

GPH 542

Physics of Earthquake Source I

(3+0+0) 3

Course Description

This graduate level course presents a basic study of seismic sources and the fundamentals for the mathematical description of the earthquake process. It introduces techniques necessary for understanding of the moment tensor representation of faulting geometry, the low and high frequency characteristics of seismic waveforms and the basic concept of earthquake magnitude.

Technical Requirements

The student is expected to be familiar with basic concepts of elasticity, linear algebra, vector calculus, integral theorems for vector fields, partial differential equations with particular emphasis to wave equation. Knowledge of basic digital signal processing tools (Fourier Transform, Digital Signal Processing) are required and [MATLAB®](#) will be used intensively throughout the course.

Staff

Instructor:
Prof. Dr. Mustafa AKTAR

Syllabus

Point sources. Near field, far field radiation. Equivalent body forces. Double couple sources. Elastostatic. Elastodynamic. Seismic moment tensor. Radiation pattern. Fault plane solutions. Finite sources. Rupture models. Haskell Source. Source directivity. Source spectrum. Fault geometry and corner frequency. Stress drop, rupture velocity. Magnitude. Energy.

Program

week 1

week 2 Elastostatic I

Derivation of basic equation for equilibrium:
Newton Eq. + Hooke's eq. + Displacem/strain + Helmholtz Eq.
Solution to homogeneous wave equation: solenoidal and irrotational fields
PDE for displacement potentials: Poisson Eq.
Solution to Poisson Eq.: Somigliana Tensors

- week 3 Elastostatic II**
 Empirical definition of moment $F \cdot dx = cte = \text{moment}$
 Static displacement due to Single Couple
 Static displacement due to Double Couple
 Representing couples or double couples in a matrix form: Moment Tensor
 General properties of the Moment Tensor as matrix (sum diag=0, symmetric, $\text{eig}1=0$)
 Introduction to eigenvalues of the Moment Tensor, coordinate transforms
- week 4 Elastodynamics:**
 Inhomogeneous wave equation
 Laplace Equation with inhomogeneous terms, PDE for displacement field
 Solution to inhomogeneous wave equation: impulse in time & space to general form
 Classic Stoke's solution: near field and far field terms
 From single force to Single Couple and then to Double Couple, moment rate function
 Radiation Patterns terms: P-wave, SV-wave and SH-wave
- week 5 The Seismic Moment Tensor**
 What each terms of the moment tensor describes
 Obtain moment tensor starting from Tension, pressure and null axis
 Green's function for P, SV and SH components
 Expressing a moment tensor as sum of elementary moment tensors ?
 Dipoles turns into double couple by 45 degree rotation
 What is CLVD
 Decomposition of general (non-double-couple) moment tensor
- week 6 Determination of Fault Orientation:**
 Body waves: P and S
 Focal sphere near the source
 Takeoff angles
 Stereographic and Equal area projection
- week 7 Mid-Term Exam**
- week 8 Earthquake Kinematics and Dynamics, friction**
 Coulomb-Mohr Criteria
 Byerlee Law
 Anderson theory of faulting
 Mohr Circle
 Static and Dynamic friction
 Stick-slip behavior
 Stable sliding
 Strength of a rock
 Stress drop
 Slip weakening
 Velocity weakening
 Failure envelope
 Particle velocity
 Healing of a fault front
 Kostrov and Heaton models for rupture propagation
- week 9 1-D Haskell Source, Directivity effect**
 Farfield displacement for point source
 Farfield displacement for rectangular source
 What is rupture time, presentation as a boxcar function
 What is rise time, presentation as a boxcar function

Displacement is the convolution of two boxcars: Trapezoid
Two sources of delay for rectangular seismic source
The delay due to rupture propagation
The delay due to shortening or extension of ray path
Directivity expression as the sum of two delay term

week 10 The Source Spectrum: corner freq. source size
Spectrum of a Haskell source: product of two sinc functions
Corner frequencies: rupture time estimation, slip time estimation
Slope of the spectrum
Estimation of spectral parameters : real life exemple
More complicated spectral representations

week 11 Stress Drop, particle Velocity, Rupture Velocity
What is stress drop
How the stress drop relates to the fault dimension
Stress drop in intra and inter-plate earthquakes
How does stress drop relates to the seismic moment
How does stress drop relates to particle velocity
How does stress drop relates to rupture velocity

week 12 Magnitude of Earthquakes
Local magnitudes (Richter - m_l)
Body wave magnitude (m_b)
Surface wave magnitude (M_s)
How does various magnitude definition relates to spectrum
Magnitude saturation
Moment Magnitude

week 13 Self-similarity of earthquakes
Seismic Energy and magnitude
Seismic Energy and moment
Self-similarity
meaning of b-values
estimation of b-values

Readings

Primary Textbook:

Modern Global Seismology
Thorne Lay and T.C. Wallace
ISBN 0-534-37164-7
Academic Press, 1995
(Chapters 2, 8-9)

Additional Readings:

An Introduction to Seismology
Seth Stein and Michael Wysession
ISBN 0-886542-078-5
Blackwell Publishing, 2003

The Complex Faulting Process of Earthquakes

Junji Koyama
ISBN 0-7923-4499-5
Kluwer Academic Publishers, 1997

The Mechanics of Earthquake Faulting
Christopher H. Sholz
ISBN 0-521-33443-8
Cambridge University Press, 1990