

# Eigenvector Model Descriptors for the Seismic Inverse Problem

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### Scope of this work:

- ▶ iterative minimization to recover sub-surface Earth's models;
- ▶ the models are represented using a basis of eigenvectors to reduce the number of unknowns;
- ▶ i.e., Regularization by discretization to reduce ill-posedness;
- ▶ it allows to overcome the missing low-frequency data, hence it is used to build initial models.

# Overview



- 1 Introduction
- 2 Regularization by discretization
  - Adaptive eigenspace model representation
  - Illustration of representation
- 3 Numerical experiments of reconstruction
- 4 Conclusion

# Plan



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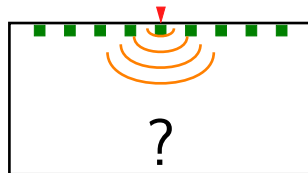
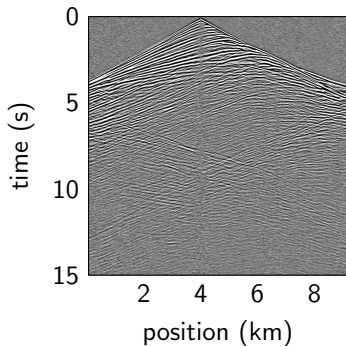
## 1 Introduction

# Seismic inverse problem



Reconstruction of subsurface Earth properties from seismic campaign:  
**mechanical wave** propagation data recorded at the surface.

From surface waves observation to parameter identification.



**nonlinear, ill-posed inverse problem.**

# Full Waveform Inversion (FWI)



FWI provides a **quantitative reconstruction** of the subsurface parameters with an **iterative minimization of the cost function**,

$$\mathcal{J}(m) = \frac{1}{2} \|\mathcal{F}(m) - d\|^2.$$

- ▶  $d$  are the data measured by  $n_{\text{rcv}}$  receivers,
- ▶  $\mathcal{F}(m)$  represents the simulation, here we consider the propagation of time-harmonic acoustic waves solution to

$$\left(-\frac{\omega^2}{m^2} - \Delta\right)p = f, \quad \mathcal{F}(m) = \{p(\mathbf{x}_1), \dots, p(\mathbf{x}_{n_{\text{rcv}}})\},$$

from  $n_{\text{rcv}}$  surface receivers for the identification of the wave speed  $m$ .



P. Lailly

The seismic inverse problem as a sequence of before stack migrations  
[Conference on Inverse Scattering: Theory and Application, SIAM, 1983](#)



A. Tarantola

Inversion of seismic reflection data in the acoustic approximation  
[Geophysics, 1984](#)

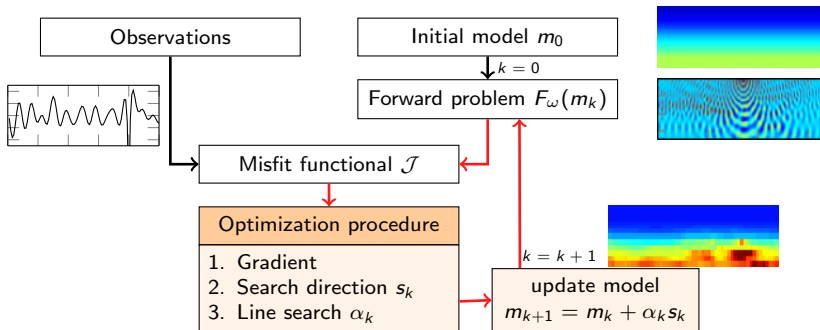
# FWI, iterative minimization



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- ▶ large-scale problem, we use HDG discretization;
- ▶ adjoint-state method to compute the gradient;

How to mitigate the ill-posedness of the problem?

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- 2 Regularization by discretization
  - Adaptive eigenspace model representation
  - Illustration of representation



# Regularization by discretization



$$\min_m \mathcal{J}(m), \quad \text{with} \quad \mathcal{J}(m) = \frac{1}{2} \|\mathcal{F}(m) - d\|^2.$$

To mitigate the ill-posedness of non-linear optimization: **Regularization**,

- ▶ e.g., by adding constraints:  $\mathcal{J}_+(m) = \mathcal{J}(m) + \text{constraints on } m$ .
- e.g., Total Variation (TV):  $\mathcal{J}_{\text{TV}}(m) = \mathcal{J}(m) + \int |\nabla m|$ .

# Regularization by discretization



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e.g., Total Variation (TV):  $\mathcal{J}_{\text{TV}}(m) = \mathcal{J}(m) + \int |\nabla m|$ .
- ▶ **Regularization by discretization** approach: The model  $m$  is represented in a specific basis to reduce the number of unknowns:

- ▶ less unknowns  $\Rightarrow$  better stability, [1];
- ▶ **Need a compromise between the number of unknowns and the resolution.**



[1] E. Beretta, M. V. de Hoop, F. Faucher, O. Scherzer

Inverse boundary value problem for the Helmholtz equation: quantitative conditional Lipschitz stability estimates

SIAM Journal on Mathematical Analysis, 2016.

# Regularization by discretization

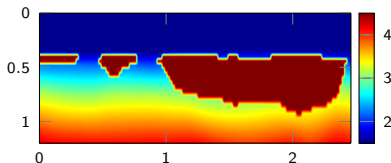
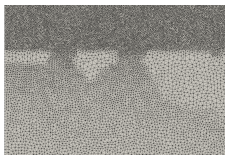


Usual representation of the wave-speed model: from the discretization.

- Piecewise constant (one value per cell)

$$m(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{j=1}^N m_j \chi_{D_j}(\mathbf{x})$$

But it leads to a large number of coefficients to represent the model:  
below right, more than 250 000.



# Eigenspace decomposition



Efficient model representation using a basis of eigenvectors,

- ① find  $m_0$  the solves the linear PDE,  $-\nabla \cdot (\eta(m) \nabla) m_0 = 0$ .
- ② compute the eigenvectors  $\psi_k$  of  $-\nabla \cdot (\eta(m) \nabla)$ .
- ③ represent the model with  $N_{\text{ev}}$  eigenvectors,

$$\mathbf{m} = m_0 + \sum_{k=1}^{N_{\text{ev}}} \alpha_k \psi_k(\mathbf{x}).$$

Several choices for  $\eta$  from image processing, can relate to ‘usual’ regularization (TV, Tikhonov, etc.).



M. Grote, M. Kray, U. Nahum

Adaptive eigenspace method for inverse scattering problems in the frequency domain  
Inverse Problems, 2017.



F. Faucher, O. Scherzer and H. Barucq

Eigenvector Model Descriptors for Solving an Inverse Problem of Helmholtz Equation  
Geophysical J. International (2020).

# Illustration

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Piecewise-constant,

$$m = \sum_{k=1}^{N_c} m_k \chi_{D_k}.$$

Adaptive eigenspace,

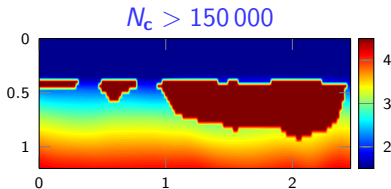
$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{m} &= \mathbf{m}_0 + \sum_{k=1}^{N_{ev}} \alpha_k \psi_k, \\ \psi_k &\text{ eigenvectors of } -\nabla \cdot (\eta(\mathbf{m}) \nabla), \\ \text{with } \eta &= \frac{2\epsilon}{(\epsilon + |\mathbf{m}|^2)^2}. \end{aligned}$$

# Illustration



Piecewise-constant,

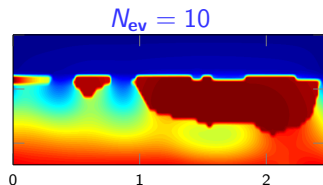
$$m = \sum_{k=1}^{N_c} m_k \chi_{D_k}.$$



Adaptive eigenspace,

$$m = m_0 + \sum_{k=1}^{N_{ev}} \alpha_k \psi_k,$$

$\psi_k$  eigenvectors of  $-\nabla \cdot (\eta(m) \nabla)$ ,  
with  $\eta = \frac{2\epsilon}{(\epsilon + |m|^2)^2}$ .



Comparison of approximations with  $\eta$  in [2].



[2] F. Faucher, O. Scherzer and H. Barucq

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Geophysical J. International (2020).

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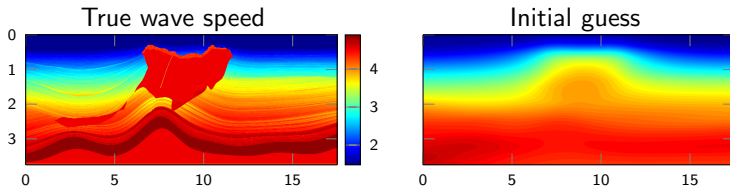
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## 3 Numerical experiments of reconstruction

# FWI: SEAM benchmark



FWI for reconstruction, using frequency from 2 Hz to 10 Hz.



Iterative minimization with respect to

- v1 the  $N_c$  coefficients  $m_k$  of the piecewise-constant representation:

$$m = \sum_{k=1}^{N_c} m_k \chi_{D_k},$$

- v2 the  $N_{ev}$  weights  $\alpha_k$  of the eigenspace decomposition

$$m = m_0 + \sum_{k=1}^{N_{ev}} \alpha_k \psi_k,$$

here, the  $\psi_k$  are computed from the initial model.

$$N_{ev} \ll N_c.$$



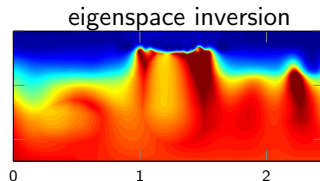
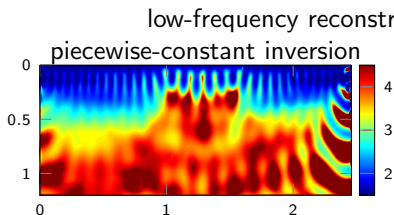
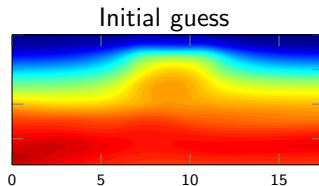
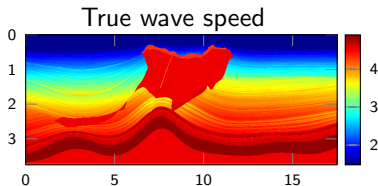
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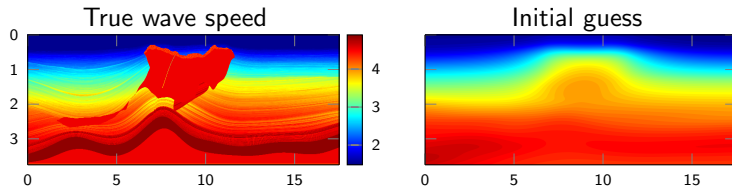


**The eigenspace representation provides the appropriate regularization for low-frequency reconstruction**

# FWI: SEAM benchmark

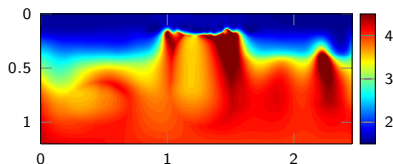


FWI for reconstruction, using frequency from 2 Hz to 10 Hz.



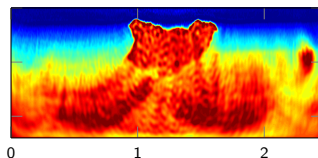
## step 1:

- ▶ low-frequency;
- ▶ adaptive eigenspace for convergence;
- ▶ recovery of smooth models.



## step 2:

- ▶ from model built in step 1;
- ▶ higher frequency for resolution;
- ▶ increased number of unknowns (possibly piecewise constant).



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## 4 Conclusion

# Conclusion

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## Iterative minimization for sub-surface Earth parameter reconstruction (FWI)

- ▶ Regularization by discretization to reduce ill-posedness,
- ▶ compromise between number of unknowns and resolution,
- ▶ adaptive eigenspace for low-frequency reconstruction,
- ▶ **perspective:** multi-parameter reconstructions, the basis of each models must be connected.

# Conclusion

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## Iterative minimization for sub-surface Earth parameter reconstruction (FWI)

- ▶ Regularization by discretization to reduce ill-posedness,
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- ▶ **perspective:** multi-parameter reconstructions, the basis of each models must be connected.

THANK YOU FOR TAKING A LOOK!

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