

# Stable seismic data recovery

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joint work with

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[slim.eos.ubc.ca](http://slim.eos.ubc.ca)

*Combinations of **parsimonious** signal representations with nonlinear **sparsity** promoting programs hold the **key** to the next-generation of seismic inversion algorithms ...*

*Since they allow for formulations that are **stable** w.r.t.*

- *noise*
- *incomplete data*
- *moderate phase rotations and amplitude errors*

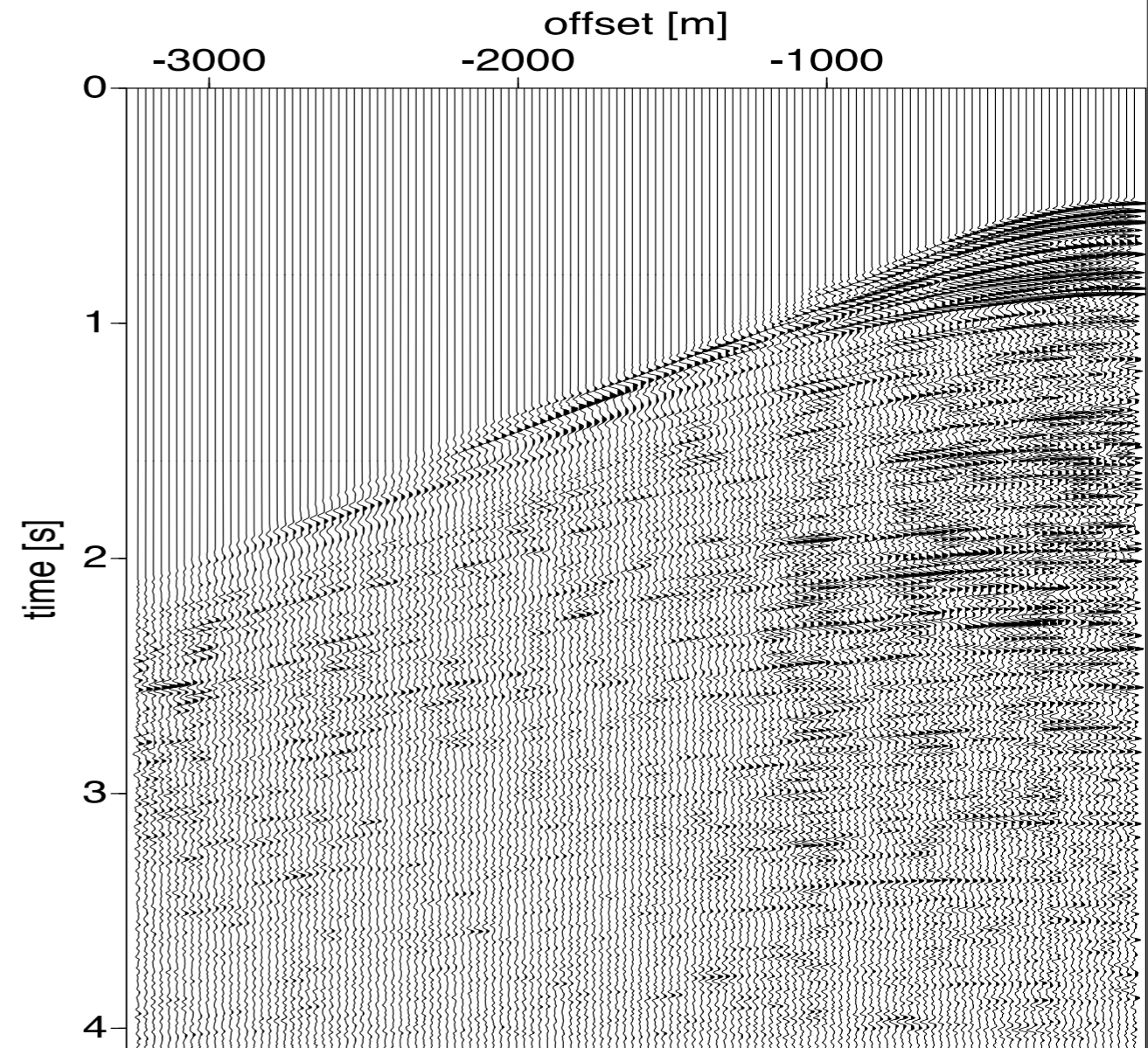
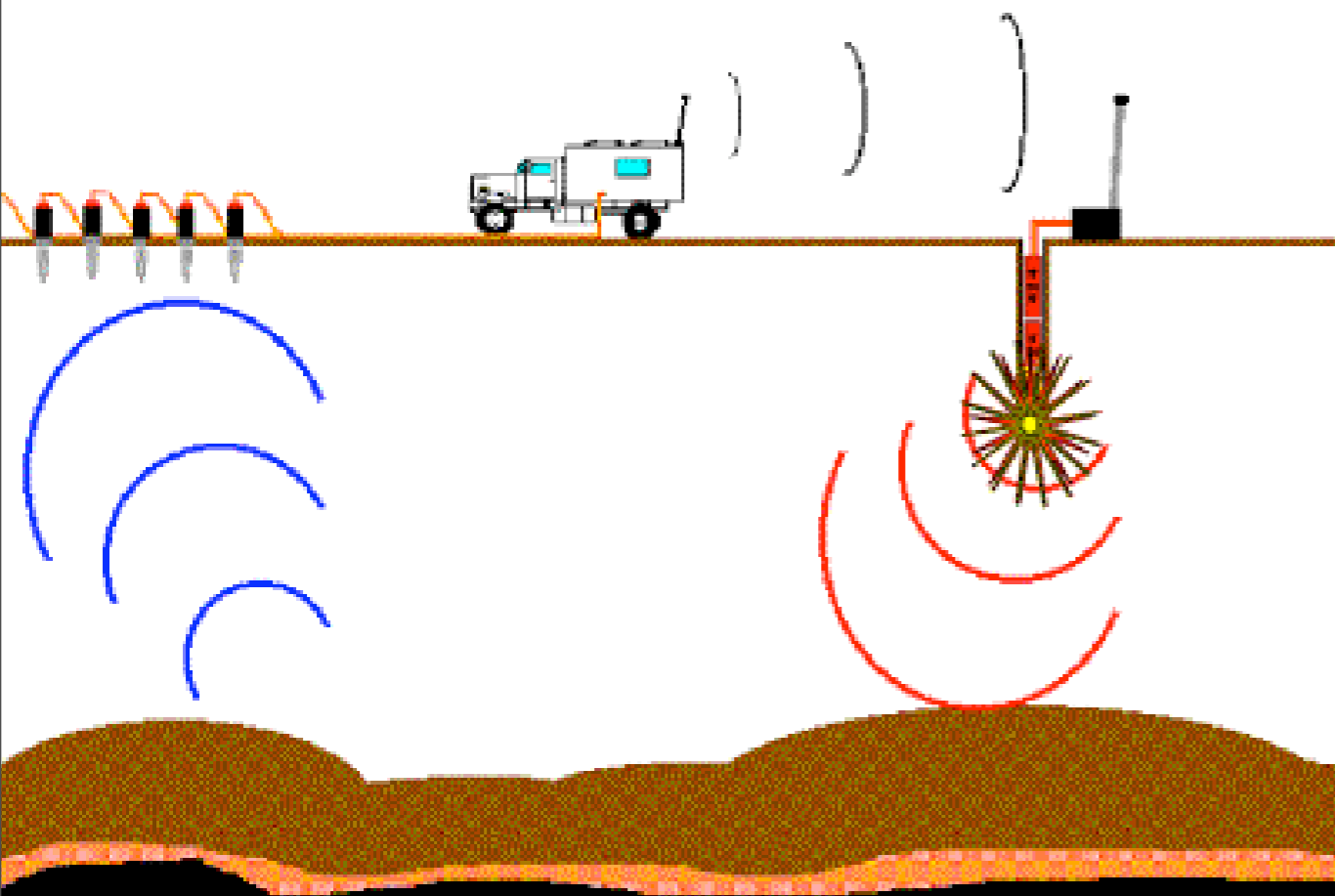
Finding a **sparse** representation for seismic data & images is complicated because of

- wavefronts & reflectors are multiscale & multi-directional
- the presence of caustics, faults and pinchouts
- the presence of operators (FIO's & PsDO's)

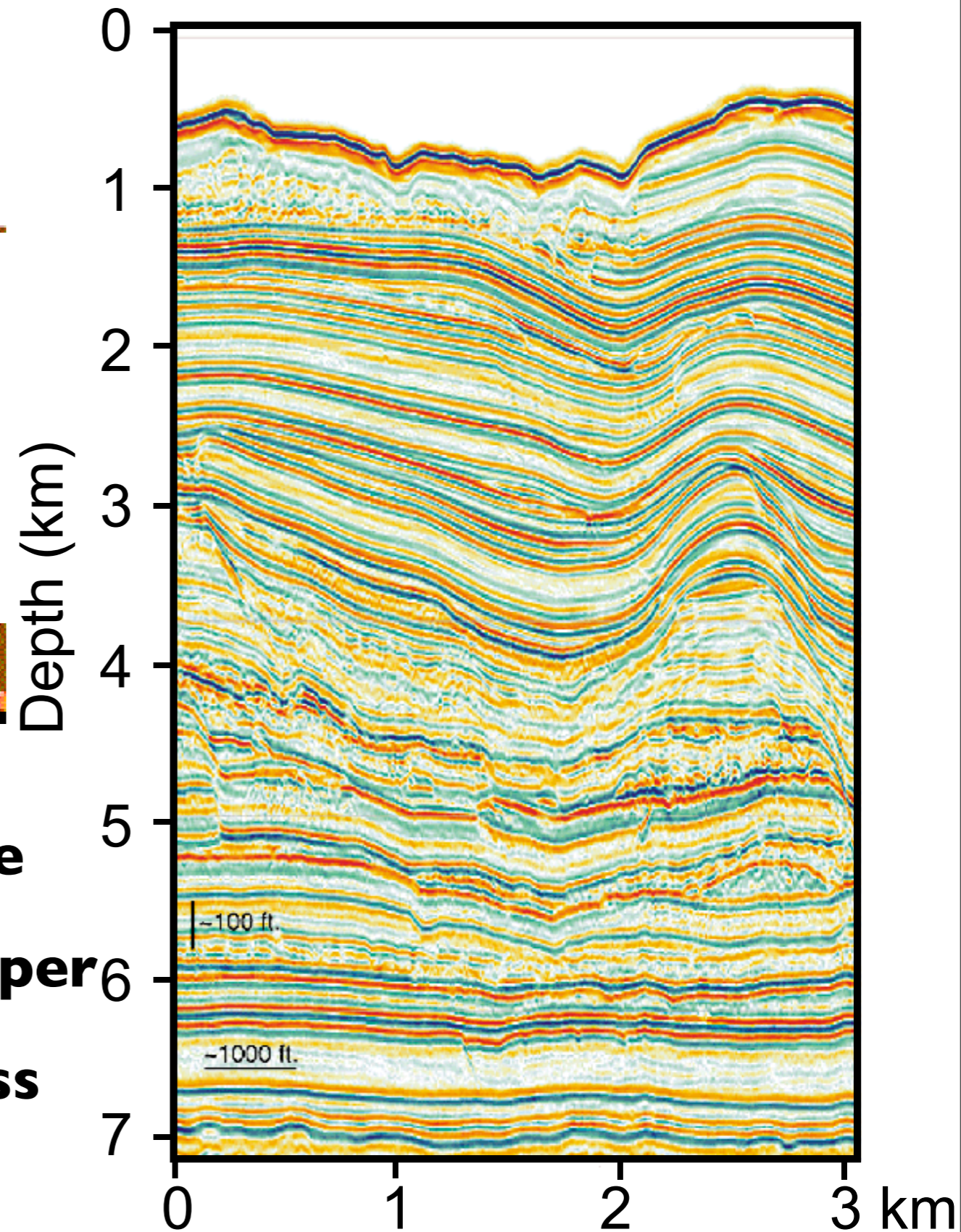
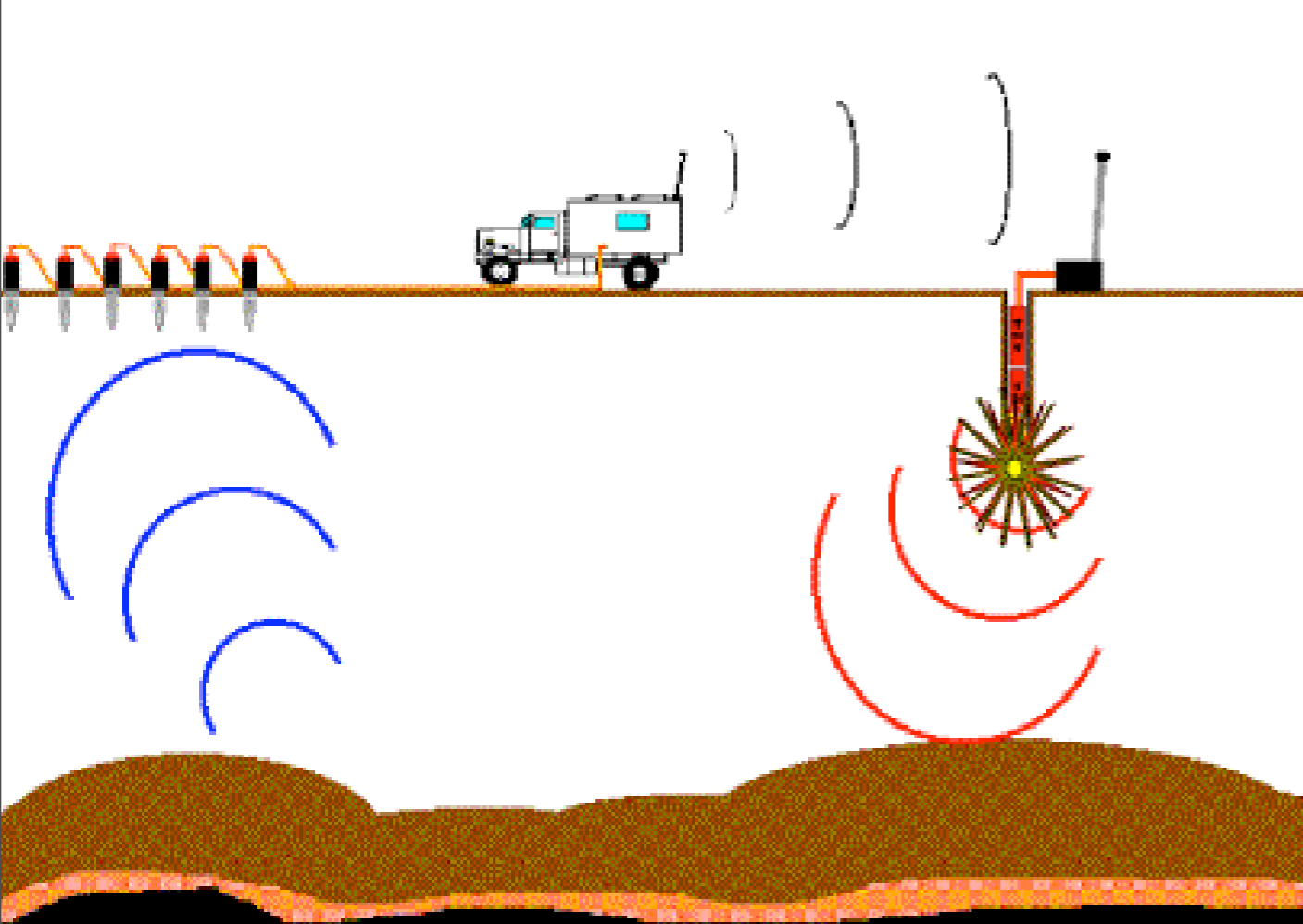
# The seismic method



# Seismic data acquisition

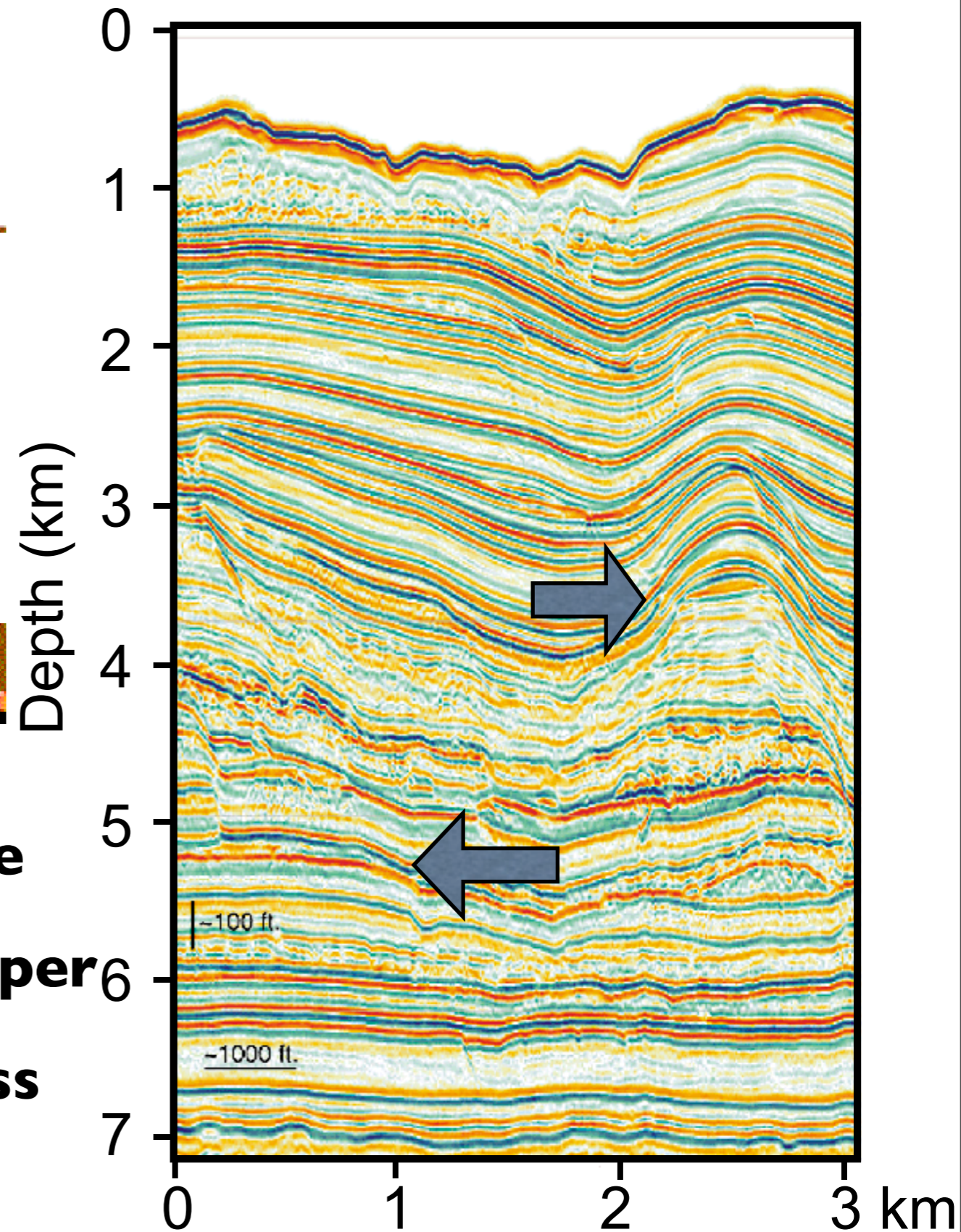
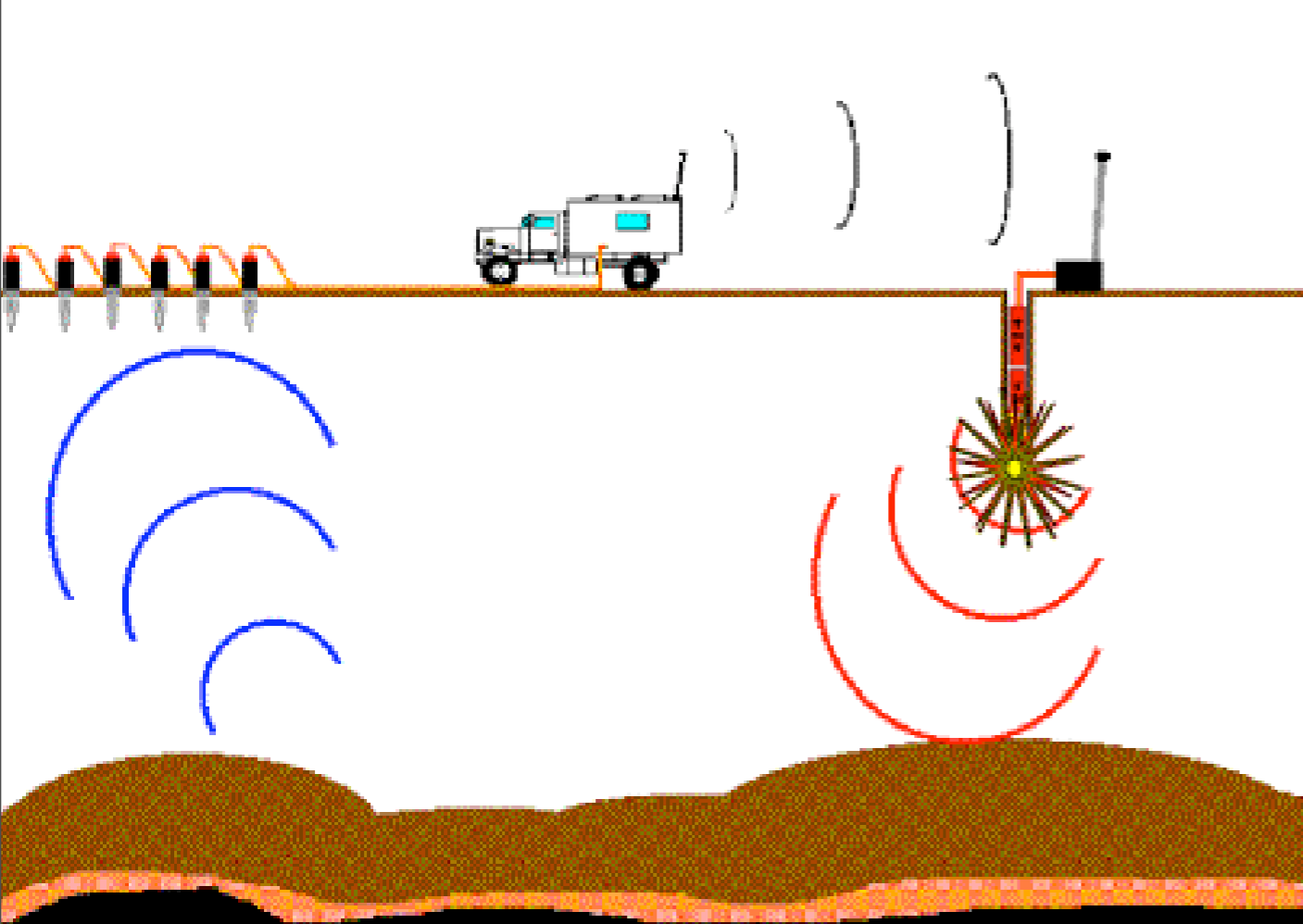


# Exploration seismology



- **create images of the subsurface**
- **need for higher resolution/deeper**
- **clutter and data incompleteness are problems**

# Exploration seismology



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# Forward problem

$$F[c]u := \left( \frac{1}{c^2(x)} \cdot \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} - \sum_{i=1}^d \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i^2} \right) \mathbf{u}(x, t) = f(x, t)$$

- second order hyperbolic PDE
- interested in the singularities of

$$m = c - \bar{c}$$

# Inverse problem

Minimization:

$$\tilde{m} = \arg \min_m \|d - F[m]\|_2^2$$

After linearization (Born app.) forward model with noise:

$$d(x_s, x_r, t) = (K m)(x_s, x_r, t) + n(x_s, x_r, t)$$

Conventional imaging:

$$(K^T d)(x) = (K^T K m)(x) + (K^T n)(x)$$

$$y(x) = (\Psi m)(x) + e(x)$$

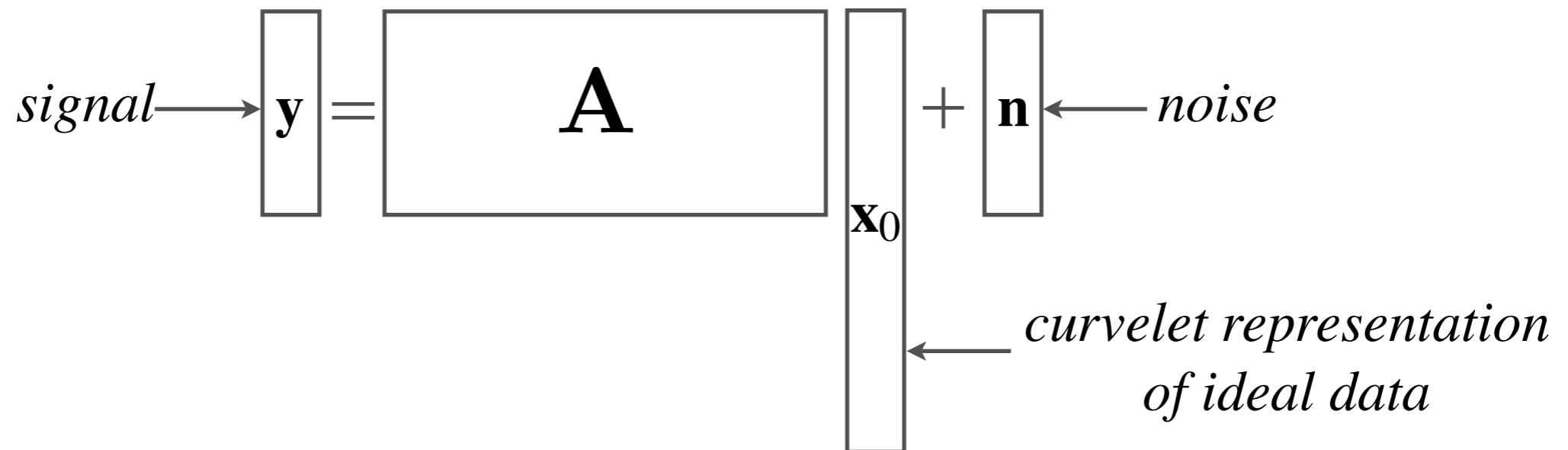
**$\Psi$  is prohibitively expensive to invert  
requires regular sampling ...**



# Sparsity promoting inversion



# Formulate as inverse problem



$$\tilde{\mathbf{x}} = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} \|\mathbf{x}\|_1 \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|_2 \leq \epsilon$$

↑  
*sparsity  
enhancement*

↑  
*data misfit*

*When a traveler reaches a fork in the road, the  $l_1$ -norm tells him to take either one way or the other, but the  $l_2$ -norm instructs him to head off into the bushes.*

John F. Claerbout and Francis Muir, 1973

New field "compressive sampling": D. Donoho, E. Candes et. al., M. Elad etc.

Preceded by others in geophysics: M. Sacchi & T. Ulrych and co-workers etc.

# Sparsity promoting inversion

$\mathbf{x}_0$  can be recovered by solving

$$\mathbf{P}_\epsilon : \begin{cases} \tilde{\mathbf{x}} = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} \|\mathbf{x}\|_1 & \text{s.t.} \quad \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|_2 \leq \epsilon \\ \tilde{\mathbf{f}} = \mathbf{S}^T \tilde{\mathbf{x}} \end{cases}$$

with

$\mathbf{y}$  = (incomplete) data

$\mathbf{A}$  = modeling matrix, e.g.  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{R}\mathbf{S}^T$

$\tilde{\mathbf{x}}$  = recovered sparsity vector

$\epsilon$  = a number dependent on the noise level

$\mathbf{S}^T$  = the synthesis matrix

$\tilde{\mathbf{f}}$  = the recovered function  $\mathbf{f}$

***Crux lies in finding the sparse representation!***

# Curvelets & seismology



# Wish list

Transform that is parsimonious

- detects the wavefronts
- localized in space and frequency (phase space)
- some invariance under “wave propagation”

Events correspond to curved singularities with conflicting dips

- caustics
- faults & pinch outs

Need a transform that is

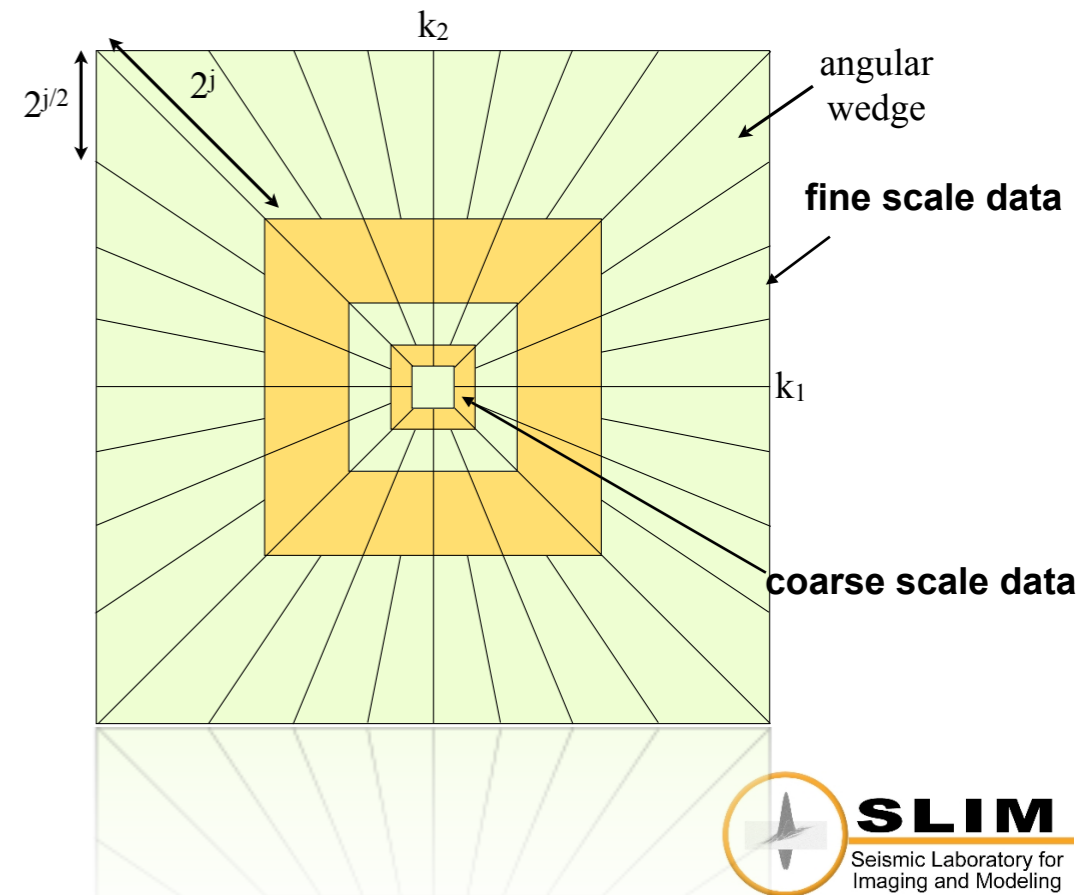
- multiscale
- multidirectional
- exactly reconstructs

# Representations for seismic data

Transform	Underlying assumption
FK	plane waves
linear/parabolic Radon transform	linear/parabolic events
wavelet transform	point-like events (1D singularities)
<b>curvelet transform</b>	<b>curve-like events (2D singularities)</b>

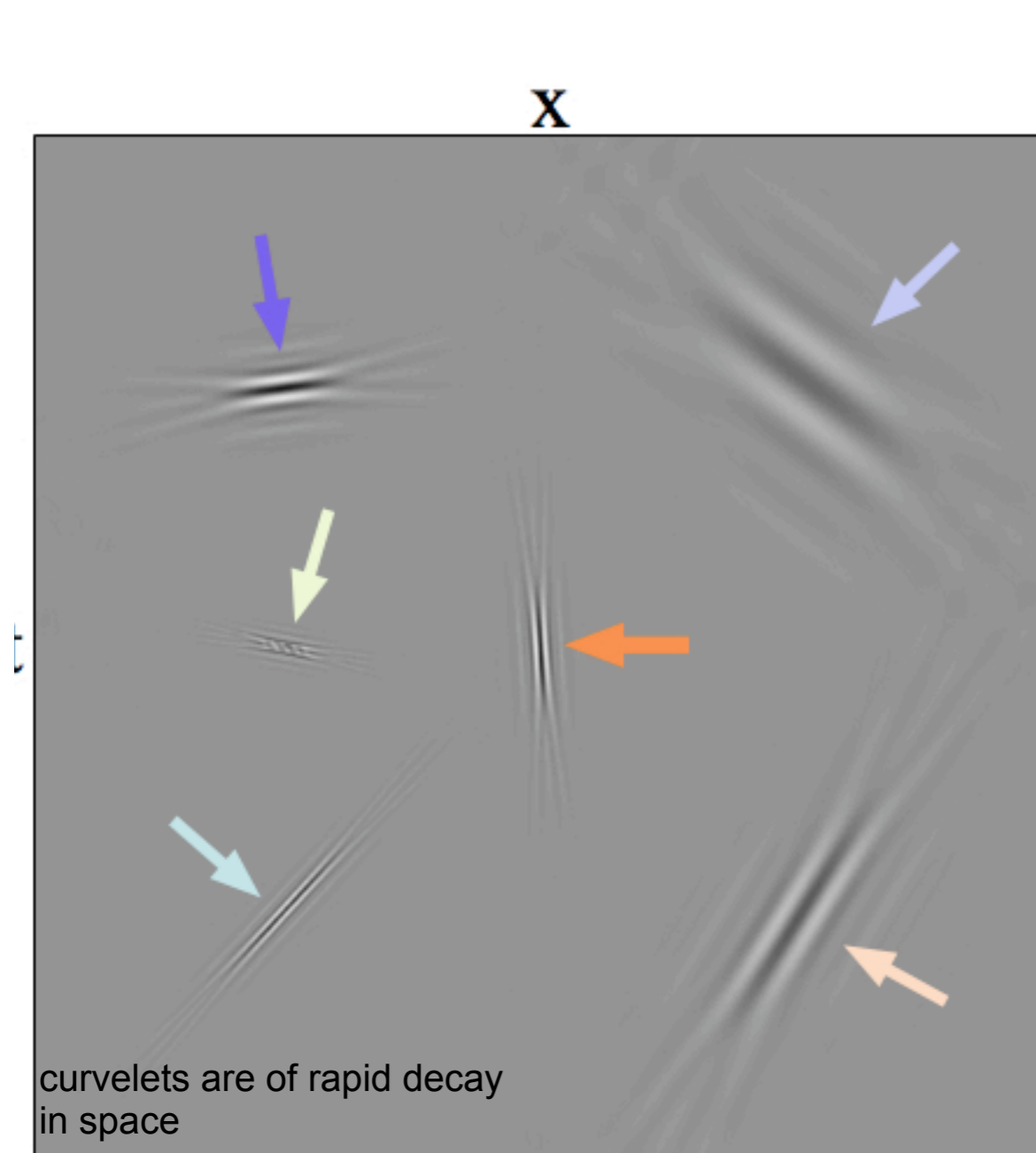
## Properties curvelet transform:

- **multiscale:** tiling of the FK domain into dyadic coronae
- **multi-directional:** coronae sub-partitioned into angular wedges, # of angle doubles every other scale
- **anisotropic:** parabolic scaling principle
- **Rapid decay space**
- **Strictly localized in Fourier**
- **Frame with moderate redundancy**

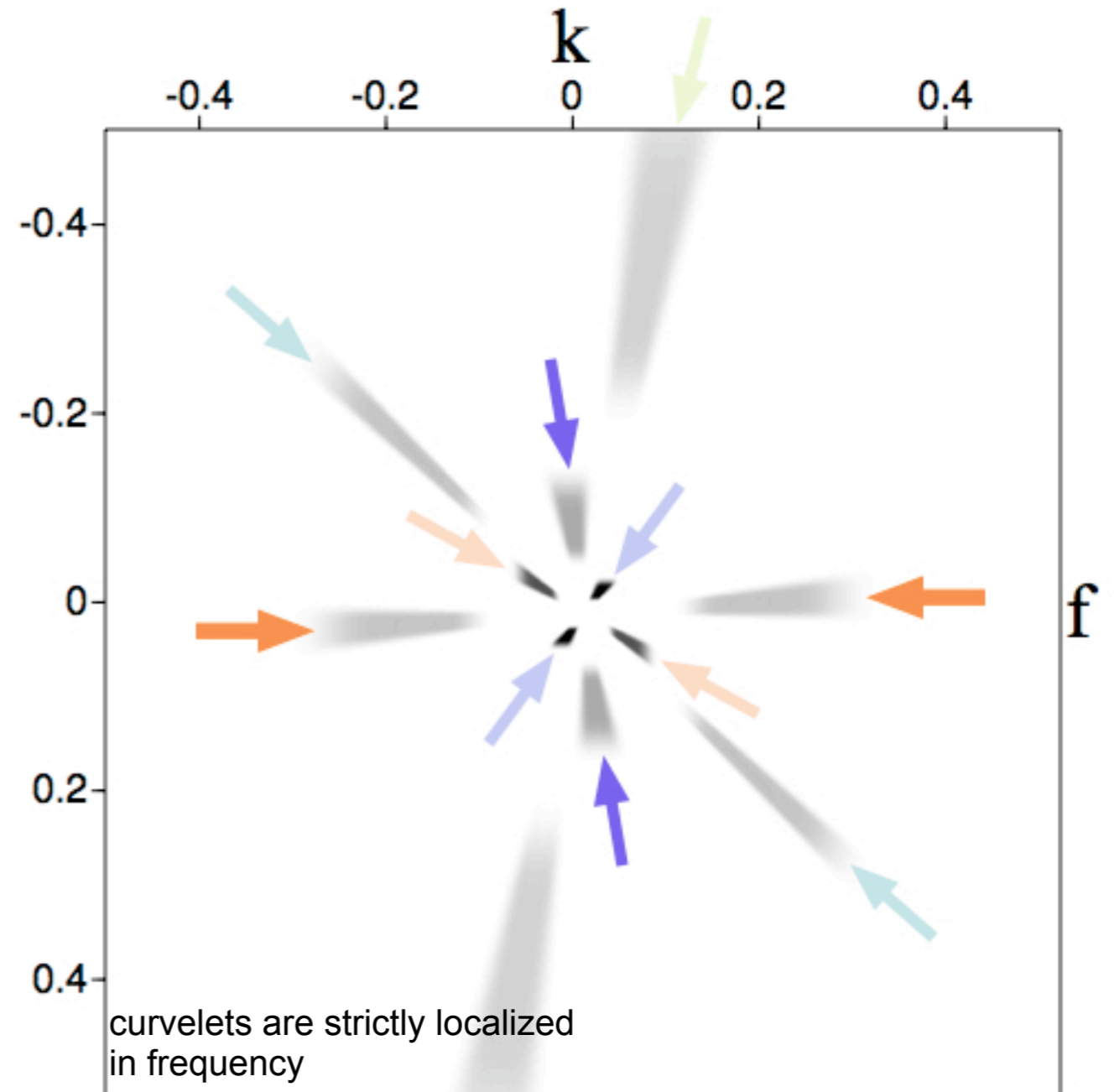


# 2-D curvelets

[Candes, Donoho, Demanet, Ying]



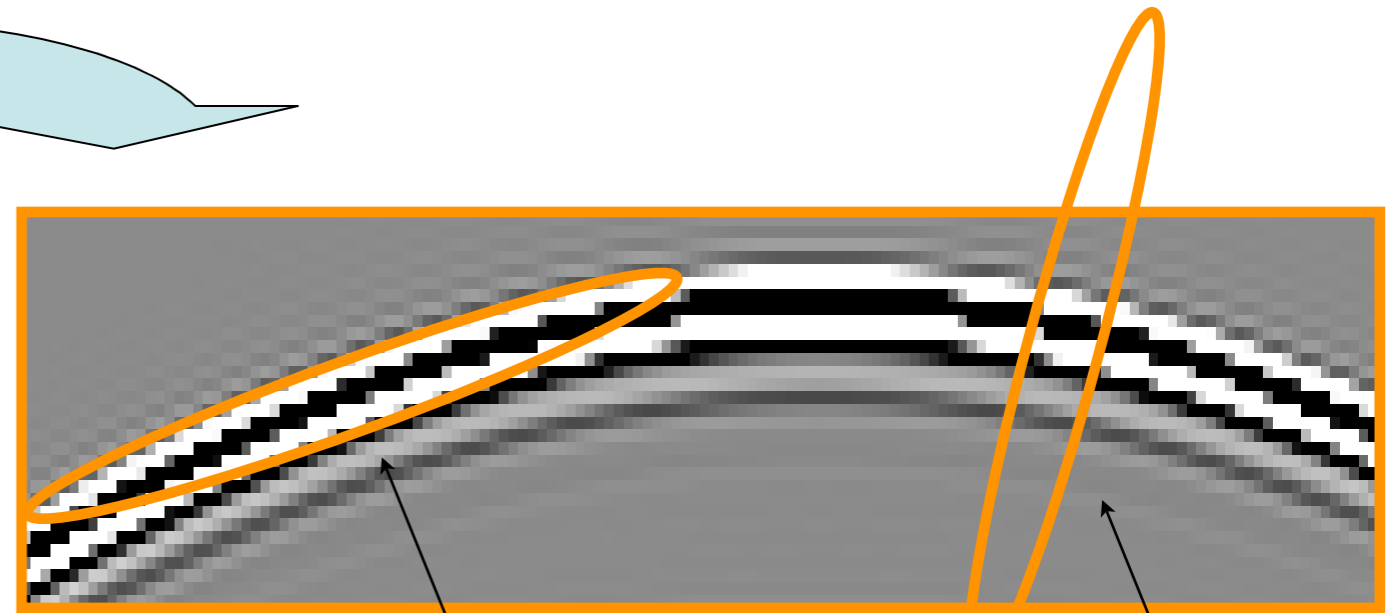
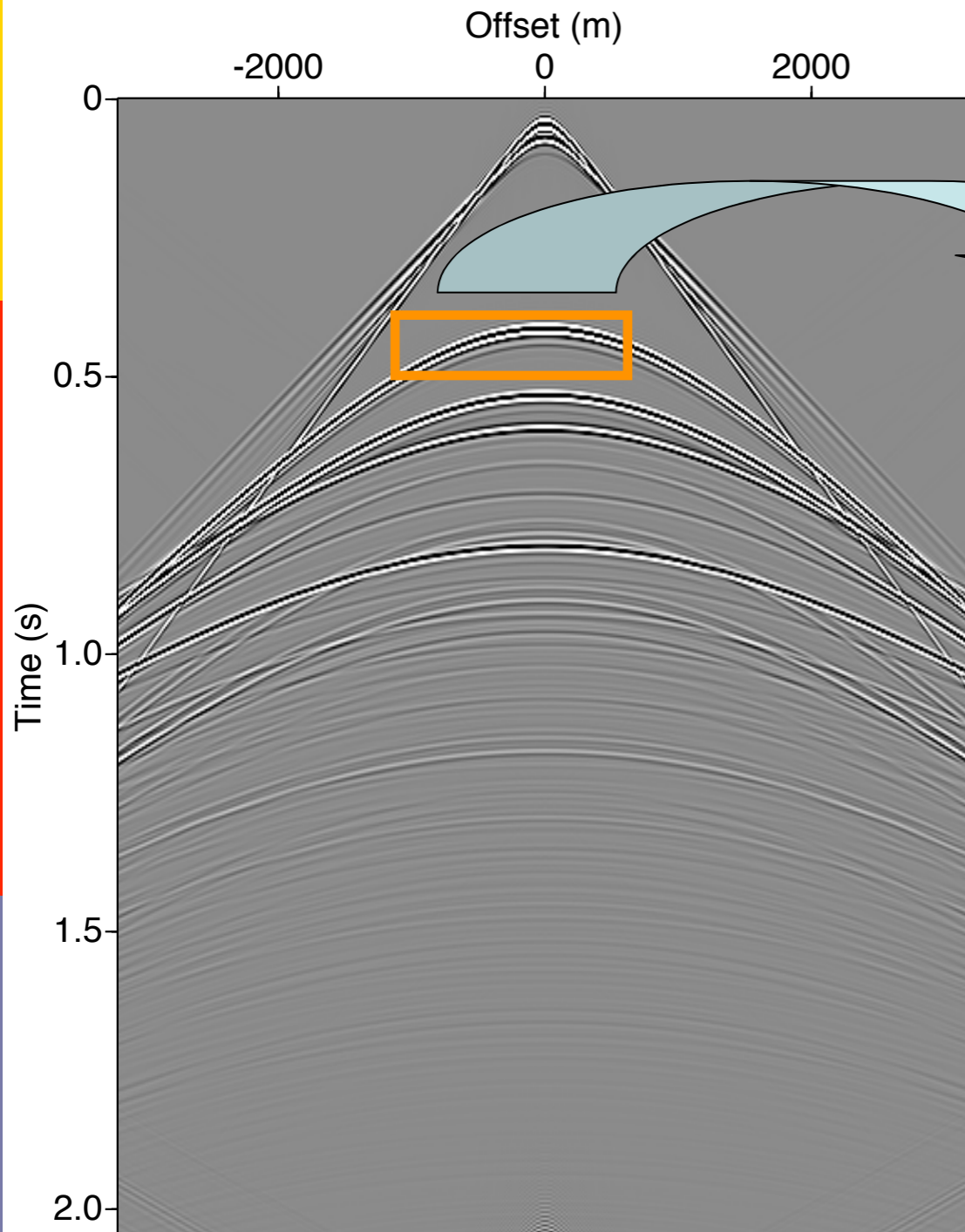
$x-t$



$f-k$

**Oscillatory in one direction and smooth in the others!**

# Wavefront detection



curvelet coefficient is determined by the dot product of the curvelet function with the data



# Compression

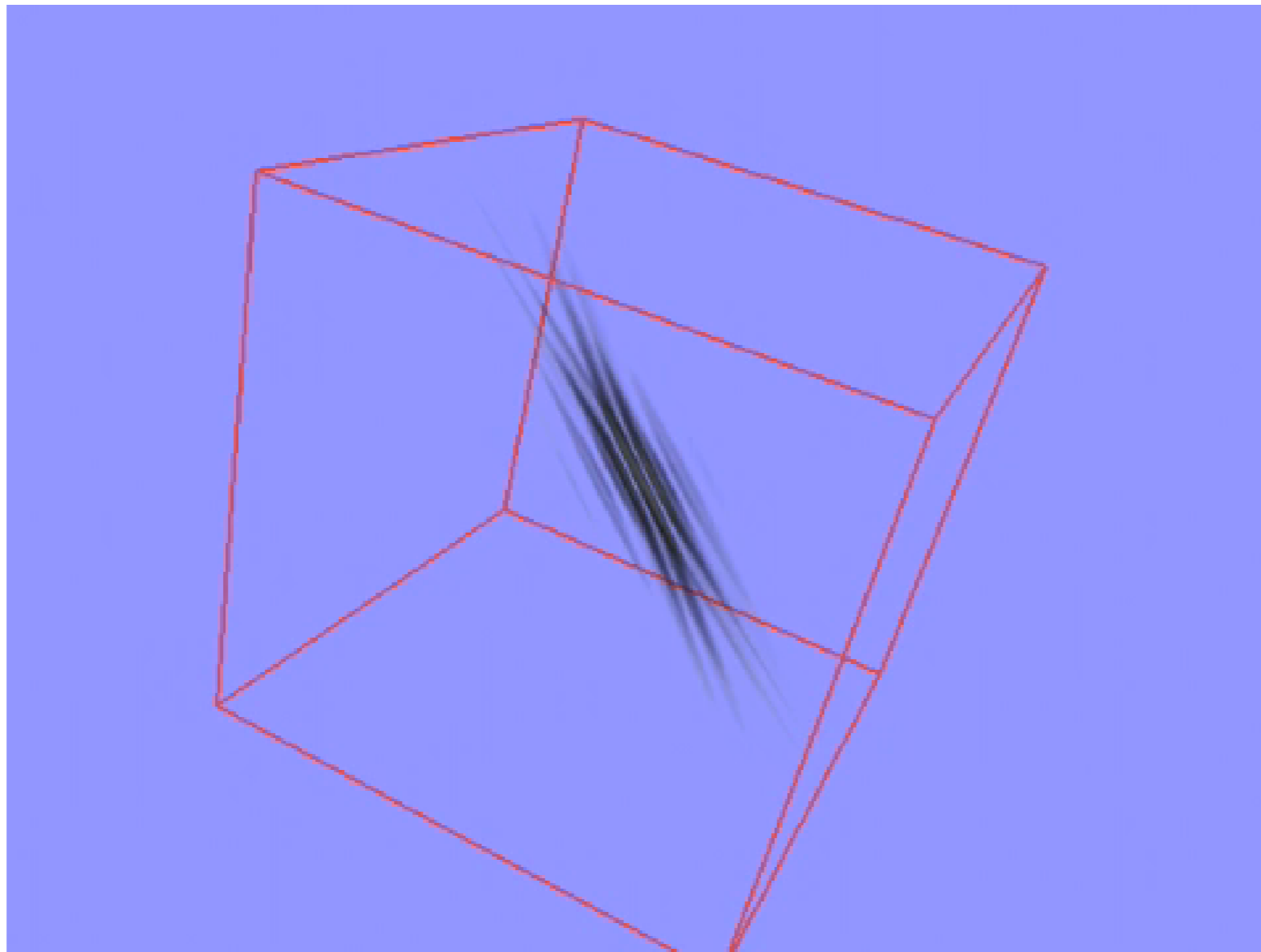
Interested in functions discontinuous along a piecewise smooth ( $C^2$ ) interface, and otherwise smooth ( $C^2$ ).

**Theorem** (Candès, Donoho). For such a model  $f$ , the best  $m$ -term curvelet expansion  $f_m$  obeys

$$\|f - f_m\|^2 \leq Cm^{-2}(\log m)^3.$$

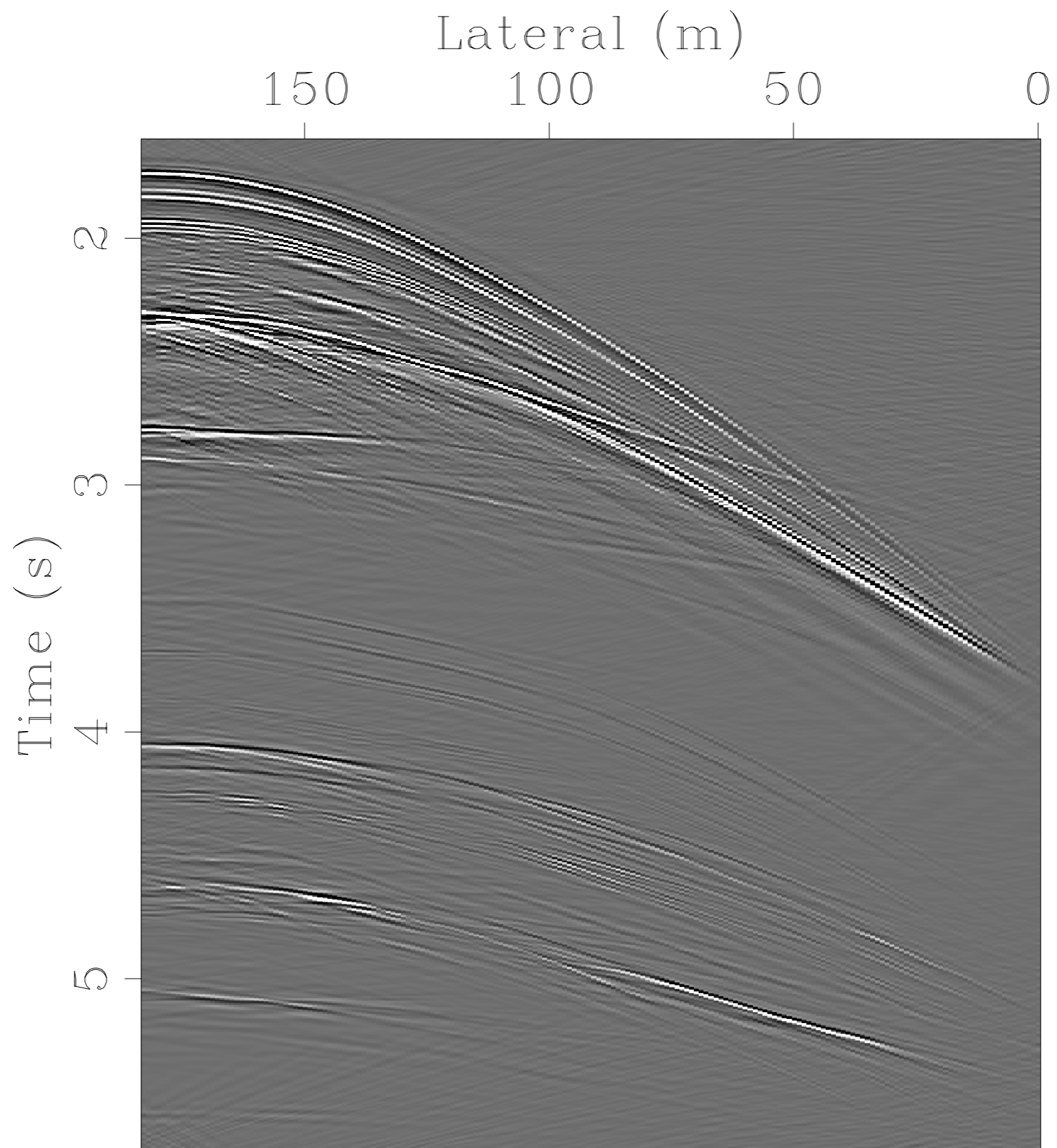
Note: wavelets would give  $O(m^{-1})$ , so do ridgelets (Candès).

# 3-D curvelets



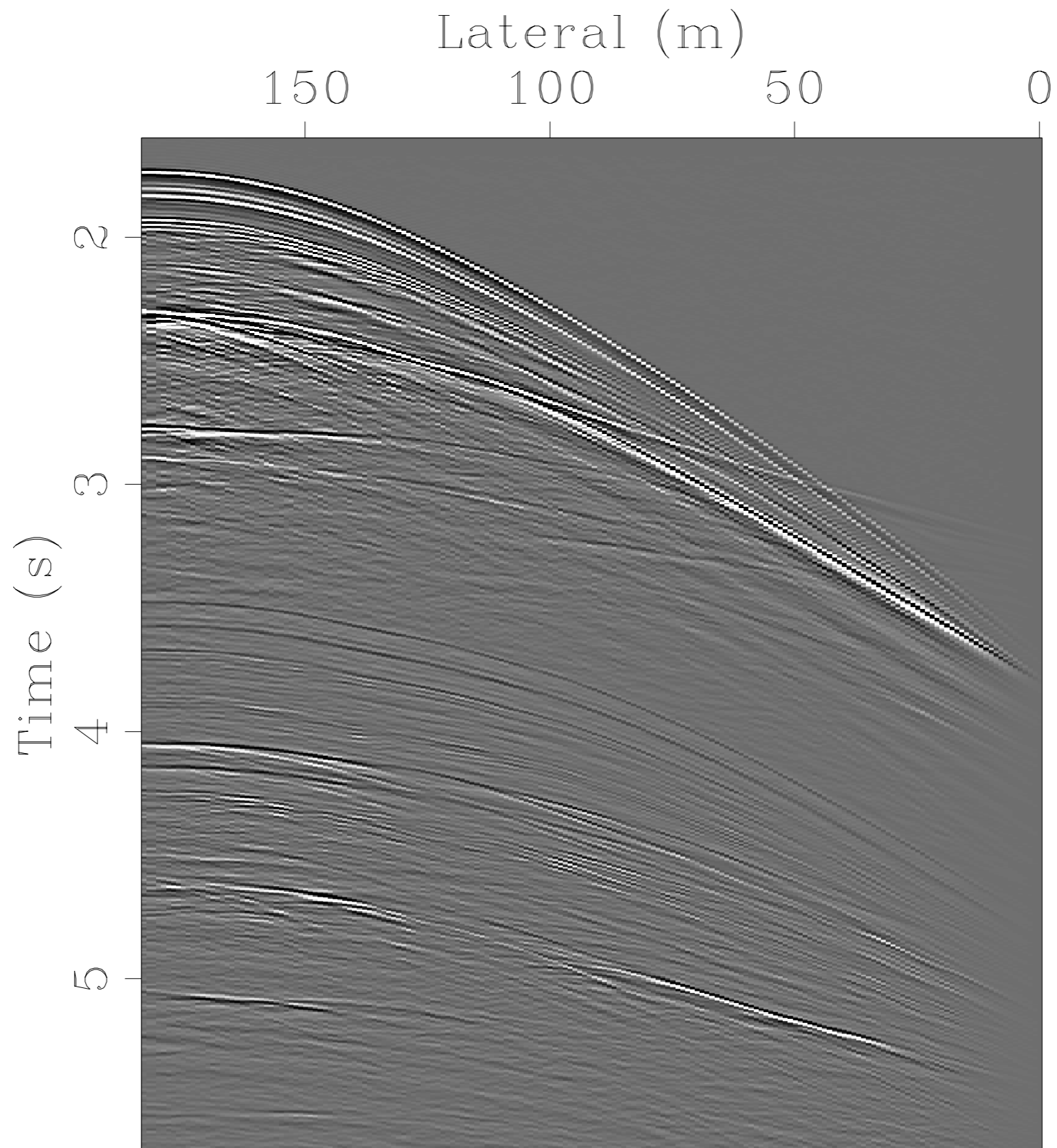
**Curvelets live in wedges in the 3 D Fourier plane...**

# Nonlinear approximation



reconstructed data with  $p=5$

# Nonlinear approximation



reconstructed data with  $p=99$

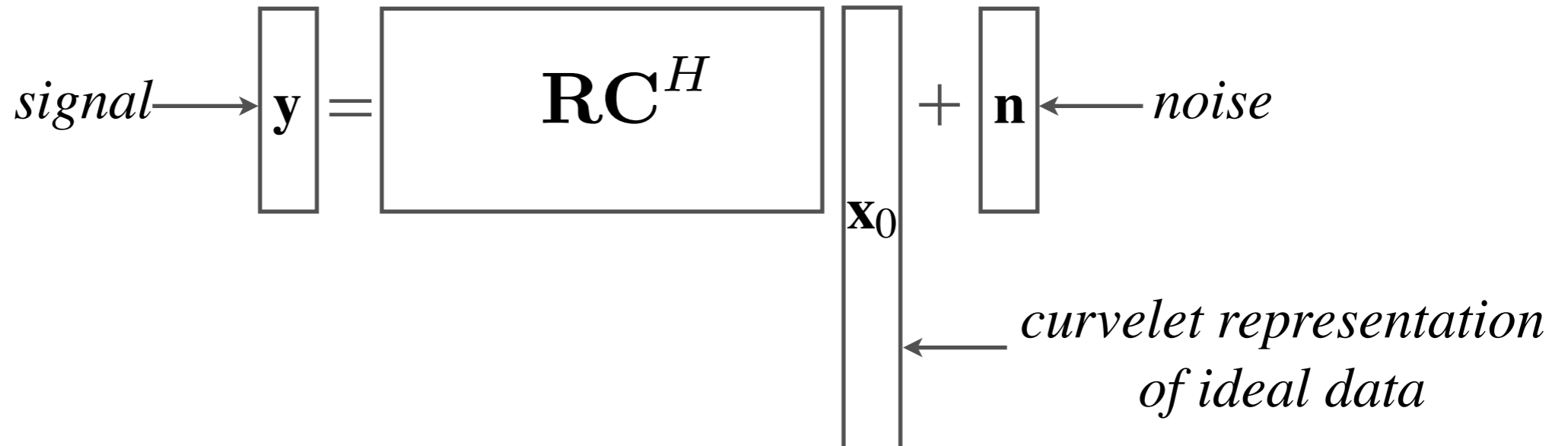
# Curvelet-based seismic data recovery

joint work with Gilles Hennenfent



# Sparsity-promoting inversion\*

## Reformulation of the problem



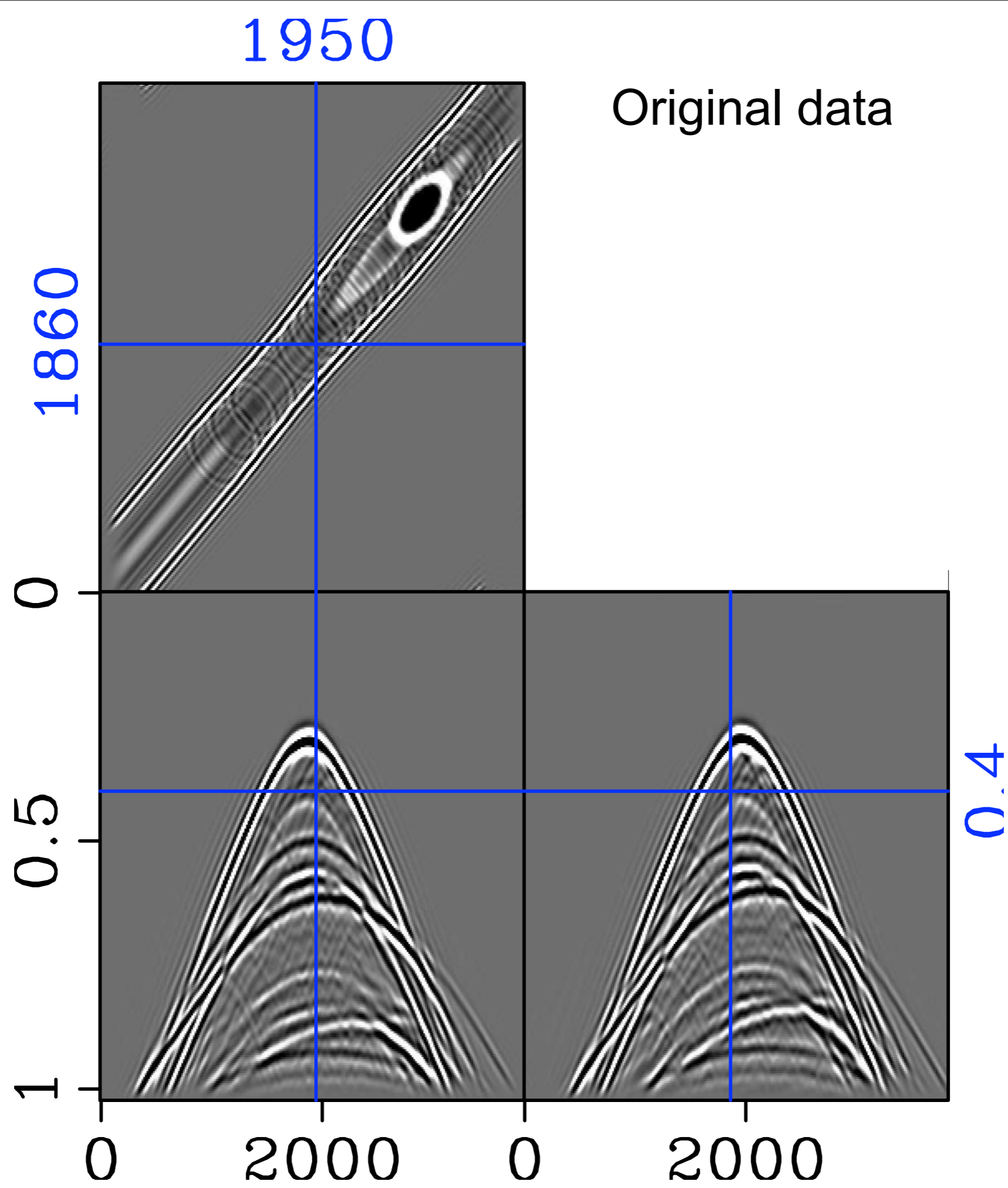
## Curvelet Reconstruction with Sparsity-promoting Inversion (CRSI)

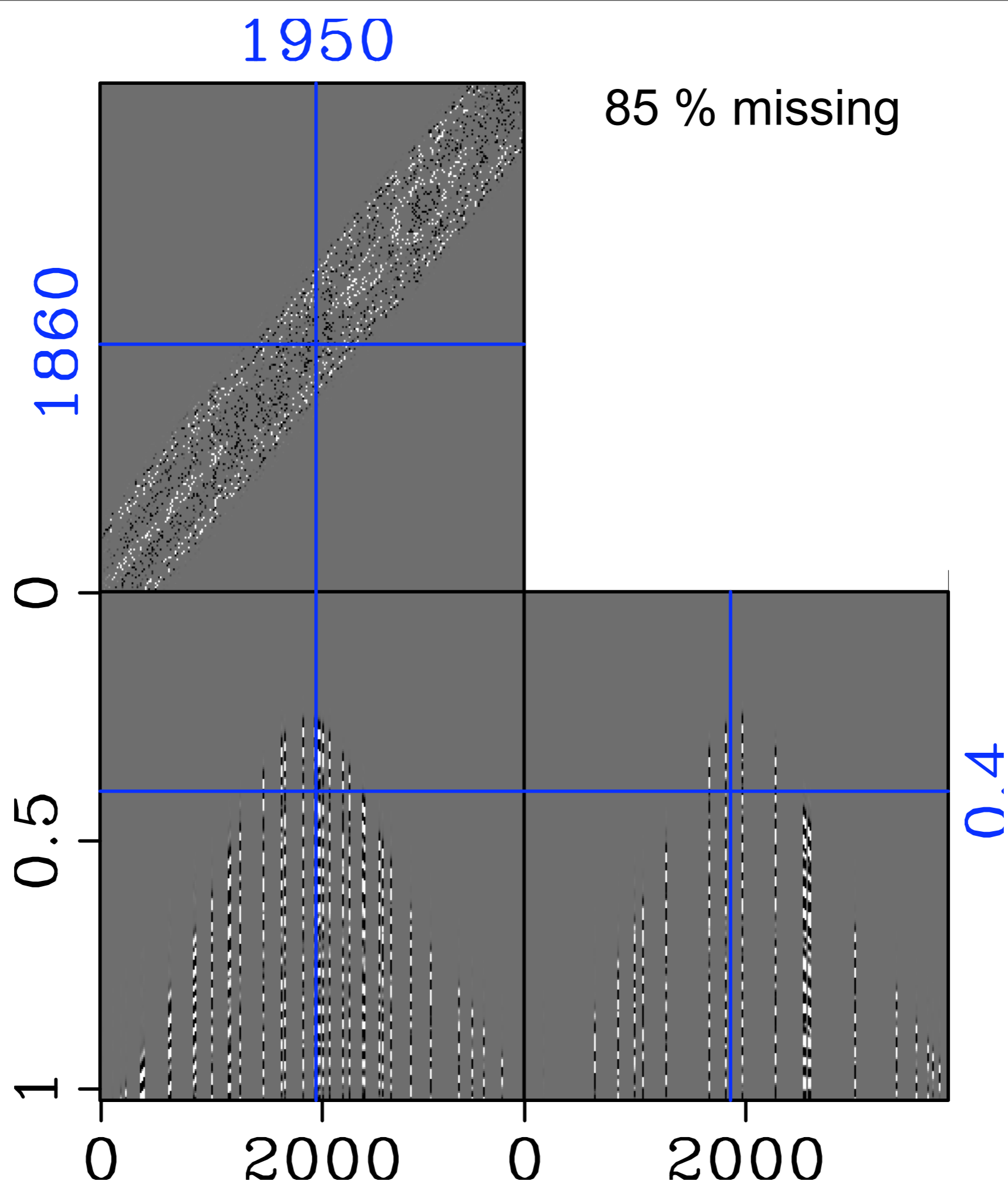
- look for the **sparsest/most compressible, physical** solution

← KEY POINT OF THE RECOVERY

$$\mathbf{P}_\epsilon : \begin{cases} \tilde{\mathbf{x}} = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} \underbrace{\|\mathbf{W}\mathbf{x}\|_1}_{\text{sparsity constraint}} & \text{s.t.} & \underbrace{\|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|_2}_{\text{data misfit}} \leq \epsilon \\ \tilde{\mathbf{f}} = \mathbf{C}^T \tilde{\mathbf{x}} \end{cases}$$

\* inspired by Stable Signal Recovery (SSR) theory by E. Candès, J. Romberg, T. Tao, Compressed sensing by D. Donoho & Fourier Reconstruction with Sparse Inversion (FRSI) by P. Zwartjes



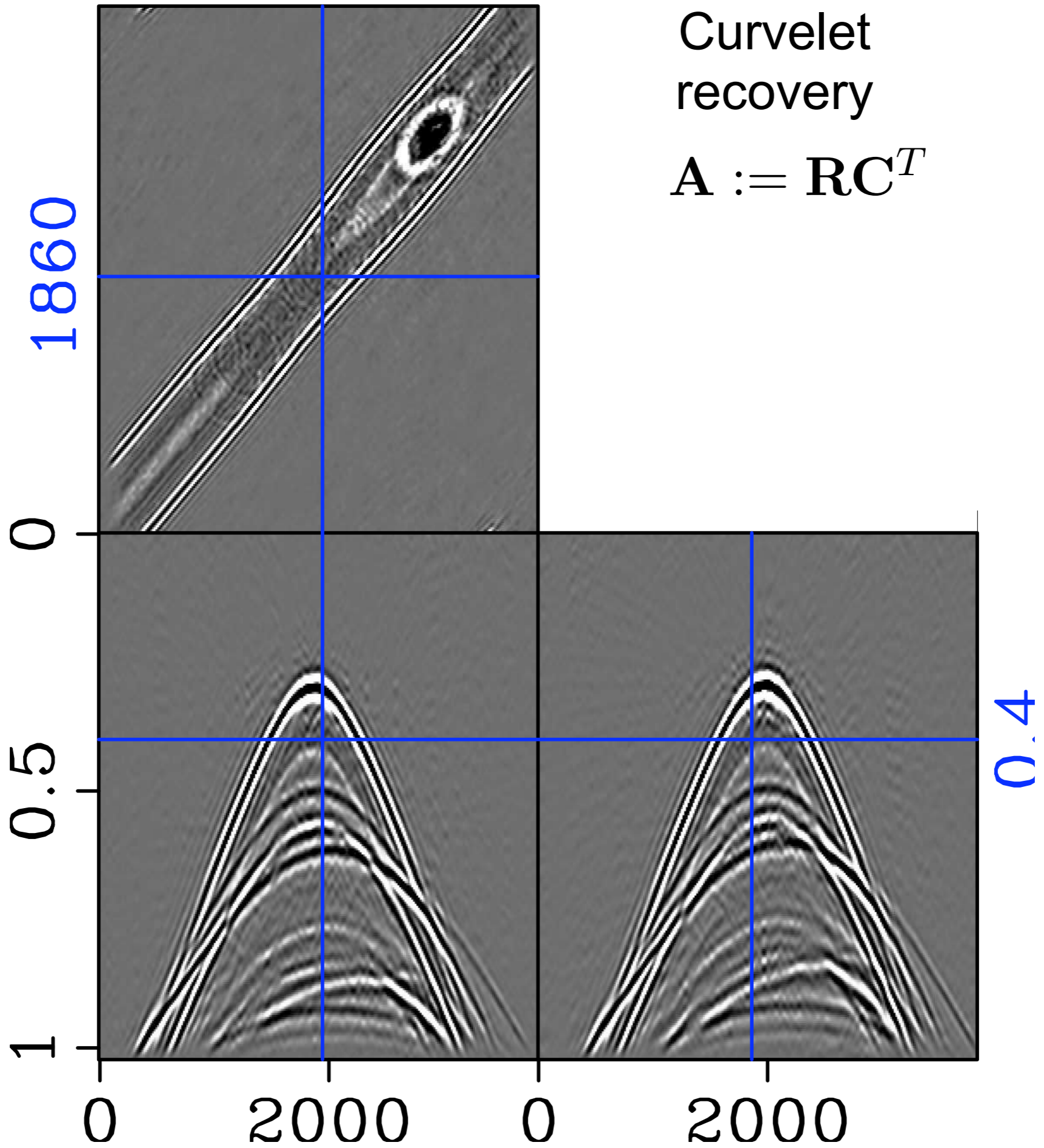




1950

Curvelet  
recovery

$$\mathbf{A} := \mathbf{RC}^T$$



# Observations

Inverted a rectangular matrix

- worked because the curvelet transform is sparse
- exploits the higher dimensional geometry of seismic wavefields
- curvelets are incoherent with the Dirac measurement basis

Data is recovered for large percentages of traces missing

Is an example of an inverse problem with incomplete data

**Can these ideas be extended to recover migration amplitudes?**

- **approximately invert a PsDO**
- **diagonalize zero-order PsDO's**

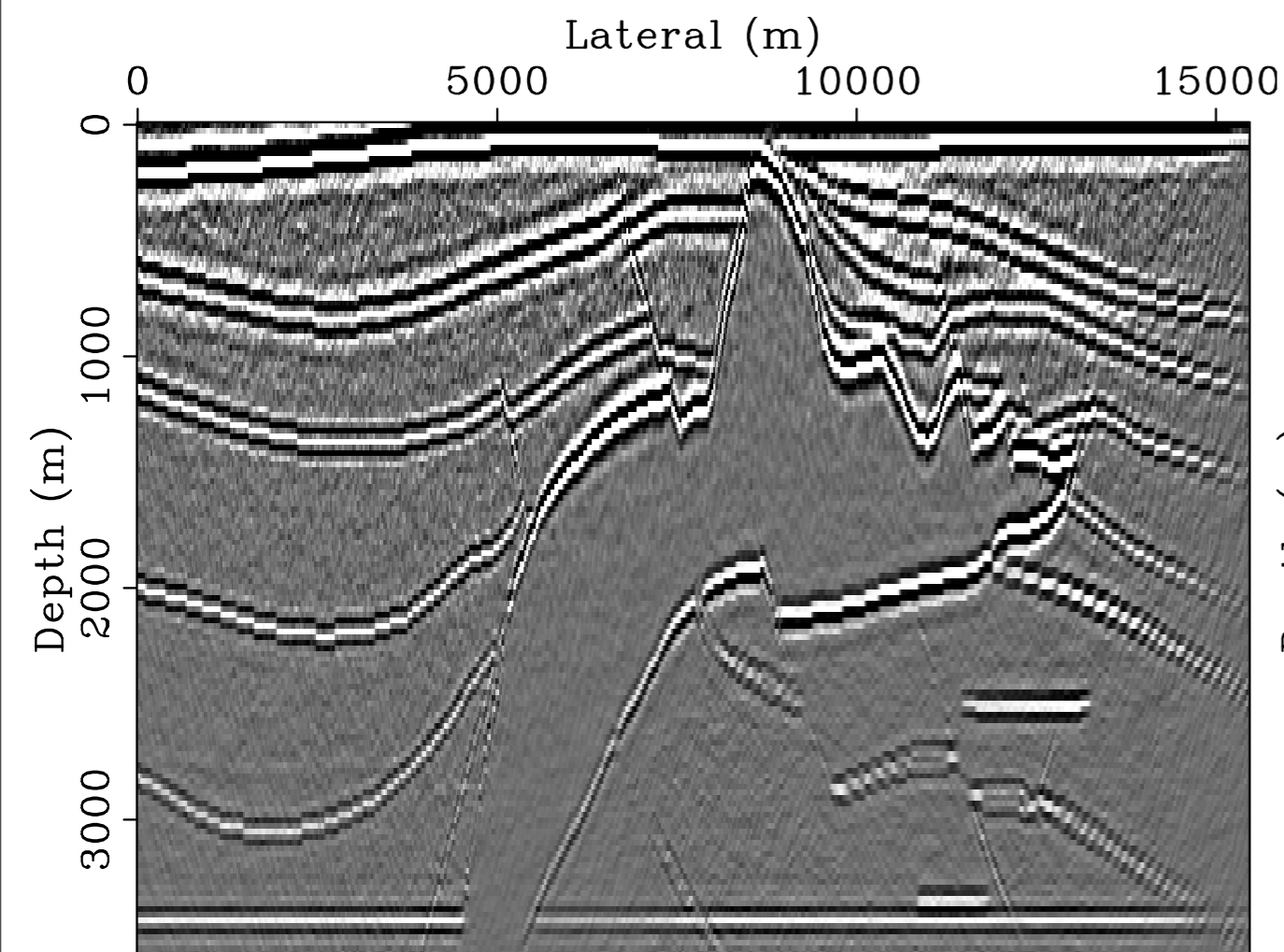
# Stable seismic amplitude recovery

*"Sparsity- and continuity-  
promoting seismic image recovery  
with curvelet frames"*

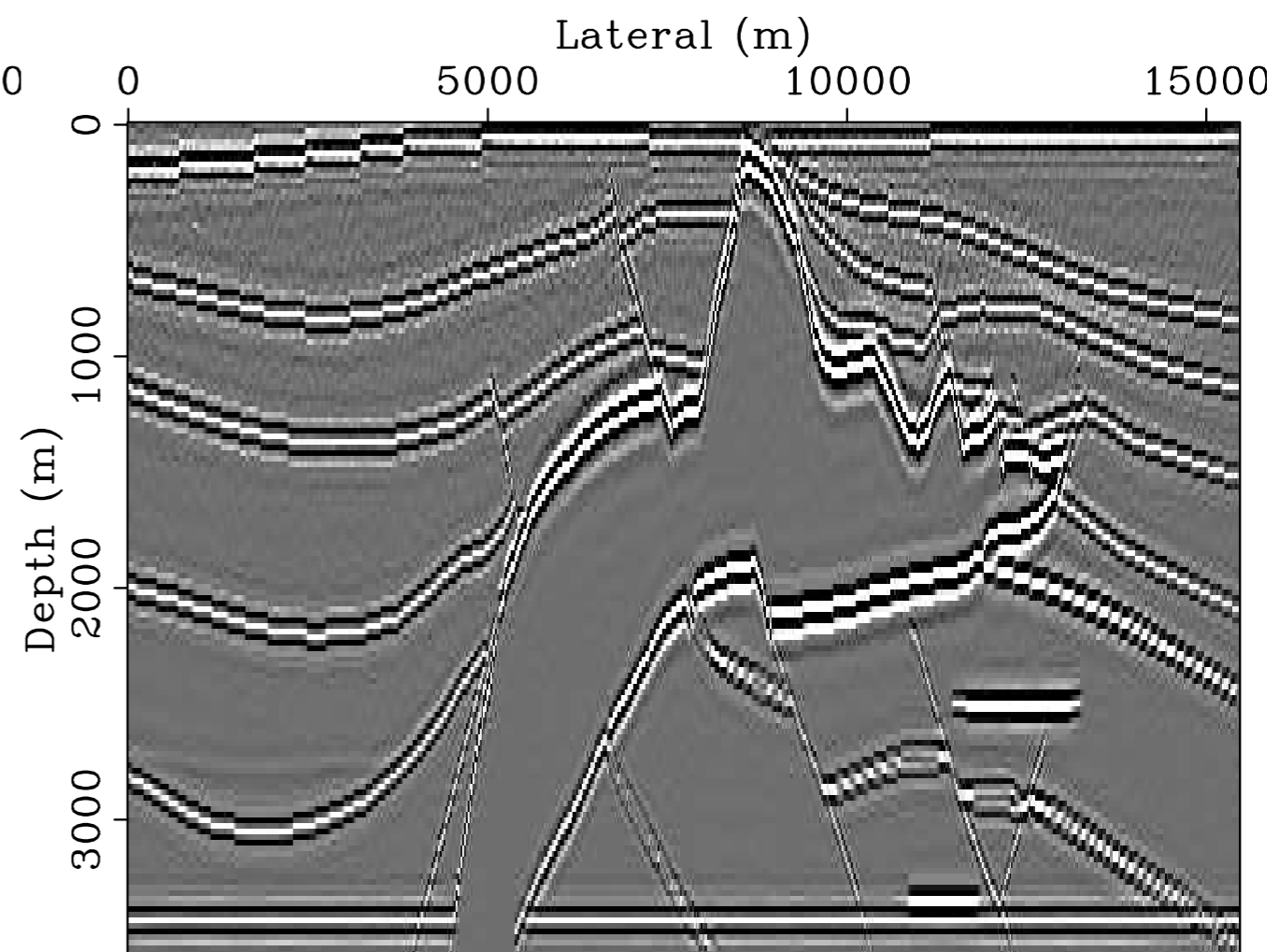
by

F.H, P. Moghaddam & C. Stolk  
to appear in special issue on  
imaging in ACHA





*Migrated data*



*Amplitude-corrected & denoised  
migrated data*

# Existing scaling methods

Methods are based on a diagonal approximation of  $\Psi$

- Illumination-based normalization (Rickett '02)
- Amplitude preserved migration (Plessix & Mulder '04)
- Amplitude corrections (Guitton '04)
- Amplitude scaling (Symes '07)

We are interested in an 'Operator and image adaptive' scaling method which

- estimates the action of  $\Psi$  from a *reference* vector close to the actual image
- assumes a *smooth* symbol of  $\Psi$  in space and angle
- does not require the reflectors to be conormal  $\Leftrightarrow$  allows for conflicting dips
- stably inverts the diagonal

# Our approach

“Forward” model:

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{K}^T \mathbf{K} \mathbf{m} + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$$

$$\approx \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}_0 + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$$

with

$$\mathbf{y} = \text{migrated data}$$

$$\mathbf{A} := \mathbf{C}^T \boldsymbol{\Gamma}$$

$$\mathbf{A} \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{r} \approx \mathbf{K}^T \mathbf{K} \mathbf{r}$$

$$\mathbf{K} = \text{the demigration operator}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} = \text{migrated noise.}$$

- diagonal approximation of the demigration-migration operator
- costs one demigration-migration to estimate the diagonal weighting

# Solution

Solve

$$\mathbf{P} : \begin{cases} \min_{\mathbf{x}} J(\mathbf{x}) & \text{subject to } \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}\|_2 \leq \epsilon \\ \tilde{\mathbf{m}} = (\mathbf{A}^H)^{\dagger} \tilde{\mathbf{x}} \end{cases}$$

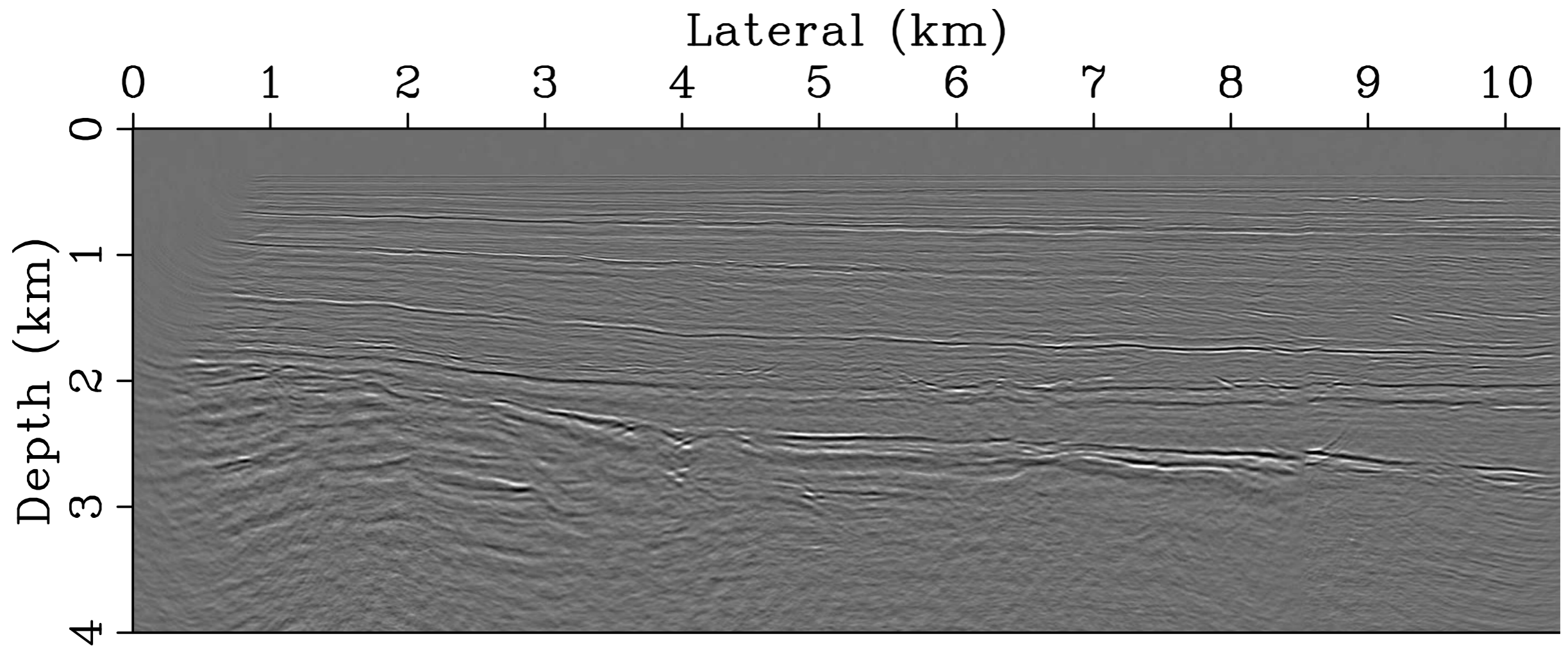
with

$$J(\mathbf{x}) = \overbrace{\alpha \|\mathbf{x}\|_1}^{\text{sparsity}} + \beta \underbrace{\left\| \mathbf{\Lambda}^{1/2} \left( \mathbf{A}^H \right)^{\dagger} \mathbf{x} \right\|_p}_{\text{continuity}}.$$

- need sparsity on the model
- invariance under the normal operator

# Nonlinear approximation

Migrated mobil data set

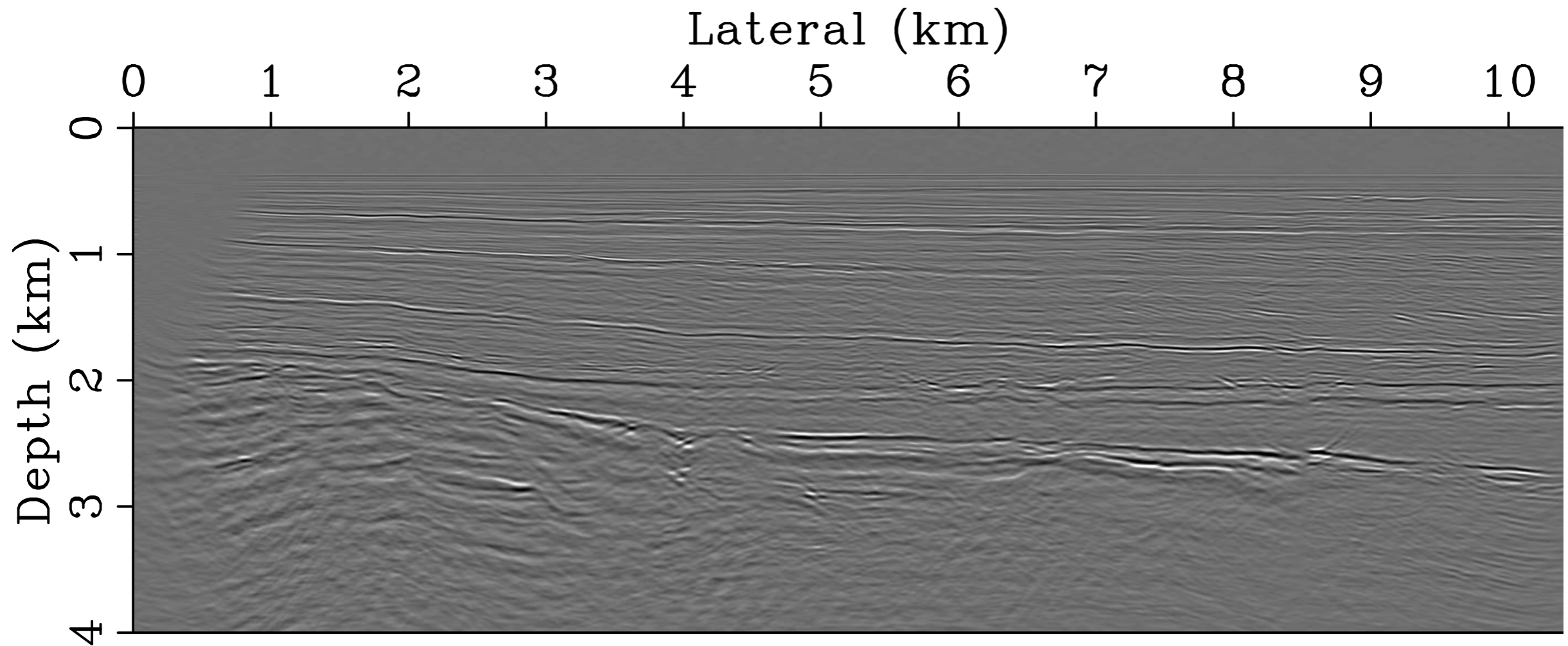


reconstructed data with  $p=99$



# Nonlinear approximation

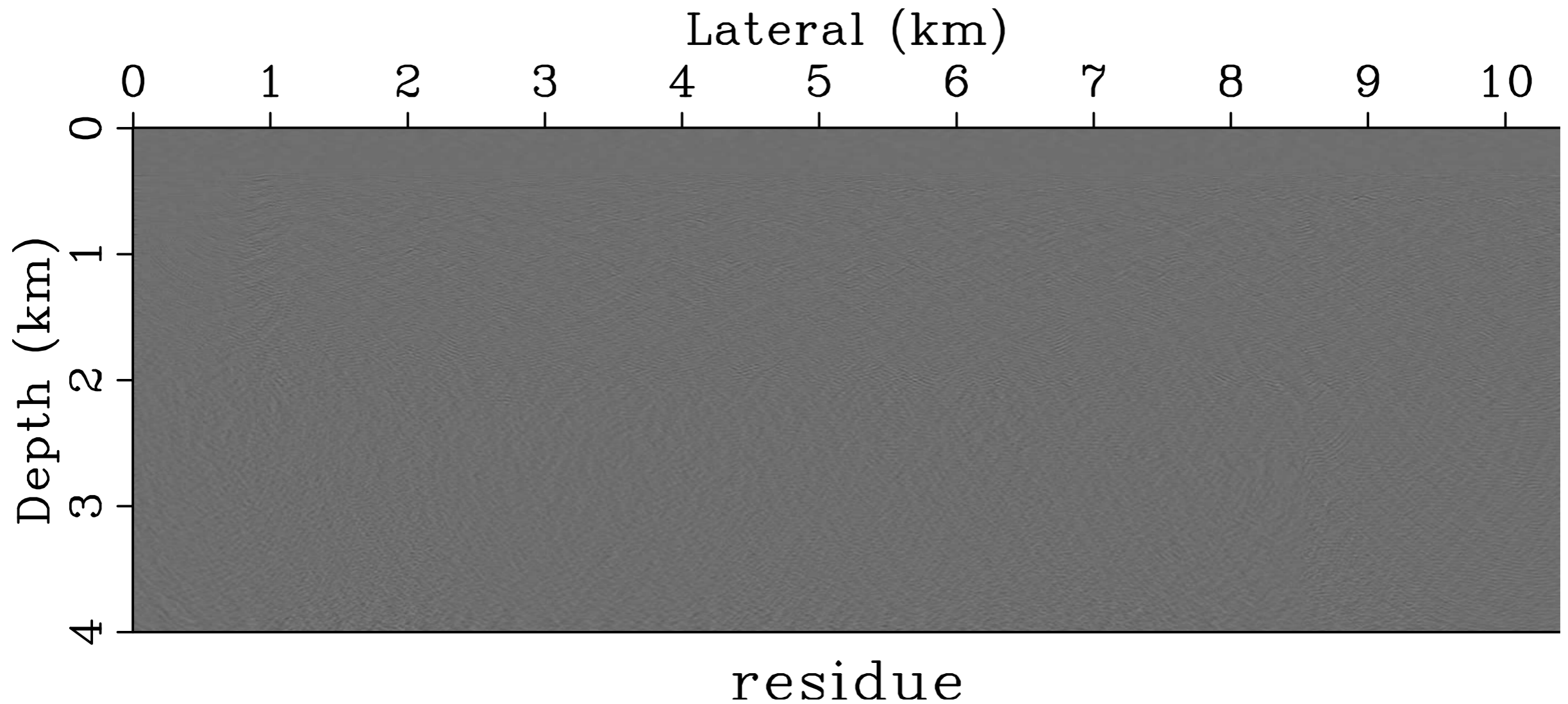
Recovery from largest 3 %



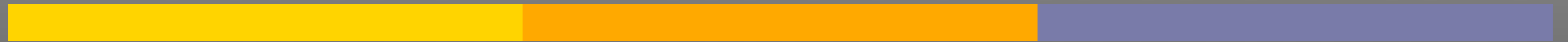
reconstructed data with  $p=3$

# Nonlinear approximation

Difference



# Diagonal approximation of the Hessian



# Normal/Gramm operator

[Stolk 2002, ten Kroode 1997, de Hoop 2000, 2003]

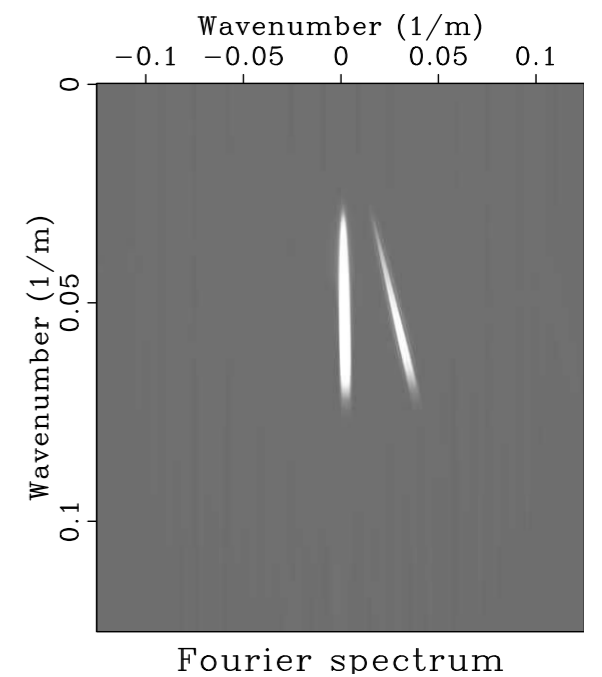
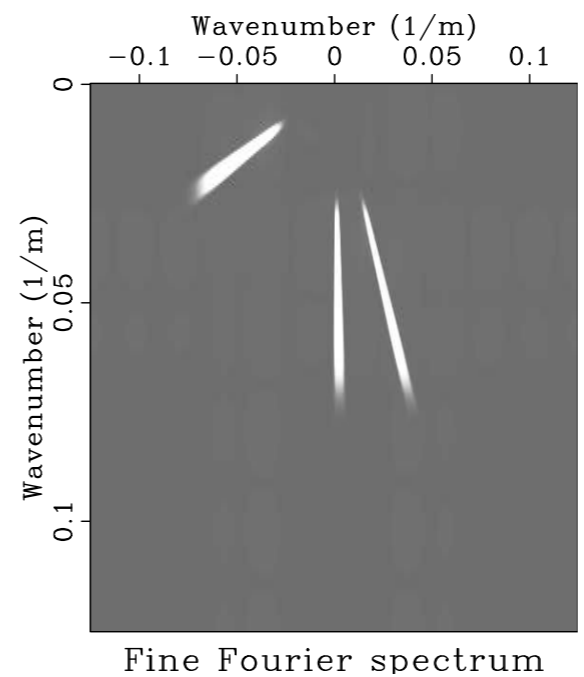
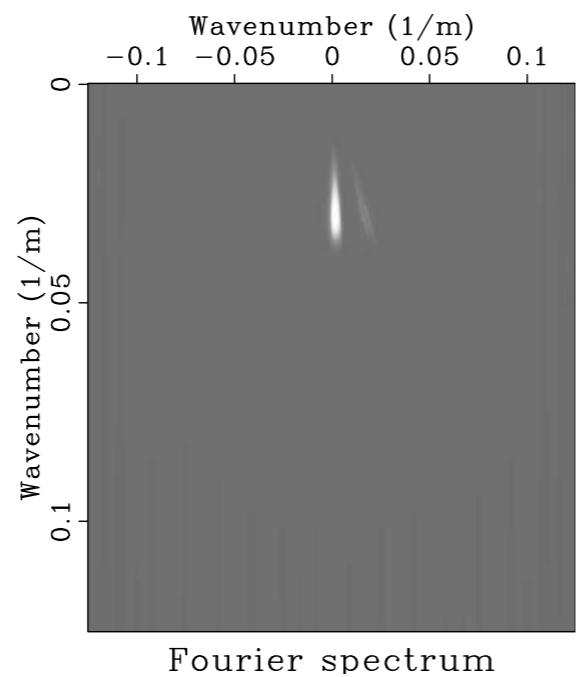
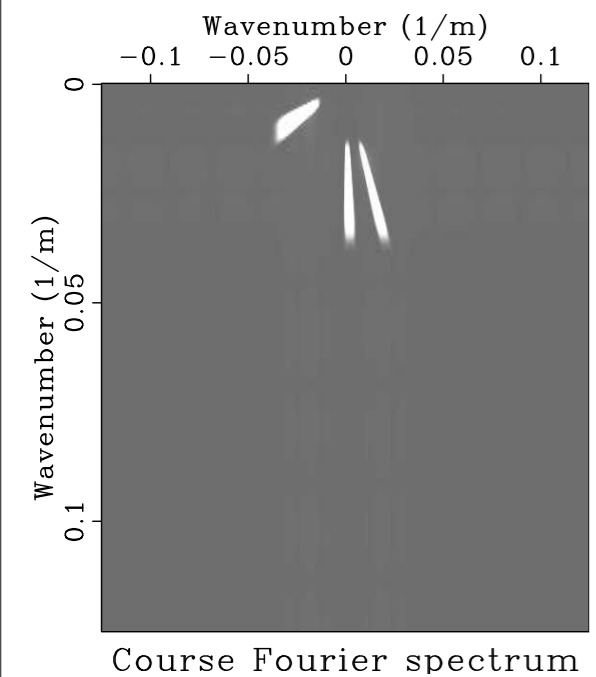
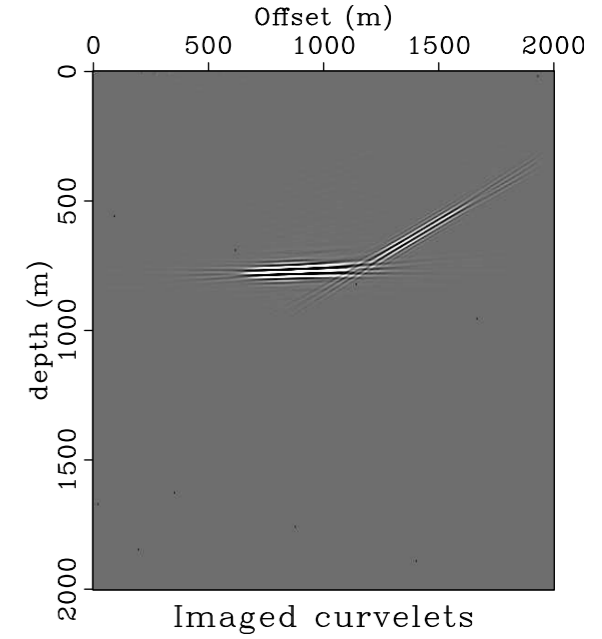
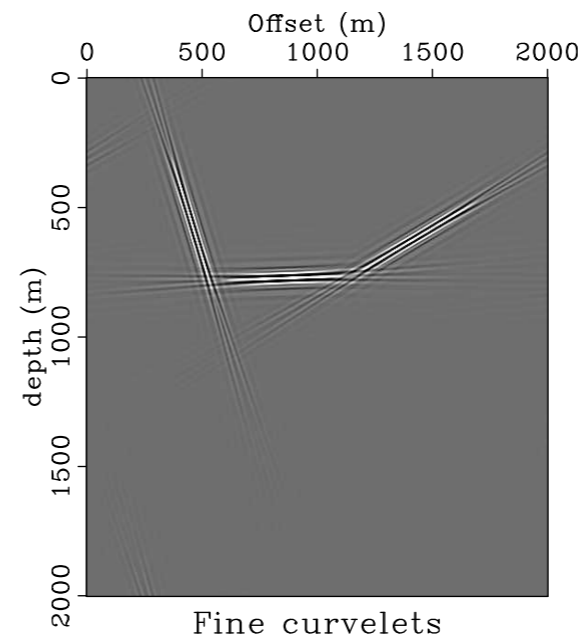
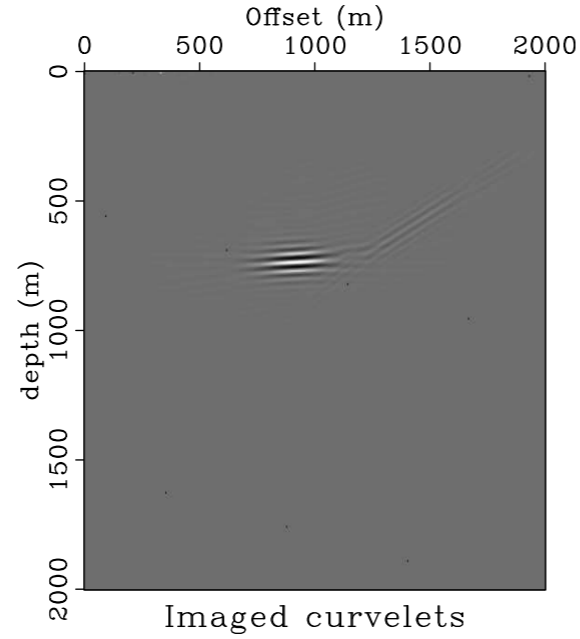
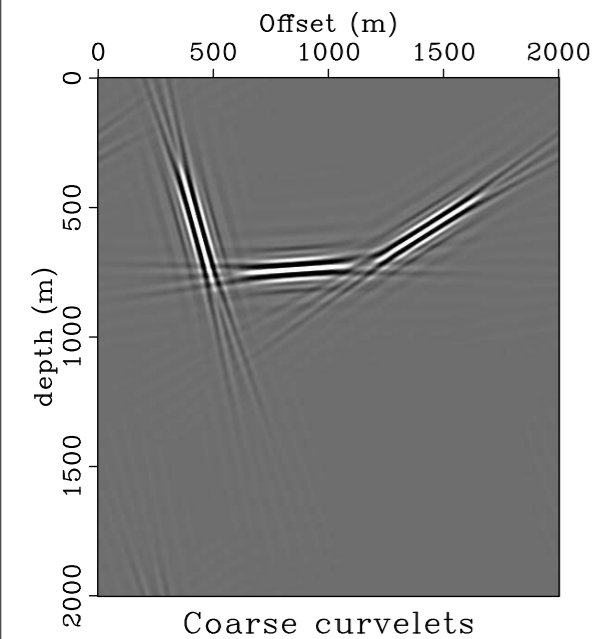
In high-frequency limit  $\Psi$  is a PsDO

$$(\Psi f)(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} e^{-ix \cdot \xi} a(x, \xi) \hat{f}(\xi) d\xi$$

- pseudolocal
- singularities are preserved

Inversion corrects for the 'Hessian'

# Invariance under Gramm matrix



- curvelets remain invariant
- approximation improves for higher frequencies

# Approximation

So let  $\Psi = \Psi(x, D)$  be a pseudodifferential operator of order 0, with homogeneous principal symbol  $a(x, \xi)$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 K &\mapsto K (-\Delta)^{-1/2} & \text{or} & & K &\mapsto \partial_t^{-1/2} K \\
 m &\mapsto (-\Delta)^{1/2} m & \text{with} & & ((-\Delta)^\alpha f)^\wedge(\xi) &= |\xi|^{2\alpha} \cdot \hat{f}(\xi).
 \end{aligned}$$

**Lemma 1.** *With  $C'$  some constant, the following holds*

$$\|(\Psi(x, D) - a(x_\nu, \xi_\nu))\varphi_\nu\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)} \leq C' 2^{-|\nu|/2}. \quad (14)$$

To approximate  $\Psi$ , we define the sequence  $\mathbf{u} := (u_\mu)_{\mu \in \mathcal{M}} = a(x_\mu, \xi_\mu)$ . Let  $\mathbf{D}_\Psi$  be the diagonal matrix with entries given by  $\mathbf{u}$ . Next we state our result on the approximation of  $\Psi$  by  $C^T \mathbf{D}_\Psi C$ .

# Approximation

**Theorem 1.** *The following estimate for the error holds*

$$\|(\Psi(x, D) - C^T \mathbf{D}_\Psi C) \varphi_\mu\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^n)} \leq C'' 2^{-|\mu|/2},$$

where  $C''$  is a constant depending on  $\Psi$ .

**Allows for the decomposition**

$$\begin{aligned} (\Psi \varphi_\mu)(x) &\simeq (C^T \mathbf{D}_\Psi C \varphi_\mu)(x) \\ &= (A A^T \varphi_\mu)(x) \end{aligned}$$

with  $A := \sqrt{\mathbf{D}_\Psi} C$  and  $A^T := C^T \sqrt{\mathbf{D}_\Psi}$ .

# Approximation

$$\begin{aligned} y(x) &= (\Psi m)(x) + e(x) \\ &\simeq (AA^T m)(x) + e(x) \\ &= Ax_0 + e, \end{aligned}$$

Wavelet-vagulette like

Amenable to nonlinear recovery



# Estimation of the diagonal scaling



# Diagonal estimation

Define a reference vector (say conventional image).

Calculate 'data'

$$\mathbf{b} = \Psi \mathbf{r}$$

Define the matrix

$$\mathbf{P} := \mathbf{C}^T \text{diag}(\mathbf{v}) \quad \text{with} \quad \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{C} \mathbf{r}$$

Invert

$$\tilde{\mathbf{u}} = \arg \min_{\mathbf{u}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{P} \mathbf{u}\|_2^2 + \eta^2 \|\mathbf{L} \mathbf{u}\|_2^2$$

# Diagonal estimation

Impose smoothness in phase space

$$\mathbf{L} = [\mathbf{D}_1 \quad \mathbf{D}_2 \quad \mathbf{D}_\theta]$$

Calculate:  $\mathbf{b} = \Psi \mathbf{r}$  and  $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{C} \mathbf{r}$ .

Set:  $\eta = \eta_{min}$ ;

**while**  $\exists (\tilde{u}_\mu)_{\mu \in \mathcal{M}} < 0$  **do**

Solve

$$\tilde{\mathbf{u}} = \arg \min_{\mathbf{u}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{P} \mathbf{u}\|_2^2 + \eta^2 \|\mathbf{L} \mathbf{u}\|_2^2$$

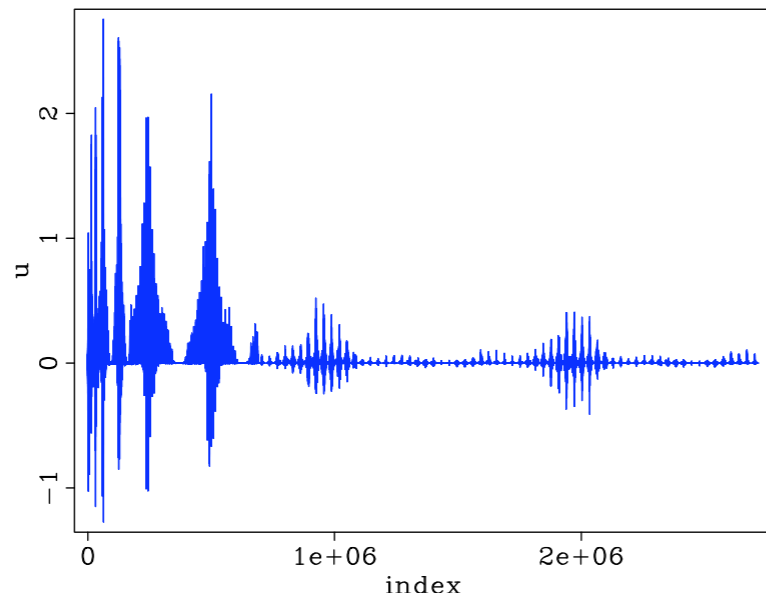
Increase the Lagrange multiplier

$$\lambda = \eta + \Delta \eta$$

**end while**

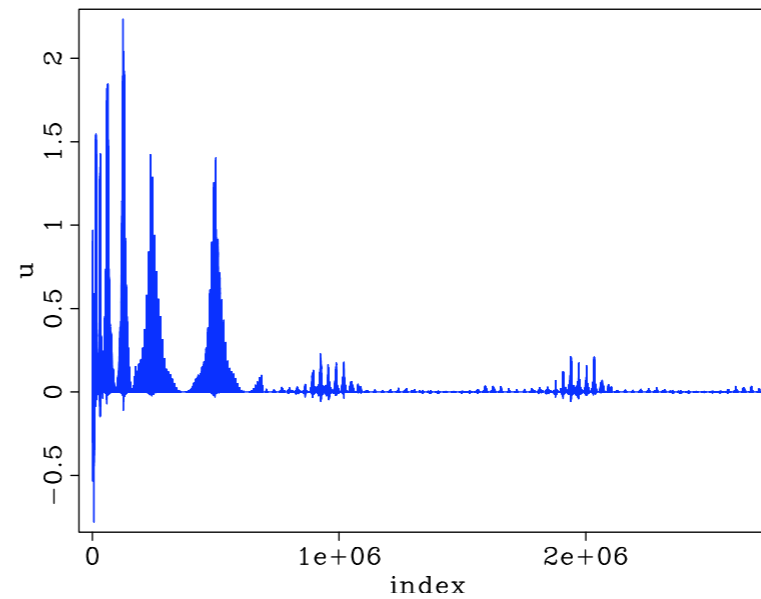
# Diagonal estimation

Diagonal estimation 0.01



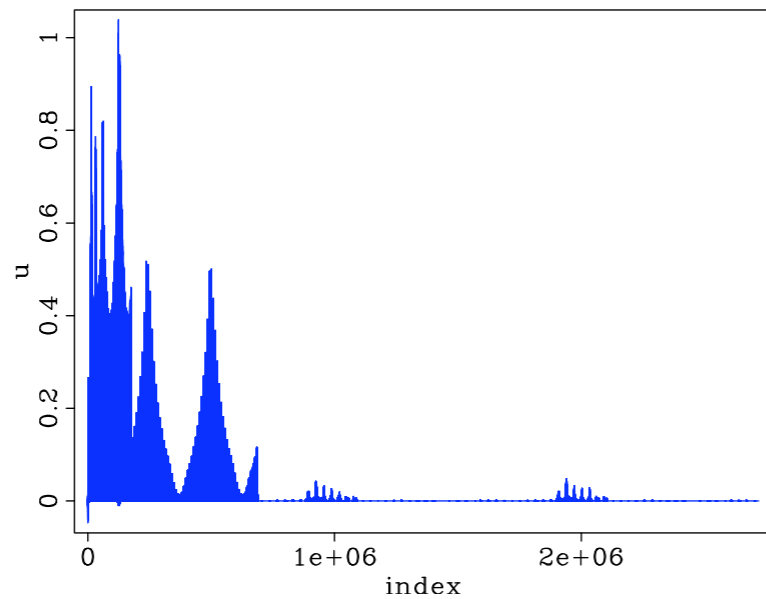
(a)

Diagonal estimation 0.1

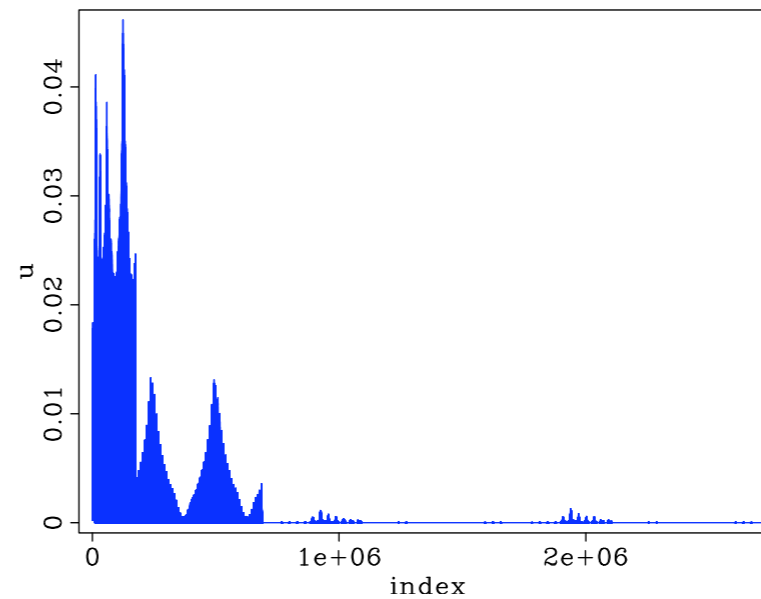


(b)

Diagonal estimation 1



Diagonal estimation 10



# Seismic amplitude recovery



# Recovery

Final form

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}_0 + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$$

with  $\mathbf{x}_0 = \boldsymbol{\Gamma}\mathbf{C}\mathbf{m}$  and  $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{e}$ .

Solve

$$\mathbf{P} : \begin{cases} \min_{\mathbf{x}} J(\mathbf{x}) & \text{subject to } \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}\|_2 \leq \epsilon \\ \tilde{\mathbf{m}} = (\mathbf{A}^H)^\dagger \tilde{\mathbf{x}} \end{cases}$$

with

$$J(\mathbf{x}) = \underbrace{\alpha \|\mathbf{x}\|_1}_{\text{sparsity}} + \beta \underbrace{\|\boldsymbol{\Lambda}^{1/2} (\mathbf{A}^H)^\dagger \mathbf{x}\|_p}_{\text{continuity}}.$$

# Image recovery

## anisotropic diffusion

[Black et. al '98, Fehmers et. al. '03 and Shertzer '03]

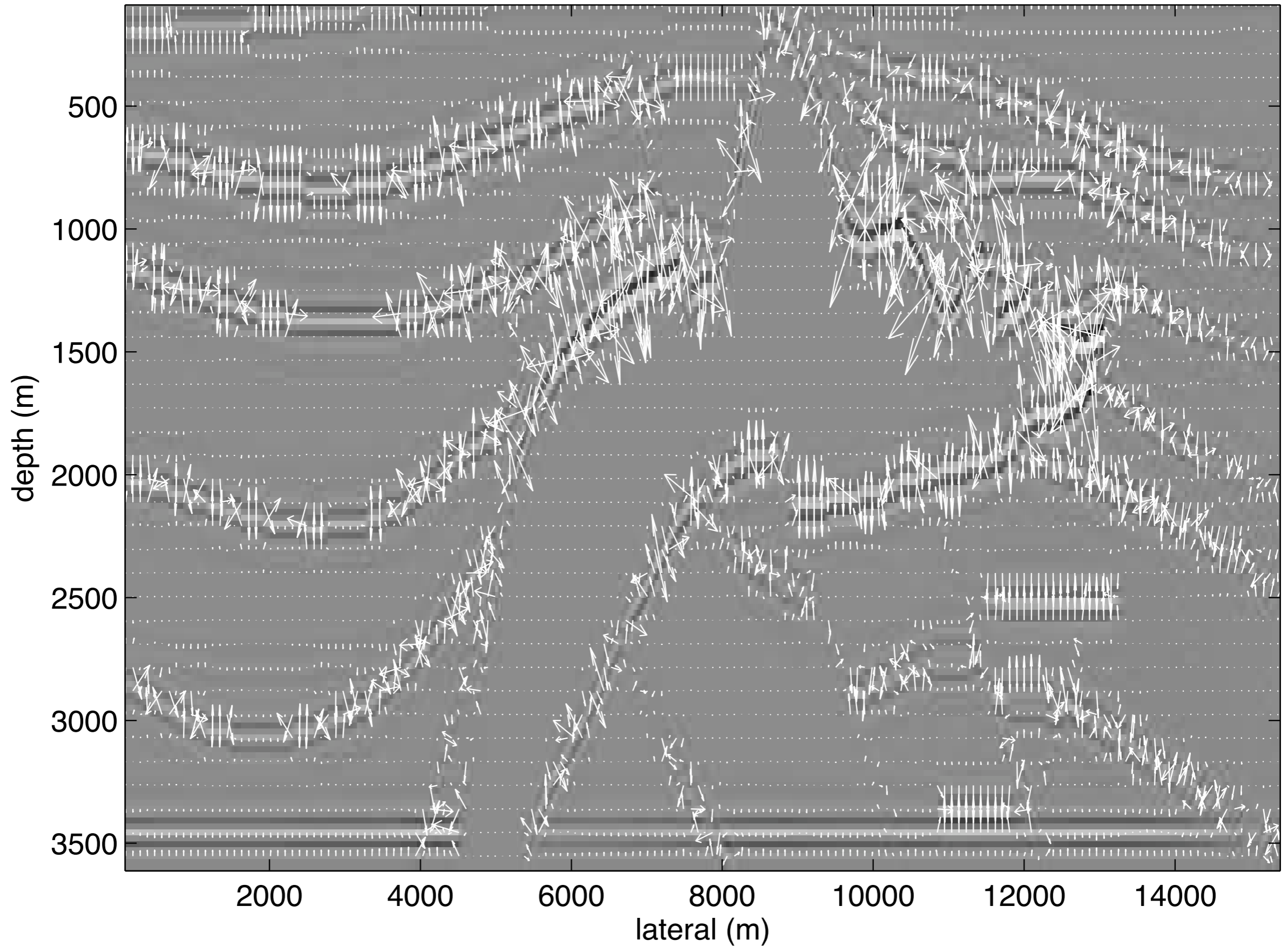
Define

$$J_c(\mathbf{m}) = \|\Lambda^{1/2} \nabla \mathbf{m}\|_p$$

with  $p=2$

$$\Lambda[\mathbf{r}] = \frac{1}{\|\nabla \mathbf{r}\|_2^2 + 2v} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \left( \begin{array}{l} +\mathbf{D}_2 \mathbf{r} \\ -\mathbf{D}_1 \mathbf{r} \end{array} \right) \left( \begin{array}{cc} +\mathbf{D}_2 \mathbf{r} & -\mathbf{D}_1 \mathbf{r} \end{array} \right) + v \mathbf{Id} \end{array} \right\}$$

# Gradient of the reference vector





# Recovery

**Step 1:** Update of the Jacobian of  $\frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}\|_2^2$ :

$$\mathbf{x} \leftarrow \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{A}^T (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x});$$

**Step 2:** projection onto the  $\ell_1$  ball  $S = \{\|\mathbf{x}\|_1 \leq \|\mathbf{x}_0\|_1\}$  by soft thresholding

$$\mathbf{x} \leftarrow T_{\lambda \mathbf{w}}(\mathbf{x});$$

**Step 3:** projection onto the anisotropic diffusion ball  $C = \{\mathbf{x} : J(\mathbf{x}) \leq J(\mathbf{x}_0)\}$   
by

$$\mathbf{x} \leftarrow \mathbf{x} - \kappa \nabla_{\mathbf{x}} J_c(\mathbf{x})$$

```

Initialize:

m = 0;

 $\mathbf{x}^0 = \mathbf{0}$ ;

 $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{K}^T \mathbf{d}$ ;

Choose:

M and L

 $\|\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{y}\|_\infty > \lambda_1 > \lambda_2 > \dots$ 

while  $\|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{A}\tilde{\mathbf{x}}\|_2 > \epsilon$  do

    m = m + 1;

     $\mathbf{x}^m = \mathbf{x}^{m-1}$ ;

    for l = 1 to L do

         $\mathbf{x}^m = T_{\lambda_m}(\mathbf{x}^m + \mathbf{A}^T (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{x}^m))$  {Iterative thresholding}

    end for

    Anisotropic descent update;

     $\mathbf{x}^m = \mathbf{x}^m - \beta \nabla_{\mathbf{x}^m} J_c(\mathbf{x}^m)$ ;

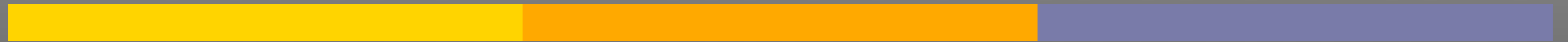
end while

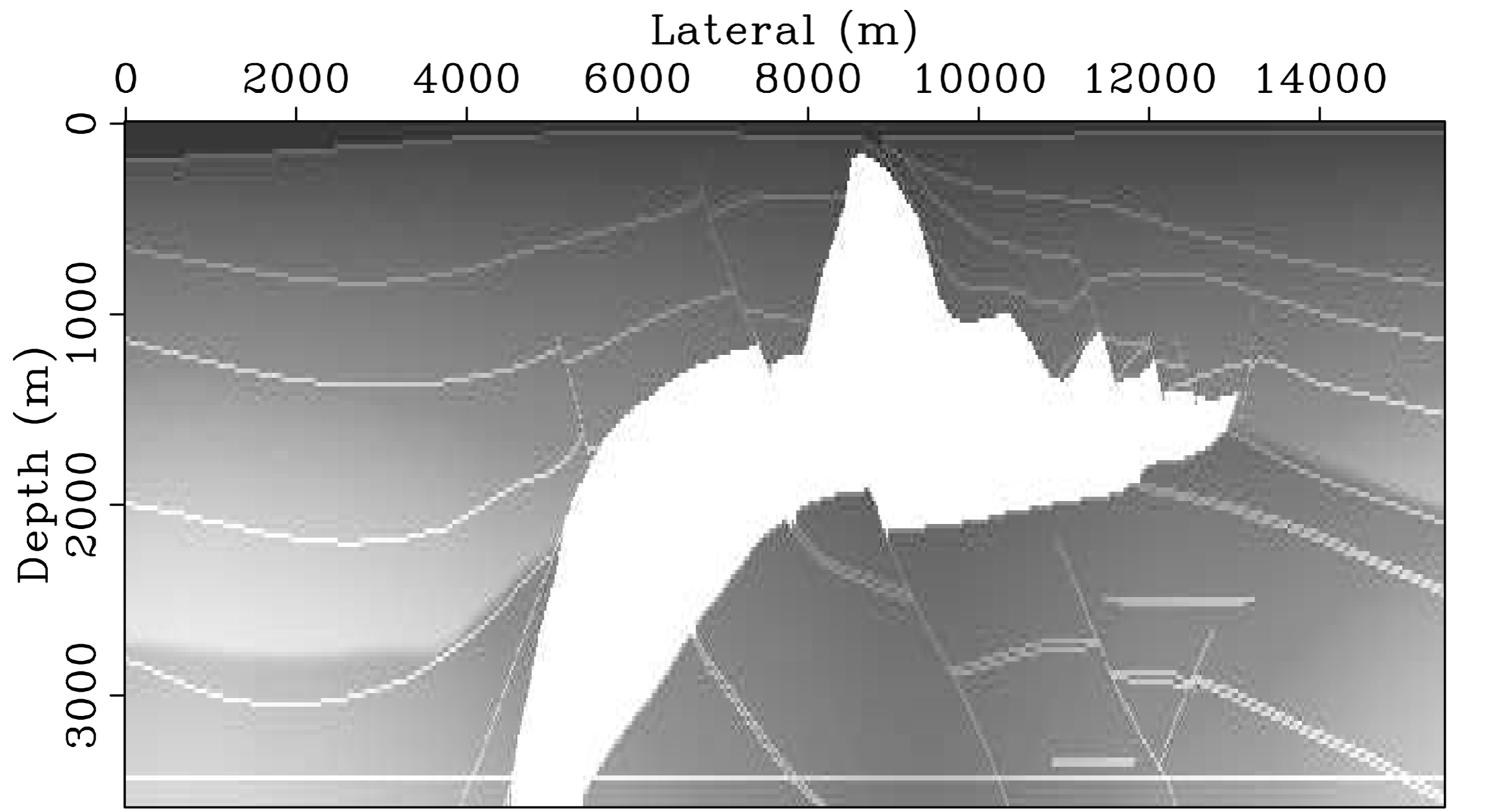
 $\tilde{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{x}_m$ ;  $\tilde{\mathbf{m}} = (\mathbf{A}^T)^\dagger \tilde{\mathbf{x}}$ .

```

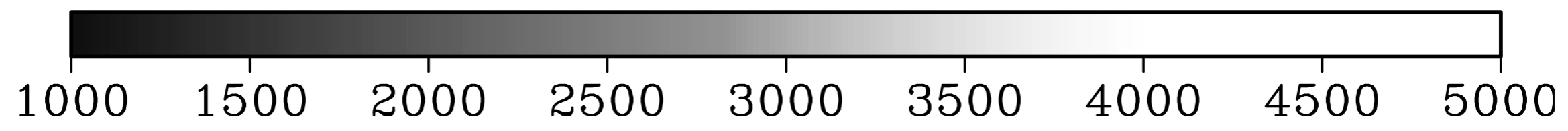
Table 2: Sparsity-and continuity-enhancing recovery of seismic amplitudes.

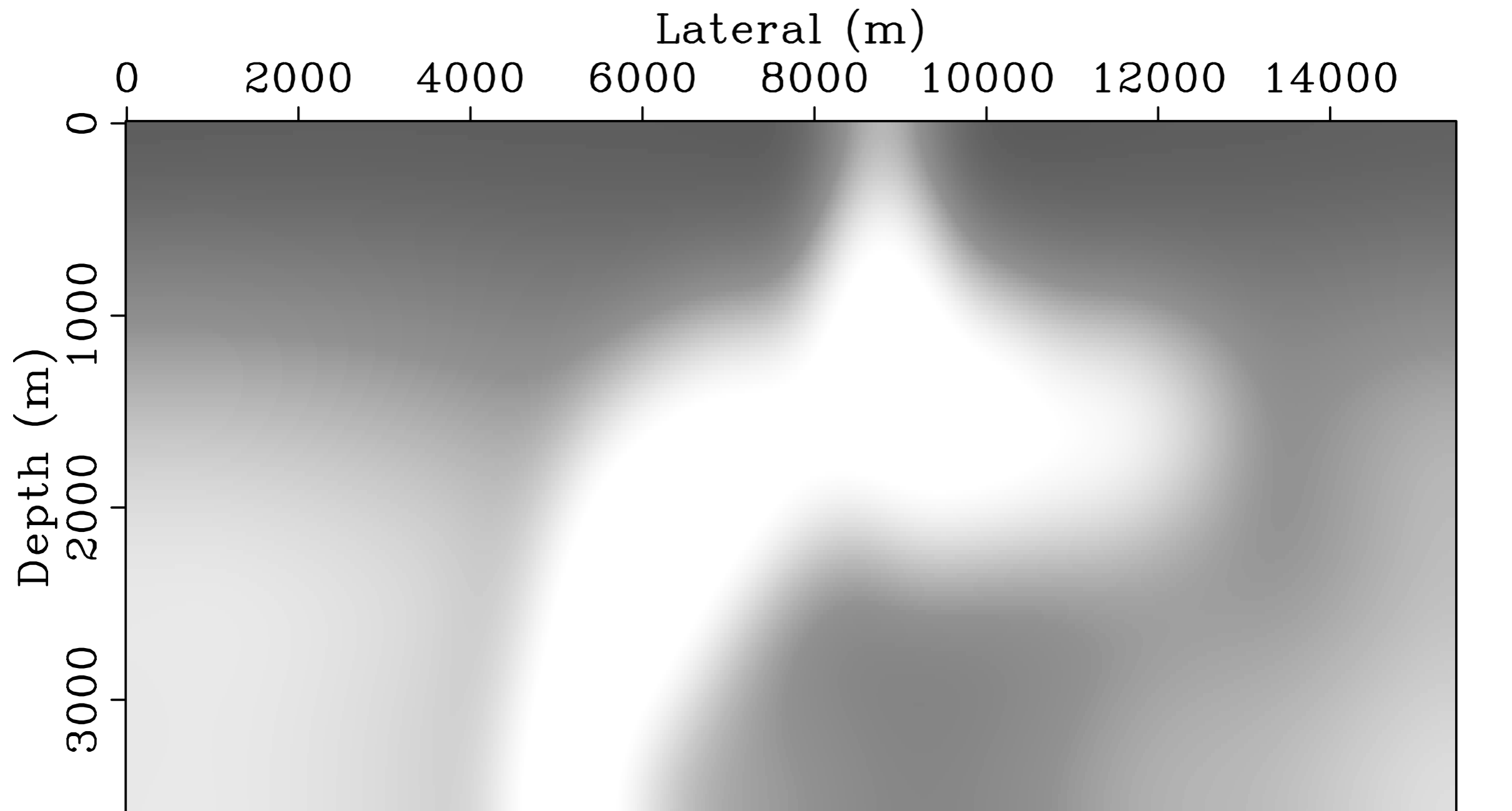
# Application to the SEG AA' model



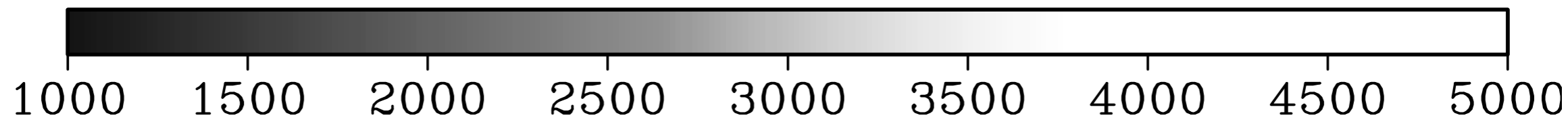


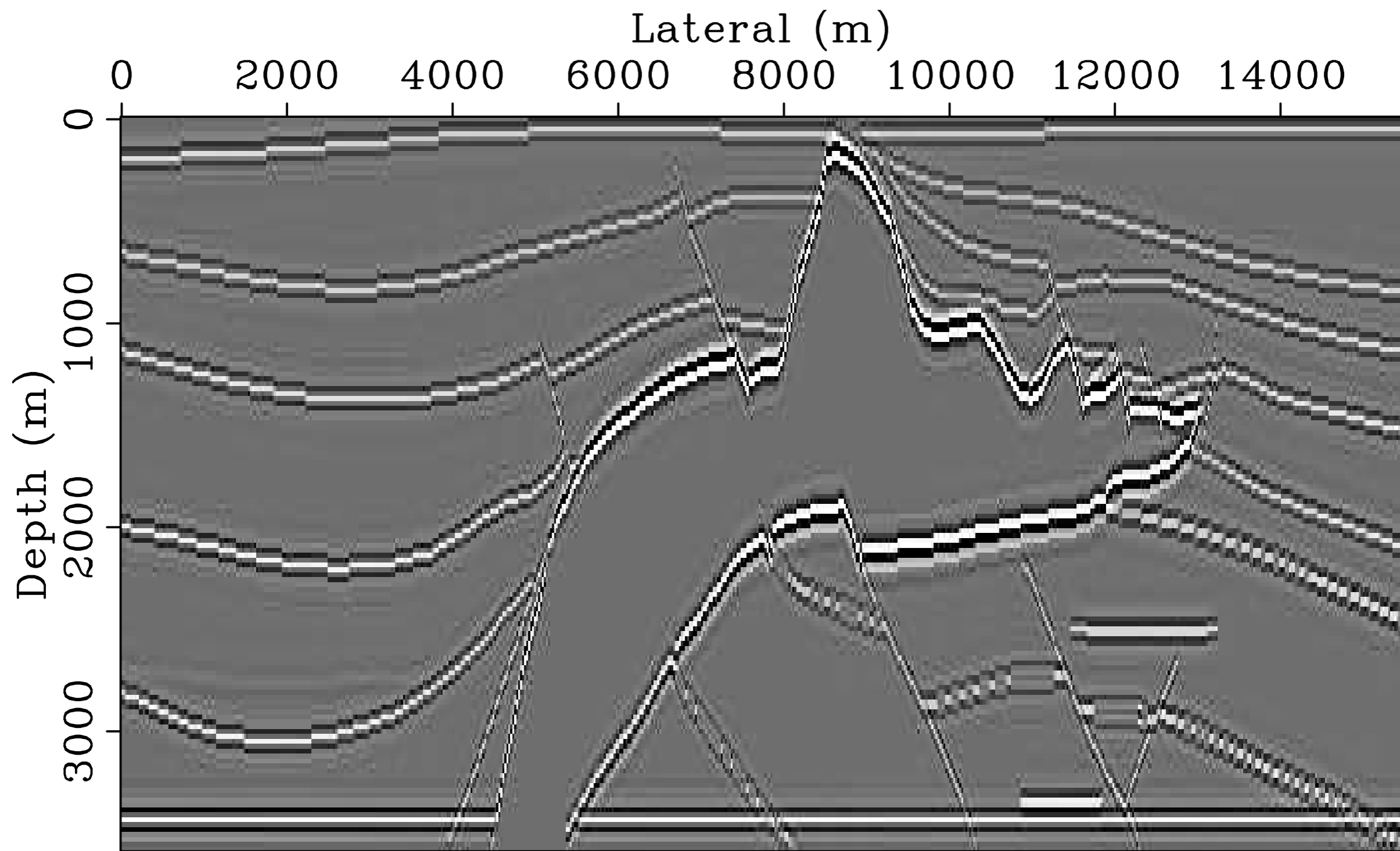
velocity model





smoothed velocity model





bandpass-filtered reflectivity

# Example

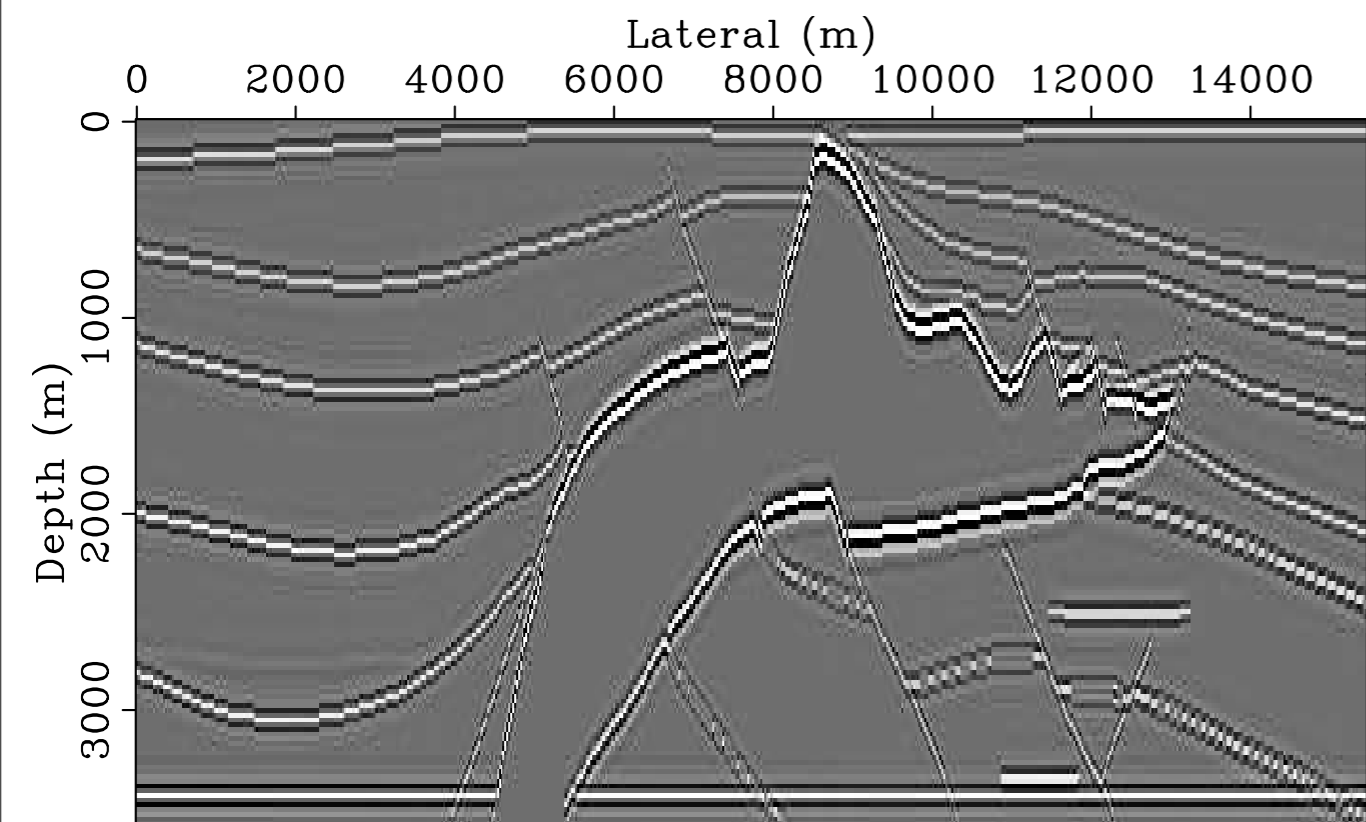
## SEGAA' data:

- “broad-band” half-integrated wavelet [5-60 Hz]
- 324 shots, 176 receivers, shot at 48 m
- 5 s of data

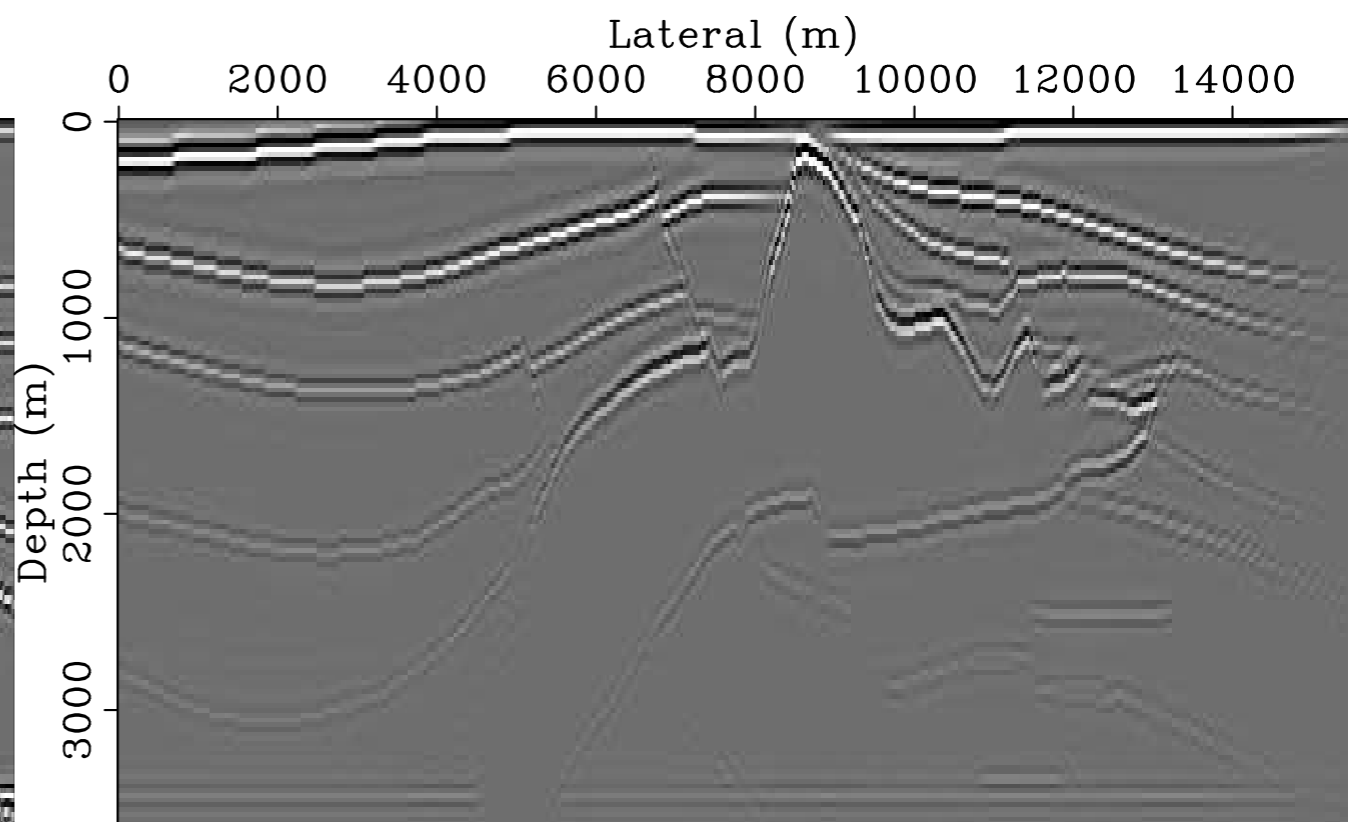
## Modeling operator

- Reverse-time migration with optimal check pointing (Symes '07)
- 8000 time steps
- **linearized** modeling 64, and migration 294 minutes on 68 CPU's

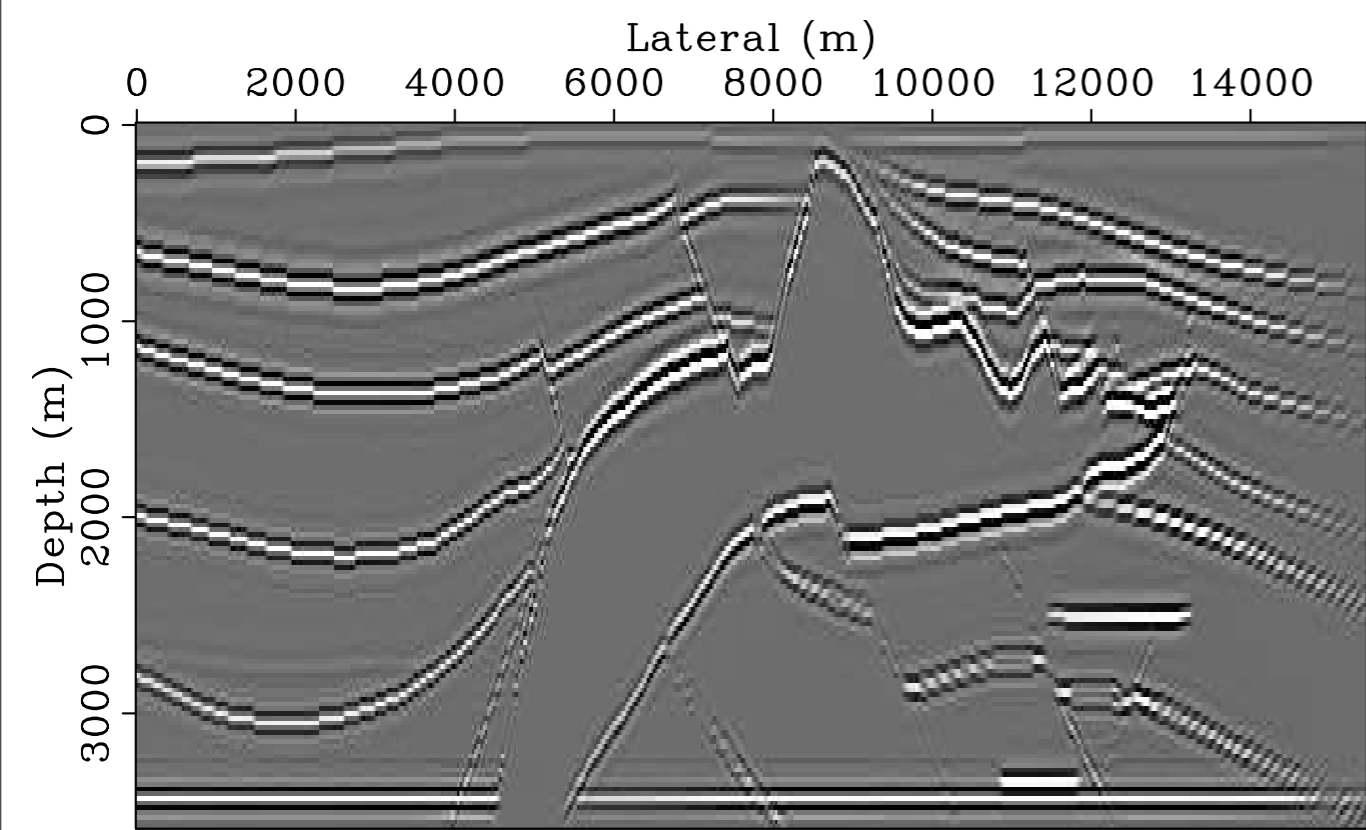
Scaling required 1 extra migration-demigration



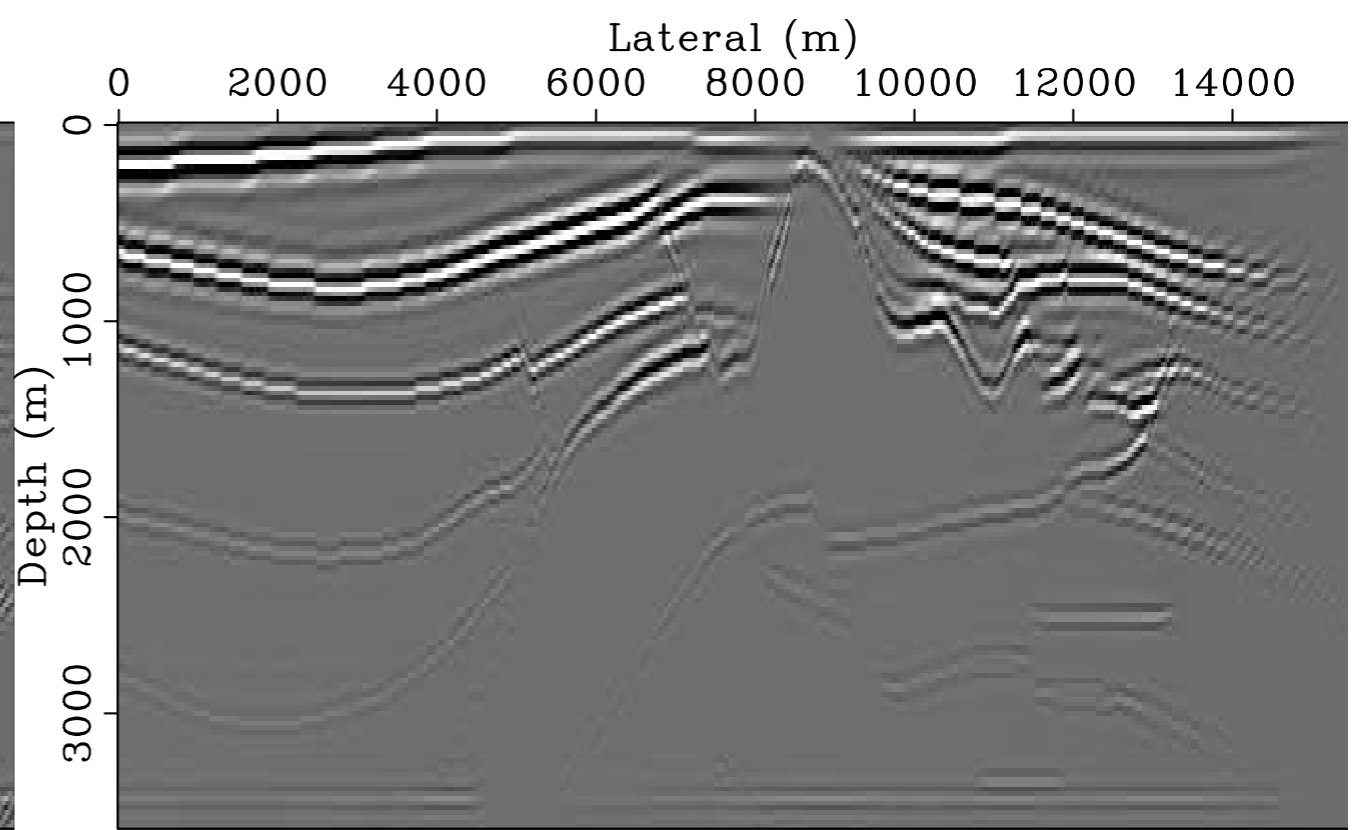
bandpass-filtered reflectivity



migrated image

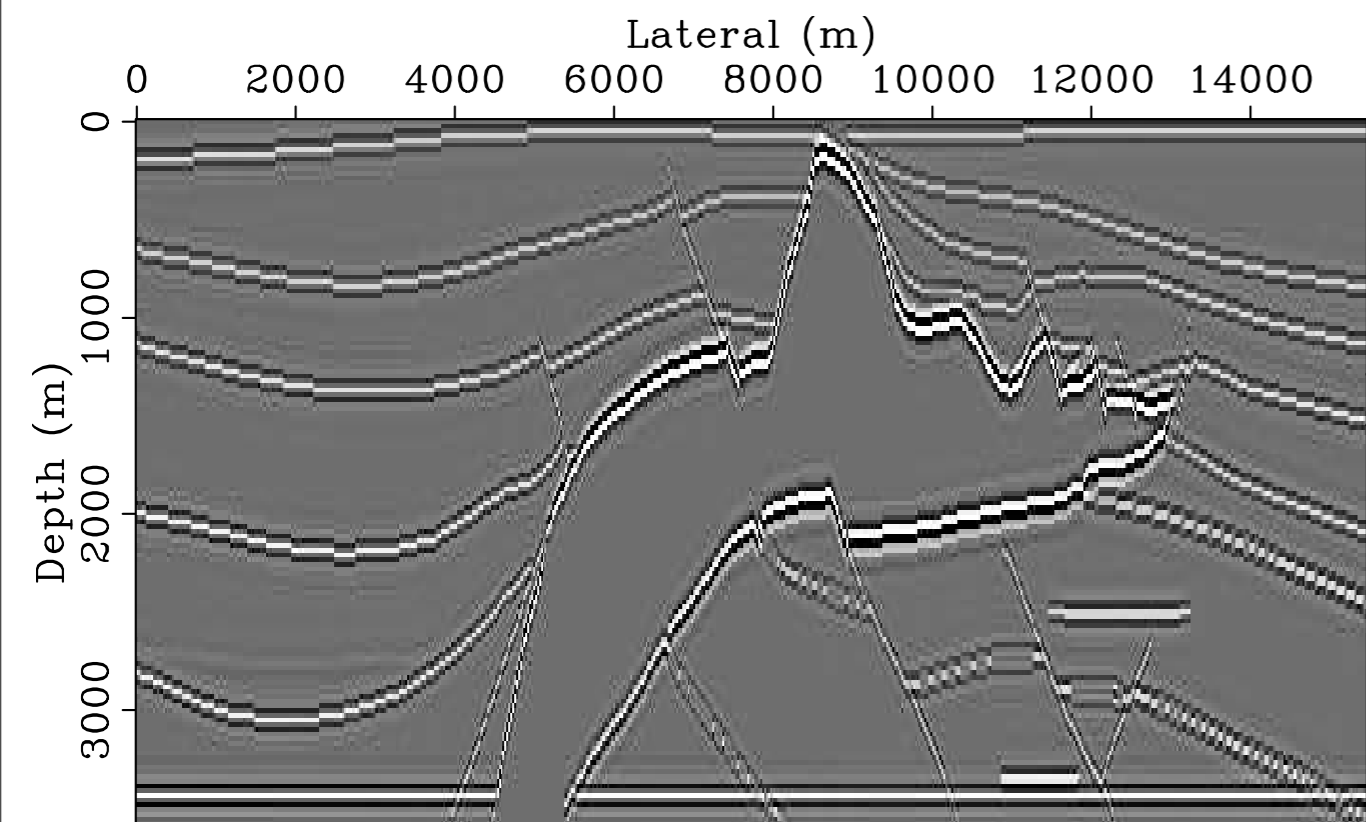


reference vector

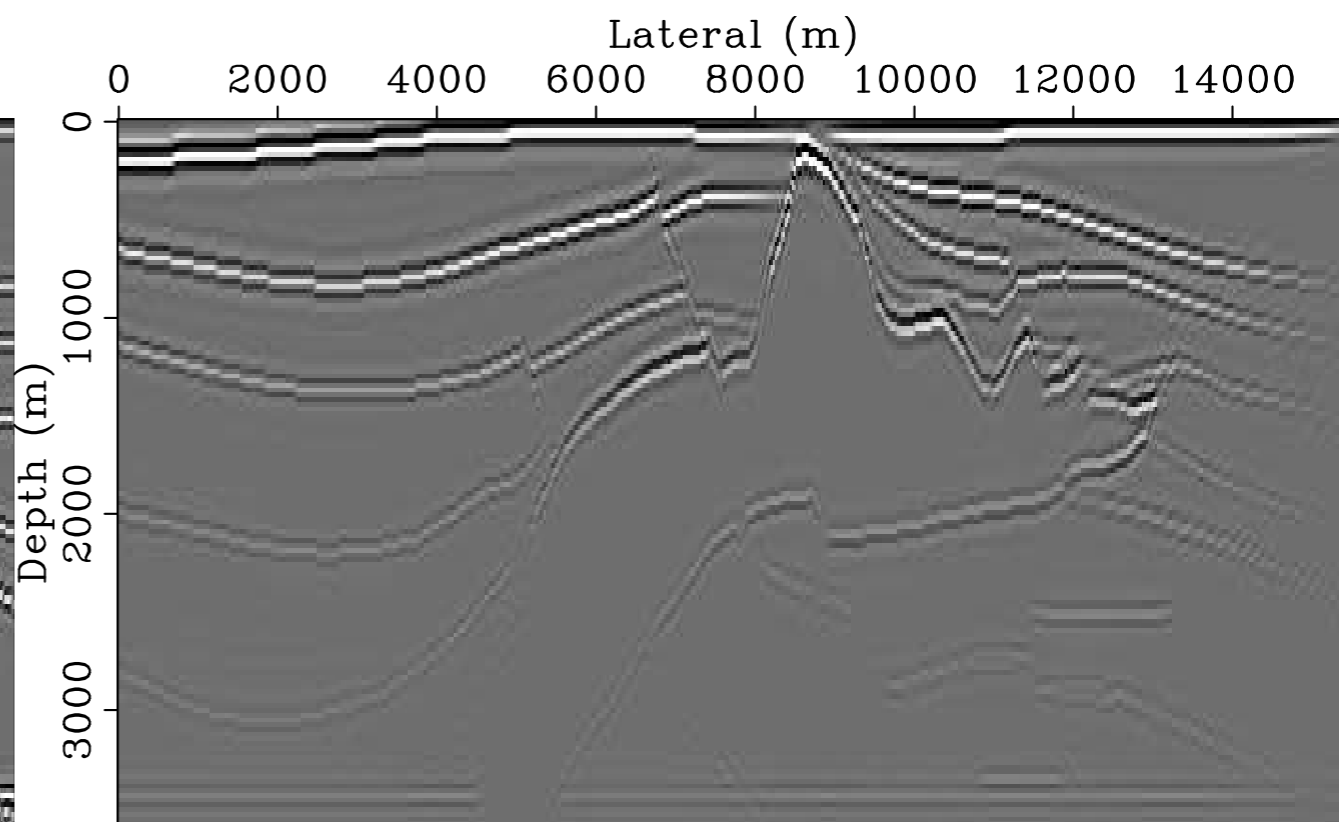


imaged reference vector

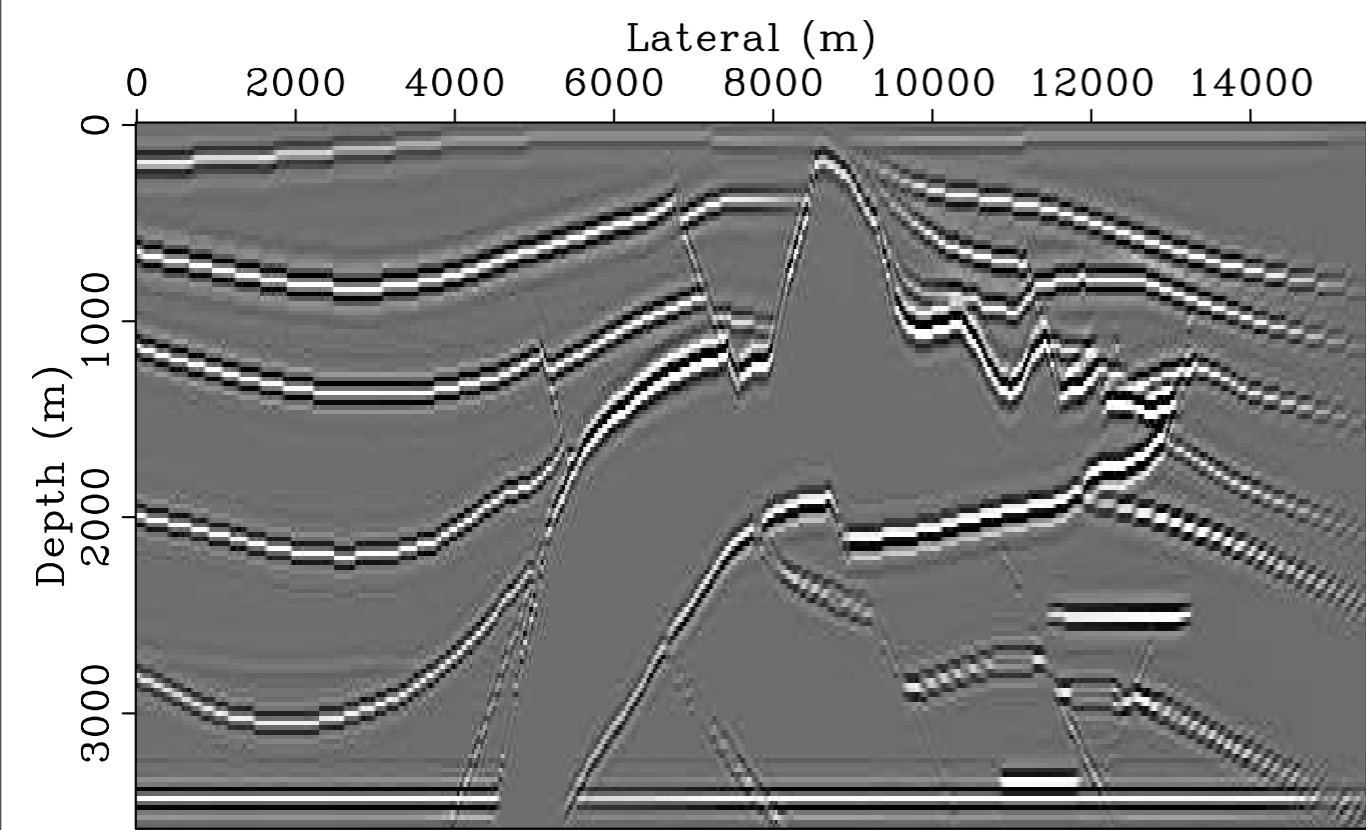




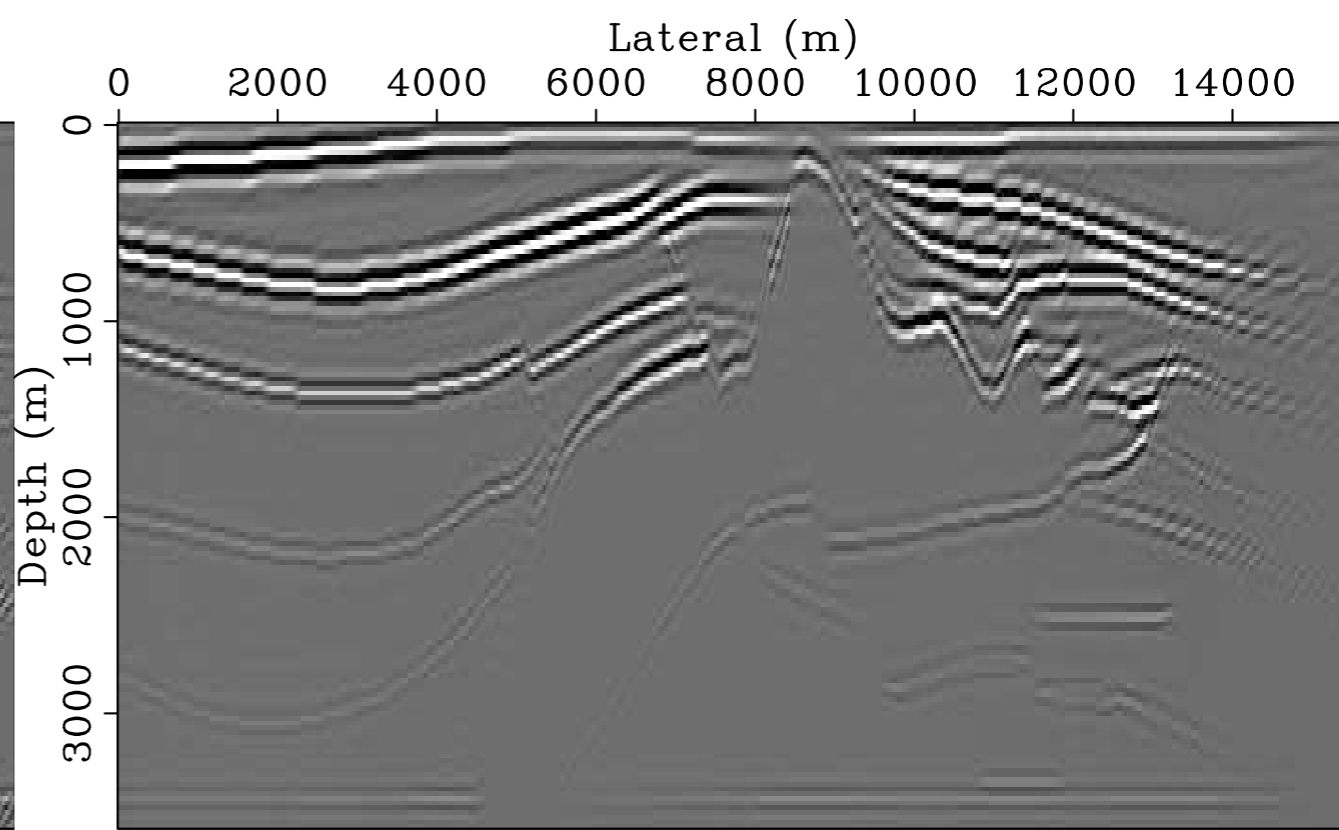
bandpass-filtered reflectivity



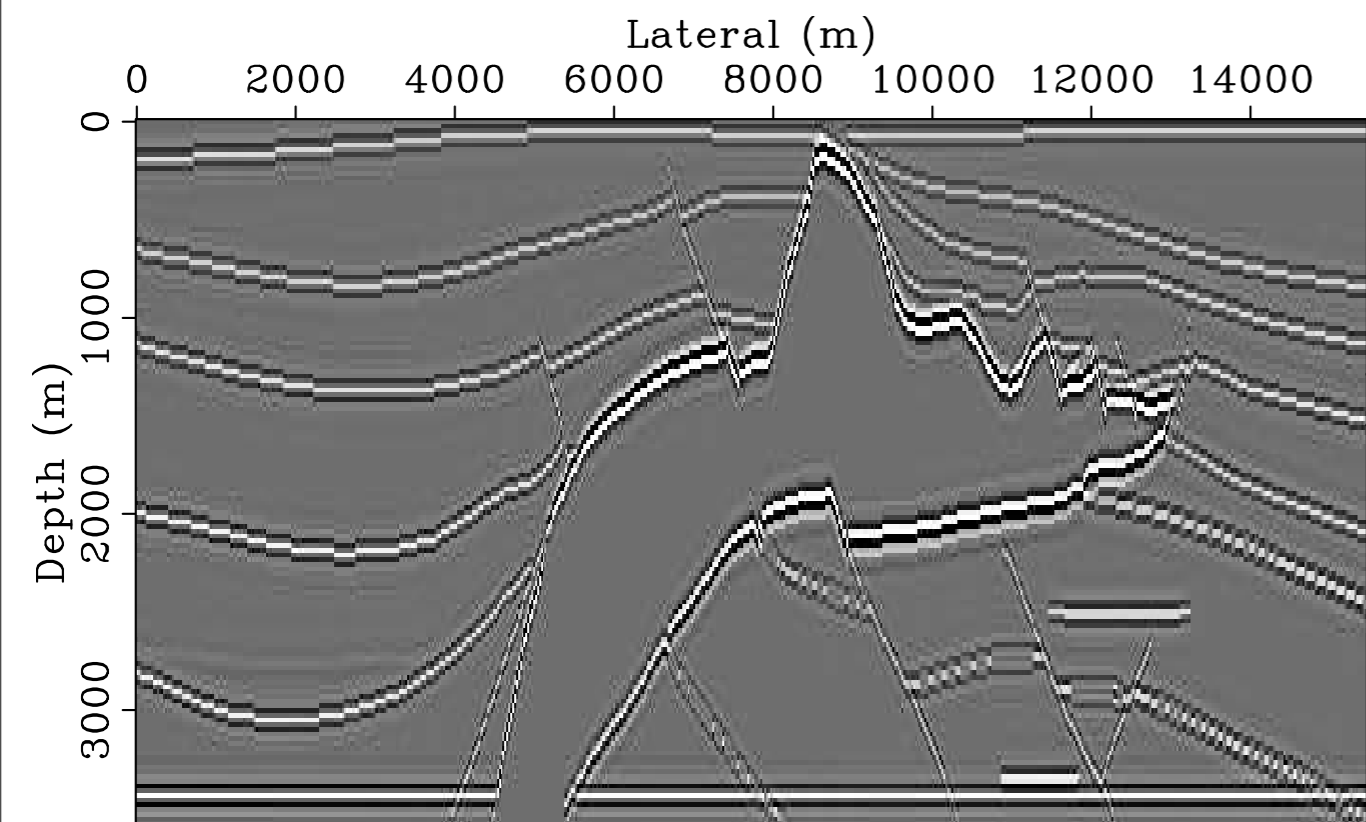
migrated image



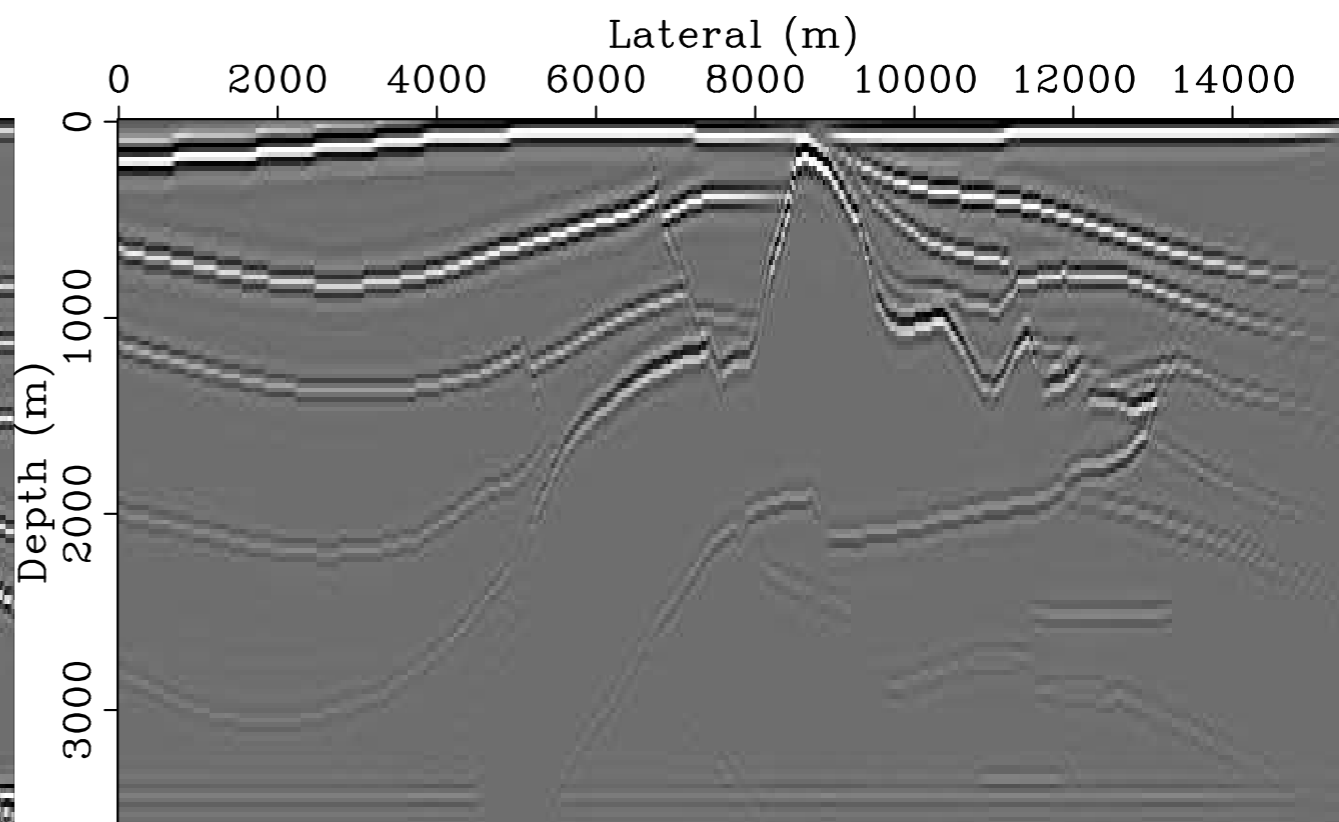
reference vector



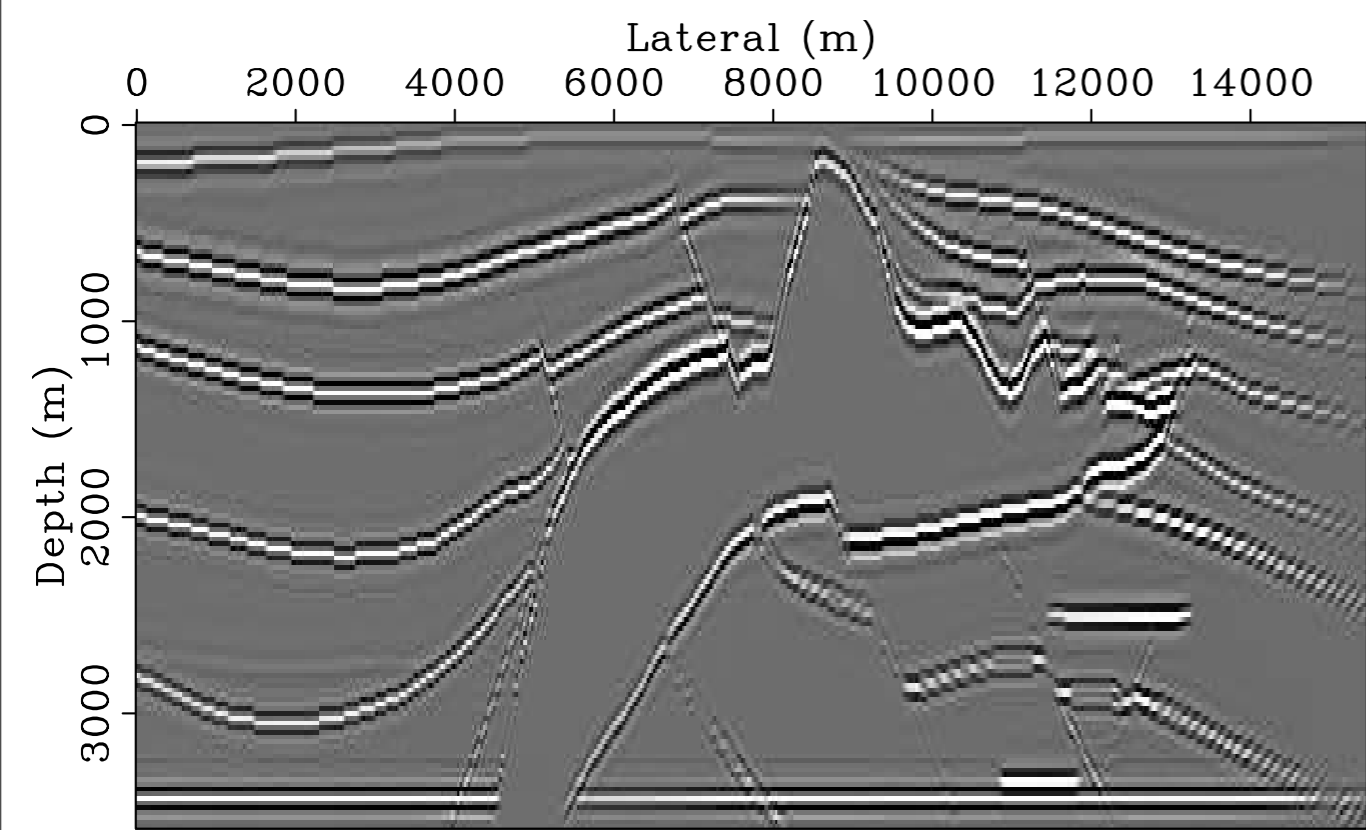
diagonal approximation



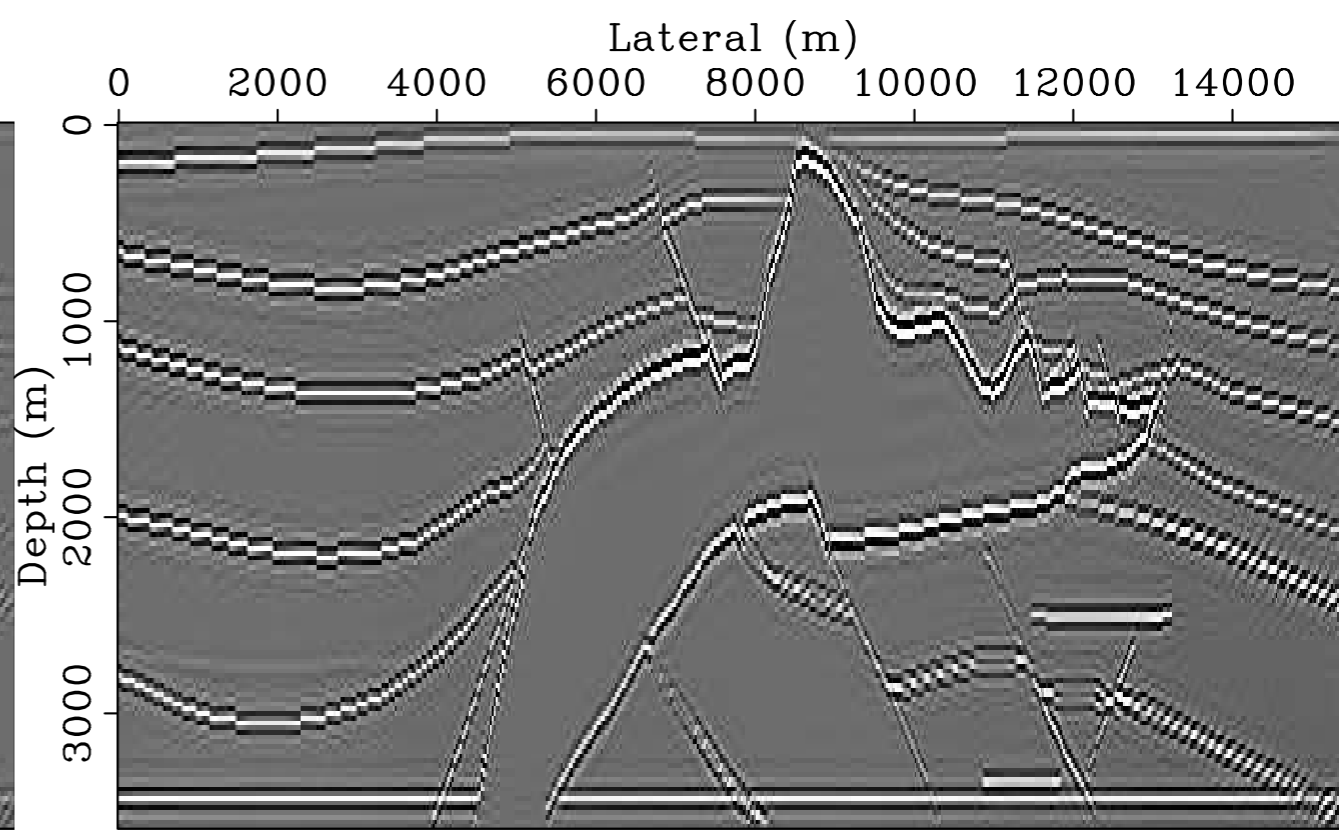
bandpass-filtered reflectivity



migrated image

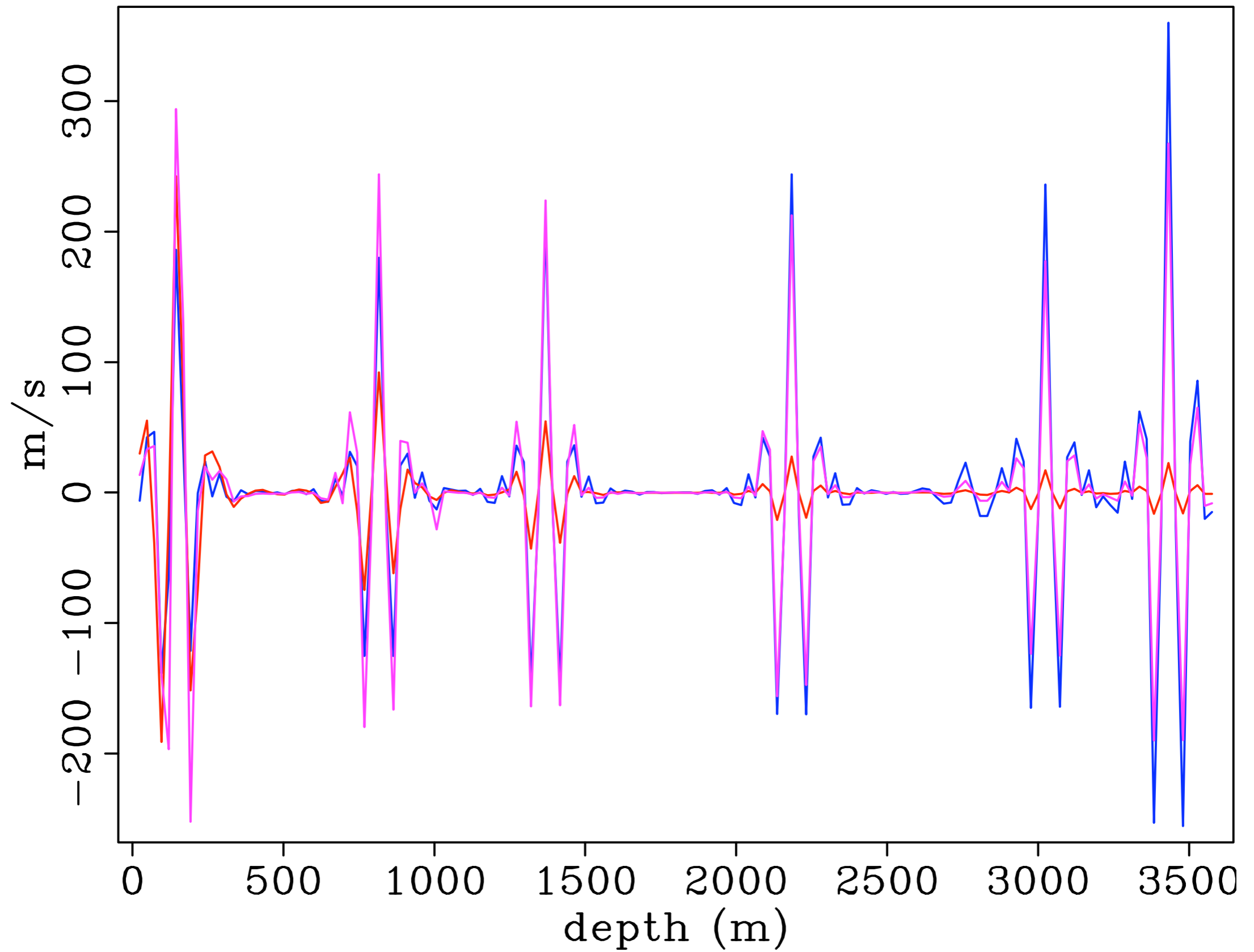


reference vector

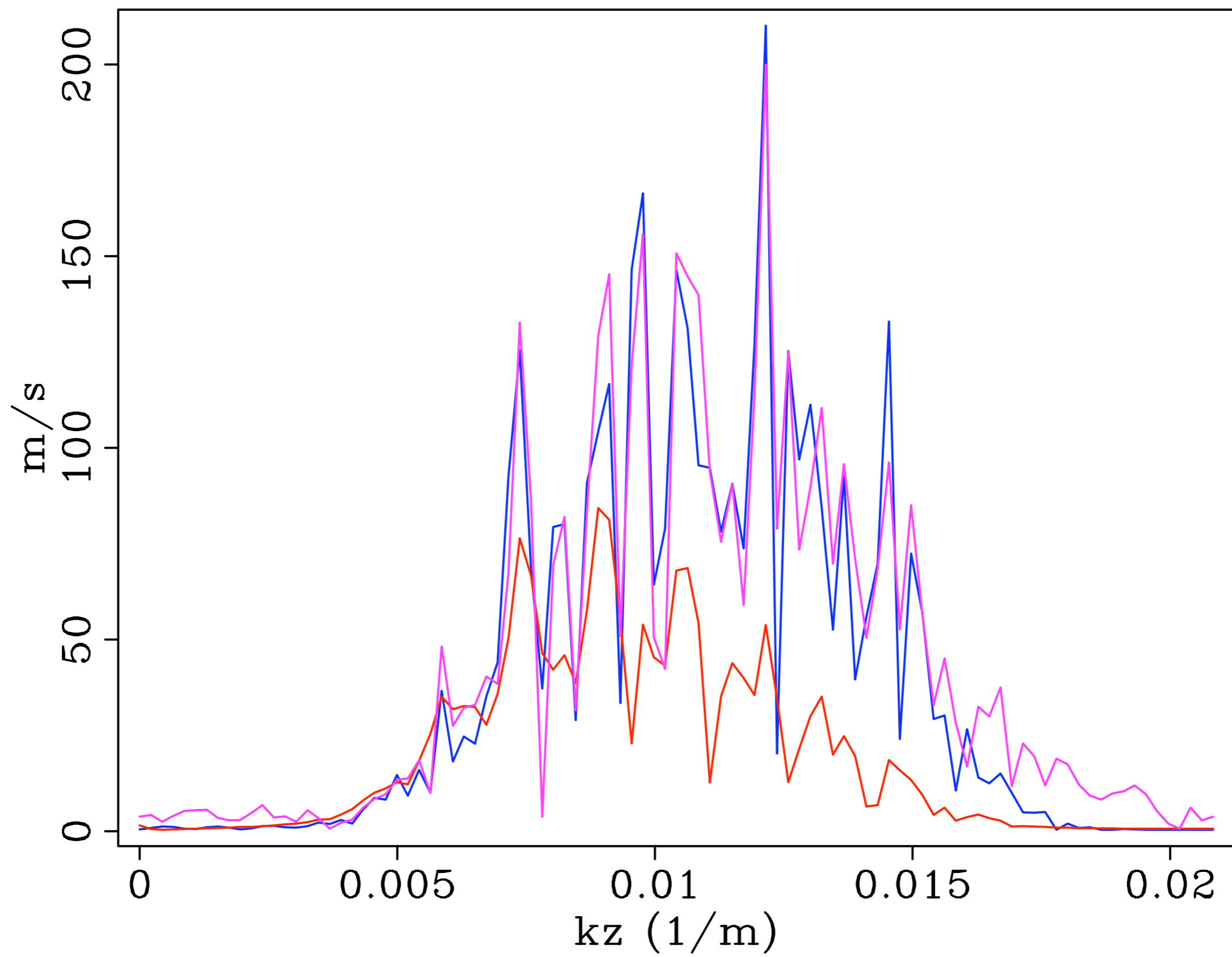


norm-one recovered

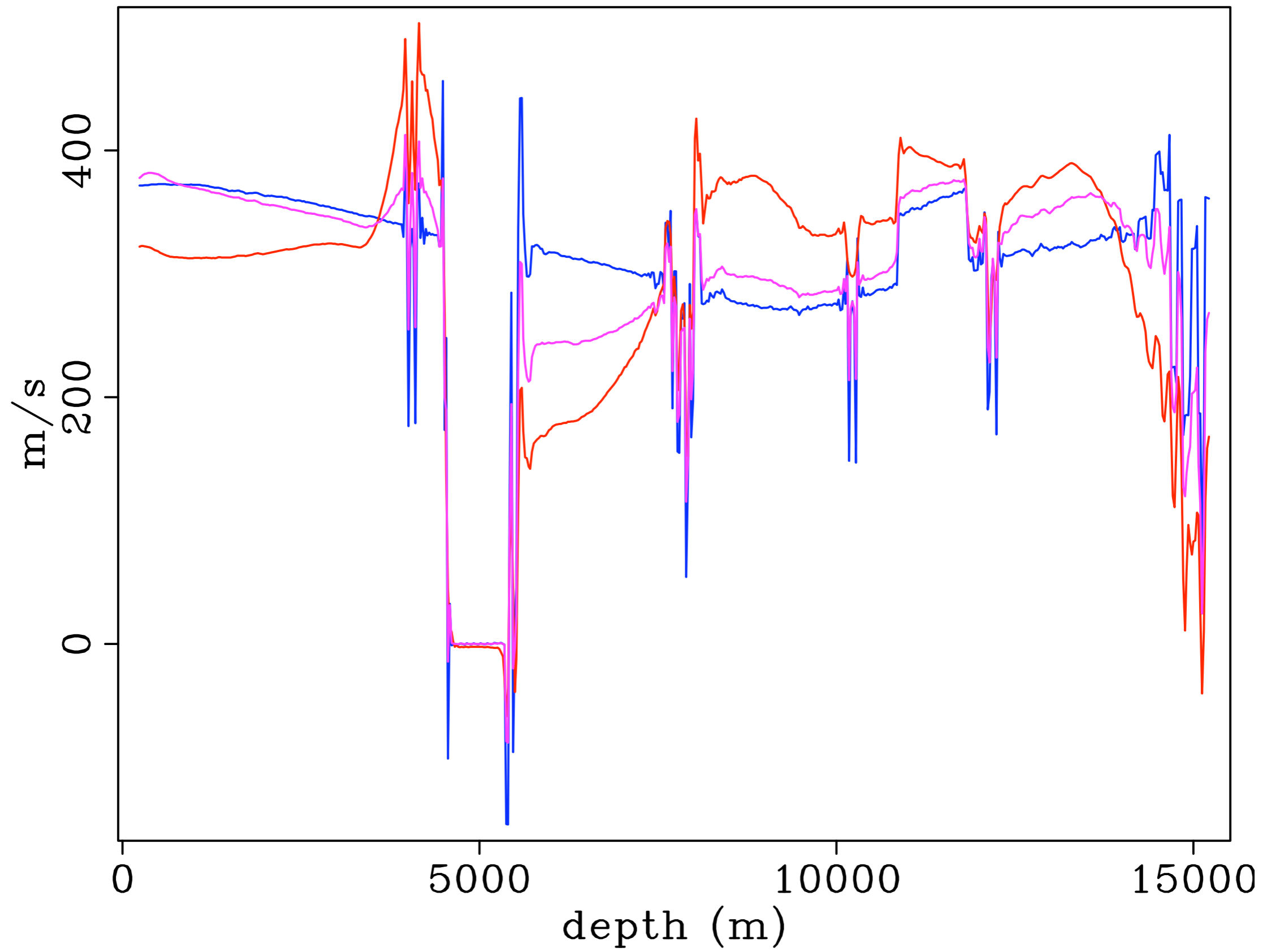
# Trace-by-trace comparison

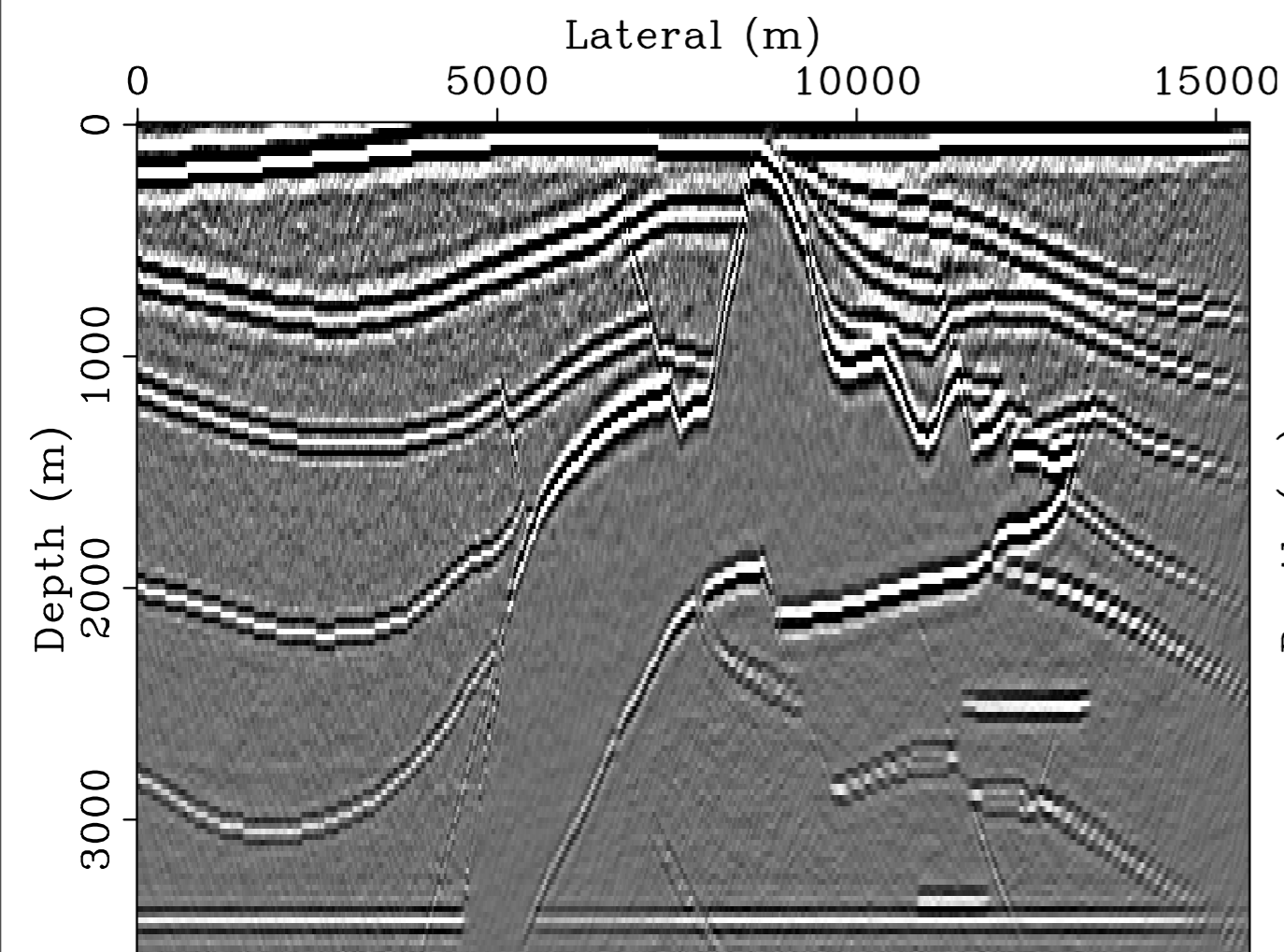


# Trace-by-trace comparison

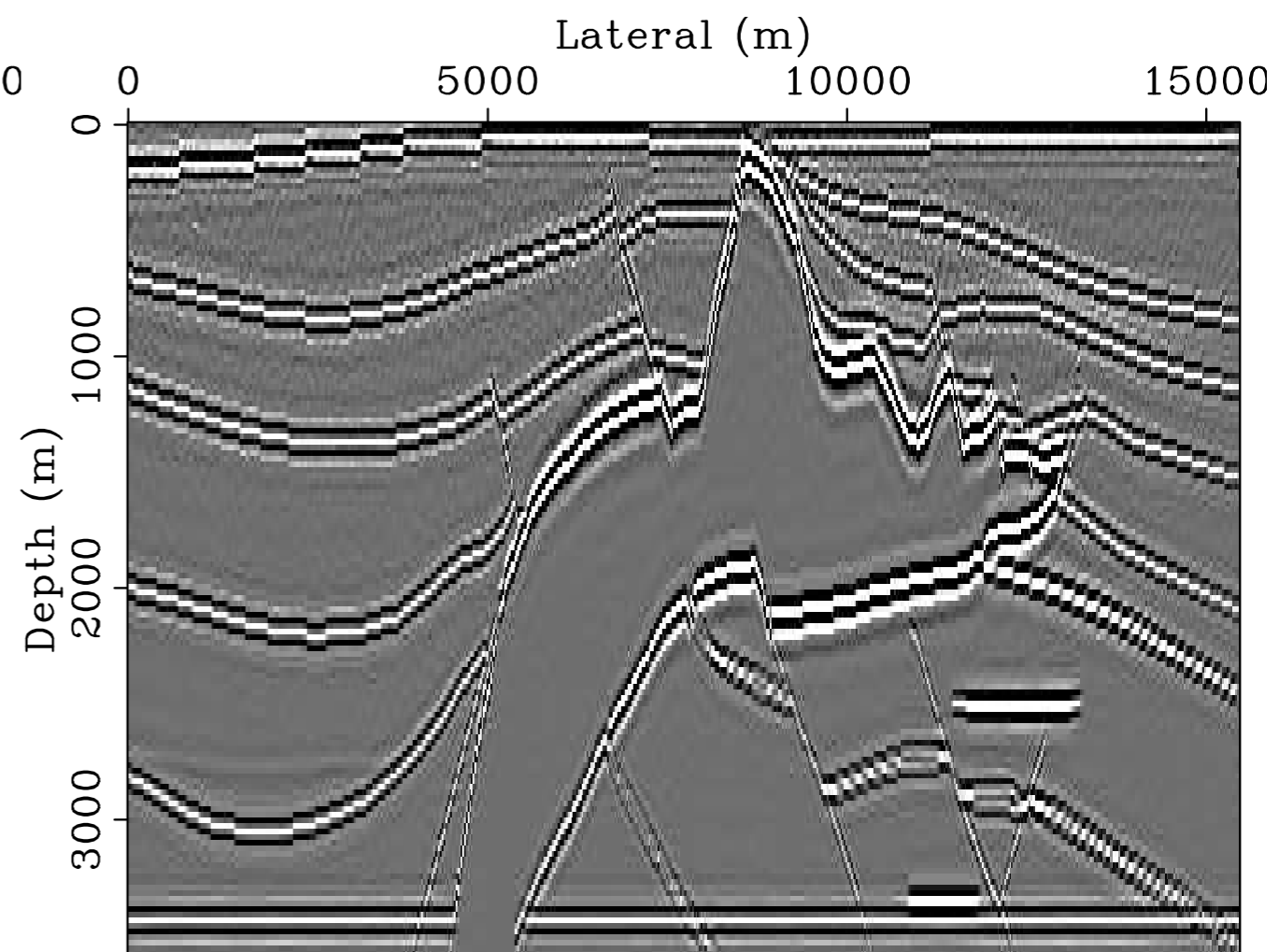


# Comparison

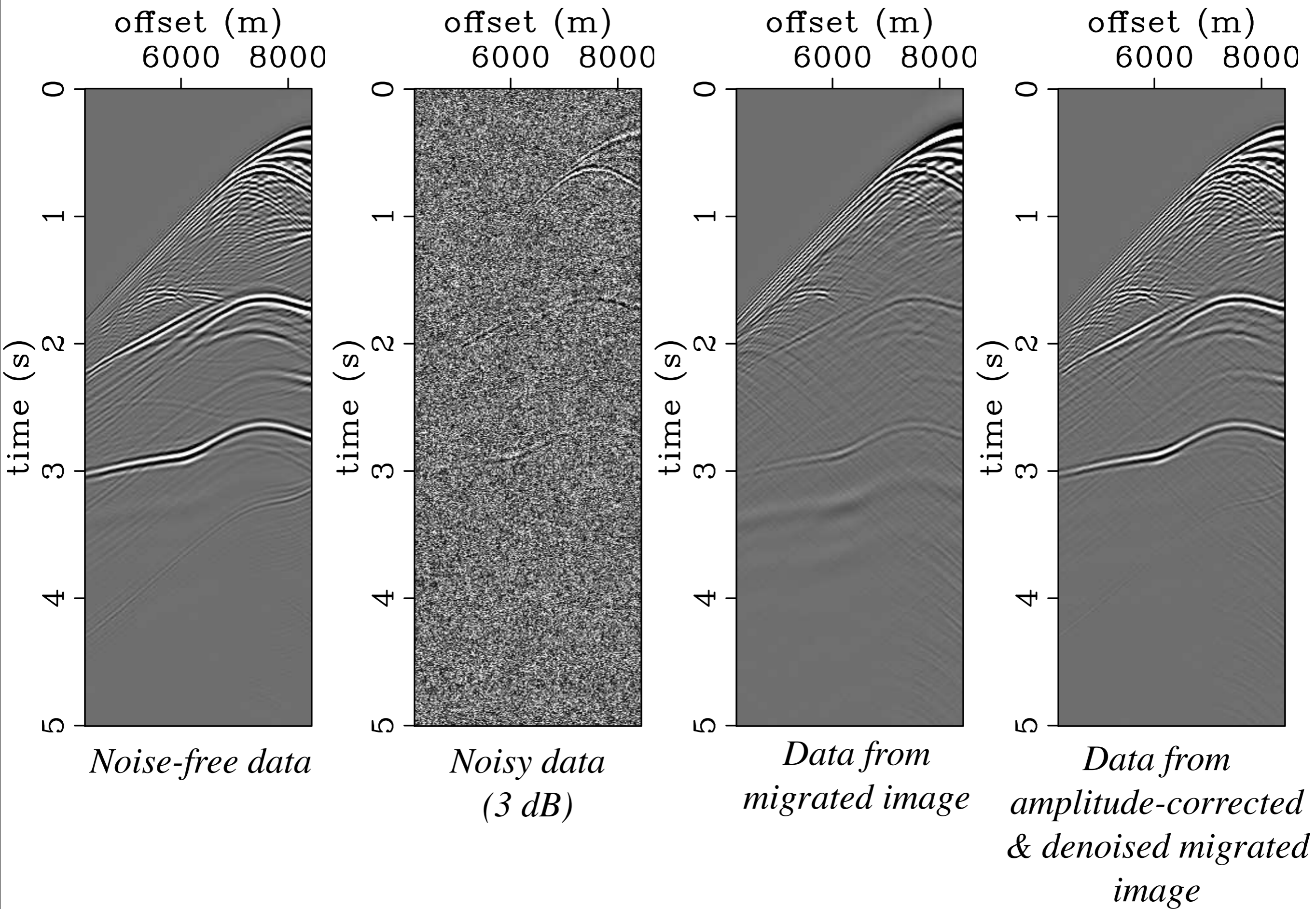




*Migrated data*



*Amplitude-corrected & denoised  
migrated data*



# Example

## SEGAA' data:

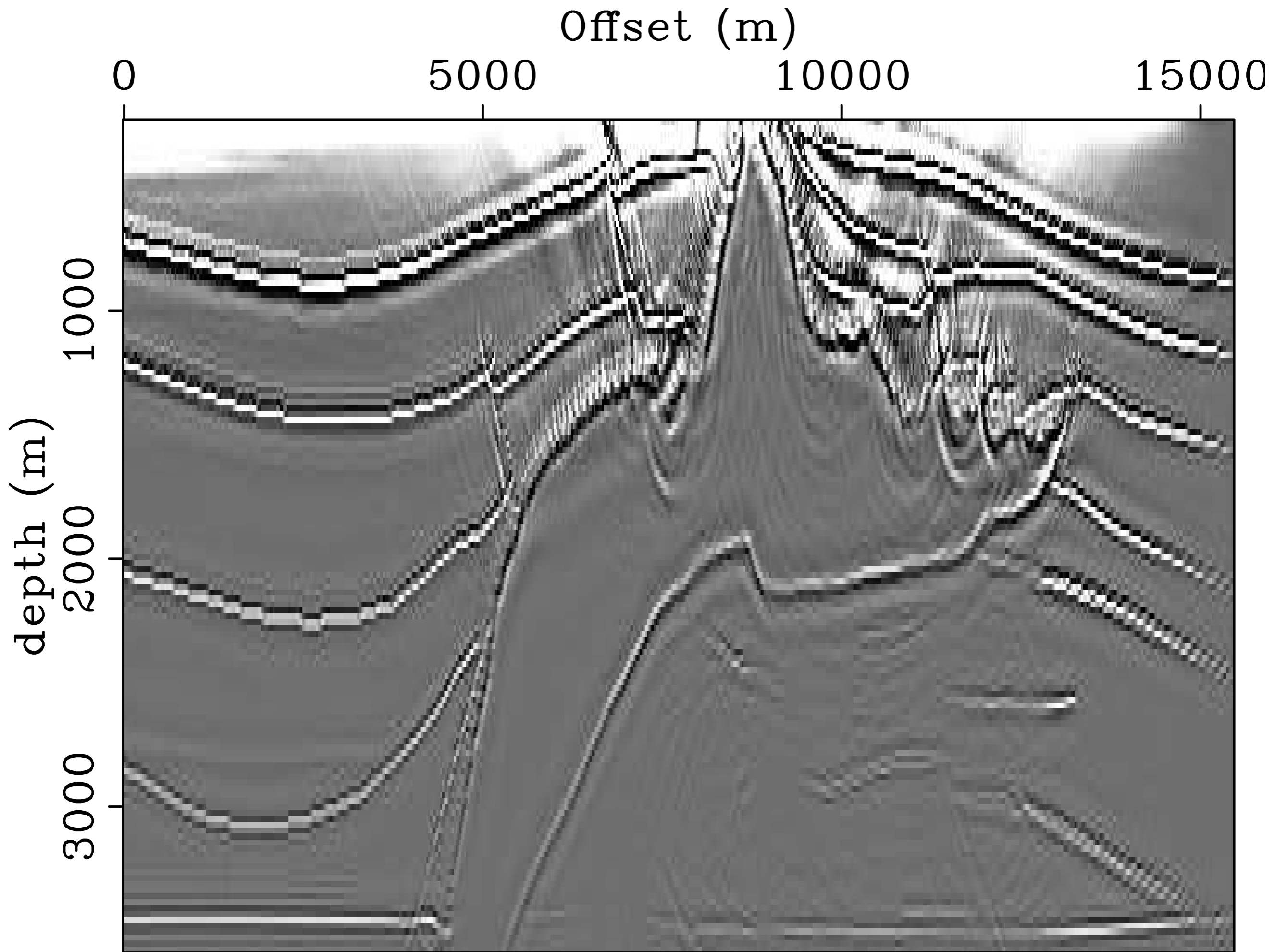
- “broad-band” half-integrated wavelet [5-60 Hz]
- 324 shots, 176 receivers, shot at 48 m
- 5 s of data

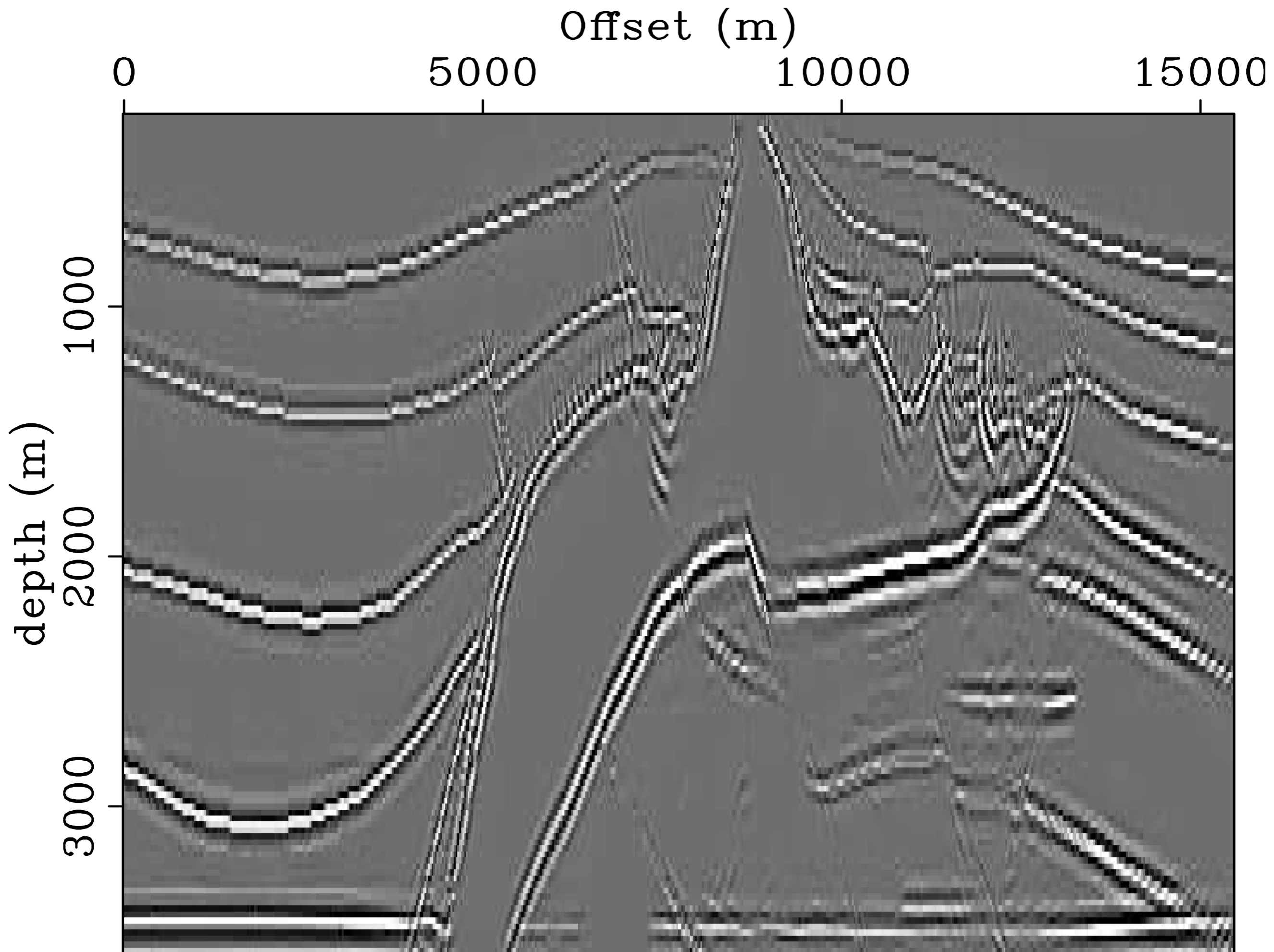
## Modeling operator

- Reverse-time migration with optimal check pointing (Symes '07)
- 8000 time steps
- **full** modeling

Scaling required 1 extra migration-demigration







# Conclusions

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## Curvelet-domain scaling

- handles conflicting dips (conormality assumption)
- exploits invariance under the PsDO
- robust w.r.t. noise

## Diagonal approximation

- exploits smoothness of the symbol
- uses “neighbor” structure of the curvelet transform

## Results on the SEG AA' show

- recovery of amplitudes beneath the Salt
- successful recovery of clutter
- improvement of the continuity

# Acknowledgments

The authors of CurveLab (Demanet, Ying, Candes, Donoho)

Dr. W.W. Symes for his reverse-time migration code

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