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# Robust FWI using Student's T & Robust Source Estimation



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Joint work with

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Implementations and tests at Total with Henri Calandra, Bertrand Denel

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Sinbad Consortium Whistler, 2011

### Outline

#### • Robust FWI

- Motivation and statistical insight
- Robust FWI formulations, with focus on Student's t
- Results on synthetic data (including implementation at Total)

#### Robust Source Estimation

- General formulation (includes Student's t, Huber, hybrid, etc formulations).
- Generalized Variable Projection Approach
- Specific implementations and examples
- Proof of concept numerics

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### **Nonlinear Least Squares Formulation**

• We consider inverse problems of the form

$$\mathbf{D} = \mathcal{F}(\mathbf{m}; \mathbf{Q}) + \epsilon$$

D	$n \times m$ matrix of observations
Q	$l \times m$ array of source parameters
m	parameters to be recovered
$\mathcal{F}(\mathrm{m};\mathbf{Q})$	Forward model (calculated data)
$\epsilon$	Model for error, typically Gaussian i.i.d.

• Choice of Gaussian error leads to least squares formulation:

$$\min_{\mathbf{m}} \Phi(\mathbf{m}) = \|\underbrace{\mathbf{D} - \mathcal{F}(\mathbf{m}; \mathbf{Q})}_{\mathbf{R}(\mathbf{m})}\|_{F}^{2} = \sum_{i=1}^{m} \|\underbrace{\mathbf{d}_{i} - \mathcal{F}(\mathbf{m})\mathbf{q}_{i}}_{\mathbf{r}_{i}(\mathbf{m})}\|_{2}^{2}$$

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### **Statistical Perspective for Least Squares**

• The NLLS formulation is equivalent to the following statistical model:

$$\mathbf{D} = \mathcal{F}[\mathbf{m}; \mathbf{Q}] + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}$$
$$\boldsymbol{\epsilon} \sim \mathbf{N}(0, I)$$

 Equivalence follows from maximum likelihood estimate for model parameters:

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{m}) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\left\|\mathbf{D}-\mathcal{F}[\mathbf{m};\mathbf{Q}]\right\|_{F}^{2}\right)$$

- Minimizing the negative log likelihood is exactly the FWI problem.
- Statistical perspective explains why least squares are sensitive to outliers and artifacts in the data!

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## Sensitivity to Outliers in Gaussian Regime

• Large deviations from the mean are VERY unlikely in the Gaussian model:

	Gaussian
$p( x  > 4\sigma)$	$6.3 \times 10^{-5}$
$p( x  > 8\sigma)$	$1.3 \times 10^{-15}$
$p( x  > 8\sigma   x  > 4\sigma)$	$2.1 \times 10^{-11}$

- Observations more than 4 standard deviations away from the mean occur less than .006 percent of the time.
- Even when we KNOW we have an outlier 4 standard deviations away, we still believe it is impossible for the outlier to be more than 8 standard deviations away!
- Low likelihood values correspond to HIGH penalties for outliers.

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### **Motivation for Robust Formulations**

- Errors in measurement, e.g. equipment malfunction
- Missing data: measurement instruments may fail to record
- Even more important: unexplained "artifacts" in the data! A lot of effort is routinely devoted to
  - Data cleaning to remove unexplained artifacts
  - Complex forward model design to explain such artifacts e.g. acoustic vs. elastic vs. anisotropic
- Why not use robust fitting methods with cheaper modeling?

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#### **Modeling from the Statistical Perspective**

• We can alter the assumptions on the model error:

$$\mathbf{D} = \mathcal{F}[\mathbf{m}; \mathbf{Q}] + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}, \quad \boldsymbol{\epsilon} \text{ has density } \mathbf{p}$$

	Gaussian	$L(\lambda = 1)$	T(k=3)
$p( x  > 4\sigma)$	$6.3 \times 10^{-5}$	0.02	$0.6 imes10^{-2}$
$p( x  > 8\sigma)$	$1.3 \times 10^{-15}$	$3.3 \times 10^{-4}$	$8.1 \times 10^{-4}$
$p( x  > 8\sigma   x  > 4\sigma)$	$2.1 \times 10^{-11}$	0.02	0.14

Laplace/Huber have heavier tails than the Gaussian...

• But Student's t-density (3rd column) is heavy tailed.

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#### **Some Previous Work**

- Robust statistical work has a long history (I've seen references to 1930's). A few useful 'Robust statistics' books:
  - Huber 1981
  - Hampel et al (2003)
  - Marona et al, (2006)
- For robust penalties in Seismic, see
  - Huber: Guitton & Symes, 2003
  - Huber and L1: Brossier, Operto, Virieux 2009, 2010
  - Hybrid: Bube, 2007.
- We are particularly interested in Student's t distribution. See
  - Lange 1989, general paper applying student's t formulations to regression
  - Fahrmeir 1998, Robust kalman smoothing using Student's t
- In our experience, Student's t works well for structured inverse problems in nonlinear Kalman smoothing, computer vision applications, and FWI.

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#### From the Statistics to the Formulation

• Formulate *maximum a posteriori* (MAP) problem:

$$\mathbf{D} = \mathcal{F}[\mathbf{m}; \mathbf{Q}] + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}, \quad \boldsymbol{\epsilon} \text{ has density } \mathbf{p}$$
$$f(\mathbf{R}) = -\log(\mathbf{p})$$

• MAP solution can be found by solving

$$\min_{\mathbf{m}} \Phi(\mathbf{m}) := f\left(\mathbf{D} - \mathcal{F}[\mathbf{m}; \mathbf{Q}]\right)$$

– NLLS: 
$$oldsymbol{\epsilon} \sim \mathbf{N}(\mathbf{0},\mathbf{I}) \iff \Phi(\mathbf{m}) = \|\mathbf{D} - oldsymbol{\mathcal{F}}[\mathbf{m};\mathbf{Q}]\|_F^2$$

• Theorem: heavy tailed densities correspond to nonconvex f!

– Aravkin, Friedlander, Herrmann, and van Leeuwen, 2011.

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#### **Densities, Penalties, and Influence Functions**



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#### **FWI Using Student's t-distribution**

**Density:** 
$$\mathbf{p}(\epsilon|\mu,\sigma,k) = \frac{\Gamma(\frac{k+1}{2})}{\sigma\Gamma(\frac{k}{2})\sqrt{\pi k}} \left(1 + \frac{(\epsilon-\mu)^2}{k\sigma^2}\right)^{\frac{-(k+1)}{2}}$$

For FWI: 
$$\mathbf{p}(\epsilon|\mu=0,\sigma=1,k) \propto (k+\epsilon^2)^{\frac{-(k+1)}{2}}$$

**ROBUST OBJECTIVE:** 

$$\min_{\mathbf{m}} \quad \mathbf{\Phi}_{St}(\mathbf{m}) := \frac{k+1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{m} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \log \left( k + (\mathbf{r}_{ij})^2 \right)$$

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#### **Gradient Comparison**

#### LEAST SQUARES:

$$\nabla \mathbf{\Phi}(\mathbf{m}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{m} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \nabla \mathcal{F}[\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{q}_{ij}]^{T} \left( \mathbf{D}_{ij} - \mathcal{F}[\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{q}_{ij}] \right)$$

STUDENT'S T:

$$\nabla \mathbf{\Phi}_{St}(\mathbf{m}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{m} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \frac{\nabla \mathcal{F}[\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{q}_{ij}]^{T} \left( \mathbf{D}_{ij} - \mathcal{F}[\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{q}_{ij}] \right)}{k + (\mathbf{D}_{ij} - \mathcal{F}[\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{q}_{ij}])^{2}}$$

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#### Marmoussi with 50% data corrupted at random



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#### Histograms of residual magnitudes:



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#### Marmoussi, LS fit, 50% corrupted data



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#### Marmoussi, Huber fit, 50% corrupted data



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#### Marmoussi: T fit, 50% corrupted data



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#### Marmoussi: LS fit, corrupted data ignored



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#### Marmoussi II: Total Implementation





#### **20% CORRUPTED DATA**

#### INITIAL MODEL, 4 HZ

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#### **Results: Least Squares with GOOD data, 4Hz**



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#### **Results: Least Squares with BAD data, 4 Hz**



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#### Results: Student's t with BAD data, 10 DF, 4Hz



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#### **Results: Least Squares with GOOD data**



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### **Source Estimation for Robust Formulations**

• We consider general inverse problems of the form m

$$\min_{\mathbf{m},\boldsymbol{\alpha}} \Phi(\mathbf{m},\boldsymbol{\alpha}) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \phi_i \left( \mathbf{r}_i(\mathbf{m}, \alpha_i) \right),$$

$$\mathbf{r_i}(\mathbf{m}, \alpha_i) := \mathbf{d_i} - \alpha_i \mathcal{F}_i(\mathbf{m}) \mathbf{q_i}$$

$\mathbf{d_i}$	$n \times 1$ shot record
$\mathbf{q_i}$	$l \times 1$ source
m	parameters to be recovered
${\cal F}_{\rm i}({ m m})$	Forward model (calculated data)
$lpha_{i}$	Unknown source amplitude
$\phi_i$	Smooth misfit function (robust)

• We estimate source amplitudes and model parameters **jointly**.

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#### **Generalized Variable Projection Approach**

• For fixed model parameters, obtain a function of amplitudes only:

$$\rho(\boldsymbol{\alpha}) = \sum_{i=1}^{m} \phi_i(\mathbf{r_i}(\mathbf{\hat{m}}, \alpha_i))$$

• Find the optimal amplitudes by minimizing this function:

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}} = \arg\min_{\boldsymbol{\alpha}} \sum_{i=1}^{m} \phi_i(\mathbf{r_i}(\hat{\mathbf{m}}, \alpha_i))$$

One can easily show that as long as misfit is smooth,

$$\nabla \Phi(\mathbf{m}, \boldsymbol{\alpha}(\mathbf{m})) = \nabla_{\mathbf{m}} \Phi(\mathbf{m}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}})$$

- As long as amplitudes are re-estimated at each step, we iterate as usual, and still converge to a minimum of the joint objective.
- The key now is to solve the amplitude-only problem **FAST**.

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### **Newton Method for Amplitude-Only Problem**

• For each amplitude, implement (scalar) Newton's method:

$$\alpha_{i}^{k+1} = \alpha_{i}^{k} + s_{i}^{k} d_{i}^{k}$$
  
$$d_{i}^{k} = -\frac{\nabla \phi_{i}(\mathbf{r_{i}}(\hat{\mathbf{m}}, \alpha_{i}^{k}))^{T} \mathcal{F}_{i}(\hat{\mathbf{m}}) \mathbf{q_{i}}}{\|\mathcal{F}_{i}(\hat{\mathbf{m}}) \mathbf{q_{i}}\|_{H}^{2}}$$

- When misfit is least squares, this method converges in one iteration and reduces to standard source estimation formula.
- In general, good solutions are obtained in 5 to 10 iterations, so general source estimation requires only a little more effort than LS source estimation.
- When the Hessian is not positive definite (Student's t), it is easy to adjust.
- Updates to amplitudes to not require any forward modeling note that model is fixed throughout the entire process.

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#### **Source Estimation for Student's t-Formulation**

• Full algorithm:  

$$\alpha_i^{k+1} = \alpha_i^k - \sum_j \frac{r_{ij}^k f_{ij}}{k + (r_{ij}^k)^2} / \sum_j \frac{f_{ij}^2}{k + (r_{ij}^k)^2}$$

$$f_{ij} = (\mathcal{F}_i(\mathbf{m})\mathbf{q}_i)^j$$

$$r_{ij}^k = d_{ij} - \alpha_i (\boldsymbol{\mathcal{F}}_i(\mathbf{m})\mathbf{q}_i)^j$$

- Hessian for Student's t misfit is NOT positive definite, but we use a simple modification to design a nice method.
- In practice, the method converges in just a few iterations, without a line search.
- It took just a few hours to implement Student's t source estimation in a massively parallel FWI code at Total, thanks to Henri Calandra.

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### **Proof of Concept**

- We perform a simple experiment:
  - (1) We generate vectors of observed and predicted data randomly.
  - (2) We estimate source amplitude using LS and Student's t methods.
  - (3) We add 'outliers' to a portion of the data
  - (4) We re-estimate the source using LS and Student's t, and compare.
- Results: for vectors of 100,000 measurements, we generated outliers 10000 times larger than actual data points.

	LS Error $(\%)$	T Error (%)
Good data	0	$\approx 1\%$
10 outliers	$\approx 1000\%$	$\approx 1\%$
100 outliers	$\approx 9000\%$	$\approx 1\%$

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### Conclusions

- Robust formulations to FWI that are able to ignore LARGE unexplained artifacts in the data.
- A particularly robust approach is obtained using heavy tailed densities, such as the Student's t, and corresponding non-convex penalties.
  - It is easy to modify an existing code base to solve the Student's t FWI problem!
- We have also derived a general methodology for robust source estimation using variable projection, and applied it to Robust FWI with Student's t.
- Future work includes strategies for automated estimation of degrees of freedom parameters k and uncertainty quantification.

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# Marmoussi Example

SLIM 🛃

- We consider a subset of the Marmoussi model
- 151 shots, 301 receivers
- 9 pt. discretization of Helmholtz operator with absorbing boundary; 10 m. spacing on grid
- Sample of Frequencies [5.0, 6.0, 11.5, 14.0, 15.5, 17.5, 23.5] Hz