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## New Insights Into the Cooling of the Oceanic Lithosphere From Surface-Wave Tomographic Inferences

### Key Points:

- We present SS3DPacific: a new VSV model of the Pacific ocean with 3D resolution and uncertainty
- We show that interpretations of oceanic lithosphere cooling are strongly biased by vertical resolution smearing
- An anomalous band-pattern aligned with fracture zones points to lateral complexities in the cooling of the oceanic lithosphere

### Supporting Information:

Supporting Information may be found in the online version of this article.

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**Abstract** How oceanic plates cool and thicken with age remains a subject of debate, with several thermal models supported by apparently contradictory data. Combining a novel imaging technique that balances resolution and uncertainty with finite-frequency surface-wave measurements, we build tomographic model SS3DPacific to revisit the cooling style of the oceanic lithosphere beneath the Pacific ocean. Resolution analysis indicates a strong vertical smearing that biases estimates of the apparent lithospheric thickness, limiting the ability to discriminate between the half space and plate cooling models. Laterally, a pattern of anomalous bands in seismic velocity aligned with fracture zones points to additional lateral complexities in the lithosphere, complicating simple age-trend analyses.

**Plain Language Summary** As the seafloor spreads away from mid-oceanic ridges, material cools down and the lithosphere, often defined by a temperature boundary, thickens. However, exactly how the lithosphere cools with age remains subject of debate. Some models suggest that it continues to cool down and thicken, others propose that the lower boundary of the lithosphere flattens due to secondary processes. Here, we investigate this problem using seismic imaging of the oceanic lithosphere. Our novel method allows us to assess quantitatively whether imaged structures are real or imaging artifacts. We show that imaging limitations do not allow us to discriminate between two widely used models of the cooling of the oceanic lithosphere. Our results also show anomalous bands that line up with fractures in the oceanic crust. These point to lateral complexities in the cooling style of the oceanic lithosphere.

## 1. Introduction

Plate tectonics describes the motions of plates over the Earth's surface, with oceanic lithosphere being created at mid-oceanic ridges and sinking into the mantle in subduction zones. As oceanic plates move away from the ridges, they cool down by heat diffusion, thicken, and subside as evident in global bathymetry, heat flow, and gravity observations (Richards et al., 2020; Richardson et al., 1995). However, our understanding of the structure and evolution of oceanic plates remains simplified and subject of debate. Two heat diffusion models are often adopted for describing the thermal structure of the oceanic lithosphere: the Half-Space-Cooling (HSC) and Plate-Cooling (PC) models. HSC simply considers the lithosphere as an infinite half space cooling with age. While attractive for its simplicity, it does not match the apparent flattening of the lithosphere thickness at older ages supported by heat flow and bathymetry data. PC includes a boundary condition at depth that produces the apparent flattening (McKenzie, 1967; Parsons & Sclater, 1977). However, this ad hoc constraint assumes the existence of underlying physical processes that remain to be clarified (e.g., small-scale sub-lithospheric convection cells, Ballmer et al., 2009). Proponents of the HSC model reconcile it with observations either by adding complexity, such as secular cooling (e.g., Korenaga et al., 2021), or by calling attention to the inherent limitations of heat flow or bathymetry measurements (e.g., the effect of sediment layers, Richards et al., 2020) or uncertainty and resolution artifacts in seismic imaging (e.g., Rawlinson et al., 2014). New observations, with better uncertainty quantification, are required to address this problem.

Beyond the simple diffusive cooling of the lithosphere, bathymetry data show that oceanic plates are not smooth plates, but include great intraplate complexity (Figure 1), such as linear hotspot tracks, sea mounts and fracture zones. The effect of these structures on the thermal structure of the lithosphere remains unclear, and is at present poorly accounted for in studies of the cooling of the lithosphere (Matthews et al., 2011; Wessel & Haxby, 1990).

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Bathymetry, heat flow, gravity, seismic refraction and reflection data all provide crucial information for studying the oceanic lithosphere. However, constraints are either local or depth integrated and they are often strongly influenced by shallow Earth structure (e.g., crust and sediment cover). Surface-wave tomography is a complementary technique: surface waves are sensitive to temperature and offer global or basin-scale constraints (Auer et al., 2014; French et al., 2013; Isse et al., 2019; Maggi et al., 2006; Ritzwoller et al., 2004; Zhou et al., 2006). However, surface-wave data are contaminated by noise and theoretical errors, while seismic imaging is hindered by the heterogeneous source-receiver distribution and convoluted depth sensitivities. As a consequence, model resolution and uncertainty is often complex, but crucial to assess for robust interpretations (Freissler et al., 2024; Latallerie et al., 2022; Rawlinson et al., 2014; Ritsema et al., 2007). In practice, resolution and uncertainty are difficult to control, and computationally expensive to obtain for large-scale imaging problems (An, 2012; Fichtner & Trampert, 2011; Nolet et al., 1999; Ritsema & Lekić, 2020).

Here, we provide new constraints on the oceanic lithosphere using the 3D imaging framework of Latallerie, Zaroli, et al. (2025). This approach combines the power of finite-frequency theory for surface waves (Snieder, 1986; Zhou, 2009a) with the Backus-Gilbert based SOLA method (Backus & Gilbert, 1968; Pijpers & Thompson, 1994; Zaroli, 2016) for inferring Earth structure. Finite-frequency offers a more accurate and fully three-dimensional one-step framework, while SOLA provides control on resolution and uncertainty, also making these readily available by construction. Using this approach, we develop SS3DPacific, a new 3D model of the vertically polarized shear-wave velocity ( $V_{SV}$ ) for the Pacific uppermost mantle. Equipped with SS3DPacific, its 3D resolution and uncertainty, we revisit the age cooling trend of the lithosphere, and discuss our ability to discriminate between the HSC and PC models. Beyond the simple age dependence of lithospheric cooling, we also discuss further complexities in the structure of the lithosphere.

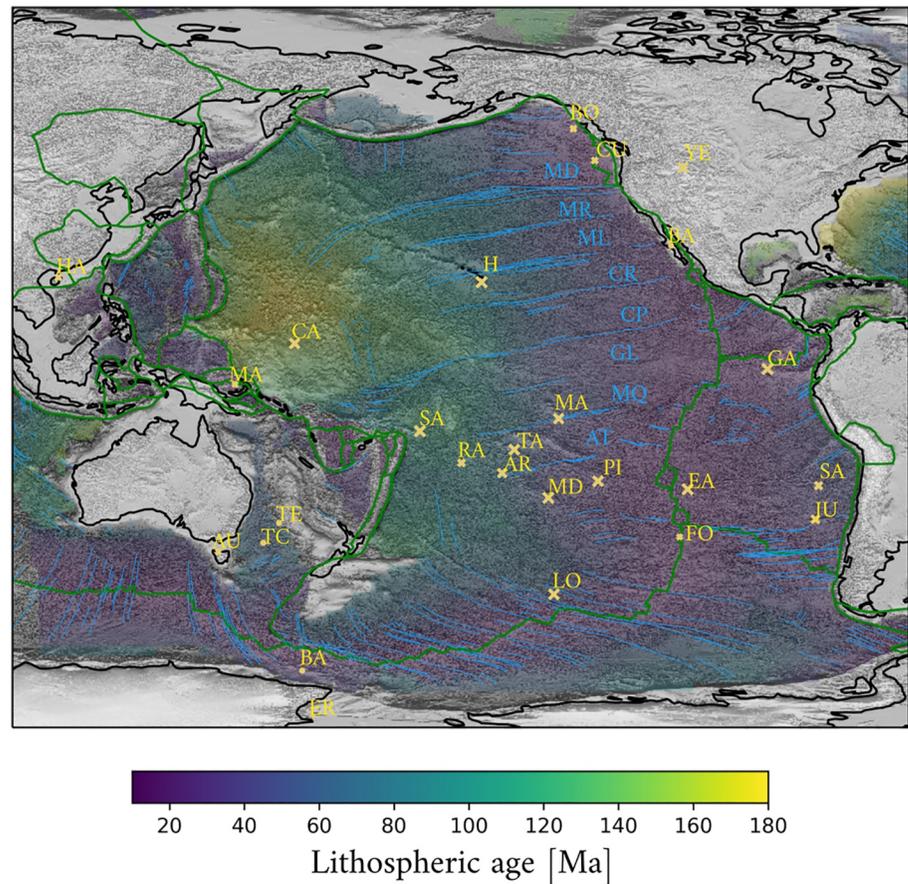
## 2. Data and Method

We measure surface-wave phase-delays relative to 1D model STW105 (Kustowski et al., 2008) between 6 and 21 mHz adopting the approach of Latallerie, Zaroli, et al. (2025). To obtain measurement uncertainty estimates, we use a multi-taper technique. We select high-quality data based on a set of criteria, including spatial homogeneity, resulting in a subset of 44,917 measurements (Figures 2a and 2b). The crustal signature is removed from the data using crustal model CRUST1.0 (Bassin et al., 2000).

We combine 3D finite-frequency theory and SOLA inferences, relating fundamental-mode Rayleigh-wave phase-delays measured on the vertical component to perturbations in  $V_{SV}$ , as described by Latallerie, Zaroli, et al. (2025). Finite-frequency theory is more accurate than the great-circle approximation, and the volumetric nature of sensitivity kernels (Figure 2c) helps to stabilize the inversion (Zhou, 2009a; Zhou et al., 2004). Additionally, it allows us to image 3D structure in a single inversion step. We solve the inverse problem using the SOLA method (Zaroli, 2016; Zaroli et al., 2017), which provides control on resolution and uncertainty. The combination of finite-frequency theory with SOLA makes it possible to obtain resolution information in 3D, in contrast with earlier methods (e.g., Latallerie et al., 2022). More information can be found in the Supporting Information S1. We design a homogeneous target resolution throughout the model domain, aiming for a laterally isotropic resolution of 200 km in radius and 25 km vertically (e.g., pancake shape targets). We use a local parameterization with voxels of  $2^\circ \times 2^\circ \times 25$  km and invert only for cells where the data sensitivity (Figure 2d) is sufficiently large. e.g., at 112 km depth, we invert only for voxels in which the data sensitivity is above  $\sim 10$  rad km<sup>-3</sup>.

## 3. Structure, Resolution and Uncertainty of the Pacific Uppermost Mantle According to SS3DPacific

By construction, the SOLA method provides model uncertainty and resolution together with the model estimate of  $\delta \ln V_{SV}$  (Figures 3 and 4). Counter-intuitively, uncertainty is higher in regions with good data coverage, balanced by a good fit to the target resolution in these areas. High uncertainty spikes co-locate with isolated stations where data sampling different paths contradict one another. Resolution is generally well-focused laterally and circular. The resolution length, defined here as the  $1-\sigma$  contour of the Gaussian that best fits the resolving kernel, is around 300–500 km in radius. Vertically, the resolution tends to be smeared down to greater depths for shallow targets, or to shallower depths for deeper targets, with the optimal resolution found around 87–112 km depth (Figure 4a).



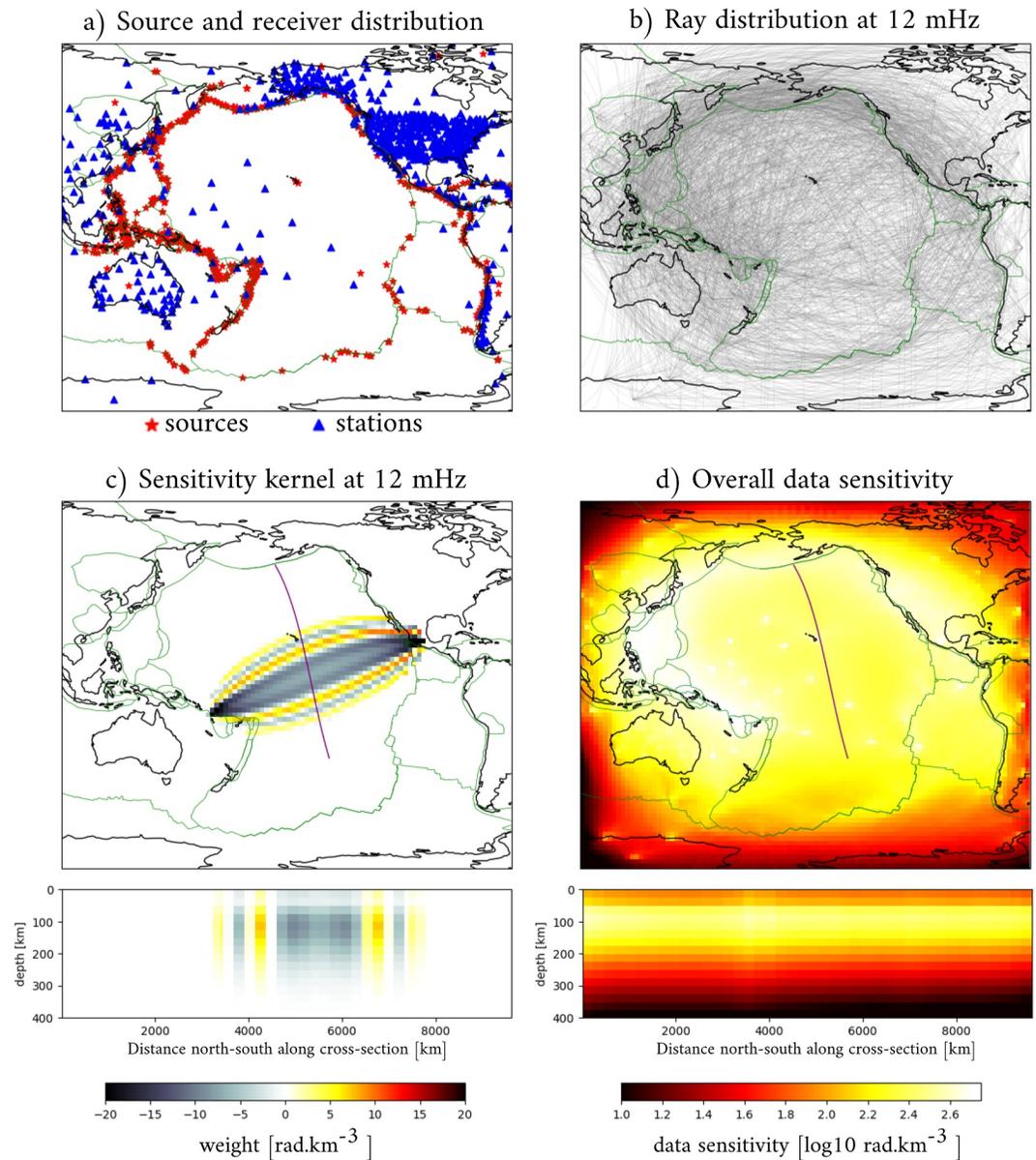
**Figure 1.** Map of the Pacific ocean and surrounding regions, showing the bathymetry (shaded background, from GEBCO Bathymetric Compilation Group, 2024, 2024), lithospheric age (colormap, from Seton et al., 2020), hotspot locations (yellow crosses, from Jackson et al., 2021), fracture zones (cyan lines, from Matthews et al., 2011), and plate boundaries (green lines, from Bird, 2003). The size of the cross scales with the likelihood for the hotspot to have a deep plume origin, consistent with the scoring approach of Koppers et al. (2021). Fracture zones are labeled in cyan (MD, Mendocino; MR, Murray; ML, Molokai; CR, Clarion; CP, Clipperton; GL, Galapagos; MQ, Marquesas; AT, Austral), and hotspots in yellow (BO, Bowie; GU, Guadeloupe; YE, Yellowstone; BA, Baja; GA, Galapagos; SA, San Felix; JU, Juan Fernandez; EA, Easter; FO, Foundation; LO, Louisville; ER, Erebus; BA, Balleny; AU, Australia; TC, Tasmanid Central; TE, Tasmanid Easter; MA, Manus; CA, Caroline; HA, Hanai; SA, Samoa; RA, Rarotonga; AR, Arago; TA, Tahiti; MD, Mac Donald; PI, Pitcairn; MA, Marquesas; H, Hawaii).

This strong vertical smearing, sometimes referred to as “depth leakage,” is expected to have strong implications for interpretations of the depth of structures in the tomographic model, and should therefore be taken into account.

SS3DPacific agrees well with other recent tomography models (detailed in Table S1 of Supporting Information S1) in terms of large-scale velocity anomalies, such as the location of cratons, mid-oceanic ridges and the velocity gradient with distance from ridges (Figure S1 in Supporting Information S1). We also observe a good correlation between hotspot locations and low-velocity anomalies that stand out after we remove the lithosphere cooling trend and mask velocity anomalies that are not significant (see Figure S2 in Supporting Information S1), following the approach of Latallier et al. (2022).

#### 4. Age Cooling Trend

To investigate the cooling trend of the uppermost mantle, we interpolate the lithospheric age model of Seton et al. (2020) onto the tomographic grid (Figure 3d) and use this to compute the averaged  $\delta \ln V_{SV}$  of SS3DPacific and other tomography models in 2 Ma age bins (Figure 5). To avoid any complexities in the analysis, we only consider cooling trends within the Pacific plate, far from plate boundaries, hotspots, and fracture zones (Figure S3 in Supporting Information S1). Following this procedure, we observe a wedge-like low-velocity region near the

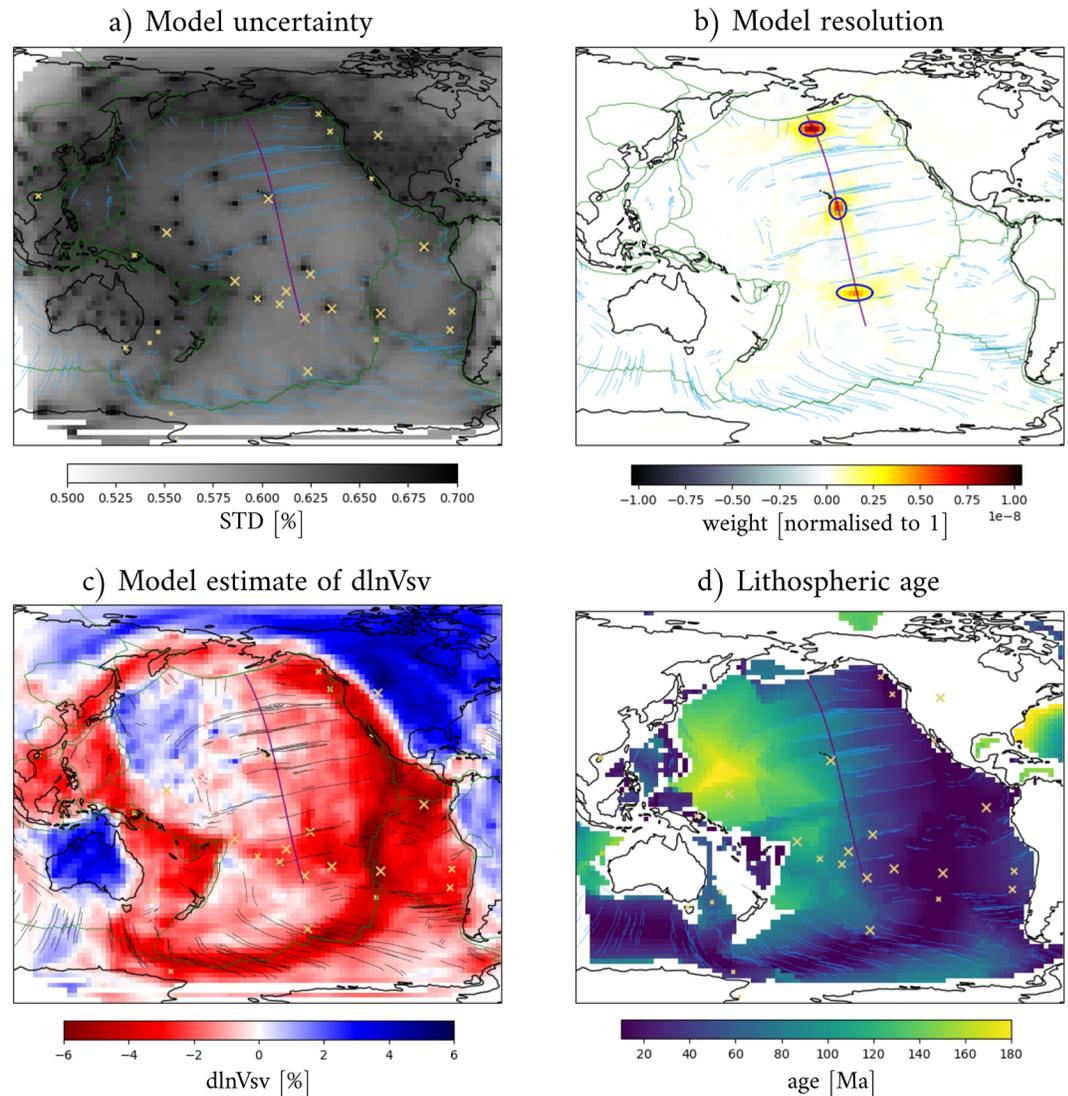


**Figure 2.** Data geometry and setup: (a) Source and receiver distribution, (b) Example ray distribution at 12 mHz, (c) Example sensitivity kernel at 12 mHz including a cross-section along the purple line, (d) Overall data sensitivity defined as  $S_j = \log_{10} \sum_i G_{ij}$ , where  $G$  is the sensitivity matrix, with cross-section below. Maps of (c, d) are plotted at 112 km depth.

ridge that gradually deepens with age, before flattening (Figure 5), consistent with several other tomographic models.

We compare the trends of model SS3DPacific with predictions based on the HSC and PC models. For HSC, we compute the thermal structure using the analytical expression and constants from Stein and Stein (1992), whereas for PC we use the model of Richards et al. (2018). We apply the same age binning process as for the tomography. Throughout this analysis, we assume the 1175°C isotherm represents the base of the lithosphere-asthenosphere boundary, as suggested by Richards et al. (2018).

We should in principle convert the predicted temperatures into velocities. However, such conversions require several assumptions that introduce subjectivity, which we prefer to avoid here. Therefore, we only analyze the geometrical effect of resolution on the temperature predictions, but we believe that this effect will also affect seismic velocities. Particularly, the predicted, large-scale seismic velocity structure will resemble the thermal

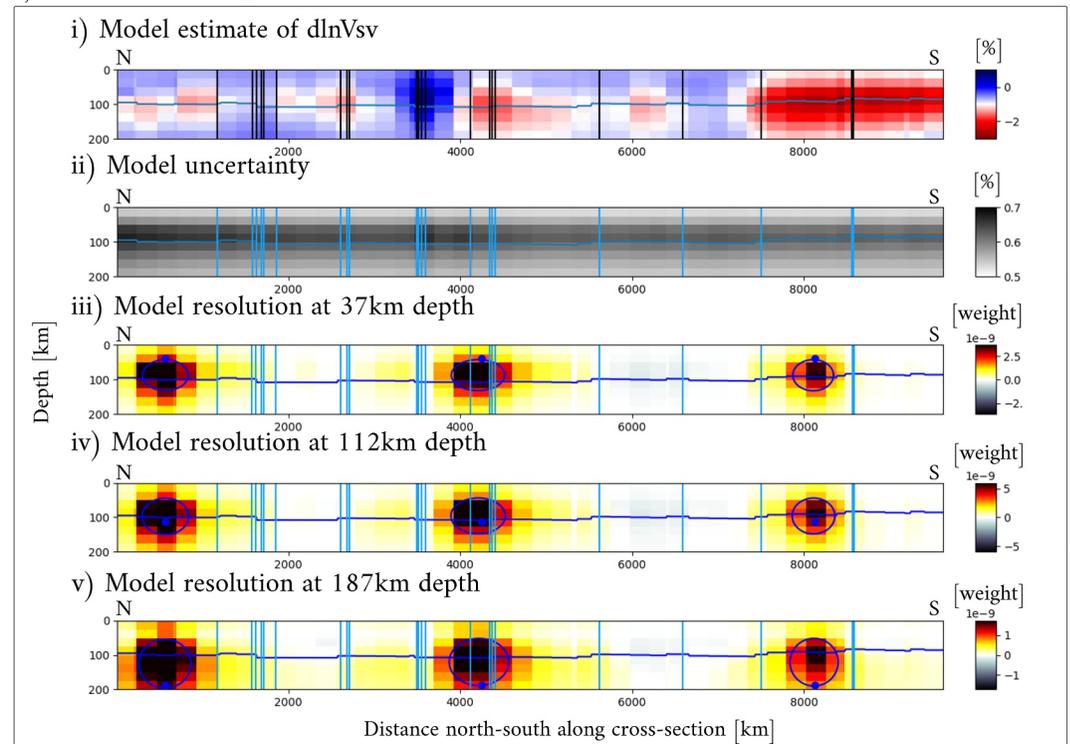


**Figure 3.** Model SS3DPacific at 112 km depth, showing (a) Model uncertainty; (b) Example resolution kernels for 3 selected locations; (c) Model estimates of  $\delta \ln V_{sv}$ ; and (d) Age of the lithosphere in Ma. For the resolution kernels in panel (b), the blue ellipses indicate the 1- $\sigma$  contour of the best fitting Gaussian. The purple line indicates the location of the cross-sections shown in Figure 4. Yellow crosses indicate hotspots, and cyan (or black) lines fracture zones.

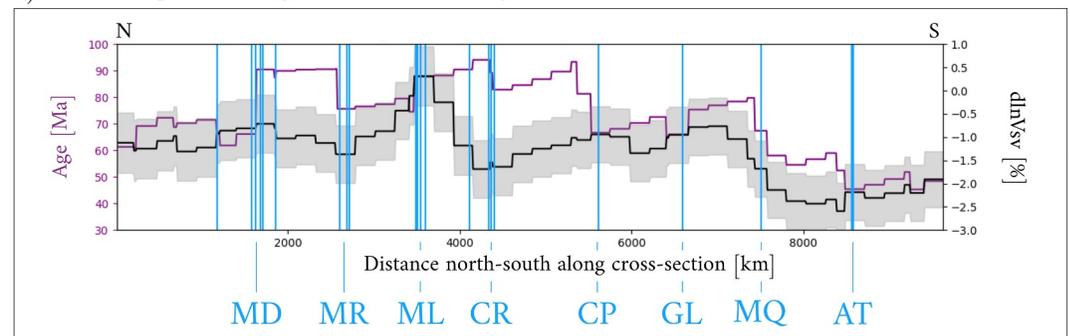
structure (a set of isotherms would behave similarly to isotachs with age, at least to some extent). Nevertheless, the reader should keep in mind that temperature-velocity conversions potentially affect our conclusions, especially for temperatures close to the solidus where non-linear effects become important (e.g., Yamauchi & Takei, 2016).

To compare the observed and predicted age trends, we need to account for the limited tomographic resolution, for example, “tomographically filter” the temperature predictions (see the Supporting Information S1 for more information). Our study is unique in that we can apply the resolution provided by SOLA to the HSC and PC predictions (solid lines in Figure 5 and Figure S4 in Supporting Information S1). Note that any meaningful comparison between thermal cooling models and tomographic results should use the filtered predictions of the cooling models. Tomographic filtering allows us to account for the vertical resolution smearing, which is crucial for interpreting structures such as the lithosphere-asthenosphere boundary. Figure 5 demonstrates that the filtering of HSC and PC predictions produces a similar isotherm “wedge” shape as observed in the velocity structure of SS3DPacific. The filtering thus changes the geometry of the isotherms (i.e., inferred cooling), though the very shallow part of the model is less distorted. In particular, filtering creates a positive velocity gradient with depth at

a) Cross-section through SS3DPacific



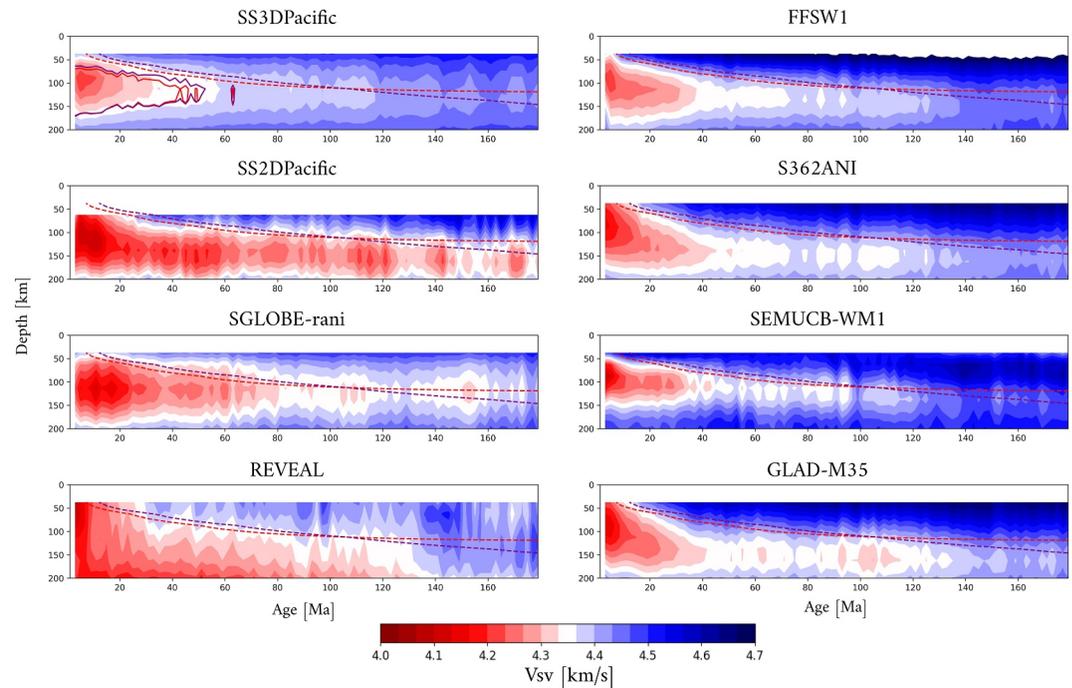
b) Relationship between age and seismic velocity



**Figure 4.** Model SS3DPacific compared to lithospheric age. (a) Cross-sections through SS3DPacific along the purple line in Figure 3 showing (i) Model estimate of  $\delta \ln V_{SV}$ , (ii) Model uncertainty, (iii–v) Example resolution kernels for target kernels centered at 37, 112, and 187 km depth respectively, at the same locations as in Figure 3b as represented by blue dots. Blue ellipses indicate in each case the  $1-\sigma$  contour of the best fitting Gaussian. The blue lines represent the depth of the 1175°C isotherm in the PC model. (b) Lithospheric age (purple) compared to model estimate of  $\delta \ln V_{SV}$  at 112 km depth (black line with gray bands representing the  $1-\sigma$  uncertainty). The vertical cyan (or black) lines indicate fracture zones (see Figure 1).

the lower boundary of the wedge (near the bottom of the models in Figure 5), which could mistakenly be interpreted as the base of the asthenosphere in surface-wave tomographic models. Since this wedge-shape geometry of low-velocities is also present in other tomographic models, these may also suffer from similar vertical resolution smearing. However, we cannot investigate this in detail, given full 3D resolution information is generally not available for other published models.

While the difference between the original predictions of the HSC and PC models (dashed lines) is small, filtering makes them appear even more similar (solid lines). This is not only true for the 1,175°C isotherm shown in Figure 5, but also for the overall age-depth structure (Figure S4 in Supporting Information S1). This makes the cooling models more difficult to distinguish using surface-wave tomography, though the geometry of their difference remains similar. In particular, the flattening with age of the PC model appears weaker after filtering,



**Figure 5.**  $V_{SV}$  structure of SS3DPacific compared to other seismic tomography models, averaged in 2 Ma age bins. Purple and red dashed lines represent the 1175°C isotherm of the HSC and PC models, respectively. For SS3DPacific, we also include the filtered versions that account for the limited resolution (solid lines). Only the filtered version of the cooling models (solid lines or filtered HSC or PC on Figure S4 in Supporting Information S1) should be directly compared to SS3DPacific. We include tomography models SS2DPacific (Latallierie et al., 2022), SGLLOBE-rani (Chang et al., 2015), REVEAL (Thrustarson et al., 2024), FFSW1 (Zhou et al., 2006), S362ANI (Kustowski et al., 2008), SEMUCB-WM1 (French & Romanowicz, 2014), and GLAD-M35 (Cui et al., 2024).

diminishing the diagnostic difference between the HSC and PC models. The strong sensitivity of seismic velocity to temperature may exacerbate differences between the HSC and PC models if their temperature predictions are converted into velocities (Yamauchi & Takei, 2016). To investigate this, temperature-velocity conversions would need to be performed and residual misfits in the velocity structure could be compared to the tomographic uncertainties. Nevertheless, our resolution analysis shows that it is vital to take into account vertical resolution smearing in surface-wave tomography when interpreting imaged structures in terms of lithospheric cooling.

## 5. Fracture Zones

Besides the main features in SS3DPacific (see Section 3), we observe an interesting pattern of anomalous bands aligned with major fracture zones in the North West and Equatorial Pacific (see Figures 3 and 4i). This is most pronounced around the depth of the lithosphere-asthenosphere boundary as predicted by the 1175°C isotherm of the PC model. The peak-to-peak difference in  $\delta \ln V_{SV}$  between the bands is  $\sim 3\%$ , which is above the average model uncertainty in this region of  $\sim 0.7\%$  (Figure 4ii). The bands are spaced roughly  $\sim 800$  km apart, thus resolvable given the lateral resolution length of  $\sim 450$  km in this region (Figures 4iii–4v). The resolution is laterally also very isotropic here (Figure 3b), implying that these bands do not arise from a lateral resolution smearing effect. As we applied crustal corrections to the data, it is also unlikely to arise from a leakage of crustal structure down to the upper mantle. To further reinforce this argument, we repeat our SOLA inferences for  $\delta \ln V_{SV}$  structure without the crustal correction, as well as for  $\delta \ln V_{SV}$  structure that only arises from the crustal correction term (Figure S5 in Supporting Information S1). The banded pattern is already visible in the model without crustal correction (Figure S5a in Supporting Information S1). Our tests indicate that the banded pattern is not introduced or reinforced by the crustal correction (Figure S5b in Supporting Information S1). However, the crust could still cause the bands if the crustal model, or the crustal correction strategy, is insufficient for removing the crustal effect.

To the best of our knowledge, this banded pattern at lithosphere-asthenosphere boundary depths has not been seen or interpreted in existing tomography models (Figure S1 in Supporting Information S1). We argue that we can resolve it in SS3DPacific thanks to the combined use of finite-frequency theory and SOLA inferences. The detailed sensitivity in the volumetric sensitivity kernels (Figure 2c) adds physical information, explaining why we are able to obtain a coherent Pacific-wide model with only 44,917 measurements, compared with state-of-the-art surface-wave tomographic studies that typically use millions of measurements. The SOLA method is also able to extract relevant information from the data at every target location. Particularly, by designing the target kernels, we have prioritized a larger, but isotropic resolution over a smaller, but highly anisotropic and complex resolution.

Models for the cooling of the lithosphere usually assume a laterally infinite plate, only accounting for vertical diffusion of heat. Scaling analysis indicates that lateral diffusion in the direction of plate motion can be neglected (Parsons & Sclater, 1977), and that no diffusion is expected perpendicular to this if the temperature is constant. However, fracture zones produce lateral offsets in lithospheric age and thus thermal structure that are likely incompatible with these assumptions. The fact that we observe the banded pattern in SS3DPacific indicates that lateral diffusion of heat across fracture zones is not strong enough to smooth out the age (and thus thermal) offsets. Further investigation of this would require a numerical model of the thermal structure including offsets in the lithospheric age, and a comparison to the banded pattern observed in SS3DPacific. In turn, the tomographic observations could be used as new constraints on the parameters of such modeling of the oceanic lithosphere.

In the southern part of the cross-section (Figure 4), the anomalous bands appear to follow a consistent, expected relationship between age and wavespeed (younger lithosphere being slower and older lithosphere being faster). However, in the northern part (between the Mendocino and Clipperton fracture zones), we note a more complex relationship. While uncertainty and resolution limit our ability to interpret these trends, it suggests that additional non-negligible physical processes may occur at the fracture zones themselves. This is supported by other work that suggests that important changes in the structure of the lithosphere might occur at fracture zones. For example, the nature of volcanism along volcanic arcs has been observed to vary above subducted fracture zones (Manea et al., 2014), fracture zones appear to be more seismically active than thought (Bohnenstiehl et al., 2004), and may have higher heat flow than the average oceanic domain (Gregory et al., 2023). More relevant to this work, they may be subject to fluid movements, hydration, metasomatism and water induced melting (Schmeling et al., 2017), potentially leading to local thinning of the lithosphere (Wang et al., 2022). However, it is difficult to explain the faster bands based on these processes. Alternatively, the bands may be the signature of small-scale convection that nucleates from instabilities triggered by age offsets at fracture zones (Dumoulin et al., 2004; Huang et al., 2003), which could explain both low and fast velocity anomalies. While these processes occur on shorter spatial scales than SS3DPacific can resolve, it is clear that the observed banded pattern in  $\delta \ln V_{SV}$  hints at complexities in the structure of the lithosphere across fracture zones.

## 6. Discussion and Concluding Remarks

Resolution and uncertainties allow us to quantitatively assess the robustness of different features and to compare SS3DPacific to model predictions of lithospheric cooling. Our new framework makes it possible to account for 3D resolution (Latallier, Zaroli, et al., 2025), in contrast to previous lateral, 2D approaches, opening up novel discussions about vertical resolution effects in surface-wave tomography. Resolution analysis shows that strong vertical resolution smearing makes it harder to distinguish cooling models, a limitation that is likely shared with other surface-wave tomography models. A clear step forward would be the inclusion of overtones in our methodology, to better illuminate deeper mantle structure and thus potentially reduce the vertical resolution smearing. While some other tomography models do include overtone data (see Table S1 in Supporting Information S1), in the absence of resolution information for these, it is difficult to assess at present whether these data reduce the vertical resolution smearing sufficiently to discriminate between the two cooling models.

Laterally, SS3DPacific features a pattern of anomalous bands aligned with oceanic fracture zones that produce offsets in the age of the lithosphere. That we still observe the bands at older ages indicates weak lateral heat transfer across fracture zones. Thermal modeling including lateral heat diffusion across fracture zones would help to better understand the physical characteristics of the lithosphere. Particularly, not all fracture zones have the same seismic signature; some align with velocity lows, others with velocity highs, reflecting possibly that different mechanisms occur at the fracture zones. If fracture zones represented pathways for fluids, such as melt or

water, the lithosphere along fracture zones may reheat and be rejuvenated or undergo cooling and metasomatism, respectively. Alternatively, age offsets may help to trigger small-scale convection.

To better investigate processes occurring at fracture zones, new seismic constraints could be derived using the same approach as here. In particular, mapping both  $V_P$  and  $V_S$  with the same local resolution (Restelli et al., 2024; Serra et al., 2025) to obtain robust  $V_P/V_S$  ratios could provide constraints on enrichment in serpentine along fracture zones. Imaging radial anisotropy through joint inversion of Love and Rayleigh waves would also provide constraints on fracture alignments along fracture zones. Finally, mapping attenuation would make it possible to map melt migration across the fracture zones.

The age-dependent structure of the oceanic lithosphere remains to be explored. Lateral complexities in the lithospheric structure indicate that fracture zones may play a significant role. Detailed seismological images with better resolution (laterally and vertically) will be needed to unravel the complex cooling history of the oceanic lithosphere. Such images will have to be accompanied by robust uncertainty and resolution information to ensure interpretations are free from methodological biases.

### Conflict of Interest

The authors declare no conflicts of interest relevant to this study.

### Data Availability Statement

Seismic source solutions were downloaded from the Global Centroid Moment Tensor (GCMT) Catalog (Dziwonski et al., 1981; Ekström et al., 2012). The facilities of the EarthScope Consortium were used to access waveforms and related metadata and derived data products. These services are funded through the National Science Foundation's Seismological Facility for the Advancement of Geoscience (SAGE) Award under Cooperative Agreement EAR-1724509. Citations for networks used are provided in the Supporting Information S1. To compute the finite-frequency sensitivity kernels, we used software provided by Ying Zhou (2009b), available via their webpage (<http://seismo.geos.vt.edu/software.html>). To compute the reference seismograms in a 1D radial Earth model, we used normal modes summation as implemented in MINEOS 1.0.2 (Masters et al., 2011) published under the GPL2 license. We thank the Computational Infrastructure for Geodynamics (<http://geodynamics.org>), which is funded by the National Science Foundation under awards EAR-0949446, EAR-1550901, and EAR-2149126, for making the code available. The SOLA tomography code used in this study consists of running the LSQR algorithm of Paige and Saunders (1982) with specific input matrices and vectors. These inputs can be constructed from the sensitivity matrix and target kernels as detailed in Appendix A1 of (Zaroli, 2016). The LSQR code is freely downloadable from the webpage of the Systems Optimisation Laboratory (Stanford University): <https://web.stanford.edu/group/SOL/software/lsqr/>. A pre-constructed software package for finite-frequency surface-wave SOLA tomography is available at Latallerie, Zaroli, et al. (2025a). We made extensive use of Ubuntu 20.04.6 LTS (<https://ubuntu.com/>), Python packages Numpy (Harris et al., 2020), Scipy (Virtanen et al., 2020), Pandas (The pandas development team, 2023, and Matplotlib (Hunter, 2007). The surface-wave phase-delay measurements, SS3DPacific model files, and plotting scripts are available at Latallerie, Koelemeijer, et al. (2025).

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