

Determination of in-situ rock density and strength with SH-Love wave tomography

FDOT BED31-977-12 GRIP Meeting 2023

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

Principal Investigators: Khiem Tran, Ph.D. Michael McVay, Ph.D.

Graduate Assistant Aidin Kahbasi, PhD student

University of Florida



Presentation outline

- Introduction
- Project objectives
- Research approach
- Benefits of using SH and Love waves
- SH-Love FWI algorithm
- Synthetic experiment
- Field experiment at Bell site
- GUI development
- Conclusion



Introduction

- Detailed information on in-situ rock density and variability is important for the design and construction of shallow foundations.
- The recent FDOT projects BDV31-977-51 & BDV31-977-124 have shown that mass density (or unit weight) controls the rock strength as well as its stress-strain behavior for most Florida limestone formations.
- The current practice of measuring density is by weighing rock samples taken from limited borings within the footprint of the foundation.
- This project aims on developing a new method for determination of rock density and strength over a large volume without requirement of borings.





Project objectives

- The project objective is to develop an advanced testing system (hardware and software) for determination of rock density and strength.
- The system will enable to provide both density and strength at relevant resolutions (foot pixels) for entire rock volume supporting foundations without requirement of borings.
- The GUI module will be transferred to FDOT for future uses in site investigations of soil/rock properties and stratigraphy.



Research approach

- The research is to develop an SH-Love full waveform inversion (2D SH-Love FWI) method, which can characterize 2D density and S-wave velocity of subsurface soil/rock at foot-scale down to a depth of at least 30 ft.
- The horizontal shear (SH) and Love waves are generated by applying a horizontal source (e.g., horizontally striking sledgehammer on shear beam) and recorded by an array of horizontal geophones on the ground surface.
- The recorded waveform data are analyzed to extract density and S-wave velocity of the subsurface materials.







Seismic wave types

BODY WAVES





SURFACE WAVES





VectorMine (Dreamstime.com)



Benefits of using SH and Love waves

- SH and Love waves (horizontal source) are much more sensitive to material density than vertical S-wave, P-wave, and Rayleigh waves (P-SV) (vertical source), and thus the density could be extracted more accurately.
- SH-Love wave simulation requires less computing time (40% that of P-SV waves), and the 2D SH-Love FWI can be done quickly (15 minutes) in the field.
- Both density (ρ) and S-wave velocity (Vs) can be characterized. Shear (G) and Young (E) moduli can be computed for determination of shallow foundation's settlement and bearing capacity, and other geotechnical analyses.

$$G = \rho V_s^2$$
$$E = 2G(1 + v)$$



Task 1: Develop 2D SH-Love FWI algorithm

Forward modelling

$$\rho(x,z)\frac{\partial v_y}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial \sigma_{xy}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \sigma_{yz}}{\partial z} + f_y \qquad (1)$$

$$\frac{\partial \sigma_{xy}}{\partial t} = \mu(x, z) \frac{\partial v_y}{\partial x}$$
(2)

$$\frac{\partial \sigma_{yz}}{\partial t} = \mu(x, z) \frac{\partial v_y}{\partial z}$$
(3)



 ρ : density, $\mu = G = \rho V_s^2$

• Perfectly matched layers (PML) are applied at the bottom and vertical boundaries to absorb outgoing waves.



2D SH-Love FWI

- Model update (adjoint-state method)
 - Step 1. Calculate the residual between estimated data and observe data

$$\Delta \boldsymbol{d}_{s,r} = \boldsymbol{D}_{s,r}(\mathbf{m}) - \boldsymbol{d}_{s,r} \tag{4}$$

Step 2. Compute the Least-squares error

$$\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{m}) = \frac{1}{2} \Delta \boldsymbol{d}^T \Delta \boldsymbol{d}, \qquad (5)$$

Step 3. Compute the gradients (adjoint-state gradient approach)

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial V_s} = -\frac{2}{V_s^3 \rho} \sum_{i=1}^N \int_0^T dt (\sigma_{xy}^f \sigma_{xy}^b + \sigma_{yz}^f \sigma_{yz}^b), \tag{6}$$

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial \rho} = -\frac{1}{V_s^2 \rho^2} \sum_{i=1}^N \int_0^T dt (\sigma_{xy}^f \sigma_{xy}^b + \sigma_{yz}^f \sigma_{yz}^b + V_s^2 \rho^2 \frac{\partial v_y}{\partial t} u_y^b), \tag{7}$$



2D SH-Love FWI

Model update

 Step 4. Smooth gradients (Tikhonov regularization) to minimize the ill-posed inverse problem

$$\left(\frac{\partial E}{\partial V_s}\right)_r = \frac{\partial E}{\partial V_s} + \lambda_1 \boldsymbol{D} V_s \tag{8}$$

$$\left(\frac{\partial E}{\partial \rho}\right)_{r} = \frac{\partial E}{\partial \rho} + \lambda_{2} \boldsymbol{D} \rho \tag{9}$$

Step 5. update Vs and density models (steepest-descent method)

$$V_{s_{n+1}} = V_{s_n} - \alpha_n H_n^{-1} \left(\frac{\partial E}{\partial V_s}\right)_r, \qquad (10)$$

$$\rho_{n+1} = \rho_n - \beta_n \boldsymbol{H}_n^{-1} \left(\frac{\partial \boldsymbol{E}}{\partial \rho}\right)_r \quad , \tag{11}$$



Synthetic experiment





true model



initial model



Synthetic experiment







Waveform comparison

Residual



Synthetic results



First analysis at 5-25 Hz



Second analysis at 5-40 Hz



Synthetic results





Detailed comparison at two locations



Task 2: Optimize test configurations and wavefield characteristics

- Relate the characterized resolution with depth to test configurations and frequency content of data.
- Optimal test configurations
- Resolution is ¼ of wavelength
- 60 ft depth: test length 120 ft, geophone spacing of 5 ft and source spacing of 10 ft, data up to 40 Hz (15" pixel)
- 30 ft depth: test length 60 ft, geophone spacing of 2.5 ft and source spacing of 5 ft, data up to 80 Hz (7.5" pixel)





Task 3: Verify the 2D SH-Love FWI algorithm with field experiments

Bell site experiment





5' I-beam





Bell site experiment





Sample data







Bell site: data analysis

First run at 10-50 Hz
Second run at 10-80 Hz





Bell result: line 1





Bell result: line 2







Bell site





Comparison of inverted densities and coring sample's density



Task 4: Develop GUI software

- GUI for SH-Love FWI will be done in Matlab and converted to executable file
- Users can graphically input receivers/sources, condition and analyze data





Conclusion

- A new 2D SH-Love FWI method has been developed for characterization of rock density and strength.
- Synthetic results show that the method can characterize both mass density and Vs.
- Field results confirm that the rock density and strength can be characterized by the SH-Love FWI method. Soil/rock density from seismic testing seems consistent with those from coring samples.
- The method is expected to provide new capabilities of rock characterization for entire material volume supporting shallow foundations at high resolutions (foot pixels to 30 ft depth).



Thank You!

