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A new approach for screening potential shale gas intervals

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There are many criteria that can be used to differentiate potentially productive organic-rich shale reservoirs from barren shale intervals. Among these, organic richness, thermal maturity status, porosity, fluid saturation, thickness, and brittleness are the major criteria for shale gas ranking. During exploration phase, having access to these types of information may not be possible or sometimes expensive to obtain. Well-log data can be a reliable alternative approach to estimate these parameters.

This paper introduces a deterministic approach that can be used to differentiate organic-rich shales from lean shales. The method is also applicable to calculate Total Organic Carbon (TOC) content when calibrated with some core data.