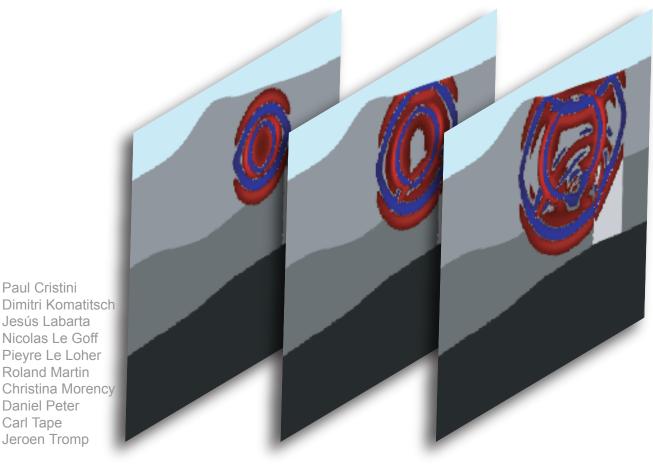
COMPUTATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE FOR GEODYNAMICS (CIG) PRINCETON UNIVERSITY (USA) UNIVERSITY OF PAU, CNRS and INRIA (FRANCE)

SPECFEM 2D

User Manual Version 6.1





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SPECFEM2D User Manual

© Princeton University (USA) and University of Pau / CNRS / INRIA (France) Version 6.1

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Authors

The SPECFEM2D package was first developed by Dimitri Komatitsch and Jean-Pierre Vilotte at IPG in Paris (France) from 1995 to 1997 and then by Dimitri Komatitsch at Harvard University (USA), Caltech (USA) and then University of Pau (France) from 1998 to 2005.

Since then it has been developed and maintained by a development team: in alphabetical order, Paul Cristini, Dimitri Komatitsch, Jesús Labarta, Nicolas Le Goff, Pieyre Le Loher, Roland Martin, Christina Morency, Daniel Peter, Carl Tape, Jeroen Tromp... (add other developers here in the future, several are currently missing).

Contents

1	Introduction	3
	1.1 Citation	4
	1.2 Support	4
2	Getting Started	5
3	Mesh Generation	7
	3.1 How to use SPECFEM2D	7
	3.2 Controlling the quality of an external mesh	8
4	Running the Solver xspecfem2D	9
	4.1 How to run P-SV or SH (membrane) wave simulations	11
	4.2 How to use Poroelasticity	
5	Adjoint Simulations	14
	5.1 How to obtain Finite Sensitivity Kernels	14
A	Troubleshooting	23

Introduction

SPECFEM2D facilitates 2D simulations of acoustic, (an)elastic, and poroelastic seismic wave propagation. With version 6.1, the 2D spectral-element solver accommodates regular and unstructured meshes, generated for example by Cubit (http://cubit.sandia.gov), Gmsh (http://geuz.org/gmsh) or GiD (http://www.gid.cimne.upc.es). Even mesh creation packages that generate triangles, for instance Delaunay-Voronoi triangulation codes, can be used because each triangle can then easily be decomposed into three quadrangles by linking the barycenter to the center of each edge; while this approach does not generate quadrangles of optimal quality, it can ease mesh creation in some situations and it has been shown that the spectral-element method can very accurately handle distorted mesh elements.

The solver has adjoint capabilities and can calculate finite-frequency sensitivity kernels for acoustic, (an)elastic, and poroelastic media. The package also considers 2D SH and P-SV wave propagation. Finally, the solver can run both in serial and in parallel. See SPECFEM2D (http://www.geodynamics.org/cig/software/packages/seismo/specfem2d) for the source code.

The SEM is a continuous Galerkin technique, which can easily be made discontinuous [Bernardi et al., 1994, Chaljub, 2000, Kopriva et al., 2002, Chaljub et al., 2003, Legay et al., 2005, Kopriva, 2006, Wilcox et al., 2010, Acosta Minolia and Kopriva, 2011]; it is then close to a particular case of the discontinuous Galerkin technique [Reed and Hill, 1973, Arnold, 1982, Falk and Richter, 1999, Hu et al., 1999, Cockburn et al., 2000, Giraldo et al., 2002, Rivière and Wheeler, 2003, Monk and Richter, 2005, Grote et al., 2006, Ainsworth et al., 2006, Bernacki et al., 2006, Dumbser and Käser, 2006, De Basabe et al., 2008, de la Puente et al., 2009, Wilcox et al., 2010, De Basabe and Sen, 2010, Étienne et al., 2010], with optimized efficiency because of its tensorized basis functions [Wilcox et al., 2010, Acosta Minolia and Kopriva, 2011]. In particular, it can accurately handle very distorted mesh elements [Oliveira and Seriani, 2011].

It has very good accuracy and convergence properties [Maday and Patera, 1989, Seriani and Priolo, 1994, Deville et al., 2002, Cohen, 2002, De Basabe and Sen, 2007, Seriani and Oliveira, 2008]. The spectral element approach admits spectral rates of convergence and allows exploiting *hp*-convergence schemes. It is also very well suited to parallel implementation on very large supercomputers [Komatitsch and Tromp, 2002, Komatitsch et al., 2003, Tsuboi et al., 2003, Komatitsch et al., 2008, Carrington et al., 2008, Komatitsch et al., 2010c] as well as on clusters of GPU accelerating graphics cards [Komatitsch et al., 2009, 2010a, Komatitsch, 2011]. Tensor products inside each element can be optimized to reach very high efficiency [Deville et al., 2002], and mesh point and element numbering can be optimized to reduce processor cache misses and improve cache reuse [Komatitsch et al., 2008]. The SEM can also handle triangular (in 2D) or tetrahedral (in 3D) elements [Wingate and Boyd, 1996, Taylor and Wingate, 2000, Komatitsch et al., 2001, Cohen, 2002, Mercerat et al., 2006] as well as mixed meshes, although with increased cost and reduced accuracy in these elements, as in the discontinuous Galerkin method.

Note that in many geological models in the context of seismic wave propagation studies (except for instance for fault dynamic rupture studies, in which very high frequencies or supershear rupture need to be modeled near the fault, see e.g. Benjemaa et al. [2007, 2009], de la Puente et al. [2009], Tago et al. [2010]) a continuous formulation is

sufficient because material property contrasts are not drastic and thus conforming mesh doubling bricks can efficiently handle mesh size variations [Komatitsch and Tromp, 2002, Komatitsch et al., 2004, Lee et al., 2008, 2009a,b].

For a detailed introduction to the SEM as applied to regional seismic wave propagation, please consult Komatitsch and Vilotte [1998], Komatitsch and Tromp [1999], Chaljub et al. [2007], Tromp et al. [2008] and in particular Komatitsch et al. [2004]. A detailed theoretical analysis of the dispersion and stability properties of the SEM is available in Cohen [2002], De Basabe and Sen [2007] and Seriani and Oliveira [2007].

The SEM was originally developed in computational fluid dynamics [Patera, 1984, Maday and Patera, 1989] and has been successfully adapted to address problems in seismic wave propagation. Early seismic wave propagation applications of the SEM, utilizing Legendre basis functions and a perfectly diagonal mass matrix, include Cohen et al. [1993], Komatitsch [1997], Faccioli et al. [1997], Casadei and Gabellini [1997], Komatitsch and Vilotte [1998] and Komatitsch and Tromp [1999], whereas applications involving Chebyshev basis functions and a nondiagonal mass matrix include Seriani and Priolo [1994], Priolo et al. [1994] and Seriani et al. [1995].

All SPECFEM2D software is written in Fortran90 with full portability in mind, and conforms strictly to the Fortran95 standard. It uses no obsolete or obsolescent features of Fortran77. The package uses parallel programming based upon the Message Passing Interface (MPI) [Gropp et al., 1994, Pacheco, 1997].

The next release of the code will include support for GPU graphics card acceleration [Komatitsch et al., 2009, 2010a, Michéa and Komatitsch, 2010, Komatitsch, 2011] as well as Convolutional or Auxiliary Differential Equation Perfectly Matched absorbing Layers (C-PML or ADE-PML) [Komatitsch and Martin, 2007, Martin et al., 2008b,c, Martin and Komatitsch, 2009, Martin et al., 2010].

1.1 Citation

If you use this code for your own research, please cite at least one article written by the developers of the package, for instance:

Tromp et al. [2008] or Vai et al. [1999], Lee et al. [2009a, 2008, 2009b], Komatitsch et al. [2010a,b, 2009], Liu et al. [2004], Chaljub et al. [2007], Komatitsch and Vilotte [1998], Komatitsch and Tromp [1999], Komatitsch et al. [2004], Morency and Tromp [2008] and/or other articles from (http://web.univ-pau.fr/~dkomatil/publications.html)

If you use the kernel capabilities of the code, please cite at least one article written by the developers of the package, for instance:

Tromp et al. [2008] or Liu and Tromp [2006], Morency et al. [2009]

If you use the SCOTCH / CUBIT non-structured capabilities, please also cite: Martin et al. [2008a]

The corresponding BibTeX entries may be found in file $doc/USER_MANUAL/bibliography.bib$.

1.2 Support

This material is based upon work supported by the USA National Science Foundation under Grants No. EAR-0406751 and EAR-0711177, by the French CNRS, French INRIA Sud-Ouest MAGIQUE-3D, French ANR NUMASIS under Grant No. ANR-05-CIGC-002, and European FP6 Marie Curie International Reintegration Grant No. MIRG-CT-2005-017461. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the USA National Science Foundation, CNRS, INRIA, ANR or the European Marie Curie program.

Getting Started

The SPECFEM2D software package comes in a gzipped tar ball. In the directory in which you want to install the package, type

```
tar -zxvf SPECFEM2D_6.1.1.tar.gz
```

The directory SPECFEM2D-6.1.1/ will then contain the source code. In the following, we will refer to this directory as the root directory SPECFEM2D/.

To configure the software for your system, run the configure shell script. This script will attempt to guess the appropriate configuration values for your system. However, at a minimum, it is recommended that you explicitly specify the appropriate command names for your Fortran90 compiler:

```
./configure FC=ifort
```

To optimize compilation of the executables on your specific system, please follow these steps:

• if you want to run in parallel, i.e., using more than one processor core, then you would type

```
./configure FC=ifort MPIFC=mpif90 --with-mpi
```

The SPECFEM2D software package relies on the SCOTCH library to partition meshes. The SCOTCH library [Pellegrini and Roman, 1996] provides efficent static mapping, graph and mesh partitioning routines. SCOTCH is a free software package developed by François Pellegrini et al. from LaBRI and INRIA in Bordeaux, France, downloadable from the web page https://gforge.inria.fr/projects/scotch/. It is more recent than METIS, actively maintained and performs better in many cases. A recent version of its source code is provided in directory scotch_5.1.11/. In case no SCOTCH libraries can be found on the system, the configuration will bundle this version for compilation. The path to an existing SCOTCH installation can to be set explicitly with the option --with-scotch-dir. Just as an example:

```
./configure FC=ifort MPIFC=mpif90 --with-mpi --with-scotch-dir=/opt/scotch
```

If you use the Intel ifort compiler to compile the code, we recommend that you use the Intel icc C compiler to compile Scotch, i.e., use:

```
./configure CC=icc FC=ifort MPIFC=mpif90
```

For further details about the installation of SCOTCH, go to subdirectory <code>scotch_5.1.11/</code> and read <code>INSTALL.txt</code>. You may want to download more recent versions of SCOTCH in the future from (http://www.labri.fr/perso/pelegrin/scotch/scotch_en.html). Support for the METIS graph partitioner has been discontinued because SCOTCH is more recent and performs better.

- edit the Makefile for more specific modifications. Especially, there are several options available:
 - -DUSE_MPI compiles with use of an MPI library.
 - -DUSE_SCOTCH enables use of graph partitioner SCOTCH.

After these steps, go back to the main directory of SPECFEM2D/ and type

make

to create all executables which will be placed into the folder ./bin/.

Mesh Generation

3.1 How to use SPECFEM2D



Figure 3.1: Schematic workflow for a SPECFEM2D simulation. The exectable xmeshfem2D creates the GLL mesh points and assigns specific model parameters. The executable xspecfem2D solves the seismic wave propagation.

To run the mesher, please follow these steps:

- edit the input file DATA/Par_file which describes the simulation. It contains comments and should be almost self-explanatory, if you need more details we do not have a manual for the 2D version but you can find useful information in the manuals of the 3D versions, since many parameters and the general philosophy is similar. They are available at (http://geodynamics.org/wsvn/cig/seismo/3D) in subdirectories USER_MANUAL/. To create acoustic (fluid) regions, just set the S wave speed to zero and the code will see that these elements are fluid and switch to the right equations there automatically, and automatically match them with the solid regions
- if you are using an external mesher (like GID or CUBIT), you should set read_external_mesh to .true.:

mesh_file is the file describing the mesh: first line is the number of elements, then a list of 4 nodes (quadrilaterals only) forming each elements on each line.

nodes_coords_file is the file containing the coordinates (x and z) of each nodes: number of nodes on the first line, then coordinates x and z on each line.

materials_file is the number of the material for every elements : an integer ranging from 1 to nbmodels
 on each line.

free_surface_file is the file describing the edges forming the acoustic free surface: number of edges on the first line, then on each line number of the element, number of nodes forming the free surface (1 for a point, 2 for an edge), the nodes forming the free surface for this element. If you do not want free surface, just put 0 on the first line.

absorbing_surface_file is the file describing the edges forming the absorbing boundaries: the format is the same as the free_surface_file.

tangential_detection_curve_file contains points describing the envelope, used for source_normal_to_surfa and rec_normal_to_surface. Should be fine grained, and ordained clockwise. Number of points on the first line, then (x,z) coordinates on each line.

• if you have compiled with MPI, you must specify the number of processes.

Then type

./bin/xmeshfem2D

to create the mesh (which will be stored in directory OUTPUT_FILES/). xmeshfem2D is serial; it will output several files called Database??????, one for each process.

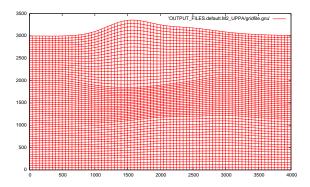


Figure 3.2: Example of a grid file generated by xmeshfem2D and visualized with gnuplot (within gnuplot, type 'plot "OUTPUT_FILES/gridfile.gnu" w 1').

3.2 Controlling the quality of an external mesh

To examine the quality of the elements in your externally build mesh, type

```
./bin/xcheck_quality_external_mesh
```

(and answer "3" to the first question asked). This code will tell you which element in the whole mesh has the worst quality (maximum skewness, i.e. maximum deformation of the element angles) and it should be enough to modify this element with the external software package used for the meshing, and to repeat the operation until the maximum skewness of the whole mesh is less or equal to about 0.75 (above is dangerous: from 0.75 to 0.80 could still work, but if there is a single element above 0.80 the mesh should be improved).

The code also shows a histogram of 20 classes of skewness which tells how many element are above the skewness = 0.75, and to which percentage of the total this amounts. To see this histogram, you could type:

```
gnuplot plot_mesh_quality_histogram.gnu
```

This tool is useful to estimate the mesh quality and to see it evolve along the successive corrections.

Running the Solver xspecfem2D

To run the solver, type:

./bin/xspecfem2D

to run the main solver (use mpirun or equivalent if you compiled with parallel support). This will output the seismograms and snapshots of the wave fronts at different time steps in directory OUTPUT_FILES/. To visualize them, type "gs OUTPUT_FILES/vect*.ps" to see the Postscript files (in which the wave field is represented with small arrows, fluid/solid matching interfaces with a thick pink line, and absorbing edges with a thick green line) and "gimp OUTPUT_FILES/image*.gif" to see the color snapshot showing a pixelized image of one of the two components of the wave field (or pressure, depending on what you have selected for the output in DATA/Par_file).

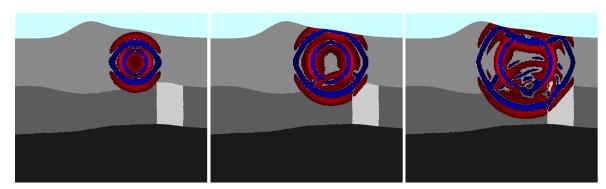


Figure 4.1: Wavefield snapshots of the default example generated by xspecfem2D when parameter output_color_image is set to .true..

Please consider these following points, when running the solver:

- the DATA/Par_file given with the code works fine, you can use it without any modification to test the code
- the seismograms OUTPUT_FILES/*.sem* are simple ASCII files with two columns: time in the first colum and amplitude in the second, therefore they can be visualized with any tool you like, for instance "gnuplot"
- if you set flag assign_external_model to .true. in DATA/Par_file, the velocity and density model that is given at the end of DATA/Par_file is then ignored and overwritten by the external velocity and density model that you define yourself in define_external_model.f90
- when compiling with Intel ifort, use "-assume byterecl" option to create binary PNM images displaying
 the wave field
- we do not have PML absorbing conditions implemented in the fluid/solid code yet. We use (older and less efficient) paraxial Clayton-Engquist or Sommerfeld equations instead. This is only by lack of time, we have

a developer who is currently implementing PML but the code is not fully ready. For now, since the paraxial conditions are less efficient, please use a larger model

- there are a few useful scripts and Fortran routines in directory UTILS/.
- if you find bugs (or if you have comments or suggestions) please send an email to cig-seismo AT geodynamics.org and the developers will try to fix them and send you an updated version
- you can find a Fortran code to compute the analytical solution for simple media that we use as a reference in benchmarks in many of our articles at (http://www.spice-rtn.org/library/software/EX2DDIR). That code is described in: Berg et al. [1994]

The SOURCE file located in the DATA/ directory should be edited in the following way:

source_surf Set this flag to .true. to force the source to be located at the surface of the model, otherwise the source will be placed inside the medium

xs source location x in meters

zs source location z in meters

source_type Set this value equal to 1 for elastic forces or acoustic pressure, set this to 2 for moment tensor sources.

- **time_function_type** Choose a source-time function: set this value to 1 to use a Ricker, 2 the first derivative, 3 a Gaussian, 4 a Dirac or 5 a Heaviside source-time function.
- **f0** Set this to the dominant frequency of the source. For point-source simulations using a Heaviside source-time function (time_function_type "5"), we recommend setting the source frequency parameter £0 equal to a high value, which corresponds to simulating a step source-time function, i.e., a moment-rate function that is a delta function.

The half duration of a source is obtained by 1/f0. If the code will use a Gaussian source-time function (time_function_type "3") (i.e., a signal with a shape similar to a 'smoothed triangle', as explained in Komatitsch and Tromp [2002] and shown in Fig 4.2), the source-time function uses a half-width of half duration. We prefer to run the solver with half duration set to zero and convolve the resulting synthetic seismograms in post-processing after the run, because this way it is easy to use a variety of source-time functions. Komatitsch and Tromp [2002] determined that the noise generated in the simulation by using a step source time function may be safely filtered out afterward based upon a convolution with the desired source time function and/or low-pass filtering. Use the serial code convolve_source_timefunction.f90 and the script convolve_source_timefunction.csh for this purpose, or alternatively use signal-processing software packages such as SAC (www.llnl.gov/sac). Type

```
make convolve_source_timefunction
```

to compile the code and then set the parameter hdur in convolve_source_timefunction.csh to the desired half-duration.

to For single sources, we recommend to set the time shift parameter ±0 equal to 0.0. The time shift parameter would simply apply an overall time shift to the synthetics (according to the time shift of the first source), something that can be done in the post-processing. This time shift parameter can be non-zero when using multiple sources.

angleforce Angle of the source (for a force only)

Mxx,Mzz,Mxz Moment tensor components (valid only for moment tensor sources, source_type "2"). Note that the units for the components of a moment tensor source are different in SPECFEM2D and in SPECFEM3D:

SPECFEM3D: in SPECFEM3D the moment tensor components are in dyne*cm **SPECFEM2D:** in SPECFEM2D the moment tensor components are in N*m

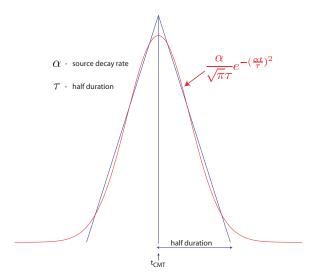


Figure 4.2: Comparison of the shape of a triangle and the Gaussian function actually used.

factor amplification factor

Note, the zero time of the simulation corresponds to the center of the triangle/Gaussian, or the centroid time of the earthquake. The start time of the simulation is t = -1.2 * half duration + t0 (the factor 1.2 is to make sure the moment rate function is very close to zero when starting the simulation; Heaviside functions use a factor 2.0), the half duration is obtained by 1/f0. If you prefer, you can fix this start time by setting the parameter USER_T0 in the constants.h file to a positive, non-zero value. The simulation in that case would start at a starting time equal to -USER_T0.

Caution

See file todo_list_please_dont_remove.txt for a list of known bugs, problems, or missing options.

Coupled Simulations

The code supports acoustic/elastic, acoustic/poroelastic, elastic/poroelastic, and acoustic, elastic/poroelastic simulations.

Elastic/poroelastic coupling supports anisotropy, but not attenuation for the elastic material.

4.1 How to run P-SV or SH (membrane) wave simulations

For elastic materials, you have these additional options:

P-SV: To run a P-SV waves calculation propagating in the x-z plane, set p_sv = .true. in the Par_file.

SH: To run a SH (membrane) waves calculation traveling in the x-z plane with a y-component of motion, set p_sv = .false.

This feature is only implemented for elastic materials and sensitivity kernels can be calculated (see Tape et al. [2007] for details on membrane surface waves).

A useful Python script called SEM_save_dir.py, written by Paul Cristini from Laboratoire de Mecanique et d'Acoustique, CNRS, Marseille, France, is provided. It allows one to automatically save all the parameters and results of a given simulation.

4.2 How to use Poroelasticity

Check the following new inputs in Par_file:

In section "# geometry of model and mesh description":

TURN_VISCATTENUATION_ON, Q0, and FREQ0 deal with viscous damping in a poroelastic medium. Q0 is the quality factor set at the central frequency FREQ0. For more details see Morency and Tromp [2008].

In section "# time step parameters":

SIMULATION_TYPE defines the type of simulations

- (1) forward simulation
- (2) adjoint method and kernels calculation

In section "# source parameters":

The code now support multi sources. NSOURCE is the number of source. Parameters of the sources are displayed in the file SOURCE, which must be in the directory DATA/. The components of a moment tensor source must be given in N.m, not in dyne.cm as in the DATA/CMTSOLUTION source file of the 3D version of the code.

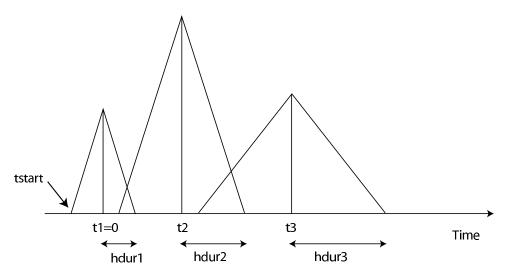


Figure 4.3: Example of timing for three sources. The center of the first source triangle is defined to be time zero. Note that this is NOT in general the hypocentral time, or the start time of the source (marked as tstart). The time shift parameter ± 0 in the SOURCE file would be $\pm 1(=0)$, t2, t3 in this case, and the half-duration parameter, resp. ± 0 , would be hdur1=1/f0_1, hdur2=1/f0_2, hdur3=1/f0_3 for the sources 1, 2, 3 respectively.

In section "# receiver line parameters for seismograms":

SAVE_FORWARD determines if the last frame of a forward simulation is saved (.true.) or not (.false)

In section "# define models....":

There are three possible types of models:

 \mathtt{I} : (model_number 1 rho Vp Vs 0 0 Qp Qs 0 0 0 0 0 0) or

 ${\tt II:}$ (model_number 2 rho c11 c13 c15 c33 c35 c55 0 0 0 0 0 0 0) or

III: (model_number 3 rhos rhof phi c kxx kxz kzz Ks Kf Kfr etaf mufr Qs).

For istropic elastic/acoustic material use \mathbb{I} and set Vs to zero to make a given model acoustic, for anisotropic elastic use \mathbb{II} , and for isotropic poroelastic material use \mathbb{III} . The mesh can contain acoustic, elastic, and poroelastic models simultaneously. rho_s = solid density

rho_f = fluid density

phi = porosity

tort = tortuosity

permxx = xx component of permeability tensor permxz = xz,zx components of permeability tensor permzz = zz component of permeability tensor kappa_s = solid bulk modulus kappa_f= fluid bulk modulus kappa_fr= frame bulk modulus eta_f = fluid viscosity mu_fr = frame shear modulus Qs = shear quality factor

Note: for the poroelastic case, mu_s is irrelevant. For details on the poroelastic theory see Morency and Tromp [2008].

get_poroelastic_velocities.f90 allows to compute cpI, cpII, and cs function of the source dominant frequency. Notice that for this calculation we use permxx and the dominant frequency of the first source, f0(1). Caution if you use several sources with different frequencies and if you consider anistropic permeability.

Adjoint Simulations

5.1 How to obtain Finite Sensitivity Kernels

1. Run a forward simulation:

```
=> SIMULATION_TYPE = 1
=> SAVE_FORWARD = .true.
```

=> seismotype = 1 (we need to save the displacement fields to later on derive the adjoint source. Note: if the user forgets it, the program corrects it when reading the proper SIMULATION_TYPE and SAVE_FORWARD combination and a warning message appears in the outut file)

Important output files (for example, for the elastic case, P-SV waves):

```
absorb_elastic_bottom*****.bin
absorb_elastic_left****.bin
absorb_elastic_right****.bin
absorb_elastic_top****.bin
lastframe_elastic****.bin
S****.AA.BHX.semd
S****.AA.BHZ.semd
```

2. Define the adjoint source:

Use adj seismogram.f90

Edit to update NSTEP, nrec, t0, deltat, and the position of the cut to pic any given phase if needed (tstart,tend), add the right number of stations, and put one component of the source to zero if needed. The ouput files of adj_seismogram.f90 are S****.AA.BHX.adj and S****.AA.BHZ.adj, for PSV waves (and S****.AA.BHY.adj, for SH (membrane) waves). Note that you will need these three files (S****.AA.BHX.adj, S****.AA.BHY.adj and S****.AA.BHZ.adj) to be present in the SEM/ directory together with the absorb_elastic_****.bin and lastframe_elastic.bin files to be read when running the adjoint simulation.

3. Run the adjoint simulation:

Make sure that the adjoint source files absorbing boundaries and last frame files are in the OUTPUT_FILES/ directory.

```
=> SIMULATION_TYPE = 2
=> SAVE FORWARD = .false.
```

Output files (for example for the elastic case):

```
snapshot_rho_kappa_mu*****
snapshot_rhop_alpha_beta*****
```

which are the primary moduli kernels and the phase velocities kernels respectively, in ascii format and at the local level, that is as "kernels(i,j,ispec)".

Caution

Please note that

- at the moment, adjoint simulations do not support anisotropy, attenuation, and viscous damping.
- you will need S****.AA.BHX.adj, S****.AA.BHY.adj and S****.AA.BHZ.adj to be present in directory SEM/ even if you are just running an acoustic or poroelastic adjoint simulation.
 - S * * * * . AA . BHX . adj is the only relevant component for an acoustic case.
 - S***.AA.BHX.adj and S***.AA.BHZ.adj are the only relevant components for a poroelastic case.

Acknowledgments

We thank Paul Cristini from Laboratoire de Mecanique et d'Acoustique of Marseille, France, for very carefully testing version 6.1 of the package and helping us locate and fix several important bugs, as well as introducing support for the Gmsh mesher in the package.

The Gauss-Lobatto-Legendre subroutines in gll_library.f90 are based in part on software libraries from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Department of Mechanical Engineering (Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA). The non-structured global numbering software was provided by Paul F. Fischer (Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, USA, now at Argonne National Laboratory, USA).

Please e-mail your feedback, questions, comments, and suggestions to Jeroen Tromp (jtromp-AT-princeton.edu) or to the CIG Computational Seismology Mailing List (cig-seismo@geodynamics.org).

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Appendix A

Troubleshooting

FAO

Regarding the structure of some of the database files:

Question: Can anyone tell me what the columns of the SPECFEM2D boundary condition files in SPECFEM2D/DATA/Mesh_canyon are?

```
SPECFEM2D/DATA/Mesh_canyon/canyon_absorbing_surface_file SPECFEM2D/DATA/Mesh_canyon/canyon_free_surface_file
```

Answer: canyon_absorbing_surface_file refers to parameters related to the absorbing conditions: The first number (180) is the number of absorbing elements (nelemabs in the code). Then the columns are:

column 1 = the element number

column 2 = the number of nodes of this element that form the absorbing surface

column 3 = the first node column 4 = the second node

canyon_free_surface_file refers to the elements of the free surface (relevant for enforcing free surface condition for acoustic media): The first number (160) is the number of elements of the free surface. Then the columns are (similar to the absorbing case):

column 1 = the element number

column 2 = the number of nodes of this element that form the absorbing surface

column 3 = the first node

column 4 = the second node

Concerning the free surface description file, nodes/edges pertaining to elastic elements are discarded when the file is read (if for whatever reason it was simpler to include all the nodes/edges on one side of a studied area and that there are among them some elements that are elastic elements, only the nodes/edges of acoustic elements are kept).

These files are opened and read in meshfem2D.F90 using subroutines read_abs_surface() and read_acoustic_surface(), which are in part_unstruct.F90