Relating static and dynamic stiffness of shales: effects of frequency and stress

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Motivation





Elastic media:

Stiffness does not depend on frequency or stress amplitude

Static stiffness = dynamic stiffness



Rocks are not elastic media

Static stiffness ≠ dynamic stiffness

Main reasons:

Static stiffness is often drained, but dynamic is undrained

Static stiffness depends on stress amplitude (order of MPa), while dynamic is in elastic regime

Stiffness is dependent on stress rate (frequency dispersion)

Research methodology



Low frequency apparatus

Measurement	Measured parameters	Frequency	Strain amplitude
Static (undrained)	Young's modulus, E Poisson's ratio, ν	Corresponds to ~0.5 Hz	Up to order of 10 ⁻³ m/m
Low frequency	Ε, ν	0.5-150 Hz	≤10 ⁻⁶ m/m
Ultrasonic	P- and S-wave velocities	500 kHz	~10 ⁻¹⁰ m/m



Low frequency measurement technique



Linking velocities to engineering parameters

Stiffness matrix for TI medium (e.g. shales)



$$C_{33} = E_V (1 - v_{_{HH}}^2) \Lambda$$

$$C_{44} = \left(\frac{4}{E_{45}} - \frac{1}{E_V} - \frac{1}{E_H} + \frac{C_{13}}{(C_{11} - C_{66})C_{33} - C_{13}^2}\right)^{-1}$$

$$C_{11} = E_H (1 - v_{_{HV}}v_{_{VH}}) \Lambda$$

$$C_{66} = E_H / 2(1 + v_{_{HH}})$$

$$C_{13} = E_H v_{_{VH}} (1 + v_{_{HH}}) \Lambda$$

$$\Lambda = \left(1 - v_{_{HH}}^2 - 2v_{_{HV}}v_{_{VH}} - 2v_{_{HV}}v_{_{VH}}v_{_{HH}}\right)^{-1}$$

$$\rho v_{_{PV}}^2 = C_{33}$$

$$\rho v_{PV}^{2} = C_{33}$$

$$\rho v_{PH}^{2} = C_{11}$$

$$\rho v_{SV}^{2} = C_{44}$$

$$\rho v_{SH}^{2} = C_{66}$$

Results



Stress amplitude effect on stiffness Opalinus Clay is highly non-elastic



Young's modulus dependance on frequency and stress amplitude



Other shales



Field shale 2 demonstrates nearly perfect elastic response

DN'INU ØSINTEF

Velocity dispersion



d)N/N/NU Øsintef

Young's modulus dispersion



Conclusions

- □Static and dynamic stiffness are linked by both stress amplitude (non-elasticity) and stress rate (dispersion) effects
- \Box Rocks are non-elastic for strains > 1 µstrain, both during loading <u>and</u> unloading
- □With decreasing stress/strain amplitude, the static undrained stiffness approaches the dynamic stiffness of low frequency
- □In saturated shales, frequency dispersion may strongly affect stiffness
- Different mechanisms are responsible for non-elastic effects and dispersion

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