

# A Comparison of Open Source Seismic Processing Software Packages

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**Z-Terra Inc.**

Reflection Seismic Package	Author
Madagascar	Sergey Fomel et al.
SEPLib	Stanford University
SU	Colorado School of Mines
FreeUSP, FreeDDS	Amoco, BP
Pseis	Randy Selzer
CPSeis	ConocoPhillips
SPARC	ARCO
BotoSeis	Williams Lima, Brazil
GEBR	Ricardo Biloti et al.
SeaSeis	Bjorn Olofsson
JavaSEIS	Chuck Moser

Reflection Seismic Package	Installations	Downloads
Madagascar	1100	+13,000
SEPLib	<100	
SU	3300	+17,000
FreeUSP, FreeDDS		
Pseis		
CPSeis		
SPARC		
BotoSeis		
GEBR		
SeaSeis		
JavaSEIS		40/month



# Data Format

- Madagascar, SEPLib: \*.H, \*.rsf files
  - ASCII header
  - n1= n2= n3= d1= d2= d3= o1= o2= o3=
  - in="file.bin"
  
- SU: su format file:
  - 240 bytes SEG Y trace header and trace binary

Reflection Seismic Package	Language
Madagascar	C, Python
SEPLib	C, Python, Fortran, Ratfor, F90
SU	C
FreeUSP, FreeDDS	F77, C
Pseis	F77, C
CPSeis	F90, C++
SPARC	F77
BotoSeis	Java
GEBR	C
SeaSeis	C, C++, Java
JavaSEIS	Java, Eclipse

Reflection Seismic Package	Documentation
Madagascar	Poor
SEPLib	Very Good
SU	Best
FreeUSP, FreeDDS	
Pseis	
CPSeis	
SPARC	
BotoSeis	
GEBR	
SeaSeis	
JavaSEIS	

# Madagascar AGC self-doc

## NAME

sfagc

## DESCRIPTION

Automatic gain control.

## SYNOPSIS

sfagc < in.rsfc > out.rsfc repeat=1 rect#=(125,1,1,...)

## PARAMETERS

int rect#=(125,1,1,...) smoothing radius on #-th axis  
int repeat=1 repeat filtering several times

## USED IN

bei/dpmv/krchdmo  
bei/krch/wgkirch  
bei/vela/vscan  
data/sigsbee/ptest  
gee/pch/steep  
jsg/diffr/fault  
jsg/diffr/gom  
jsg/shape/beivc  
jsg/simistack/bei  
jsg/time2depth/masha2  
jsg/timelapse/duri  
rsf/usp/data  
sep/vc2/beivc  
sep/vc2/sigvc

## SOURCE

system/generic/Magc.c



# SEPLib AGC self-doc

NAME  
Agc - Automatic gain control with first arrival detection

SYNOPSIS  
Agc window=200 detect=0 dwind=10 thresh=25. < in.H > out.H

INPUT PARAMETERS

window - integer  
[200]: length of the window in number of samples

dwind - integer  
[10]: length of the detection window in number of samples

detect - integer  
[0]: detection off (Default value) 1: detection on

thresh - real  
[25.]: threshold (see comments below)

n1,n2,n3,n4,n5,n6,n7 - integer  
standard seplib parameters

DESCRIPTION  
Gain program with first arrival detection

COMMENTS

Agc gains seismic traces by normalizing each sample by the power of a window of samples surrounding that point.

When the detect= is set to 1, agc is not applied on a trace until a first arrival is detected. The first arrival is detected when a moving dwind exceeds an initial dwind by a threshold factor.

EXAMPLE

Agc < in.H window=200 detect=1 dwind=10 thresh=25. > out.H

Applies agc on a trace based on a trace window of 200 samples. Agc is only applied after the first arrival has been detected using a detection window of 10 samples. The detection of the first arrival is based on an amplitude change between consecutive detection windows of 25%.

CATEGORY  
seis/filter

SUGAIN - apply various types of gain to display traces

sugain <stdin >stdout [optional parameters]

Required parameters:  
none (no-op)

Optional parameters:

panel=0 =1 gain whole data set (vs. trace by trace)  
tpow=0.0 multiply data by  $t^{tpow}$   
epow=0.0 multiply data by  $\exp(epow*t)$   
gpow=1.0 take signed growth power of scaled data  
agc=0 flag; 1 = do automatic gain control  
gagc=0 flag; 1 = ... with gaussian taper  
wagc=0.5 agc window in seconds (use if agc=1 or gagc=1)  
trap=none zero any value whose magnitude exceeds trapval  
clip=none clip any value whose magnitude exceeds clipval  
pclip=none clip any value greater than clipval  
nclip=none clip any value less than clipval  
qclip=1.0 clip by quantile on absolute values on trace  
qbal=0 flag; 1 = balance traces by qclip and scale  
pbal=0 flag; 1 = bal traces by dividing by rms value  
mbal=0 flag; 1 = bal traces by subtracting the mean  
maxbal=0 flag; 1 = balance traces by subtracting the max  
scale=1.0 multiply data by overall scale factor  
norm=0.0 divide data by overall scale factor  
bias=0.0 bias data by adding an overall bias value  
jon=0 flag; 1 means  $tpow=2$ ,  $gpow=.5$ ,  $qclip=.95$   
verbose=0 verbose = 1 echoes info  
mark=0 apply gain only to traces with  $tr.mark=0$   
=1 apply gain only to traces with  $tr.mark!=0$

tmpdir= if non-empty, use the value as a directory path  
prefix for storing temporary files; else if the  
the CWP\_TMPDIR environment variable is set use  
its value for the path; else use tmpfile()

Operation order:  
if (norm) scale/norm

$out(t) = scale * BAL\{CLIP[AGC\{[t^{tpow} * \exp(epow * t) * (in(t)-bias)]^{gpow}\}]\}$

Notes:  
The jon flag selects the parameter choices discussed in  
Claerbout's Imaging the Earth, pp 233-236.

Extremely large/small values may be lost during agc. Windowing  
these off and applying a scale in a preliminary pass through  
sugain may help.

Sugain only applies gain to traces with  $tr.mark=0$ . Use sushw,  
suchw, suedit, or suxedit to mark traces you do not want gained.  
See the selfdocs of sushw, suchw, suedit, and suxedit for more  
information about setting header fields. Use "sukeyword mark"  
for more information about the mark header field.

# SU AGC self-doc

Reflection Seismic Package	Number of modules
Madagascar	384
SEPLib	184
SU	395
FreeUSP, FreeDDS	
Pseis	
CPSeis	
SPARC	
BotoSeis	
GEBR	
SeaSeis	
JavaSEIS	



# SEPIib

./	cmsawf.awk*	FMeikonal*	Infill3d@	Miss*	pstexpen*	Scat@	Stack@	vp_annotate*
./	Conj@	Fold3d*	Interleave*	MTTmaps*	pstogif*	Scat3d*	Stack3d*	vplot2gif*
Actify*	Contour*	Ft3d*	Interp*	Mute*	Radial*	Scatter3d*	Stretch*	vplot2mpeg*
Add@	Cp@	Ftplot*	Iso2d*	Mute3d*	Radnmo*	Scp@	Stube*	vplot2ras*
Agc*	Cp3d@	fullpath*	key-word*	Mv@	Rasterize*	Scp3d*	Surface*	vp_Movie*
Aniso2d*	Create3d*	Fx2d*	Kirch_2d_depth*	Mv3d@	ratfor77*	Sdd*	Svppen*	vp_Overlay*
arithpar*	CreateSSH*	Gauss*	Kirmod3d*	NM0*	ratfor90*	Sdip*	Sxtpen*	vp_OverUnderAniso*
atoF*	Cubeplot*	Get*	latex2dvi*	Nmo3d*	ratsep*	Seis_vel*	Synch3d*	vp_OverUnderIso*
Attr*	Dd@	Gfgradz*	latex2pdf*	Noise*	Real@	sep_doc_it*	Ta2vplot*	vppen*
Attr3dhead*	Dip*	Gpow@	Latify*	not_found*	Reshape*	shortfort*	Taplot*	Vppen@
Balance*	Dip_azim*	Graph*	Lex.fort*	OFF2ANG*	Reverse*	Sls*	Thplot*	vp_SideBySideAniso*
Bandpass*	Dipintegrator*	Grey*	Lloyd_vel*	0perplot*	Rickmovie*	Smooth*	Tpow*	vp_SideBySideIso*
Box*	Dis3dhead*	Grid_fold@	LM0*	0verlay*	Rm@	Smv@	Transf*	vp_Unrotate*
Byte@	Disfil*	Halfint*	Log*	Pad*	Rm3d@	Smv3d*	Transf_fftw*	Vslan*
Byte2mpeg*	Dots*	Heade rmath*	lop2f90*	Patch*	Rtm2d*	Snoop*	Transp*	Wavelet*
Cabs@	Edit*	Helicon*	Ls@	Pef*	Rtoc@	Solver_ops*	Trcamp*	Wiggle*
Cabs2@	Energy*	Histogram*	Makedepend*	Phase*	sat*	Sort3d*	tube*	Window*
Cadd@	Envelope*	Hwt2d*	makefont*	plas*	sat.awk*	Spectra*	Tube@	Window3d*
CAM*	ExtractPOD*	Hwt3d*	Marine_geom3d*	pldb*	sat.fort*	Spike*	Txdec*	Window_key*
Cat@	Fdmod*	Hypint*	Math*	Pmpen@	saw*	spp*	Unmo*	xtpen*
Cat3d@	FFTS0*	Hypmovie*	Math_base*	pod2text*	saw.awk*	Sppmpen*	Vconvert*	Xtpen@
Cfft*	fgrep3*	Hypsum*	MCvfit*	Pow@	sawf*	Spspen*	Vel*	Zero*
Clip*	files	Imag@	Median*	ppmpen*	sawf90*	Srm@	Velan*	
Cmplx@	Filter*	In@	Merge*	pspen*	sawf90.awk*	SRM*	Velan3d*	
cmsawf*	Flatten*	In3d*	Merge_field*	Pспен@	Scale@	Srm3d*	v_f90*	

# SU

isatty*	recast*	sucommand*	sugoupillaudpo*	sumigtopo2d*	surandspike*	suttoz*	triseis*
kaperture*	recip*	suconv*	suharlan*	sumix*	surandstat*	sutvband*	triso*
las2su*	refRealAziHTI*	sucountkey*	suhelp*	sumixgathers*	surange*	sutxtaper*	trisoplot*
lcmaph*	refRealVTI*	sucvcs4fowler*	suhilb*	sumute*	surecip*	suunpack1*	triview*
linrort*	regrid3*	sucwt*	suhistogram*	suname*	sureduce*	suunpack2*	tvnmogc*
bhedtopar*	replace*	sudatumfd*	suhrot*	sunan*	sureflpsvsh*	suutm*	unglitch*
cellauto*	resamp*	sudatumk2dr*	suhmath*	sunhmospike*	sureflpsvsh*	suvcat*	uni2tri*
copyright*	rmaxdiff*	sudatumk2ds*	suiFFT*	sunmo*	surelan*	suvel2df*	unif2*
cpall*	scmap*	sudiff*	suiLog*	sunormalize*	surelanan*	suvelan*	unif2aniso*
cshot1*	segyclean*	sudipdivcor*	suiimp2d*	sunull*	suressamp*	suvelan_nccs*	unisam*
cshot2*	segyhdmmod*	sudipfilt*	suiimp3d*	suocext*	suressstat*	suvelan_nsel*	unisam2*
cshotplot*	segyhdrs*	sudivcor*	suiimpedance*	suoldtonew*	susehw*	suvelan_uccs*	updatedoc*
ctrlstrip*	segypread*	sudivstack*	suiinterp*	suop*	sushape*	suvelan_usel*	updatedocall*
cwell*	segypwrite*	sudmofk*	suiinterpfowler*	suop2*	sushift*	suwibro*	updatehead*
cpfind*	setbhed*	sudmofkcv*	suiintvel*	supack1*	sushw*	suwlength*	upfort*
cxzco*	smooth2*	sudmotivz*	suiinvvxco*	supack2*	susort*	suwaveform*	usernames*
cxzcs*	smooth3d*	sudmotx*	suiinvzco3d*	supaste*	susorty*	suweight*	utmconv*
cz1*	smoothint2*	sudmovz*	suk1k2filter*	supef*	suspecfk*	suwellrf*	varlist*
czlin*	spsplot*	sudoc*	sukdmig2d*	supermute*	suspecfx*	suwind*	vel2stiff*
dctcomp*	stiff2vel*	sudumptrace*	sukdmig3d*	supgc*	suspecklk2*	suwindpoly*	velconv*
dctuncomp*	striptotxt*	suea2df*	sukdsyn2d*	supickamp*	suspike*	suxcontour*	velpert*
dirtree*	su3dchart*	suedit*	sukkeycount*	suplane*	susplit*	suxcor*	velpertan*
downfort*	suabshw*	sueipofi*	sukeyword*	supofilt*	sustack*	suxedit*	vtlvz*
dt1tosu*	suacor*	suenv*	sukfilter*	supolar*	sustatic*	suxgraph*	weekday*
dzdv*	suaddevent*	sufctanismod*	sukfrac*	suprod*	sustaticrrs*	suximage*	why*
elacheck*	suaddhead*	sufdmmod1*	sukill*	supsccontour*	sustkvel*	suxmax*	wkbj*
elamodel*	suaddnoise*	sufdmmod2*	suktmg2d*	supscube*	sustolt*	suxmovie*	wpc1comp2*
elaps*	suaddstatics*	sufdmmod2_pml*	sulog*	supscubecontour*	sustrip*	suxpicker*	wpc1uncomp2*
elaray*	suagc*	sufft*	sumax*	supsggraph*	sum*	suxwigg*	wpccompress*
elasyn*	sualford*	sufilter*	sumean*	supsimax*	sumswapbytes*	suzero*	wpcuncompress*
elatriuni*	suamp*	sufind*	sumedian*	supsmovie*	sumsyncz*	suztot*	wptcomp*
entropy*	suascii*	sufind2*	sumigfd*	supswigb*	sumsynlv*	swapbytes*	wptuncomp*
farith*	suattributes*	sufliP*	sumigffd*	supswigp*	sumsynlvvcw*	sxplot*	wtcomp*
fcath*	suazimuth*	sufnzero*	sumiggbzo*	suptdiff*	sumsynlvfti*	t*	wtuncomp*
filetype*	suband*	suffrac*	sumiggbzoan*	suptprod*	sumsynvxz*	tetramod*	xcontour*
ftnstrip*	subfilt*	sufxdecon*	sumigpprefd*	suptquo*	sumsynvxzcs*	this_year*	xgraph*
ftnunstrip*	subset*	sugabor*	sumigppreffd*	suptsum*	sutab*	thom2hti*	ximage*
gbbeam*	succwt*	sugain*	sumigpprespi*	suput*	sutaper*	thom2stiff*	xmovie*
gendocs*	sucddecon*	sugausstaper*	sumigppres*	supws*	sutaup*	time_now*	xpicker*
Grep*	sucentSamp*	sugazmig*	sumigpps*	suquantile*	sutetrraray*	todayS_date*	xrects*
grm*	suchart*	sugendocs*	sumigppspi*	suquo*	sutihawler*	transp*	xwigg*
h2b*	suchw*	suget*	sumigppsti*	suradon*	sutihaledmo*	tri2uni*	xy2z*
hti2stiff*	sucliphead*	sugethw*	sumigppsplit*	suramp*	sutivel*	trimodel*	z2xyz*
hudson*	sucmp*	sugoupillaud*	sumigptk*		sutsq*	triray*	zap*

# Data Processing Modules

- Separate the modules that deal with numerical operations. Modules like FFT, AGC, NMO, DMO, modeling, migration, raytracing, filtering, wavelet generation, smoothing, interpolation, deconvolution, synthetic data generation, data resampling, time-to-depth conversion, velocity analysis, data statistics.
- Exclude visualization, OS utilities, data copy utilities, plotting, printing, graphic conversion, header dumps, header manipulation, parameter manipulation, shell scripts.

Reflection Seismic Package	Geophysics modules	Other
Madagascar	282	102
SEPLib	80	104
SU	280	115
FreeUSP, FreeDDS		
Pseis		
CPSeis		
SPARC		
BotoSeis		
GEBR		
SeaSeis		
JavaSEIS		



# Data Processing Modules

- SU does not seem to handle little and big endian data format, only native.
- SEPLib has data\_format= flag, for xdr\_float (big endian) and native\_float (little endian on PCs).
- Madagascar seems to handle both data formats, though I did not find the data format parameter.

# Graphics

SU:

- xcontour
- ximage
- xwigb
- xgraph
- xmovie

xmovie < data.bin n1=1000 n2=2000 (loop=1)

Same for SU format, suxcontour, suxwigb, suximage, suxmovie, suxgraph and for plotting Postscript, pscontour, psimage, pscube, etc.

# Graphics

SEPLib:

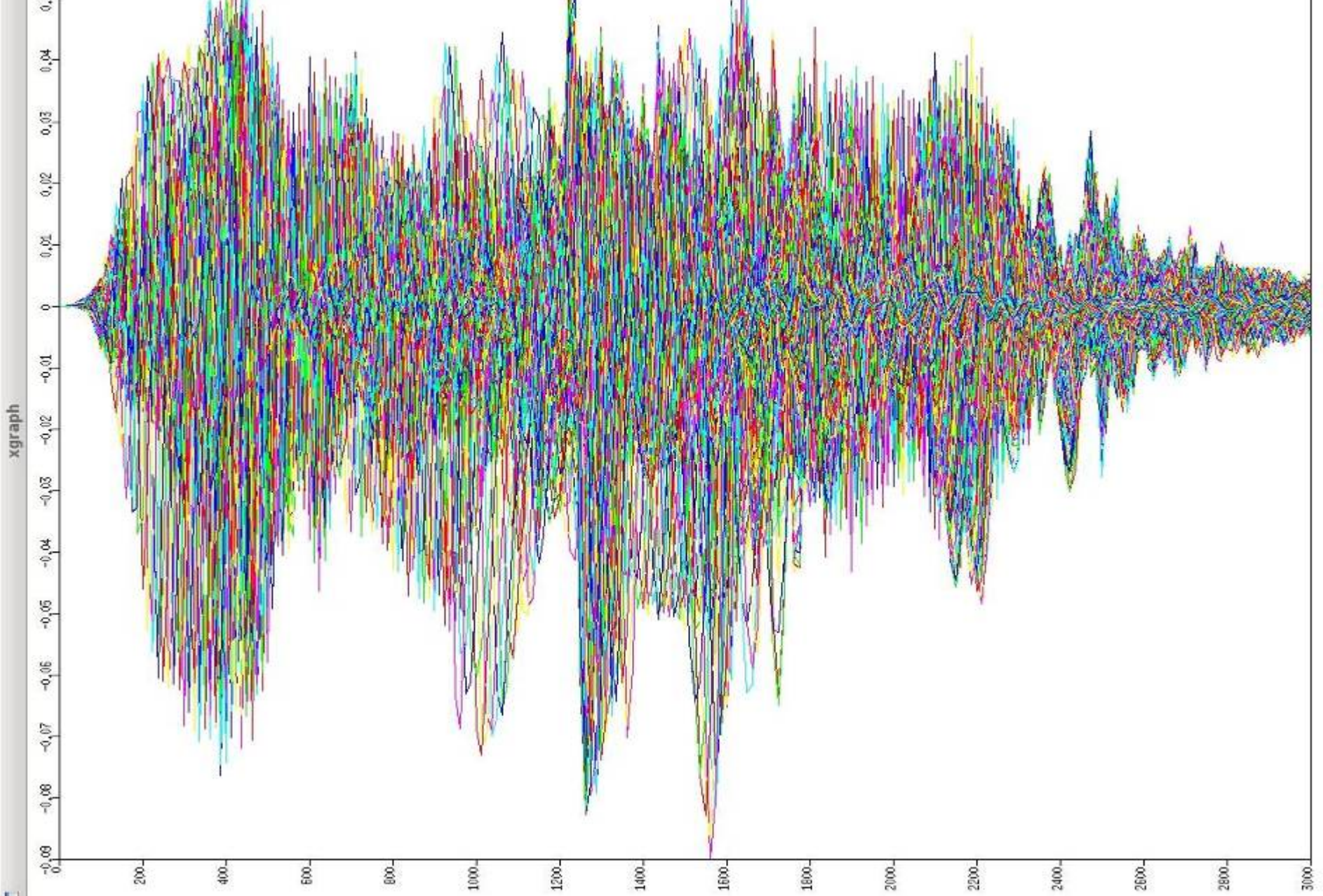
- Contour
- Grey (also does movies)
- Graph
- Rickmovie, Ricksep
- Wiggle
- Thplot (obsolete)

# Graphics

Madagascar:

- sfcontour, sfcontour3
- sfgraph, sfgraph3
- sfgrey, sfgrey3
- sfwigb, sfwiggle
- sfcubepplot, sfgrey

# SU xgraph

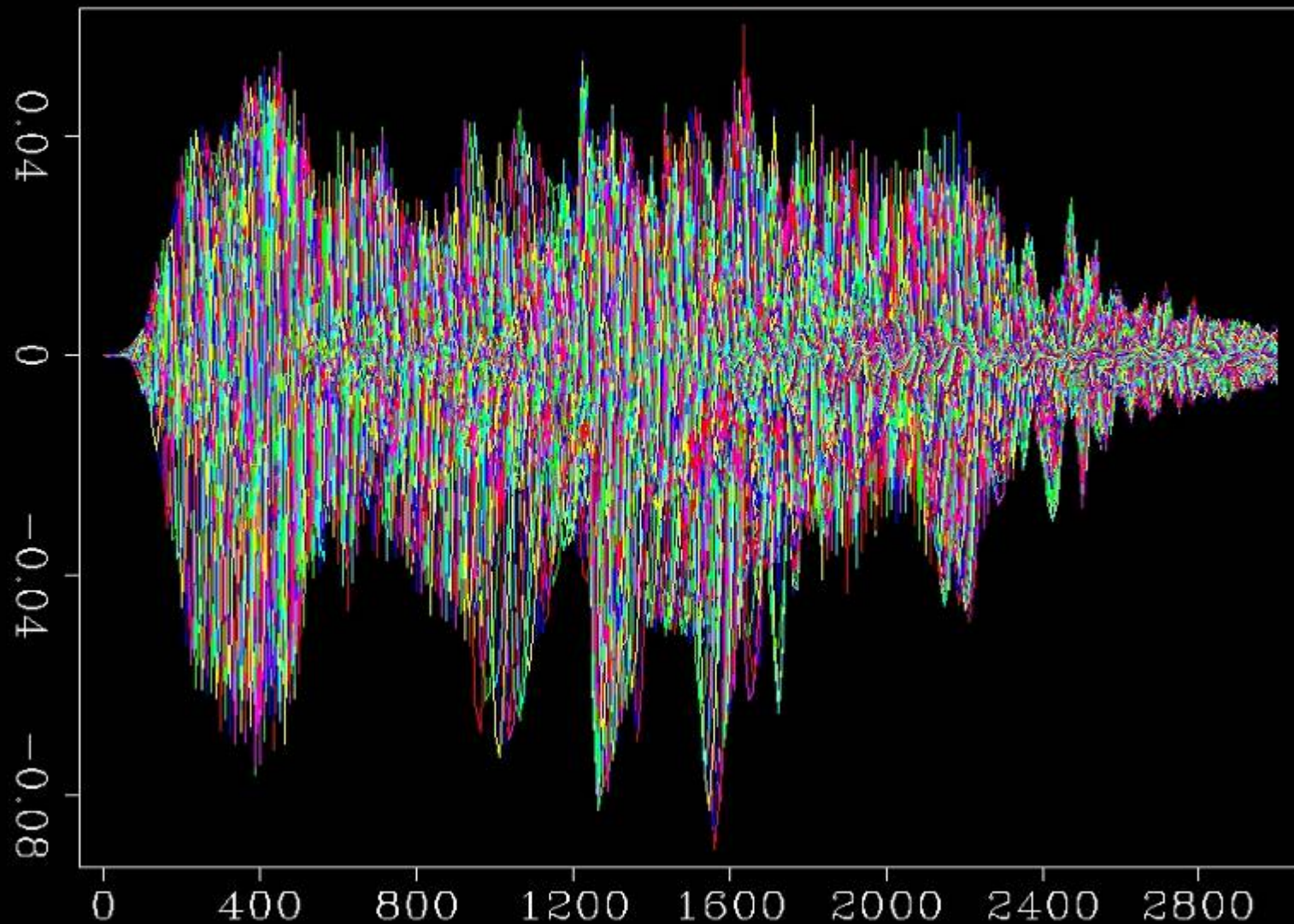


# SEPLib Graph

xtpen

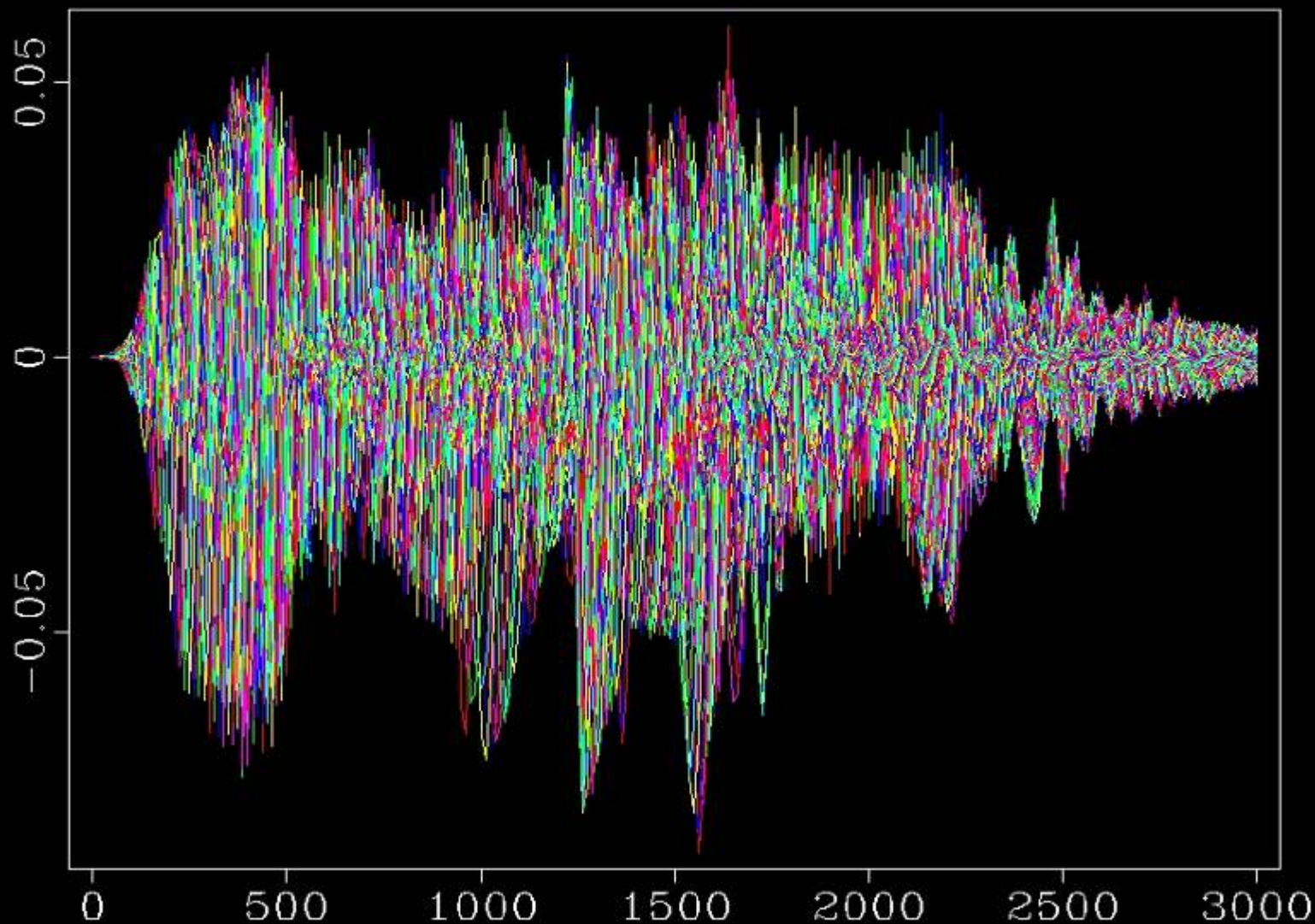
0 delay 0,05

./shot\_mig.bin

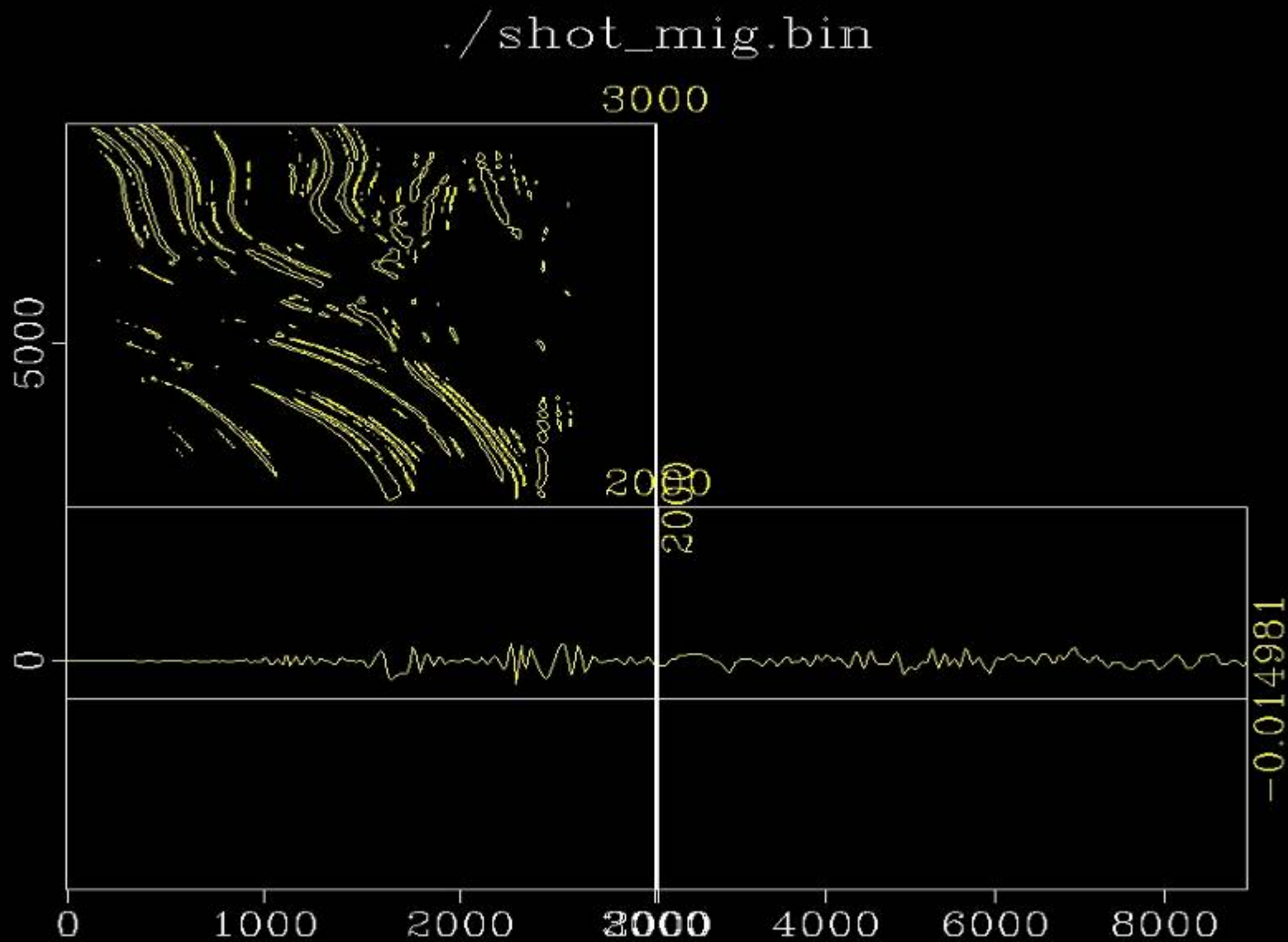


# Madagascar sfgraph

./shot\_mig.bin

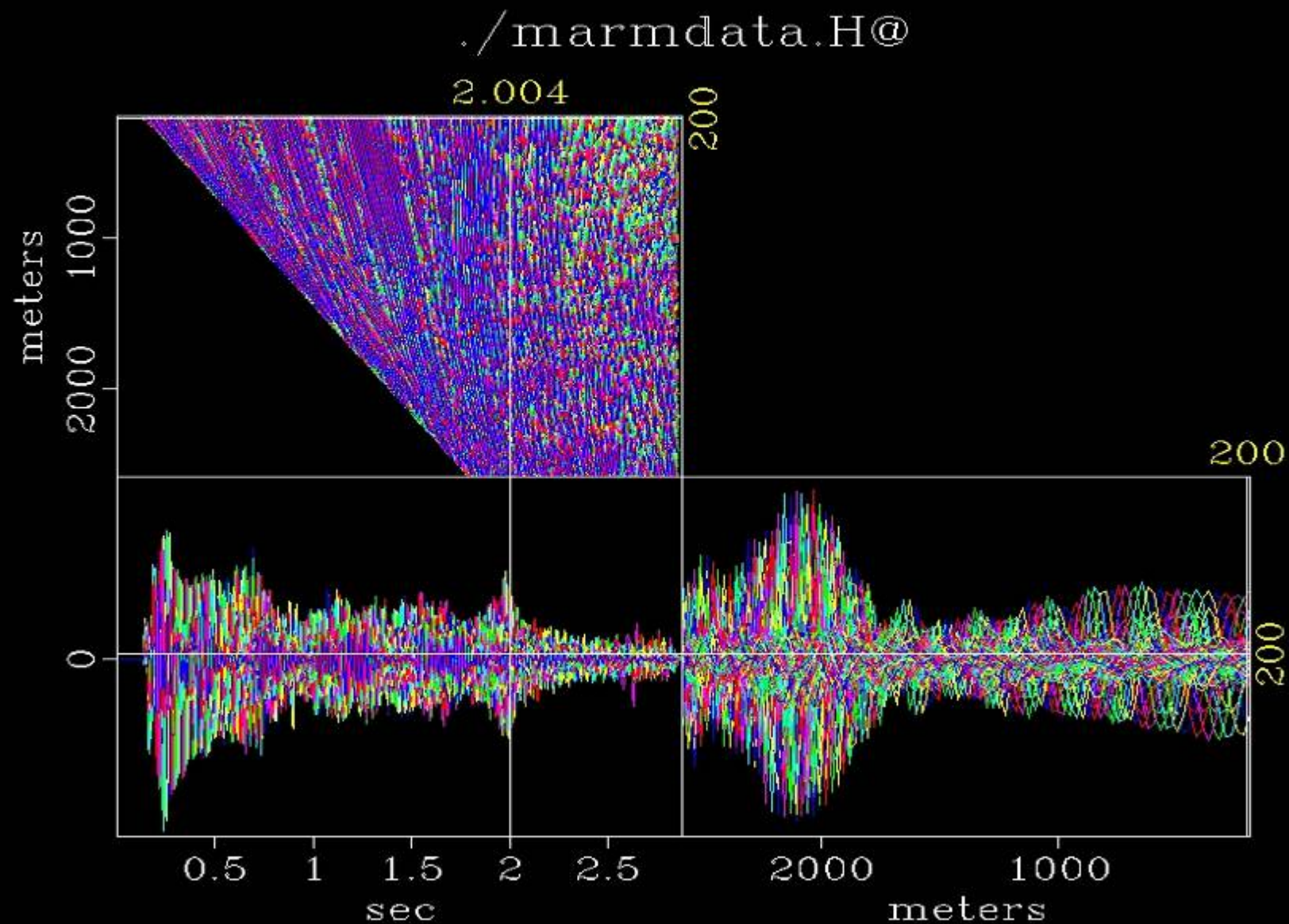


# Madagascar sfgraph3





# Madagascar sfgraph3

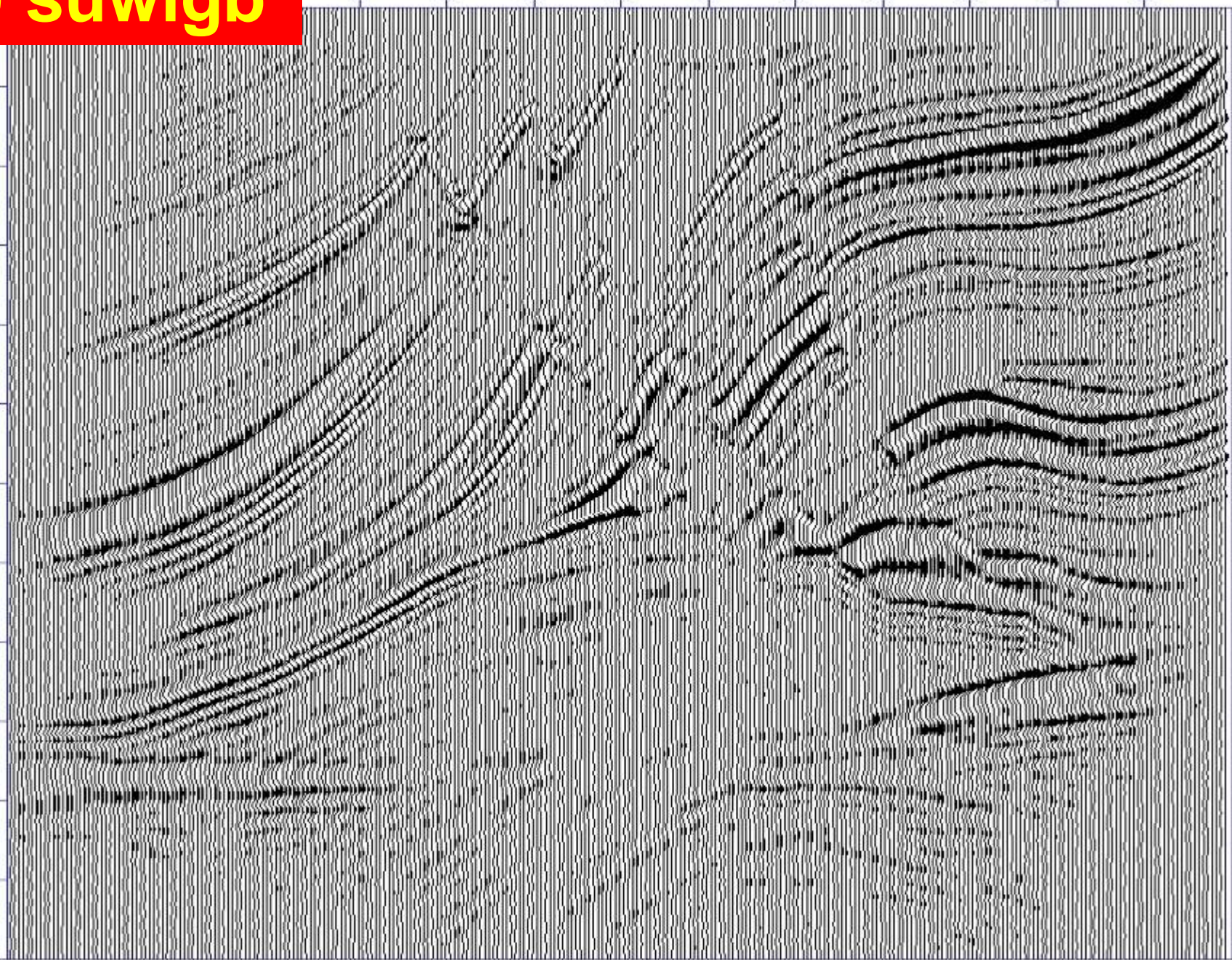


**SU suwigb**

xwigb

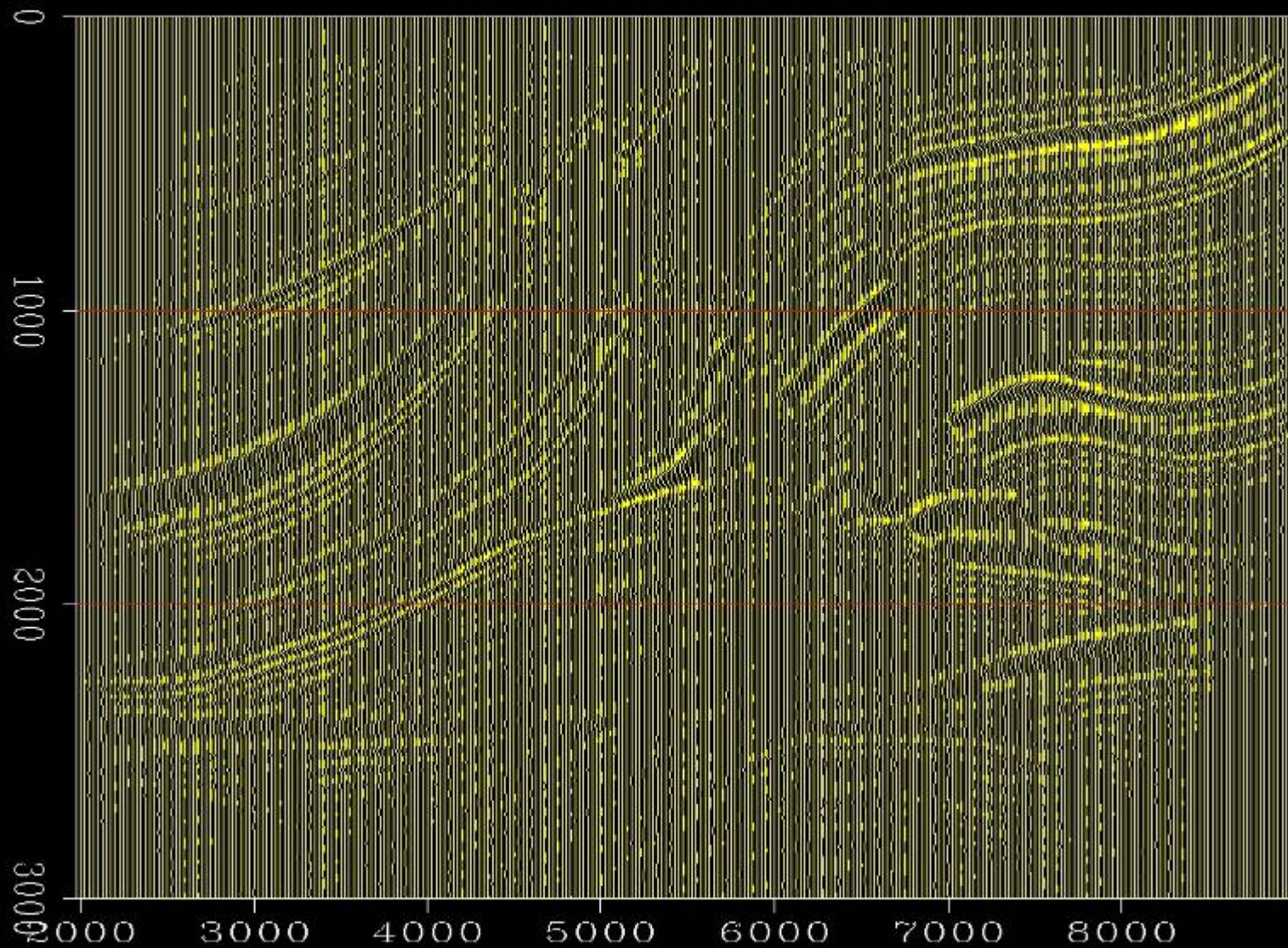
80 100 120 140 160 180 200 220 240 260

20  
40  
60  
80  
100  
120  
140  
160  
180  
200  
220  
240

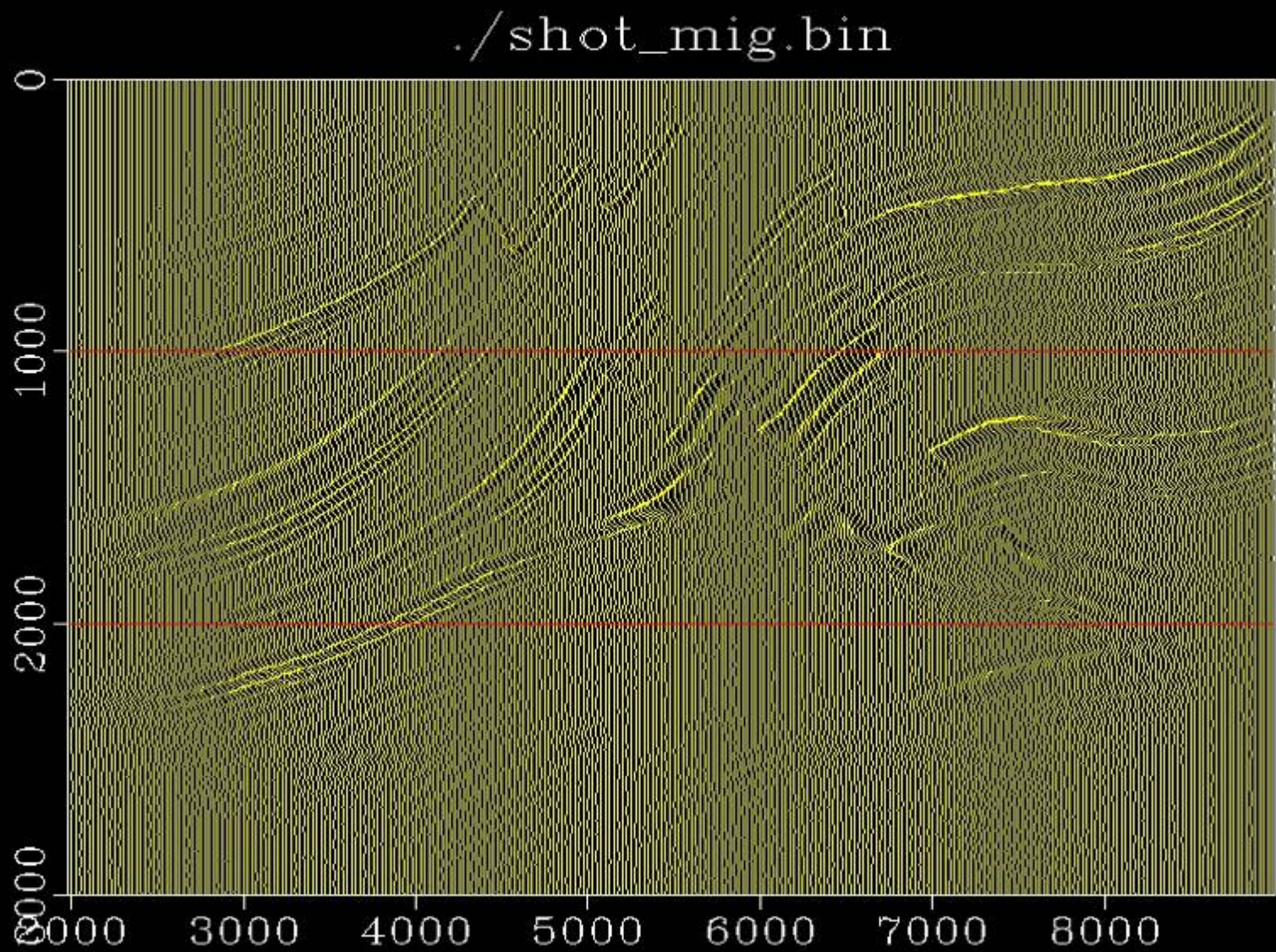


# SEPLib Wiggle

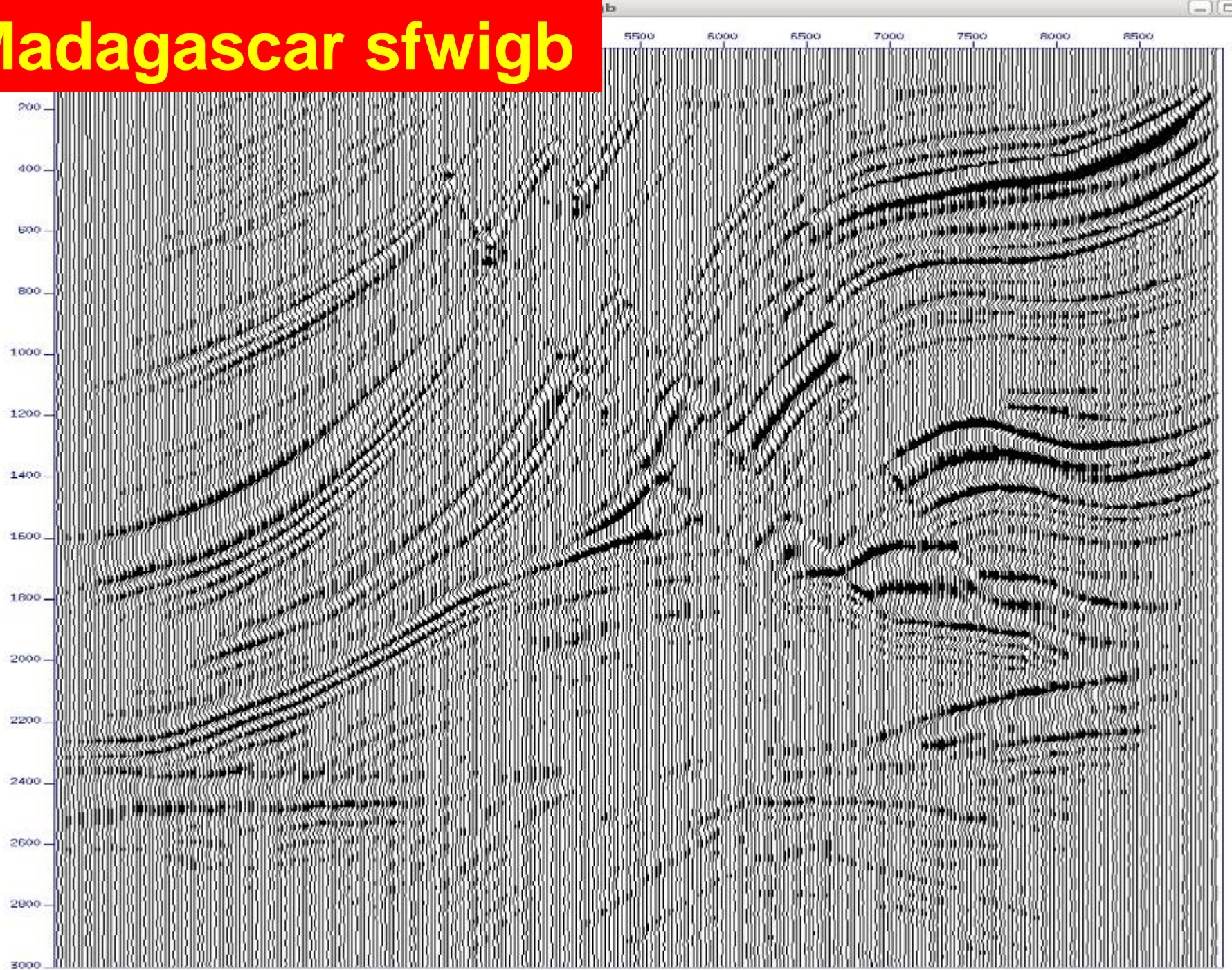
./shot\_mig.bin



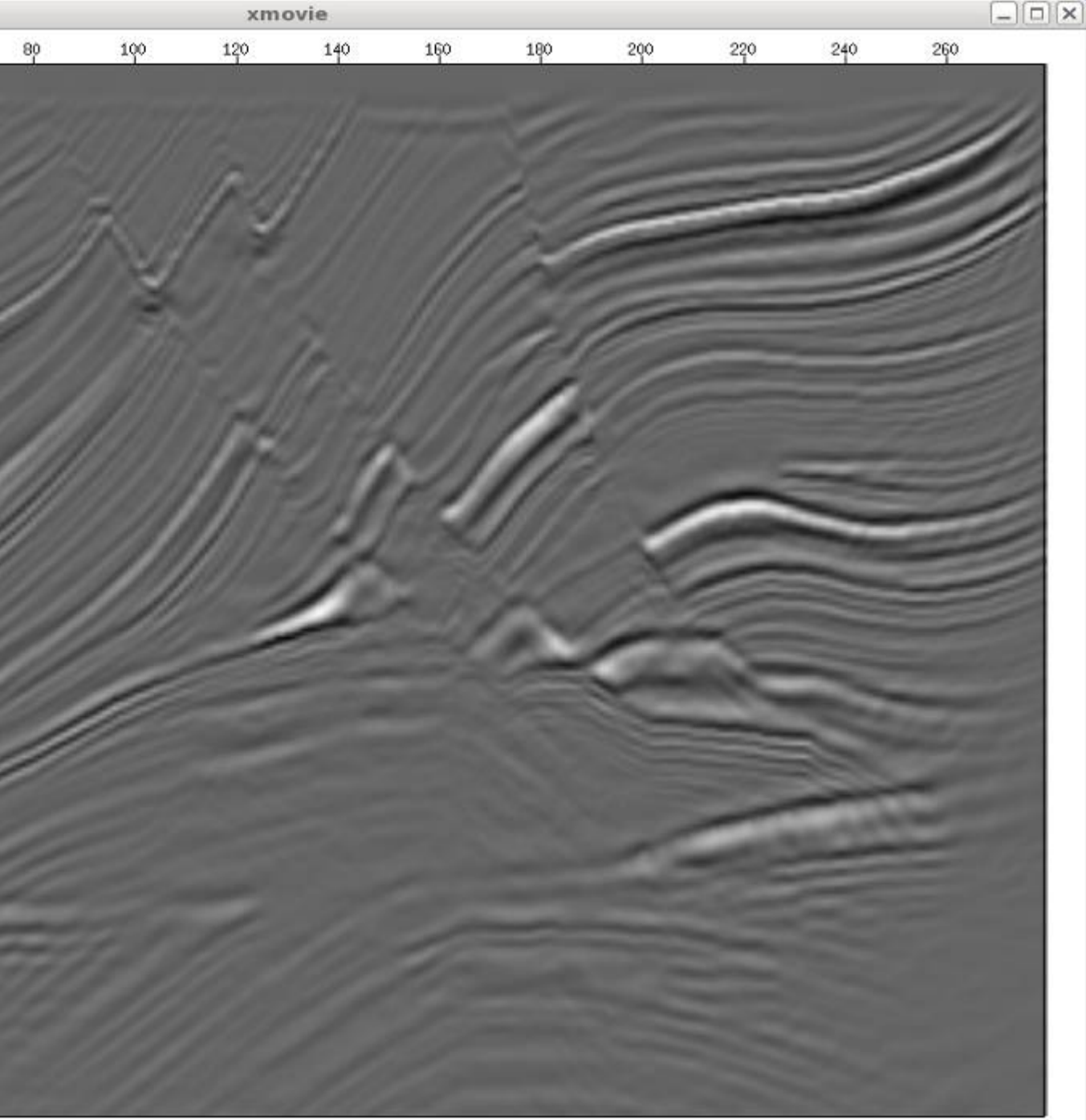
# Madagascar sfwiggle



# Madagascar sfwigb



# SU xmovie



# SEPIib Grey

xtpen

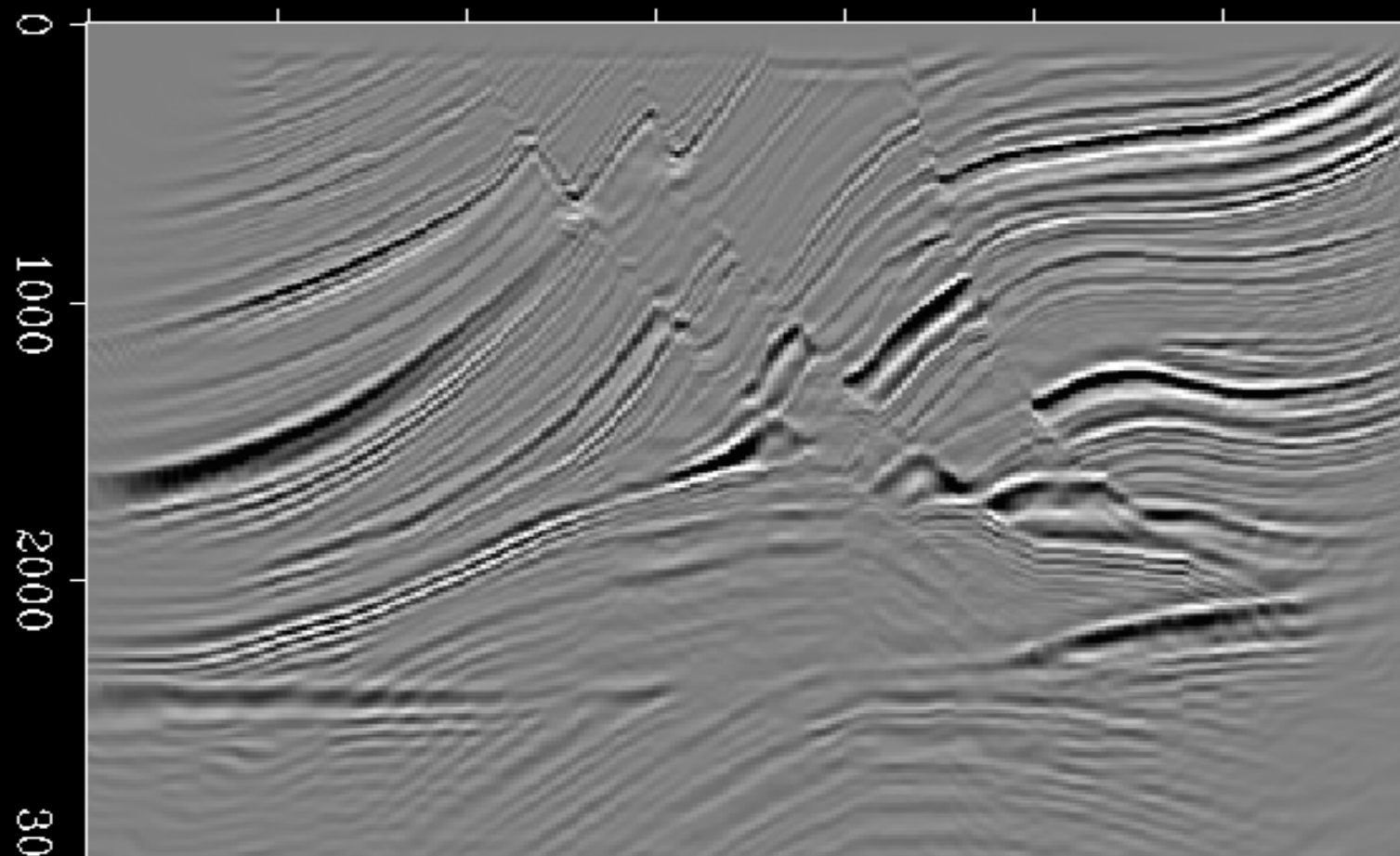
Stretchy

Forwards

0

delay 0.05

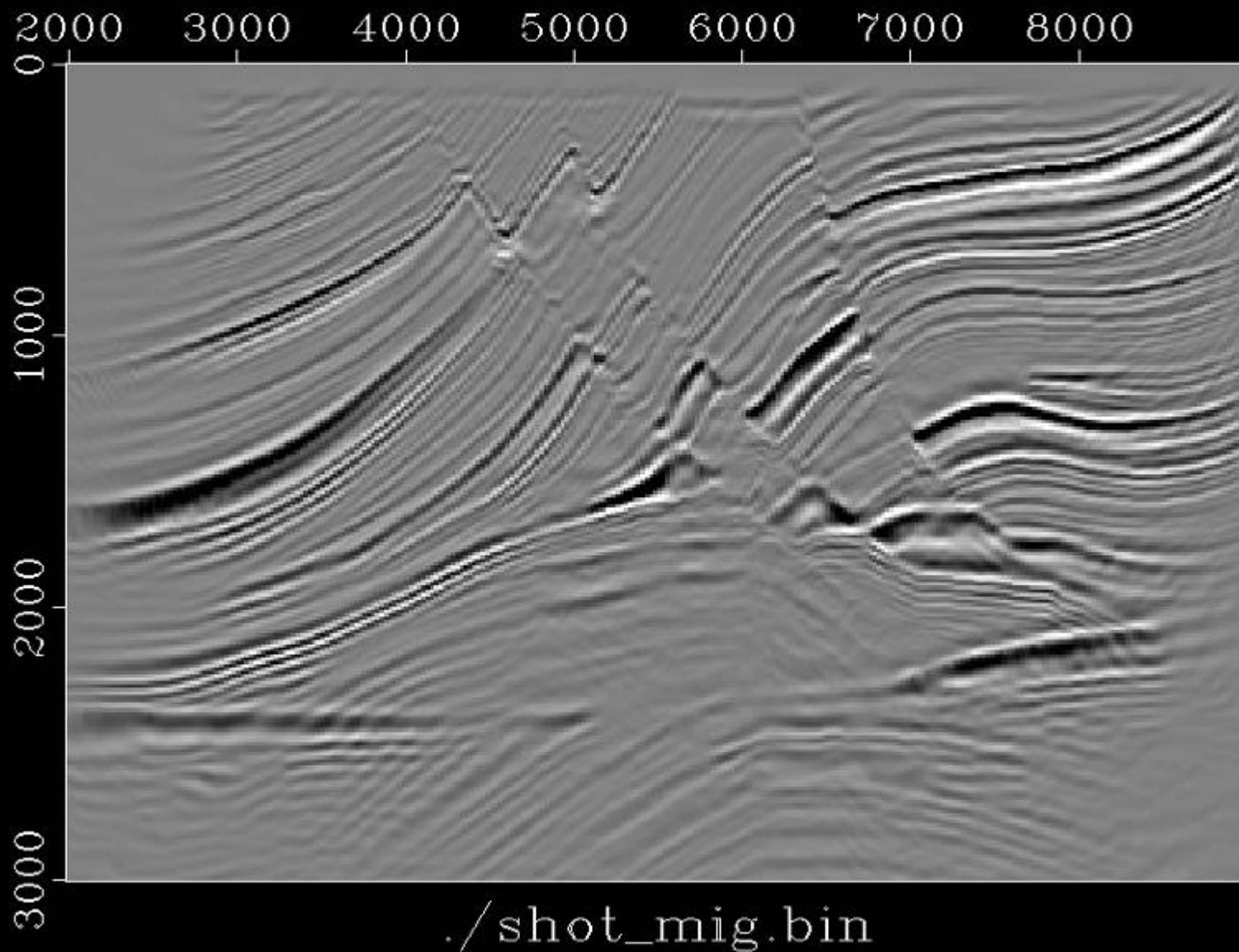
2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 8000



0  
1000  
2000  
3000

./shot\_mig.bin

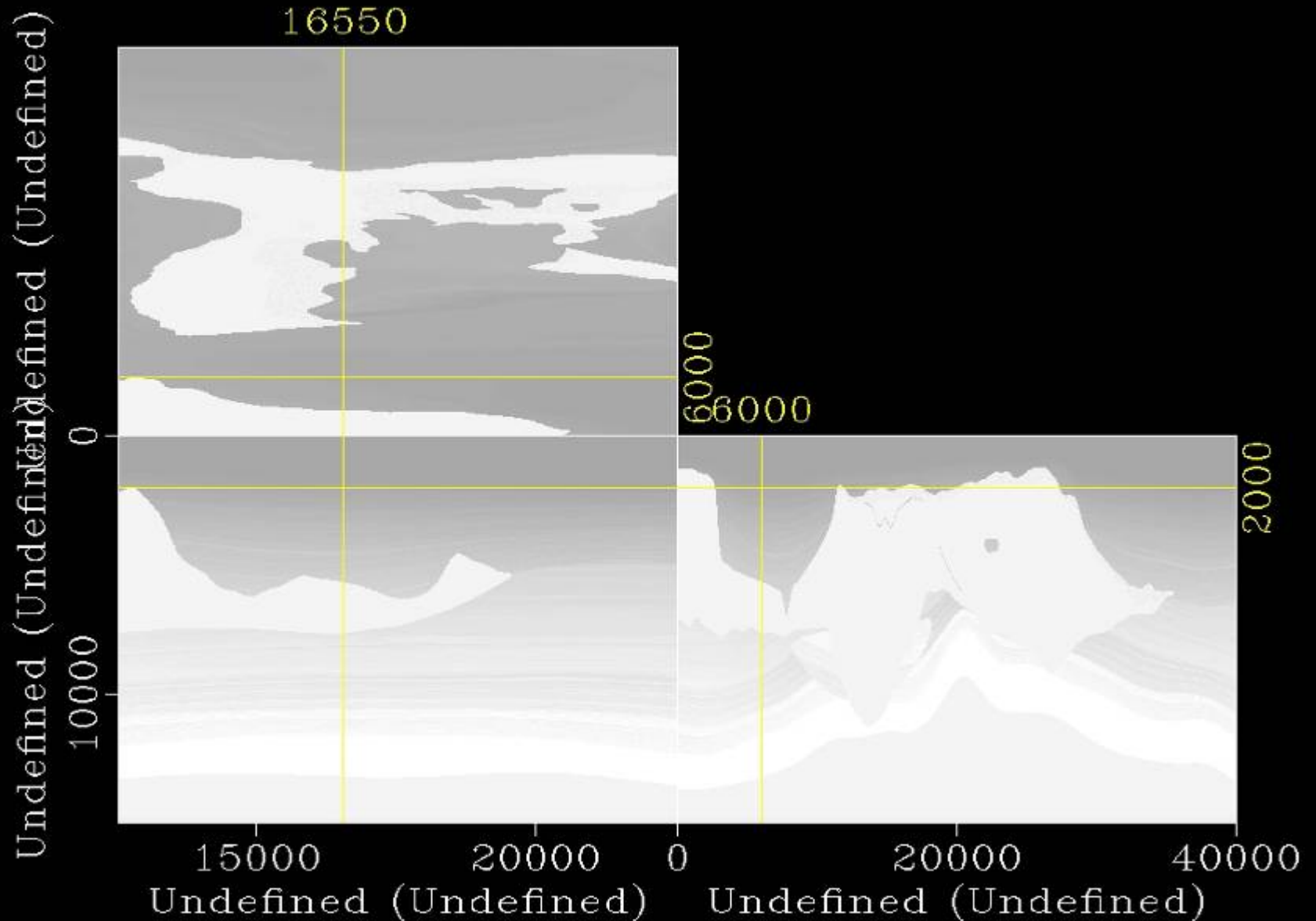
# Madagascar sfgrey





# Madagascar sfcubeplot

stdin



# SU sucontour

xcontour



1000

1500

2000

100

200

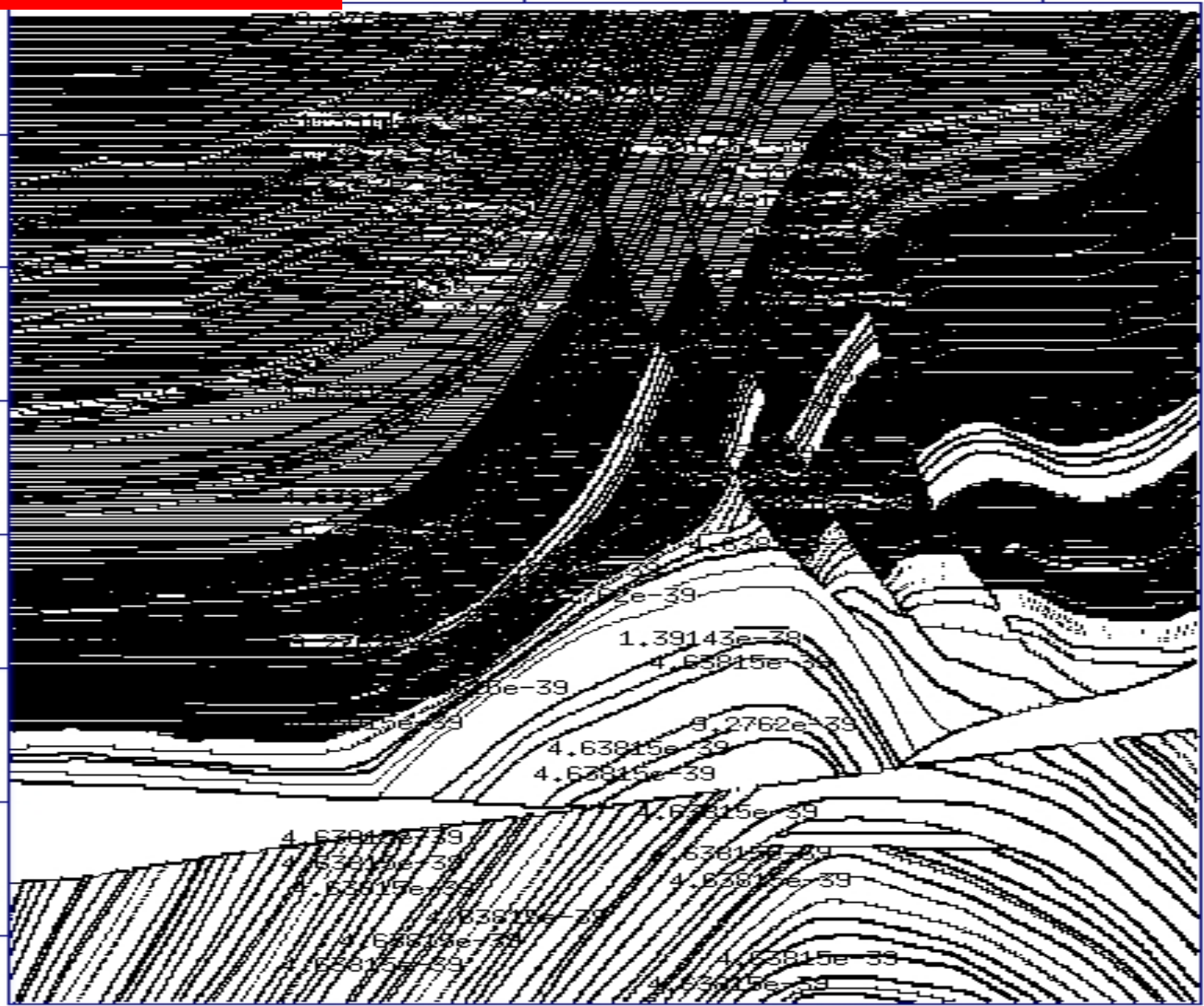
300

400

500

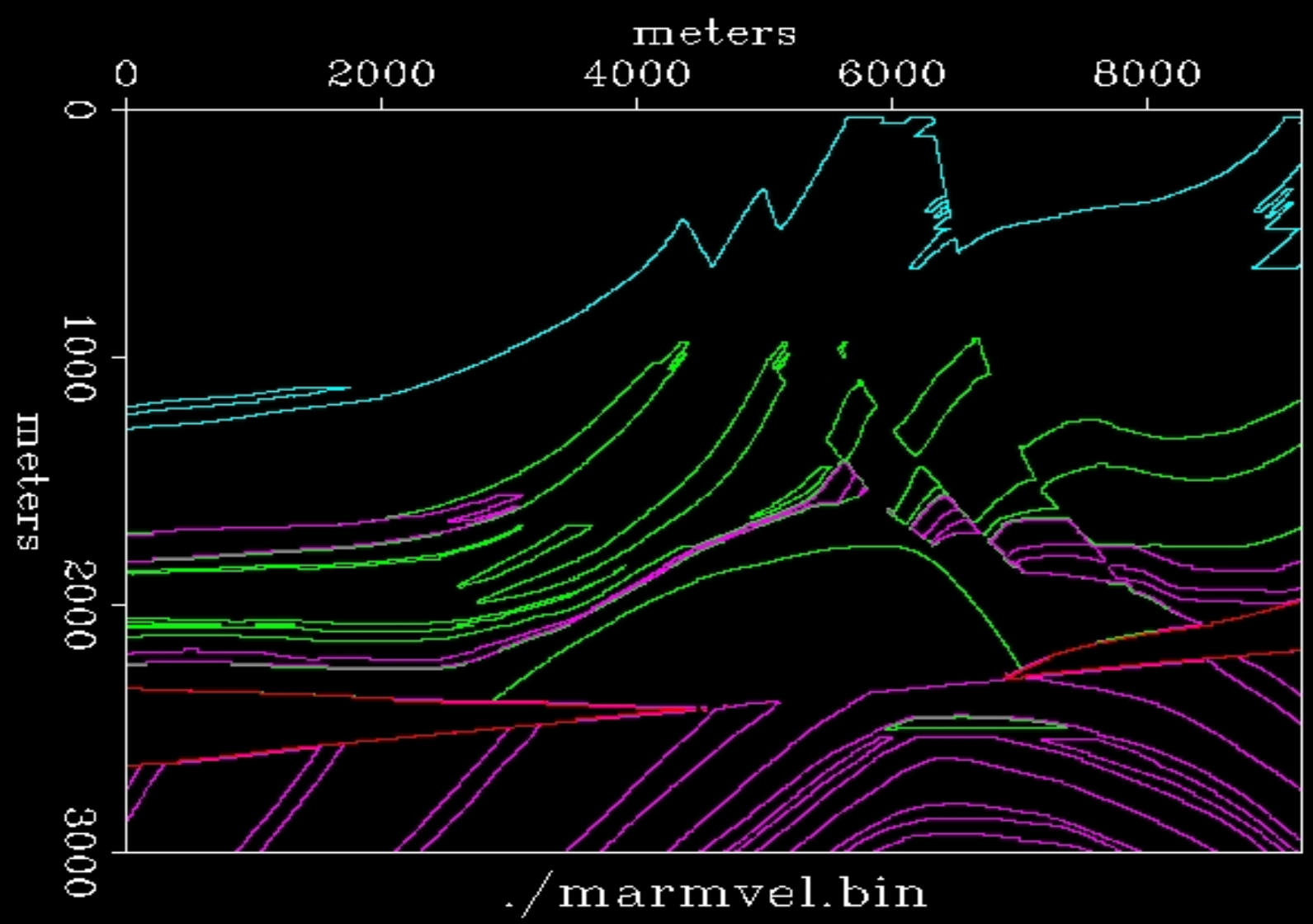
600

700

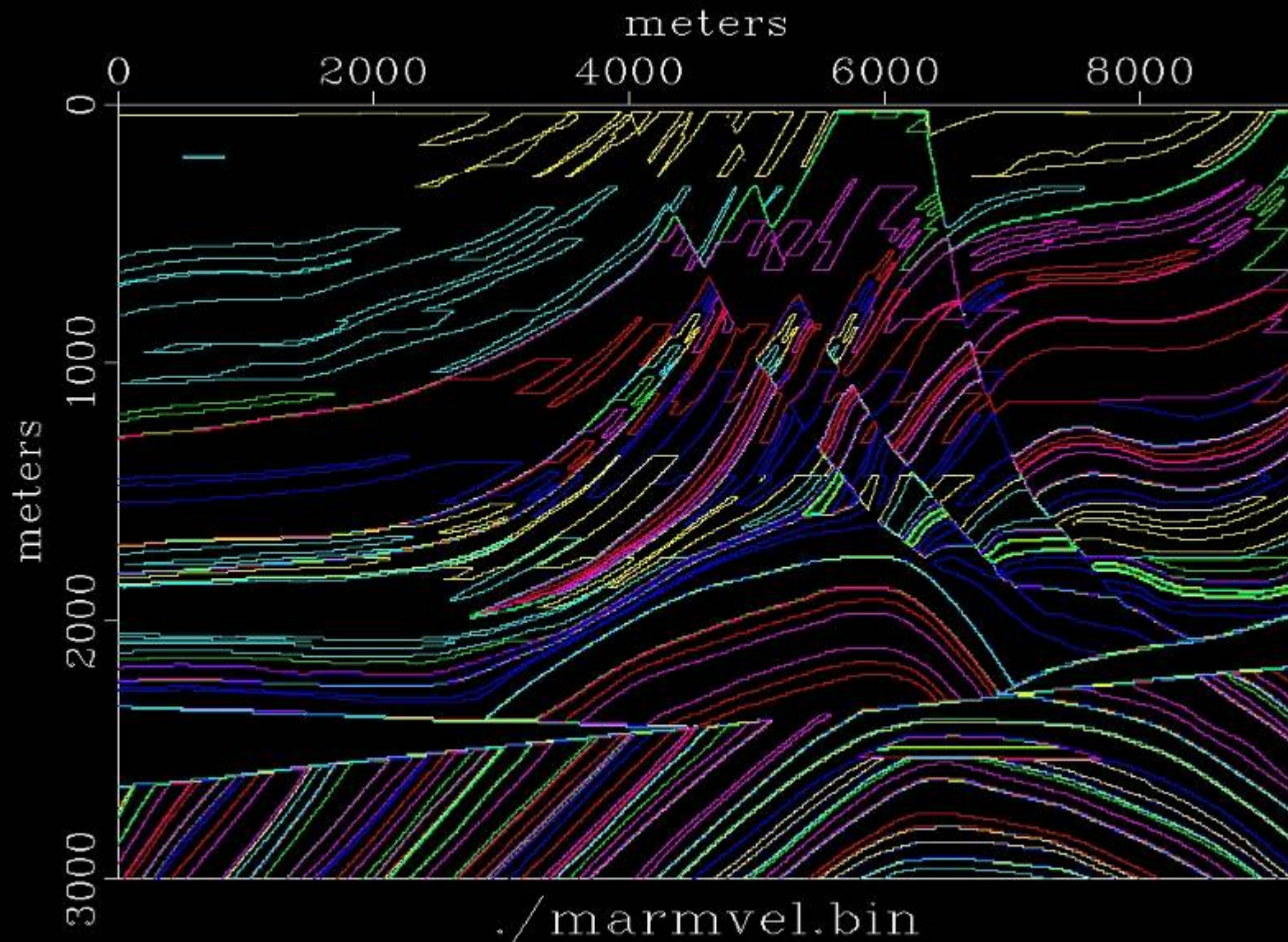


# SEPIlib Contour

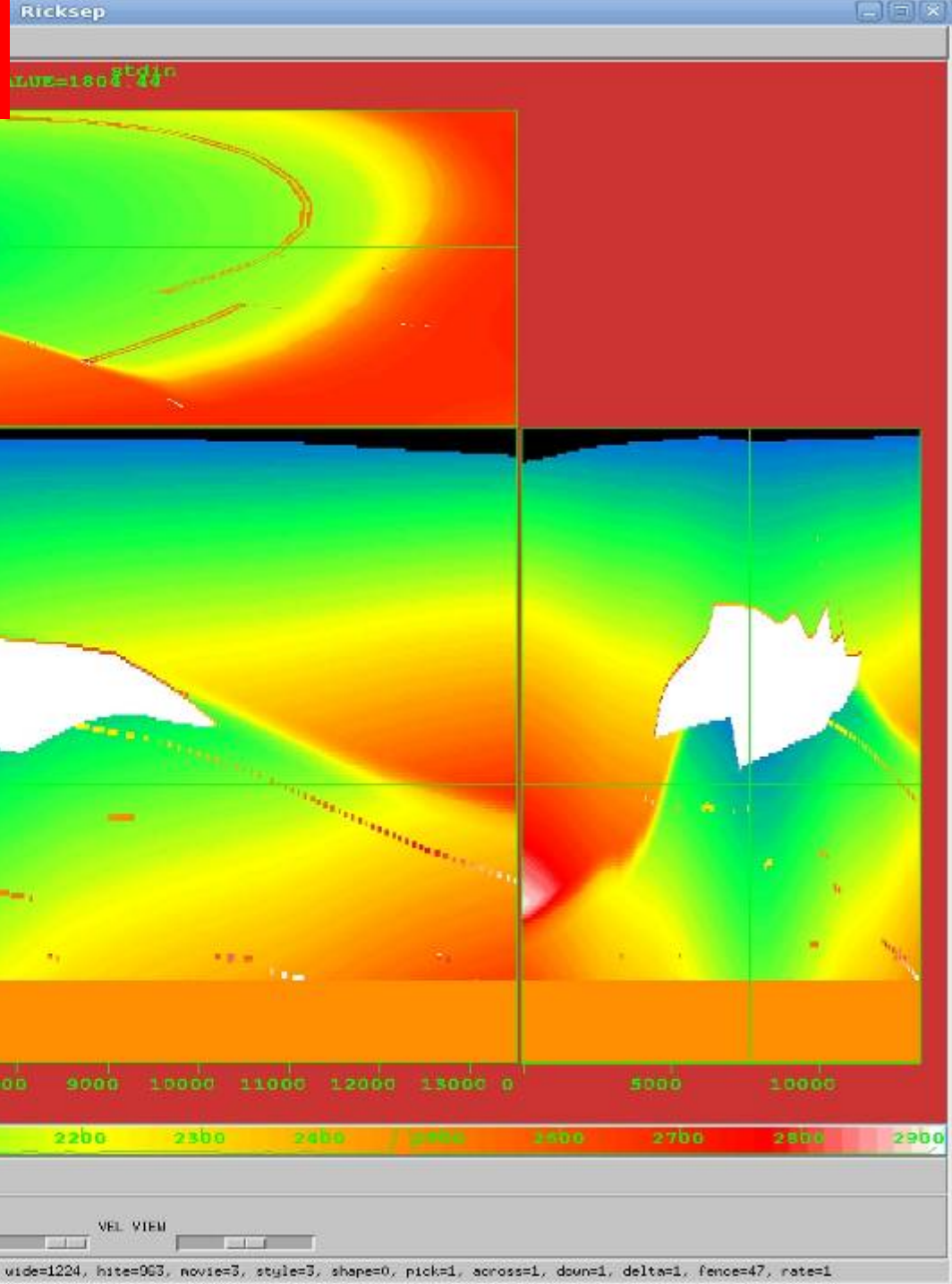
xtpen  
atchy Forwards 0 delay 0.05



# Madagascar sfcontour



# SEPLib Rickmovie



stdin

value=1804.44

10000  
5000  
0  
500  
1000  
1500  
2000  
2500  
3000  
3500  
4000

0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 8000 9000 10000 11000 12000 13000 0 5000 10000

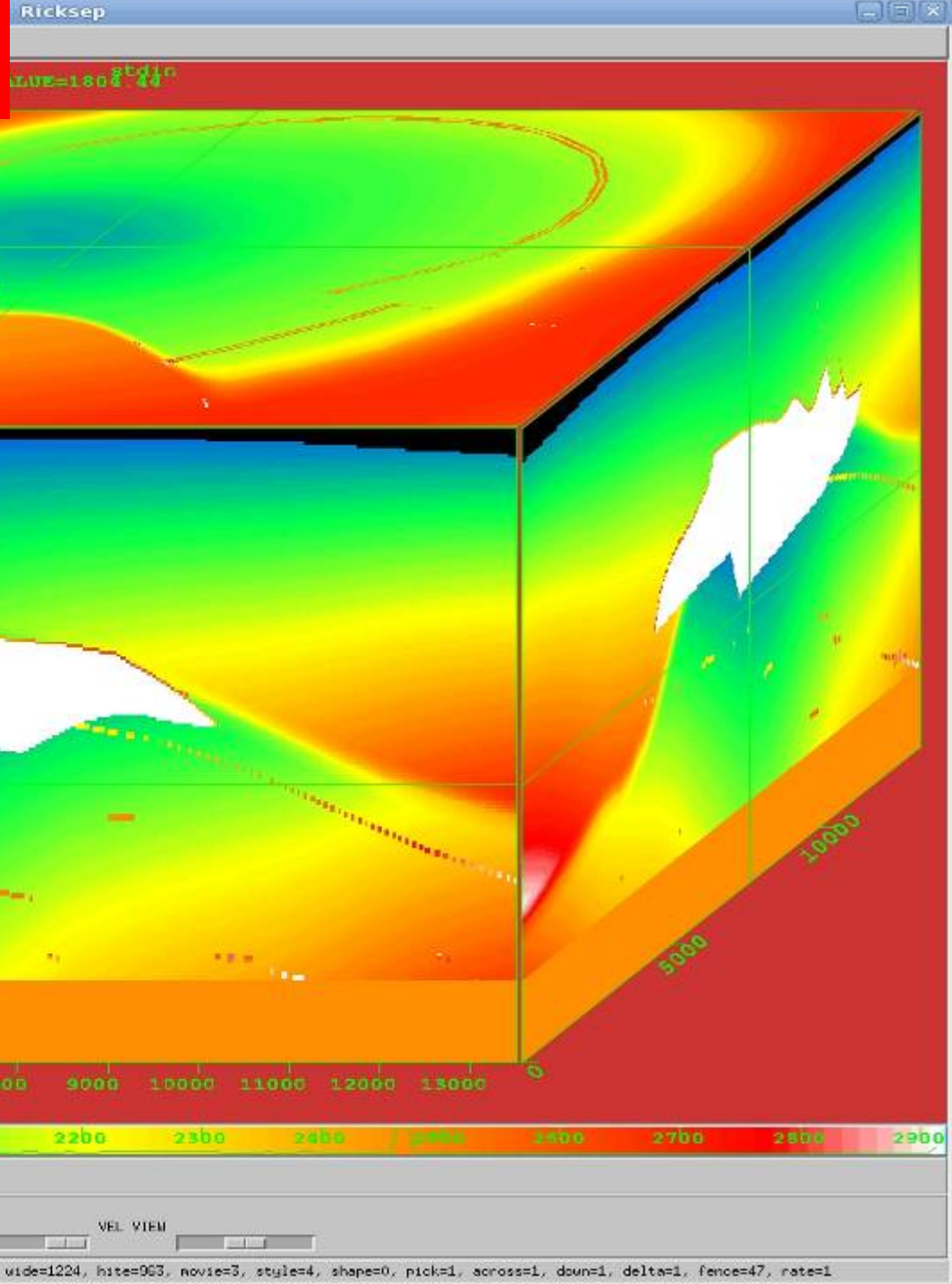
1600 1700 1800 1900 2000 2100 2200 2300 2400 2500 2600 2700 2800 2900

CONTRAST  CENTER  RESET STEP

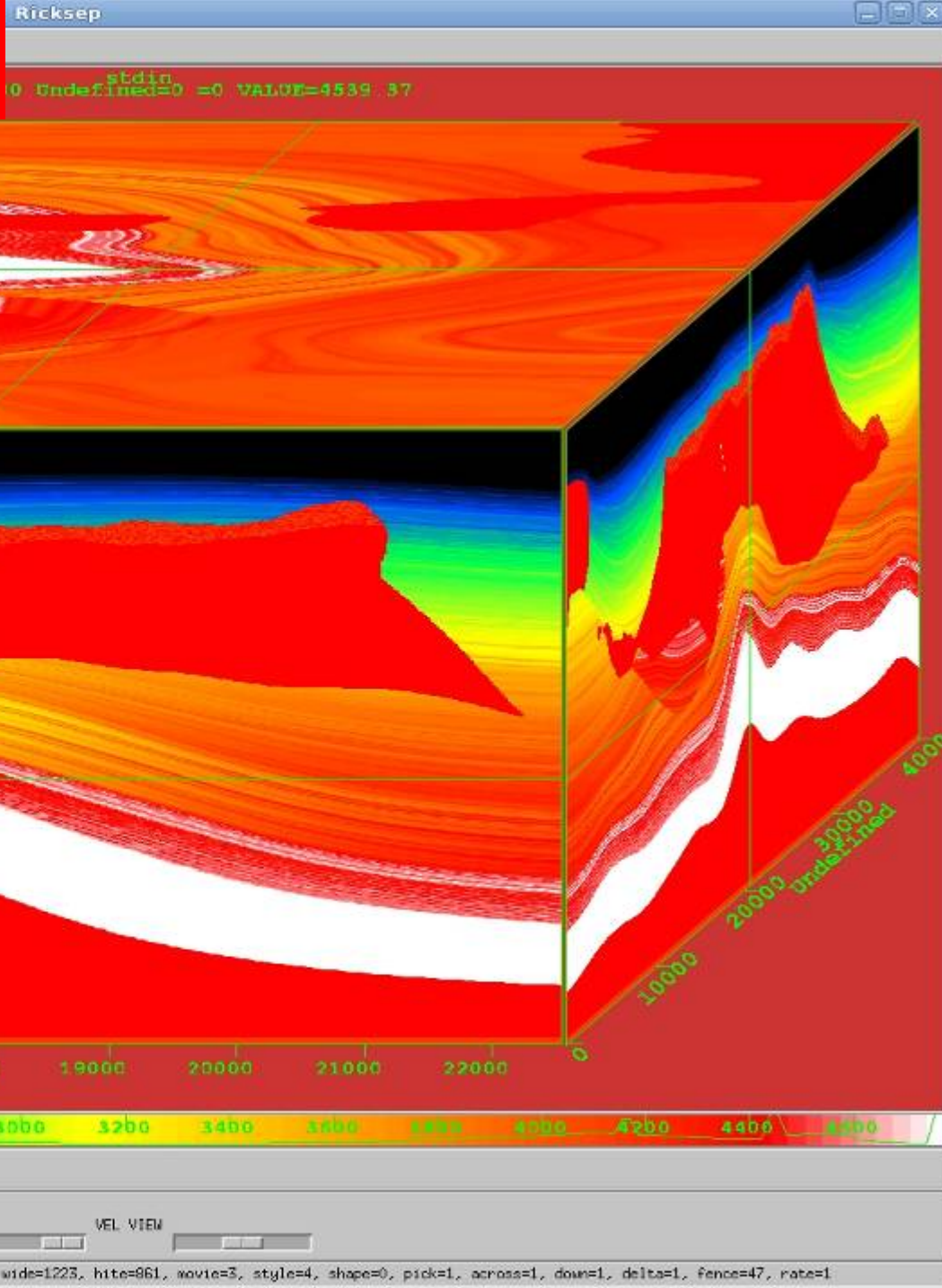
GO NO Annotate Normal z Z x X y Y SPEED  VEL VIEW

View: value=1004.44, round-robin off (1/1), path-view off, velocity-view off, history=0/0, wsize=1224, hsize=963, noview=3, style=3, shape=0, pick=1, across=1, down=1, delta=1, fence=47, rate=1

# SEPLib Rickmovie

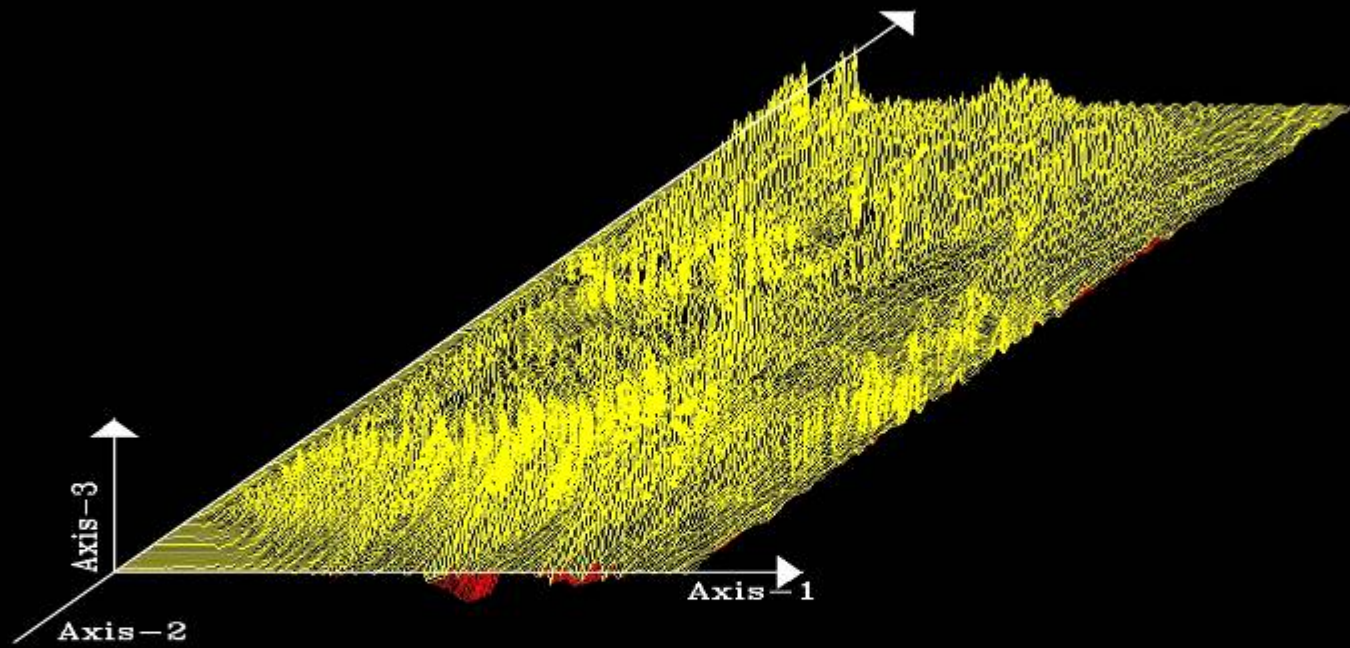


# SEPLib Rickmovie



# SEPLib Thplot

./shot\_mig.bin





# Conclusions

SU: Strong front-end time processing, primarily trace based, not a lot of modern depth imaging algorithms. Some anisotropy research modules.

Madagascar: More modern imaging algorithms, wave-equation concepts, angle gathers modules, prediction error filters, interpolators, missing data, helix filters, more dynamic development.

SEPlib: Obsolete. Will disappear once Madagascar incorporated all its functionality.