

# Remote explosive volcanic eruption detection, location, and characterization using the EarthScope Transportable Array in Alaska.

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Photo: Dave Withrow  
(NOAA/Fisheries)





# Alaska stations:

228 infrasound sensors  
within 2500 km of Bogoslof:

EarthScope Transportable  
Array (TA) (new) 75%

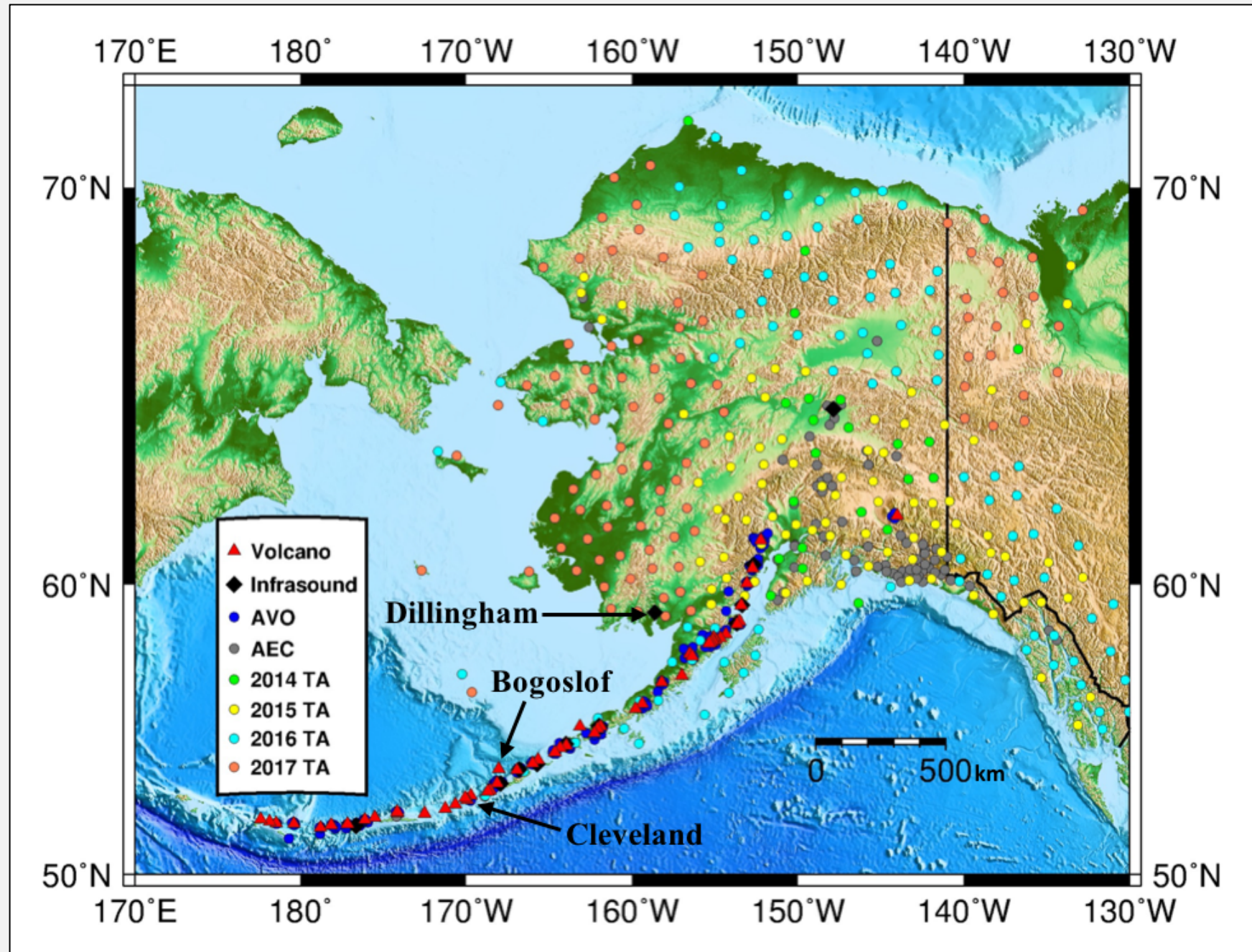
Alaska Volcano Observatory  
(AVO) 14%

Alaska Regional Network  
(AK) 4%

International Monitoring  
System (IM) 3.5%

University of Alaska Fairbanks  
(DLL) 3% \*

IRIS/IDA (II) 0.5%

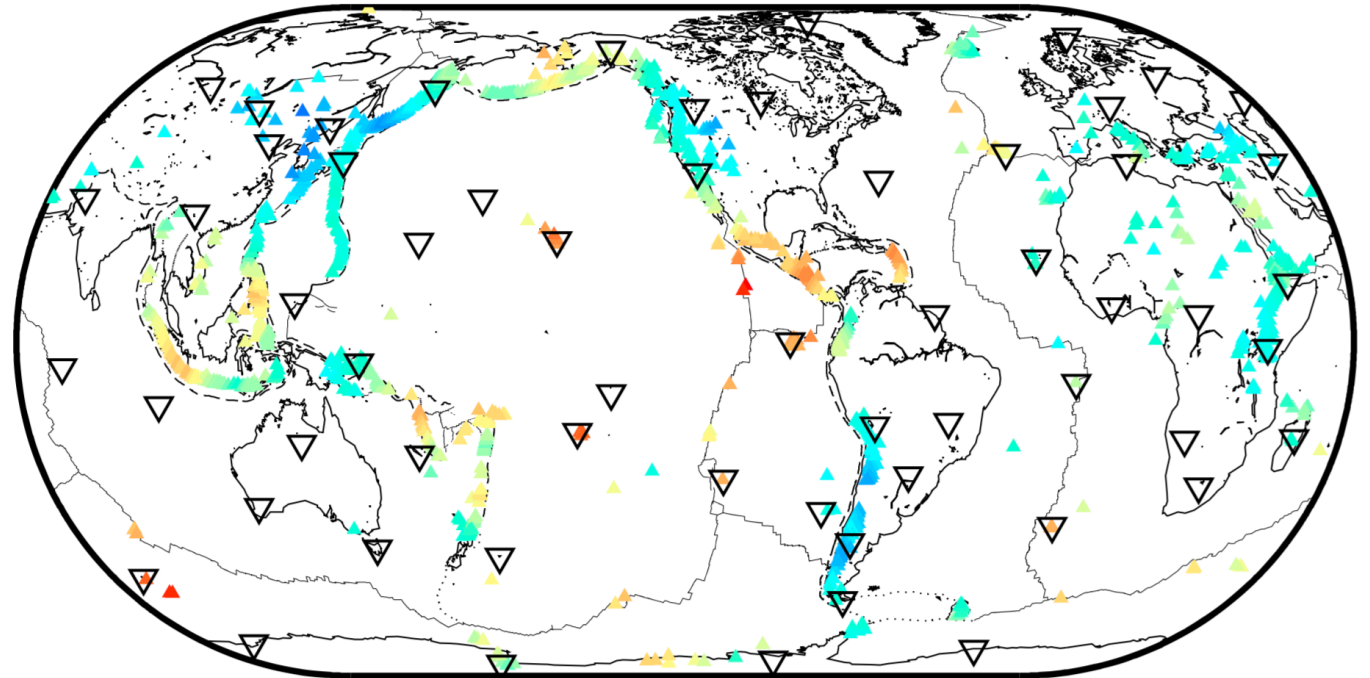


# Motivation:

1. Advance the capability of acoustic early warning systems of volcanic eruptions.
2. Quantify explosive volcanism with dense spatial wavefield sampling.
3. Assess the potential contribution of large sensor networks to volcano monitoring.

Network size	Coverage	Sensitivity, accuracy
Local	Low	High
Global	High	Low
Regional	Medium	Medium

(d) 3<sup>rd</sup> nearest station, 59 planned IMS stations



Above figure from: Matoza, et al., 2017

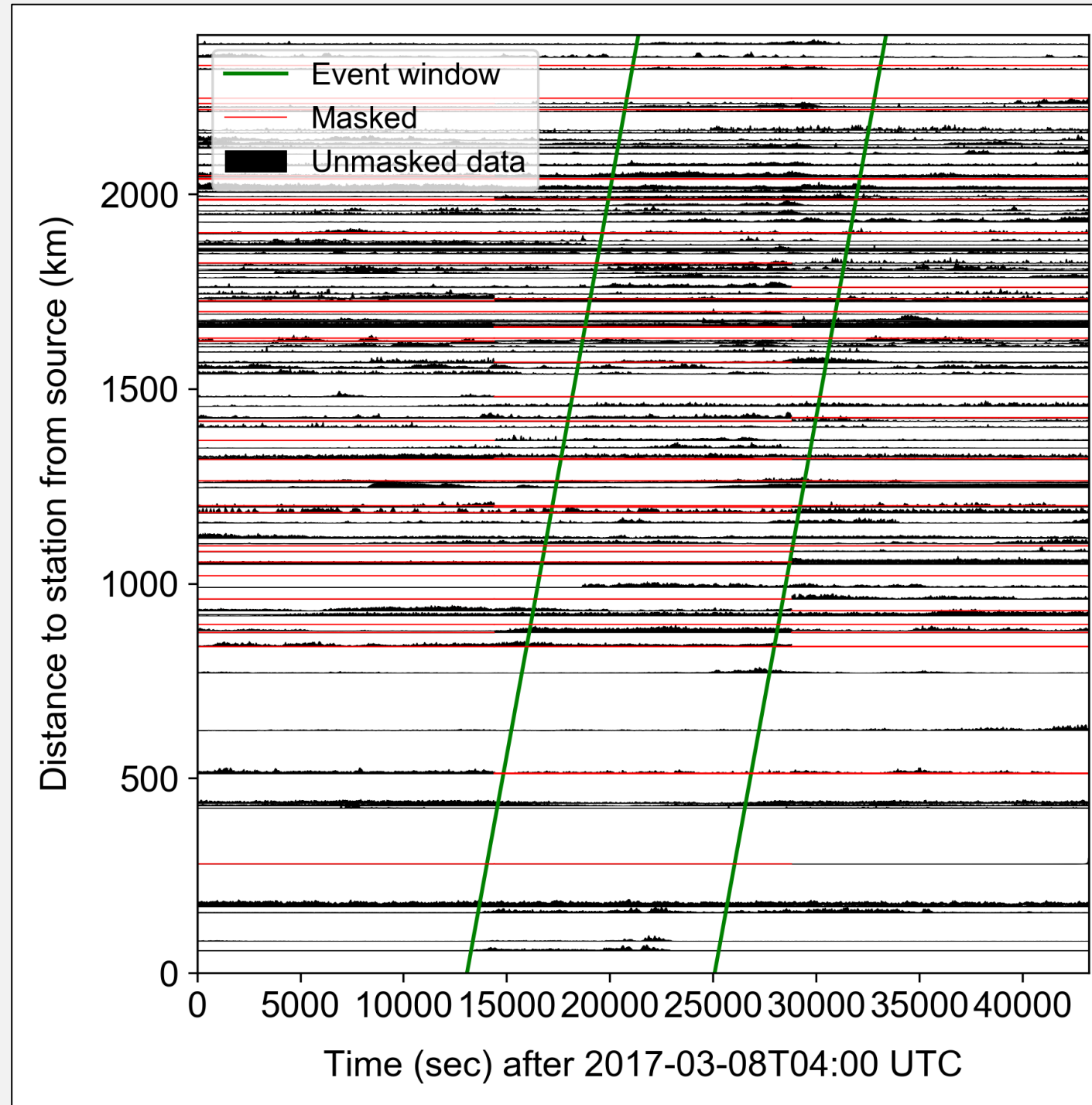
# Outline:

- Data sources ✓
- Looking for events
- Detecting events
- Locating events
- Challenges and future work



# Pre-processing steps:

- Filter (0.5 - 0.8 Hz)
- Envelopes
- Decimate to 0.5 Hz
- Smoothing (moving avg.)
- Apply wind mask (0.03-0.08 Hz)
- Normalize each trace

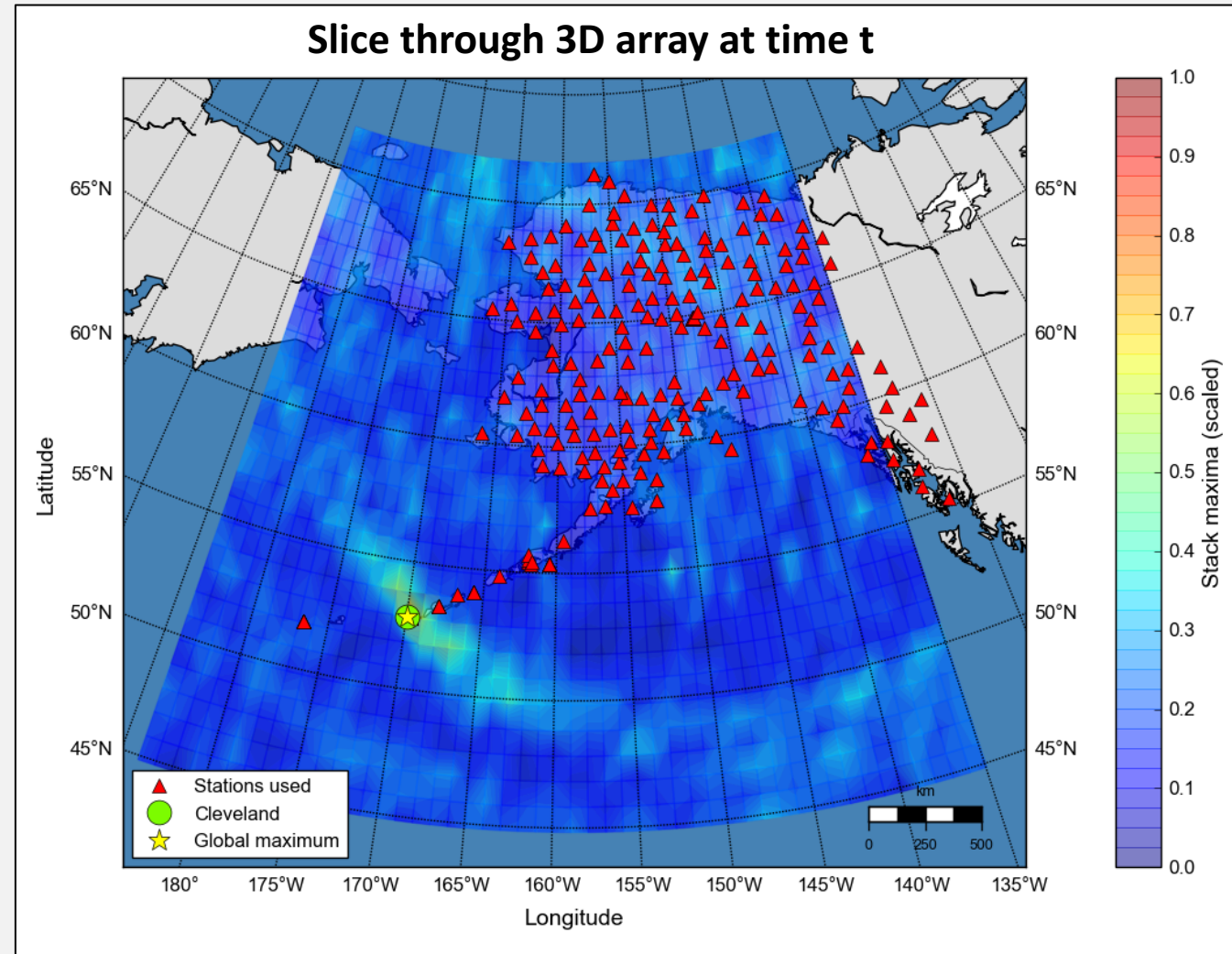
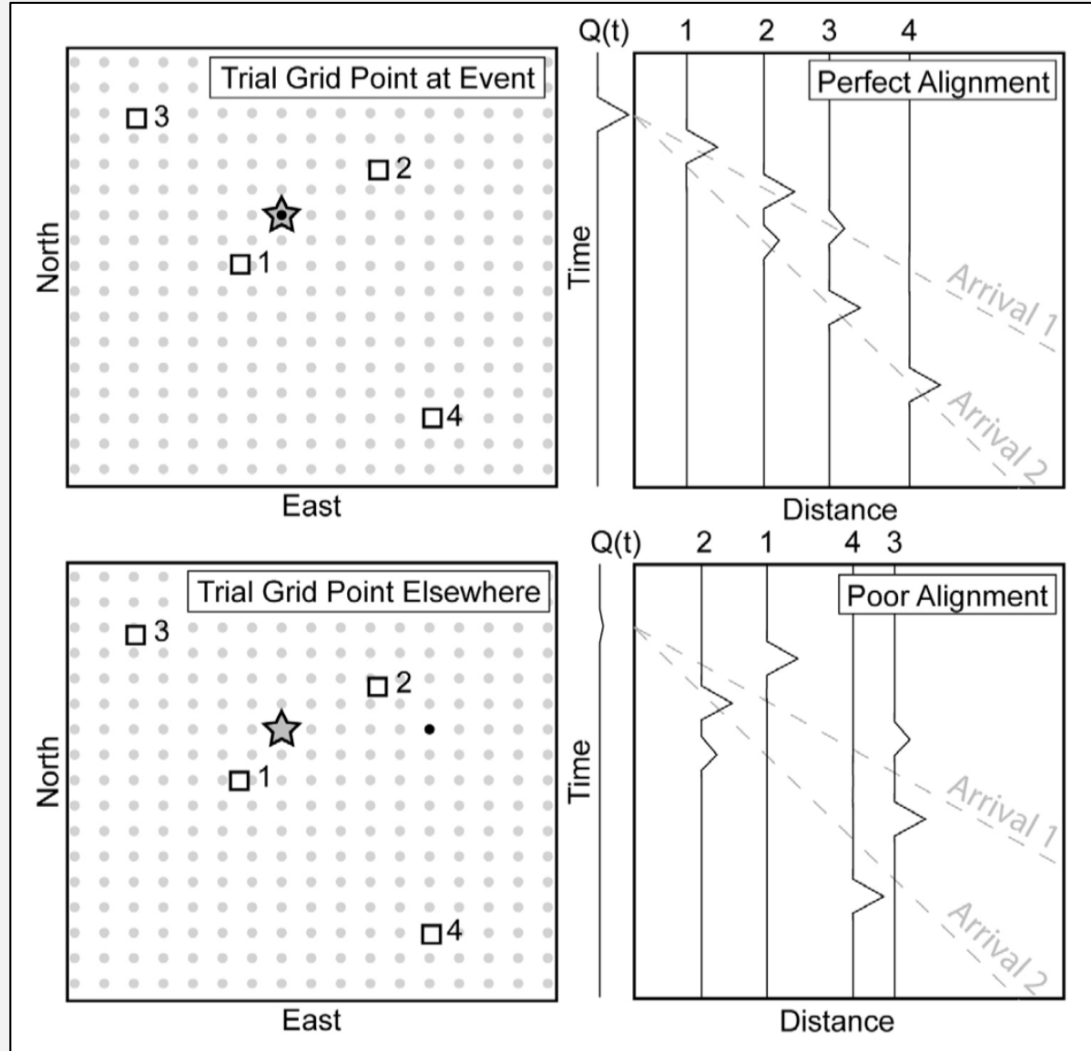


# Reverse Time Migration with linear stacking:

Grid search => 4D array (x,y,t,c)

c = constant celerity  
(range/time)

Sort 4D array => 3D array (x,y,t)



Above figure from: Walker, et al., 2010

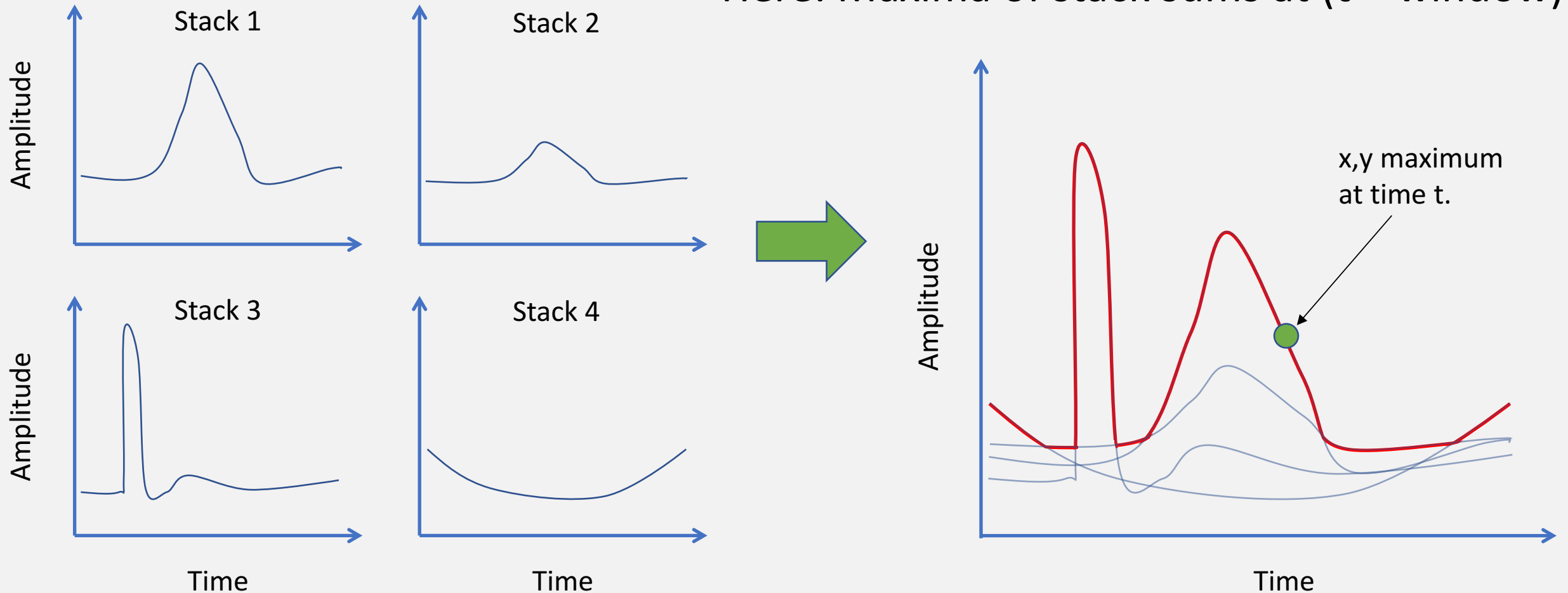
# Detecting events:

“Detector functions” (Walker et al., 2010)

Walker et al., 2010: Maxima of stacks at  $t$

Here: Maxima of stack sums at  $(t + \text{window})$

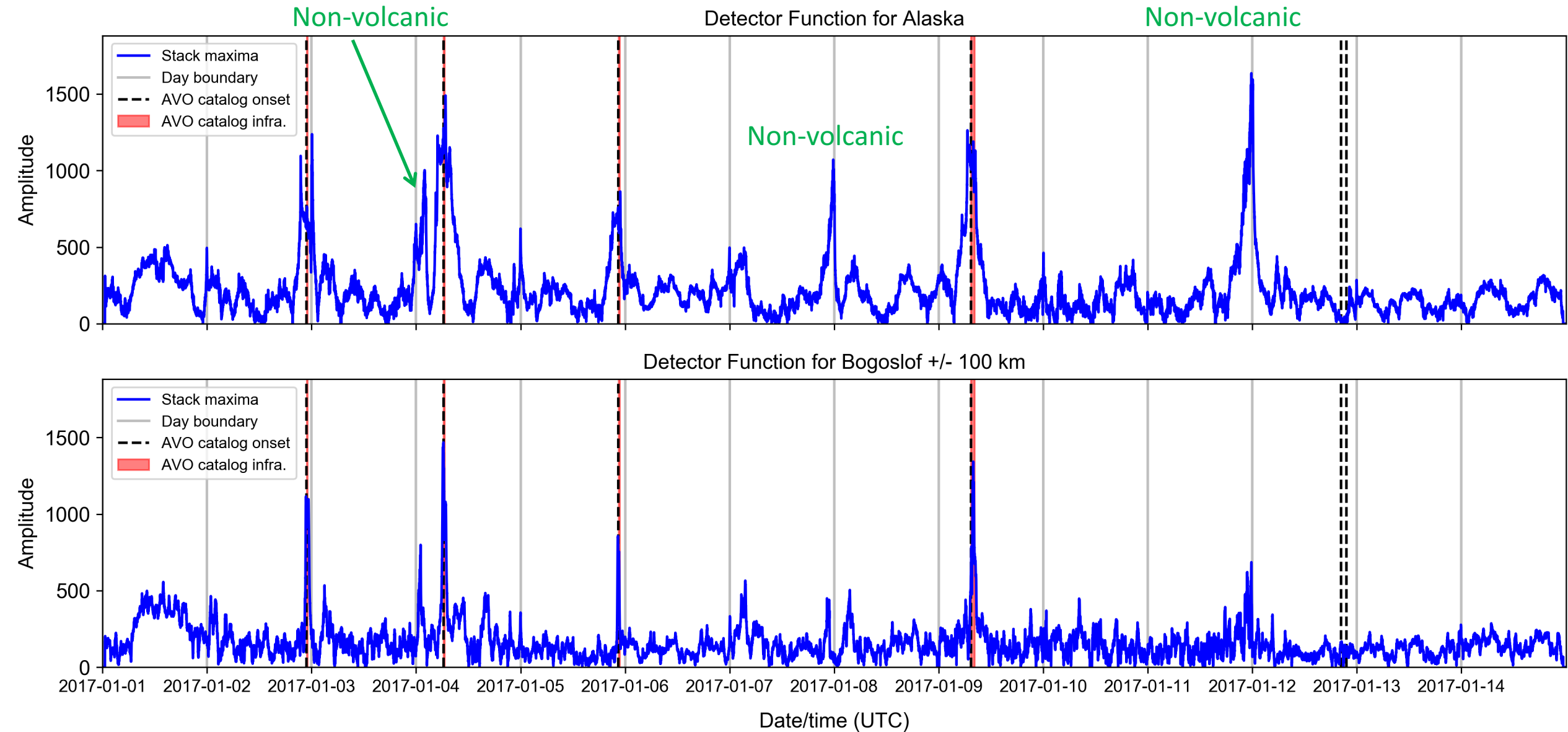
Stack at each grid node





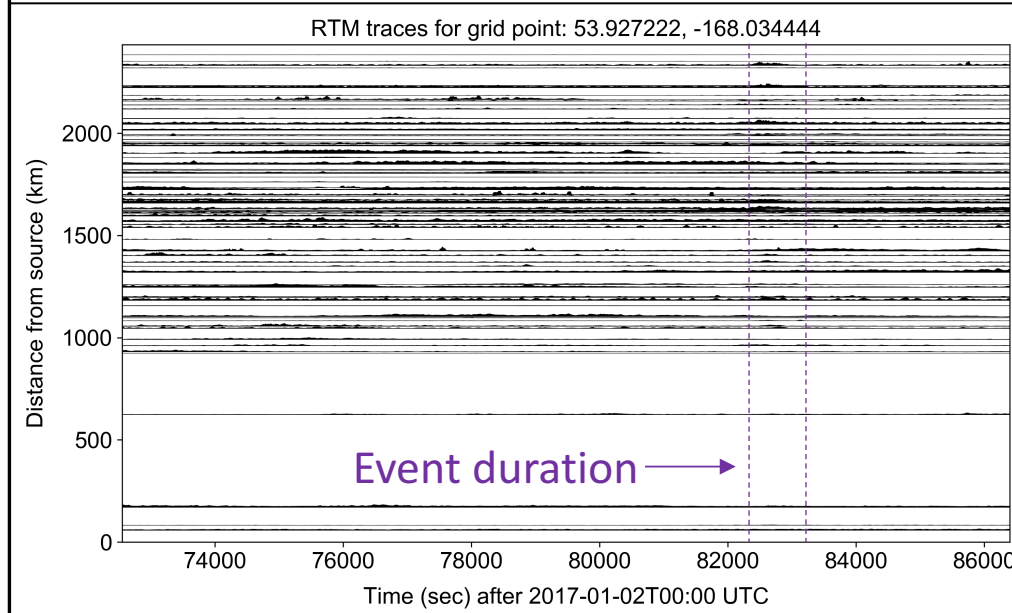
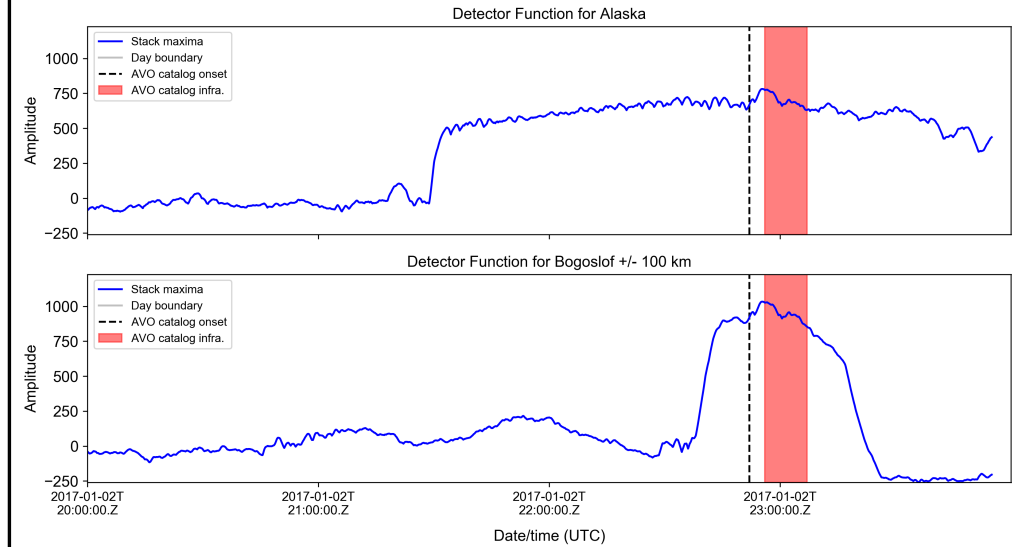
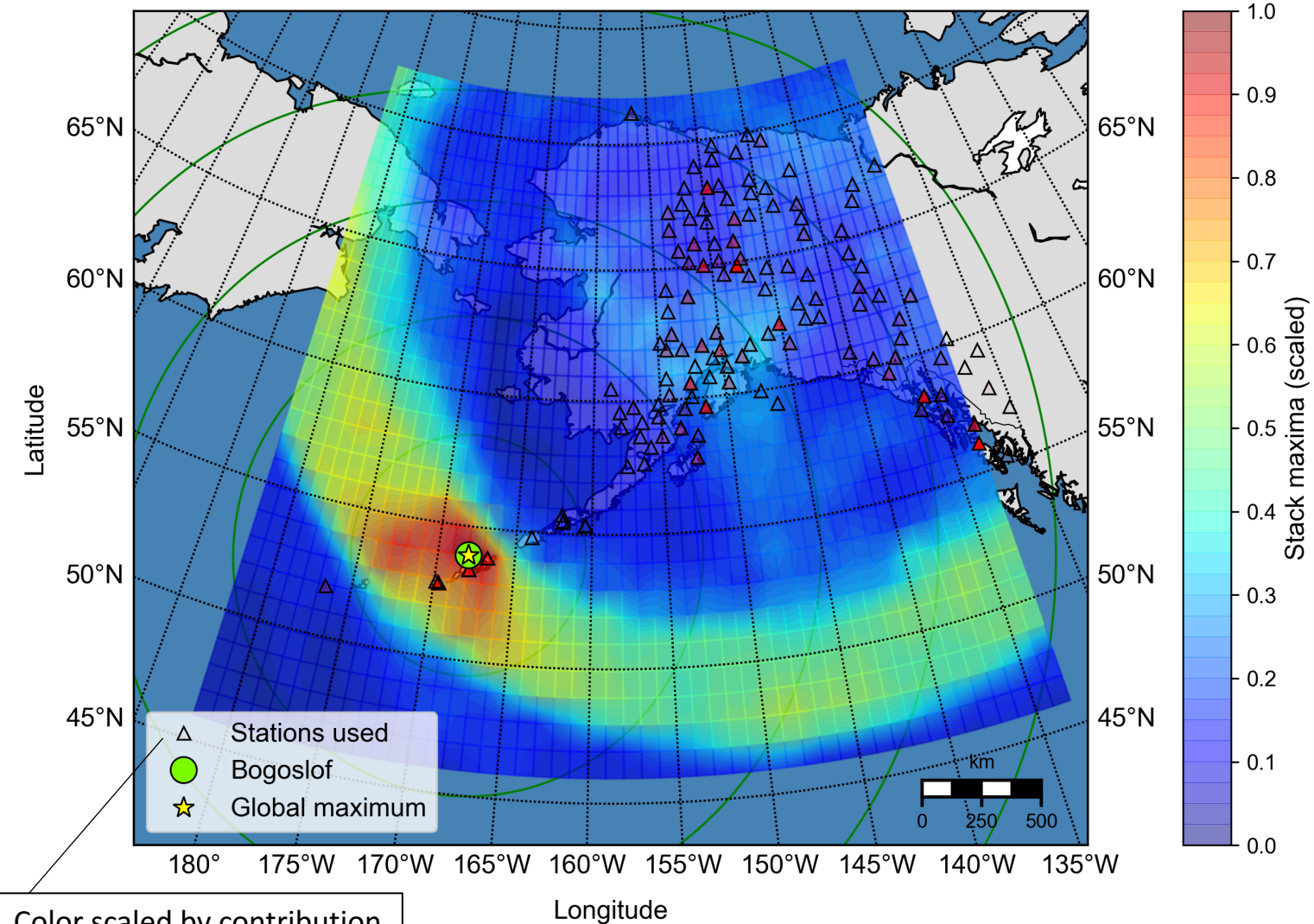
# Detector functions:

7 events: 4 volcanic, 3 non-volcanic



# Time-slice - January 4<sup>th</sup> eruption:

Trial time: 2017-01-02T22:55:16.000000Z, stations < 2500.0 km of Bogoslof



# Assessing detection algorithms:

Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC) curves:

Find optimal True Positive (TP) rate to False Positive (FP) rate.

For detector function (DF), vary detection threshold (T) and calc.:

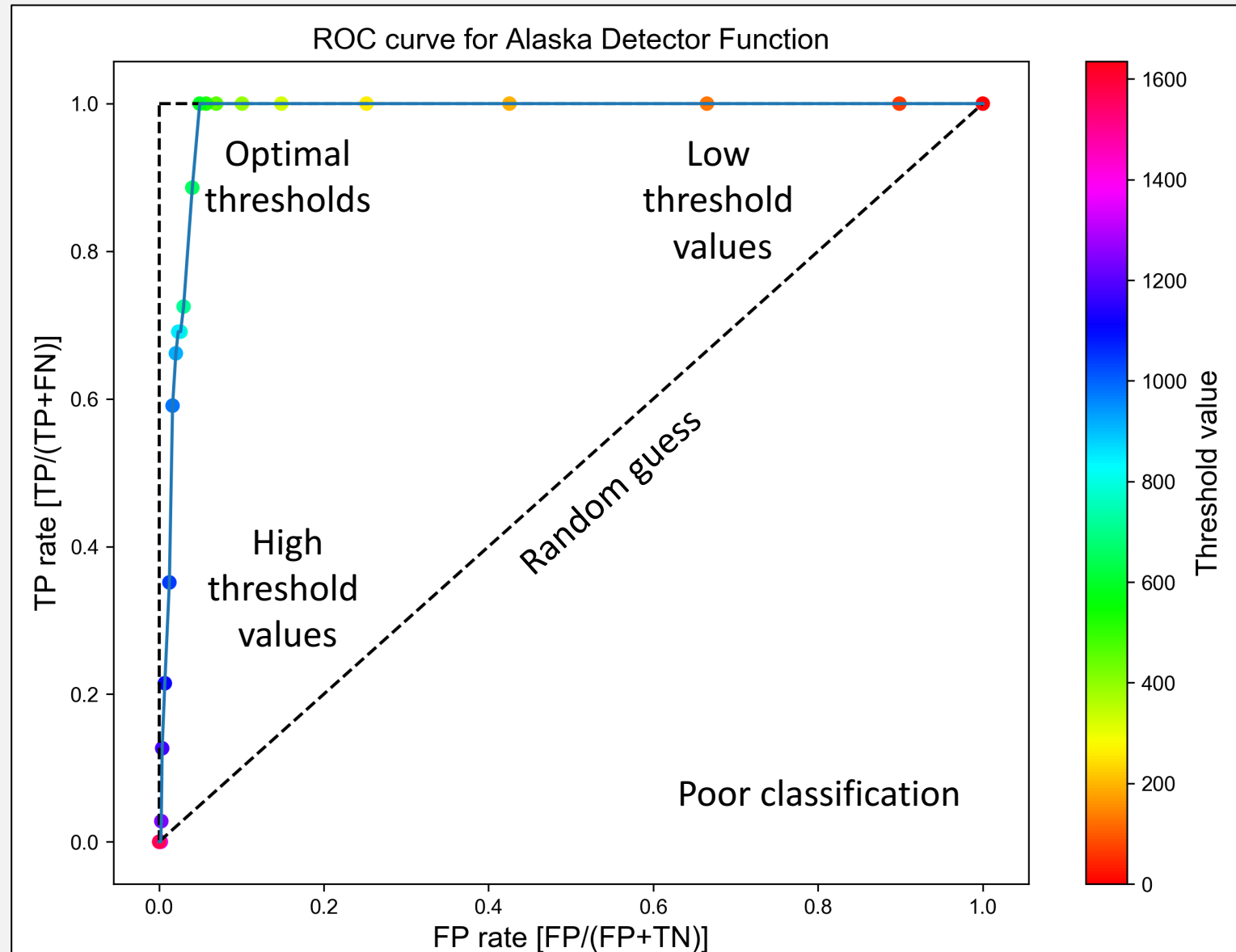
**TP** – eruption,  $DF > T$

**FN** – eruption,  $DF < T$

**FP** – no eruption,  $DF > T$

**TN** - no eruption,  $DF < T$

Can compare algorithms with ROCs.





# Challenges:

## 1. Network geometry:

Symptom – detection smearing

Impact - location accuracy

Solution – station coverage, methods with directionality

## 2. Noise:

Symptom – waveform clarity

Impact – missing events

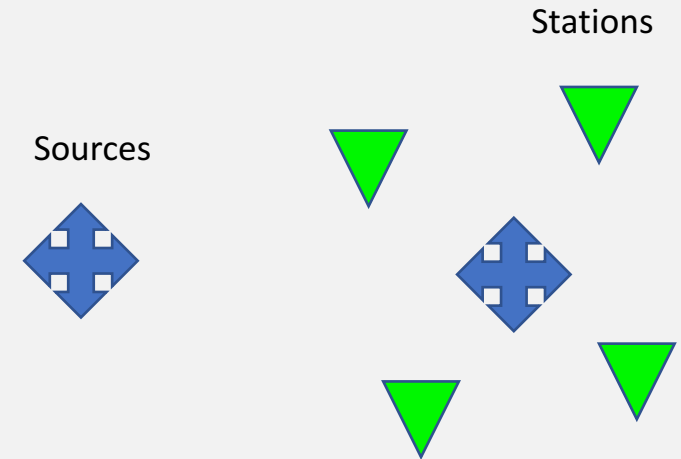
Solution – coherence, wind reduction

## 3 . Atmospheric structure:

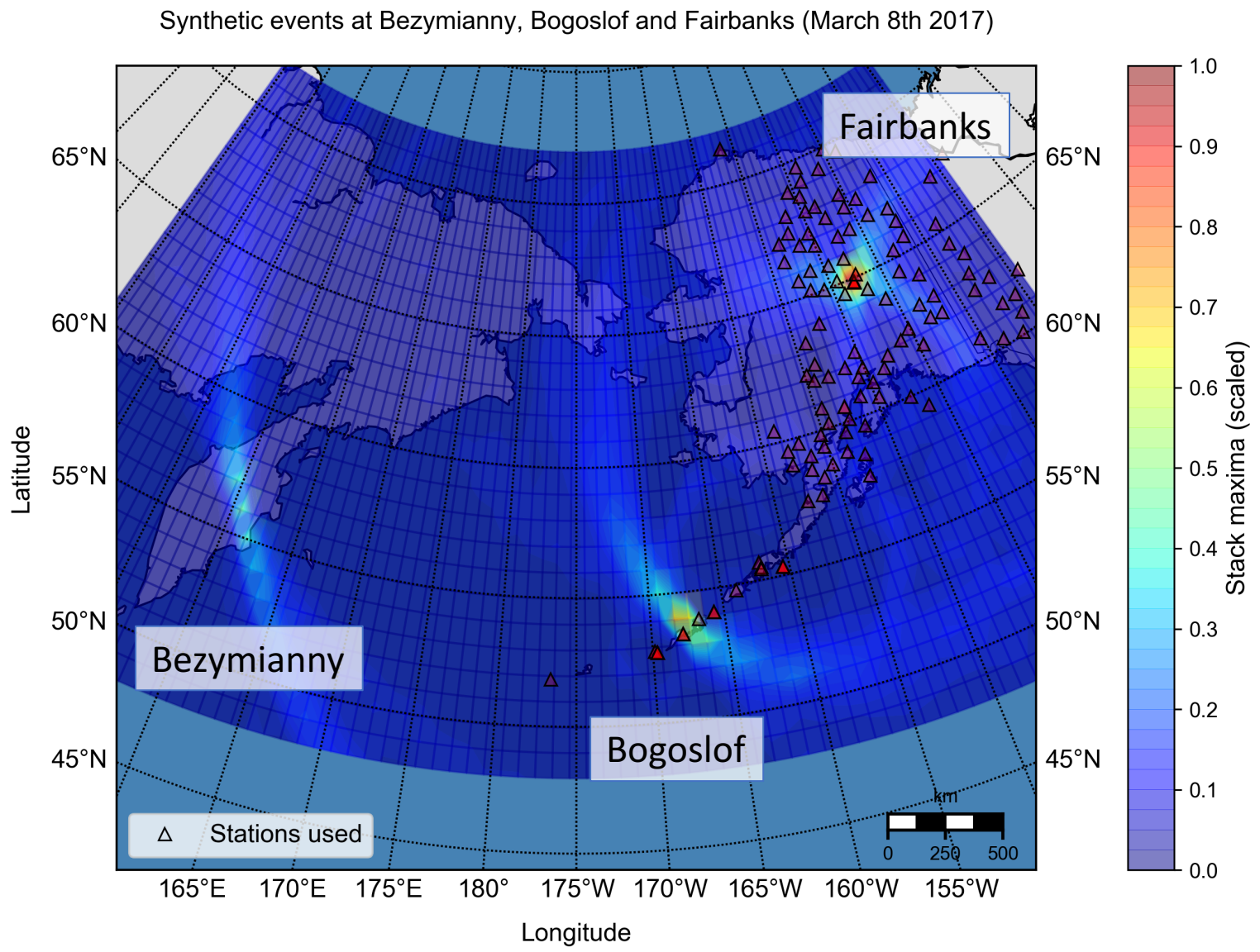
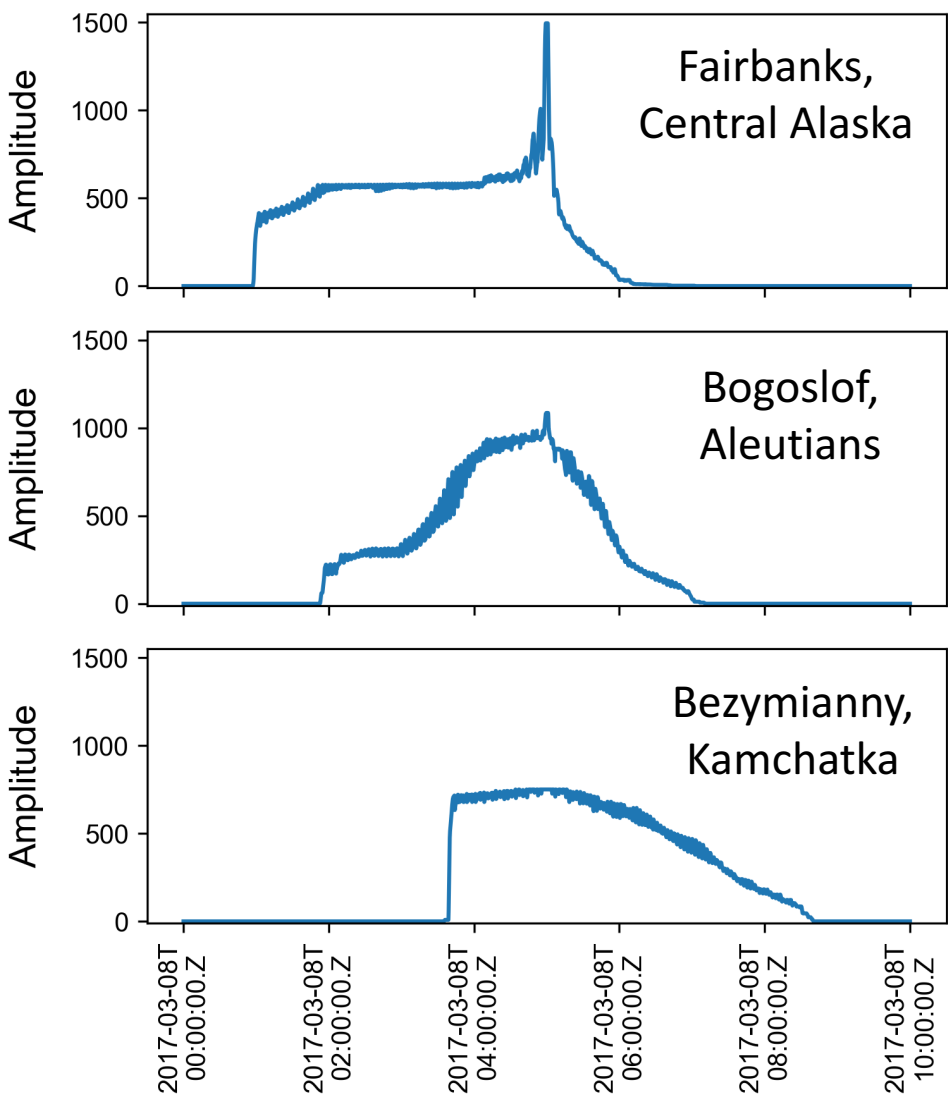
Symptom – phase alignment

Impact – location accuracy

Solution – cross-correlation, atmospheric ray tracing



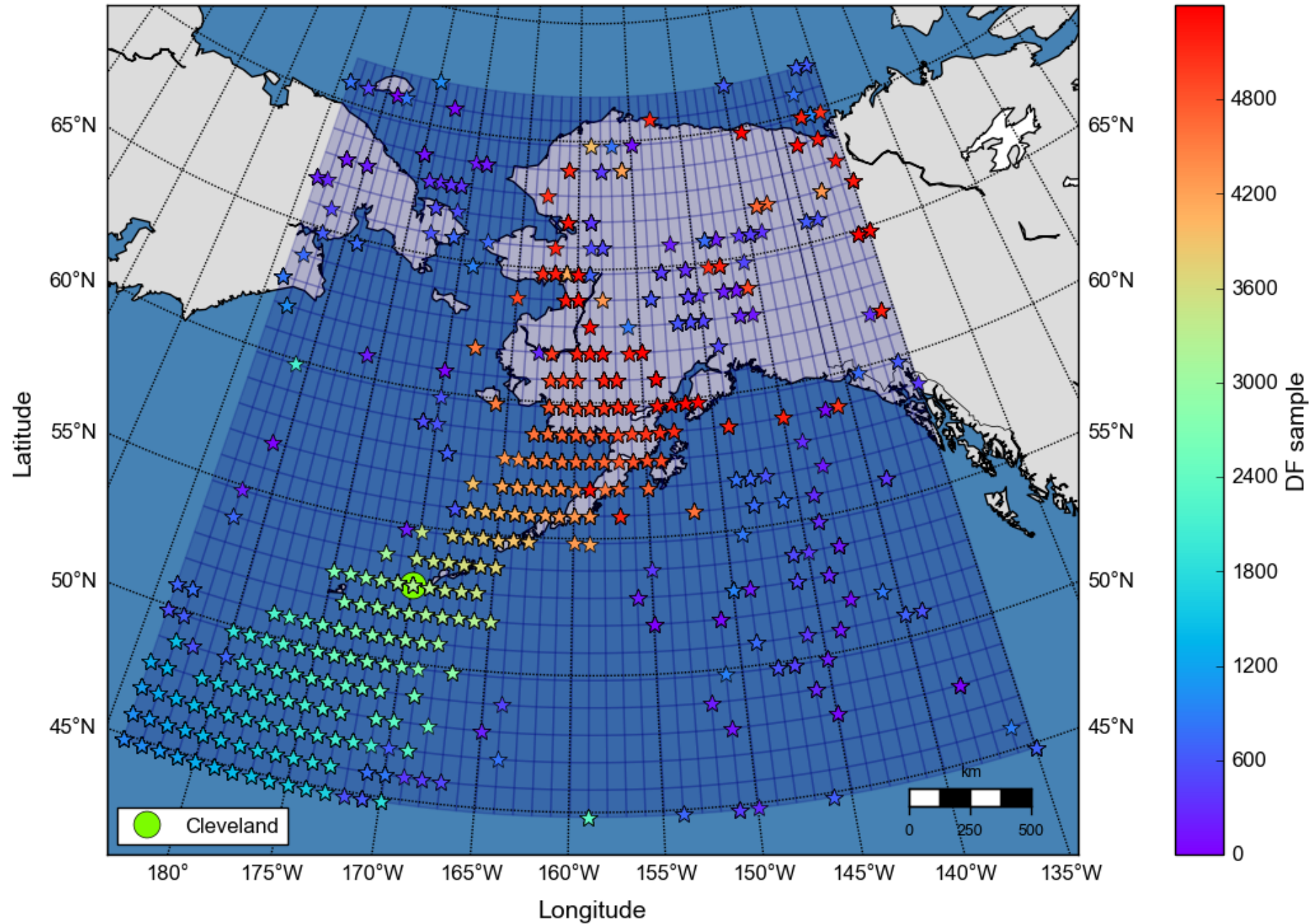
# Synthetic detector functions: source 60 s boxcar



Location tracking for 5400 samples covering: 2017-09-26T00:00:00 to 2017-09-26T02:59:56

Swimming  
artifacts:

Location  
moving  
with time





# Challenges:

## 1. Network geometry:

Symptom – detection clarity

Impact - location accuracy

Solution – station coverage, methods with directionality

## 2. Noise:

Symptom – waveform clarity

Impact – missing events

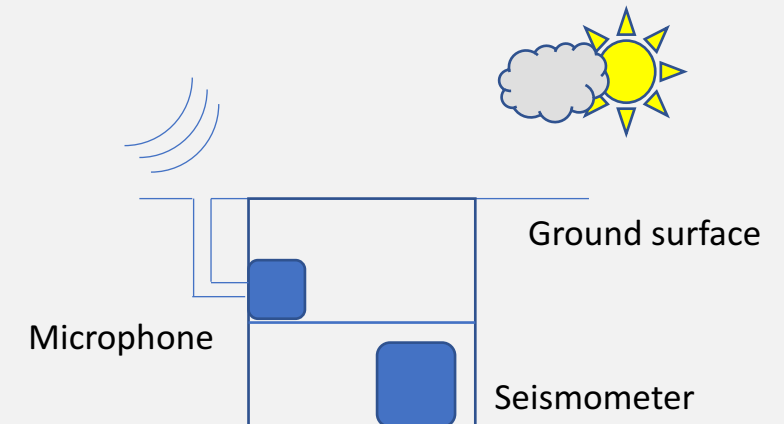
Solution – wind reduction, spectral coherence

## 3 . Atmospheric structure:

Symptom – phase alignment

Impact – location accuracy

Solution – cross-correlation, atmospheric ray tracing



# Infrasound coherence weighting:

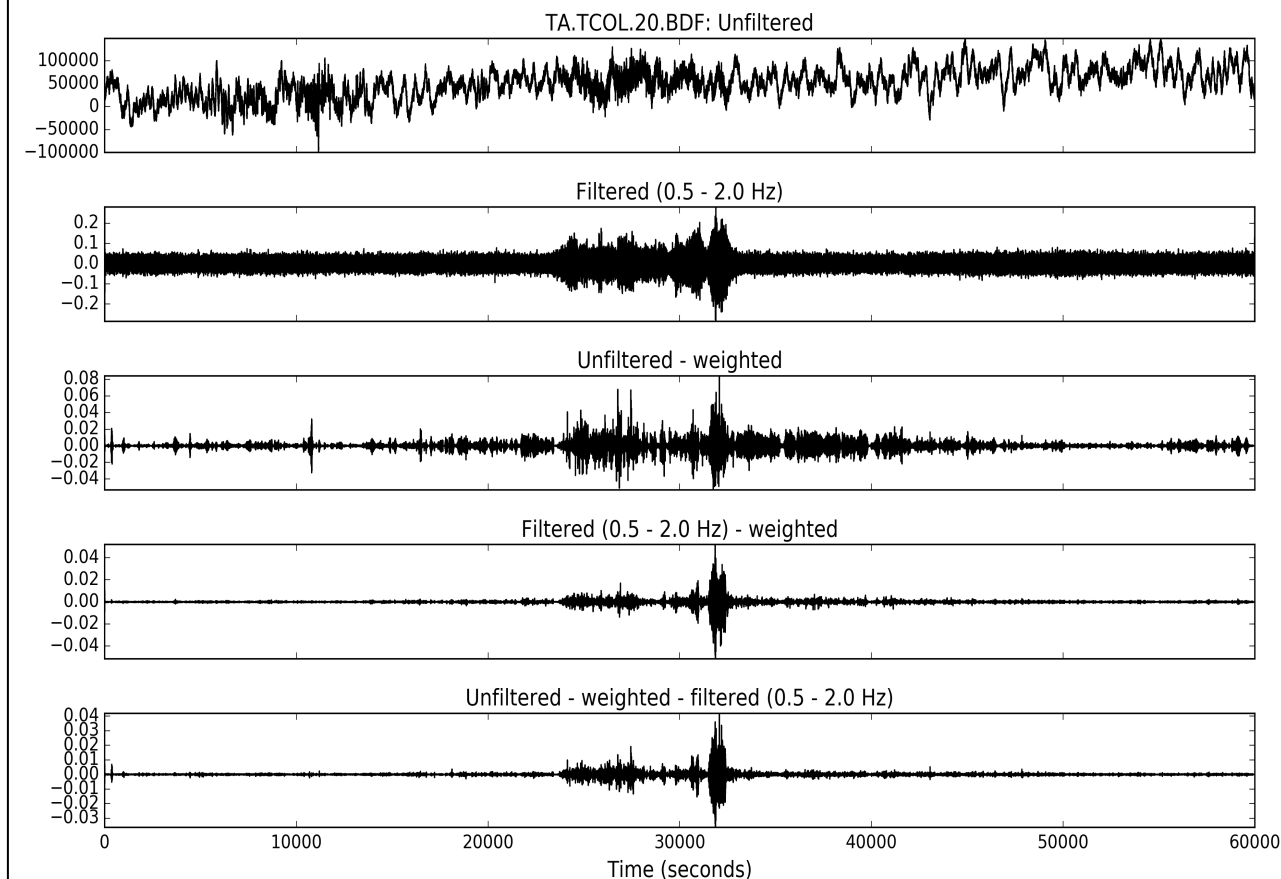
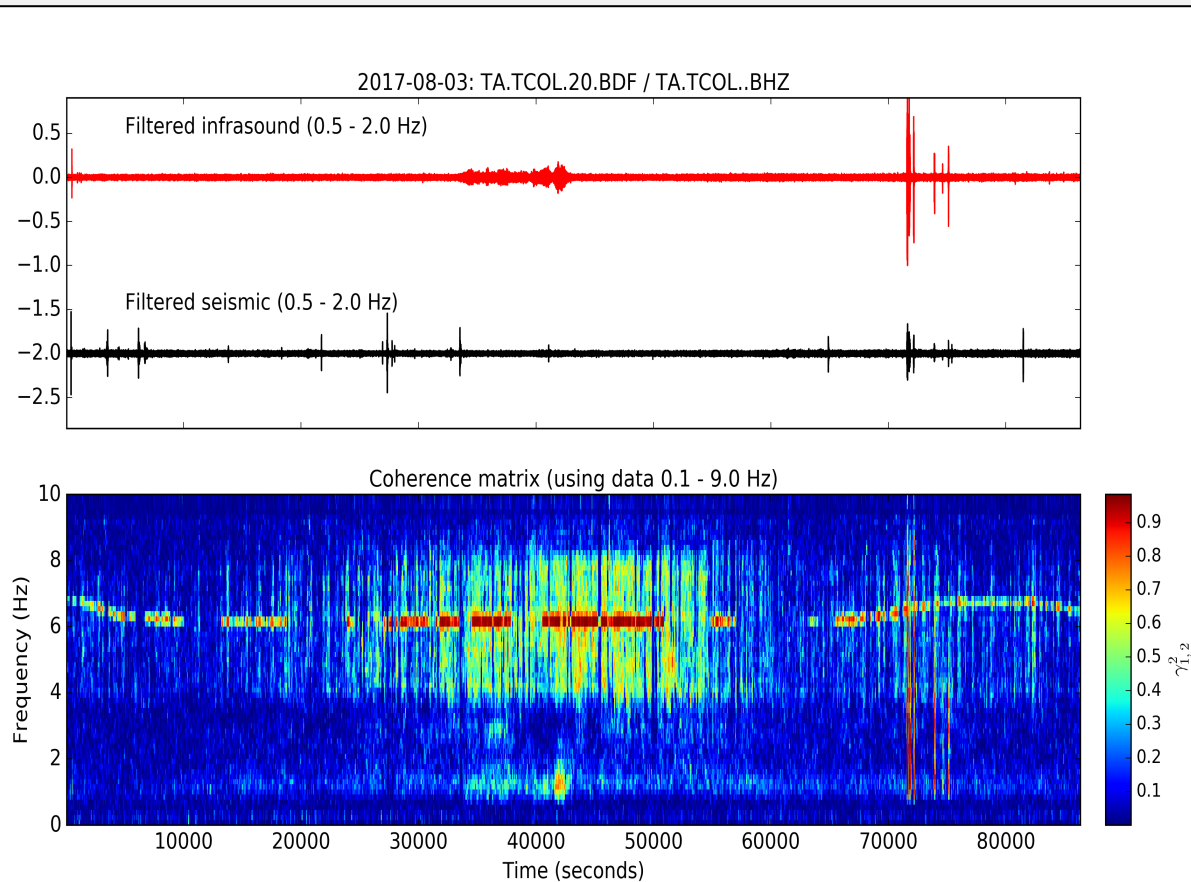
[After: Ichihara et al., 2012; Matoza and Fee, 2014;  
Fee et al., 2017; McKee et al., 2018.]

Few ground-coupled air-waves per event

No clear pattern with distance

Coherence from non-volcanic events

Unpredictable use for stacking/RTM



# Summary:

Aim –

Develop a basic event detection and location algorithm that exploits infrasound detected on a dense regional array.

Results –

- Infrasound is recorded across the TA depending on conditions
- Simple grid search method can identify events with high TP/FP rate
- Noise suppression improves signal to noise ratios
- Detection clarity/accuracy sensitive to network coverage of source as well as signal phase alignment



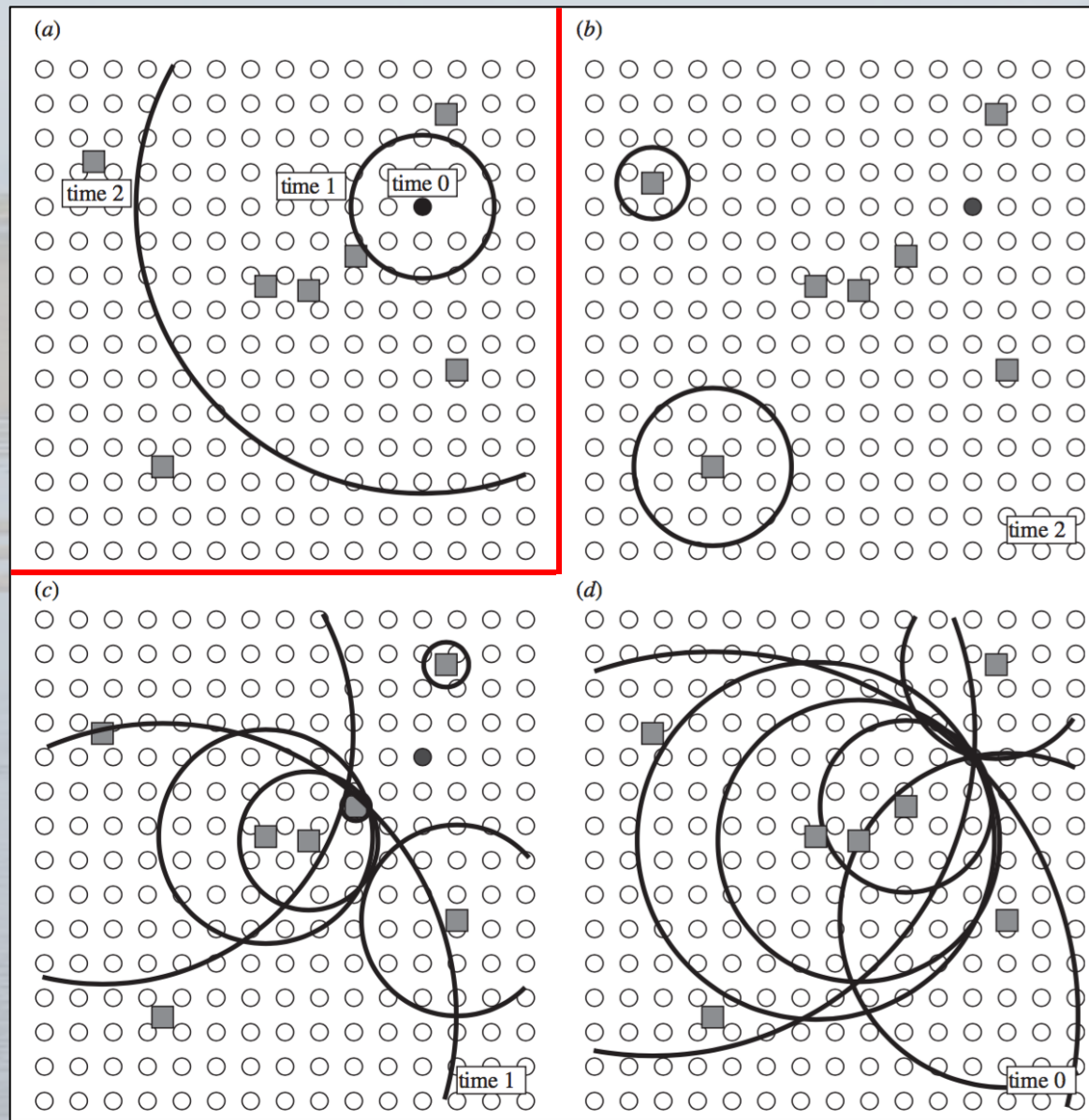
# Future work/improvements:

1. Further exploring noise reduction, e.g., coherence weighting, block thresholding (*Langston and Mousavi, 2018*).
2. Compensate for atmospheric structure/arrival times using AVO-G2S (*Iezzi et al., 2018*).
3. Alternate back-projection strategies which may reducing 'swimming' (*Meng et al., 2012; Koper et al., 2012*).
4. Incorporating methods that give directional information, e.g., frequency-wavenumber analysis, array meshes (*de Groot-Hedlin and Hedlin, 2015*).

# EXTRA SLIDES

# Reverse time migration (RTM):

Hedlin and Walker, 2013





# Back-projection methods:

## Time-domain:

- Linear stacking
- Nth-root stacking
- Semblance
- F-stacking
- Correlation stacking
- Coherence stacking
- STA/LTA stacking

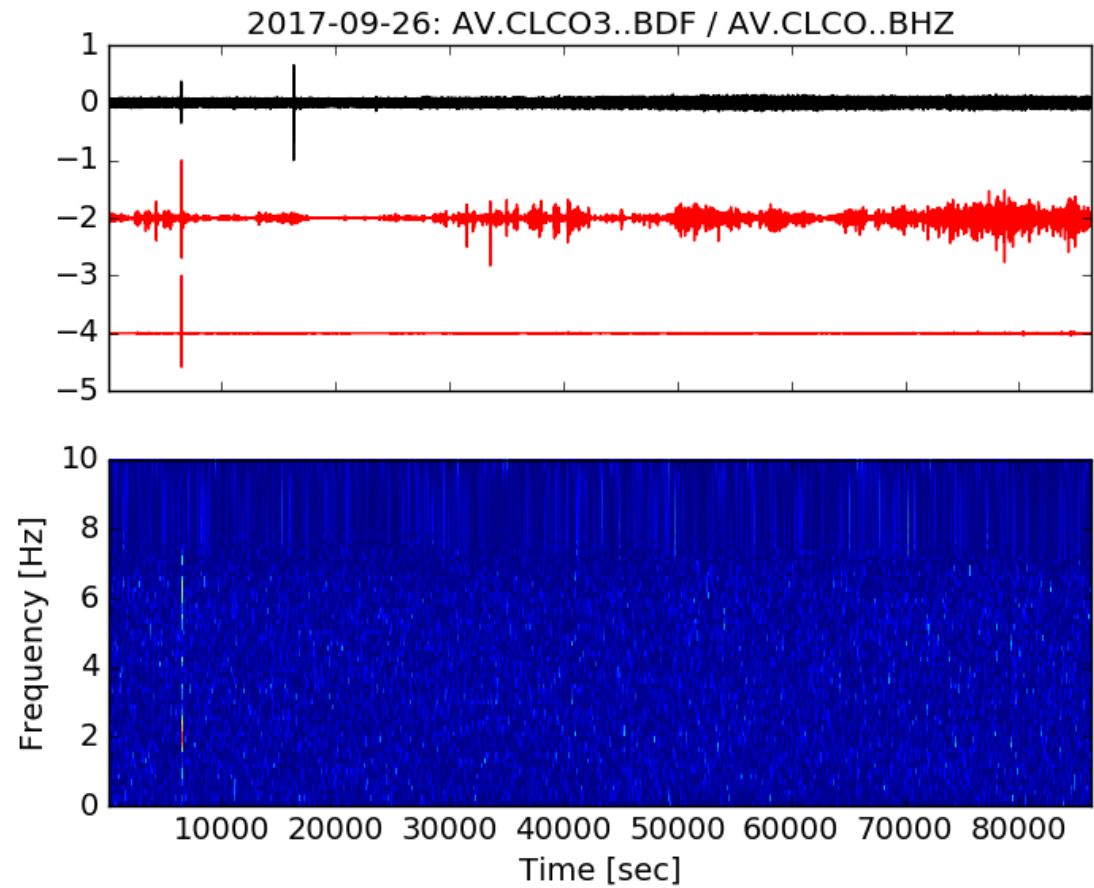
## Combined approaches :

- AELUMA (Automated Event Location Using a Mesh of Arrays)

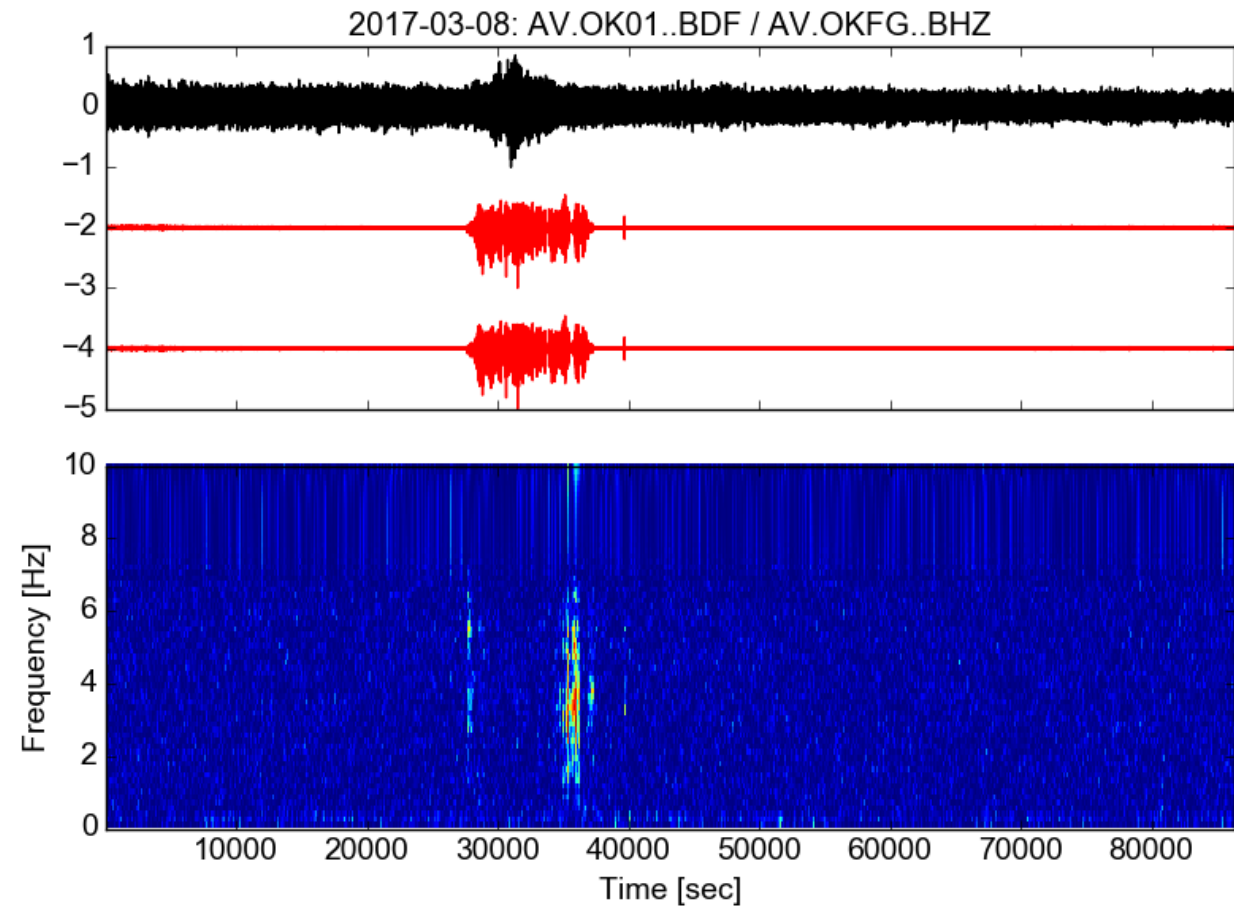
## Frequency domain:

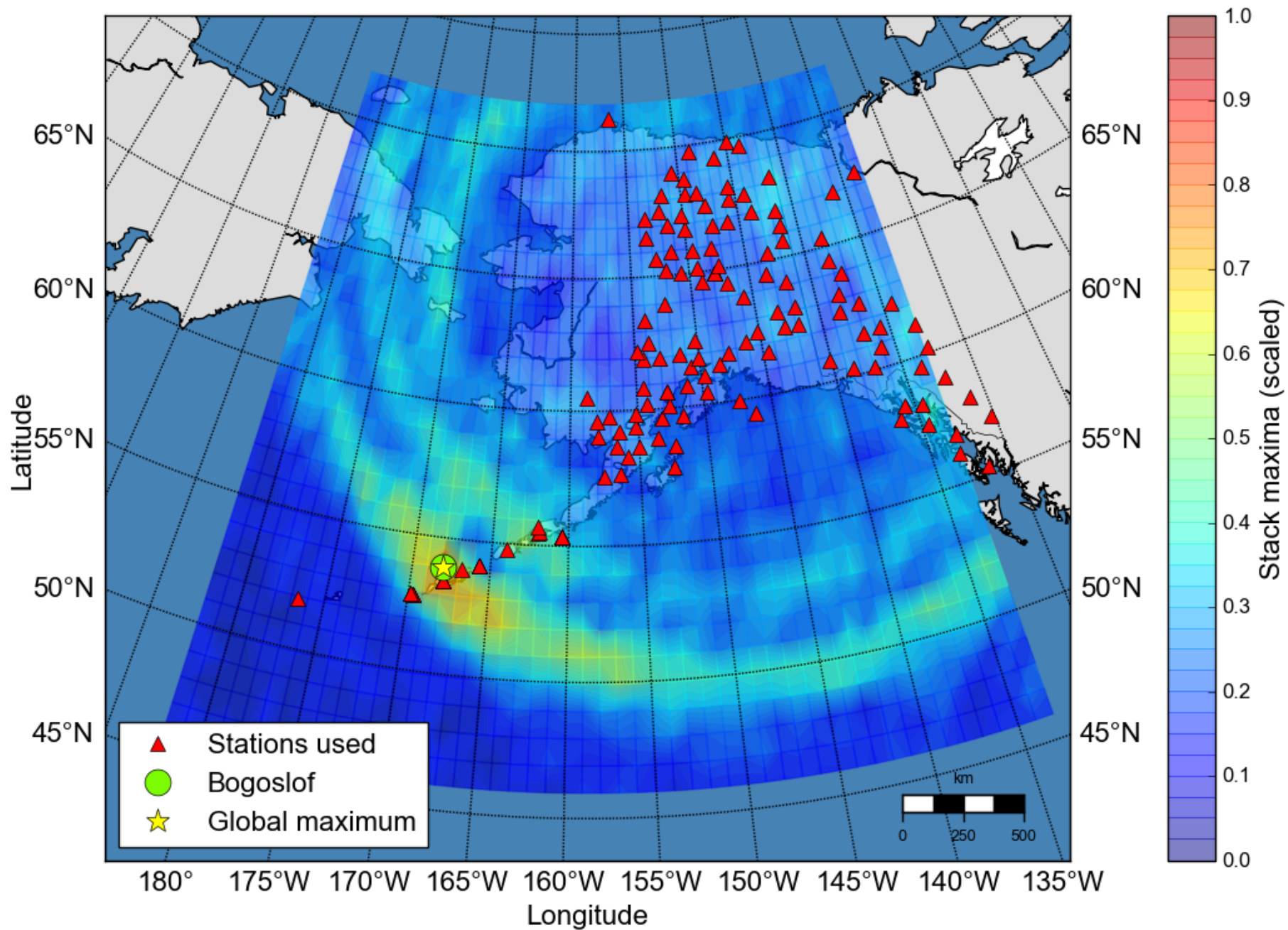
- Spectral STA/LTA stacking
- Frequency-wavenumber (F-K) analysis
  - Multitaper MUSIC (multiple signal classification)

# Cleveland

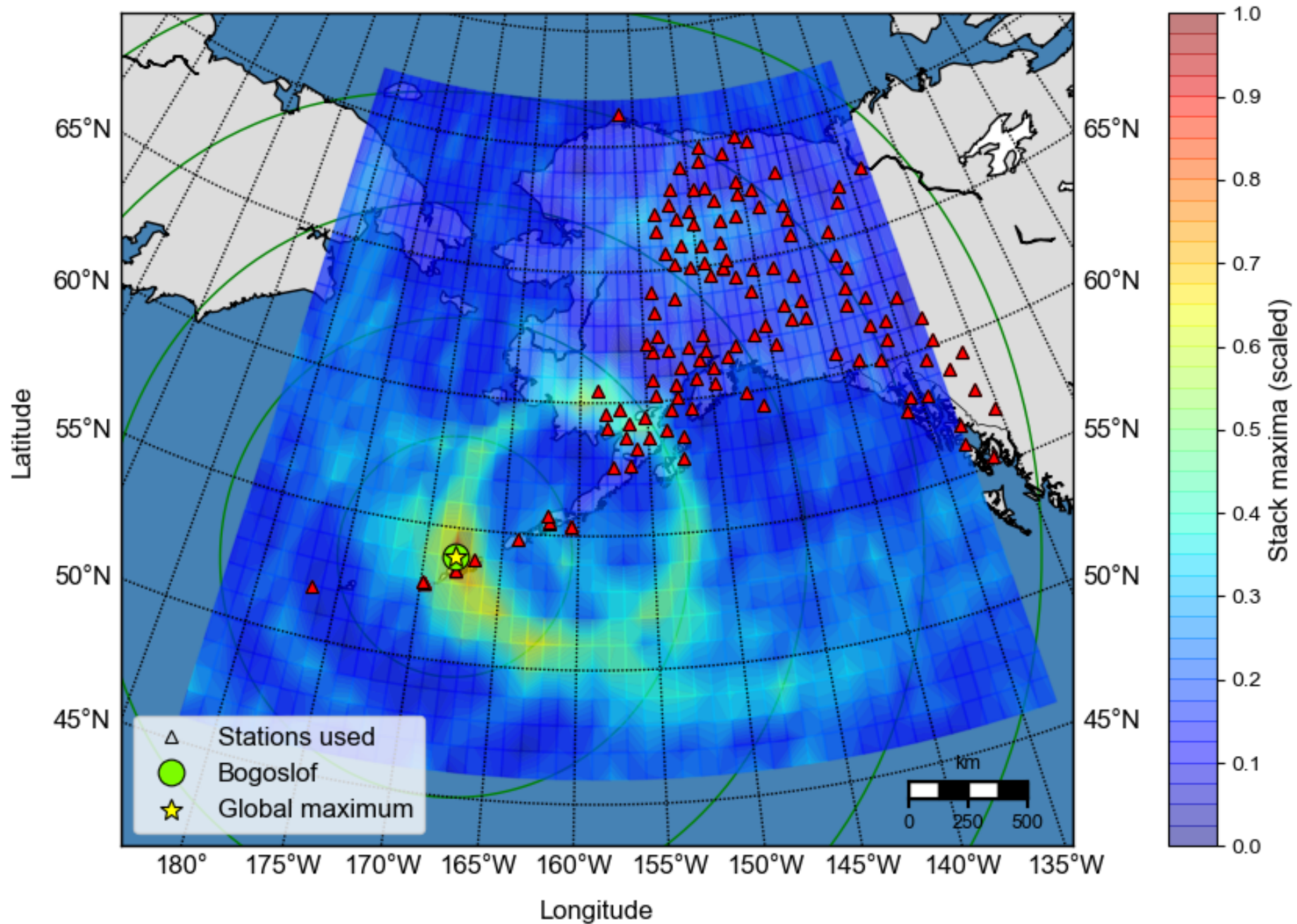


# Bogoslof

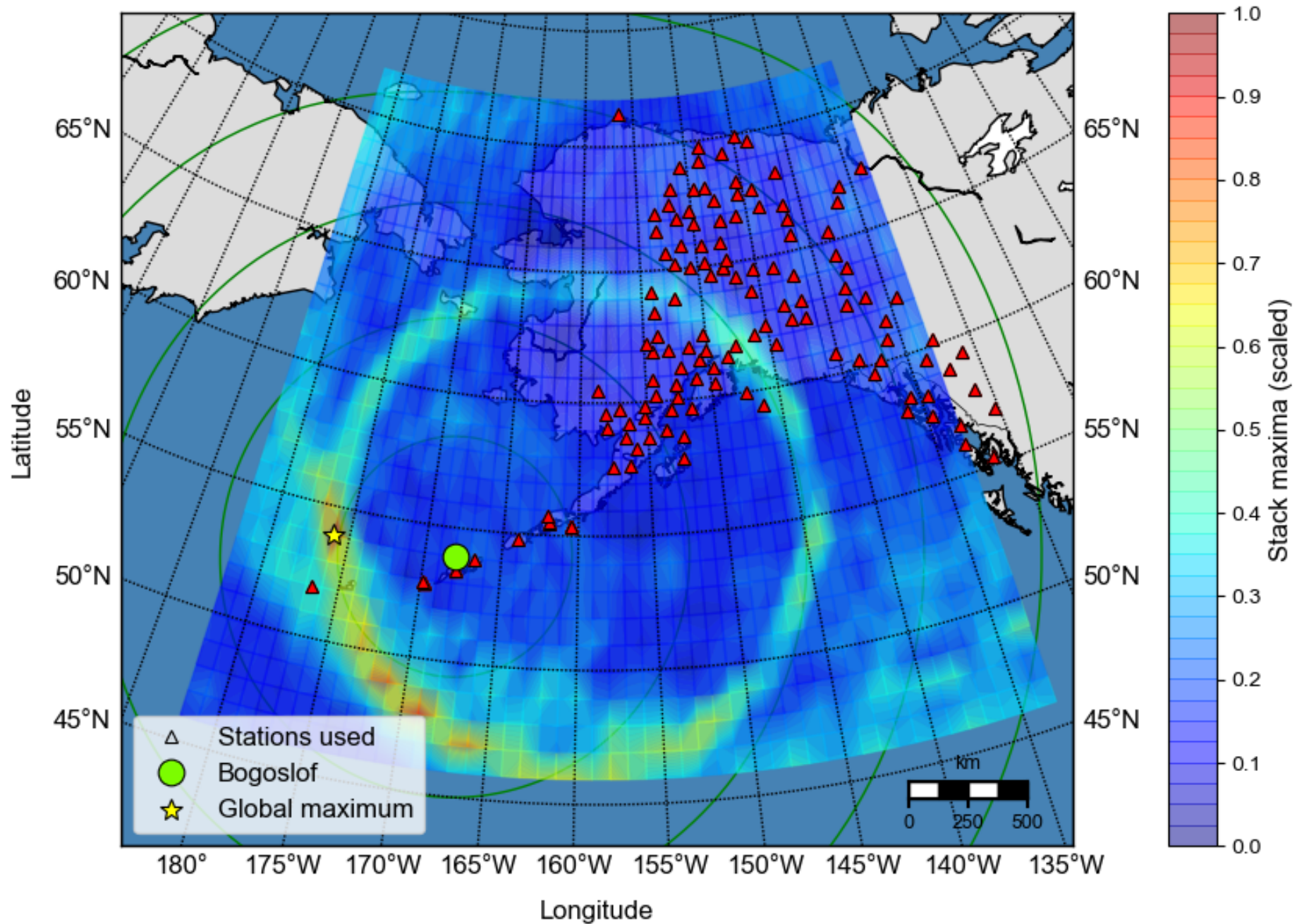




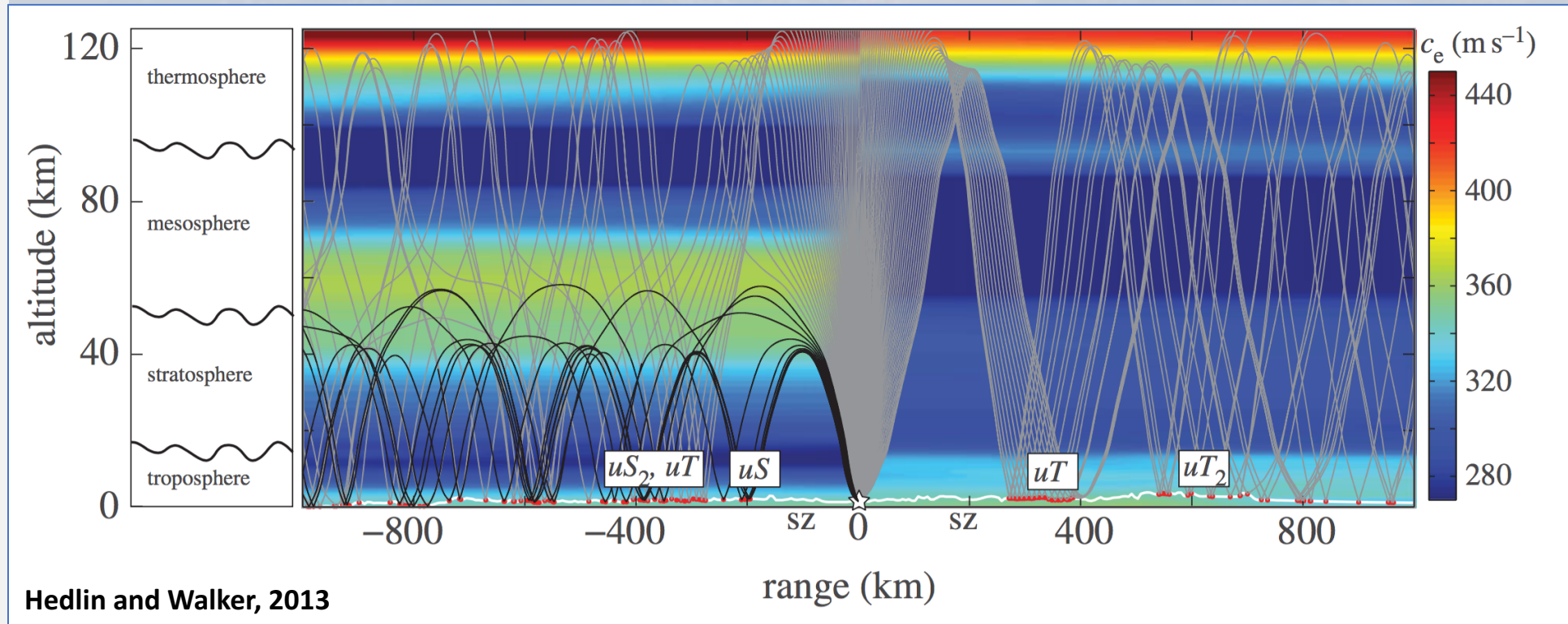








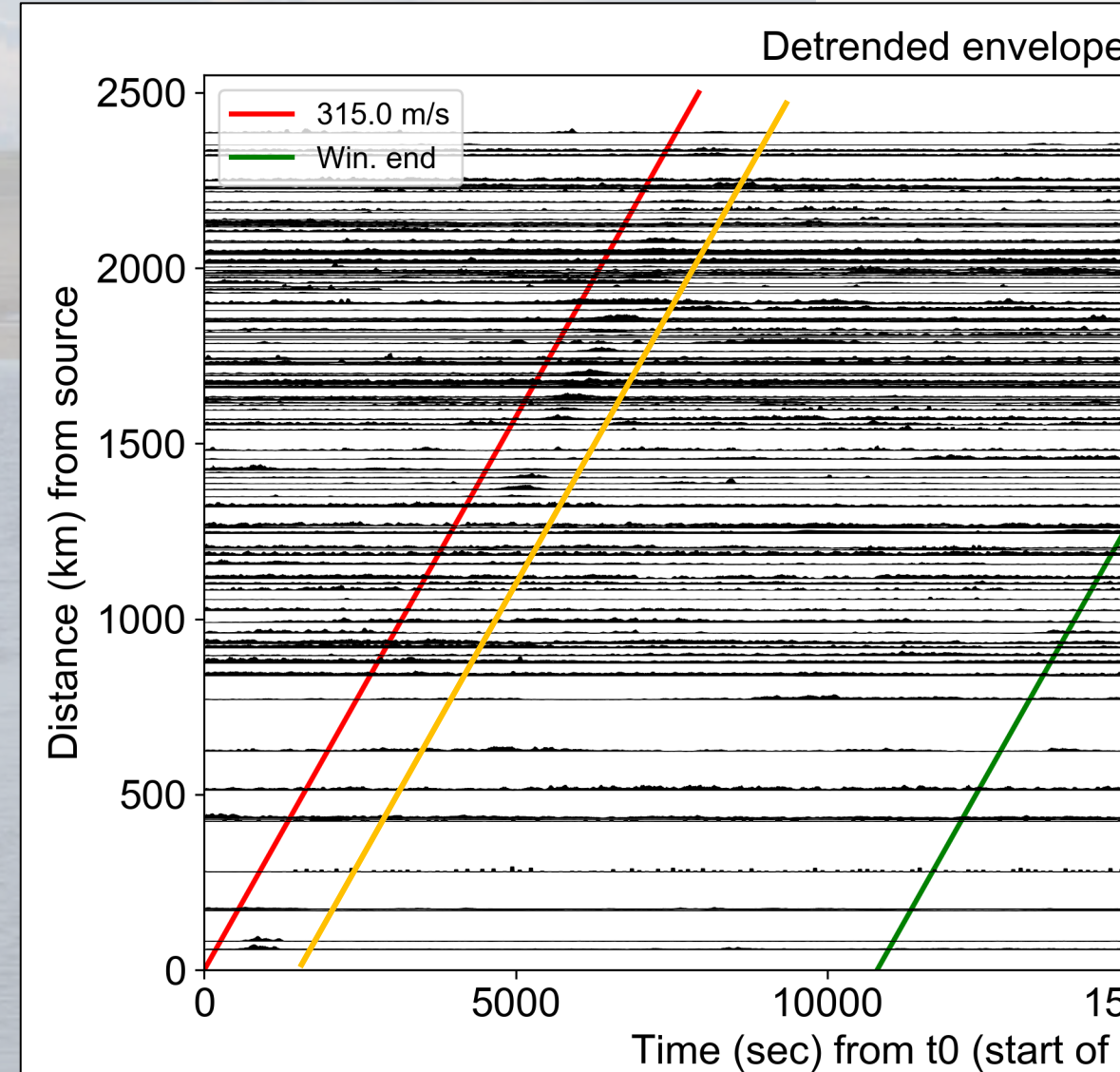
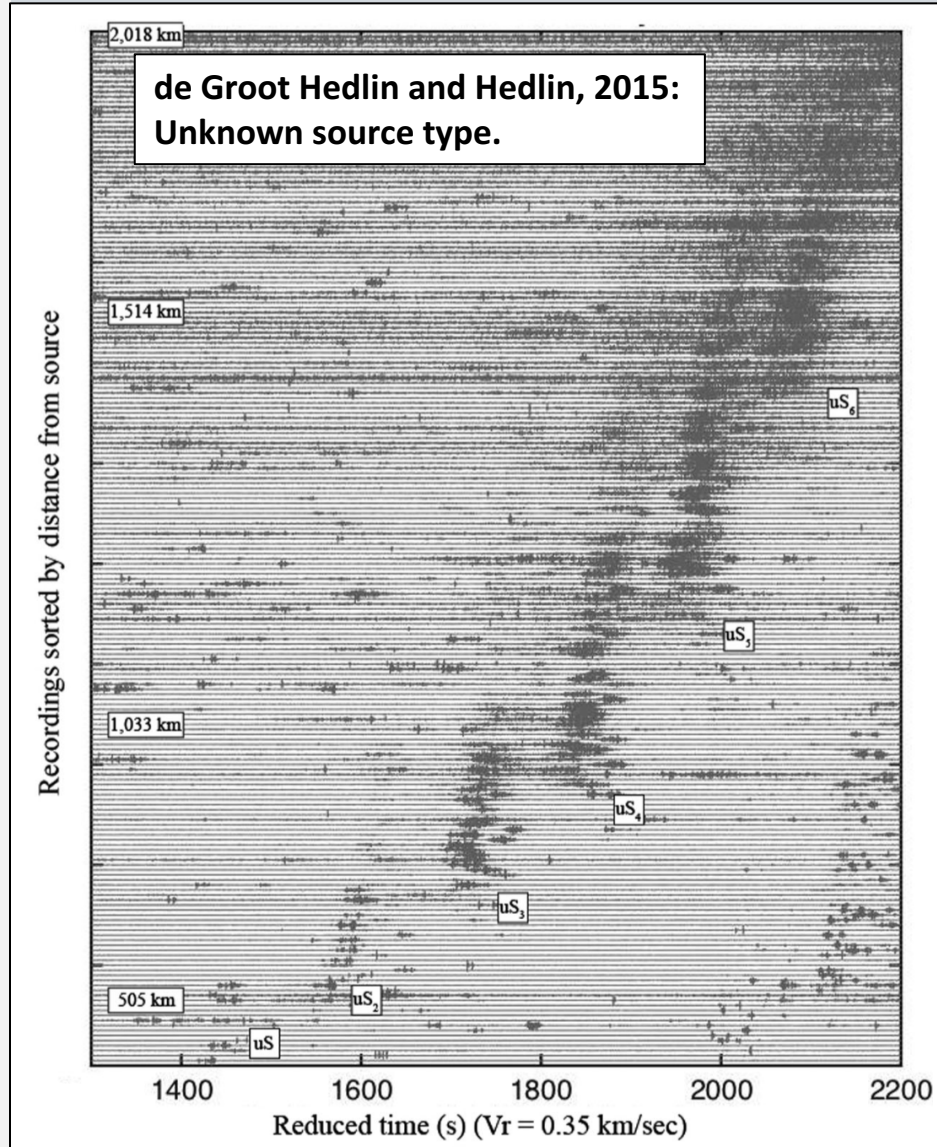
# Atmosphere's velocity structure:



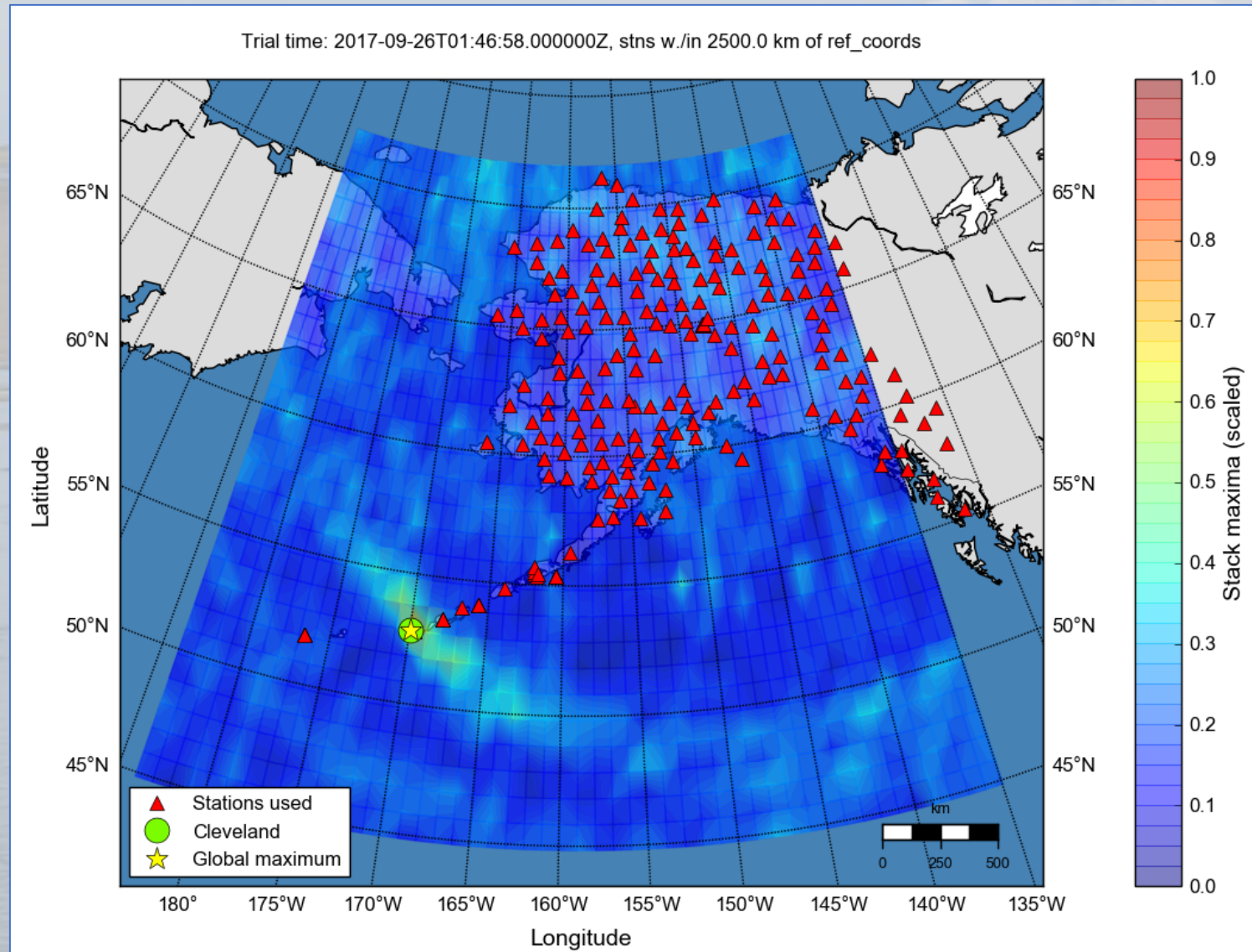
**Wind direction**



# Atmospheric structure: branching

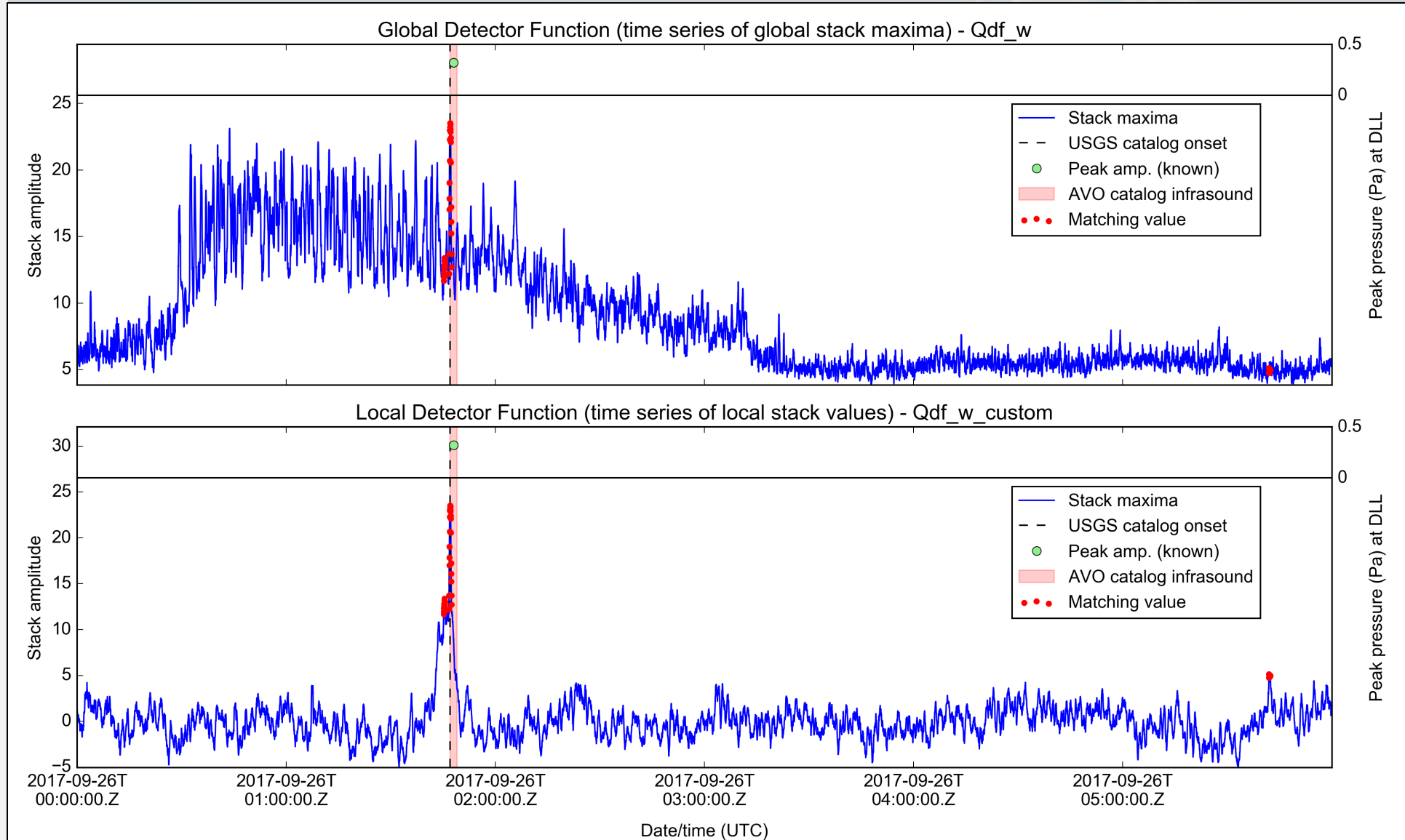


# Network geometry

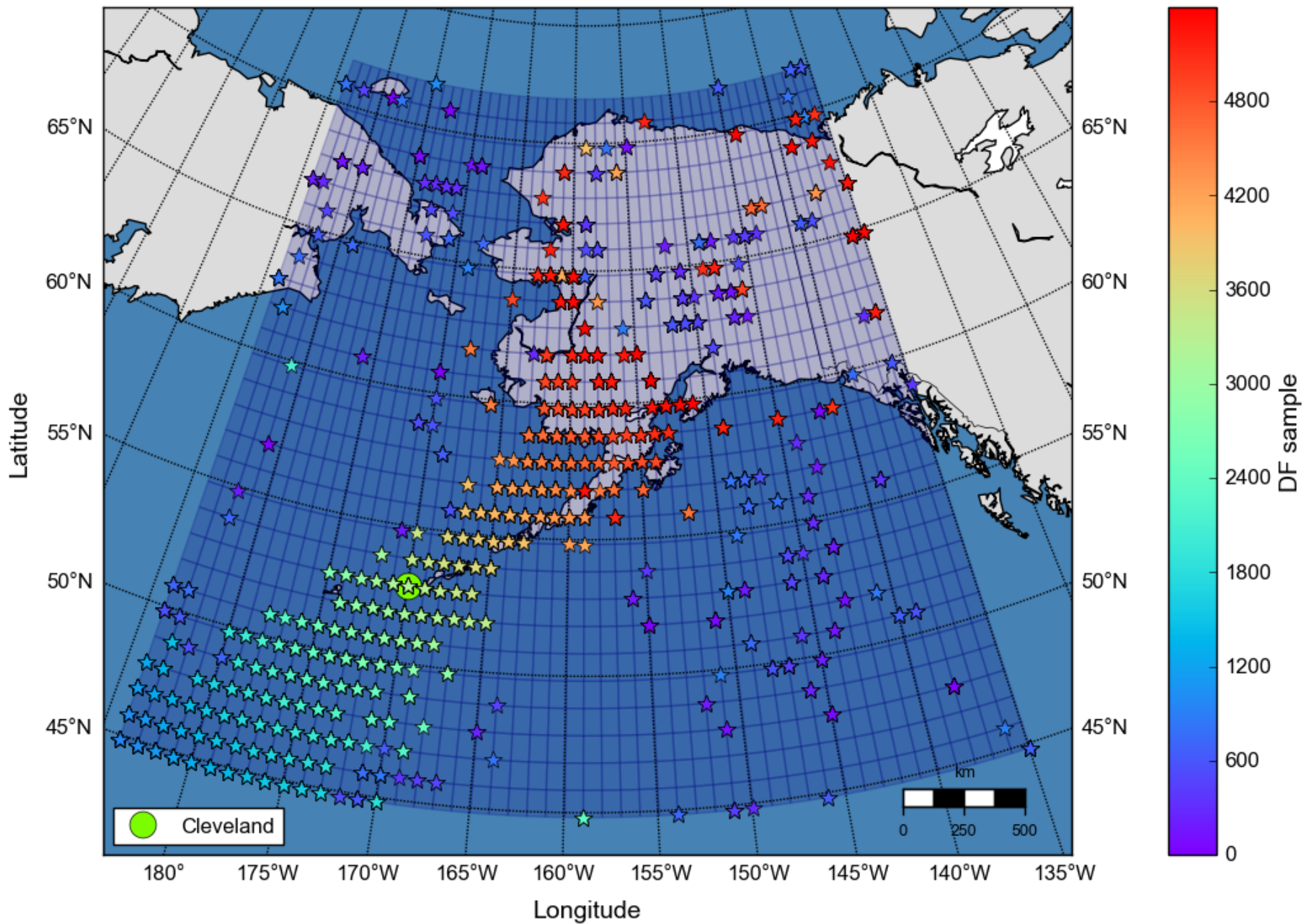




# Close-up DF example (Cleveland)



Location tracking for 5400 samples covering: 2017-09-26T00:00:00 to 2017-09-26T02:59:56



# Synthetic example (at Cleveland)

