

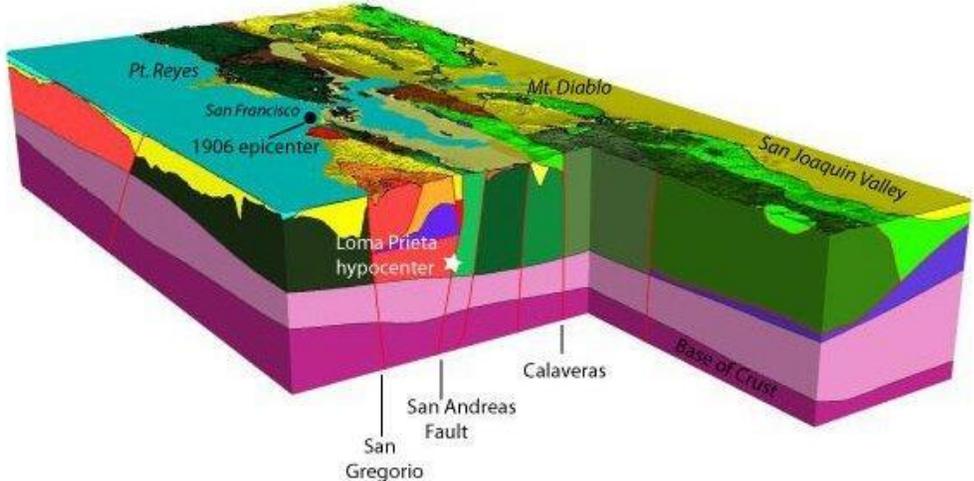
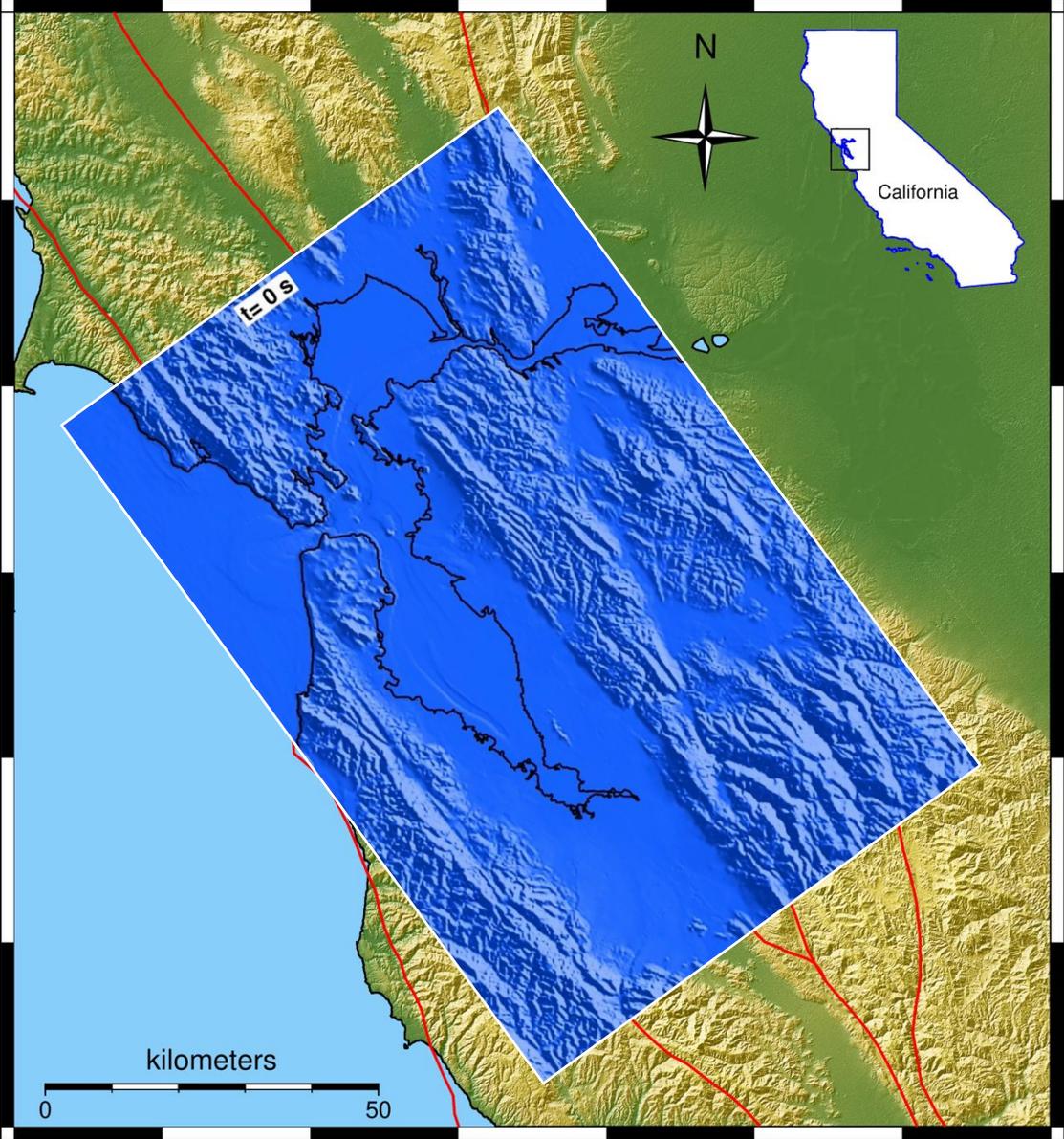
Conditional Generative Modeling for Ground Motion

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Maxime Lacour^{2,5}, Benjamin Erichson^{1,2}, Michael W. Mahoney^{1,2,5}

1. LBNL
2. ICSI
3. University of Tokyo
4. MIT
5. UC Berkeley

Supported by SCEC 25303, 24123
DOE LDRD/GTO/ASCR

Magnitude 7 EQ at the Hayward fault



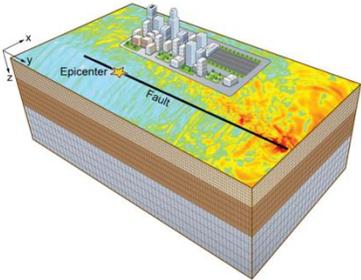
USGS, Hirakawa et al., 2022, BSSA

50 realizations are available:



PEER-LBNL Simulated Ground Motion Database

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The Pacific Earthquake Engineering Research Center (PEER) – Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) Simulated Ground Motion Database (SGMD) includes a large set of simulated ground motions generated from physics-based, deterministic, broad-band earthquake simulations. These simulated ground motions in the database have undergone careful validation, including comparisons against recorded ground motions from actual earthquakes. The PEER-LBNL SGMD is one of the few simulated ground motion databases globally and is anticipated to enable engineers to utilize validated simulated ground motions in seismically active regions in the U.S. and around the world..

The development and maintenance of SGMD is supported by the Department of Energy (DOE) and LBNL under award number 056892.

EQSIM: DOE ECP/CESER
McCallen et al., 2025, EQSpectra

Deterministic AI (e.g. PINN, Fourier neural operators) learns mapping f

$$\hat{d} = f(t).$$

Deterministic AI accelerate the simulation but suffer from

- Uncertainties/errors in S, R, m, x_s
- Physics errors in wave equation

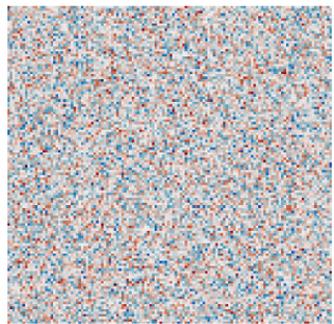
$$d(t, x_s, x_r, m) = S(t, x_s) * R(t, x_r) * G(t, x_s, x_r, m),$$

Yang et al., 2021, Seis. Rec., 2023, IEEE TGRS

Majid et al., 2022, JGR, Ren, 2024, CPC , Aquib et al. 2024

Generative AI learns probability distribution p from data distribution p_{data}

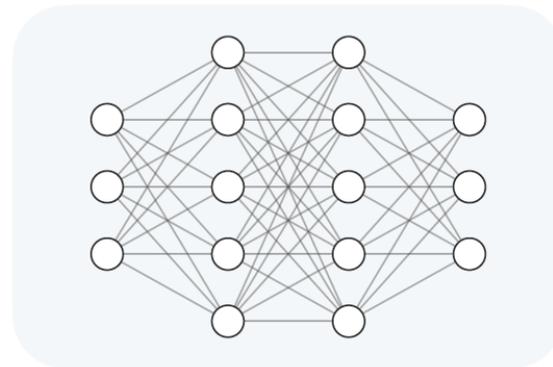
$$\hat{d} \sim p(d)$$



noise

draw

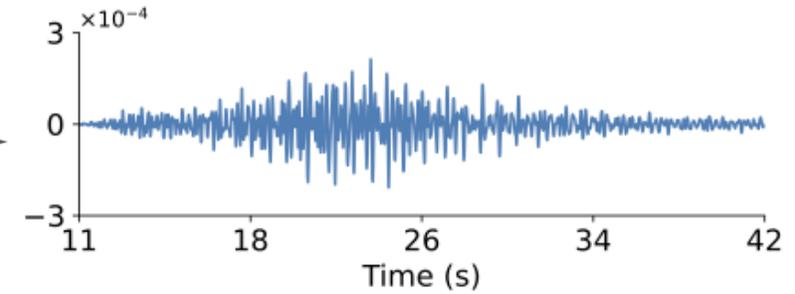
$$z_n \sim p(z)$$



deep neural network

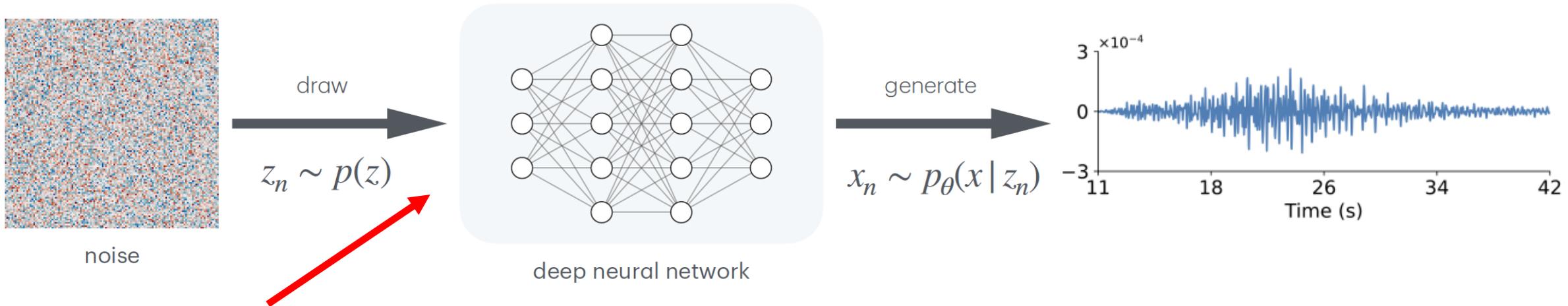
generate

$$x_n \sim p_{\theta}(x | z_n)$$



“Conditional” generative model (CGM)

$$\hat{d} \sim p(d|v)$$



Conditions

Magnitude, EQ location, Sensor location,.....

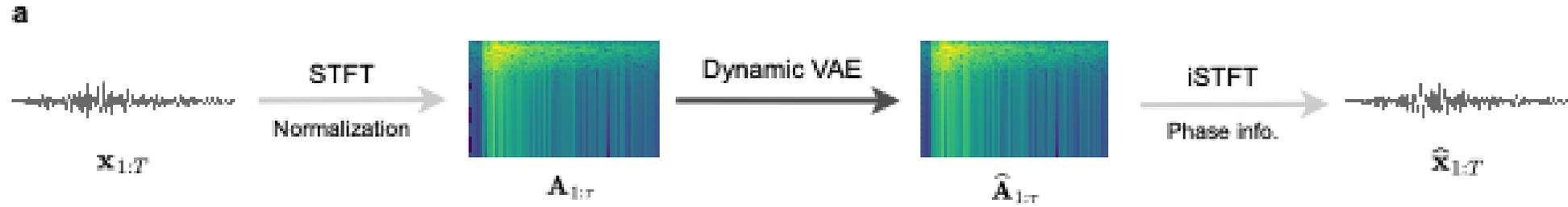
Generative AI can

- Learn “physics”
- Accelerate simulations

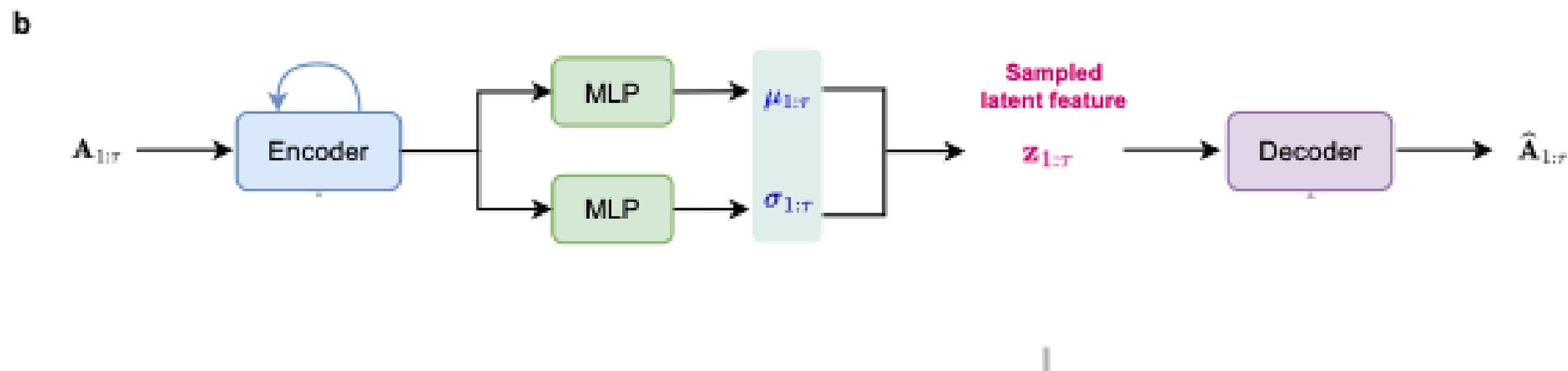
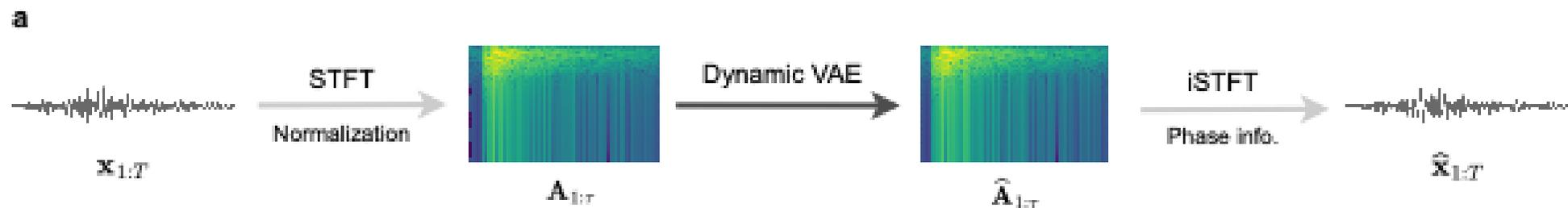
Wang et al., 2021, JGR, Florez et al., 2022, BSSA, Esfahani et al., 2002, BSSA, Shi et al., 2024

Conditional Dynamic Variational Autoencoder

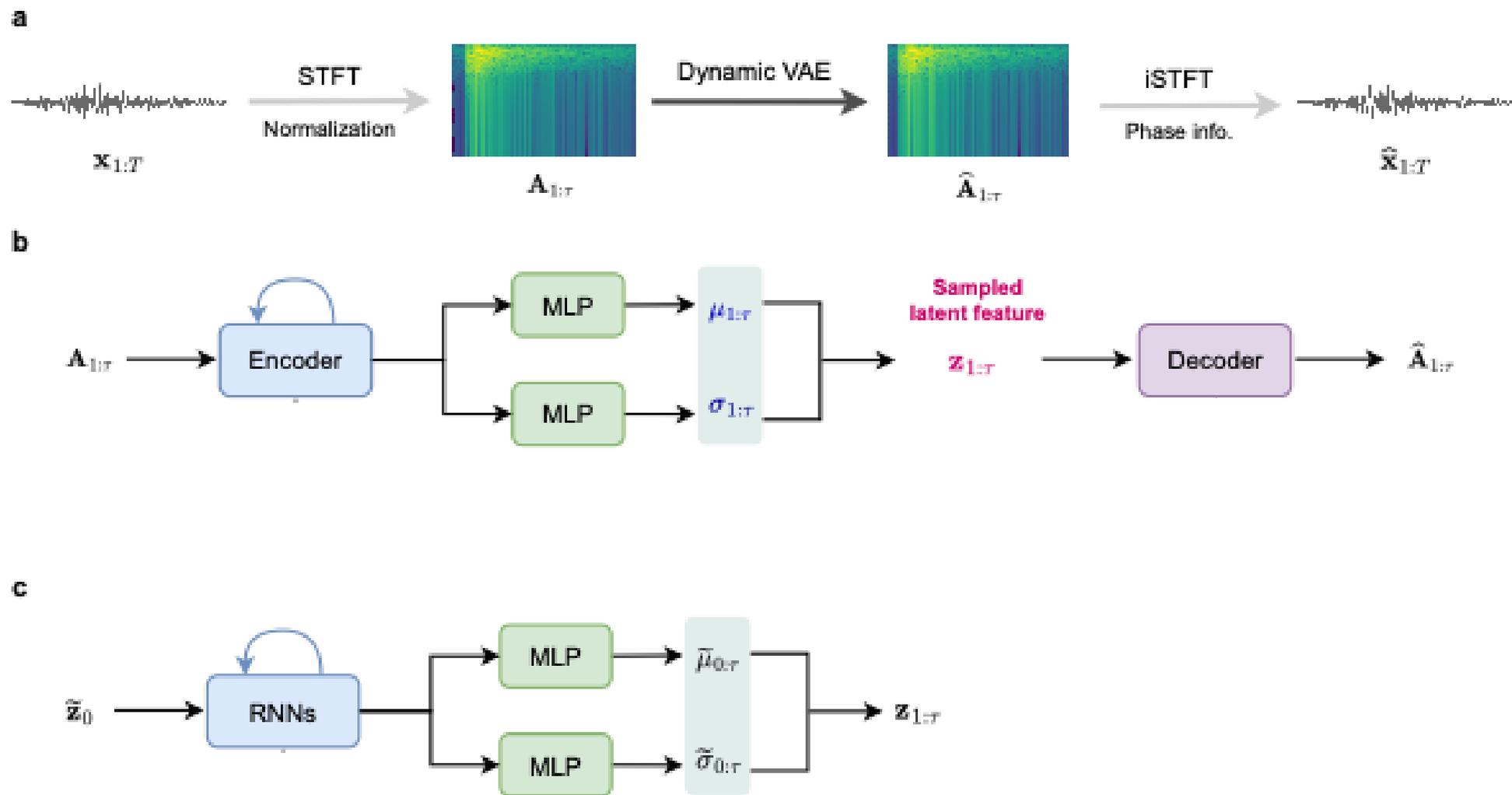
Ren et al., 2024, ArXiv



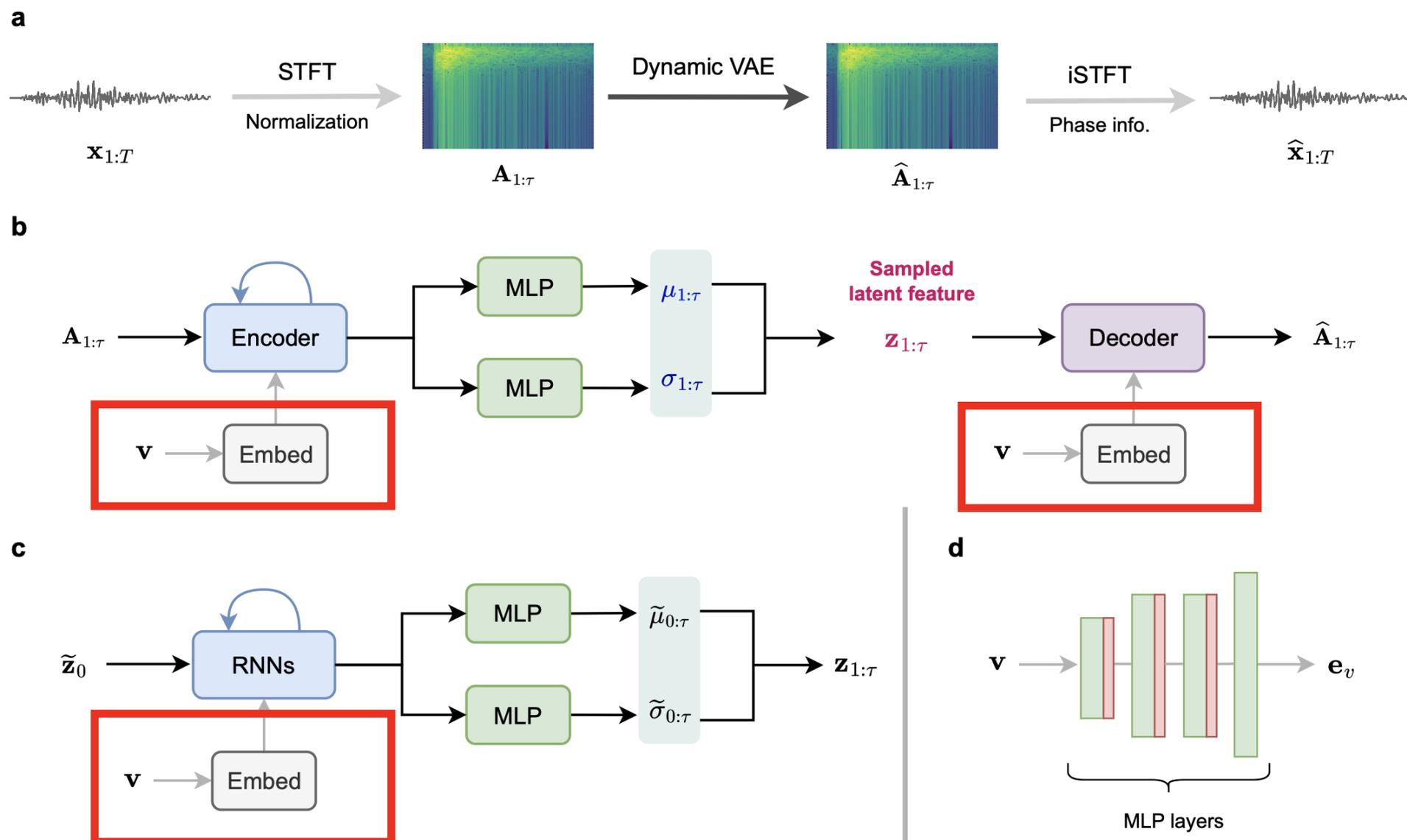
Conditional Dynamic Variational Autoencoder



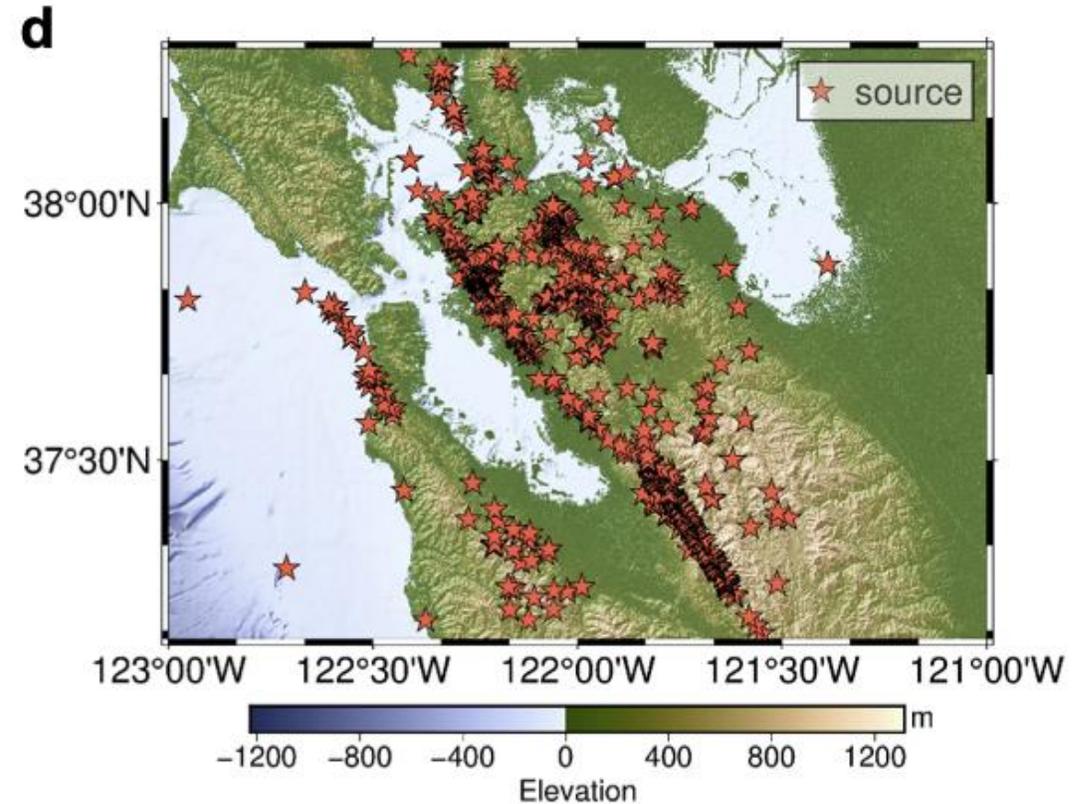
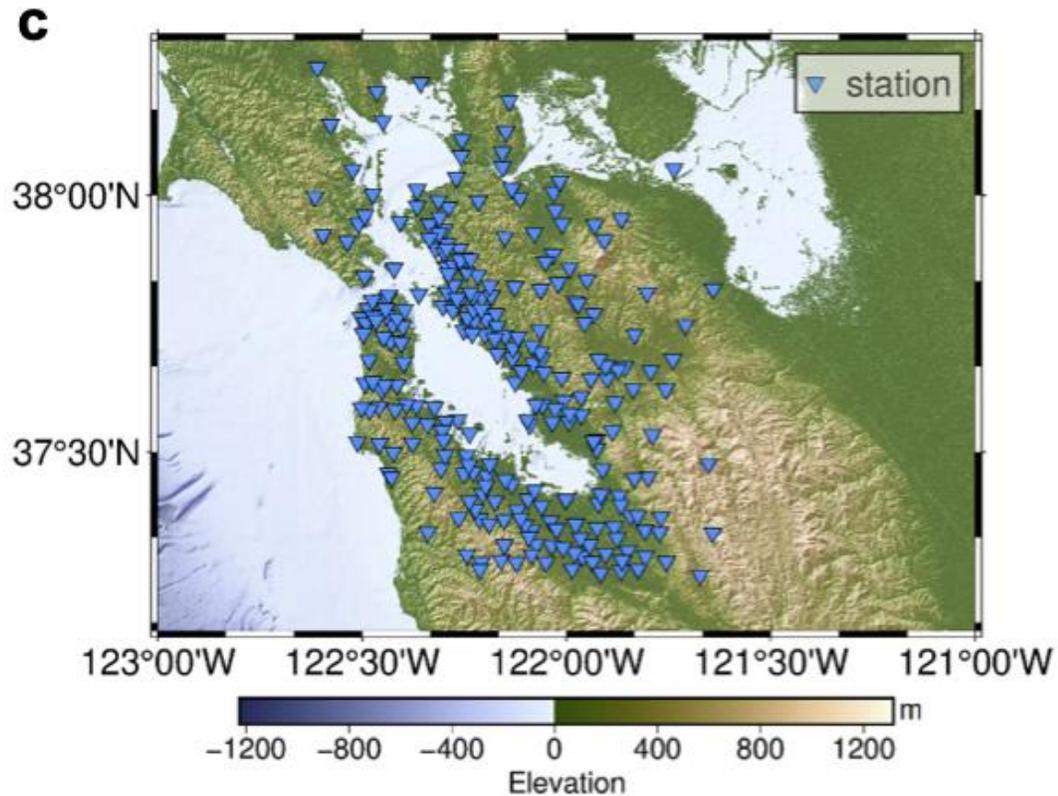
Conditional **Dynamic** Variational Autoencoder



CGM-GM: **Conditional** Dynamic Variational Autoencoder



San Francisco Bay Area



- Horizontal component data
- < M4; (3 events > M5 after 2000)
- Downloaded data: 1,375,470
- Training data: 5,194
(After preprocessing and removal of low SN data)
- Frequency range: 2-15 Hz

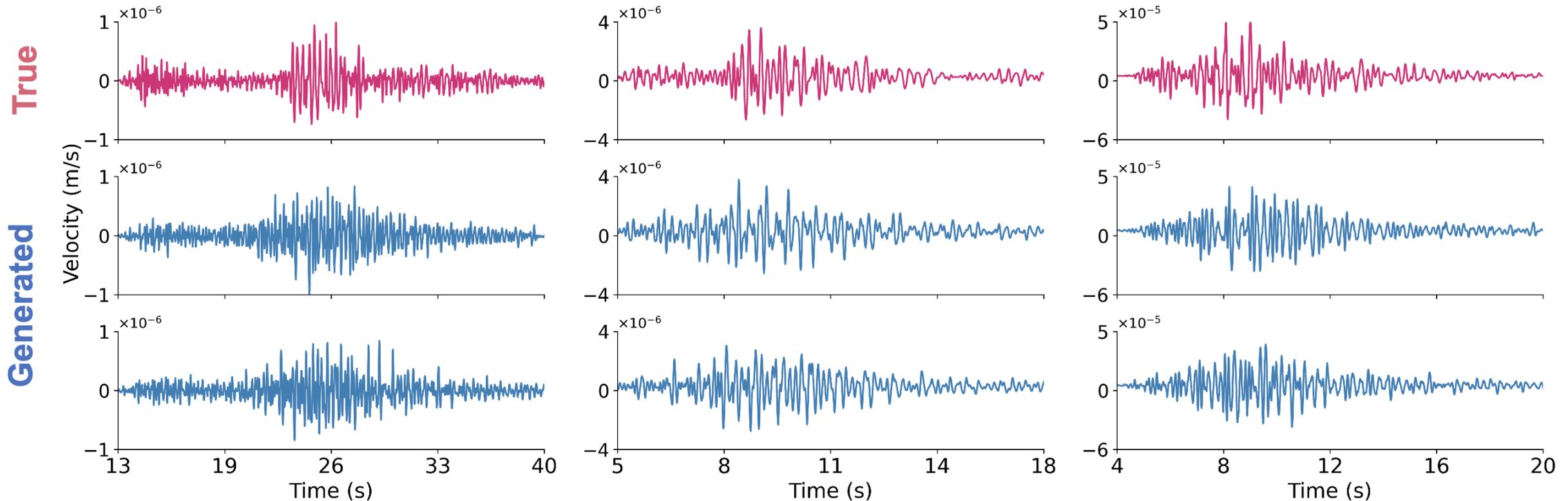
Generated waveforms reproduce P, S, coda, duration

e

$M = 2.51$, $R_{hyp} = 72.8\text{km}$,
 $D_{hyp} = 9.06\text{km}$, $A_{hyp} = -37.78$.

$M = 1.89$, $R_{hyp} = 20.82\text{km}$,
 $D_{hyp} = 10.49\text{km}$, $A_{hyp} = 89.82$.

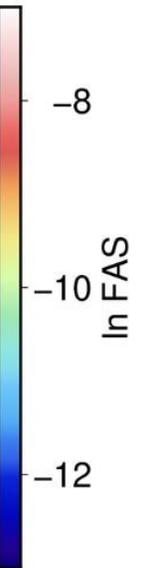
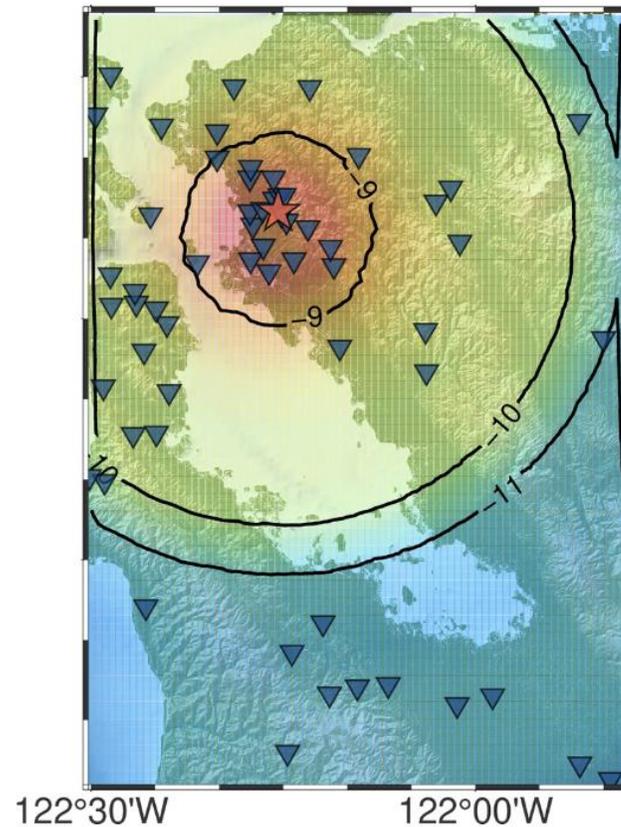
$M = 2.8$, $R_{hyp} = 22.29\text{km}$,
 $D_{hyp} = 21.48\text{km}$, $A_{hyp} = -116.51$.



Map view of Ground motion intensity

$$\hat{d} \sim p(d|D, x_s, S) .$$

CGM-GM-1D

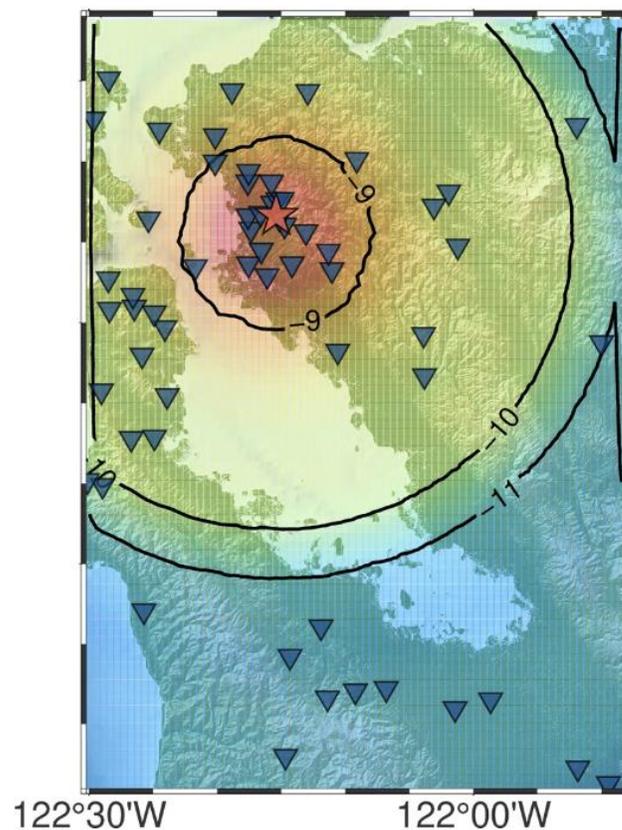


Fourier Amplitude Spectra at 10 Hz

Map view of Ground motion intensity

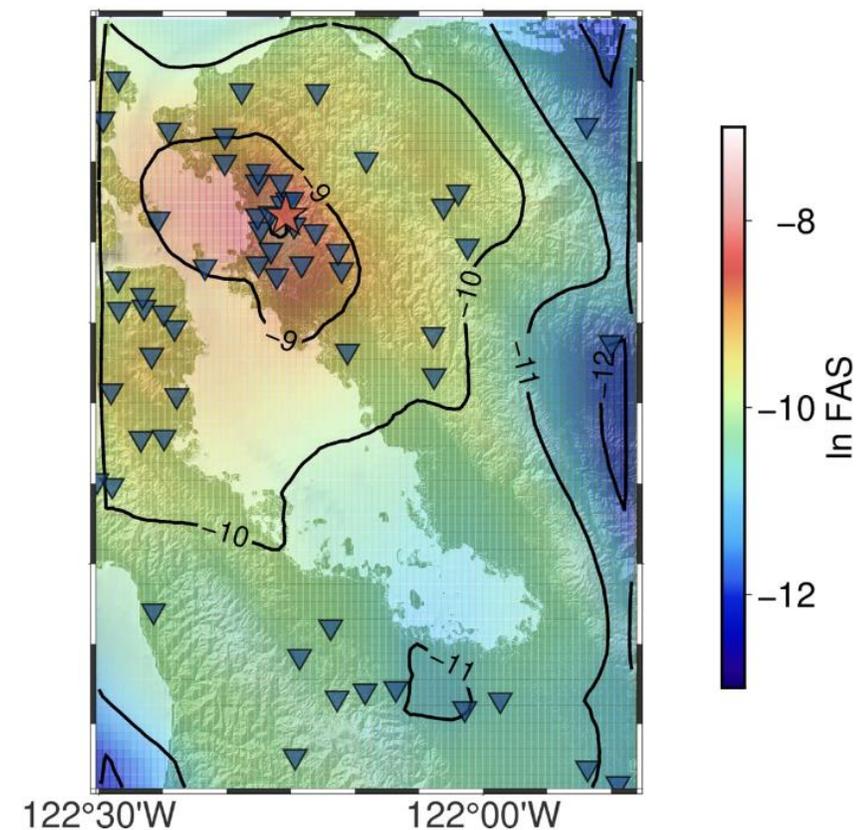
$$\hat{d} \sim p(d|D, x_s, S) .$$

CGM-GM-1D



$$\hat{d} \sim p(d|x_r, x_s, S) .$$

CGM-GM-3D



Fourier Amplitude Spectra at 10 Hz

Map view of Ground motion intensity

$$\hat{d} \sim p(d|D, x_s, S) .$$

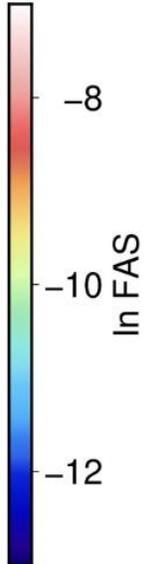
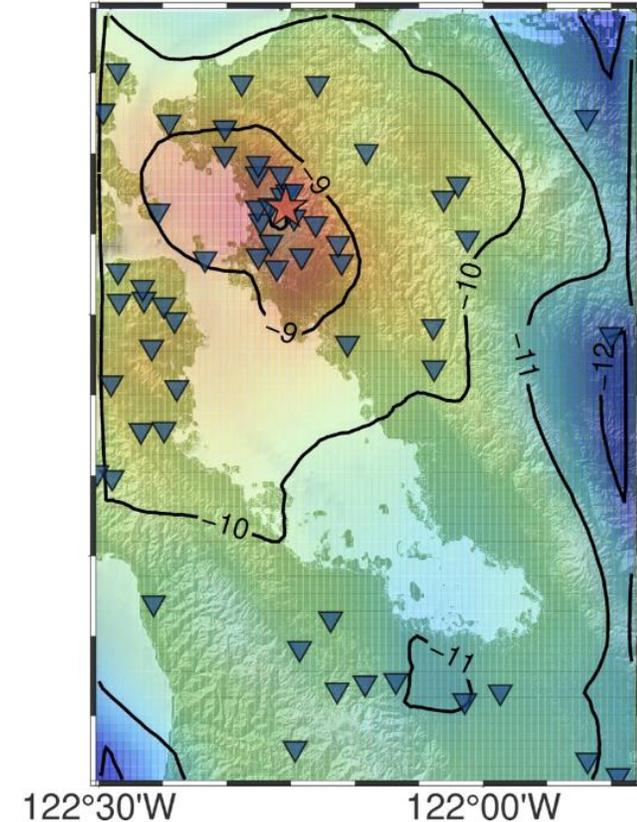
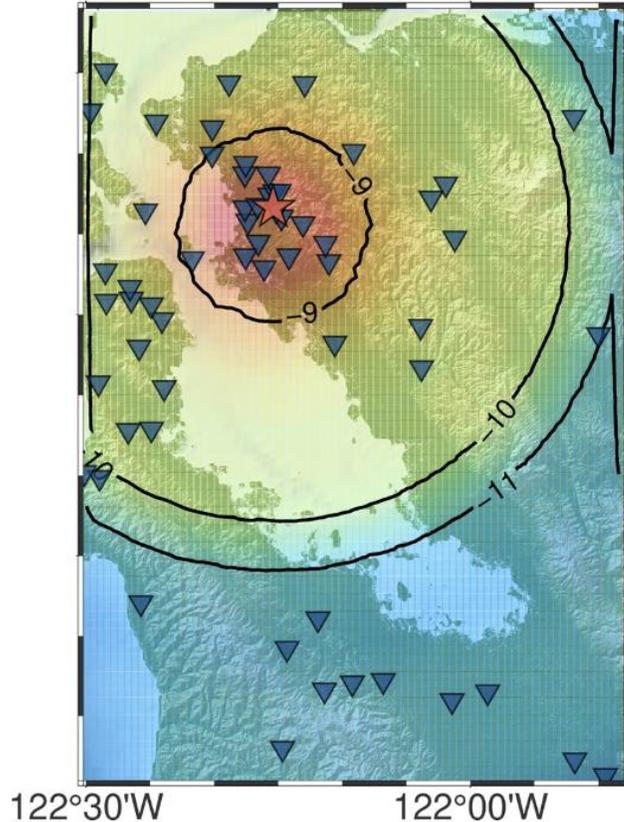
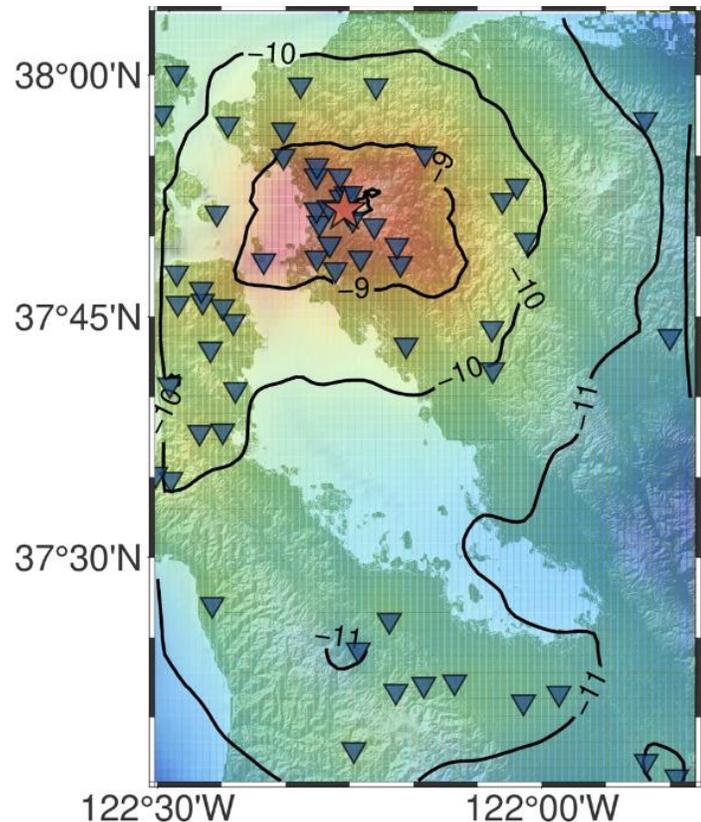
$$\hat{d} \sim p(d|x_r, x_s, S) .$$

Non Ergodic GMM

CGM-GM-1D

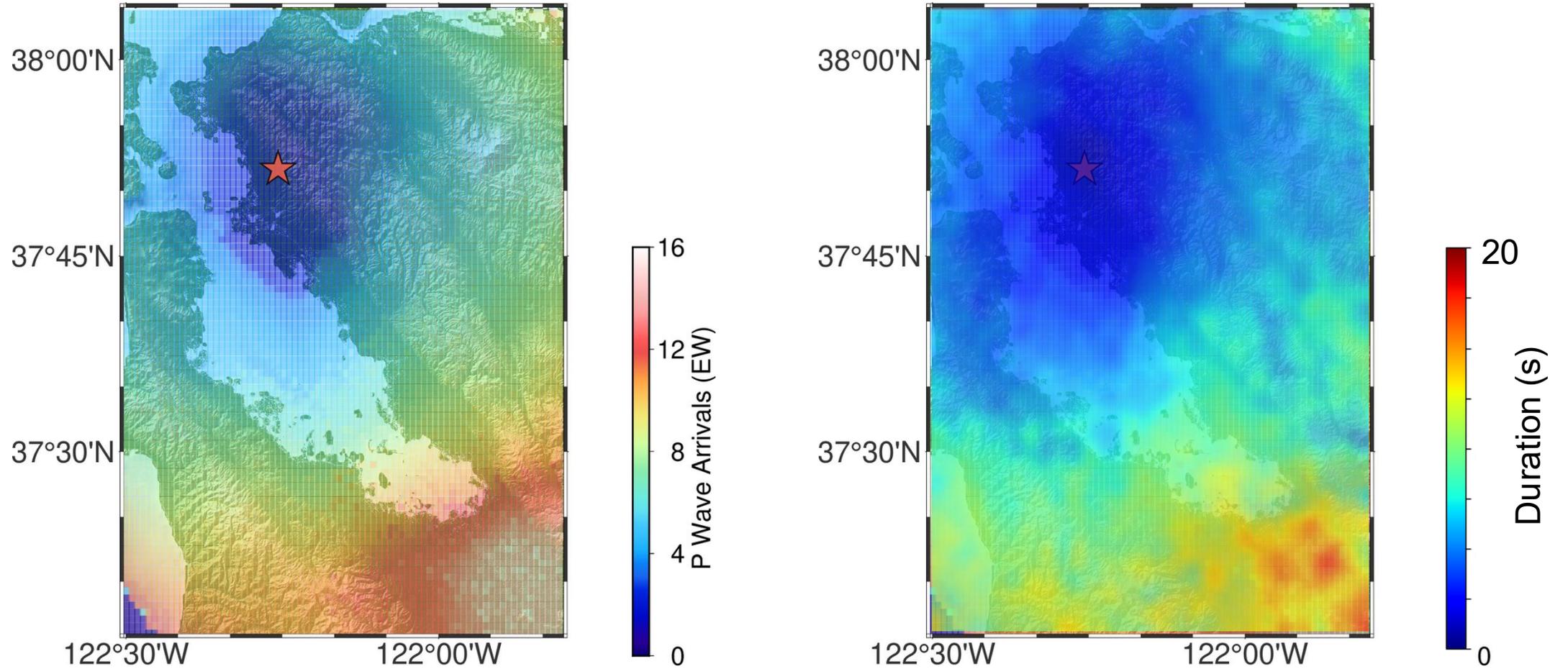
CGM-GM-3D

Lacour et al., 2025, submitted

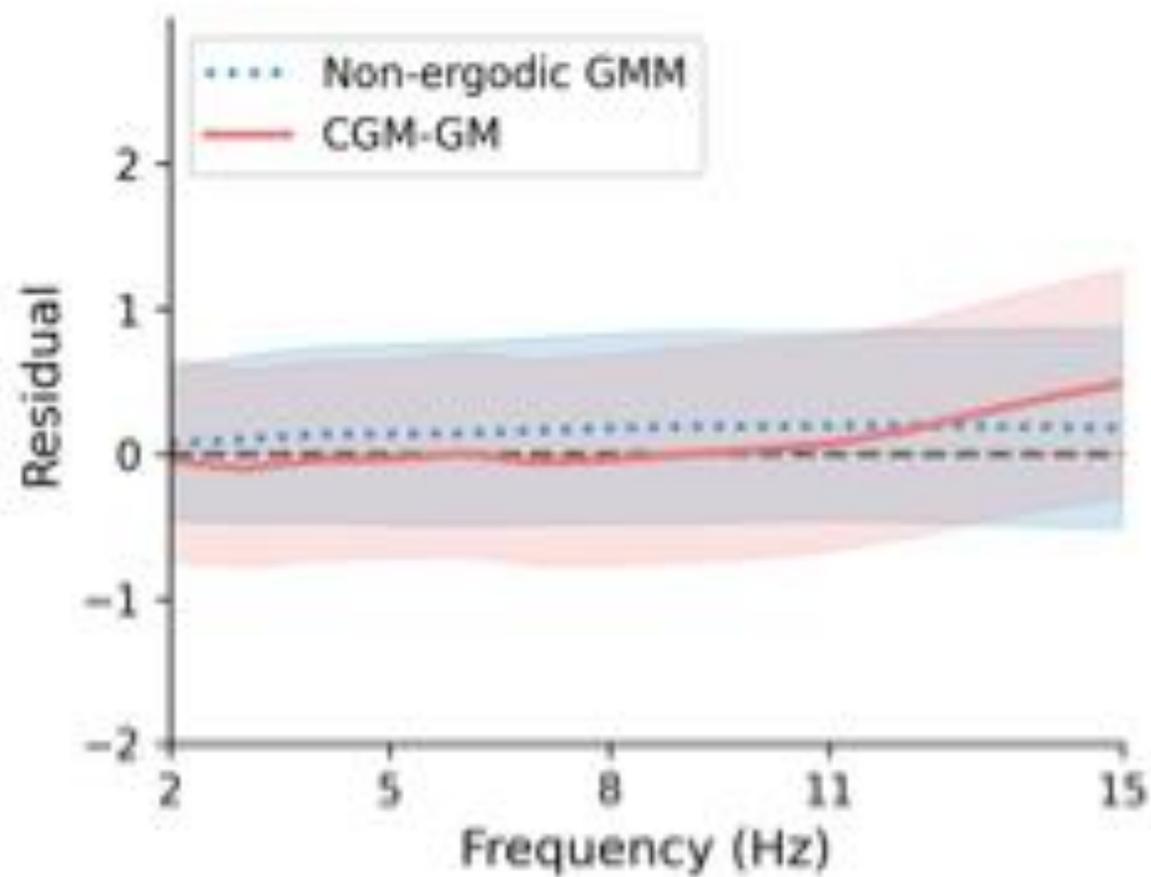


Fourier Amplitude Spectra at 10 Hz

Map view of P-wave arrival time

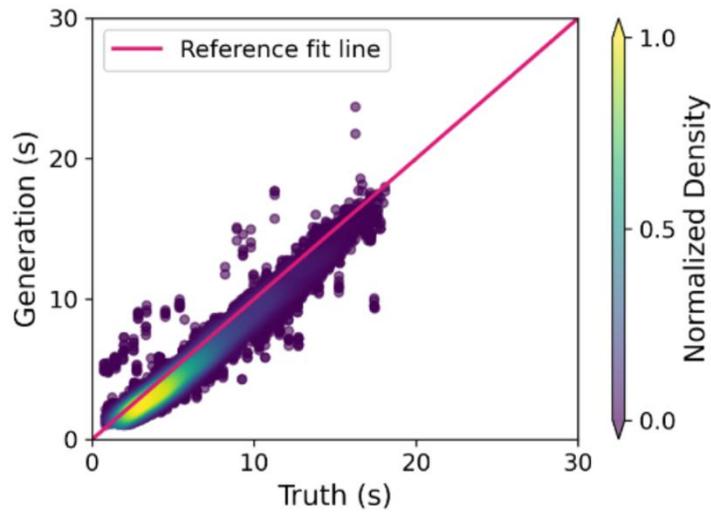


Residual comparisons

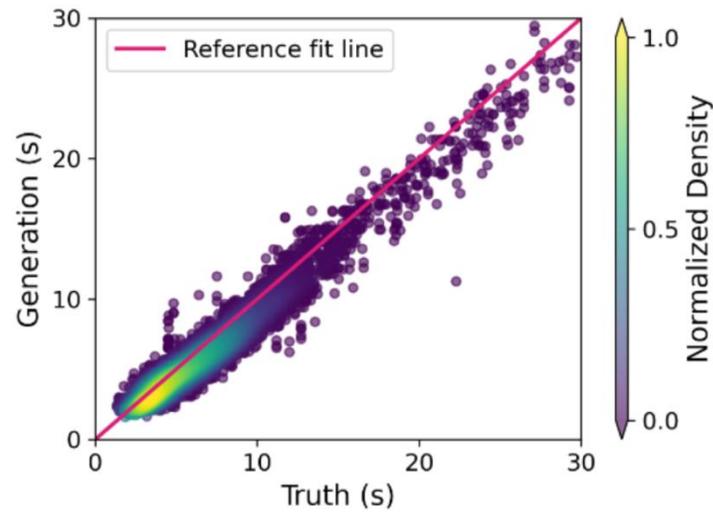


P and S arrivals and Duration match observations

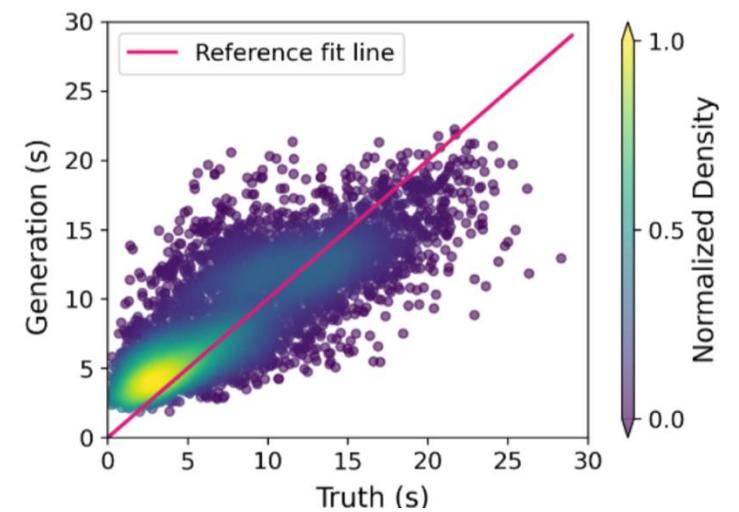
P arrival



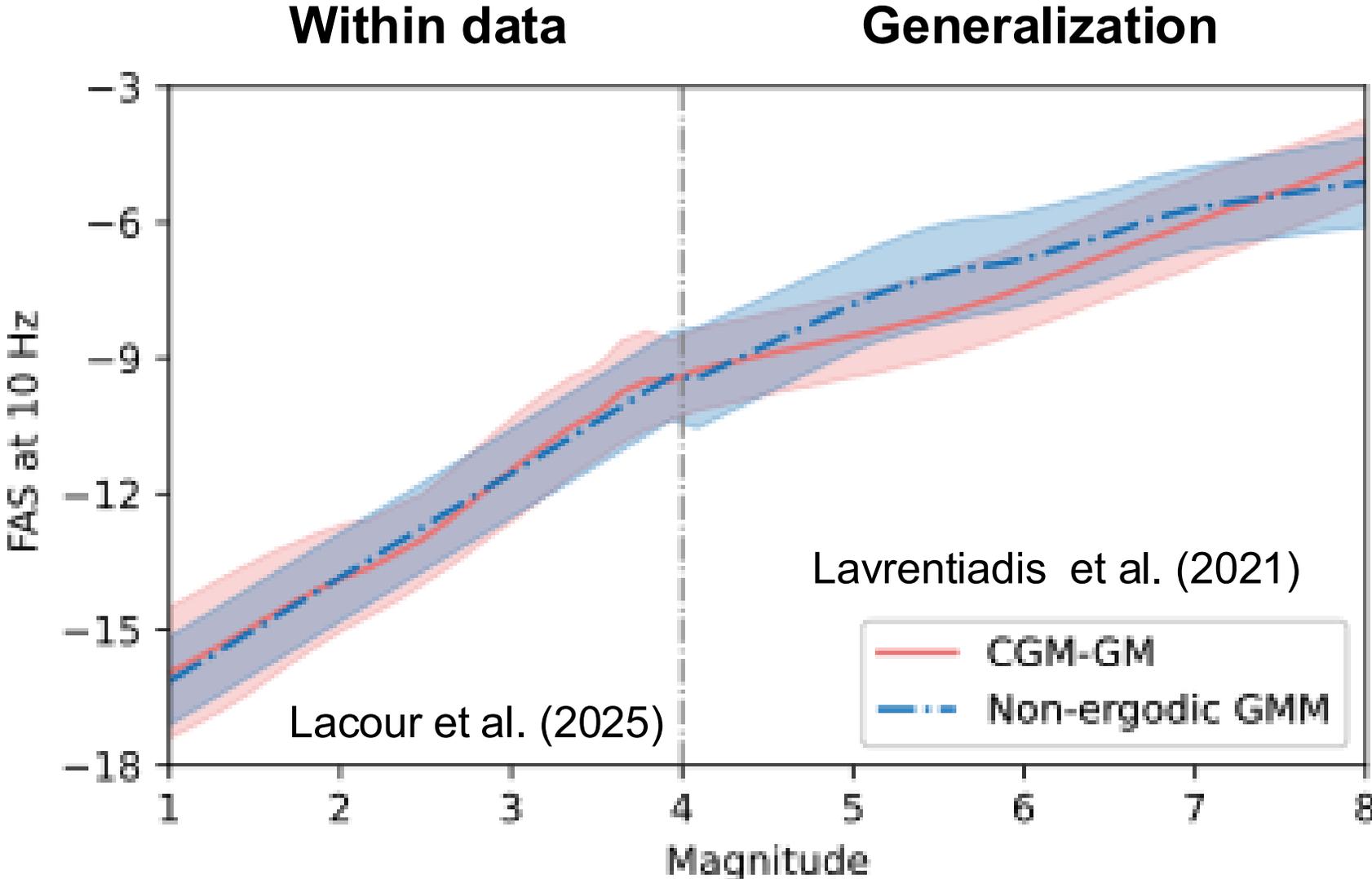
S arrival



Duration (D_{95})

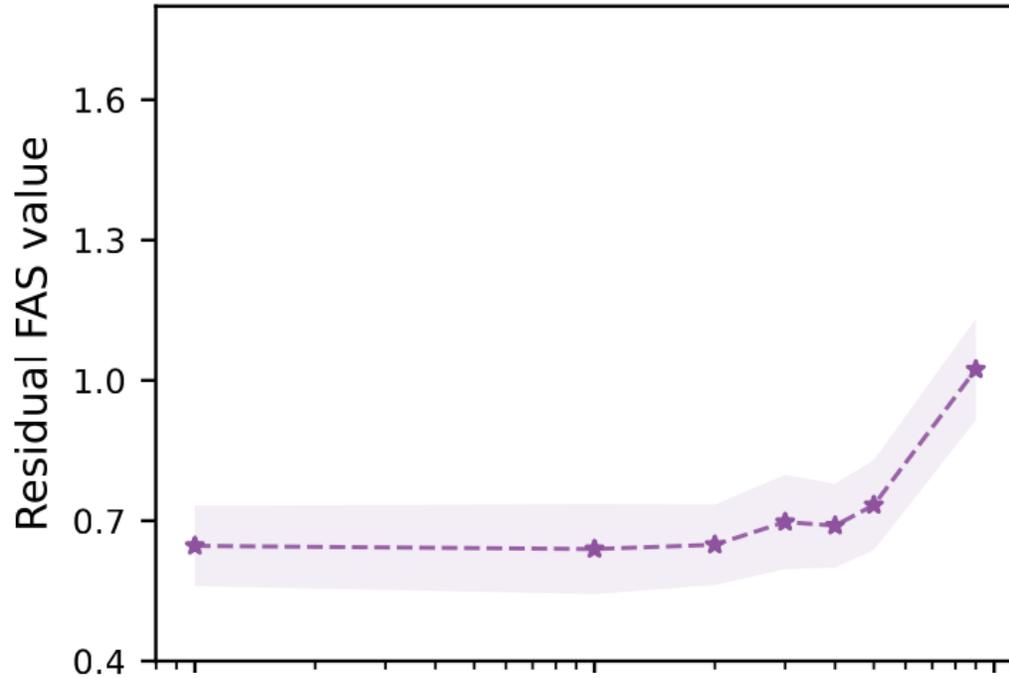


Generalization: beyond training dataset

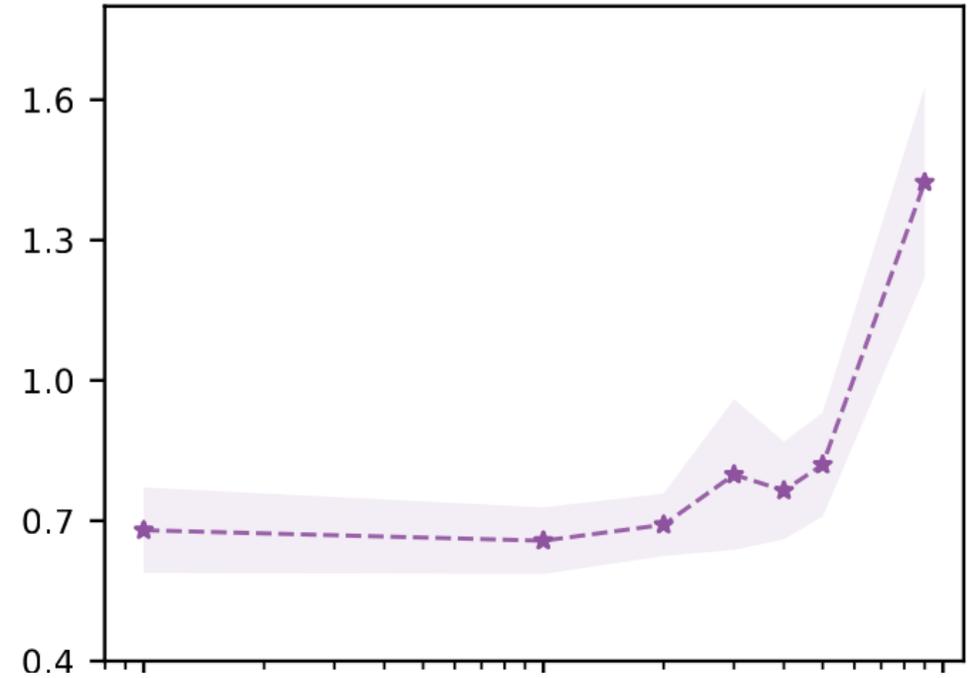


of data points vs performance

Reducing Sources



Reducing Stations



Using 99%

10%

99%

10%

of data points vs performance

All data

70%

50%

10%

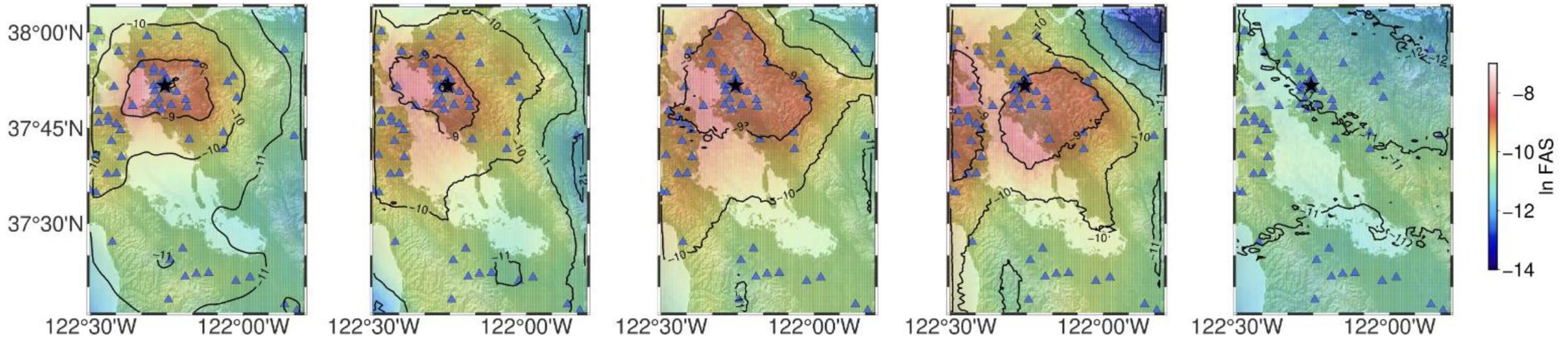
Non-ergodic GMM

CGM-GM (full)

CGM-GM (0.3)

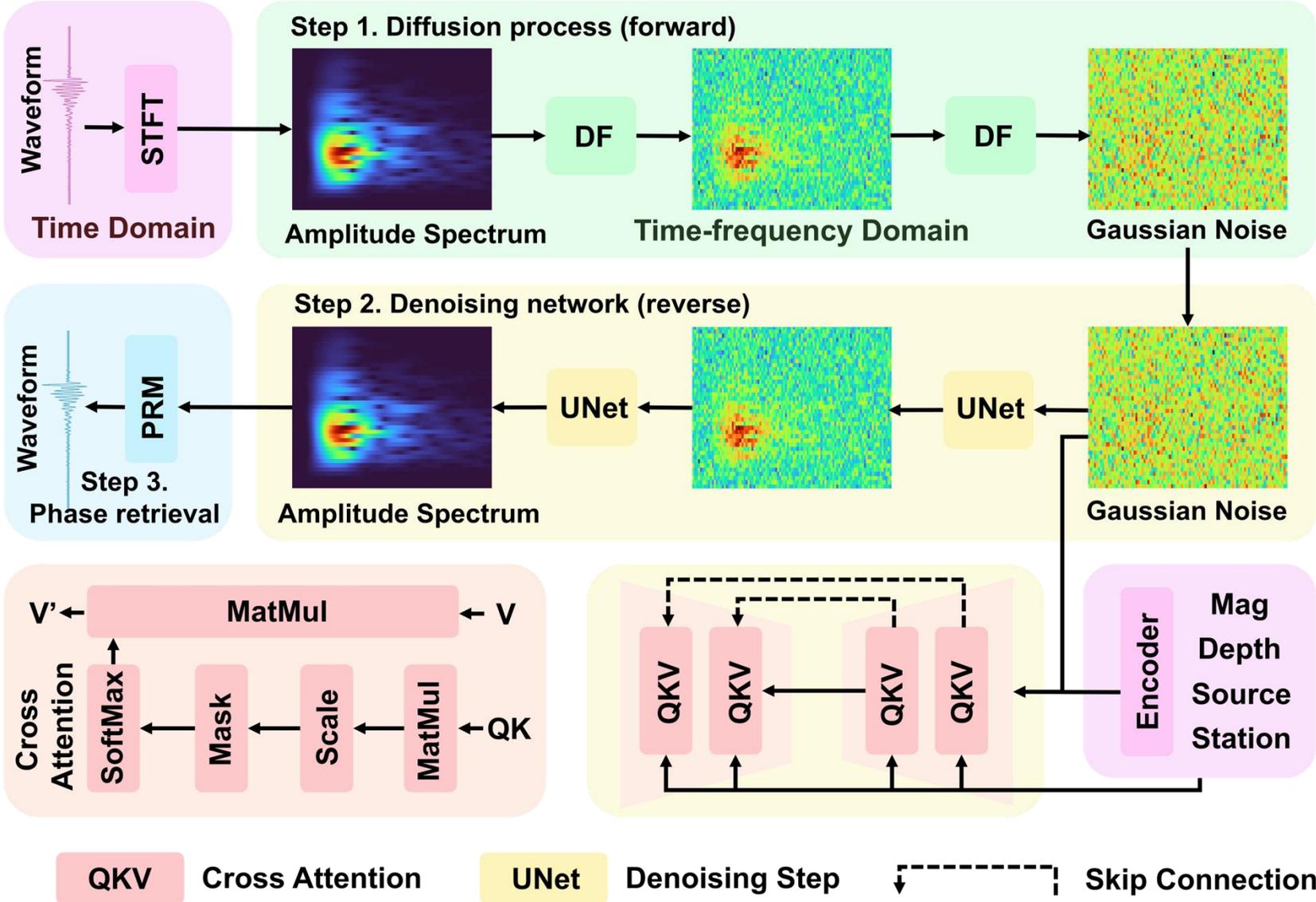
CGM-GM (0.5)

CGM-GM (0.9)

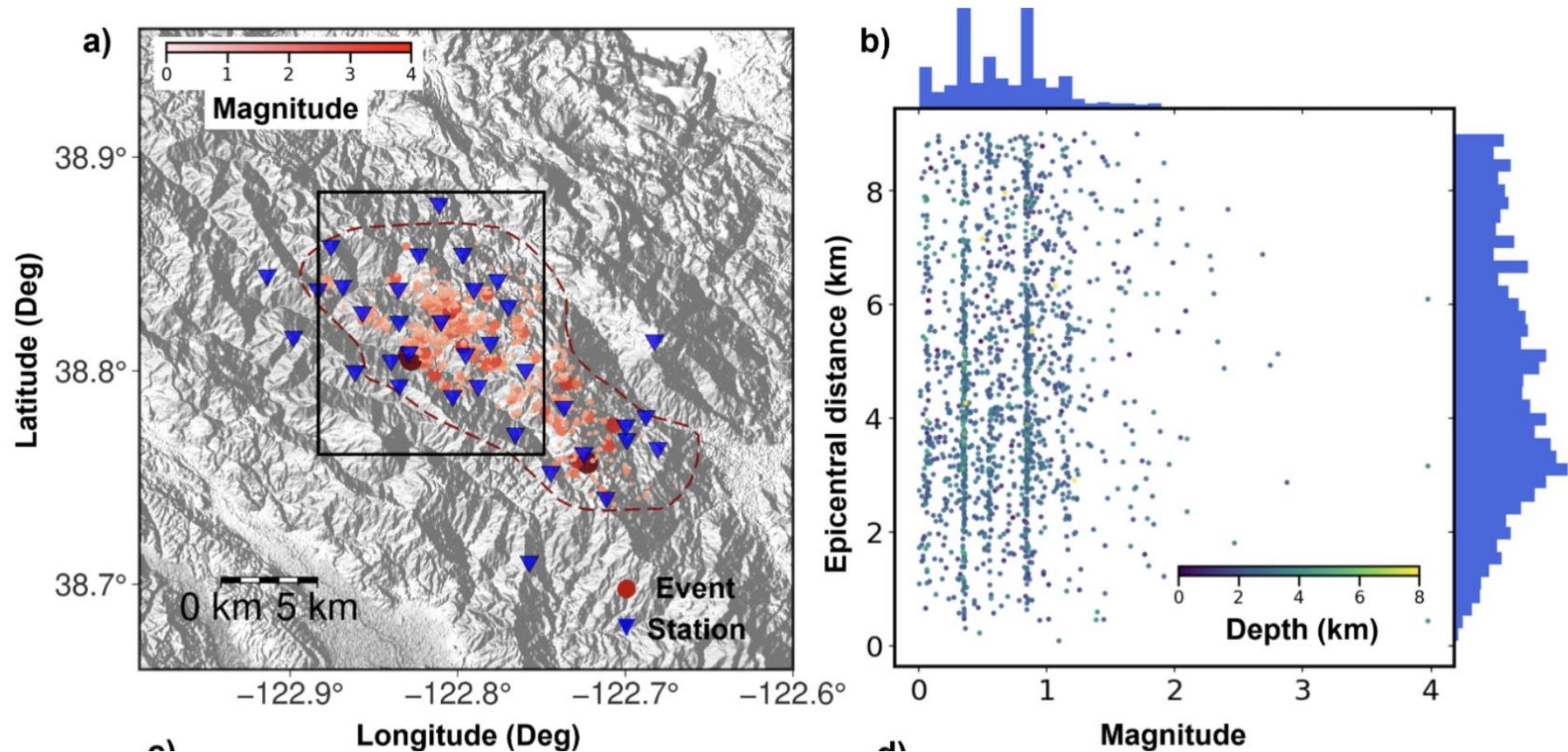


CGM-wave: diffusion model for higher resolution

Bi et al., 2025, IEEE TGRS



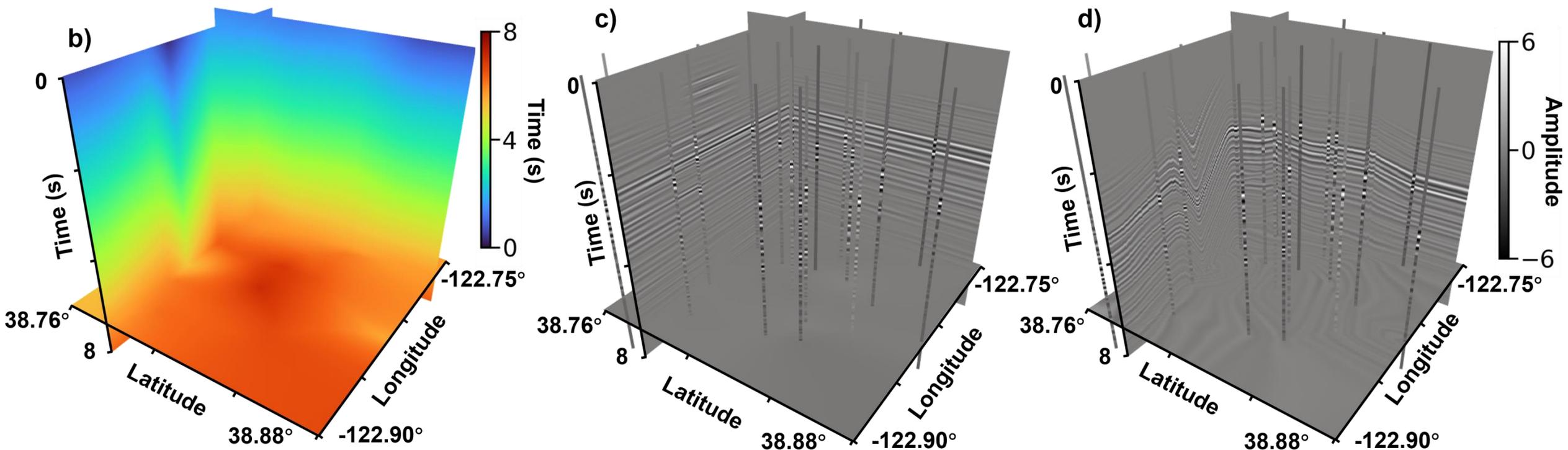
Geysers Geothermal Field



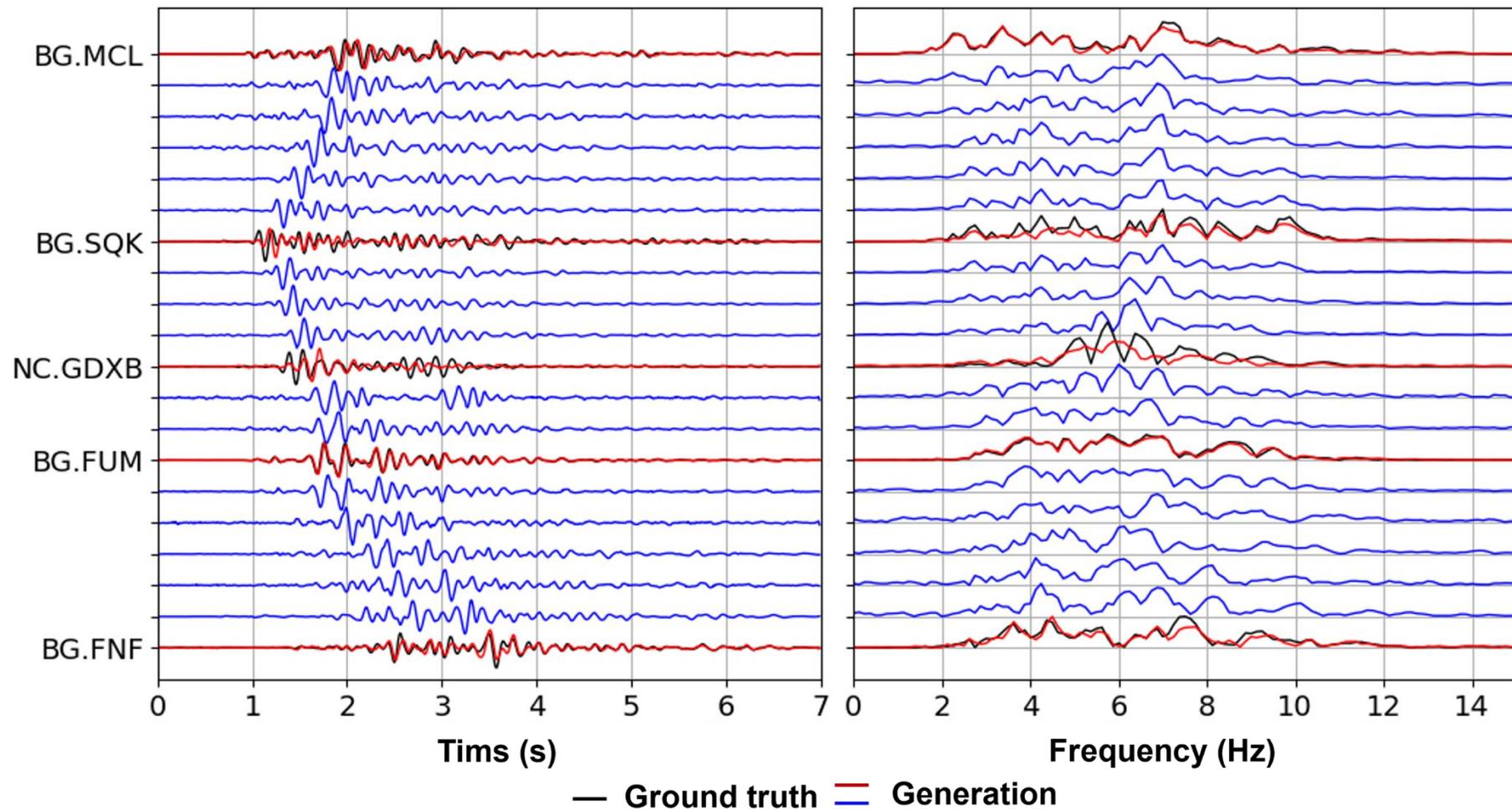
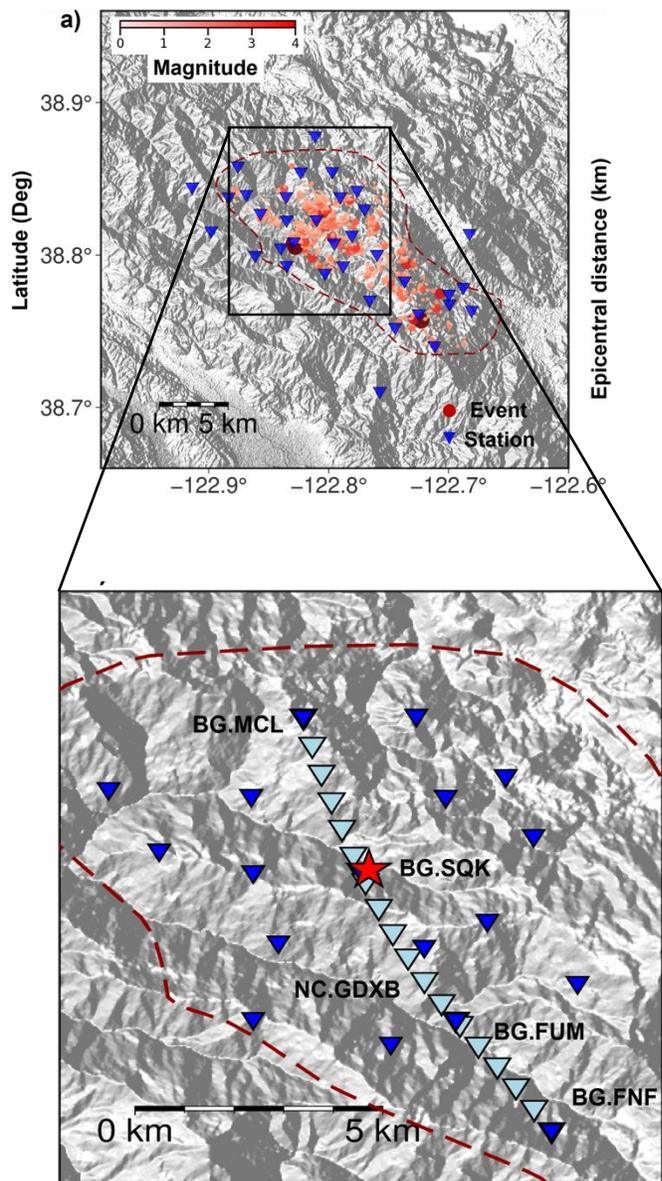
35 stations, 500 events in 2020-2021, 17,500 traces

Physics-inspired data augmentation with spatial continuity

Dynamic time warping for interpolating wavefields between receivers.



Generate array observations



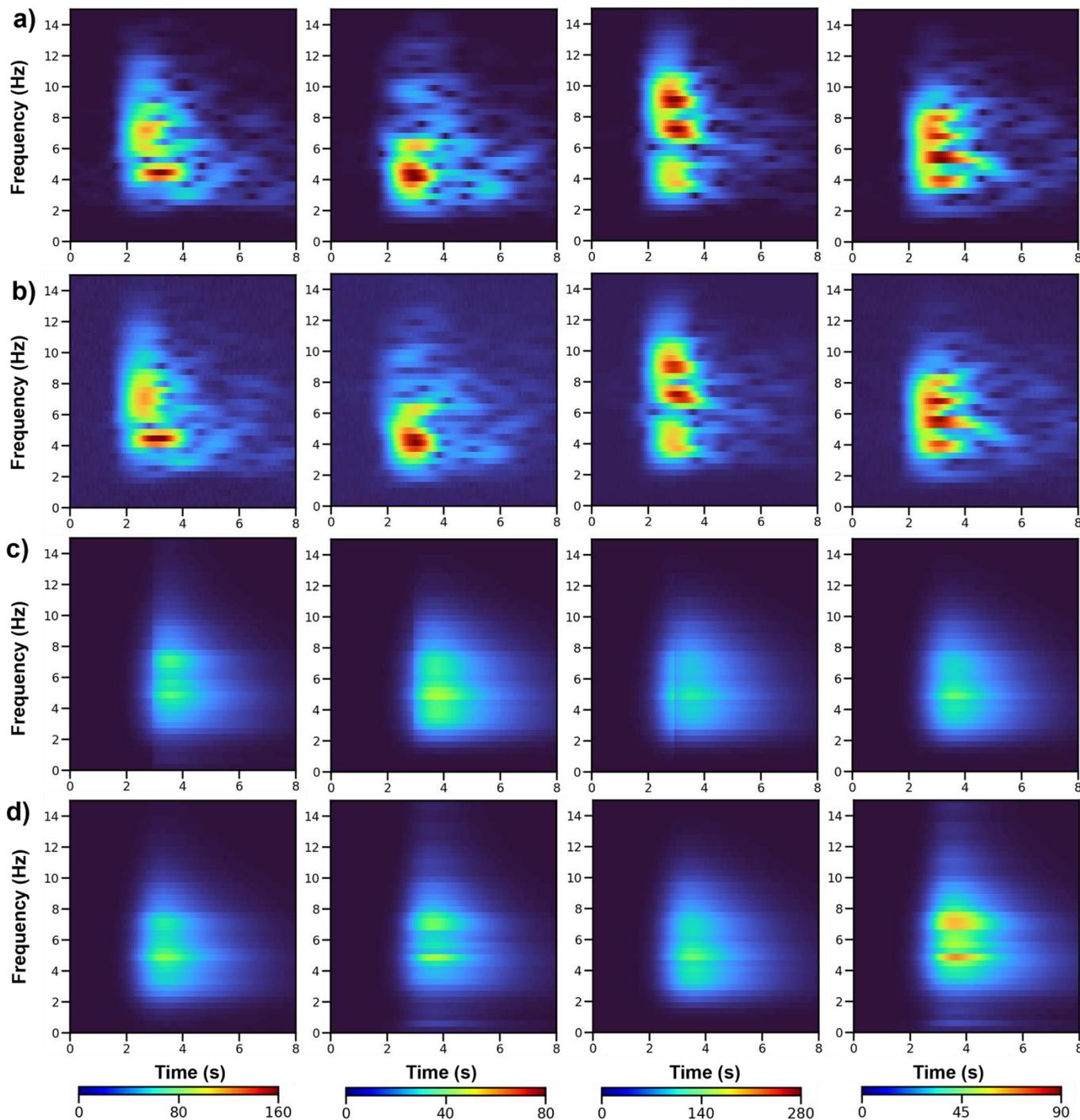
Spectrogram comparison

Diffusion model

True

VAE

VAE-GAN



Instead of time series, directly predict FAS (Path effects)

Lacour et al., 2025, in prep

Non-ergodic GMM (based on Gaussian Process)

$$\hat{d} \sim p_{\theta_{\text{GP}}} (d | x_s, x_r) \sim N(\mu_{\theta_{\text{GP}}}, \sigma_{\theta_{\text{GP}}})$$

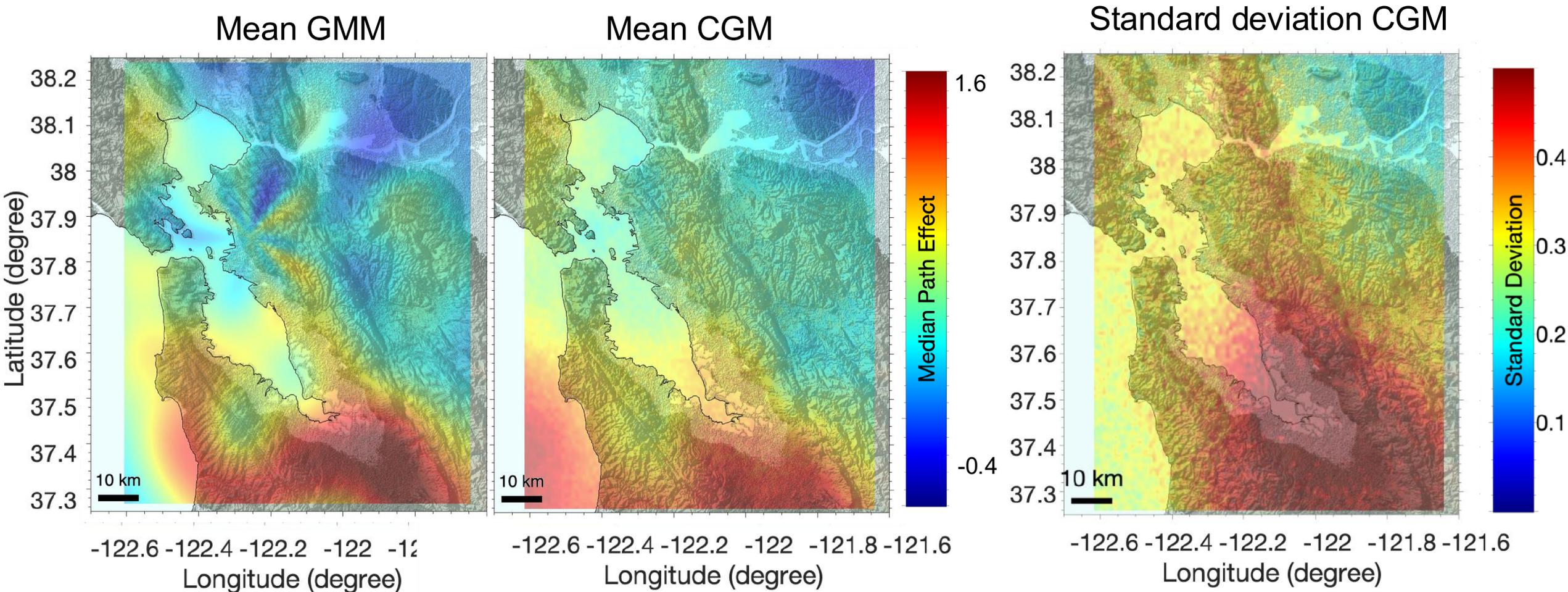
spatial correlation length and standard deviation

CGM-FAS

$$\hat{d} \sim p_{\theta_{\text{CGM}}} (d | x_s, x_r)$$

Neural network

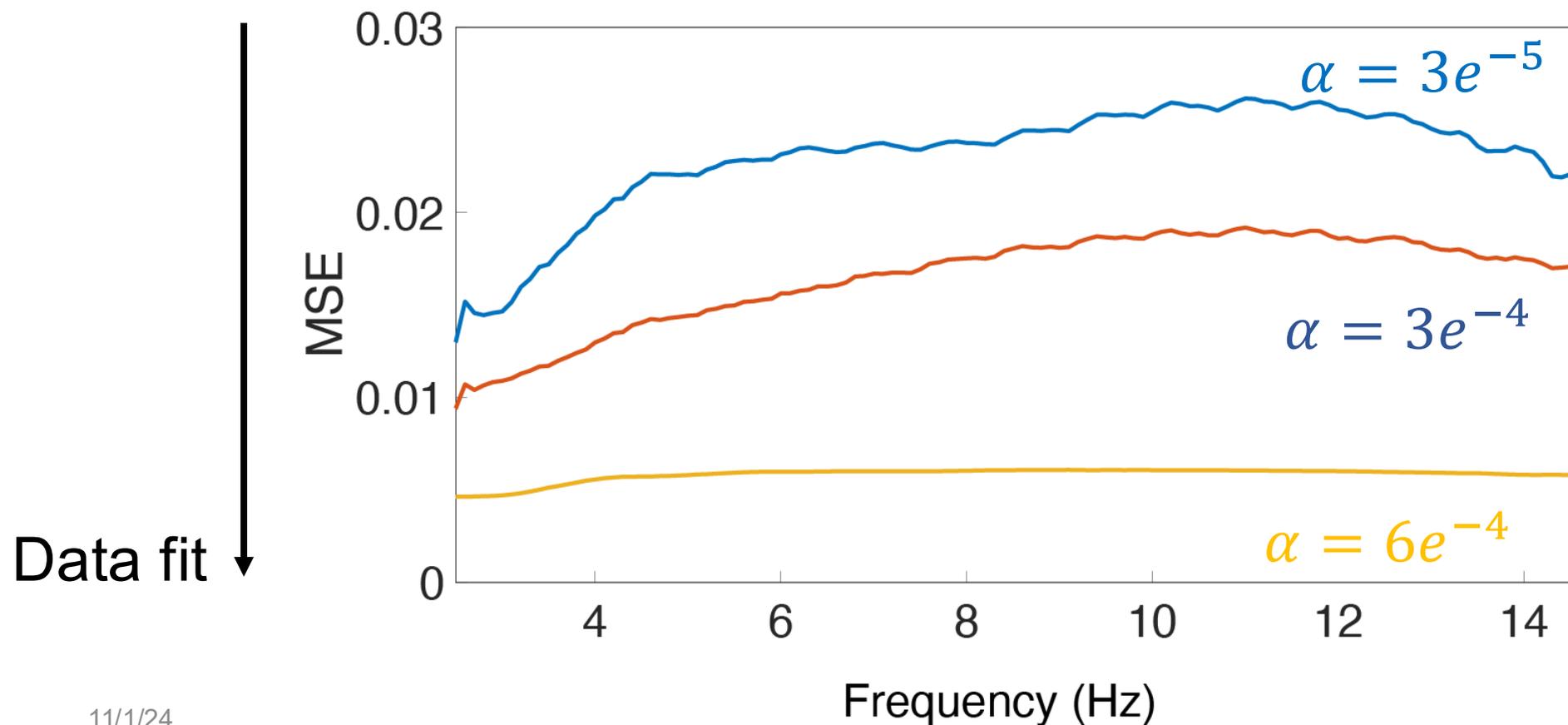
CGM-FAS: Fourier amplitude spectra



- Faster inference, Smoother and more robust mean and standard deviation predictions by CGM
- Do not differentiate aleatory and epstemic uncertainties

Fitting data and keeping variability

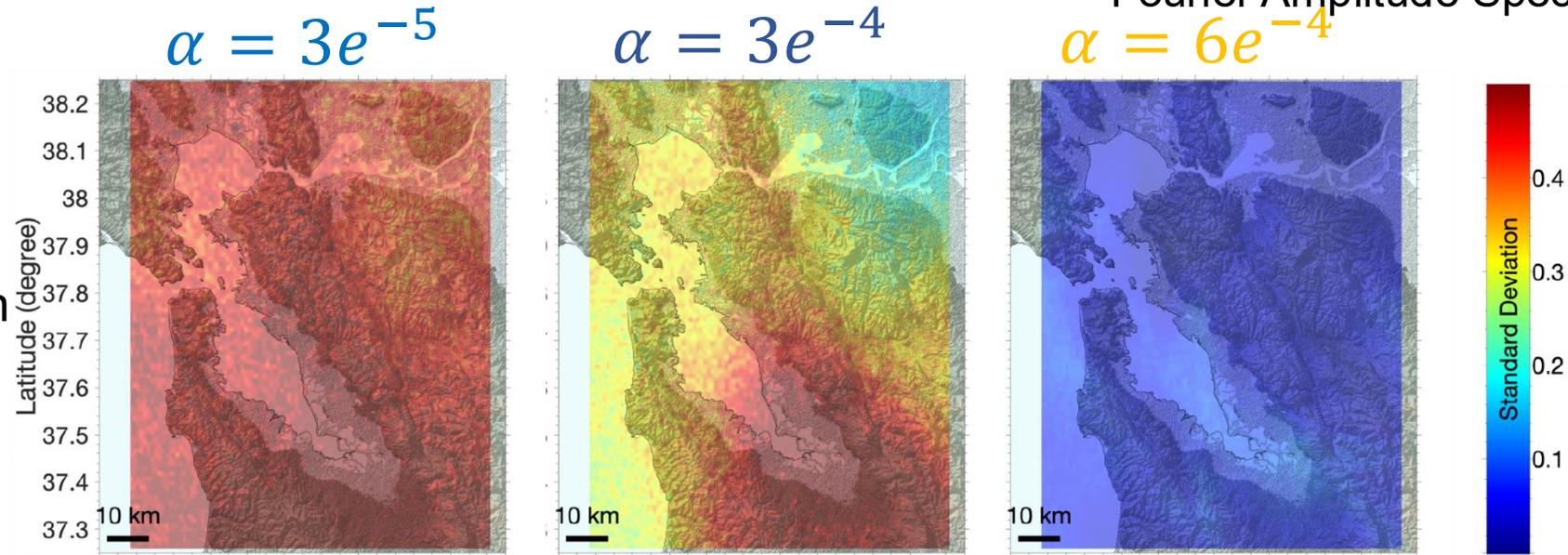
$$\text{Loss function: } L = \text{MSE} + \alpha \cdot D_{KL}$$



Fitting data reduce spatial variability of data generation

Fourier Amplitude Spectra at 14 Hz

Standard deviation
of generated data



Fitting data reduce spatial variability of data generation

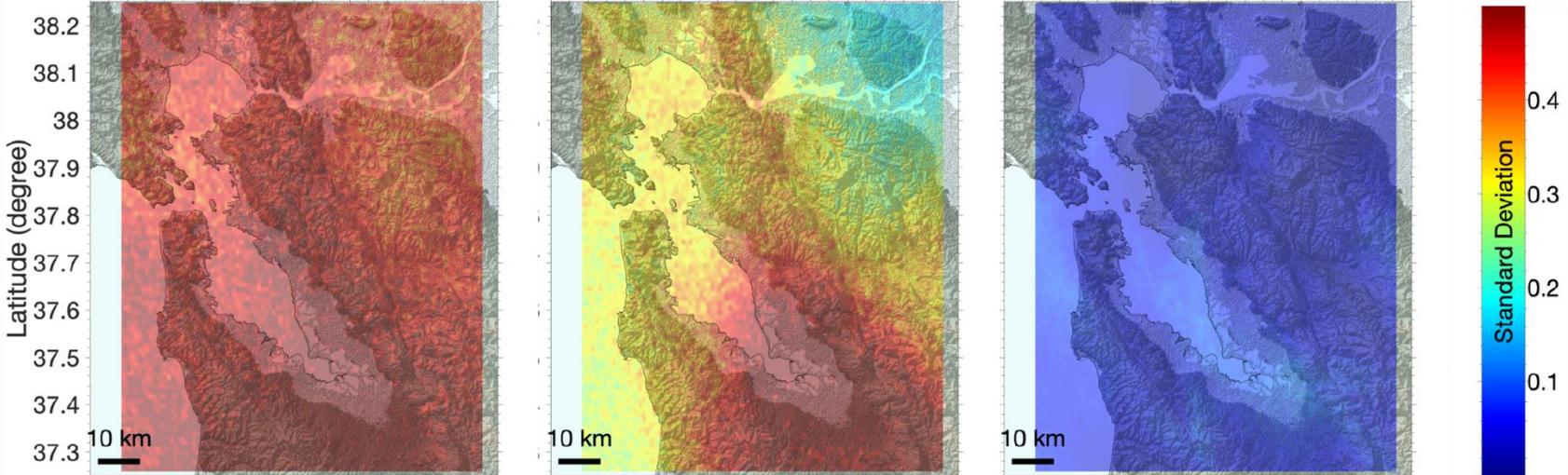
Fourier Amplitude Spectra at 14 Hz

$$\alpha = 3e^{-5}$$

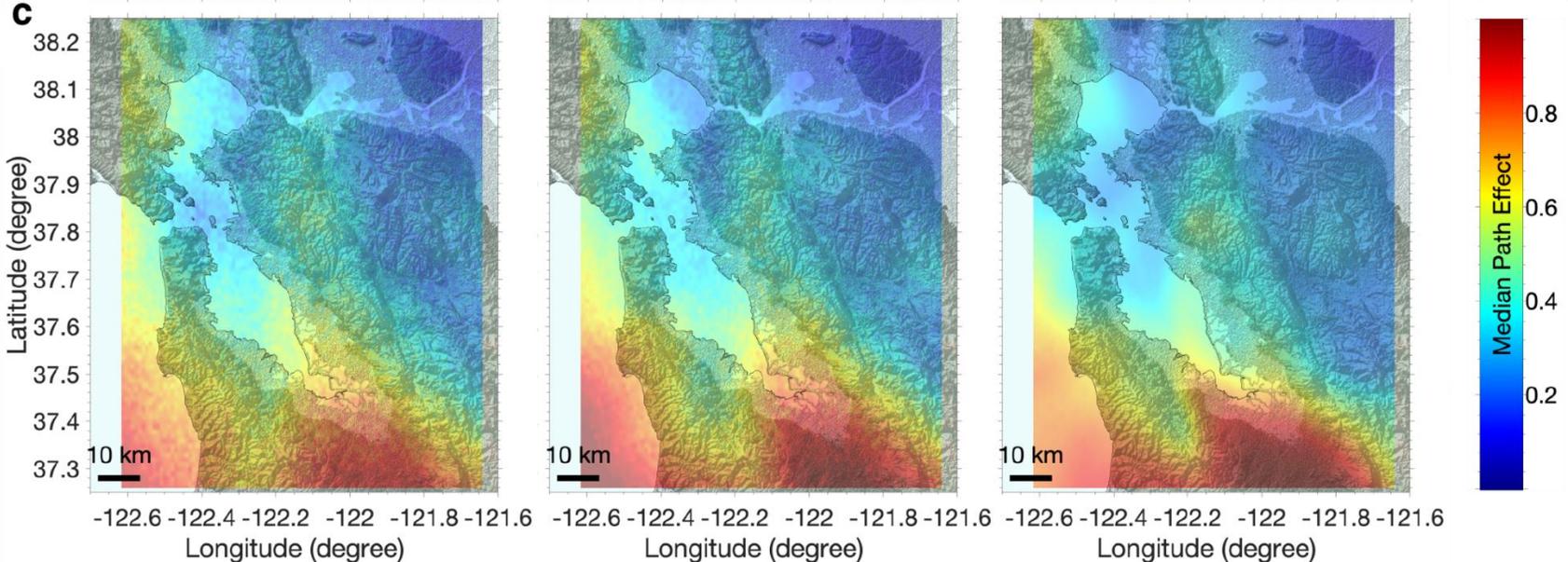
$$\alpha = 3e^{-4}$$

$$\alpha = 6e^{-4}$$

Standard deviation
of generated data

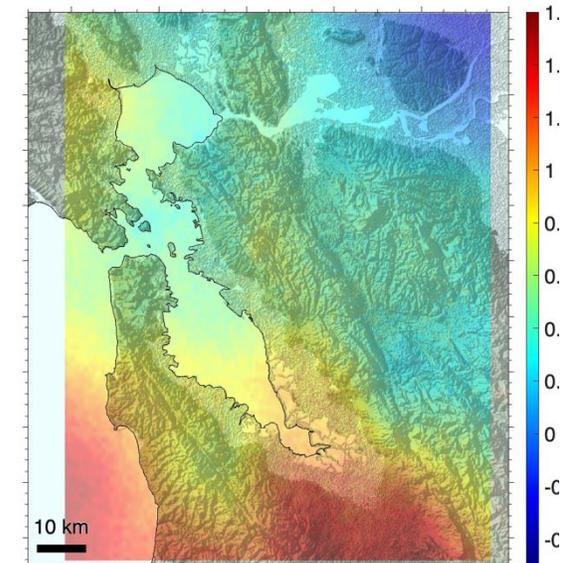
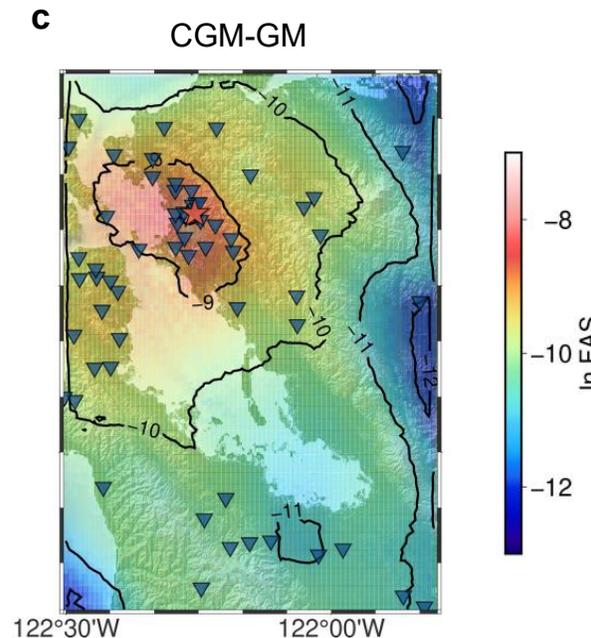
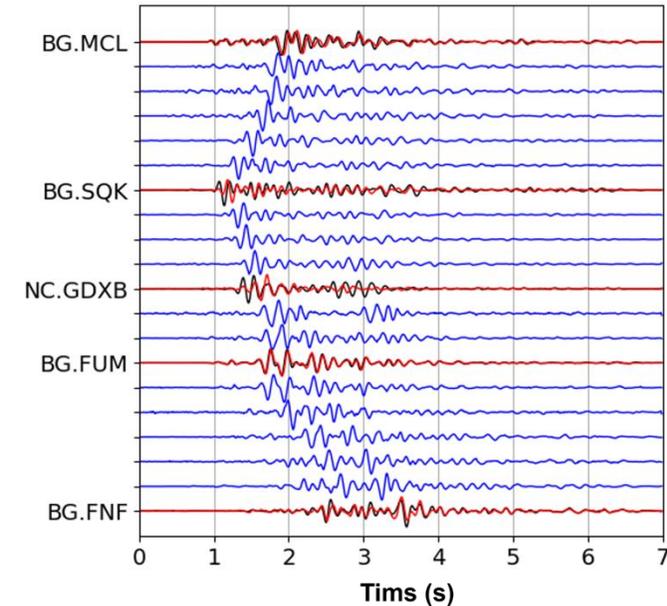


Mean
of generated data

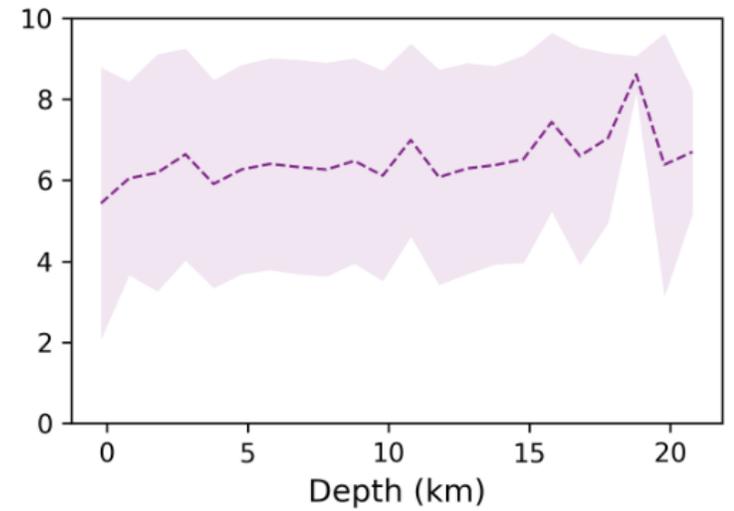
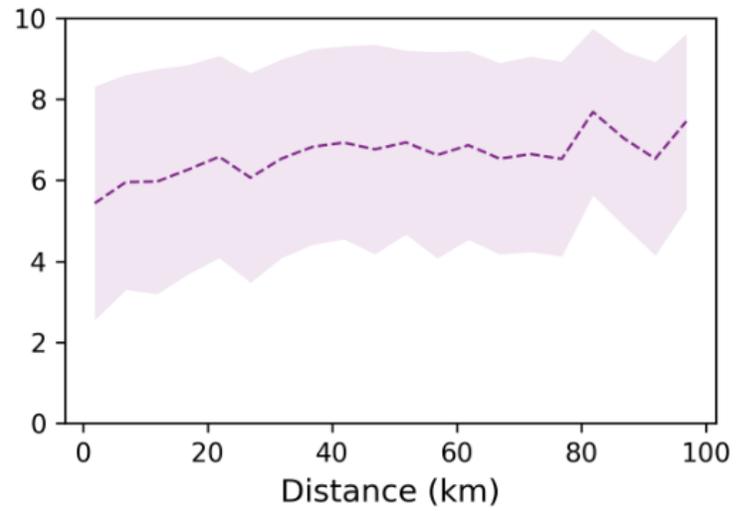
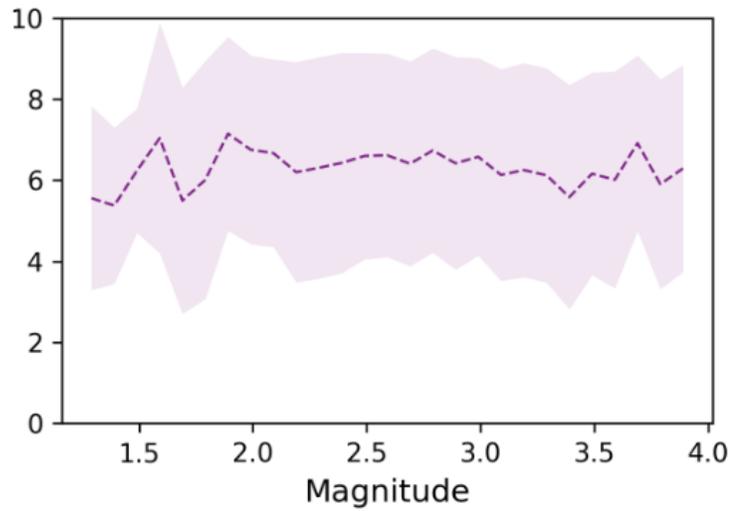


Conclusions

- GenAI can provide the approximation of synthetic wavefields.
 - No physics constraints, Interpolation, Uncertainty quantification
 - Strong motion simulation/Ground motion prediction
 - Seismic imaging, inversion....
- Currently working on evaluating credibility, resolution, generalization
 - Develop ergodic GMM using NGA-West2 data (Supported by SCEC)
 - Synthetic tests to evaluate “physics”
 - Inversion



Anderson's Criteria



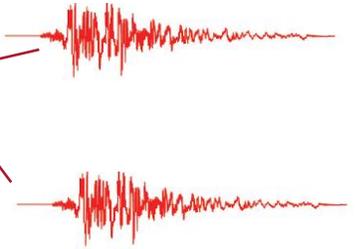
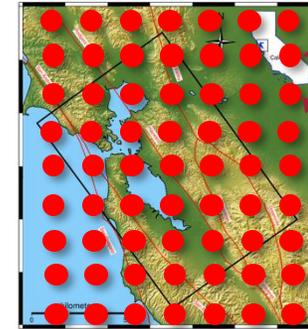
Physics-based EQSIM: DOE Exascale computing project (ECP)

Input

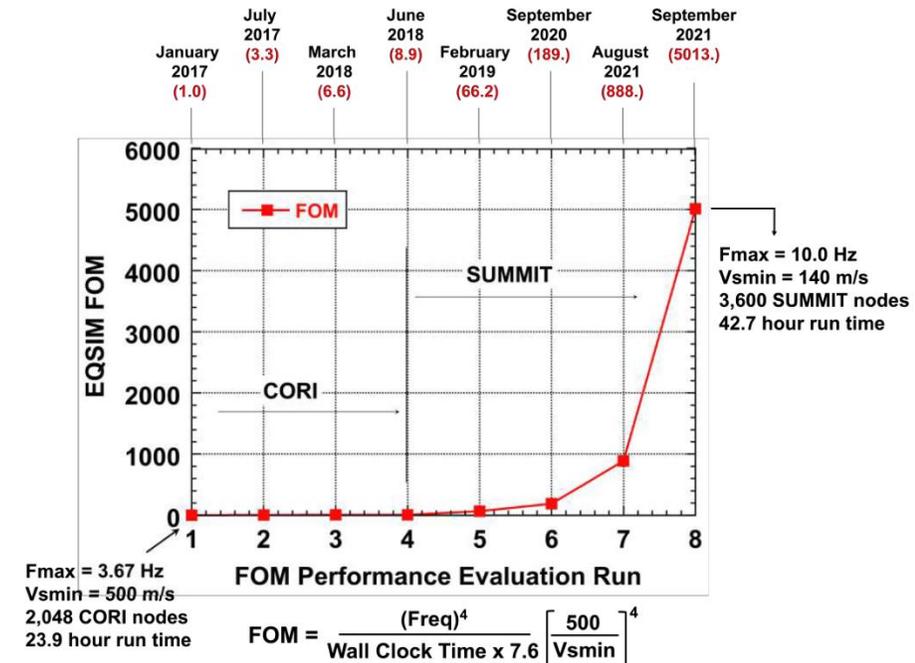
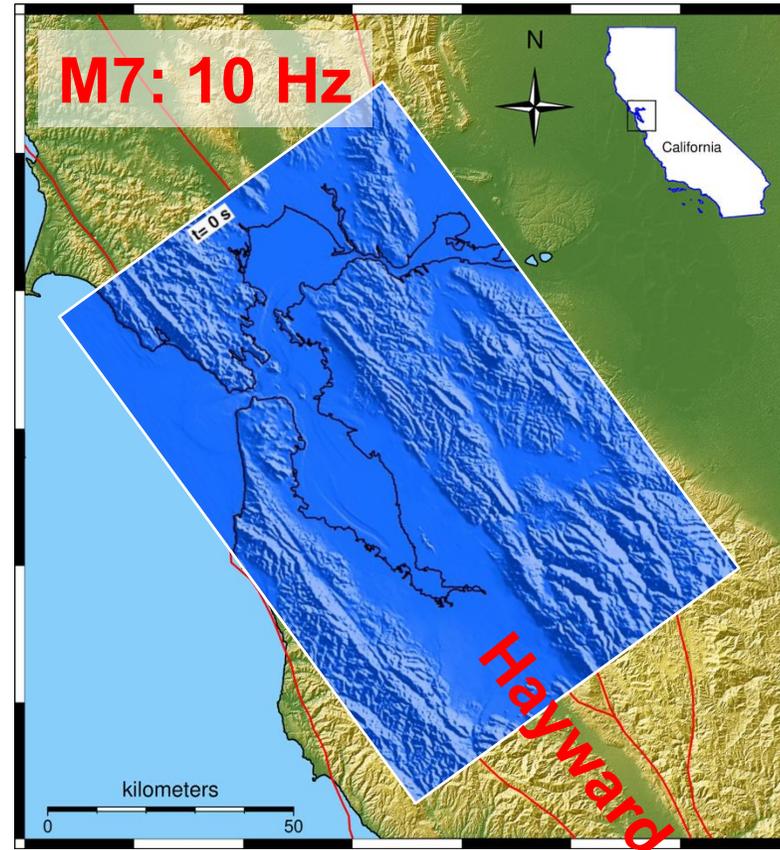
3D Earth model
Earthquake scenarios
Sensor locations

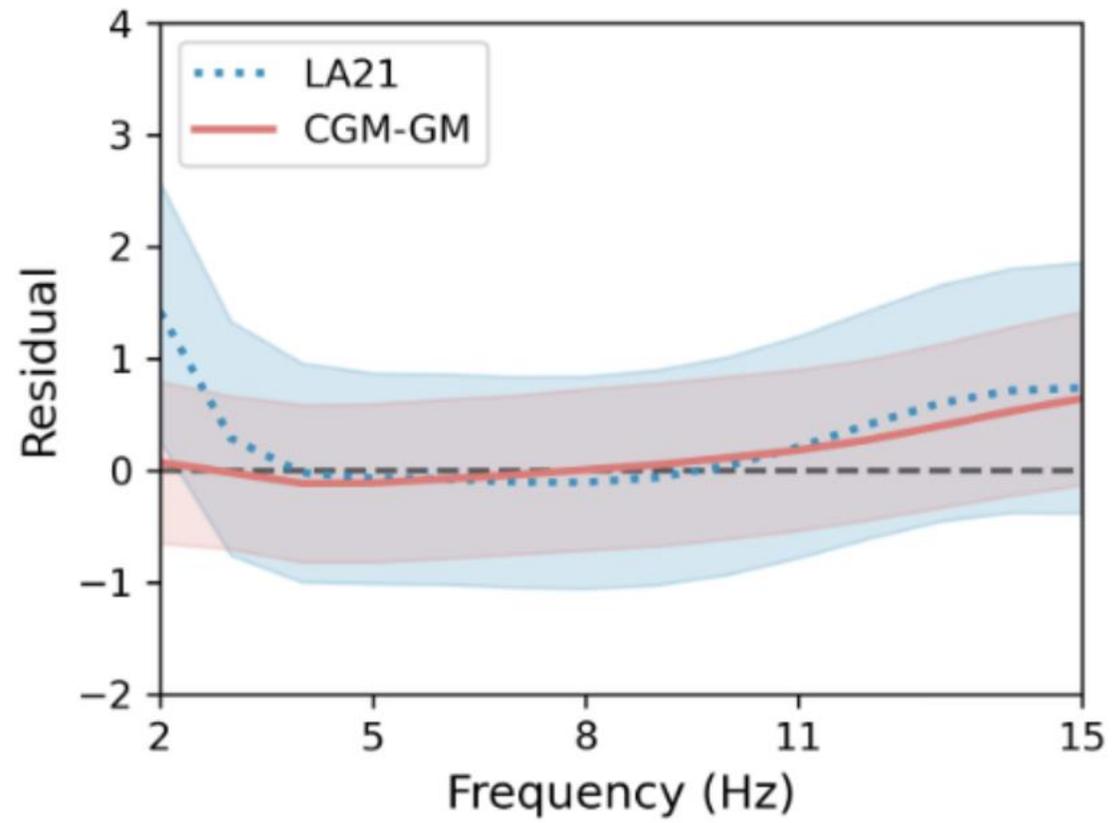
Phys.
EQSIM

Output



M7 Hayward
Fmax = 10 Hz
Computational domain
 120 x 80 x 30 km
Grid points
 391 billion
Grid size at ground surface
 1.75 m
3,600 Summit GPU nodes
42.7 hour run time
Ground motion data
 267 TB (2.6 TB comp)





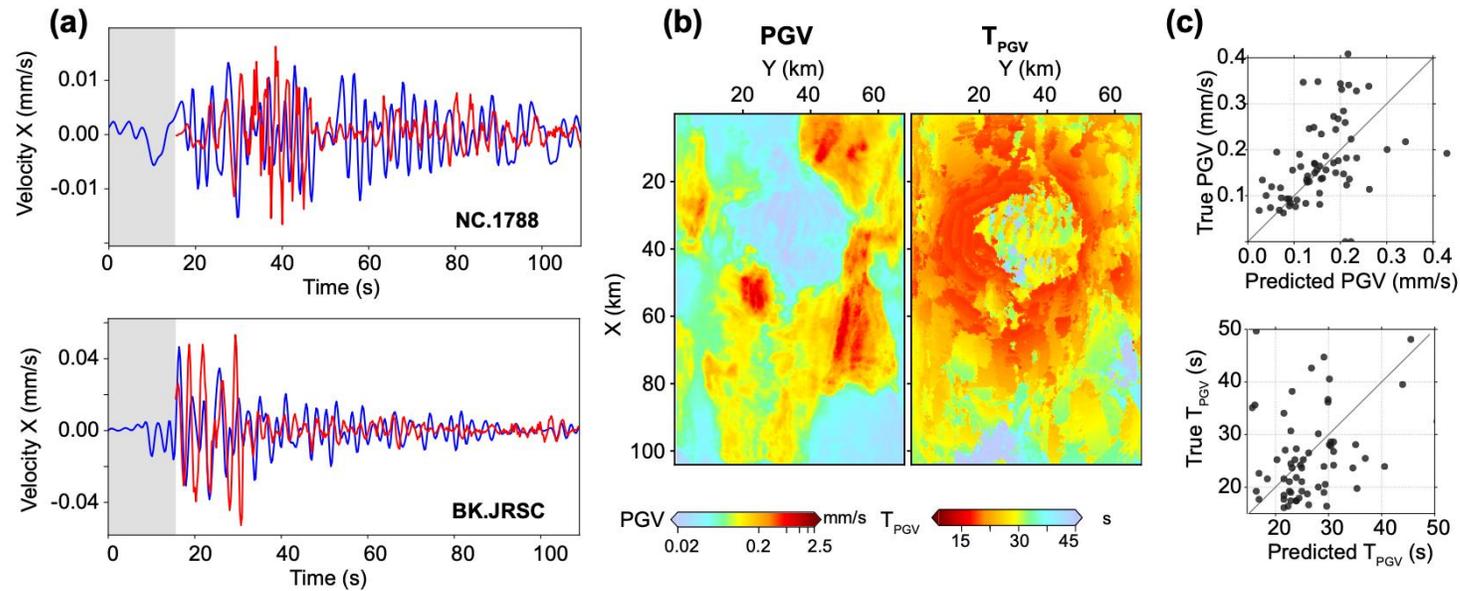
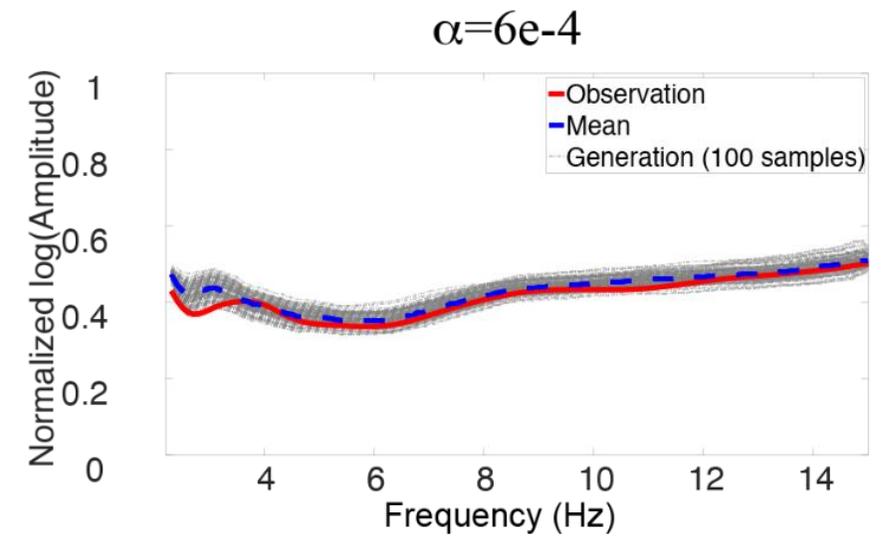


Figure 8: Results for a real-data example in which WaveCastNet is applied to the 2018 Berkeley earthquake (magnitude 4.4, depth 12.3 km). (a) X-component velocity waveforms at stations NC.1788 (San Jose) and BK.JRSC (Palo Alto), with WaveCastNet predictions shown in red and observed waveforms in blue. The gray shaded regions indicate the 15.6-second input window used for inference. (b) Spatial maps of predicted peak ground velocity (PGV, left) and its arrival time T_{PGV} (right). (c) Scatter plots comparing predicted and observed values for PGV (top) and T_{PGV} (bottom).

Model	High fidelity	Fast sampling	Training stability	Compression
VAE	✗	✓	✓	✓
GAN	✓	✓	✗	✗
DM	✓	✗	✓	✗

100 realizations for the best data fit



Fitting data can reduce data variability

