

Unravelling the upper mantle heterogeneity from integrated multi-observable inversions









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Lithosphere-upper mantle thermochemical structure: why bother?

✓ Mantle flow informing plate tectonics: density+ viscosity

✓ What supports the Earth's surface topography?

✓ Cooling of oceanic lithosphere: half-space vs plate model?

✓ Mid Oceanic Ridges: composition, temperature, spreading rate

✓ Mantle plumes: temperature and composition

✓ Stability of cratonic continental lithosphere

Many techniques/observations: just ONE Earth...



New WINTERC-grav global upper mantle thermochemical model

Satellite gravity



Topography



Seismic tomography





- ✓ Jointly modelling waveform tomography, elevation and satellite gravity data
- Sensitivity analysis of different data sets

Connect mineral physics & petrology & thermodynamics with geophysics



Integrated 1-,2- and 3-D forward and inversion regional modelling software: LitMod (Afonso et al., 2008, Fullea et al., 2009)

New WINTERC-grav global upper mantle thermochemical model



Fullea et al., in prep

✓ Two step global inversion:

- Step 1 WINTERC: 1D- surface wave , surface elevation, heat flow
- Step 2 WINTERC-grav 3D- gravity field data
- ✓ Thermodynamic parameterization of physical properties (rho, Vs, Vp): LitMod built in

✓ Focus on the lithosphere-uppermost mantle: temperature and composition

WINTERC: seismic data

Waveform inversion



Seismogram reflecting Earth's structure along a path connecting earthquake and seismometer



Phase velocity dispersion curves for each point (geographical coordinates grid).

- ✓ 3D distribution of seismic velocities, currently using 6242 stations and 25496 events worldwide
- ✓ Sensitivity mostly to temperature and also composition
- ✓ 12,500 1D Columns (about 200 km inter knot spacing)

WINTERC-grav: gravity field & elevation data

3D Satellite gravity data (GOCE, XGM2016)



- ✓ Surface elevation is approximately in isostatic equilibrium (except dynamic topography)
- ✓ Sensitivity to density distribution
 - ✓ Gravity data inversion: Intrinsically non-unique

WINTERC, step 1: inversion setting



✓ 1D Inversion of surface wave tomography data, elevation and heat flow

- ✓ Crustal structure: density, seismic velocities, heat production and thickness
- ✓ Mantle structure: Thermal lithosphere (LAB) and sublithospheric temperature; mantle composition
- ✓ Radial anisotropy

WINTERC, step 1: inversion setting



* Correlation between oxides regardless of tectonic age or facies from petrological data base (>2900 samples from xenoliths, perid. Massifs and ophiolites) (Afonso et al., 2013) Melting trend

- ✓ Mantle composition described by Al2O3 and FeO independent variables (CaO and MgO=F(Al2O3))
- ✓ Chemical parameterization following melting trend, analogous to pyrolite (Harz+basalt)

WINTERC-grav, step 2: inversion setting

Physical properties-derivatives @ P=7.6 Gpa and FeO=7.9 wt% (Perple_X)



- Temperature affects density and Vp, Vs similarly
- Composition affects mostly density

WINTERC-grav, step 2: gravity field

- ✓ 3D Gravity data inversion regularized by temperature & composition from WINTERC (step1: surface wave, elevation and SHF data)
- ✓ Variables for the gravity inversion are the composition (Al2O3) of lithosphere and sublithosphere and crustal density
- ✓ Geoid anomaly constrains upper mantle density, gravity grads@255 km constrain crustal density



WINTERC-grav: new crustal model

Differences in crustal thickness for WINTERC_grav with respect to CRUST1.0 (within the uncertainties statistically estimated from Szwillus et al., 2019)



2600 2650 2700 2750 2800 2850 2900 2950 3000 3050 3100

Crustal model Szwillus (GSC) Uncertainty

- ✓ Geometry (Moho depth, uppermid/lower crust)variations
- ✓ Vs, Vp upper-mid/lower crust
- ✓ Average density

WINTERC-grav: Lithosphere & mantle composition

Moho depth







✓ High Al2O3→fertile, low Mg#, Low Al2O3→refractory, high Mg#

- ✓ Mantle plumes: fertile and hot; Cratons: refractory and cold
- ✓ Sublithosphere is more refractory in Pacific than Atlantic and Indian oceans

WINTERC-grav: temperature



✓ Mantle plumes are warmer than the ambient mantle

✓ Continental cratonic cores remain cold down to the transition zone (Specially N America, E Europe and W Australia)

WINTERC-grav: density (T,C) density @260 km depth









- ✓ Density=F(temperature, Composition)
- ✓ Densest sublithospheric mantle in Eastern Europe

WINTERC-grav uncertainties: Posterior covariances step 1 Waveform tomography+elevation+SHF



- ✓ Each model column: full covariance matrix
- ✓ Thermal lithospheric thickness is the best resolved parameter
- ✓ Uncertainty increases with depth (temperature, composition)

WINTERC-grav uncertainties: Posterior covariances step 2 Gravity field



- ✓ Covariance matrix computed at coarser model resolution (20 deg) but full resolution at observations $G_{ij} = \left(\frac{\partial g_{3D}(m_{post})_i}{\partial m_i}\right)$
- ✓ Crust density better resolved in continents than in oceans
- ✓ Mantle composition better resolved in oceans than in continents

WINTERC-grav: 1D average temperature and density



✓ Average adiabatic gradient 0.55-0.6 K/km (depth >200 km)

✓ Average mantle potential temperature 1300-1320 C (depth >200 km)



✓ Solid line WINTERC-grav, dashed line: AK135, dotted line PREM, solid green Vs: Schaeffer&Lebedev 2013

✓ Uniform Vs gradien throughout the upper mantle (no need for 200 km discontinuity or gradient increase)

WINTERC-grav: Average radial anisotropy



WINTERC-grav: Isostatic/dynamic elevation

(km)

1.0



-0.6 -0.4 -0.2 0.0

-0.8

-1.0

- Good agreement in oceans with \checkmark derived independently residual maps
- continents residual/dynamic In published models show more dispersion



0.2

0.4

0.6

0.8

Isostatic residual elevation- Oceans



Rowley, 2018

WINTERC-grav: Isostatic/dynamic elevation



- ✓ Only partial correlation between upper mantle density anomalies (positive/negative) and residual isostatic elevation (positive/negative)
- ✓ Discrepancies are worse over continents (e.g., E. Europe, Greenland)
- ✓ Possible contribution from lower mantle and CMB (?)

Lithospheric composition







- ✓ Most cratons are refractory
- Plumes are hot in the sublithosphere and fertile in the lithosphere

Lithospheric composition



Global petrological data base





- ✓ General trend continents: lithospheric thickening (age increasing) fertility decrease
- ✓ Oceans: MOR's are depleted, fertility peaks at intermediate age

Thermal oceanic lithosphere: cooling model

Lithospheric thickness and heat flow vs age (5 Ma bins)





- ✓ Ocean SHF predictions match data except for lithospheric age<15 Ma approx.
- Oceans cool differently at intermediate rate between half-space and plate models

Mid Oceanic Ridges



Bulk composition MORB vs ridge depth





- D_{C} -Depth of Compensation ($\rho_{D} > \rho_{S}$) Niu and O'Hara, 2008
- Shallow ridges spread faster than deep ones
- ✓ Slab pull vs ridge push
- ✓ Fertility of mantle melt source increases with ridge depth

WINTERC-grav vs spread rate

oceanic lithosphere < 20Ma old at 10 mm/yr bins



✓ Mantle fertility and density decrease and temperature increase with spreading rate (up to 50-60 mm/yr).

Conclusions (so far...)

- ✓ WINTERC-grav: new global lithospheric/upper mantle thermochemical model integrating waveform tomography, SHF, isostasy, satellite gravity and petrology
- ✓ New crustal mode revisiting Crust1.0: geometry, density
- ✓ Mantle plumes: fertile and hot; Cratons: refractory and cold
- ✓ Pacific ocean upper mantle is more refractory and warmer (=less dense) than Indian and Atlantic oceans
- ✓ Mapping dynamic topography
- ✓ Revisiting the half-space vs plate oceanic lithosphere cooling models
- ✓ Mid Oceanic Ridges: mantle fertility-spreading rate (revisiting ridge push for slow spreading MOR's?)