Calculating both S waves in weakly anisotropic structures using coupling ray theory along a single ray

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Coupling and splitting of S waves in an anisotropic medium

Isotropic ray theory Anisotropic ray theory Coupling ray theory



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### Isotropic ray theory

- assumes equal velocities of both S waves => 1 S wave ray
- S-wave polarization vectors do not rotate about the ray
- applicable to isotropic and very weakly anisotropic media
- Anisotropic ray theory
- Coupling ray theory



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### Isotropic ray theory

- assumes equal velocities of both S waves => one S wave ray
- S-wave polarization vectors do not rotate about the ray
- applicable to isotropic and very weakly anisotropic media

### Anisotropic ray theory

- assumes both S waves strictly decoupled => two S1 and S2 rays
- S-wave polarization vectors coincide with the eigenvectors of the Christoffel matrix and may rotate rapidly about the ray
- always applicable to P waves
- applicable to S waves in strongly anisotropic media
- Coupling ray theory



## Isotropic ray theory

## Anisotropic ray theory

## Coupling ray theory (Coates & Chapman 1990)

- coupled frequency-dependent S waves calculated along one reference ray
- S-wave polarization vectors tend to remain unrotated about the ray, but are partially attracted by the rotation of the eigenvectors of the Christoffel matrix
- applicable to isotropy and to all degrees of anisotropy
- low-frequency limit: Isotropic ray theory
- high-frequency limit: Anisotropic ray theory



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## S-wave polarization vector along a ray:





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# Numerical example

Synthetic seismograms calculated by the three methods in vertically heterogeneous 1-D models of different degrees of anisotropy.



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### Vertically heterogeneous 1-D anisotropic models



ELSMIC WAVES IN COMPLEX 5 D

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### Vertically heterogeneous 1-D anisotropic models



S-wave anisotropy: 0% 1.7% 3.4% 6.7% 13.1%



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#### Isotropic ray theory seismograms in model QIH (calculated in QI0)











# Anisotropic ray theory seismograms in model QIH













#### Coupling ray theory seismograms in model QIH



#### radial





#### transverse



### Seismograms in model QIH transverse component



### Isotropic





#### Anisotropic



#### Coupling ray theory seismograms, transverse component



#### Coupling ray theory seismograms, transverse component

#### rotation of polarization



Coupling ray theory seismograms, transverse component

### rotation of polarization

#### shear-wave splitting





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- Coupling ray theory is easy to apply
- For both S waves, only one common reference ray is needed (lower computational costs, no problems with S-wave singularities)
- Coupling ray theory may be derived from coupling ray series similarly as standard anisotropic ray theory from standard ray series

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