

Seismological Software Developments at LMU Munich

Robert Barsch



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- SeisHub
- ObsPy
- Scientific Applications
 - BayernNetz
 - Exupéry VFRS



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SeisHub

Native, document-centric XML database

- RESTful Web service (HTTP, HTTPS),
- Standard relational database as back-end
- Both worlds: SQL for querying and manipulating data and any standard connected to XML, e.g. XSLT or XSD
- Not restricted to seismology at all

Extended to a "classical" seismic database

- Index of local, file-based waveform archive (MiniSEED, GSE2, SAC, ...)
 - Meta Data: Gaps, overlaps, quality and timing information
 - Waveform previews (30s)
- XML resource types for handling inventory data (XML-SEED) and events (QuakeML based)
- Remote waveforms access (ArcLink)



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SeisHub: Technical Details

- Python-based, standalone web service
- Platform independent, open source (GPL)
- Implementation of various web protocols, like HTTP, SSH, SFTP
- Plug-in architecture: Dynamic discovering and loading of modules and support for Python .egg files
- Development remarks:
 - Test-driven development proven software, so far \rightarrow ca. 250 test cases
 - Well-documented source code
 - Subversion
 - Trac: ticket system and project wiki



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SeisHub: Database Design

- Indexing
 - Generated using a XPath expression, type and additional options
 - Simple creation + reindexing via web interface
 - Various build-in types (datetime, bool, numeric, double, float, etc..)
 - ProcessorIndex: custom processing
- Searching
 - XPath-like query on XML catalog object (restricted to indexes)
 - SQL on database object
- Mapper: predefined queries & output format bound to an fixed URL
- FileSystemResource: integrates a file system directory (read only)



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SeisHub: Database Design

Data storage

- Primary data → file system
 - Continuous waveform archive (MiniSEED, GSE2, SAC ...)
 - Other data via (GeoTIFF, GPS time series, etc.) file system
- Meta Data → Web service on top of a XML/relational database hybrid
 - Data is packed into a XML document → Data structure is within the document, no need for a predefined database schema
 - XML resources are archived into a BLOB field
 - Only searchable values are indexed
 - Pointers to primary data





SeisHub: Database Design

Data access

- HTTP/HTTPS: REST web service
 - XML documents have a fixed resource identifier (URL's)
 - Data transformation via XML Style Sheets on request (?output=...)
 - Data validation via Schema (XML Schema, RelaxNG, Schematron) on resource upload
 - Document properties like related meta data or indexes
- SFTP: XML documents mapped into a virtual file system



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SeisHub: Advantages

Technical:

- Sharing data over the network, but no firewall problems (HTTP / HTTPS)
- License free, open source, internet standards
- Platform independent, most basic client is a standard browser
- XML:
 - Data validation on upload (XML schemas)
 - Data transformation on request (XML stylesheets)
- Querying: SQL or XPath

Scientist:

- May modify there data provided as XML document at any time without corrupting the underlying database
- May dynamically add or delete search indexes, schemas and stylesheets



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SeisHub: Disadvantages

Technical:

- Slower than "common" solutions
 - XML parsing during validation and indexing
 - Data overhead (XML verbosity)
- Infrastructure

Scientist:

• Seismologist != IT nerds



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ObsPy

- Python toolbox for seismologists
- Modular architecture
 - Waveform data: GSE2, MiniSEED, SAC, WAV, Q/ASCII
 - Inventory data: Dataless SEED, XML-SEED, RESP
 - Data request clients: ArcLink/WebDC, DHI/Fissures, SeisHub
 - Various pickers, filters and plot routines
 - Waveform indexer
 - [ToDo] Orfeus Web service client (Events, Waveforms)



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ObsPy

- Open source (LGPL or GPL)
- 6 core developers
- Platform independent (Win, Mac, Linux) and tested
- Test-driven development (TDD), currently 308 unit tests (http://tests.obspy.org)
- Reliance of well-known third-party libraries (numpy, scipy, matplotlib)
- Reusing well established code, e.g. libmseed, GSE UTI
- Automatic generated API documentation
- Binary distributions: Python Package Index (PyPI), Windows Installer & Debian packages
- Source code & community webpage containing tutorials, installation instructions, ticket system

http://www.obspy.org



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SeisHub & ObsPy: Demonstration





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BayernNetz

- Seismological network of the Bavarian Seismological Service (Erdbebendienst Bayern)
- Designed for monitoring local seismic activity in Bavaria and bordering regions for events of ML >= 2.0
- Data is collected, archived and analyzed at the Geophysical Observatory in Fürstenfeldbruck
- Currently 23 SP + 3 BB + 2 BB (GRSN) stations
- Waveform data received from BB stations are transmitted in real time to ORFEUS, GEOFON and BGR
- Neighboring networks may also access data directly



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BayernNetz: SeisHub & ObsPy

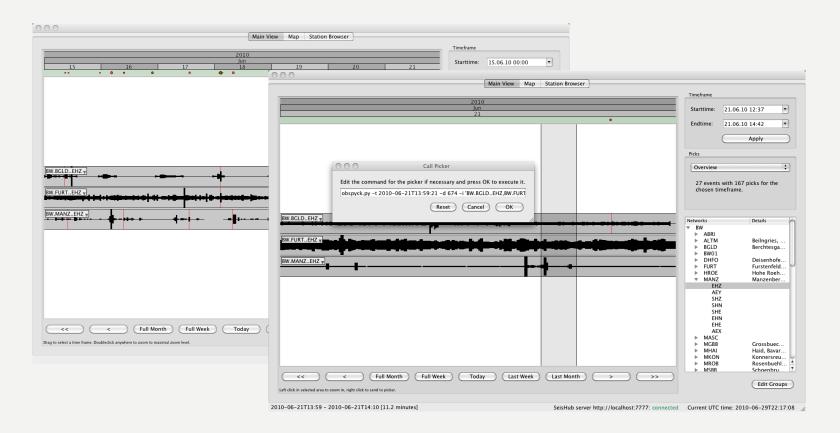
- SeisHub (experimental)
 - parallel to the GIANT database since spring 2009
 - Events retrieved from Earthworm (real time system) and Pitsa (manually) are automatically stored into SeisHub in QuakeML based format
 - Automated indexing of the MiniSEED waveform archive
 - Stations available in XML-SEED
- ObsPy: seismological Python library and SeisHub client
- Current Tasks
 - Adaption of existing programs and scripts
 - Development of a suitable graphical applications using SeisHub as a data back-end



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SeisHub Viewer

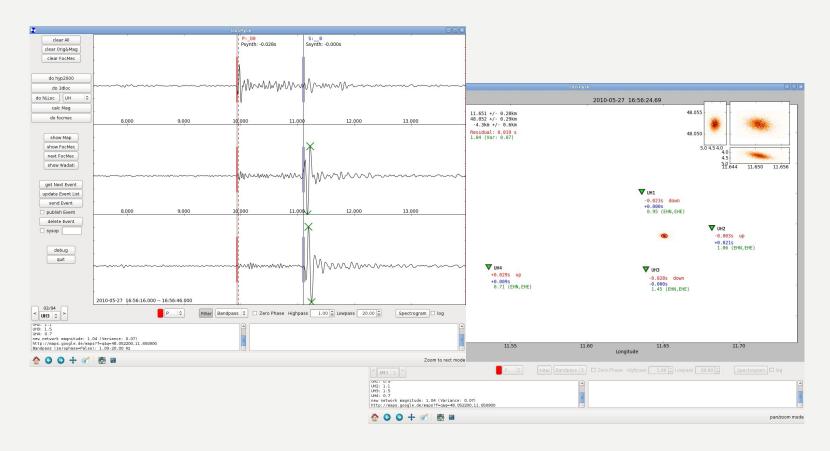




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ObsPyck

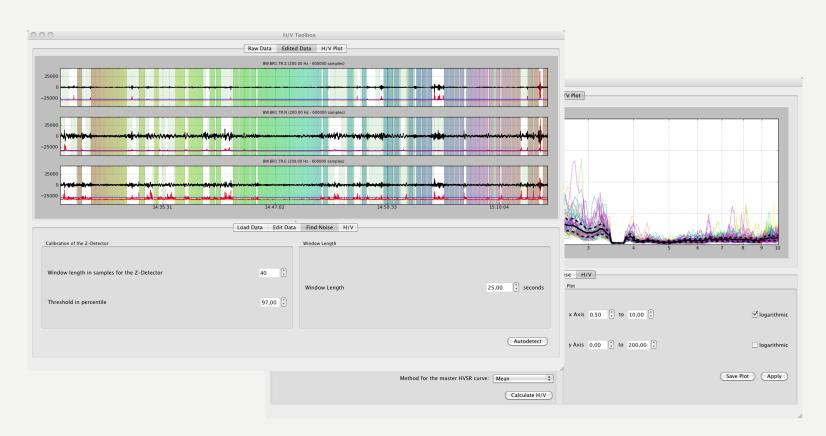




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H / V Toolbox





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Exupéry VFRS

- Volcano Fast Response System (VFRS): mobile monitoring system in case of a volcanic crisis or volcanic unrest
- funded by the German Ministry for Education and Research (BMBF) within the "Geotechnologien" project
- Involves nine different research institutions allover Germany
- Primary goals
 - stable communication basis for stations in the field
 - expert system allowing scientists and local authorities to assess the data through a web-based GIS interface on top of a single centralized database
- Perfect demonstrator for the flexibility of SeisHub as geophysical database:
 - event-based and continuous data,
 - ground-based measurements and satellite data
 - time series (1D), images (2D), and models (3D)



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Exupéry VFRS: Database Test Setups

- Prototype at BGR / Hannover since spring 2009
 - Satellite data automatically fetched from the respective data providers and included into the database
 - Ground-based data only tested with sample data
- Second Exupéry prototype setup tested under field conditions at the Azores from 04/2009 – 09/2009
 - over 20 seismic stations (only 4 triggered events)
 - ground measurements of deformation and gas flux
 - only ground-based data collected due to limited Internet bandwidth
 - data synchronized at daily base with the BGR setup



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Exupéry VFRS: Demonstration





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Thank You!