# LMU Geophysics/Seismology

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# **Spatial Scales and Memory**

(back of the envelope)

Highest frequency: Shortest wavelength: Shortest wavelength: Grid points per wavelength: Grid spacing: Grid spacing:

0.1 Hz 20 km (crust) 50 km (mantle) 5 2000 m (crust) 5000 m (mantle)





Marchantering

Required grid points: O(10<sup>9</sup>) Required memory: O(100 GBytes)



#### The FORWARD Problem



#### Elastic Wave Equations

theory of linear elasticity

(stress-strain, Hooke's law)

+ Newton´s law (acceleration through forces caused by stress) =

velocity-stress formulation (linear hyperbolic system)

In a heterogeneous medium:

space-dependent material coefficients Lamé constants:  $\lambda = \lambda(x,y,z)$ ,  $\mu = \mu(x,y,z)$ , density  $\rho = \rho(x,y,z)$   $\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\sigma_{xx} - (\lambda + 2\mu)\frac{\partial}{\partial x}u - \lambda\frac{\partial}{\partial u}v - \lambda\frac{\partial}{\partial z}w = 0,$  $\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\sigma_{yy} - \lambda \frac{\partial}{\partial u}v - (\lambda + 2\mu)\frac{\partial}{\partial u}v - \lambda \frac{\partial}{\partial z}w = 0,$  $\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\sigma_{zz} - \lambda \frac{\partial}{\partial x}u - \lambda \frac{\partial}{\partial u}v - (\lambda + 2\mu)\frac{\partial}{\partial z}w = 0,$  $\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\sigma_{xy} - \mu(\frac{\partial}{\partial x}v + \frac{\partial}{\partial y}u) = 0,$  $\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\sigma_{xz} - \mu(\frac{\partial}{\partial z}u + \frac{\partial}{\partial x}w) = 0,$  $\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\sigma_{yz} - \mu(\frac{\partial}{\partial z}v + \frac{\partial}{\partial y}w) = 0,$  $\rho \frac{\partial}{\partial t} u - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \sigma_{xx} - \frac{\partial}{\partial u} \sigma_{xy} - \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \sigma_{xz} = 0,$  $\rho \frac{\partial}{\partial t} v - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \sigma_{xy} - \frac{\partial}{\partial u} \sigma_{yy} - \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \sigma_{yz} = 0,$  $\rho \frac{\partial}{\partial t} w - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \sigma_{xz} - \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \sigma_{yz} - \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \sigma_{zz} = 0.$ 

#### Structure of the Hyperbolic System

Compact vector-matrix notation gives

$$\frac{\partial Q_p}{\partial t} + A_{pq} \frac{\partial Q_q}{\partial x} + B_{pq} \frac{\partial Q_q}{\partial y} + C_{pq} \frac{\partial Q_q}{\partial z} = 0,$$

with the vector of unknowns and Jacobian matrices

# Numerical methods



- Finite Differences (high order, optimal operators)
- Pseudospectral methods (Chebyshev, Fourier)
- Finite/spectral elements on hexahedral grids
- Unstructured (tetrahedral) grids (finite volumes/elements, natural neighbours, discontinuous Galerkin) or combinations
- Parallelization using MPI (message passing interface)

## Spectral element techniques



#### Discontinuous Galerkin Method



# The (structural) inverse problem



Data vector d:

Traveltimes of phases observed at stations of the world wide seismograph network, now we move to complete waveforms

Model m:

3-D seismic velocity model in the Earth's mantle. Discretization using splines, spherical harmonics, Chebyshev polynomials or simply blocks.

Sometimes 10000s of travel times (millions of seismogram samples) and a large number of model blocks: underdetermined system

### Model Uncertainties – Degrees of Freedom Decreasing misfit



Increasing model complexity Increasing number of degrees of freedom

after L. Boschi (2007)

# Scientific problems Geodynamics



Courtesy: G. Jahnke

Courtesy: H.P. Bunge, B. Schuberth

## scientific problems Earthquake scenarios



- Accurate forecasting of hazard and risk scenarios for specific regions and time intervals
- Incorporation of earthquake scenario simulations into probabilistic hazard analysis





## ... and now ...

- Andreas Fichtner: seismic waveform inversion as an adjoint problem
- Heiner Igel: probabilistic desccription of inverse problems – Monte Carlo Methods
- Karin Fichtner: finite frequency tomography and relevance for geodynamic issues

## ... some key questions ...

related to waveform inversion

- How can we properly quantify uncertainties of the inverted model(s)
- How can we properly visualize uncertainties in large-dimensional model spaces
- Can we quantitatively describe prior information on Earth's structure?
- Should we find optimal parameterizations of Earth models?