



Supplement of

Deformation and exhumation in thick continental crusts induced by valley incision of elevated plateaux

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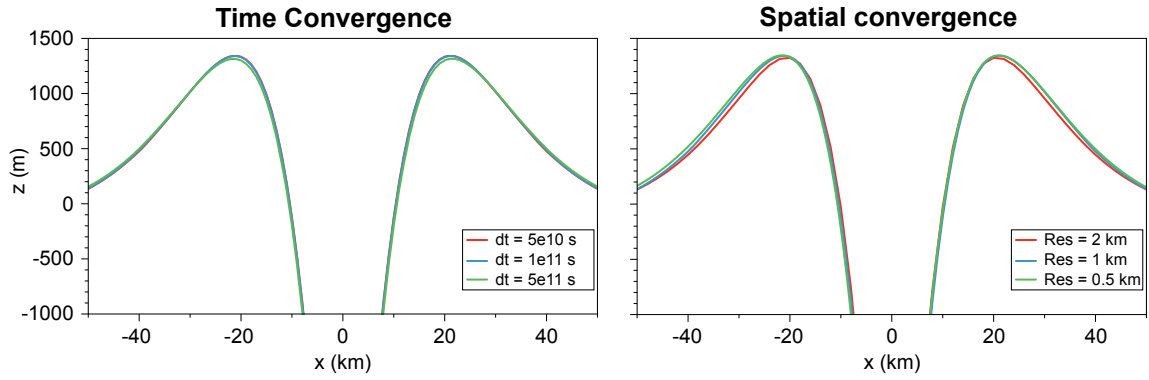


Figure S1: Convergence test. Topography of the model after 1.6 Myr for (left) different time steps (dt) and (right) different mesh-grid resolution (Res).

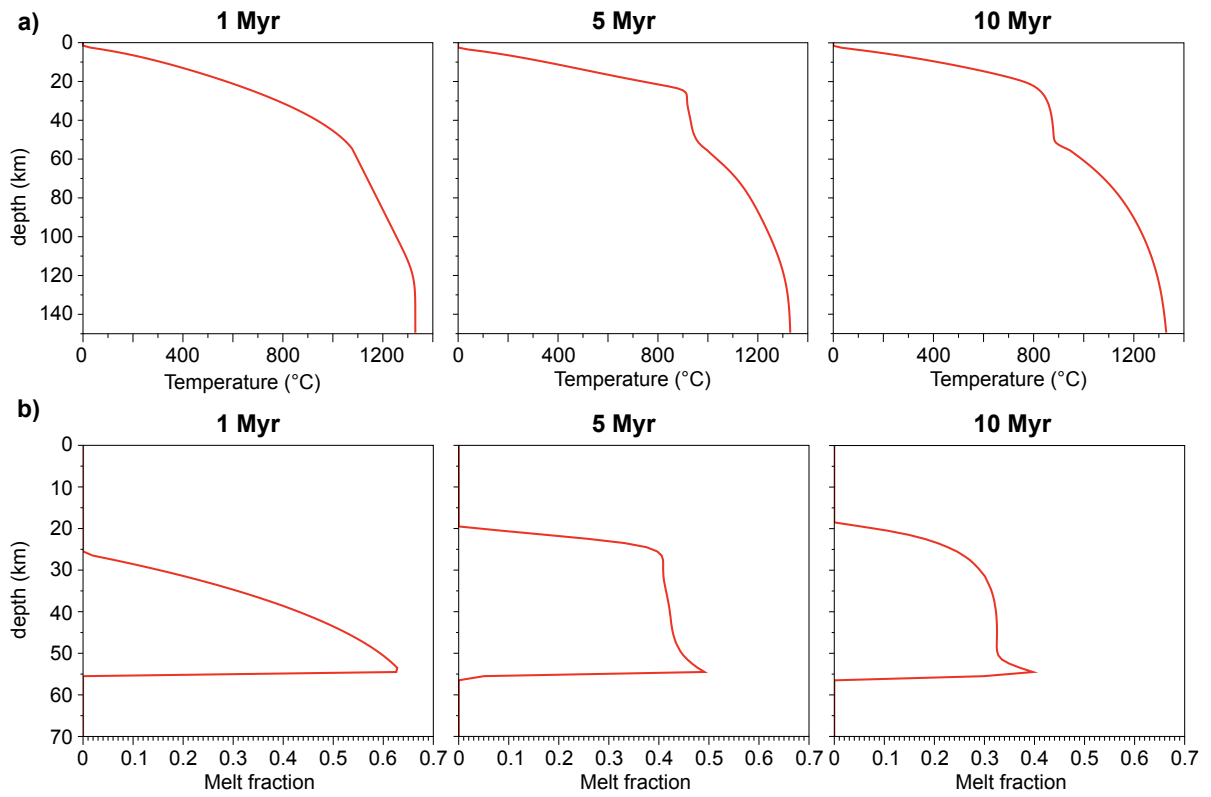


Figure S2: Vertical profiles at the center of the valley for the reference model at different time of (a) the temperature and (b) the melt fraction of the crust.

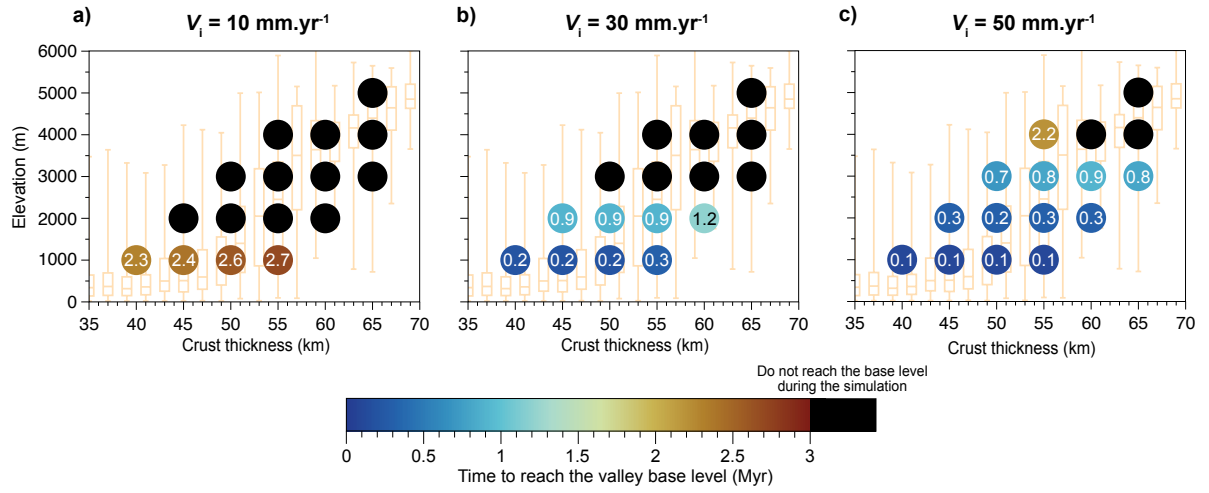


Figure S3: Time for the valley to reach the base level for a) $V_i = 10 \text{ mm.yr}^{-1}$, b) $V_i = 30 \text{ mm.yr}^{-1}$, and c) $V_i = 50 \text{ mm.yr}^{-1}$. Values presented inside the circles are in Myr. Black points represent models in which the valley do not reach the base level in the simulation timeframe (i.e., 10 Myr).

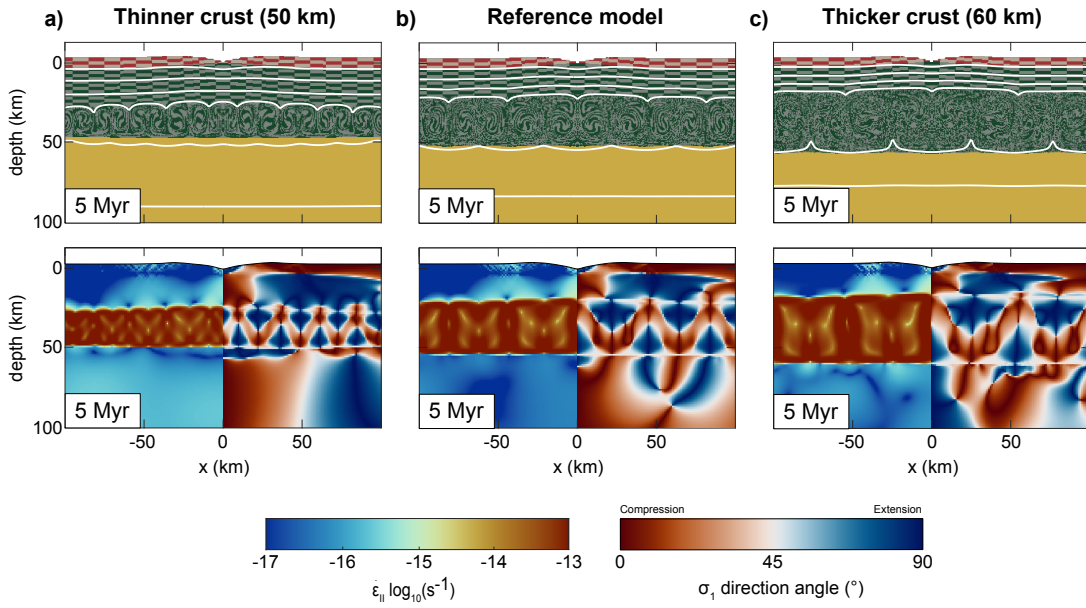


Figure S4: Models snapshots after 5 Myr for (a) a thin crust model (50 km), (b) the reference model (55 km), and (c) a thick crust model (60 km). First line represents the material and thermal evolution. White lines represent each 200°C isotherm. Second line represents the second invariant of the strain rate (left) and the evolution of the σ_1 direction angle (right).

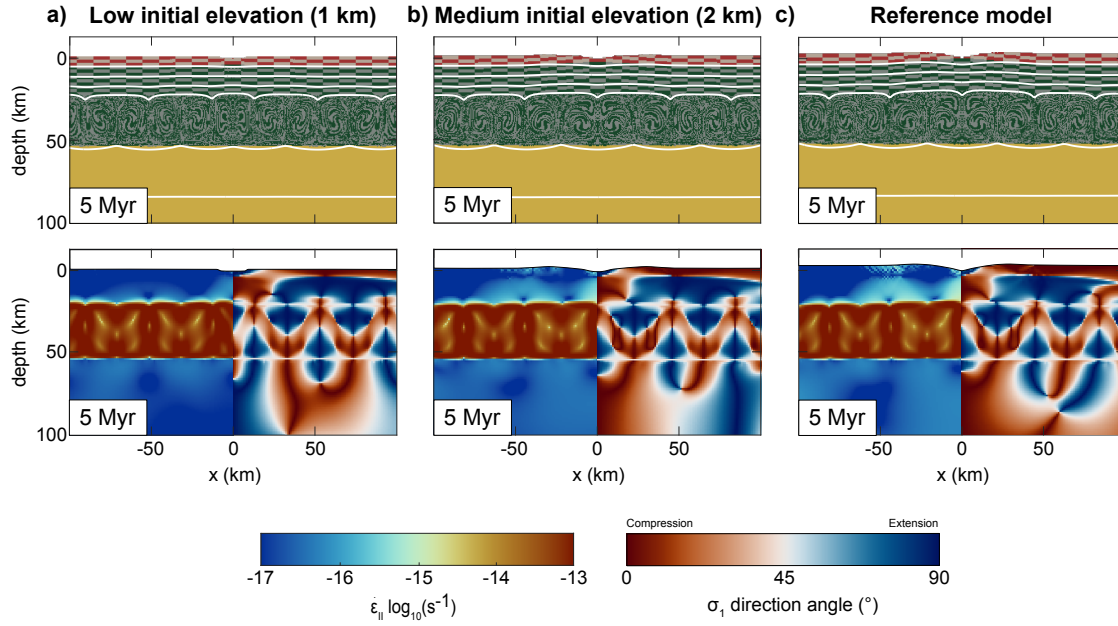


Figure S5: Models snapshots after 5 Myr for (a) low initial plateau elevation model (1 km), (b) a medium initial plateau elevation model (2 km), and (c) the reference model (3 km). First line represents the material and thermal evolution. White lines represent each 200°C isotherm. Second line represents the second invariant of the strain rate (left) and the evolution of the σ_1 direction angle (right).

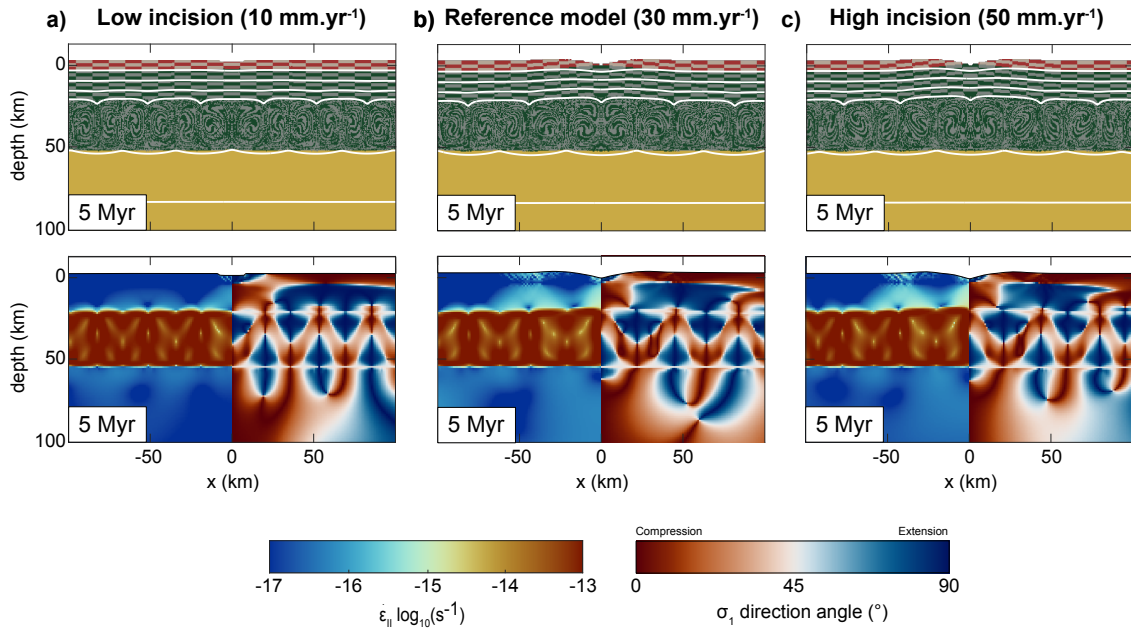


Figure S6: Models snapshots after 5 Myr for (a) low incision velocity model (10 mm.yr⁻¹), (b) the reference model (30 mm.yr⁻¹), and (c) a high incision velocity model (50 mm.yr⁻¹). First line represents the material and thermal evolution. White lines represent each 200°C isotherm. Second line represents the second invariant of the strain rate (left) and the evolution of the σ_1 direction angle (right).

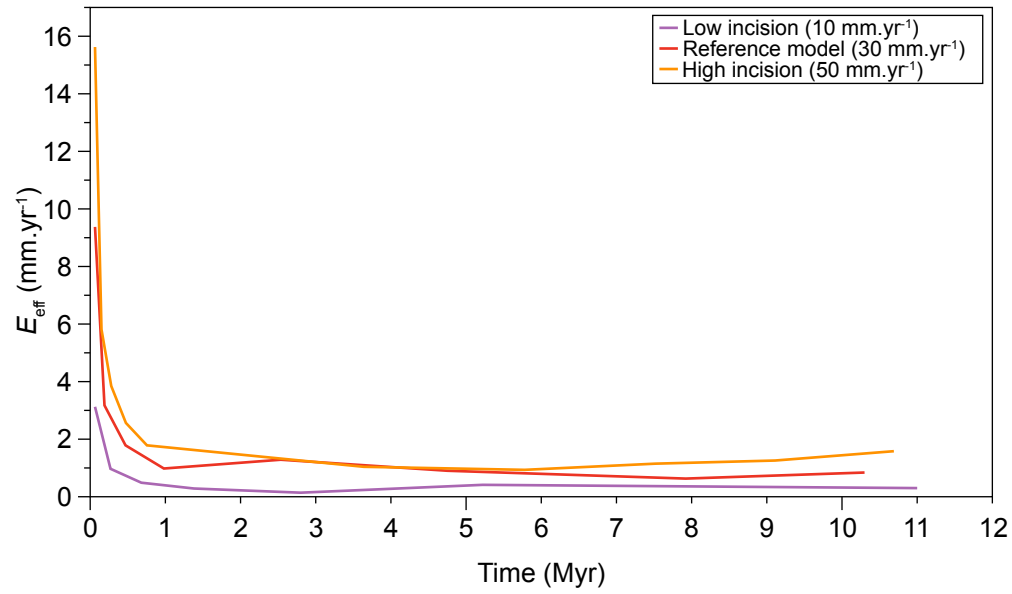


Figure S7: Time evolution of the effective erosion at the center of the valley (E_{eff}) for the low incision model (10 mm.yr⁻¹), the reference model 30 mm.yr⁻¹), and the high incision model (50 mm.yr⁻¹). All these models are performed with a initial plateau elevation of 3 km, and a crustal thickness of 55 km.

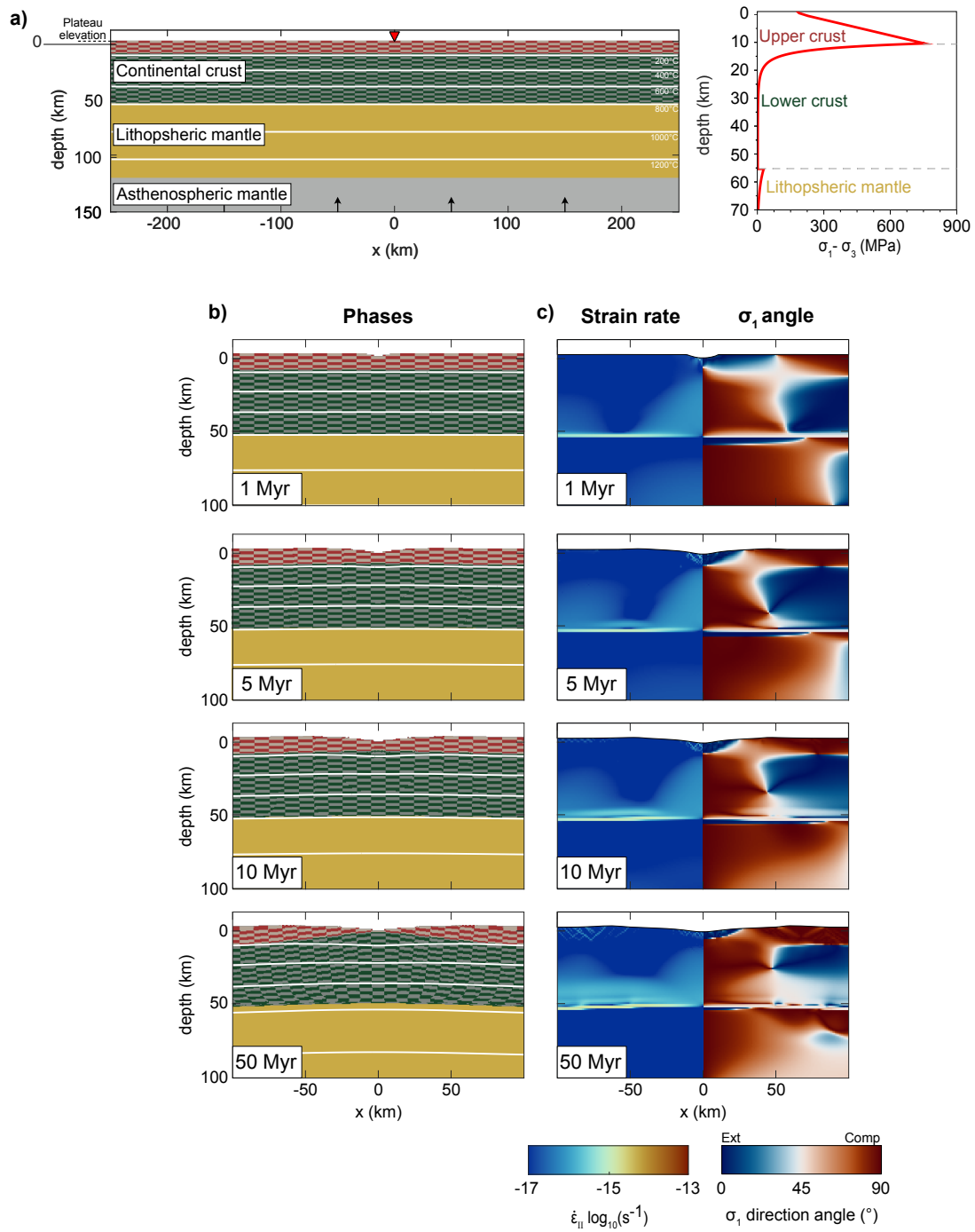


Figure S8: a) Initial model setup for the reference model with a reduced radiogenic heat production of $1.5 \times 10^{-7} \text{ W.m}^{-2}$, and associated yield strength profile from the surface to 70 km depth (see Figure 2 for details). Time evolution of the model after 1, 5, 10 and 50 Myr. (b) material and thermal evolution. White lines represent each 200°C isotherm. Color legend is as for Figure 2b. (b) left: Evolution of the second invariant of the strain rate. right: Evolution of the angle between the maximum principal stress (σ_1) and the vertical axis).

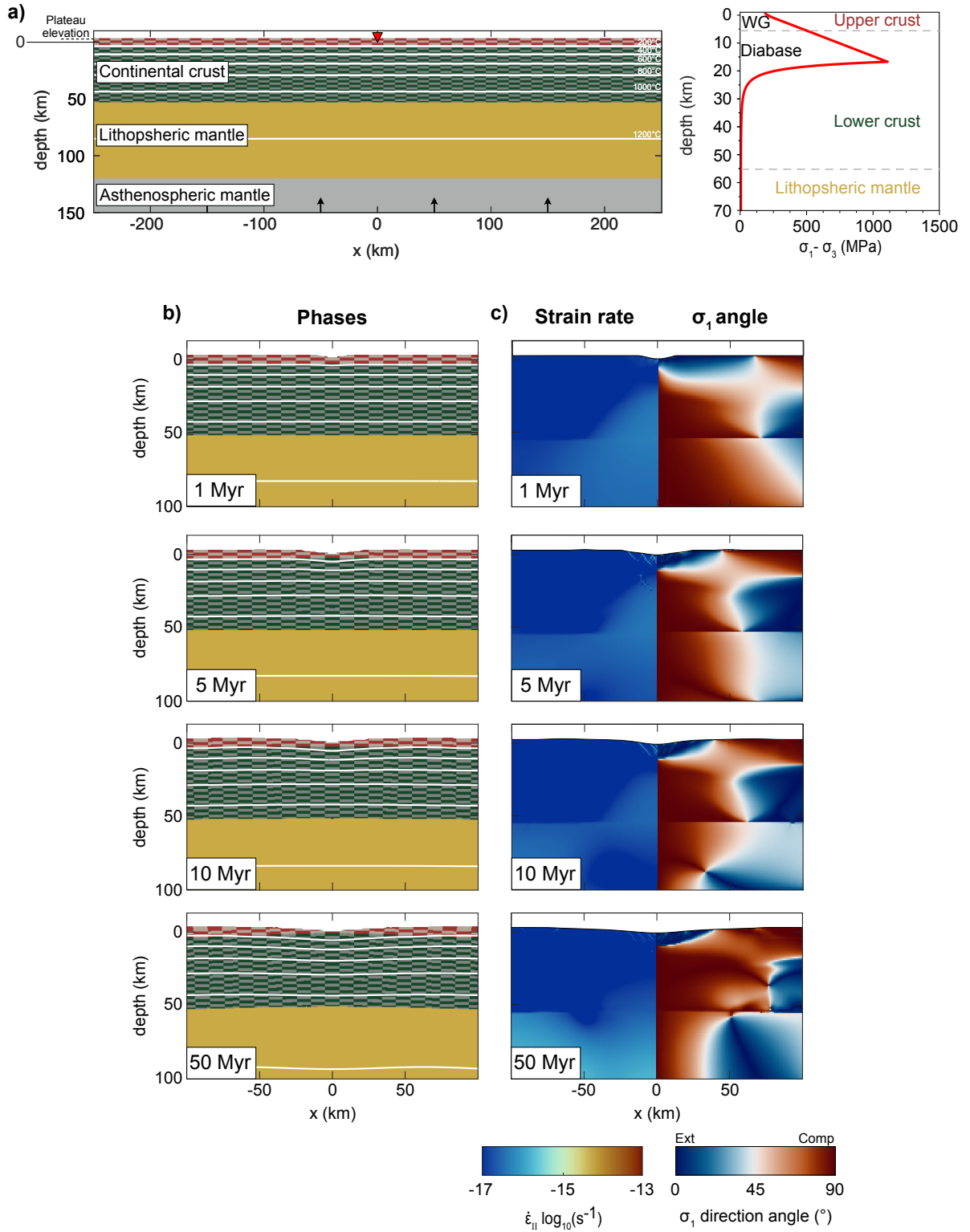


Figure S9: a) Initial model setup for the reference model with a Maryland Diabase lower crust ($n = 4.7$; $A = 5.0477 \times 10^{-28} \text{ Pa} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$; $Q = 485 \times 10^3 \text{ J} \cdot \text{mol}^{-1}$) (Mackwell et al., 1998) and associated yield strength profile from the surface to 70 km depth (see Figure 2 for details) (WG = Westerly Granite). Time evolution of the model after 1 , 5 , 10 and 50 Myr. (b) material and thermal evolution. White lines represent each 200°C isotherm. Color legend is as for Figure 2b. (b) left: Evolution of the second invariant of the strain rate. right: Evolution of the angle between the maximum principal stress (σ_1) and the vertical axis).

Model name	Crustal thickness (H) (km)	Initial plateau elevation (h_p) (km)	Incision velocity (V_i) (mm.yr ⁻¹)
40-1_Vi10	40	1	10
40-1_Vi30	40	1	30
40-1_Vi50	40	1	50
45-1_Vi10	45	1	10
45-1_Vi30	45	1	30
45-1_Vi50	45	1	50
45-2_Vi10	45	2	10
45-2_Vi30	45	2	30
45-2_Vi50	45	2	50
50-1_Vi10	50	1	10
50-1_Vi30	50	1	30
50-1_Vi50	50	1	50
50-2_Vi10	50	2	10
50-2_Vi30	50	2	30
50-2_Vi50	50	2	50
50-3_Vi10	50	3	10
50-3_Vi30	50	3	30
50-3_Vi50	50	3	50
55-1_Vi10	55	1	10
55-1_Vi30	55	1	30
55-1_Vi50	55	1	50
55-2_Vi10	55	2	10
55-2_Vi30	55	2	30
55-2_Vi50	55	2	50
55-3_Vi10	55	3	10
55-3_Vi30	55	3	30
55-3_Vi50	55	3	50
55-4_Vi10	55	4	10
55-4_Vi30	55	4	30
55-4_Vi50	55	4	50
60-2_Vi10	60	2	10
60-2_Vi30	60	2	30
60-2_Vi50	60	2	50
60-3_Vi10	60	3	10
60-3_Vi30	60	3	30
60-3_Vi50	60	3	50
60-4_Vi10	60	4	10
60-4_Vi30	60	4	30
60-4_Vi50	60	4	50
65-3_Vi10	65	3	10
65-3_Vi30	65	3	30
65-3_Vi50	65	3	50
65-4_Vi10	65	4	10
65-4_Vi30	65	4	30
65-4_Vi50	65	4	50
65-5_Vi10	65	5	10
65-5_Vi30	65	5	30
65-5_Vi50	65	5	50

Table S1: Models name and parameters used in the parametric study.

References

- Mackwell, S. J., Zimmerman, M. E., & Kohlstedt, D. L. (1998). High-temperature deformation of dry diabase with application to tectonics on Venus. *Journal of Geophysical Research: Solid Earth*, 103(B1), 975-984.
<https://doi.org/10.1029/97JB02671>