

# Corrections for distortion in polarization of reflected shear-waves in isotropic and anisotropic media

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# The problem

## THE PROBLEM

In general, a polarized shear wave undergoes significant distortion of that polarization upon reflection regardless of the symmetry of the propagating media (even in purely isotropic media).

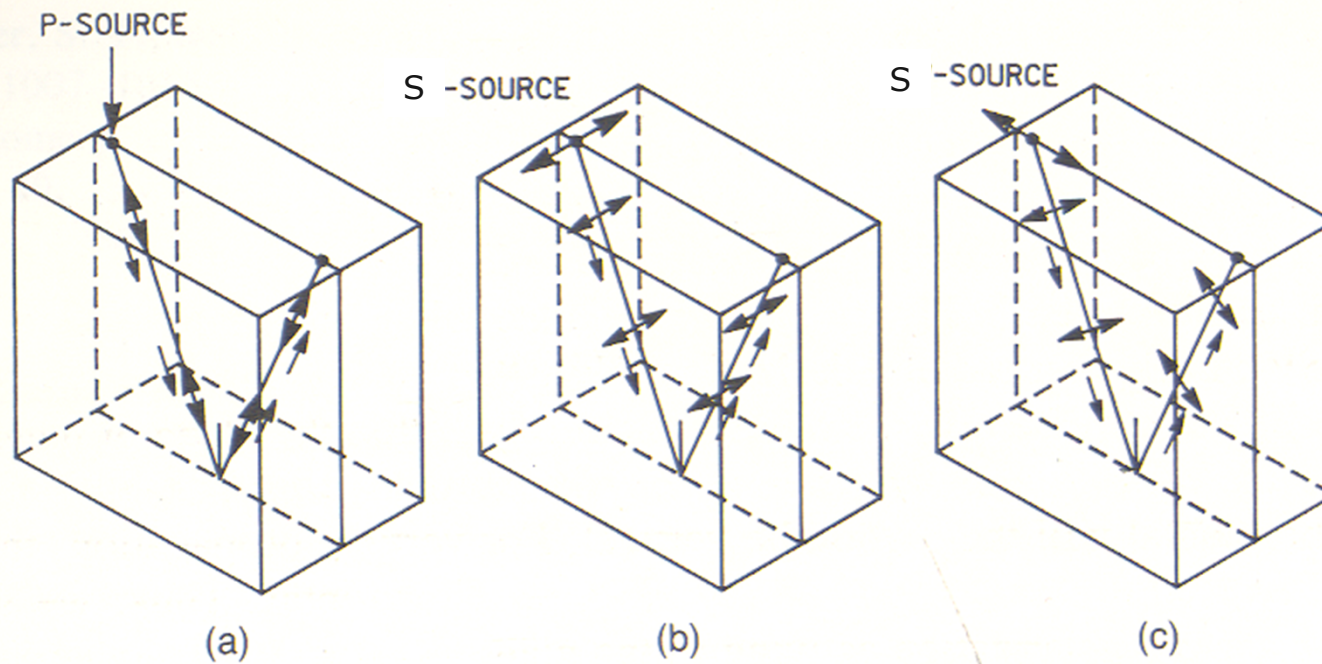
## THE CONSEQUENCES

This distortion complicates analysis of the reflection data for extracting medium properties from polarization information

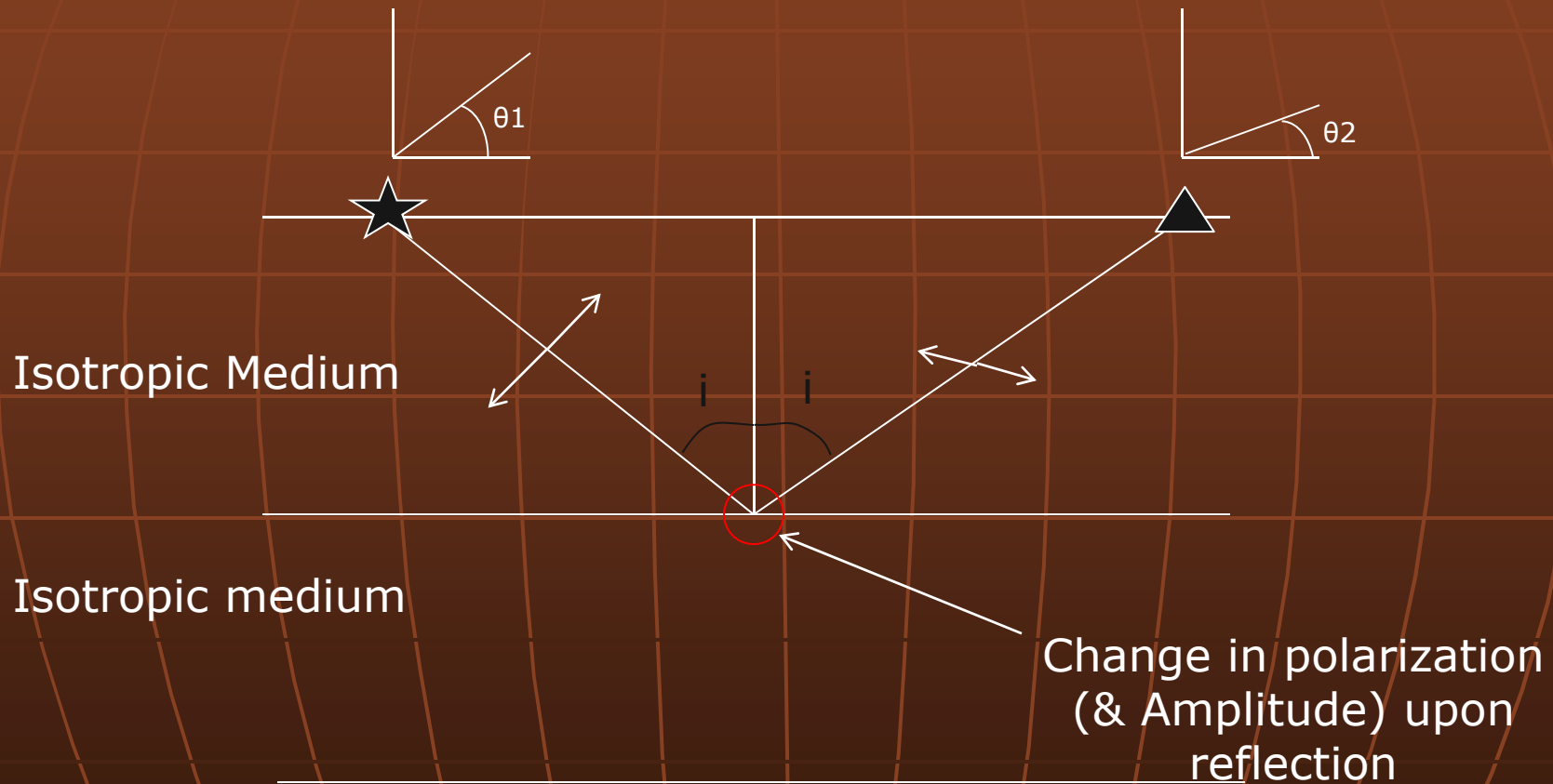
# Talk Outline

- S waves
- Polarization distortion
- Addressing the problem
- Previous work
- Reflection polarization vs. incidence angle
- Future Work
- Questions

# Body Waves with associated polarization



# Polarization distortion isotropic media

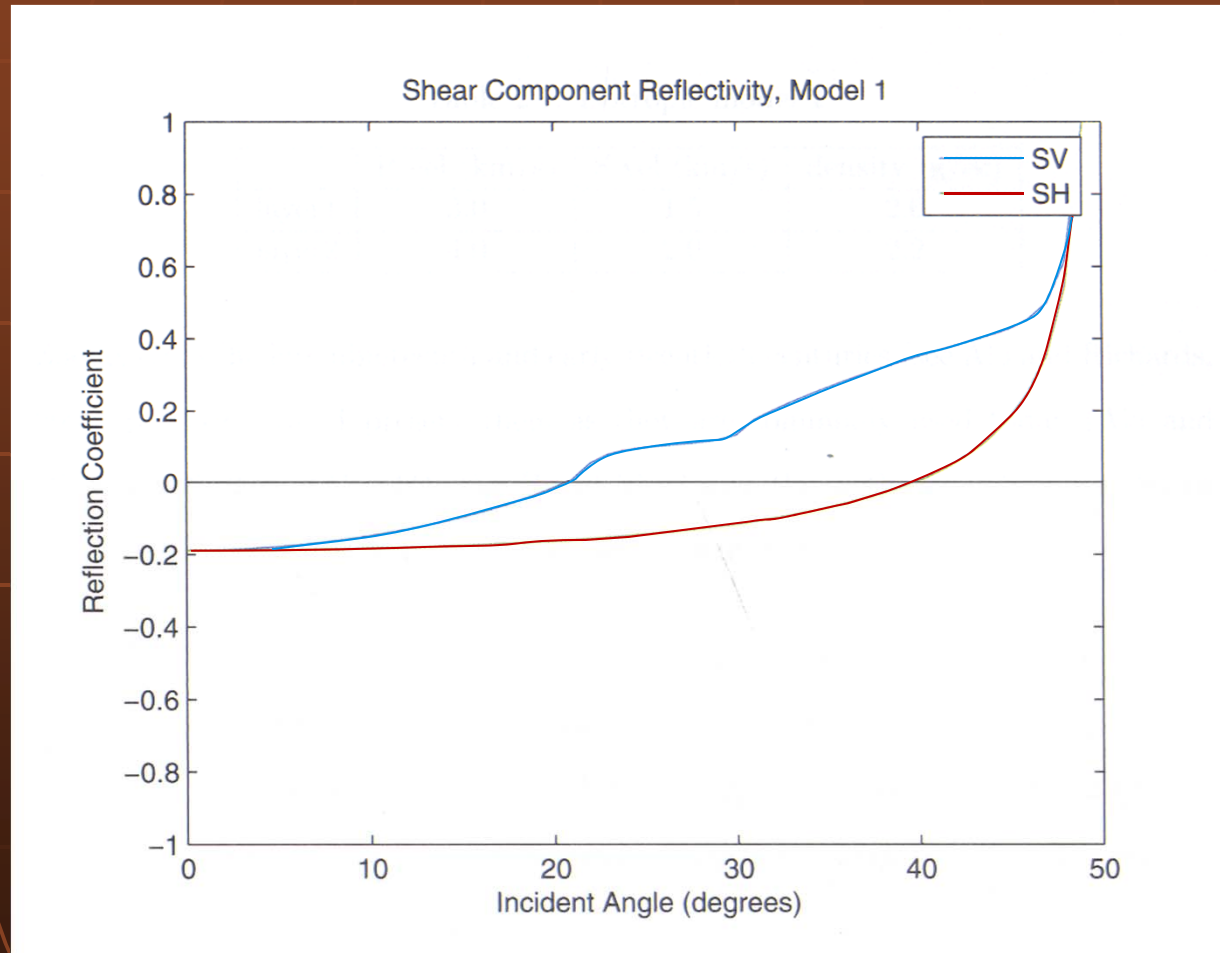


# Isotropic model

P wave Velocity – 3.0 km/sec  
S wave velocity - 1.5 km/sec  
Density - 2.0 g/cc

P wave Velocity – 4.0 km/sec  
S wave velocity - 2.0 km/sec  
Density - 2.2 g/cc

# Rss vs Incidence Angle



# Approximations to simplify Zoeppritz equations

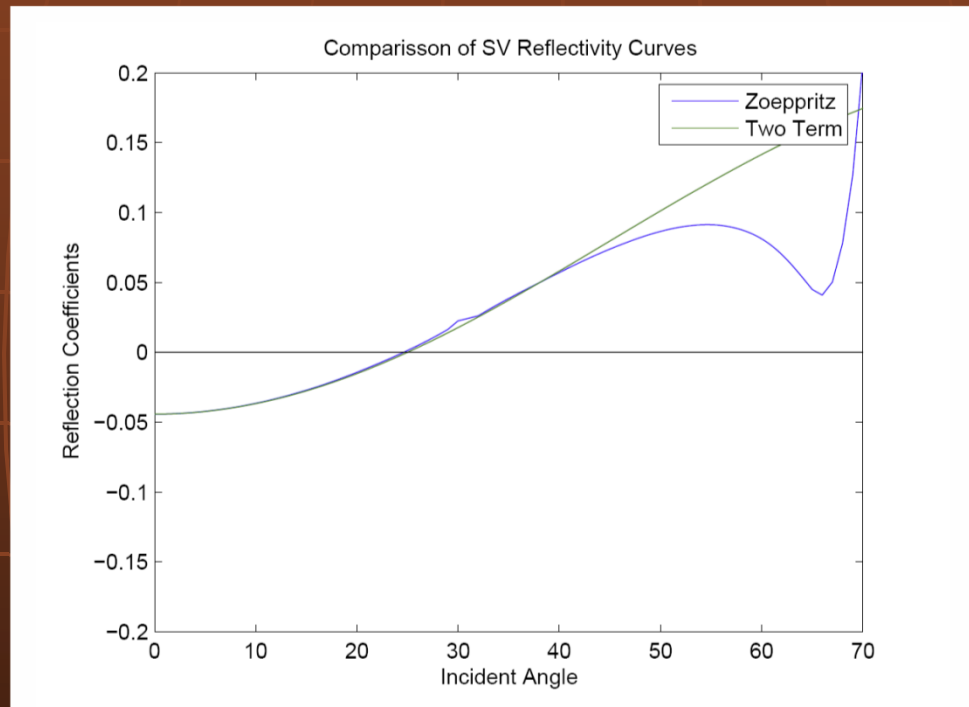
- The coefficient of the second term is that combination of elastic properties which can be determined by analyzing the offset dependence of event amplitude in conventional multichannel reflection data
- Assumes small contrasts in density and velocity

Source	Receiver		
	$P$	$S_v$	$S_h$
$P$	$R_p + (R_p - 2R_s) \sin^2 \theta$	$-2R_s \sin \theta$	—
$S_v$	$-2R_s \sin \theta$	$-R_s + \left[ 7R_s + \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\Delta \rho}{\rho} \right) \right] \sin^2 \theta$	—
$S_h$	—	—	$-R_s + \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\Delta V_s}{V_s} \right) \sin^2 \theta$

Spratt (1993) shows other reflection coefficients for different sources and different receivers

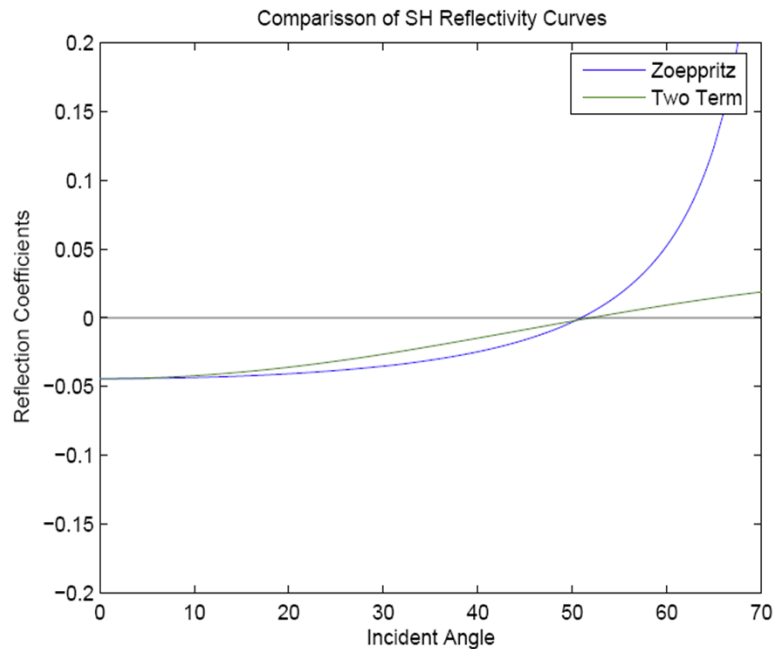


# Comparing Zoeppritz equation to the two term linear approximation

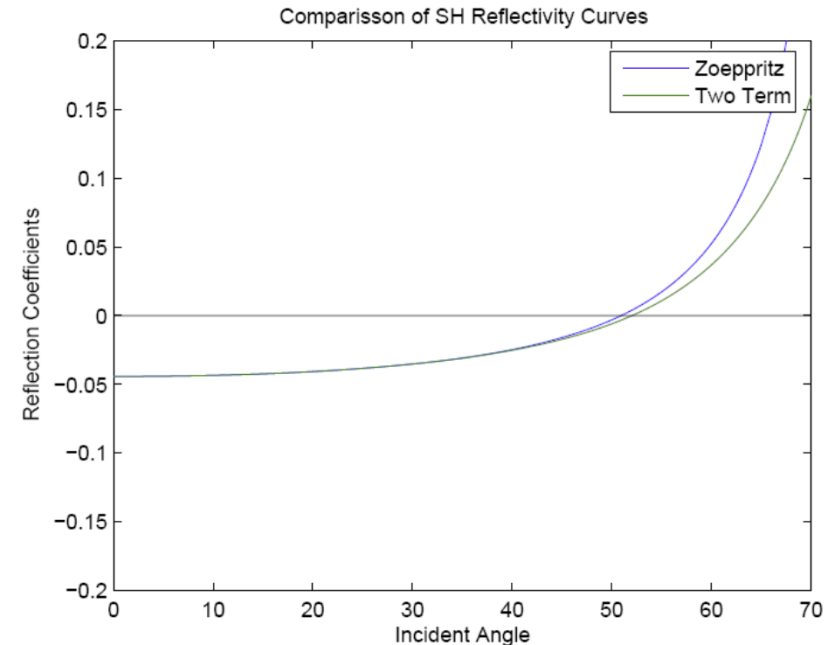


Comparing the full Zoeppritz equations to a two term  $\sin^2$  approximation, describing SV motion (Spratt, 1993)

# Comparing Zoeppritz equation to Spratt's and Lyons linear approximation



Comparing the full Zoeppritz equations to a two term  $\sin^2$  approximation, describing *SH* motion. There is poor agreement between the two approximations



Comparing the full Zoeppritz equations to a two term  $\tan^2$  approximation, describing *SH* motion. There is excellent agreement between the two through an incident angle of 50 (Lyons, 2006)

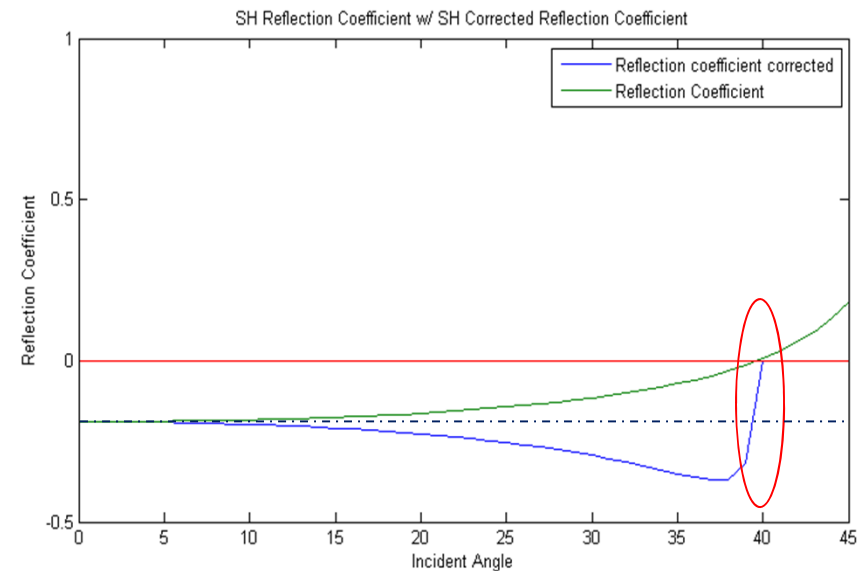
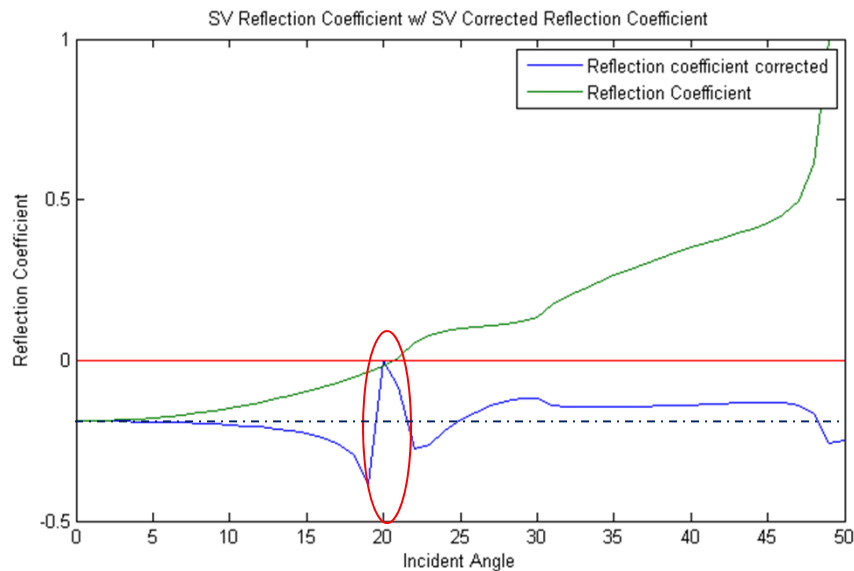
# Approximation to simplify Zoeppritz equations

- Calculate a gradient value for Spratt's approximation correct SV AVO with  $[A + B \sin^2(\Theta)]$  form
- Assume zero crossing at 20 deg  $A=1$ , to leave normal incidence unchanged therefore:
  - $[1 + B \sin^2(20)] = 0$ ;  $B_{sv} = -8.5486$
- Calculate a gradient value for Spratt's approximation correct SH AVO with  $[A + B \tan^2(\Theta)]$  form
- Assume zero crossing at 40 deg  $A=1$ , to leave normal incidence unchanged therefore:
  - $[1 + B \tan^2(40)] = 0$ ;  $B_{sh} = -1.4203$ ;

# Corrected reflection coefficient to minimize amplitude change

$$SS_{SVcorrected} = SS_{SV} * (1 / (1 + B_{sv} * \sin^2\theta))$$

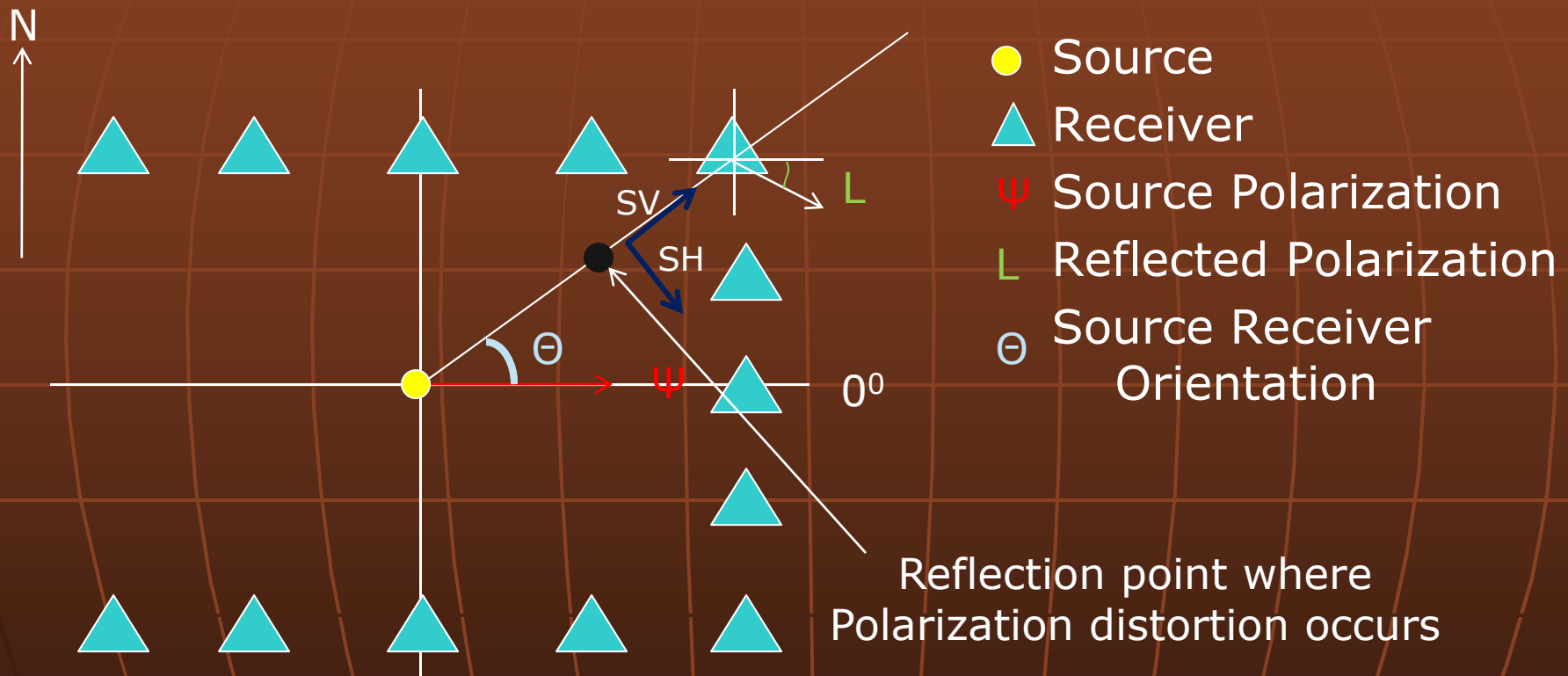
$$SS_{SHcorrected} = SS_{SH} * (1 / (1 + B_{SH} * \tan^2\theta))$$



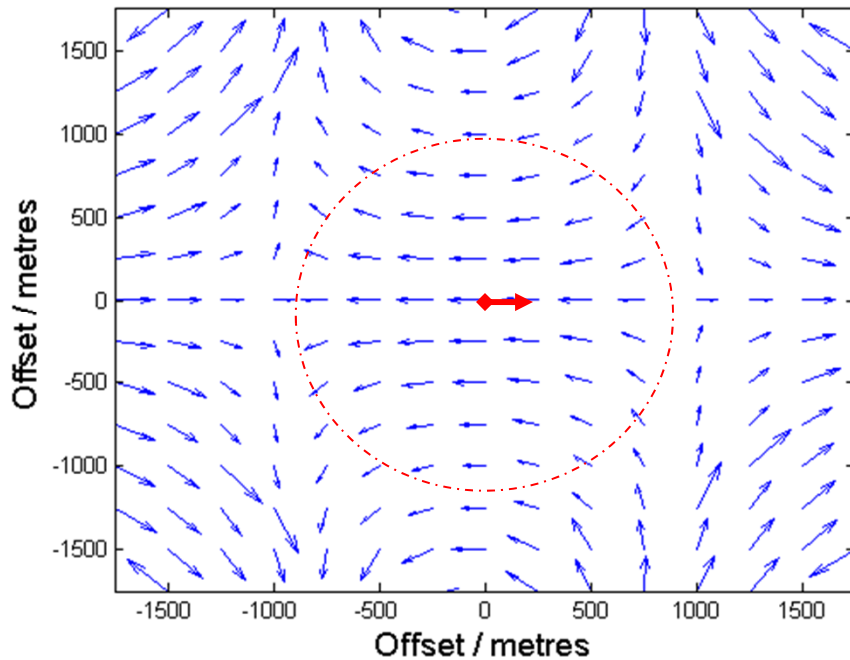
Singularity at 18-22 degrees

Singularity at 38-42 degrees

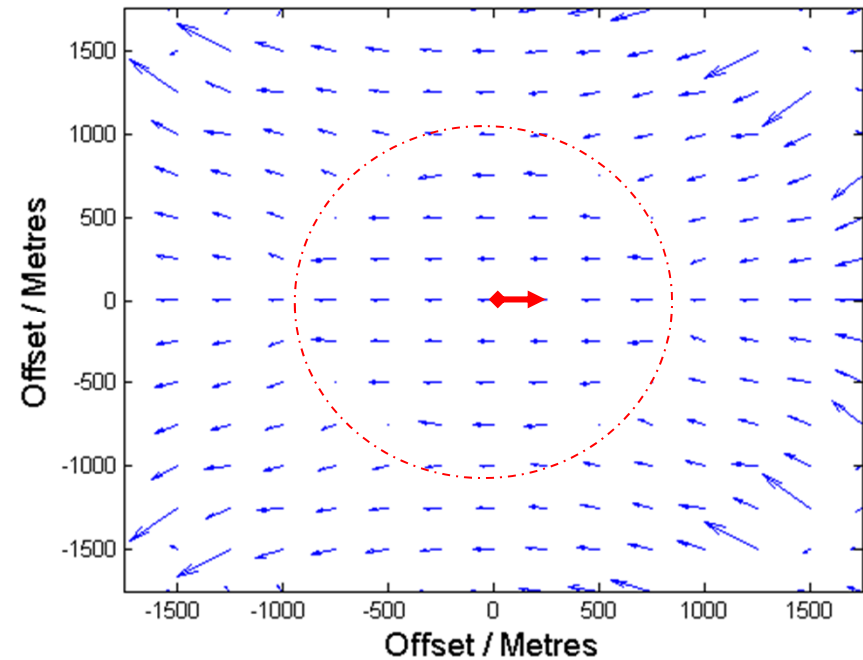
# Theoretical Survey Design



# Polarization plot (3D survey)

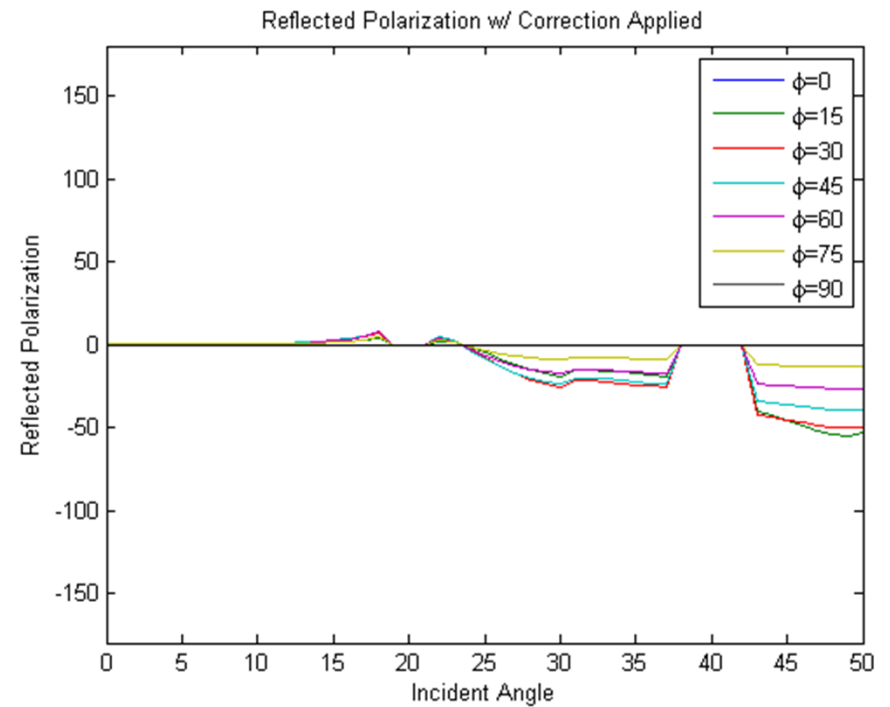
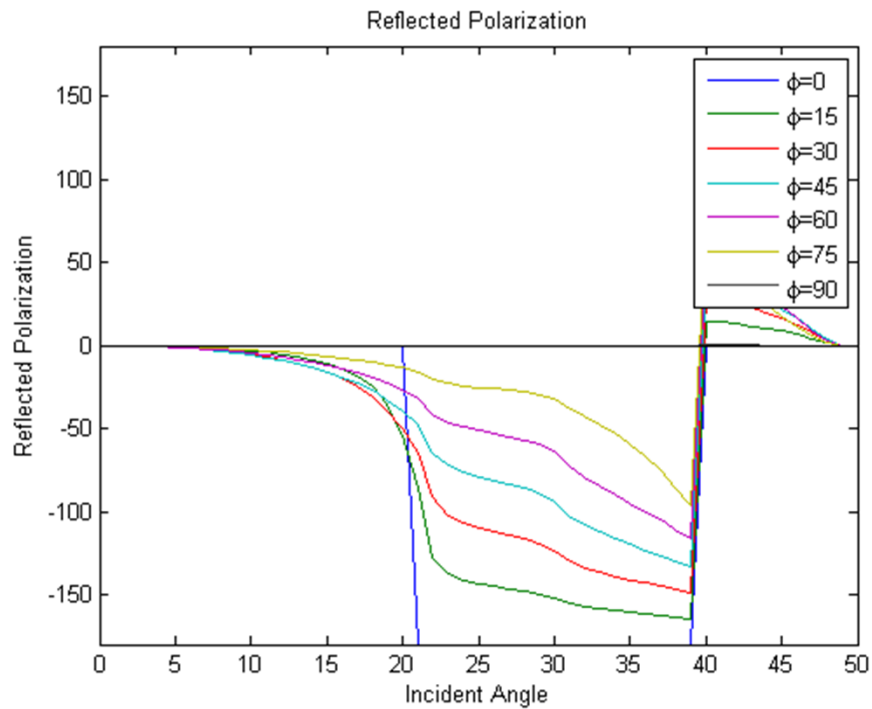


$$L = \arctan [\cos(\Theta-\Psi)SV/\sin(\Theta-\Psi)SH] + (\Theta-90)$$

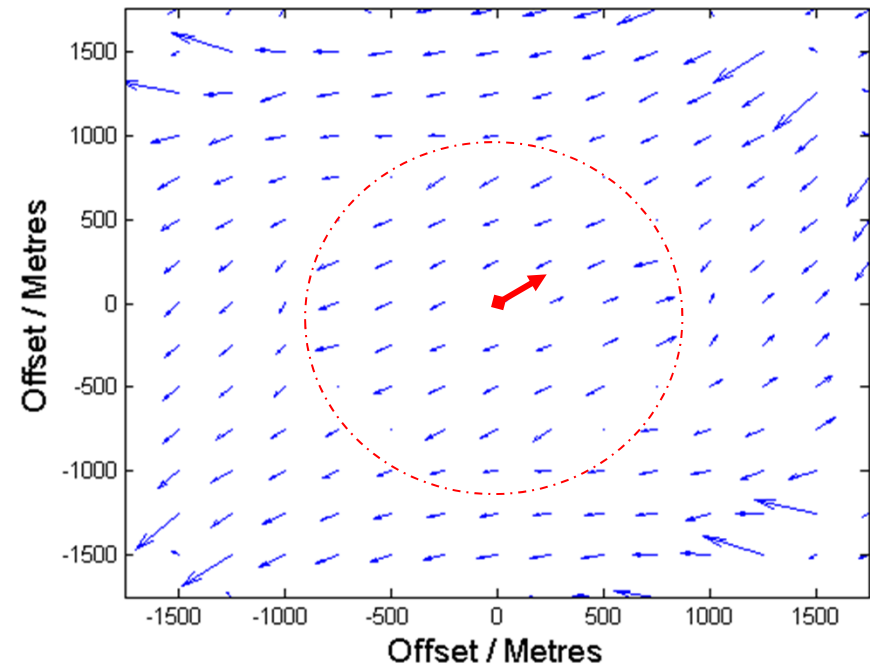
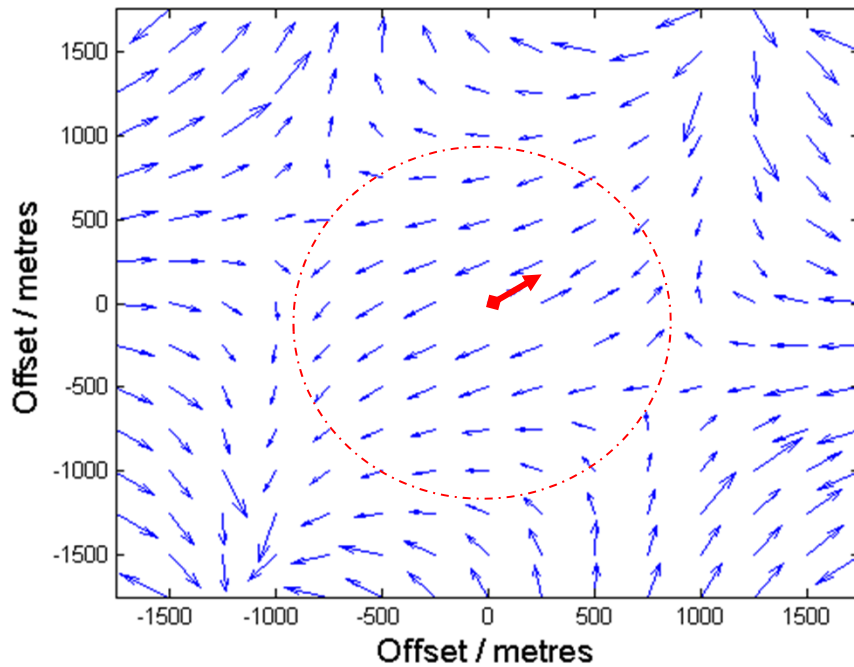


$$L = \arctan [\cos(\Theta-\Psi)SV_{corrected}/\sin(\Theta-\Psi)SH_{corrected}] + (\Theta-90)$$

# Polarization plot



# Polarization plot (3D survey)



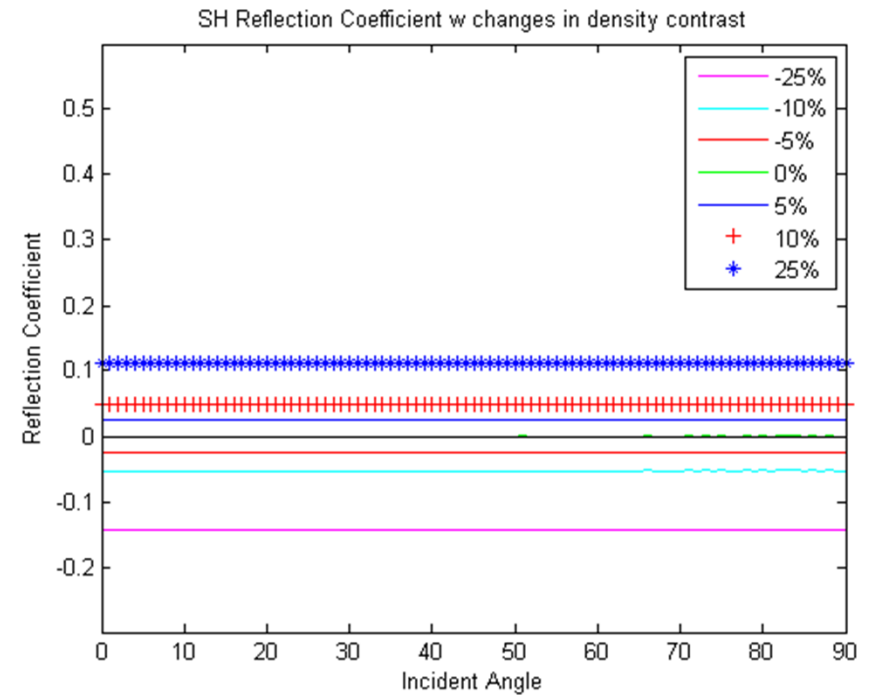
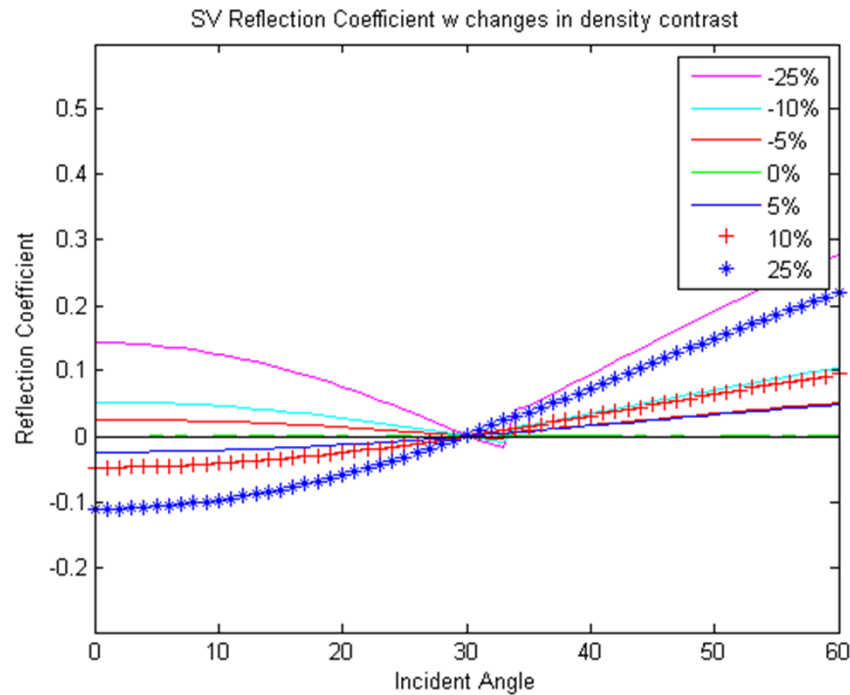
Source polarized  $30^{\circ}$  North of East



# Sensitivity Analysis

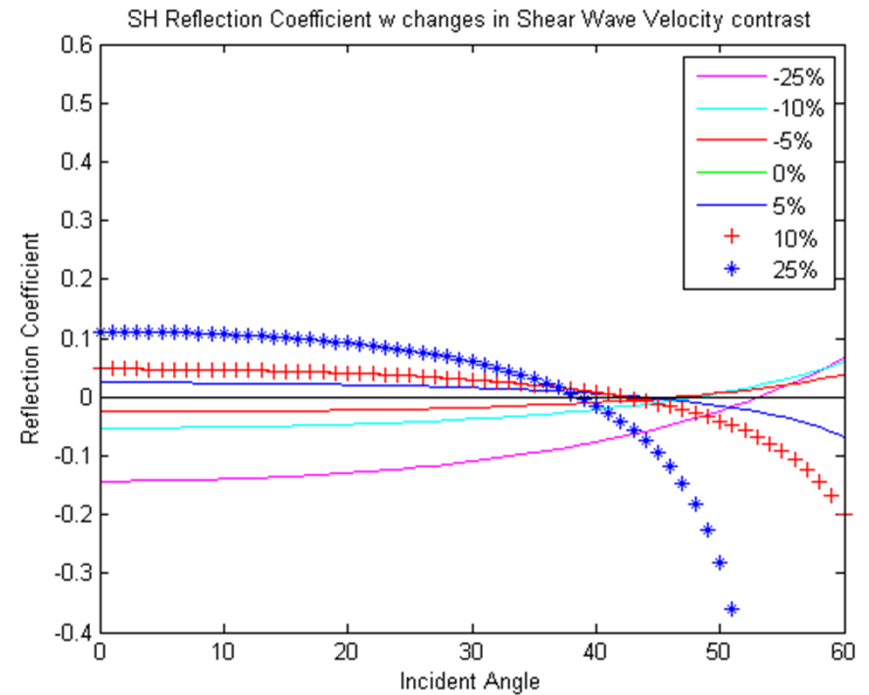
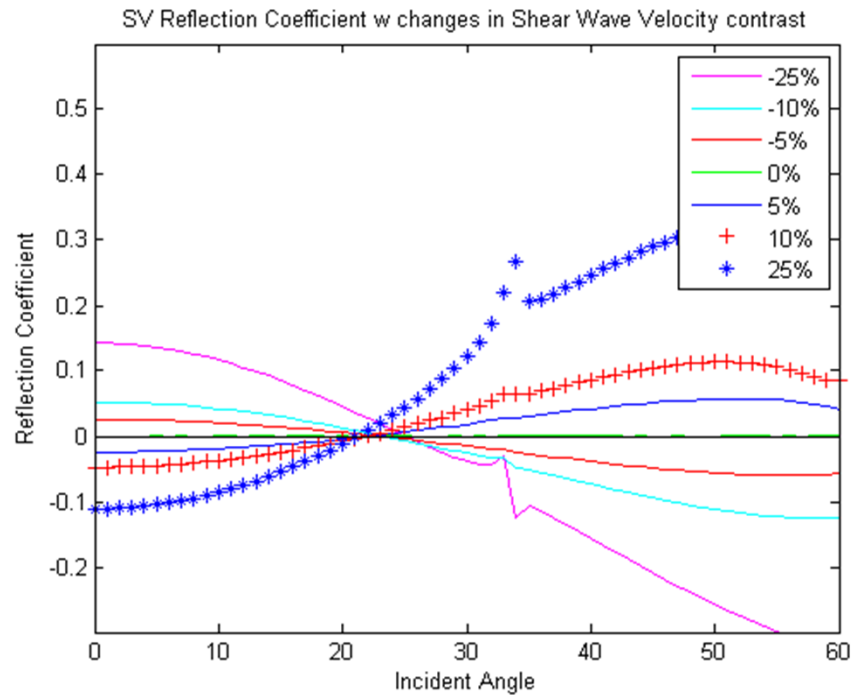
- Sensitivity analysis performed to understand changes in SV and SH reflection coefficients with changes in Density and S-wave velocity
- SH reflection coefficient changes but they are insensitive to changes in incidence angles
- SV reflection coefficient is very sensitive to changes in density and incidence angles
- Zero crossing for SV and SH are relatively constant to changes in shear wave velocity

# Sensitivity Analysis



$V_p/V_s=1.8$  Density variation +/- 25%  
 $V_p$  and  $V_s$  remains constant

# Sensitivity Analysis



Initial  $V_p/V_s=1.8$ , Density 2.2g/cc Shear wave velocity +/- 25%  
 $V_p$  and density remains constant

# Next Steps

- Test sensitivity of corrections to estimates in velocity contrasts
- Apply correction to HTI anisotropy which may be applicable to real data
- Develop a process to incorporate correction for land data in pre-processing phase
- Possible land seismic data improvements for fracture characterization

# Conclusions

- Reflection process alters polarization of direct shear waves
- Land Seismic data is expensive and difficult to acquire
- Fracture characterization is important for reservoir architecture and improving anisotropic analysis

A satellite view of Earth showing the Americas and a large storm system in the Southern Ocean. The image is set against a dark brown background with a faint grid pattern.

**Thank you**

**Questions**

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