



Status
of
Shale Research
in
The EDGER Forum

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Question : Why Seismic?

In resource plays, all wells should (ideally) be productive. In practice, one good well (3 day payout) may be followed by a 3 year payout well in an adjacent offset location. Can seismic help discriminate between better and poorer wells?

Question:

How can seismic help optimize production in Resource Plays?

- Fault Identification (Hazards?)
- Structure Issues
- "Shale" Characterization

Shale Characterization Projects in the EDGER Forum

Student research project

Back-to-basics studies to address how seismic responds to change is reservoir parameters. Use borehole data evaluate how the surface seismic response to changes in relevant reservoir properties.

Required Information:

- “Reservoir” (or “Shale”) Geology
- Completion Techniques
- Actual borehole data (Sonic, Dipole sonic, Density and other logs)
- Subsurface data in both good and bad wells. (Documented productivity associated with subsurface conditions)

Back to Basics approach:

- Start with log data (including shear information) and 'reservoir' (or Shale) description
- Evaluate seismic response to 'reservoir' properties that can be seismically observed
- Predict surface seismic response to variations in reservoir properties (Sensitivity and Resolution Analyses)

Results (Suggestions) to date:

Seismic
Property

Poisson's Ratio

HTI

VTI

Shale
Property

'Chertiness'
Net/Gross

Fracturing

Clay content
(Source or Seal)
TOC

Results (Suggestions) to date:

**Seismic
Property
(More Speculative Hints)**

**Shale
Property**

Crack Aspect Ratio

**Gas/Liquid
effects**

Crack Density

**Fracturing
Stress State**

Density

'Shale' Properties

To-do, with Producers:

Subsurface information to relate:
'Shale' Properties to Seismic Properties

Rock Physics and Modeling to Bridge:

'Chertiness'	to	Poisson's ratio
Fracturing and stress state	to	HTI parameters
Clay content, source richness and seal efficacy	to	VTI parameters

To-do, with Producers (2):

Subsurface information to relate:
'Shale' Properties to Seismic Properties

Rock Physics and Modeling to Bridge:

Gas/Liquid effects to Crack Aspect ratio

Fracturing stress state to Crack Density

Shale properties to Density

To-do, with Quantitative Seismologists:

Subsurface information to relate:
Properties to 'Shale' Properties Seismic

Modeling and (full wave) Inversion to Bridge:

Poisson's ratio	to	'Chertiness'
HTI parameters stress state	to	Fracturing and
VTI parameters	to	Clay content, source richness & seal efficacy

To-do, with Quantitative Seismologists (2):

Subsurface information to relate:
Seismic Properties to 'Shale' Properties

Modeling and (full wave) Inversion to Bridge:

Crack Aspect
ratio

to

Gas/Liquid
effects

Crack Density

to

Fracturing and
stress state

Density

to

Shale Properties

Status:

Considerable progress in three areas:
Bakken, Woodford and Bossier.
Preliminary results in the Marcellus.

Results suggest observable variations
in seismic response for variations in
HTI, VTI and σ

To date—Seismic Sensitivity to changes
in HTI, VTI and σ

No particular seismic technique has
been isolated to actually interpret the
variations.

Project Areas

Working with sponsors to coordinate Rock Physics research on specific shales.

Bakken: Project with Kerogen / Oasis
MS and SEG Abstract-seismic
response

To address:

Rock Physics in an Oil Play

Project Areas

Working with sponsors to coordinate Rock Physics research on specific shales.

Woodford:

Pecos Co., Texas

**1 MS and SEG abstract in West Texas
Setting**

**Anadarko Basin-Start of a project with
Cimarex and Devon well data**

Incorporate 3D 3C surface seismic

Project Areas

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Marcellus: Seismic Model Building
Well data from Anadarko

Project Areas

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Bossier: Completed tight gas sand characterization with 3C data.

1 MS and SEG Abstract

Project Areas

Working with sponsors to coordinate Rock Physics research on specific shales.

Haynesville: Characterization and Seismic Model Building

Project Areas

Working with sponsors to coordinate Rock Physics research on specific shales.

Other plays of interest:

Eagle Ford, Barnett

Summary

**Log data for forward modeling
and seismic response and
sensitivity characterization**

**Rock Physics to understand log-
seismic properties**

**Numerical methods for
inversion of seismic to
geological properties**