## Active and passive elastography: a medical imaging tool of elastic waves

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#### Part I: Overview of elastography



Experimental movie of the z component of the displacements



#### Example of inclusions in gels





Brevet n° FR99 03157 déposé le 16 Mars 1999 : "Imagerie sismique des ondes de cisaillement", Laurent Sandrin, Mickael Tanter, Stefan Catheline, Mathias Fink

#### Echosens (2003): le Fibroscan



#### Now: Philips, Siemens...

#### **Supersonic Imagine (2008): l'Aixplorer**





#### Sonoelasticity in soft tissues

#### IMAGING SYSTEM OF PRECISE HARDNESS DISTRIBUTION IN SOFT TISSUE IN VIVO USING FORCED VIBRATION AND ULTRASONIC DETECTION

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Acoustical Imaging **21**, 253 (1994)

Fig. 1. Propagating velocity of the low frequency vibration. (a) Traditional formulation calculated from Eq. (2), New formulation calculated for two kinds of attachments ((b) r=25 and (c) 35mm) and the experimental results obtained in the setup shown in Fig. 3.



## What is learnt at school about shear and compression waves

Elastic wave equation 
$$(\lambda + 2\mu)\vec{\nabla}(\vec{\nabla}\vec{u}) - \mu\vec{\nabla}\wedge\vec{\nabla}\wedge\vec{u} - \rho\frac{\partial^2\vec{u}}{\partial t^2} = \vec{0} \xrightarrow{\text{Math/Physics}} (\lambda + 2\mu)\vec{grad}.div \vec{u} - \mu \vec{rot} \vec{rot}.\vec{u} - \rho\frac{\partial^2\vec{u}}{\partial t^2} = \vec{0}$$

Separation in 2 independent wave equations

• 
$$\overrightarrow{rot}.\vec{u} = \vec{0}$$
  $\overrightarrow{grad}.div\,\vec{u} - \frac{1}{C_P^2}\frac{\partial^2 \vec{u}}{\partial t^2} = \vec{0}$  with  $C_P = \sqrt{\frac{\lambda + 2\mu}{\rho}}$ 

Rotational-free strain (without rotation)

• 
$$\overrightarrow{div.\vec{u}=0}$$
  $-\overrightarrow{rot}.\overrightarrow{rot}\,\vec{u}-\frac{1}{C_s^2}\frac{\partial^2\vec{u}}{\partial t^2}=\vec{0}$  with  $C_s=\sqrt{\frac{\mu}{\rho}}$ 

Divergence-free strain

(without change of volume)

$$\frac{\partial^2 u_x}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u_x}{\partial z^2} - \frac{1}{C_s^2} \frac{\partial^2 u_x}{\partial t^2} = 0$$
Harmonic plane wave decomposition
$$\frac{\partial^2 u_y}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u_y}{\partial z^2} - \frac{1}{C_s^2} \frac{\partial^2 u_y}{\partial t^2} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 u_z}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u_z}{\partial y^2} - \frac{1}{C_s^2} \frac{\partial^2 u_z}{\partial t^2} = 0$$
Harmonic plane wave decomposition
$$-k_x^2 u_y - k_z^2 u_x + (\frac{\omega}{C_s})^2 u_x = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 u_z}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u_z}{\partial y^2} - \frac{1}{C_s^2} \frac{\partial^2 u_z}{\partial t^2} = 0$$
The shear wave is transverse
$$-k_x^2 u_z - k_y^2 u_z + (\frac{\omega}{C_s})^2 u_z = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 u_z}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u_z}{\partial y^2} - \frac{1}{C_s^2} \frac{\partial^2 u_z}{\partial t^2} = 0$$

### The importance of the source term

Full elastic wave equation 
$$(\lambda + 2\mu) \overrightarrow{grad} \cdot div \vec{u} - \mu \overrightarrow{rot} \overrightarrow{rot} \cdot \vec{u} - \rho \frac{\partial^2 \vec{u}}{\partial t^2} = \delta(\vec{r}) \delta(t) \vec{n}$$

Separation in 2 independent wave equations Much trickier

The complete solution was first given by Stockes in 1849. ("Quantitative seismology" Aki & Richards, "Waves in elastic solids" Achenbach...) The Green's function is:

$$G_{mn}(\mathbf{0},\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\rho\alpha^{2}} \frac{\gamma_{m}\gamma_{n}}{r} e^{iqr} + \frac{1}{4\pi\rho\beta^{2}} \frac{\delta_{mn} - \gamma_{m}\gamma_{n}}{r} e^{ikr} + \frac{1}{4\pi\rho} \frac{3\gamma_{m}\gamma_{n} - \delta_{mn}}{r^{3}} \left[ \frac{e^{ikr}}{i\omega} \left( \frac{r}{\beta} - \frac{1}{i\omega} \right) - \frac{e^{iqr}}{i\omega} \left( \frac{r}{\alpha} - \frac{1}{i\omega} \right) \right]$$

$$\mathbf{L}$$

$$\mathbf{Wave}$$

$$G_{mn}(\mathbf{0},\mathbf{r}) = G_{mn}^{L}(\vec{0},\vec{r}) + G_{mn}^{T}(\vec{0},\vec{r}) + G_{mn}^{NF}(\vec{0},\vec{r})$$

The far-field culture dominates wave physics, specially in ultrasounds. But, in seismology and in elastography, the near field cannot be avoided.

The near field term is responsible for the longitudinal shear wave. Commercial applications by Echosens for the liver fibrosis started in 2003.

## The pulsed approach and the Green's function solids

**Numerical simulation of the Green 's function** (Gakenheimer & Miklowitz)

Longitudinal component : u<sub>z</sub>

Central frequency: 200 Hz



### **Theory versus experiment**



## Questions

$$G_{mn}(\mathbf{0},\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\rho\alpha^{2}} \frac{\gamma_{m}\gamma_{n}}{r} e^{iqr} + \frac{1}{4\pi\rho\beta^{2}} \frac{\delta_{mn} - \gamma_{m}\gamma_{n}}{r} e^{ikr} + \frac{1}{4\pi\rho} \frac{3\gamma_{m}\gamma_{n} - \delta_{mn}}{r^{3}} \left[ \frac{e^{ikr}}{i\omega} \left( \frac{r}{\beta} - \frac{1}{i\omega} \right) - \frac{e^{iqr}}{i\omega} \left( \frac{r}{\alpha} - \frac{1}{i\omega} \right) \right]$$

$$\mathbf{L}$$

$$\mathbf{Wave}$$

$$G_{mn}(\mathbf{0},\mathbf{r}) = G_{mn}^{L}(\vec{0},\vec{r}) + G_{mn}^{T}(\vec{0},\vec{r}) + G_{mn}^{NF}(\vec{0},\vec{r})$$

Questions: 
$$\begin{cases} div \ G^{NF} \neq 0 \\ \overrightarrow{rot} G^{NF} \neq \vec{0} \end{cases}$$

The near field term is not rotational-free neither divergence free. This is why it is sometimes called coupling term. ?#1 Is the longitudinal shear wave really a shear wave? ?#2

$$\overrightarrow{rot} G^{L} = \frac{e^{iqr}}{4\pi\rho\alpha^{2}r^{2}} \left[ \gamma_{1}\hat{\mathbf{1}} + \gamma_{2}\hat{\mathbf{2}} \right] \neq 0$$
  
$$div G^{T} = \frac{-e^{ikr}}{4\pi\rho\alpha^{2}r^{2}} \gamma_{2} \neq 0$$

$$\frac{-e^{ikr}}{4\pi\rho\beta^2r^2}\gamma_3\neq 0$$

The L-wave slightly rotates: it is not a P-wave

The T-wave slightly dilates: it is not a S-wave

?#3

# The importance of the near field term

Separation in 2 independent near field terms

$$G_{mn}^{NFP}(\mathbf{0},\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\rho} \frac{3\gamma_m\gamma_n - \delta_{mn}}{r^3} \frac{e^{iqr}}{i\omega} \left(\frac{r}{\alpha} - \frac{1}{i\omega}\right)$$
$$G_{mn}^{NFS}(\mathbf{0},\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{4\pi\rho} \frac{3\gamma_m\gamma_n - \delta_{mn}}{r^3} \frac{e^{ikr}}{i\omega} \left(\frac{r}{\beta} - \frac{1}{i\omega}\right)$$

The residuals can be perfectly compensated for by the near field term

$$\begin{cases} div(G^{T} + G^{NFS}) = 0\\ \overrightarrow{rot}(G^{L} + G^{NFP}) = \vec{0} \end{cases}$$

The two terms Green's function is:

$$G_{mn}(\mathbf{0},\mathbf{r}) = \underbrace{G_{mn}^{L} + G_{mn}^{NFP}}_{P} + \underbrace{G_{mn}^{T} + G_{mn}^{NFS}}_{S} = G_{mn}^{P} + G_{mn}^{S}$$

- The P-wave is the rotational-free solution of the wave equation but is composed of a longitudinal term and a near field term.
- The S-wave is the divergence-free solution of the wave equation but is composed of transverse term and a near field term.

Because the near field term can be split into a shear term and a compression term, there is no reason to call it "coupling".

Let's take a look at the near field terms.

### The elastic Green's function

Numerical computation of a solid with  $C_p=2000$ m.s<sup>-1</sup> and  $C_s=1000$ m.s<sup>-1</sup>, the central frequency pulse is 1MHz.



## Zoom #1: The longitudinal shear wave



## Zoom #1: The longitudinal shear wave

- Direction parallel to the source  $\theta=0$ 
  - Longitudinal polarization
- ?#2
- This longitudinal shear wave deserves its name, it is indeed a shear wave. More precisely it is the near field part of the shear wave.
- → Yamakoshi and Sato had the right intuition.
- This longitudinal shear wave is divergence-free and curl-free. However, the strain tensor is still non-zero.

### The elastic Green's function

Numerical computation of a solid with  $C_p=2000$ m.s<sup>-1</sup> and  $C_s=1000$ m.s<sup>-1</sup>, the central frequency pulse is 1MHz.



### Zoom #2: The transverse dilatation wave



x<sub>3</sub> (mm)

## Zoom #2: The transverse dilatation wave

- Direction perpendicular to the source  $\theta = \pi/2$  transversally polarized
  - This transverse dilatational wave is described for the first time
     It is curl-free, divergence-free

S. Catheline and N.Benech Longitudinal shear wave and transverse dilatational wave in solids J. Acoust. Soc. Am. **137**, EL200 (2015).



### Shear waves induced by Lorentz force in soft tissues

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![](_page_20_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_20_Picture_4.jpeg)

## **Passive elastography approach**

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#### The diffuse field approach: finite difference simulation

![](_page_22_Figure_1.jpeg)

z (cm)

#### The diffuse field approach

![](_page_23_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_23_Figure_2.jpeg)

Key for speed extraction=TR

TR=spatio-temporal correlation (coda wave interferometry)

![](_page_24_Figure_3.jpeg)

S.Catheline, N. Benech, X. Brum, and C. Negreira, *Phys.Rev.Letter.* **100**, 064301 (2008). T.Gallot, S. Catheline, P. Roux, J. Brum, N. Benech, C. Negreira, *IEEE UFFC*, vol.58,6,p.1122 (2011)

![](_page_24_Figure_5.jpeg)

![](_page_25_Figure_0.jpeg)

 $F_{sampling}$ =1000Hz

# Over sampling

![](_page_26_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_27_Figure_0.jpeg)

T.Gallot, S. Catheline, P. Roux, J. Brum, N. Benech, C. Negreira Passive elastography: Shear wave tomography from physiological noise correlation in soft tissues

 $\Phi(t)$ 

Arbitrary unit

-1

1

IEEE Transactions on UFFC, vol. 58, no. 6, June 2011.

![](_page_27_Figure_3.jpeg)

![](_page_28_Figure_0.jpeg)

 $F_{sampling} = 25Hz$ 

## Under sampling

![](_page_29_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_30_Figure_0.jpeg)

# Elasticity imaging: under sampling experiments

![](_page_31_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_32_Figure_0.jpeg)

Is it always true? Not sure. Bar, plate, string

 $G^{plate}(0,x) = \frac{ic^2}{8\omega^2} [j_0(kr) + N_0(kr) - j_0(i\gamma r) - iN_0(i\gamma r)] \qquad \qquad G^{bar}(0,x) = \frac{ic^3}{4\omega^3} e^{ikx} \qquad \qquad G^{string}(0,x) = i\frac{c}{2\omega} e^{ikx}$ 

MRI Results to be coming...