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Seismic stimulation of enhanced oil recovery: a pore scale study.

As much as 70 % of the worlds known oil is stuck in reservoirs, and various techniques to reduce this fraction have been employed. One of these is seismic stimulation, that is, seismic waves that alter the fluid displacement structures in the reservoir. We study these structures and their evolution on the pore scale and the scale above that. Our approach relies on a combination of experiments, network simulations, lattice Boltzmann simulations, and theory. The questions that we addresss is how the fluid structures depend on the seismic wave amplitude, frequency and direction, as well as on the compressibility of the fluid.