

LA-UR-15-24899

Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.

W13_Geonuc "3D Geophysical Modeling Validation and UQ for Ground--based NEM" Title:

Author(s): Maceira, Monica

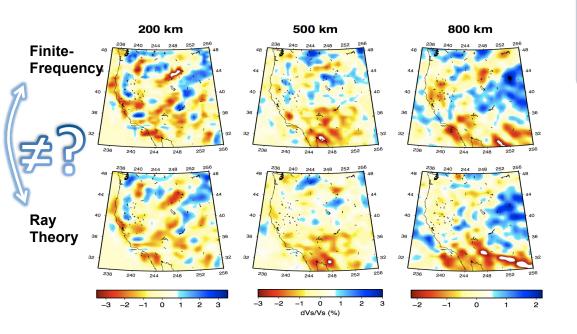
Larmat, Carene

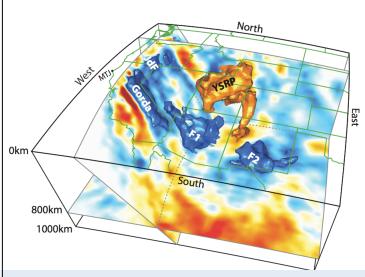
Report Intended for:

Issued: 2015-06-30



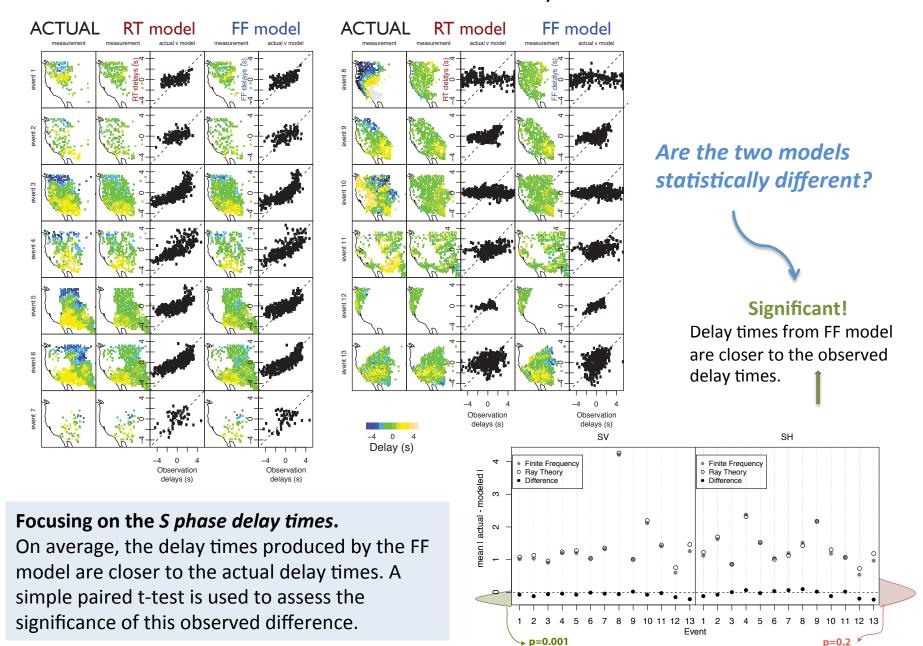
Validation of 3D high-resolution geophysical models via full waveform requires important HPC resources because the necessary level of accuracy is achieved by considering models with millions of grid points. We use the Spectral Element Method (SEM) which makes no assumptions about the wave propagation equation but requires substantial computational resources. Accuracy in the prediction of seismograms is important in order to understand the limit of current imaging methods (see Ray Theory versus Finite Frequency models below).



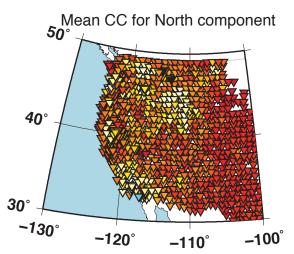


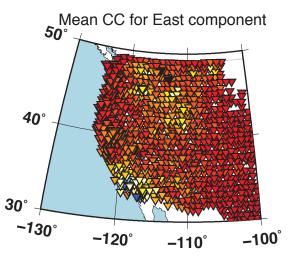
DNA09 (UC Berkeley model) allows imaging of geodynamic features with unprecedented resolution. Image above shows the interaction between the Yellowstone mantle plume and the subducting Juan de Fuca plate.

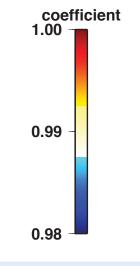
Slices of DNA09 model at different depths. Details of the shear-wave velocity anomalies highlighted by the model differ according to the imaging method used. (top) DNA09 velocity model obtained with Finite-Frequency; (bottom) DNA09 velocity model obtained with Ray Theory.

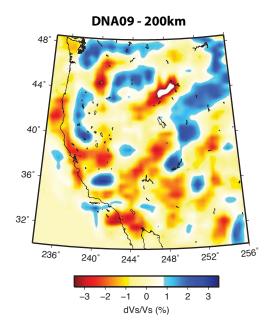


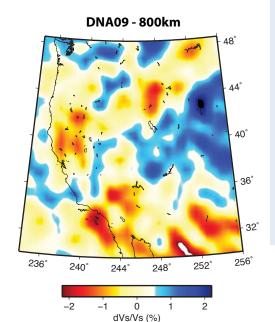
Different but more significant difference in some particular areas?







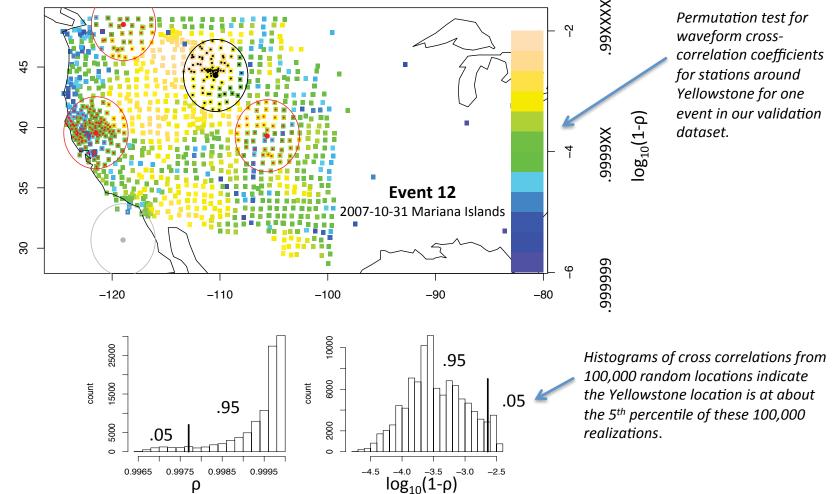




Focusing on the S phase wiggles

Waveform cross-correlation coefficients between RT and FF synthetic seismograms, show that *Finite Frequency* makes a difference for *large amplitude low velocity* anomalies such as mantle plumes.





Focusing on the S phase wiggles

Permutation tests indicate that the values for stations around Yellowstone are indeed lower than average and the FF and RT models produce synthetics which are statistically different for those stations. For all the events to the west of the model, *Yellowstone stands out as statistically different*.