



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI  
DI TRIESTE



# Lithospheric modeling in Iran from gravity and magnetic data including seismic tomographic data: first results.

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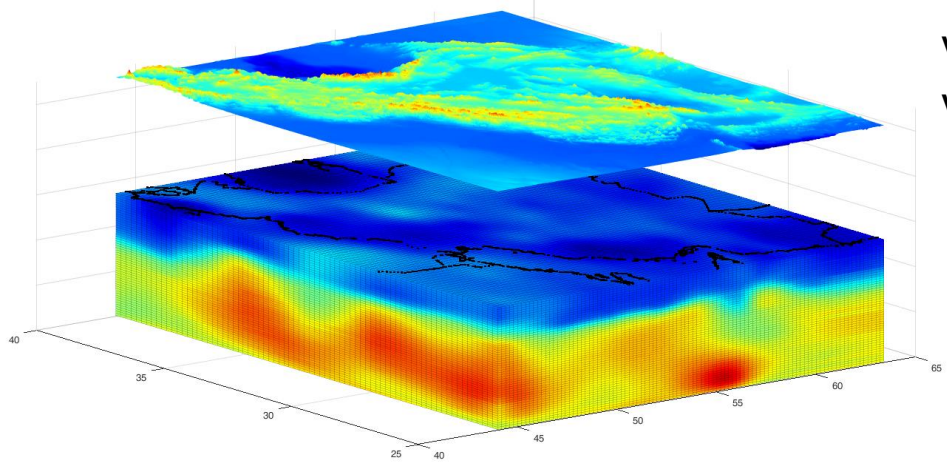
2. Geomatics Research & Development srl, Lomazzo, Italy



to PICO presentation



Seismic tomography starting model

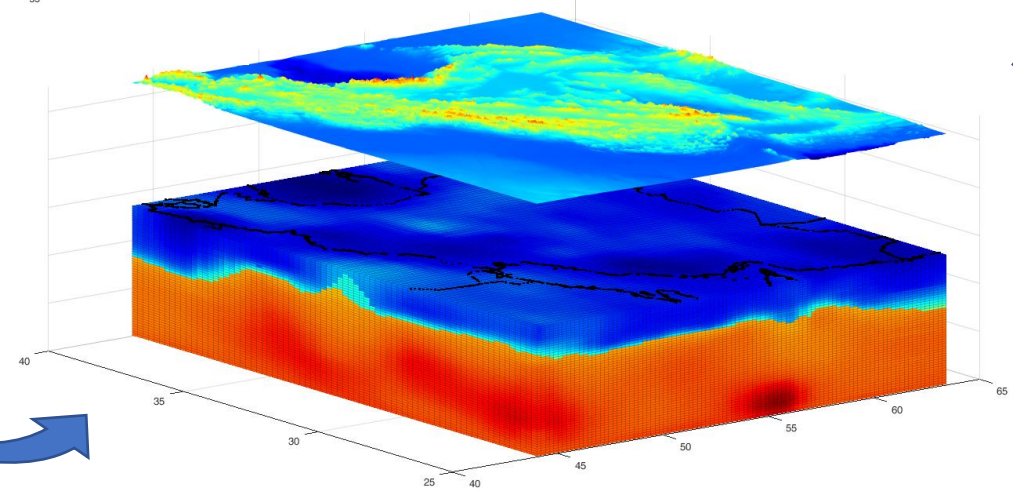


Vs min: 2.06 km/s  
Vs max: 4.98 km/s

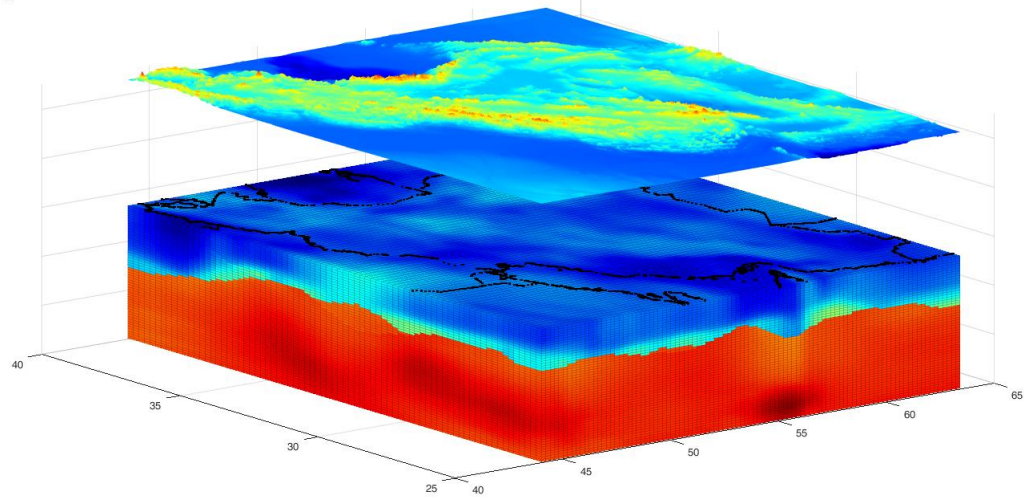
(top of the cube at 20 km depth)

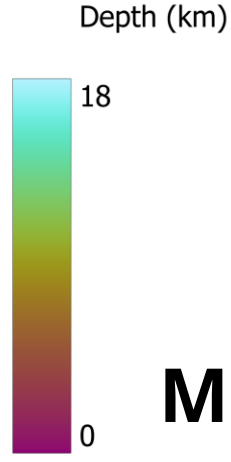
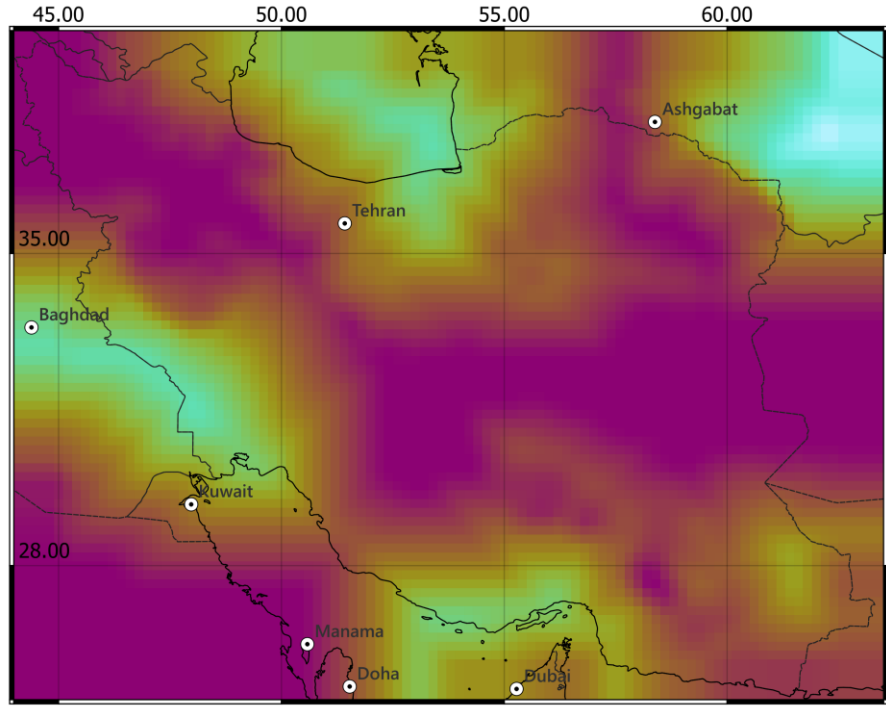
**3D joint gravity-  
magnetic bayesian  
inversion**

**Recalculated  
Brocher relation  
+ Perple\_X  
mantle modeling**

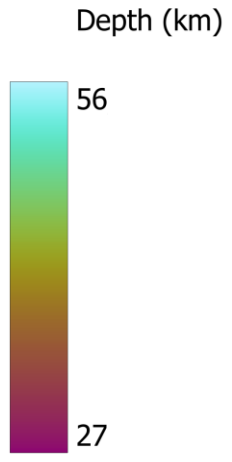
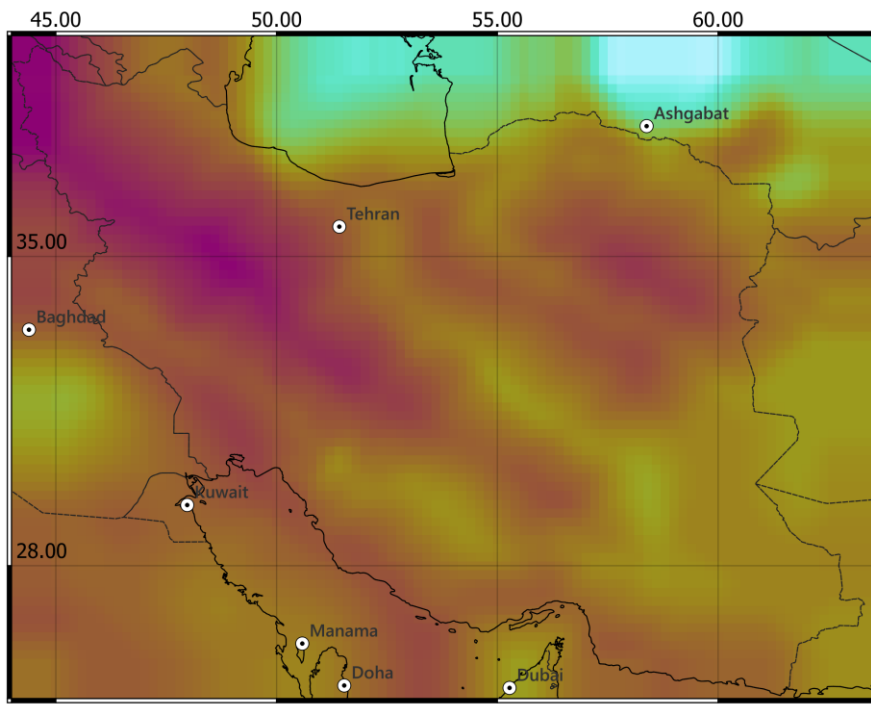


Final density model  
rho min: 2324.3 kg/m<sup>3</sup>  
rho max: 3413.5 kg/m<sup>3</sup>





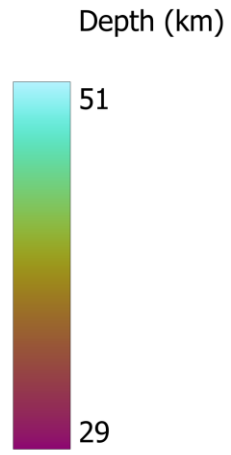
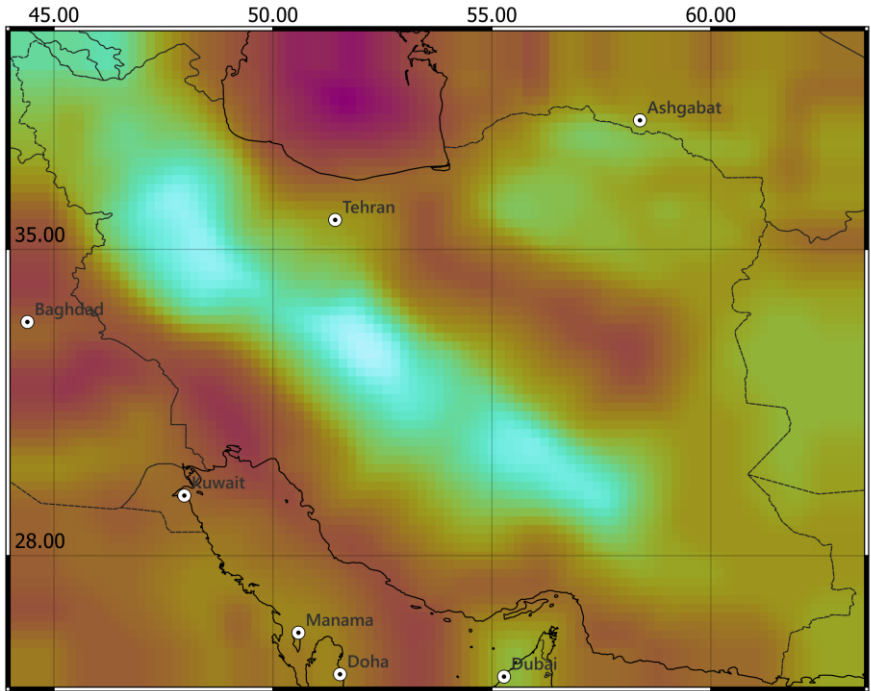
**Moho**



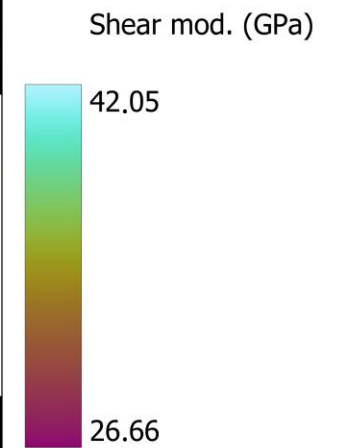
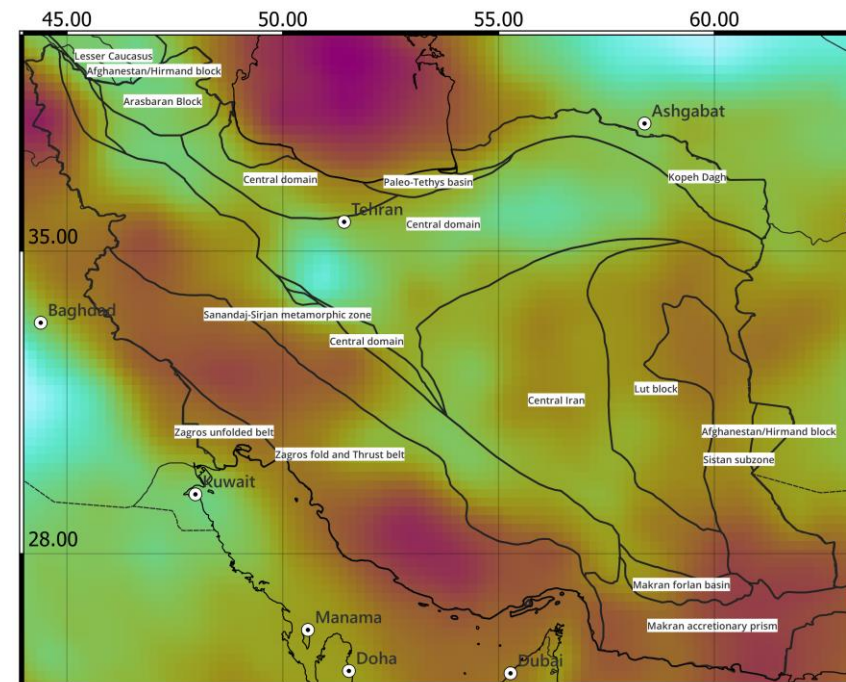
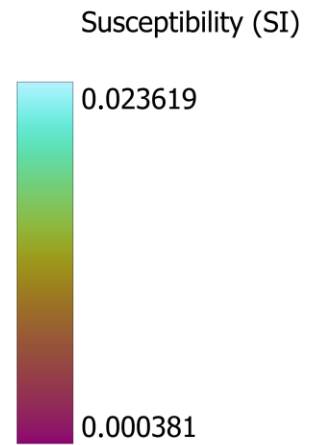
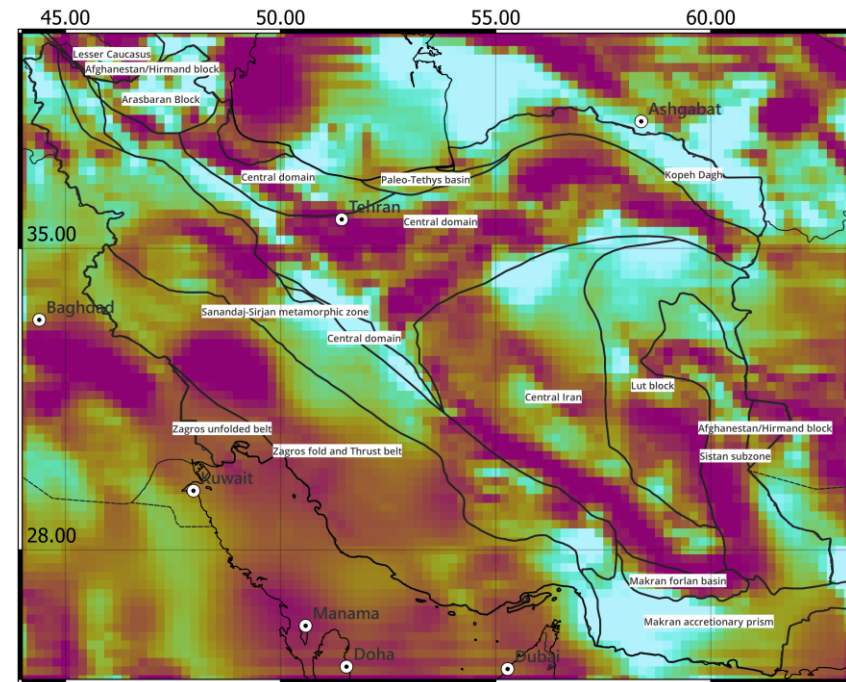
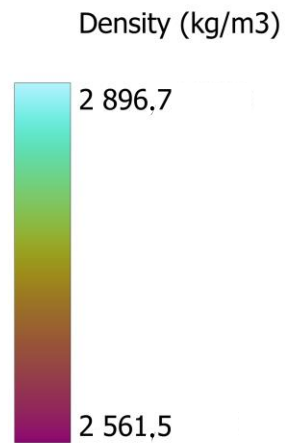
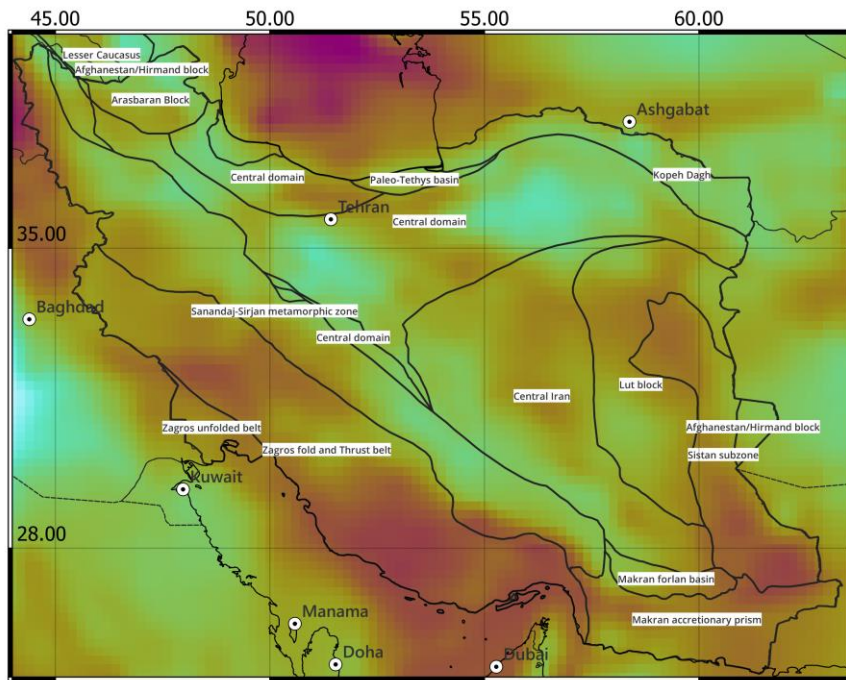
**Sediments**



**Curie**



- Inverted (density and susceptibility) and calculated (shear modulus) models
- (slice at at 20 km depth)



# PICO presentation

## Interactive outline

**1. Geological introduction**

**3. Conversion formula**

**2. Datasets used**

**4. Results & Conclusion**



# Tectonic setting

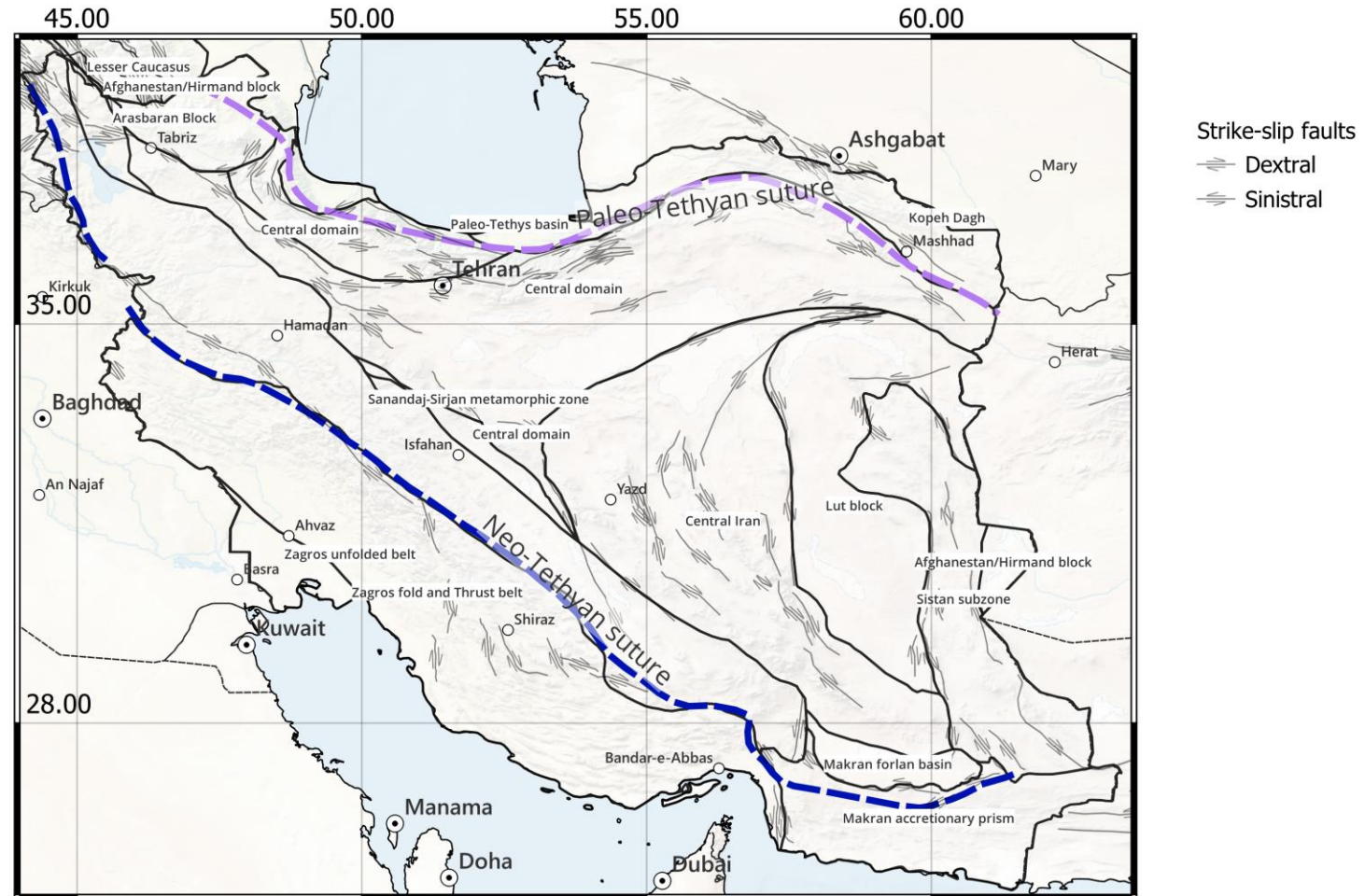
Iranian plateau: zone of continental deformation formed by the Arabian-Eurasian collision (25 Ma).

Evolution associated to opening and closure of Paleo- and Neo-Tethys oceans.

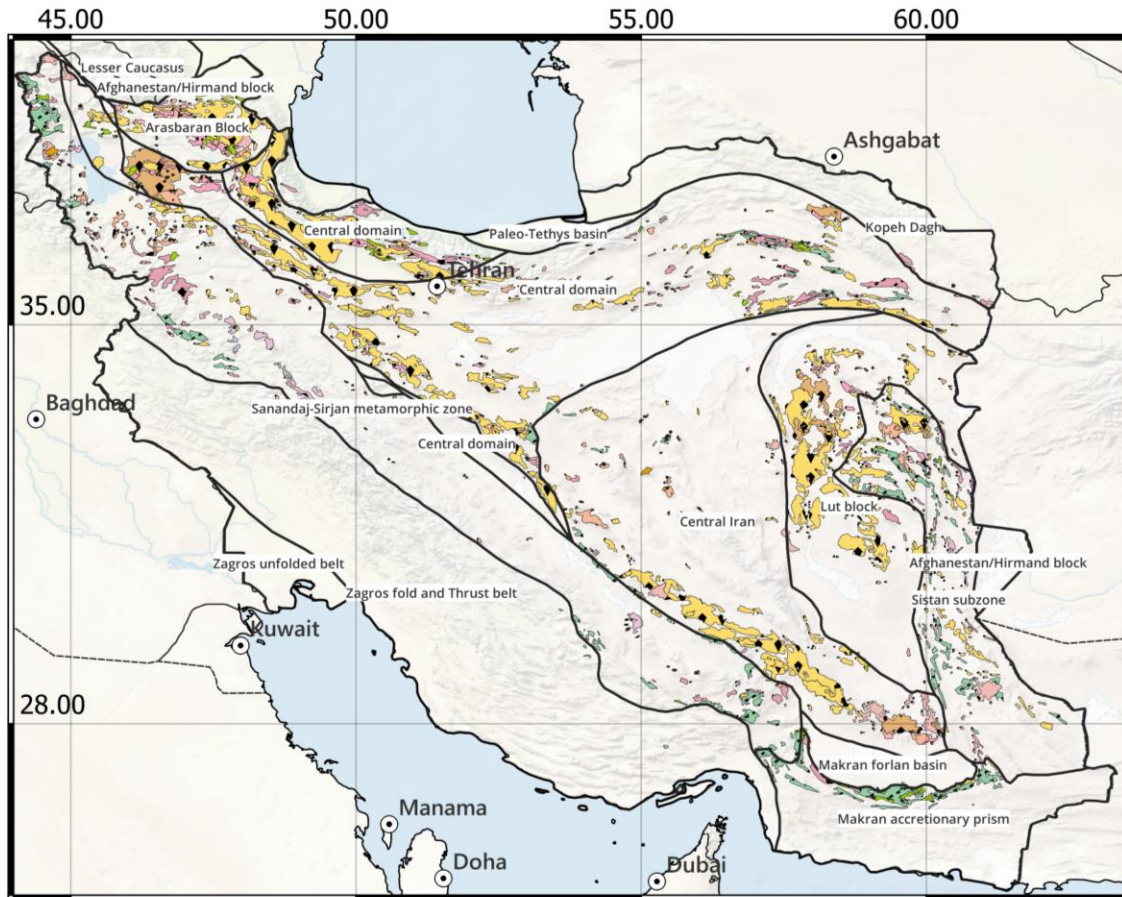
Iranian plateau formed with the coalescing of island-arcs and continental fragments of Gondwana.

Closing of Neo-Tethys and Arabian-Eurasian collision began in early Miocene.

Northward motion of Arabian plate formed the Zagros Fold Belt and Iranian Plateau NE of Bitlis-Zagros suture.



# Iranian magmatism



## Magmatic outcrops

- acid
- ae
- ai
- basic
- be
- bi
- CzMzi
- CzMzv
- Czv
- ie
- ii
- inter
- Io
- Mzi
- Mzo
- MzPzi
- Mzv
- pCmi
- pCmv
- Pzv
- Qv
- Ti
- To
- Tv
- vs

- Major volcanism in the area is Tertiary (along UDMA\*, in the Lut block, and in the Central Domain following the principal tectonic lineaments).
- Mesozoic volcanism is also relevant, mainly in the north-west of the area, close to Urmia lake.
- Ophiolites outcrop in the Makran area and in Sistan subzone

\*Urumieh Doktor magmatic arc (UDMA) is a magmatic outcrops area across Iran from NW to SE, parallel to Zagros belt



# Datasets used

- Seismic tomography (Kaviani et al., 2020)

Seismic tomography Resolution:

Spatial Resolution =  $0.25^\circ$  (~27 km)

Vertical Resolution = 1 km to 7 km

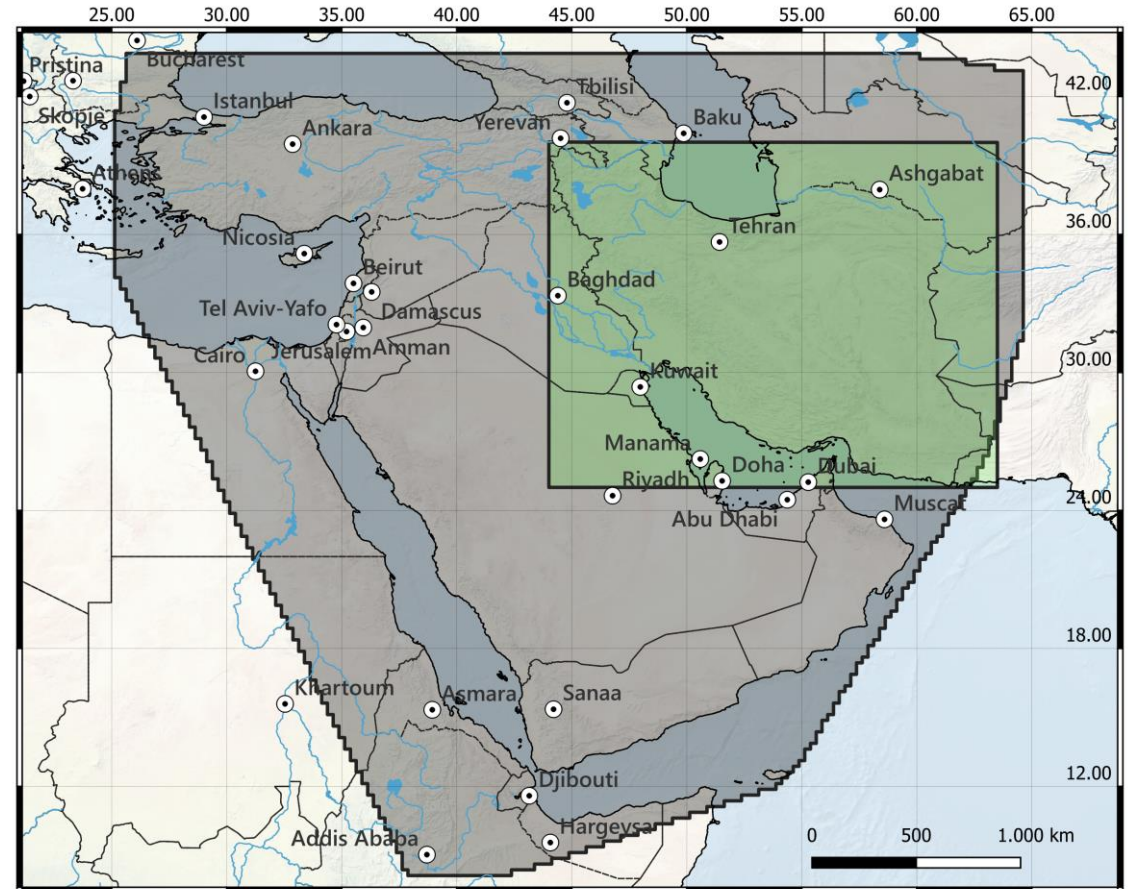
Final Cube dimension (76x98x75):

Latitude =  $25 \div 40^\circ\text{N}$ ;

Longitude =  $44 \div 63.4^\circ\text{E}$ ;

Depth max = 105 km

We conserve vertical resolution from seismic original model. Final spatial resolution is  $0.2^\circ$  (~22 km)



Area covered by the regional tomography (black area). Green box is the area selected for this work.

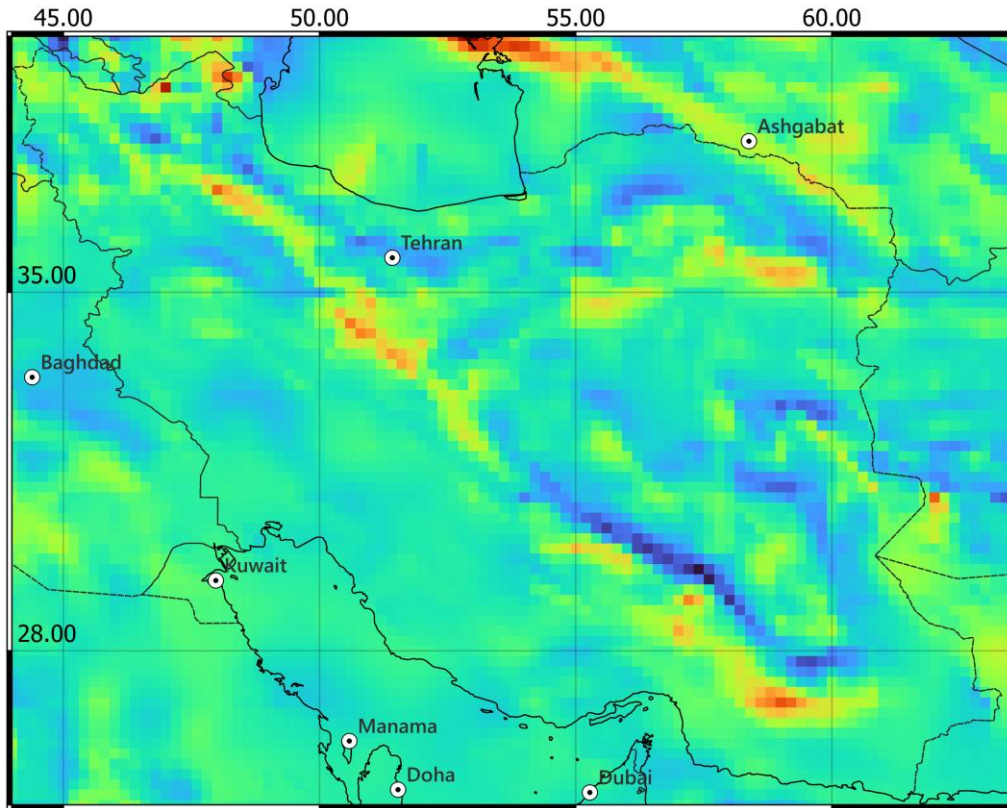
- Kaviani et al., 2020, *Crustal and uppermost mantle shear wave velocity structure beneath the Middle East from surface wave tomography*. *Geophysical Journal International*, 221(2), 1349-1365.





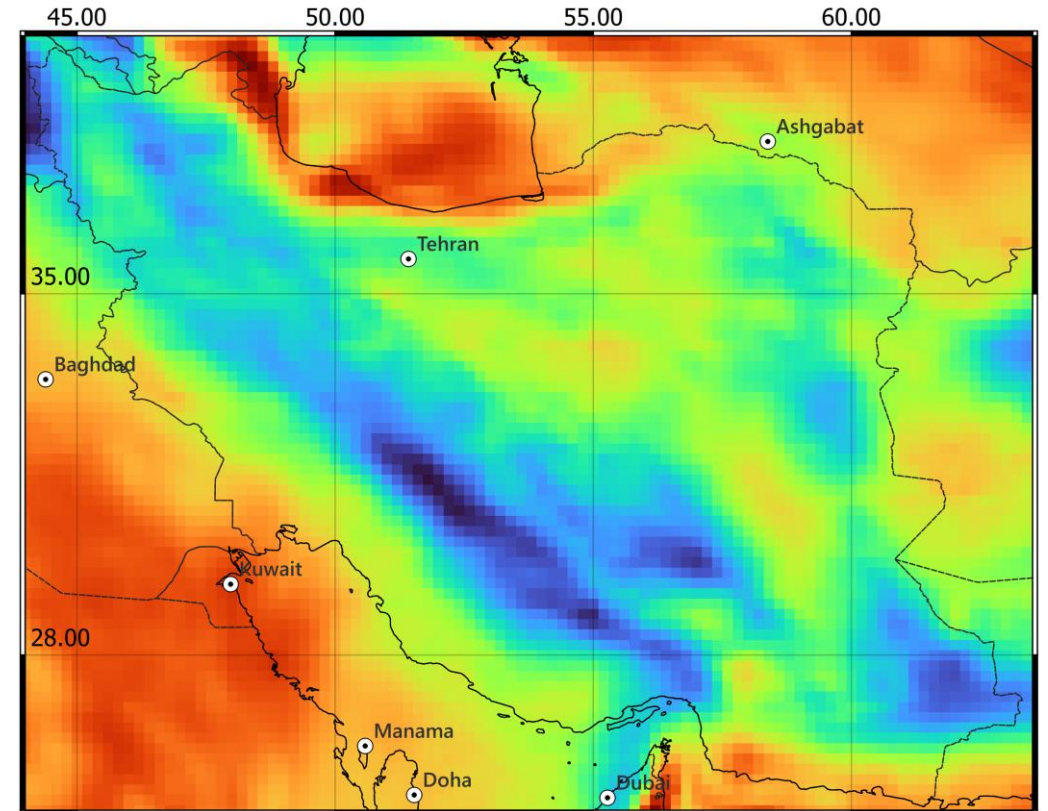
- Zingerle, P., Pail, R., Gruber, T. *et al.* The combined global gravity field model XGM2019e. *J Geod* **94**, 66 (2020). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00190-020-01398-0>

- Brian Meyer; Richard Saltus; and Arnaud Chulliat. 2017: EMAG2v3: Earth Magnetic Anomaly Grid (2-arc-minute resolution). Version 3. NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information. <https://doi.org/10.7289/V5H70CVX>



**Magnetic observation** (EMAG2 v3, measured at 4 km continuous altitude upon continents)

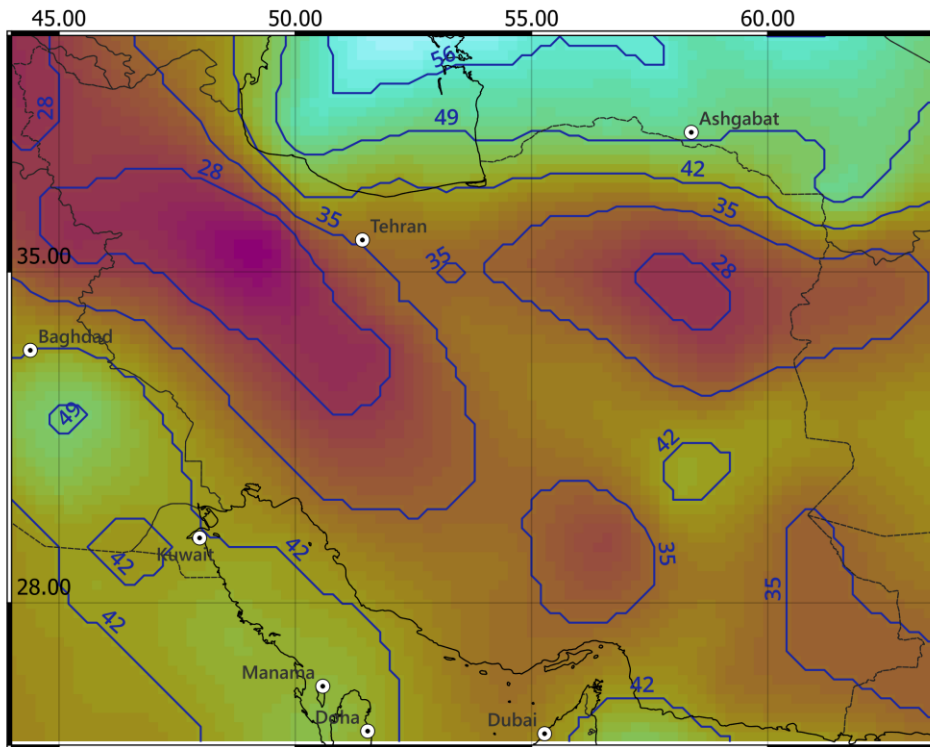
**Gravity observation** (XGM2019e, reduced by lower degree < 12)



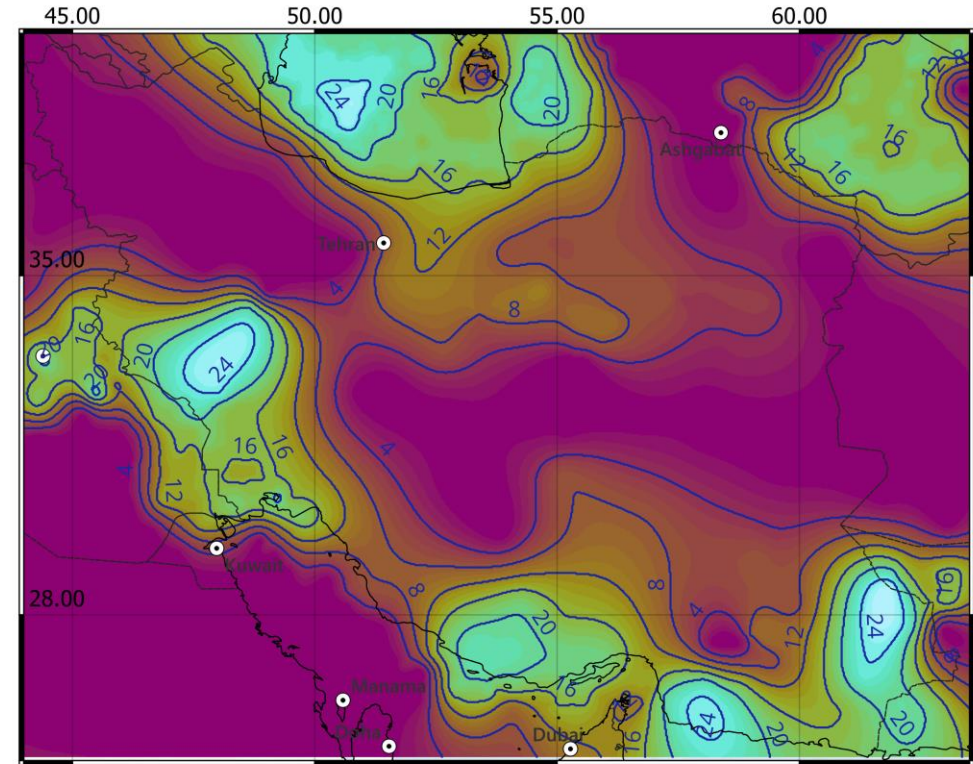
- Irandoust, M. A., Priestley, K., & Sobouti, F. (2022). High-resolution lithospheric structure of the Zagros collision zone and Iranian Plateau. *Journal of Geophysical Research: Solid Earth*, 127, e2022JB025009. <https://doi.org/10.1029/2022JB025009>

- Mousavi, N., Ardestani, V.E., 2023, 3D map of surface heat flow, low-temperature basins and Curie point depth of the Iranian plateau: Hydrocarbon reservoirs and iron deposits, *Journal of the Earth and Space Physics*, 48(4), 137-150. <https://doi.org/10.22059/jesphys.2023.348000.1007453>

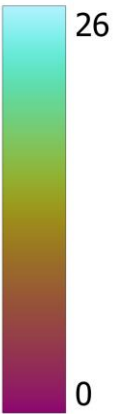
### Curie depth (Mousavi & Ardestani, 2023)



Depth (km)



Depth (km)



### Sediment base depth (Irandoust et al., 2022)



# Moho definition

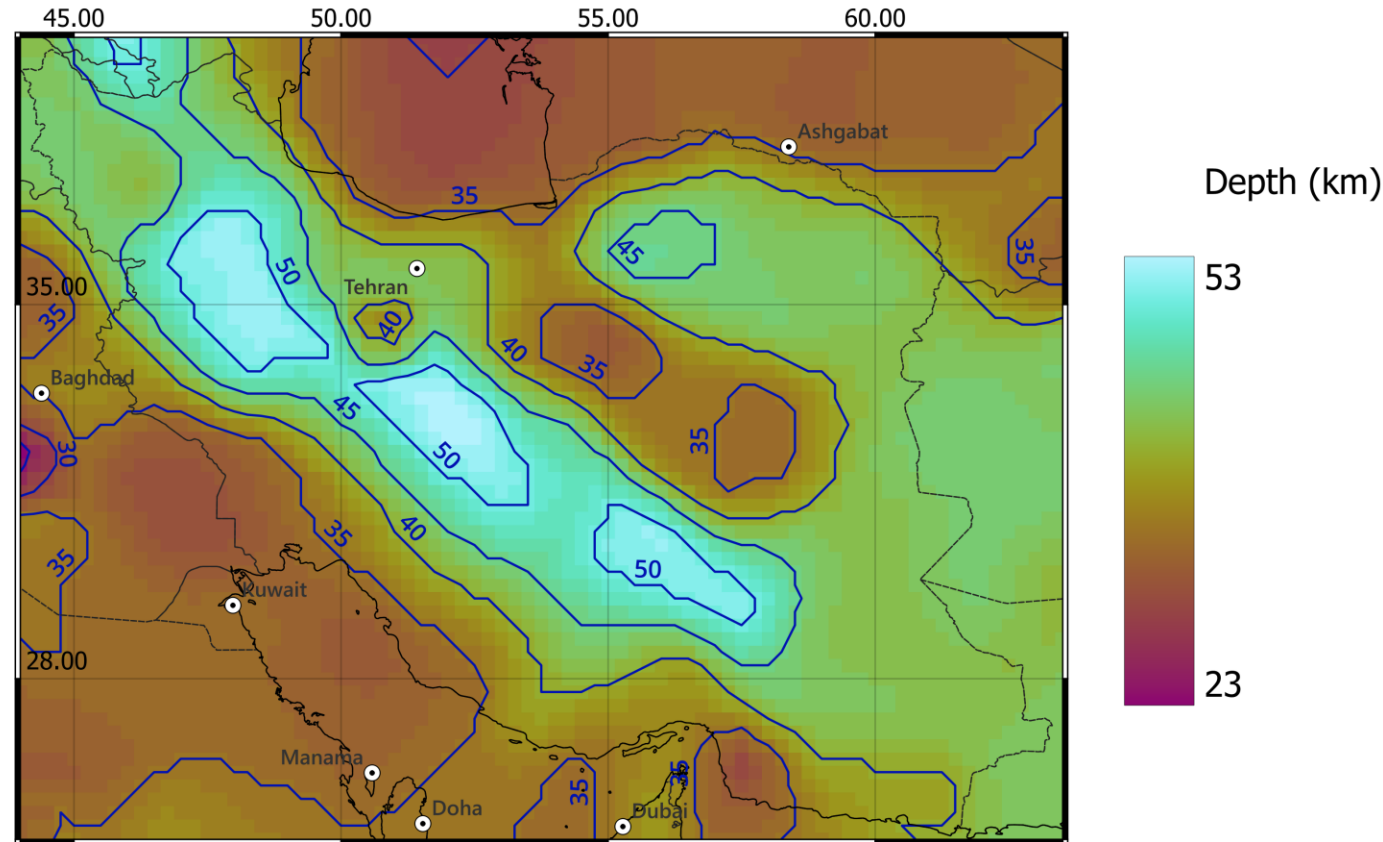
**Gradient Method** (Tadiello & Braitenberg, 2021)



Determination of the Moho depth studying the vertical velocity variations for each node.



Research of the maximum vertical gradient, within a determined velocity range.



- Tadiello D. and Braitenberg C.; 2021: *Gravity modeling of the Alpine lithosphere affected by magmatism based on seismic tomography*. *Solid Earth*, 12(2), 539-561.



# Density conversion

crust

Water: 2670 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

Sediments }  
Cont. crust } Brocher's relation

$$V_p (km/s) = 0.9409 + 2.0947V_s - 0.8206V_s^2 + 0.2683V_s^3 - 0.0251V_s^4$$

$$\rho (g/cm^3) = 1.6612V_p - 0.4721V_p^2 + 0.0671V_p^3 - 0.0043V_p^4 + 0.000106V_p^5$$

mantle

Perple\_X modeling

Na <sub>2</sub> O	CaO	FeO	MgO	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	SiO <sub>2</sub>	(%)
0.13	1.90	7.90	41.60	2.00	45.20	

Mantle velocities from tomography compared with synthetic upper mantle velocities and densities

- Thomas M. Brocher; Empirical Relations between Elastic Wavespeeds and Density in the Earth's Crust. Bulletin of the Seismological Society of America 2005;; 95 (6): 2081-2092. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1785/0120050077>

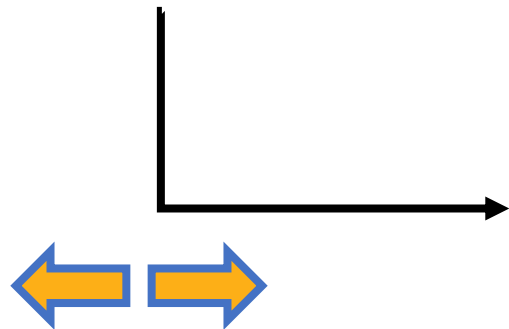
- Connolly, J. A. D. (2009), The geodynamic equation of state: What and how, Geochem. Geophys. Geosyst., 10, Q10014, doi:10.1029/2009GC002540.



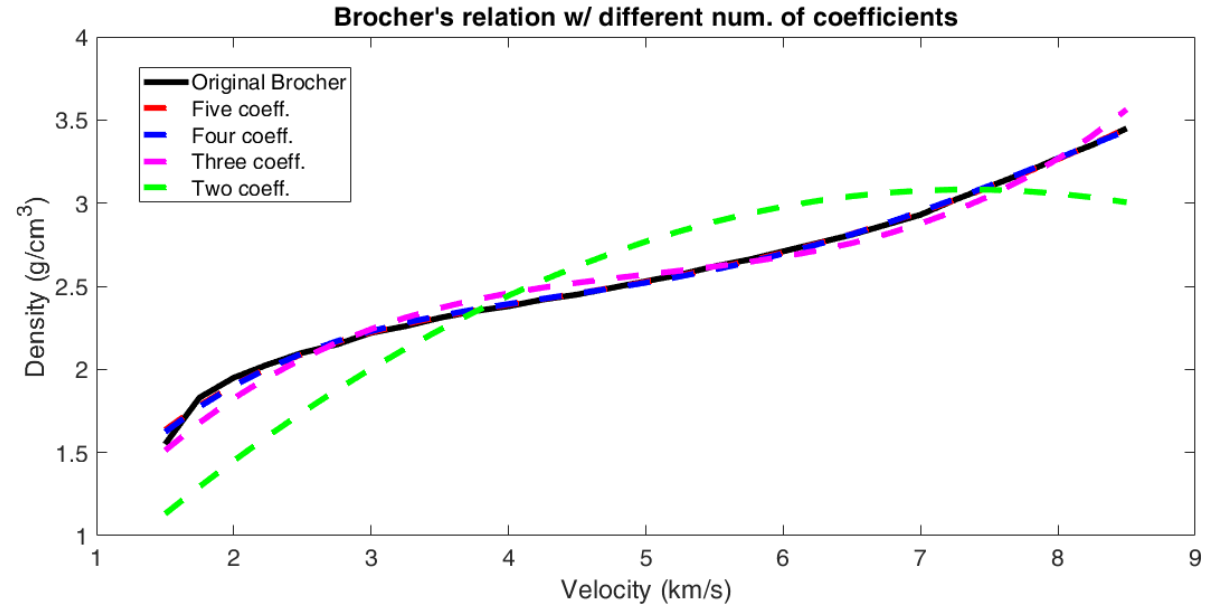
# Statistical inference

- Before applying Brocher's Equation, we try to simplify it with statistical inference.
- Applying Fischer's Law, we have demonstrated the possibility to delete the last term of the equation.

We found other parameters and defined a new relation for the  $V_p \rightarrow$  density conversion:



$$\rho = 1,6026V_p - 0,4164V_p^2 + 0,0493V_p^3 - 0,0020V_p^4$$



Results of the Brocher's relation (y-axis) with empirical velocity (x-axis): Black line represent the original relation, dashed lines represent our test, starting from five coefficients and eliminating ones at every iteration.

# Density inversion with Bayesian approach

- A probabilistic **Bayesian approach** is proposed for the joint gravity-magnetic inversion. It searches, from the a-priori model, the density distribution that minimizes the gravity and magnetic residuals.

$$P(\rho, \chi, \mathbf{L} | \Delta g^o, \Delta B^o) \propto \exp \left\{ -(\Delta g^o - A_g \rho)^T C_{\Delta g}^{-1} (\Delta g^o - A_g \rho) - (\Delta B^o - A_B \chi)^T C_{\Delta B}^{-1} (\Delta B^o - A_B \chi) - \frac{1}{\sigma_{\rho_\ell}^2} (\rho - \bar{\rho}_\ell)^2 - \frac{1}{\sigma_{\chi_\ell}^2} (\chi - \bar{\chi}_\ell)^2 - \gamma \sum_{i=1}^N s^2(L_i, \ell_i^o) - \lambda \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j \in \Delta_i} q^2(L_i, L_j) \right\} \cdot \delta_{[\bar{\rho}_\ell | 3\sigma_{\rho_\ell}^2]}(\rho) \delta_{[\bar{\chi}_\ell | 3\sigma_{\chi_\ell}^2]}(\chi)$$

- Marchetti, P., Sampietro, D., Capponi, M., Rossi, L., Reguzzoni, M., Porzio, F., Sansò, F. et al. (2019) *Lithological constrained gravity inversion. A Bayesian approach*. In: 81st EAGE Conference and Exhibition 2019. EAGE Publishing BV, 1-5

- Sansò, Fernando, and Daniele Sampietro. *Analysis of the gravity field: Direct and inverse problems*. Springer Nature, 2022.

- Sampietro, D., Capponi, M., Maurizio, G. (2022) *3D Bayesian Inversion of Potential Fields: The Quebec Oka Carbonatite Complex Case Study*. *Geosciences* 2022, 12, 382. <https://doi.org/10.3390/geosciences12100382>



# Elastic parameters calculation

- We use the final density model to calculate some elastic parameters.

$$\mu = V_s^2 \rho \quad \text{(Shear modulus)}$$

$$\lambda = \rho(V_p^2 - 2V_s^2) \quad \text{(1st Lamé parameter)}$$

$$\sigma = \lambda / [2(\lambda + \mu)] \quad \text{(Poisson's ratio)}$$

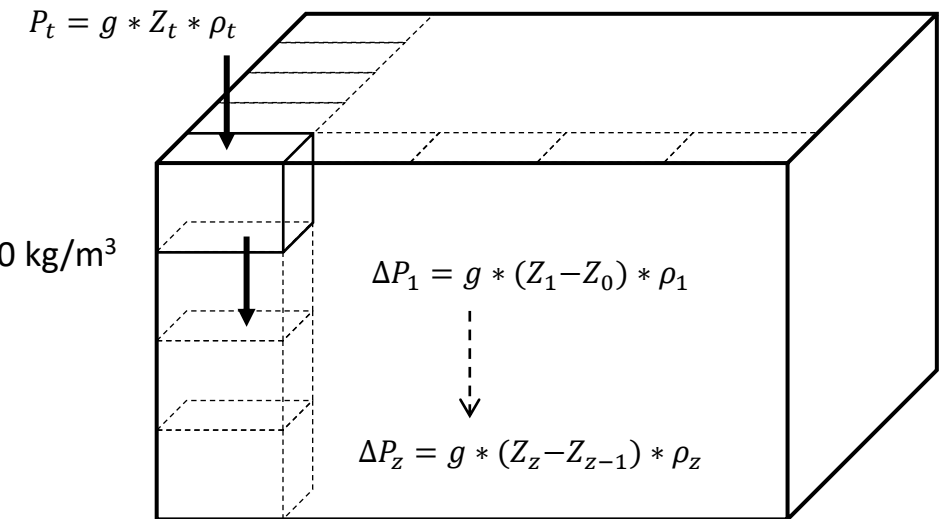
$\rho_t$  = topo density = 2670 kg/m<sup>3</sup>

$Z_t$  = topo height

$g$  = 9.81 m/s<sup>2</sup>

$Z$  = node depth

$\rho$  = node density



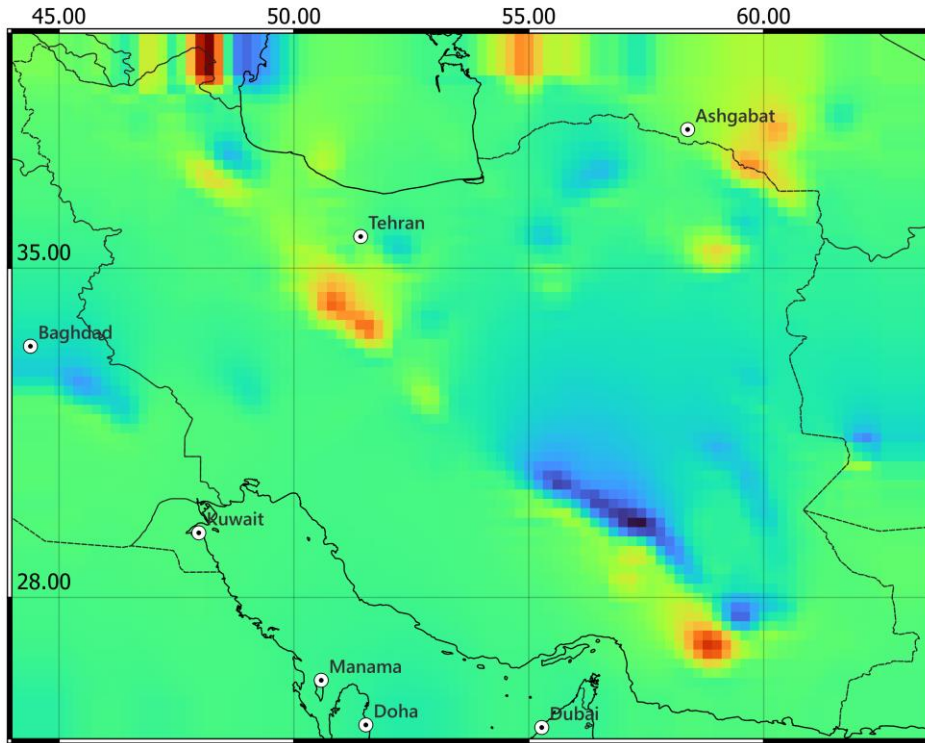
$$P = P_t + \sum_i^z \Delta P_i$$



# Inversion results

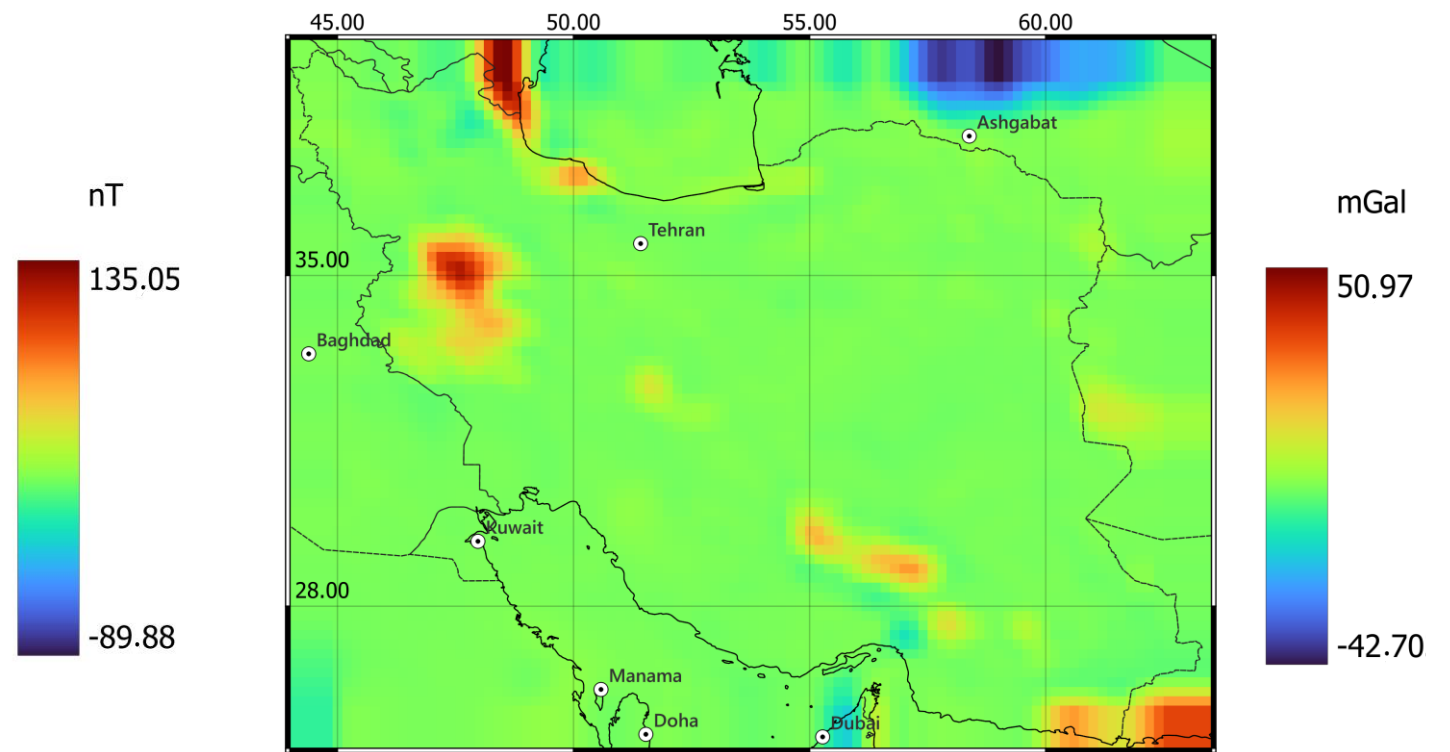
- Field residuals

Magnetic



Std: 15 nT

Gravity



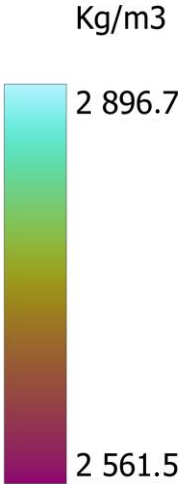
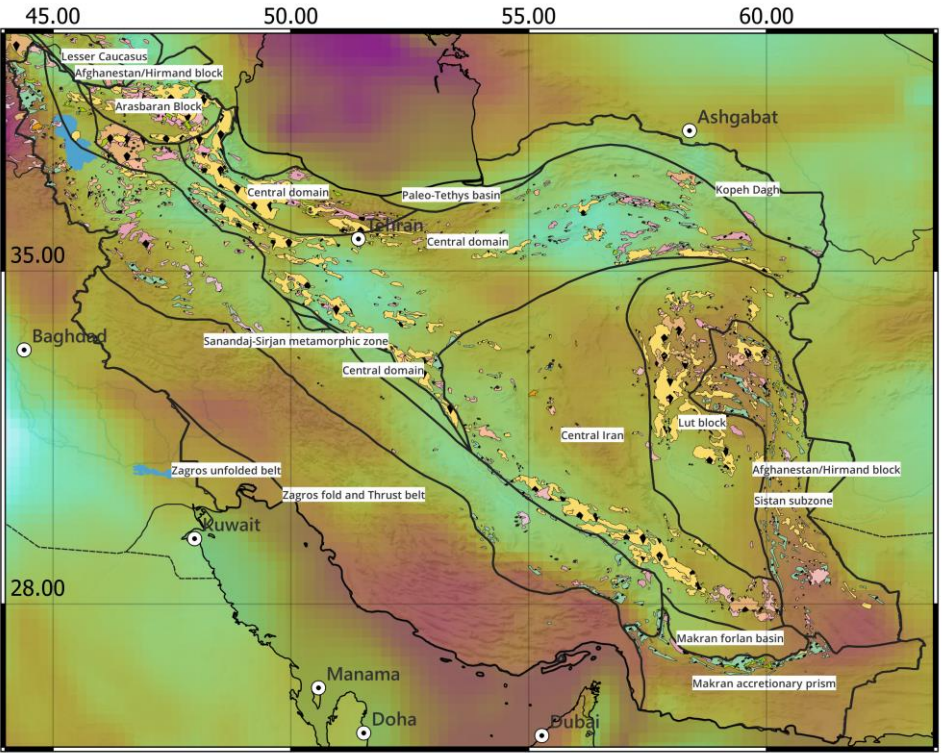
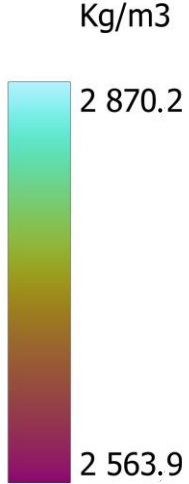
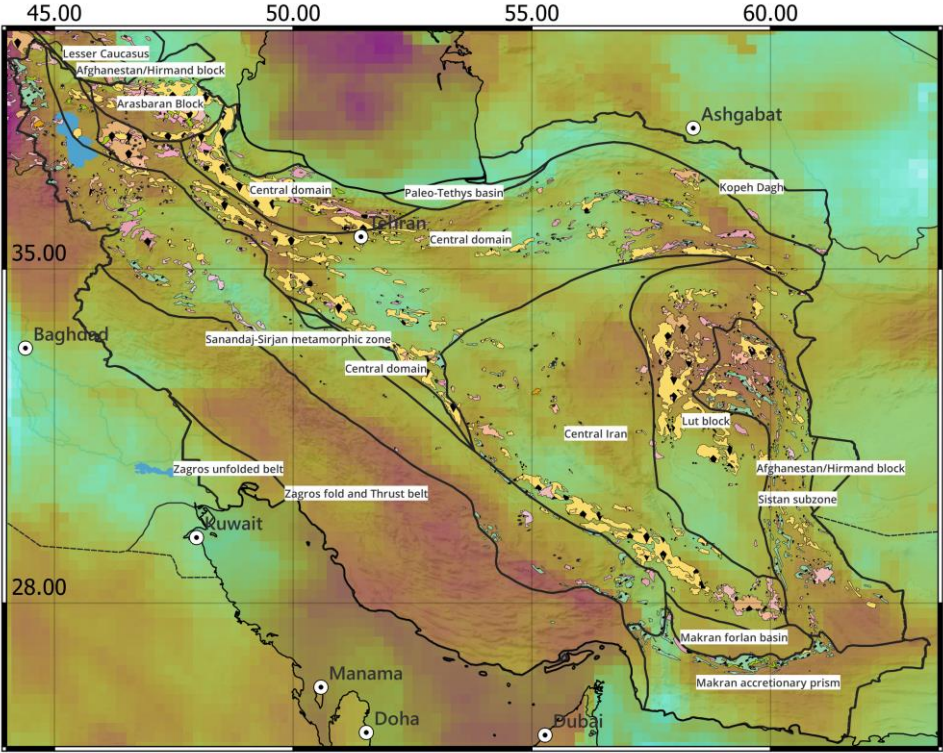
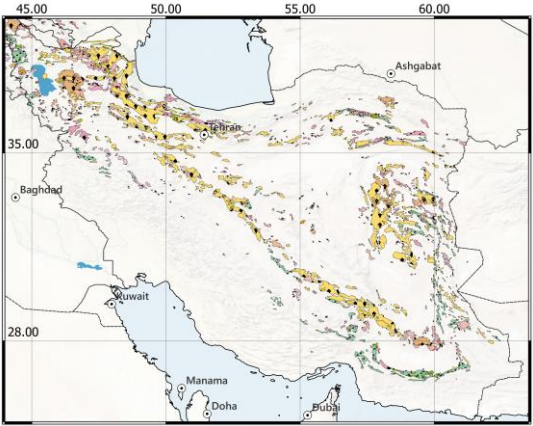
Std: 7 mGal





# Discussion of inverted density

- Upper crustal density partly correlates with magmatic outcrops

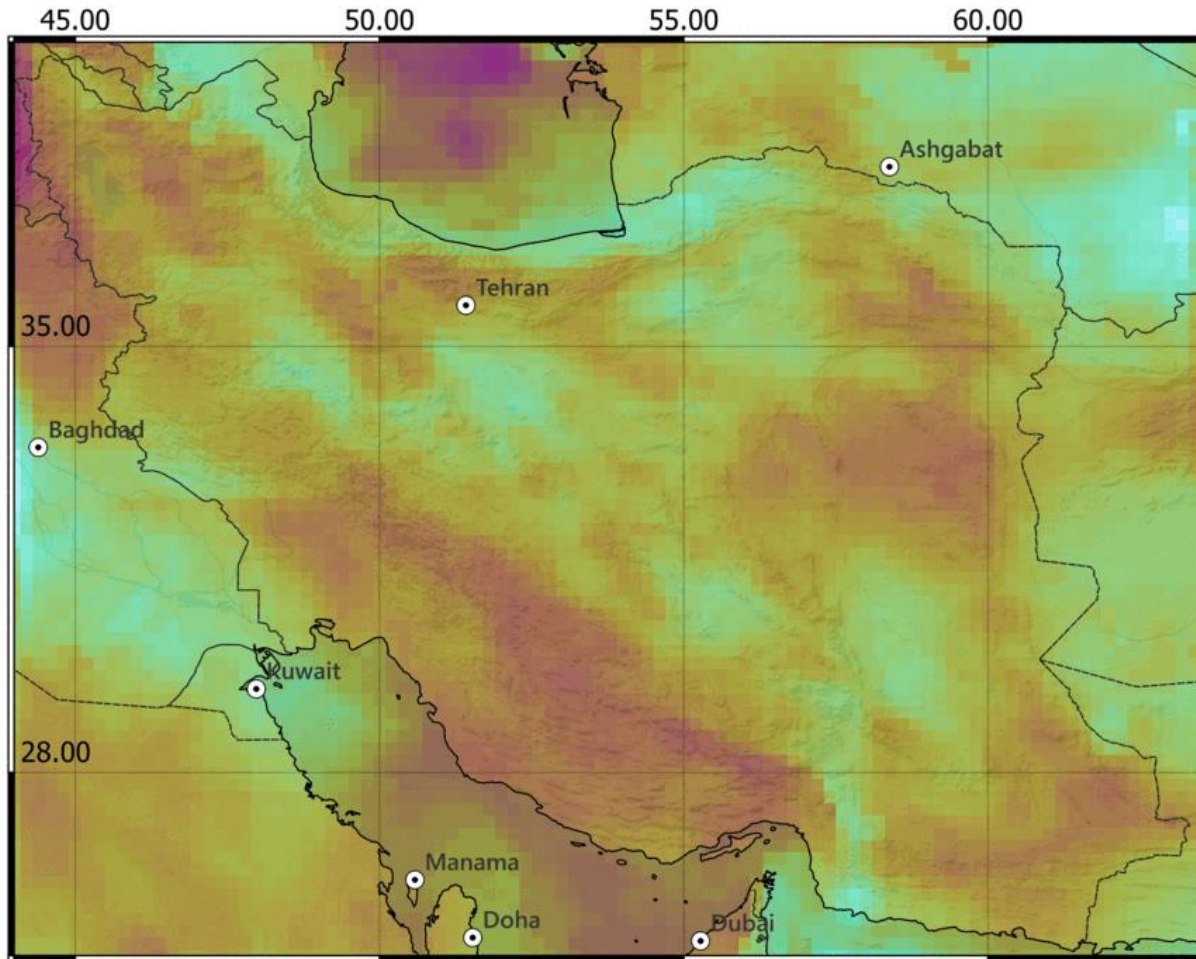


Crustal average density

Depth: 20 km



# Discussion of inverted density



Kg/m<sup>3</sup>

2 870.2

2 563.9

- Lower crustal density vs Tethyan suture:

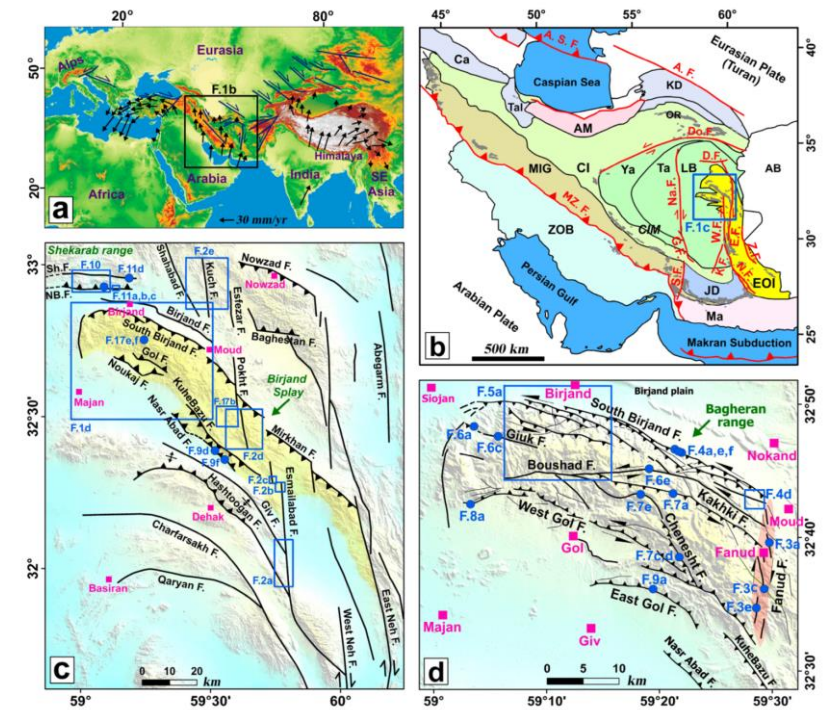
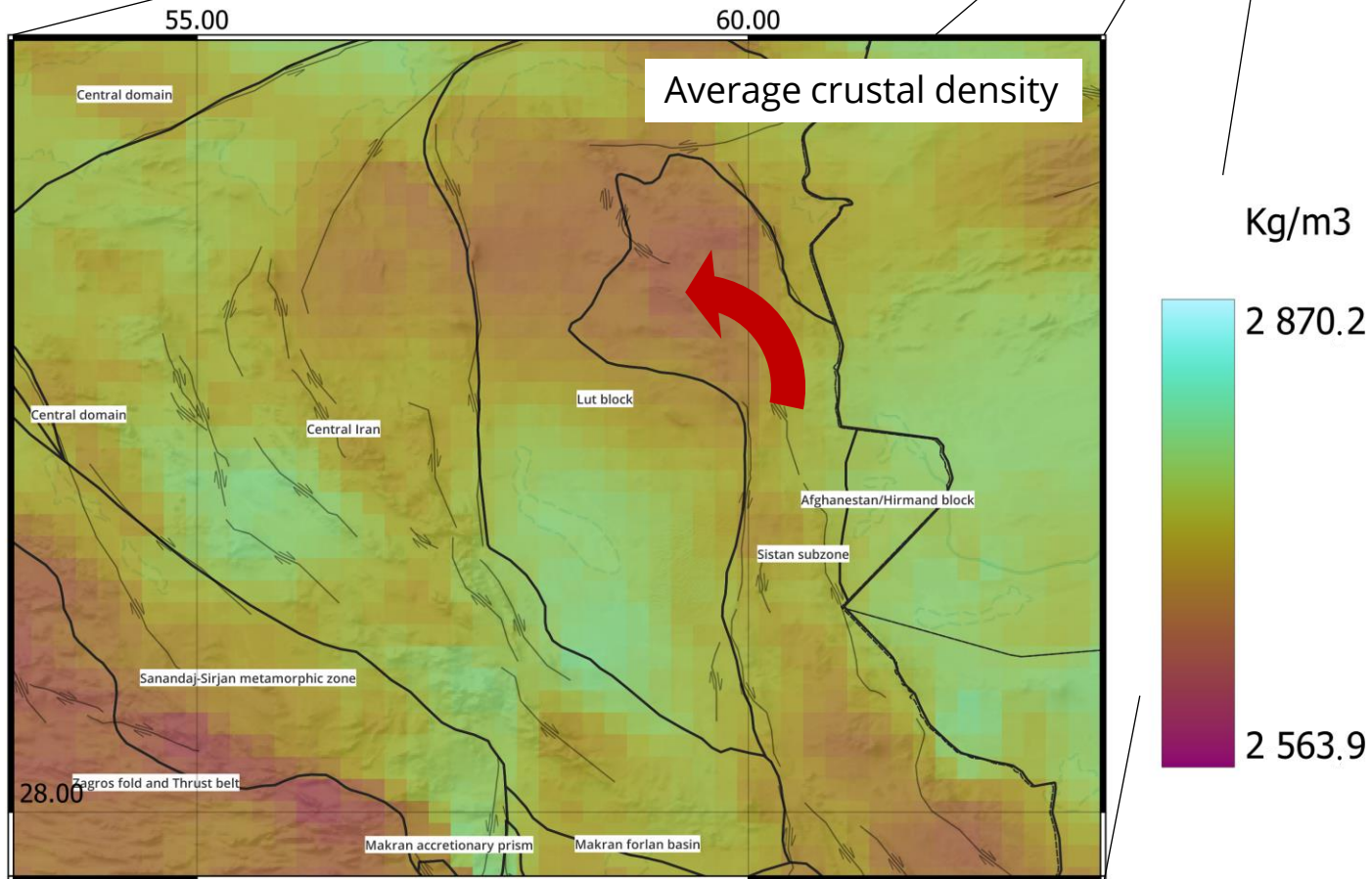
Paleo-Tethyan suture corresponds to a high-density trend.

Neo-Tethyan suture bounds a low-density area from an higher density zone



Crustal average density

# Lut Block focus

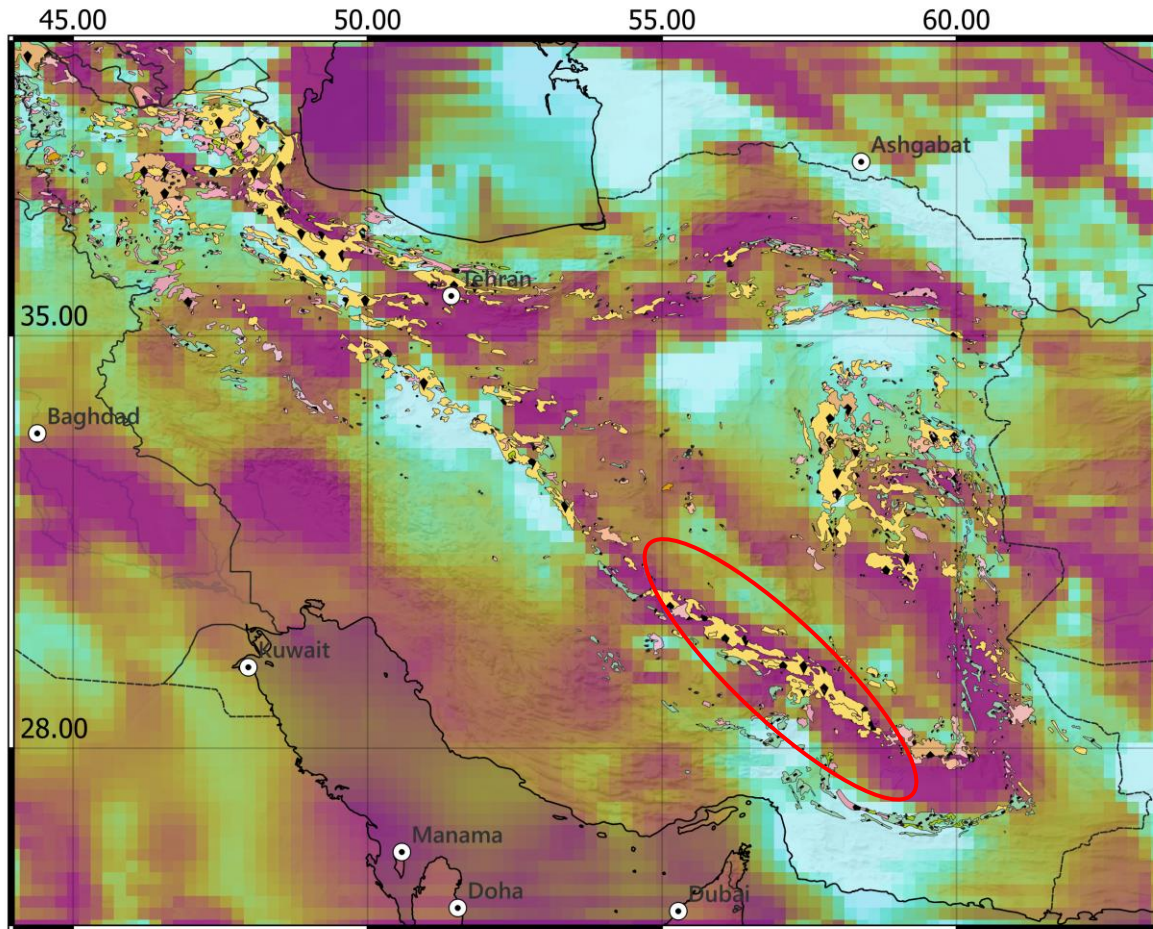


Tectonic of the area (from Rashidi et al., 2022)

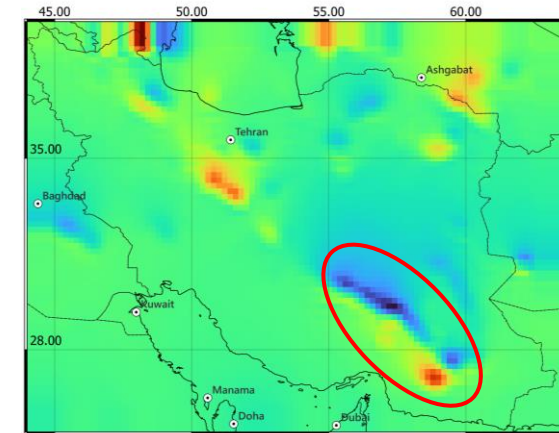
- Density vs strike-slip faulting. Rotation of Birjand block helped by the presence of the high-density body.



# Discussion of inverted susceptibility



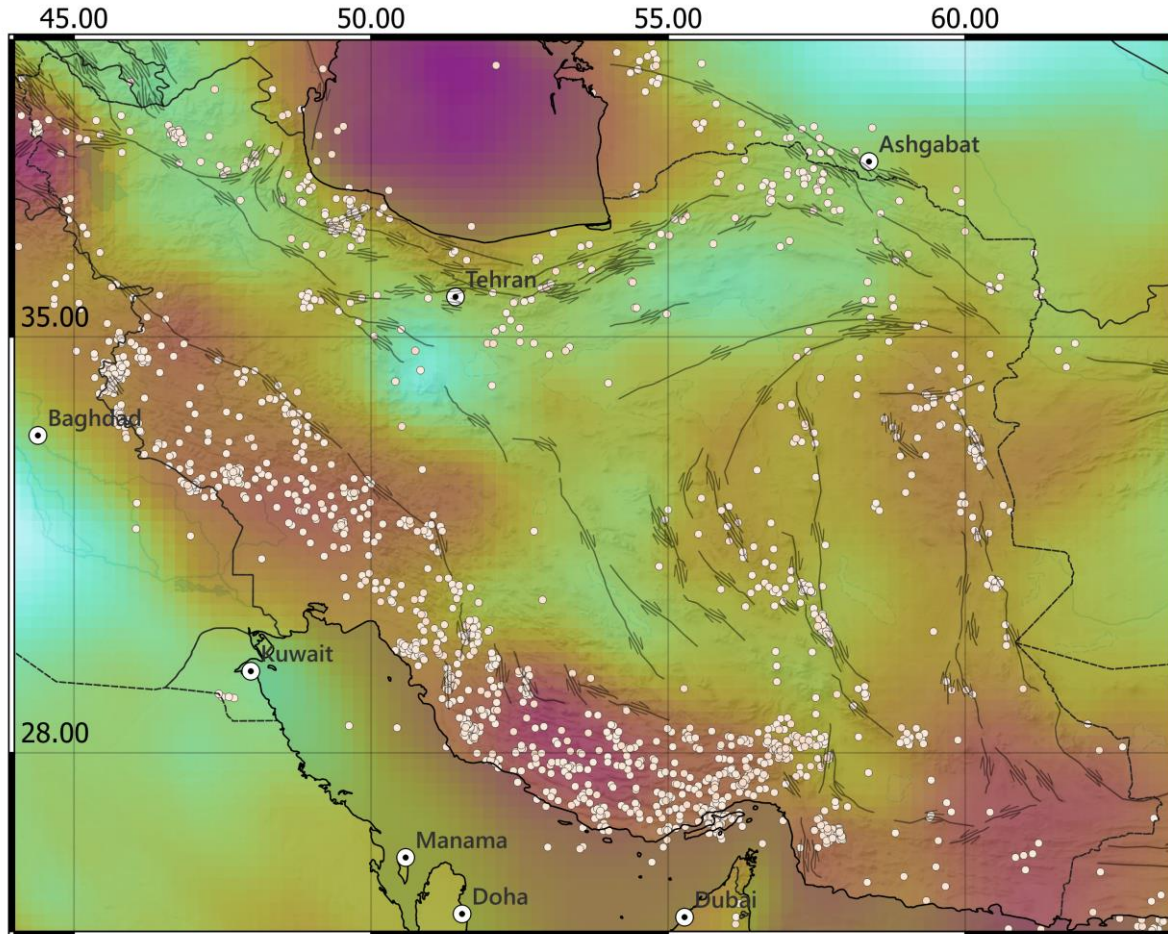
Crustal average susceptibility



- High magnetization corresponds to west northwest presence of magmatic bodies.
- Highly magnetized body is detected in Central Iran and in Makran subduction zone.



# Discussion of calculated shear modulus



Strike-Slip faults

⇨ Dextral

⇨ Sinistral

○ Earthquakes [0-30 km]

Shear modulus

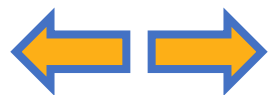
GPa

42.05

26.66

- Location of superficial earthquakes perfectly matches less rigid superficial areas.
- Exception is Caspian Sea. It is close to aseismic but has low rigidity.

Depth: 20km



# Conclusion

- Bayesian joint gravity-magnetic inversion has defined a reliable 3D density and magnetic susceptibility model.
- The density variations match the geologically expected variations well.
- The seismic velocity and density has produced a rigidity model with significant variations. The more deformable areas are those with higher crustal seismicity.

