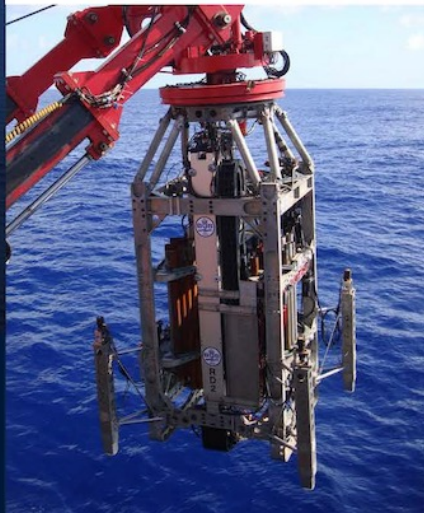




**Phase I**  
online-only



**Workshop**  
on the future of  
**Scientific Ocean Drilling** with  
**Mission-Specific Platforms** and *Chikyū*  
Jointly organised by ESSAC and J-DESC



**Probing the Deep Earth: Mantle Drilling Projects**  
**We still haven't found what we are looking for**

**Katsuyoshi Michibayashi (Nagoya University/JAMSTEC)**



# Scientific Ocean Drilling

1909 Discovery of **Mohorovičić discontinuity**

1915 Continental Drift by A. Wegener

1958-1966 Project MoHole (USA)

1968-1983 Deep Sea Drilling Project, DSDP (USA)

1985 *JOIDES* Resolution operation

1985-2003 Ocean Drilling Program, ODP (21 nations)

2003 Integrated Ocean Drilling Program, IODP

2005 *D/V Chikyu* operation

2013 International Ocean Discovery Program, IODP



More than 50 years history of scientific ocean drilling since legacy programs started in 1960's, IODP continues its exploration on global ocean.



地球深部探査船「ちきゅう」



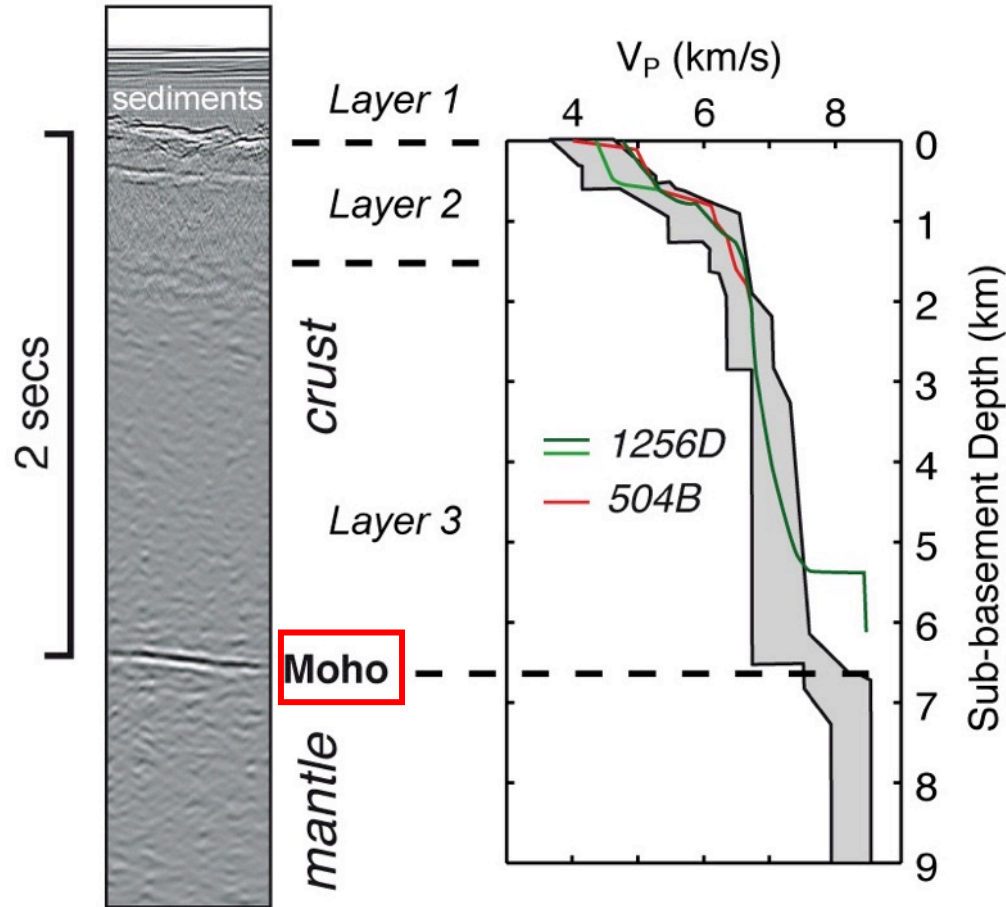
JOIDES Resolution



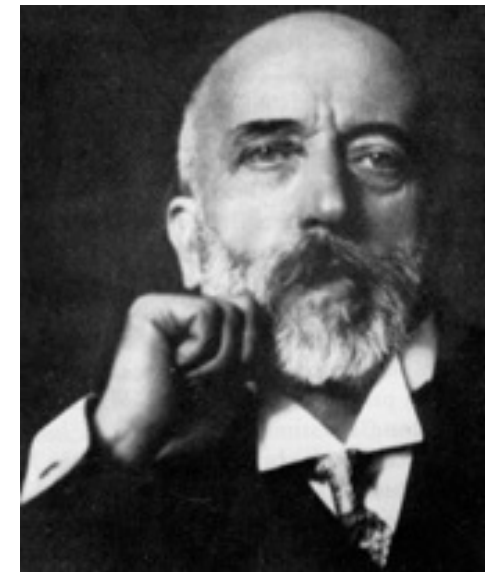
特定任務掘削船 (MSP)



# Mohorovičić Discontinuity (**Moho**): Intense Seismic Reflection, which seismically defines the boundary between crust and mantle in the Earth



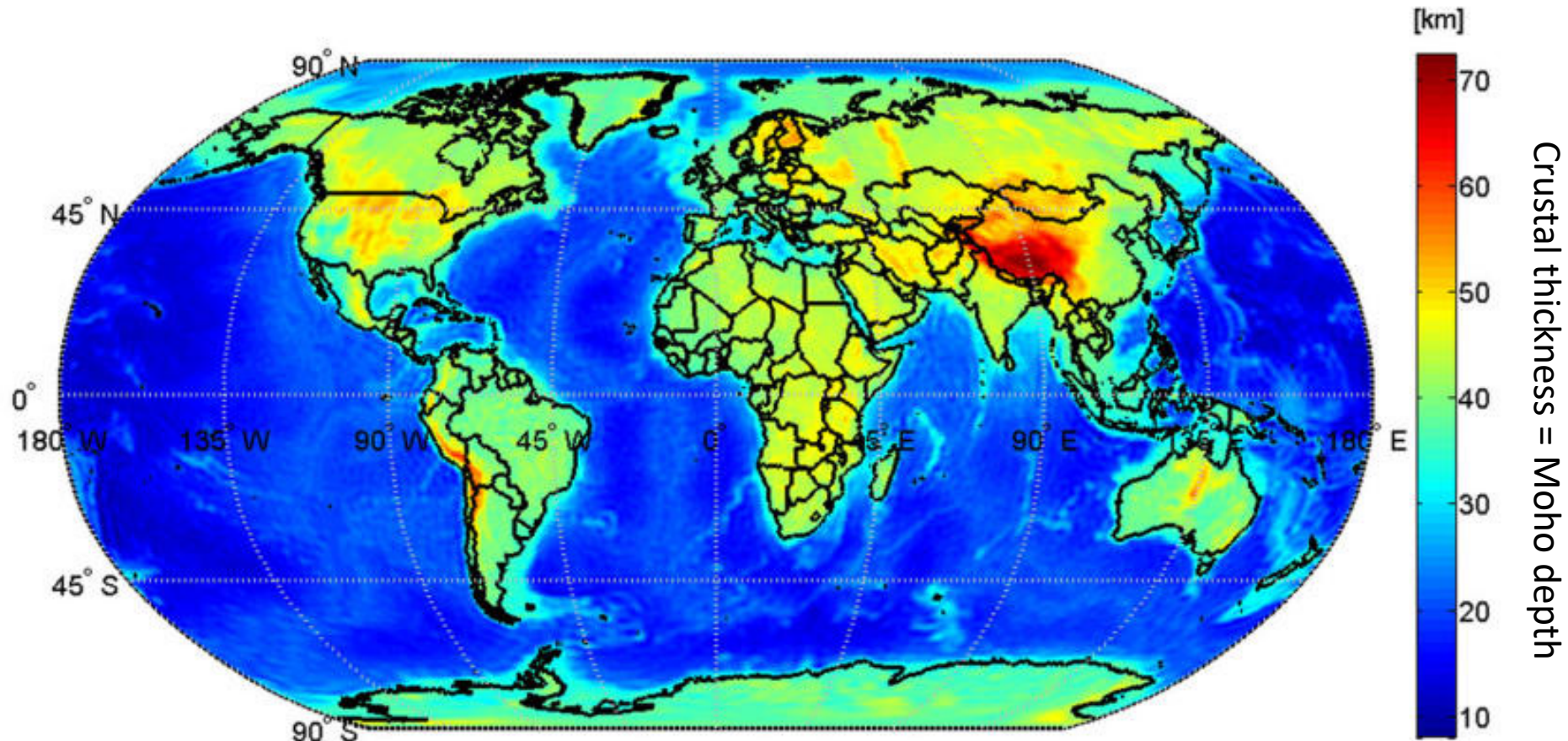
Seismic imaging of Pacific lithosphere



Andrija Mohorovičić  
モホロビッチ



# Constant MOHO depth in the global ocean seems to be the robust evidence for **homogeneous cooling** of the Earth



Global map of Moho depth (from GOCE data, 2012)

Moho depths are quite **similar** among **oceans** in contrast to those in **continents**



# The **MoHole**: Journey to the Earth's Mantle



**PROJECT**

6 km/s

8 km/s

**MOHOLE**



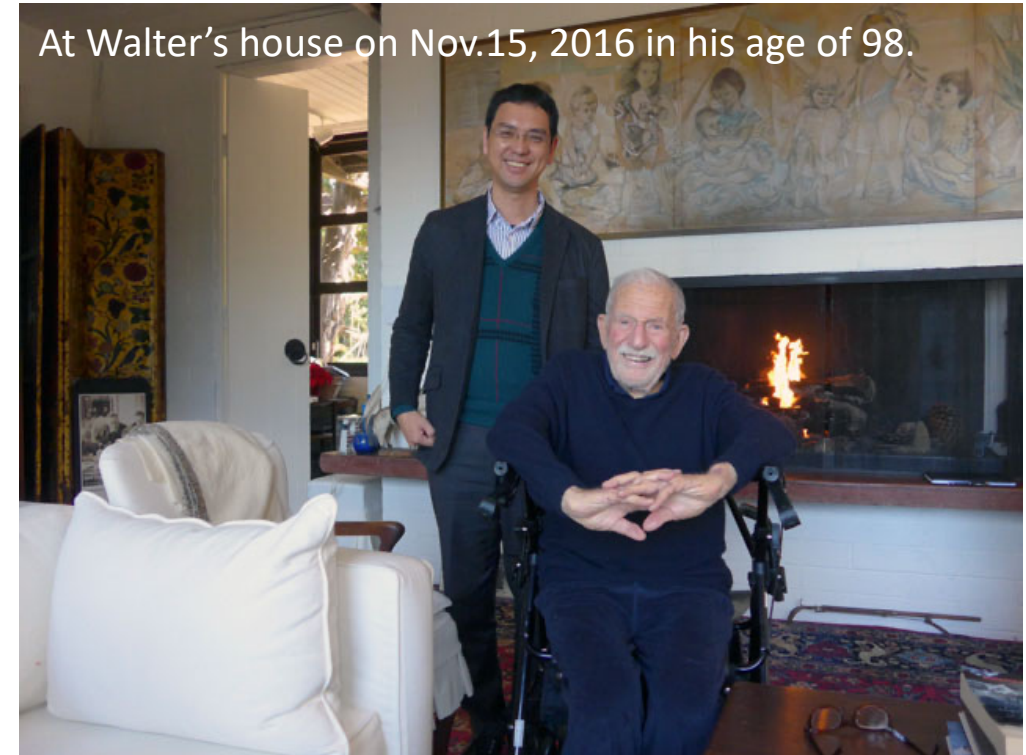


# Phase I (1957-1961) of Project Mohole [MoHo + Hole = MoHole]

Walter H. Munk proposed to drill toward the Mantle.  
*“What good will it do to get a single sample of the mantle?”*

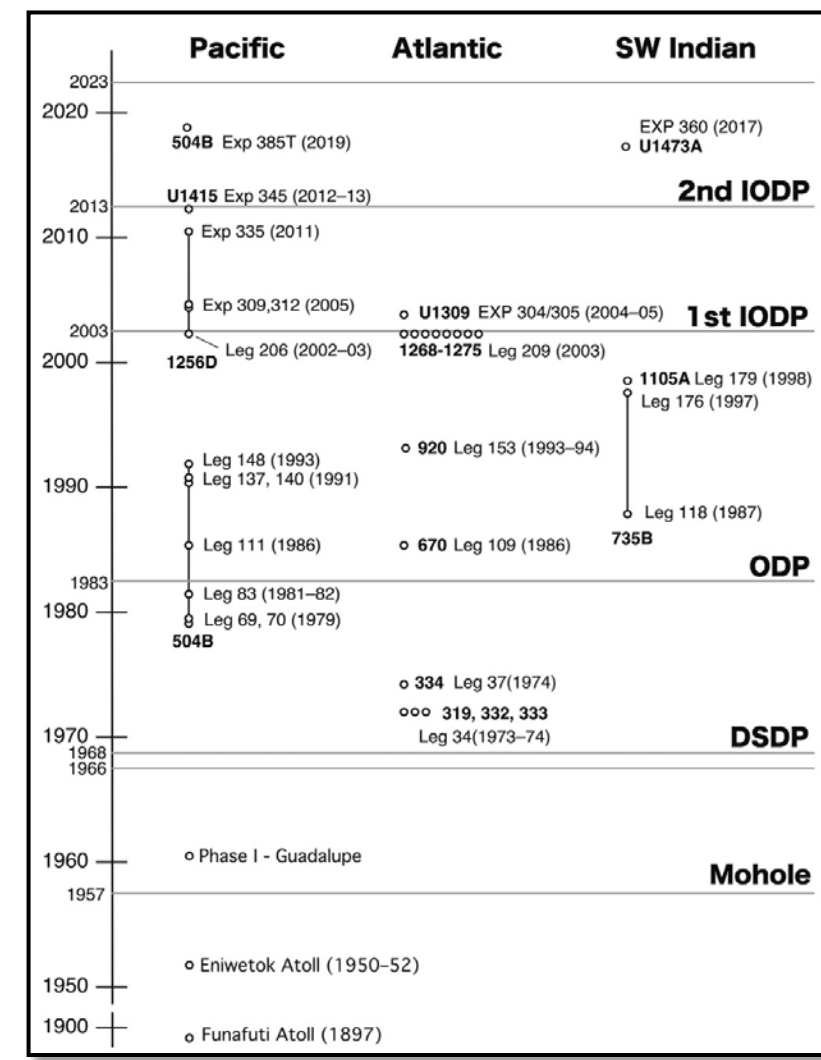
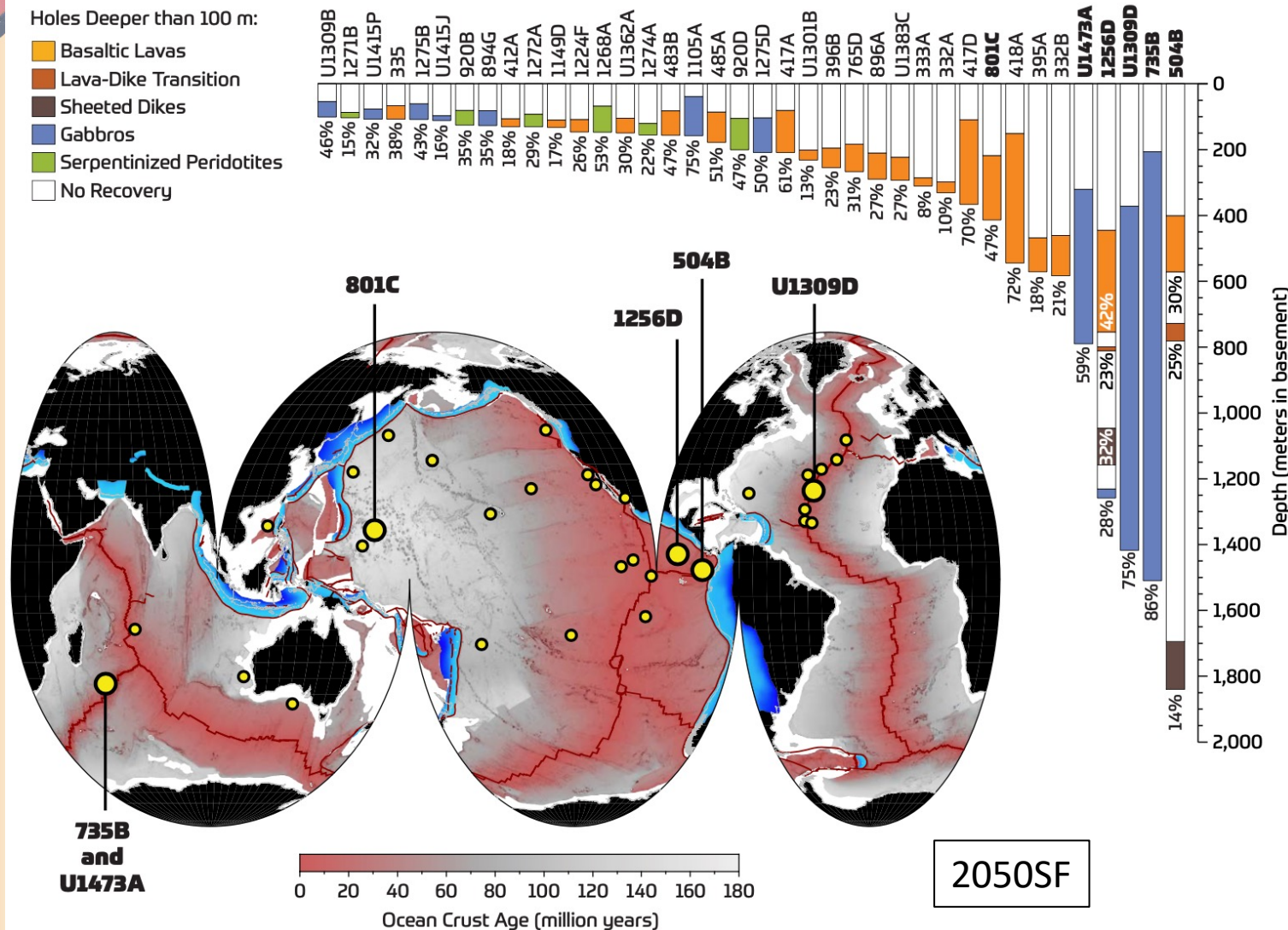


**Project Mohole Meeting** around a table aboard the vessel CUSS I off Guadalupe Island in the Pacific Ocean, 1961.



Walter has at least visited to **CHIKYU** on board in 2016 in a very last moment of his century life.

# Only a few tens **basement** drilling sites since 1960's



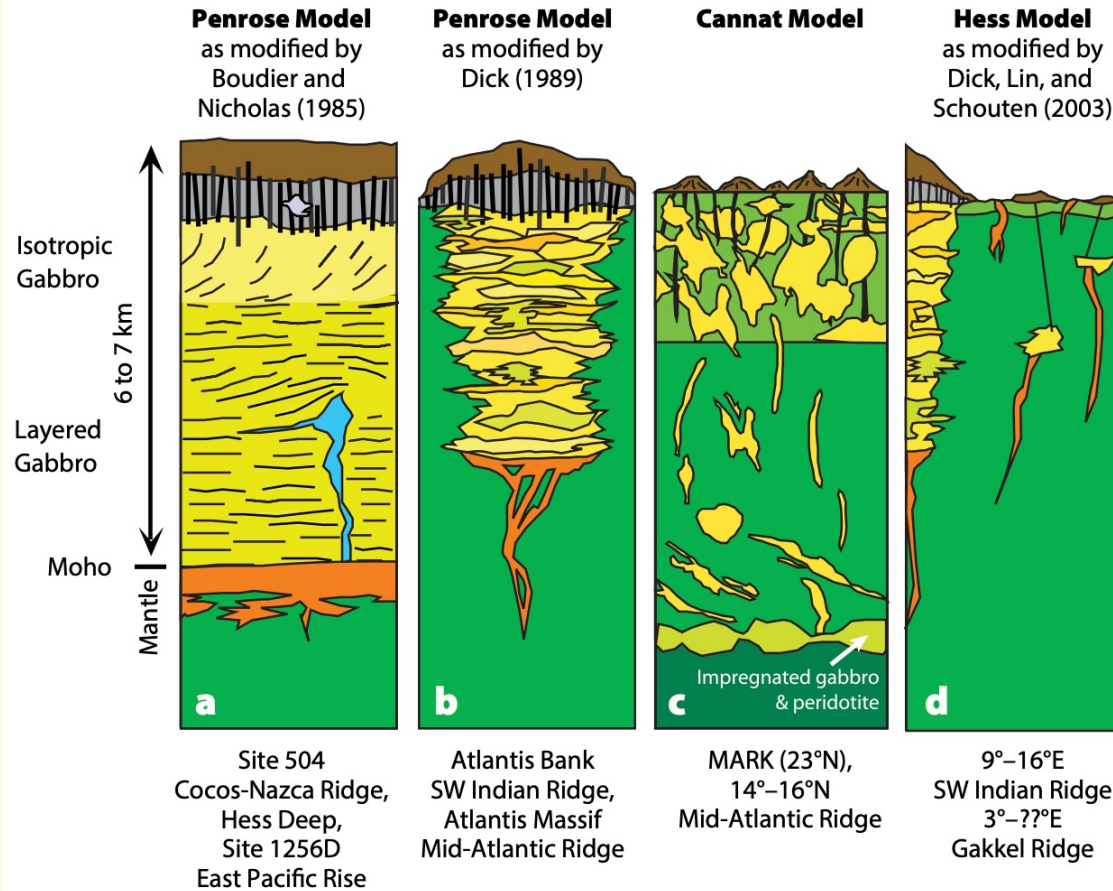
Location map of a borehole drilled more than 100 m into the deep-sea floor during the deep-sea drilling program from 1968 to 2020.

Michibayashi (2021, 地学雑誌)



# Various lithological models in ocean floor question **why** the **Moho depth** is so **constant**?

## OCEAN RIDGE CRUSTAL ACCRETION MODELS



Is the **Moho** the interface between :

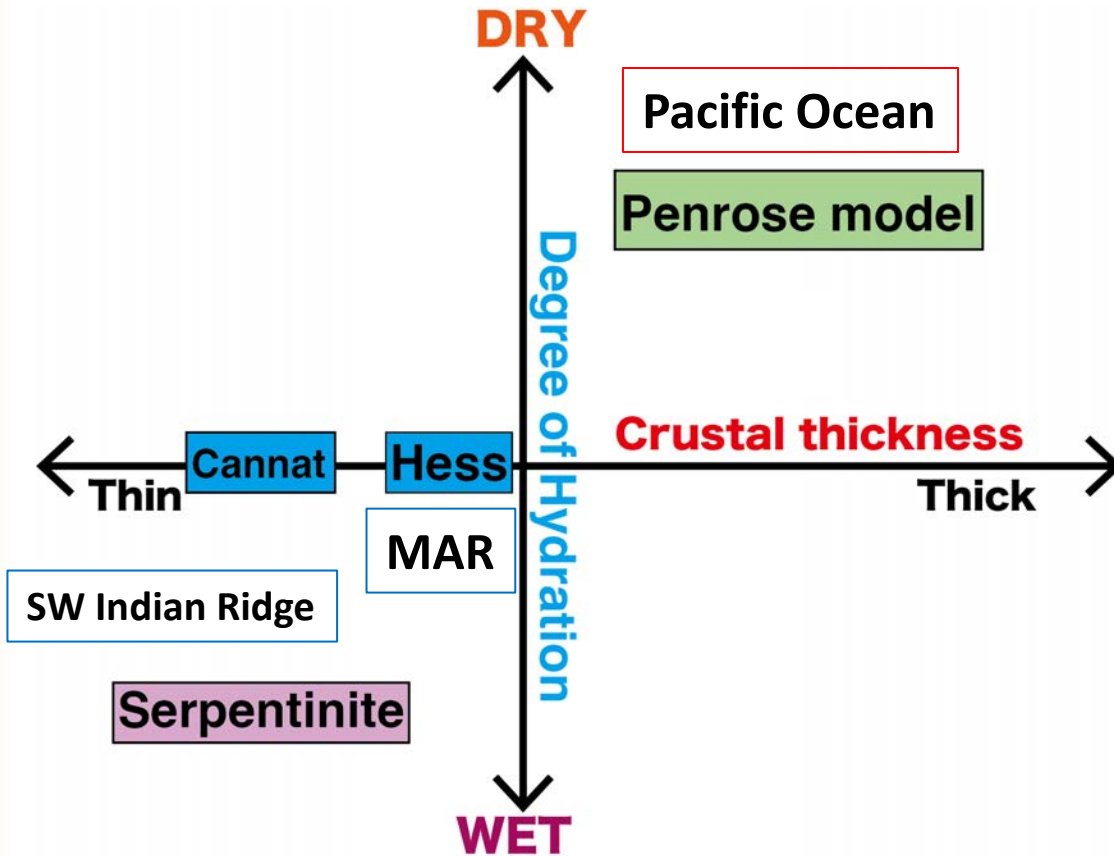
- magmatic crust & residual mantle ? (**Model 1**)
- magmatic rocks of different compositions ? (**Model 2**)
- serpentinized mantle & fresh mantle ? (**Model 3**)
- mantle + magmatic intrusions & mantle ? (**Model 4**)

**Problem unsolved!**

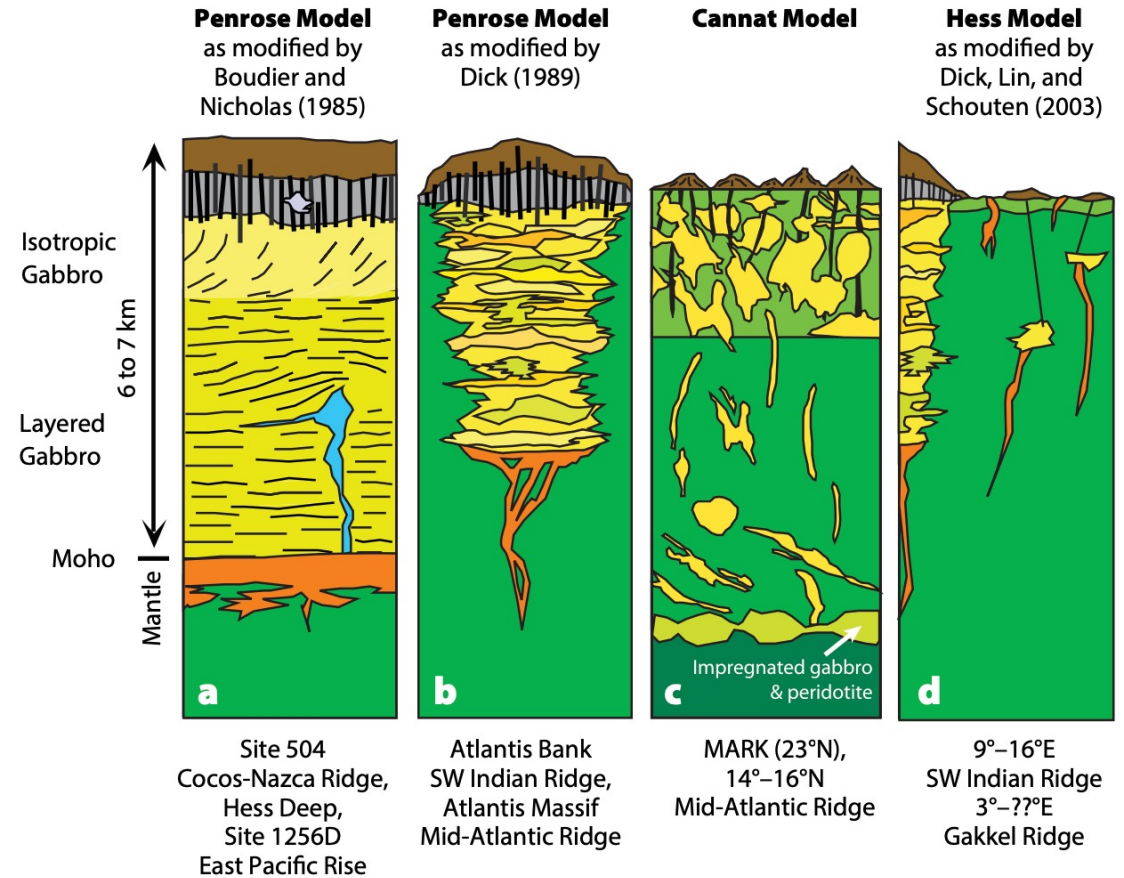
Michibayashi et al. (2019, Oceanography) after Dick et al. (2006)



# Oceanic lithosphere could be characterized by **crustal thickness** and **wet conditions**



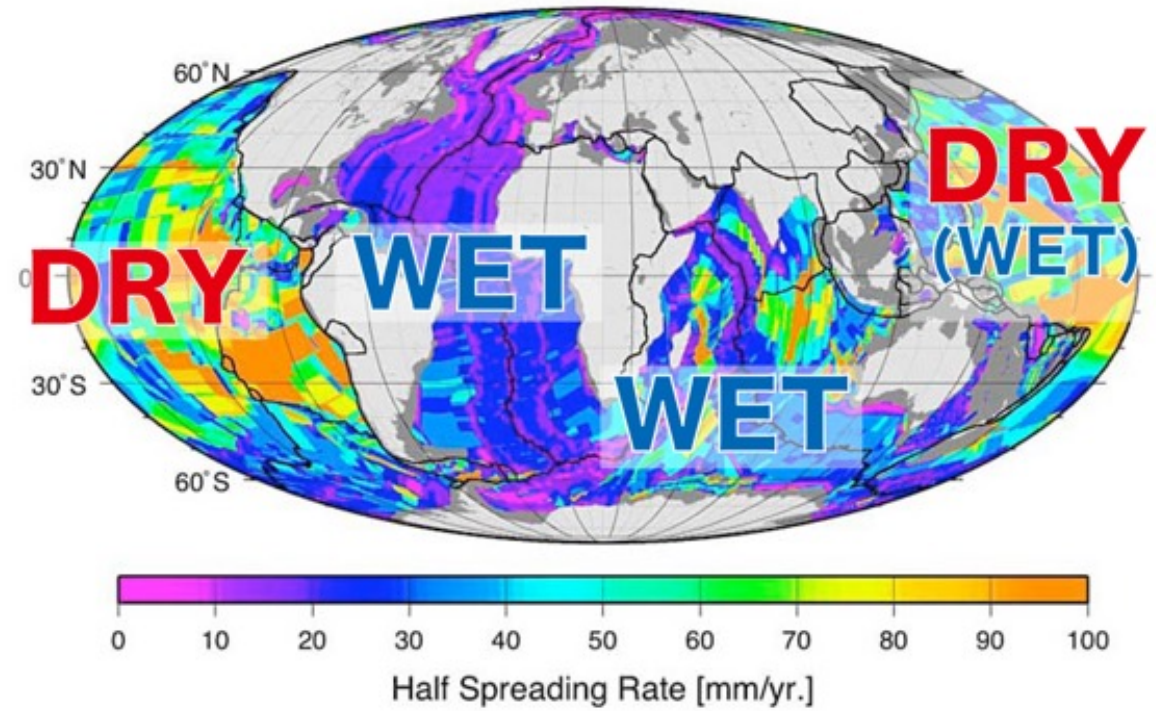
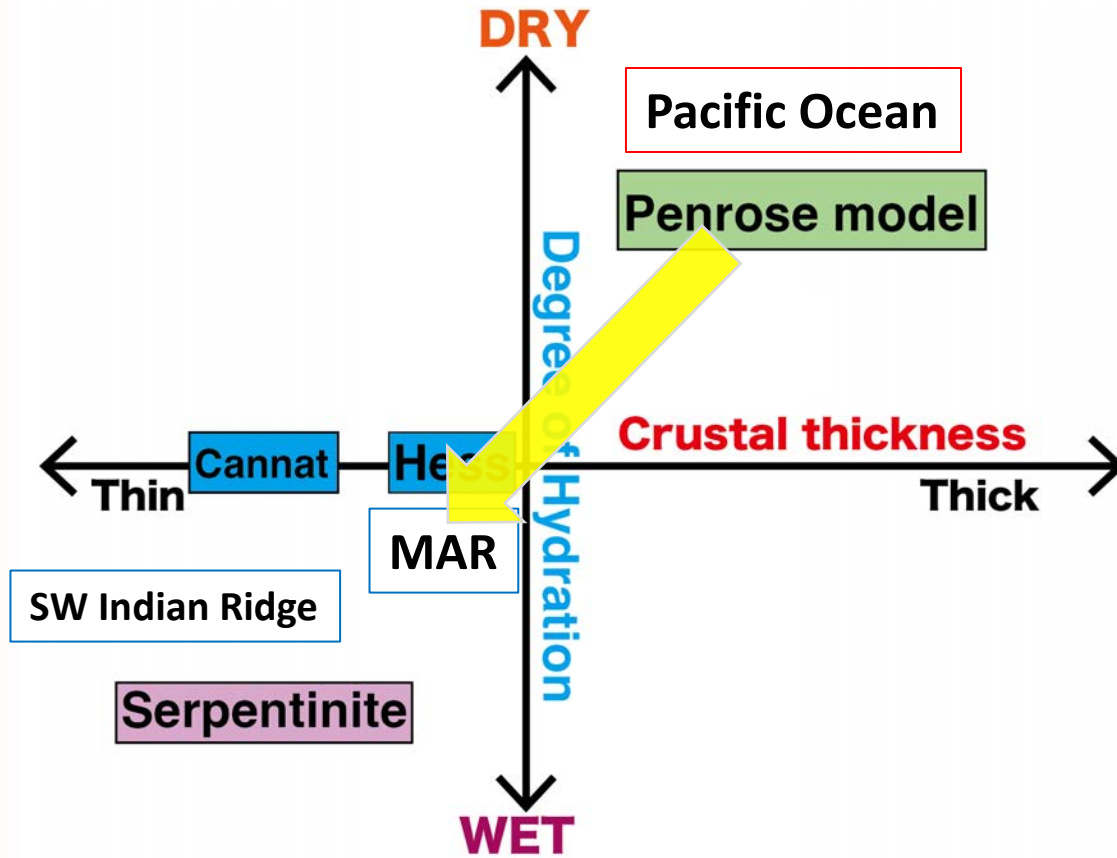
## OCEAN RIDGE CRUSTAL ACCRETION MODELS



Michibayashi et al. (2019, Oceanography)



# How **WET** the ocean floor is ?



Modified after Muller+(2008)

Each ocean floor has unique feature.

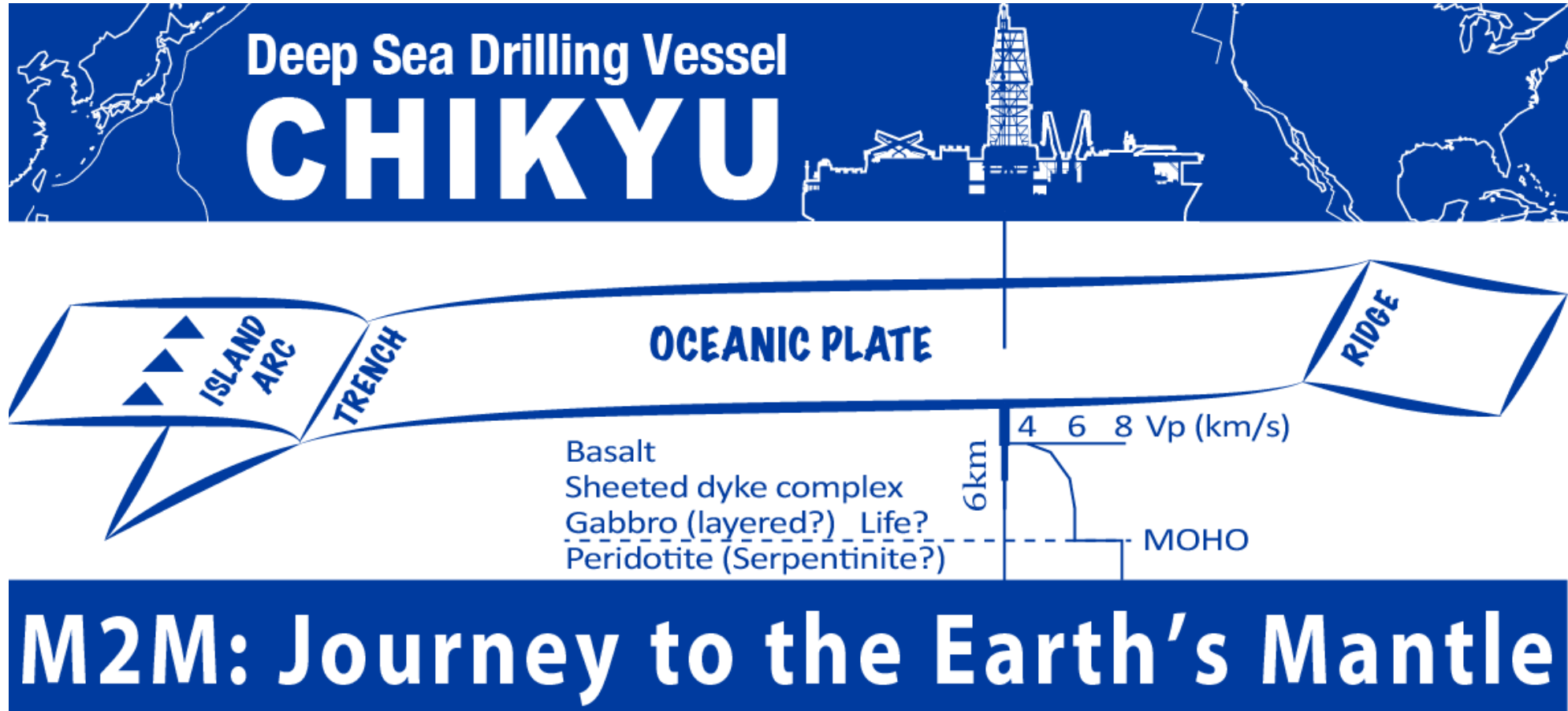
**DRY OCEAN** appears to be closing, **WET OCEAN** is slowly expanding?

CHIKYU is still waiting for a Mantle drilling project since 2005





# The **Mohole** project has been updated to be **M2M** (MoHole to Mantle ) in 2012

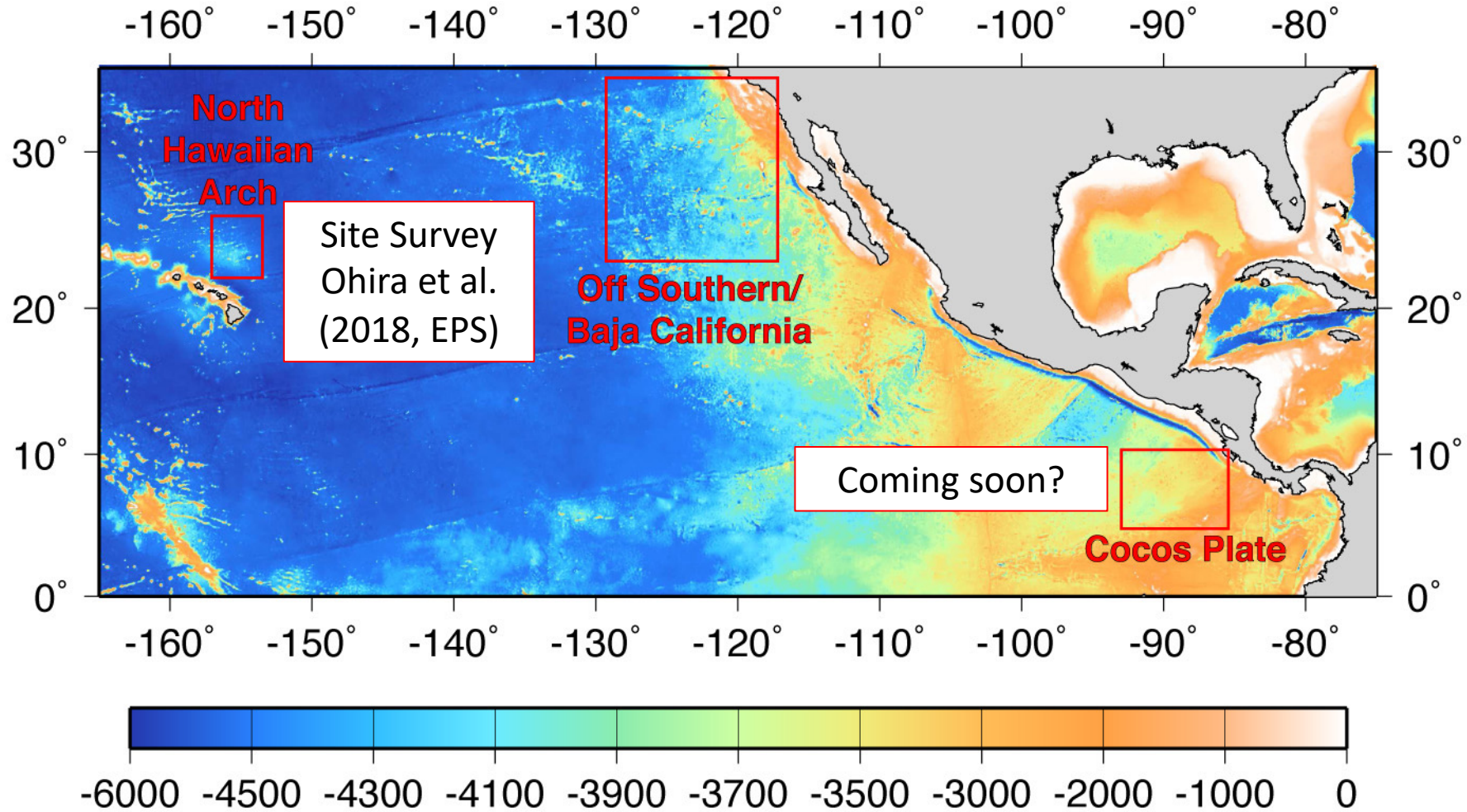


The deep mantle drilling proposal lead by **Prof. Susumu Umino** et al. (Japan 4, USA 1, UK 1 & France 1) with **60** co-proponents (Japan 21, USA 19, UK 9, Canada 5, France 4, Germany 2)





# Selected regions for **M2M** have been proposed

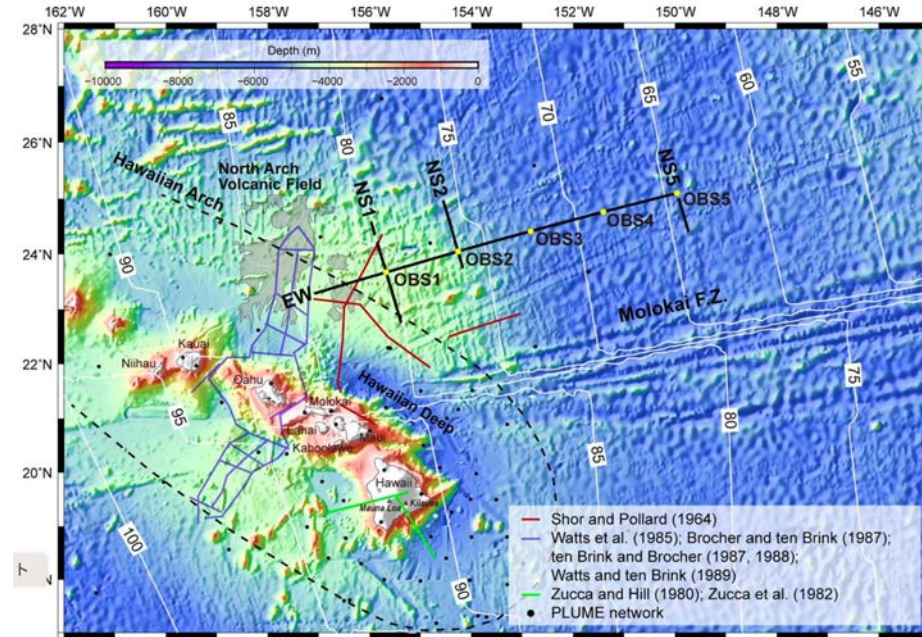
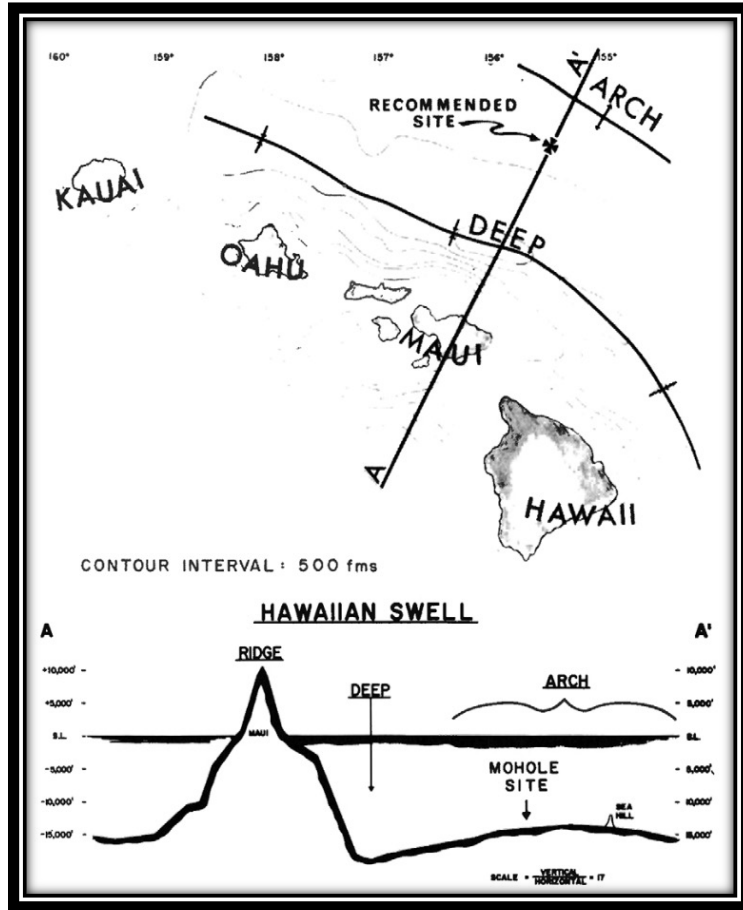


***Additional site surveys are still required***

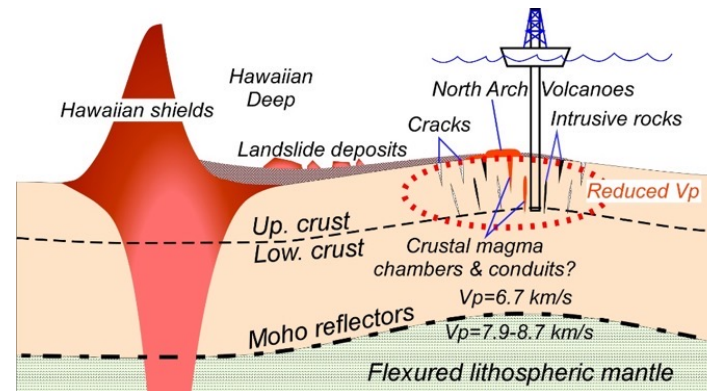
***(partly scheduled or applying/waiting for funding)***



# What a coincidence in the candidate site between Mohole (1966) and M2M (2012)!



Ohira et al. (2018, Earth, Planets and Space)

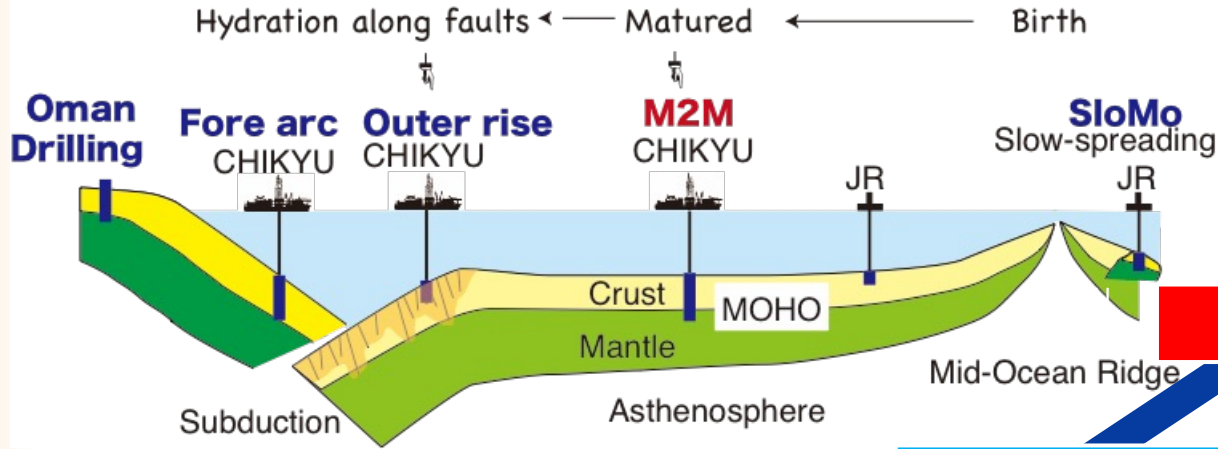


The MOHOLE site proposed in the Phase 2 of the Mohole project (Side, 1966)



# The Road to the Mantle Drilling

## Life of Oceanic Plate



Morishita et al. (2021)



## M2M: Journey to the Earth's Mantle

Off Hawaii Drilling

Deep water-intermediate depth Hard-rock Drilling

Fore-arc Mantle Drilling

Deep water-depth Hard-rock Drilling

Outer Rise Drilling (H-ODIN, BFS)

Pretty Hard Hard-rock Drilling

SloMo

Hard-rock intermediate-depth Drilling

Godzilla Megamullion Drilling

Hard-rock shallow-depth Drilling



ICDP Oman Drilling Project

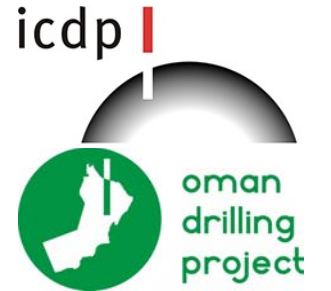
2016-2018

Hard-rock analyses on D/V CHIKYU

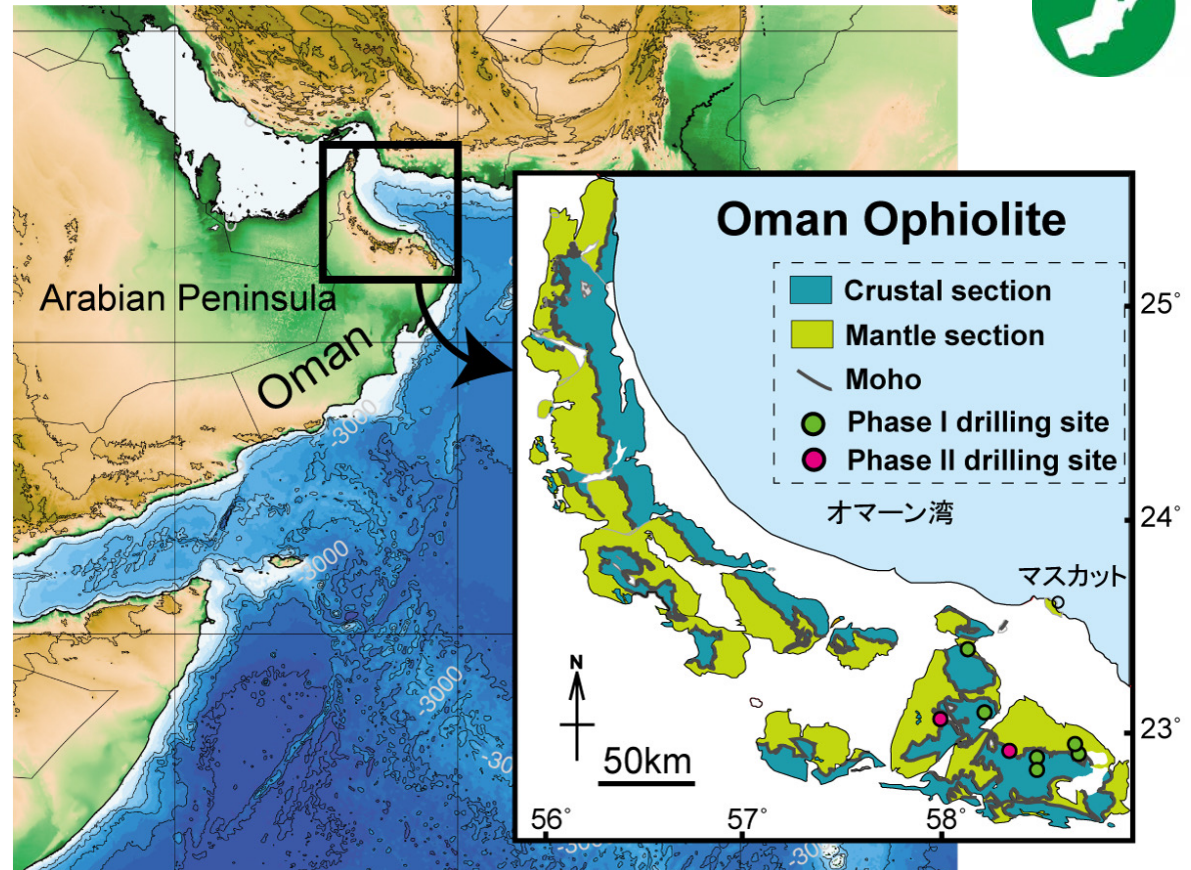


# Oman Drilling Project: Background

The Samail Ophiolite, in Oman and the United Arab Emirates, is the largest, best-exposed section of **oceanic lithosphere** in the World.



- sample the whole ophiolite sequence (**crust** and **mantle**)
- in a series of diamond- and rotary-drilled boreholes
- analysis of rock core
- geophysical logging
- fluid sampling
- hydrological measurements
- microbiological sampling



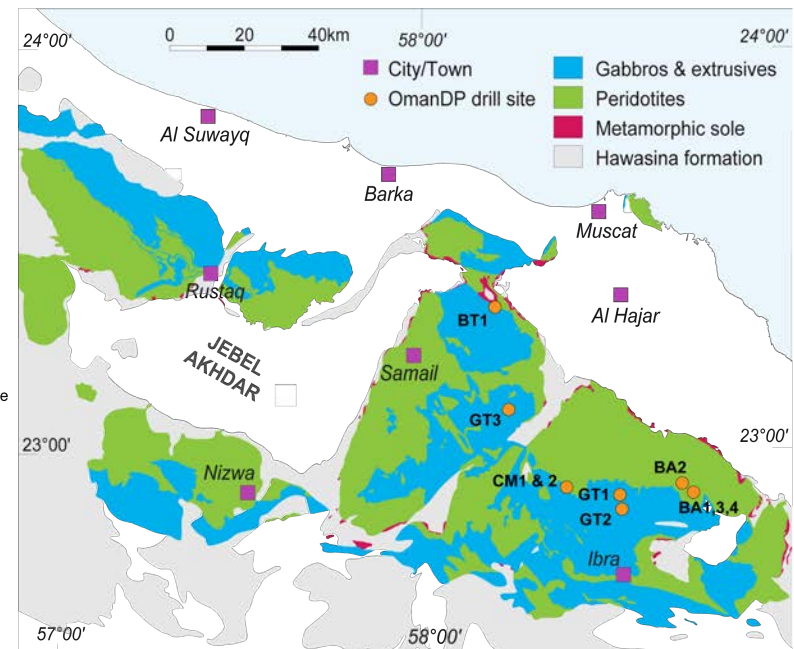
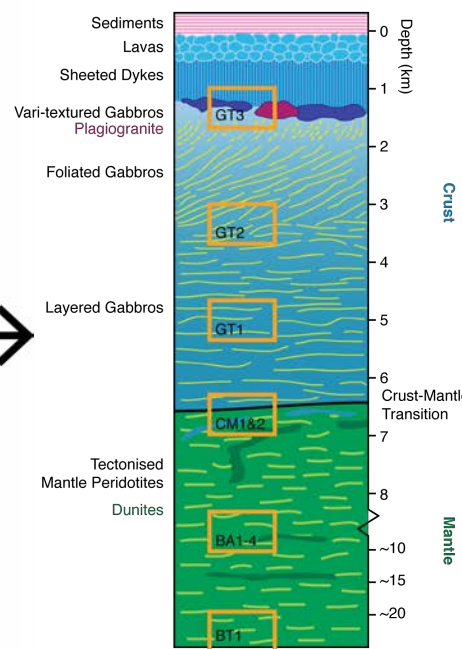
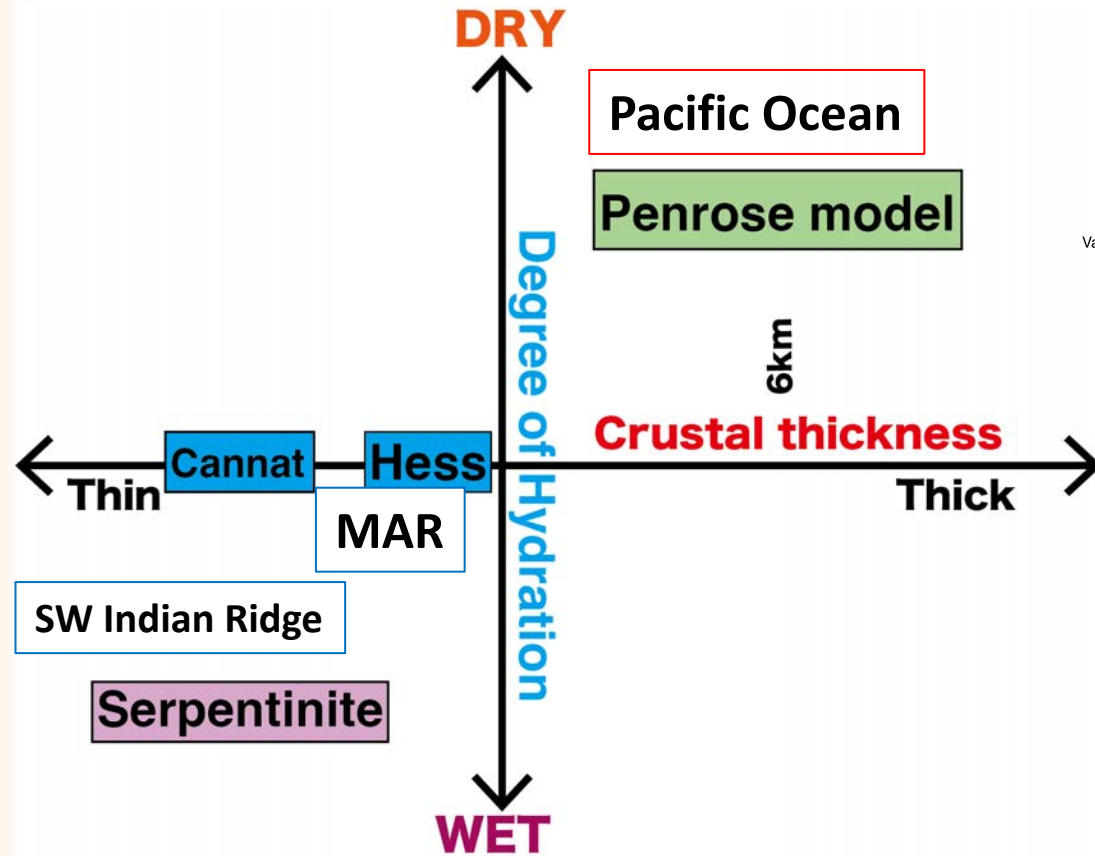
**JGR special issue (2020-2022), Lithos special issue in progress!**





# Oman Drilling Project (2016–2018)

DRILLING EARTH SCIENCE



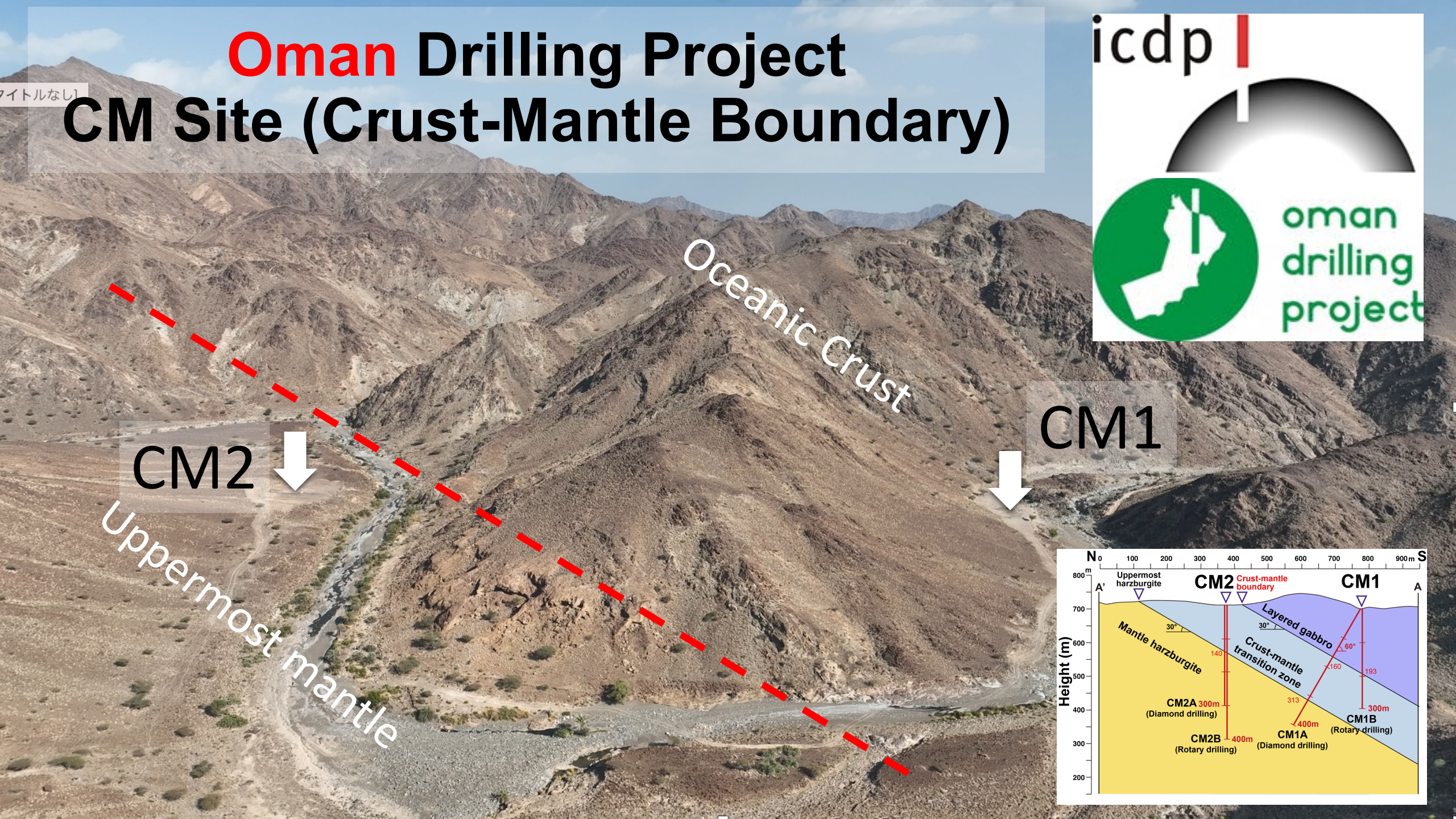
Geological Map of the southeastern massifs of the Samail ophiolite (after Nicolas et al., 2000) showing the OmanDP drill site locations and their relative stratigraphic positions.

## To test Penrose model and water-rock interaction

# Oman Drilling Project CM Site (Crust-Mantle Boundary)



タイトルなし

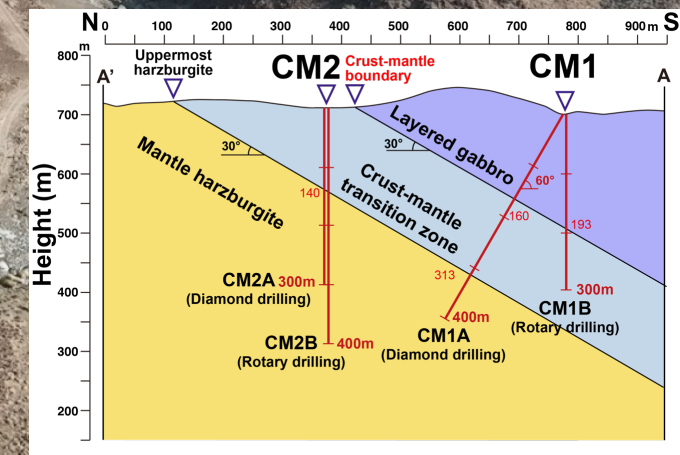


Oceanic Crust

Uppermost mantle

CM2

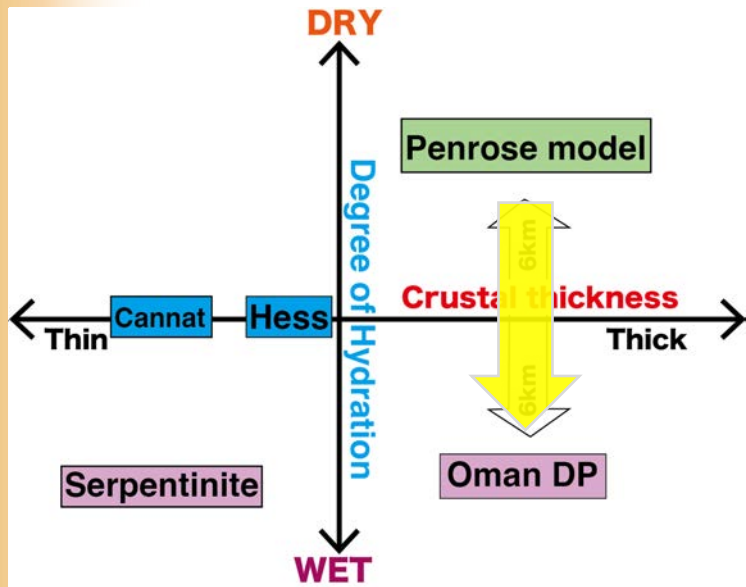
CM1



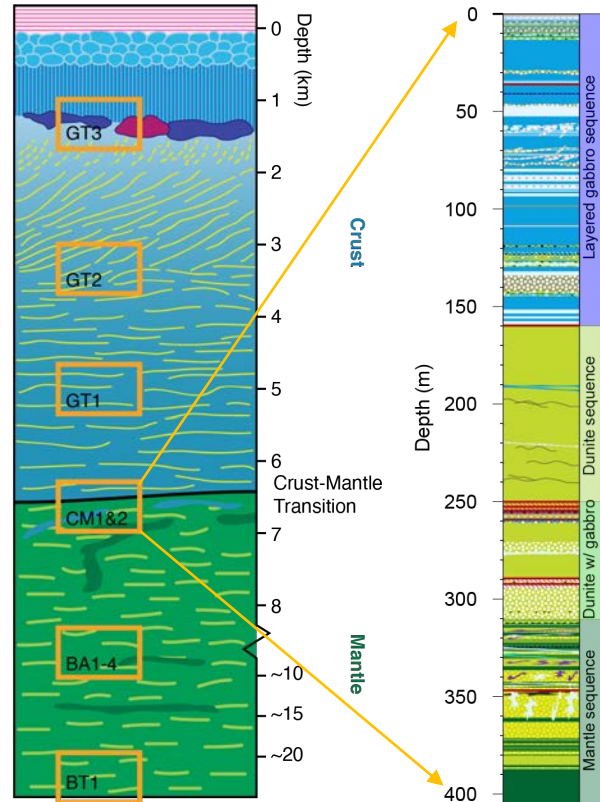


# Oman Drilling Project (2016–2018)

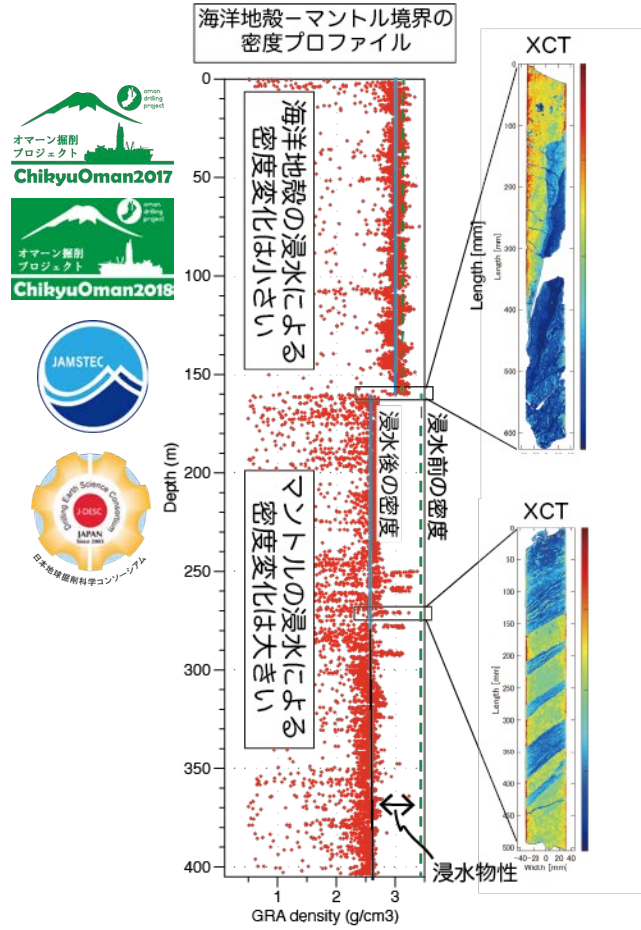
DRILLING EARTH SCIENCE



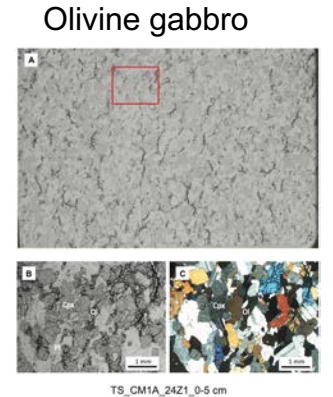
Oman drilling cores are pretty wet unlike the Penrose model



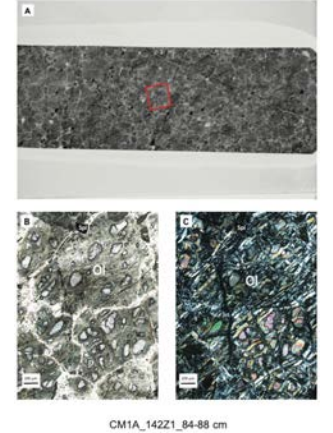
Nicolas+(2000)



Kelemen+(2020) Michibayashi+(2018 AGU) Katayama+(2021)

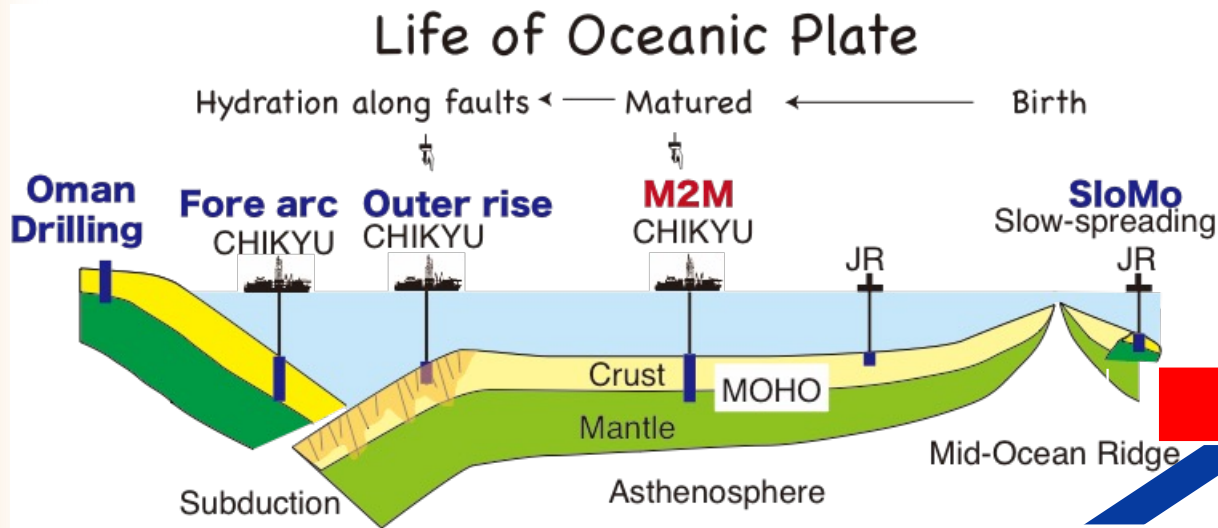


Highly serpentinized dunite

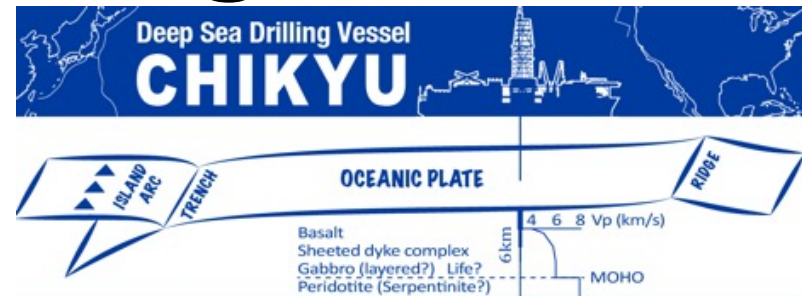


Mantle could get **wet**, although ocean crust could be **less wet** (e.g., Yoshida+20)

# The Road to the Mantle Drilling



Morishita et al. (2021)



## M2M: Journey to the Earth's Mantle

Off Hawaii Drilling

Deep water-intermediate depth Hard-rock Drilling

Fore-arc Mantle Drilling

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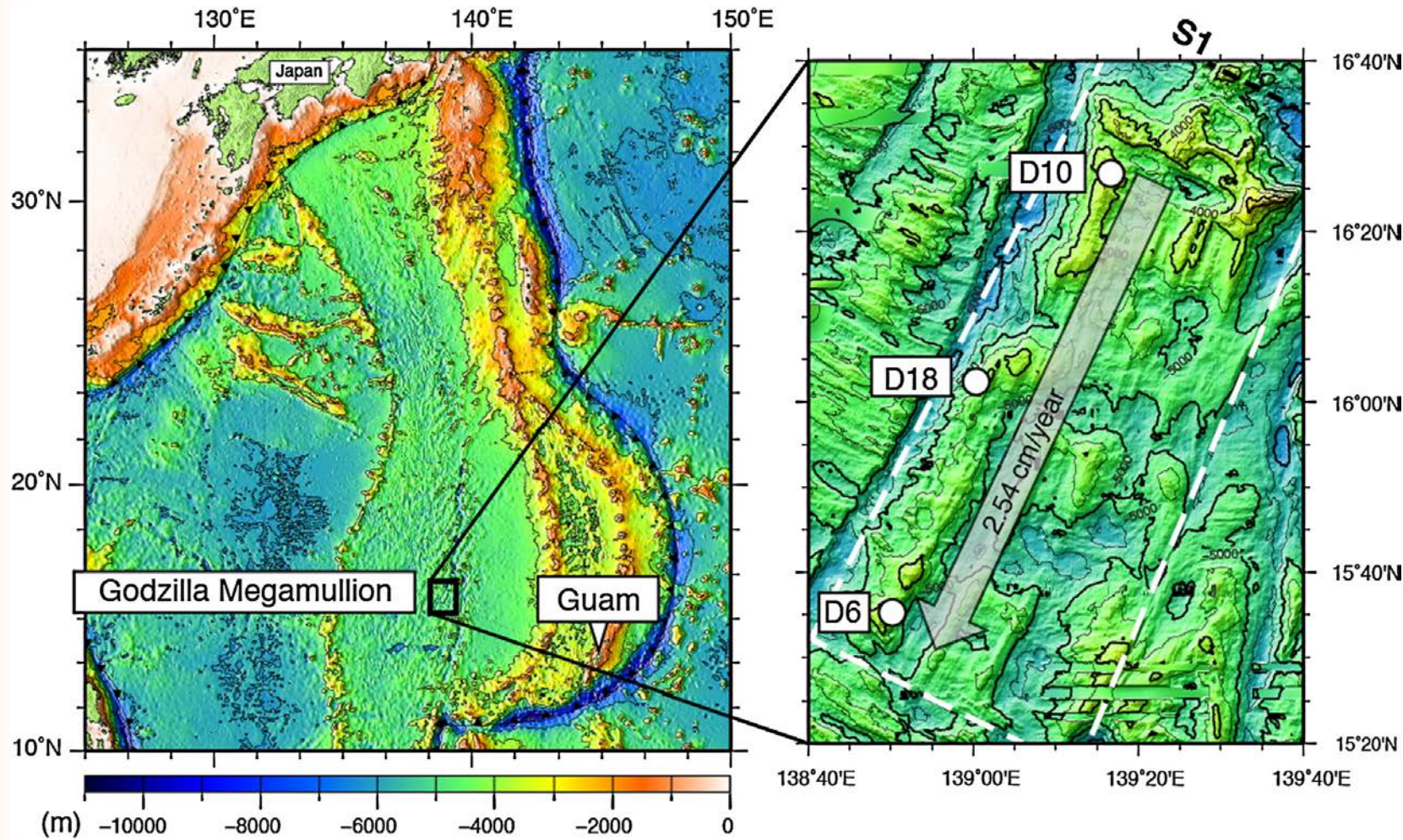
ICDP Oman Drilling Project  
2016-2018

Hard-rock analyses on D/V CHIKYU

**Probing the Deep Earth via hard-rock drilling has great demand after more than 50 years since the end of the Mohole project**



# Godzilla Megamullion Project, Coming Soon!?



PI: Yashiko OHARA

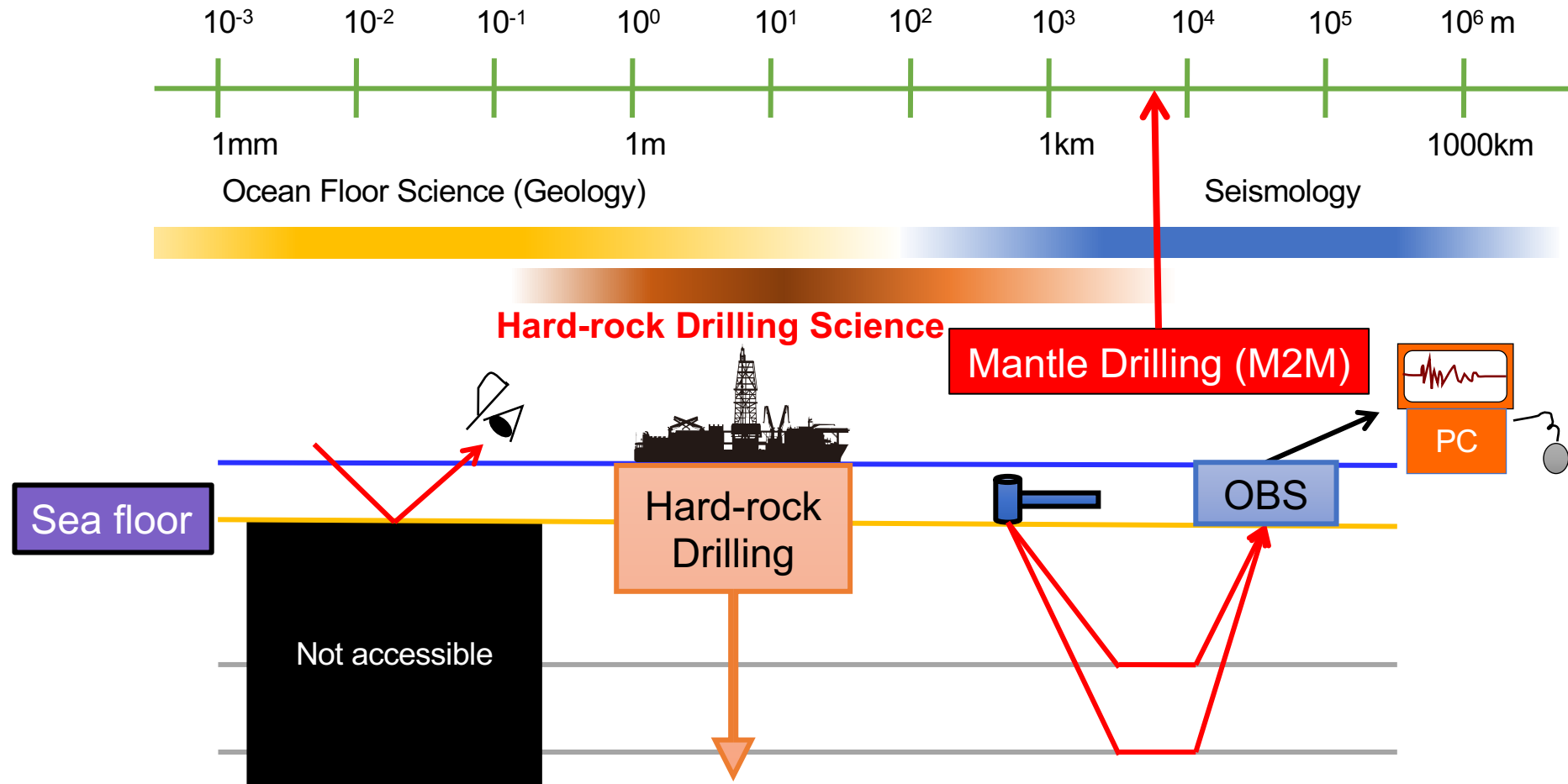


ゴジラマントル君

## This project may be the first Mantle Drilling Project

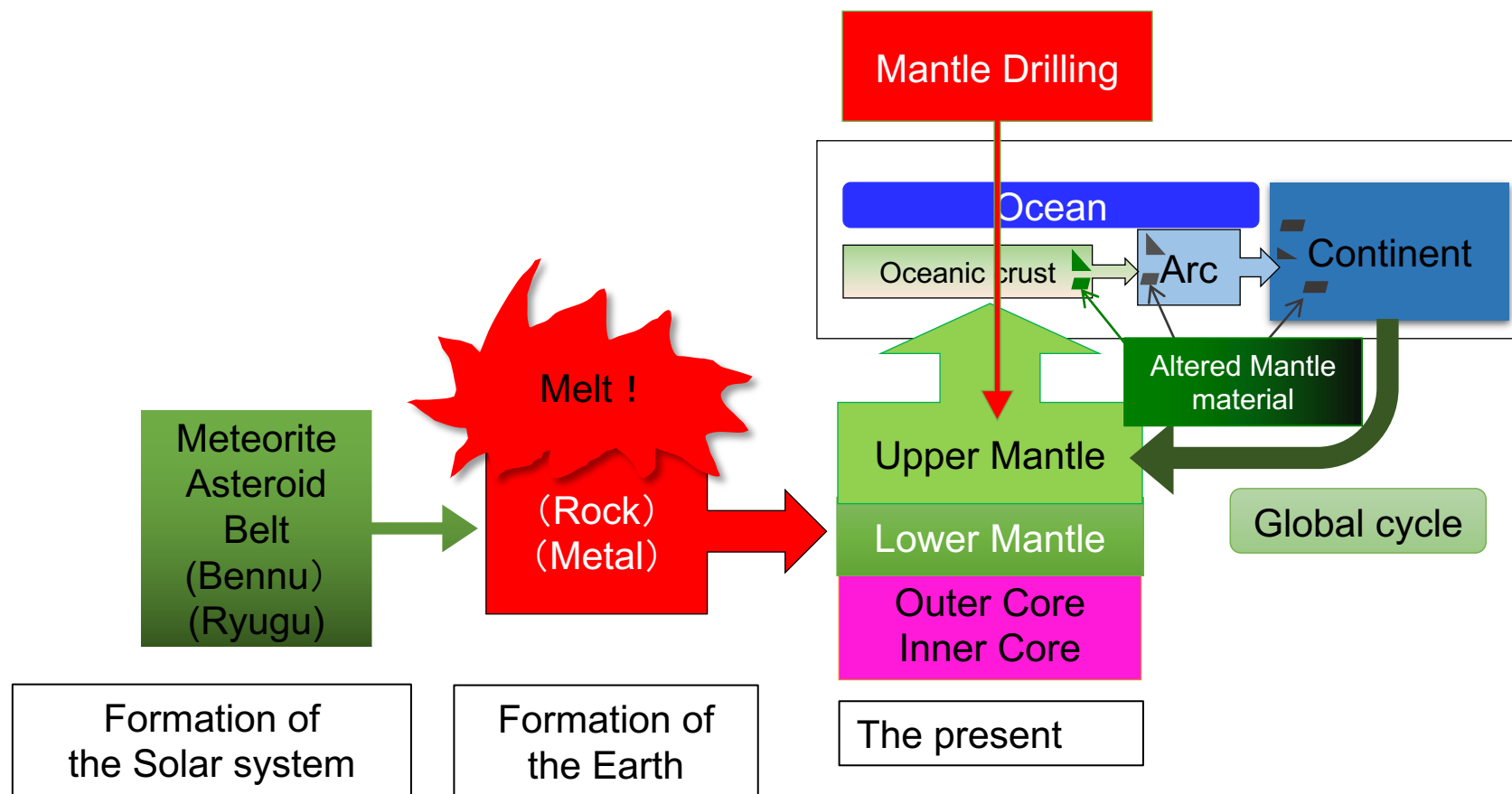


# Hard-rock Drilling Science is the link between ocean floor science (geology) and seismology



# Moreover, **Mantle Drilling** is not only for **Earth Science**, but it must also be for **Planetary Science**

Earth history = Cooling history of a planet in the Solar System

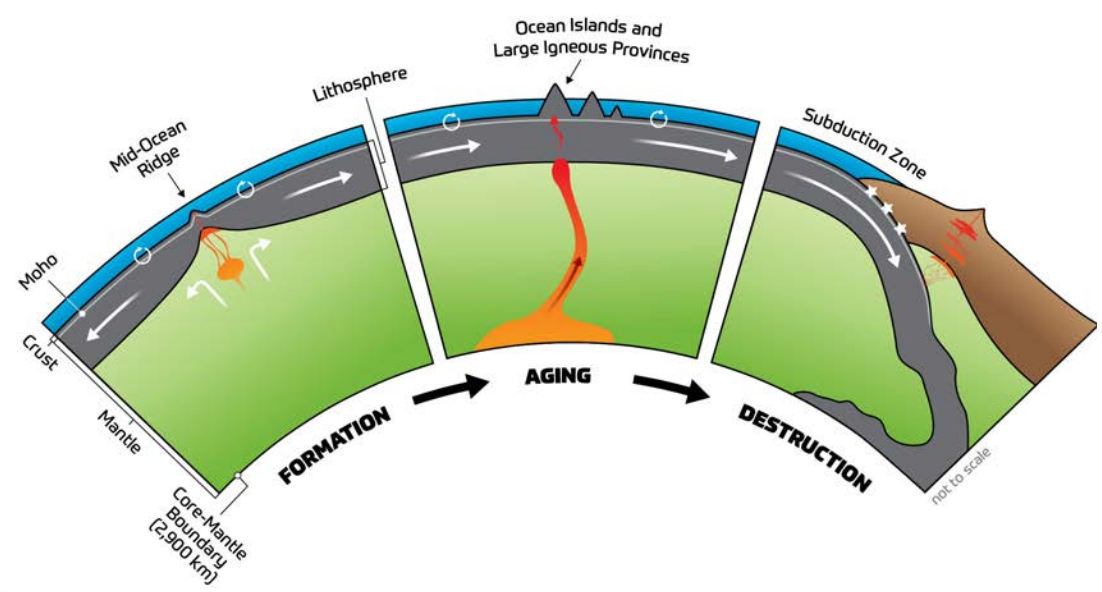


**How far can we understand the evolution of this planet without mantle drilling?**

Investigating the genesis, aging, motion, and destruction of oceanic lithosphere

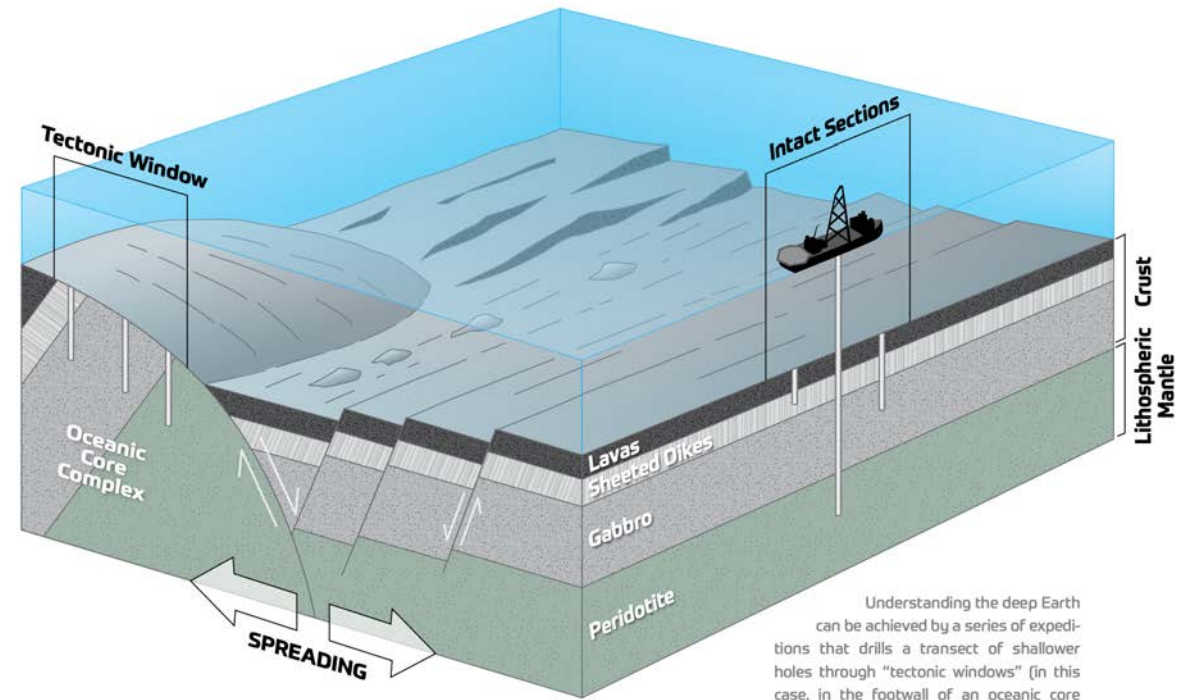
**SUMMARY**

Earth repaves more than half its surface every ~200 million years. The formation, evolution, and destruction of oceanic lithosphere is an integral part of the plate tectonic cycle and establishes boundary conditions for Earth's climate system. It drives the global cycling of energy and matter that buffers Earth's environmental conditions and makes Earth's surface habitable. Oceanic lithosphere cycling produces critical economic resources and governs the occurrence of earthquakes, tsunamis, and volcanoes that pose hazards to society. To date, we have only explored a small fraction of Earth's oceanic lithosphere and to relatively shallow depths. To answer fundamental questions about our planet's central rock cycle and plate tectonics requires scientific ocean drilling of crustal sections that span the life cycle of oceanic lithosphere and the full spectrum of plate accretion modes, plate boundary types, intraplate magmatic processes, and subduction styles.



**SUMMARY**

Scientific ocean drilling has long aspired to penetrate deep into Earth's oceanic crust and its underlying mantle. Achieving this objective is still pushing the limits of technology and thus remains elusive. New multidecadal scientific ocean drilling strategies seek to probe the deep Earth and to finally reach the upper mantle via a series of interconnected, ambitious expeditions that will take full advantage of emerging drilling, coring, logging, and monitoring technologies. This deep drilling will lead to a better understanding of Earth's formation and evolution; the nature of Earth's deep interior and its geodynamic behavior; the interrelationships between the deep Earth and geological, biogeochemical, and climate cycles; and the limits of life.

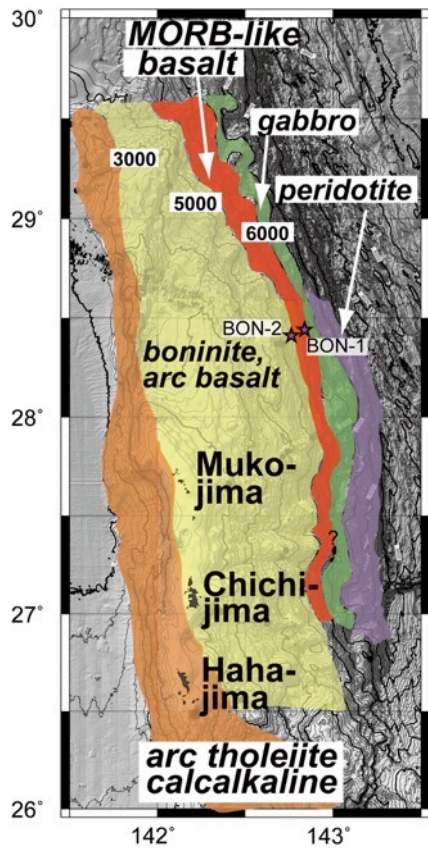


Understanding the deep Earth can be achieved by a series of expeditions that drills a transect of shallower holes through "tectonic windows" (in this case, in the footwall of an oceanic core complex) or penetrates the full, approximately 6-7 km thick, oceanic crust in one hole in normal magmatic crust. *Illustration by Antony Morris and Geo Prose*

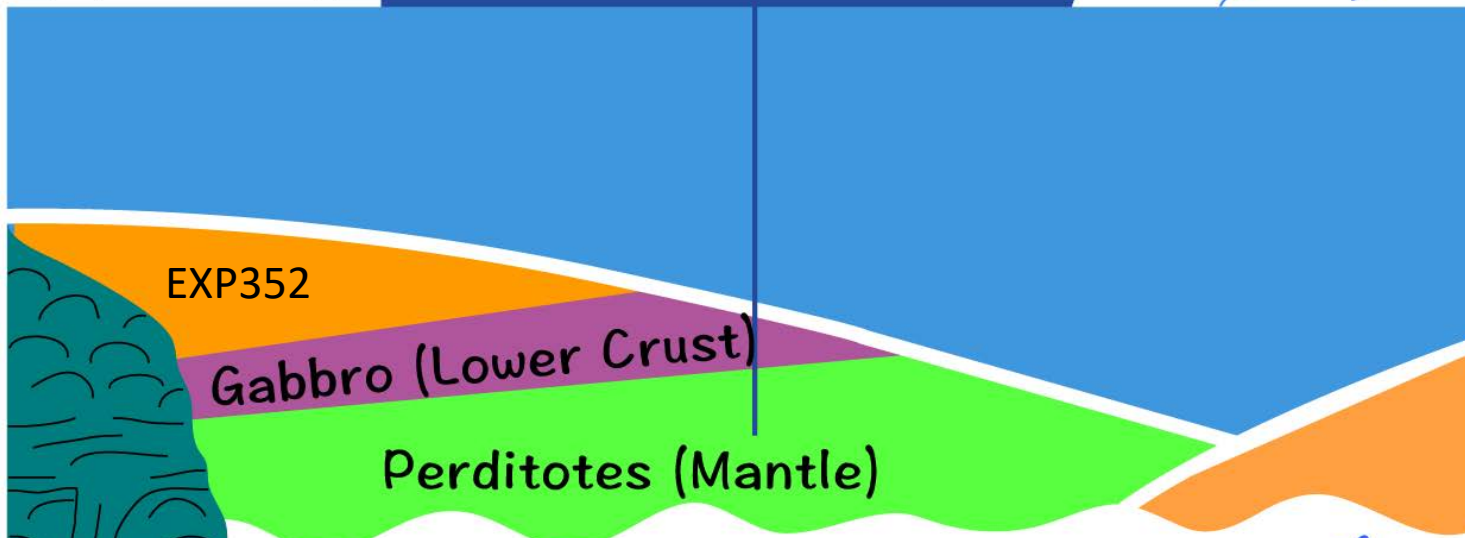
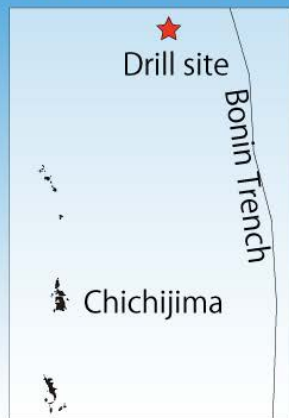




# Forearc Mantle Drilling Project and the Formation of Island Arcs



After Ishizuka et al. (2011)

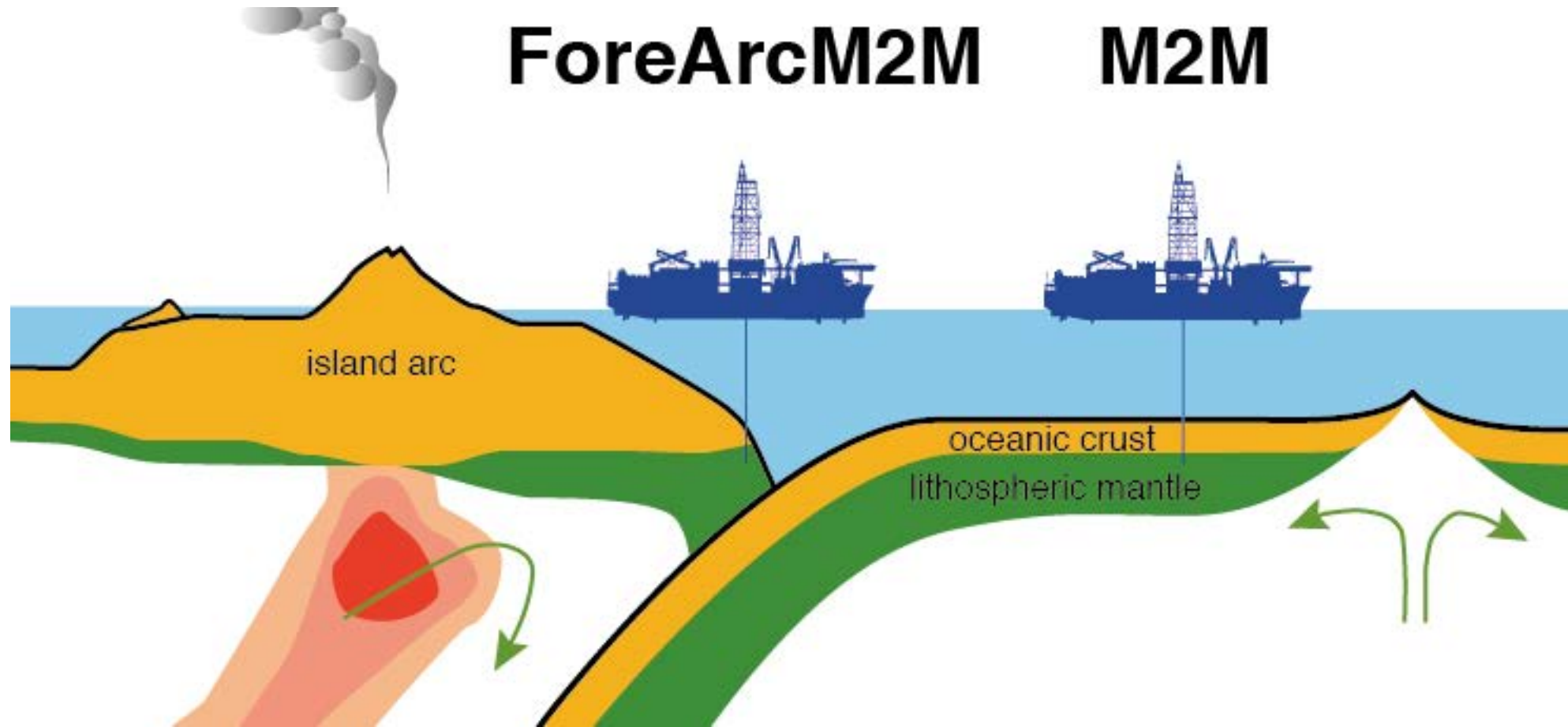


**Fore Arc M2M Project  
toward the deepest ocean**





**Fore Arc M2M** will drill into mantle from sea floor at **6000 mbsl** instead of 6000 m of oceanic crust!



We hope to submit a full proposal of **Fore Arc M2M** in a few years