Building Better Models: Toward Complete Integration of Well-Log Data Interpretation with 3D Reservoir Models*

Valery Polyakov¹, Dzevat Omeragic², R. Kocian, Sushil Shetty², Benoit Brot², Tarek Habashy², Arathi Mahesh⁶, Torsten Friedel⁵, Torbjoern Vik³, and Tor Livar Flugsrud⁴

Search and Discovery Article #40919 (2012)**
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Abstract

We present an environment for high-angle and horizontal well evaluation integrated with reservoir geological models. It provides access to advanced 3D electromagnetic modeling algorithms for interpretation of resistivity measurements in complex 3D scenarios, going beyond the conventional layered-media models used for vertical and deviated wells. The environment is based on web services and includes high-performance computing (HPC) infrastructure enabling efficient running of modeling codes remotely, using all available computing resources (PC clusters, Grids or Clouds). The 3D well log modeling is embedded into a geomodeling package as a plug-in, thus enabling the interpretation of resistivity tool responses based on the underlying 3D reservoir model, by linking it to the parallelized simulators. The information inferred from the well logs is used in turn to fine-tune the 3D pillar grid-based reservoir model.

The system has been deployed in a giant carbonate field study to interpret hundreds of horizontal wells with varying extents and encompassing data from various wireline and LWD tools. The reservoir model was built using seismic and vertical well data. The results of log interpretation were propagated as a change to the pillar grid model. Examples demonstrate model refinement in a 2D cross-section by changing the dip and properties laterally to match the resistivity tool responses, and constructing a single model to match multiple log data acquired in three horizontal wellbores in close proximity.

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¹Mathematics and Modeling, Schlumberger-Doll Research, Cambridge, MA (polyakov@slb.com)

²Mathematics and Modeling, Schlumberger-Doll Research, Cambridge, MA

³Schlumberger Information Solutions, Oslo, Norway

⁴Schlumberger Information Solutions, Stavanger, Norway

⁵Schlumberger Data and Consulting Services, Kuala Lumpur, Indonesia

⁶Schlumberger Data and Consulting Services, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

The integrated workflow used in the process, from extraction of the reservoir model near the wellbore, to interactive model editing, such as structural updates or property adjustment, to the final stage of propagating changes made in a 2D "curtain" cross-section of the geomodel pillar grid back to the 3D reservoir model, yielded substantial efficiency gains. Saturation modeling on the scale of this case study had not been attempted before, and application of this new technology was the key to the successful execution of this study.

The new approach is essential for the interpretation of new-generation deep directional resistivity tools that are sensitive to the structure on the reservoir scale. It maximizes the value of log measurements by incorporating log information into the geomodels. Together with web services-based HPC simulation infrastructure, the system offers an unprecedented agility in formation evaluation and geomodel refinement process.

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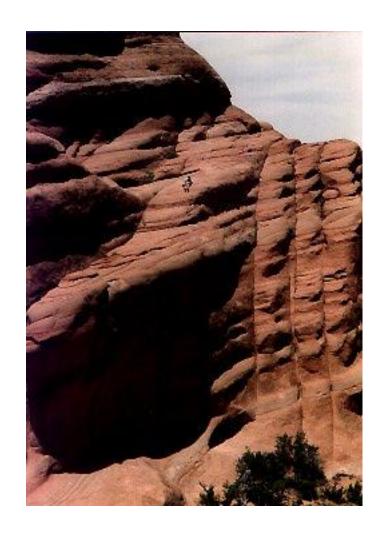
- V. Polyakov, D. Omeragic, R. Kocian, S. Shetty, B. Brot,
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Outline

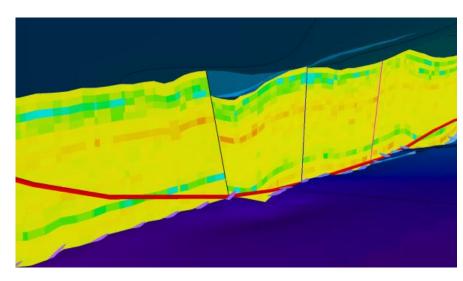
- Motivation and Challenges
- Reservoir Level Interpretation Workflow
- HPC Environment for High Angle/Horizontal Wells Integrated with Geomodeling
- Automated Update of Geomodels from Logs Interpretation
- Conclusions

Motivation

- Capture reservoir heterogeneities in sub-seismic scale → improve accuracy of reservoir production estimates
- Reduce uncertainties in HA/HZ logs interpretation
- Enable full integration with Geomodels
 - Single model for reservoir simulation and well placement
 - Fully automated model update to ensure consistency and eliminate manual labor



Challenges of Log Interpretation in HA/HZ Wells and 3D Well Placement



Model Complexities

- Lateral variation (lithology, structure, fluid, invasion)
- lacksquare α and β for all surfaces and cells
- Faults and fractures

Response Complexities

Coupling of bed boundary with faults, X-bedding, invasion, fractures, ...

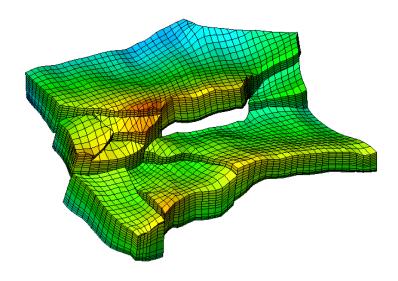
Computational

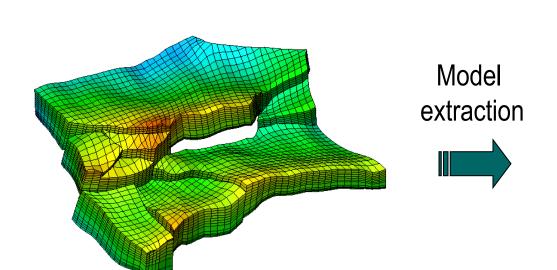
Modeling and inversion algorithms

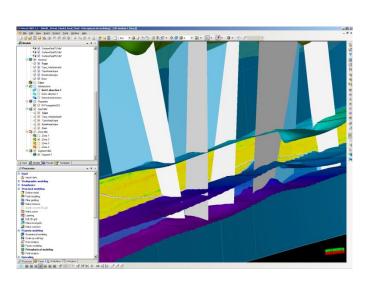
Interpretation

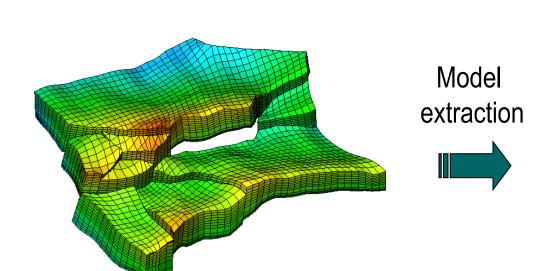
- Multi-measurements integration
- Integration with reservoir geomodel

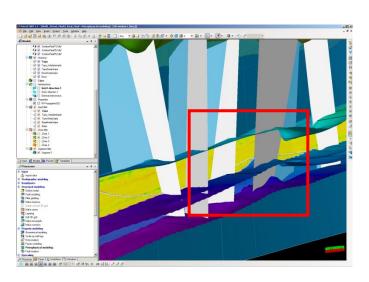
Physics-based log modeling is a must!

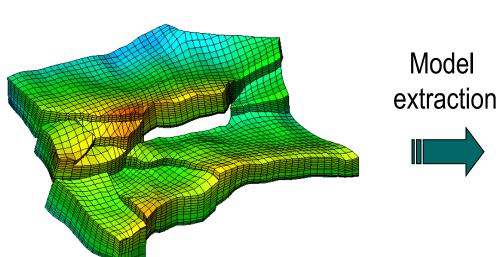




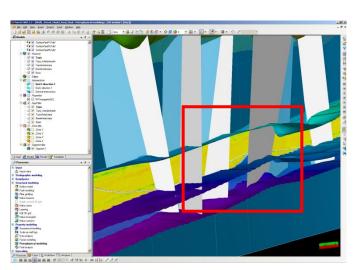




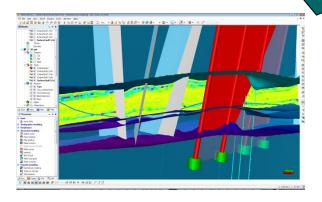


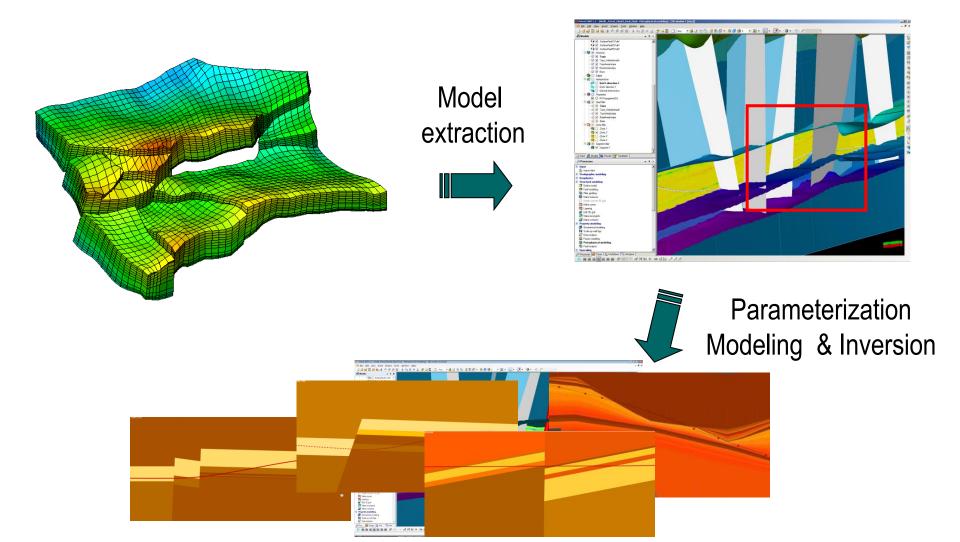


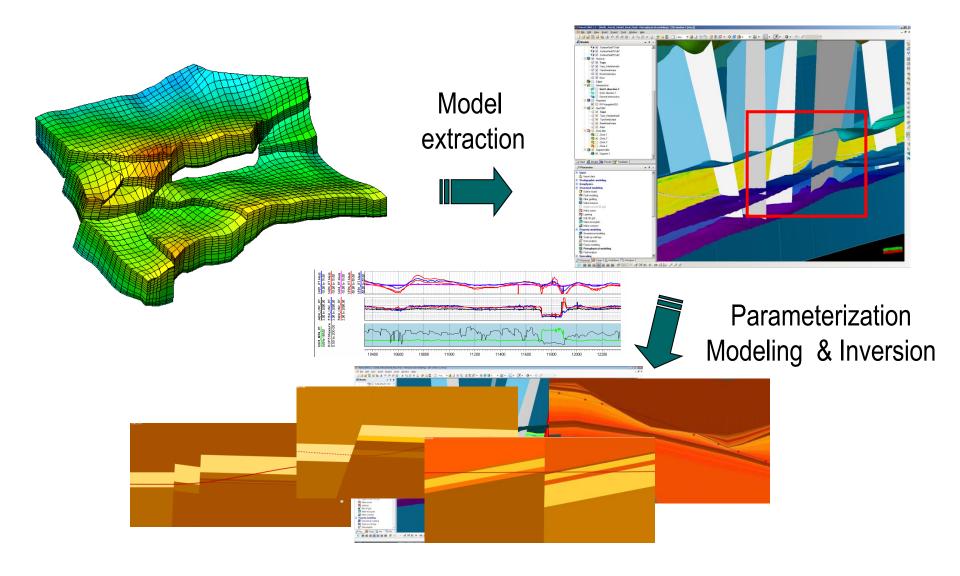
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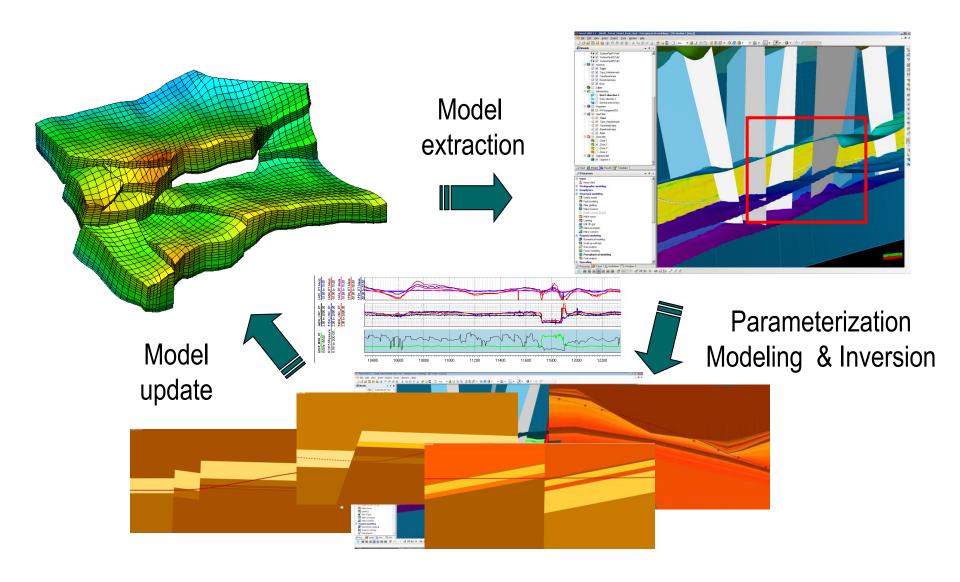


Parameterization Modeling & Inversion









Modeling Library
2.5D, 3D multi-physics

Modeling Library
2.5D, 3D multi-physics

High-Performance Computing Infrastructure

Modeling Library
2.5D, 3D multi-physics

High-Performance Computing Infrastructure

Service-Oriented Log
Simulation

Modeling Library
2.5D, 3D multi-physics

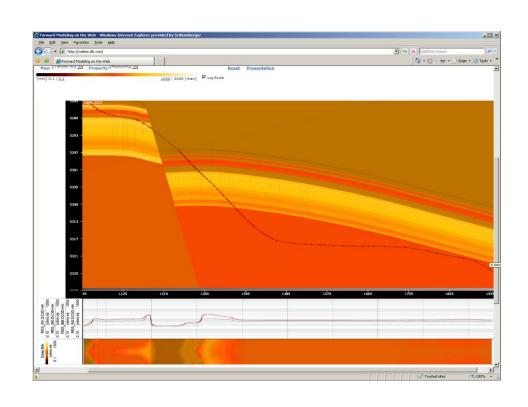
High-Performance Computing Infrastructure

Service-Oriented Log
Simulation

Modeling Library 2.5D, 3D multi-physics

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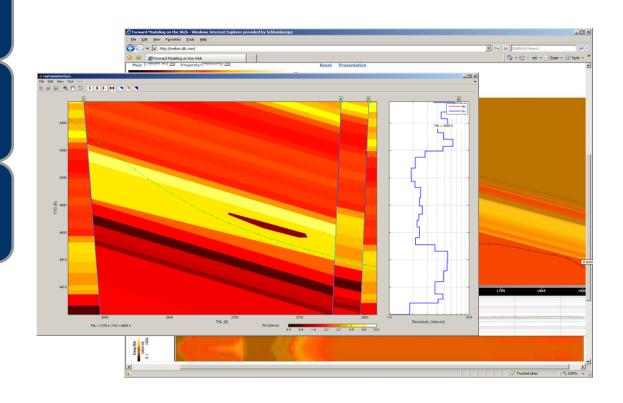


Modeling Library

2.5D, 3D multi-physics

High-Performance
Computing Infrastructure

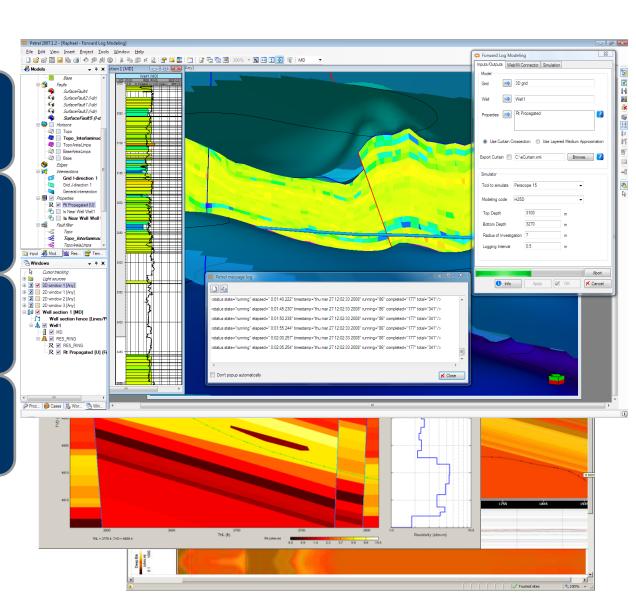
Service-Oriented Log Simulation

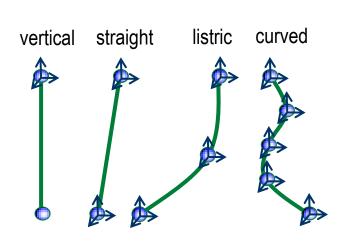


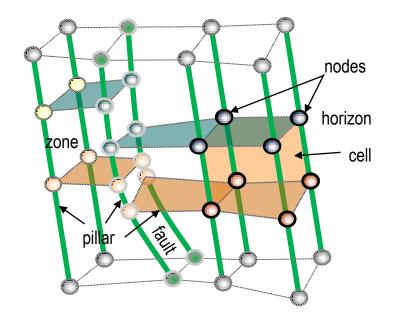
Modeling Library 2.5D, 3D multi-physics

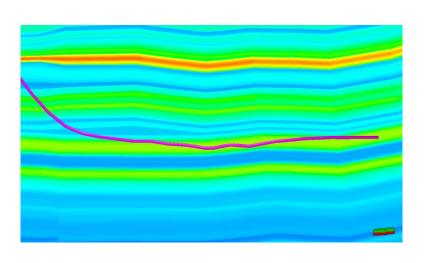
High-Performance Computing Infrastructure

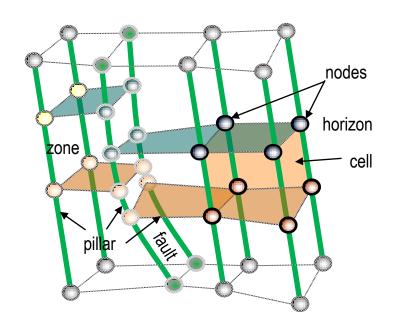
Service-Oriented Log
Simulation

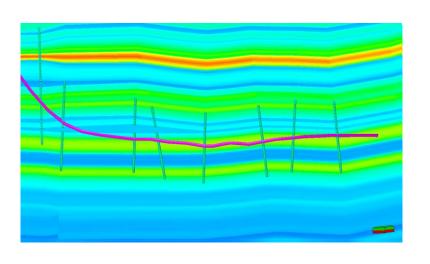


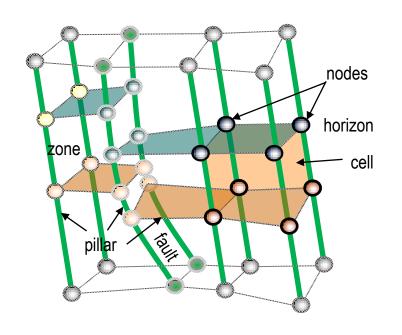


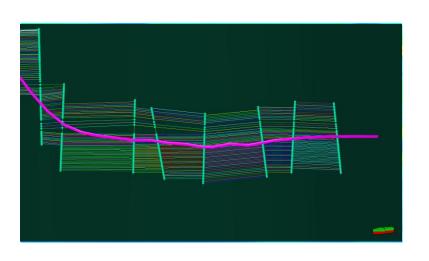


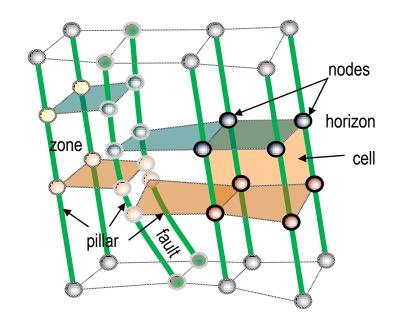


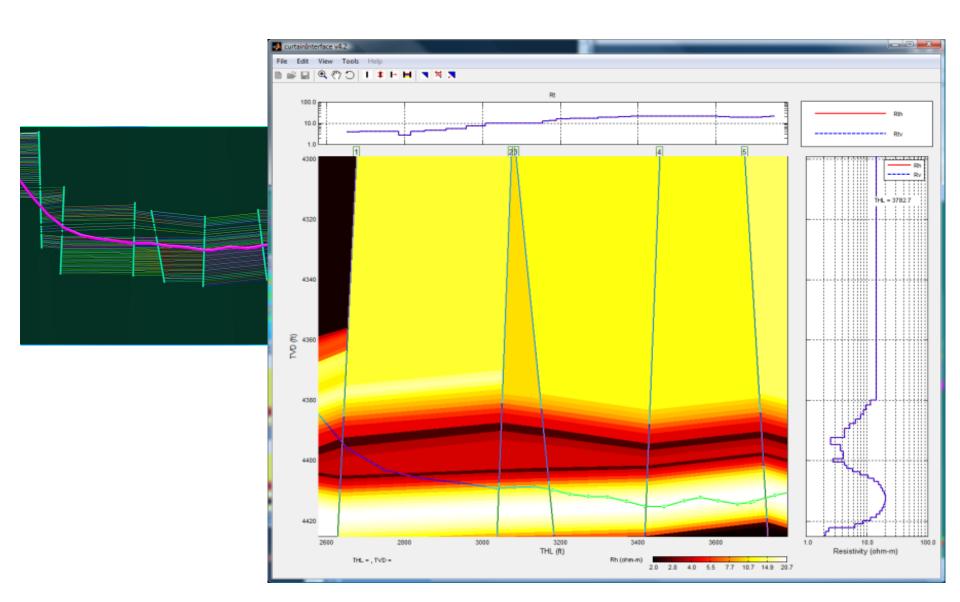


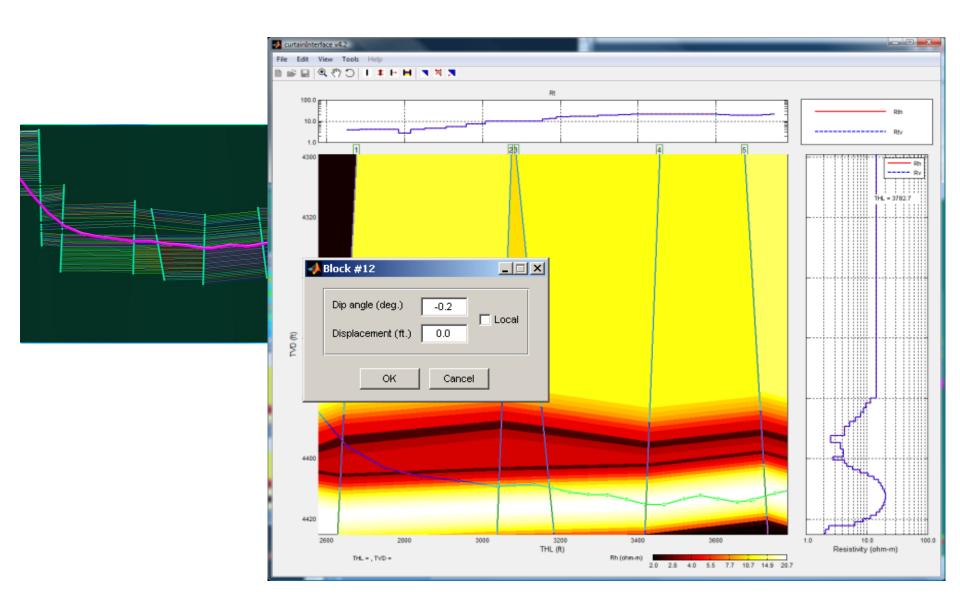


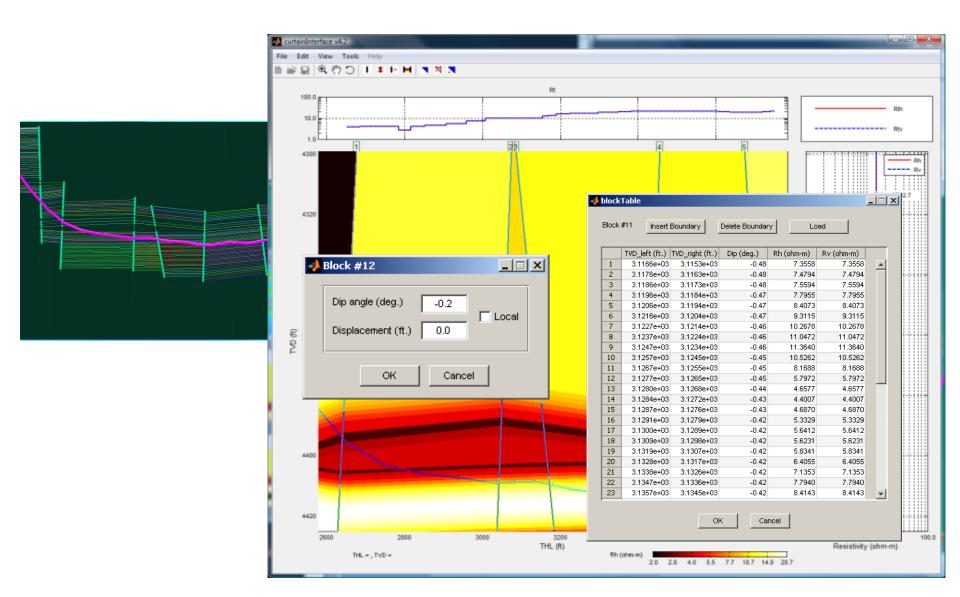












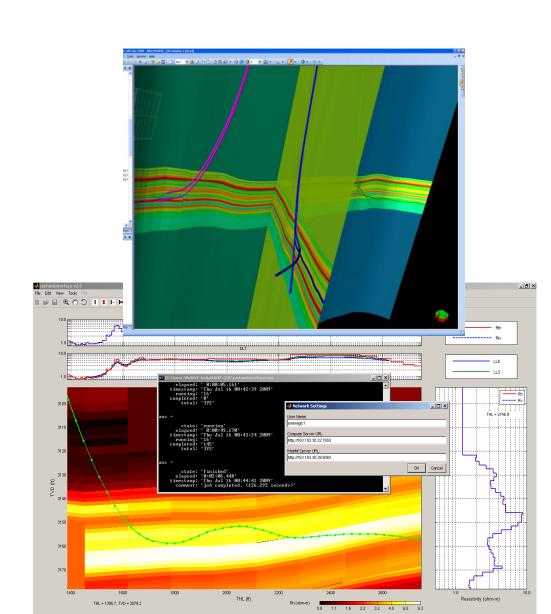
Customized HPC Modeling Environment Used in Supergiant Carbonate Field Study

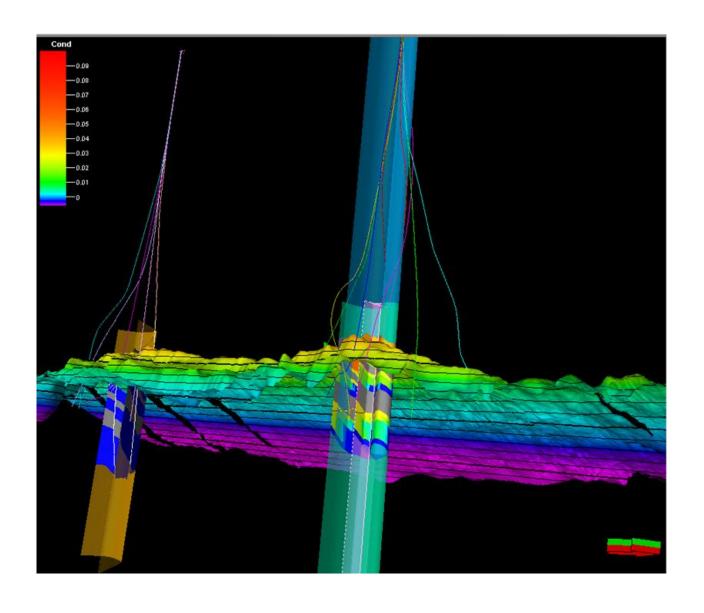
Increase the recovery factor – Seismic-to-simulation study

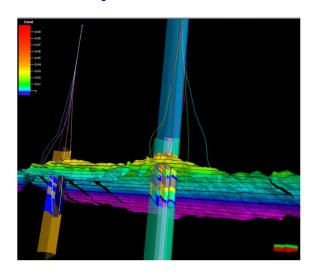
Interpret 100s of HA/HZ wells (WL and LWD data)

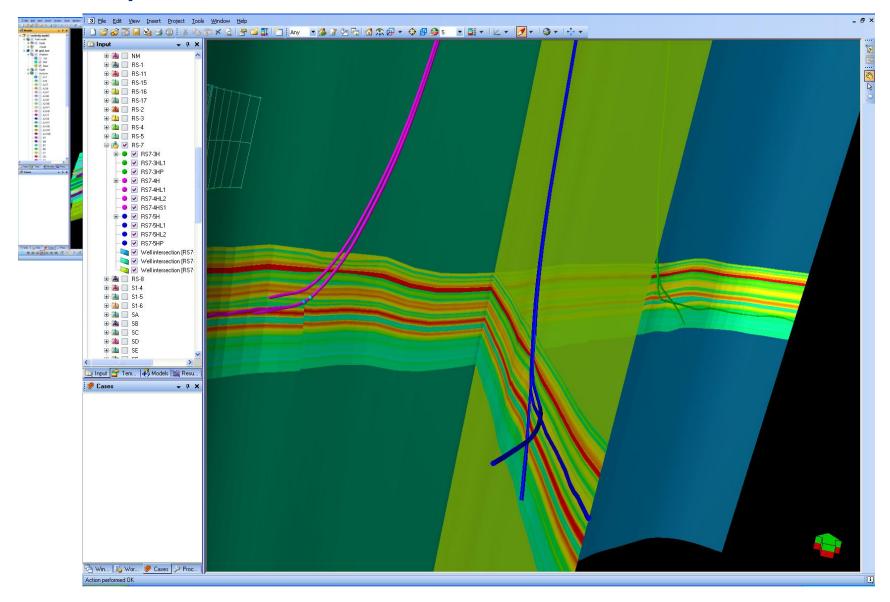
- Saturation modeling of that scale has not been attempted before
- Reduce Rt modeling uncertainty

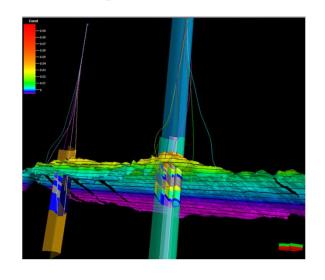
Process three wells/day on 28 cores (compared to one well per three days)

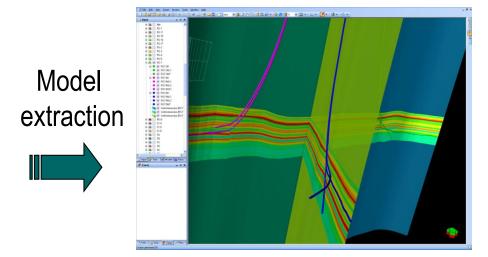


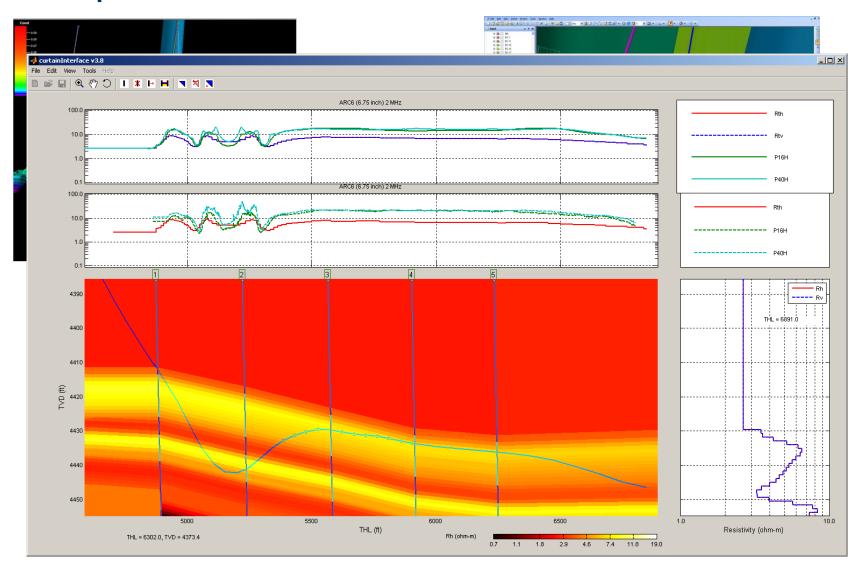




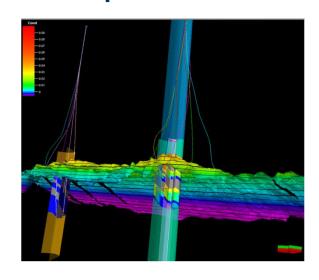






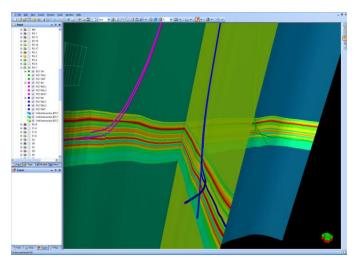


All components installed in the client's office

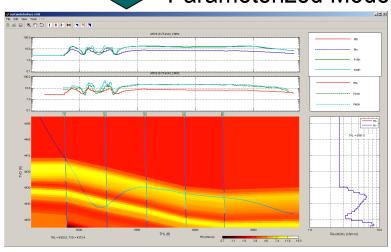


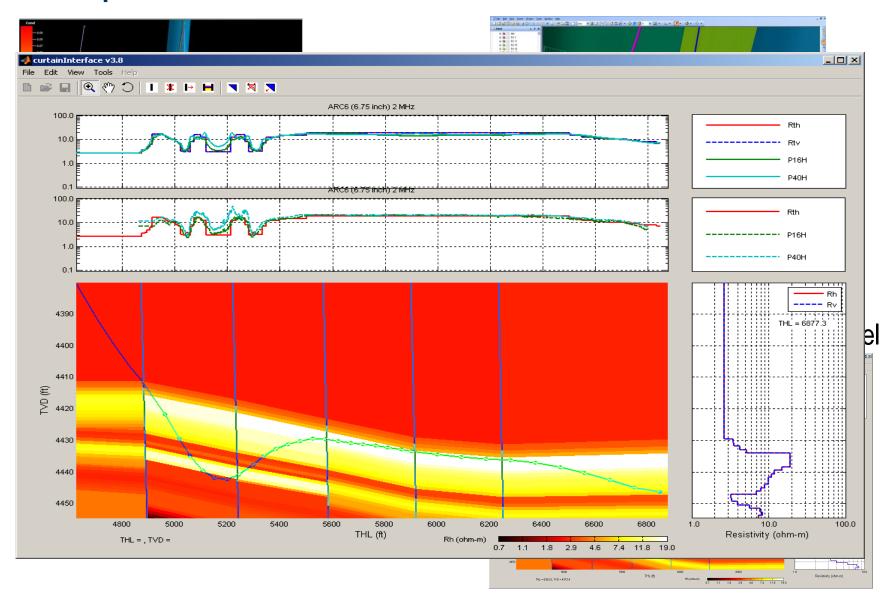
Model extraction



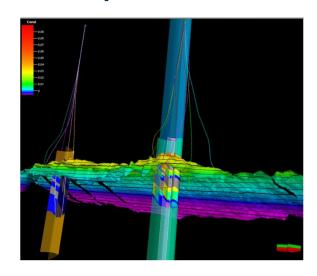






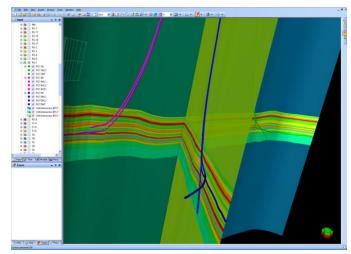


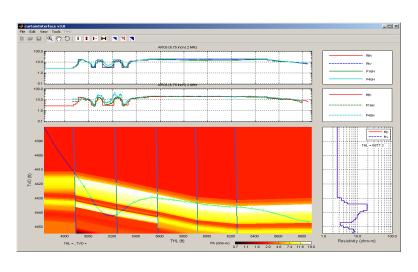
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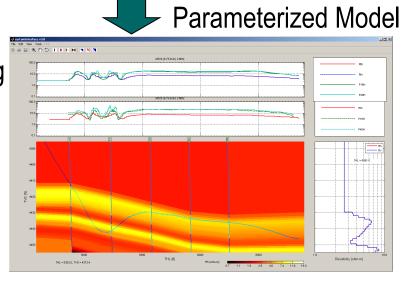
Model extraction







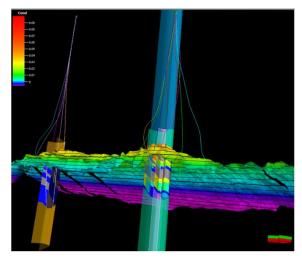




Export

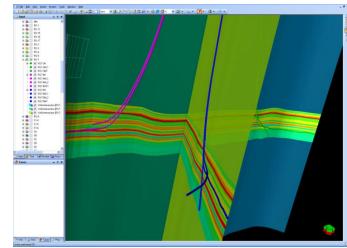
FFR Workflow

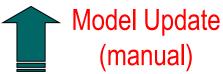
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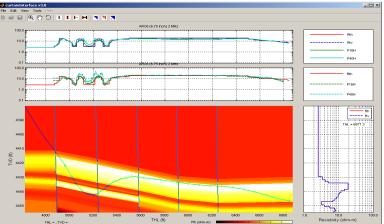


Model extraction

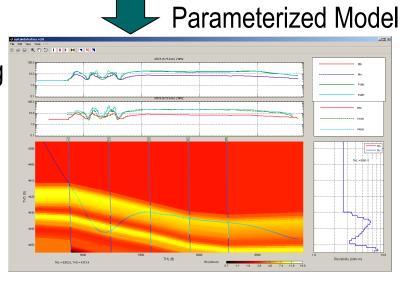






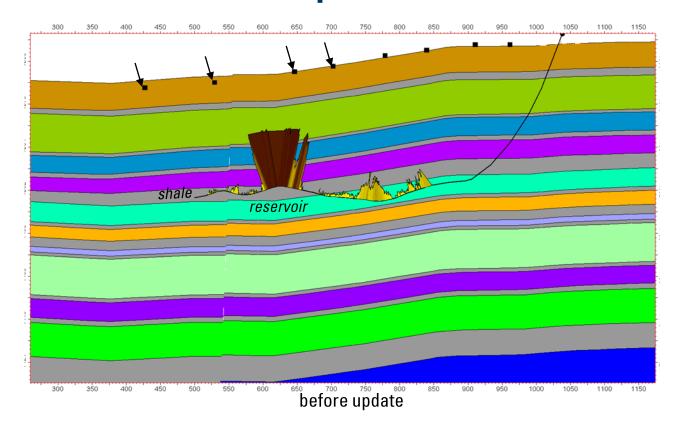




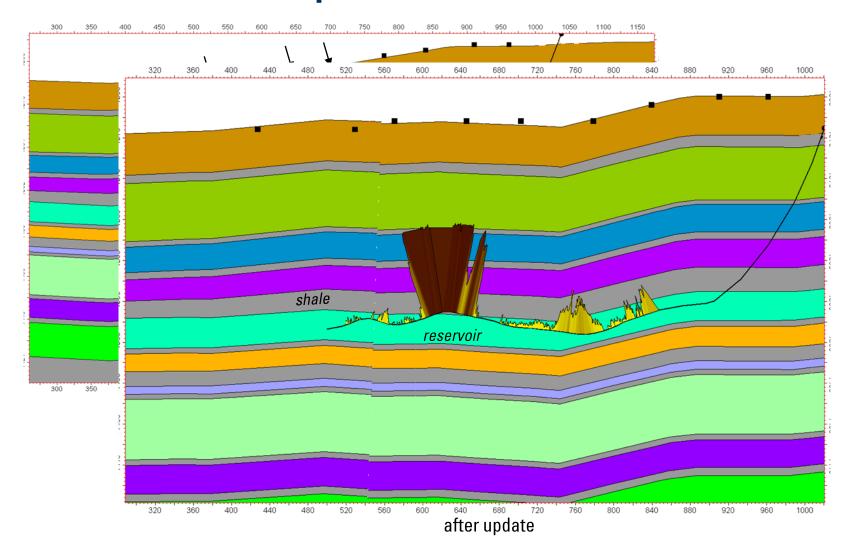


Export

Manual Model Update



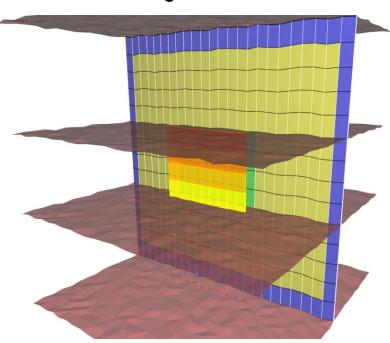
Manual Model Update



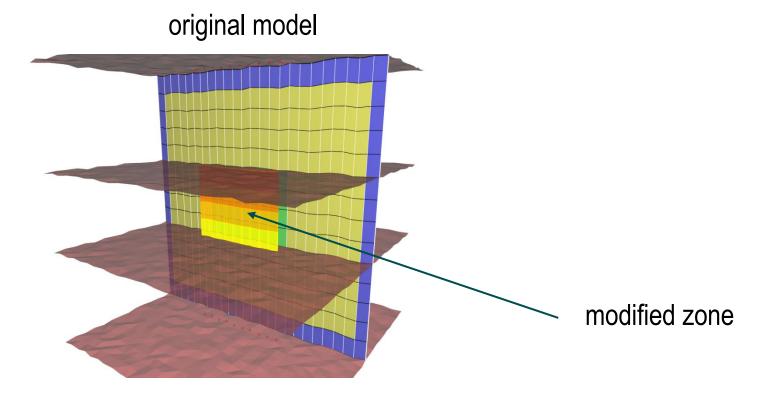
- Assume that topology and number of cells is not changed
- Modify section blended into the reservoir background model

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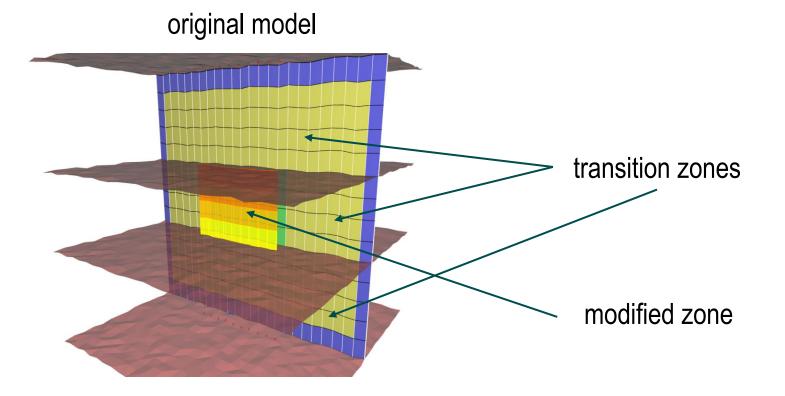
original model



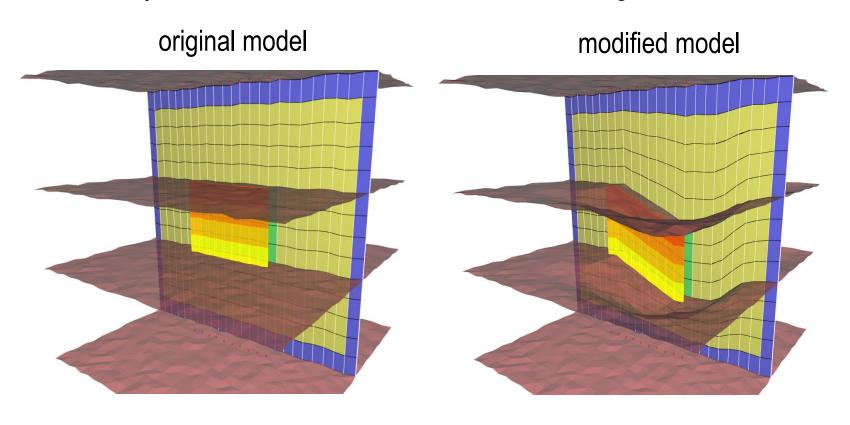
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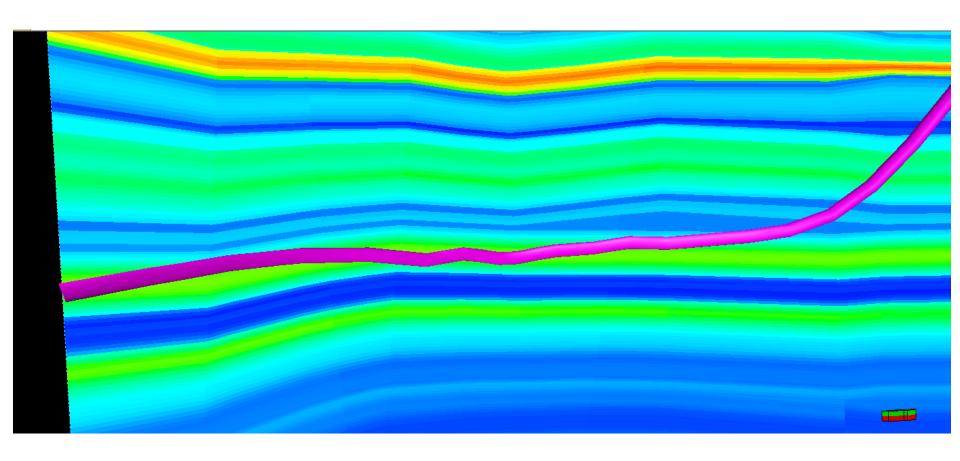


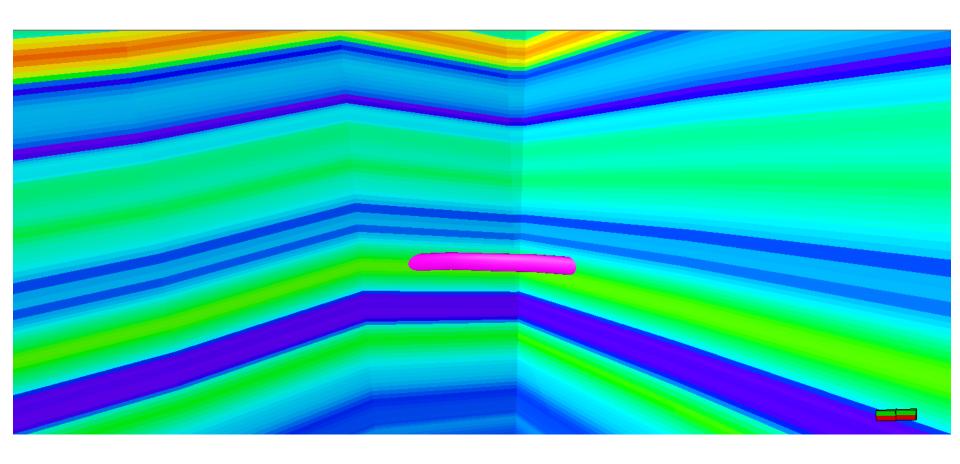
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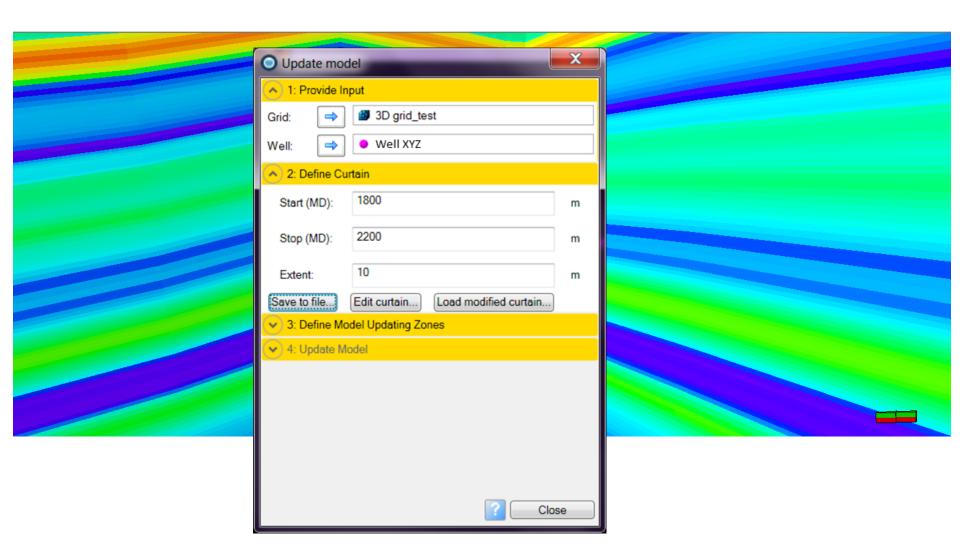


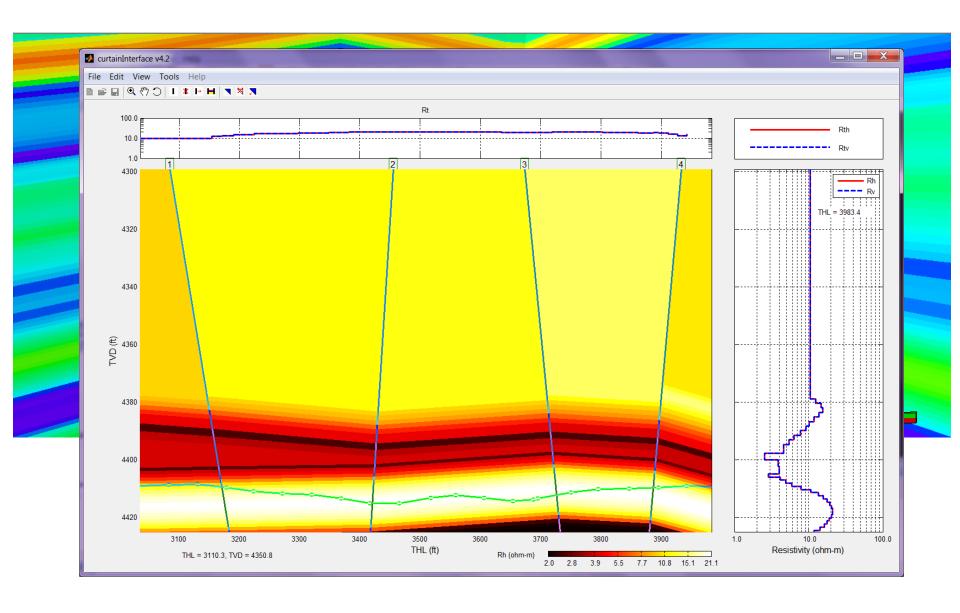
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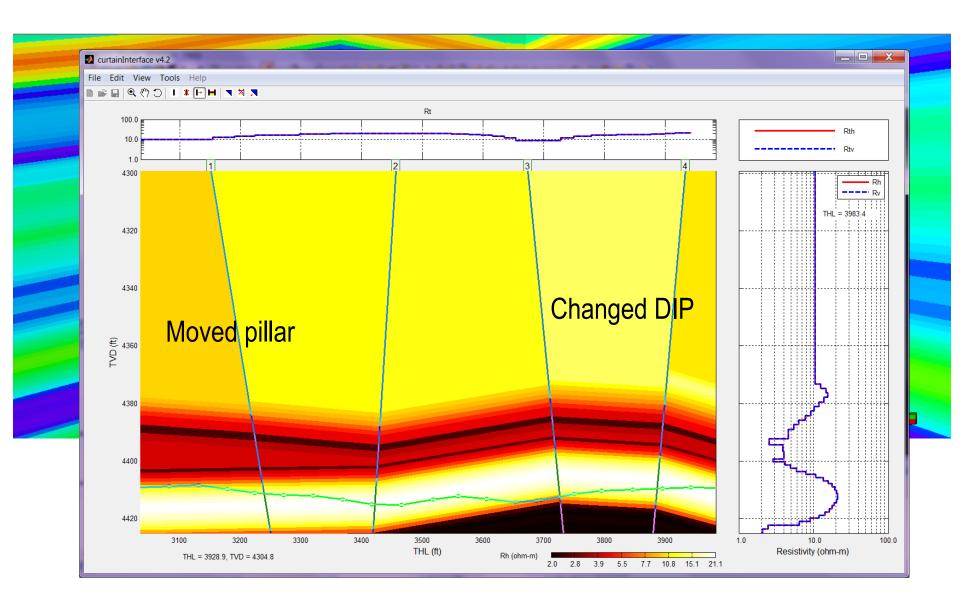


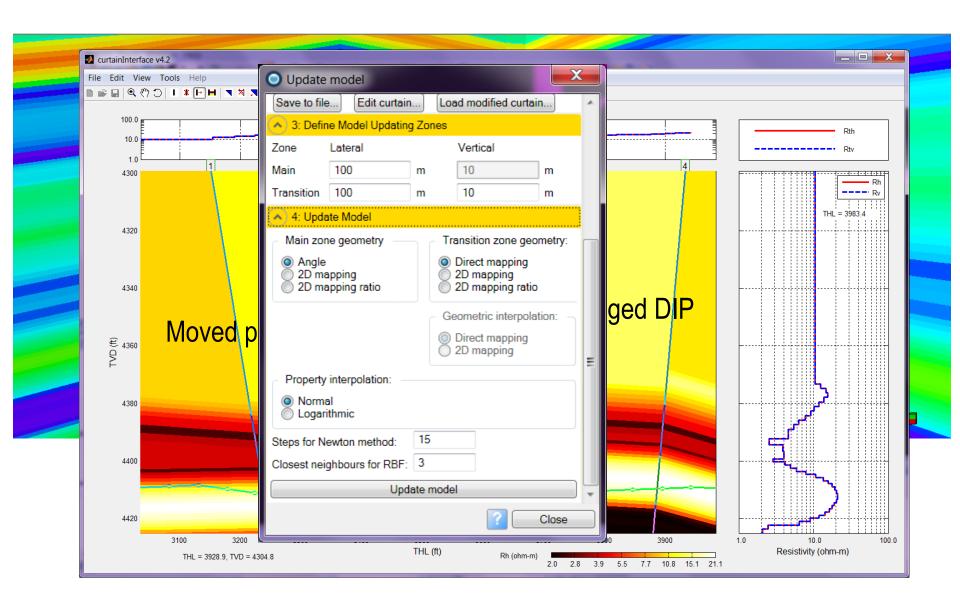


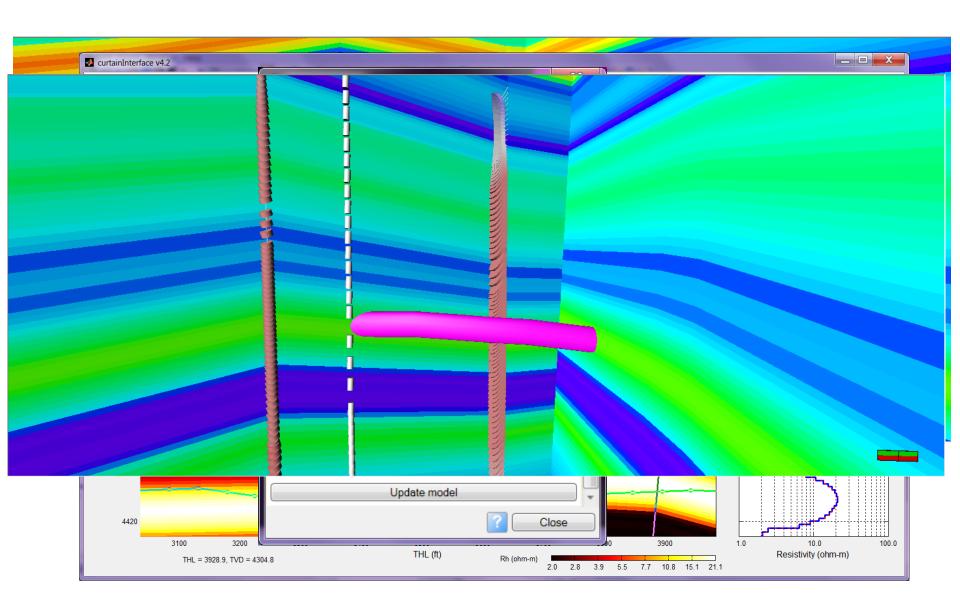


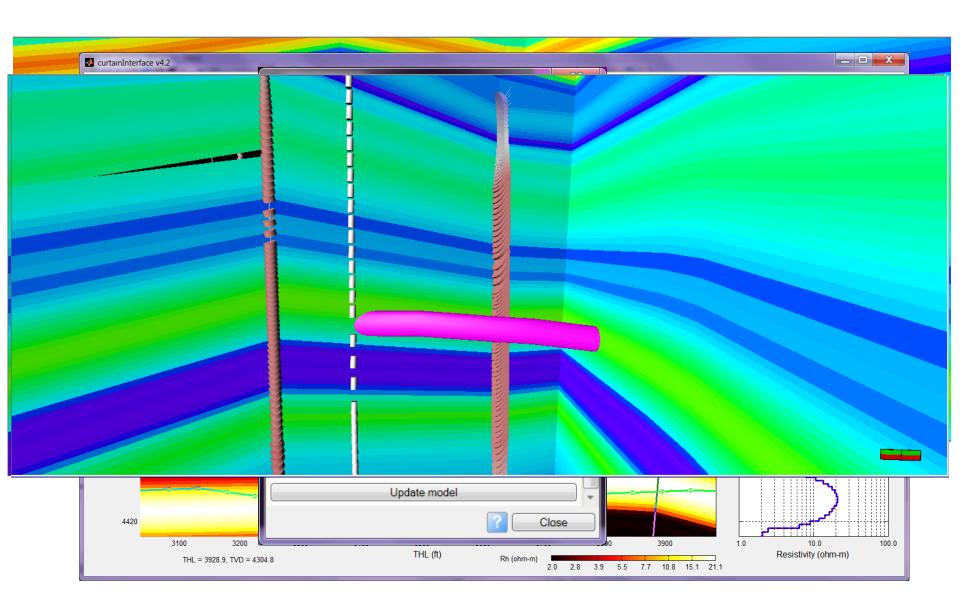


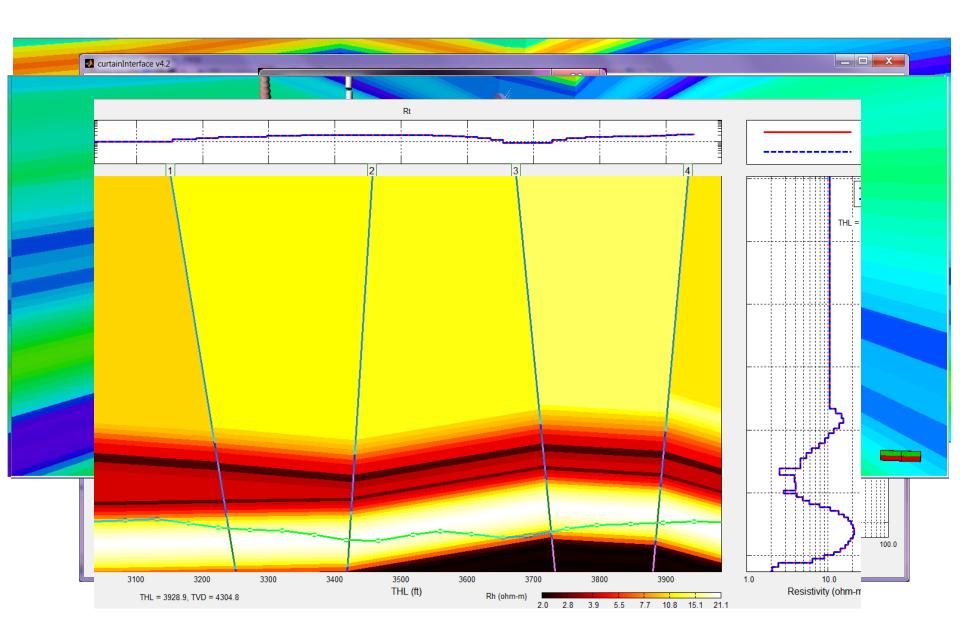


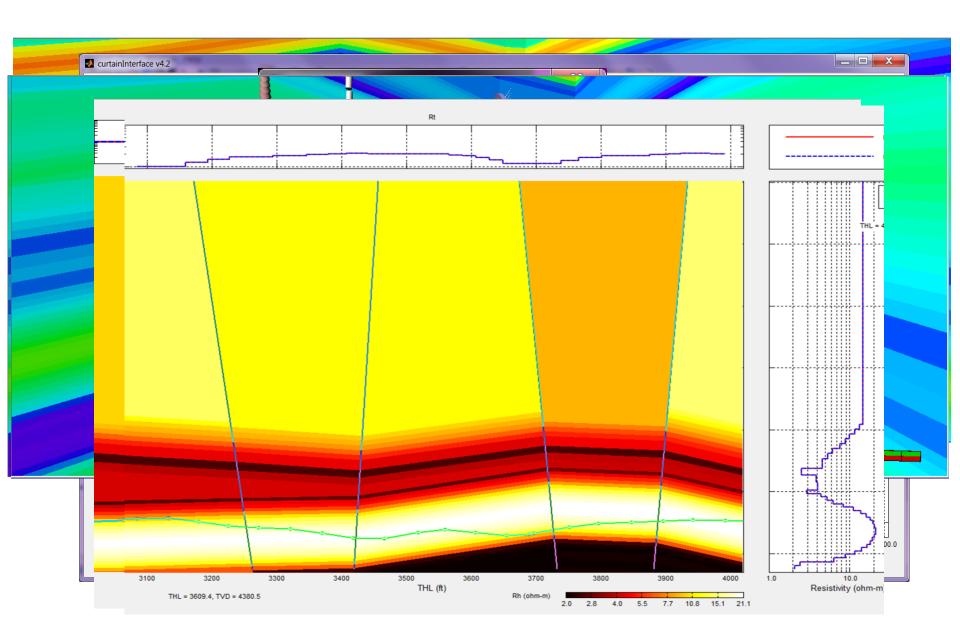










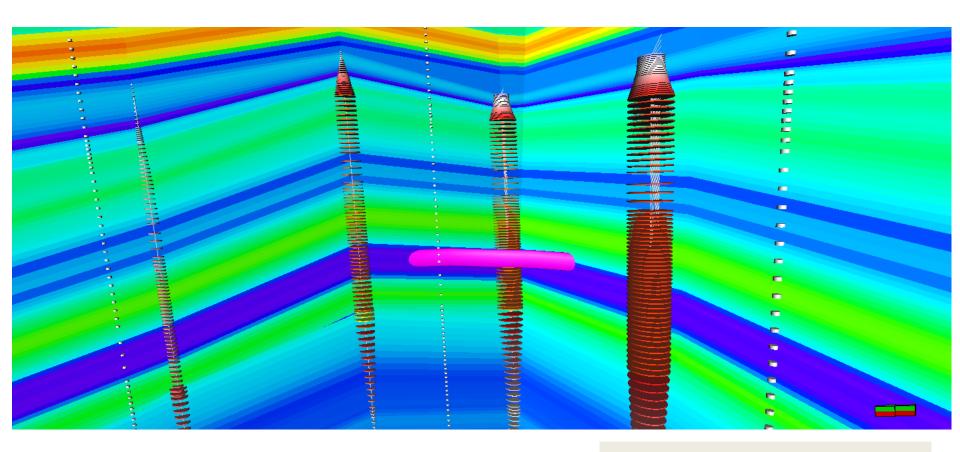


Conveying the Model Delta



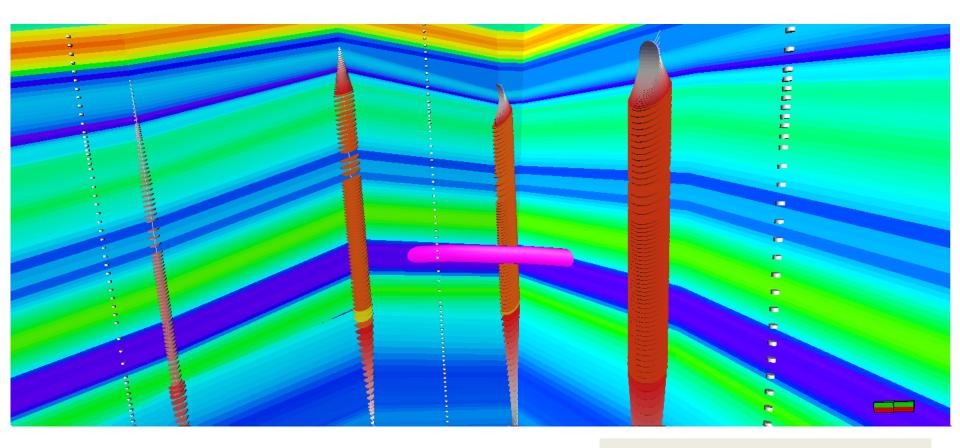
Size is moved distance Color is dZ Angle is angle of movement Location is new location of node

Conveying the Model Delta

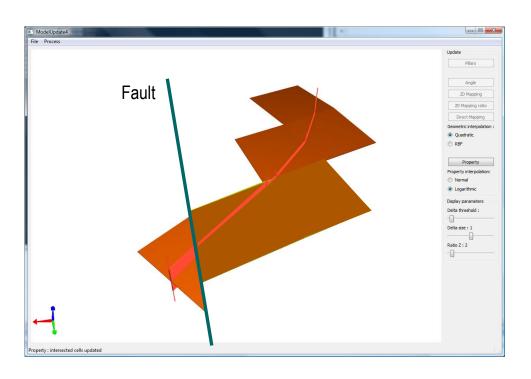


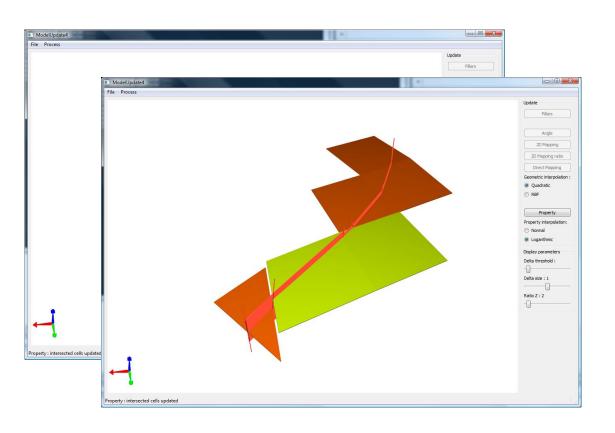
Size is moved distance Color is dZ Angle is angle of movement Location is new location of node

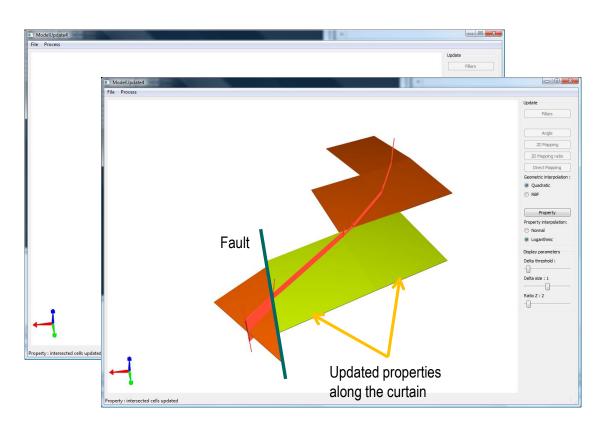
Conveying the Model Delta

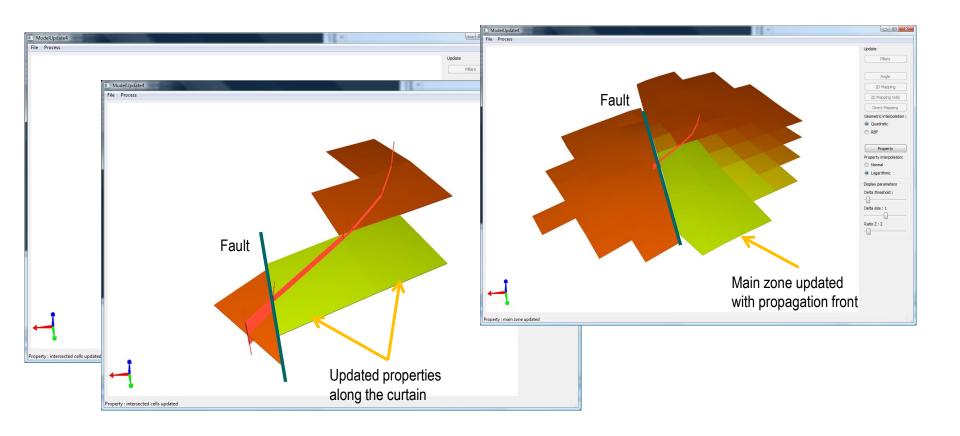


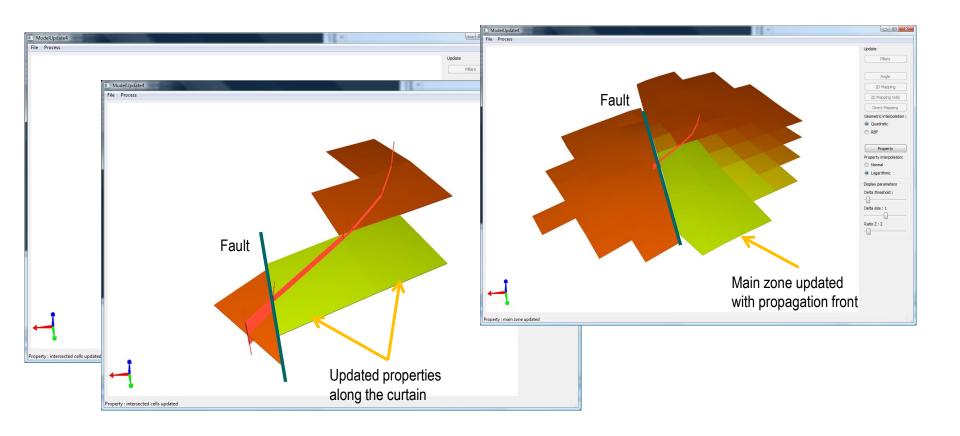
Size is moved distance Color is dZ Angle is angle of movement Location is new location of node

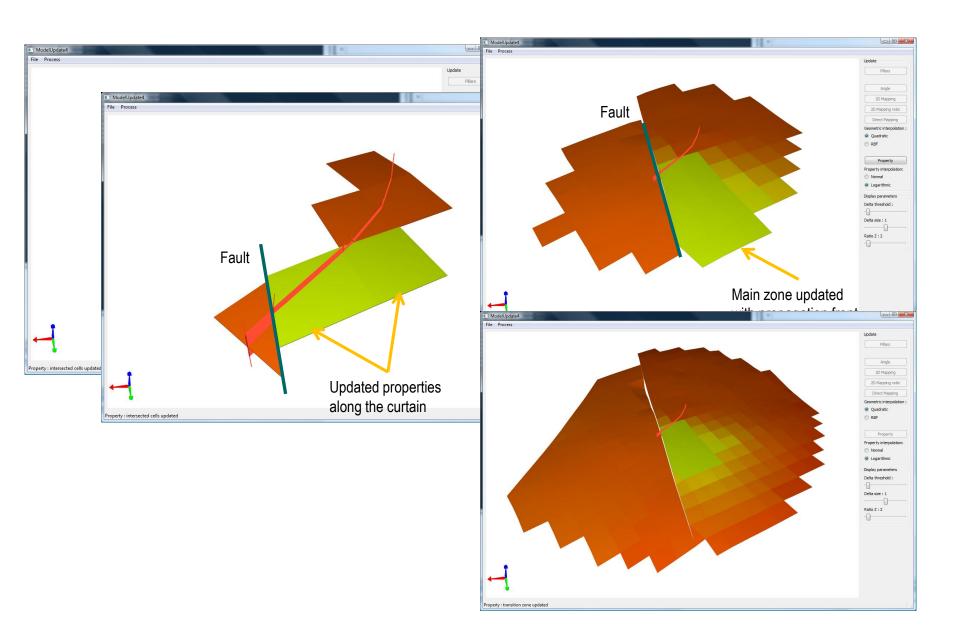


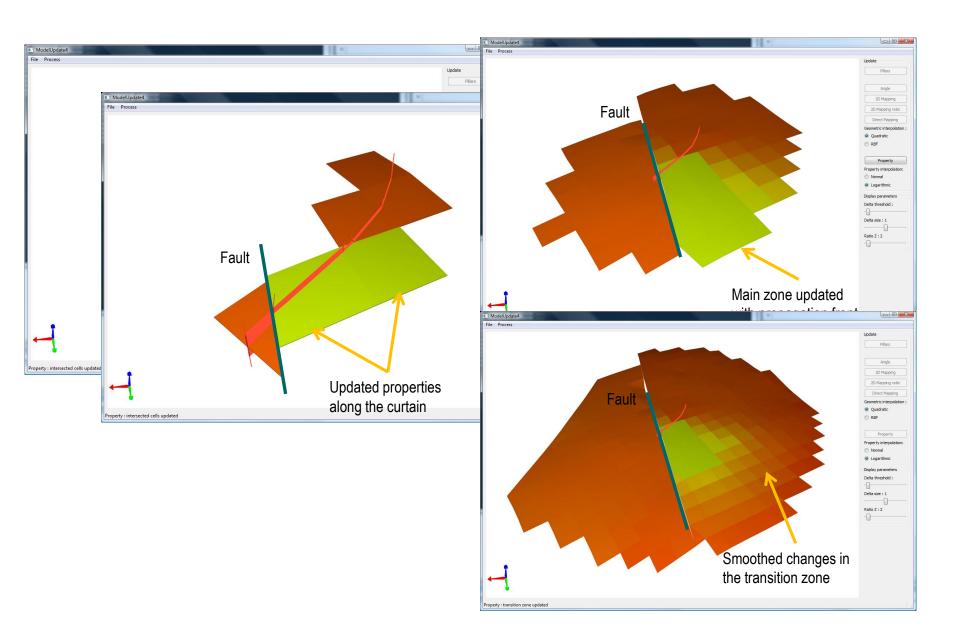


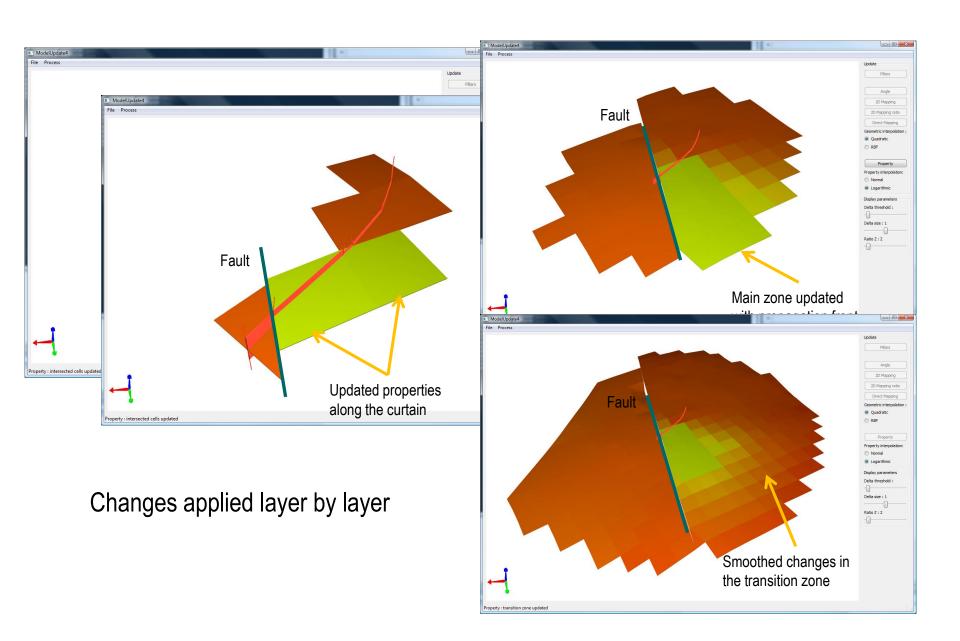






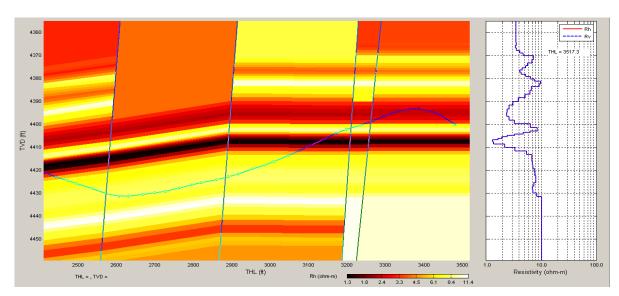






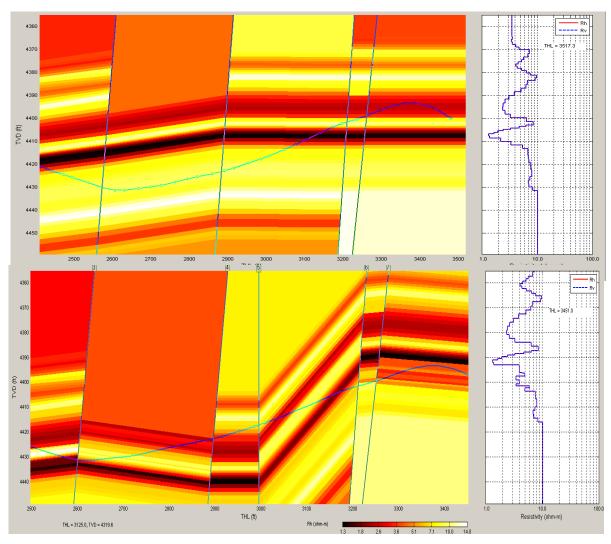
Application: Lateral Change in Reservoir Structure Based on LWD Propagation Measurements

Initial model based on seismic and vertical well updated by changing dip with minimal profile change



Application: Lateral Change in Reservoir Structure Based on LWD Propagation Measurements

Initial model based on seismic and vertical well updated by changing dip with minimal profile change



Summary

- Proven feasibility of automated geomodel update based on well log modeling and inversion
- Physics-based log modeling and inversion to reduce the subjectivity in interpretation
- HPC infrastructure enables routine 2D & 3D log modeling and inversion
- Services-based platform for prototyping new HA/HZ FE and 3D well placement workflows
- Successfully deployed to process hundreds of HZ wells in a giant field study
- Future integration with geomodels: multi-scale, multi-physics, time-lapse