

From the Editor's Desk



Dear Reader,

Greetings!

In this issue we bring four technical articles - three of which are on anisotropy: The first, "Principle stress estimation in shale plays using 3D seismic", by Ron Schmid and his colleagues was presented at the recent SPG work shop on " Exploration and exploitation of hydrocarbons from shale" held at Dehradun on 27-28 Nov 2010. The paper should be of considerable interest not only for the readers interested in exploration of shale gas, but also for the geophysicists who contemplate applying the cutting edge technologies - but often hesitate to do so - to the exploration of conventional hydrocarbons. For, it shows concretely how Amplitude Vs. Azimuth from rich azimuth data can be used for mapping subsurface fractures.

The paper, "Automatic Seismic Facies Classification with Kohonen Self Organizing Maps" by Atish Roy et. al. is a tutorial which provides an excellent introduction for the benefit of those who have been curious to learn how Self Organizing works and is used in seismic facies mapping. The third paper, "Ultrasonic Measurements of Anisotropy of Shales by Malleswar "Moe" Yenugu is a lab study done of anisotropy in shale from an outcrop of Green River shale and confirms the expected behavior of seismic velocities and anisotropy with increase in pressure.

The last paper, "Seismic Azimuthal Anisotropy: an important tool for Coal Bed Methane" is a brief review article by Arjun Tiwari et. al. Once again, we are reminded of the untapped potential of the seismic method for conventional exploration in face of unconventional exploration using 3-D seismic with wide azimuth so successfully - to map fractures, for example.

With this issue of GEOHORIZONS, I bid you, dear reader, Good Bye. I have enjoyed communicating to you - though at times I felt the experience was like a soliloquy. I thank the coordinator and fellow editors of GEOHORIZONS and wish you all the pleasure of creative pursuit of geophysics in the New Year, 2011 and beyond.

C. H. Mehta