

NOTE ON FAULT DISPLACEMENT

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ABSTRACT

The accurate determination of fault displacement is essential to accurate subsurface and seismic mapping.

When a fault is cut by a well, the magnitude of fault displacement is commonly obtained by direct comparison with an unfaulted nearby well. In areas of pronounced downdip thickening of section this technique, without proper adjustment, may lead to serious misconception.

A comparative graphic method is presented that gives a rational determination of fault displacement and other fault characteristics for conditions of pronounced downdip thickening of section and of faulting contemporaneous with deposition. Two actual cases of fault analysis in South Texas are discussed, one of which is compared to seismic data.