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RESERVOIR SEISMOLOGY

GEOPHYSICS IN NONTECHNICAL LANGUAGE

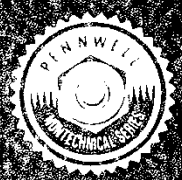

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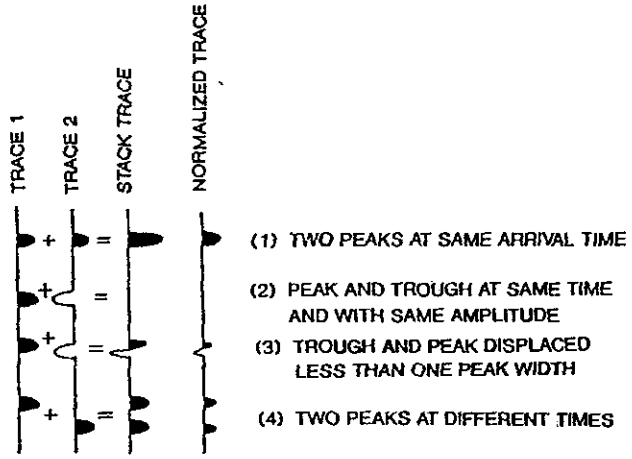
FIGURE 5–40. The stacking process



DATA PROCESSING OBJECTIVES

One of the most important objectives of seismic data processing is to produce readily interpretable sections. These sections must be geologically sound and represent the subsurface of the earth. They should be good enough to image the subsurface traps, where other seismic techniques may be used for qualitative analysis of some petrophysical properties of the reservoir rocks. Seismic sections are used for special applications such as direct hydrocarbon indicators, porosity presence, and some other applications that will be reviewed later in the text.

FACTORS AFFECTING SEISMIC DATA PROCESSING OBJECTIVES

Seismic data processing objectives are strongly affected by field data-acquisition parameters. They are also affected by the quality of the field work and the condition of the equipment. There is an impression that field problems can be solved in the data processing stages, using the magic of the computer software and the muscle of the hardware. The bad news is that some (but not all) field problems can be solved in the data processing center.

Marine conditions strongly affect the quality of the acquired data. Rough seas can cause streamer feathering, and a hard bottom will generate a variety of multiple reflections.

Seismic data are usually collected under conditions that are less than ideal. Although we may not have the most desired information, data

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