Blending Multi-scale Velocity Models -Methods and Validation

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Funded by:









SCEC UCVM

- Many models available in UCVM
- But many are not!
- Need to be collected from individual groups before they are lost!

Objectives & Outlines

- Advancing ground motion prediction by incorporating multi-scale velocity models
 ^{38°} (1)Berg et al. (2021)
- Comparison of fusion methods
 - Windowing x1
 - Machine learning x2
- Model validation against observations
- Improved ground motion prediction
- Conclusions



Blending Method (1) - Windowing

• Option #1: Blending method proposed by Ajala & Persaud (2021, JGR)

High-resolution (**HR**) model Ω_1 to be merged into a low-resolution (**LR**) model R(x):

$$H(\mathbf{x}) = \Omega^{1}(\mathbf{x})w(\mathbf{x}) + R(\mathbf{x})(1-w(\mathbf{x})),$$

$$w(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{cases} 0, & \mathbf{x} \in \Omega^1 \setminus \overline{\Omega^2} \\ (0,1], & \mathbf{x} \in \overline{\Omega^2} \end{cases}$$

H(x): Hybrid model w(x): Weight

- Thickness of the transition zone?
- Starting point of transition zone?



Modified from Ajala and Persaud (2021)

Blending Method (2) - Machine Learning: Probability Graphical Models

Latitude (")

- Using ML-based methods, such as the Probability Graphical Models (PGM) proposed by Zhou et al (2024, BSSA)
- Physics-informed PGM based on level of confidence in the HR model (e.g., ray density)
- PGM can create similar transition zone as the windowing method
- PGM smoothes both LR and HR models
- Higher computational cost for 3D models



Blending Method (3) - Machine Learning: Sparse Dictionary Learning Model

- Sparse Dictionary Learning proposed by Zhang and Ben-Zion, 2024, JGR)
- Both HR and LR models will be modified during reconstruction
- May deviate further from those generated by the other two methods
- Validated with 1 Hz full-waveform modeling



Case Study





Vs Transect



Model Validation

- Focus on commonly-used ground motion metrics
- Simulating 8 Mw 4.0 4.6 events
- SCEDC data (CI and NP networks)
- 20 stations recording 2+ events
- High S/N ratio
- SCEDC moment tensor solutions



0-1 Hz simulations using AWP-ODC

4th-order Scalable Finite Difference Method with Support for Topography, Discontinuous Mesh, and Q(f)

Frontier supercomputer at OLCF



Vista supercomputer at TACC



O'Reilly, O., T.-Y. Yeh, K.B. Olsen, Z. Hu, A. Breuer, D. Roten, and C. Goulet (**2022**). A high-order finite difference method on staggered curvilinear grids for seismic wave propagation applications with topography, *Bull. Seis. Soc. Am.*, **112 (1)**, 3-22.



Goodness-of-fit Metrics

FAS bias (for component j):
$$\epsilon_{FAS}^{j} = \frac{1}{N_{f}} \sum_{i=1}^{N_{f}} log_{10} \frac{FAS_{syn}^{j}(i)}{FAS_{obs}^{j}(i)}$$
CAV bias (for component j): $\epsilon_{CAV}^{j} = log_{10} \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N_{t}} |v_{obs}^{j}(i)|}{\sum_{i=1}^{N_{t}} |v_{obs}^{j}(i)|}$ PGV bias (for component j): $\epsilon_{PGV}^{j} = log_{10} \frac{PGV_{syn}^{j}}{PGV_{obs}^{j}}$ PGA bias (for component j): $\epsilon_{PGA}^{j} = log_{10} \frac{PGA_{syn}^{j}}{PGA_{obs}^{j}}$

Combined metric:
$$\xi=\frac{\Sigma_{j=1}^3(|\epsilon_{FAS}^j|+|\epsilon_{CAV}^j|+|\epsilon_{PGV}^j|+|\epsilon_{PGA}^j|)}{12}$$

Windowing vs PGM



Does Transition Zone Matter?

- Yes! Both starting point and thickness matter
- Starting early -> losing more HR model
- Too thin -> artificial velocity contrast
- Losing low Vs in the HR -> more underprediction



Horizontal Distance(km)

Horizontal Distance(km)

60

100

100

20

20

km inside the boundaries

Depth(km)

-2

Effects of Including HR Model



Improved Ground Motion Prediction

- ~20% reduction on mean combined bias
- Improvement both inside and outside the HR domain
- China Lake area still underpredicted



Improved Ground Motion Prediction

— Data

LR+HR(windowing)



Conclusions

- We demonstrate fusion models (LR+HR) using windowing & PGM methods and validate them with numerical simulations
- Windowing method preserves features in LR and HR models, except for the transition zone
- Machine-learning methods modify both LR and HR models
- PGM produces smoother version of models blended using windowing method
- Design of transition zone matters
- Windowing method results in slightly lower mean bias than PGM in this particular case