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## A new scheme of wavefield decomposed elastic least-squares reverse time migration

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Elastic least-squares reverse time migration (ELSRTM) describes the reflectivity of the underground media more accurately than acoustic LSRTM in theory while suffering from the P- and S-waves crosstalk artifacts. We propose a new wavefield decomposed ELSRTM scheme to alleviate these crosstalk artifacts, which is different from conventional methods. In our new scheme, we implement the wavenumber domain elastic wavefield vector decomposition equivalently in the time-space domain to decompose source wavefield without Fourier transform, but with high precision. Then we decompose adjoint wavefield by constructing the shear component in a decoupled adjoint wave equation. Finally, based on elastic impedance parameterization, we derive the gradients with respect to elastic reflectivity in the wavefield-decomposed ELSRTM. Numerical examples show that our method is feasible even when applied to models with complex and uncorrelated P- and S-wave velocity structures.

#### KEYWORDS

elastic, LSRTM, crosstalk artifacts, wavefield decomposition, decoupled wave equation

### **1** Introduction

The work of several scholars marked the advent of reverse time migration (RTM) in the 1980s (Hemon, 1978; Baysal et al., 1983; McMechan, 1983; Whitmore, 1983). Compared with other migration methods, the reverse time migration based on the two-path wave equation has stronger amplitude preservation and higher image quality for the complex geological structure with steep dip angle and sharp velocity changes.

However, conventional RTM assumes that seismic data is obtained by regular surface sampling with a recording aperture as large as possible, which cannot be achieved in practice. Without these perfect assumptions, the conventional RTM algorithm is likely to fail even fed with accurate velocity and density models (Zhang et al., 2015).

The least square migration (LSM) (LeBras and Clayton, 1988) is a revolutionary innovation which solves imaging problems by an inversion method: match the

observed data with the numerical simulation data under the Born approximation, and update the imaging results through multiple inversion iterations (Schuster, 1993; Nemeth et al., 1999). LSM is believed to be able to image subsurface structure and reflections with higher resolution and better amplitude preservation, which is beneficial to more reliable and highprecision elastic parameter inversion and reservoir characterization. The LSM idea can be combined with a variety of imaging techniques. Scholars have introduced the idea of LSM into RTM, which is called least-squares reverse time migration (LSRTM) (Dong et al., 2012; Yao and Jakubowicz, 2012; Dai and Schuster, 2013; Zhang et al., 2013, 2015; Feng and Schuster, 2017; Liu and Peter, 2018; Yang et al., 2019).

Most studies about LSRTM have been focused on acoustic medium assumptions, the elastic characteristics of the wavefield are treated as noise rather than an additional source of information of the subsurface parameters (Sears et al., 2010). However, elastic assumptions describe the underground media more accurately than acoustic. In addition, with PP and PS reflectivity, the identification of fluid contacts, lithologies, fractures and hydrocarbon reservoirs will be clear. Therefore, it is necessary to study LSRTM based on elastic theory for land seismic data. Considering that ELSRTM suffers from crosstalk between P- and S-waves, wavefield decomposition methods are usually used to suppress crosstalk artifacts.

One of the wavefield decomposition methods is based on the Helmholtz theorem (Dellinger and Etgen, 1990; Sun and McMechan, 2001), in a homogeneous and isotropic medium, the elastic wavefield can be separated into a curl-free P wavefield and a divergence-free S wavefield. However, extra complex and computationally expensive polarity corrections are needed since the divergence and curl operators lead to phase shift and amplitude distortion (Yan and Sava, 2008; Du et al., 2012; Duan and Sava, 2015).

The second strategy for wavefield decomposition is the decoupled wave equations (Ma and Zhu, 2003; Li et al., 2007; Zhang et al., 2007; Xiao and Leaney, 2010), which decompose wavefields by solving the P- and S-wave separated wave equations. In recent years, the decoupled wave equations prevail in elastic RTM (Wang and McMechan, 2015; Du et al., 2017; Zhou et al., 2018) and ELSRTM (Gu et al., 2018; Qu et al., 2018; Zhong et al., 2021; Shi et al., 2021; Zhang and Gao ,2022; Liu et al., 2022) because it is easy to implement and does not cause phase shift and amplitude distortion of decomposed wavefields (Duan and Sava, 2015; Du et al., 2017; Gong et al., 2018). However, if migration models are not smooth enough, the decoupled wave equation methods may suffer.

The third wavefield decomposition method, which with clear physical significance and higher accuracy, is the wavefields decomposition in the wavenumber domain (Zhang and McMechan, 2010; Du et al., 2014; Zhang et al., 2020), the output decomposed P- and S-wavefields have the same amplitude, phase, and physical units as the input wavefields even in the case of inaccurate migration velocity. However, methods in the wavenumber domain suffer from expensive computation.

Shi et al. (2021), Zhong et al. (2021), Zhang & Gao (2022) and Liu et al. (2022) constructed the decoupled wave equation and applied it to both source and adjoint wavefields decomposition. It is different in this paper: we propose a compound strategy to suppress P- and S-wave cross-talk artifacts in an efficient way. Inspired by the work of Zhang and McMechan (2010) in the wavenumber domain, but avoiding taking the Fourier transform, we reconstruct the wavenumber domain decomposition operator, and transform it into time-space domain to decompose source wavefields. Then we decompose the adjoint wavefields by constructing the shear component in a decoupled adjoint wave equation. Finally, we obtain the gradients with respect to elastic reflectivity in the wavefielddecomposed ELSRTM. In addition, the gradients were updated using the conjugate gradient method.

This paper is organized as follows. First, we review the basic theory of ELSRTM including the Born approximation for the velocity-stress elastic wave equations, the virtual sources of the elastic demigration, the adjoint equations and gradients of ELSRTM. Next, we introduce an elastic wavefield vector decomposition method in the time-space domain and a decoupled adjoint wave equation. Then we obtain the gradients with respect to elastic reflectivity in the decoupled P- and S-wave frame. Finally, we use two numerical examples to demonstrate the feasibility of the proposed wavefield decomposed ELSRTM scheme.

#### 2 Methodology

#### 2.1 Basic theory of ELSRTM

In the 2D case, the elastic isotropic wave equation can be expressed by the first-order particle velocity and stress equation (Virieux, 1986) as

$$\rho \frac{\partial v_x}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial \sigma_{xx}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \tau_{zx}}{\partial z},$$

$$\rho \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial \tau_{xz}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \sigma_{zz}}{\partial z},$$

$$\frac{\partial \sigma_{xx}}{\partial t} = (\lambda + 2\mu) \frac{\partial v_x}{\partial x} + \lambda \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial z},$$

$$\frac{\partial \sigma_{zz}}{\partial t} = \lambda \frac{\partial v_x}{\partial x} + (\lambda + 2\mu) \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial z},$$

$$\frac{\partial \tau_{xz}}{\partial t} = \mu \left( \frac{\partial v_x}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial v_z}{\partial x} \right).$$
(1)

Where  $\rho$  stands for the density,  $\lambda$  and  $\mu$  are the Lame constants of models,  $v_x$  and  $v_z$  represent particle velocities in the horizontal



and vertical respectively,  $\sigma_{xx}$  and  $\sigma_{zz}$  are the normal stresses,  $\tau_{xz}$  (or  $\tau_{zx}$ ) is the shear stress.

According to the perturbation theory, a perturbation  $\delta \mathbf{m} = [\delta \rho, \delta \lambda, \delta \mu]^T$  of the background model parameters  $\mathbf{m} = [\rho, \lambda, \mu]^T$  will lead to wavefields perturbation  $\delta \mathbf{u} = [\delta v_x, \delta v_z, \delta \sigma_{xx}, \delta \sigma_{zz}, \delta \tau_{xz}]^T$  with respect to the background wavefields  $\mathbf{u} = [v_x, v_z, \sigma_{xx}, \sigma_{zz}, \tau_{xz}]^T$ . The perturbed source wavefields which can be expressed as:

$$\rho \frac{\partial \delta v_x}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial \delta \sigma_{xx}}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial \delta \tau_{zx}}{\partial z} = f_x,$$

$$\rho \frac{\partial \delta v_z}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial \delta \tau_{xz}}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial \delta \sigma_{zz}}{\partial z} = f_z,$$

$$\frac{\partial \delta \sigma_{xx}}{\partial t} - (\lambda + 2\mu) \frac{\partial \delta v_x}{\partial x} - \lambda \frac{\partial \delta v_z}{\partial z} = f_{xx},$$

$$\frac{\partial \delta \sigma_{zz}}{\partial t} - \lambda \frac{\partial \delta v_x}{\partial x} - (\lambda + 2\mu) \frac{\partial \delta v_z}{\partial z} = f_{zz},$$

$$\frac{\partial \delta \tau_{xz}}{\partial t} - \mu \left( \frac{\partial \delta v_x}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial \delta v_z}{\partial x} \right) = f_{xz}.$$
(2)

Where the virtual sources are as follows:

$$f_{x} = -\delta\rho \frac{\partial v_{x}}{\partial t},$$

$$f_{z} = -\delta\rho \frac{\partial v_{z}}{\partial t},$$

$$f_{xx} = \delta\lambda \left(\frac{\partial v_{x}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v_{z}}{\partial z}\right) + 2\delta\mu \frac{\partial v_{x}}{\partial x},$$
(3)
$$f_{zz} = \delta\lambda \left(\frac{\partial v_{x}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v_{z}}{\partial z}\right) + 2\delta\mu \frac{\partial v_{z}}{\partial z},$$

$$f_{xz} = \delta\mu \left(\frac{\partial v_{x}}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial v_{z}}{\partial x}\right).$$

Equation 2 are the Born approximation for the velocity-stress elastic wave equation in the 2D case.

Using the adjoint-state method (Liu and Tromp, 2006; Plessix, 2006), the adjoint wave equations can be derived as:

$$\rho \frac{\partial \phi_x}{\partial t} - \lambda \frac{\partial \varphi_{zz}}{\partial x} - (\lambda + 2\mu) \frac{\partial \varphi_{xx}}{\partial x} - \mu \frac{\partial \varphi_{xz}}{\partial z} = \delta V_x - \delta V_x^{obs},$$

$$\rho \frac{\partial \phi_z}{\partial t} - \lambda \frac{\partial \varphi_{xx}}{\partial z} - (\lambda + 2\mu) \frac{\partial \varphi_{zz}}{\partial z} - \mu \frac{\partial \varphi_{xz}}{\partial x} = \delta V_z - \delta V_z^{obs},$$

$$\frac{\partial \varphi_{xx}}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial \phi_x}{\partial x} = 0,$$

$$(4)$$

$$\frac{\partial \varphi_{zz}}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial \phi_z}{\partial z} = 0,$$

$$\frac{\partial \varphi_{xz}}{\partial t} - \left(\frac{\partial \phi_x}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial \phi_z}{\partial x}\right) = 0.$$

Here,  $\phi$  represents the adjoint wavefields of velocity,  $\varphi$  denotes the adjoint wavefields of stress,  $\delta V_i$  and  $\delta V_i^{obs}$ ,  $i \in \{x, z\}$  represent the simulated and observed seismogram received in the horizontal (x) and vertical (z) directions respectively.

And gradients are derived as:

$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial \delta \rho} = \int_{0}^{T} \phi_{x} \frac{\partial v_{x}}{\partial t} + \phi_{z} \frac{\partial v_{z}}{\partial t} dt,$$

$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial \delta \lambda} = \int_{0}^{T} -(\varphi_{xx} + \varphi_{zz}) \left( \frac{\partial v_{x}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v_{z}}{\partial z} \right) dt,$$

$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial \delta \mu} = \int_{0}^{T} -\left( 2\varphi_{xx} \frac{\partial v_{x}}{\partial x} + 2\varphi_{zz} \frac{\partial v_{z}}{\partial z} + \varphi_{xz} \left( \frac{\partial v_{x}}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial v_{z}}{\partial x} \right) \right) dt.$$
(5)

#### 2.2 The elastic wavefields decomposition

#### 2.2.1 Decomposition of source wavefields

Zhang and McMechan (2010) proposed elastic wavefield decomposition in the wavenumber domain, which has been

used to improve elastic full waveform inversion in Ren and Liu (2016). However, the two-dimensional forward and inverse Fourier transforms must be repeated in each time slice, resulting in expensive calculations. Different from Ren and Liu (2016), in our scheme, the work of Zhang and McMechan (2010) was introduced into the time-spatial domain, thereby avoiding the Fourier transforms, and was applied to ELSRTM efficiently.

The P- and S- wavefields in 2D case are decomposed in the wavenumber domain according to the following equations given by Zhang and McMechan (2010) as follows:

$$\begin{split} \tilde{v}_{x}^{p}(k_{x},k_{z}) &= K_{x}^{2}\tilde{v}_{x}\left(k_{x},k_{z}\right) + K_{x}K_{z}\tilde{v}_{z}\left(k_{x},k_{z}\right), \\ \tilde{v}_{z}^{p}\left(k_{x},k_{z}\right) &= K_{z}^{2}\tilde{v}_{z}\left(k_{x},k_{z}\right) + K_{x}K_{z}\tilde{v}_{x}\left(k_{x},k_{z}\right), \\ \tilde{v}_{x}^{s}\left(k_{x},k_{z}\right) &= K_{z}^{2}\tilde{v}_{x}\left(k_{x},k_{z}\right) - K_{x}K_{z}\tilde{v}_{z}\left(k_{x},k_{z}\right), \\ \tilde{v}_{z}^{s}\left(k_{x},k_{z}\right) &= K_{x}^{2}\tilde{v}_{z}\left(k_{x},k_{z}\right) - K_{x}K_{z}\tilde{v}_{x}\left(k_{x},k_{z}\right). \end{split}$$
(6)

where  $\tilde{v}_x$  and  $\tilde{v}_z$  represent particle velocities in the wavenumber domain,  $K_x = k_x/k$  and  $K_z = k_z/k$  are normalized wavenumbers, in which  $(k_x, k_z)$  is the wavenumber vector that defines the direction of wave propagation in 2D case, and  $k = \sqrt{k_x^2 + k_z^2} = \omega/v_{pha}$ ,  $v_{pha}$  is the phase velocity,  $\omega$  denotes angular frequency. Zhang and McMechan (2010) further described Eq. 6 in a short form as:

$$\begin{split} \tilde{\mathbf{V}}^{\mathbf{P}} &= \mathbf{K} \Big( \mathbf{K} \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{V}} \Big), \\ \tilde{\mathbf{V}}^{\mathbf{S}} &= -\mathbf{K} \times \Big( \mathbf{K} \times \tilde{\mathbf{V}} \Big). \end{split} \tag{7}$$

where  $\tilde{\mathbf{V}} = \tilde{\mathbf{V}}^{\mathbf{P}} + \tilde{\mathbf{V}}^{\mathbf{S}}$ ,  $\tilde{\mathbf{V}} = (\tilde{v}_x, \tilde{v}_z)$ ,  $\tilde{\mathbf{V}}^{\mathbf{P}} = (\tilde{v}_x^p, \tilde{v}_z^p)$ ,  $\tilde{\mathbf{V}}^{\mathbf{S}} = (\tilde{v}_x^s, \tilde{v}_z^s)$ , and we noticed that the operator  $\mathbf{K} = K_x \mathbf{a}_x + K_z \mathbf{a}_z = \tilde{\nabla}/ik$ , where  $\tilde{\nabla} = ik_x \mathbf{a}_x + ik_z \mathbf{a}_z$  denotes the nabla operator in the wavenumber domain which corresponds to  $\nabla = \partial/\partial x \mathbf{a}_x + ik_z \mathbf{a}_z$ 





 $\partial/\partial z a_z$  in the spatial domain ( $a_x$  and  $a_z$  are defined as unit basic vectors in the Cartesian coordinate system).

Naturally, set the intermediate results in parentheses as  $\tilde{V}_{tmp}^{P} = \mathbf{K} \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{V}}$  and  $\tilde{\mathbf{V}}_{tmp}^{\mathbf{S}} = \mathbf{K} \times \tilde{\mathbf{V}}$ , and note that  $k = \omega/v_{pha}$ , more specifically:

$$\begin{split} \tilde{\boldsymbol{V}}_{lmp}^{P} &= \frac{1}{ik} \tilde{\boldsymbol{\nabla}} \cdot \tilde{\boldsymbol{V}} = \frac{\nu_{pha}}{i\omega} \tilde{\boldsymbol{\nabla}} \cdot \tilde{\boldsymbol{V}}, \\ \tilde{\boldsymbol{V}}_{tmp}^{S} &= \frac{1}{ik} \tilde{\boldsymbol{\nabla}} \cdot \tilde{\boldsymbol{V}} = \frac{\nu_{pha}}{i\omega} \tilde{\boldsymbol{\nabla}} \times \tilde{\boldsymbol{V}}. \end{split}$$
(8)

Note that  $i\omega$  denotes the derivative operator in the frequency domain, which corresponds to  $\partial/\partial t$  in the time domain. Moreover, according to the differential property of the Fourier transform, correspondingly, in the time-space domain:

$$\frac{\partial V_{tmp}^{s}}{\partial t} = v_{pha}^{p} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{V},$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{V}_{tmp}^{s}}{\partial t} = v_{pha}^{s} \nabla \times \mathbf{V}.$$
(9)

where  $\mathbf{V} = \mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{P}} + \mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{S}}$ ,  $\mathbf{V} = (v_x, v_z)$ ,  $v_x$  and  $v_z$  represent particle velocities in the spatial domain.

In the same way as  $\tilde{\mathbf{V}}^{\mathbf{P}} = \mathbf{K} \tilde{\mathbf{V}}_{tmp}^{P}$  and  $\tilde{\mathbf{V}}^{\mathbf{S}} = -\mathbf{K} \times \tilde{\mathbf{V}}_{tmp}^{\mathbf{S}}$ , the decomposed vector wavefields in the spatial domain are described as:

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{V}^{P}}{\partial t} = v_{pha}^{P} \nabla V_{tmp}^{P},$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{V}^{S}}{\partial t} = -v_{pha}^{s} \nabla \times \mathbf{V}_{tmp}^{S}.$$
(10)

where  $\mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{P}} = (v_x^p, v_z^p)$ , and  $\mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{S}} = (v_x^s, v_z^s)$ .

#### 2.2.2 Decomposition of adjoint wavefields

It is different from the decomposition of source wavefields, since the first-order particle velocity-stress equation is not self-adjoint, we reconstruct the adjoint wave equations (Eq. 4) as follows to decompose adjoint wavefields into P- and S-wave components:

$$\rho \frac{\partial \phi_x}{\partial t} = \lambda \frac{\partial \phi_{zz}}{\partial x} + (\lambda + 2\mu) \frac{\partial \phi_{xx}}{\partial x} + \mu \frac{\partial \phi_{xz}}{\partial z} + f_x^{adj},$$

$$\rho \frac{\partial \phi_z}{\partial t} = \lambda \frac{\partial \phi_{xx}}{\partial z} + (\lambda + 2\mu) \frac{\partial \phi_{zz}}{\partial z} + \mu \frac{\partial \phi_{xz}}{\partial x} + f_z^{adj},$$

$$\rho \frac{\partial \phi_x^S}{\partial t} = \mu \left( \frac{\partial \phi_{xz}}{\partial z} - 2 \frac{\partial \phi_{zz}}{\partial x} \right),$$

$$\rho \frac{\partial \phi_z^S}{\partial t} = \mu \left( \frac{\partial \phi_{xz}}{\partial x} - 2 \frac{\partial \phi_{xx}}{\partial z} \right),$$

$$(11)$$

$$\phi_z^P = \phi_z - \phi_z^S,$$

$$\frac{\partial \phi_{xz}}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial \phi_x}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial \phi_z}{\partial x},$$

$$\frac{\partial \phi_{zz}}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial \phi_x}{\partial z}.$$

Where  $\phi_x^P$ ,  $\phi_z^P$ ,  $\phi_x^S$ ,  $\phi_z^S$  are the decoupled P- and S- adjoint wavefields of particle velocity.

#### 2.3 The gradient of wavefield decomposed ELSRTM

According to the work of Feng and Schuster (2017) and Ren et al. (2017), the reflectivity images of elastic impedances can be defined as:

$$R_{p} = \frac{\delta I_{p}}{I_{p}}, R_{s} = \frac{\delta I_{s}}{I_{s}}, R_{\rho} = \frac{\delta \rho}{\rho}.$$
 (12)

where  $I_p = \rho \sqrt{\lambda + 2\mu}$ ,  $I_s = \rho \sqrt{\mu}$ ,  $\delta I_p$  and  $\delta I_s$  are the perturbed Pand S- impedance, and the perturbed  $\lambda$  and  $\mu$  can be express as:

$$\delta\lambda = \frac{2}{\rho} \left( I_p^2 R_p - 2I_s^2 R_s \right), \delta\mu = \frac{2}{\rho} I_s^2 R_s.$$
(13)

Then substitute Eq. 13 into Eq. 3, the new virtual sources of elastic demigration can be written as:



$$f_{x} = -\rho R_{\rho} \frac{\partial v_{x}}{\partial t},$$

$$f_{z} = -\rho R_{\rho} \frac{\partial v_{z}}{\partial t},$$

$$f_{xx} = \left(\frac{2I_{\rho}^{2}R_{\rho} - 4I_{s}^{2}R_{s}}{\rho}\right) \left(\frac{\partial v_{x}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v_{z}}{\partial z}\right) + \frac{4I_{s}^{2}R_{s}}{\rho} \frac{\partial v_{x}}{\partial x},$$

$$f_{zz} = \left(\frac{2I_{\rho}^{2}R_{\rho} - 4I_{s}^{2}R_{s}}{\rho}\right) \left(\frac{\partial v_{x}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v_{z}}{\partial z}\right) + \frac{4I_{s}^{2}R_{s}}{\rho} \frac{\partial v_{z}}{\partial z},$$

$$f_{xz} = \frac{2I_{s}^{2}R_{s}}{\rho} \left(\frac{\partial v_{x}}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial v_{z}}{\partial x}\right).$$
(14)

Equation 15 express the gradients of elastic impedance parameterization which are related to the Lamé parameters in Eq. 5:

$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial R_p} = 2v_p I_p \frac{\partial J}{\partial \delta \lambda},$$

$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial R_s} = -4v_s I_s \frac{\partial J}{\partial \delta \lambda} + 2v_s I_s \frac{\partial J}{\partial \delta \mu}.$$
(15)

Then substitute Eq. 5 into Eq. 15, the new gradients based on elastic impedance parameterization are:

$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial R_{p}} = -2v_{p}I_{p}\int_{0}^{T} \left(\varphi_{xx} + \varphi_{zz}\right) \left(\frac{\partial v_{x}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v_{z}}{\partial z}\right) dt,$$
  
$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial R_{s}} = 2v_{s}I_{s}\int_{0}^{T} \left(2\varphi_{xx}\frac{\partial v_{x}}{\partial x} + 2\varphi_{zz}\frac{\partial v_{z}}{\partial z} - \varphi_{xz}\left(\frac{\partial v_{x}}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial v_{z}}{\partial x}\right)\right) dt.$$
(16)

In P- S- decoupled elastic system, the elastic wavefields will be replaced by separated P- or S- wavefields to derive pure wave mode gradients, while the adjoint strains exist in the gradients with respect to reflectivity (Eq. 16) but not decoupled in our algorithm (Eq. 11). Ren and Liu (2015, 2016) suggested that according to the particular solutions of portion adjoint equations, the transformation from strains to particle velocities in the gradient equations can be written as:



The true (A) PP and (B) PS reflectivity distribution of the Modified Marmousi2 model in our numerical test. The reflectivity dist uncorrelated P and S-wave velocity structures is indicated by yellow boxes.

$$\varphi_{xx} = \frac{\partial \psi_x}{\partial x},$$

$$\varphi_{zz} = \frac{\partial \psi_z}{\partial z},$$

$$\varphi_{xz} = \frac{\partial \psi_x}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial \psi_z}{\partial x},$$

$$\psi_x = \int_T^t \phi_x^P d\tau + \int_T^t \phi_x^S d\tau,$$

$$\psi_z = \int_T^t \phi_z^P d\tau + \int_T^t \phi_z^S d\tau.$$
(17)

Moreover, the gradients with respect to elastic reflectivity in the wavefield decomposed ELSRTM frame can be derived as:

$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial R_{p}} = -2v_{p}I_{p}\int_{0}^{T} \left(\frac{\partial v_{x}^{p}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v_{z}^{p}}{\partial z}\right) \left(\frac{\partial \psi_{x}^{p}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \psi_{z}^{p}}{\partial z}\right) dt,$$

$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial R_{s}} = 2v_{s}I_{s}\int_{0}^{T} \left(2\frac{\partial v_{x}^{p}}{\partial x}\frac{\partial \psi_{x}^{s}}{\partial x} + 2\frac{\partial v_{z}^{p}}{\partial z}\frac{\partial \psi_{z}^{p}}{\partial z}}{\left(-\left(\frac{\partial v_{x}^{p}}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial v_{z}^{p}}{\partial x}\right)\left(\frac{\partial \psi_{x}^{s}}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial \psi_{z}^{s}}{\partial x}\right)\right) dt.$$
(18)

## **3** Numerical examples

To verify the feasibility of the proposed wavefield decomposed ELSRTM (DELSRTM), we designed two experiments based on quasi-Sigsbee2A model and modified Marmoisi2 model, respectively. To ensure the efficiency and stability of finite difference, we made some modifications based on the original



velocity models. In the quasi-Sigsbee2A experiment, we investigated the accuracy of DELSRTM. In the modified Marmoisi2 experiment, we focused on suppressing crosstalk artifacts and compared the DELSRTM imaging results with true reflectivity. We define (Vtrue-Vmig)/Vmig as the true reflectivity distribution, where the subscript true and mig means true velocity model and migration velocity model, respectively.

#### 3.1 Quasi-Sigsbee2A model

To demonstrate the accuracy of our proposed DELSRTM, we used a portion of the Sigsbee2A model structure (Figure 1) and modified the velocity to meet the stability of finite difference and cost-less calculation. The S-wave velocity is constructed by linear calculation based on the P-wave velocity. Moreover, the density is set to be a constant (1.0kg/m3). The size of this model is 290(z) by 600(x),

and the spatial sampling interval is 10 m. We planned 40 sources and 600 receivers, which were 150 m apart and 10 m apart. The Ricker wavelet with a peak frequency of 30 Hz was injected into normal stress items in elastic wave equations and received 40 shots as the observed seismic data. Before imaging, we muted the direct waves and most of the diving waves to reduce the interference of low-frequency noise.

The migration results of iteration 40th for the quasi-Sigsbee2A model are shown in Figure 2. To demonstrate the accuracy of DELSRTM, the DELSRTM image reflectivity profiles are compared with the real reflectivity in a single trace (Figure 3), which located at the distance of 3090 m and cross the middle diffraction point. Compared with true PP and PS reflectivity, we found that without the help of filtering process, the PP- and PSimage generated by our DELSRTM clearly reconstructed the reflectivity distribution and all the high-speed diffraction points converged perfectly.



#### 3.2 Modified Marmousi2 model

To further verify the anti-crosstalk effect of the DELSRTM, we tested our algorithm using a modified marmousi2 model (Figure 4) with uncorrelated P- and S-wave velocity structures. Moreover, the density is set to be constant (1.0kg/m3). This model is discrete into a grid of 233(z) by 662(x) with a spatial sampling interval of 20 m in both directions. We deployed 30 P-wave sources and 662 receivers, which were uniformly deployed along the surface with 440 and 20 m apart. We used Ricker wavelet with a peak frequency of 40 Hz as the source signature, and the total recording time is 2s, with a sample interval of 0.5 ms. To simulate the propagation of seismic waves numerically in time domain, we used the high-order staggered grid finite-difference (FD) scheme to solve the elastic wave equation with a 5 m by 5 m discrete spatial grid size. Before imaging, we only removed the direct wave to ensure that the DELSRTM gradient is not contaminated by low wave components.

Figure 6 shows the migration results after forty iterations performed. There are a few low wave-number artifacts in the

imaging results since the residual diving waves. The energy of artifacts suppressed some of the weak reflectivity imaging, however, a low-cut filtering process can also annihilate weak reflectivity imaging, which is why we chose not to do high-pass filtering. Compared with the true reflectivity distribution (Figure 5), migration results for the modified marmousi2 model (Figure 6) imaging complex structures accurately, and according to the comparison of single trace which is located at the distance of 5790 m in Figure 7, the proposed DELSRTM reflectivity imaging results are close to the real one. Besides, these yellow boxes in Figure 6 marked imaging results of S-wave where Рand velocity models are uncorrelated. There are few crosstalk artifacts in the image of the marked structures. From what has been discussed above, the P- and S-waves crosstalk artifacts are suppressed in our new DELSRTM scheme when applied to complex and uncorrelated elastic structures.

#### 4 Conclusion

We propose a new scheme of decomposed wavefield leastsquares reverse time migration, which effectively suppressed the P- and S-waves crosstalk artifacts. Since the first-order particle velocity-stress equation is not self-adjoint, we adopt a compound strategy to ensure that our algorithm is robust. In the processing of source wavefields vector decomposition, we transform the advantages of wavenumber domain-based wavefields vector decomposition method into time-space domain and improve the computational efficiency with minimal computational cost. Different from the method of source wavefields vector decomposition, in the process of adjoint-wavefield decomposition, we construct the shear component which is subtracted to separate P- and Swaves mode. The gradient of the decomposed wavefield least-squares reverse time migration was calculated using the separated P- and S-waves wavefields on both sides, and crosstalk-less gradients guarantee the accuracy of reflectivity imaging. Unlike ELSRTM, which is based on the decoupled wave equation method, our scheme produces correct results even when the P- and S-wave velocity models are uncorrelated and change dramatically. In addition, the physical significance of our new wavefield-decomposed ELSRTM scheme is clear.

#### Data availability statement

The raw data supporting the conclusions of this article will be made available by the authors, without undue reservation.

## Author contributions

WL contributed to the conception and design of the study. QD modified the manuscript. All authors contributed to manuscript revision and read and approved the submitted version.

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## **Conflict of interest**

Authors JZ and ZZ were employed by the R&D Center, Bureau of Geophysical Prospecting Inc.

The remaining authors declare that the research was conducted in the absence of any commercial or financial relationships that could be construed as a potential conflict of interest.

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