# Automatic Event Location with Antelope

February, 2007 Antelope User Group Meeting DST, Trieste





# **Event Processing**

- 1. Waveforms and detections are imported.
- 2. orbdetect produces arrival detections.
- **3. orbtrigger** can be run optionally to group detections into event candidate pick lists.
- 4. orbassoc reads detection picks from orbdetect and/or pick lists from orbtrigger, searches for event associations through a set of travel time grids, and outputs complete event objects for further processing.
- **5. orbevproc** can be run for further event-oriented processing such as magnitude estimation.
- 6. orb2dbt populates an archive database with the event processing results. orb2dbt can also output more event objects into the ORB for further processing.



# **Antelope** Automated Event Processing



### **orbdetect** – detection processing



compute ratio2 noise floor here



### orbdetect – output example

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153												
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### orbdetect – detection glyphs in orbmonrtd



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# **Antelope** Automated Event Processing



### **orbtrigger** – network trigger processing

Objective: Scan all **orbtrigger** detection buffers to create/modify a network trigger and output an event pick list when appropriate:



### **orbtrigger** – output /pf/orbassoc pick list

arrivals &Tbl{ BAR BHZ D1 1023647045.63560 68.69000 BAR BHZ Dt 1023647045.48560 58.50000 BZN BHZ Dt 1023647049.70000 13.48000 CRY BHZ Dt 1023647055.30000 18.73000 DGR BHZ D1 1023647059.99910 18.19000 DGR BHZ Dt 1023647054.44910 32.31000 FRD BHZ D1 1023647049.02500 10.88000 FRD BHZ Dt 1023647049.30000 13.22000 GLA BHZ D1 1023647037.76060 75.61000 GLA BHZ Dt 1023647037.81060 119.94000 JCS BHZ D1 1023647045.73380 241.03000 JCS BHZ Dt 1023647047.33380 50.17000 KNW BHZ D1 1023647052.12500 8.88000 LVA2 BHZ D1 1023647047.42500 30.58000 LVA2 BHZ Dt 1023647047.40000 24.31000 MONP BHZ D1 1023646931.10000 5.12000 MONP BHZ D1 1023647043.42500 77.79000 MONP BHZ Dt 1023647042.70000 102.69000 PLM BHZ D1 1023647050.51180 20.99000 PLM BHZ Dt 1023647054.16180 35.24000 RDM BHZ Dt 1023647058.02500 16.68000 SND BHZ D1 1023647049.95000 16.80000 SND BHZ Dt 1023647050.10000 6.99000 SOL BHZ Dt 1023647055.12500 13.14000 TRO SHZ D1 1023647048.10000 8.45000 TRO SHZ Dt 1023647048.00000 12.60000 WMC BHZ Dt 1023647050.67500 12.71000

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}

# **Antelope** Automated Event Processing



### **orbassoc** – travel time grids





### orbassoc – passoc processing

For each grid-source location node:

5

- 1. All of the times in the pick list are reduced by the phase travel times to an equivalent origin time.
- 2. These reduced pick times for each travel time phase are put into a reduced time list for subsequent time-clustering analysis:



### **orbassoc** – example passoc(x,y,local)





# An evaluation of **orbassoc**

- Original edition:
  - Worked well for networks with apertures up to 1000 km
  - Could usually discriminate teleseisms (although locations not necessarily good, especially in depth)
  - Reliable for time-separated, "sufficient size" (~10 or more stations) events with "clean" seismic waveform data
  - Fast
- Problems with original edition:
  - Could not properly handle continental to global scale networks
  - Could not properly handle time-overlapping events (becomes important for large aperture networks)
  - Lots of spurious mis-locations when trying to associate with small numbers of stations (< 6) and especially with "dirty" seismic waveform data</li>
  - S associations usually resulted in lots of spurious mis-locations
  - Final solutions were on a grid with no error estimates
  - Because of downstream database processing, could only use one orbtrigger-orbassoc processing pair at a time
  - Required orbtrigger this means only a single hypocenter estimate per event











# Automatic Aftershock Locations

Comparison of Numbers of Automatic Earthquake Locations







# Automatic Aftershock Locations Compared to Analyzed Locations

orbassoc (red) and binder (blue) locations vs. analyzed (yellow) locations (55 selected events) Nov 18 - 19, 2002





### Mis-locations with small numbers of stations





### Mis-locations with small numbers of stations



# Second edition of orbassoc, c. 2002

- Allow multiple **orbtrigger-orbassoc** processes in an attempt to deal with small events with small numbers of associating stations
- Provide a way to subset down regions into subnets to limit the effective source-receiver aperture for small events
- Required doing "smart" origin association in the final archive database so that multiple origins were properly tagged with the same event id and arrivals were not repeated
- **orbassoc** was modified to output encapsulated event ORB "objects", instead of multiple database rows, and **orb2dbt** was modified to implement the "smart" origin association with the archive database
- Major change was actually in **orb2dbt**, not so much **orbassoc**



# **Antelope** Automated Event Processing



# What is an event ORB "object"?

A complete properly indexed temporary database, containing only one origin and all relevant linked other tables, encapsulated into a single parameter file ORB packet usually with srcname /pf/orb2dbt kori:/home/danny/rt/gsn/sor

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# What is an event ORB "object"?

- At a minimum there must be a single row of an **origin** table encapsulated into a pf "Literal" string. Event objects with only an origin row are treated by **orb2dbt** as external catalog events to be associated with the existing events in the archive database. These type of event objects are produced by **dborigin2orb**.
- In order to promote detections to arrivals for a fully defined origin, such as what we would want to do with **orbassoc** output, the **assoc** and **arrival** tables must also be defined in the event object.
- Additional tables relating to errors and modeling, such as **origerr**, **emodel** and **predarr**, may also be defined, but these are optional.



## orb2dbt "Smart" event association

From event object

From archive database



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# orb2dbt "Smart" event association

- If a new **origin** exactly matches an existing **origin** in the archive database, then the new event is skipped. A "match" is defined as an exact match in **lat**, **lon**, **depth**, **time**, **ndef** and **nass**.
- If a new **origin** associates with a preferred **origin** in the archive database:
  - A new **orid** is obtained from the archive database
  - The **evid** from the associated preferred **origin** is used
  - The new **origin** is compared against the existing preferred **origin** to see if the new **origin** should become the preferred **origin**
- If a new **origin** does not associate with any preferred **origin**s in the archive database:
  - A new **orid** is obtained from the archive database
  - A new **evid** is obtained from the archive database and a new **event** row is added to the archive database

#### • **arrival** and **assoc** merging:

- Each **arrival** associated with the new **origin** is checked against existing **arrivals** in the archive database. If the **arrival** is different from any existing **arrivals**, then it is added to the archive database and a new **arid** is generated. If the **arrival** is the same as an existing **arrival** in the archive database, then the **arrival** is not added and the **arid** from the existing **arrival** is used in the new **assoc** entries.
- The resulting **orid** and **arid** values are filled into the new **assoc** rows.



# orb2dbt "Smart" event association

- An important capability apart from the associator that allows safe merging of complete events from external sources
- Provides a mechanism for merging origins from external catalogs
- Provides a mechanism for safely modifying existing events, e.g. adding further processing information such as magnitudes
- Allows the associator to make multiple estimates of hypocenters from the same event (e.g. early warning, different subnets, etc.)



# Second edition of orbassoc, c. 2002

- Multiple **orbtrigger-orbassoc** processes provided a way to subset down regions into subnets to limit the effective source-receiver aperture for small events
- "smart" event association in the final archive database worked well for providing a generalized method to merge multiple event estimates
- Problems with second edition:
  - Still needed orbtrigger which meant no time-overlapping events and no multiple origin estimates from a single orbtrigger-orbassoc instance
  - Still could not properly handle large aperture networks
  - Still had problems with very small events and sometime very large events with multiple **orbtrigger-orbassoc** instances (split events, orphan events, events near subnet boundaries)
  - Still produced solutions only on the grid with no error estimates (why is this important? It means that the grid must be sized finely enough to insure reasonable accuracy of solution)
  - Still couldn't handle S-arrivals very well



# Third edition of **orbassoc**, c. 2005

- Eliminate **orbtrigger** as a required initial processing step for **orbassoc** (although it still can be used in a compatibility mode and as a means for rapid initiation of processing in **orbassoc**)
- Assimilate a pick list dynamically within **orbassoc** directly from **detections** and establish rules for processing and culling the pick list
- Implement recursive pick list processing will find timeoverlapping multiple events
- Implement distance and station density weighting in grid search (attempt to deal with small event problem)
- Include new associate-only mode and iterative reprocessing mode for S-arrivals
- Development of new "universal" teleseismic grid based on observed seismicity for handling large aperture networks



# orbassoc pick list processing

/db/detection onset times from orbdetect



### orbassoc pick list processing

- The internal **orbassoc** pick list is accumulated directly from detection onset times **orbdetect** can be configured to only produce onset times using the **-onlypicks** command line option flag (don't do this if you plan on using **orbtrigger**) note that generally picks from every station-channel-filter are put into the list
- The size of the internal **orbassoc** pick list is managed such that the time difference between the oldest and youngest picks stay within the **process\_time\_window** parameter in **orbassoc.pf** – the moveout for an entire global network can be accommodated by making this time window suitably large (~1200 seconds) - note that this usually results in much larger pick lists than those produce by **orbtrigger**, thereby requiring more CPU time for processing the pick lists
- Each successive pick list processing cycle is completely independent of previous cycles this means that the same event can be processed many times with multiple hypocenter estimates showing up in the final archive database
- Although it might be desirable to process the internal pick list every time a new pick is received, this is impractical because of the cpu time needed for each processing cycle and the large number of hypocenter estimates for each event that this would produce
- Generally pick list processing frequency is controlled based on number of new picks received (process\_ncycle parameter in orbassoc.pf) and/or time since the last processing cycle (process\_timeout parameter in orbassoc.pf)
- orbtrigger generated pick lists can still be processed by orbassoc also orbtrigger generated pick lists can be used by orbassoc to ONLY initiate processing of the internal pick list (using the -trigger\_start\_only command line option flag) resulting in timely processing of new events



### orbassoc recursive processing

- The new model now is to form dynamic very large pick lists with all stations, channels, and filter versions over large time windows such that a single snapshot of the pick list can encompass global-scale events with hundreds of stations
- This approach absolutely requires recursive processing in order to separate out the multiple events that will usually be contained in such large pick windows this was one of the principal improvements to **orbassoc** that was necessary to be able to process both continental-global scale events and local-regional scale events at the same time with the same data
- How does this work in **orbassoc**?
  - The standard **orbassoc** grid search is performed on all grids looking for a single solution that produces the most numbers of defining P-arrivals within the specified cluster time window
  - When a solution is found, Additional P-arrivals are identified as being associated but not defining using a time window larger than the cluster time window.
  - For stations with defining or associating P-arrivals, all detections within a time window around the predicted P-arrival are temporarily removed from the pick list
  - The reduced pick list is reprocessed again in the same way until no more solutions are found



### orbassoc recursive pick processing





February 2007

4:40:00.0

2005281

1.10.00.0

2005281

4:00:00.0

1.20.00

4-30-00.0

### orbassoc universal teleseismic grid

- In order to find events using global distributions of stations it was necessary to develop a travel time grid with a distribution of sources that would work for any distribution of stations.
- Icosahedral-based multiscale triangular tesselation using USGS PDE events since 1960 to define worldwide seismic zones for grid densification
- Station density weighting was also introduced to minimize the otherwise overpowering effects of high station density within heterogeneous station distributions





## orbassoc S-arrival processing

- In the original edition of **orbassoc**, S-arrivals were associated by throwing the S travel times into the grid search (using the **try\_S** parameter in **orbassoc.pf**).
- In practice we found that in most cases, trying to use S arrival times in the initial search resulted in many more mis-locations than improvements in locations.
- In edition 3 of **orbassoc** we tried a different approach:
  - Always use only P-arrival times in the initial grid searches
  - If an event is found, then look for associated S-arrivals in the pick list by searching for picks around the predicted S-arrival times for all stations.
  - Mark associated S-arrivals if the associate\_S parameter in orbassoc.pf has been set to yes.
  - If the reprocess\_S parameter in the orbassoc.pf has been set to yes, then using only the detections that associated for P and S arrivals, make another pass through the travel time grid search, this time with try\_S set to yes so that the S arrivals would be used as defining arrivals in the final solution.



## orbassoc S-arrival processing













## orbassoc: Denali eq test

- Test setup:
  - Used about 30 hours around time of Denali earthquake on 22:12 03 Nov, 2002
  - Transformed analyst picks into detections and processed these with dbgrassoc
  - Started with 29564 arrivals. Analyzed database had 1083 events.
  - Used a local grid with about 5 km spacing and depths down to 200 km. Also used utele grid
  - Enabled S-associations
- Summary of results:
  - **dbgrassoc** produced 1042 events:

```
Time error md=-0.271, 99%= 4.488, 1%= -5.599, std= 0.562 sec
Depth error md=-1.000, 99%= 36.404, 1%= -17.015, std= 5.424 km
Distns error md= 0.585, 99%= 10.281, 1%= -38.047, std= 3.559 km
Distew error md= 0.628, 99%= 29.468, 1%= -22.056, std= 3.643 km
```









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# Third edition of **orbassoc**, c. 2005

- For the first time we have the capability of processing any data from any mix and distribution of seismic stations from local to global scales
- Processing has been simplified for the user since we throw everything into a single large buffer instead of trying to make lots of processing subnets
- S-arrival processing is now effective
- Problems with third edition:
  - Still had problems with very small events and sometime very large events (split events, orphan events, events near subnet boundaries). Distance weighting proved not to be very effective.
  - Still produced solutions only on the grid with no error estimates (why is this important? It means that the grid must be sized finely enough to insure reasonable accuracy of solution)
  - Performance problems



# Fourth edition of orbassoc, c. 2007

- Mainly focus on refinements to the third edition to deal with mis-locations and split events and to improve performance
  - Reduced mis-locations for small events:
    - Added pick reject expressions to remove noisy stations
    - Introduced **nsta\_thresh** as a function of maximum event-station distance
    - Introduced separate S arrival distance weighting functions
  - Reduced split events
    - Added separate residual thresholds for P and S arrival associations
  - Improve performance
    - Made it so that picks with zero weights were completely eliminated from the grid searches.
    - Added "closest stations" pick list culling during the grid searches.
    - Added ability to run a traditional location code, such as dbgenloc, automatically after finding a grid solution in order to refine the final location and to obtain traditional error estimates. This allows running with much coarser grids and therefore improves overall performance.



### Fourth edition of **orbassoc.pf**

dbgrassoc.pf			
Quit Edit Split Save Save as F Parameter fil	Reload · Prev Next Alt .e for dbgrassoc	Back · Make Err Search · Normai <u>Hex Syntax</u> Other <u>Display Options</u> ·	XV Man Help
process_time_windc process_ncycle process_tcycle	ом 3600.0 0 3000.0		
detection_reject_e sta == "ADH" sta == "ANT" sta == "BFC" }	expressions &Tbl{	# reject these picks before any processing	
grid_params &Arr{ talocal &P ny cl nc nc ns	Arr{ id 11 uster_twin 4.0 ondefining_associat ondefining_associat ita_thresh & Tbl 3.0 4 5.0 5 180.0 6	<pre># Number of east-west grid nodes for depth scans # Number of north-south grid nodes for depth scans # Clustering time window tion_P_maxresid 2.0 # maximum residual for P assocs tion_S_maxresid 3.0 # maximum residual for S assocs { # Minimum allowable number of stations # as a function of maximum station distance # from event</pre>	
J tr as re dr P_ S_ pr al au ph cl dw dw dw dw	ry_S no ssociate_S yes eprocess_S yes coh_if_on_edge yes channel_sifter[ iority 5 .gorithm talc ith tal ase_sifter . osest_stations 0 st_dist_near 10.0 tt_wt_near 10.0 tt_wt_far 0.0	<pre># yes = Try observations as both P and S # no = Observations are P only # yes = Try to associate observations as both P and # yes = Reprocess when new S-associations found # Drop if solution is on the edge of the grid [Z_00 # use only these channels for P arrivals [NEZ] # use only these channels for S arrivals # grid priority bcal # algorithm field for origin output # auth field for origin output # sift according to pick phase codes # only use closest n stations for search # apply distance weighting to P arrivals?</pre>	S
us dw dw dw re us }	ye_dwts yes yts_dist_near 5.0 yts_wt_near 1.0 yts_dist_far 5.0 yts_wt_far 0.0 elocate rundbgenloc se_only_relocation	<pre># apply distance weighting to S arrivals? # relocation script yes # only output trelocation flag</pre>	<b>•</b>





~5.5 days of data from 162 stations.
31,393 detections
92 events
141 stations with arrivals
~120 minutes to process using dbgrassoc







BRTT



BRTT





# Configuration notes

- Preferred approach is to run a single instance of orbassoc with as few grids as possible
- All stations in all grids "all" stations should include neighboring stations all the way to global scale (GSN)
- Use of utele grids can be computationally expensive use distance weighting with utele grids to mitigate this
- Continue to use slowness grids for finding teleseisms in local to regional network aperture scales
- Make the local Cartesian grids as coarse as possible and use relocation option to improve the final solutions using a traditional iterative linearized inversion method, such as **dbgenloc**
- Use distance (or closest stations) weighting with zero wieghts to improve performance, especially for utele grids
- Use "sequenced" approach for associating S-arrivals
- Use **orbtrigger** only as a means for controlling when **orbassoc** performs its pick list processing (i.e. run **orbassoc** with the **-trigger\_start\_only** command line option).

