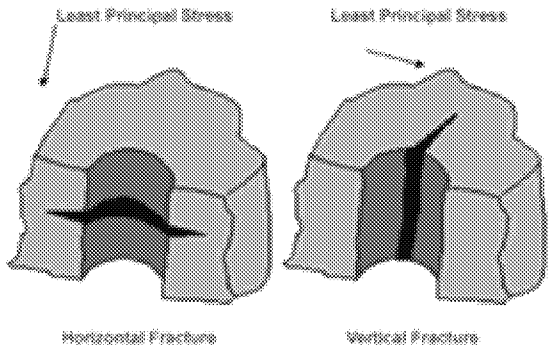
Fracture Formation Pressure

Definition and Mechanism

At sufficient depths (usually below 1000 m or 3000 ft) the minimum principal stress is horizontal; therefore, the fracture faces will be vertical. For shallow formations, where the minimum principal stress is vertical, horizontal (pancake) fractures will be created.



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