

Geophysics for Natural Risks and Resources  
ENVIRONMENTAL and ENGINEERING GEOPHYSICS

ELECTRO-MAGNETIC  
METHODS IN GEOPHYSICAL PROSPECTINGS



# Outline

## Geophysical methods for the subsoil prospecting

- Electrical methods (ERT Electrical Resistivity tomography)
- Electro-magnetic methods (FDEM, RADAR)
- Seismic Methods (refraction / reflection / surface waves)
- case histories





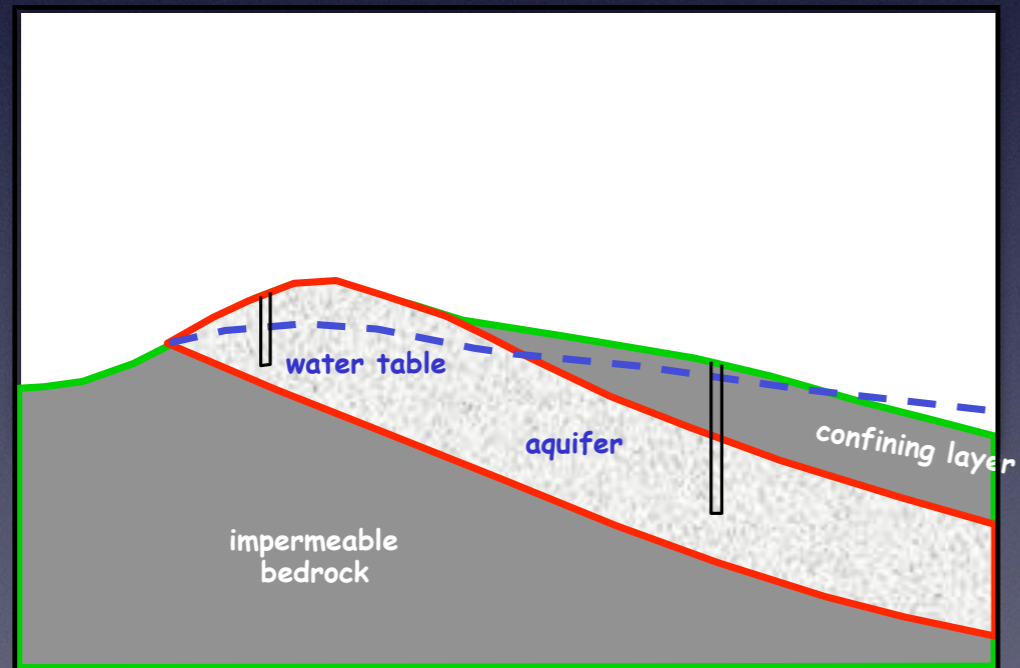
## Methods for geophysical prospecting

Method	Structure	Dynamic
Seismic	++	
Electro-Magnetic	+	++
DC resistivity methods	++	++
Ground Penetration Radar	++	+
Distributed Temp. Sensing		++
Magnetics	+	
Gravimetry	+	+
Spectral Induced Polarization	+	
Self Potential		+
Borehole logs	++	+

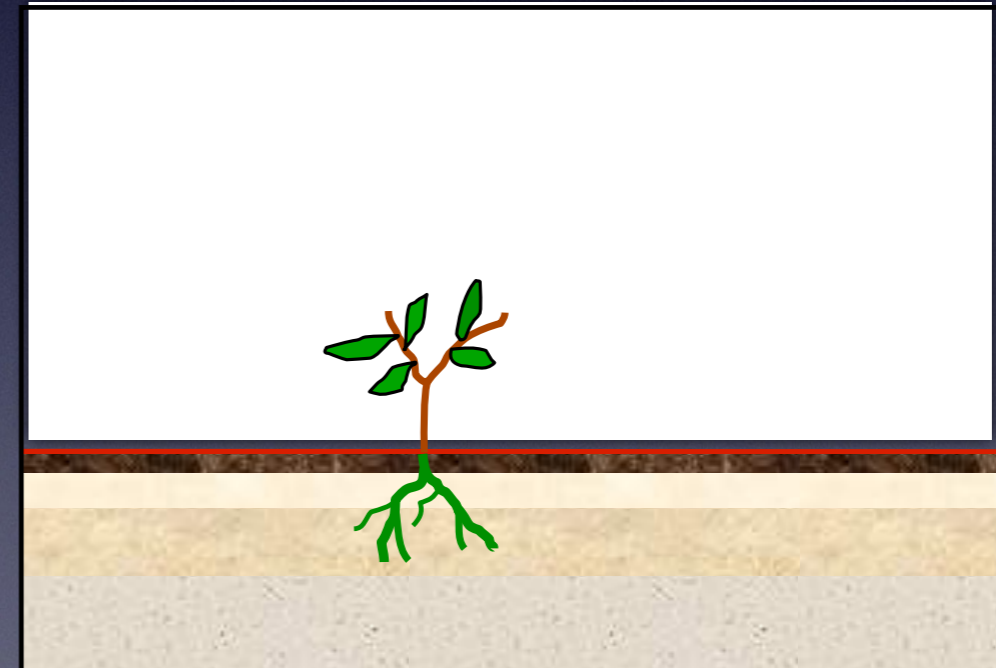


## What geophysical methods can help define

- structure / texture (Seismic methods, EM methods, Electrical methods, Gravity methods, Radar etc)



large scale

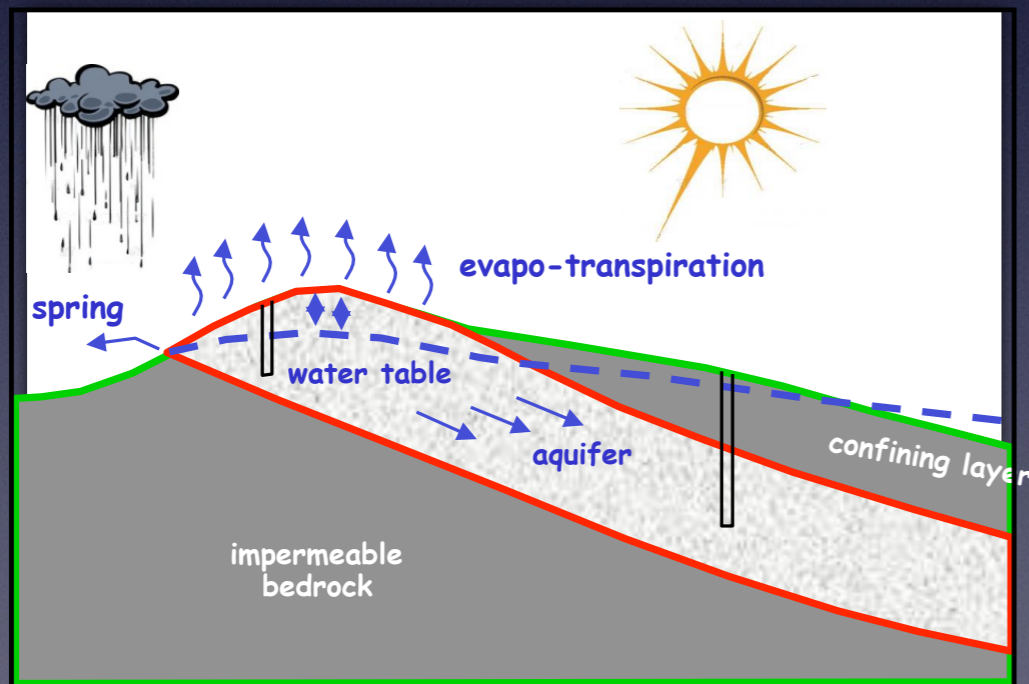


small scale

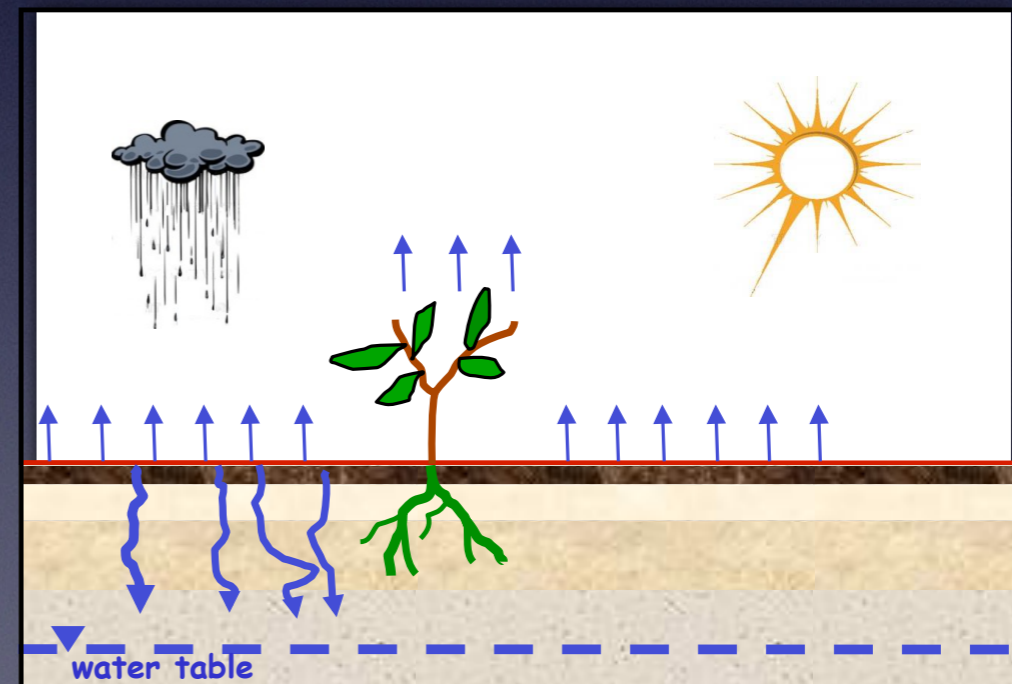


## What geophysical methods can help define

- structure / texture (Seismic methods, EM methods, Electrical methods, Gravity methods, Radar etc)
- fluid-dynamics: e.g. time-lapse evolution of moisture content (DC resistivity methods, EM methods, GPR etc)



large scale



small scale



# Physical Properties (P)

- Seismic Elastic moduli and density
- Gravimetry : Density
- Magnetic meth. Magnetic susceptibility
- ERT meth. Electrical resistivity
- Electro-magnetic meth. Electrical conductivity
- Induced Polarization Electrical complex conductivity
- Spontaneous Potentials Electrical conductivity
- Ground penetrating Radar Dielectric constant

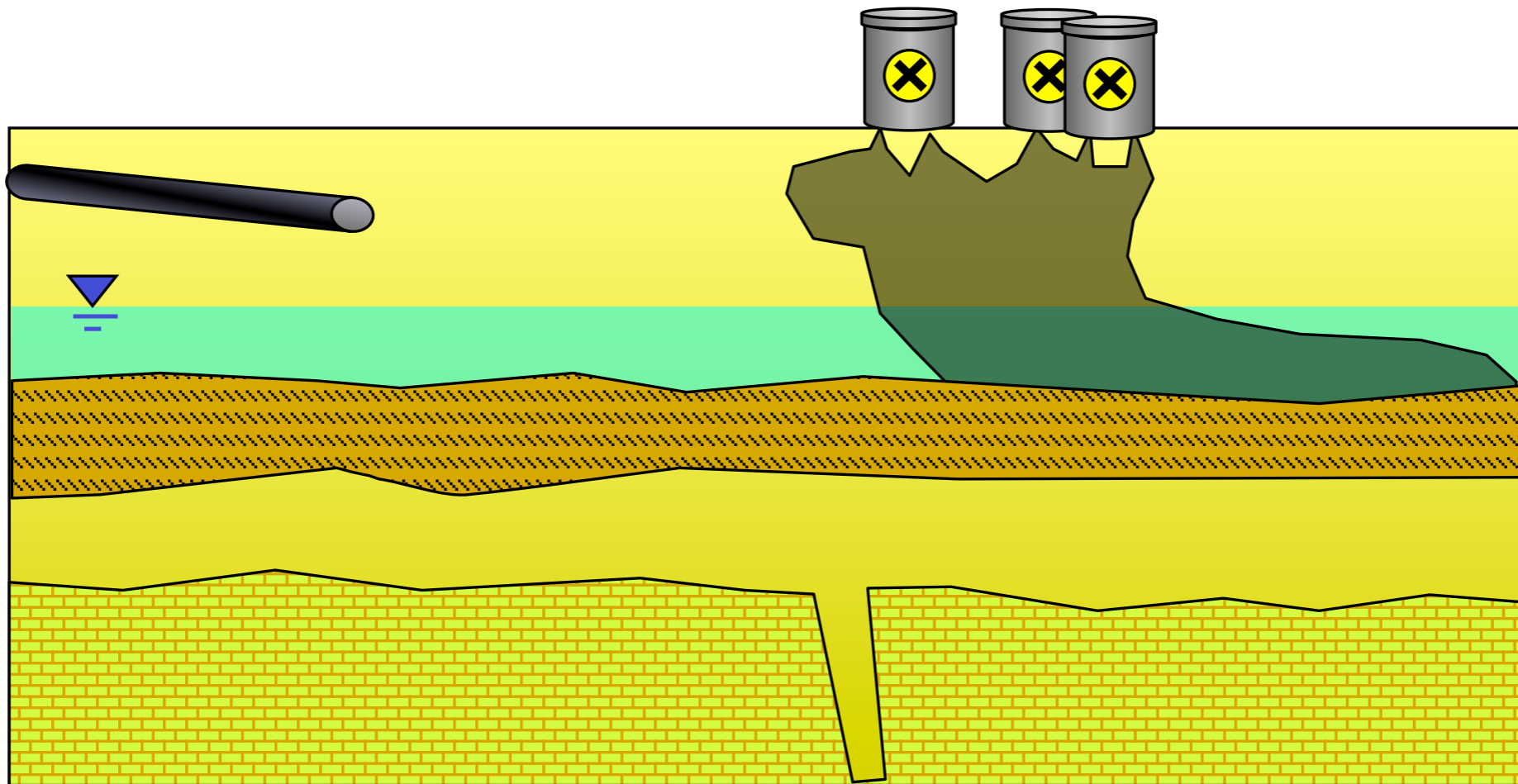


# EM METHODS

## Electro-magnetic properties

### APPLICATIONS:

- Mineral exploration
- Groundwater
- Mapping contaminants
- Landfill surveys
- Cavities
- Location of faults
- Geological mapping
- Archeological





# EM Methods

- Physical principles
- Acquisition methods
- Processing
- Case Histories



- Physical Principles

# EM METHODS

## Maxwell Equations

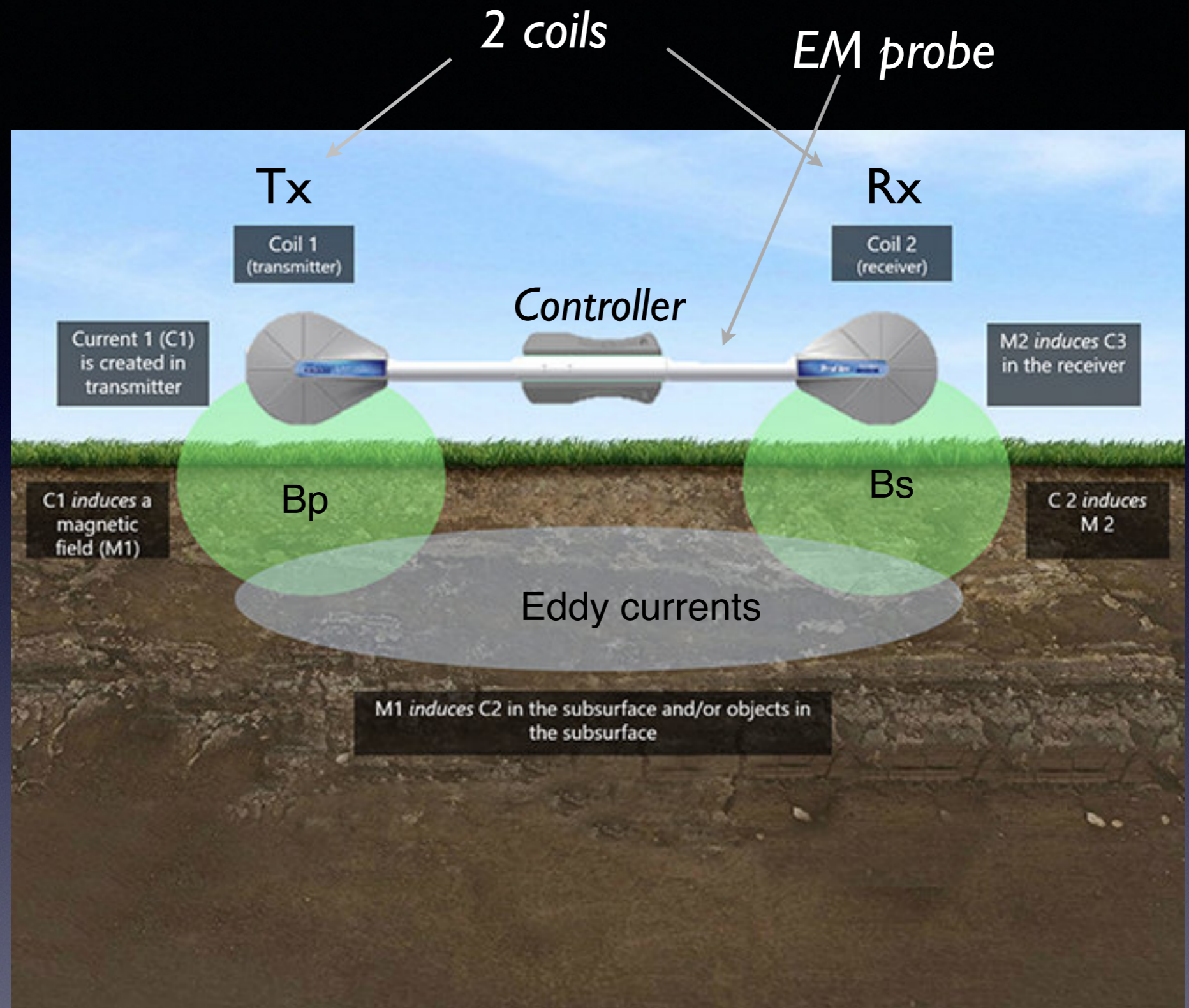
$$\begin{aligned}\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} &= \frac{\rho_v}{\epsilon} && \text{(Gauss' Law)} \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{H} &= 0 && \text{(Gauss' Law for Magnetism)} \\ \nabla \times \mathbf{E} &= -\mu \frac{dB}{dt} && \text{(Faraday's Law)} \\ \nabla \times \mathbf{B} &= \mathbf{J} + \epsilon \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} && \text{(Ampere's Law)}\end{aligned}$$

link Electric Fields  
and Magnetic Fields





# Electro-magnetic methods



A current (variable in time  $t$ ) in transmitter TX generates a primary magnetic field

$B_p$



in conductive subsoil,

$B_p$  varying in time generates

*Eddy currents*

which in turn generates a secondary magnetic field

$B_s$



$B_s$  variable in time generates measurable currents in my receiver in Rx



The differences between the primary and secondary fields are related to the electrical properties of the subsoil !



# Electro-magnetic methods

how an EM field propagate in the soil ?

Faraday's law

1

$$EMF = -\frac{d\Phi}{dt}$$

Electro magnetic force = variable in time magnetic flux  $\Phi$

2

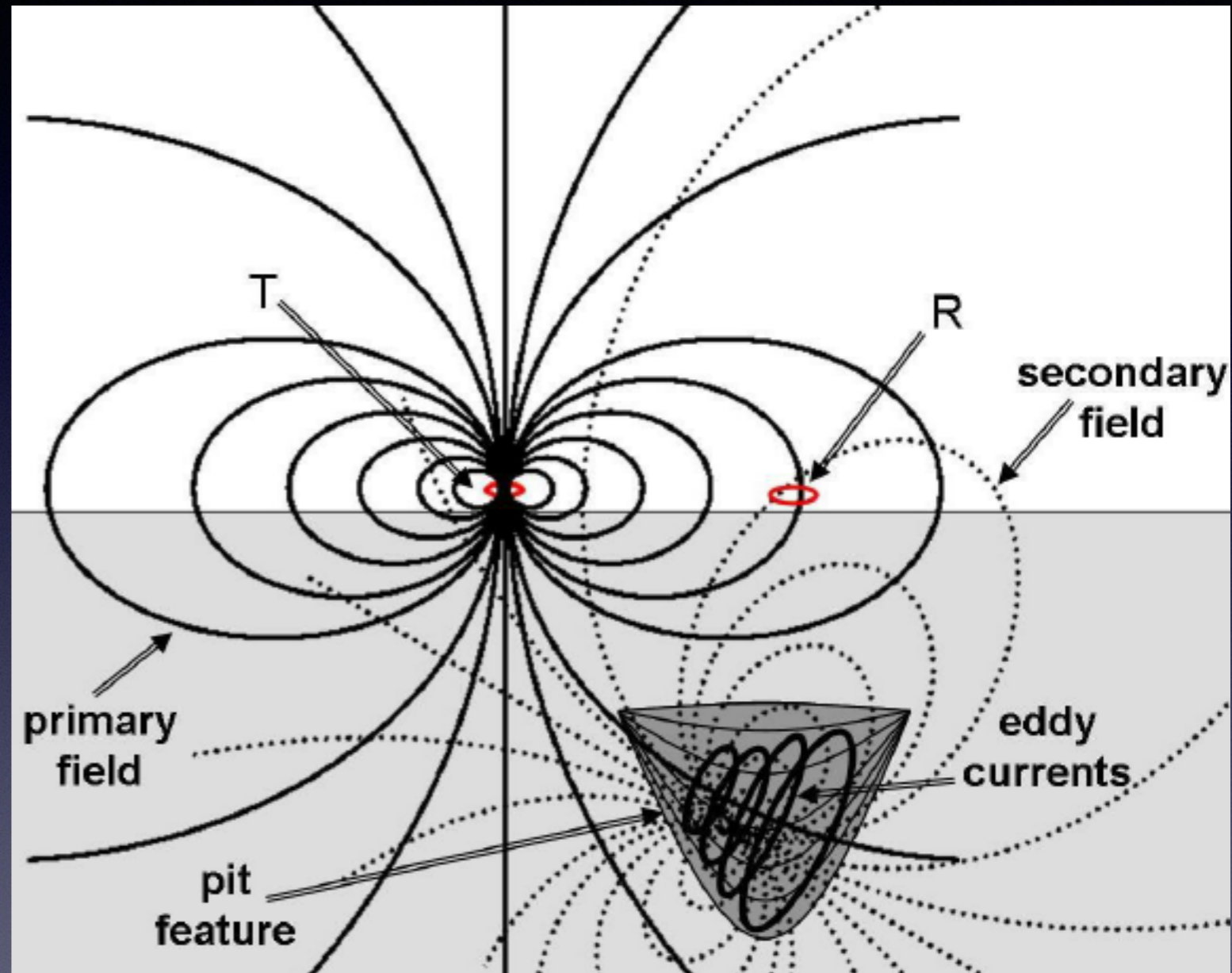
$$EMF_{total} = \oint_{\text{Circuit}} \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{L}$$

Electro magnetic force = sum of the Electric field  $\mathbf{E}$  around the length of the circuit  $\mathbf{L}$

3

$$\oint_{\text{Circuit}} \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{L} = \int_S \nabla \times \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{S} \quad [\text{Stokes' Theorem}]$$

Curl of  $\mathbf{E}$  around surface  $S$





# Electro-magnetic methods

1

$$EMF = -\frac{d\Phi}{dt}$$

3

$$\int_s \nabla \times \mathbf{E} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = -\frac{d}{dt} \int_s \mathbf{B}(t) \cdot d\mathbf{S} = \int_s \frac{-d\mathbf{B}(t)}{dt} \cdot d\mathbf{S}$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla \times \mathbf{E} = \frac{-\partial \mathbf{B}(t)}{\partial t}$$

FARADAY'S LAW

Link  
between field  $E$  and field  $B$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -d\mathbf{B}/dt$$

III Maxwell law  
or Faraday's law



# Electro-magnetic methods

## Electric and Magnetic waves in EM fields

The electric displacement  $\vec{D}$  and magnetic intensity  $\vec{H}$  are related to the electric field  $\mathbf{E}$  and magnetic field  $\mathbf{B}$

$$\begin{aligned}\vec{D} &= \epsilon \vec{E}, \\ \vec{B} &= \mu \vec{H}.\end{aligned}$$

dielectric permittivity

magnetic permeability

The Ampere Law (IV maxwell) in free space is:

$$\nabla \times \vec{B} = \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t},$$

Light velocity

Free space

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t}$$



# Electro-magnetic methods

## Electric and Magnetic waves in EM fields

*solving only for Electric field E:*

Ampere law

$$\text{iv) } \nabla \times \vec{B} = \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t},$$

Faradays law

$$\text{iii) } \nabla \times \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t},$$

curl

$$\nabla \times \nabla \times \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \nabla \times \vec{B}.$$

curl

$$\nabla \times \nabla \times \vec{E} = -\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \vec{E}}{\partial t^2}.$$

$\nabla(\nabla \cdot \vec{E}) - \nabla^2 \vec{E}$

$$\nabla^2 \vec{E} - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \vec{E}}{\partial t^2} = 0.$$

Laplacian

Electric wave  
in EM field



# Electro-magnetic methods

## Electric and Magnetic waves in EM fields

### Wave equation

solving only for Electric field  $E$ :

Curl

$$\nabla \times \nabla \times \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \nabla \times \vec{B}.$$

Div. null

Laplacian

$$\nabla(\nabla \cdot \vec{E}) - \nabla^2 \vec{E} = -\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \vec{E}}{\partial t^2}.$$

$$\nabla^2 \vec{E} - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 \vec{E}}{\partial t^2} = 0.$$

Conditions

$$\nabla \times \vec{B} = \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t},$$

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{E} = 0 \quad \text{Divergences is null}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{B} = 0 \quad \text{(Stationary)}$$



# Electro-magnetic methods

## Electric and Magnetic waves in EM fields

### Wave equation

solving only for Electric field  $E$  in *conductors media*

Conditions

$$\nabla \times \vec{B} = \mu\sigma \vec{E} + \mu\epsilon \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t},$$

$$\nabla \times \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t},$$

$$\nabla \times \vec{B} = \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t},$$

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{E} = 0 \quad \text{Divergences is null}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{B} = 0 \quad \text{(Stationary)}$$

Div. null

Laplacian

$$\nabla(\nabla \cdot \vec{E}) - \nabla^2 \vec{E} = \nabla \times \left( -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left( \mu\sigma \vec{E} + \mu\epsilon \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} \right) \right)$$

$$\nabla^2 \vec{E} - \mu\sigma \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} - \mu\epsilon \frac{\partial^2 \vec{E}}{\partial t^2} = 0.$$

Wave Equation



# Electro-magnetic methods

## Electric and Magnetic waves in EM fields in conductors

iii and iv Maxwell Equations in **conductors media** become:

Electric conductivity      magnetic permeability      dielectric permittivity

$$\nabla \times \vec{B} = \mu\sigma \vec{E} + \mu\varepsilon \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t}, \quad \text{IV}$$
$$\nabla \times \vec{E} = -\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t}, \quad \text{III}$$

same procedure of solving for E

$$\nabla^2 \vec{E} - \mu\sigma \frac{\partial \vec{E}}{\partial t} - \mu\varepsilon \frac{\partial^2 \vec{E}}{\partial t^2} = 0.$$

WAVE EQUATION = PROPAGATION OF ELECTRIC FIELD IN CONDUCTORS



# Electro-magnetic methods

Electric and Magnetic waves in EM fields  
in conductors **as a wave equation**

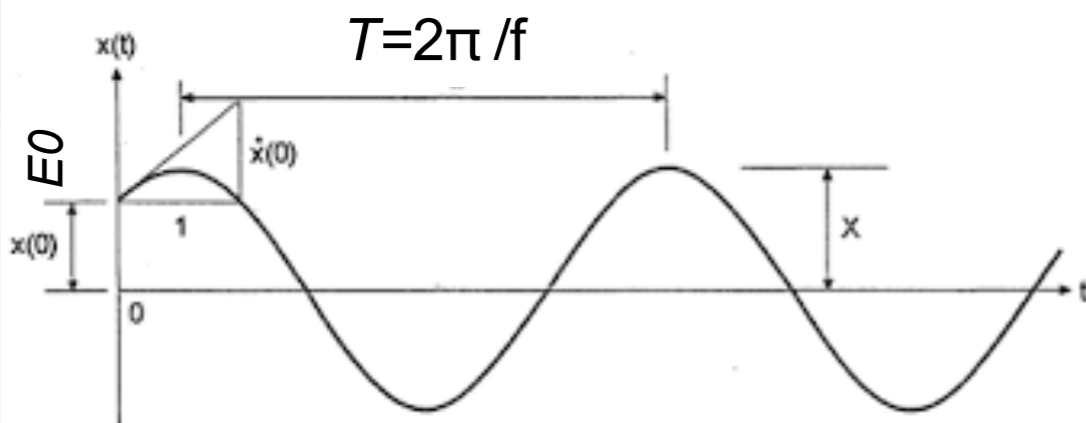
5)

$$\nabla^2 E = \underset{\substack{\text{Magn. permeability} \\ \downarrow}}{\mu} \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{conductivity}}}{\sigma} \frac{\partial E}{\partial t} + \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{dielectric permeability}}}{\mu \epsilon} \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial t^2}$$

Solution of 5)  
(complex notation)

$$\vec{E} = \vec{E}_0 e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t)}$$

wave equation  
function of  
frequency!



frequency  $\omega$

wave Vector  $K$

$$e^{ix} = \cos x + i \sin x$$



## Solution of wave equation

$$A(t) = A_{\max} \cos(2\pi ft + \phi)$$

Displacement

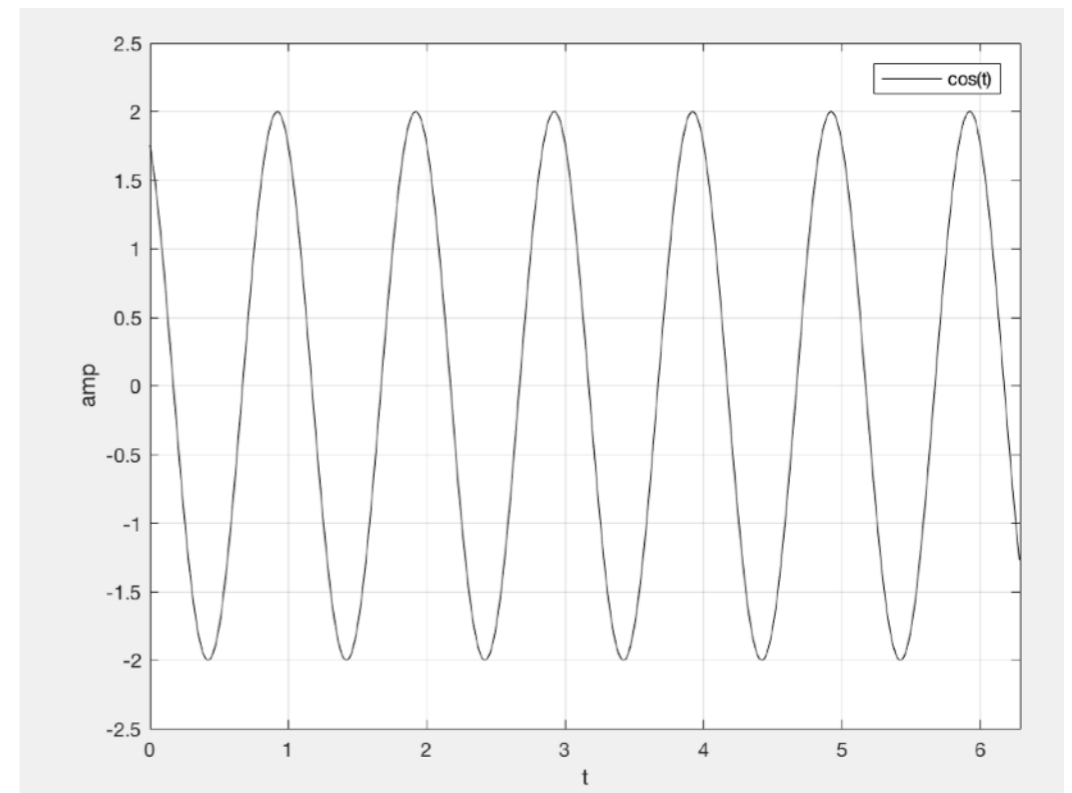
Frequency

Phase

```
clear all
close all
clc

Dm=2 % Spostamento Massimo
f=1  % frequenza in Hz
fi=0.5 % sfasamento
t = 0:0.01:(2*pi); % vettore tempo

D=Dm*(cos(2*pi*f*t+fi)); % equazione d'onda 1D
%plot
plot(t,D,'k'); hold on;
axis([0 2*pi -2.5 2.5])
legend('cos(t)', 'Location', 'NorthEast')
xlabel 't'
ylabel 'amp'
grid on
```





# Electro-magnetic methods

Electric and Magnetic waves in EM fields  
in conductors

$$\nabla^2 E = \mu\sigma \frac{\partial E}{\partial t} + \mu\varepsilon \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial t^2}$$

if  $\sigma \gg \omega\varepsilon$       So called GOOD CONDUCTOR CASE

$$\mu\varepsilon \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial t^2} \longrightarrow 0$$



# Electro-magnetic methods

Electric and Magnetic waves in EM fields  
in conductors

$$\nabla^2 E = \cancel{\mu\sigma} \frac{\partial E}{\partial t} + \mu\epsilon \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial t^2}$$

if  $\sigma \ll \omega\epsilon$ ,

So called DIELECTRIC CASE

$$\mu\sigma \frac{\partial E}{\partial t} \longrightarrow 0$$



# Electro-magnetic methods

Electric and Magnetic waves in EM fields  
in conductors *as a wave equation*

$$\nabla^2 E = \mu\sigma \frac{\partial E}{\partial t} + \mu\varepsilon \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial t^2}$$

if  $\sigma \gg \omega\varepsilon$   
Conductor case

if  $\sigma \ll \omega\varepsilon$ ,  
Dielectric case

*I cannot modify the electric properties  
of the soil ( $\sigma$ ,  $\varepsilon$ )*

*but I can change the frequency ( $\omega$ )  
in the generation of the EM field..*



# Electro-magnetic methods

Electric and Magnetic waves in EM fields  
in conductors

LOW FREQUENCY EM METHOD

( e.g. K Hz)  
Kiloherz

if  $\sigma \gg \omega\epsilon$

$$\nabla^2 E = \mu\sigma \frac{\partial E}{\partial t}$$

CONDUCTION  
CURRENTS

I CAN RETRIEVE conductivity  $\sigma$  OF THE SOIL



# Electro-magnetic methods

Electric and Magnetic waves in EM fields  
in conductors

HIGH FREQUENCY EM METHOD

( e.g. M Hz )  
Megahertz

if  $\sigma \ll \omega\epsilon$ ,

$$\nabla^2 E = \mu\epsilon \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial t^2}$$

DISPLACEMENT  
CURRENTS



I CAN STUDY THE PROPAGATION OF EM WAVES



# Electro-magnetic methods

*Electric and Magnetic waves in EM fields  
in conductors*

*LOW FREQUENCY EM METHOD*

*( e.g. K Hz )*

*if  $\sigma \gg \omega\epsilon$*

$$\nabla^2 E = \mu\sigma \frac{\partial E}{\partial t}$$

**EM METHODS**

FDEM, TDEM, etc.

# Electro-magnetic methods

*Electric and Magnetic waves in EM fields  
in conductors*

*HIGH FREQUENCY EM METHOD*

*( e.g. M Hz )*

*if  $\sigma \ll \omega\epsilon$ ,*

$$\nabla^2 E = \mu\epsilon \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial t^2}$$

**RADAR METHODS**

**GEORADAR, GPR, etc.**



## SMALL LOOPS SYSTEMS: moving-source dual-coil system

Two small coils separated by a constant distance

A transmitter coil, in which an a.c. is sent creates a primary EM field which propagated above and below ground and eddy currents are generated (flow of magnetic field) . These currents generate a secondary field detected by the receiver coil

$$\nabla \times E = -dB/dt$$

$$\nabla \times B = \mu\epsilon(dE/Dt)$$

Physical principles  
Maxwell's equations

conduction current

wave propagation

$$\nabla^2 E = \mu\sigma \frac{\partial E}{\partial t} + \mu\epsilon \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial t^2}$$

conduction currents

displacement currents

$\mu$	magnetic permeability
$\sigma$	electric conductivity
$\epsilon$	dielectric permittivity

### LOW FREQUENCY:

the second term is much smaller than the first, and the regime is called *inductive*, with the diffusion of fields

$$\nabla^2 E = \mu\sigma \frac{\partial E}{\partial t}$$

### HIGH FREQUENCY:

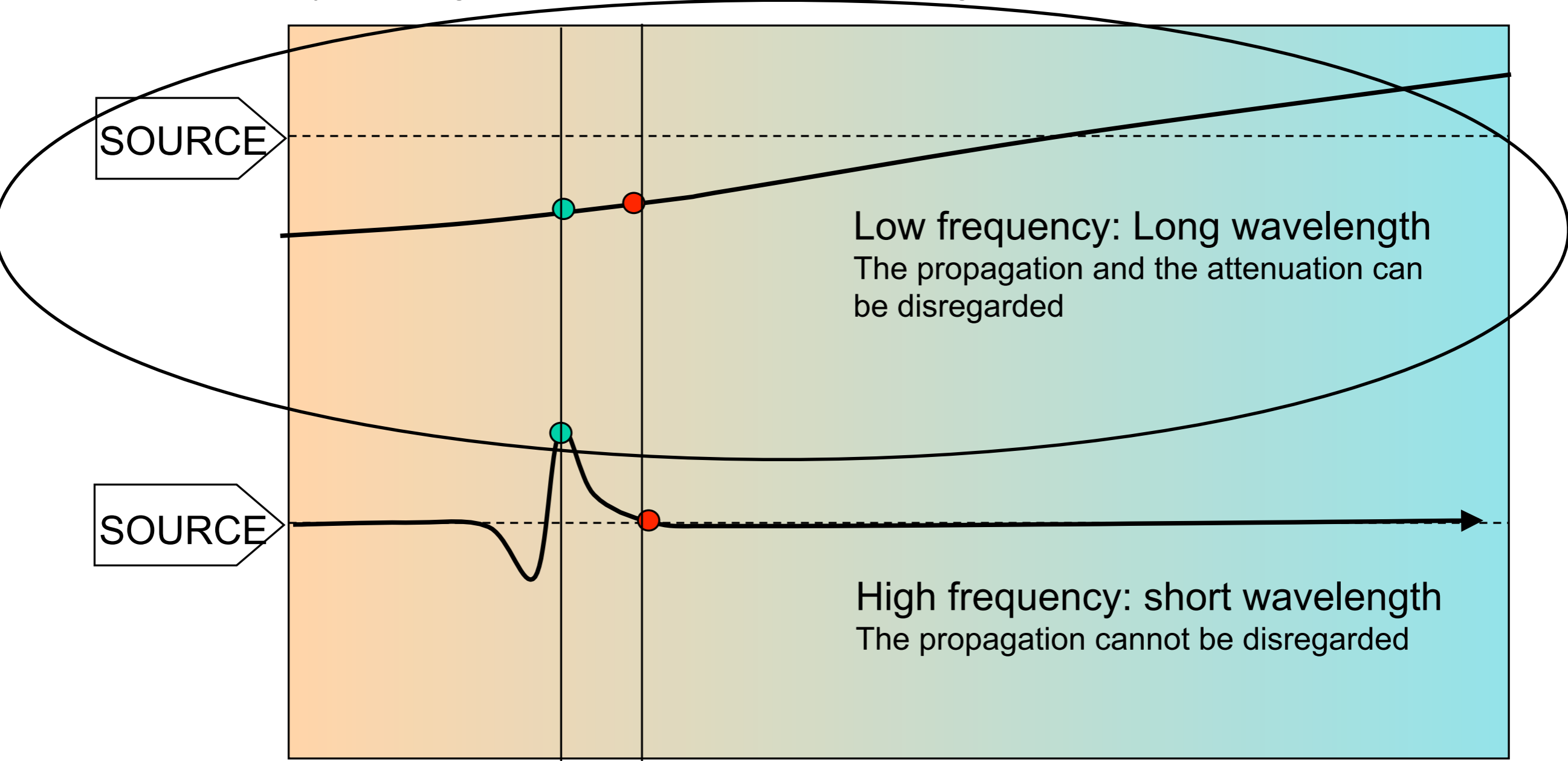
the first term become negligible and the propagation is important

$$\nabla^2 E = \mu\epsilon \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial t^2}$$

# EM METHODS

Propagation of an electromagnetic wave

A primary field is generated and the sent into the ground, the response is measured



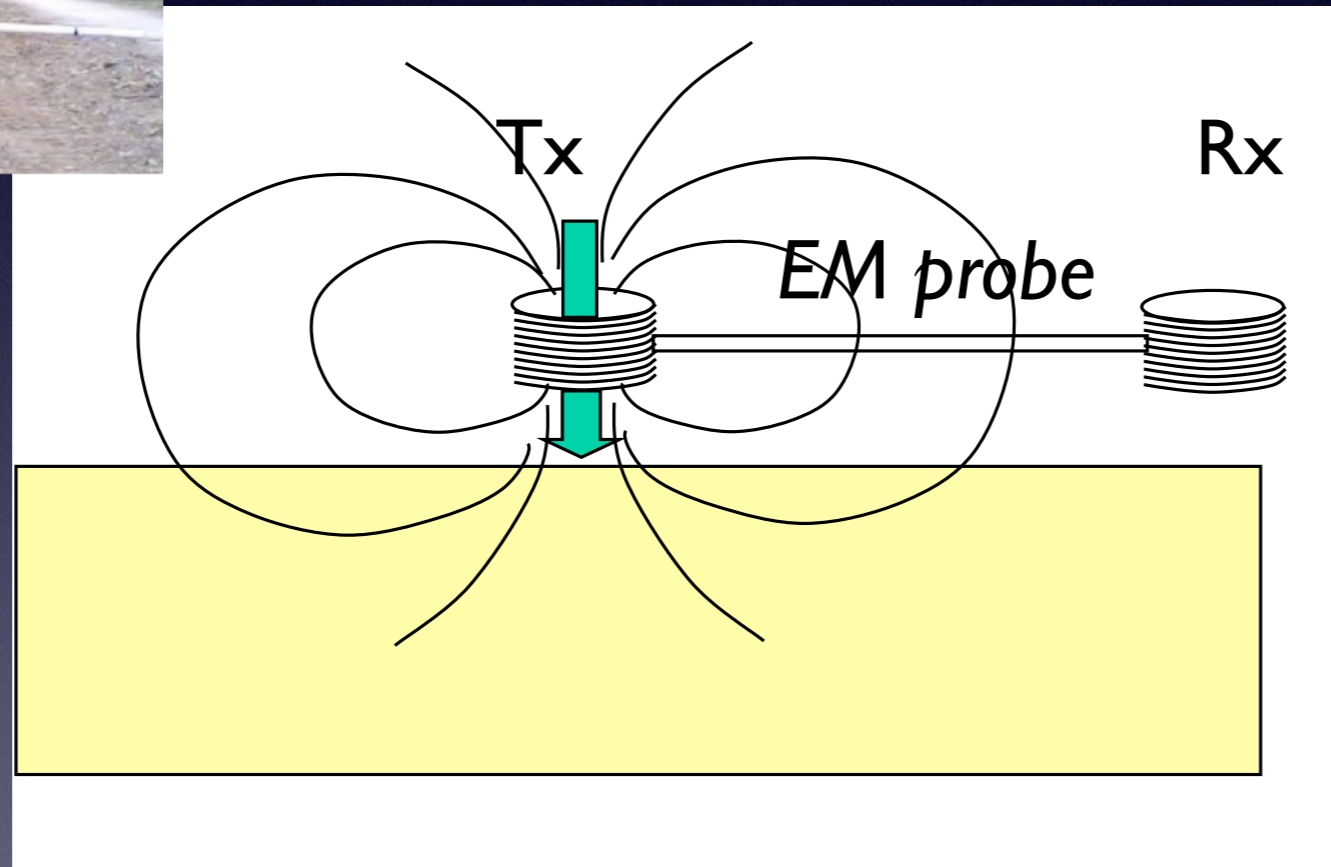


# EM METHODS

## FDEM



2 coils

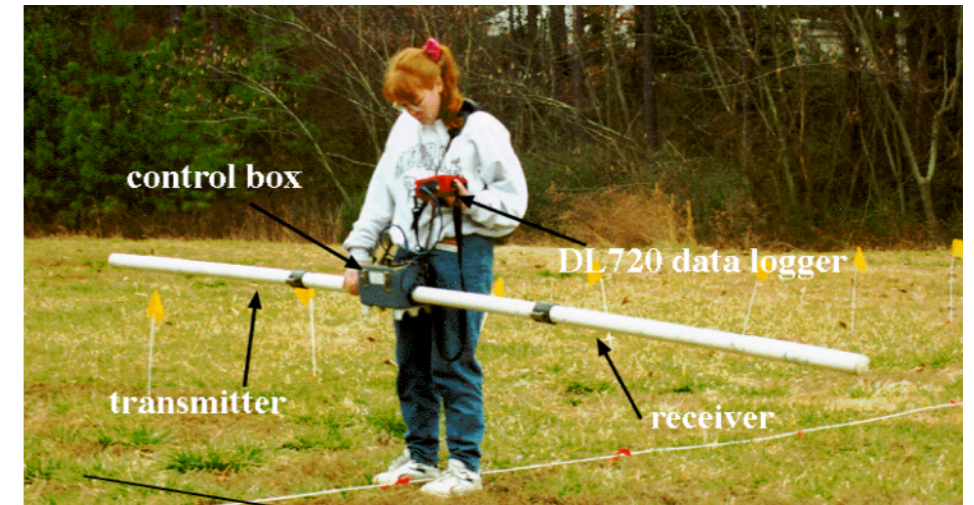


Frequency Domain ELECTRO MAGNETOMETER



There are two types of electromagnetic (EM) survey:

- FDEM, frequency domain, measures the amplitude and phase of an EM induced field (shallow part, environmental/civil use)

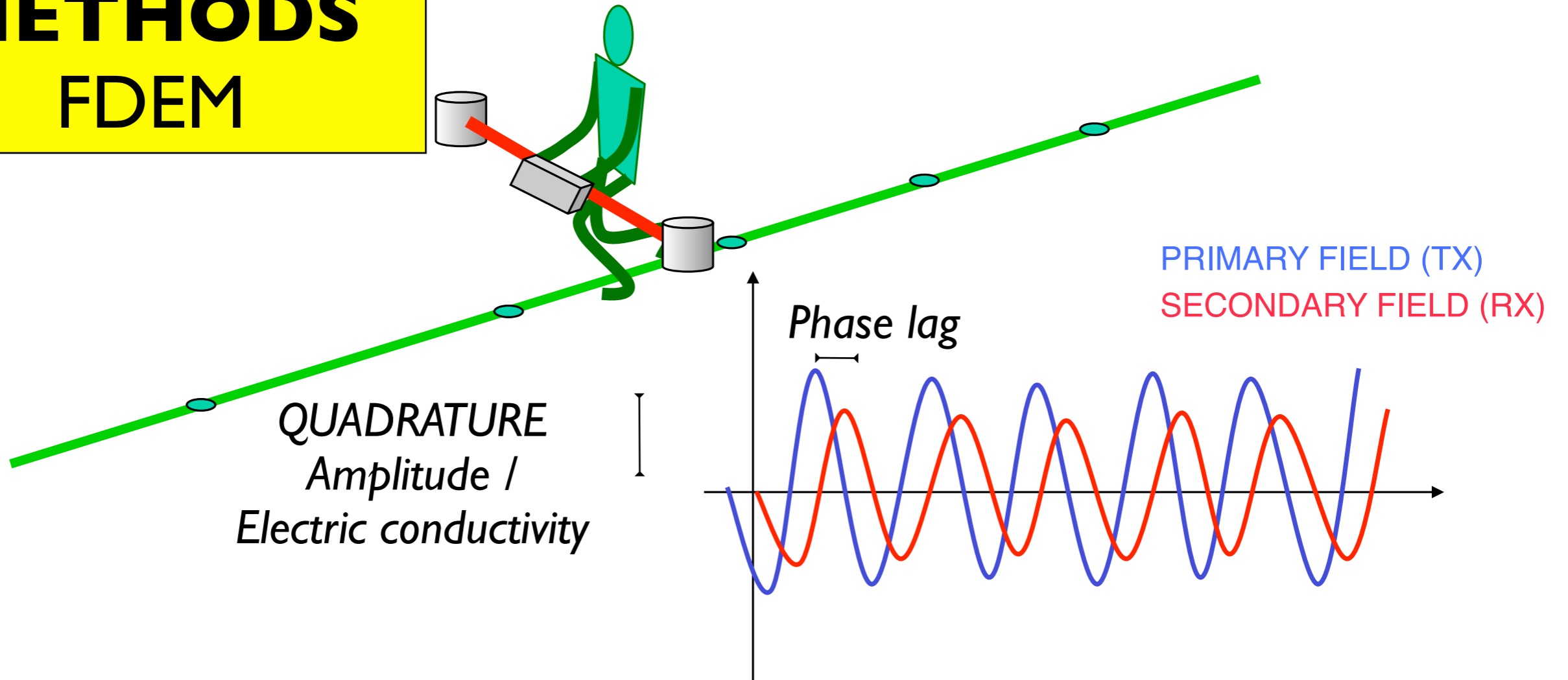


- TDEM, based on the time domain, measures the decay time of an electromagnetic pulse induced by a transmitter (deep part, mine use).





# EM METHODS FDEM



Relation between primary, secondary and resultant field: two values measured at each station

- Real (in-phase)
- Imaginary (quadrature, out-of-phase)

PHASE  
AMPLITUDE

Amplitude  
Phase lag

# Electro-magnetic methods

Electro-magnetic waves are complex signals

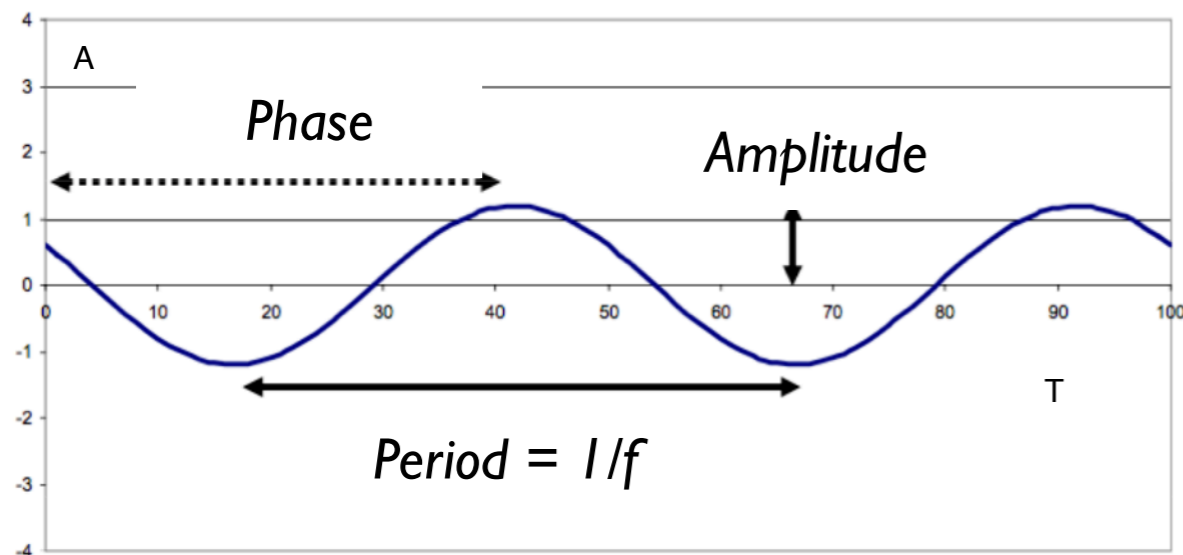
Sinusoidal wave

$$A_c \cos(2\pi f_c t + \phi)$$

Amplitude

Frequency

Phase



$$A(t) = A_{\max} \cos(2\pi ft + \phi)$$

Eq. Wave

$$\phi = -2\pi ft_{\max}$$

phase (when arrive the maximum?)

$$T = 1/f$$

Period (how much last the motion?)

$$f = 1/T$$

Frequency (how much oscillation?)

$$\omega = 2\pi f = 2\pi / T$$

Pulsation

$$\vec{E} = \vec{E}_0 e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t)}$$

Eulerian Expression  
EM wave



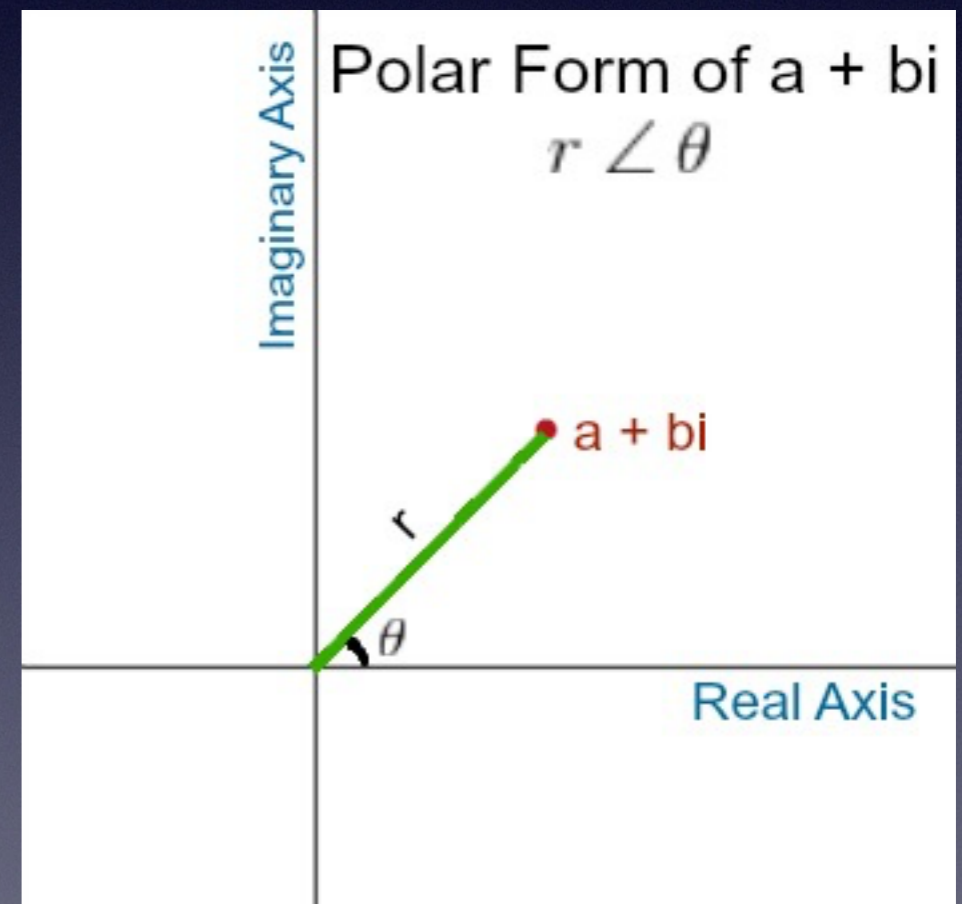
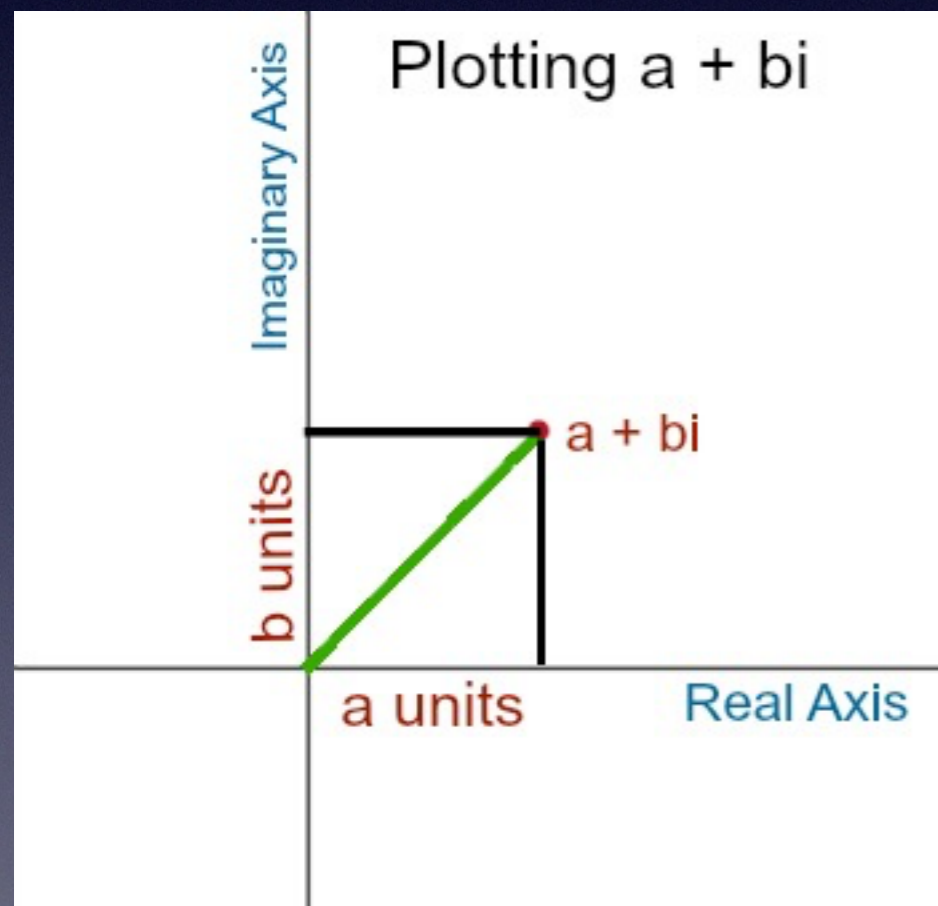
# Electro-magnetic methods

Electro-magnetic waves are complex signals

Complex numbers have a real and imaginary part

$$N_c = a + ib$$

$a, b$  Real numbers      Imaginary unit  $i = \sqrt{-1}$



Plotted in polar form the complex vector has length  $r$  and angle  $\theta$  with the real axis



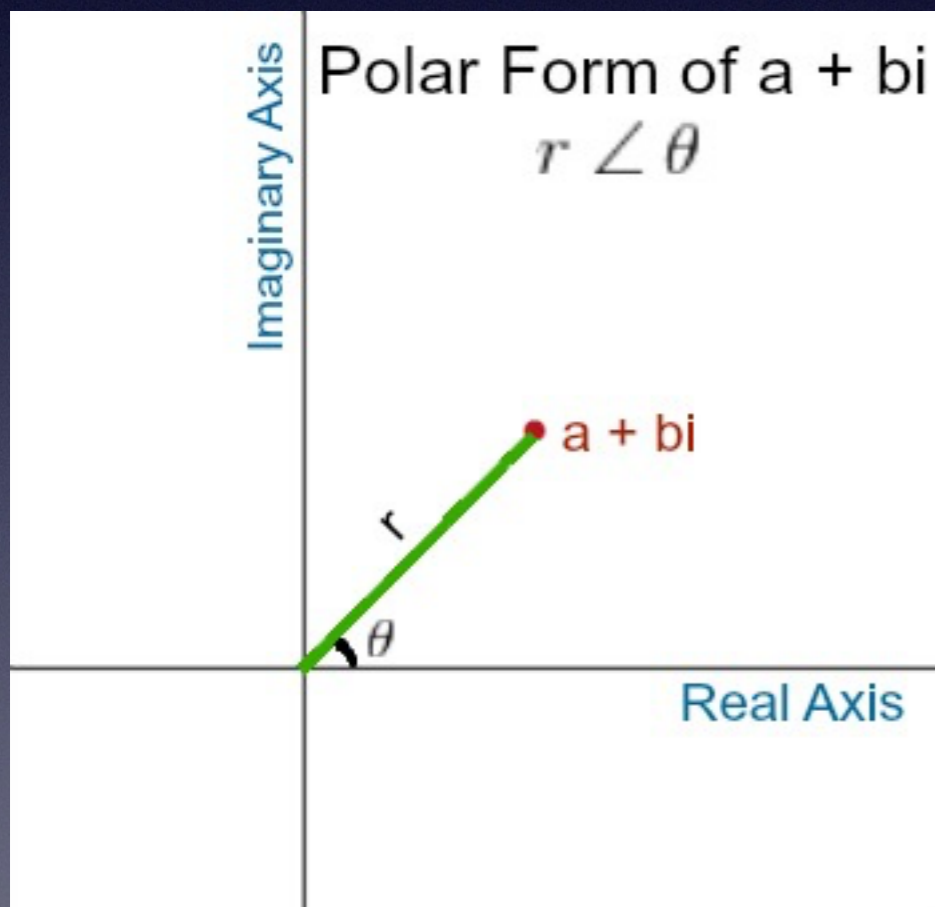
# Electro-magnetic methods

Electro-magnetic waves are complex signals

Complex numbers have a real and imaginary part

$$Nc = a + ib$$

$a, b$  Real numbers      Imaginary unit  $i = \sqrt{-1}$



In Euler's notation

$$a + bi = re^{i\theta}$$

$$\vec{E} = \vec{E}_0 e^{i(\vec{k} \cdot \vec{r} - \omega t)}$$



# Electro-magnetic methods

Electro-magnetic waves are complex signals

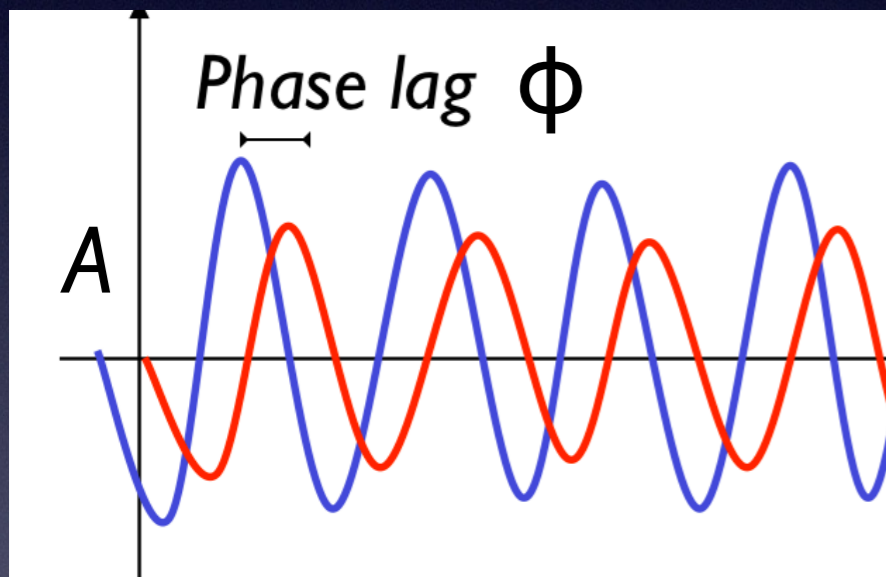
Sinusoidal wave

$$A_c \cos(2\pi f_c t + \phi)$$

Amplitude

Frequency

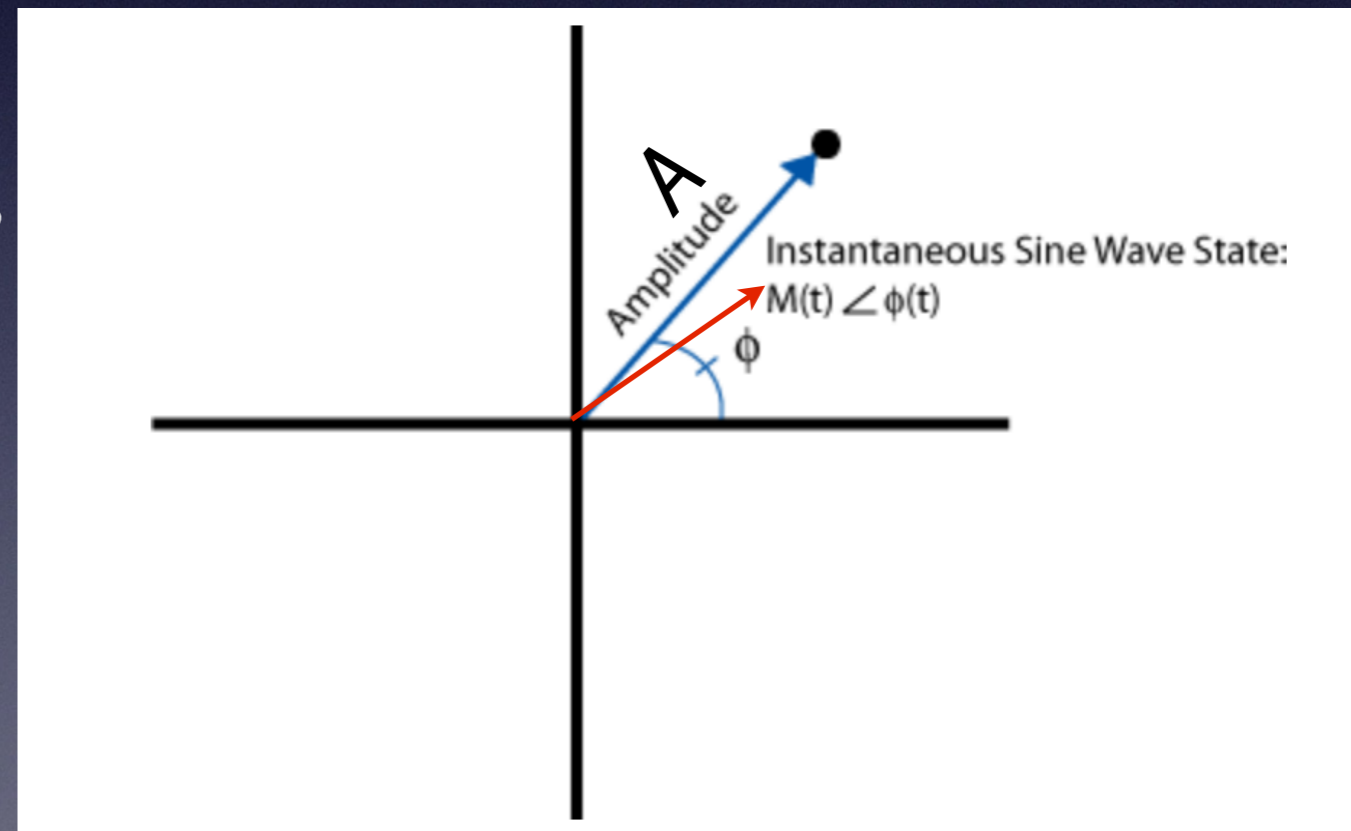
Phase



EM transmitted

EM received

Vector on a  
Complex plain

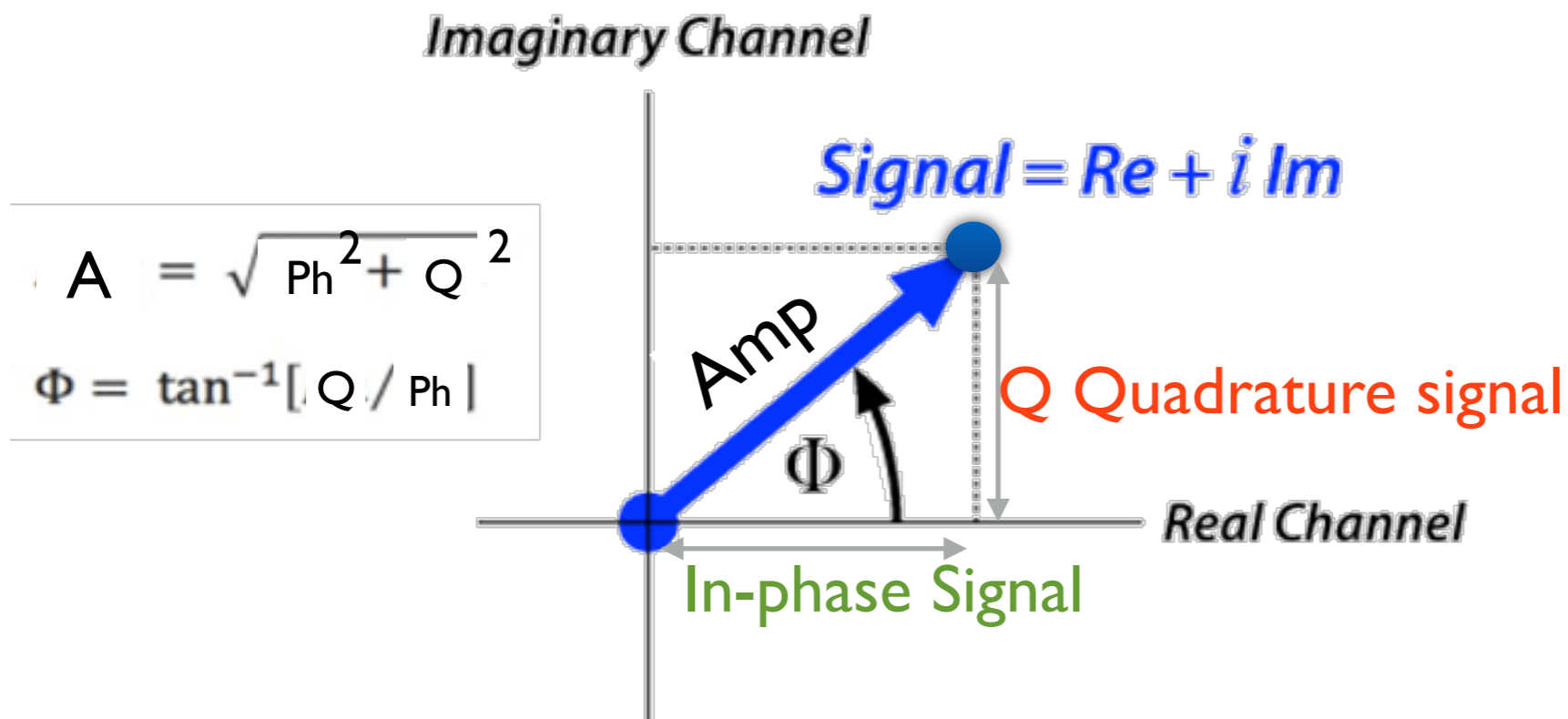


EM wave as a complex vector



# Electro-magnetic methods

## Electro-magnetic waves are complex signals



FDEM equipment record both the parts of the field signal, the one in phase with the transmitter (called the 'in-phase' component) and the other orthogonal (90° out of phase, called the 'quadrature').

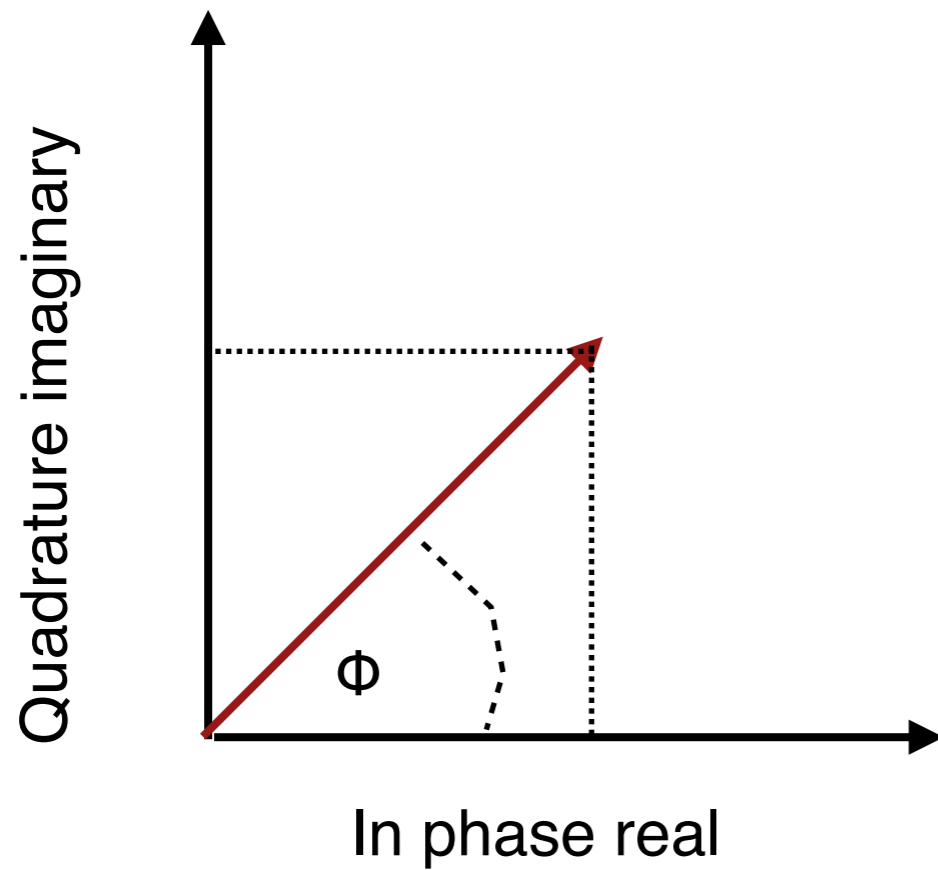
$$\nabla^2 E = \mu\sigma \frac{\partial E}{\partial t}$$

**In-phase ratio** of the secondary to primary magnetic field, usually expressed in parts per thousand (ppt), is related to the **magnetic susceptibility**. The **Quadrature** is related to the **ground apparent conductivity** and usually expressed in mS/m.

This value is an integrated number depending on ancillary of soil properties such as bulk density, salinity, soil structure, moisture content, ionic composition, etc

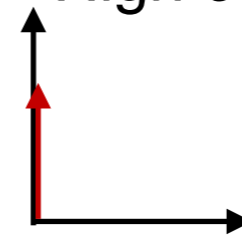


# Electro-magnetic methods



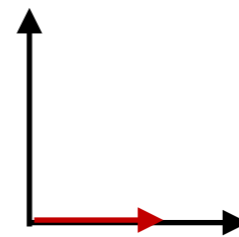
High conductivity = High quadrature

High conductivity =  $\phi \Rightarrow \pi/2$



Low conductivity = Low quadrature

Low conductivity =  $\phi \Rightarrow 0$





*Electro-magnetic methods*

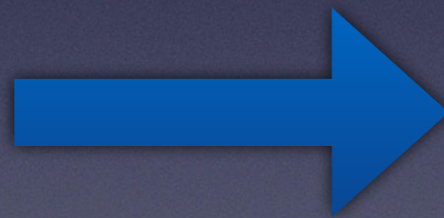
**EM METHODS**  
**FDEM**

In phase  
Part



*magnetic susceptibility*

Quadrature  
Part

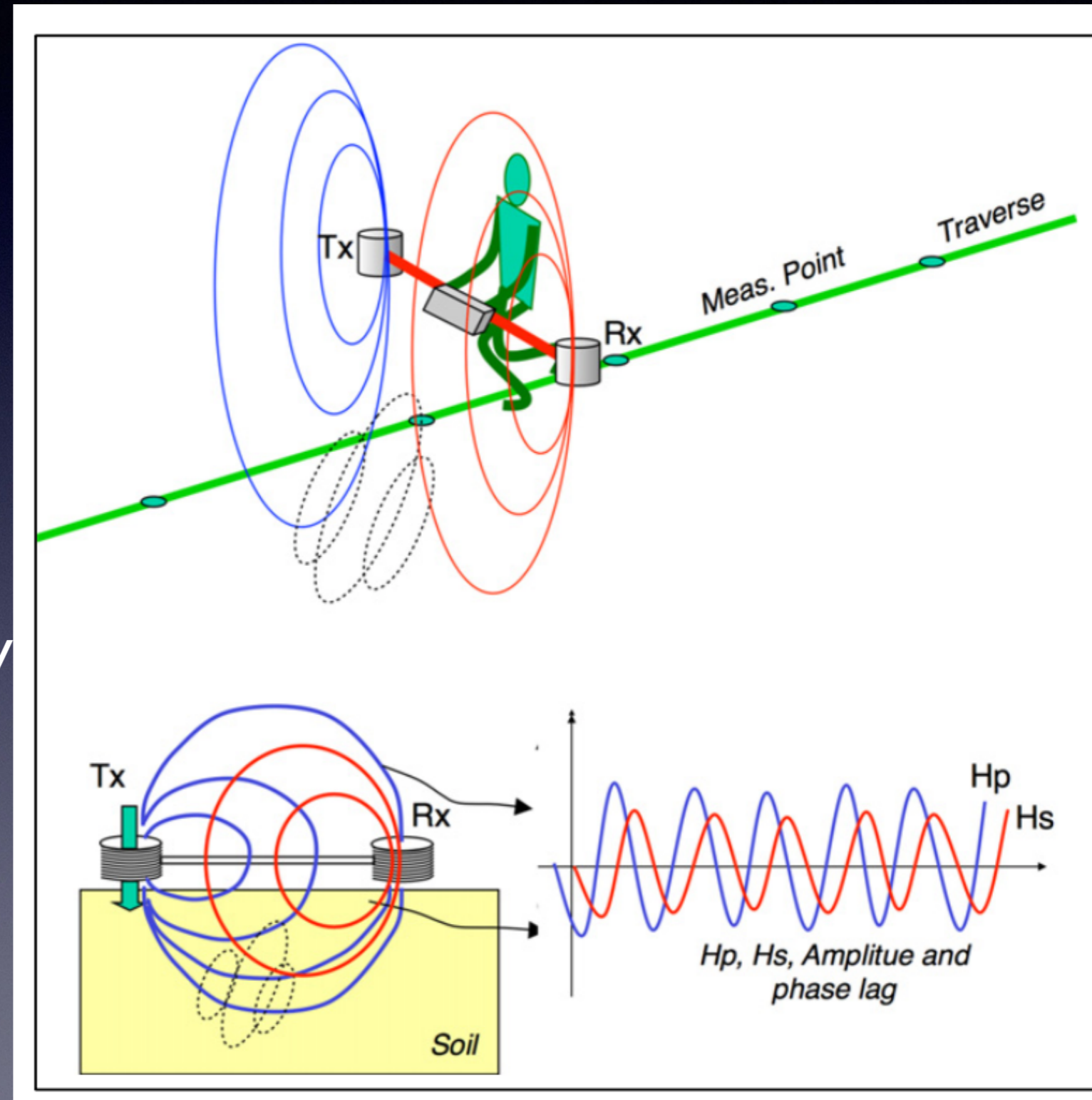
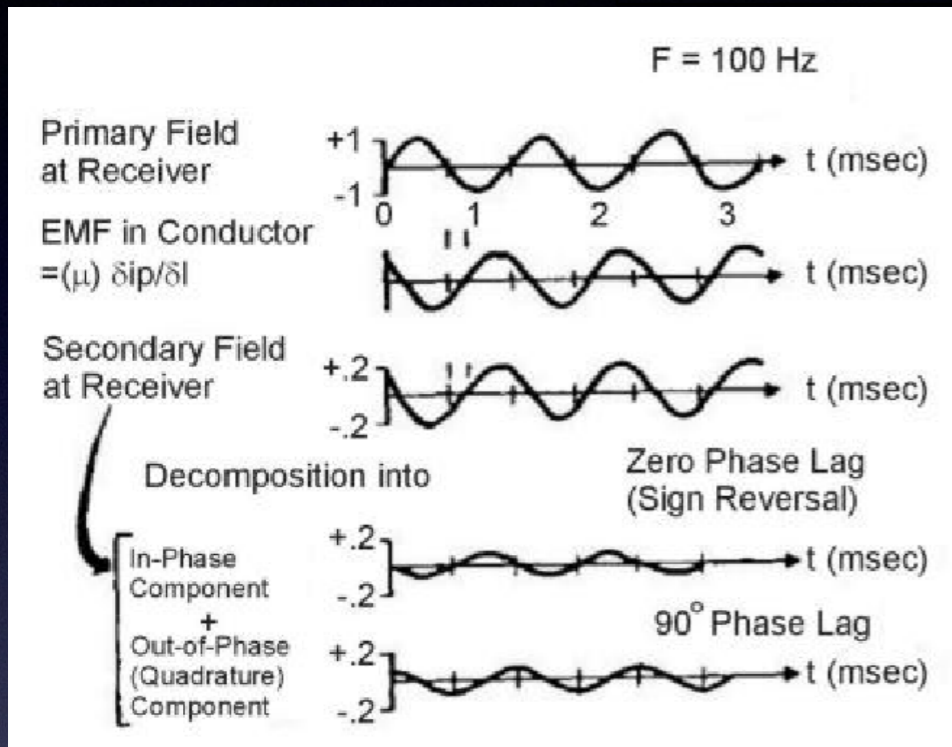


*electric conductivity*



# EM METHODS

## FDEM



H<sub>p</sub> = primary Em field intensity  
 H<sub>s</sub> = secondary Em field intensity

CONDUCIBILITY

$$\sigma_a = \frac{4}{\omega \mu s^2} \frac{H_s}{H_p} Q$$

Frequency

Magnetic Susceptibility

Distance between coils



# EM METHODS

## FDEM

LOW INDUCTION NUMBER condition

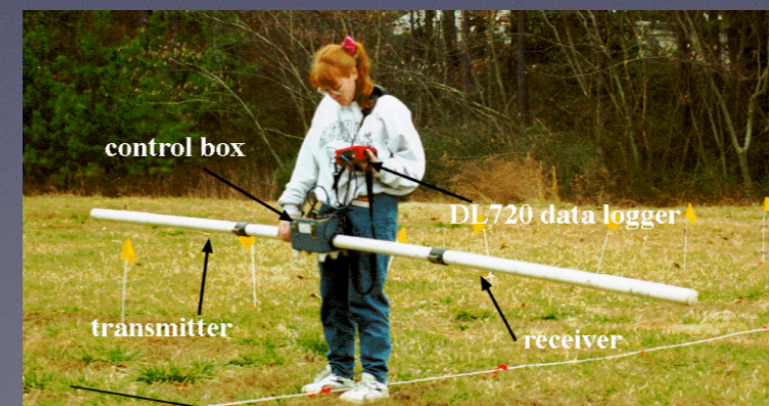
$$2\pi f \ll 2/\mu_0 \sigma s^2$$

$$\sigma_a = \frac{4}{\omega \mu_0 s^2} \frac{Hs^Q}{Hp}$$

$4\pi \cdot 10^{-7} \text{ H.m}^{-1}$ , SI units

App. Conductivity

$$\sigma_a = \text{cost} \left( \frac{Hs^Q}{Hp} \right)$$





# EM METHODS

## FDEM



$$\sigma_a = \frac{4}{\omega \mu_0 s^2} \frac{Hs^Q}{Hp}$$

$\neq \omega$   
 $\neq S$   $\rightarrow$   $\neq$  depth of investigation



Multi-frequencies probe  
Or  
Probe with different coils distances

**CONDUCTIVITY SUBSOIL MAP**

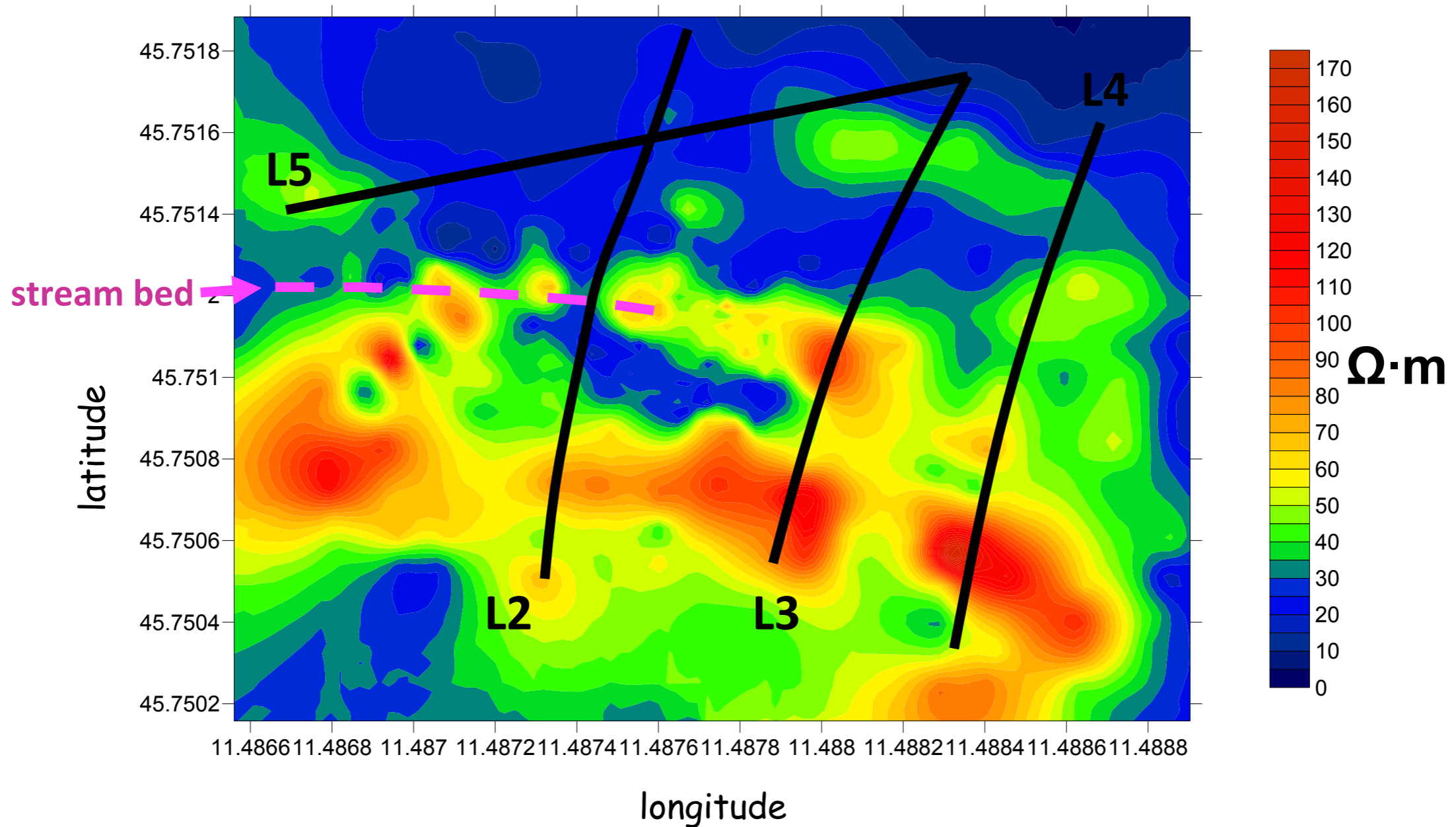


# Conductivity / Resistivity MAP

$$\sigma = 1/\rho$$

## Frequency-domain EM

Resistivity map obtained using a GF Instrument CMD 1 sonde:  
max investigation depth = 0.75 m





# EM METHODS

## FDEM

Campi Elettro-magnetici si attenuano con la distanza, posso abbassare la frequenza  $\omega$  per andare più in profondità, quanto ?

LOW INDUCTION NUMBER

Devo rispettare la condizione

$$2\pi f \ll 2/\mu_0 \sigma s^2$$

Skin Depth  $d$

$$d = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\omega \mu_0 \sigma}}$$

Distanza per cui il campo  $H_p$  si riduce di  $1/e$  ← Euler number 2,7  
(massima profondità di indagine)





## Advantages of FDEM

- No need of galvanic contact
- Less sensible to surface conditions
- Quick for wider area
- Can be used in land or water
- Can be used in borehole





## Cons of FDEM (respect to DC ERT methods)

- Dynamic range is less (1-1000 ohm m) in Quick resistive soils no current can be put in, for conductive soil not-linear effects are possible
- Depth of penetration is limited (but for separated coils system or big TDEM methods)
- Not easy the quantitative interpretation



# Dipole-source methods



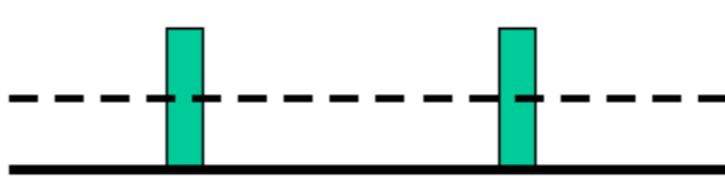
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- Measurements tools called twin-coil or slingram systems
- Tx and Rx are **coils** (about 1m diameter) linked by a cable which carries a reference signal in order to compensate the effect of the primary field. By this means, the system subsequently responds only to the secondary fields
- A decomposer split the secondary field into real and imaginary components (display the result as a percentage of the primary field)





# Loop configurations

- HCP (horizontal co-planer) 
- VCP (vertical co-planer) 
- ~~VCA (vertical Coaxial)~~ 
- Others



EM31 (Geonics), 9.8 kHz,  $s=3.66$  m



EM34 (Geonics),  
6.4 kHz for  $s=10$  m  
1.6 kHz for  $s=20$  m  
0.4 kHz for  $s=40$  m



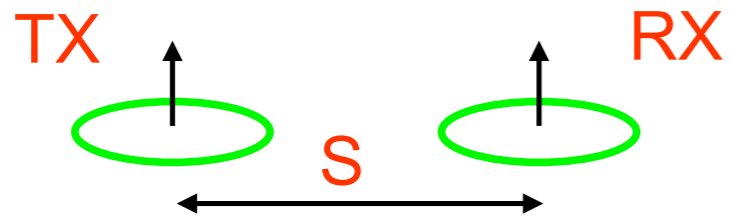
EM38 (Geonics), 14.6 kHz,  $s=1$  m

$s$ : Rx-Tx distance<sup>41</sup>

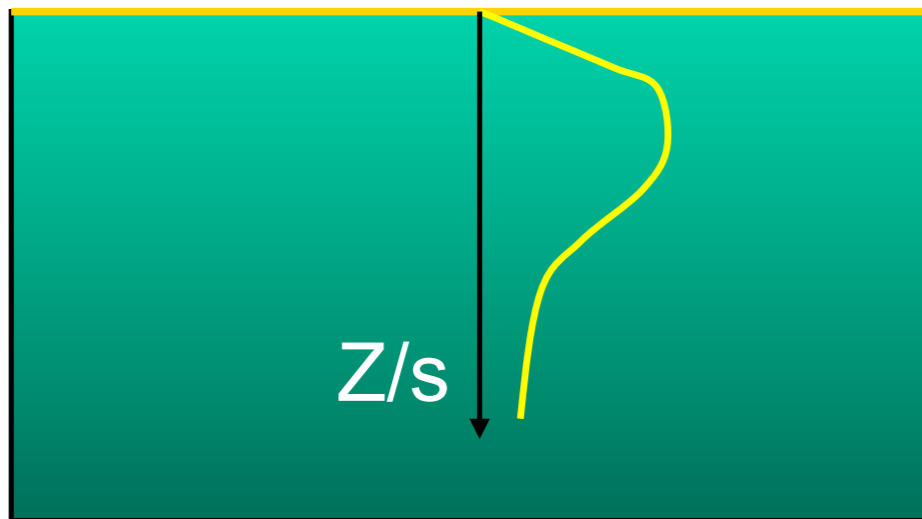




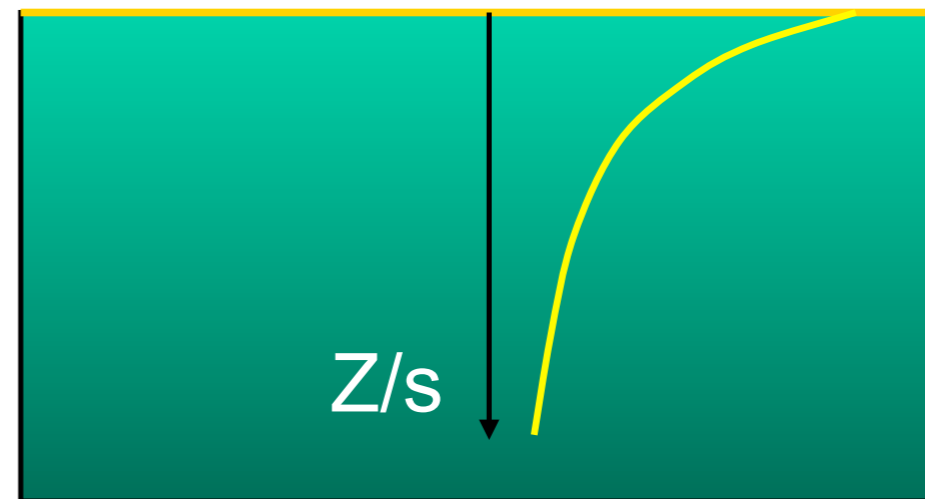
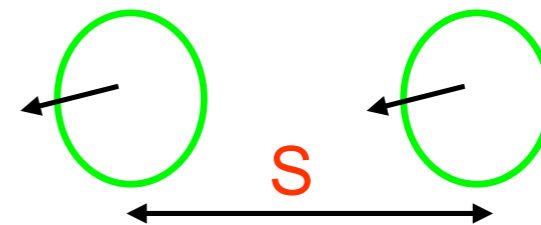
# Stability of FDEM methods in low induction number



Horizontal coils  
(and vertical magnetic dipole)



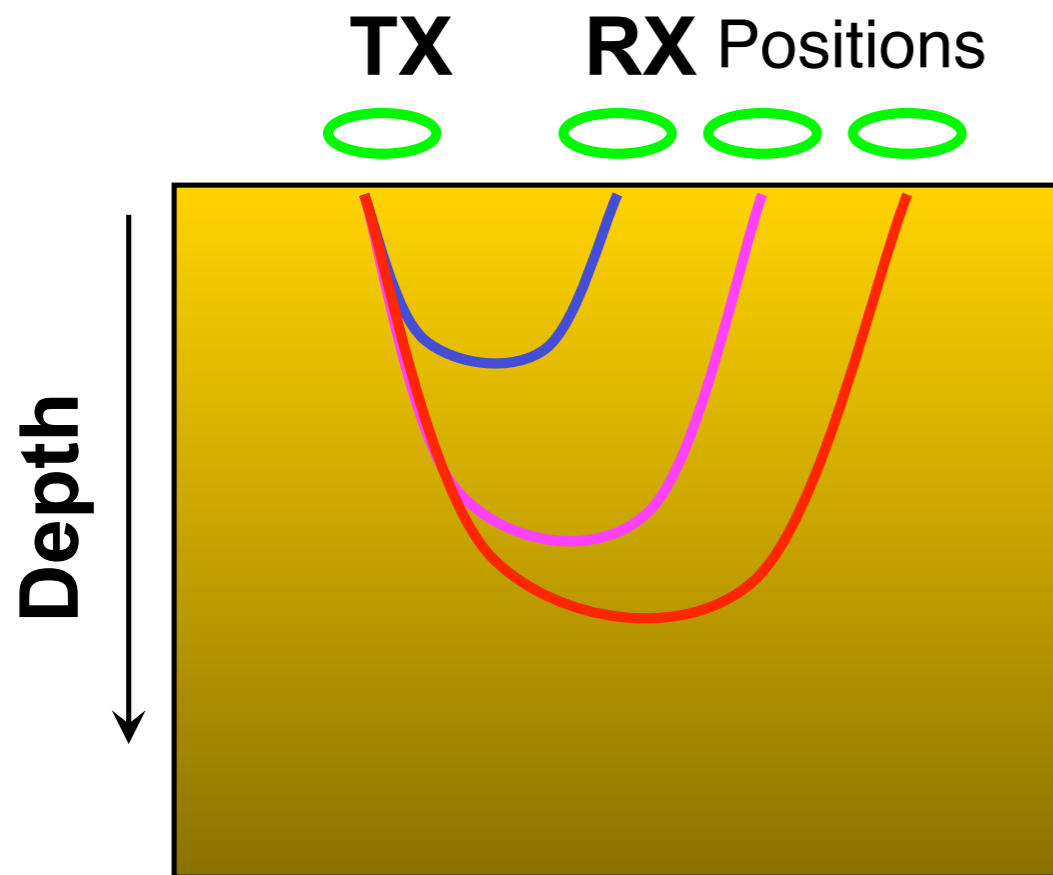
Vertical Coils  
(and horizontal magnetic dipole)





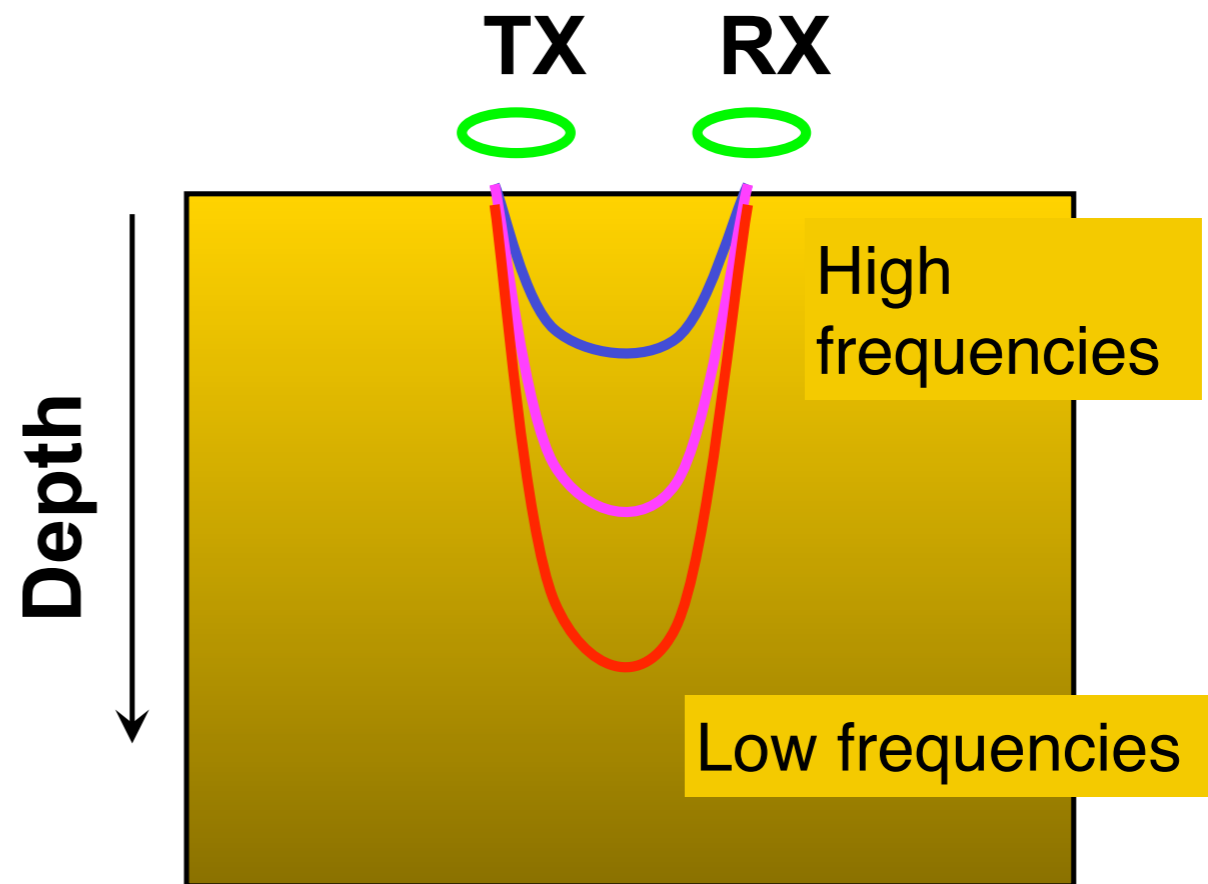
## Geometric soundings

Fixed frequency and several coils



## Frequency soundings

Fixed coils, several frequencies

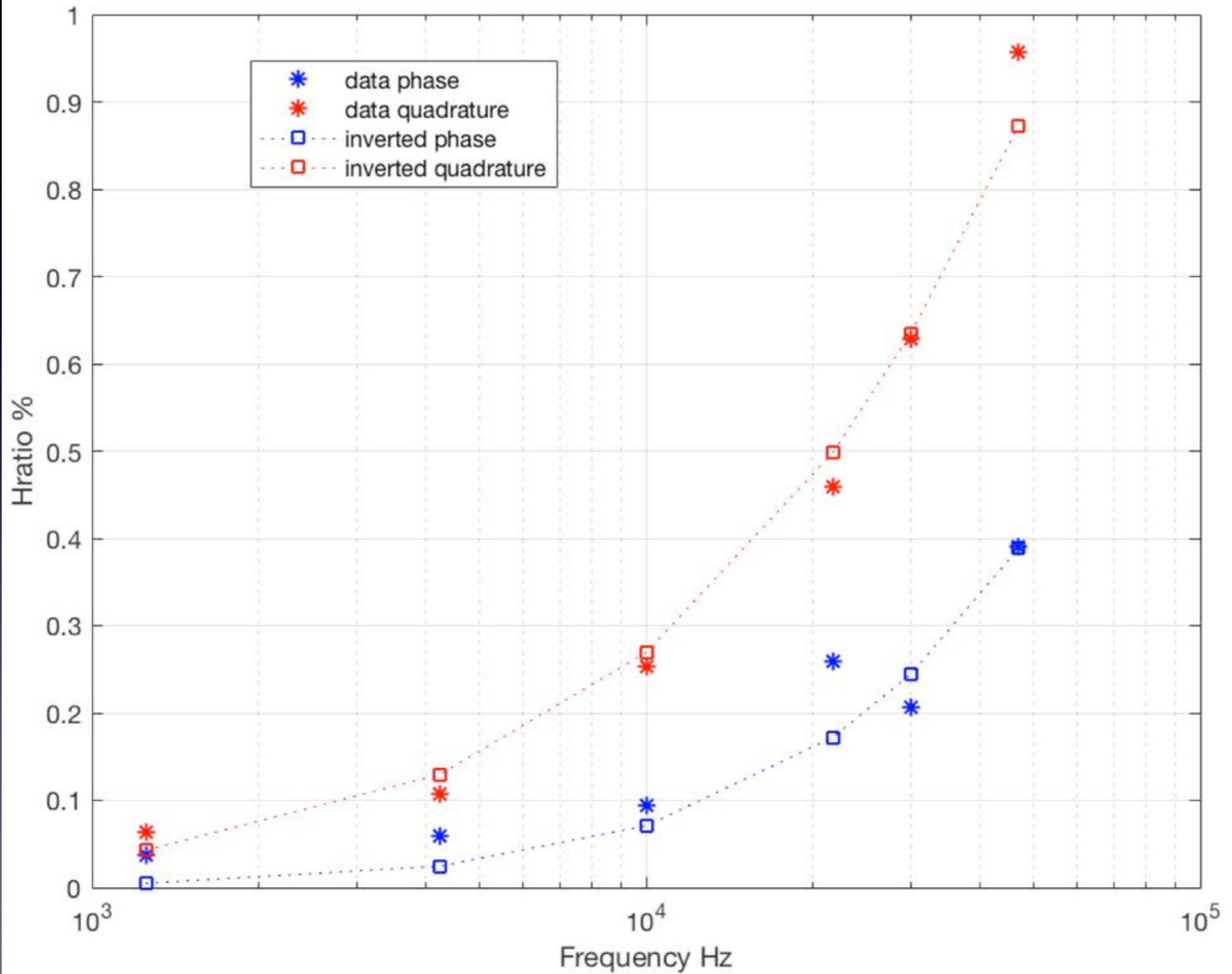




inversion of FDEM

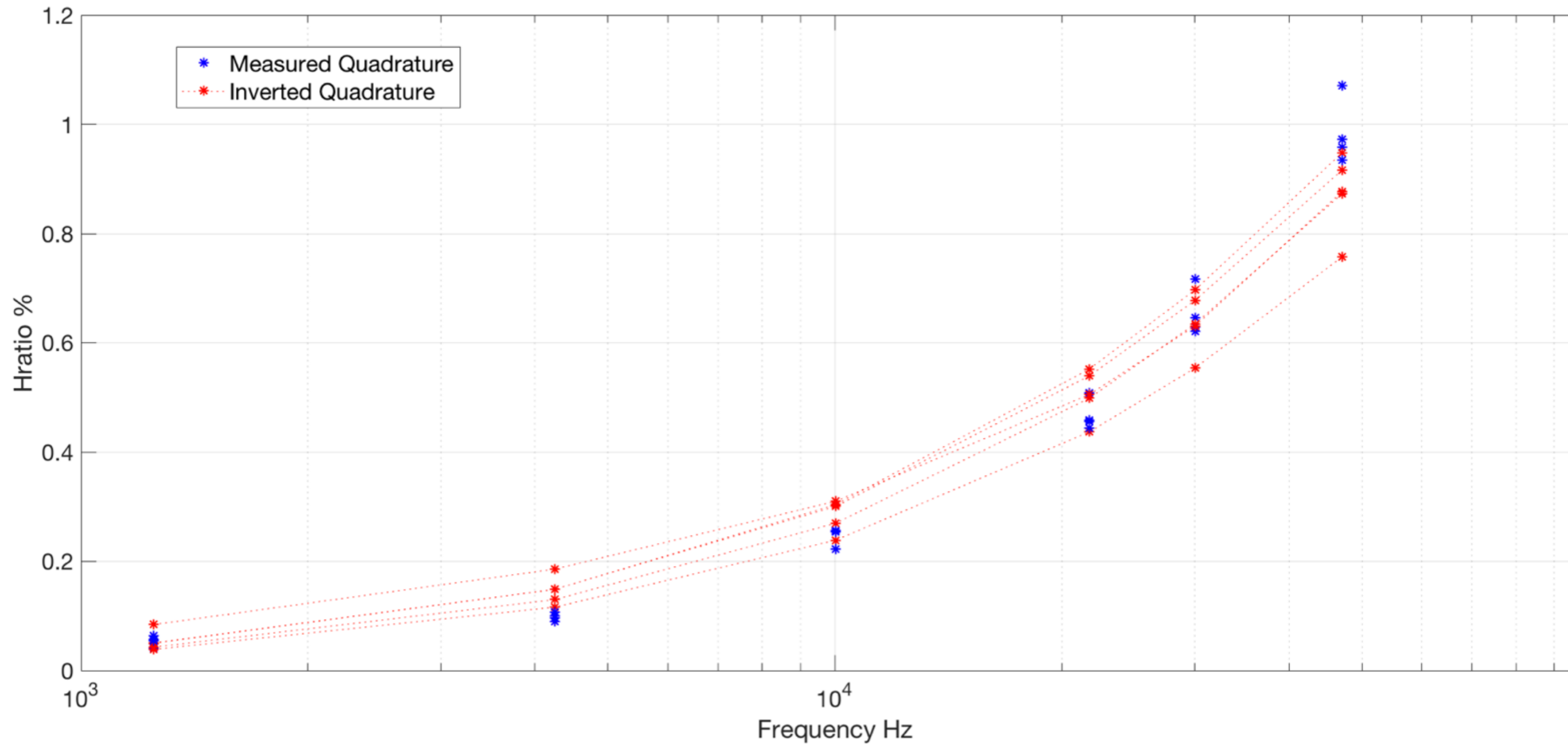


# Inversion FDEM (Interpex, emagpy, etc)



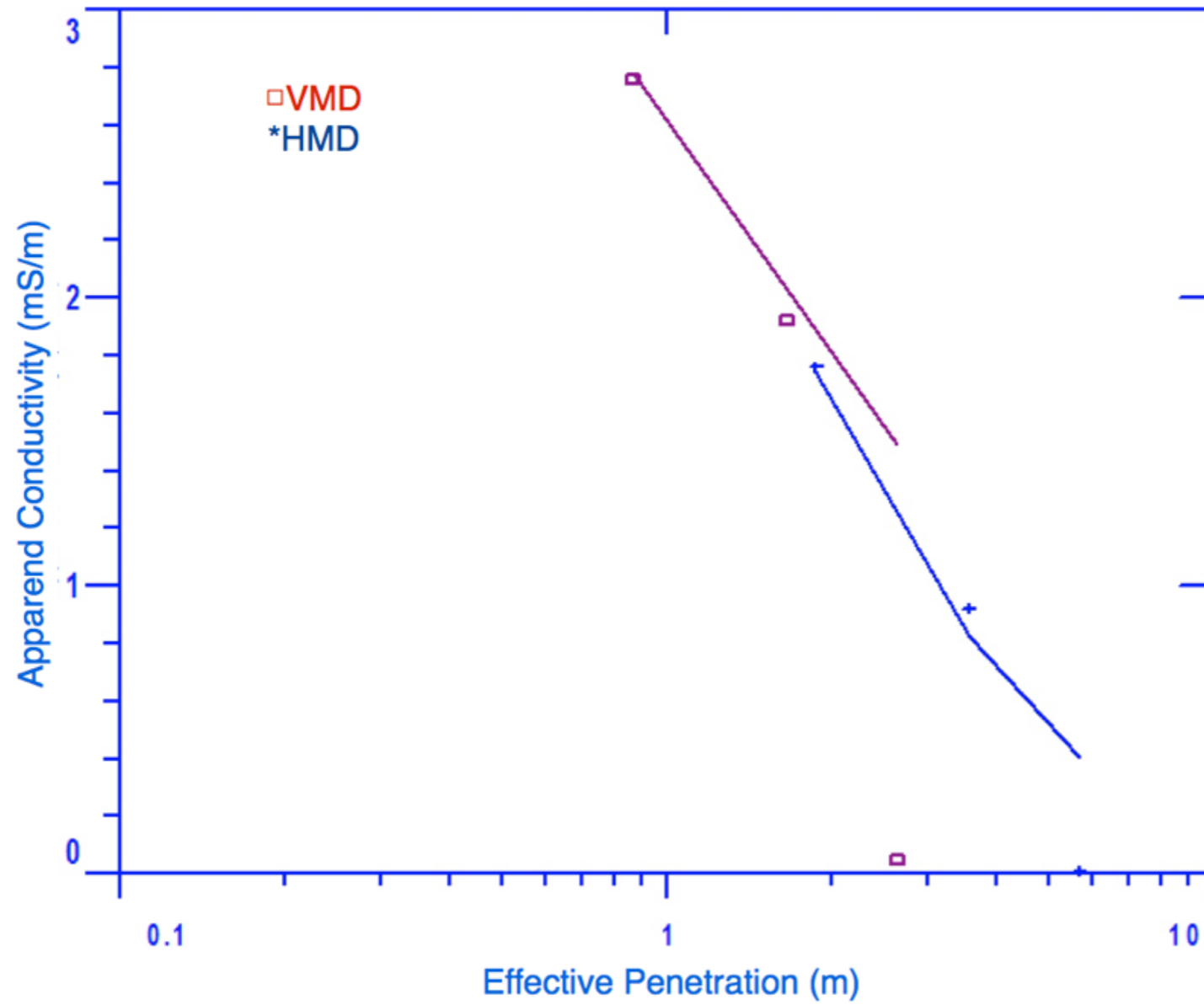


# Inversion Interpex FDEM

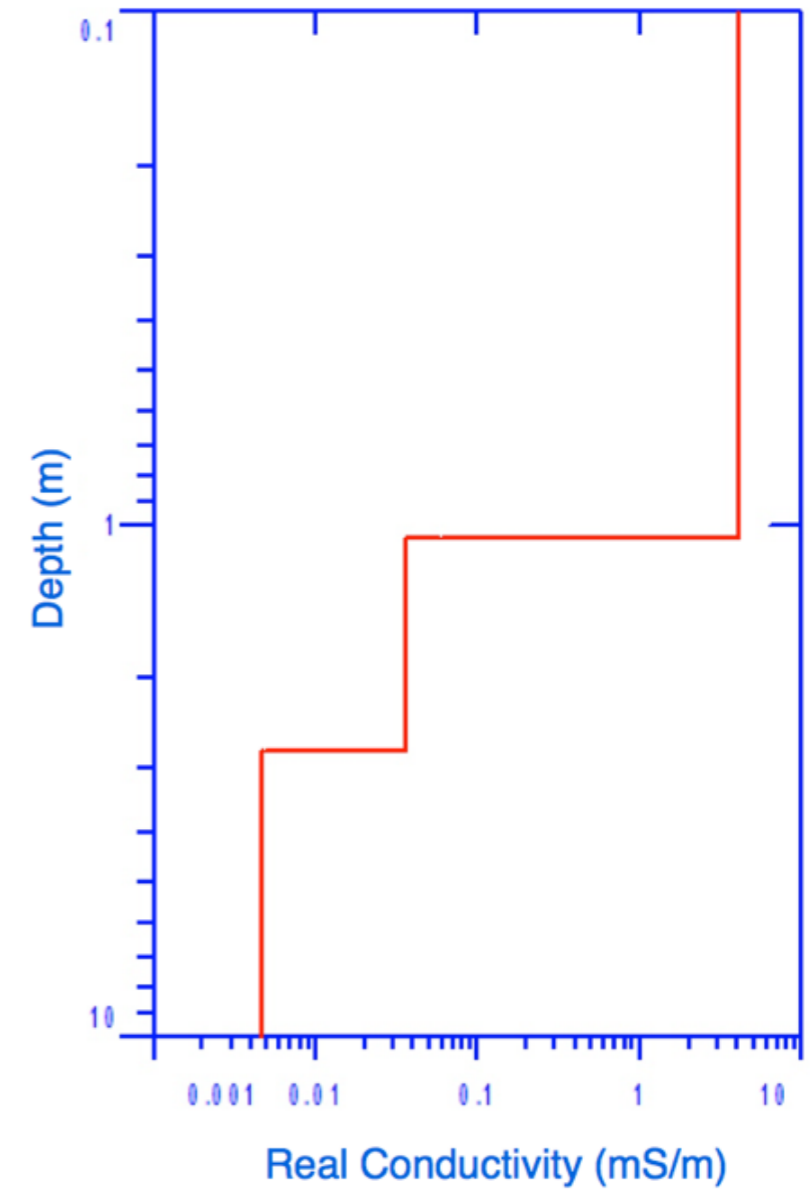


# Inversion Interpex FDEM

Schafberg Data

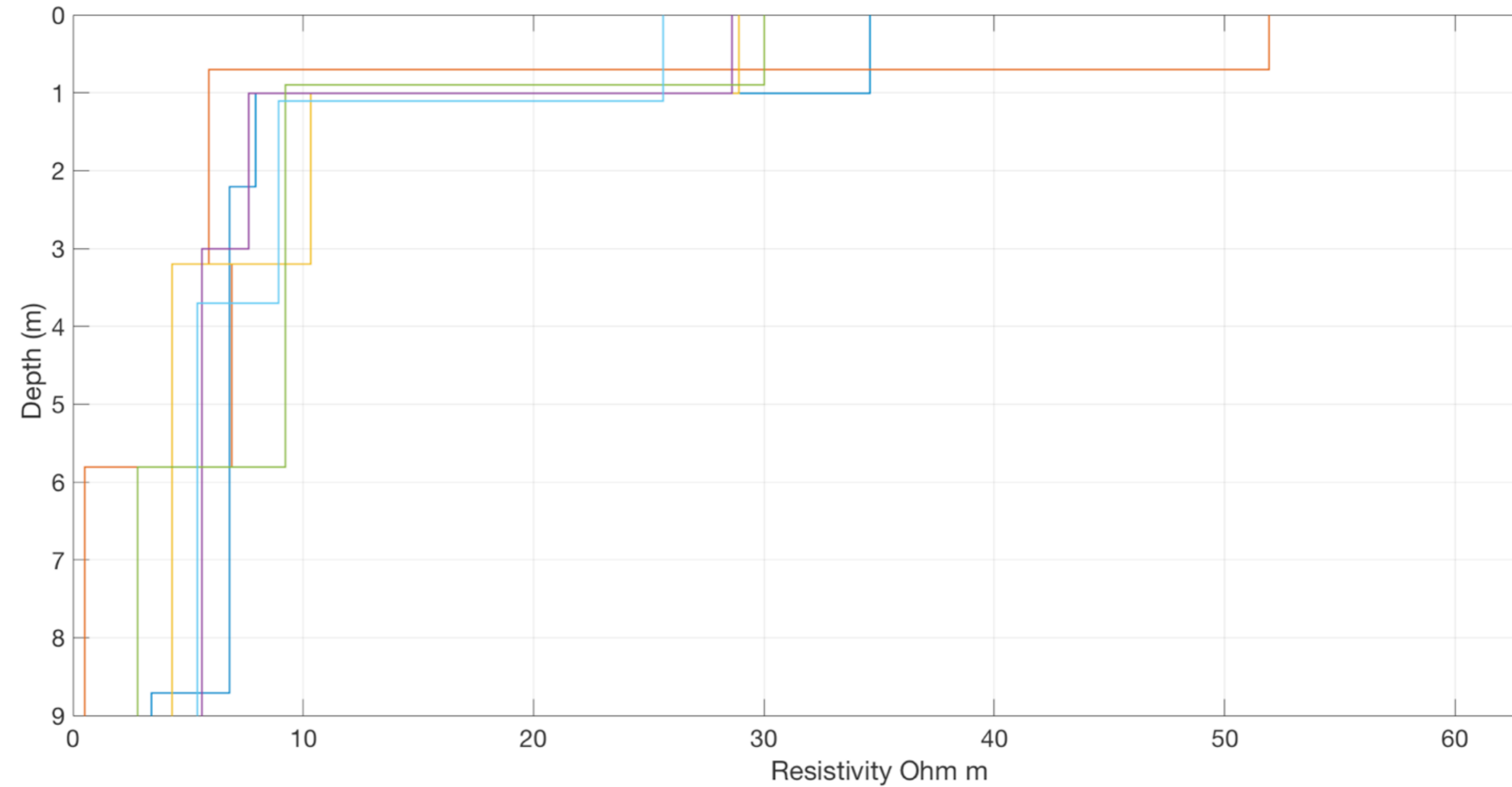


Schafberg Model

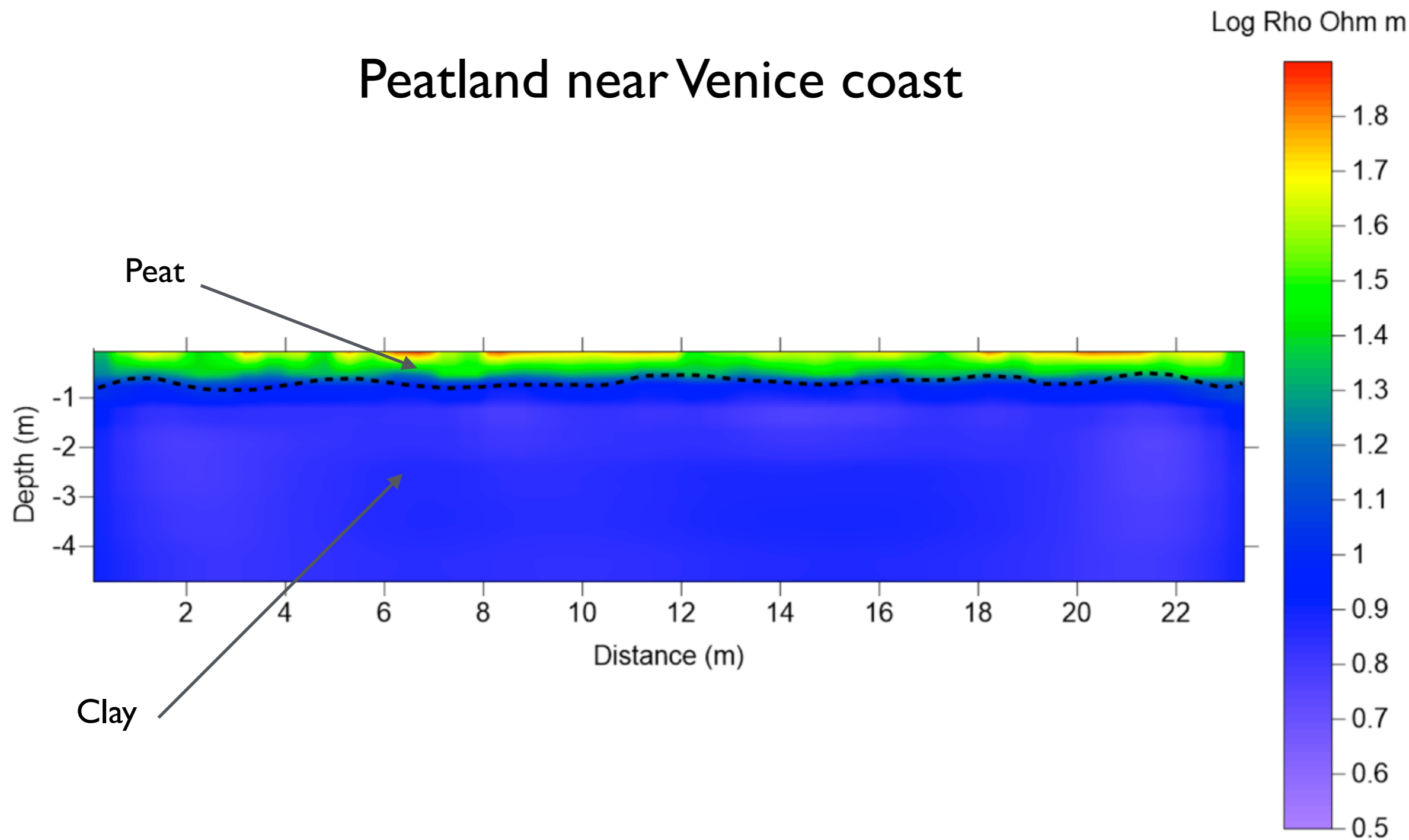




# Inversion Interpex FDEM ID Results



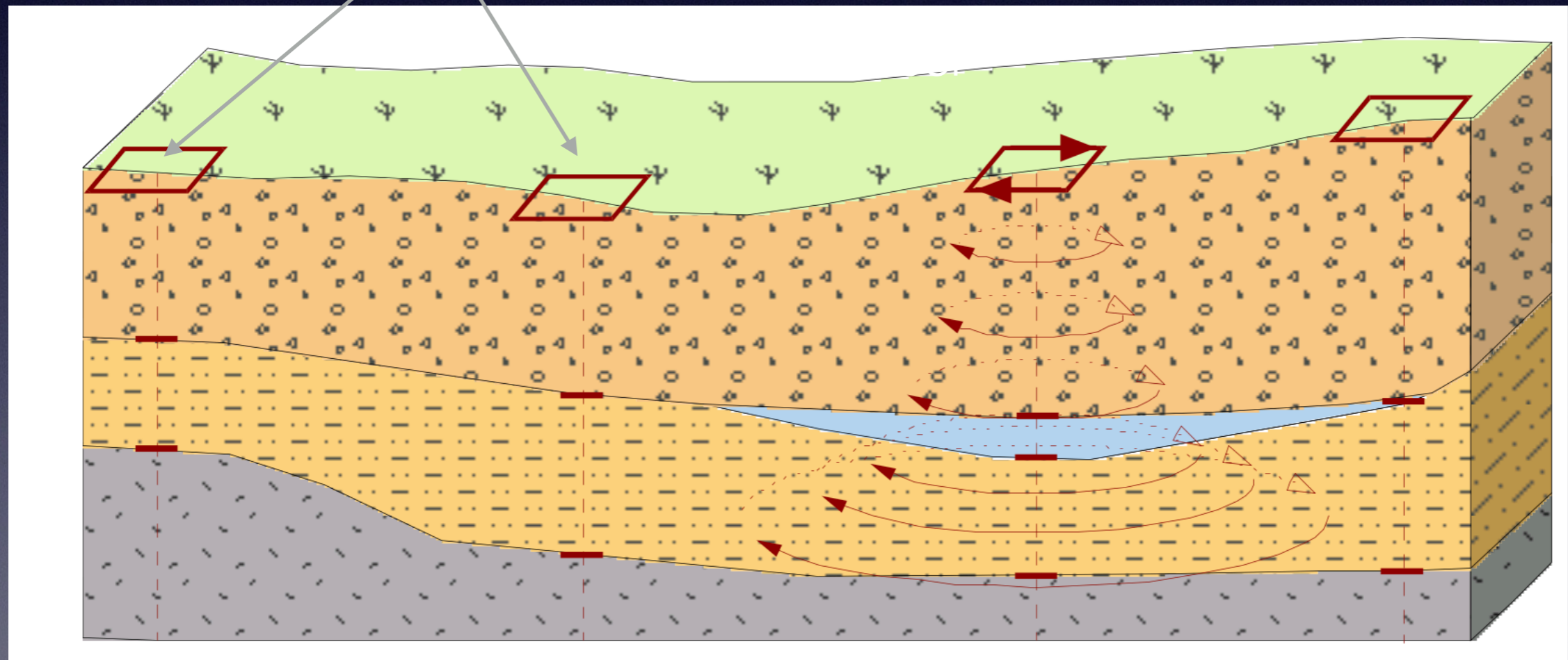
# Inversion Interpex interpolation Results PSEUDO-2D





# TIME DOMAIN ELECTRO-MAGNETOMETER TDEM

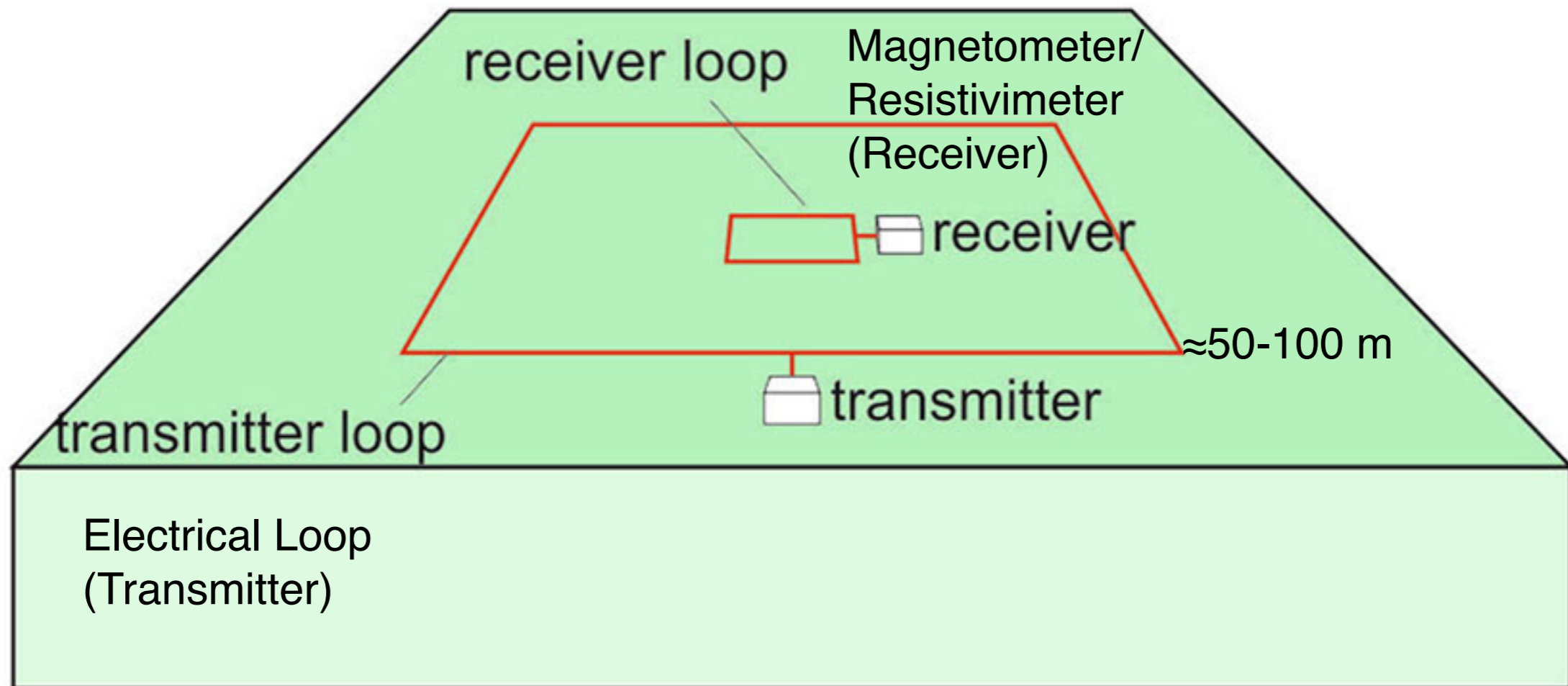
TDEM LOOP



AIM: to retrieve ELECTRICAL properties of Deep targets

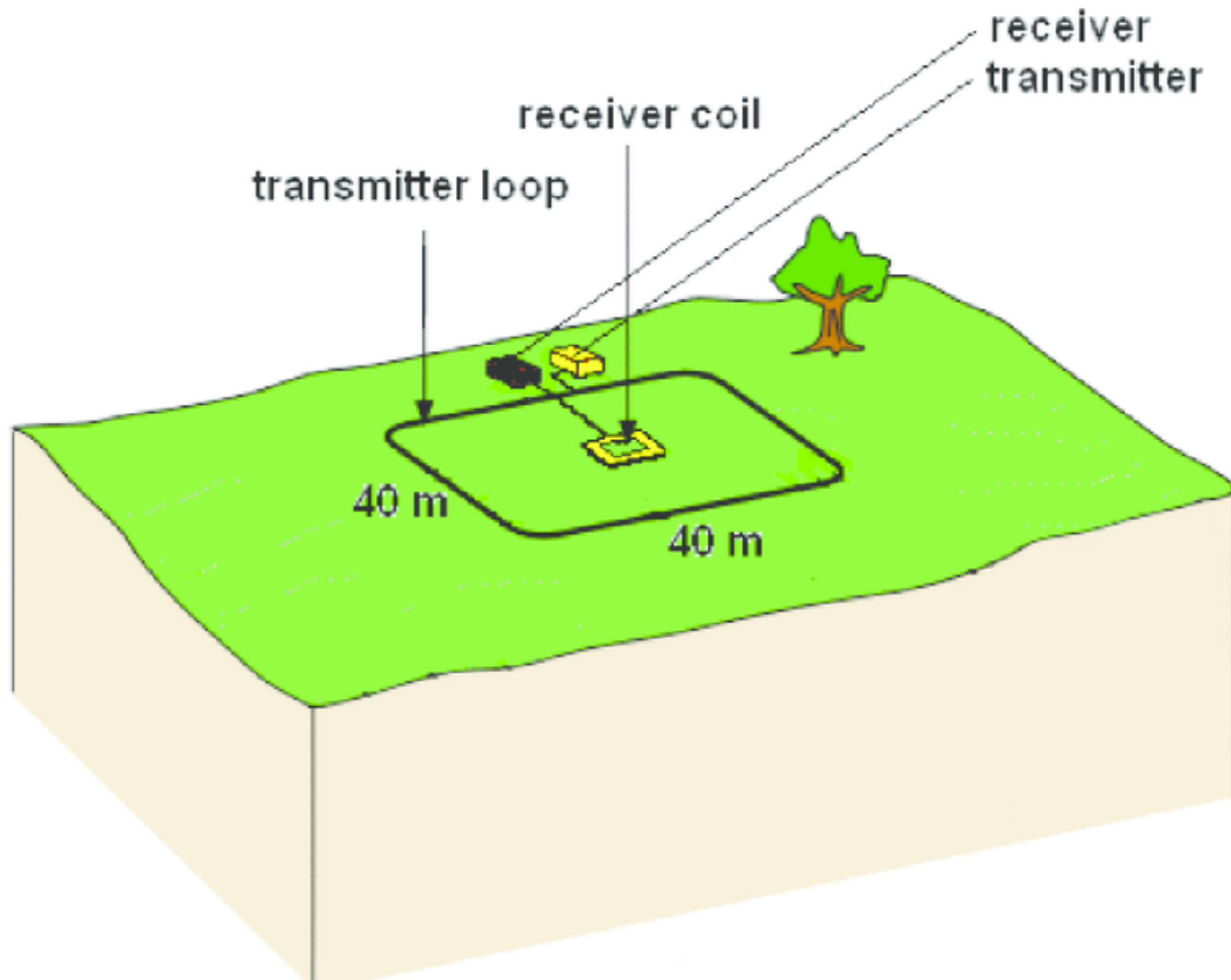


# TIME DOMAIN ELECTRO-MAGNETOMETER TDEM



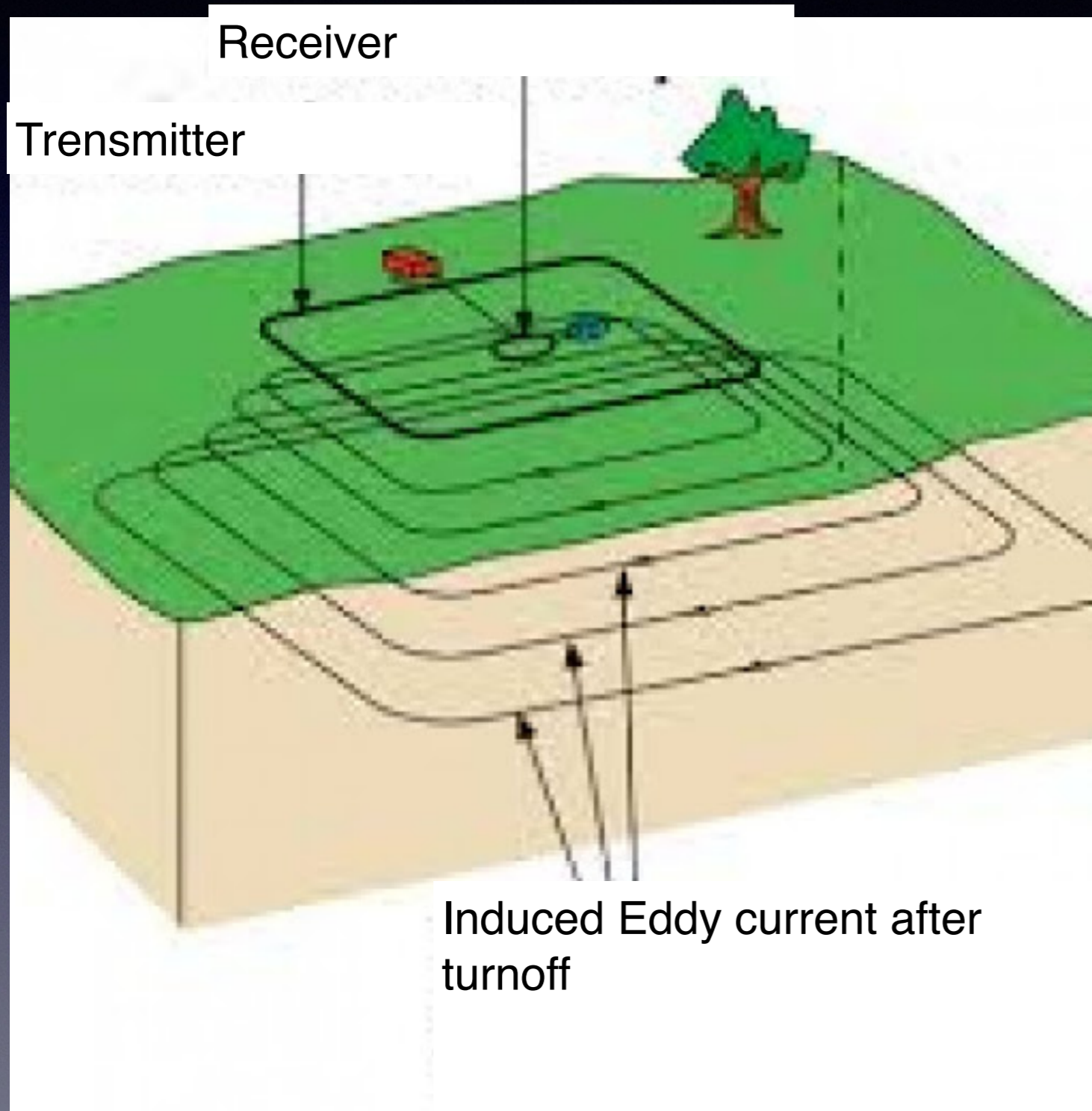


# TIME DOMAIN ELECTRO-MAGNETOMETER TDEM





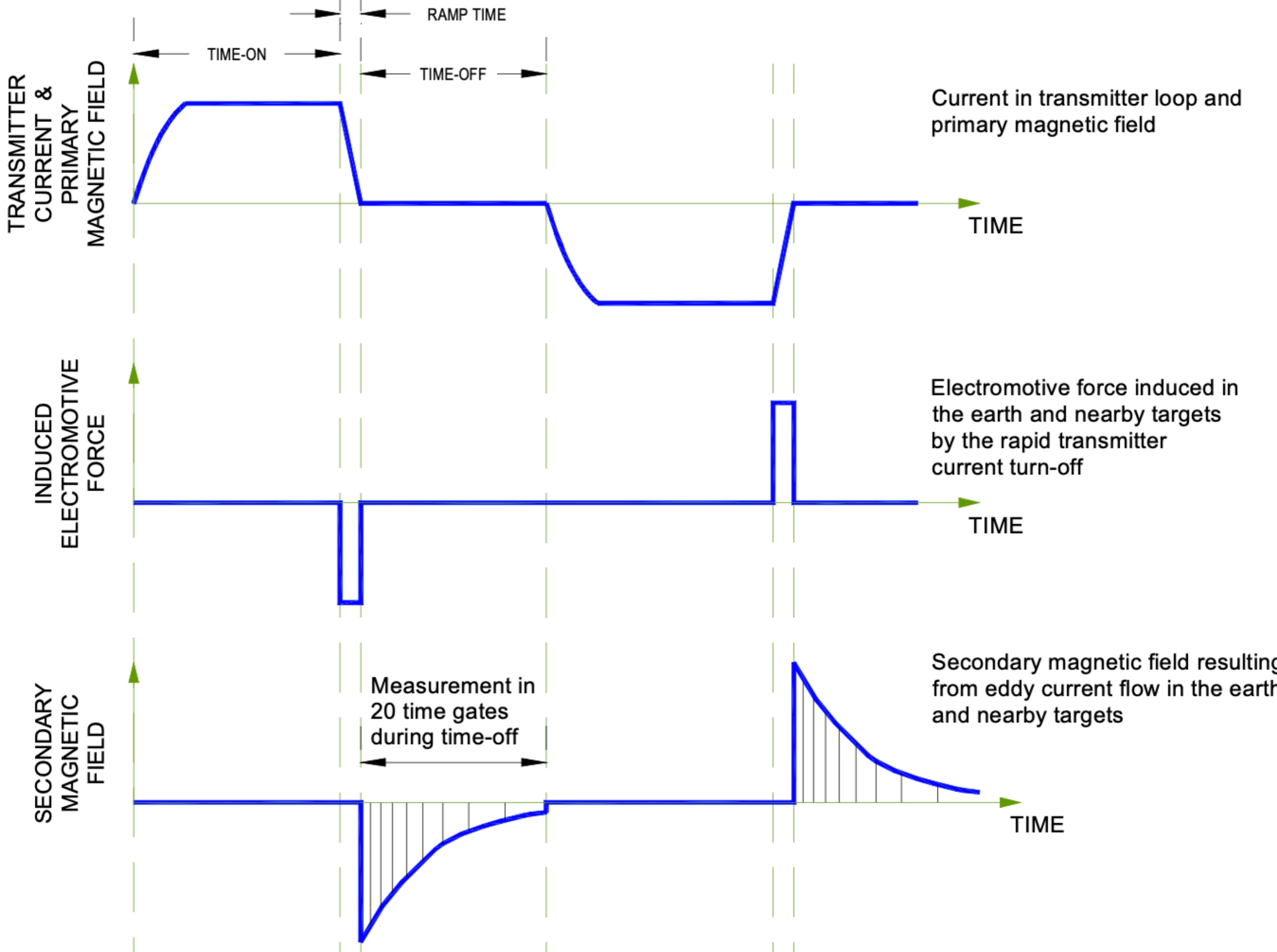
# TIME DOMAIN ELECTRO-MAGNETOMETER TDEM



1. DC current flows in the transmitter
2. Current is turned off
3. Electro-Magnetic field propagates in the subsoil (Faraday's law)
4. EM fields generate Eddy current in the conductive body in the subsoil
5. Eddy current generates secondary EM field recorded at the Receiver (as a voltage)

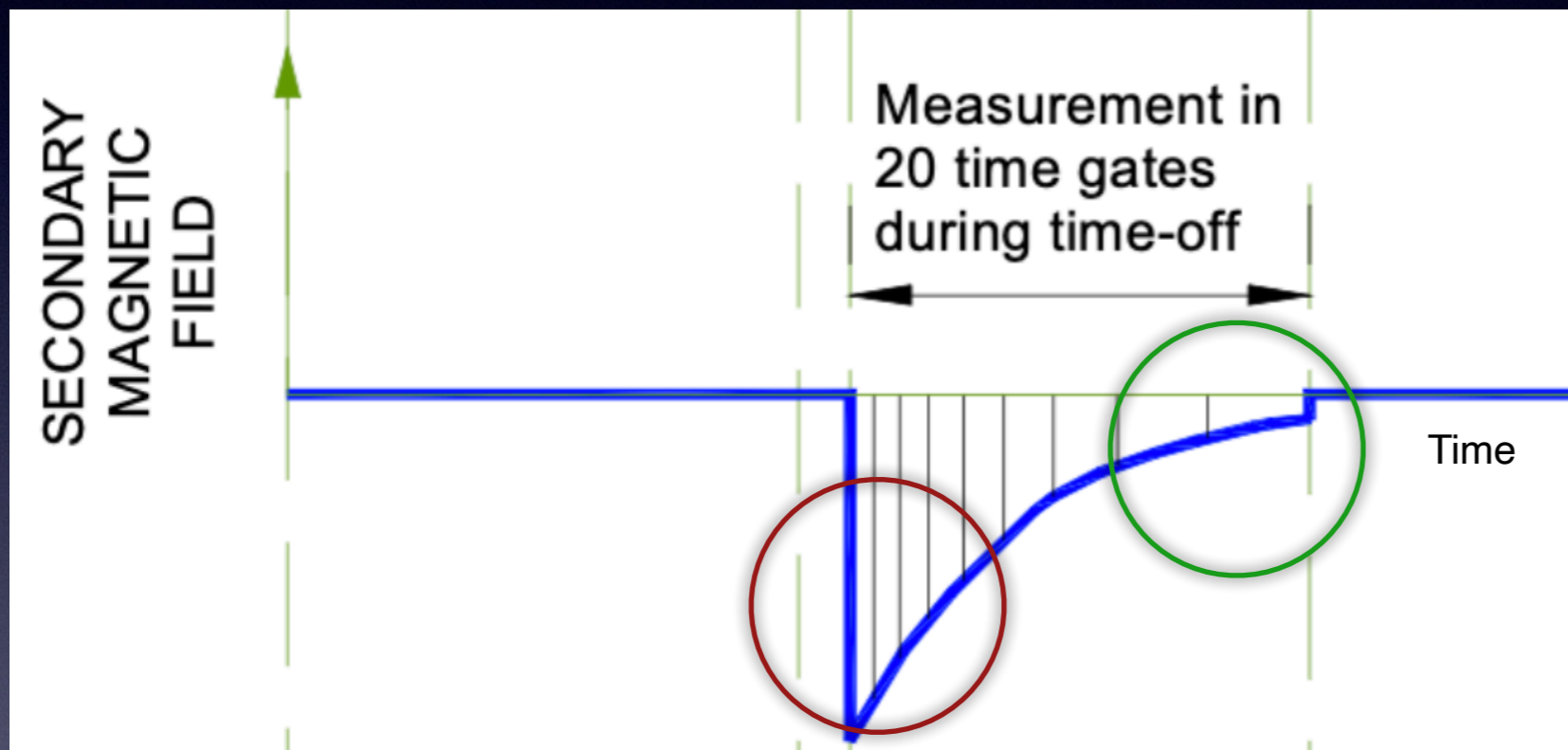








# TIME DOMAIN ELECTRO-MAGNETOMETER TDEM



We measure the secondary EM effect (output voltage) at several times, ('time gate' usually every 10 ms).

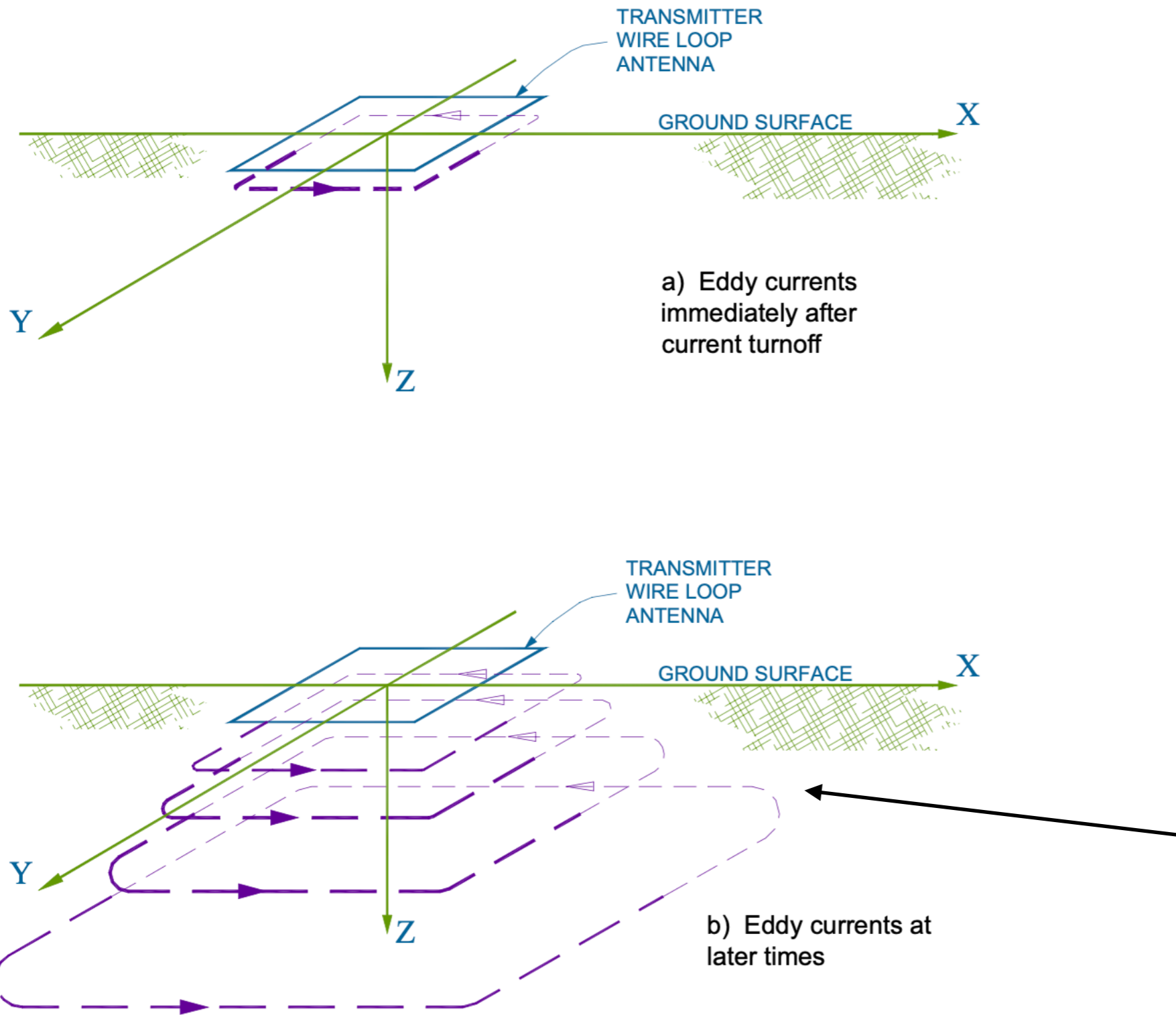
**Early time** = shallow depth

**Longer time** = deeper depth



# TIME DOMAIN ELECTRO-MAGNETOMETER TDEM

Different timing (period), different depths of penetration



Measurements are taken at several times.

Just after the turn off of the current in the transmitter loop and after some times (usually 10 ms)

Longer time, deeper depth



Output  
voltage

$$e(t) = \frac{k_1 M \sigma_A^{3/2}}{t^{5/2}},$$

From the  
receiver

Output voltage

where

$e(t)$  = output voltage from a single-turn receiver coil of area 1 m<sup>2</sup>

$k_1$  = a constant

$M$  = product of Tx current x area (a-m<sup>2</sup>)

$\sigma$  = terrain conductivity (siemens/m = S/m = 1/ $\Omega$ m)

$t$  = time (s)

we can retrieve  
the

Apparent  
Resistivity

of the soil

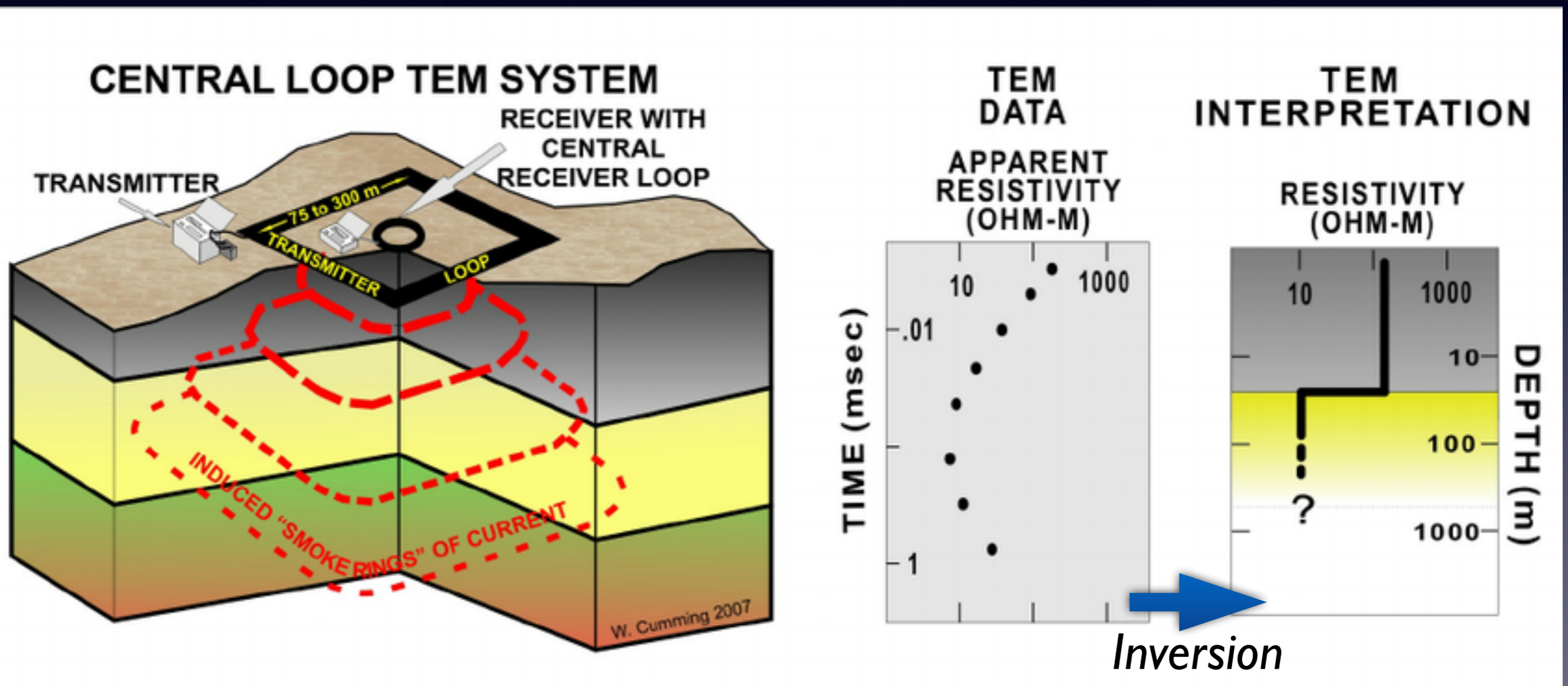
Apparent  
Resistivity

$$\rho_a(t) = \frac{k_2 M^{2/3}}{e(t)^{2/3} t^{5/3}}.$$

For different time of measurements (different depths) we can retrieve different apparent resistivity

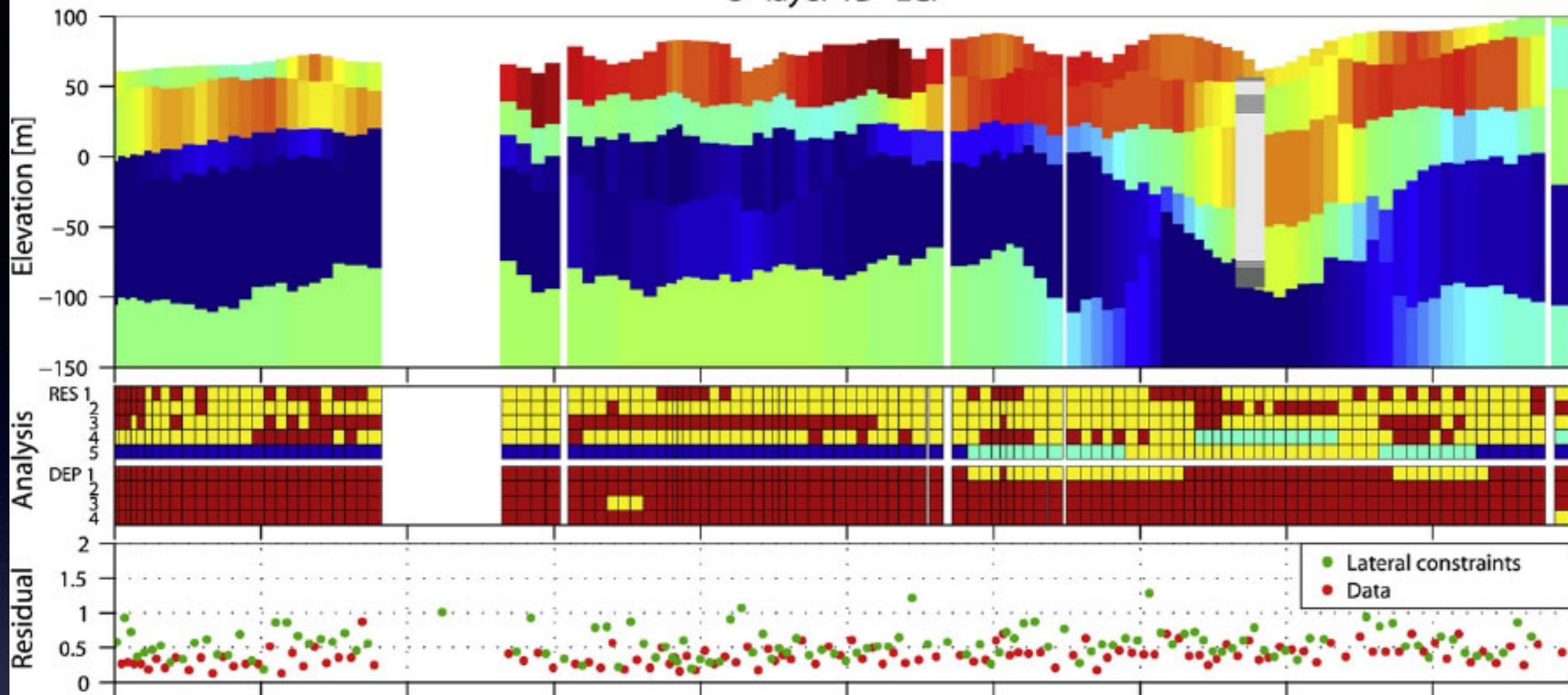
# TIME DOMAIN ELECTRO-MAGNETOMETER TDEM

From the apparent resistivity with an **INVERSION** we can retrieve **ID model** of real resistivity





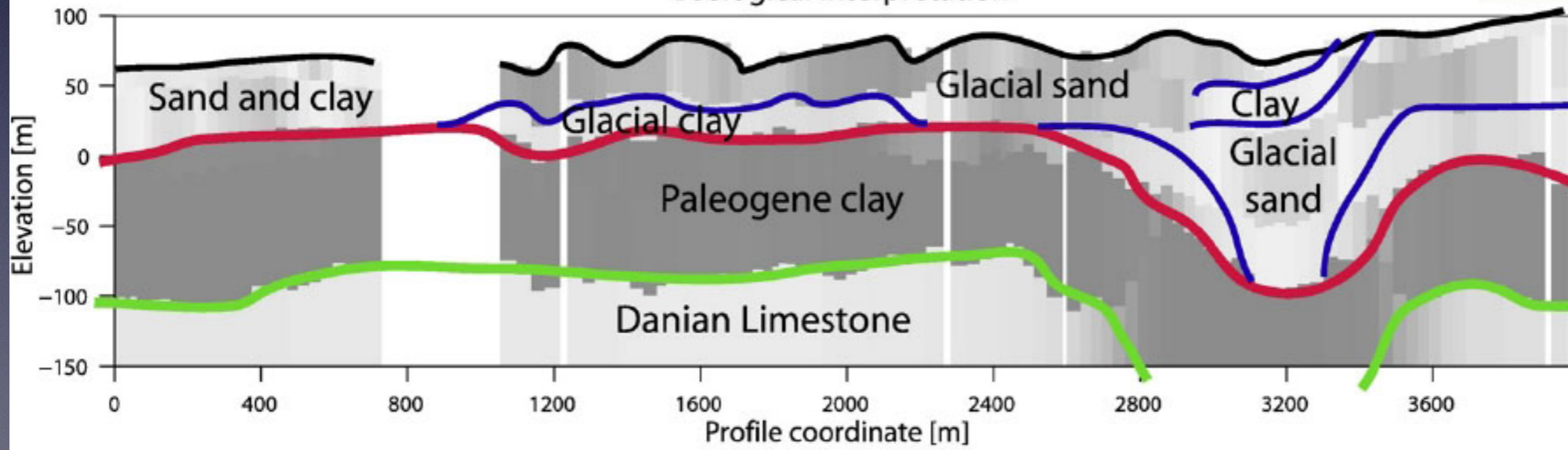
# 5-layer 1D-LCI



Using  
Several  
1D models

We get  
Pseudo  
2D section

## Geological interpretation





Geophysics for Natural Risks and Resources

Introduction to  
**GEOPHYSICAL PROSPECTING for**  
Kees Weemstra  
**ENGINEERING**

Jacopo Boaga

Dipartimento di Geoscienze  
- Università di Padova -  
[jacopo.boaga@unipd.it](mailto:jacopo.boaga@unipd.it)



# **EM METHODS**

## **FDEM**

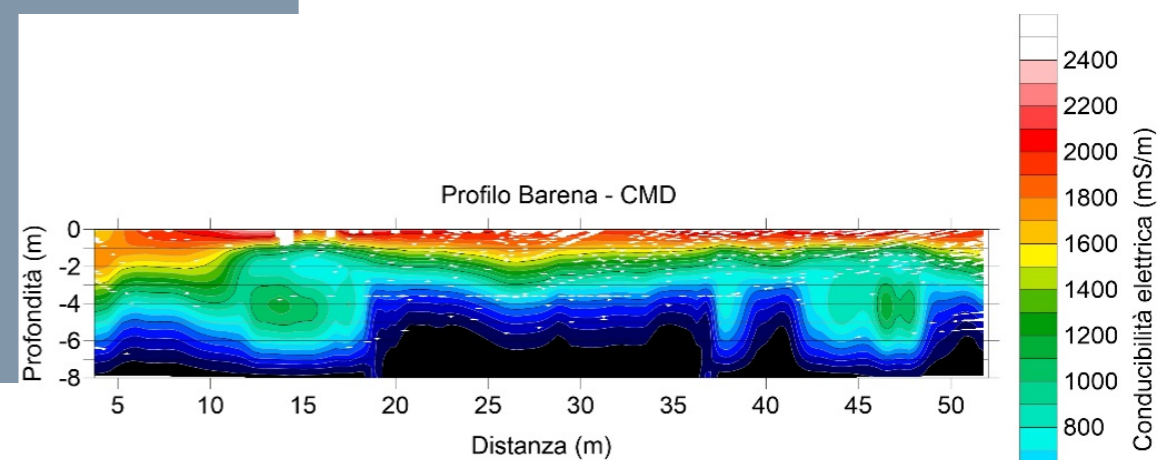
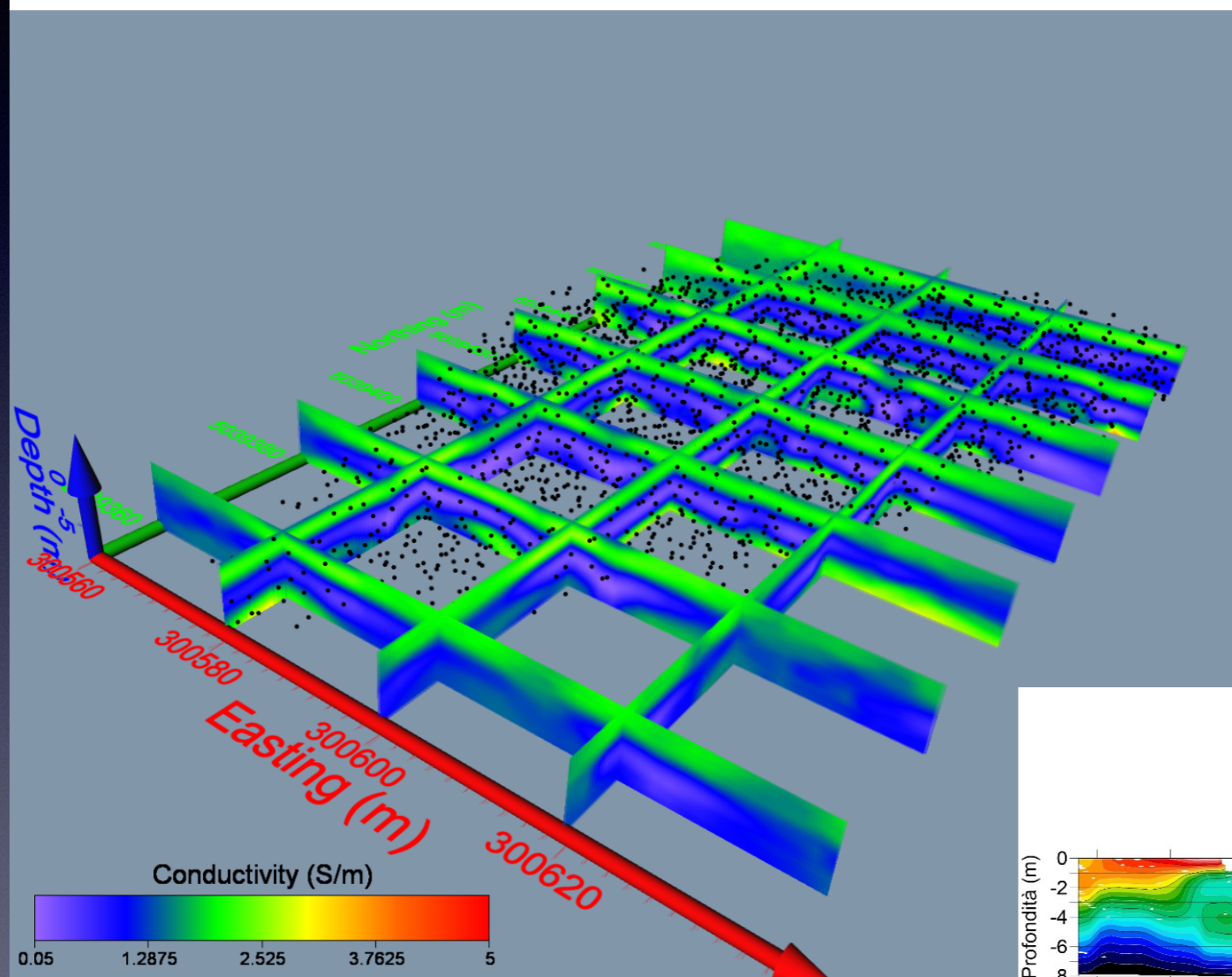
**Environmental and Engineering  
Applications**

## **FDEM**

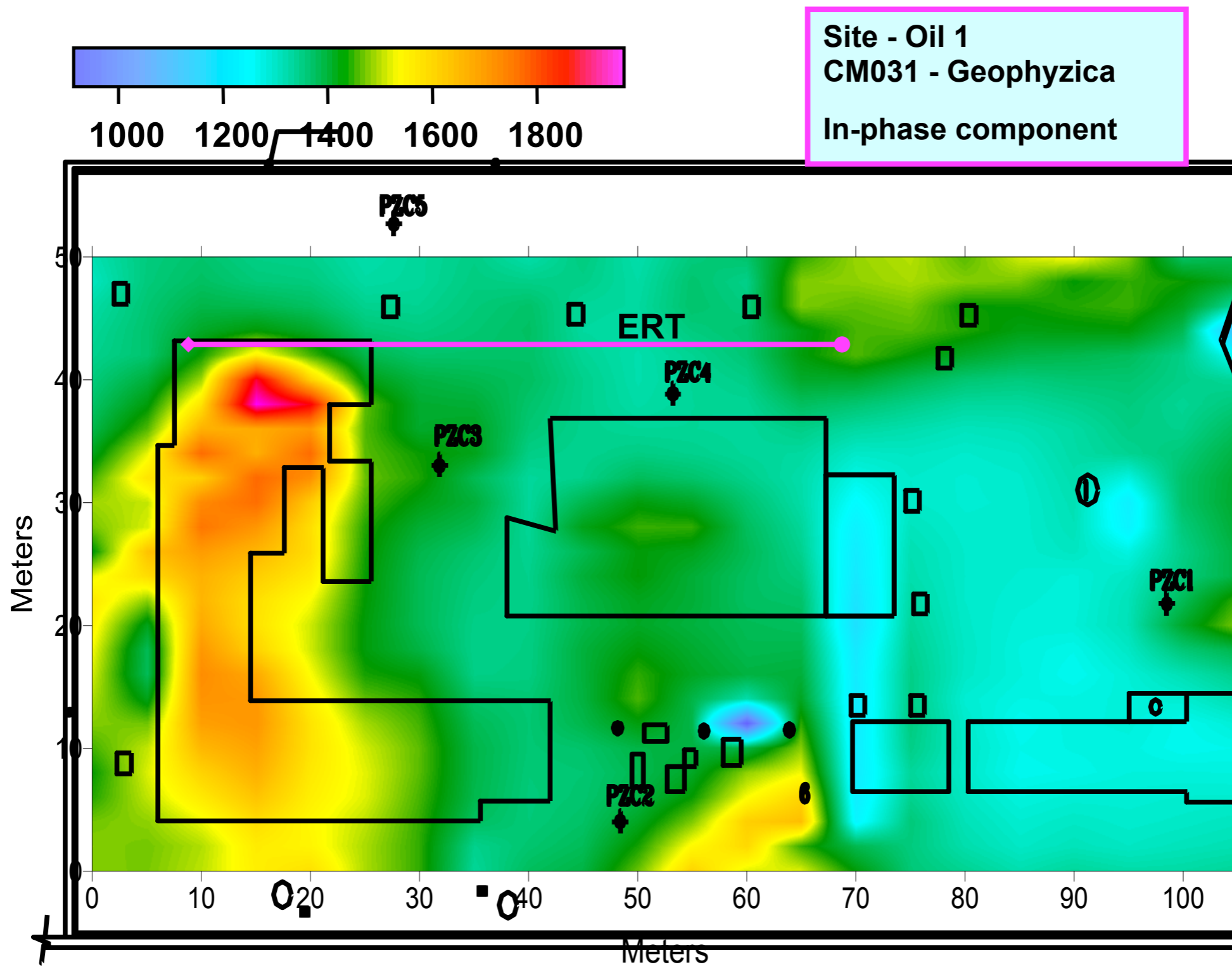


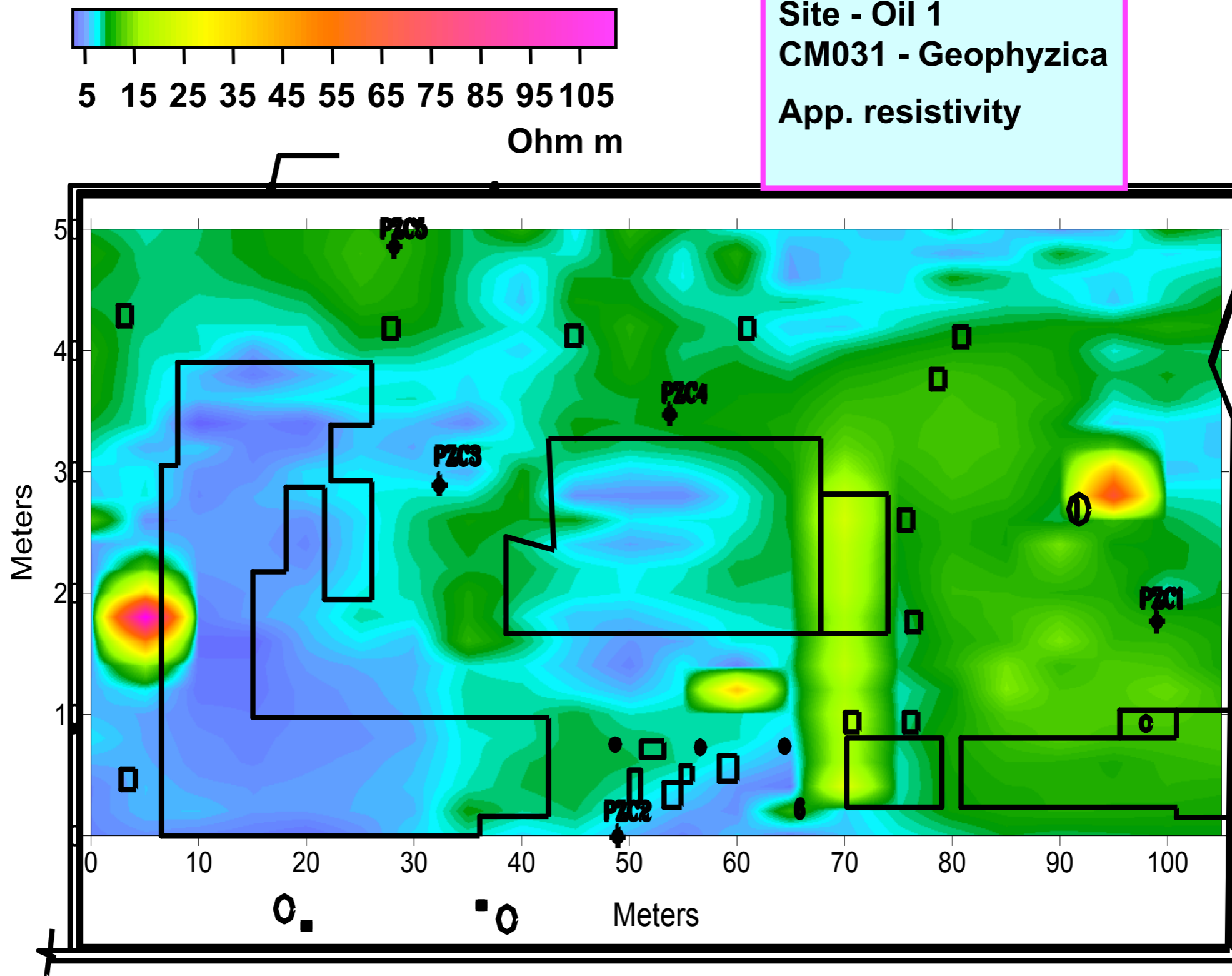


# FDEM INVERSION IN DEPTH





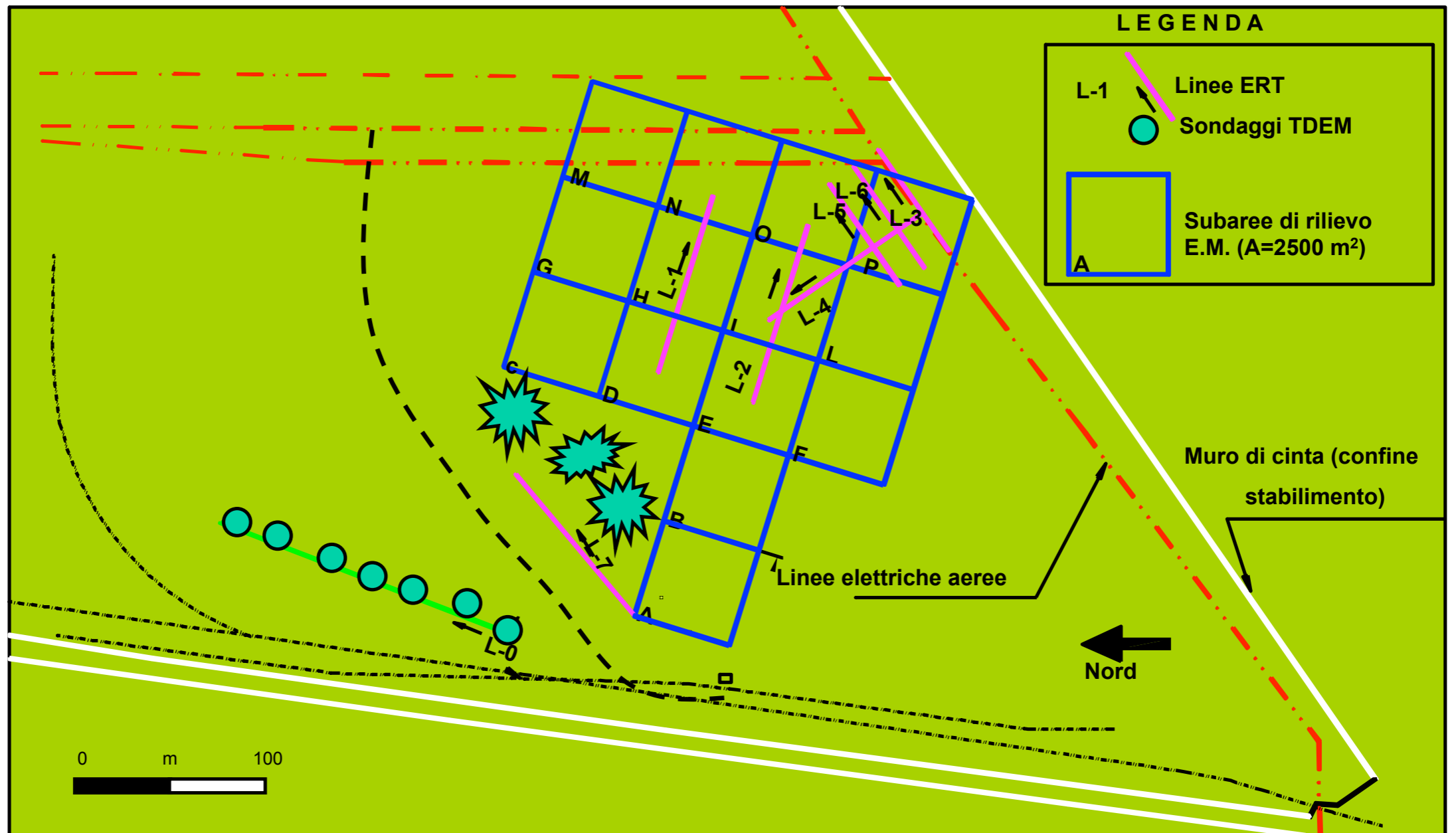






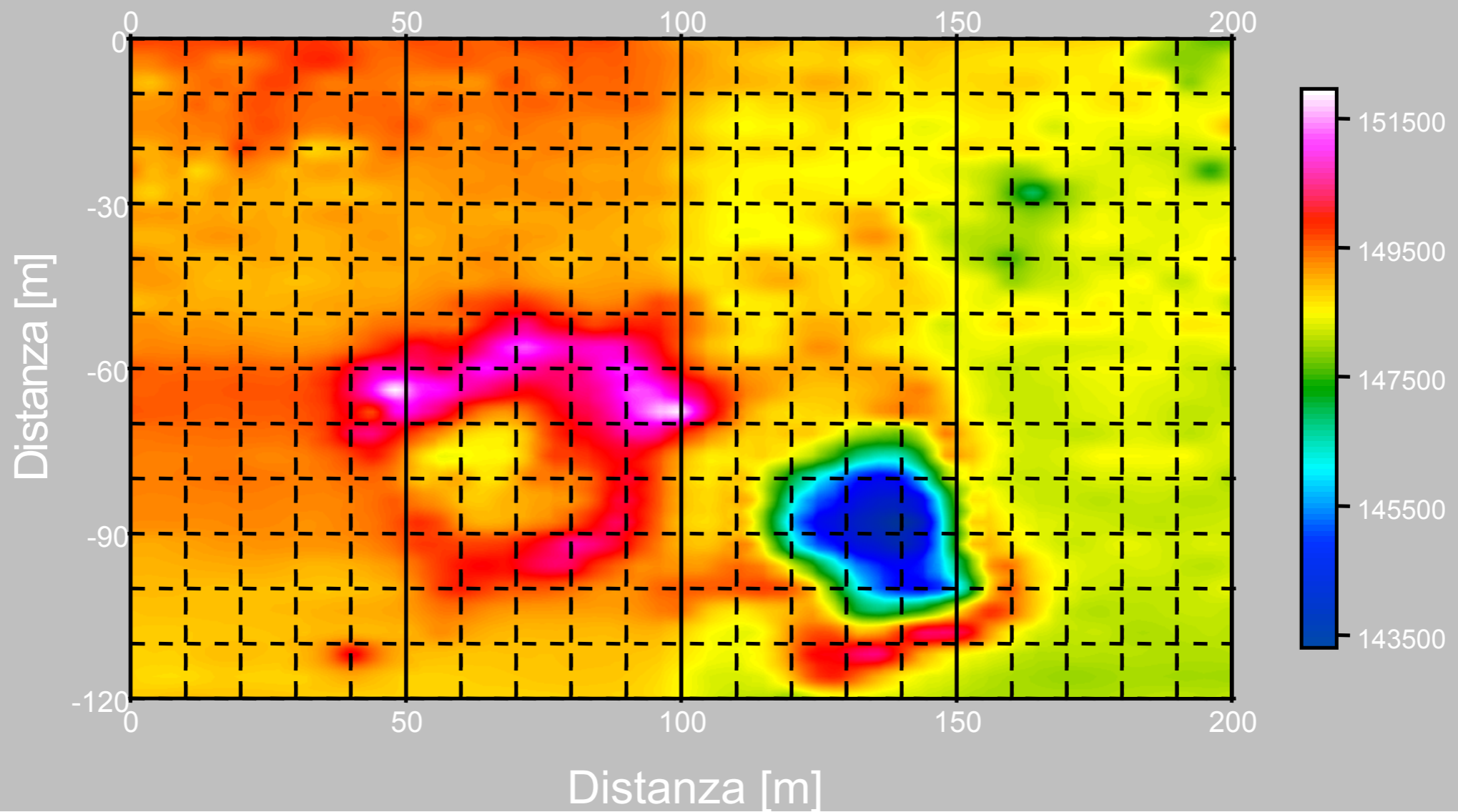


## EXAMPLE OF DOUBLE USE OF FDEM AND ERT





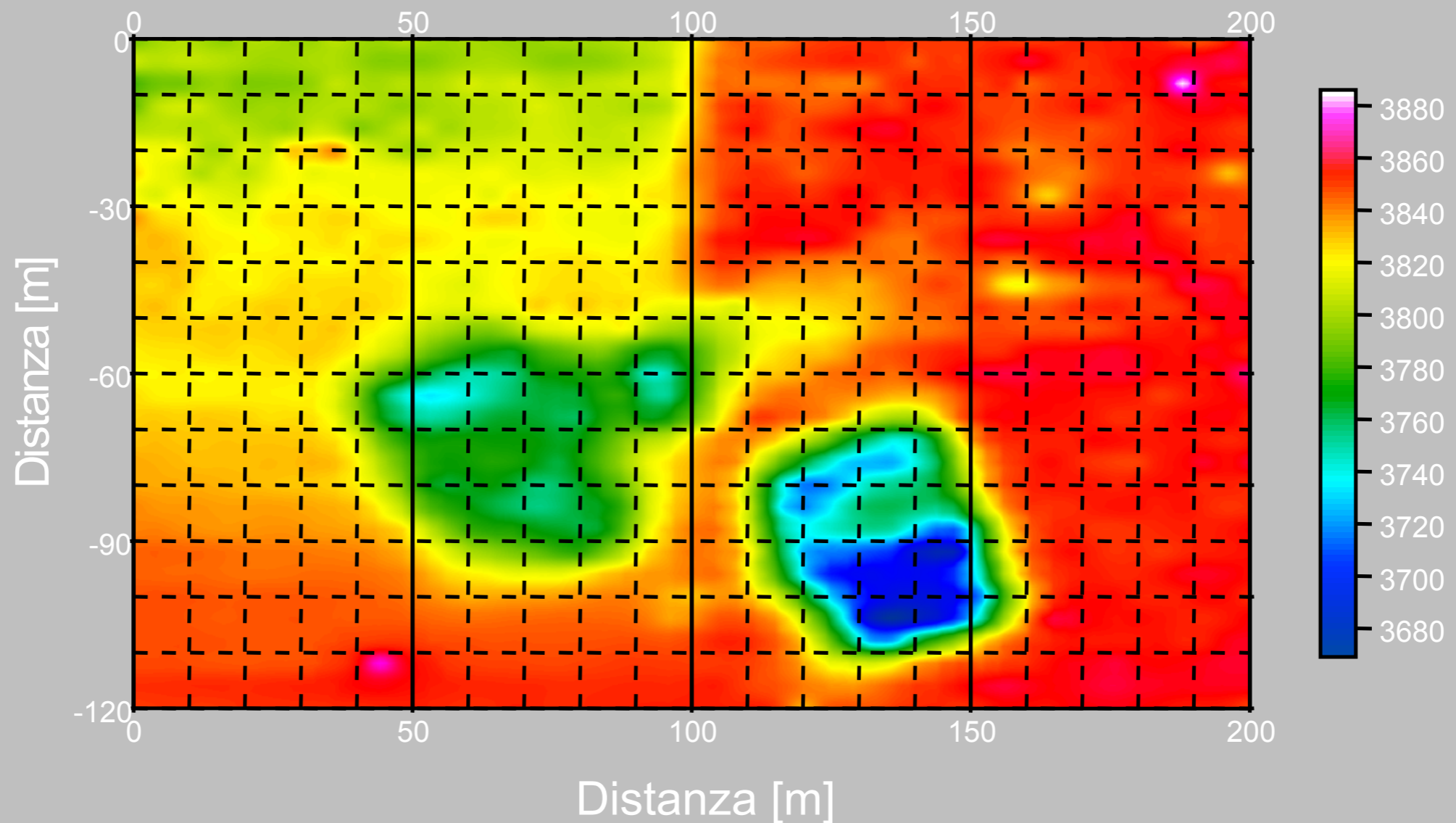
## FDEM In Phase signal MAP





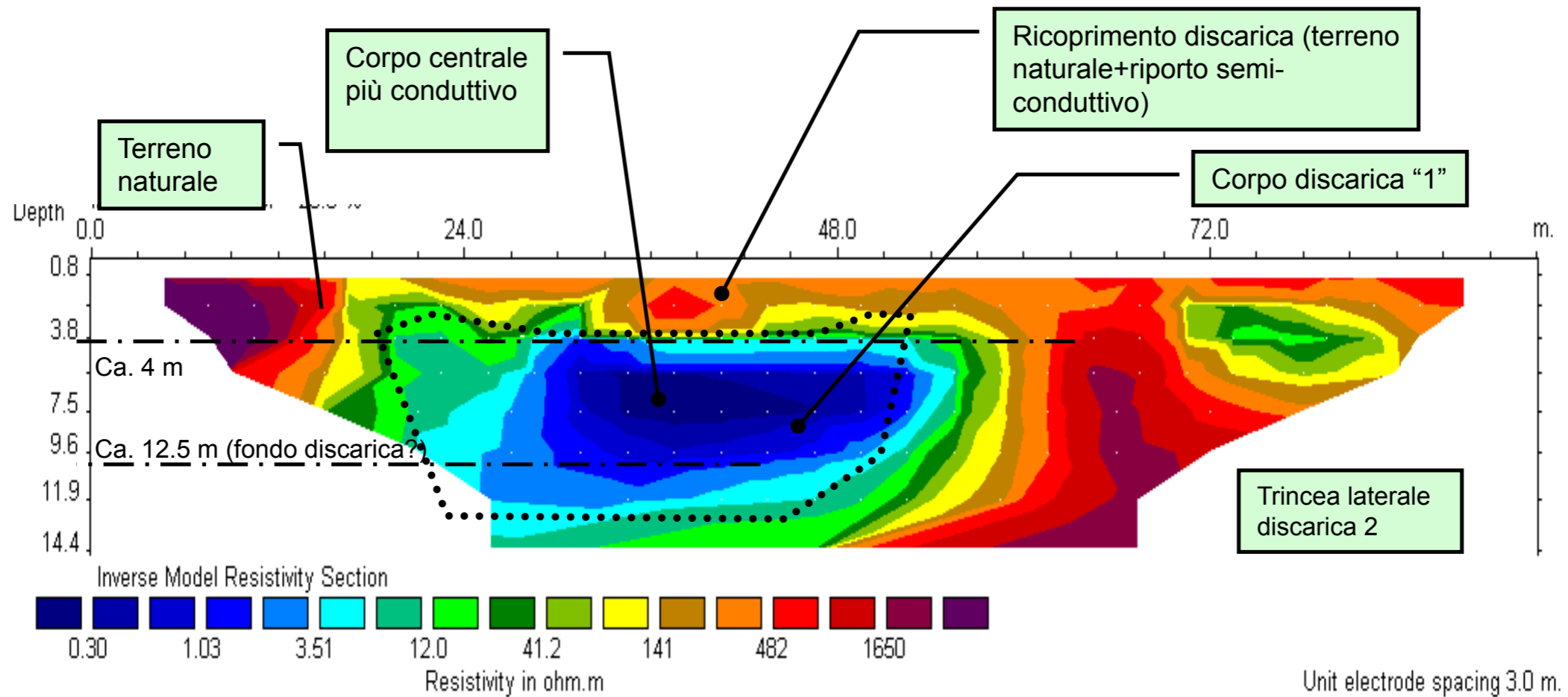


## FDEM quadrature signal MAP





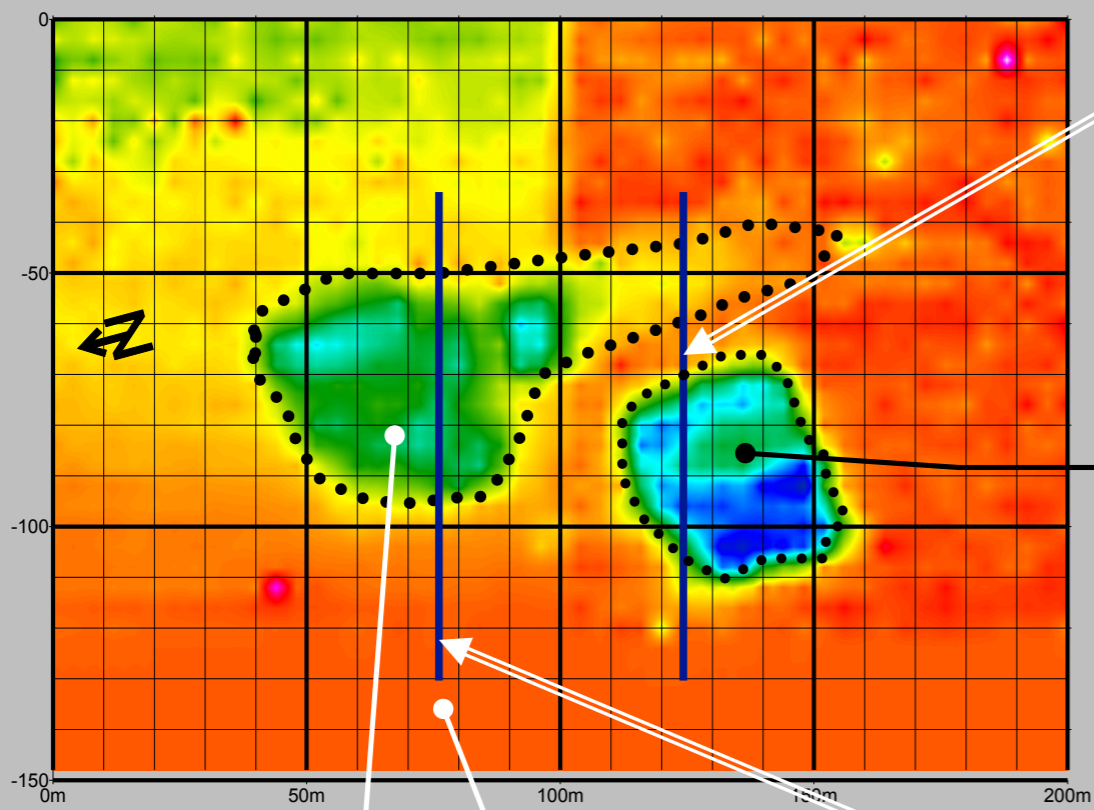
## ERT along line 2







# Comparison of FDEM map and ERT line

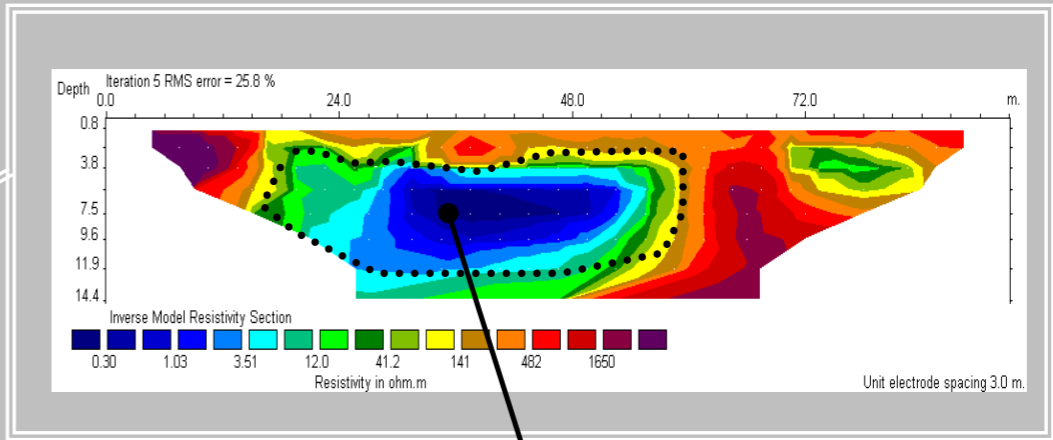


Discarica 2

Terreno naturale

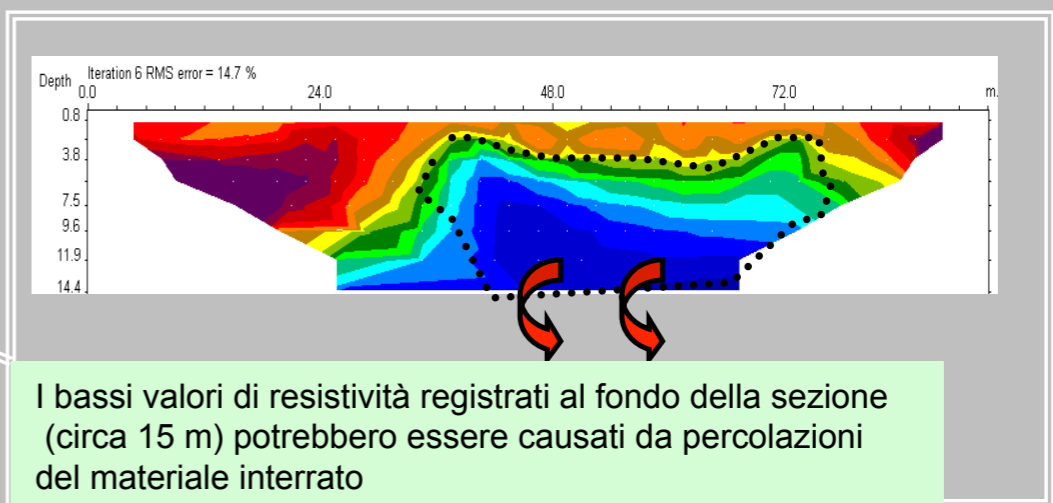
Discarica 1

## Linea Tomografica L-2



Nucleo conduttivo discarica

## Linea Tomografica L-1



I bassi valori di resistività registrati al fondo della sezione (circa 15 m) potrebbero essere causati da percolazioni del materiale interrato

# FDEM for Agriculture

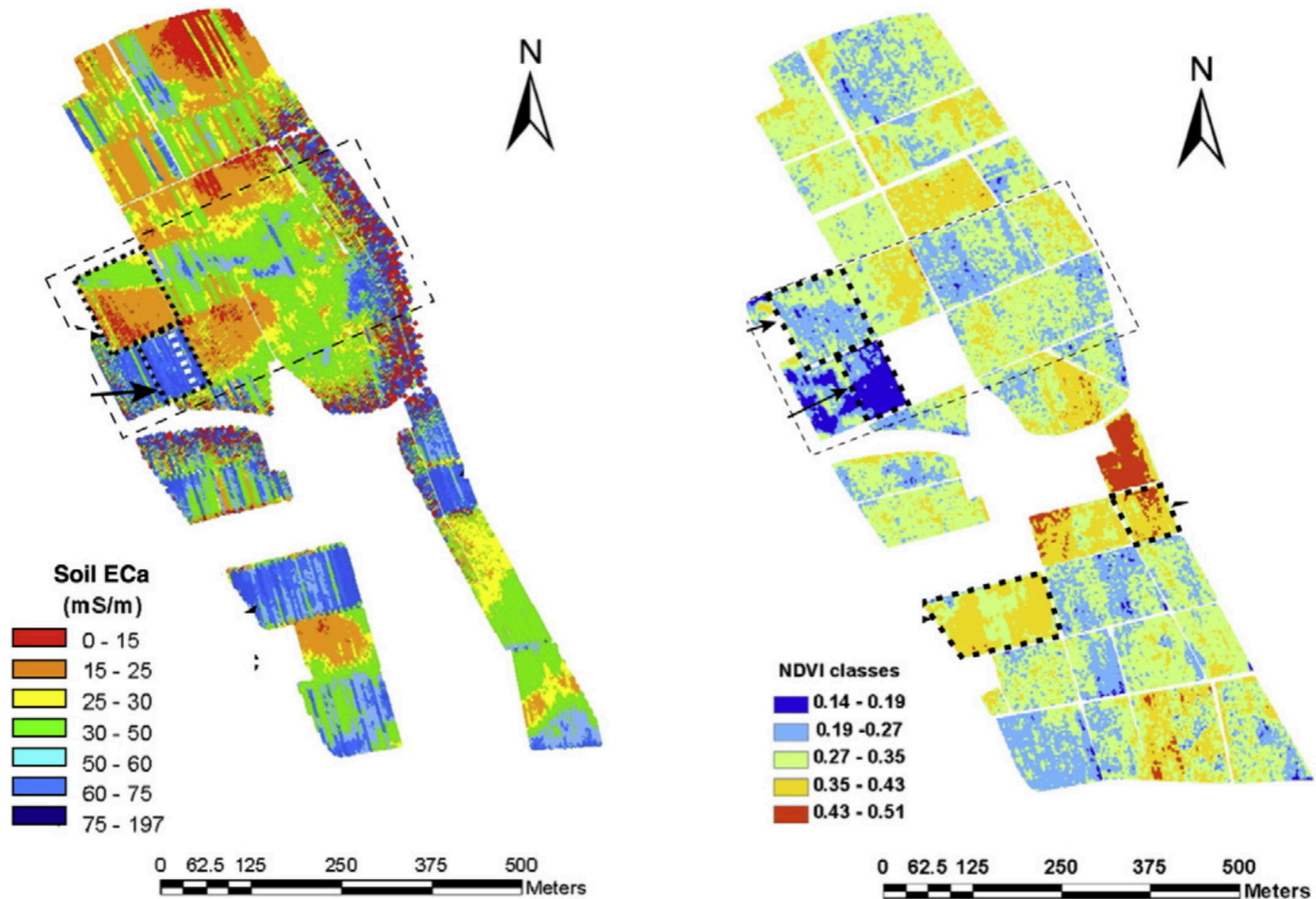
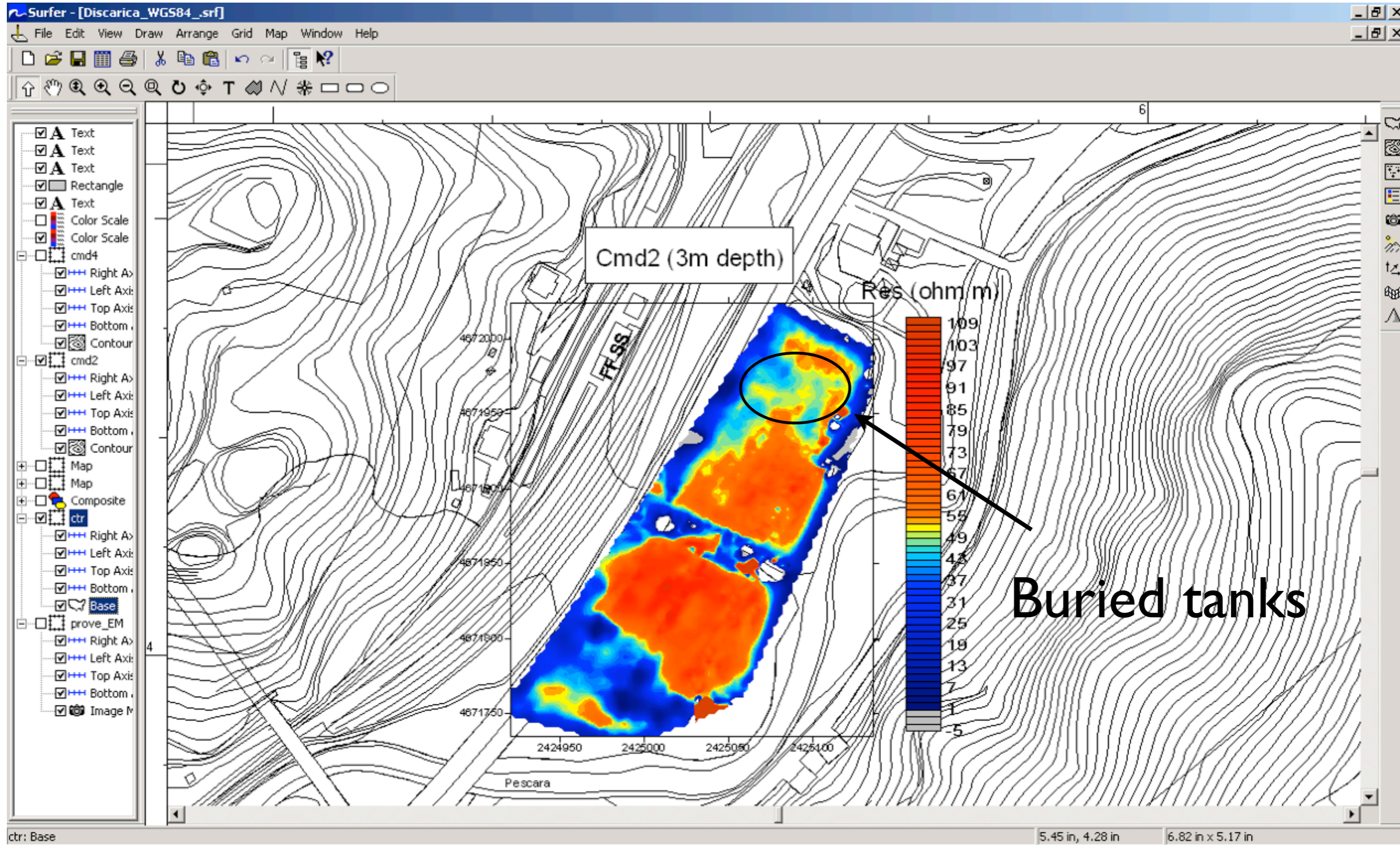


Fig. 5. FDEM apparent conductivity map (left) and NDVI vegetation index derived classes (right) in a France vineyard (from André et al., 2012, mod.).

FDEM conductivity and NDVI index



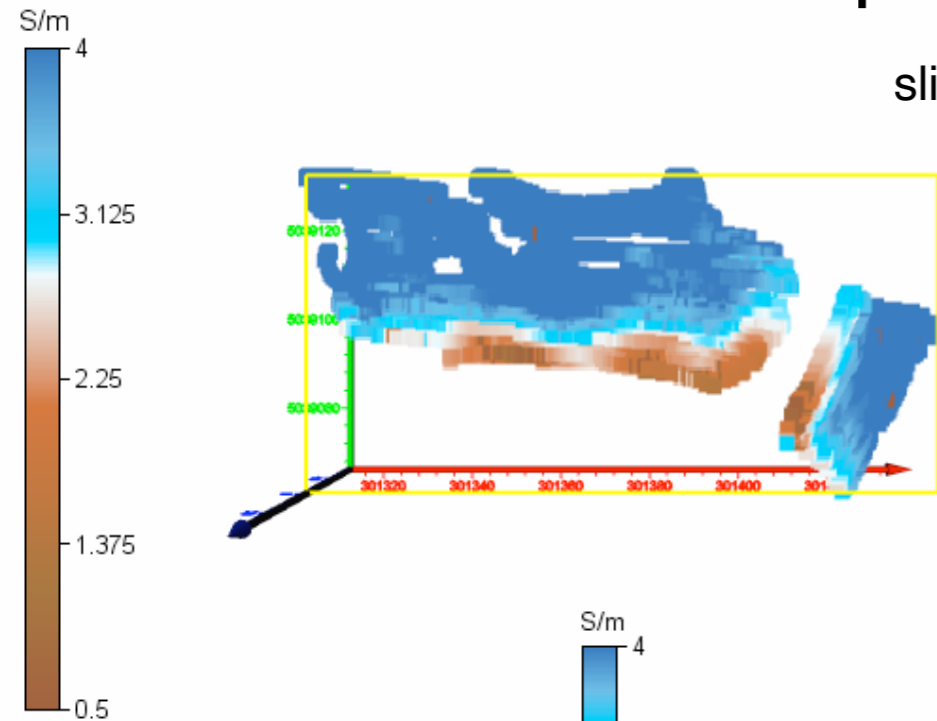
# FDEM Buried Landfill



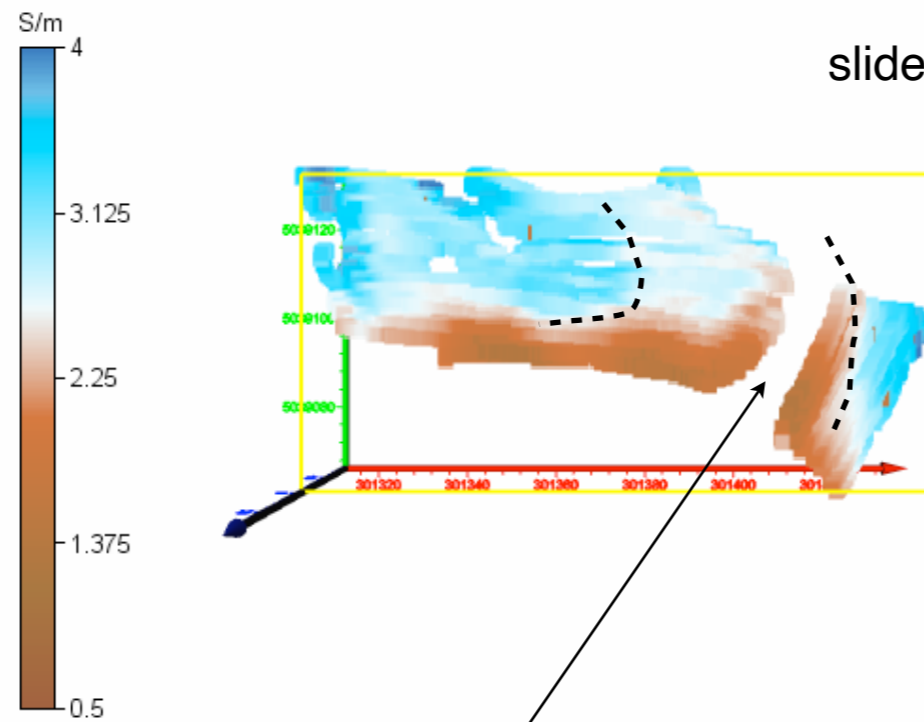
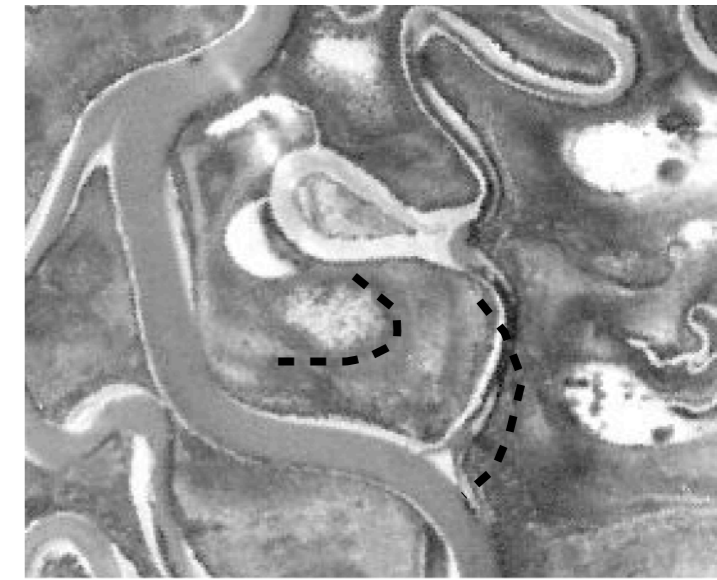
Resistivity FDEM map



# Em per riconoscere litologie



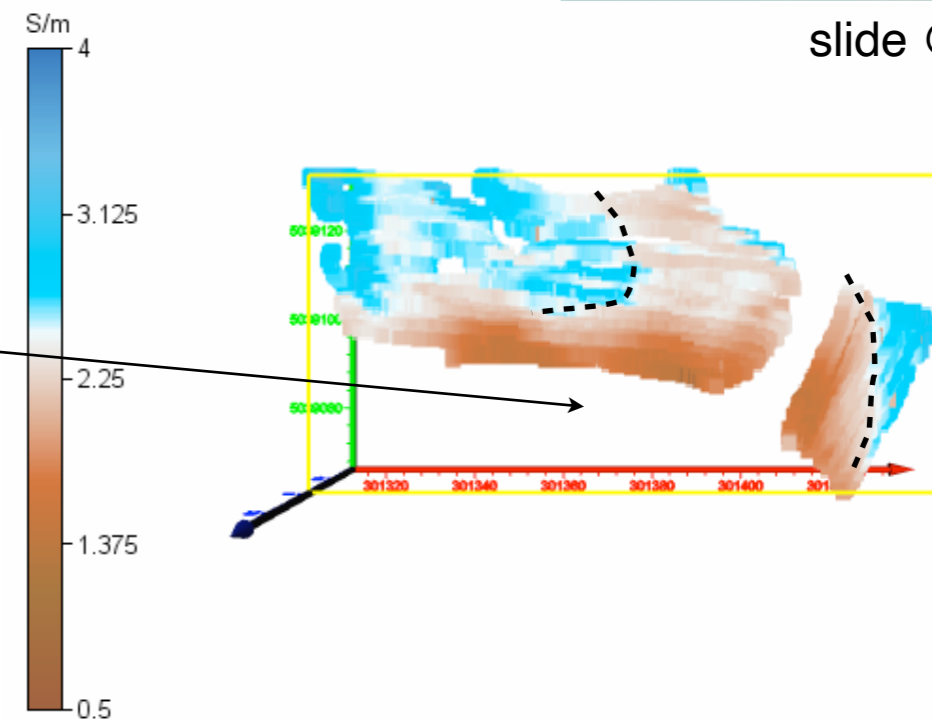
1950



2014



Paleo Meandro  
più sabbioso ?

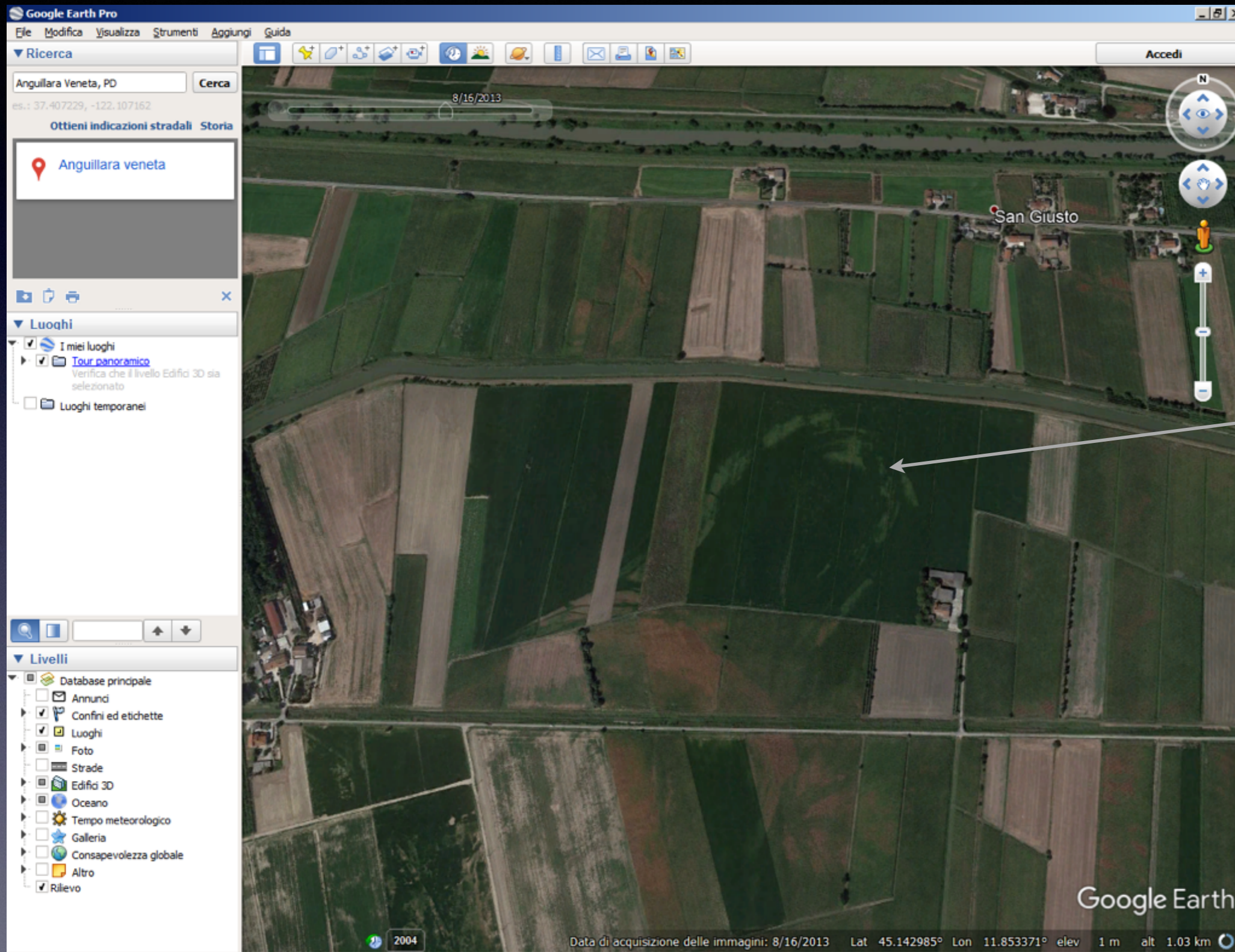


# Sedimentological project



# Metodi Elettro-magnetici

## FDEM for paleo channel

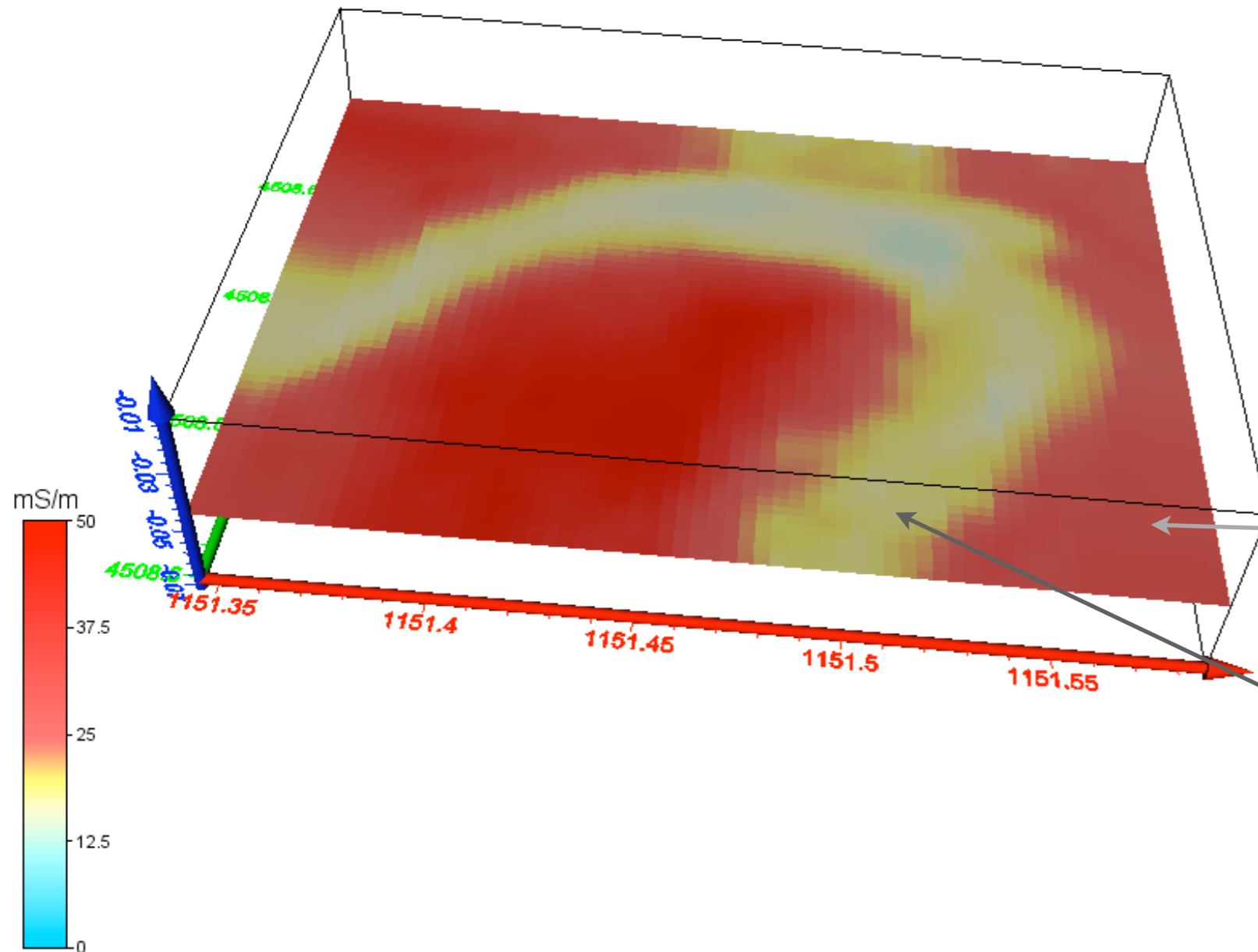


Paleo  
Channel



# Metodi Elettro-magnetici

slice @ -3.5m



Paleo  
Channel

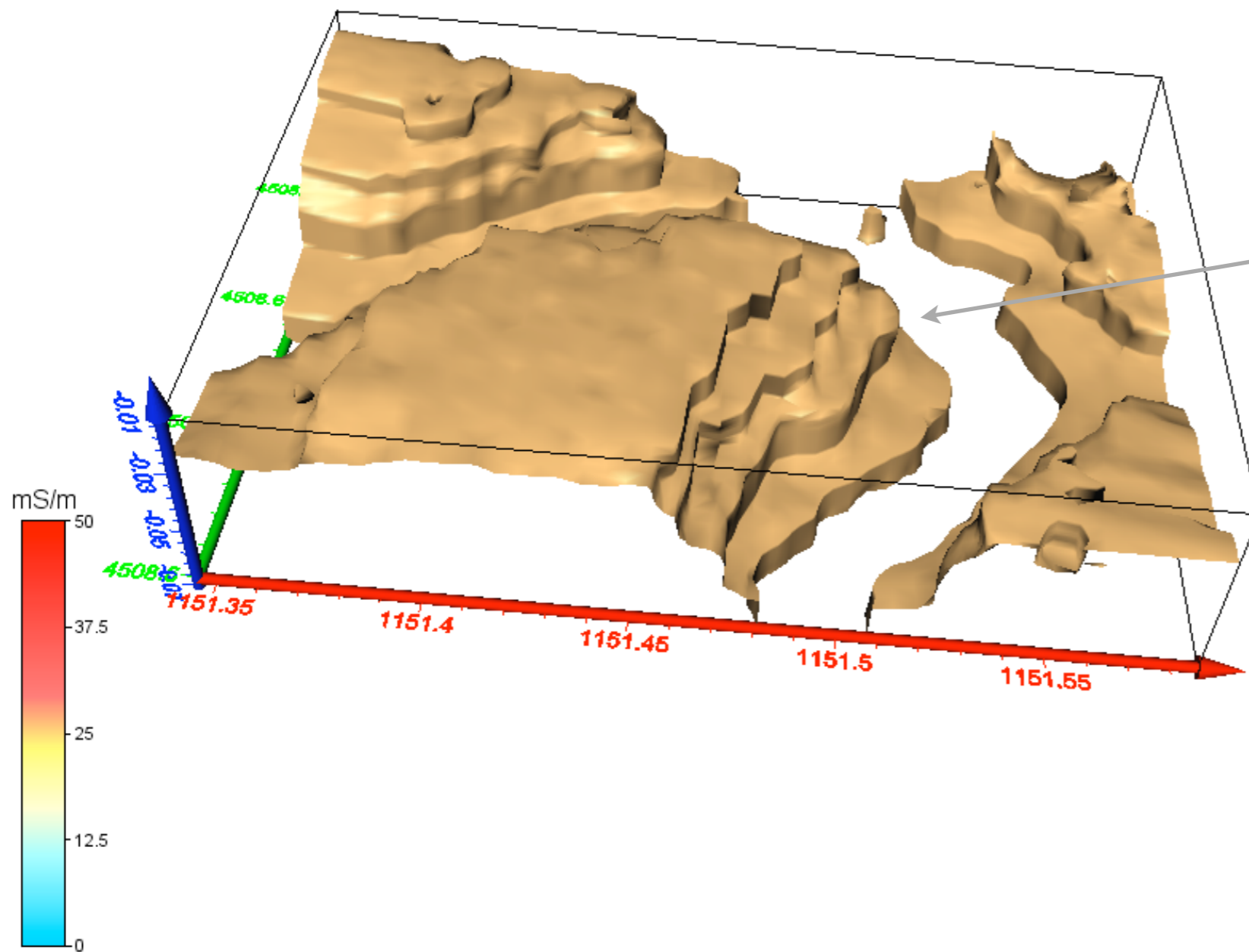
Fine sediments  
(red, conductive)

Coarse sediments  
(Yellow, resistive)



# Metodi Elettro-magnetici

3D

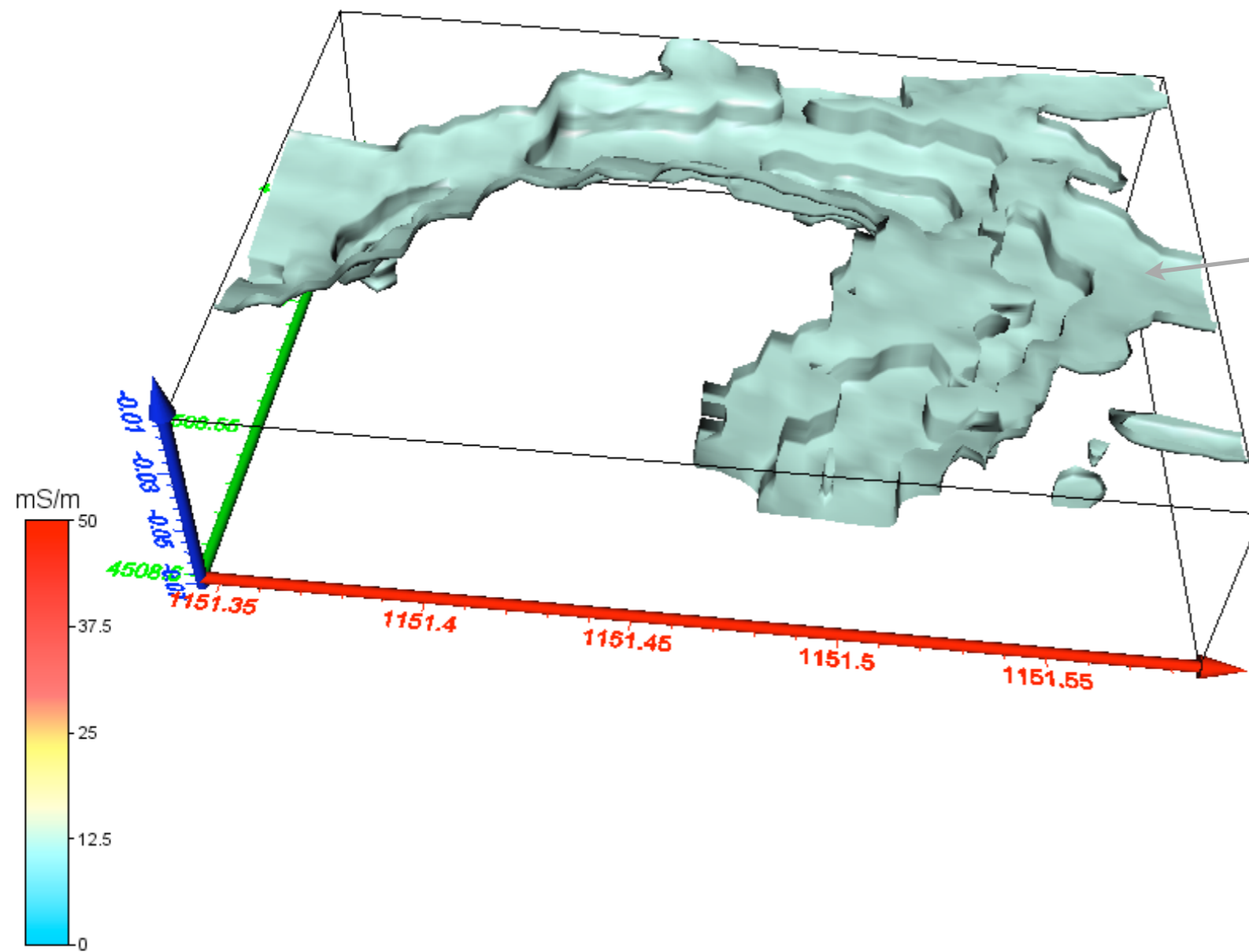


Paleo  
Channel

Fine material  
Isosurface

# Metodi Elettro-magnetici

3D



Paleo Channel

Coarse material Isosurface

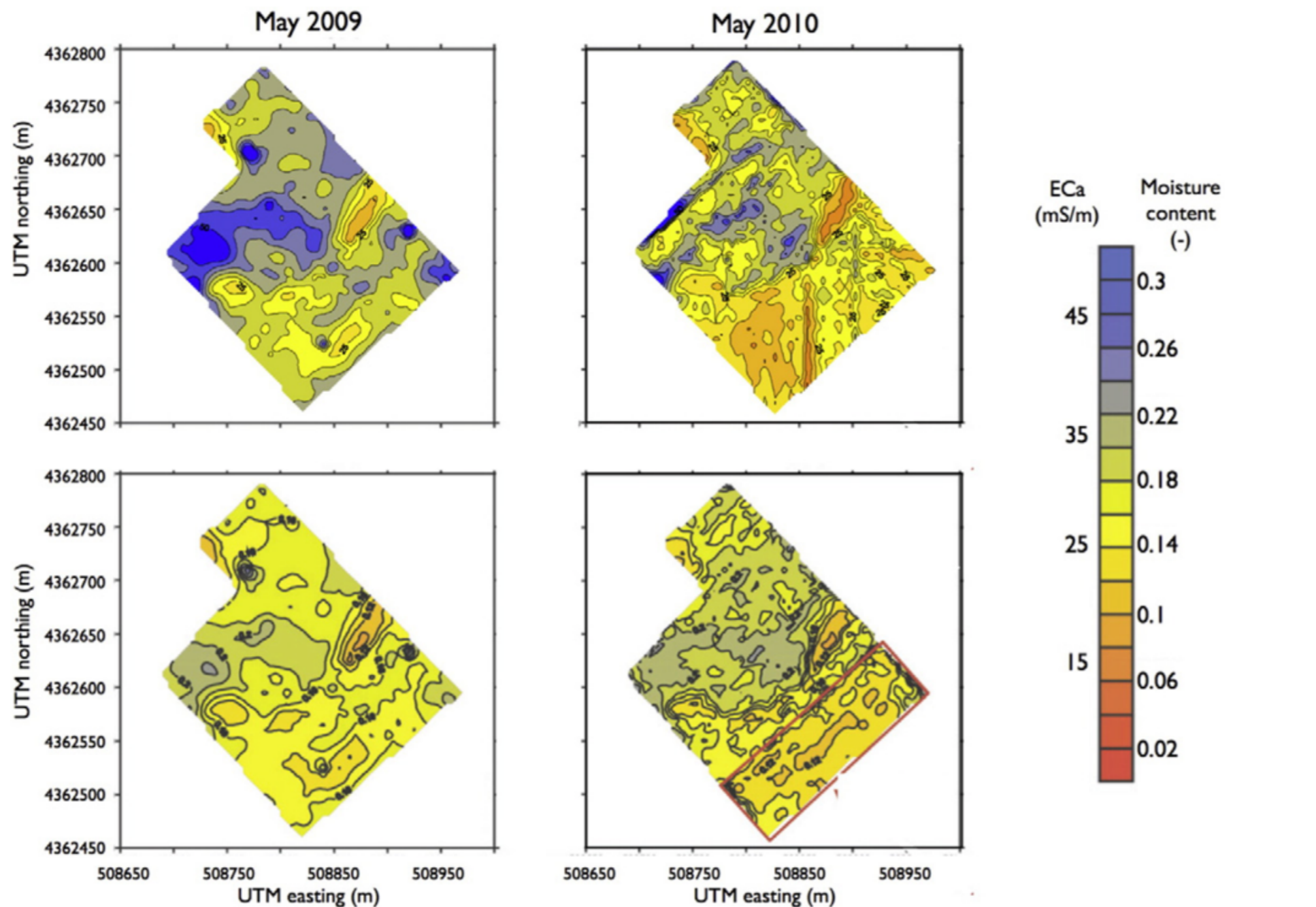


# FDEM in time-lapse

FDEM for Agricultural use of soil

Archie's law

$$\sigma = a \sigma_w S_w^n \phi^m$$



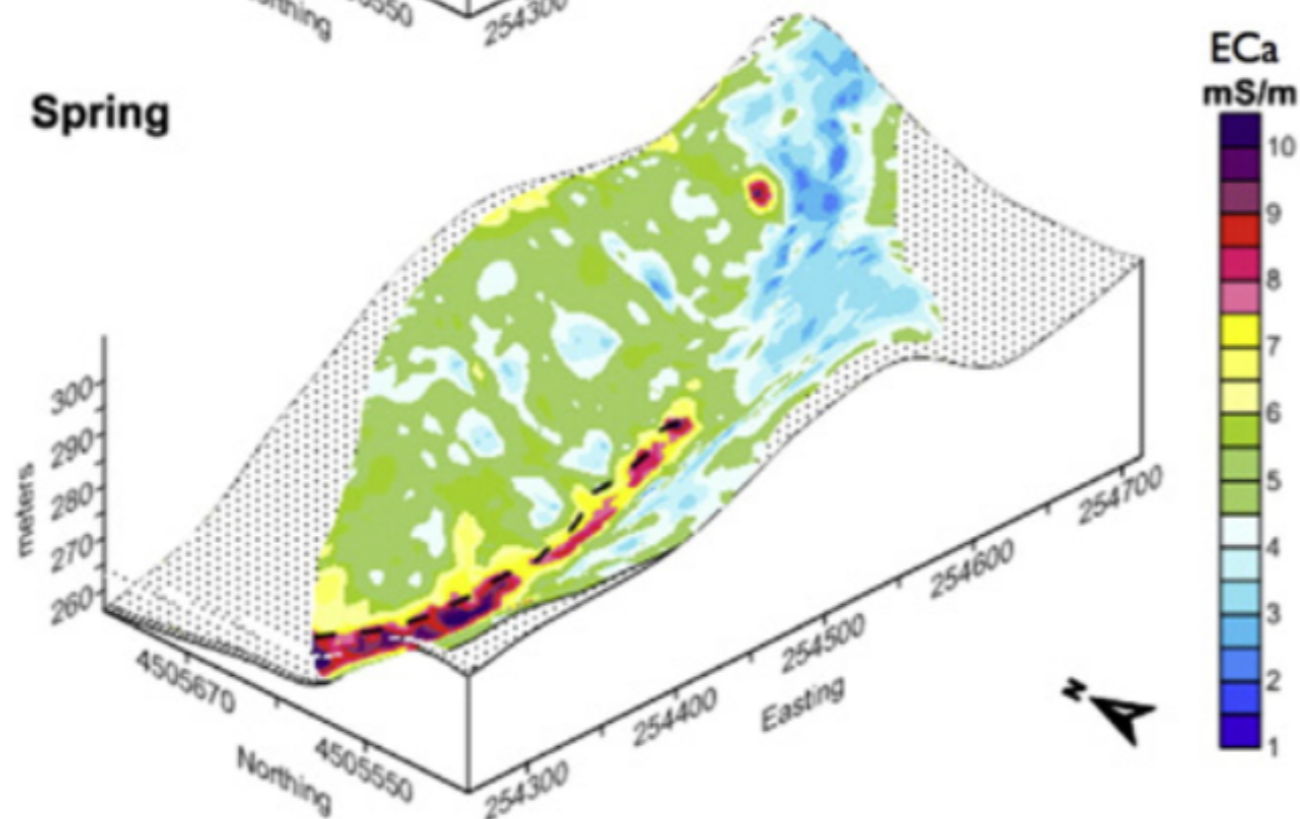
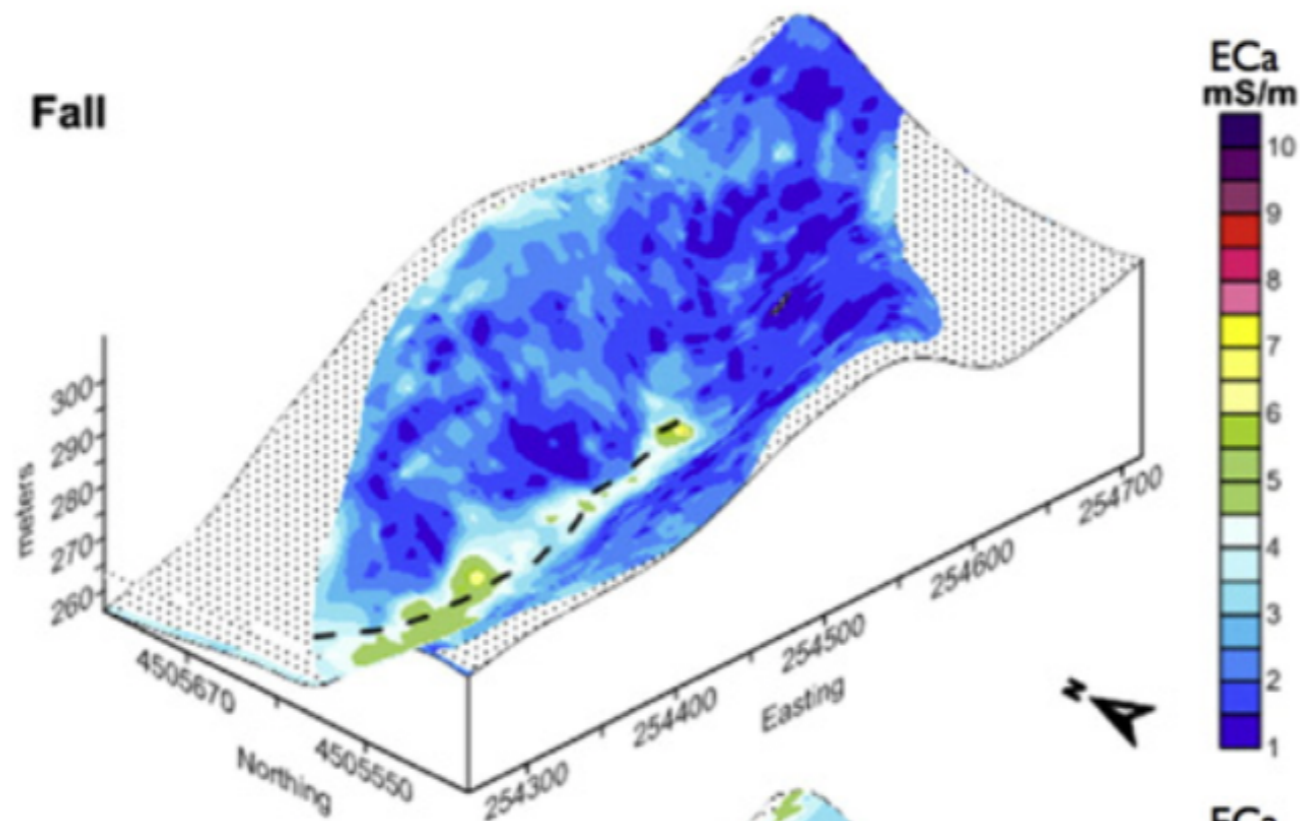
Moisture content map

geologia = cost

saturazione  $S$  = variabile



# Metodi Elettro-magnetici



FDEM for  
hillslope  
hydrology

*seasonal changes  
of conductivity  
(water content)*

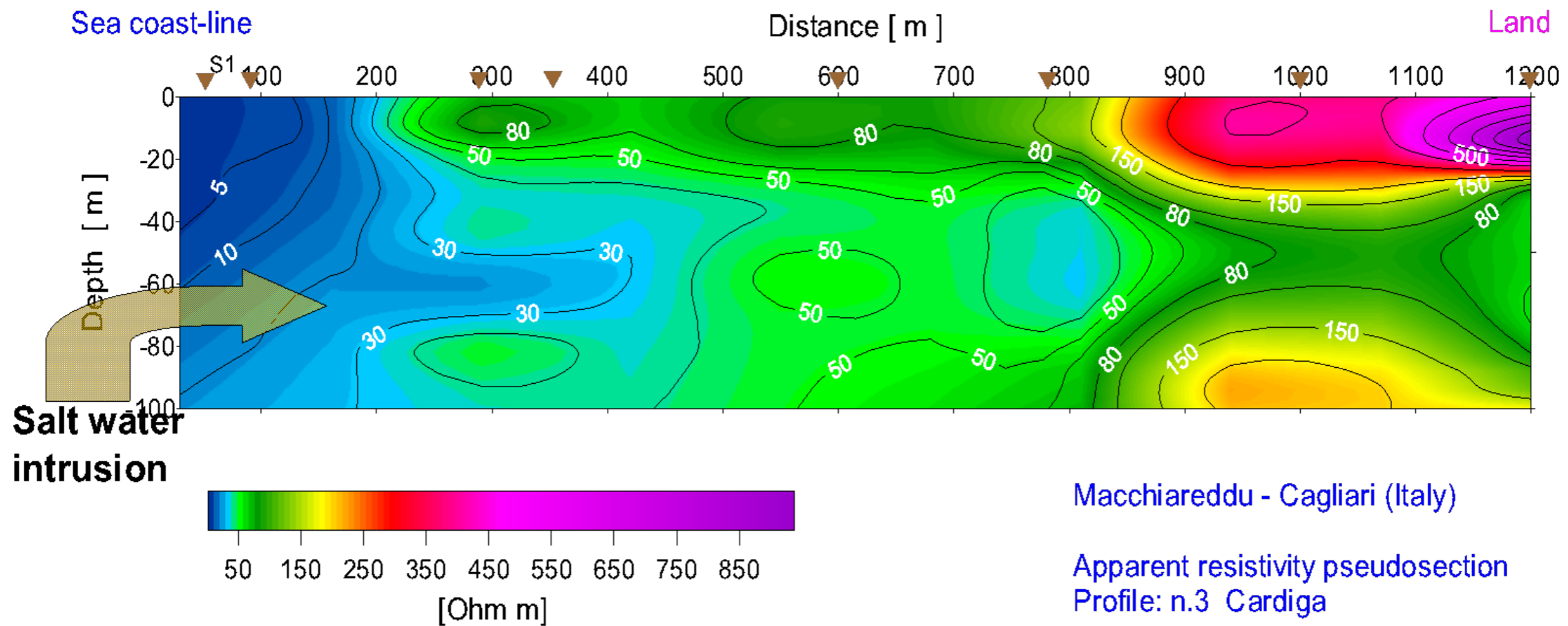
a)





# Time domain electro-magnetometer

## Time domain for saline intrusion studies



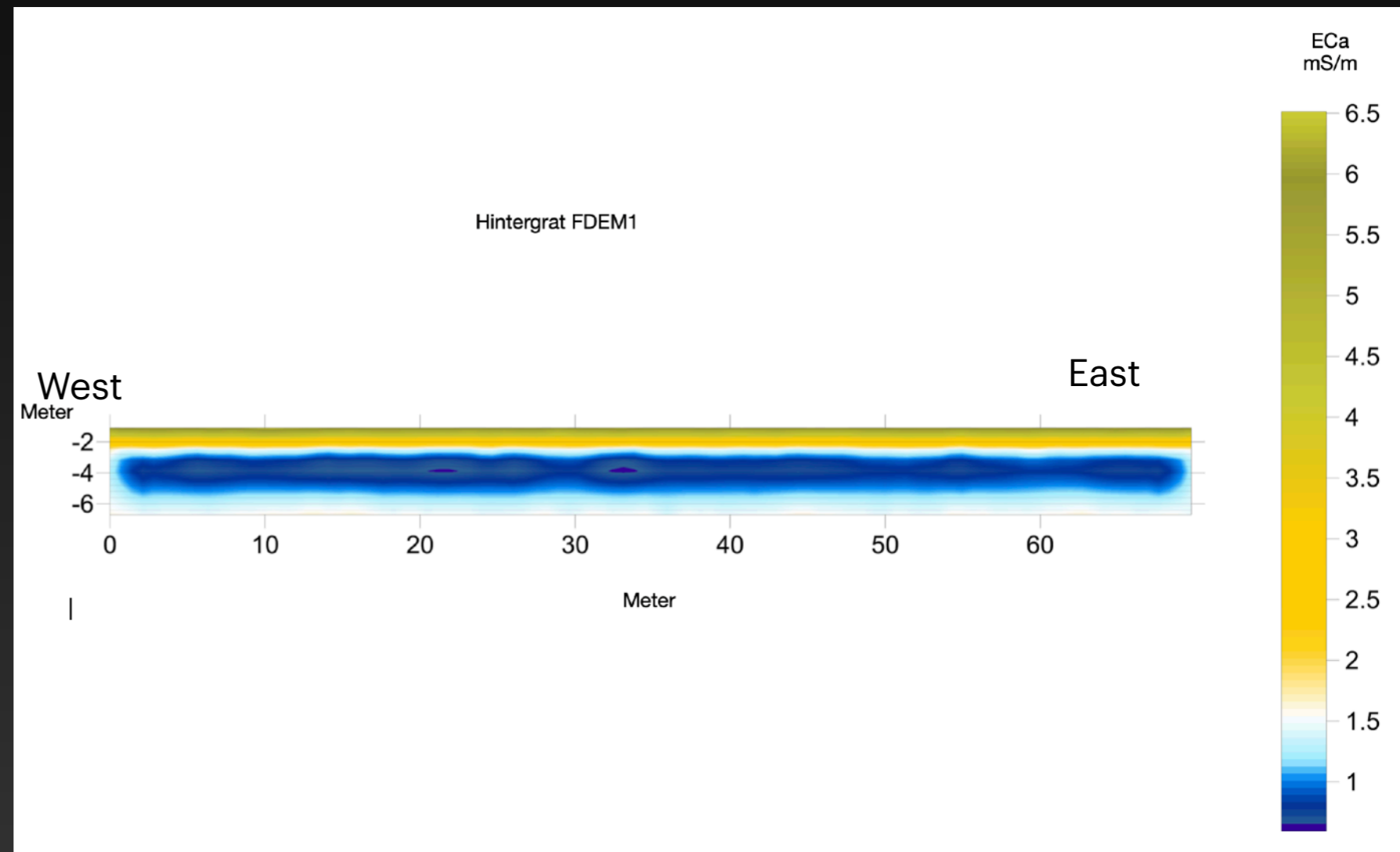
# Permafrost Geophysical Measurements 2020

## 2) Hintergrat Rock Glacier - Solda (Ortles)

EM1

Active layer  $\approx$  3-4 m

In agreement with ert



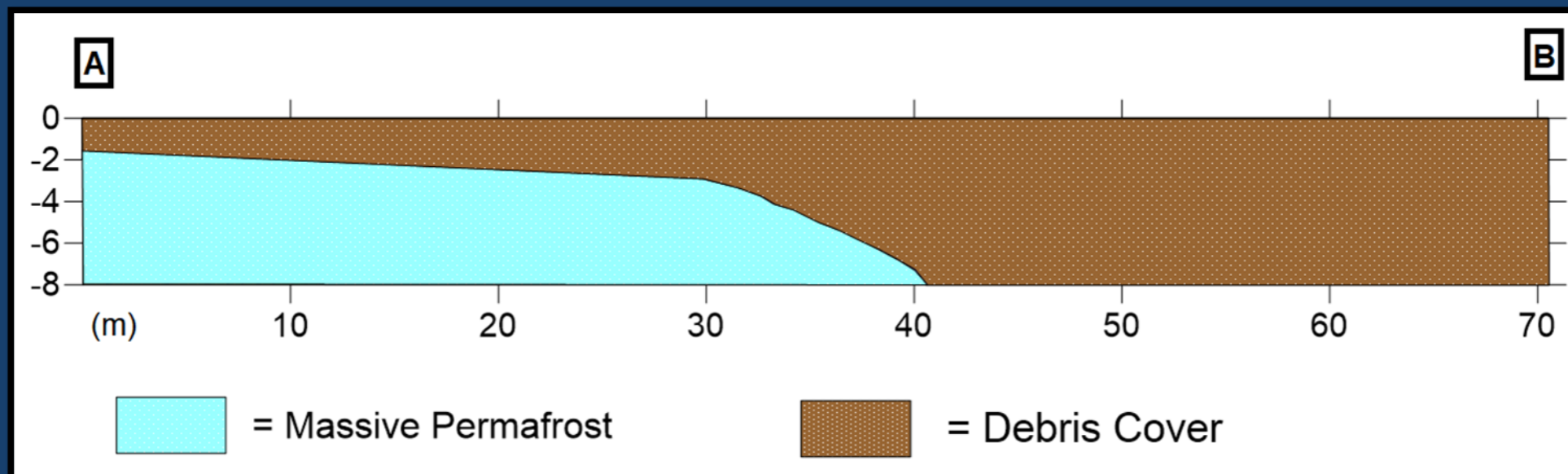
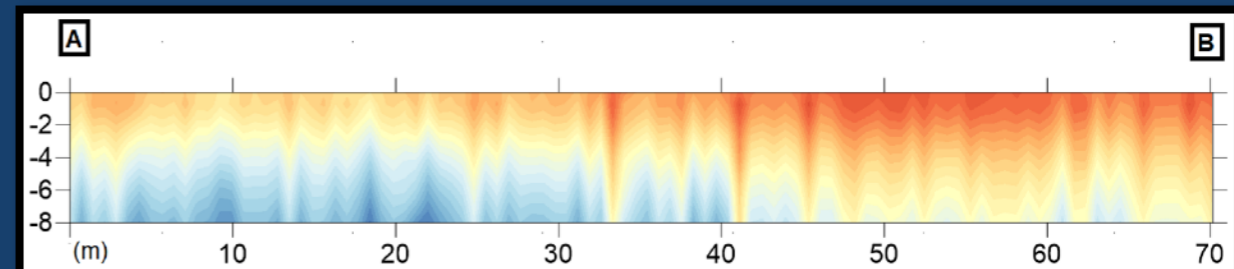
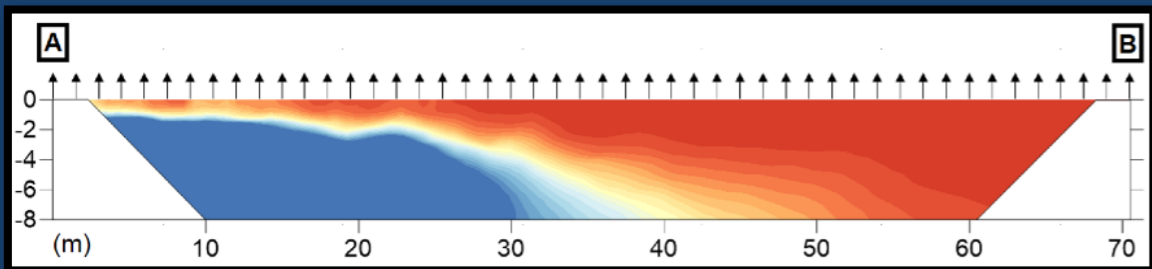
Permafrost geophysical surveys 2020 - Bz



# CASE STUDY: MURFREIT ROCK GLACIER

ERT SURFEY

FDEM SURFEY





# EM Logistic

Method	N. Probe	Dimensions	Depth
FDEM	2 + GPS	1m /3m	0.5m-7m (Fixed coils)

COST: - FDEM 15-20k



EM methods

Equipments



# EM methods

## FDEM probes

**Table 1**

Common FDEM equipment used in hydrogeophysics. Data as provided by the producers.

Producer	Model	Type	Specs	Nominal expl. depth	Positioning
Geonics Limited (Canada)	EM-31/EM-31SH	Fixed distance, single frequency (9.8 kHz) system	Inter-coils spacing = 2 m/4 m	4 m/6 m	External GPS
Geonics Limited (Canada)	EM-38	Double coils system; single frequency (14.5 kHz)	Inter-coils spacing = 0.5 m/1 m	0.375 m to 1.5 m	External GPS
Geonics Limited (Canada)	EM-34	Separated coils, single frequency system: – 10 m (6.4 kHz) – 20 m (1.6 kHz) – 40 m (0.4 kHz)	Inter-coils spacing = 10 m/20 m/40 m	1 m to 60 m	External GPS
IRIS-Instruments (France)	PROMIS	Multi-frequency; multi-spacing; 3 components (vertical Hz and horizontal Hx, Hy)	Ten frequencies: (110 Hz–56 kHz); spacing range: 20 m to 400 m	10 m to 60 m	External GPS
GF-Instruments (Czech Republic)	CMD-DUO	Separated coils, single frequency system	Inter-coils spacing: 10 m/20 m/40 m	7.5 m to 60 m	External GPS
GF-Instruments (Czech Republic)	CMD-Tiny/CMD1/CMD2/ CMD4/CMD6	Fixed coils distance, single frequency system	Inter-coils spacing: 0.45 m/0.98 m/1.89 m/3.77 m/5.79 m	0.7 m to 9 m	External GPS
GF-Instruments (Czech Republic)	CMD-explorer/CMD-mini explorer	Multi-coils single probe system	Inter-coils spacing: 0.32 m to 4.49 m	0.5 m to 6.7 m	External GPS
Geophex (USA)	GEM-2	Multi-frequency system: ten frequencies from 300 Hz to 24 kHz.	Single, multiple and stepping frequencies modes	(–)	External GPS
GSSI (USA)  (Canada)	Profiler  Dualem 2/4/1s/2s	Multi-frequency system: 1 up to 3 frequencies (1 kHz to 16 kHz) Fixed distance, single frequency (9 kHz) system and dual-geometry system	Inter-coils spacing: 1.21 m  Inter-coils spacing: 0.5 m to 6 m	(–)  0.5 m to 6 m	Integrated GPS  External/Internal GPS
EMFAD (Germany)	UG12	Multi-frequency system	Six frequencies: from 19 kHz to 124 kHz	Up to 12 m	(–)



# EM methods

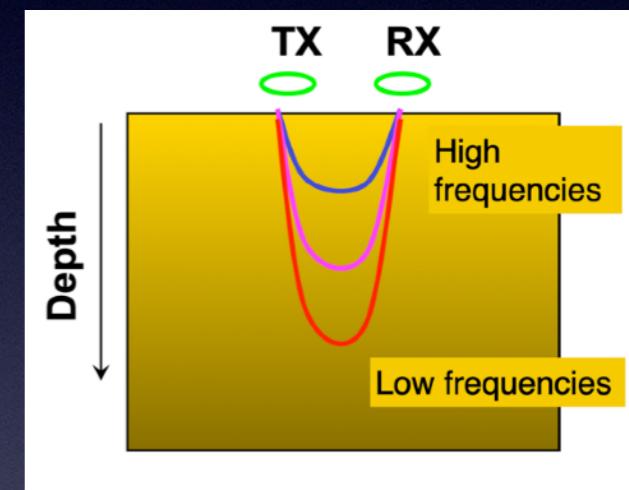
## GEM-2

### Multifrequency system

Producer: Geophex (Usa)

Frequency: 100Hz- 100 KHz

- Up to 7 frequencies simultaneous acquisition
  - coil separation 1.6 m
  - Weight: 5 kg
  - External GPS
  - Connected via bluetooth with the controller





# EM methods

## GEM-2

### Multifrequency system

Pro: light, small, up to 7 different depths

Cons: response instabilities, drift





# EM methods

## GEONICS

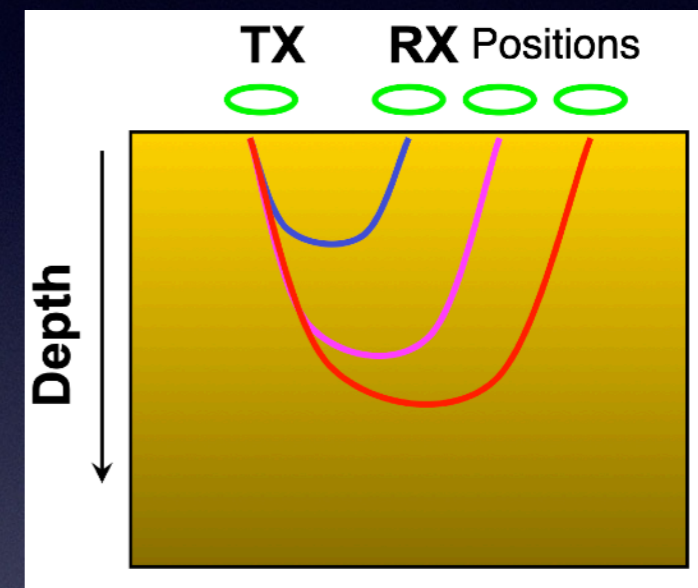
### EM 38

Producer: Geonics (Canada)

Multi-coils instrument

- Several coils distance with different frequencies

- Very diffused (especially in soil sciences and archeology)





# EM methods

GF  
Explorer

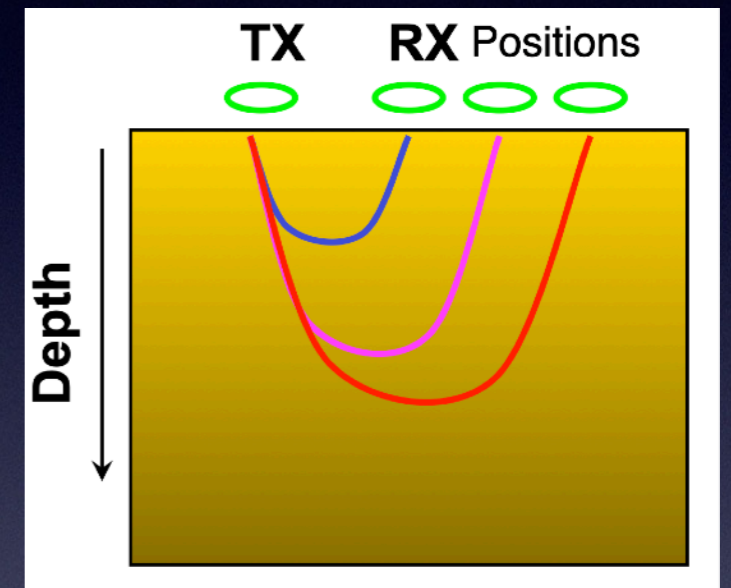
Producer: GF (Czech Republic)

Multi-coils instrument

From 1.5 m to separated coils

10 kHz or 20 KHz

Fixed frequency





# EM methods

GF  
Explorer

Producer: GF (Czech Republic)

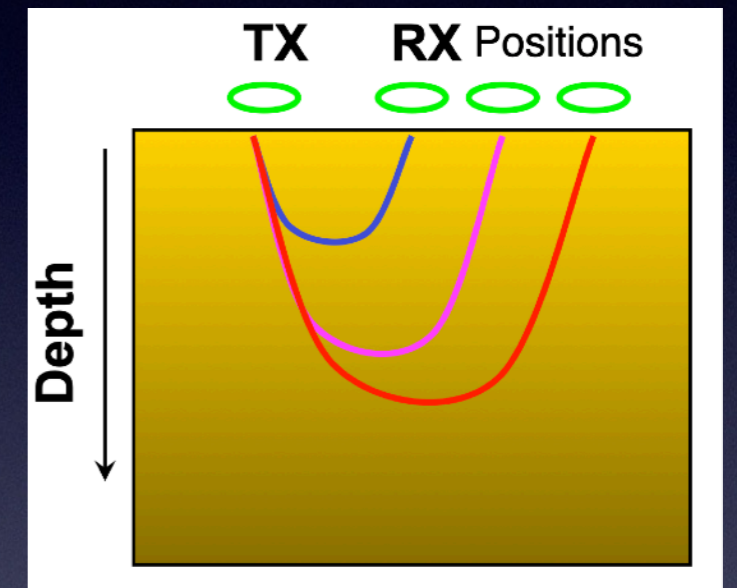
Mini explorer  
(Up to 2 m depth investigation)

20 Khz

Length: 1.5 m

Weight: 3 kg

3 coils spacing (3 different depths of penetration)





# EM methods

GF

Explorer

Producer: GF (Czech Republic)

Explorer

(Up to 7 m depth investigation)

10 Khz

Length: 6 m

Weight: 8 kg



3 coils spacing (3 different depths of penetration)



# EM methods

GF

Explorer

Multi-coils system

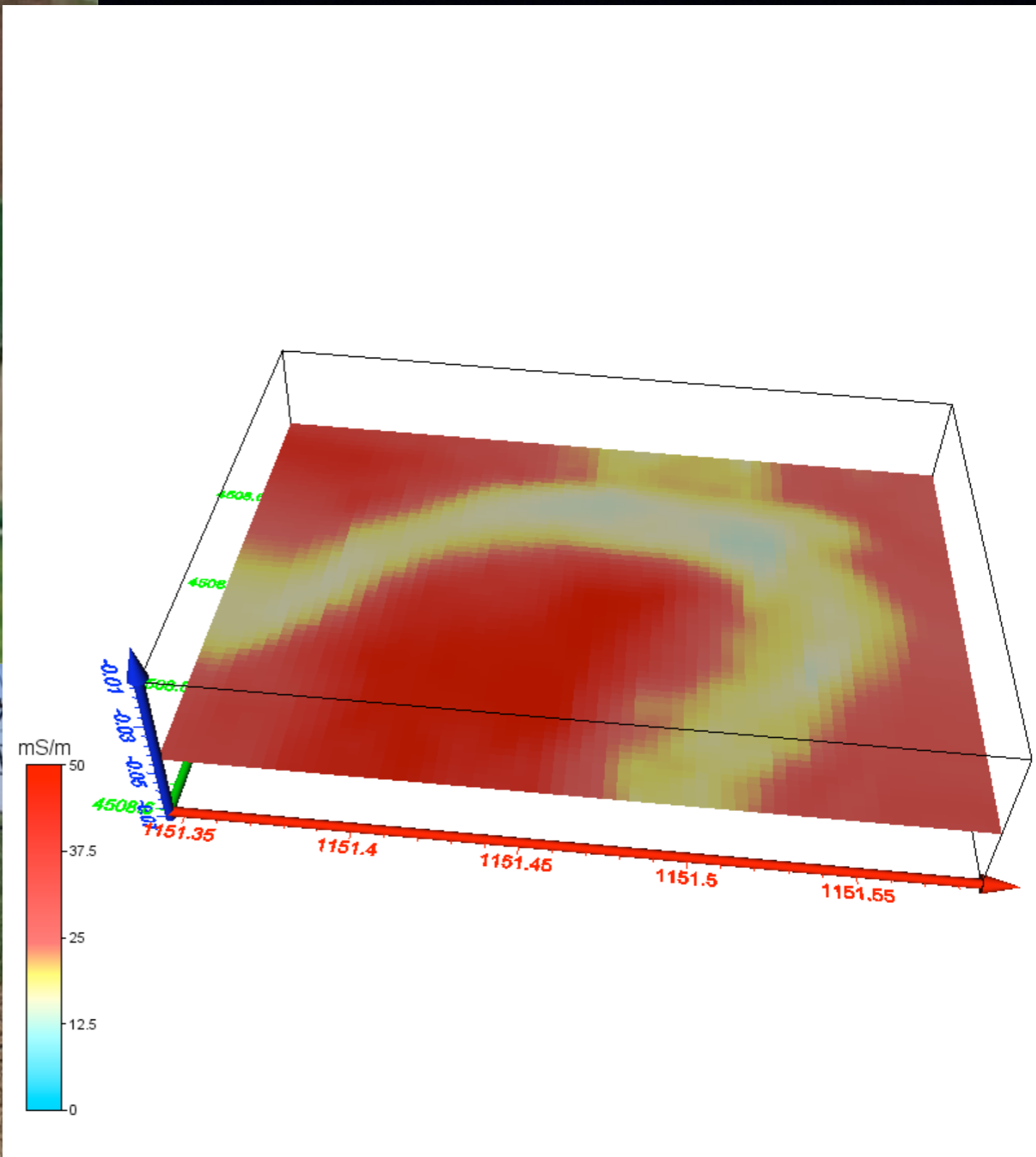
Pro: several antennas with 1 consolle,  
Very reliable and stable in response, cheap

Cons: weight and dimension  
(heavy to transport, no  
drone flight)  
External GPS need

(Can be drag by tractor with a sledge)









EM methods  
GF  
Explorer  
Multi-coils system

CMD -DUO

Receiver and transmitter  
separated,  
Up to 60 m depth

(Hard and slow logistic)





*Electro-magnetic methods*

GEORADAR

High Frequency EM methods

**GPR**

GROUND PENETRATING RADAR



# Electro-magnetic methods

*Electric and Magnetic waves in EM fields  
in conductors*

$$\nabla^2 E = \mu\sigma \frac{\partial E}{\partial t} + \mu\varepsilon \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial t^2}$$

if  $\sigma \gg \omega\varepsilon$

*I cannot modify the electric properties of the soil  
( $\sigma, \varepsilon$ )*

if  $\sigma \ll \omega\varepsilon,$

*but I can change the frequency ( $\omega$ )  
in the generation of the EM field...*

# Electro-magnetic methods

Electric and Magnetic waves in EM fields  
in conductors

$$\nabla^2 E = \cancel{\mu\sigma} \frac{\partial E}{\partial t} + \mu\varepsilon \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial t^2}$$

if  $\sigma \ll \omega\varepsilon$ ,

DIELECTRIC CASE

$$\mu\sigma \frac{\partial E}{\partial t} \longrightarrow 0$$



# Electro-magnetic methods

Electric and Magnetic waves in EM fields  
in conductors

HIGH FREQUENCY EM METHOD

( e.g. M Hz )

if  $\sigma \ll \omega \epsilon$ ,

$$\nabla^2 E = \mu \epsilon \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial t^2}$$

DISPLACEMENT  
CURRENTS

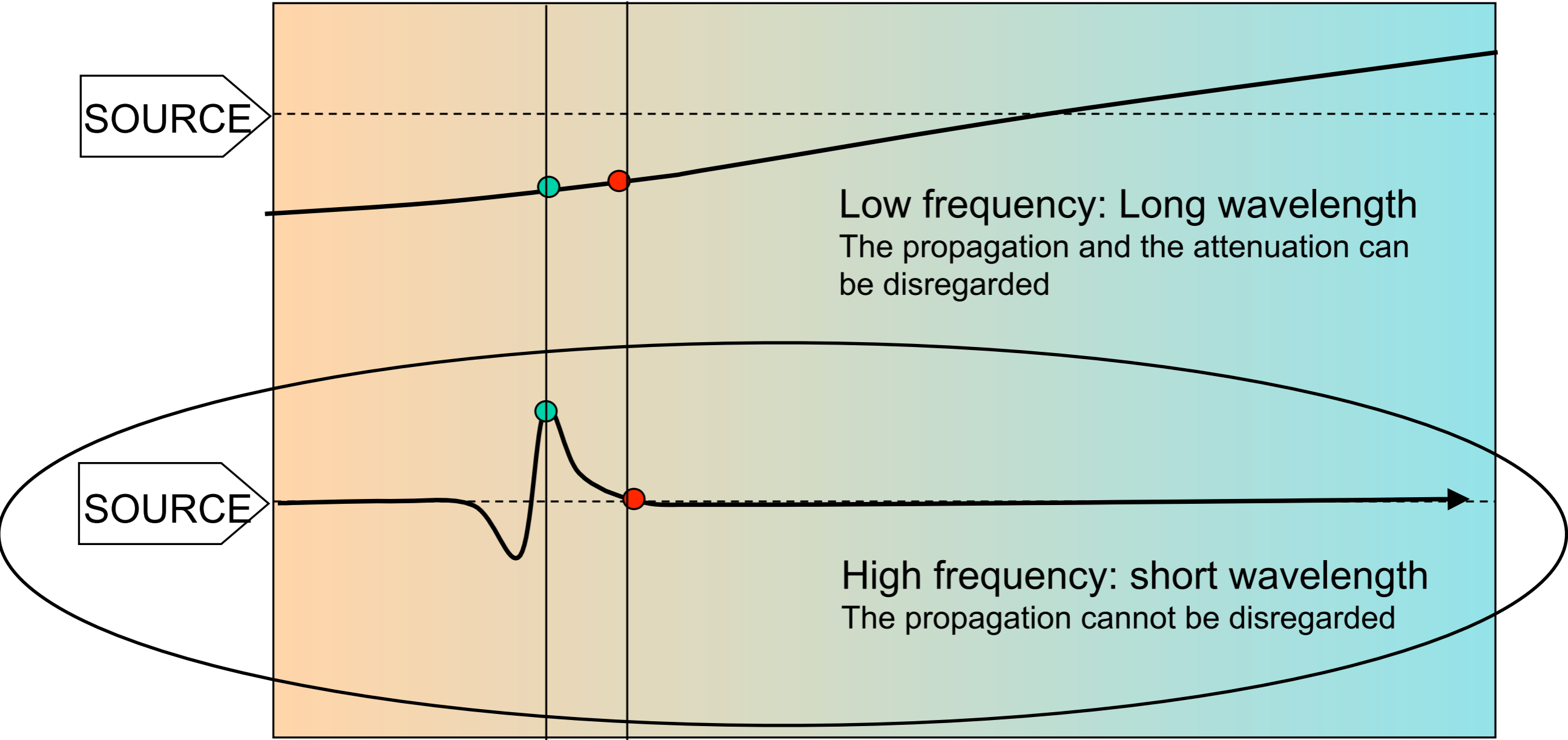


I CAN STUDY THE PROPAGATION OF EM WAVES

# EM METHODS

Propagation of an electromagnetic wave

A primary field is generated and the sent into the ground, the response is measured





# RADAR

## propagation in a resistive medium

In resistive media (low electric conductivity  $\sigma$ , order of 100 S/m) the propagation is controlled by the dielectric properties

Low-loss media (loss tangent  $\sigma/\epsilon\omega \ll 1$ )

*Dielectric permittivity*

$$\nabla^2 E = \mu\sigma \frac{\partial E}{\partial t} + \mu\epsilon \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial t^2}$$

High frequency, low conductivity

$$\nabla^2 E = \mu\epsilon \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial t^2}$$

Velocity of EM wave

$$= \frac{c}{\sqrt{\mu_r \epsilon_r}}$$

$$c = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\mu_0 \epsilon_0}} \approx 3 \cdot 10^8$$

$$\mu_r \cong 1$$

$$v = \frac{c}{\sqrt{\epsilon_r}}$$

GeoRadar velocity

Light velocity

Dielectric constant and magnetic Permeability in the vacuum

The relative permittivity  $\epsilon_r$  (called also dielectric constant) is hence the most important parameter

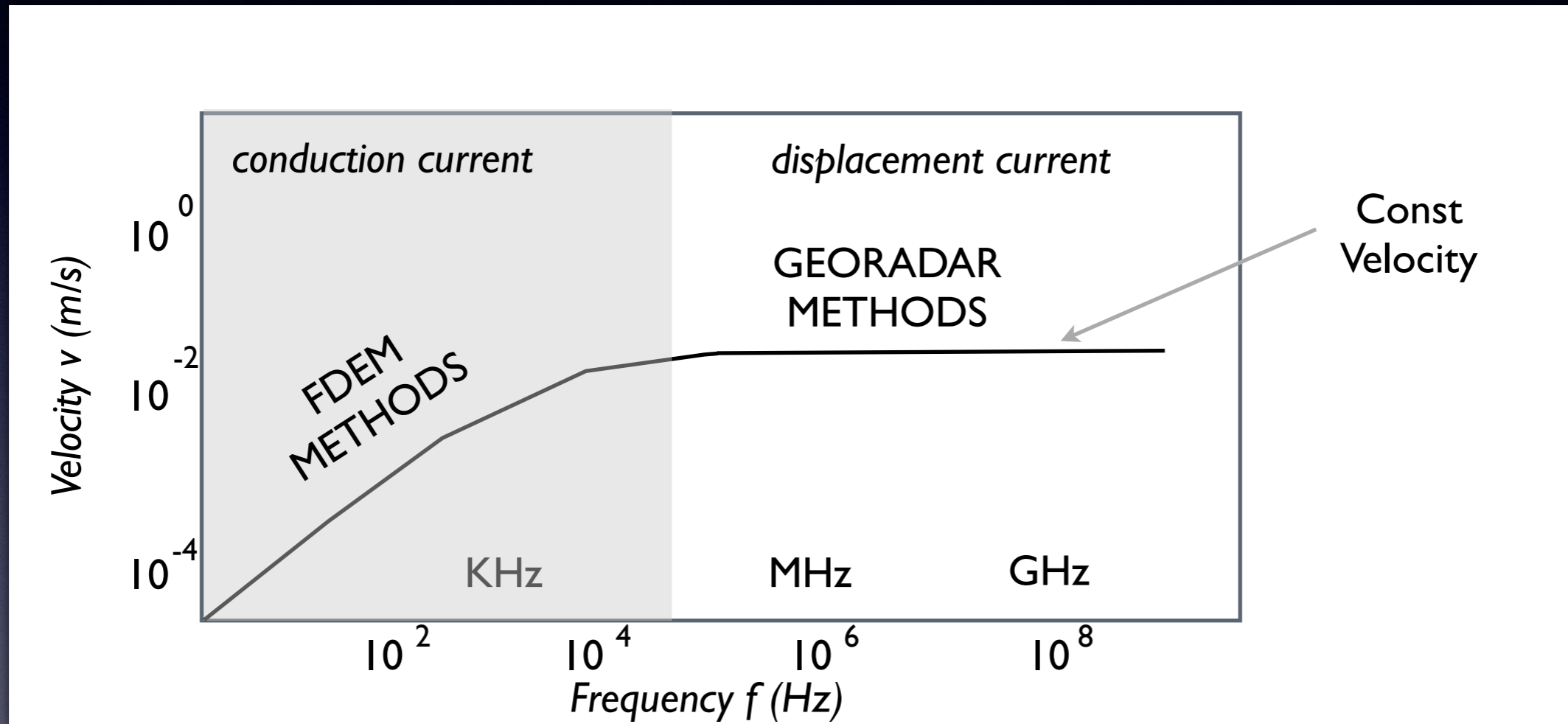
$$\epsilon_r = 3-10$$

$$\epsilon_r = 81 \text{ water}$$



## GEORADAR

High frequency velocity of EM wave is constant!!



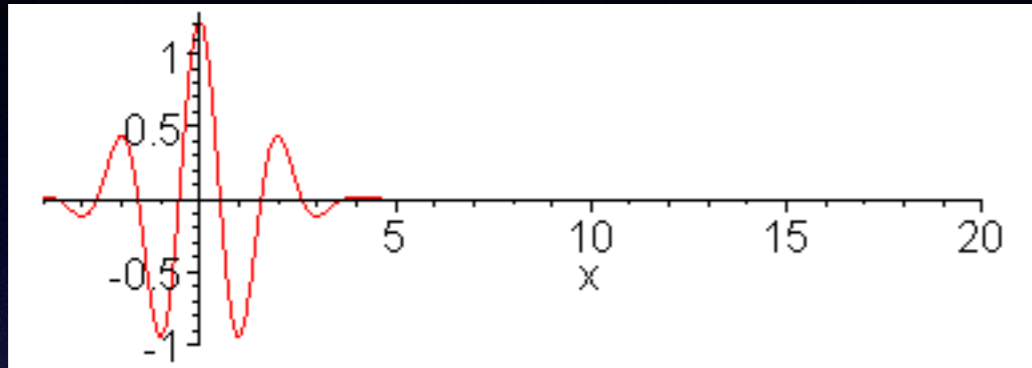
We can study the waveform as transmitting wave  
And study the reflection of the reflected wave



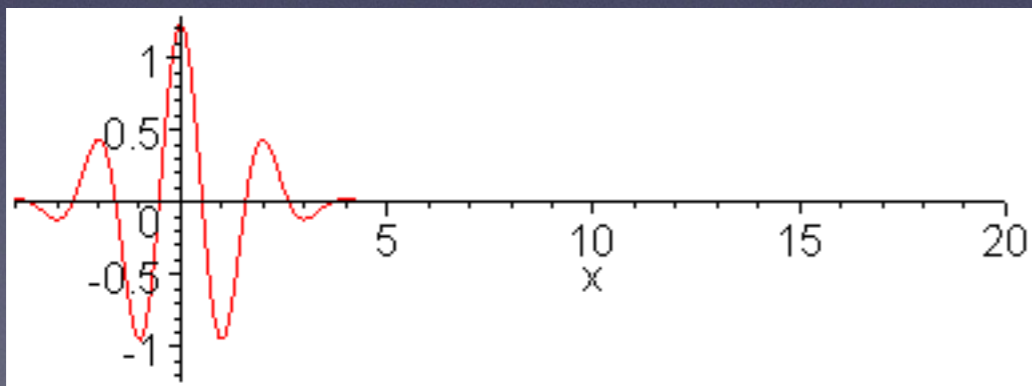
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tIM9vq-bepA>

[Wave\\_group.gif](#)

[Wave\\_disp.gif](#)



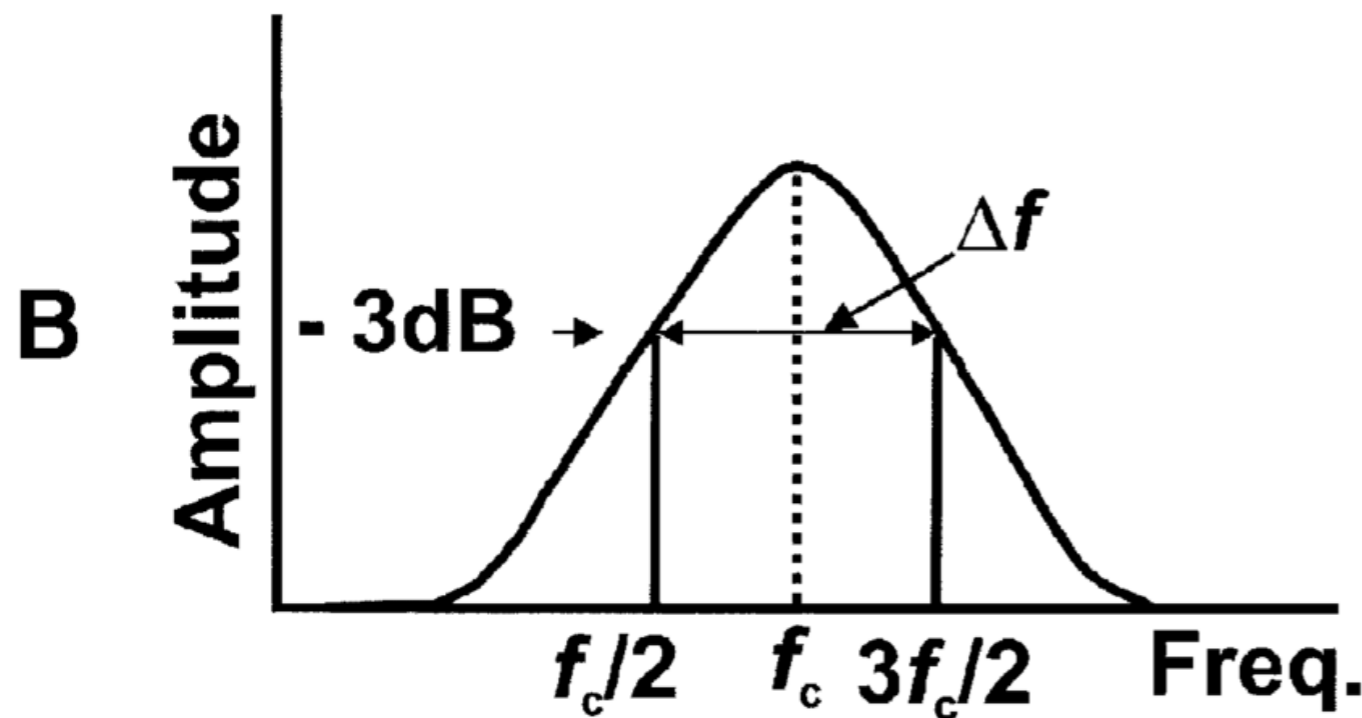
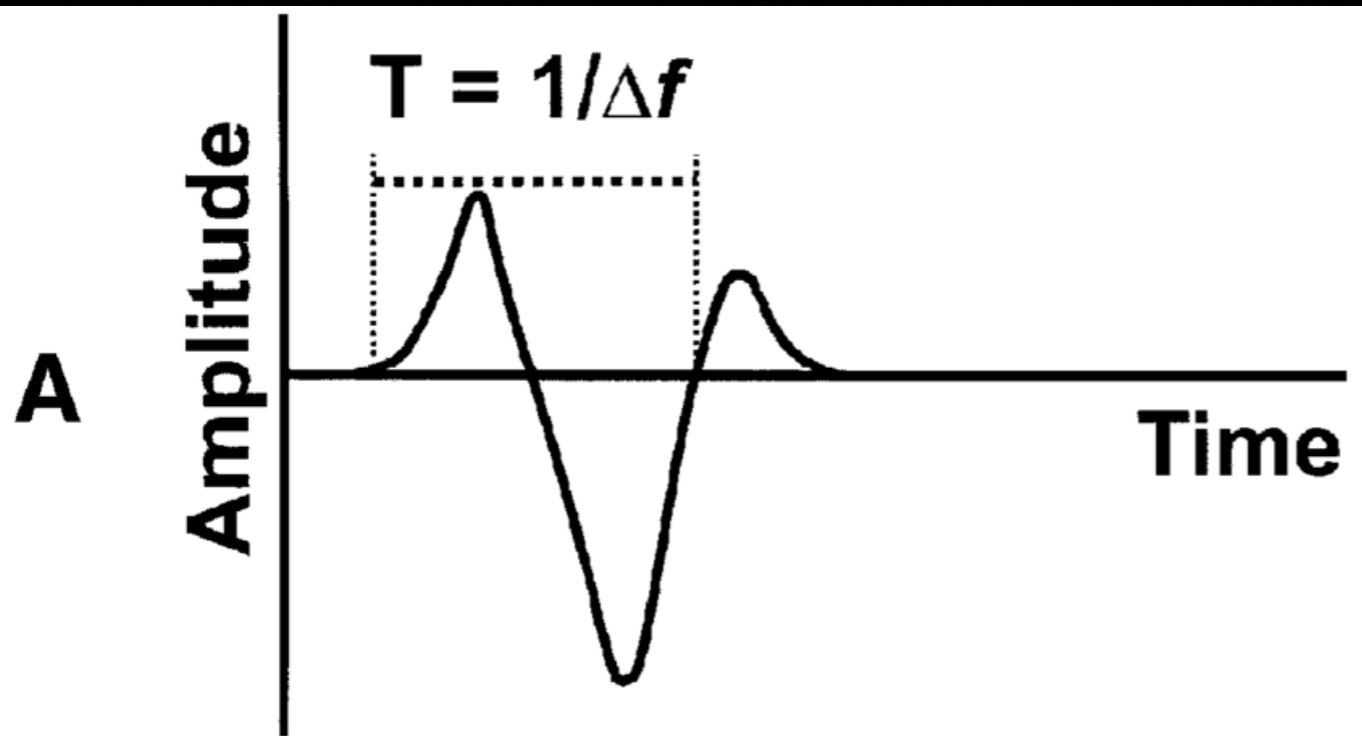
Onde di Volume (P e S)  
non dispersive



Onde di Superficie  
dispersive



# Electro-magnetic methods



In GPR  $\rightarrow \Delta f / f_c \approx 1$

$\gg$  frequency ( $f$ )  
 $\ll$  period  $T$

Bandwidth has same dimension  
of central Frequency

Eg.

Georadar antenna 100Mhz

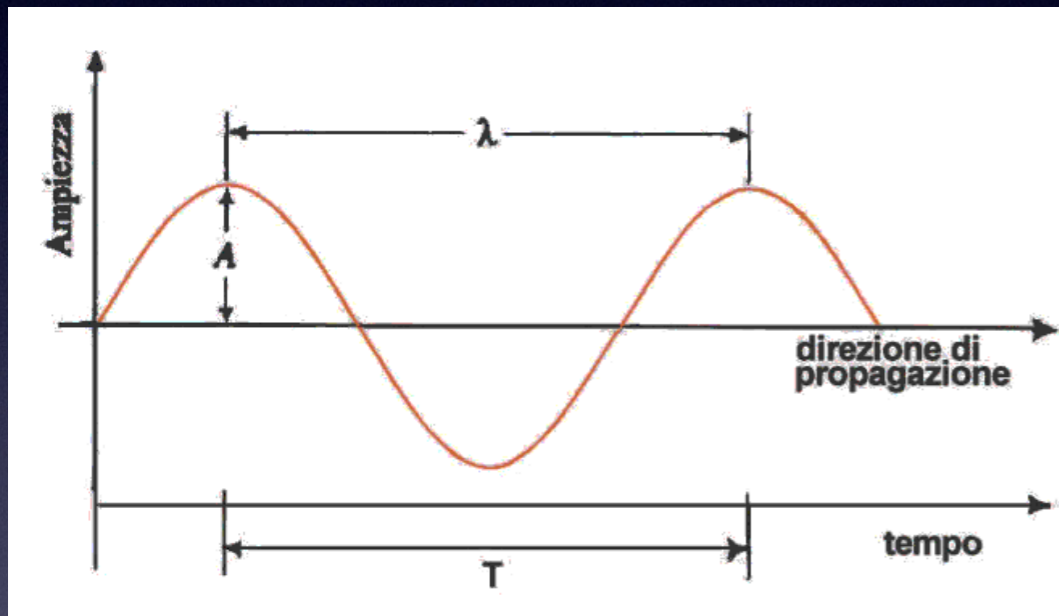
Bandwidth  $\Delta f$  da 50 a 150 Mhz

$\Delta f = 100$  Mhz



# GEORADAR

>> frequency (f) << wavelength  $\lambda$



Light Velocity  $c$

radar wave Velocity  $v = \frac{c}{\sqrt{\epsilon_r}}$

Wavelength  $\lambda = \frac{v}{f}$

EXAMPLE:

Velocity sand =  $0.06 \text{ m ns}^{-1}$

Frequency of GPR = 100 Mhz



$\lambda = 60 \text{ cm}$

Excellent resolution!

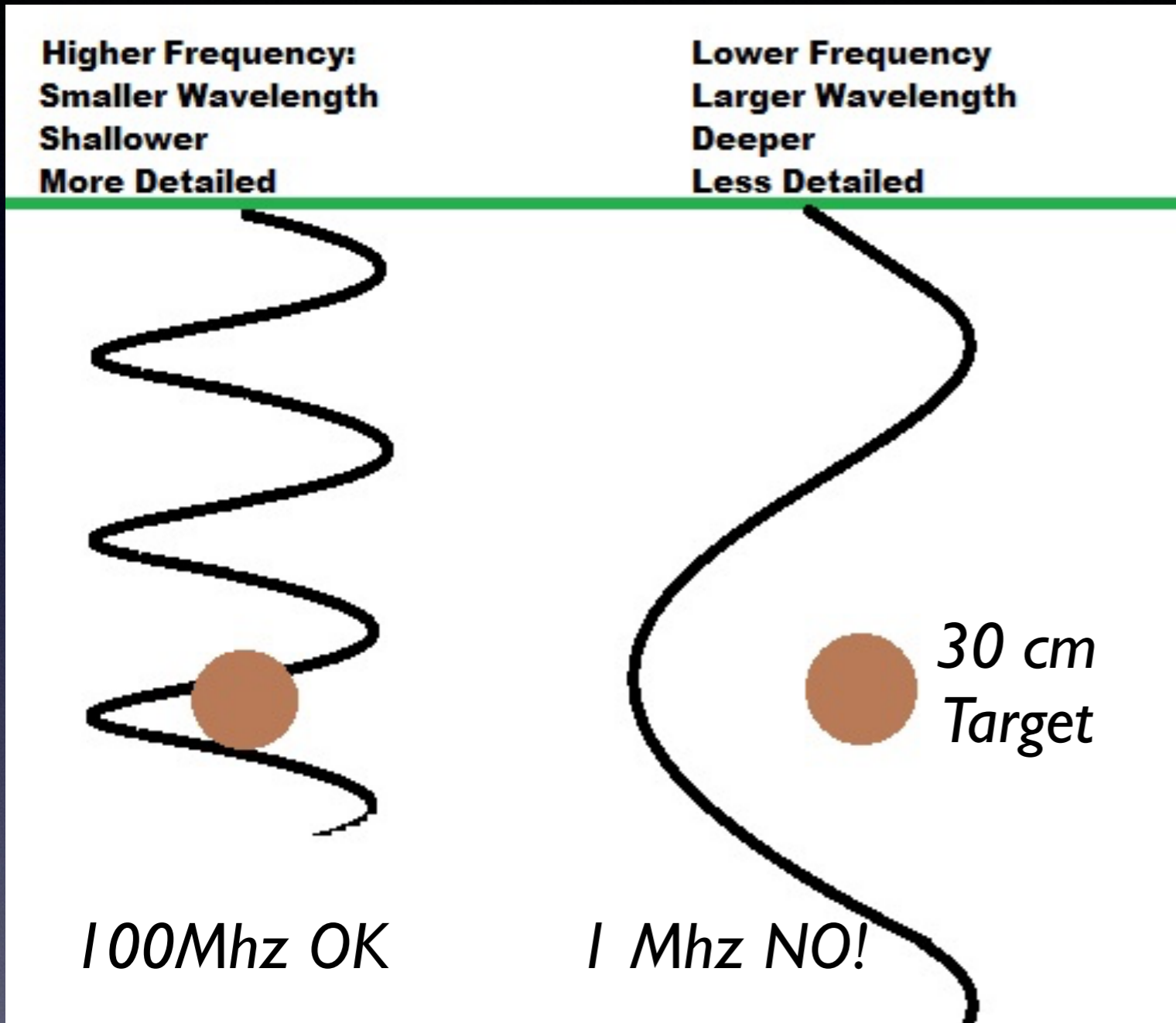
Max Resolution

$\approx \lambda/4 = 15 \text{ cm}$

Resolution is commonly considered as 1/4 of the wavelength



# GEORADAR



>> frequency (f)  
<< wavelength ( $\lambda$ )

Excellent  
Resolution

E.g. antenna da GHz  
 $\lambda \approx 1 \text{ cm}$

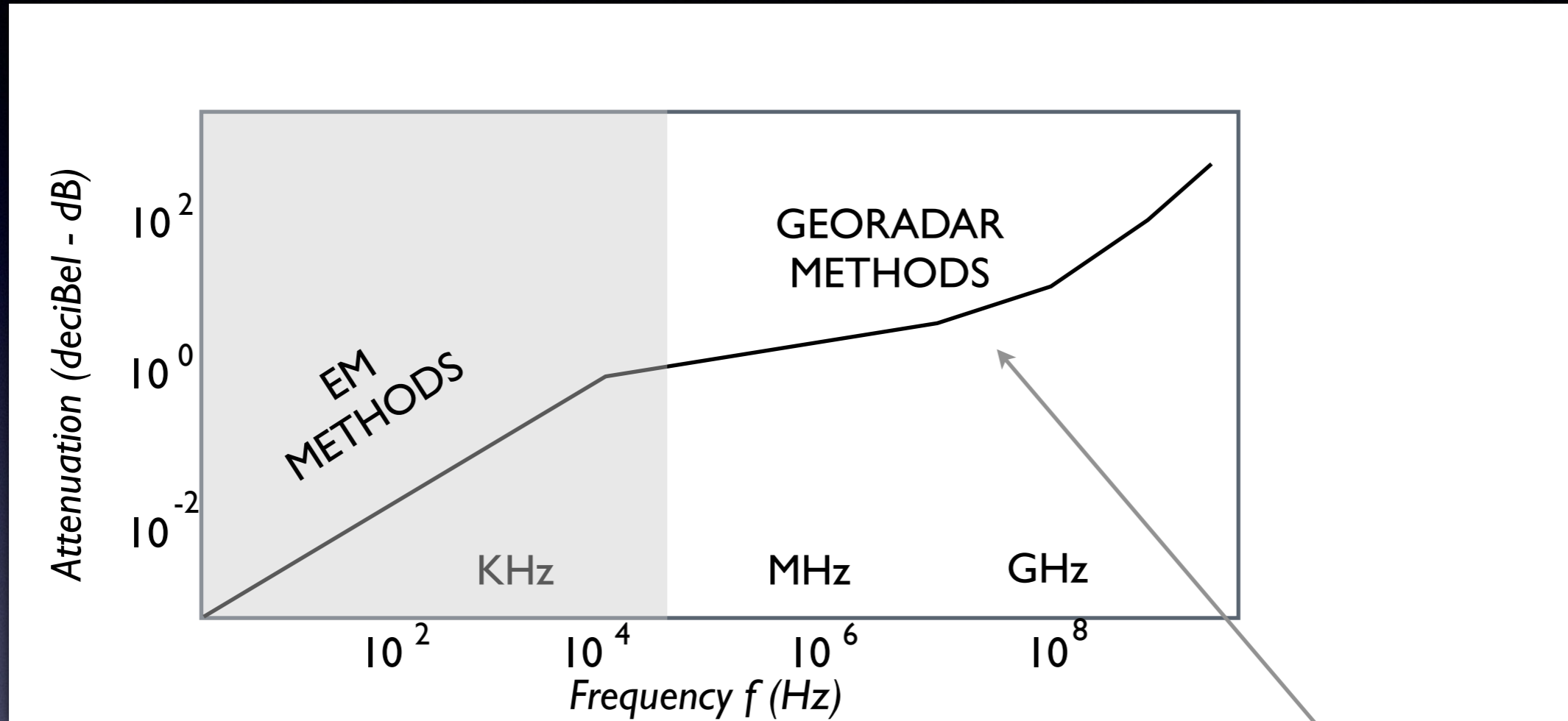


# Electro-magnetic methods

## GEORADAR

## Attenuation

>> frequency (f) >> Attenuation



Attenuation  $\alpha$

Frequency

Conductivity

$$\alpha = \omega \sqrt{\epsilon \mu} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \left[ \sqrt{1 + \left( \frac{\sigma}{\omega \epsilon} \right)^2} - 1 \right] \right\}^{1/2},$$

Dielectric const.

Magnetic Perm.

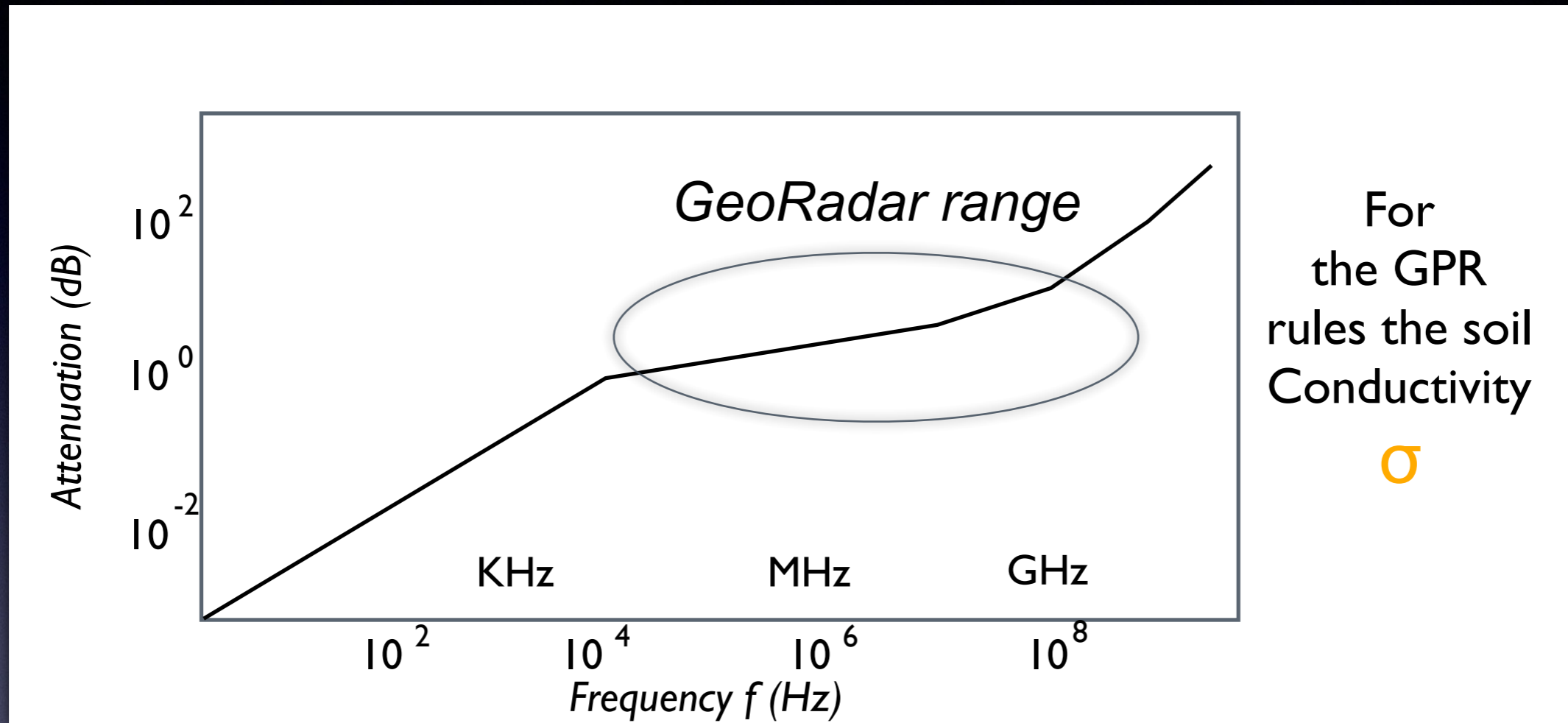
**RADAR  
HAVE POOR  
PENETRATING  
POWER !**



# Electro-magnetic methods

## GEORADAR

>> conductivity ( $\sigma$ ) >> Attenuation



$$\alpha \approx 1690 \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{\epsilon_r}} \quad (\text{dB/m})$$

const.

Conductivity

Attenuation alfa

Const diel.

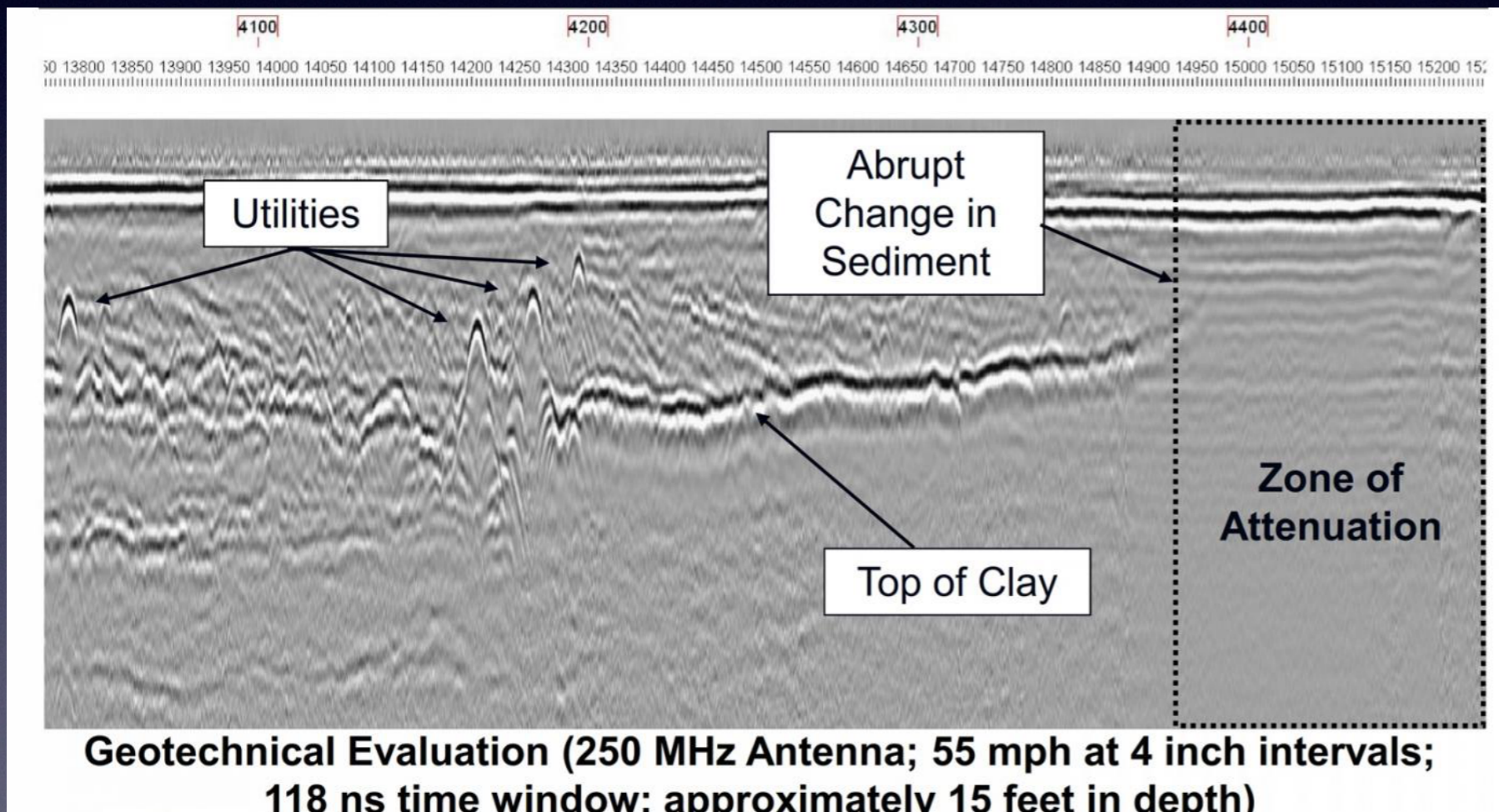
Attenuation for a GPR  
Is function of soil conductivity



# Electro-magnetic methods

## GEORADAR

>> conductivity ( $\sigma$ ) >> Attenuation



High conductivity  
Terrains  
(*clay, silt, ecc*)  
Has limited  
Penetration depth

>>> ATTENUATION

<<< PENETRATION



## Physical principles: penetration

$$\nabla^2 E = \overset{\text{energy loss}}{\mu\sigma} \frac{\partial E}{\partial t} + \overset{\text{wave propagation}}{\mu\epsilon} \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial t^2}$$

The georadar penetration is rather limited. Under normal conditions, soil conductivity is controlled by the presence of ions in soil/ground water solution.

Typical attenuation values for 100-200 MHz frequency ( $\alpha$ ), resistivity ( $\rho$ ) and relative permittivity ( $\epsilon_r$ ):

Material	Attenuation $\alpha$ (dB/m)	Resistivity $\rho$ (ohm/m)	Relative permittivity $\epsilon_r$
Saturated shale	51.8	10	10
Argillaceous marl	14.5	40	8
Calcareous marl	5.8	100	8
Saturated sand	3	100	30
Limestone	2	400	4
Fresh water	1.8	100	81
Dry sand	0.82	1000	4
Pure water	0.2	1000	81
Ice	0.082	10000	4
Sound concrete or sound granite	0.06	10000	6.5

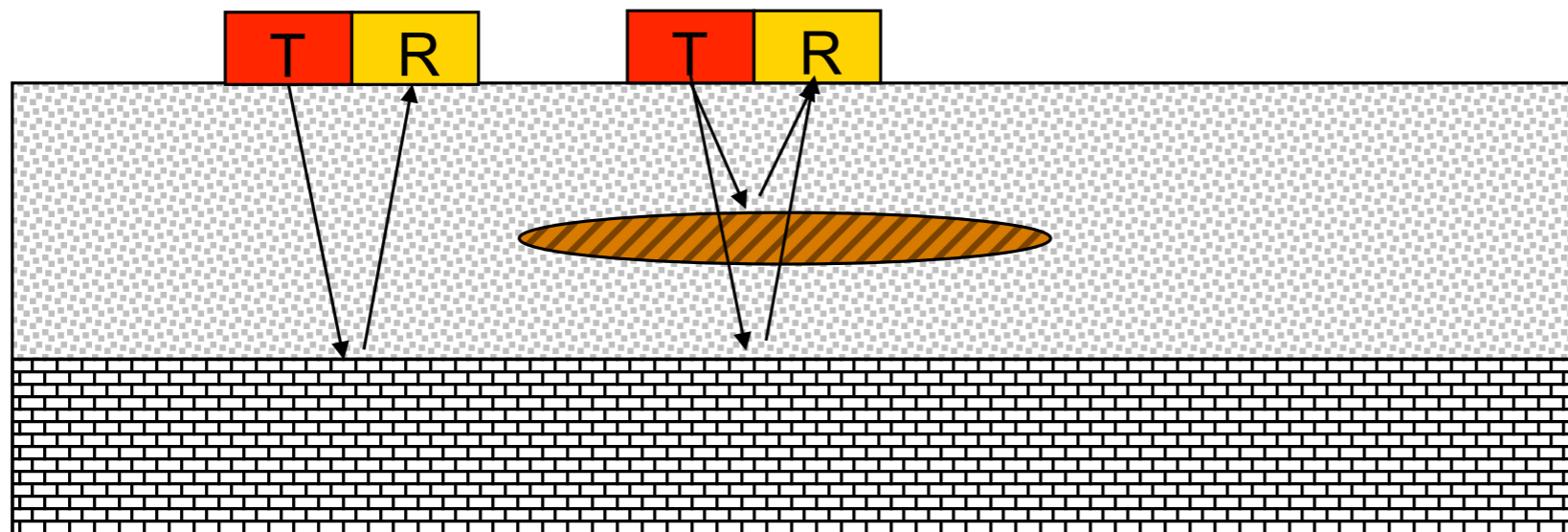
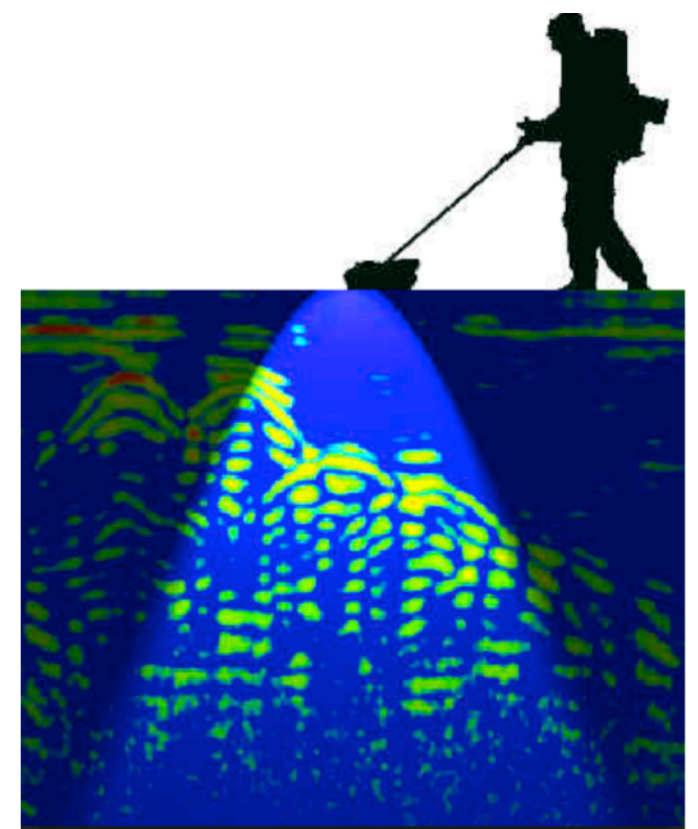


# Georadar

## G P R

Ground Probing Radar (or Ground Penetrating Radar) is a high frequency EM technique (in the band 10-2500 MHz) based on the response of the subsoil to a short EM pulse.

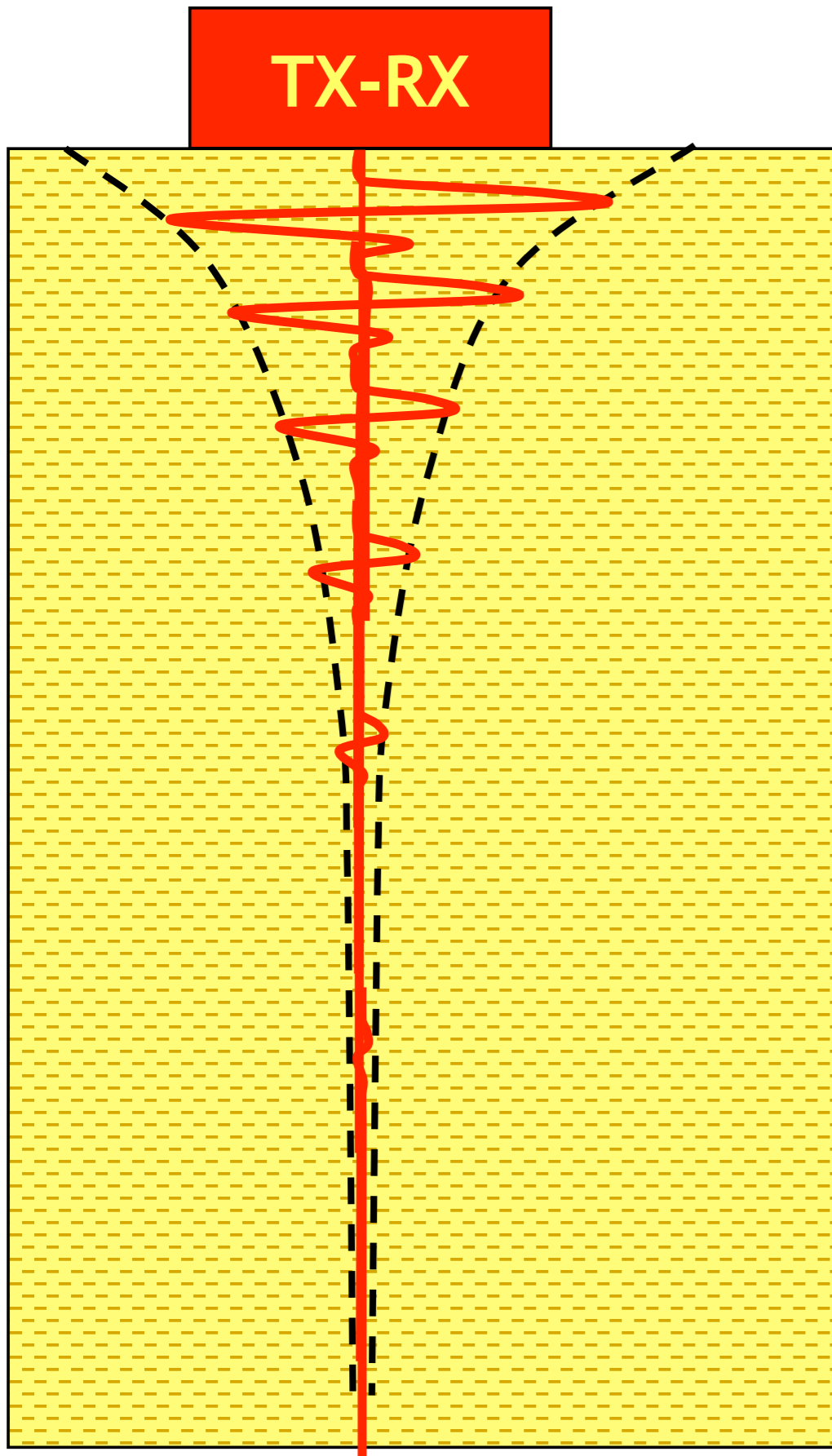
A signal of short wavelength is radiated into the ground, is reflected, refracted, diffracted and hence detects the anomalous variations in the dielectric properties.



Anomalies can be soil horizons, the groundwater surface, soil/rock interface, man made objects (pipes, foundations, cables...)

**HIGH RESOLUTION, LOW PENETRATION DEPTH**

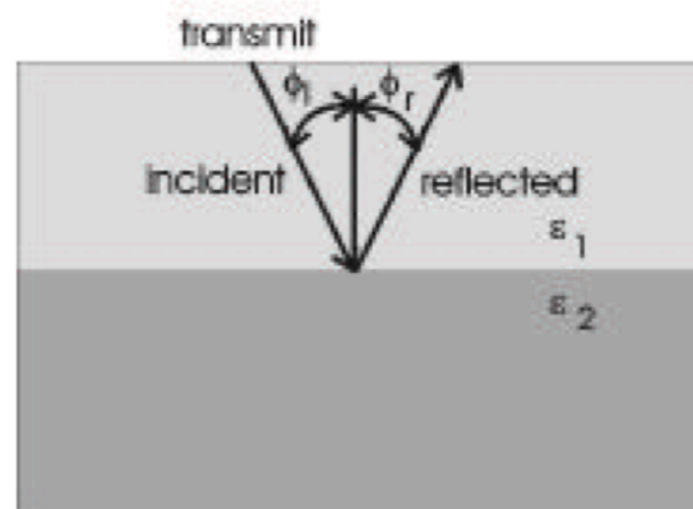




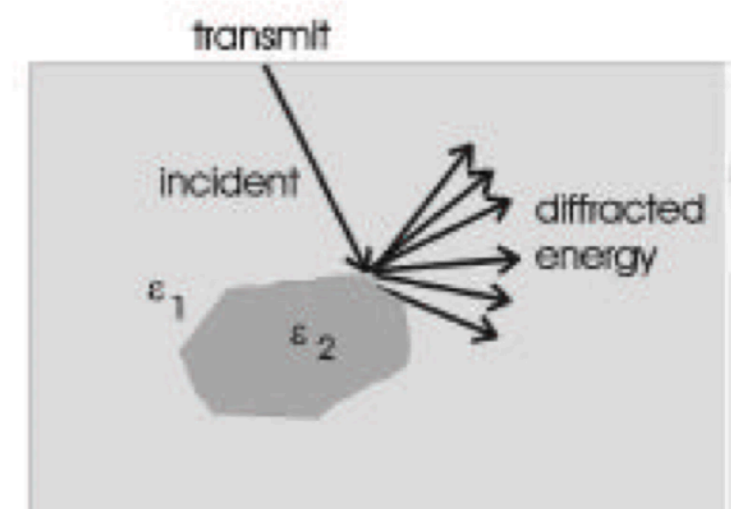
A signal is sent into the ground:

It propagates, is attenuated, and come back to the surface when variation of properties are encountered

- Reflection
- Diffraction



Reflection



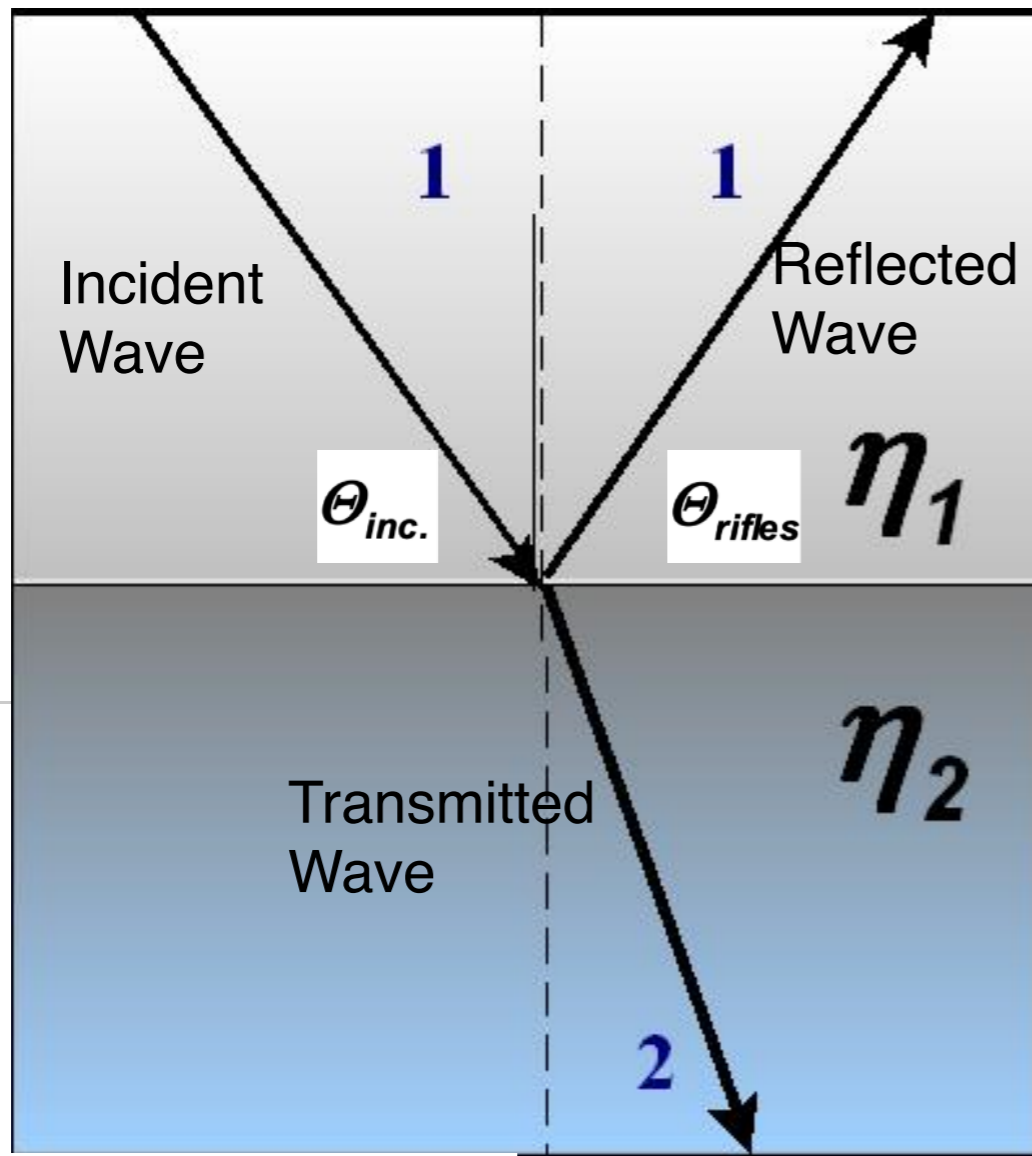
Diffraction



# REFLECTION

Transmission and reflection coefficients at an interface

The angle of incidence  $\theta_{inc.}$  is equal to the angle of reflection  $\theta_{rifles}$



$$\theta_{inc.} = \theta_{rifles.}$$

$$\frac{\sin \theta_{tras.}}{\sin \theta_{inc.}} = \frac{v_2}{v_1} = \sqrt{\frac{\mu_1 \epsilon_1}{\mu_2 \epsilon_2}}$$

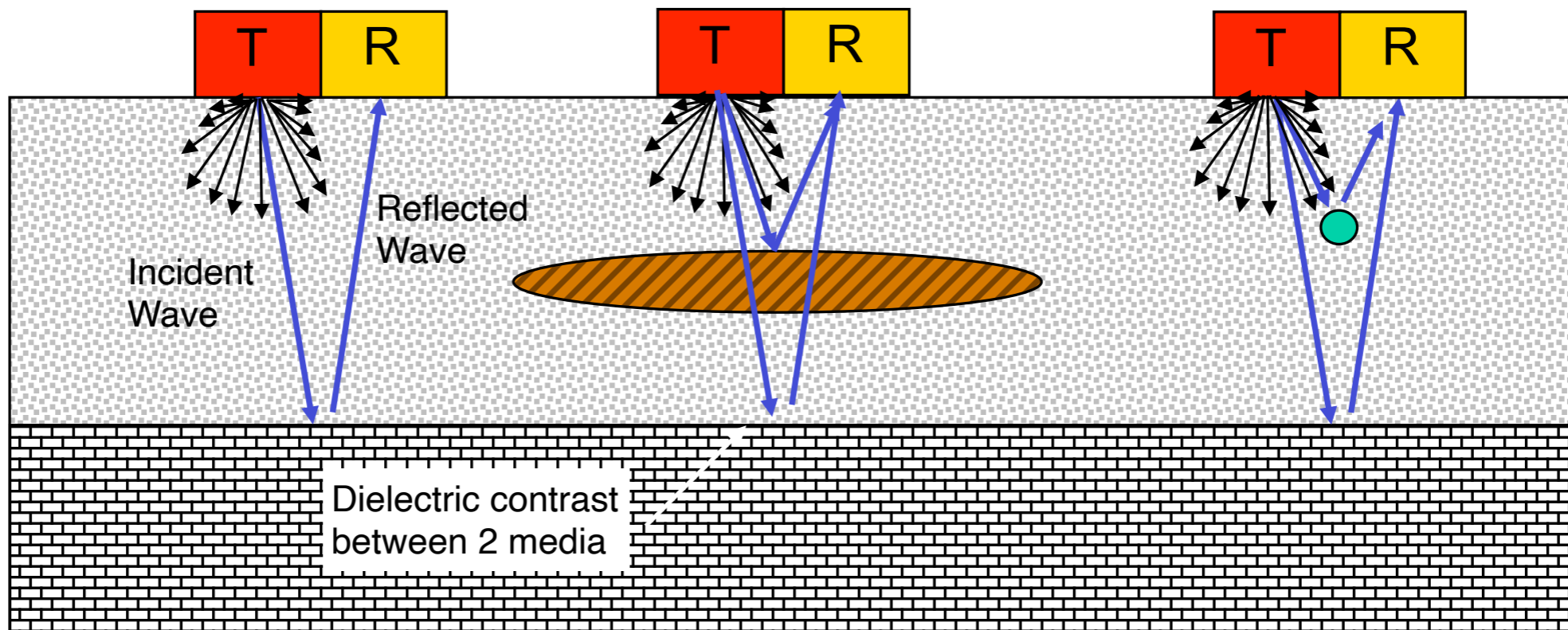
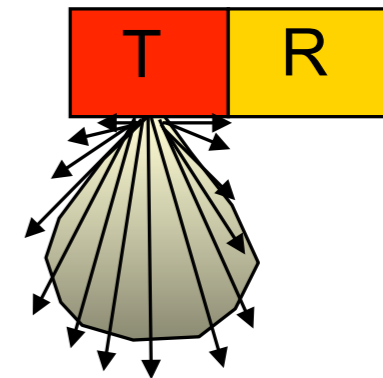
$$\Gamma = \frac{\eta_2 - \eta_1}{\eta_2 + \eta_1} \quad \text{Coeff. of Reflection}$$

$$\tau = \frac{2 \cdot \eta_1}{\eta_2 + \eta_1} \quad \text{Coeff. of Transmission}$$

$$\eta = \left( \frac{\mu}{\epsilon} \right)^{1/2} \quad \text{Dielectric Impedance}$$

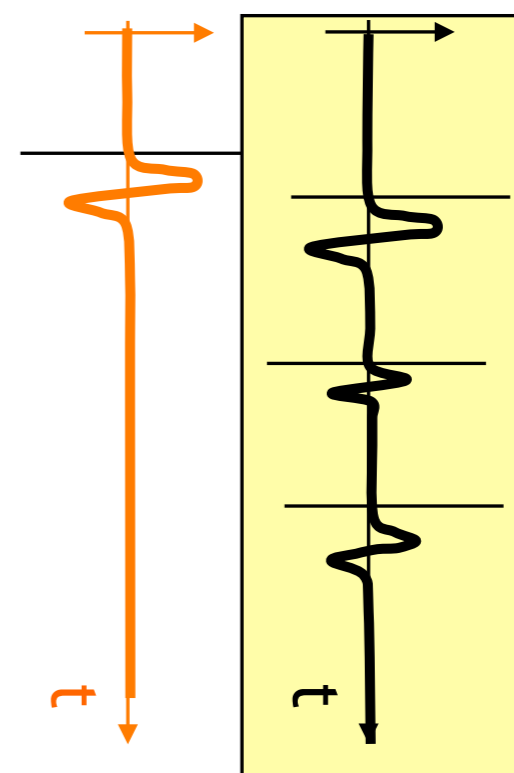
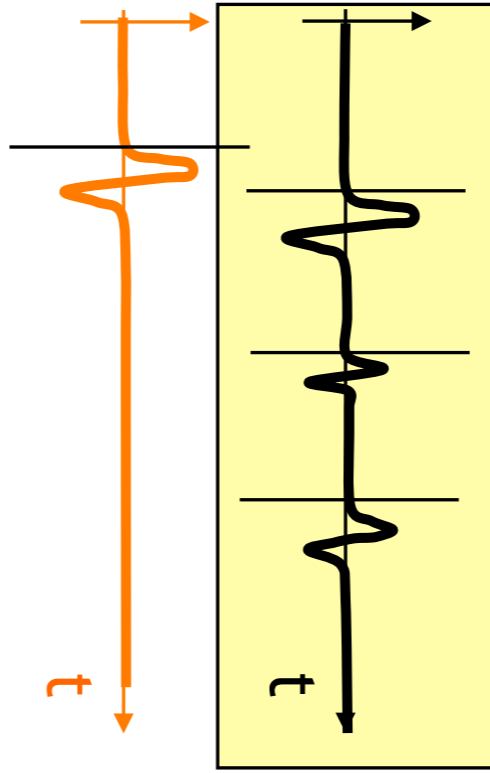
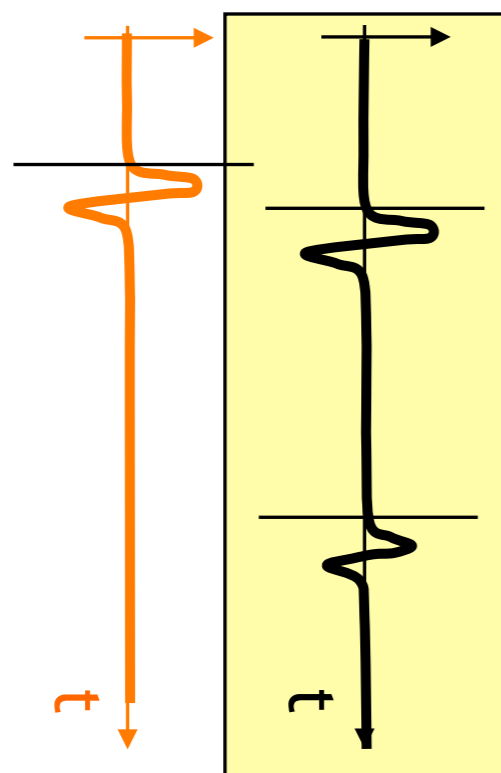
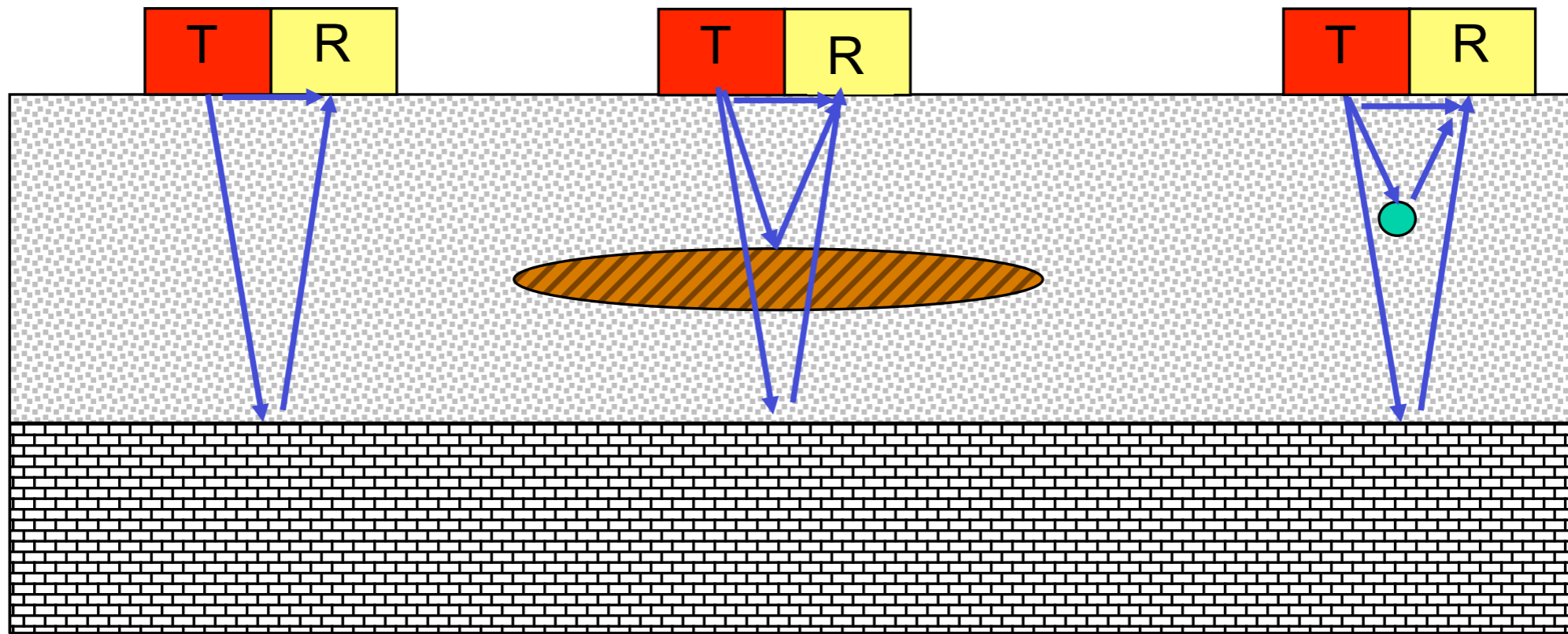
# OPERATING GPR

detecting the presence of anomalies from the surface



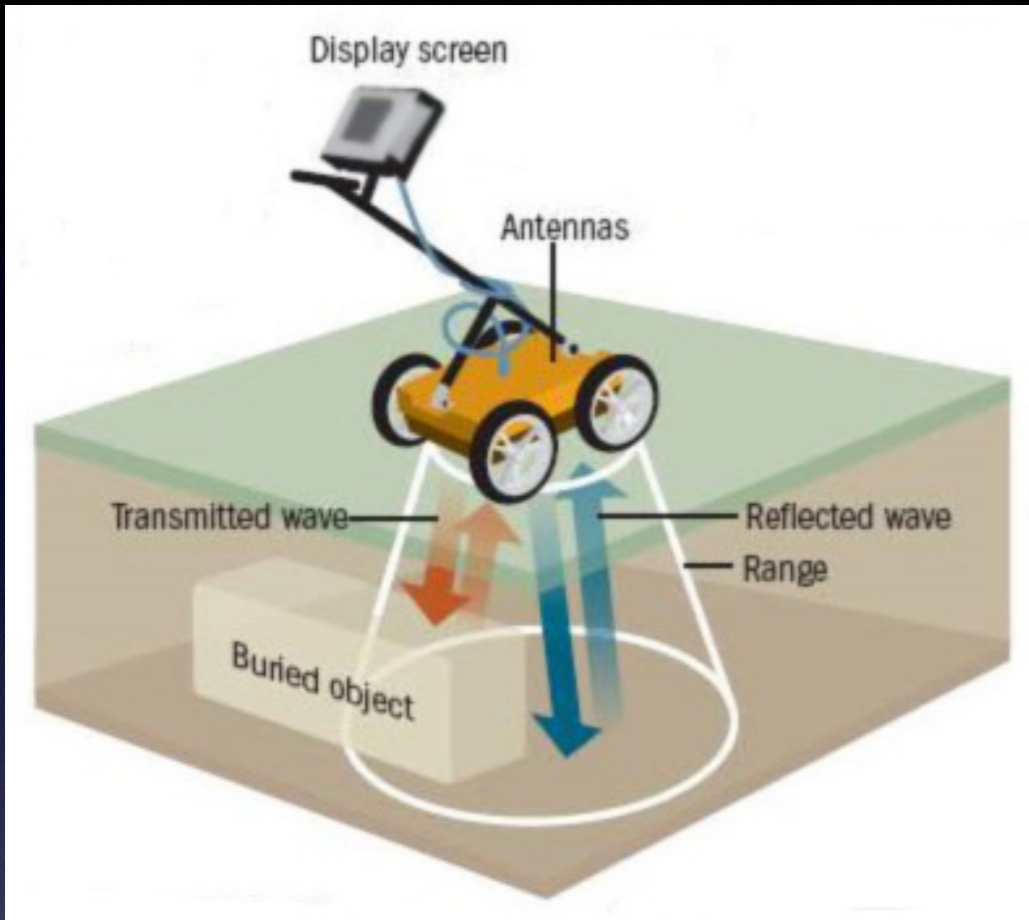


# SIGNALS IN A SINGLE GPR TRACE



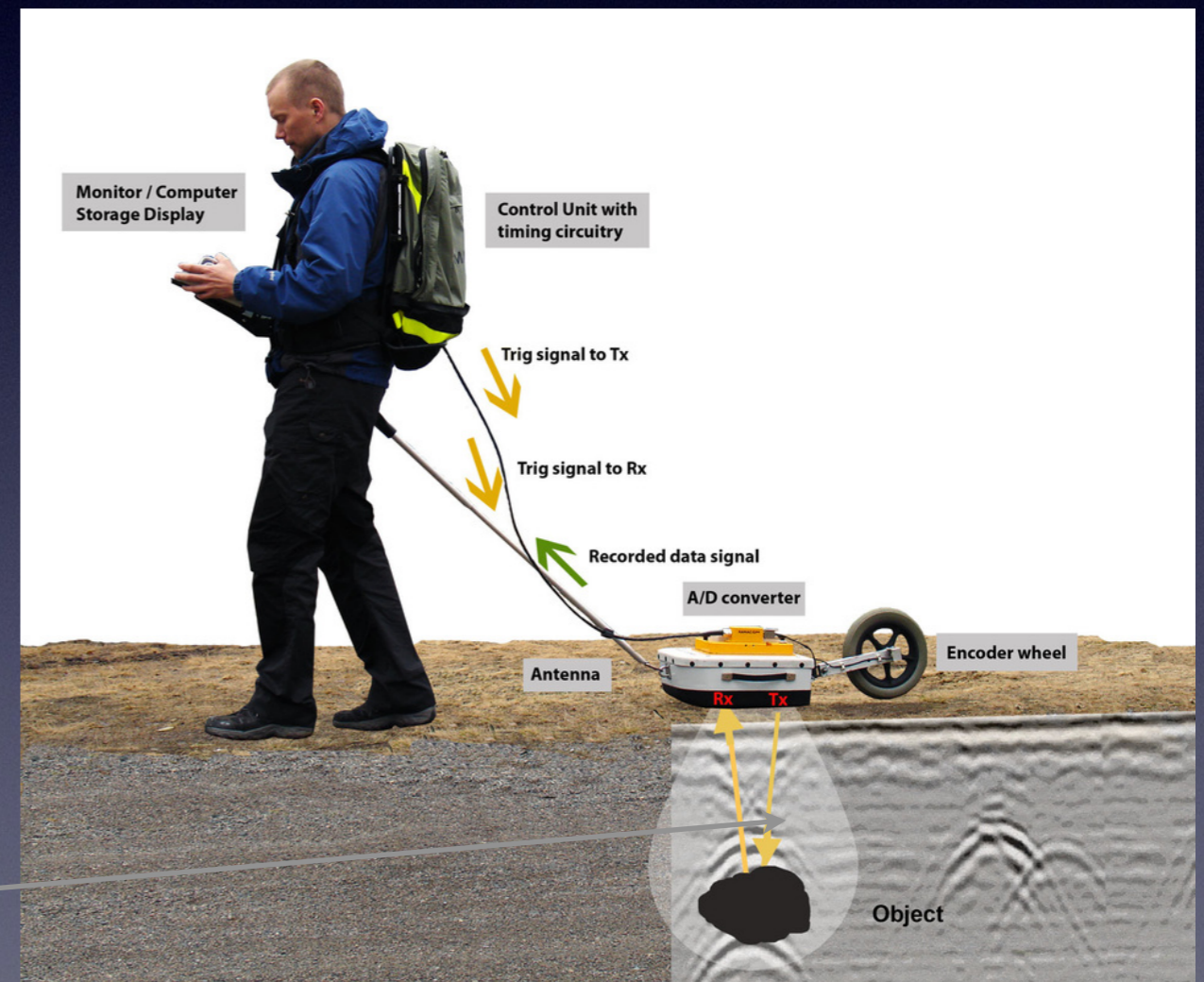
# Electro-magnetic methods

## GEORADAR antenna



## RADARGRAM

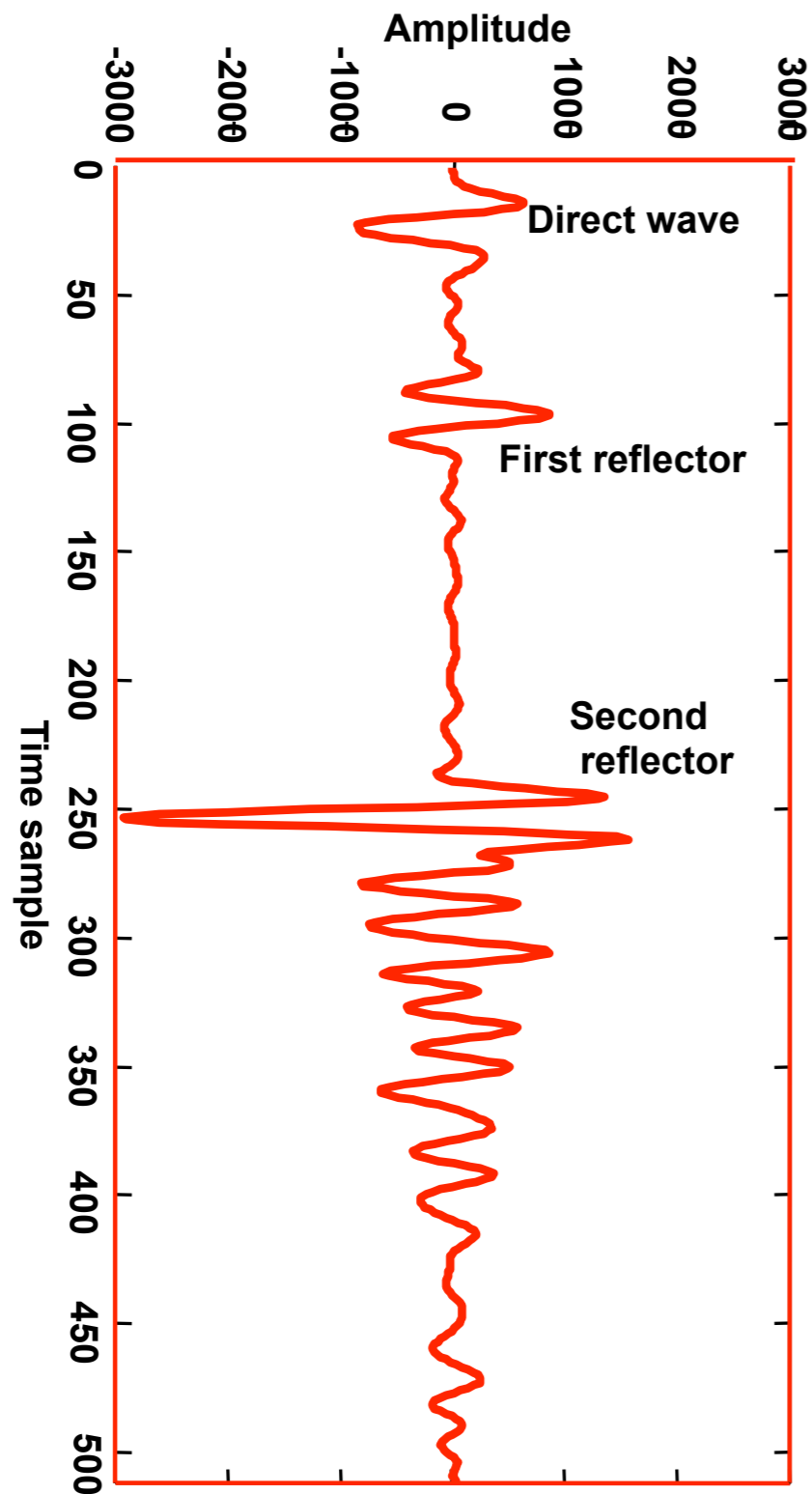
Studying  
The REFLECTION OF EM  
WAVES  
due to dielectric contrasts



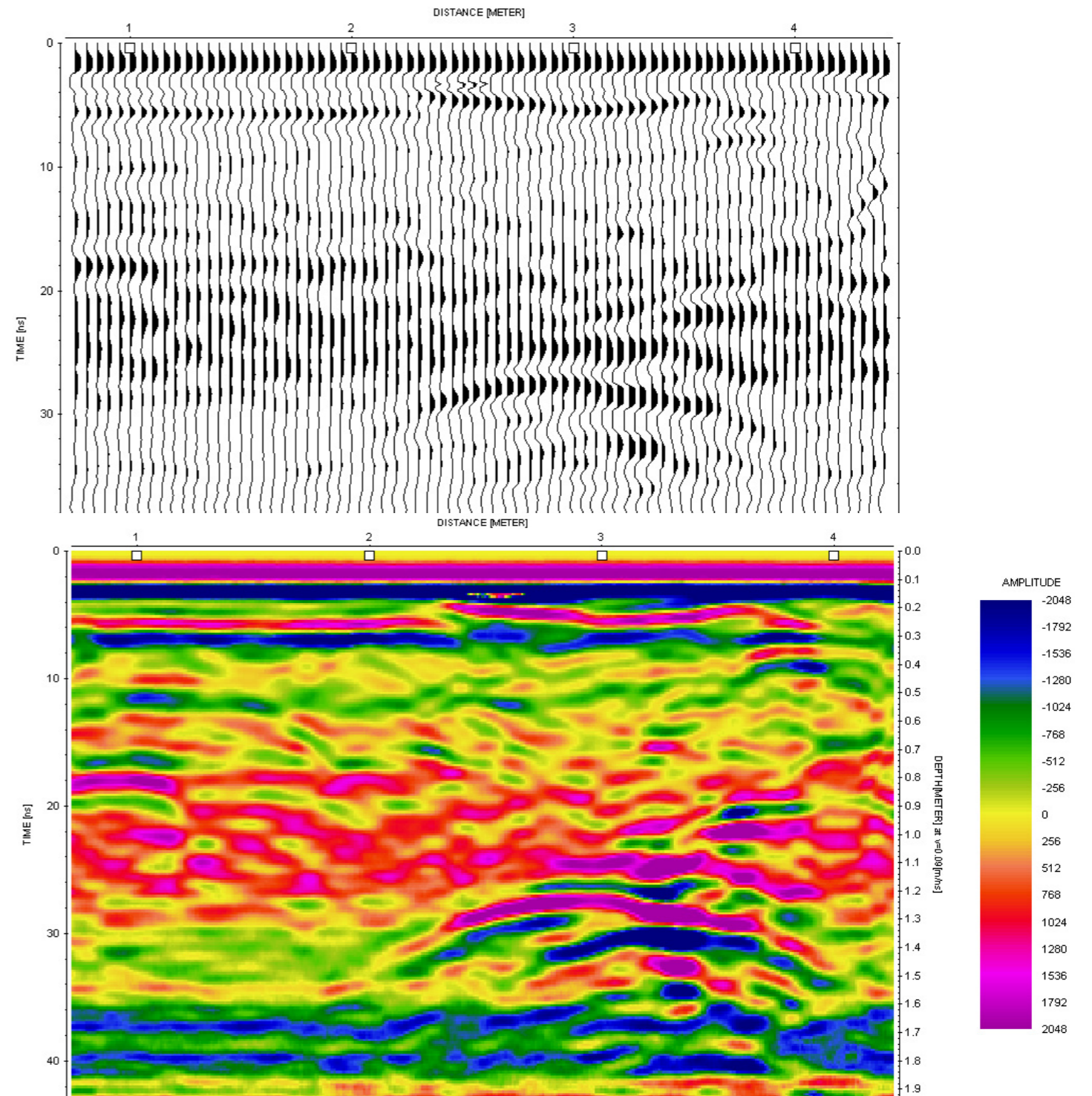


# RADARGRAM

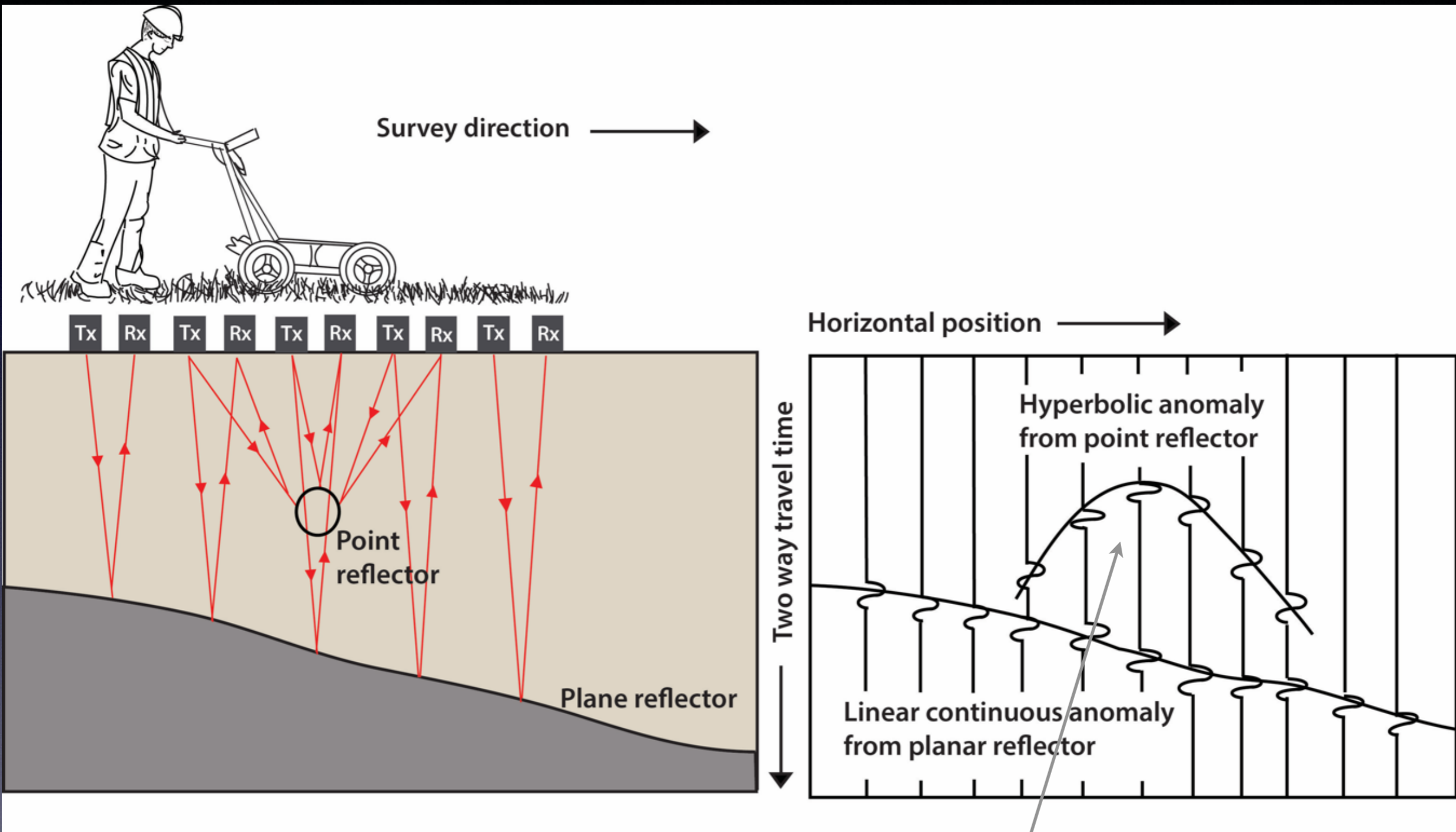
## A real GPR trace



With modern fast systems, many traces can be collected with a continuous acquisition



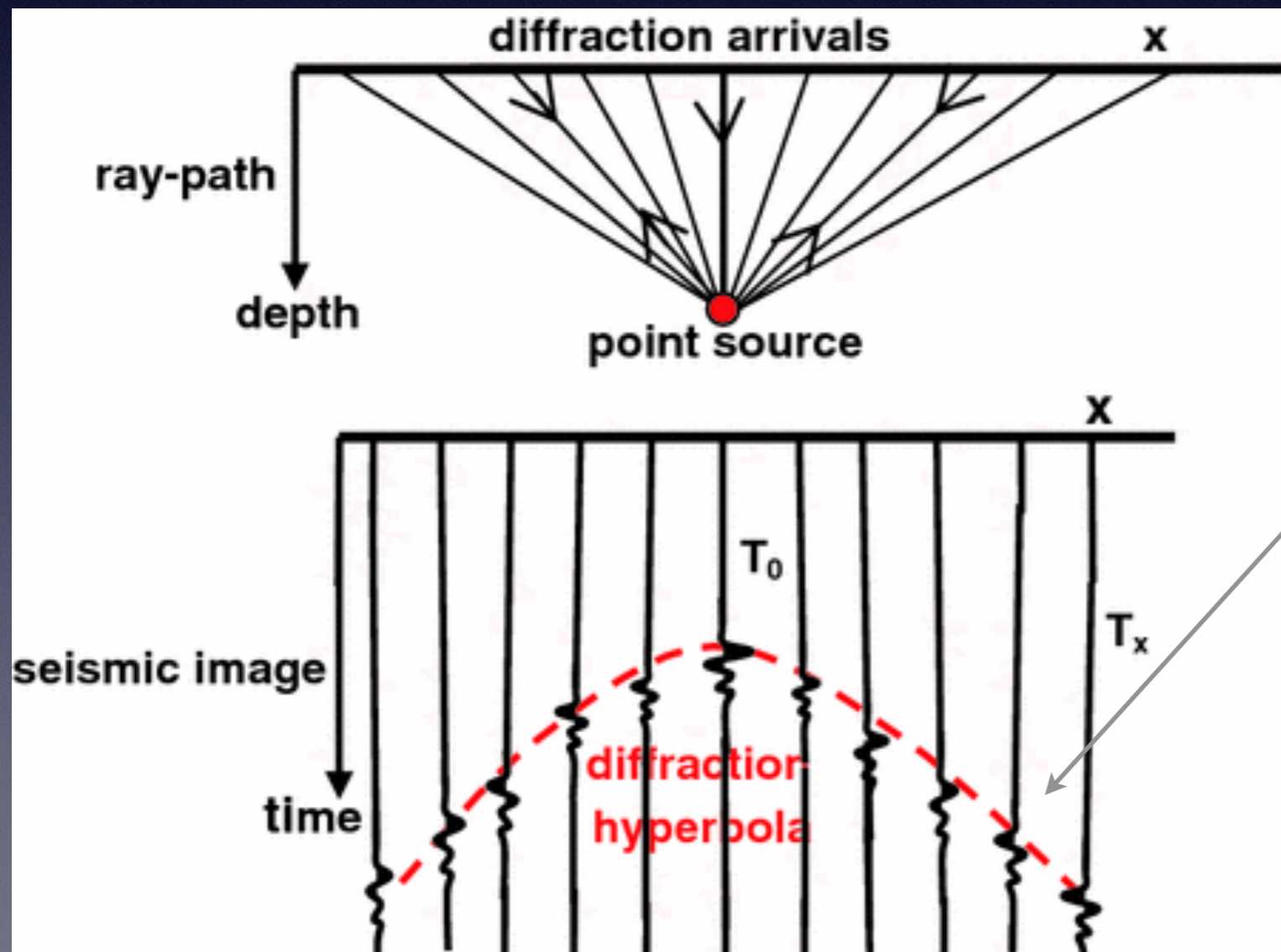
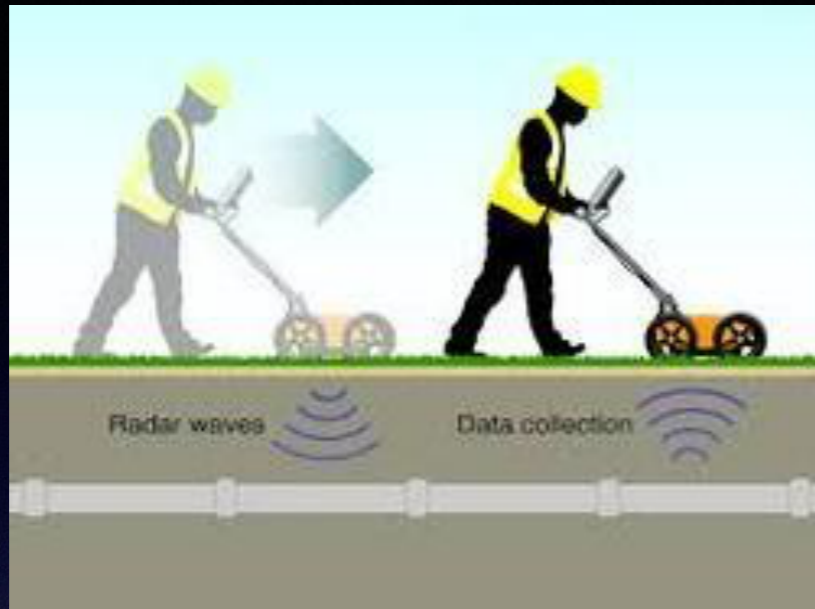
# GEORADAR



Diffraction Hyperbola



# GEORADAR



## Diffraction Hyperbola

same processing  
of seismic  
exploration

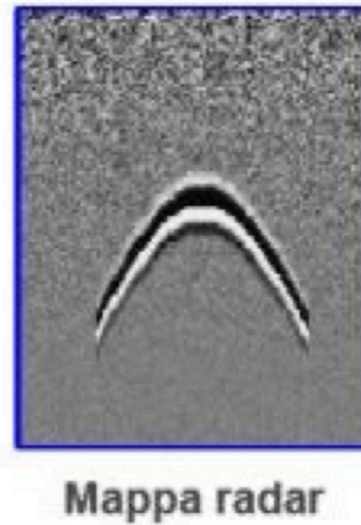
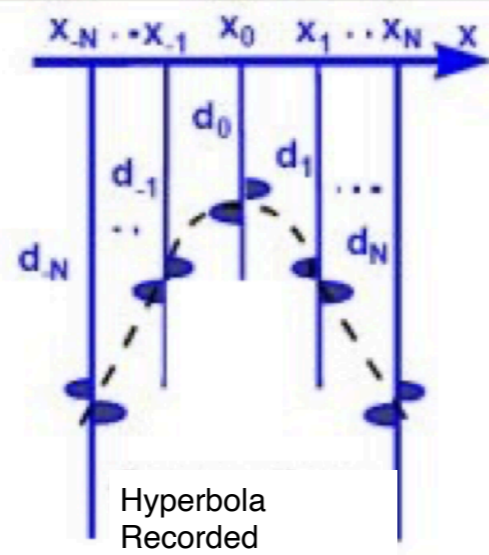
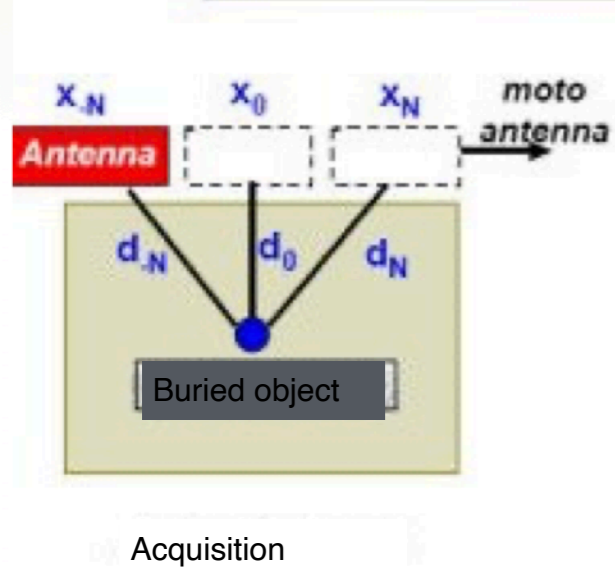
$$T^2_x = T^2_0 + \frac{x^2}{V^2}$$



# GEORADAR

# GEORADAR

The objects are seen by the radar in a deformed way....

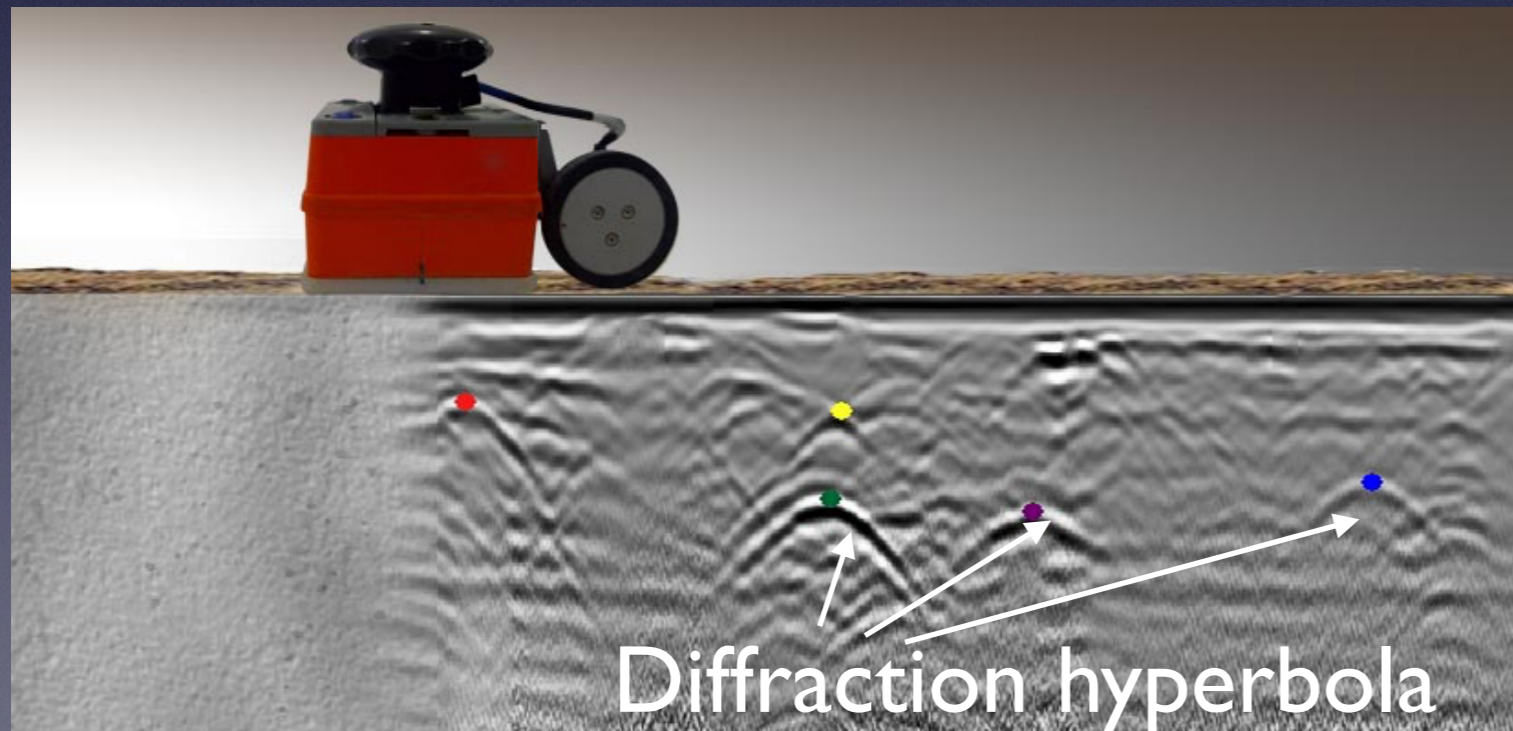
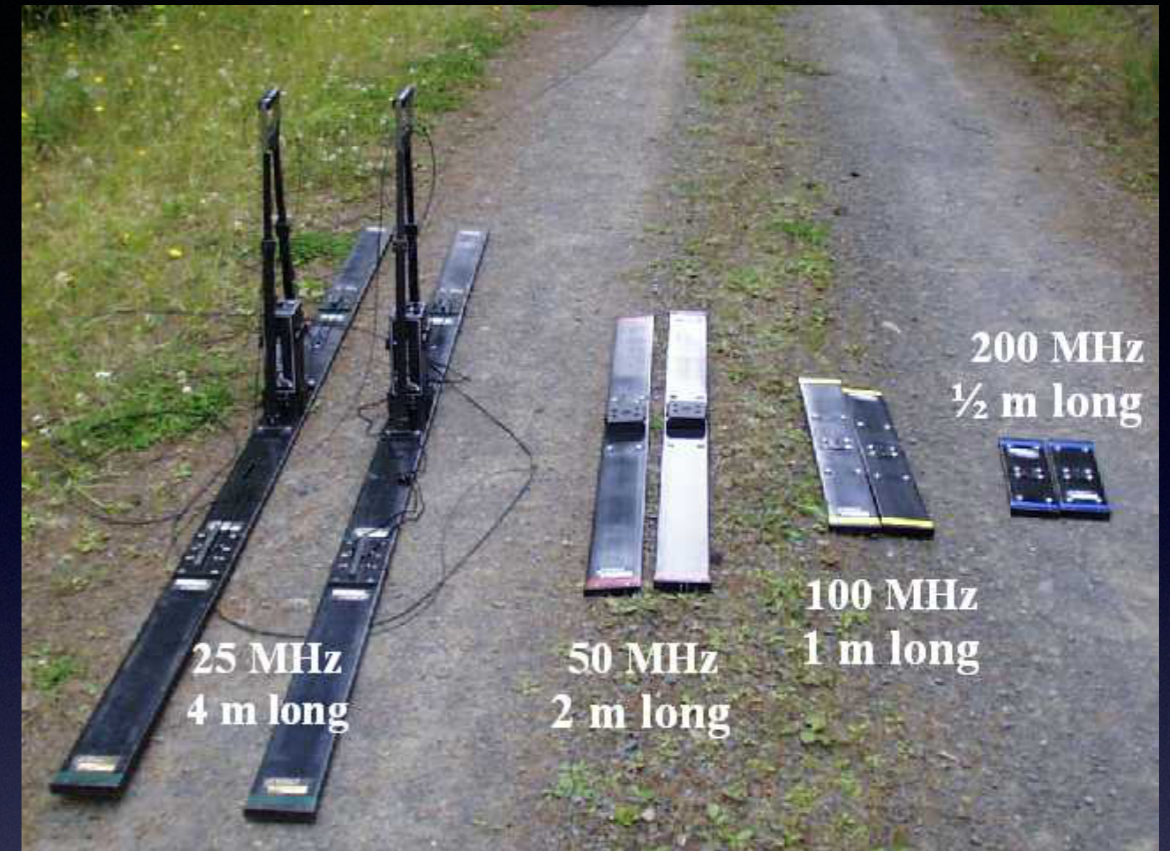




# Electro-magnetic methods

## GEORADAR

Several antennas for several targets



Main use:  
shallow buried objects  
detection



# **GPR APPLICATIONS**

## **CIVIL/STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING**

**Utilities (pipes, cables), rebar and voids**

**Transportation: roadways, runways and railroad tracks**

**Ice thickness**

## **GEO TECHNICAL**

**Stratigraphic mapping, cavities and sinkholes**

**Groundwater, mining hazards**

## **MILITARY**

**Ordnance detection**

**Runway integrity**

## **ARCHAEOLOGY**

**Strategic site planning, smart excavation and conservation**



# GPR APPLICATIONS

- Environmental:
  - ◆ Contaminant plume mapping
  - ◆ Mapping and monitoring pollutants within groundwater  
Landfill investigations
  - ◆ Location of buried fuel tanks and oil drums
  - ◆ Location of gas leaks
  - ◆ Groundwater investigations



*Electro-magnetic methods*

**GEORADAR**

Several antennas for several  
targets

**MONOSTATIC**

(Emitter and receiver in the same  
probe)

Probes for  
GPR

**BI-STATIC**

(Emitter and receiver separated)

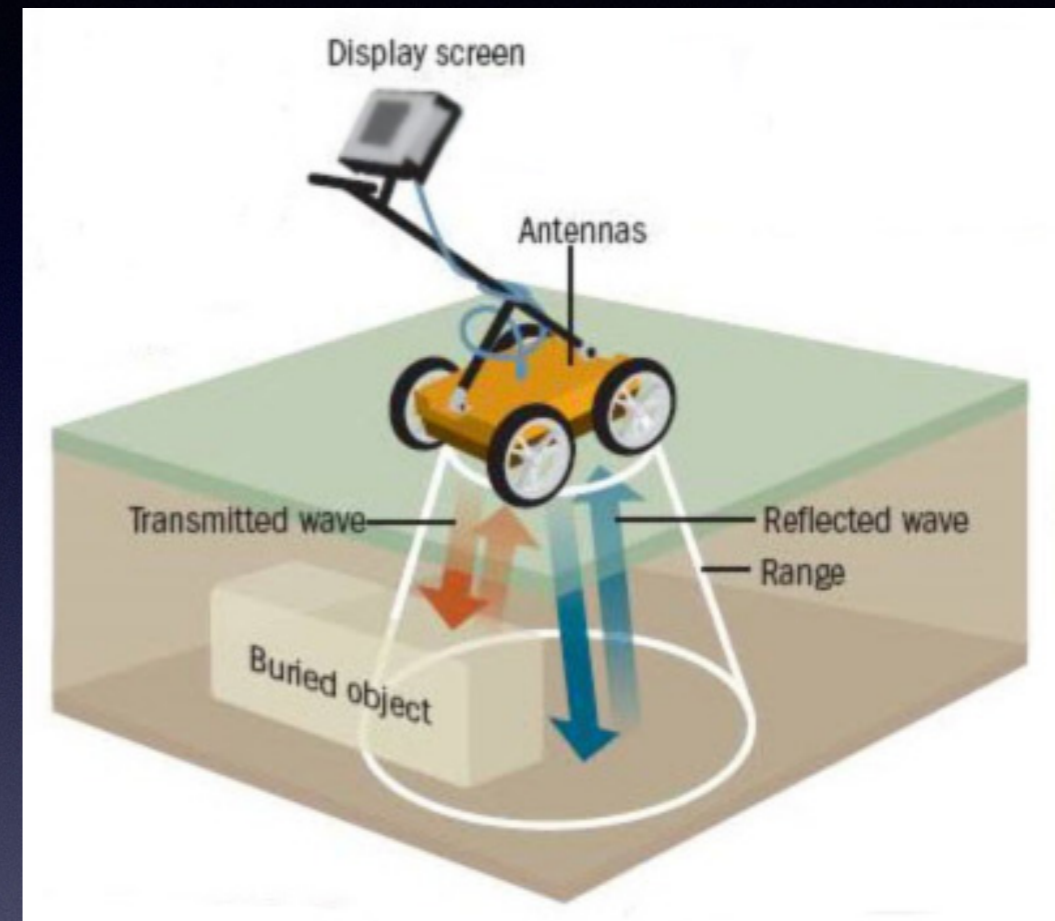


# GEORADAR

Several antennas for several targets

## MONOSTATIC

(Emitter and receiver in the same probe)



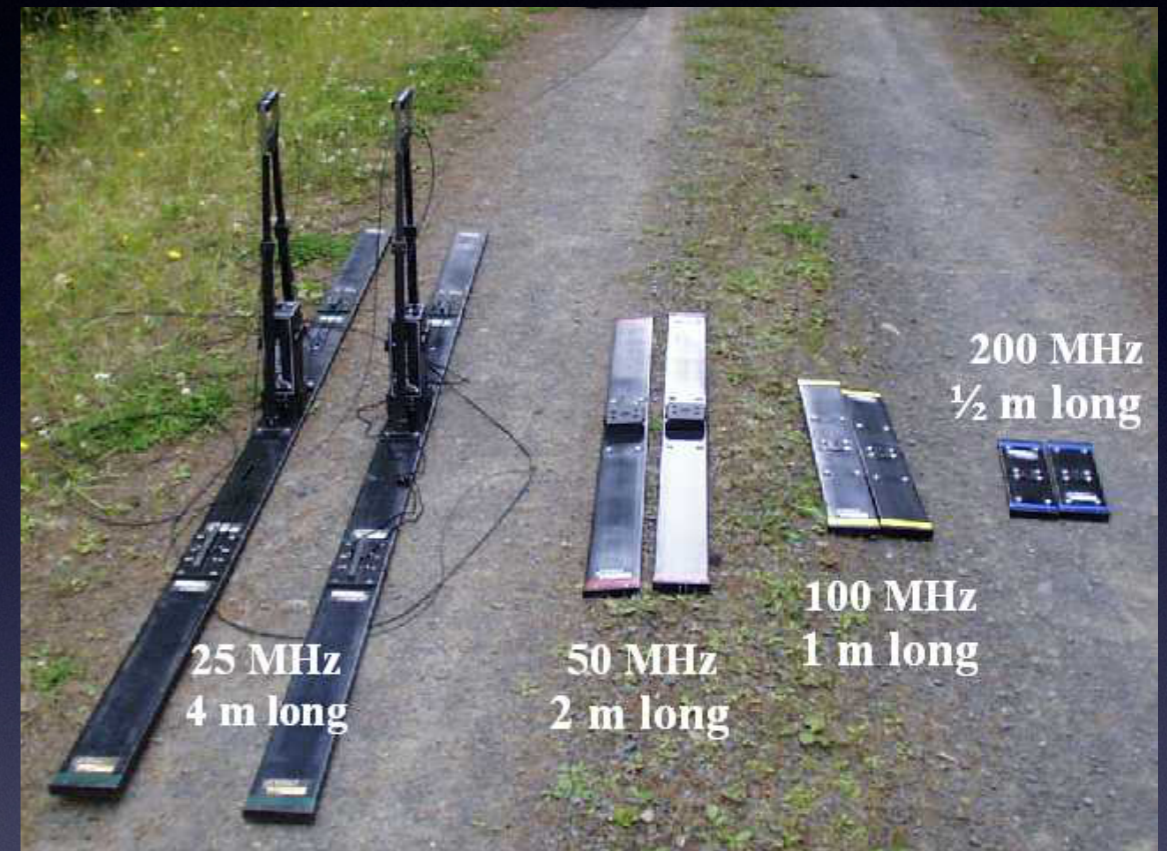
Quick, comfortable, excellent for engineering purposes



# GEORADAR

Several antennas for several targets

**BI- STATIC**  
(Emitter and receiver separated)

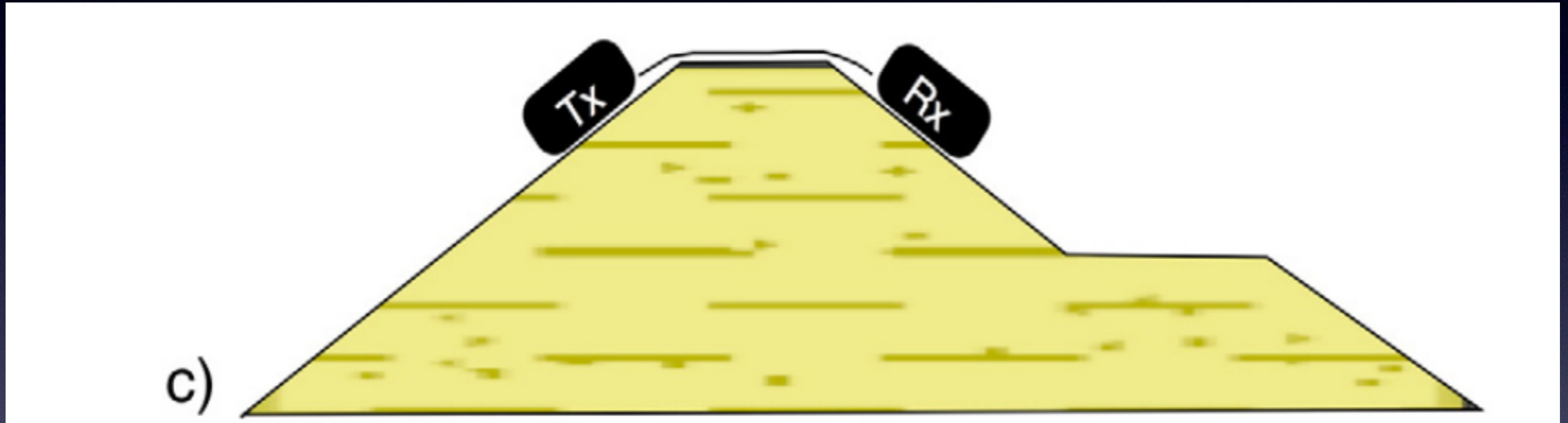


We can  
measure the Radar wave transmission velocity



GEORADAR

BI-STATIC



‘Transparence method’



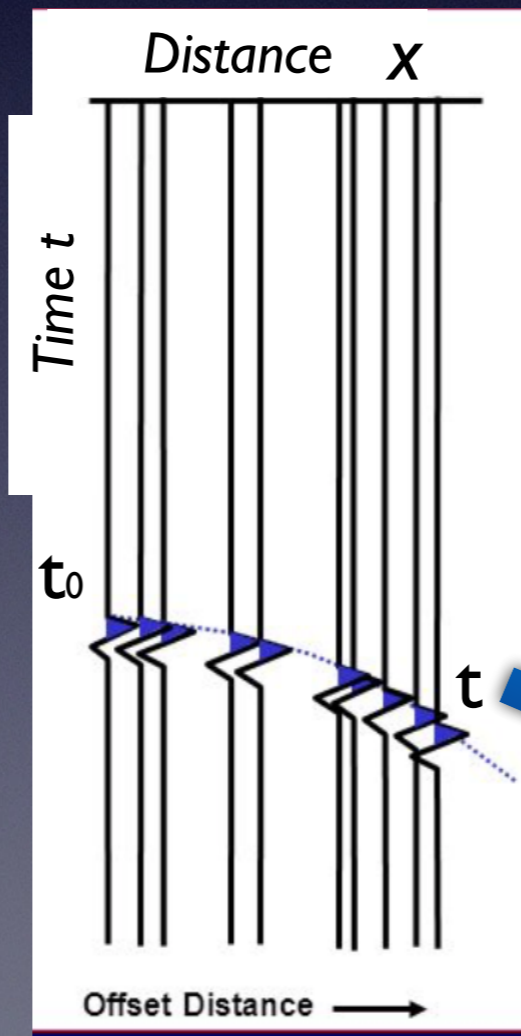
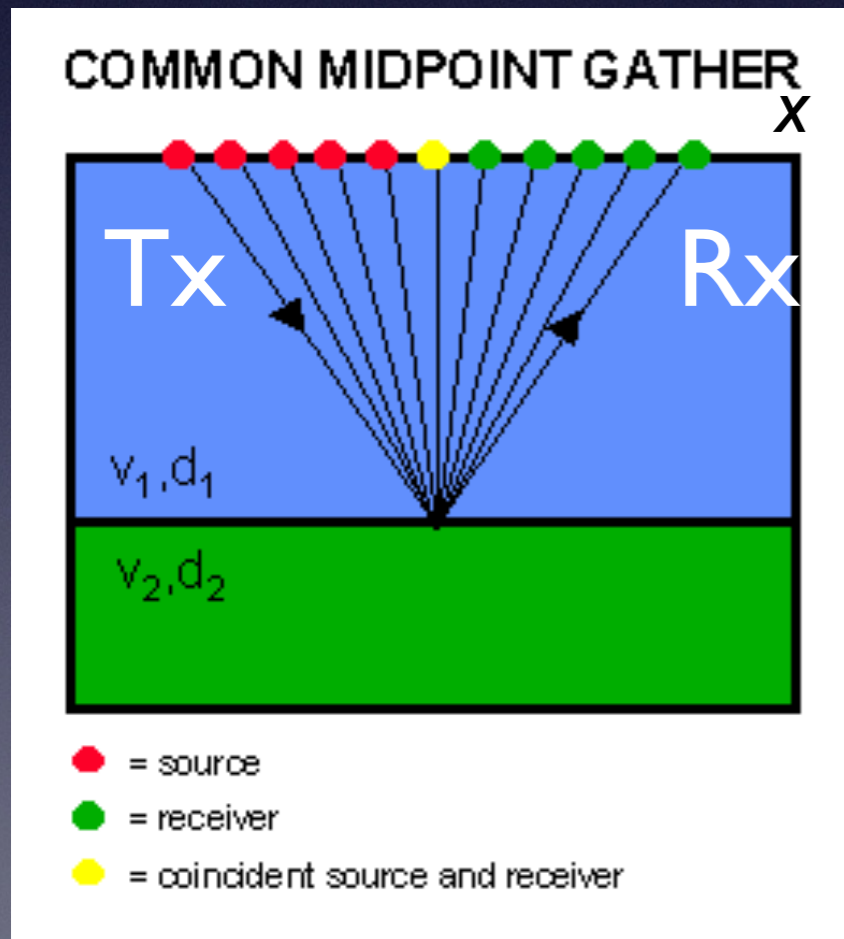
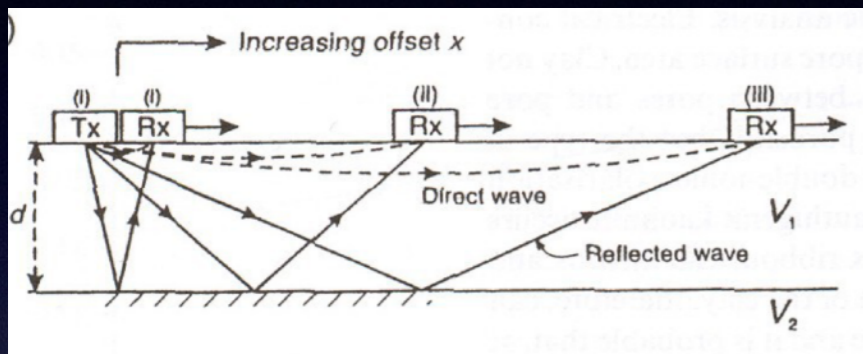
# GEORADAR

## BI-STATIC

(Emitter and receiver separated)

measure the Radar wave transmission velocity

Es. Method COMMON MID POINT (CMP)



$$v = \frac{c}{\sqrt{\epsilon_r}}$$

$$T^2_x = T^2_0 + X^2 / v^2$$



# GEORADAR

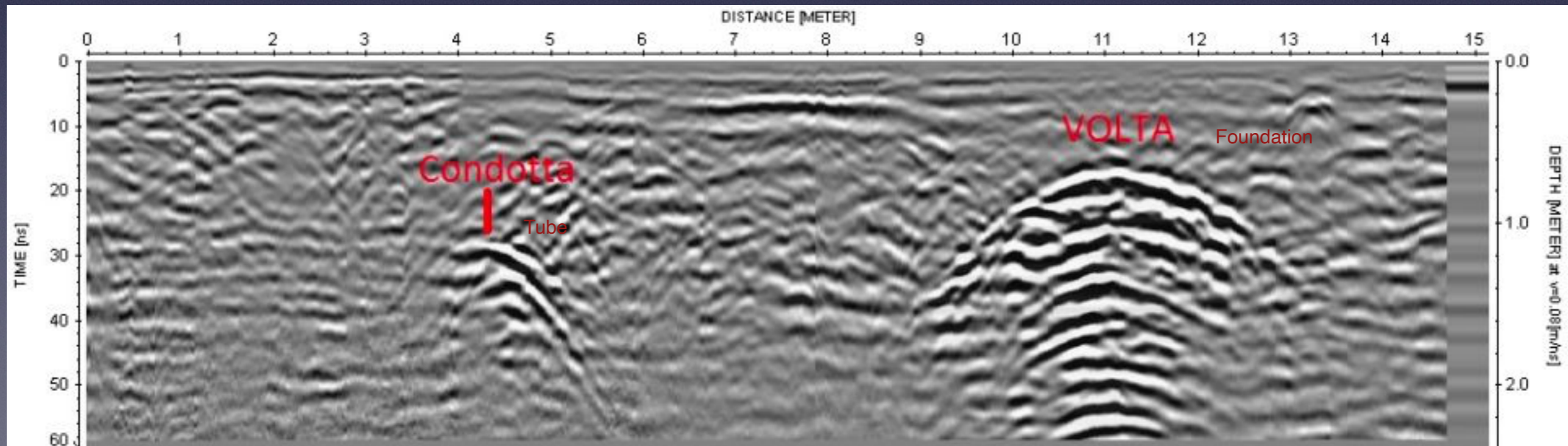
*Info about material*

$$v = \frac{c}{\sqrt{\epsilon_r}}$$

*Info about moisture content*

*Form time-RADARGRAM  
To depth RADARGRAM (MIGRATION)*

$$v = dx/dt$$





# GEORADAR

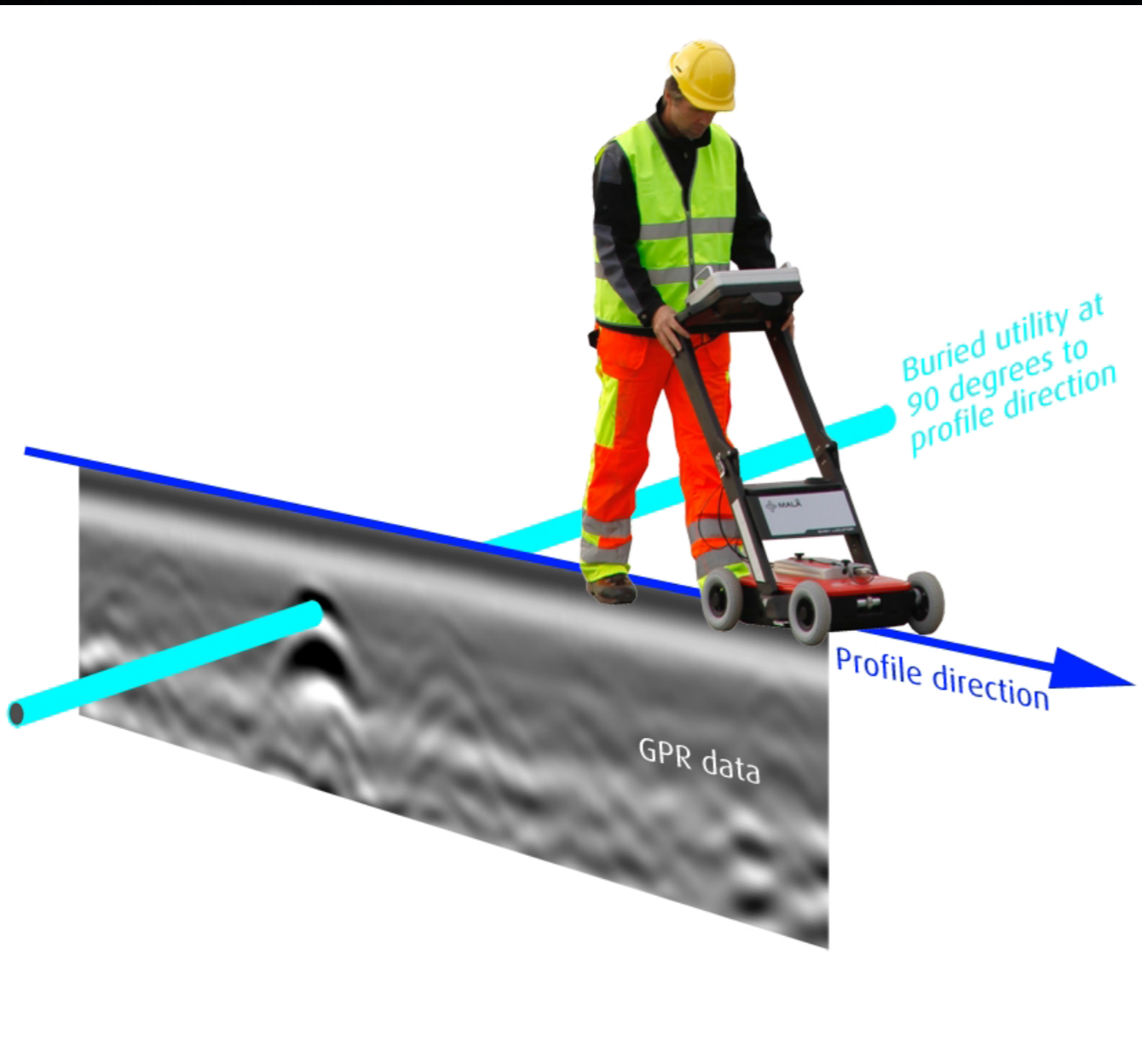
*Form time-RADARGRAM  
To depth RADARGRAM (MIGRATION)*

*Otherwise use vel. From tab values*

Material	Dielectric	Velocity (mm/ns)
Air	1	300
Water (fresh)	81	33
Water (sea)	81	33
Polar snow	1.4 - 3	194 - 252
Polar ice	3 - 3.15	168
Temperate ice	3.2	167
Pure ice	3.2	167
Freshwater lake ice	4	150
Sea ice	2.5 - 8	78 - 157
Permafrost	1 - 8	106 - 300
Coastal sand (dry)	10	95
Sand (dry)	3 - 6	120 - 170
Sand (wet)	25 - 30	55 - 60
Silt (wet)	10	95
Clay (wet)	8 - 15	86 - 110
Clay soil (dry)	3	173
Marsh	12	86
Agricultural land	15	77
Pastoral land	13	83
"Average soil"	16	75
Granite	5 - 8	106 - 120
Limestone	7 - 9	100 - 113
Dolomite	6.8 - 8	106 - 115
Basalt (wet)	8	106
Shale (wet)	7	113
Sandstone (wet)	6	112
Coal	4 - 5	134 - 150
Quartz	4.3	145
Concrete	6 - 8	55 - 112
Asphalt	3 - 5	134 - 173
PVC	3	173

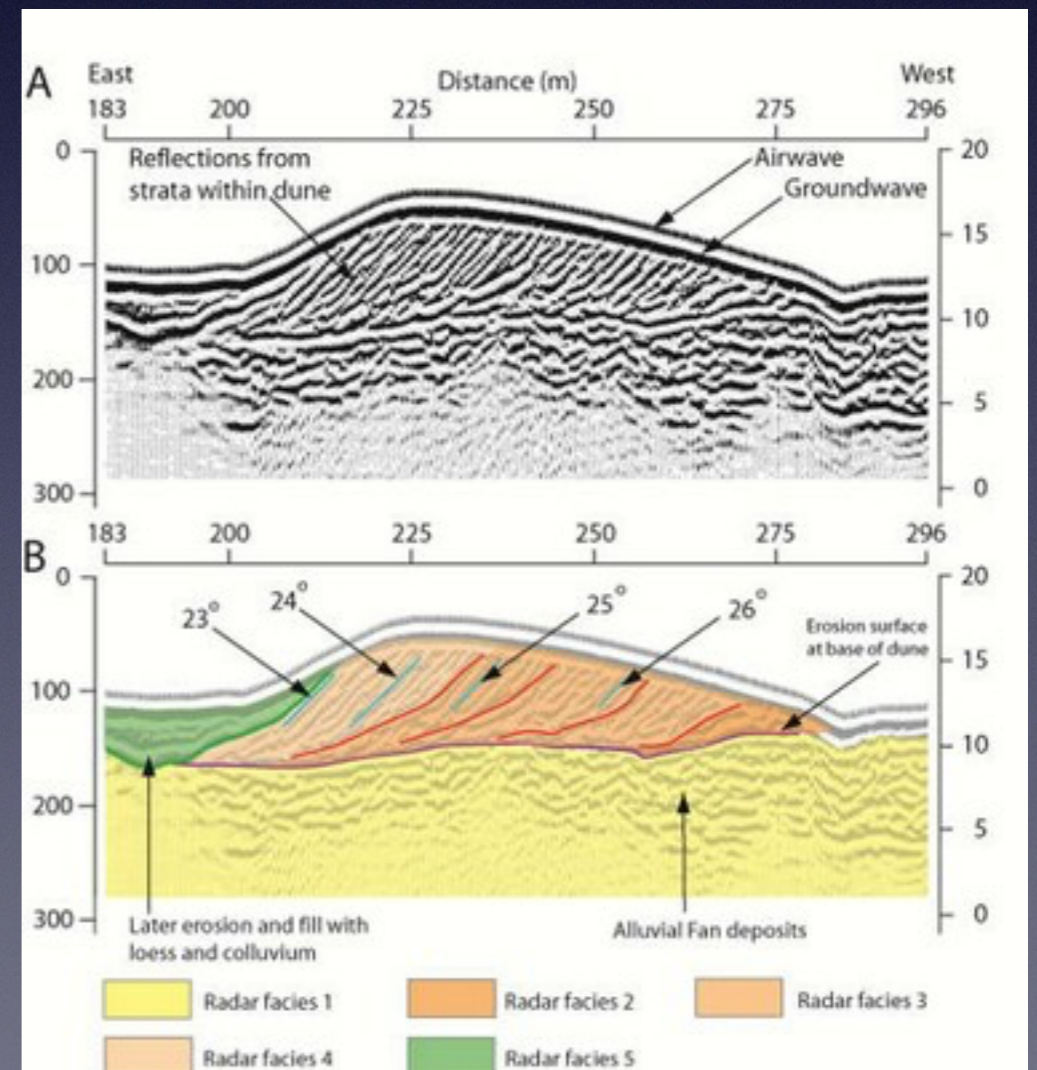


# GEORADAR



Looking for buried tunnel, tanks, etc.

Geological study





# GEORADAR glaciers study

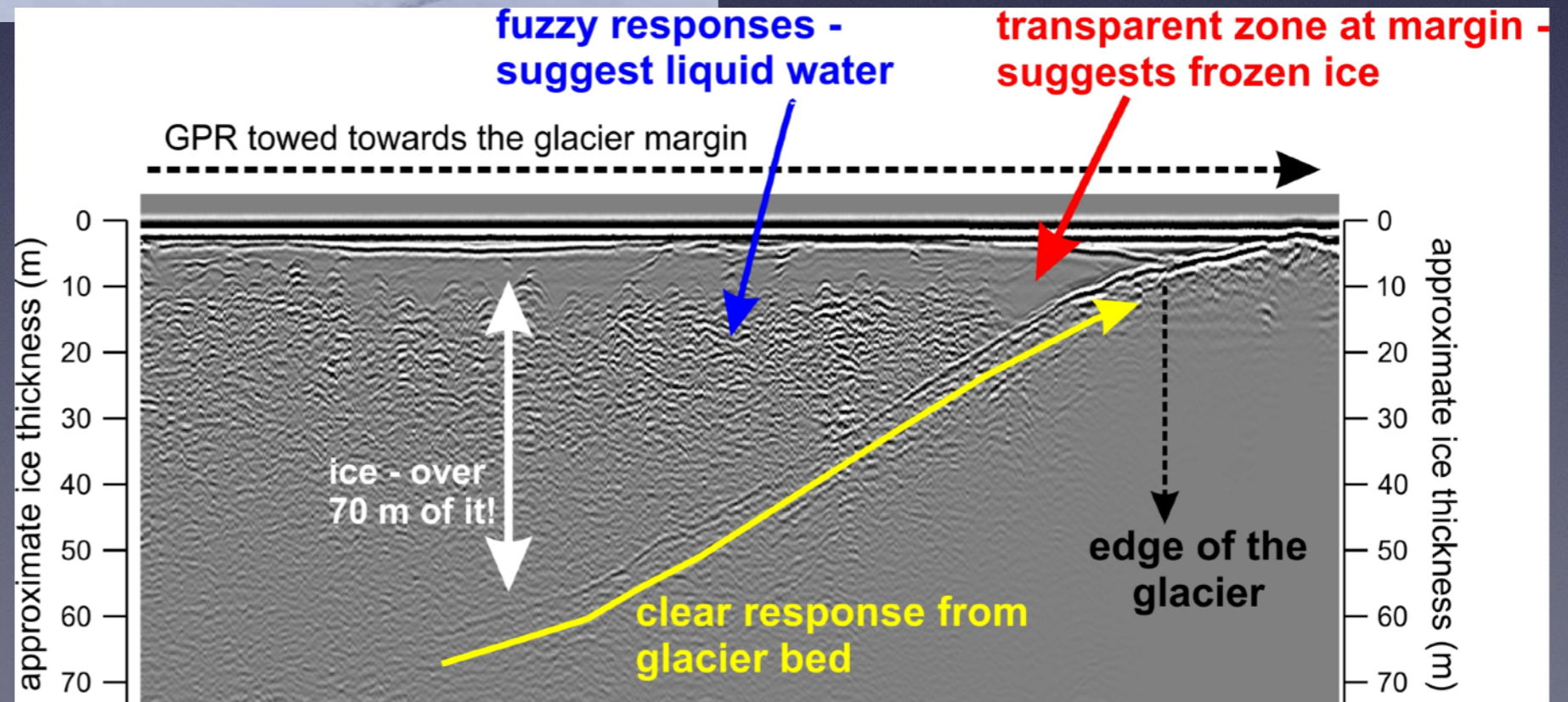


Material	Attenuation $\alpha$ (dB/m)	Resistivity $\rho$ (ohm/m)	Relative permittivity $\epsilon_r$
Ice	0.082	10000	4

Ice is very resistive

<< Attenuation

>> Penetration





# GEORADAR for road pavements





# GEORADAR in tunnel

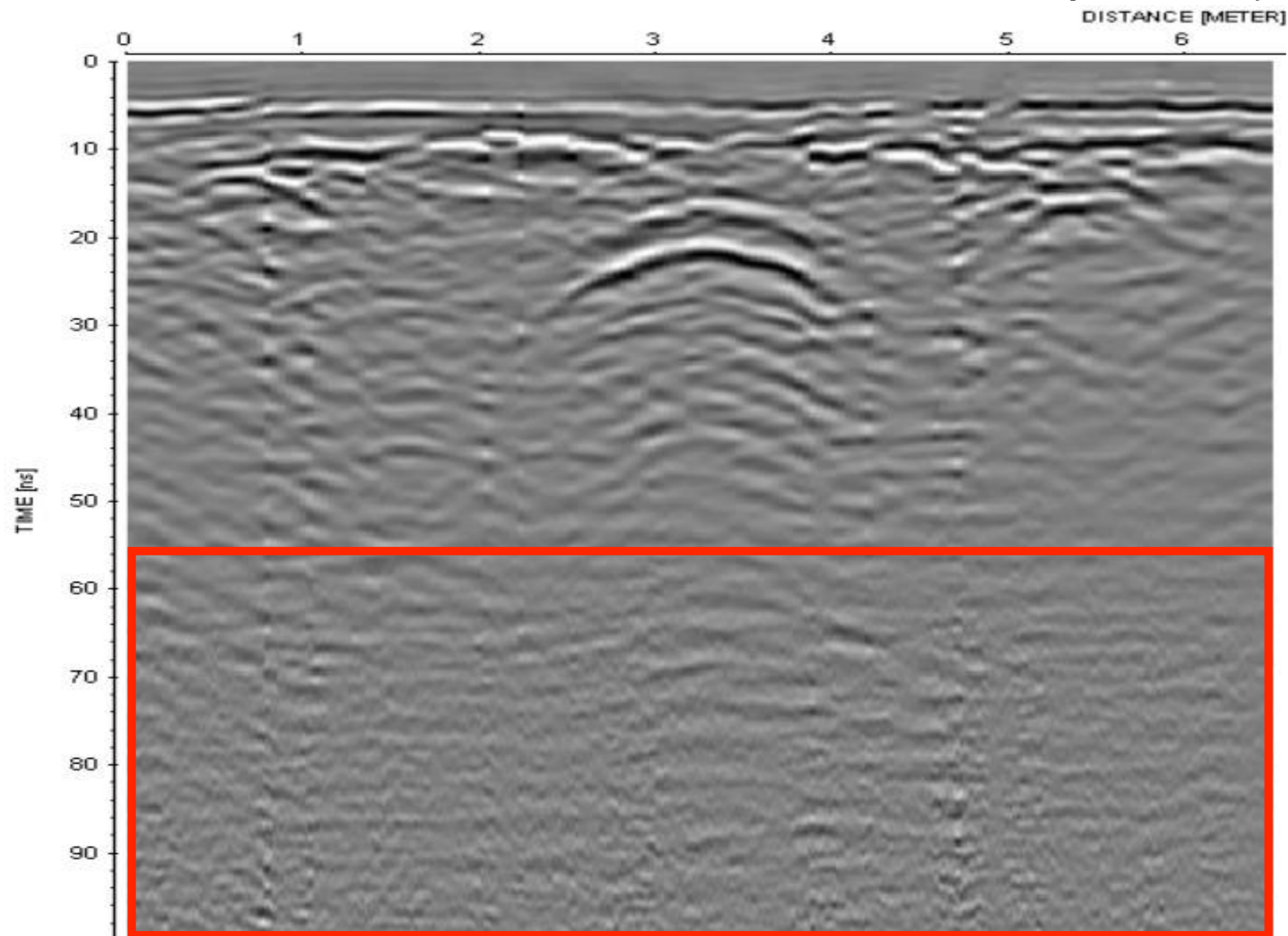




## INVESTIGATION DEPTH

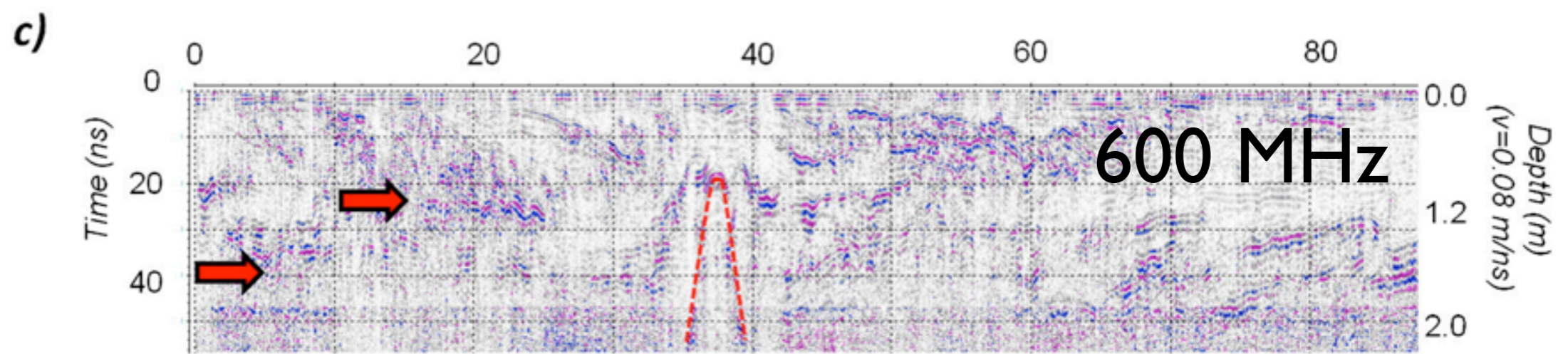
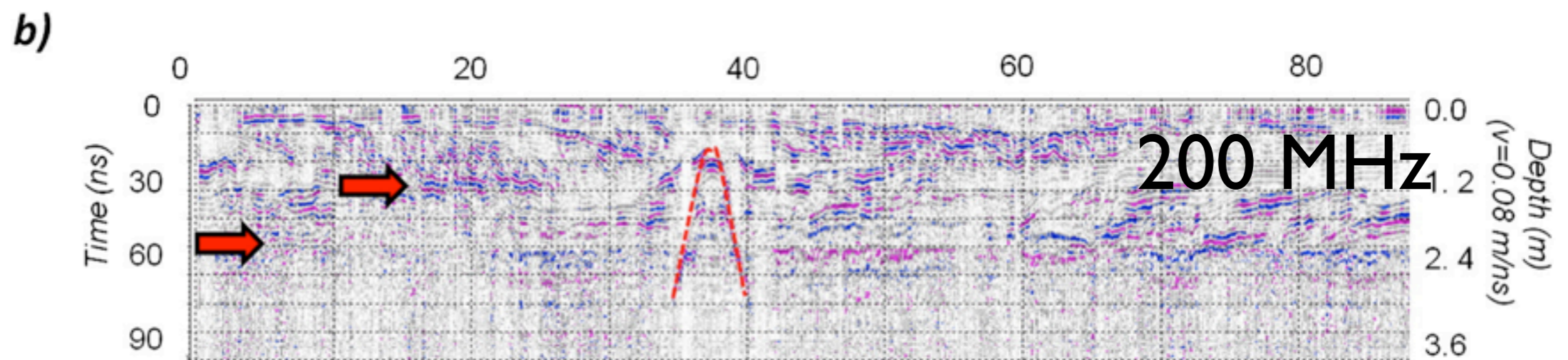
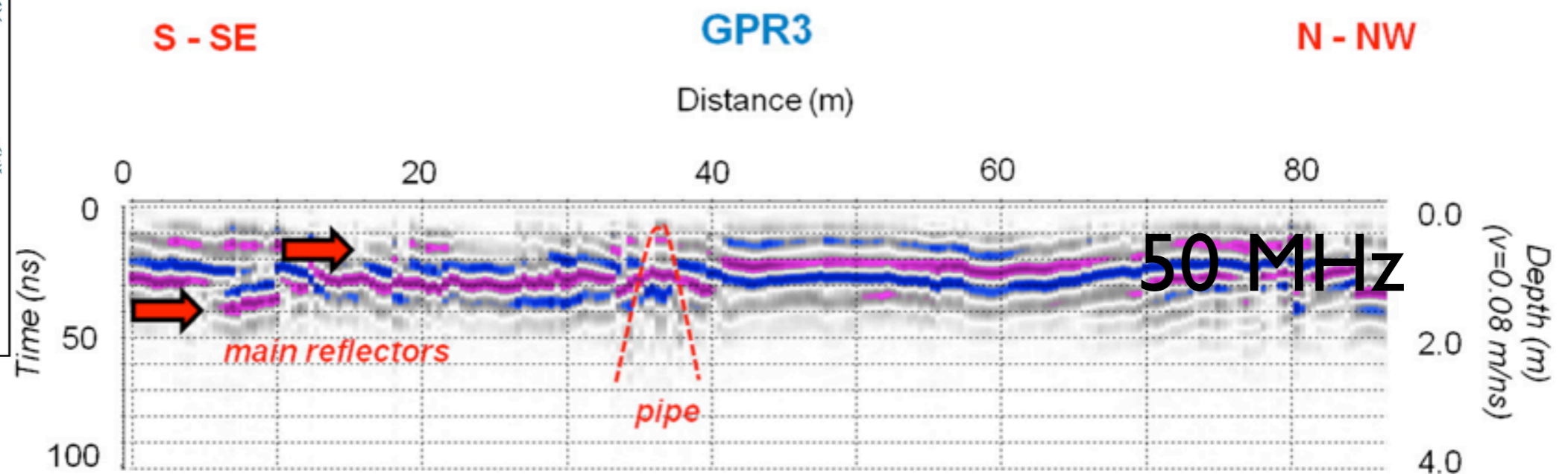
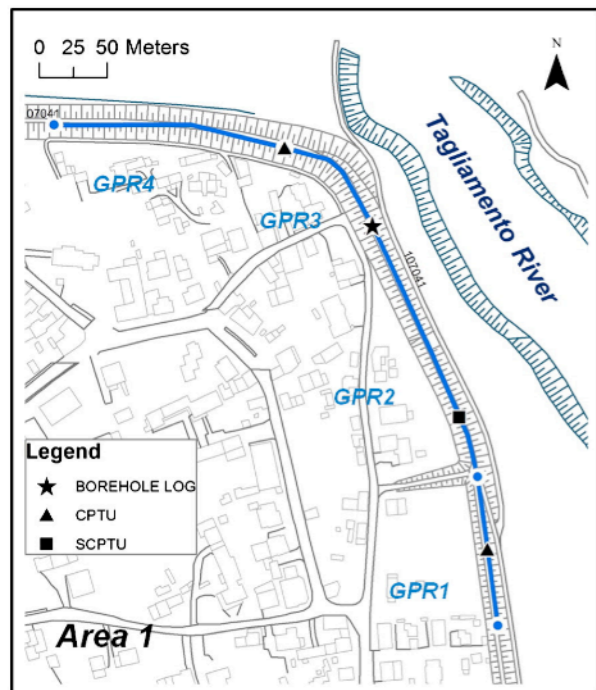
$$\begin{array}{llll} \rho = 10 \Omega\text{m} & \varepsilon=20 & v=0.07\text{m/ns} & \alpha=38 \text{ dB/m} \\ \rho = 200 \Omega\text{m} & \varepsilon=5 & v=0.13\text{m/ns} & \alpha=0.38 \text{ dB/m} \end{array}$$

100dB system: respectively 2.6m and 26 m  
respectively 40ns and 200ns



Dependence on the frequency



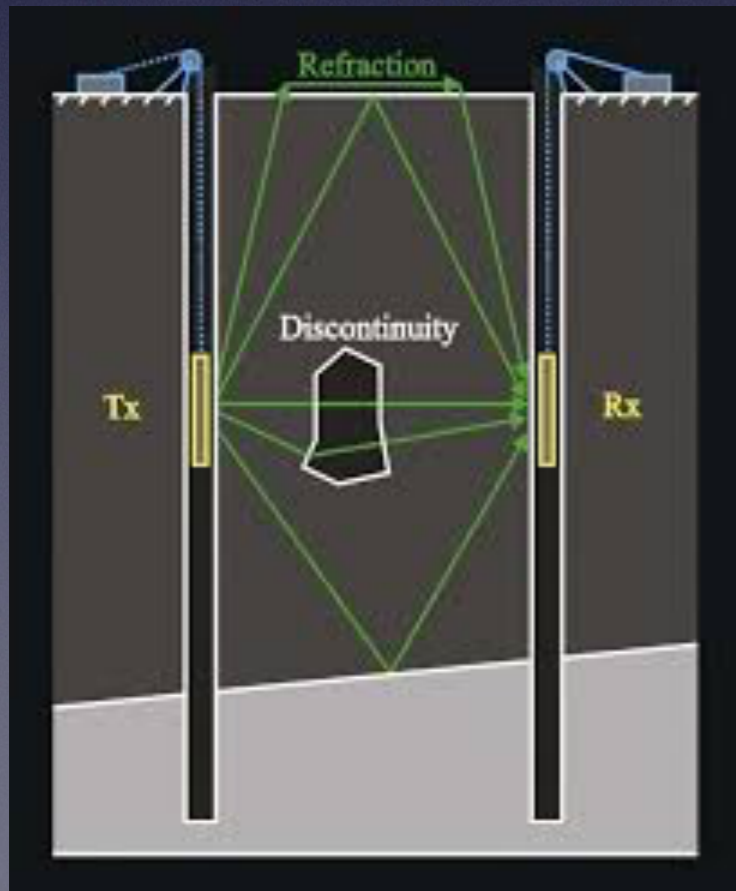




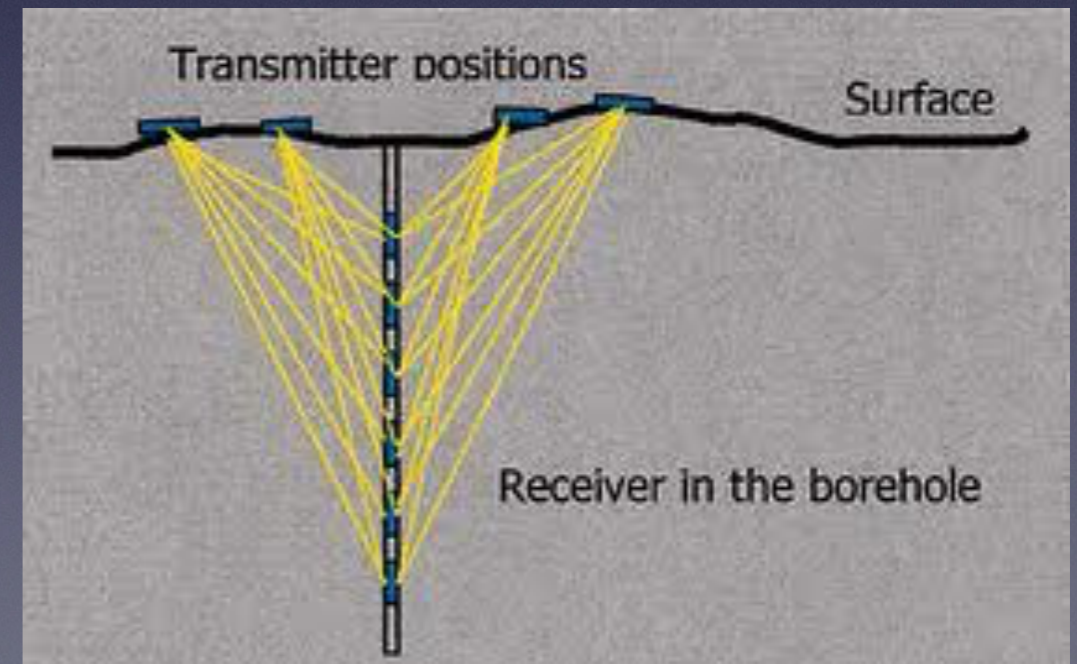
# GEORADAR In pozzo BOREHOLE GPR



## Cross Borehole

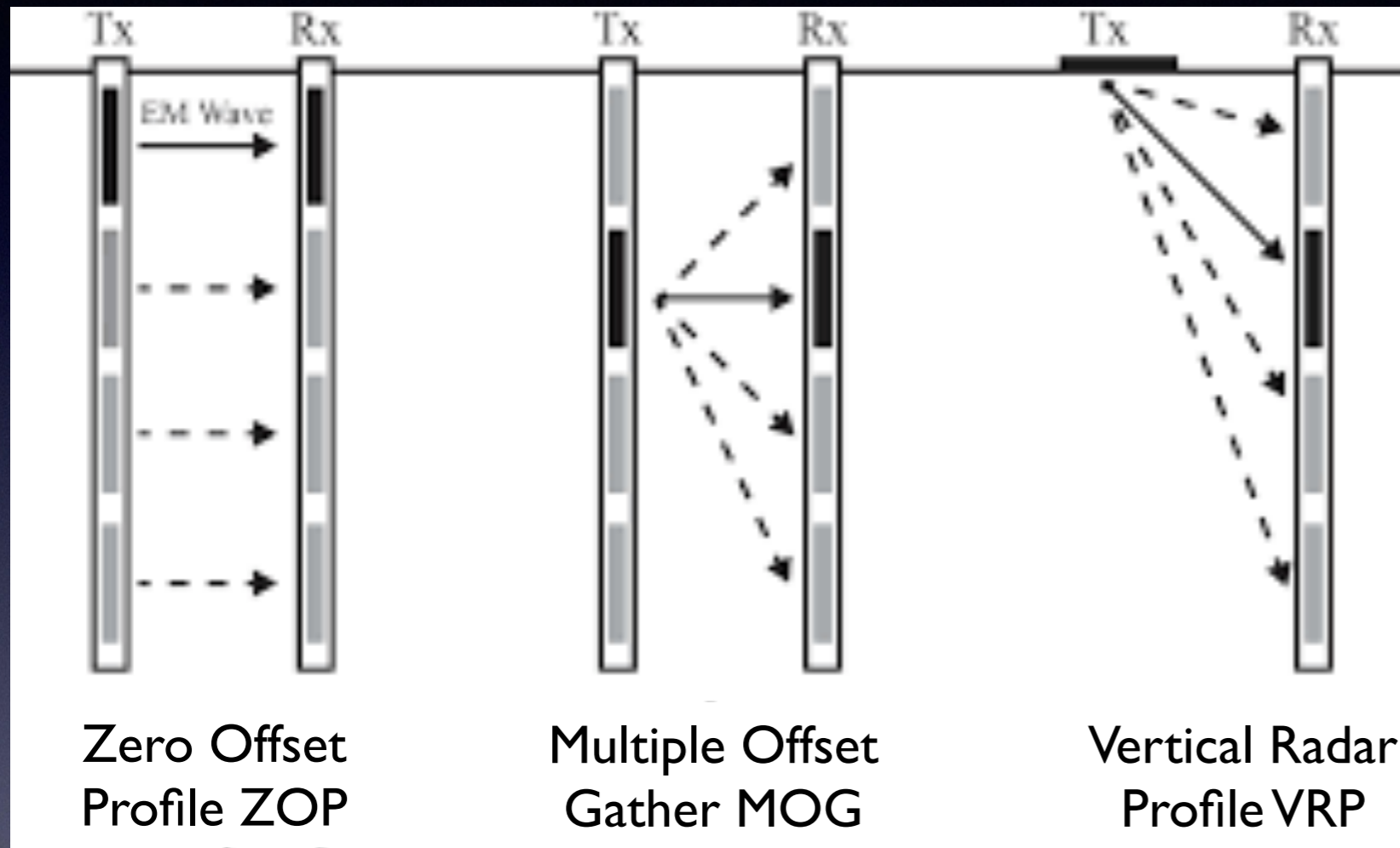


## Single Borehole





# BOREHOLE GEORADAR



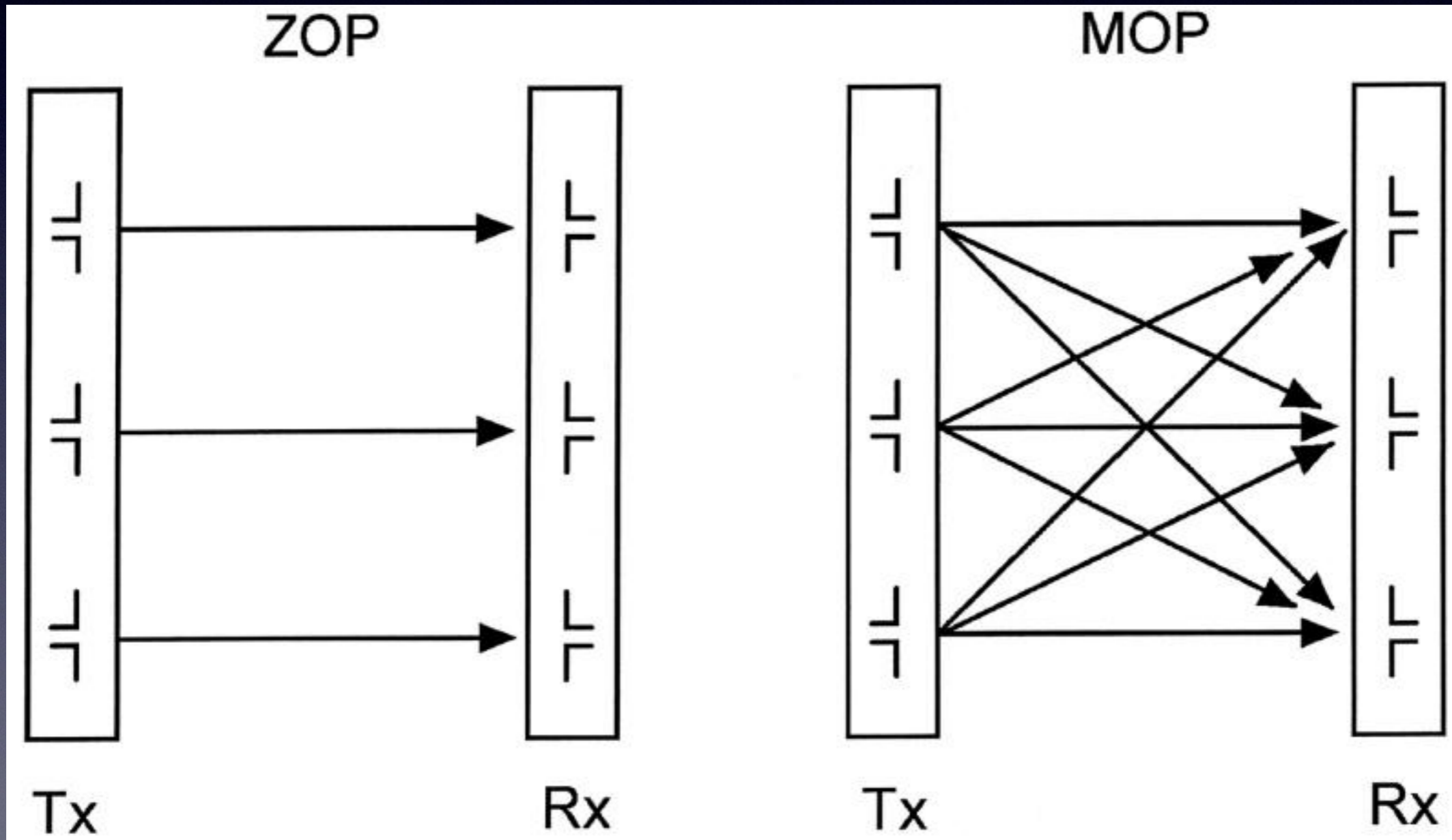
Different  
Configurations



# BOREHOLE GEORADAR

ZERO OFFSET  
PROFILE

MULTI OFFSET  
PROFILE

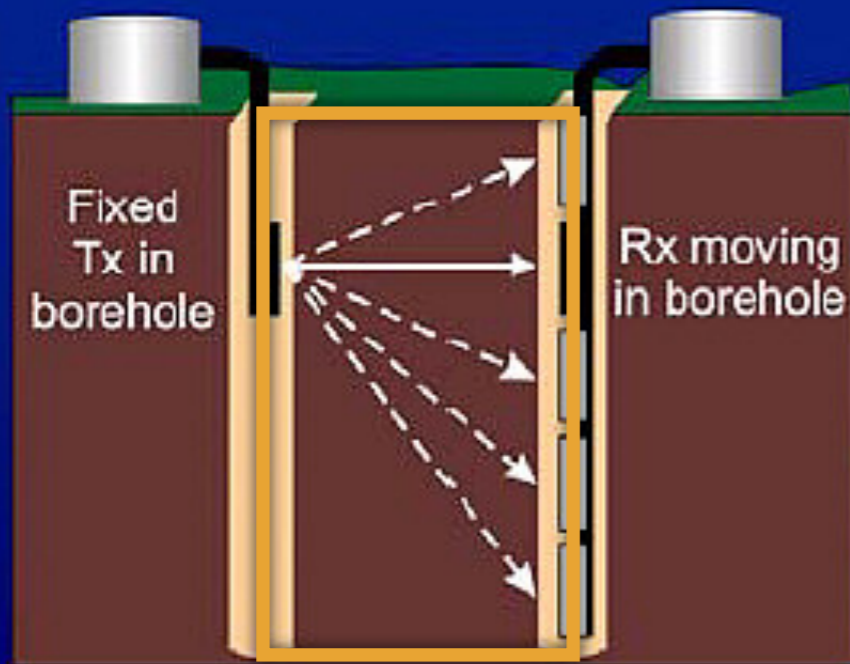




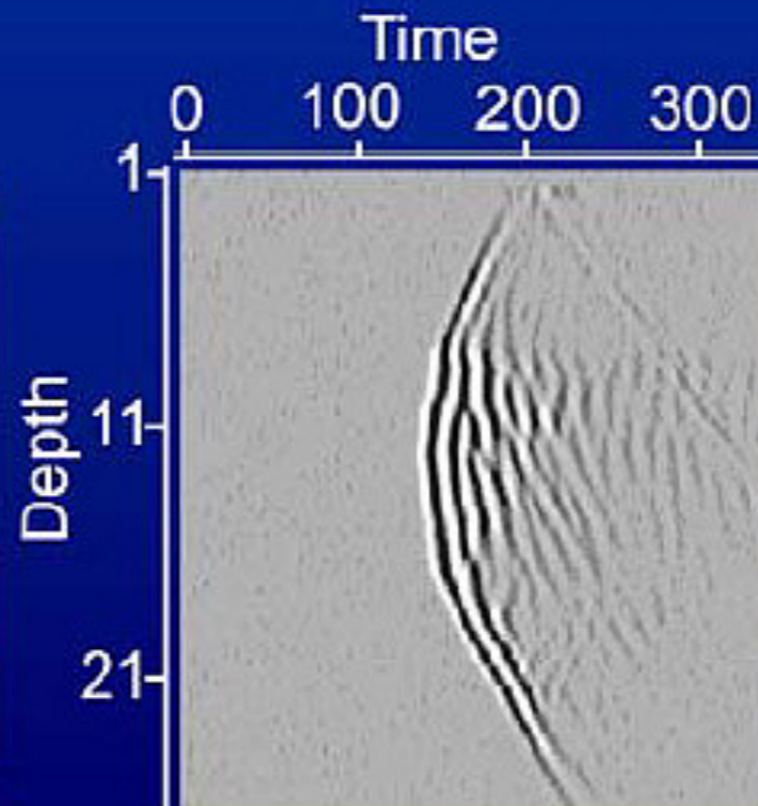
# BOREHOLE GEORADAR

## MULTI OFFSET PROFILE

Multiple Offset Gather



Raw Data



**BEST**  
Resolution  
Method  
Between  
The 2 boreholes



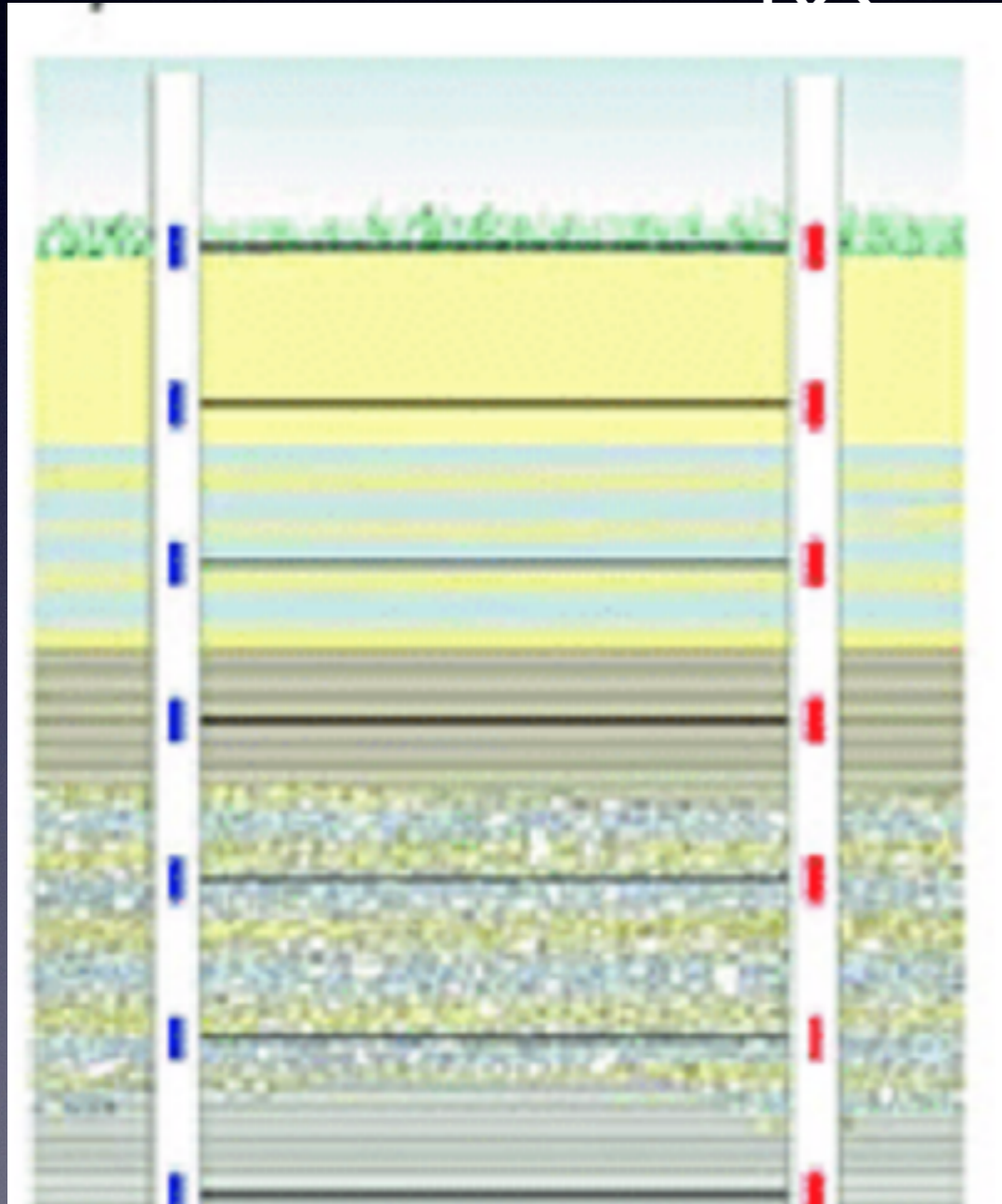
# Electro-magnetic methods

## BOREHOLE GEORADAR

### Zero Offset Profile

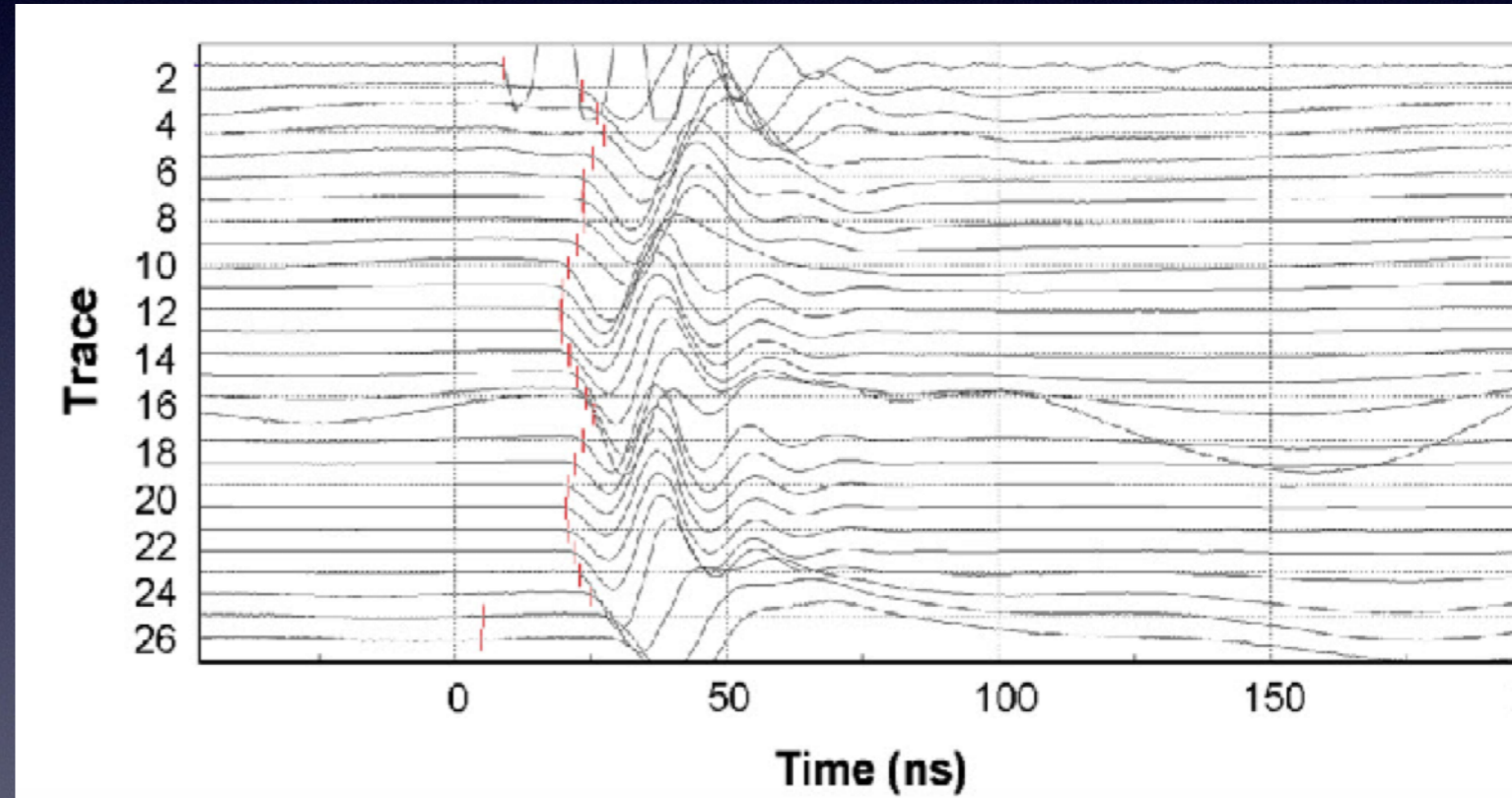
Tx

RX



$x$  (m)

Picking of radar wave first arrivals

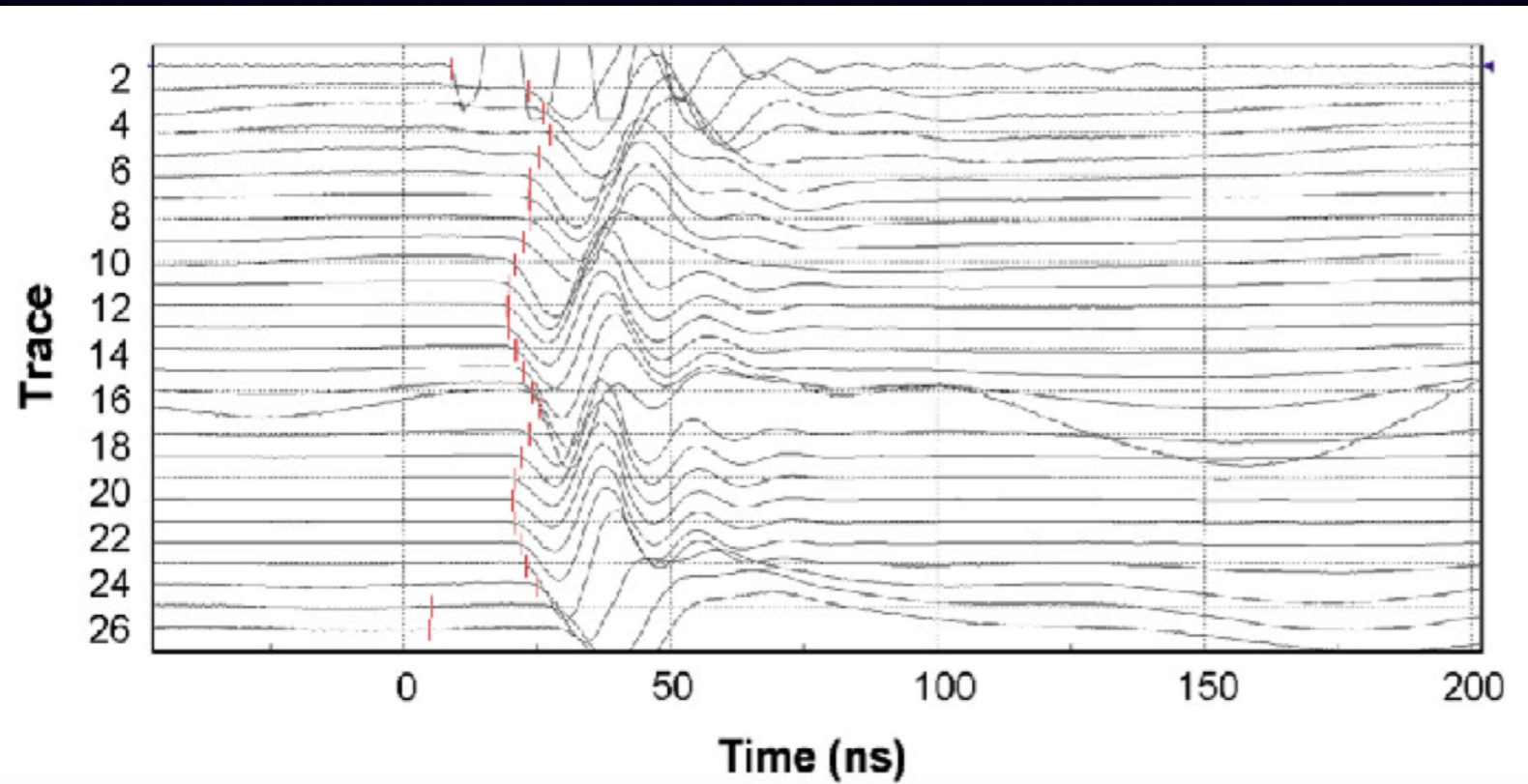


velocity of propagation



# GEORADAR

Picking of radar wave  
first arrivals



velocity of propagation

For Environmental  
Applications

GPR can be used  
To assess  
Dielectric changes  
(Velocity changes)

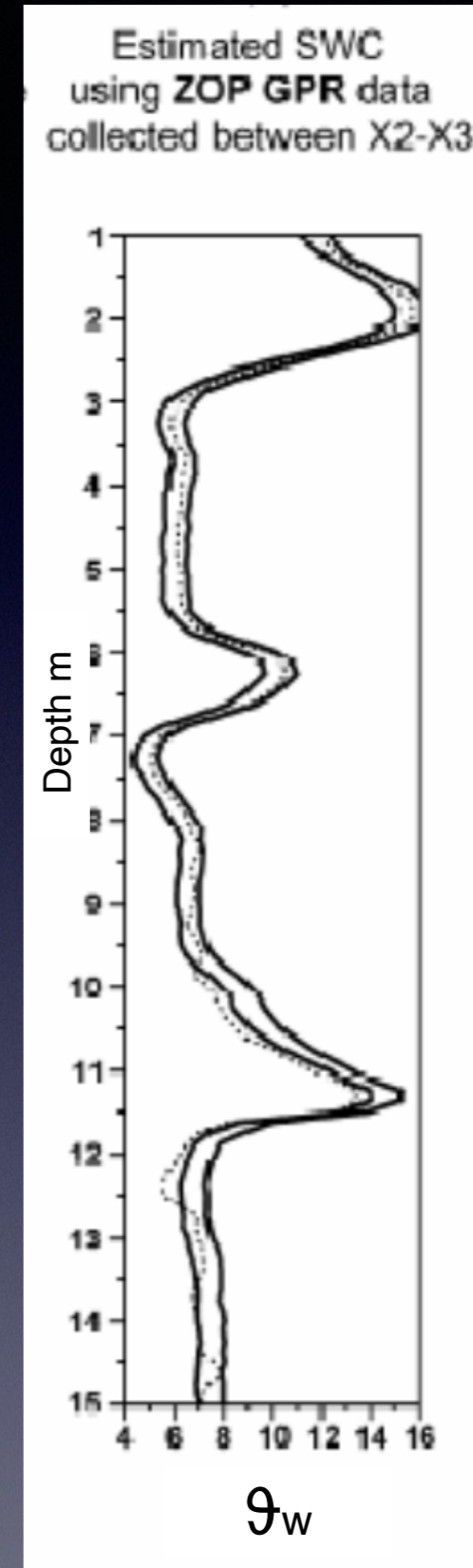
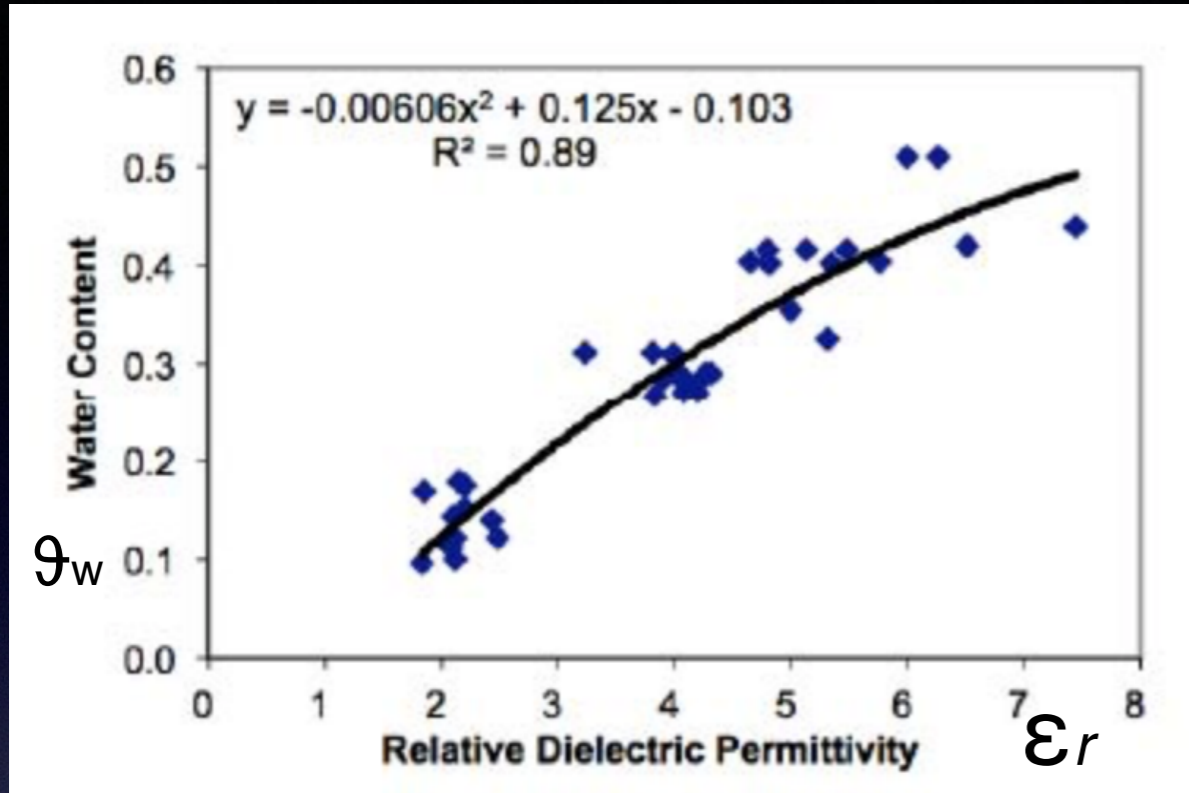


WATER CONTENT



# Electro-magnetic methods

$\epsilon_r = f(\text{saturation})$



Water content estimated via borehole GPR

$$v = \frac{c}{\sqrt{\epsilon_r}}$$

Velocity of Radar wave

$\neq v \rightarrow \neq \text{water content}$

$$\theta_w = V_w / V_{\text{total}} ; \quad \theta_w = \phi \cdot S_w$$

Water Content

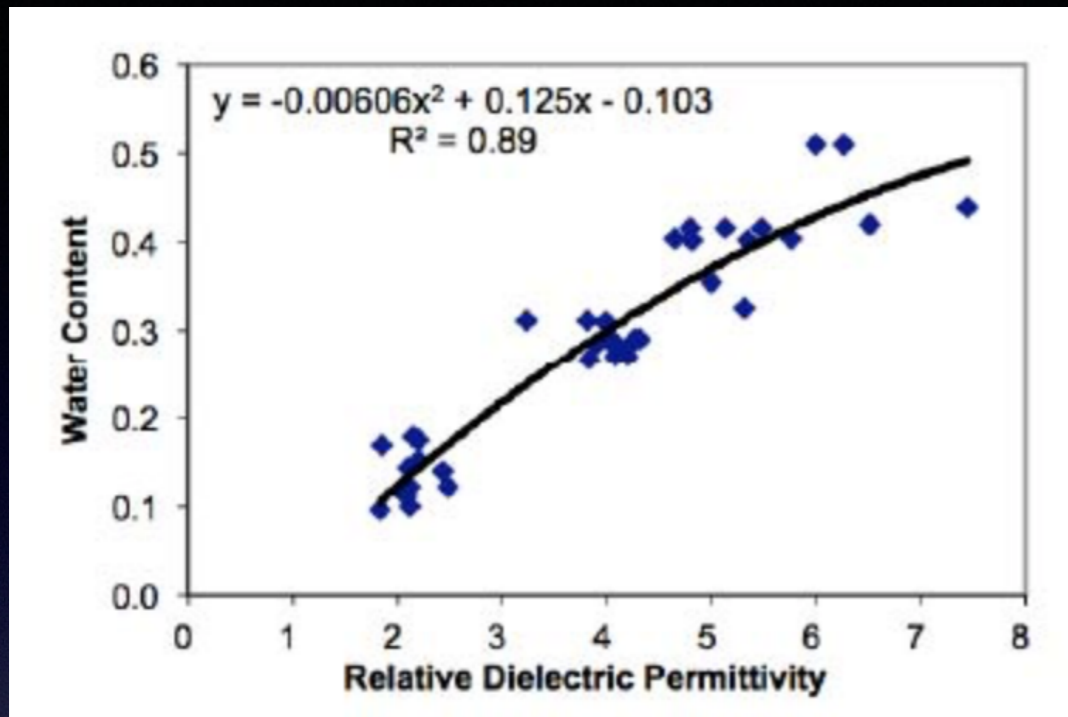
Vol. water/Vol. tot

Porosity \* Saturation



# Electro-magnetic methods

$\epsilon_r = f(\text{saturation})$



Theta from Topp (1980)

$$\vartheta = 0,053\epsilon + 0,0292\epsilon^2 + 0,00055\epsilon^3 + 0,0000043\epsilon^3$$

Water Content

Dielectric const.

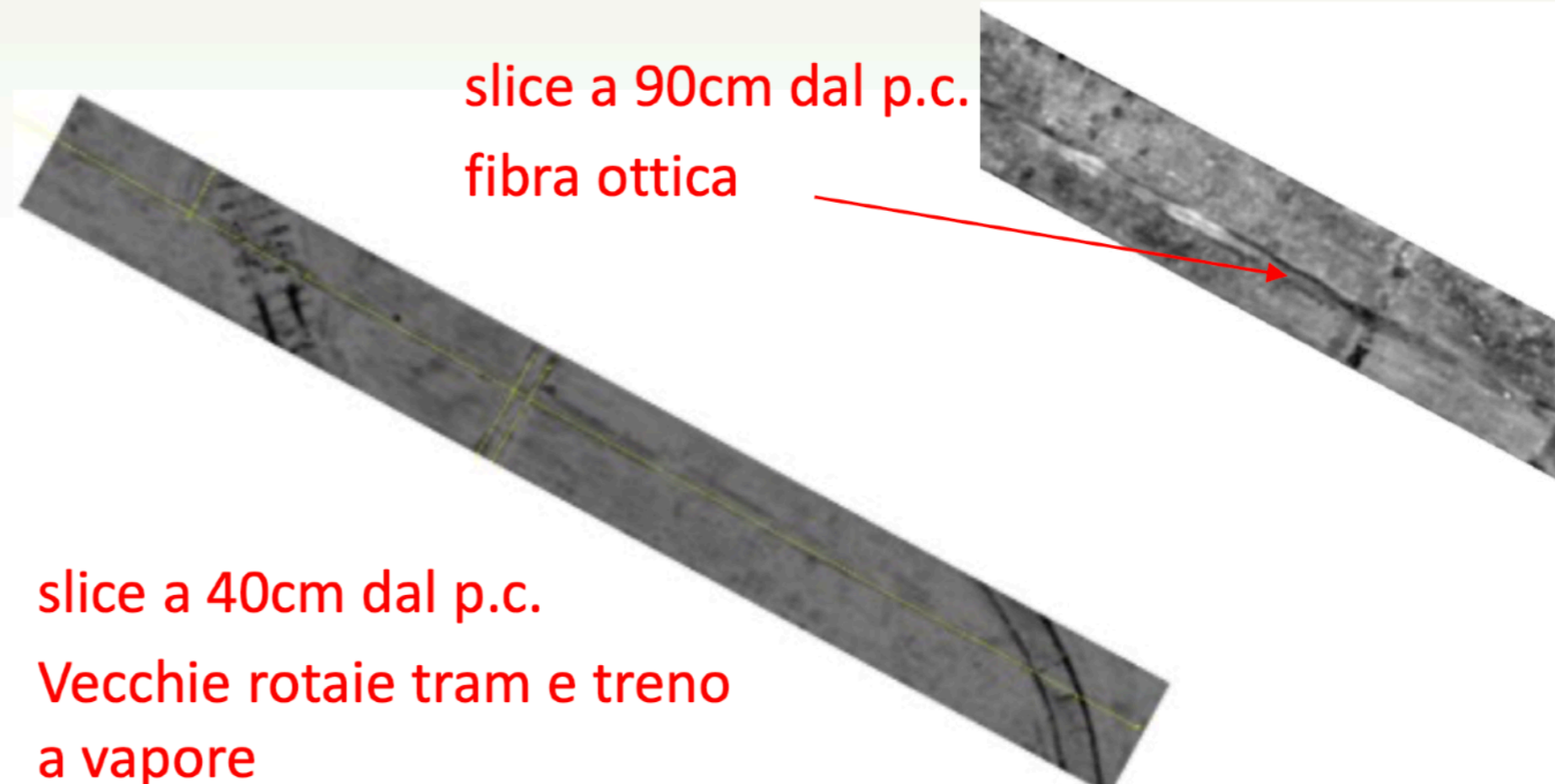
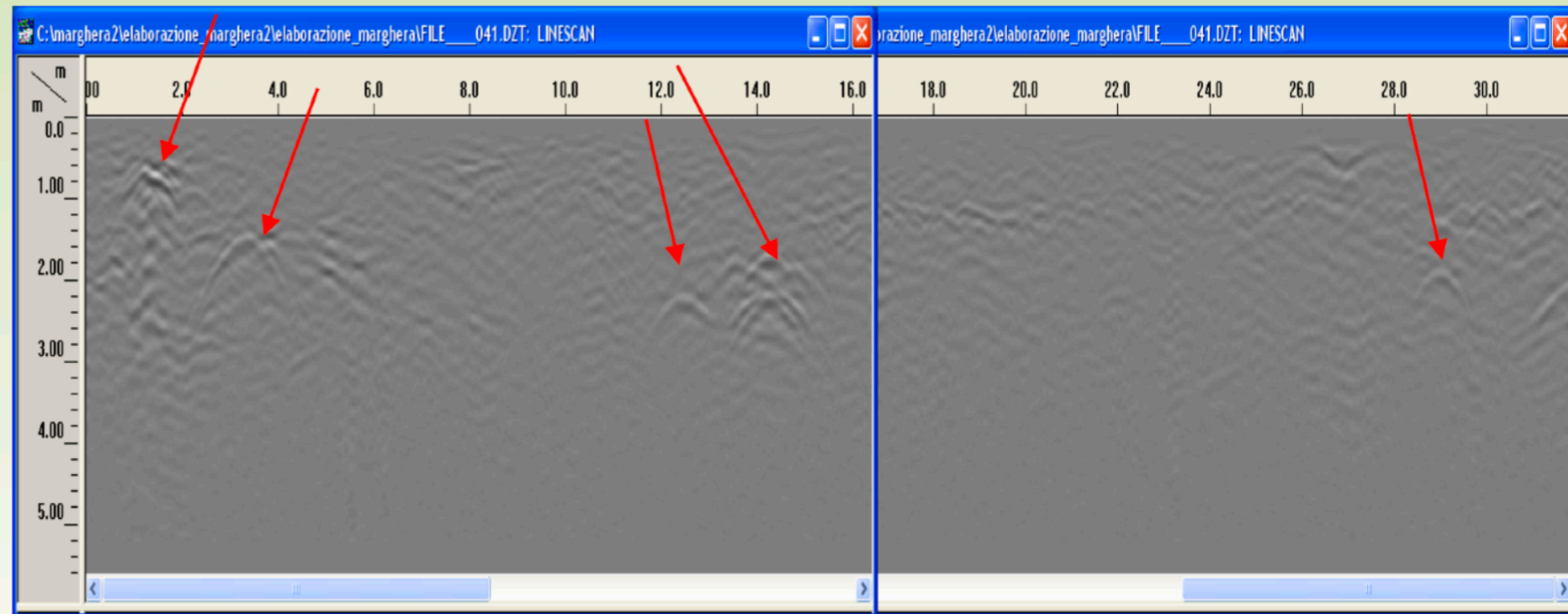
We can estimate water changes and different liquid phases with GPR







# Es. ricerca sottoservizi in area industriale

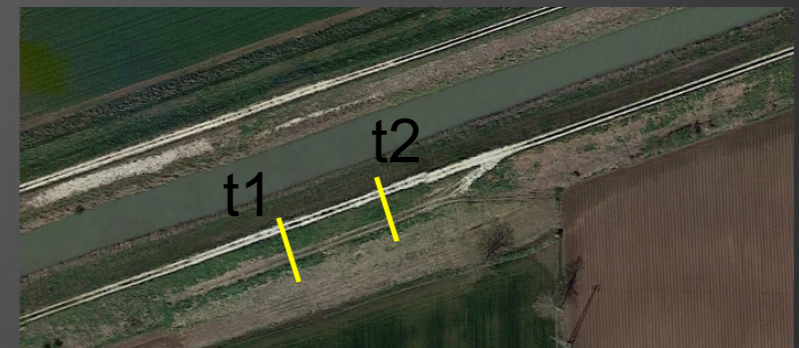






## 4. GPR results

Same position of  
transversal ERT sections T1 and T2



- Bi-static profile
- Tx and Rx on internal and external sides of the levee (ZOP)
- 100 Mhz antennas



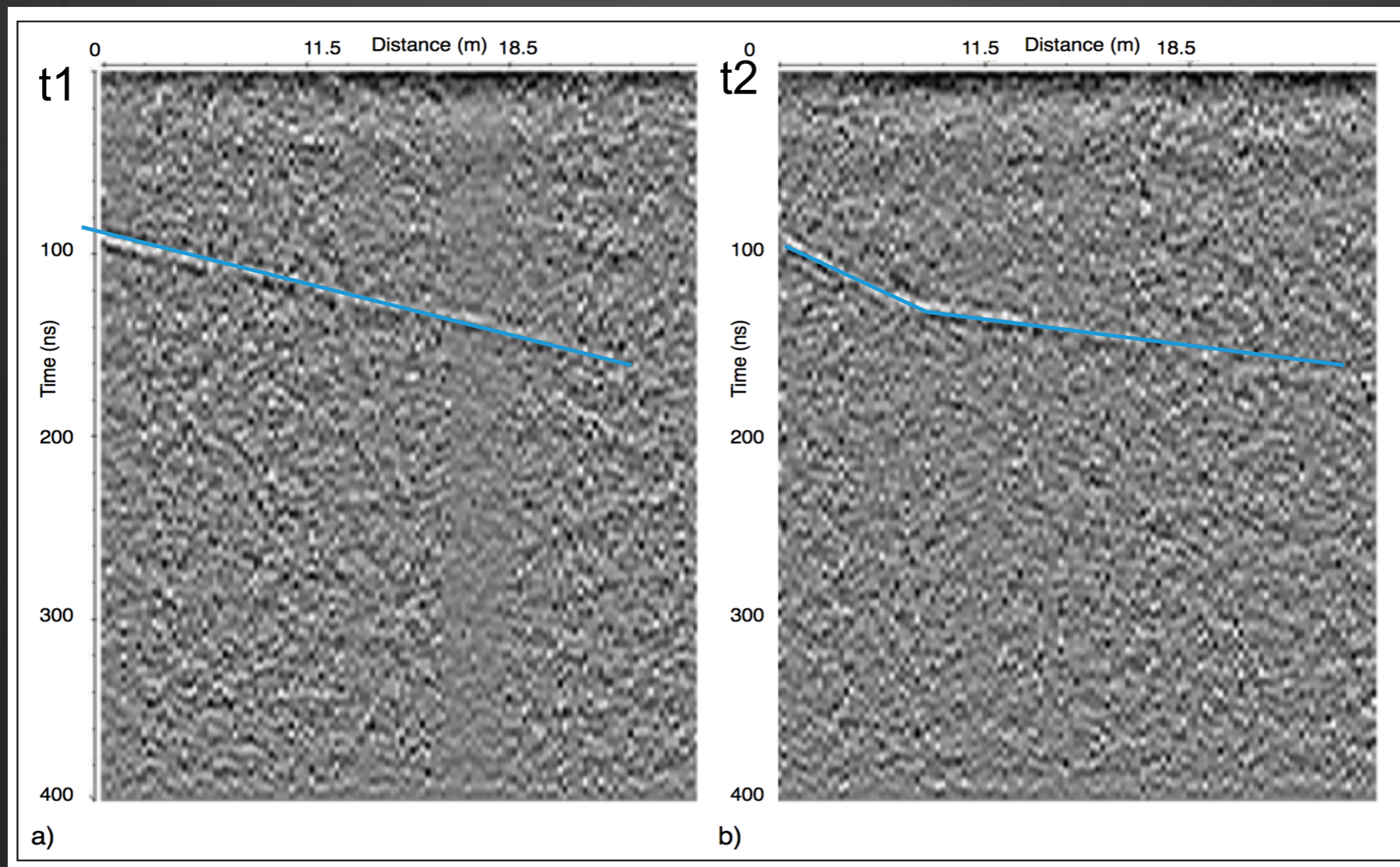
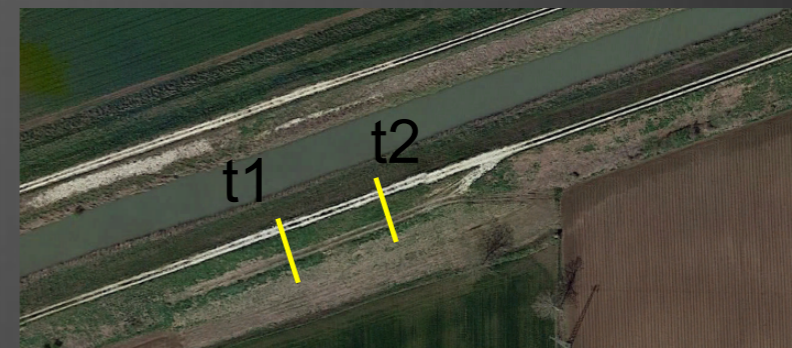




## 4. GPR results

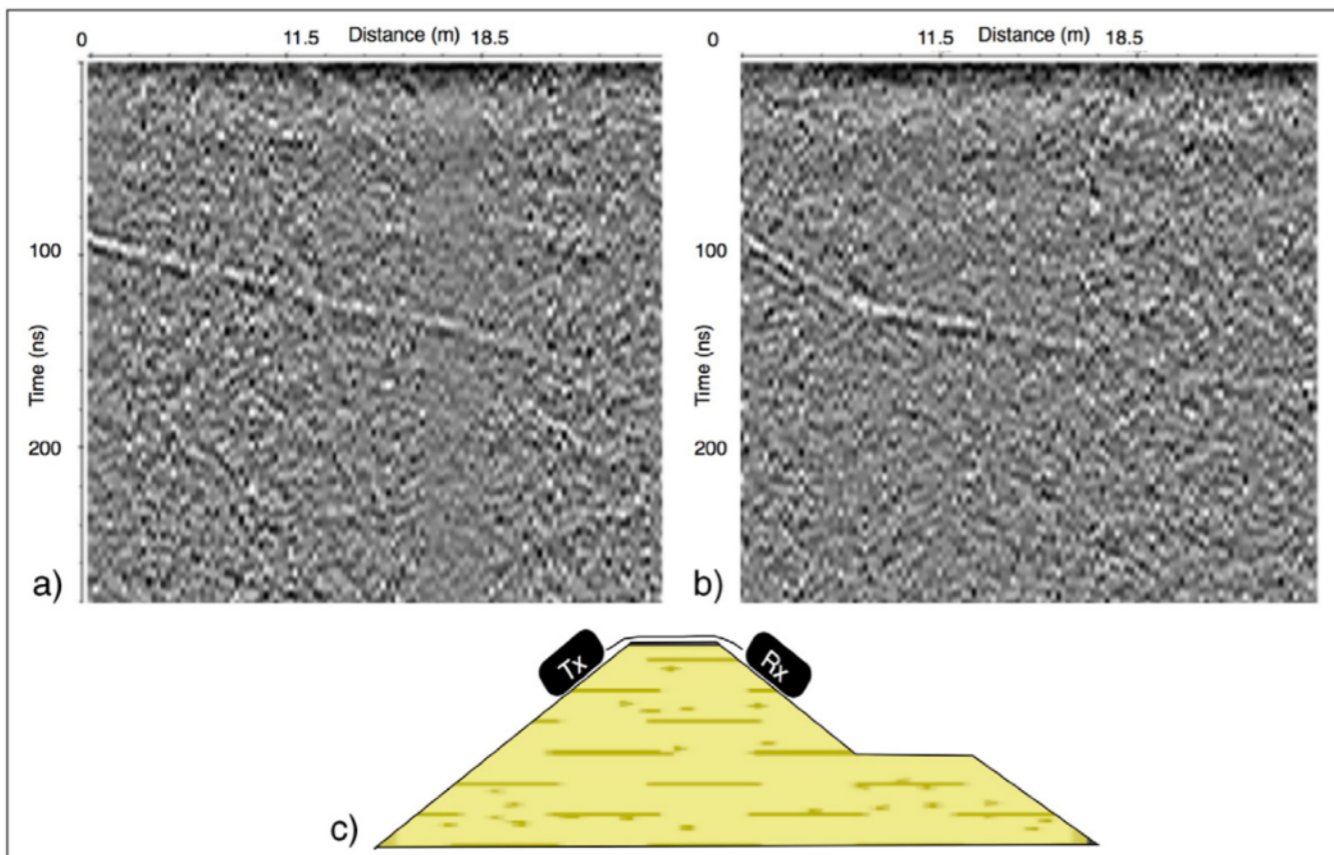
Conductive core - noisy data

First pick arrival for ( $\epsilon$ ) estimation



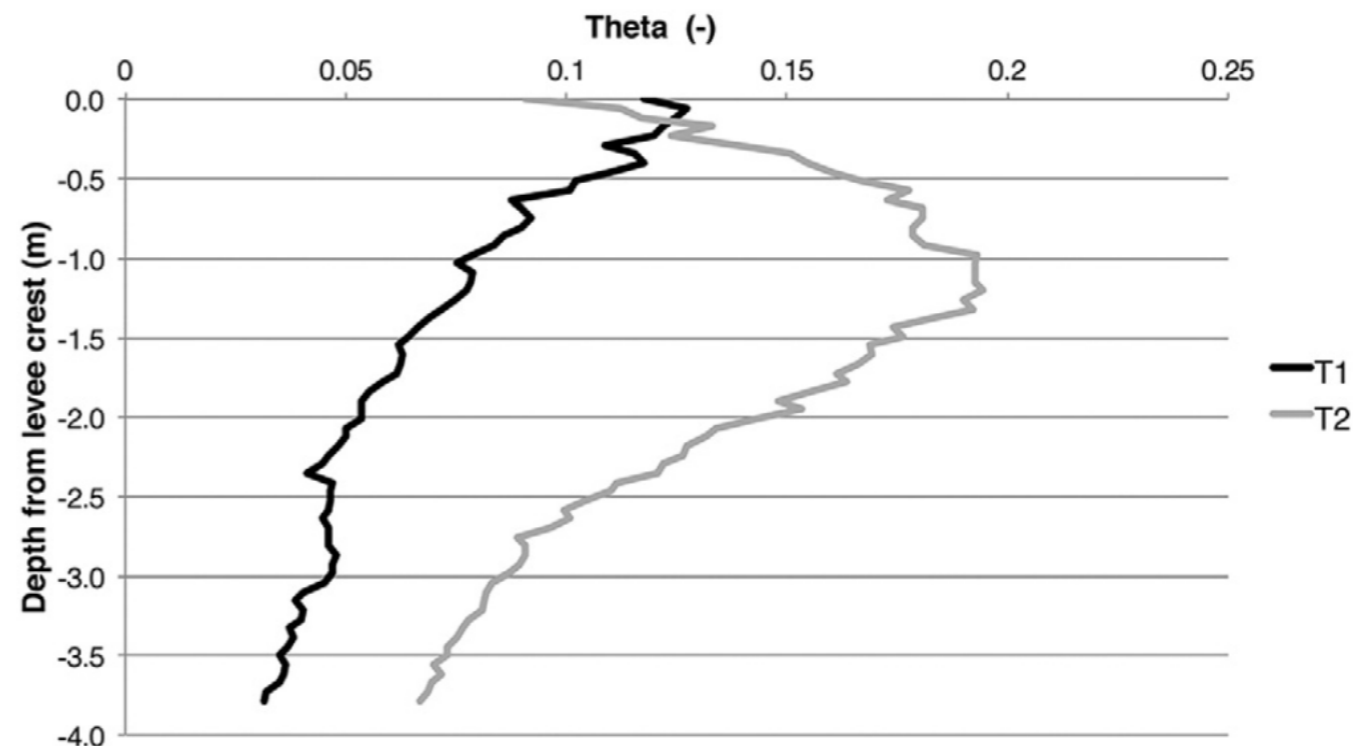


# GPR on levees



Estimation of  
Water content  $\theta$   
In the levee

Leakages  
seeking...



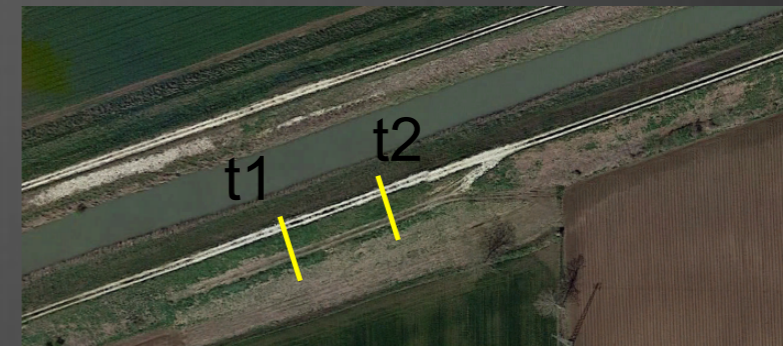




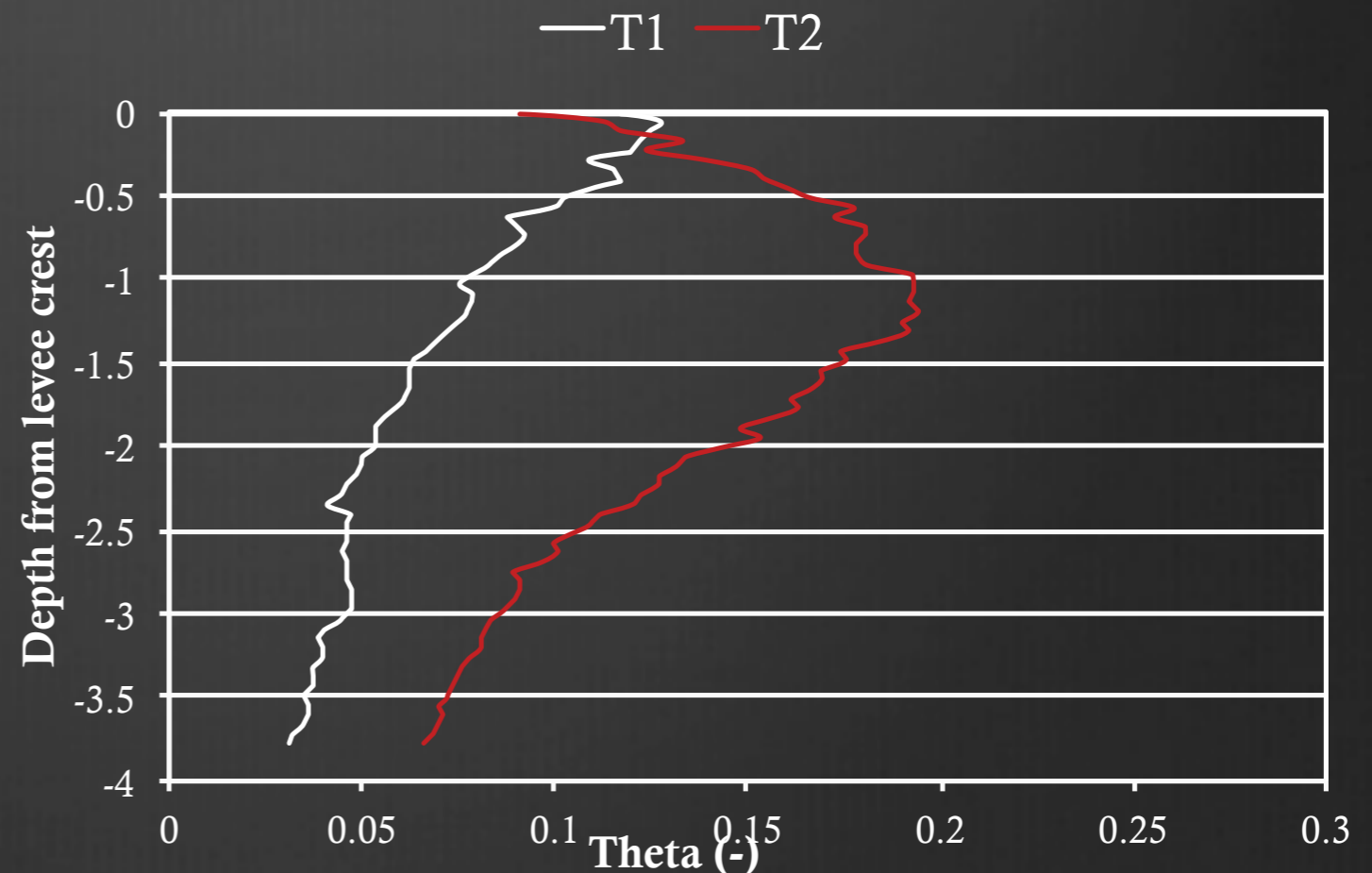
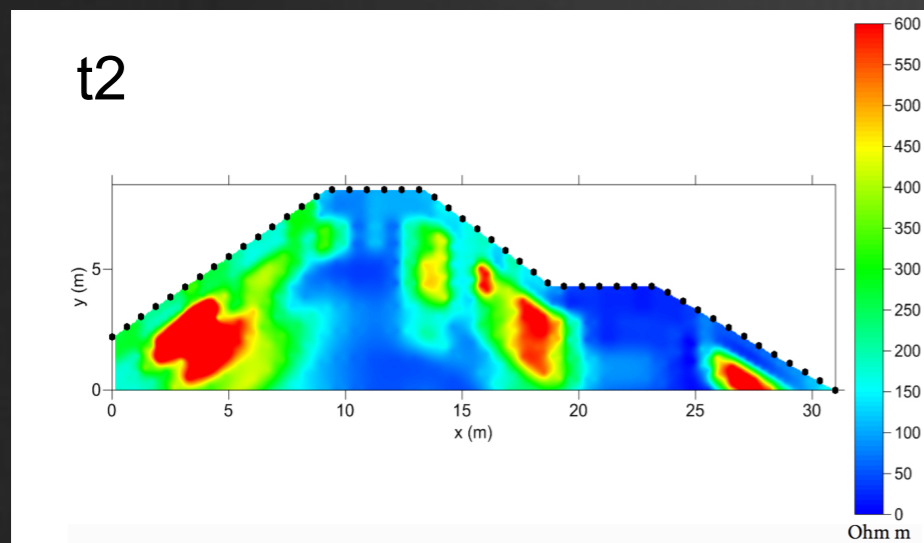
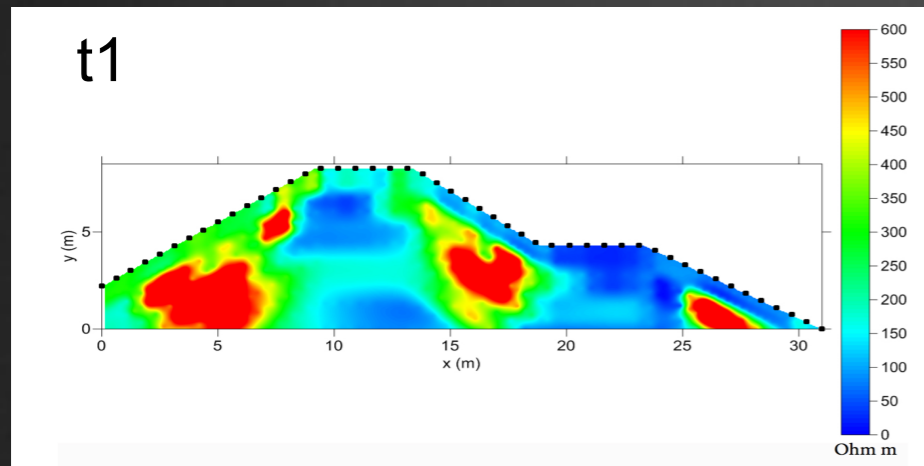
### 4. GPR results

Theta from Topp (1980)

$$\vartheta = 0,053\varepsilon + 0,0292\varepsilon^2 + 0,00055\varepsilon^3 + 0,0000043\varepsilon^3$$



> Theta in stronger concrete septum





es. Treocate (No)

$\epsilon_r = f(\text{saturation})$

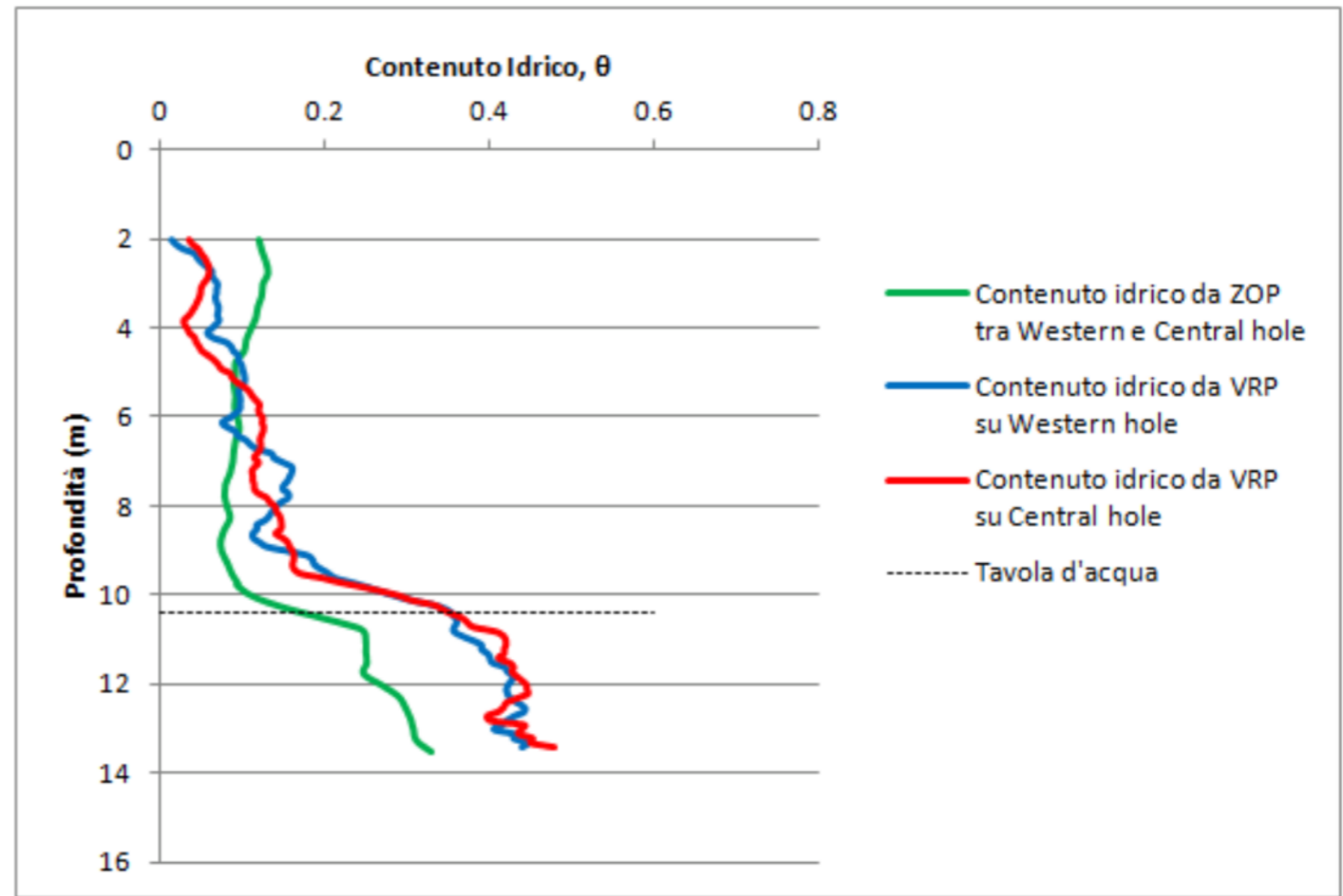
$\epsilon_r = f(\text{fluid})$

$$v = \frac{c}{\sqrt{\epsilon_r}}$$



Watertable

Pollutant





# RADAR attributes

## Not only diffraction

Amplitude-related attributes are the most common attributes in GPR applications.

**The time derivative** of instantaneous amplitude (i.e. the time rate of change of the envelope) can further emphasize interfaces and discontinuities, and help the identification of reflections thus increasing the overall resolution and interpretability.

**Cosine of instantaneous phase** help check lateral spatial continuity/discontinuity of reflections, such attribute images weak and strong events with equal strength.

**The dominant frequency** of the processed GPR section returns the instantaneous dominant frequency from the frequency spectrum of GPR data, that is, the frequency with the highest amplitude in specified windows. E.g. We can note a general attenuation trend due to the altered debris layer.



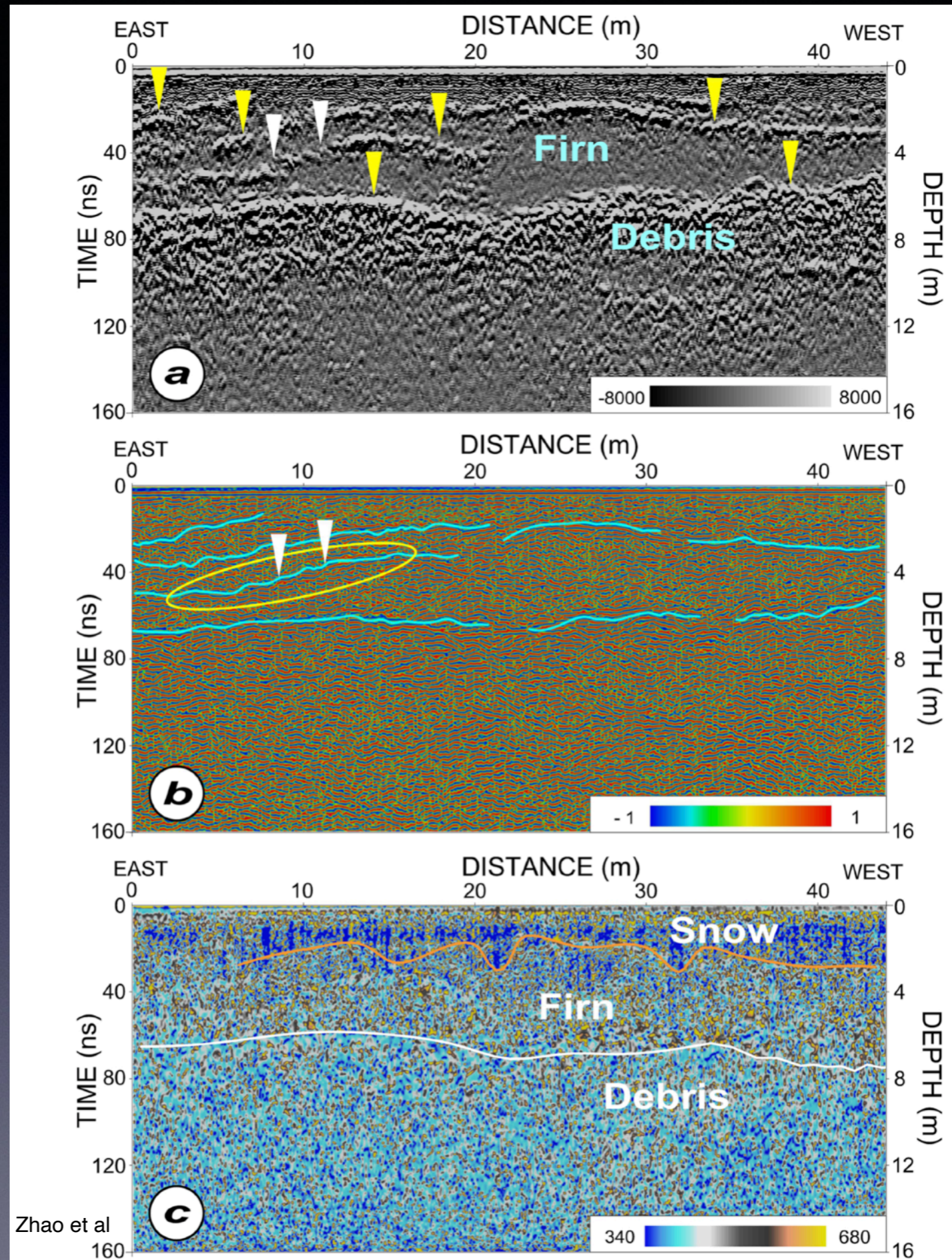
# RADAR attributes

## Glacier example

(a) Amplitude first derivative

(b) cosine of the instantaneous phase

(c) dominant frequency





# Radar Logistic

Method	Probe	Resolution	Depth
GPR	50MHz - Ghz	cm -m	cm - 50m

COST: - GPR 50-100k



# RADAR GPR methods

Equipments



# RADAR GPR methods

Main builders:

MALA (Sweden)



Pulsekko (Canada)



IDS (Italy)



GSSI (Usa)





# RADAR GPR methods

MONO static



Bi static



IDS (Italy)

Pulsekko (Canada)



# RADAR GPR methods

MONO static



IDS (Italy)

**PRO**

Maybe the top  
Quality RADAR in terms  
Of s/n ratio

**CONS**

Cost, only mono static



# RADAR GPR methods

Bi static



PulseEKKO (Canada)

**PRO**

Huge polyvalence

Can be linked to borehole  
Radar, different frequencies antenna

Or fixed in a trolley and become  
Monostatic

**CONS**

Quality of imaging



# Electrical and EM methods

Methods	Properties	Aim
Electric surveys	Electric resistivity	Subsoil imaging, Hydrological surveys, Caves, dynamic of fluids, ...
EM- methods	Electric conductivity	Environmental studies, archeology, Agriculture aims,...
Radar GPR	Dielectric permittivity	Subsoil target, Voids, archeology, glaciology, roads,...