

1 **Normal fault growth in layered basaltic rocks: the role of strain rate in fault evolution**

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8

9 **ABSTRACT**

10 Conceptual models for the evolution of dilatant faults in volcanic rift settings involve a step-wise  
11 growth pattern, involving upward propagation of subsurface faults, surface monocline formation,  
12 which are breached by subvertical, open faults. Immature, discontinuous normal faults are  
13 considered representative of the early stages of mature, linked faults that accommodate extensional  
14 strains. We consider the evolution of surface-breaking normal faults using a comparison of the  
15 distribution and geometry of normal faults from two volcanic rift zones: the Koa'e fault system,  
16 Hawai'i, and the Krafla fissure swarm, NE Iceland. Field mapping highlights similarities to current  
17 predicted geometries, but also prominent differences that are not reconciled by current models.  
18 Variable deformation styles record magma supply changes within the rift zones, which drive local  
19 strain rate gradients. Building on existing studies, we present a conceptual model of fault growth  
20 that accounts for spatial and temporal changes in strain rate within the deforming regions. We  
21 propose that faults in separate rift systems may not advance through the same stages of evolution  
22 and that faults within *individual* rift systems can show differing growth patterns. Variations in

23 surface strains may be indicative of subsurface magmatic system changes, with important  
24 implications for our understanding of volcano-tectonic coupling.

25  
26 **Key words: normal fault; monocline; extension; basalt; volcanic rift**  
27

## 28 **1.1. Introduction**

29 Normal fault systems comprise discontinuous, non-collinear segments, with overlaps and segment  
30 linkage commonly resulting in characteristic overlapping or step-like geometries across a broad  
31 range of scales (e.g. Segall and Pollard, 1980; Peacock, 2002; Long and Imber, 2011). Regional  
32 extension is conserved ahead of first-order fault terminations by areas of folding and linking faults  
33 and fractures (e.g. Morley et al., 1990; Faulds and Varga, 1998). The geometry and distribution of  
34 structures within these domains play an important role in the tectono-stratigraphic development of  
35 rift basins (e.g. Lambiase and Bosworth, 1995; Sharp et al., 2000; Hus et al., 2006), and the  
36 evolving fluid flow properties of fault zones (e.g. Manzocchi et al., 2010; Seebeck et al., 2014).  
37 Much of our current understanding of the growth of normal fault populations and fault zone  
38 architecture is derived from studies of faults in clastic sequences using combinations of: (1) fault  
39 analysis and scaling relationships, based on field and seismic data-derived measurements of  
40 displacement and length versus width (e.g. Ferrill and Morris, 2001; Peacock, 2002; Walsh et al.,  
41 2003; Nixon et al., 2014); (2) scaled-analogue modelling (e.g. Holland et al., 2006; Tentler and  
42 Acocella, 2010); and (3) numerical-based modelling techniques (e.g. Crider and Pollard, 1998;  
43 Maerten et al., 2002; Schöpfer et al., 2006). Many of these studies have focussed on fault  
44 propagation and segmentation within layered clastic sequences (e.g. Ferrill and Morris, 2003), and  
45 more recently crystalline-clastic sequences (e.g. Peacock and Parfitt, 2002; Holland et al., 2006;  
46 Martel and Langley, 2006; Kaven and Martel, 2007; Walker et al., 2013). The growth of normal

47 faults in layered basaltic sequences, and the expression of those faults outcropping at surface, has  
48 become increasingly important in recent years, driven in part by interest in intra- and sub-volcanic  
49 hydrocarbon plays along volcanic passive margins (e.g., the NE Atlantic basins: Davison et al.,  
50 2004; Walker et al., 2012, 2013), as well as high-temperature shallow geothermal systems that rely  
51 on basaltic stratigraphy (e.g. Anderson and Bowers, 1995; Helm-Clark et al., 2004) and models of  
52 volcanic flank stability (e.g. Le Corvec and Walter, 2009; Plattner et al., 2013). An improved  
53 understanding of basalt-hosted fault zones has important implications for extension in continental  
54 and oceanic systems on Earth, as well as on other planets (e.g. Hauber et al., 2010; Vaz et al.,  
55 2014).

56 Existing models for the growth of normal faults in basaltic sequences typically depict  
57 development in a common series of static stages with the progression between stages treated as  
58 instantaneous (e.g. Martel and Langley, 2006). Emphasis is placed on the reactivation of pre-  
59 existing cooling joints through the entire layer sequence; considered to be the first-order control  
60 on the distribution, geometry and architecture of basalt-hosted fault zones (e.g. Forslund and  
61 Gudmundsson, 1992; Gudmundsson, 2011). A single growth process implies that small-  
62 displacement faults in immature or early-stage rift systems are also representative of faults in more  
63 advanced systems, with all faults progressing through the same stages of evolution. As such,  
64 models of fault growth in cohesive sequences are broadly applied to a wide range of settings.

65 Here, we present a detailed field study of the distribution and geometry of well-exposed  
66 extensional structures in two developing volcanic rift zones - the Koa'e fault system, Hawai'i, and  
67 the Krafla fissure swarm, NE Iceland - to compare and contrast evolving segmentation patterns  
68 during rift development. Field mapping reveals that surface-breaking faults in separate rift systems  
69 can follow different growth pathways during propagation. Faults that are located within *individual*

70 rift systems can also demonstrate differing growth patterns. Our new observations build on  
71 previous observations (e.g. Grant and Kattenhorn, 2004; Holland et al., 2006; Martel and Langley,  
72 2006; Kaven and Martel, 2007), and extend models, conceptually, for fault growth in layered  
73 basaltic sequences.

74

## 75 **2.1. Background: near-surface faults in layered basaltic sequences**

76 Existing studies of near-surface normal fault development in layered basaltic sequences identify  
77 four principal characteristics: (1) sinuous zones of vertical extension fractures (dominantly in the  
78 footwall, but also in the hanging wall); (2) monoclinical folding of the ground surface; (3) sub-  
79 vertical, surface-breaking fault scarps that show a component of dilation; and (4) less commonly,  
80 hanging wall buckles found proximally to the scarp bases (Duffield, 1975; Acocella et al., 2000;  
81 Grant and Kattenhorn, 2004; Martel and Langley, 2006; Holland et al., 2006; Villemin and  
82 Bergerat, 2013). These characteristics are expected to show predictable geometries, resulting from  
83 the following successive stages: (1) nucleation of a normal fault at depth; (2) slip on the fault at  
84 depth drives both folding of the free surface into a monocline, and tensile stress concentrations  
85 that result in the opening of pre-existing cooling joints in the footwall ahead of the fault tip; (3)  
86 with continued slip and upward propagation, the monocline becomes steeper and narrower, and  
87 footwall fractures widen and propagate downwards; (4) eventual linkage of surface extension  
88 fractures with fault tips at depth leads to systematic breaching of surface monoclines and the  
89 development of sub-vertical, surface-breaking fault segments that display horizontal and vertical  
90 components of displacement. Previous work has also invoked a downward fault growth model to  
91 account for fault patterns in basaltic sequences (e.g. Opheim and Gudmundsson, 1989). Here, we  
92 focus on the upward propagation model, which is more strongly supported by existing field

93 observations and numerical models (e.g. Grant and Kattenhorn, 2004; Martel and Langley, 2006;  
94 Kaven and Martel, 2007).

95         Based on upward growth models, we might expect predicted geometries (i.e. monoclinial  
96 folding of basaltic layering) to be preserved at depth following upward propagation of blind normal  
97 faults (e.g. Holland et al., 2006). Notably, field studies of exhumed basaltic fault zones have found  
98 little evidence for folding, implying that they may not represent precursory features of all basalt-  
99 hosted normal faults (e.g. Walker et al., 2012, 2013).

100         To date, an upward growth model has been broadly applied to normal fault growth in  
101 cohesive sequences for a range of geological settings on Earth, including the Koa'e fault system,  
102 Hawai'i (e.g. Holland et al., 2006; Podolsky and Roberts, 2008), Iceland (e.g. Grant and  
103 Kattenhorn, 2004; Villemin and Bergerat, 2013), the East Africa Rift (e.g. Casey et al., 2006;  
104 Rowland et al., 2007), mid ocean ridges (e.g. Soule et al., 2009; Escartin et al., 2016), and on other  
105 planets, including: Mars (e.g. Caparelli et al., 2007; Tanaka et al., 2008; Schultz et al., 2010),  
106 Enceladus (e.g. Nahm and Kattenhorn, 2015) and Earth's Moon (e.g. Nahm and Schultz, 2015).  
107 Most of the models derived for these systems involve a deforming volume that is mechanically  
108 isotropic, and undergoes uniformly applied boundary stresses at a constant strain rate. Using  
109 detailed field observations of surface structures in the Koa'e fault system, Hawai'i and the Krafla  
110 fissure swarm in northern Iceland, we build upon the existing field-data-constrained numerical  
111 models of Martel and Langley (2006) and demonstrate that there is an inherently four-dimensional  
112 distribution of extensional strains and strain rates within developing volcanic rift zones. Our aim  
113 is to show that the evolving first-order geometry and distribution of normal faults is sensitive to  
114 variations in boundary stress conditions and the mechanical properties of the deforming sequence.

115

116 **2.2. Methods**

117 Surface structures in the Koa‘e and Krafla fault systems were mapped using a combination of high  
118 resolution aerial images (GoogleEarth™ and World-View2: 0.5 m resolution), topographic  
119 datasets (aerial LiDAR: 0.5 m resolution (Koa‘e only)), and traditional field mapping techniques.  
120 At the free surface, in both study areas, extension fractures (hereafter, *fractures*) appear to have  
121 initiated along pre-existing cooling joints in the lava pile, producing characteristic zigzag trace  
122 geometries (Figure 1). This is consistent with geometries that have previously been identified (e.g.  
123 Grant and Kattenhorn, 2004; Martel and Langley, 2006; Villemin and Bergerat, 2013).

124

125 *FIGURE 1 HERE*

126

127 This zig-zag geometry presents multiple piercing points in plan view, allowing displaced walls to  
128 be matched across the open fracture aperture (less than ~3 m; beyond this width, erosion and  
129 collapse can alter the fracture profile), and hence, accurate measurement of the following (see  
130 Figure 1): (1) extension direction and mode (extension, mode-I; extensional-shear, mixed-mode);  
131 (2) the amount of horizontal opening across the fracture, here referred to as fracture aperture; (3)  
132 fracture trace azimuth, equivalent to the strike of the fault plane; and (4) vertical offset of the free  
133 surface, where present. Remote and field data are combined to characterise the distribution, and  
134 geometry of fractures and surface-breaking normal faults, as well as monocline distribution, extent,  
135 and geometry to sub-metre precision and accuracy.

136

137 **3. Surface-breaking fault systems in volcanic rift zones**

138 **3.1. Early stage rift development: The Koa‘e fault system, Hawai‘i**

139 The Koa'e fault system borders the south flank of Kīlauea Volcano (Figure 2A), which is the  
140 youngest and southernmost subaerial volcano in the Hawaiian-Emperor chain, and one of five  
141 volcanic systems on the Island of Hawai'i (Neal and Lockwood, 2003). Melting, generated by an  
142 upwelling mantle plume, impinges on the lithosphere, through which magma ascends via a system  
143 of conduits into a series of interconnected shallow storage reservoirs at ~2.5-4 km and at ~2 km  
144 depth beneath Kīlauea 's summit (e.g. Baker and Amelung, 2012; Lin et al., 2014). Repeated influx  
145 of magma into these storage reservoirs, at rates of ~0.1 km<sup>3</sup> y<sup>-1</sup> (Swanson et al., 1976; Dzurisin et  
146 al., 1984; Poland et al., 2014), typically results in episodes of inflation and deflation, driving  
147 eruptive episodes either at the summit, or shallow intrusion and eruption within two pronounced  
148 rift zones: the Southwest and East Rift Zones (Figure 2A,B), which radiate south-westward and  
149 eastward from the summit (Duffield et al., 1982; Wright and Klein, 2006; Poland et al., 2012).  
150 Records of sustained eruptions at Kīlauea 's summit show that the duration and volume of magma  
151 associated with eruptive episodes can vary significantly: In June 1952, 38 x 10<sup>6</sup> m<sup>3</sup> of magma was  
152 erupted over 136 days and in November 1967, 64 x 10<sup>6</sup> m<sup>3</sup> of magma was erupted over 251 days.  
153 Between 1983-2003, Kīlauea was in a phase of continuous eruption with ~200 x 10<sup>6</sup> m<sup>3</sup> of magma  
154 released (Dvorak and Dzurisin, 1993; Poland et al., 2012). As a result of complex dynamics of the  
155 system, extension rates across Kīlauea also vary considerably from: ~26 cm/y<sup>-1</sup> between 1975-  
156 1983 to <5 cm/y<sup>-1</sup> since 1983 (Delaney et al., 1990, 1998). Flank displacement is linked to periods  
157 of shallow intrusion within the rift zones and summit region, and/or periods of gravitational sliding  
158 on a basal detachment at a depth of approximately 9 km (e.g. Klein et al., 1987; Delaney et al.,  
159 1990; Denlinger and Okubo, 1995; Le Corvec and Walter, 2009).

160

161 *FIGURE 2 HERE*

162

163           Our study area is within the Koa‘e fault system, which is a 12 km long, ~3 km wide zone  
164 of normal faulting (Figure 2A), that connects the Southwest and East Rift Zones (SWRZ and ERZ,  
165 hereafter) to form a continuous, 60-70 km long, ENE-WSW trending zone of extension. Normal  
166 faults in the system are growth faults, interpreted to be related both to the forceful emplacement  
167 of dykes into the rift zones of Kīlauea Volcano (Duffield et al., 1975, 1982; Swanson et al 1976;  
168 Peacock and Parfitt, 2002) and to gravitationally induced volcano spreading (Poland et al., 2014  
169 and references therein). The area is characterized by small-volume tholeiitic pahoehoe type lavas,  
170 emplaced as inflated sheets, onto the subhorizontal (1-2°) volcano flank. Individual lava thickness  
171 is highly variable. Cross-sectional views, normal to the lava flow direction, show maximum  
172 thicknesses of up to 4 m (e.g., Hon et al., 1994; Bubeck et al., 2017a), but taper laterally to tens-  
173 of-centimetre thicknesses at the tens-of-metre to hundred-metre length scales.

174

### 175 **3.1.1. Surface structures in the Koa‘e fault system**

176 Mapping in the Koa‘e fault system reveals three characteristic structures (Figure 2B): (1) ENE-  
177 WSW striking (ERZ-parallel) faults, with sub-vertical NNW-dipping scarps that show maximum  
178 throws of 12-16 m; (2) fracture networks that are grouped into two orientations: ENE-WSW (ERZ-  
179 parallel) and NW-SE (ERZ-oblique); and (3) N to NNW-dipping monoclinial folds, which are  
180 discontinuous, show variable amplitudes of up to 12 m, and have crests that are parallel to the  
181 strike of major normal faults and the strike of the ERZ. ENE-WSW striking fractures dominate in  
182 the Koa`e whereas NW-SE striking fracture sets form obliquely oriented steps along fracture (cm-  
183 10s of m scale) and fault (hundreds of metre, to km scale) traces (Bubeck et al., 2017b). An  
184 additional feature located in the immediate hanging wall of some faults are localized buckle



185 structures with anticlinal crests that parallel the strike of the ERZ and show amplitudes of up to 2  
186 m.

187 Fracture networks form sinuous zones up to ~5 km in length and 30-50 m wide (Figure  
188 3A). Most of these zones are limited to the footwalls of surface-breaking normal faults and along  
189 the upper limb of monoclines, where they parallel the strike of the fold crest. Less commonly,  
190 fractures are found in the hanging walls of faults, and as isolated zones in areas of the fault system  
191 where fault scarps are absent and there is no evidence for monoclinal flexure of the surface (Figure  
192 3B, C; Figure 4A).

193

194 *FIGURE 3 HERE*

195 A summary of orientation and kinematic data for fractures and normal faults are presented here;  
196 more detailed orientation, aperture and kinematic data are presented in Bubeck et al. (2017b).

197 Zones of rift-parallel (ENE-WSW) fractures are most common (~85% of mapped traces) and show  
198 individual fracture trace lengths of up to ~370 m. Apertures may be as much as ~4 m, but are more  
199 commonly in the range of 0.3-0.6 m (Bubeck et al., 2017b). NW-SE striking fracture zones are  
200 less common (~15% of mapped traces) with individual fracture trace lengths of ~4-120 m and  
201 apertures of 0.02-2.50 m (Bubeck et al., 2017b). Field characterization of fractures in the study  
202 identified only extensional openings (i.e. orthogonal to fracture azimuth; e.g. Figure 1) and we  
203 recorded no preferred stepping direction between segmented fracture traces. NW-SE striking  
204 fractures tend to occur in close association with the lateral terminations of rift-parallel normal  
205 faults and footwall fractures, occurring as obliquely oriented steps or linkages between segments  
206 (Figure 2B; Bubeck et al., 2017b). Individual fractures that outcrop for >10 m (e.g. Figure 3A, B;  
207 Figure 4) in the study area commonly display multiple steps along their length in plan view,

208 suggesting they represent composite fractures produced by linkage of segments (e.g. Peacock and  
209 Sanderson, 1991). At the scale of the individual fractures (i.e. beyond the scale of joint-related  
210 irregularities), shorter fractures (<10 m in length) also display non-linear traces with obliquely  
211 oriented steps, hook-shaped tips, or abutting geometries in the vicinity of neighboring structures  
212 (Figure 3C). Fractures of this length scale are most commonly found along the upper limbs of  
213 monoclines where they form distributed networks (Figure 3A, 4B). In some instances, these  
214 networks are set back from the region of present day maximum curvature (Figure 4B) and  
215 elsewhere they follow regions of maximum curvature on monocline limbs (Figure 4C).

216

217 *FIGURE 4 HERE*

218

219 Monoclinial folds in the Koa'e fault system may be divided into two scales: (1) monoclines  
220 that are laterally continuous at the kilometre scale, for distances up to 3 km (Figure 2B, 5A); and  
221 (2) monoclines that are laterally discontinuous, with maximum lengths of ~150 m (Figure 2B, 5B).  
222 Continuous monoclines are observed in the western and central-western areas of the fault system  
223 (Figure 2B); folds show rounded morphologies with amplitudes of up to ~16 m (Figure 5A, 6A-  
224 C) and limbs dip gently (typically ~15° but, locally up to ~25 °) (Figure 6D, 7A).

225

226 *FIGURE 5 HERE*

227

228 This is in agreement with the models of Martel and Langley (2006) and Kaven and Martel (2007)  
229 who predicted monoclines will steepen as faults approach the free surface. Such patterns were also  
230 recorded by Podolsky and Roberts (2008) along the White Rabbit Fault (Figure 2b); these authors,

231 however, instead linked along-strike variations in monocline amplitude to local occurrence of relay  
232 ramps ahead of the tips of previously soft-linked segments, rather than to upward propagation-  
233 related folding.

234

235 *FIGURE 6 HERE*

236

237 Such fault tip monoclines are particularly clear along the Ohale Pali (Figure 2B) where  
238 discontinuous folds occur as isolated lenses caught between en echelon fault segments (Figure  
239 7B). The monoclines described in this study, however, are distinct from this relay ramp tilting  
240 mechanism.

241         Discontinuous monoclines are restricted to the eastern region of the Koa‘e fault system,  
242 and are most common along the Kulanaokuaiki Fault (Figure 2B) where they form isolated, often  
243 disintegrated blocks with maximum amplitudes of up to ~15 m in the centre of each block,  
244 decreasing steeply (~30°) to zero at the lateral tips (Figure 5B, 7C). Breached examples were not  
245 observed. The hanging wall free surface that is offset across adjacent fault scarps is relatively  
246 planar. The width of the folded limb of these structures does not vary greatly, ranging from 10 to  
247 20 m. These monoclines feature large (often >4 m wide) composite fractures along their upper  
248 limb and tend to be connected laterally with large, open fault scarps with vertical offsets up to 12  
249 m. Monoclines of this type are decoupled from the footwall along these continuous co-linear  
250 composite extension fractures (Figure 5B, 7C). The limited lateral extent of the short monoclines,  
251 fragmented appearance, and localised steep dip are consistent with a fault-bound block rotation of  
252 the immediate hanging wall, effected by blind antithetic faults rather than a monoclinical fold. Such

253 rotational features have been produced in analogue models of fault propagation in brittle sequences  
254 (e.g. Holland et al., 2006; Michie et al., 2014).

255

256 *FIGURE 7 HERE*

257

258         Where present, neither type of monocline has been systematically breached, despite being  
259 parallel to the strike of prominent normal faults in the region (Figure 2B). Where breaching has  
260 been observed, vertical offsets on the monocline-breaching segments are minor (up to 6 m) (Figure  
261 6B) compared to collinear fault scarps (up to 16 m throw) (Figure 8).

262         Where present, sub-vertical normal faults in the area typically offset the surface by up to  
263 ~15 m (Figure 5B, Figure 7). In addition to a vertical component of displacement, all surface-  
264 breaking fault segments exhibit horizontal openings along composite fracture traces with apertures  
265 of up to ~5 m. Fault scarps preserve cooling joint-related irregularities (e.g. Figure 1) and we find  
266 no evidence for slickenlines or slickensides on fracture surfaces to indicate initial shear  
267 displacement, consistent with observations in previous studies (e.g. Holland et al., 2006; Peacock  
268 and Parfitt, 2002).

269

270 *FIGURE 8 HERE*

271

272         It is not possible to determine from field study alone whether fault slip at depth was purely  
273 dip-slip. Seismicity records suggest that strike-slip and oblique-slip faulting is common at depths  
274 of 0.5-5.0 km below the Koa'e fault system (Lin and Okubo, 2016), but the surface expression of  
275 this on the mapped faults is unclear. Mapping has revealed that surface-breaking normal fault

276 segments (up to 200 m in length) are most commonly found in the central-eastern and eastern  
277 regions of the fault system, within ~5 km of the upper ERZ. Based on the total lengths of  
278 deformation zones (up to 5 km; Figure 2B), our interpretation of these segments is that they  
279 represent discontinuous splays of single fault structures at depth. Based on remote mapping  
280 techniques, surface-breaking fault segments that offset planar footwall and hanging wall surfaces  
281 are estimated to comprise approximately 20% of inferred fault traces in the Koa'e fault system;  
282 the remaining ~80% is characterised by monoclinal folding, blind normal faults, and rarely,  
283 monocline-breaching fault segments.

284

### 285 **3.2. Advanced stage rift development: The Krafla fissure swarm, Iceland**

286 Iceland is located on the plate boundary between North America and Eurasia, and represents a  
287 subaerially exposed segment of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge. The Icelandic axial rift zone (the Neo-  
288 Volcanic Zone: NVZ) accommodates WNW-ESE ( $104^\circ$ ) extension of ~19 mm/year (e.g.  
289 Sæmundsson, 1974; Wright et al., 2012) across 5 sub-parallel NNE-SSW-striking en echelon  
290 volcanic systems and associated fissure swarms: Theistareykir, Krafla, Fremri-Namur, Askja, and  
291 Kverkfjöll (Figure 8A). Extension in these zones is accommodated by systems of normal faults,  
292 sub-parallel eruptive fissures, and extension fractures that radiate outward from axial volcanoes in  
293 a direction orthogonal to the regional minimum horizontal stress (e.g. Sæmundsson, 1974;  
294 Brandsdóttir and Einarsson, 1979). The Krafla central volcano and associated fault and fracture  
295 networks have dominated volcanic activity in the axial rift zone, with approximately 35 Holocene  
296 basaltic eruptions identified (Brandsdóttir and Einarsson, 1979; Opheim and Gudmundsson,  
297 1989). The rift zone extends 80-100 km along strike (Figure 9A), with a width of 4-10 km  
298 (Bjornsson et al., 2007).

299 Magma is stored beneath the central volcano, in a reservoir at approximately 2.5-3.0 km  
300 depth and supplied at a rate of  $\sim 1.6 \text{ km}^3$  per year (Tryggvason, 1986; Dauteuil et al., 2001). Records  
301 of ground deformation, dating back to 1976, highlight pronounced and repeated episodes of steady  
302 inflation followed by rapid deflation (and subsidence), associated with rift zone extension  
303 (Bjornsson et al., 1978; Tryggvason, 1984; Rubin, 1992). The scale and duration of these episodes  
304 is highly variable. For instance,  $30\text{-}40 \times 10^6 \text{ m}^3$  was erupted from Krafla in 1980 over a period of  
305 12 hours. In another episode deflation of the summit reservoir released  $198 \times 10^6 \text{ m}^3$  over 39 days.  
306 During those events, large portions of the rift zone are known to have extended: between 1974-78,  
307 up to eight separate inflation-deflation events were recorded and 80-90 km of the  $\sim 100$  km long  
308 rift zone accommodated extension (Tryggvason, 1984). Lateral dyke propagation has been  
309 recorded for large distances ( $\sim 50$  km) along the rift zone (Bjornsson et al., 1978; Buck et al., 2006;  
310 Hjartardóttir et al., 2012). Based on the ages for lava flows and erosional surfaces, deformation  
311 rates are estimated to be between  $1.5\text{-}15 \text{ cm/y}^{-1}$  (Dauteuil et al., 2001). Lavas in the study area  
312 dominantly are of pahoehoe type, with individual unit thickness ranging from  $\sim 10$  cm, up to  $\sim 3$  m.  
313 Lava thicknesses in the study area are reasonably constant ( $\pm 10\%$ ) over the hundred-metre length  
314 scale.

315

316 *FIGURE 9 HERE*

317

### 318 **3.2.1. Surface structures in the Krafla fissure swarm**

319 Here we focus on an area of the Krafla rift system  $\sim 10$  km north of Krafla Volcano (Figure 9B,  
320 C). Detailed measurements of orientation, kinematics and aperture of fractures and normal faults  
321 are presented in Bubeck et al. (2017b); here we provide a summary. Mapping reveals the following

322 structures (Figure 9C, D): (1) rift zone-parallel (NNE-SSW strike) normal faults, with sub-vertical  
323 scarps that dip to the WNW and ESE, and accommodate displacements >15 m; (2) networks of  
324 fractures found dominantly within the footwall (and less commonly in the hanging wall) of  
325 surface-breaking normal faults; and (3) rarely, monoclinical folds and hanging wall buckles.  
326 Fractures are grouped into three dominant strike orientations (Figure 9D): NNE-SSW (rift-  
327 parallel), NW-SE (rift-oblique), and WNW-ESE (rift-normal). Importantly, fractures with  
328 orientations outside of the principal rift trend (NNE-SSW) are not randomly distributed but show  
329 a close spatial association with the tips of en echelon rift faults (Bubeck et al. 2017b).

330 Fractures in the Krafla fissure swarm form linear zones that are up to 5 km long and 5-15  
331 m wide. Rift-parallel striking fractures of this order are most common in the study area (~60% of  
332 mapped fracture traces) and show lengths of up to ~800 m, with apertures of up to 4 m, but  
333 commonly in the range 1.0-1.5 m (Bubeck et al., 2017b). Rift-oblique (NW-SE) striking fractures  
334 are less frequent (~30% of mapped fracture traces), but accommodate similar scales of opening  
335 (up to 4 m; modal opening is 2.0-2.5 m) across open fault scarps, with lengths up to ~50 m (Bubeck  
336 et al., 2017b). Rift-normal (WNW-ESE) striking fractures are least common (~10% of mapped  
337 fracture traces) and show the smallest lengths (less than ~40 m) and apertures (up to ~1 m) (Bubeck  
338 et al., 2017b). None of the fracture sets identified show a preferred stepping direction, and  
339 individual fractures show prominent obliquely-oriented steps in their traces, which commonly  
340 coincide with points of aperture minima. Such patterns have been interpreted previously elsewhere  
341 to represent sites of segment linkage between originally segmented structures (e.g. Peacock and  
342 Sanderson, 1991). At the scale of whole fractures (tens to hundreds of metre scale), traces are  
343 linear and considered composite structures: i.e. they represent coalesced fractures that were  
344 originally segmented.

345

346 *FIGURE 10 HERE*

347

348 Extension in the Krafla fissure swarm is accommodated dominantly by large (>15 m  
349 displacement), sub-vertical surface-breaking faults that offset planar footwall-hanging wall surfaces  
350 (Figure 10). Faults are continuous in length for 0.5-1.5 km and parallel to the NNE-SSW trend of  
351 the rift zone, accommodating WNW-ESE extension (Figure 9B, D). As observed in the Koa'e fault  
352 system, faults show significant horizontal openings of up to 4 m, in addition to a vertical component  
353 of displacement (Figure 9). A sub-set of shorter normal faults (<0.5 km length) and fractures, which  
354 strike at a low angle to the main rift trend (i.e. NW-SE), occurs at the terminations of rift-parallel  
355 faults (e.g. Figure 9B) (Bubeck et al., 2017b). Fractures in this trend show prominent strike-slip  
356 displacements, in addition to open components (Bubeck et al., 2017b). Strike-slip motion has not  
357 been observed across NW-SE striking fault segments, however it should be noted that the lack of  
358 preserved piercing points precludes documentation of any horizontal component of motion in this  
359 case.

360 Crests of monoclines are parallel to the NNE-SSW trend of the rift zone and strike of  
361 normal faults (Figure 9C, 11). Based on their spatial extent, only laterally discontinuous (<50 in  
362 length) monoclines are identified. Monoclines in the Krafla fissure swarm typically have low  
363 amplitudes (<10 m) and rounded morphologies, with open fractures along the upper limb, which  
364 are collinear with adjacent open normal fault scarps on either side of the monocline (Figure 11A).  
365 Breached monoclines are more common in the Krafla study area.

366

367 *FIGURE 11 HERE*



368

369 Where monoclines are breached, amplitudes are generally low (<2 m) and extensional strains have  
370 localised on the breaching fault segment, which in some instances, have accrued throws of 0.5-1.0  
371 m (e.g. Figure 11B). Along one fault segment there is also evidence for multiple monocline  
372 geometries with the development of an additional fold further into the hanging wall, ahead of a  
373 breached monocline (Figure 11B). Instances of heavily fractured or disintegrated morphologies,  
374 though less common in the Krafla study area, show steep rotations of up to 90° (Figure 11C).  
375 Importantly, monoclines in the Krafla fissure swarm are comparatively rare and are associated  
376 with smaller rift-parallel striking faults (throw <15 m), rather than representing characteristic  
377 features of all faults.

378

## 379 **4. Discussion**

### 380 **4.1. Comparison of surface structures in the Koa'e and Krafla fault systems**

381 Field observations of the distribution and geometry of normal faults in the Koa'e fault system and  
382 the Krafla fissure swarm show similar structural features to one another, and to existing predicted  
383 geometries (e.g. Grant and Kattenhorn, 2004; Holland et al., 2006; Martel and Langley, 2006;  
384 Kaven and Martel, 2007), including: (1) sub-vertical fault scarps with prominent openings (2-4  
385 m); (2) monoclines that strike parallel to rift faults and decrease in width as they increase in height  
386 prior to breaching; and (3) zones of sub-vertical fractures that appear to activate pre-existing  
387 cooling joints. These shared structural features are predicted to follow a stepwise and systematic  
388 evolution with earlier features evident in advanced stages (e.g. Martel and Langley, 2006; Kaven  
389 and Martel, 2007).

390 In general, surface-breaking faults in the Krafla fissure swarm are larger (>15 m throw),  
391 longer (>500 m) and more prevalent than surface-breaking faults in the Koa'e. Extension fracture  
392 networks in the Koa'e are more distributed and comprise a greater number of shorter (between 10-  
393 20 m) and narrower (typically 0.3-0.6 m aperture) fractures. These characteristics lead us to  
394 consider that faults in the Krafla fissure swarm are in a more advanced stage of development, and  
395 accommodate greater strains than structures in the Koa'e fault system. We might therefore expect  
396 faults in both settings to follow the same evolutionary path, as has been suggested previously (e.g.,  
397 Martel and Langley, 2006), with faults in Krafla to be in a more advanced stage of the same  
398 development process.

399 Our field observations, however, highlight prominent departures from both the predicted  
400 geometries in the models, and between the two locations; specifically, precursory monoclines are  
401 not present along all fault traces, where they ought to be systematically breached. In the Koa'e  
402 fault system, monoclines are not uniformly distributed, but rather they are restricted to central-  
403 western and western regions of the fault system (Figure 2B), where they form continuous structural  
404 features for up to ~3 km; amplitudes are similar to the surface-breaking fault segments in the  
405 eastern portions of the fault system. In the east of the fault system, within ~5 km of the upper ERZ,  
406 large (5-15 m throw) surface-breaking faults dominate and outcrop as subvertical scarps with open  
407 fractures at their base, with few instances of folding of the ground surface prior to breaching. The  
408 result of this distribution of deformation in the Koa'e is a pronounced east-west structure gradient.  
409 In the Krafla fissure swarm, monoclines are comparatively rare and associated with smaller  
410 displacement faults. They do not demonstrate a preferred spatial distribution. Surface-breaking  
411 normal faults on the other hand, are found up to 20 km away from the central volcano.

412

## 413 **4.2. Controls on the surface expression of extensional structures**

### 414 **4.2.1. Syntectonic volcanism**

415 Most numerical and scaled-analogue models of fault growth in cohesive sequences involve  
416 uniform, constant-rate displacement boundary conditions (e.g. Grant and Kattenhorn, 2004;  
417 Holland et al., 2006, 2011; Martel and Langley, 2006). Driving stresses, and hence, strain rates in  
418 both the Koa‘e and Krafla rift settings, however, are neither uniformly distributed, nor constant  
419 through time. Extension in both areas is associated with repeated dyke injection events, the scale  
420 and timing of which are variable in time, space, and magnitude (e.g. Tryggvason, 1984; Dvorak  
421 and Dzurisin, 1993; Bjornsson et al., 2007; Delaney et al., 1998; Buck et al., 2006). Variable rates  
422 and duration of magma emplacement within the rift zones has the effect of altering local stress  
423 distributions, which in turn drives variations in strain rate and results in local strain rate gradients.  
424 This should be expected to influence segmentation patterns and fault architecture. The distribution  
425 of surface deformation styles in the Koa‘e fault system may be a record of this.

426

427 *FIGURE 12 HERE*

428

429         Periods of inflation and deflation within Kīlauea ’s south flank have been linked with  
430 regions of elevated concomitant seismicity below the summit and upper ERZ (Figure 12) at ~2-5  
431 km depth (e.g. Delaney et al., 1998; Hansen et al., 2004; Baker and Amelung, 2012, Lin and  
432 Okubo, 2016). Earthquake swarms originating in the upper ERZ have been recorded to migrate  
433 into the Koa‘e fault system during intrusion events (Delaney et al., 1998), and in some instances  
434 linked to episodes of slip on major faults in the areas. The proximal distribution of surface-breaking  
435 faults in the eastern Koa‘e fault system are therefore likely to be linked to these areas of elevated

436 seismicity and magma emplacement. For instance, records of GPS data, InSAR, and field  
437 observations, have revealed evidence for minor slip on the Kulanao'uaiki Fault during the  
438 September 1999 dyke intrusion event (Cervelli et al., 2002) (Figure 12). This is consistent with  
439 elastic dislocation models of the south flank that predict regions of high tensile stress  
440 concentrations that centre on the intruded region and extend into the eastern Koa'e (Owen et al  
441 2000; Cervelli et al., 2002). The scale and distribution of such stress concentrations become a  
442 function of the magnitude and location of the emplacement event, and hence, the resulting strain  
443 rate along the rift zone will vary accordingly. Magmatic and seismic activity in Kīlauea's SWRZ,  
444 by comparison, is significantly less (e.g. Dvorak and Dzurisin, 1993; Wauthier et al., 2016). During  
445 the period 2005-2007 inflation episode, for example, seismicity records indicate up to ~10 events  
446 per day in the SWRZ, compared to ~30 per day in the ERZ (Wauthier et al., 2016). Models of  
447 magma partitioning suggest that during the period 1840-1989, ~57% of magma supplied to the  
448 volcano was emplaced and erupted within the ERZ ( $1575 \times 10^6 \text{ m}^3$ ) with only ~2% ( $45 \times 10^6 \text{ m}^3$ )  
449 being erupted in the SWRZ (Dzurisin et al., 1984; Dvorak and Dzurisin, 1993). The result of this  
450 partitioning has led to more than 20 eruptions in the ERZ since 1950, associated with deflation of  
451 Kīlauea's summit reservoir, and only two events taking place in the SWRZ. Partitioning of  
452 extensional strain across the Koa'e fault system implies that total strains are comparable across the  
453 system, but spatially variable strain rates control whether faults are able to propagate straight to  
454 the surface (eastern Koa'e), or remain segmented at depth for protracted periods with slip  
455 accommodated aseismically, generating surface monoclines (western Koa'e). This is consistent  
456 with volcano-tectonic seismicity modelling from Kīlauea (e.g. Wauthier et al., 2016), and other  
457 volcanic faults (Toda et al., 2002; Roman and Gardine, 2013), which suggest that low rates of  
458 magma emplacement produce correspondingly low strain rates that are unable to drive significant

459 seismicity. With renewed magmatic partitioning into the SWRZ during future episodes, faults in  
460 western portions of the Koa‘e may therefore breach the surface and monoclines will be preserved  
461 in their hanging walls.

462 In contrast, the relatively minor abundance of monoclines and dominance of larger (>10 m  
463 throw) surface-breaking faults in the Krafla fissure swarm, up to 20 km away from the summit  
464 does not imply the presence of a spatial strain rate gradient, indicating magma supply here and  
465 related stresses are relatively uniform. Following re-surfacing, therefore, stresses and strain rates  
466 are high enough for fault segments to propagate straight to the surface without folding it first. The  
467 occurrence, however, of breached monoclines, though uncommon, suggests a temporal strain rate  
468 gradient can also exist. In evolving volcanic rift systems, therefore, the final geometry of first-  
469 order faults becomes a strain rate-dependent function of the magmatic processes taking place. This  
470 dependence becomes both a spatial problem as well as a temporal one.

471

#### 472 **4.2.2. Mechanical stratigraphy**

473 In addition to magmatically induced segmentation patterns, host rock mechanical properties are  
474 also likely to play a role in the distribution and geometry of faults in the study areas. A prominent  
475 cooling joint fabric and mechanical layers, in the form of bedding and physical property variations  
476 (e.g. Planke, 1994; Bubeck et al., 2017a), mean that basaltic sequences are highly anisotropic and  
477 host a similarly pronounced mechanical stratigraphy as have been reported for layered clastic (e.g.  
478 Ferrill et al., 2017) and crystalline-clastic sequences (Walker et al., 2013). Existing studies of  
479 extensional fault geometry in mechanically layered sequences have shown that the mechanical  
480 properties of a deforming volume will govern segmentation patterns, and hence, the final  
481 architecture of fault zones (e.g. Peacock and Sanderson, 1991; Ferrill and Morris, 2003; Schöpfer

482 et al., 2006; Van Gent et al., 2010; Walker et al., 2013). At the metre-scale, anisotropy within  
483 basaltic sequences pertains to varying physical and mechanical properties within individual lava  
484 units or volcanoclastic horizons, as well as networks of pre-existing cooling joints. At the tens to  
485 hundreds of metre-scale, changes in compositional layering and fluid content within the sequence  
486 should also be expected to influence the distribution and geometry of surface structures in  
487 developing volcanic rift systems.

488

#### 489 **4.3.A modified conceptual model for near-surface fault growth in basaltic sequences**

490 Here, we present conceptual models for near-surface fault growth, based on the natural distribution  
491 and geometry of extensional structures in the Koa‘e and Krafla fault systems, as an expansion of  
492 the numerical models presented by Martel and Langley (2006) and Kaven and Martel (2007). As  
493 this model is based on surface observations only, stage I is based on theoretical models of dyke-  
494 fault relationships from volcanic settings. Depending on the distribution, magnitude, and duration  
495 of individual rifting episodes, fault zones may show variable overall geometries and associated  
496 fracture densities, as a function of spatial and temporal strain rate evolution. For this reason, stage  
497 III of this model is divided into two paths that are referred to here as: a high strain rate path and a  
498 low strain rate path.

499

500 *FIGURE 13 HERE*

501

502 **Stage I:** Initial extension may result from magma release during deflation of the central reservoir  
503 where high magma pressure will drive dykes into existing adjacent joints or discontinuities. At  
504 intermediate depths, upward (or lateral) propagation, governed by the hydrofracture criterion (e.g.

505 Gudmundsson, 2011), is impeded by the presence of mechanical barriers (e.g. Bell and Kilburn,  
506 2012) or when driving pressures drop (e.g. Buck et al., 2006; Rowland et al., 2007). Dyke tip  
507 stresses are relieved by the growth of normal faults, which propagate along maximum tensile strain  
508 trajectories within the overlying basalt cover (e.g. Hollingsworth et al., 2013).

509

510 **Stage II:** In the region ahead of upward-propagating normal faults, at a critical distance from the  
511 free surface (controlled by the magnitude of the stress intensity at the fault tip), extension fractures  
512 begin to localise in linear zones along pre-existing cooling joints that are optimally oriented. These  
513 zones are parallel to the structures at depth and progressively lengthen downwards and laterally  
514 (Figure 13, Stage 1).

515 **Stage III (low strain rate):** During periods, or in regions of subdued magmatism, local driving  
516 stresses are too low to drive significant fault slip. Under these conditions, through-going linkage  
517 of fault tiplines at depth, and surface fractures, is prevented and faults will remain segmented at  
518 depth. Here, they will creep aseismically, producing monoclinal folding of the layers ahead of the  
519 tipline (Figure 13, Stage 2). With renewed magmatic activity, strain rates will increase once more  
520 and through-going linkage will be possible. During slip accumulation, and further upward  
521 propagation, surface monoclines will steepen until they are breached along newly linked fault-  
522 fracture networks (Figure 13, Stage 3).

523 **Stage III (high strain rate):** During periods, or in regions of elevated magmatism, or in the  
524 absence of resistant layers, linkage of upward propagating faults, and downward propagating  
525 fractures will result in through-going, surface-breaking faults. At this stage, extension is localised  
526 on a smaller number of larger structures, which dominate over new fracture growth: an exponential  
527 scaling is predicted (e.g. Ackerman et al., 2001). This process could take place relatively quickly

528 and result in through-going faults without folding of the surface (Figure 13, Stage 4). Seismicity  
529 data and eyewitness accounts, for instance, of the Kulanaokuaiki fault during the 1965 eruption of  
530 Kilauea Volcano, record evidence of crack propagation and vertical displacement occurring over  
531 the course of hours to days following the initial eruption (Fiske and Koyanagi, 1968).

532 In this model, monoclines are not necessarily precursory features of normal fault growth  
533 but rather a record of segmented growth, which may develop at any time within the series,  
534 depending largely on local strain rates. Breached monoclines, on the other hand, may imply a  
535 period, or region, of lower strain rate and segmentation followed by a sudden rate increase once  
536 more and through-going fault development.

537 An upward propagating fault model (e.g., Martel and Langley, 2006) is strongly supported  
538 by our field observations. Extension fractures are not randomly distributed across either fault  
539 system. In both settings, fractures are parallel to the trend of the rift zone and major rift faults and  
540 folds within it. Although fractures show a spatial relationship with fold curvature in some places,  
541 outer arc stretching is not the primary driving mechanism for their formation. A coupled evolution  
542 of fractures at the free surface and faults at depth, driven by stresses ahead of a blind fault tip is  
543 consistent with existing numerical predictions (e.g. Martel and Langley, 2006).

544 The growth of fault populations through time in developing volcanic rift systems, however,  
545 do not follow a uniform, systematic evolution; the distribution and geometry of normal faults in  
546 the Krafla fissure swarm are not always directly evolved equivalents of faults in the Koa'e fault  
547 system. This model may account for the apparent lack of preserved monoclines in exhumed basalt-  
548 hosted fault systems (e.g. Walker et al., 2012, 2013). Although factors including pre-existing  
549 structures and mechanical stratigraphy will influence the nucleation and initial geometry of fault



550 structures, changes in strain rate at any stage will alter the geometry and distribution of preserved  
551 faults.

552

## 553 **5. Conclusions**

554 Current models for surface-breaking in faults in volcanic sequences dominantly invoke geometric  
555 or kinematic linkage as a progressive fault zone evolution. Our findings support existing models  
556 in a simple way: surface deformation is localized by normal faults that nucleate at depth and drive  
557 tensile stress concentrations ahead of the fault tip. Coupled upward propagation of fault tips at  
558 depth, and downward growth of surface fractures produces surface-breaking normal faults with  
559 prominent horizontal openings at their base. Contrary to model predictions, however, precursory  
560 monoclines are not systematic features of growth faults in basaltic sequences. We suggest that  
561 such deviations from model-predicted structural style and distribution can be explained by local  
562 variations in strain rate through time, and spatially within the actively deforming region. Strain  
563 rates within volcanic rift systems are genetically linked to magmatism and as such, surface-  
564 breaking faults within individual, or separate rift systems, may not experience a consistent  
565 evolution. Small displacement faults, therefore, will not necessarily be representative of the early  
566 stages of more evolved systems.

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580

## 581 **FIGURES**

582 **Figure 1.** Measurement of fracture geometry and kinematics: extension-mode opening across pre-  
583 existing cooling joint surfaces allows the traditional measurement of opening direction, aperture,  
584 azimuth and vertical offset (where present).

585

586 **Figure 2.** A. Simplified structural elements map of Kīlauea Volcano: Koa`e fault system (KFS);  
587 ERZ: East Rift Zone; SWRZ: Southwest Rift Zone; HFS: Hilina Fault System. Inset shows  
588 relative position of A, on the south coast of Hawai`i. B. Map of extensional structures in the  
589 Koa`e fault system: (1) surface-breaking normal faults (yellow lines); (2) extension fracture  
590 networks (orange lines); and (3) monoclinial folds with lengths >150 m (blue lines). Bi. Rose  
591 diagram highlights the strike direction of monoclines in the Koa`e fault system. Bii. Rose  
592 diagram highlights the strike direction of 1888 mapped fracture and faults in the Koa`e fault  
593 system. C. Lower hemisphere stereographic projections showing the average strike of  
594 fault/fractures and calculated maximum horizontal extension directions for the two dominant

595 orientations: i) ENE-WSW striking (ERZ-parallel) structures, accommodating NNW-SSE  
596 extension; ii) NW-SE striking (ERZ-oblique) structures accommodating NE-SW extension.

597

598 **Figure 3.** Scaling and location of extension fracture networks. A. At the 100's of metre-scale,  
599 fracture zones are predominantly located in the footwall of faults and along the upper limb of  
600 monoclines. Zones range from 30-50 in width and extend for >1 km. Base image: aerial World-  
601 View 2 satellite image (0.5 m resolution). Inset map indicates image locations for parts A, B and  
602 C. B. At the 10's of metre-scale fractures show stepped geometries and apertures of up to ~4 m.  
603 C. At the cm-scale, fractures also demonstrate stepping trace geometries and “hook-shaped” tip  
604 geometries in the vicinity of neighbouring fracture tips. At these scales, fractures are also observed  
605 in otherwise undeformed (i.e. not folded, non-faulted) regions of the fault system.

606

607 **Figure 4.** Maps of 3D surface curvature derived from aerial LiDAR datasets and examples of  
608 extension fracture distribution in the Koa`e fault system. A positive curvature (warm colours)  
609 indicates the surface is upwardly convex; a negative curvature (cold colours) indicates the  
610 surface is upwardly concave. A. Fracture networks are present in areas of the fault system where  
611 there is no topographic expression of fault slip (i.e. monoclines, or fault scarps). Anomalous  
612 regions of curvature are associated with tumuli and the general morphology of the lava field. B.  
613 Fracture networks occur along the upper limb of monoclines where they are not spatially  
614 associated with regions of maximum curvature across monoclines. C. Fracture networks show a  
615 strong spatial relationship with regions of maximum curvature across monoclines.

616

617 **Figure 5.** Examples of monocline type in the Koa'e fault system. Inset map indicates image  
618 locations for parts A and B. A. Laterally continuous monoclines with fold limbs that dip gently  
619 and vary from a 2 m to ~ 10 m in amplitude. Zones of fractures are found along the upper limbs  
620 and rubbly toes at the base. Crests can be traced for over 1 km. B. Laterally discontinuous  
621 monoclines form densely fractured, often disintegrated blocks in the hanging wall of faults.  
622 Lengths vary from 10 m to 150 m and amplitudes from 2 m to 15 m. Solid red line in part A  
623 highlights monocline profile. Dashed blue lines: extent of continuous monocline; dashed orange  
624 line indicates extent of discontinuous monocline; dashed red lines: continuous open fracture;  
625 dashed yellow lines: extent of hanging wall buckles.

626

627 **Figure 6.** A. Map view of the continuous monocline shown in Figure 5, showing the distribution  
628 of extension fractures along the upper limb (dotted red lines). For location, please refer to the inset  
629 map for Figure 5. B. Cross-sections across the monocline in part A. Transect locations are show  
630 in part A. Transects 1-3 and 6 show steep, rounded monoclines with extension fractures along the  
631 region of maximum curvature. Transects 4 and 5 show a region of the monocline that has been  
632 breached by fault segments. The extent of this breaching is spatially limited. C: A map highlighting  
633 changes in 3D surface curvature across the monocline in part A. D. A slope map across the  
634 monocline in part A. Slope angles for the monocline limb range from ~12-25° with these values  
635 varying along-strike. Base image in A is an aerial World-View 2 satellite image (0.5 m resolution).  
636 Terrain data in parts C and D are derived from aerial LiDAR dataset (0.5 m resolution) provided  
637 by OpenTopography and generated in ArcGIS® software by Esri.

638

639 **Figure 7.** Map view of monocline types. A. Continuous monocline with a network of extension  
640 fractures along the upper limb. Limbs dip towards the north at  $\sim 10^\circ$ . Breached continuous  
641 monoclines are observed, but less commonly than unbreached. B. Fault tip monoclines between  
642 en echelon segments along the Ohale Fault. Tip monoclines dip parallel to the bounding segments  
643 by  $\sim 10^\circ$ . C. Discontinuous monocline blocks (dotted, yellow lines), isolated between normal fault  
644 segments (heavy red line), connected by collinear extension fractures (dotted red line) along the  
645 upper limb to form continuous open fractures that decouple the monocline from the footwall. These  
646 monoclines dip more steeply ( $\sim 30^\circ$ ) from a central amplitude maxima, to zero at the lateral edges.  
647 Breached discontinuous monoclines have not been observed. Base images: World-View 2 satellite  
648 image (0.5 m resolution).

649

650 **Figure 8.** Examples of surface-breaking normal fault segments in the Koa'e fault system. Inset  
651 map indicates location for images in Part A and B. A. The largest vertical offsets (up to  $\sim 15$ m)  
652 and greatest proportion of fault scarps are found on the Kulanaokuaiki ("Shaking Spine") fault. B.  
653 Where present, scarps show a significant component of horizontal opening and offset planar  
654 footwall and hanging wall ground surfaces. Also present along many (but not all) faults in the  
655 Koa'e fault system are hanging wall buckles that occur ahead of both fault scarps and monoclinical  
656 structures. Dashed orange line: extent of discontinuous monocline; dashed blue lines: extent of  
657 continuous monocline; dashed red lines: continuous open fracture; dashed yellow lines: extent of  
658 hanging wall buckles.

659

660 **Figure 9.** A. Map of Iceland highlighting the major tectonic elements: Reykjanes Ridge (RR);  
661 the Kolbeinsey Ridge (KR); West Volcanic Zone (WVZ); East Volcanic Zone (EVZ); Neo-

662 Volcanic Zone (NVZ: the axial rift zone); Askja volcanic centre (As); Fremri-Namur volcanic  
663 centre (Fr); Krafla volcanic centre, (highlighted blue; Kr); Theistareykir volcanic centre (Th); the  
664 Dalvik lineament (DF), the Husavik-Flatey Fault (HF) and the Grimsey lineament (GF). B.  
665 Location of study area in the Gjastykki Valley within the Krafla fissure swarm. C. Mapped faults  
666 and extension/oblique-extensional fractures in the study area. Image locations and view  
667 directions in Figures 10 and 11 are indicated. Ci. Rose diagram highlights the strike of normal  
668 faults and fractures in the Krafla fissure swarm. D. Lower hemisphere stereographic projections  
669 showing the average strike of fault/fractures and calculated maximum horizontal extension  
670 directions for the three dominant orientations: i) NNE-SSW striking faults and fractures,  
671 accommodating WNW-ESE extension; ii) WNW-ESE striking fractures, accommodating NNE-  
672 SSW extension; iii) NW-SE striking faults and fractures, accommodating ENE-WSW extension.

673

674 **Figure 10.** Examples of surface-breaking normal fault segments in the Gjastykki area of the Krafla  
675 fissure swarm. A. Subvertical normal faults with throws of up to 25-30 m and offset planar footwall  
676 and hanging wall surfaces. B. Rift faults show prominent horizontal openings of 2-4 m and  
677 overlapping geometries with obliquely-oriented linking segments.

678

679 **Figure 11.** Examples of monoclines in the Krafla fissure swarm. A. Monoclines show amplitudes  
680 of up to ~3 m with open fractures along their upper limbs that are co-linear with fault segments on  
681 either side. B. Breached monocline observed in the hangingwall of a surface-breaking normal fault  
682 with vertical offset of up 2-3 m. Along the fault in the image, an additional monocline has  
683 developed further into the hanging wall. C. Monoclines can also be strongly fragmented and show  
684 steep rotations. In all examples, their lateral extent is <50 m.

685

686 **Figure 12.** Distribution of surface-breaking normal faults and monoclinial folds across the Koa`e  
687 fault system. Blue circles represent focal mechanisms in the summit, upper ERZ, and upper SWRZ  
688 regions of Kīlauea Volcano from the period 1986-2009. Contours highlight the density of events  
689 based on approx. 3000 focal mechanisms recorded in this region. Earthquake data reproduced  
690 from Lin and Okubo, 2016. ~90% of focal mechanisms in the catalog are small earthquakes (96%  
691 <M2.5), from shallow depths (i.e. <13 km); half of the focal mechanisms are recorded from 2-5  
692 km depth. Dyke intrusion events taken from Baker and Amelung, 2015 and Cervelli et al., 2002.

693

694 **Figure 13.** Conceptual model for growth faults in volcanic rift zones with spatially (and  
695 temporally) variable strain rates, with field examples of the model stages 1-4 from the Koa`e and  
696 Krafla fault systems. Principal stress axes (red arrows) represent the regional stress state acting on  
697 the rift zone. 1. Precursory extension fractures localize in narrow zones at the free surface ahead  
698 of blind normal faults. 2. In regions of the rift zone where strain rates are high, normal faults  
699 propagate rapidly upwards through the sequence and link with downward propagating surface  
700 fractures, producing fault scarps. A lack of preserved monocline indicates strain rates have  
701 remained high since the last resurfacing event. Antithetic faults may develop from points of stress  
702 concentration, causing a rotation of the hanging wall block above them. 3. In regions of the rift  
703 zone where strain rates are low, faults remain at depth where they accumulate slip asecimically  
704 and gradually deform the free surface ahead of the tipline into monoclines. 4. In regions of the rift  
705 zone that experience episodically high strain rates, faults may spend protracted periods segmented  
706 at depth, followed by a rapid propagation phase that results in linkage with surface fractures and  
707 breaching of earlier formed monoclines at the free surface.

708

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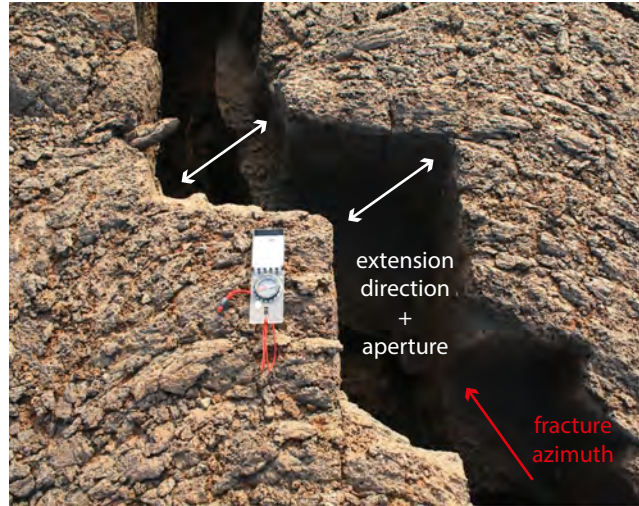


Figure 1. Measurement of fracture geometry and kinematics: extension-mode opening across pre-existing cooling joint surfaces allows the traditional measurement of opening direction, aperture, azimuth and vertical offset (where present).

Figure 2  
 W: 121 mm  
 H: 191.5 mm  
 (double column width)

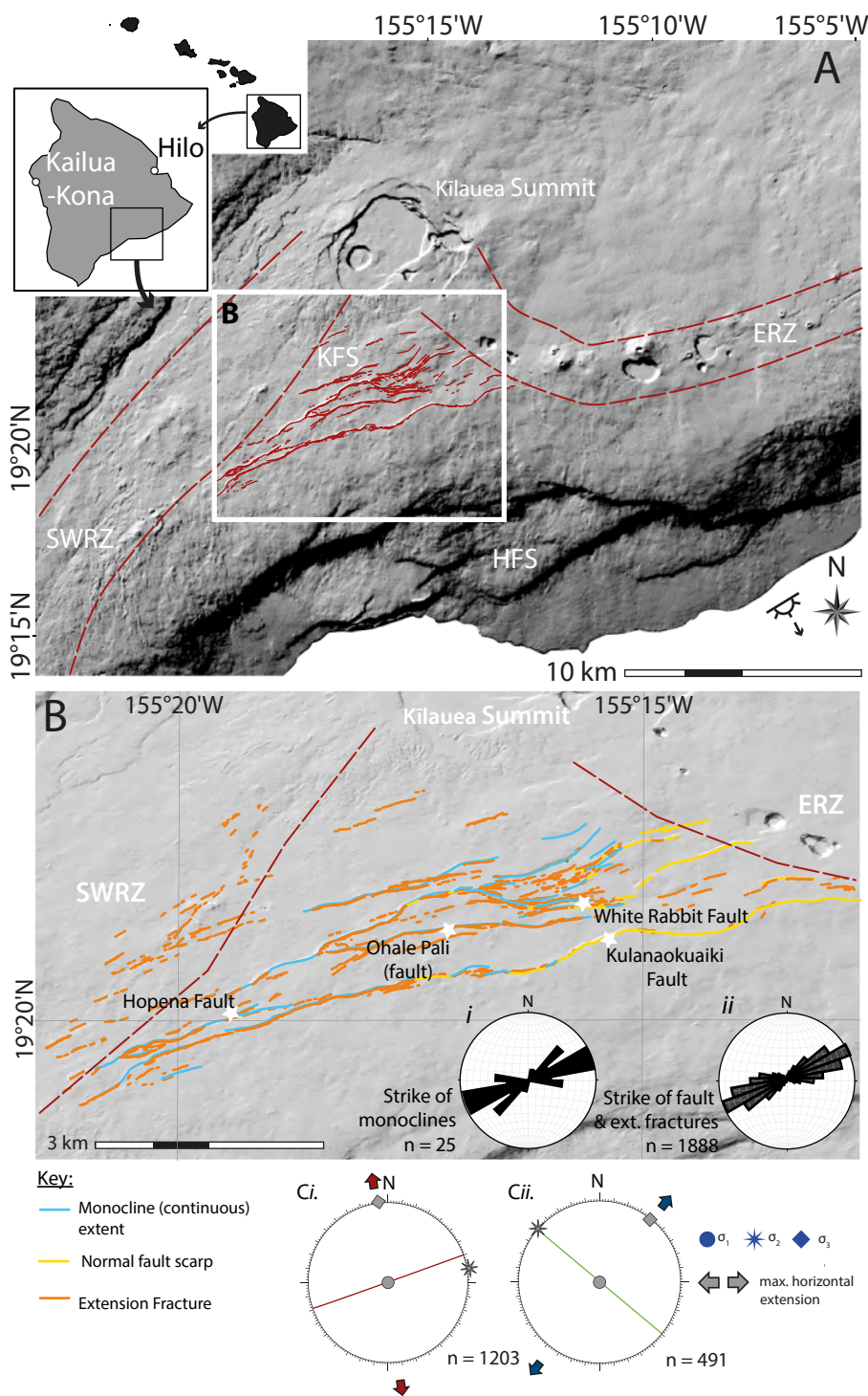


Figure 2. A. Simplified structural elements map of Kilauea Volcano: Koa'e fault system (KFS); ERZ: East Rift Zone; SWRZ: Southwest Rift Zone; HFS: Hilina Fault System. Inset shows relative position of A, on the south coast of Hawaii. B. Map of extensional structures in the Koa'e fault system: (1) surface-breaking normal faults (yellow lines); (2) extension fracture networks (orange lines); and (3) monoclinical folds with lengths >150 m (blue lines). B*i*. Rose diagram highlights the strike direction of monoclines in the Koa'e fault system. B*ii*. Rose diagram highlights the strike direction of 1888 mapped fracture and faults in the Koa'e fault system. C. Lower hemisphere stereographic projections showing the average strike of fault/fractures and calculated maximum horizontal extension directions for the two dominant orientations: *i*) ENE-WSW striking (ERZ-parallel) structures, accommodating NNW-SSE extension; *ii*) NW-SE striking (ERZ-oblique) structures accommodating NE-SW extension.

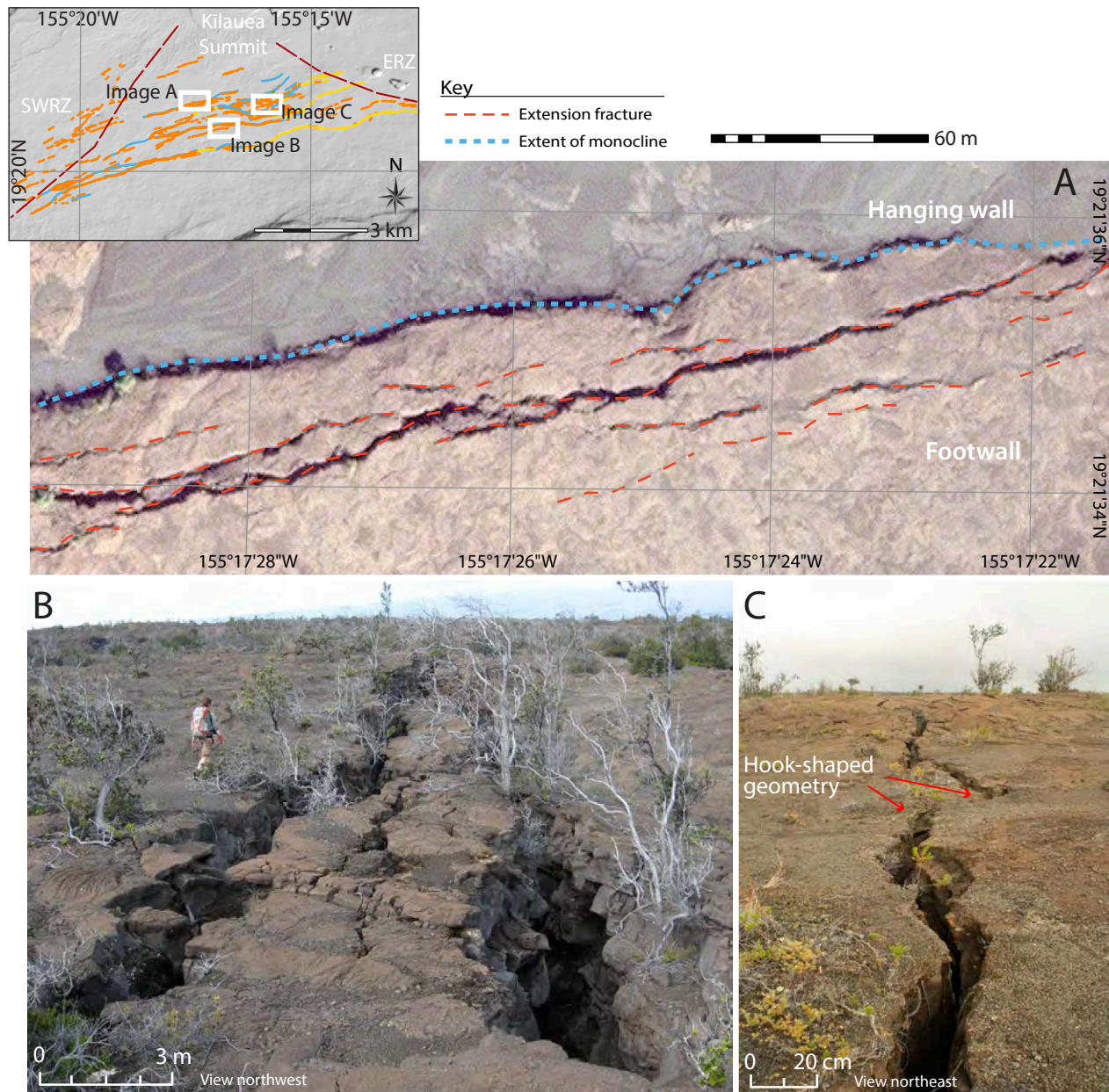


Figure 3. Scaling and location of extension fracture networks. A. At the 100's of metre-scale, fracture zones are predominantly located in the footwall of faults and along the upper limb of monoclines. Zones range from 30-50 m in width and extend for >1 km. Base image: aerial World-View 2 satellite image (0.5 m resolution). Inset map indicates image locations for parts A, B and C. B. At the 10's of metre-scale fractures show stepped geometries and apertures of up to ~4 m. C. At the cm-scale, fractures also demonstrate stepping trace geometries and "hook-shaped" tip geometries in the vicinity of neighbouring fracture tips. At these scales, fractures are also observed in otherwise undeformed (i.e. not folded, non-faulted) regions of the fault system.

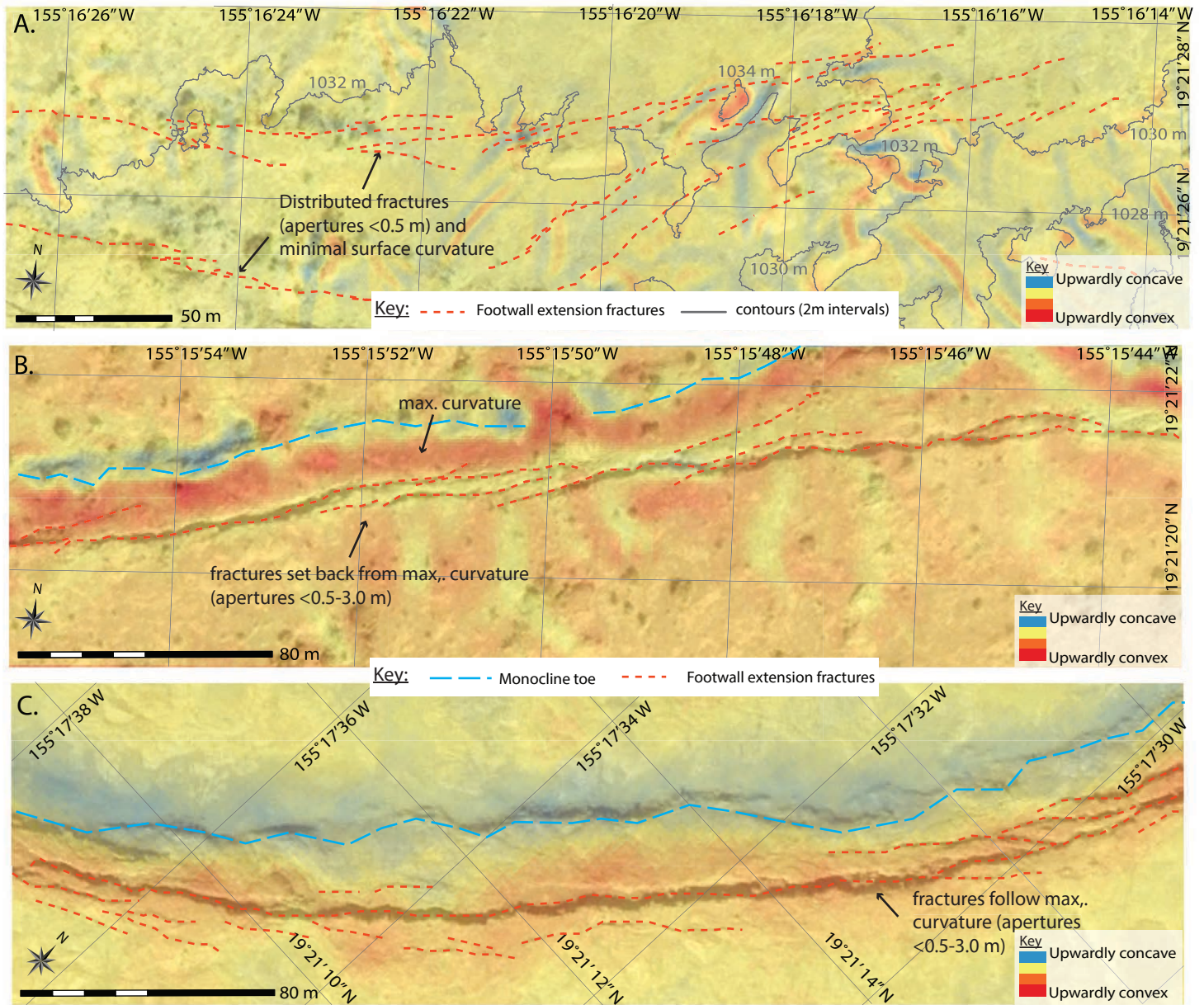


Figure 4. Maps of 3D surface curvature derived from aerial LiDAR datasets and examples of extension fracture distribution in the Koa'e fault system. A positive curvature (warm colours) indicates the surface is upwardly convex; a negative curvature (cold colours) indicates the surface is upwardly concave. A. Fracture networks are present in areas of the fault system where there is no topographic expression of fault slip (i.e. monoclines, or fault scarps). Anomalous regions of curvature are associated with tumuli and the general morphology of the lava field. B. Fracture networks occur along the upper limb of monoclines where they are not spatially associated with regions of maximum curvature across monoclines. C. Fracture networks show a strong spatial relationship with regions of maximum curvature across monoclines.

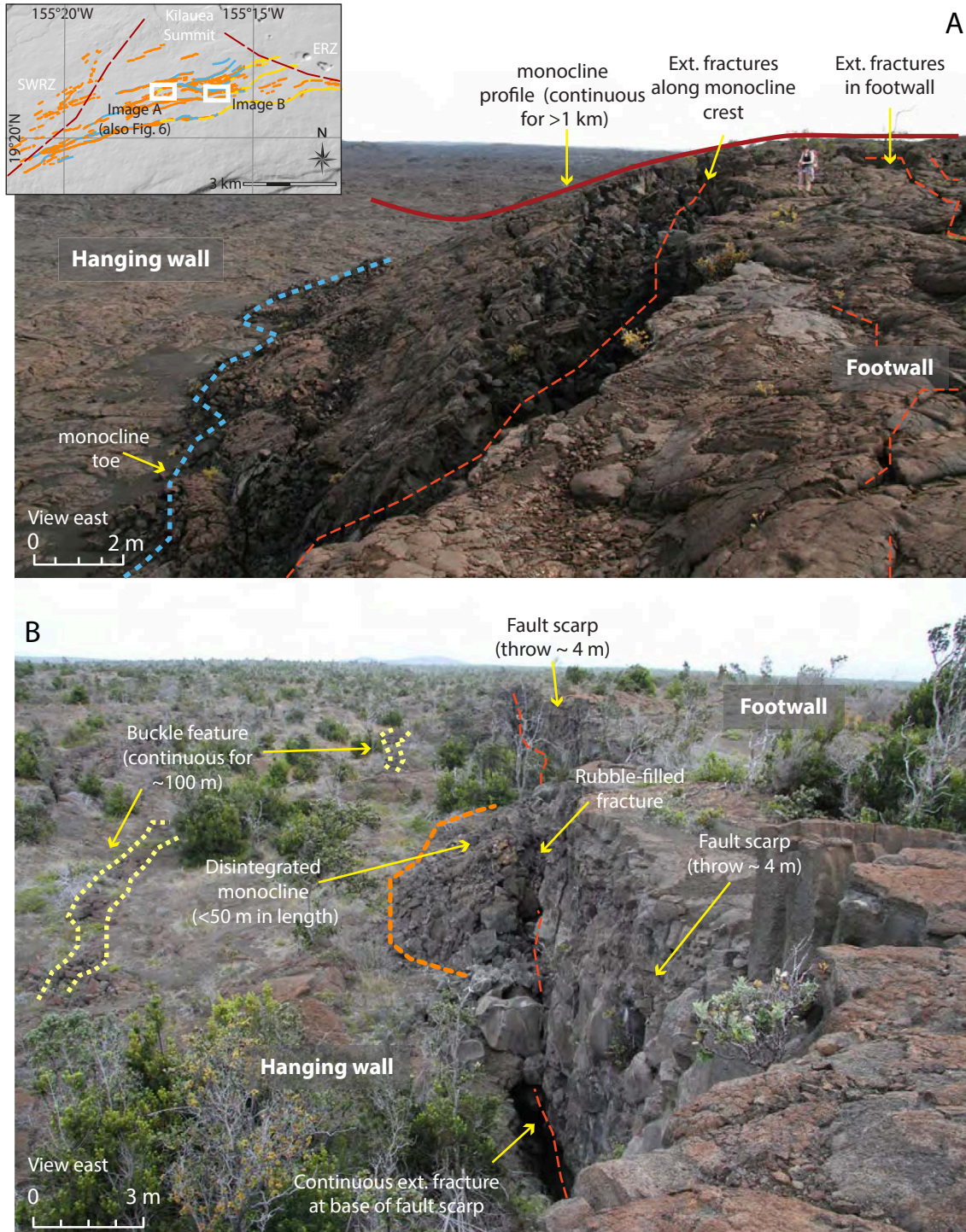
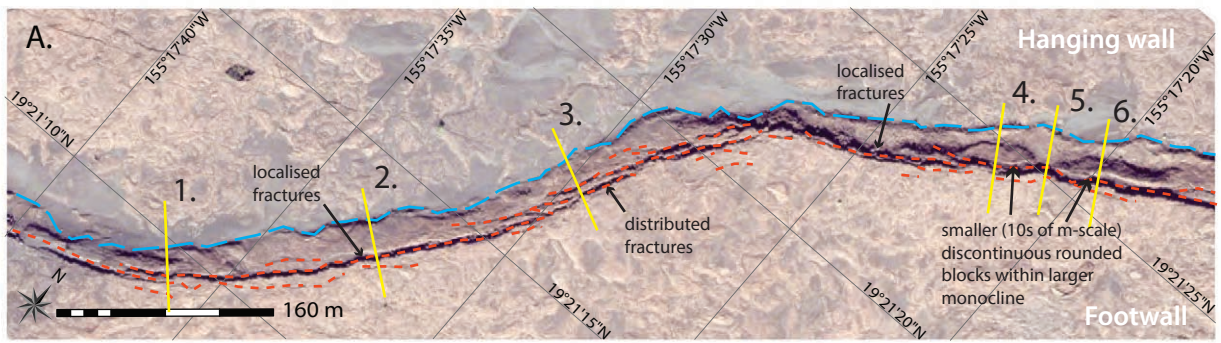


Figure 5. Examples of monocline type in the Koa'e fault system. Inset map indicates image locations for parts A and B. A. Laterally continuous monoclines with fold limbs that dip gently and vary from a 2 m to ~ 10 m in amplitude. Zones of fractures are found along the upper limbs and rubbly toes at the base. Crests can be traced for over 1 km. B. Laterally discontinuous monoclines form densely fractured, often disintegrated blocks in the hanging wall of faults. Lengths vary from 10 m to 150 m and amplitudes from 2 m to 15 m. Solid red line in part A highlights monocline profile. Dashed blue lines: extent of continuous monocline; dashed orange line indicates extent of discontinuous monocline; dashed red lines: continuous open fracture; dashed yellow lines: extent of hanging wall buckles.





**Key:** — Monocline toe    - - - Footwall extension fractures    — Transect location (part E.)

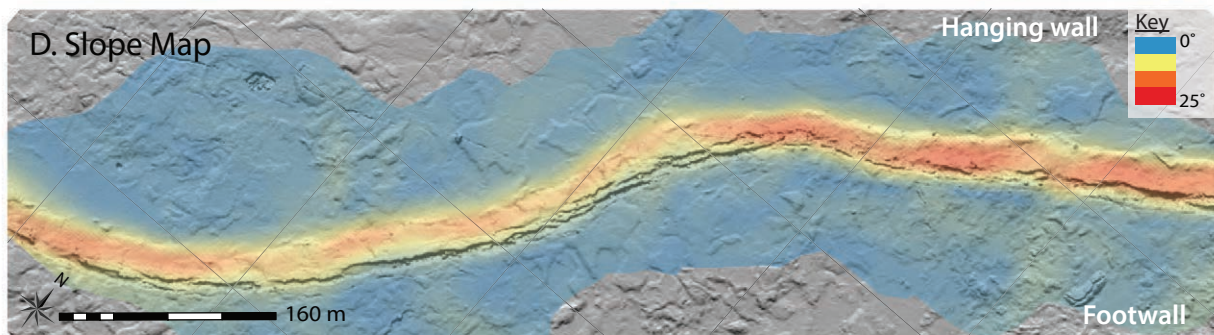
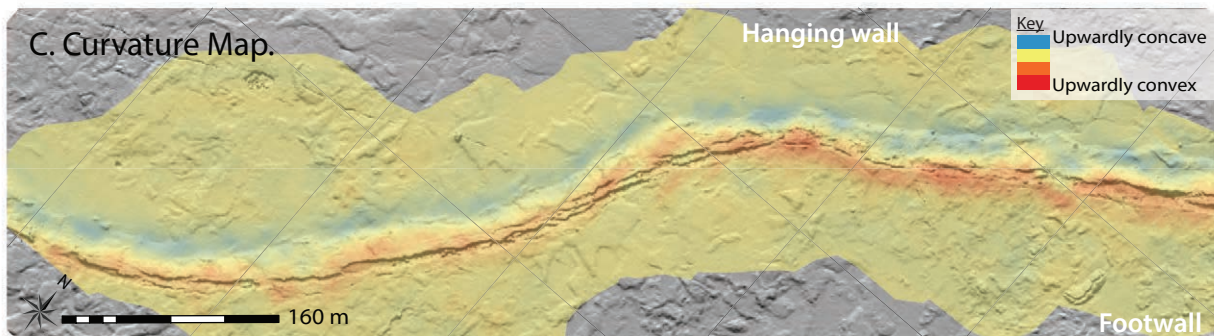
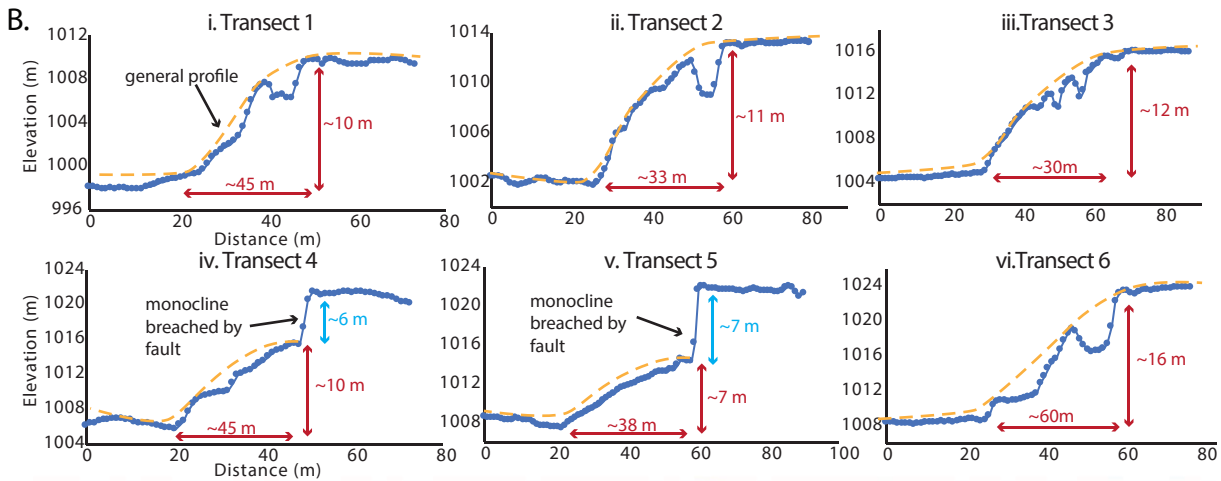


Figure 6. A. Map view of the continuous monocline shown in Figure 5, showing the distribution of extension fractures along the upper limb (dotted red lines). For location, please refer to the inset map for Figure 5. B. Cross-sections across the monocline in part A. Transect locations are shown in part A. Transects 1-3 and 6 show steep, rounded monoclines with extension fractures along the region of maximum curvature. Transects 4 and 5 show a region of the monocline that has been breached by fault segments. The extent of this breaching is spatially limited. C. A map highlighting changes in 3D surface curvature across the monocline in part A. D. A slope map across the monocline in part A. Slope angles for the monocline limb range from  $\sim 12$ - $25^\circ$  with these values varying along-strike. Base image in A is an aerial World-View 2 satellite image (0.5 m resolution). Terrain data in parts C and D are derived from aerial LiDAR dataset (0.5 m resolution) provided by OpenTopography and generated in ArcGIS<sup>®</sup> software by Esri.

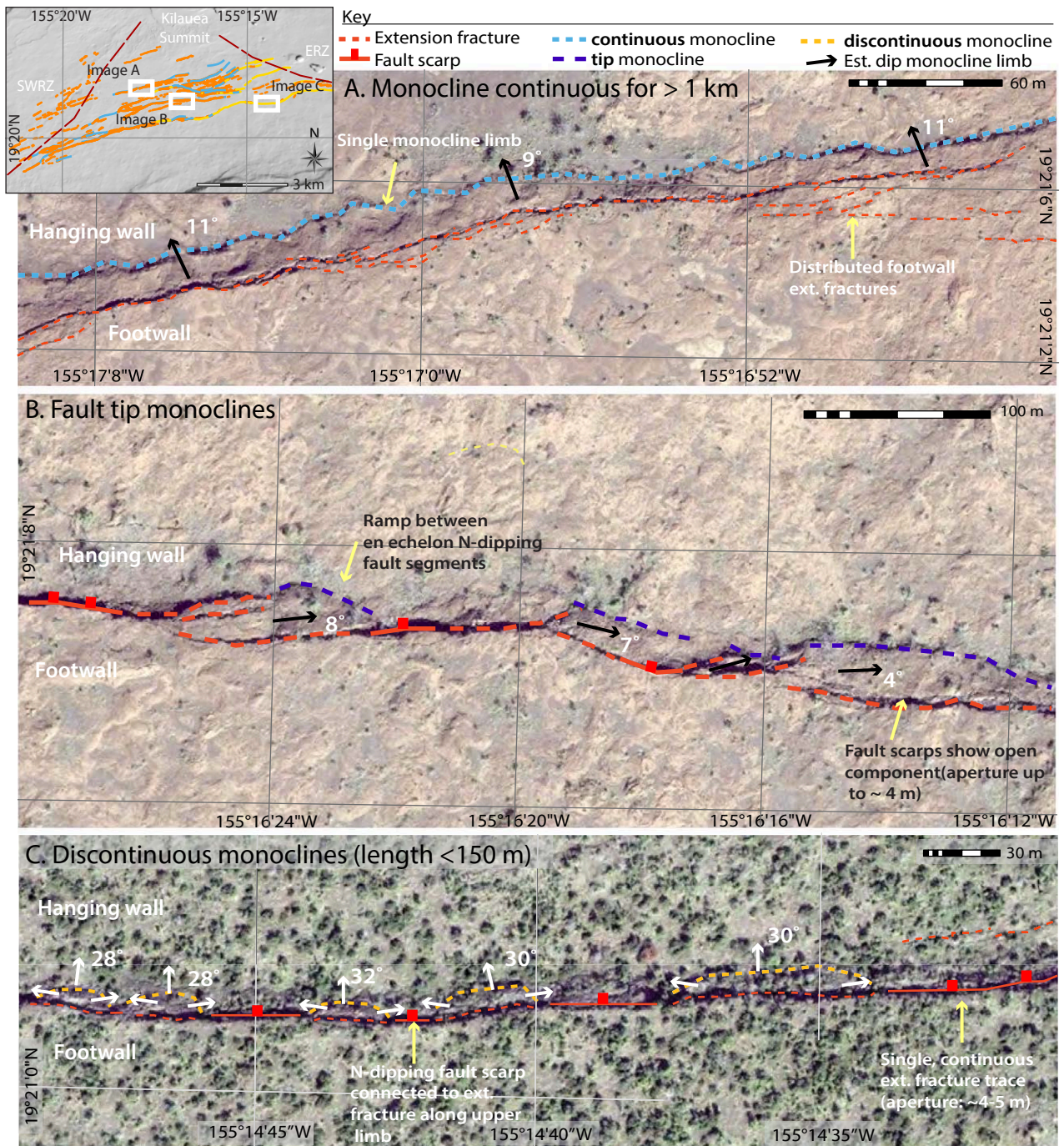


Figure 7. Map view of monocline types. A. Continuous monocline with a network of extension fractures along the upper limb. Limbs dip towards the north at  $\sim 10^\circ$ . Breached continuous monoclines are observed, but less commonly than unbreached. B. Fault tip monoclines between en echelon segments along the Ohale Fault. Tip monoclines dip parallel to the bounding segments by  $\sim 10^\circ$ . C. Discontinuous monocline blocks (dotted, yellow lines), isolated between normal fault segments (heavy red line), connected by collinear extension fractures (dotted red line) along the upper limb to form continuous open fractures that decouple the monocline from the footwall. These monoclines dip more steeply ( $\sim 30^\circ$ ) from a central amplitude maxima, to zero at the lateral edges. Breached discontinuous monoclines have not been observed. Base images: World-View 2 satellite image (0.5 m resolution).

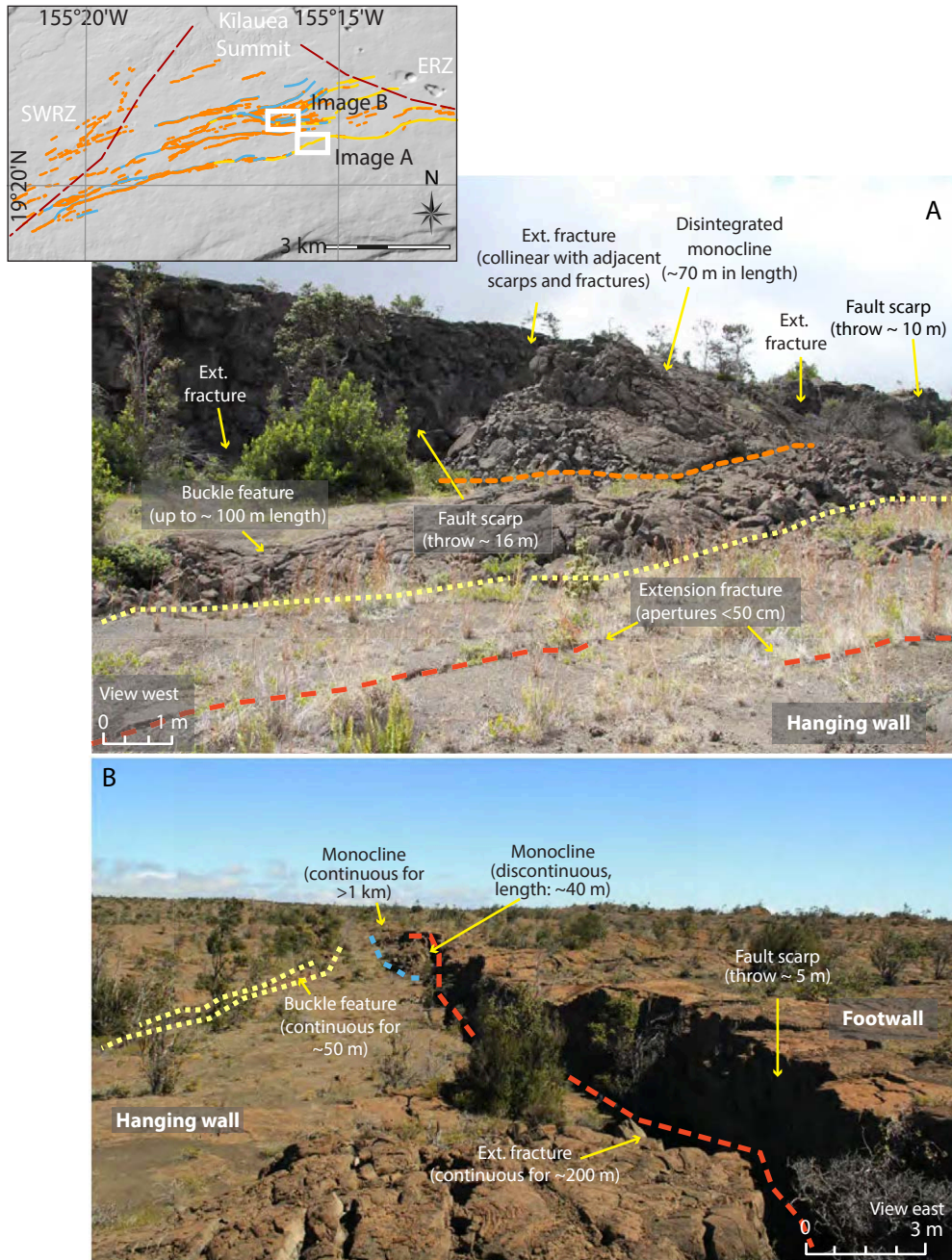


Figure 8. Examples of surface-breaking normal fault segments in the Koa'e fault system. Inset map indicates location for images in Part A and B. A. The largest vertical offsets (up to ~15m) and greatest proportion of fault scarps are found on the Kulanaokuaiki ("Shaking Spine") fault. B. Where present, scarps show a significant component of horizontal opening and offset planar footwall and hanging wall ground surfaces. Also present along many (but not all) faults in the Koa'e fault system are hanging wall buckles that occur ahead of both fault scarps and monoclinical structures. Dashed orange line: extent of discontinuous monocline; dashed blue lines: extent of continuous monocline; dashed red lines: continuous open fracture; dashed yellow lines: extent of hanging wall buckles.

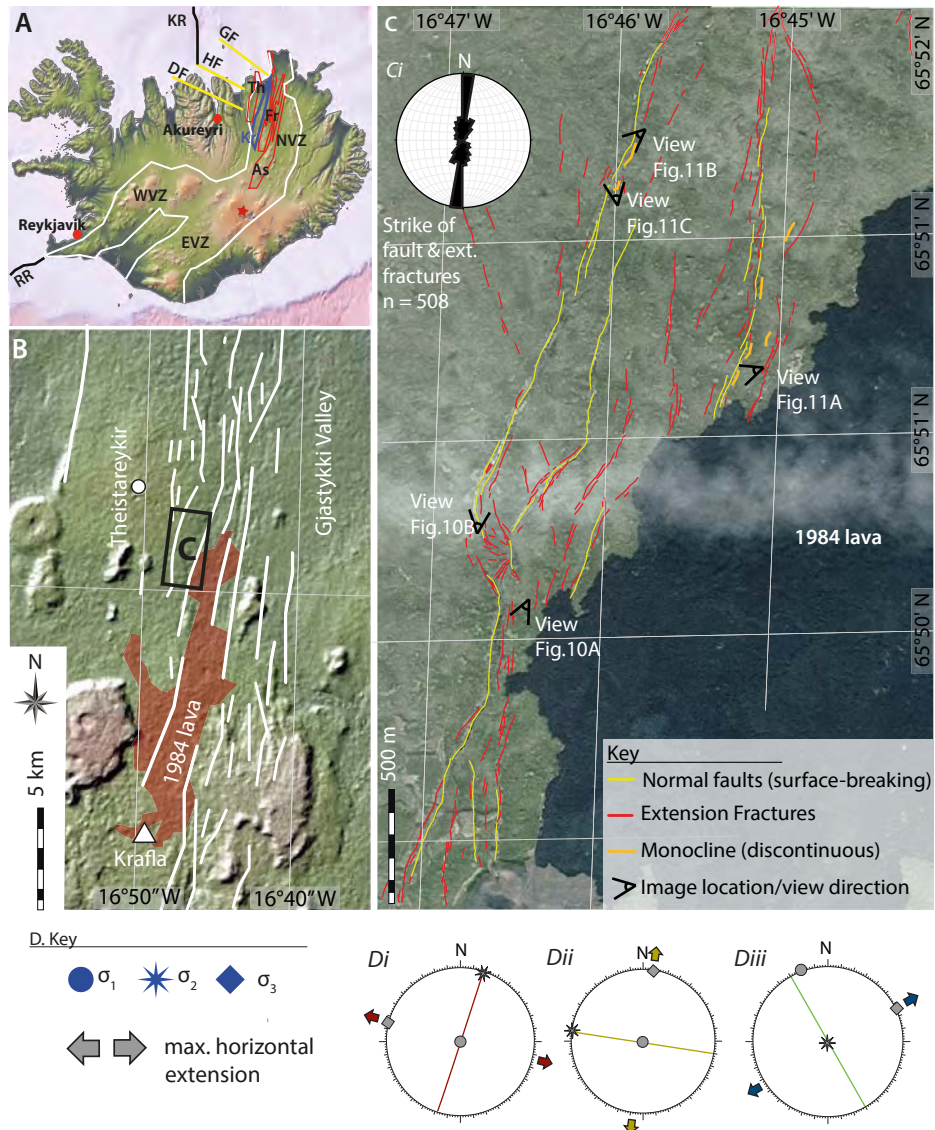


Figure 9. A. Map of Iceland highlighting the major tectonic elements: Reykjanes Ridge (RR); the Kolbeinsey Ridge (KR); West Volcanic Zone (WVZ); East Volcanic Zone (EVZ); Neo-Volcanic Zone (NVZ: the axial rift zone); Askja volcanic centre (As); Fremri-Namur volcanic centre (Fr); Krafla volcanic centre, (highlighted blue; Kr); Theistareykir volcanic centre (Th); the Dalvik lineament (DF), the Husavik-Flatey Fault (HF) and the Grimsey lineament (GF). B. Location of study area in the Gjastykki Valley within the Krafla fissure swarm. C. Mapped faults and extension/oblique-extensional fractures in the study area. Image locations and view directions in Figures 10 and 11 are indicated. C<sub>i</sub>. Rose diagram highlights the strike of normal faults and fractures in the Krafla fissure swarm. D. Lower hemisphere stereographic projections showing the average strike of fault/fractures and calculated maximum horizontal extension directions for the three dominant orientations: i) NNE-SSW striking faults and fractures, accommodating WNW-ESE extension; ii) WNW-ESE striking fractures, accommodating NNE-SSW extension; iii) NW-SE striking faults and fractures, accommodating ENE-WSW extension.

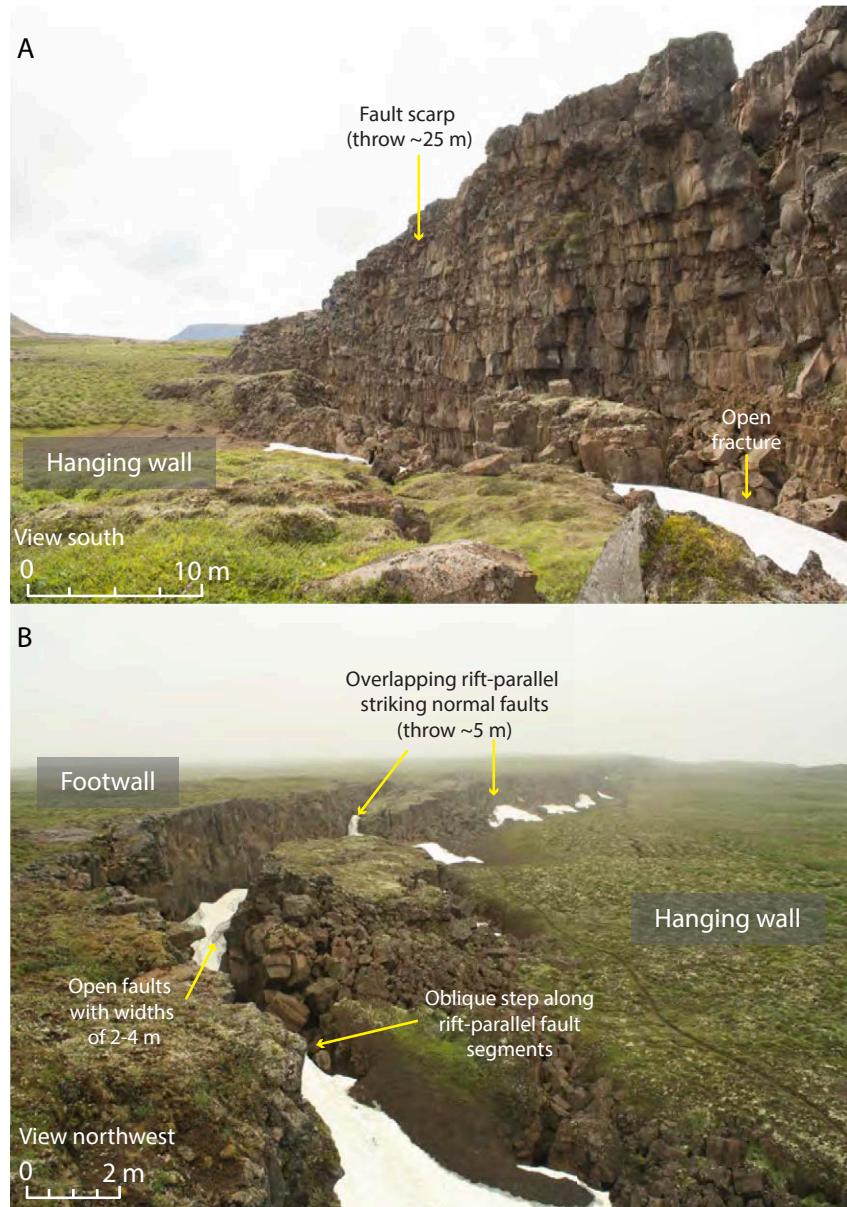


Figure 10. A. Examples of surface-breaking normal fault segments in the Gjastykki area of the Krafla fissure swarm. A. Subvertical normal faults demonstrate throws of up to 25-30 m and offset planar footwall and hanging wall surfaces. B. Rift faults show prominent horizontal openings of 2-4 m and overlapping geometries with obliquely-oriented linking segments. Inset map indicates the location of images in part A and B.

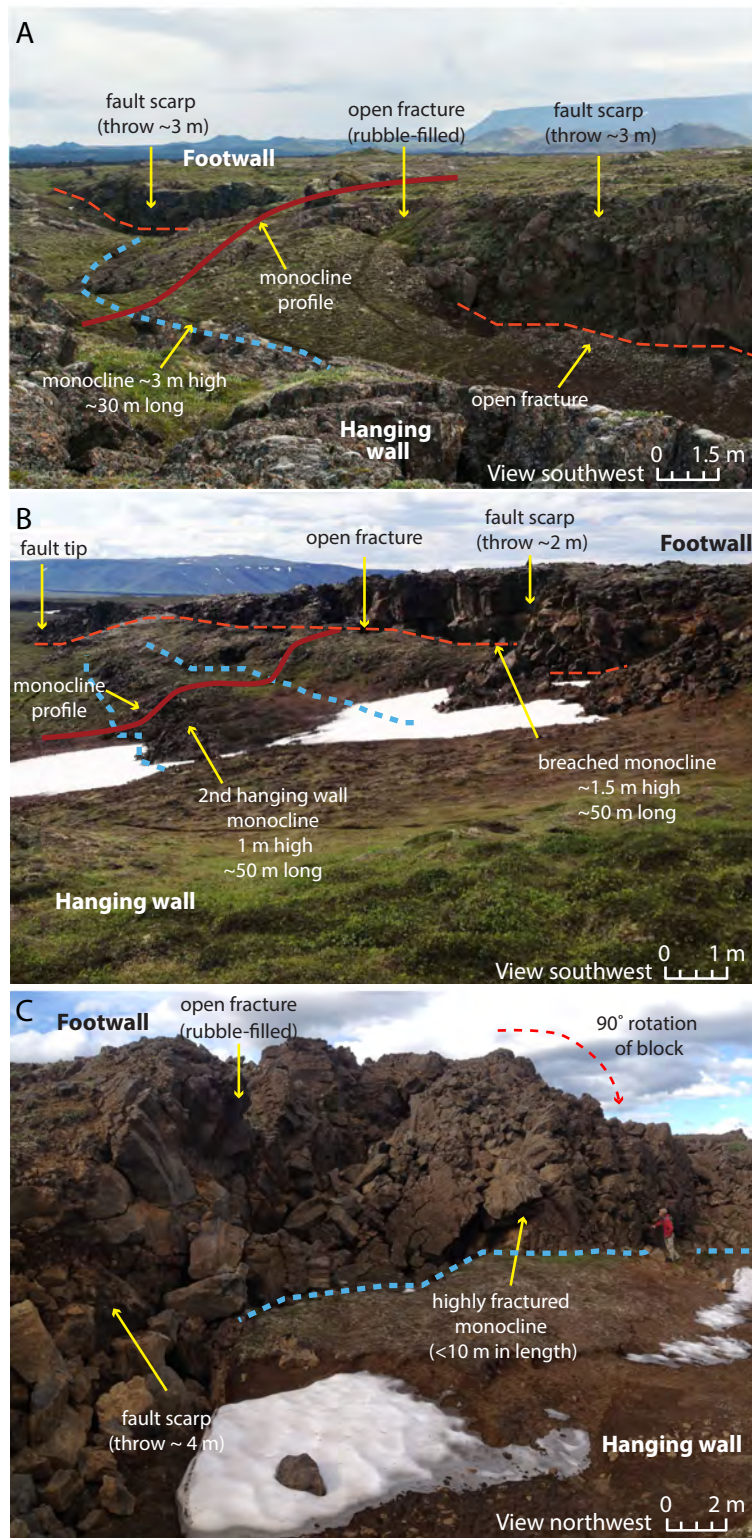


Figure 11. Examples of monoclines in the Krafla fissure swarm. A. Monoclines show amplitudes of up to ~3 m with open fractures along their upper limbs that are co-linear with fault segments on either side. B. Breached monocline observed in the hanging wall of a surface-breaking normal fault with vertical offset of up 2-3 m. Along the fault in the image, an additional monocline has developed further into the hanging wall. C. Monoclines can also be strongly fragmented and show steep rotations. In all examples, their lateral extent is <50 m.

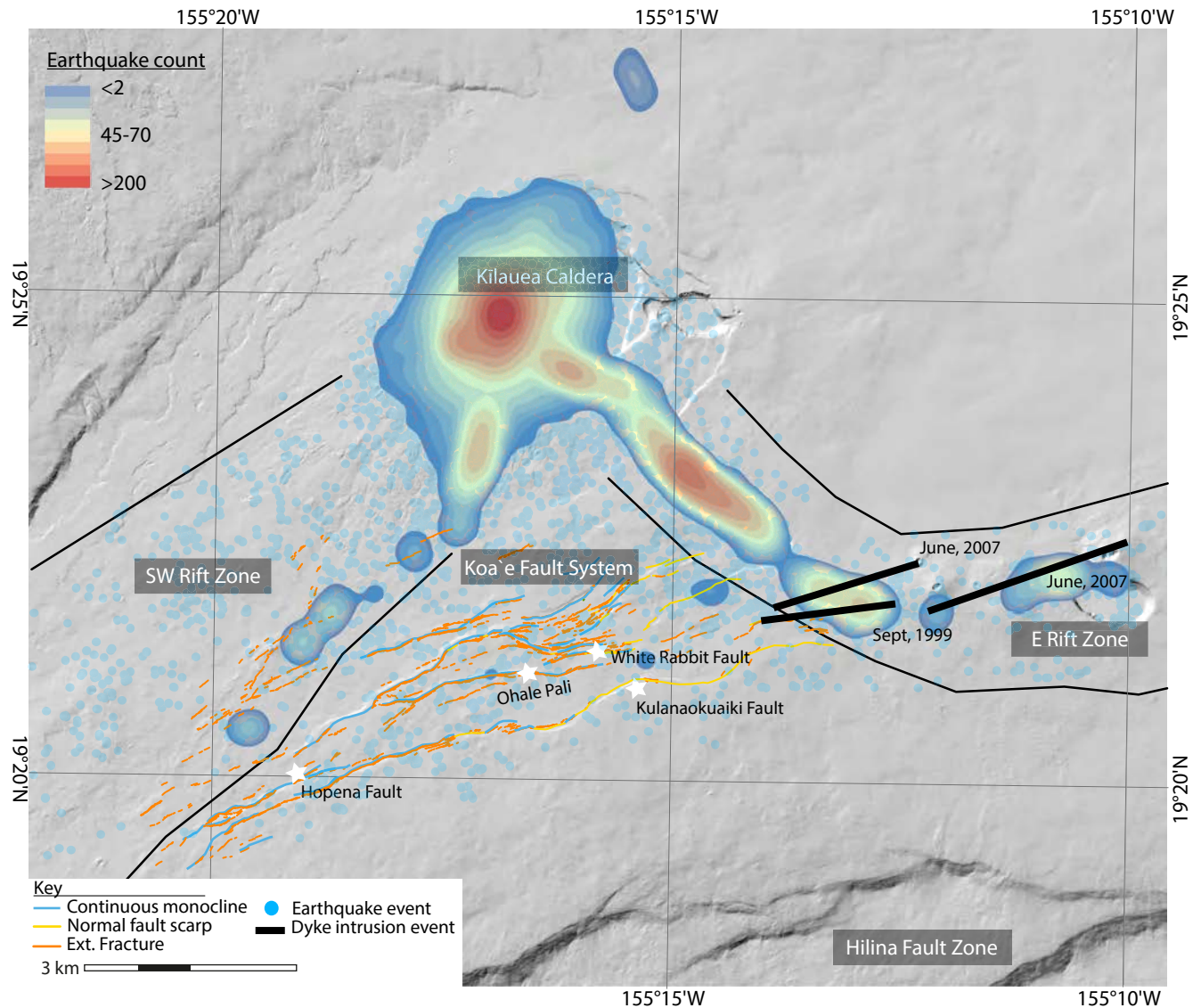
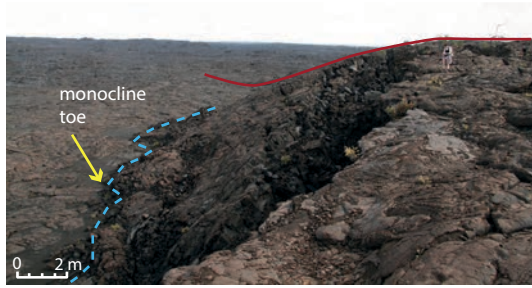


Figure 12. Distribution of surface-breaking normal faults and monoclinical folds across the Koa`e fault system. Blue circles represent focal mechanisms in the summit, upper ERZ and upper SWRZ regions of Kilauea Volcano from the period 1986-2009. Contours highlight the density of events based on approx. 3000 focal mechanisms recorded in this region. Earthquake data reproduced from Lin and Okubo, 2016. ~90% of focal mechanisms in the catalog are small earthquakes (96% <M2.5), from shallow depths (i.e. <13 km); half of the focal mechanisms come from 2-5 km depth. Dyke intrusion events taken from Baker and Amelung, 2015 and Cervelli et al., 2002.

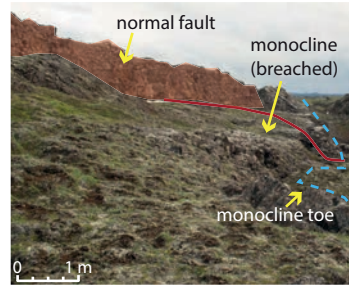
1) en-echelon extension fractures



2) continuous monocline



3) normal fault & breached monocline



4) normal fault & discontinuous monocline

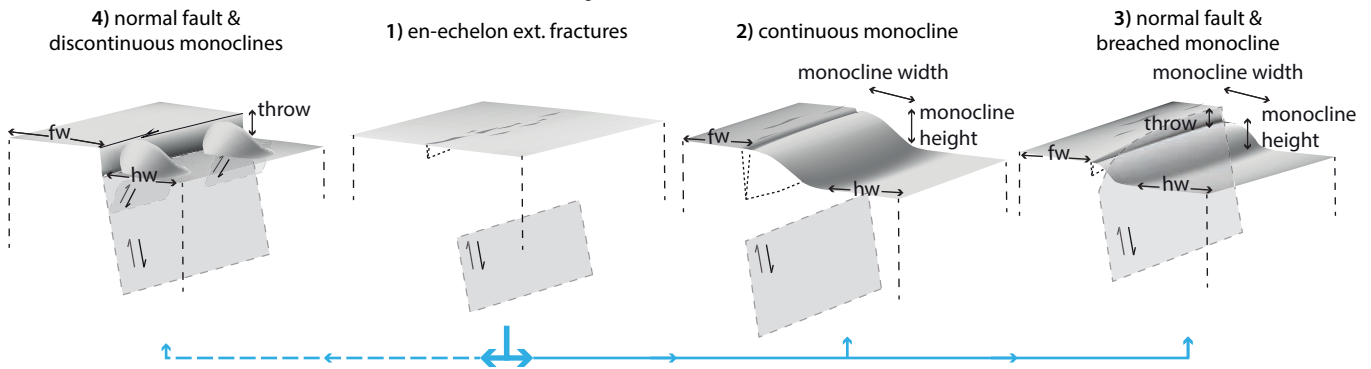
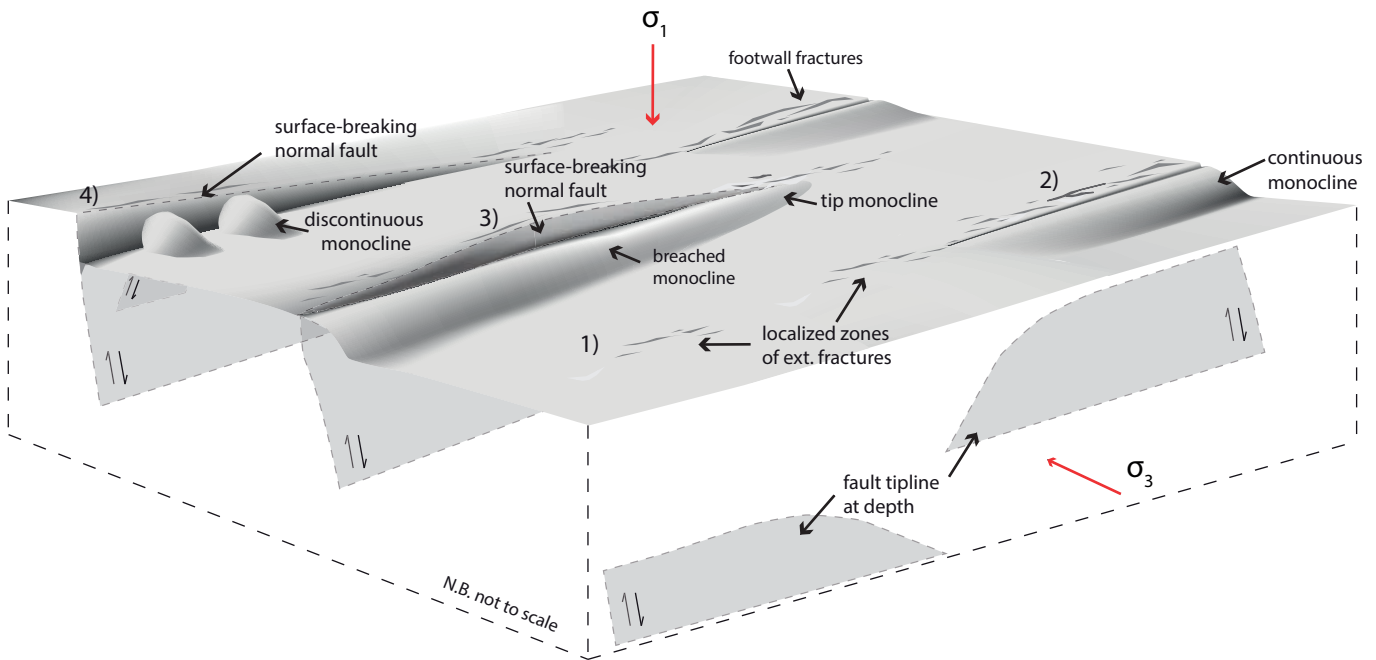
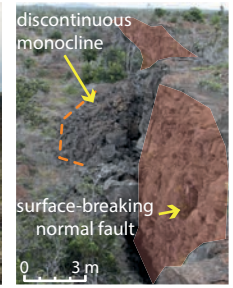


Figure 13. Conceptual model for growth faults in volcanic rift zones with spatially (and temporally) variable strain rates. Principal stress axes (red arrows) represent the regional stress state acting on the rift zone.

1. Precursory extension fractures localise in narrow zones at the free surface ahead of blind normal faults.
2. In regions of the rift zone where strain rates are low, faults remain at depth where they accumulate slip aseasonally and gradually deform the free surface ahead of the tipline into monoclines.
3. In regions of the rift zone that experience episodically high strain rates, faults may spend protracted periods segmented at depth, followed by a rapid propagation phase that results in linkage with surface fractures and breaching of earlier formed monoclines at the free surface.
4. In regions of the rift zone where strain rates are high, normal faults propagate rapidly upwards through the sequence and link with downward propagating surface fractures, producing fault scarps. A lack of preserved monocline indicates strain rates have remained high since the last resurfacing event. Antithetic faults may develop from points of stress concentration, causing a rotation of the hanging wall block above them.