

Constraints versus penalties for edge-preserving full-waveform inversion

Felix J. Herrmann

Constraints versus penalties for edge-preserving full-waveform inversion

Felix J. Herrmann & Bas Peters



Bas Peters and Felix J. Herrmann, "[Constraints versus penalties for edge-preserving full-waveform inversion](#)". 2016. Submitted to TLE.

SLIM 
University of British Columbia

Motivation

Full-waveform inversion (FWI):

- ▶ hampered by poor data & parasitic local minima
- ▶ ill-posed \Leftrightarrow missing frequencies & finite aperture
- ▶ should benefit from bounds & structure-promoting priors (TV- or ℓ_1 -norms)

Efforts met w/ limited success:

- ▶ unpredictable dependence on (unnecessary) hyper parameters
- ▶ poor conditioning of structure promoting regularization
- ▶ difficulties handling multiple pieces of prior information

FWI

Unconstrained optimization problem:

$$\underset{\mathbf{m} \in \mathbb{R}^m}{\text{minimize}} \quad f(\mathbf{m}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N_s} \|F(\mathbf{m})\mathbf{q}_i - \mathbf{d}_i\|_2^2$$

Diagram annotations: "objective" points to $f(\mathbf{m})$, "modelling" points to $F(\mathbf{m})\mathbf{q}_i$, and "data" points to \mathbf{d}_i .

Local derivative information is used to update the model:

$$\mathbf{m}_{k+1} = \mathbf{m}_k - \gamma \nabla_{\mathbf{m}} f(\mathbf{m}_k)$$

Diagram annotations: "iterate" points to \mathbf{m}_{k+1} and "gradient" points to $\nabla_{\mathbf{m}} f(\mathbf{m}_k)$.

- ▶ no insurance model iterates remain (physically/geologically) feasible
- ▶ no mitigation of inversion artifacts by controlling model's complexity

Stylized example

Forward model:

$$\mathbf{d} = F(\mathbf{c})\mathbf{q} \equiv \mathbf{c} * \mathbf{q}$$

Unconstrained inversion:

$$\underset{\mathbf{c} \in \mathbb{R}^m}{\text{minimize}} \frac{1}{2} \|F(\mathbf{c})\mathbf{q} - \mathbf{d}\|_2^2$$

- ▶ when source \mathbf{q} misses low frequencies
- ▶ w/o regularization

Stylized example w/ constraints

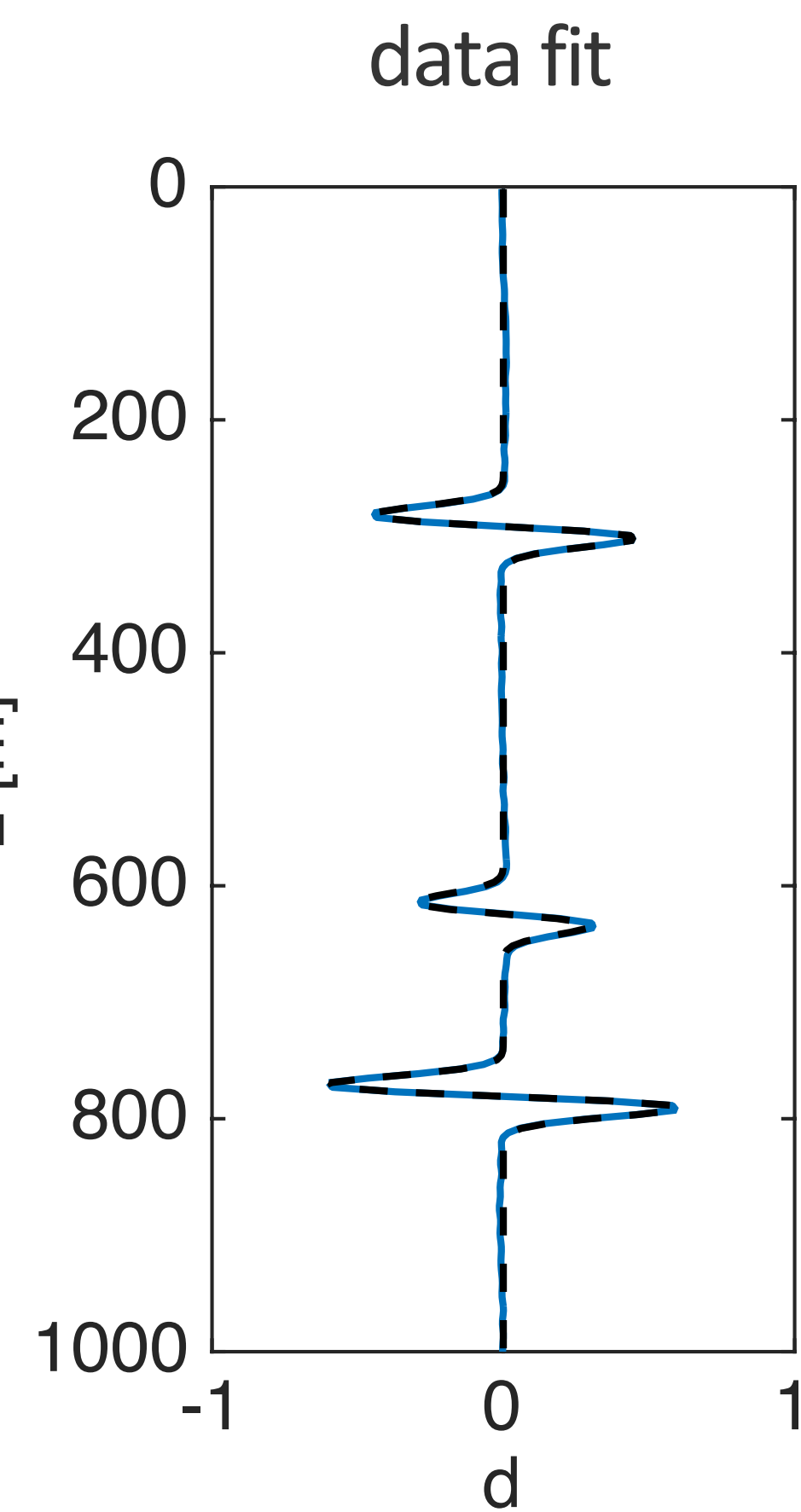
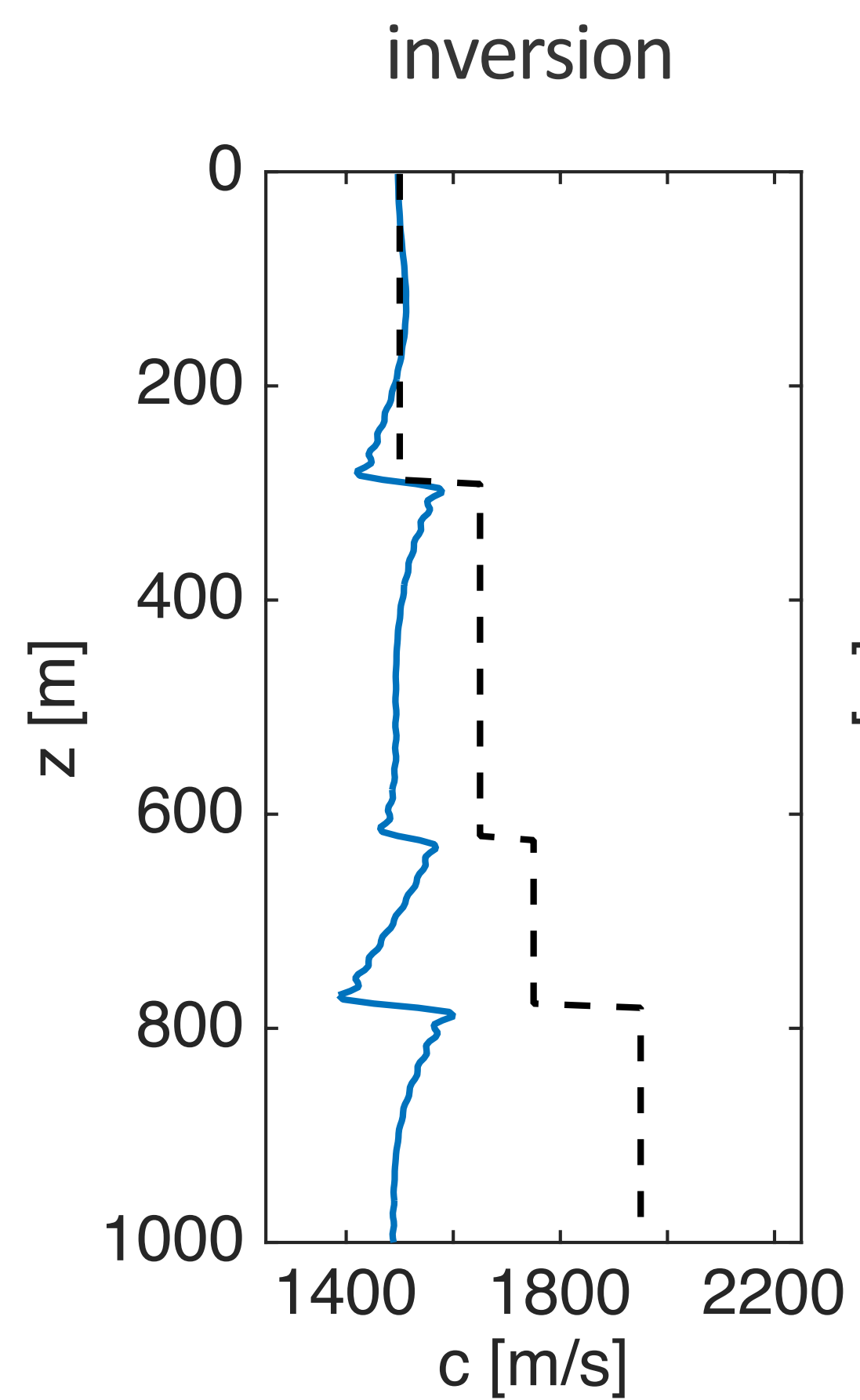
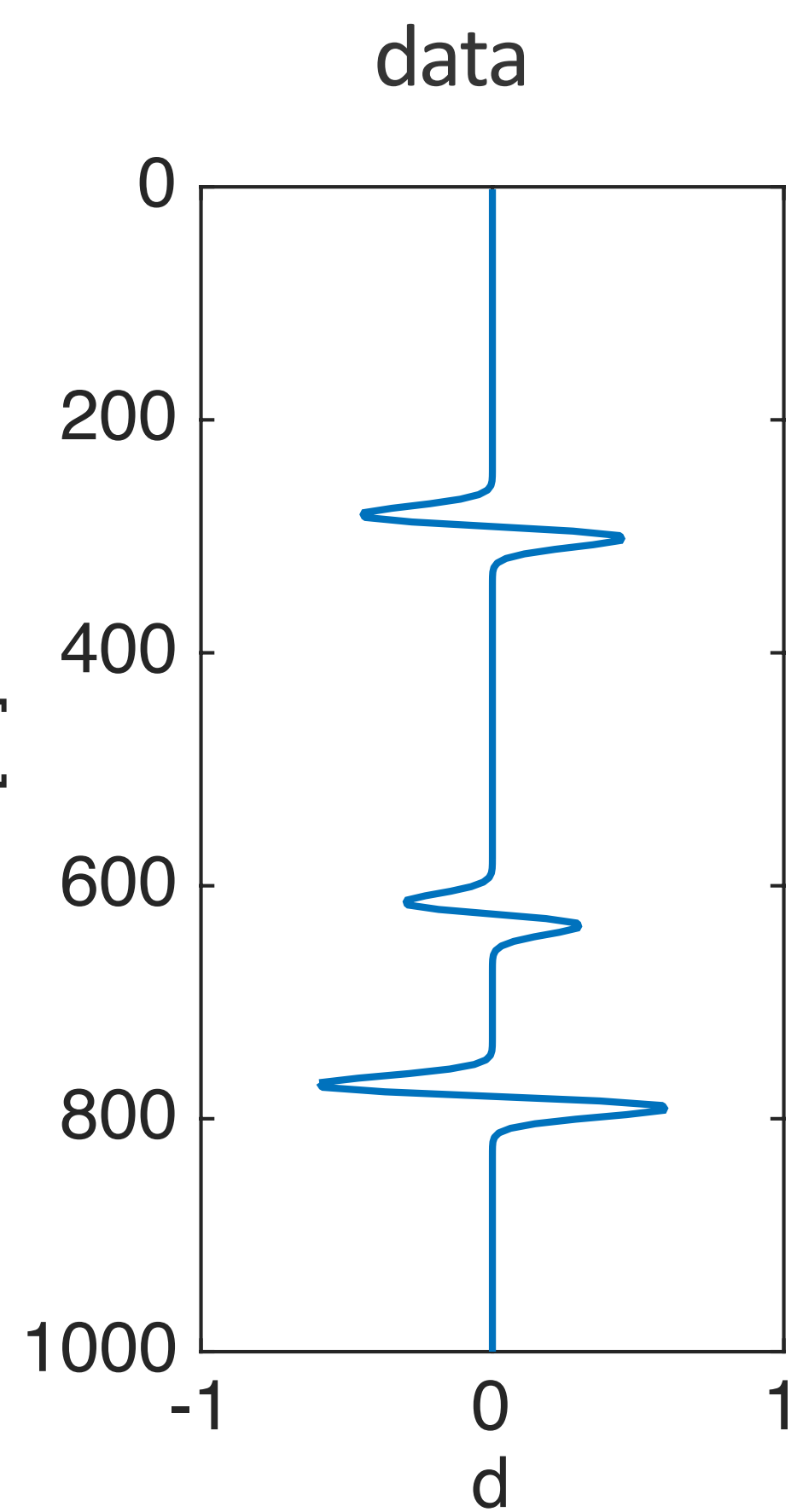
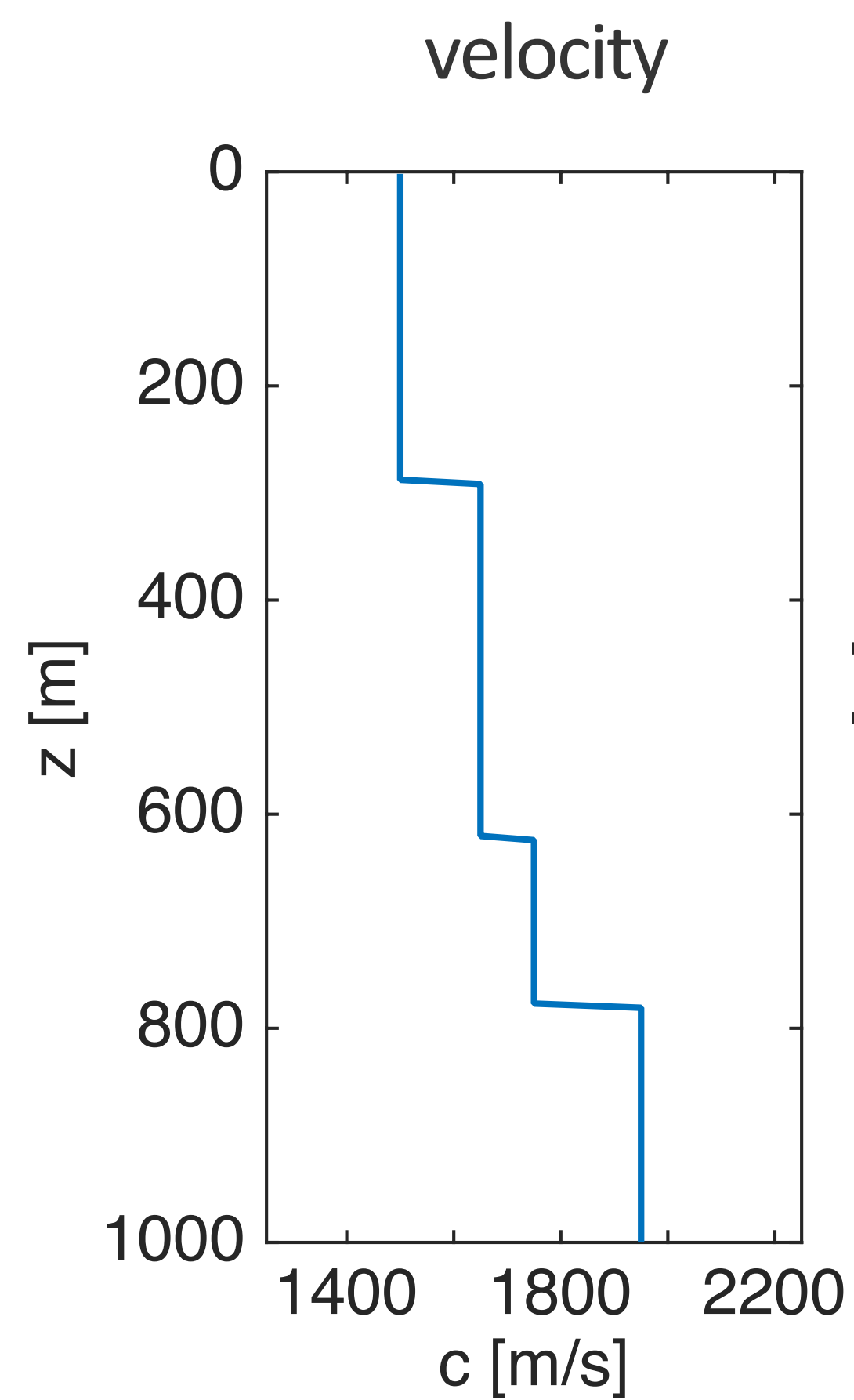
Regularization via constraints on model:

$$\underset{\mathbf{c} \geq \mathbf{c}_0}{\text{minimize}} \frac{1}{2} \|F(\mathbf{c})\mathbf{q} - \mathbf{d}\|_2^2 \quad \text{subject to} \quad \mathbf{D}\mathbf{c} \geq \mathbf{0}$$

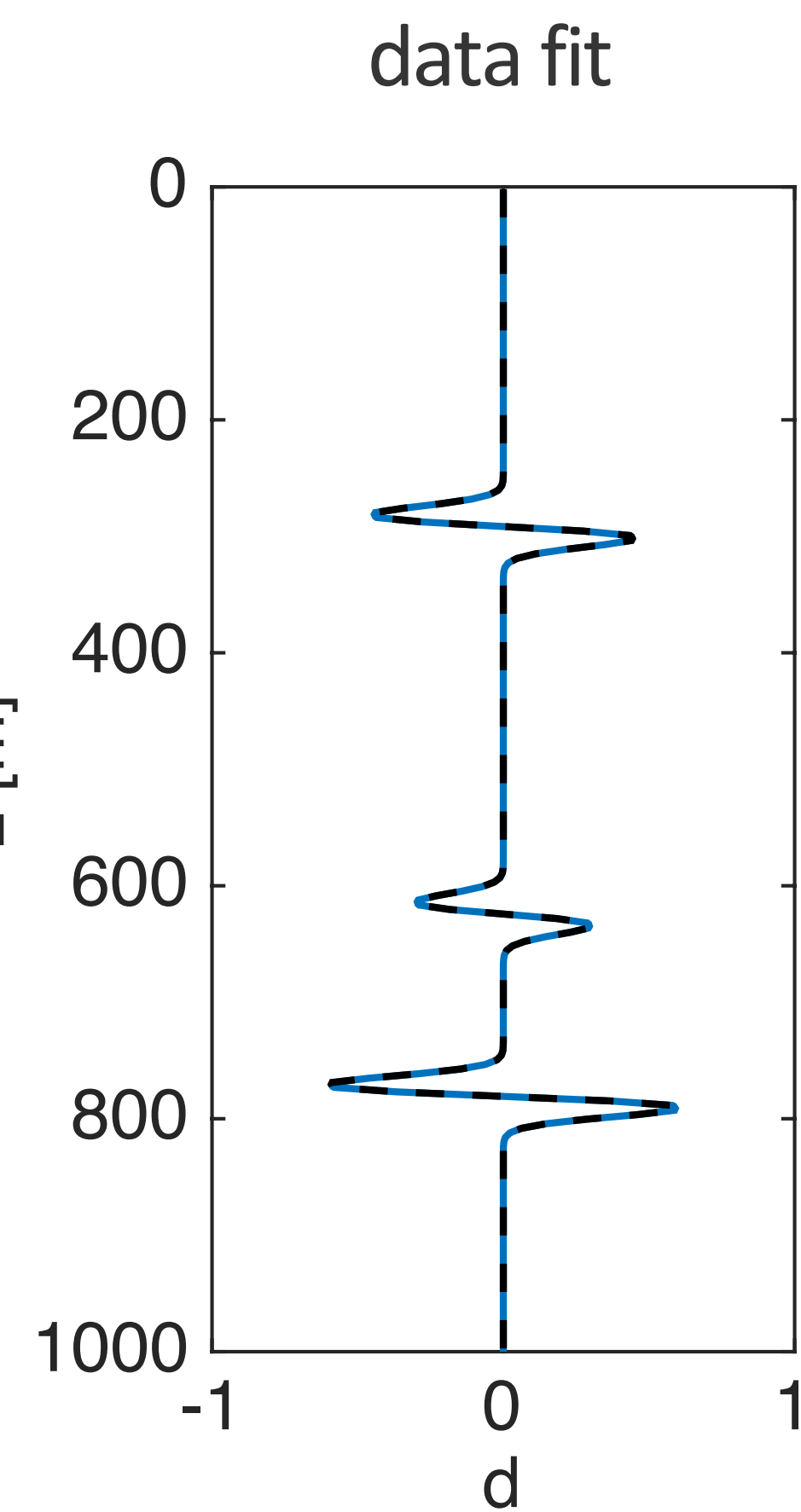
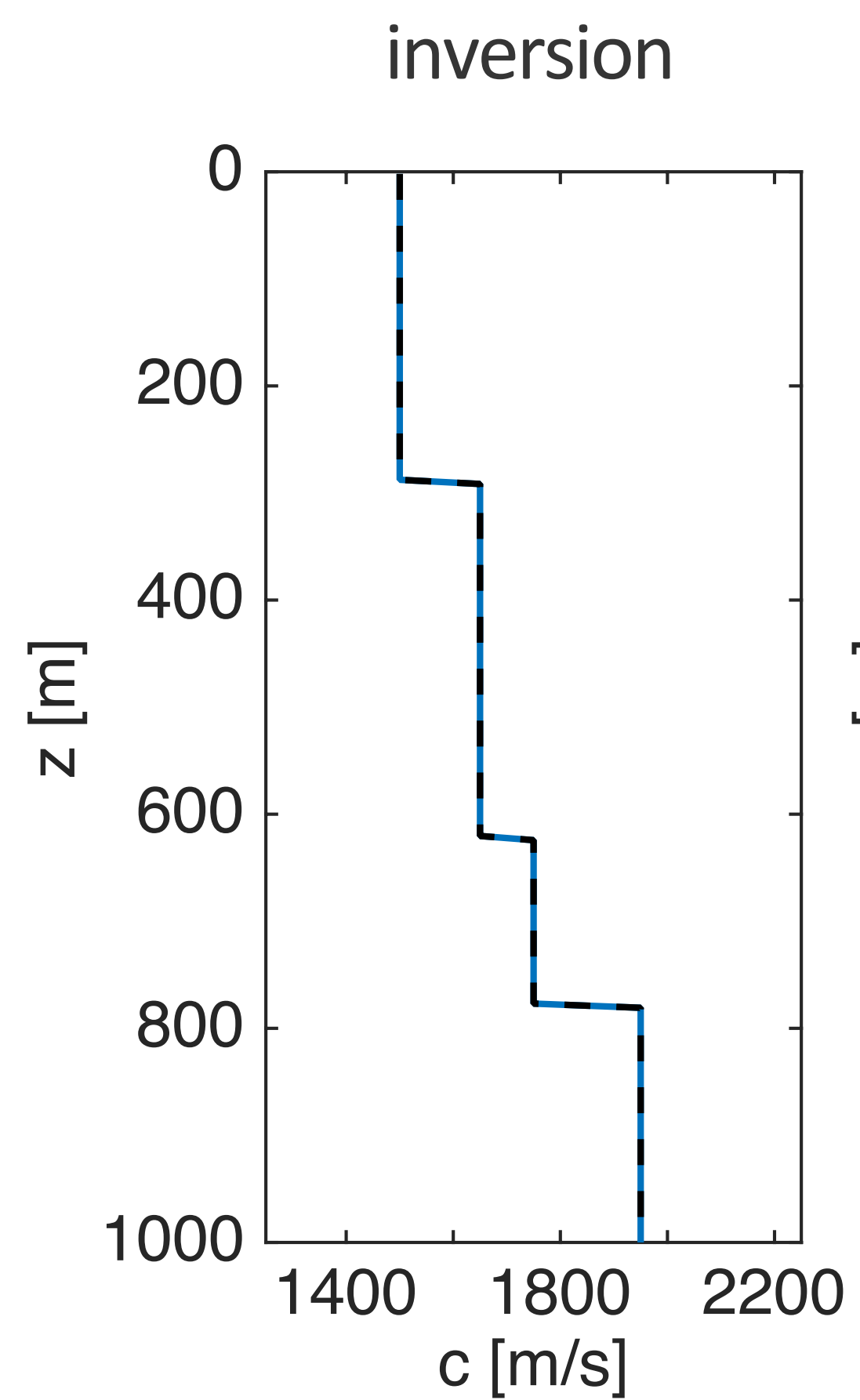
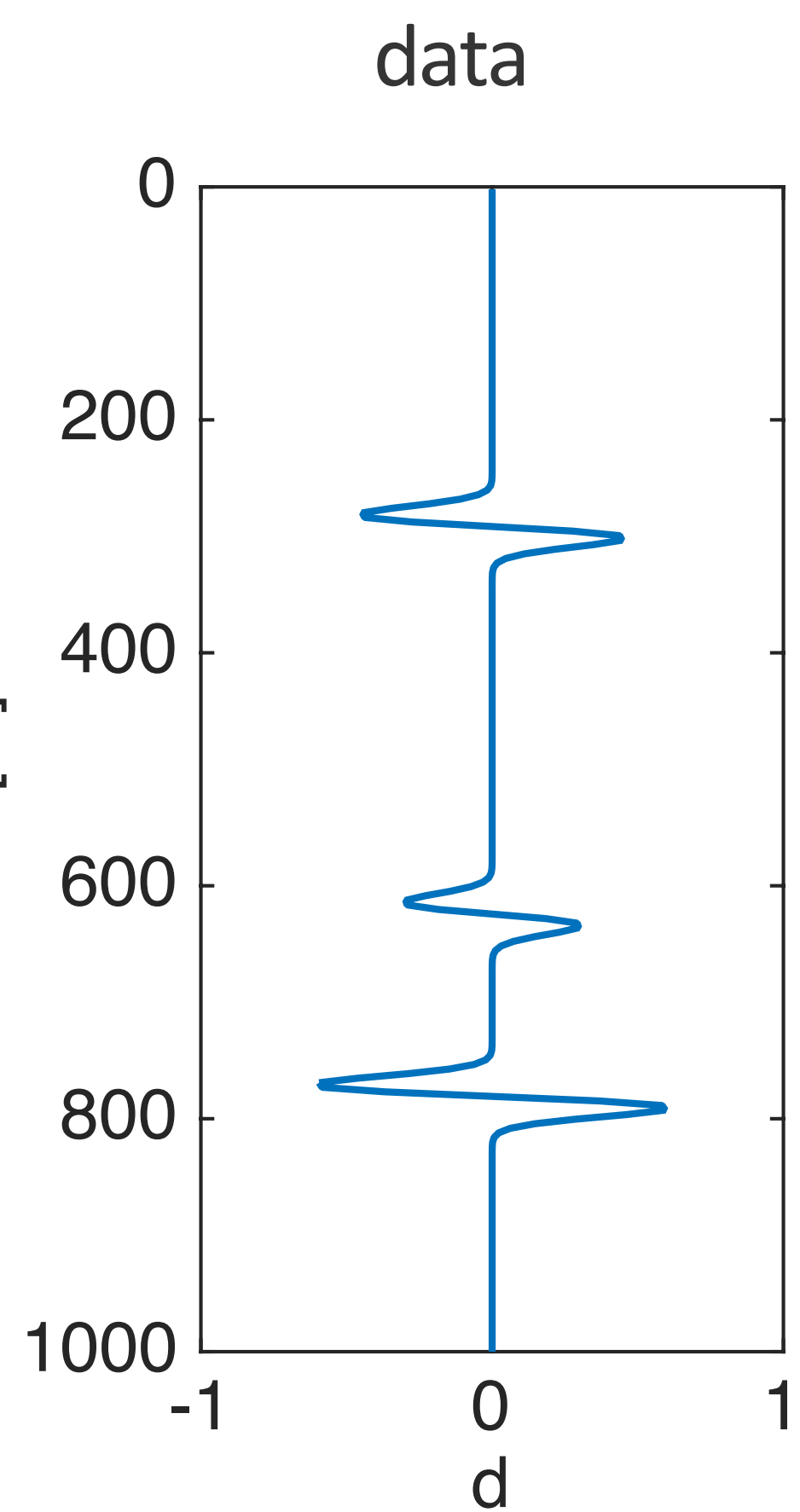
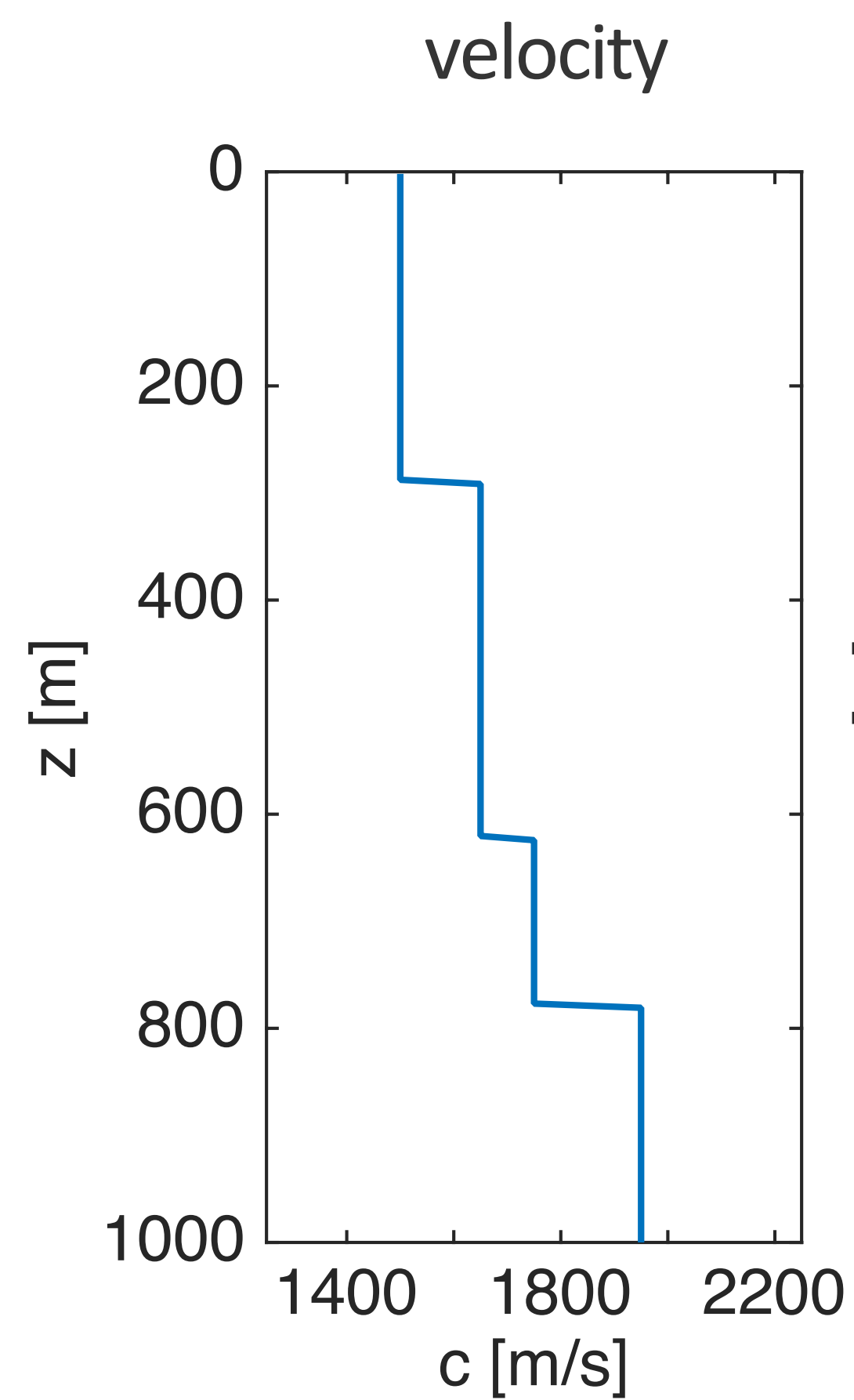
- ▶ minimal velocity
- ▶ monotonic increasing gradient of the velocity

Leads to successful recovery...

Inversion w/o constraints



Inversion w/ constraints



Tikhonov regularization

Add quadratic penalty terms:

$$\underset{\mathbf{m}}{\text{minimize}} f(\mathbf{m}) + \frac{\alpha}{2} \|R_1 \mathbf{m}\|^2 + \frac{\beta}{2} \|R_2 \mathbf{m}\|^2$$

- ▶ well-known & successful technique
- ▶ is differentiable
- ▶ not an exact penalty
- ▶ regularization may adversely affect gradient & Hessian
- ▶ requires non-trivial choices for hyper parameters
- ▶ not easily extended to edge-preserving ℓ_1 - norms
- ▶ **no guarantees that all model iterates are regularized**



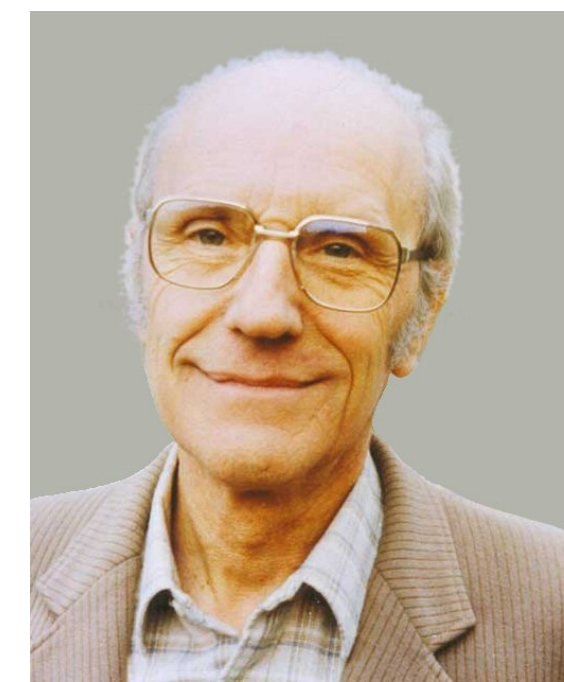
Andrey Tikhonov
1906–1993

Regularization w/ constraints

Add multiple constraints:

$$\underset{\mathbf{m}}{\text{minimize}} f(\mathbf{m}) \quad \text{subject to} \quad \mathbf{m} \in \mathcal{C}_1 \cap \mathcal{C}_2$$

- ▶ not well-known in our community
- ▶ requires understanding of latest optimization techniques
- ▶ does not affect gradient & Hessian
- ▶ easier parameterization
- ▶ able to uniquely project onto intersection of multiple constraint sets
- ▶ constraints do not need to be differentiable
- ▶ **constraints are satisfied at *every* model iterate**



Jean Jacques Moreau
1923–2014

POCS vs. best approximation

“Projection”-onto-convex-sets solves convex *feasibility* problems:

$$\text{find } \mathbf{m} \in \mathcal{C}_1 \cap \mathcal{C}_2$$

Instead, we solve convex *projection* problems:

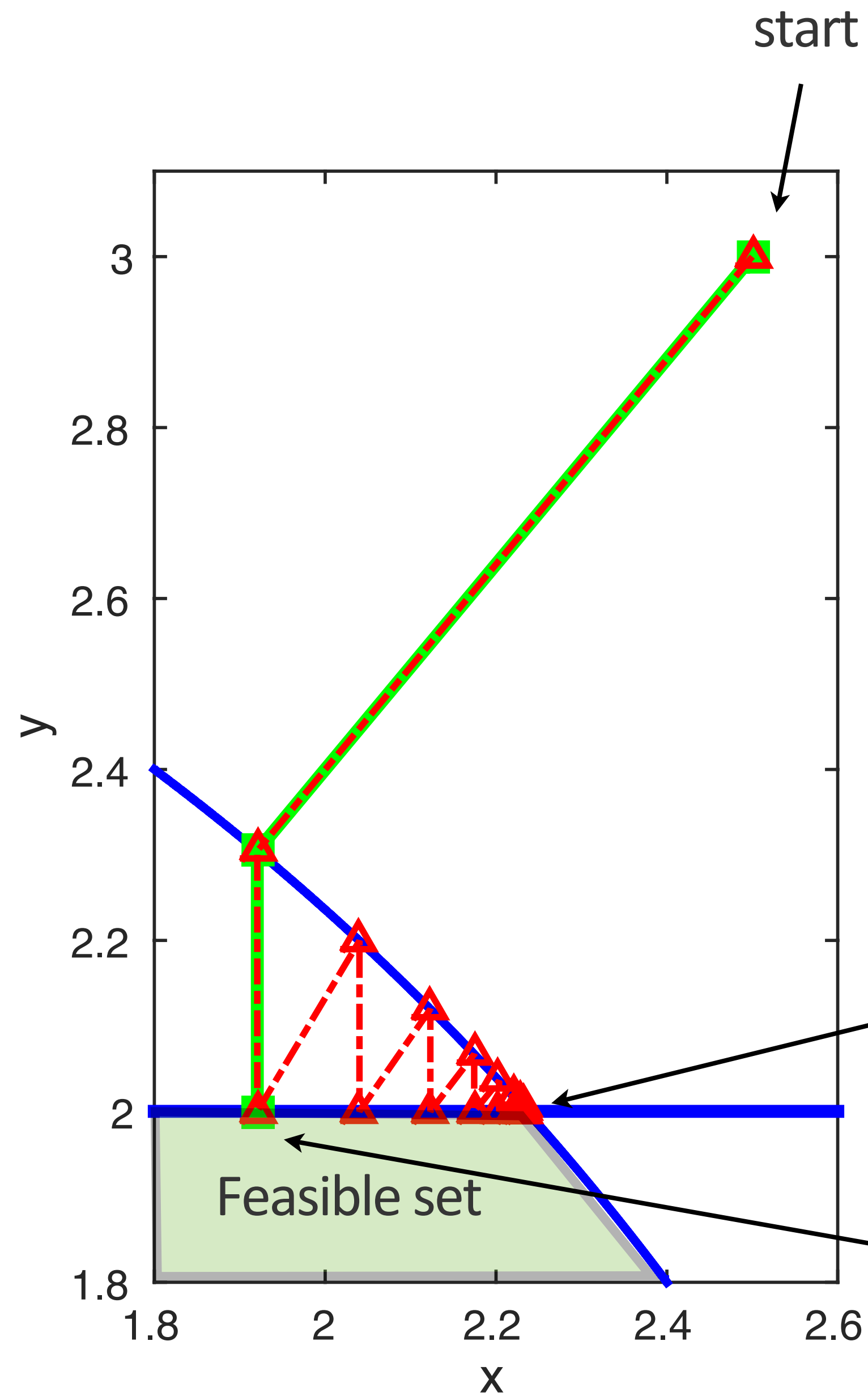
$$\underset{\mathbf{m}}{\text{minimize}} \|\mathbf{m} - \mathbf{x}\|_2^2 \quad \text{subject to } \mathbf{m} \in \mathcal{C}_1 \cap \mathcal{C}_2$$

- ▶ obtain optimal (also feasible) approximations
- ▶ project *uniquely* w/ DYKSTRA onto intersections of convex sets

Feasibility vs optimal

Optimal (red) --> unique solution

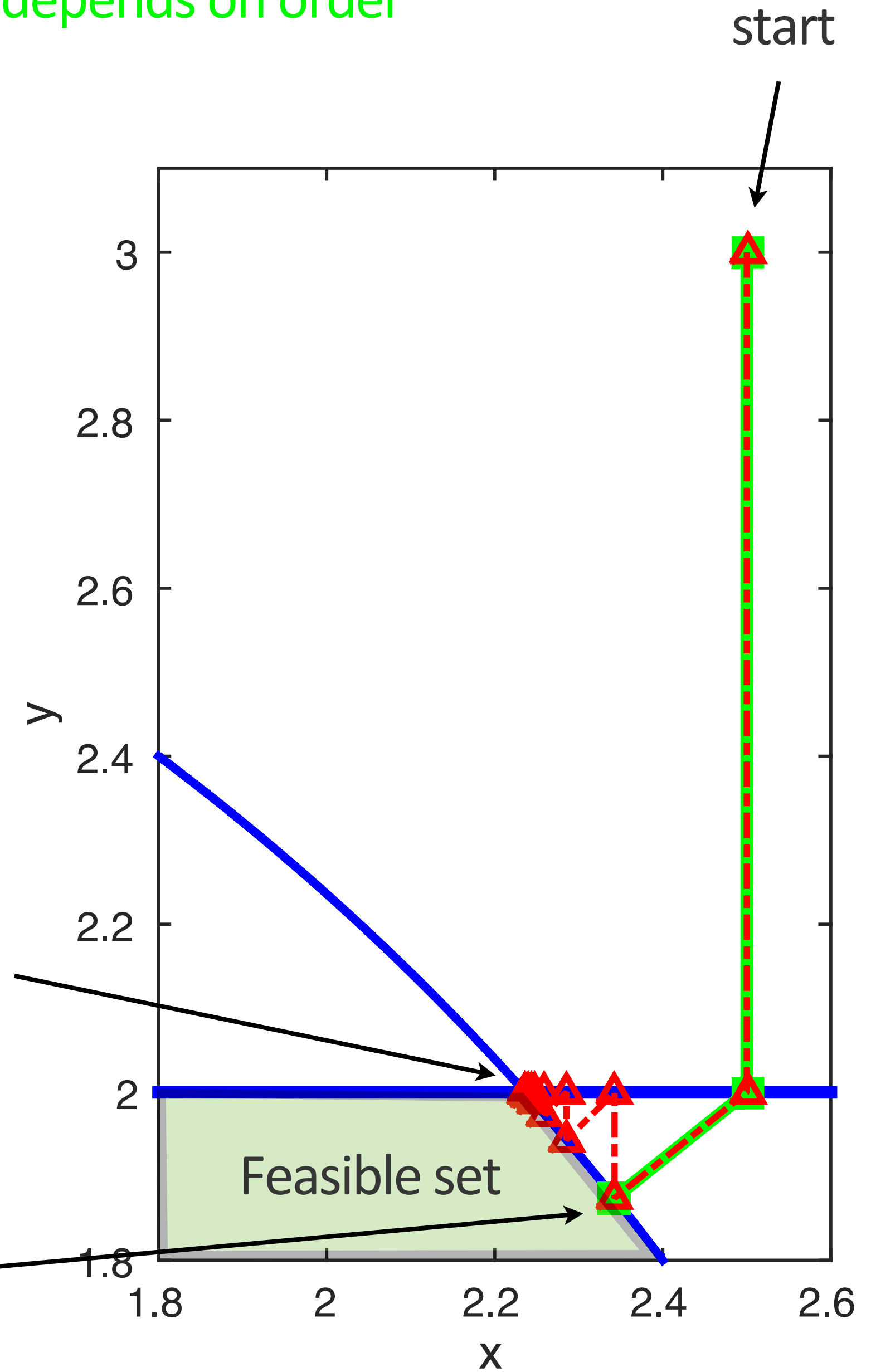
Feasible (green) --> depends on order



Intersection of circle & square

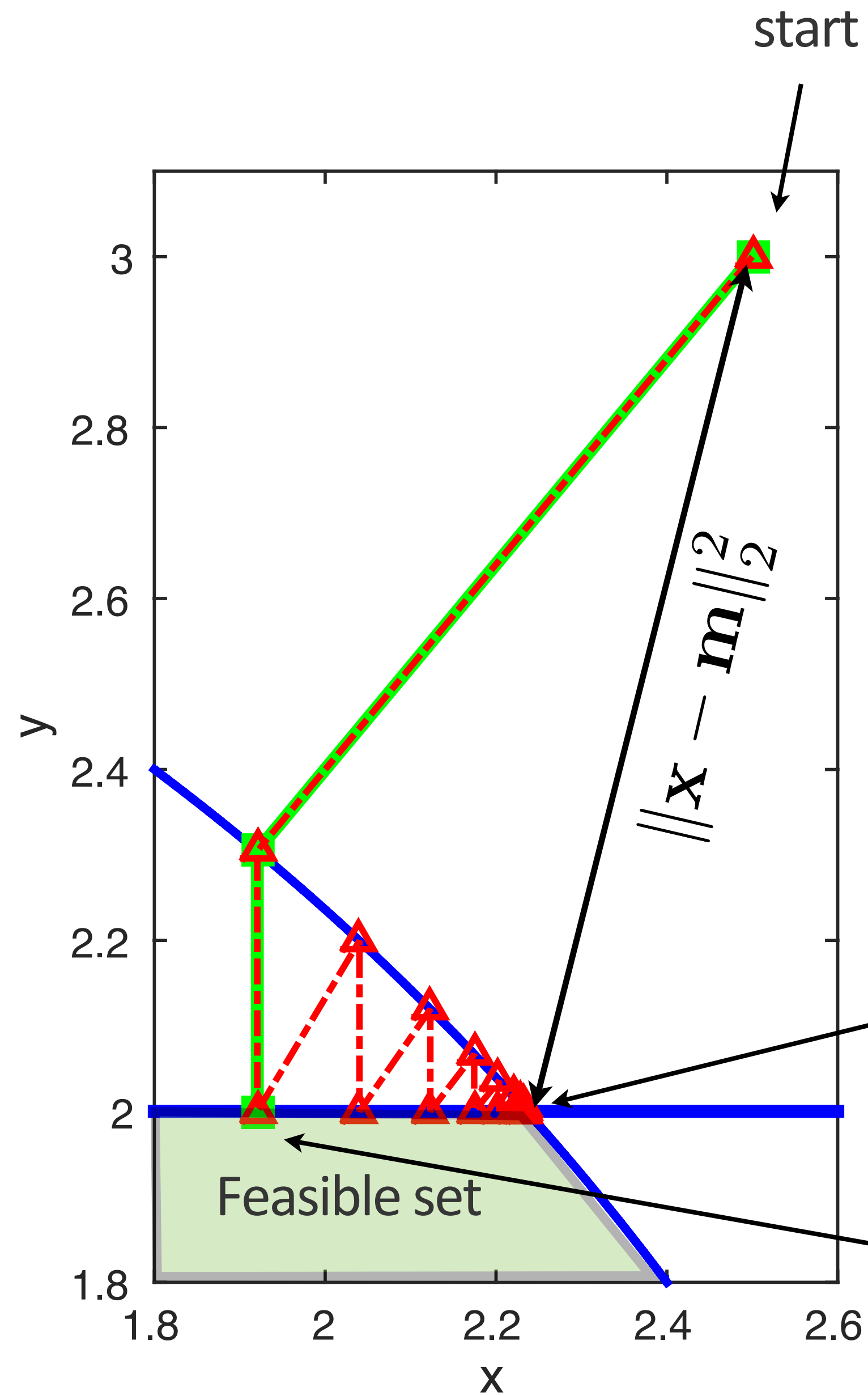
Optimal

POCS



Optimal (red) --> unique solution

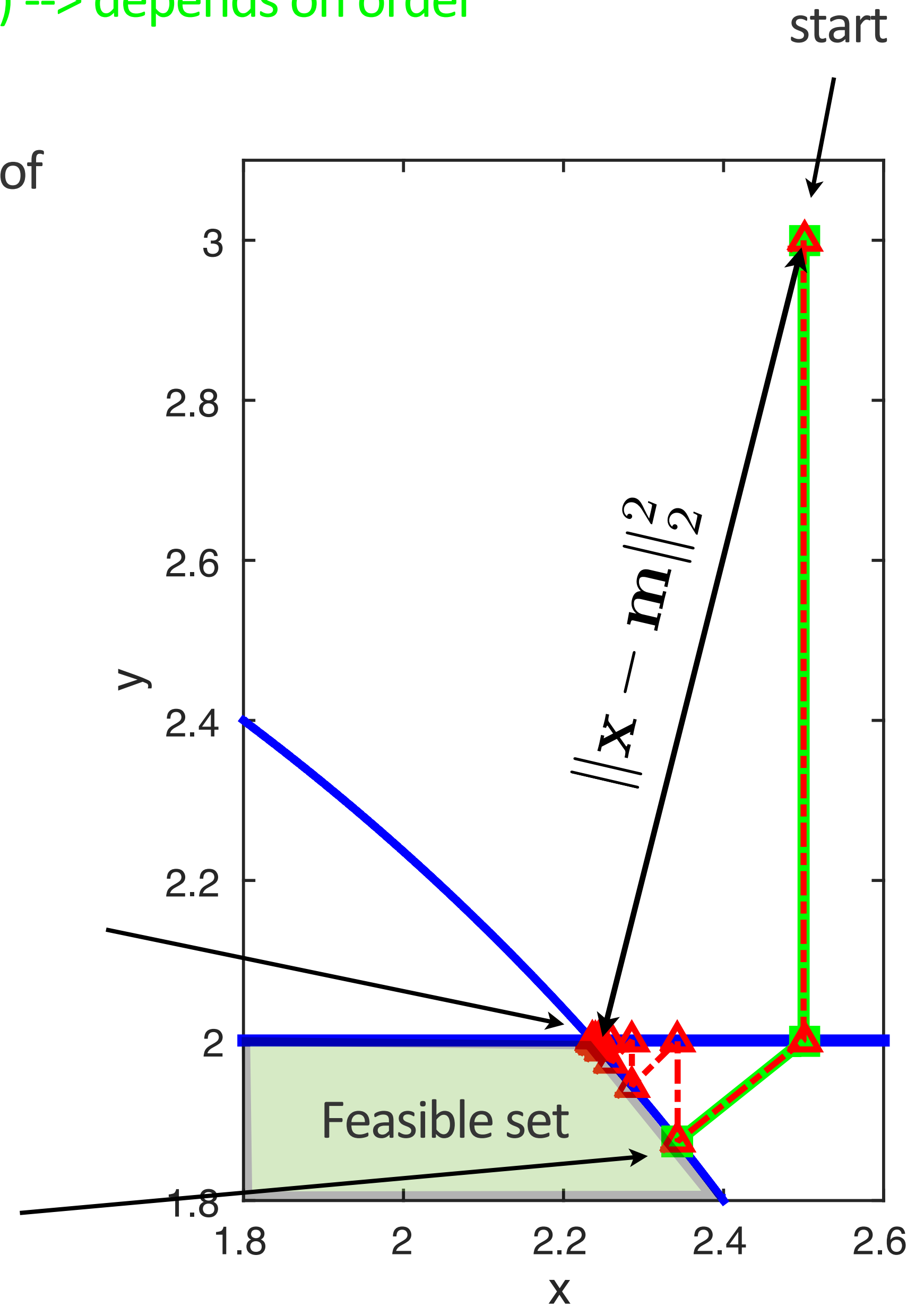
Feasible (green) --> depends on order



Intersection of
circle
&
square

Optimal

POCS



Our constraints

bounds: $\mathcal{C}_1 = \{\mathbf{m} : \mathbf{m} \in \text{Box}\}$ where $\mathbf{m} \in \text{Box}$ means

$$l_{i,j} \leq m_{i,j} \leq u_{i,j} \quad \forall i, j$$

total-variation norm ball: $\mathcal{C}_2 = \{\mathbf{m} : \text{TV}(\mathbf{m}) \leq \tau\}$

$$\text{TV}(\mathbf{m}) = \frac{1}{h} \sum_{ij} \sqrt{(m_{i+1,j} - m_{i,j})^2 + (m_{i,j+1} - m_{i,j})^2}$$

Proximal projection

Find a model \mathbf{m} , closest to \mathbf{x} , such that it satisfies the constraints:

$$\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{C}}(\mathbf{x}) = \arg \min_{\mathbf{m}} \|\mathbf{m} - \mathbf{x}\|_2^2 \quad \text{subject to} \quad \mathbf{m} \in \mathcal{C}_1 \cap \mathcal{C}_2$$

yields

- ▶ nonlinear “minimal complexity” best approximation of \mathbf{m}
- ▶ $\mathbf{m} \rightarrow \mathbf{x}$ when $\tau \rightarrow \tau_0 = \text{TV}(\mathbf{x})$ and $\mathbf{m} \in \text{Box}$
- ▶ edge preserving

Best approximations

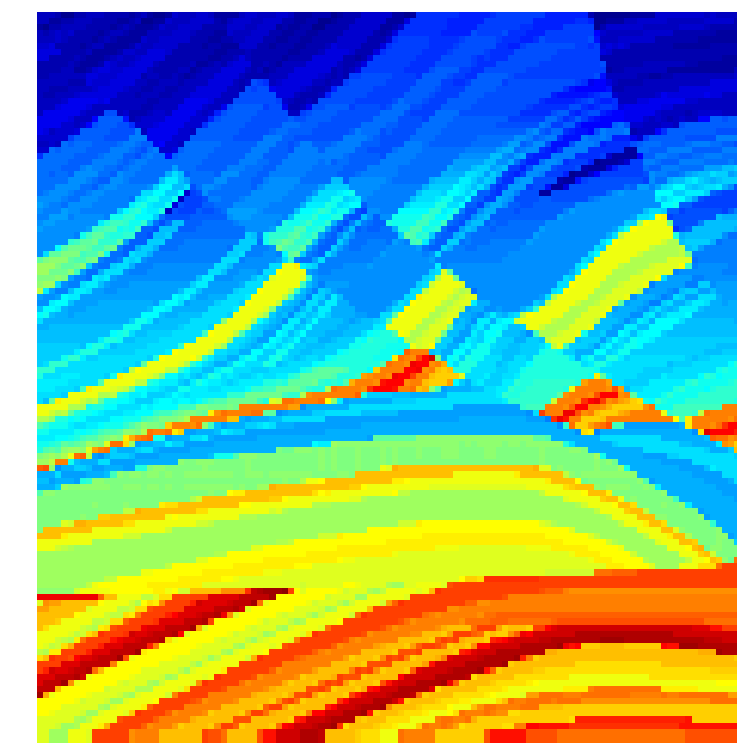
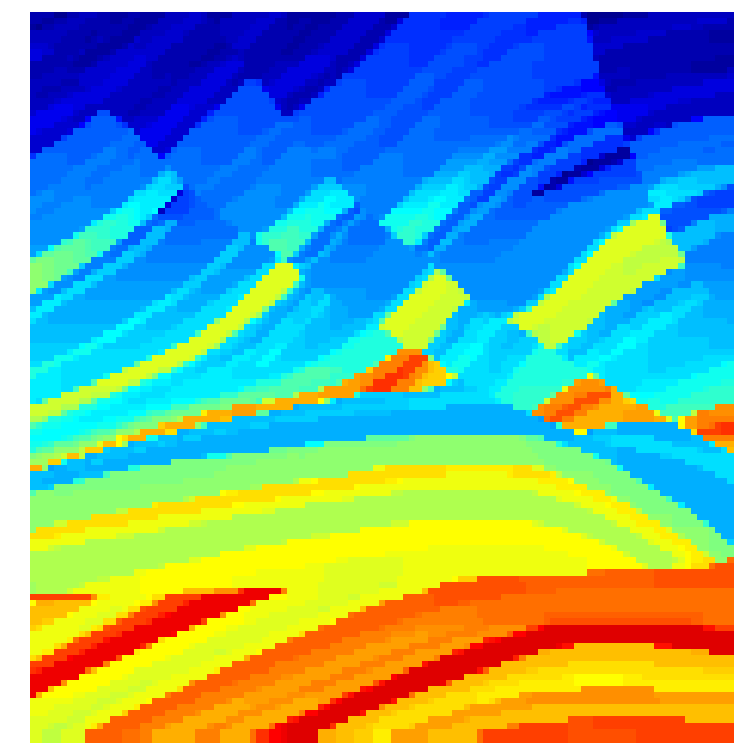
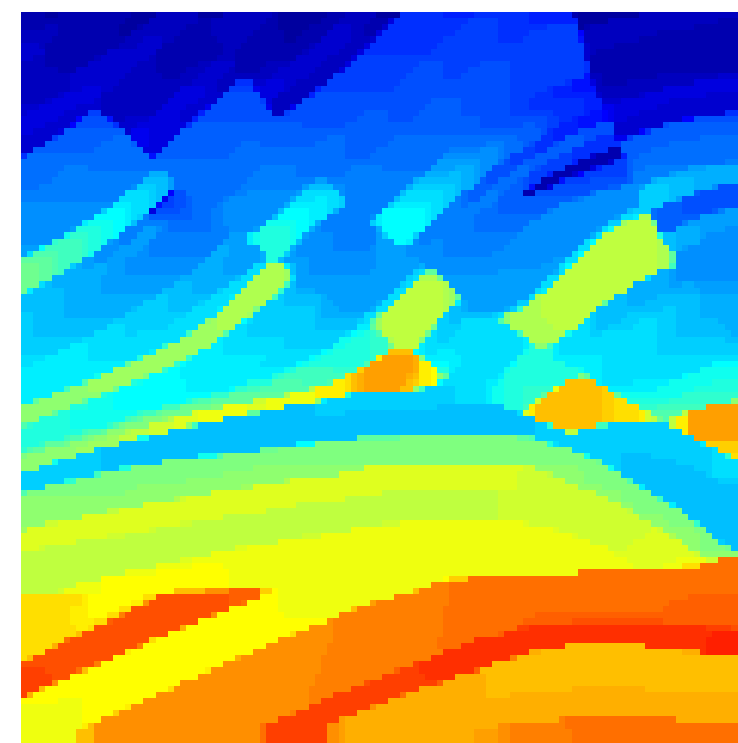
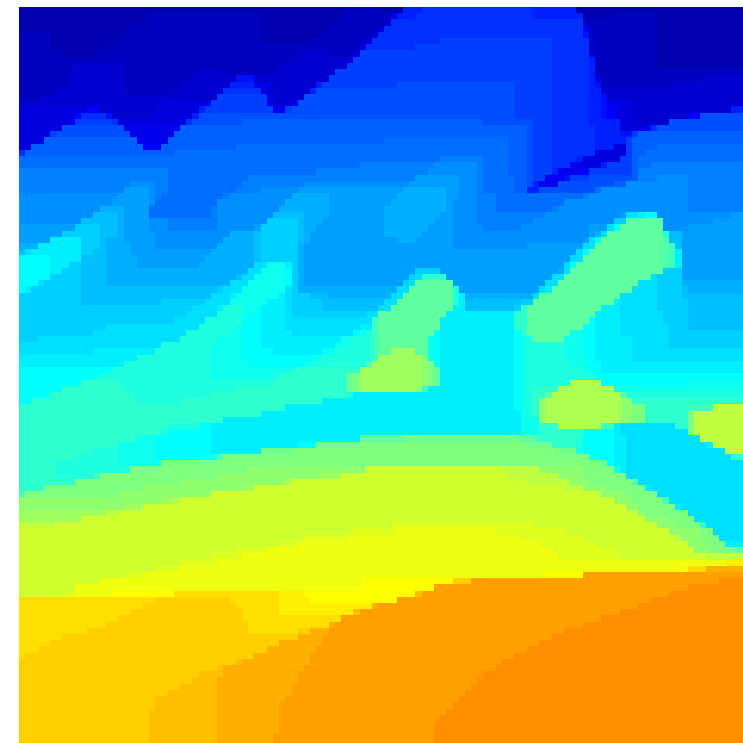
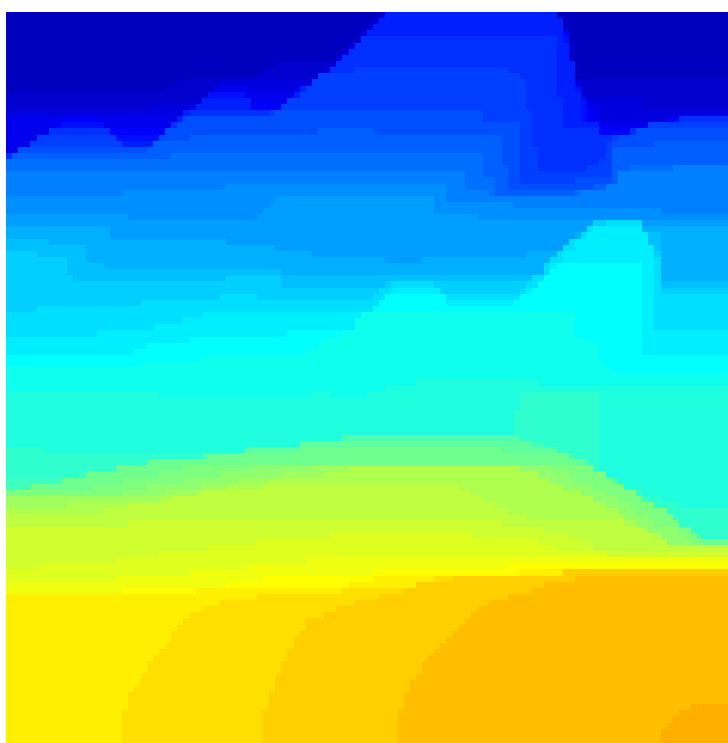
$0.15\tau_0$

$0.25\tau_0$

$0.5\tau_0$

$0.75\tau_0$

τ_0



FWI w/ non-differentiable penalties

Nonlinear least-squares objective for FWI w/ TV:

$$\underset{\mathbf{m}}{\text{minimize}} \|\mathbf{d}^{\text{obs}} - \mathbf{d}^{\text{sim}}(\mathbf{m})\|^2 + \alpha \text{TV}(\mathbf{m})$$

- ▶ $\text{TV}(\mathbf{m})$ is not differentiable so no access to $\nabla f(\mathbf{m})$ and $\nabla^2 f(\mathbf{m})$
- ▶ gradient-descent/quasi-Newton/(Gauss-Newton) solvers need local derivative information

FWI w/ non-differentiable penalties

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FWI w/ non-differentiable constraints

Possible solution ϵ -smoothing of TV:

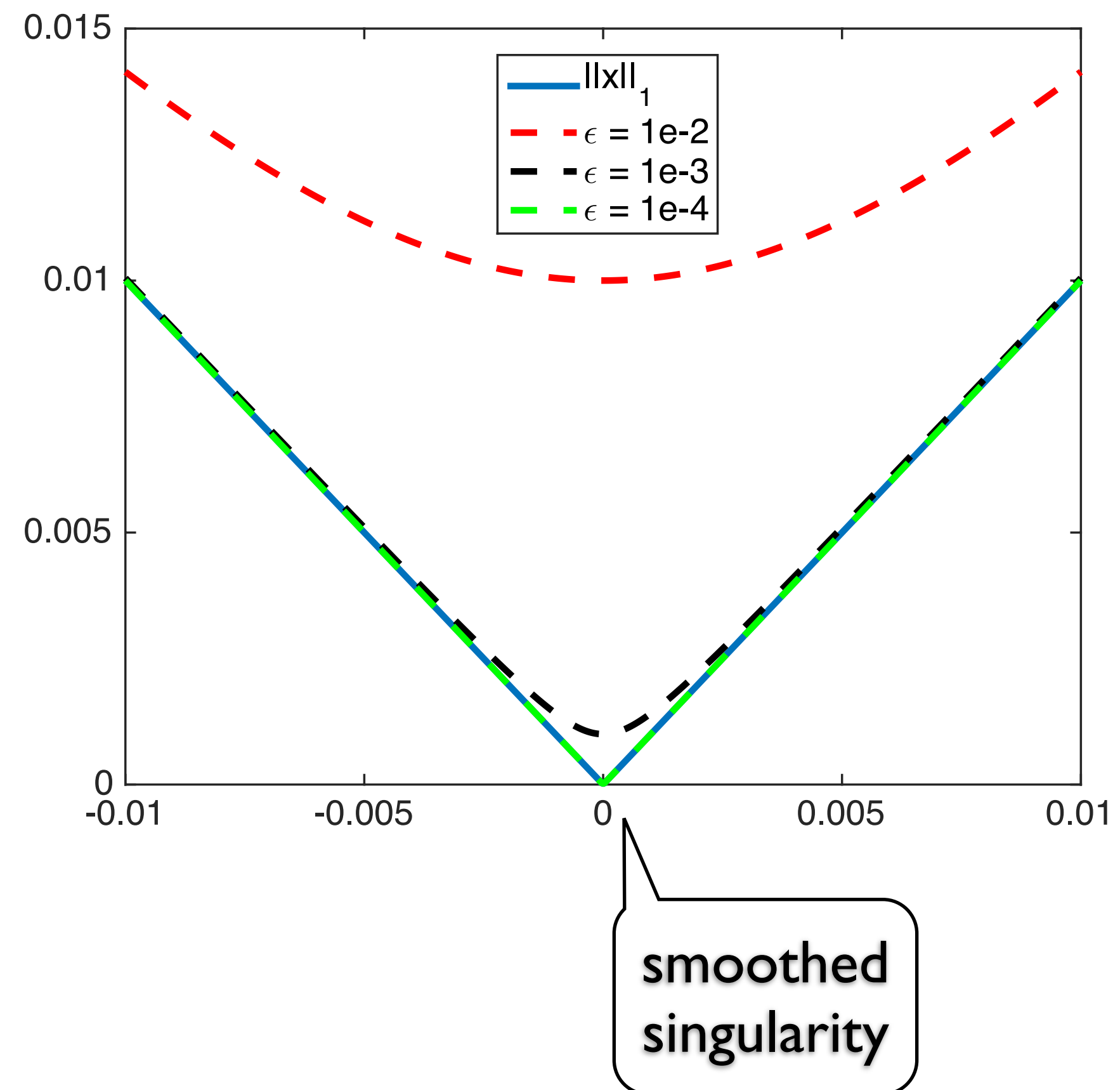
$$\text{TV}_\epsilon(\mathbf{m}) = \frac{1}{h} \sum_{ij} \sqrt{(m_{i+1,j} - m_{i,j})^2 + (m_{i,j+1} - m_{i,j})^2 + \epsilon^2}$$

Differentiable objective with penalty-parameter α :

$$\underset{\mathbf{m}}{\text{minimize}} f(\mathbf{m}) + \alpha \text{TV}_\epsilon(\mathbf{m})$$

Problem: need to select 2 unintuitive hyper parameters

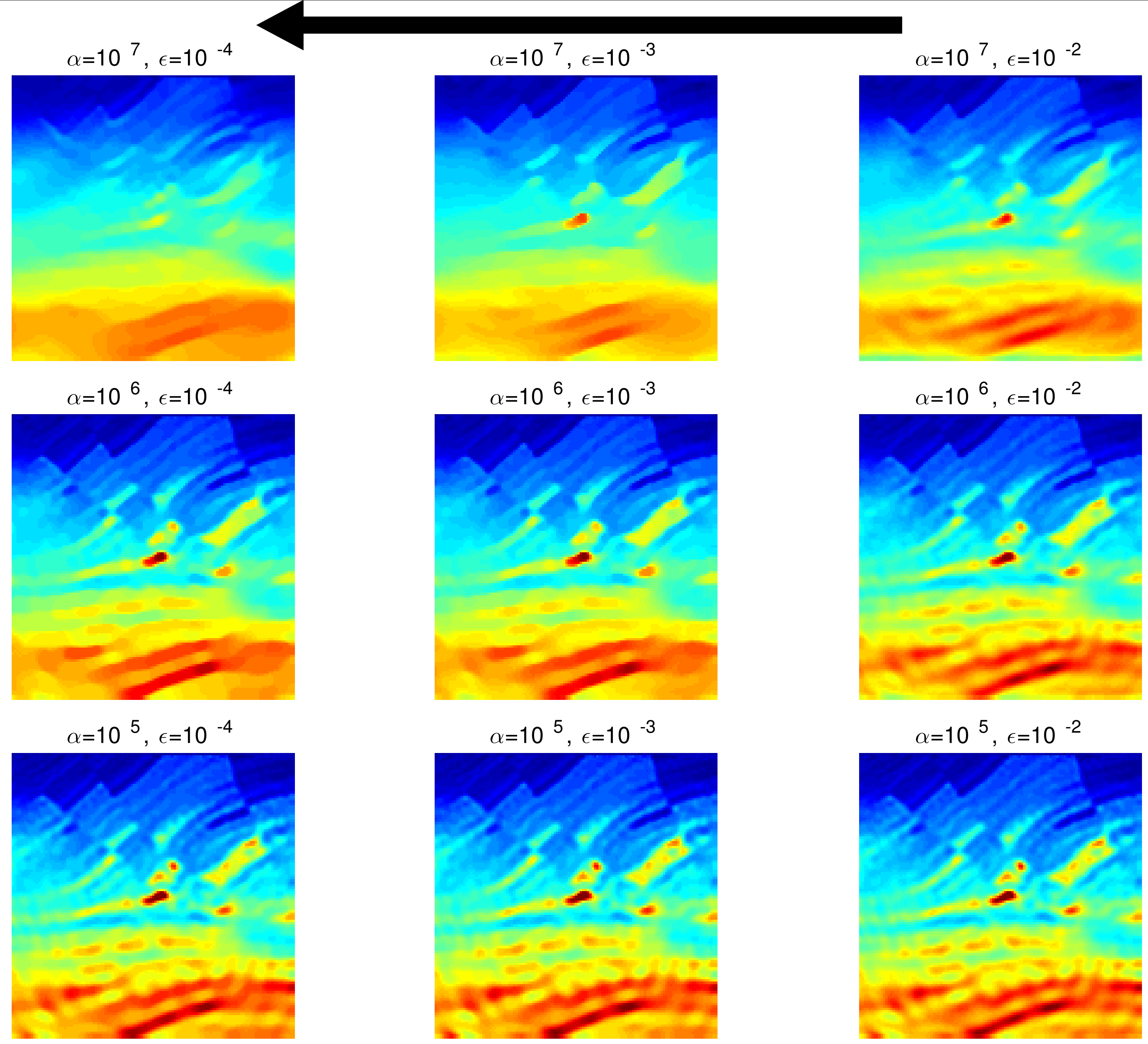
Numerical example 1



- FWI w/ smoothed TV-penalty & box constraints
- data w/ zero-mean random noise, $\|\text{noise}\|_2 / \|\text{signal}\|_2 = 0.25$
- starting model = smoothed true model
- frequency batches from 3 Hz to 10 Hz

increased
"blockiness"

FWI results
using smoothed TV
for various α, ϵ
combinations



Constrained formulation

Problem statement:

$$\underset{\mathbf{m}}{\text{minimize}} f(\mathbf{m}) \quad \text{subject to} \quad \mathbf{m} \in \text{Box and } \text{TV}(\mathbf{m}) \leq \tau$$

Our approach: solve this problem directly.

There are many ways to solve it.

Algorithm design – wish list

- ▶ application of constraints should not require additional expensive gradient & objective calculations
- ▶ updated models need to satisfy all constraints after each iteration
- ▶ arbitrary number of constraints should be handled as long as their intersection is non-empty
- ▶ manual tuning of parameters should be limited to bare minimum
- ▶ constraints should work w/ black-box gradients & objectives

Nested optimization strategy

Constrained optimization:

$$\underset{\mathbf{m}}{\text{minimize}} f(\mathbf{m}) \quad \text{subject to} \quad \mathbf{m} \in \mathcal{C} = \bigcap_{i=1}^p \mathcal{C}_i$$

via 3 levels of nested optimization:

1. Projected gradients = expensive step
2. Dykstra's algorithm*
3. Projection onto each set separately (closed form or w/ ADMM)

* parameter free

Projected gradients

Algorithm:

$$\mathbf{m}_{k+1} = \mathcal{P}_C(\mathbf{m}_k - \nabla_{\mathbf{m}} f(\mathbf{m}_k))$$

Constrained formulation

Algorithm:

$$\mathbf{m}_{k+1} = \mathcal{P}_C(\mathbf{m}_k - \nabla_{\mathbf{m}} f(\mathbf{m}_k))$$

projection onto constraint set

gradient step (proposed model)

$$\mathcal{P}_C(\mathbf{m}) = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{m}\|_2 \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \mathbf{x} \in \bigcap_{i=1}^p \mathcal{C}_i.$$

intersection of constraint sets

Constrained formulation

Projection onto intersection:

$$\mathcal{P}_C(\mathbf{m}) = \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{m}\|_2 \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \mathbf{x} \in \bigcap_{i=1}^p \mathcal{C}_i.$$

Typically no closed-form solution -> use Dykstra's algorithm.

Requires:

- ▶ projections onto each set separately
- ▶ vector additions

Dykstra splitting

Toy example:

find projection onto intersection of circle & square

Algorithm 1 Dykstra.

$$x_0 = \mathbf{m}, p_0 = \mathbf{0}, q_0 = \mathbf{0}$$

For $k = 0, 1, \dots$

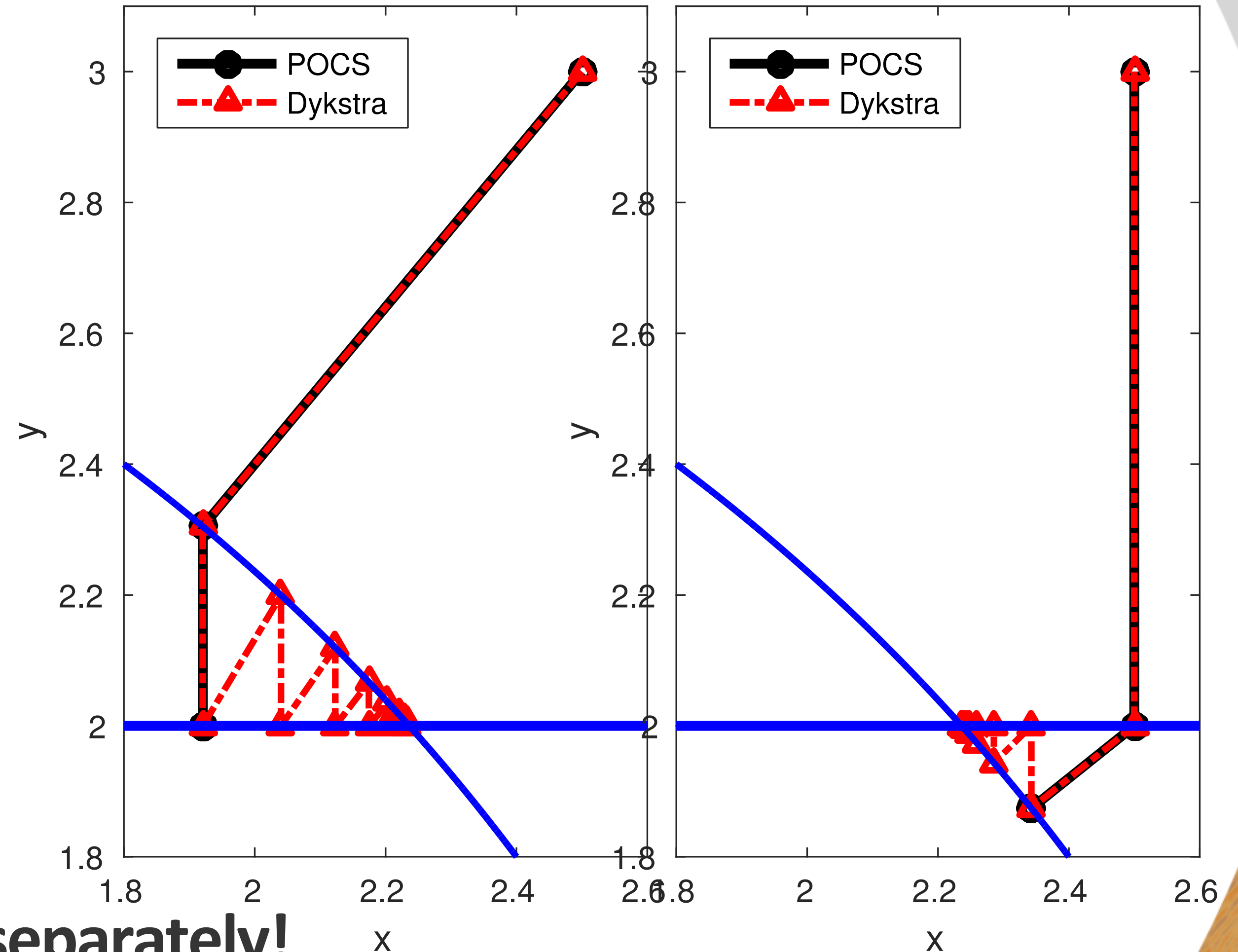
$$\longrightarrow y_k = \mathcal{P}_{C_1}(x_k + p_k)$$

$$p_{k+1} = x_k + p_k - y_k$$

$$\longrightarrow x_{k+1} = \mathcal{P}_{C_2}(y_k + q_k)$$

$$q_{k+1} = y_k + q_k - x_{k+1}$$

End



Only needs projections onto each set separately!

Individual projections

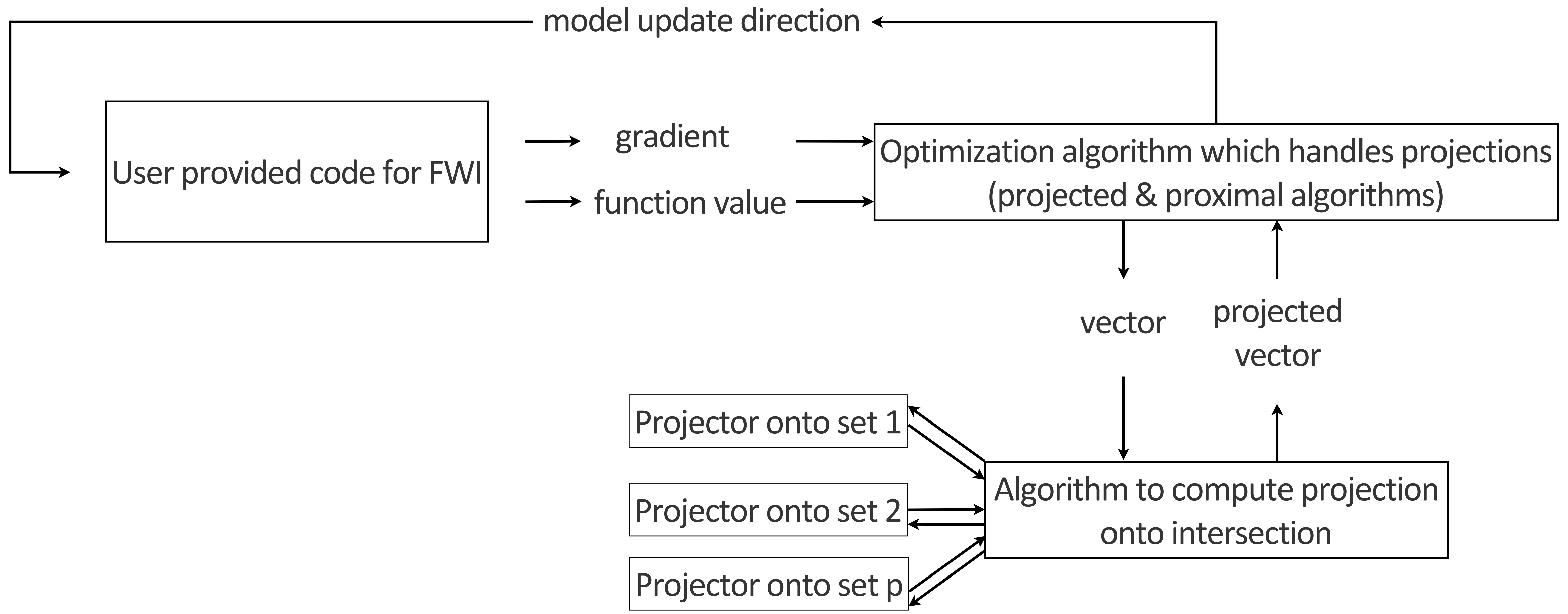
Projection onto bounds:

$$\mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{C}_1}(m_i) = \text{median}\{l_i, m_i, u_i\} \quad \forall i$$

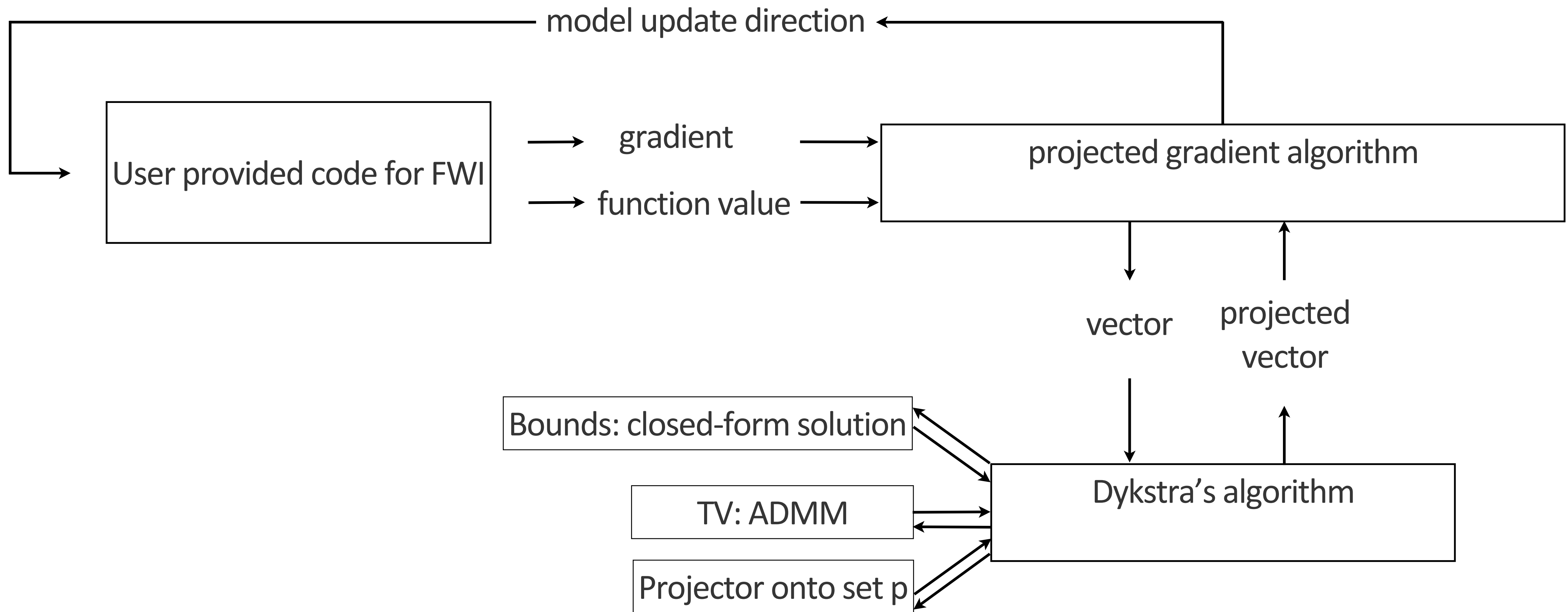
Projection onto TV-ball: split variables, then use ADMM for \mathbf{x} & \mathbf{z}

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{P}_{\mathcal{C}}(\mathbf{m}) &= \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{m}\|_2^2 \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{C} \\ &= \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{m}\|_2^2 \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \|\nabla \mathbf{x}\|_1 \leq \sigma \\ &= \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{m}\|_2^2 \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \|\mathbf{z}\|_1 \leq \sigma, \quad \nabla \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{z} \end{aligned}$$

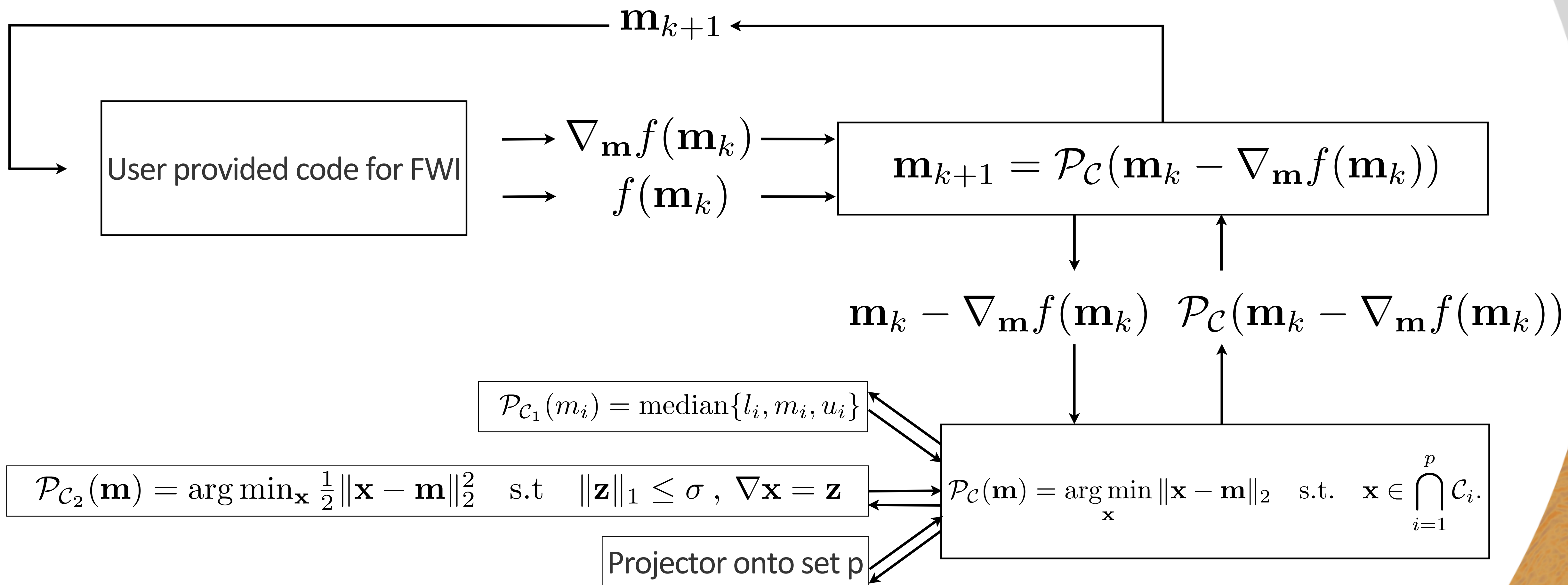
Workflow



Workflow



Workflow



Numerical example 1 – revisited

- FWI w/ TV-norm & bound constraints
- data w/ zero-mean random noise, $\|\text{noise}\|_2 / \|\text{signal}\|_2 = 0.25$
- starting model = smoothed true model
- frequency batches from 3Hz to 10 Hz

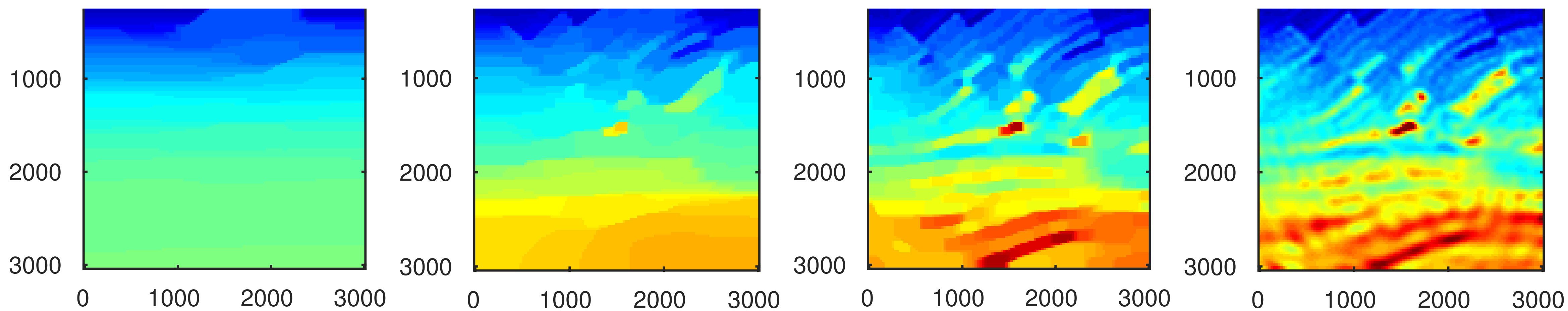
FWI w/ constraints

$0.15\tau_0$

$0.25\tau_0$

$0.5\tau_0$

$0.75\tau_0$



Penalties vs. constraints

Regularization w/ penalties:

- ▶ inversion results for various α, ϵ combinations behave unpredictably
- ▶ challenges proper parameter settings
- ▶ offers no guarantees of feasibility for each model iterate

Regularization w/ constraints:

- ▶ inversion results behave predictably for increasing τ
- ▶ edges are preserved for not too large τ
- ▶ inversion artifacts appear for too large τ

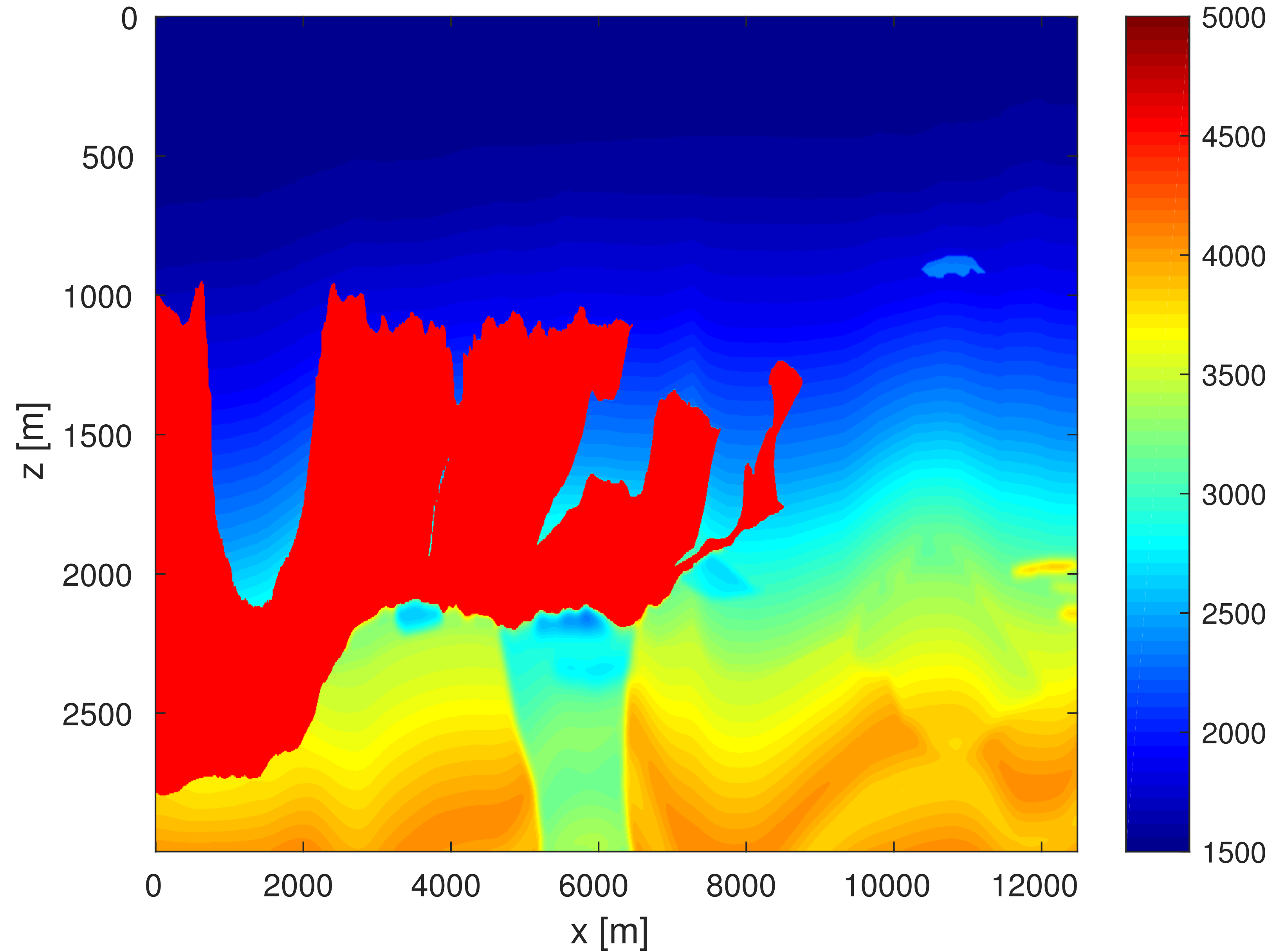
Suggests cooling technique w/ warm starts where τ is increased slowly...

Case study. Improve delineation of salt for a good starting model but poor (6 dB) data...

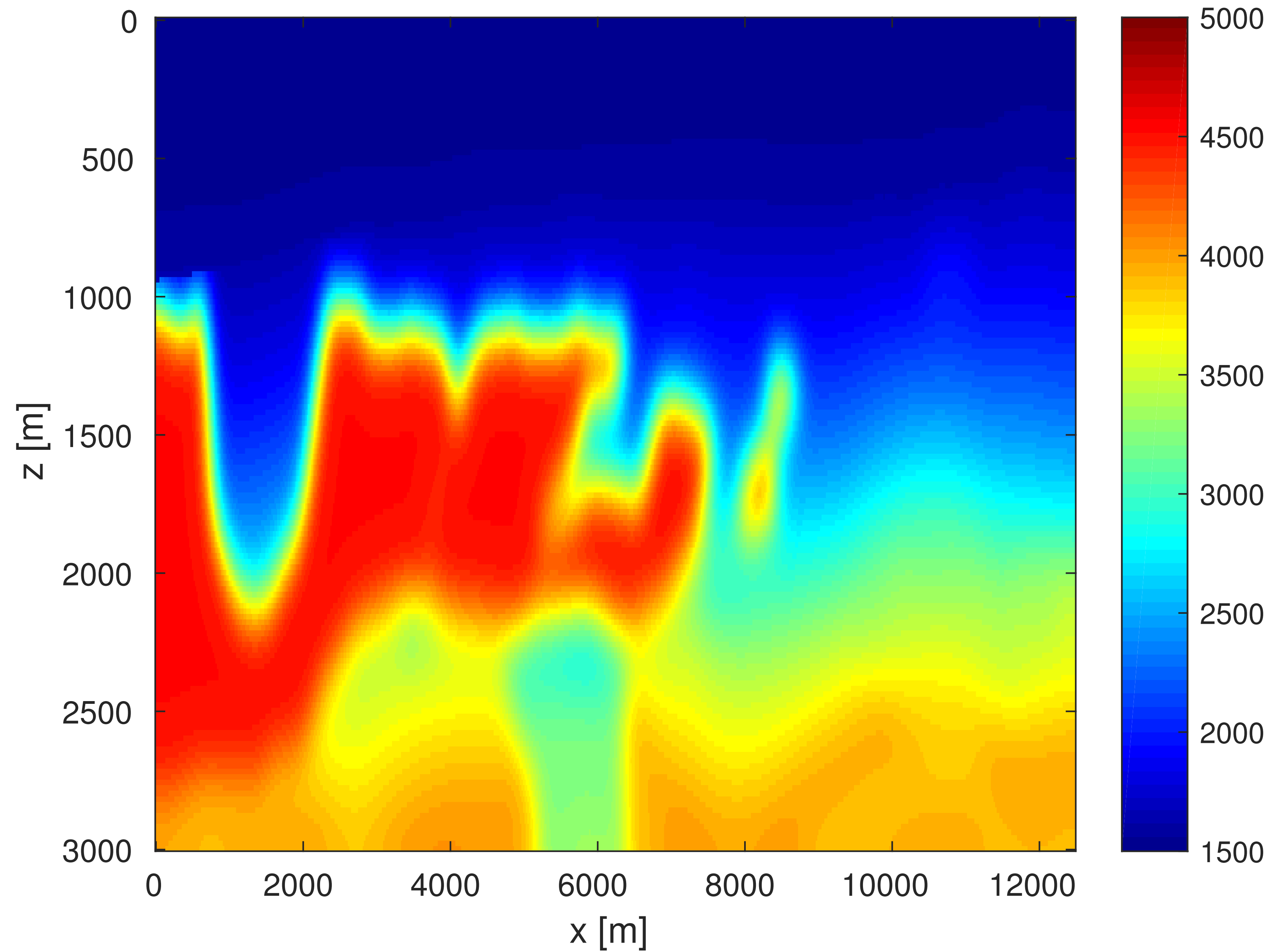
Reduced BP model – modelling parameters

- ▶ number of sources: 132; number of receivers: 311
- ▶ receiver spacing: 40m, source spacing: 80m, max offset 11.5 km
- ▶ grid size: 20 m
- ▶ known Ricker wavelet sources with 15Hz peak frequency
- ▶ data available starting at 3 Hz
- ▶ 8 simultaneous shots w/ Gaussian weights w/ redraws
- ▶ starting model = smoothed true model
- ▶ inversion crime but poor data $\|\text{noise}\|_2 / \|\text{signal}\|_2 = 0.5$

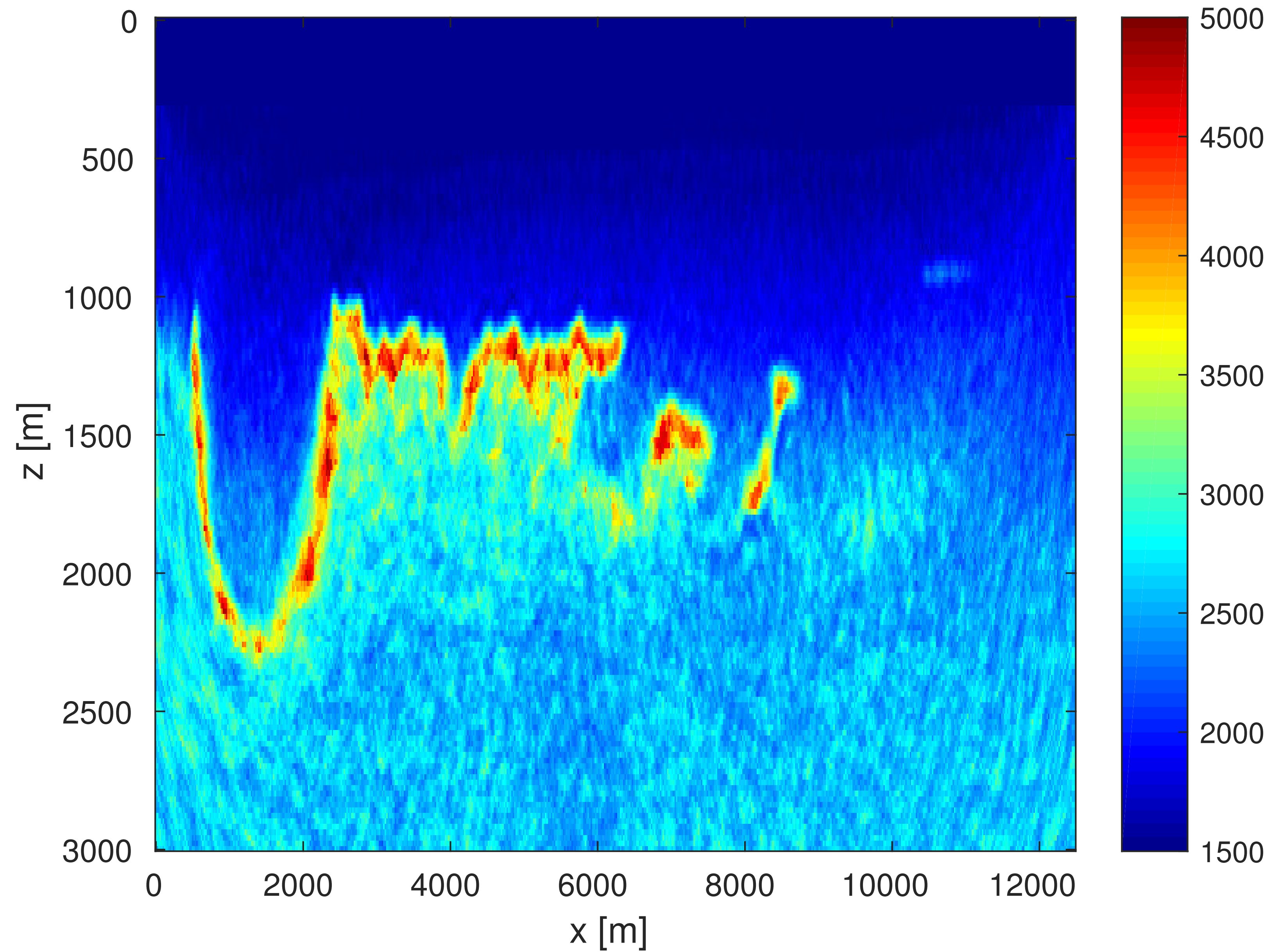
True velocity model – reduced by a factor of 2.5



Starting model

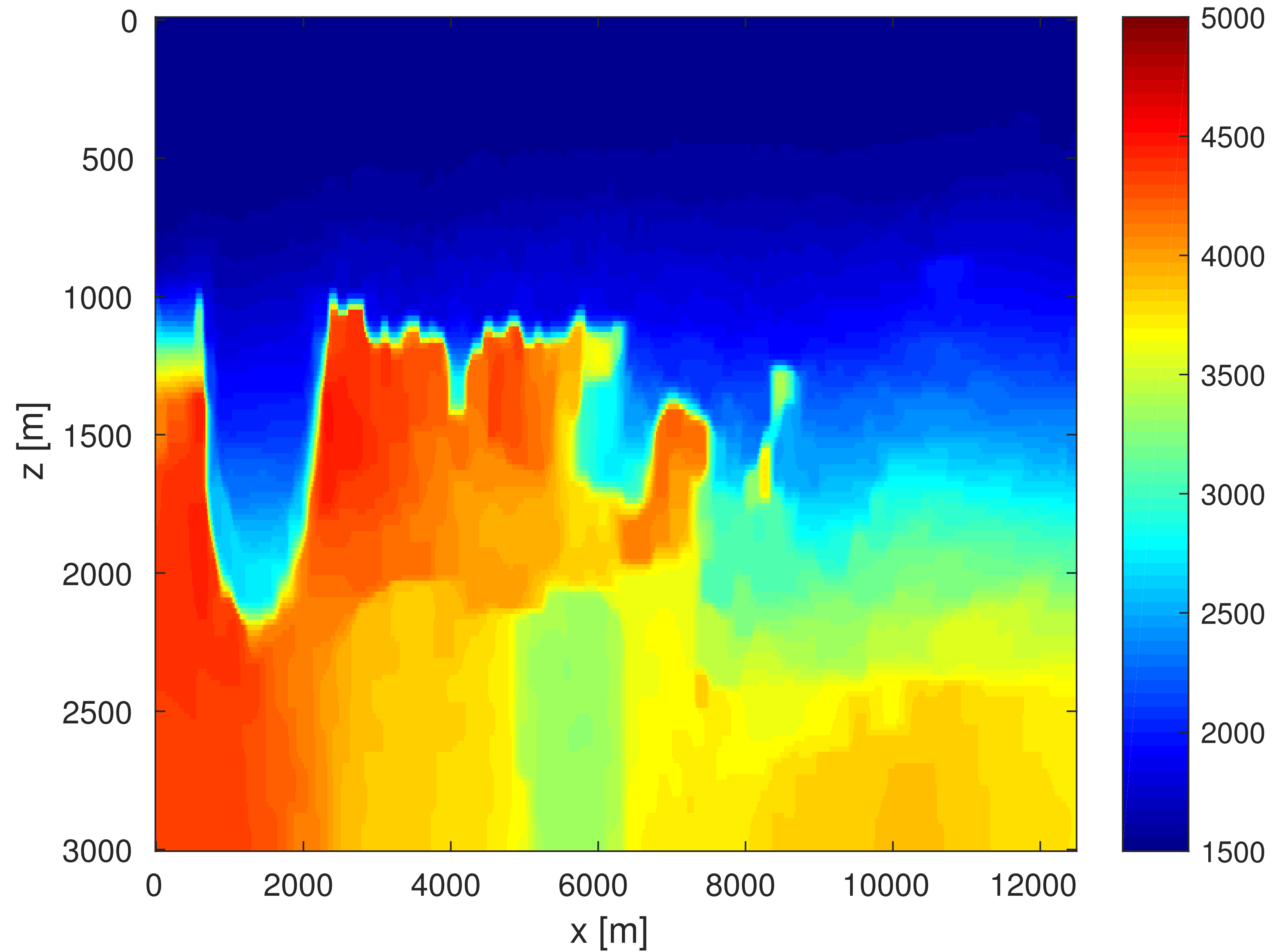


Adjoint-state w/ noisy data $\|\text{noise}\|_2/\|\text{signal}\|_2 = 0.5$



WRI /w TV-constraints

$$\|\text{noise}\|_2 / \|\text{signal}\|_2 = 0.5$$



Ernie Esser, Lluís Guasch, Felix J. Herrmann, and Mike Warner, "[Constrained waveform inversion for automatic salt flooding](#)", *The Leading Edge*, vol. 35, p. 235-239, 2016

Ernie Esser, Lluís Guasch, Tristan van Leeuwen, Aleksandr Y. Aravkin, and Felix J. Herrmann, "[Total-variation regularization strategies in full-waveform inversion](#)". 2016

Heuristic

Multiple frequency cycles:

- ▶ warm starts
- ▶ increasingly relaxed TV constraints & fixed bound constraints
- ▶ starts w/ relaxed TV-norm of starting model

Extend search space:

- ▶ make sure data is fitted
- ▶ optimize over model & (source) wavefields
- ▶ jointly fit data & wave equation (physics)
- ▶ use noise level to automatically select trade-off data & PDE (physics) fit

Wavefield Reconstruction Inversion – gradient

Tristan van Leeuwen and Felix J. Herrmann, “[A penalty method for PDE-constrained optimization in inverse problems](#)”, *Inverse Problems*, vol. 32, p. 015007, 2015.

Tristan van Leeuwen and Felix J. Herrmann, “[Mitigating local minima in full-waveform inversion by expanding the search space](#)”, *Geophysical Journal International*, vol. 195, p. 661-667, 2013

WRI method:

for each source i

$$\text{solve } \begin{pmatrix} P_i \\ \lambda A_i(\mathbf{m}) \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{u}_{\lambda,i} \approx \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{d}_i \\ \lambda \mathbf{q}_i \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{g} = \mathbf{g} + \lambda^2 \omega^2 \text{diag}(\bar{\mathbf{u}}_{i,\lambda})^* (A(\mathbf{m})\bar{\mathbf{u}}_{i,\lambda} - \mathbf{q}_i)$$

end

correlation proxy
wavefield & PDE
residual

Adjoint-state method:

for each source i

$$\text{solve } A(\mathbf{m})\mathbf{u}_i = \mathbf{q}_i$$

$$\text{solve } A(\mathbf{m})^* \mathbf{v}_i = P_i^* (P_i \mathbf{u}_i - \mathbf{d}_i)$$

$$\mathbf{g} = \mathbf{g} + \omega^2 \text{diag}(\mathbf{u}_i)^* \mathbf{v}_i$$

end

correlation
wavefield &
data residual

BP model – inversion parameters

Optimization specs:

- ▶ spectral-projected gradients
- ▶ non-monotone linesearch w/ window size of 5
- ▶ max 8 DYKSTRA iterations

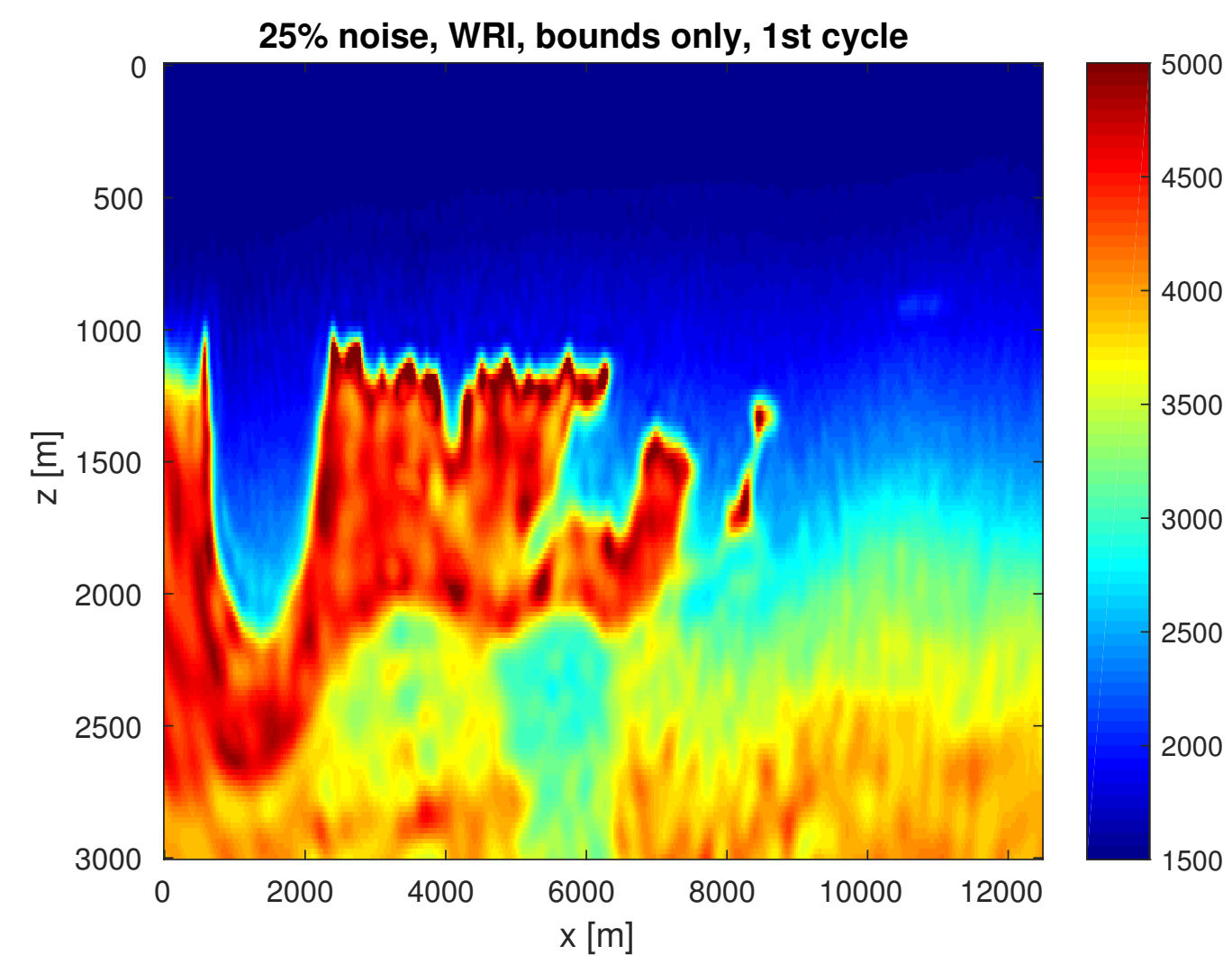
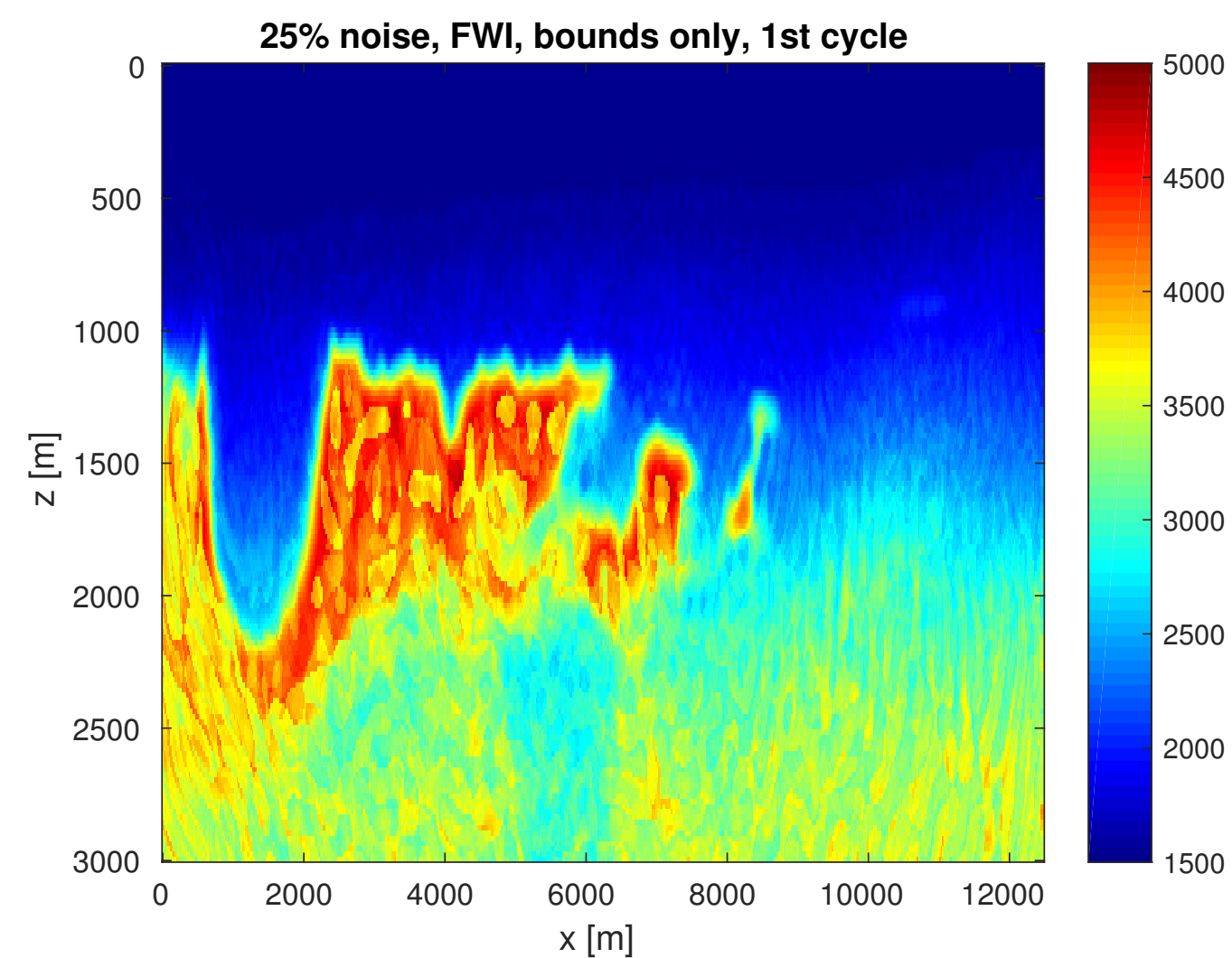
Constraint specs:

- ▶ frequency continuation 3–9 Hz in consecutive batches of 2
- ▶ 3 warm started frequency sweeps w/ $\tau^{l+1} = 1.25\tau^l$ & $\tau^0 = 1.00 \times \text{TV}(\mathbf{m}_0)$
- ▶ anisotropic TV

1st cycle cycle

$$\|\text{noise}\|_2 / \|\text{signal}\|_2 = 0.25$$

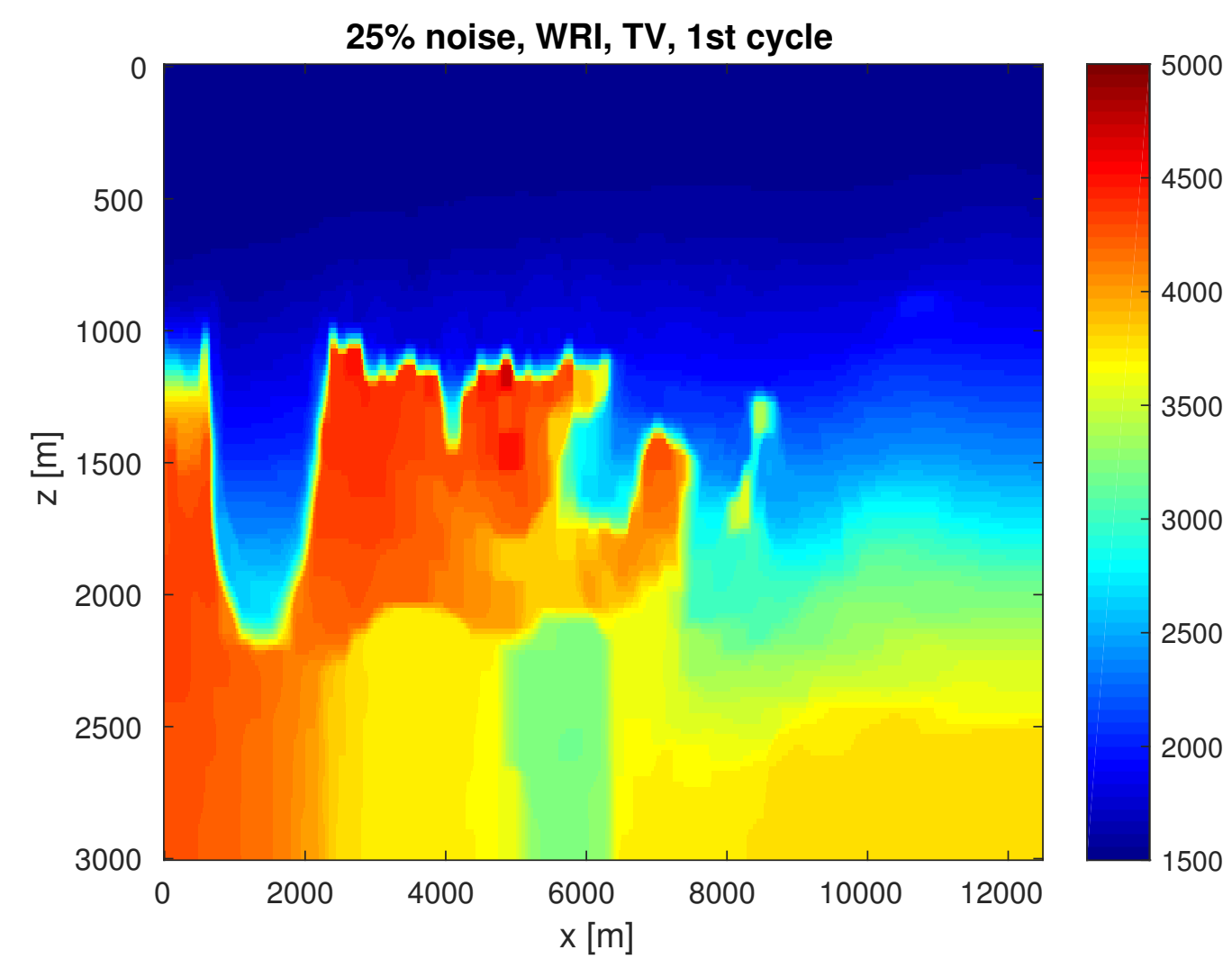
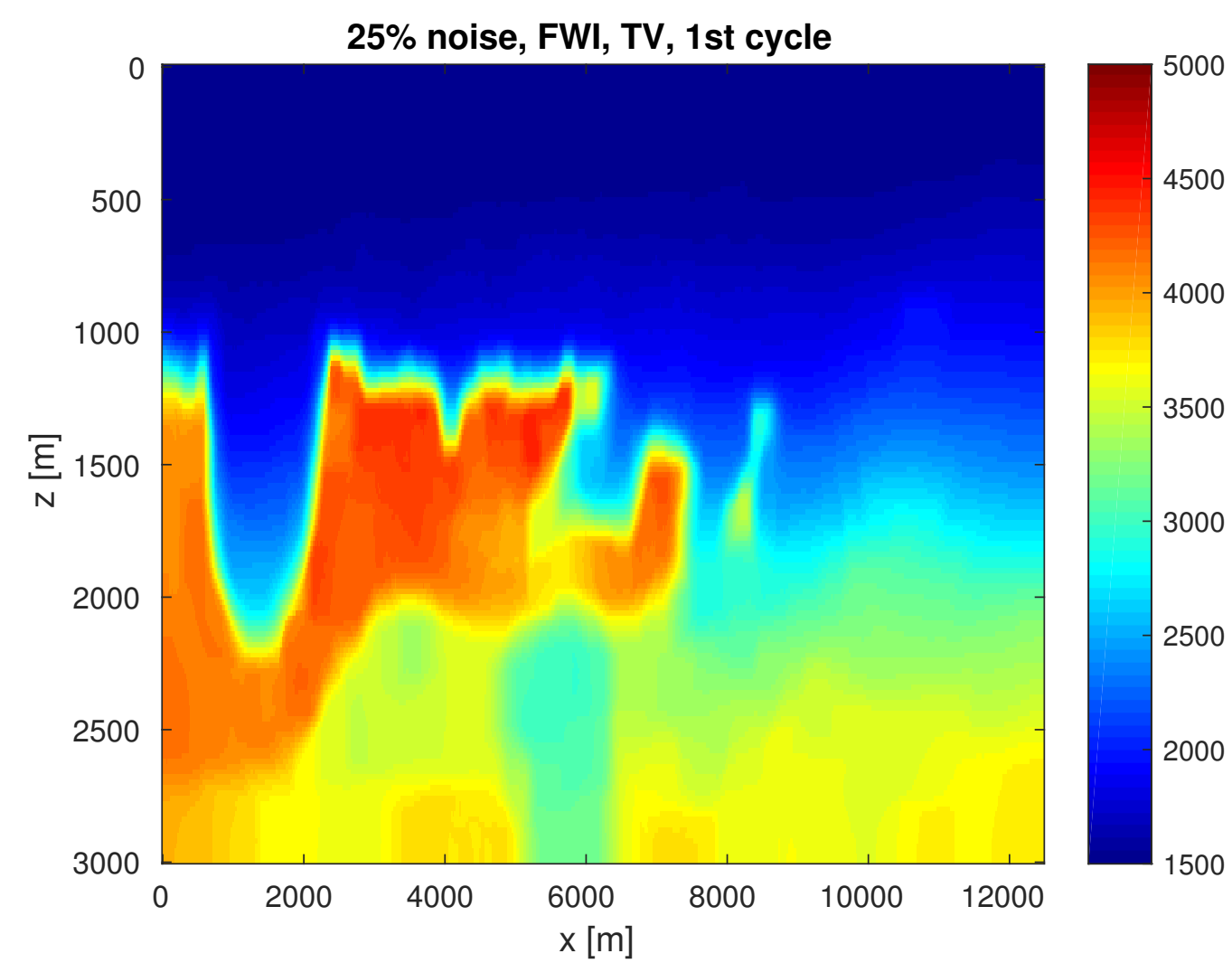
bounds only



FWI

WRI

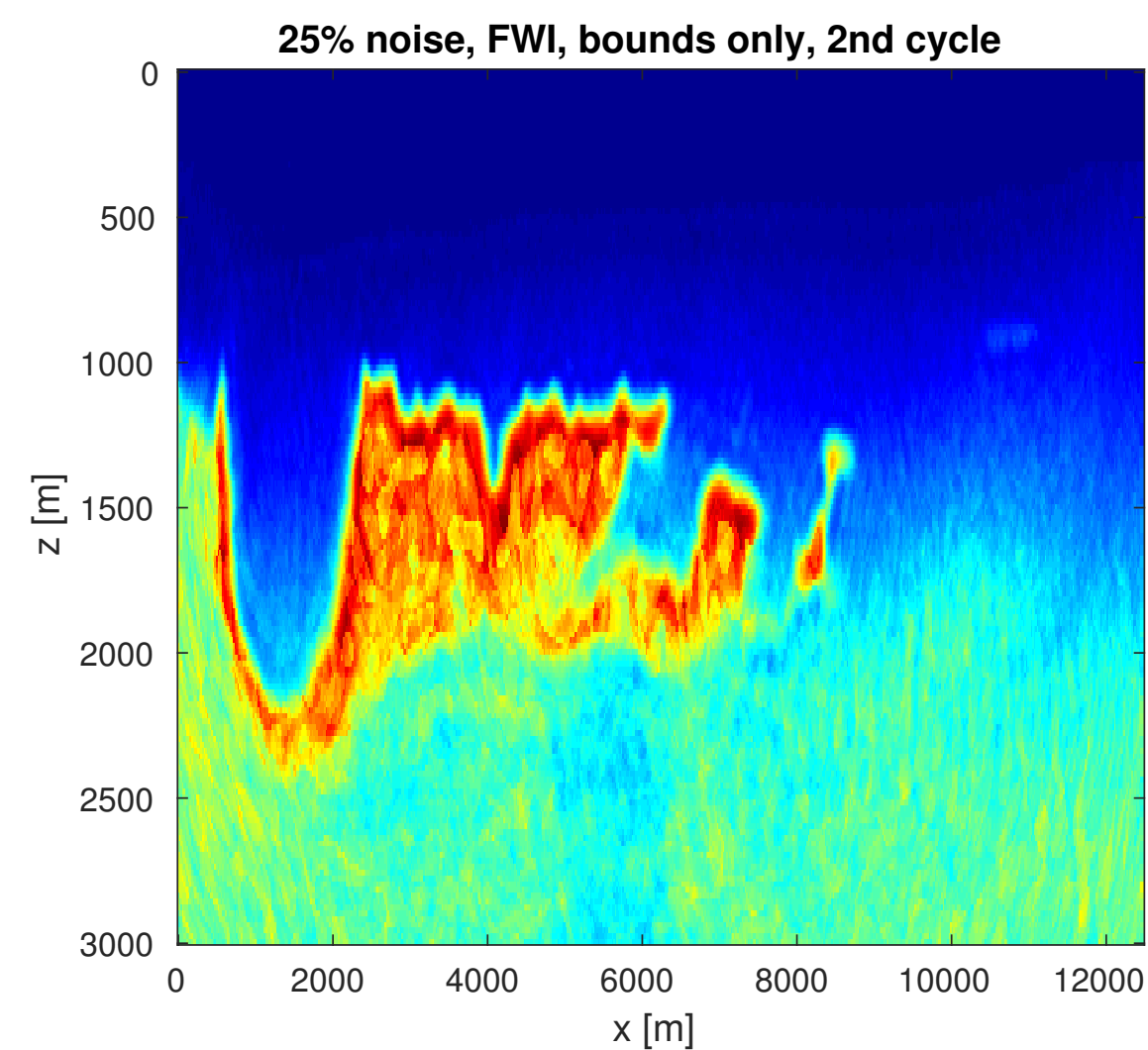
bounds & TV



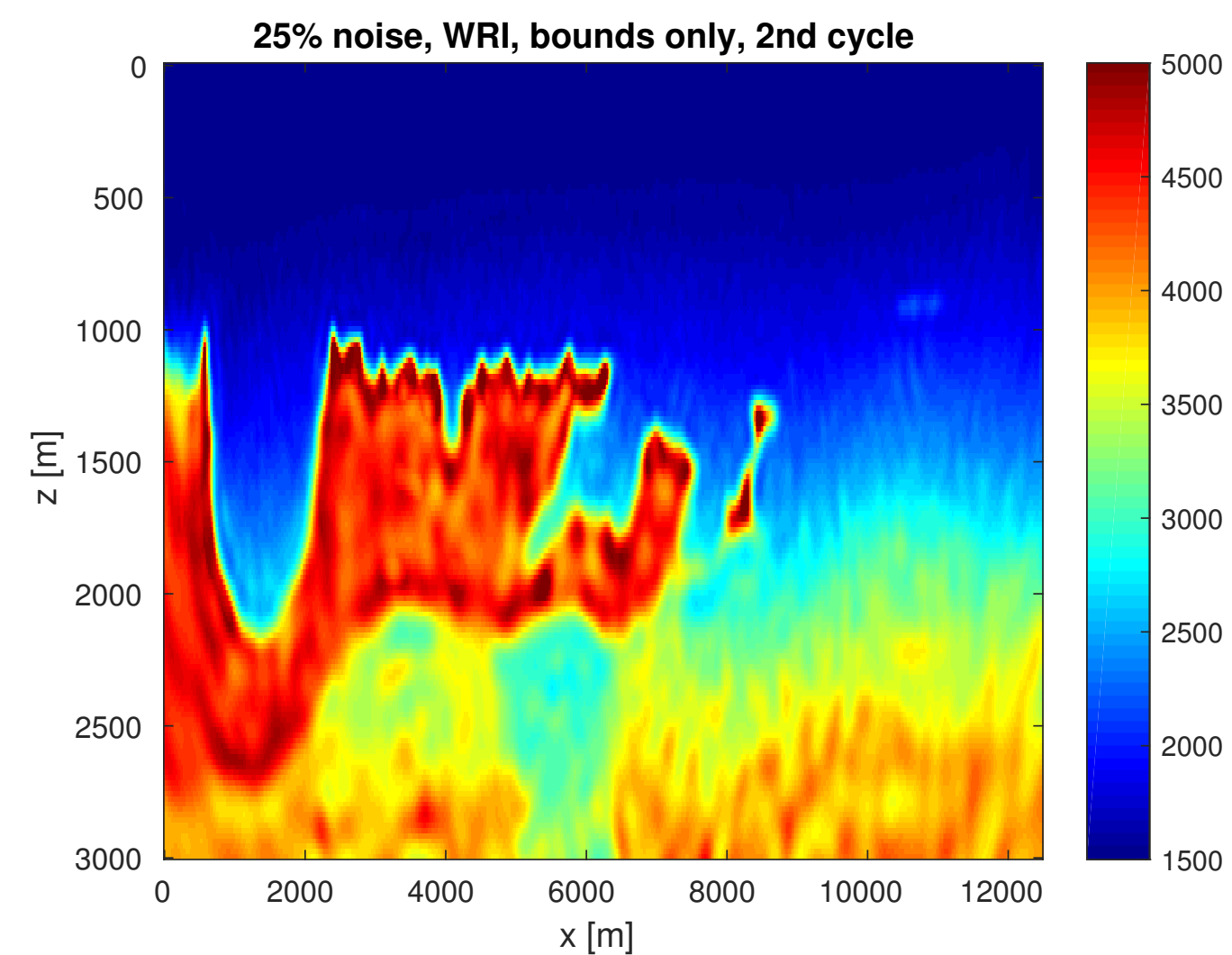
2nd cycle

$$\|\text{noise}\|_2 / \|\text{signal}\|_2 = 0.25$$

bounds only

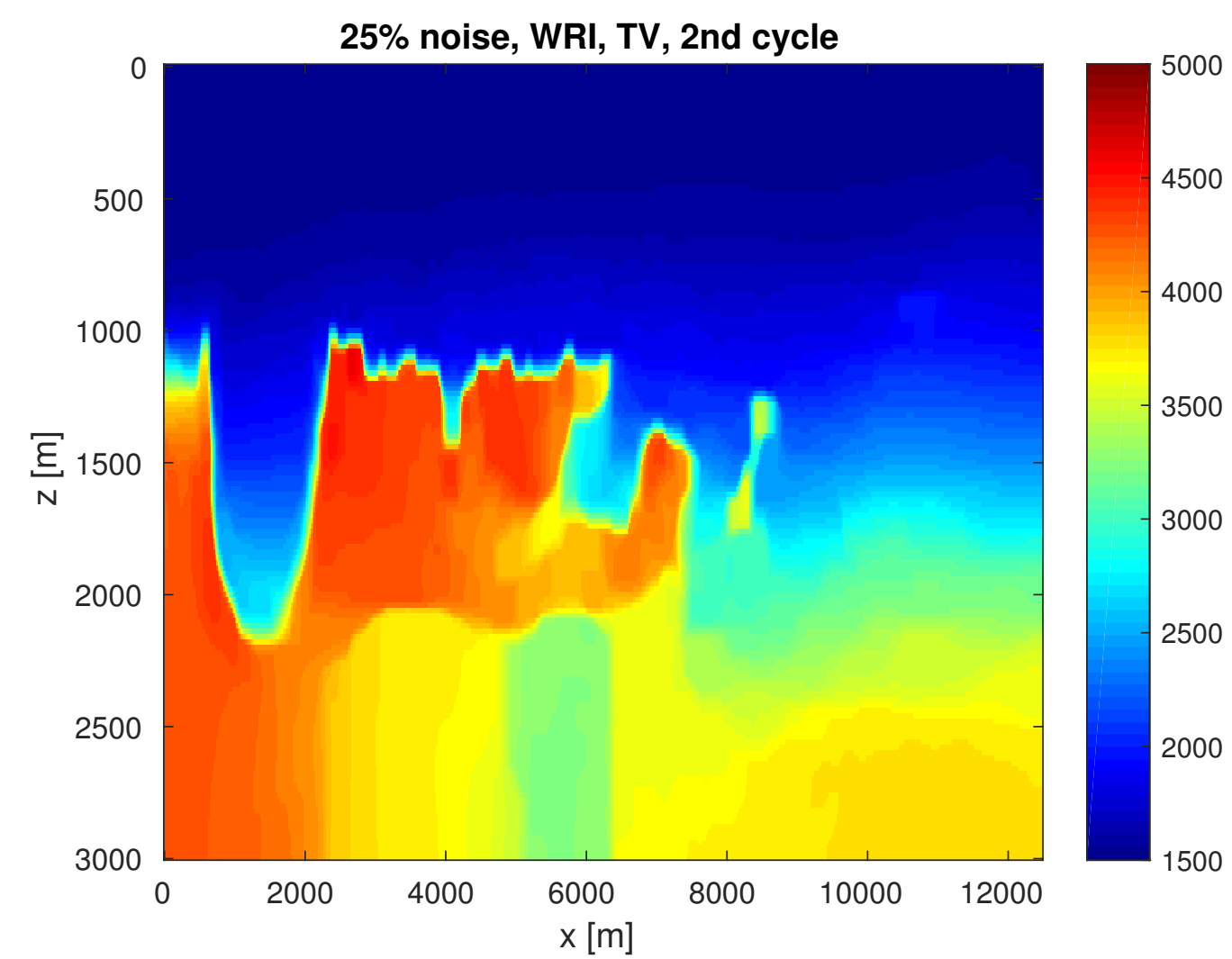
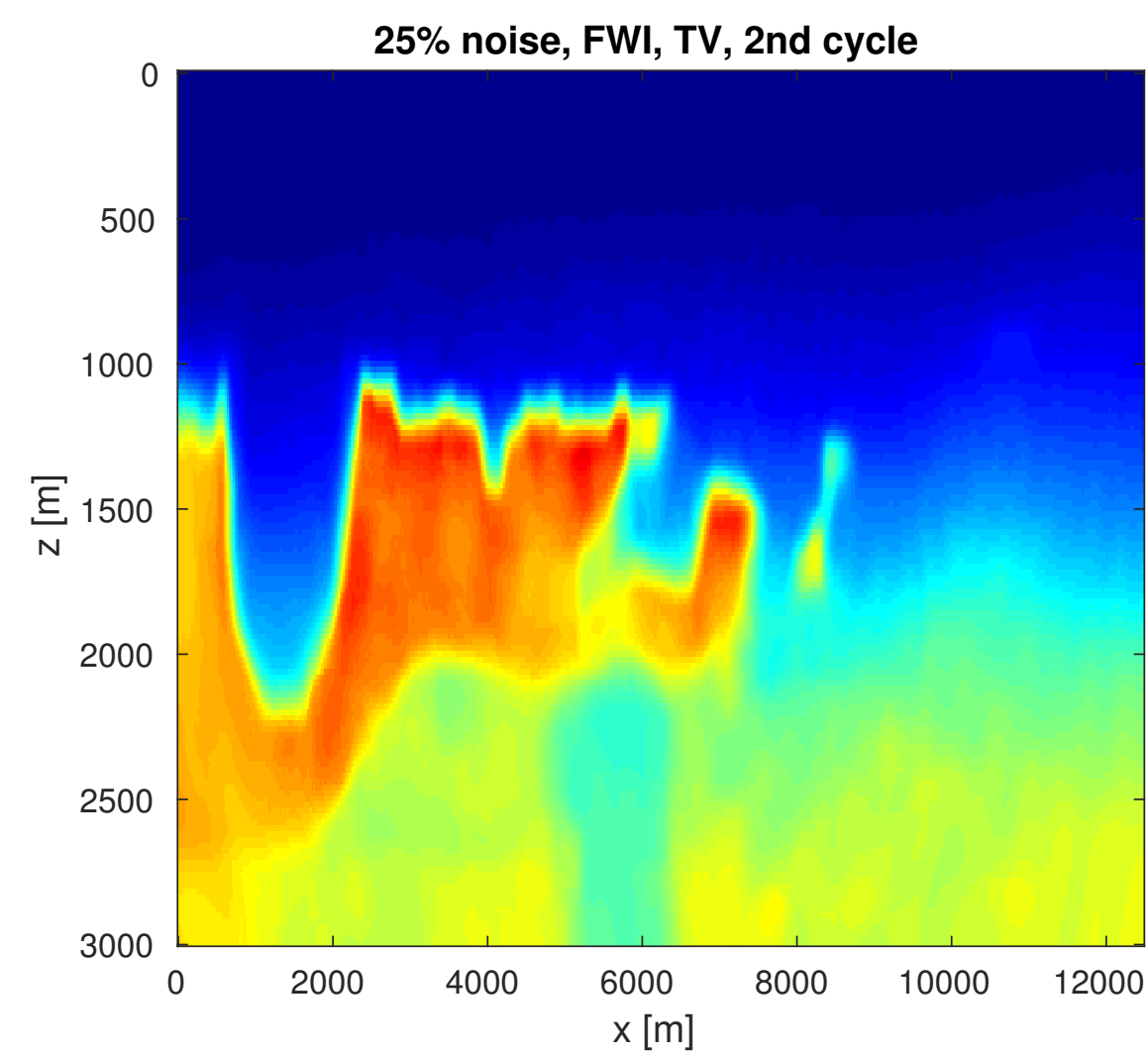


FWI



WRI

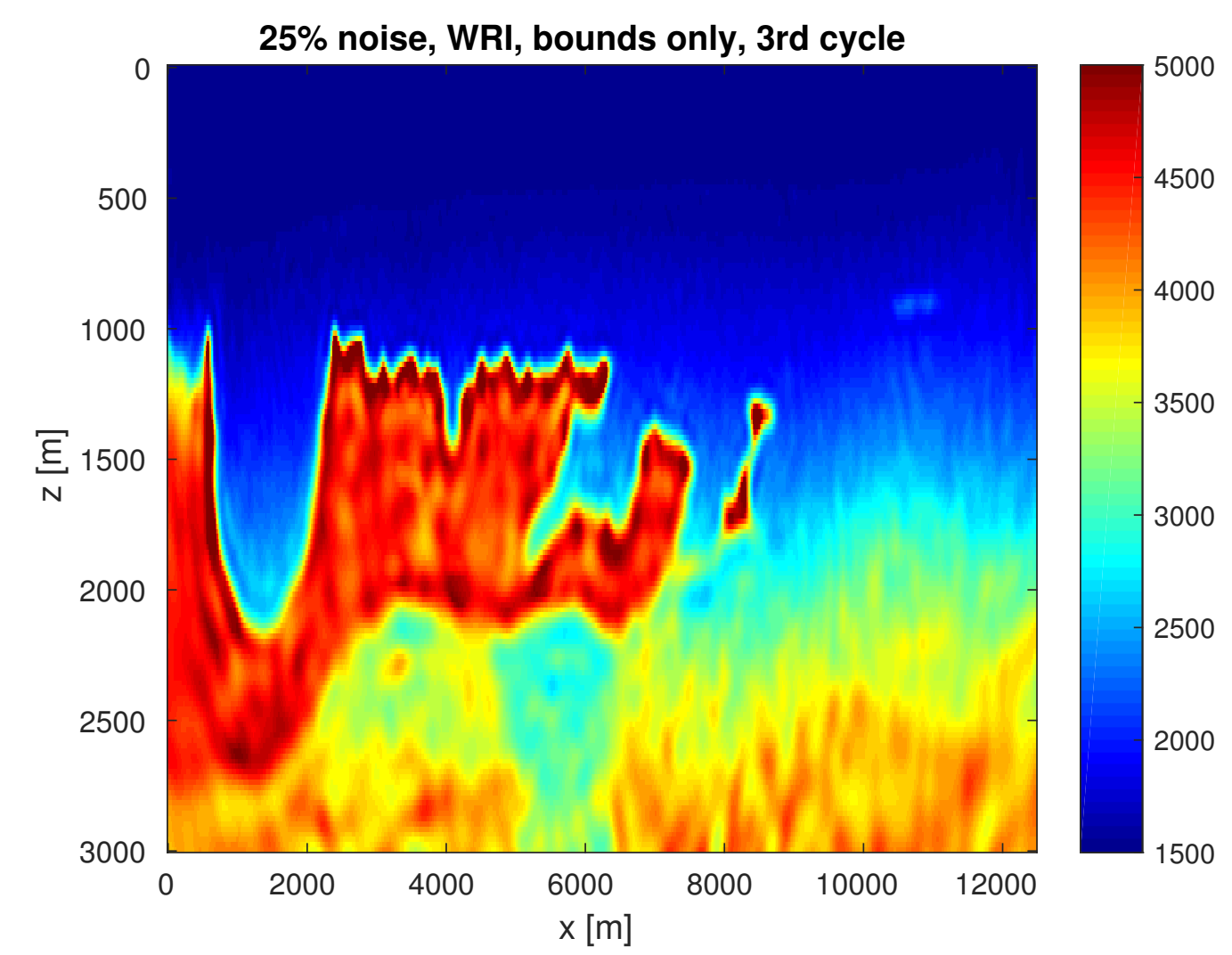
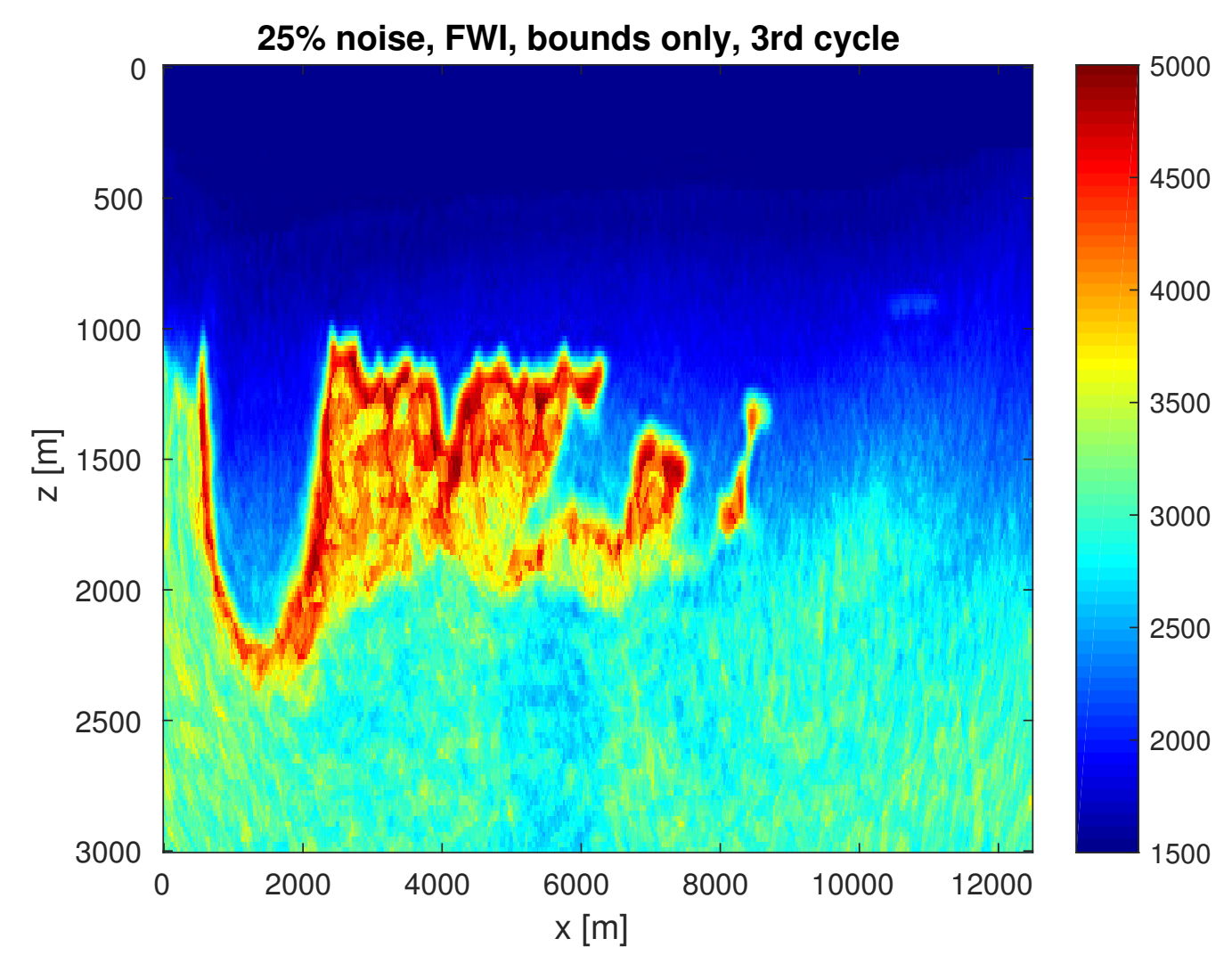
bounds & TV



3rd cycle

$$\| \text{noise} \|_2 / \| \text{signal} \|_2 = 0.25$$

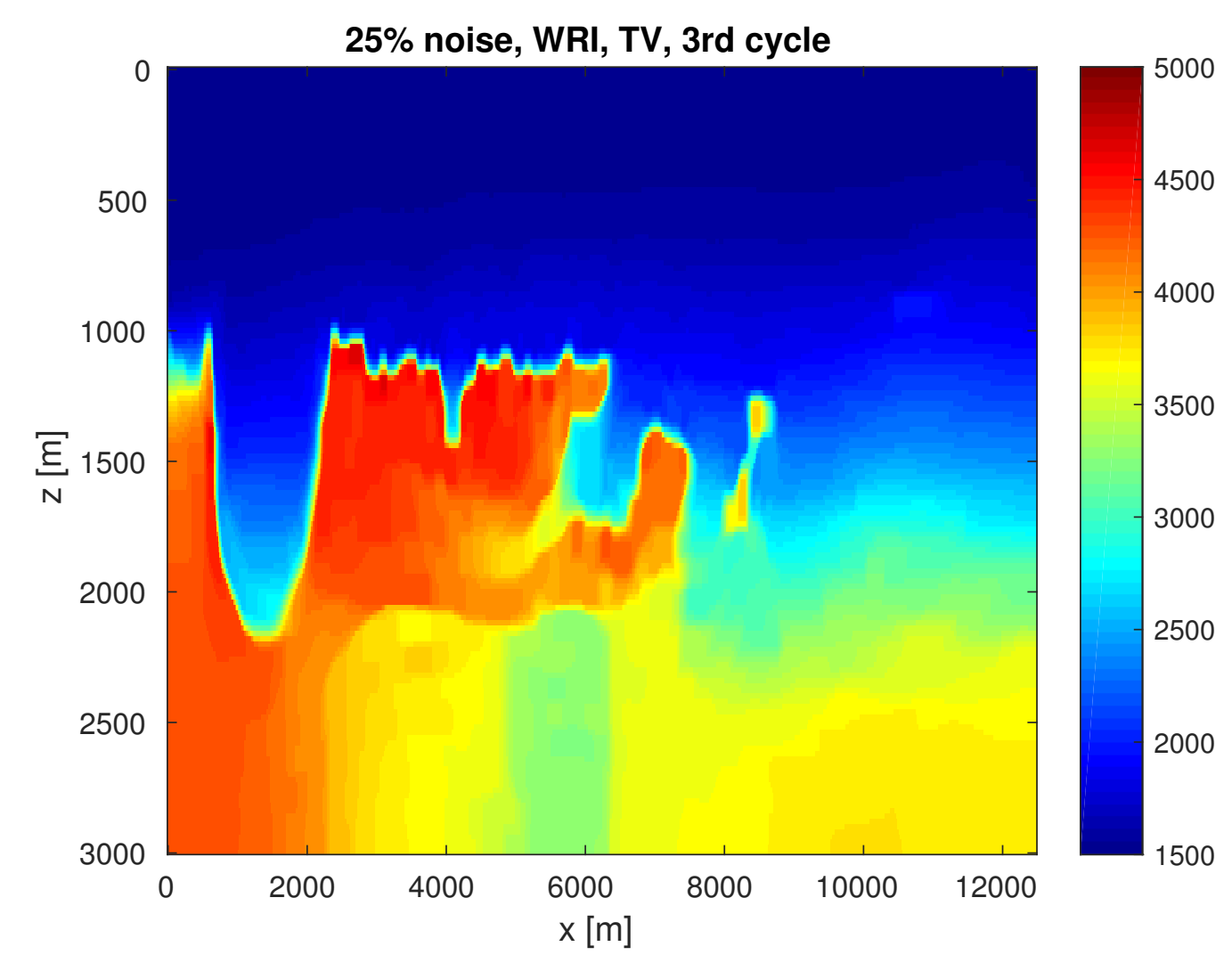
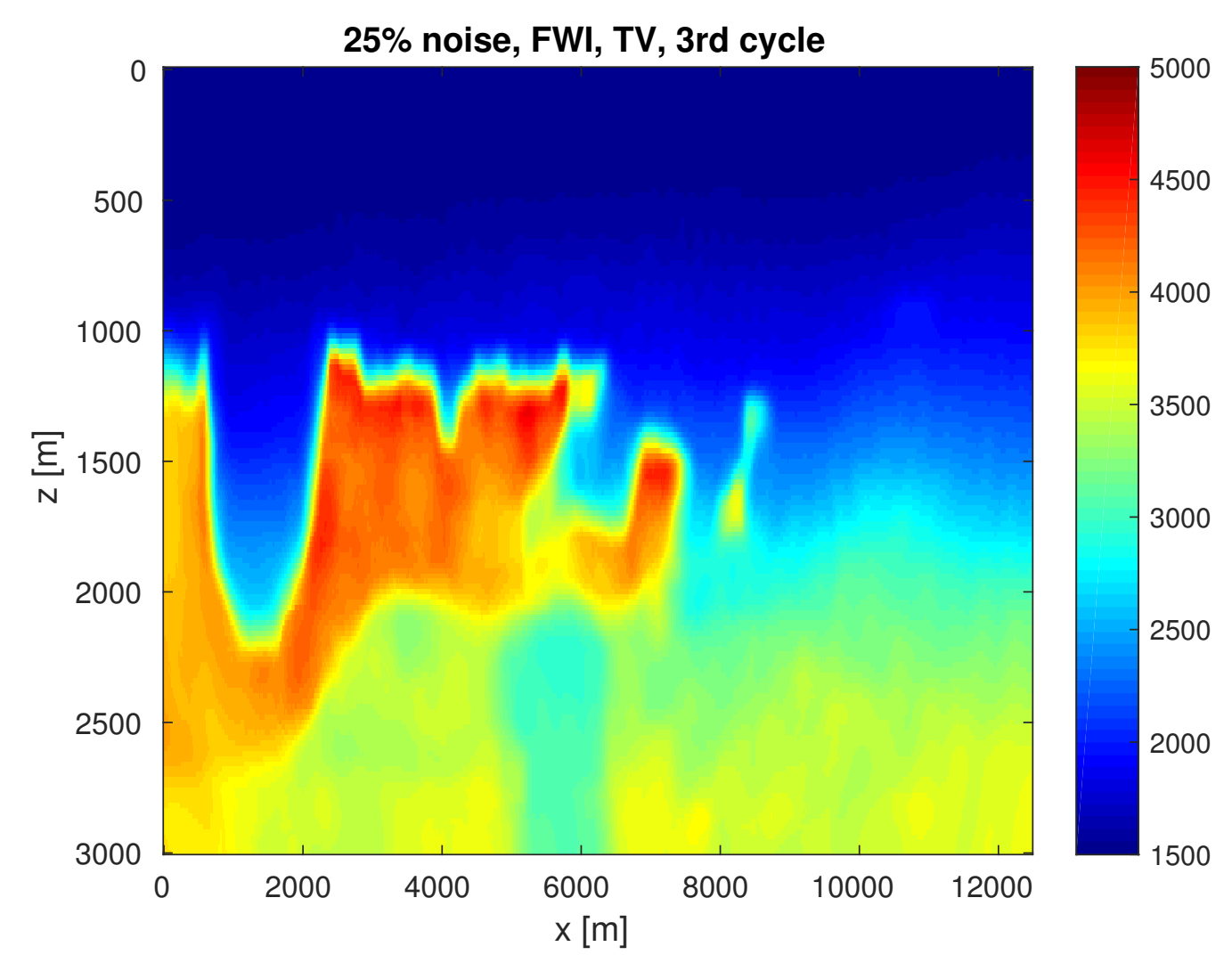
bounds only



FWI

WRI

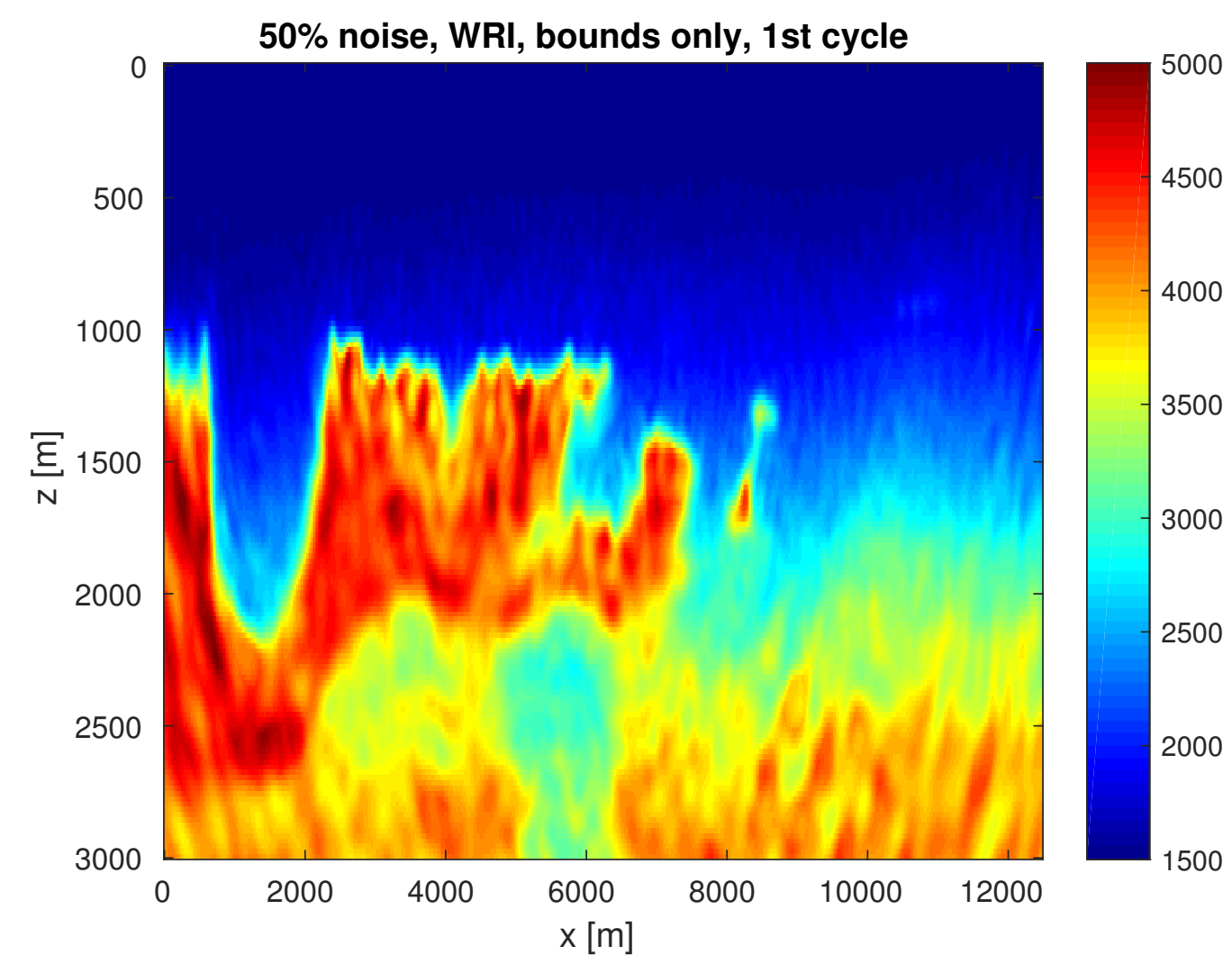
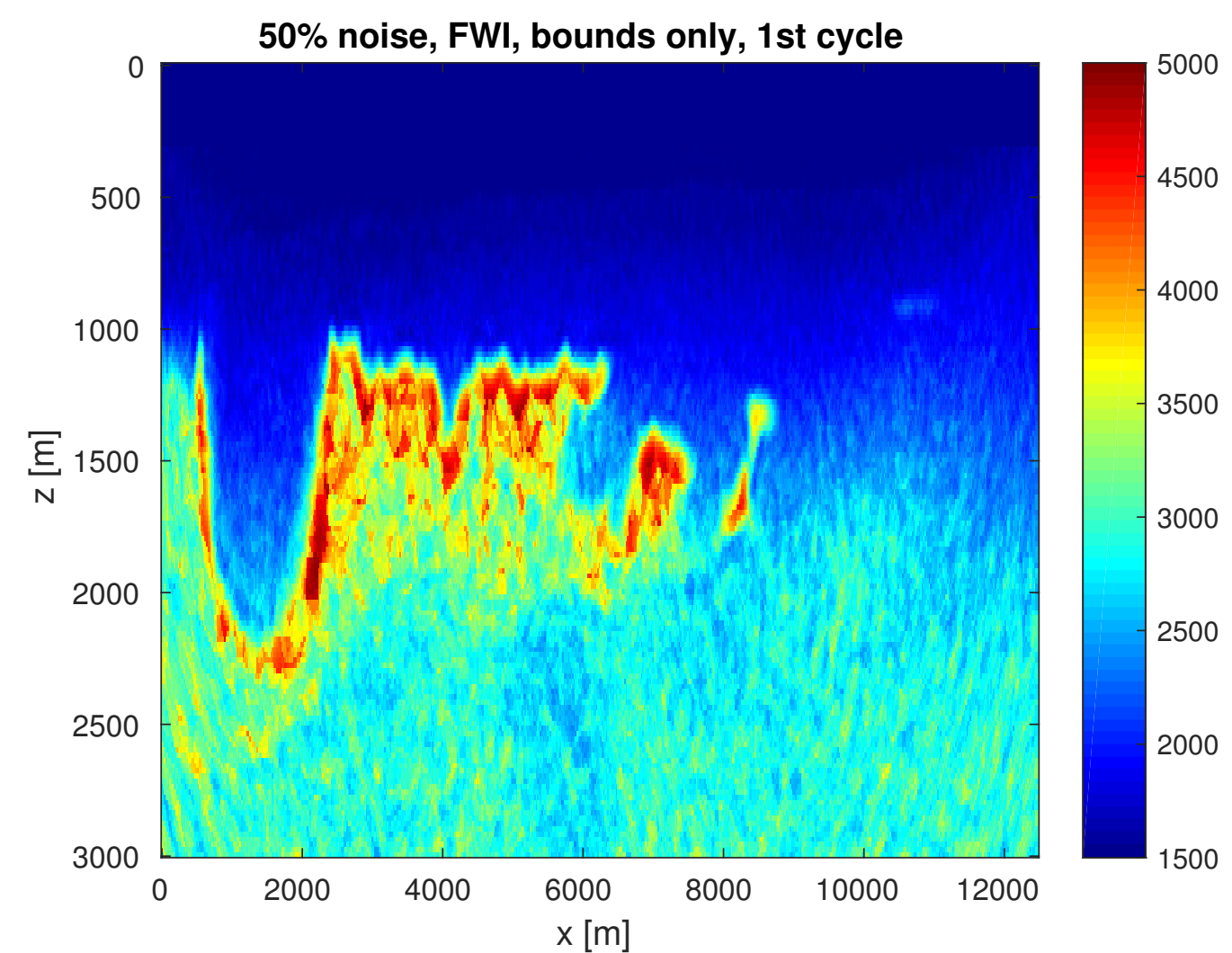
bounds & TV



1st cycle cycle

$$\|\text{noise}\|_2 / \|\text{signal}\|_2 = 0.5$$

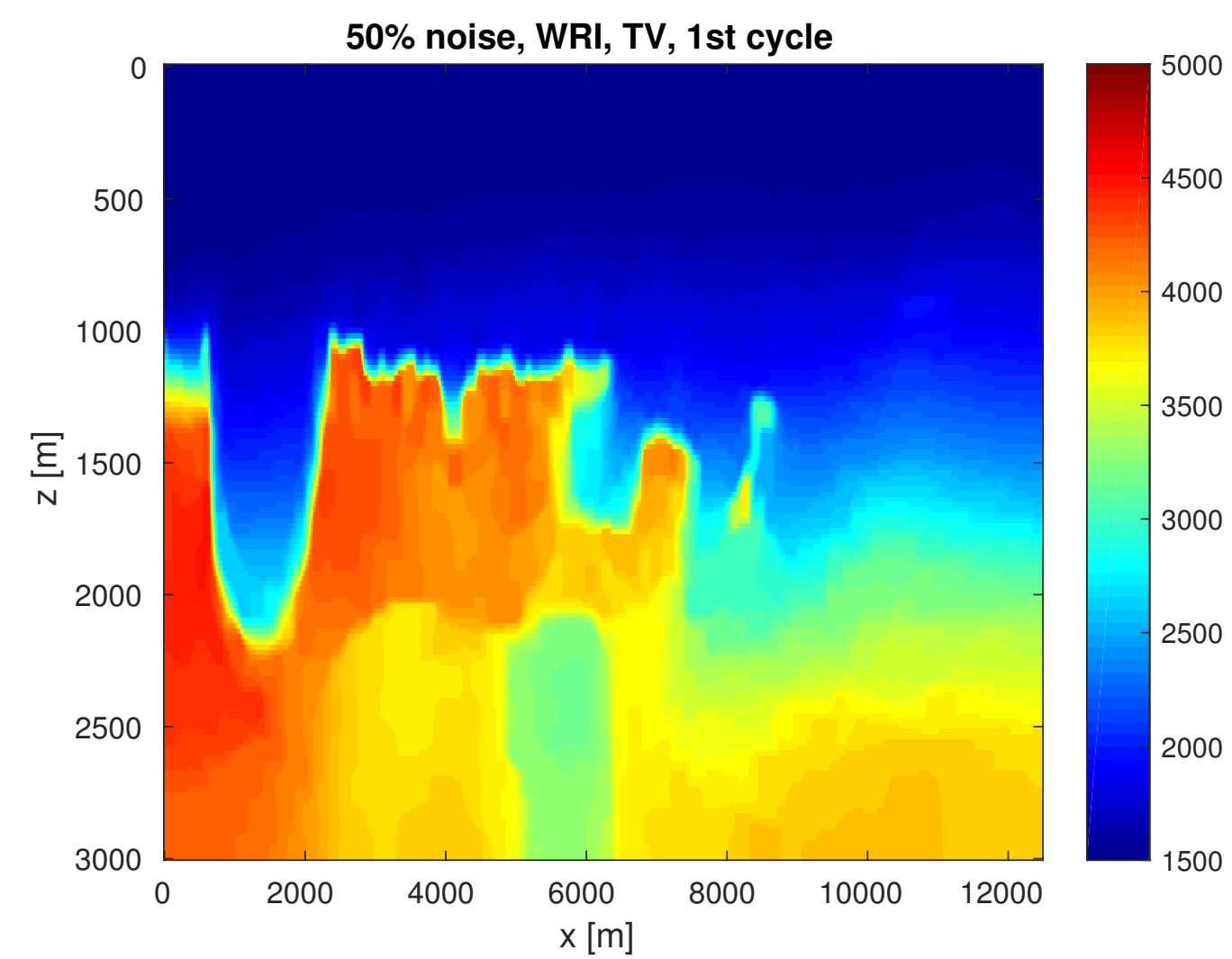
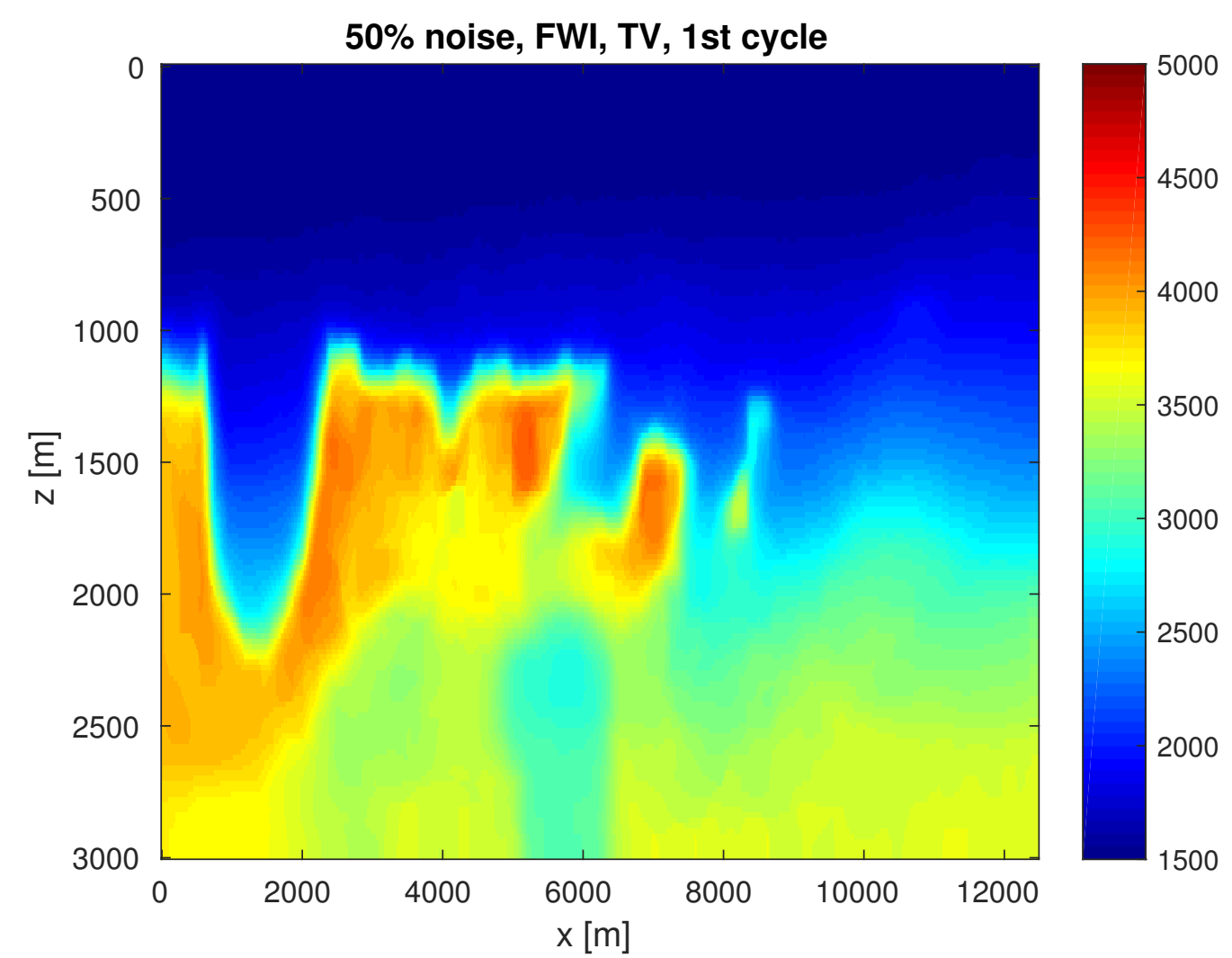
bounds only



FWI

WRI

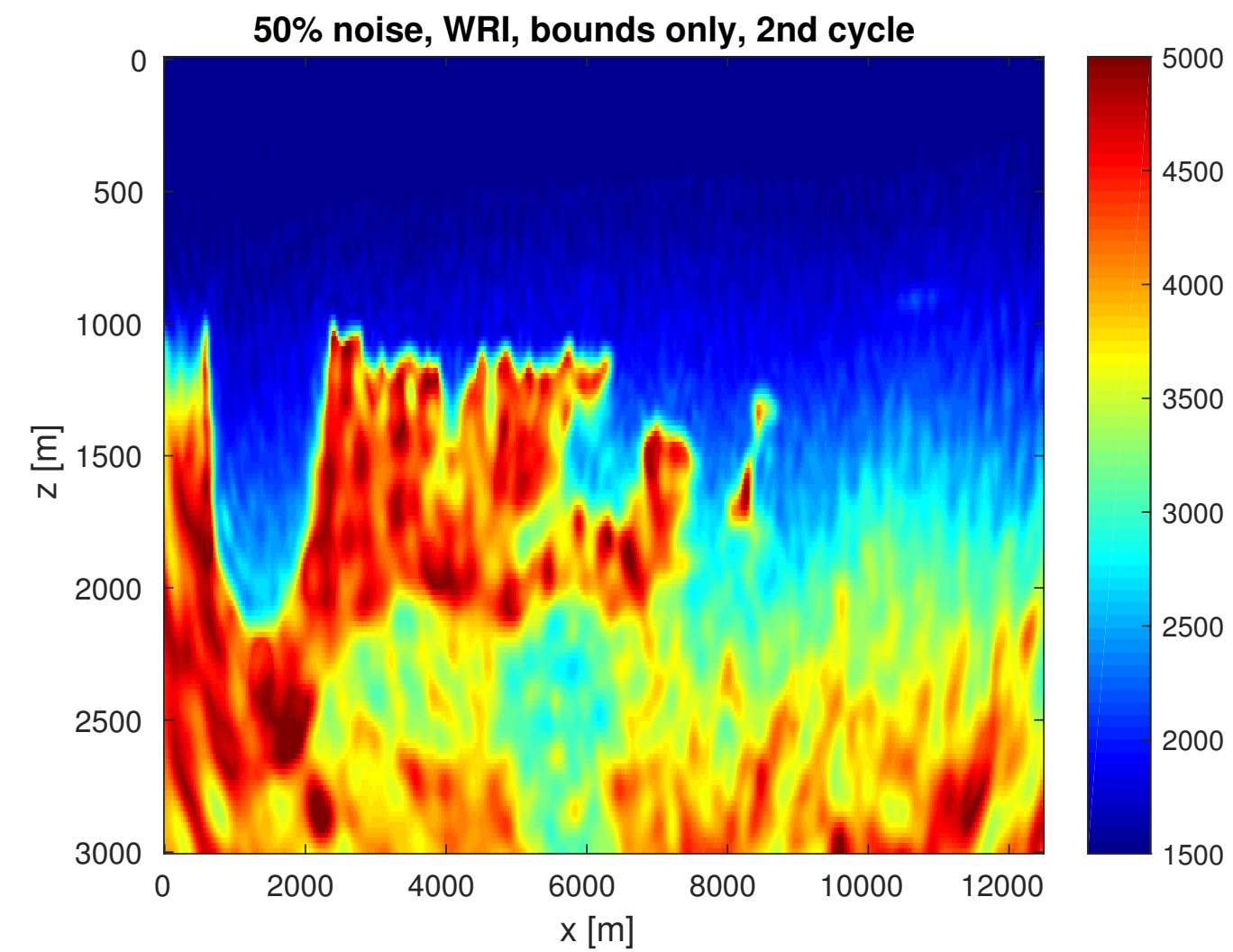
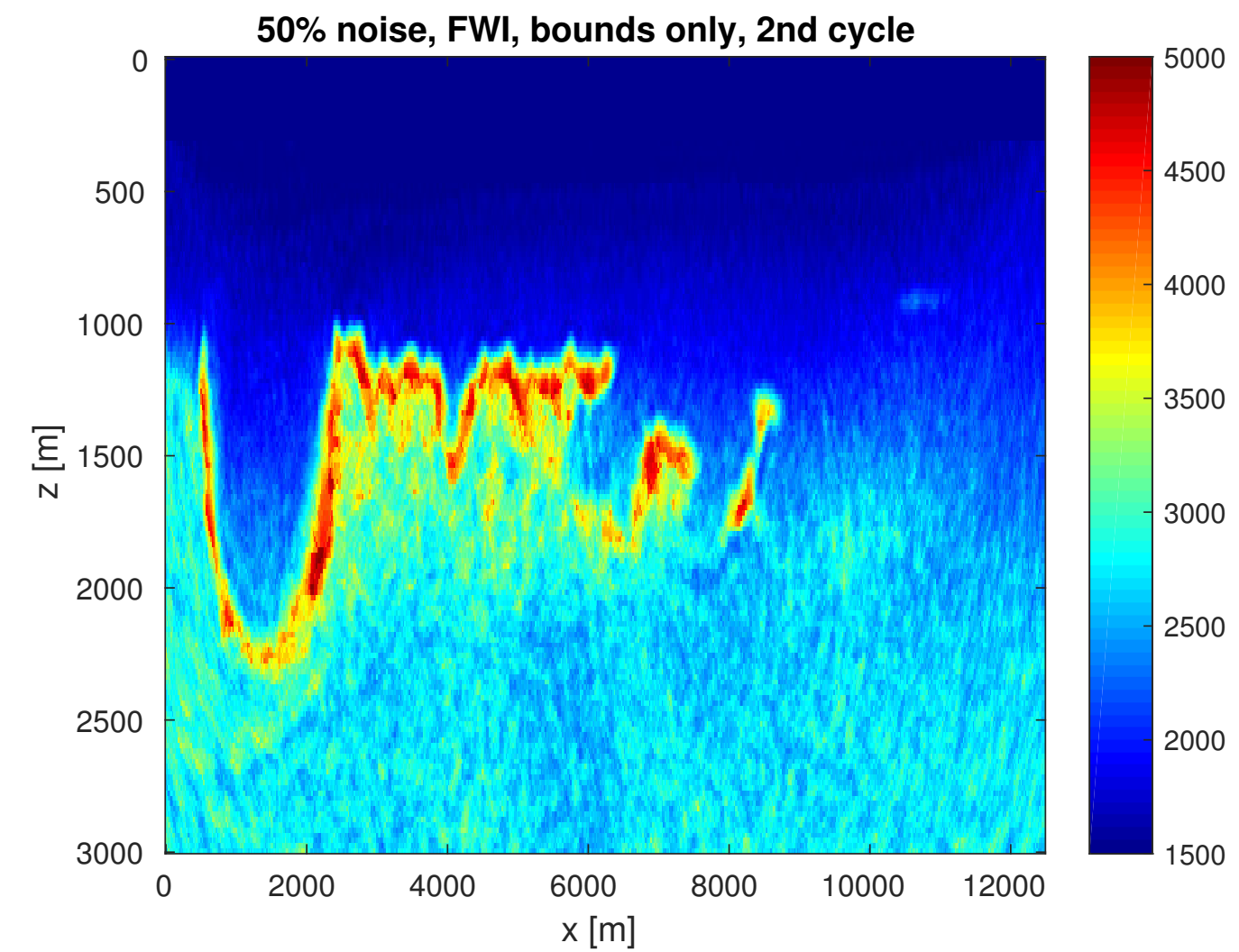
bounds & TV



2nd cycle

$$\|\text{noise}\|_2 / \|\text{signal}\|_2 = 0.5$$

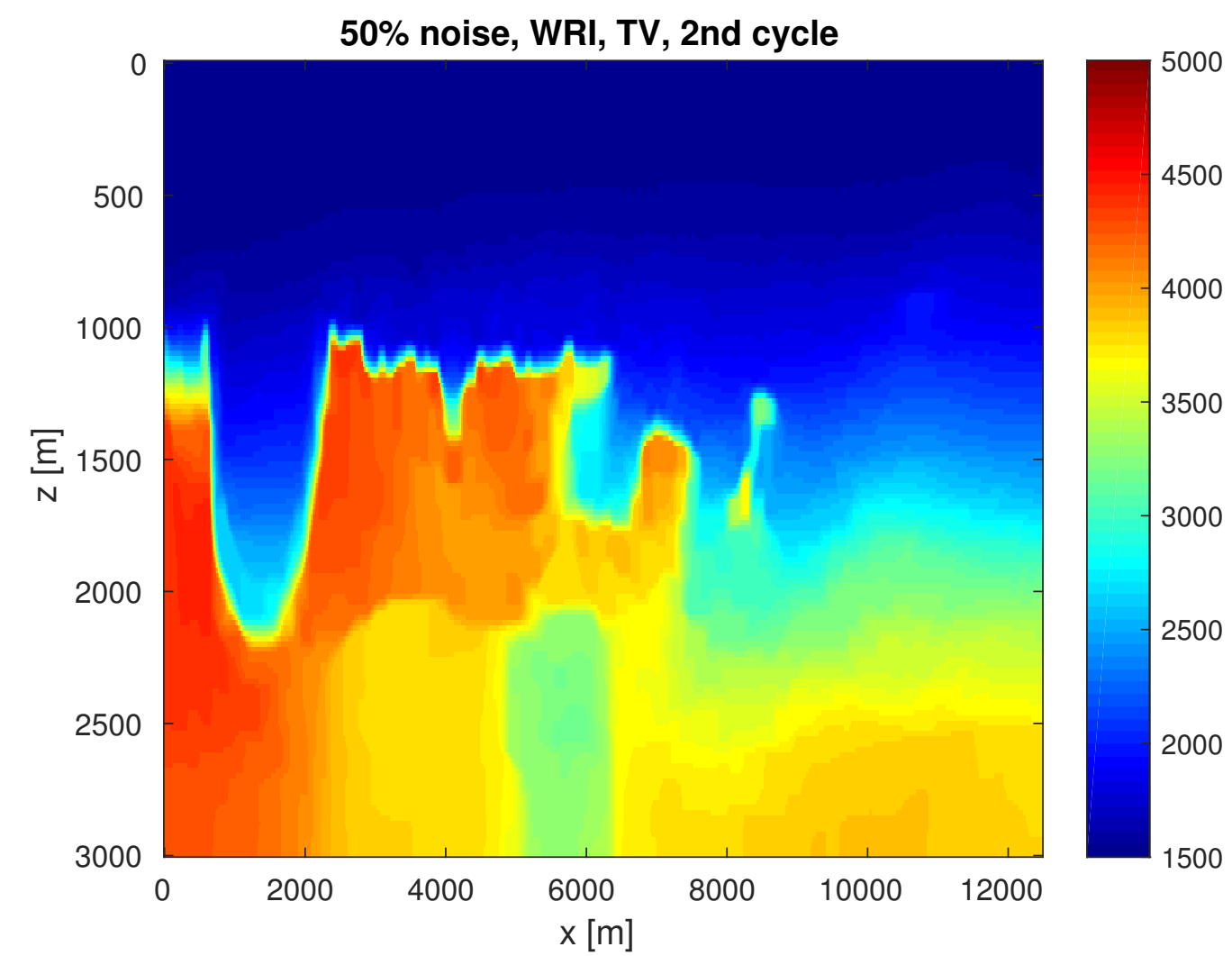
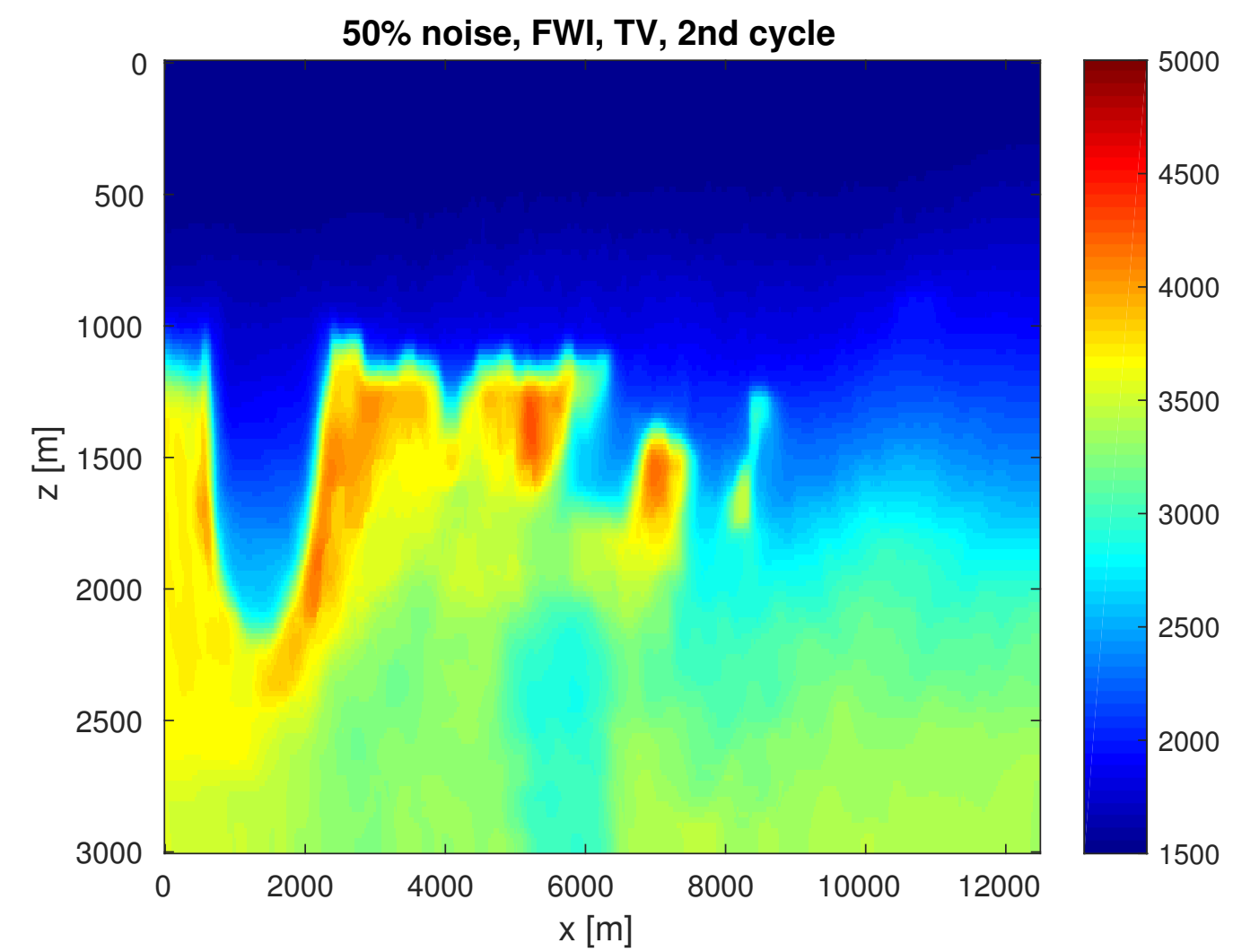
bounds only



FWI

WRI

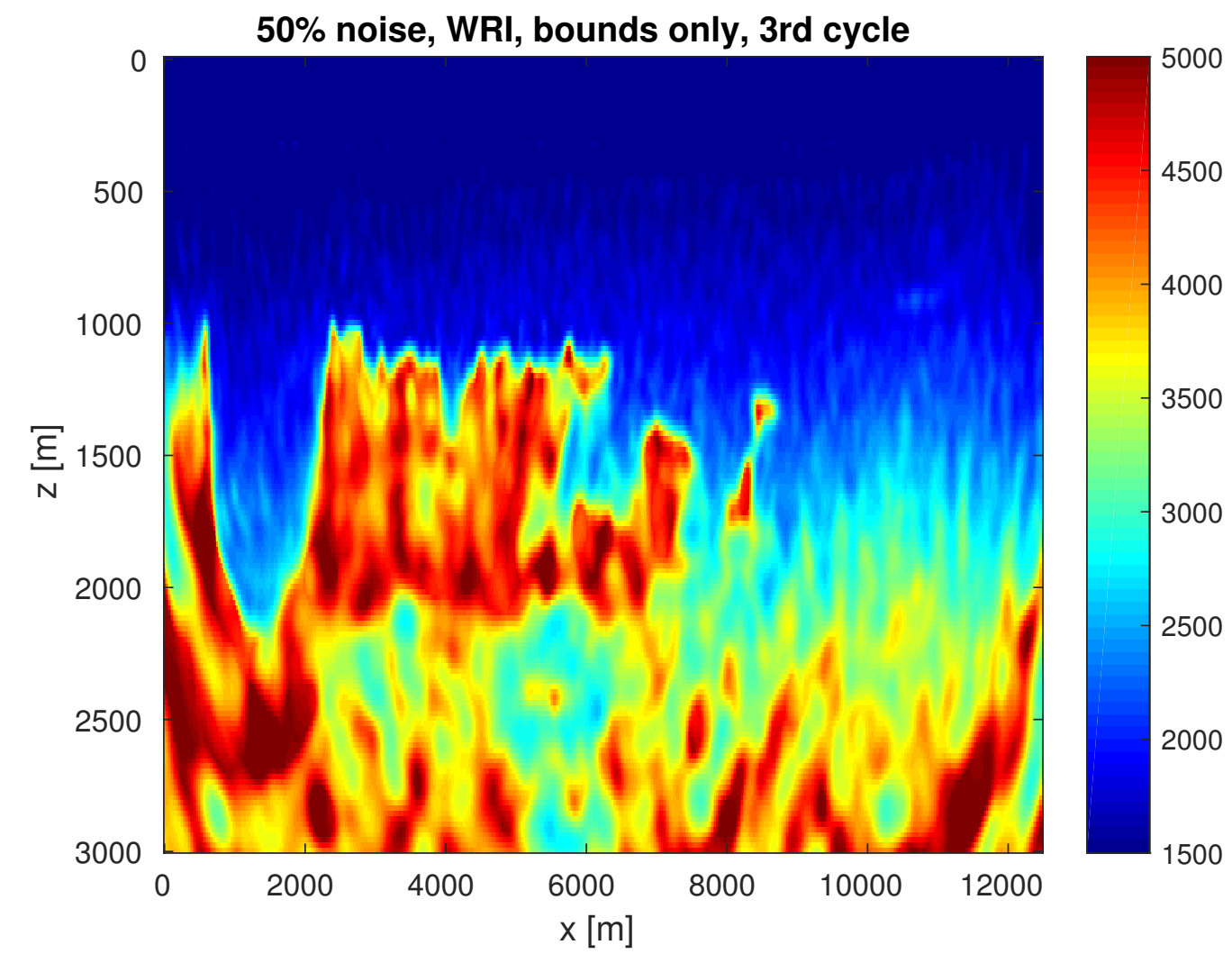
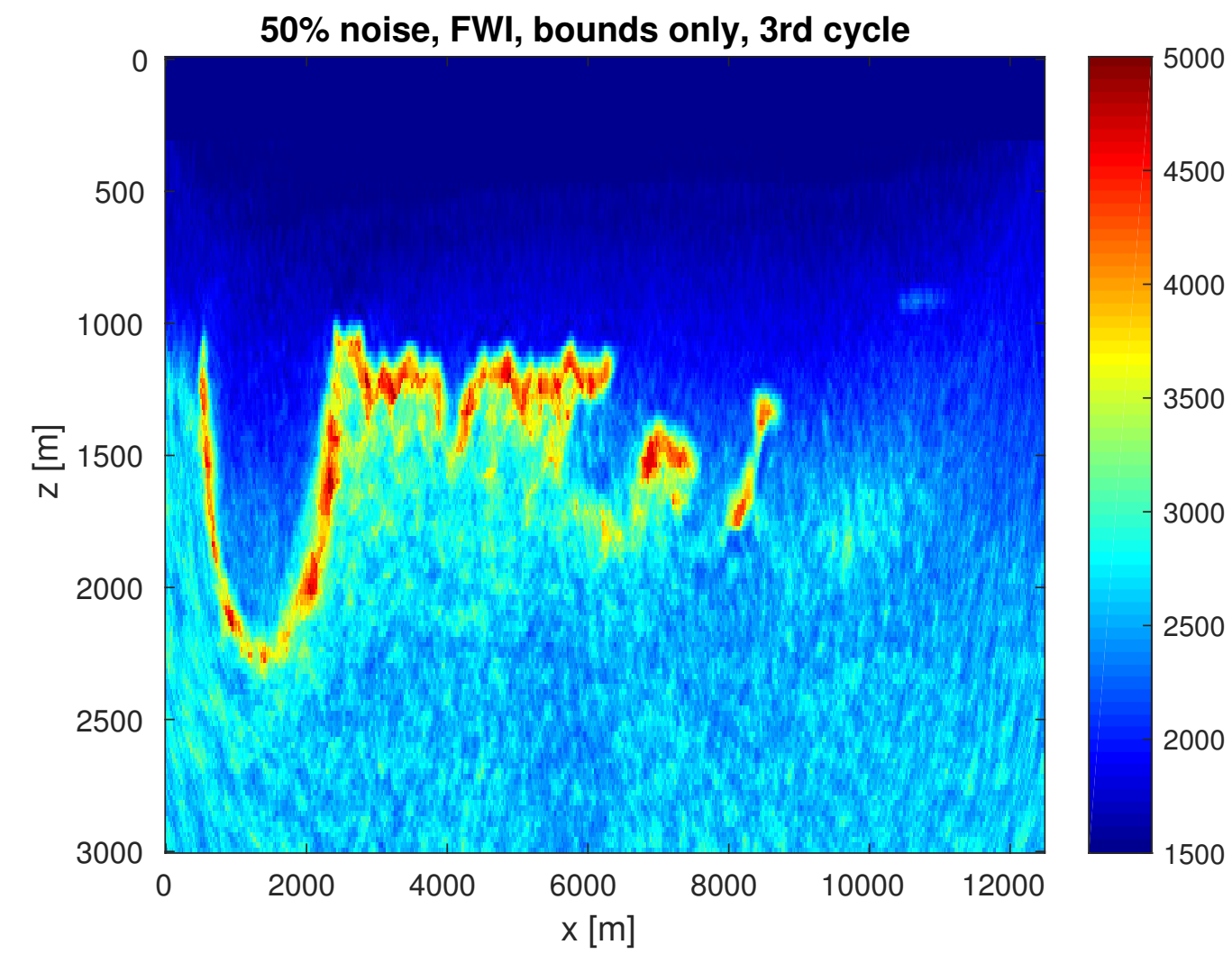
bounds & TV



3rd cycle

$$\|\text{noise}\|_2 / \|\text{signal}\|_2 = 0.5$$

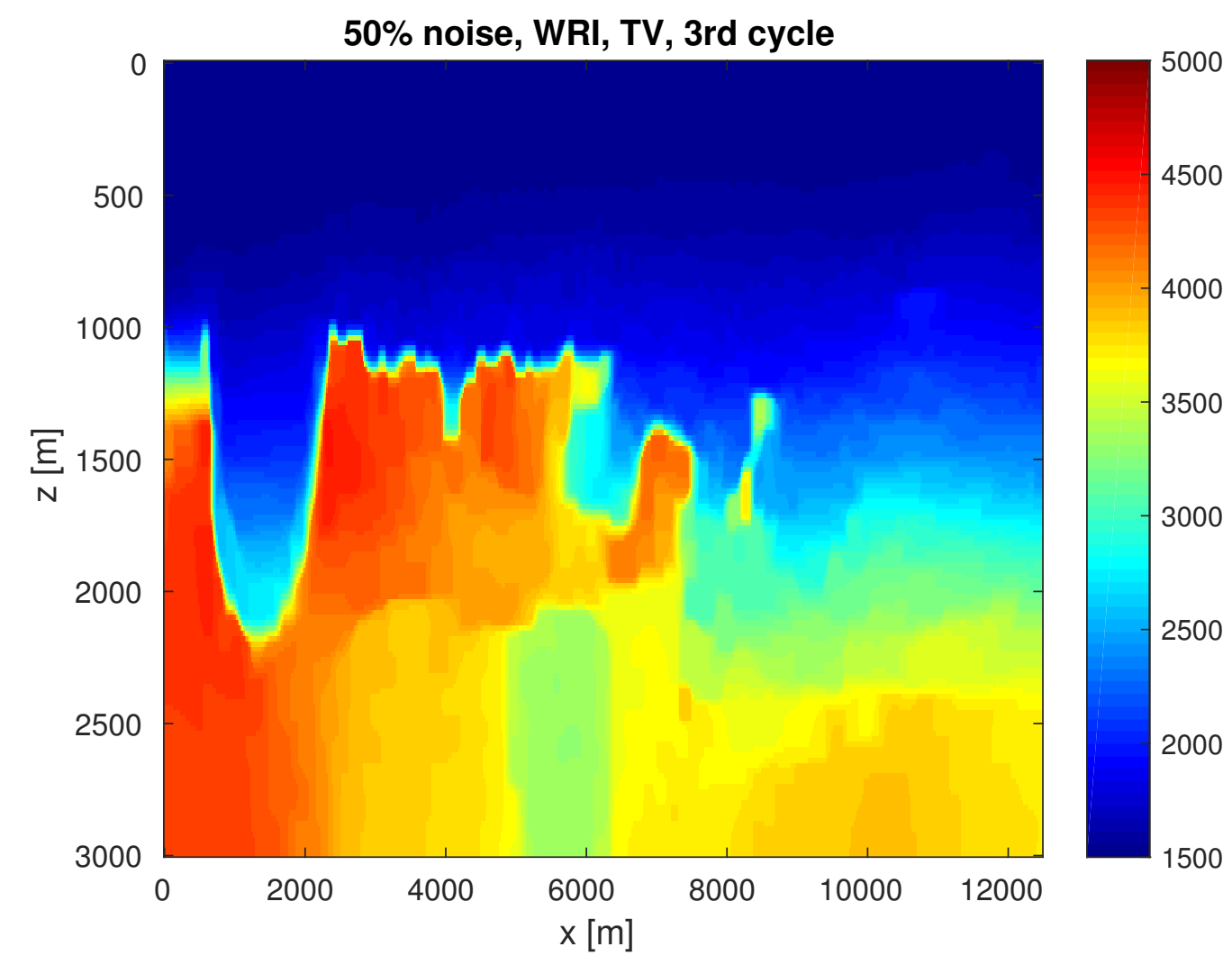
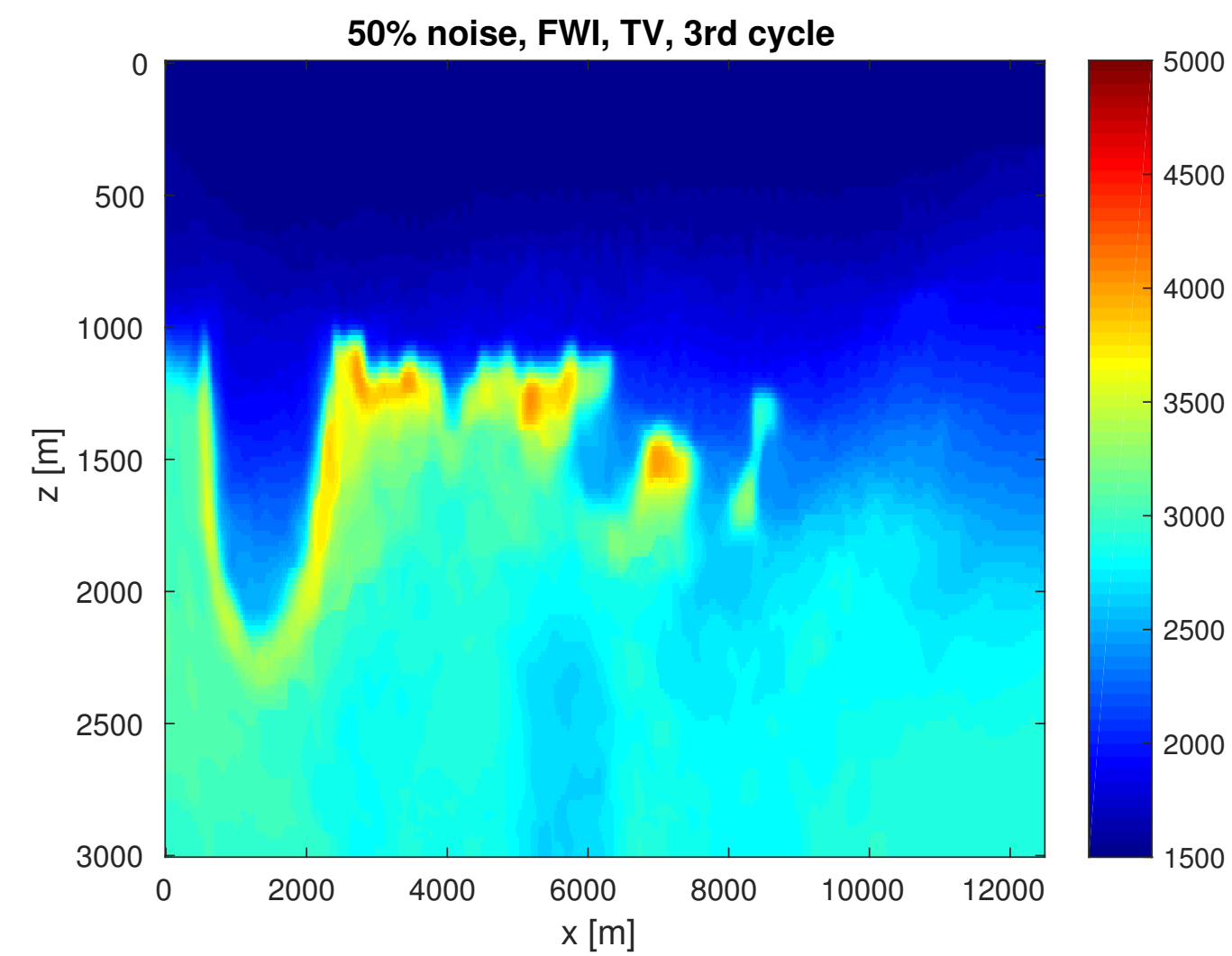
bounds only



FWI

WRI

bounds & TV



Conclusions & generalizations

Adding constraints to inversion:

- ▶ leaves gradient (and Hessian) untouched
- ▶ is robust & behaves predictably w/ model iterates that remain feasible
- ▶ intuitive parameterizations of prior information in >2 constraints
- ▶ can be accelerated w/ quasi-Newton & parallelized projections
- ▶ “black box” solution that works w/ any implementation for FWI/WRI

Extensions paired w/ constraints are a powerful combination!

Acknowledgements

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