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Analogue model experiments of accretionary prism; formation of decollement at low friction layers

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Plate subduction produces horizontal slip surfaces called decollement in accreted sediments. Since the sediments commonly include several low friction layers, these should control the location of the decollement. We have been working on analogue experiments to model the accretion process and examine how these layers control the decollement formation. Our results suggest that decolement surfaces commonly seized their activity and moved to low friction layers neaby.