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Summary

A simple modification of Gilbert's (1970) formula to account for slight lateral heterogeneity of the Earth leads to a convenient formula to calculate synthetic long-period seismograms. Partial derivatives are easily calculated, thus the formula is suitable for direct inversion of seismograms for lateral heterogeneity of the Earth.

Derivation

Gilbert (1970), using the classic results due to Rayleigh and Routh, derived a convenient formula to calculate synthetic seismograms by normal mode summation. We show that a simple modification of his approach to account for slight lateral heterogeneity is possible.

The equation of motion is given by

\[(\rho_0 + \delta \rho) \partial_t^2 u = (H_0 + H)u + f(t,x_0), \quad (1)\]

where \(\rho_0\) is density and \(H_0\) is an operator appropriate in a spherically symmetric Earth, while \(\delta \rho\) and \(H\) are their perturbations. The source is described by \(f(t,x_0)\). The Laplace transformation with respect to time yields

\[(\rho_0 + \delta \rho) p^2 \bar{u} = (H_0 + H) \bar{u} + \bar{f}(p,x_0), \quad (2)\]
where we used the bar to denote the transformed quantities.

Now we use the eigenfunctions of the spherically symmetric Earth, $\bar{u}_n^{(0)}$ ($n=1, 2, \ldots$), to expand $\bar{u}$, where $\bar{u}_n^{(0)}$ satisfies

$$-\rho_o \omega_n^2 \bar{u}_n^{(0)} = H_o \bar{u}_n^{(0)}. \tag{3}$$

The normalization of $\bar{u}_n^{(0)}$ is done by

$$\int_E \rho_o \bar{u}_n^{(0)*} \bar{u}_n^{(0)} dV = \delta_{mn}, \tag{4}$$

where * means complex conjugation. We express $\bar{u}$ by

$$\bar{u} = \sum_n a_n \bar{u}_n^{(0)}. \tag{5}$$

Substitute (5) in (2), multiply $\bar{u}_n^{(0)*}$ and integrate over the whole volume of the Earth. We obtain

$$\left(p^2 + \omega_n^2\right) a_n = \sum_s a_s \left(\langle n | H | s > - p^2 \langle n | \delta \rho | s > \right) + F_n, \tag{6}$$

where

$$\langle n | \delta \rho | s > = \int_E \delta \rho \bar{u}_n^{(0)*} \bar{u}_s^{(0)} dV,$$

$$\langle n | H | s > = \int_E \bar{u}_n^{(0)*} H \bar{u}_s^{(0)} dV, \tag{7}$$

$$F_n = \int_E \bar{u}_n^{(0)*} f(p, x_s) dV.$$

Considering that the first two terms on the right-hand side of (6) are small, the first approximation of $a_n$ is given by
Then the next higher approximation is obviously

$$a_n = \sum s \left( <n|H|s> - p^2<n|\delta \rho|s> \right) \frac{F_s}{p(p^2 + \omega_s^2)} + \frac{F_n}{p(p^2 + \omega_n^2)}$$

We use in this order of approximation in the following derivation.

**Formula for the step function type source**

If we assume the step function type source, $F_n$ should be replaced by $F_n/p$.

$$a_n = \sum s \left( <n|H|s> - p^2<n|\delta \rho|s> \right) \frac{F_s}{p(p^2 + \omega_s^2)} + \frac{F_n}{p(p^2 + \omega_n^2)}$$

For a point source described by a second order tensor $M_Q$, $F_n$ is expressed by

$$F_n = \sum_M Q n$$

where $\varepsilon_M$ is the strain of a mode at the source, as is well known.

Substituting (10) in (5) and inverting to the time domain, we obtain

$$u_n = \sum_M C_n(0) \left[ \frac{F_n(1 - \cos \omega_n t)}{\omega_n^2} + \sum s \left( \frac{1}{\omega_n^2} <n|H|s> - \frac{t}{2\omega_n^2} \sin \omega_n t \left( <n|H|s> + \omega_n^2<n|\delta \rho|s> \right) \right]$$

$$+ \sum s \left( \frac{\cos \omega_n t}{(\omega_n^2 - \omega_s^2)\omega_n^2} <n|H|s> + \frac{\cos \omega_n t}{(\omega_n^2 - \omega_s^2)\omega_n^2} \left( <n|H|s> + \omega_n^2<n|\delta \rho|s> \right) \
- \frac{\cos \omega_s t}{(\omega_n^2 - \omega_s^2)\omega_n^2} \left( <n|H|s> + \omega_s^2<n|\delta \rho|s> \right) \right]$$

(11)
Note that the first term is equivalent to Gilbert's (1970) formula and the rest are corrections due to the heterogeneity of the Earth.

**Simplification**

A few simplifications to the formula (11) are possible. First of all, static terms are not necessary in many applications, since they are usually filtered out in the real data. Secondly, if we assume that ω_n = ω_s occurs only within the same multiplet, then the sum over s is replaced by the sum over the azimuthal order number m only. Also for a short time approximation, the secular term can be absorbed in \( \cos \omega_n t \) as

\[
\cos \omega_n t = \cos \omega_n t + \frac{\sum_{m} \sum_{m} u^{(0)}(m') H | m_1 + \omega_n^2 < m' | \delta \rho | m > F_m}{\sum_{m} u^{(0)} F_m}
\]

(12)

where

\[
\omega_n^2 = \omega_n^2 - \frac{\sum_{m} \sum_{m} u^{(0)}(m') H | m_1 + \omega_n^2 < m' | \delta \rho | m > F_m}{\sum_{m} u^{(0)} F_m}
\]

(13)

and it is understood that the sum over m and m' are taken within the multiplet specified by n. Note that the last term in (13) divided by 2ω_n, is the multiplet location parameter (Jordan, 1978, Woodhouse and Girnius, 1981). Thirdly, the last term in (11) can be exchanged with the last term in the case of η_s(0) for computational convenience. Then we have

\[
u = -\sum_n \frac{\cos \omega_n t}{\omega_n^2} \left( F_n u_n^{(0)} + \sum_{m} \frac{u^{(0)}(m') H | m > F_m}{\omega_n^2} \right)
\]

\[
-\sum_n \frac{\cos \omega_n t}{\omega_n^2} \sum_{m} \frac{1}{\omega_n^2 - \omega_s^2} \sum_{m'} \left[ F_{m'} u^{(0)}(m') \left( <nm' | H | sm > + \omega_n^2 < nm' | \delta \rho | sm > \right) \right]
\]
to the accuracy of the above assumptions. \( s \) and \( n \) specify multiplets and \( m \) and \( m' \) refer to certain singlets within each multiplet respectively. The definitions of the new symbols should be clear in the context.

It is straightforward to use (14), since some relevant formulae for \( \langle n \vert H \vert s \rangle \) and \( \langle n \vert \delta \rho \vert s \rangle \) are available in the literature (e.g. Woodhouse and Dahlen, 1978) and others are not so difficult to derive. Also it is possible to express \( \langle n \vert H \vert s \rangle \) in terms of elastic constants, \( \delta \lambda \) and \( \delta \mu \), thus (14) is useful to invert the data for \( \delta \rho \), \( \delta \lambda \) and \( \delta \mu \).

Care must be taken in (14), because (14) breaks down if \( \omega_s \) is very close to \( \omega_n \). This is because (14) assumes that the terms from summation over \( s \) are small perturbations. Such a case can be treated in (11), however, by incorporating those modes in the case for \( \omega_n = \omega_s \).

Lastly, the equation (14) seems to be equivalent to the formula in Woodhouse (1983), although the two derivations are very different.

Acknowledgement

I would like to thank Prof. H. Kanamori, Dr. Rob. Comer and Prof. D.L. Anderson for reading the manuscript. This research was supported by National Aeronautics and Space Administration grant number NSG-7610. Contribution number 3909, Division of Geological and Planetary Sciences, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California 91125.
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