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# **Dead Sea Karst System Dynamics**

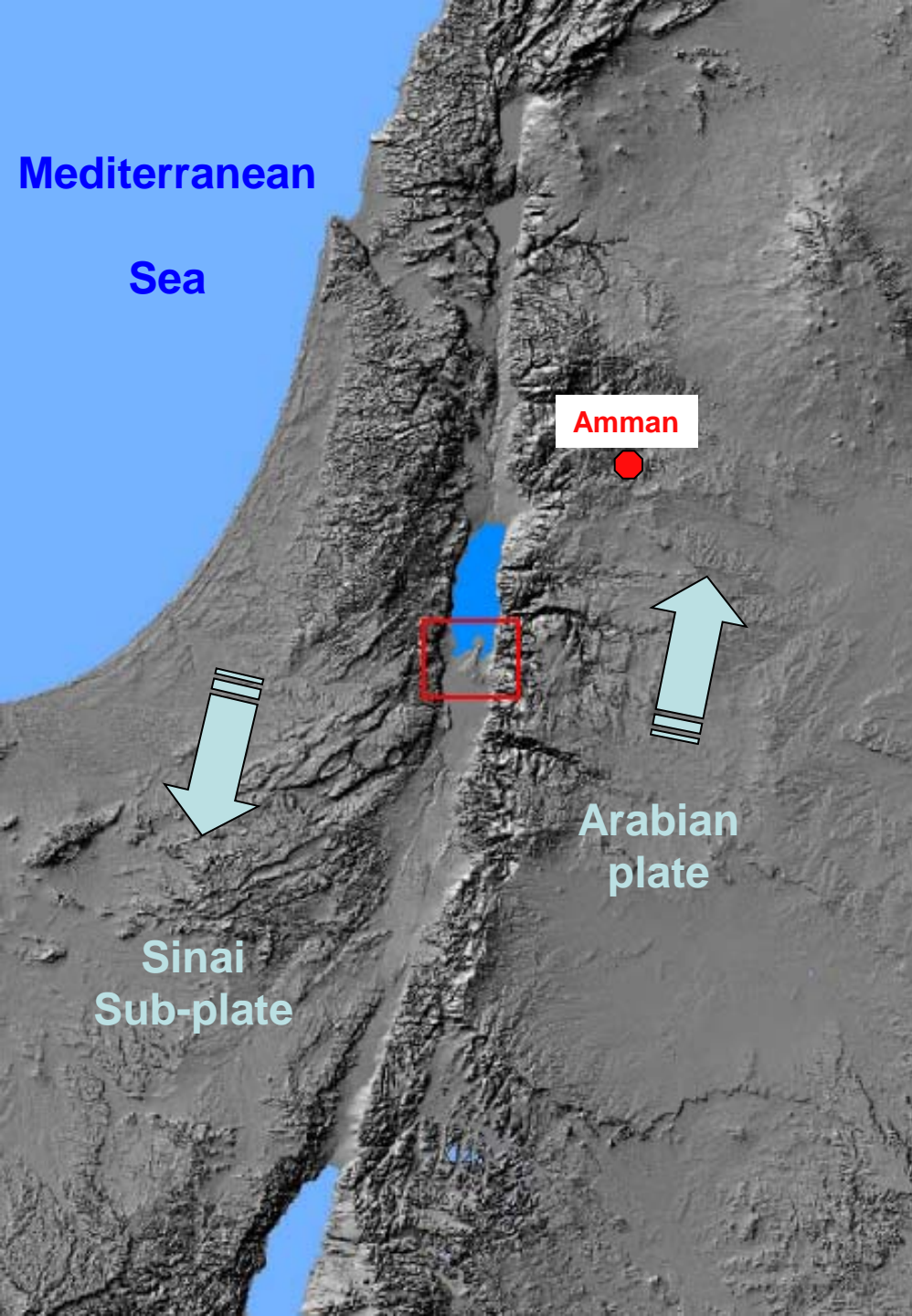
## **Measured with Insar PS and SBAS Techniques**

NH8 - Environmental and other Hazards (Heavy Metals, Karst, Radon, Space Weather)

NH8.4 Sinkholes: from susceptibility to risk evaluation and mapping

**EGU 2011 – Poster XY 383**



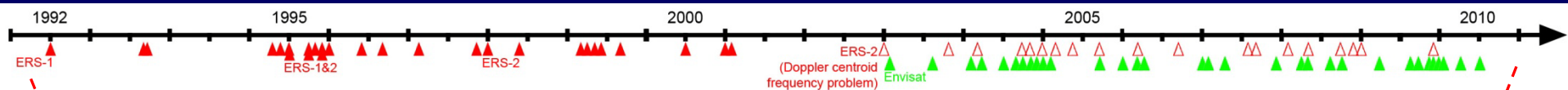


## Tectonic Setting

The Dead Sea Transform (DST), also known as the Dead Sea Fault System, is a north-south striking left-lateral shear zone extending from the incipient oceanic ridge (Red Sea) in the south to the Taurus plate collision in the north (Turkey).

About 105-110 km of left-lateral displacement between the African and Arabian tectonic plates took place along this fault system during the last 15 million years.

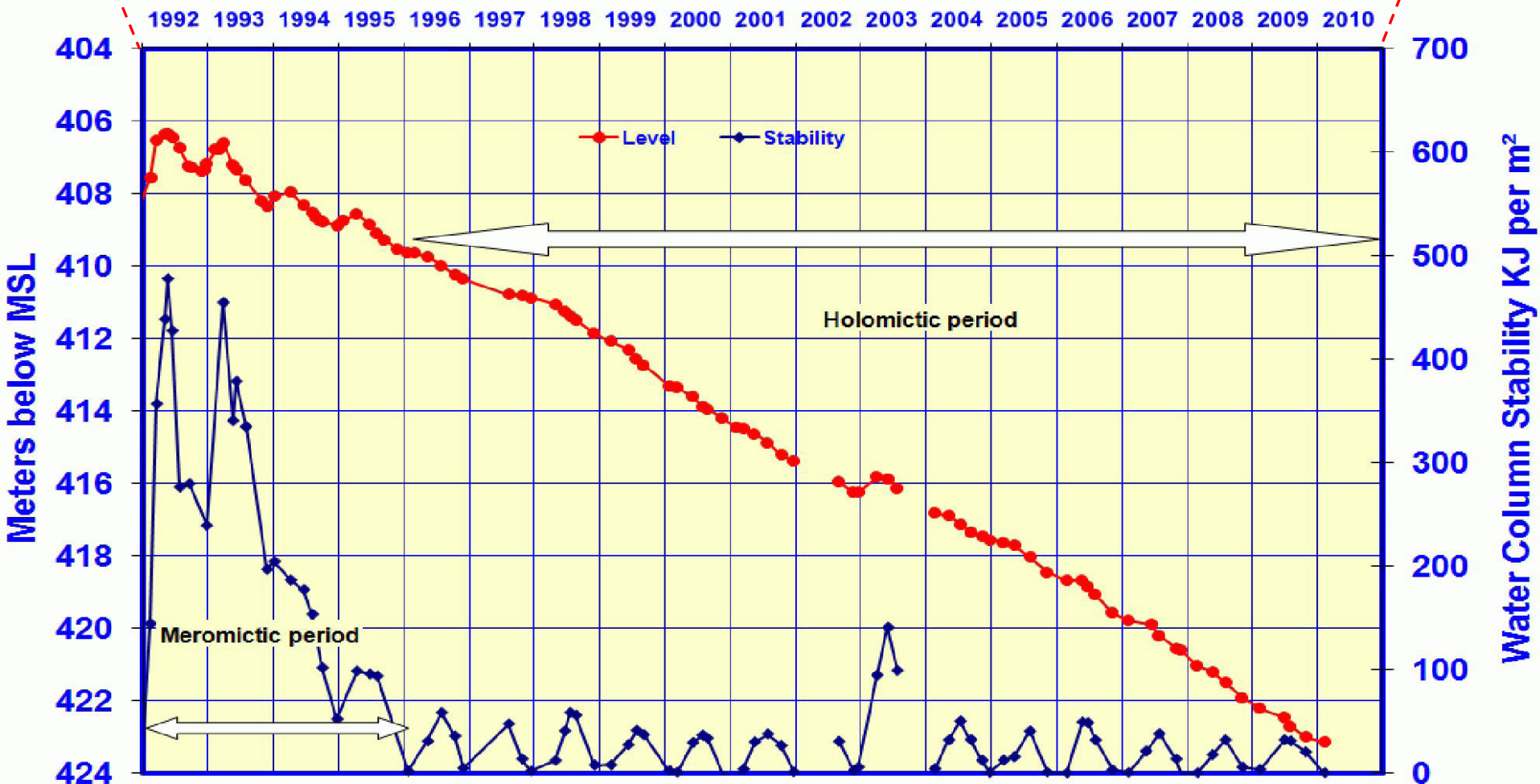
The average rate of motion during the last 5 million years is 5 millimeters per year.



## ERS and Envisat dataset processed from 1992 to 2010



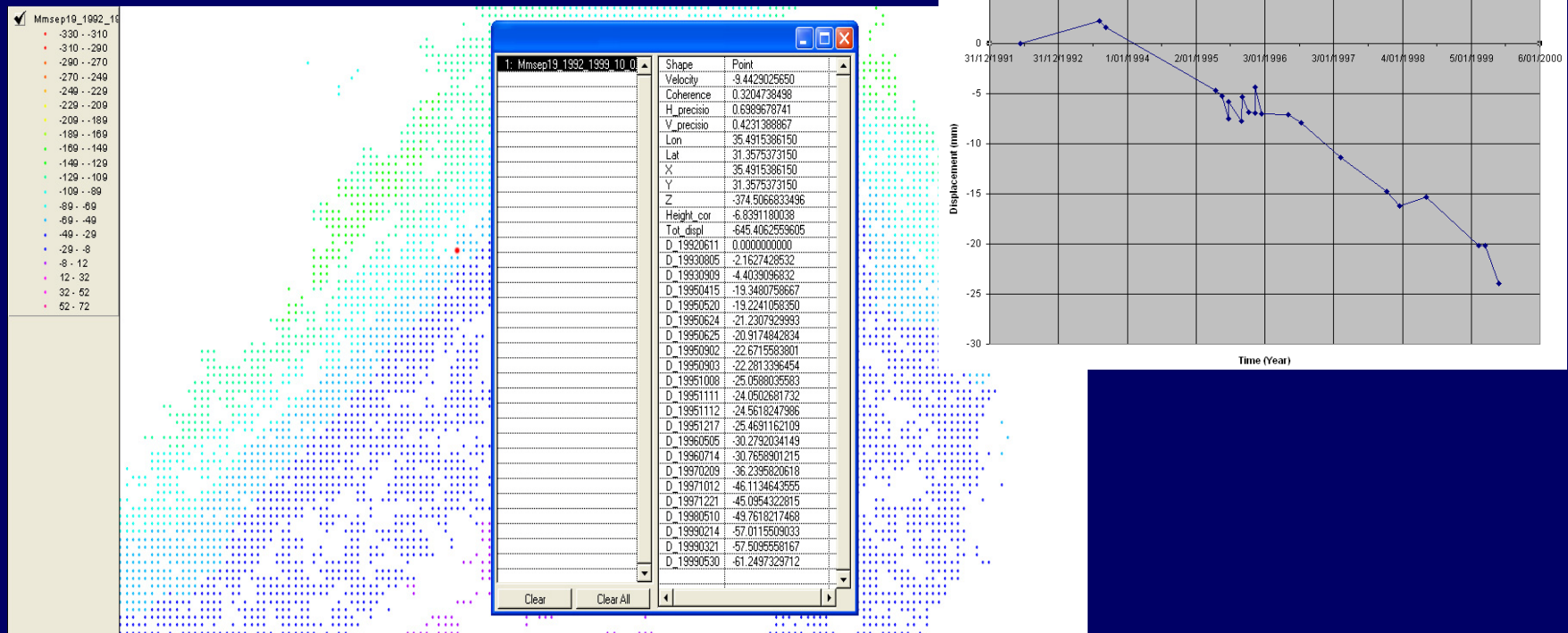
### Changes in the Surface Level of the Dead Sea & in the Total Stability of the Dead Sea Water Column





# PS & SBAS Techniques

The SBAS processing [1] has been carried out by exploiting the Interferometric Stacking module of the **SARscape**®[2] COTS software package. Two separate time series, one for the ERS-1/2 and one for the ASAR data, have been analyzed. The pixels that show consistent radar backscatter have been identified over the area, and both a location time series and an average displacement rate has been derived for them, with an accuracy respectively better than 1cm for every data or better then 1cm / year.



[1] Berardino, P.; Fornaro, G.; Lanari, R.; Sansosti, E.; , "A new algorithm for surface deformation monitoring based on small baseline differential SAR interferograms," *Geoscience and Remote Sensing, IEEE Transactions on* , vol.40, no.11, pp. 2375- 2383, Nov 2002.

[2] <http://www.sarmap.ch/pdf/SARscapeTechnical.pdf>

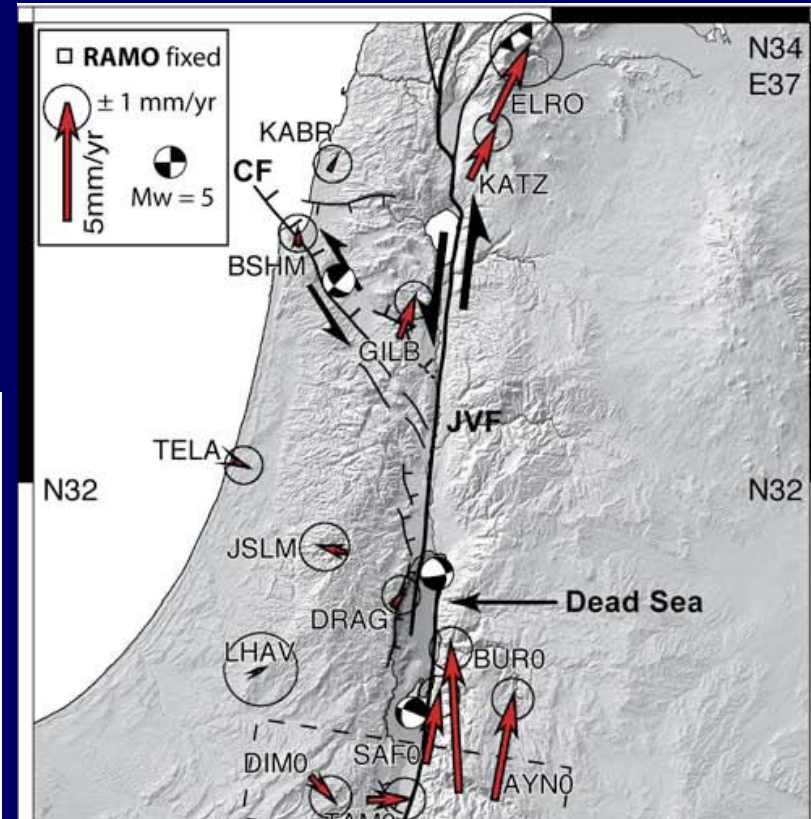
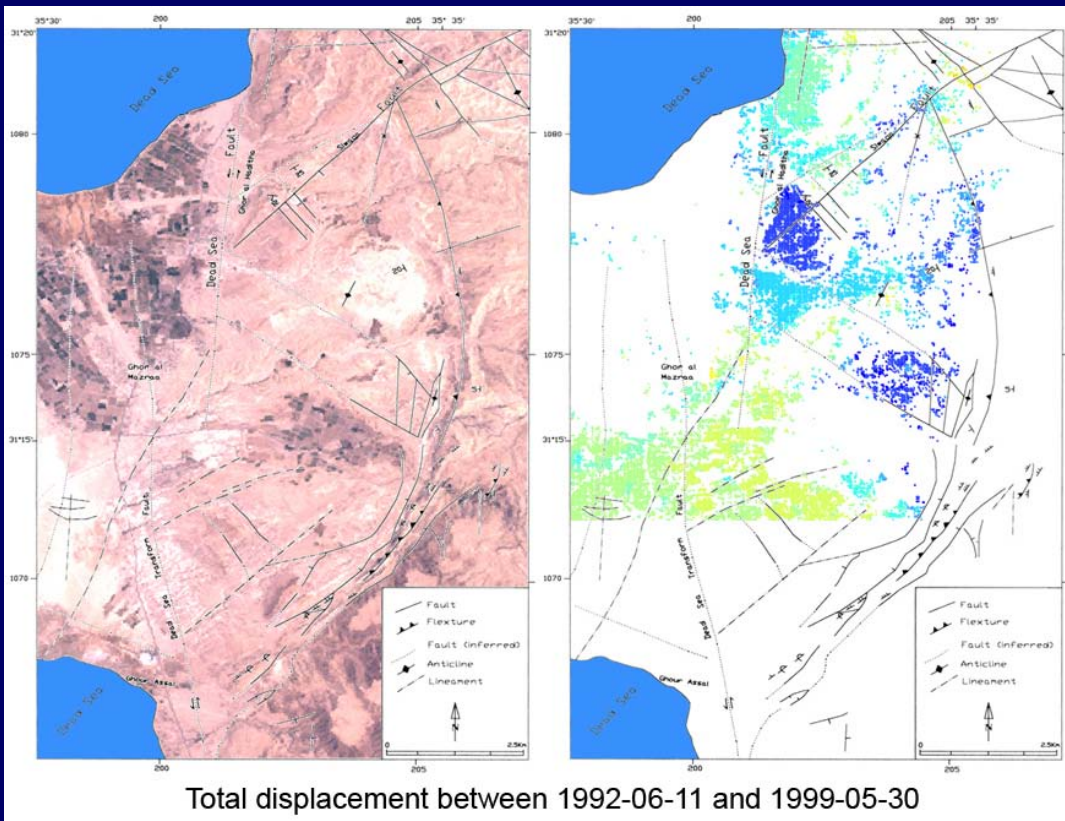
## Preliminary Results

- **Validation**

General agreement between our work with previous ones about the period 1992-1999

- **Added value of this work**

Extended the periods of observation  
1992-2001 & 2003-2010



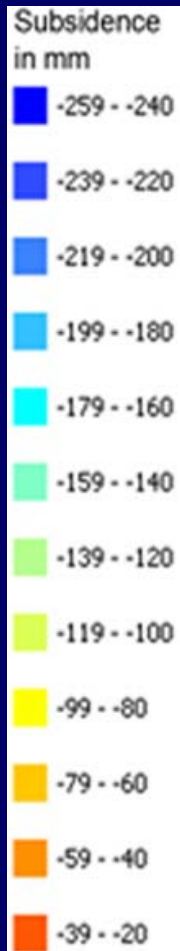
**Source:** Le Beon, M., Y. Klinger, A. Q. Amrat, A. Agnon, L. Dorbath, G. Baer, J.-C. Ruegg, O. Charade, and O. Mayyas (2008), *Slip rate and locking depth from GPS profiles across the southern Dead Sea Transform*, J. Geophys. Res., 113, B11403, doi:10.1029/2007JB005280.



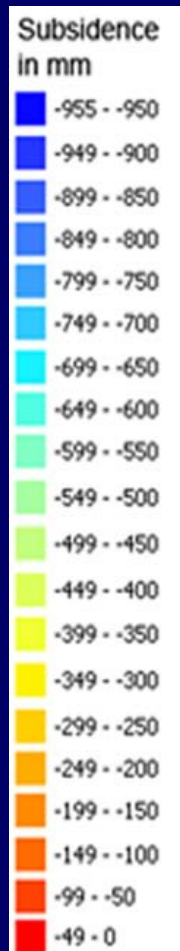
## New Results

Salt karst deformations along the Dead Sea coast mapped with ALOS palsar radar images. Closson, Damien; Abou Karaki, Najib; Milisavljevic, Nada; Hallot, Frédéric; Acheroy, Marc; Meghraoui, Mustapha EGU General Assembly 2010, held 2-7 May, 2010 in Vienna, Austria, p.4065

1992-2001  
Ref Img 1992



2003-2010  
Ref Img 2003



### Questions

- Is there a limit to the increase of subsidence ?
- What will happened in this decade to the agricultural, industrial and touristic infrastructures?



Source: [www.sciencephoto.com](http://www.sciencephoto.com)





Total displacement between 1992-06-11 and 1999-05-30

See also XY579 EGU2011-9342: Paolo Pasquali, Damien Closson, Paolo Riccardi, Alessio Cantone, and Massimo Barbieri  
Comparison of Interferometric SAR and Multispectral time series for determination of Atmospheric Phase Screen