



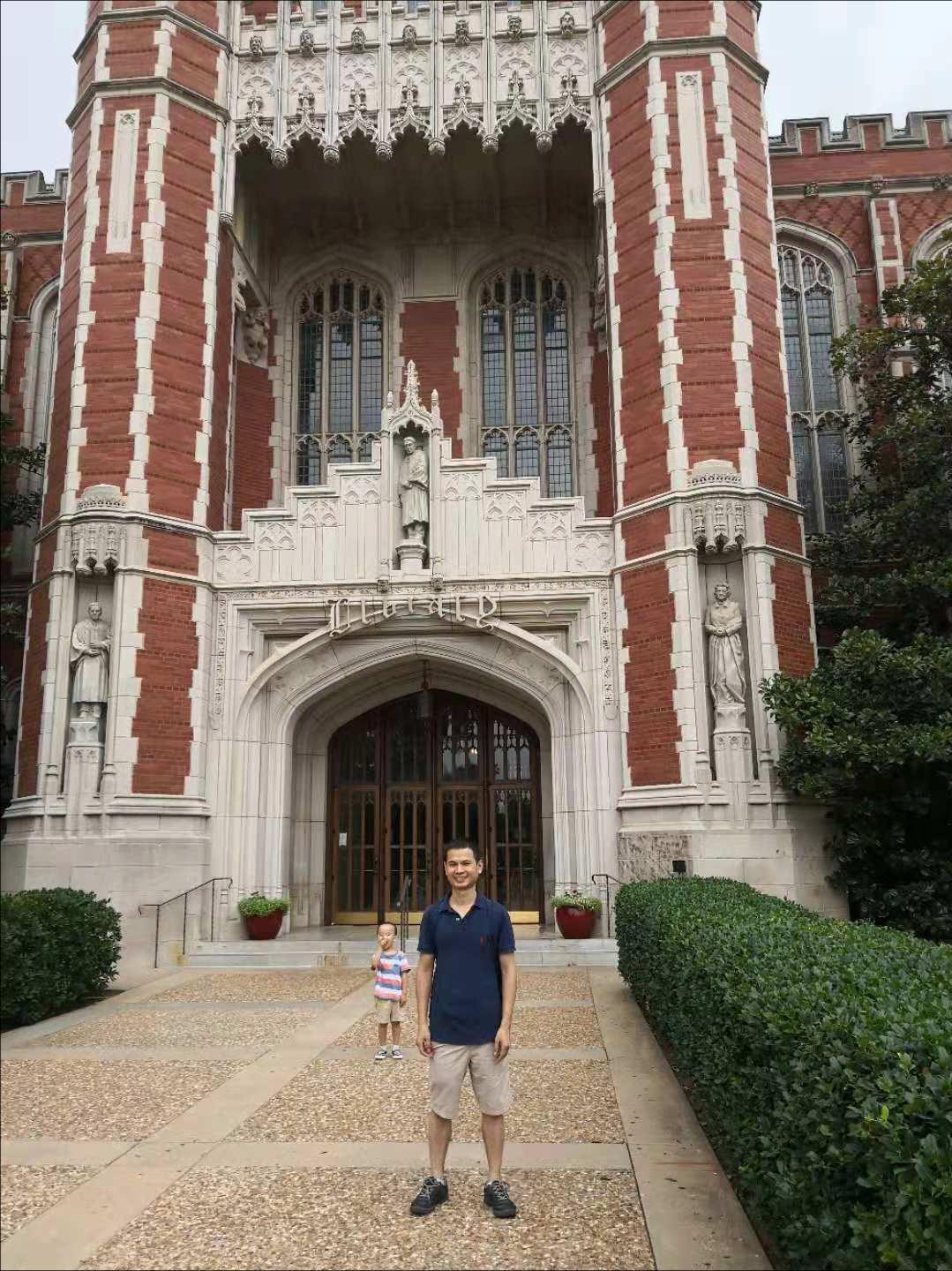
ConocoPhillips  
SCHOOL OF  
GEOLOGY &  
GEOPHYSICS  
The University of Oklahoma



中国石油大学(北京)  
CHINA UNIVERSITY OF PETROLEUM

# Lecture 1: Introduction

Dr. Zonghu Liao



# Dr. Zonghu Liao

- Fuzhou University
- 2008, BS
- University of Oklahoma
- 2010, 2012 MSs
- University of Oklahoma
- 2013, PhD
- China University of Petroleum
- 2014- Associate Professor

# University of Oklahoma, School of Geology and Geophysics



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# My research interests: Structures, earthquake

Great canyon, Colorado



► Submission deadline:  
**5 December 2016**

<https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/interpretation>

## Fault damage zones

Fault damage zones are complex bodies that developed along major faults, and include a multitude of faults, fractures, breccia bodies, secondary mineralization, alteration zones, and gouge. The mechanical and hydrologic properties of damage zones play a central role in basin analysis, earthquake activity, ore deposits, geothermal sites, and migration and trapping of hydrocarbons. Further, understanding the structure and geomechanical properties of damage zones is critical for production through horizontal boreholes and successful hydrofracturing of unconventional deposits. For this issue, we invite investigations of all aspects of fault damage zones including seismic interpretation, field observations, laboratory experiments, theoretical models, numerical simulations, and case studies of exploration and production of reservoirs. We also welcome analyses related to mining development, and natural and induced earthquakes.

The editors of *Interpretation* (<http://www.seg.org/interpretation>) invite papers on the topic **Fault damage zones** for publication in a November 2017 special section to supplement the journal's regular technical papers on various subject areas.

Papers will be published online as soon as they are accepted, edited, and composed. The issue is scheduled to be printed in November 2017.

We are seeking submissions on related topics including:

- structure and mechanical models and simulations of fault damage zones
- damage zones effects on reservoir properties
- characterization of damage zones in the field and subsurface
- the impact of damage zone to the petroleum production
- case studies

*Interpretation*, copublished by SEG and AAPG, aims to advance the practice of subsurface interpretation.

The submissions will be processed according to the following timeline:

Submission deadline:  
**5 December 2016**

Publication of issue:  
**November 2017**



## Assistant editor

**Interpretation is  
the best journal  
jointed by SEG  
and AAPG**

### Special section editors:

**Zonghu Liao**  
zonghliao@163.com

**Zeev Reches**  
Reches@ou.edu

**Gaynor Paton**  
Gaynor.Paton@GeoTeric.com

**Vladimir Lyakhovsky**  
vladi@gsi.gov.il

**Ahmed Ouenes**  
aouenes@fracgeo.com

**Hong Cao**  
caoho@petrochina.com.cn

# Course Objectives

**After completing this course you will be able to:**

- Generate good quality time-structure maps
- Generate good quality fault-plane images
- Effectively use color
- Effectively use 3D visualization
- Identify noise and artifacts due to seismic acquisition and processing
- Evaluate the quality of interpreted sections and maps
- Predict attributes that may enhance features of geologic interest
- Generate images that can be used in
  - Seismic geomorphology
  - Fracture delineation
  - Reservoir characterization

# **Course Outline (Lecture)**

**Introduction**

**The Seismic Experiment**

**Spectral content and limits to vertical resolution**

**Color display and 3D visualization**

**Complex Trace Attributes**

**Horizon and Formation Attributes**

**Interpreting a structurally complex section**

**Geometric Attributes**

**Structure-Oriented Filtering and Image Enhancement**

**Spectral Decomposition**

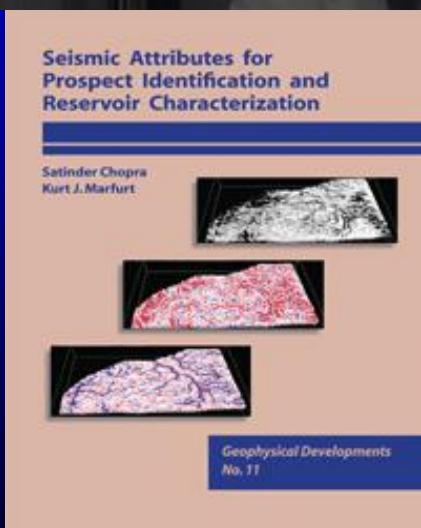
**Attribute Expression of Geology**

**Impact of Velocities on Seismic Interpretation**

**Impact of Migration on Seismic Interpretation**

**Attribute Illumination of Fractures**

# Text Book



**Title:** Seismic Attributes for Prospect ID and Reservoir Characterization  
**Authors:** Satinder Chopra and Kurt J. Marfurt

**ISBN:** 1560801417

**Publisher:** SEG/EAGE

**Publication date:** 2007-07-07

**Price:** US\$139.00 Member Price: US\$89.00 Student

# Recommended Book

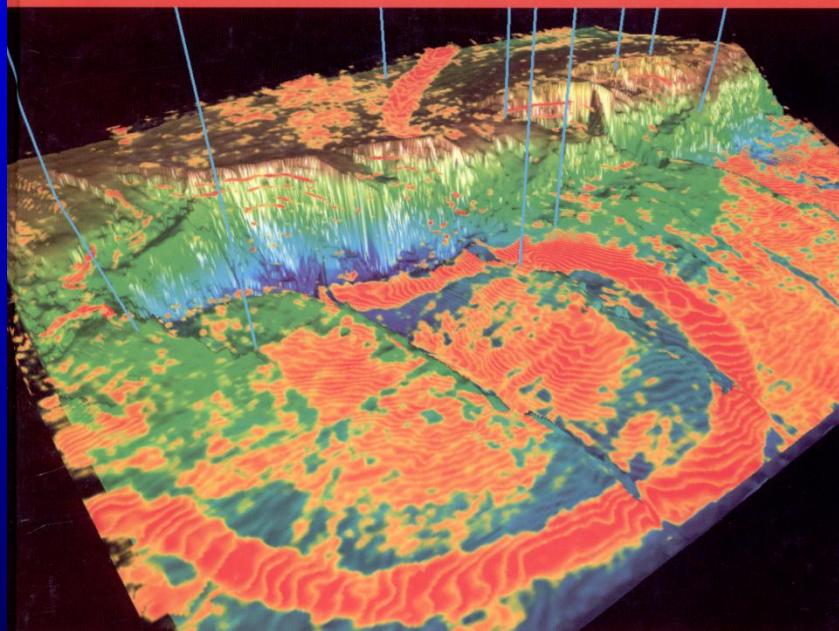
## Excellent case studies and workflows!

Geological Society Memoir No. 29

### 3D Seismic Technology

Application to the Exploration of Sedimentary Basins

Edited by R. J. Davies, J. A. Cartwright,  
S. A. Stewart, M. Lappin and J. R. Underhill



Published by the Geological Society

### 3D Seismic Technology

Application to the Exploration of Sedimentary Basins

Edited by R. J. Davies, J. A. Cartwright, S. A. Stewart, M. Lappin and J. R. Underhill

A 'new age' of subsurface geological mapping that is just as far ranging in scope as the frontier surface geological mapping campaigns of the past two centuries is emerging. It is the direct result of the advent of 2D, and subsequently 3D, seismic data paralleled by advances in seismic acquisition and processing over the past three decades. Subsurface mapping is fuelled by the economic drive to explore and recover hydrocarbons but inevitably it will lead to major conceptual advances in Earth sciences, across a broader range of disciplines than those made during the 2D seismic revolution of the 1970s. Now that 3D seismic data coverage has increased and the technology is widely available we are poised to mine the full intellectual and economic benefits. This book illustrates how 3D seismic technology is being used to understand depositional systems and stratigraphy, structural and igneous geology, in developing and producing from hydrocarbon reservoirs and also what recent technological advances have been made. This technological journey is a fast-moving one where the remaining scientific potential still far exceeds the scope of the advances made thus far. This book explores the breadth of the opportunities that lie ahead as well as the inevitable accompanying challenges.

Visit our online bookshop: <http://bookshop.geolsoc.org.uk>

Geological Society web site: <http://www.geolsoc.org.uk>

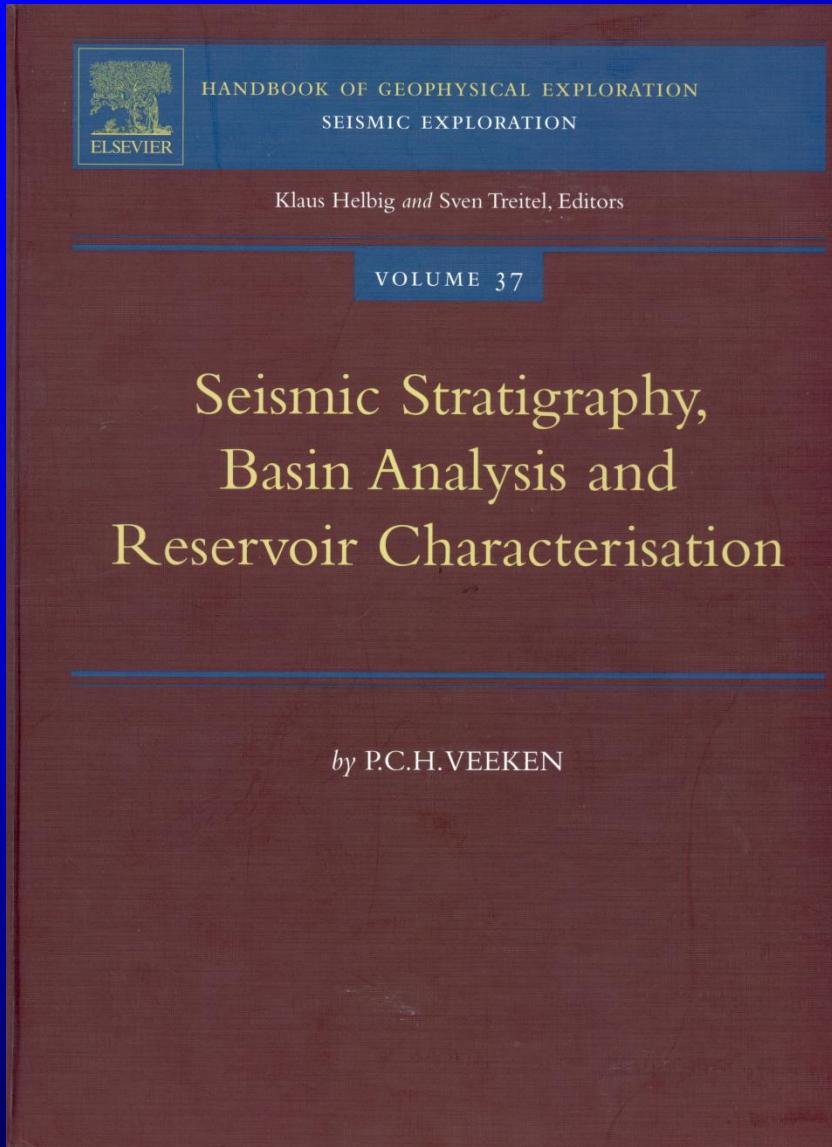
Cover illustration:

A sculpted seismic volume from offshore Indonesia in which opacity has been used to delineate a sinuous channel that has been offset by a major extensional fault. The vertical blue lines represent exploration wells.

Seismic data courtesy of Clyde Petroleum, image courtesy of Rob Bond (Paradigm Geophysical, Woking, UK)



ISBN 1-86239-151-3



**Yet another excellent book  
Veenken (2007) \$145**

- Good general overview of processing
- Heavier emphasis on reservoir characterization and basin analysis!

# **Course Outline (Labs)**

**Data Loading – what is SEGY and QC-ing your data**

**3D visualization**

**Interpreting faults and generating fault planes**

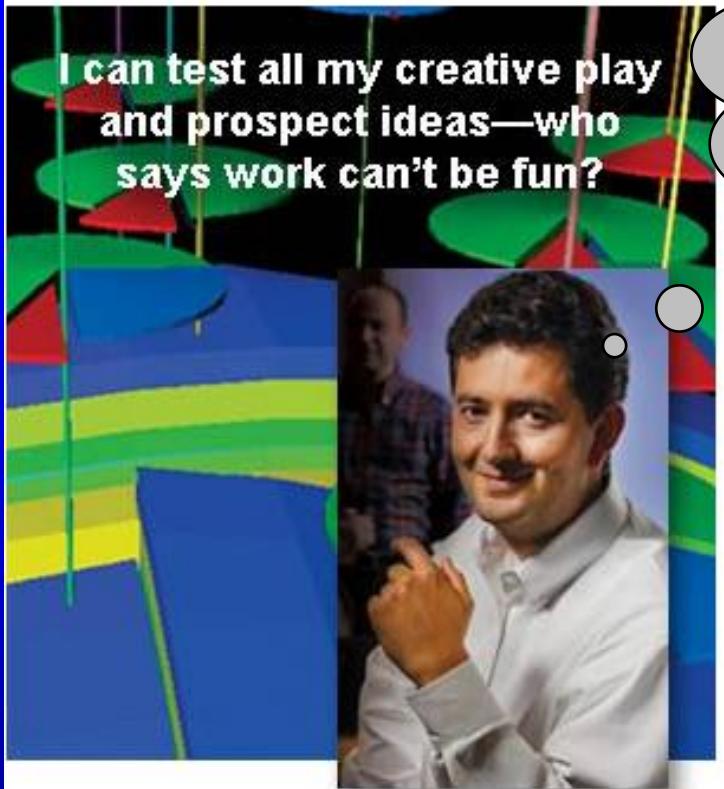
**Interpreting horizons**

**Generating horizon slices**

**Generating attributes**

**Generating a map**

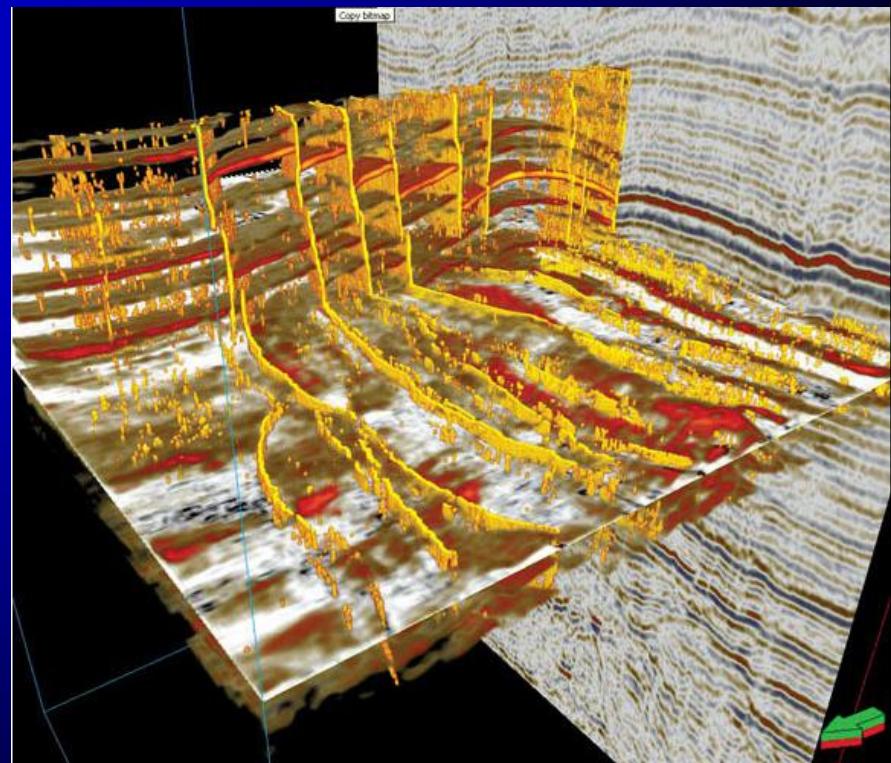
**Time/depth conversion (if I can find an appropriate data set)**



**WHAT'S NEW**  
in Petrel 2010

*You can have as  
much fun as happy  
as me if you learn  
Petrel 2010...*

## Software



# **Risk Analysis**

**(How E&P companies evaluate drilling opportunities)**

1. **Political risk** (e.g. Somalia, Sudan, Myanmar are high risk, Louisiana and Norway are low risk)
2. **Taxation risk** (e.g. Kuwait is very high risk, Norway moderate)
3. **Transportation risk** (e.g. Oil from offshore Greenland is high, oil from Oklahoma is low)
4. **Technical risks**
  - Drilling risks: pressures, temperatures, seal integrity, hydraulic fracture response
  - Production risks: Corrosion, heavy oil, disposal costs, ...
  - Geological risk: Hydrocarbon volumes, depths and products

# **Two major objectives in mapping hydrocarbons**

- 1. Exploration: Location of previously untapped hydrocarbons**
- 2. Development (Production, Exploitation): efficient delineation and extraction of those hydrocarbons**

# **Seven components of hydrocarbon accumulation**

- 1. Source rock**
- 2. Migration pathway**
- 3. Reservoir**
- 4. Trap**
- 5. Seal**
- 6. Timing**
- 7. Product**

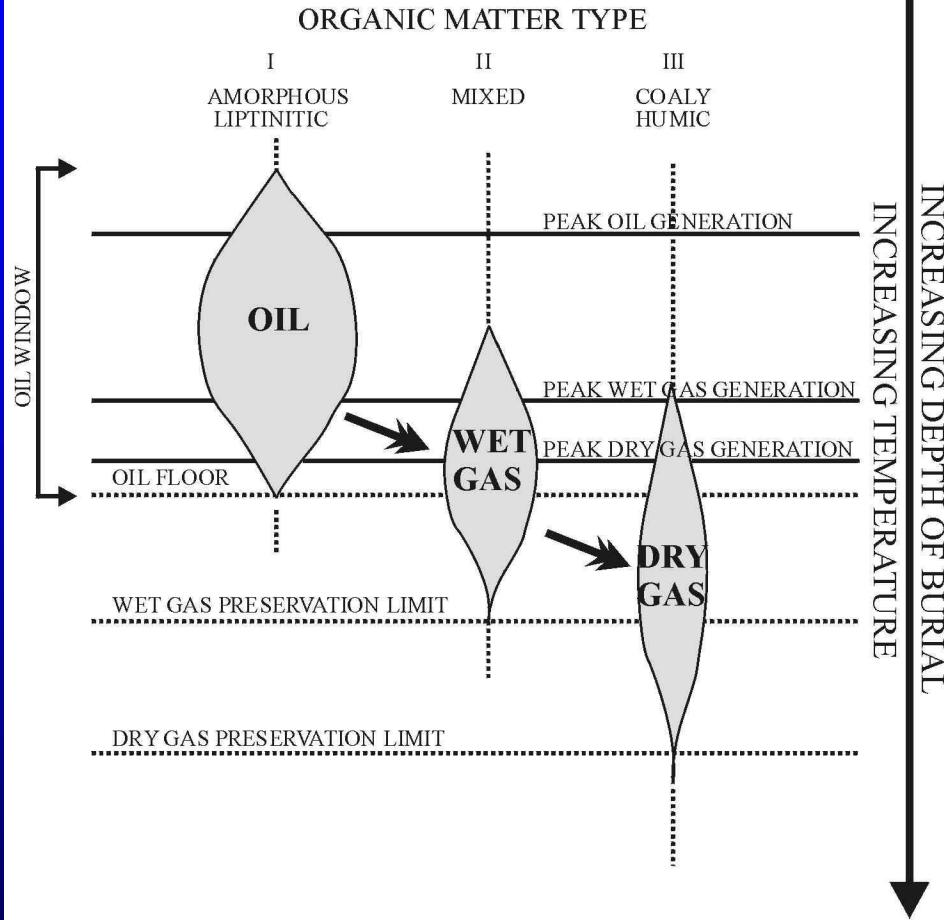
# 1. Source Rock

- **What is it?**

An organic rich rock, usually shale but sometimes limestone, which contains enough of that material to generate economic hydrocarbons and has been subjected to the proper temperature and pressure conditions to expulse those hydrocarbons.
- **How does seismic help?**

Minimal - Seismic cannot identify source rocks but may be used to determine if a known source rock is deep enough to generate hydrocarbons over a large enough area to produce economic amounts

## ZONES OF PETROLEUM GENERATION AND DESTRUCTION



Hydrocarbon generation window.

(Lines and Newkirk, 2004)

## 2. Migration Pathway

- **What is it?**

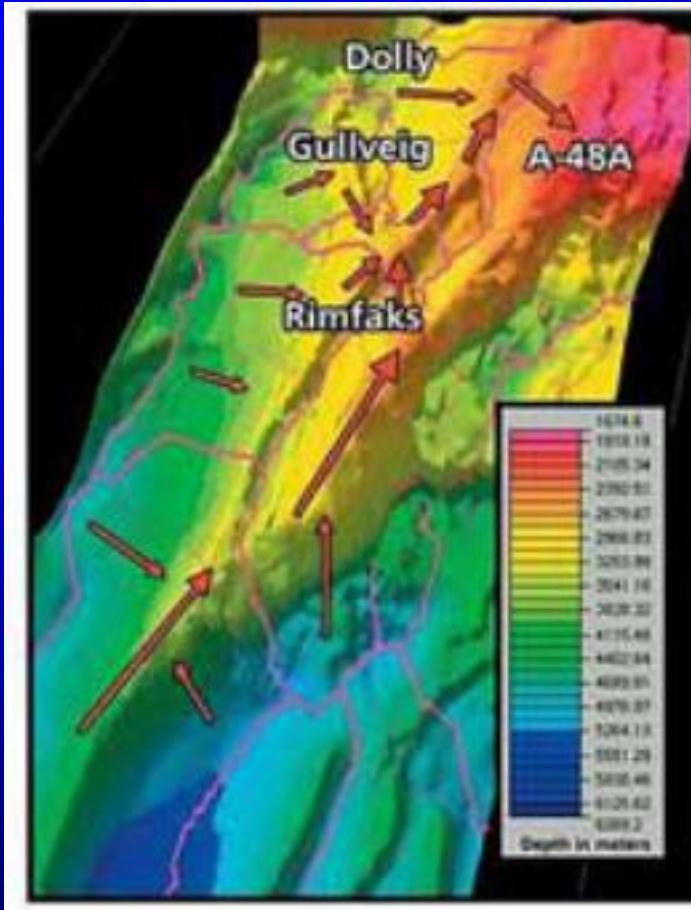
A connection between the area in which a source rock expulses hydrocarbons and the trap in which they are found.

- **How does seismic help?**

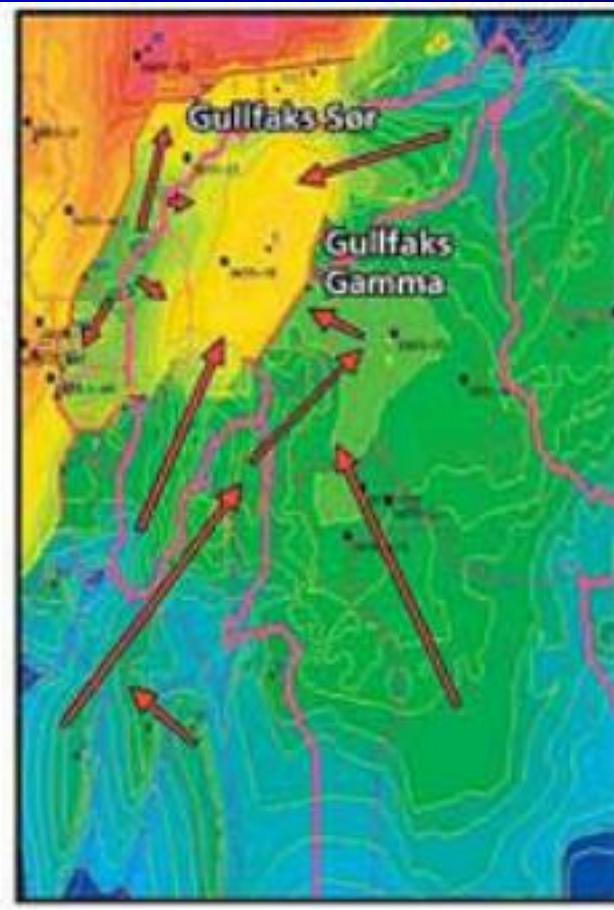
Minimal-Seismic data may be used to determine what barriers there are between the area in which hydrocarbons are generated and the trap. Seismic data cannot indicate if such a pathway has been used or how efficiently.

# Oil Migration Pathways

(present-day top Middle Jurassic Brent Group level)



around the  
Rimfaks-Gullveig



around the  
Gullfaks South

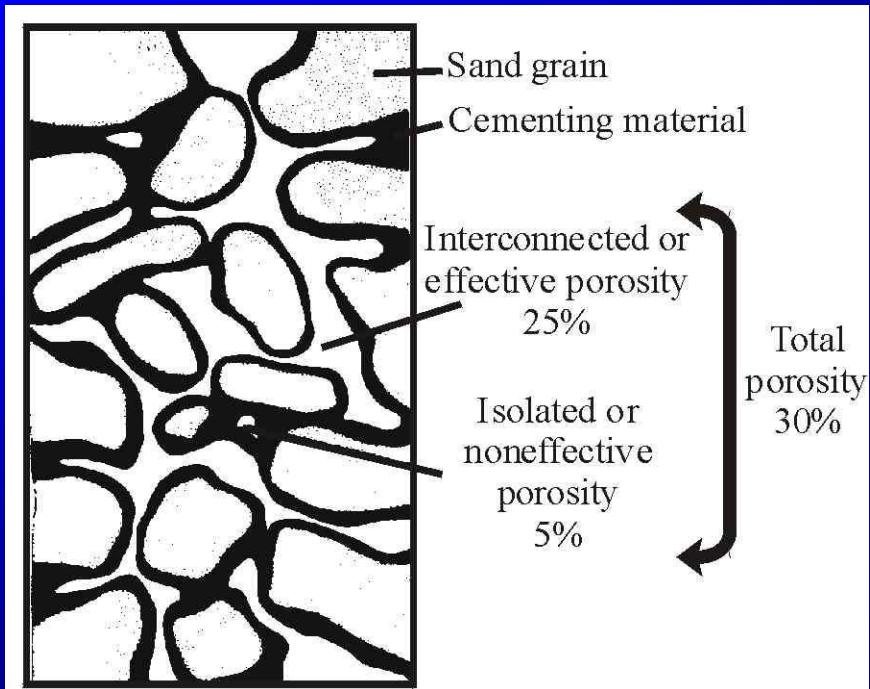
### 3. Reservoir

- **What is it?**

A rock, usually a sandstone, limestone, or dolomite, with sufficient porosity (holes) and permeability (connections between the holes) to contain hydrocarbons for storage but allow them to be extracted.

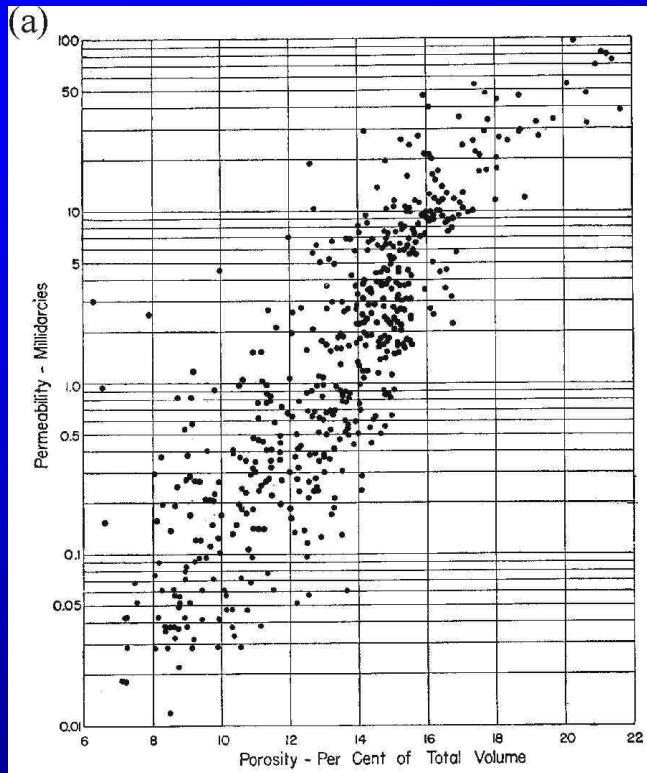
- **How does seismic help?**

Moderate - Seismic amplitude variations may indicate changes in porosity or changes from a non-porous type of rock to a porous type. Seismic data does not give any indication of permeability. Evolving uses to predict natural fractures, present-day stress field, and shale gas 'fracability'.

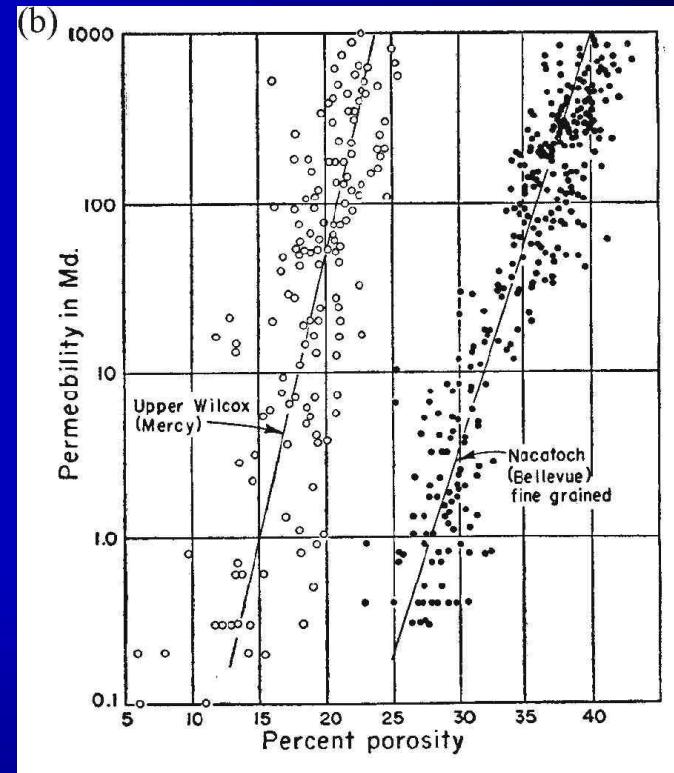


## Effective, noneffective and total porosity in a rock matrix.

# Relationship between porosity and permeability



**Bradford sandstone,  
Pennsylvania**



**Upper Wilcox sandstone,  
Texas (left) and the Nacatoch  
sandstone, Louisiana.**

## 4. Trap

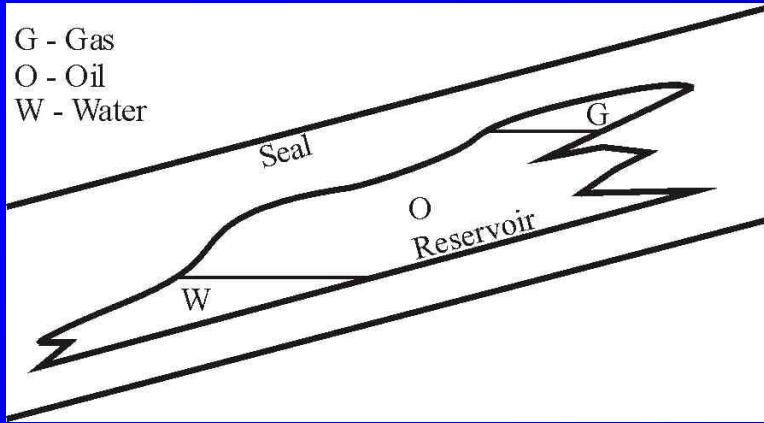
- **What is it?**

A configuration of geologic formations and/or faults which is favorable to stopping the upward or lateral flow of hydrocarbons due to pressure.

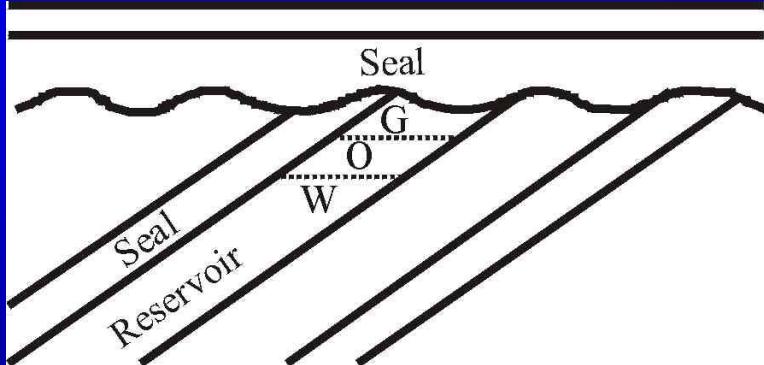
- **How does seismic help?**

Major - Mapping horizons is the primary function of seismic interpretation and is what it is best suited for. Seismic data is very effective at defining structure, delineating faults, and showing relationships between wells. If this part of the interpretation is not done properly, then the rest of the work will not produce any useful results!

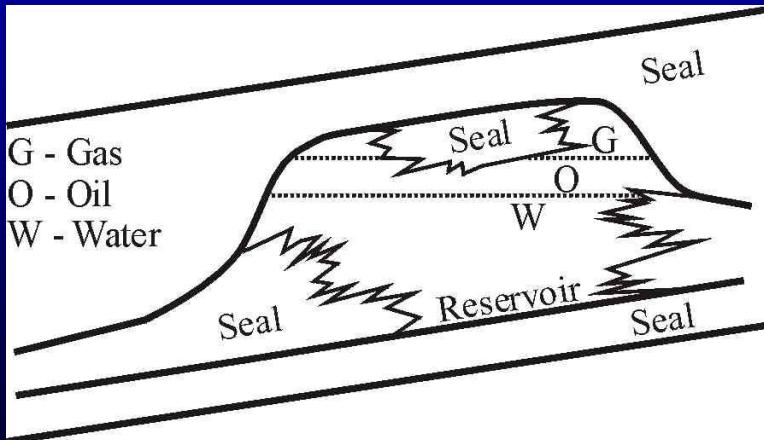
G - Gas  
O - Oil  
W - Water



A pinch-out is a common type of stratigraphic trap.

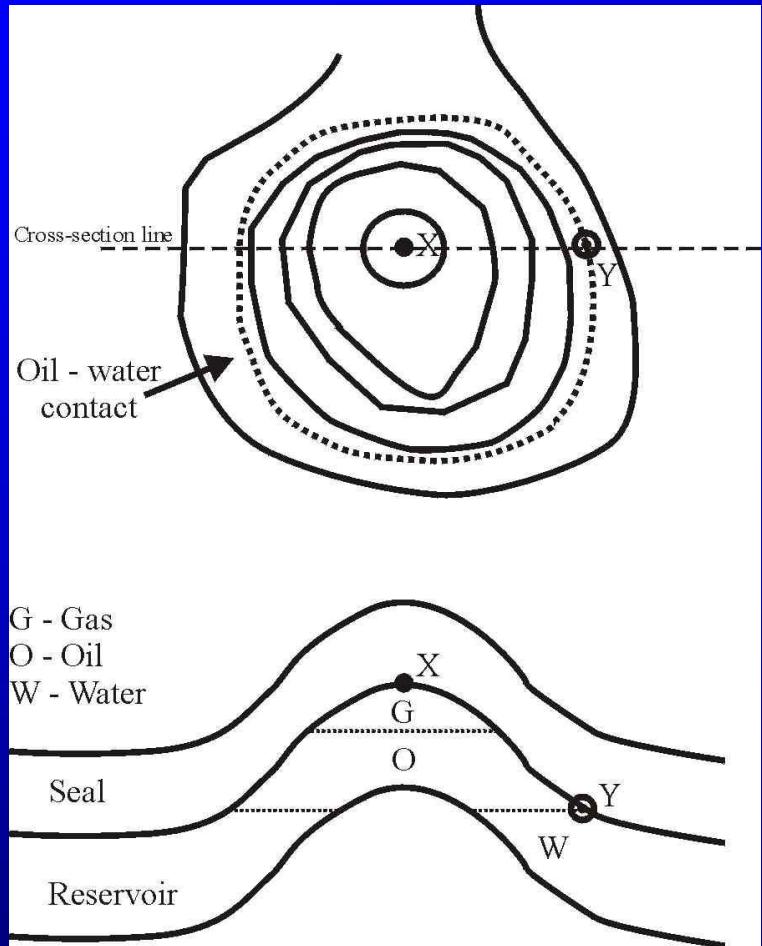


An unconformity traps hydrocarbons with an impermeable seal directly above the unconformity.

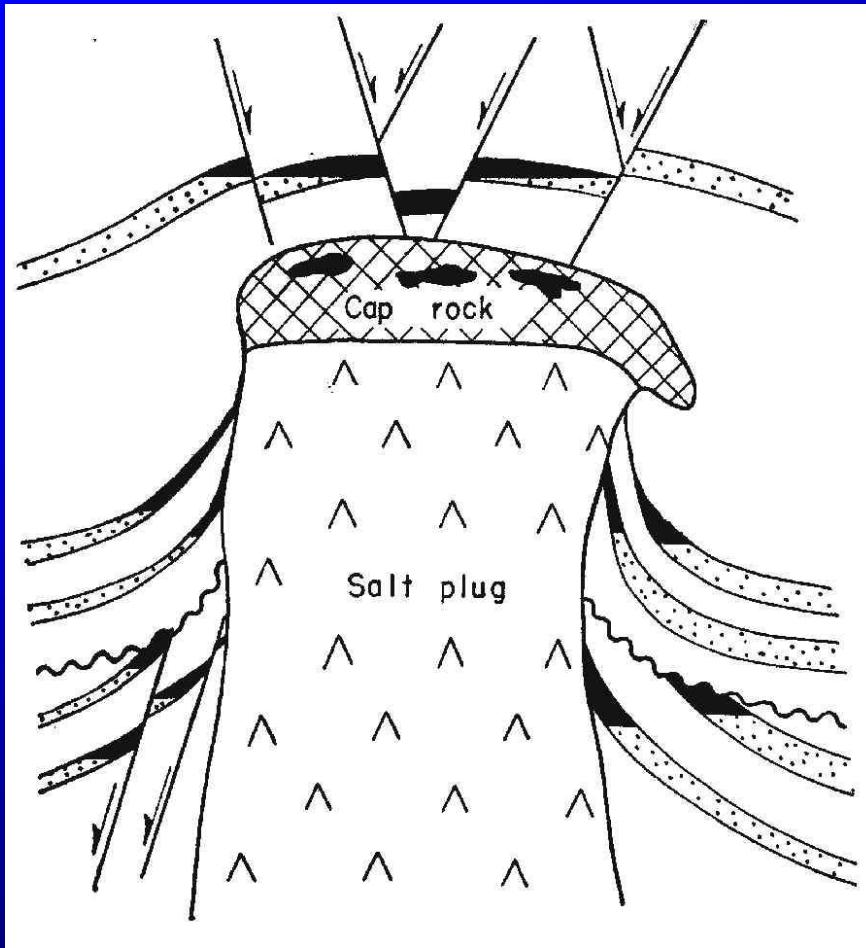


Reef exploration is widespread in the Western Canada Sedimentary Basin

(Lines and Newkirk, 2004)



**Structural trap caused by folding of the strata.**



## Stratigraphic and structural traps associated with a salt dome

## 5. Seal

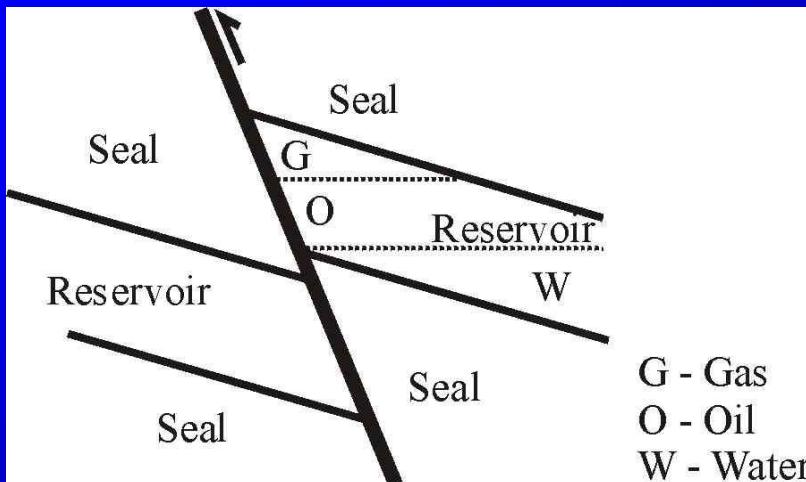
- **What is it?**

A layer of non-porous and/or impermeable rock which prevents the upward or lateral flow of hydrocarbons from the trap. It is the structural or stratigraphic configuration of the seal that forms the trap. Some workers consider the top and lateral seals separately.

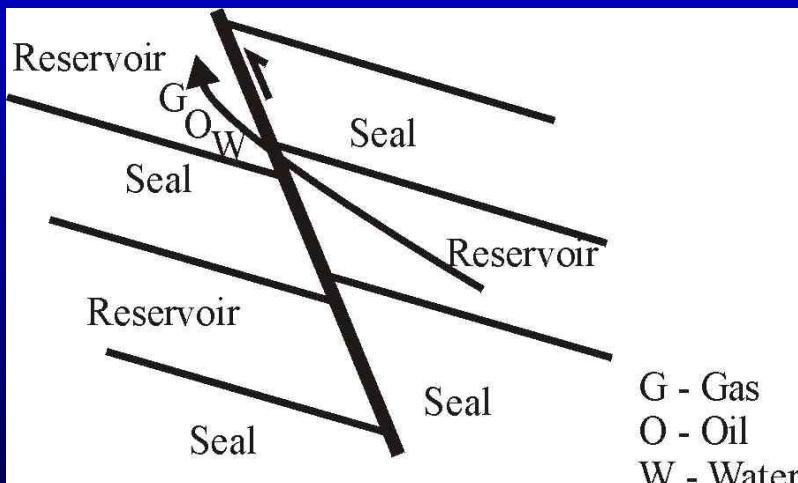
- **How does seismic help?**

Minimal - Seismic data generally cannot be used to determine if a particular rock layer or trapping configuration will provide a seal or not. It can only be used to identify the configuration of a likely seal as identified in a well. Note that the properties of the rock layer may change so that it is no longer a seal and prospective location.

## Examples of a faulted trap



With a good seal.



Without a seal. The gas, oil and water are able to migrate out of the faulted region.

# 6. Timing of Events

- **What is it?**

Each of the previous five events must occur in a specific sequence to create a hydrocarbon accumulation. For instance, if the trap does not form before the oil migrates, then it will not trap any hydrocarbons

- **How does seismic help?**

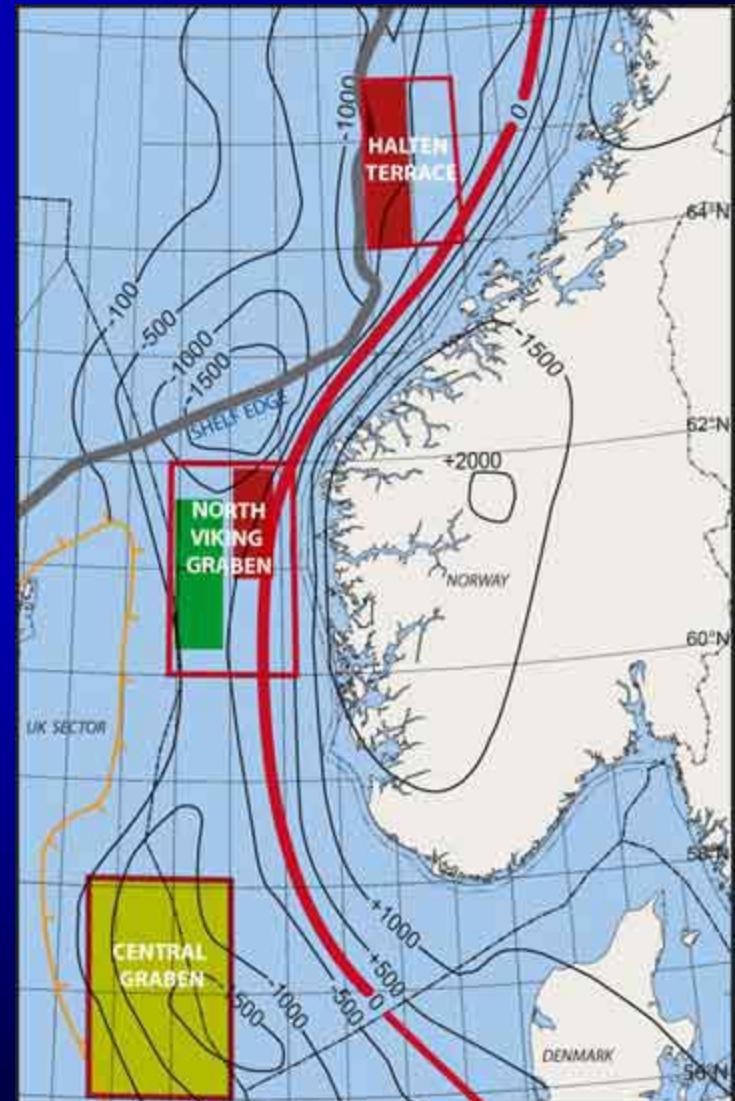
Major - Evaluation of changes in the thicknesses between horizons can be used to determine when events occurred. A thin area between two horizons indicates that the lower horizon had a structure on it at the time the upper horizon was deposited.

# Breached seals in the North Sea

**red areas – more than 50 per cent of the overpressured Jurassic (rotated fault block) traps have leaked;**

**yellow area – 30 to 50 per cent have breached seals;**

**green area – less than 30% have experienced seal failure.**



# 7. Product

- **What is it?**

Oil, gas, condensate, or water in the reservoir

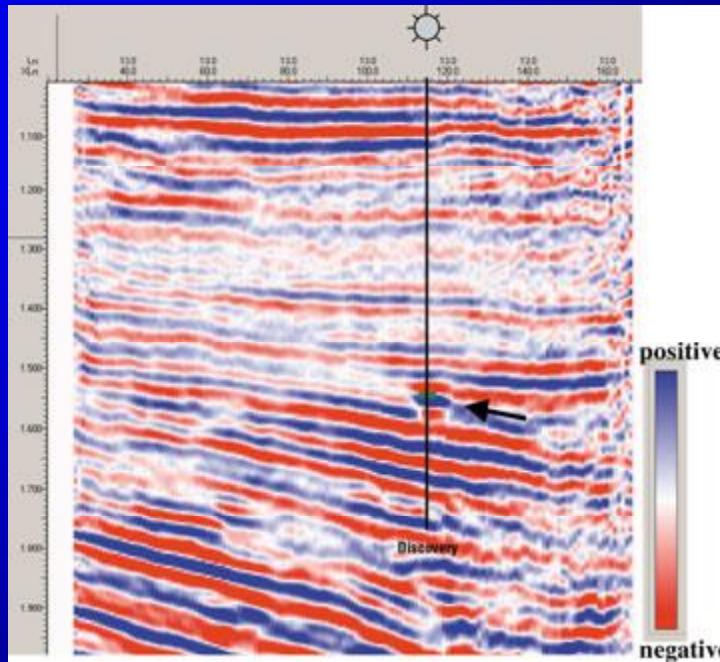
- **How does seismic help?**

Moderate for Gas - Lateral variations in amplitudes may be indicative of gas in the trap. It does not indicate whether it is an economic accumulation or not. Amplitude anomalies may also indicate migration pathways, changes in rock properties, changes in rock type, and many other things.

Minimal for Oil - The presence of oil in a reservoir does not significantly affect the amplitudes of the seismic data.

AVO (amplitude vs. offset) is a more advanced amplitude interpretation process that works well in finding gas in Tertiary basins.

# Example of a seismic ‘bright spot’

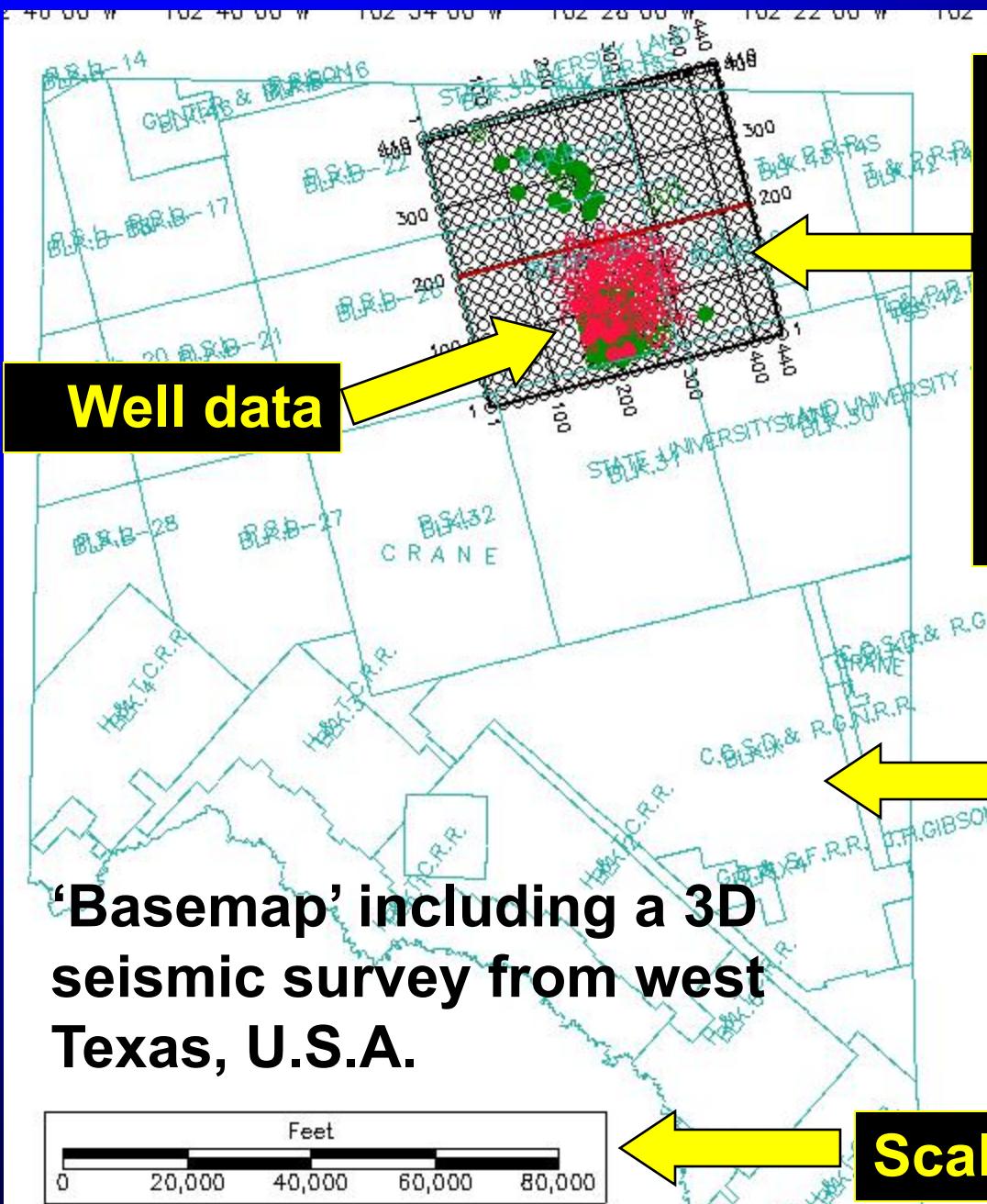


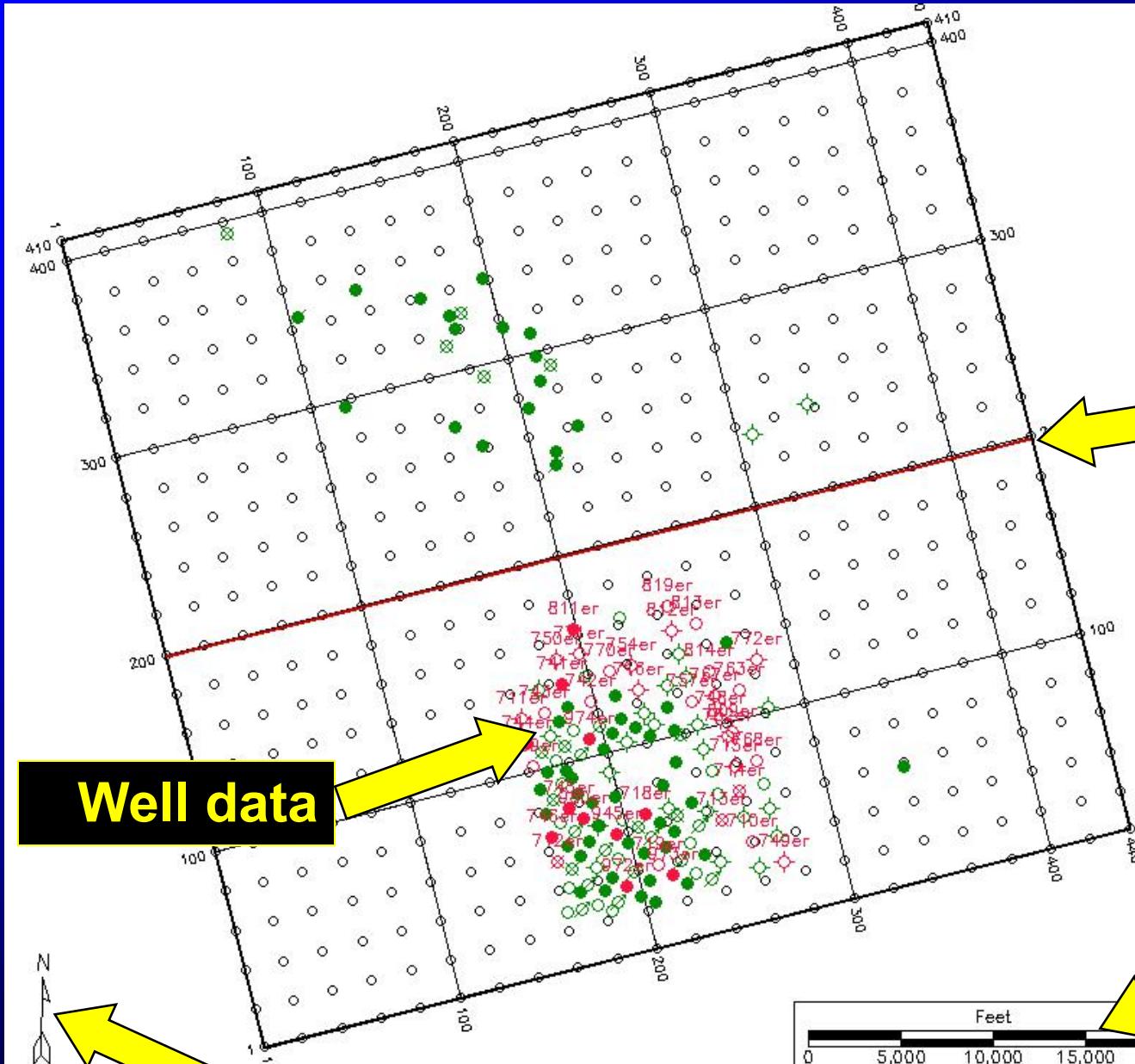
A Frio reservoir in the Gulf Coast. Bright spot pay sand shown by high amplitude at arrow.

(Burnett and Castagna, 2003)

[http://www.aapg.org/explorer/geophysical\\_corner/2003/01gpc.cfm](http://www.aapg.org/explorer/geophysical_corner/2003/01gpc.cfm)

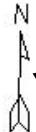
# **Vocabulary of 3D Seismic Surveys**





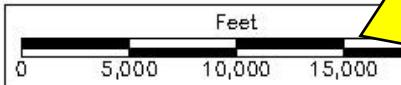
Location of  
inline 200

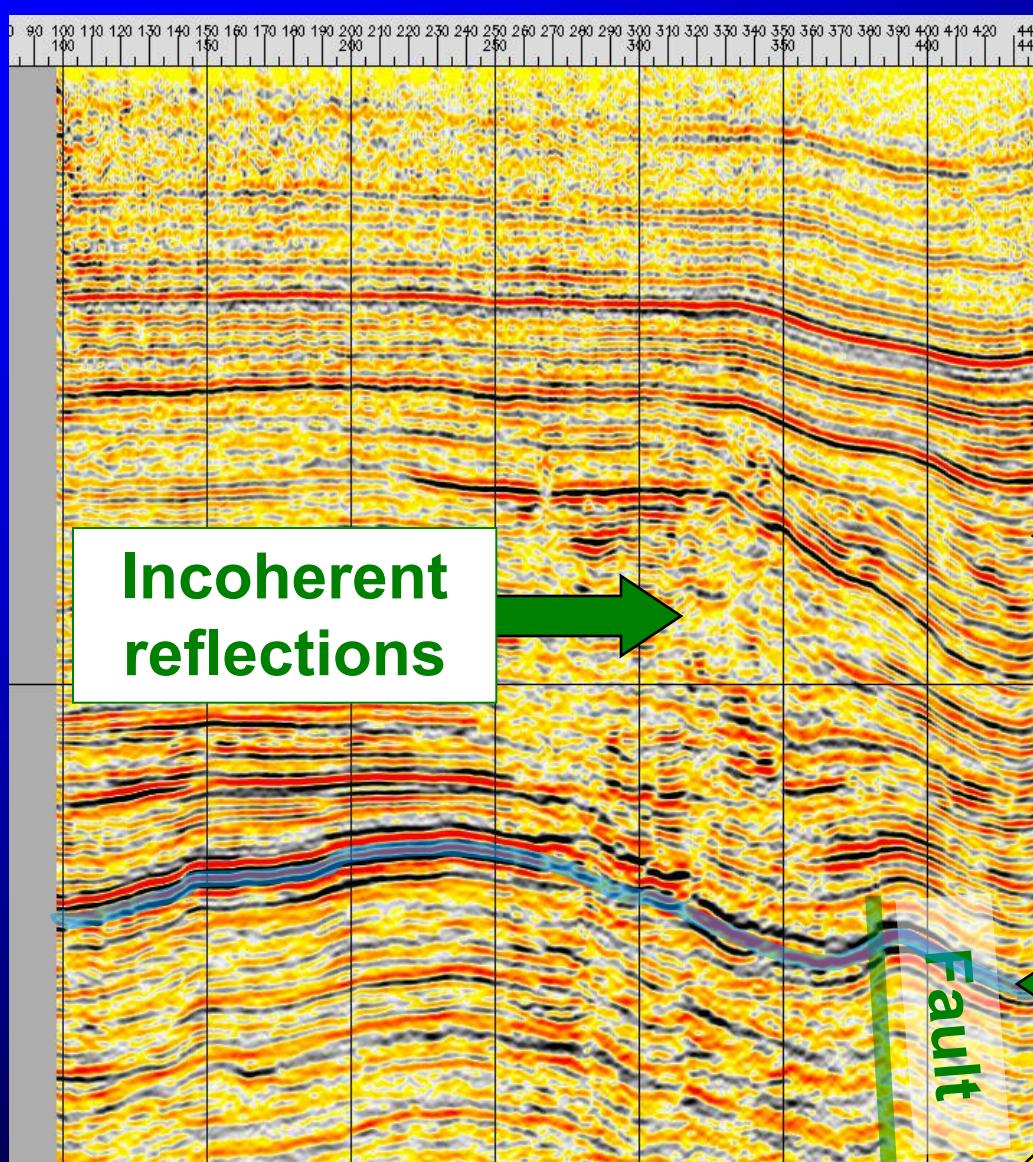
Well data



North arrow

Scale bar





Trace and CDP  
(crossline)  
indices

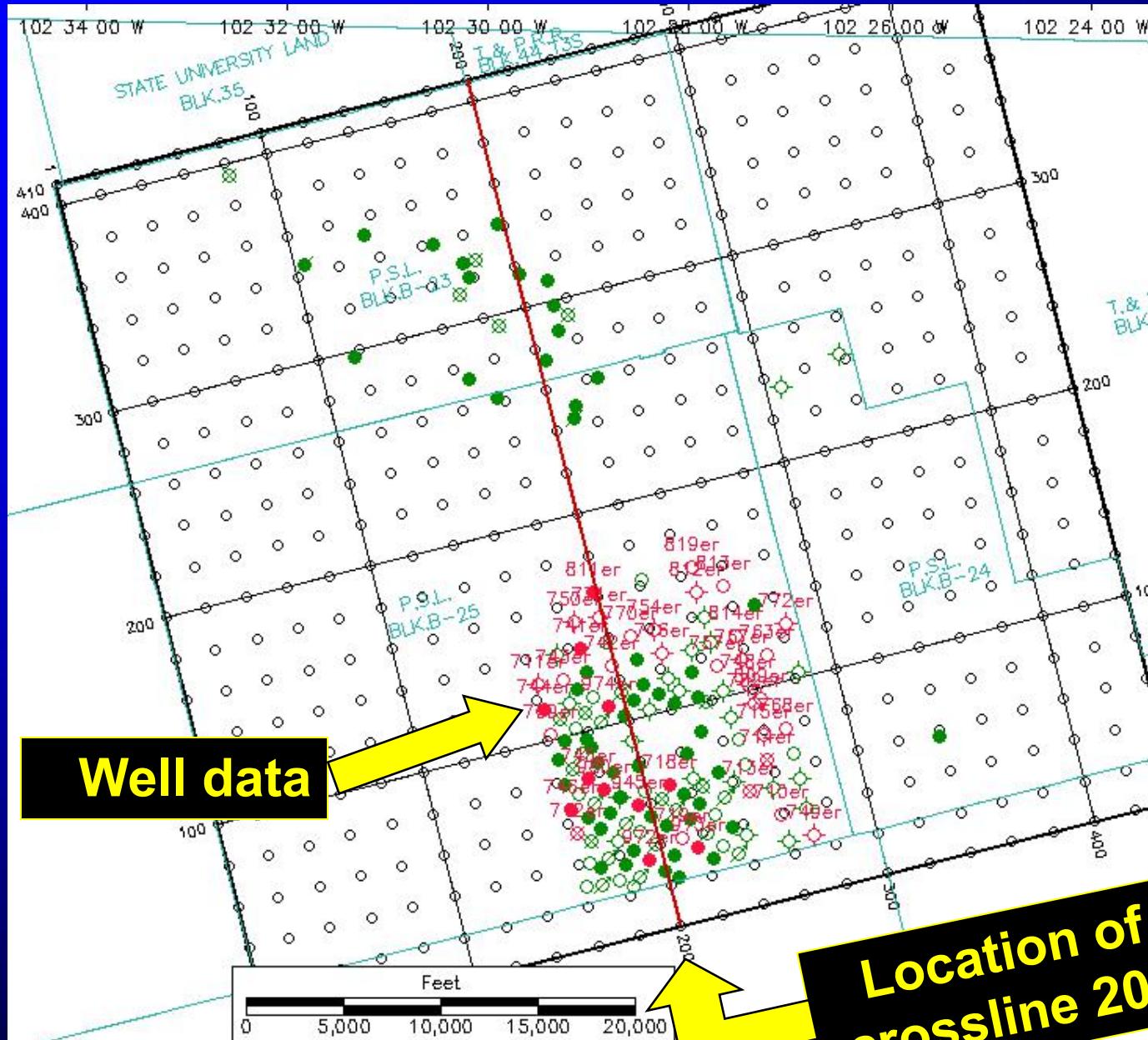
Syntectonic  
deposition

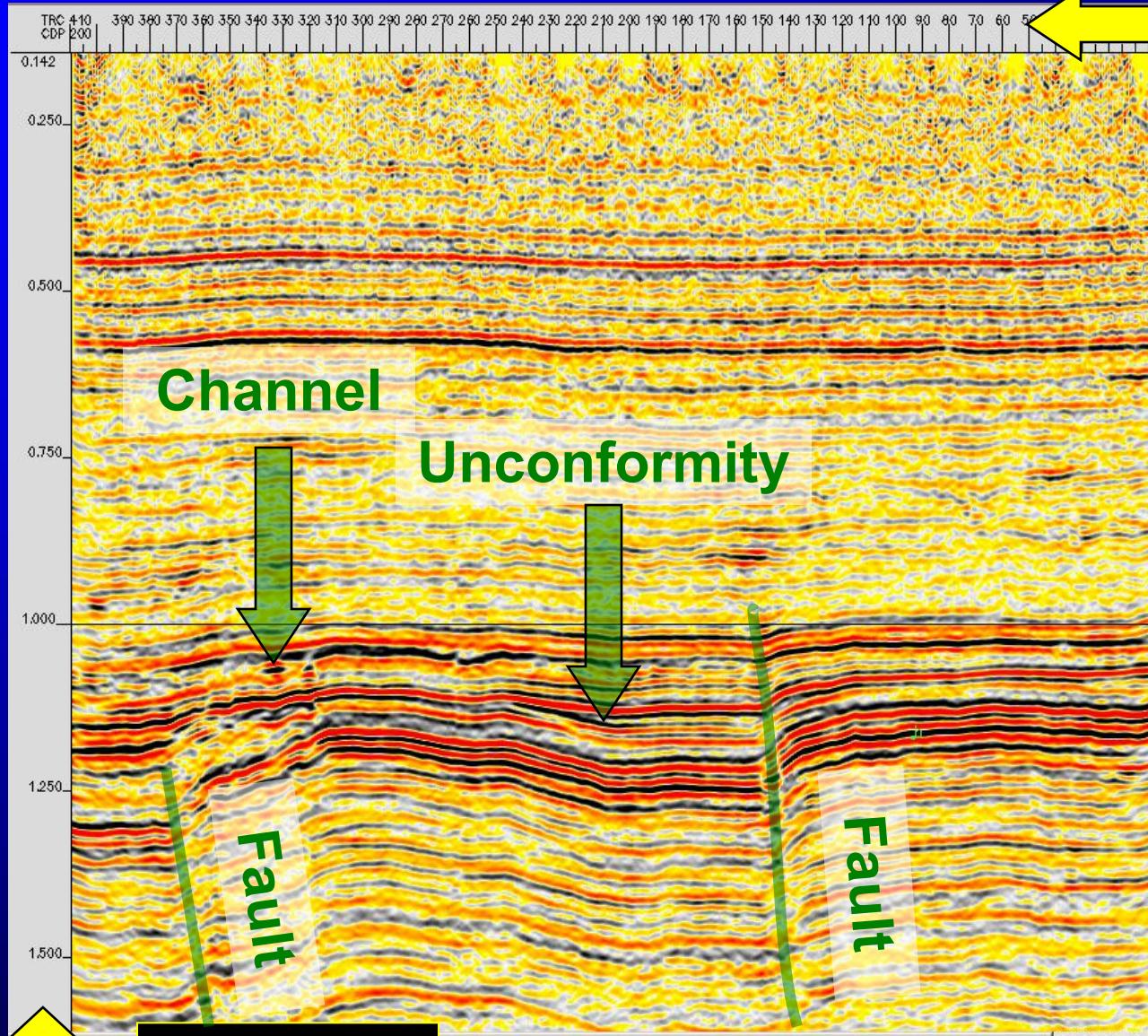
Unconformity  
Progradation

Horizon pick  
(top Devonian)

Time axis (in s)

inline 200



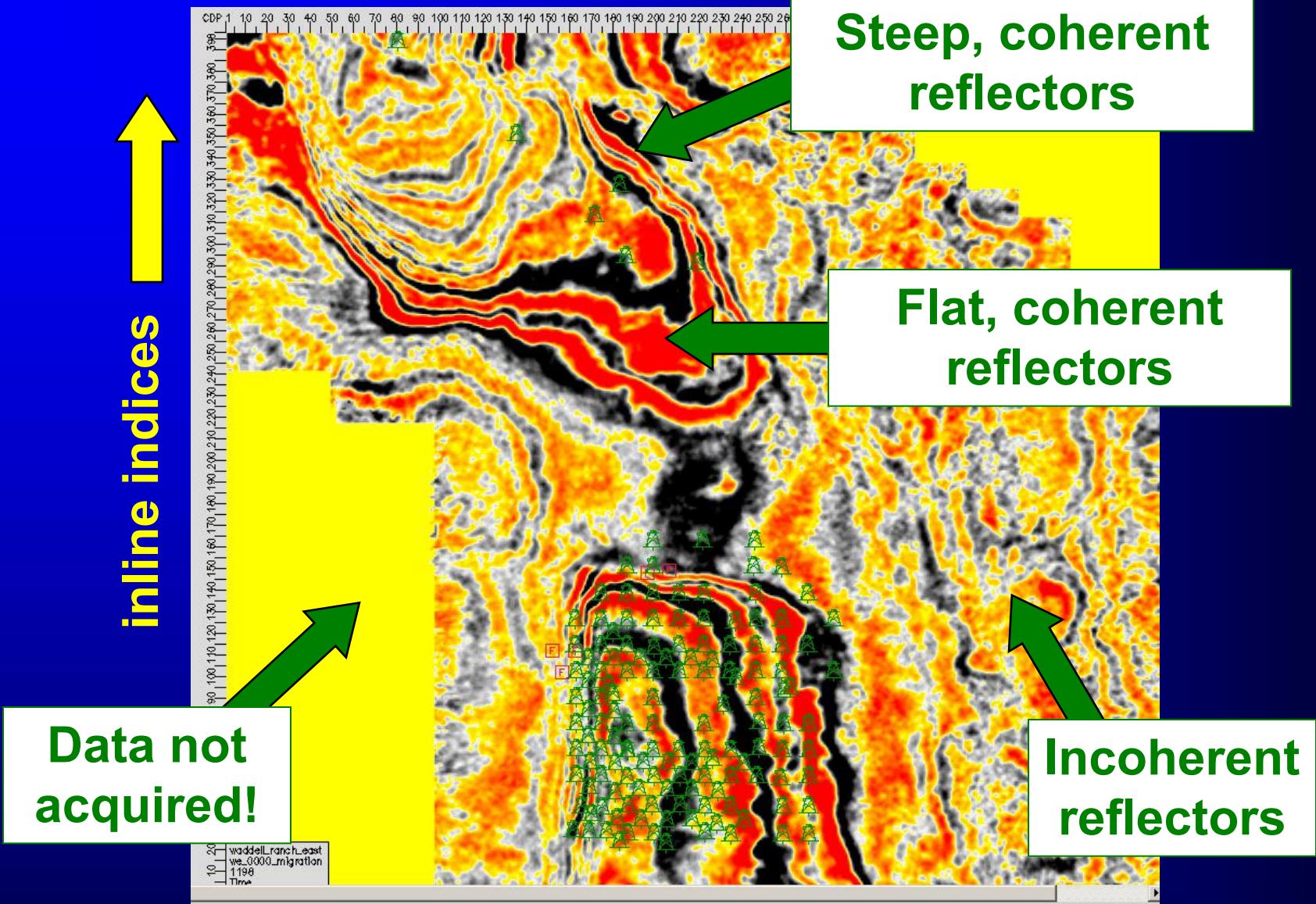


Trace (inline)  
and CDP  
indices

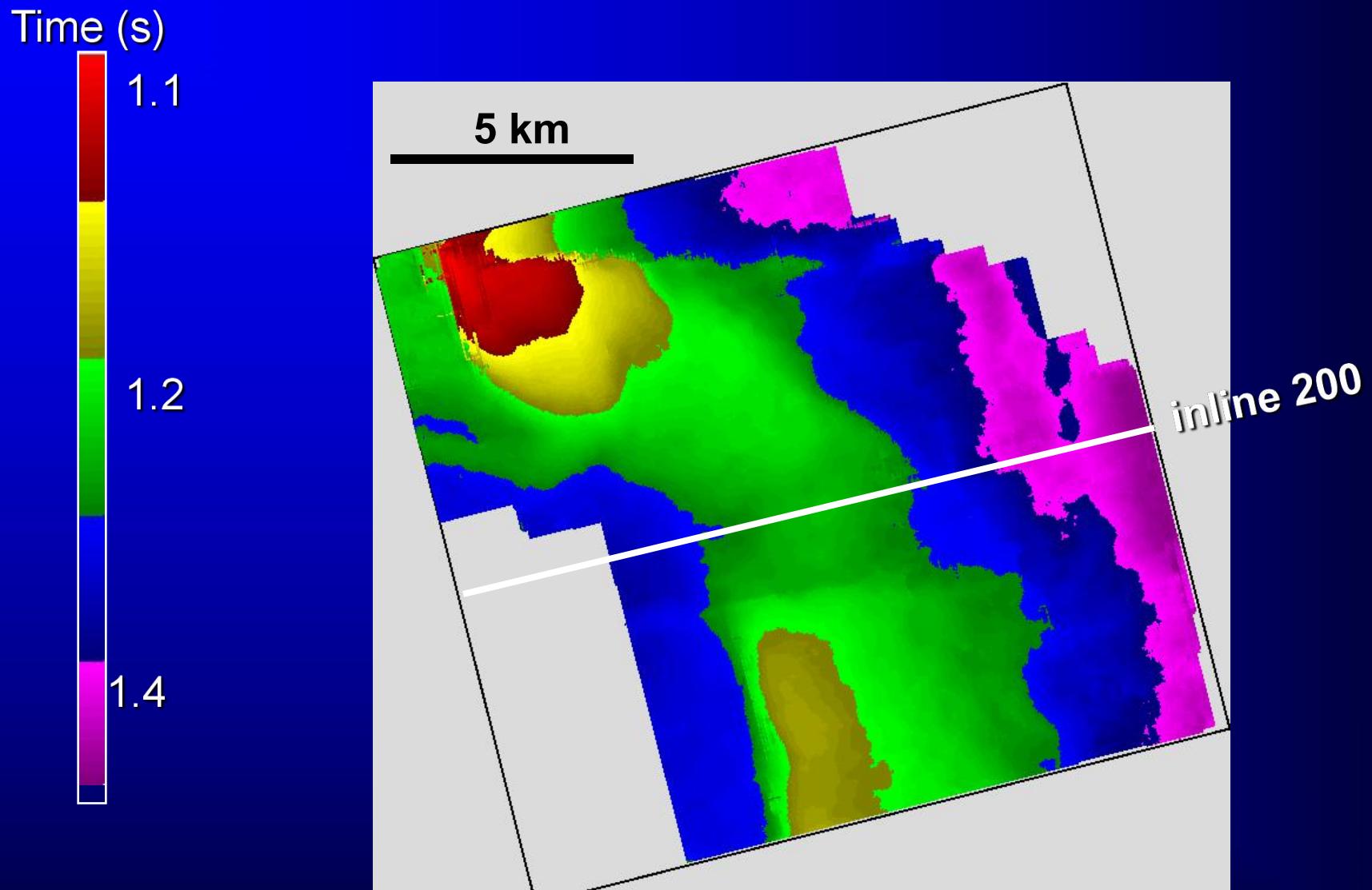
Time axis  
(in s)

crossline 200

# crossline indices

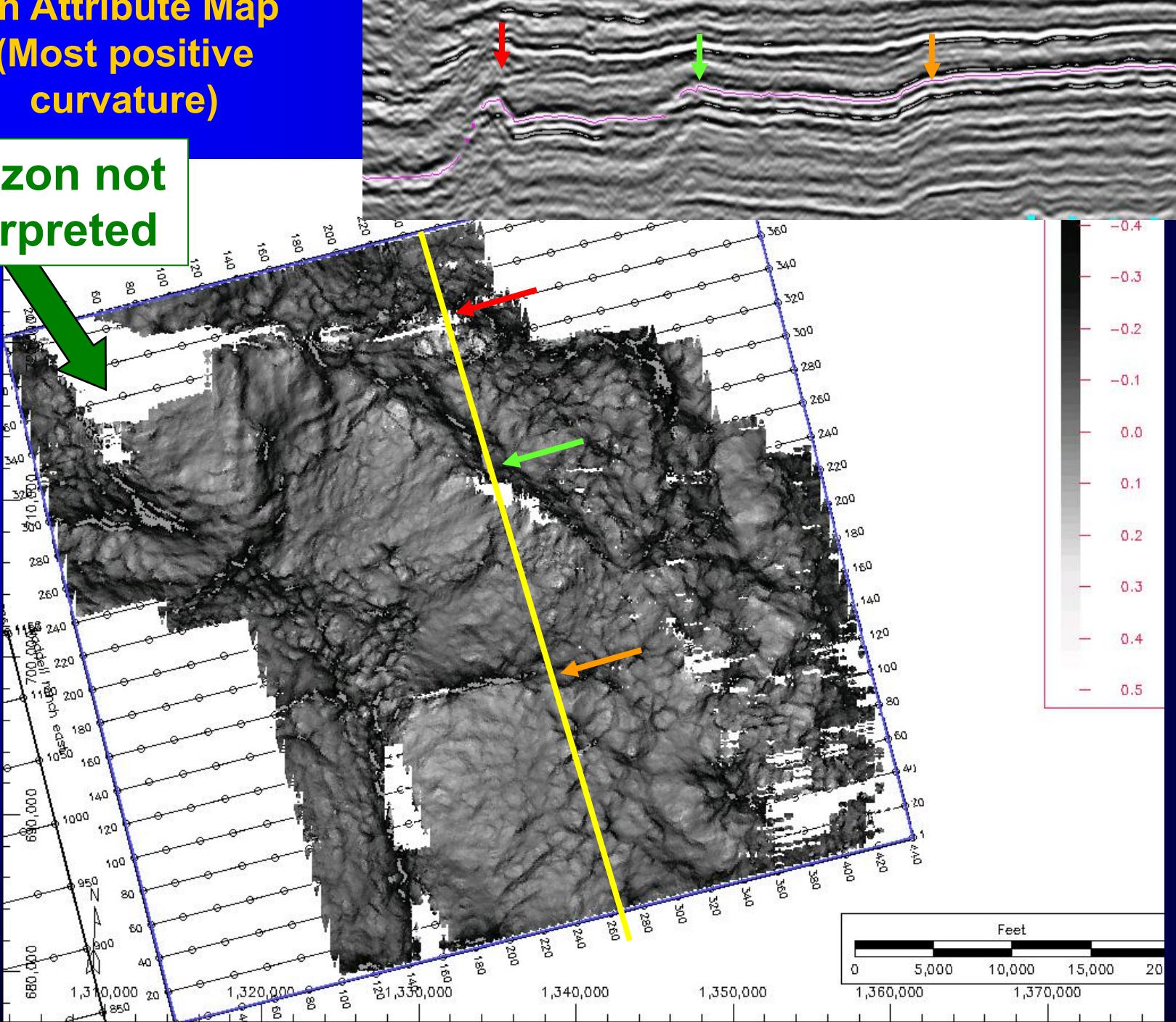


# A time/structure map (Devonian horizon)

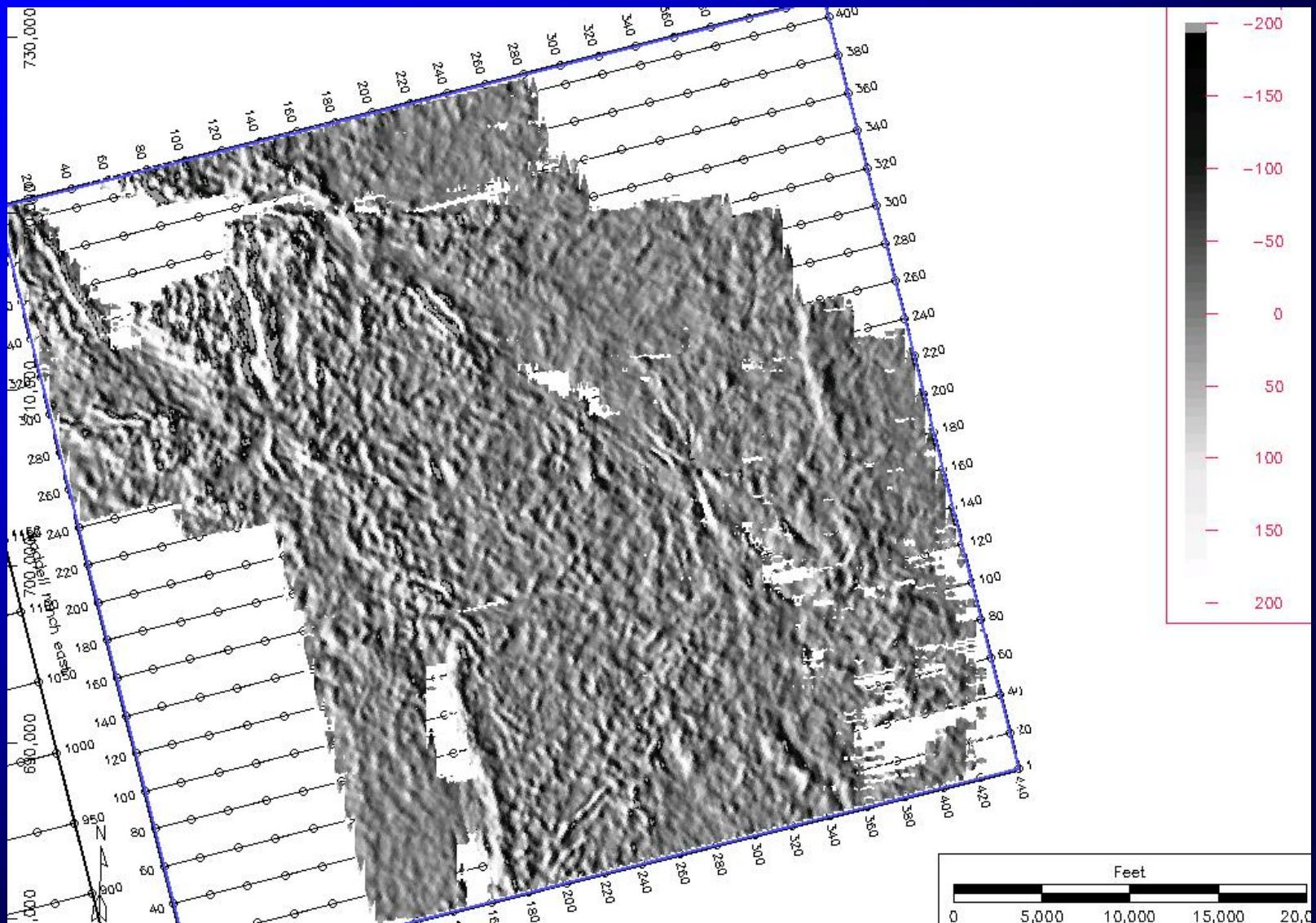


# An Attribute Map (Most positive curvature)

Horizon not  
interpreted



## Another attribute map (Inline amplitude gradient)



channels and mass wasting