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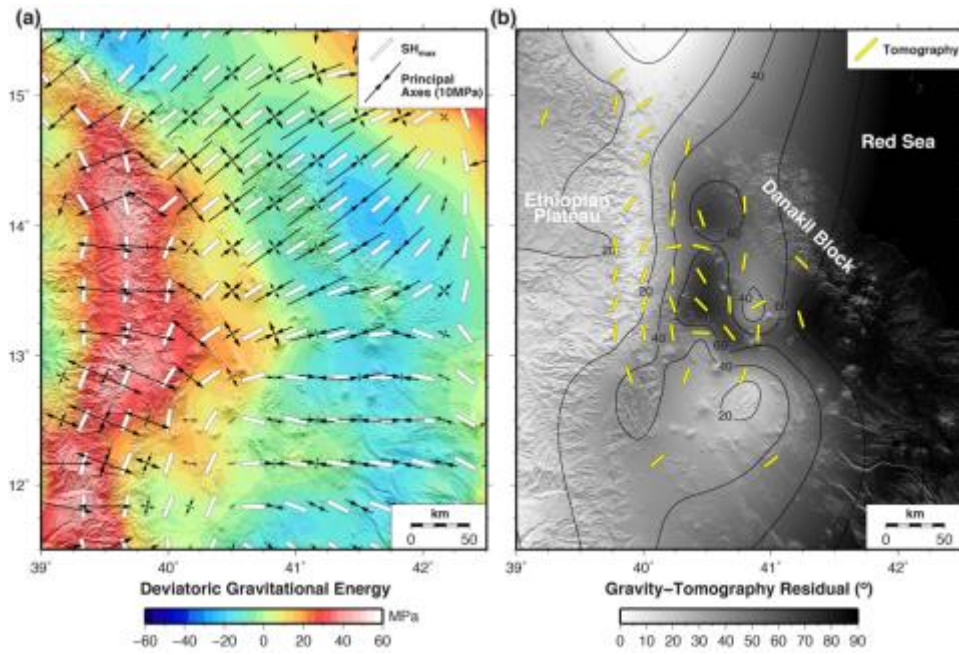
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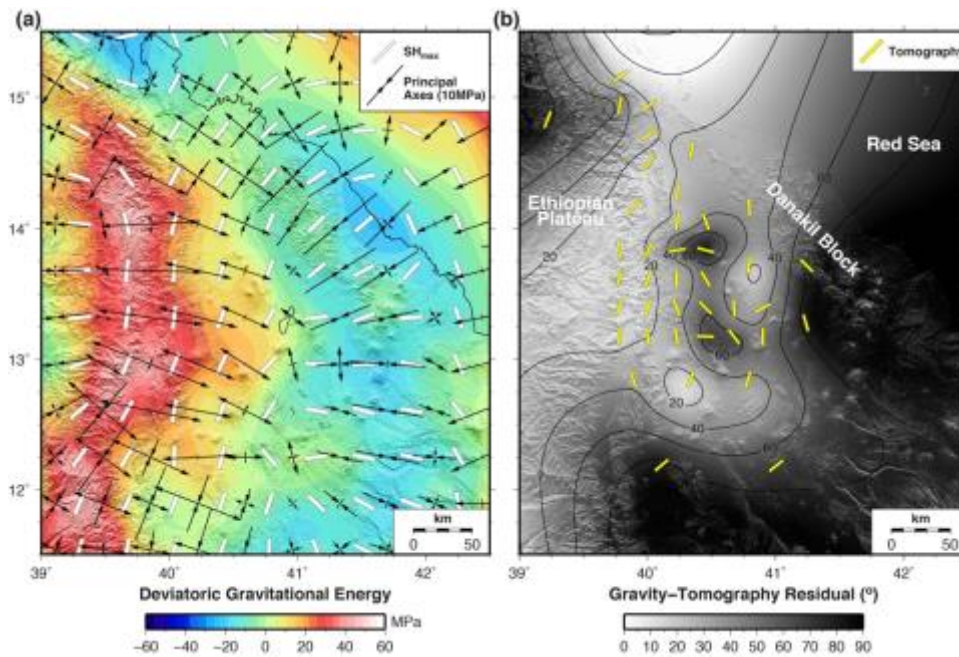
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Supplementary Figure 1: (a) The gravitationally induced deviatoric stress field in the Danakil region. A constant crustal density of  $2760 \text{ kg/m}^3$  is used. (b) Residual between the modelled gravitation  $SH_{\max}$  and observed tomography results.



Supplementary Figure 2: (a) The gravitationally induced deviatoric stress field in the Danakil region. A crustal density that varies from  $2760 \text{ kg/m}^3$  at the Ethiopian Plateau and Danakil Block to  $2890 \text{ kg/m}^3$  within the rift is used. (b) Residual between the modelled gravitation  $SH_{\max}$  and observed tomography results.