

Recent Developments in 3-D Survey Design and Analysis

**Norm Cooper
and Yajaira Herrera**

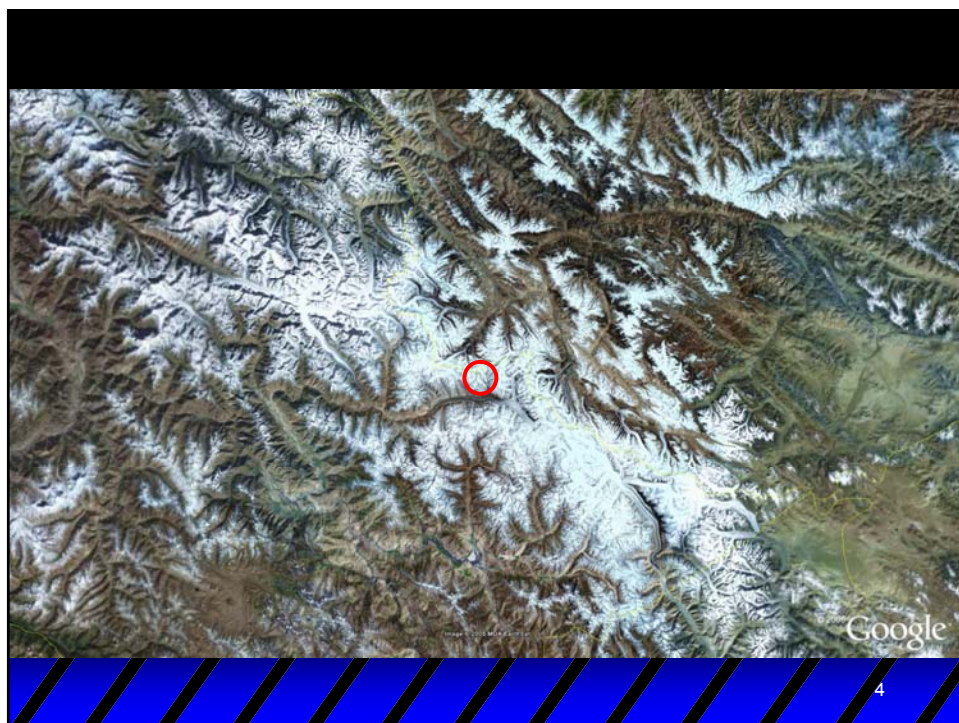


and Michael Cooper



1







Norm Cooper

- ◆ Graduated from UBC in 1977
- ◆ BSc with a major in Geophysics
- ◆ Amoco Canada 1977 to 1981
- ◆ Voyager Petroleums Ltd.
1981 to 1983
- ◆ Mustagh Resources Ltd.
Founded in 1983



Yajaira Herrera

- ❖ Graduated from University of Zulia, Venezuela in 1994
 - ❖ BSc in Industrial Engineering
 - ❖ PDVSA 1992-1994
 - ❖ Lubvenca 1994-1995
 - ❖ MSc in Mechanical Engineering from U of C in 1999
- ❖ MSc in Geophysics from U of C in 2006
 - ❖ Mustagh 1998 to present



7

Mustagh Resources Ltd.

Since 1983 we have specialized in all types of Geophysical Consulting:



**Design and Management of
2D and 3D seismic programs.**

**Quality Assurance and
Parameter Optimization
on program start ups.**

8

Mustagh Resources Ltd.

We provide training programs in:



**Application of Seismic Methods,
Land Seismic Acquisition,
Array Theory, Instrumentation
3D design, Vibroseis Theory,
and Basic Processing**

9

Mustagh Resources Ltd.

*We have worked extensively
throughout onshore Canadian basins.*



**We design and implement
100 - 200 programs each year.**

We visit about 20 seismic crews per year.

10

Mustagh Resources Ltd.

*We have worked in
over 40 countries
across 6 continents*



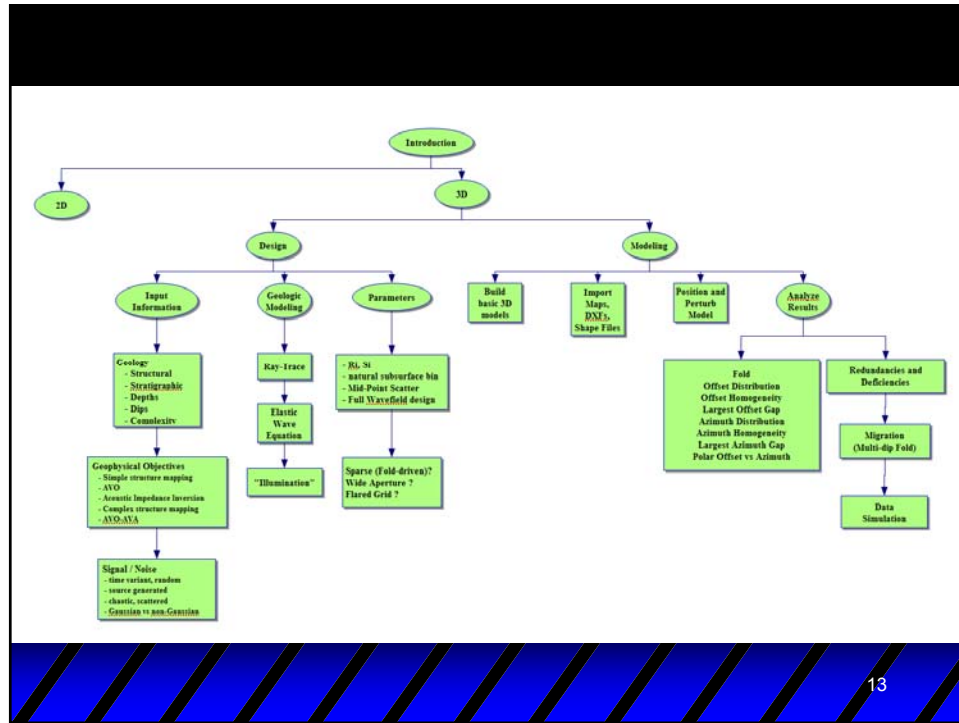
Canada, USA, Mexico, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Trinidad,
Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru,
England, North Ireland, Poland, Romania, France, Germany
Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Egypt, Sudan, Chad, Mozambique,
Somalia

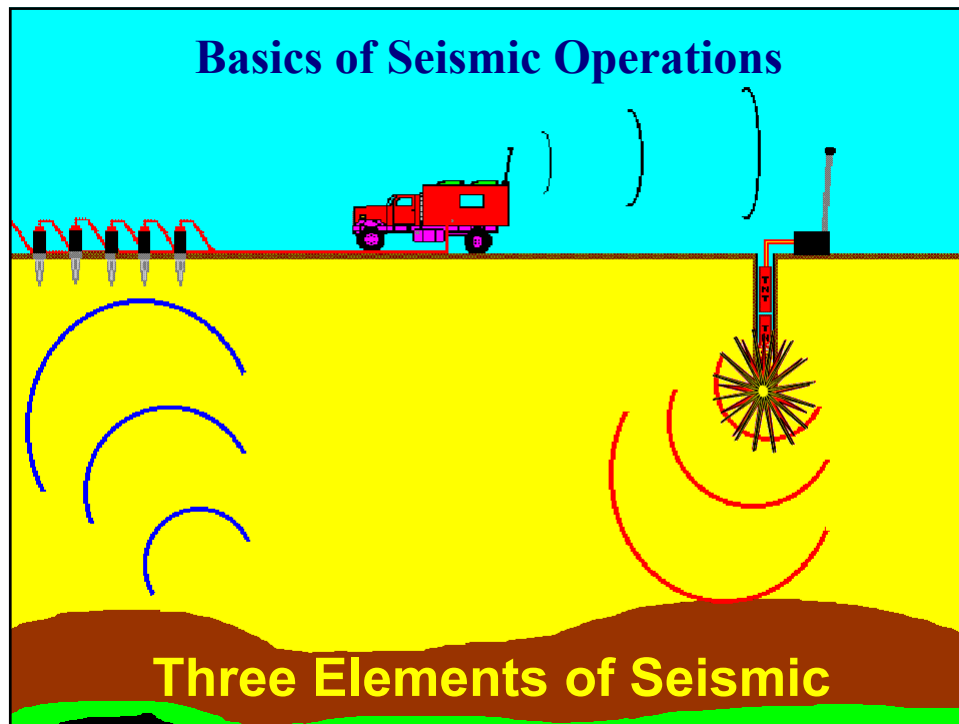
Russia, Iran, Oman, Yemen, Qatar, Syria, Jordan, Iraq, UAE,
Malaysia, Japan, New Zealand, Australia, Pakistan, India

11

- more than 40 3-D designs in Colombia







2-D versus 3-D

3-D Seismic Diffractions and Out-of-Plane Resolution

**A Case History From
The Vauxhall Area, Alberta**

**Jim Bruce (Rozsa Petroleums)
Norm Cooper (Mustagh Resources)**

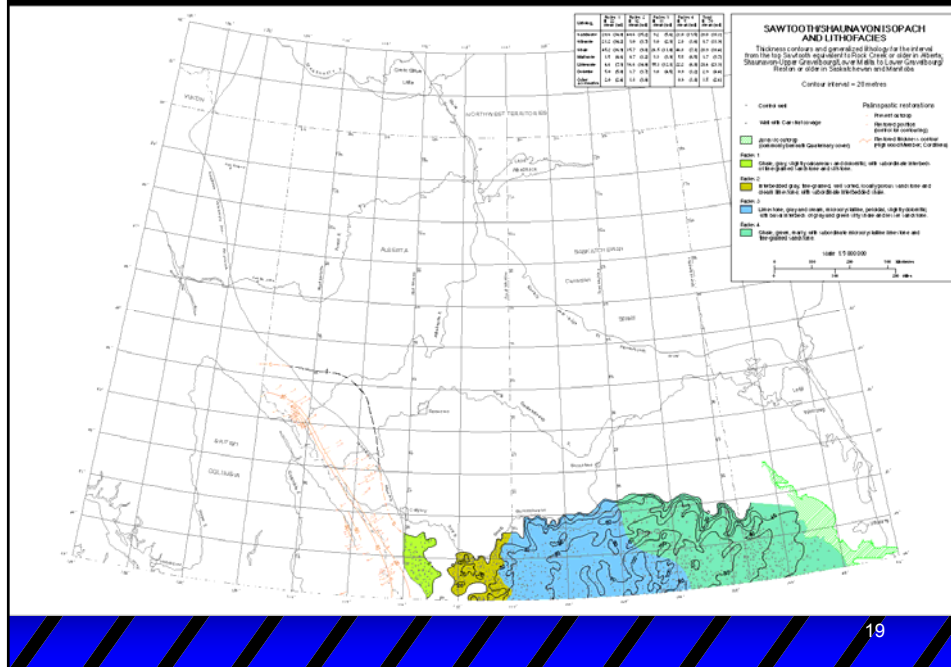
17

Western Canada Today



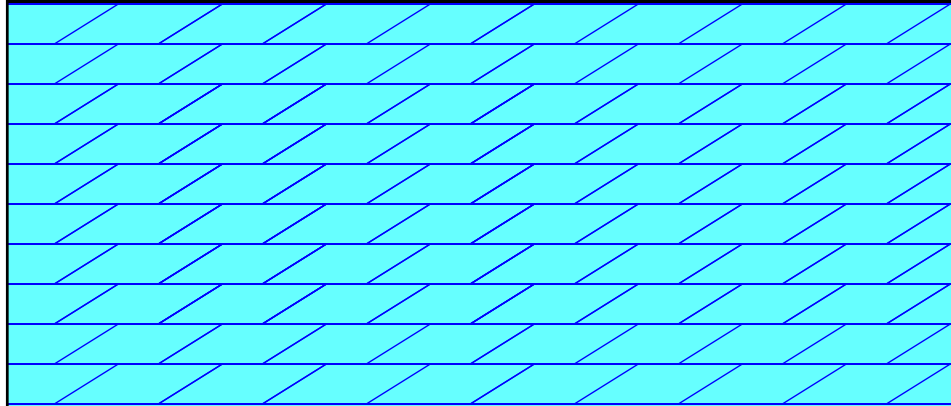
18

Jurassic: Sawtooth and Shaunovon Distribution

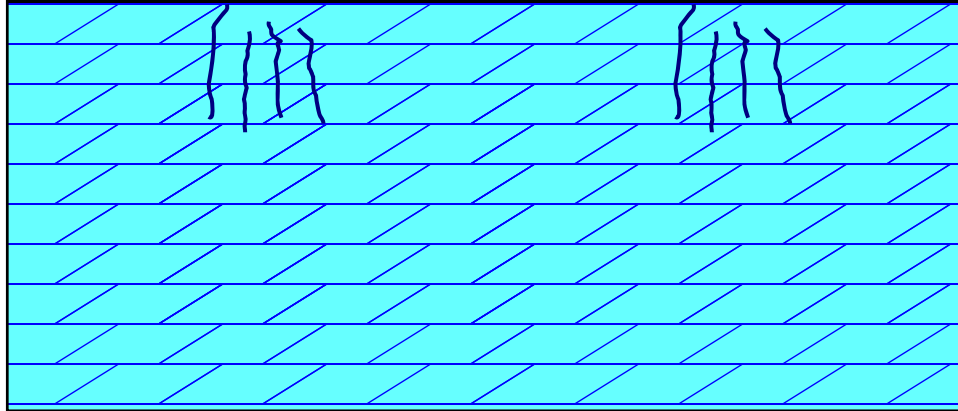


19

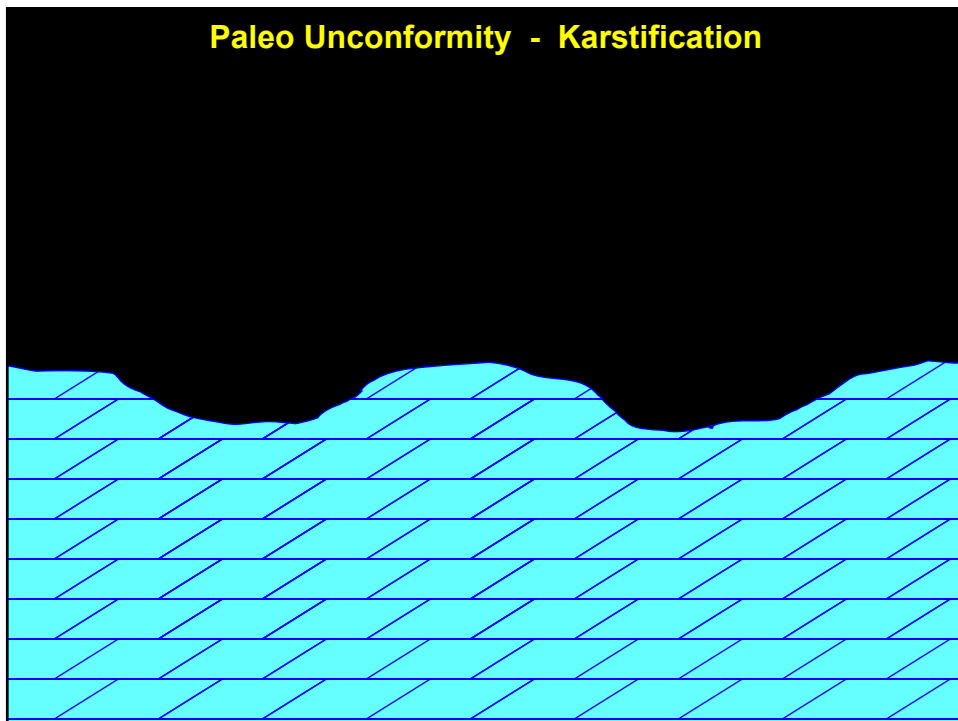
Carboniferous / Mississippian - Carbonate deposition



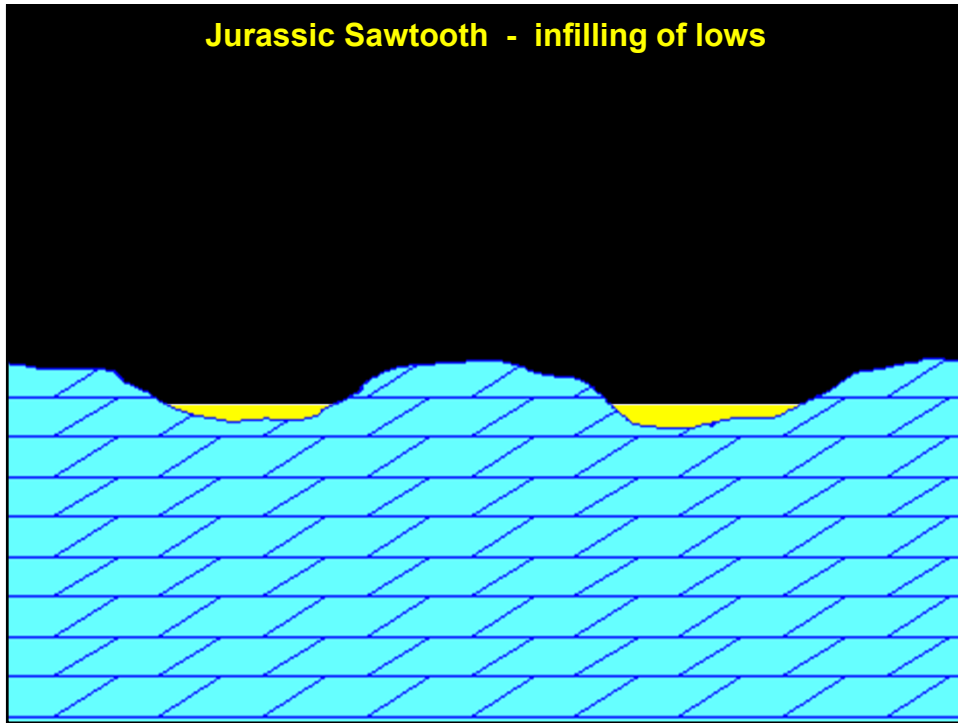
Carboniferous / Mississippian - start of Karstification



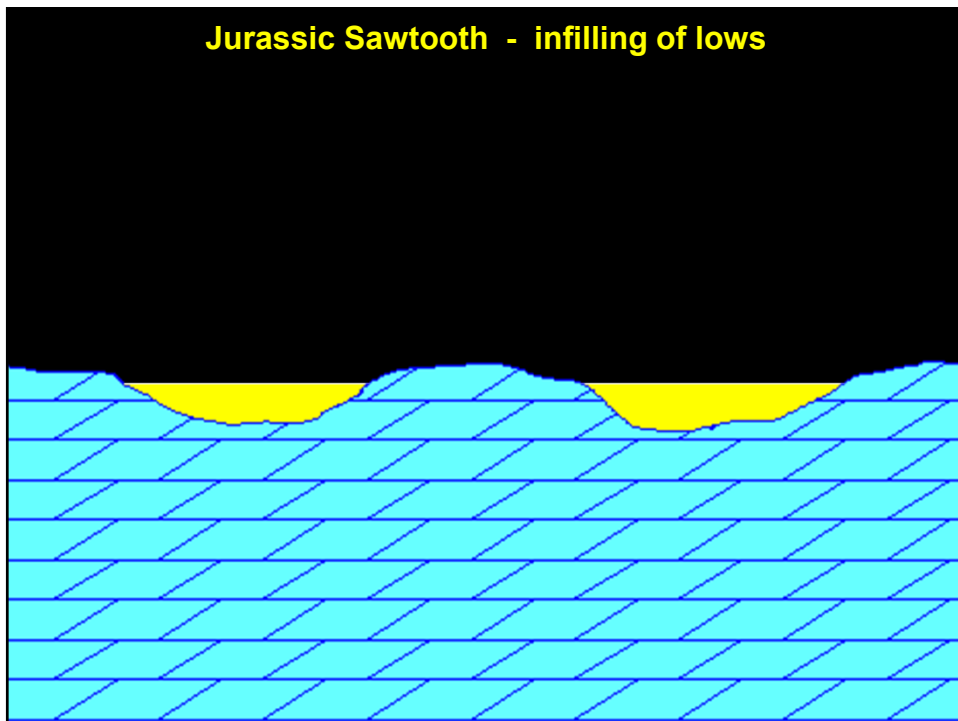
Paleo Unconformity - Karstification



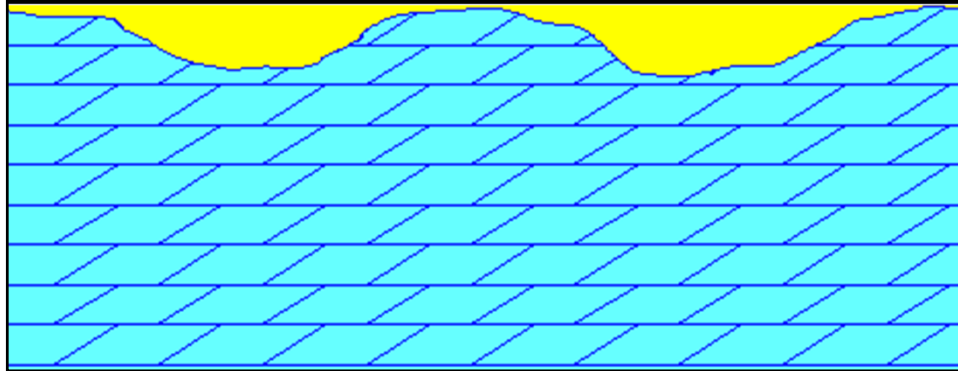
Jurassic Sawtooth - infilling of lows



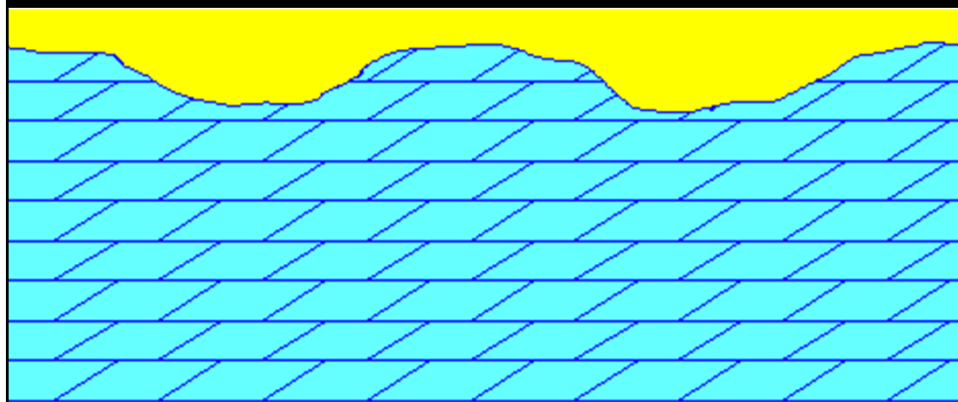
Jurassic Sawtooth - infilling of lows



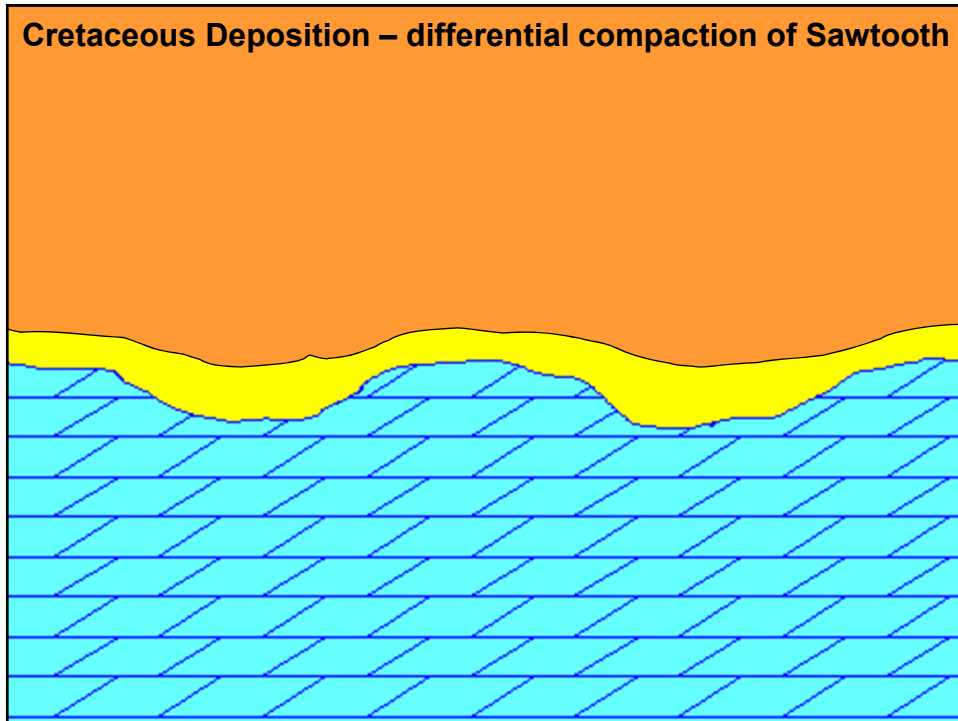
Jurassic Sawtooth - infilling of lows



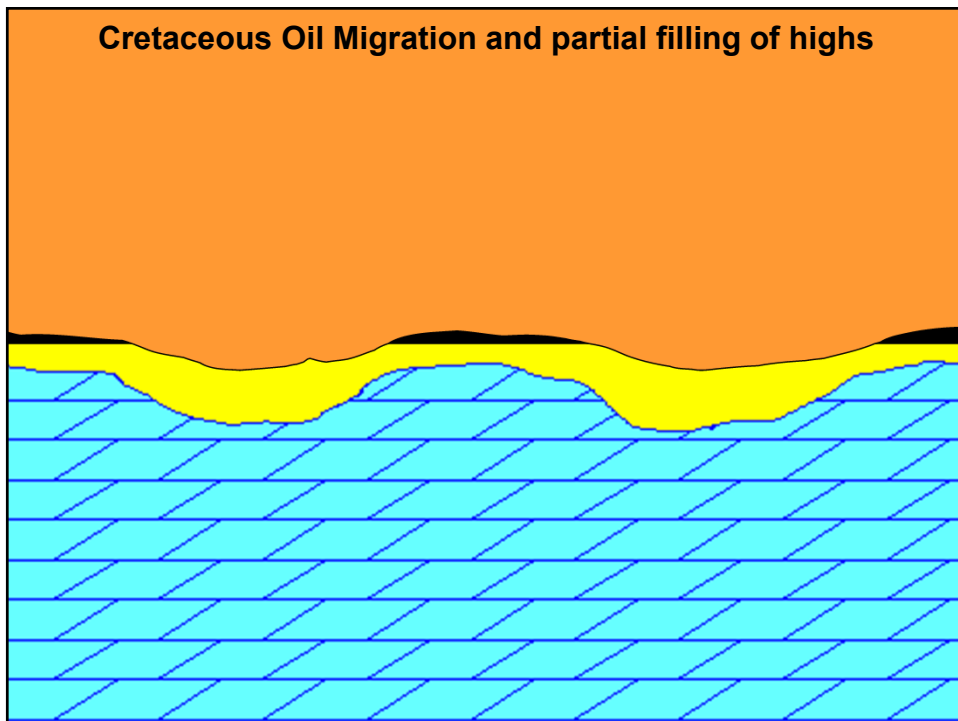
Jurassic Sawtooth - infilling of lows

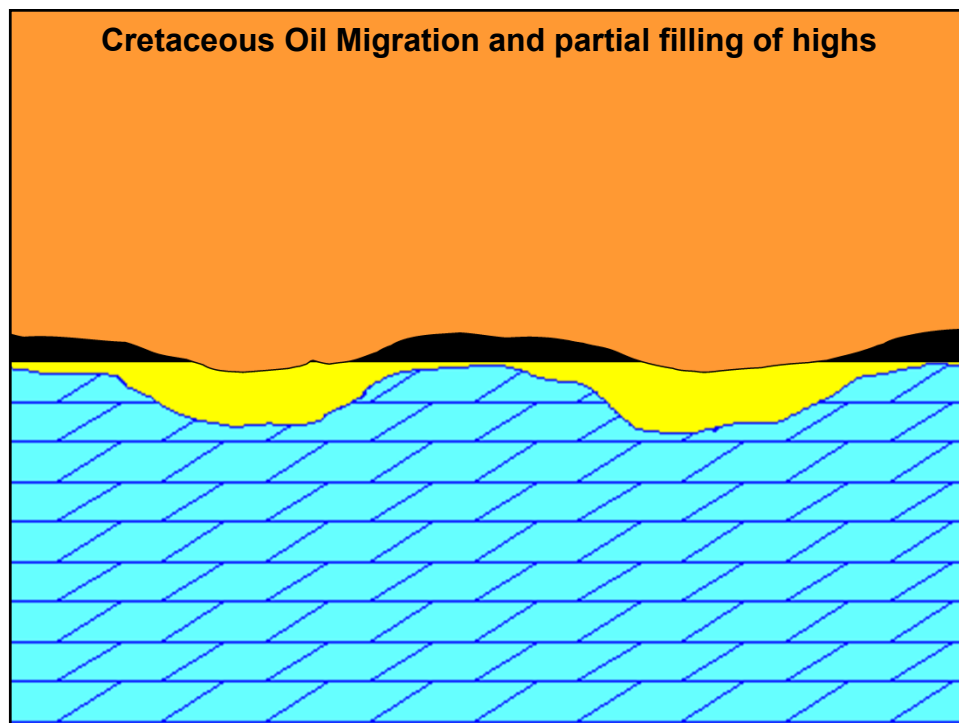
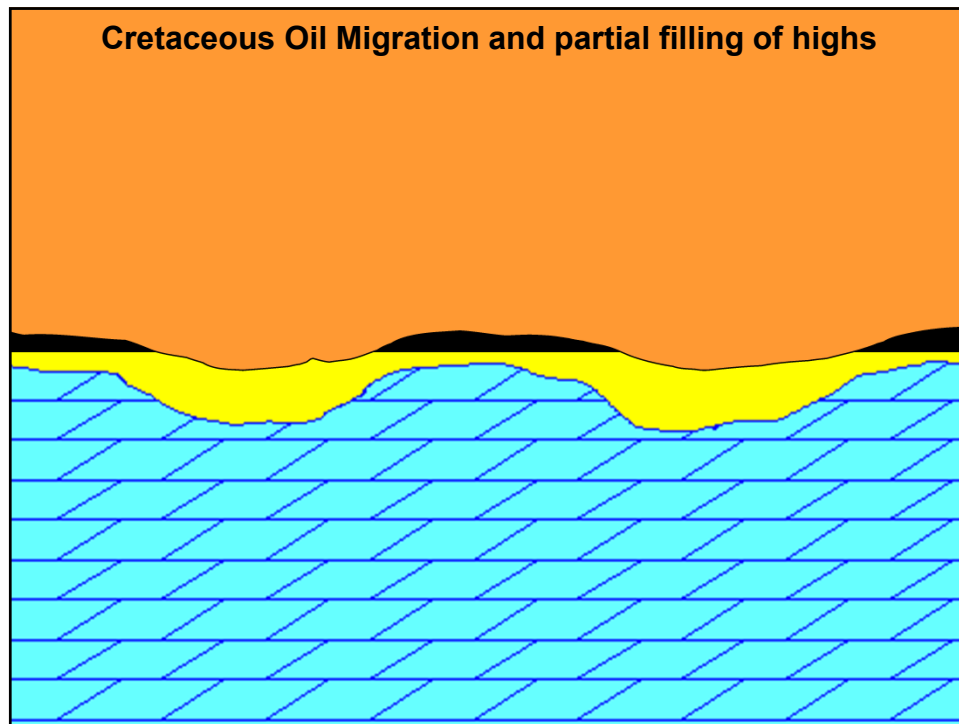


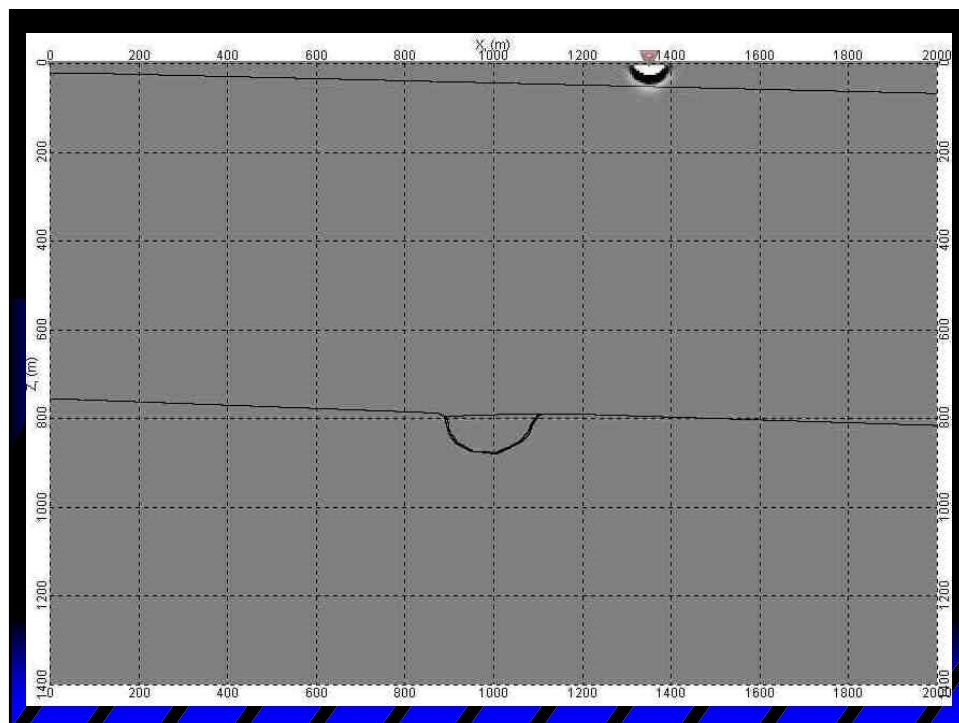
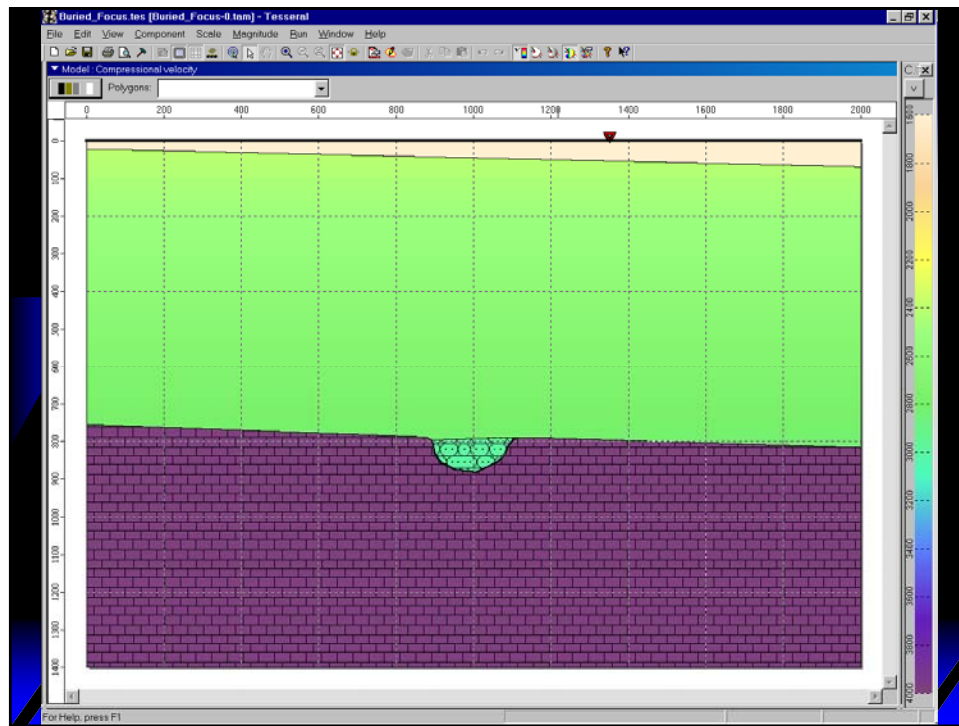
Cretaceous Deposition – differential compaction of Sawtooth

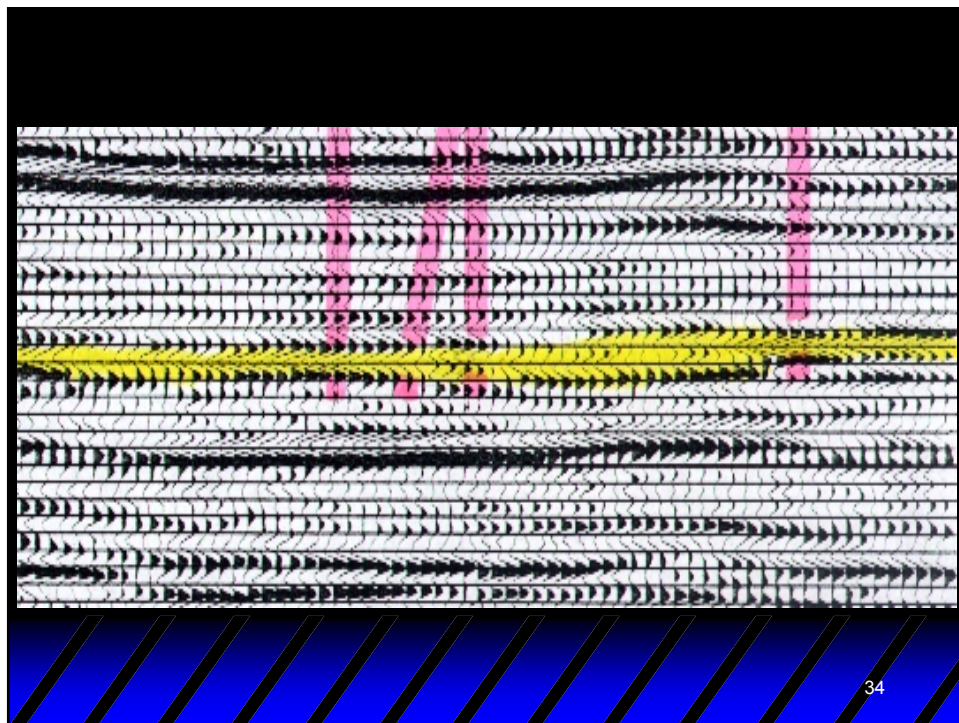
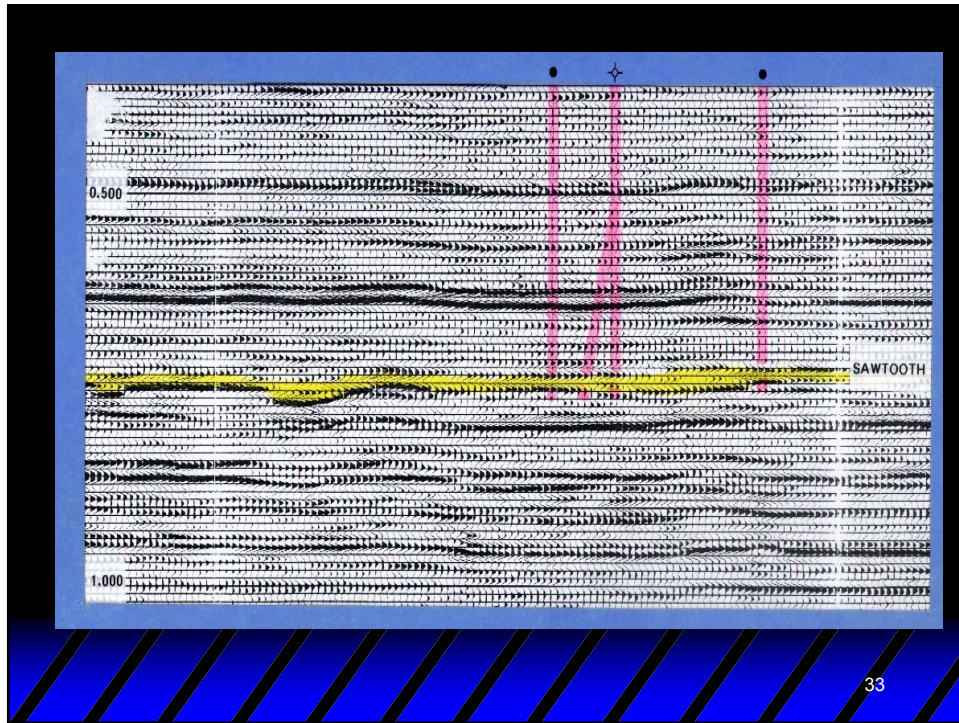


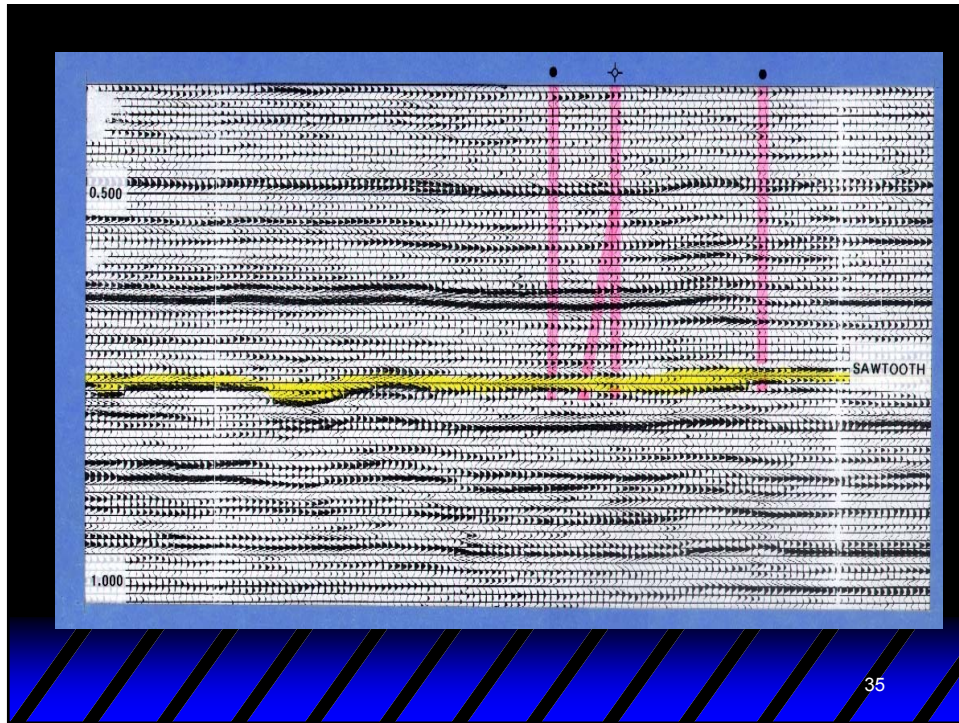
Cretaceous Oil Migration and partial filling of highs



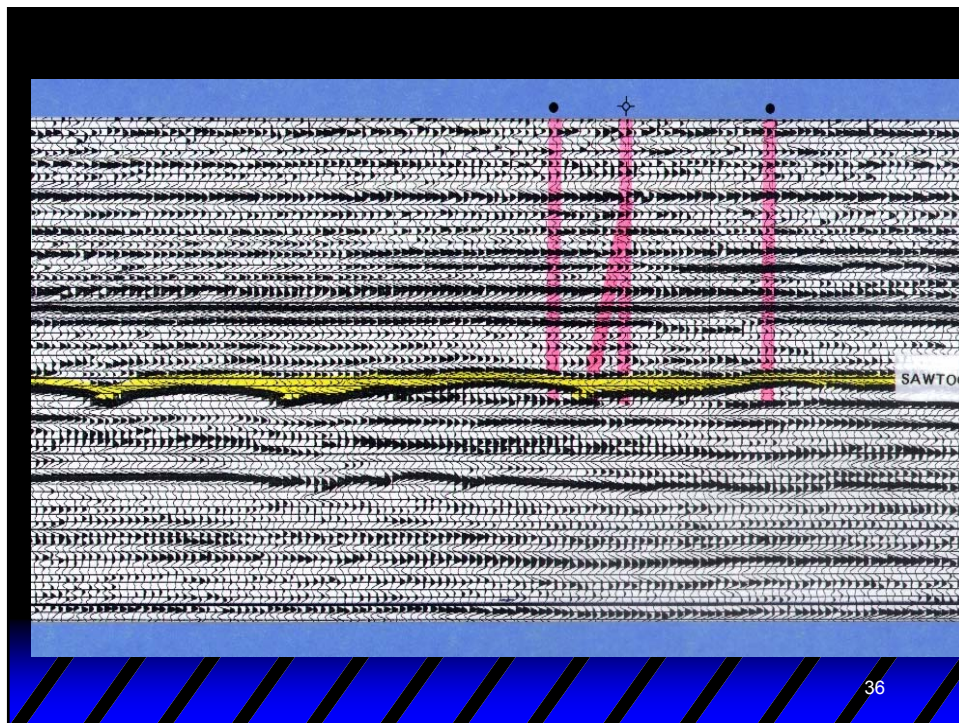




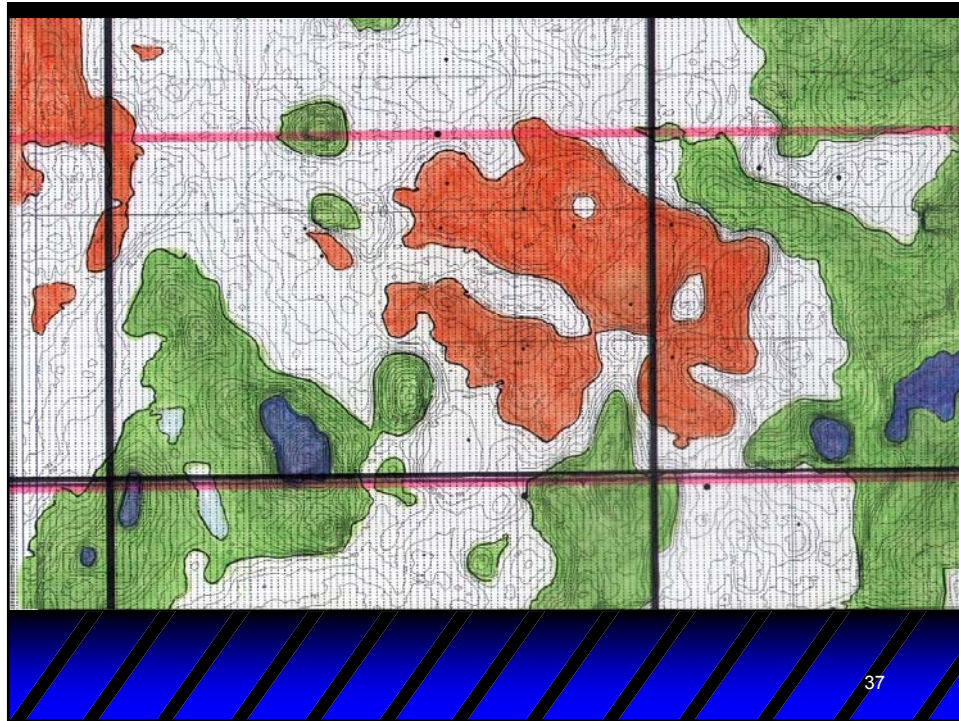




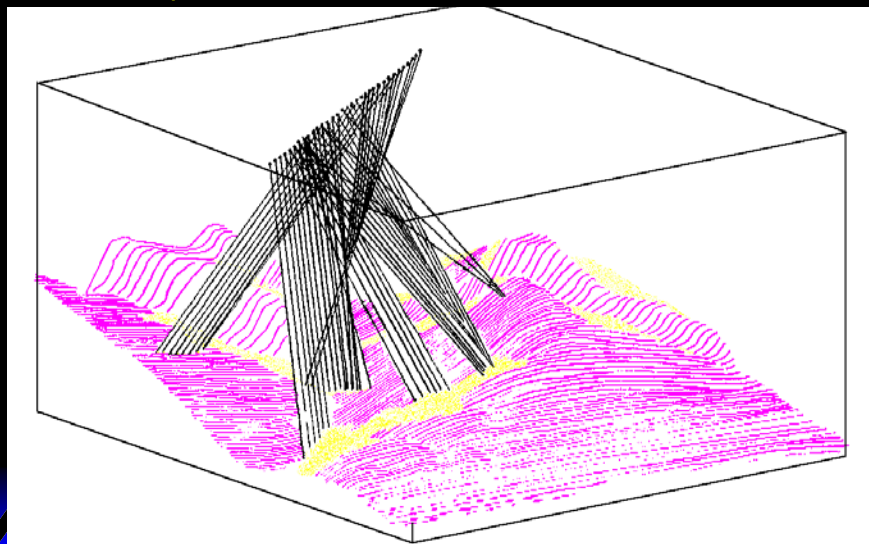
35

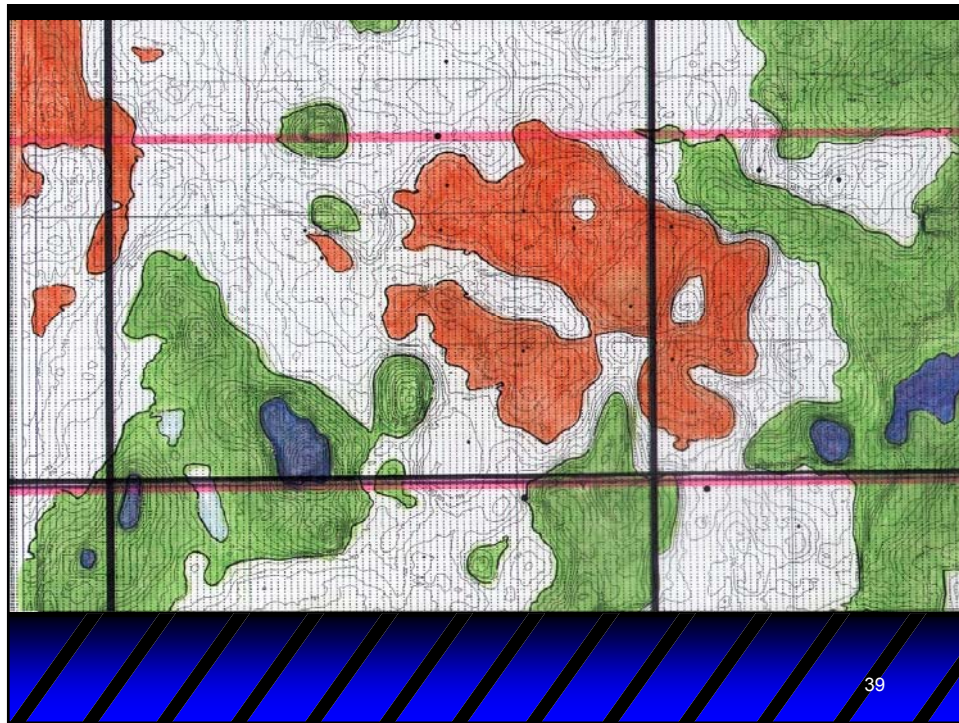


36

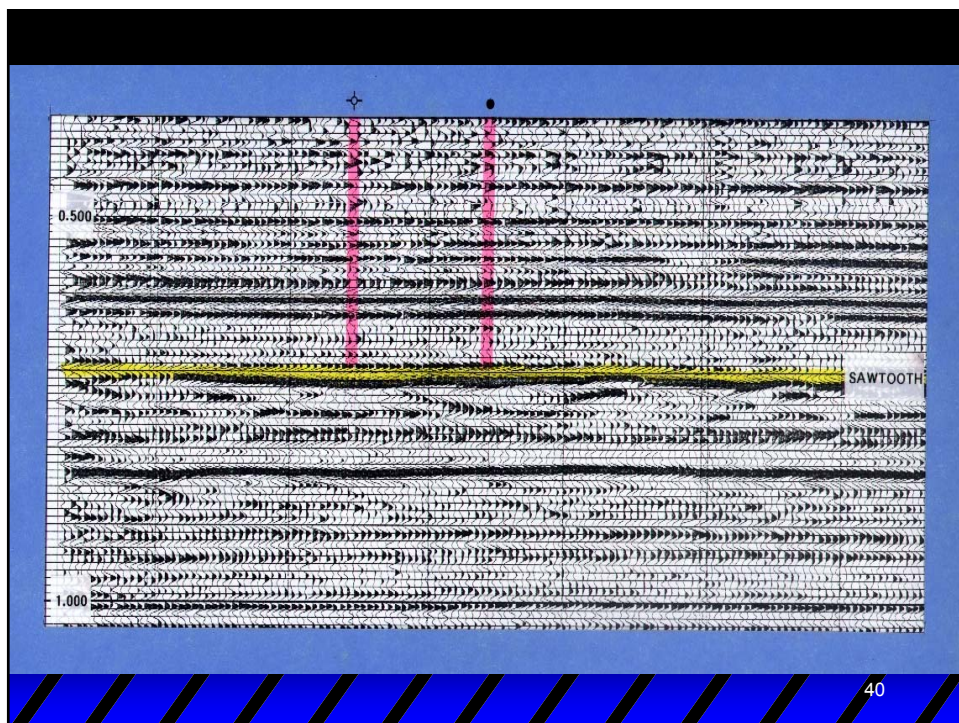


2-D Seismic can be confused
by “Out-of-Plane” effects

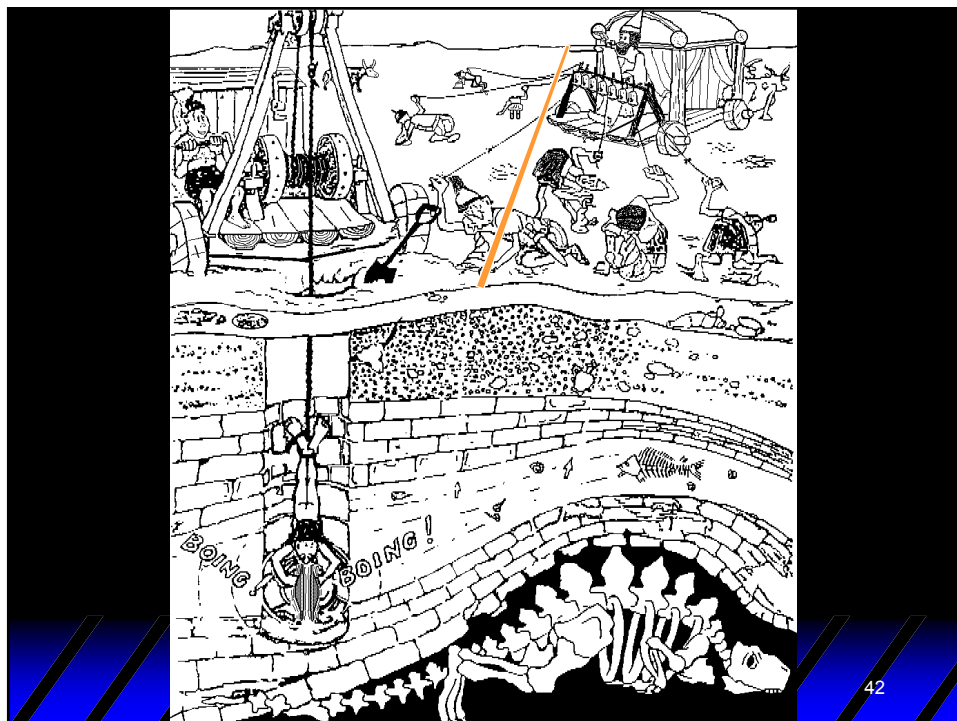
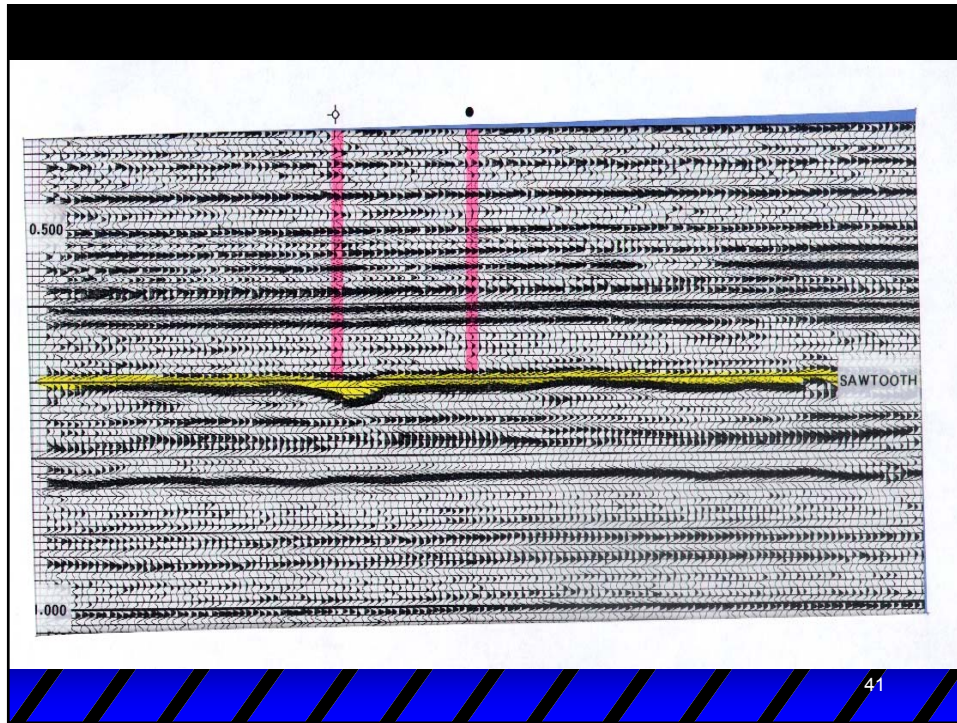




39



40



Summary of Design Objectives

Clear Images

– broad bandwidth temporal and lateral

Accurate in Depth and Space

– 3-D migration, velocities, spatial sampling

Efficient and Cost-Effective

- available recording equipment, regulations, topography and culture

Robust under Perturbation

- variations in geologic model, topography, culture

43



DESIGN versus MODELING

45

Design versus Modeling

Analyze exploration objectives

Study Geological attributes

Review existing data and study Signal and Noise attributes

Incorporate operational limitations

Determine appropriate basic model parameters

The designer will also recommend source types, receiver types, array configurations, etc.

The designer will generally establish basic skid and offset guidelines.

Program "Design" requires in-depth knowledge and experience in geology, geophysics, and seismic field operations.

Use parameters of the designer

Fit them to known cultural, topographic, environmental and regulatory restrictions using background air photos, DEMs, satellite images and other information maps

Perturb the model and analyze the impact using various statistics (hopefully not just fold!)

Modeling is also used as part of the quality control process when additional changes are required during program implementation

The role of "Modeling" contains some professional skills, but may be suited to a more technical level

46

Design versus Modeling

The inputs to the “Design” phase are project objectives, geological models, geographic information and available equipment.

The tools used are calculators (often Excel spreadsheets), fundamental calculations and application of extensive experience.

The output is a parameter sheet and perhaps a basic model on geographic maps.

The inputs to “Modeling” are parameters, perhaps a basic model.

The tools used are modeling software such as DirectAid, Omni, Mesa or various in-house programs.

The outputs are statistical analyses such as fold, offset homogeneity, offset-azimuth polar plots, migration imaging plots.

47

Geological

Geophysical

DESIGN INPUTS

Signal and
Noise

48

Design Inputs - Geological

Structure Maps

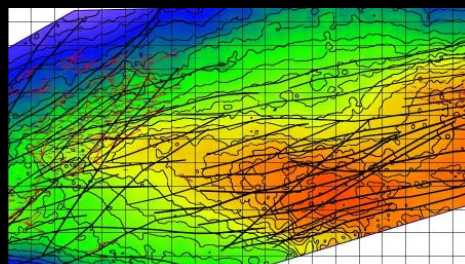
Stratigraphic Information

Velocities

Depths

Dips (geological and diffractions)

Complexity



Existing seismic interpretations, geologic mapping, residual gravity maps, magnetic and EM surveys

49

Design Inputs - Geological

Structure Maps

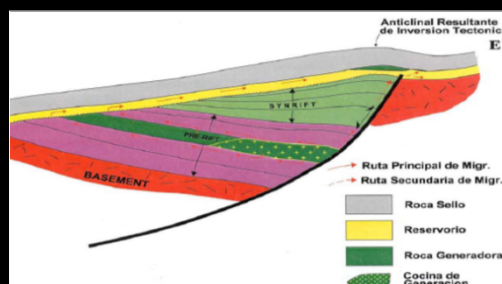
Stratigraphic Information

Velocities

Depths

Dips (geological and diffractions)

Complexity



Geologic models,
Stratigraphic Charts,
Communication with Client

50

Design Inputs - Geological

Structure Maps

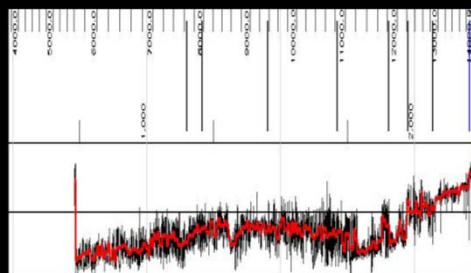
Stratigraphic Information

Velocities

Depths

Dips (geological and diffractions)

Complexity



Well logs (LAS), VSPs,
Synthetic Seismograms
Seismic Processor Velocity Functions

51

Design Inputs - Geological

Structure Maps

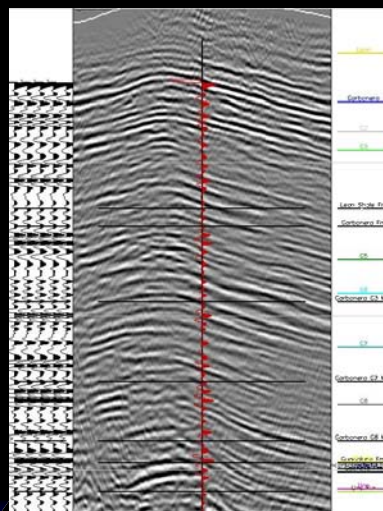
Stratigraphic Information

Velocities

Depths and TWT

Dips (geological and diffractions)

Complexity



Well logs, VSPs,
Existing seismic interpretations

Design Inputs - Geological

Structure Maps

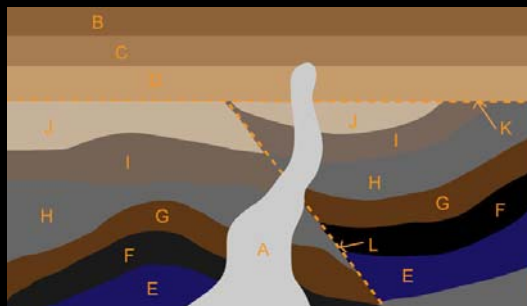
Stratigraphic Information

Velocities

Depths

Dips (geological and diffractions)

Complexity



Geologic Cross-Sections,
un-migrated seismic sections
Calculations and models

Design Inputs - Geological

Structure Maps

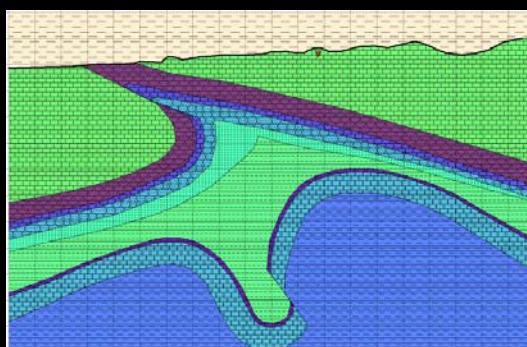
Stratigraphic Information

Velocities

Depths

Dips (geological and diffractions)

Complexity



Geologic Cross-Sections,
Existing seismic interpretations

Fold and Geophysical Objectives

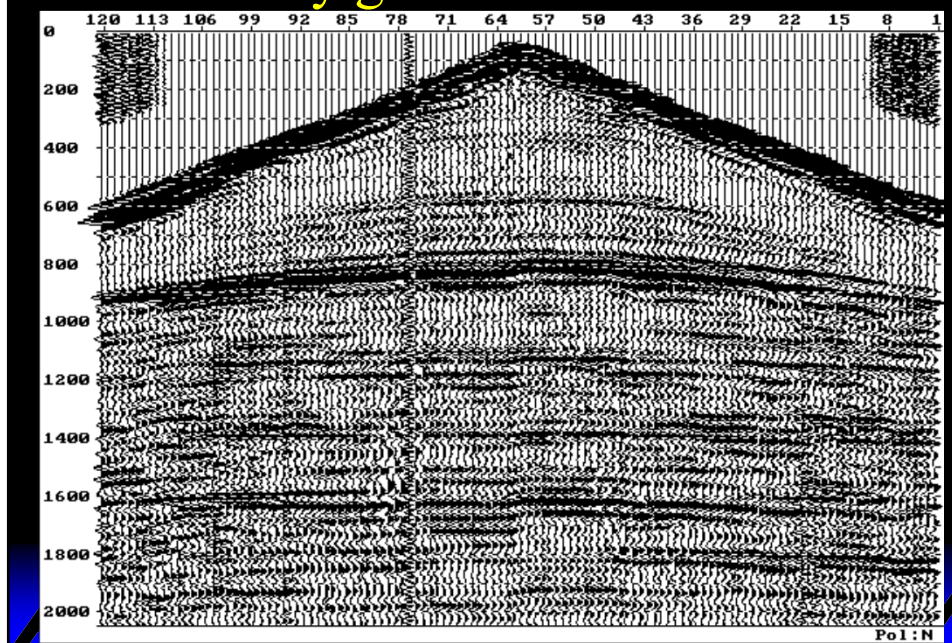
Simple Structure	> 8-10
Complex Structure ??	> 20
AVO (2D)	> 20
AVO (3D)	> 40
AI (acoustic impedance) inversions	> 50
AVA / AVO	> 80

55

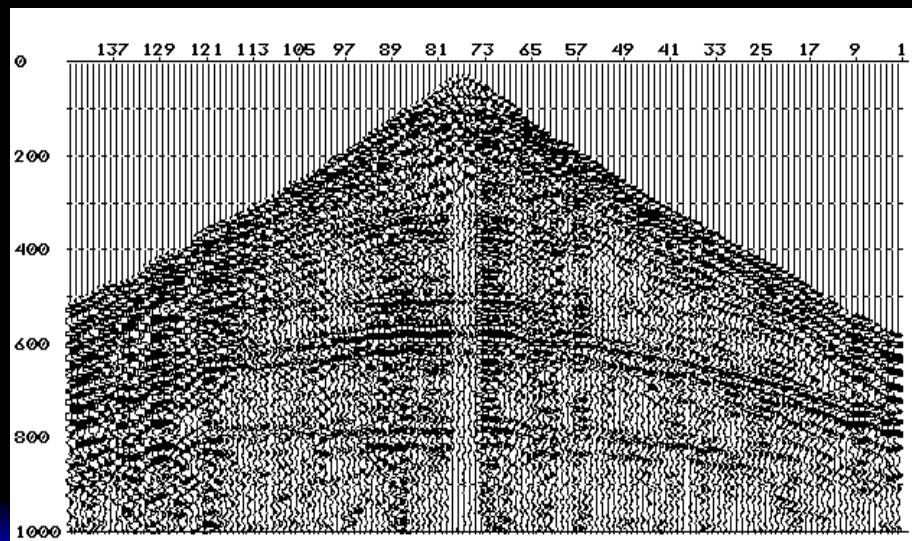
A Typical Shot Record



A very good Shot Record



Poorer Quality Shot Record



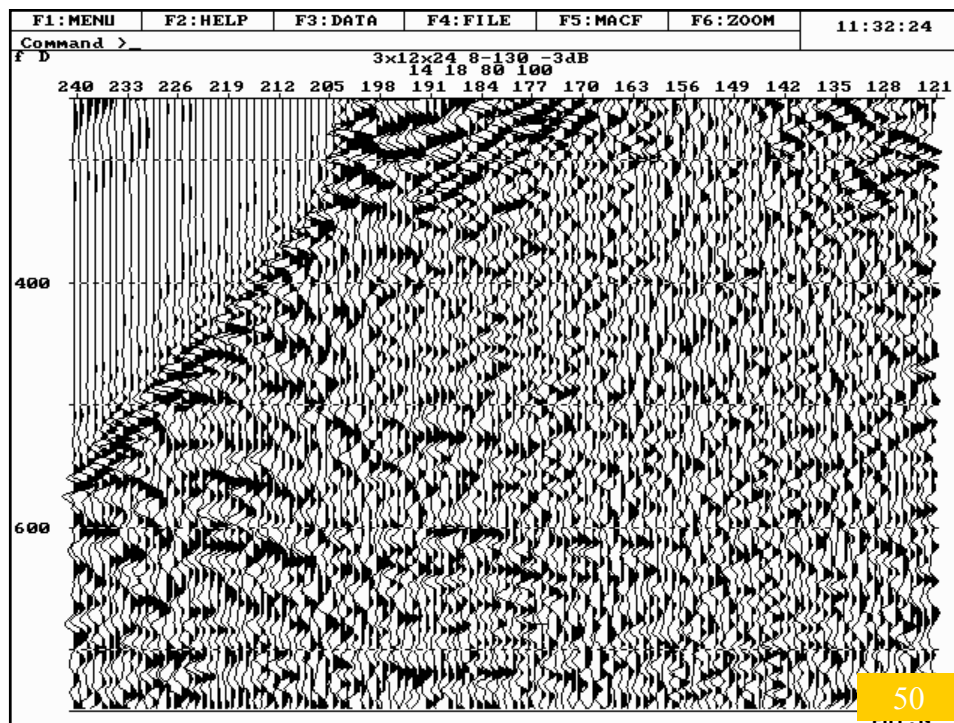
Types of Noise

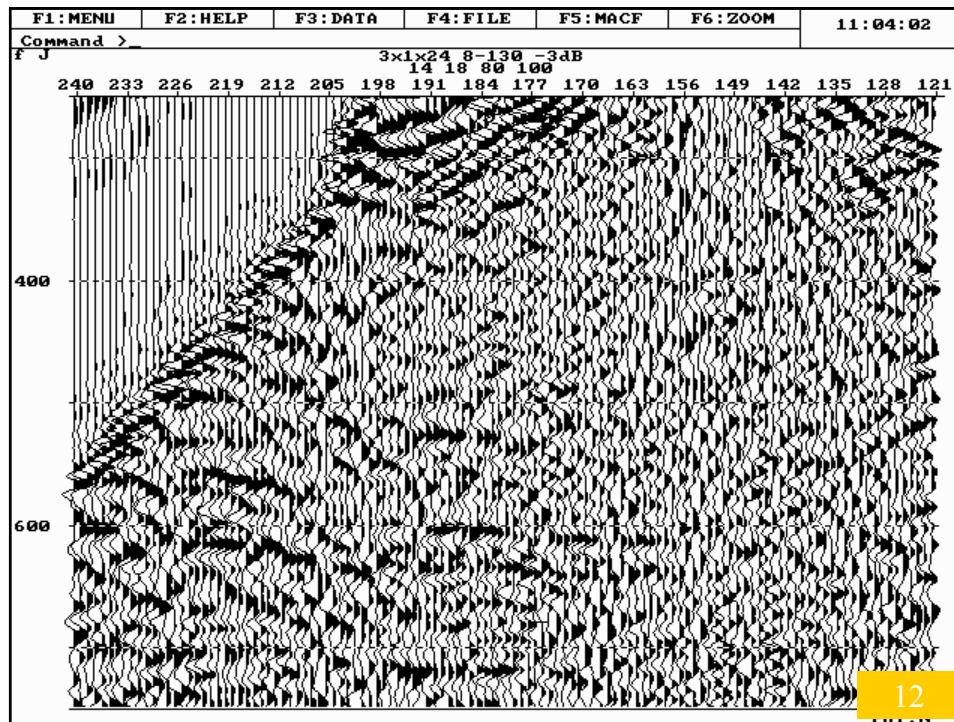
Noise is

RANDOM

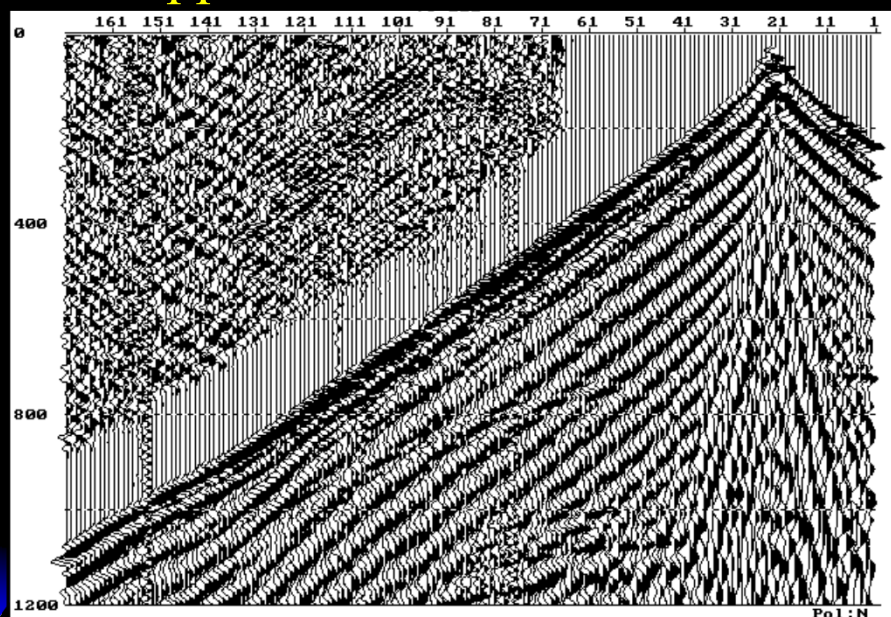
??

59

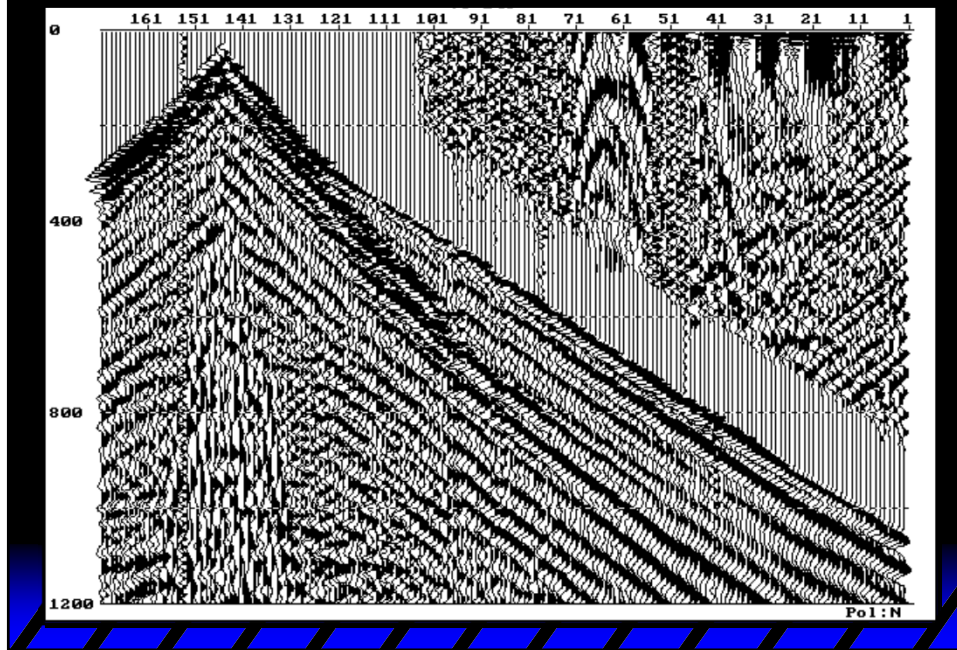




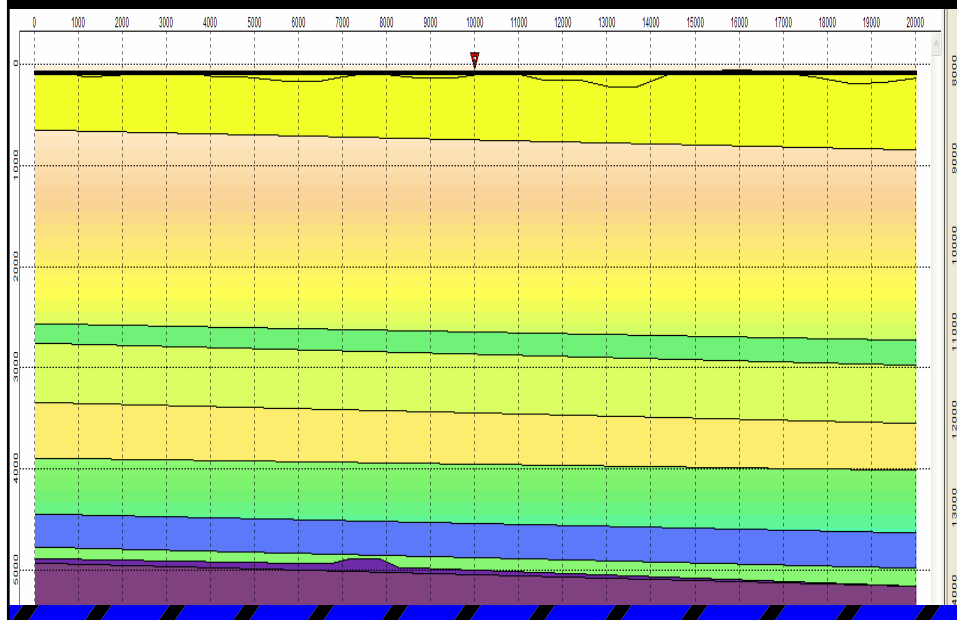
Trapped Mode Reverberations



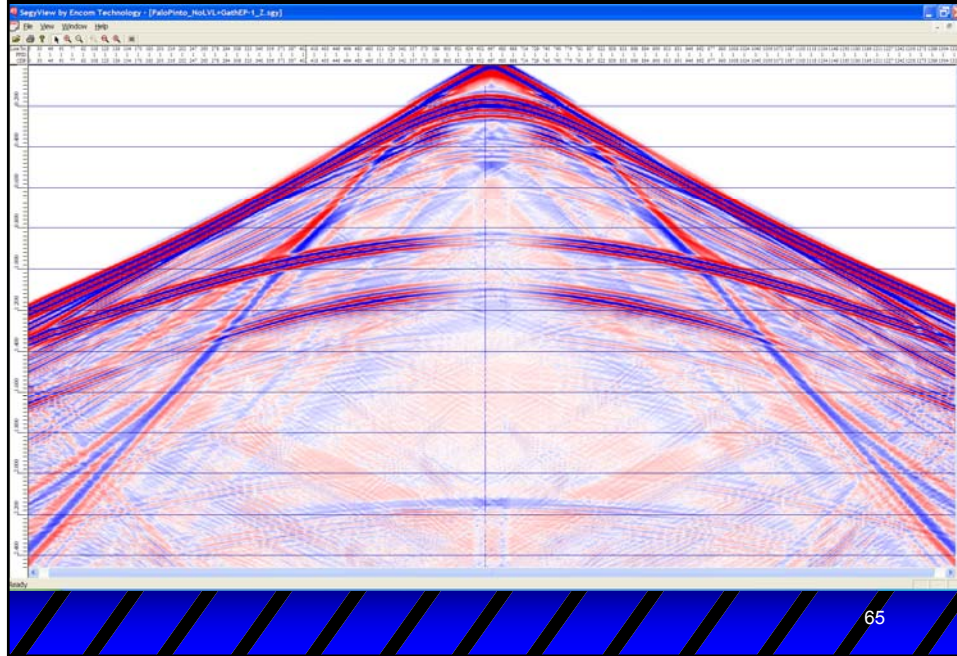
Tuned Guided Waves and Harmonics



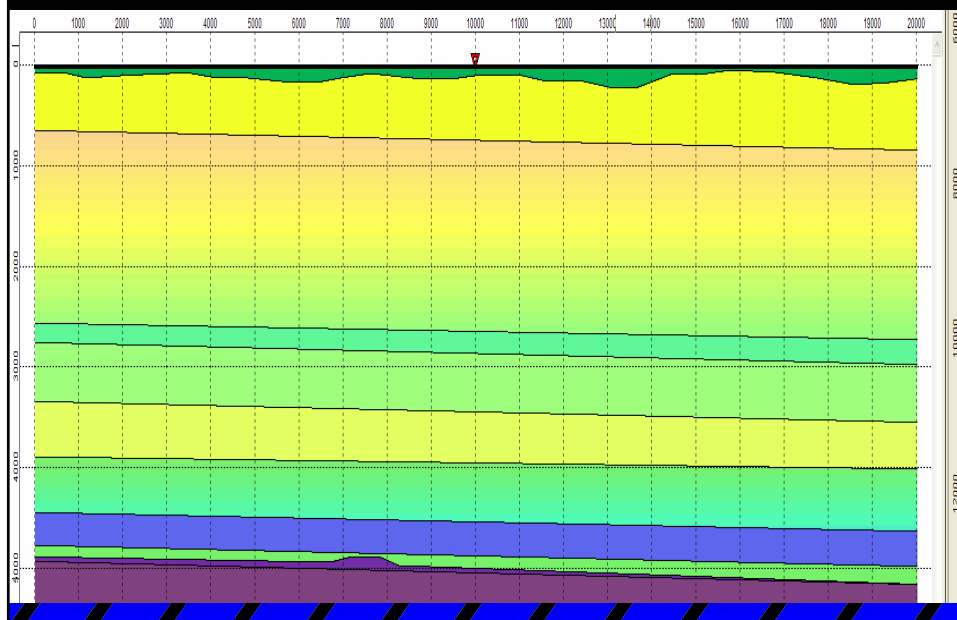
Model with no LVL



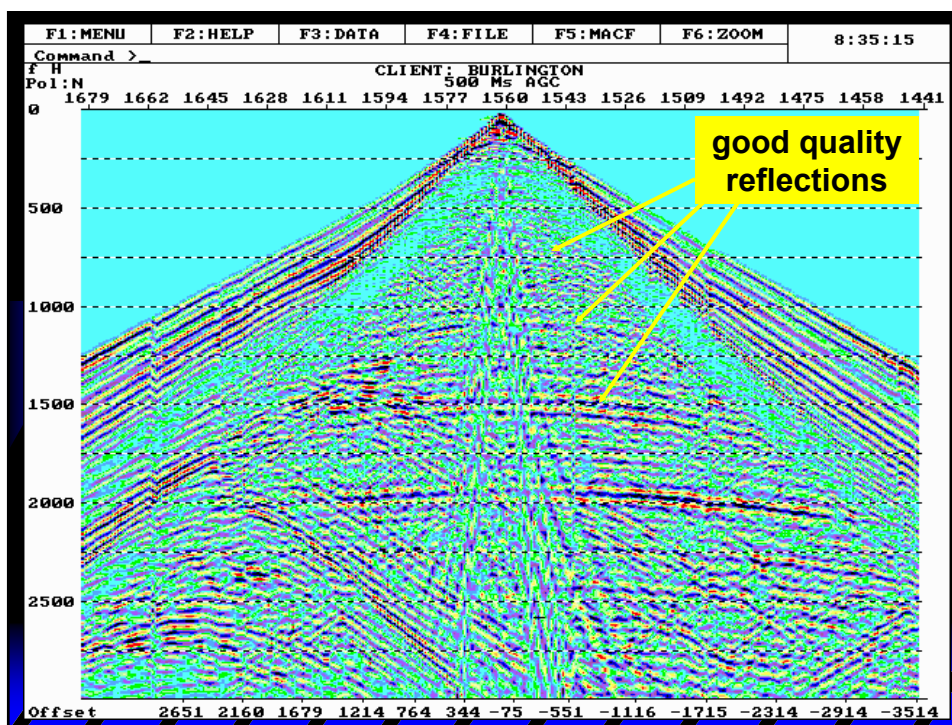
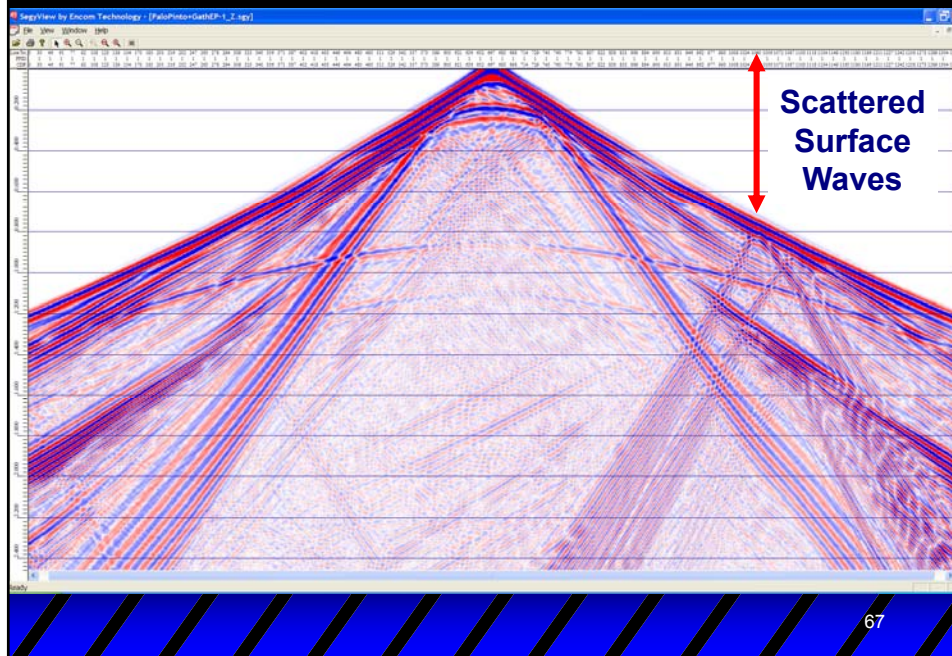
Shot record with no LVL

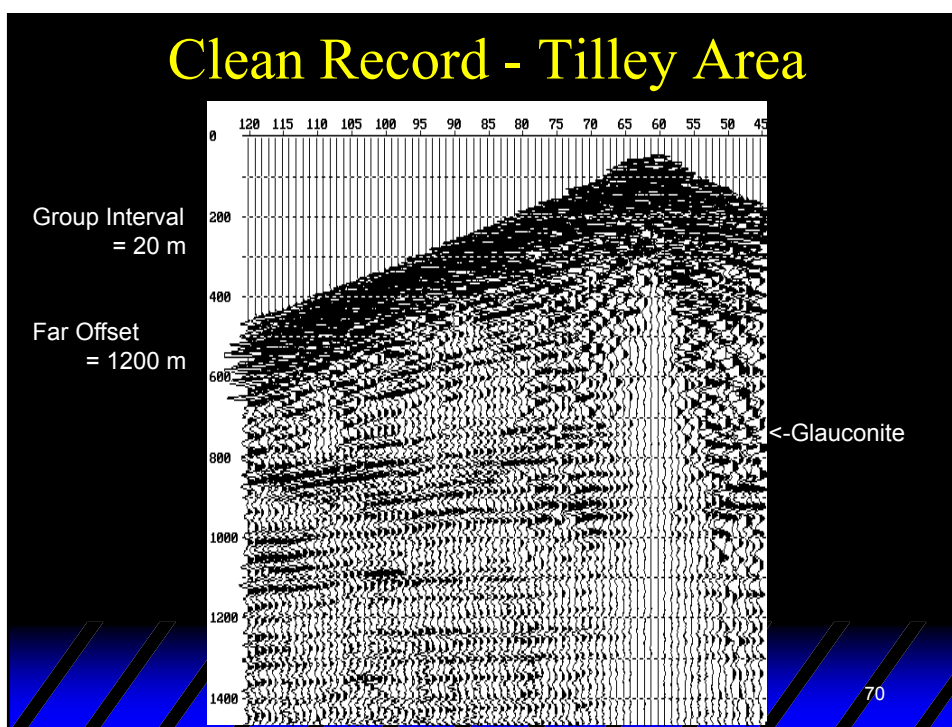
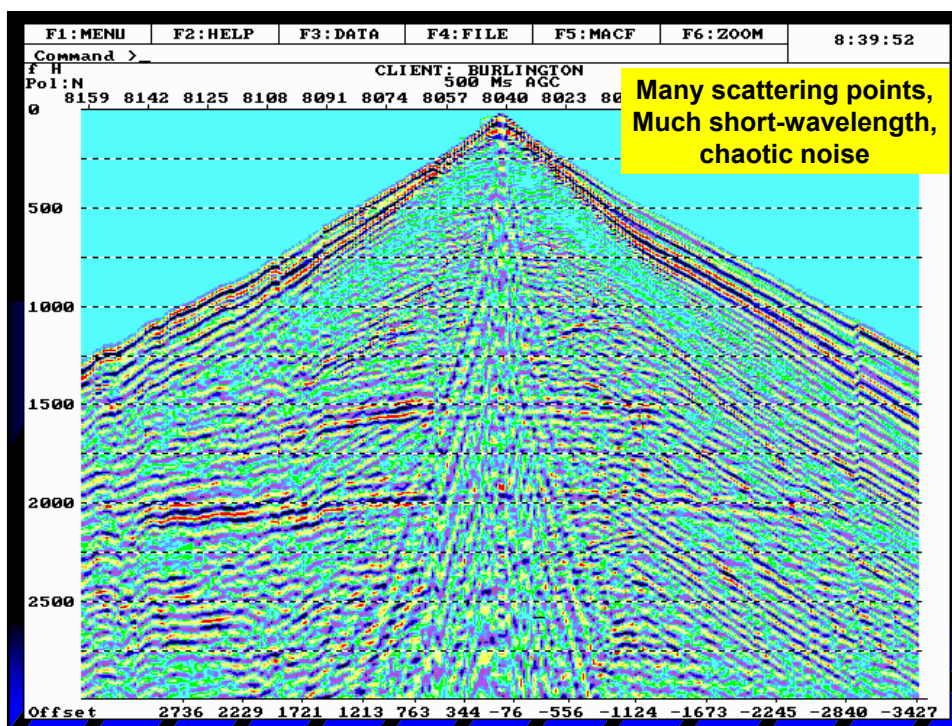


Model with LVL inhomogeneity

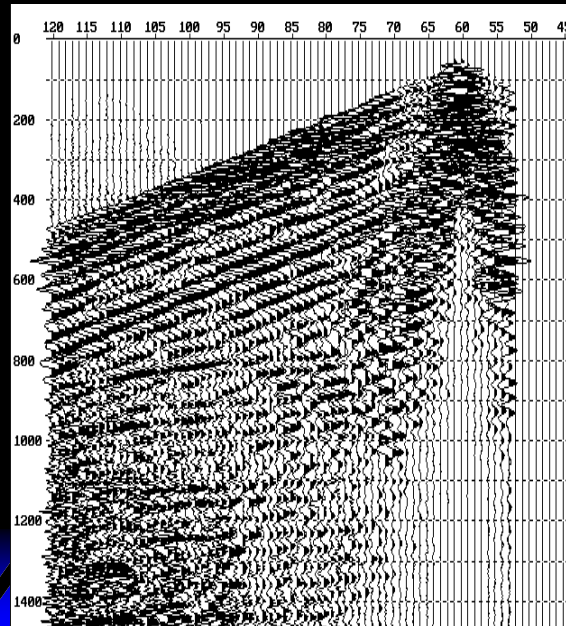


Shot record with Scattered Surface Waves





Noisy Record - Guided Wave



Just 136 m
away from
previous
record

71

Types of Noise

- ❖ Time variant
- ❖ Offset variant (Source-generated)
 - ❖ Source variant
 - ❖ Receiver variant
 - ❖ Azimuth variant

$$\text{Noise} = f(t, x, s, r, \phi)$$

72

Types of Noise

- ❖ Time variant
- ❖ **Offset variant (Source-generated)**
 - ❖ Source variant
 - ❖ Receiver variant
- ❖ Azimuth variant

$$\text{Noise} = f(t, \mathbf{x}_{s,r}, \phi)$$

73

Ray Tracing

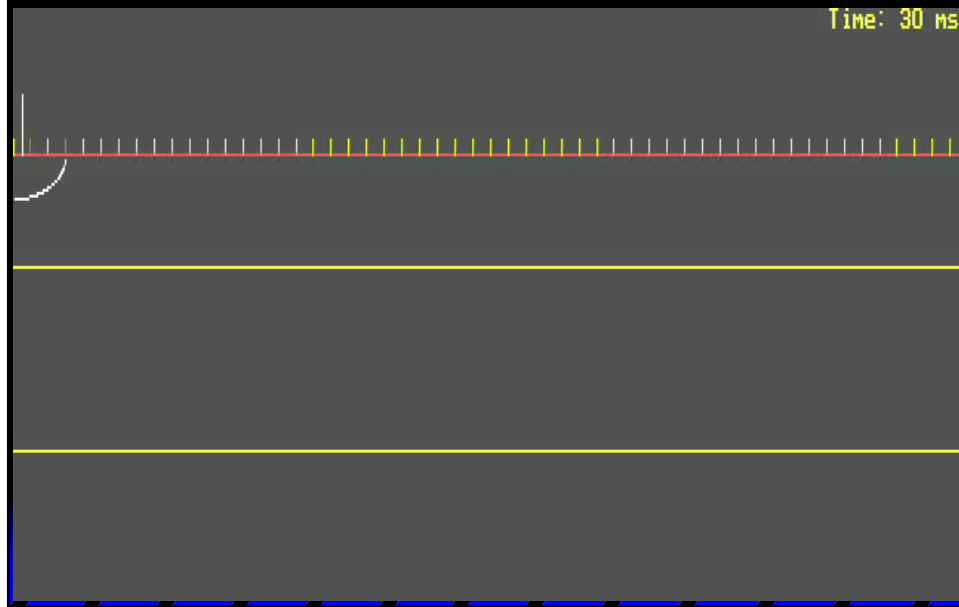
Wave
Equation

Geologic Modeling

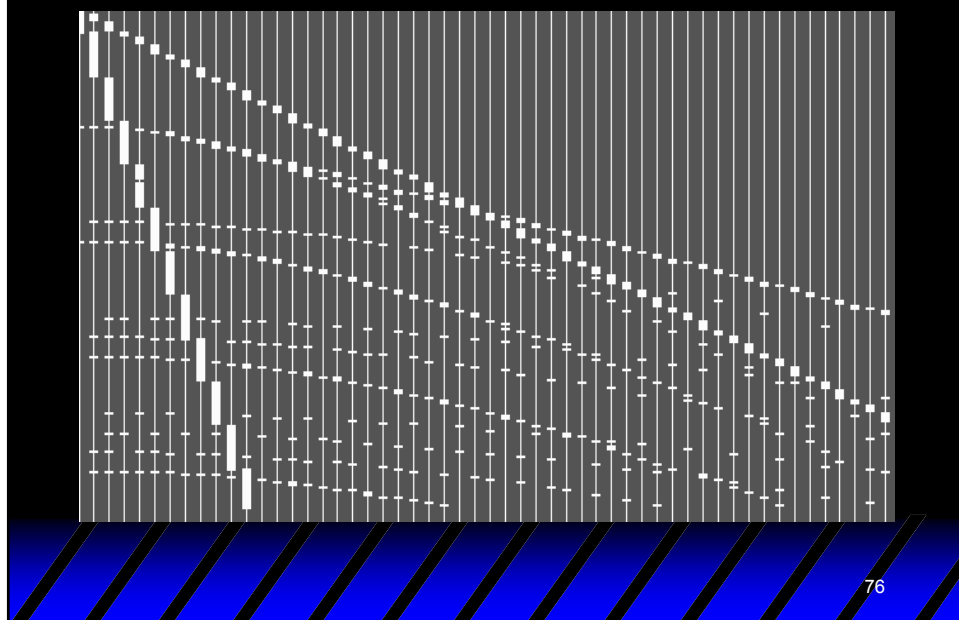
“illumination”
Studies

74

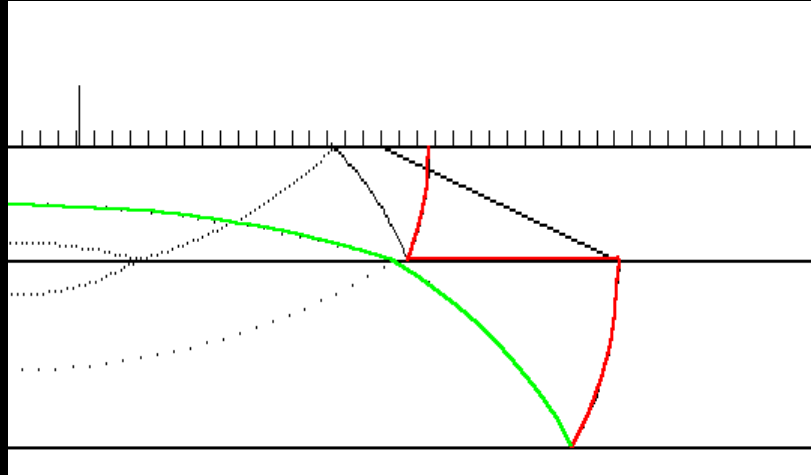
Ray Traced Model – in X-Z Space



Ray Traced Model – in X-T Space

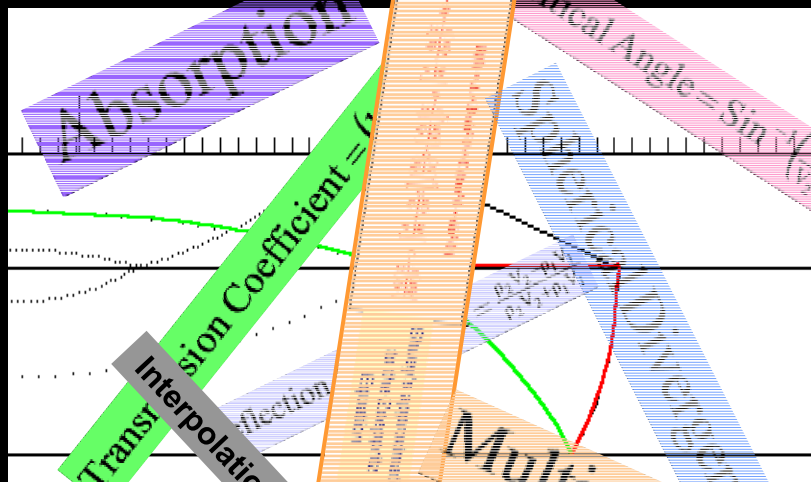


Ray Traced Model - 237 ms



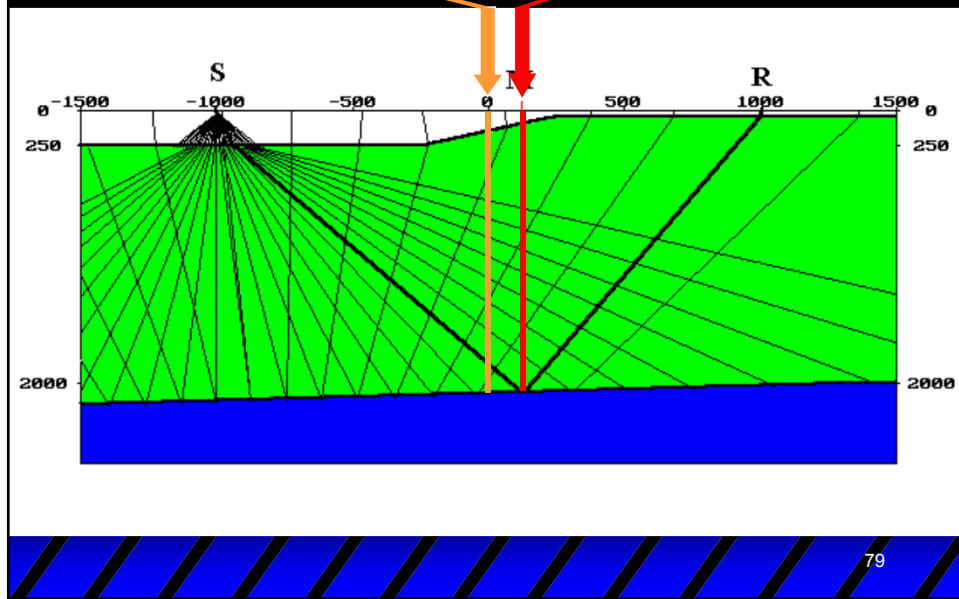
77

Ray Traced Model - 237 ms

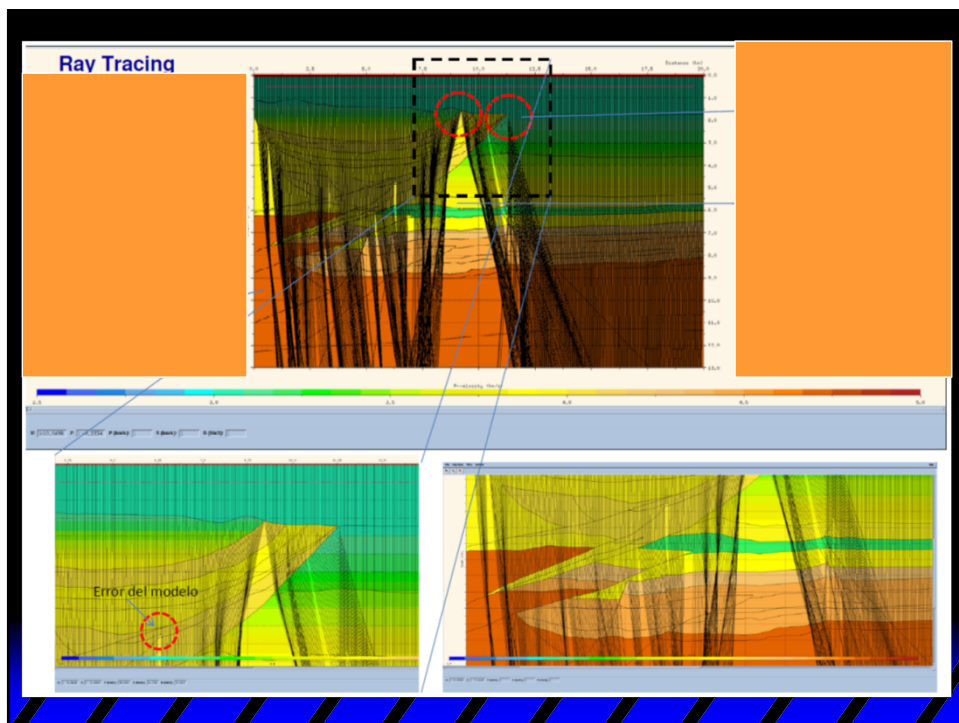


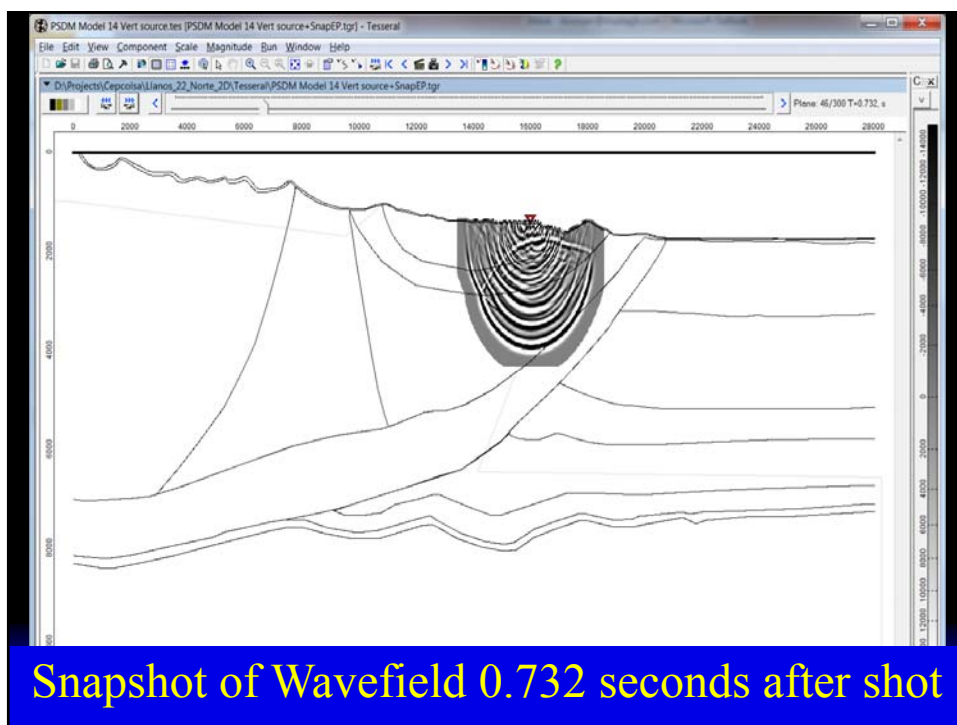
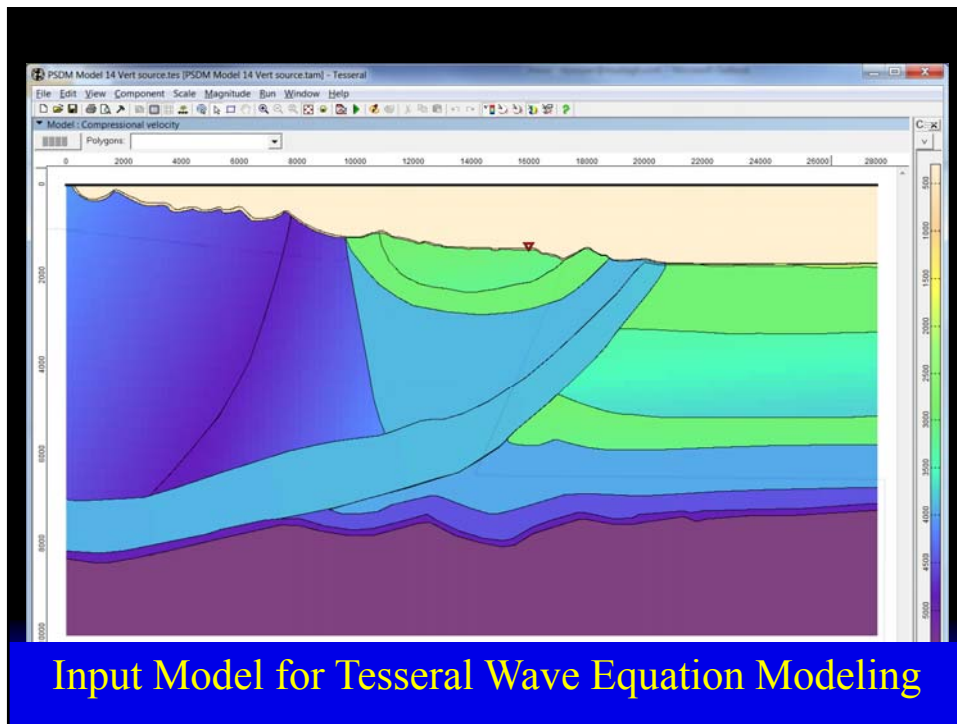
78

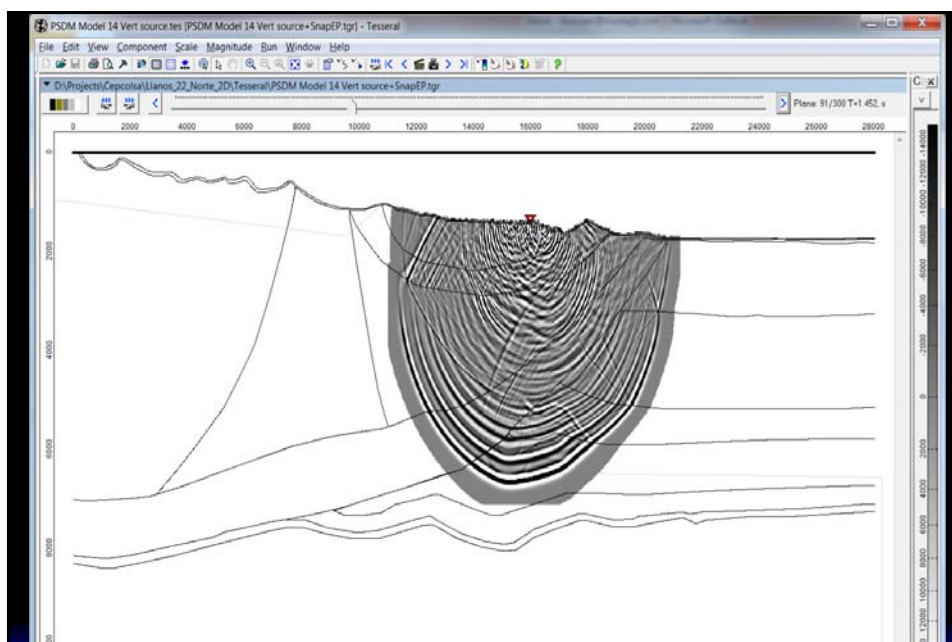
Mid Point vs Reflecting Point



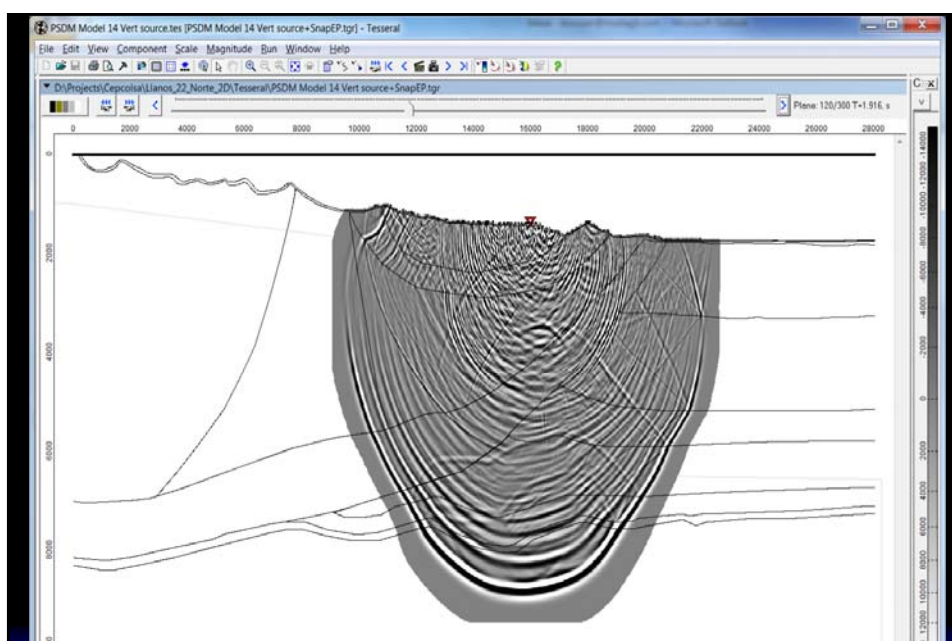
79



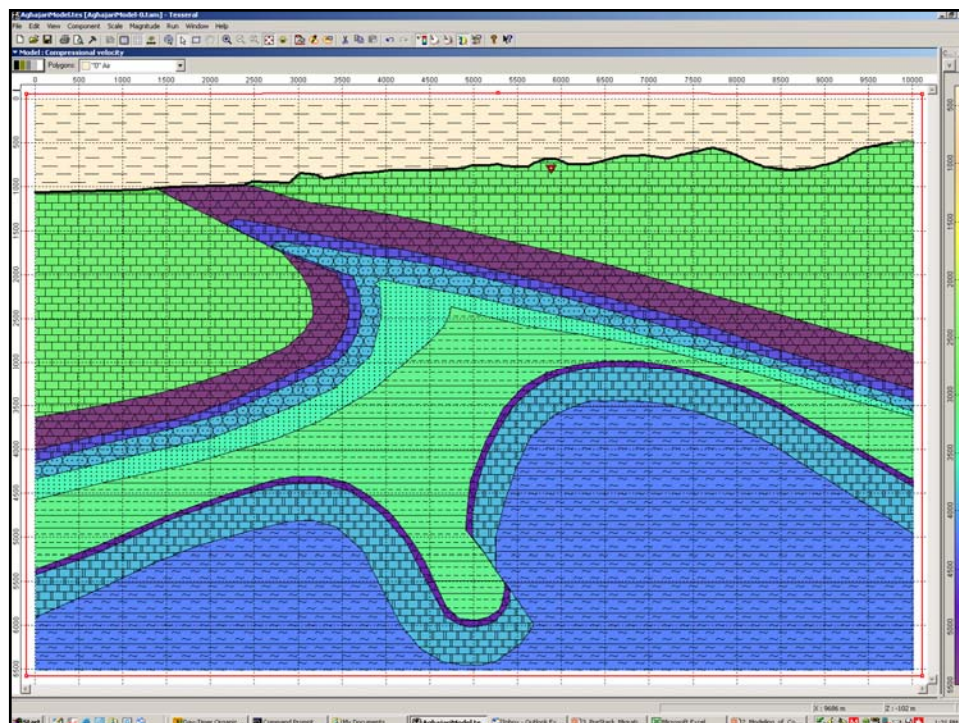
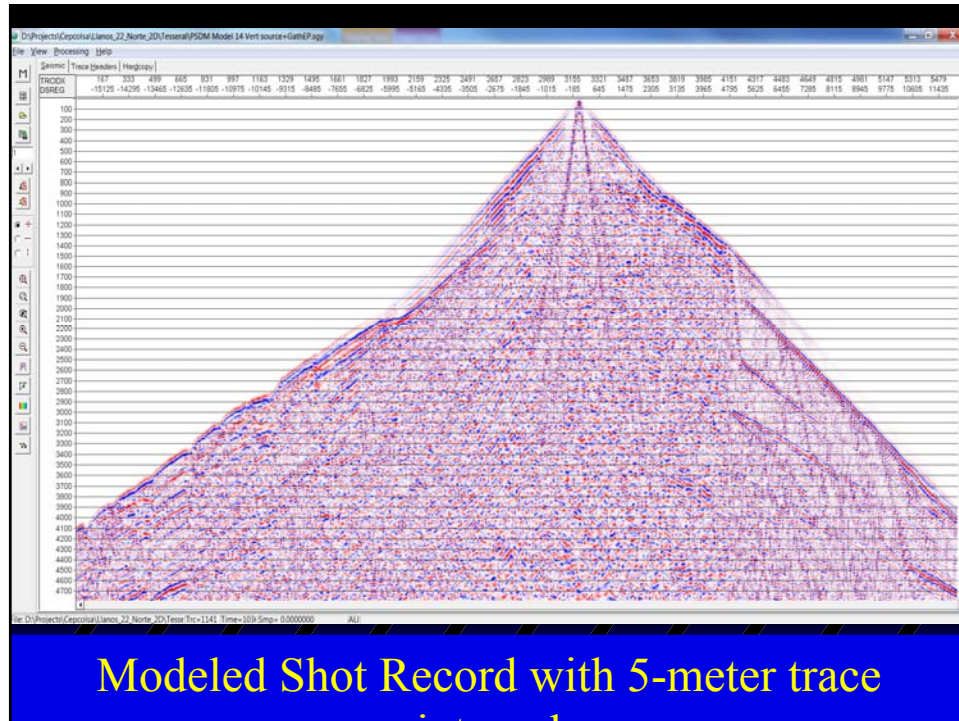


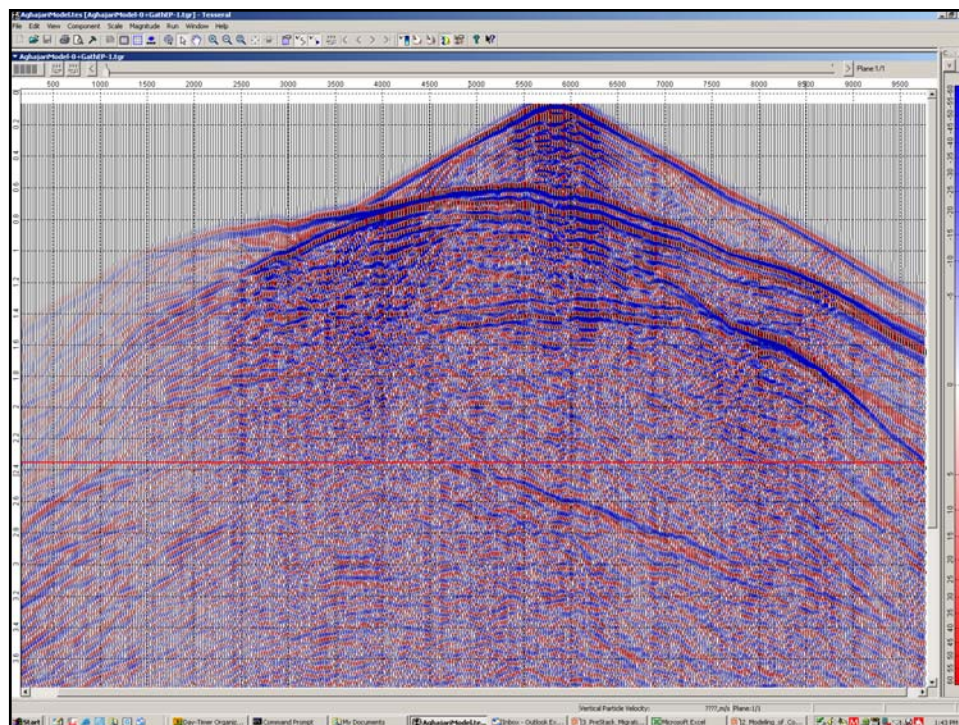
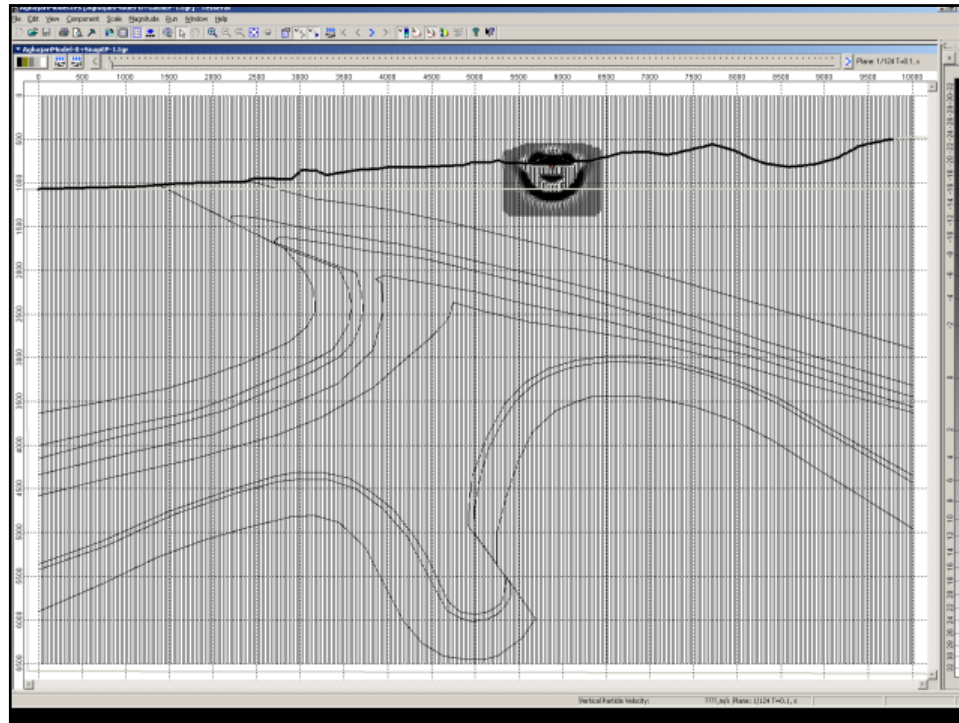


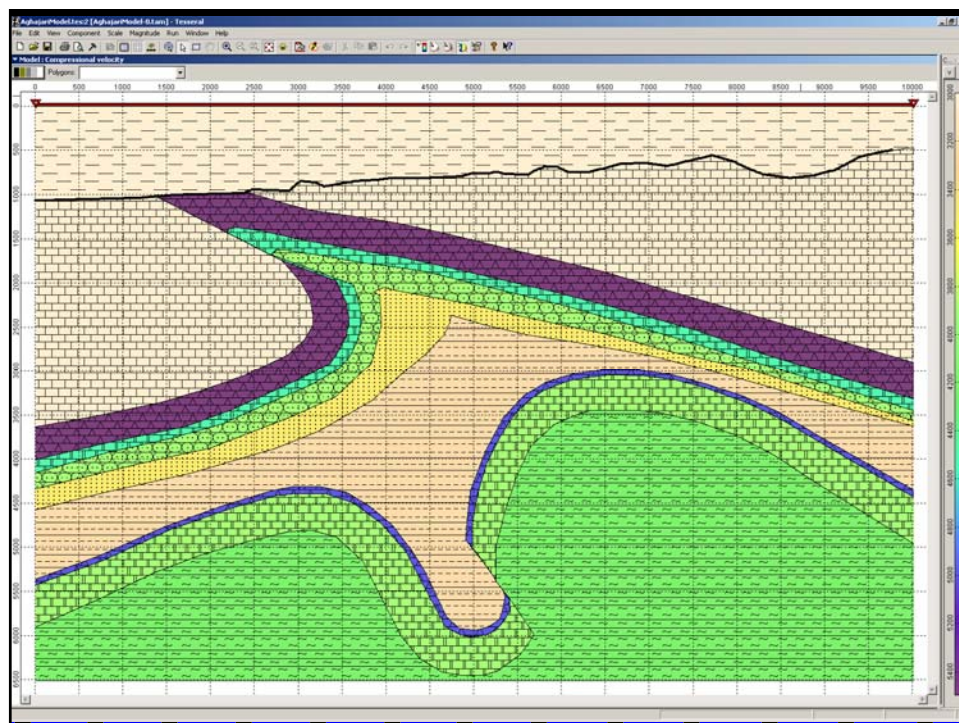
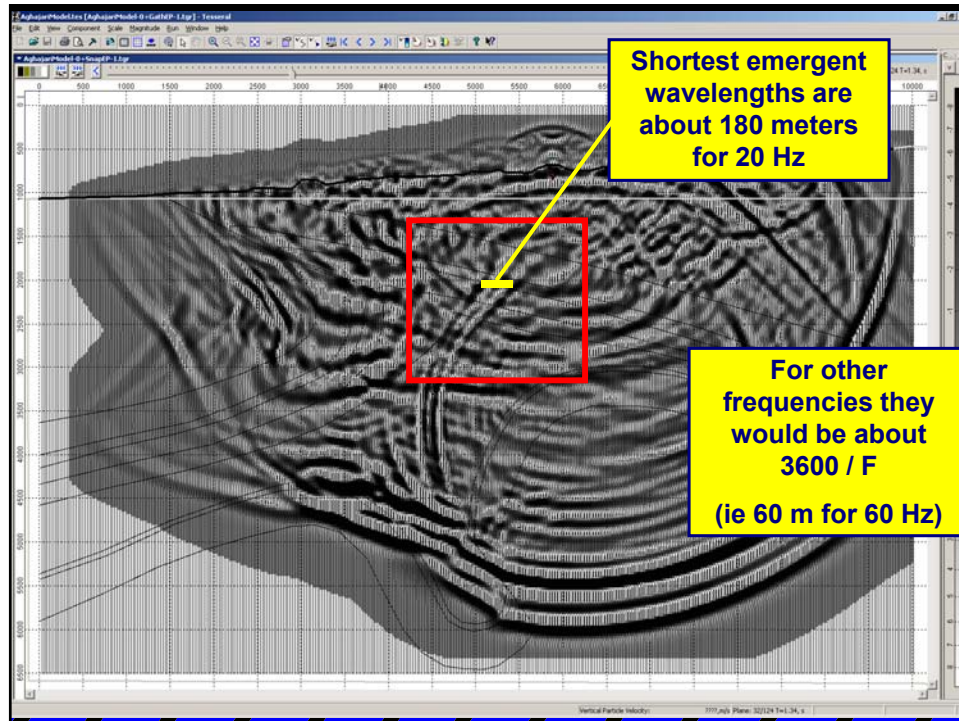
Snapshot of Wavefield 1.452 seconds after shot

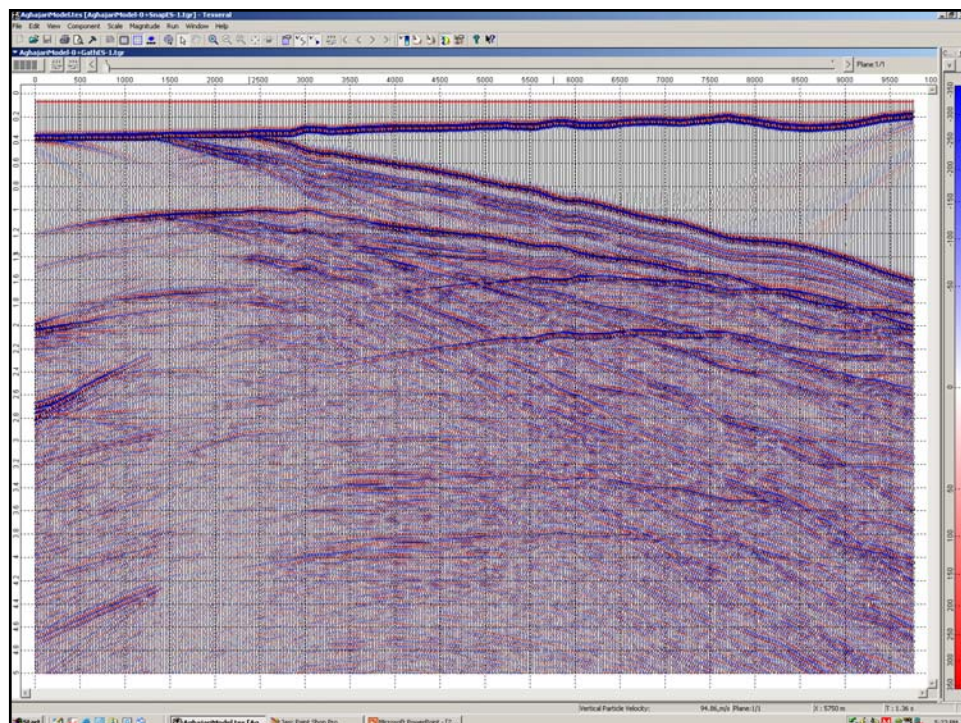
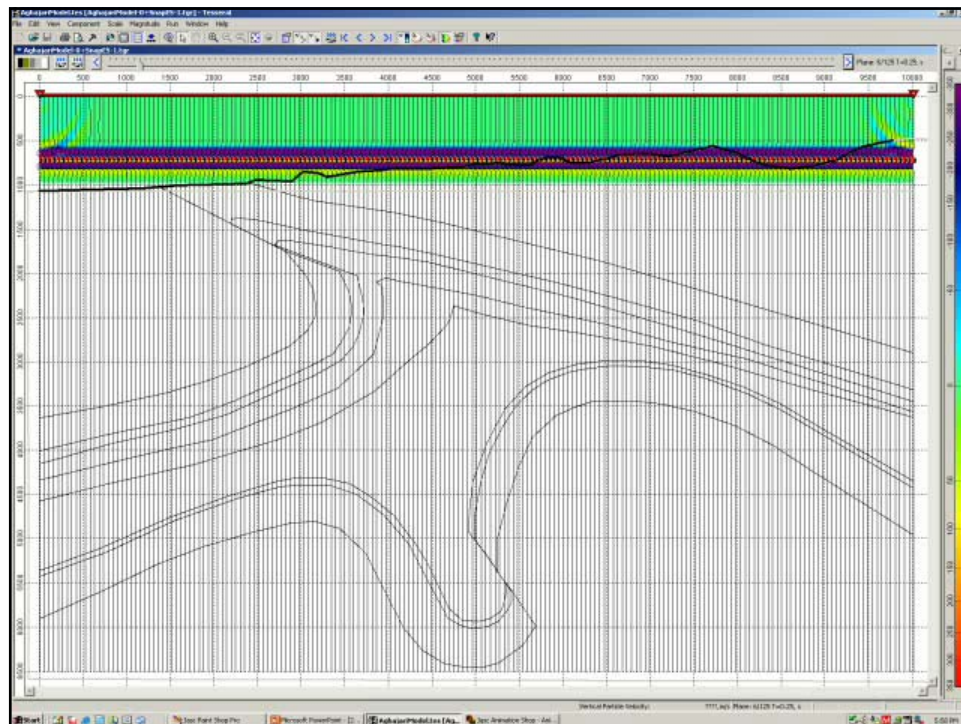


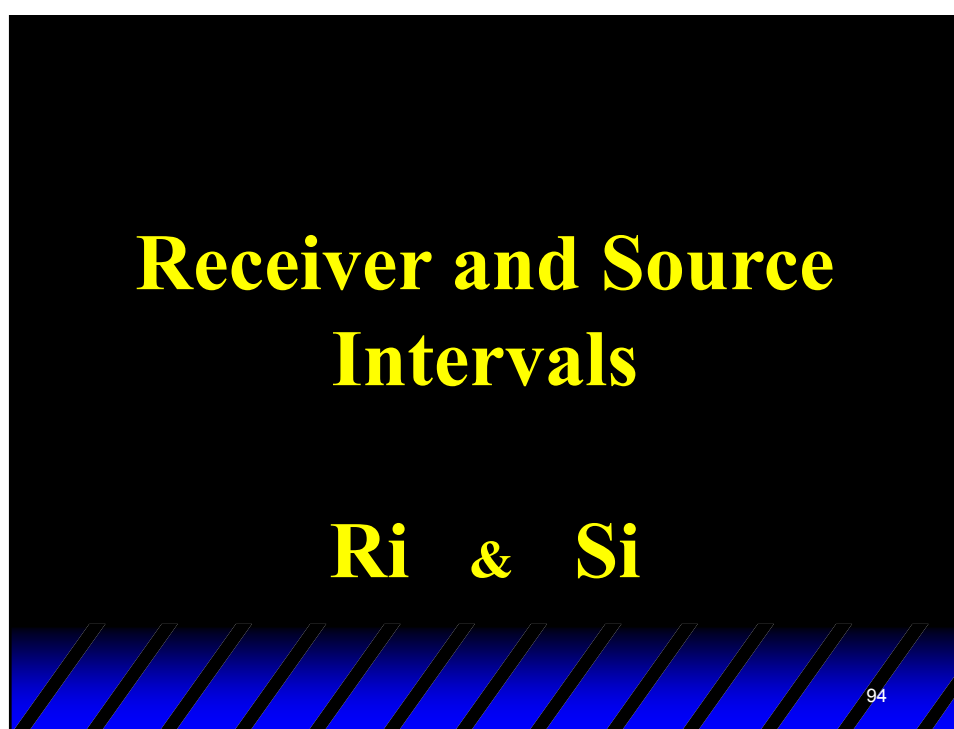
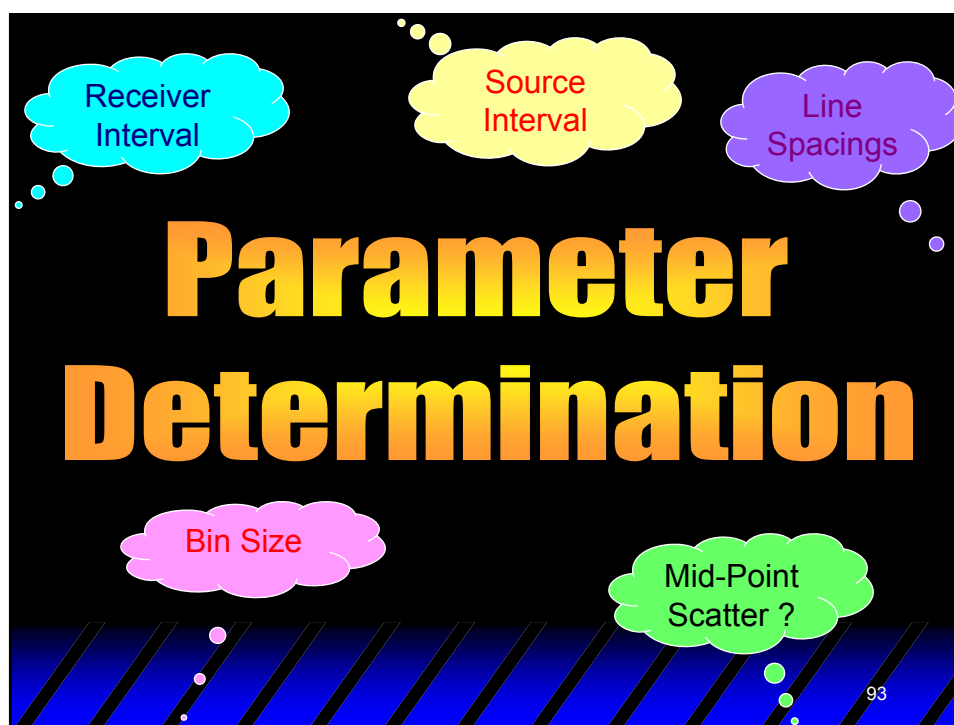
Snapshot of Wavefield 1.916 seconds after shot



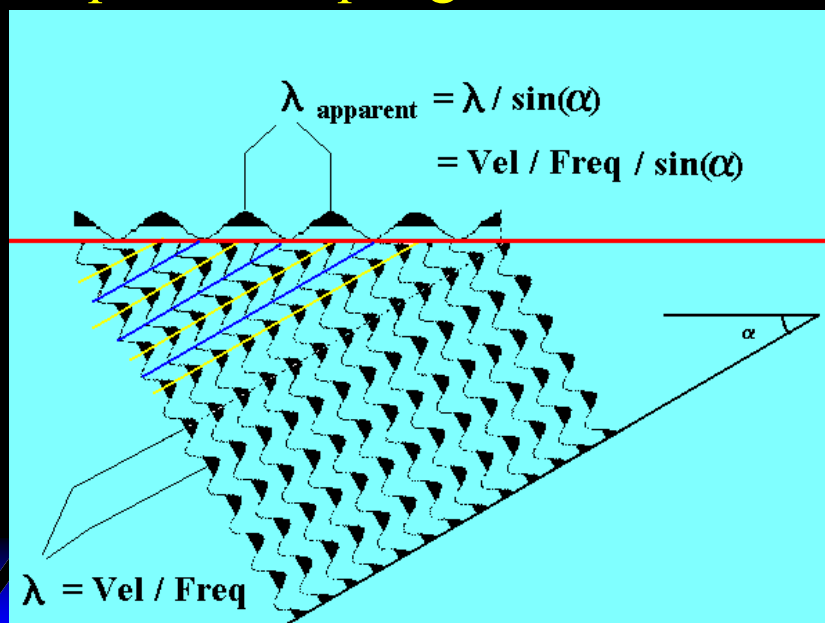








Spatial Sampling at the Surface



Working backwards from
anticipated Stacked Data ...

$$\text{Surface Interval} = \frac{a \times \text{Velocity}}{b \times \text{Freq} \times \sin \alpha}$$

Working backwards from anticipated Stacked Data ...

$$\text{Surface Interval} = \frac{a \times \text{Velocity}}{b \times \text{Freq} \times \sin \alpha}$$

a = 1 for sub-surface bin size

a = 2 for surface bin size

Working backwards from anticipated Stacked Data ...

$$\text{Surface Interval} = \frac{a \times \text{Velocity}}{b \times \text{Freq} \times \sin \alpha}$$

Use:

Stacking for NMO-consistent result

RMS if deriving from well-log intervals

Average for slightly conservative results

Do NOT use Interval Velocities !

Working backwards from anticipated Stacked Data ...

$$\text{Surface Interval} = \frac{a \times \text{Velocity}}{b \times \text{Freq} \times \sin \alpha}$$

Migrated or Geologic dips

for migration output trace spacing
(NOT necessarily "natural" bin size)

Unmigrated dips (max 45°) for surface intervals

30° for stratigraphic plays in gently dipping geology
in order to properly measure diffraction limbs
from lateral velocity changes

Working backwards from anticipated Stacked Data ...

$$\text{Surface Interval} = \frac{a \times \text{Velocity}}{b \times \text{Freq} \times \sin \alpha}$$

Using F_{dominant} will only provide correct
sampling of data before deconvolution

We should use F_{max} in order to protect all
recoverable frequencies through
deconvolution and migration

Working backwards from anticipated Stacked Data ...

$$\text{Surface Interval} = \frac{a \times \text{Velocity}}{b \times \text{Freq} \times \sin \alpha}$$

- b = 4** for basic Nyquist and plane wave theory (two-way time)
- b = 2** for basic Nyquist and estimate of curved-ray theory
- b = 3** for over-sampling Nyquist and estimate of curved-ray theory

Many variations for Ri or Si ...

$$\text{Surface Interval} = \frac{2 \times \text{Velocity}_{\text{average}}}{3 \times \text{Freq}_{\text{maximum}} \times \sin (30^\circ)}$$

Many variations for Ri or Si ...

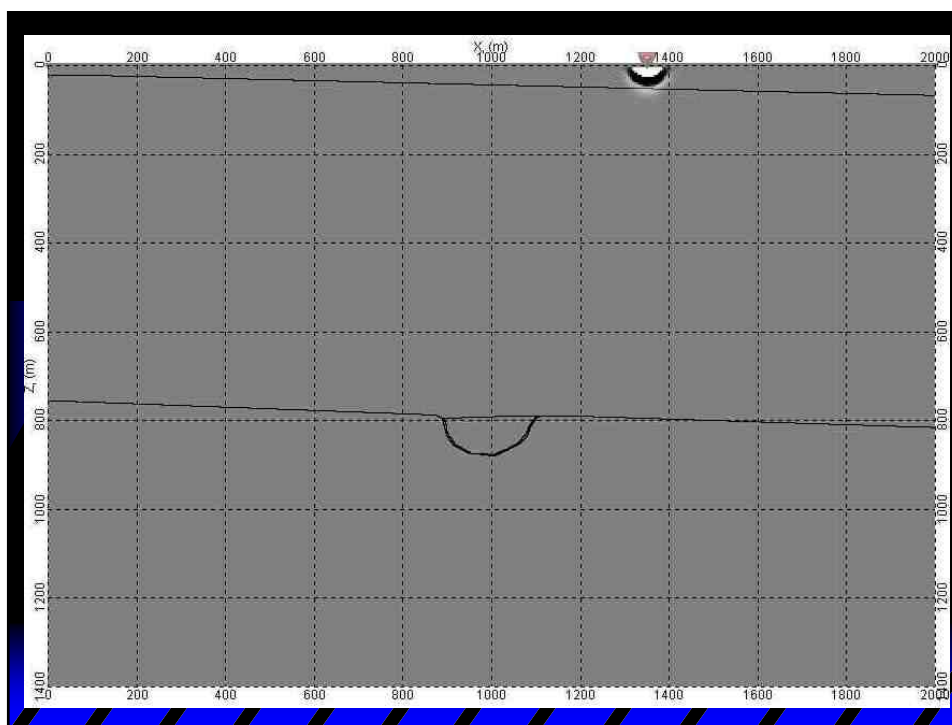
$$\text{Surface Interval} = \frac{2 \times \text{Velocity}_{\text{average}}}{3 \times \text{Freq}_{\text{maximum}} \times \sin(30^\circ)}$$

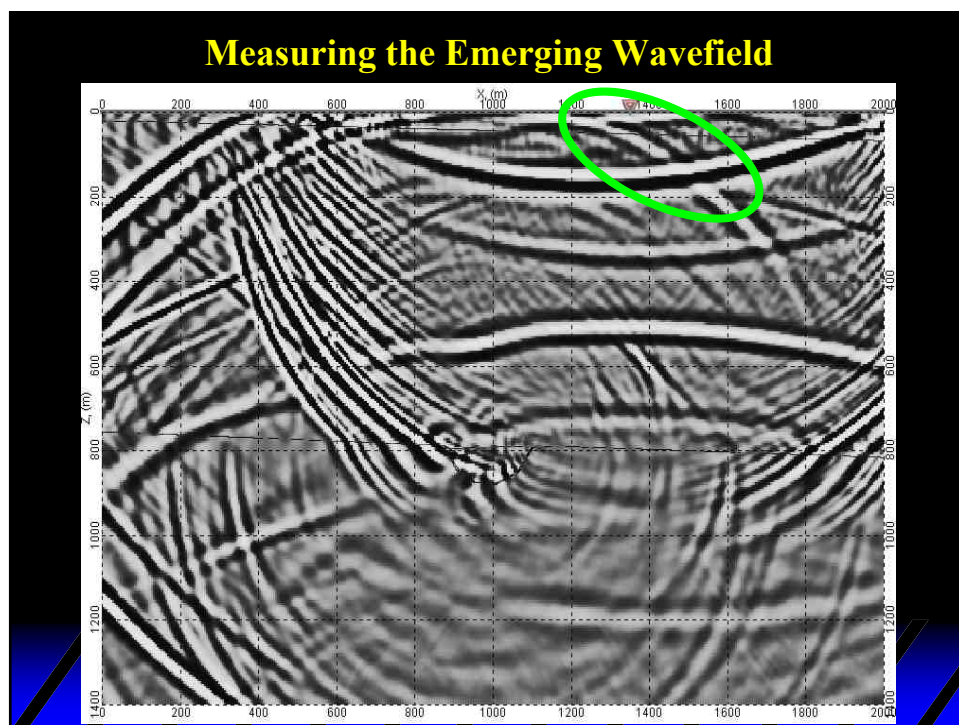
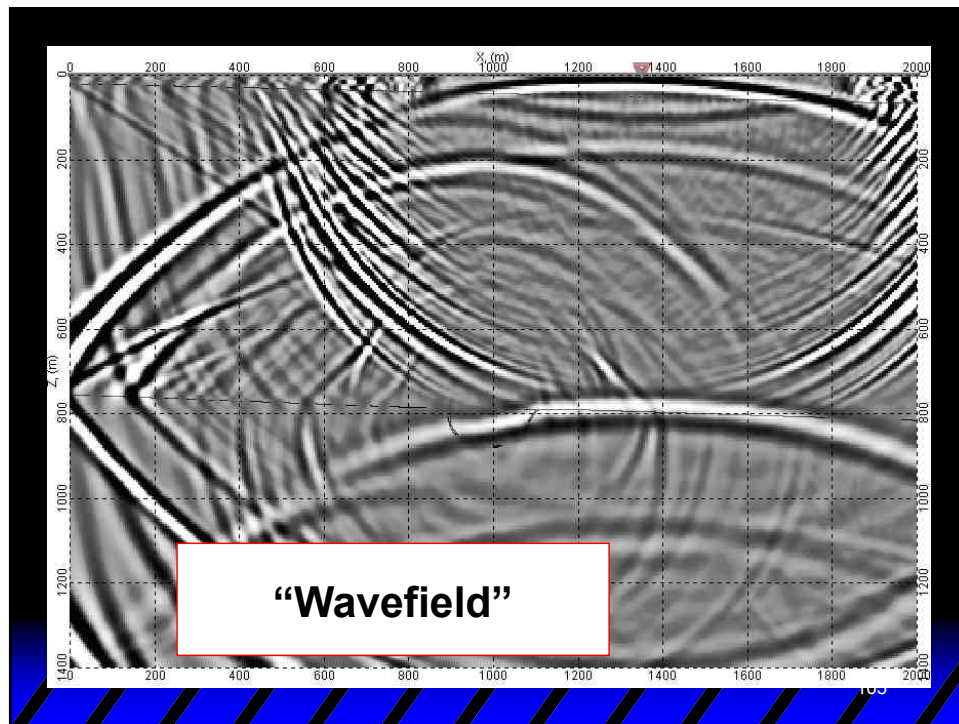
$$\text{Surface Interval} = \frac{\text{Velocity}_{\text{average}}}{\text{Freq}_{\text{maximum}}}$$

From sampling of
emerging
apparent
wavelengths

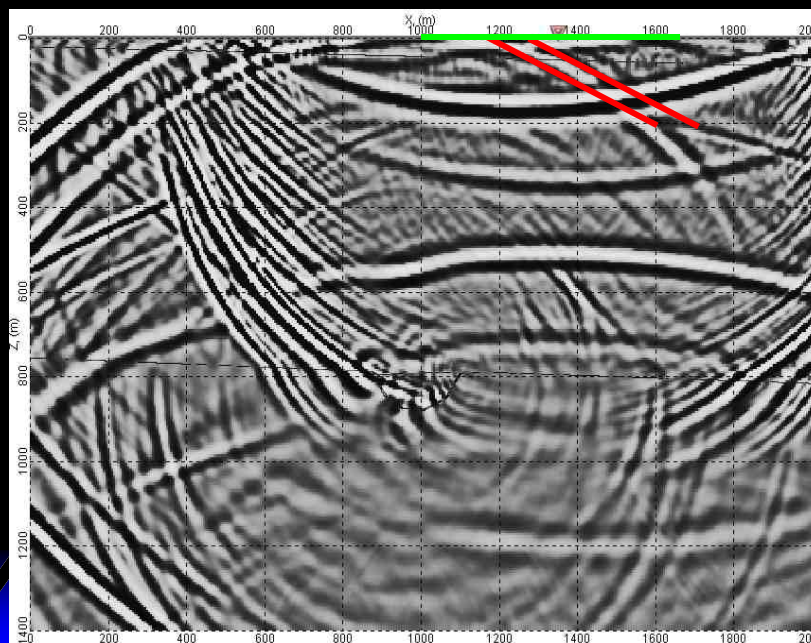
$$\text{Surface Interval} = \frac{\text{Depth}}{50}$$

From Frequency
limits after
100 cycles of
absorption

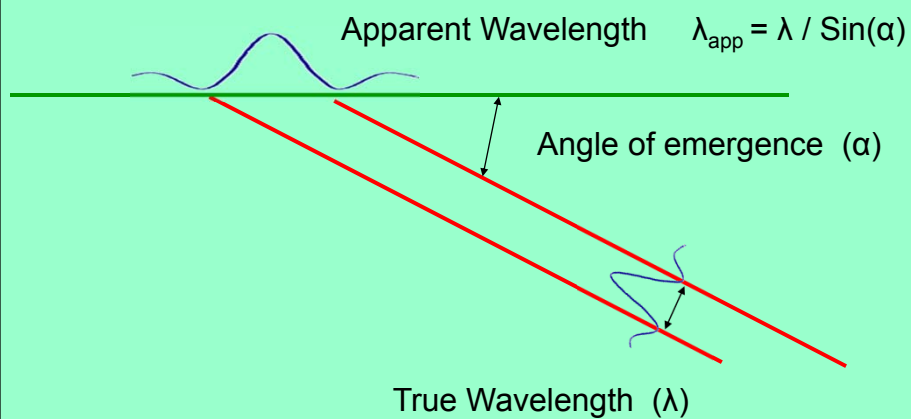


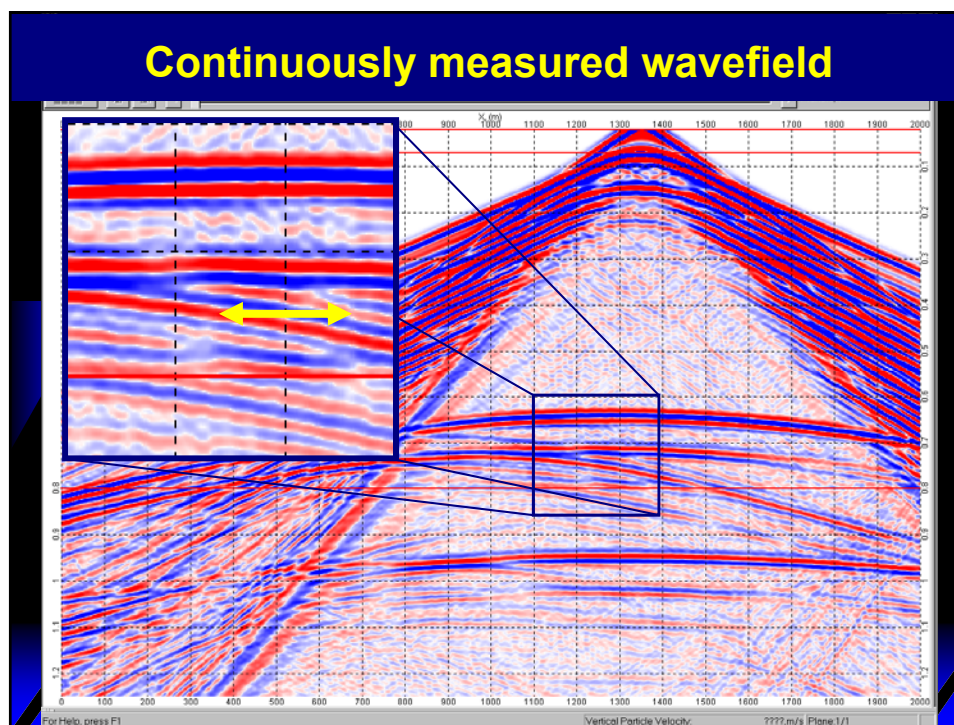
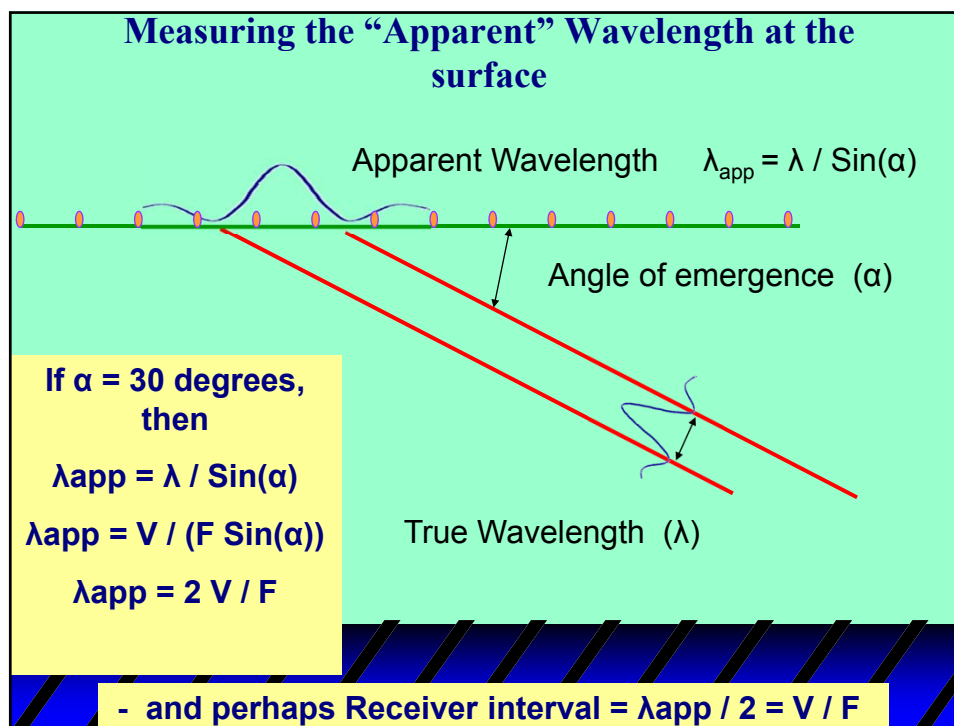


Measuring the Emerging Wavefield



“Apparent” Wavelength at the surface





Many variations for Ri or Si ...

$$\text{Surface Interval} = \frac{2 \times \text{Velocity}_{\text{average}}}{3 \times \text{Freq}_{\text{maximum}} \times \sin(30^\circ)}$$

$$\text{Surface Interval} = \frac{\text{Velocity}_{\text{average}}}{\text{Freq}_{\text{maximum}}}$$

From sampling of
emerging
apparent
wavelengths

$$\text{Surface Interval} = \frac{\text{Depth}}{50}$$

From Frequency
limits after
100 cycles of
absorption

Bin Size

$$\text{Ri} / 2 \times \text{Si} / 2$$

Many variations for Ri or Si ...

$$\text{Natural Sub - Surface Bin Size} = \frac{R_i}{2} \times \frac{S_i}{2}$$

BUT ...

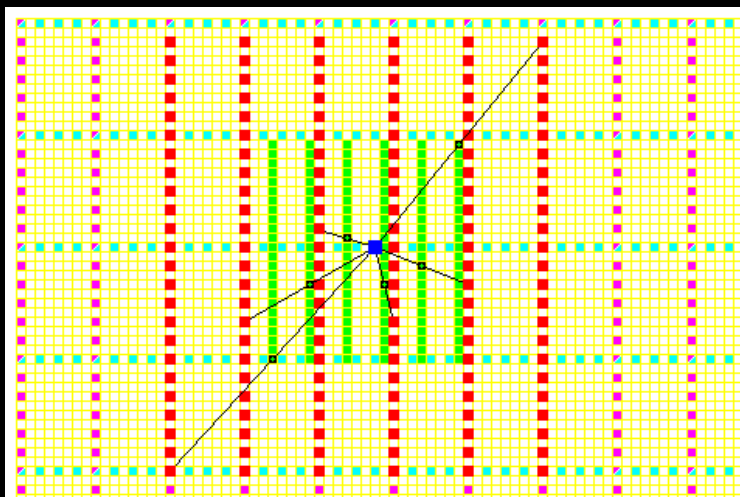
**Trace spacing of
final Migrated data volume
does not necessarily have to be
natural bins !!**

**Jump to slide 152
To skip bin size**

**Then use Midpoint scatter
seminar to talk about this**

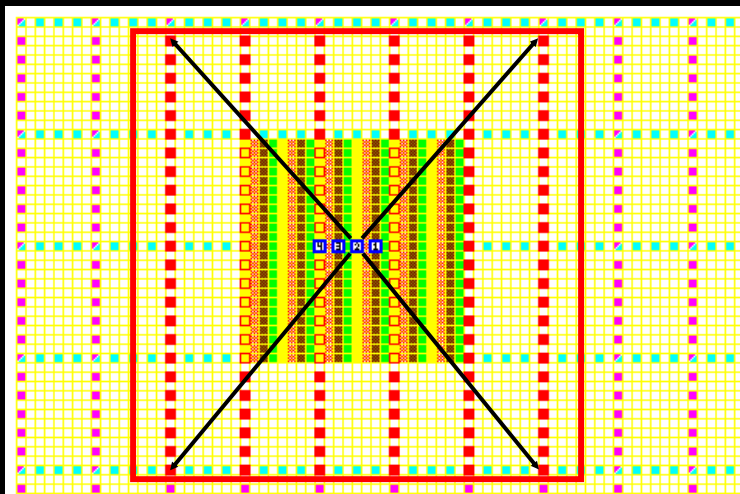
Use DA20 to show
offset orthogonal versus triple staggered
with and without perturbation

Trace out the mid-points illuminated by a
single source recorded by a Patch of receivers



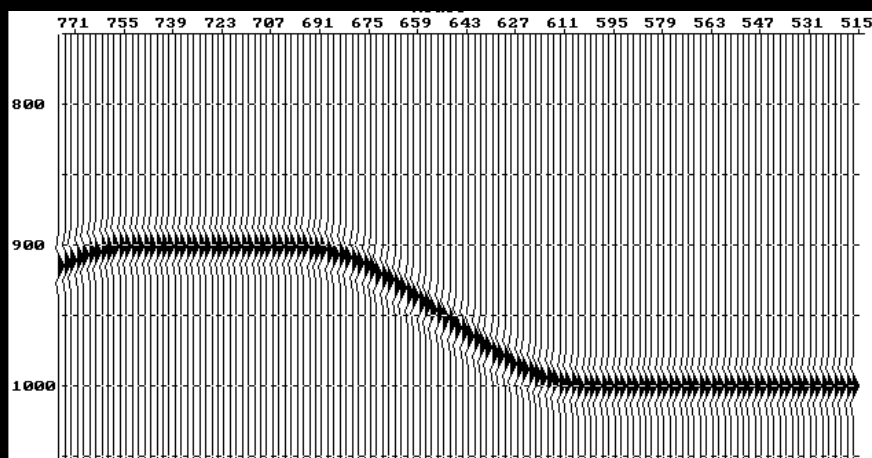
"Columns" of bins are imaged - one column for
each receiver line (each half the length)¹¹⁶

Shot 2 in normal position

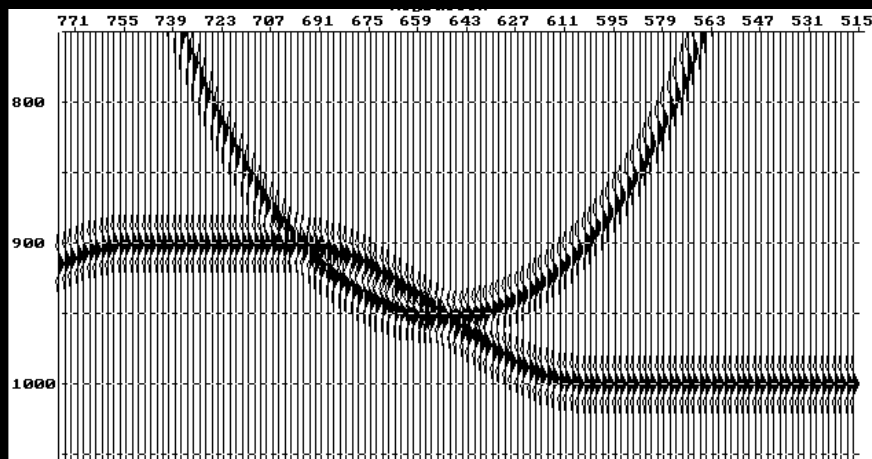


117

Detail of Model Before Migration

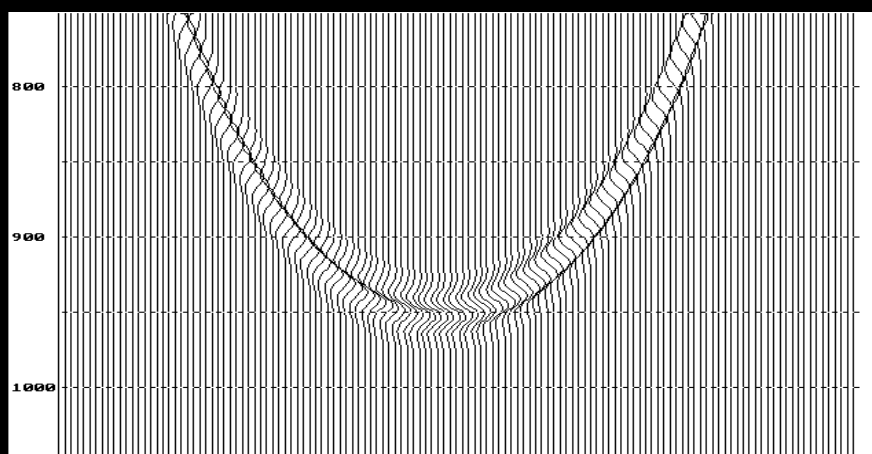


One Trace Migrated



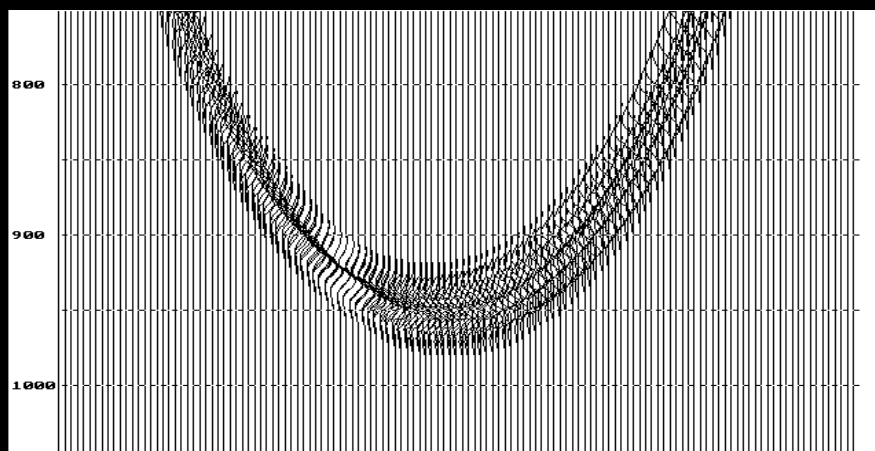
Trace 650

One Trace Migrated



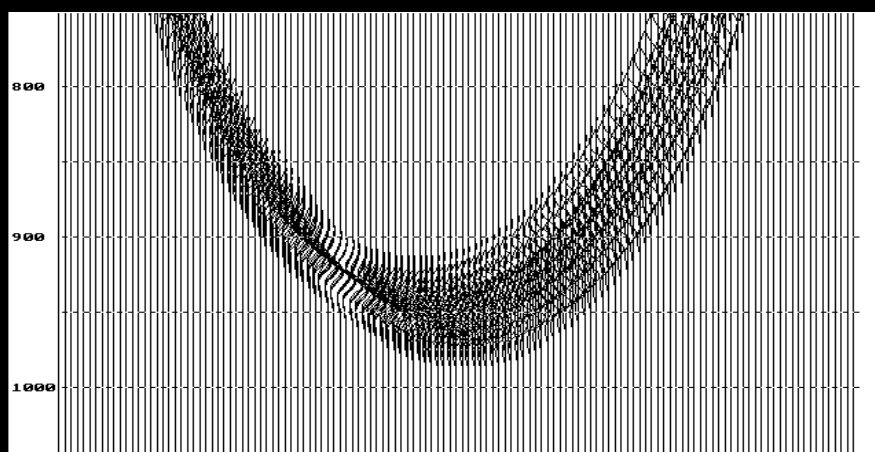
Trace 650

Three Traces Migrated



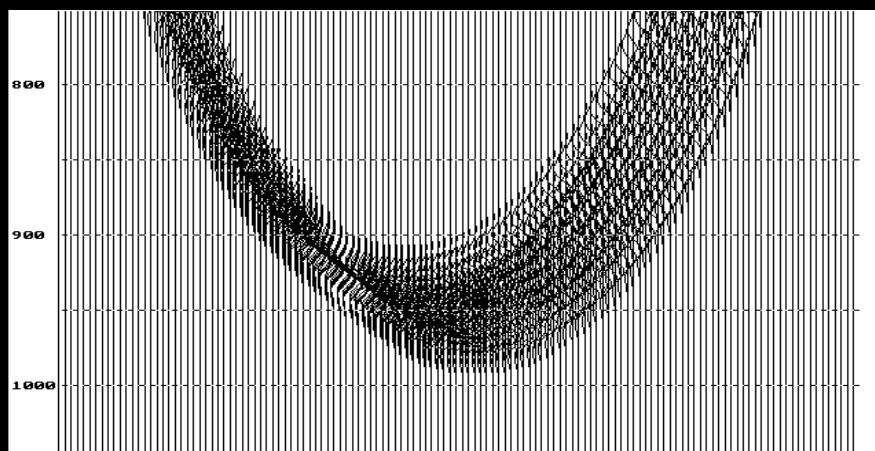
Trace 646 to 654 (ever 4th)

Five Traces Migrated



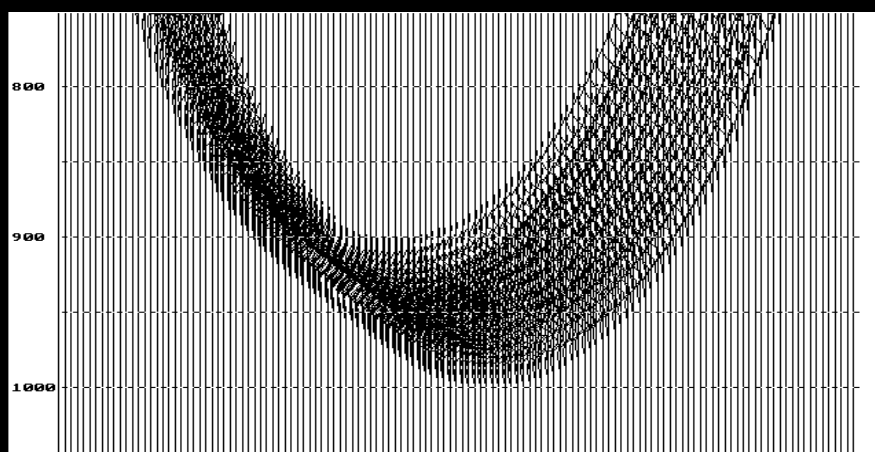
Trace 642 to 658 (ever 4th)

Seven Traces Migrated



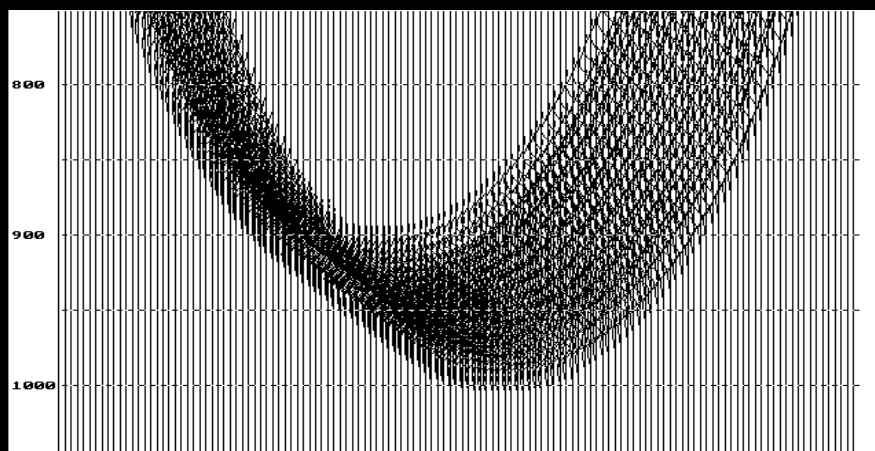
Trace 638 to 662 (ever 4th)

Nine Traces Migrated



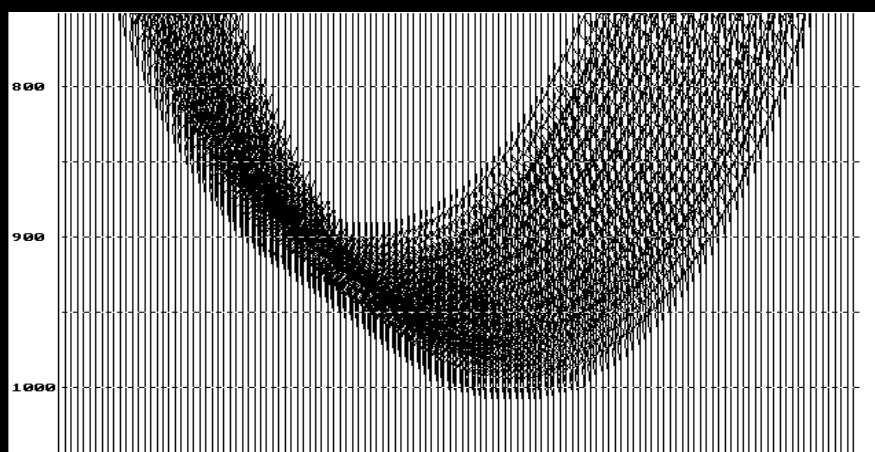
Trace 634 to 666 (ever 4th)

Eleven Traces Migrated



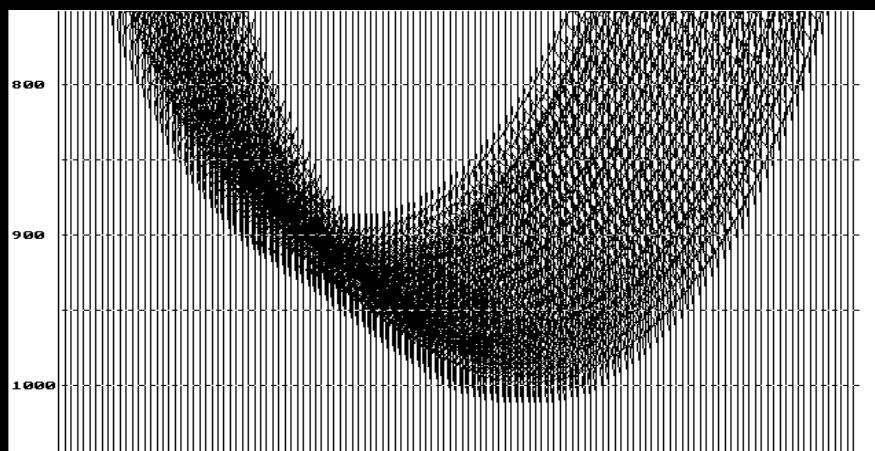
Trace 630 to 670 (ever 4th)

Thirteen Traces Migrated



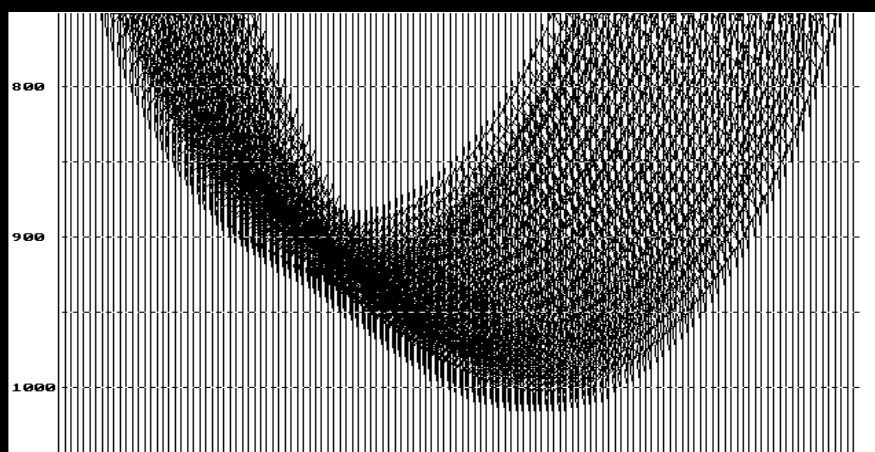
Trace 626 to 674 (ever 4th)

Fifteen Traces Migrated



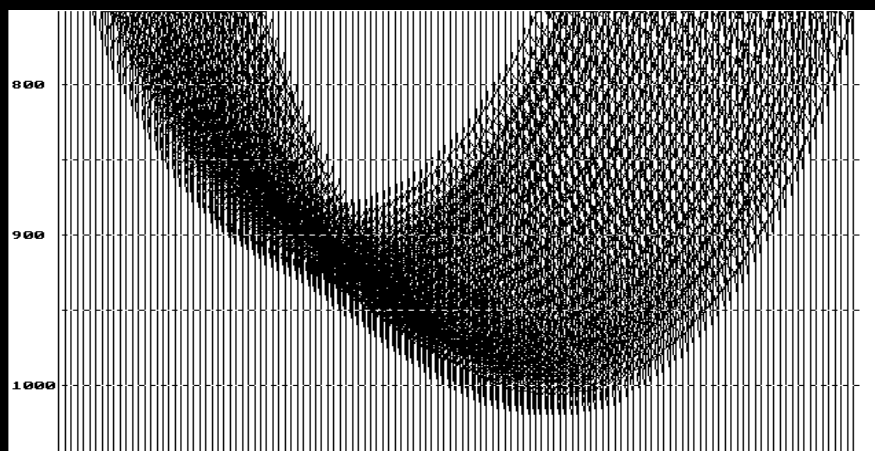
Trace 622 to 678 (ever 4th)

Seventeen Traces Migrated



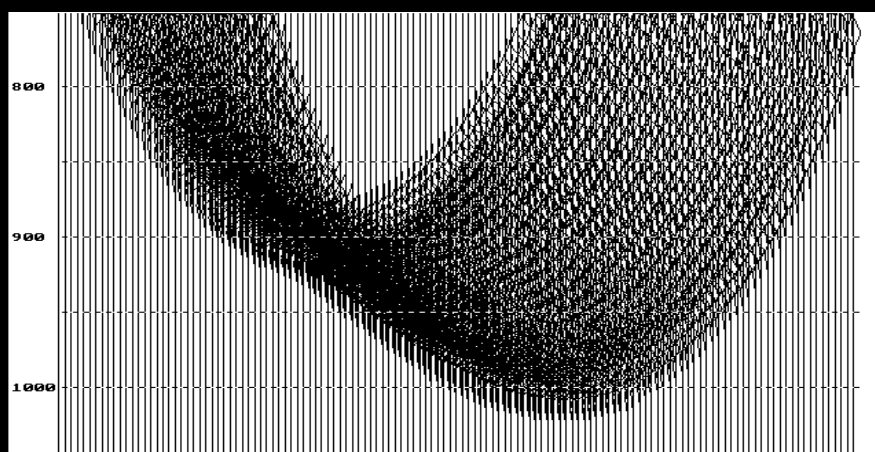
Trace 618 to 682 (ever 4th)

Nineteen Traces Migrated



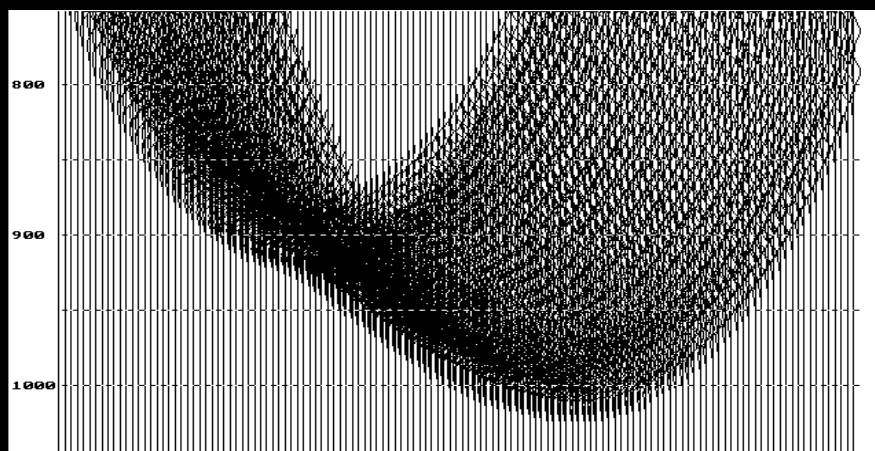
Trace 614 to 686 (ever 4th)

Twentyone Traces Migrated



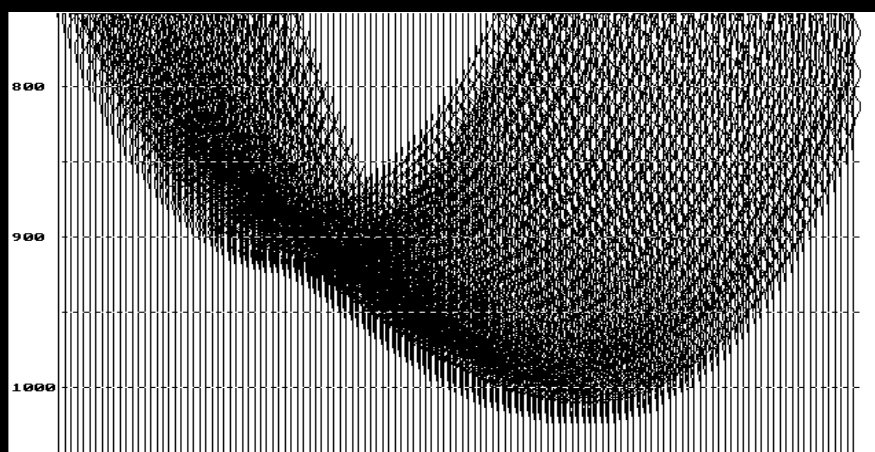
Trace 610 to 690 (ever 4th)

Twentythree Traces Migrated



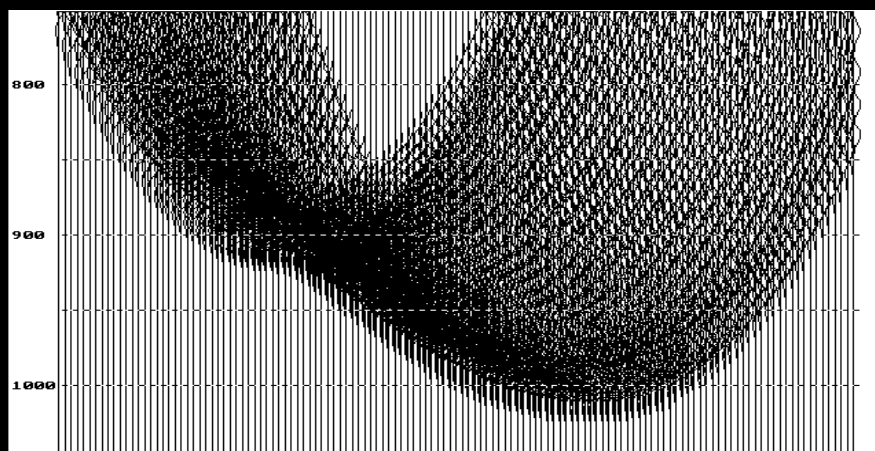
Trace 606 to 694 (ever 4th)

Twentyfive Traces Migrated



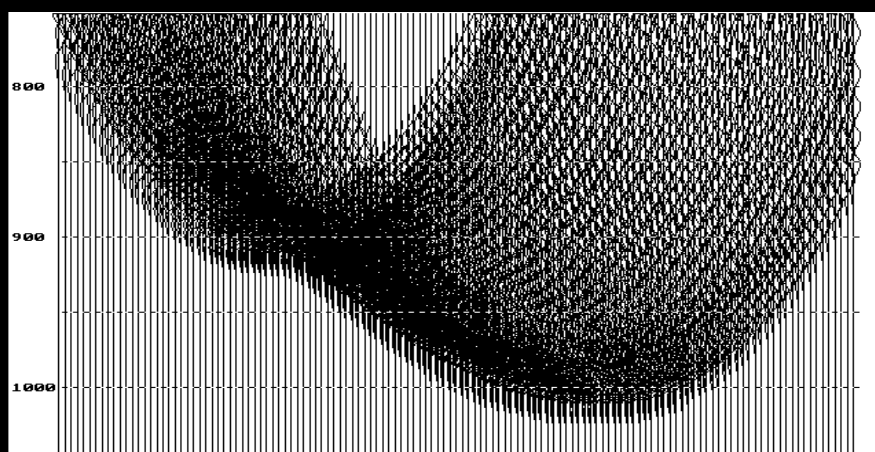
Trace 602 to 698 (ever 4th)

Twentyseven Traces Migrated



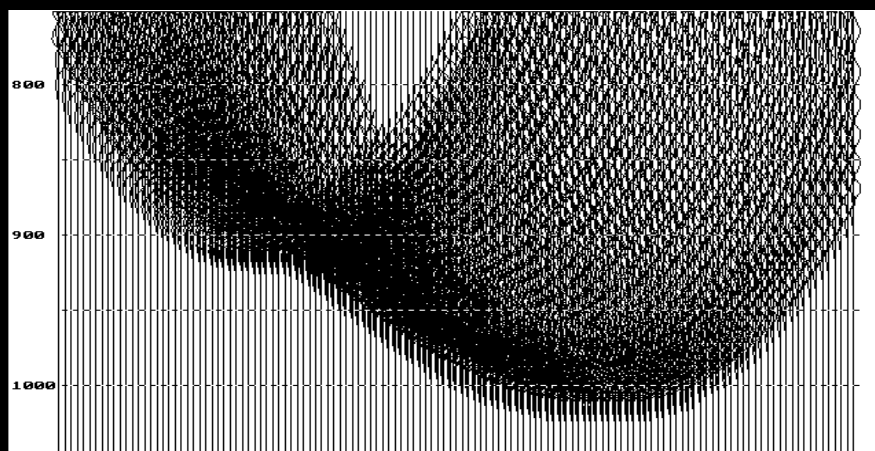
Trace 598 to 702 (ever 4th)

Twentynine Traces Migrated



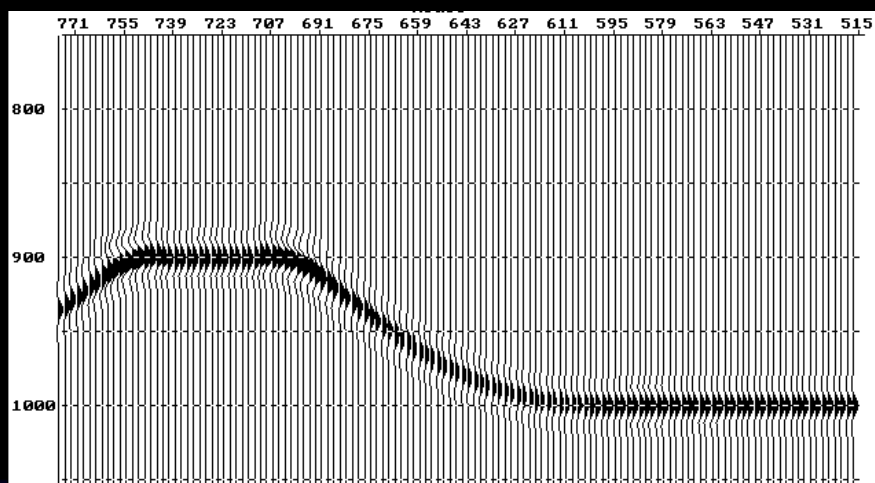
Trace 594 to 706 (ever 4th)

Thirtyone Traces Migrated

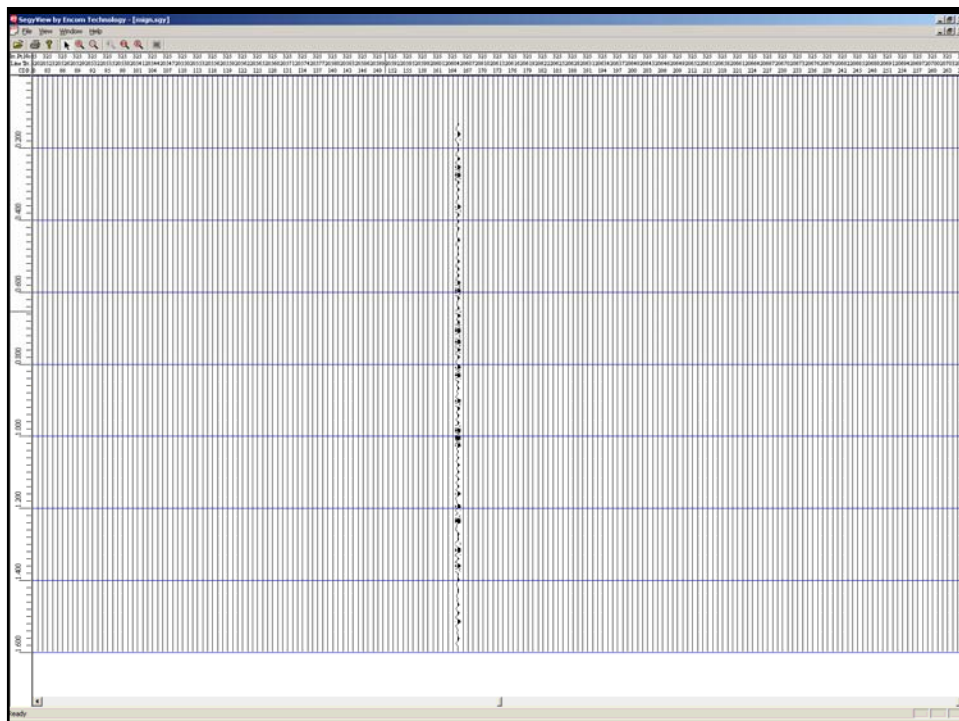
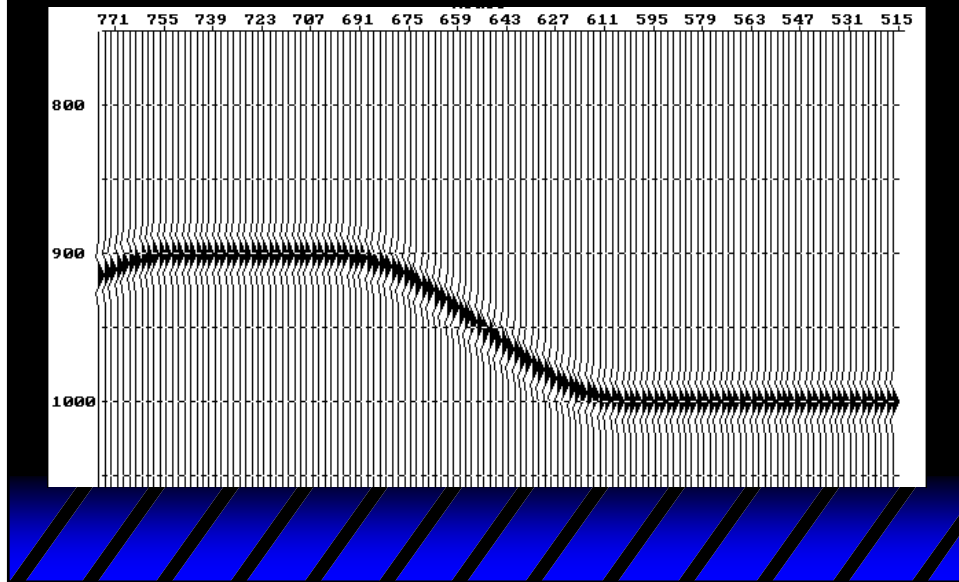


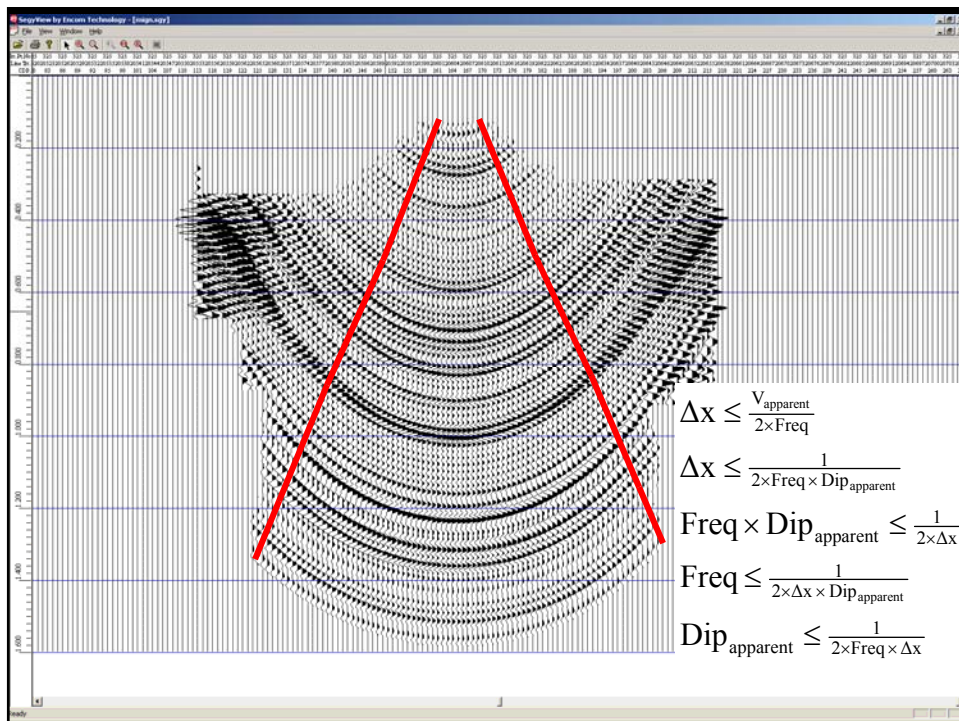
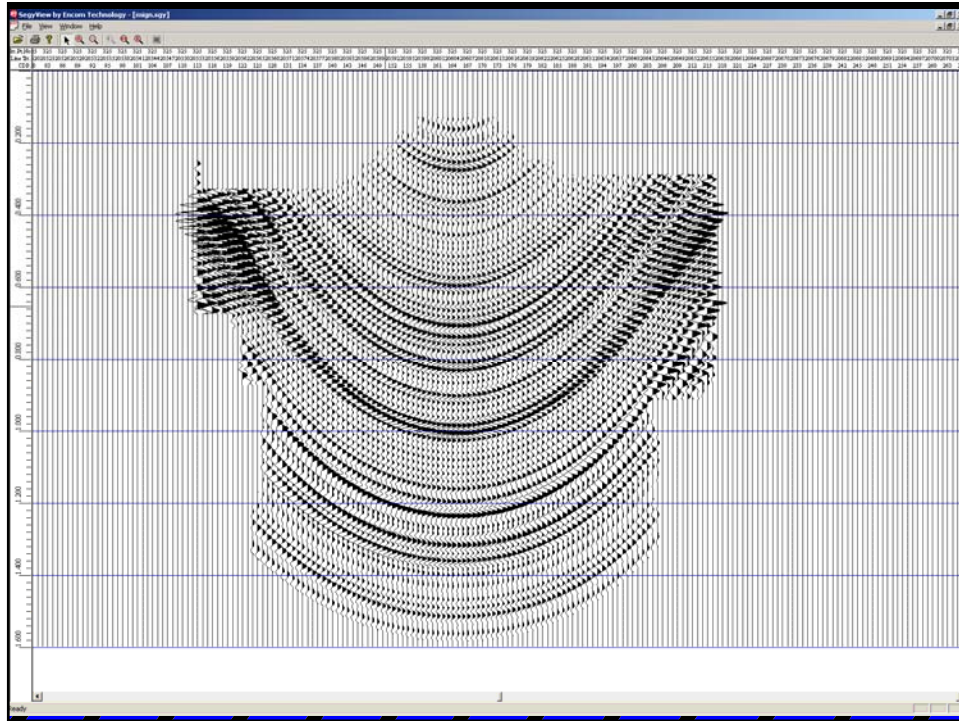
Trace 590 to 710 (ever 4th)

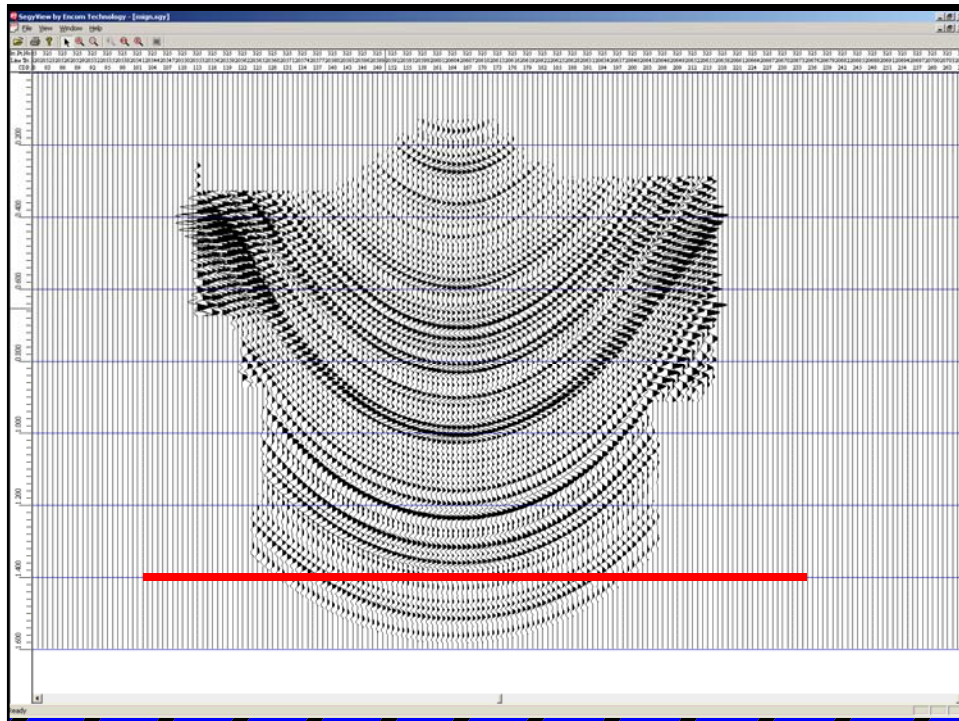
Detail of Model After Migration



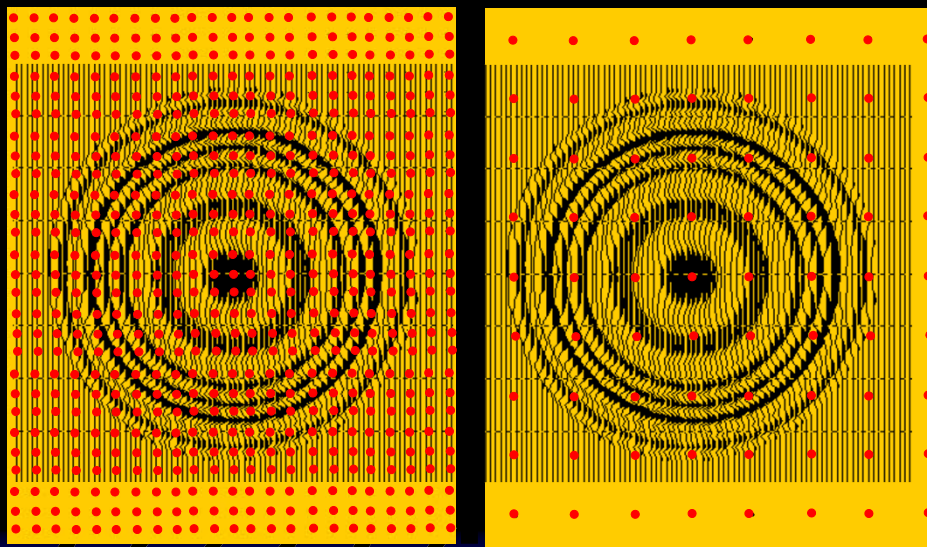
Detail of Model Before Migration





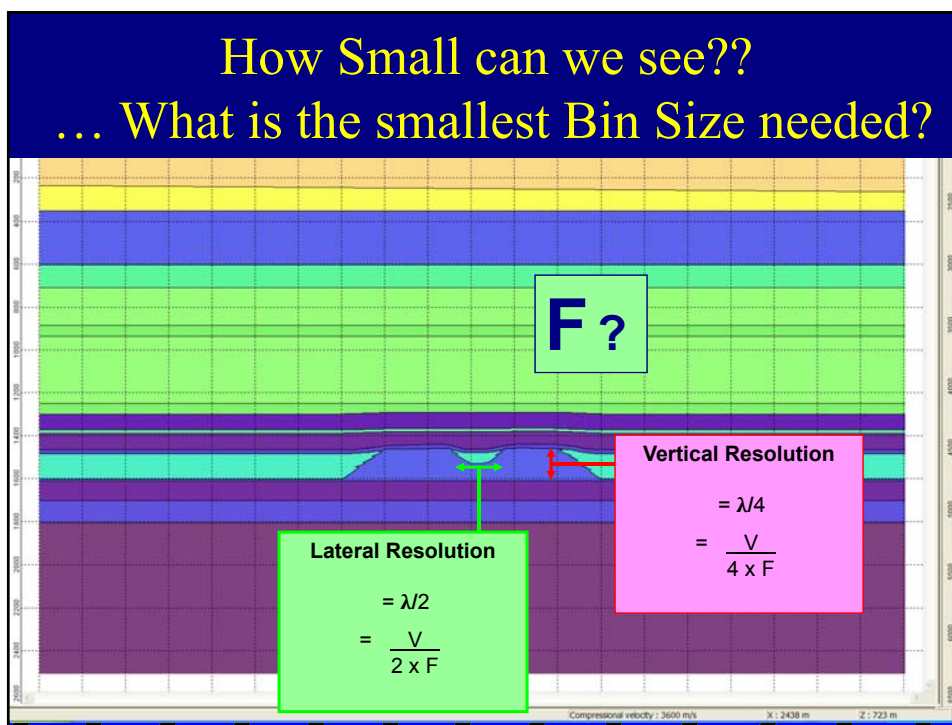


Planned Mid-point scatter has several advantages ...



**... it facilitates better spatial sampling of the
pre-stack migration operator**

Use DA20 to show
migration circle with and without
midpoint scatter



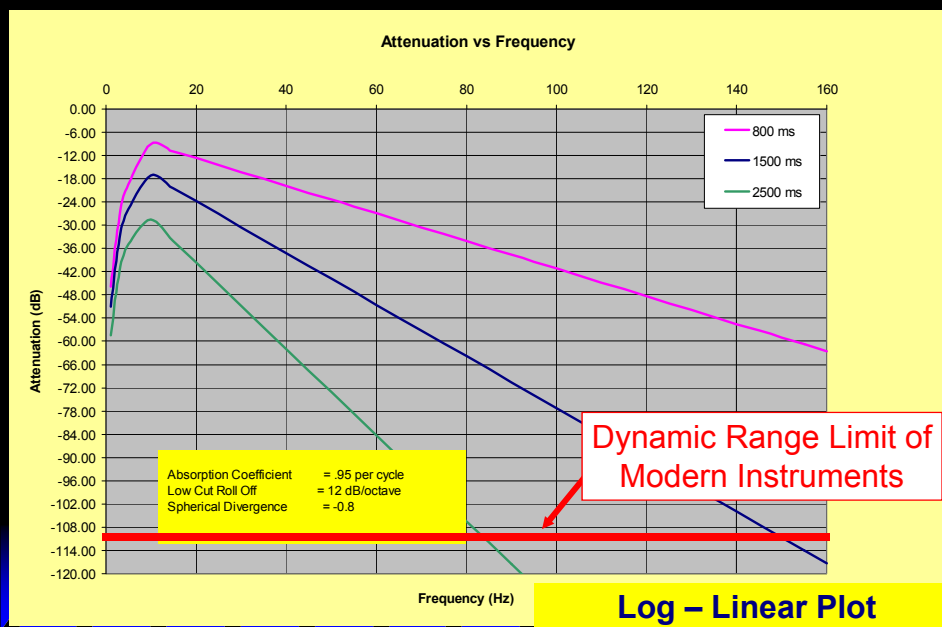
Energy Loss Mechanisms

- Reflection Coefficients and Transmission Losses
- Mode Conversion and Energy Partition
- Spherical Divergence
- **Absorption**

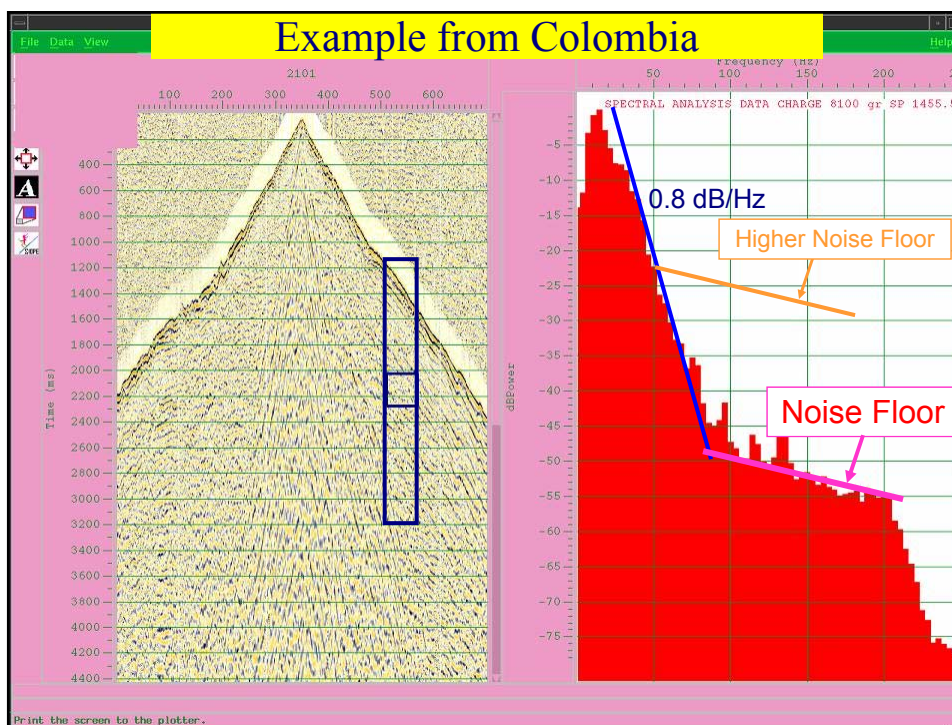
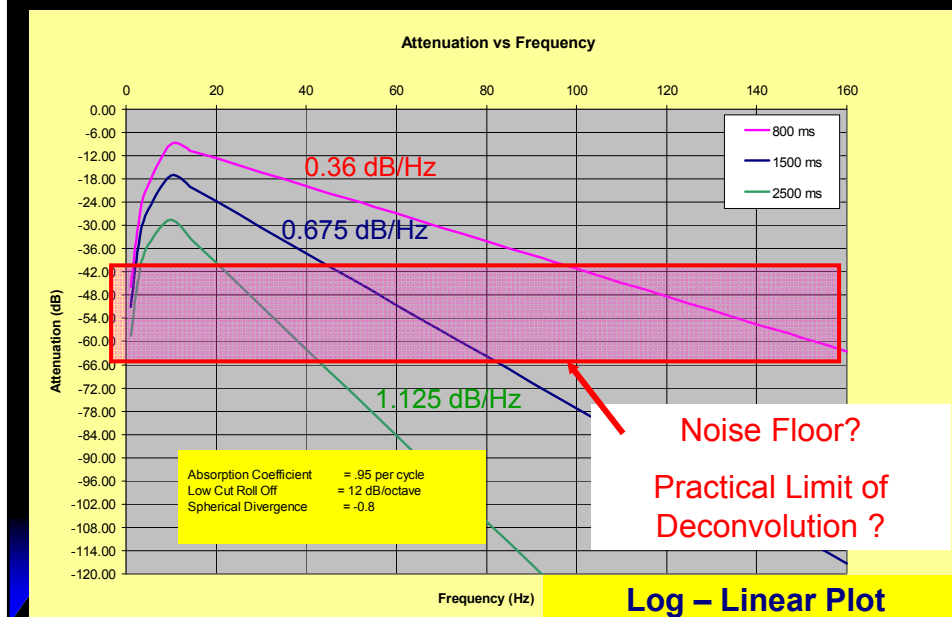
$$A_{(f, t)} = A_0 \times e^{-bt} \times C^{(t \times f)}$$

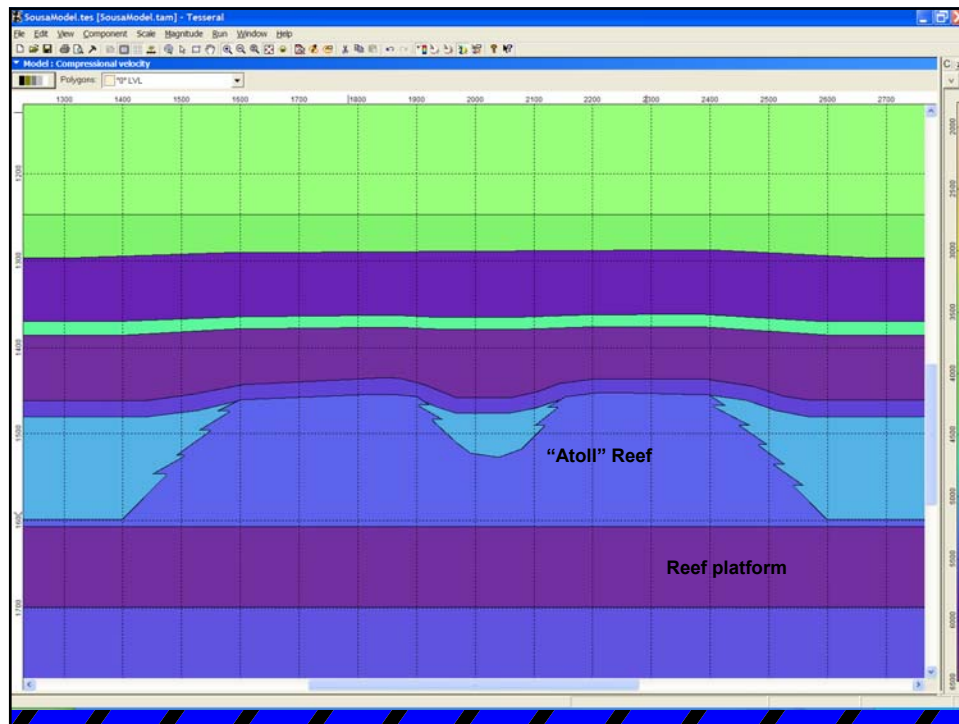
145

Fmax vs Absorption and Spherical Divergence

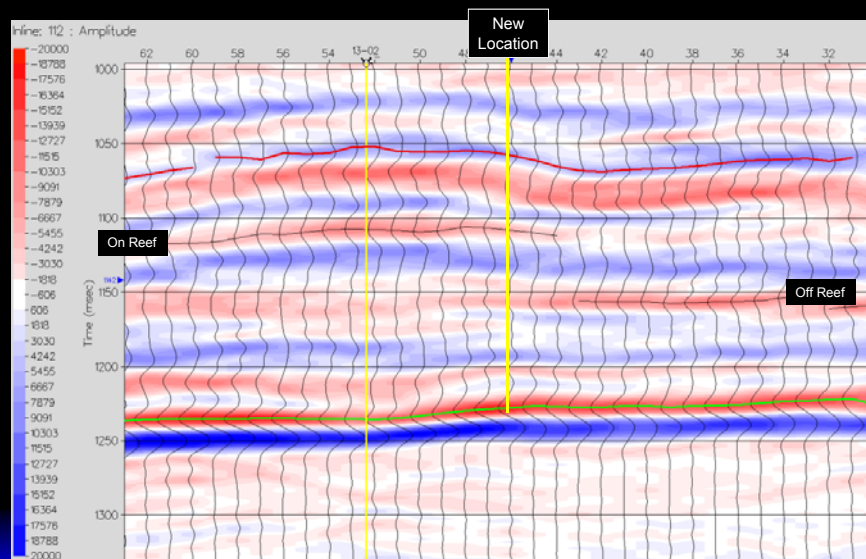


Fmax vs Absorption and Spherical Divergence

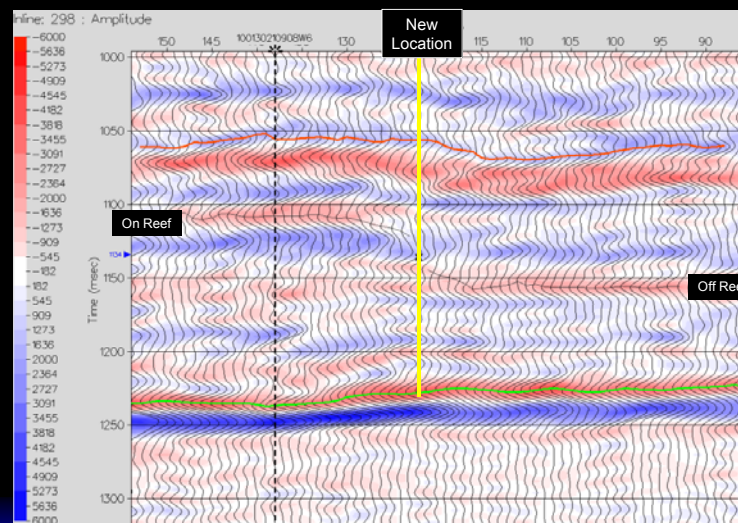




Pre-Stack Time Migration, 40 m bin size



Pre-Stack Time Migration, 15 m bin size

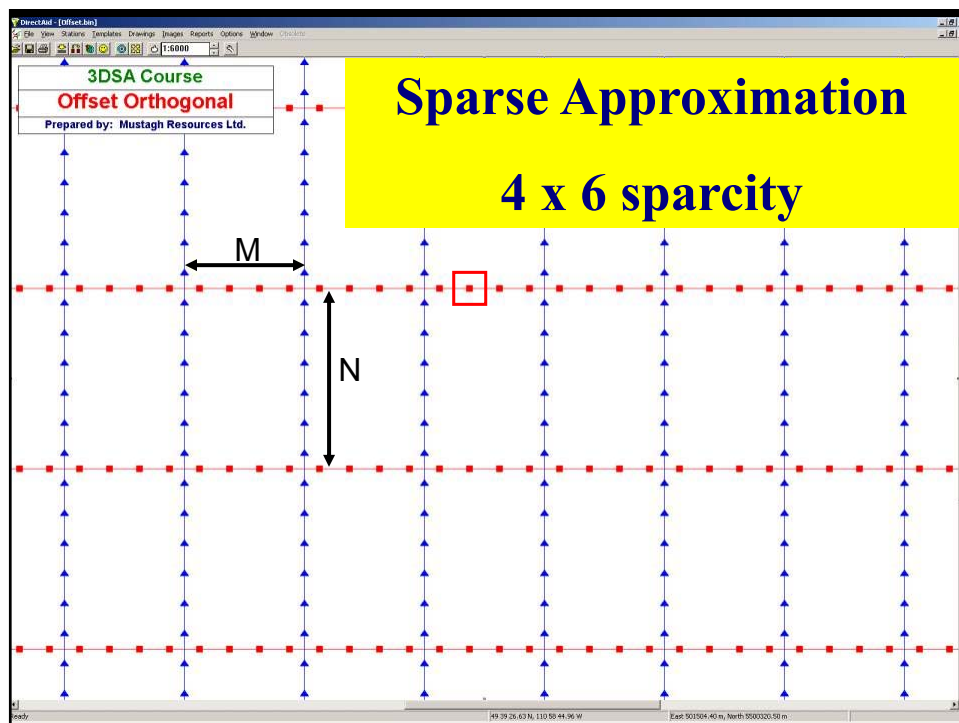
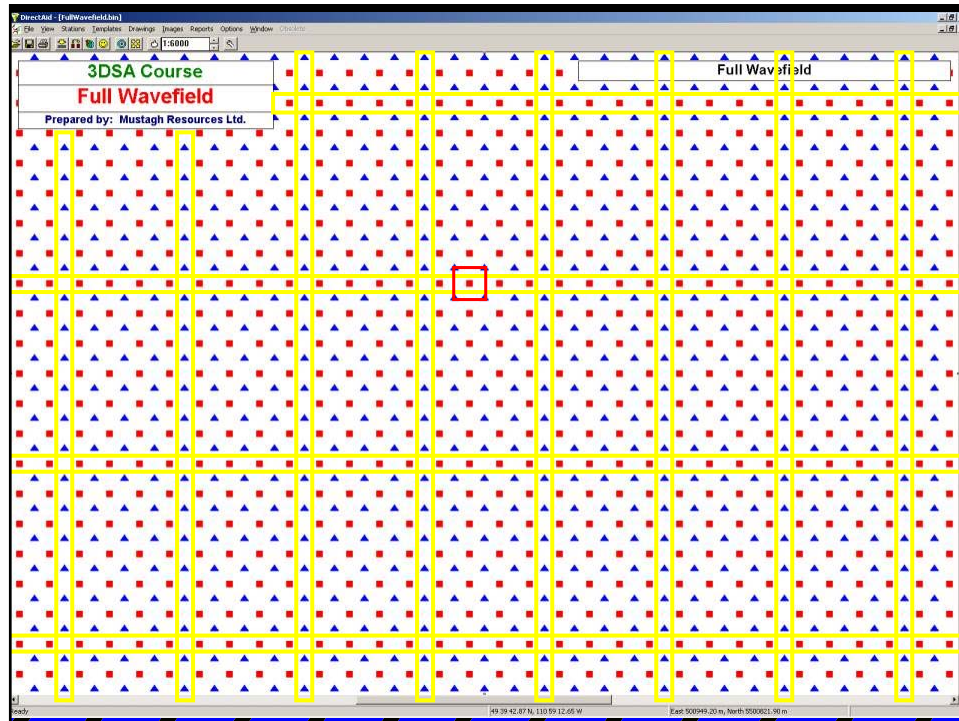


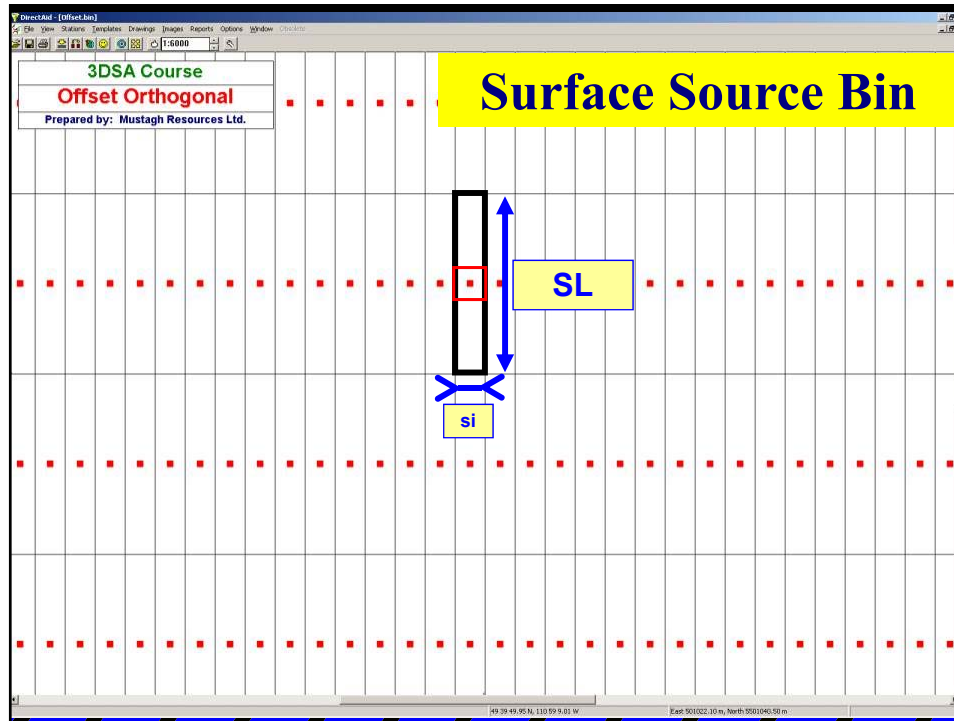
151

Receiver and Source line spacings

RL & SL

152





Calculation of 3-D Fold

- ◆ The rectangular fold will be:

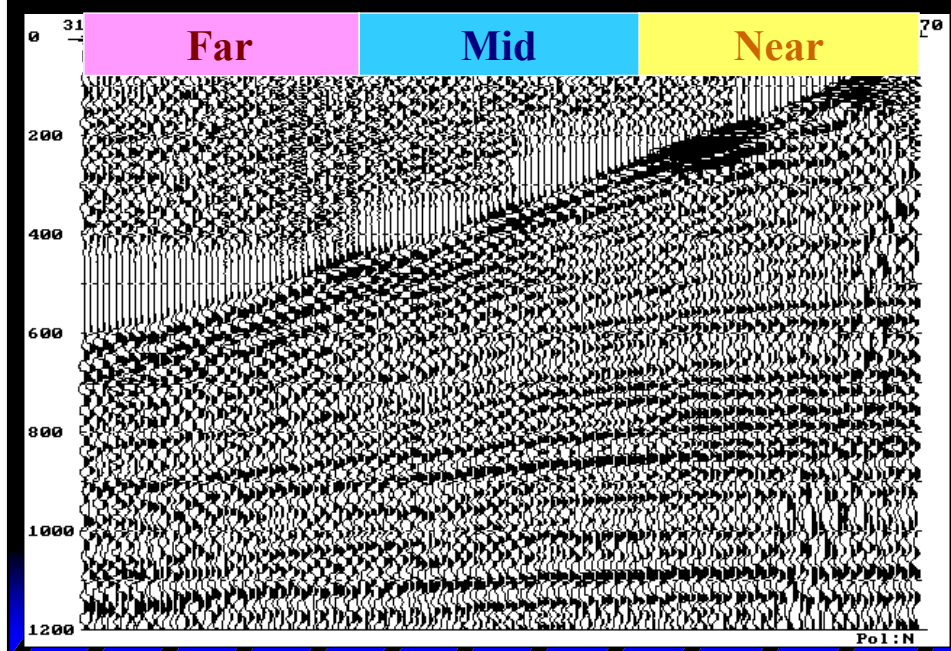
$$\frac{\text{Surface Patch Area}}{4 \times \text{Source Line Spacing} \times \text{Receiver Line Spacing}}$$

- ◆ And the offset limited (circular) fold will be :

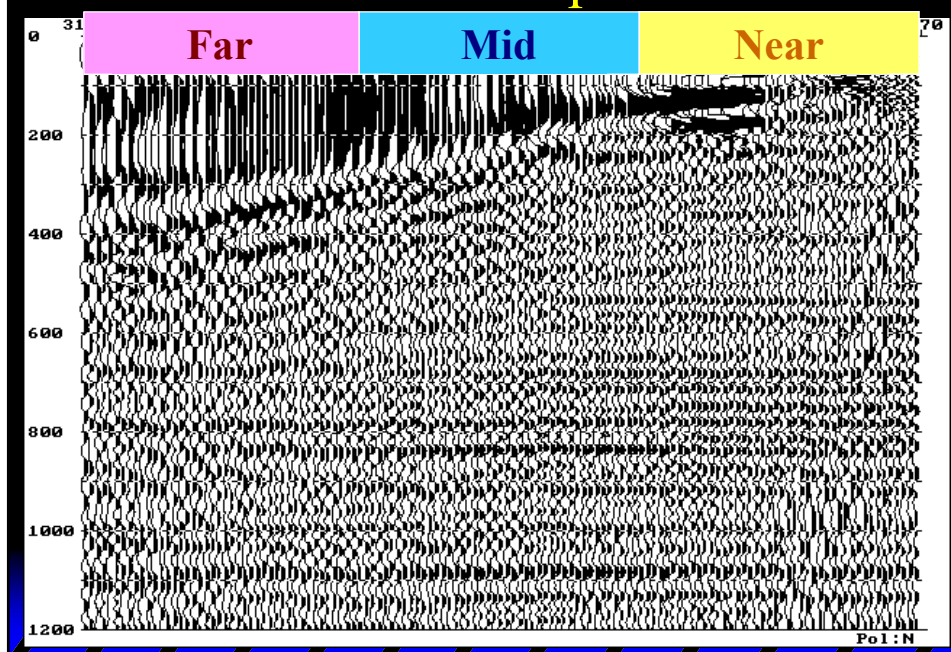
$$\frac{\pi X_{\max}^2}{4 \times SL \times RL}$$

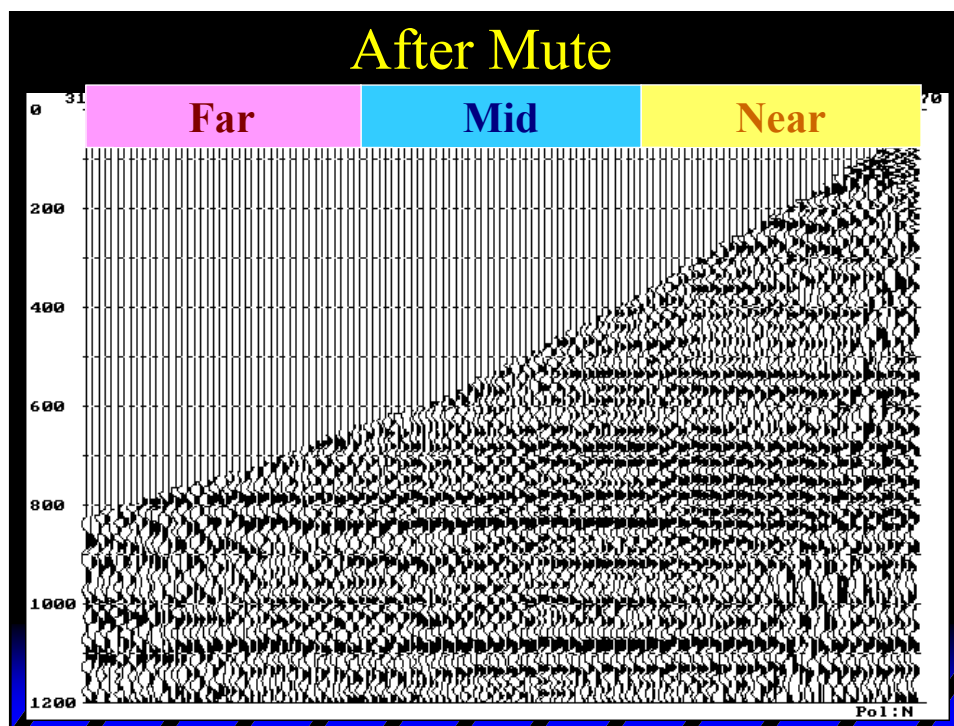
Assuming a patch encompassing all useable offsets ¹⁵⁶

Normal Move Out and Offset



After NMO Compensation





How Sparse can we go??
... Line Spacing

$$SL \times RL = \frac{\pi \times \text{Offset}_{\text{Max}}^2}{4 \times \text{Desired Fold}}$$

Avoid: $SL / RL = 1.0$

$SL / RL > 3/2$

$SL / RL < 2/3$



... but really, we mean:

$$R_i \times S_i \leq SL \times RL \leq \frac{\pi \times \text{Offset}_{\text{Max}}^2}{4 \times \text{Desired Fold}}$$

Avoid: $SL / RL = 1.0$
 $SL / RL > 3/2$
 $SL / RL < 2/3$



161

Parameters versus Noise

$$R_i \leq \text{Source Interval} \leq \frac{\text{Offset}_{\text{max}}}{\text{Desired Fold}}$$



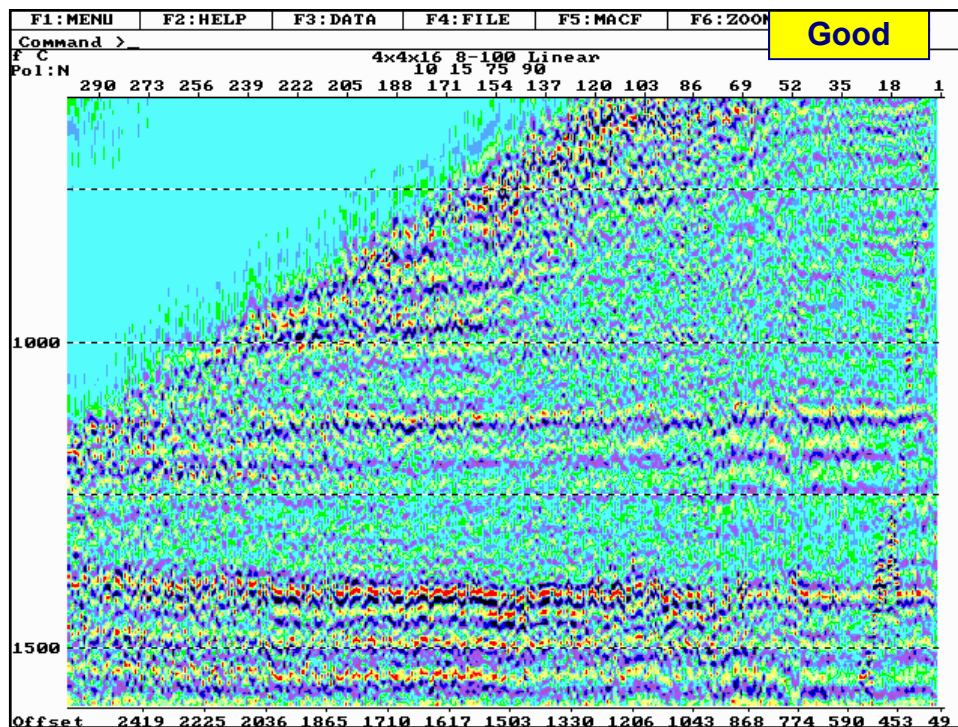
$$R_i \times S_i \leq SL \times RL \leq \frac{\pi \text{ Offset}_{\text{max}}^2}{4 \times \text{Desired Fold}}$$

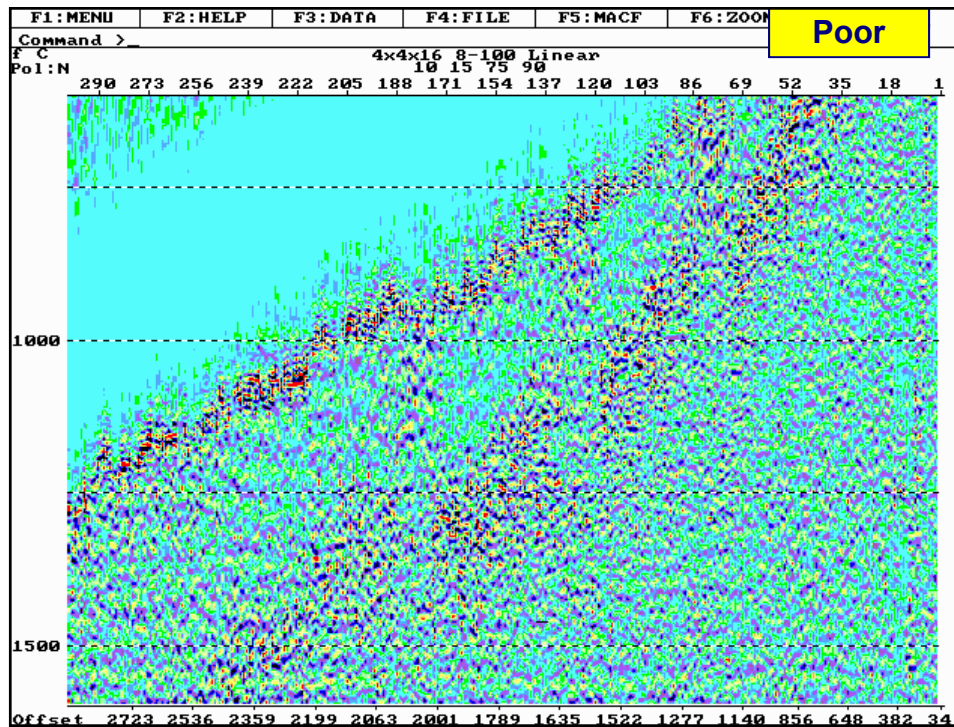
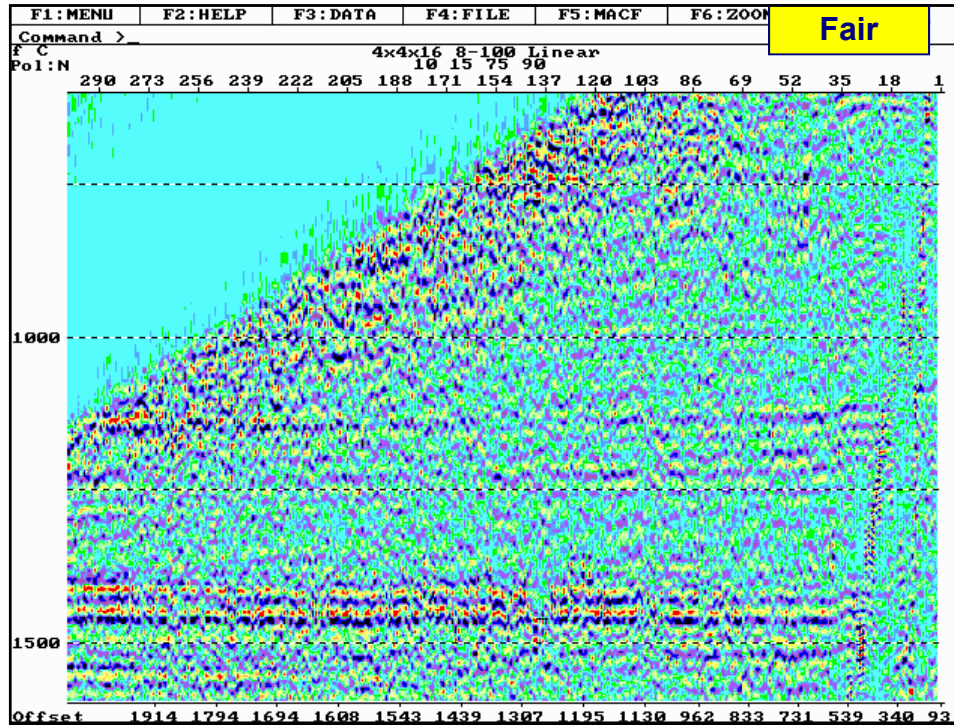
$\text{Costs} \propto \text{Noise}$

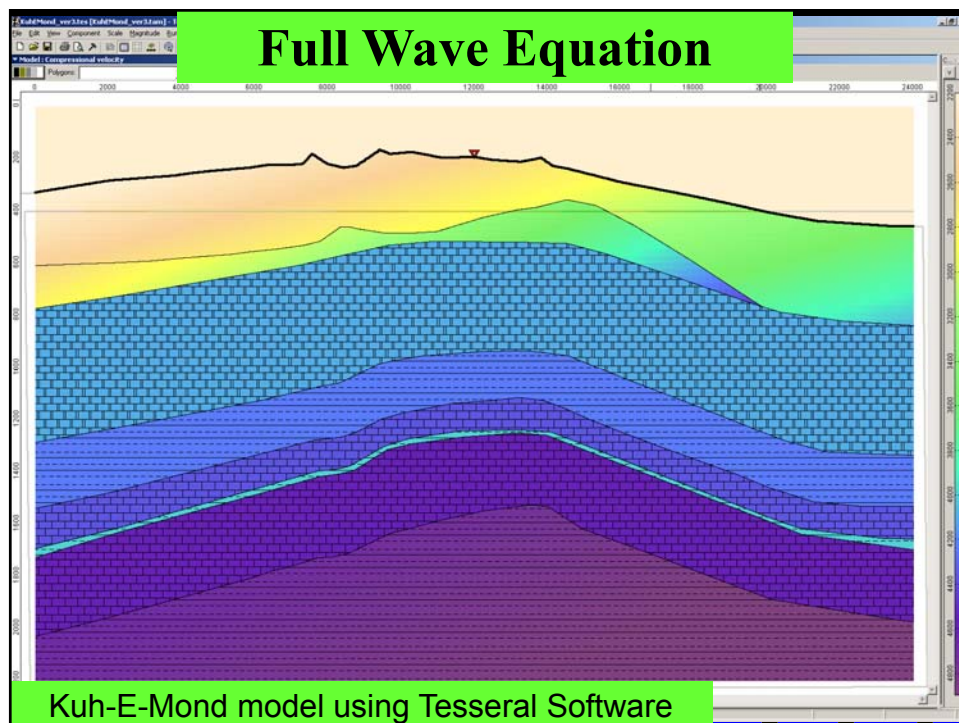
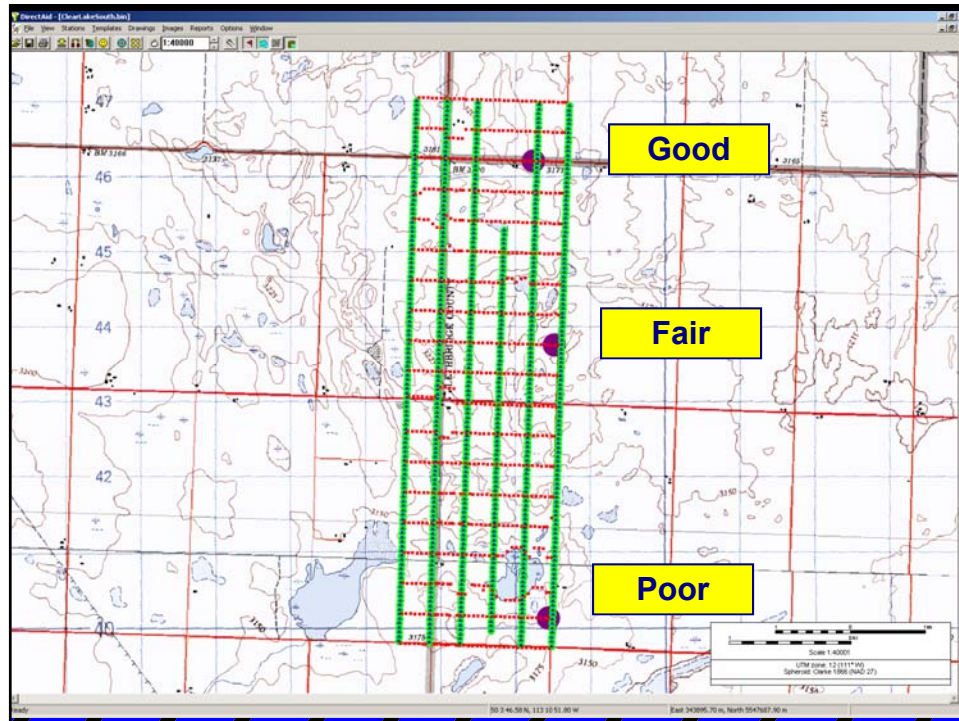
162

Flared Grids

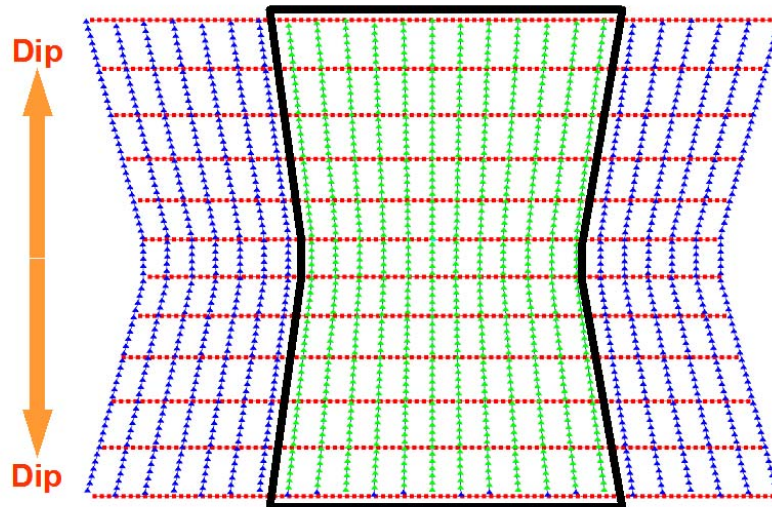
163







“Flared” Grid Designs



169

Use DA20 to show
Flared Grid program and statistics

Patch Analysis

Use DA10 to demonstrate patch analysis
and BOLEOL on As Built survey

171

3-D

Design for
Trace Density and
Statistical Diversity

172

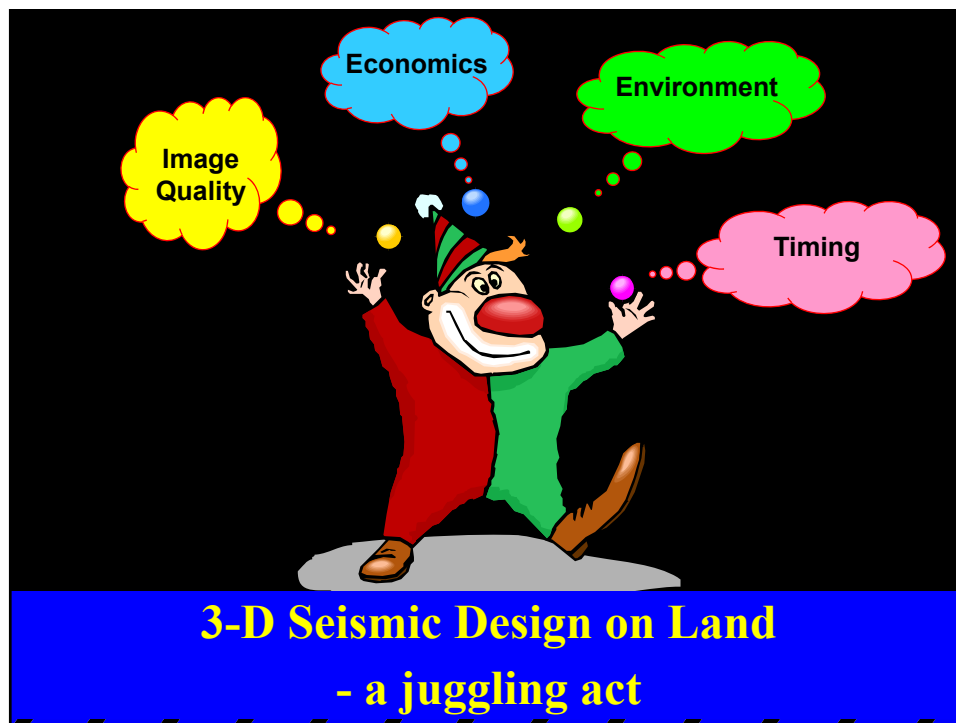
But Also :

Minimize Costs

Optimize Operational Efficiency

Minimize Environmental Impact

173



MUSTAGH RESOURCES LTD.

If you desire more information or would
like a copy of this tutorial, please
contact Norm Cooper or Yajaira Herrera

phone (403) 609-3866

fax (403) 609-3877

e:mail ncooper@mustagh.com

or yajaira@mustagh.com

web page <http://www.mustagh.com>

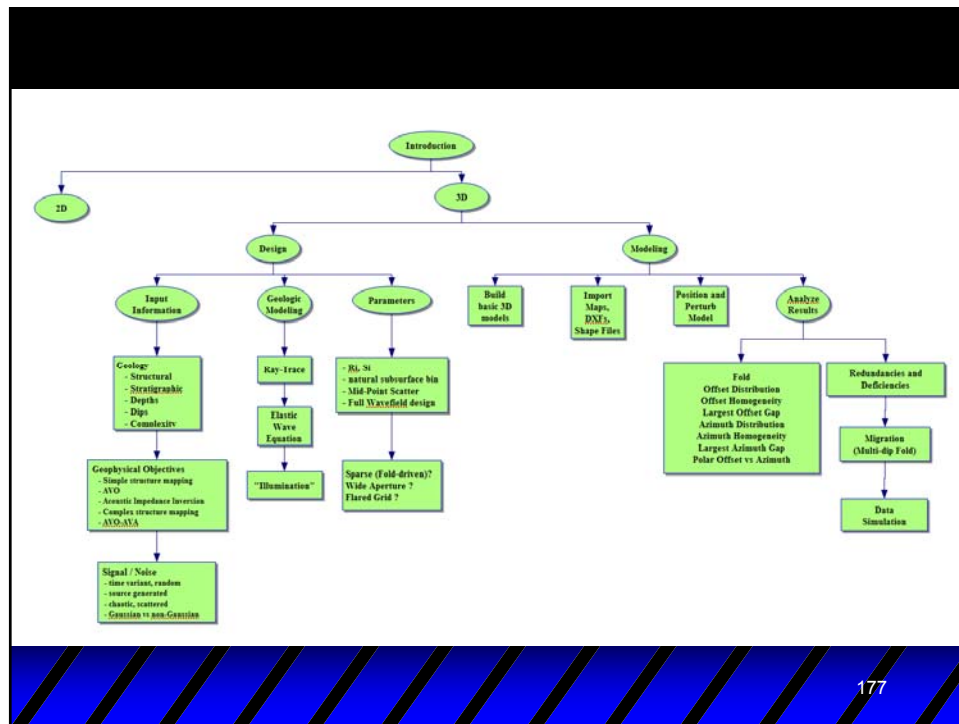
175

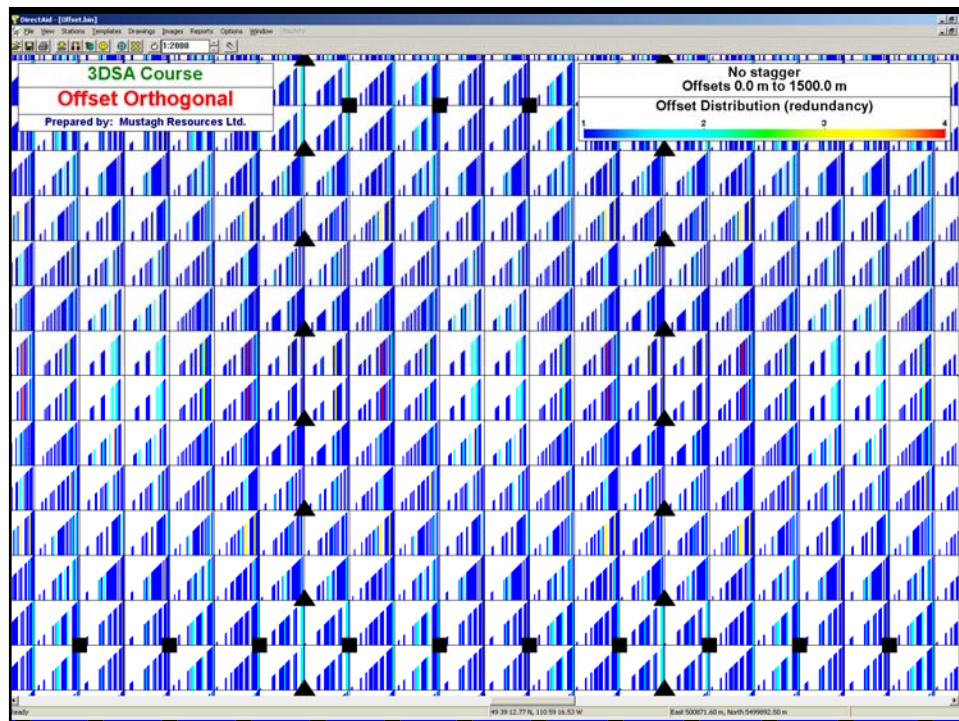
Or write us at:

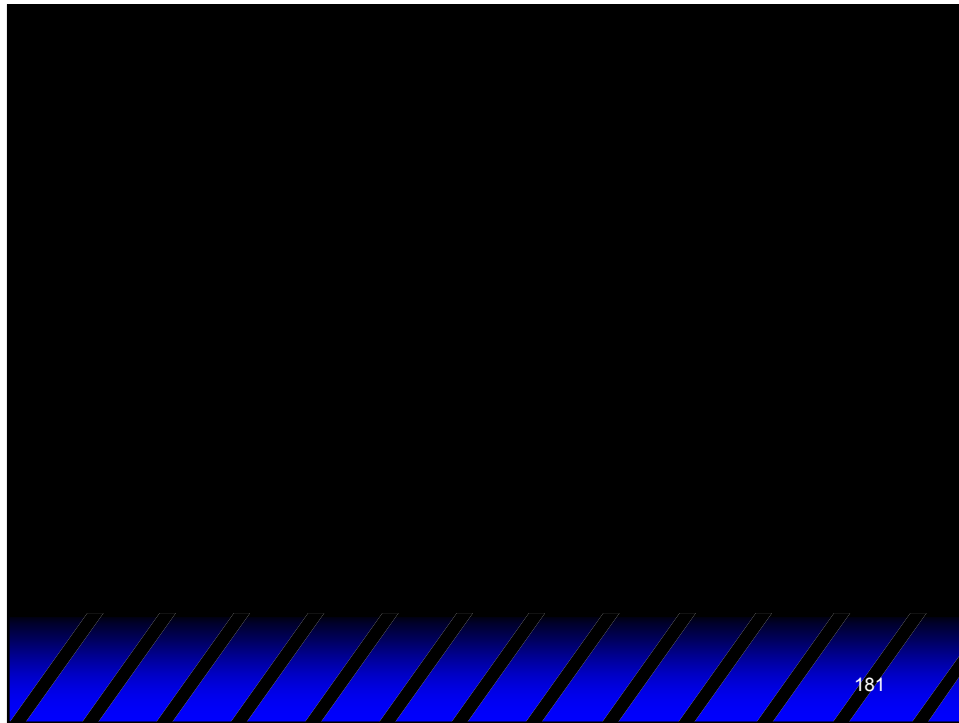
MUSTAGH RESOURCES LTD.

134 Hubman Landing
Canmore, Alberta
T1W 3L3
Canada

176



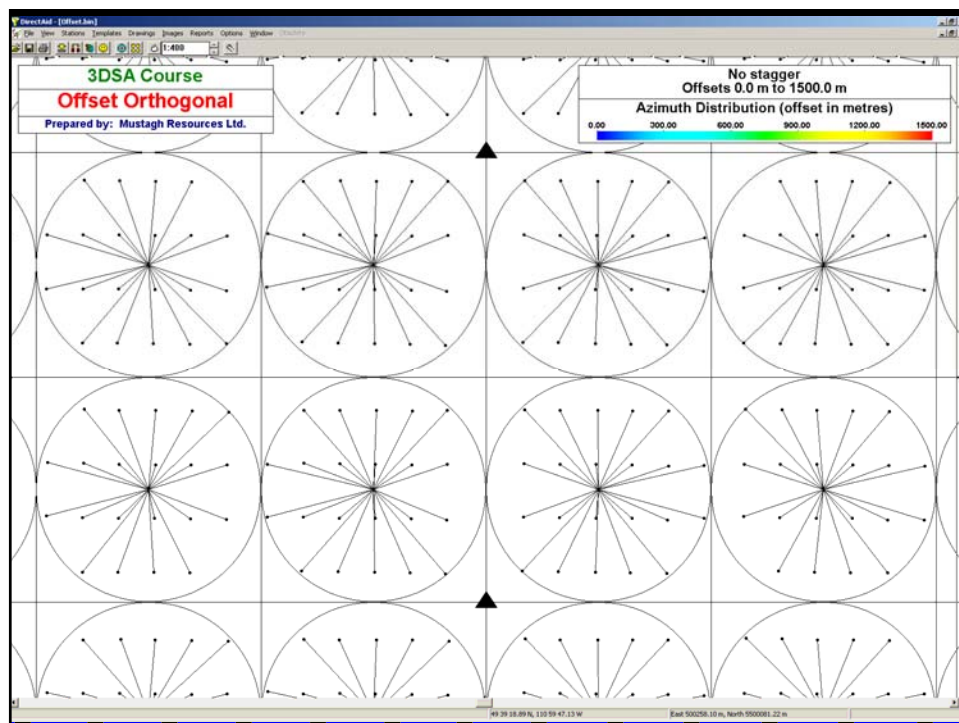
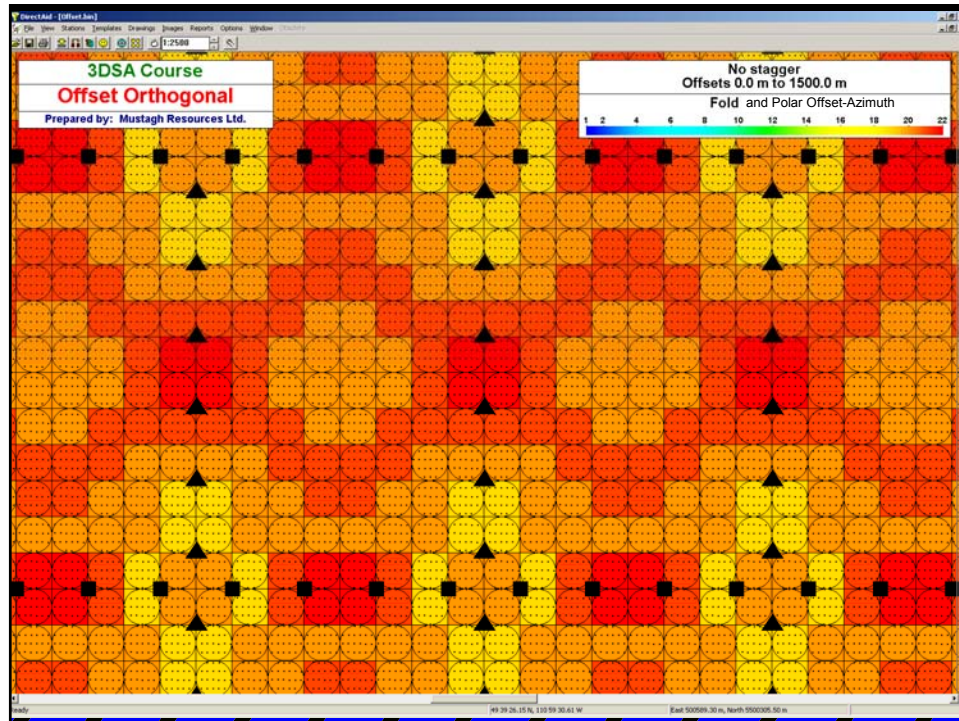


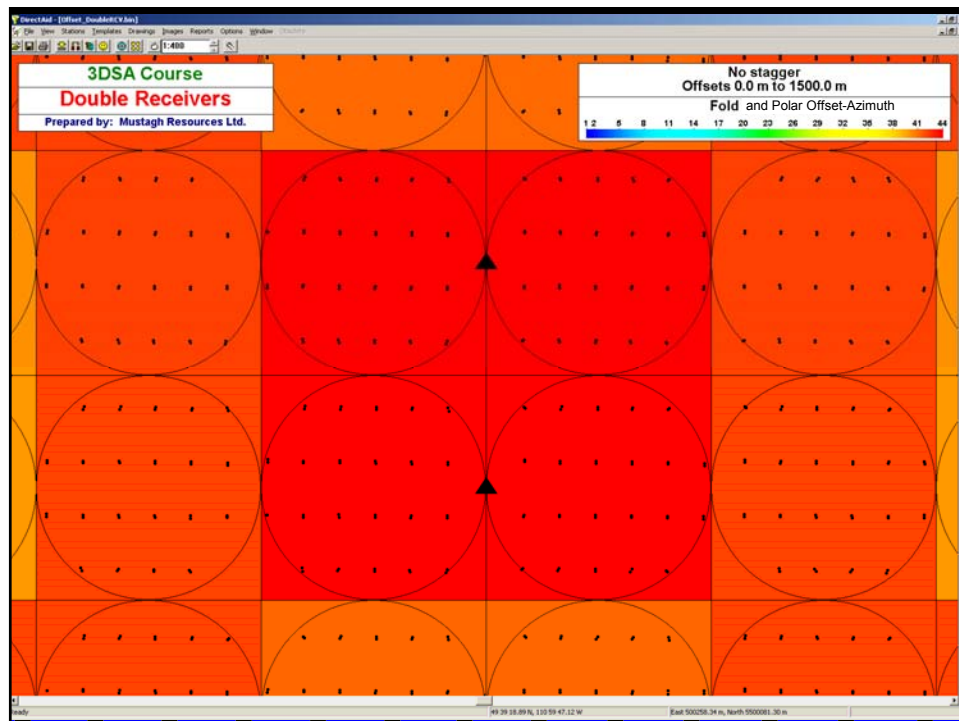
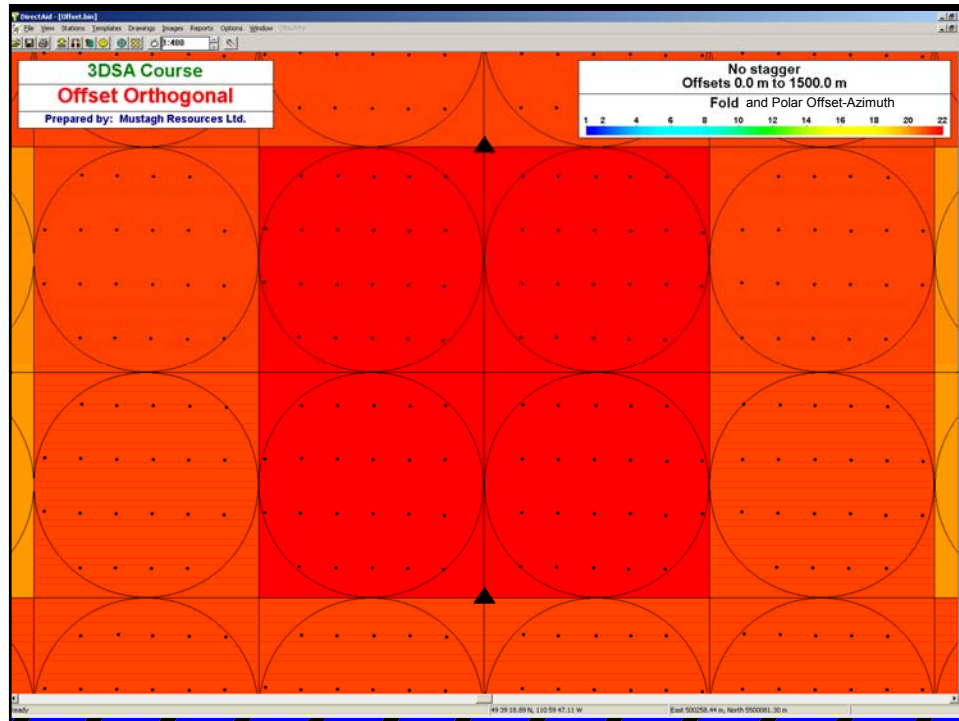


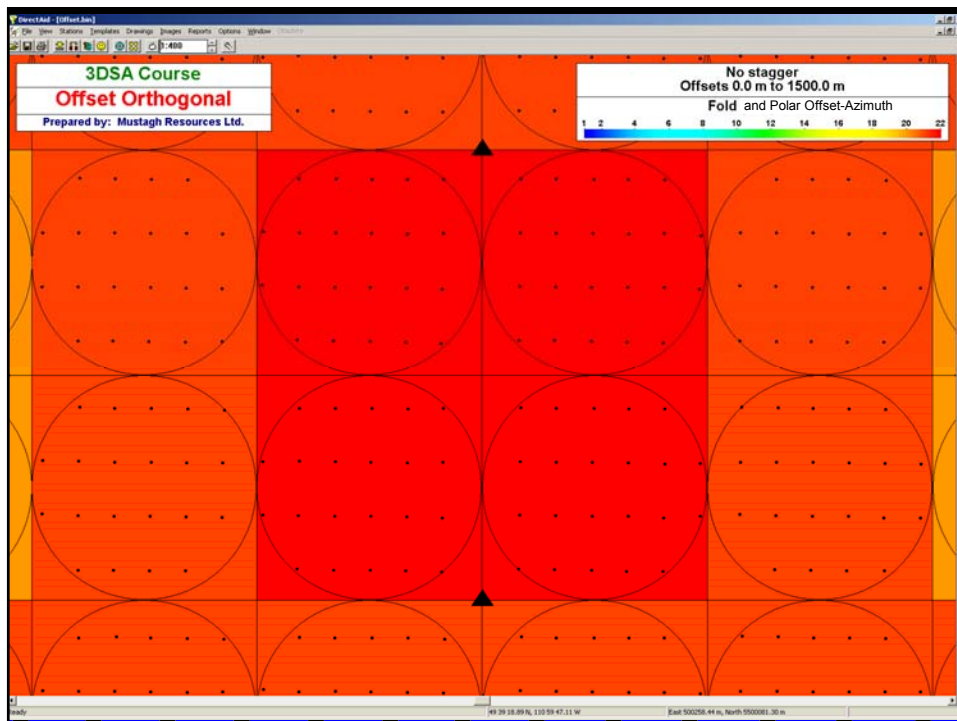
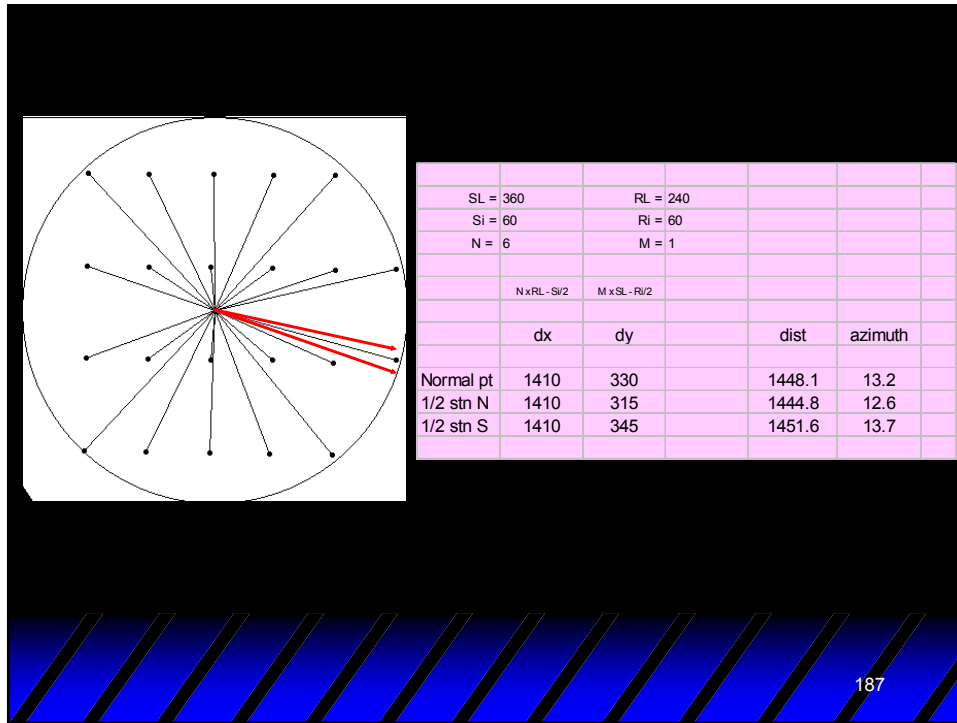
181

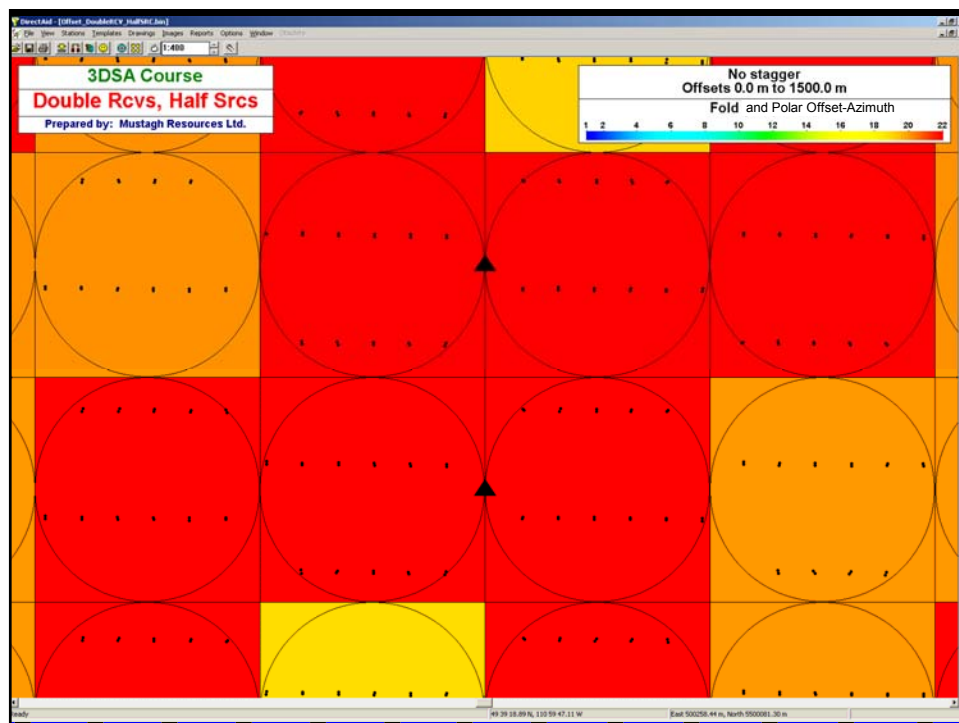
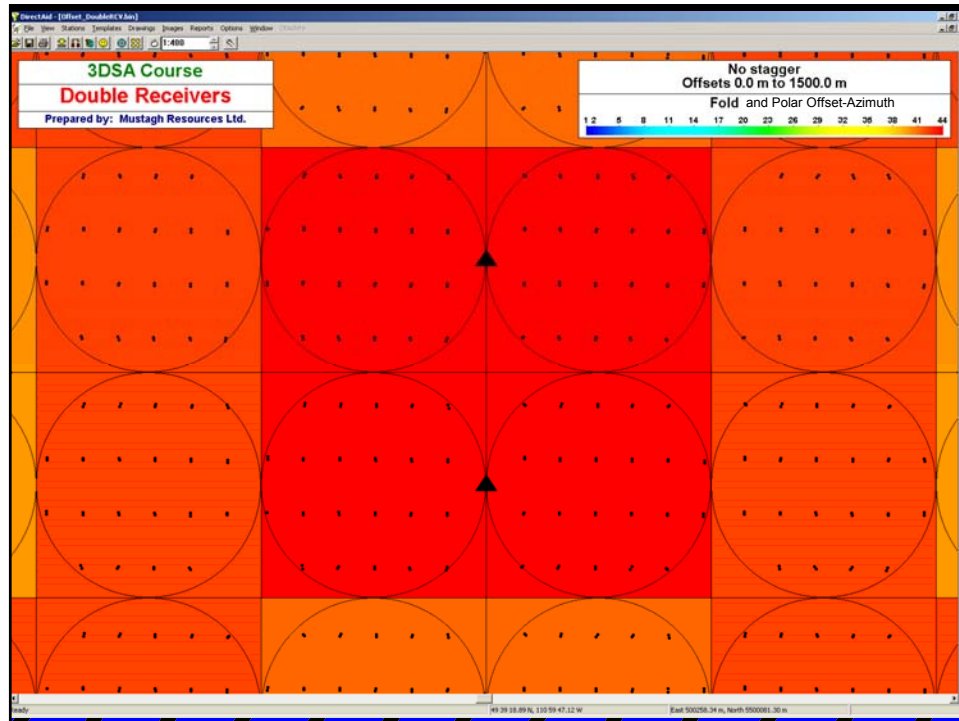


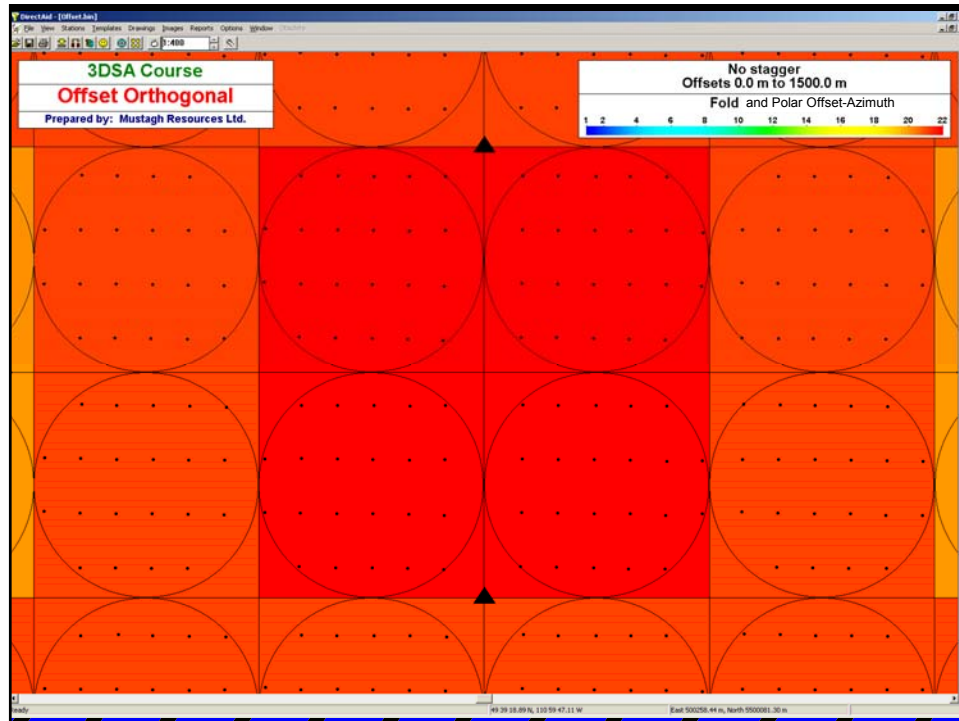
182





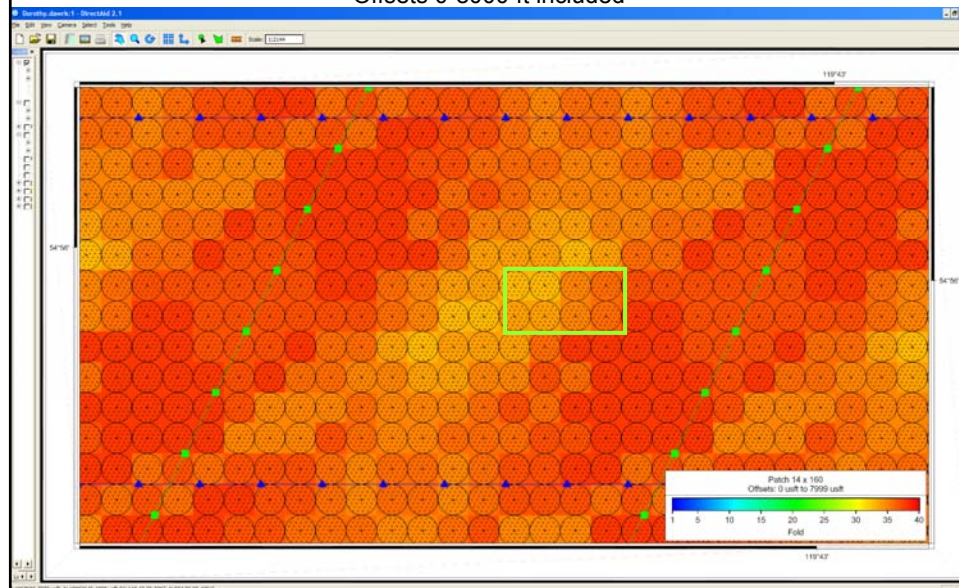






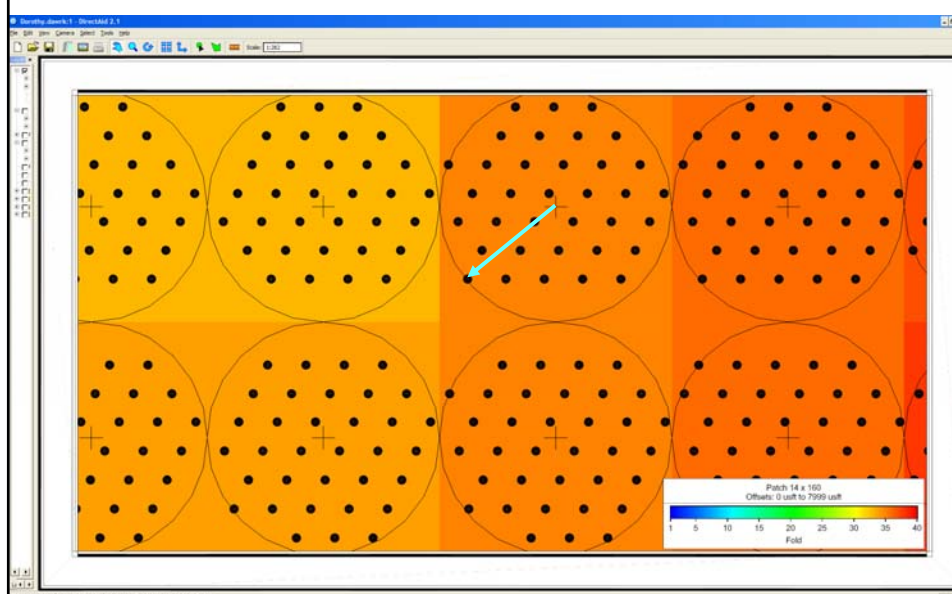
Basic diagonal grid 6 x 8 sparsity, 14 x 160 patch.
Detail for each bin showing fold in color and polar plot of offsets vs azimuths
(equivalent to “spider” plot – just the “feet”)

Offsets 0-8000 ft included



Detail from previous plot (detail are shown in green box)

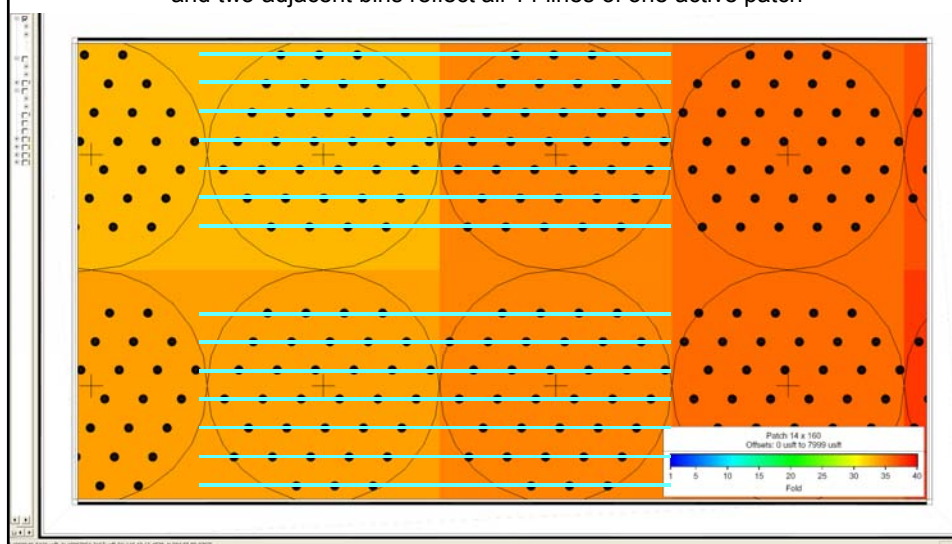
Polar plot where center of circle (+ sign) is zero offset
and distance along any radial increases to outer edge of circle (8000 ft)



Detail from previous plot (detail are shown in green box)

The apparent horizontal alignments of statistics are due to receiver line grid

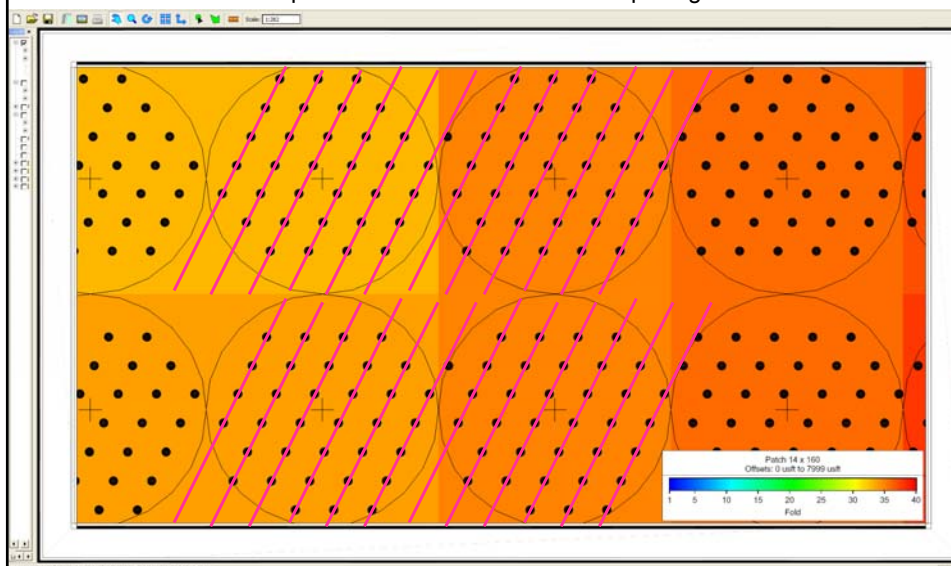
Cross-line separation between horizontal blue lines
equates to two times receiver line spacing
and two adjacent bins reflect all 14 lines of one active patch



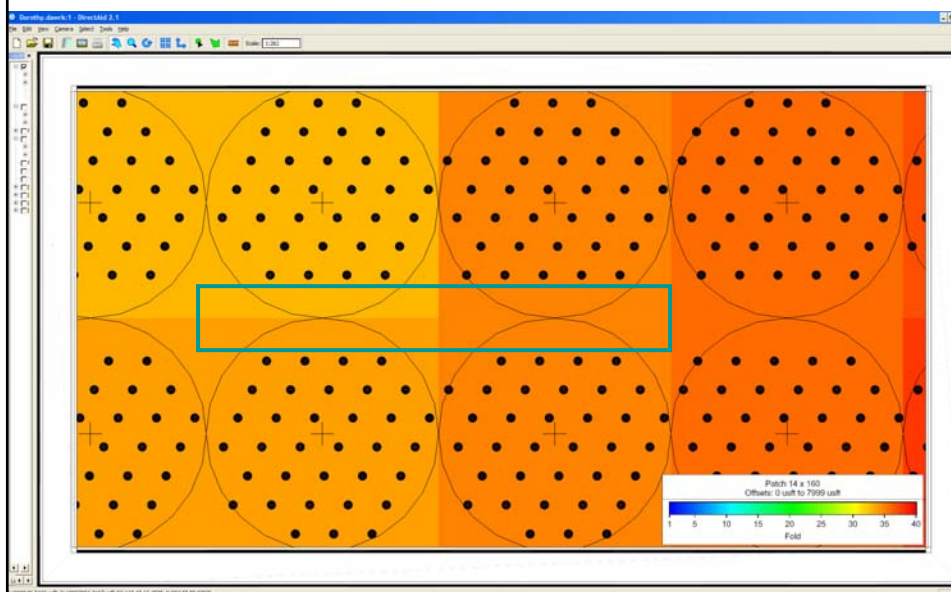
Detail from previous plot (detail are shown in green box)

The apparent diagonal alignments of statistics are due to source line grid

Cross-line separation between diagonal pink lines
equates to two times source line spacing

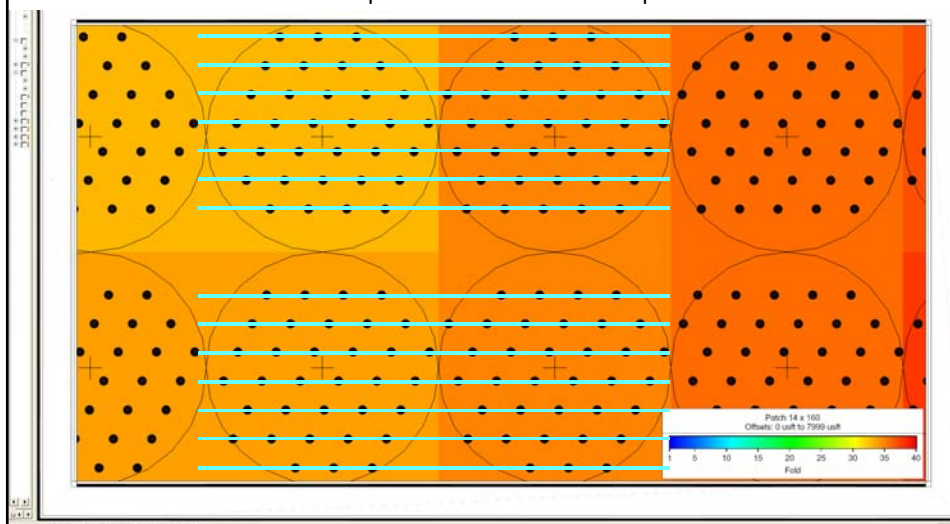


Offsets and azimuths in highlighted area are limited by 14 line patch.
A 16 line patch would have added more fold and more statistics in this area.
However, this is only useful for offsets extending to 8000 meters.

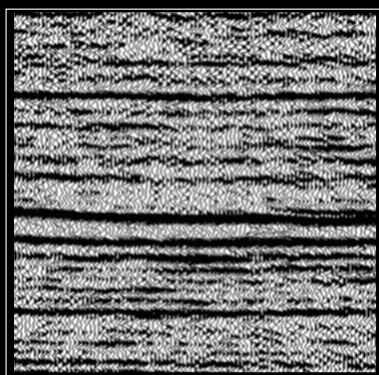


With this insight, it is easy to see that reducing receiver line spacing will bring the offset-azimuth statistics in closer proximity to each other and will provide better statistical sampling of source generated noise modes and of pre-stack migration operators.

BUT – if long offsets are important, sufficient lines must be recorded in order to preserve total cross-line aperture



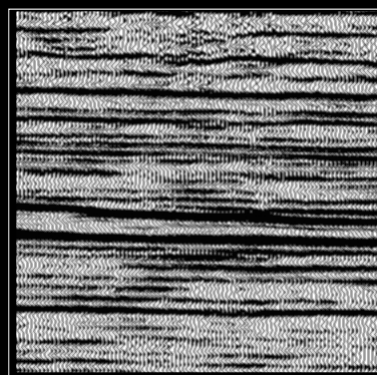
Geometric Noise – remember importance of statistical diversity !!



$$4 \text{ vibs} \times 4 \text{ swps} \times 1000 / 80$$

$$= 200 \text{ vib-swps/km}$$

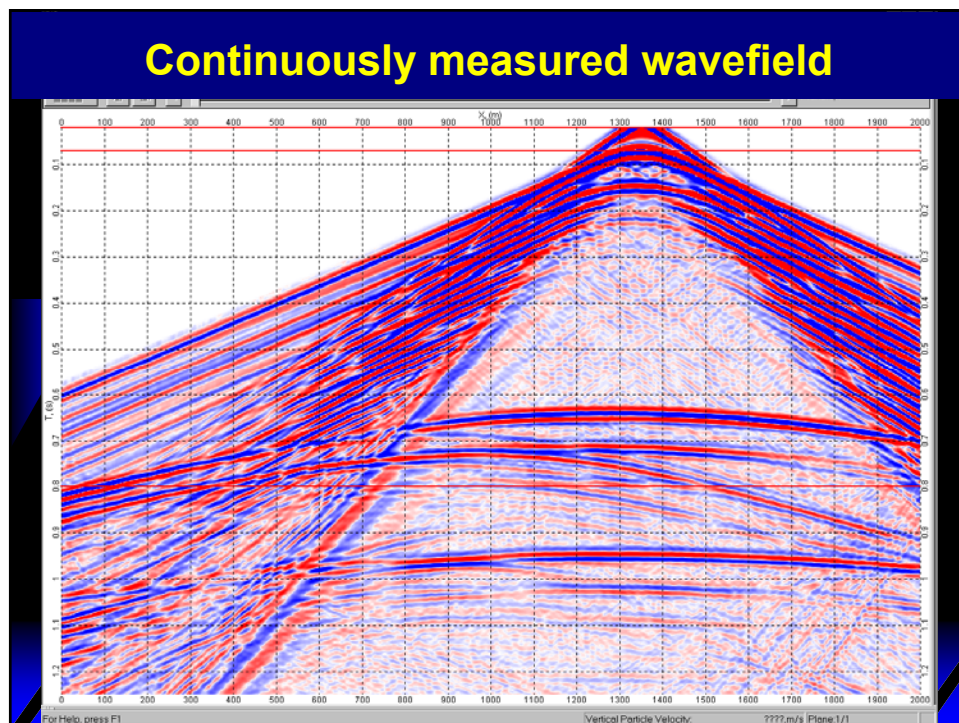
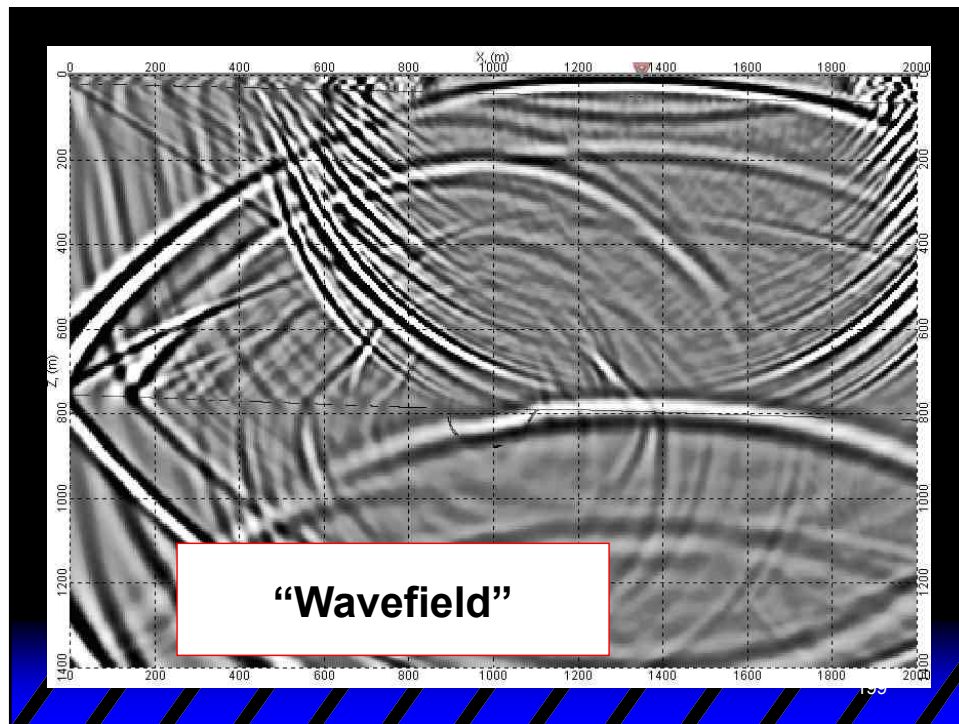
$$\text{S.I.} = 4 \times \text{R.I.}$$



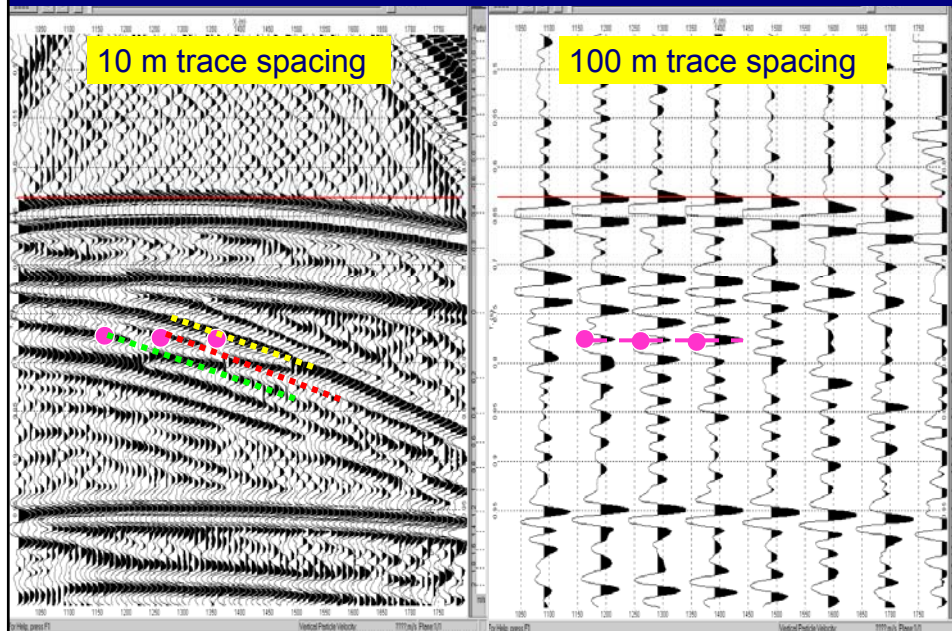
$$1 \text{ vib} \times 2 \text{ swps} \times 1000 / 20$$

$$= 100 \text{ vib-swps/km}$$

$$\text{S.I.} = \text{R.I.}$$



... discretely measured with geophone groups



Recommendations – 2D

Ensure Source Interval is less than or equal to maximum useable offset divided by desired fold

Where affordable, allow source interval to more closely approach receiver interval

A geophone array should be used distributed over the receiver interval

There is little value in recording receiver intervals smaller than two times the desired CDP interval

Recommendations – 3D

Ensure source and receiver line spacings are sufficiently small to deliver the desired fold within the maximum useable offsets

Where affordable, allow grid density tighter than the minimum predicted necessary density

A combination of midpoint scatter and arrays of about 1/3 of the source or receiver interval should be considered

There is little value in recording receiver intervals smaller than two times the desired subsurface bin size