



Joint inversion of seismic and gravity data onshore Ireland

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The Irish Seismic Lithospheric Experiment (ISLE) was designed to investigate the lithospheric structure across the late-Caledonian Iapetus Suture in SW Ireland using broadband seismological techniques. The experiment was a joint venture between the Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies and Geophysical Institute Karlsruhe. Results indicated a greater depth to Moho north of the suture zone than south, and sub-crustal anisotropy suggested by the failure of crustal anisotropy to explain the large apparent delay times observed in teleseismic shear-wave splitting measurements. The ISLE network consisted of 31 seismic stations laid out predominantly perpendicular to the proposed suture zone, in conjunction with the 5 permanent stations of the Irish Seismic Network. The teleseismic data set used in our study consists of 1936 P/PKPdf traveltimes derived from 276 events, recorded over a three year period from September 2003. Analysis indicates a change from faster to slower arrivals in moving from north to south across the suture zone, with a variation of the order of 1 sec. We jointly invert the residuals with the complete Bouguer gravity anomaly to analyse the lithospheric structure across the suture zone. A preliminary 3D P wave velocity model will be presented along with synthetic tests.