Expectations for Exercises

Exercises are an important part of the Geophysics lecture. They will treat some aspects of the lecture in more detail, but also cover new ground. We expect that you work on the exercises at home and we will discuss questions and solutions interactively together. Questions that are marked with 'Extra' are not required but geared to stir your further interest. We will surely support you if you tackle those as well.

8 Exercises for reflection seismics

Version: July 7, 2022
Context: Seismics 01 - 04 + Videos.
Timing: This exercise should be completed the latest by July 14th 2022

8.1 Reflection seismics

You get a desperate Email from an all friend of yours:

My dearest friend,

I just got hired in a geophysical prospecting company and earn good money. Unfortunately, I never took a geophysics lecture and I can't handle math at all (which sort of makes me wonder why they hired me in the first place.) My supervisor handed me some data (cf. Figs. 1& 2) of a test seismic survey. They only did one explosion and wanted to estimate in this shot gather what the subsurface looks like, before collecting more data. I am supposed to give a presentation next week answering the following questions:

- *Which seismic wave types are visible in the shot gather?*
- *What are the seismic velocities and over which depth intervals do they change?*
- *Does the survey confirm our expectations (from the geologic context) that we have two stratigraphic units at this location which are horizontal?*
- *What are the interval velocities of the individual layers? (some new content)*
- *Can we explain all signatures in the shot gather? (some new content)*

My supervisor suggested that I start with the analysis of linear features and then move on to the shallowest and deepest reflection hyperbolas. Apparantly the root-mean-square velocity v_{RMS} and the respective interval velocities v_i at layers i traversed by time Δt_i are connected like that:

$$v_{RMS} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_i v_i^2 \Delta t_i}{\sum_i \Delta t_i}}$$

To be honest, I don't even know what she is talking about. Could you please help me out and send me some drawings + calculations that I can use in the presentation? This will not be forgotton. I wish I had taken more rigorous lectures during my studies.

Regards, Your Friend

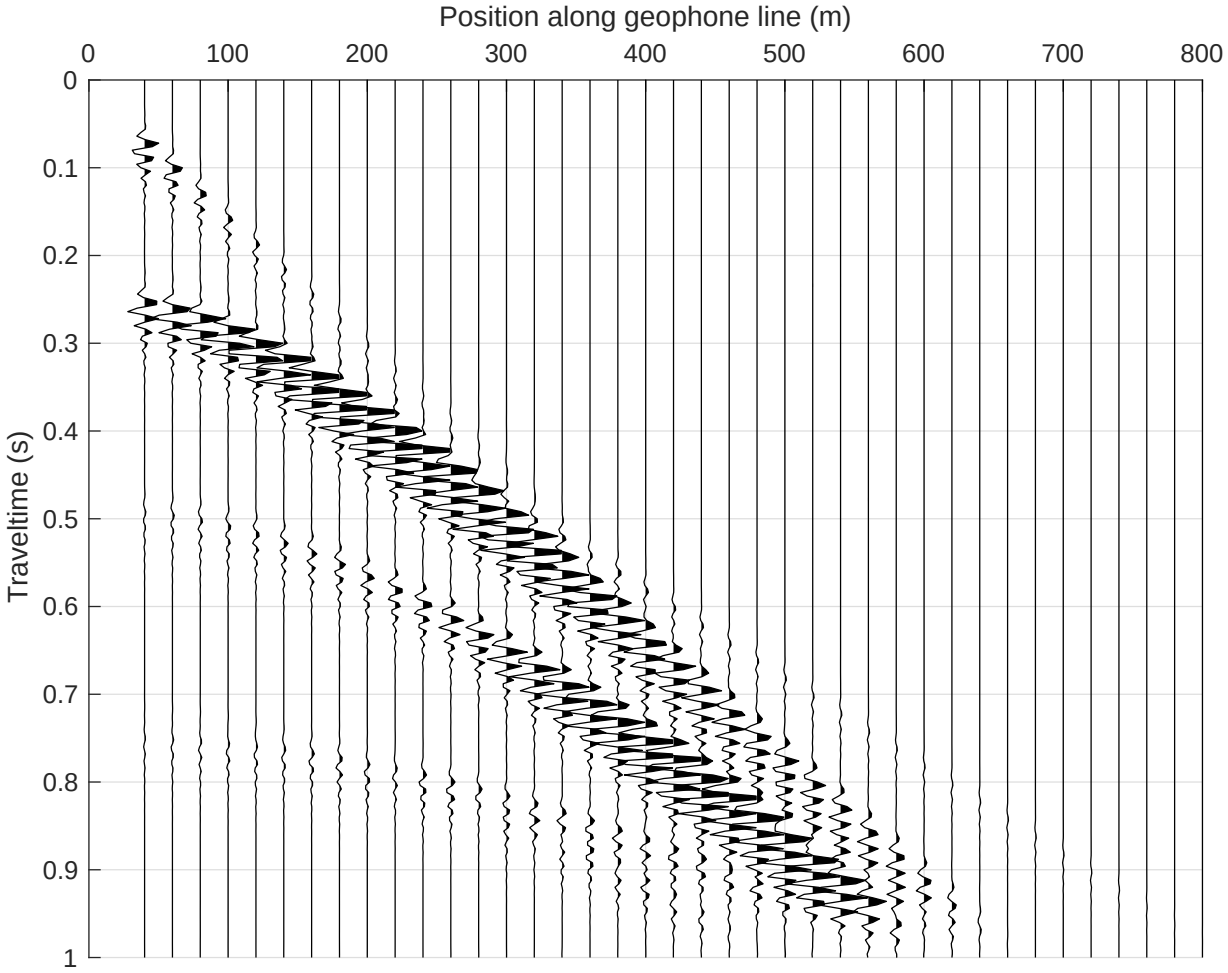

Figure 1: Shot gather for shot at postion 0, geophonespacing is 20 m.

test.

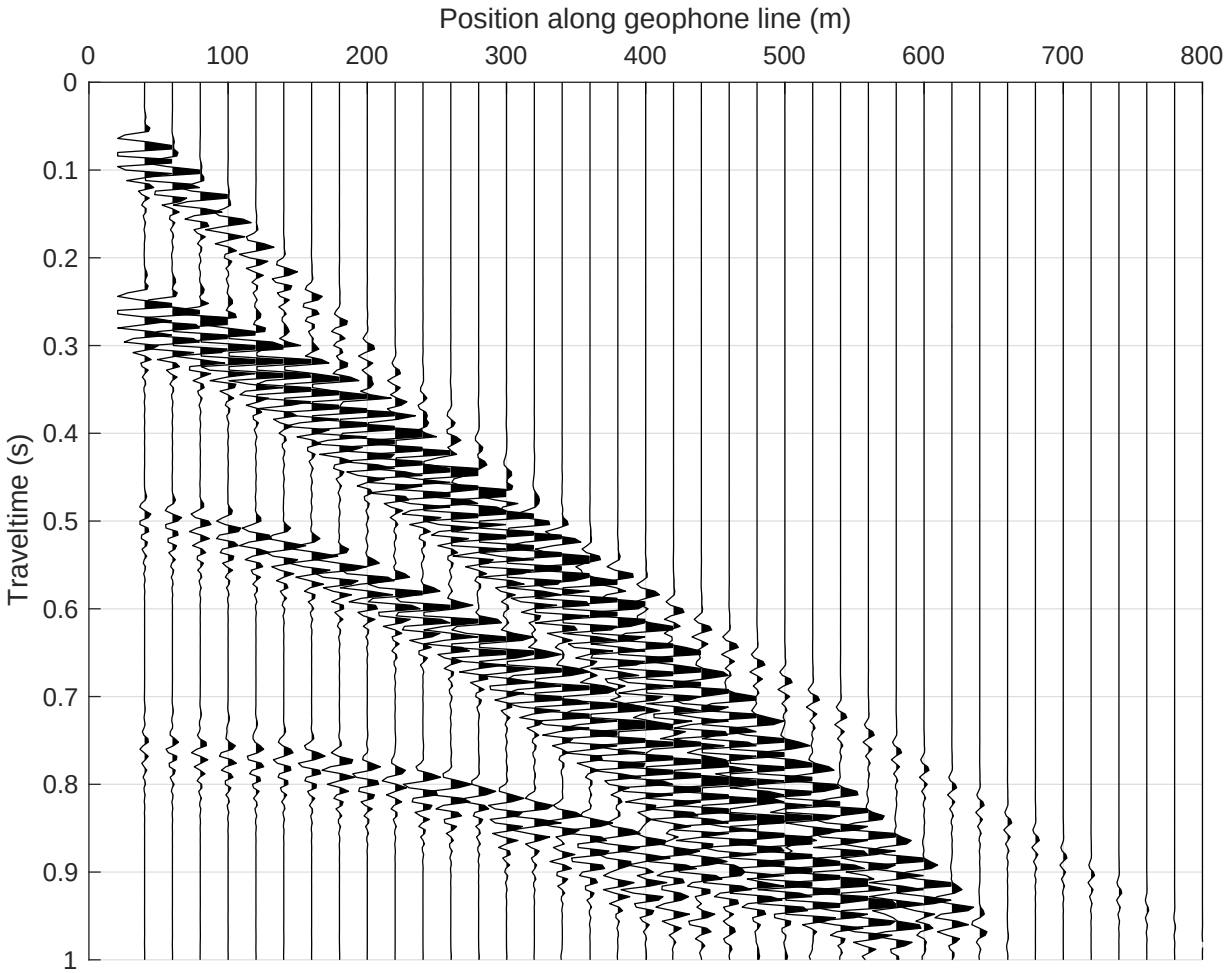

Figure 2: Shot gather for shot at postion 0, geophonespacing is 20 m. Compared to Fig.1 the amplitudes are scaled so that weaker signals are more apparant.