



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI DI TRIESTE

Laurea Magistrale in Geoscienze

A.A. 2020-2021

*PETROFISICA INTEGRATA  
II MODULO*

*UD5  
AVO, AVA e  
INVERSIONE SISMICA*

Emanuele Forte  
e-mail: [eforte@units.it](mailto:eforte@units.it)

# REFLECTION SEISMIC: AMPLITUDE ANALYSIS

## QUANTITATIVE/PETROGRAPHICAL ANALYSIS

New analysis/interpretation techniques were implemented to obtain more affordable results to:

Discriminate between gas, oil & brine saturation;

Localize major rock lateral/vertical variations (sand and clay content, porosity changes, ...)

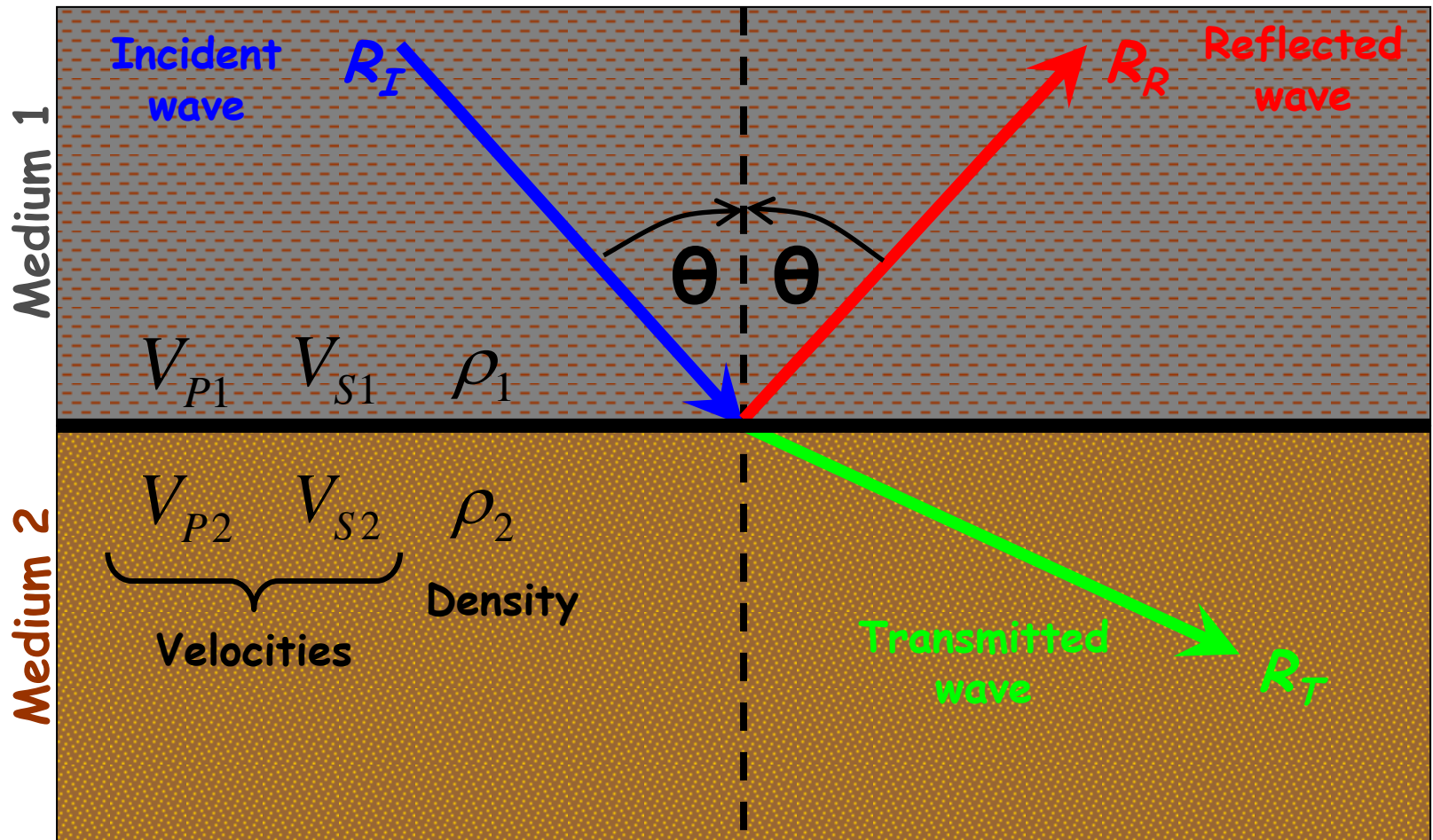
Estimate main petrophysical parameters

**AMPLITUDE VERSUS OFFSET - AVO**

**AMPLITUDE VERSUS AZIMUTH - AVA**

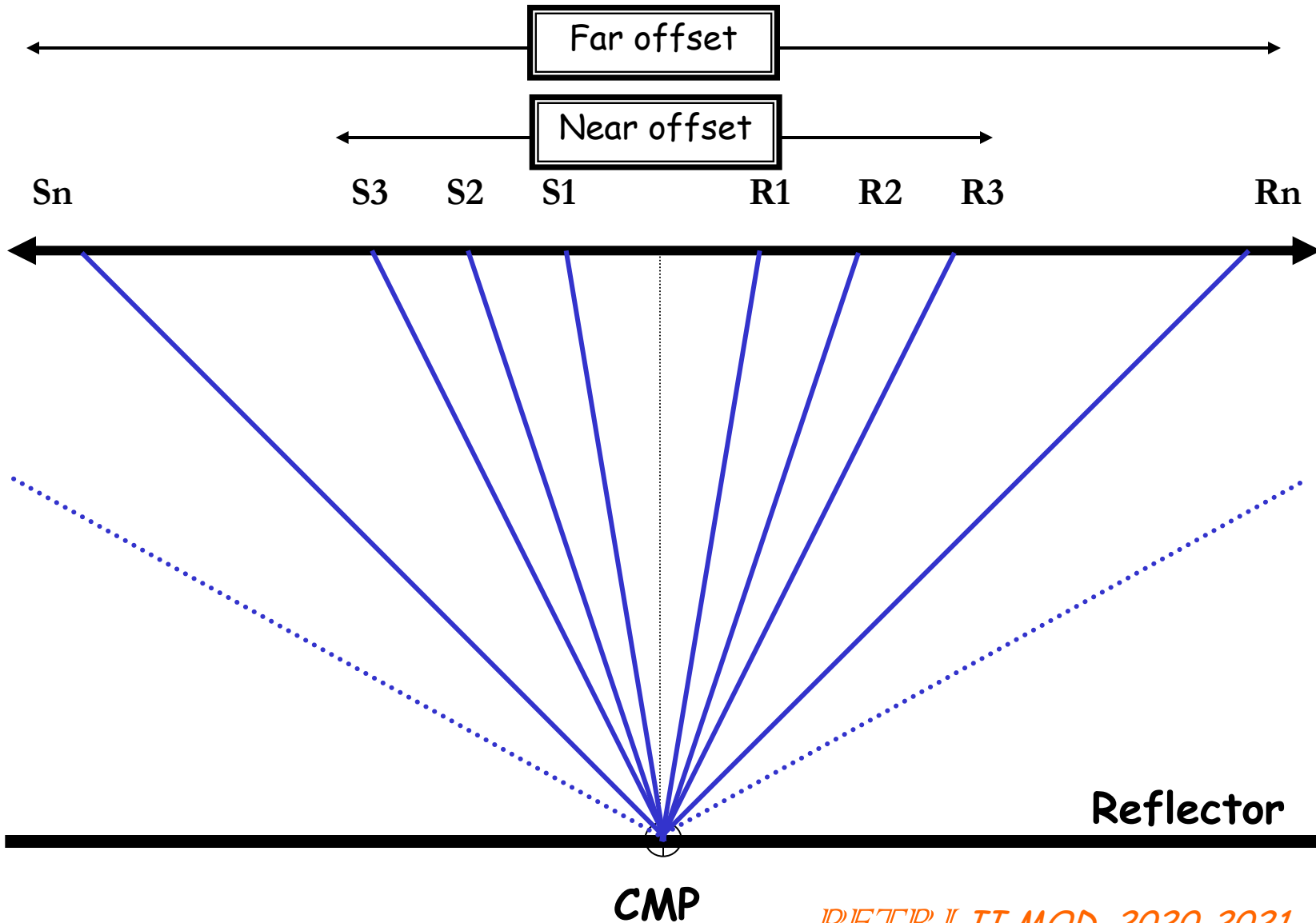
# REFLECTION SEISMIC: AMPLITUDE ANALYSIS

Reflection Amplitudes  $R_R$ ,  $R_T$ , are determined by the contrast in rock properties  $V_P$ ,  $V_S$ ,  $\rho$  and **angle of incidence**  $\theta$



# REFLECTION SEISMIC: AMPLITUDE ANALYSIS

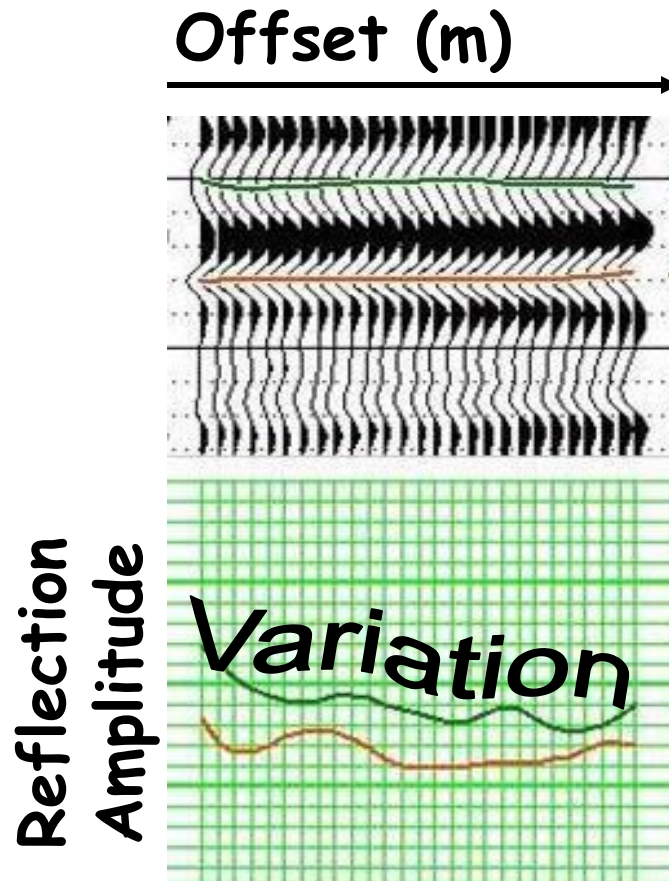
*Information on the same point from several different OFFSETS*



# REFLECTION SEISMIC: AVO

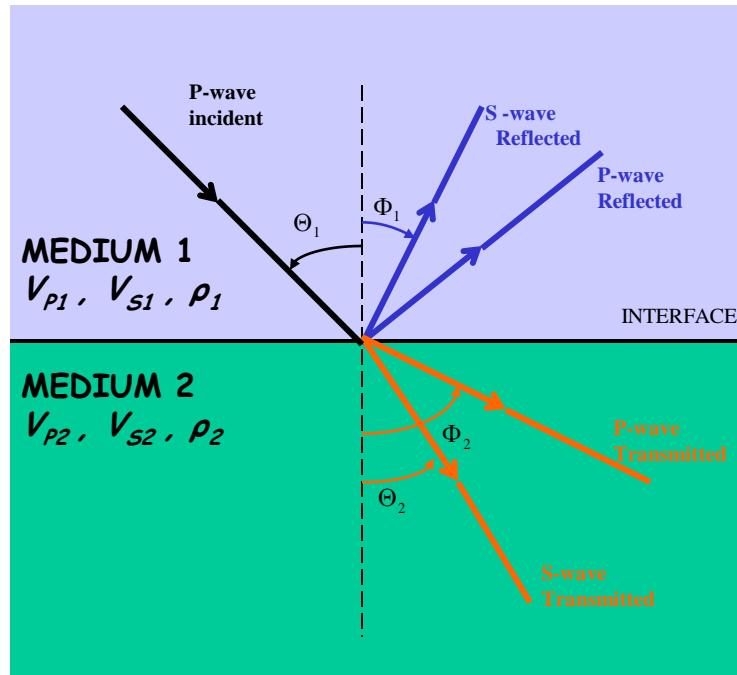
Typically, reflection amplitude decreases (falls) with offset due to geometrical spreading, attenuation and other factors.

**A**mplitude **V**ersus **O**ffset or **A**mplitude **V**ariation with **O**ffset - **AVO** is an ANALYSIS Technique to understand any anomalous behaviour of AMPLITUDE



**A**mplitude  
**V**ariation  
with  
**O**ffset

# REFLECTION SEISMIC: AVO



$$\text{ray parameter} = p = \frac{\sin \Theta_1}{V_{P1}} = \frac{\sin \Theta_2}{V_{P2}} = \frac{\sin \Phi_1}{V_{S1}} = \frac{\sin \Phi_2}{V_{S2}}$$

## REFLECTION COEFFICIENT $R_p$

For a P-wave with vertical incidence the  $R_p$  can be calculated by:

$$R_P = \frac{V_{P2}\rho_2 + V_{P1}\rho_1}{V_{P2}\rho_2 - V_{P1}\rho_1} \quad \text{i.e.} \quad R_P = \frac{I_{P2} - I_{P1}}{I_{P2} + I_{P1}}$$

The general case (P and S waves) is much more complicated and in linear (matrix) form is:

$$Q = \begin{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} PP \\ PS \end{pmatrix} & \begin{pmatrix} SP \\ SS \end{pmatrix} & \begin{pmatrix} PP \\ PS \end{pmatrix} & \begin{pmatrix} SP \\ SS \end{pmatrix} \\ \begin{pmatrix} PP \\ PS \end{pmatrix} & \begin{pmatrix} SP \\ SS \end{pmatrix} & \begin{pmatrix} PP \\ PS \end{pmatrix} & \begin{pmatrix} SP \\ SS \end{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix} = P^{-1}R$$

Aki & Richards (1980)

Where:

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} -\sin \Theta_1 & -\cos \Phi_1 & \sin \Theta_2 & \cos \Phi_2 \\ \cos \Theta_1 & -\sin \Phi_1 & \cos \Theta_2 & -\sin \Phi_2 \\ 2\rho_1 V_{S1} \sin \Phi_1 \cos \Theta_1 & \rho_1 V_{S1} (1 - 2\sin^2 \Phi_1) & 2\rho_2 V_{S2} \sin \Phi_2 \cos \Theta_2 & \rho_2 V_{S2} (1 - 2\sin^2 \Phi_2) \\ -\rho_1 V_{P1} (1 - 2\sin^2 \Phi_1) & \rho_1 V_{S1} \sin 2\Phi_1 & -\rho_2 V_{P2} (1 - 2\sin^2 \Phi_2) & -\rho_2 V_{S2} \sin 2\Phi_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{Propagation/Transmission}$$

$$R = \begin{pmatrix} \sin \Theta_1 & \cos \Phi_1 & -\sin \Theta_2 & -\cos \Phi_2 \\ \cos \Theta_1 & -\sin \Phi_1 & \cos \Theta_2 & -\sin \Phi_2 \\ 2\rho_1 V_{S1} \sin \Phi_1 \cos \Theta_1 & \rho_1 V_{S1} (1 - 2\sin^2 \Phi_1) & 2\rho_2 V_{S2} \sin \Phi_2 \cos \Theta_2 & \rho_2 V_{S2} (1 - 2\sin^2 \Phi_2) \\ \rho_1 V_{P1} (1 - 2\sin^2 \Phi_1) & -\rho_1 V_{S1} \sin 2\Phi_1 & -\rho_2 V_{P2} (1 - 2\sin^2 \Phi_2) & \rho_2 V_{S2} \sin 2\Phi_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{Reflection}$$

→ Reflected (and transmitted) **AMPLITUDE**  $f(V_p, V_s, \rho, \text{angle})$

# REFLECTION SEISMIC: AVO

There are several simplified eq. for specific angle ranges:

## Reflection Amplitude:

$$R_R(\theta) \approx \frac{1}{2} (1 - 4(\sin\theta/\theta)^2 V_S^2) \left( \frac{\Delta\rho}{\rho} \right) + \frac{1}{2 \cos^2(\theta)} \cdot \left( \frac{\Delta V_P}{V_P} \right) - 4V_S^2 \rho^2 \frac{\Delta V_S}{V_S}$$

Moreover:

Aki & Richards (1980)

$$V_P = \sqrt{\frac{\lambda + 2\mu}{\rho}}$$

$$V_S = \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{\rho}}$$



Lithology  
fluid types  
fluid saturation  
Porosity  
Anisotropy  
etc...

*Velocities  $V_P$ ,  $V_S$  are in turn dependent on elastic constants  $\lambda$ ,  $\mu$ , and  $\rho$ , and inherent rock properties*

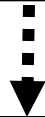
# REFLECTION SEISMIC: AVO

## *The seismic response & rock properties*

2D, 3-D seismic data  
Borehole log data



Observable parameters  
*Seismic amplitude ( $R_c$ )*  
 $V_p$   $V_s$  Density ( $\rho$ )



Elastic  
Constants  
 $\lambda$   $\mu$   $\rho$   $\kappa$



Lithology  
Fluid saturation



Can indicate the differences between fluids, porosity, saturation,...



*There are many possible applications depending from the final objectives, the available data and the data quality*

- 1) **AVO ANALYSIS** Study the Amplitude behaviour on multi-offset (multi-fold) 2D or 3D registered data*
- 2) **AVO MODELING** 1D, 2D and 3D synthetic offset/angle gathers calculations (also from well log data). Modeling can be performed first, in order to determine what type of AVO anomaly may be anticipated.*
- 3) **AVO INVERSION** extract lithologic and pore fluid information, removing the effects of the seismic wavelet and optimising thin-layer resolution*

Many analysis techniques:

A simplified equation for the reflection amplitude is:

$$R_{PP}(\Theta_1) = R_P + B \sin^2 \Theta_1 \quad \text{Shuey's eq.} \rightarrow \text{linear relation between } A(r) \text{ and incidence angle } \sin^2 \Theta$$

## Intercept (A) & Gradient (B)

$R_P = A$  = "AVO Intercept parameter"  $\rightarrow$  f(porosity)

$B$  = "AVO gradient"  $B = A_0 R_P + \frac{\Delta\sigma}{(1-\sigma)^2}$   $B =$  AVO gradient  $\rightarrow$  f( $\sigma$ =Poisson)  $\rightarrow$  Physical rock/fluid parameter  $\rightarrow$  liquid saturation  $\rightarrow$

## Scaled Poisson's Ratio

$$\Delta\sigma = \frac{4}{9}(A+B) \rightarrow \text{hydrocarbon indicator}$$

## Shear wave reflectivity

$$R_s = \text{shear wave reflectivity} \rightarrow R_s = \frac{1}{2}(R_P - B) \rightarrow \text{Fluid saturation}$$

## Fluid factor

$$\Delta f = \text{fluid factor} \rightarrow \Delta F = \frac{\Delta V_P}{V_P} - c_1 \frac{V_S}{V_P} \frac{\Delta V_S}{V_S}$$

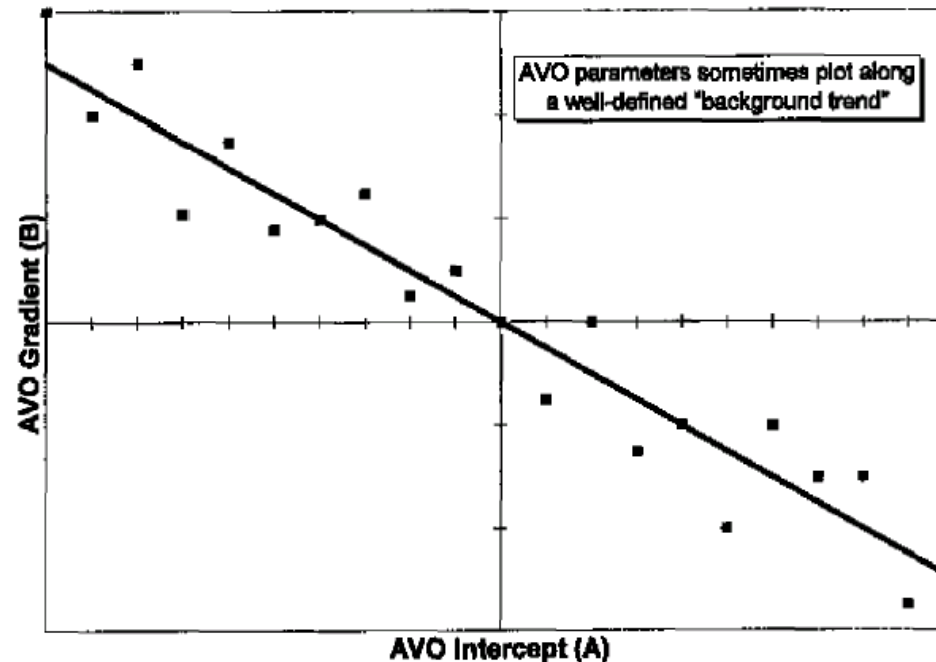
- $\Delta F \approx 0$  water saturated rocks
- $\Delta F < 0$  possible top of oil reservoir
- $\Delta F > 0$  below a gas (or oil) reservoir

(Smith e Gidlow, 1987)

# REFLECTION SEISMIC: AVO ANALYSIS

## AVO Crossplot

AVO Crossplot → A graph showing amplitudes value as a function of:  
AVO intercept attribute (A)  
AVO gradient attribute (B)

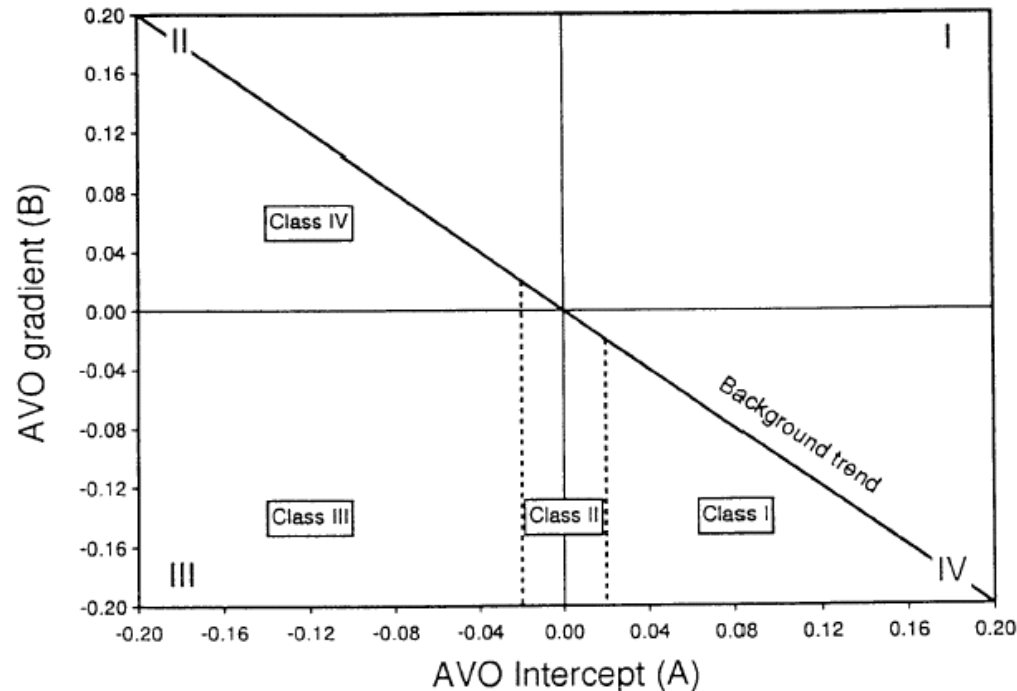


For brine-saturated (clastic) rocks in a particular site, there may be a well-defined relationship between the AVO intercept (A) and the AVO gradient (B).

Thus, in a given time window, non hydrocarbon-bearing clastic rocks often exhibit a well-defined background trend; **deviations from this background** are indicative of hydrocarbons or unusual lithologies.

# REFLECTION SEISMIC: AVO ANALYSIS

## AVO Crossplot - CLASSIFICATION



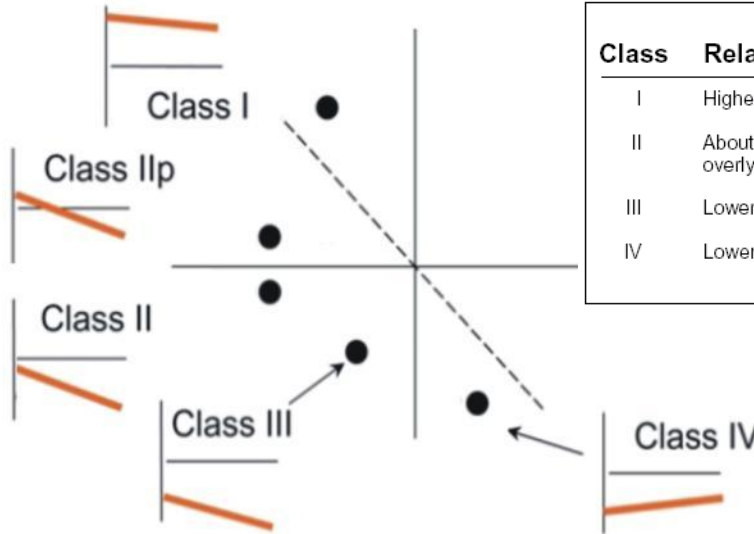
The classification of *AVO* responses should be based on position of the reflection of interest on an *A* versus *B* crossplot. First, the background trend within a given time and space window must be defined. This can be done with well control if the seismic data are correctly amplitude calibrated, or with the seismic data itself if care is taken to exclude prospective hidden hydrocarbon-bearing zones.

Top of gas sand reflections then should plot below the background trend and bottom of gas sand reflections should plot above the trend.

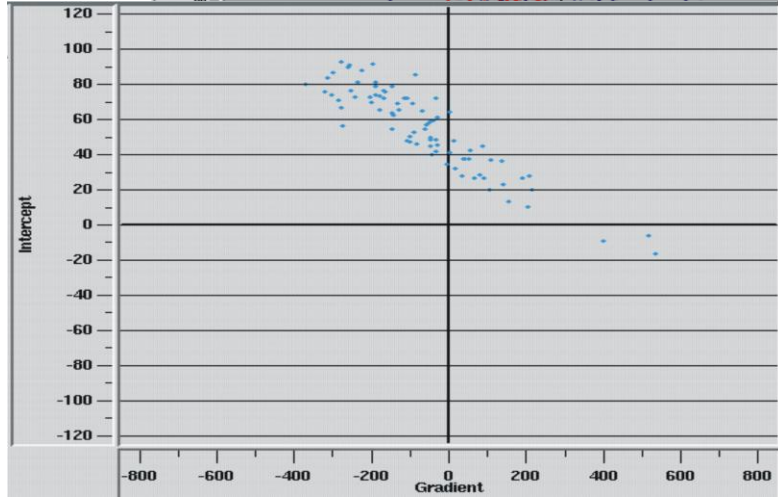
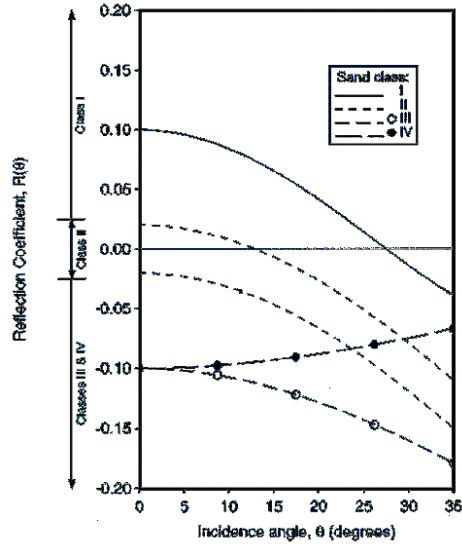
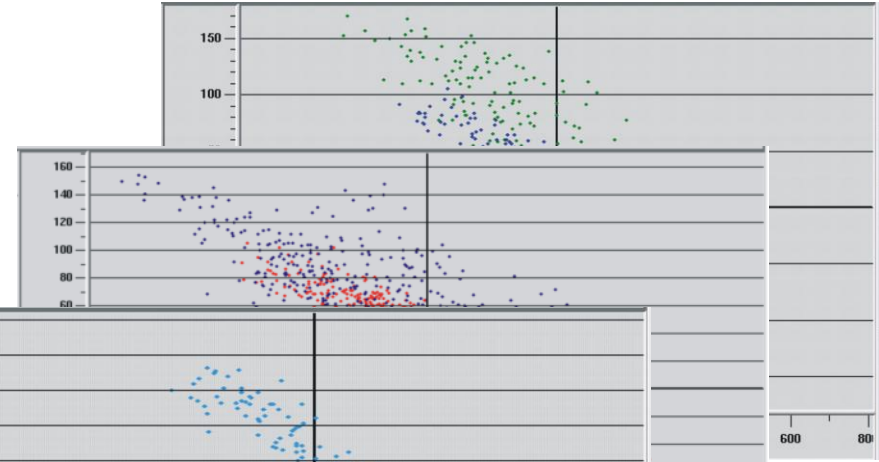
*We can classify the gas sand response according to position in the A-B plane of the top of gas sand reflections.*

# REFLECTION SEISMIC: AVO ANALYSIS

## AVO Crossplot - CLASSIFICATION



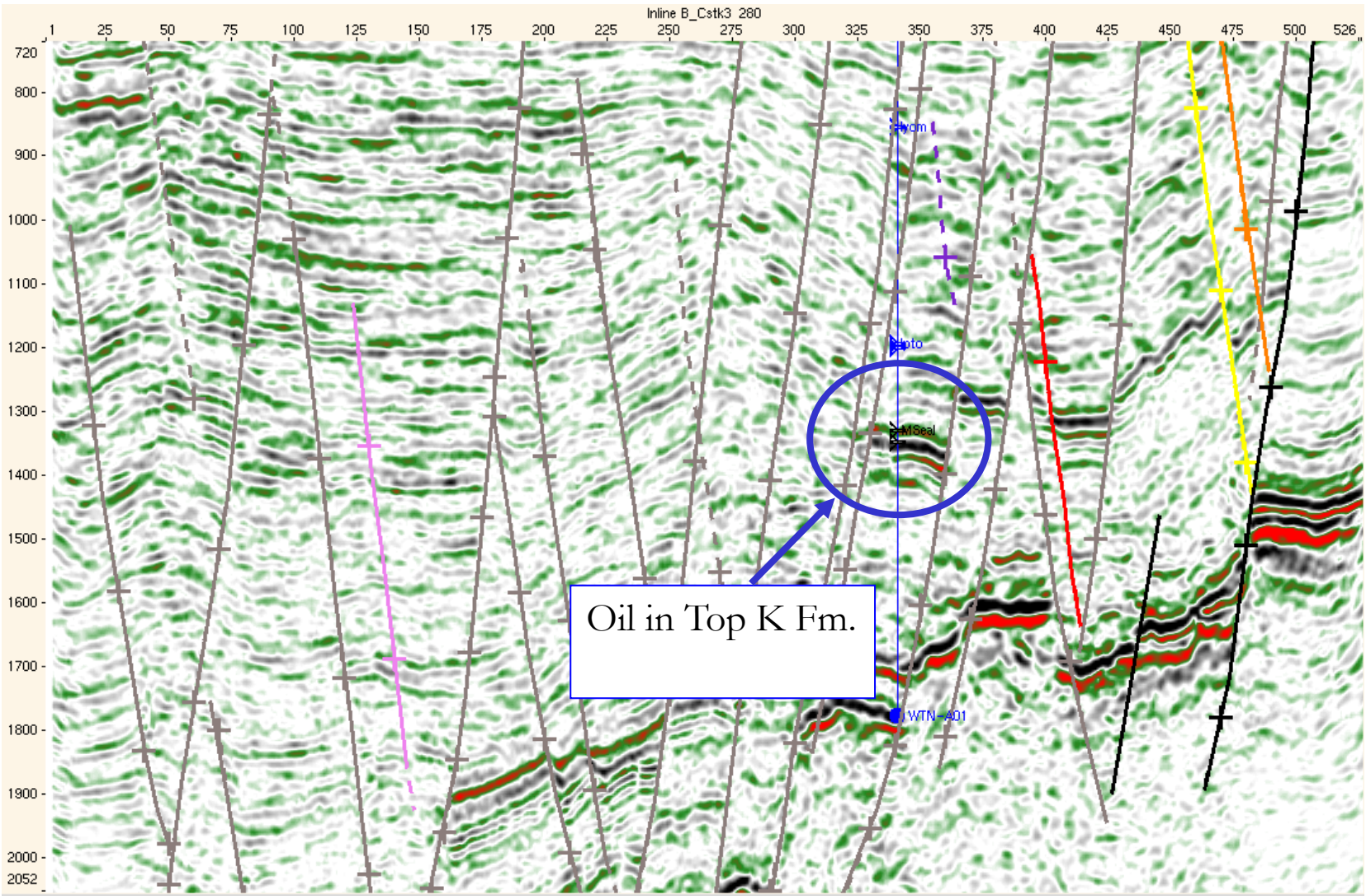
Class	Relative Impedance	Quadrant	A	B	Amplitude vs. Offset
I	Higher than overlying unit	IV	+	-	Decreases
II	About the same as the overlying unit	II, III, or IV	+ or -	-	Increase or decrease; may change sign
III	Lower than overlying unit	III	-	-	Increases
IV	Lower than overlying unit	II	-	+	Decreases



## REAL EXAMPLES

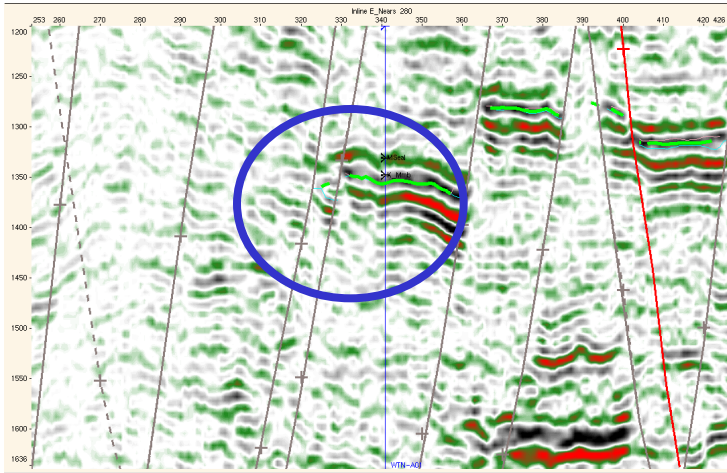
# REFLECTION SEISMIC: AVO ANALYSIS

## REAL EXAMPLES

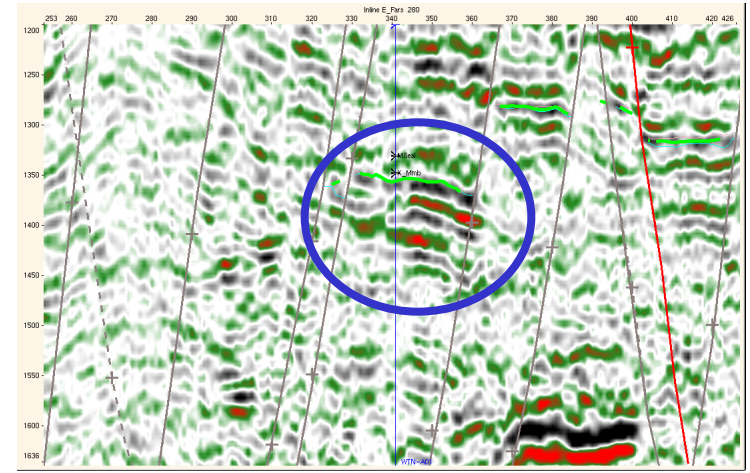


# REFLECTION SEISMIC: AVO ANALYSIS

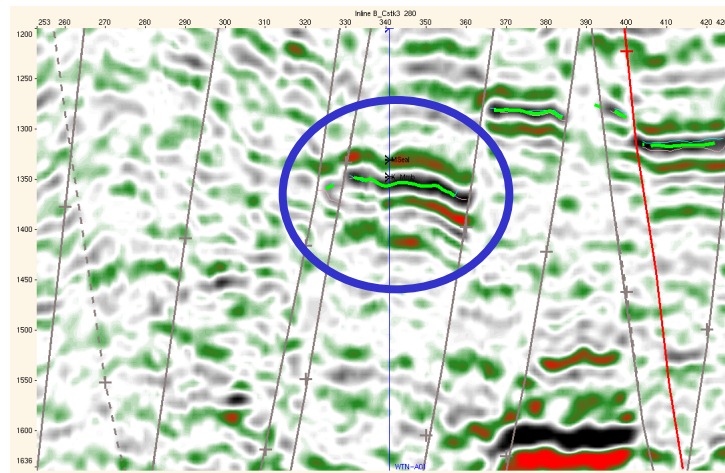
## REAL EXAMPLES



Near  
Offset  
Stack



Far  
Offset  
Stack



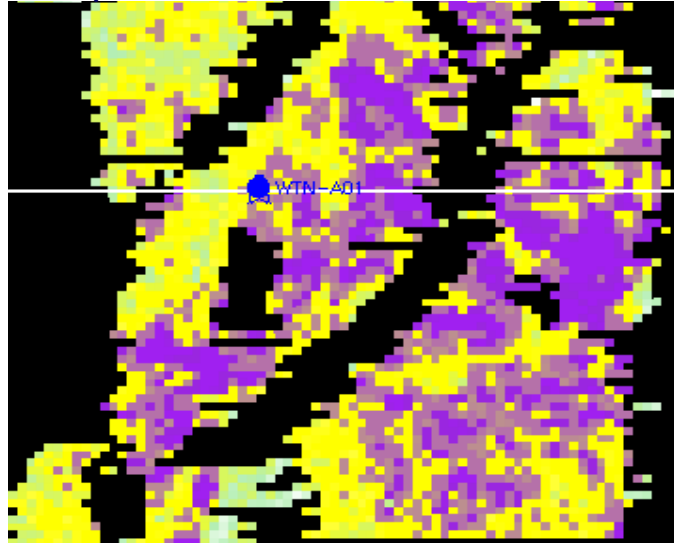
Normal Stack

RC + -128  127 RC -

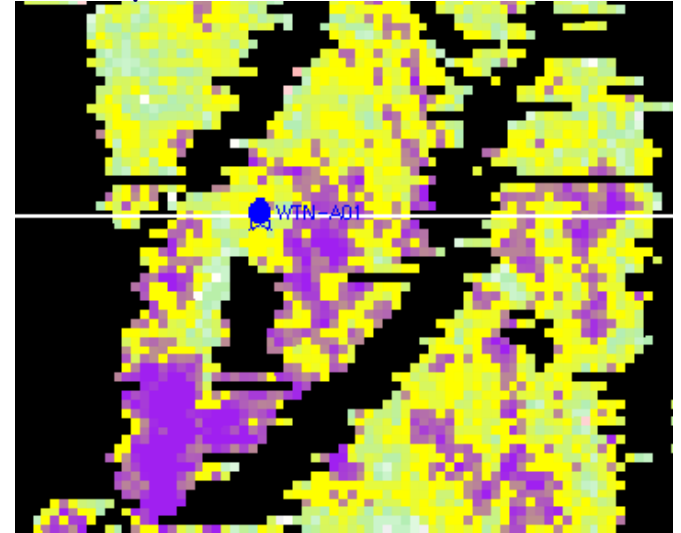
# REFLECTION SEISMIC: AVO ANALYSIS

## REAL EXAMPLES

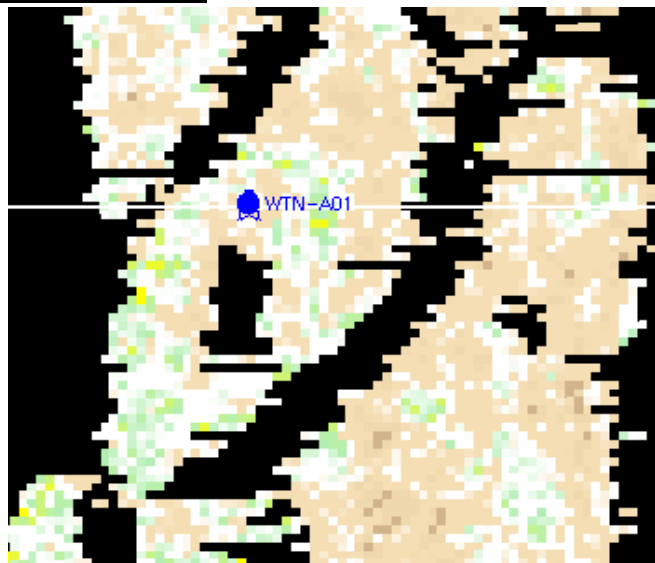
Ampl. extraction - near stack



Ampl. extraction - far stack



Amplitude extraction  
far-near difference

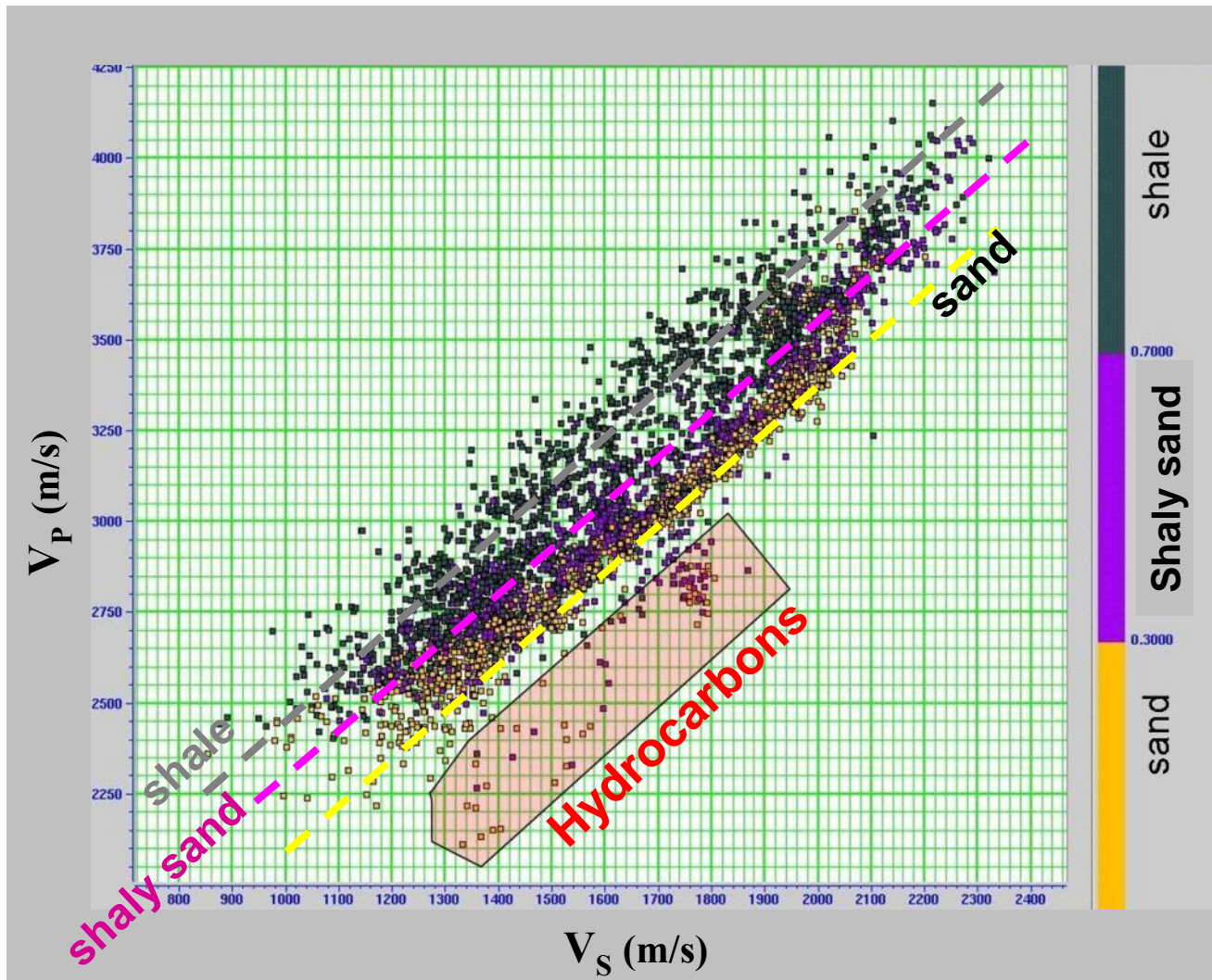




# REFLECTION SEISMIC: AVO ANALYSIS

## REAL EXAMPLES

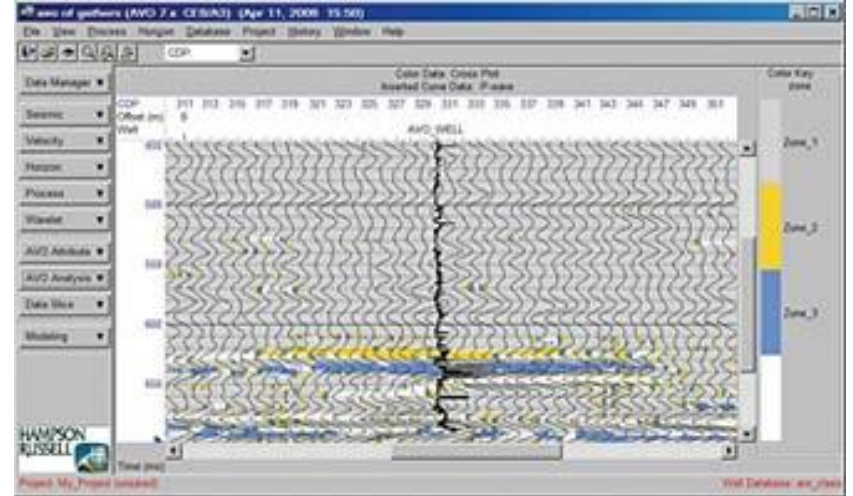
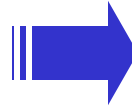
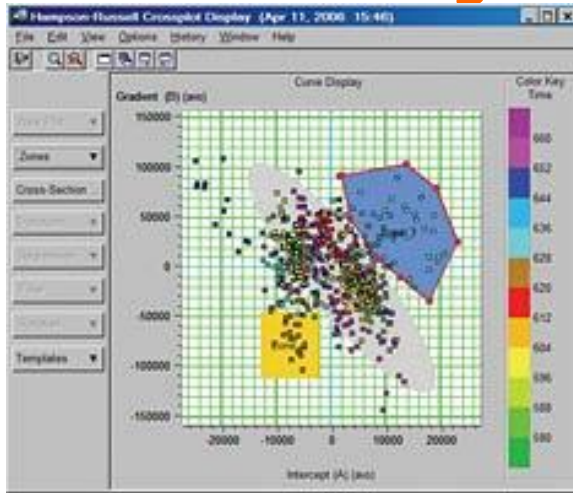
Crossplot of  $V_p$  vs.  $V_s$  from Seismic + log data



# REFLECTION SEISMIC: AVO ANALYSIS

## REAL EXAMPLES

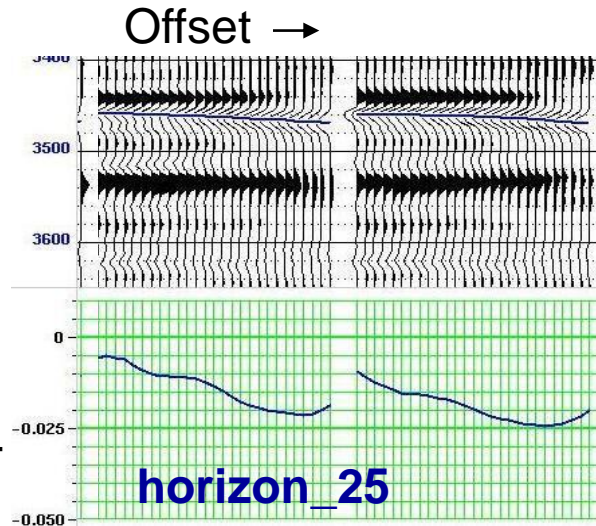
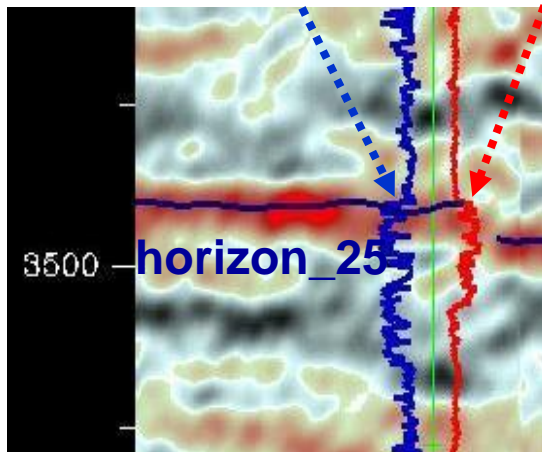
### AVO Integration and Calibration with LOGs



- C1
- C2
- C3

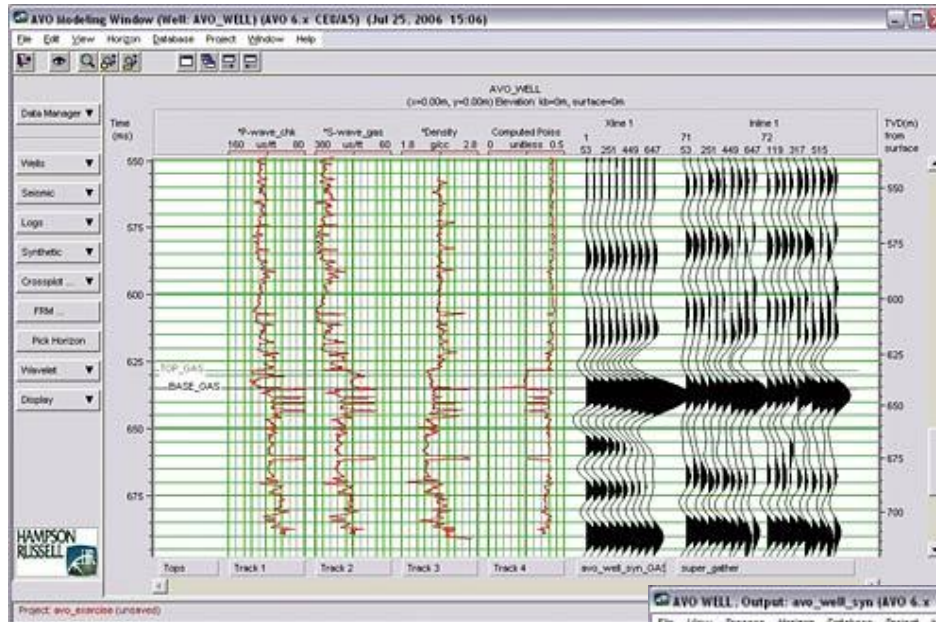
GR indicates sand

Resistivity indicates hydrocarbon



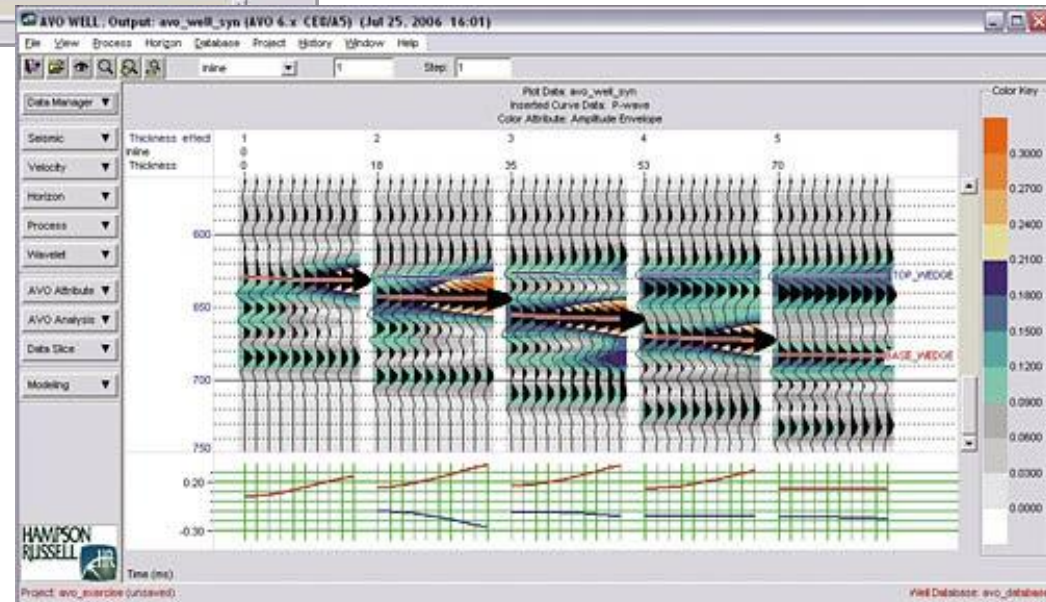
AVO indicates Class III

# REFLECTION SEISMIC: AVO MODELING



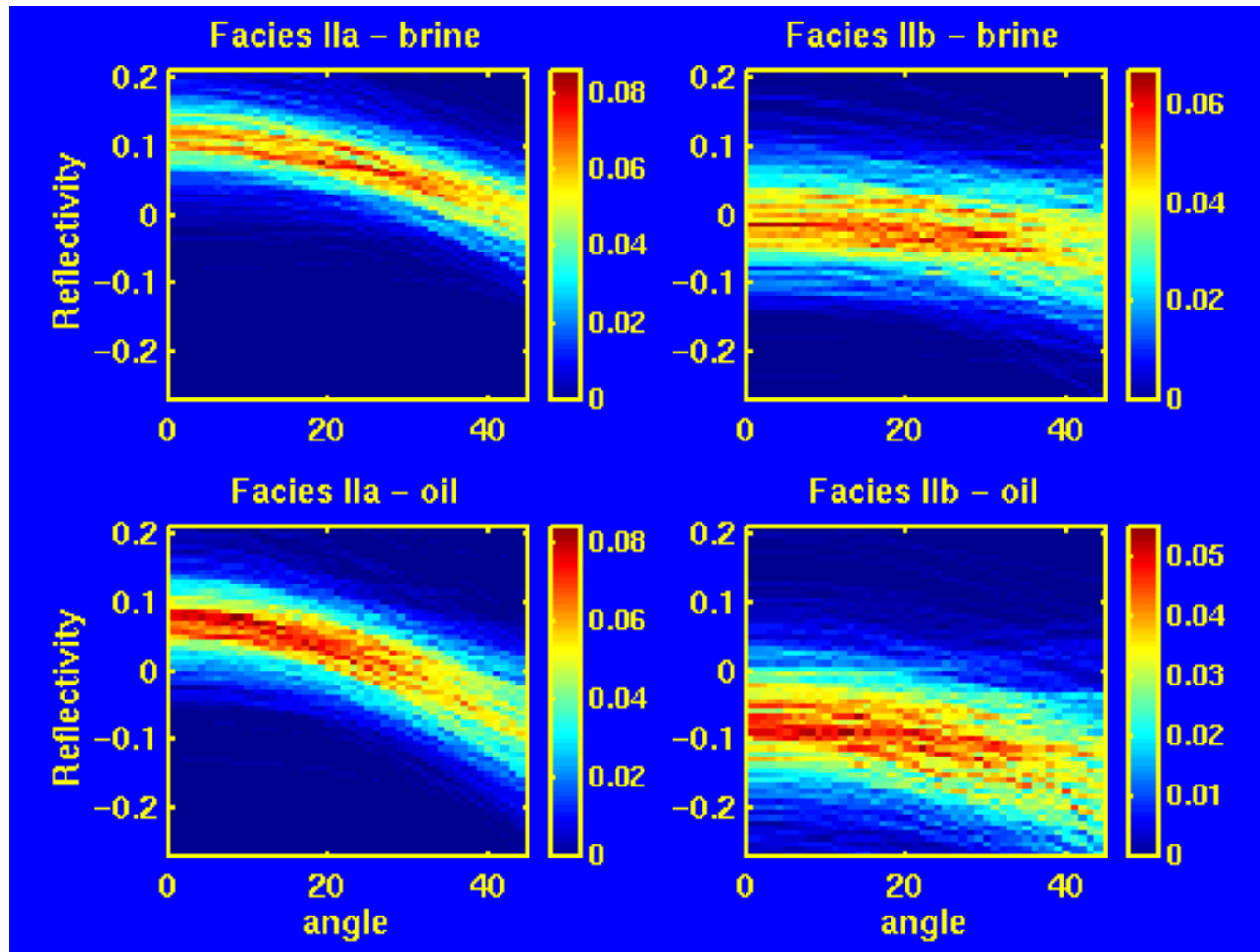
LOG data → Modeling of a "virtual" acquisition :  
 → AVO applicability  
 → AVO validation

*Classically, changes in reservoir fluid type and saturation, as well as changes in porosity, are modeled*



# REFLECTION SEISMIC: AVO MODELING

*Improved (quantitative) interpretation of AVO analyses*



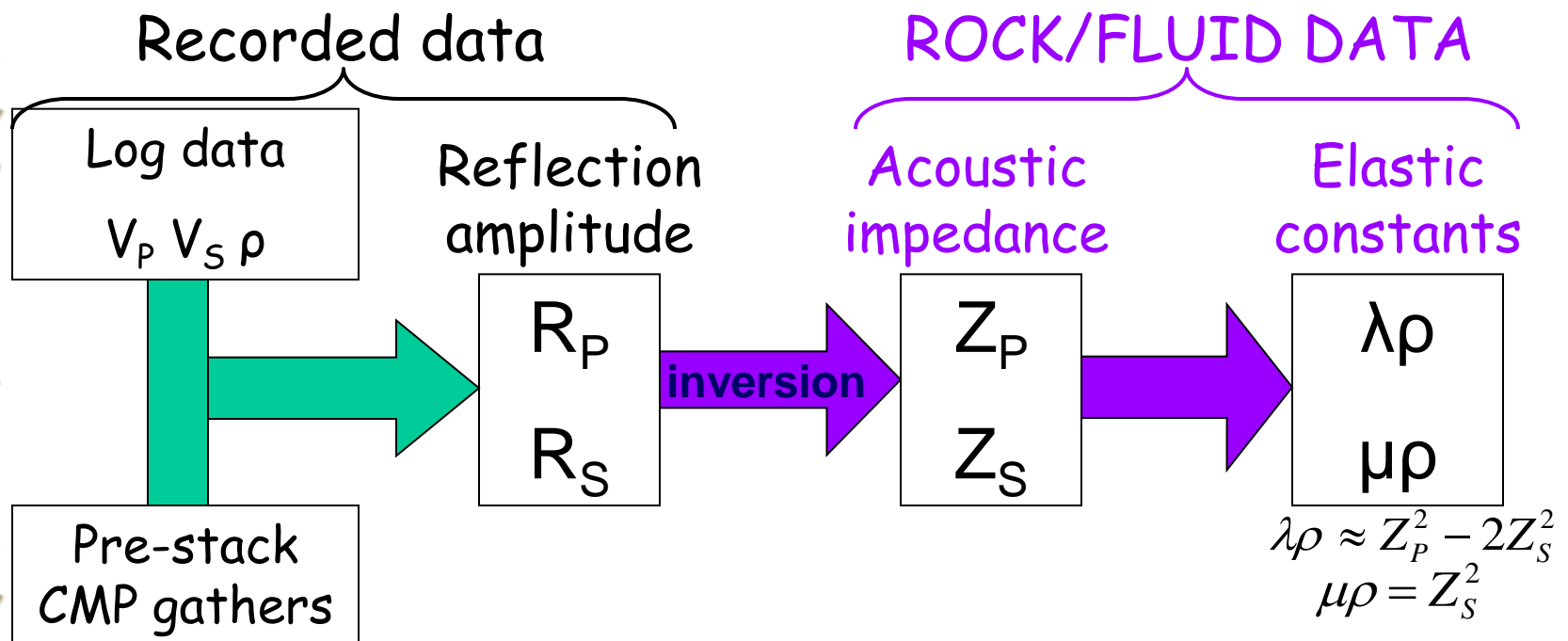
# REFLECTION SEISMIC: AVO INVERSION

## What is Inversion?

Seismic (AVO) inversion is the process of determining what physical characteristics of rocks and fluids could have produced the seismic record you are viewing

i.e. → it's a procedure trying to determine the **INPUT** by looking at the output of an experiment

- Elastic Impedance (EI) inversion (Connolly, 1999)
- Lambda-Mu-Rho (LMR) inversion (Goodway, 1997)



# REFLECTION SEISMIC: AVO INVERSION

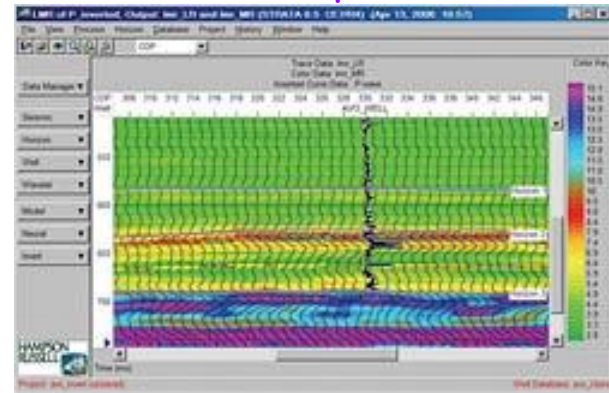
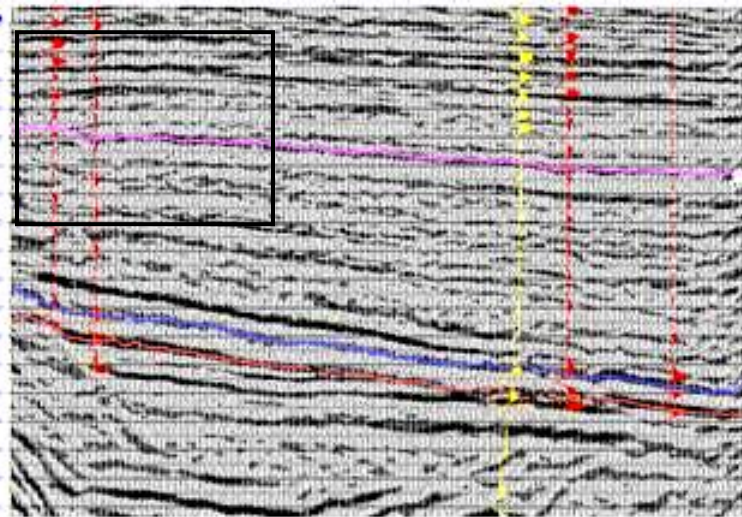
**EI inversion:** Generalization of acoustic impedance for variable angle of incidence *Connolly, 1999*

$$EI(\theta) = V_P^{(1+\tan^2 \theta)} V_S^{(-8K \sin^2 \theta)} \rho^{(1-4K \sin^2 \theta)}$$

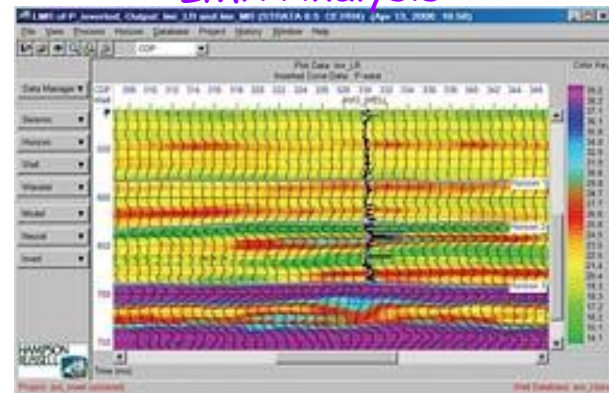
where  $K = \left( \frac{V_P}{V_S} \right)$

**Elastic Impedance**

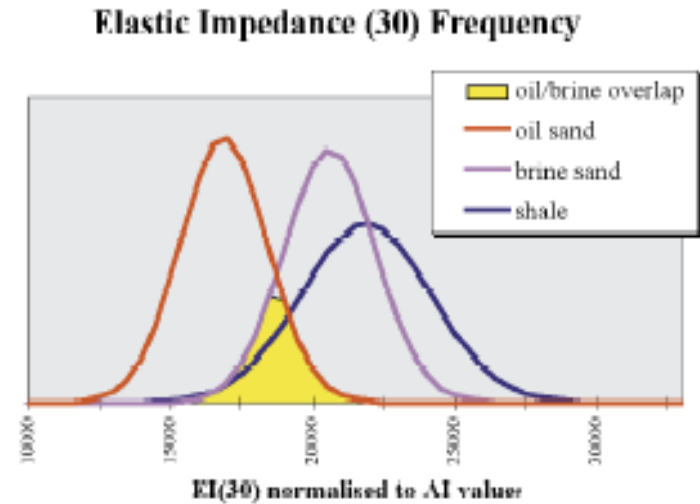
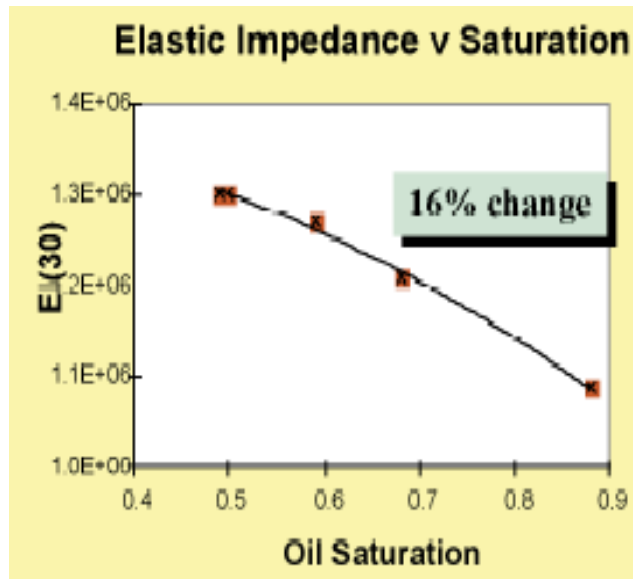
2D interpreted seismic section



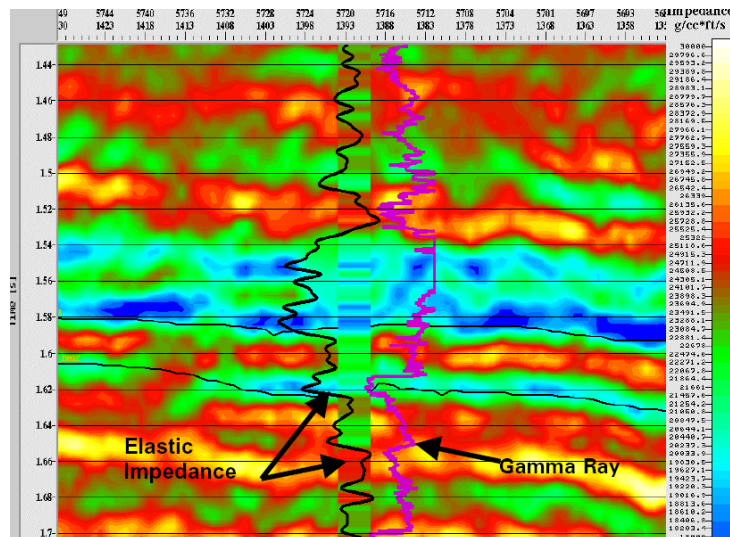
**LMR Analysis**



# REFLECTION SEISMIC: AVO INVERSION



*Connolly, 1999*



Very Low values of Elastic Impedance → Gas saturation

*Savic et al, 2000*

# REFLECTION SEISMIC: AVO INVERSION

## Lambda-Mu-Rho (LMR) inversion

$\lambda$  &  $\mu$  are elastic constants

$\lambda$  = fluid incompressibility is in theory affected only by the type of fluid in the pore space → **Low  $\lambda$  suggests gas saturation**

$\mu$  = rigidity is in theory affected only by the type of matrix → **High  $\mu$  suggests hard compact materials**

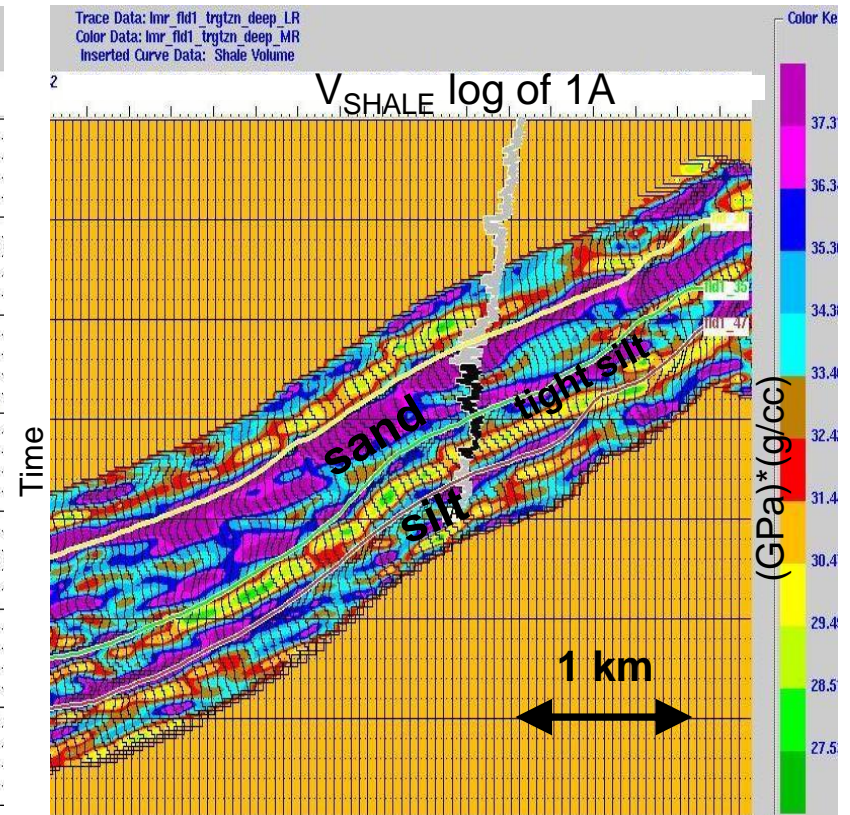
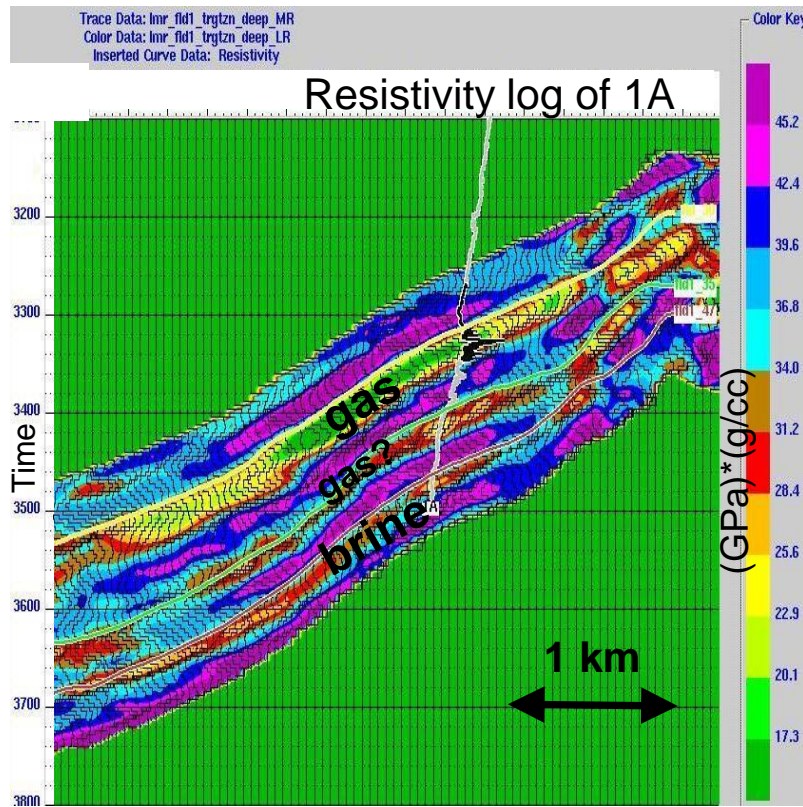
**Low  $\lambda$  + High  $\mu$  → Gas Sand**



# REFLECTION SEISMIC: AVO INVERSION

$\lambda\rho$   
fluid indicator  
(LR)

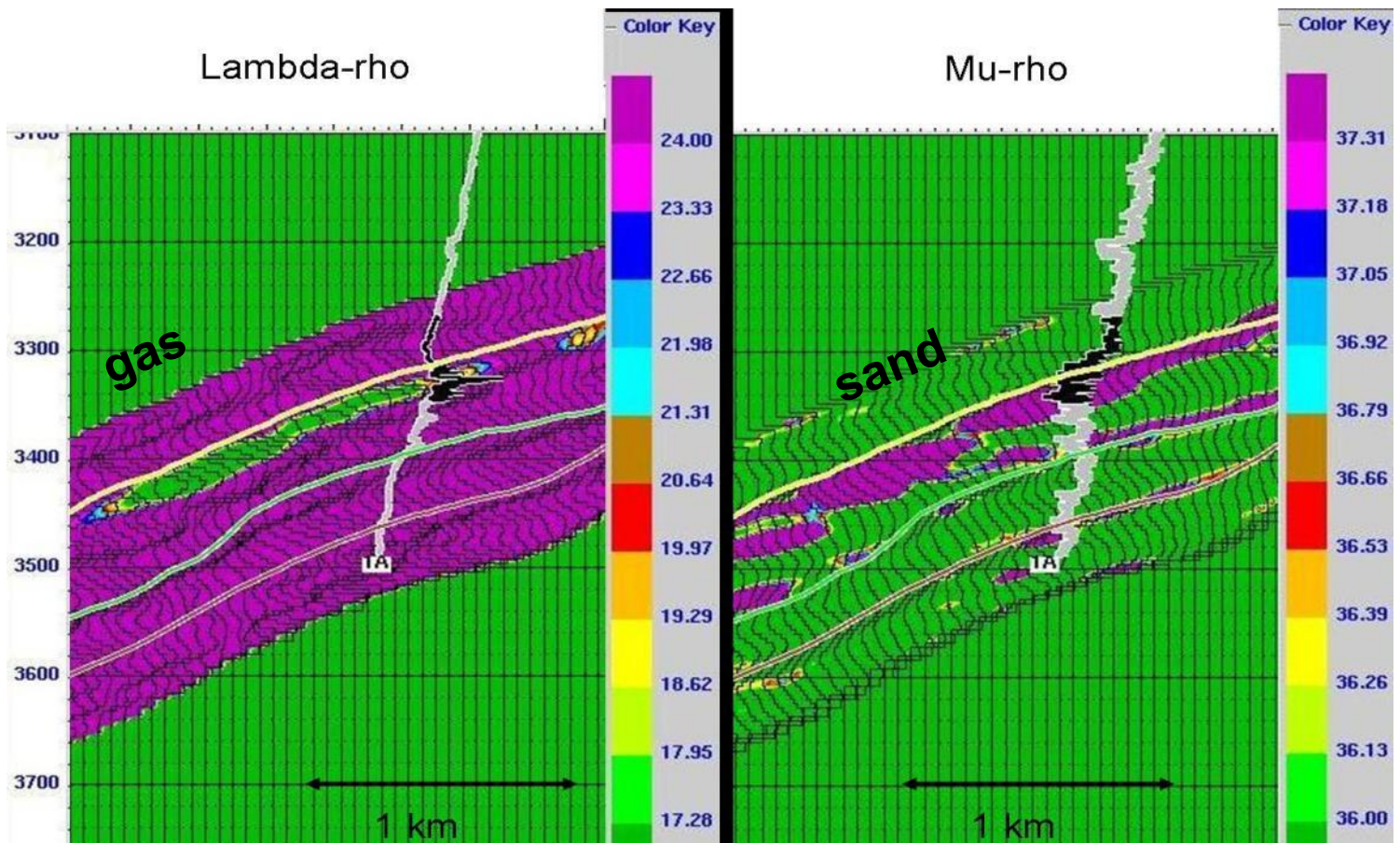
$\mu\rho$   
matrix indicator  
(MR)



# REFLECTION SEISMIC: AVO INVERSION

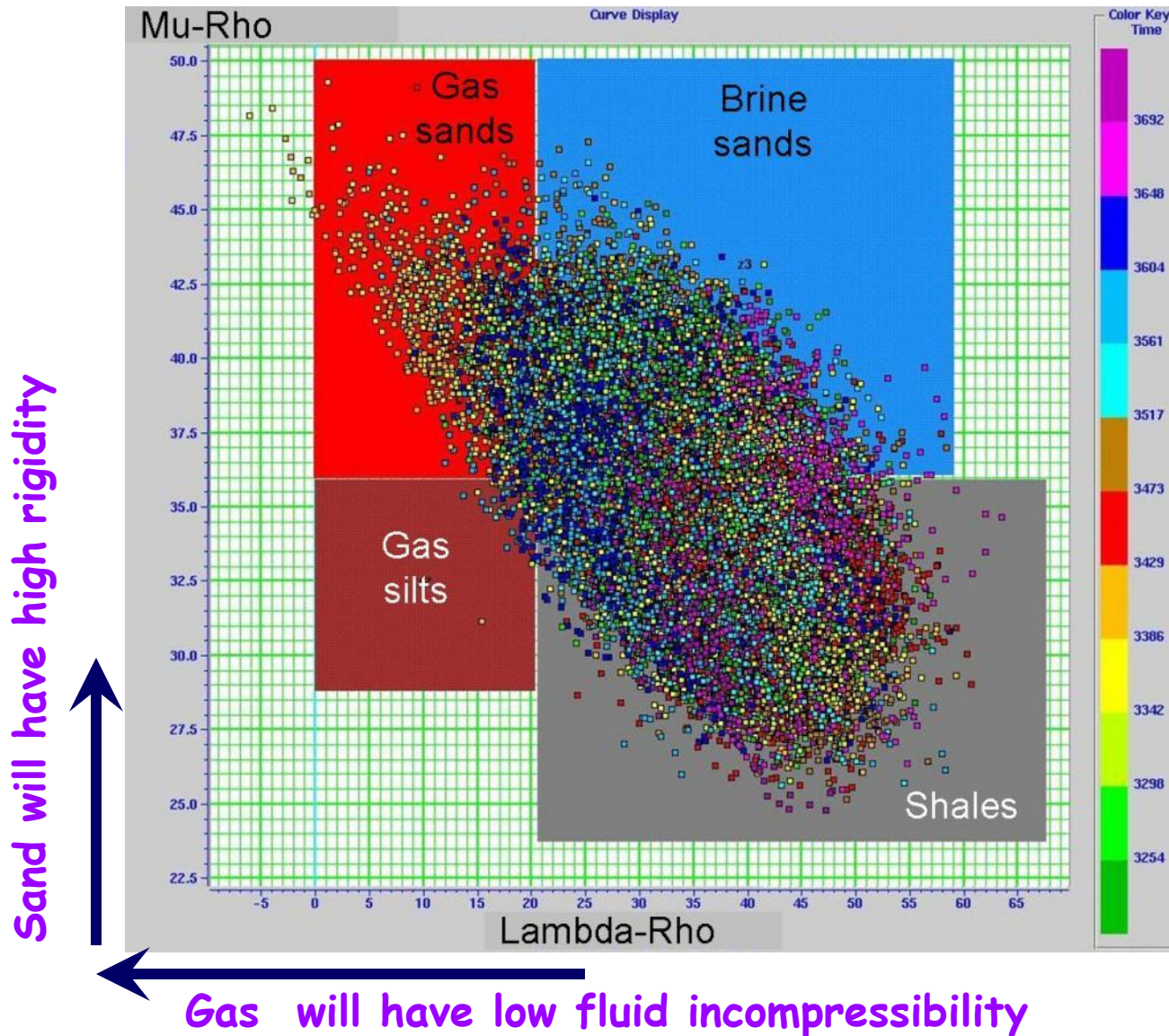
$\lambda\rho$   
fluid indicator  
(LR)

$\mu\rho$   
matrix indicator  
(MR)



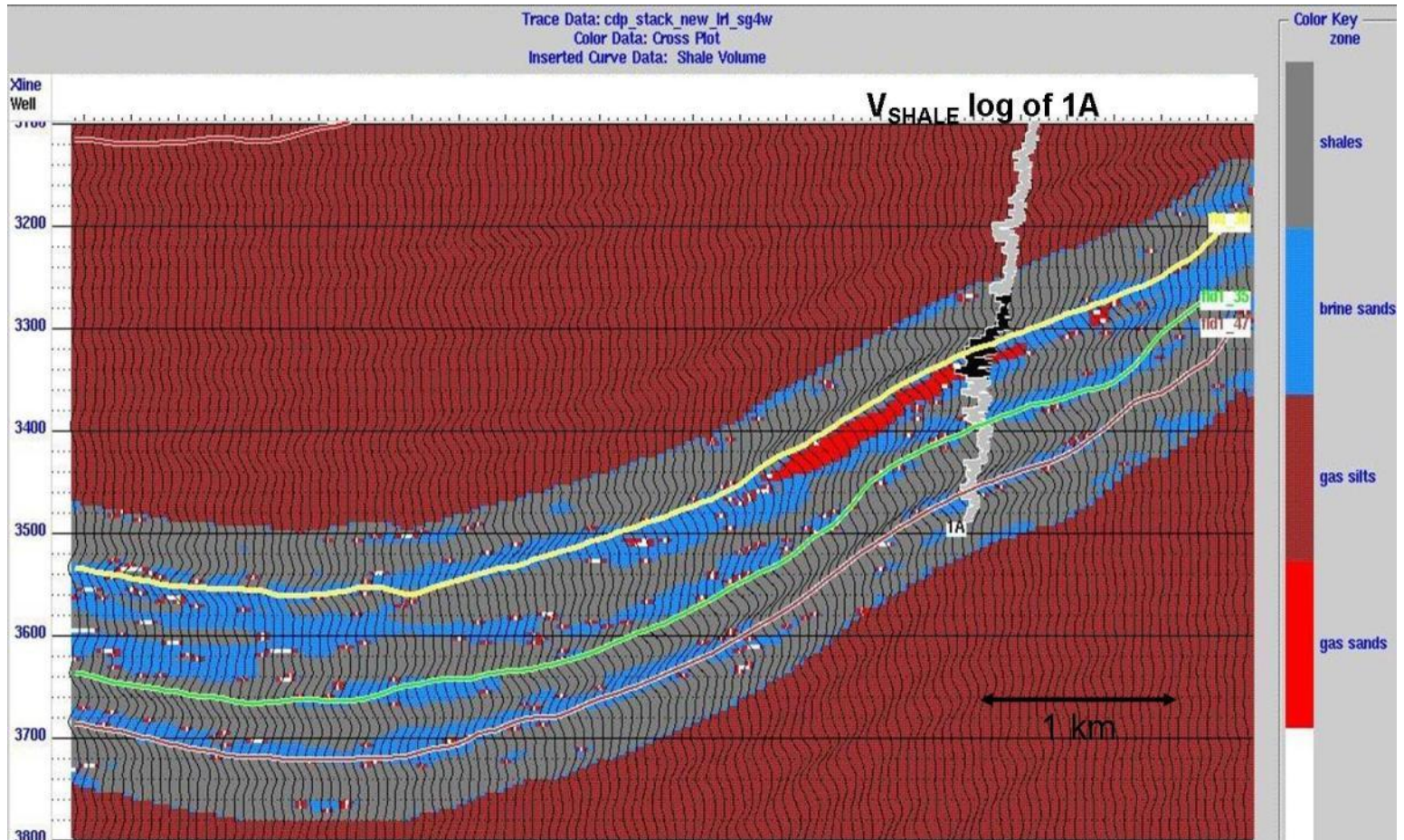
# REFLECTION SEISMIC: AVO INVERSION

## LMR crossplot



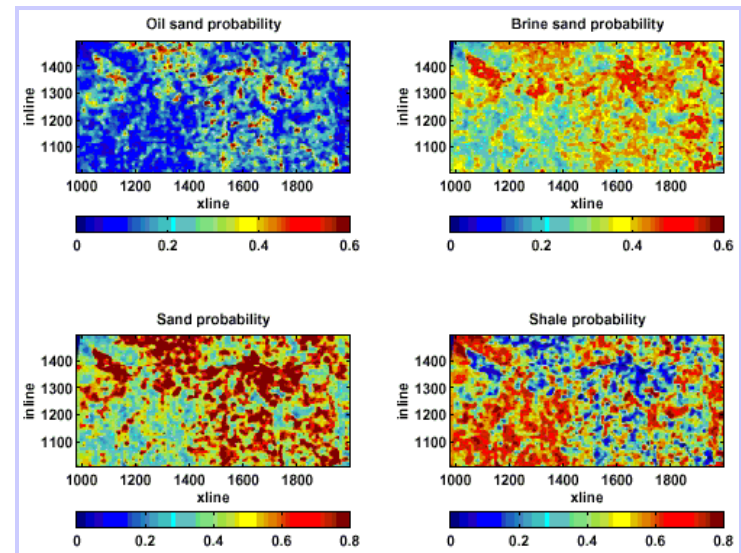
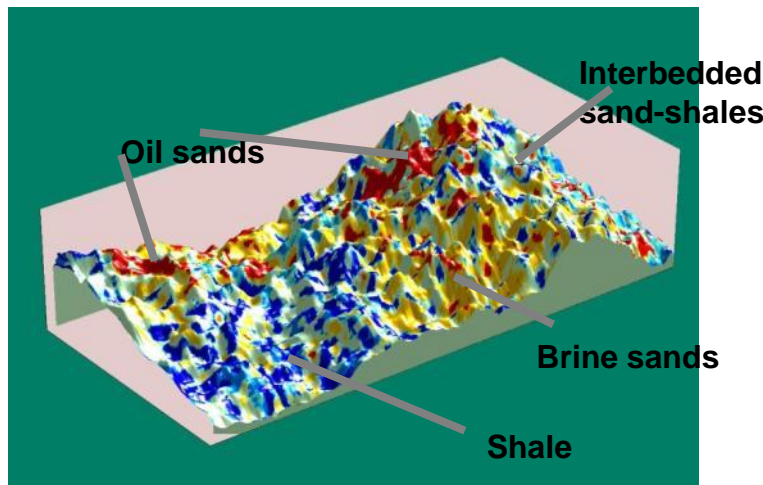
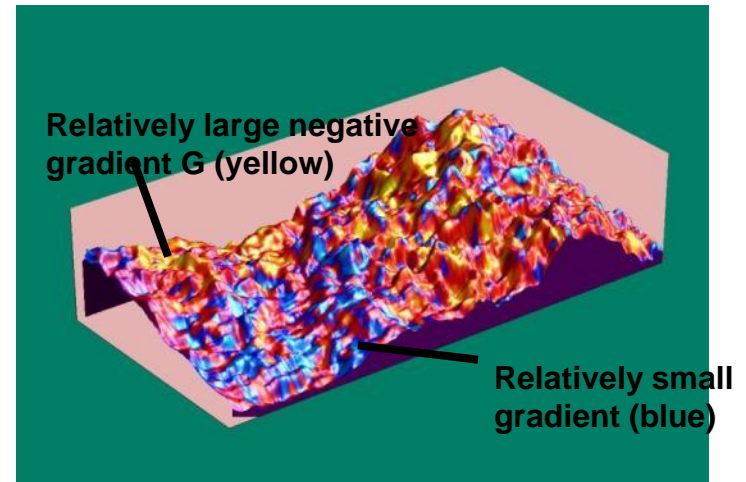
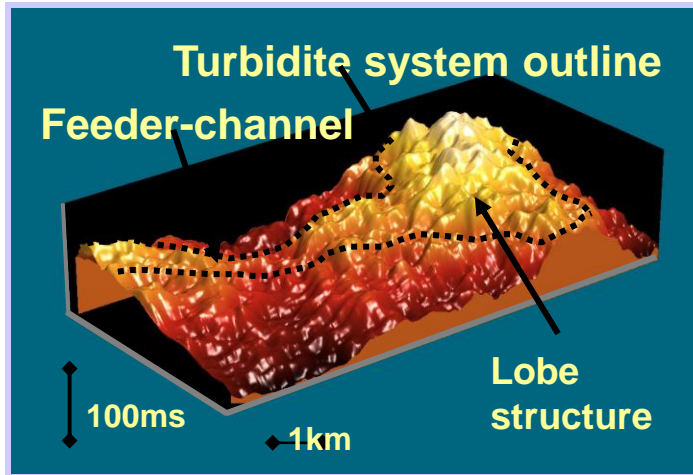
# REFLECTION SEISMIC: AVO INVERSION

## Rock and Fluid probability



# REFLECTION SEISMIC: AVO INVERSION

## 3-D seismic Facies and Fluid probability

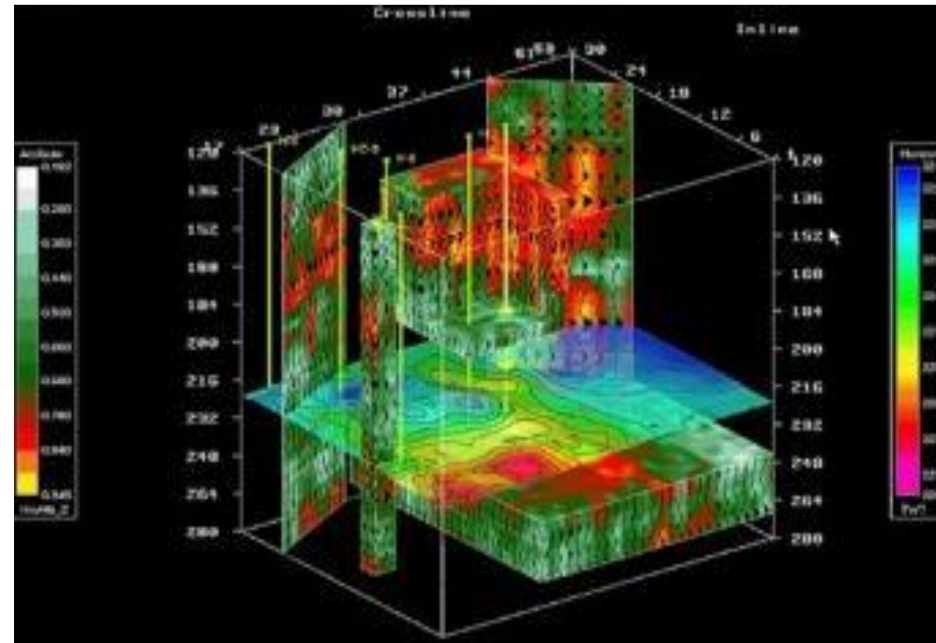


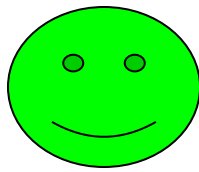
# REFLECTION SEISMIC: AVA

## *Amplitude Vs. Azimuth*

- In general AMPLITUDE VARIATIONS (anisotropy)*
- + local velocity variations (heterogeneity)*
  - + Discontinuity trend*
  - + Density variations*
  - + Anisotropy of secondary porosity/permeability → Unhomogeneous fluid distribution/saturation*

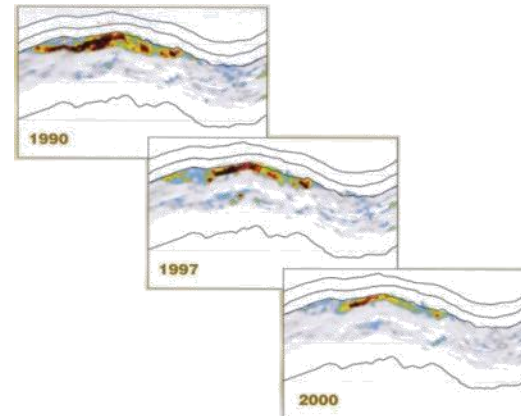
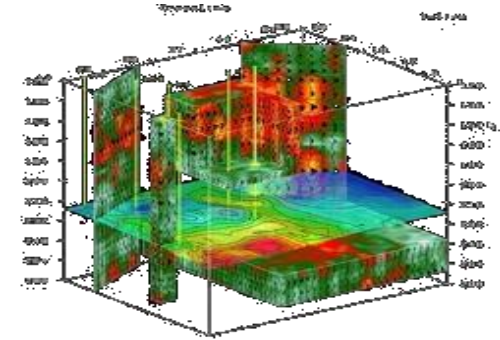
*Similar techniques as for the AVO analysis, but MORE UNCERTAINTIES And 3D dense data are required*





# AVO: PROS

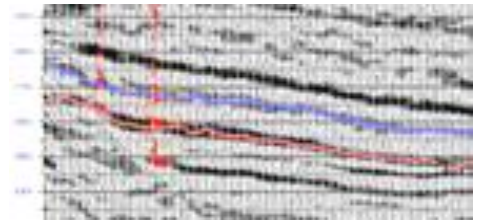
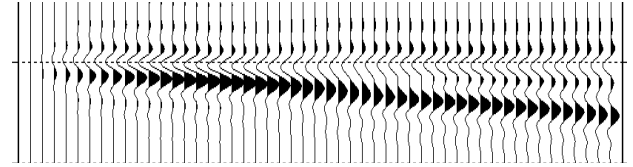
- ✓ Qualitative AND QUANTITATIVE data
- ✓ Volumetric info (extrapolation of log data)
- ✓ No needs for new data acquisition, reprocessing of old datasets
- ✓ Specific rock (matrix) and Fluid indicators
- ✓ Possible 4D analyses





# AVO: LIMITS

- ✓ Tuning and thin-bed effects
- ✓ Noise and processing effects
- ✓ Lateral velocity trends in overburden
- ✓ Needs for validation (logs, wells, ...)
- ✓ Site dependent results
- ✓ Representative statistics?
- ✓ Supervised seismic interpretation





DOMANDE?

