Seismic zone attributes identified

The damage zone of a 32-km right lateral strike-slip fault in the Anadarko Basin, Oklahoma, is investigated. It was found to be 1600 m thick where it is dominated by subsidiary faults. It decays exponentially with distance from the fault core and displays strong asymmetry.

Estimating uncertainty

Uncertainty estimation is important to high risk projects. The authors introduce a workflow to quantify the effect of the uncertain thermal conductivity on subsurface temperature distribution and on hydrocarbon generation potential. This workflow is tested on a two-dimensional model from the Nordkapp Basin.

Good API predictions add substantial value

Five new kinetic models have been developed that predict geologically reasonable API gravities and that can be adjusted to match field observations. These models are an improvement over the ones currently as they use two liquid and two vapor pseudocomponents.

An innovative modeling study

This paper describes an innovative three-dimensional geocellular and seismic modeling workflow to reconstruct embedded high-resolution mixed clastic–carbonate strata of the San Andres–Grayburg-Lower Queen Formations that serve as high-resolution analogs for the Grayburg platform mixed clastic-carbonate play.

A better understanding of storage and migration

Pore structure and porosity of the lacustrine shale in the Dongying depression through the oil window is characterized in this study. Organic acid generation and the relationship between porosity and geochemical properties are also examined.

Petroleum exploration of the Nicaraguan offshore

The Cenozoic stratigraphic sequence, Nicaraguan platform, includes three cycles of transgression and regression. Major risk factors include poor seal continuity and capacity; lack of overburden; lack of source rock continuity; and insufficient maturation, source rock generation, and charge.

A new technique

A new technique for determination of rock properties with image analysis uses confocal laser scanning microscopy. It quantifies different pore-body and pore-throat sizes and distributions. The method is fast, accurate, inexpensive, and requires a small sample.

Understanding leakage

This paper compares leaking and nonleaking gas accumulations by looking at trap configuration, fluid pressures, and stress states. Criteria developed can be used to evaluate the potential for fault zones to provide vertical leakage pathways and loss of fluid containment.

Improving exploration efforts

Understanding remigration and leakage from continuous shale reservoirs is very important for shale gas exploration, and two models from nearby black shales are validated. This study can be used to better understand and improve exploration efforts based on resource preservation.
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