

Gaining Insights into Risks to Groundwater using Big Data and Machine Learning

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National Energy Technology Laboratory's "SECURE" 2012 NOME Summit
December 4, 2017

Solutions for Today | Options for Tomorrow

Coping with Complexity

Efforts to gain more insight into potential risks to groundwater that coincide with energy development and production requires us to better understand the dynamics and interactions across the entire engineered-natural system

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Addressing the "Elephant in the Room"

However, the inherent complexity of these systems coupled with heterogeneous and ambiguous data, provide several unique challenges when trying to assess the broad range of potential risks posed to groundwater

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Finding Solutions to Challenges

Successful applications of big data and machine learning in other scientific disciplines suggest these approaches are well suited to coping with these types of challenges

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Buzzwords du jour:

What is "Big Data"?

Big data can refer to a couple of things:

- 1) Big data - big data often refers to in terms of the 5 V's: Volume, Velocity, Variety, Veracity, and Value
- 2) Big data computing - computational logic designed to improve the management, performance, storage and data movement of big data

hadoop spark cloudera

How about "Machine Learning"?

Gives computers the ability to learn without being explicitly programmed; e.g. we should be able to provide computers access to data and let them learn themselves.

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What's the value of Big Data & Machine Learning?

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DATA

IS THE NEW OIL

but do you have the resource to refine it?

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Application of ML & BD at NETL – Evaluating Subsurface Fluid & Gas Migration Risk

Prior research highlighted the need for a way to identify areas with an increased likelihood for fluid and gas migration to provide additional insights to better support a range of decision making needs

Any framework or model designed to support this analysis would need to work with a **big volume, variety, and veracity of data in space & time**

Designing the Framework

Wellbores:

- Where are they?
- What condition are they in?
- What are they proximal to?

Natural Pathways:

- Where are they?
- What are they?
- What are they proximal to?

Due to the nature of our problem set & available data, we needed an approach that is **flexible**, works with **imprecise data**, and accounts for **expert knowledge**

Embracing Subsurface Fuzziness

NETL's Spatially Integrated Multi-variate Probabilistic Assessment (SIMPA) model is a data-driven framework that couples open data with big data processing and fuzzy logic

Fuzzy Logic (FL) is a multi-valued logic system

Boolean Logic				Fuzzy Logic				
IF	AND/OR	THEN	IF	AND/OR	THEN	IF	AND/OR	THEN
TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE
TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE
FALSE	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE	FALSE
FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE	FALSE

Fuzzy Logic was selected because it is:

- easy to understand (based on natural language),
- flexible,
- handles highly complex, real world data and uncertainty,
- works with numerical and categorical data inputs,
- can be built on top of the experience of experts,
- can readily couple with traditional statistical, spatio-temporal statistical, and machine learning techniques

Building a Fuzzy Logic Model

Once key data variables were identified, the challenge was building 'baseline' fuzzy rules for SIMPA that would be applicable for analyzing likelihood of fluid &/or gas migration at different locations and scales

Bringing the Inputs Together in Fuzzy Space: Natural Pathways

IF Magnetic 1 AND Magnetic 2 OR Magnetic 3 OR Gravity THEN

Bringing the Inputs Together in Fuzzy Space: Wellbore Pathways

IF Completion Date OR Abandonment Date THEN Relative Wellbore Risk =

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SIMPA Status

- Identified 'baseline' inputs and fuzzy rules
- Developing an open-source UI
- Release SIMPA beta-version via EDX at end of year

The diagram illustrates the SIMPA workflow. It is divided into three main sections: **Inputs: Wellbore Locations and Geologic Rasters**, **Rule Base: Membership Functions**, and **Output**.
Inputs: Categorized into Wellbore, Surface, Structural Complexity, and Subsurface. Wellbore inputs include Activity Code, Production by Region, Year Commenced, Year Abandoned, # of Recompactors, and Well Direction. Surface inputs include Slope and Drainage Density. Structural Complexity inputs include SLK (Slope Length Index) and TPI (Topographic Wetness Index). Subsurface inputs include Gravity and Magnetic. Each input is represented by a small map or data visualization.
Rule Base: Shows membership functions for each input, such as 'OK (MIN)', 'OK (MAX)', 'OK (MIN)', 'OK (MAX)', 'OK (MIN)', and 'OK (MAX)'. These functions are used to process the input data.
Output: A color-coded map showing the 'Relative Risk: Probability of Oil or Gas Migration Pathways'. A legend indicates risk levels from 'Low' (blue) to 'High' (red). A question mark icon is also present on the output map.

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Questions?

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The 3D visualization shows a cross-section of the earth's subsurface. The vertical axis is labeled 'Depth (ft)' with values from 0 to 10000. The horizontal axis is labeled 'Longitude' with values from 100 to 120. The visualization displays a complex, multi-layered structure with colors ranging from blue (low) to red (high), representing different geological or carbon storage properties. A question mark icon is overlaid on the visualization.

EDX
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For more information on NETL's Carbon Storage portfolio, data, and tools visit:
<https://edx.netl.doe.gov/carbonstorage>

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