

Non-Ergodic Ground Motion Model for the N3 Central Italy Area: Results on Spatio-Temporal Variability

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REGIONAL-SCALE EARTHQUAKE GROUND MOTION PREDICTIONS
THROUGH PHYSICS-BASED AND EMPIRICAL APPROACHES:
A CASE STUDY CENTRAL ITALY

Data and Methods



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**PIANETA
DINAMICO**
WORKING EARTH

Dataset: N3 Catalogue

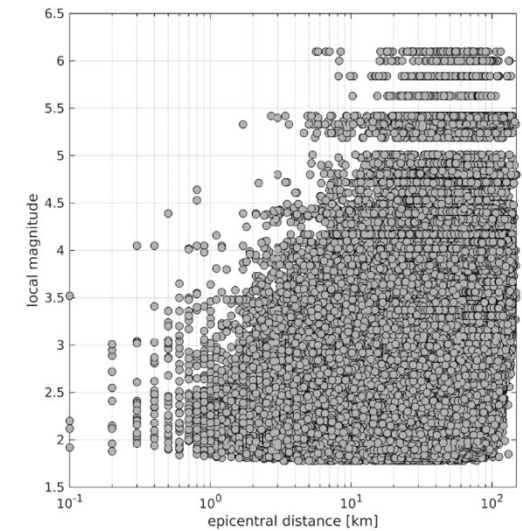
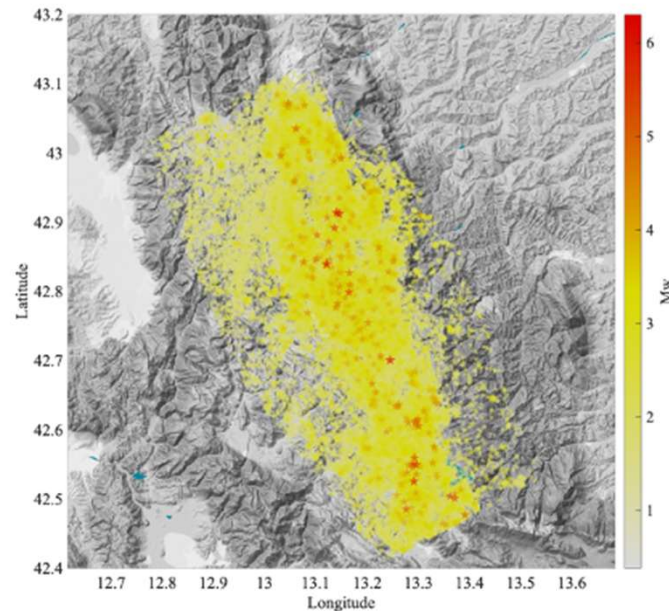
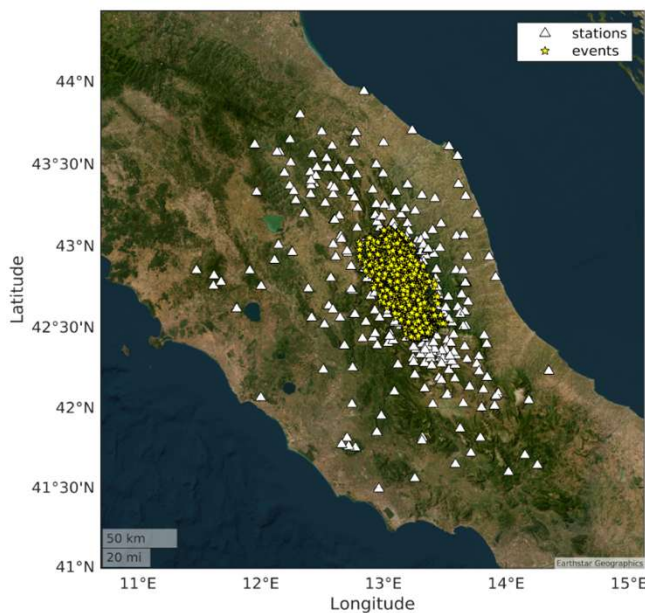
- Earthquakes in the Amatrice-Visso-Norcia area from 2006 to 2023
- Relocation of events (improvement of event depth estimation) M_L , M_w estimation by RAMONES
(<https://distav.unige.it/rsni/ramones.php?lang=it>)

Parametric Table [M>1.8](#)

Records: 434.551

Events: 9.948

Stations: 452

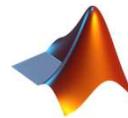


NES (NonErgodic Stationary Model)

- The stationary **FAS** model includes **non-ergodic type variability** (dL2L term, dP2P, dS2S). Modeling based on R_{hypo}
- Approach consistent with **fully non-ergodic models** in the literature (e.g., *Dawood & Rodriguez-Marek 2013, Lavrentiadis et al. 2021, Sgobba et al., 2021, 2023, among others*)
- Reduction in total aleatory variability** due to explicit modeling of dL2L, dP2P, and dS2S terms

$$\log_{10} FAS = \underbrace{a + b_1 M_l + b_2 M_l^2 + [c_1 (M_l - M_{ref}) + c_2] \log_{10} \sqrt{R_{\text{hypo}}^2 + h^2}}_{\text{Modelled effects}} + c_3 \left(\sqrt{R_{\text{hypo}}^2 + h^2} - R_{ref} \right) + \delta_{ref} + \underbrace{\delta B_e | event}_{\text{Unmodelled effects}} + \underbrace{\delta S2S_s | station}_{\text{Unmodelled effects}} + \underbrace{\delta L2L_a | area source}_{\text{Unmodelled effects}} + \underbrace{\delta P2P_p | path}_{\text{Unmodelled effects}} + \delta W_{esap}$$

Prediction at 6 reference
rock sites!



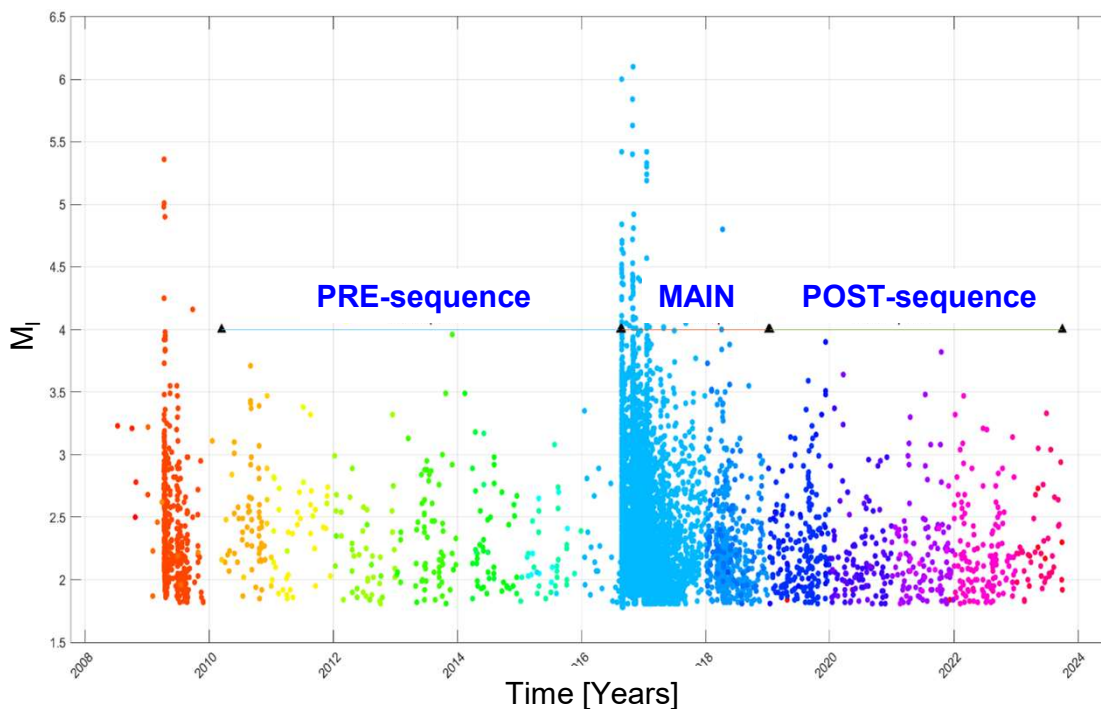
Method

Linear mixed-effect regression with *fitlme* di Matlab

NENS (NonErgodic Non-Stationary Model)

Nonstationarity with time: **1 mixed-effect nested model**

→ better for comparability and interpretability because fixed-effects remain the same



$$IM \sim 1 + M + M \log DIST + \log DIST + DIST + \text{flag} + M^2 + (1 \mid \text{eventi}) + (1 \mid \text{stazioni: phase}) + (1 \mid \text{source: phase}) + (1 \mid \text{path: phase})$$

Dataset divided in 3 phases:

PRE-sequence

('03/13/2010 18:56:11' - '08/16/2016 19:42:05')

MAIN sequence

('08/24/2016 01:36:32' - '01/05/2019 23:30:44')

POST-sequence

('01/13/2019 20:29:16' - '10/01/2023 09:38:14')



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Results



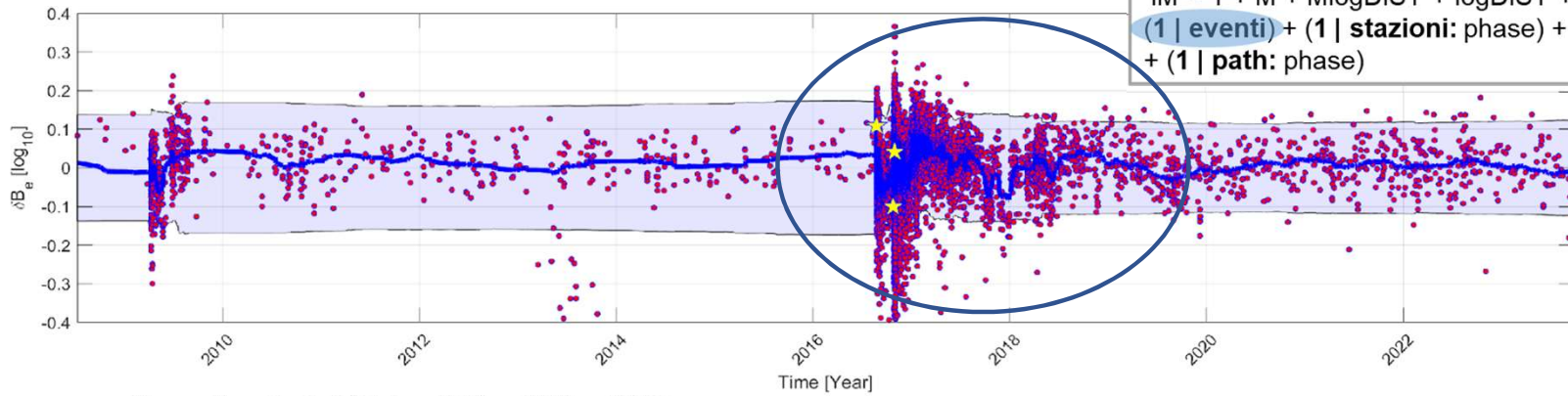
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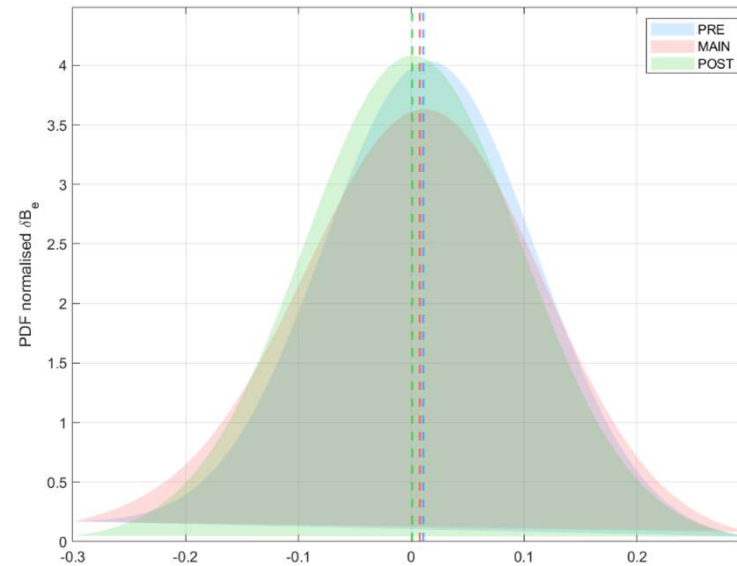
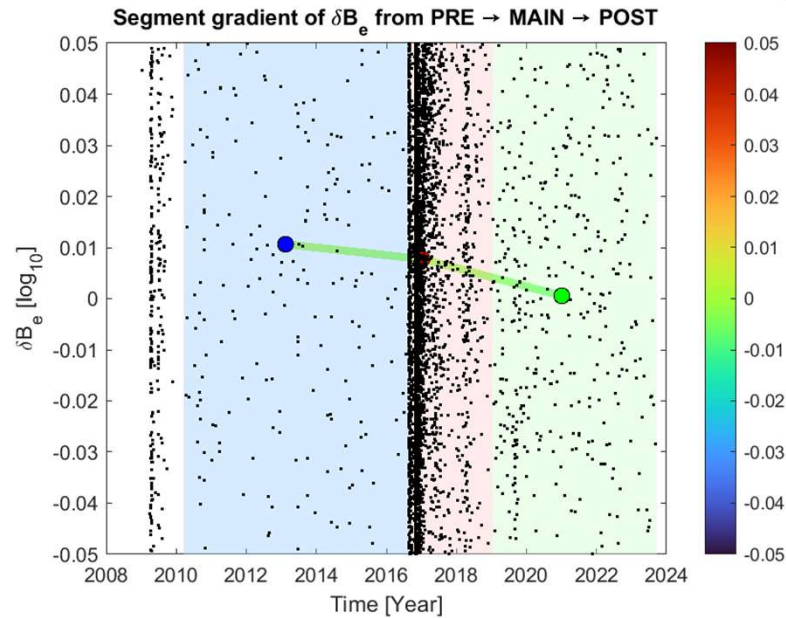
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NENS: nonstationarity of dBe

23 Hz

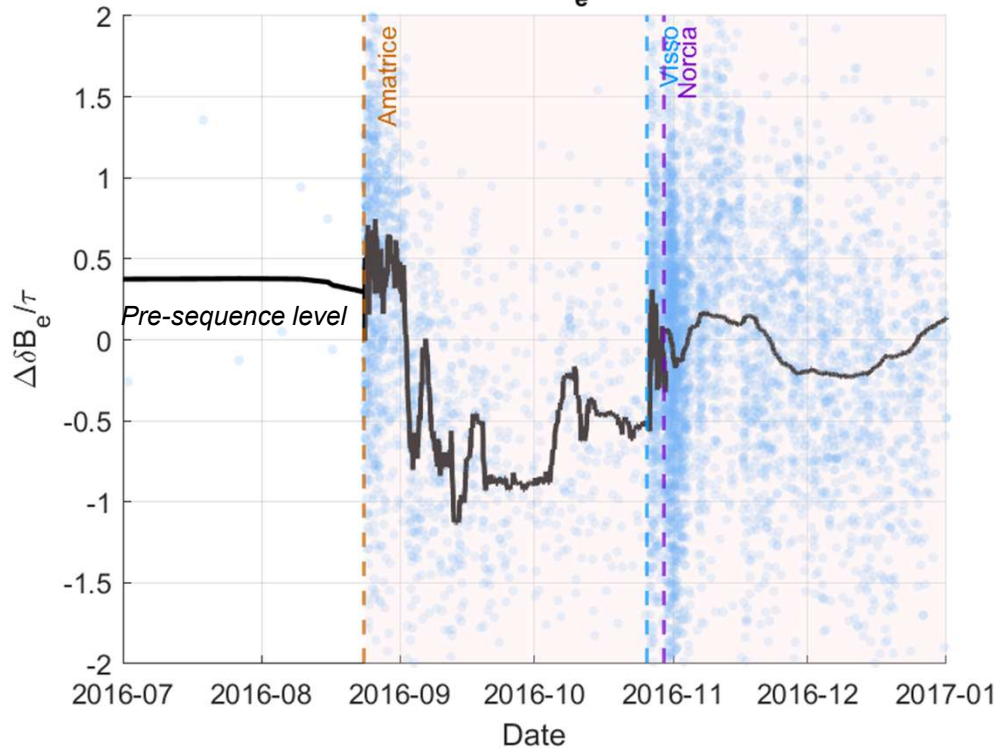


$$IM \sim 1 + M + M \log DIST + \log DIST + DIST + \text{flag} + M^2 + (1 | \text{event}) + (1 | \text{stazioni: phase}) + (1 | \text{source: phase}) + (1 | \text{path: phase})$$

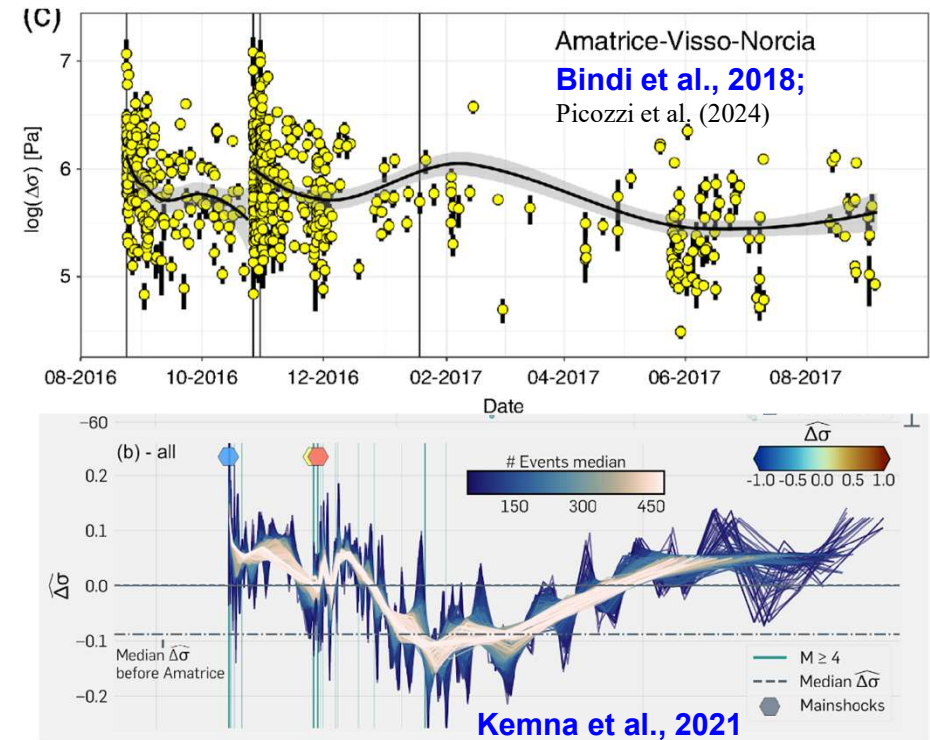


NENS: nonstationarity of dBe

variation of normalised δB_e w.r.t. Pre-sequence



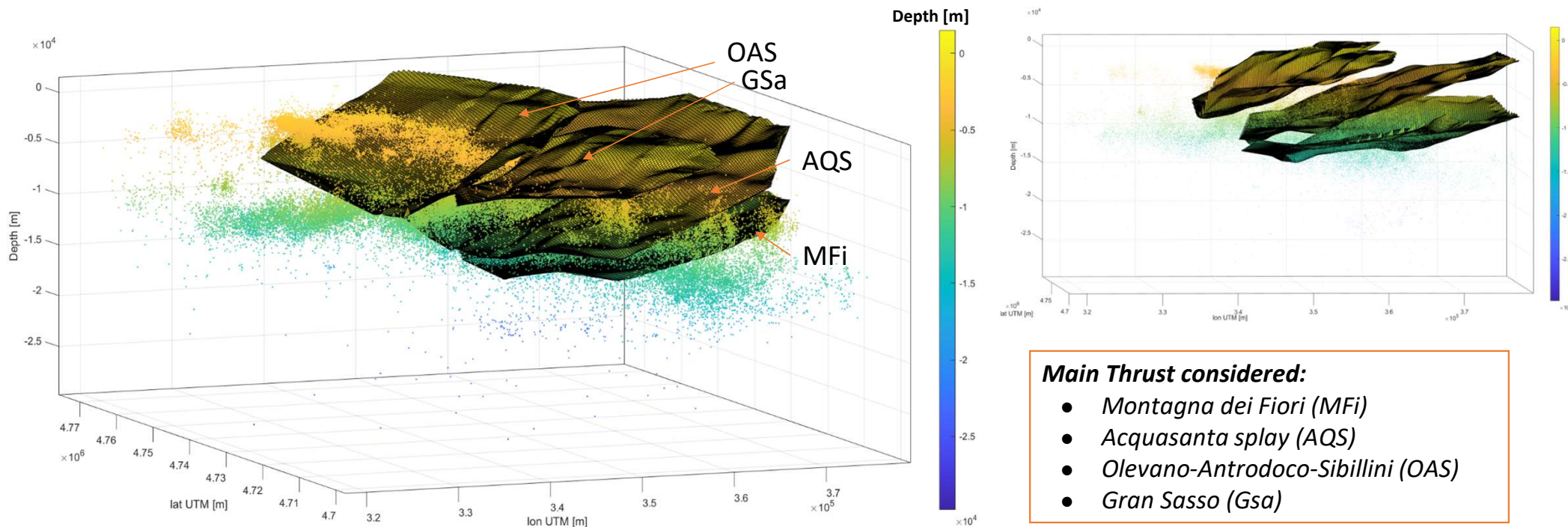
Several authors observe sudden decrease in the apparent stress observed in the aftershocks of main events



3D spatial clustering of events for non-ergodic model development

Area source based on 3D zonation and geologic clustering provides more realistic source and propagation contributions (i.e. **dL2L** and **dP2P**)

Adoption of **geologically-informed clustering** guided by crustal volumes. We consider **thrusts and major fault systems** as 3D structures from the **RETRACE3D** model (*Di Bucci et al., 2021*) data and interpolated in space. The structures introduced are characterised by their different location in depth

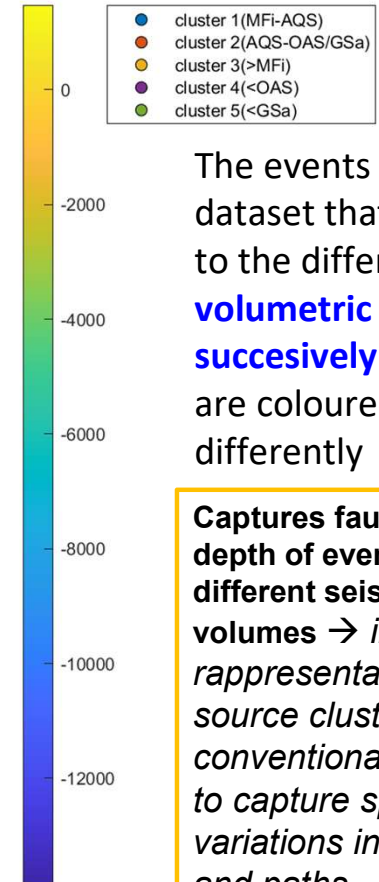
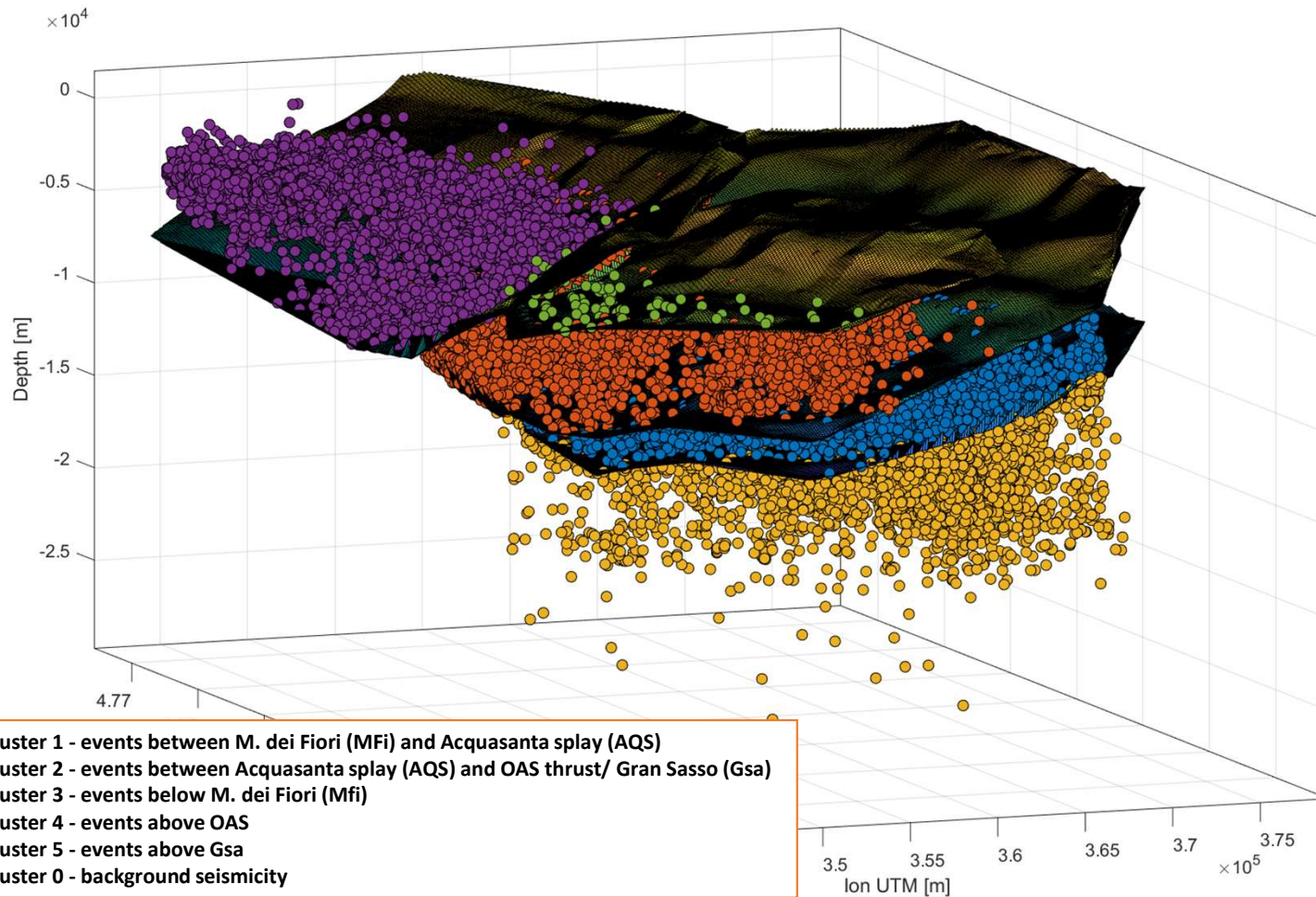


3D spatial clustering of events for non-ergodic model development



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The events in the dataset that belong to the different **volumetric clusters** **successively activated** are coloured differently

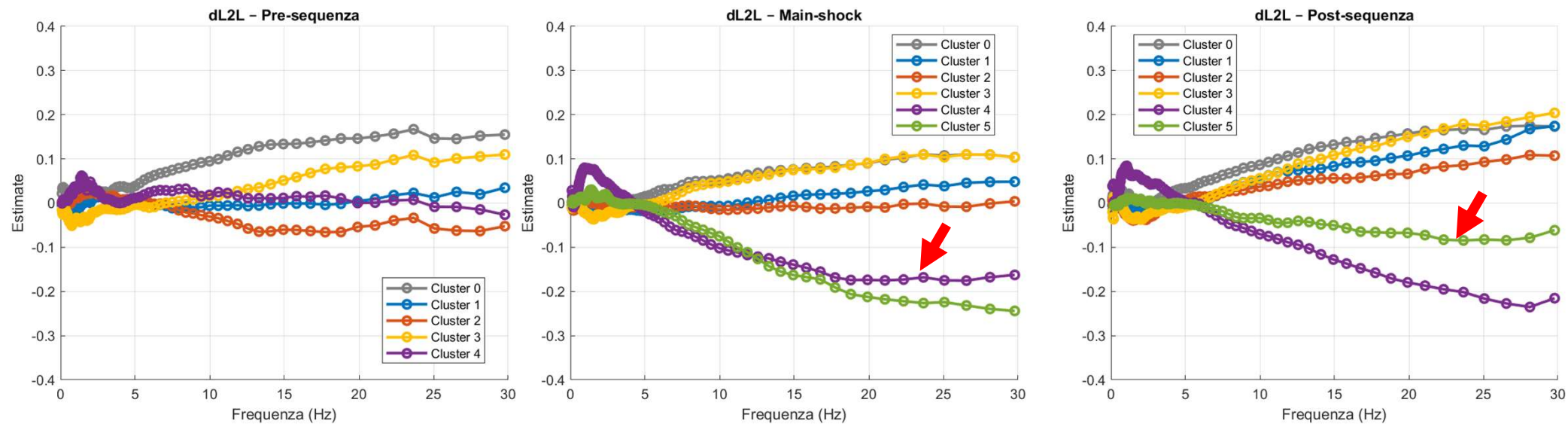
Captures fault dip, depth of events, different seismogenic volumes → improved representation of source clusters wrt 2D conventional models to capture spatial variations in source and paths

Cluster 1 - events between M. dei Fiori (MFi) and Acquasanta splay (AQS)
Cluster 2 - events between Acquasanta splay (AQS) and OAS thrust/ Gran Sasso (Gsa)
Cluster 3 - events below M. dei Fiori (Mfi)
Cluster 4 - events above OAS
Cluster 5 - events above Gsa
Cluster 0 - background seismicity

NENS location-to-location terms

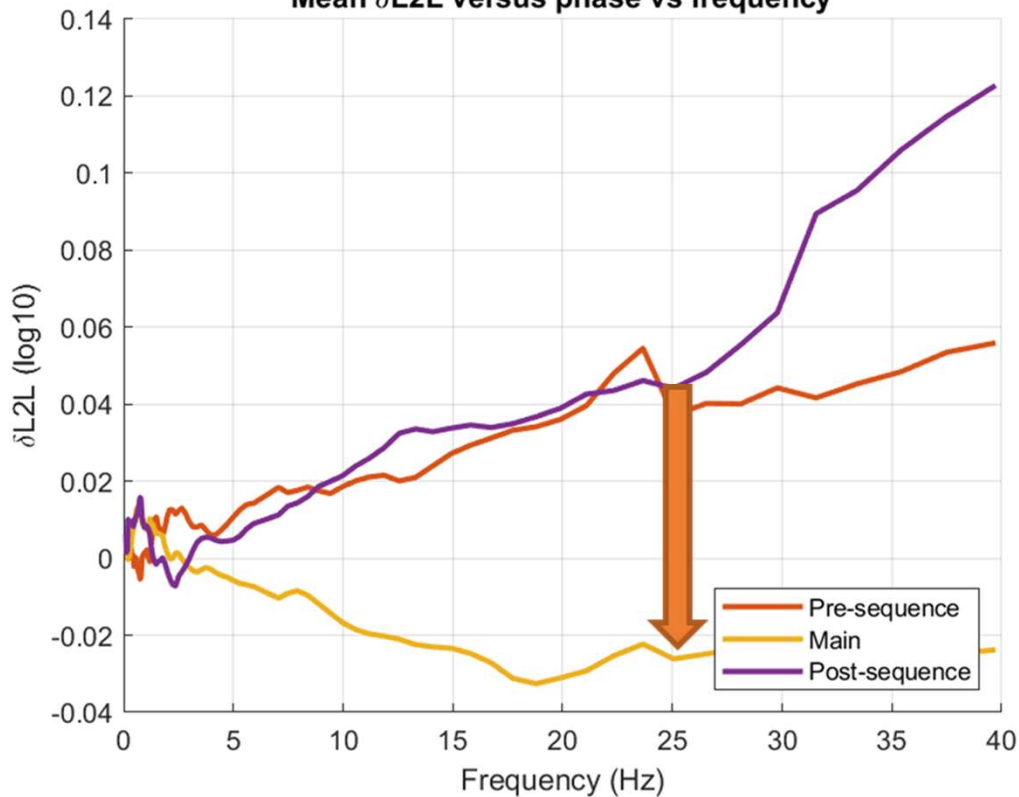
Relatively lower values for **shallow earthquakes (cluster 4-5)** and higher values for **deeper clusters (3-1)** in the main phase differences can be interpreted in relation to the increase of crustal stress with depth (i.e. effects not fully captured by the model in Rhypo) and not homogeneous energy releas

$$IM \sim 1 + M + M \log DIST + \log DIST + DIST + \text{flag} + M^2 + (1 | \text{event}) + (1 | \text{stazioni: phase}) + (1 | \text{source: phase}) + (1 | \text{path: phase})$$

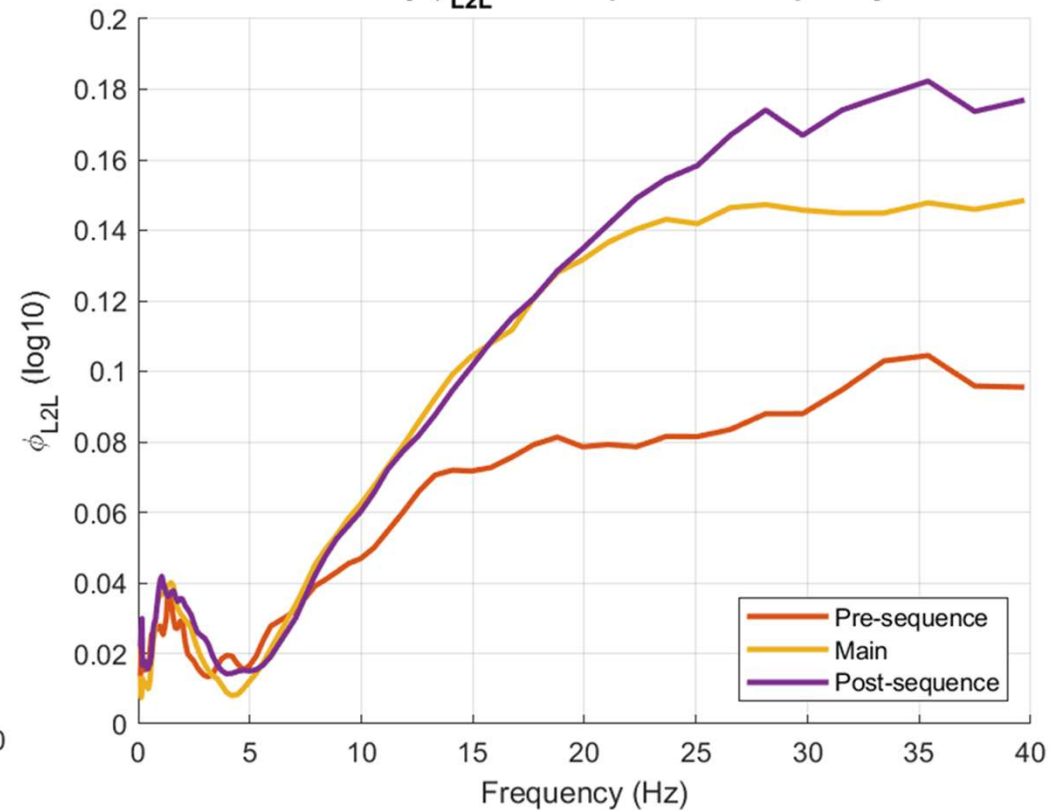


NENS location-to-location terms

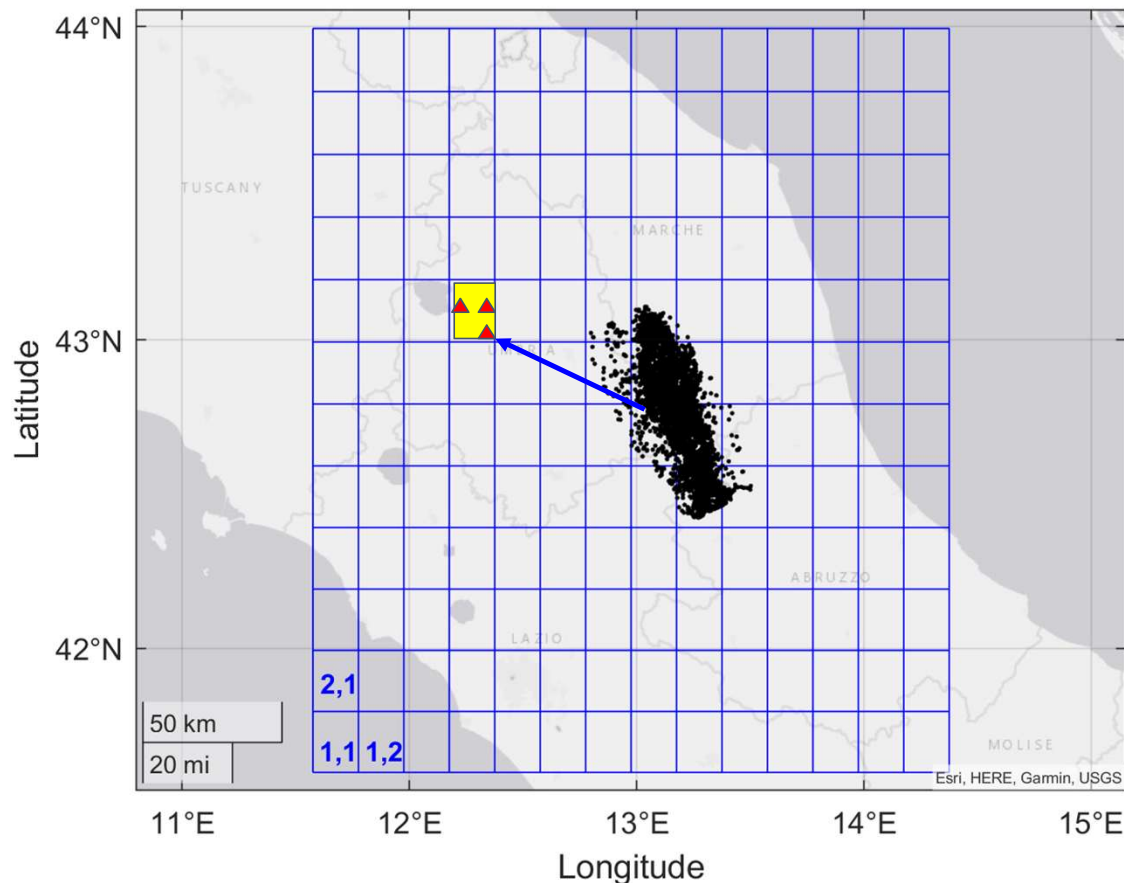
Mean δL_{2L} versus phase vs frequency



Variability ϕ_{L2L} versus phase vs frequency



NENS model: Sampling of Path terms



$IM \sim 1 + M + M \log DIST + \log DIST + DIST + \text{flag} + M^2 +$
 $(1 \mid \text{eventi}) + (1 \mid \text{stazioni: phase}) + (1 \mid \text{source: phase})$
 $+ (1 \mid \text{path: phase})$

Cell Approach

cell-paths (0.15° - size) for sampling propagation from cluster of events to cell (*Dawood and Rodriguez-Marek, 2013*)

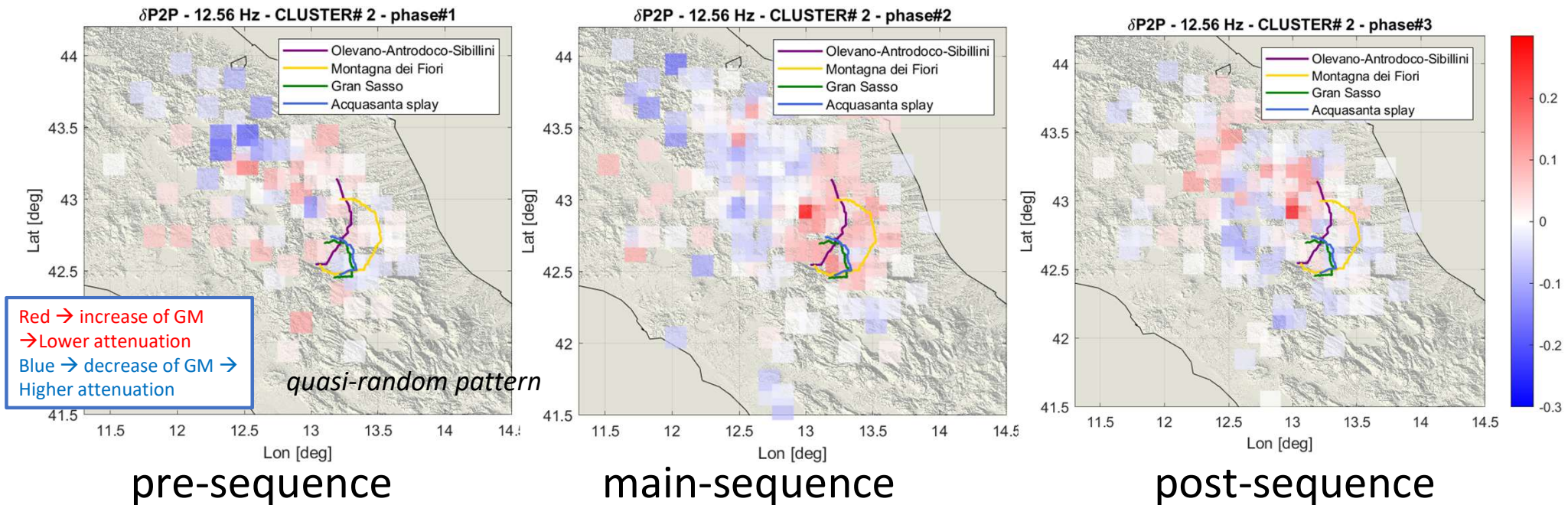
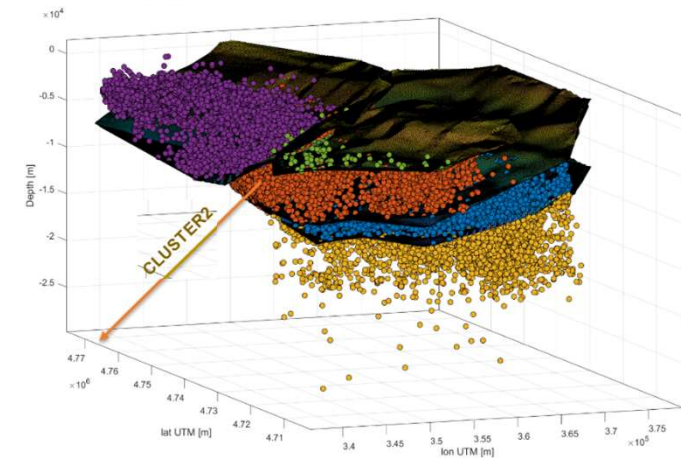
associates each source-station path with an average attenuation term, allowing local variations in seismic motion propagation to be mapped

NENS: nonstationarity of dP2P

CLUSTER#2

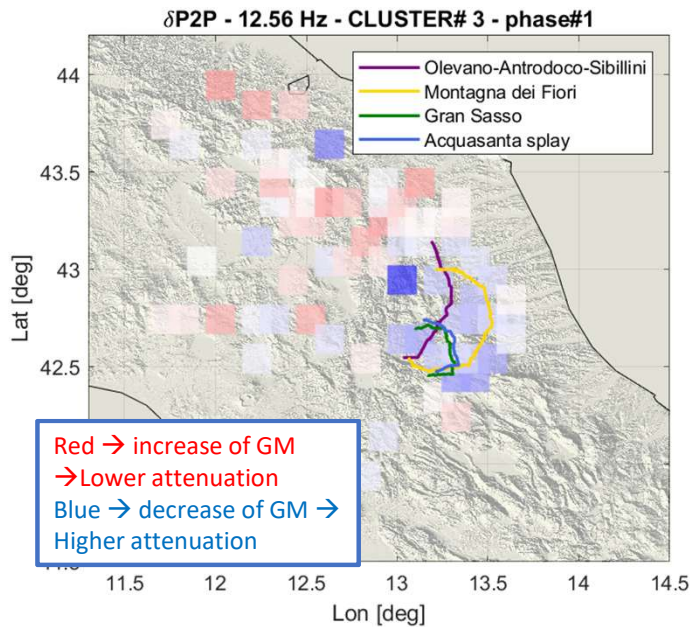
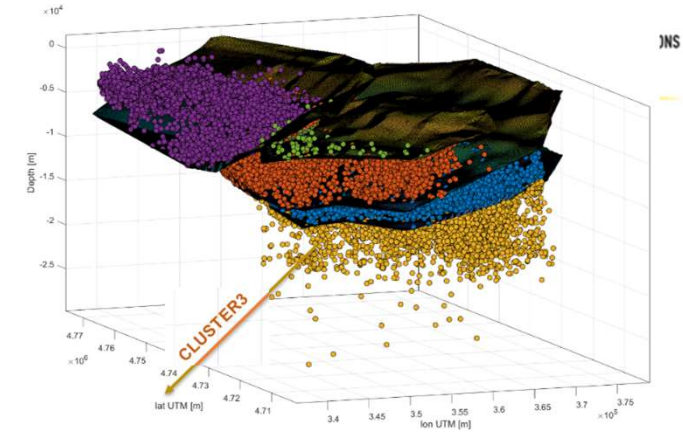
(size $0.15^\circ \times 0.15^\circ$)
Nstat per cell ≥ 3

Distinct **patterns of propagation** capturing anisotropies of anelastic attenuation

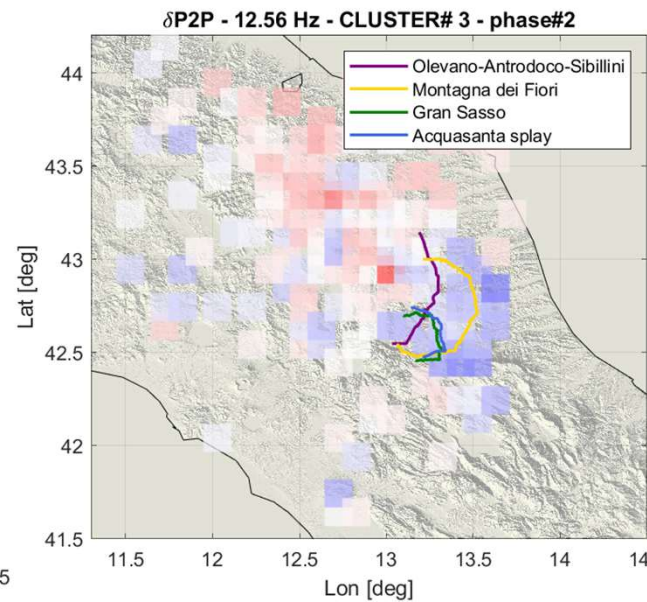


NENS: nonstationarity of dP2P

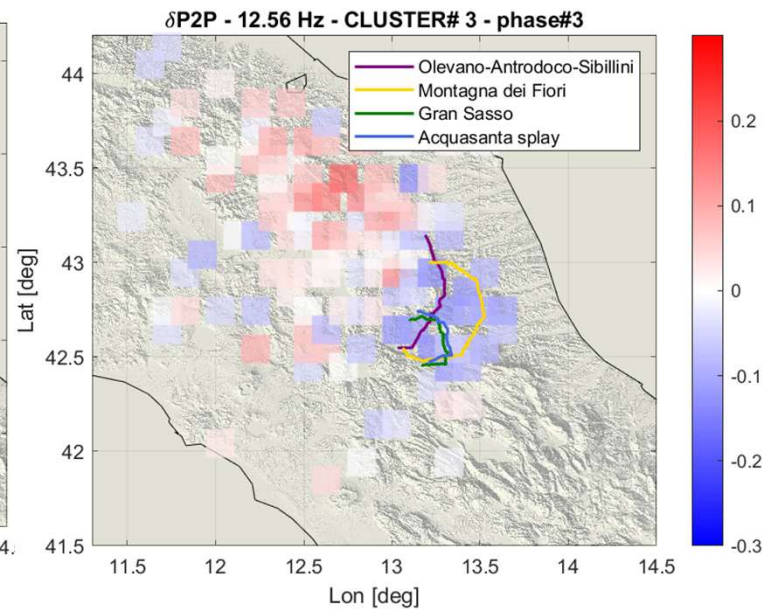
CLUSTER#3



pre-sequence



main-sequence

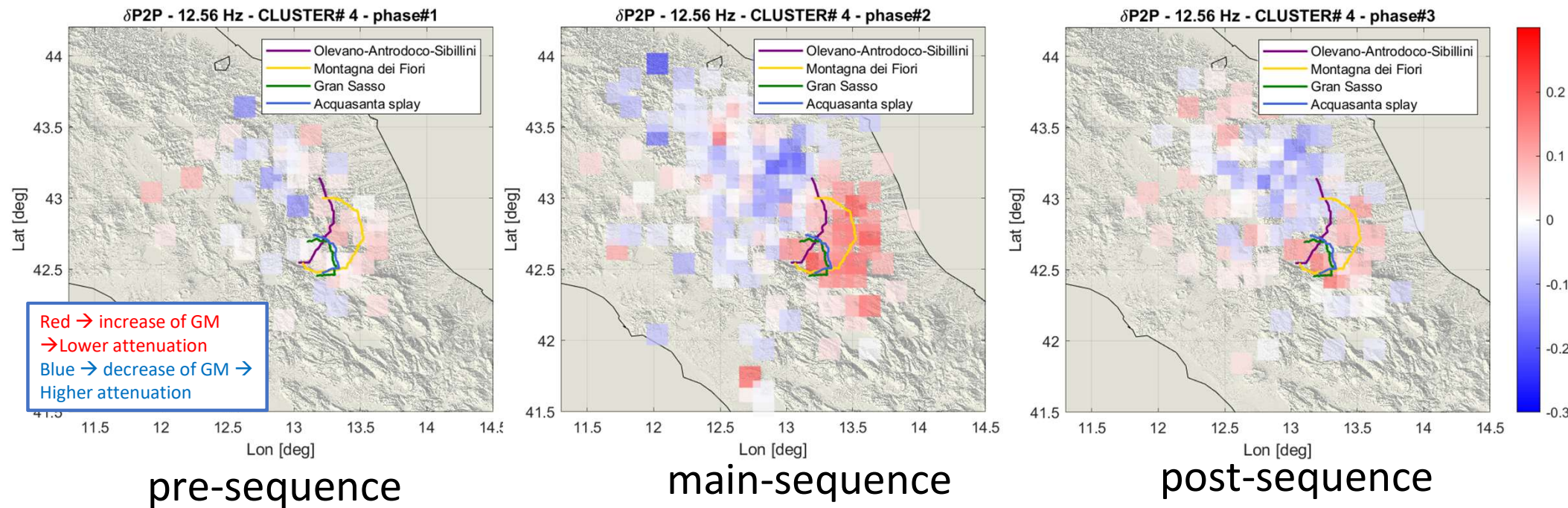
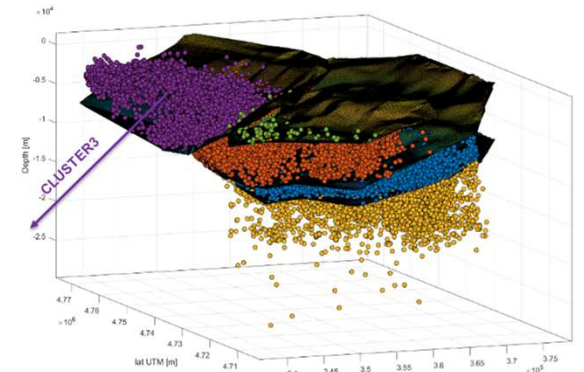


post-sequence

NENS: nonstationarity of dP2P

CLUSTER#4

Sibillini/OAS, create a seismic impedance contrast.
This can cause scattering effect, which reduces the energy transmitted
beyond the structure
→ “barrier effect”



NENS: nonstationarity of dP2P

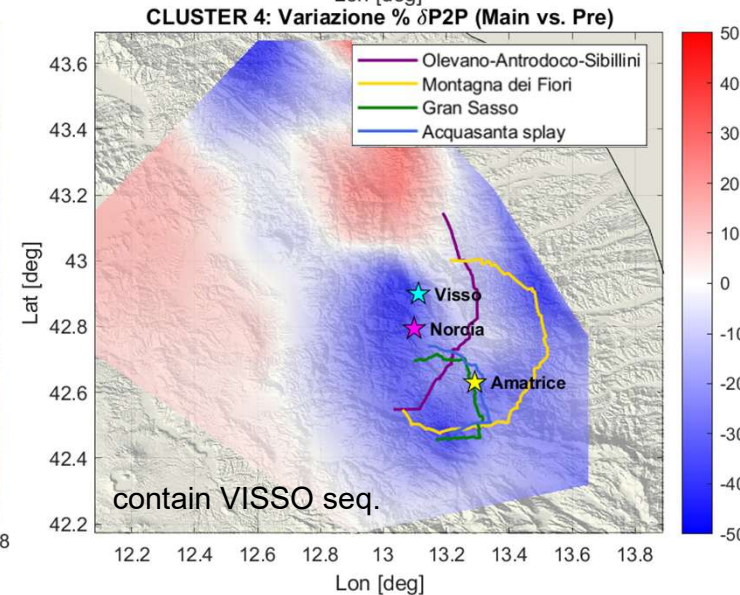
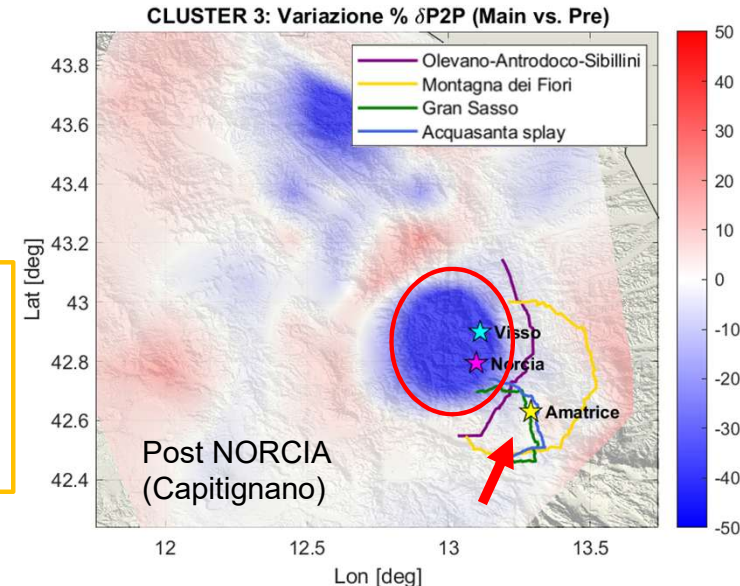
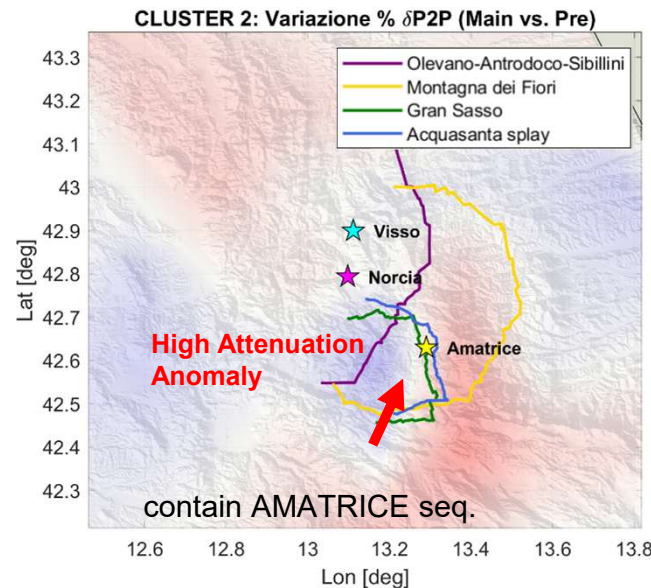
«Differential Maps»

1. Amatrice: High attenuation delimited at N and S by OAS thrust and Gran Sasso thrust, respectively (Gabrielli et al., 2022)

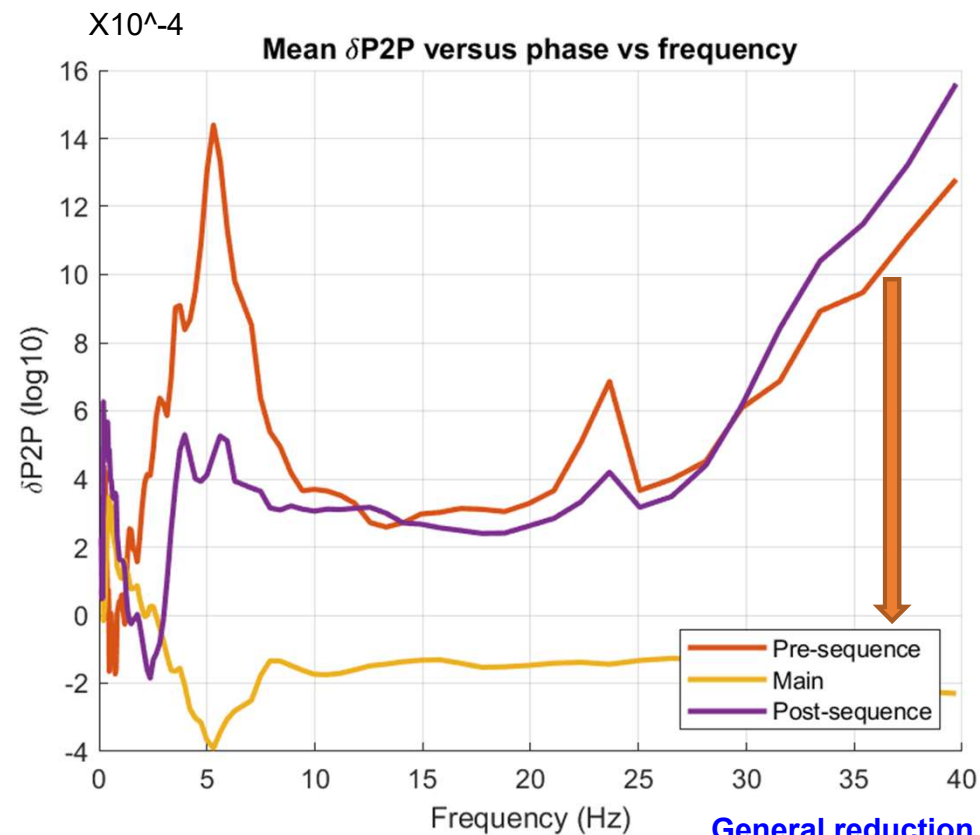
2. Visso: increase of attenuation in the Sibillini area at S-SW of Norcia/Amatrice

3. Norcia: increase of attenuation at northernmost of the Visso area after the pre-sequence. This fluid migration towards the Visso area was also identified by Malagnini et al. (2022), who calculated fluid flow patterns and suggested a northward fluid movement after the Amatrice mainshock

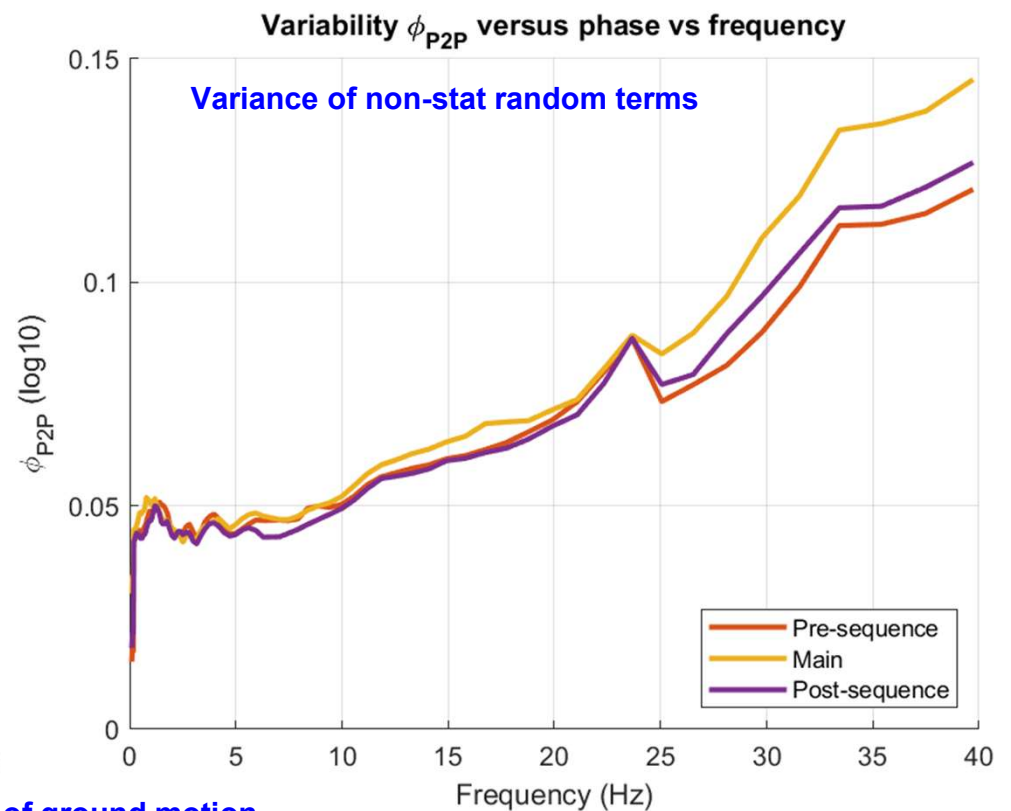
Variation during the sequences in the spatial distribution of the attenuation, with **anomalies (high attenuation)** moving from west to east and then north



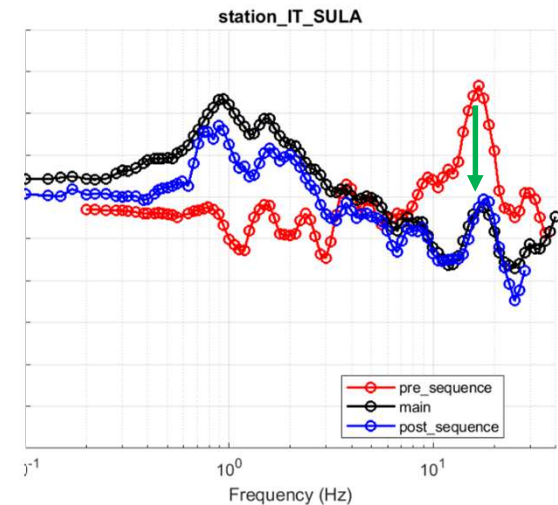
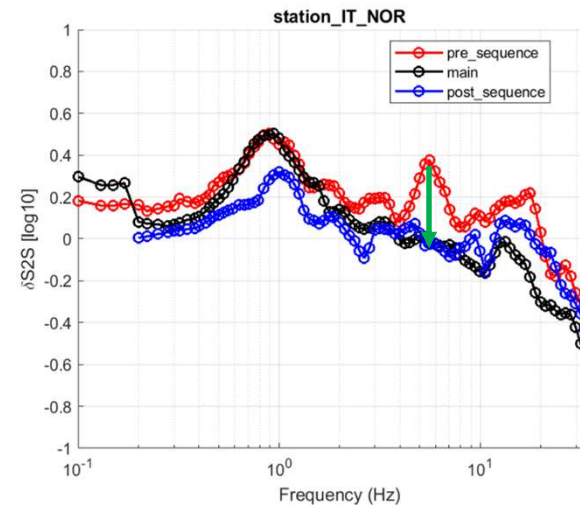
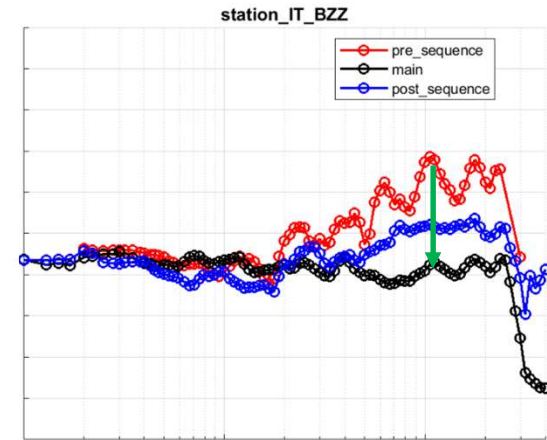
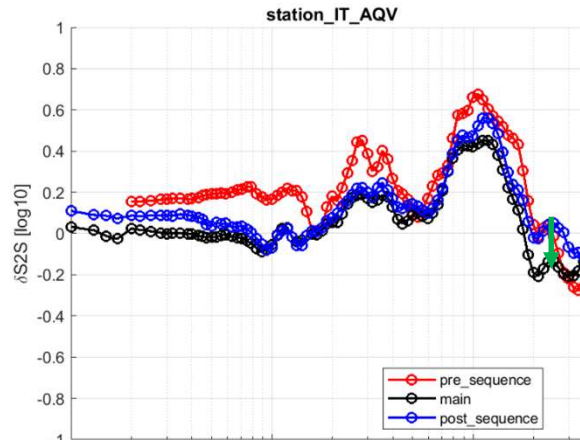
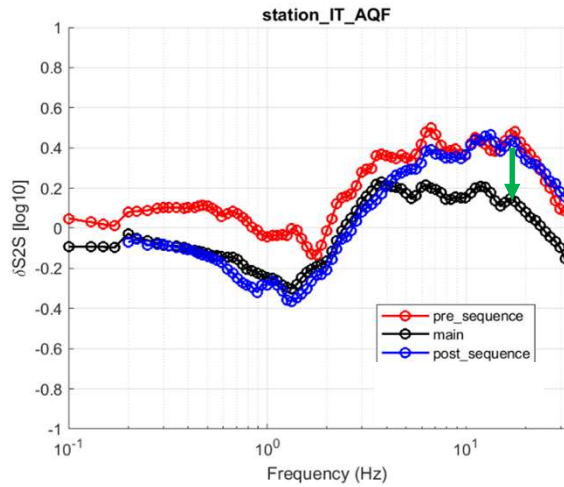
NENS: nonstationarity of dP2P



General reduction of ground motion
due to increase of attenuation



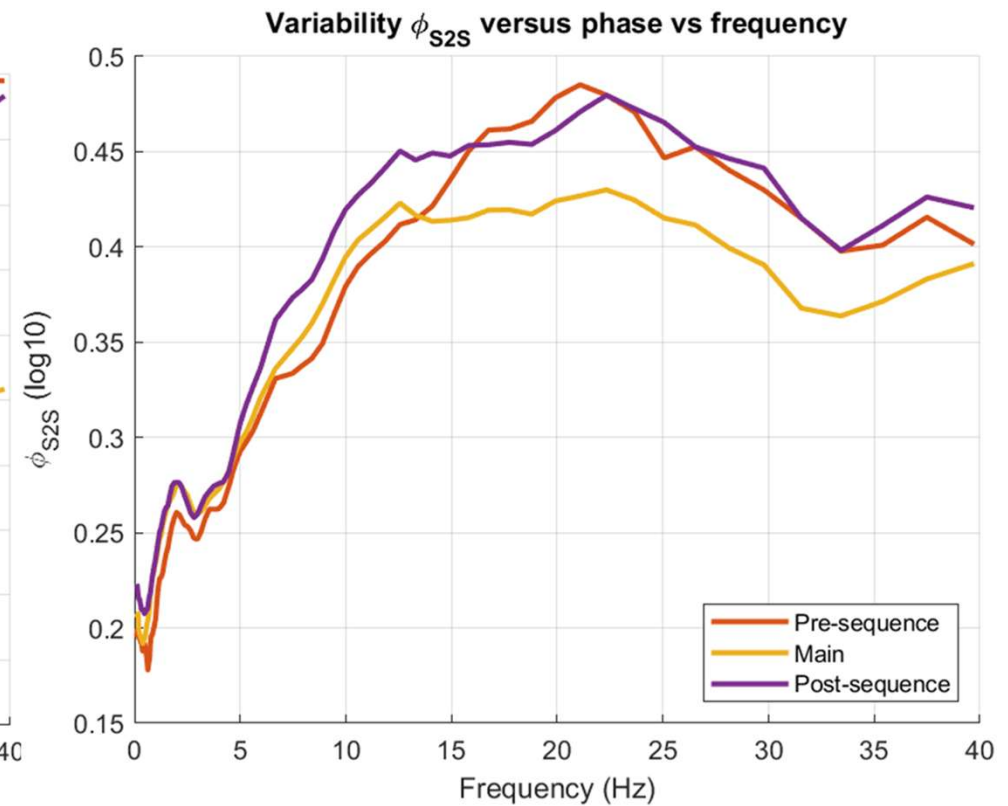
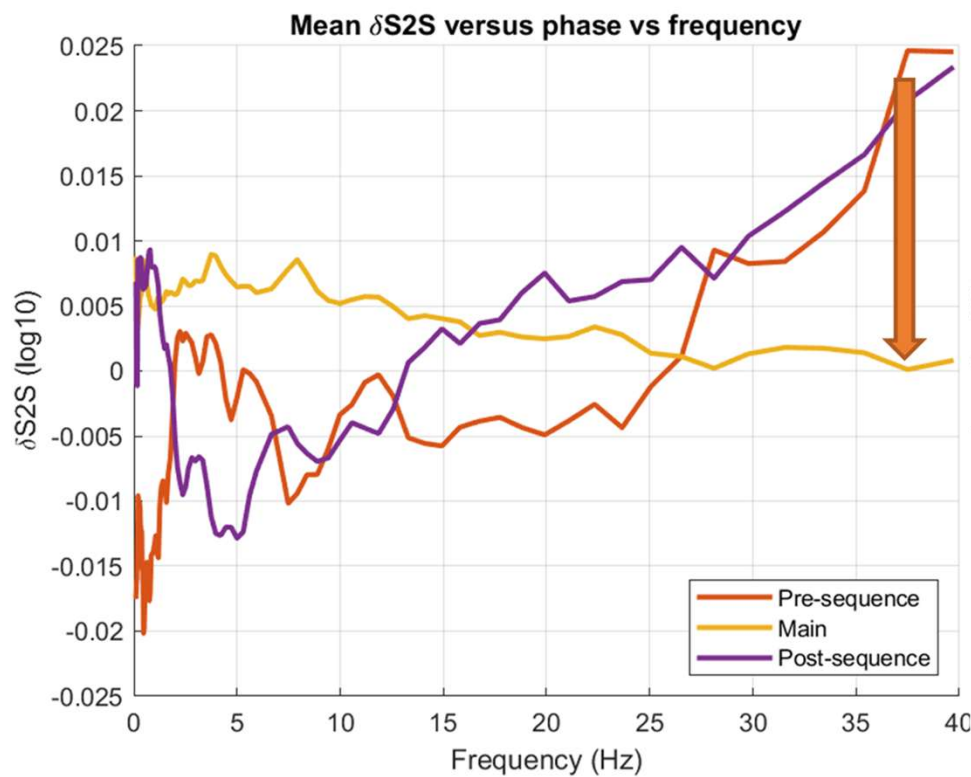
NENS: nonstationarity of dS2S



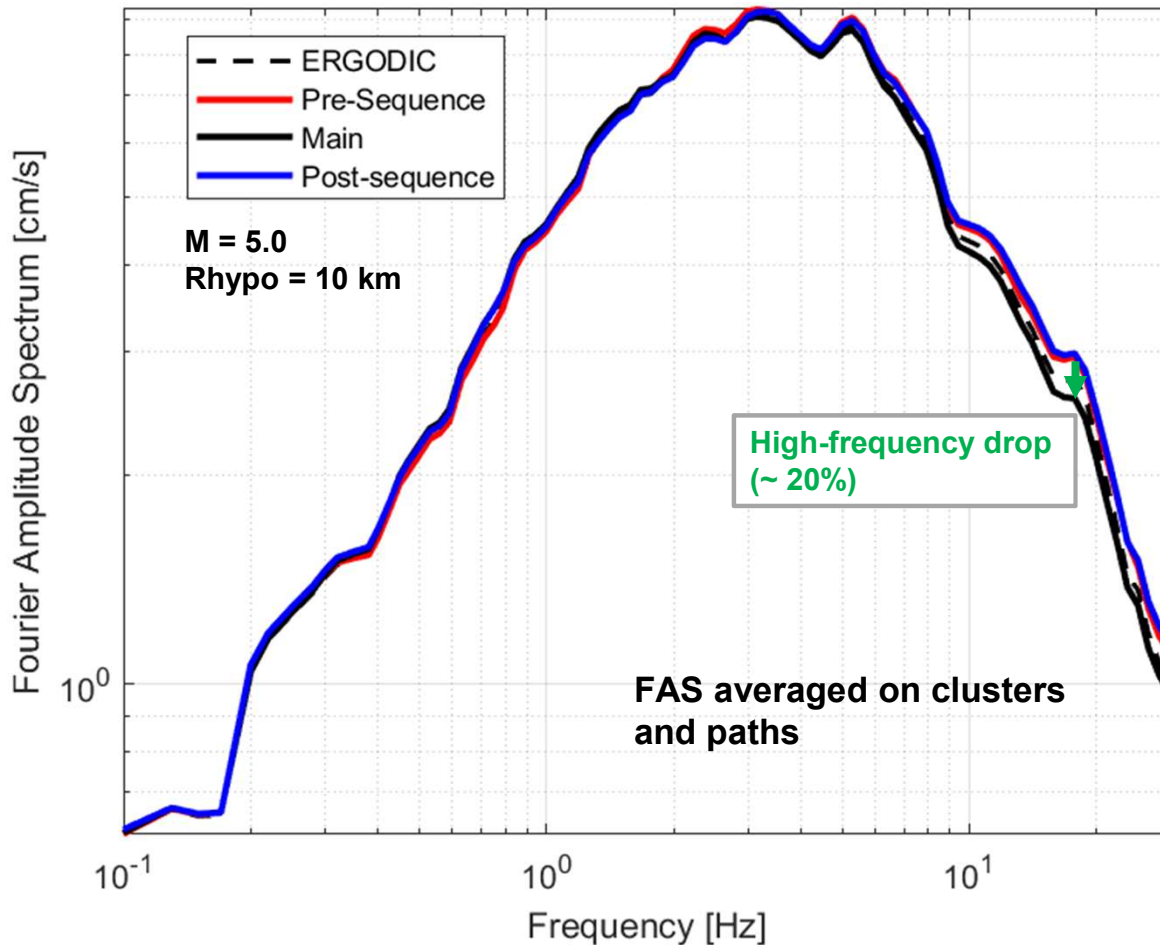
IM $\sim 1 + M + M \log \text{DIST} + \log \text{DIST} + \text{DIST} + \text{flag} + M^2 +$
 $(1 \mid \text{eventi}) + (1 \mid \text{stazioni: phase}) + (1 \mid \text{source: phase})$
 $+ (1 \mid \text{path: phase})$

Drop at resonant frequency after
 mainshocks due to temporary reduction
 of the shear wave velocity and slow
 recovery in post-sequence (consistent
 findings on HVSR [Vassallo et al., 2022](#))

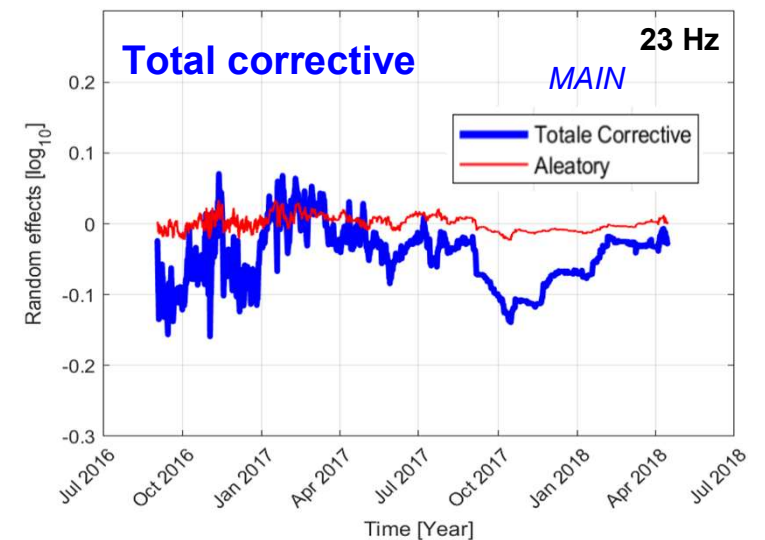
NENS: nonstationarity of dS2S



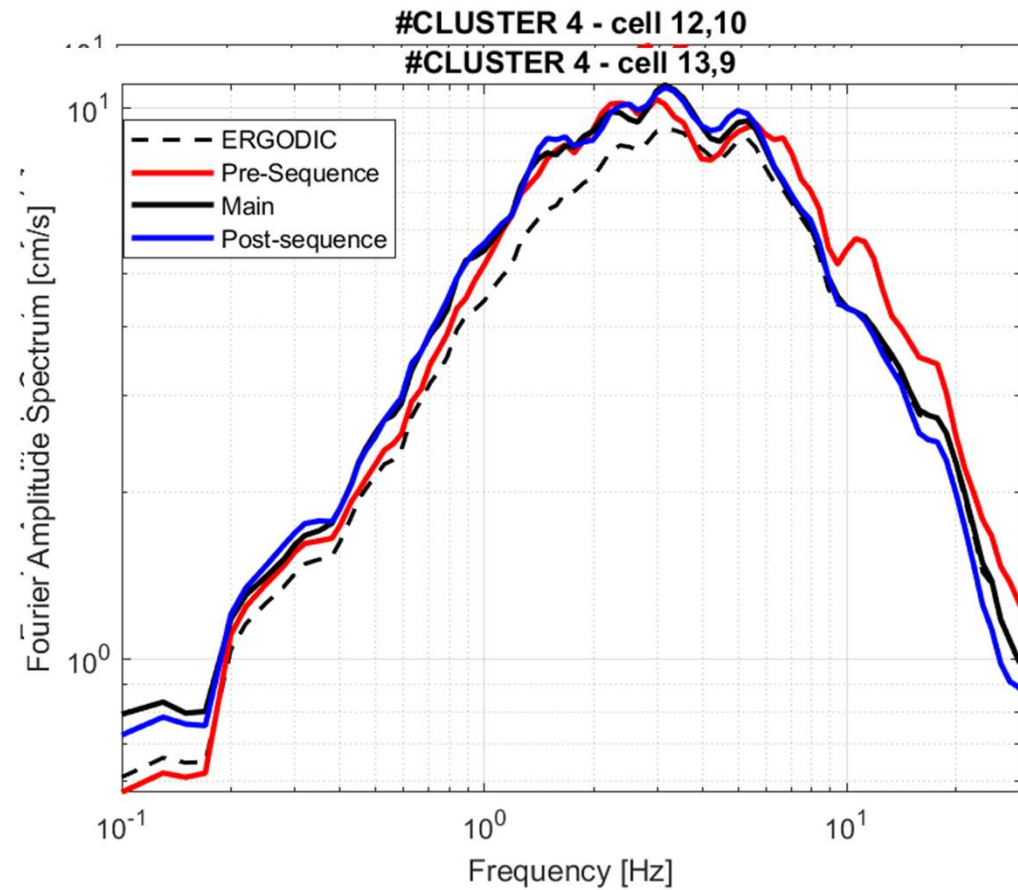
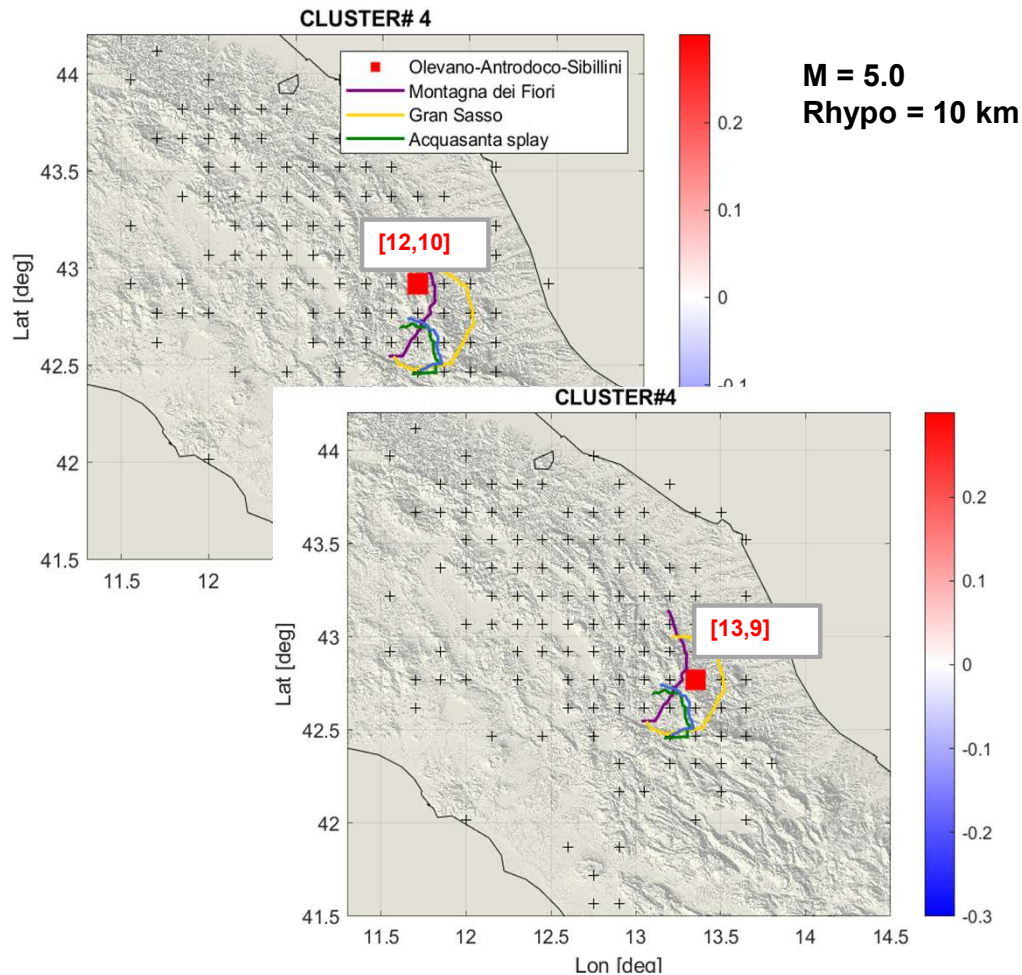
NENS: impact on spectral predictions



The total correction term tends to be **negative on average during the sequence**. This suggests that dynamic effects **overall reduce the ground motion** compared to a median stationary prediction



NENS: impact on spectral predictions



Conclusions

- ❑ Ground Motion shows strong **non-stationarity in space and time**
- ❑ The NENS models allow us to **capture these nonstationarities** in the GMM random terms, related to:
 - ✓ **Source dynamics** (e.g., apparent stress, 3D seismic clustering)
 - ✓ **Propagation properties** (e.g., anelastic attenuation, fluid migration)
 - ✓ **Time-varying site response** (e.g., shear-wave velocity reduction post-mainshock)
 - ✓ **Aleatory variability** doesn't change w.r.t. an equivalent stationary model
- ❑ Effect on ground motion predictions: **decrease in predicted ground motion amplitudes** during main sequence at HF compared to stationary models, due to dissipative phases (e.g., fluid presence, scattering)
 - on average minimal impact on the global predictions w.r.t. stationary/ergodic models
 - **BUT...** may be important for **scenario-based predictions and short-term forecast! OR for preparatory phase analysis...**

