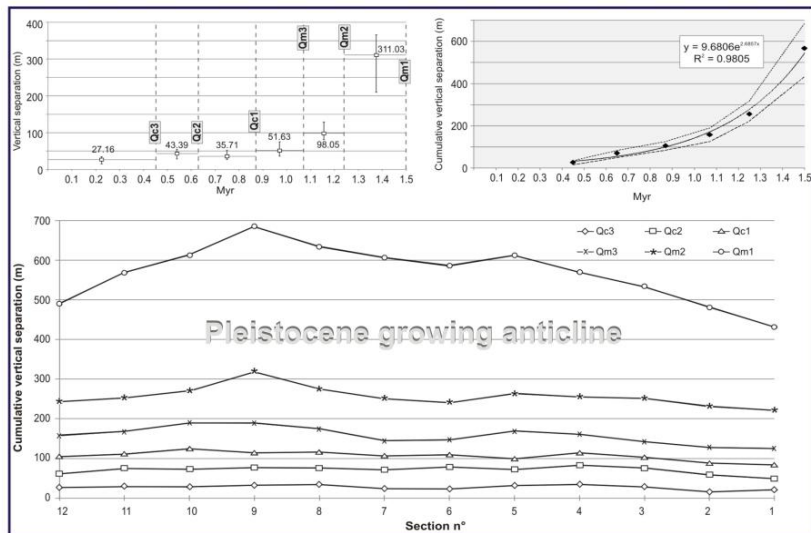
Maesano & D'Ambrogi (2015) – Coupling sedimentation and tectonic control: Pleistocene evolution of the Central Po Basin – It. Jour. Geosc.



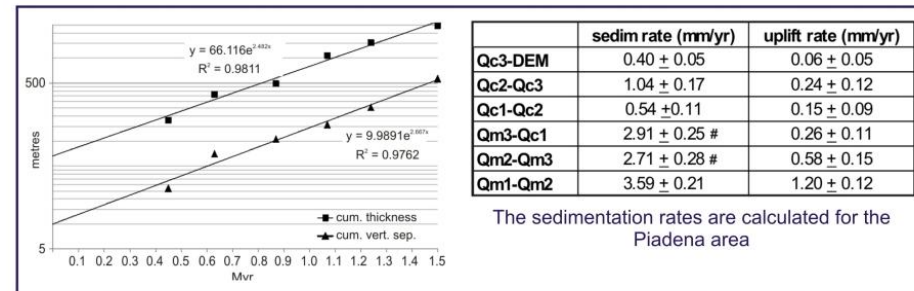
# Geology: Pleistocene sedimentation and tectonic control



**RESIDUAL VERTICAL SEPARATION**



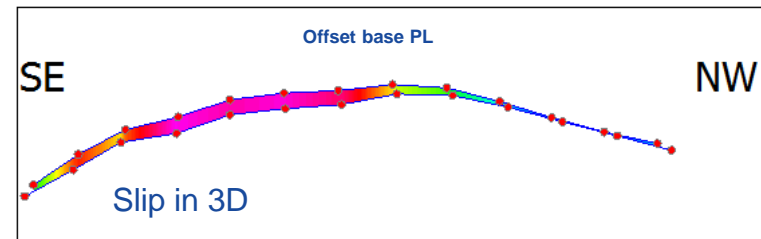
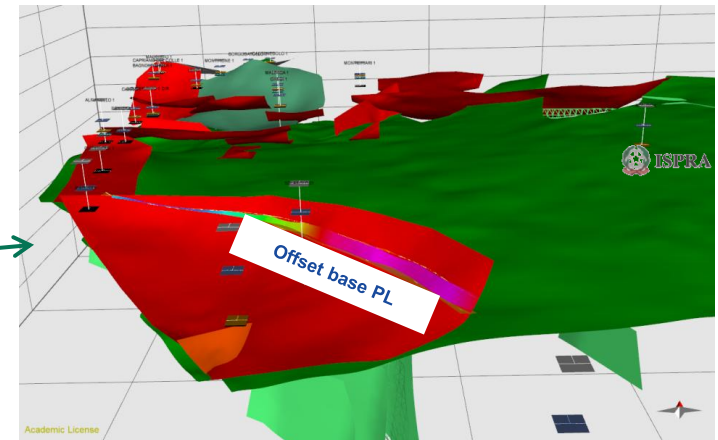
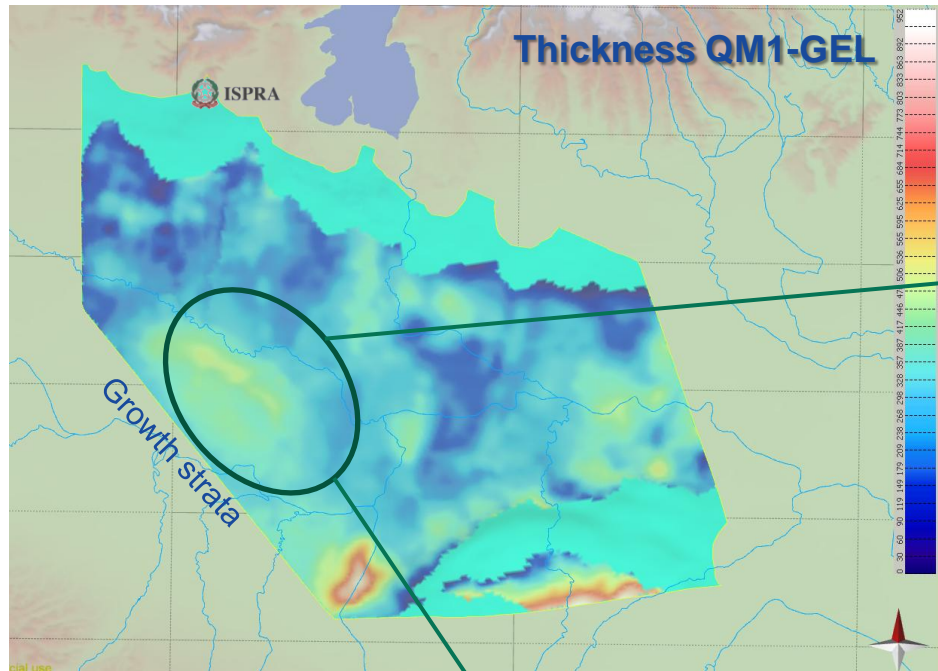
**SEDIMENTATION vs UPLIFT RATE**



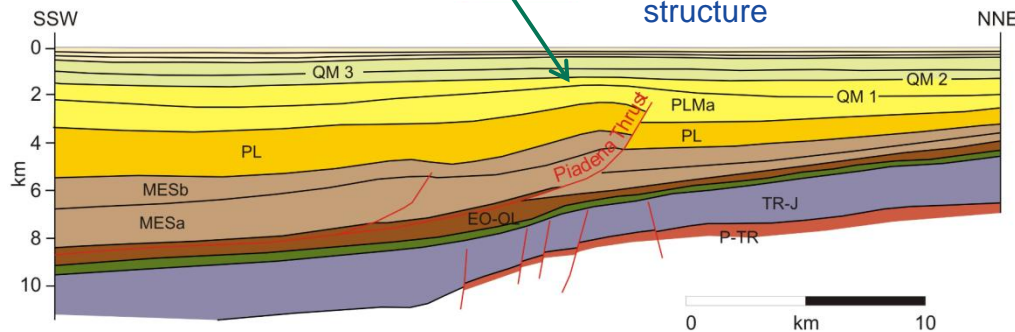
Maesano & D'Ambrogi (2015) – Coupling sedimentation and tectonic control: Pleistocene evolution of the Central Po Basin – It. Jour. Geosc.



# From geology to seismotectonic analysis

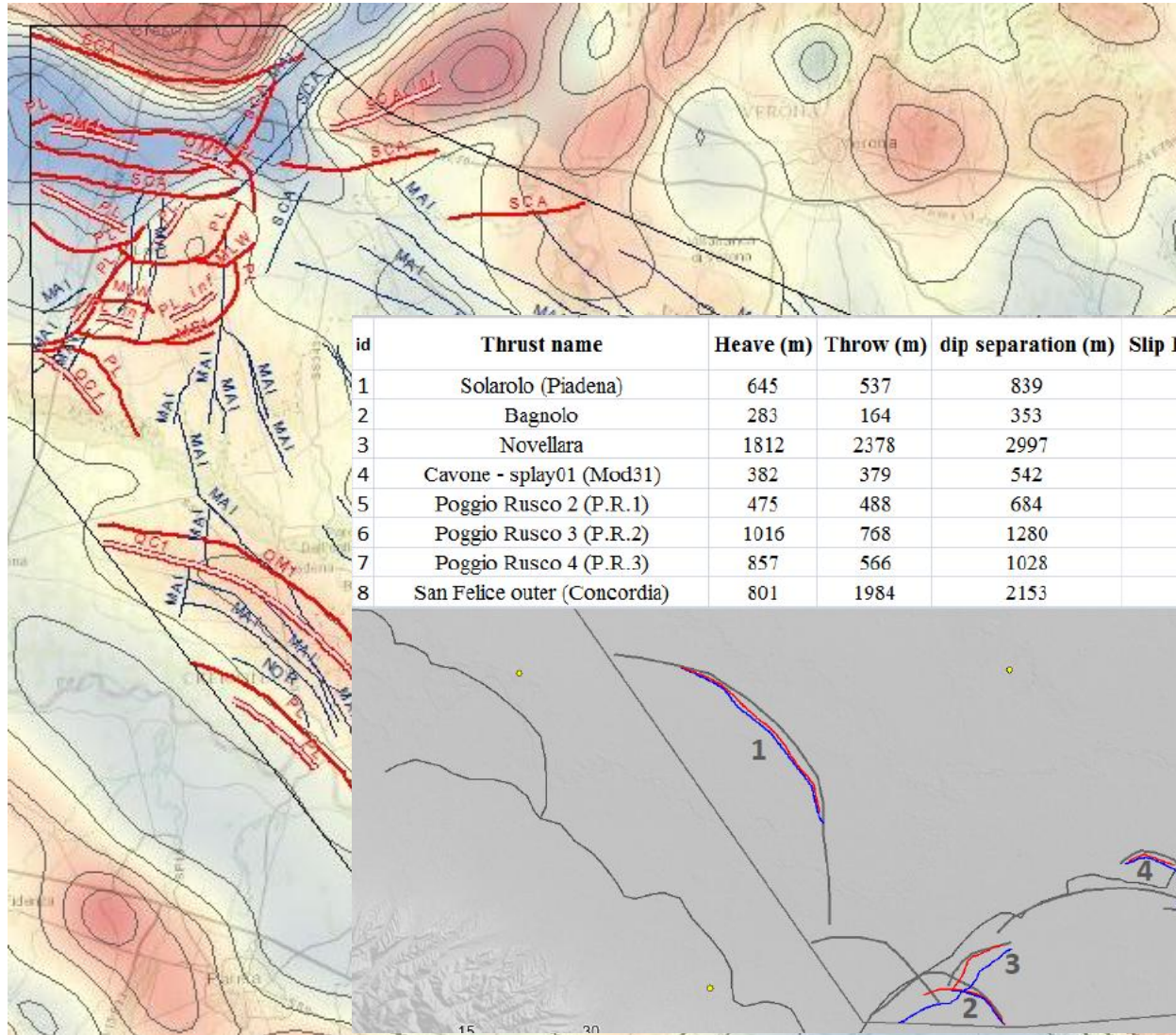


Age of inception of the structure



**3D slip rates**

# Seismotectonic

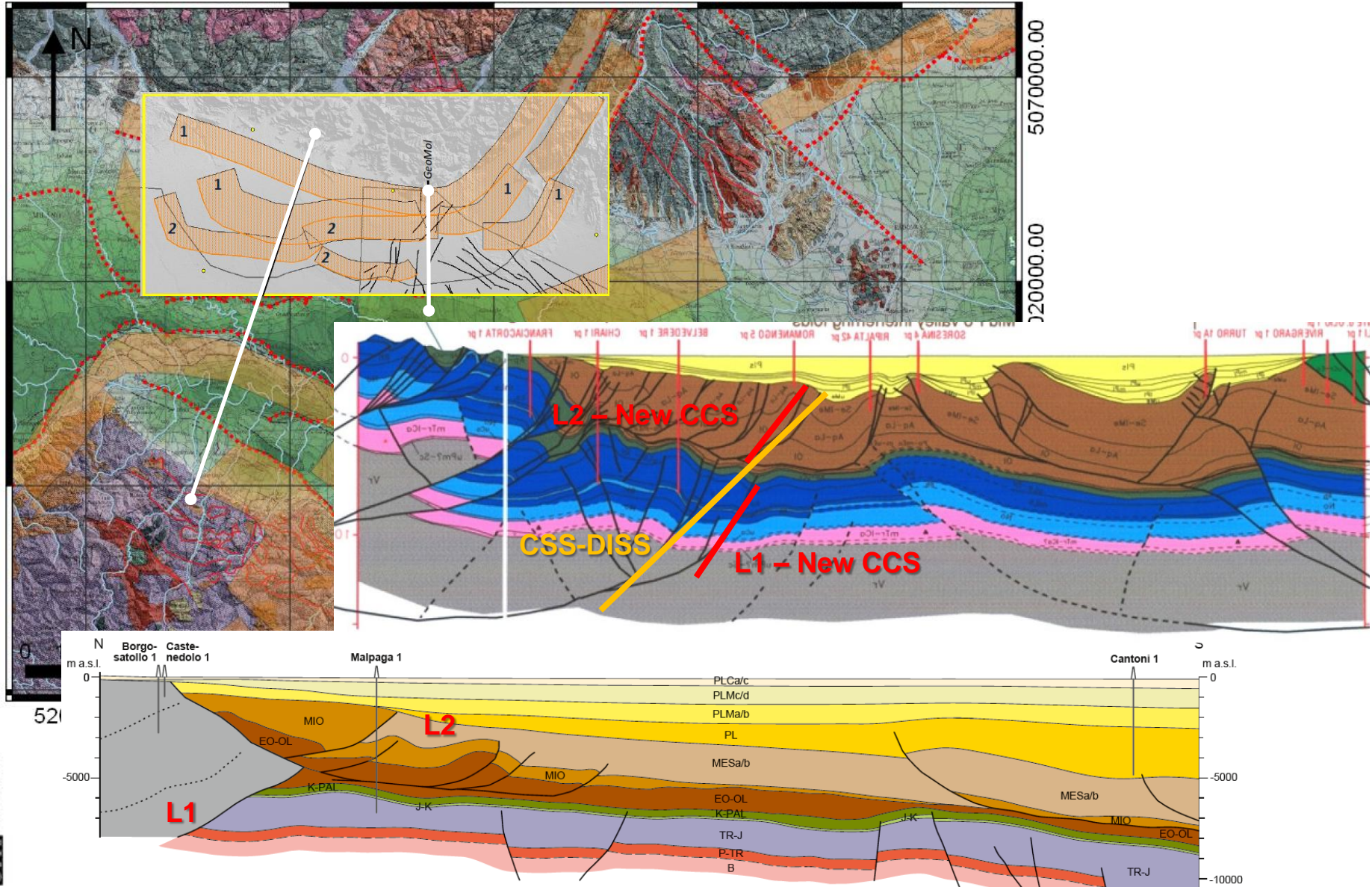


- STRUCTURAL MAP
- Anticline axis
  - Younger deformed horizon
- Transversal faults
  - Upper tip line [Younger displaced horizon]
- Thrust
  - Upper tip line [Younger displaced horizon]
- Extensional faults
  - Upper tip line [Younger displaced horizon]

id	Thrust name	Heave (m)	Throw (m)	dip separation (m)	Slip Rate (mm/yr)	standard deviation (mm/yr)
1	Solarolo (Piedena)	645	537	839	0.16	0.05
2	Bagnolo	283	164	353	0.07	0.02
3	Novellara	1812	2378	2997	0.57	0.07
4	Cavone - splay01 (Mod31)	382	379	542	0.1	0.03
5	Poggio Rusco 2 (P.R.1)	475	488	684	0.13	0.04
6	Poggio Rusco 3 (P.R.2)	1016	768	1280	0.24	0.05
7	Poggio Rusco 4 (P.R.3)	857	566	1028	0.19	0.14
8	San Felice outer (Concordia)	801	1984	2153	0.41	0.06

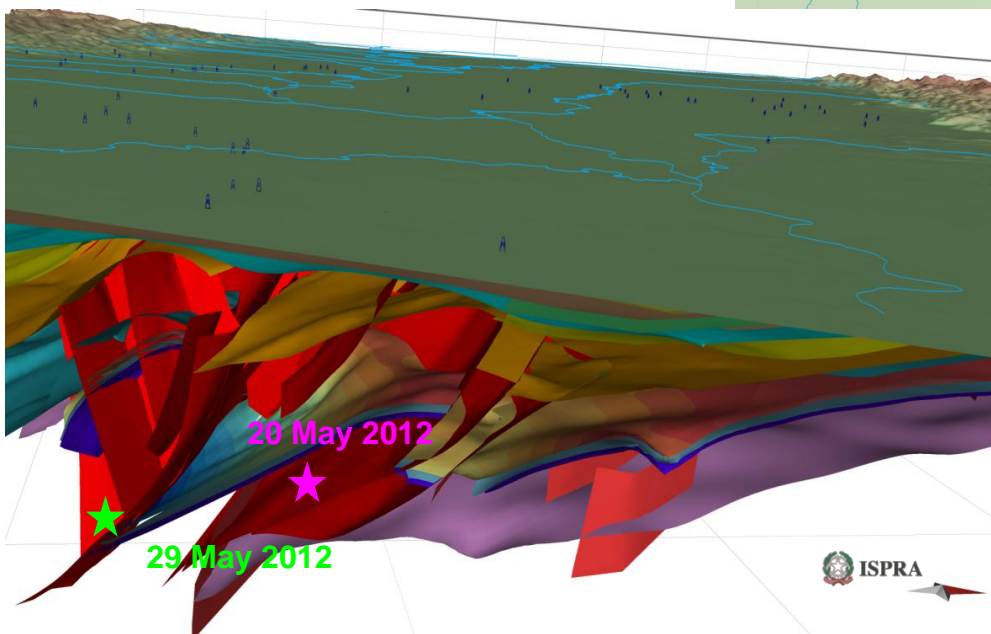
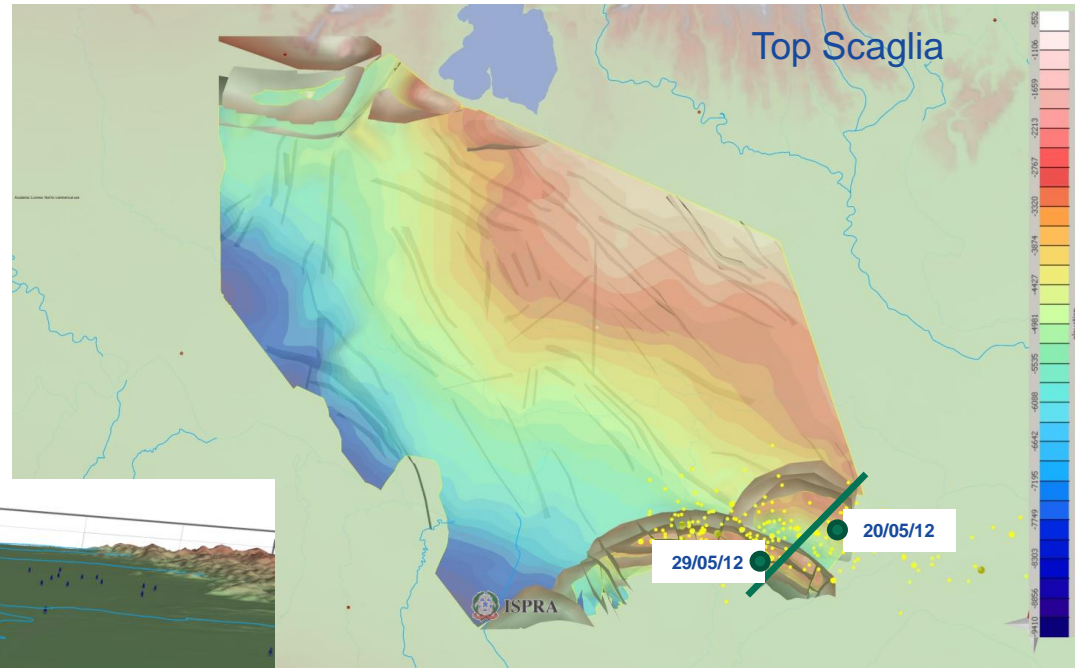


# Seismotectonic

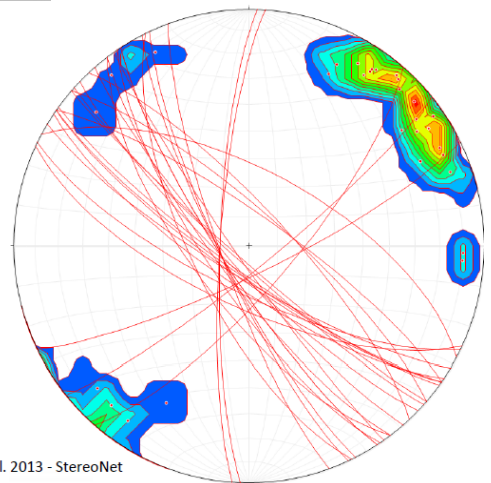
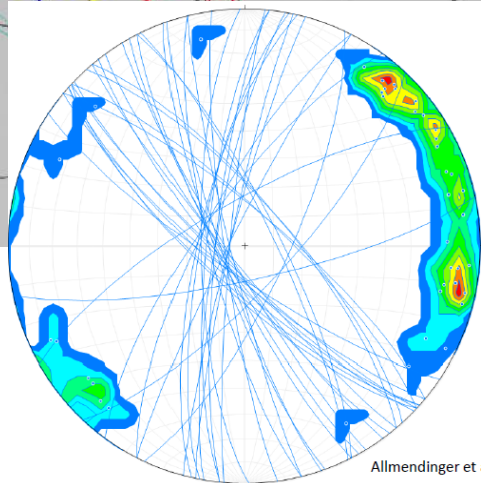
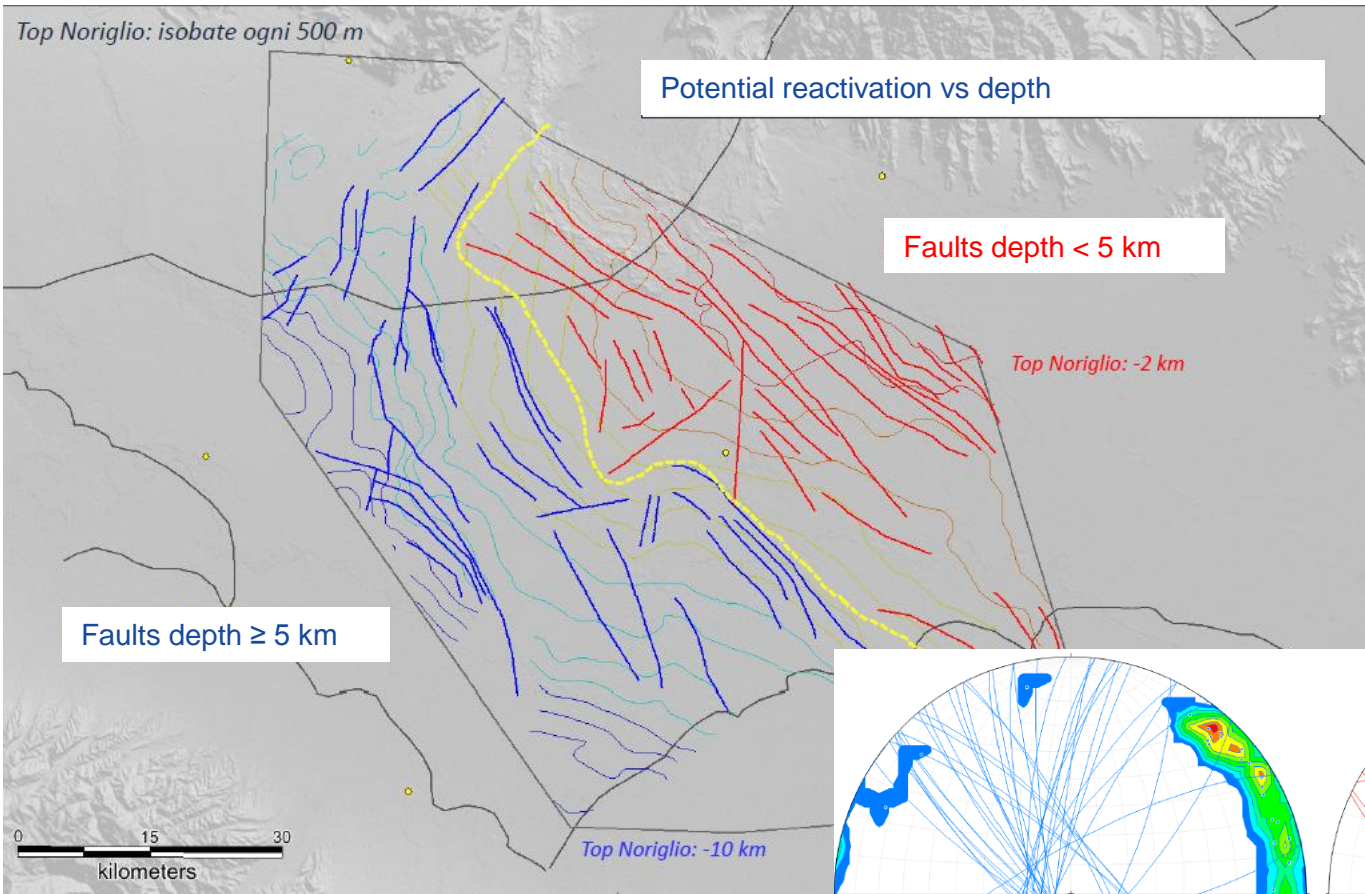




## Seismotectonic: sources of 2012 seismic sequence



# Seismotectonic



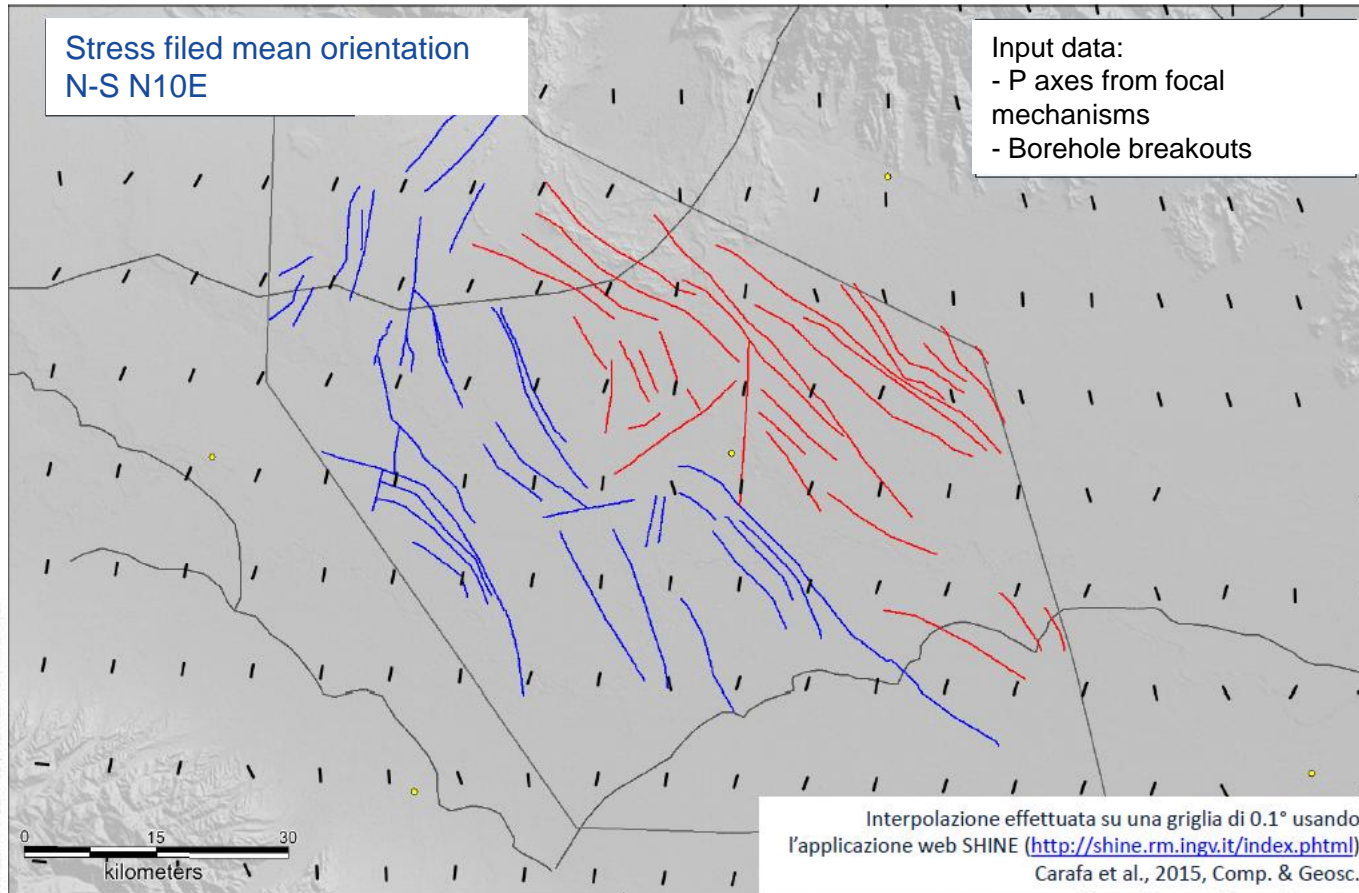
Allmendinger et al. 2013 - StereoNet

## Analysis of potential reactivation

Faults depth ≥ 5 km

Faults depth < 5 km

## Seismotectonic



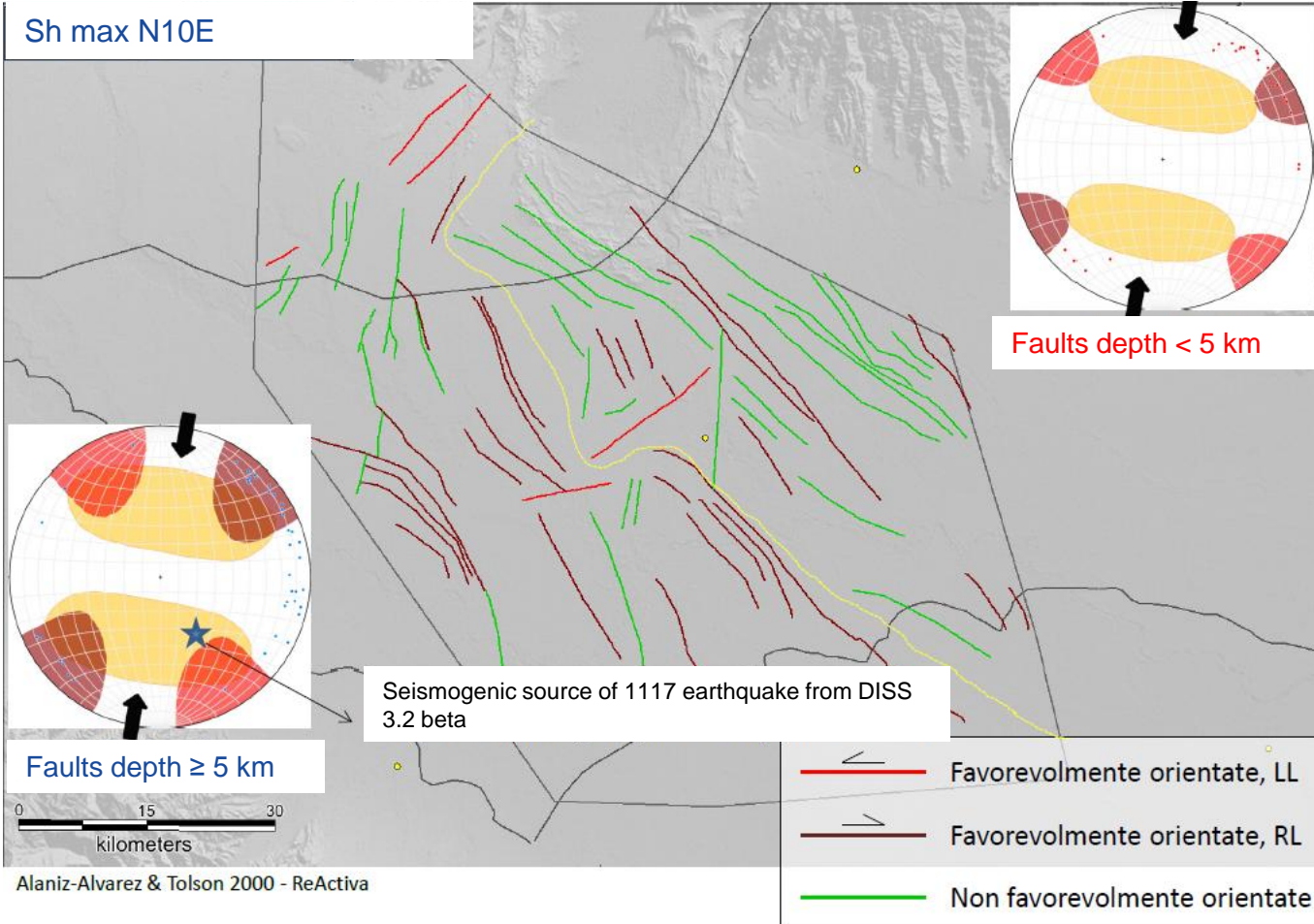
Data from: World Stress Map Project (<http://dc-app3-14.gfz-potsdam.de/>)

## Analysis of potential reactivation



# Seismotectonic

Sh max N10E



## Analysis of potential reactivation

# Conclusions

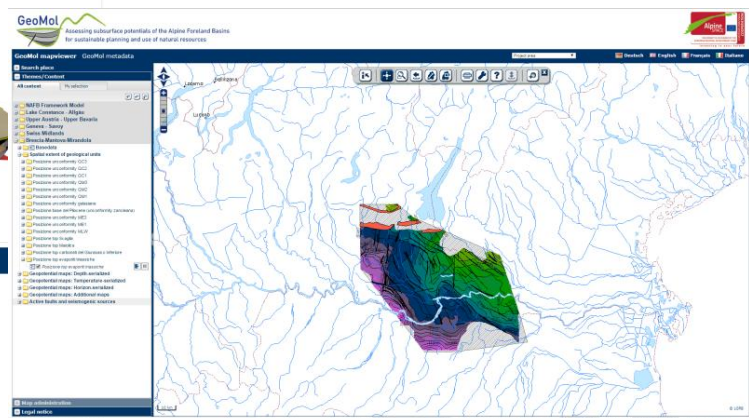
## 3D geological models of the GeoMol Project are:

- Synthesis and advanced management of subsurface data
- Base for various type of analysis, both for industrial and research purpose
- Results of collaboration between regional and transnational Geological Surveys, research Institutes, Industrial Companies

... and

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**Thank you for your attention**

Contact:

Francesco Maesano

[francescoemanuele.maesano@isprambiente.it](mailto:francescoemanuele.maesano@isprambiente.it)

[framae80@gmail.com](mailto:framae80@gmail.com)