

Department of Geosciences  
Utah State University  
4505 Old Main Hill, Logan, UT 84321-4505  
Phone: +1-435-253-3122

E-mail: [kanda.vs.ravi@gmail.com](mailto:kanda.vs.ravi@gmail.com)  
Web: <https://ravi-vs-kanda.github.io>  
Skype: rkanda\_cit

## Education

### California Institute of Technology, *Division of Geological and Planetary Sciences*

Ph.D. Geophysics, 2010

*Dissertation:* Mechanical Models for Interseismic Deformation in Subduction Zones  
*Advisor:* Prof. Mark Simons

### University of Kentucky, *Department of Geological Sciences*

M.S. Geology, 2003

*Thesis:* Nonlinear Asperity-Scale Frictional Melting Model  
*Advisors:* Prof. Kieran O'Hara (Geol.), Prof. Jim McDonough (Mech. Eng.)

### University of Cincinnati, *Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering*

M.S. Environmental Engineering, 1997

*Thesis:* A Model for Urban Ozone Dynamics in the Cincinnati Metropolitan Area  
*Advisors:* Prof. Pratim Biswas, Prof. Shafiq Islam

### Indian Institute of Technology – Bombay, *Department of Mechanical Engineering*

B.Tech. Mechanical Engineering, 1994

*Senior Thesis:* Experimental & Theoretical Study of Gas-Liquid Slug Flows in Horizontal Channels

## Professional Experience

<b>Research Fellow</b>	Utah State University	2016 - Present
<b>3D Modeler/Detailer</b>	Nucor Building Systems ( <i>steel buildings</i> )	2016-2018
<b>Post-doctoral Associate</b>	Utah State University	Mentor: Tony Lowry 2014 - 2016
<b>Post-doctoral Fellow</b>	National Taiwan University	Mentor: John Suppe 2010-2014
<b>Teaching Assistant</b>	California Institute of Technology ( <i>Geodynamics, Inverse Theory, Field Geophysics</i> )	2005-2007
<b>Research Assistant</b>	California Institute of Technology	Advisor: Mark Simons 2004-2010
<b>Research Assistant</b>	University of Kentucky	Advisor: Kieran O'Hara 2001-2003
<b>Teaching Assistant</b>	University of Cincinnati ( <i>Fluid Mechanics</i> )	1995-1996
<b>Environmental Engineer</b>	Science Applications International Corporation	1997-2002

## Grants, Awards and Honors

### Selected Grants Pending, Utah State University

USGS: Toward Earthquake System Science: Western U.S. Lithospheric Stress/Strain Partitioning of Mantle Dynamics; with Tony Lowry (USU); \$179,086 to USU  
NSF: Dynamics and rheology of Africa's magmatic rift zone from modeling of potential field and seismic data; with Tony Lowry (USU), and Cindy Ebinger (Rochester); \$ 154,132 to USU

**Gutenberg Fellowship**, Seismological Laboratory, California Institute of Technology 2003-2004  
Department-wide competitive award given to the best incoming PhD student

**Pirtle Fellowship**, Department of Geological Sciences, University of Kentucky 2001-2003

**Research Interests**

**Crustal and lithospheric dynamics:** 3D/4D numerical modeling of regional tectonic deformation over timescales for mountain-building/orogenesis (tens of million years), incorporating plate-motion history, as well as realistic material properties (rheology) and Earth structure.

**Developing spatio-temporal constraints for numerical models** (i.e., initial and boundary conditions): new plate-motion histories; lithospheric/mantle structure inferred from tomography; present-day 3D lithospheric stress field from focal-mechanisms; gridding geologic datasets.

**Seismic hazards:** Complete seismic-cycle simulations ( $\sim 10^2$ - $10^3$  yr scale) of fault creep following seismic ruptures along realistic 3D faults, using high resolution geodetic, seismic, and neotectonic datasets to constrain fault/off-fault rheology.

**Professional Service**

**Session co-convenor, American Geophysical Union Fall Meeting (T51F/T53C)** 2010

*Linking Geodetic Observations to Mechanical Properties of the Lithosphere: New Methods & Models*

**Peer review:** *NSF-EAR, Geophys. J. Intl. (GJI), Earth Planets Space (EPS), Seismol. Res. Lett. (SRL)*

**Publications**

- [7] Wu, J., J. Suppe, Lu R.-Q., **R.V. S Kanda** (2016), Philippine Sea and East Asian plate tectonics since 52 Ma constrained by new subducted slab reconstruction methods, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 121, 4670–4741, doi:10.1002/2016JB012923.
- [6] Lu R.-Q., J. Suppe, D.-F. He, J. Wu, **R.V. S Kanda**, B. Liu, Y.-G. Chen (2013), Deep subducting slab reconstruction and its geometry, kinematics: a case study for the Tonga-Kermadec slab from tomography, *Chinese J. Geophys.*, V56 (11), p.3837-3845.
- [5] **Kanda, R. V. S.**, E. A. Hetland, and M. Simons (2013), Asperity model for fault creep and interseismic deformation in northeastern Japan, *Geoph. J. Intl.*, 192, p.38-57, doi: 10.1093/gji/ggs028.
- [4] **Kanda, R. V. S.**, and M. Simons (2012), Practical implications of the geometrical sensitivity of Elastic Dislocation models for field geologic surveys, *Tectonophysics*, 560–561, p. 94–104, doi: 10.1016/j.tecto.2012.06.040.
- [3] **Kanda, R. V. S.**, and M. Simons (2010), An elastic plate model for interseismic deformation in subduction zones, *J. Geophys. Res.*, 115, B03405, doi:10.1029/2009JB006611.
- [2] Thomas, W. A., **R. V. S. Kanda**, K. D. O'Hara, D. M. Surles (2008), Thermal footprint of an eroded thrust sheet in the Southern Appalachian Thrust Belt, Alabama, USA, *Geosphere*, 4(5), p. 814-818, doi 10.1130/GES00168.1.
- [1] **Kanda, R. V. S.**, and D. J. Stevenson (2006), Suction mechanism for iron entrainment into the lower mantle, *Geophys. Res. Lett.*, 33, L02310, doi:10.1029/2005GL025009.

**Manuscripts in Preparation (2)**

**Kanda, R. V. S.**, Lowry, A. R., Buiter, S. H., Mounting wedge suction driven by lower mantle resistance triggers flattening of subducting slabs

**Kanda, R. V. S.**, Suppe, J., Y.-J. Hsu, Y.-M. Wu, Multi-scale characterization of the present day 3D stress field based on focal mechanisms and tomographic structure in the vicinity of Taiwan

**Selected Conference Abstracts**

- Kanda, R. V. S.**, A. R. Lowry (2018), Towards Earthquake System Science: Constraining Basal Mantle Stress Partitioning Within the Lithosphere and Crust, Final *EOS Trans AGU*, 96, Fall Meet. Suppl., Abstract T43G-0506
- A. R. Lowry, **R. V. S. Kanda**, X. Ma, B. Scheppmann, D. L. Schutt (2018), Towards Earthquake System Science: In-Situ Physical State from Geophysical Properties, Final *EOS Trans AGU*, 96, Fall Meet. Suppl., Abstract T31H-1932
- Kanda, R. V. S.**, A. R. Lowry, S. Buitert, S. Ellis (2015), Causes for the Onset and Stability of Flat Slabs and Associated Overriding Plate Deformation Inferred from Numerical Thermo-Mechanical Models, *EOS Trans AGU*, 96, Fall Meet. Suppl., Abstract T33B-03
- Berry, M., A.R. Lowry, D. Schutt, **R.V. S. Kanda**, J. Buehler (2015), Cold and Wet at the Roots of US Cordilleran High Elevation, *EOS Trans AGU*, 96, Fall Meet. Suppl., Abstract T11C-2907
- Suppe, J.; J. Wu, C. D. Lin, **R. V. S. Kanda** (2014), The trajectory of India towards Eurasia recorded by subducted slabs: evidence for southward subduction of the Tethys Ocean under India after 130 Ma, *EGU General Assembly*, Abstract 15713.
- Wu, J., R.-Q. Lu, J. Suppe, **R. V. S. Kanda** (2014), The East Asian Sea: A vanished Cenozoic ocean between the Pacific and Indian oceans revealed by subducted slab constraints, *EGU General Assembly*, Abstract 11339.
- Liu, H.-F., J. Wu, J. Suppe, R.-Q. Liu, **R. V. S. Kanda** (2014), Seismic tomographic constraints on the Antarctic-Eastern Australian margin of Gondwanaland in the Mesozoic, *EGU General Assembly*, Abstract 10350
- Kanda, R. V. S.**, J. Suppe J. E. Wu (2013) 2D/3D Numerical Models of the Taiwan Orogen: Oblique Arc-Continent Collision overlying Orthogonal Subduction Systems, *EOS Trans AGU*, 94, Fall Meet. Suppl., Abstract T51F-2524.
- Suppe, J., S. Carena, **R. V. S. Kanda**, Y.-M. Wu, H.-H. Huang, J. E. Wu (2013), Kinematics of subduction and plate convergence under Taiwan and its geomorphic, geodetic and seismic expressions, *EOS Trans AGU*, 94, Fall Meet. Suppl., Abstract T21G-07.
- Wu, J.E., J. Suppe, **R.V. S. Kanda** (2013), Plate tectonic reconstruction of South and East Asia since 43 Ma using seismic tomographic constraints: role of the subducted 'East Asia Sea', *EOS Trans AGU*, 94, Fall Meet. Suppl., Abstract T21G-01.
- Kanda, R..V. S.**, J. Suppe, S. M. Ellis, S. Buitert (2012), 3D Numerical Models of Slab-Mantle Interactions: Implications for Eurasia Philippine Sea Arc-Continent Collision, *EOS Trans AGU*, 93, Fall Meet. Suppl., Abstract T43F-2739.
- Suppe, J., **R..V. S. Kanda**, Y.-M. Wu (2012), The 3D lithospheric structure and plate tectonics of the ongoing Taiwan arc-continent collision and delamination: a context for understanding patterns of geomorphic uplift and contemporary stress and geodetic displacement fields, *EOS Trans AGU*, 93, Fall Meet. Suppl., Abstract T41E-05.
- Kanda, R. V. S.**, E. A. Hetland, M. Simons (2010), Persistence of Coseismic Rupture Asperities as Inferred from Interseismic Geodetic Observations from Northeastern Japan, *EOS Trans AGU*, 91(53), Fall Meet. Suppl., Abstract T51F-04.
- Kanda, R. V. S.** and M. Simons (2006), Simple Elastic Dislocation Models for Interpreting Interseismic Deformation in Subduction Zones, *EOS Trans AGU*, 87(52), Fall Meet. Suppl., Abstract T12C-02.
- Kanda, R. V. S.** and D. J. Stevenson (2004), A suction mechanism for iron entrainment from the outer core into the lower mantle, *EOS Trans AGU*, 85(47), Fall Meet. Suppl., Abstract MR43A-0880.
- Kanda, R. V. S.**, and K. O'Hara (2002), Nonlinear Modeling of Frictional Melting at Asperity Tips, *EOS Trans AGU*, 83(47), Fall Meet. Suppl., Abstract S52B-1078.

**Teaching Experience**

- Dept. of Geosciences, Utah State University:** *Adjunct Faculty* 2014
- **Numerical Geodynamic Modeling** (*Graduate/Undergraduate mini-course, Fall 2014*)
  - **Applied Geophysics** (*Advanced Undergraduate/Graduate, Spring 2020*)
- Division of Geological & Planetary Sciences, Caltech:** *Graduate Teaching Assistant* 2005-07
- **Geodynamics** (*Graduate, Spring 2007*): Prof. Mike Gurnis
  - **Inverse Theory** (*Graduate, Winter 2007*): Prof. Malcolm Sambridge (visiting from ANU)
  - **Field Geophysics** (*Graduate/Undergraduate*): Profs. Rob Clayton, Mark Simons, Joann Stock.  
*Spring 2006*: GPS, gravity, magnetic, seismic, & resistivity surveys: Chalfant Valley, E. California.  
*Summer '2005*: Developed Matlab-based graphical user interface for field seismic refraction studies
- Dept. of Civil & Environmental Eng., Univ. of Cincinnati:** *Graduate Teaching Assistant* 1996
- **Fluid Mechanics** (Hydraulic Systems) (*Undergraduate, Spring 1996*): Prof Shafiq Islam
- University of Cincinnati - Educational Services:** *Undergrad Math/Physics Tutor* 1994-95

**Computational Experience**

- Numerical Methods** *Forward modeling:* Arbitrary Lagrangian-Eulerian (ALE), particle-in-cell, finite element & finite difference formulations;  
*Inverse modeling:* linear/non-linear optimization, Markov chain Monte-Carlo (MCMC) Bayesian formulations.
- Scientific Programming** Python (Numpy/Scipy/Matplotlib/VTK), Fortran 95/90/77, C
- Software Applications** GMT, Matlab/Octave, CUBIT, Paraview, gOcad, SAC, Tekla Structures
- System Administration** Linux/OS-X administration; shell-scripting; remote desktop management  
Currently, sole system administrator for:
- 48-core RHEL Linux workstation (NTU)
  - 12-core Ubuntu Linux workstation (USU)

**Selected Invited Talks**

- Institute of Geological & Nuclear Sciences (GNS-Science), Lower Hutt, New Zealand
- Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan
- National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan
- National Central University, Jongli, Taiwan