## MIT EARTH RESOURCES LABORATORY ANNUAL FOUNDING MEMBERS MEETING 2018





## Overview of the Earth Resources Laboratory

Laurent Demanet DIRECTOR OF ERL, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, DEPARTMENTS OF MATHEMATICS AND EAPS

**Before we start** 

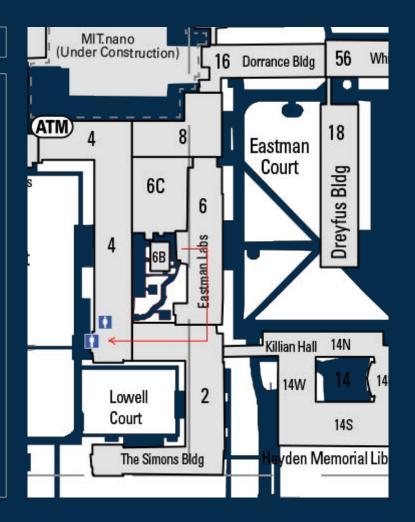
LADIES: 1<sup>ST</sup> FLOOR GENTLEMEN: 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR

EMERGENCY EXITS

## **MEMBER COMPANIES: USB KEY WITH**

- 50+ PAPERS
- PRESENTATIONS
- QUAD CHARTS

ALSO ON WEBSITE (COMPANY PASSWORD)





#### MIT EARTH RESOURCES LABORATORY ANNUAL FOUNDING MEMBERS MEETING 2018

NAFI TOKSOZ (FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR 1982-1999) SEISMOLOGY, BOREHOLE LOGGING, VSP, ROCK PHYSICS JOHN GROTZINGER (DIRECTOR 1999-2004) STRATIGRAPHY, GEOLOGY-GEOPHYSICS-GEOCHEM ROB VAN DER HILST (DIRECTOR 2004-2012) SEISMOLOGY, RESERVOIR SCIENCE BRAD HAGER (DIRECTOR 2012-2018) GEOMECHANICS, RESERVOIR MONITORING LAURENT DEMANET (DIRECTOR 2018-) IMAGING, INVERSION, LEARNING

# Leadership



# Mission



## RESEARCH AT THE CUTTING EDGE OF SUBSURFACE SCIENCE

- Broad and interdisciplinary
- Fundamental and high risk/high reward
- Applications to sponsor-specific problems

## EDUCATE FUTURE LEADERS OF INDUSTRY AND ACADEMIA

# ERL Snapshot



## INSTITUTIONAL HISTORY

- Celebrating 36<sup>th</sup> year with our 5<sup>th</sup> leadership transition
- Over 150 graduates serving as leaders for industry and academia
- Long track record of technical leadership across multiple disciplines

## • DEDICATED TEAM OF OVER 80 PEOPLE

- 13 Faculty, 13 Senior Research Staff, 2 Administrators
- 34 Students and 12 Postdocs
- 12 Affiliates and Visiting Scientists

# **Collaborations and Outreach**



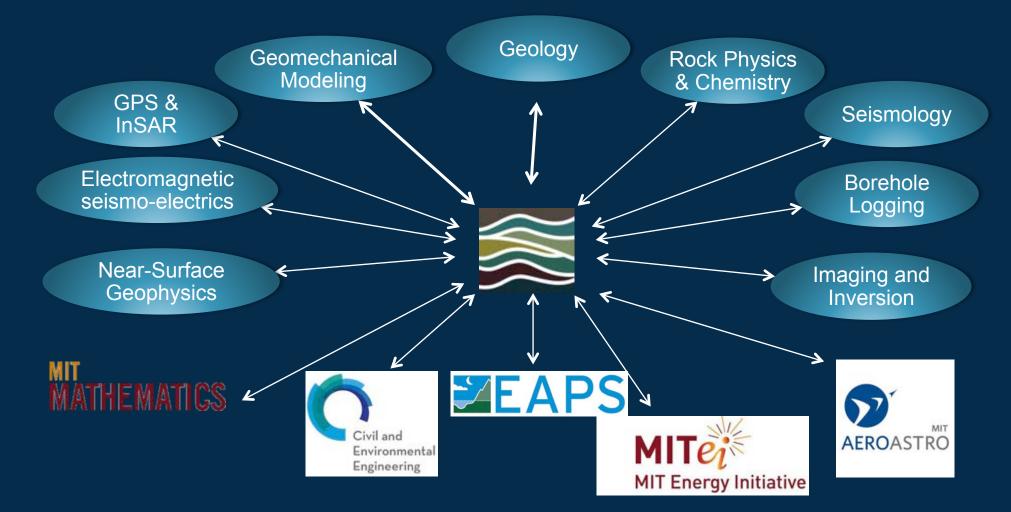
- DRAW EXPERTISE FROM ACROSS MIT -PROVIDES BREADTH OF KNOWLEDGE WHILE MAINTAINING DEPTH OF EXPERTISE
- ABILITY TO ASSEMBLE TEAMS OF EXPERTS FROM DIFFERENT DISCIPLINES TO SOLVE COMPLEX PROBLEMS
- ATTRACT BEST STUDENTS AND POSTDOCS FROM AROUND THE WORLD





# **A Culture of Crossing Borders**





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# 2018 Agenda Overview



#### SESSION TITLES

- GEOMECHANICS/INDUCED SEISMICITY
- INVERSION AND IMAGING
- STUDENT AND POSTDOC INTRODUCTIONS
- PLENARY SESSION: OUTLOOK FOR ERL
- GEOMECHANICS: FRACTURES AND FLOW I
- FLUID FLOW AND TIGHT OIL
- DEEP LEARNING IN SEISMOLOGY
- GEOMECHANICS: FRACTURES AND FLOW II





# Thank you!

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## MIT EARTH RESOURCES LABORATORY ANNUAL FOUNDING MEMBERS MEETING 2018



Going Forward: The Outlook for ERL





# 1 VISION

2 ERL FAQ

3 WHO + QUAD CHARTS

## **4 KEEP IN TOUCH**



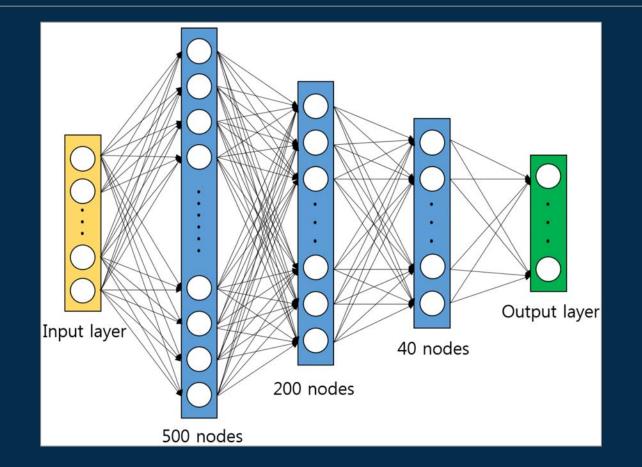


## **1 VISION**

MIT EARTH RESOURCES LABORATORY ANNUAL FOUNDING MEMBERS MEETING 2018

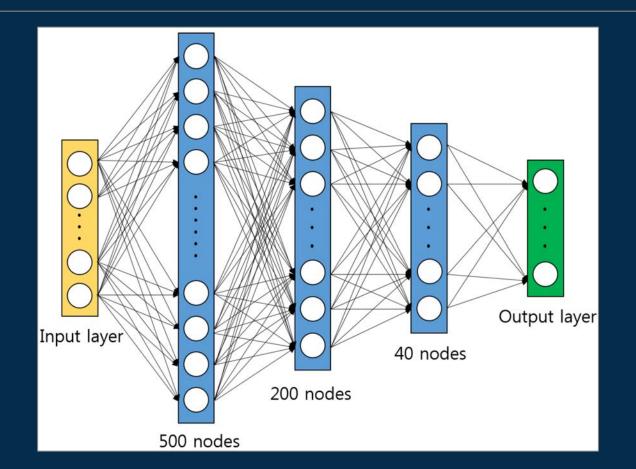
# Vision





# Vision





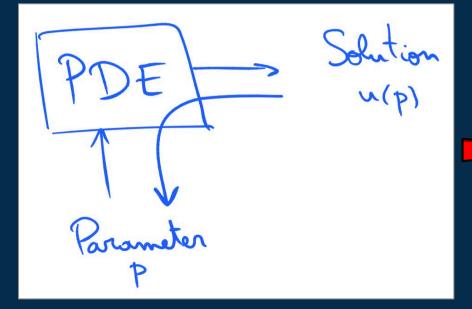
Statistical learning, inference and inversion for geophysics

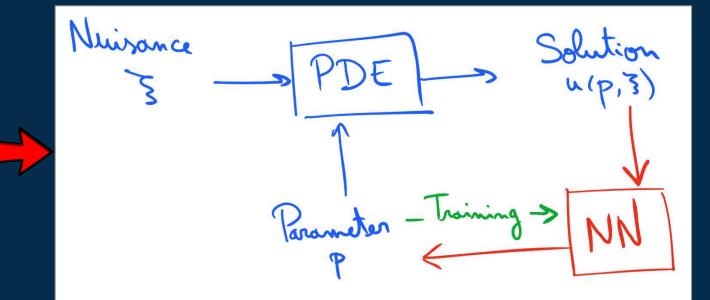
- model-aware
- in all its sophistication
- when it makes sense

New classes of answers fostering new kinds of questions

# New kinds of inverse problems





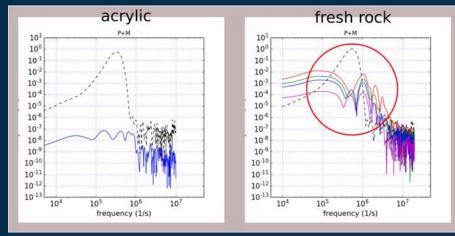


# Inverse problems: examples



1. Determine nonlinearity vs attenuation in rocks

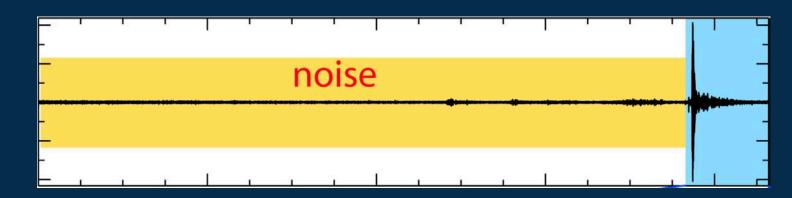
Kinematic uncertainties





2. Information in ambient seismic noise

Source uncertainties



# Al for heterogeneous data

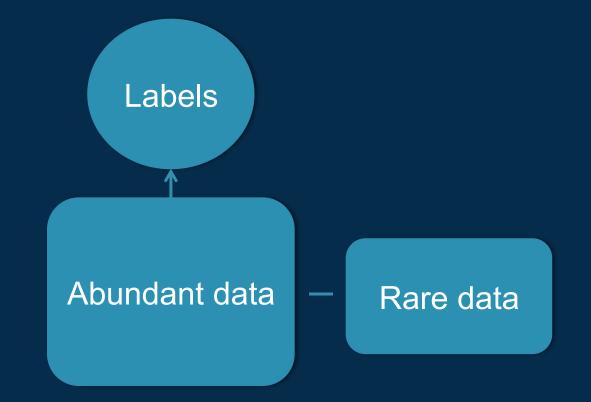


Semi-supervised learning: infer labels for *out-of-sample* data

Ex 1: seismic interpretation with abundant, labeled simulations vs rare, unlabeled surveys

Ex 2: well log inversion from well-understood locations vs new location

Transfer learning for generalizability







# 2 ERL FAQ

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At MIT, why ERL?



At MIT, why ERL?

We care about geophysics



At MIT, why ERL?

We care about geophysics

Is ERL collaborative?



At MIT, why ERL?

We care about geophysics

Is ERL collaborative?

Yes



At MIT, why ERL?

We care about geophysics

Is ERL collaborative?

Yes

But not as much as we could be





## **3 WHO + QUAD CHARTS**

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# Quad charts



Disclaimers:

- My rendering
- Teams assemble as needed
- Not exhaustive (people listed are those who submitted slides to me)
- On USB key, website

# Rock physics, geomechanics





Brian Evans



Herbert Einstein

Brad Hager



Stephen Brown

## **Rock Mechanics Group – Civil and Environmental** Engineering

Herbert Einstein, CEE

	<i>,</i>
Motivation and Goals: Rock Matrix and Fractures in the Energy Context	Opportunity:
Hydrocarbon extraction and Engineered Geothermal Systems are affected by flow through the rock fractures and matrix Maximizing flow requires complex intersecting fracture networks and high permeability matrix Such networks require stimulation of existing fractures or creation of new ones Matrix flow and dissolution affect porosity and permeability Fracture flow is affected by characteristics of individual fractures, fracture networks and the stress field	Creating new fractures usually done through hydraulic fracturing - difficult to control Stimulating existing fractures usually done through hydroshearing- difficult to control Both fracture processes are accompanied by seismic events - Allow one to indirectly track fractures - Produce induced seismicity Effect of fracture characteristics and stress field on individual fracture flow is not well understood
Approach:	Proposed Work:
Controlled laboratory experiments:	Hydraulic fracturing and hydroshearing -         simultaneous visual and Acoustic Emission observation
<ul> <li>To completely understand hydrofracturing and hydroshearing, use unique combination of simultaneous visual and microseism observations</li> </ul>	e flow tests – heous stress and
<ul> <li>To completely understand flow through matrix and individual fractures, use combination of visual observations and records of flow/concentration/transport</li> </ul>	o control and visual
Develop models based on the experiments and calibrate them	Matrix core flood tests - observation of effluent concentration and visual observation of wormholes
	ALL leading to models

## Visualising Hydraulic Fractures

Rock Mechanics Group – Civil and Environmental Engineering

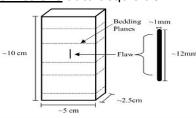
#### **Motivation and Goals**:

- Many new avenues to meet continuously increasing global energy demand, specifically unconventional hydrocarbon resources (k < 0.1mD):
  - Shale gas/oil
  - Tight gas/oil
- Resources require enhanced permeability of existing rock mass, commonly done through hydraulic fracturing



#### Approach:

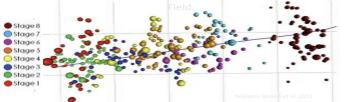
- Laboratory hydraulic fracture setup:
  - Up to 10 MPa (1500 psi) fluid pressure, 900 kN (200 000 lbf) biaxial loads
- Opalinus Shale prismatic specimens (1" x 2" x 4") with pre-existing artificial flaws
- <u>High-resolution</u> and <u>high-speed</u> imaging
- Qualitative and quantitative processing methods
- <u>Acoustic emissions</u> data acquisition



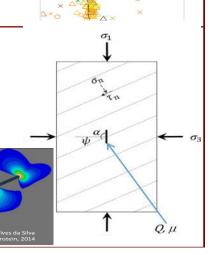


#### **Opportunity:**

- Field measurements of induced fracturing primarily determined by microseismic and pumping data (large errors)
- Lack of understanding of actual fracture behavior
- Goal to observe hydraulic fracturing directly (visual) and with indirect (microseismic) methods
  - Relate lab observations (visual+AE) to field measurements (AE only)



- Laboratory experiments with following control variables:
  - Bedding plane inclination
  - Flaw geometry
  - Fluid injection rate and schedule
  - Injected fluid viscosity
  - External stress conditions (Both isotropic and deviatoric)
- Experimental results used to:
  - understand fundamental frac mechanisms
  - develop and validate models

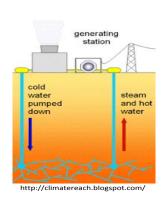


## Hydraulic Fracturing for Enhanced Geothermal Systems

Rock Mechanics Group – Civil and Environmental Engineering

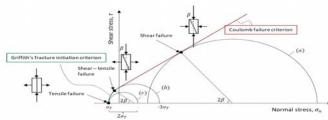
#### **Motivation and Goals**:

- Enhanced Geothermal Systems (EGS) constitute a large renewable energy source for electricity production
- Hydraulic stimulation in deep dry rock to reactivate existing fractures by injecting pressurized water
- A better understanding on how to avoid fault reactivation leading to induced seismicity is required



#### **Opportunity:**

- Understand how shear fractures reach the Mohr failure envelope through hydraulic pressurization (hydroshearing)
- Understand the link between hydroshearing and induced seismicity
- Effect of hydroshearing on fracture permeability
- Fluid penetration into the porous matrix of the rock may affect stimulation

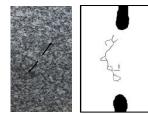


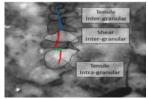
#### Approach:

- Lab experiments in which hydroshearing is investigated
- Experiments on prismatic specimens of granite containing two pre-cut flaws with different geometries under a uniaxial or biaxial external load
- Use experiments in which the fracturing and fluid penetration can be visually (high-speed imagery) observed while simultaneously recording microseisms (AE)
- Using the same equipment as for shale hydrofracturing



- Interaction between hydraulic fractures and pre-existing, non-pressurized flaws
- Observation of the seismic response of shear crack locations through acoustic emissions
- Identify shearing for different flaw geometries and loading conditions
- Investigation of the evolution of the seepage zone of the fluid into a porous matrix and its effect on the breakdown pressure
- Validate the numerical models with the experimental results





# Rock Matrix Dissolution and Wormhole Formation

Rock Mechanics Group – Civil and Environmental Engineering

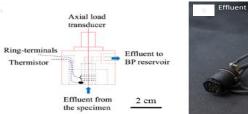
#### Motivation and Goals:

- The dissolution of rock matrix and formation of wormholes are:
  - hazardous processes causing sinkholes, ground subsidence and CO<sub>2</sub> reservoir leakage.
  - favorable processes increasing the hydrocarbon reservoir permeability, hence production.



#### Approach:

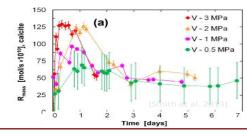
- An effluent chemistry monitoring system was developed to provide continuous concentration measurement during core flood tests.
- Quantitative analysis of the CT scan data pre- and post-test.
- Analytical and numerical models to simulate the wormhole formation in the rock-fluid system.

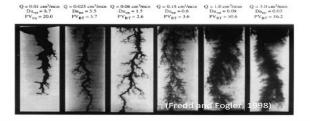




#### **Opportunity:**

- Core flood tests were often used in experimental studies, but they had limitations:
  - Effluent concentration data were limited.
  - Wormhole geometry description based on CT scan was only qualitative.
- Few existing models simulate the dissolution kinetics when wormhole develops.



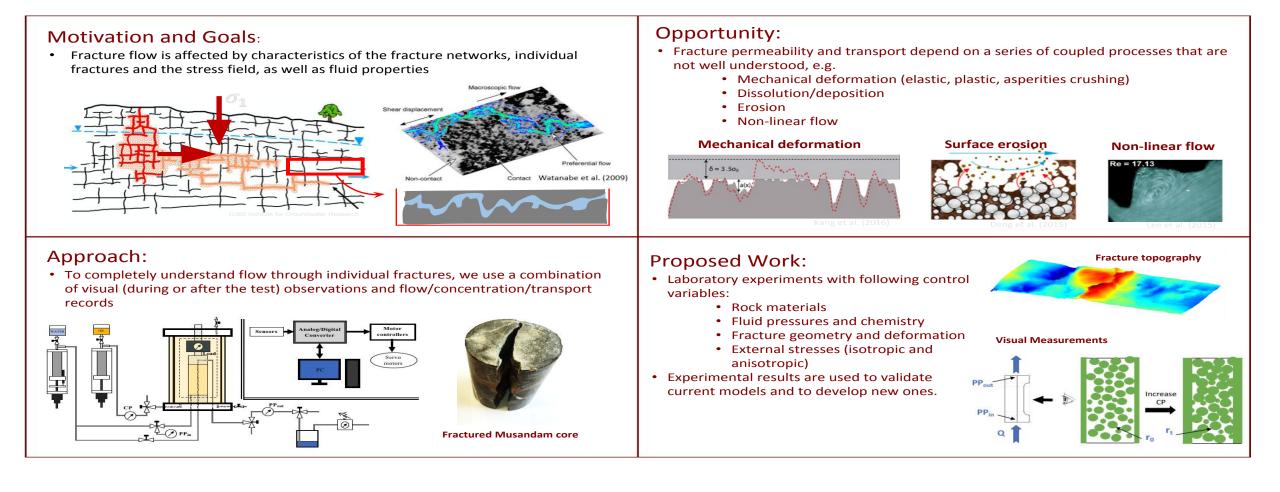


- Gypsum-water core flood tests to study:
  - effect of different flow rates and durations;
  - as analog system for acid-stimulation given the similar dissolution kinetics
  - effect of fractures in the specimen.
- A pipe network model to simulate the dissolution in the matrix and wormholes.



## Flow Through Rough-Wall Fractures

Rock Mechanics Group – Civil and Environmental Engineering



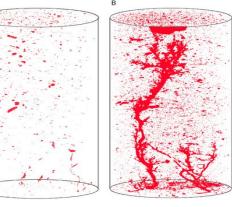
## **Property changes in reservoir rocks**

Y. Bernabe, B. Evans, and U. Mok; Dept. Earth, Atmos., & Planet. Sci.

#### Motivation and Goals: **Opportunity**: $\dot{\phi}_m = \Phi(\dot{\varepsilon}_v, \sigma_{kl}, T, P_{fluid}, a_v, \phi_r, ...)$ Monitoring and managing Improve monitoring of reservoir changes during sequestration reservoirs require input from tate Variable Evolution Investigate possibility to utilize mineral formation to create reservoir seals rock physics and mechanics Provide improved insight into pore-scale processes in formations under $\dot{k} = \left(\frac{\partial k}{\partial \phi_r}\right) \cdot \dot{\phi}_r$ $\nabla^2 P - \frac{\beta_c \eta}{k} \frac{\partial P}{\partial t} = 0$ Relate remote geophysics reservoir conditions data to "local" variables. Conservation Evolution of k + Const. Law e.g., permeability and fluid props. Provide constitutive models $Q = -\frac{k}{k} \nabla P_{\text{fluid}}$ $k = \mathbf{k}(\phi_m, ...),$ Relation of k and $\mathbf{\Phi}$ for mechanical reservoir analyses of reservoir performance Permeability is a dynamic property

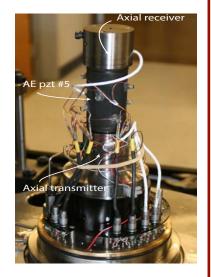
## Approach:

- Measure permeability, acoustic velocity,
   "static" elastic properties simultaneously at reservoir press. and temp.
- Independent control of pore-fluid composition and pressure during injection
- Characterize pore and mineral microstructure using optical, scanning and transmission electron microscopy, and CT scanning



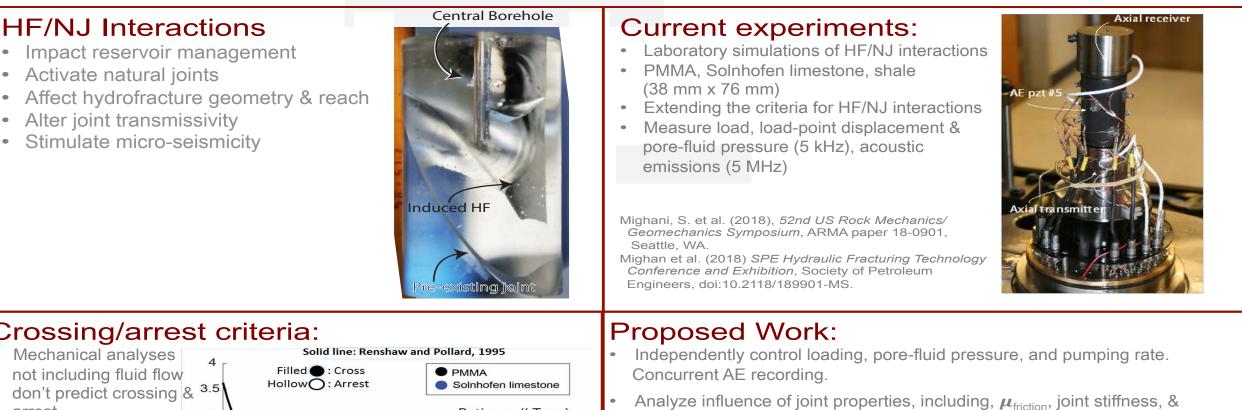
Wormhole formation in carbonate during core flood with  $H_2O + CO_2$ 

- Correlate changes in pore microstructure and physical properties during core flood tests
- Develop kinetic laws for permeability changes during injection of fluids that are in equilibrium, under-, or over-saturated with respect to rock minerals
- Relate permeability, elastic modulii to acoustic velocities at *in-situ* conditions



## Improved prediction of HydroFracture/NaturalJoint Interactions

B. Hager, S. Mighani, M. Peč, & B. Evans; Dept. Earth, Atmos., & Planet. Sci.



orientation, with fluid transport

Predict HF/NJ interactions.

including cross/arrest criteria

Investigate coupling of fluid

transport with fault motion &

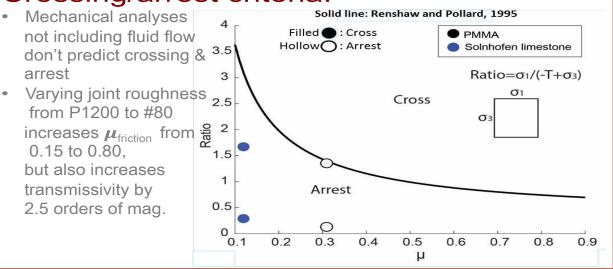
Point

-10 -10

-10

**AE** generation

## Crossing/arrest criteria:



## Change Detection and Monitoring with Nonlinear Acoustics

S. Brown and D. Burns - MIT/ERL

## Motivation and Goals

Move from conventional imaging

- Heterogeneous properties
- Signal and 'noise'
- Uncertainty

#### To a medical imaging analogy

- Perturb ('palpate') the system to highlight the property of interest (e.g. rigidity)
- Image the perturbation

#### With the advantages of

- Heterogeneities become buried sensors
- Up-close imaging of a zone of interest
- Image mechanical response directly

## Approach

When a wave propagates through a nonlinear material

- Its shape distorts
- Higher harmonics are generated

#### As observed in the

- Time domain dual wave with active perturbation (pump & probe)
- Frequency domain single wave distortion (harmonic imaging)



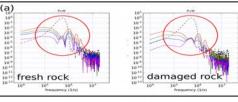


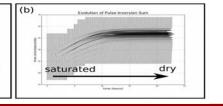
## Opportunity

We find in laboratory experiments on rocks High sensitivity to subtle changes in pore structure due to microcrack damage and to changes in pore fluids including partial saturation

## We see an opportunity to develop new change detection and monitoring techniques in the Earth

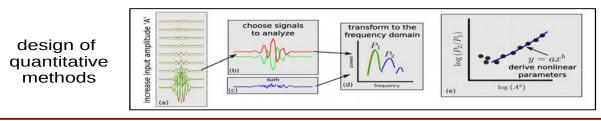
monitoring damage and fluids





## **Proposed Work**

- **Practical** develop robust single and dual wave measurement methods for the laboratory and the field
- **Quantitative** perform experiments to elucidate the underlying physics leading to quantitative interpretation



#### wave distortion in nonlinear media

(d) distortion of a wave propagating in nonlinear materia

# Inversion, UQ, learning





Youssef Marzouk

Sai Ravela



Michael Fehler



John Williams

## **Uncertainty quantification of parameters of interest**

Michael Fehler, Oleg V. Poliannikov, William Rodi – Earth Resources Laboratory

Approaches:

## Motivation and Goals:

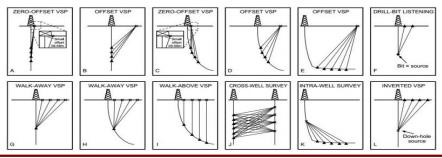
Many geophysical inverse problems involve very large Likelihood-informed parameter spaces (LIPS) parameter spaces (e.g., 3D velocity/resistivity models considered separately or jointly) Hypothesis testing (Bayesian or non-Bayesian) Often there are relatively few parameters of interest (POI) (e.g., fracture length/height, reservoir volume) Profile likelihoods are alternatives to classical likelihoods that • Or maybe there are just a few yes-no questions of interest offer significant computational advantages (maximization is (QOI) faster than integration) · Can we bypass a full Bayesian solution of the large inverse problem to infer the *lower-dimensional* POI (or QOI) directly  $L(d|p) = \max_{p=G(m)} L(d|m)$ and quantify their uncertainty? Example: Problem setup: We use microseismic monitoring as an illustration **Given:** forward model d = F(m) + nOther applications: local area imaging, joint inversion,... d - data, m - model, n - noise, p - POI In situ stress parameters Probabilistically: likelihood L(d|m) and prior f(m)from microseismic data p = G(m), where • Fracture height  $|p| \ll |m|$ Stress principal 3500 *G* – parameter extractor (projection or general directions (or fracture E 2200 function) height) are the POI Problem: Earthquake locations, Calculate f(p|d) without computing full f(m|d)moment tensors. ¥ 3 Save calculation costs velocity model are Allow real-time applications nuisance parameters East (m)

## **Modeling scattering and intrinsic attenuation**

Michael Fehler, Oleg V. Poliannikov, Josimar Alves da Silva – Earth Resources Laboratory

## Motivation and Goals:

- Medium heterogeneities give rise to scattered waves
- Intrinsic and scattering attenuations taper and redistribute energy throughout seismogram
- Fractures are strong scatterers so spatial and temporal variation in this scattering may provide information about variations in fractures

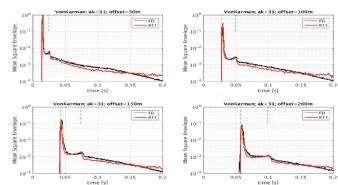


## Approach:

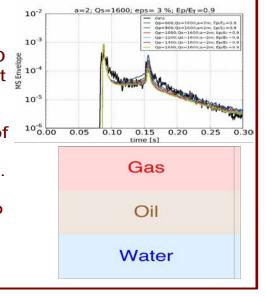
- Model trace envelopes recorded in a scattering medium using a Radiative Transfer Theory and a Particle Method
- Achieve orders of magnitude improvement in the computational cost of forward modeling
- Perform deterministic or probabilistic inversion with uncertainty quantification of intrinsic and scattering attenuation from observed envelopes by matching observed envelopes to modeled ones
- Relate inverted parameters to reservoir properties through rock-physical models
- Josimar A. da Silva Jr. et al (2018). "Modeling scattering and intrinsic attenuation of crosswell seismic data in the Michigan Basin." GEOPHYSICS, 83(3), WC15-WC27

## Opportunity:

- Extremely fast forward modeling (orders of magnitude faster than finite differences)
- Good fit between modeled envelopes and numerical models
- Possibility to invert using brute force or smarter approaches



- Extend the existing cluster-ready numerical code to include layered 3D media with homogeneous or gradient layers
- Implement statistical inversion with Bayesian uncertainty quantification of scattering parameters and analyze resulting uncertainties and trade-offs.
- Apply this inversion to a VSP, surface-seismic dataset to attempt to characterize scattering within the medium, and use it to describe fracturing and/or fluid content inside



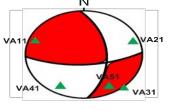
## **Bayesian modeling in inverse problems**

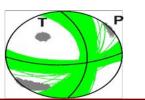
Y. Marzouk – AeroAstro and ERL

## **Motivation and Goals:**

Bayesian modeling provides a rich language for *quantifying uncertainty* in inverse problems:

- Fuse heterogeneous data sources and rich varieties of prior information
- Comprehensively account for all sources of uncertainty
- Use quantified uncertainties to drive future data acquisition

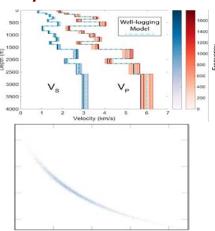




## Approach

Advance both *modeling* and *computation*:

- Formulate likelihood (misfit) functions to account for *model error*
- New Monte Carlo methods to handle *posterior concentration* and strong *non-Gaussianity*
- Principled and infinitely refinable approximations of computationally intensive simulators



## **Opportunity**:

- Exploit a fundamental interplay between *optimization* and *sampling*
- Forward simulators have structure: construct fast and accurate input–output approximations



• Data often inform only certain features of the problem; prior information dominates the rest!

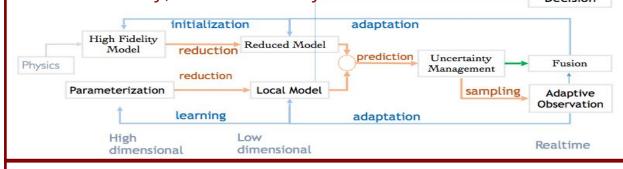
- Optimization-driven samplers: "upgrade" deterministic inversion methodologies to the fully Bayesian setting
- Robust likelihoods based on functional data analysis and hierarchical Bayesian modeling
- Joint inversion and uncertainty quantification with multiple datasets
- Priors for seismic inversion informed by coupled flow/geomechanics simulations (with M. Fehler, R. Juanes)

## **Tractable Methods for Geophysical System Dynamics and Optimization** Sai Ravela – ERL

## Motivation and Goals:

Geophysical Applications: Hazard Mitigation, Super-Resolution, Core Analysis, Reservoir Modeling, Tool Placement Challenge: Optimally Coupling Modeling, Estimation, Sensing, and Decisions in Dynamic Data Driven Application Systems:

 Joint Optimization is difficult due to nonlinearity, model error, dimensionality, and uncertainty



### Approach:

- Exploit new methodological opportunities for solving individual inference problems using the three adcances:
- Scale-recursive and time-recursive graphical models (for estimation), manifold learning (for UQ), deep learning (for modeling), ensemble learning (for model error), information gain (sampling) and stochastic dynamic programming/reinforcement learning (for decision making)

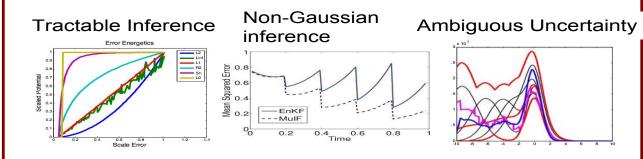
Formulate and solve the coupled problem for dynamic data driven application systems



Earth Signals and Systems Group

## Opportunity:

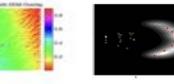
- New approaches to capture higher order mutual information between multiple geophysical variables
- New tractable methods for variational non-Gaussian inference
- New approaches to deal with ambiguous uncertainties and extreme/rare events.



## Proposed Work:

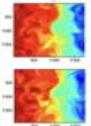
- Develop methodology as listed in Opportunity for problems in Approach
- Develop uses for Application in panel Motivation and Goals with direct sponsor engagement
- Release Software Toolkit





Applications: Natural Hazards, Mapping, Sampling/Placement and Super-resolution



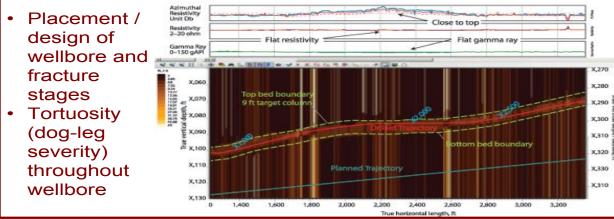


## **Optimal wellbore and completion design with neural networks**

J. Williams and J. Montgomery – Civil & Environmental Engineering and ERL

## Motivation and Goals:

Geosteering and engineered completions based on log data can improve unconventional O&G well economic performance. This requires understanding impact on production from:



## Approach:

- Data treated as multivariable 1-dimensional sequence across completed length of well
- Using backpropagation, recurrent neural networks will be trained to predict production rates based on interrelationship of properties across wellbore
- Available public data will be utilized but can be supplemented with private datasets from partner (e.g. fiber optic stage-level production data)
- Computer vision will be used where image data is necessary (e.g. well schematics)

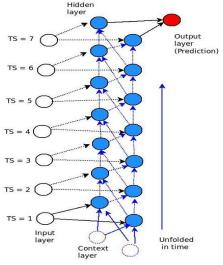
## Opportunity:

Uncertainty about fracture propagation and proppant placement makes it difficult to physically model and quantify impact of wellbore and completion design choices on production. Machine learning can be used to model this complex relationship by leveraging abundant and diverse data including

- Production data
- Completion designs/well schematics
- Deviation reports (well surveys)

Well logs

- Project focused initially on data acquisition/processing, implementing model and training/testing with actual data
- Development of algorithm based on open source software (Python, PyTorch, TensorFlow) capable of linking production trends to measured <sup>TS = 3</sup> wellbore and near wellbore properties TS = 2
- Later stages of project will expand model capabilities and applications (e.g. full design optimization using model)







## **4 KEEP IN TOUCH**

MIT EARTH RESOURCES LABORATORY ANNUAL FOUNDING MEMBERS MEETING 2018

# Keep in touch

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In China: work in progress



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- 3. livestreams of seminars
- 4. visits/residencies in ERL