



# Using advanced CSEM for reservoir monitoring & geothermal applications

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## Using advanced CSEM for reservoir monitoring & geothermal applications



## SPEAKER

**Kurt Strack**

**BIOGRAPHY:** Dr. **K.M. Strack** is president of KMS Technologies specializing in integrated seismic/electromagnetic technology for land & marine exploration, appraisal drilling and production monitoring. KMS is pioneering borehole, borehole-to-surface, and marine electromagnetics to link with the 3D seismic Earth model. Kurt also serves as Adjunct Professor in the Earth and Atmospheric Geoscience Department and Electrical Engineering Department at the University of Houston, Mahidol University Bangkok, and at Yangtze University, Wuhan China. He was Chief Scientist for Baker Atlas where he built the Research Department and supported the development of numerous new logging tools. Prior to that Kurt pioneered LOTEM development and advanced borehole geophysics technologies in Germany, Australia and the USA. Kurt received a Ph.D. from the University of Cologne and a M.Sc. from Colorado School of Mines. He has over 35 experience in the geothermal and oil industry and received many international awards for his work.

Kurt has over 200 publications, 1 textbook & authors/co-authors more than 40 patents. He received a Fulbright scholarship and numerous international grants/awards. His interest is integrating geophysics with other disciplines, technology transfer and project development. .

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Reservoir monitoring is gaining increasing importance for hydrocarbon and geothermal reservoirs to improve recovery factors and understand fluid movement including fluid induced reservoir changes. Similar, it can be applied to monitoring volcanoes' magna movements and aid for volcano eruption prediction.

In order to see variations at percentage level much more detailed attention is required at all data handling stages. During acquisition, more effort is required to obtain long term stable transmitter and receiver site including not only daily monitoring of contact resistance but also controlling them during the acquisition process to better than 1%. Because of the large dynamic range of the signal highly accurate reference level with active adjustment before the transmitted signal is necessary. When processing the data, a feedback loop between filter selection and noise suppression in the reservoir signal band allows you to optimize the filter and to reduce their effect on the anomaly itself. When modeling for a sedimentary environment, anisotropy is the biggest cause for error and misinterpretation. It can be derived before the survey from exiting logs using end members derived from the log based on the interaction of the layers on reservoir scale. We are using real field measurements for feasibility and as potential misinterpretation examples to illustrate the severance of these issues. ”

**DATE**

Monday, Oct. 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019

**TIME**

Noon – 13:00 PM

**LOCATION**

Building 76, Room 1226  
King Fahd University of  
Petroleum & Minerals,  
Dhahran 31261  
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

# Background & issues >> the system >> requirements >> examples

## Disecting the topic... I ...Geothermal & Hydrocarbons



### Commonality between Geothermal & Hydrocarbons

- Both benefits from 4D monitoring (cost, reservoir integrity & quality)
- Permanent installations have highest value (4D seismic & induced seismicity monitoring)
- Similar depth range (1 km to 4 km)

### Differences

- Hydrocarbons: resistive (oil) & conductive (water) targets
- Geothermal: mostly conductive target

→ Always image conductive & resistive targets (→ choice of sensor H & E)

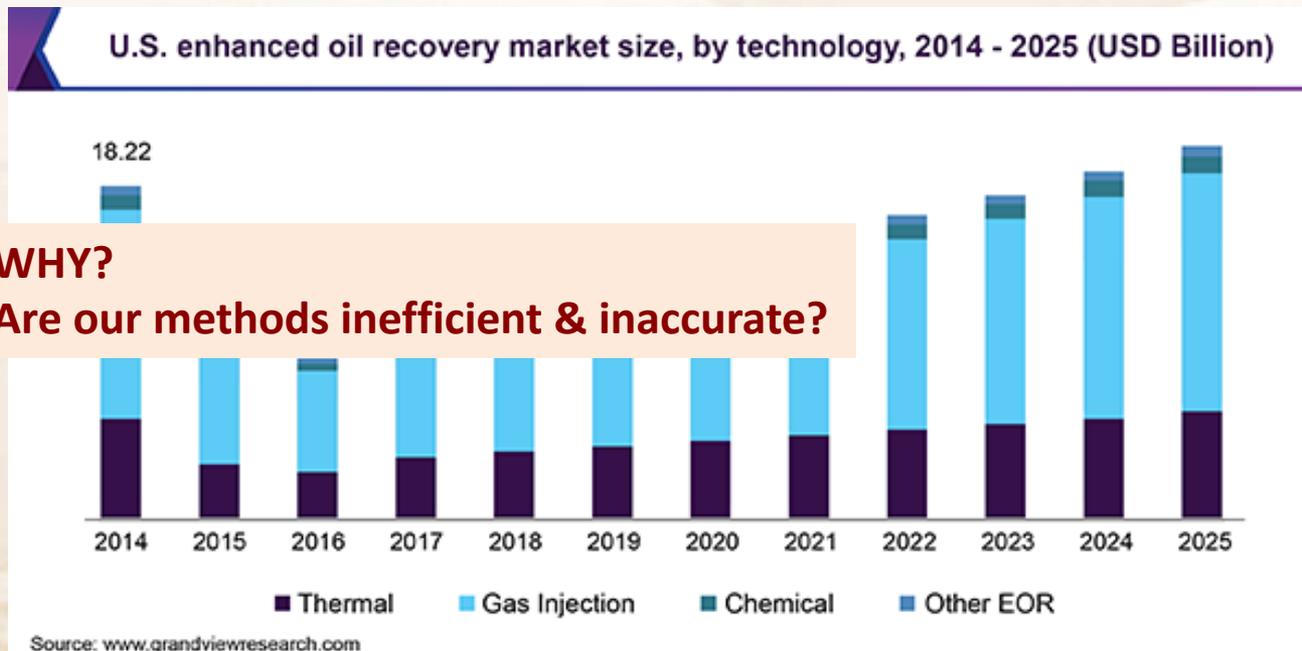


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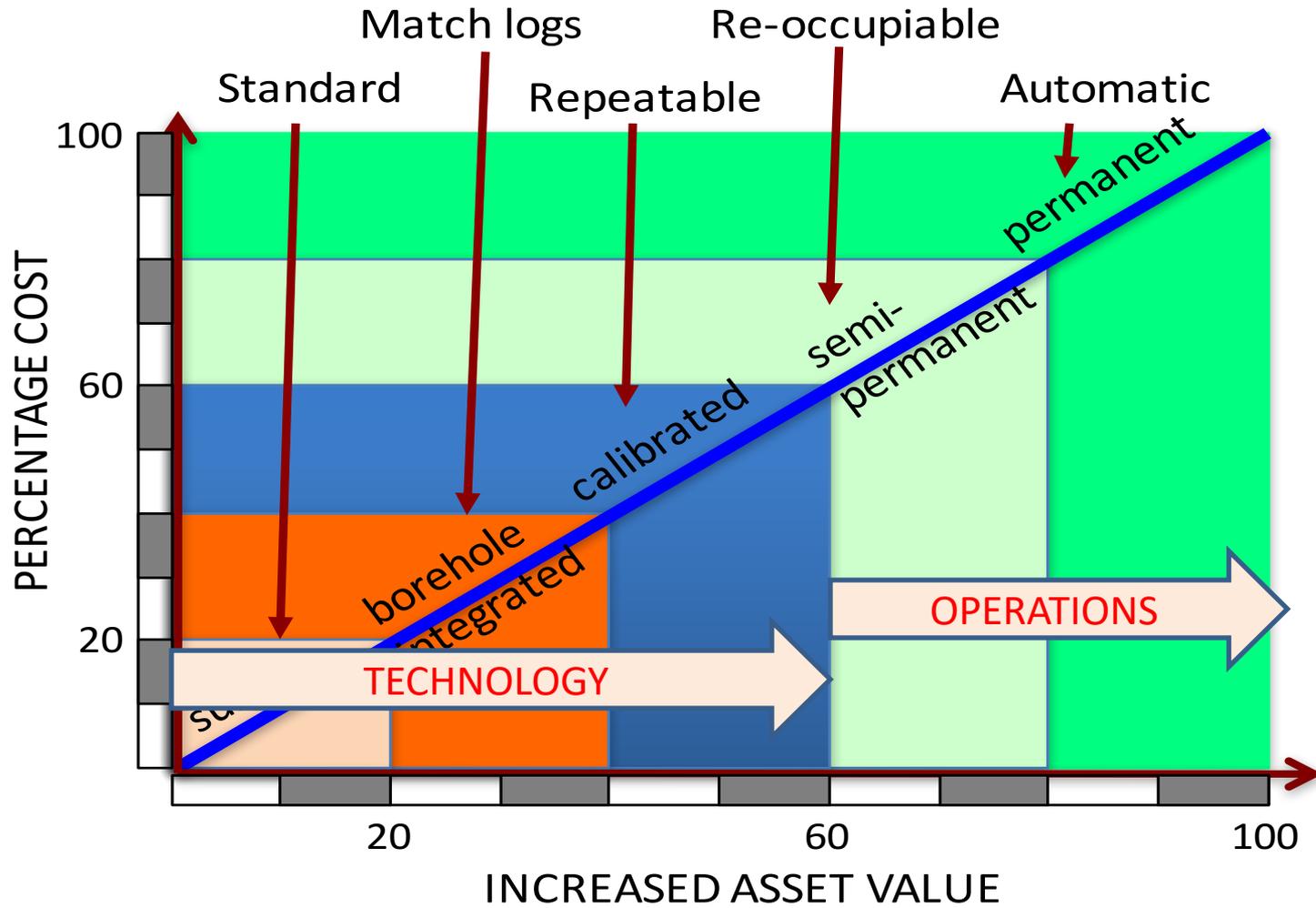
## Disecting the topic... II .. Reservoir monitoring @ June 2019



- EOR market alone: recovering to 20 BUSD by 2025
- Little to no geophysics (except thermal)
- Seismic images boundaries; EM images fluids



**Background & issues >> the system >> requirements >> examples**  
**Geo-technology cost versus ASSET value**



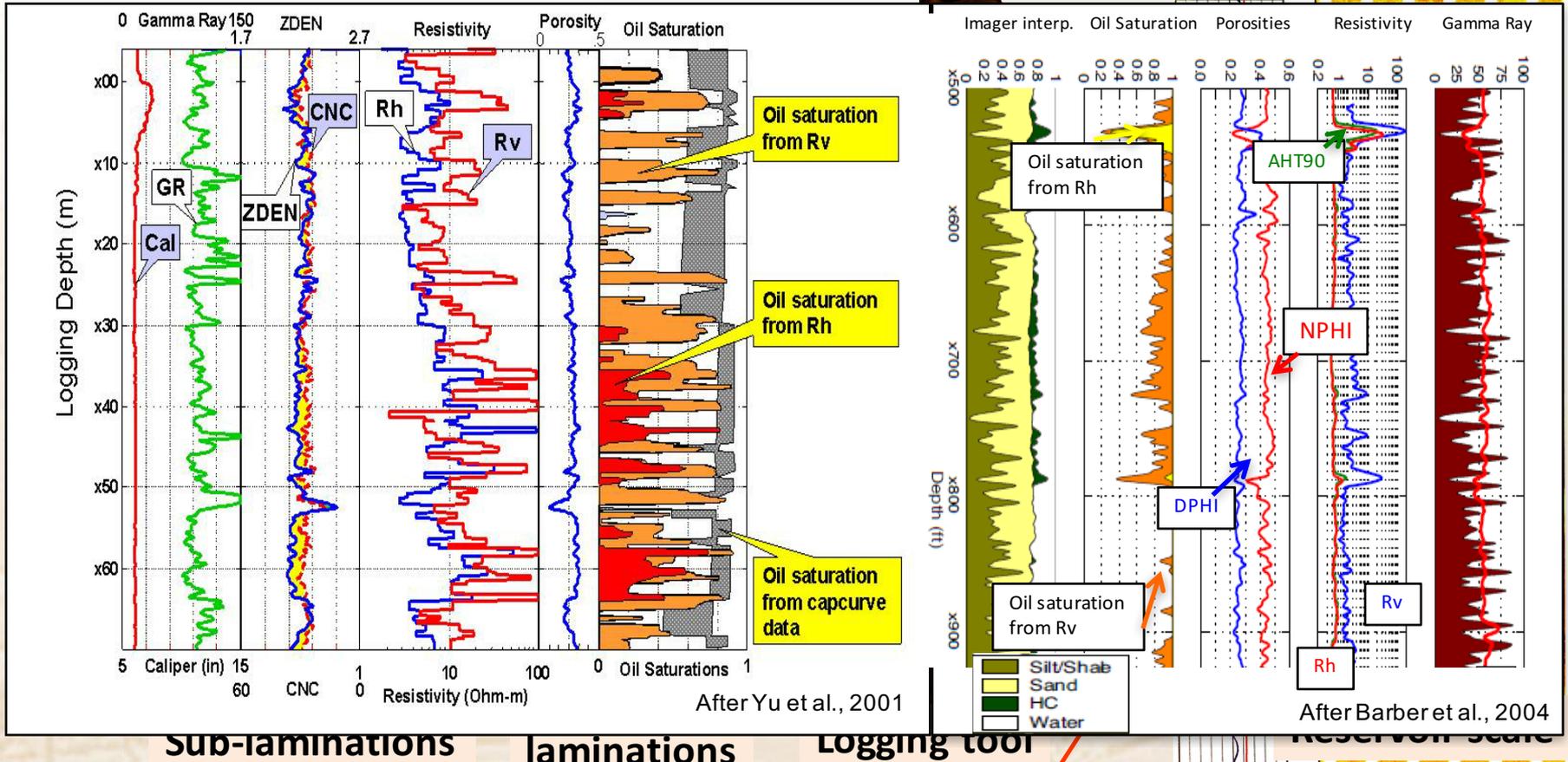
# Background & issues >> the system >> requirements >> examples

## Pitfall: ANISOTROPY our biggest problem



23 m

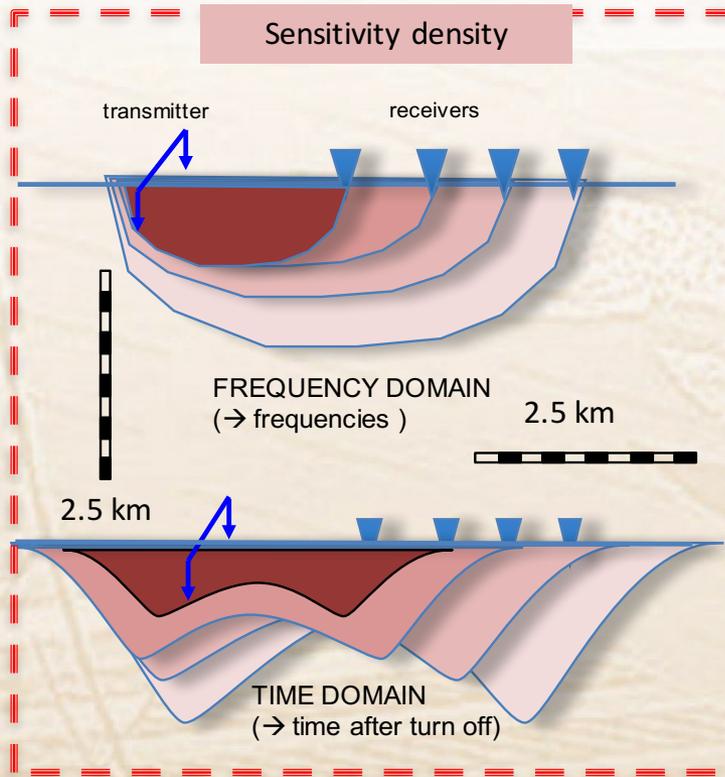
2.5 m



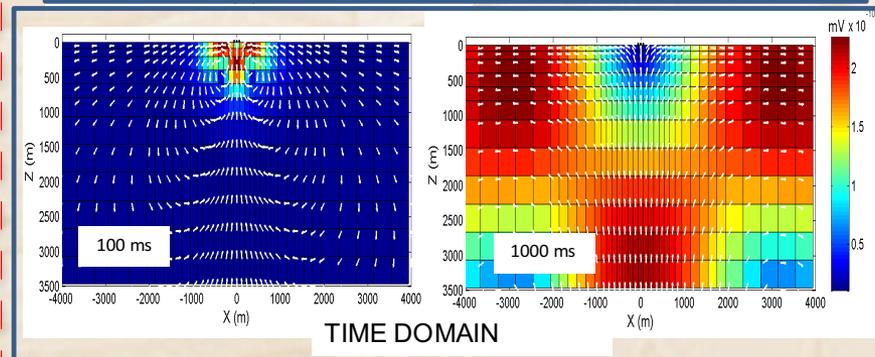
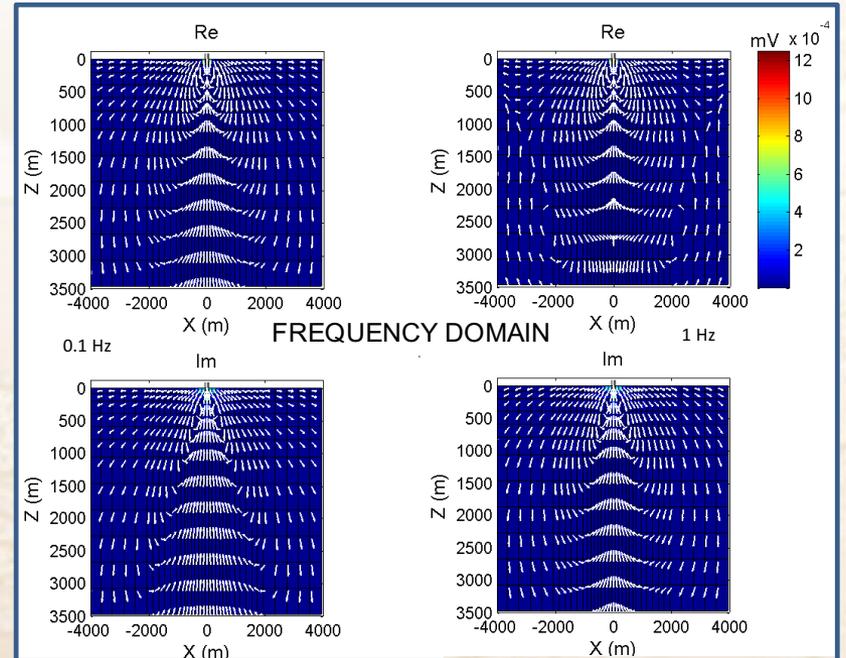
Courtesy Baker Atlas

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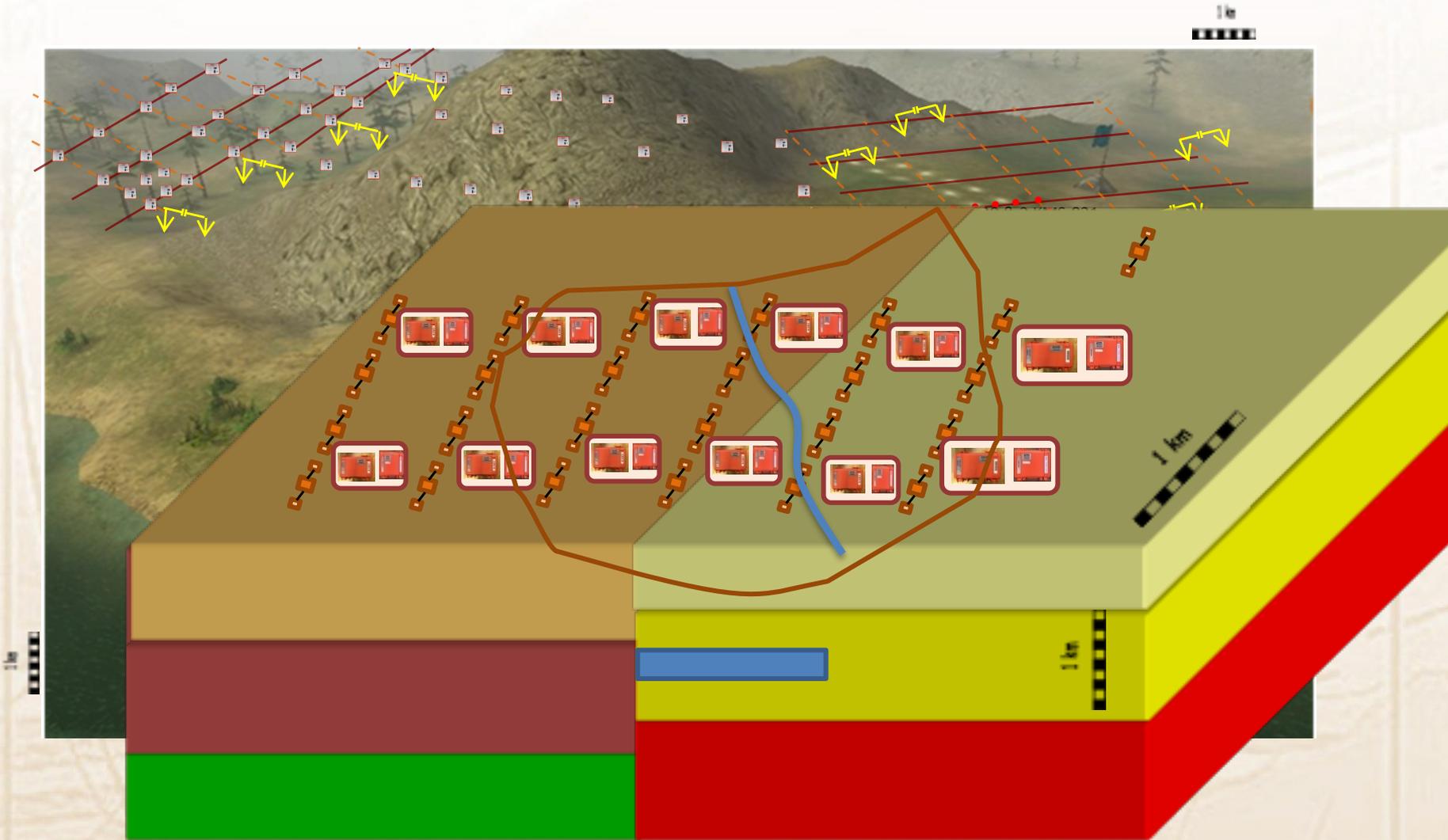
## Pitfall: Where does the information come from?..



### Focused Source EM electric fields



# Background & issues >> **the system** >> requirements >> examples Exploration & monitoring layouts



Background & issues >> **the system** >> requirements >> examples  
**Receiver: New ARRAY acquisition → better images**



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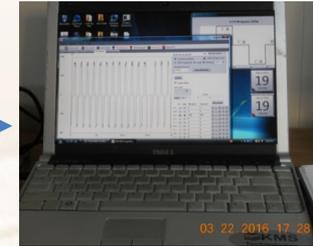
## Transmitter: log time stable current controlled



Transmitter site



Array receiver / controller



Laptop



switchbox



Voltage isolator



Auxiliary generator



100/150 KVA generator



Electrode pits



- Developed s
  - Large char
  - Industrial s
- 2008: purch
- Since 2010
- 2014: addec
- 2015: addec
- Can be usec  
receiver dro
  
- HERE: high
  - geophysica



A

) & 150 KVA)

smic in single

ORING



➤ Receiver:

- Continuous recording
- EM/seismic @ high sampling rate
- Amplifiers very stable
- Active bias for CSEM
- NOISE FREE data streaming

➤ Transmitter:

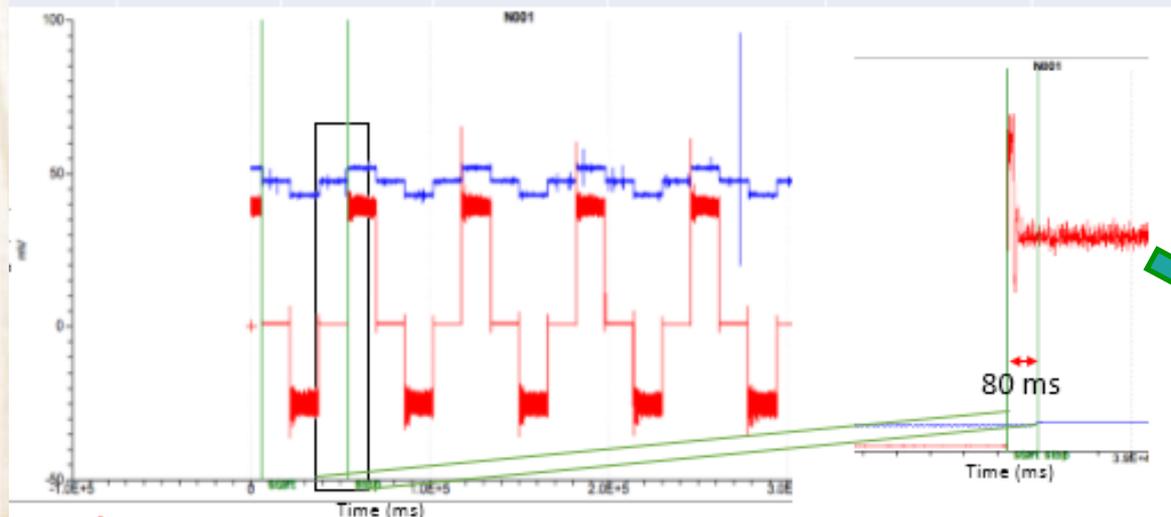
- Electrode plants very stable with time
- Current control < 0.5%
- Current timing control & **verification only for monitoring**
- Multiple safety circuits (failure & operations)
  - Electric circuitry
  - Wire cut - SAFETY
  - Waveform/current adopted
  - Controller (KMS-820) adopted

# Background & issues >> the system >> requirements >> examples

## Transmitter timing: correct and verify

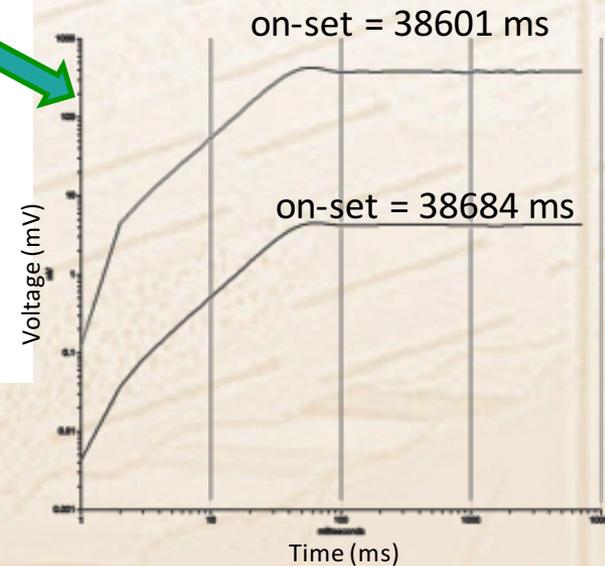


Data	Tx on-set (ms)	Rx on-set (ms)	Time shift (ms)	Start time	End time	Remarks
Raw	38630	38710	80	6/30/2016 9:35:45 PM	6/30/2016 9:54:45 PM	
Process	38601	38684	83	6/30/2016 9:35:45 PM	6/30/2016 9:54:45 PM	



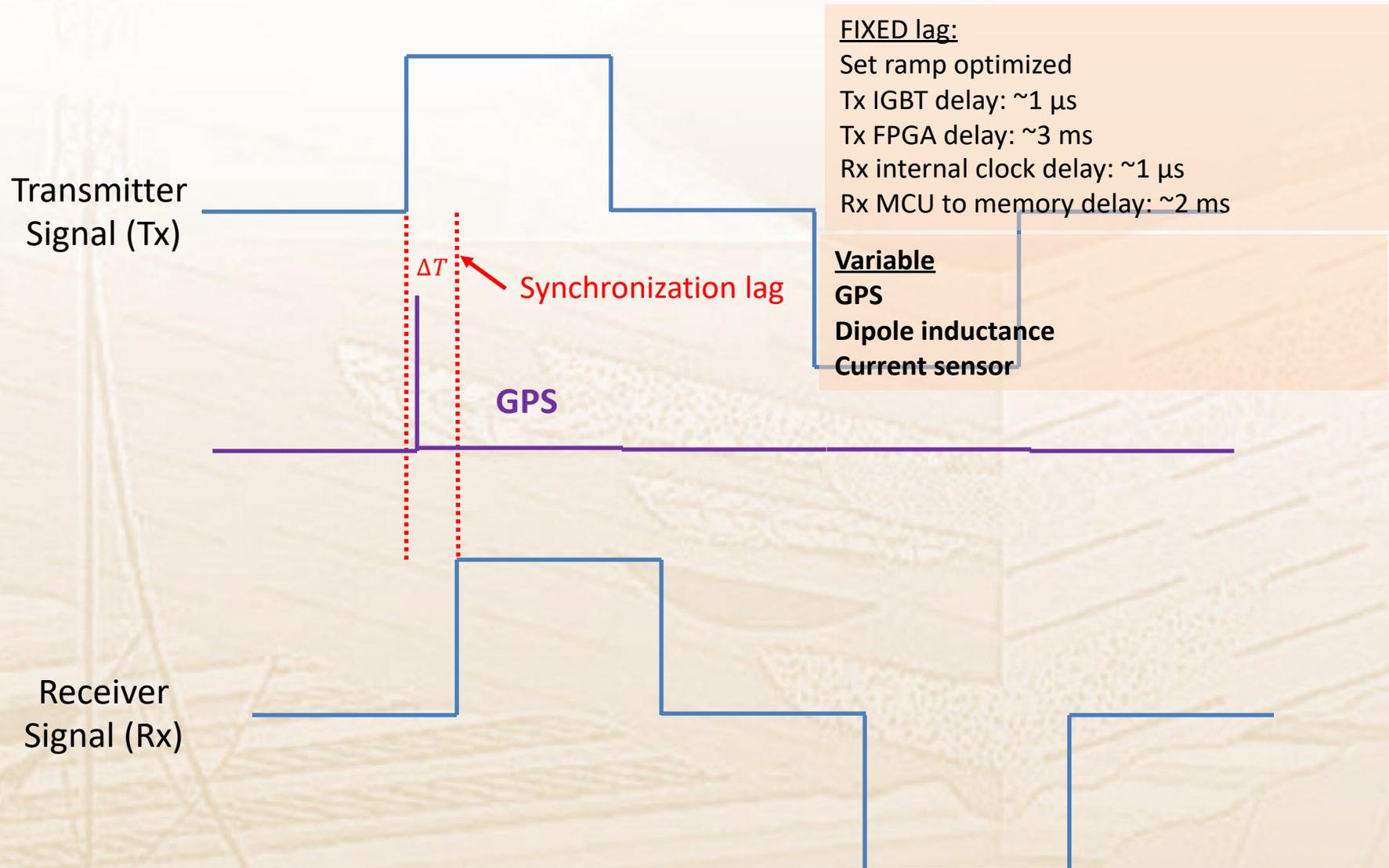
**NOTE!**

Tx and Rx data with same start time and end time



# Background & issues >> the system >> requirements >> examples

## Transmitter signal timing diagram



# Background & issues >> the system >> requirements >> **examples**

## 195 channel monitoring system



### RESERVOIR MONITORING

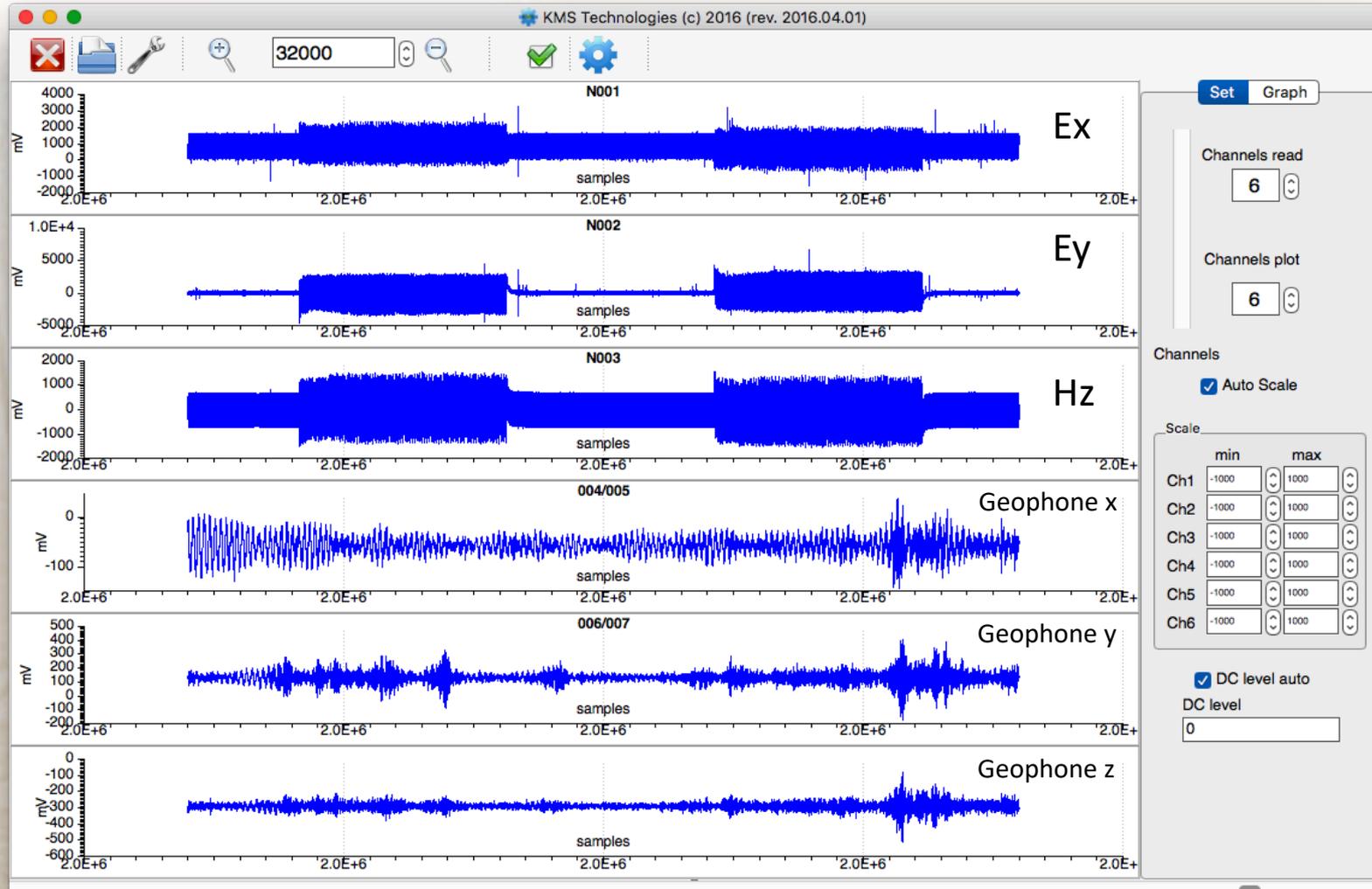
#### ARRAY Electromagnetics

- 195 channels, wifi, wireless or LAN
- 3C magnetic field (DC to 40 kHz)
- 3C microseismic
- 2C electric fields
- Shallow borehole (microseismic/EM)



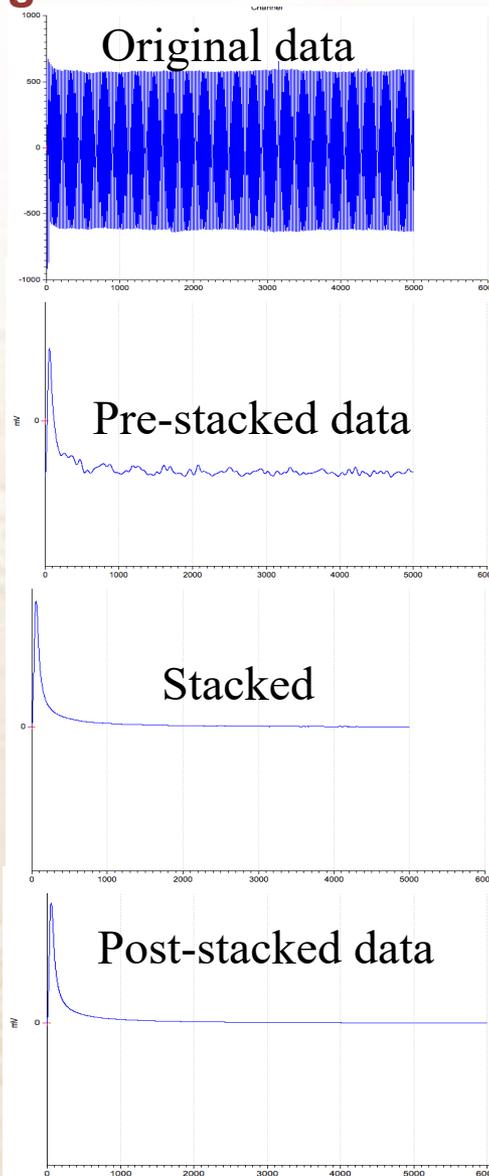
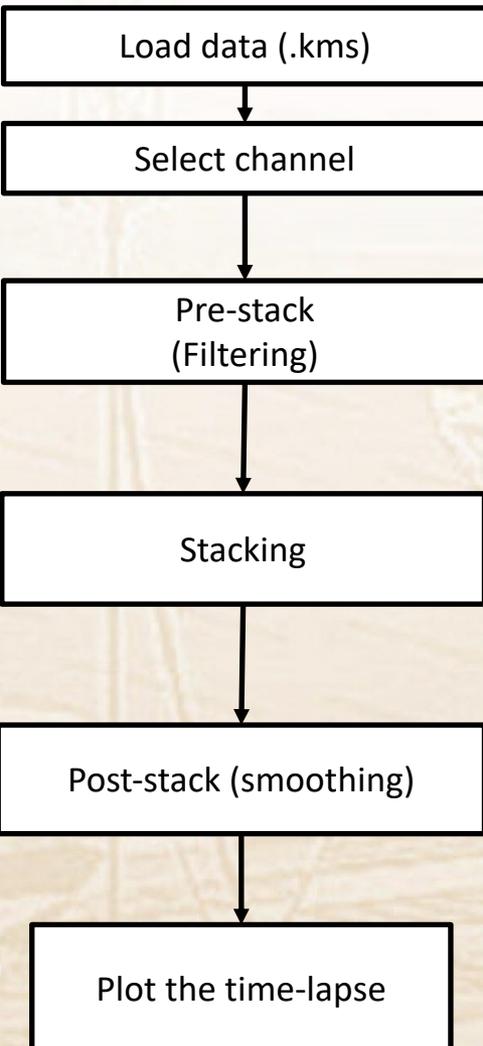
# Background & issues >> the system >> requirements >> examples

## Reservoir Monitoring: Raw data example: microseismic/EM monitoring



# Background & issues >> the system >> requirements >> **examples**

## Reservoir Monitoring: Data workflow



### Filtering

- Harmonic Noise  
Harmonic noise filters: Low pass filter  
Power line harmonic : 50 Hz  
threshold:3.00
- Smoothing  
Low pass filter : time domain  
Cut off frequency: 15 Hz  
Averaging filter: Recursive average = 0.01, T/2 smoothing

### Stacking

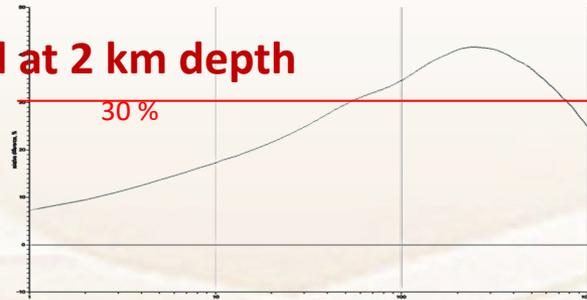
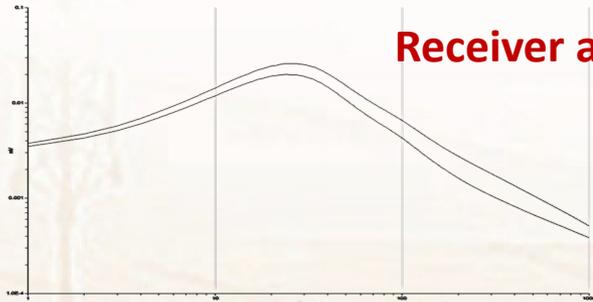
Trimmed mean  
T/2 additional stacking

- **Smoothing & time lapse**  
Recursive average filter  
DC-level adjust

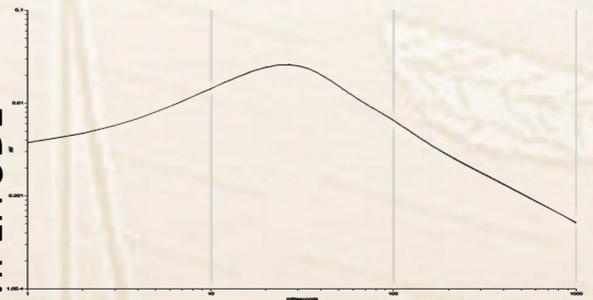
Background & issues >> the system >> requirements >> **examples**  
**Reservoir Monitoring: Magnetic field sees water flood influence**



**Receiver above water flood at 2 km depth**



AMPLITUDE



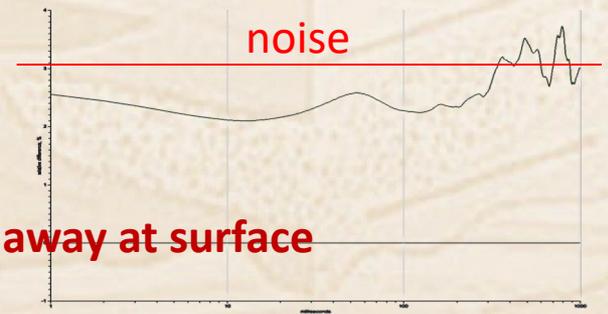
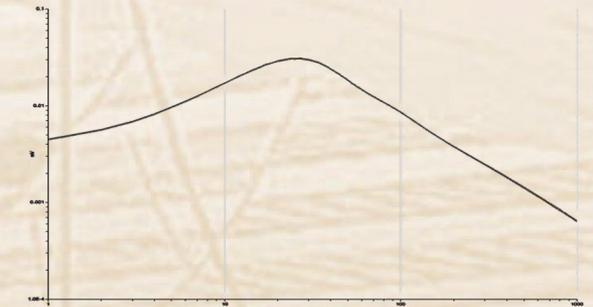
0.1 mV

**Receiver 200 m away at surface**



PERCENTAGE CHANGE

**Receiver 400 m away at surface**



TIME 1 sec

0.01 TIME 1 sec

Courtesy A. Paembonan

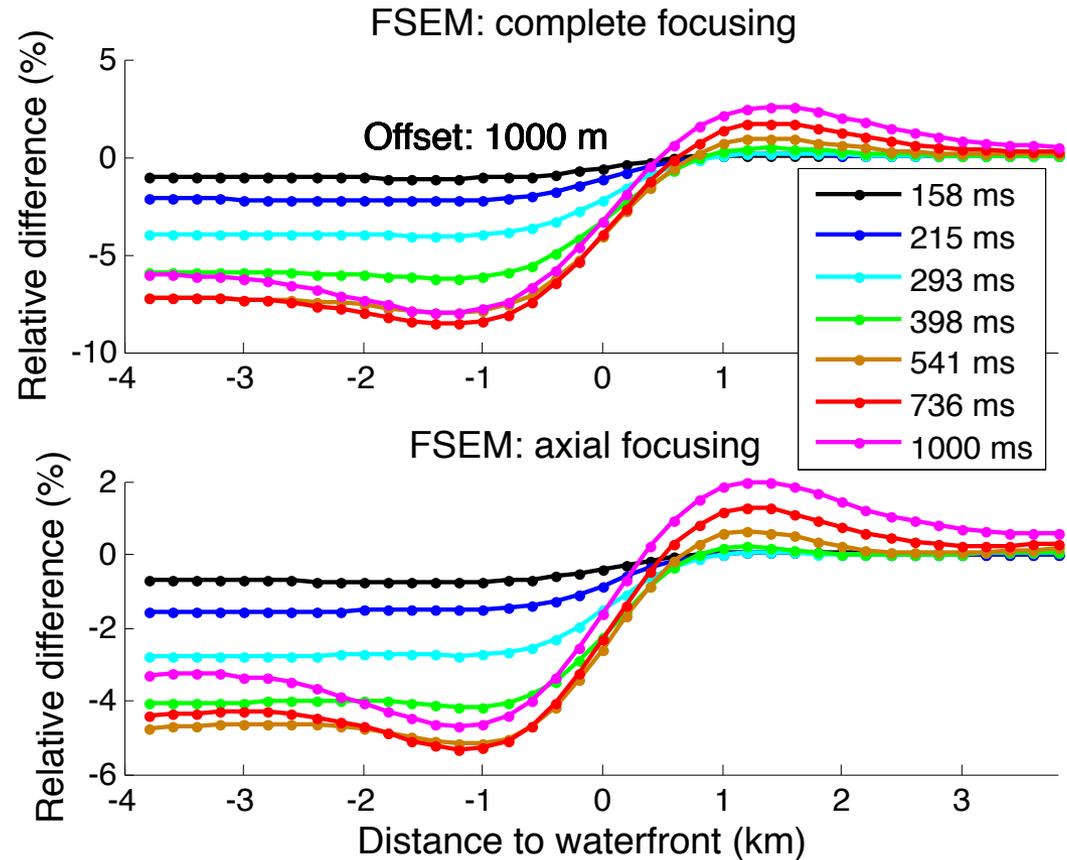
# Background & issues >> the system >> requirements >> **examples** **3D anisotropic models for FSEM/shallow borehole tool verification**



- Anomaly approx. 10%
- Physics similar to Ez ([shallow borehole tool](#))
- More field trials needed



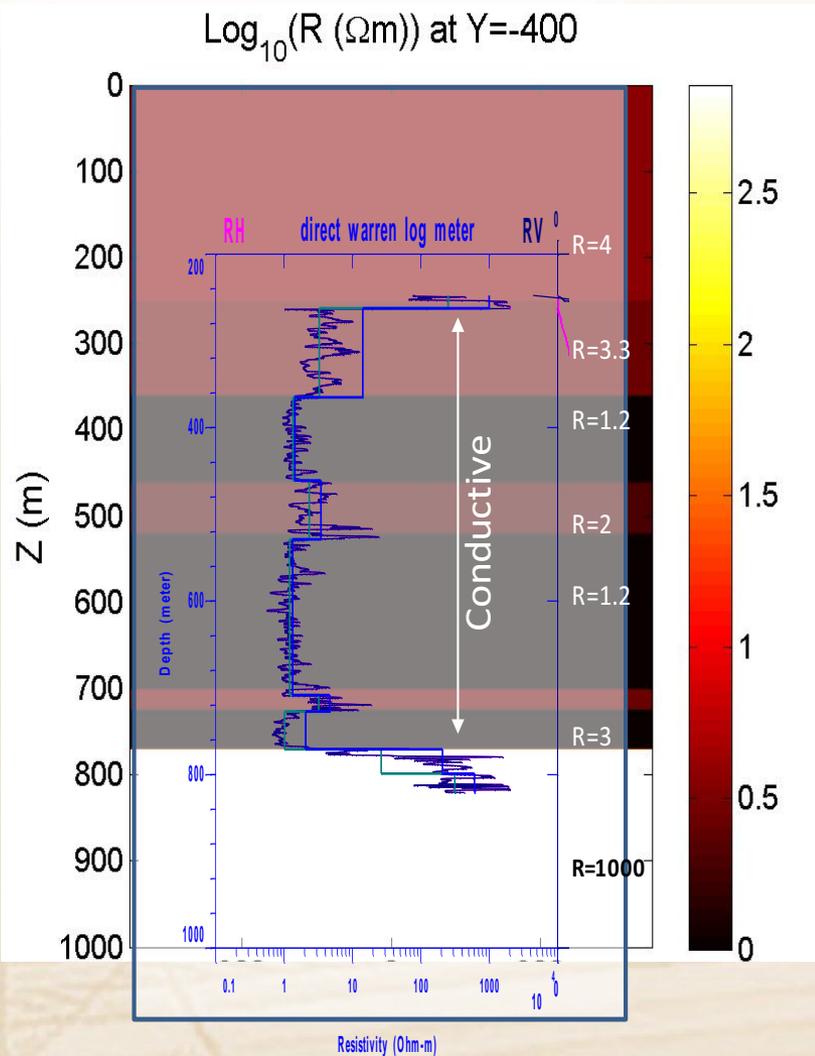
Borehole seismic/EM node





- Carefully log integration & 3D model confirms observed anomaly
- Data from initial test → room for improvements
- Water flood seen in MAGNETIC field
- 3D anomaly discrepancy points to current channeling
- Would need improved image focus

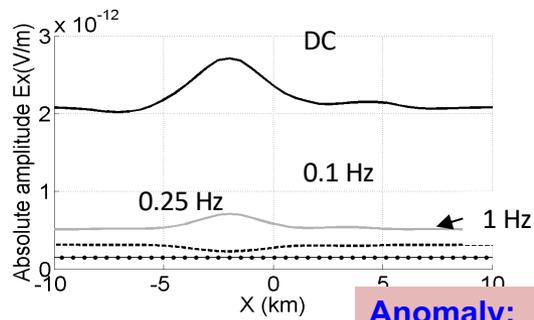
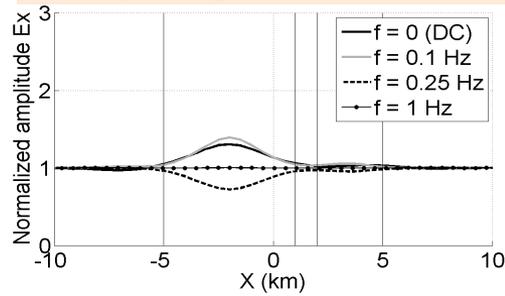
Background & issues >> the system >> requirements >> **examples**  
**IMAGE FOCUS EXAMPLE: Hockley salt dome 10 km W of Houston**



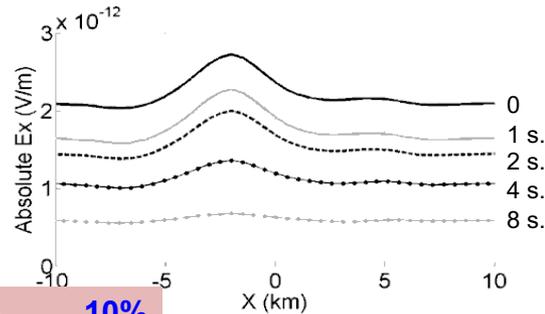
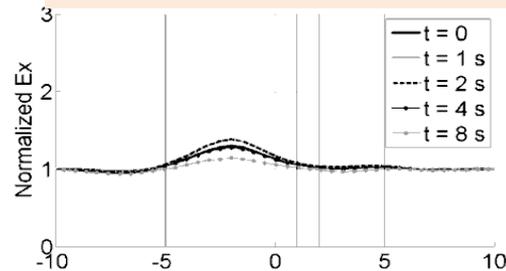


## Conventional CSEM versus Focused Source EM

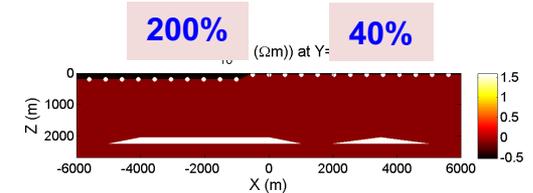
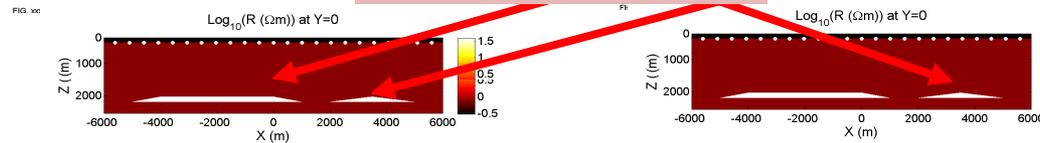
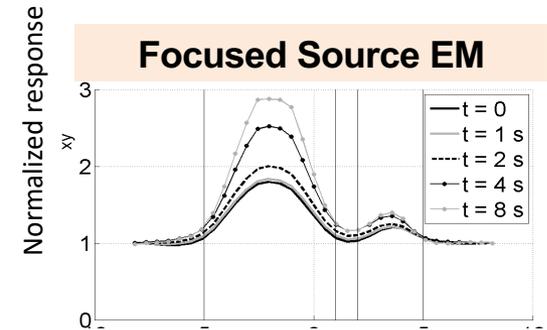
**Frequency domain CSEM**



**Time domain CSEM**



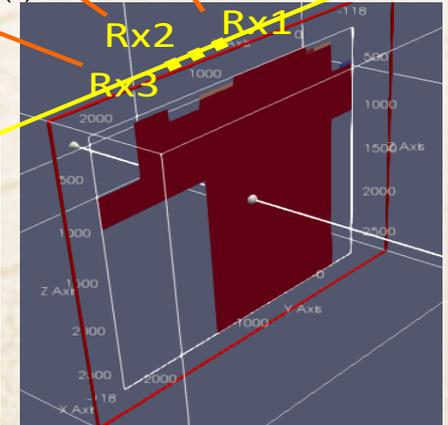
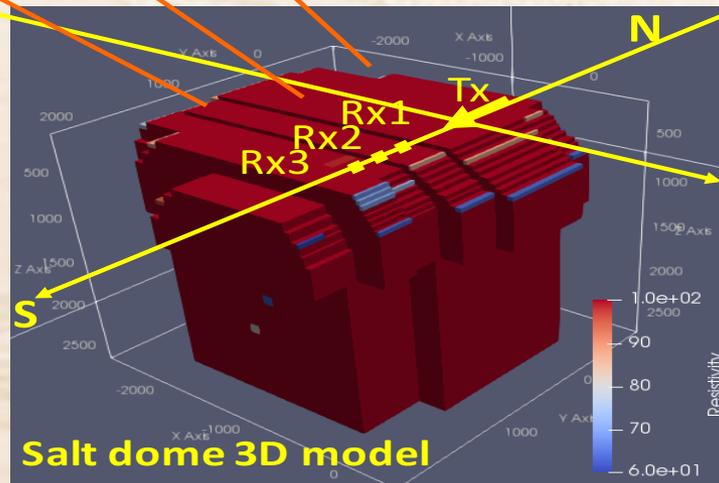
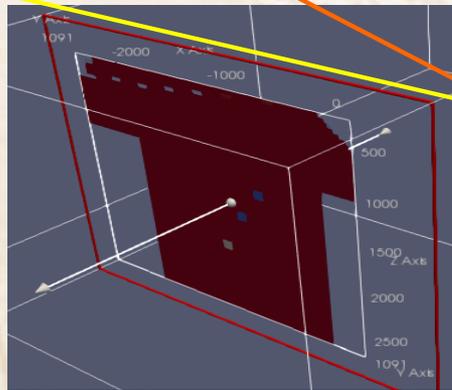
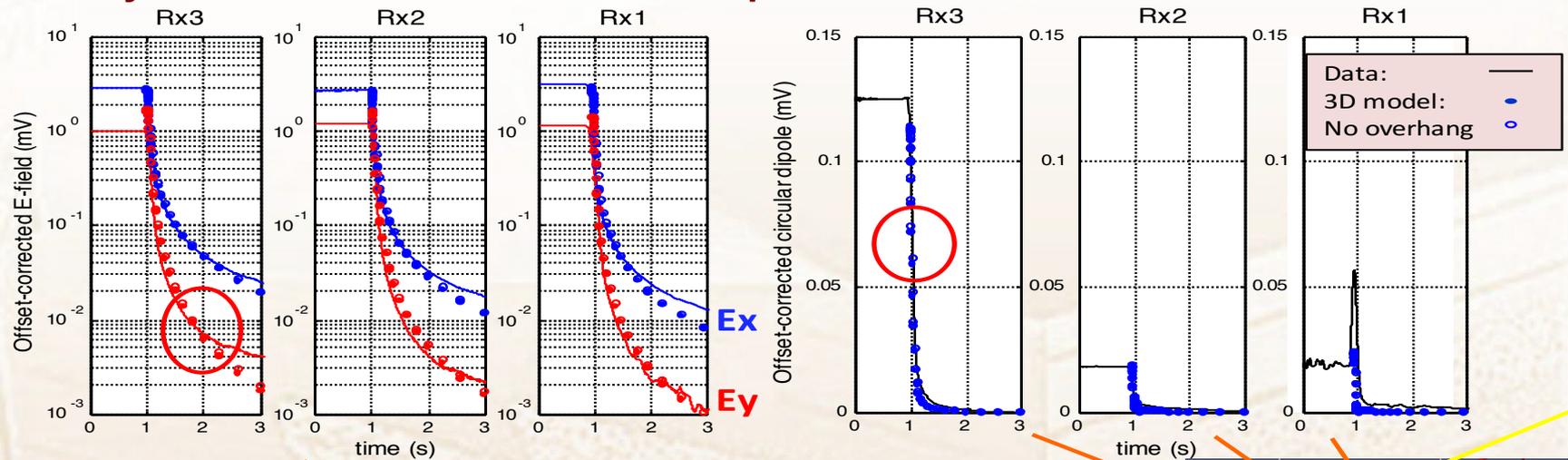
**Focused Source EM**





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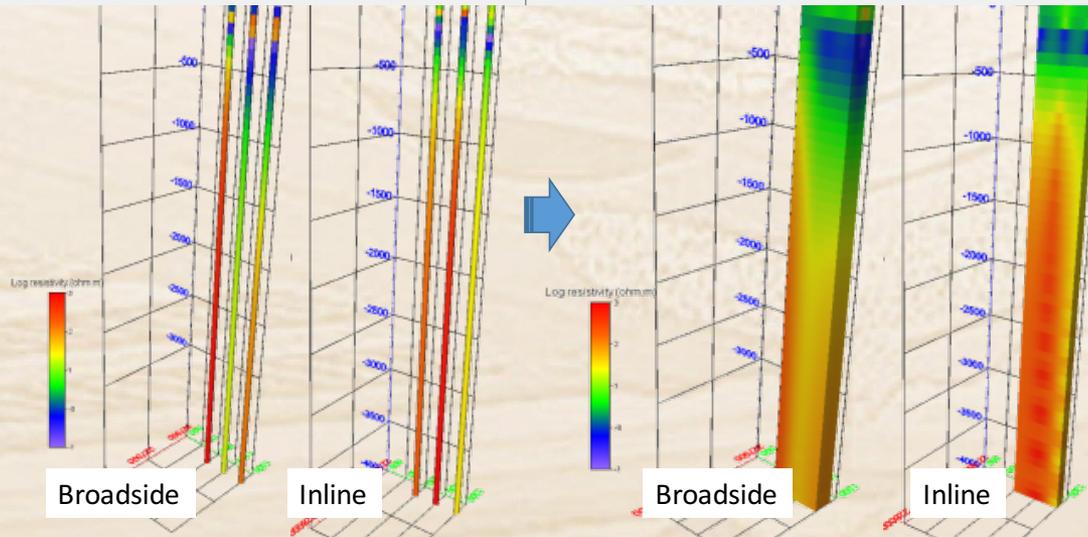
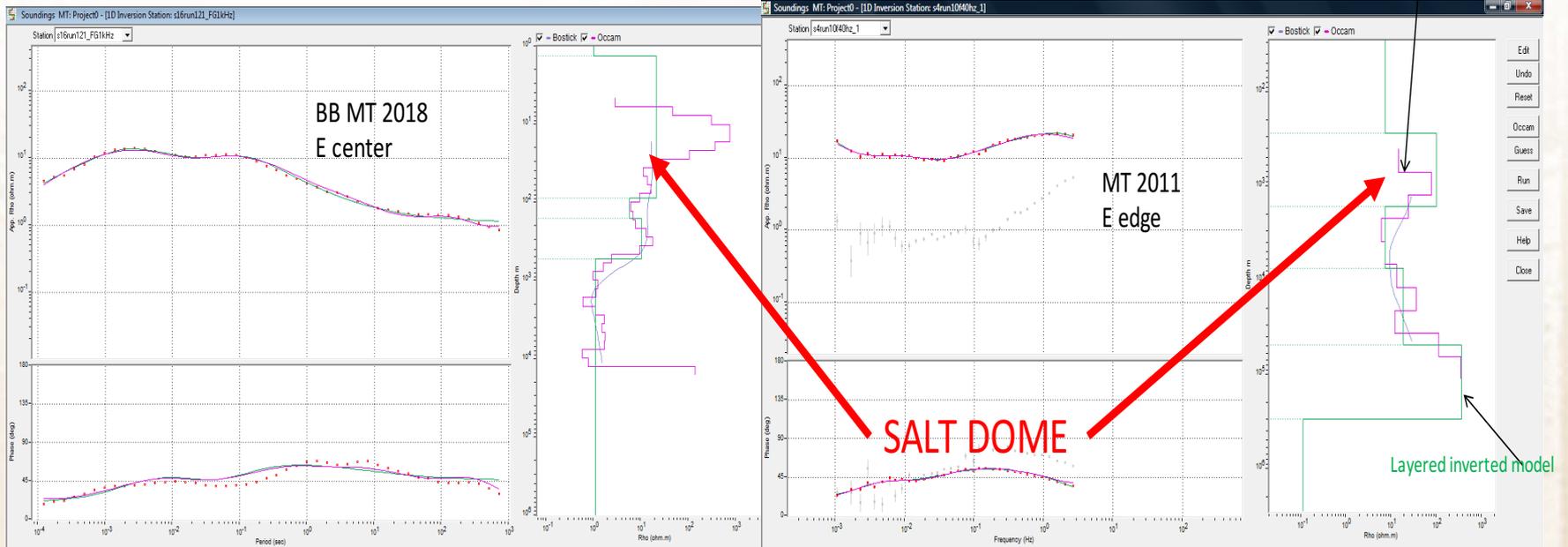
## Hockley salt dome: Focused 3D anisotropic model





# Background & issues >> the system >> requirements >> examples

## Hockley salt dome: Lotem & MT inversions





- Focused Source EM (FSEM) sees overhang
- Consistent for Dipole-dipole, Lotem & MT, but both are 1d with unknown image focus
- More data will be acquired



- We have addressed the accuracy issue with EM system to get repeatable data
- Image focus can be improved via FSEM (similar with shallow borehole tool)
- Anisotropic 3D models are required



## THANK YOU

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...and all KMS staff.

All technology protected by US & Foreign patents  
(see KMS Technologies website)

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