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Similarities and differences between static and dynamic moduli

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Static & Dynamic Moduli

• (Quasi-) Static modulus given by the slope of a stress-strain curve

• Dynamic modulus = r v² given by the bulk density r and the wave speed v



Strain, ε

For uniaxial strain, the static modulus $H=ds_z/de_z$ should be equal to rv_P^2



Static & Dynamic Moduli: Motivation

- Static mechanical behaviour is needed for several engineering applications
 - Reservoir compaction & Surface Subsidence (elasticity, plasticity)
 - Sand production prediction (strength, plasticity)
 - Ø Borehole stability assessment (strength, plasticity)
 - Overburden characterization (Cap rock seal; Leakage / fault reactivation / fracturing associated with depletion / injection)
 - Gas) Shale reservoir stimulation: Where to fracture ("Frackability" -Brittleness / Fracture toughness); Where do fractures go?

Can static properties be estimated from seismic / log measurements?



Static & Dynamic Moduli: Equal – and yet Different...

- In solids and fluids static = dynamic moduli (Ledbetter, 1993)
- **Ø** In rocks they differ, because:
 - Sequired static moduli are usually drained ("frame") properties, dynamic moduli are undrained
 - § Finite strain in static, infinitesimal strain in dynamic measurements
 - **§** Frequency dependence (dispersion)



Typical observation: Castlegate sandstone under hydrostatic loding





Castlegate sandstone under uniaxial strain (K₀) loading + un- & re-loading



Further discussion in Fjær et al., Rock Mech. & Rock Eng., 2013



Laboratory Simulated Core Behaviour of Stiff Synthetic Sandstone formed under stress





Laboratory Simulated Virgin Behaviour of Stiff Synthetic Sandstone formed under stress





Laboratory simulated Core & Virgin Compaction of Soft Synthetic Sandstone

Core



Silicate-cemented synthetic sandstone



... which leads to the hypothesis

Static = Dynamic moduli for undamaged rock – which behaves purely elastic

- Cores are "damaged" because of cement bond breakage during stress release
- Outcrops are "damaged" because of a.o. weathering
- Undamaged" rocks within the Earth, after diagenesis and before any damaging stress change has occurred, will be perfectly elastic
- Strong & stiff rocks should have static = dynamic moduli, for weak & soft rocks: static < dynamic stiffness... or?</p>



But: Consider uncemented glass beads...



So:

For hydrostatically loaded perfectly spherical particles (with narrow size distribution): Static = Dynamic Bulk Modulus!



Uncemented glass beads in Uniaxial compaction



Axial Stress [MPa]



Ottawa Sand

Similar behavior to glass beads, but static & dynamic moduli become more different Natural sand is well rounded, but not perfect spheres (also broader grain size distribution)





Mancos Shale



6-8 % porosity, 20-30 % clay, very competent gas shale analogue

Tested as received; i.e. "wet"

Static drained bulk modulus ~ 5 GPa; Uniaxial compaction modulus: 15 – 20 GPa (20-25 GPa during unloading)

Ultrasonic bulk modulus: ~ 25 GPa Ultrasonic P-Wave modulus: >40 GPa



Strain amplitude effects in shale



From a triaxial test, the dependence of P and F ("Petroleum Related Rock Mechanics" by Fjær et al., 2008) on stress and strain as observed in Mancos Shale is resemblant to that seen in soft sandstones => Strain amplitude correction for shale may be performed in a similar way



Mancos shale



The extrapolated elastic uniaxial compaction modulus estimated at 55 MPa axial (& 18 MPa confining) stress corresponds to a P-wave velocity of ~ 3315 m/s at 1 Hz frequency.

The ultrasonic v_P is ~ 4165 m/s at 500 kHz

=> ~ 25 % velocity dispersion

Based on evidence for purely elastic behavior at the turning point of a stress path (Fjær *et al.*, 2013)



Mancos Shale



Measured at ambient conditions in SINTEF's Low Frequency Quasi-Static set-up

Strain amplitude ~ 10⁻⁶

Confirms dispersion in Mancos shale

In Mancos Shale, both frequency dependence and strain amplitude effects contribute to the difference between static and dynamic moduli

(i) SINTEF **(i)** NTNU

Concluding remarks

- Static = Dynamic moduli for undamaged (purely elastic) non-dispersive rock, and for Hertzian granular materials under hydrostatic conditions
 - S "Undamaged" rocks within the Earth, after diagenesis and before any damaging stress change has occurred may have similar static and dynamic moduli
 - Support of the static static and the static static and the static moduli in hydrostatic conditions
 - Gas) Shale: Both dispersion and non-elastic behavior leads to static-dynamic discrepancy
 - If we can distinguish, this may permit determination of plasticity / brittleness from seismic data



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- Gas Shale Strategic Program at SINTEF Petroleum Research





References

- The main contents of this presentation will be published in:
 - Holt, R.M., Fjær, E., and Bauer, A. (2013) Static and Dynamic Moduli so equal, and yet so different. ARMA 13-521; 8 pp. To be pres. At 47th US Rock Mechanics / Geomechanics Symposium, San Francisco 23-26 June.
- Other references:
 - Ledbetter H (1993) Dynamic vs. static Young's moduli: a case study. Mater Sci Eng A165:L9–L10
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