

Geop480: Lectures (19)

Engineering Seismology-2

The Refraction Microtremor (ReMi) Method

Previous Lecture: REMI

Refraction Microtremor (ReMi) Technique

- Based on two fundamental ideas
- 1) Standard refraction equipment deployed similar to a shallow P-wave refraction survey to record ambient "background" noise (microtremor)
- Depth of recording is a function of the array length, natural frequency of the geophones used, and the subsurface velocities
- 2) Slowness-frequency ($s-f$) transformation of the recorded microtremor
- Generate V_p profiles from other systems (seismic) and apply corrections that adjust velocity against elevation

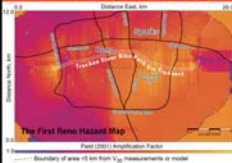
Solution For Environmental Risk

Landslides in FAIFA, SW Saudi Arabia



From: Dr. Ali Shuhaimi, Dec 19, 2006

Constructing Hazard Map



Refraction Microtremor for Shallow Shear Velocity



Outline

- Remi
- Equipment
- Data Acquisition
- Remi Method
- Case Works

Equipment Needed

> Multi-channel seismograph

- 12 or 24 channels
- capable of recording at least 4 seconds of data per channel at 1-2 ms sampling intervals

> Vertical P-wave geophones & sufficiently long cable for desired depth of investigation

- Measure Rayleigh wave dispersion

> Ambient or induced surface wave energy

- noisy site (urban traffic, airport, construction, mining)
- Jogging, driving vehicle along array, striking a hammer etc

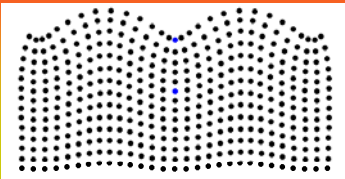
> Laptop / PC with SeisOpt® ReMi™ software for analysis

- Takes 2 to 3 hours for data acquisition and analysis



A courtesy of Dr. Sarah P. Herrmann

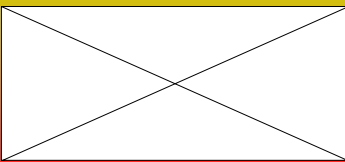
Rayleigh Wave Dispersion



What is dispersion?

Dispersion is the apparent surface-wave velocity that depends on the period and reflects the velocity variation with depth. Dispersion appears on a seismogram as different periods arriving at different times.

From: <http://www.kettering.edu/~drussell/Demos/waves/wavemotion.html>

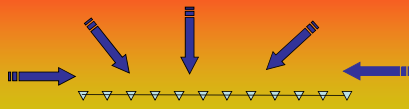


http://www.uwm.edu/~bketter/Research/Surface_Theory/Dispersion/dispersion_index.html

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ReMi Data Acquisition



Linear array of vertical P-wave geophones recording ambient noise



ReMi @ Phoenix Airport and ReMi inside a house (courtesy Mike Rucker, AMEC)

A courtesy from Dr. Sarah Pollock@cam.ac.uk

ReMi for Shallow Shear Velocity

Low-frequencies, 1-20 Hz, *so bad* geophone plants still work.



From 2008 Presentation of Dr. J. Li

ReMi for Shallow Shear Velocity

Fieldwork is quick and simple; best results



From 2008 Presentation of Dr. J. Li

ReMI for Shallow Shear Velocity

Fieldwork is quick and simple; **best results**



From: 2005 Presentation of Dr. J. Louie

VUW, Optim LLC

ReMI for Shallow Shear Velocity

Fieldwork is quick and simple; **best results** in cities.



From: 2005 Presentation of Dr. Louie

Initial funding from SCEC, UNR,
VUW, Optim LLC

REMI SURVEY: KFUPM



Here is what students are applying several actions as walking, running and jumping to generate adequate energy for a record of ground motion, which is required for REFRACTION MICROTREMOR (REMI).

Outline

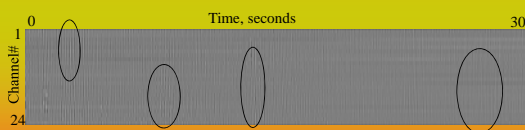
- Remi
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ReMi Method

- Acquire 10-30 seconds microtremor data at 2ms sampling along a linear array.
- Array length depends on depth of investigation. Crooked line geometry can be handled. Thomson and Claerbout, 1985

Step 1: p-τ transformation

$$A(p \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow \Delta p, \tau = k dt) = \Sigma A(x \rightarrow dx, t = dt = \tau + px)$$



Transforming data from the T-X domain into p-τ domain where p is the ray parameter or slowness, $p = \Delta t / \Delta x = 1/V$, and $\tau = t - p \cdot x$

pp 80, Gadallah and Fisher, 2005

A courtesy of Dr. Sarah Profoundos

ReMi Method

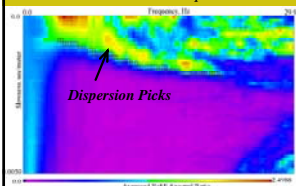
Step 2: Fourier transformation

$$F_A(p, f) = \Sigma A(p, \tau = k dt) e^{i 2 \pi m df k dt}$$

Step 3: Velocity Spectral Analysis : Power spectrum Louie, 2001

$$S_A(p, f) = F_A^*(p, f) F_A(p, f)$$

$$S_A(|p|, f) = [S_A(p, f)]_{p > 0} + [S_A(-p, f)]_{p < 0} : S_{total}(|p|, f) = \Sigma S_{A_n}(p, f)$$

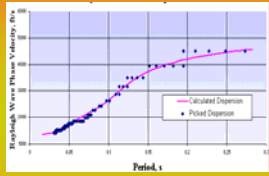


Lower limit of the apparent phase velocities can be recognized as the true phase velocities (Louie, 2001)

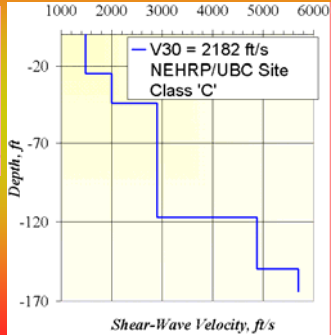
A courtesy of Dr. Sarah Profoundos

ReMi Method

Step 4: Interactive Forward Velocity Modeling



- Avoids ambiguities associated with inversion, while providing the user with ability to include constraints while modeling



ReMi Method: Advantages

- Data acquisition and analysis takes about **three hours**
- No physical restrictions beyond required line deployment space, minimal permitting
 - Data can be acquired along roads, in buildings & at active construction sites
- No specialized recording equipment required
 - Standard refraction seismograph & refraction P-wave geophones
- No artificial seismic source
 - Uses ambient noise: "Quiet" site not required
- Can be used offshore as effectively as on-shore

A courtesy of Dr. Robert Herrmann

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