Geophysical monitoring in the overburden, what can we detect?

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Geophysical Methods

- Seismic (active and passive)
- Fibreoptic seismic (DAS)
- Gravity
- Electromagnetic methods (CSEM)
- Altimetry (satellite, onshore only)

Geophysics and Geosequestration

Using time lapse seismic data from 2001 and 2008 we can estimate saturation changes for the upper layer – for deeper layers it turns out to be more complex:

Add gravity data to the analysis!



Time lapse gravity – Sleipner CO₂ plume



Work by H. Alnes, O. Eiken, S. Nooner, G. Sasagawa, T. Stenvold and M. Zumberge

Modeled and measrued (circles) gravity data



Including all layers .. => need help from gravity





Optical seismology: Measuring seismic signals in a fibre at long distances (up to 100 km)

DAS data recorded in a telecom cable crossing the North Sea showing seabed wave modes originating from a trawler. Courtesy of ASN, Trondheim 58 Trawler 49 m from cable Position, km + 30 n£ 56 Trawler 1840 m from cable 200 ml 57 Position, km 56 55 Time (seconds)

11 March 2018 Gilroy earthquake Mw=3.4



Lindsey et al., Science 366, 1103–1107 (2019

DAS-technology is rapidly evolving

Electromagnetic methods: CSEM and MT



10

20

30

40

50

70

80

90

100

110

120

Depth (km) 0 **eLAB**

Melt upwelling

log₁₀[ρ (Ω m)] α

0

From Johansen et al., 2019, Nature

Magnetotellurics (MT) to the left and Controlled Source Electromagnetics (top)

eLAB: electric boundary between Lithosphere and Astenosphere

Since CO_2 is high resistive, there is a strong potential for using CSEM for CO_2 -monitoring

Detection of a thin CO₂-layer above the storage site



Thickness of main plume: 100 m Thickness of leakage plume: 50 m

Bhuiyan et al., 2012, Geophysics



c)

Normalized mag. at 0.5 Hz N leak_2, offset = 2500 m





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Normalized mag. at 0.7 Hz leak_3, offset = 1400 m D=1000 m

-1.0

0.5

Normalized mag. at 0.5 Hz leak_3, offset = 2500 m D=1000 m -2.0 -1.5 -1.0 0.5

f)



Shallow gas leakage – using old field data from the underground blowout well 2/4-14; 1989



Brute stacks – line 804



Less pulldown in 2009 – slight increase in horizontal extention

4D difference – line 804 1988-1990 after global scaling



2.4 km

Combining active and passive seismic data



Time lapse interpretation



Shallow seismic using electric source (bubble gun)



High resolution mapping of 100 m below seabed – repeatable source

Conclusions

- 4D seismic is robust and provides high resolution
- Gravity and CSEM adds useful information
- Fibreoptic DAS technology is costeffective and promising
- High resolution seismic for the upper 100 m

Acknowledgments

• Equinor for providing data

Smoothed timeshifts – line 602 (upper sand)



Note: Significant time shift increase close to relief well between 1990 and 2009

Line 804; 1990: 2/4-14 well is drilled in the middle of a shallow tunnel valley; 30 m below seabed



3 interpreted tunnel valleys shown by arrows marking the three depressions and subsequent erosion patterns below

Line 804 – shallow timeshifts – indications of leakage

patterns

- Alignment of seabed reflection to 100 ms
- Near to the well: significant increase in timeshift between 88 and 90 –
 followed by a reduction back to pre-blowout values again 800 m width
- Outside this region the situation is unchanged between 1990 and 2009

