New Seismic Handler release 2012a

Overview
The latest version of Seismic Handler 2012a was released on 1st of February this year.
As previous versions this release uses the mature Motif toolkit for Linux systems. It introduces new features and contains some bug fixes. A detailed overview can be found inside the release notes on the website.
Also a virtual machine using the VMware® player infrastructure is available for download. The widely used Linux distribution Ubuntu provides the base system. The Lightweight X11 desktop environment (LXDE) was chosen as GUI.

Installation
For installation on your local Linux computer please download the installation archive SHM-2012a-install.sh from www.seismic-handler.org.
This archive is self-extracting and contains the full Seismic Handler source code. Please follow the setup instructions on the website.
Additional required software like LocSAT and FK-analysis is downloaded automatically during the installation process.
Version 2012a now offers automatic configuration for a variety of post-script viewers and text editors.

Summary of changes
Besides an improved documentation at the project’s wiki pages version 2012a includes the following changes:
• Support for new IASPEI simulation filters: Wood-Anderson, WWSSN-SP, WWSSN-LP (see below).
• Major review of provided station meta data (location, sensitivity, gain).
• Additional simulation filters for seismometers, e.g. Trillium 240 sensor.
• Important bug-fixes for mini-seed access (introduced in version 2011.2) and RMS calculation (all former versions).

Updated simulation filters for Wood-Anderson, WWSSN-SP and WWSSN-LP
The most important change in version 2012a are new simulation filters for the historic instruments Wood-Anderson, WWSSN-SP and WWSSN-LP.
Any changes of these filters may involve notable consequences since they are used for magnitude estimation of M, M, and M.
In order to harmonize earthquake processing throughout several institutes and organisations world-wide a IASPEI working group published recommendations on standard procedures for determining magnitudes from digital data.
Future versions of Seismic Handler will fulfil these recommendations completely, changing the simulation filters is a first but crucial step.

http://www.seismic-handler.org

Preview of Seismic Handler eXtended
Seismic Handler eXtended (SHX) is a version of Seismic Handler based on the python programming language. This allows easy maintenance and enhancement of the software.
The software will unify the command-line version SH and the graphical version SHM, which uses the Motif toolkit.
It also contains parts of the mature C code of its parents to ensure maximum compatibility to existing scripts and methods.
Now a preview of SHX is available for public. Installations instructions as well as additional information can be found at http://www.seismic-handler.org/SHX/.

The SHX software also includes software tests ensuring proper function in all development stages.
The preview version has alpha status. Currently only a subset of commands is implemented, but updates are available nearly daily. To get a full overview please visit http://www.seismic-handler.org/SHX/CommandImplementation/.
This page also includes information about finished enhancements and differences to recent versions.
Reading and writing of seismological data is done using the famous ObsPy framework.
Although the replacement of the graphical toolkit using wxWidgets framework is not finished yet, a debug plot is available.