



# Workshop on Shales



## Anisotropy and Seismic Characterization of the Bakken Formation, East Williston Basin, North Dakota

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The University of Texas at Austin  
December 16<sup>th</sup> , 2009, Houston



# Outline

- ❖ Introduction
- ❖ Well log analysis
- ❖ Seismic modeling
- ❖ Summary
- ❖ Acknowledgements



# Stratigraphy

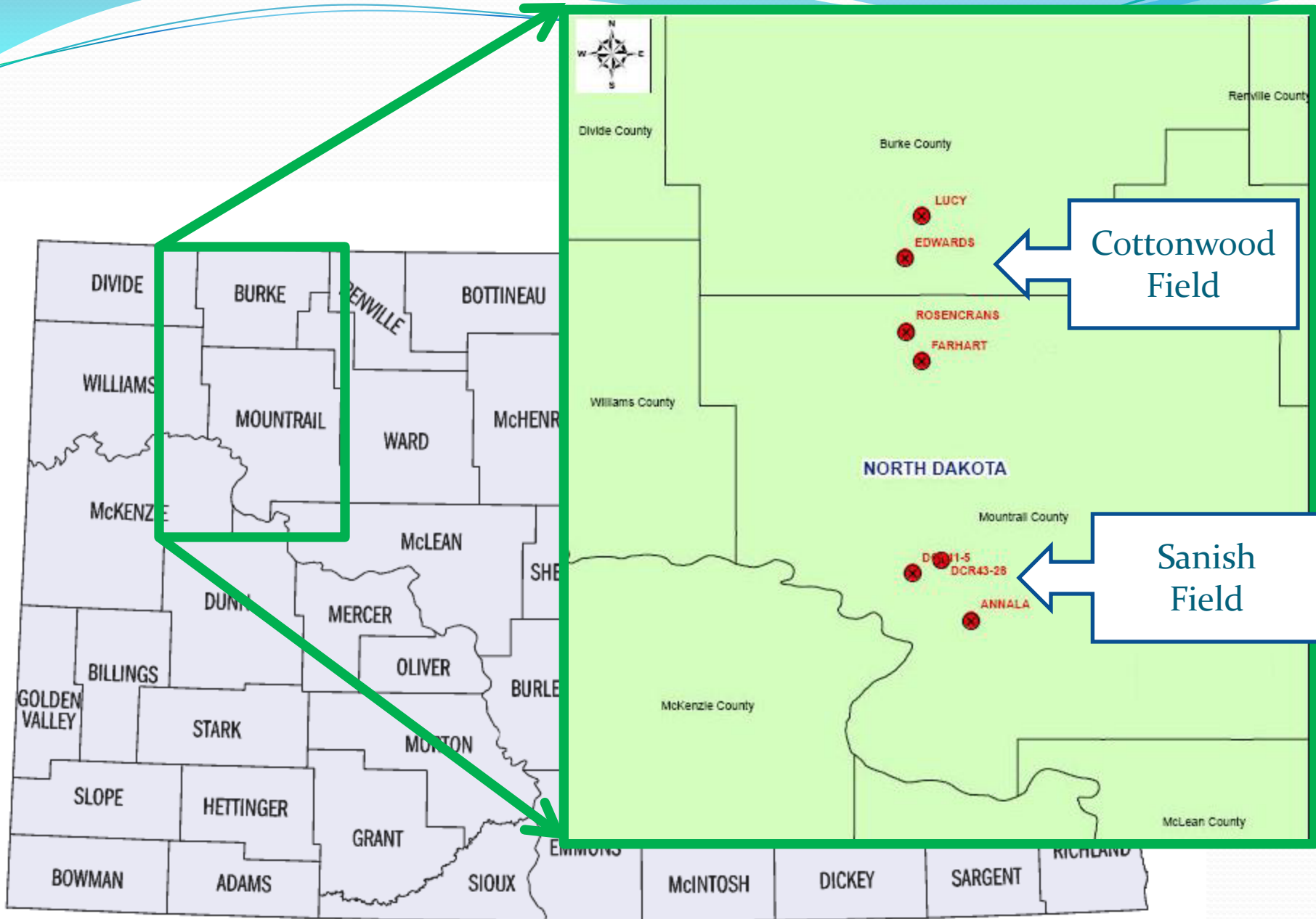
ERA	PERIOD	WILLISTON BASIN	
PALEOZOIC	MISSISSIPPIAN	HEATH FM	
		OTTER FM	
		KIBBEY FM	
		MADISON GP	CHARLES FM
			MISSION CANYON LS
			LOGEPOLE LS
			BAKKEN FM
		THREE FORKS FM	
		DEVONIAN	JEFFERSON GP
	DUPEROW FM		
	SOURIS RIVER FM		
	DAWSON BAY FM		
	ELK POINT GP		PRAIRIE EVAPORITE
			WINNIPEGOSIS FM
			ASHERN

Upper Bakken Shale

Middle Bakken

Lower Bakken Shale

Modified from Montana Board of Oil and Gas



# Identify seismically observable characteristics of the Bakken Shale associated with the productivity

## Well Log Data

- ❖ Depth
- ❖ Thickness
- ❖ Density
- ❖  $V_p$
- ❖  $V_s$
- ❖  $V_p/V_s$  Ratio
- ❖ Young's Modulus and Poisson's Ratio

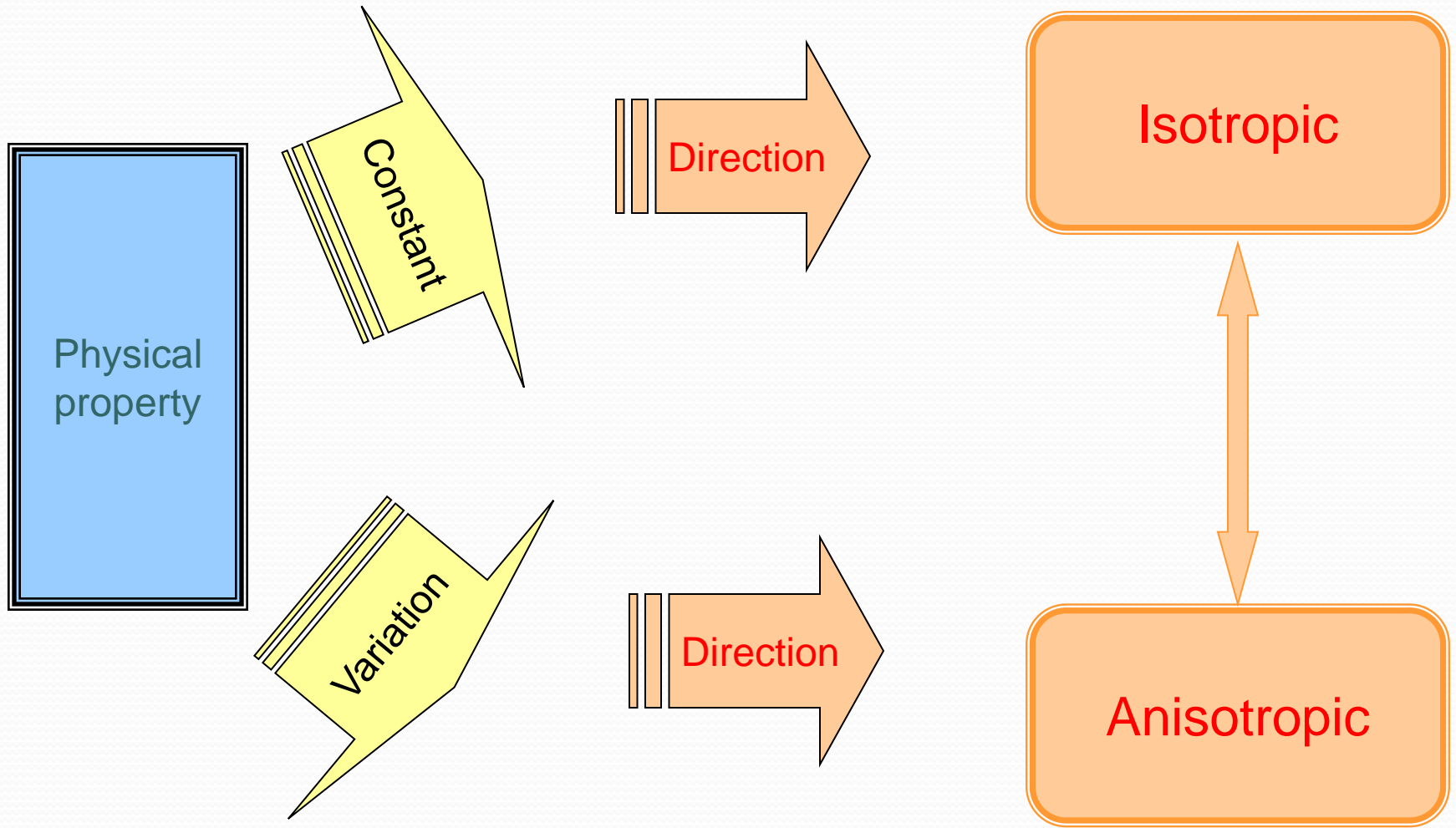
## Model

- ❖ Isotropic
- ❖ Anisotropic-VTI
- ❖ Anisotropic-HTI
- ❖ Combination of VTI and HTI
  
- ❖ Thick layer model
- ❖ Real Bakken thickness
  
- ❖ Cottonwood and Sanish field

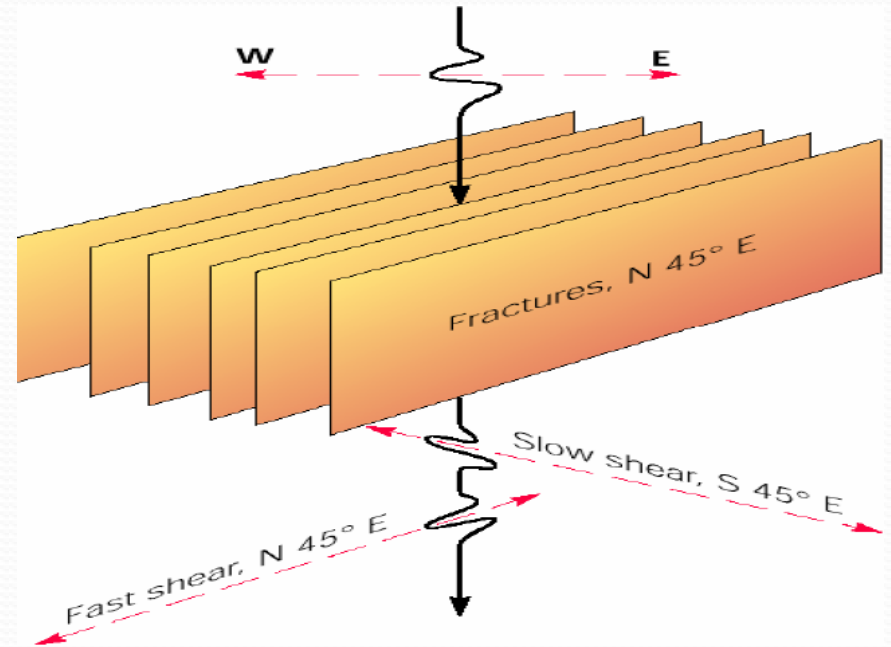
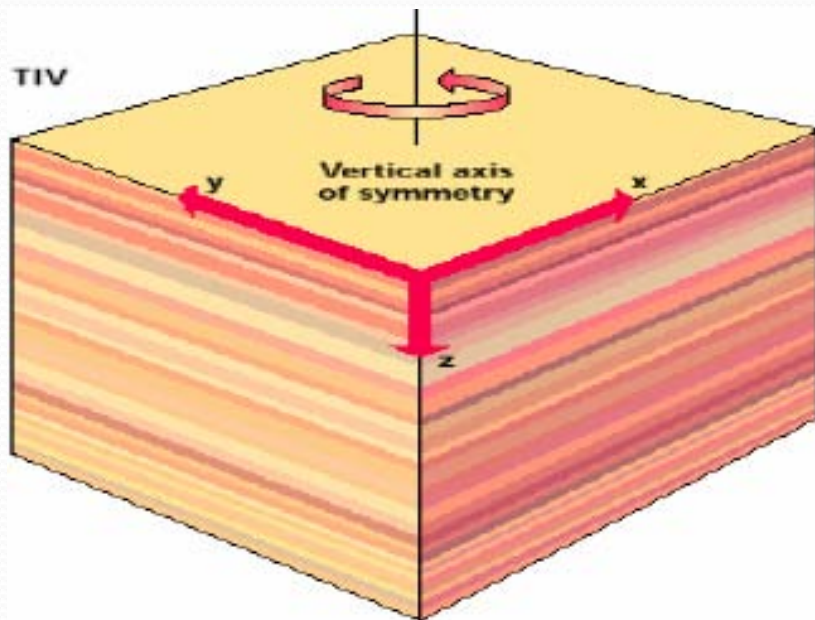
## Seismic Responses

- ❖ Seismic resolution
- ❖ P wave
- ❖ S wave
- ❖ Mode converted wave (C wave / P-SV)
- ❖ Anisotropy information
- ❖ Different offset
- ❖ Different azimuth

# What is anisotropy ?



# Transversely Isotropic – VTI & HTI



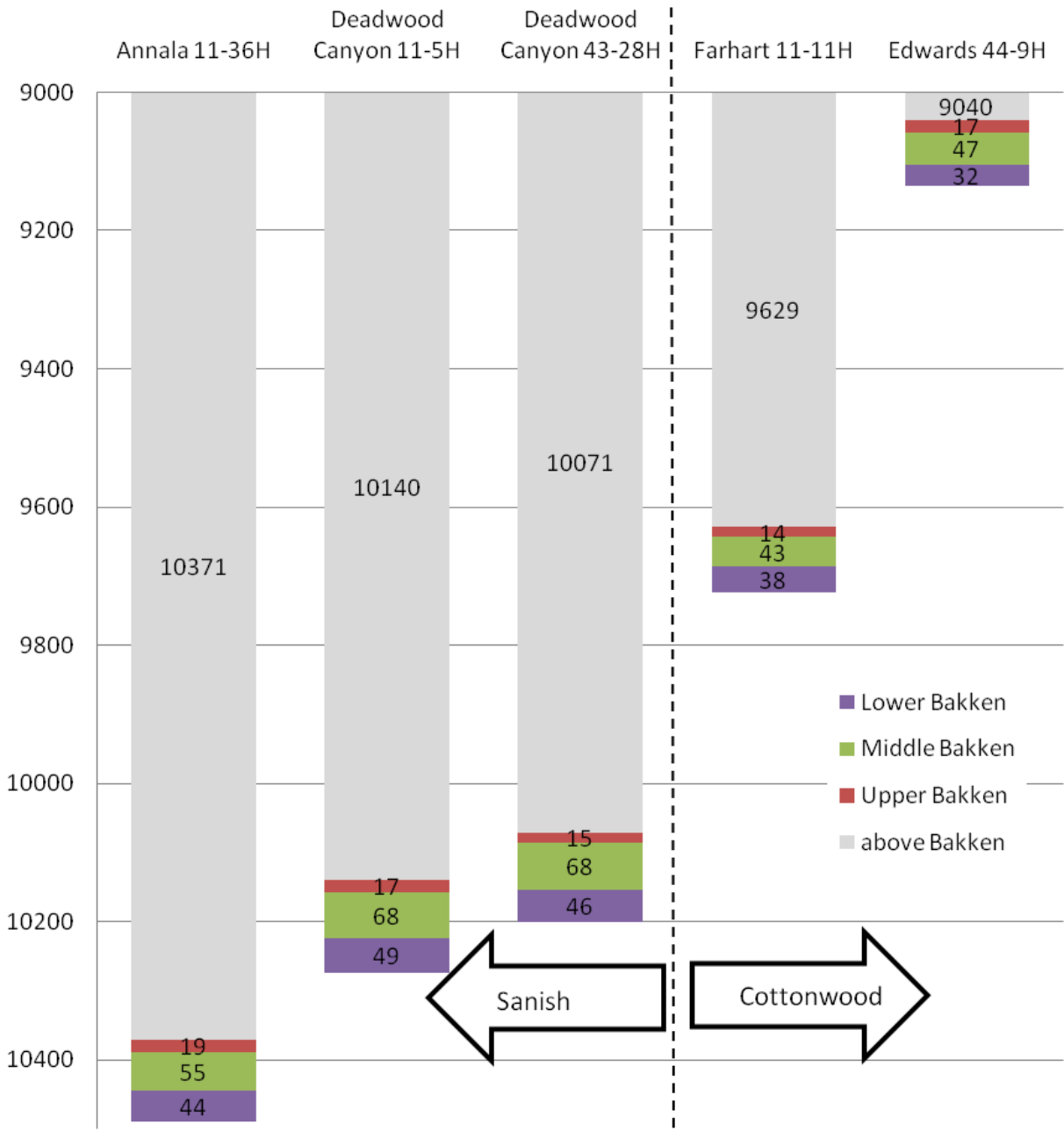
Schlumberger



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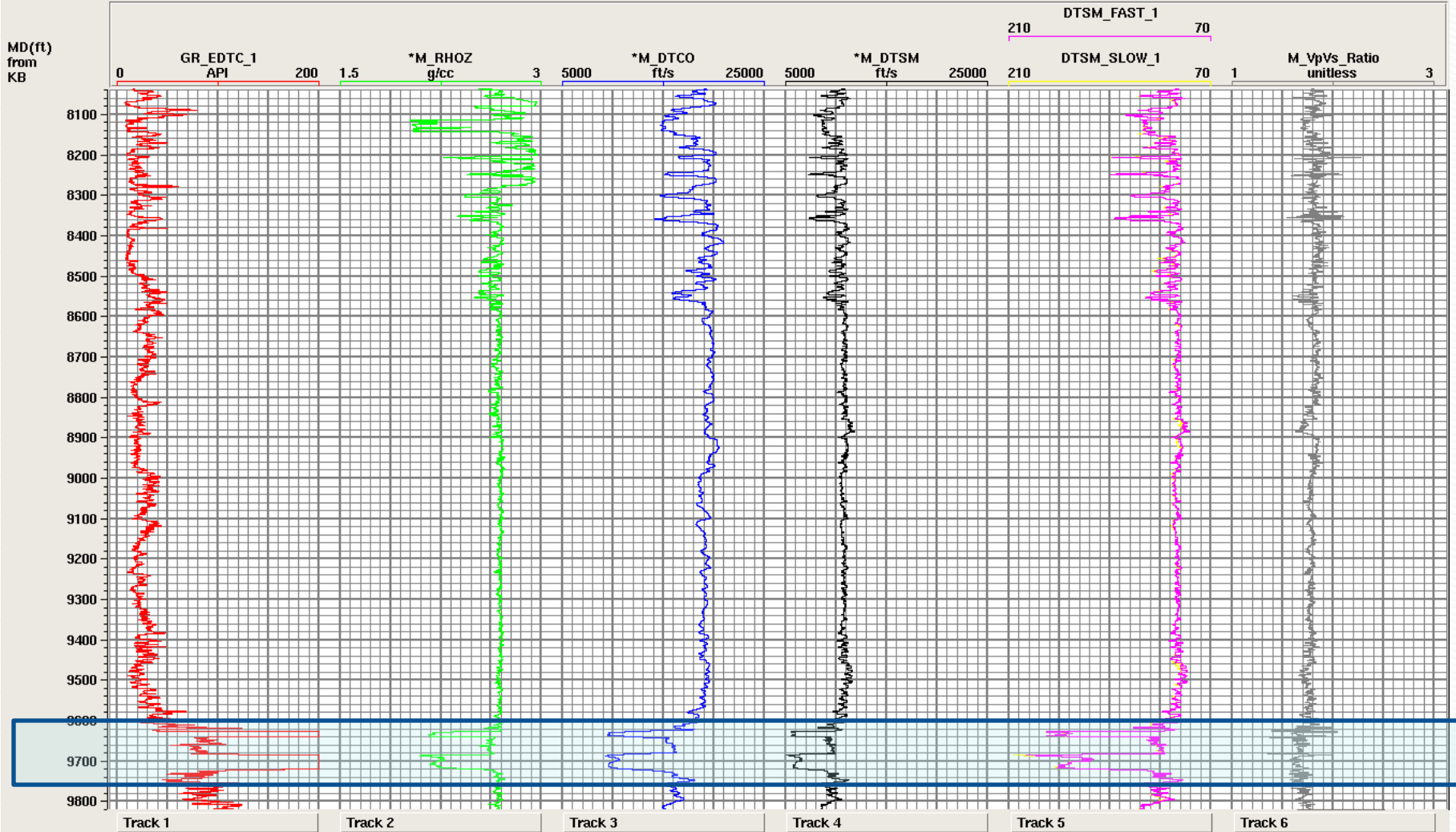
# Depth and Thickness of the Bakken



# Depth and thickness

Well	Depth (ft)	Bakken Thickness (ft)
Annala 11-36H	10371	119
DCR 11-5H	10140	134
DCR 43-28H	10071	129
Farhart 11-11H	9629	95
Edwards 44-9H	9040	96

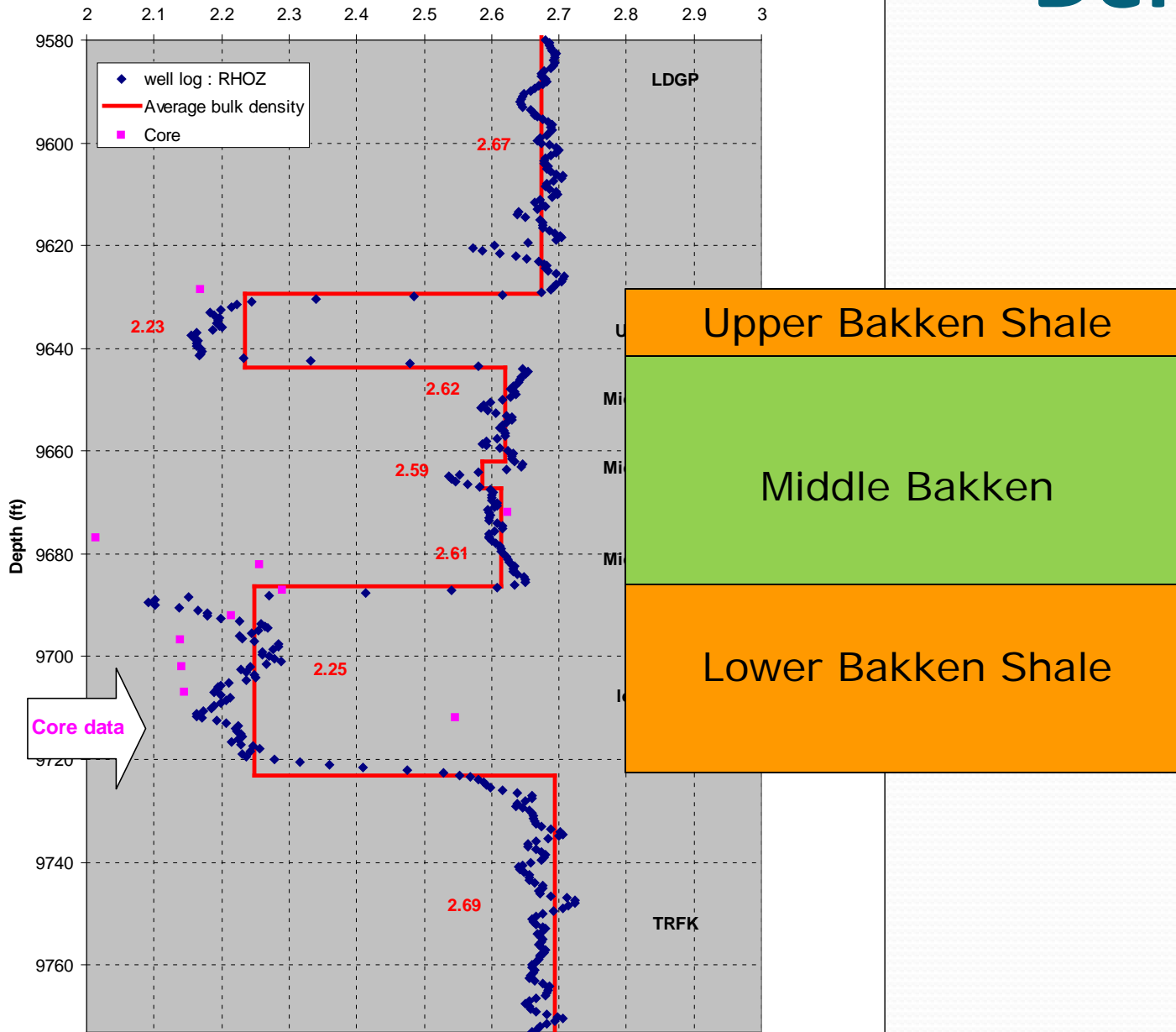
FARHART 11-11H  
(x=1474386.34ft, y=533082.42ft) Elevation: Kb=2474ft, surface=2454ft, SRD: 2500ft



# Density

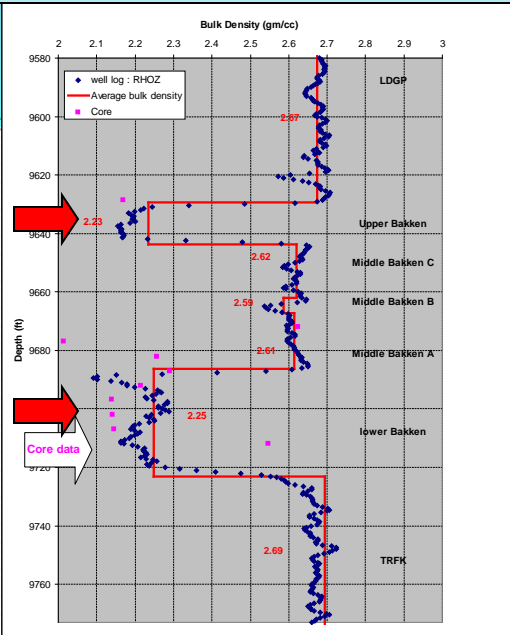
Farhart 11-11H

Bulk Density (gm/cc)

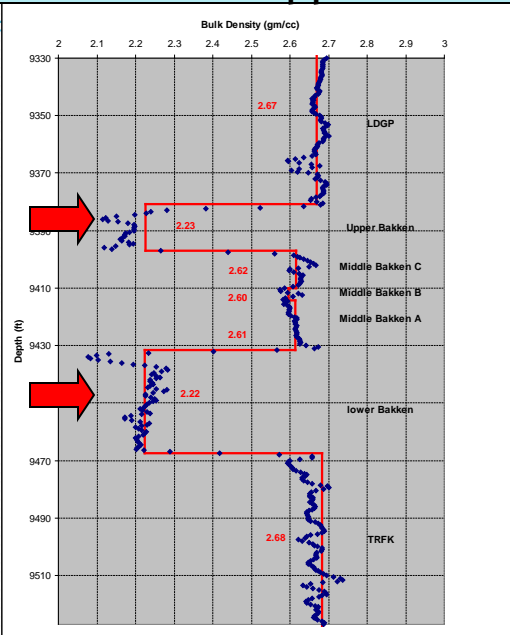


# Density

## Farhart 11-11H



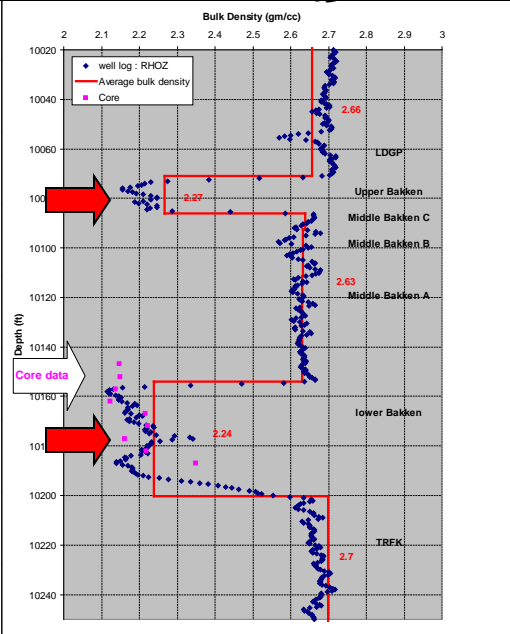
## Rosencrans 44-21H



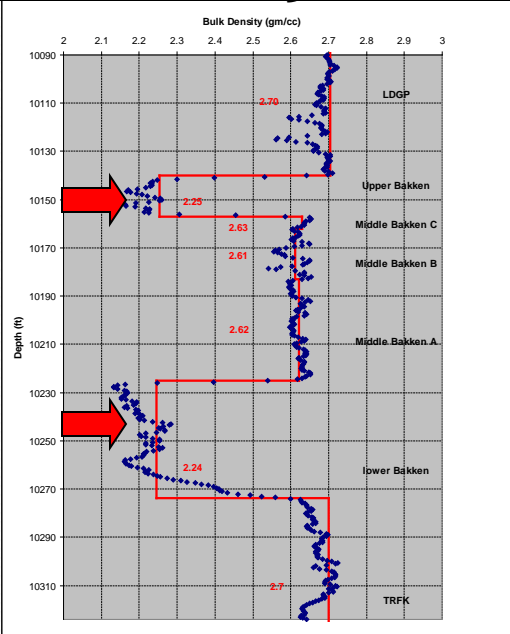
### Average Density (gm/cc)

Upper Bakken Shale: 2.24  
 Middle Bakken: 2.62  
 Lower Bakken Shale: 2.24

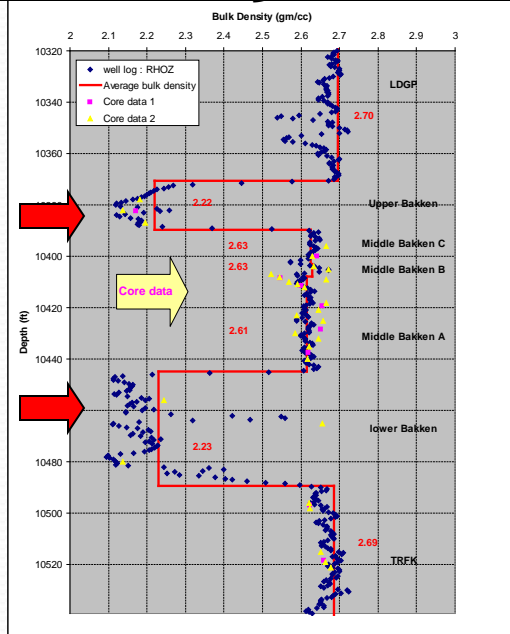
## DCR 43-28H



## DCR 11-5H

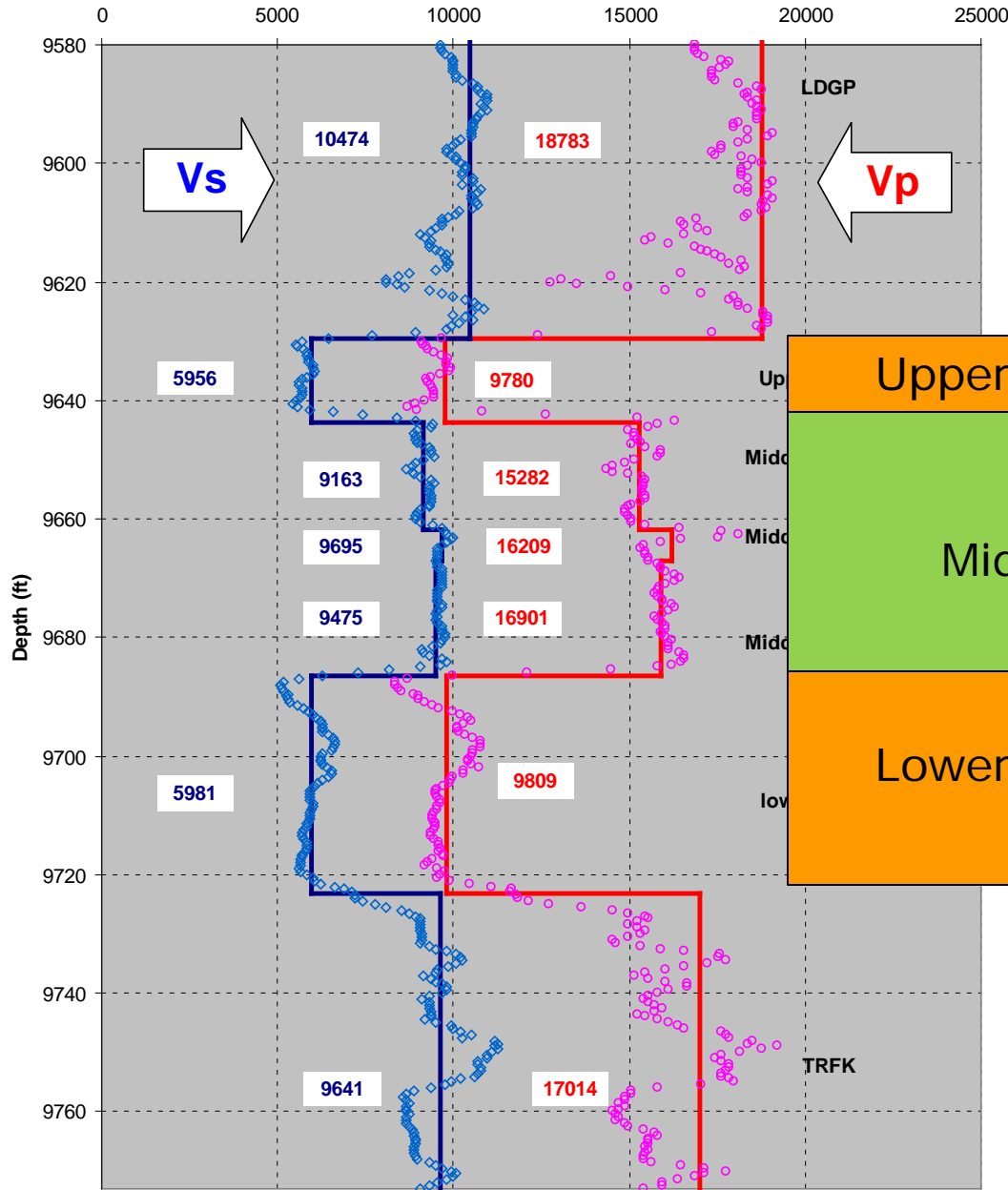


## Annala 11-36H



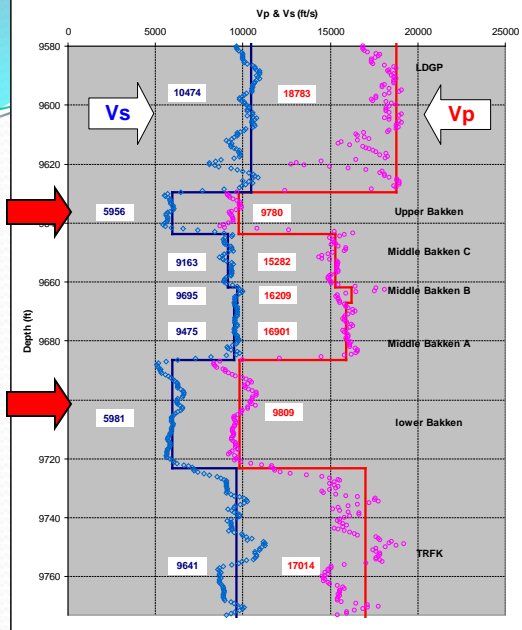
Farhart 11-11H

Vp & Vs (ft/s)



# P-wave and S-wave Velocity

# Farhart 11-11H



# P-wave and S-wave Velocity

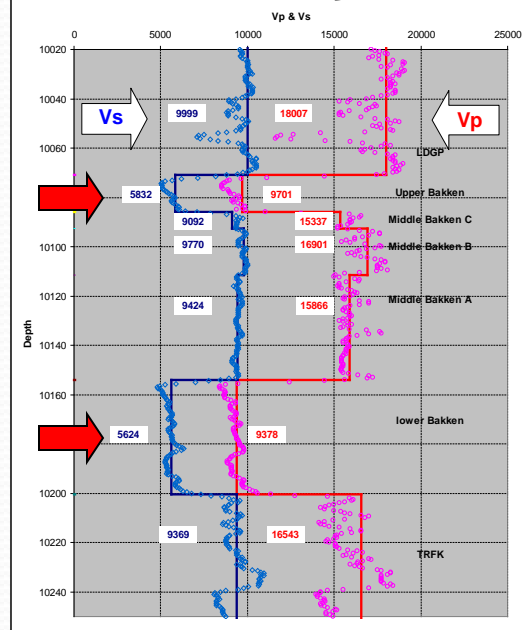
## ❖ Bakken Shales : Low P and S velocity

- Vp: ~9500ft/s
- Vs: ~5700ft/s

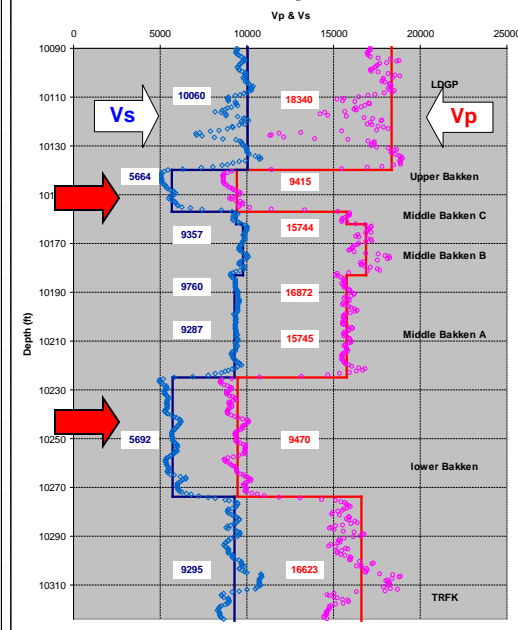
## ❖ Middle Bakken :

- Vp: ~16000ft/s
- Vs: ~9400ft/s

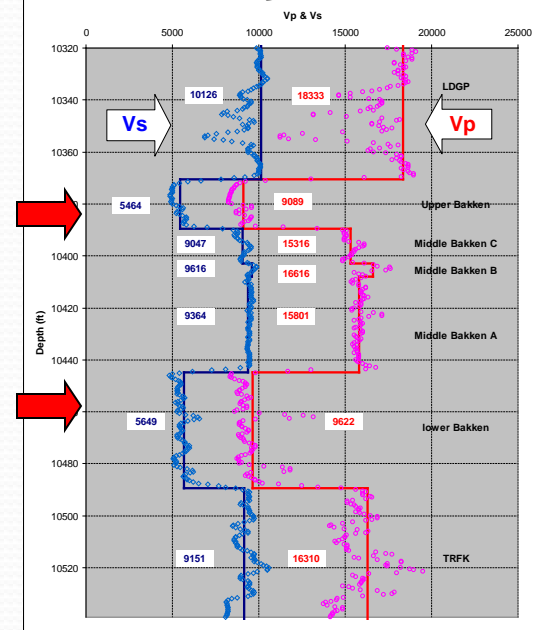
# DCR 43-28H



# DCR 11-5H

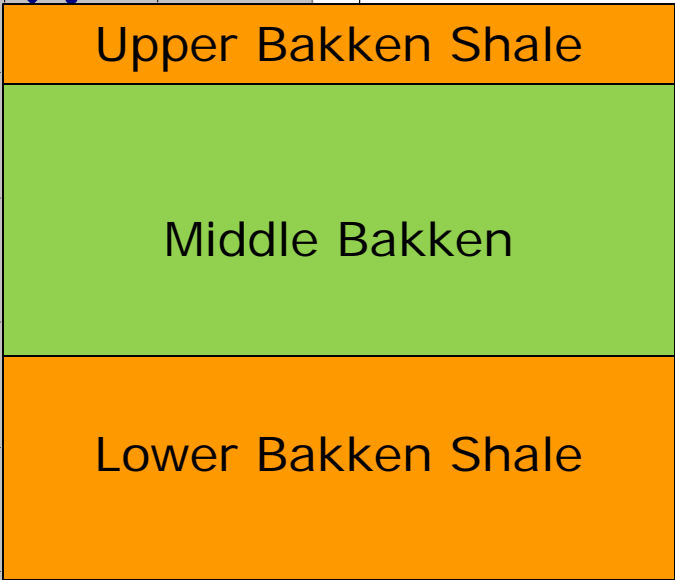
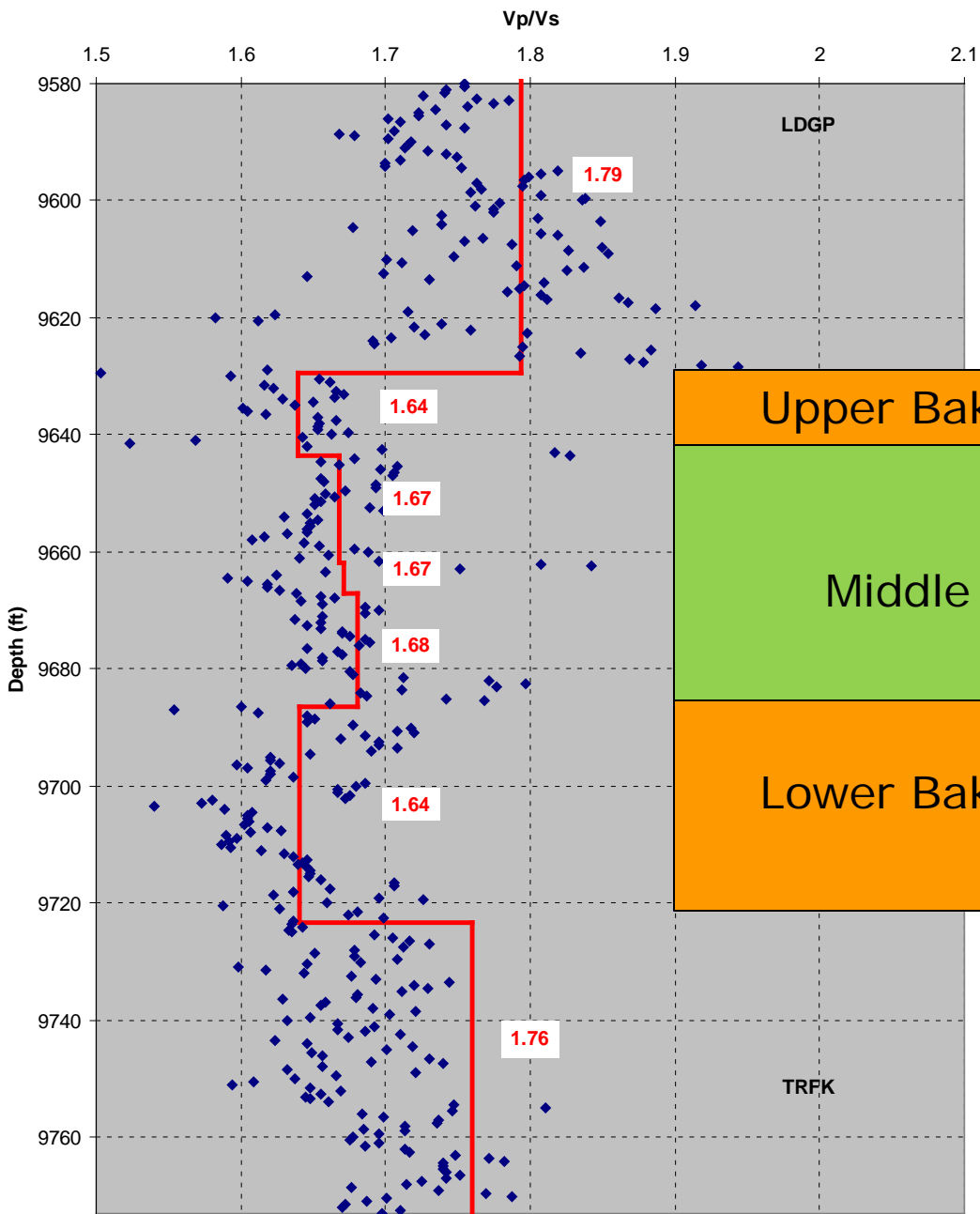


# Annala 11-36H



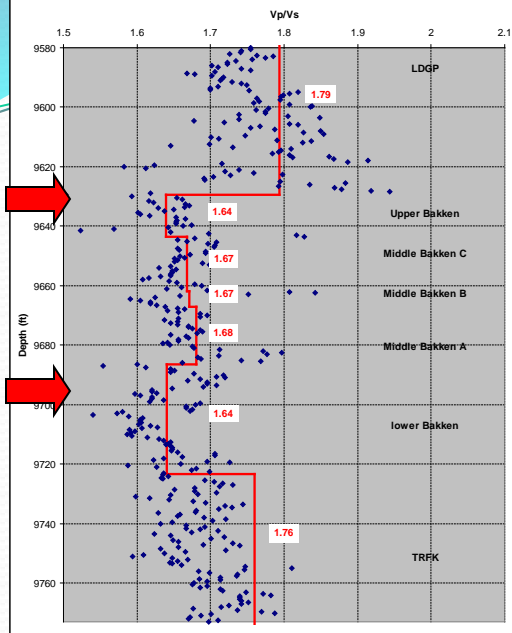
Farhart 11-11H

# Vp / Vs





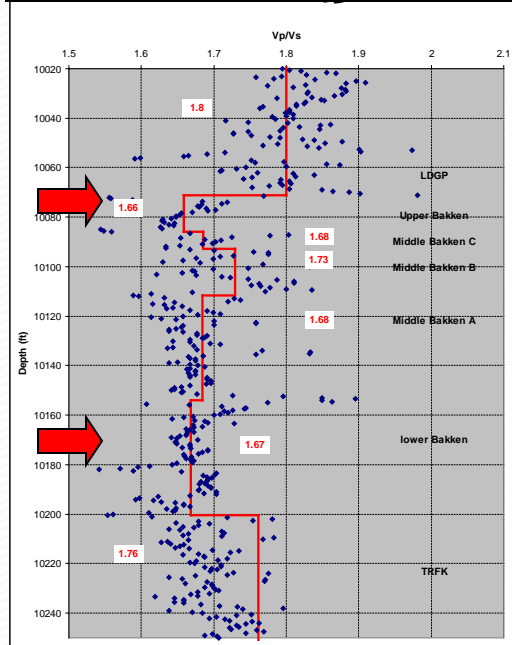
# Farhart 11-11H



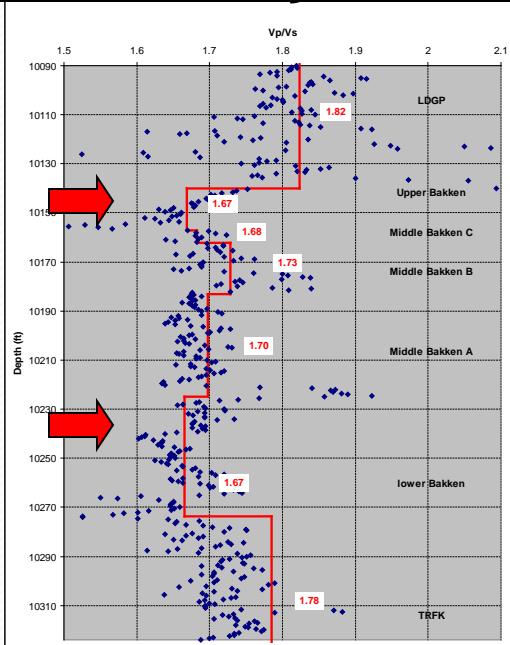
# Vp / Vs

❖ Bakken Shale : Low Vp/Vs

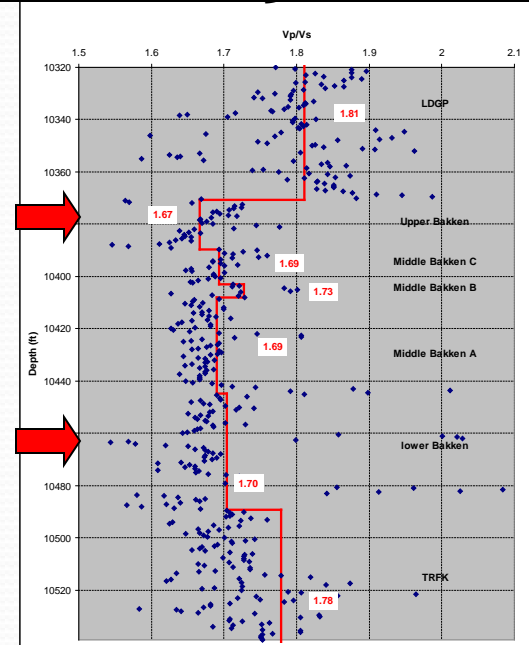
# DCR 43-28H



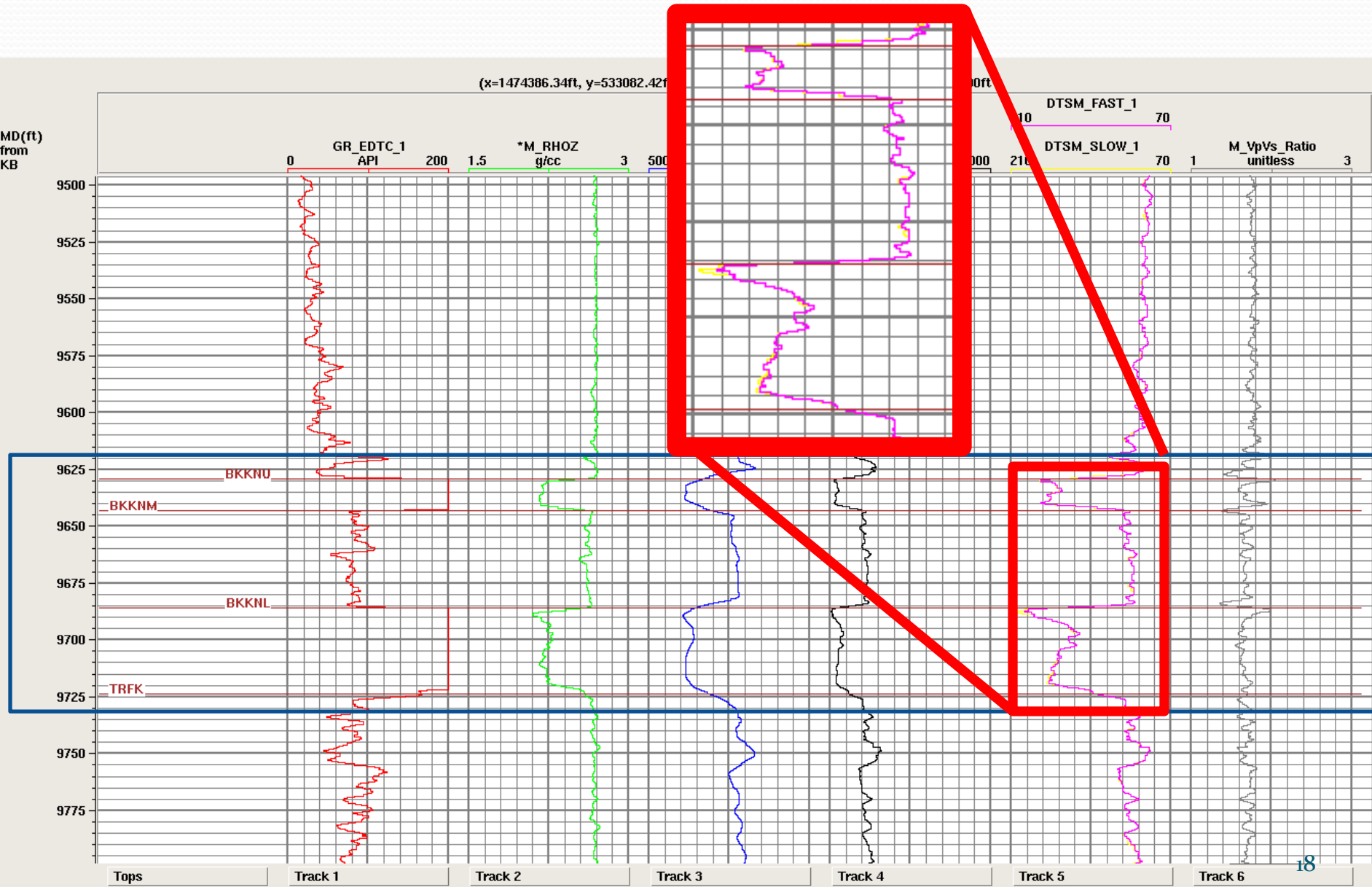
# DCR 11-5H



# Annala 11-36H



# Fast Shear and Slow Shear ?



# Young's Modulus and Poisson's Ratio

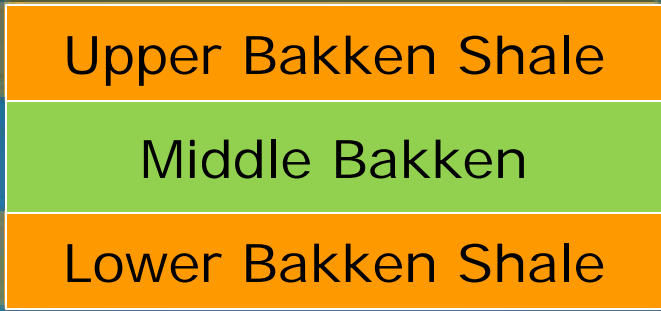
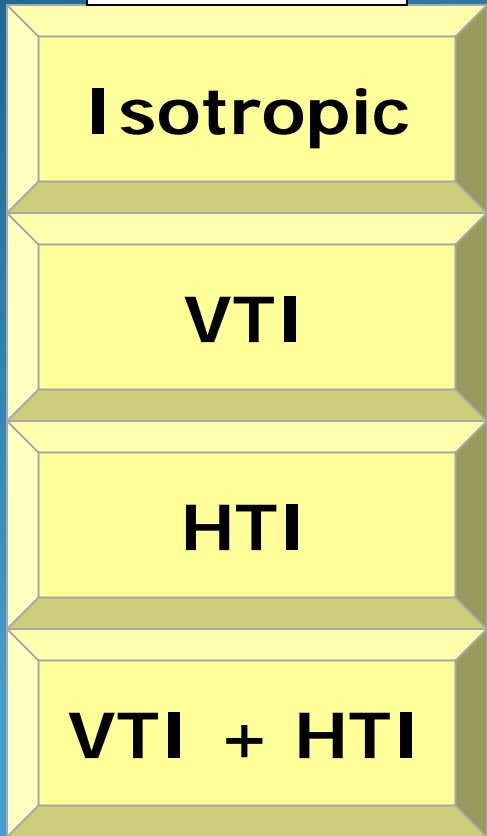
		Young's Modulus					Poisson's Ratio				
		Horizontal / Vertical					Horizontal / Vertical				
		Rosencrans 44-21H	Farhart 11-11H	DCR 43-28H	DCR 11-5H	Annala 11-36H	Rosencrans 44-21H	Farhart 11-11H	DCR 43- 28H	DCR 11-5H	Annala 11-36H
<b>Upper Bakken Shale</b>		1.62	1.52	1.74	1.47	1.52	0.5	0.59	0.5	0.6	0.58
<b>Middle Bakken</b>	<b>C</b>	1.00	1.04	1.20	1.04	0.98	0.99	0.95	0.79	0.94	1.02
	<b>B</b>	0.93	0.97	1.12	1.05	0.98	1.09	1.04	0.84	0.93	1.03
	<b>A</b>	1.01	1.02	1.08	1.02	1.09	0.94	0.98	0.91	0.97	0.89
<b>Lower Bakken Shale</b>		1.64	1.55	1.67	1.60	1.60	0.52	0.58	0.54	0.55	0.54

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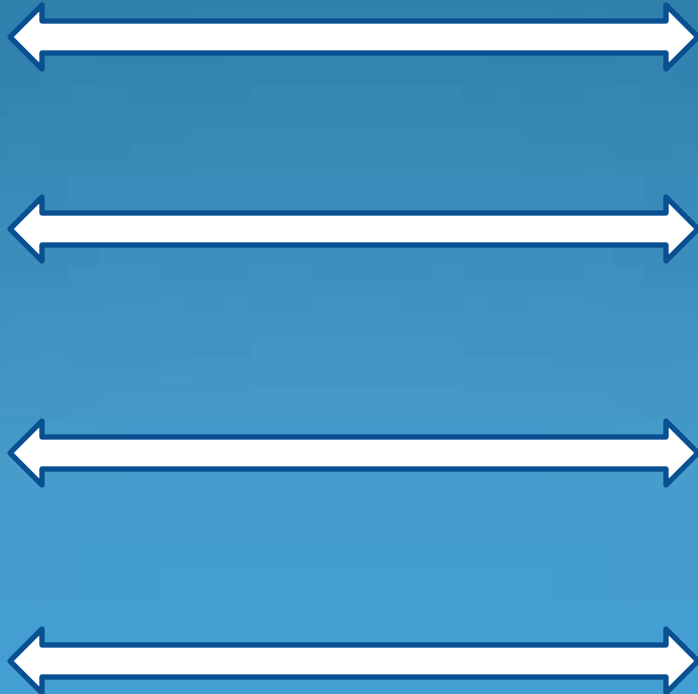
# Thick Model

100 m
100 m
100 m

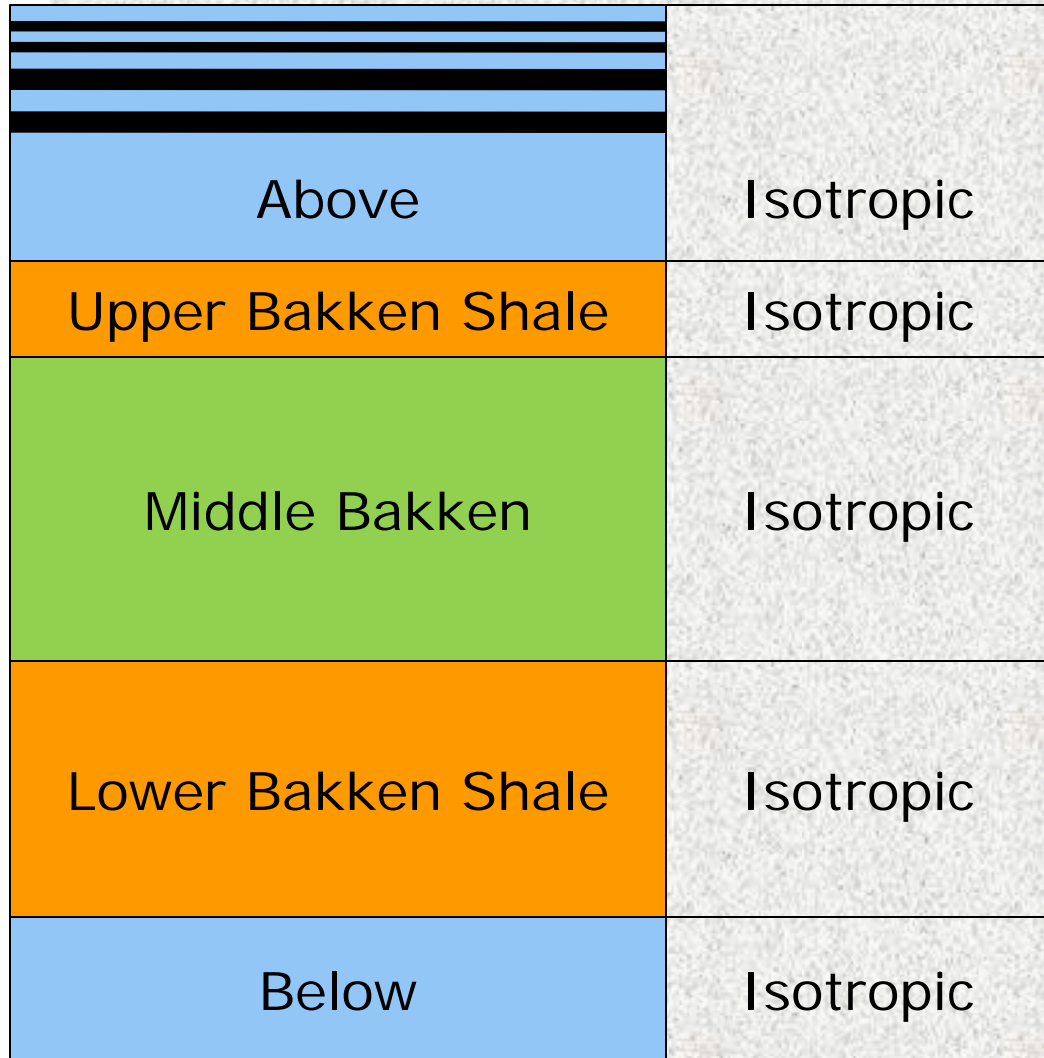
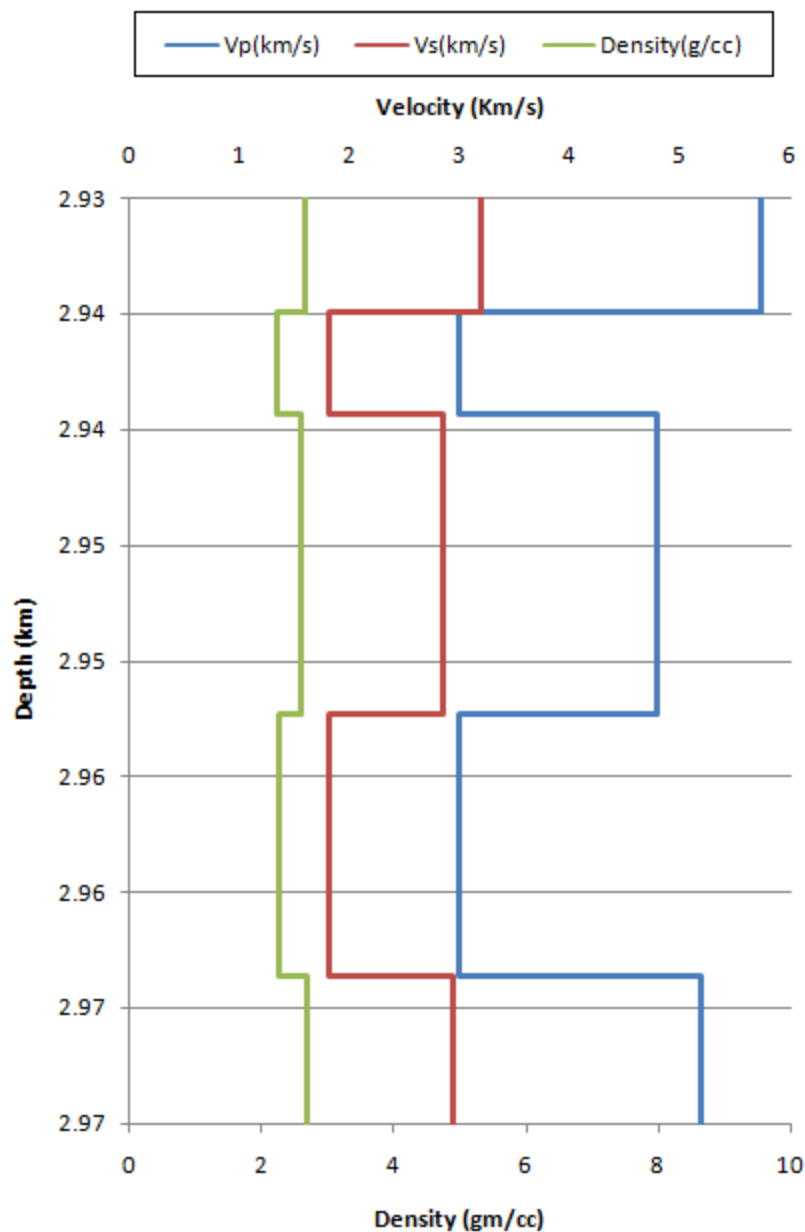


# Real Thickness

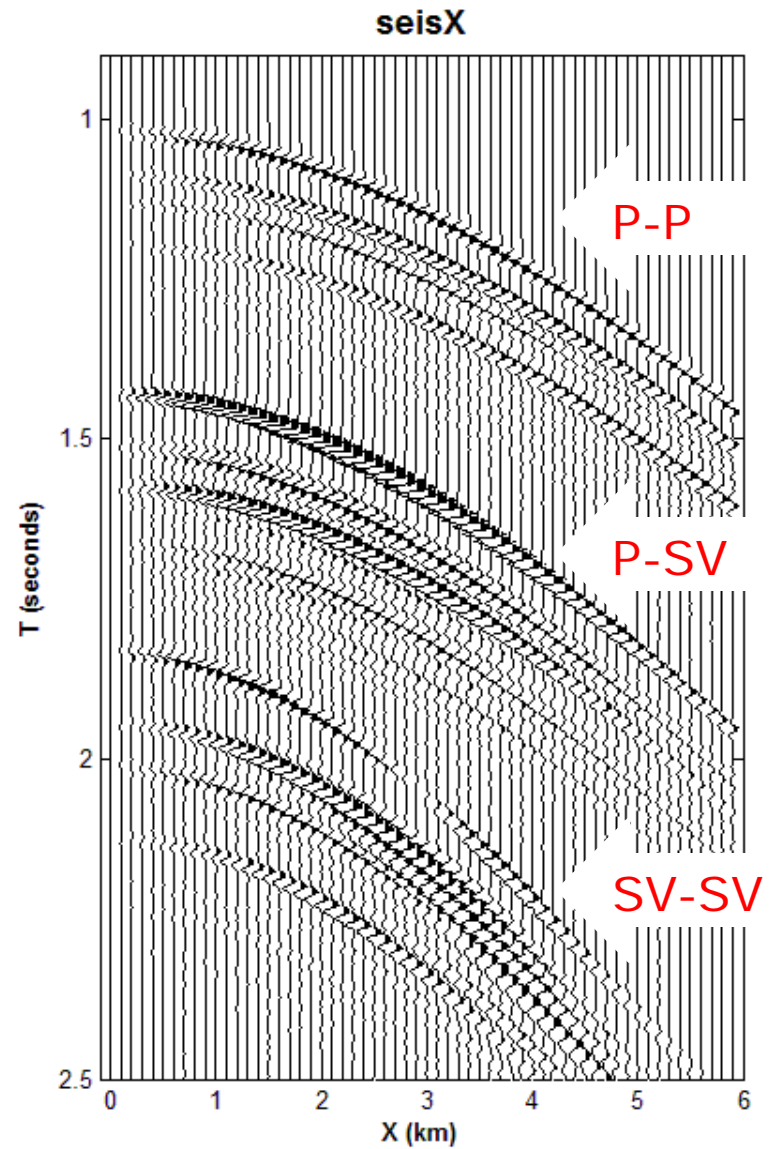
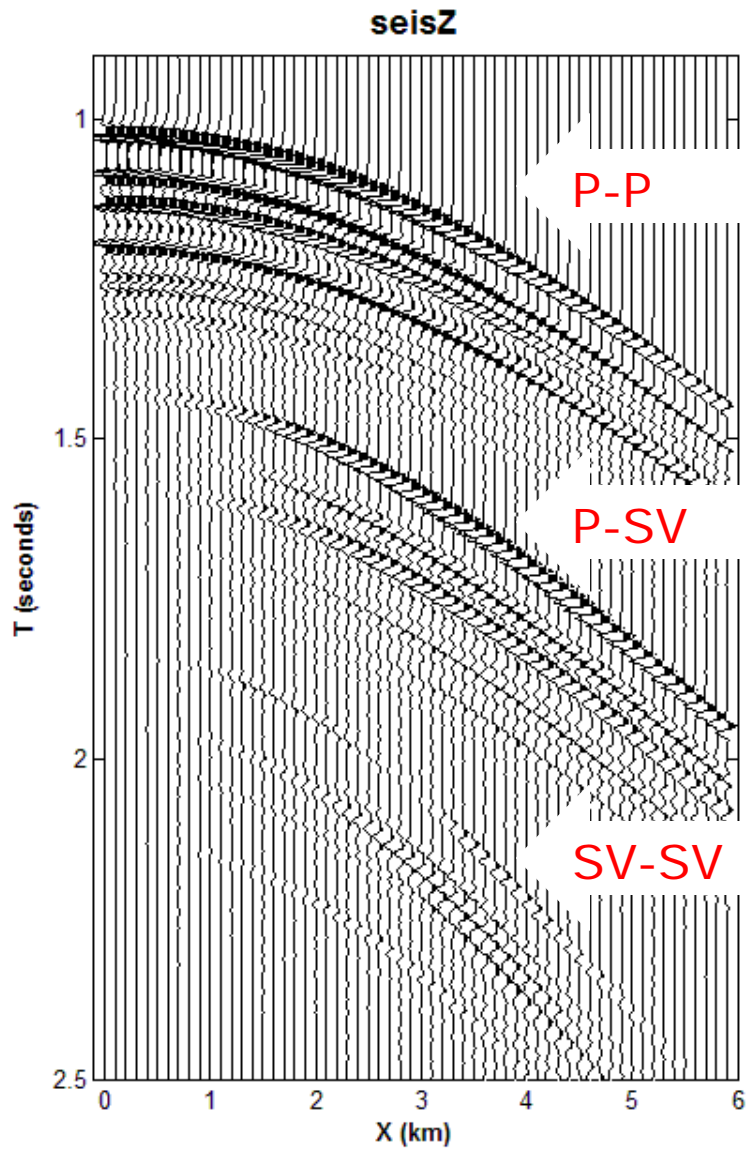
4.4 m
13.0 m
11.2 m



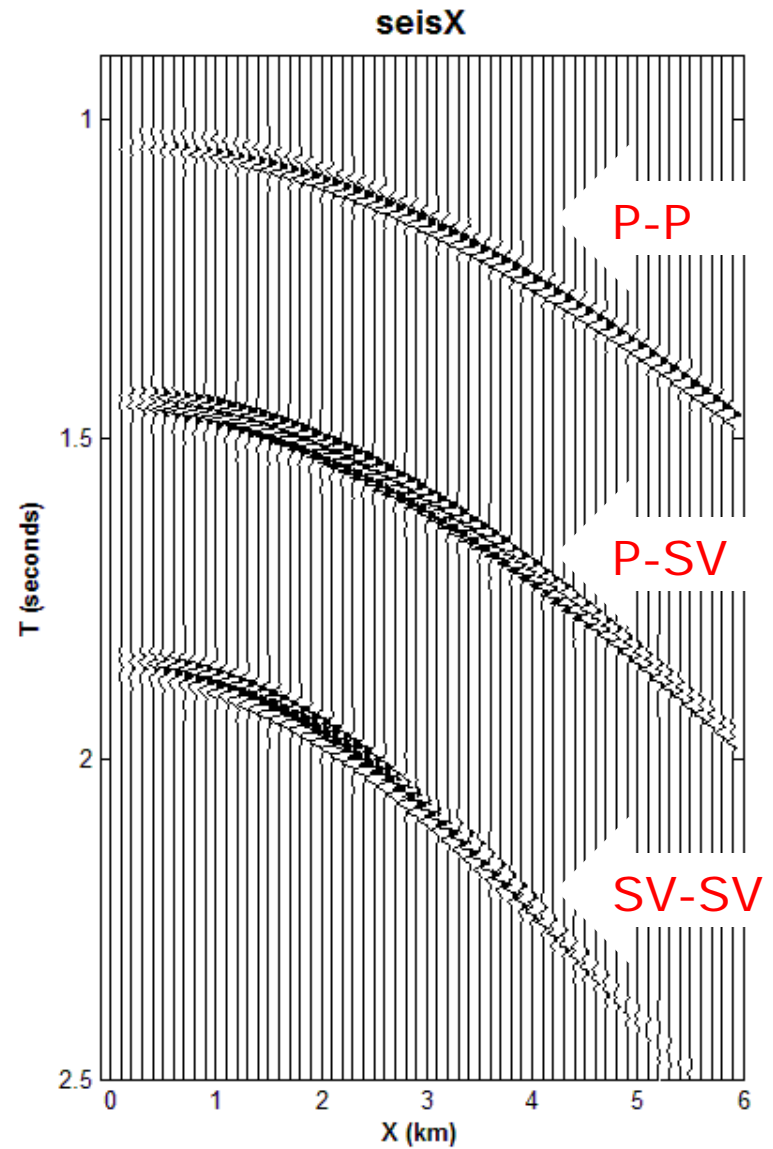
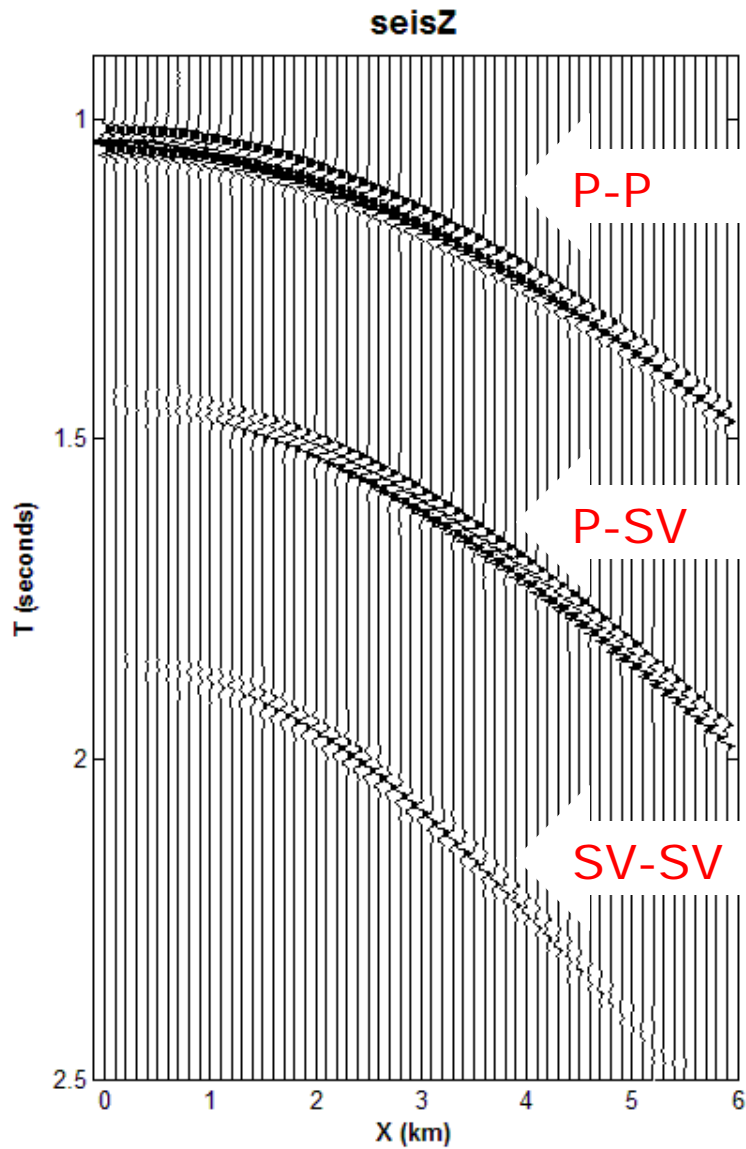
# Modeling Step 1: Isotropic



# Thick Model

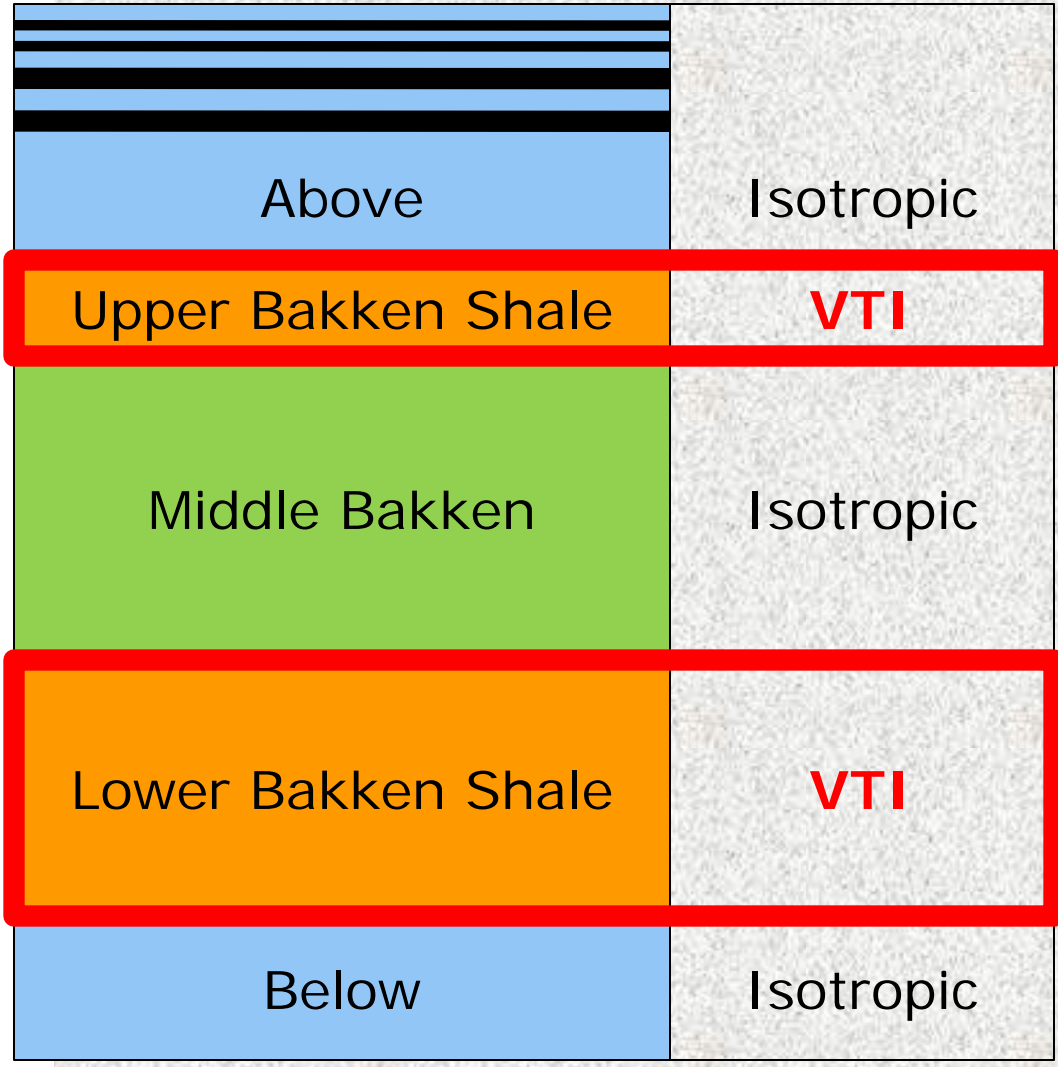
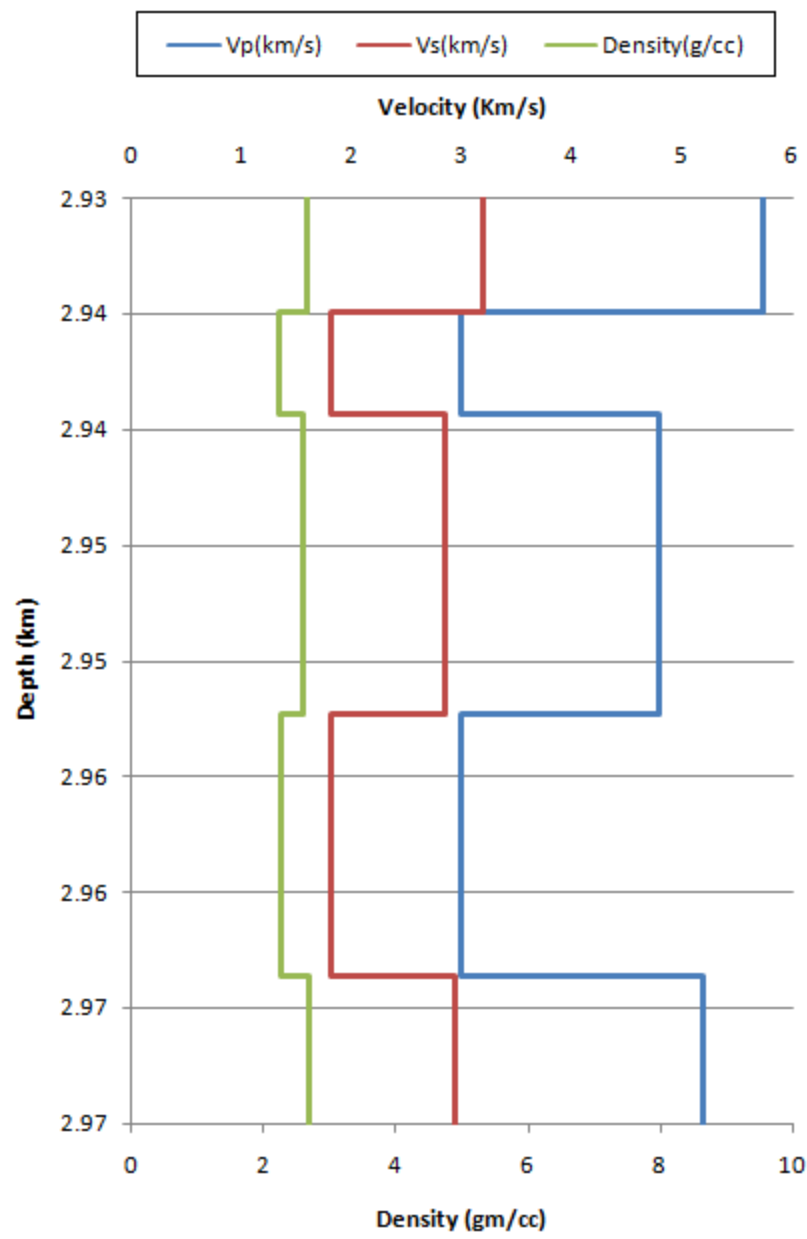


# Real Bakken Thickness





# Modeling Step 2: Anisotropic-VTI



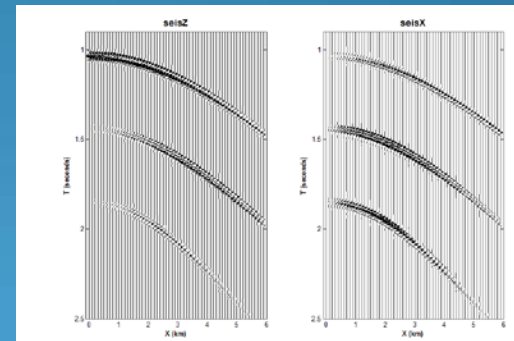
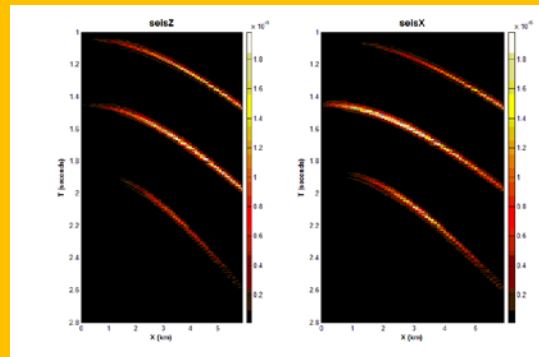
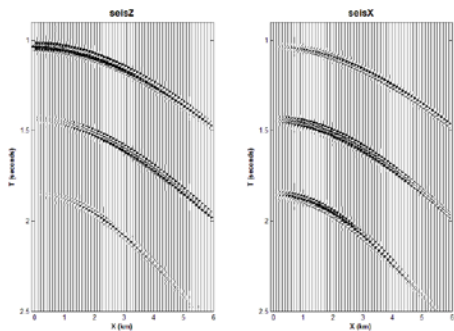
Isotropic  
Response



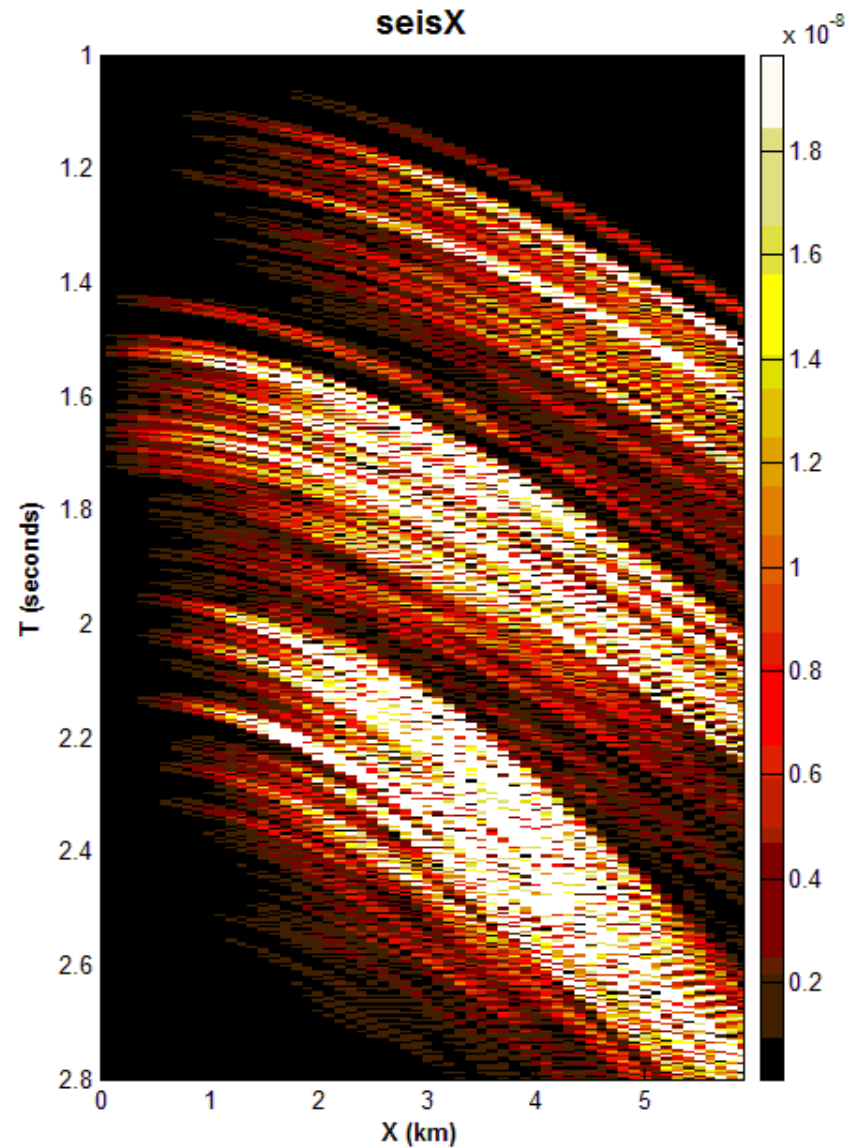
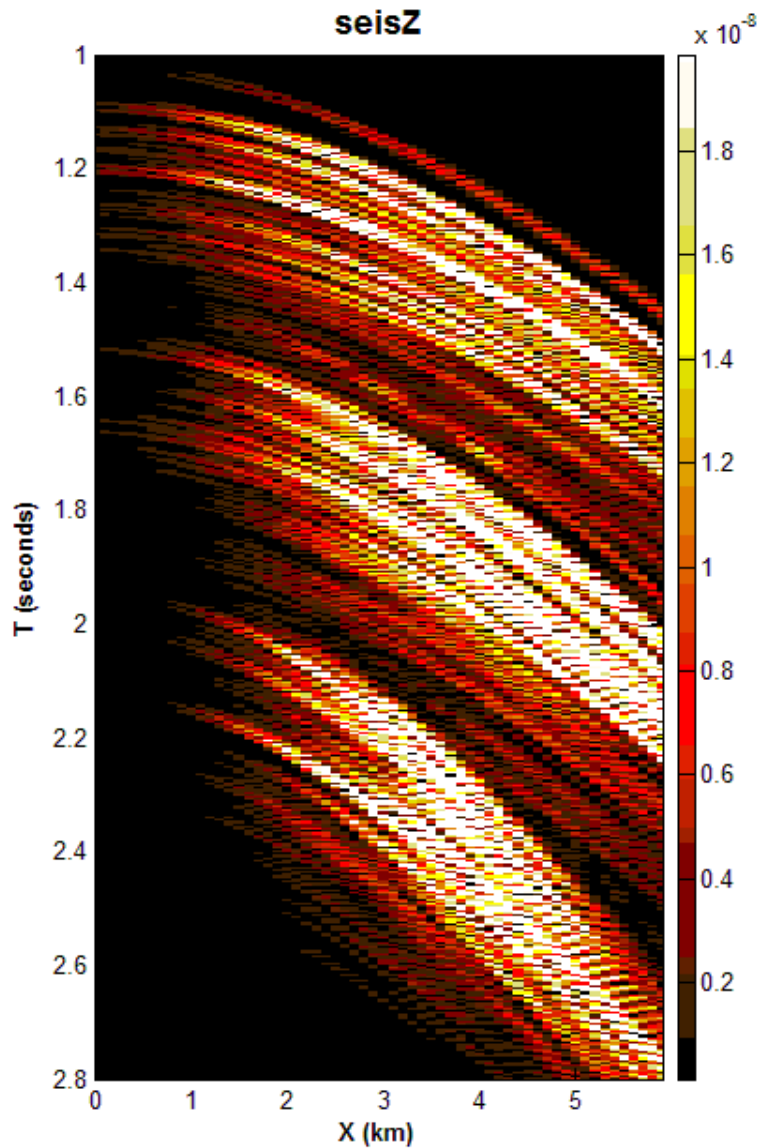
Anisotropy  
Information



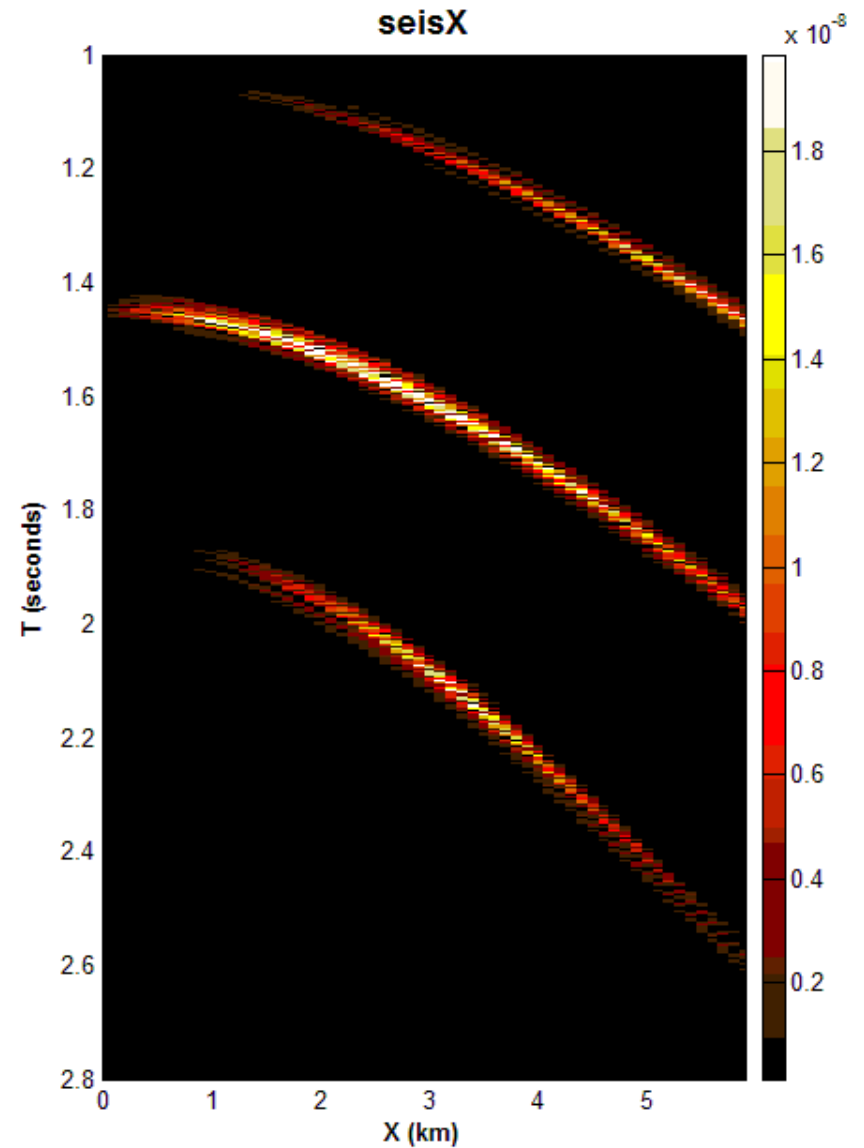
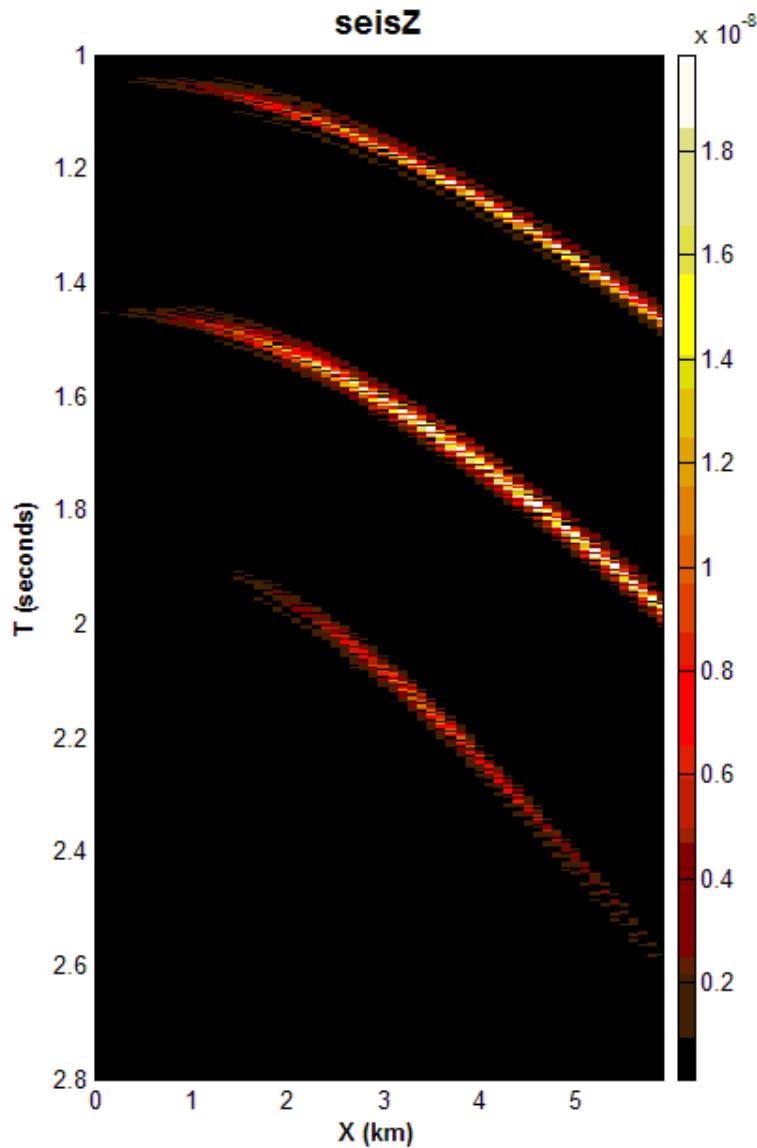
Total  
Anisotropic  
Seismic  
Response



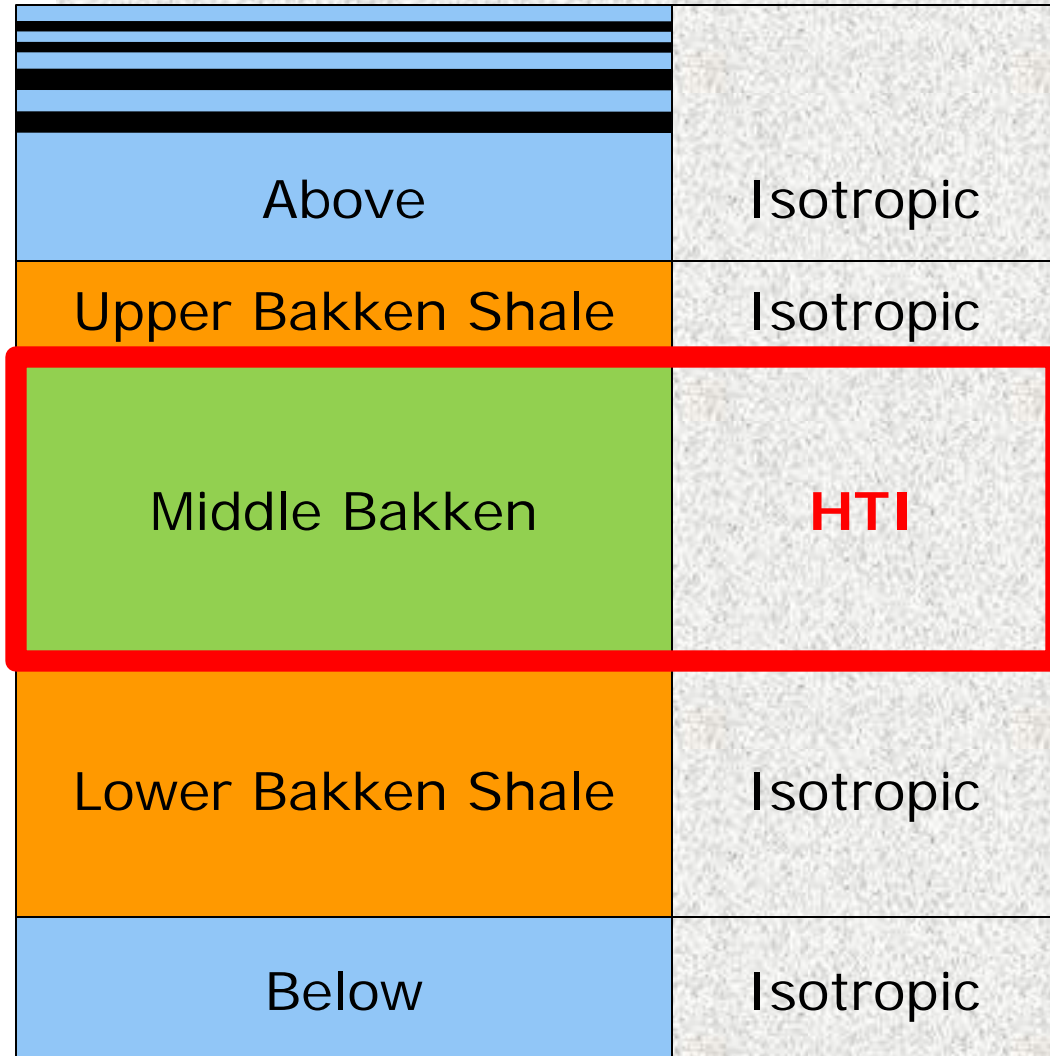
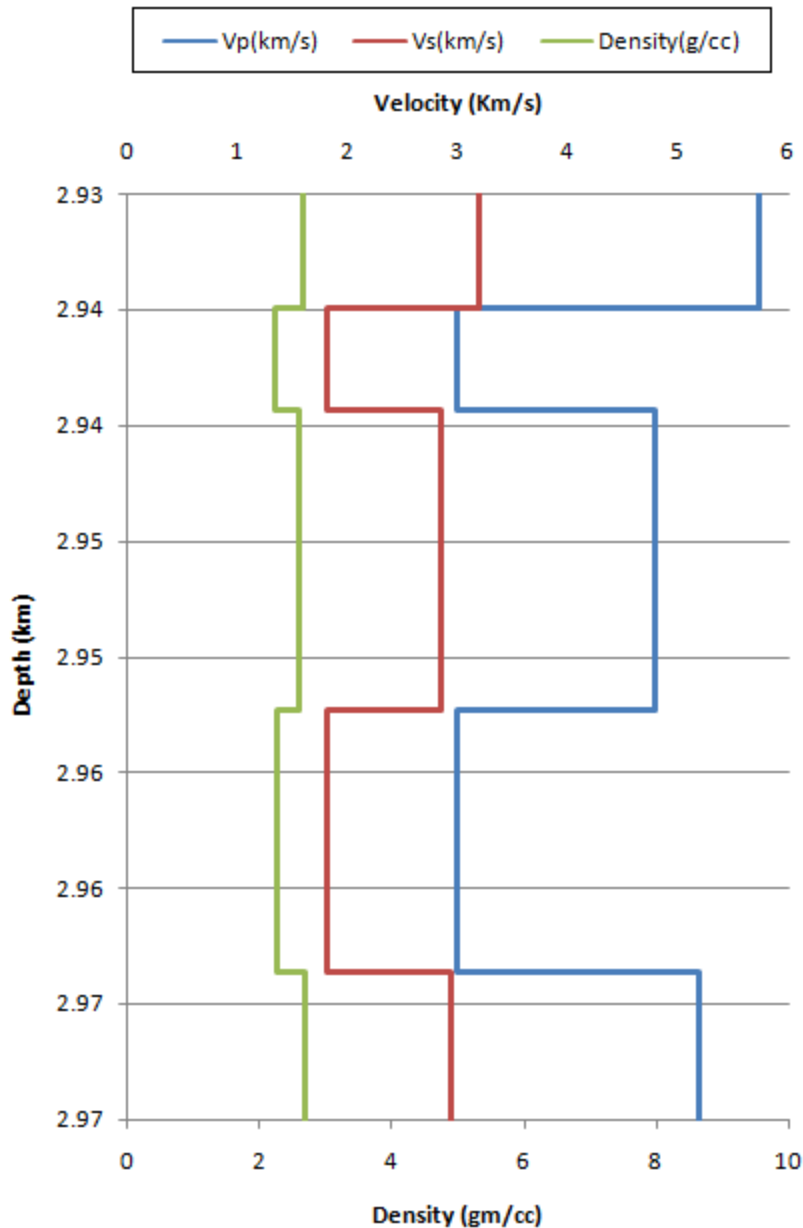
# Thick Model: VTI Anisotropy information



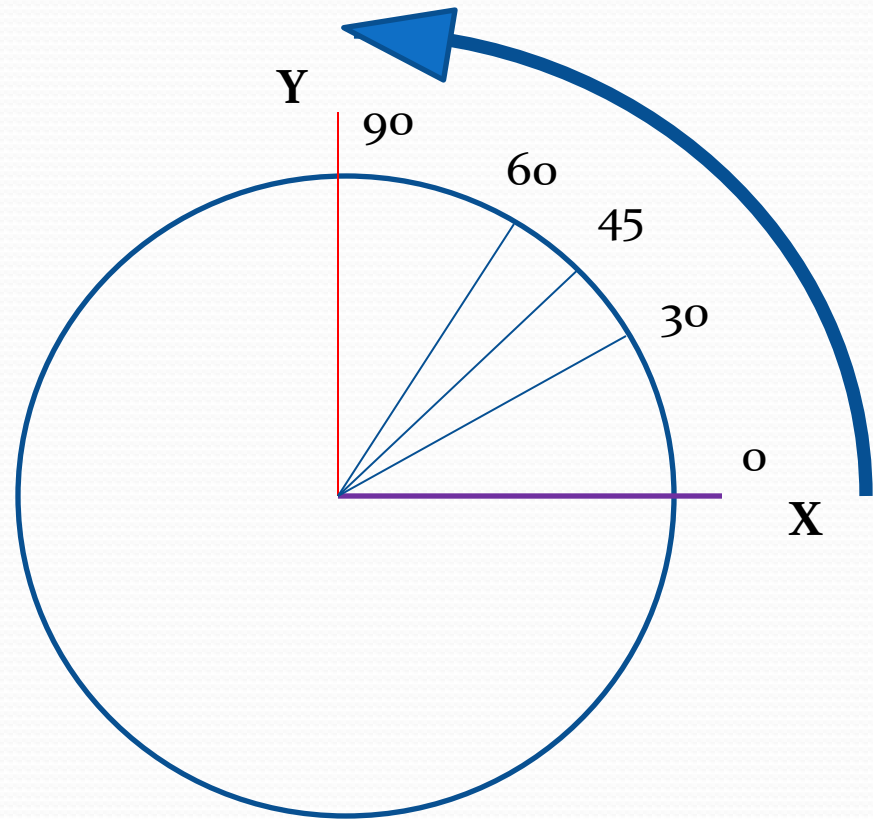
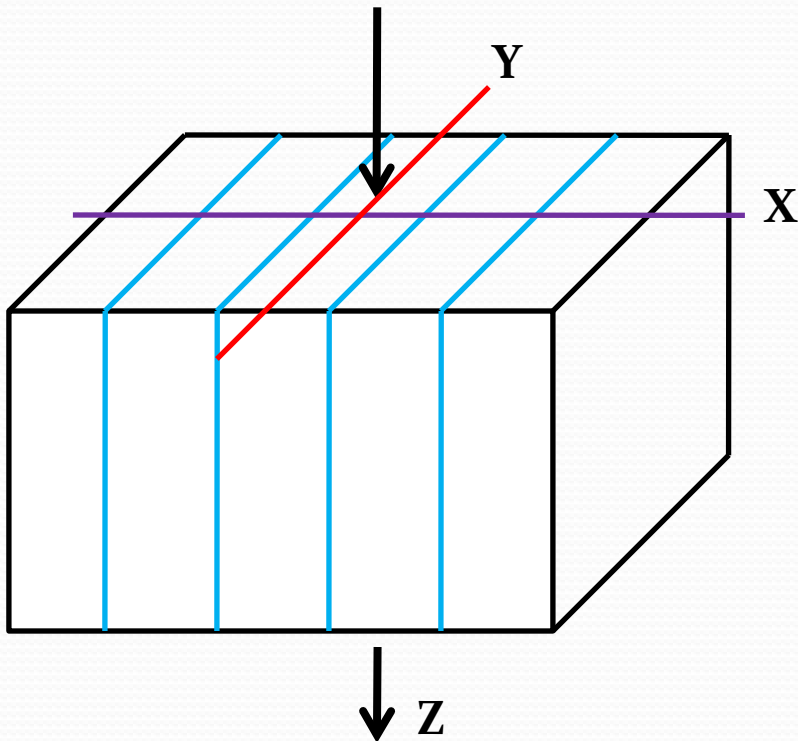
# Real Bakken Thickness: VTI Anisotropy information



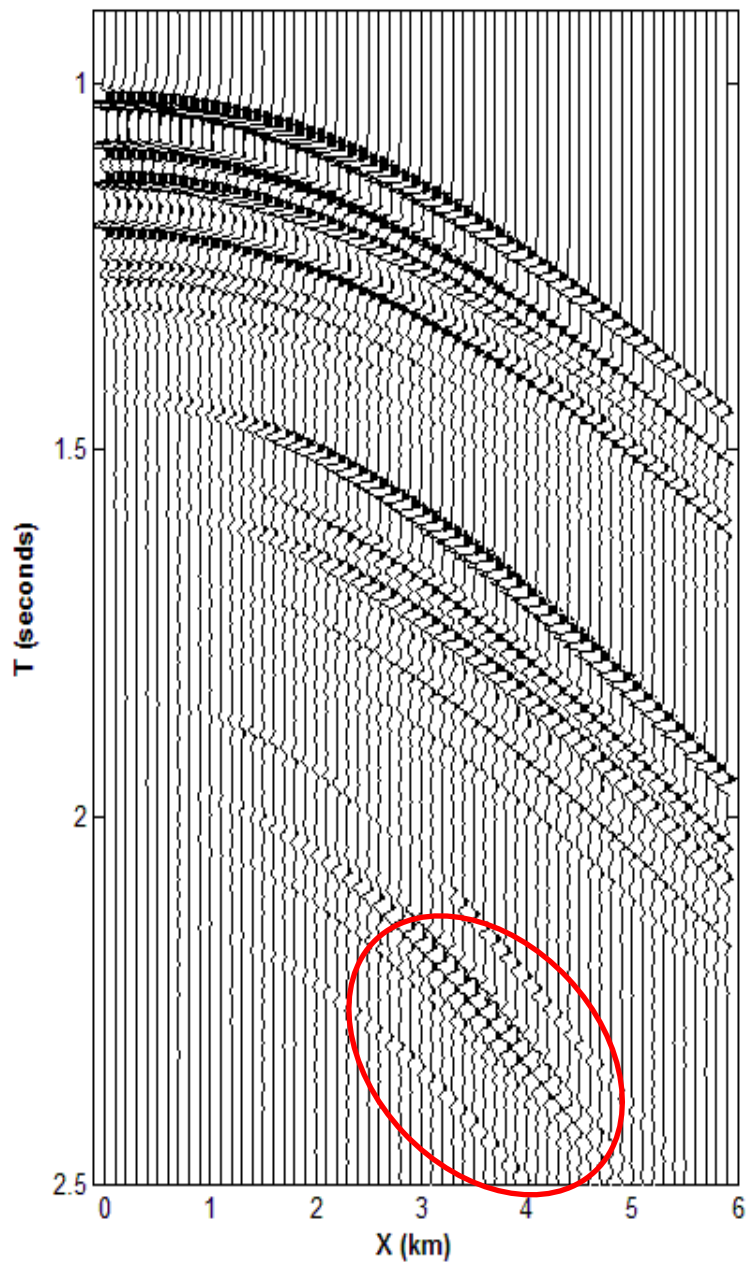
# Modeling Step 3: HTI



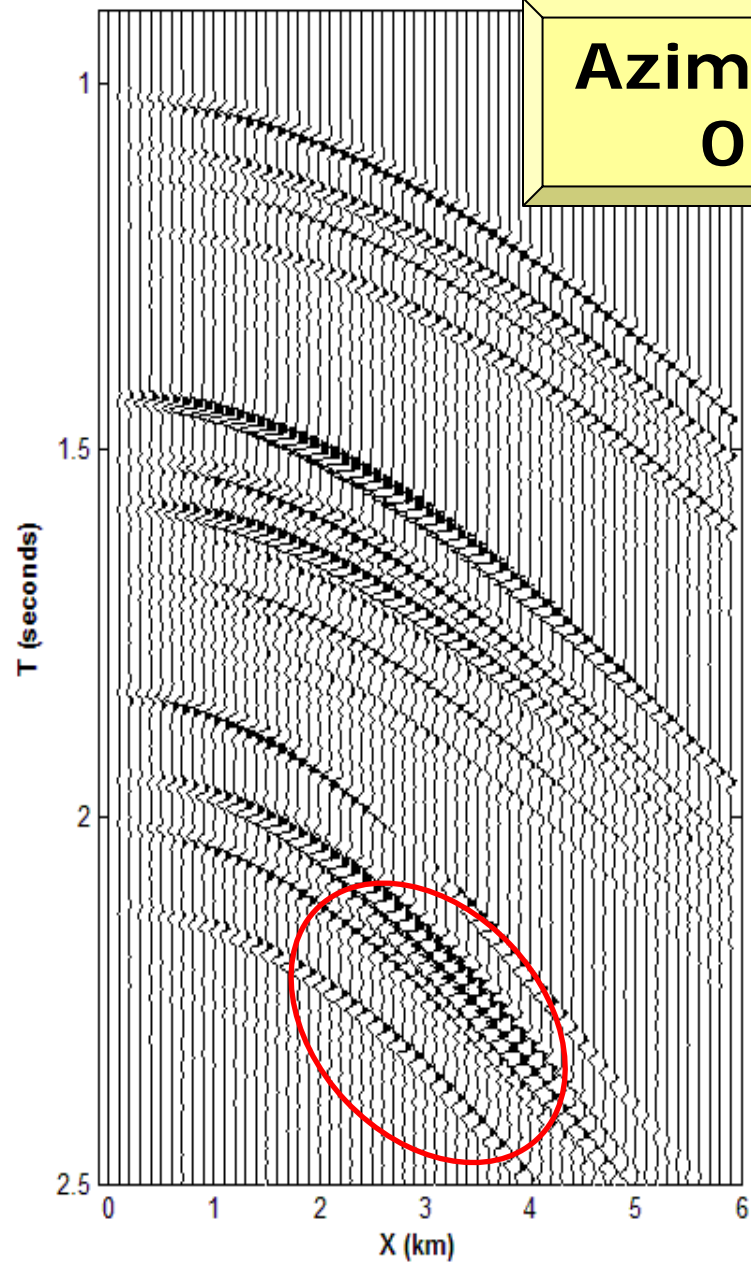
# Azimuthal Anisotropy



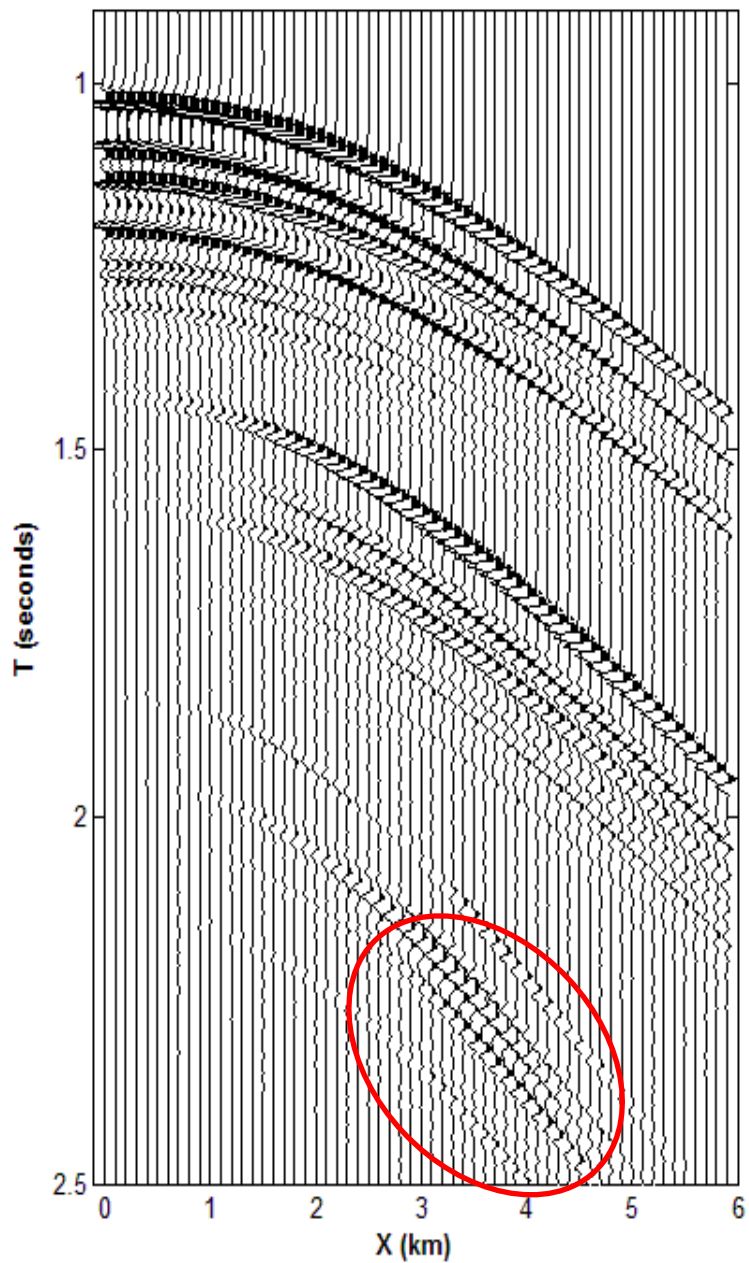
seisZ



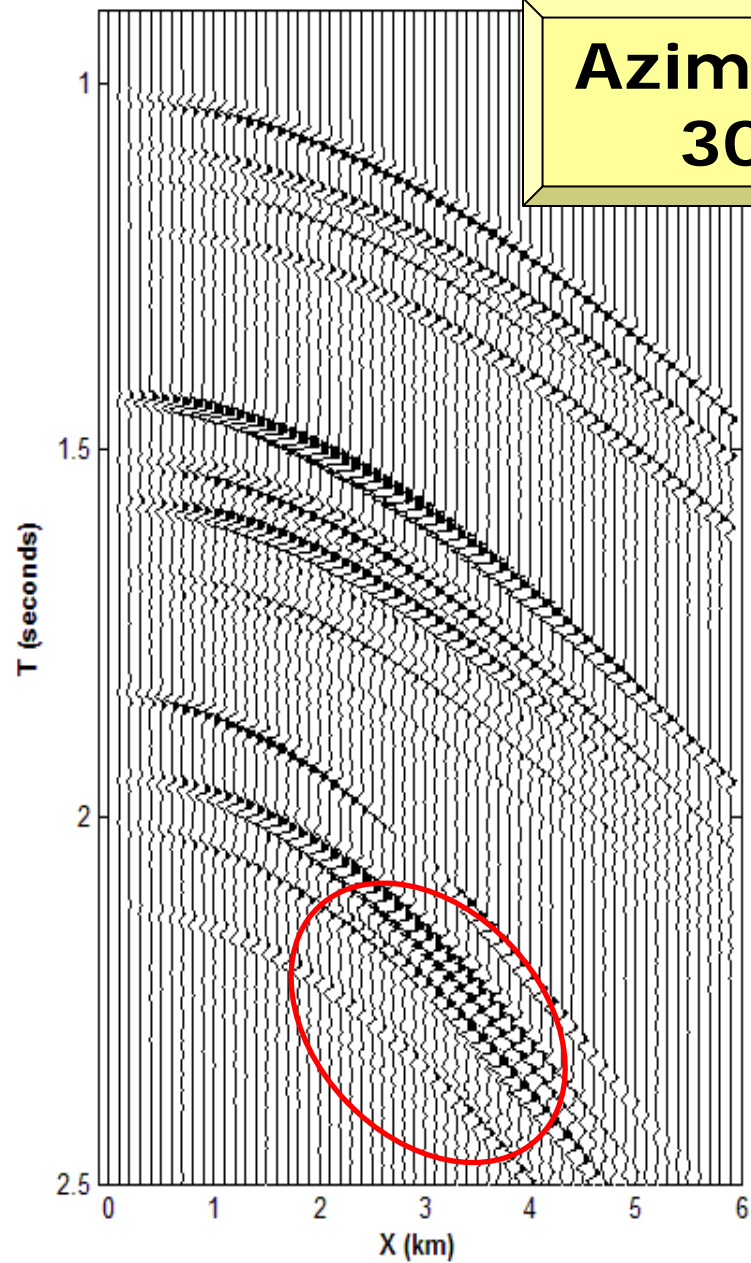
seisX



seisZ

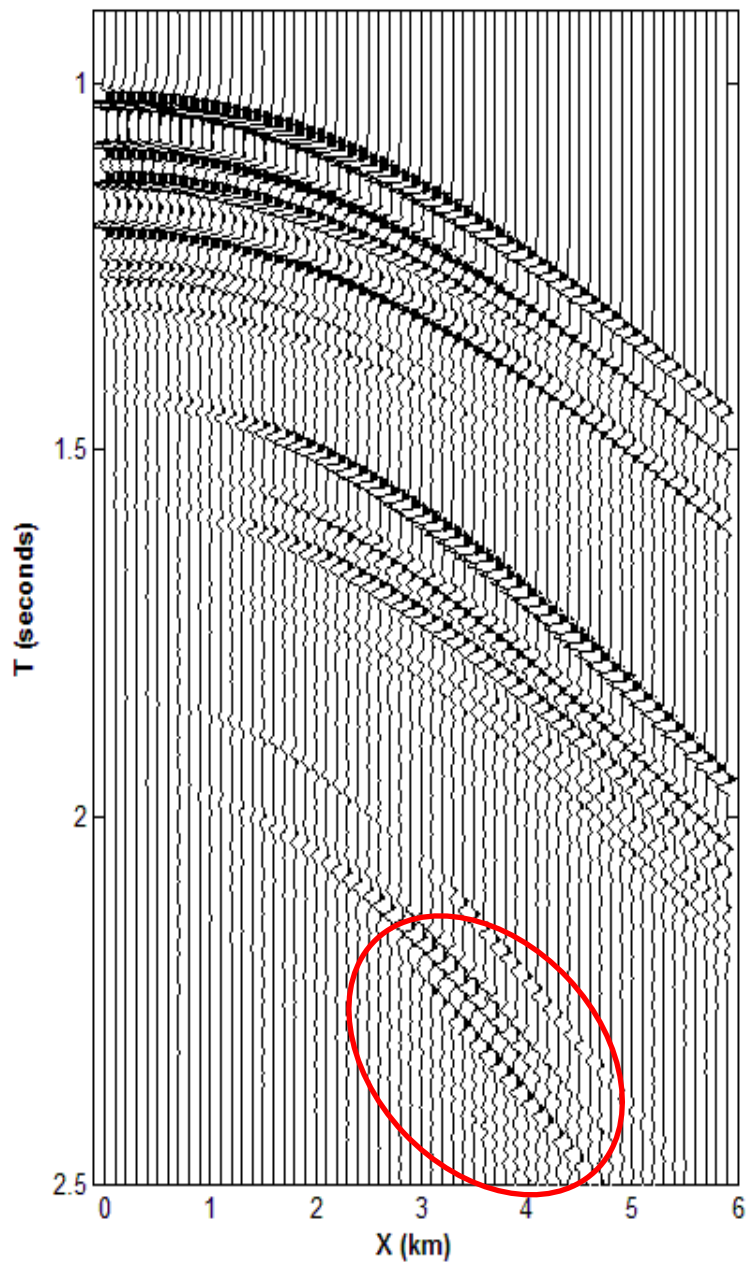


seisX

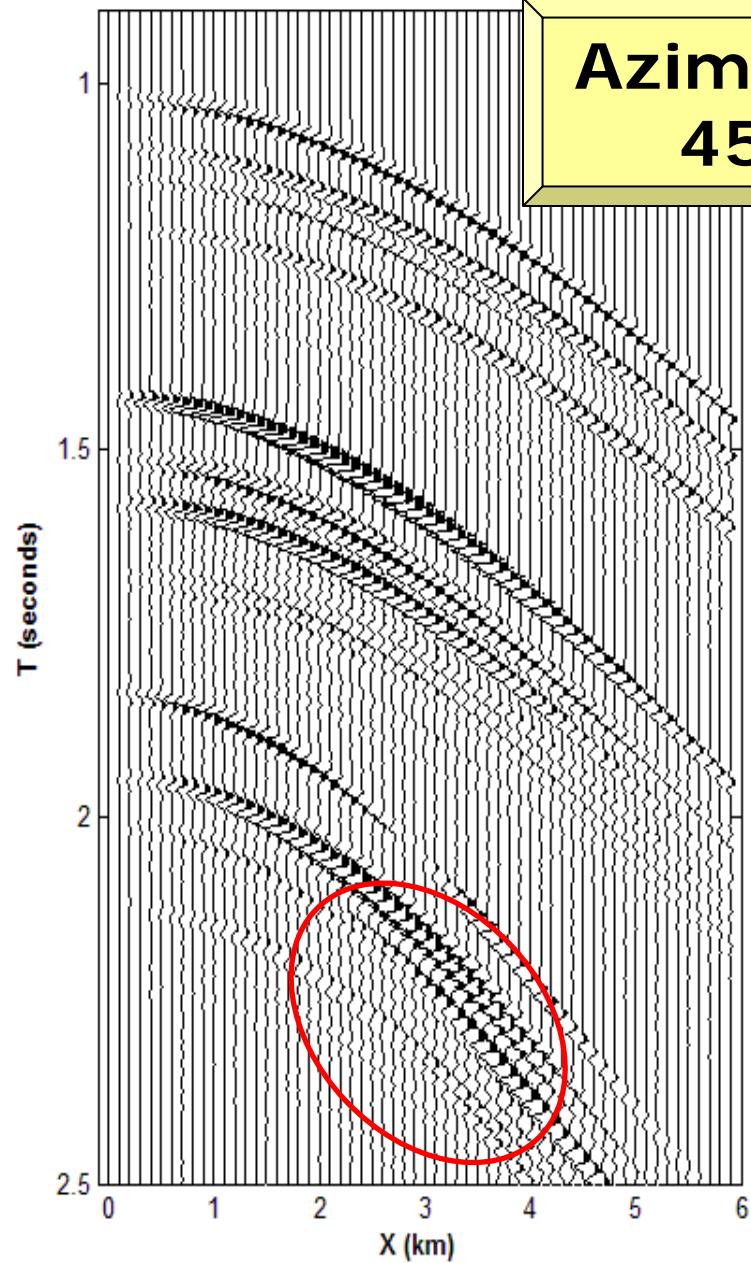




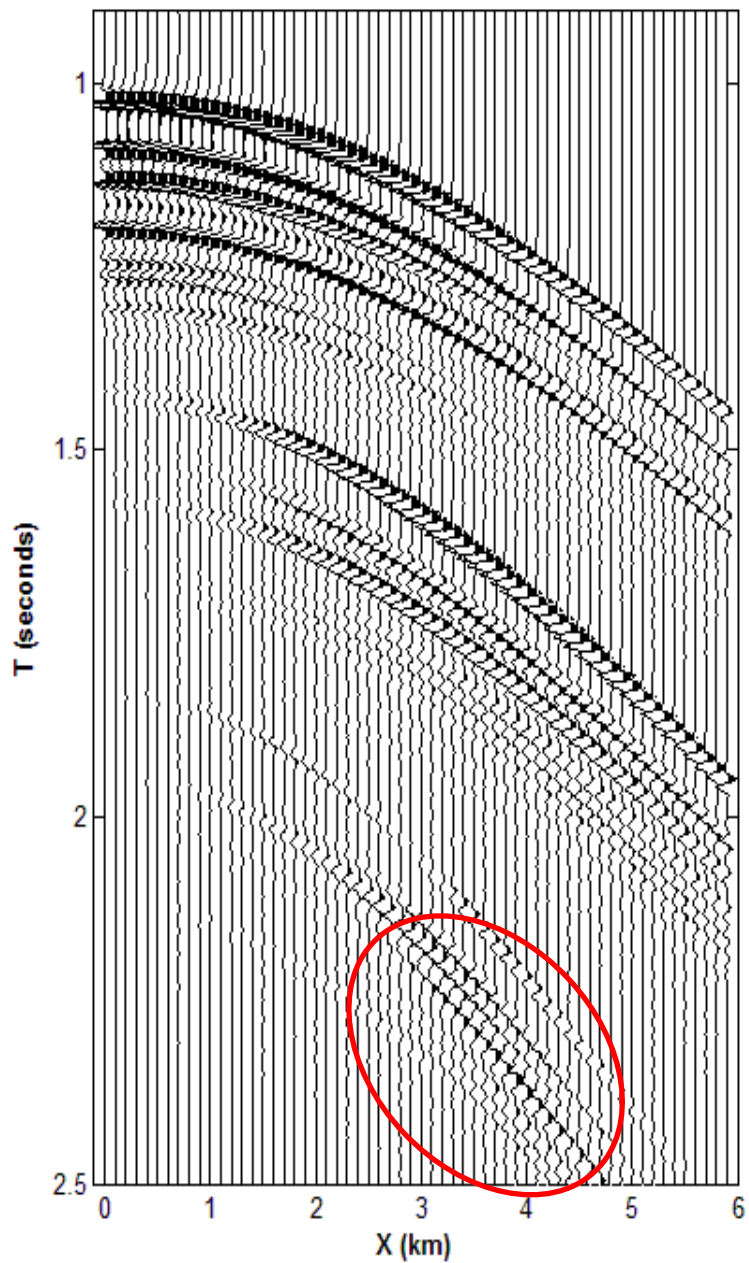
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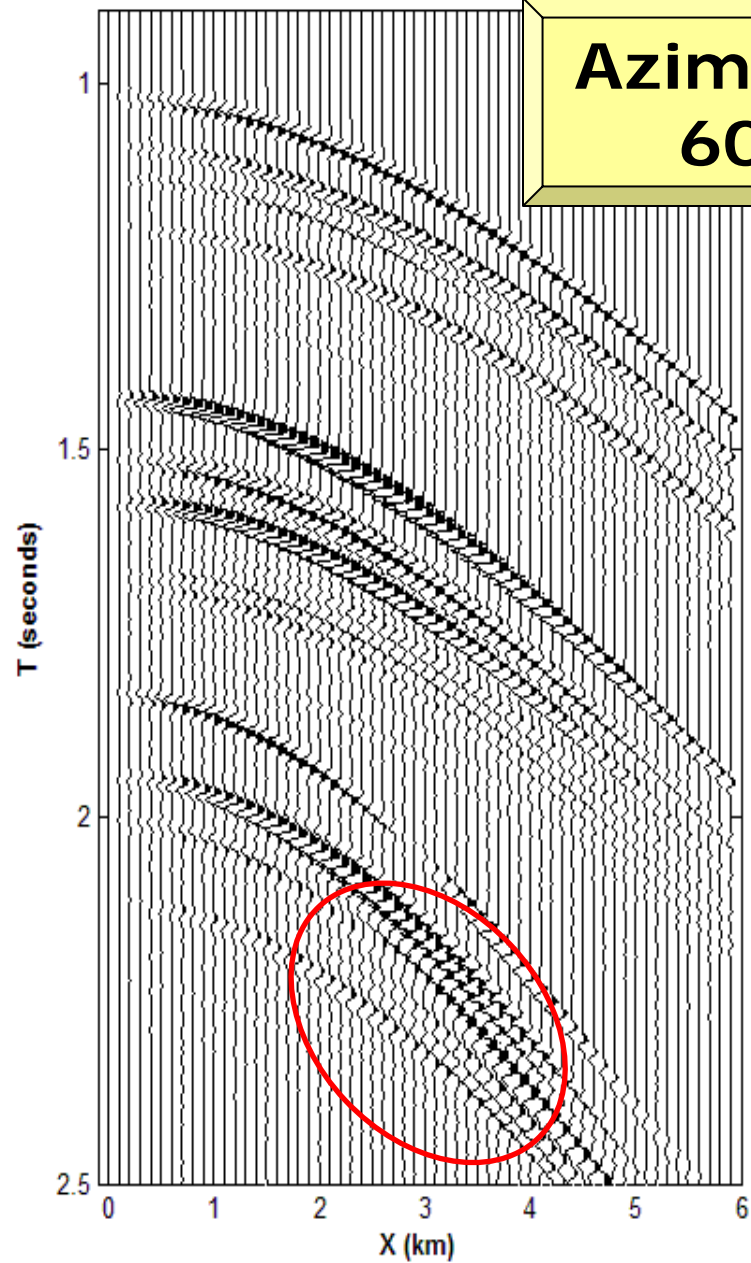
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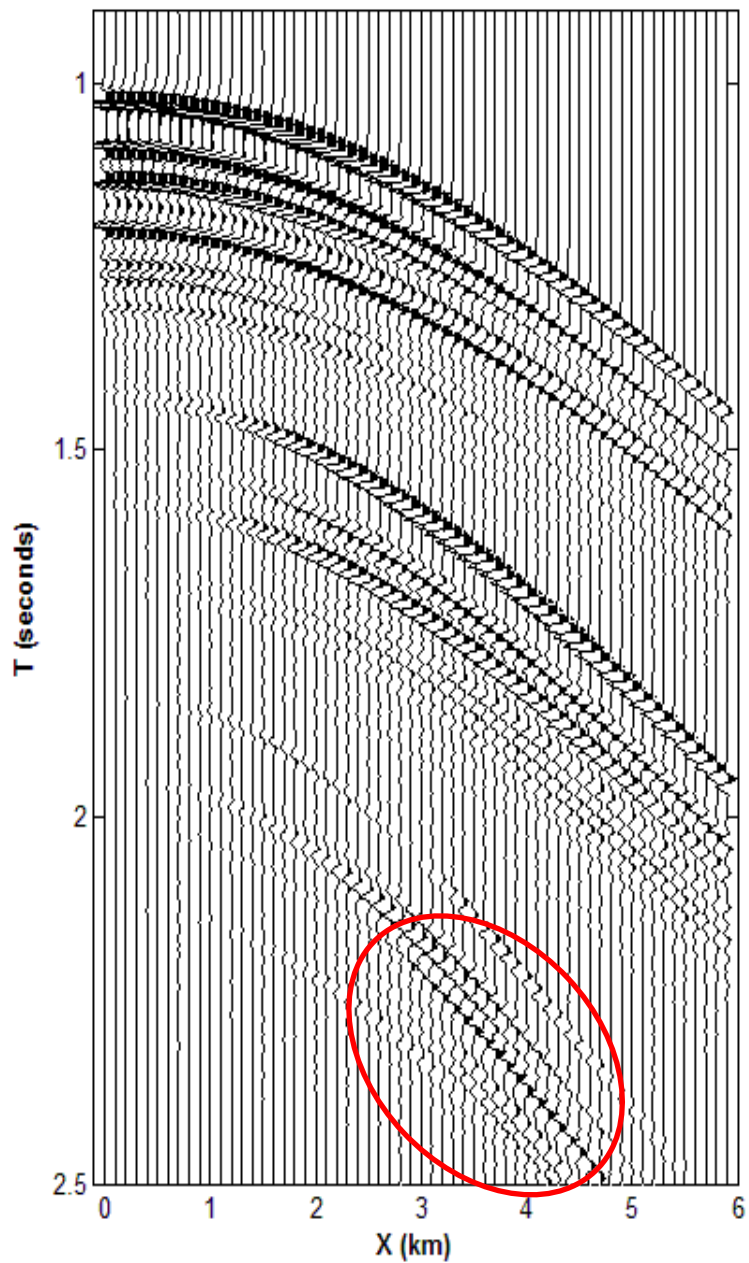
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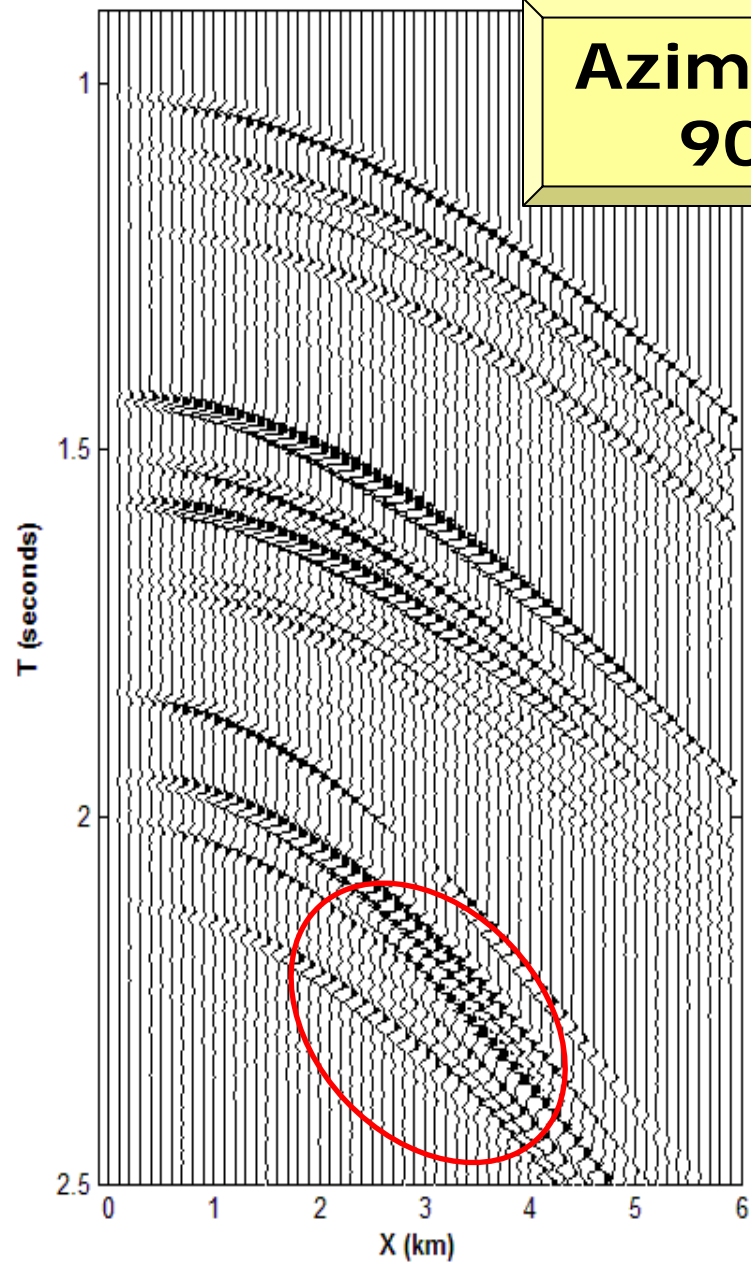
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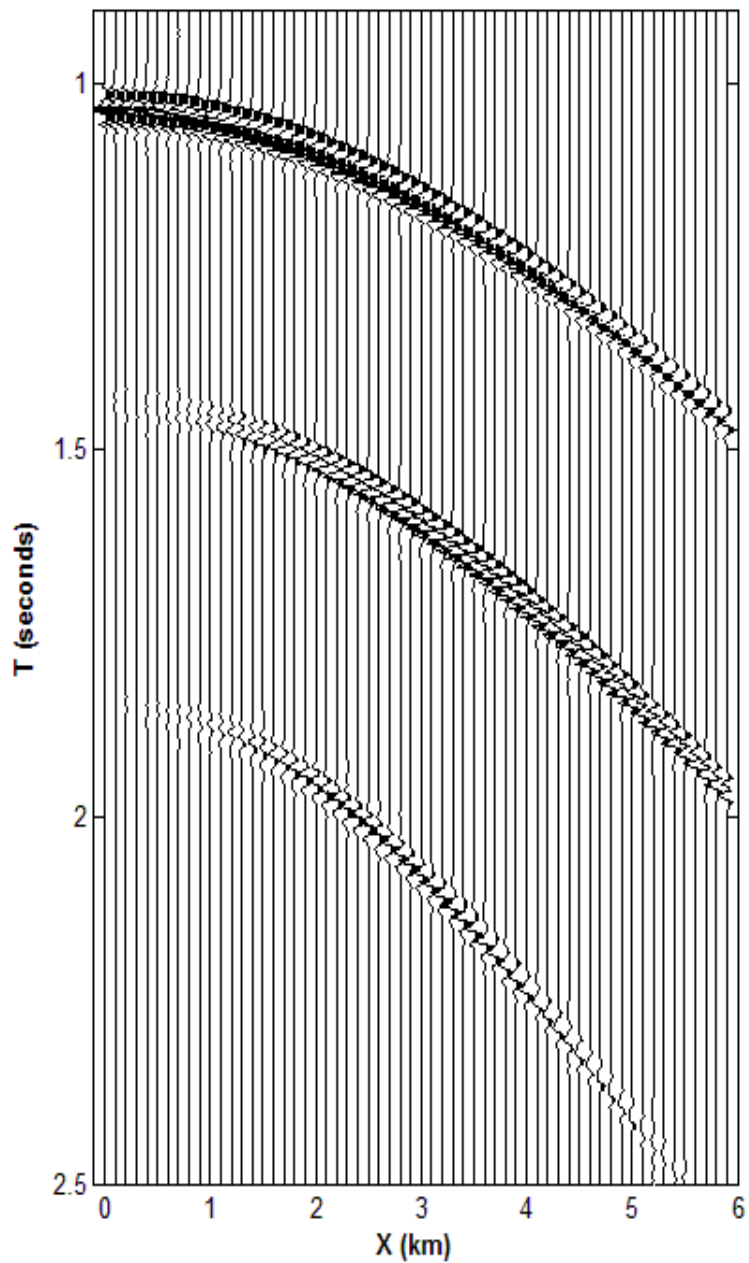
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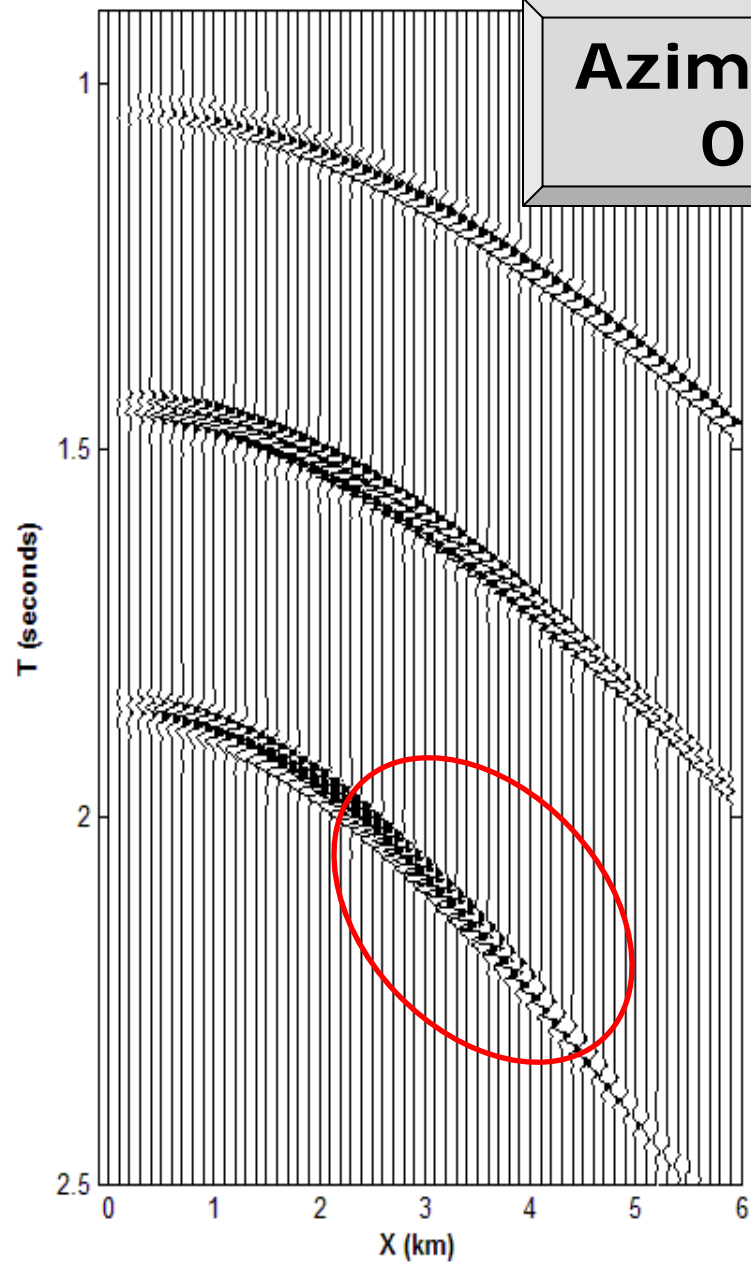
seisX



seisZ

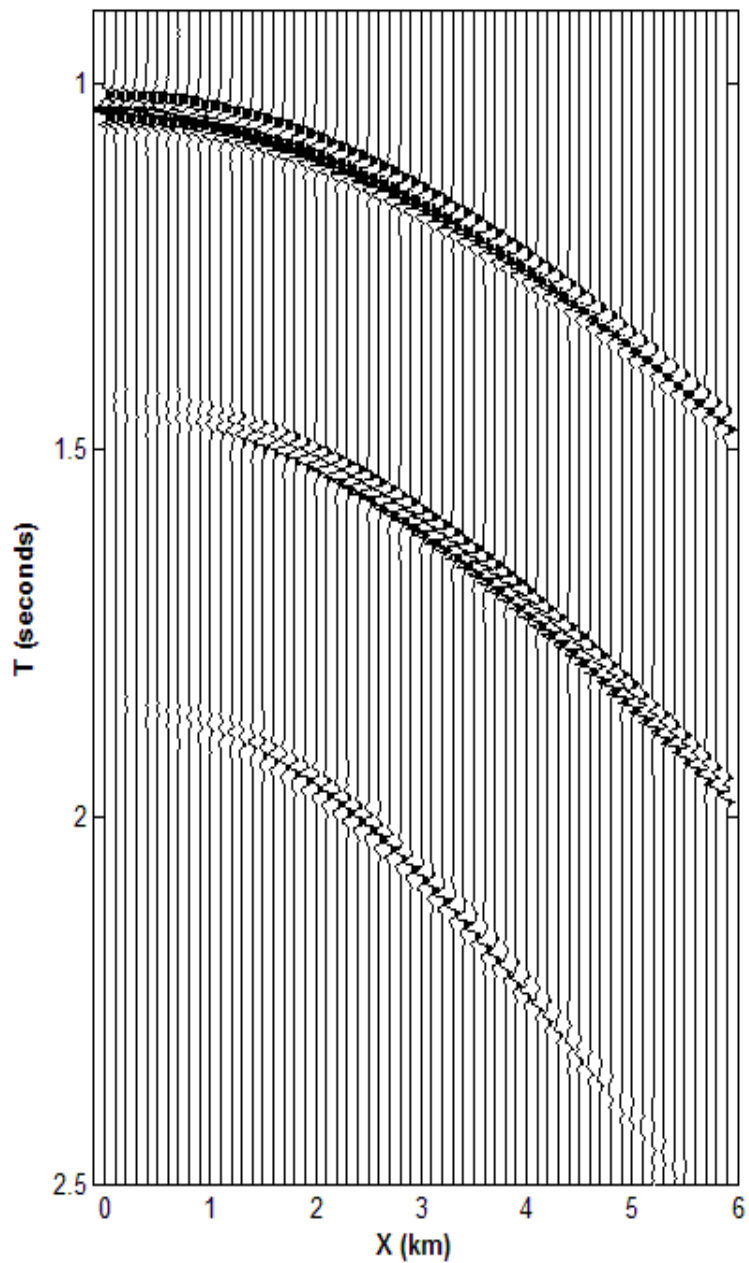


seisX

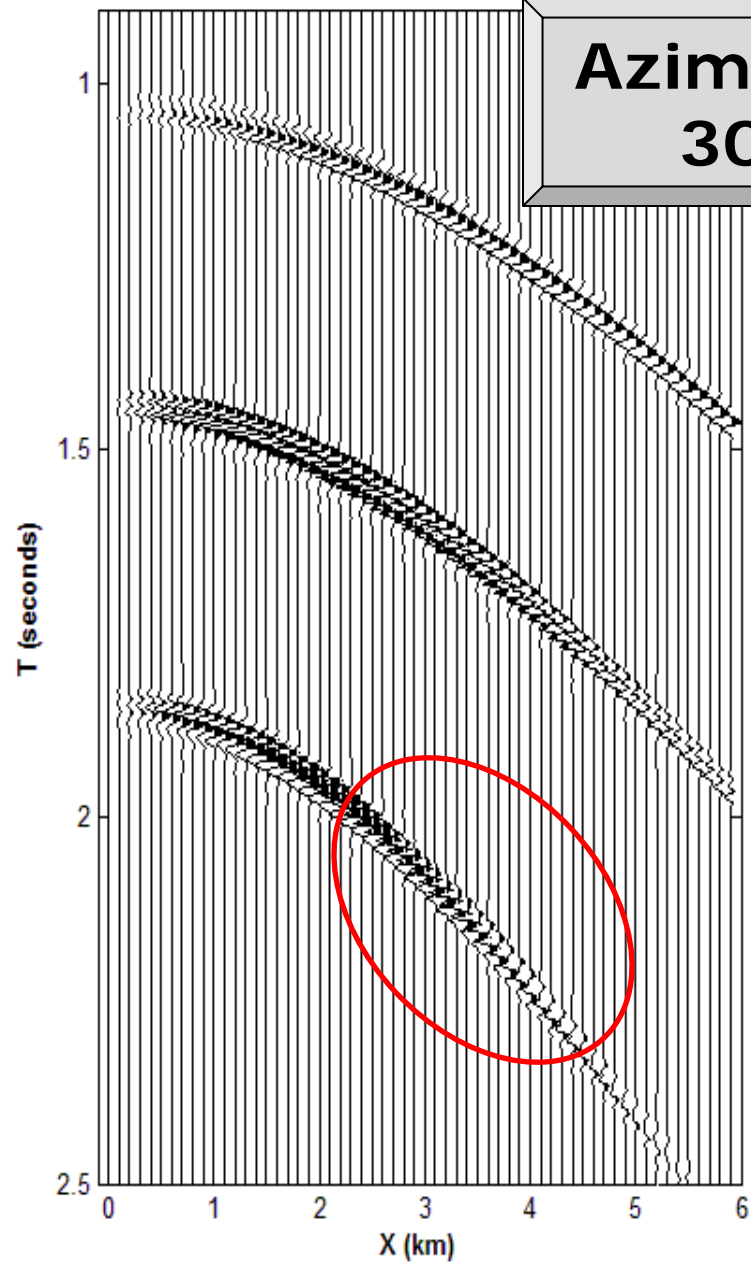


Azimuth  
0

seisZ

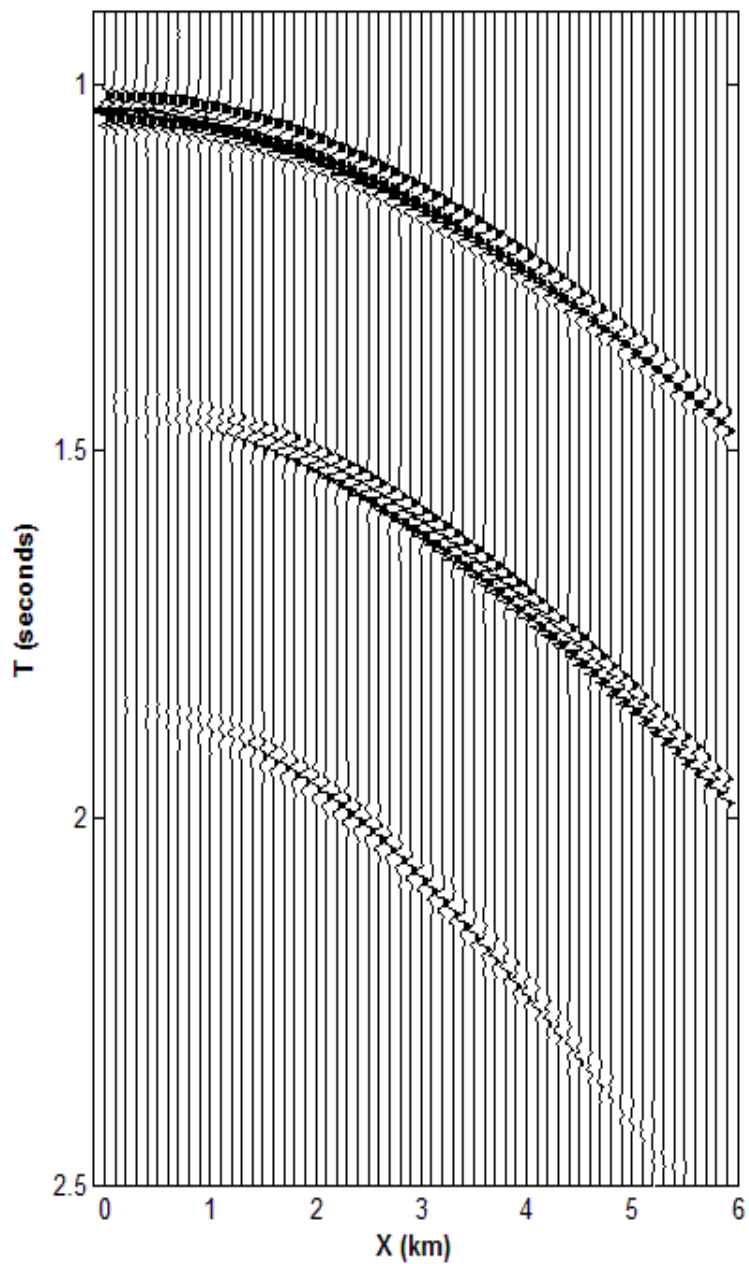


seisX

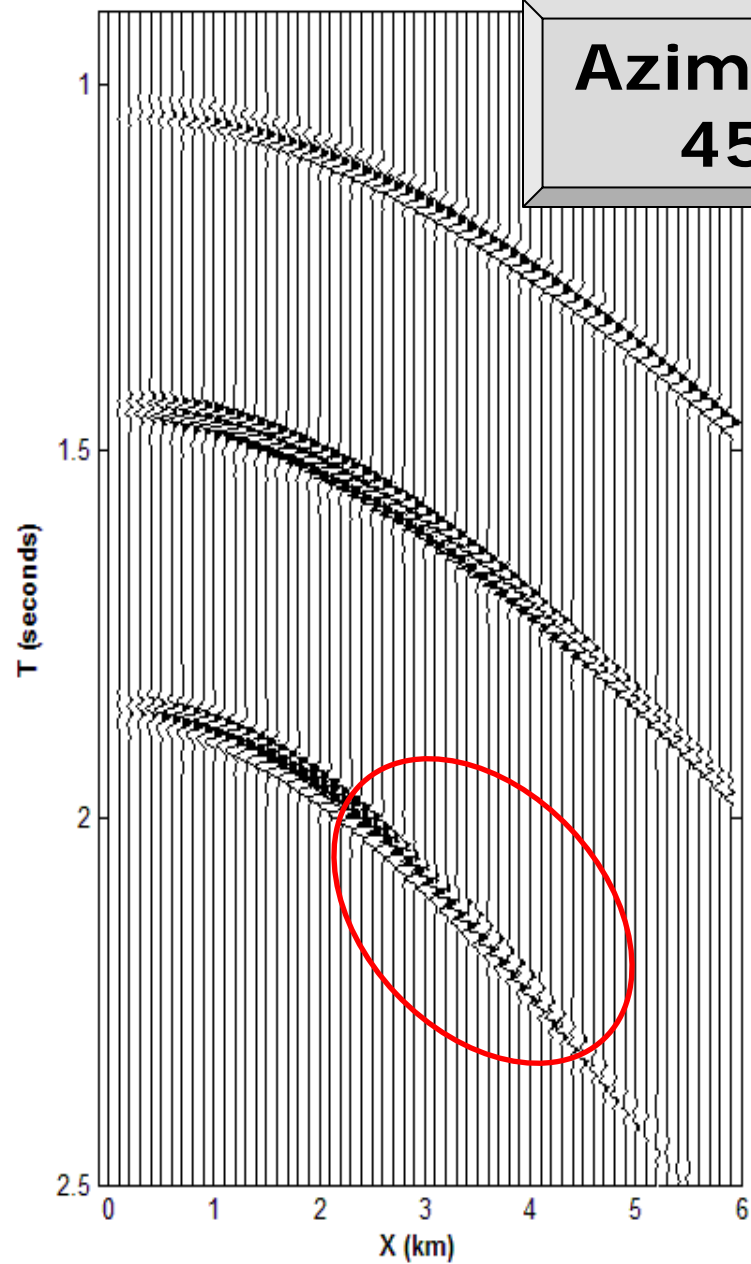


**Azimuth  
30**

seisZ

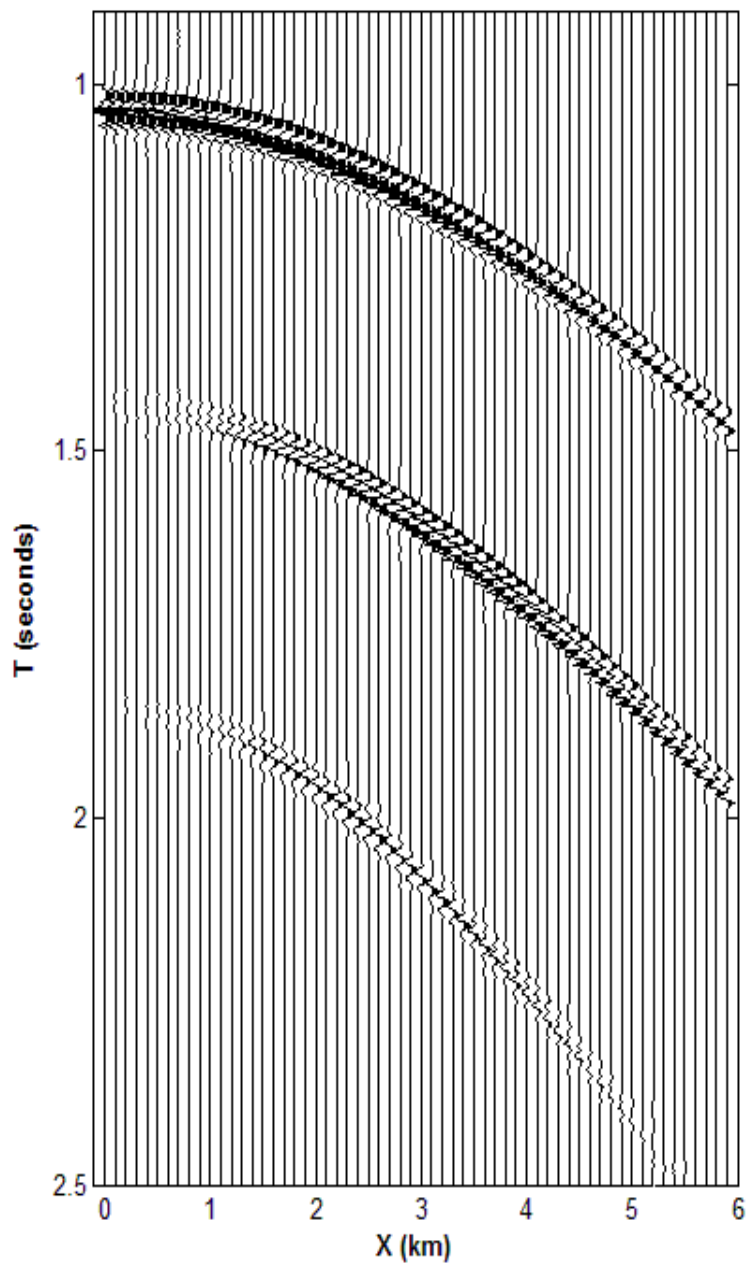


seisX

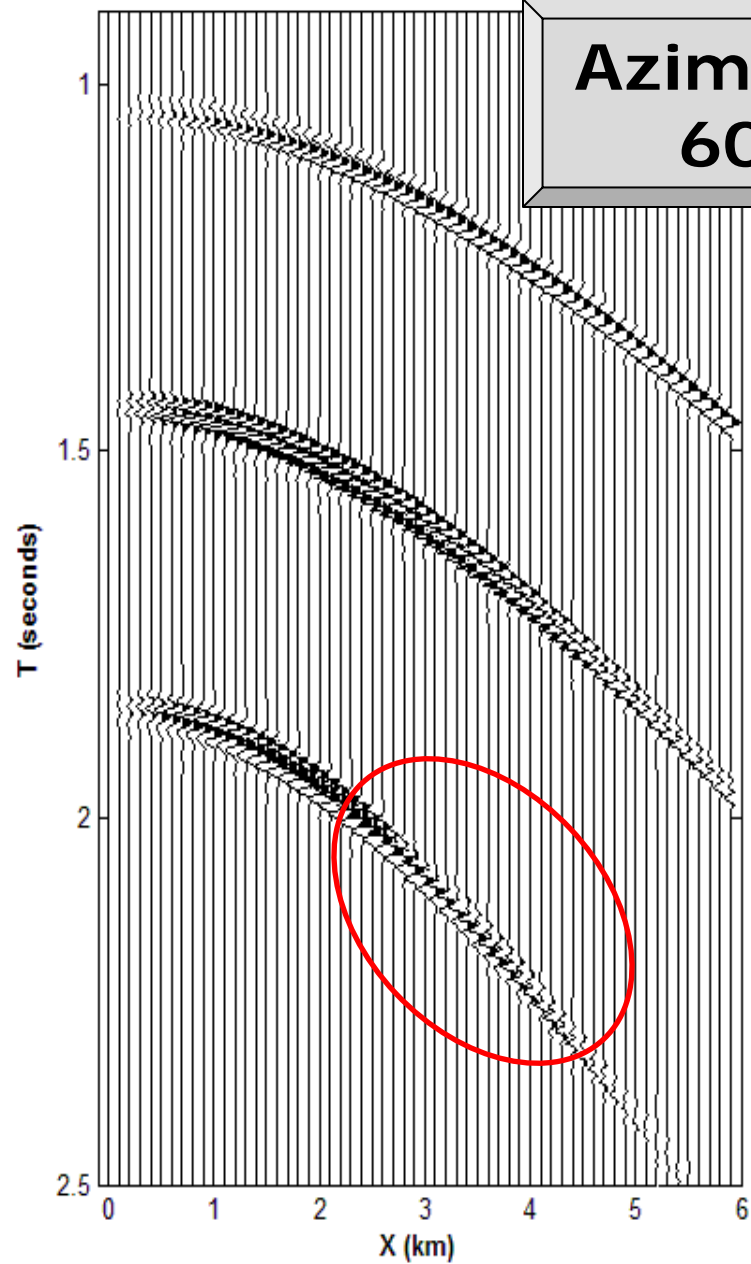


Azimuth  
45

seisZ

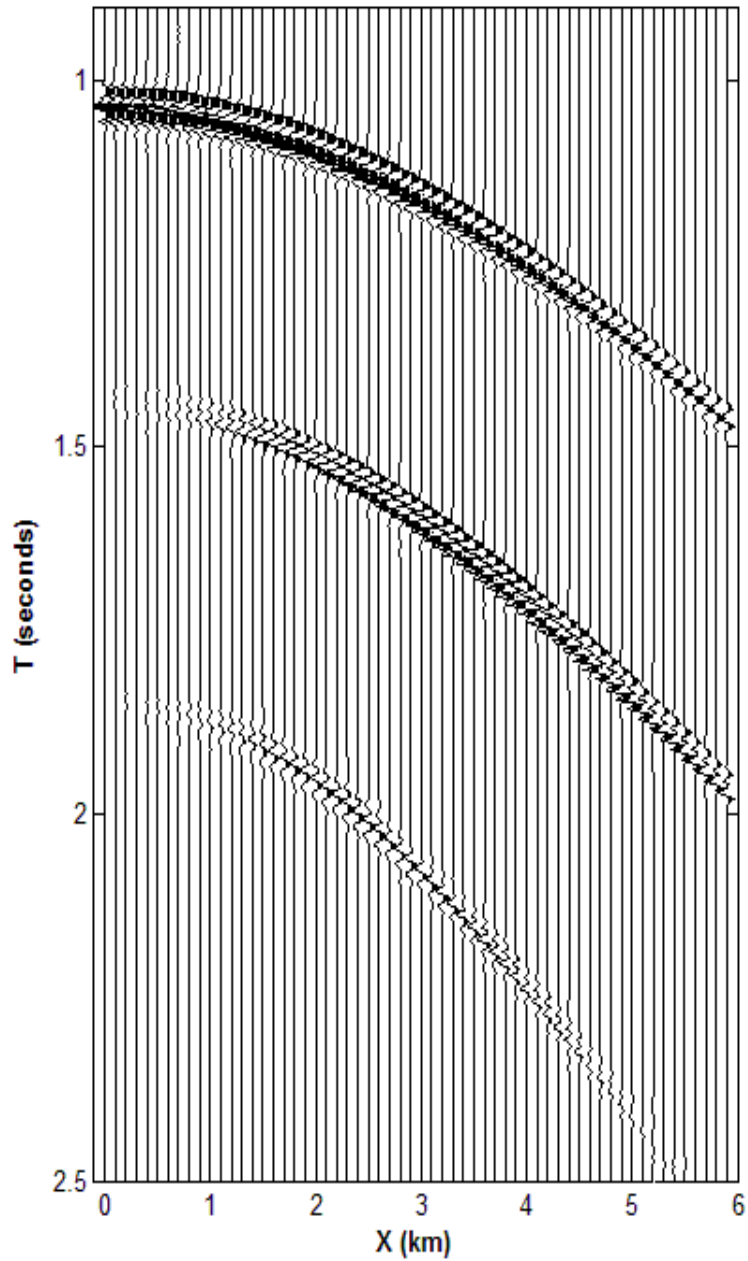


seisX

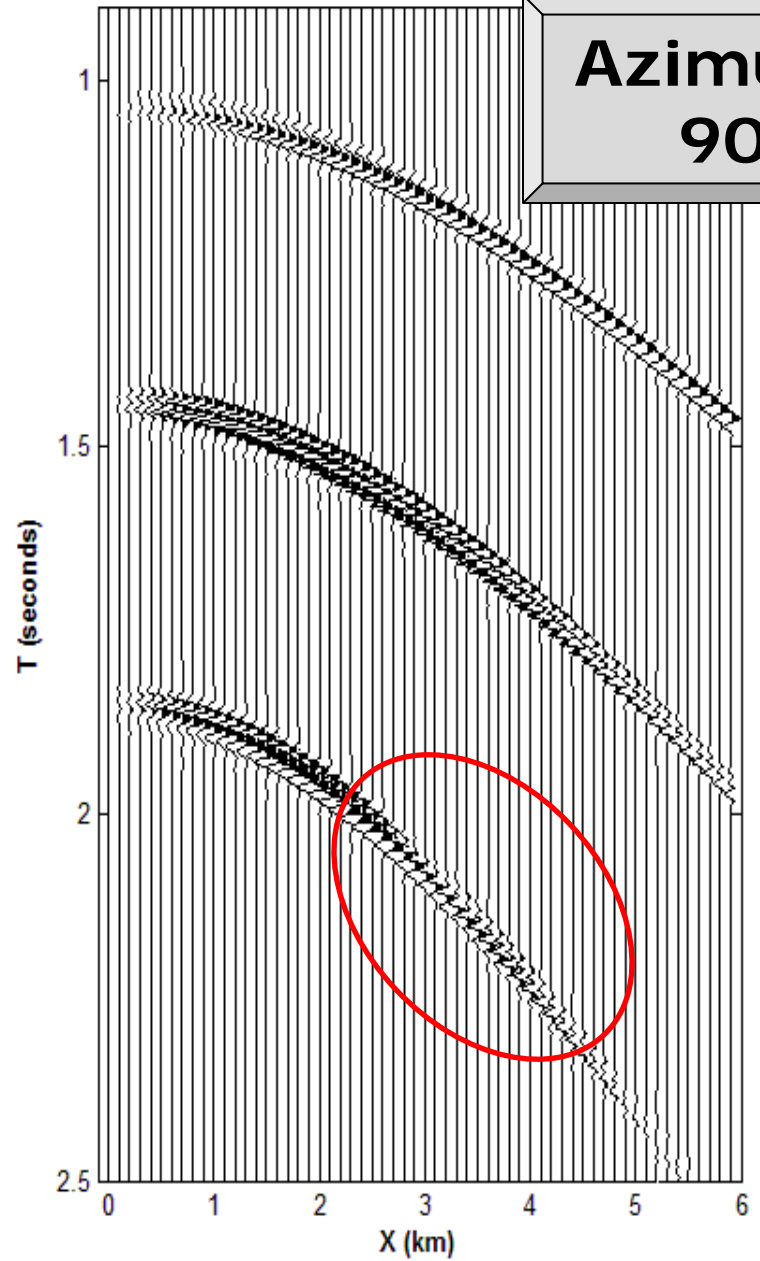


Azimuth  
60

seisZ

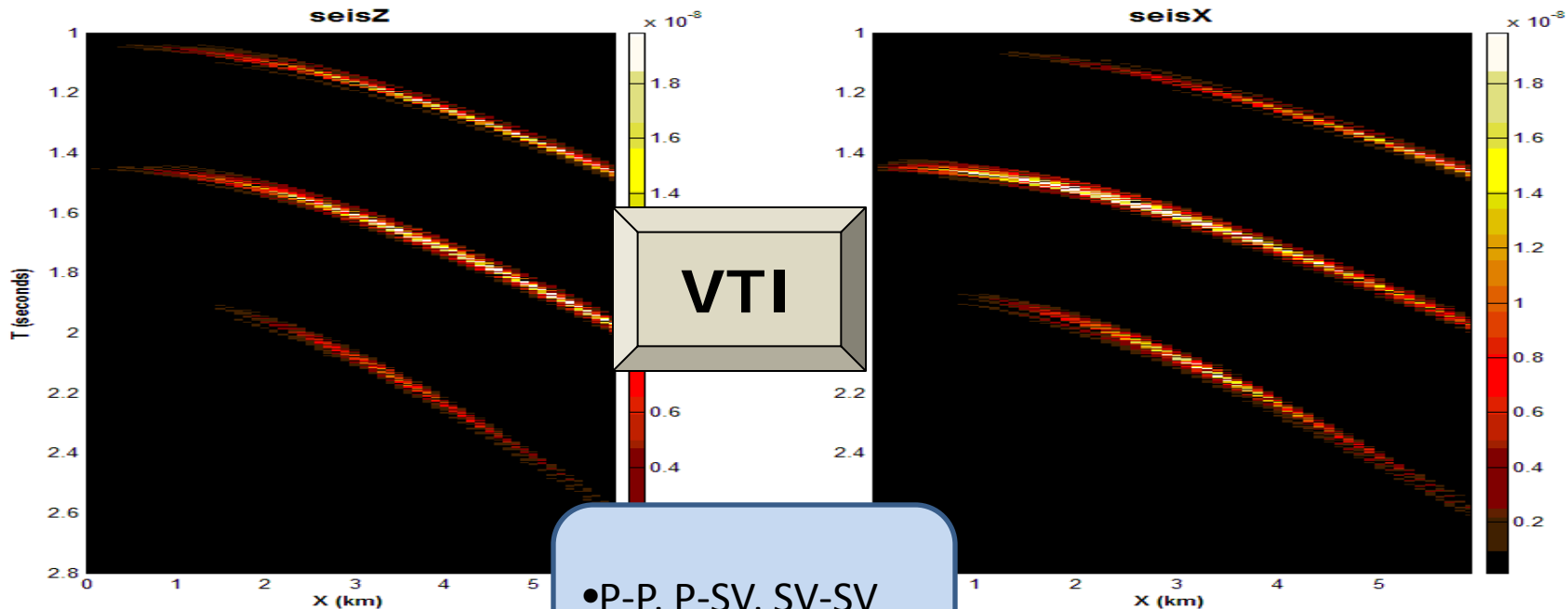


seisX



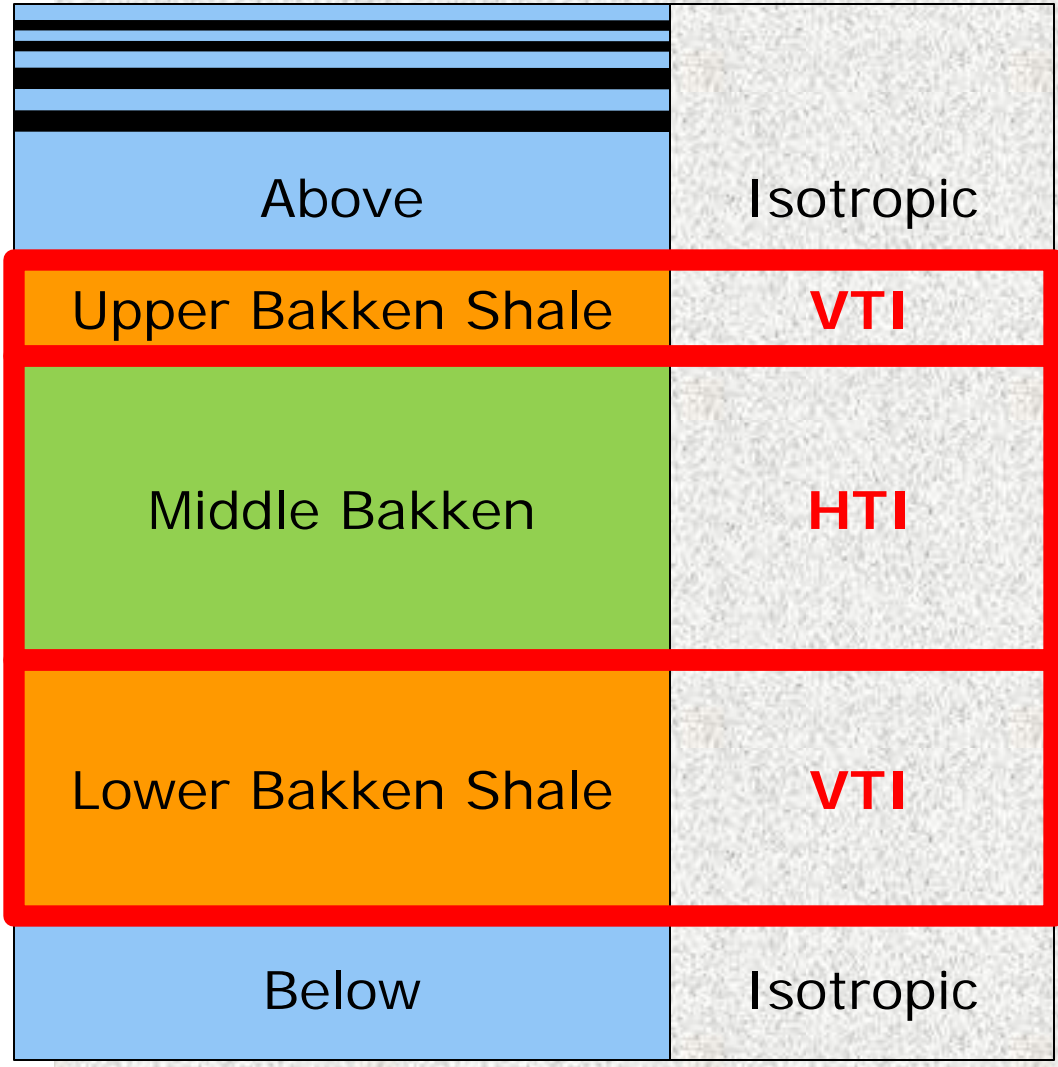
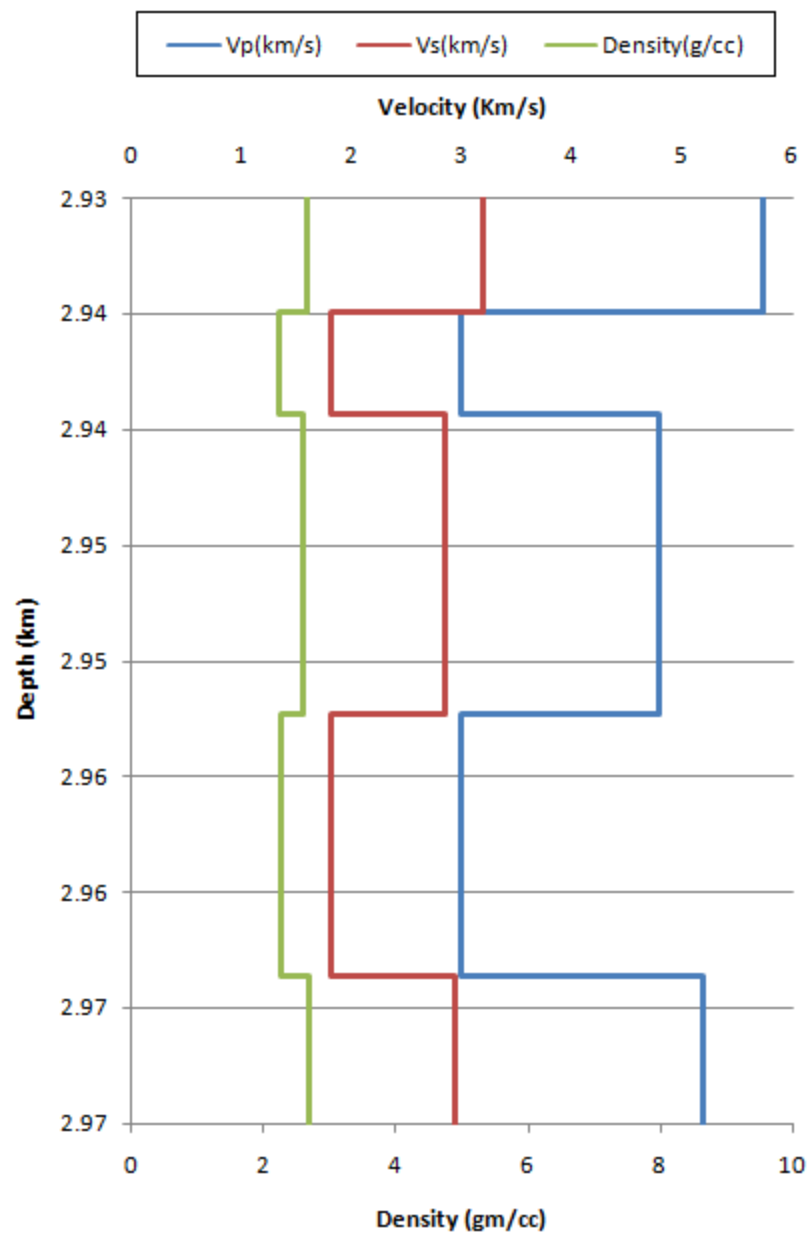
Azimuth  
90



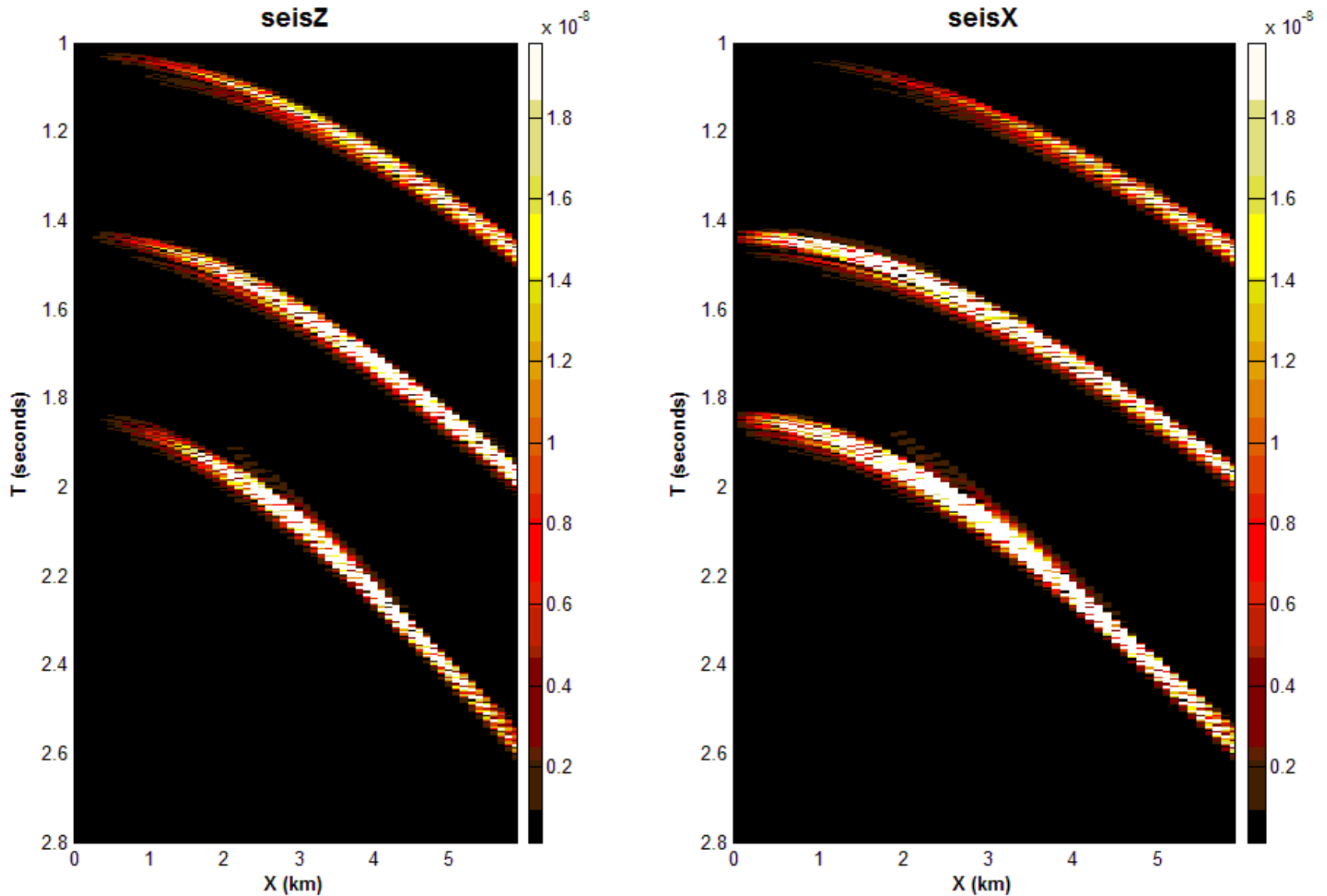


- P-P, P-SV, SV-SV
- offset ranges

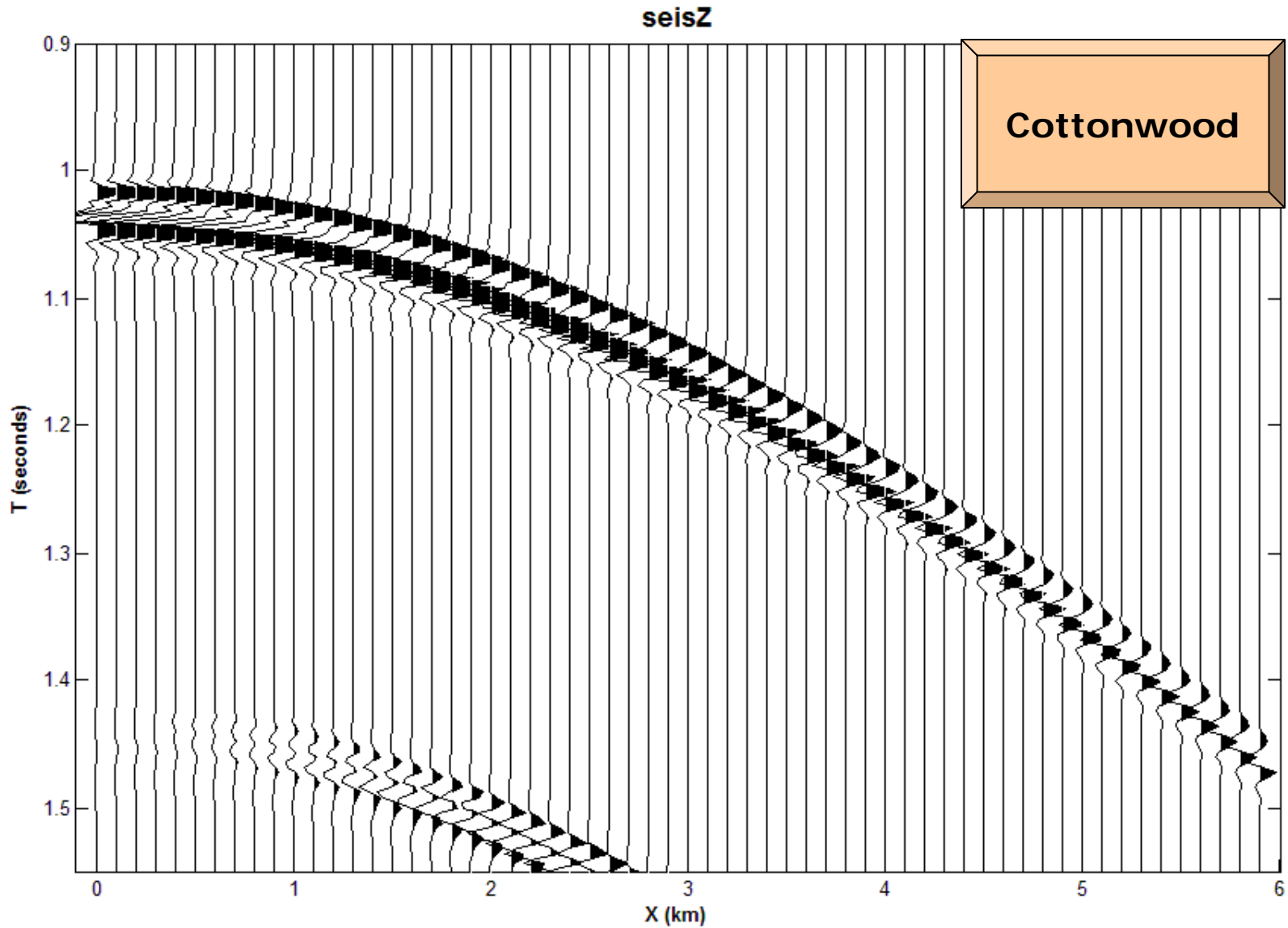
# Modeling Step 4: VTI + HTI



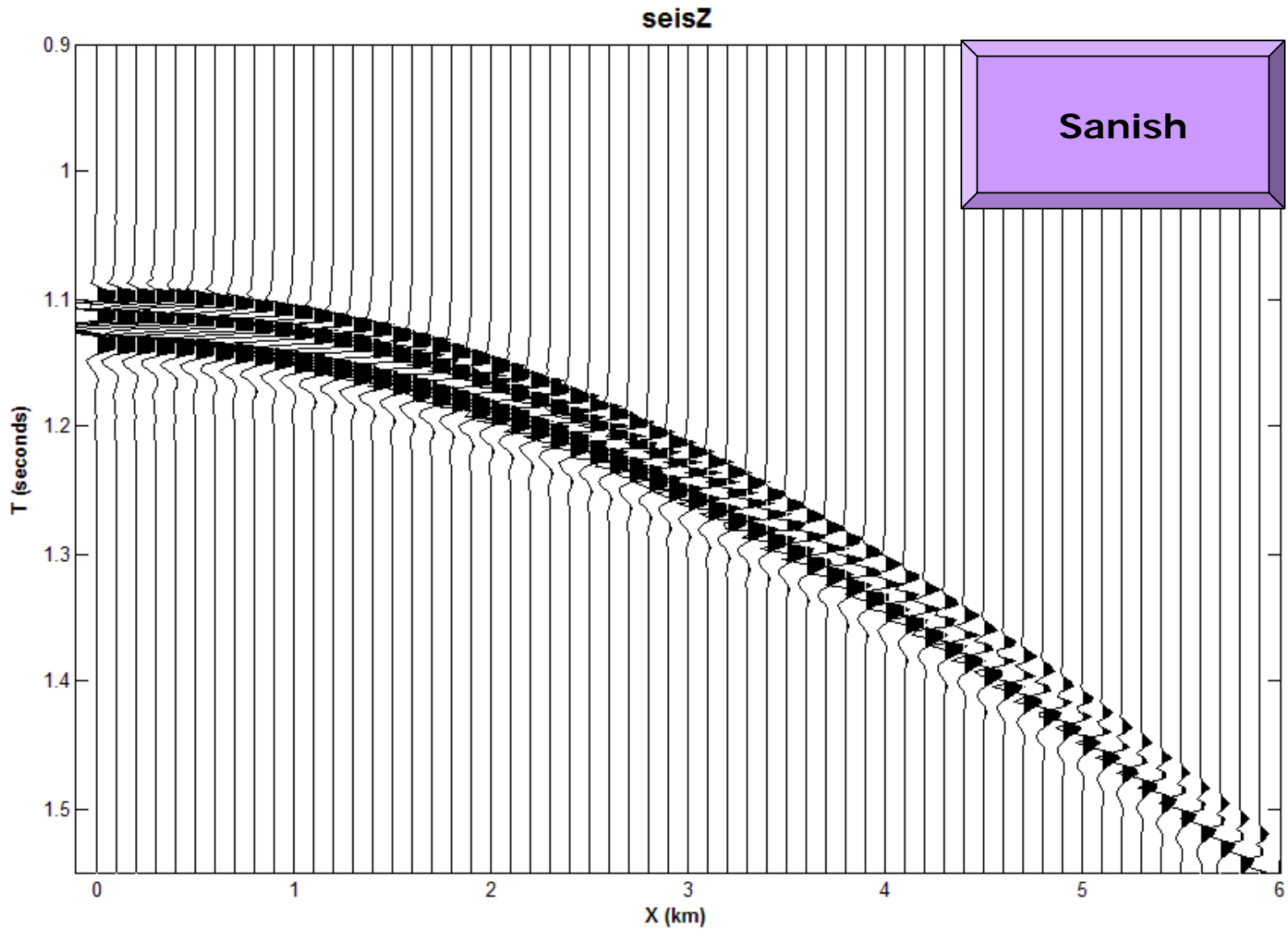
# VTI + HTI: Difference Between Azimuth 0 and 90



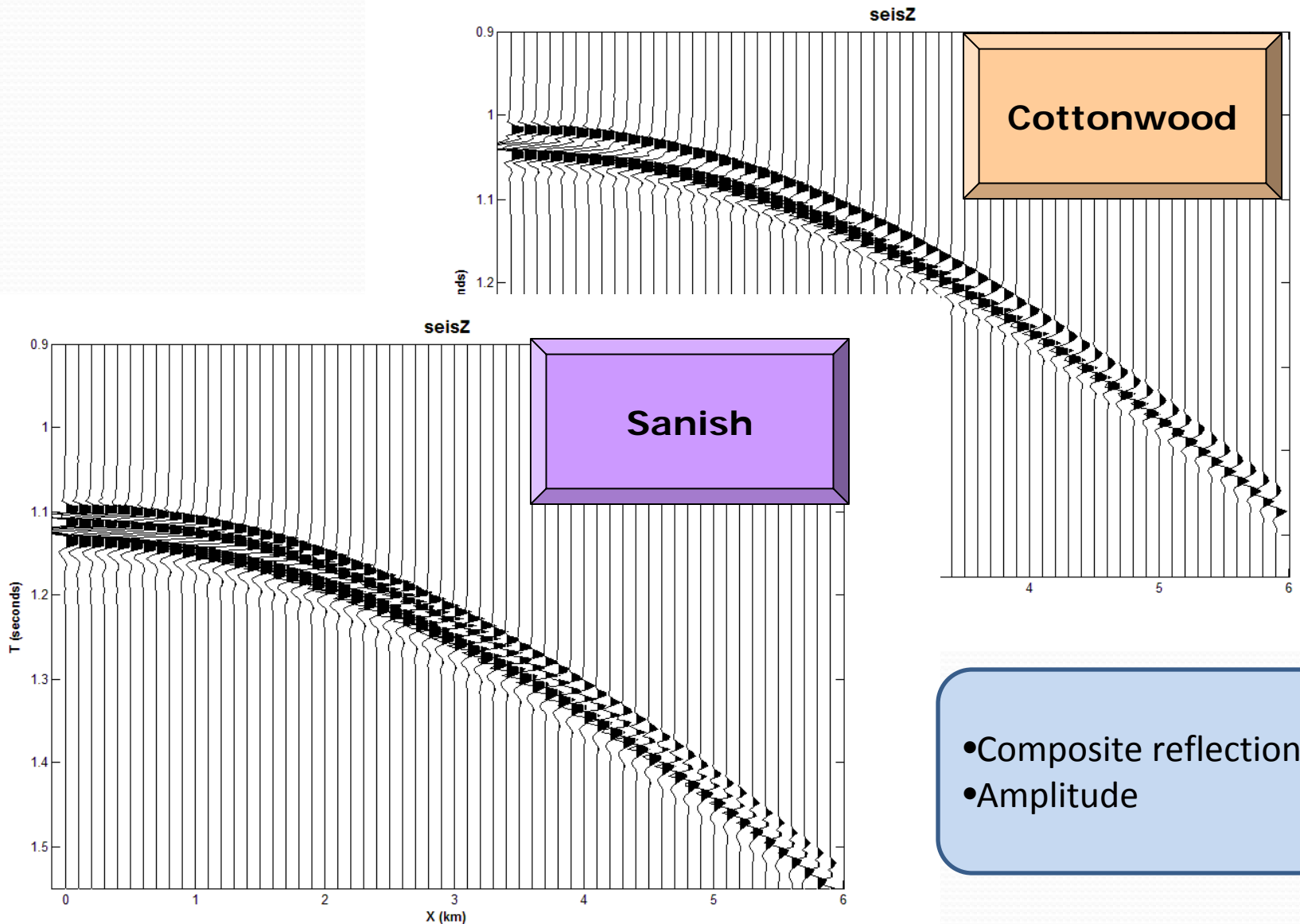
# Cottonwood field : P wave Z component



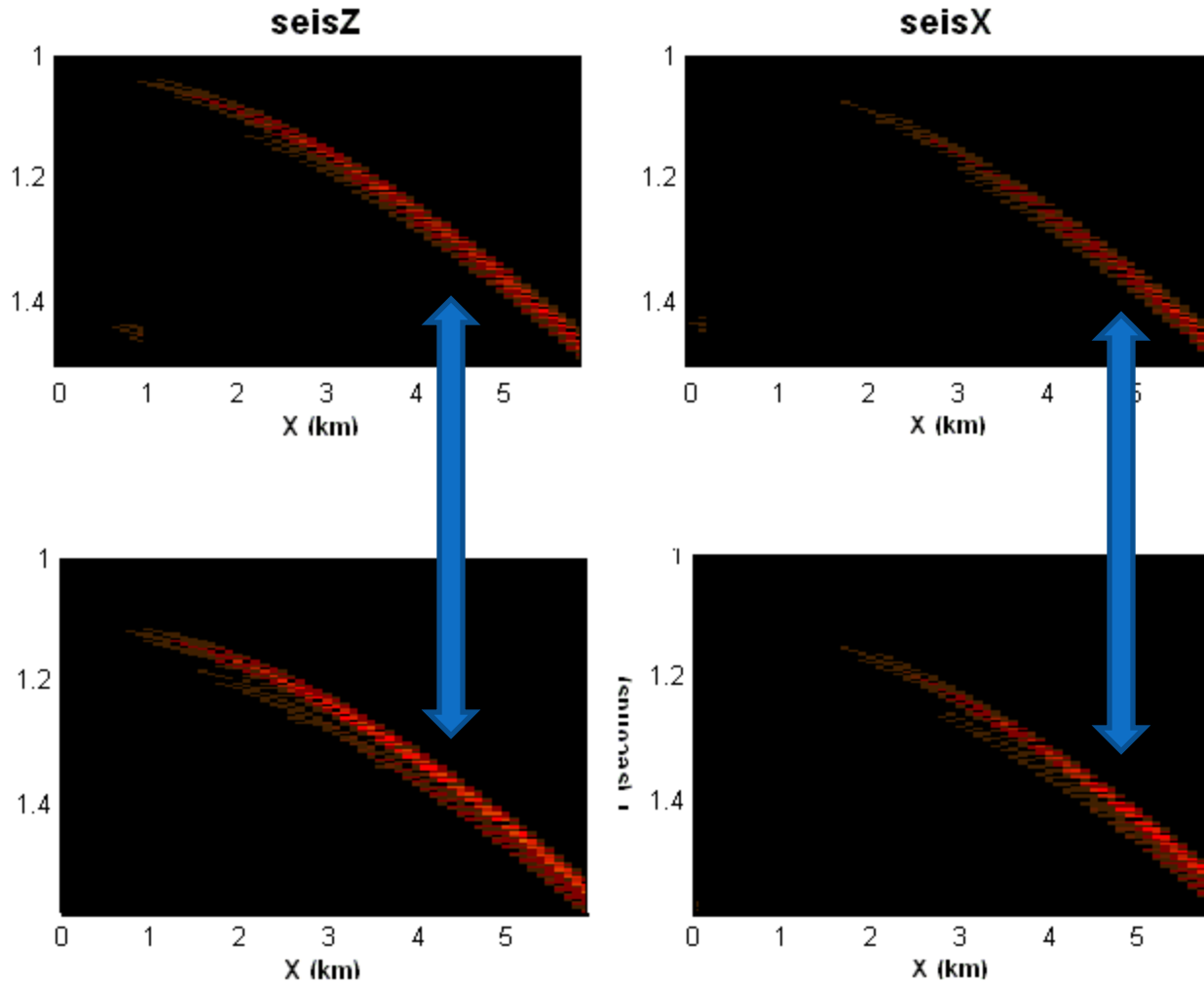
# Sanish field : P wave Z component



# Comparison between Cottonwood and Sanish field



# Difference Between Azimuth 0 and 90



Brighter color → more difference between two azimuths

# Outline

- ❖ Introduction
- ❖ Well log analysis
- ❖ Seismic modeling
- ❖ Summary
- ❖ Acknowledgements



# Summary

- ❖ The Upper and Lower Bakken shales are characterized by low density , low P and S wave velocities and low  $V_p/V_s$  ratio.
- ❖ The log data suggest that the Upper and Lower Bakken shales are anisotropic while the Middle Bakken may be considered as isotropic.
- ❖ Although the bed thickness of each member of the Bakken is below seismic resolution, it is still possible to observe the difference between seismic responses of the isotropic and anisotropic models.
- ❖ The VTI and HTI anisotropy have different seismic responses. S wave and C wave carry more HTI anisotropy information than P wave.

# Summary

- ❖ The Middle Bakken is sandwiched between the anisotropic Upper and Lower Bakken shales, however, we can still identify the HTI characters of the Middle Bakken.
- ❖ The presence of fracture results in azimuthal anisotropy, which can be observed from wide azimuth seismic data. For P wave, the anisotropy is more pronounced at mid to far offset seismic data.
- ❖ Bakken thickness variation contributes a lot to the difference in seismic responses between Sanish and Cottonwood field.

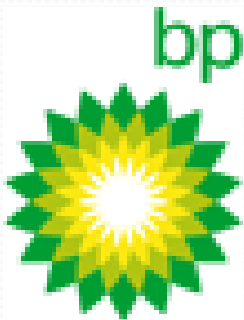
# Summary

- ❖ On going and future work
  - Sensitivity analysis
  - Comparison between Cottonwood and Sanish field
  - AVO
  - Field data
  - Relate differences in seismic response to productivity

# Acknowledgements



*Turning Resources into Reserves*



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**Thank You**