

# A denoising formulation of Full-Waveform Inversion

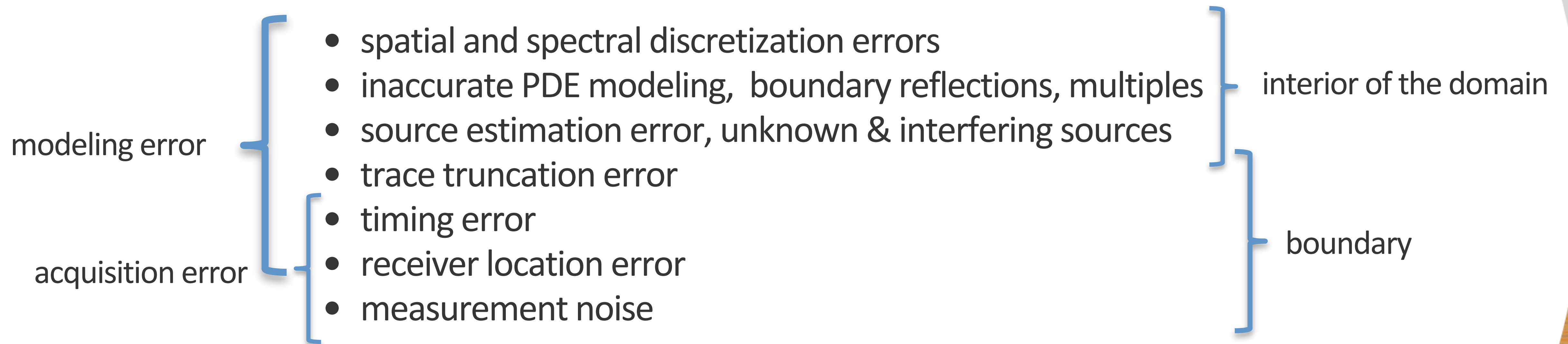
Rongrong Wang and Felix J. Herrmann

# Outline

1. Motivation
2. Formulation of the proposed method
3. Algorithm development
4. Numerical tests

# Motivation

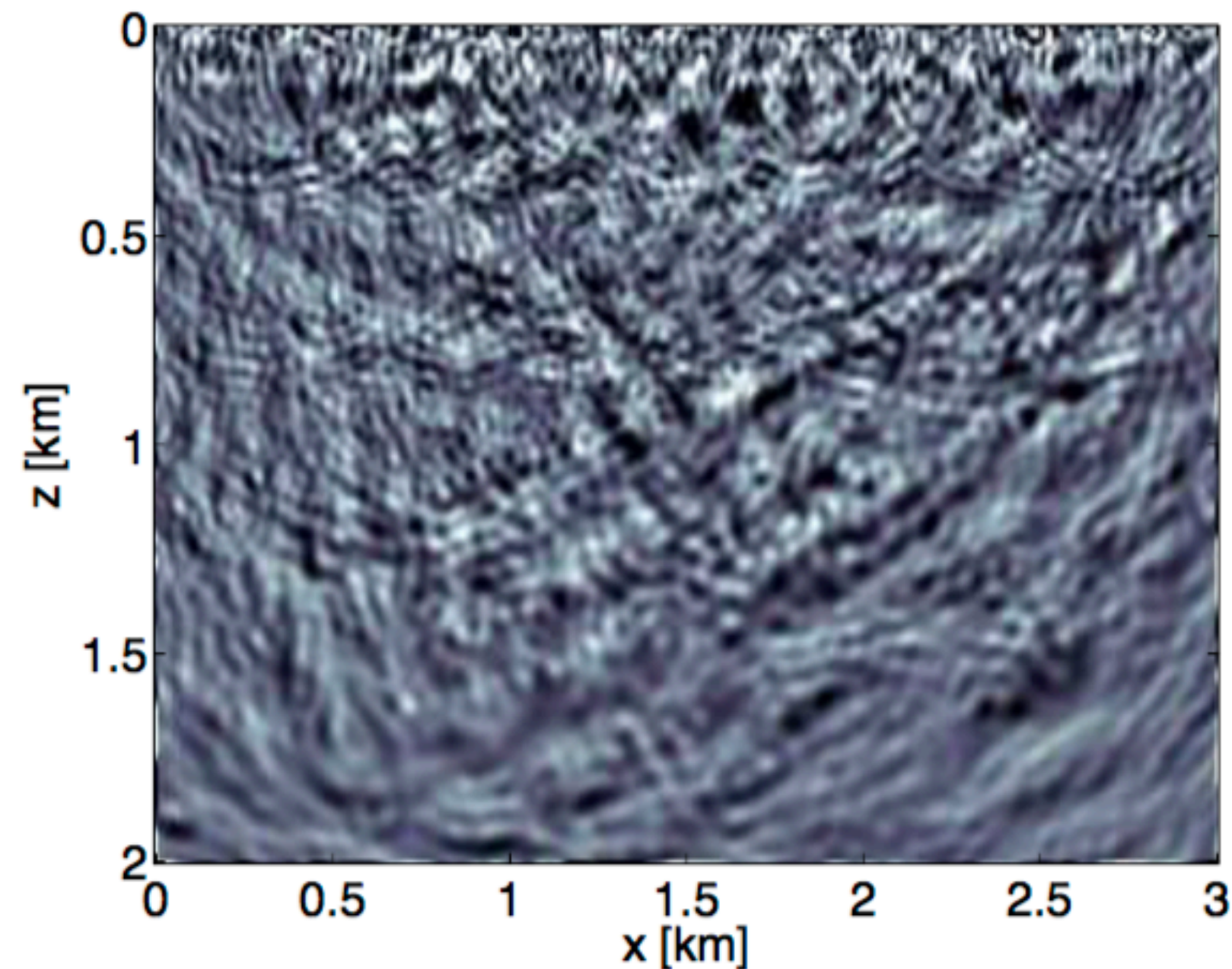
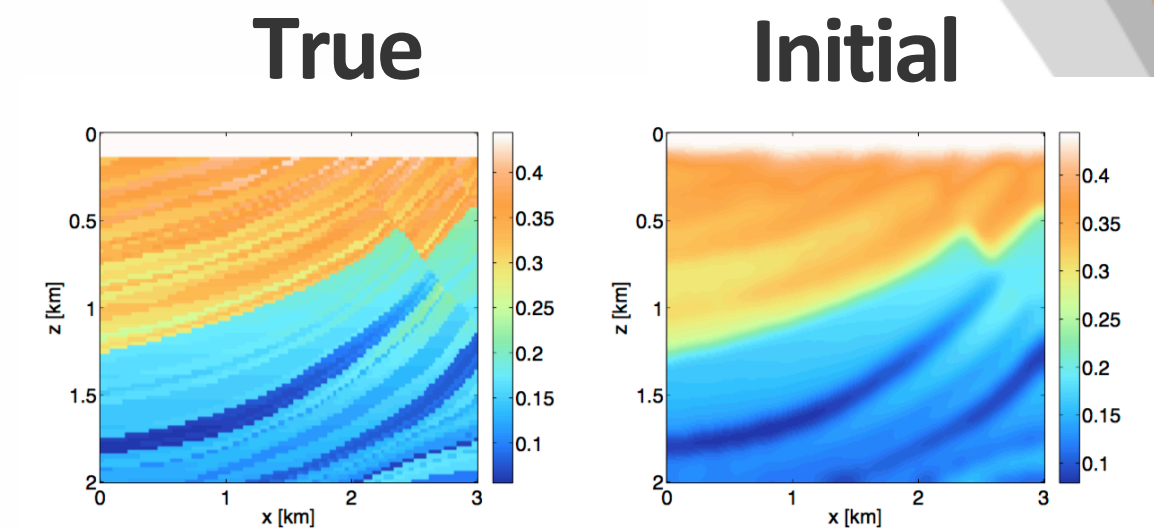
Noises in observed data consist of:



[Aravkin, A., van Leeuwen, T., & Herrmann, F J, 2012]

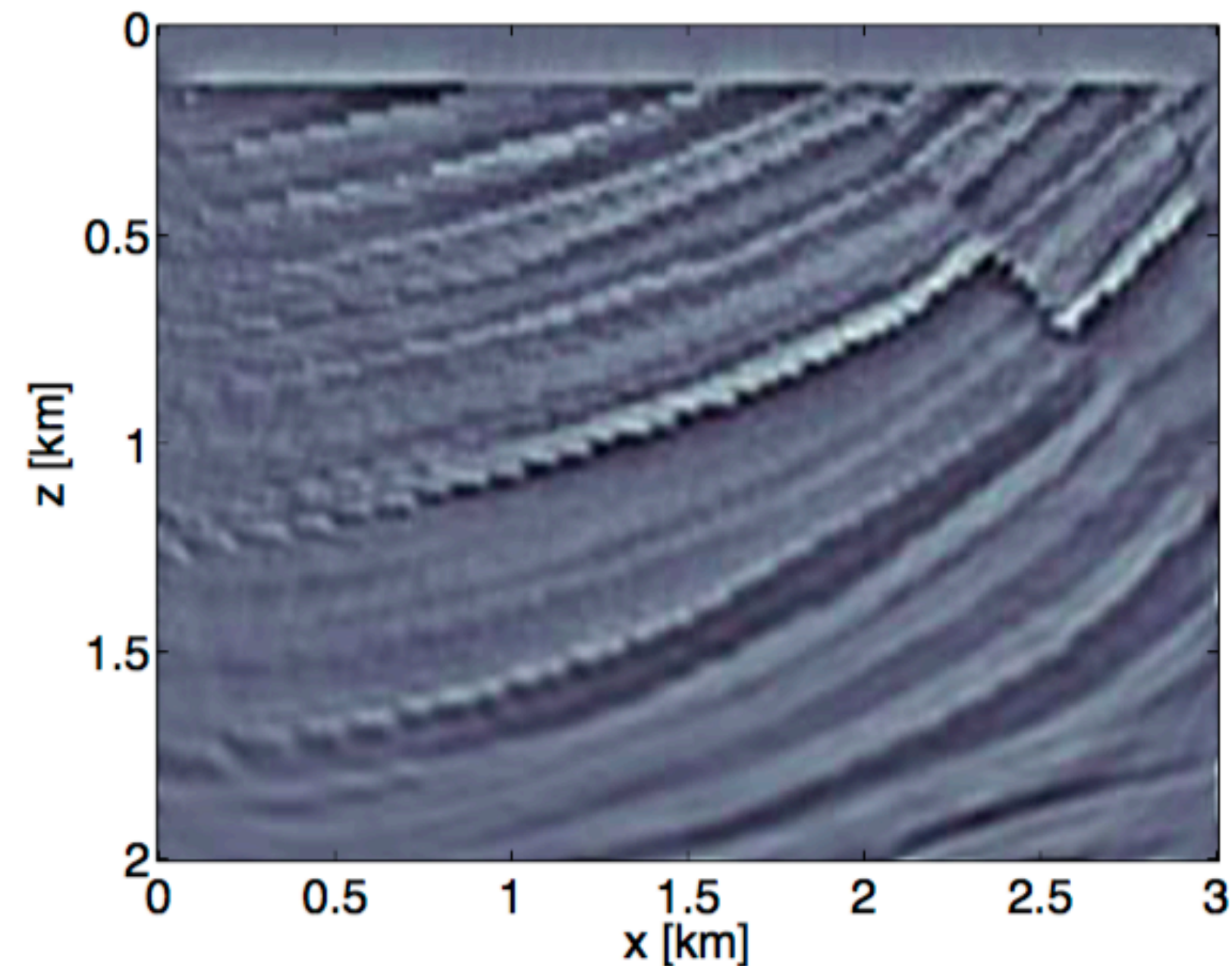
## Motivation—the Failures of FWI

When measurement noise is “spiky”



(a)

Model misfit for FWI



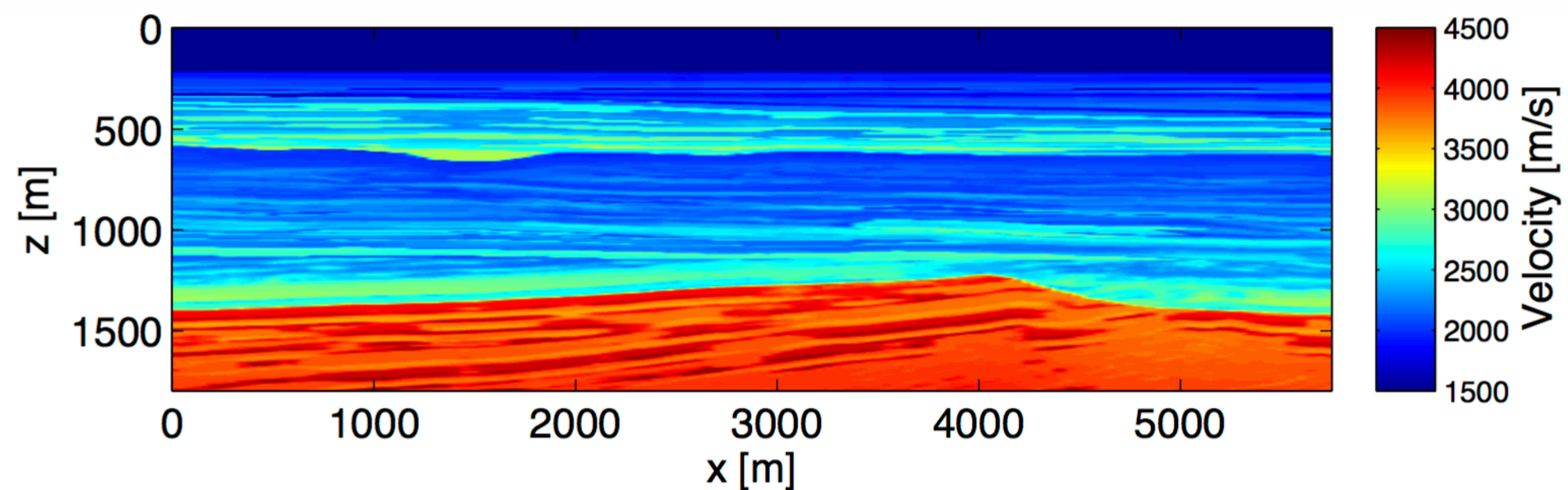
(b)

Model misfit for inversion with  
Student's t penalty

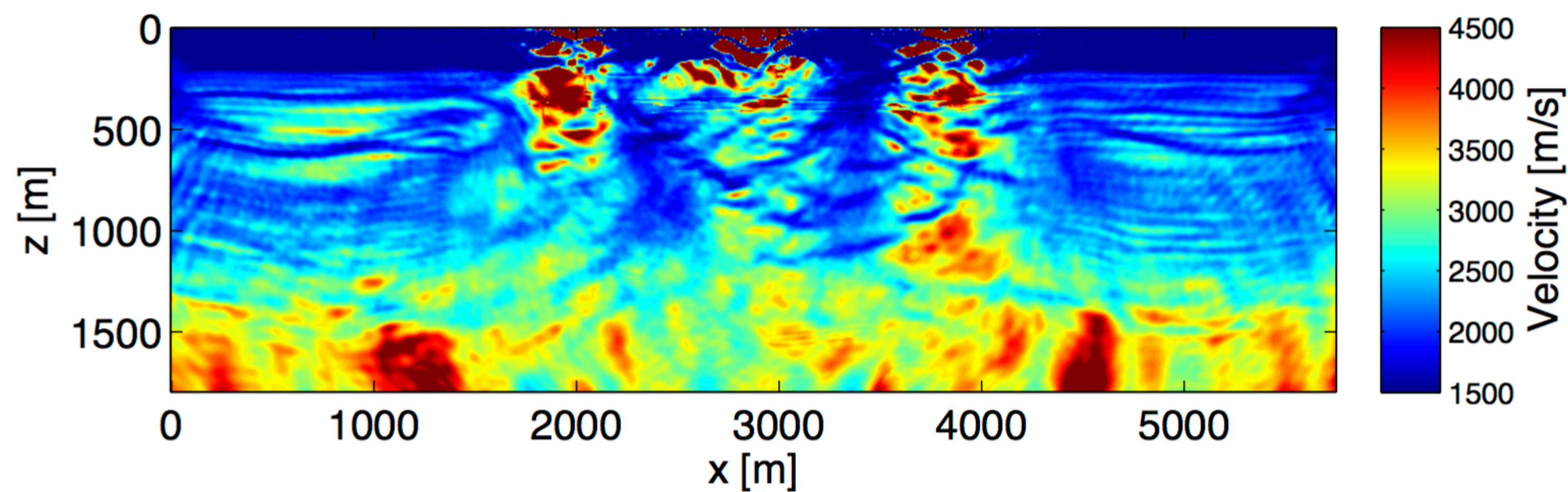
# Motivation—the Failures of FWI

## When water velocity is wrong

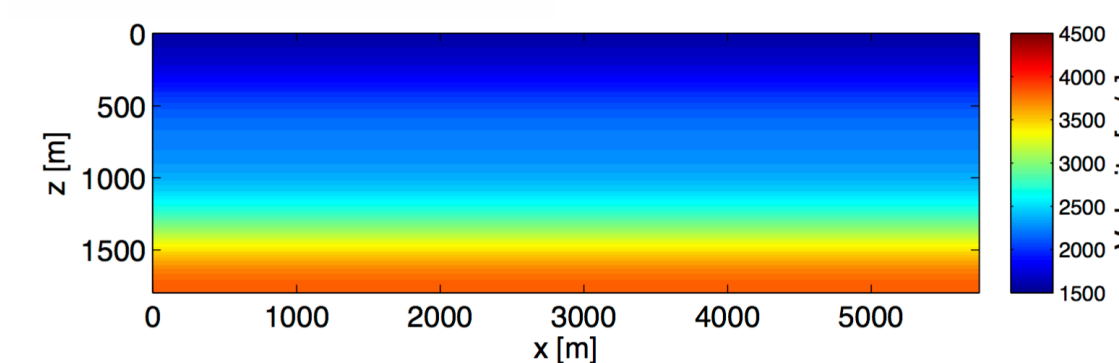
True model



FWI inversion



Initial



## FWI & its relaxation

FWI requires strict satisfaction of the PDE

$$\min_{m, u_i, i=1, \dots, n_s} \sum_i^{n_s} \|P_{\Omega_i} u_i - d_i\|_2^2$$

subject to  $A(m)u_i = q_i, i = 1, \dots, n_s$

$P_{\Omega_i}$  : restriction operator

$q_i$  :  $i$ th source

$A$  : Time stepping or Helmholtz operator

$d_i$  : Observed data for the  $i$ th source

$u_i$  : wavefield associated to the  $i$ th source

- Implicitly assumed that noise is Gaussian distributed along sources and receivers
- Neglects modeling errors
- Cannot accommodate prior information of noise level
- Becomes problematic when water velocity is wrong

## FWI & its relaxation

Direct relaxation of PDE constraint

$$\min_{m, u_i, i=1, \dots, n_s} \sum_i \|P_{\Omega_i} u_i - d_i\|_2$$

subject to  $\|A(m)u_i - q_i\|_2 \leq \epsilon, i = 1, \dots, n_s$

## FWI & its relaxation

Direct relaxation of PDE constraint

$$\min_{m, u_i, i=1, \dots, n_s} \sum_i \|P_{\Omega_i} u_i - d_i\|_2$$

Hard to choose!

subject to  $\|A(m)u_i - q_i\|_2 \leq \epsilon, i = 1, \dots, n_s$



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Flip the objective and the constraint

$$\min_{m, u_i, i=1, \dots, n_s} \|A(m)u_i - q_i\|_2^2$$

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Direct relaxation of PDE constraint

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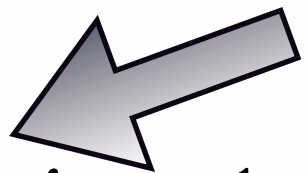
subject to  $\|A(m)u_i - q_i\|_2 \leq \epsilon, i = 1, \dots, n_s$

Flip the objective and the constraint

$$\min_{m, u_i, i=1, \dots, n_s} \|A(m)u_i - q_i\|_2^2$$

Noise level

subject to  $\|P_{\Omega_i} u_i - d_i\|_2 \leq \epsilon_i, i = 1, \dots, n_s$



# FWI & its relaxation

Direct relaxation of PDE constraint

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Noise level

subject to  $\|P_{\Omega_i} u_i - d_i\|_2 \leq \epsilon_i, i = 1, \dots, n_s$

Decomposing the wavefields variable

$$u_i = \underbrace{P_{\Omega_i^c}^T P_{\Omega_i^c} u_i}_{\text{Interior part}} + \underbrace{P_{\Omega_i}^T P_{\Omega_i} u_i}_{\text{Boundary part}}$$

Interior part

Boundary part

# FWI & its relaxation

Direct relaxation of PDE constraint

$$\min_{m, u_i, i=1, \dots, n_s} \sum_i \|P_{\Omega_i} u_i - d_i\|_2$$

Hard to choose!

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Decomposing the wavefields variable

$$u_i = \underbrace{P_{\Omega_i^c}^T P_{\Omega_i^c} u_i}_{\text{Interior part}} + \underbrace{P_{\Omega_i}^T P_{\Omega_i} u_i}_{b_i} \text{Boundary part}$$

# FWI & its relaxation

Direct relaxation of PDE constraint

$$\min_{m, u_i, i=1, \dots, n_s} \sum_i \|P_{\Omega_i} u_i - d_i\|_2$$

Hard to choose!

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$$\min_{m, b_i, v_i, i=1, \dots, n_s} \|A(m)(P_{\Omega_i^c}^T v_i + P_{\Omega_i}^T b_i) - q_i\|_2^2$$

subject to  $\|b_i - d_i\|_2 \leq \epsilon_i, i = 1, \dots, n_s$

## The denoising formulation (FWIDN)

We call it the denoising formulation of FWI

$$\min_{m, b_i, v_i, i=1, \dots, n_s} \|A(m)(P_{\Omega_i^c}^T v_i + P_{\Omega_i}^T b_i) - q_i\|_2^2$$

subject to  $\|b_i - d_i\|_2 \leq \epsilon_i, i = 1, \dots, n_s$

### Pros:

- allows noise levels  $\epsilon_i$  to vary with sources, and allows  $\epsilon_i = 0$
- ensures reasonable PDE fidelity while preventing overfit
- all pros of WRI

**Cons:** algorithmically & computationally more demanding

## FWI-DN – a more general form

Weighted/preconditioned least-squares objective

$$\min_{m, b_i, v_i, i=1, \dots, n_s} \|\mathcal{D}_z(A(m)(P_{\Omega_i^c}^T v_i + P_{\Omega_i}^T b_i) - q_i)\|_2^2$$

$$\text{subject to } \|b_i - d_i\|_2 \leq \epsilon_i, i = 1, \dots, n_s$$

- $\mathcal{D}_z$  reshapes PDE misfit distribution
- Impose looser PDE constraint at shallow part where the model is “noisier”
- Examples of  $\mathcal{D}_z$ : linear depth weighting, two-level depth weighting

$$\mathcal{D}_z f(x, z) = z f(x, z) \quad \mathcal{D}_z f(x, z) = \chi_{z < z_0} f(x, z) + 2\chi_{z \geq z_0} f(x, z)$$

## Solving FWI-DN

**Strategy:** alternatively update  $m$  and  $b_i, i = 1, \dots, n_s$

**At iteration k,**

1. fix  $m^k$ , solve for  $b_i^{k+1}, i = 1, \dots, n_s$  from

$$(b_i^{k+1}, v_i^{k+1}) = \arg \min_{b_i, v_i, i=1, \dots, n_s} \|\mathcal{D}_z(A(m^k)(P_{\Omega_i^c}^T v_i + P_{\Omega_i}^T b_i) - q_i)\|_2^2 \quad (P_d)$$

subject to  $\|b_i - d_i\|_2 \leq \epsilon_i, i = 1, \dots, n_s$

2. for fixed  $b_i^{k+1}, i = 1, \dots, n_s$ , update  $m^k$  by solving T steps of

$$\min_{m, v_i, i=1, \dots, n_s} \sum_{i=1}^{n_s} \|\mathcal{D}_z(A(m)(P_{\Omega_i^c}^T v_i + P_{\Omega_i}^T b_i^{k+1}) - q_i)\|_2^2 \quad (P_m)$$



## Solving for $(P_d)$ — a denoising step

$(P_d)$  Fix  $m^k$ , solve for  $b_i^{k+1}$  from

$$(b_i^{k+1}, v_i^{k+1}) = \arg \min_{b_i, v_i} \|\mathcal{D}_z(A(m^k)(P_{\Omega_i^c}^T v_i + P_{\Omega_i}^T b_i) - q_i)\|_2^2$$

subject to  $\|b_i - d_i\|_2 \leq \epsilon_i$ ,

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subject to  $\|b_i - d_i\|_2 \leq \epsilon_i$ ,

The Lagrangian dual of  $(P_d)$  is

$$\max_{\lambda \geq 0} \phi(\lambda)$$

where

$$\phi(\lambda) = \min_{u_i} \|\mathcal{D}_z(A(m)u_i - q_i)\|_2^2 + \lambda \|P_{\Omega_i} u_i - d_i\|_2^2 - \lambda \epsilon_i$$

Strong duality principle [More, 1993] guarantees primal & dual optimality agree

## Solving for $(P_d)$ — a denoising step

$$\begin{aligned}
 (P_d) \quad & \text{Fix } m^k, \text{ solve for } b_i^{k+1} \text{ from} \\
 & (b_i^{k+1}, v_i^{k+1}) = \arg \min_{b_i, v_i} \|\mathcal{D}_z(A(m^k)(P_{\Omega_i^c}^T v_i + P_{\Omega_i}^T b_i) - q_i)\|_2^2 \\
 & \text{subject to } \|b_i - d_i\|_2 \leq \epsilon_i,
 \end{aligned}$$

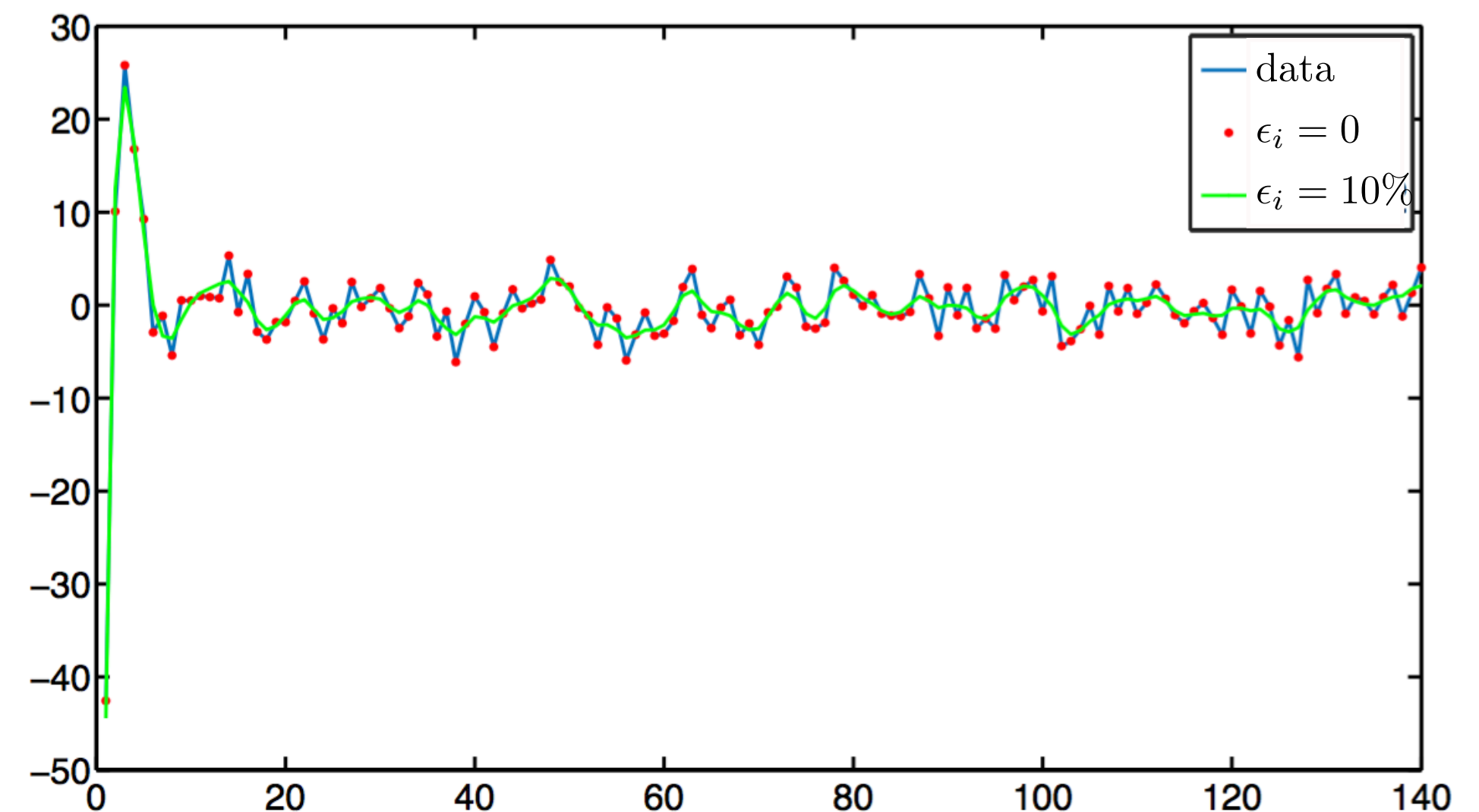
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Strong duality principle [\[More, 1993\]](#) guarantees primal & dual optimality agree



Denoising effect of  $(P_d)$

## Solving for $(P_d)$ — a denoising step

$\phi(\lambda)$  has closed-form gradient & Hessian

$$\phi'(\lambda) = \|P_{\Omega_i} \bar{u}_i(\lambda) - d_i\|_2^2 - \epsilon_i$$

$$\phi''(\lambda) = -2(P_{\Omega_i} \bar{u}_i(\lambda) - d_i)^T P_{\Omega_i} C^{-1} P_{\Omega_i}^T (P_{\Omega_i} \bar{u}_i - d_i)$$

where

$$C = A(m)^T \mathcal{D}_z^T \mathcal{D}_z A(m) + \lambda P_{\Omega_i}^T P_{\Omega_i} \quad \bar{u}_i(\lambda) = \begin{bmatrix} \mathcal{D}_z(A(m^k)) \\ \sqrt{\lambda} P_{\Omega_i} \end{bmatrix}^\dagger \begin{bmatrix} \mathcal{D}_z(q_i) \\ \sqrt{\lambda} d_i \end{bmatrix}$$

Newton steps for  $\lambda$

$$\lambda^{k+1} = \lambda^k - \phi'(\lambda) / \phi''(\lambda)$$

After finding the minimizer  $\lambda^*$ , the primal optimizers are

$$v_i^{k+1} = P_{\Omega_i^c} \bar{u}_i(\lambda^*), \quad v_i^{k+1} = P_{\Omega_i} \bar{u}_i(\lambda^*)$$

## Solving for $(P_m)$

For fixed  $b_i^{k+1}, i = 1, \dots, n_s$ , update  $m^k$  by solving T steps of

$$(P_m) \quad \min_{m, v_i, i=1, \dots, n_s} \sum_{i=1}^{n_s} \|\mathcal{D}_z(A(m)(P_{\Omega_i^c}^T v_i + P_{\Omega_i}^T b_i^{k+1}) - q_i)\|_2^2$$

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Solve by variable projection

[Aravkin and van Leeuwen, 2012]

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Solve by variable projection

[Aravkin and van Leeuwen, 2012]

$$\min_{m, v_i, i=1, \dots, n_s} \sum_{i=1}^{n_s} \|\mathcal{D}_z(A(m)(P_{\Omega_i^c}^T v_i + P_{\Omega_i}^T b_i^{k+1}) - q_i)\|_2^2 \equiv f(m, v_1, \dots, v_{n_s})$$

$$\iff \min_{m, v_i, i=1, \dots, n_s} f(m, v_1, \dots, v_{n_s}) = \min_m f(m, \bar{v}_1, \dots, \bar{v}_{n_s}) \quad (\bar{v}_1, \dots, \bar{v}_{n_s}) = \arg \min_{v_1, \dots, v_{n_s}} f(m, v_1, \dots, v_{n_s})$$

## Algorithm and Complexity

Inputs:  $m_0, d_i, q_i, i = 1, \dots, n_s, T, K$

**For**  $\omega = \omega_1, \dots, \omega_n$  **do**

    solve  $(P_d)$  using  $T$  iterations of Newton updates on  $\lambda$

    performs  $K$  gradient or L-BFGS updates on  $m$  towards the minimizer of  $(P_m)$

**Endfor**

**On average, 1 update of  $m$  requires:** 2 PDE solves for FWI

2 PDE solves for WRI

3-5 PDE solves for FWI-DN

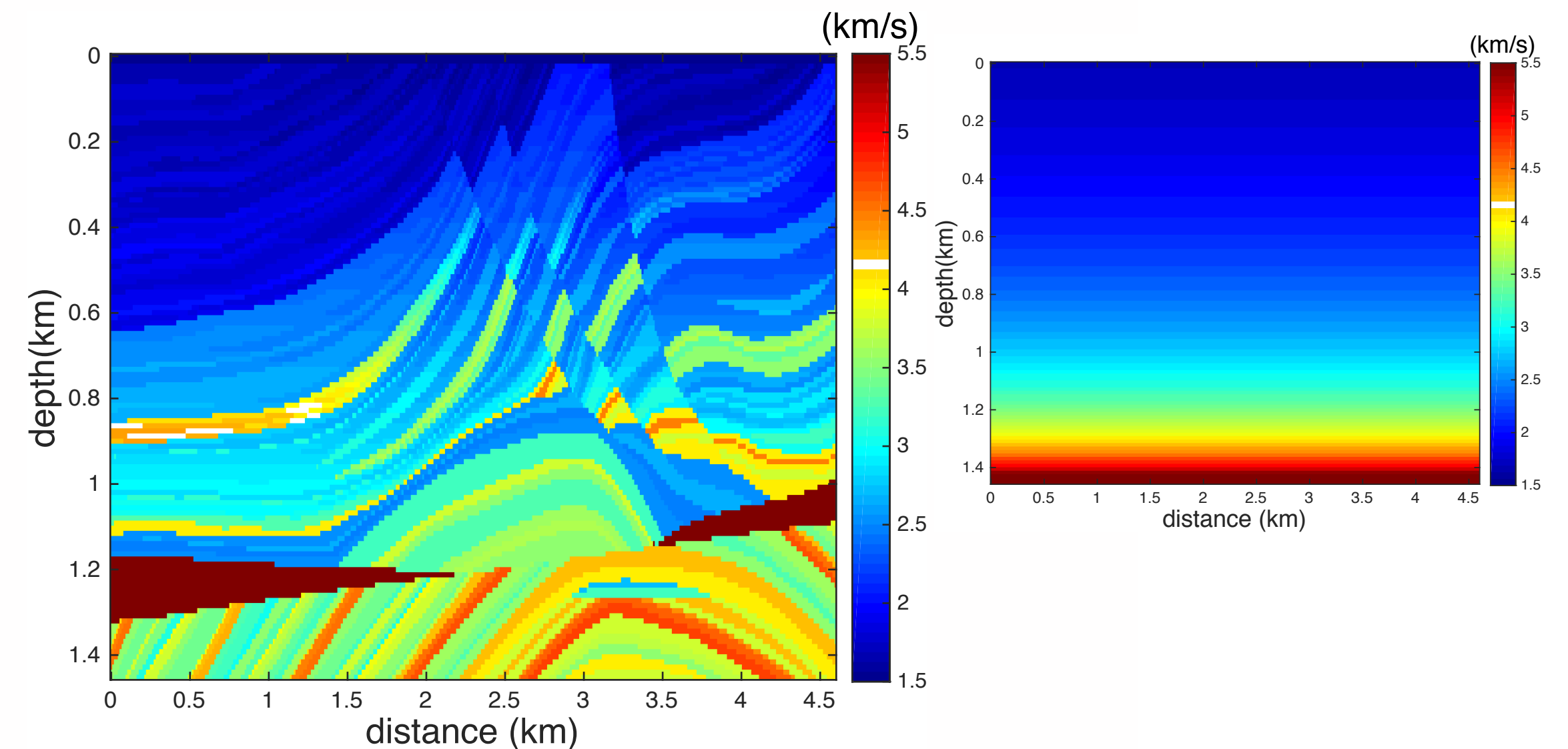


# Case Study

# **Test 1: robustness under non-uniform noise along sources**

# Test 1

- Frequency continuation using batches [3,3.5][3.5,4]....[14.5,15]Hz
- source spacing : 240m
- receiver spacing : 48m
- SNR=0 for low frequency data 3-10Hz
- SNR=25dB for high frequency data 10-15Hz
- Linear depth weighting
- noise level  $\epsilon_{s_j} = 3\epsilon_{s_i}$  where  
 $i = 1, \dots, \lfloor n_s/2 \rfloor, j = \lfloor n_s/2 \rfloor + 1, \dots, n_s$



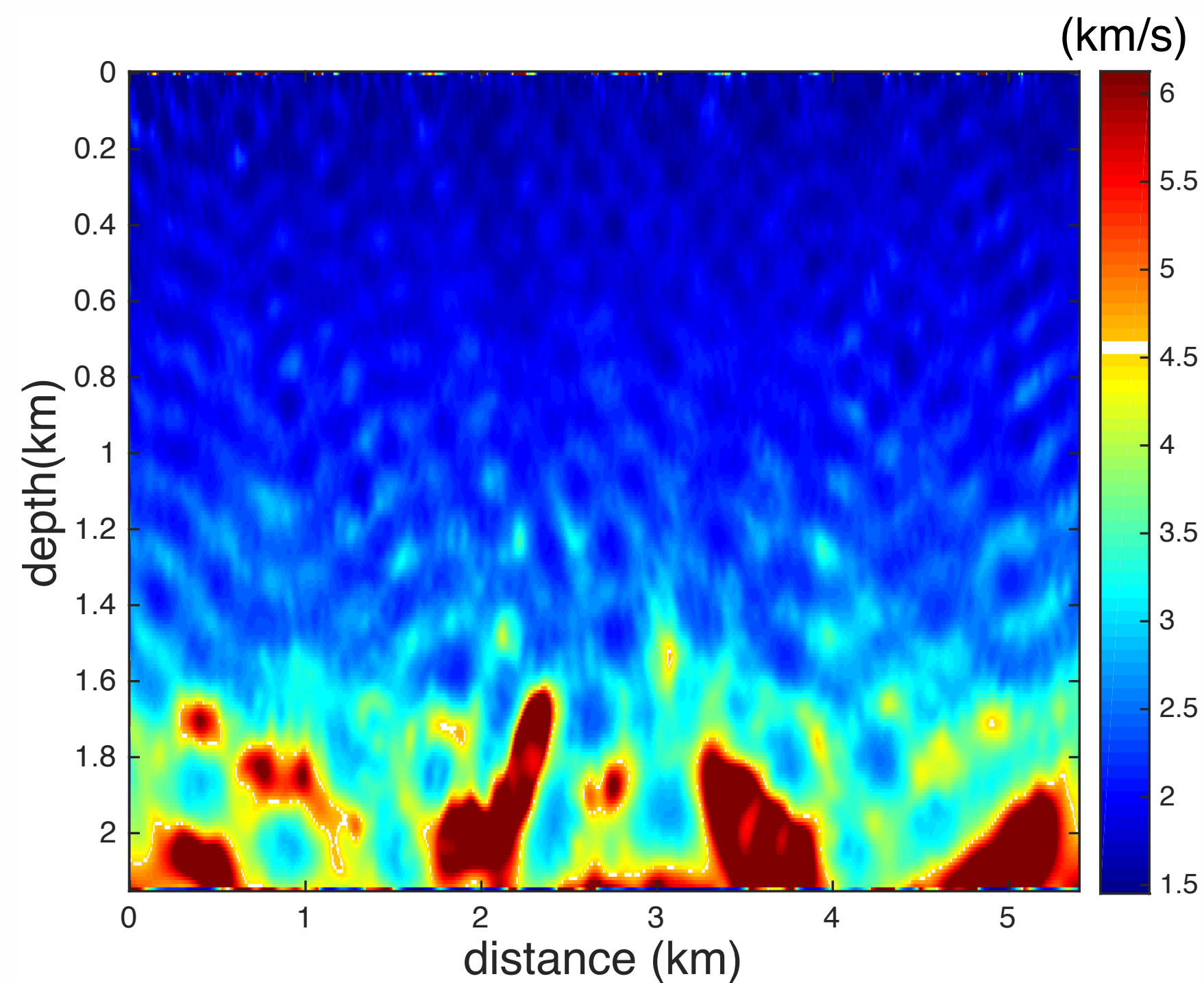
# Test 1

Method for comparison: weighted FWI

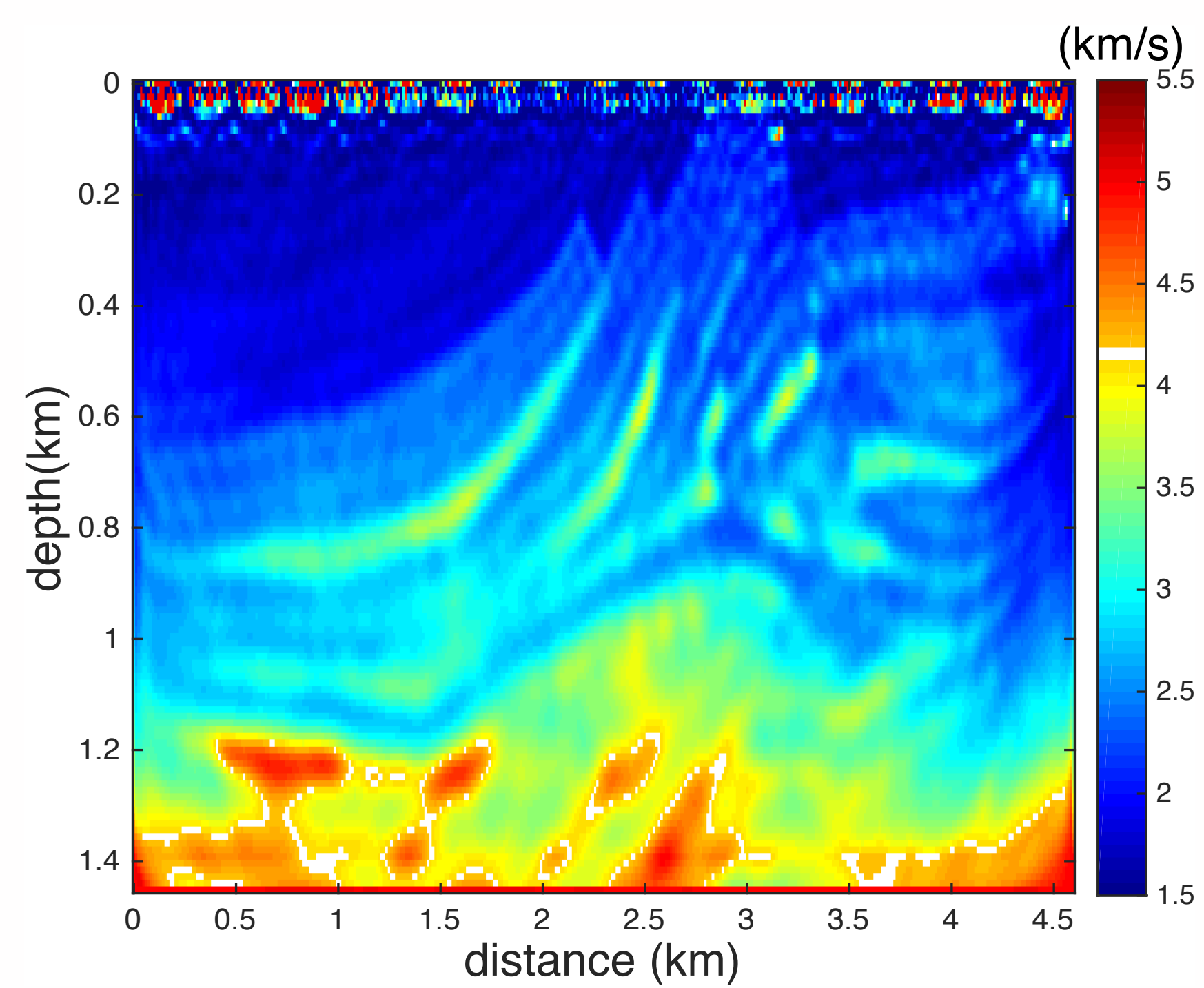
$$\min_m \sum_{i \in N_1} 9 \|P_{\Omega_i} A^{-1}(m) q_i - d_i\|_2^2 + \min_m \sum_{i \in N_2} \|P_{\Omega_i} A^{-1}(m) q_i - d_i\|_2^2$$

where  $N_1 = \{1, \dots, \lfloor \frac{n_s}{2} \rfloor\}$ ,  $N_2 = \{\lfloor \frac{n_s}{2} \rfloor + 1, \dots, n_s\}$

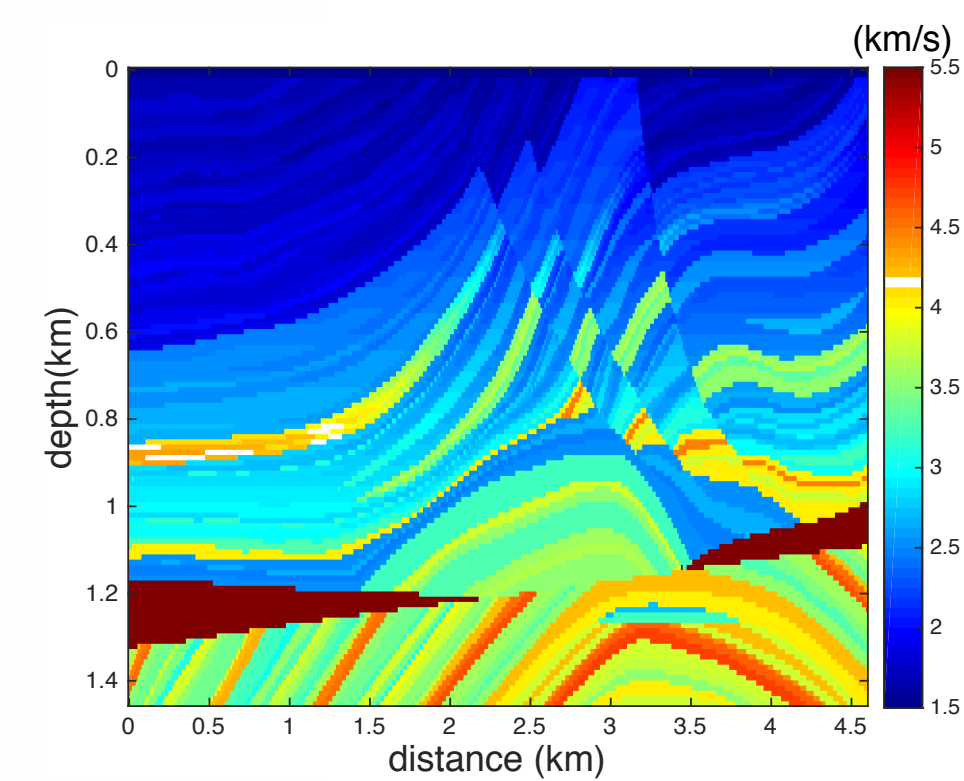
# Test 1



Inverted model w/ weighted FWI



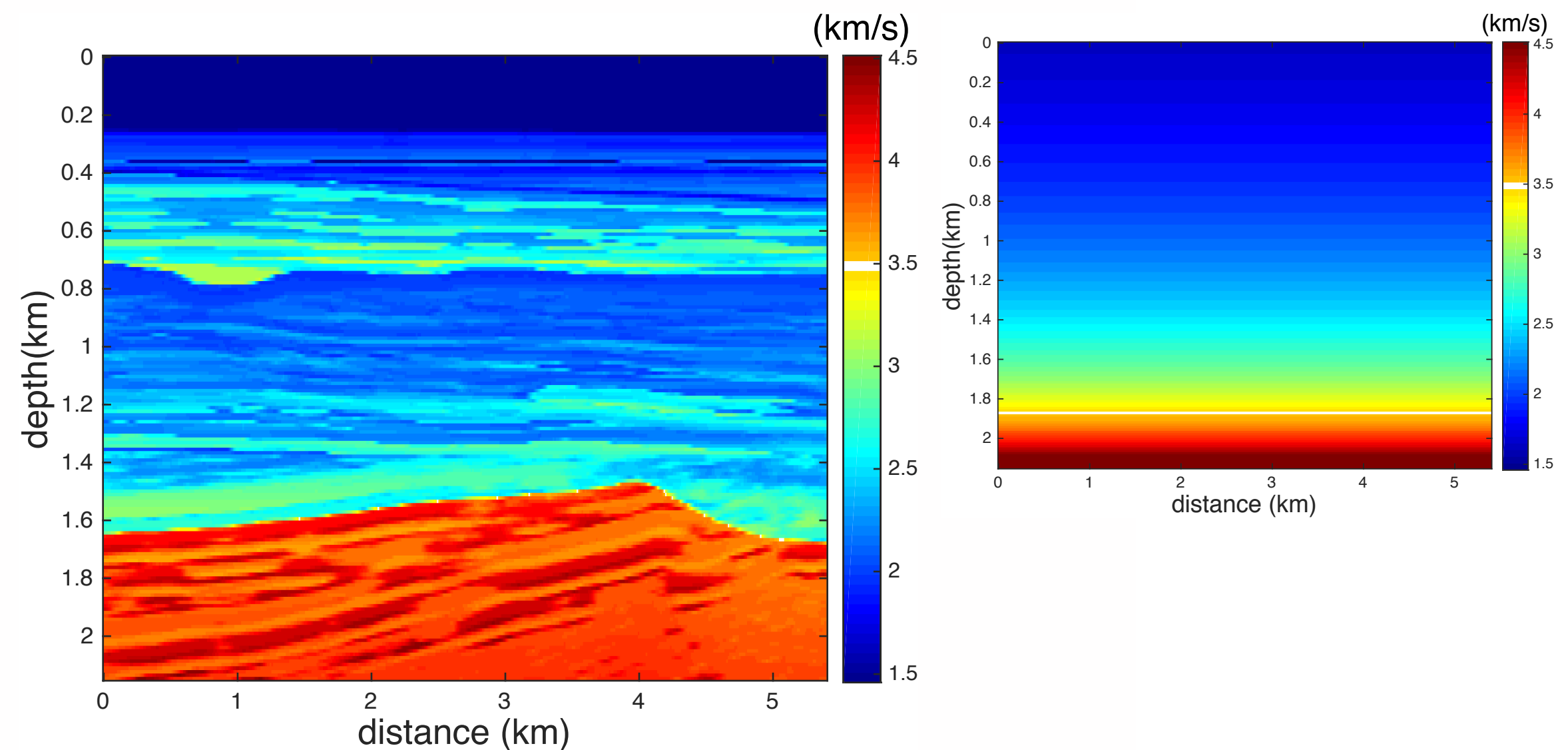
Inverted model w/ FWI-DN



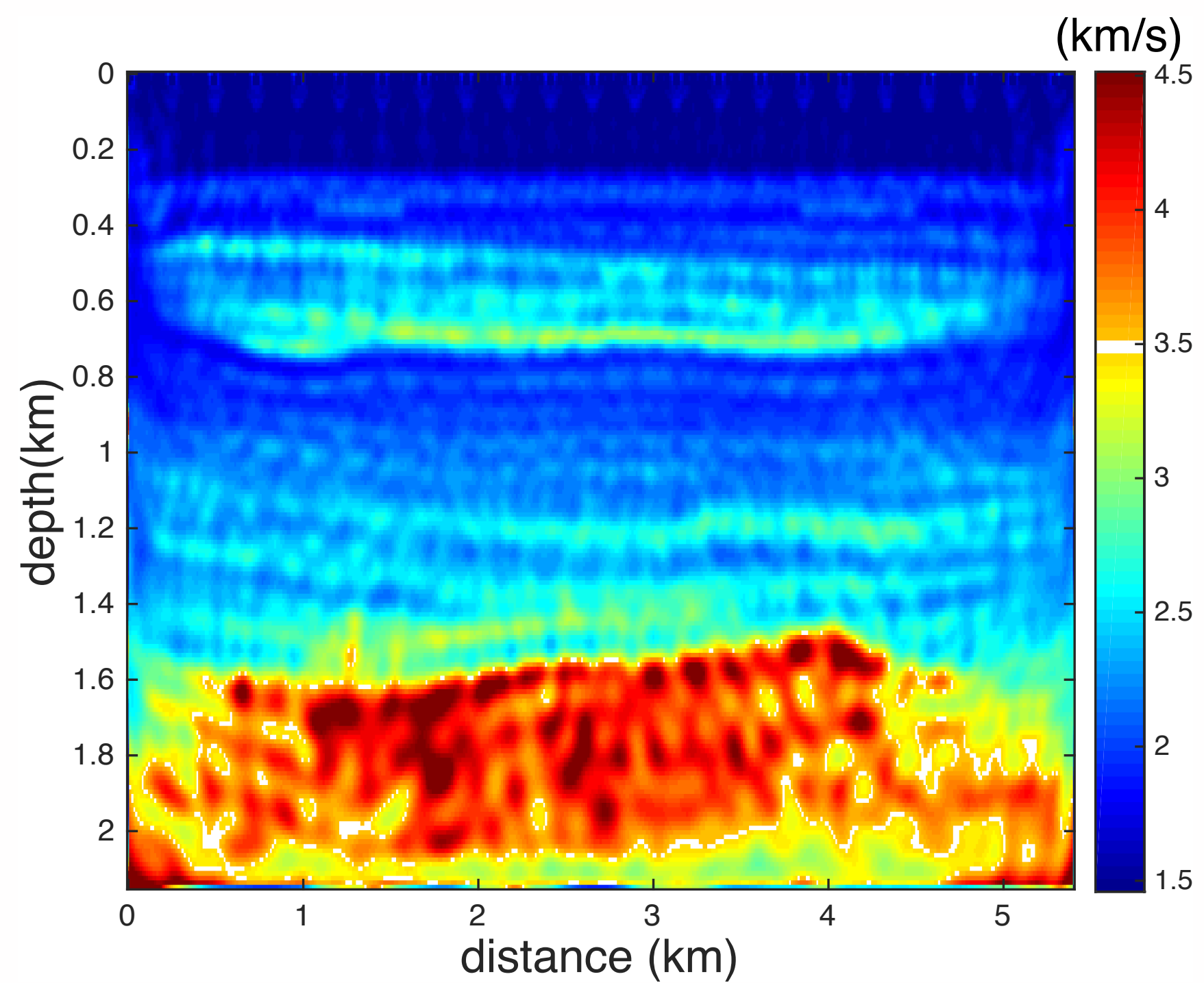
## **Test 2: robustness under modeling error**

## Test 2

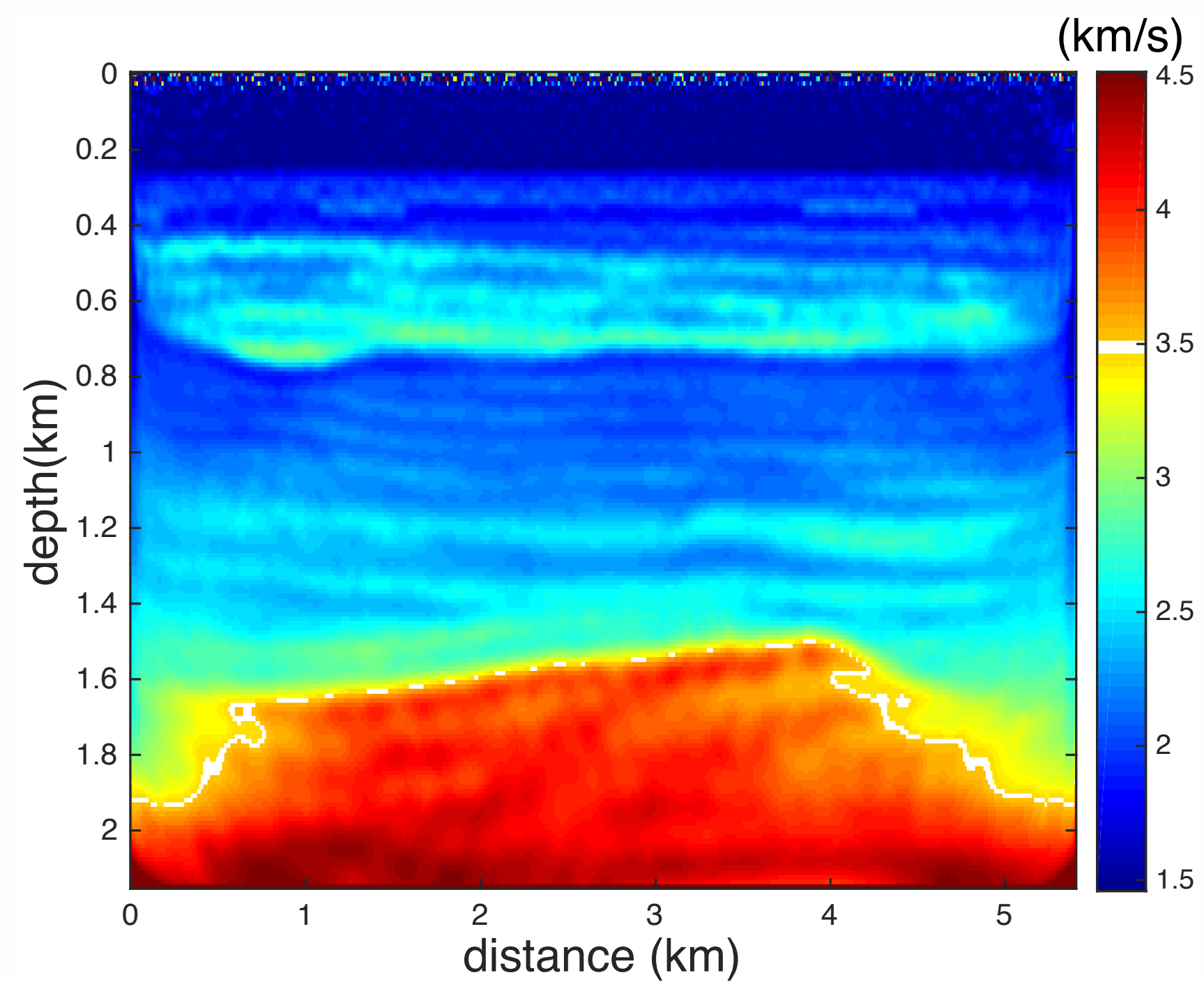
- Frequency continuation using batches [3,3.5][3.5,4]....[14.5,15]Hz
- source spacing : 240m
- receiver spacing : 48m
- source depth: 12m
- True source  $q$ : ricker wavelet at 10Hz
- Source used for inversion:  $0.8q$
- Linear depth weighting



# Test 2



Inverted model w/ FWI



Inverted model w/ FWI-DN with  $\epsilon = 0$



## Conclusion

- We proposed a denoising version of FWI
- We observed weighted/preconditioned PDE misfits dramatically increase robustness to modeling error
- The formulation makes incorporating prior knowledge of noise level convenient w/o increasing too much of complexity

## Acknowledgements

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