

“Exploring” spherical-wave reflection coefficients

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Research Report: Ursenbach & Haase, “An efficient method for
calculating spherical-wave reflection coefficients”

Outline

- Motivation: Why spherical waves?
- Theory: How to calculate efficiently
- Application: Testing exponential wavelet
- Analysis: What does the calculation “look” like?
- Deliverable: The Explorer
- Future Work: Possible directions

Motivation

- Spherical wave effects have been shown to be significant near critical angles, even at considerable depth

See poster: Haase & Ursenbach, “Spherical wave AVO-modelling in elastic isotropic media”

- Spherical-wave AVO is thus important for long-offset AVO, and for extraction of density information

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Spherical Wave Theory

- One obtains the potential from integral over all p :

$$\phi_{PP}(\omega) = Ai\omega \exp(-i\omega t) \int_0^\infty R_{PP}(p) J_0(\omega pr) \exp[i\omega\xi(h+z)] \frac{p}{\xi} dp$$

- Computing the gradient yields displacements

$$u(\omega) = \nabla \phi(\omega)$$

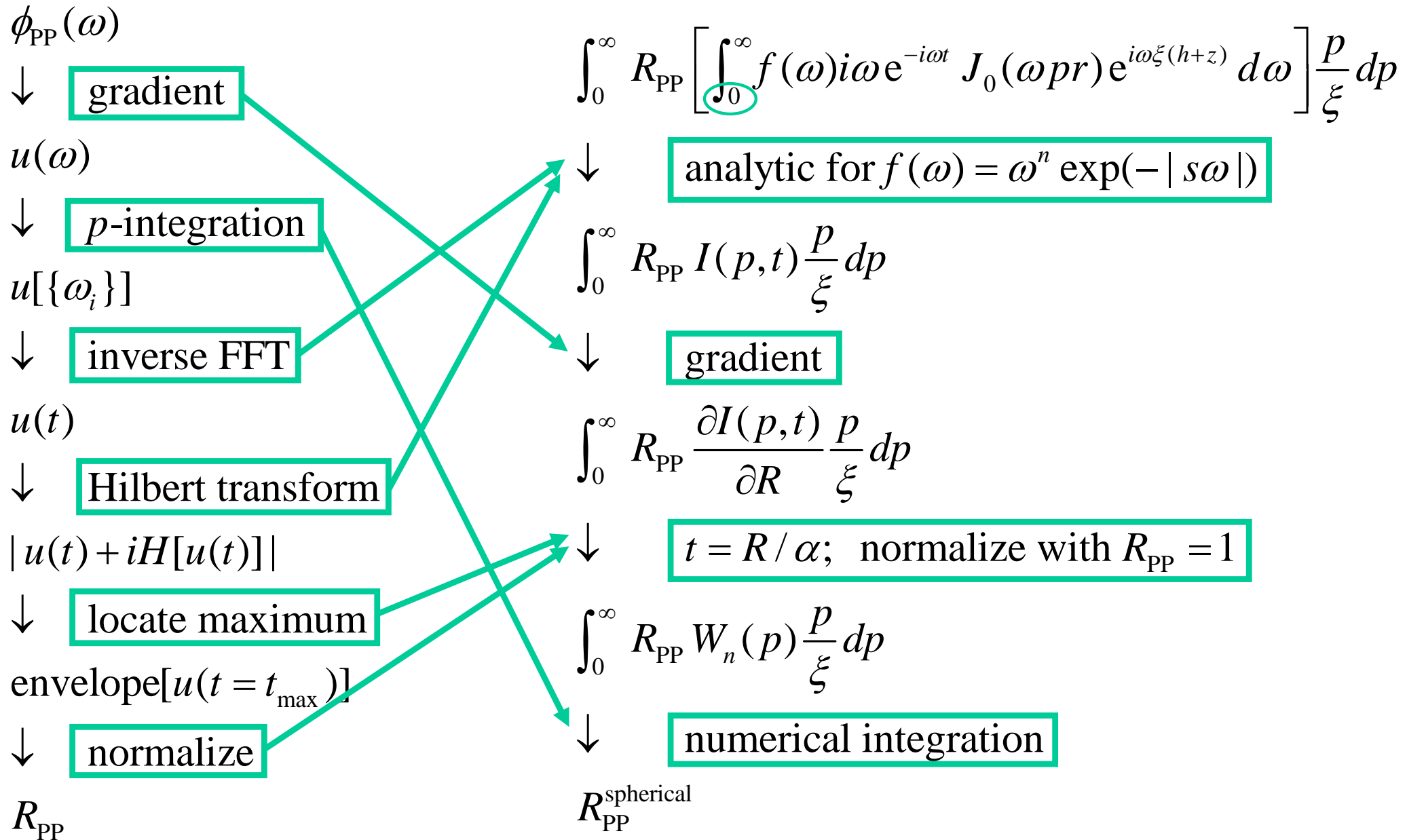
- Integrate over all frequencies to obtain trace

$$u(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(\omega) u(\omega) d\omega$$

- Extract AVO information: $R_{PP}^{\text{spherical}}$

Hilbert transform \rightarrow envelope; Max. amplitude; Normalize

Alternative calculation route



Outline

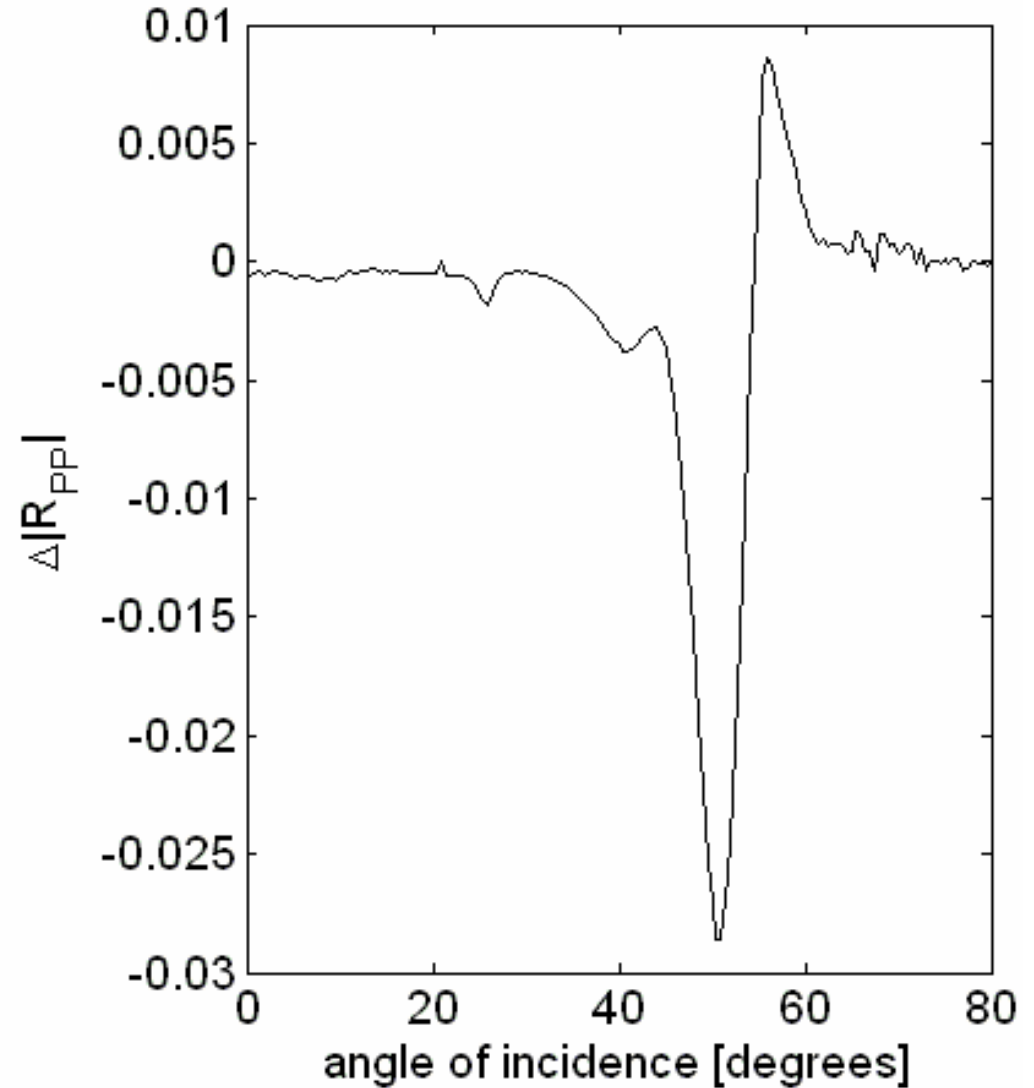
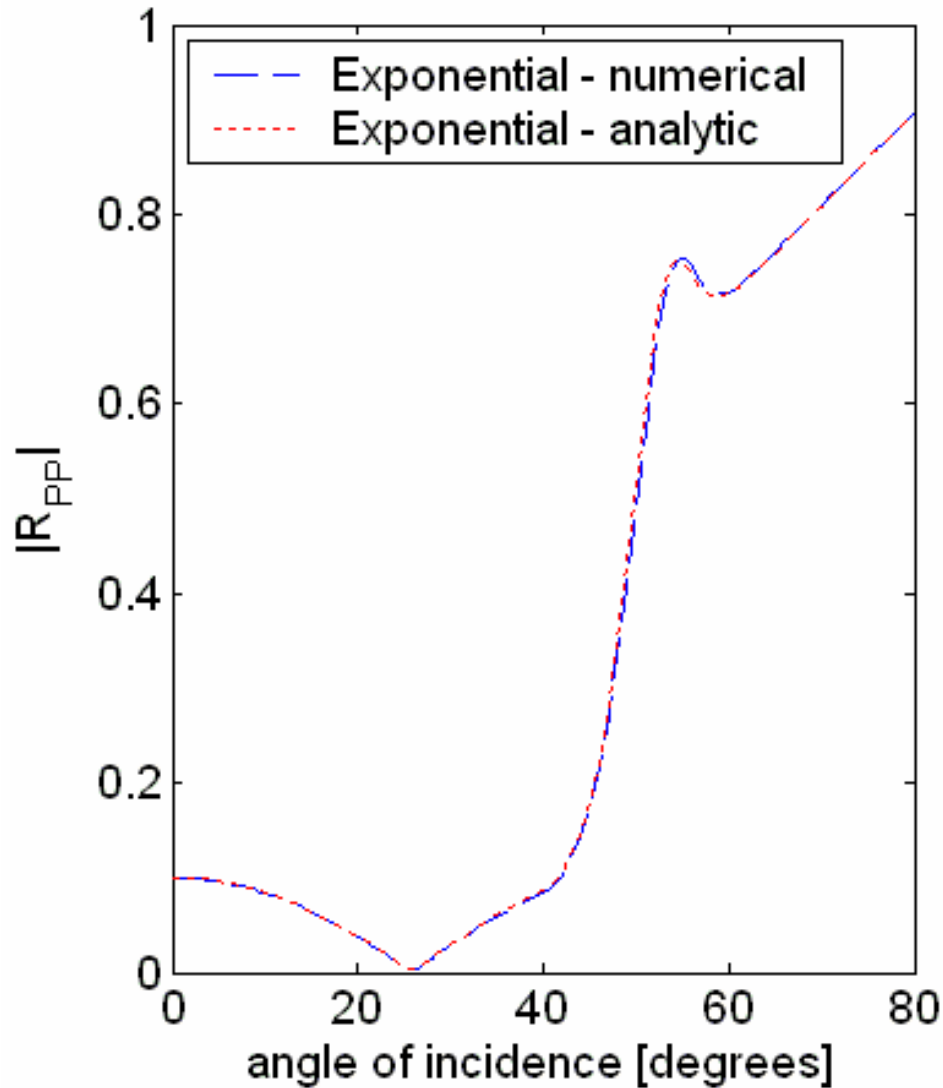
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Class I AVO application

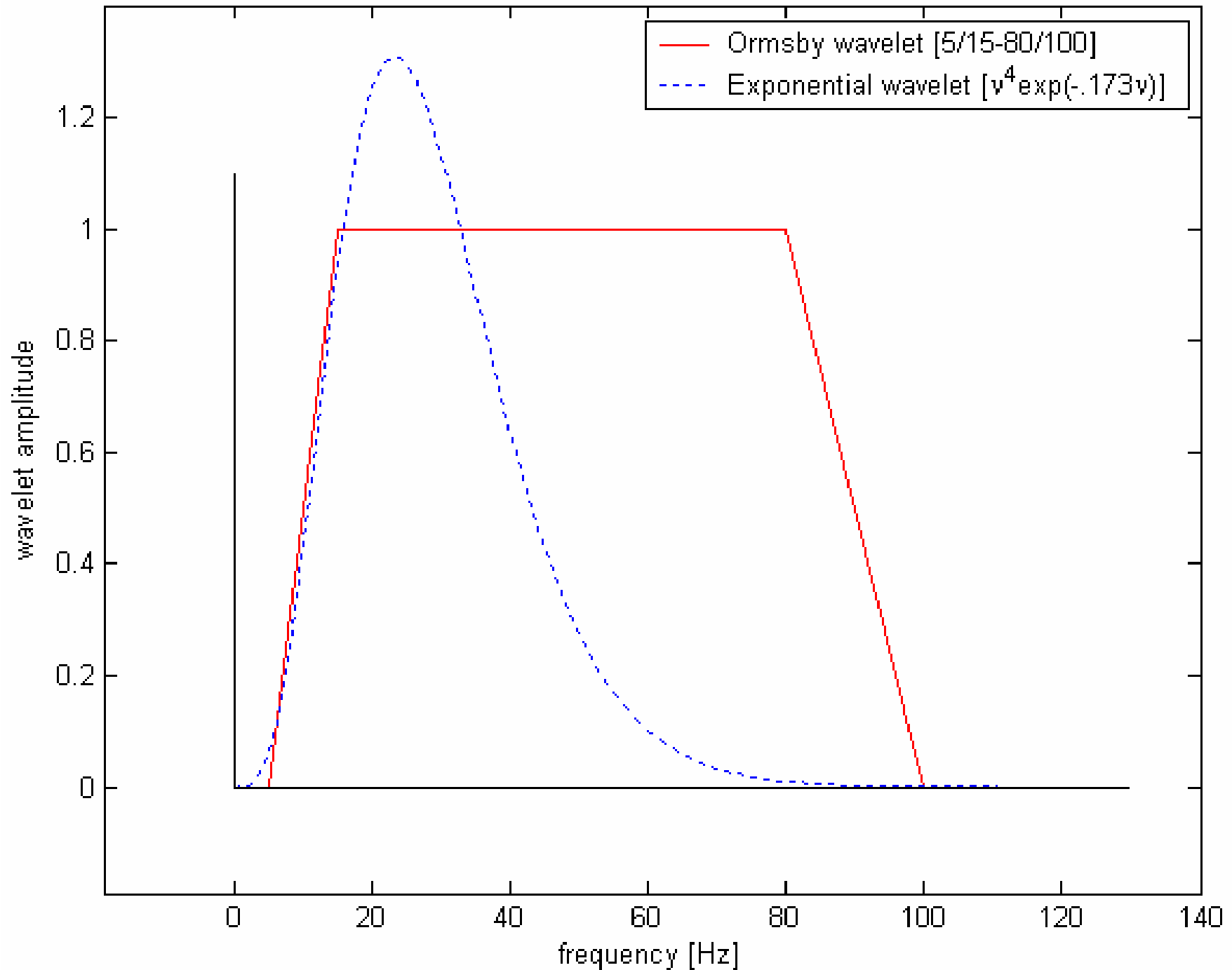
- Values given by Haase (CSEG, 2004; SEG, 2004)
- Possesses critical point at $\sim 43^\circ$

	Upper Layer	Lower Layer
V_P (m/s)	2000	2933.33
V_S (m/s)	879.88	1882.29
ρ (kg/m ³)	2400	2000

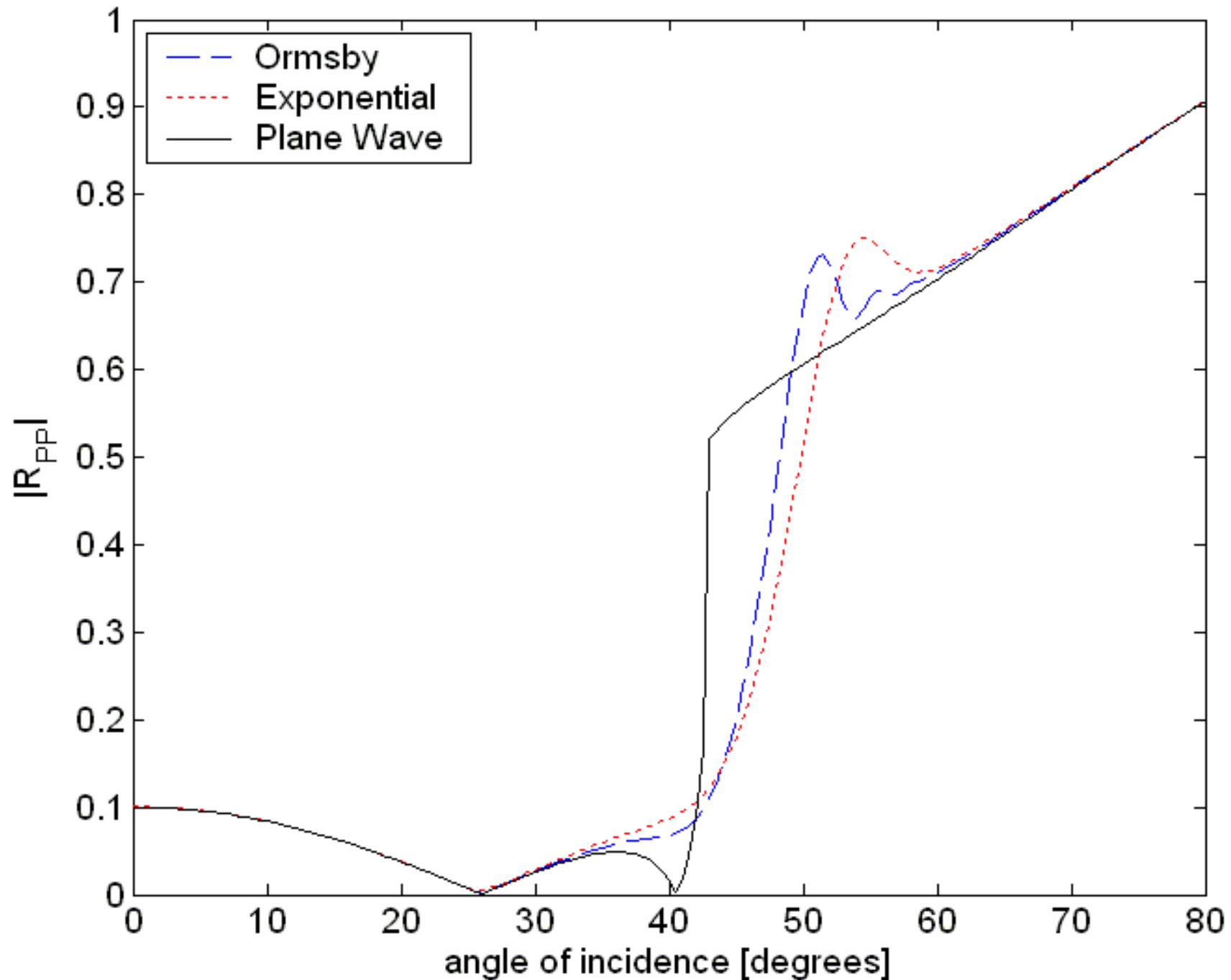
Test of method for

$$f(\nu) = \nu^4 \exp(-[.173 \text{ Hz}^{-1}]\nu)$$


Wavelet comparison



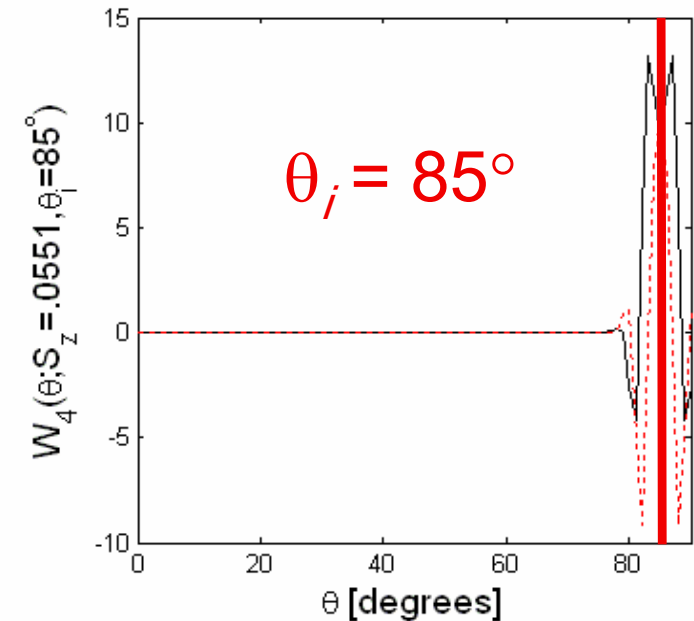
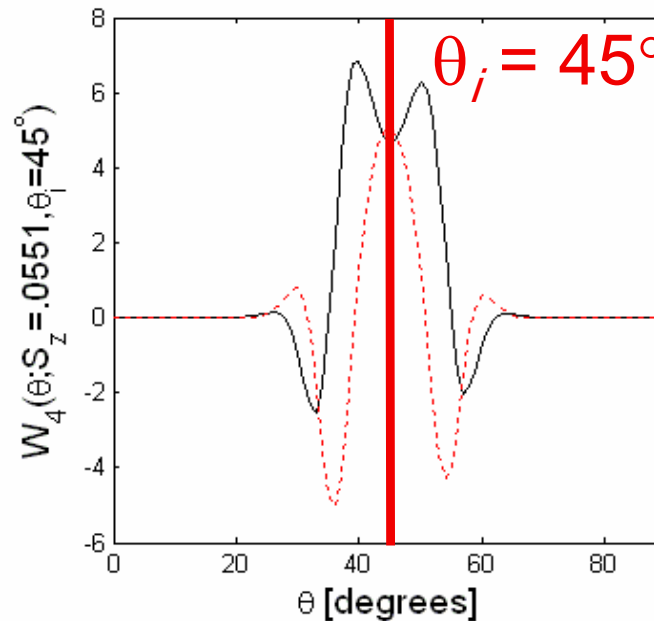
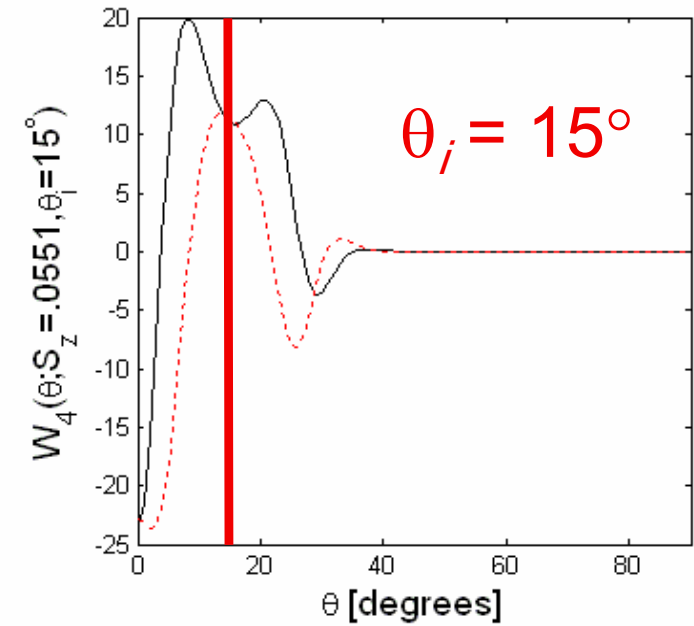
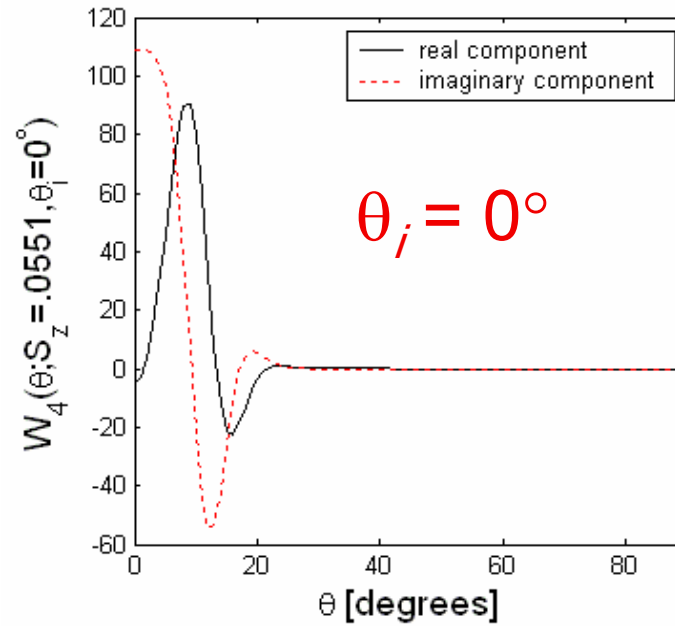
Spherical R_{PP} for differing wavelets



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Behavior of W_n



$$R_{\text{PP}}^{\text{spherical}} = \int_0^\infty R_{\text{PP}} W_n(p) \frac{p}{\xi} dp,$$

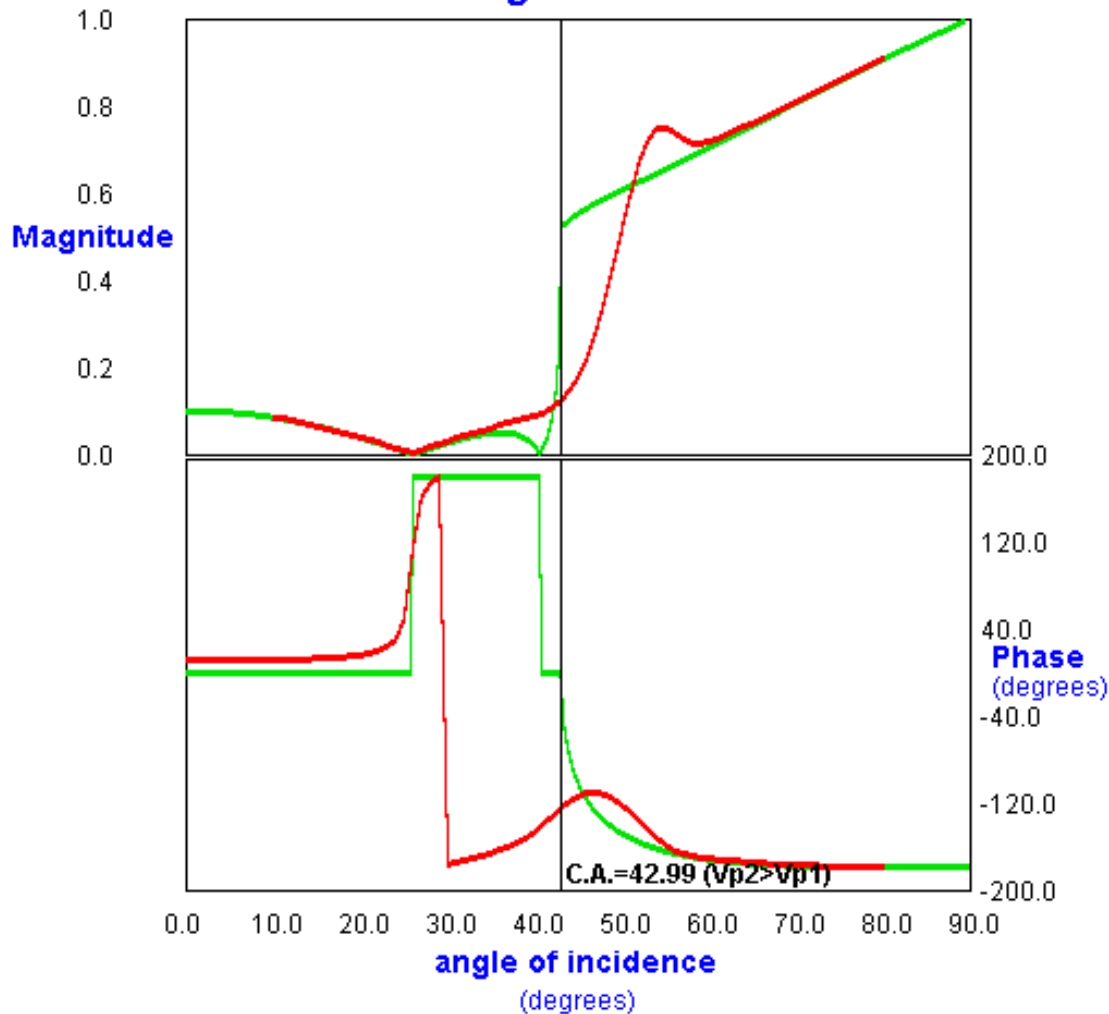
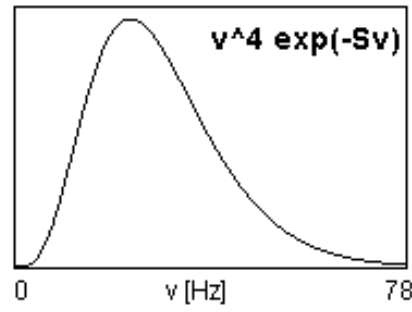
$$p = \frac{\sin \theta}{\alpha}$$

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CREWES Spherical Zoeppritz Explorer

www.crewes.org



S[1/Hz]: Z [m]:

n=0 n=1 n=2 n=3 n=4

Dimensionless sphericity parameter: $(S)(\alpha_1) / (2Z) = 0.346$

incident wave in upper layer

Upper layer density (ρ_1): kg/m³

Upper layer Vp (α_1): m/s

Upper layer Vs (β_1): m/s

incident wave in lower layer

Lower layer density (ρ_2): kg/m³

Lower layer Vp (α_2): m/s

Lower layer Vs (β_2): m/s

Spherical Zoeppritz Spherical Aki-Richards

Zoeppritz Aki-Richards

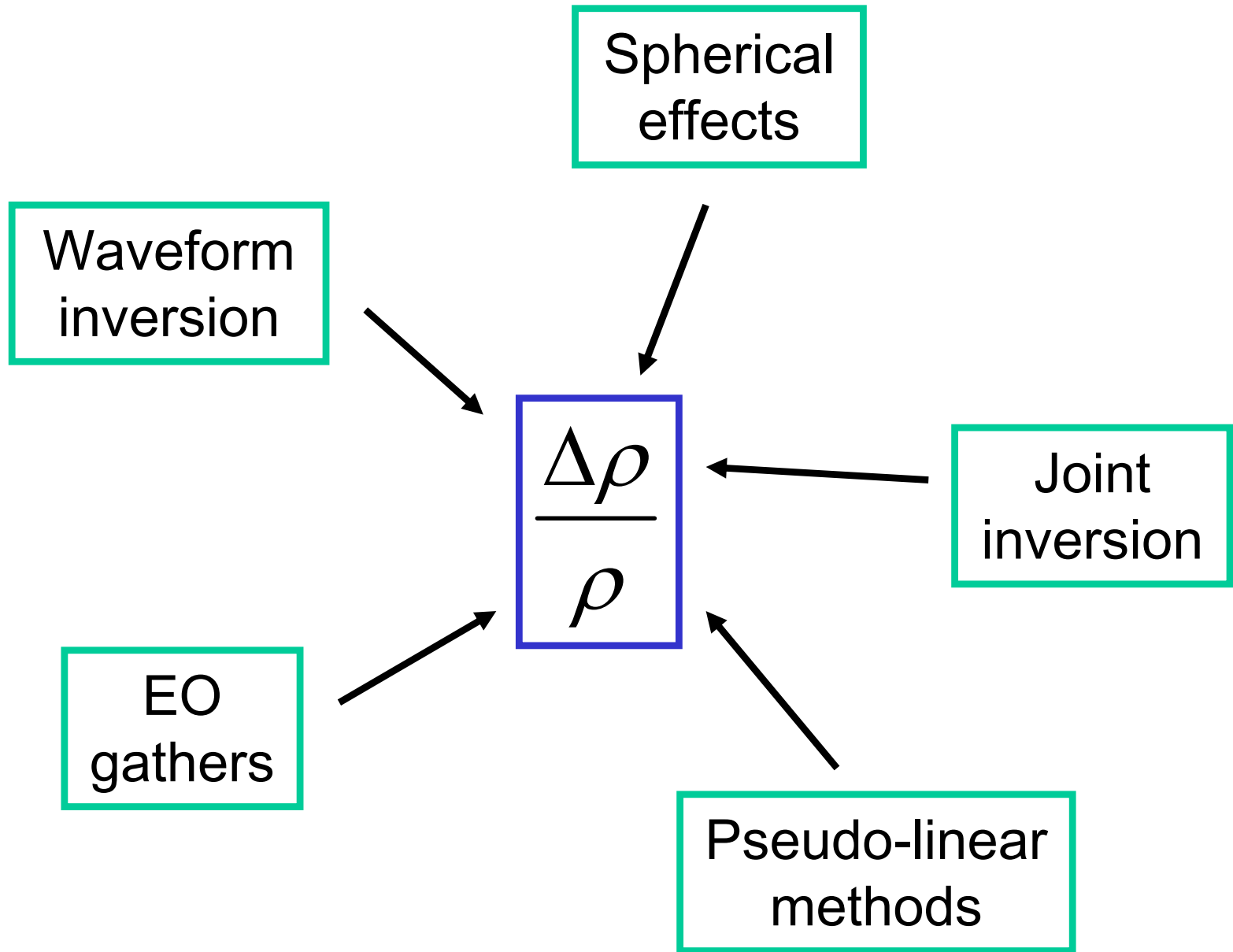
Angle limits (integers, 0 to 90):

Magnitude limits:

Phase limits (integers):

[Click here to recalculate graph](#)

Units: m/s and kg/m³ ft/s and g/cm³



Conclusions

- R_{PP}^{sph} can be calculated semi-analytically with appropriate choice of wavelet
- Spherical effects are qualitatively similar for wavelets with similar lower bounds
- New method emphasizes that R_{PP}^{sph} is a weighted integral of nearby R_{PP}^{pw}
- Calculations are efficient enough for incorporation into interactive explorer
- May help to extract density information from AVO

Possible Future Work

- Include $n > 4$
- Use multi-term wavelet: $\sum_n A_n \omega^n \exp(-|s_n \omega|)$
- Layered overburden
(effective depth, non-sphericity)
- Include cylindrical wave reflection coefficients
- Extend to PS reflections

Acknowledgments

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