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## RESEARCH ARTICLE

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## SH Seismoelectric Response of a Glacier: An Analytic Study

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## Key Points:

- We derive both exact and approximate analytic solutions to model the SH seismoelectric response of a glacier system
- The obtained results suggest that SH seismoelectrics could constitute a possible geophysical prospecting tool

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**Abstract** In this work we derive the analytic solutions to the system of equations modeling, within the framework of Pride's theory, the seismic-to-electromagnetic conversions taking place in a glacial environment. Considering a one-dimensional approach, we set a pure shear horizontal wave seismic source on top of an elastic medium representing the glacier, which overlies a porous medium fully saturated with water, representing the glacier bed. The obtained solutions allow to separately represent and analyze the induced electromagnetic responses, the so called coseismic waves, for both the electric and magnetic fields along with the signals originated at the glacier bottom, the electric interface response, and magnetic interface response. We also propose approximate solutions, useful to be used in a fast inversion algorithm. We analyze the characteristics of the induced electromagnetic signals and their dependence on the type of glacier bed, considering an unconsolidated one and a consolidated one. The main results of the present paper are manifold, on the one hand, the mentioned analytic solutions, on the other hand, that the electric interface response originated at the glacier bottom is proportional to the electric current density at this depth, and depends on textural and electrical properties of the basement. We also showed that the amplitude of the electric interface response is three orders of magnitude higher than the amplitude of the electric coseismic field. This fact reinforces the idea proposed in our previous works that it would be interesting to test shear horizontal seismoelectrics as a possible geophysical prospecting and monitoring tool.

## 1. Introduction

The fact that glaciers and their interaction with the subglacial environment could be successfully studied using electromagnetic methods has been observed several years ago; Blake and Clarke (1999) noticed that the chemical evolution of subglacial water could contribute to changes in the electric conductivity of the glacier basement and that streaming potentials are generated by water flow through the sediments located below the ice mass. Shean and Marchant (2010) were able, by means of GPR and seismic surveys in Antarctica, to estimate local ice-thicknesses in both upper Mullins Valley and upper Beacon Valley, while Palmer et al. (2013) detected the existence of subglacial lakes in Greenland by means of airborne radio echo sounder measurements. Several other examples of GPR used to investigate glaciers can be found in Nobes (2011).

Another motivation for the scientific study of glaciers and ice caps, among many others, is their possible contribution to the sea-level rise (Larsen et al., 2007; VanLooy et al., 2006), which is related to their total volume (Grinsted, 2013; Huss & Farinotti, 2012). Large-scale surveys are necessary in this case, for which airborne laser altimetry/Lidar and digital elevation models can be counted between the used tools (Jordan et al., 2016; Rémy & Parouty, 2009; Rius et al., 2017; VanLooy et al., 2006).

Another electromagnetic method that could be used at a local scale in glacial environments is the seismoelectric method. Seismoelectric conversions can arise at interfaces of media with different physical properties, especially electrokinetic properties (Garambois & Dietrich, 2002; Haartsen & Pride, 1997). These properties are linked to the coupling between the water flow and the electrical flow. In the seismoelectric method a seismic wave source is employed to induce a relative motion between the fluid and the matrix, which in turn induces an electrokinetic coupling at the origin of the seismoelectric conversions. Therefore, this method could constitute a prospecting tool for the detection of the interface between the glacier and the underlying water-saturated sediments. Kulesa et al. (2006) conducted the first—to the authors' knowledge—seismoelectric field test on a glacier, namely, the Tsanfleuron glacier, located in the Swiss Alps.

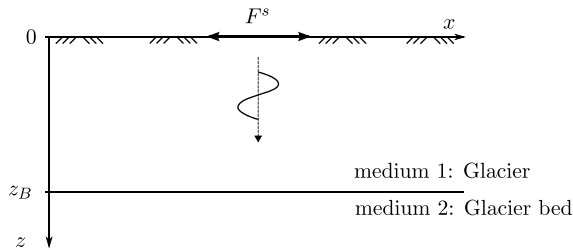
They recorded strong seismoelectric signals and interpreted them as conversions within the snow pack and near the dry-wet ice and ice-bed interfaces. They also observed that seismoelectric signals in glacial ice were stronger than those measured in other environments, such the ones obtained by Beamish and Peart (1998). Mahardika (2013) performed numerical tests simulating the glacial environment described in the previous work and was able to produce recordings compatible with the data collected by Kulesa et al. (2006). Quite recently, Siegert et al. (2018) interpreted, from seismoelectric soundings of the West Greenland Ice Sheet, arrival times from the till layer beneath the ice-sheet base fully compatible with previous data obtained with seismic amplitude variation with offset surveys. They suggested that this study strongly encourages future developments of the seismoelectric method for the hydrological and mechanical characterization of ice-sheet substrates.

On the other hand, in the laboratory it was proven that an interface between a frozen sand layer and an unfrozen sand layer can induce a seismoelectric signal called the *interfacial response*. Using a high-frequency *P* wave source, Liu et al. (2008) observed both the seismoelectric conversion propagating with the seismic wave, with a decreasing amplitude when the temperature increased from  $-8$  to  $-4$  °C, and the interfacial response with an electric field amplitude of the order of 10 mV/m. The seismoelectric method has been also used to study different environments, theoretically, in the laboratory and in the field. We mention just some examples among the numerous and valuable works that many authors have produced: studies of shallow seismoelectrics (Haines & Guitton et al., 2007; Haines & Pride et al., 2007), the analysis of seismoelectric signals created by fault ruptures (Hu & Gao, 2011), the study of seismoelectric effects produced by mesoscopic heterogeneities (Jougnot et al., 2013; Monachesi et al., 2015), the study of hydrological reservoirs (Dupuis et al., 2007, 2009; Schakel et al., 2012), hydrocarbon reservoir characterization (Guan et al., 2013; Hu et al., 2007; Revil & Jardani, 2010; Thompson et al., 2005; Thompson et al., 2007; Zyserman et al., 2010), CO<sub>2</sub> deposition sites monitoring (Zyserman et al., 2015), partially saturated soils characterization (Allègre et al., 2015; Bordes et al., 2015; Fiorentino et al., 2017; Jardani & Revil, 2015; Mahardika, 2013; Smeulders et al., 2014; Strahser et al., 2011; Warden et al., 2013; Zyserman et al., 2017a), and seismoelectric characterization of layered-earth systems (Grobbe et al., 2016; Grobbe & Slob, 2016). The interested reader can recourse to recent reviews (Jouniaux & Ishido, 2012; Jouniaux & Zyserman, 2016) and a recent book on seismoelectrics (Revil et al., 2015) for a more extensive list of applications.

With the objective of contributing to characterize and understand the seismoelectric method when applied to glacial environments, we present in this work an analytic study of the electromagnetic responses to pure shear horizontal (SH) seismic waves, generated by a shearing force acting at the top of a glacier overlying a rocky substratum. Concerning the choice of the source, on the one hand, we have proved in a previous work (Zyserman et al., 2017a) that the signal-to-noise ratio can be higher in this case than when using compressional sources, and on the other hand, although up to now this kind of sources has not been used in seismoelectric field studies, they have been employed successfully in several works aiming to characterize the shallow subsurface (Beilecke et al., 2016; Comina et al., 2017; Konstantaki et al., 2013; Konstantaki et al., 2015; Prior et al., 2017; Stucchi et al., 2017). The ice forming the glacier is treated as an elastic medium; this is a common assumption when performing seismic studies (Collins et al., 2016; Podolskiy & Fabian, 2016; Presnov et al., 2014b; Presnov et al., 2014a).

Many authors (Bordes et al., 2015; Garambois & Dietrich, 2002; Gao et al., 2017; Guan et al., 2017; Guan et al., 2013; Haines et al., 2007; Haines et al., 2007; Hu et al., 2007; Hu & Gao, 2011; Kröger et al., 2014; Warden et al., 2012; Warden et al., 2013; Zyserman et al., 2012; Zyserman et al., 2015; Zyserman et al., 2017a) have employed Pride's (1994) theory to model the electrokinetic coupling taking place at the pore walls of an electrolyte saturated rock matrix; in this work we proceed in the same manner to characterize the seismic-to-electromagnetic energy conversions occurring at the glacier bed and at its top border, that is, at the boundary with the glacier bottom. Moreover, as the glacier beds can be constituted primarily by hard rock (Payne et al., 2004) or by unconsolidated sediments (Peters et al., 2006), we employ two different models for the mechanical properties of the glacier bed, and explore their respective influence on the generated electromagnetic response.

Finally, concerning the interaction of the glacier with its underlying medium, it is modeled by assuming that they move jointly when the shear waves arrive at their common boundary. This assumption is valid for different kinds of glaciers, namely, the so called cold-based or dry-based glaciers, that is, those with their basal part entirely below the pressure melting point, and therefore with no liquid water occurring at the interface between the two media (Lorrain & Fitzsimons, 2011) and also for the more erosive "temperate" glaciers, for



**Figure 1.** Schematic representation of the seismic shear wave traveling downward in a two-layer one-dimensional system. Medium 1 represents the ice body (assumed as an elastic medium) and medium 2 is the porous basement (assumed as a poroelastic medium).

which thin water sheets or water-filled holes with different shapes can exist between the glacier bottom and the rocks beneath, allowing the ice to slip and move relatively fast (Herman et al., 2015). It must be however noticed that in this second case some restrictions involving the frequency content of the signal and the water viscosity, among other parameters, must be taken into account for the “welded” boundary condition to be valid (Rokhlin & Wang, 1991). In summary, we are presenting the first analytic work in which the seismoelectric equations, coupled through appropriate boundary conditions to the elastic equations, are solved and furthermore, the solution is written in a closed form.

We follow this work by presenting the governing equations used in this study, and continue by deriving the analytic solutions to the simplified

elastic and Pride’s equations, considering contributions of infinitely many reflections of the SH seismic wave at the glacier surface and bottom. Further, we consider an approximation to the induced electromagnetic fields, which turns out to produce very simple expressions. Finally, we present the model parameters employed in this study considering different scenarios to explore the responses yielded by the proposed solutions.

## 2. Theoretical Background

### 2.1. Governing Equations

Let’s consider a one-dimensional medium constituted by a single layer on top of a half-space in contact at a given depth  $z_B$  as it is shown in Figure 1.

The top layer (medium 1) represents the ice body of a glacier, being modeled as an elastic medium, while the half-space (medium 2) is occupied by a porous medium fully saturated with water, representing the glacier bed. We assume that the seismic source of the system is a shearing force located at the glacier surface ( $z = 0$ ), parallel to the  $x$ -axis acting on a horizontal infinite plane. Under these assumptions, the source can only induce displacements in the  $x$  direction, with amplitudes depending only on depth; no compressional waves can arise in this model; on the other hand, due to the proposed model geometry, spherical spreading and Fresnel zone effects do not take place.

Given that medium 1 is an elastic one, the mechanical equation that governs the wave propagation written in the space-frequency domain, assuming an  $e^{i\omega t}$  time dependence, is

$$-\omega^2 \rho_1 u_x - G_1 \frac{\partial^2 u_x}{\partial z^2} = F^s \delta(z), \quad (1)$$

where  $\rho_1$  and  $G_1$  stand for the density and the shear modulus of medium 1, and  $u_x$  is the displacement in the medium (Aki & Richards, 2002). The right-hand side of equation (1) represents the shearing source acting on the surface ( $F^s$  is the shearing force per unit area and  $\delta(z)$  is the Dirac delta function).

As mentioned above, equation (1) yields the mechanical response of the considered medium under the stated assumptions. Even though it is not coupled to the electromagnetic response in this region, clearly we have to establish the governing equations for the electric and magnetic fields in the glacier in order to appropriately model the complete response to the seismic wave propagation induced by the source. Because the proposed model is one-dimensional, both the electric and magnetic fields will depend only on depth. Assuming that the net electric charge is zero and that the magnetic permeability is that of the vacuum, the electric and magnetic fields in medium 1 will satisfy the following simplified form of Maxwell’s equations:

$$-\sigma_1 E_x - \frac{\partial H_y}{\partial z} = 0, \quad (2)$$

$$\frac{\partial E_x}{\partial z} + i\omega\mu_0 H_y = 0, \quad (3)$$

where  $E_x$  and  $H_y$  are the electric and magnetic fields, respectively,  $\sigma_1$  is the electric conductivity of the medium and  $\mu_0 = 4\pi \times 10^{-7} \text{ N A}^{-2}$  is the vacuum magnetic permeability. Note that the displacement currents are not accounted for; this is the common assumption for shallow seismoelectric surveys (Bordes et al., 2015; Gao et al., 2017; Guan et al., 2017; Haines & Pride, 2006; Hu & Liu, 2002).

To model the seismoelectric response in medium 2 we use the equations derived by Pride (1994). Considering that the electroosmotic feedback can be neglected in Biot's equations, as it is usually assumed for frequencies in the range of interest for shallow seismoelectric surveys (10 Hz to 1 kHz; Bordes et al., 2015; Gao et al., 2017; Guan et al., 2017; Haines & Pride, 2006; Hu & Liu, 2002; Warden et al., 2013), Pride's equations can be written as follows:

$$-\omega^2 \rho_b u_{s,x} - \omega^2 \rho_w u_{f,x} - G_2 \frac{\partial^2 u_{s,x}}{\partial z^2} = 0, \quad (4)$$

$$-\omega^2 \rho_w u_{s,x} - \omega^2 g_0 u_{f,x} + i\omega \frac{\eta_w}{\kappa} u_{f,x} = 0, \quad (5)$$

$$-\sigma_2 E_x - \frac{\partial H_y}{\partial z} = i\omega \frac{\eta_w}{\kappa} L_0 u_{f,x} = j_v, \quad (6)$$

$$\frac{\partial E_x}{\partial z} + i\omega \mu_0 H_y = 0, \quad (7)$$

In these equations,  $u_{s,x}$  and  $u_{f,x}$  are the average solid and relative fluid displacements, respectively,  $\rho_b$  is the bulk density, which can be computed as  $\rho_b = \rho_s(1 - \phi) + \phi\rho_w$ , being  $\rho_s$  the density of the solid matrix,  $\rho_w$  the density of water and  $\phi$  the porosity of the medium.  $G_2$  is the shear modulus of medium 2,  $g_0$  the Biot's low-frequency inertial coupling coefficient, computed as  $g_0 = F\rho_w$  (Santos et al., 2004; Santos et al., 2005; Zyserman et al., 2012), where  $F$  is the formation factor given by  $F = \phi^{-\hat{m}}$ , being  $\hat{m}$  the cementation exponent,  $\eta_w$  is the water viscosity, and  $\kappa$  is the permeability of the porous matrix. The right-hand side in equation (6) is the electric current density, source of the electromagnetic signals, and can be referred to as the viscous current density  $j_v$ , whereas  $\sigma_2 E_x$  is the conduction current, being  $\sigma_2$  the electric conductivity of medium 2. The coefficient  $L_0$  is the electrokinetic coupling Pride (1994); it creates, in this model, the coupling between the seismic wave and the electric and magnetic fields. If this coupling is zero, there are no seismo-electromagnetic conversions. Within the seismic frequency band it can be written as (Haines, 2004):

$$L_0 = -\frac{\epsilon_w \zeta}{\eta_w F}, \quad (8)$$

where  $\zeta$  is the zeta potential and  $\epsilon_w$  is the permittivity of water. In order to solve the problem stated by equations (1)–(7) it is necessary to establish boundary conditions for the displacements and the electromagnetic fields, both in the boundaries of the system ( $z = 0$  and  $z \rightarrow \infty$ ) and at the interface between both media ( $z = z_B$ ). In the following section the boundary conditions are established and the problem is analytically solved taking advantage of the decoupling of the mechanical and electromagnetic equations; we first solve the mechanical problem, and then the obtained solution is used to derive the final solutions for the electric and magnetic fields.

### 3. Derivation of the Analytic Solution

#### 3.1. Solving the Mechanical Equations

By solving equation (1) for  $z \geq 0$  assuming a homogeneous half-space, the displacement  $u_x$  as a function of  $z$  will be given by (see Appendix A):

$$u_x(z) = -\frac{F^s}{i\lambda_1 G_1} e^{i\lambda_1 z}, \quad (9)$$

where

$$\lambda_1 = \omega \sqrt{\frac{\rho_1}{G_1}}. \quad (10)$$

The S wave phase velocity in medium 1 can be obtained from equation (10) as  $v_1 = \omega/|\lambda_1|$ . This wave will travel downward until it reaches the interface between the glacier and the porous medium, at  $z = z_B$ . At this point, part of the energy will be reflected from the interface, traveling upward to the surface, and the rest of the energy will be transmitted to the porous medium beneath the glacier. Let us call  $U_x^{r,z_B,(1)}$  the displacement produced by the reflected wave at  $z = z_B$  (hereafter, the superscript between brackets indicates

a reflection/transmission count). Then the displacement  $u_x(z)$  will be given by the superposition of the incident wave (given by equation (9)) and the mentioned reflection as follows:

$$u_x(z) = -\frac{F^s}{i\lambda_1 G_1} e^{i\lambda_1 z} + U_x^{R,z_B,(1)} e^{-i\lambda_1(z-z_B)}. \quad (11)$$

Note that equation (11) is also a solution of equation (1), because the second term verifies the homogeneous equation.

Solving equations (4) and (5) (see Appendix B), and denoting by  $U_{s,x}^{(1)}$  and  $U_{f,x}^{(1)}$  the solid and relative fluid displacements at  $z = z_B$  produced by the incident wave (equation (9)), respectively, the solid and relative fluid displacements  $u_{s,x}(z)$  and  $u_{f,x}(z)$  will be given by

$$u_{s,x}(z) = U_{s,x}^{(1)} e^{i\lambda_2(z-z_B)} \text{ and } u_{f,x}(z) = U_{f,x}^{(1)} e^{i\lambda_2(z-z_B)}, \text{ with } U_{f,x}^{(1)} = -\frac{\rho_w}{\left(g_0 - \frac{i\eta_w}{\omega\kappa}\right)} U_{s,x}^{(1)}, \quad (12)$$

being  $\lambda_2$  the wave number of medium 2:

$$\lambda_2 = \omega \sqrt{\frac{1}{G_2} \left( \rho_b - \frac{\rho_w^2}{g_0 - i\eta_w/(\kappa\omega)} \right)}, \quad (13)$$

and  $v_2 = \omega/|\text{Re}(\lambda_2)|$  its S wave phase velocity.

In order to find the values for the displacements at  $z = z_B$ , we assume that the glacier is welded to the solid matrix of the porous medium. Then both the displacements  $u_x$  and  $u_{s,x}$  and the shear stresses  $G_1 \frac{du_x}{dz}$  and  $G_2 \frac{du_{s,x}}{dz}$  should be continuous at  $z = z_B$ . From equation (11) and the solid displacement  $u_{s,x}$  given by equation (12) the continuity conditions for the displacement and the shear stresses for the first incident wave at  $z = z_B$  can be respectively stated as follows:

$$-\frac{F^s}{i\lambda_1 G_1} e^{i\lambda_1 z_B} + U_x^{R,z_B,(1)} = U_{s,x}^{(1)}, \quad (14)$$

$$-F^s e^{i\lambda_1 z_B} - i\lambda_1 G_1 U_x^{R,z_B,(1)} = i\lambda_2 G_2 U_{s,x}^{(1)}, \quad (15)$$

from which

$$U_{s,x}^{(1)} = \frac{2iF^s e^{i\lambda_1 z_B}}{(\lambda_1 G_1 + \lambda_2 G_2)}, \quad (16)$$

$$U_x^{R,z_B,(1)} = \frac{iF^s (\lambda_1 G_1 - \lambda_2 G_2) e^{i\lambda_1 z_B}}{\lambda_1 G_1 (\lambda_1 G_1 + \lambda_2 G_2)}. \quad (17)$$

The reflected wave  $U_x^{R,z_B,(1)} e^{-i\lambda_1(z-z_B)}$  will travel upward to the surface, reflecting at this point with the same amplitude (we assume here that the shear stress at the surface is zero, i.e. the shear source is no longer acting). Let's call  $U_x^{R,0,(1)}$  the displacement produced by the first reflection at the surface. Then we can write

$$U_x^{R,0,(1)} = U_x^{R,z_B,(1)} e^{i\lambda_1 z_B} = \frac{iF^s (\lambda_1 G_1 - \lambda_2 G_2) e^{i2\lambda_1 z_B}}{\lambda_1 G_1 (\lambda_1 G_1 + \lambda_2 G_2)}. \quad (18)$$

The wave reflected at the surface  $U_x^{R,0,(1)} e^{i\lambda_1 z}$  will travel downward to the interface, and another reflection/transmission will occur. It is possible to prove by induction that the corresponding displacements originated in the  $n$ th reflection/transmission at  $z = z_B$  and in the  $n$ th reflection at the surface are given by

$$U_{s,x}^{(n)} = \frac{2iF^s (\lambda_1 G_1 - \lambda_2 G_2)^{(n-1)} e^{i(2n-1)\lambda_1 z_B}}{(\lambda_1 G_1 + \lambda_2 G_2)^n}, \quad (19)$$

$$U_x^{R,z_B,(n)} = \frac{iF^s (\lambda_1 G_1 - \lambda_2 G_2)^n e^{i(2n-1)\lambda_1 z_B}}{\lambda_1 G_1 (\lambda_1 G_1 + \lambda_2 G_2)^n}, \quad (20)$$

$$U_x^{R,0,(n)} = \frac{iF^s (\lambda_1 G_1 - \lambda_2 G_2)^n e^{i2n\lambda_1 z_B}}{\lambda_1 G_1 (\lambda_1 G_1 + \lambda_2 G_2)^n}. \quad (21)$$

The relative fluid displacement at  $z = z_B$  originated by the  $n$ th transmission can be obtained from equations (12) and (19):

$$U_{f,x}^{(n)} = -\frac{\rho_w}{\left(g_0 - \frac{i\eta_w}{\omega k}\right)} \frac{2iF^5(\lambda_1 G_1 - \lambda_2 G_2)^{(n-1)} e^{i(2n-1)\lambda_1 z_B}}{(\lambda_1 G_1 + \lambda_2 G_2)^n}, \quad (22)$$

which allows to write for the relative fluid displacement:

$$u_{f,x}^{(n)}(z) = -\frac{\rho_w}{\left(g_0 - \frac{i\eta_w}{\omega k}\right)} \frac{2iF^5(\lambda_1 G_1 - \lambda_2 G_2)^{(n-1)} e^{i(2n-1)\lambda_1 z_B}}{(\lambda_1 G_1 + \lambda_2 G_2)^n} e^{i\lambda_2(z-z_B)}. \quad (23)$$

Replacing this last expression in the right-hand side of equation (6), the electric current density produced by this displacement can be obtained:

$$\begin{aligned} j_v^{(n)}(z) &= i\omega \frac{\eta_w}{k} L_0 U_{f,x}^{(n)} = \frac{\omega \frac{\eta_w}{k} L_0 \rho_w}{\left(g_0 - \frac{i\eta_w}{\omega k}\right)} \frac{2F^5(\lambda_1 G_1 - \lambda_2 G_2)^{(n-1)} e^{i(2n-1)\lambda_1 z_B}}{(\lambda_1 G_1 + \lambda_2 G_2)^n} e^{i\lambda_2(z-z_B)} \\ &= J_v^{(n)} e^{i\lambda_2(z-z_B)}, \end{aligned} \quad (24)$$

where  $J_v^{(n)}$  is the electric current density at  $z = z_B$  produced by the  $n$ th transmission. Finally, the displacements and the electric current density will be given by the superposition of all the events as follows:

$$u_x(z) = -\frac{F^5}{i\lambda_1 G_1} e^{i\lambda_1 z} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} U_x^{R,z_B,(n)} e^{-i\lambda_1(z-z_B)} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} U_x^{R,0,(n)} e^{i\lambda_1 z}, \quad 0 \leq z \leq z_B, \quad (25)$$

$$u_{s,x}(z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} U_{s,x}^{(n)} e^{i\lambda_2(z-z_B)} \quad \text{and} \quad u_{f,x}(z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} U_{f,x}^{(n)} e^{i\lambda_2(z-z_B)}, \quad z \geq z_B, \quad (26)$$

$$j_v(z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} J_v^{(n)} e^{i\lambda_2(z-z_B)}, \quad z \geq z_B, \quad (27)$$

where  $U_x^{R,z_B,(n)}$ ,  $U_x^{R,0,(n)}$ ,  $U_{s,x}^{(n)}$ ,  $U_{f,x}^{(n)}$ , and  $J_v^{(n)}$  are given by equations. (20), (21), (19), (22), and (24), respectively.

### 3.2. Solving the Electromagnetic Equations

The system of Equations. (2), (3), (6), and (7) can be written in the following equivalent simplified form:

$$\frac{d^2 E_x}{dz^2} + k_1^2 E_x = 0, \quad 0 \leq z \leq z_B, \quad (28)$$

$$\frac{d^2 E_x}{dz^2} + k_2^2 E_x = i\omega\mu_0 j_v = i\omega\mu_0 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} J_v^{(n)} e^{i\lambda_2(z-z_B)}, \quad z \geq z_B, \quad (29)$$

where  $k_1 = \sqrt{-i\omega\mu_0\sigma_1}$  and  $k_2 = \sqrt{-i\omega\mu_0\sigma_2}$ . Note that the source of the electromagnetic fields is given by the electric current density  $j_v$  (see equation (27)) and is different from zero only for  $z \geq z_B$ .

The general solution for equation (28) is given by

$$E_x(z) = A_1 e^{-ik_1 z} + B_1 e^{ik_1 z}, \quad 0 \leq z \leq z_B, \quad (30)$$

where  $A_1$  and  $B_1$  are complex coefficients. The general solution for equation (29) can be written as

$$E_x(z) = A_2 e^{-ik_2 z} + B_2 e^{ik_2 z} - \frac{k_2^2 e^{i\lambda_2(z-z_B)}}{(k_2^2 - \lambda_2^2)\sigma_2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} J_v^{(n)}, \quad z \geq z_B. \quad (31)$$

where  $A_2$  and  $B_2$  are complex coefficients and the third term is a particular solution for equation (29). The magnetic field  $H_y$  can be derived from the electric field  $E_x$  using equation (3) and (7), leading to

$$H_y(z) = \frac{k_1}{\omega\mu_0} A_1 e^{-ik_1 z} - \frac{k_1}{\omega\mu_0} B_1 e^{ik_1 z}, \quad 0 \leq z \leq z_B, \quad (32)$$

$$H_y(z) = \frac{k_2}{\omega\mu_0} A_2 e^{-ik_2 z} - \frac{k_2}{\omega\mu_0} B_2 e^{ik_2 z} - \frac{i\lambda_2 e^{i\lambda_2(z-z_B)}}{k_2^2 - \lambda_2^2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} J_v^{(n)}, \quad z \geq z_B. \quad (33)$$



It is important to remark at this point that both fields are constituted by the superposition of two distinct responses. The first two terms in equations (30)–(33) are perturbations traveling at velocities given by  $\omega/|Re(k_{1,2})|$ , that is, the velocity at which the electromagnetic signal travels in the medium. As it is well known, these perturbations are attributed to responses originated at interfaces between two distinct media. The third term in equations (31) and (33) can be clearly identified with the coseismic response, traveling at the same velocity  $\omega/|Re(\lambda_2)|$  as the solid and fluid displacements.

The unknown coefficients  $A_1$ ,  $B_1$ ,  $A_2$ , and  $B_2$  should be obtained by imposing conditions at the interface of both media ( $z = z_B$ ) and at the boundaries of the system ( $z = 0$  and  $z \rightarrow \infty$ ) as it is shown below. First, if we choose  $k_2$  such that  $Im(k_2) < 0$ , then  $B_2$  must vanish in order to avoid the divergence of the electromagnetic fields when  $z \rightarrow \infty$ . If the Earth's surface is in contact with air, and assuming that the air is an insulator, then the amplitude of the electric field must be constant for  $z \leq 0$  in order to avoid its divergence when  $z \rightarrow -\infty$ , and in virtue of equation (2)  $H_y = 0$  for  $z < 0$  (see Appendix C). Given that the magnetic field should be continuous at  $z = 0$  (see Appendix D), we can write from equation (32)

$$0 = A_1 - B_1. \quad (34)$$

Both the electric and magnetic fields should be continuous at the interface between the glacier and its base-ment (see Appendix D). The continuity condition for both fields at  $z = z_B$  can be respectively stated, using equations (30)–(33), as follows:

$$A_1 e^{-ik_1 z_B} + B_1 e^{ik_1 z_B} = A_2 e^{-ik_2 z_B} - \frac{k_2^2}{(k_2^2 - \lambda_2^2) \sigma_2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} J_v^{(n)}, \quad (35)$$

$$\frac{k_1}{\omega \mu_0} (A_1 e^{-ik_1 z_B} - B_1 e^{ik_1 z_B}) = \frac{k_2}{\omega \mu_0} A_2 e^{-ik_2 z_B} - \frac{i \lambda_2}{(k_2^2 - \lambda_2^2)} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} J_v^{(n)}. \quad (36)$$

The system of equations (34)–(36) completely determine the values for the three complex coefficients  $A_1$ ,  $B_1$ , and  $A_2$ :

$$A_1 = B_1 = \frac{k_2^2 (\lambda_2 - k_2)^{-1}}{2 [k_1 \sinh(ik_1 z_B) + k_2 \cosh(ik_1 z_B)] \sigma_2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} J_v^{(n)}, \quad (37)$$

$$A_2 = \frac{k_2^2 [k_1 \sinh(ik_1 z_B) - \lambda_2 \cosh(ik_1 z_B)] e^{ik_2 z_B}}{(k_2^2 - \lambda_2^2) [k_1 \sinh(ik_1 z_B) + k_2 \cosh(ik_1 z_B)] \sigma_2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} J_v^{(n)}, \quad (38)$$

with which we have the complete solutions for the electric and magnetic fields. Once the fields  $E_x(z, \omega)$  and  $H_y(z, \omega)$  are known for a given depth  $z$  below the surface, the time variation of these fields at that depth is obtained by the inverse Fourier transform. In the following section hypothetical examples are proposed to analyze the electromagnetic responses predicted by the derived analytical solutions.

### 3.3. Approximate Electromagnetic Fields

Although the analytic expressions for the fields equations (30)–(33) seem to be quite simple, the involved coefficients  $A_1$ ,  $B_1$ , and  $A_2$  are not. However, under reasonable assumptions it is possible to find a simple approximation to the solution suitable to perform an analysis of the SH seismoelectric response of the proposed model.

Let us consider the ratio  $(k_2/\lambda_2)^2$ , given by

$$\left(\frac{k_2}{\lambda_2}\right)^2 = \frac{i \mu_0 \sigma_2 G_2}{\rho_b - \frac{\rho_w^2}{g_0 - i \eta_w / (\kappa \omega)}}. \quad (39)$$

We have computed this quotient for a wide range of seismic frequencies in the cases of unconsolidated and consolidated bedrocks considered in this study, yielding values in the order of  $1 \times 10^{-5}$ ; so we can safely consider  $|k_2/\lambda_2|^2 \ll 1$ . By doing this, it is possible to make some approximations to simplify the expressions of the fields. Neglecting the ratio  $(k_2/\lambda_2)^2$  against  $k_2/\lambda_2$  and assuming that  $e^{\pm ik_1 z} \simeq 1$  and  $e^{\pm ik_2 z} \simeq 1$ , which are very good approximations for depths not higher than  $\sim 100$  m, then the electric and magnetic fields can be approximated by the following simplified expressions:

$$E_x(z) \simeq \frac{k_2}{\lambda_2 \sigma_2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} J_v^{(n)}, \quad 0 \leq z < \infty, \quad (40)$$



$$H_y(z) \simeq 0, \quad 0 \leq z \leq z_B, \quad (41)$$

$$H_y(z) \simeq \frac{1}{i\lambda_2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} J_v^{(n)} - \frac{e^{i\lambda_2(z-z_B)}}{i\lambda_2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} J_v^{(n)}, \quad z \geq z_B. \quad (42)$$

Note that these last expressions are simpler than those of the exact solutions, particularly the terms corresponding to the interface response, in which the complex coefficients  $A_1$ ,  $B_1$  and  $A_2$  are no longer present. The only term in equation (40) and the first term of equation (42) constitute the interfacial response for the electric and magnetic fields, respectively, meanwhile the last term in equation (42) represents the coseismic response.

In the following, we analyze the electromagnetic responses predicted by both the exact and the approximate solutions. It is shown that the latter result is a very good approximation to the exact solution, and due to the simplicity of the mathematical expressions of the fields, they are convenient to analyze the SH seismoelectric response of a glacier system.

## 4. Results and Discussion

We describe here the coseismic and interfacial responses of a glacier system induced by the propagation of an SH wave produced by the source acting on the surface. We start by defining the parameters used to model the physical properties of the media, and then we show the displacement and electric current density predicted by the proposed model. Then we compute the coseismic and interfacial signals of both the electric and magnetic fields. We analyze the amplitude of these electromagnetic conversions, and the effect produced by changes in the properties of the glacier bed. Finally, a comparative analysis of the approximate and exact solutions is performed in order to evaluate the ability of the approximate fields to model the SH seismoelectric response of the glacier system.

### 4.1. Model Parameters

We mentioned in the Introduction that the glacier is assumed to be an elastic medium; therefore, its mechanical description is complete by giving its mass density  $\rho_1$  and shear phase velocity  $v_1$  (from which the shear modulus  $G_1 = \rho_1 v_1^2$  can be computed) and is electromagnetically defined by giving its electric conductivity  $\sigma_1$ . This last property depends on temperature, frequency, and the presence of mineral impurities, among other variables (Petrenko & Whitworth, 1999). In the present study, following the latter reference, we choose a representative constant real value given in Table 1, where also the values for the previously mentioned employed parameters are listed.

Glacial substrates present diverse morphologies (Jiskoot, 2011). Therefore, as we mentioned in section 1, in this work we consider that the glacier bed is either a water-saturated poorly consolidated sandstone or a water-saturated consolidated sandstone. This implies, in the context of the modeling scheme described above, the necessity of setting the values of the following parameters (see Table 1): porosity  $\phi$ , solid grains density  $\rho_s$ , permeability  $\kappa$  (Jouniaux & Bordes, 2012; Taherian et al., 1990; Yale, 1984), water density  $\rho_w$ , and water viscosity  $\eta_w$ . From them other parameters are derived, the already defined bulk density  $\rho_b$  and the Biot's low frequency inertial coupling coefficient  $g_0$ . For the estimation of the solid matrix shear modulus  $G_2$  in the unconsolidated scenario we use Walton's model (Mavko et al., 2009), appropriate to model this kind of media (Pride, 2005; Bordes et al., 2015; Dupuy et al., 2016):

$$G_2 = \frac{1}{10} \left[ \frac{3(1-\phi)^2 \hat{C}^2 P}{\pi B^2} \right], \quad \text{with } B = \frac{1}{4\pi} \left( \frac{1}{G_s} + \frac{1}{G_s + \lambda_c} \right). \quad (43)$$

In this equation, the parameter  $\hat{C}$  is the coordination number, related to the packing of the spheres building the solid aggregate;  $P$  is the hydrostatic pressure; and  $\lambda_c$  is Lamé's coefficient of the effective grain material and is computed as  $\lambda_c = K_s - \frac{2}{3}G_s$ , where  $K_s$  is the bulk modulus of the solid grains. In this work we consider  $\hat{C} = 9$ . The hydrostatic pressure can be computed as  $P = 101,325\text{Pa} + \rho_1 g z_B$ . Assuming that the depth of the bottom of the ice body  $z_B = 100$  m, the last equation yields  $P = 983,325$  Pa. Taking for  $G_s$  and  $K_s$  the values given in Table 1, representative for the shear and bulk moduli of quartz grains, respectively (Mavko et al., 2009), we obtain  $G_2 = 0.48$  GPa.

**Table 1**  
Values of Model Parameters Used in the Present Study

Model parameters			
Ice			
Density, $\rho_1$ (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	900 <sup>a</sup>	S wave phase velocity, $v_1$ (m/s)	1,800 <sup>a</sup>
Electric conductivity, $\sigma_1$ (S/m)	$10^{-5}$ <sup>b</sup>		
Glacier bed			
Porosity, $\phi$ (Unc.)	0.3	Cementation exponent, $\hat{m}$ (Unc.)	1.35
Porosity, $\phi$ (Con.)	0.12 <sup>c</sup>	Cementation exponent, $\hat{m}$ (Con.)	2.04 <sup>c</sup>
Density of the solid matrix, $\rho_s$ (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	2,600	Shear modulus, $G_s$ (GPa)	45
Permeability, $\kappa$ (m <sup>2</sup> ) (Unc.)	$10^{-13}$	Solid grains bulk modulus, $K_s$ (GPa)	36
Permeability, $\kappa$ (m <sup>2</sup> ) (Con.)	$10^{-17}$ <sup>c</sup>	Water viscosity, $\eta_w$ (Pa·s)	$1.7 \times 10^{-3}$
Water density, $\rho_w$ (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )	1,000	Salinity, $C_0$ (mol/L)	$5 \times 10^{-3}$
Permittivity of water, $\epsilon_w$ (F/m)	$80 \epsilon_0$		

Note. Those not shown in this table can be obtained from the present ones using the formulas given in the paper. The abbreviations (Unc.) and (Con.) are used for “Unconsolidated” and “Consolidated,” respectively. The vacuum permittivity is taken to be  $\epsilon_0 = 8.85 \times 10^{-12}$  F/m.

<sup>a</sup>These values are taken from Collins et al. (2016). <sup>b</sup>These values are given in Petrenko and Whitworth (1999). <sup>c</sup>These values correspond to sandstone sample S21 in Taherian et al. (1990).

On the other hand, in the consolidated glacier bed scenario, we consider (Pride, 2005; Warden et al., 2013; Solazzi et al., 2017):

$$G_2 = G_s \frac{1 - \phi}{1 + \frac{3}{2} c_s \phi}, \quad (44)$$

where  $2 < c_s < 20$  is a dimensionless consolidation parameter. As its lower boundary is valid for extremely consolidated rocks, we set in our work  $c_s = 8$ . With the value for the porosity employed in this case (see Table 1), this model yields  $G_2 = 16$  GPa.

To estimate the electric conductivity  $\sigma_2$  of the glacier bed we use Archie’s law:

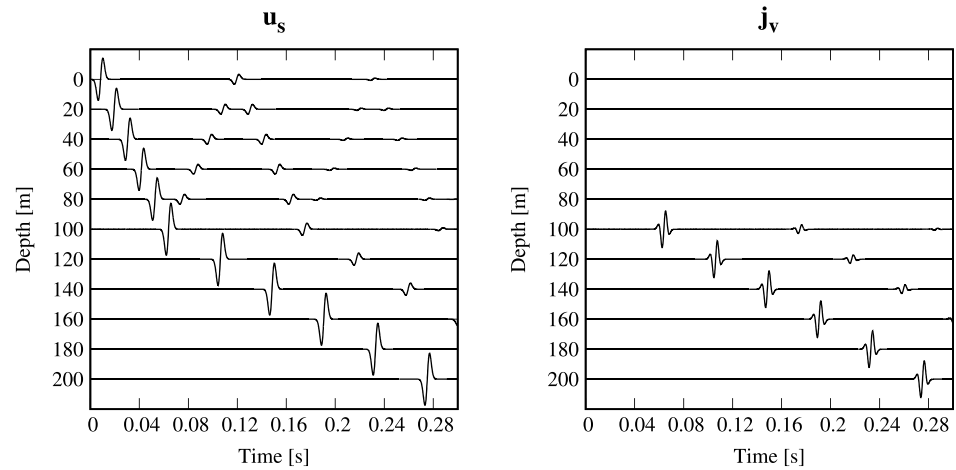
$$\sigma_2 = \frac{\sigma_w}{F}, \quad (45)$$

where  $\sigma_w$  is the electric conductivity of water. For water containing sodium chloride,  $\sigma_w$  can be computed as  $\sigma_w = \sum_{I=Na^+, Cl^-} (e z_I)^2 b_I N_I$ , where  $e = 1.6 \times 10^{-19}$  C is the electron electric charge, and  $z_I$  is the ions’ valence, taken to be one for both species. The ions’ mobility  $b_I$  and concentration  $N_I$  (depending on the salinity  $C_0$ ) are calculated following Carcione et al. (2003). For the chosen water salinity, we obtain  $\sigma_2 = 1.82 \times 10^{-3}$  S/m. Equation (45) implies that we are considering that the sandstone is a clean one, that is, it does not contain a significant amount of clay. Had we considered a clayey sandstone, we would have used a corrected version, including the surface conductivity (Schön, 1996). There are several models for the latter, a couple of them are discussed in Zyserman et al. (2017b).

#### 4.2. Seismic Waves and Viscous Current Density Analysis

To illustrate the field responses predicted by the derived analytical solution, we assume as we already mentioned that the bottom of the glacier is located at  $z_b = 100$  m below the surface. For the time signature of the seismic source  $f^s(t)$  we use a Ricker wavelet with peak frequency  $f_{\text{peak}} = 120$  Hz, the peak amplitude for the Ricker wavelet (located at  $t = 8 \times 10^{-3}$  s) is set so that the amplitude of the force per unit area at the surface is equal to  $8,000$  N/m<sup>2</sup>. This value for the force per unit area can be estimated from the technical data provided for the shear wave generator ELVIS 5.0 (Krawczyk et al., 2013) and assuming that the area of the vibrating plate is  $0.0625$  m<sup>2</sup> =  $0.25$  m  $\times$   $0.25$  m. A similar value for the force per unit area can be computed upon the value of the acceleration produced by a S wave source generator near the surface, which is around  $0.4g$ , where  $g$  is the gravity acceleration (Bordes, 2005). From equation (9), recalling that the time dependence is assumed to be  $e^{i\omega t}$ , for a given angular frequency  $\omega$  the displacement  $u_x$  at the surface ( $z = 0$ ) as a function of time can be written as

$$u_x(0, t) = -\frac{F^s}{i\lambda_1 G_1} e^{i\omega t}, \quad (46)$$



**Figure 2.** Time variation of the solid displacement (left) and electric current density (right) registered at 11 receivers. The distance between receivers is 20 m. The contact between the glacier and its basement is located 100 m below the surface. In this example the unconsolidated basement case is considered.

from which, the acceleration of the surface can be obtained

$$\frac{d^2 u_x}{dt^2}(0, t) = \frac{\omega^2 F^s}{i \lambda_1 G_1} e^{i\omega t} = \frac{\omega F^s}{i \sqrt{\rho_1 G_1}} e^{i\omega t}, \quad (47)$$

then the amplitude of the acceleration will be given by

$$a = \frac{\omega F^s}{\sqrt{\rho_1 G_1}}, \quad (48)$$

from which the force per unit area of the source,  $F^s$ , can be obtained

$$F^s = a \frac{\sqrt{\rho_1 G_1}}{\omega}. \quad (49)$$

Replacing the values for  $\rho_1$ ,  $G_1$ ,  $\omega = 2\pi f_{\text{peak}}$  and  $a = 0.4g$  we obtain  $F^s = 8,422 \text{ N/m}^2$ , which is very close to the corresponding value for the ELVIS 5.0 shear wave generator employed in this work.

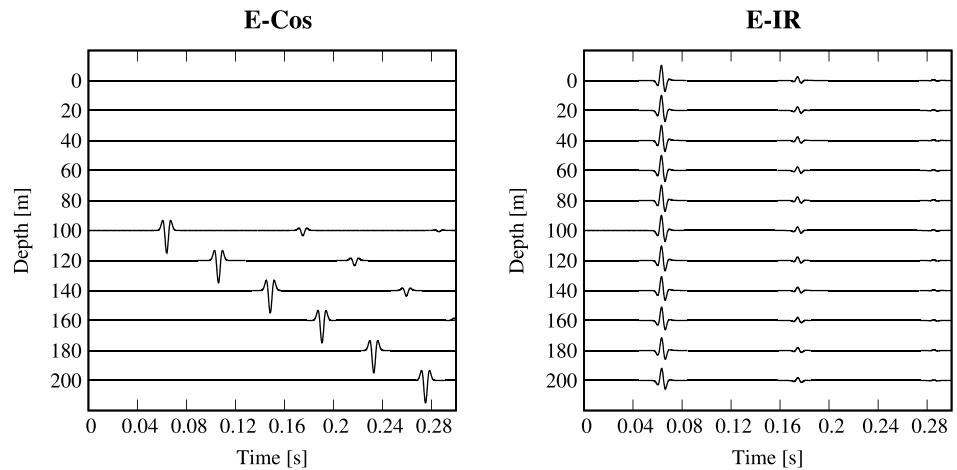
We point out here that the following analysis is performed considering the unconsolidated scenario; the results for the consolidated case are qualitatively equivalent. The comparative analysis between both scenarios is performed afterward.

We begin our study by showing the time variation of the solid displacement and the electric current density, plotted in Figure 2 for 11 different depths measured from the surface down to 200 m depth.

The seismic wave travels with a velocity of 1,800 m/s from the surface down to 100 m depth, and with a velocity of 473.4 m/s below this point, where the interface between the two media is located. There, at the glacier bottom, we can see an upward traveling reflected wave with a smaller amplitude that arrives at the surface at time 0.12 s. This wave is completely reflected and travels from the surface downward to the bottom of the glacier and into the basement. The current density is zero within the glacier because we are modeling the ice as an elastic medium without any fluid content. A current density is induced at the bottom of the glacier at the time 0.06 s corresponding to the arrival of the direct seismic wave at this point, as can be seen in the right panel of this figure. A second current density, with lower amplitude, is induced by the arrival of the second seismic wave, at about 0.17 s. The third induced current density is barely observable, due to its tiny amplitude, at about 0.28 s in the trace recorded at 100 m depth.

### 4.3. Coseismic Field Analysis

The electric and magnetic coseismic fields are shown in the left panels of Figures 3 and 4, respectively. For simplicity, from now on we denote the electric  $E_x$  and magnetic  $H_y$  fields as E and H, respectively.



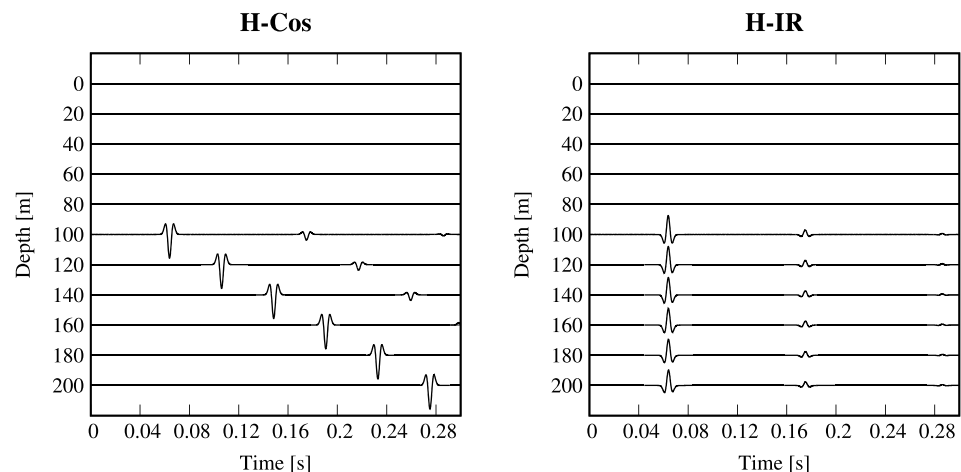
**Figure 3.** Time variation of the coseismic (left) and interfacial (right) responses for the electric field registered at 11 receivers. The distance between receivers is 20 m. The contact between the glacier and its basement is located 100 m below the surface. In this example the unconsolidated basement case is considered.

The coseismic magnetic field H-Cos is induced by the electric current density. There is no H-Cos neither coseismic electric field E-Cos within the glacier because of the absence of any electric current density. The coseismic magnetic and electric fields propagate at depth supported by the seismic wave: Therefore, within the considered temporal window there is a first transmitted coseismic field, a second one related to the first reflected wave at the surface, and a third one related to the second reflected wave at the surface. A plot of the coseismic electric field E-Cos registered at  $z = z_b$  is shown in the top-left panel of Figure 5.

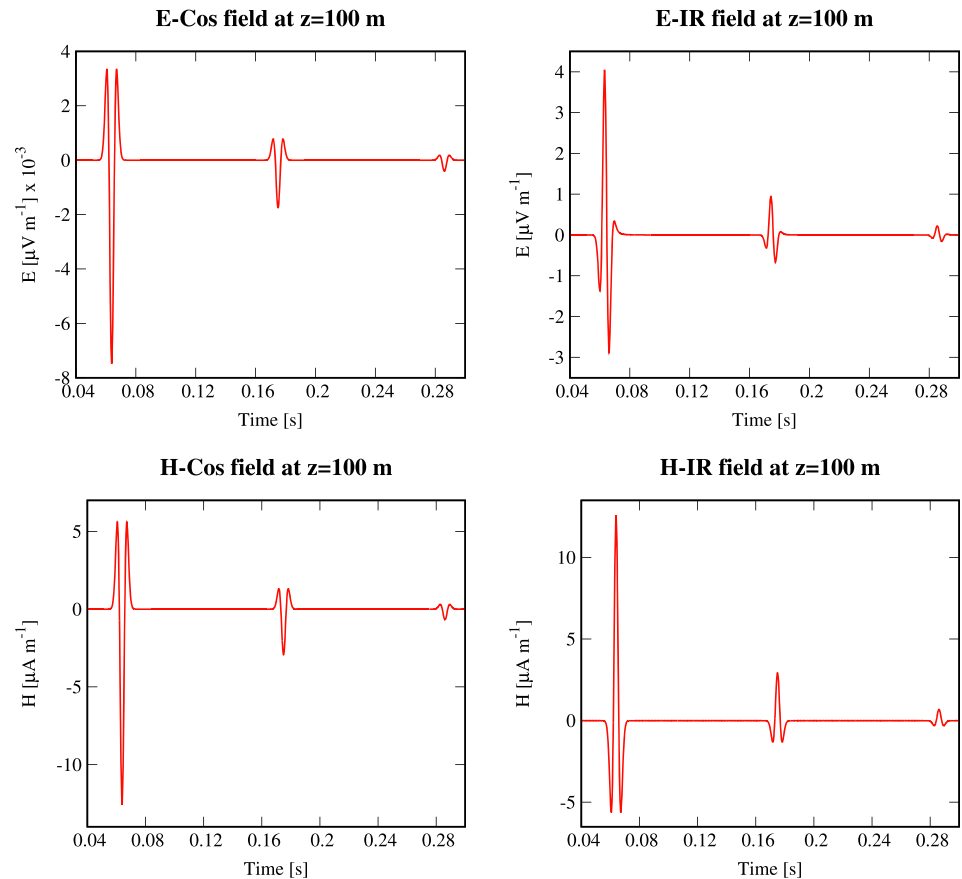
The amplitude of the first coseismic event (the one originated when the first incident wave arrives at the interface) is  $8 \times 10^{-3} \mu\text{V m}^{-1}$ . The second and third events have amplitudes of  $2 \times 10^{-3}$  and  $0.5 \times 10^{-3} \mu\text{V m}^{-1}$ , respectively. A plot of the H-Cos field registered at the same depth is shown in the bottom-left panel of Figure 5, being the amplitudes for the first, second and third events of the order of 12.6, 3 and  $0.7 \mu\text{A m}^{-1}$ , respectively.

#### 4.4. Interfacial Responses Analysis

The electric and magnetic interfacial responses E-IR and H-IR are shown in the right panels of Figures 3 and 4, respectively. Three events arriving simultaneously at all the receivers can be seen: the first one arriving just before 0.06 s, the second one at 0.17 s, and the third at 0.28 s. The former is the first interfacial response originated at the bottom of the glacier and is produced at the very moment the seismic SH wave hits the bottom of the glacier. The time lapse between the second and the first interface responses corresponds to the



**Figure 4.** Time variation of the coseismic (left) and interfacial (right) responses for the magnetic field registered at 11 receivers. The distance between receivers is 20 m. The contact between the glacier and its basement is located 100 m below the surface. In this example the unconsolidated basement case is considered.



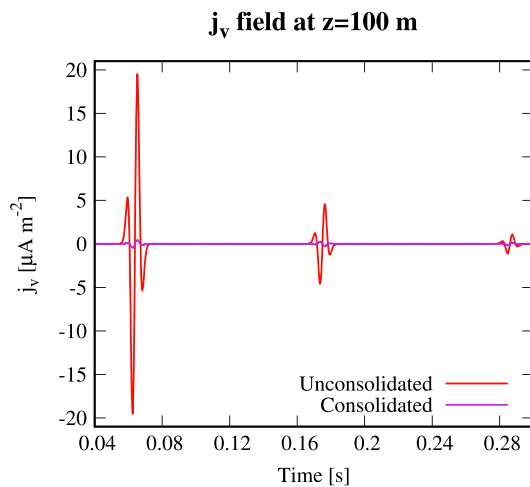
**Figure 5.** Time variation of the E-Cos (top-left), E-IR (top-right), H-Cos (bottom-left), and H-IR (bottom-right) fields registered at  $z = 100$  m. In this example the unconsolidated basement case is considered.

lapse employed by the reflected wave to reach the surface and then travel downward to the bottom of the glacier. Correspondingly, the time lapse between the second and third events coincides with the one between the first and second events. These interfacial responses are related to the jump of the electric current density at the bottom of the glacier (the current density is zero for  $z < z_B$  and change abruptly to the value given by equation (27) for  $z \geq z_B$ ). The E-IR preserves its amplitude above and below the bottom of the glacier, whereas the H-IR shows a large amplitude below this interface and is tiny within the glacier, what makes it to seem absent in the figure. The top-right panel of Figure 5 shows a plot of the E-IR registered at  $z = z_B$ . The amplitudes for the first, second, and third events are 4, 0.92, and 0.2  $\mu\text{V}/\text{m}$ , which are 3 orders of magnitude higher than the corresponding coseismic events. This is a very important feature that could lead to better signal-to-noise ratios when using SH waves seismic sources instead of  $P$  wave sources in a seismoelectric survey (Zyserman et al., 2017a, 2017b). The H-IR is plotted in the bottom right panel of Figure 5. The amplitudes for the three events have amplitudes of 12.5, 2.8, and 0.66  $\mu\text{A}/\text{m}$ . Note that in this case, the amplitudes of the coseismic and interfacial responses are comparable.

Regarding the time signature of both fields, it can be noticed from the figures that the electric coseismic response is markedly different from the corresponding interfacial response and that both coseismic fields have the same time signature. These features can be explained if we compare the analytical expressions for both the electric and magnetic fields. Note that from the first two terms in equations (30)–(33) the following relation is verified between the magnetic and the electric interface responses

$$H_{\text{IR}}(z) = \frac{k_1}{\omega\mu_0} E_{\text{IR}}(z), \quad 0 \leq z \leq z_B, \quad (50)$$

$$H_{\text{IR}}(z) = \frac{k_2}{\omega\mu_0} E_{\text{IR}}(z), \quad z \geq z_B, \quad (51)$$



**Figure 6.** Time variation of the electric current density  $j_v$  registered at  $z = 100$  m for both the unconsolidated and consolidated basement cases.

field equation (42), where the amplitudes of both the interfacial (first term) and coseismic (second term) responses at  $z = z_b$  are the same and have opposite sign. The behavior for the IRs of both fields confirms the numerical results we obtained in our previous work (Zyserman et al., 2017a), which were novel because we studied seismoelectric conversions induced by an SH source rather than a compressional wave. In case of a compressional wave source Warden et al. (2013), Bordes et al. (2015), and Peng et al. (2017) predicted, through numerical modeling and experimental observations, that the IRs have an amplitude that is very small compared to the coseismic one.

#### 4.5. Comparison of Unconsolidated and Consolidated Scenarios

As we have already pointed out, all previous results were obtained considering an unconsolidated glacier bed; we do not show the corresponding ones for the consolidated case because they are qualitatively equivalent. There are, however, differences between both cases that deserve to be displayed and analyzed, task we deal within this section.

One of the most important features of the analytic expressions derived for both the electric and magnetic fields is that they are proportional to the current densities  $J_v^{(n)}$  originated at the glacier-basement contact. Therefore, analyzing the behavior of the electric current density variations at  $z = z_b$  is relevant in order to understand the behavior of the electromagnetic fields. In Figure 6 the time variations of the electric current density at the contact between the glacier and its basement are shown for both the unconsolidated and the consolidated scenarios. Note the markedly different amplitudes between both traces, particularly for the first event, due mainly to the different textural properties of the basements. However, this relation in amplitudes is not translated straightforwardly to the field responses; let us see why. At this depth the amplitude of the solid displacement for the first event is slightly higher in the unconsolidated case, but because of the markedly different porosities and permeabilities of both media, the amplitude of the relative fluid displacement is 4 orders of magnitude higher in the unconsolidated case. Moreover, these differences in textural properties lead to an electrokinetic coupling  $L_0$  one order of magnitude higher in the unconsolidated scenario, because of the different porosities and cementation exponents (see equation (8) and Table 1). However, the hydraulic permeabilities play the most important role in the value of the current density (see equation (24)). These values differ by 4 orders of magnitude between both glacier beds (see Table 1). As a consequence, although the fluid displacement is 4 orders of magnitude higher in the unconsolidated case, the different textural properties lead to a different value for the quotient  $\frac{L_0}{\kappa}$  that multiplies the fluid displacement in equation (24). This quotient is 3 orders of magnitude higher in the consolidated case, giving as a result a difference of approximately a factor 20 between the amplitudes for the current densities, as can be seen in Figure 6.

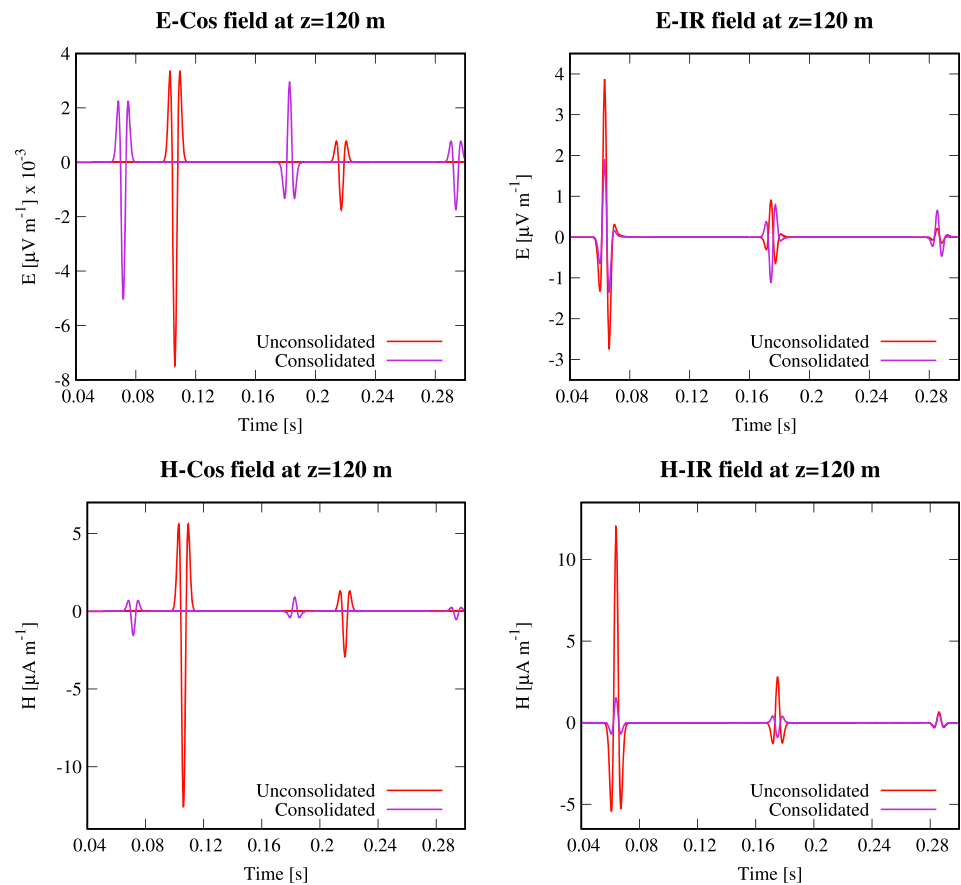
Regarding the induced electromagnetic fields, in the top-left panel of Figure 7 we show the time variation for the E-Cos field registered at  $z = 120$  m (20 m below the contact) for both cases. Note that there is a time delay between the events, owed to the markedly different seismic velocities between both basements (473.4 m/s for the unconsolidated case and 2,594 m/s for the consolidated case). Moreover, given that, in the

while from the third terms of equations (31) and (33), it can be seen that the coseismic fields verify

$$H_{\text{Cos}}(z) = \frac{\lambda_2}{\omega\mu_0} E_{\text{Cos}}(z), \quad z \geq z_b. \quad (52)$$

Because the factors  $\frac{k_{1,2}}{\omega\mu_0} = \frac{\sqrt{-i\sigma_{1,2}}}{\sqrt{\mu_0}} \omega^{-\frac{1}{2}}$  in equations (50) and (51) are frequency dependent, the frequency spectra of both fields are different, yielding different signatures in the time domain for the electric and magnetic interface responses. On the other hand, the factor  $\frac{\lambda_2}{\omega\mu_0}$  in equation (52), which is also frequency dependent, shows almost no variation with the frequency (at least within the frequency range of the source). Then the spectra of the electric and magnetic coseismic fields differ only in amplitude so that the time signature of both fields is the same, as it can be seen in the figures.

Note that the time signatures of the coseismic and interface responses are the same but with opposite sign for the magnetic field. This fact can become clear when analyzing the approximate expression of the magnetic



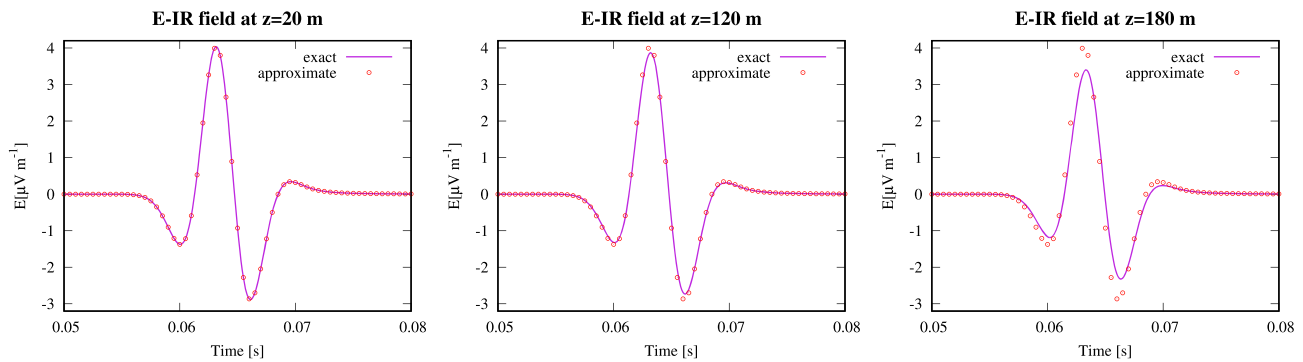
**Figure 7.** Time variation of the E-Cos (top-left), E-IR (top-right), H-Cos (bottom-left), H-IR (bottom-right) fields registered at  $z = 120$  m considering both the unconsolidated and consolidated basement cases.

consolidated case, the seismic velocity and the shear modulus are higher than the corresponding values for the glacier, there is an inversion of the wavelet when the first reflection occurs (see equation (17)), which in turn implies that the second transmission to the basement will be inverted (see the second event for the E-Cos field in Figure 7). Note that the amplitude decay for consecutive events is higher in the unconsolidated case. This is due to the different incident amplitudes in both cases: In the consolidated case, because of the markedly different velocities and shear moduli, the amplitude of the first reflected wave is higher than for the unconsolidated case. Then, the amplitude of the second incident wave will be higher for the consolidated case, leading to higher amplitudes for the second transmission. Regarding the amplitude of the E-Cos field for both cases, note that it is higher for the unconsolidated case (at least for the first two events) but still both amplitudes are of the same order of magnitude. This can be explained upon the relative amplitudes of the current density shown in Figure 6. Although the current density is 1 order of magnitude higher for the unconsolidated case, the factor multiplying the current densities in the third term of equation (31) is higher in the consolidated case. This is mainly due to the difference in the electric conductivity  $\sigma_2$ , which is one order of magnitude higher in the unconsolidated case. As a consequence, the mentioned factor is lower for the unconsolidated case, and even given that the current density is higher in this case, the E-Cos field turns out to be higher but in the same order of magnitude than in the consolidated scenario.

The time variation of the E-IR response registered at  $z = 120$  m is shown in the top-right panel of Figure 7. As was expected, the three events occur at the same time for both cases, given that the glacier properties are the same in both scenarios. Note that for both cases the amplitude of the E-IR field is 3 orders of magnitude higher than the corresponding amplitude of the E-Cos field.

The corresponding time variation of the magnetic fields are plotted in the bottom panels of Figure 7. As was expected, the H-Cos field (left panel) for both cases show the same time delay than the E-Cos field, and the polarity inversion of the second event is also present in this field. Note, however, that the difference between





**Figure 8.** Time variations of the exact and approximate E-IRs for the first event computed at three different depths:  $z = 20$  m (left panel),  $z = 120$  m (center panel), and  $z = 180$  m (right panel). The maximum difference between both the exact and the approximate solutions is  $8 \times 10^{-3} \mu\text{V/m}$  at  $z = 20$  m,  $0.25 \mu\text{V/m}$  at  $z = 120$  m, and  $0.8 \mu\text{V/m}$  at  $z = 180$  m. In this example the unconsolidated basement case is considered.

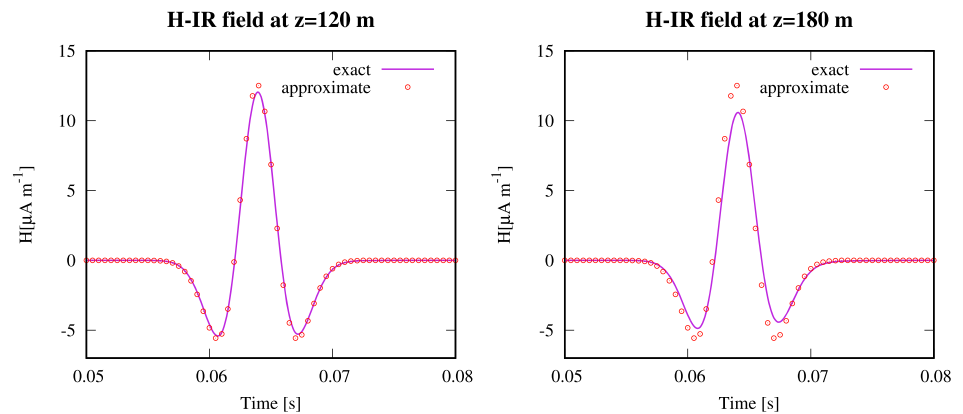
both amplitudes is higher than in the case of the electric field. This difference comes from the fact that the coefficient multiplying the current density in the third term of equation (33) is of the same order in both unconsolidated and consolidated cases (slightly higher in the consolidated case). Then the amplitude relation between the H-Cos fields for both cases shows almost the same behavior than the amplitude relation for the current densities (see Figure 6). Correspondingly, the H-IR fields (right panel of Figure 7) show the same amplitude relation than the coseismic fields. Note, finally, that for the magnetic field the amplitudes of both the coseismic field and the interface response field are in the same order of magnitude. This is evident from simple inspection of equation (42). Note that for depths close to  $z_b$ , the factors multiplying the current densities in both terms are in the same order. Remember that the first term in this equation represents the H-IR field; meanwhile, the second represents the H-Cos field.

#### 4.6. Comparison Between the Exact and the Approximate Fields

With the purpose of evaluating the ability of the approximate fields to model the SH seismoelectric response of the glacier system, we present in this section a comparative analysis between the exact solutions given by equations (30)–(33) and the approximate solutions given by equations (40)–(42). For visualization purposes we limit our analysis to the first events, that is, the ones originating when the first incident wave impinges the interface between the glacier and its basement. The relative differences between the exact and the approximate fields are independent of the considered event, and as a consequence the same results are obtained if the comparative analysis is performed over the fields originating at the second or third incidences.

From simple inspection of equation (40) it is clear that no coseismic field is present in the approximated electric field. This is a consequence of the simplifications made in order to derive this expression. The amplitude of the coseismic field given by the exact solutions (see the third term of equations (30) and (31)) is in the order of  $10^{-3} \mu\text{V/m}$ , which is 3 orders of magnitude lower than the corresponding amplitudes for the E-IR field. For the same reason the H-IR, whose amplitude is in the order of  $10^{-3} \mu\text{A/m}$  over the glacier-basement contact, is then neglected in the approximate fields, and given that there are no H-Cos field at these depths, then the total magnetic field is approximated by zero, as it is expressed by equation (41). However, below the contact between the glacier and its basement, H-IR and H-Cos have comparable amplitudes and then both fields are present in the approximate solutions, as can be observed in equation (42).

The time variations of both the exact and the approximate E-IR fields corresponding to the first event are plotted in Figure 8 for three different depths:  $z = 20$  m (left panel),  $z = 120$  m (central panel), and  $z = 180$  m (right panel). Note that for  $z = 20$  m the approximate field fits perfectly to the exact solution. This was expected because the approximations made are more precise for smaller depths. The maximum difference between both solutions in this case is in the order of  $8 \times 10^{-3} \mu\text{V/m}$ , and given that the maximum amplitude of the E-IR field is  $4 \mu\text{V/m}$ , then the difference between both solutions turns out to be not bigger than 0.2% of the amplitude of the field. For  $z = 120$  m (see central panel in Figure 8) an appreciable difference can be observed. This was again expected because the approximations loose accuracy for depths from about 100 m and downward. However, as can be seen from the figure, the time signature of the exact field is preserved by the approximated field, and the only difference lie in the amplitude, being not higher than 6.25% of the amplitude of the field. Finally, as was expected for much larger depths, the approximate solution is not precise



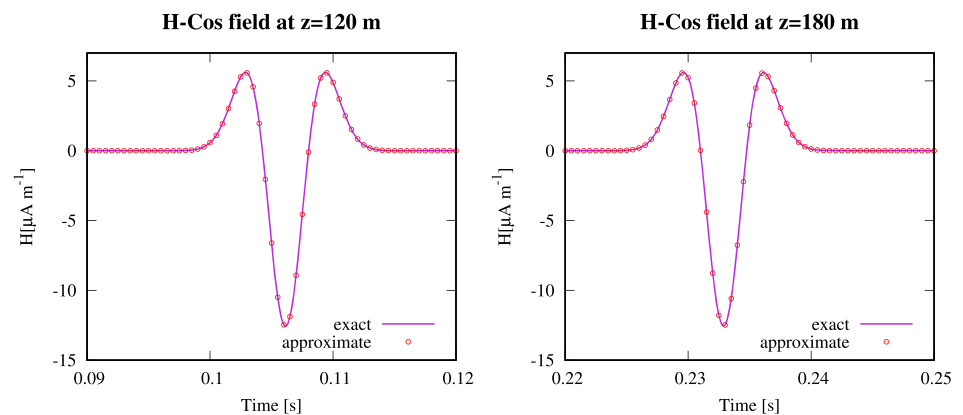
**Figure 9.** Time variations of the exact and approximate H-IRs for the first event computed at two different depths:  $z = 120$  m (left panel) and  $z = 180$  m (right panel). The maximum difference between both the exact and the approximate solutions is  $0.7 \mu\text{A}/\text{m}$  at  $z = 120$  m and  $2.75 \mu\text{A}/\text{m}$  at  $z = 180$  m. In this example the unconsolidated basement case is considered.

for  $z = 180$  m (see the right panel of Figure 8), and the maximum difference between both fields is about 20% of the total field.

Figure 9 shows the time variations of the exact and approximate H-IR fields for two depths below the glacier-basement contact:  $z = 120$  m (left panel) and  $z = 180$  m (right panel). It is evident that the approximations work better for the lower depth and the maximum amplitude differences are of the same order than the ones depicted for the E-IR at these depths (6.25% for  $z = 120$  m and 20% for  $z = 180$  m).

Although the differences between the exact and the approximate IRs for both fields behave similarly as the depth is increased, this is not the case of the H-Cos field. The approximated H-Cos field (third term in equation (42)) displays a better behavior than the approximated E-IR and H-IR fields, providing a good representation of the exact H-Cos field. Figure 10 shows the time variation of the exact and approximate H-Cos fields registered at  $z = 120$  m (left panel) and  $z = 180$  m (right panel). As can be seen, both solutions fit almost perfectly in both cases, and the maximum amplitude difference is negligible.

The examples given in this section have shown that the approximate solutions work fairly well whenever the depths considered are not higher than 100 m approximately, and with the only restrictions imposed by the assumptions of the model, the approximated expressions for the fields can be safely used to model the SH seismoelectric response of a glacier system. This makes the approximate solutions very useful for one dimensional inversion of the IRs, because they could be used to approximate surface measurements, using very simple expressions to compute the forward model.



**Figure 10.** Time variations of the exact and approximate H-Cos fields for the first event computed at two different depths:  $z = 120$  m (left panel) and  $z = 180$  m (right panel). The maximum difference between both the exact and the approximate solutions is in the order of  $1 \times 10^{-17} \mu\text{A}/\text{m}$  for both depths. In this example the unconsolidated basement case is considered.

## 5. Conclusions

We have presented an analytic study of the seismoelectric conversions induced by a seismic source generating pure SH waves in a glacier/glacier-bed system, considering a one-dimensional problem. More specifically, we set an SH source on the surface of the glacier and modeled the latter as an elastic medium, while the glacier bed is represented by a water-saturated porous medium. Linking the elastic wave equation with Pride's seismoelectric equations through appropriate boundary conditions at the glacier bottom-glacier bed interface, we were able to analytically compute the induced electromagnetic fields, namely, the coseismic magnetic and electric fields, and the interface responses, also for both the electric and magnetic fields. The mentioned fields arise, within the used theoretical frame, due to two different electric currents: one that exists only traveling with the seismic signals and generates the H-Cos field, and another one arising at the boundary between the glacier and its bed when the seismic wave impinges on it. The latter induces the H-IR, which diffuses away from the source at a speed much higher than the one of the seismic wave. The electric fields E-Cos and E-IR are due to the time variation of the respective magnetic fields. We also computed approximations to the obtained solutions, which provide very simple expressions for the electromagnetic fields, and remain valid for depths large enough to enclose all interesting model features. The simplicity of the approximations, in particular the one of the E-IR, makes them appropriate to be employed by a fast one-dimensional inversion algorithm, to obtain the glacier bottom depth and other parameters of interest, such as the permeability and electric conductivity, from measurements of the electric field at the surface. We also analyzed the difference in the electromagnetic responses due to different glacier beds, namely, consolidated and unconsolidated ones. We observed that, although the electric current generated at the glacier bottom differs appreciably in both scenarios, the E-IR measured at the surface does not change in the same way, confirming the fact that the interface response is affected by the porosity, permeability, and electric conductivity of the glacier bed. In the considered scenarios, the amplitude relation between the E-IR and E-Cos is similar to what we observed in our previous works, that is, the former is much stronger than the latter, reinforcing the idea that it would be interesting to test SH seismoelectrics as a possible geophysical tool. Moreover, this setting could take advantage of recent results stating that a multi-electrode array configuration can help to better detect the IR signal (Devi et al., 2015).

Finally, as a closing remark we mention that for the implementation of the seismoelectric method in glacial environments, some issues should be considered. For example, pure shear wave without any  $P$  wave may be difficult to achieve in the field, although as we mentioned before, shear wave sources have been successfully employed in several works. Moreover, ice anisotropy and the presence of englacial water pockets and water-filled cracks may complicate the electromagnetic response (Podolskiy & Fabian, 2016).

## Appendix A : Derivation of the Solution to Equation (1)

Equation (1) can be written in the following equivalent way:

$$\frac{d^2 u_x}{dz^2} + \lambda_1^2 u_x = -\frac{F^s}{G_1} \delta(z), \quad (\text{A1})$$

where  $\lambda_1$  is given by equation (10). Using Laplace transform, it is easy to show that the solution for  $u_x(z)$  is given by

$$u_x(z) = \left[ -\frac{F^s}{\lambda_1 G_1} \sin(\lambda_1 z) + u_x(0) \cos(\lambda_1 z) + \frac{u'_x(0)}{\lambda_1} \sin(\lambda_1 z) \right] \mathcal{H}(z), \quad (\text{A2})$$

where  $\mathcal{H}(z)$  is the Heaviside function. Writing the sine and cosine functions in their exponential form and regrouping terms in equation (A2), we obtain

$$u_x(z) = \left[ -\frac{F^s}{2i\lambda_1 G_1} + \frac{u_x(0)}{2} + \frac{u'_x(0)}{2i\lambda_1} \right] e^{i\lambda_1 z} \mathcal{H}(z) + \left[ \frac{F^s}{2i\lambda_1 G_1} + \frac{u_x(0)}{2} - \frac{u'_x(0)}{2i\lambda_1} \right] e^{-i\lambda_1 z} \mathcal{H}(z). \quad (\text{A3})$$

Given that  $\lambda_1$  is a pure real number, and choosing the negative square root of  $\lambda_1^2$ , then the first term of the last equation represents a wave that travels downward (remember that the time dependence is chosen to be  $e^{i\omega t}$ ); meanwhile, the second one is a wave traveling upward. If we consider only waves traveling downward, then the second term of equation (A3) should vanish:

$$\left[ \frac{F^s}{2i\lambda_1 G_1} + \frac{u_x(0)}{2} - \frac{u'_x(0)}{2i\lambda_1} \right] = 0 \quad (\text{A4})$$

Using the last expression in equation (A3) we obtain:

$$u_x(z) = u_x(0)e^{i\lambda_1 z} \mathcal{H}(z). \quad (\text{A5})$$

Now it remains to determine the value of the constant  $u_x(0)$ . If we assume that the solid matrix is in perfect contact with the source generator at the surface, then the shear stress applied by the source over the surface  $F^s$  should be equal to  $\tau_{xz} = -2G_1 \epsilon_{xz} = -G_1 \frac{\partial u_x}{\partial z}$  (the minus sign indicates that the shear stress is computed taking the normal in the  $-z$  direction). Then taking the first derivative of  $u_x(z)$  with respect to  $z$  in equation (A5) and evaluating it in  $z = 0$  we can write

$$u'_x(0) = i\lambda_1 u_x(0) = -\frac{F^s}{G_1}, \quad (\text{A6})$$

which leads to the final solution for  $u_x(z)$ :

$$u_x(z) = \frac{F^s}{i\lambda_1 G_1} e^{i\lambda_1 z} \mathcal{H}(z). \quad (\text{A7})$$

Equation (A7) shows that the displacement is produced by a shear wave originated at the source position traveling downward with phase velocity given by  $\omega/|\lambda_1|$ .

## Appendix B : Derivation of the Solution to Equations (4) and (5)

Combining equations (4) and (5) the following equation can be written in terms of  $u_{s,x}$

$$\frac{d^2 u_{s,x}}{dz^2} + \lambda_2^2 u_{s,x} = 0, \quad (\text{B1})$$

where  $\lambda_2$  is given by equation (13). The general solution for equation (B1) is given by

$$u_{s,x}(z) = ae^{-i\lambda_2 z} + be^{i\lambda_2 z}, \quad (\text{B2})$$

being  $a$  and  $b$  complex constants. Taking  $\lambda_2$  such that  $\text{Re}(\lambda_2) < 0$ , then the first term in the last equation represents a wave traveling upward, meanwhile the second one corresponds to a wave traveling downward. If we consider only waves traveling downward, then  $a = 0$ . If we call  $U_{s,x}$  the value of the solid displacement at  $z = z_B$ , then, from equation (B2),  $b = U_{s,x} e^{-\lambda_2 z_B}$  and we can write for the solid displacement:

$$u_{s,x}(z) = U_{s,x} e^{i\lambda_2(z-z_B)}. \quad (\text{B3})$$

From equation (5) we have

$$u_{f,x}(z) = -\frac{\rho_w}{\left(g_0 - \frac{i m_w}{\omega \kappa}\right)} u_{s,x}(z). \quad (\text{B4})$$

Combining equations (B3) and (B4) we obtain

$$u_{f,x}(z) = U_{f,x} e^{\lambda_2(z-z_B)}, \quad \text{with} \quad U_{f,x} = -\frac{\rho_w}{\left(g_0 - \frac{i m_w}{\omega \kappa}\right)} U_{s,x}. \quad (\text{B5})$$

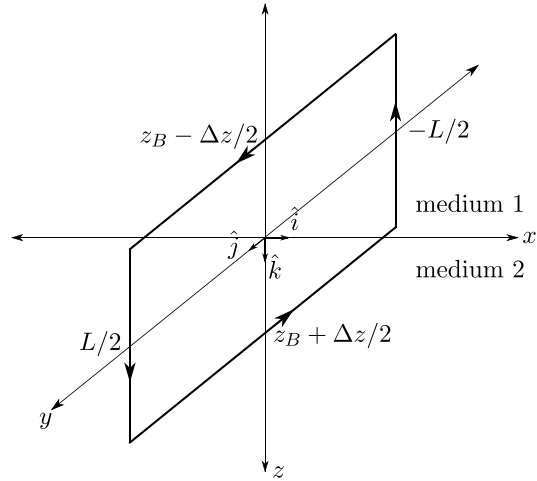
## Appendix C : Electric and Magnetic Fields Over the Surface

For  $z < 0$  (over the surface) we assume that the medium is constituted by air, which is treated as a perfect insulator. Then both the electric conductivity and the electric current density will be zero and Maxwell's equations reduce to

$$\frac{\partial H_y}{\partial z} = 0, \quad (\text{C1})$$

$$\frac{\partial E_x}{\partial z} + i\omega\mu_0 H_y = 0. \quad (\text{C2})$$

From equation (C1) we know that  $H_y$  is constant. Then from equation (C2),  $E_x(z) = az + b$ , where  $a$  and  $b$  are complex constants. However,  $a$  must vanish in order to avoid the divergence of the electric field when  $z \rightarrow -\infty$ . Then  $E_x$  is also a constant field, and replacing it in equation (C2) we obtain that  $H_y = 0$  for  $z < 0$ .



**Figure D1.** Continuity of  $H_y$  at  $z = z_B$ —Ampere’s Law.

### Appendix D : Continuity of the Electromagnetic Fields at $z = 0$ and $z = z_B$

In this appendix we show that both the electric and the magnetic fields should be continuous at the surface and at the glacier bottom. Let us assume a closed rectangular loop crossing the horizontal plane at  $z = z_B$ , as is depicted in Figure D1. According to Ampere’s Law

$$\oint_{\partial A} \mathbf{H} \cdot d\mathbf{l} = \iint_A \mathbf{j}_v \cdot d\mathbf{A}. \quad (D1)$$

For our model  $\mathbf{H} = H_y(z)\hat{j}$ ,  $\mathbf{j}_v = j_v(z)\hat{i}$  and  $d\mathbf{A} = dA\hat{i}$ , so we can write

$$\int_{-L/2}^{L/2} H_y(z_B - \Delta z/2) dy + \int_{L/2}^{-L/2} H_y(z_B + \Delta z/2) dy = \int_{-L/2}^{L/2} \int_{z_B - \Delta z/2}^{z_B + \Delta z/2} j_v(z) dz dy. \quad (D2)$$

Integration over  $y$  yields

$$H_y(z_B - \Delta z/2) - H_y(z_B + \Delta z/2) = \int_{z_B - \Delta z/2}^{z_B + \Delta z/2} j_v(z) dz. \quad (D3)$$

Using the expression for  $j_v(z)$  given by equation (27) we have (remember that  $j_v(z) = 0$  for  $z < z_B$ )

$$H_y(z_B - \Delta z/2) - H_y(z_B + \Delta z/2) = \int_{z_B}^{z_B + \Delta z/2} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} j_v^{(n)} e^{i\lambda_2(z - z_B)} dz, \quad (D4)$$

which gives, after integrating over  $z$ ,

$$H_y(z_B - \Delta z/2) - H_y(z_B + \Delta z/2) = \frac{\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} j_v^{(n)}}{i\lambda_2} [e^{i\lambda_2 \Delta z/2} - 1]. \quad (D5)$$

Taking the limit when  $\Delta z \rightarrow 0$ , the right-hand side of equation (D5) tends to 0, leading to the following relation:

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow z_B^-} H_y(z) = \lim_{z \rightarrow z_B^+} H_y(z), \quad (D6)$$

which means that the magnetic field  $H_y$  is continuous across the interface between the glacier and its basement. The same reasoning can lead to the following relation valid for the continuity of the magnetic field at the surface

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow 0^-} H_y(z) = \lim_{z \rightarrow 0^+} H_y(z). \quad (D7)$$

On the other hand, given that the electric field  $E_x(z)$  is purely tangential to both the surface and the interface between the glacier and its basement, and the tangential components of the electric field should be continuous across any interface, the same will be valid for the electric field.

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