

# Objective functions for full waveform inversion

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Workshop: From Kinematic to Waveform Inversion  
A Tribute to Patrick Lailly

# Agenda

Overview

Challenges for FWI

Extended modeling

Summary

# Full Waveform Inversion

$M$  = model space,  $D$  = data space

$F : M \rightarrow D$  forward model

Least squares inversion (“FWI”): given  $d \in D$ , find  $m \in M$  to minimize

$$J_{LS}[m] = \|F[m] - d\|^2 [+ \text{regularizing terms}]$$

( $\|\cdot\|^2$  = mean square)

# Full Waveform Inversion

- + accommodates any modeling physics, data geometry, spatial variation on all scales (Bamberger, Chavent & Lailly 79,...)
- + close relation to prestack migration via local optimization (Lailly 83, Tarantola 84)
- + gains in hard/software, algorithm efficiency  $\Rightarrow$  feasible data processing method
- ++ some spectacular successes with 3D field data (keep listening!)
  - ± with regularizations pioneered by Pratt and others, applicable surface data *if* sufficient (i) low frequency s/n and (ii) long offsets
  - reflection data still a challenge

# Full Waveform Inversion

Why are

- ▶ low frequencies important?
- ▶ long offsets (diving waves, transmission) easier than short offsets (reflections)?

What alternatives to Standard FWI = output least squares?

- ▶ different error measures, domains - time vs. Fourier vs. Laplace, L1, logarithmic - other talks today, survey Virieux & Operto 09
- ▶ model extensions - migration velocity analysis as a linearization, nonlinear MVA

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# Nonlinear Challenges: Why low frequencies are important

Well-established observation, based on heuristic arguments (“cycle skipping”), numerical evidence :forward modeling operator is *more linear* [objective function is more quadratic] at lower frequencies

Leads to widely-used frequency continuation strategy (Kolb, Collino, & Lailly 86)

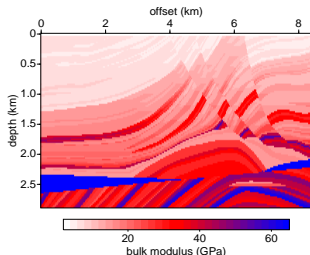
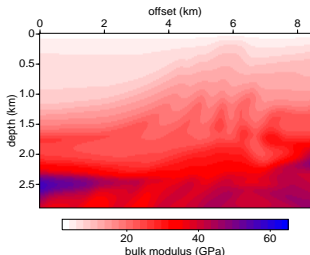
Why?

# Nonlinear Challenges: Why low frequencies are important

Visualizing the shape of the objective: *scan* from model  $m_0$  to model  $m_1$

$$f(h) = J_{LS}[(1 - h)m_0 + hm_1]$$

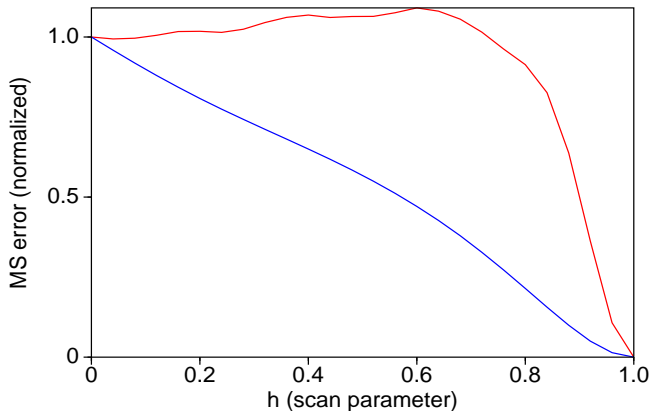
Expl: data = simulation of Marmousi data (Versteeg & Gray 91), with bandpass filter source.



$m_0$  = smoothed Marmousi,  $m_1$  = Marmousi (bulk modulus displayed)



## Nonlinear Challenges: Why low frequencies are important



Red: [2,5,40,50] Hz data. Blue: [2,4,8,12] Hz data

# Nonlinear Challenges: Why low frequencies are important

Origin of this phenomenon in math of symmetric hyperbolic systems:

$$A \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + Pu = f$$

$u$  = dynamical field vector,  $A$  = symm. positive operator,  $P$  = skew-symm. differential operator in space variables,  $f$  = source

Example: for acoustics,  $u = (p, \mathbf{v})^T$ ,  $A = \text{diag}(1/\kappa, \rho)$ , and

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \text{div} \\ \text{grad} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Nonlinear Challenges: Why low frequencies are important

Theoretical development, including non-smooth  $A$ : Blazek, Stolk & S. 08, Stolk 00, after Bamberger, Chavent & Lailly 79, Lions 68.

Sketch of linearization analysis - after Lavrientiev, Romanov, & Shishatski 79, also Ramm 86:

$\delta u$  = perturbation in dynamical fields corresponding to perturbation  $\delta A$  in parameters

$$A \frac{\partial \delta u}{\partial t} + P \delta u = -\delta A \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}$$

and

$$\left[ A \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + P \right] \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \right) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}$$

## Nonlinear Challenges: Why low frequencies are important

Similarly for linearization error -  $h > 0$ ,  $u_h =$  fields corresponding to  $A + h\delta A$ ,

$$e = \frac{u_h - u}{h} - \delta u$$

$$A \frac{\partial e}{\partial t} + Pe = -\delta A \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (u_h - u)$$

$$\left[ A \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + P \right] \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (u_h - u) \right) = -h\delta A \frac{\partial^2 u_h}{\partial t^2}$$

$$\left[ (A + h\delta A) \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + P \right] \left( \frac{\partial^2 u_h}{\partial t^2} \right) = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial t^2}$$

## Nonlinear Challenges: Why low frequencies are important

Use causal Green's (inverse) operator:

$$\delta u = - \left[ A \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + P \right]^{-1} \delta A \left[ A \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + P \right]^{-1} \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}$$

$$e = -h \left[ A \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + P \right]^{-1} \delta A \left[ A \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + P \right]^{-1} \delta A \left[ (A + h\delta A) \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + P \right]^{-1} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial t^2}$$

pass to frequency domain:

$$\hat{\delta u} = -[-i\omega A + P]^{-1} \delta A [-i\omega A + P]^{-1} i\omega \hat{f}$$

$$\hat{e} = -h[-i\omega A + P]^{-1} \delta A [-i\omega A + P]^{-1} \delta A [-i\omega A + P]^{-1} (-i\omega)^2 \hat{f} + O(h^2 \omega^2)$$

# Nonlinear Challenges: Why low frequencies are important

So for small  $\omega$ ,

$$\hat{\delta}u = i\omega P^{-1}\delta A P^{-1}\hat{f} + O(\omega^2)$$

$$\hat{e} = h\omega^2 P^{-1}\delta A P^{-1}\delta A P^{-1}\hat{f} + O(\omega^3)$$

$\hat{f}(0) \neq 0 \Rightarrow$  there exist  $\delta A$  for which

- ▶  $P^{-1}\delta A P^{-1}\hat{f} \neq 0$  -  $\delta A$  is resolved at zero frequency

$\Rightarrow$  for such  $\delta A$

- ▶ (energy in  $e$ )  $< O(\|\delta A\|\langle\omega\rangle)$  (energy in  $\delta u$ )

So: linearization error is small  $\Rightarrow J_{LS}$  is near-quadratic, for sufficiently low frequency source *and/or* sufficiently small  $\delta A$ .

Further analysis: quadratic directions  $\sim$  large-scale features

# Linear Challenges: Why reflection is hard

Relative difficulty of reflection vs. transmission

- ▶ numerical examples: Gauthier, Virieux & Tarantola 86
- ▶ spectral analysis of layered traveltime tomography: Baek & Demanet 11

Spectral analysis of reflection per se: Virieux & Operto 09

## Linear Challenges: Why reflection is hard

Reproduction of “Camembert” Example (GVT 86) (thanks: Dong Sun)

Circular high-velocity zone in  $1\text{km} \times 1\text{km}$  square background - 2%  $\Delta v$ .

Transmission configuration: 8 sources at corners and side midpoints, 400 receivers (100 per side) surround anomaly.

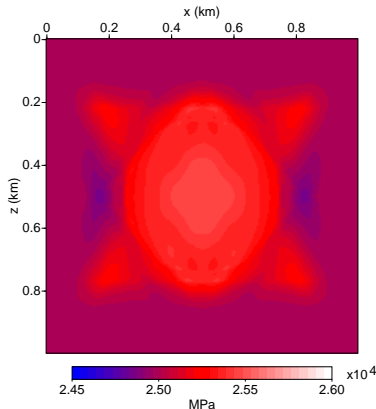
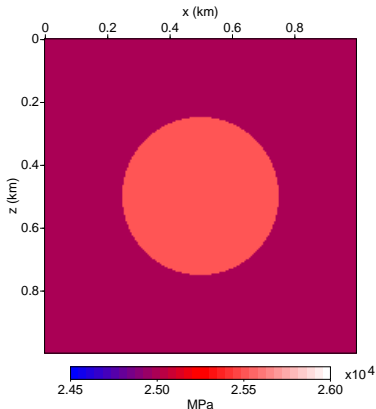
Reflection configuration: all 8 sources, 100 receivers on one side (“top”).

Modeling details: 50 Hz Ricker source pulse, density fixed and constant, staggered grid FD modeling, absorbing boundaries.



## Linear Challenges: Why reflection is hard

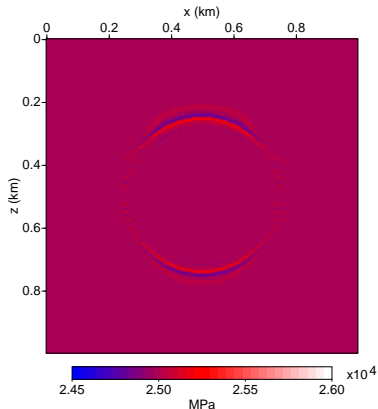
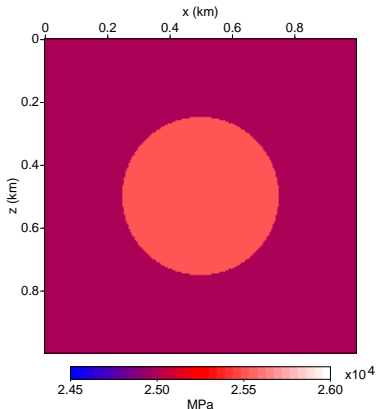
Transmission inversion, 2% anomaly: Initial MS resid =  $2.56 \times 10^7$ ;  
Final after 5 LBFGS steps =  $2.6 \times 10^5$



Bulk modulus: Left, model; Right, inverted

## Linear Challenges: Why reflection is hard

Reflection configuration: initial MS resid = 3629; final after 5 LBFSG steps = 254



Bulk modulus: Left, model; Right, inverted

# Linear Challenges: Why reflection is hard

Message: in reflection case, “the Camembert has melted”.

Small anomaly  $\Rightarrow$  linear phenomenon

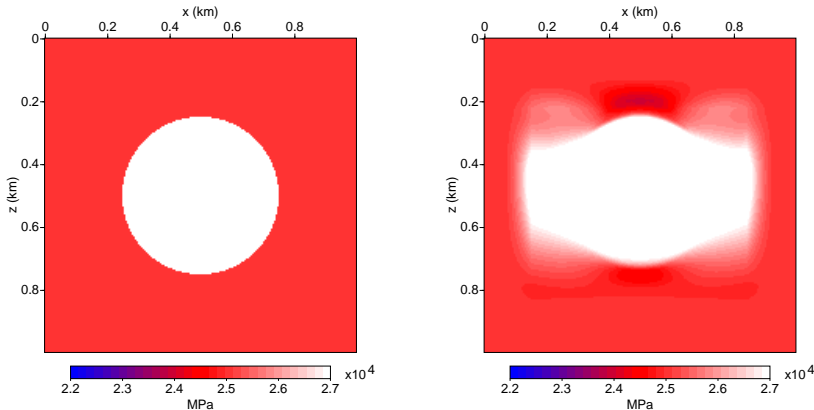
Linear resolution analysis (eg. Virieux & Operto 09): narrow aperture data does not resolve low spatial wavenumbers

Resolution analysis of phase (traveltime tomography) in layered case: Baek & Demanet 11

- ▶ model  $\mapsto$  traveltime map = composition of (i) increasing rearrangement, (ii) invertible algebraic transformation, (iii) linear operator
- ▶ factor (iii) has singular values decaying like  $n^{-1/2}$  for diving wave traveltimes, *exponentially decaying* for reflected wave traveltimes.

## Linear Challenges: Why reflection is hard

Putting it all together: “Large” Camembert (20% anomaly) with 0-60 Hz lowpass filter source. *Continuation in frequency* after Kolb, Collino & Lailly 86 - 5 stages, starting with 0-2 Hz:



Bulk modulus: Left, model; Right, inverted

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**Extended modeling**

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## Extended Models and Differential Semblance

Inversion of reflection data: difficulty rel. transmission is *linear* in origin, so look to migration velocity analysis for useful ideas

Prestack migration as approximate inversion: fits subsets of data with non-physical *extended* models (= image volume), so all data matched - no serendipitous local matches!

Transfer info from small to large scales by demanding coherence of extended models

Familiar concept from *depth-domain migration velocity analysis* - independent models (images) grouped together as *image gathers*, coherence  $\Rightarrow$  good velocity model

Exploit for automatic model estimation: residual moveout removal (Biondi & Sava 04, Biondi & Zhang 12), van Leeuwen & Mulder 08 (data domain VA), differential waveform inversion (Chauris, poster session), *differential semblance* (image domain VA) S. 86 ...

# Extended Models and Differential Semblance

Differential semblance, version 1:

- ▶ group data  $d$  into gathers  $d(s)$  that can be *fit perfectly* (more or less), indexed by  $s \in S$  (source posn, offset, slowness,...)
- ▶ *extended models*  $\bar{M} = \{\bar{m} : S \rightarrow M\}$
- ▶ *extended modeling*  $\bar{F} : \bar{M} \rightarrow D$  by

$$\bar{F}[\bar{m}](s) = F[m(s)]$$

- ▶  $s$  finely sampled  $\Rightarrow$  coherence criterion is  $\partial\bar{m}/\partial s = 0$ .

The DS objective:

$$J_{DS} = \|\bar{F}[\bar{m}] - d\|^2 + \sigma^2 \left\| \frac{\partial\bar{m}}{\partial s} \right\|^2 + \dots$$

## Extended Models and Differential Semblance

*Continuation* method ( $\sigma : 0 \rightarrow \infty$ ) - theoretical justification  
Gockenbach, Tapia & S. '95, limits to  $J_{LS}$  as  $\sigma \rightarrow \infty$ .

“Starting” problem:  $\sigma \rightarrow 0$ , minimizing  $J_{DS}$  equivalent to

$$\min_{\bar{m}} \left\| \frac{\partial \bar{m}}{\partial s} \right\|^2 \quad \text{subj to } \bar{F}[\bar{m}] \simeq d$$

Relation to MVA:

- ▶ separate scales:  $m_0 =$  macro velocity model (physical),  $\delta m =$  short scale reflectivity model
- ▶ linearize:  $\bar{m} = m_0 + \delta \bar{m}$ ,  $\bar{F}[\bar{m}] \simeq F[m_0] + D\bar{F}[m_0]\delta \bar{m}$
- ▶ approximate inversion of  $\delta d = d - F[m_0]$  by migration:  
 $\delta \bar{m} = D\bar{F}[m_0]^{-1}(d - F[m_0]) \simeq D\bar{F}[m_0]^T(d - F[m_0])$



# Extended Models and Differential Semblance

⇒ *MVA via optimization:*

$$\min_{m_0} \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \left[ D\bar{F}[m_0]^T (d - F[m_0]) \right] \right\|^2$$

Many implementations with various approximations of  $D\bar{F}^T$ , choices of  $s$ : S. & collaborators early 90's - present, Chauris-Noble 01, Mulder-Plessix 02, de Hoop & collaborators 03-07.

Bottom line: works well when hypotheses are satisfied:  
linearization (no multiples), scale separation (no salt), *simple kinematics* (no multipathing)

# Nonlinear DS with LF control

*Drop* scale separation, linearization assumptions

Cannot use independent long-scale model as control, as in MVA:  
“low spatial frequency” not well defined, depends on velocity.

However, *temporal* passband *is* well-defined, and lacks very low frequency energy (0-3, 0-5,... Hz) with good s/n

Generally, inversion is unambiguous if data  $d$  is *not* band-limited (good s/n to 0 Hz) -  $\bar{F}$  is nearly one-to-one - extended models  $\bar{m}$  fitting same data  $d$  differ by tradeoff between params, controllable by DS term

So: find a way to supply the low-frequency *data*, as ersatz for long-scale *model* - in fact, *generate* from auxiliary model!

## Nonlinear DS with LF control

Define low-frequency source complementary to data passband,  
*low-frequency (extended) modeling op*  $F_I$  ( $\bar{F}_I$ )

Given *low frequency control model*  $m_I \in M$ , define extended model  
 $\bar{m} = \bar{m}[d, m_I]$  by minimizing over  $\bar{m}$

$$J_{DS}[\bar{m}; d, m_I] = \|\bar{F}[\bar{m}] + \bar{F}_I[\bar{m}] - (d + F_I[m_I])\|^2 + \sigma^2 \left\| \frac{\partial \bar{m}}{\partial s} \right\|^2$$

Determine  $m_I \Rightarrow$  minimize

$$J_{LF}[d, m_I] = \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \bar{m}[d, m_I] \right\|^2$$

(NB: nested optimizations!)

## Nonlinear DS with LF control

$$\min_{m_l} J_{LF}[d, m_l] = \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \bar{m}[d, m_l] \right\|^2$$

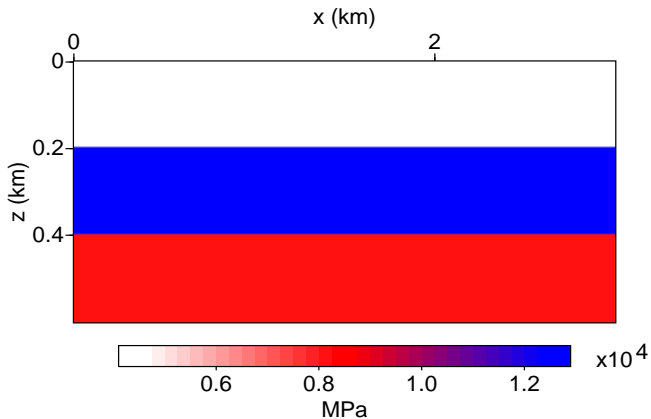
$m_l$  plays same role as migration velocity model, *but no linearization, scale separation assumed*

$\bar{m}[d, m_l]$  analogous to prestack migrated image volume

Initial exploration: Dong Sun PhD thesis, SEG 12, plane wave 2D modeling, simple layered examples, steepest descent with quadratic backtrack.

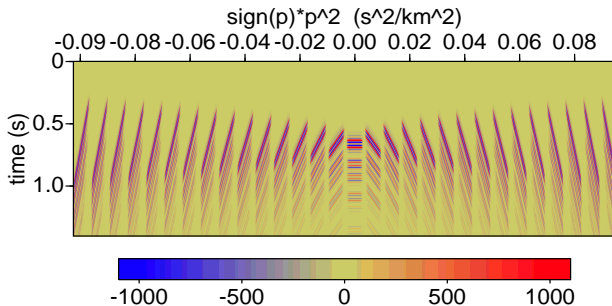
Greatest challenge: efficient and accurate computation of gradient  
= solution of auxiliary LS problem

## Example: DS Inversion with LF control, free surface



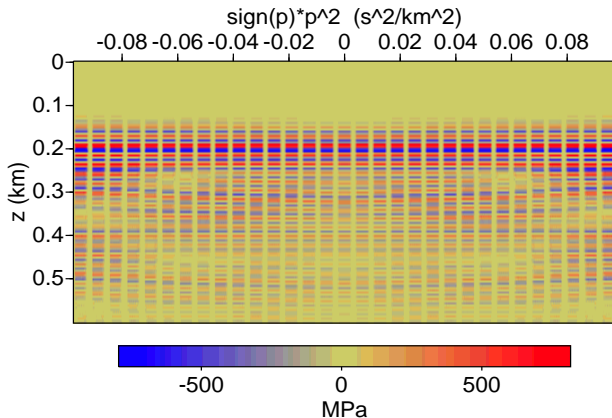
Three layer bulk modulus model. Top surface pressure free, other boundaries absorbing

# Example: DS Inversion with LF control, free surface



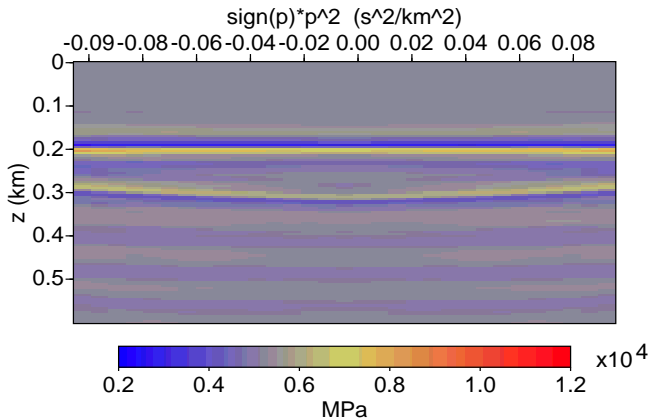
Plane wave data, free surface case

## Example: DS Inversion with LF control, free surface



Extended model LS gradient at homog initial model (prestack image volume)

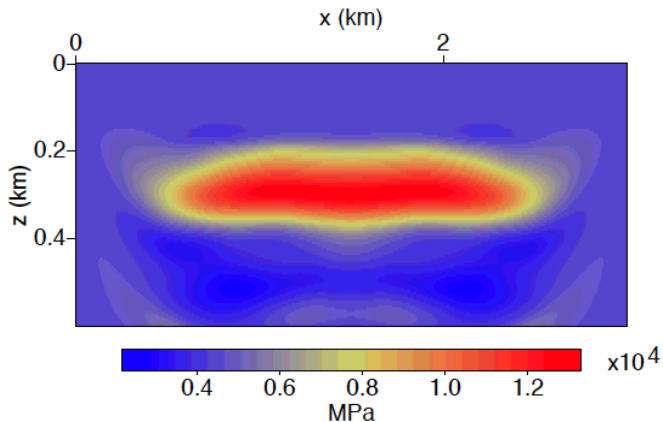
## Example: DS Inversion with LF control, free surface



Inverted gather  $\bar{m}[d, m_I]$ ,  $m_I$  = homogeneous model,  $x = 1.5$  km

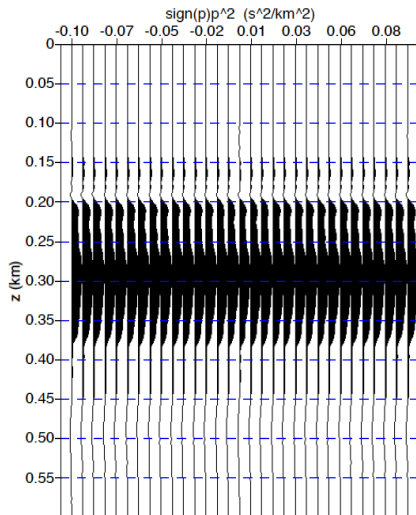


## Example: DS Inversion with LF control, free surface



Low frequency control model  $m_l$  in the 3rd DS-iteration

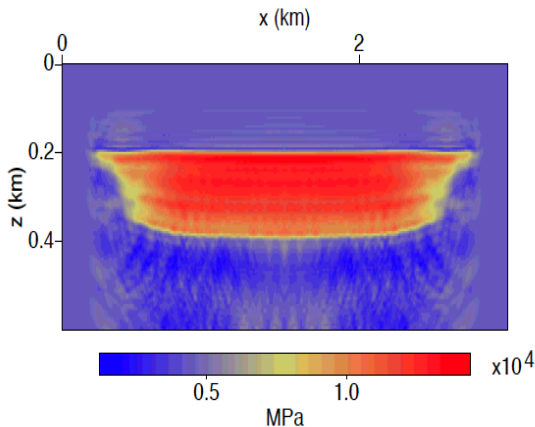
## Example: DS Inversion with LF control, free surface



Inverted gather  $\bar{m}[d, m_I]$ , 3rd DS iteration,  $x = 1.5$  km

## Example: DS Inversion with LF control, free surface

Standard FWI using stack of optimal DS  $\bar{m}$  as initial data  
(one-step homotopy  $\sigma = 0 \rightarrow \infty$ )



153 L-BFGS iterations, final RMS error = 6%, final gradient norm  
< 1 % of original

## Space Shift DS

Defect in version 1 of DS already known in MVA context:

*Image gathers generated from individual surface data bins may not be flat, even when migration velocity is optimally chosen (Nolan & S, 97, Stolk & S 04)*

Source of *kinematic artifacts* obstructing flatness: multiple ray paths connecting sources, receivers with reflection points.

Therefore version 1 of DS only suitable for mild lateral heterogeneity. Must use something else to identify complex refracting structures

## Space Shift DS

For MVA, remedy is known: use *space-shift* image gathers  $\delta\bar{m}$  (de Hoop, Stolk & S 09)

Claerbout's imaging principle (71): velocity is correct if energy in  $\delta\bar{m}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{h})$  is *focused* at  $\mathbf{h} = \mathbf{0}$  ( $\mathbf{h} =$  subsurface offset)

Quantitative measure of focus: choose  $P(\mathbf{h})$  so that  $P(\mathbf{0}) = 0$ ,  $P(\mathbf{h}) > 0$  if  $\mathbf{h} \neq \mathbf{0}$ , minimize

$$\sum_{\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{h}} |P(\mathbf{h})\delta\bar{m}[m_0](\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{h})|^2$$

(e. g.  $P(\mathbf{h}) = |\mathbf{h}|$ ).

MVA based on this principle by Shen, Stolk, & S. 03, Shen et al. 05, Albertin 06, 11, Kubir et al. 07, Fei & Williamson 09, 10, Tang & Biondi 11, others - survey in Shen & S 08. Gradient issues: Fei & Williamson 09, Vyas 09.

## Space Shift DS

Extension to nonlinear problems - how is  $\delta\bar{m}[\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{h}]$  the output of an adjoint derivative?

Answer: Replace coefficients  $m$  in wave equation with operators  $\bar{m}$ :  
e. g.  $\bar{\kappa}[u](\mathbf{x}) = \int d\mathbf{h}\bar{\kappa}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{h})u(\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{h})$ . *Physical case*: multiplication operators  $\bar{\kappa}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{h}) = \kappa(\mathbf{x})\delta(\mathbf{h})$ . Then

$$\delta\bar{m}[m_0] = D\bar{F}[\bar{m}_0]^T(d - F[m])$$

for resulting extended fwd map  $\bar{F}$

$\Rightarrow$  Version 2 of nonlinear DS. Physical case =  
no-action-at-a-distance principle of continuum mechanics =  
nonlinear version of Claerbout's imaging principle (S, 08).  
Mathematical foundation: Blazek, Stolk & S. 08.

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# Summary

- ▶ restriction to low frequency data makes FWI objective more quadratic, just like you always thought
- ▶ transmission inversion is easier than reflection for *linear* reasons, so MVA seems like a good place to look for reflection inversion approaches
- ▶ extended modeling provides a formalism for expressing MVA objectives that extend naturally to nonlinear FWI, via *continuation* - provision of starting models, route to FWI solution
- ▶ positive early experience with “gather flattening” nonlinear differential semblance
- ▶ “survey sinking” NDS involves wave equations with operator coefficients
- ▶ Patrick’s fingerprints are all over this subject



## Thanks to...

- ▶ Florence Delprat and other organizers, EAGE
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