## EVALUATING STRUCTURAL CONTROLS AND THEIR ROLE IN FORECASTING PROPERTIES OF PHANEROZOIC ROCKS IN THE NORTHERN MIDCONTINENT, U.S.A. – ANCIENT EXAMPLES AND MODERN ANALOGS

W. Lynn Watney, Evan K. Franseen<sup>1</sup>, Alan P. Byrnes, Susan E. Nissen Energy Research and <sup>1</sup>Stratigraphic Research Sections, Kansas Geological Survey, The University of Kansas 1930 Constant Avenue - Campus West, Lawrence, Kansas 66047 and Sihuang Xu

Department of Petroleum Engineering, Faculty of Resources, China University of Geosciences, Wuhan, PRC

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## Integrated Tectono-Stratigraphic Analysis

- Ancestral Rocky Mountain and Laramide tectonism were far reaching and systematically deformed shelves and shelf margins of the upper Midcontinent.
- Precambrian faults served as templates for later deformation, crustal segmentation.
- Resultant segmentation of shelves and shelf margins via reactivation of basement faults -- complex, but predictable.
- Forecasting rock properties: Quantify segmentation of shelf and associated subsidence & tilting in context of deposition and diagenesis.
  - Kinematic analysis of structures analogous to current research in neotectonics:
    - Global Positioning Systems (GPS)
    - Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar (InSAR)
  - High-resolution regional stratigraphy
  - 3-D seismic attribute analysis
    - Delineate locations and "activity" (relative timing) of faults, folds, and deformation zones and motion of structural blocks.



- True stratigraphic traps of economically producible hydrocarbons are probably fewer than believed.
- 2. The relative roles of processes including deposition, diagenesis, and structure probably need to be reevaluated to improve modeling of remaining fields.
- Geologic models and concepts will continue to be refined & quantified with new technologies – 3D seismic imaging, high resolution potential fields, surface and satellite-based techniques.

### Stratigraphic intervals reviewed

• Emphasis on structural controls as added element in prediction and quantification of reservoir properties



**Greater Ancestral Rocky Mountain (Ouachita-Marathon)** and Laramide tectonism were far reaching and systematically deformed shelves and shelf margins of the upper **Midcontinent** 

- Compressional stress regime continues today within craton

# Two dominant orientations of Precambrian faults and folds in cratonic platform



## Reactivation of Precambrian extensional fault throughout the craton



A) Schematic cross section of Rocky Mountains

Χ

B) Hypothetical east-west cross section of Proterozoic structure for same traverse as cross section A)

Marshak, Karlstrom, and Timmons (2000)

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## **Ancestral Rockies Structures**

-- Early Chesterian - Late Leonardian



Marshak, Karlstrom, and Timmons (2000) Ages from Dickinson and Lawton (2003) **Intraplate fault** reactivation is mainly dependent on orientation of (weak) fault zones relative to plate margin... deformation in interior can be represented by simple rheological models (van der Pluijm et al., 1997)

**Resultant segmentation of** shelves and shelf margins via reactivation of basement faults -complex, but can be further characterized in temporal-spatial framework for prediction

**Examples from Neotectonism** 

Schematic mapping of zones of <u>localized deformation</u> in the western U.S. suggested from recent GPS survey results, Holocene faults, and seismicity.



Thatcher (2003)

## Synthetic Aperture Radar Interferometry (InSAR)



San Francisco Bay Area -- roughly 30 miles across PS analysis of the Bay Area, consists of 115,487 PS data points InSAR. The color of each point indicates its measured velocity toward or away from the ERS SAR satellite. Range change rates gradually vary across the region due to elastic strain accumulation about the major platebounding faults. Large subsidence rates due to settling are observed alongside San Francisco Bay such as on Treasure Island and in Alameda. (After Ferretti et al., 2004).

#### Magnitude of GPS velocity with respect to stable North America plotted on west-to-east profile versus longitude from Sierra Nevada to Colorado Plateau



Thatcher (2003)

Schematic diagrams showing alternative kinematic descriptions of continental deformation



Conceptual diagram - Effect of changing plate boundary forces on intraplate stress field and fault patterns



From Thatcher (2003), GPS constraints on the kinematics of current continental deformation. Examples in paper include deformation linking "real time" Modern faulting and microplate formation along --

San Andres Fault - Basin & Range - Colorado Plateau system.



Precambrian faults serve as templates for later deformation and crustal segmentation Preliminary Precambrian Basement Structure Map of Continental U.S. -- An interpretation of Geologic and Aeromagnetic Data



#### Sims, Saltus, and Anderson (2005)

#### **Total Magnetic Field Intensity**



### **Basement Structures** and Terranes

### Local magnetic lineations from total magnetic field intensity Overlain with oil and gas fields (Kruger, 1997)





Kinematic model and simulation for fault-bounded rhombohedral blocks (*contractional stepover*) along Nemaha Uplift related to <u>right lateral motion</u> on NE-SW trending fault system and  $\sigma_1$ trending at N82.5°E.







## <u>Laramide</u> reactivation of basement faults in Pottawattamie County with N82.5°E $\sigma_1$

Ohlmacher and Berendsen (2005)



Configuration of the Precambrian Surface (<u>well based</u>)

Precambrian structural domains and strain behavior – wrench faulting?

**Baars and Watney (1991)** 

Forecasting rock properties --Quantify segmentation of shelf and corresponding subsidence & tilting in context of deposition and diagenesis

- Kinematic structural analysis (rates, magnitude, duration of movement)
- Integrate with play and field characterization





Lineaments on isopachs of 3<sup>rd</sup> order depositional sequences reflect differential subsidence and tilting toward Anadarko & Arkoma foreland basins

N



#### Isopach map of Top of Lansing Group to Top of Haskell Limestone



Apparent differential subsidence between two structural blocks along light blue dashed line, "1A".
Lansing bank margin is line "E".
Eastern block of thick

strata in lower Douglas and Pedee Groups contain Tonganoxie paleovalley developed in eastern Kansas

#### Isopach map of base of Haskell Limestone to base of Heebner Shale



Dramatic change in thickness/sediment accommodation patterns from underlying interval
Infer northeast-trending structural breaks on lineaments "C" and "E" and subdued "1A". Areas of similar Upper Pennsylvanian cycle thicknesses separated by narrow structural transition zones







#### Total Magnetic Field Intensity



**Examples** 

Pennsylvanian shelf edge and Mississippian shelf flexure In South-Central Kansas coincide with lineament "D"



#### line of section







# Structural cross section through chat Reservoir in Glick Field



No horizontal scale, section length ~9 mi Equidistant wells

## Magnetic Map, Kingman County



Spivey Grabs Field
### Compartments of more highly productive chat In Spivey-Grabs-Basil Field Barber, Harper, and Kingman counties Kansas



# Dickman Field – Contemporaneous structural control on secondary pay in Ft. Scott Ls. (Desmoinesian oomoldic CO3)



(16 km)



Magnetic Map, Ness County

Gravity Map,Ness County



Strong NW-SE lineaments



(16 km)

### 3-D seismic analysis of Mississippian and Middle Pennsylvanian reservoirs at Dickman Field, Ness County, Kansas



The top of the <u>Mississippian</u> <u>System (Warsaw Dolomite)</u> is a positive seismic reflection (black), corresponding to the boundary between Cherokee shales and Mississippian dolomite seen on the gamma ray log.

The top of the <u>**Ft. Scott</u>** <u>**Limestone**</u> is a small positive seismic reflection immediately above the Cherokee.</u>

#### Nissen et al. (2005)

http://www.kgs.ku.edu/PRS/publication/2004/ 2004-56/index.html

Seismic data provided by Grand Mesa Operating Co.



Cherokee paleovalley coincides with structural low on Precambrian surface



(1/2 mi lower in section)







#### Fort Scott to Mississippian Isopach



#### Fort Scott Impedance Yellow=low velocity/porous; Blue=high velocity/tight

Infer fractured, vuggy, oomoldic carbonate pay in Ft. Scott Ls. developed along southern portion of structurally positive and paleotopgraphic high block

Low-poor P&P

Good P&P, oomoldic fossil mold, vuggy good DST and HC shows



Very good P&P, oomoldic, vuggy, <u>PERFORATED</u>

Fractures described from cores

### Tight Limestone

(based on sample and core descriptions of Don Beauchamp)



#### Top Ft. Scott Limestone Dickman Field using Well Control

### Minimum Gamma Ray Top Ft. Scott Pay





- Low seismic impedance = porous area
- Samples: oomoldic, vuggy sucrosic & micrxIn. cement

Datum: Base U. Ft. Scott (Little Osage Sh.)



Interpretive patterns of flow in an ebb-dominated oolitic tidal bar. S. Reeder and G. Rankey (2005) *DigitalGlobe*<sup>c</sup>

# Victory Field, Haskell County

## Lansing-Kansas City Oomoldic grainstone



http://www.kgs.ku.edu/DPA/Plays/ProdMaps/lgkc\_oil.html





#### 5 miles (8 km)

Victory Field is a large oil and gas field having produced over 54 BCF gas and 12.5 MBO. A considerable amount of oil may still be behind pipe, making fields like this lucrative to further exploit.

Victory Field

Structure maps of the tops of the Lansing and Chase Groups

### L. Permian Chase to Upper Penn. Lansing isopachous map closely follows Top Lansing structure



5 MILES

#### **Rhombohedral NW & NE-trending pattern?**

Structure = contours Gross isopach (RIGHT color overlay) -- light blue to brown

Thickness of porous carbonate (LEFT) -- dark blue to yellow

### SWOPE LIMESTONE



Thickening on top of structure

# Hall-Gurney CO2 Field Demonstration Project



### Lansing-Kansas City Upper Pennsylvanian (Missourian)



Modified from Dubois et al. (2001)







Lineament attribute baseline data (prior to CO<sub>2</sub> injection)





Parallel progressive blanking of amplitude envelope, April 2004 and June 2005 showing 2 stages of CO<sub>2</sub> plume



Instantaneous frequency at 560 msec with lineaments

T North

0.25 mi (0.4 km)

### Structure Contour Map, Top Plattsburg Limestone



### Comparison of two stacked, highfrequency cycles

- Possible polygenic parabolic-shaped ooid shoals
- Roughly orthogonal trends paralleling structure lineaments
- Location of #2 shoal is offset to west of underlying layer #4
- CO<sub>2</sub> movement along porous layer #2
- Isolated elongate ooid shoal developed subparallel to regional structural lineament
- No CO<sub>2</sub> movement in lower layer #4







### Clean (lower gamma ray), better-sorted oolite/ oomoldic

• Higher permeability, >10 md

 Correlation with: better sorting, packing, and interconnected oomolds (microvugs & associated high Archie cementation
 exponent)

> Clean, better-sorted higher porosity in cycle caps, porosity highest near top of shallowing upward succession

 Better-sorted bar crests in Modern ooid shoals

**Colliver #16 core data** 

Comparison of porosity thickness of lower Layer #4 and thickness of clean, low gamma ray interval capping Layer #2

- Close correspondence of location and NE-trend of low gamma interval of upper layer #2 and thick porous interval of lower layer #4
- NW-trend of clean GR in layer #2 not reflected in #4
- Both trends closely parallel regional and local structural lineaments
- Also, possible inherited topography from buildup of #4 affecting #2







(modified from Feldman et. al. 1995)

(Modified from Feldman, et. al., 1995)

2nd-order residual gravity

#### Lineaments inferred from gravity map



-- Lineaments parallel predominant basement structure

**Beaty et al. (1999)** 

## Isopach map of the base of Eudora Shale to the lower sequence boundary of the the Tonganoxie IVF modified from Feldman et al (1995) with gravity lineaments



Beaty et al. (1999)

-- Incised valley system along and near rhombohedral basement lineaments -- Northeastern Kansas



Beaty et al (1999)

### **Early Permian Paleogeography**



### Factors impacting stratigraphy and lithofacies in the U.S. Midcontinent:

- Clastic sedimentation and structural deformation associated with
   waning stages of two related orogenies: *Ouachita/Marathon & Ancestral Rocky Mountain*
- Drier climate and glacio-eustacy with continued southern Pangea continental glaciation



Possible 3<sup>rd</sup> order depositional

Virgilian and Lowermost Permian Sea-Level Curve and Cyclothems (after Boardman, 1999)



50 miles (80 km)





### Total Magnetic Field intensity with Precambrian basement contours





Laramide structural overprint on Howe Ls.
NW, NE, and E-W trends



Cumulative CH<sub>4</sub> Production (brighter = more gas) Hugoton Gas Area Southwest 3x4 counties

# Fracturing and Evaporite Dissolution in Permian Strata





### **Hutchinson Gas Leaks**



Sub-regional fracturing of a thin Upper Wellington dolomite bed above the Hutchinson Salt.
• Jointed dolomite ledge underlain by shale with discontinuous fractures (paleosol) (Hammer for scale)

dolomite

Locality: Afton Lake, Sedgwick County

Joint traces along the upper surface of the dolomite



### Structural contour map on top of 3-Finger dolomite

1090 -1070 -1050 -1030 -990 -970 -950 -930 -950 -890 -890 -890 -850 -



Type log Hutchinson Area

Watney et al. (2003)

• Upper salt bed locally missing

episodic dissolution of upper Hutchinson Salt





### Wilson Road (Top) and Rice Park (Bottom) seismic lines

Seismic peaks are black, troughs are red.

The seismic reflections:

- top of 3-finger dolomite (purple)
- M1A marker (yellow)
- top Hutchinson Salt Member (S1) (blue)

Heavy green lines are interpreted faults.

Nissen et al. (2004)





#### Structural cross section along Wilson Road

- Natural gamma ray
- Autocorrelated for interval above Hutchinson salt
- Upper bed Hutchinson Salt (red) markedly thins
- Dolomite beds in yellow
- •Northward thinning of 3-finger dolomite
- Wells #54 & #53 = gas at seismic anomalies

# S2-S1 (upper salt bed) isopach map for Yaggy- Hutchinson area, with interpreted structural lineaments





Nissen and Watney (2003)



Net Halite Isopach For Hutchinson Salt (Watney & Paul, 1980)

 Structural control on dissolution front of Hutchinson Salt –Voshell-Abilene Anticline (MRS)

 Dissolution front bends along Arkansas River between Hutchinson and Wichita



### **Total Magnetic Field Intensity**



**Contours = Precambrian surface isochores** 



**Final Summary and Data Report: The Equus Beds Mineral Intrusion Project** by D. P. Young, R. W. Buddemeier, D. O. Whittemore, and H. Rubin Kansas Geological Survey, University of Kansas

KGS Open File Report 2000-30 March, 2001



Surface Subsidence (Clearwater)

Salt dissolution solution front

W 95TH St S



Pointer 37°34'00.58" N 97°29'13.34" W

© 2006 Navteq Image © 2006 MDA EarthSat Image © 2006 DigitalGlobe

D3

St.W

Streaming ||||||||| 100%



Eye alt 22220 ft

## Conclusions

- Shelf margin and inner shelf carbonate settings were affected by subtle, but important <u>block faulting</u> at scales of <u>10's to 100's</u> of km (rhombohedral-shaped blocks)
- Preferred reactivation of basement faults influenced locations of shelf edges, caused segmentation of the ramp/shelf profiles, and influenced deposition & diagenesis.
- Large- to small-scale kinematic (3D structural time-series) analysis accomplished through 3-D seismic & regional highresolution stratigraphic analysis will aid in refined reservoir and play prediction.
- Sea level, climate, depositional setting, and local paleotopography affected by contemporaneous structural movements led to site-specific conditions favoring reservoir development.

### **Revaluate Role of Midcontinent Structures in Play, Field, and Reservoir Characteriztion**

- Dominant role of Precambrian faults
- Segmented shelf bounded by narrow deformation zones
- Localized structural blocks active during sedimentation
  - Affecting paleotopography and sedimentation
  - Controlling drainage pathways for streams and valley incision
  - Localized currents and waves affecting carbonate shoal or topography for carbonate/siliceous buildups
- Episodic reactivation of preferred structures through time
  - Influence diagenesis, evaporite dissolution, and fluid migration.
- Changing structural patterns through time:
  - Changing stress field
  - Pre-existing faults with orientations favoring episodic reactivation
  - Variations in local composition/density of crust affecting strain behavior
  - Modeled by relatively simple mechanical simulations
- Couple structure history with sea level, diagenesis, HC migration = <u>Prediction</u>
- Opportunities
  - Unparalleled resolution of subsurface volumes with 3D seismic imaging
  - High-density acquisition of potential fields data and basement modeling
  - Incorporation of improved mechanical models in reservoir characterization

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