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Crustal Structure and Moho Depth Determination in the Eastern Alps and the Pannonian Basin from Receiver Function Analysis

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Study area and seismic stations

Our study area is the Eastern Alps-Carpathian-Pannonian Basin region, where a dense seismological network allows a detailed analysis of the crust mantle boundary. The Pannonian Basin is a geologically complex extensional back-arc basin in Central Europe (Fig. 1.). The Moho discontinuity is generally at shallow depth (20-35 km) in the Pannonian basin as a result of a Miocene extensional event (Horváth et al. 2006). However, the Eastern Alps and Carpathians are characterised by deeper Moho (35-45 km) and a more complex lithospheric structure. Due to the relatively sparse seismological network, previous receiver function studies (Hetényi and Bus, 2007; Hetényi et al. 2015) used fewer stations than this study. However in recent years the permanent networks became denser, and several temporary deployment campaigns, such as the Carpathian Basin Project (CBP), the South Carpathian Project (SCP) and the AlpArray experiment (Hetényi et al. 2018a) took place. Thus, we used the data of 221 seismological stations for the receiver function analysis.

Event selection

For the receiver function analysis we considered teleseismic earthquakes between 28°-95° epicentral distances and magnitudes larger than 5.5 (Fig. 2.). We downloaded the broadband three-component waveforms of these events recorded at the stations in Fig. 1. and filtered them between 0.1 and 1 Hz. In this study we used 3 year 3 months of data from the AlpArray temporary network and 2 years data from CBP and SCP stations. For the Hungarian and other permanent stations we used all available data since they entered into operations up until March 31 2019.

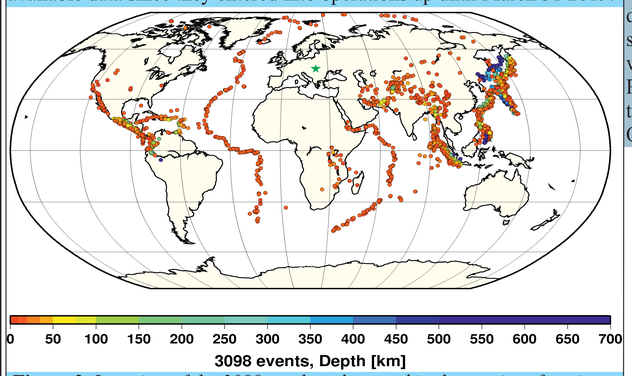

Figure 2. Location of the 3098 earthquakes used in the receiver function analysis. Green star shows location of the Pannonian Basin.

Quality control

We applied three quality control methods. The first (QC1) was an STA /LTA detector with detection threshold 3.5. The second (QC2) was performed in time window 30 s before and 90 s after the first-arriving P-wave. Waveforms with a signal-to-noise ratio above threshold were accepted (Hetényi et al. 2018b).The last quality control method (QC3) was performed on calculated receiver functions. Receiver functions were rejected as poor quality if the P peak below threshold. We tried to keep only the best receiver functions for the further processing methods.

Downloaded waveforms	After QC1	After QC2	After QC3
454.089	240.828	171.255	31.260

Table 1. Number of waveforms after downloading, QC1, QC2 and QC3 at all dataset.

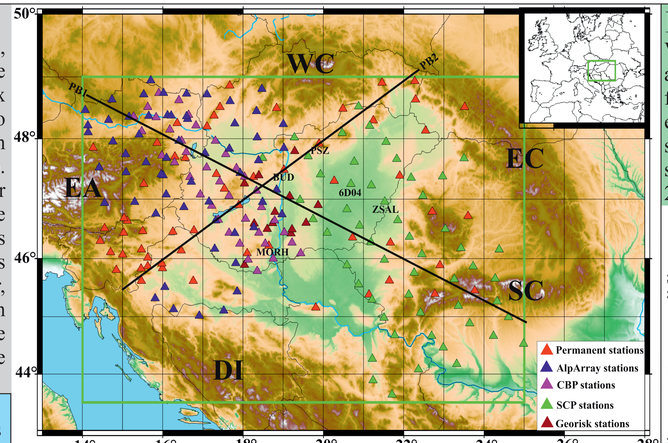

Figure 1. Investigated area, the seismic stations used in this study. Colours triangles shows different type of seismological stations. PB1 and PB2 mark the locations of migrated cross-sections. Abbreviations: DI- Dinarides; EA- Eastern Alps; EC- Eastern Carpathians; SC- Southern Carpathians; WC - Western Carpathians.

Receiver function analysis

For the receiver function analysis we used the iterative time domain deconvolution (Ligorria and Ammon, 1999) with 150 iterations. Fig. 3. shows the stack receiver functions of PB2 section. P, Ps and PpPs multiples are clearly visible in the Dinarides and Western Carpathian, but we can identify only P and Ps peaks in the Pannonian Basin in the most cases. Fig. 4. presents the radial and transversal receiver functions at PSZ and BUD station. Owing to the automatic QC the P and Ps peaks are clearly visible in all azimuthal range.

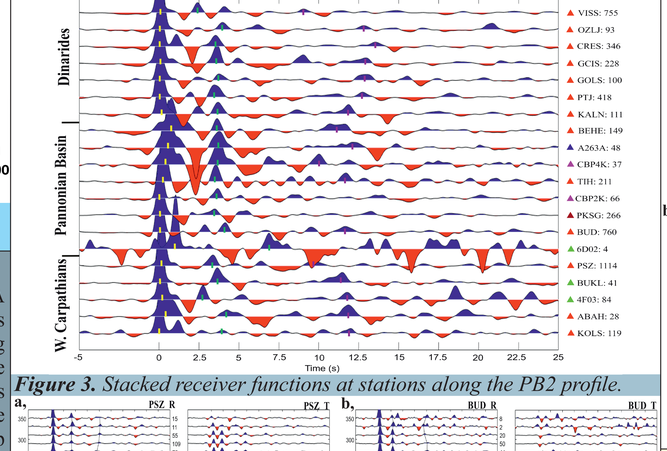

Figure 3. Stacked receiver functions at stations along the PB2 profile.

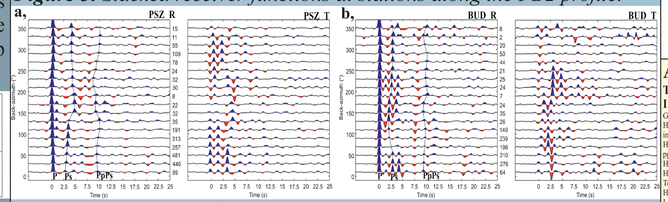

Figure 4. Radial and transversal receiver function at a, PSZ and b, BUD station, sorted by back-azimuth.

H-K Grid Search method

We performed the H-K Grid search method Zhu and Kanamori (2000) on the accepted receiver functions.We set different initial Vp velocity for each stations, depending on sedimentary cover. We set the weights of Ps, PpPs and PpSs+PsPs separately for each station. The Moho is between 20 and 45 km in the investigated area.

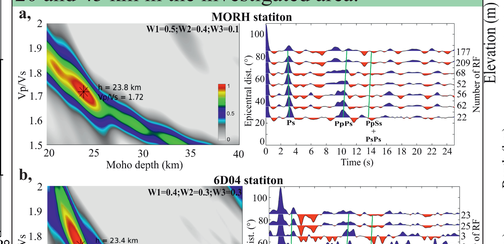

Figure 5. H-K grid search results a, MORH (hard rock); b, 6D04 (sedimentary) station.

Inversion

We will apply shear-wave velocity inversion methods beneath individual stations based on Sambridge (1999). We tested 3 layers initial model beneath hard rock stations and 4 layers model under sedimentary stations (Fig. 7.).

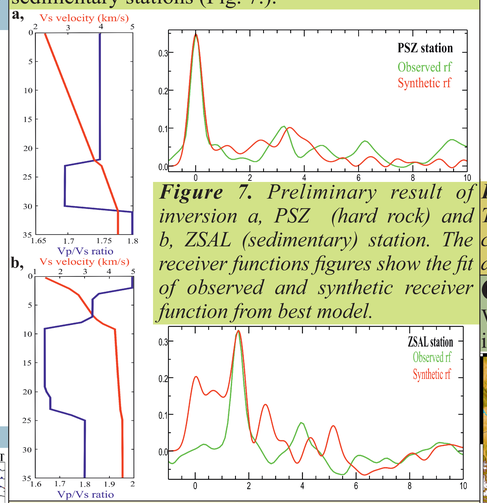

Figure 7. Preliminary result of inversion a, PSZ (hard rock) and b, ZSAL (sedimentary) station. The receiver functions figures show the fit of observed and synthetic receiver function from best model.

Acknowledgment and References

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Migration

We performed common conversion point (CCP) migration to image the Moho depth beneath the Pannonian Basin independently from the H-K analysis. We defined two profiles, the first from the Eastern Alps to the Southern Carpathians (PB1) and the second section from the Dinarides to the Western Carpathians (PB2). Fig. 1. shows the locations of migrated cross-sections.

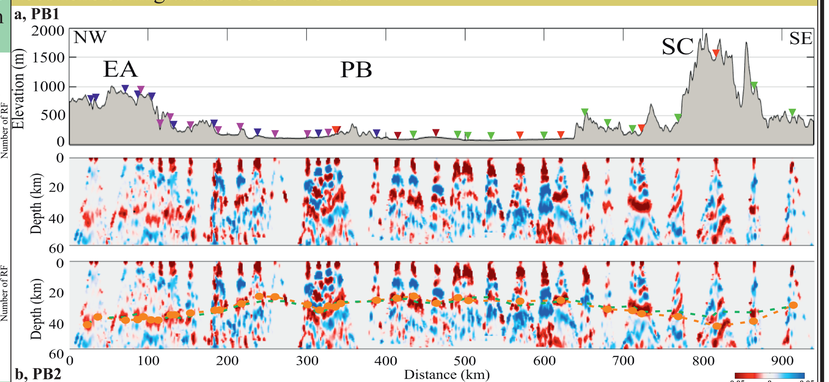

Figure 6. Migrated P-to-S receiver function cross-sections for lines a, PB1 and b, PB2. The dotted green lines present the Moho depth from migration methods. The orange circles show the depth of Moho beneath each station from H-K grid search method. The dotted orange lines show the interpolated depth of Moho from the H-K method.

Conclusion: Moho map

We present a preliminary Moho map from 1D H-K grid search interpolation, and compare it with that of Grad et al. (2009). We expect to produce a more detailed map in the future.

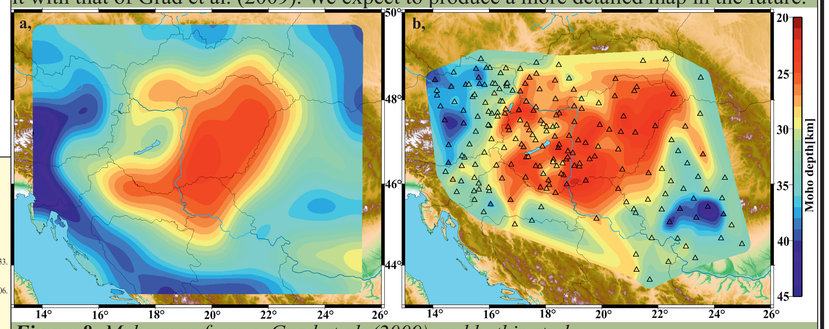

Figure 8. Moho map from a, Grad et al. (2009) and b, this study.