# Rotational Ground Motions: A New Observable for Seismology? 

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- What is rotation in seismology? (Why bother?)
- The ring laser instrument
- Broadband observations of rotations
- Peak rotation rates
- Waveform comparison with translations
- Horizontal phase velocities
- Love wave dispersion
- P -coda
- Array-derived vs. directly measured rotations
- Conclusions and future
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## Rotation is the curl of the wavefield

... it separates P - and S -wave in isotropic media


## Rotation from seismic arrays?

... by finite differencing ...


## Radiation from a double-couple point source



FIGURE 5 Cartesian and polar coordinate systems for analysis of radiation by a slip patch with area $A$ and average slip $\langle\Delta u(t)\rangle$.

Geometry we use to express the seismic wavefield radiated by point doublecouple source with area $A$ and slip $\Delta u$

Here the fault plane is the $x_{1} x_{2}$-plane and the slip is in $x_{1}-$ direction.

## Radiation from a point source



Near field term contains the static deformation

Intermediate terms

Far field terms: the main ingredient for source inversion, ray theory, etc.

Aki and Richards (2002)

## Radiation pattern

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \boldsymbol{A}^{N}=9 \sin 2 \theta \cos \phi \hat{\boldsymbol{r}}-6(\cos 2 \theta \cos \phi \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}-\cos \theta \sin \phi \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}}), \\
& \boldsymbol{A}^{I P}=4 \sin 2 \theta \cos \phi \hat{\boldsymbol{r}}-2(\cos 2 \theta \cos \phi \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}-\cos \theta \sin \phi \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}}), \\
& \boldsymbol{A}^{I S}=-3 \sin 2 \theta \cos \phi \hat{\boldsymbol{r}}+3(\cos 2 \theta \cos \phi \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}-\cos \theta \sin \phi \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}}), \\
& \boldsymbol{A}^{F P}=\sin 2 \theta \cos \phi \hat{\boldsymbol{r}}, \\
& \boldsymbol{A}^{F S}=\cos 2 \theta \cos \phi \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}-\cos \theta \sin \phi \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}},
\end{aligned}
$$

Far field $P$ - blue Far field S - red

Aki and Richards (2002)


## The rotational part

$$
\begin{aligned}
\boldsymbol{\omega}(\mathbf{x}, t) & =\frac{1}{2} \nabla \times \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{x}, t) \\
& =\frac{-\mathbf{A}^{R}}{8 \pi \rho}\left[\frac{3}{\beta^{2} r^{3}} M_{0}\left(t-\frac{r}{\beta}\right)+\frac{3}{\beta^{3} r^{2}} \dot{M}_{0}\left(t-\frac{r}{\beta}\right)+\frac{1}{\beta^{4} r} \ddot{M}_{0}\left(t-\frac{r}{\beta}\right)\right]
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\mathbf{A}^{R}=\cos \theta \sin \phi \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}+\cos \phi \cos 2 \theta \hat{\boldsymbol{\phi}}
$$

- Rotations are zero before $S$ arrival
- This includes the near field!
- Far-field P-rotation is not zero! Only the sum of all contributions cance!!

Cochard et al. (2006)

## Basic seismograms, full space



$$
\begin{aligned}
& \boldsymbol{u}(\boldsymbol{x}, t)=\frac{1}{4 \pi \rho} \boldsymbol{A}^{N} \frac{1}{r^{4}} \int_{r / v_{P}}^{r / v_{S}} \tau M_{0}(t-\tau) d \tau \\
& +\frac{1}{4 \pi \rho v_{P}^{2}} A^{I P} \frac{1}{r^{2}} M_{0}\left(t-r / v_{P}\right) \\
& +\frac{1}{4 \pi \rho v_{S}^{2}} A^{I S} \frac{1}{r^{2}} M_{0}\left(t-r / v_{S}\right) \\
& +\frac{1}{4 \pi \rho v_{P}^{3}} A^{F P} \frac{1}{r} \dot{M}_{0}\left(t-r / v_{P}\right) \\
& +\frac{1}{4 \pi \rho v_{S}^{3}} A^{F S} \frac{1}{r} \dot{M}_{0}\left(t-r / v_{S}\right) . \\
& \text {... in the far field ... } \\
& \ddot{u}^{F S}=\frac{1}{4 \pi \rho v_{s}^{3} r} \dddot{M}_{0}\left(t-r / v_{s}\right) \\
& \varpi^{F}=-\frac{1}{8 \pi \rho v_{s}^{4} r} \dddot{M}_{0}\left(t-r / v_{s}\right) \\
& \frac{\ddot{u}^{F S}}{\ddot{\varpi}^{F}}=-2 v_{s}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Rotations - why bother?

- Standard seismological observations are polluted by rotations
- Tiltmeters (rotation around horizontal axes) are polluted by translations
- Rotations may contribute to co-seismic structural damage

Instruments

Earthquake engineering

- Rotational measurements my provide additional wavefield information (phase velocities, etc)
- ... and may allow further constraints on rupture


## $A+R$ 's view ...


> "The state-of-the-art sensitivity of the general rotation-sensor is not yet enough for a useful geophysical application" (Aki and Richards, Quantitative Seismology, 1980)
> ..... note the utility of measuring rotation near a rupturing fault plane (...), but as of this writing seismology still awaits a suitable instrument for making such measurements" (Aki and
> Richards, Quantitative
> Seismology, 2nd edition 2002)


## Previous studies

## Schreiber, Stedman, and co-workers

Ring laser technology New Zealand and Germany

Takeo and co-workers
Gyroscopic rotation sensor, theoretical work

Nigbor and co-workers
rotational sensor and observation of rotational motion of nuclear blast

Teisseyre and co-workers
mechanical rotational sensor and observation of local events

it seems that only optical technology provides the required high resolution for (tele-)seismic measurements

## The ring laser at Wettzell

## Fundamentalstation Wettzell



## How can we observe rotations? <br> -> ring laser



Ring laser technology developed by the groups at the Technical University Munich and the University of Christchurch, NZ

## The Sagnac Frequency

 (schematically)Sagnac frequency sampled with 800 Hz

Rotation rate sampled with 4 Hz
Tiny changes in the Sagnac frequencies are extracted to obtain the time series with rotation rate $\Delta f \rightarrow \Theta$

## Ring laser - the principle



A surface of the ring laser (vector)
$\Omega$ imposed rotation rate (Earth's rotation + earthquake +...)
$\lambda$ laser wavelength (e.g. 633 nm )
Pperimeter (e.g. 4-16m)
$\Delta f$ Sagnac frequency (e.g. $287,3 \mathrm{~Hz}$ sampled at 800 Hz )

## Ring laser - resolution



$$
\Delta f_{\text {Sagnac }}=\frac{4 \Omega \cdot \mathbf{A}}{\lambda P}
$$

| Area $\mathrm{m}^{2}$ | $\mathrm{f}_{\text {Segnce }}(\mathrm{Hz})$ | Resolution <br> $\mathrm{rad} / \mathrm{s}$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | 79.4 | $4.810^{-10}$ |
| 16 | 338.6 |  |
| $3.10^{-11}$ |  |  |
| 366 | 1512.8 | $7.310^{-12}$ |

After Schreiber et al., 2002
... ring lasers are used in any commercial airplanes for stabilizing ...

## Effects of tilt on rotational measurements


... before presenting observations ...

- ... the ring laser should be sensitive to SH type motion only (S waves, Love waves) ...
- ... P-waves (or Rayleigh waves) should no $\dagger$ lead to a signal (except via tilt coupling) ...
- ... Rotation rate and transverse acceleration should be in phase ...
- ... their amplitude ratio should be twice the local phase velocity - assuming plane non-dispersive transversely polarized wave propagation ...


## Theoretical relation rotation rate and transverse acceleration plane-wave propagation

Plane transversely polarized wave propagating in $x$-direction with phase velocity

$$
u_{y}(x, t)=f(k x-\omega t) \quad c=\omega / k
$$

Acceleration

$$
a_{y}(x, t)=\ddot{u}_{y}(x, t)=\omega^{2} f^{\prime \prime}(k x-\omega t)
$$

Rotation rate

$$
\Omega(x, t)=\frac{1}{2} \nabla \times\left[0, \dot{u}_{y}, 0\right]=\left[0,-\frac{1}{2} k \omega f^{\prime \prime}(k x-\omega t), 0\right]
$$

$$
a(x, t) / \Omega(x, t)=-2 c
$$

Rotation rate and acceleration should be in phase and the amplitudes scaled by two times the horizontal phase velocity

## Data base 2003 + 2004

| Date | Time (UTC) | Lat $\left({ }^{\circ}\right)$ | Lon $\left({ }^{\circ}\right)$ | Mag(L, $, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{S}, \mathbf{w})$ | Region |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $21 / 05 / 03$ | $18: 44: 20$ | 36.964 | 003.634 | 6.9 | Algeria |
| $26 / 05 / 03$ | $09: 24: 33$ | 38.849 | 141.568 | 7.0 | Honshu |
| $06 / 07 / 03$ | $19: 10: 33$ | 40.340 | 026.070 | 5.7 | Turkey |
| $14 / 08 / 03$ | $05: 14: 55$ | 39.193 | 020.741 | 6.3 | Greece |
| $25 / 09 / 03$ | $19: 50: 06$ | 41.781 | 143.903 | 8.3 | Hokkaido |
| $27 / 09 / 03$ | $11: 33: 24$ | 50.012 | 087.824 | 7.5 | Siberia |
| $27 / 09 / 03$ | $18: 52: 53$ | 50.060 | 087.690 | 6.6 | Siberia |
| $01 / 10 / 03$ | $01: 03: 25$ | 50.218 | 087.685 | 7.1 | Siberia |
| $08 / 10 / 03$ | $09: 07: 01$ | 42.480 | 144.820 | 6.7 | Hokkaido |
| $31 / 10 / 03$ | $01: 06: 40$ | 37.890 | 142.680 | 7.0 | Honshu |
| $17 / 11 / 03$ | $06: 43: 31$ | 51.140 | 177.860 | 7.8 | Rat Island |
| $26 / 12 / 03$ | $01: 56: 58$ | 29.100 | 058.240 | 6.8 | Iran |
| $05 / 02 / 04$ | $21: 05: 12$ | -03.620 | 135.530 | 7.1 | Irian Jaya |
| $07 / 02 / 04$ | $02: 42: 43$ | -04.030 | 134.780 | 7.5 | Irian Java |
| $24 / 02 / 04$ | $02: 27: 53$ | 35.290 | -003.840 | 6.4 | Gibraltar |
| $17 / 03 / 04$ | $03: 21: 12$ | -21.100 | -065.560 | 6.1 | Bolivia |
| $05 / 04 / 04$ | $21: 24: 06$ | 36.590 | 070.850 | 6.6 | Afghanistan |
| $28 / 05 / 04$ | $12: 38: 50$ | 36.520 | 051.810 | 6.4 | Iran |
| $29 / 05 / 04$ | $20: 56: 14$ | 34.220 | 141.790 | 6.6 | Honshu |
| $05 / 12 / 04$ | $01: 52: 37$ | 48.120 | 008.080 | 5.0 | Germany |
| $26 / 12 / 04$ | $00: 58: 53$ | 03.300 | 095.980 | 9.0 | Sumatra |

## 4C recordings - raw data

$\mathrm{Mw}=8.3$ Tokachi-oki earthquake 25.09.2003 19:50:38.2 GMT Lat= 42.21 Lon= 143.84


Compatibility with MS (surface wave magnitude) $\mathrm{T}=30 \mathrm{~s}, \mathrm{c}=4300 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{s}$

$$
M_{S}=\log _{10} \frac{A}{T}+1.66 \log _{10} D+3.3
$$

$$
\Omega_{z}=2 \frac{\pi^{2}}{c T^{2}} A\left(M_{S}, D\right)=2 \frac{\pi^{2}}{c T} 10^{M_{s}-1.66 \log _{10} D-9.3}
$$



## Rotational data base

 events with varying distance transverse acceleration - rotation rate

## $M w=8.3$ Tokachi-oki 25.09.2003 transverse acceleration-rotation rate



From Igel et al., GRL, 2005

## Max. cross-corr. coefficient in sliding time window transverse acceleration - rotation rate



Small tele-seismic event

## Spectral element modeling of 3D global wave propagation

Cubed Sphere Chunk Partitioning


Tromp and Komatitsch, 2003

## M8.3 Tokachi-oki, 25 September 2003

 phase velocities (+ observations, o theory)

Horizontal phase velocity in sliding time window

From Igel et al. (GRL, 2005)

## Real vs. Synthetics: Papua event



Cochard et al., 2006

## $M w=8.3$ Tokachi-oki 25.09.2003 transverse acceleration - rotation rate narrow band-pass filtering



## $M w=6.3$ Greece 14.08.2003 transverse acceleration - rotation rate narrow band-pass filtering

## (s) <br> dominant period increasing



## Rotational seismograms Synthetics and Observations

M8.3 Hokkaido, 25 September 2003 (recorded in Wettzell, Germany)



## Phase velocity determination

... by dividing accelerations by rotation rates in a sliding window ...
... point measurement!



Note the decreasing velocities with time (and increasing frequency)

## Phase velocity determination

... by dividing accelerations by rotation rates in a sliding window ...
... point measurement!



## Restitute your broadband seismograms! transverse acceleration - rotation rate

Before restitution


## Restitute your broadband seismograms! transverse acceleration - rotation rate

After restitution

... an independent confirmation of the quality of the restitution processing ...

## Phase velocity determination <br> ... by calculating spectral ratios ...



## Stacked spectral ratios

 ... accurate enough for structural inversion ...?

## Direction of propagation of transversely polarized energy



Estimated BAZ: $64^{\circ}$; Theoretical BAZ: $59^{\circ}$


Max. cross-corr. coeff. as a function of time and propagation direction

## Direction of propagation of transversely polarized energy



Estimated BAZ: $118^{\circ}$; Theoretical BAZ: $128^{\circ}$


Max. cross-corr. coeff. as a function of time and propagation direction

## Rotational signals in the P-coda???



## Array measurements

Dec 2003-Mar 2004


A quick-and-dirty experiment


Before restitution



Uniformity of rotation rate across array


## Effects of noise on array-derived rotation: Phase uncertainty





## First comparison of array-derived rotations (black) and direct ring laser measurements (red)



From Suryanto et al (2005, BSSA, submitted)

## Summary seismic ground rotations

- Yes, we do have a new observable for broadband seismology, that is consistent in phase and amplitude with collocated recordings of translations
- The joint observations allow seismic array-type processing steps (but array-free!)
- A prototype sensor designed for seismology has been installed at Pinon Flat, CA
- A less sensitive (portable) sensor for near source studies and applications in earthquake engineering is planned.

Next steps:

- Further comparison with array observations (phase velocities)
- Love-wave dispersion, how accurate? -> Tomography?
- Understanding observations in data base in terms of structure, anisotropy, source, etc.


Only 160€!

Info and (p)reprints:
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