Improving Geomodeling Projects with Team Management Techniques

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Abstract

When one thinks about geomodeling, one pictures well data, geophysical data, geological concepts and engineering measurements successfully combined thanks to complex integration techniques and advanced geostatistical methods. The result is the geomodel, a coherent static model of the reservoir. Numerous papers have been published and will continue to be published about those aspects of the geomodeling.

Beyond that, and maybe more fundamentally, geomodeling is about a set of specialists asked to join a team – a geomodeling team – with the goal of creating the geomodel. If those specialists can't work well together, by aligning their respective visions about the reservoir and their respective objectives for the geomodel, the integration of the static and dynamic data will not be optimal.

In the same way that a geomodeler will improve his/her model through a deeper knowledge of the data and the science, the authors believe that a geomodeling team can be made more efficient by applying team management techniques. This presentation will describe the three main challenges that the authors faced in the geomodeling teams they joined: structure of the team, conflicts between tenants of different techniques and communication around the notion of uncertainty. Each challenge will be illustrated with several concrete examples. Some suggestions will also be given on how to avoid or fix each problem.