



NPD FORCE Geophysical Methods Group

Data processing technology & case studies



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Schlumberger

Stavanger, 04-Oct-2022

Borehole Seismic Survey Types





Basic VSP Processing and Concepts



Transit Time Calculation

One-Way Time vs. Two Way Time



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Fundamentals of Borehole Seismic Technology (Kelsall, Rufino & Guerra, 2022)

Transit Time Calculation, T-Z Function

- Surface hydrophone time picks (Inflection Point or Trough)
- Downhole data stack and first arrival time picks (Inflection Point or Trough)
- Well deviation survey
- Source Offset and Azimuth
- Gun and sensor depth
- Replacement velocity



Transit Time Picks



Trace Number

Average Sea Velocity Estimation



Seafloor multiple (0.3892s) after first break

Velocity = 288m / 0.3892s = 740.5 m/s x 2 (Two Way Path) = **1481 m/s**



Transit Time Calculation and Velocities



	Client &	Well Inforr	nation			1			
		Company		1					
		Well		:					
		Logging I	Date	:					
	Survey I	nformation	ı						
		KB Eleva	tion	:					
		DF Elevat	tion	:					
		SRD		:					
		Sea Bed		:					
		Source D	epth	:					
		Source Offset Source Azimuth		:					
		Run		:					
		Replacen	nent Velo	city :					
		•	R	eference :	MSL				
Level Number	Vertical Depth	Measured Depth	Depth Interval	Observed Time	Vertical OWT	Time Differenc	Interval Velocity	Average Velocity	RMS Velocity
	From SRD (m)	From DF (m)	(m)	From Source (s)	From SRD (s)	е	(m/s)	(m/s)	(m/s)
	(,	()	(11)	(3)	137	(s)	(11/3/	(11(3)	(11/3/
1	0.0				0.0000				0
							1441		chlu
2	260.8	290.8		0.1847	0.1810			1441	1441 🛃
			15.2			0.0079	1924		erge
3	276.0	306.0		0.1921	0.1889			1461	1464 💍
			15.2			0.0080	1903		onfi
4	291.3	321.3		0.1997	0.1969			1479	1485 🔄
			15.2			0.0080	1909		23
5	306.5	336.5		0.2073	0.2049			1496	1504
			15.2			0.0078	1944		
6	321.7	351.7		0.2148	0.2127			15 12	1522
			15.2			0.0072	2 130		
7	336.9	367.0		0.2215	0.2 199			1532	1546
			15.2			0.0086	1765		
8	352.2	382.2		0.2299	0.2285			1541	1554
			15.2			0.0076	1995		
9	367.4	397.4		0.2372	0.2361			1556	1571
			15.2			0.0083	1835		
10	382.7	412.7		0.2453	0.2444			1565	1580
			15.2			0.0076	1996		
11	397.9	427.9		0.2526	0.2521			1578	1594

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Median Stack Results





Normalization







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Geometrical Spreading (GS)



The Gain exponent (x) is estimated using the V_{RMS} calculated from the VSP vertical time-depth curves assuming:

 $G = V_{RMS}^2 T \Longrightarrow InG = In\alpha + xInT.$

The gain exponent x is the slope of a best-fit linear estimate on a logarithmic T versus G plot. An average gain-exponent of **1.51** was estimated for the ZOVSP survey using this method.







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VSP Processing – Wavefield Separation





Estimation of Downgoing Energy





Enhance Upgoing Energy (1st Residual)



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Enhance Upgoing Energy





Enhance Upgoing Energy (2nd residual)



Residual wavefield contains : Random noise, events of out plane, shear waves, tube waves, etc.) – It is important to QC the residual to avoid taking relevant reflected signal when moveouts are complex.



Enhance Upgoing Energy





VSP Processing - Deconvolution





Deconvolution

The function of deconvolution is to precisely improve the resolution capabilities of the upgoing wavetrain: It removes the near surface multiples & the bubble effects It optimizes the resolution characteristics of the source signature

Deconvolution filters are computed on the downgoing wavetrain and applied to both the downgoing and upgoing waves



Wavefield Spectral Analysis



The FK spectra for the downgoing P and upgoing P wavefields both shows that the separation has been done properly. The maximum frequency bandwidth used for waveshaping deconvolution will be 5-120Hz but the corridor stack will also be delivered with lower frequency bandwidths.

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Wave Shaping Deconvolution on downgoing wavefield



Fundamentals of Borehole Seismic Technology (Kelsall, Rufino & Guerra, 2022)

Wave Shaping Deconvolution on upgoing wavefield





VSP Processing – Corridor Stack



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Corridor Stack





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Two-Way Time Depth (1) enhance signal close to the well (2) eliminate remaining upgoing multiples in the final VSP data



VSP Applications





Fundamentals of Borehole Seismic Technology (Kelsall, Rufino & Guerra, 2022)

I know it was too long....

Questions, Comments



Fundamentals of Borehole Seismic Technology (Kelsall, Rufino & Guerra, 2022)







VSP Events out of Plane

Stavanger, 04-Oct-2022

Vertical Incidence VSP

Distance (m)



Primary objectives:

- T-Z Function
- Well Tie

But ...

- Near to the fault?
- Hit target?

Deepest target





Max well deviation (35deg)

VIVSP Raw Data





VIVSP Rotated Data





VIVSP Migrated Image and Surface Seismic






VIVSP, NRY Component Analyses



Diffraction produced by fault?

- \rightarrow Process the event
- \rightarrow Calibrate model
- \rightarrow Depth/Time migration







Faults added to velocity model to match VIVSP events moveout

Produced Image After Event Isolation and Deconvolution







VIVSP Images





- High Resolution VIVSP
 Image to identify targets
- Fault Confirmation











Enhancing VSP resolution

Stavanger, 04-Oct-2022

Motivation for ZVSP Semblance Deconvolution (Haldorsen et al., 1994)

- ZVSPs are supposed to have higher resolution compared to surface seismic, however broadband and shallow high-resolution seismic surveys often challenge that
- Standard VSP processing often uses fixed bandwidth deterministic VSP deconvolution, adjusting limits at the deep target zone, thus throwing away data in shallower intervals
- Semblance Weighted Deconvolution allows outputting maximum bandwidth zero-phase time variant corridor stacks, like surface seismic data
- The maximum bandwidth is estimated "automatically" based on semblance
- Semblance Weighted Deconvolution allows ZVSP to match or surpass very high-resolution surface seismic surveys everywhere (except possibly over very low frequencies due to limitations of the VSP seismic source



Semblance Weighted Deconvolution



Haldorsen, J., Miller, D. and Walsh, J. [1994] Multichannel Wiener deconvolution of vertical seismic profiles. Geophysics 59

$$\hat{f}(\omega) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^{N} s_n(\omega) e^{-i\omega t_n}.$$

$$F(\omega) = \frac{\hat{f}^*(\omega)}{E_T(\omega)}, \qquad E_T(\omega) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^{N} |s_n(\omega)|^2.$$

$$F(\omega) = \frac{\hat{f}^*(\omega)}{|\hat{f}(\omega)|^2} S(\omega), \qquad S(\omega) = \frac{|\hat{f}(\omega)|^2}{E_T(\omega)}$$
(5)

- ightarrow In Semblance Weighted decon there is no white noise
- → The average downgoing signal is weighted at each frequency by the semblance across the receiver array
- → These Semblance Weighted decon filter attain two conflicting objectives of adaptively spiking the direct arrivals and of minimizing the incoherent noise

Possible trap with Z-stacks spectra





Well Tie – Standard Corridor Stack (5-95Hz) and Surface Seismic





Well Tie – Semblance Decon Corridor Stack and Surface Seismic



Surface Seismic XLINE +2ms shift to seismic to tie corridor stack





Well Tie – Semblance Decon Corridor Stack and High-Resolution Surface Seismic

Surface Seismic XLINE +2ms shift to seismic to tie corridor stack





Observations

New results using Semblance Weighted Deconvolution (Semblance Decon) show the following:

- 1. Previous observed well tie time-shift differences are maintained
- 2. WSD corridor stack is 0-phase with > 4-220 Hz in shallower section to ~ 4-150 Hz in the deeper TD section
- 3. Semblance Decon deconvolution effectively fills-in the 7 m depth source ghost notch around 107 Hz





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Look Ahead

Stavanger, 04-Oct-2022

Look Ahead Prediction Using VSP Downgoing TD Extrapolation

MD	OWT-SRD	TWT-SRD
1692.876587	0.785014	1.570028
1708.117554	0.792523	1.585046
1723.358521	0.79945	1.5989
1738.599609	0.806656	1.613312
1753.618042	0.814513	1.629026
1768.859009	0.821243	1.642486
1784.099976	0.829002	1.658004
1799.341064	0.8374	1.6748
1814.788818	0.845512	1.691024
1830.029907	0.853044	1.706088
1845.270752	0.860545	1.72109
1860.511963	0.868298	1.736596
1875.746338	0.875217	1.750434
1890.987183	0.882669	1.765338
1906.228271	0.889697	1.779394
1921.46936	0.897031	1.794062
1936.767334	0.903776	1.807552
1952.008301	0.911088	1.822176
1967.249268	0.917615	1.83523
1982.490356	0.924373	1.848746
1997.648682	0.931048	1.862096
2012.889526	0.937543	1.875086
2028.130615	0.944084	1.888168
2043.371582	0.95072	1.90144
2058.308838	0.956621	1.913242
2073.549805	0.962534	1.925068
2088.790771	0.968871	1.937742
2104.031738	0.974948	1.949896
2119.596436	0.981396	1.962792
2134.837402	0.987005	1.97401
2150.078369	0.99326	1.98652
2165.319336	0.998801	1.997602

Look-Ahead VSP



2nd order Polynomial Fitting D=419.01 t^2 - 405.19t + 1300.6

TWT of Top Permian Carbonate: X.2306sec Predicted Depth: XX81.5m MD Sonic not used for Extrapolation

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Look Ahead Prediction Using VSP-Calibrated RT-Sonic

MD		
	OWI-SKD	TWT-SKD
1717.2205	0.79659	1.59318
1722.2205	0.79898	1.59796
1727.2205	0.8014	1.6028
1732.2205	0.80377	1.60754
1737.2205	0.80611	1.61222
1742.2205	0.80843	1.61686
1747.2205	0.8108	1.6216
1752.2205	0.81305	1.6261
1757.2205	0.81543	1.63086
1762.2205	0.81803	1.63606
1767.2205	0.8206	1.6412
1772.2205	0.82321	1.64642
1777.2205	0.82582	1.65164
1782.2205	0.82825	1.6565
1787.2205	0.83088	1.66176
1792.2205	0.83343	1.66686
1797.2205	0.83608	1.67216
1802.2205	0.83862	1.67724
1807.2205	0.84125	1.6825
1812.2205	0.84383	1.68766
1817.2205	0.84646	1.69292
1822.2205	0.84895	1.6979
1827.2205	0.85159	1.70318
1832.2205	0.85421	1.70842
1837.2205	0.85651	1.71302
1842.2205	0.85899	1.71798
1847.2205	0.86147	1.72294
1852.2205	0.86398	1.72796
1857.2205	0.86656	1.73312
1862.2205	0.86903	1.73806
1867.2205	0.8714	1.7428
1872.2205	0.87369	1.74738
1877.2205	0.87592	1.75184
1882.2205	0.87823	1.75646
2332.2205	1.06056	2.12112
2337.2205	1.06246	2.12492
2342.2205	1.06431	2.12862
2347,2205	1.06617	2.13234
2352 2205	1.06803	2.13606
2052.2205	1.00000	2.10000



2nd order Polynomial Fitting: D=447.67 t^2 – 482.24t + 1343.4

TWT of Top Permian Carbonate: X.2306 s Predicted Depth: XX75.0 m MD Since Sonic log extends till XX52m MD, we have better control over the Depth extrapolation



Look-Ahead VSP



Look Ahead Prediction using RT-Sonic Log and Seismic Velocity Sonic Velocity Sonic Velocity Sonic Velocity



Integrating seismic and sonic velocity gives more accurate profile compared to Seismic alone



Depth Corridor Stack: Time to Depth Conversion Using Calibrated Velocity Model by Travel Time Tomography



Previous model was blocked and calibrated with VSP times (left) used for depth converting corridor stack (right)

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Fundamentals of Borehole Seismic Technology (Kelsall, Rufino & Guerra, 2022)

Summary

- From the different used methodologies, the estimated top of carbonates depths were obtained
- > Predicted depth different methods:

XX81m MD, XX75m MD, XX71m MD & XX79m MD

AVG : XX76.5 m MD. (+5 m from final drilled depth)

Look-Ahead VSP









Multiples – Analysis From VSP



Stavanger, 04-Oct-2022

Borehole Multiples

Upgoing Multiples





Borehole Multiples

Downgoing Multiple





Borehole Multiples

All Multiples





Corridor Stack





First Residual Wavefield (Wavefield Separation)



Time



Input: Downgoing After Wavefield Separation





Downgoing (Primaries and Multiples) – Zero Phase









Downgoing (Primaries Only) – Zero Phase







Downgoing (Multiples Only) – Zero Phase

Deconvolved Downgoing wavefield : Subtraction of wavefields







Input: Upgoing after Wavefield Separation





Upgoing (Primaries and Multiples) – Zero Phase



RECEIVER_POSITION_Z (m)



Deconvolved Upgoing wavefield : Prediction Time (2.5 sec), Waveshaping Deconvolution (50ms)



Upgoing (Primaries Only) – Zero Phase



RECEIVER_POSITION_Z (m)



Deconvolved Upgoing wavefield : Prediction Time (50ms) Waveshaping Deconvolution (50ms)



True Amplitude Amplitude Scale Change

Upgoing (Multiples Only) – Zero Phase





True Amplitude Upgoing (Multiples Only) – Zero Phase & Multiple Corridor Stack 1



RECEIVER_POSITION_Z (m)



CS1: Start Time: TT + 150ms Window Length: 100ms, and 8 traces above 605.27m TVDSS are chosen for the look ahead section.





Upgoing (Multiples Only) – Zero Phase & Multiple Corridor Stack



RECEIVER_POSITION_Z (m)



Deconvolved Upgoing wavefield : Subtraction of wavefields

True Amplitude

CS2: Start Time: TT + 150ms Window Length: 100ms, and 8 traces above 1092.75m TVDSS are chosen for the look ahead section.



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Fundamentals of Borehole Seismic Technology (Kelsall, Rufino & Guerra, 2022)

Upgoing (Multiples Only) – Zero Phase & Multiple Corridor Stack



RECEIVER_POSITION_Z (m)



Deconvolved Upgoing wavefield : Subtraction of wavefields

True Amplitude

CS3: Start Time: TT + 150ms Window Length: 100ms, and 8 traces above 1802.03m TVDSS are chosen for the look ahead section.



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Corridor Stacks (Multiples and Primaries) with Surface Seismic - TOP



No shift applied to Surface Seismic



ZERO-PHASE

REFLECTIVITY









Phase Analysis & Borehole Seismic Quantitative Match

Stavanger, 04-Oct-2022

Corridor Stack with Seismic along well – Time – Top



No time and phase shift is applied to the surface seismic



Phase Analysis – Correlation Map

Maximum Correlation Point

- Maximum coherence of 0.8341 is observed at -0.002s time shift and 13deg phase shift.
- Without any phase shift the maximum coherence is at -0.003s time shift





Corridor Stack with Seismic along well – Time – Top



No time and phase shift is applied to the surface seismic



Corridor Stack with Phase and Time Shifted Seismic





Quantitative Borehole Matching - terminology





Quantitative Borehole Matching - terminology

- The algorithms derive from Roy White's original partial coherency matching (1980), *extended to include frequency-dependent Predictability and Confidence*
- **Predictability** frequency-dependent measure of similarity between two traces
- **Confidence** statistical confidence measure calculated for the Predictability
- Goodness of Fit normalized cross-correlation between filtered VSP and Seismic
- **Transfer Function (wavelet)** from spectral division between Seismic and VSP

 $seismic(t) \sim vsp(t) * tf(t) \rightarrow w1(t) \sim w2(t) * tf(t)$

→ $TF(f) \sim W1(f)W2^*(f) / W2(f)W2^*(f)$

eophysical Prospecting, 1980, 28, 333-358.
PARTIAL COHERENCE MATCHING OF
SYNTHETIC SEISMOGRAMS WITH SEISMIC
TRACES*

R.E. WHITE**



Standard three-way well ties



Standard well tying workflows provide:

- Indicators of match quality using synthetics & VSP: *correlation coefficient, time and phase shifts*
- Best matching location using synthetic
- Seismic wavelet extracted using reflectivity log

Quantitative borehole matching makes full use of the VSP corridor stack.

→ What does it provide?



Predictability, confidence and seismic wavelet

PSDM in time



Using VSP corridor stack:

- Analysis time window of 450 ms around target
- Predictability over ~ 5 - 45Hz
- Confidence > 90% ٠ over 5 - 45Hz
- The Transfer Function is a simple wavelet, carrying the time and phase-shifts

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VSP scanning around the well

Area of study: 2 km x 2km



- At best match location with predictability of 69%, the seismic is phase rotated 41° and shifted 12 ms
- At well location, the seismic is phase rotated by 51° and shifted 21 ms relative to the VSP
- The cross-correlation of VSP & seismic is low far from the well and there are faults, thus the discontinuities



Correcting time and phase shifts *(inline)*





Correcting also the amplitude spectra *(inline)*





Correcting also the amplitude spectra (crossline)

4-80 Hz corridor stack

4-80 Hz corridor stack

at best matching location at best matching location **VSP** match PSDM filtered



Frequency Spectra

- Surface seismic frequency spectrum is not flat
- VSP waveshape deconvolution wavelet is Butterworth 6th order
- After match filtering the surface seismic spectrum is balanced over the usable bandwidth











Q(z) Factor



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Q Analysis





Q Analysis by Spectral Ratio Method



The multi spectral ratio method uses all possible pairs of receivers to improve the statistical significance of Q estimates. The total number of trace pairs available from N traces is N (N-1)/2. In practice about half of all possible receiver point pairs have insufficient time difference and can be discarded based on a quality of fit condition coefficient threshold.



True amplitude Cable Legth = Measured Depth

Muted Downgoing Wavefield – Input for Q(z) Analysis



- Source Signature Deconvolution in Raw Shots
- Stack Raw Shot after SSD
- - Wave field separation - Velocity filter
- Muting around First Arrival
 - 60ms



Time [s]



Q Analysis – Multi-Spectral Ratios and Spectral Ratios



Q(z) VSP layered Velocity Model – Input for Surface Seismic Migration











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Fundamentals of Borehole Seismic Technology



VSP Shear Waves

Armstrong et al 2001

Stavanger, 04-Oct-2022

Land VSP P-Wave Source Shear Waves & Sonic Calibration





Armstrong et al 2001



Land VSP P-Wave Source Shear Waves & Sonic Calibration





Land VSP P-Wave Source Zero Offset VSP



VSP Shear Waves & Sonic Calibration



Drift DTSM: 6ms



ZVSP and Synthetics





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Offset VSP Processing



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2D Elastic Model Calibration and Validation



S-Wave

Tomographic travel time inversion.

PrP and PrS colored events are overlaying the real data. Velocity model fits arrival travel times and reflected waves.

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Offset VSP PrP and PrS Images

P wave Image



Ps Image

Benefits

- Elastic Model
- Qp and Qs
- OVSP Fault Confirmation

Aid on Surface Seismic Processing

- Multicomponent acquisition and processing.
- AVO calibration













Benefits of Walkaway VSP

Lateral reflection coverage under and away from the well: Walkaway VSP reflection points extend und and away from both sides of the well. The resulting image similar benefits of deconvolution and band width seen in the VSP.

Shear velocity: Mode-converted down and up shear generated from the oblique ray-path can be used to determine shear velocity.

PS & SS reflectivity: Mode-converted shear generated from the oblique ray-path can be used to observe where mode conversions occur and what the PS and SS wavefield is.

Direct measurement of AVO/AVA: A direct measurement of AVO/AVA of reflectors directly beneath the bottom of the receiver array can be made.

Direct measurement of anisotropy: A direct measurement of polar anisotropy parameters can be made. Multiple walkaway lines can provide azimuthal anisotropy analysis.

Q filter determination: A Q filter more applicable to surface seismic can be determined using the downgoing wavefield from the walkaway.



Walkaway Survey Design



Ray Tracing

Reflection Points



Walkaway VSP for Imaging 3C Vector Wavefield Decomposition Down P Donw Ps Reflected P-p Reflected P-s





Anisotropy Estimation by Slowness and Polarization




Isotropic & Anisotropic TT residuals



Diffraction related focusing of direct arrival causing TT picking ambiguity – near surface overburden effect?

Scott Dingwall, Jean-Claude Puech & Fraser Louden, EAGE 2003

Walkaway VSP to guide sidetrack - offshore





WVSP Imaging: Converted P->S, together with Pp image



Benefits

- Elastic Model
- Base of Salt confirmation
- Pinch-out mapping
- Help on 3DVSP design

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Zero Phase NMO corrected upgoing scalar compressional wavefield



Scott Dingwall, Jean-Claude Puech & Fraser Louden, EAGE 2003



VTI Model Validation -2



Qualitative AVO comparison – VTI synthetic & measured

Scott Dingwall, Jean-Claude Puech & Fraser Louden, EAGE 2003





Quantitative AVO comparison – VTI synthetic & measured

Scott Dingwall, Jean-Claude Puech & Fraser Louden, EAGE 2003





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Summary

• Objective driven and integrated survey design, acquisition & interpretation key to success

- AVO ambiguity resolved via integration of full waveform sonic data and multi offset VSP
- Borehole calibration essential for long offset AVO



Additional Value

• Calibrated 1D VTI model subsequently used for true amplitude pre-stack parameterisation of surface towed streamer volume

- Calibration of anisotropic pre stack time velocity model
- Entire 3D acquisition volume to be re-processed based on test borehole calibrated processing project

