# Sinkhole Detection with 3-D Full Elastic Seismic Waveform Tomography

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Project Manager: David Horhota, Ph.D., P.E.



Primary Researchers Michael McVay, PhD. Khiem Tran, PhD. Scott Wasman, PhD.





### **Need for 3D sinkhole detection**

- Sinkholes can cause infrastructure collapses that lead to significant property damage and even fatalities
- Typical invasive testing SPT, CPT – tests < .1% of material</li>
- Need for NDT/geophysical testing over large volume of material
- Image vertical and lateral extents of 3D voids





Sinkhole collapses

# **3D FWI Motivation**

- 3D FWI is <u>wave-equation based</u> and has the potential to
  - use full information content (waveforms), both phase and magnitude
  - characterize both Vp and Vs of 3D test domain at high resolution (ft pixel)
  - provide 3 dimensions of a buried void



### **3D FWI method**

### Forward modeling by 3-D wave equations





PML is used at bottom and 4 vertical boundaries.

# **3D FWI method**

- Model updating by Gauss-Newton
- Velocity residual:
- Misfit function:
- Model updating:
- Jacobian matrix:

 Gauss-Newton inversion is done in frequency domain to reduce RAM

$$\widetilde{u}(\mathbf{x},\omega) = \sum_{l=1}^{nt} \exp(\sqrt{-1}\omega l \Delta t) u(\mathbf{x}, l \Delta t) \Delta t$$

# **Data Analysis**

- Start analysis at lowest frequencies and move up
- Low frequencies (large wavelengths) require less detailed information of initial model
- Adding high frequency data gradually helps increase resolution of entire domain and resolve small features



Misfit function *E*(**m**)

Bunks et al. (1995)

### Synthetic test on void





- 24 x 36 x 18 m model,
  4.5x4.5x4.5 m at 9 m depth
- Test configurations
  - 8x12 (96) receivers at 3 m spacing
  - 9x13 (117) shots at 3 m spacing



## **Synthetic result: 3D view**

z-axis [m]

- 2 inversion runs at 15 and 25 Hz central frequencies
- 36 hours on a desktop computer (32 cores of 3.46 GHz each and 256 GB of memory)







#### **Inverted result**

### Synthetic result: plane view at void center

#### True model







#### Inverted model



#### Vs [m/s] [m] 10 15



#### Vertical view

#### Horizontal view

# Gainesville site

- dry retention pond in Gainesville
- test area of 36 x 9 m (120 x 30 ft)
- 96 receivers located in 24 x 4 grid
- 52 shots located in 13 x 4 grid
- 48 geophones twice
- PEG active source







# Sample data

- measured data combined from the two stages for 96-channel shot gather
- consistent wave magnitudes and propagation pattern



# Data analysis

- Test domain of 60 ft. depth x 120 ft. length x 30 ft. width is divided into 13,824 cells of 2.5x2.5x2.5 ft.
- 2 inversion runs at 12 and 22 Hz central frequencies
- 26 hours of computer time



Power spectrum



Initial model





Waveform comparison for 2 sample shots

### **Gainesville site results**





### Gainesville site: results at planes



Views of Different Distance (y axis) Note change in Vs (0 < y < 9m (30ft))

### Gainesville site: Vs vs. SPT









# **Newbery site**

- dry retention pond in Newberry
- 25 lines (A to Y) at 3 m spacing
- tested on a known void identified by 2D FWI in 2011
- test area of 36 x 12 m (120 x 40 ft)
- 48 receivers located in 12 x 4 grid
- 65 shots located in 13 x 5 grid
- 24 geophones twice
- PEG source



# Data analysis

- Test domain of 60 ft. depth x 120 ft. length x 40 ft. width is divided into 18,432 cells of 2.5x2.5x2.5 ft.
- 2 inversion runs at 12 and 22 Hz central frequencies
- 44 hours of computer time

z-axis [m]

5

10

15

y-axis [m]



Power spectrum



Initial model





Waveform comparison for 2 sample shots

### **Newberry site results**



**3D Limestone Pinnacle** 

### Newberry site: results at vertical planes

Line P

Line O





Line S





Line Q



SPT on Line Q



# Conclusion

- Both Vs and Vp could be characterized at high resolution (ft pixel) to 60 ft in depth by the 3-D FWI method.
- Buried voids could be identified to 3-diameter depth with surface measurement.
- 30-40 hours of computer time for each test area of 120 x 40 ft

### Thank You!

