

Introduction to 3D Dynamic Rupture and Seismic Wave Propagation Simulations with SeisSol

Website: www.seissol.org

GitHub: <https://github.com/SeisSol/SeisSol>

Documentation: <https://seissol.readthedocs.io>

[SeisSol's Code of Conduct](#)

**Instructors & Assistance: Alice-Agnes Gabriel, Fabian Kutschera,
Gabrielle Hobson, Vikas Kurapati, Mathilde Marchandon, David
Schneller, Thomas Ulrich**

Observationally constrained fully
dynamic, physics-based earthquake
simulation of the 2016 Kaikoura, NZ,
multi-fault earthquake (Ulrich et al.,
Nat. Comms., 2019.)

Welcome!

3D Dynamic Rupture and Seismic Wave Propagation Simulations with SeisSol



www.seissol.org

Morning Session, 9:00 - 10:00 am

- **Hands-on Introduction to SeisSol**

(Prof. Dr. habil. Alice-Agnes Gabriel, UC San Diego & LMU Munich)

- **SeisSol Installation tutorial**

(David Schneller & Vikas Kurapati, PhD students, TUM)

- **How to Quakeworx - A Science Gateway running the SeisSol App**

(Fabian Kutschera, PhD student, UC San Diego)

Welcome!

3D Dynamic Rupture and Seismic Wave Propagation Simulations with SeisSol



www.seissol.org

Afternoon Session, 12:00 - 14:00

- Meshing using GMSH (Dr. Gabrielle Hobson, PostDoc, UC San Diego)
- My First 3D Dynamic Rupture Simulation - a supershear normal faulting earthquake with off-fault plastic deformation (SCEC community benchmark TPV12/13) (Dr. Mathilde Marchandon, PostDoc, LMU Munich)
- 3D dynamic rupture simulations of the complex 2016, Kaikoura, New Zealand, earthquake (Dr. Thomas Ulrich, PostDoc, LMU Munich)
- A fully coupled, 3D earthquake-tsunami simulation, "The Tsunami Problem Version" TTPV1 & TTPV2 (Fabian Kutschera, PhD student, UCSD)

Welcome!

3D Dynamic Rupture and Seismic Wave Propagation Simulations with SeisSol



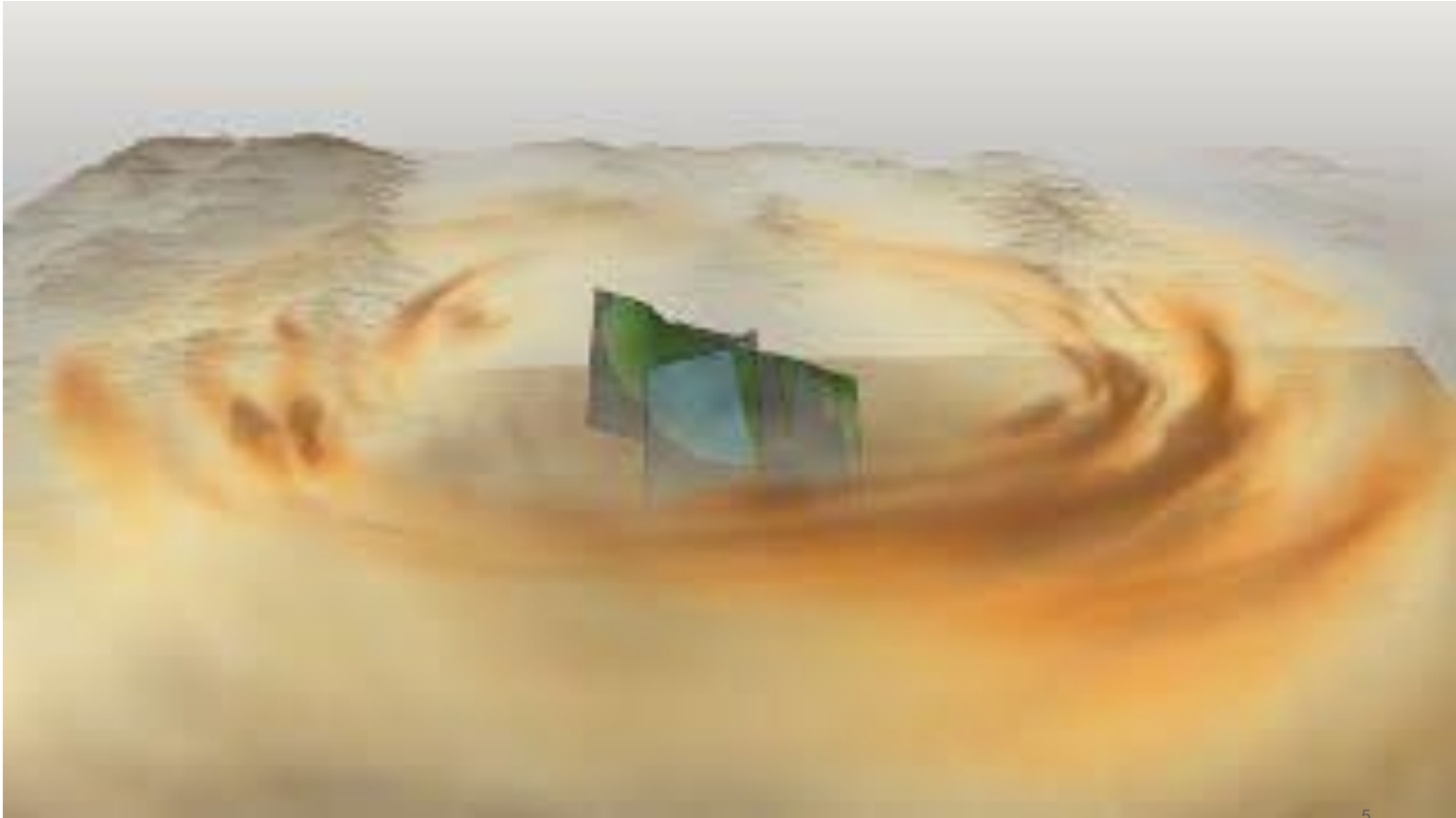
www.seissol.org

You can find many more & longer SeisSol tutorials online, incl. YouTube recordings!

- Quakeworx Kick-off: Advancing Earthquake Science and Cybertraining in Seismology:
<https://quakeworx.org/events/quakeworx-kick-off-workshop>
- HPS/Scoped Cybertraining 2024:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0hI18PQmdr0&list=PLNj_YjCqziQJZU2DbrL3Ac-6weGUWsEhd&pp=iAQB
- HPS/SCEC Cybertraining 2023:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WeZ2vJxBuTg&list=PLNj_YjCqziQJXCJ5Mw4DlCZ2iuGvnY6fJ&pp=iAQB
- Past ChEESE SeisSol trainings:
https://cheese-coe.eu/sites/default/files/uploaded/2021_SeisSol_ChEESE_Training.pdf

Hands-on Introduction to SeisSol

3D dynamic rupture models of the 2019 Ridgecrest earthquakes
Taufiqurrahman et al., Nature'23 . Visualization of 15 TB of
volumetric simulation data on unstructured tetrahedral meshes on
Frontera, Abrams et al., SC'23, [[YouTube](#)]



Installation Pathways

- Manual (“from source”)
 - Compile all dependencies by yourself
 - Full control, but takes time
 - Good option for development
 - Works well on supercomputers as a fallback

For more infos, see the docs:

<https://seissol.readthedocs.io/en/latest/build-overview.html>

If you want to build SeisSol from source during the training, **let us know and we'll help.**

Installation Pathways

- Spack
 - One command to install SeisSol and dependencies
 - `spack install seissol equations=elastic convergence_order=4`
 - Sometimes tricky to use
 - Duplicate or system dependencies
 - Outdated dependencies
 - Compiler/package issues
 - Good middle ground for supercomputers

See the spack package documentation (<https://packages.spack.io/package.html?name=seissol>) for a full list of options.

Installation Pathways

- Docker
 - “Quickstart” option
 - (mostly) OS independent
 - Good for testing on local machines
 - Contains sample scenarios
 - Not available on supercomputers – apptainer as alternative
 - Performance can reach native level

Main method for today (after Quakeworx).

Download (“pull”) the Docker container

docker pull seissol/training

```
vikas-kurapati@vikas-kurapati-ThinkPad-X13-Yoga-Gen-4:~$ doc^C
vikas-kurapati@vikas-kurapati-ThinkPad-X13-Yoga-Gen-4:~$ docker pull seissol/training
Using default tag: latest
latest: Pulling from seissol/training
803207f66405: Pull complete
ffac0f7790db: Pull complete
089cc1dca342: Pull complete
3bcbf93ac676: Pull complete
beeead80e404: Pull complete
4191750dc5c4: Pull complete
4f4fb700ef54: Pull complete
99babba68895: Pull complete
c495697e1d91: Pull complete
a0b9fa226597: Pull complete
976a914490c5: Pull complete
1505ba9d53f1: Pull complete
a173928edc34: Pull complete
b588815469eb: Pull complete
eb8e437e9299: Pull complete
3061e67614d9: Pull complete
369ff36b0acb: Pull complete
5961ca8625cd: Pull complete
18c1e33d91a5: Pull complete
c0275150c013: Pull complete
17e401ceb864: Pull complete
f4e0b958b358: Pull complete
a8b1c5f80c2d: Pull complete
e106ccb783fb: Pull complete
dd8a85d9fbcd: Pull complete
78edef37b6d7: Pull complete
335a8f3a959e: Pull complete
b8716e757863: Pull complete
6459c66149e8: Pull complete
716620322542: Pull complete
364e3c75f43c: Pull complete
133c7e33fb75: Pull complete
1825a8c4e022: Pull complete
9c70983ec031: Pull complete
43375ca4591b: Pull complete
1fbcd59d76a7: Pull complete
800afe8ccf41: Pull complete
3e845f54f97f: Pull complete
Digest: sha256:873abe5198ae0708b82999ac31d69dd4144d0527645d7dc9cd393d125097fdaa
Status: Downloaded newer image for seissol/training:latest
docker.io/seissol/training:latest
vikas-kurapati@vikas-kurapati-ThinkPad-X13-Yoga-Gen-4:~$
```

Run the Docker container

docker run -p 53155:53155 seissol/training

```
vikas-kurapati@vikas-kurapati-ThinkPad-X13-Yoga-Gen-4:~$ docker run -p 53155:53155 seissol/training
+ export DISPLAY=:99.0
+ DISPLAY=:99.0
+ export PYVISTA_OFF_SCREEN=true
+ PYVISTA_OFF_SCREEN=true
+ export PYVISTA_USE_IPYVTK=true
+ PYVISTA_USE_IPYVTK=true
+ which Xvfb
/usr/bin/Xvfb
+ sleep 3
+ Xvfb :99 -screen 0 1024x768x24
+ set +x
[I 2026-06-08 08:50:52.781 ServerApp] jupyter_lsp | extension was successfully linked.
[I 2026-06-08 08:50:52.784 ServerApp] jupyter_server_terminals | extension was successfully linked.
[I 2026-06-08 08:50:52.787 ServerApp] jupyterlab | extension was successfully linked.
[I 2026-06-08 08:50:52.790 ServerApp] notebook | extension was successfully linked.
[I 2026-06-08 08:50:52.792 ServerApp] Writing Jupyter server cookie secret to /home/scoped/.local/share/jupyter/runtime/jupyter_cookie_secret
[I 2026-06-08 08:50:52.919 ServerApp] notebook_shim | extension was successfully linked.
[I 2026-06-08 08:50:52.919 ServerApp] panel.io.jupyter_server_extension | extension was successfully linked.
[I 2026-06-08 08:50:52.938 ServerApp] notebook_shim | extension was successfully loaded.
[I 2026-06-08 08:50:52.942 ServerApp] jupyter_lsp | extension was successfully loaded.
[I 2026-06-08 08:50:52.943 ServerApp] jupyter_server_terminals | extension was successfully loaded.
[I 2026-06-08 08:50:52.946 LabApp] JupyterLab extension loaded from /opt/conda/lib/python3.10/site-packages/jupyterlab
[I 2026-06-08 08:50:52.946 LabApp] JupyterLab application directory is /opt/conda/share/jupyter/lab
[I 2026-06-08 08:50:52.946 LabApp] Extension Manager is 'pypi'.
[I 2026-06-08 08:50:52.963 ServerApp] jupyterlab | extension was successfully loaded.
[I 2026-06-08 08:50:52.967 ServerApp] notebook | extension was successfully loaded.
[I 2026-06-08 08:50:52.969 ServerApp] panel.io.jupyter_server_extension | extension was successfully loaded.
[I 2026-06-08 08:50:52.969 ServerApp] Serving notebooks from local directory: /home/training
[I 2026-06-08 08:50:52.969 ServerApp] Jupyter Server 2.14.0 is running at:
[I 2026-06-08 08:50:52.969 ServerApp] http://12d997be3762:53155/lab?token=7f42627c410434b9f098a53625c503480299ff6e65ccae8b
[I 2026-06-08 08:50:52.969 ServerApp] http://127.0.0.1:53155/lab?token=7f42627c410434b9f098a53625c503480299ff6e65ccae8b
[I 2026-06-08 08:50:52.969 ServerApp] Use Control-C to stop this server and shut down all kernels (twice to skip confirmation).
[C 2026-06-08 08:50:52.972 ServerApp]
```

To access the server, open this file in a browser:

file:///home/scoped/.local/share/jupyter/runtime/jpserver-19-open.html

Or copy and paste one of these URLs:

<http://12d997be3762:53155/lab?token=7f42627c410434b9f098a53625c503480299ff6e65ccae8b>

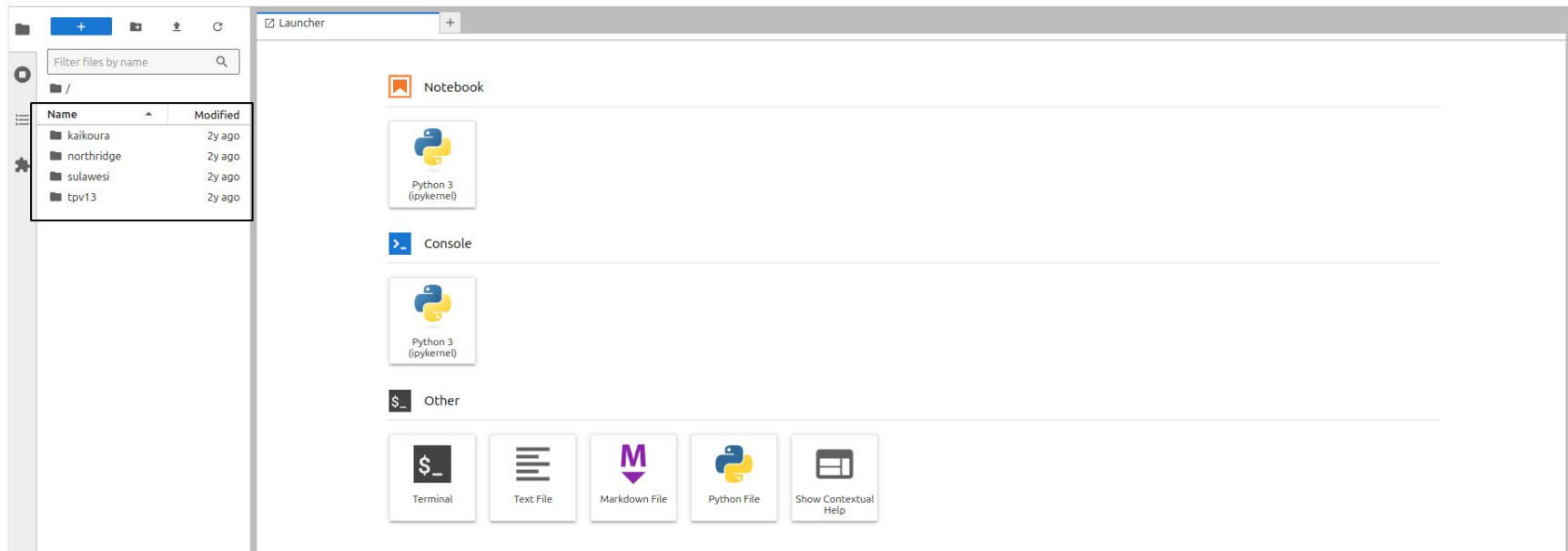
<http://127.0.0.1:53155/lab?token=7f42627c410434b9f098a53625c503480299ff6e65ccae8b>

```
[I 2026-06-08 08:50:53.578 ServerApp] Skipped non-installed server(s): bash-language-server, dockerfile-language-server-nodejs, javascript-typescript-langserver, jedi-language-server, julia-language-server, pyright, python-language-server, python-lsp-server, r-languageserver, sql-language-server, texlab, typescript-language-server, unified-language-server, vscode-css-languageserver-bin, vscode-html-languageserver-bin, vscode-json-languageserver-bin, yamll-language-server
```

Jumping to the notebooks...

Enter in your webbrowser (cf. the previous screen—leave that one also running!):

`http://127.0.0.1:53155/lab?token=<HASH>`



Example Notebook: TPV13

Filter files by name

/ tpv13 /

Name	Modified
output	2y ago
parameters.par	2y ago
paraview.jpg	2y ago
Y: tpv12_13_fault.y...	2y ago
Y: tpv12_13_initial...	2y ago
Y: tpv12_13_materi...	2y ago
tpv13_training.geo	2y ago
tpv13.ipynb	2y ago
tpv13.jpg	2y ago

Launcher

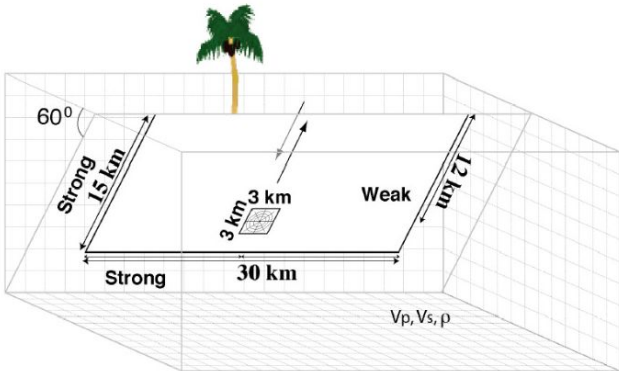
tpv13.ipynb

Notebook Python 3 (ipykernel)

Training example TPV 13-3D

TPV 13-3D is a benchmark exercise that is designed to test if computer codes that simulate dynamic earthquake rupture are working as intended (Harris et al., SRL 2018). It was designed by the [SCEC/USGS Spontaneous Rupture Code Verification Project](#) and features:

- spontaneous rupture on a 2D planar 60-degree dipping normal fault
- homogeneous half-space: $V_p = 5716 \text{ m/s}$, $V_s = 3300 \text{ m/s}$, $\rho = 2700 \text{ kg/m}^3$
- non-associative Drucker-Prager plasticity with yielding in shear
- linear-slip weakening (LSW) friction
- initial stress conditions are depth-dependent and specified everywhere throughout the entire model volume
- prescribed nucleation zone, square, $3 \times 3 \text{ km}$ in size, locally lower static coefficient of friction
- strongly supershear rupture conditions



Detailed benchmark description ([SCEC](#)).

Note, that for this training we slightly reduced two material constants, the bulk friction and the bulk cohesion, to increase the effects of off-fault yielding.

Expanding Earthquake Science & Education With Quakeworx Interactive Web-based Tools

slides adapted from Rekoske et al., SSA 2026

Rekoske, J., **Kutschera, F.**, Yun, J., Oryan, B., Gabriel, A., May, D., Chourasia, A., Youn, C., Silva, F., Zhao, C., Tainpakdipat, N., Bhatthal, A., Serafini, F., Ronquillo, J., Winjum, B., Maechling, P. J., Elbanna, A., & Ben-Zion, Y. (2026). *Expanding Earthquake Science Education With Quakeworx Interactive Web-based Tools*. Presented at the 2026 SSA Annual Meeting, Pasadena, CA, 14-18 April. <https://seismosoc.secure-platform.com/a/gallery/rounds/47/details/14531>



USC



ILLINOIS

UCLA

UC San Diego



SCRIPPS INSTITUTION OF
OCEANOGRAPHY

SDSC

Quakeworx is a gateway for earthquake science applications

Quakeworx Project Goals

Reduce barriers

to access, expertise,
software, compute,
and data resources.

Catalyze & empower

community wide
reuse & sharing of
research products.

Scale

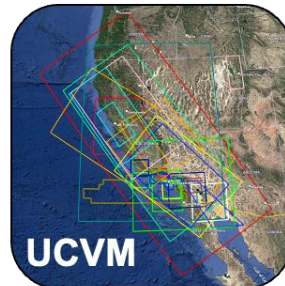
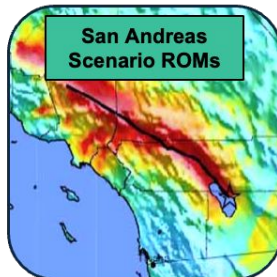
your research,
education, and
workforce
development efforts.

Advance Science

Rupture forecasts,
Earthquake physics,
and hazard estimates.



Quakeworx supports a range of earthquake simulation and visualization tools

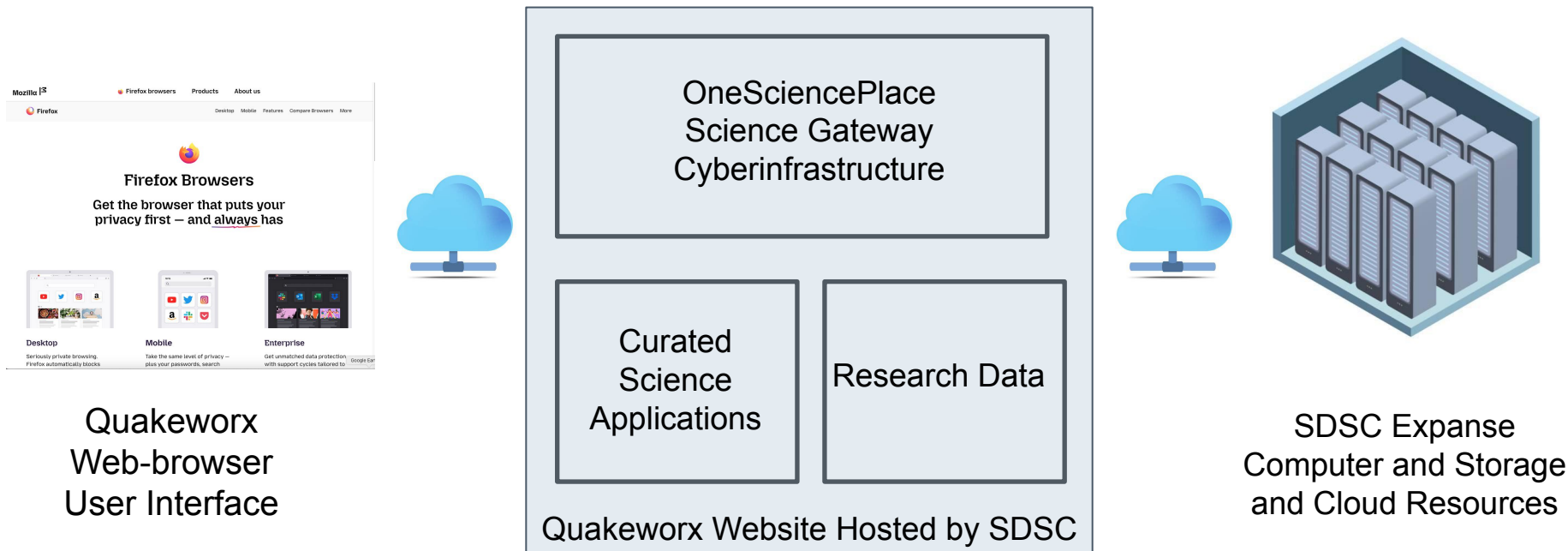


.. and more!



Overview of a science gateway

A science gateway, like Quakeworx, typically provides access to curated research software, and access to significant computing and the storage.



✦ Early Users Invited

Join the Quakeworx Gateway (staging) for early testing and feedback. Explore curated *Apps* and help shape the future of Quakeworx for the earthquake science community.

[Log in](#) with your institutional Single Sign-On.



<https://quakeworx.org>

Featured Apps on Staging

Curated simulators and pipelines you can run instantly on HPC and cloud systems.

SeisSol

SeisSol

High-performance dynamic rupture simulation for complex geometries.

[Open in Staging](#)

Tandem

TANDEM

Sequences of earthquakes and aseismic slip (SEAS) modeling.

[Open in Staging](#)

UCERF3-ETAS



UCERF3-ETAS

Operational aftershock modeling and stochastic catalogs for California.

[Open in Staging](#)

How to get started?



Apps ▾Earthquake PagesNews and eventsHelpAbout ▾

Seismic simulation gateway — Early Access

Log in

Reset your password

Home / Log in

Log in

Single sign-on via Globus

Log in with your institutional Single Sign-On to try Quakeworx and contribute your feedback.
If your organization is not available, please [submit a request](#) to create your account.

Log in with your local account below (if you already have one).

Username ^{*}

Password ^{*}

Log in



How to get started?

Curated apps
=
Actively
maintained

The screenshot displays the QuakeWorX web application interface. At the top, the QuakeWorX logo is on the left, and navigation links for 'Apps', 'Earthquake Pages', 'News and events', 'Help', and 'About' are on the right. Below the logo, it says 'Seismic simulation gateway — Early Access'. A horizontal menu bar contains 'View', 'Connected Accounts', 'Edit', 'Submissions', and 'System credentials'. The 'View' menu is open, showing options: 'My jobs', 'Create', 'Apps' (with a dropdown arrow), 'Curated apps', 'All apps', 'My apps', 'Publications' (with a dropdown arrow), 'Manage' (with a dropdown arrow), 'Help', and 'Support'. The 'Apps' dropdown is expanded, showing 'Curated apps', 'All apps', and 'My apps'. The main content area shows the user profile for 'fkutschera', including the name 'Fabian Kutschera', 'YOUR ROLE: Graduate Student', and 'YOUR AFFILIATION: Scripps Institution of Oceanography'. At the bottom right, there is a button that says 'Join the Mailing List'.

How to get started?



Stable

SeisSol

The SeisSol App allows to perform simulations of seismic and tsunami wave propagation and earthquake dynamic rupture in complex 3D geologic settings.

Batch

Executable

Cluster

System: Expanse service

Version: 0.0.2

View

Launch



Dev

Updated

SeisSolViz

Jupyter Notebook containing visualization tools for SeisSol simulation outputs (running on Expanse)

Interactive

Apptainer

Cluster

System: Expanse service

Version: 0.1.0

View

Launch

How to get started?

The screenshot displays the user interface of the Quakeworx Gateway. At the top, there are tabs for 'View', 'Edit', 'Launch', 'Revisions', and 'Clone'. On the left, a sidebar lists navigation options: 'My jobs', 'Create', 'Apps', 'Publications', 'Manage', 'Help', and 'Support'. The main content area is titled 'SeisSol' and includes a breadcrumb 'Home / SeisSol'. Below the title is the 'SeisSol' logo and the text 'BATCH - NON INTERACTIVE COMMAND LINE APPLICATION'. A summary paragraph describes the app's capabilities. Below this, the app ID, status, and owner are listed. Two buttons, 'Launch app' and 'Configure app form', are positioned on the right. A red arrow points to the 'Launch app' button. Below the main content, a 'Description' section provides more details about the software. At the bottom, a 'Get Quakeworx Training Material:' section includes a link to the training material, which is also pointed to by a red arrow.

View Edit Launch Revisions Clone

My jobs
Create
Apps
Publications
Manage
Help
Support

Home / SeisSol

SeisSol

SeisSol

BATCH - NON INTERACTIVE COMMAND LINE APPLICATION

Summary: The SeisSol App allows to perform simulations of seismic and tsunami wave propagation and earthquake dynamic rupture in complex 3D geologic settings.

App ID: qwx1.expansive.cyou.seissol2 | Version 0.0.2

Status: Enabled | App restrictions: Public

Owner: choonhan

Launch app

Configure app form

Description

SeisSol is an open-source software for the simulation of seismic, acoustic, and tsunami wave propagation and earthquake rupture dynamics. The software utilizes the arbitrary high-order accurate derivative discontinuous Galerkin method (ADER-DG) to allow high-order accuracy in space and time. SeisSol supports complex 3D model geometries using tetrahedral meshes and handles various material models, including acoustic, elastic, viscoelastic, poroelastic, and viscoplastic rheologies. SeisSol is optimized for running on large-scale parallel computing architectures.

Get Quakeworx Training Material:

SeisSol training material for the application in the Quakeworx Gateway can be downloaded from here: <https://github.com/SeisSol/Training>



How to get started?

[Home](#) / [Node](#) / [SeisSol](#) / [Launch](#)

Launch

SeisSol app type

☒ SeisSol ☐ SeisSol nonlinear materials ☐ SeisSol earthquake-tsunami

Job name ^{*}

SeisSol_Example

Specify a name for this job

Parameter file (.par)

The results must be directed to a directory named *outputs* in the parameter file. e.g. prefix = "outputs/tpv33"

No file selected.



<https://github.com/SeisSol/Training>



<https://github.com/SeisSol/Training>

 SeisSol / Training

Q Type  to search

<> Code  Issues 3  Pull requests 1  Actions  Projects  Wiki  Security and quality  Insights  Settings

 **Training** Public

 Edit Pins  Watch 7  Fork 11  Starred 15

 main  10 Branches  7 Tags

Q Go to file  Add file  Code

 **gabriellemhobson** Merge pull request #67 from SeisSol/fabian/bug-fixes   e8225f4 · 3 days ago  268 Commits

 .github/workflows	refactor: update CI actions	2 weeks ago
 cdb_tpv23	update paths and variable names inside QWX notebooks	5 days ago
 earthquake-tsunami	fix broken link and update figure for TTPV	4 days ago
 kaikoura	Merge pull request #66 from SeisSol/fabian/quakeworx-se...	4 days ago
 northridge	Vikas/docker (#62)	4 days ago
 sulawesi	Vikas/docker (#62)	4 days ago
 tpv13	Merge pull request #66 from SeisSol/fabian/quakeworx-se...	4 days ago

About

No description, website, or topics provided.

-  README
-  BSD-3-Clause license
-  Activity
-  Custom properties
-  15 stars
-  7 watching
-  11 forks

Report repository

Releases 7



Quakeworx is a gateway for earthquake science applications

- ★ A platform for running, sharing, and publishing earthquake simulation & data-analysis tools.
- ★ Supports reproducibility and reduces access barriers.
- ★ Built on the OneScienceBase Platform to facilitate research and education through quick app execution and easy data sharing.

I. Make sure you are able to login to

<https://quakeworx.org>

II. Make sure to download training material from

<https://github.com/SeisSol/Training>

III. Enjoy the Trainings

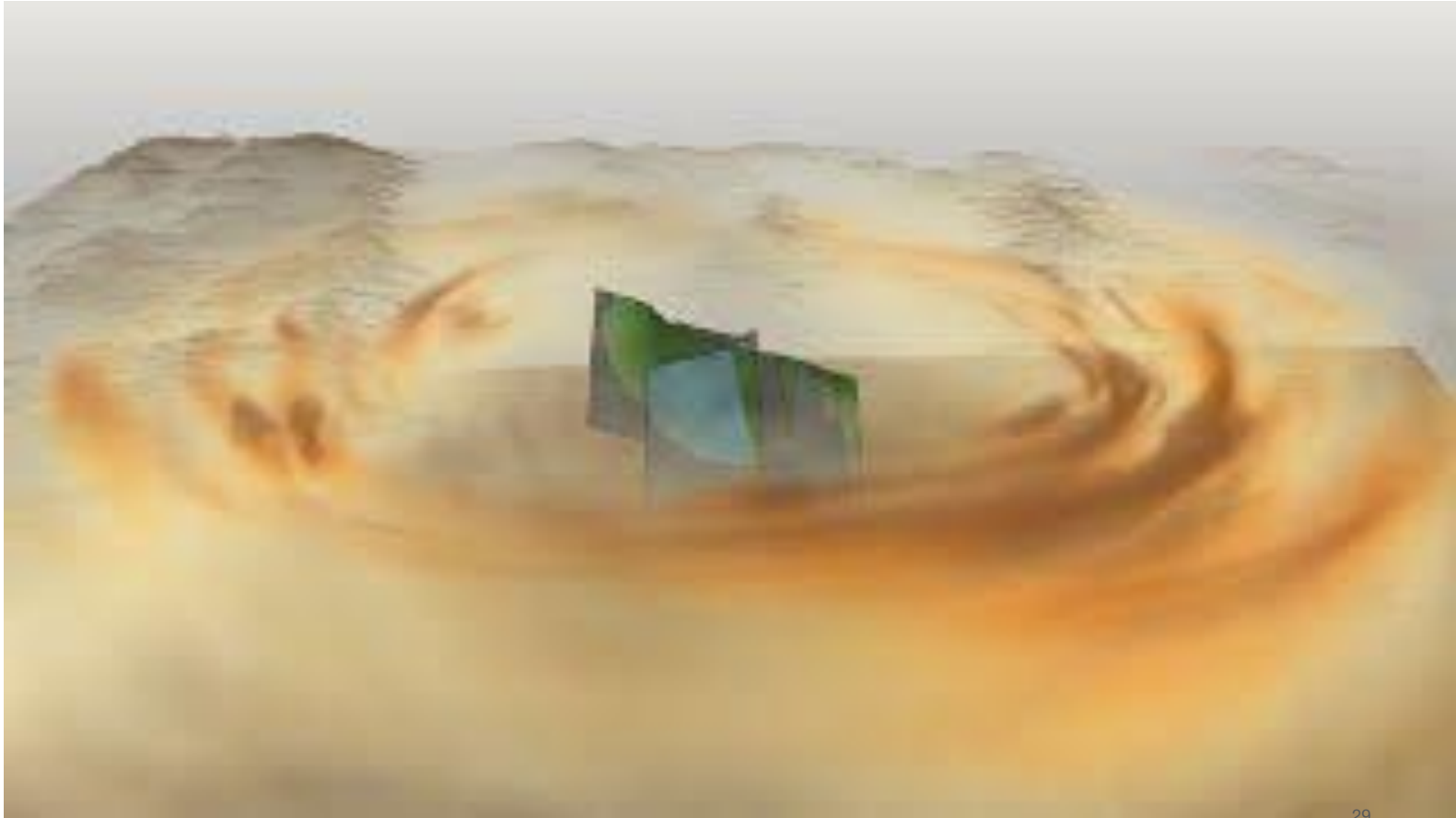


SeisSol Training continues at 12:00



Meshing tutorial

3D dynamic rupture models of the 2019 Ridgecrest earthquakes
Taufiqurrahman et al., Nature'23 . Visualization of 15 TB of
volumetric simulation data on unstructured tetrahedral meshes on
Frontera, Abrams et al., SC'23, [[YouTube](#)]



Meshing Using GMSH

In this tutorial, we will cover:

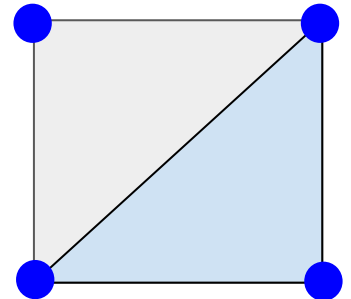
- Creating geometries using elementary entities in GMSH
- Custom tagging of entities to work with SeisSol boundary conditions
- Using both built-in GMSH scripting and the Python API
- Setting the local mesh size
- Mesh quality
- Boolean operations

We will then explore these three demos hands-on in a Jupyter Notebook:

1. A simple 2D rectangle
2. A 3D domain with an embedded fault (TPV12-13)
3. Leveraging the Python GMSH API to generate complex geometries

What is a mesh, and why do we need one?

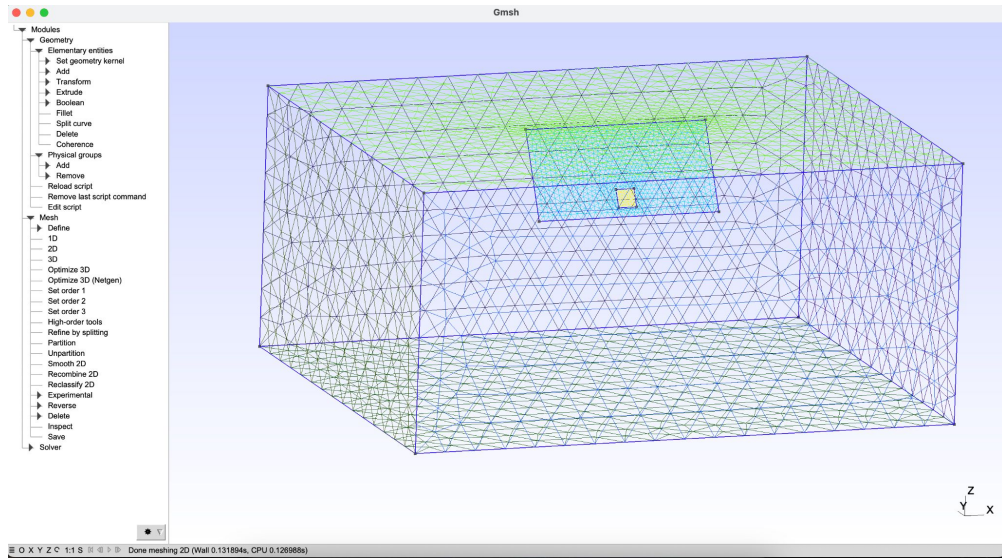
- To perform finite element calculations, we must discretize the domain of our geometry into cells to allow for elements and nodes to be defined
- The **geometry** for our problem of interest is the representation of a 2D surface or 3D volume with a specific **shape** (including how external and internal boundaries and surfaces are positioned and connected)
- The geometry's domain is **discretized** into cells with vertices
- The **mesh** is the collection of cells and vertices



Creating geometries and meshes for SeisSol

GMSH

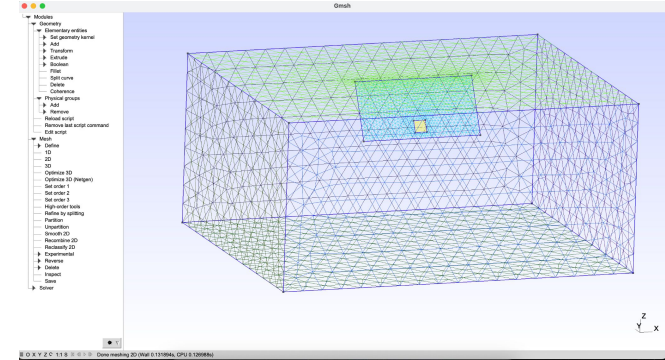
- Open-source software
- Many [tutorials](#) are available
- Useful for most geometries and everyday mesh sizes
- Limitations when working with highly complex geometries
- Serial mesh generation



Creating geometries and meshes for SeisSol

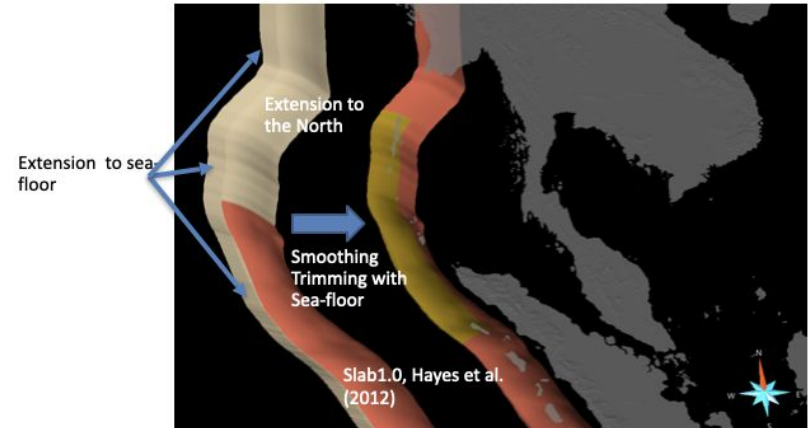
GMSH

- Open-source software
- Many [tutorials](#) are available
- Useful for most geometries and everyday mesh sizes
- Limitations when working with highly complex geometries
- Serial mesh generation



Simmodeler

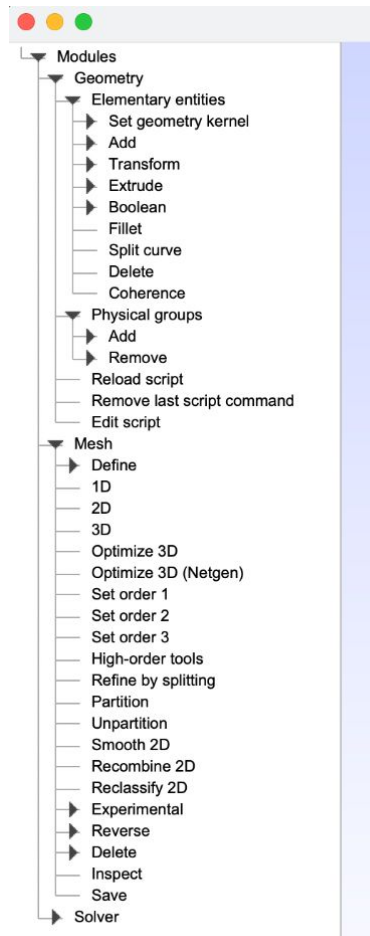
- Requires a license (free for academics)
- Useful for large meshes / complex geometries
- Customized GUI for SeisSol
- Pumgen library for parallel meshing on HPC
- Check out [this tutorial](#) in the docs



Working with GMSH

You can use GMSH in multiple ways:

- The **GUI** is useful for getting familiar with GMSH, building simple geometries, and debugging
- GMSH has a **built-in scripting language**, and commands get added to .geo files which can be meshed from the command line (or opened with the GUI)
- GMSH has **APIs** for C++, C, **Python**, Julia or Fortran which permit (i) a programmatic approach to building geometries and (ii) interfacing with other code



Creating geometries using elementary entities in GMSH

GMSH builds geometries using what they call “elementary entities”. Each entity has a type (Point, Curve, Surface, Volume) and a tag (an integer, usually starting at 1).

Points

- `Point(3) = {0.3, 0.2, 0, h_min};`
- `gmsh.model.geo.addPoint(0.3, 0.2, 0, h_min, 3);`

Lines/Curves



Creating geometries using elementary entities in GMSH

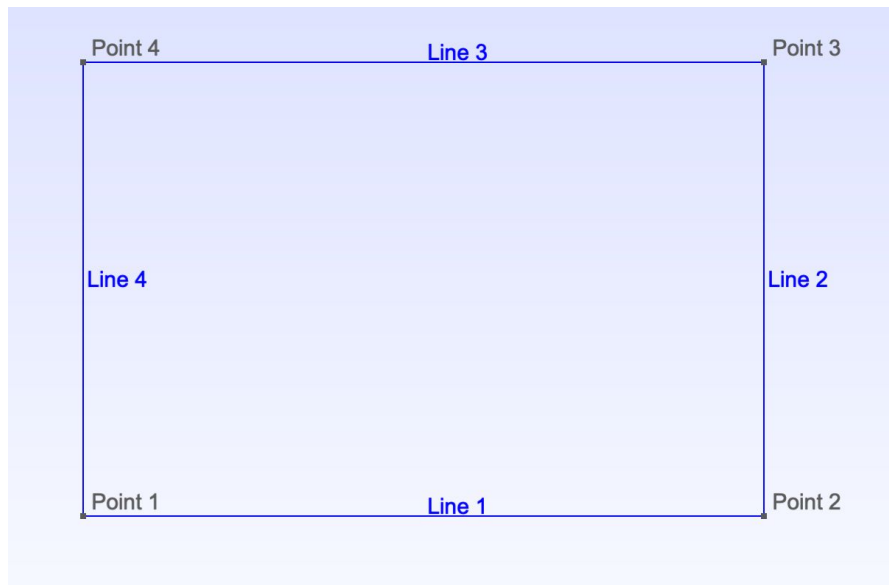
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Points

- `Point(3) = {0.3, 0.2, 0, h_min};`
- `gmsh.model.geo.addPoint(0.3, 0.2, 0, h_min, 3);`

Lines/Curves

- `Line(1) = {1, 2};`
- `gmsh.model.geo.addLine(1, 2, 1)`



Creating geometries using elementary entities in GMSH

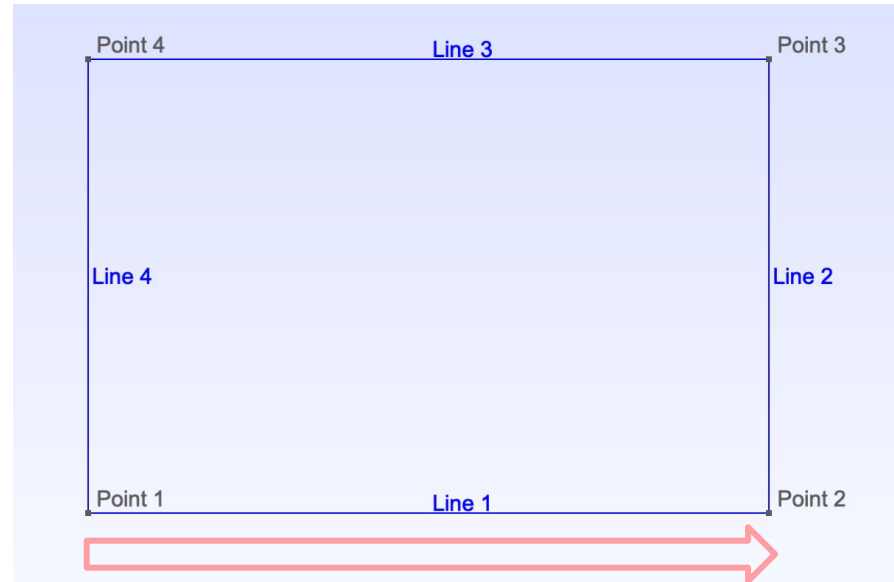
GMSH builds geometries using what they call “elementary entities”. Each entity has a type (Point, Curve, Surface, Volume) and a tag (an integer, usually starting at 1).

Points

- `Point(3) = {0.3, 0.2, 0, h_min};`
- `gmsh.model.geo.addPoint(0.3, 0.2, 0, h_min, 3);`

Lines/Curves

- `Line(1) = {1, 2};`
- `gmsh.model.geo.addLine(1, 2, 1)`



Creating geometries using elementary entities in GMSH

GMSH builds geometries using what they call “elementary entities”. Each entity has a type (Point, Curve, Surface, Volume) and a tag (an integer, usually starting at 1).

Points

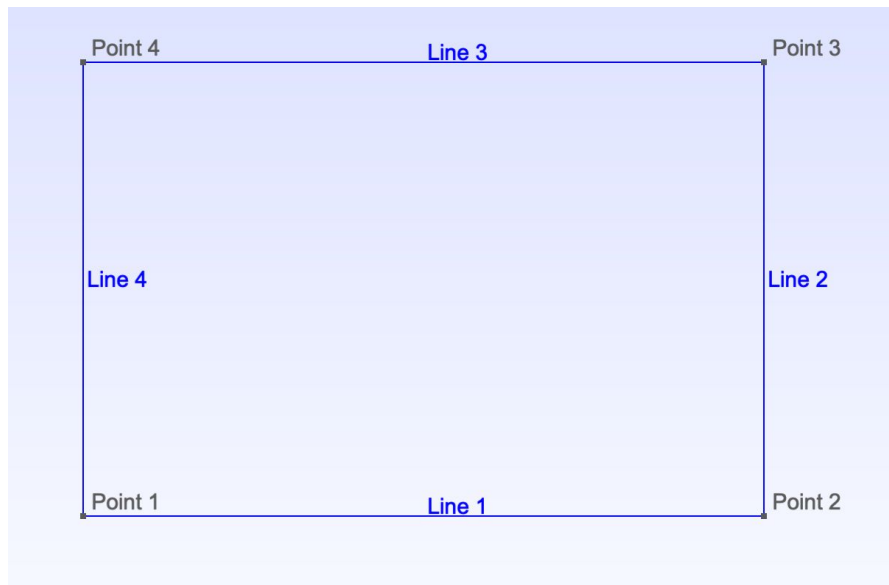
- `Point(3) = {0.3, 0.2, 0, h_min};`
- `gmsh.model.geo.addPoint(0.3, 0.2, 0, h_min, 3);`

Lines/Curves

- `Line(1) = {1, 2};`
- `gmsh.model.geo.addLine(1, 2, 1)`

Curve Loops

- `Curve Loop(111) = {4, 1, -2, 3};`
- `CL = gmsh.model.geo.addCurveLoop([4, 1, -2, 3], 111)`



Creating geometries using elementary entities in GMSH

GMSH builds geometries using what they call “elementary entities”. Each entity has a type (Point, Curve, Surface, Volume) and a tag (an integer, usually starting at 1).

Points

- `Point(3) = {0.3, 0.2, 0, h_min};`
- `gmsh.model.geo.addPoint(0.3, 0.2, 0, h_min, 3);`

Lines/Curves

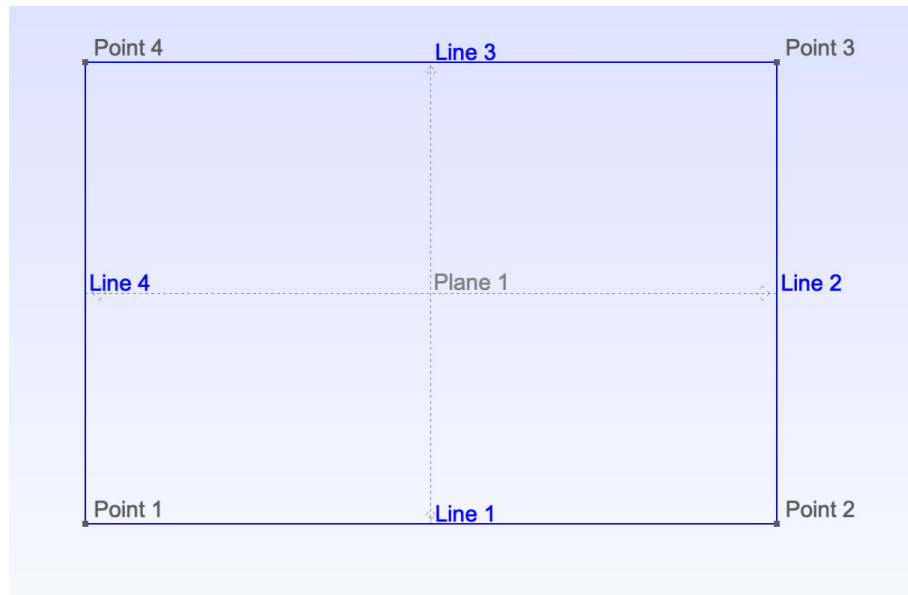
- `Line(1) = {1, 2};`
- `gmsh.model.geo.addLine(1, 2, 1)`

Curve Loops

- `Curve Loop(111) = {4, 1, -2, 3};`
- `CL = gmsh.model.geo.addCurveLoop([4, 1, -2, 3], 111)`

Surfaces

- `Plane Surface(1) = {111};`
- `PS = gmsh.model.geo.addPlaneSurface([CL], 1)`



Tagging physical entities

Using GMSH scripting:

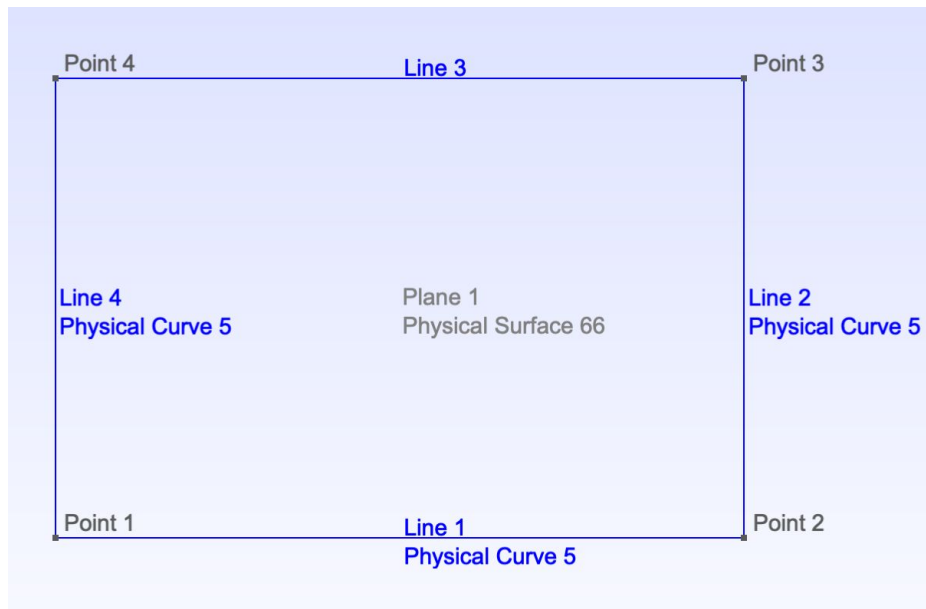
```
Physical Curve(5) = {1, 2, 4};
```

```
Physical Surface(66) = {1};
```

Using the Python API:

```
gmsh.model.addPhysicalGroup(1, [1, 2, 4], 5)
```

```
gmsh.model.addPhysicalGroup(2, [1], 66)
```



Generating the mesh

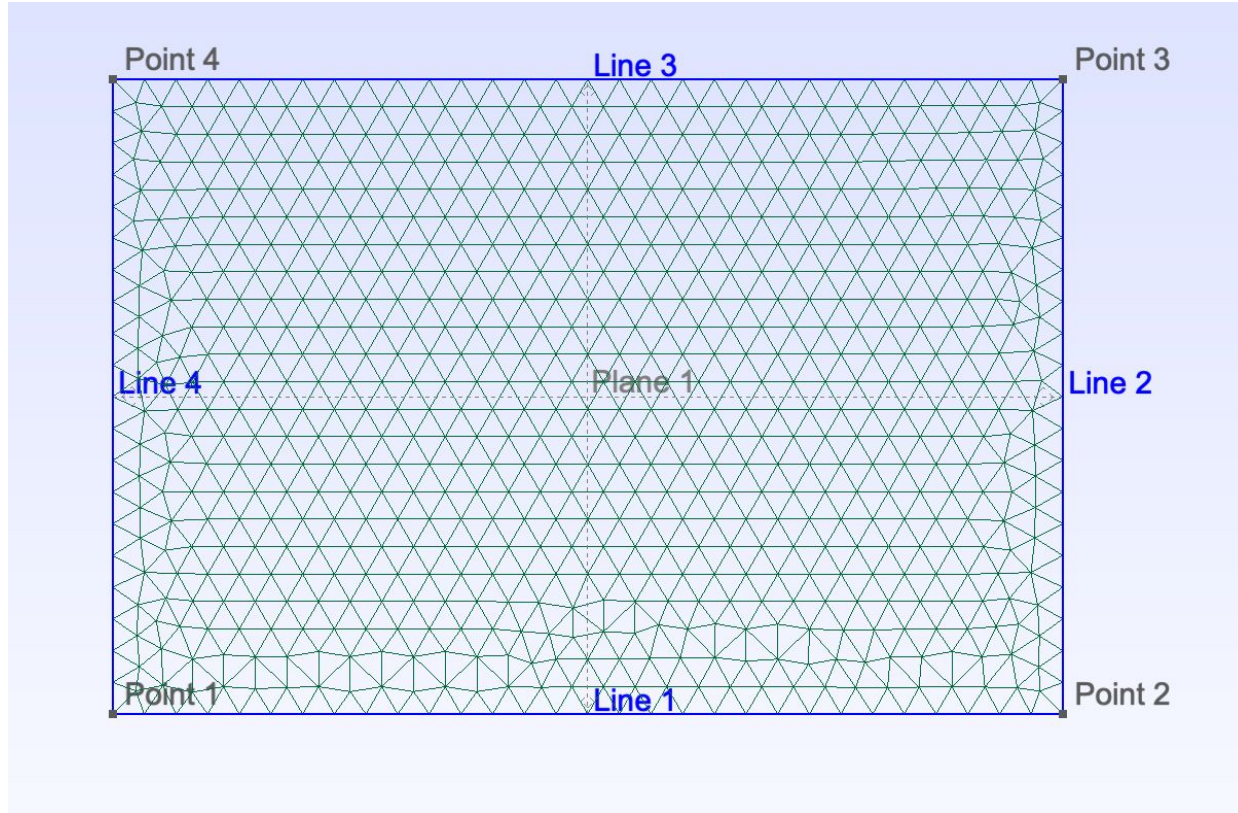
Using the command line:

```
gmsh -2 tutorial_1.geo
```

Using the Python API:

```
gmsh.model.mesh.generate(2)
```

```
gmsh.write("t1.msh")
```



Setting the mesh size

In addition to setting the mesh size at points, GMSH uses [mesh size field functions](#) to control local mesh size.

- Distance Field: returns the distance from points or curves (points equidistantly spaced along curves)
- Threshold Field: sets the mesh size as a function of distance

```
// SizeMax -
//
//
//
//
// SizeMin -o-----/-----
//           |           |           |
//           Point      DistMin  DistMax
```

Setting the mesh size

In addition to setting the mesh size at points, GMSH uses [mesh size field functions](#) to control local mesh size.

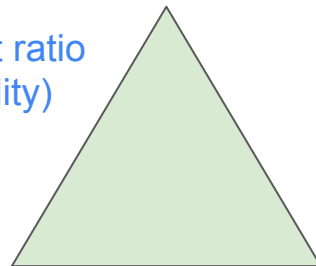
- Distance Field: returns the distance from points or curves (points equidistantly spaced along curves)
- Threshold Field: sets the mesh size as a function of distance
- MathEval Field: modulates mesh size as a mathematical function of spatial coordinates or distance
- Box Field: imposes a step change in element size inside a box
- ...and much [more](#)

Mesh quality

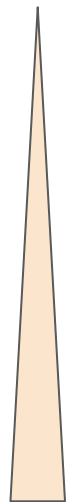
Our goal is to create meshes that are **valid** and of acceptable **quality**.

- **Invalid mesh:** a mesh with “inverted” cells, where edges have crossed each other so the cell has a self-intersecting geometry, or where a cell edge length is zero.
- **Mesh quality** can be measured using metrics like the Scaled Jacobian or the Aspect Ratio (AR).
- The range of acceptable mesh quality is application-dependent.
- Typically for SeisSol simulations we aim for meshes with max AR between 20 to 40 (this is a rule of thumb) - the lower the AR value, the better.

Low aspect ratio
(better quality)

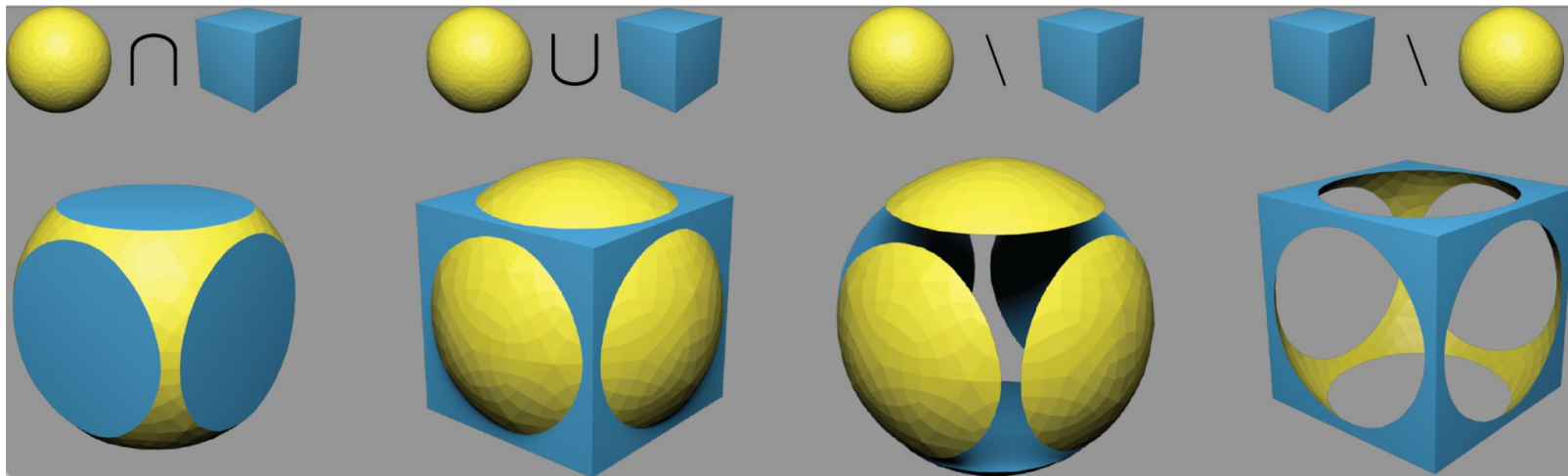


High aspect ratio
(lower quality)



Boolean Operations

- [Boolean operations](#) are applied to curves, surfaces and volumes to calculate their intersections, unions, and differences.
- They usually involve a “tool” applied to an “object”
- They are crucial for obtaining a conforming or “watertight” mesh



Converting to SeisSol-compatible formats with Pumgen

- Once we have meshed our geometries and generated .msh files, we must convert them to SeisSol-compatible formats
- For this task we use [PUMGen](#), an open-source tool for creating and exporting meshes in an efficient format
- The basic syntax on the command line:

```
pumgen -s msh4 tpv13_training.msh
```

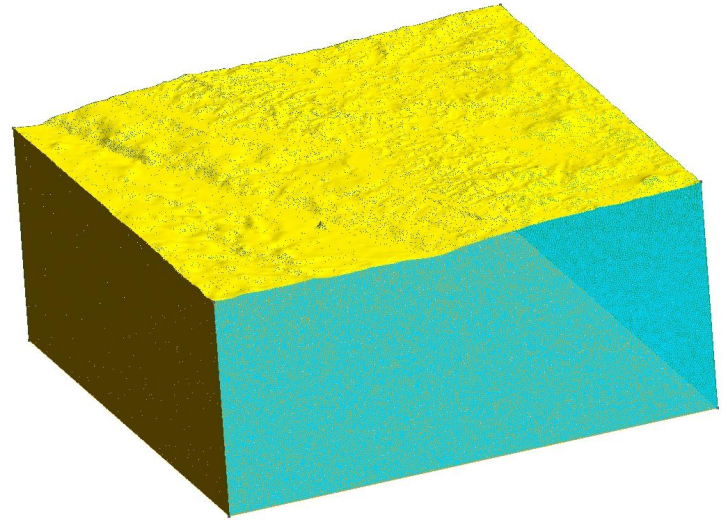
or to run in parallel:

```
mpirun -n 1 pumgen -s msh4 tpv13_training.msh
```

- This creates a file in the efficient, open-source HDF5 format, which supports large, complex, heterogeneous data

Topography and other complex meshing tasks

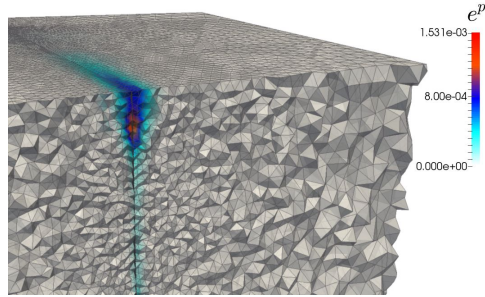
- Adding topography to a mesh is possible in GMSH (see the tutorial [here](#))
- However, for topography and other more complex meshing tasks, we recommend using SimModeler
- A beginning SimModeler tutorial can be found [here](#)
- A tutorial on the SimModeler CAD workflow can be found [here](#) , which shows how to build the structural model of the Palu earthquake dynamic rupture scenario (Ulrich et al., 2019)



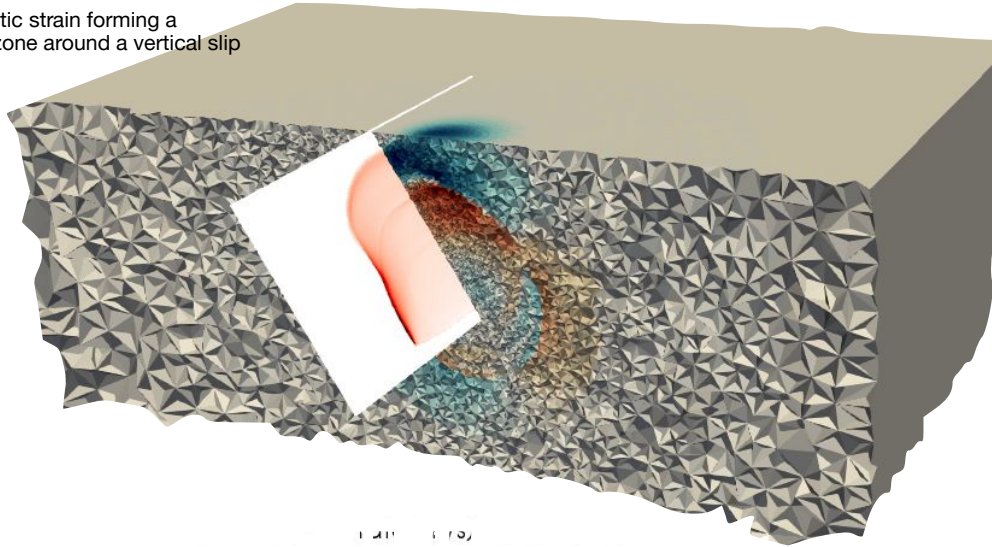
Adding topography using GMSH

My first dynamic rupture model - TPV13 community benchmark

3D normal-faulting earthquake with off-fault plasticity



Accumulated plastic strain forming a 'flower-like' fault zone around a vertical slip interface

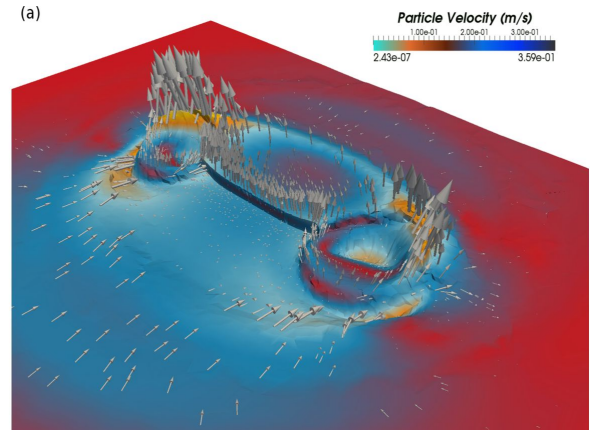


A Suite of Exercises for Verifying Dynamic Earthquake Rupture Codes

Ruth A. Harris; Michael Barall; Brad Aagaard; Shuo Ma; Daniel Roten; Kim Olsen; Benchun Duan; Dunyu Liu; Bin Luo; Kangchen Bai; Jean-Paul Ampuero; Yoshihiro Kaneko; Alice-Agnes Gabriel; Kenneth Duru; Thomas Ulrich; Stephanie Wollherr; Zheqiang Shi; Eric Dunham; Sam Bydlon; Zhenguo Zhang; Xiaofei Chen; Surendra Nadh Somala; Christian Pelties; Josué Tago; Victor Manuel Cruz-Atienza; Jeremy Kozdon; Eric Daub; Khurram Aslam; Yuko Kase; Kyle Withers; Luis Dalguer

Seismological Research Letters (2018) 89 (3): 1146–1162.

<https://doi.org/10.1785/0220170222> [Article history](#)



My first dynamic rupture model

TPV13 community benchmark:

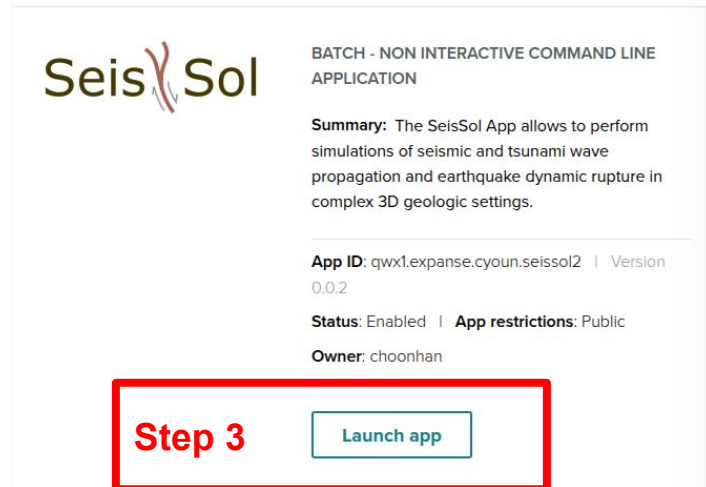
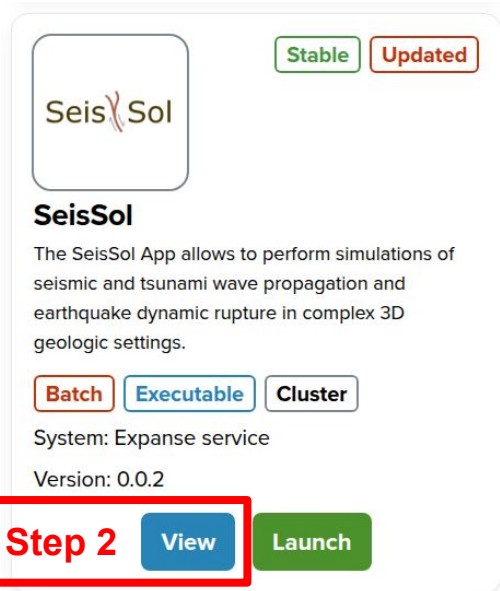
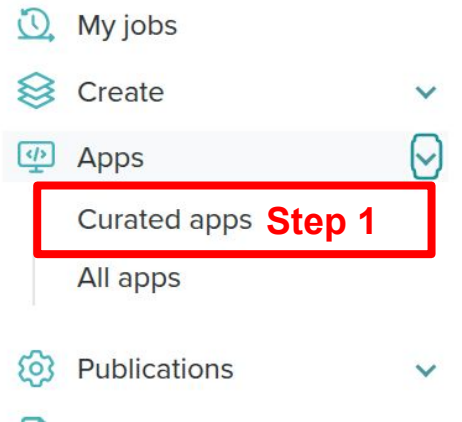
3D normal-faulting earthquake with off-fault plasticity

- **Task 1 - Run your first SeisSol simulation! Model a 3D dynamic rupture earthquake scenario with off-fault plastic deformation**
 - Task 1a - Running SeisSol (TPV13 benchmark) on Gateway
 - Task 1b - Understanding SeisSol input files
- **Task 2 - Visualization**
- **Task 3 - Understand parameter choices in the benchmark**
- **Task 4 - Rupture speed analysis: what are the conditions for supershear rupture?**
- **Task 5 - Turn-off plasticity and analyze the difference between the two models**

Task 1a - Running SeisSol on Gateway

- Log in through the Gateway home page

<https://quakeworx.org>



<https://github.com/SeisSol/Training> ← To download the input files

Task 1a - Running SeisSol on Gateway

- Upload input files for SeisSol

SeisSol app type

☒ SeisSol ☐ SeisSol nonlinear materials

Job name *

TPV13

Specify a name for this job

Parameter file (.par)

parameters.par (2.59 KB)

Remove

Mesh file (.msh, .xdmf, .puml.h5)

Choose Files

No file chosen

☐ **tpv13_training.puml.h5** (1.58 MB)

Other files (csv, dat, txt, yaml, nc)

Choose Files

No file chosen

☐ **tpv12_13_fault.yaml** (953 bytes)

☐ **tpv12_13_material.yaml** (296 bytes)

☐ **tpv12_13_initial_stress.yaml** (823 bytes)

Number of nodes *

1

The number of nodes to use for running this app.

Cores per node *

32

The number of cores to use per node.

System *

Expansive service ▾

The system to run this app on.

Batch Logical Queue *

shared ▾

The batch logical queue to run this app on.

Save Draft

Submit

<https://github.com/SeisSol/Training> ← To download the input files

Task 1a - Running SeisSol on Gateway

- The job is running

Data retention (scratch): Action required: Job data is stored on the scratch filesystem and will be automatically purged **90 days after job creation** per Expanse cluster policy. Download any job data you want to keep **before** the purge date; after that, data may be permanently deleted and not recoverable.

Job created: 2026-06-08 14:52 CEST

Purge date: 2026-09-06 14:52 CEST

Expanse scratch storage [policy](#)

Last message: Setting job status to running.

Remote job ID: 50516168

Remote job submitted: 2026-06-08T12:53:09

Remote job started: 2026-06-08T12:53:55

Job usage details

Resource details

Processing unit: CPU

Node count: 1

Cores per node: 32

Memory: 64000 MB

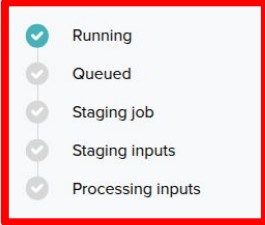
App: [SeisSol](#)

System: [Expanse service](#)

Owner: [mmarchandon](#)

Created: Jun 08, 2026

Tapis UUID: e3a1d0d3-95c3-4a24-9d3f-e22e83716aa9-007

- 
- A vertical progress bar with five steps. The first step, 'Running', is highlighted with a red border and a green checkmark. The other steps are 'Queued', 'Staging job', 'Staging inputs', and 'Processing inputs', each with a grey checkmark.
- Running
 - Queued
 - Staging job
 - Staging inputs
 - Processing inputs

[Terminate Job](#)

Task 1a - Running SeisSol on Gateway

- Where to find the outputs

The screenshot shows the Expansive Gateway web interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with buttons: 'View', 'Clone job', 'Output' (highlighted with a red box), and 'Delete'. On the left side, there is a sidebar menu with links: 'My jobs', 'Create', 'Apps', 'Publications', 'Help', and 'Support'. The main content area has a breadcrumb trail 'Home / TPV13 / Output' and a large heading 'Output'. Below the heading, there is a yellow warning box with the following text: 'Data retention (scratch): Action required: Job data is stored on the scratch filesystem and will be automatically purged 90 days after job creation per Expansive cluster policy. Download any job data you want to keep before the purge date; after that, data may be permanently deleted and not recoverable. Job created: 2026-06-02 17:22 CEST Purge date: 2026-08-31 17:22 CEST Expansive scratch storage policy'. Below the warning box, there is a 'Download All' button. At the bottom, there is a file list showing a directory 'outputs (56 KB)' containing several sub-directories and files, all of which are highlighted with a red box. The file list includes: 'tpv13_cell (56 KB)', 'tpv13_vertex (56 KB)', 'tpv13-fault_cell (56 KB)', 'tpv13-fault_vertex (56 KB)', 'tpv13-surface_cell (56 KB)', 'tpv13-surface_vertex (56 KB)', 'ospjob.log (31.96 KB)', 'tapisjob.out (1.84 KB)', 'tapisjob.sh (2.56 KB)', 'tpv13-clustering.csv (5.08 KB)', 'tpv13-energy.csv (5.44 KB)', 'tpv13-fault.xdmf (65.43 KB)', 'tpv13-flops.csv (9.1 KB)', 'tpv13-miniSeisSol.csv (1.11 KB)', 'tpv13-surface.xdmf (15.37 KB)', 'tpv13-threadPinning.csv (4.44 KB)', and 'tpv13.xdmf (7.09 KB)'.

View Clone job **Output** Delete

My jobs
Create
Apps
Publications
Help
Support

Home / TPV13 / Output

Output

Data retention (scratch): Action required: Job data is stored on the scratch filesystem and will be automatically purged **90 days after job creation** per Expansive cluster policy. Download any job data you want to keep **before** the purge date; after that, data may be permanently deleted and not recoverable.
Job created: 2026-06-02 17:22 CEST
Purge date: 2026-08-31 17:22 CEST
[Expansive scratch storage policy](#)

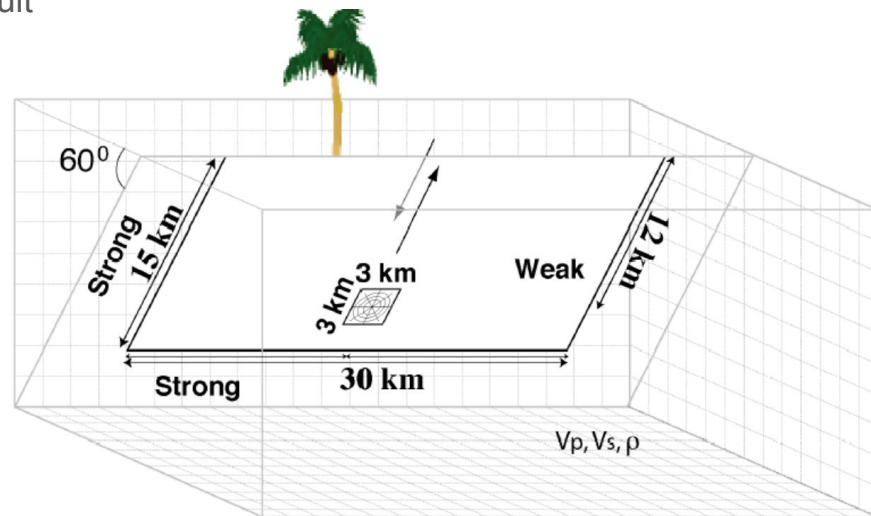
Download All

- outputs (56 KB)
 - tpv13_cell (56 KB)
 - tpv13_vertex (56 KB)
 - tpv13-fault_cell (56 KB)
 - tpv13-fault_vertex (56 KB)
 - tpv13-surface_cell (56 KB)
 - tpv13-surface_vertex (56 KB)
 - ospjob.log (31.96 KB)
 - tapisjob.out (1.84 KB)
 - tapisjob.sh (2.56 KB)
 - tpv13-clustering.csv (5.08 KB)
 - tpv13-energy.csv (5.44 KB)
 - tpv13-fault.xdmf (65.43 KB)
 - tpv13-flops.csv (9.1 KB)
 - tpv13-miniSeisSol.csv (1.11 KB)
 - tpv13-surface.xdmf (15.37 KB)
 - tpv13-threadPinning.csv (4.44 KB)
 - tpv13.xdmf (7.09 KB)

TPV13 community benchmark

3D normal-faulting earthquake with off-fault plasticity

- Spontaneous rupture on a 60°-dipping planar normal fault
- Homogeneous half-space
 $V_p=5716$ m/s, $V_s=3300$ m/s, $\rho=2700$ kg/m³
- Non-associative Drucker-Prager plasticity
- Linear-slip weakening friction (LSW)
- Initial stress conditions are depth-dependent
- Prescribed nucleation: low-friction square patch
- Supershear initial conditions



full benchmark description:

https://strike.scec.org/cvws/tpv12_13docs.html

Task 1b - While SeisSol is running, let's checkout SeisSol's input files

- Main parameter file: *parameters.par*

```
1 &equations
2 !yaml file defining spatial dependence of material properties
3 MaterialFileName = 'tpv12_13_material.yaml'
4 !enable off-fault plasticity (ignored in Plasticity=0)
5 Plasticity = 1
6 Tv = 0.03
7 numflux = 'rusanov' ! The numerical flux. Values: 'godunov', 'rusanov'
8 numfluxnearfault = 'rusanov' ! The numerical flux for faces of cells adjacent to the fault (on cells which have at least one DR face),
  excluding the DR faces themselves. Values: 'godunov', 'rusanov'
9 /
10
11 &IniCondition
12 /
13
14 &DynamicRupture
15 ! linear slip-weakening friction
16 FL = 16 ! Friction law
17 !yaml file defining spatial dependence of fault properties
18 ModelFileName = 'tpv12_13_fault.yaml'
19
20 !characteristic time of the forced nucleation
21 t_0 = 0.5
22
23 !reference vector for defining strike and dip direction
24 XRef = 0.0
25 YRef = -1.0
26 ZRef = 0.0
27 refPointMethod = 1
28
29 OutputPointType = 4
30 /
```

tpv13

- └─ output
- └─ **parameters.par**
- └─ paraview.jpg
- └─ tpv12_13_fault.yaml
- └─ tpv12_13_initial_stress.yaml
- └─ tpv12_13_material.yaml
- └─ tpv13.ipynb
- └─ tpv13.jpg
- └─ tpv13_training.geo

1 directory, 8 files

For a detailed description of this file:

<https://seissol.readthedocs.io/en/latest/parameter-file.html>

Task 1b - SeisSol's input files

• Material parameters

parameters.par:

```
1 &equations
2 !yaml file defining spatial dependence of material properties
3 MaterialFileName = 'tpv12_13_material.yaml'
4 !enable off-fault plasticity (ignored in Plasticity=0)
5 Plasticity = 1
6 Tv = 0.03
7 /
```

tpv12_13_material.yaml:

```
1 !Switch
2 [rho, mu, lambda, plastCo, bulkFriction]: !ConstantMap
3 map:
4   rho:      2700
5   mu:       2.9403e+010
6   lambda:   2.941e+010
7   plastCo:  1.0e+06
8   bulkFriction: 0.60
9 [s_xx, s_yy, s_zz, s_xy, s_yz, s_xz]: !Include tpv12_13_initial_stress.yaml
```

tpv13

```
|— output
|— parameters.par
|— paraview.jpg
|— tpv12_13_fault.yaml
|— tpv12_13_initial_stress.yaml
|— tpv12_13_material.yaml
|— tpv13.ipynb
|— tpv13.jpg
|— tpv13_training.geo
1 directory, 8 files
```

easi: library for the **E**asy Initialization of models in 3D domains.

<https://easyinit.readthedocs.io/en/latest/>

Task 1b - SeisSol's input files

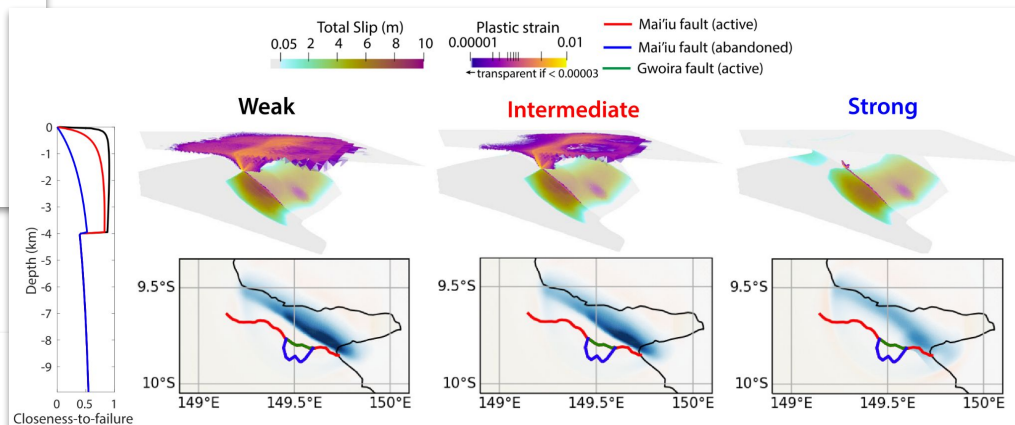
Material parameters

parameters.par:

```
1 &equations
2 !yaml file defining spatial dependence of material properties
3 MaterialFileName = 'tpv12_13_material.yaml'
4 !enable off-fault plasticity (ignored in Plasticity=0)
5 Plasticity = 1
6 Tv = 0.03
7 /
```

tpv12_13_material.yaml:

```
1 !Switch
2 [rho, mu, lambda, plastCo, bulkFriction]: !ConstantMap
3 map:
4   rho:      2700
5   mu:      2.9403e+010
6   lambda:   2.941e+010
7   plastCo:  1.0e+06
8   bulkFriction: 0.60
9 [s_xx, s_yy, s_zz, s_xy, s_yz, s_xz]: !Include tpv12_13_initial_stress.yaml
```



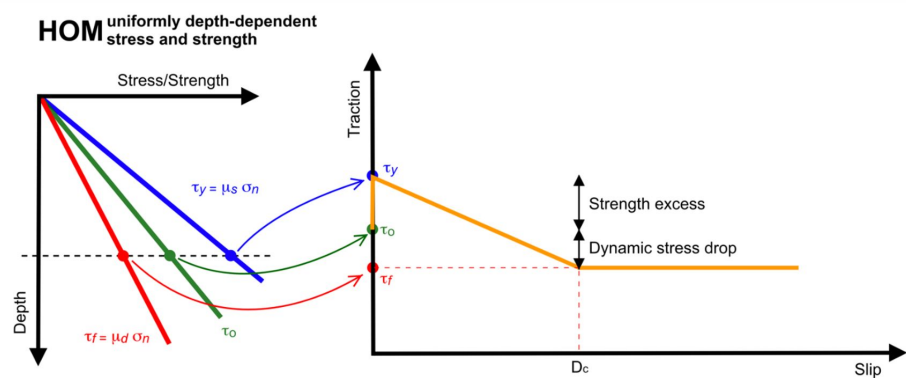
*Impact of plastic rock strength on on-fault slip
and accumulated off-fault deformation
(modified from Biemiller et al., 2023)*

Task 1b - SeisSol's input files

• Friction law

```
14 &DynamicRupture
15 ! linear slip-weakening friction
16 FL = 16 ! Friction law
17 !yaml file defining spatial dependence of fault properties
18 ModelFileName = 'tpv12_13_fault.yaml'
19
20 !characteristic time of the forced nucleation
21 t_0 = 0.5
22
23 !reference vector for defining strike and dip direction
24 XRef = 0.0
25 YRef = -1.0
26 ZRef = 0.0
27 refPointMethod = 1
28
29 OutputPointType = 4
30 /
```

For more info about implemented friction laws in SeisSol →
<https://seissol.readthedocs.io/en/latest/dynamic-rupture.html#friction-laws>



Tinti et al., 2021

tpv13

- output
- **parameters.par**
- paraview.jpg
- tpv12_13_fault.yaml
- tpv12_13_initial_stress.yaml
- tpv12_13_material.yaml
- tpv13.ipynb
- tpv13.jpg
- tpv13_training.geo

1 directory, 8 files

Task 1b - SeisSol's input files

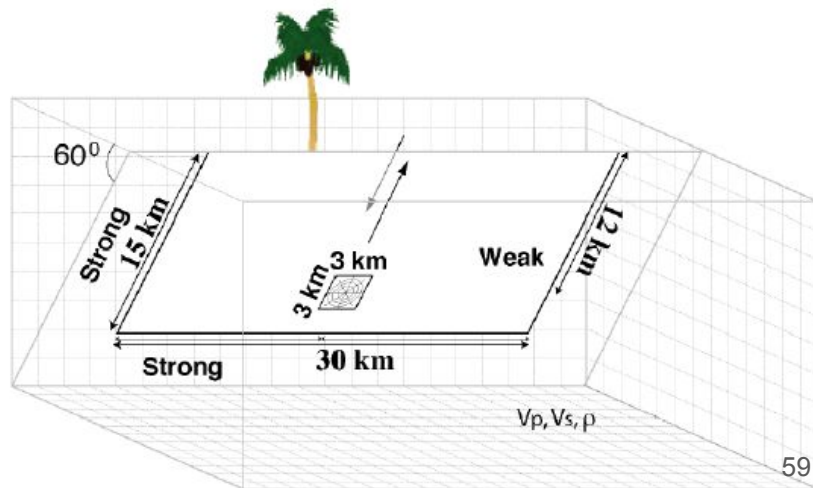
• Friction parameters & nucleation

```
1 !Switch
2 [s_xx, s_yy, s_zz, s_xy, s_yz, s_xz]: !Include tpv12_13_initial_stress.yaml
3 [mu_d, d_c, cohesion]: !ConstantMap
4   map:
5     mu_d:      0.10
6     d_c:      0.50
7     cohesion: -200000
8 [mu_s]: !LuaMap
9   returns: [mu_s]
10  function: |
11    function f(x)
12      mu_s = 0.7
13      nucleation_size = 3000.0
14      along_width_nucleation_center = 12000.0
15      sinDip = math.sin(60 * math.pi / 180)
16      x_in_nucleation = (math.abs(x["x"]) <= 0.5 * nucleation_size)
17      z_in_nucleation = (
18        math.abs(x["z"]) + along_width_nucleation_center * sinDip) <=
19        0.5 * nucleation_size * sinDip
20    )
21    if x_in_nucleation and z_in_nucleation then
22      mu_s = 0.54
23    end
24
25    return { mu_s = mu_s }
26  end
27
28 [Tnuc_n, Tnuc_s, Tnuc_d, forced_rupture_time]: !ConstantMap
29   map:
30     Tnuc_n: 0
31     Tnuc_s: 0
32     Tnuc_d: 0
33   forced_rupture_time: 1e10
```

tpv13

- output
- parameters.par
- paraview.jpg
- **tpv12_13_fault.yaml**
- tpv12_13_initial_stress.yaml
- tpv12_13_material.yaml
- tpv13.ipynb
- tpv13.jpg
- tpv13_training.geo

1 directory, 8 files



Task 1b - SeisSol's input files.

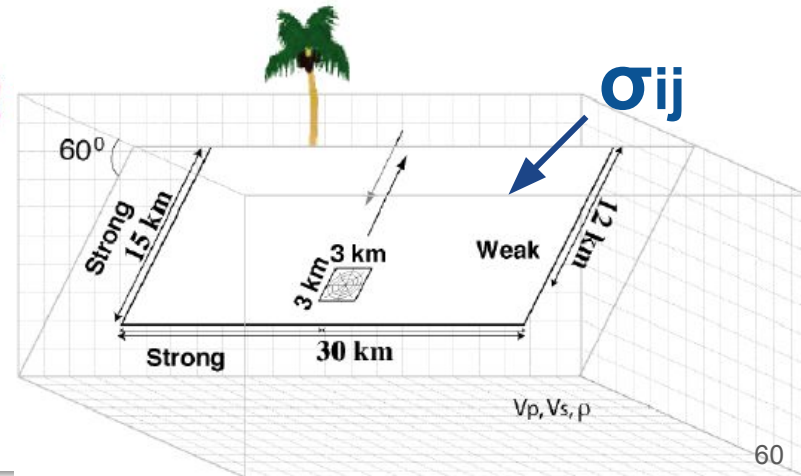
Initial stress as a cartesian stress tensor

```
1 !Switch
2 [s_xy, s_yz, s_xz]: !ConstantMap
3   map:
4     s_xy: 0
5     s_yz: 0
6     s_xz: 0
7 [s_xx, s_yy, s_zz]: !LuaMap
8   returns: [s_xx, s_yy, s_zz]
9   function: |
10     function f (x)
11       depth = math.abs(x["z"])
12       s_max_minus_Pf = 9.8 * (2700.0 - 1000.0);
13       if (depth <= 11951.15) then
14         s3_to_s1 = 0.3496
15         -- math.floor(a+0.5) is round
16         s_xx = -0.01 * math.floor(100.0 * (0.5 * (1.0 + s3_to_s1) * s_max_minus_Pf)
17         s_yy = -0.01 * math.floor(100.0 * (s3_to_s1 * s_max_minus_Pf)
18         s_zz = -s_max_minus_Pf * depth
19       else
20         s_xx = -s_max_minus_Pf * depth
21         s_yy = s_xx
22         s_zz = s_xx
23     end
24     return {
25       s_xx = s_xx,
26       s_yy = s_yy,
27       s_zz = s_zz,
28     }
29   end
```

tpv13

- output
- parameters.par
- paraview.jpg
- tpv12_13_fault.yaml
- tpv12_13_initial_stress.yaml**
- tpv12_13_material.yaml
- tpv13.ipynb
- tpv13.jpg
- tpv13_training.geo

1 directory, 8 files



Task 1b - SeisSol's input files

• Simulation output

```
32 !see: https://seissol.readthedocs.io/en/latest/fault-output.html
33 !parameterize paraview fault output
34 &Elementwise
35 printtimeinterval_sec = 1.0 ! Time interval at which output will be written
36 OutputMask = 1111111111 ! turn on and off fault outputs
37 refinement_strategy = 2
38 refinement = 1
39 !vtkorder = 3
40 /
```

tpv13

- ├── **output**
- ├── **parameters.par**
- ├── paraview.jpg
- ├── tpv12_13_fault.yaml
- ├── tpv12_13_initial_stress.yaml
- ├── tpv12_13_material.yaml
- ├── tpv13.ipynb
- ├── tpv13.jpg
- └── tpv13_training.geo

1 directory, 8 files

```
62 &Output
63 OutputFile = 'outputs/tpv13'
64 Format = 6 ! Format (10=no output, 6=hdf5 output)
65 ! |stress |vel
66 iOutputMask = 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 1
67 ! |strain |eta
68 iPlasticityMask = 0 0 0 0 0 0 1
69 TimeInterval = 4. ! Index of printed info at time
70 refinement = 1
71
72 ! Free surface output
73 SurfaceOutput = 1
74 SurfaceOutputRefinement = 0
75 SurfaceOutputInterval = 2.0
76 surfacevtkorder = 2
77
78 pickdt = 0.005 ! Pickpoint Sampling
79 RFileName = 'tpv12_13_receivers.dat' ! Record Points in extra file
80
81 ! xdmfWriterBackend = 'posix' ! (optional) The backend used in fault, wavefield,
82 ! and free-surface output. The HDF5 backend is only supported when SeisSol is compiled with
83 ! HDF5 support.
84
85 EnergyOutput = 1 ! Computation of energy, written in csv file
86 EnergyTerminalOutput = 1 ! Write energy to standard output
87 EnergyOutputInterval = 0.5
88
89 Checkpoint = 0
90 /
```

Task 2 - Visualization of SeisSol output

For an explanation of each output field:

<https://seissol.readthedocs.io/en/latest/fault-output.html>

OutputMask

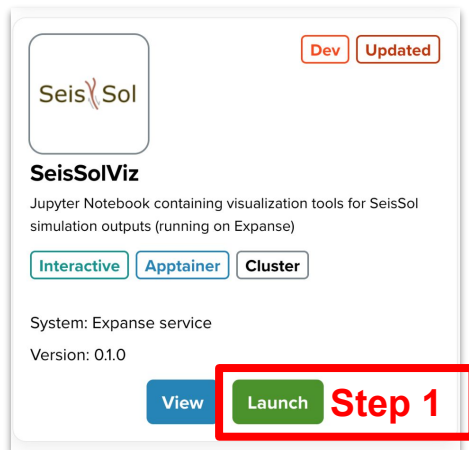
The **OutputMask** variable allows you to select specific unknowns for visualization. You can toggle the output writing of each unknown by changing its corresponding bit in the OutputMask array.

Here's what each bit in the OutputMask array represents:

1. **SRs** and **SRd**: Slip rates in along-strike and along-dip directions
2. **T_s**, **T_d**: Shear stress in strike and dip directions, **P_n**: Normal stress
3. **u_n**: Fault normal velocity (Note: SeisSol does not allow for fault opening (mode I))
4. **Mud**: Current effective friction coefficient, **StV**: State variable for RS friction
5. **Ts0**, **Td0**, **Pn0**: Total shear and normal stresses, including initial stresses
6. **Sls** and **Sld**: Fault slip in along-strike and -dip directions
7. **Vr**: Rupture velocity, computed from the spatial derivatives of the rupture time
8. **ASI**: Accumulated slip
9. **PSR**: Peak slip rate
10. **RT**: Rupture time
11. **DS**: Dynamic stress time. With LSW, the time at which $ASI > D_c$. With RS, the time at which $\mu \leq (f_0 + \mu_w)$. DS can be used to evaluate the process zone size.
12. **P_f** and **Tmp**: Only with thermal pressurization, pore pressure and temperature

Task 2 - Visualization of SeisSol output

using SeisSolviz on  **QUAKEWORX**



SeisSolViz

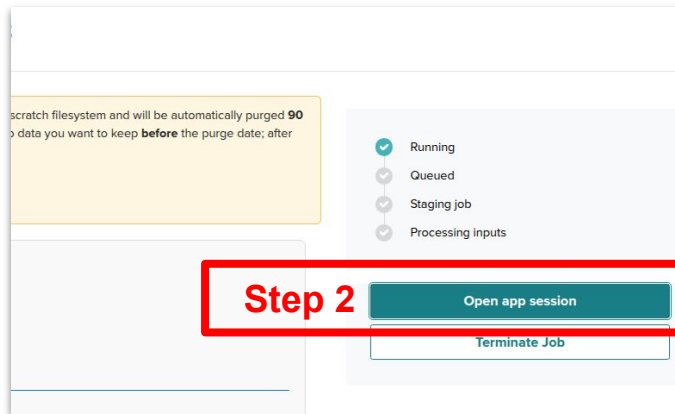
Dev Updated

Jupyter Notebook containing visualization tools for SeisSol simulation outputs (running on Expanse)

Interactive Apptainer Cluster

System: Expanse service
Version: 0.1.0

View **Launch** **Step 1**

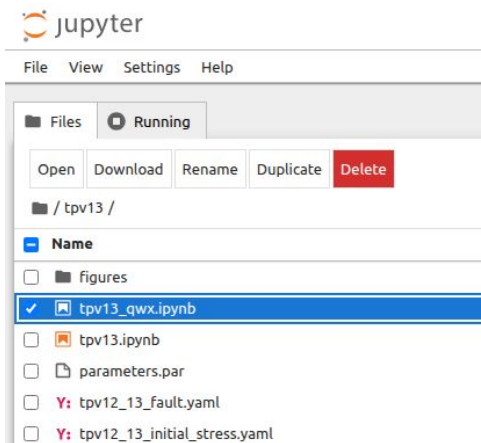


scratch filesystem and will be automatically purged 90 days after the purge date; after data you want to keep before the purge date; after

- Running
- Queued
- Staging job
- Processing inputs

Step 2 Open app session

Terminate Job



jupyter

File View Settings Help

Files Running

Open Download Rename Duplicate Delete

/ tpv13 /

Name

- ☐ figures
- ☒ **tpv13_qwx.ipynb**
- ☐ tpv13.ipynb
- ☐ parameters.par
- ☐ Y: tpv12_13_fault.yaml
- ☐ Y: tpv12_13_initial_stress.yaml

Step 3: Navigate to the *tpv13* folder and open *tpv13_qwx.ipynb*

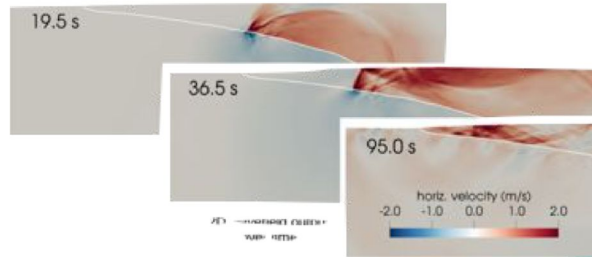
Let's move to the Jupyter Notebook :)

In this notebook, we will skip the meshing part, which was already covered by Gabrielle in the previous section, and move directly to the visualization part.

Task 2 - Visualization of SeisSol output using Paraview

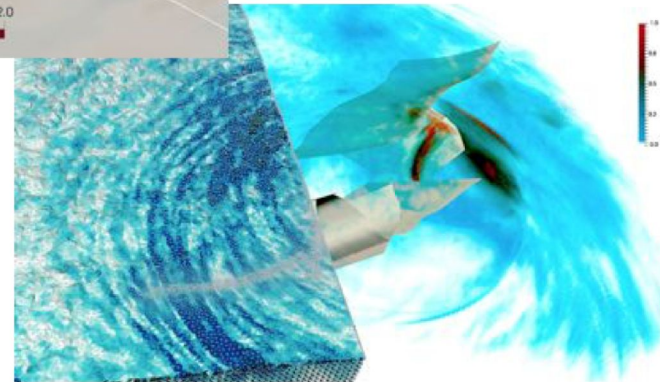
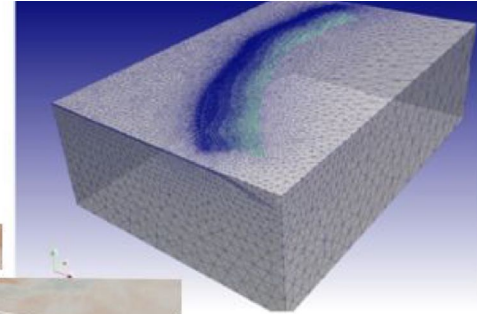
You can also visualize the SeisSol output in Paraview on your local machine. For that, you need to 1) download Paraview and 2) download the output files from your Quakeworx SeisSol simulation.

ParaView for visualizing your results



2D SeisSol (Laptop)

- time series (seismograms), 2D (fault, free surface) and 3D output fields
- paraview filters for simple post-processing



**Kaikoura: 29 mio elements, 90 sec.,
2 hours on 3000 Sandy Bridge cores**

Task 3 - Understand parameter choices in the benchmark

Consider this code block within the notebook. By computing the relative pre-stress ratio R in the nucleation area, verify that the nucleation area is critically stressed ($R > 1$).

```
import sympy as sp
import numpy as np

# Define symbolic variables
s3_to_s1, sigma_max, dip, mu_s, mu_d = sp.symbols("s3_to_s1 sigma_max dip mu_s mu_d")

# stress tensor
stress = sp.diag((1 + s3_to_s1) * sigma_max / 2, s3_to_s1 * sigma_max, sigma_max)
# normal and along dip unit vectors
u_n = sp.Matrix([0, -sp.sin(dip), sp.cos(dip)])
udip = sp.Matrix([0, sp.cos(dip), sp.sin(dip)])

# tractions
traction = stress * u_n

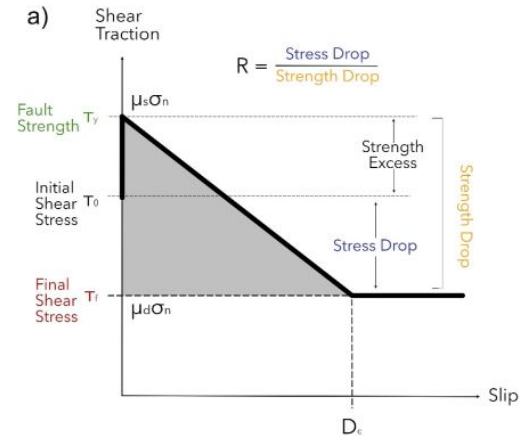
sigma_n = traction.dot(u_n)
print("sigma_n:", sigma_n)
sigma_d = traction.dot(udip)
print("sigma_d:", sigma_d)

R = (sigma_d - mu_d * sigma_n) / ((mu_s - mu_d) * sigma_n)
print("relative prestress ratio R:", R)

params = {"dip": 60 * np.pi / 180, "s3_to_s1": 0.3495, "mu_s": 0.7, "mu_d": 0.1}
print(
    f"relative prestress ratio R evaluated with {params}:",
    R.subs(params),
)

print("sigma_n:", sigma_n.subs(params))
print("sigma_d:", sigma_d.subs(params))
```

$$R = \frac{\tau_0 - \mu_d \sigma_n}{(\mu_s - \mu_d) \sigma_n}$$

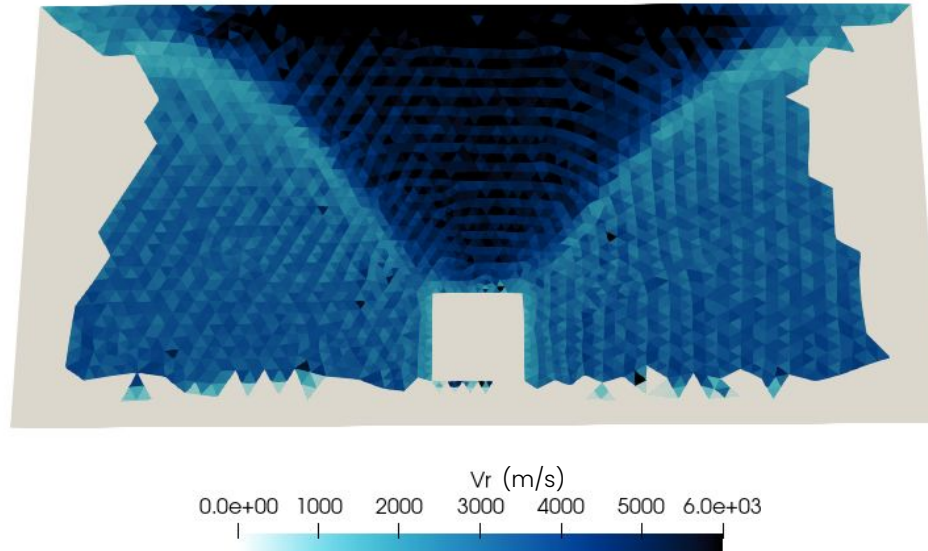


modified from Yin et al. (2025)

Task 4 - Rupture speed analysis

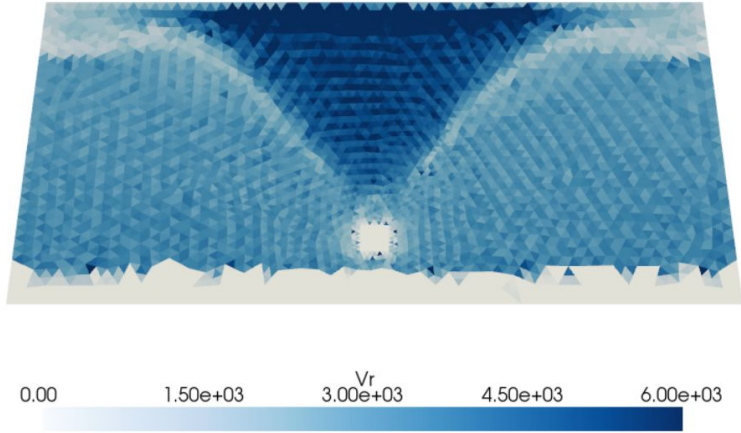
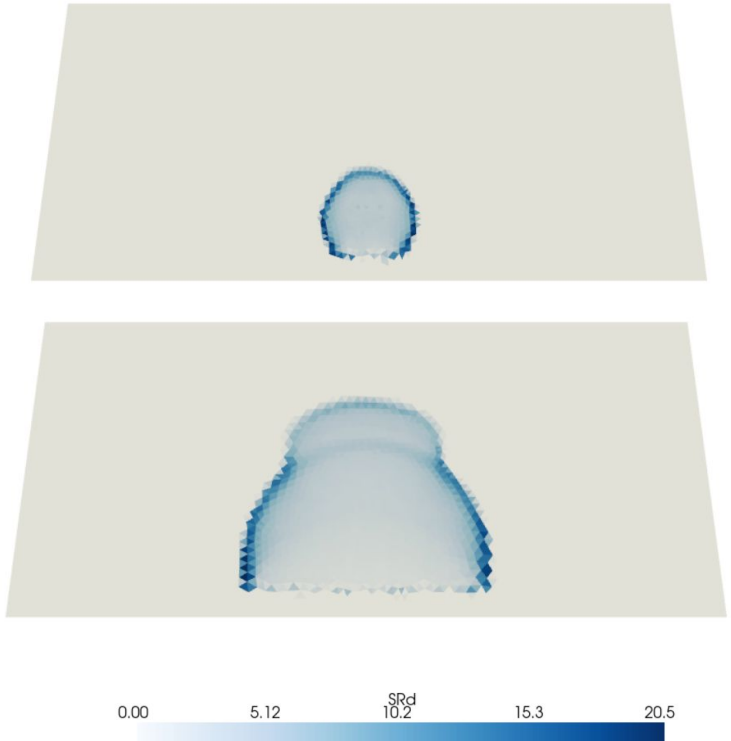
We analyze the mechanism causing supershear in this setup and disable it.

- Examine the earthquake rupture speed and identify the conditions that trigger supershear rupture.
- Disable the current supershear triggering mechanism by changing nucleation size to 1.2km in ``tpv12_13_fault.yaml``
- Decrease the initial shear stress (that is changing ``s3_to_s1`` from 0.3495 to 0.4 in ``tpv12_13_initial_stress.yaml``) to suppress the new supershear transition



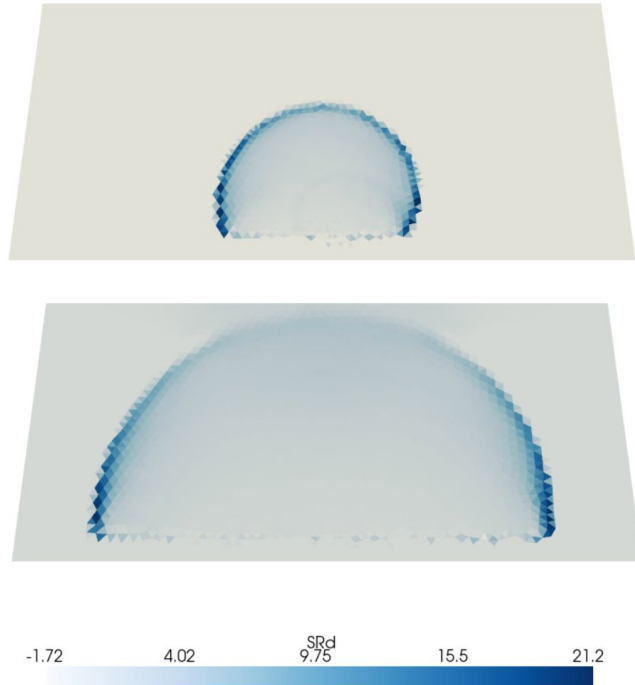
Task 4 - Rupture speed analysis

- nucleation size: 1.2km



Task 4 - Rupture speed analysis

- $s3_to_s1 = 0.4$
- nucleation size 1.8km

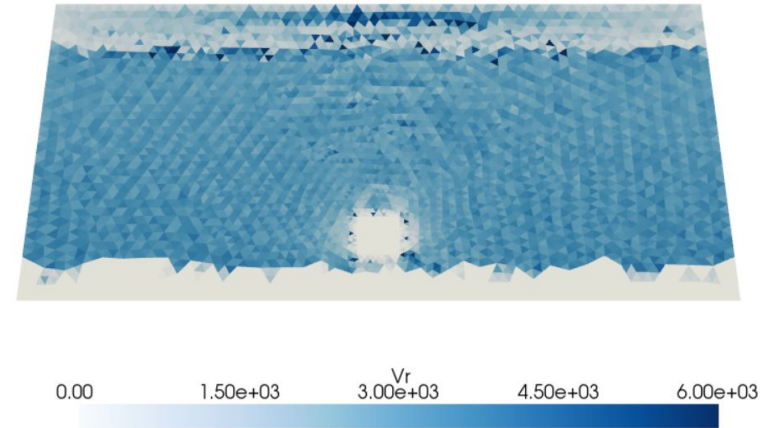


$$\text{Stress excess} = \frac{\tau_s - \tau_0}{\tau_0 - \tau_d}$$

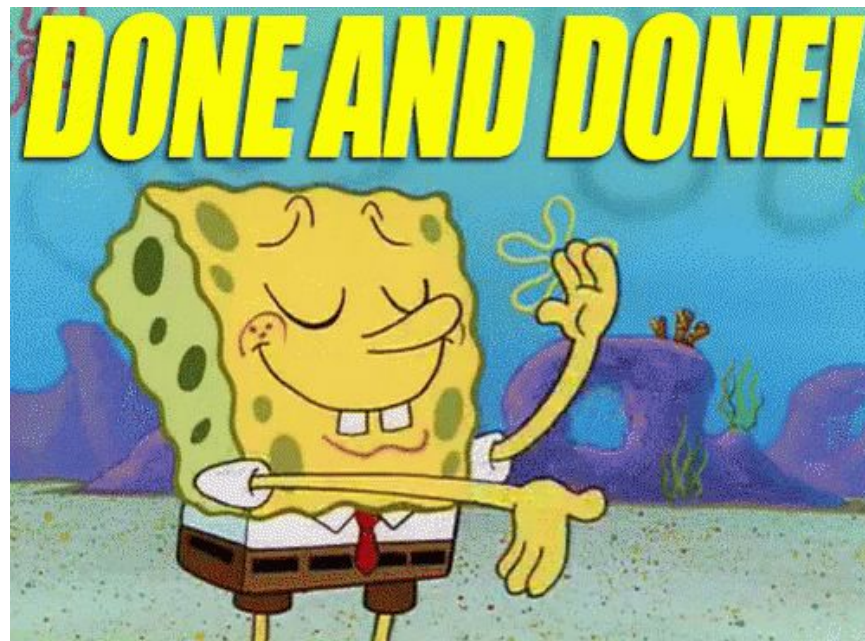
τ_s : static shear strength

τ_d : dynamic shear strength

τ_0 : initial shear stress



Task 5 - Turn-off plasticity and compare the elastic and elastoplastic models



SeisSol Training Example 2 - 3D dynamic rupture training example: the 2016 Mw 7.8 Kaikōura, New Zealand earthquake

Let's start by running the SeisSol Kaikoura simulation using the SeisSol App in the Quakeworx Gateway



Launch

Step 1:

SeisSol app type *

☒ SeisSol ☐ SeisSol nonlinear materials

Step 2:

Job name *

SeisSol_Kaikoura

Step 3:

Parameter file (.par)

The results must be directed to a directory named

No file selected.

One file only.
512 MB limit.
Allowed types: par.

Step 4:

Mesh file (.msh, .xdmf, .puml.h5)

No files selected.

Unlimited number of files can be uploaded to this field.
512 MB limit.
Allowed types: msh, xdmf, puml.h5.

Step 5:

Other files (csv, dat, txt, **yaml, nc**)

Upload all other files that are required by the parameter file.

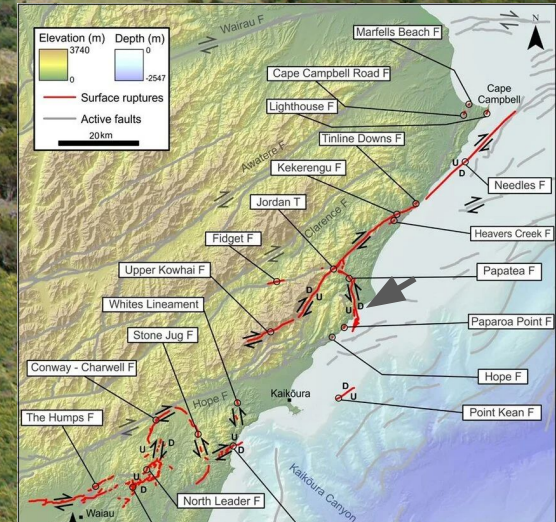
No files selected.

Unlimited number of files can be uploaded to this field.
512 MB limit.
Allowed types: csv, dat, txt, yaml, nc.

Step 6: Adjust Max runtime to 30 (minutes), but leave all other parameters as is, then submit

2016 Mw 7.8 Kaikoura earthquake

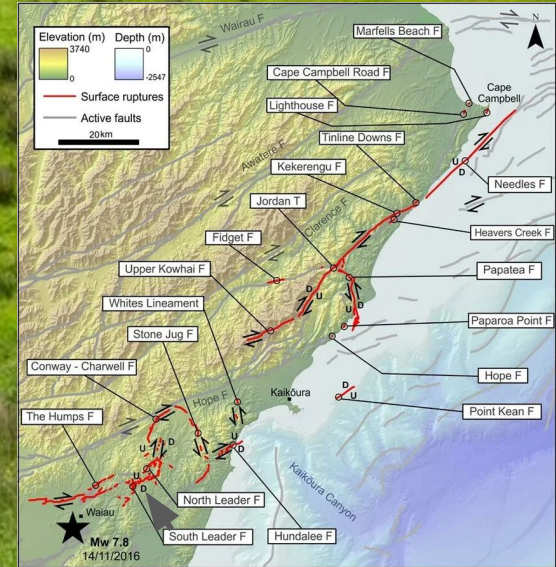
- one of the most complex earthquake ruptures to-date



2016 Mw 7.8 Kaikoura earthquake

- one of the most complex earthquake ruptures to-date

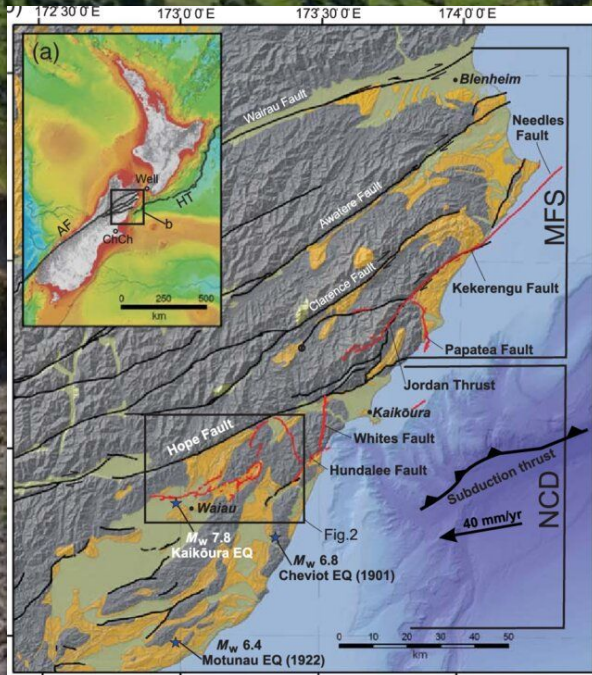
3.5m fault scarp



2016 Mw 7.8 Kaikoura earthquake

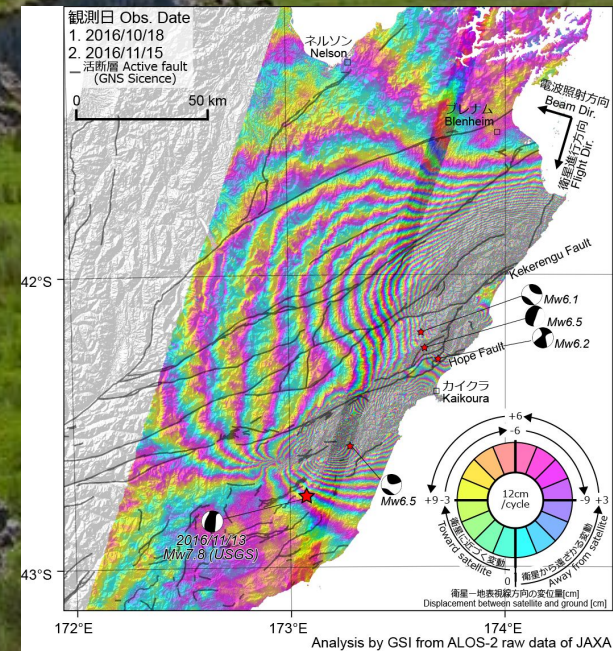
- one of the most complex earthquake ruptures to-date

Fault networks in the region



A. Nicol et al. (2018)

InSAR images

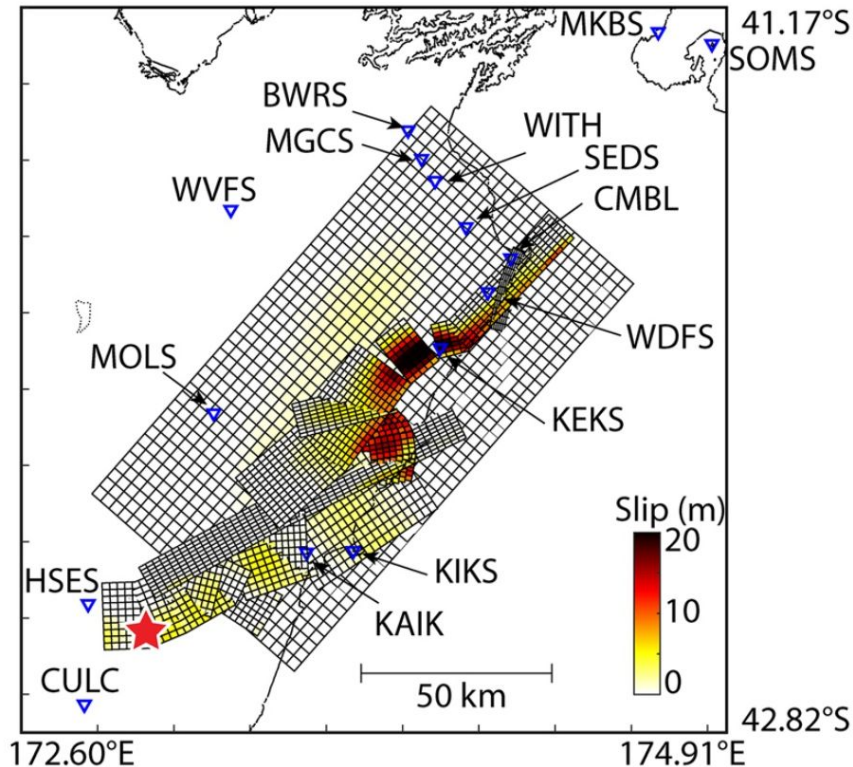


Geospatial Information Authority
(Japan) [The 2016 New Zealand Earthquake: 76](#)
[Crustal deformation detected by ALOS-2 data](#)

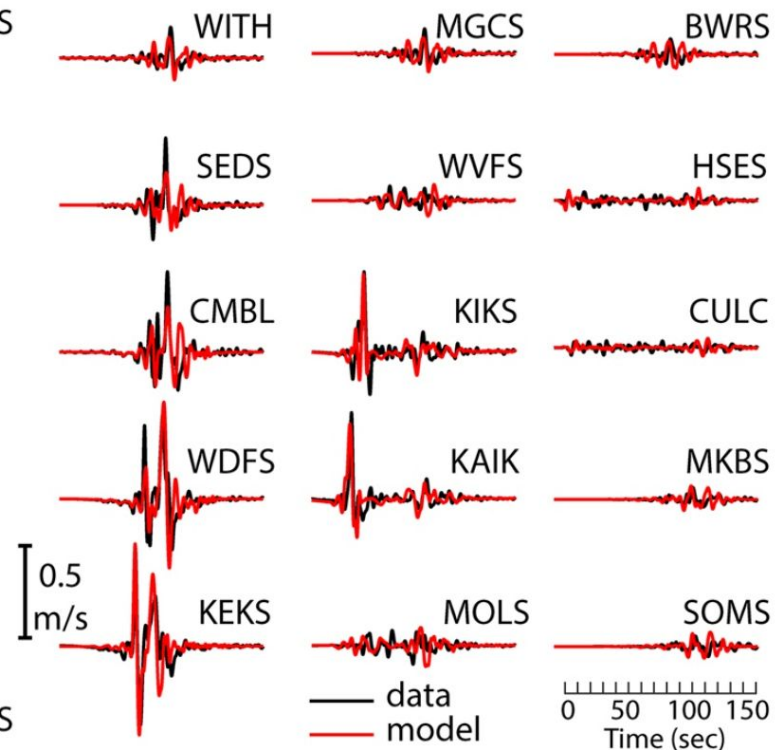
Finite-fault models suggest complex rupture

- Are these rupture dynamic feasible?

a) "Holden-Xu" slip model of the Kaikoura earthquake

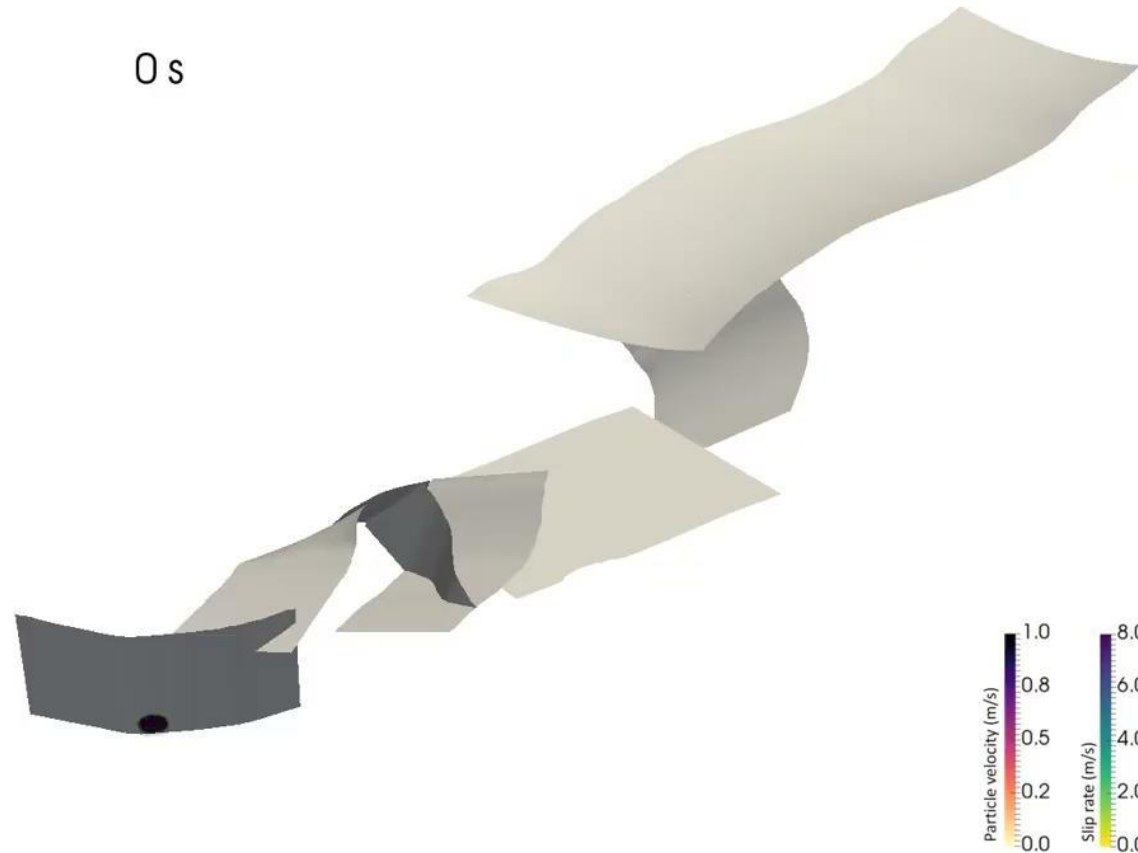


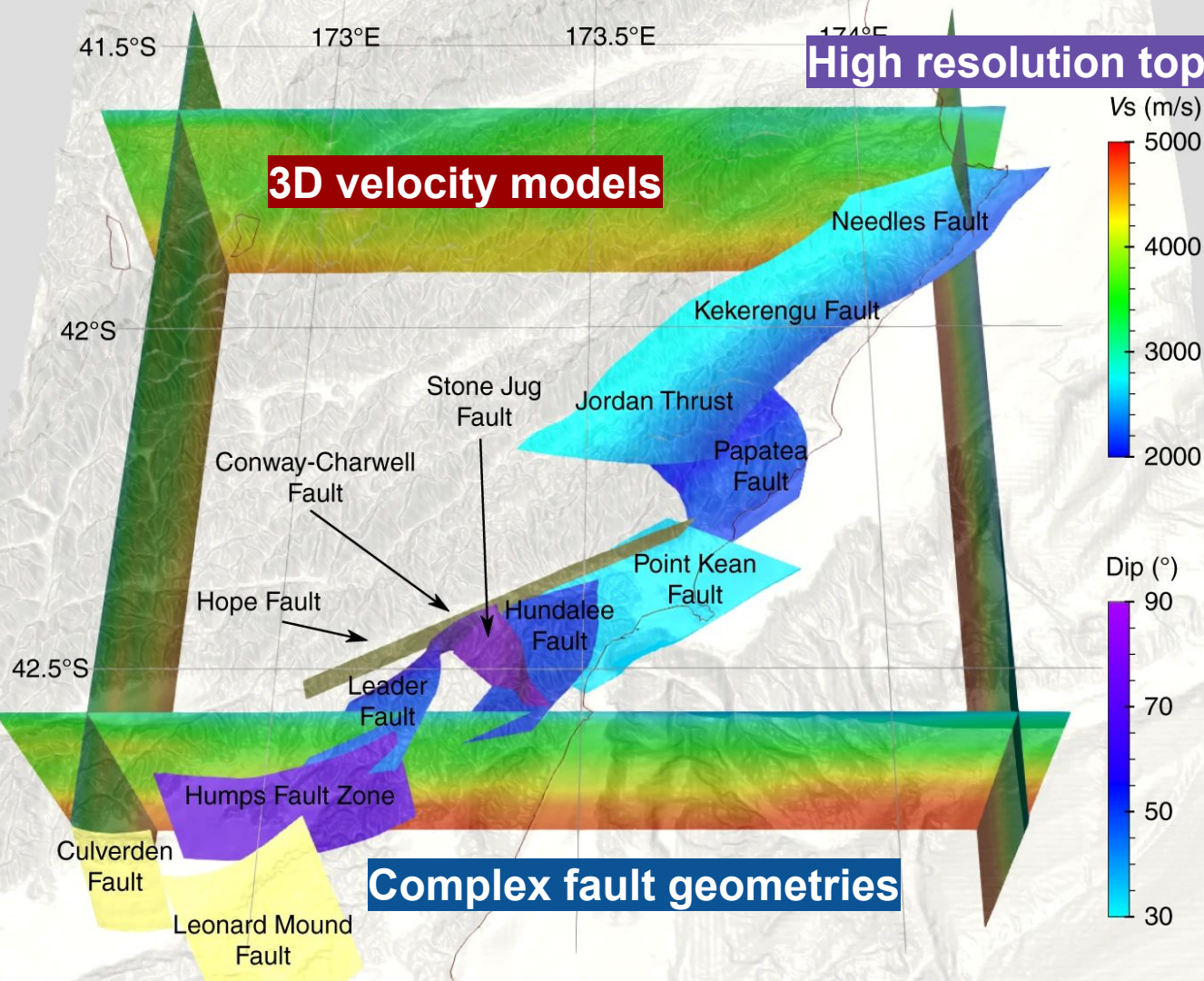
b) Comparison of vertical surface velocities



SeisSol 3D dynamic rupture training example: the 2016 Mw 7.8 Kaikōura, New Zealand earthquake

Ulrich et al. (2019)





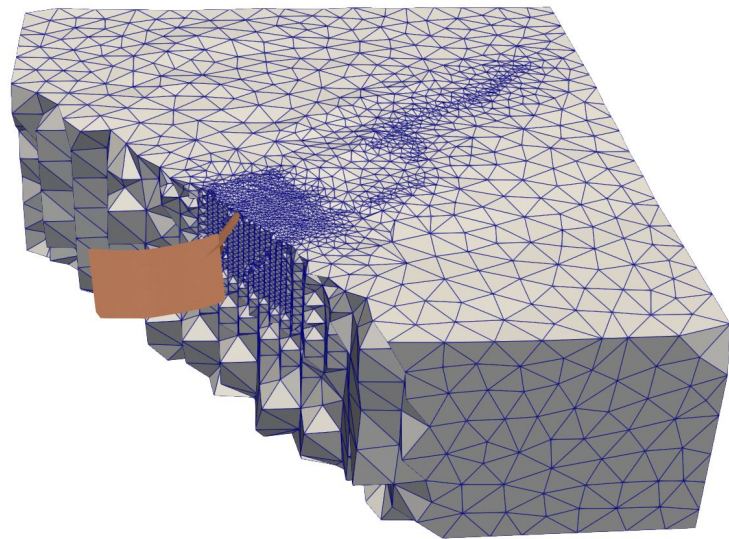
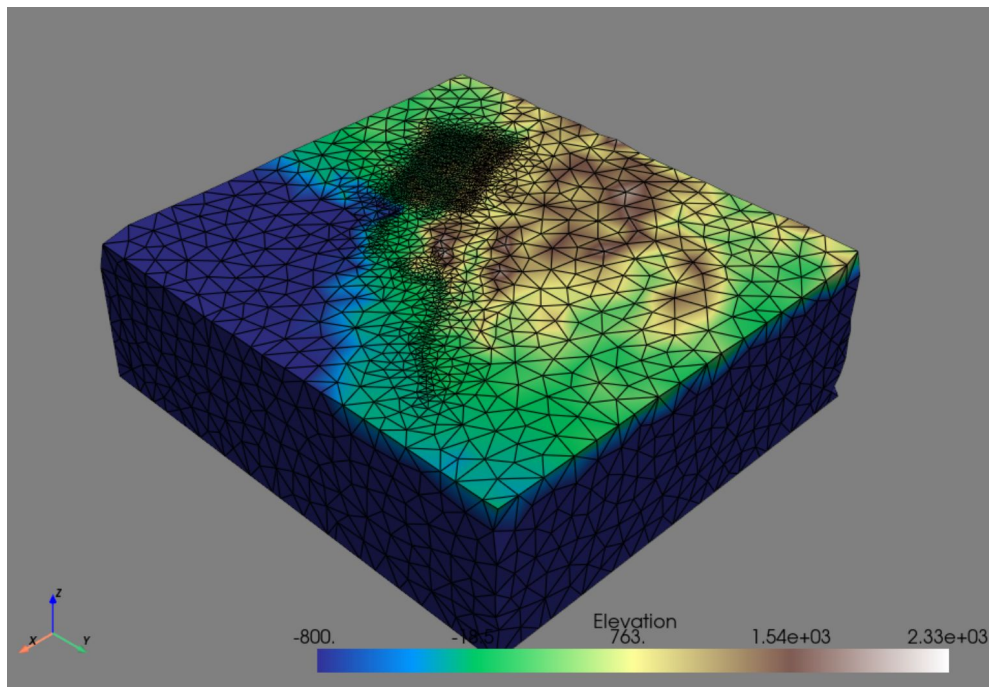
150 m element edge length everywhere on the faults

29 million elements in total

Resolving up to 3 Hz near the fault

Mesh visualization

This training uses a pre-prepared, 280,000-element mesh. It features a 1,500 m resolution along the faults, a box-shaped refinement zone for southern rupture waves, and static coarsening further away.

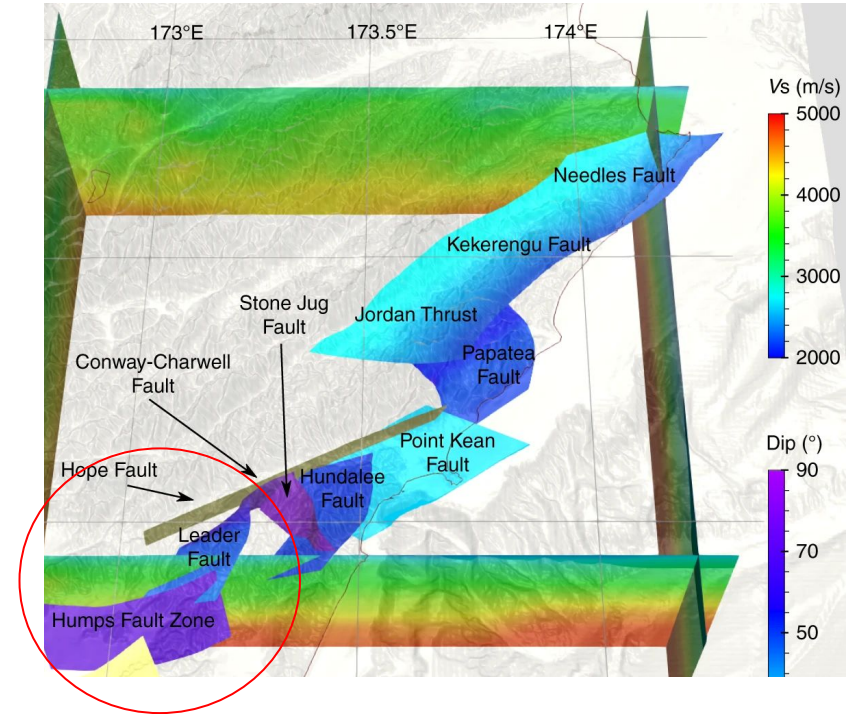


Task 1 - Understanding the dynamics of the first branching

using Paraview

We now analyse the dynamic fault traction on the Leader fault from the rupture of the Humps fault zone.

- **Task 1.1:** Download the output files from your Quakeworx SeisSol simulation and open them in Paraview

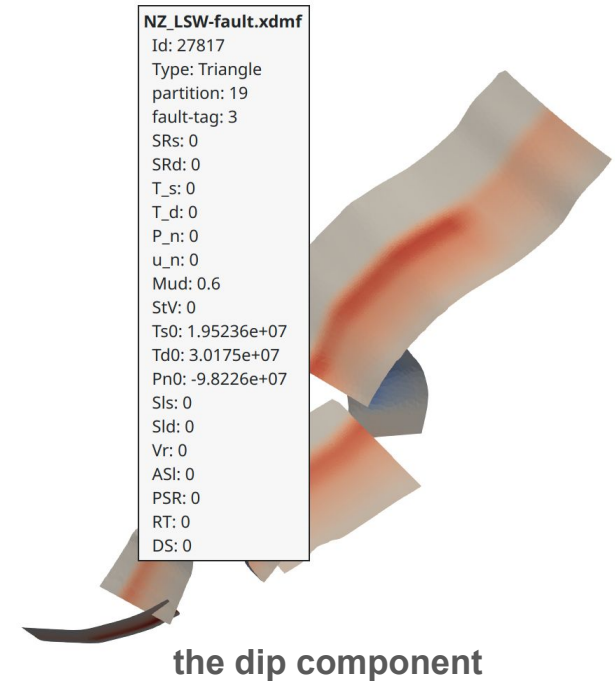


Task 1 - Understanding the dynamics of the first branching

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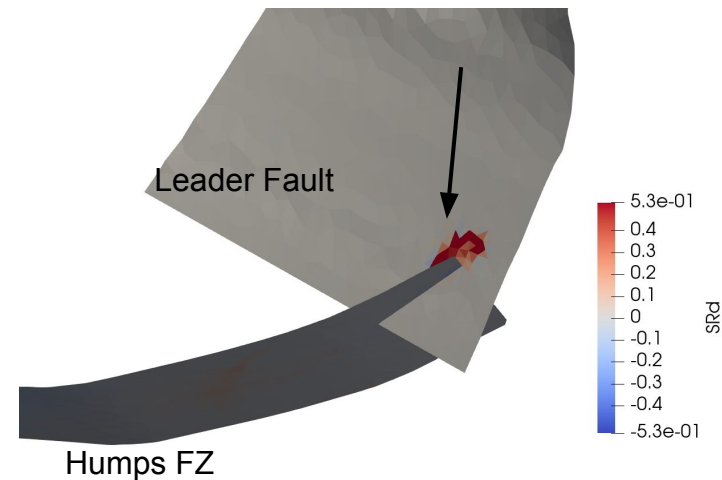
- **Task 1.1:** Download the output files from your Quakeworx SeisSol simulation and open them in Paraview
- **Task 1.2:** Inspect the initial shear tractions along strike (Ts0) and along dip (Td0). Which component is dominant on the Leader and Humps fault zone?



Task 1 - Understanding the dynamics of the first branching using Paraview

We now analyse the dynamic fault traction on the Leader fault from the rupture of the Humps fault zone.

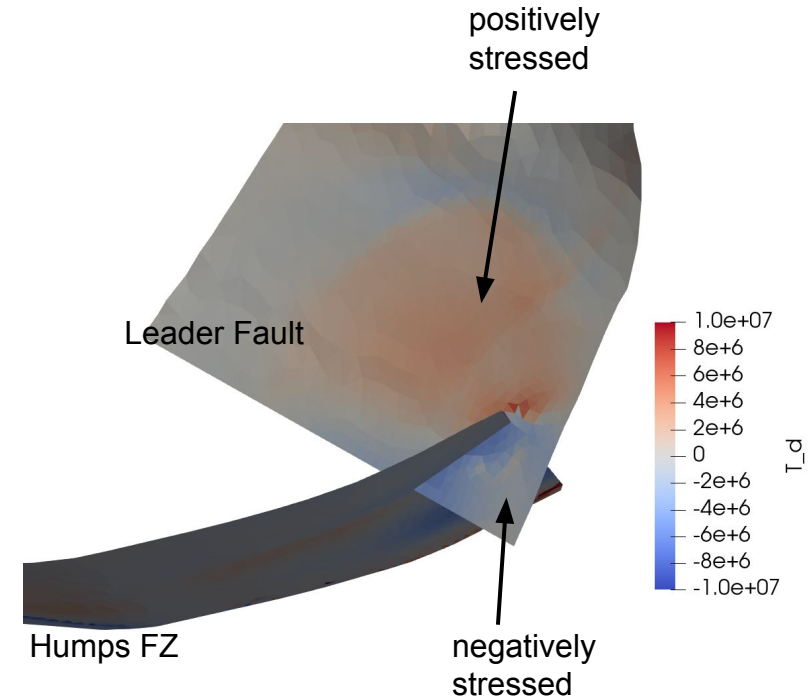
- **Task 1.1:** Download the output files from your Quakeworx SeisSol simulation and open them in Paraview
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- **Task 1.3:** Inspect the slip-rate along dip (SRd) on the Leader fault: where does the Leader fault get triggered?



Task 1 - Understanding the dynamics of the first branching using Paraview

We now analyse the dynamic fault traction on the Leader fault from the rupture of the Humps fault zone.

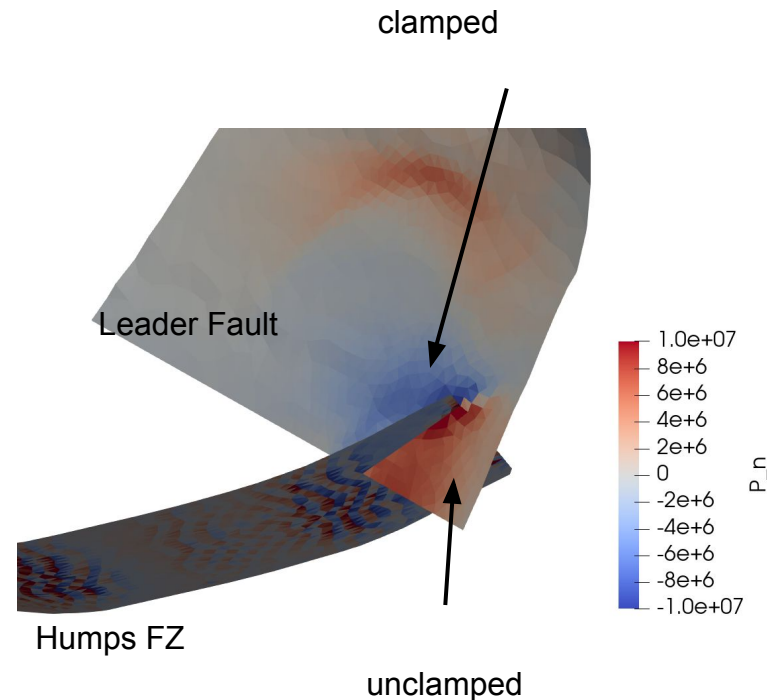
- **Task 1.1:** Download the output files from your Quakeworx SeisSol simulation and open them in Paraview
- **Task 1.2:** Inspect the initial shear tractions along strike (T_{s0}) and along dip (T_{d0}). Which component is dominant on the Leader and Humps fault zone?
- **Task 1.3:** Inspect the slip-rate along dip (SR_d) on the Leader fault: where does the Leader fault get triggered?
- **Task 1.4:** Inspect the transient shear tractions along strike (T_s) and along dip (T_d) right before rupture branching to the Leader fault.
 - Which traction orientation (strike or dip) is the most important for triggering the Leader fault?
 - Which part of the fault is positively stressed by the rupture on the Humps fault?



Task 1 - Understanding the dynamics of the first branching using Paraview

We now analyse the dynamic fault traction on the Leader fault from the rupture of the Humps fault zone.

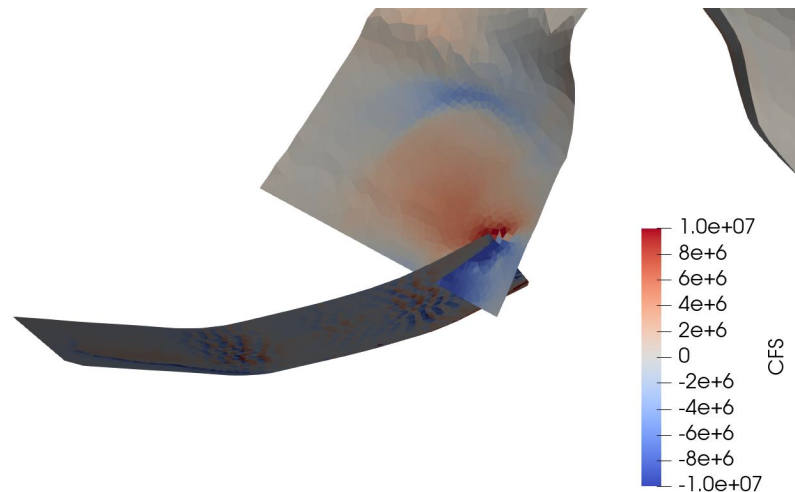
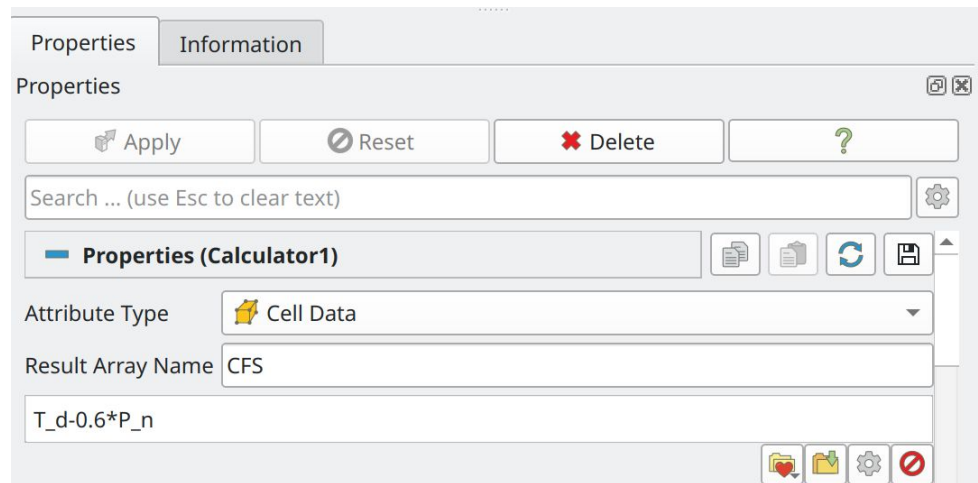
- **Task 1.1:** Download the output files from your Quakeworx SeisSol simulation and open them in Paraview
- **Task 1.2:** Inspect the initial shear tractions along strike (T_{s0}) and along dip (T_{d0}). Which component is dominant on the Leader and Humps fault zone?
- **Task 1.3:** Inspect the slip-rate along dip (SR_d) on the Leader fault: where does the Leader fault get triggered?
- **Task 1.4:** Inspect the transient shear tractions along strike (T_s) and along dip (T_d) right before rupture branching to the Leader fault.
 - Which traction orientation (strike or dip) is the most important for triggering the Leader fault?
 - Which part of the fault is positively stressed by the rupture on the Humps fault?
- **Task 1.5:** Now inspect the transient normal stress (P_n) on the Leader fault. P_n is negative in compression. Which part of the fault is clamped, and which is unclamped?



Task 1 - Understanding the dynamics of the first branching using Paraview

We now analyse the dynamic fault traction on the Leader fault from the rupture of the Humps fault zone.

- Task 1.6:** The combine effect of shear and normal stressing can be evaluated with the dynamic Coulomb stress changes. Use the Calculator filter (Filters>Search>Calculator) to compute the CFS as $CFS = T_d - 0.6 * P_n$
Is it consistent with the Leader Fault getting triggered?



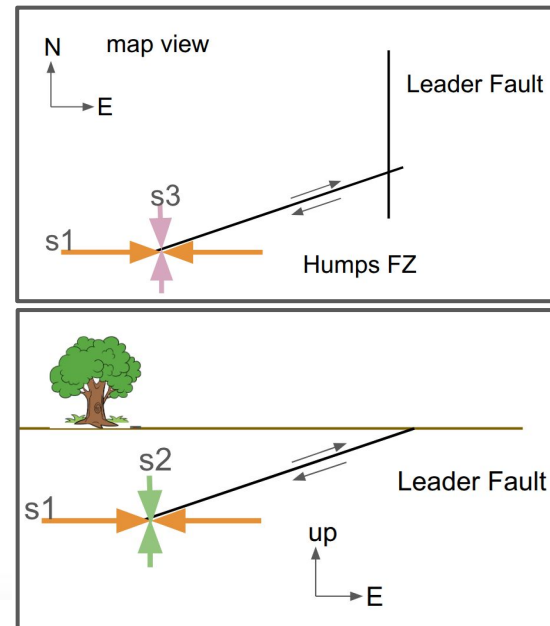
Task 2 - Understanding how initial loading affects cascading rupture dynamics

jupyter NZ_initial_stressLSW.yaml ✓ a few seconds ago

```
File Edit View Language
89 [sig_zz]: !Include NZ_sigzz.yaml
90 components: !AndersonianStress
91 constants:
92     mu_d: 0.1
93     mu_s: 0.6
94     cohesion: 0.0
95     s2ratio: 0.15
96     S_v: 2
97 [sig_zz]: !Include NZ_sigzz.yaml
98 components: !LuaMap
99 returns: [s_xx, s_yy, s_zz, s_xy, s_yz, s_xz]
100 function: |
101     function f(x)
102         return {
103             s_xx = x["Omega"] * x["b_xx"] + (1.0 - x["Omega"]) * x["sig_zz"],
104             s_yy = x["Omega"] * x["b_yy"] + (1.0 - x["Omega"]) * x["sig_zz"],
105             s_zz = x["Omega"] * x["b_zz"] + (1.0 - x["Omega"]) * x["sig_zz"],
106             s_xy = x["Omega"] * x["b_xy"],
107             s_yz = x["Omega"] * x["b_yz"],
108             s_xz = x["Omega"] * x["b_xz"]
109         }
110     end
111
```

The stress shape ratio is defined as:

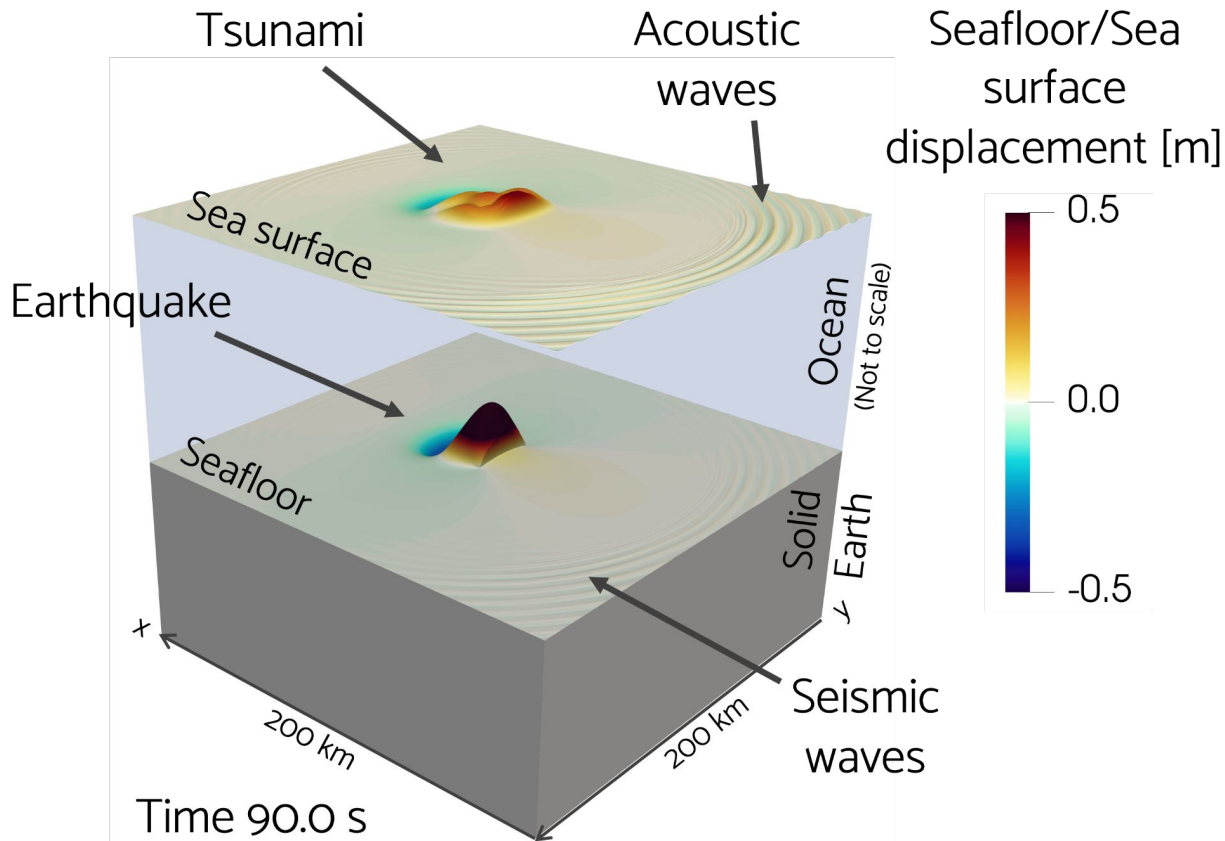
$$\nu = (s_2 - s_3) / (s_1 - s_3),$$



Effect of initial loading on cascading rupture dynamics

Task: Change the stress shape ratio (s2ratio) from 0.15 to 0.20 and run the updated setup to observe how it affects the dynamics. Rename the output folder to compare 3D earthquake dynamics of both setups by opening both fault output files in ParaView.

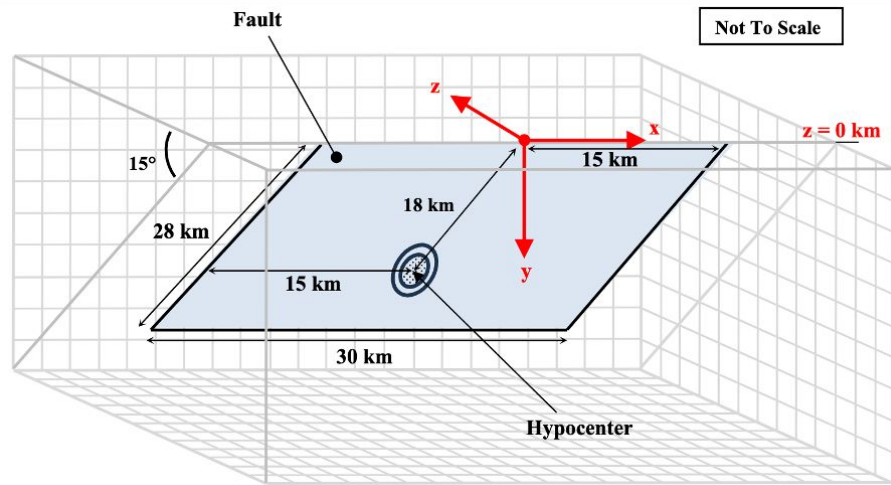
3D fully coupled earthquake dynamic rupture and tsunami benchmarks



Extending an existing benchmark to tsunami generation

The Problem Version 36
(TPV36; Harris et al., 2018)

Problem description for TPV36 and TPV37
- Shallow Dip Thrust Fault.

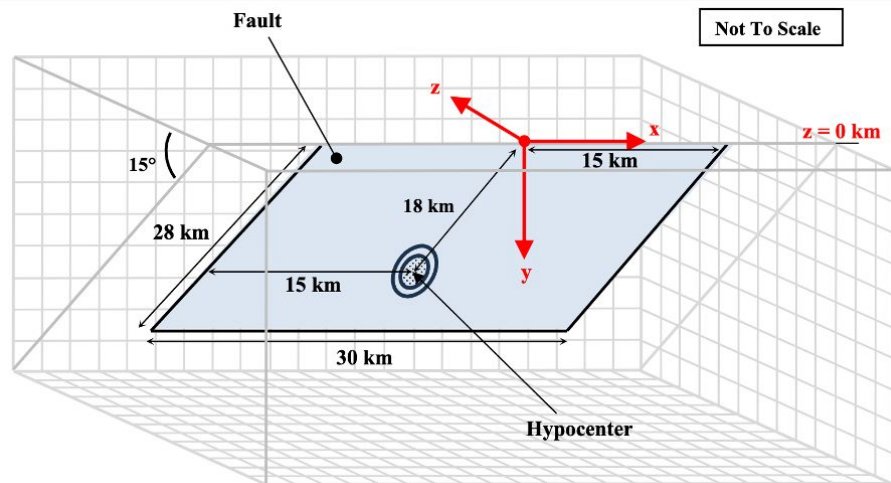


- Spontaneous 3D earthquake **dynamic rupture** on a 15° dipping thrust fault reaching the Earth's surface
- Rectangular planar fault: 30 km along-strike and 28 km down-dip

Extending an existing benchmark to tsunami generation

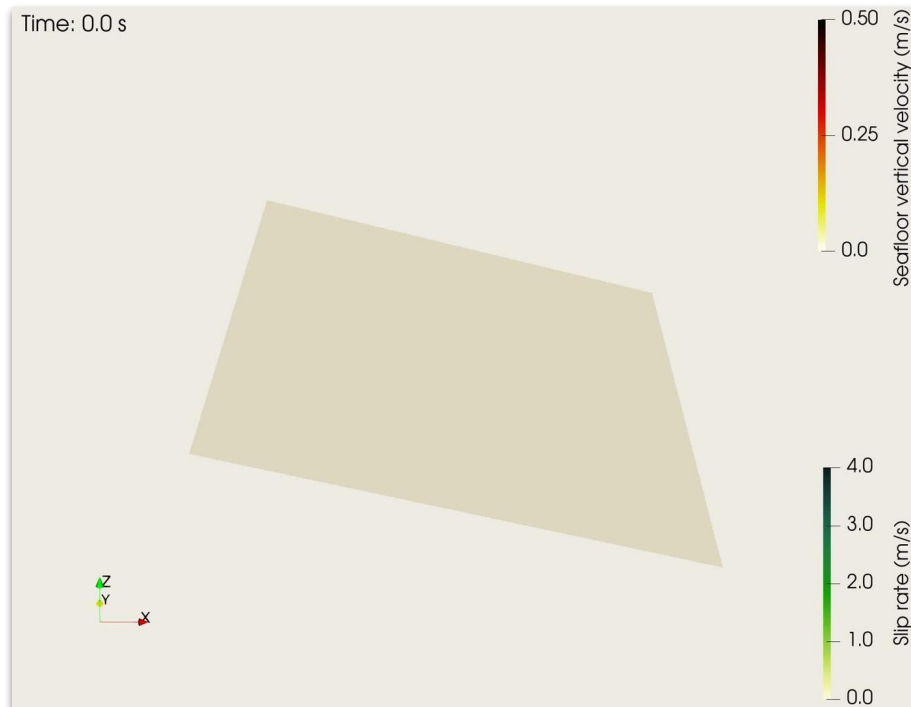
The Problem Version 36
(TPV36; Harris et al., 2018)

[Problem description for TPV36 and TPV37](#)
[- Shallow Dip Thrust Fault.](#)



- Spontaneous 3D earthquake **dynamic rupture** on a 15° dipping thrust fault reaching the Earth's surface
- Rectangular planar fault: 30 km along-strike and 28 km down-dip

Movie: First 30 s of spontaneous dynamic rupture for SeisSol with the seafloor vertical velocity

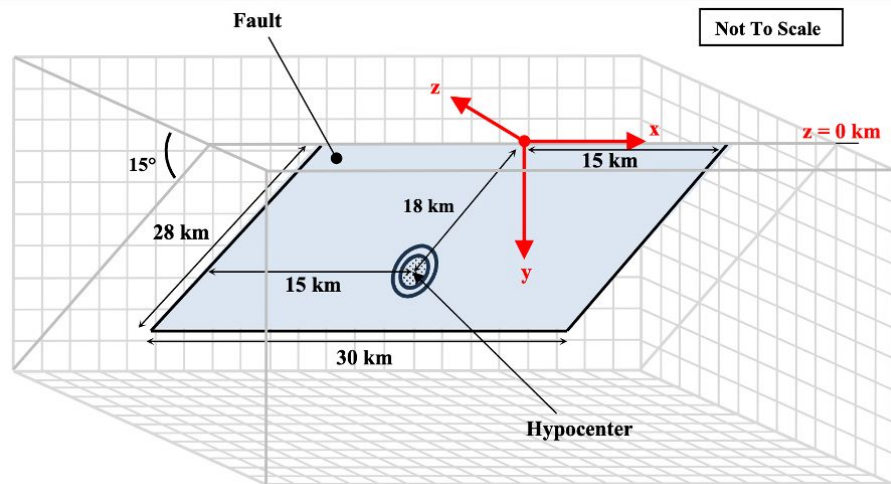


- Linear slip-weakening friction law with (on-fault) cohesion & depth-dependent initial stresses

Extending an existing benchmark to tsunami generation

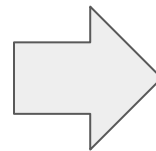
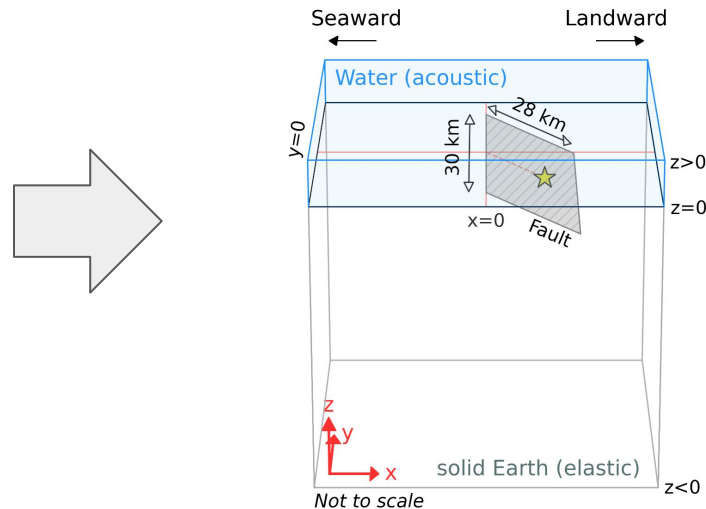
The Problem Version 36
(TPV36; Harris et al., 2018)

Problem description for TPV36 and TPV37 - Shallow Dip Thrust Fault.



The Tsunami Problem Version 1
(TTPV1)

Problem description for TTPV1 and TTPV2 - 3D Earthquake-Tsunami



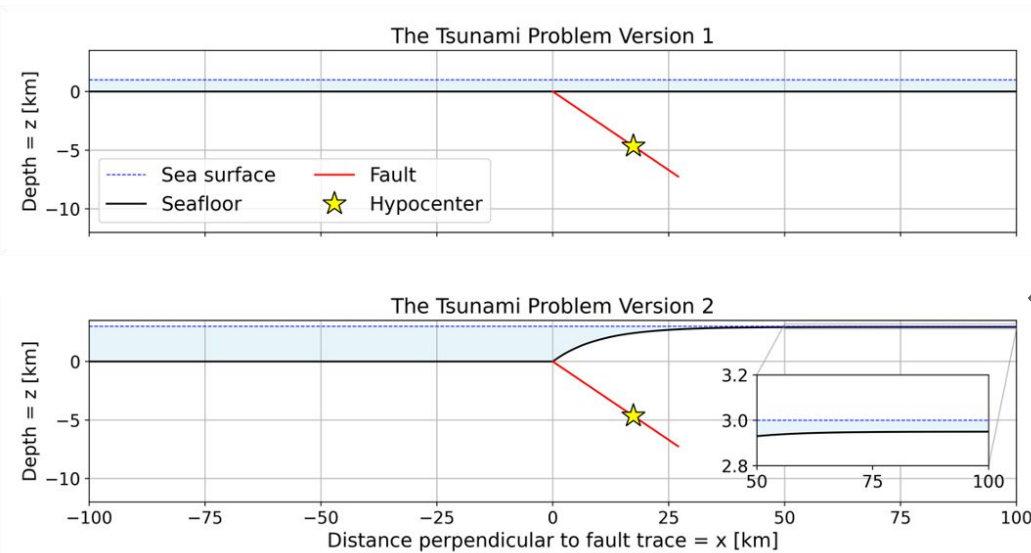
- Spontaneous 3D earthquake **dynamic rupture** on a 15° dipping thrust fault reaching the Earth's surface
- Rectangular planar fault: 30 km along-strike and 28 km down-dip

- The **fully coupled** method combines earthquake dynamic rupture and tsunami generation into a **single simulation**
- We can capture 3D elastic, acoustic, and tsunami waves, including dispersion effects, **simultaneously** (Maeda & Furumura, 2013; Lotto & Dunham, 2015)

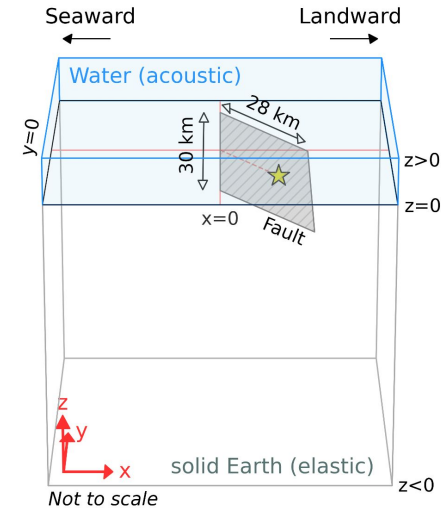
Extending an existing benchmark to tsunami generation

The Tsunami Problem Version 1 (TTPV1)

Side view:



Problem description for TTPV1 and TTPV2 - 3D Earthquake-Tsunami



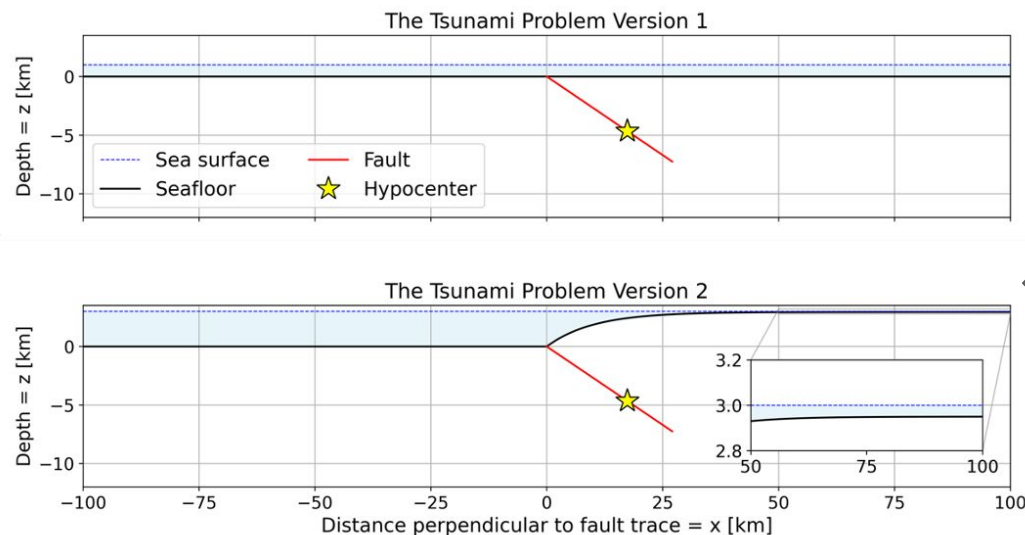
- In TTPV1, a **1 km thick uniform** water layer is added atop the elastic medium
- A water layer with **variable depth** is atop the elastic Earth, with 3 km water depth on the seaward side, sloping to shallow depth (~50 m) landwards

- The **fully coupled** method combines earthquake dynamic rupture and tsunami generation into a **single simulation**
- We can capture 3D elastic, acoustic, and tsunami waves, including dispersion effects, **simultaneously** (Maeda & Furumura, 2013; Lotto & Dunham, 2015)

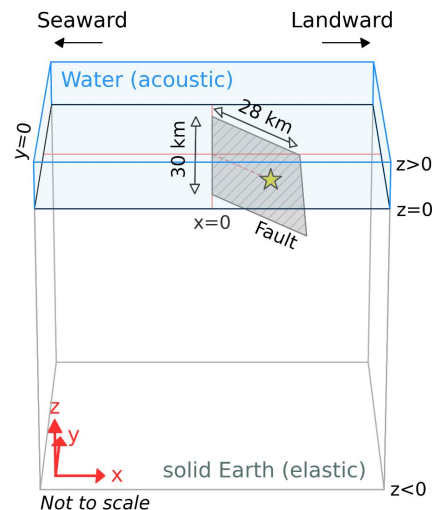
Extending an existing benchmark to tsunami generation

The Tsunami Problem Version 1 (TTPV1)

Side view:



Problem description for TTPV1 and TTPV2 - 3D Earthquake-Tsunami



For Training:

- Very small **105k element mesh for TTPV1** with limited horizontal extent
- **225k element mesh for TTPV2**

- The **fully coupled** method combines earthquake dynamic rupture and tsunami generation into a **single simulation**
 - We can capture 3D elastic, acoustic, and tsunami waves, including dispersion effects, **simultaneously**
- (Maeda & Furumura, 2013; Lotto & Dunham, 2015)



Start by running TTPV1 or TTPV2

Stable

SeisSol

The SeisSol App allows to perform simulations of seismic and tsunami wave propagation and earthquake dynamic rupture in complex 3D geologic settings.

Batch Executable Cluster

System: Expanse service
Version: 0.0.2

View Launch

Dev Updated

SeisSolViz

Jupyter Notebook containing visualization tools for SeisSol simulation outputs (running on Expanse)

Interactive Apptainer Cluster

System: Expanse service
Version: 0.1.0

View Launch

SeisSol / Training

< Code Issues 3 Pull requests 1 Actions Projects Wiki Security and quality Insights Settings

Files

main

Go to file

Training / earthquake-tsunami /

fabian-kutschera fix broken link and update figure for TTPV ✓

Name	Last commit message
..	
figures	fix broken link and update figure for TTPV
fault.yaml	merge quakeworks into main folder
material_WL.yaml	merge quakeworks into main folder
mesh_ttpv1_small_18k.puml.h5	merge quakeworks into main folder
mesh_ttpv2_225k.puml.h5	merge quakeworks into main folder
parameters_qwx.par	clean files for upcoming SeisSol Quakeworx training
ttpv_qwx.ipynb	fix broken link and update figure for TTPV

jupyter

File View Settings Help

Files Running

Select items to perform actions on them.

/

Name

- cdb_tpv23
- earthquake-tsunami
- kaikoura
- meshing
- northridge
- outputs
- sulawesi
- tpv13

Hands-on: Jupyter Notebook



7000+ commits to SeisSol

Wednesday, 29 July, 2015 06:26:28



Backup

