

Free and Almost Free Petroleum Information: Low-Cost and Open-Source Software

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Abstract

Geoscientists who are new consultants and recently graduated students are often unable to develop the ideas they would like to pursue because they do not have access to the information they need. While commercial sources are excellent and very convenient to access, archive, and incorporate, licenses can be prohibitively expensive for the consultant, young professional, recent graduate, or small independent operating or royalty company. What many geoscientists may not realize is that there are many sources of free or inexpensive data, including well logs, production information, and leasing data. There are also low-cost studies and cuttings / core libraries for those who would like to examine the lithology. Once the data is collected, there are also a number of open-source and inexpensive software programs that can assist with mapping and data analysis. Further, there are a number of data-mining software packages that can assist in developing new analyses and identifying meaningful relationships and patterns. This presentation/article provides information about where to obtain information and software, the type of information and programs available, and the costs.