Unified Structural Representation (USR) of the Southern California Crust and Upper Mantle



3D velocity structure has a primary control on the intensity and distribution of hazardous ground shaking

- Rupture nucleation & dynamics
- Wave propagation
- Wave guides & focusing
- Wave amplification & resonance





3D velocity structures are inherently complex, presenting challenges in their representation



• Velocity structure is heterogeneous over a wide range of scales

• Velocity measurements vary in type, abundance, scale, and frequency

• Tectonically active regions generally have complex structures that reflect a long geologic history



- An object-oriented, 3D description of crust and upper mantle velocity and fault structure in southern California
- The USR development workflow seeks to use the best available data and techniques to constrain velocity structurre, and to ensures internal consistency of model components

California tectonic history

California represents a portion of a much larger, long-lived plate boundary

• convergent plate boundary tectonics originate at least as early as the Carboniferous (Antler Orogeny)

• *"California tectonics"* generally initiated in the Jurassic with accretion of island arc terrains and east directed subduction





California tectonic history

This history defines the primary "fabric" of California

• Arc – Sierra Nevada Block & associated igneous terrains [Jurassic – Cretaceous granitoid rocks]

• Forearc basin - Great Valley Sequence [Jurassic – Paleocene forearc basin deposits]

• Accretionary complex - Franciscan Complex [Jurassic – Paleocene accretionary prism and oceanic crustal rocks, highP – lowT metamorphism]





California velocity structure

California is characterized by a paired set of high and low velocity regions running through the center of the state.

- High velocity arc
- Low velocity forearc
- High velocity rocks associated with subducted lithosphere





California velocity structure

However, this patterns is substantially modified in southern California.

• "Capture" of the Monterey micro plate by Pacific plate motions: rifting and transtension along southern California in the Miocene

• Transition to modern transpressional tectonics in the late Miocene to Pliocene



California plate tectonics (Atwater, 2011)



Structure of the California Crust

Crustal thickness

• Continental crust is generally thickest beneath mountain ranges, most of which have felsic igneous sections.

• Crust is generally thinner in areas of crustal extension due to rifting and transform plate tectonics. These areas include many of the major sedimentary basins.



Depth to the Moho

Tape et al., (2010)

Basin structure of the California Crust

Coastal basins

 Southern California coastal basins (Los Angeles, Ventura-Santa Barbara, Santa Maria) formed during early Tertiary transtension associated with block rotations.

• Late Tertiary thrusting and sedimentation led to further basin subsidence.







USR development workflow begins with the definition of geological and geophysical horizons that represent important velocity interfaces.



Geological & geophysical surfaces in velocity modeling

Geologic section

Velocity model



Industry sonic logs





Compensated Sonic Log Tool



Süss & Shaw (2003)



Defining the basement surface



Defining the basement surface



Industry data coverage



Basement structure in the SCEC CVM/USR



Basement structure and faults



Faults locally offset the basement and other geological horizons, and thus influence velocity structure.

SCEC Unified Structural Representation (USR)



SCEC Community Fault Model (CFM)



Community Fault Model (CFM)



integrates many types of data that constrain fault geometries
interpolated and extrapolated fault patches
alternative fault representations

Plesch et al., (2005)

CFM 5.0 – many faults are more highly segmented, and include more precise segment linkages based on Qfault traces and seismicity.



Faulted basement surface



The locations and displacements of major faults are represented in the geologic surfaces that comprise the USR.



SCEC Unified Structural Representation (USR) Workflow



1) Definition of geological and geophysical horizons

2) Incorpration of fault locations and displacements

3) Parameterization of sediment velocities

SCEC CVMS 4.0 – Sediment Velocities (Magistrale, Day, Clayton, & Graves, 2000, 2005)

• Vp is defined at stratigraphic boundaries as a function of depth(Z) and age (T) using Faust's law:

 $v_{\text{int}} = \alpha (ZT)^{1/6}$

• relation is calibrated using well control

• Vp is linearly interpolated between stratigraphic horizons



CVM-S – Rule based



Additional parameters to constrain velocity structure

Velocity gradients as a function of total basin depth

Salton Trough







Lovely et al., (2007)

Velocity as a function of depth and total basin depth

Salton Trough



Lovely et al., (2007)

Velocity parameterization through geostatistical interpretation



Industry velocity data



Velocity parameterization through kriging

Velocity data in Inner California Borderlands



Rivero et al., 2004

Variance analysis



Define correlation elipsoid



Velocity parameterization through kriging

Velocity interpolation based on spatially weighted mean



Rivero et al., 2004
Rule-based model



Geostatistical model

Depth slices through parameterized model



-600m



-1600m



-2600m



Süss & Shaw (2003)

-3600m



-4600m



3

-5600m

0

6 km/s

Lithologic control on velocity

- Vp low in shales
- Vp high in sands



Depositional systems



Basinfloor fan deposits resolved in velocity model of the LA basin



Velocity slice at 3600m



Deveoping Vs and r models for basins

Co-registered Vp and r models are developed using empirical relations among these properties



Brocher et al., 2005

The best parameterization approach depends on local structure and abundance of velocity measurements

Geostat based ..

Rule based (D)

Rule based (D & D)

2000

Vp (m/s)

3000

4000



5000

SCEC Unified Structural Representation (USR) Workflow



1) Definition of geological and geophysical horizons

2) Incorpration of fault locations and displacements

3) Parameterization of sediment velocities

4) Embed basins in consistent crust and upper mantle V models

Crustal models



After Hauksson et al. (2000)

• To ensure internal consistency between basin and crustal velocity representations, basin structures are used as input for Vp and Vs tomographic (travel-time based) models

• Models were developed using the inversion code SIMULPS (Thurber, 1993) and travel time P and S-P picks from the Southern California Seismic Network to determine gridded Vp and Vp/Vs models with linear interpolation between adjacent nodes.



After Tanimoto (UCSB)

SCEC Unified Structural Representation (USR) Workflow



1) Definition of geological and geophysical horizons

2) Incorpration of fault locations and displacements

3) Parameterization of sediment velocities

4) Embed basins in crust and upper mantle V models

5) Iteration of velocity models using 3D waveform tomography

3D adjoint waveform tomography updates





Full inversion uses more than 200 events, requiring 6800 wavefield simulations, implemented in 16 tomographic iterations.





Lee, E.-J., P. Chen, T. H. Jordan, P. B. Maechling, M. A. M. Denolle, and G. C. Beroza (2014), Full-3-D tomography for crustal structure in Southern California based on the scattering-integral and the adjoint-wavefield methods, *J. Geophys. Res. Solid Earth*, 119, doi:10.1002/2014JB011346.

3D waveform tomography (F3DT)

SCEC USR Components

- Basin structures
- Crustal tomographic models
- Teleseismic upper mantle models
- Waveform tomography improvements



Geotechnical Layer (GTL)



Shaw et al., (2013)

• GTL's are shallow (< 300 m) velocity descriptions that are necessary for many local seismological and engineering applications.

• The USR/CVM has an optional GTL overlay based on Vs30 measurements.

$$V_{\text{S}}(z) = f(z)V_{\text{ST}} + g(z)V_{\text{S30}}$$

$$V_P(z) = f(z)V_{PT} + g(z)P(V_{S30})$$

Where z' is depth, V_{ST} and V_{PT} are S- and P-wave velocities extracted from the crustal velocity model at depth z_T , P () is the Brocher (2005) P-wave velocity scaling law, and:

$$z=z'/z_T$$

f(z) = z+b(z-z^2)
g(z)=a-az+c(z^2+2z-3z)

Geotechnical Layer (GTL)



Shaw et al., (2013)

• This process ensure smooth transitions between GTL and underlying model components

SCEC USR Components

- Basin structures
- Crustal tomographic models
- Teleseismic upper mantle models
- Waveform tomography improvements
- GTL















SCEC USR - CVMH



Inner Borderlands

Salton Trough





Shaw et al., (2013)

USR in SONGS study area



Shaw et al., (2013)

Basin velocity profiles





Basin velocity profiles





Shaw et al., (2013)

SCEC Unified Structural Representation (USR) Workflow



1) Definition of geological and geophysical horizons

2) Incorpration of fault locations and displacements

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5) Iteration of velocity models using 3D waveform tomography

6) Evaluating model performance & applications

Evaluating the Community Models



Comparison of recorded data (black traces) and synthetics (red traces) for station RUS

Average goodness-of-fit (perfect fit = 100) at 0.1-0.5 Hz for synthetics relative to data.

Olsen et al.

M7.8 ShakeOut Simulations in Alternative 3D Seismic Velocity Models

Rob Graves, USGS

- Panels below show peak ground velocity simulated for the three alternative CVMs. The plot at left (CVM-S4) is the original ShakeOut result from Graves et al (2008). The middle panel uses the CVM-Si23 update to CVM-S4 and the right panel is from CVM-H11.9.0.
- Along the fault, the general pattern is similar for all three models and is dominated by rupture directivity toward the Northwest.
- Other features are present in some models but not all. For example, both CVM-S4 and CVM-Si23 show strong amplification in San Bernardino, whereas CVM-H11.9.0 shows only modest amplification. On the other hand, both CVM-Si23 and CVM-H11.9.0 show strong amplification in the area north of San Fernando (Santa Clarita-Fillmore basin), but this feature is not present in CVM-S4.
- The Los Angeles basin region shows very strong amplification for CVM-S4 with PGV exceeding 50 cm/s throughout most of the basin, and reaching nearly 200 cm/s in the Whitter-Narrows region connecting the San Gabriel and LA basins. The level of amplification is noticeably reduced in CVM-Si23, and it is significantly reduced in CVM-H11.9.0.

Strong ground motion forecasting

Strong ground motion forecasting

(b) Peak ground velocity using SoCal-1D

(c) Peak ground velocity using CVM-H

Tape et al., (2014)

Developing Unified Structural Representations is a collaborative effort

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SCEC ERI Workshop

Monday 3:30-6:30pm: **3D Structural Velocity Modeling/USR Framework**

Goal: This afternoon's exercises are designed to familiarize you with the components of 3D structural velocity models, including basin structures, faults, and velocity parameterizations. We will accomplish this using the SCEC Unified Structural Representation (USR) for southern California and two tools developed to access and use this model: SCEC VDO, and interactive 3D visualization tool, and UCVM, which allows you to extract velocity values from these models.

Schedule3:30 pm:Laptop setup, virtual box instructions

3:45pm: SCEC-VDO: Structural components Basics: navigation, loading plugins and datasets Visualizing faults: SCEC CFM Visualizing geologic surfaces: Basement and Moho surfaces Exercise: Examining faults that affect the Basement surface
Monday 3:30-6:30pm: **3D Structural Velocity Modeling/USR Framework**

4:15pm: SCEC-VDO: Exploring velocity models Examining velocity cross-sections Examining velocity maps Exercise: Comparing velocity structures and geologic surfaces

4:45 – 5pm: BREAK

5pm:UCVMIntroduction to the UCVM frameworkPlotting cross sections and mapsExercise: Comparing alternative velocity parameterizationsExtracting 1-D velocity profilesExercise Evaluating basin velocity structures

6:30 Conclude

Challenges in USR development

• Consistent representations of other seismic parameters (e.g., attenuation)

• Frequency dependence of velocity and other seismic properties

• Representing small scale velocity heterogeneity (stochastic approaches)

 Incorporating new local constraints on velocity structure in 3D waveform tomographic inversions

• Maintaining and distributing a growing inventory of models and model iterations

High-frequency velocity structure

Plesch, Shaw, Jordan, Song (2014)

The CVM-H was parameterized using a smoothed version of sonic log data.

Comparison of the CVM-H 11.9 with the original log data reveals the nature of high-frequency velocity structure that is not captured by the model, but can be represented statistically.



Stochastic Descriptions of Basin Velocity Structure from Analyses of Sonic Logs and the SCEC Community Velocity Model (CVM-H)

A. Plesch, J. H. Shaw, T. Jordan, X. Song

Results:

- LA basin wide analysis shows a 6.5% overall variability in Vp relative to CVM-H for the small (7m) length scale, and that the variability distribution is not Gaussian.

variogram analyses reveals a (maximum) vertical correlation distance for Vp of 80-100m

- analyses of clustered wells in Wilmington field data (right) shows horizontal correlation distance for Vp of \approx 1000m.



Wilmington field: 70 well paths on 7km x 2.5km with data, >1.1 million samples of interval travel times by logging tools (converted to Vp); logs in yellow and tops as spheres



Faulted basement surface

Faults can act as both basin boundaries and internal structures that offset horizons





