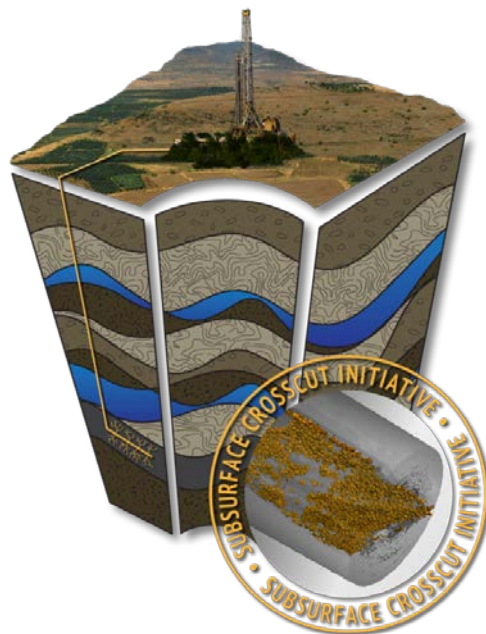


# SubTER AGU Townhall

## TH25I

December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015



## Agenda

- Welcome – Dr. Susan Hamm (Geothermal Technologies Office, DOE)
- SubTER update – Dr. Susan Hubbard (Berkeley Lab)
- Basic Research Agenda Report – Dr. Laura Pyrak-Nolte (Purdue Univ.)
- Discussion

# Other SubTER AGU Activities

Booth #1104

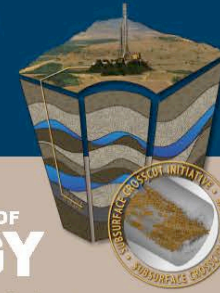


Poster Session  
H51M  
Friday AM



**SubTER - Subsurface Technology & Engineering Research**

*Adaptive control of the Earth's subsurface for  
our energy future*




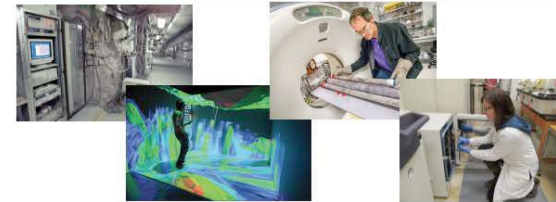
Presented by the



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

and the National Laboratory System

Join the following  
SubTER events at the  
  
American Geophysical Union  
**FALL MEETING**  
14 - 18 December 2015



## **SubTER Booth #1104 – All Week, Exhibit Hall, Moscone North**

Interested in participating? Stop by our “DOE Subsurface Crosscut (SubTER)” booth to learn more about future developments, collaboration and funding opportunities, and internships!

## **SubTER Townhall (TH25I) – Tuesday Dec 15, 6:15-7:15 pm, Moscone West 2004**

*Revolutionizing Utilization of the Earth's Subsurface for America's Energy Future:  
the DOE Subsurface Crosscut Initiative*

SubTER Initiative (S. Hubbard, Berkeley Lab)

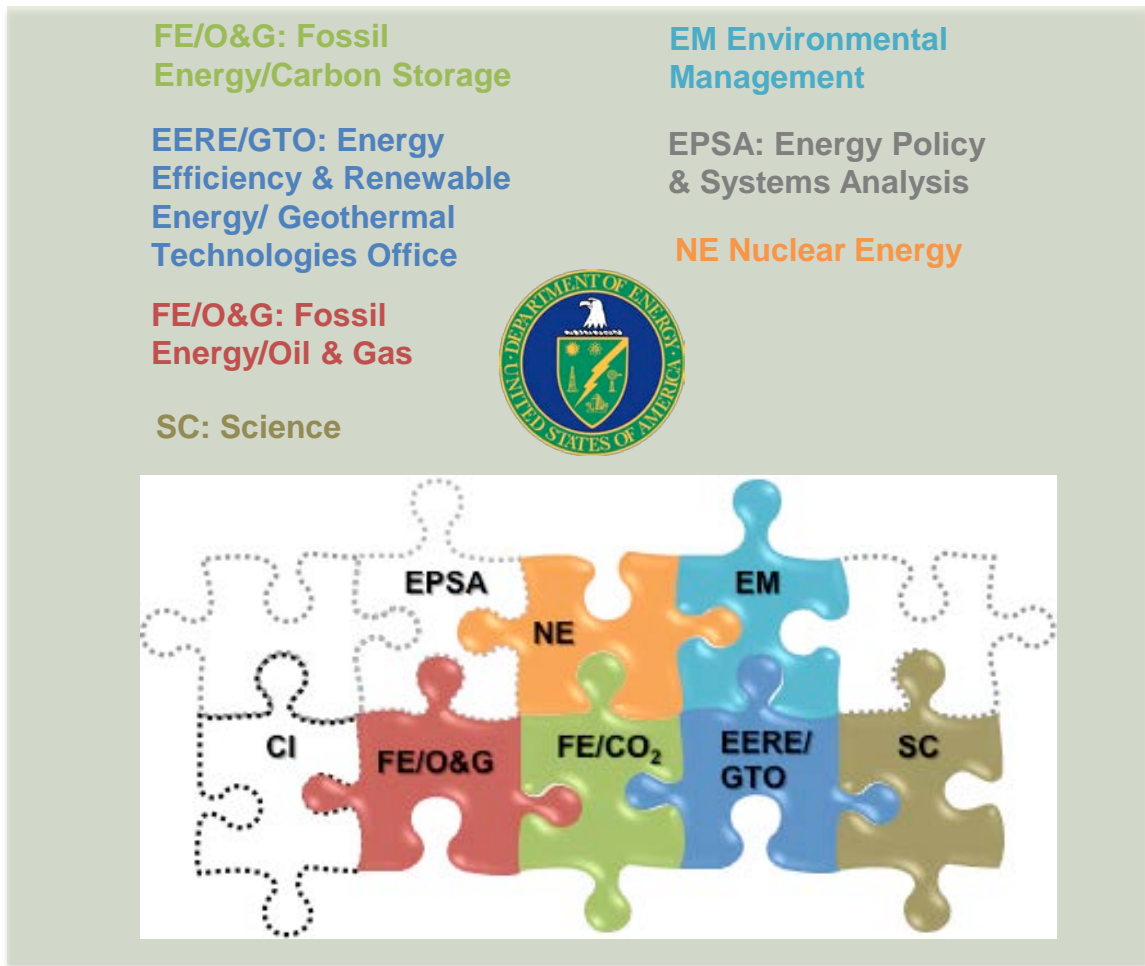
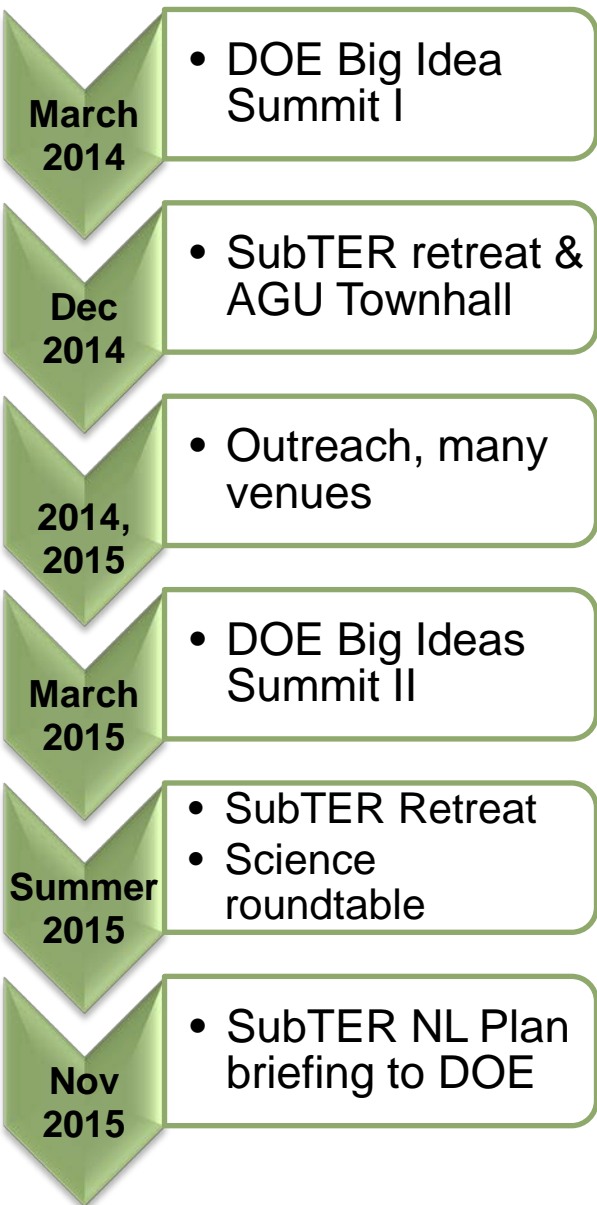
SubTER Science Roundtable Report (L. Pyrak-Nolte, Purdue University)

## **SubTER Poster Session (H51M) – Friday Dec 18, 8 am-12:20 pm, Moscone South**

*Subsurface Control of Fractures and Flow for Responsible Energy Production and  
Storage*

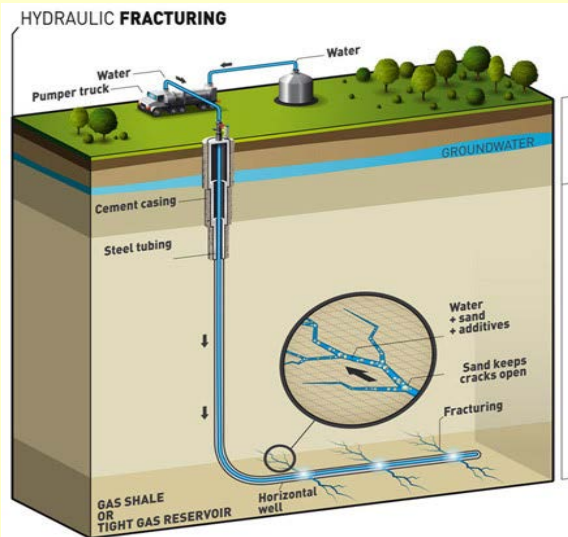
Co-chairs: T. Daley, D. Blankenship, R. Pawar & A. Bonneville

# DOE Crosscutting 'Big Idea' Summit: the Birth of SubTER



# Mastery of the Subsurface needed to Greatly Enhance its Utilization

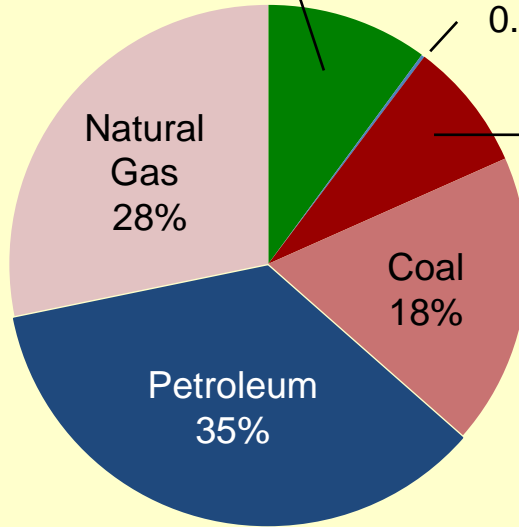
## Shale hydrocarbon production



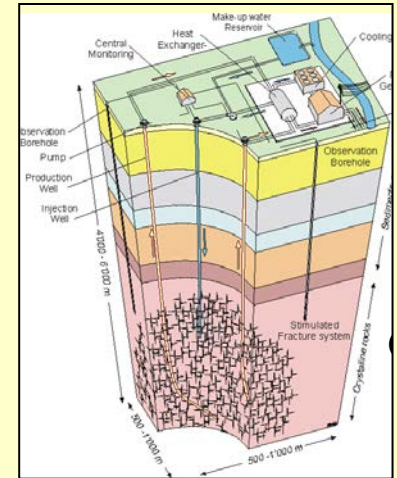
Renewable Energy  
10%

Geothermal  
0.2%

Nuclear  
Power  
8%



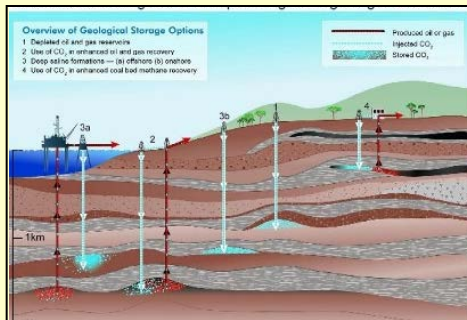
## Enhanced geothermal energy



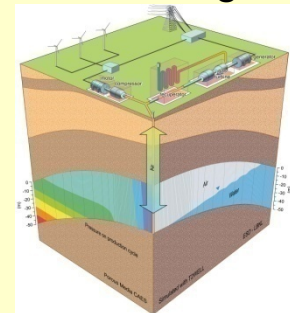
## Primary Energy Use by Source, 2014

Quadrillion Btu [Total U.S. = 98.3 Quadrillion Btu]

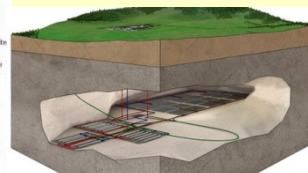
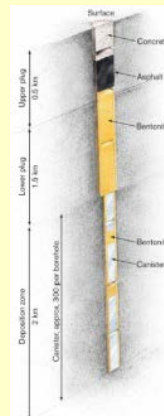
## Safe subsurface storage of CO<sub>2</sub>



## Compressed Air Energy Storage



## Safe subsurface storage of nuclear waste

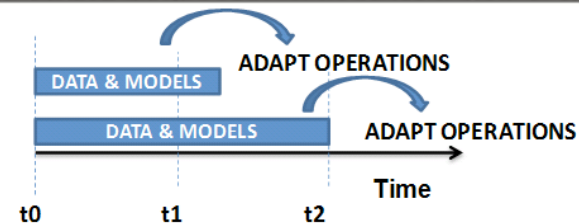
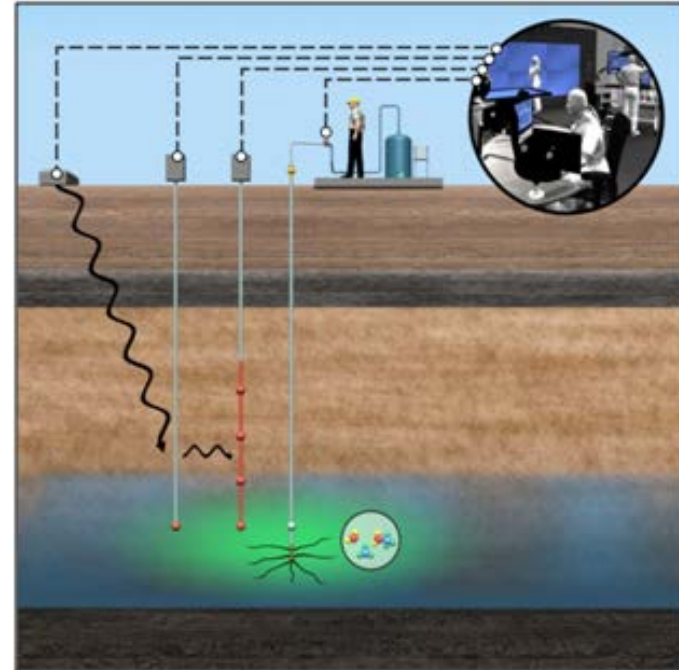


# Adaptive Control of Subsurface Fractures and Flow

Ability to adaptively manipulate subsurface – with confidence and rapidly.

## Within 10 Years:

- A ten-fold increase of U. S. electricity production from **geothermal** reservoirs
- Double **hydrocarbon** production from tight reservoirs
- Establish practical feasibility of deep borehole **disposal**
- Large-scale safe **CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration** to meet targets described in the President's Climate Action Plan



*Concurrent protection of the environment (water and air resources, induced seismicity)*

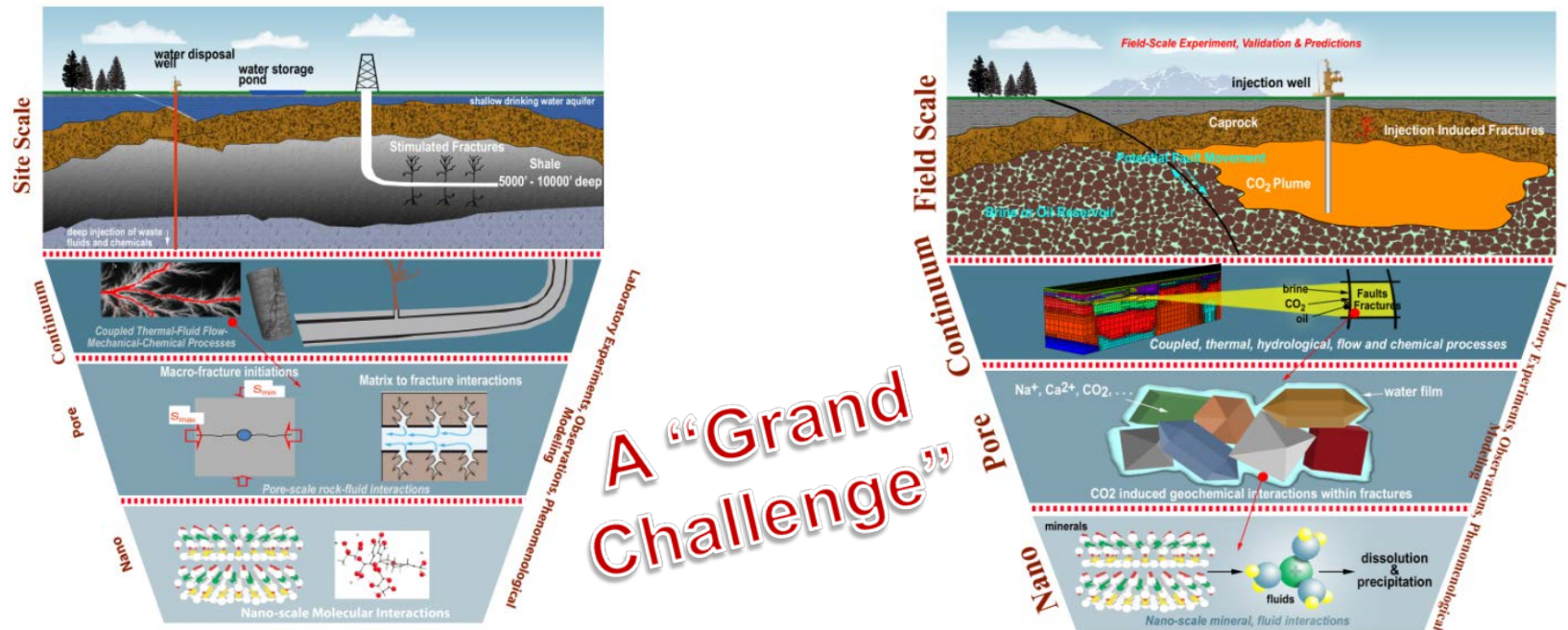


# 'Adaptive Control of fractures' is a Grand Subsurface Challenge

Requires an understanding and ability to manipulate subsurface stress, geochemical reactions, and multi-phase fluid flow

- within heterogeneous geological environments
- across nanometer to kilometer length scales
- remotely within the deep subsurface reservoirs

Requires fundamental through engineering RD&D



# Activities & Input to SubTER Plan: Select Examples

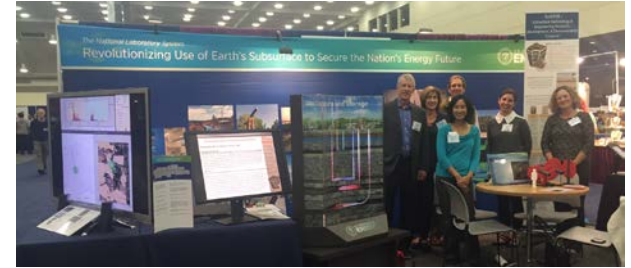
- National Resource Council, 2014
- National Energy Association, July 2014
- National Academy of Sciences , October 2014
- DOE Subsurface grand challenge RFI May 2014
- AGU town hall 2014
- SubTER –led workshops, 2015:
  - Shale at all Scales
  - Grand Challenges in Geological Fluid Mechanics
  - 3D Printing techniques relevant to rock physics
  - Novel Cements
- SEG 2015
- National Laboratory Day, June 2015
- GSA SubTER booth 2015
- Centennial Grand Challenges in Rock Physics 2015
- Several discussions w/universities, industry agencies and NGOs



THE  
GEOLOGICAL  
SOCIETY  
OF AMERICA®



NATIONAL ACADEMY  
OF SCIENCES



NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL



# Expert Panels ~ Select Examples

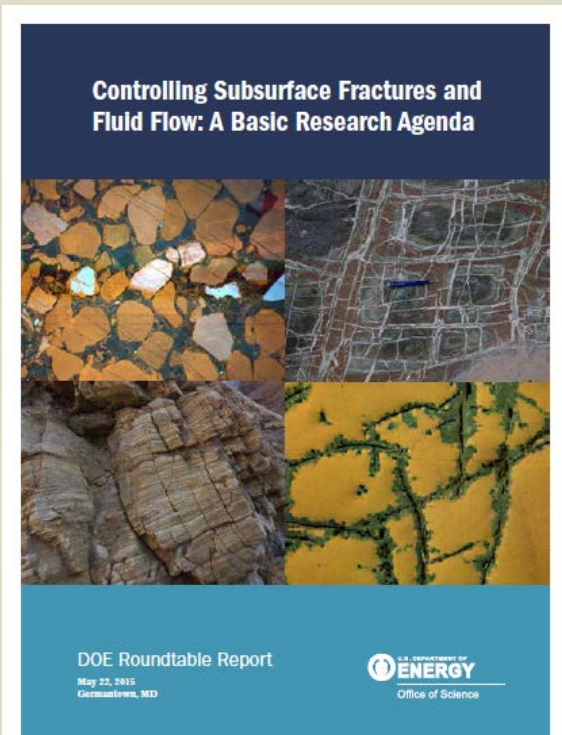
## JASON, 2014: 'State of Stress in Engineered Subsurface Systems'



- “DOE should take a leadership role in the science and technology for improved measurement, characterization, and understanding of the state of stress of engineered subsurface systems in order to address major energy and security challenges of the nation.”
- “Coordinated research and technology development at dedicated field sites to connect insights from laboratory scales and models to operational environments”

## DOE Roundtable, 2015: 'Imaging of stress and geological processes'

Identified Basic Research Priority Research and Crosscutting Directions  
(Laura Pyrak Nolte)





# SubTER Draft Work Plan under review by DOE

## Overall Goal:

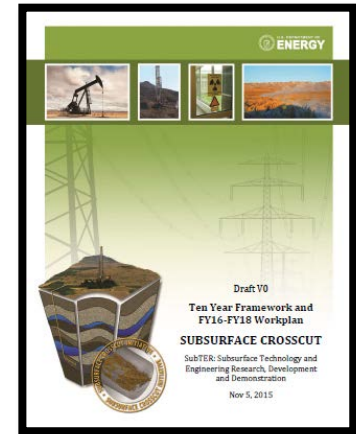
- **Successful demonstration of adaptive control for several energy strategies**

## Additional Year 10 goals:

- Manipulate stress away from the borehole
- Inject fluid (eg., carbon sequestration, waste disposal, CAES) with acceptable/predictable seismicity
- Create and plug fractures at will in a variety of subsurface environments
- Create boreholes that do not leak for every subsurface energy application
- Develop and successfully implement technologies that enable access, modeling, and monitoring at scales and resolution for guiding adaptive control
- Provide science to enable a new class of responsible energy production and waste storage options

## Year 5 goals...

## Year 2 goals...



Draft plan will require partnerships between National Labs, academia and industry to meet grand challenge

# SubTER Framework

## Adaptive Control of Subsurface Fractures and Fluid Flow

Wellbore Integrity  
and Drilling  
Technologies



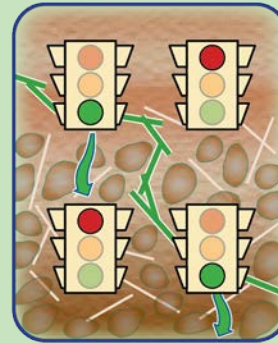
Materials and technologies to ensure wellbore integrity over decadal timeframes

Subsurface Stress &  
Induced Seismicity



Characterization and control subsurface stress and induced seismicity

Permeability  
Manipulation & Fluid  
Control



Approaches to manipulate subsurface fractures, reactions and flow

New Subsurface  
Signals



Sensors and algorithms to monitor subsurface dynamics and facilitate adaptive control

# SubTER Framework

## Adaptive Control of Subsurface Fractures and Fluid Flow

### Wellbore Integrity and Drilling Technologies

Improved well construction materials and techniques

Autonomous completions for well integrity modeling

New diagnostics for wellbore integrity

Remediation tools and technologies

Fit-for-purpose drilling and completion tools (e.g. anticipative drilling, centralizers, monitoring)

HT/HP well constr. & completion technologies

### Subsurface Stress & Induced Seismicity

State of Stress (measurement and manipulation)

Induced seismicity (measurement and manipulation)

Relate Stress and IS to Permeability

Applied Risk Analysis to Assess Impact of Subsurface Manipulation

### Permeability Manipulation & Fluid Control

Manipulating Physicochemical Fluid-Rock Interactions

Manipulating Flow Paths to Enhance/Restrict Fluid Flow

Characterizing Fracture Dynamics and Fluid Flow

Novel Stimulation Technologies

### New Subsurface Signals

New Sensing Approaches

Integration of Multi-Scale, Multi-Type Data

Adaptive Control Processes

Diagnostic Signatures and Critical Thresholds

Energy Field Observatories

Fit For Purpose Simulation Capabilities

# Subsurface Stress and Induced Seismicity **Element:** Relate Stress to Induced Seismicity and Permeability

## Element

Relate Stress and IS to Permeability

## 2-year goals

Compile database(s) of publicly available data to test models of permeability/slip relationship(s)

Design and carry out laboratory and numerical experiments to identify and acquire missing data needed to achieve goals

Establish dedicated field observatory site(s).  
Perform integrated analysis and interpretation of results from initial field experiments, using state-of-the-art techniques

Establish benchmarks for permeability prediction capabilities including both fault leakage and fractured reservoir productivity

## 5-year goals

Conduct field demonstration(s) of optimal integrated monitoring, analysis, and characterization techniques

Demonstrated improved permeability prediction by a factor of 3 over baseline

Demonstrate characterization techniques to predict seismic vs. aseismic slip behavior

Identify and prioritize techniques capable of achieving 10 year goals

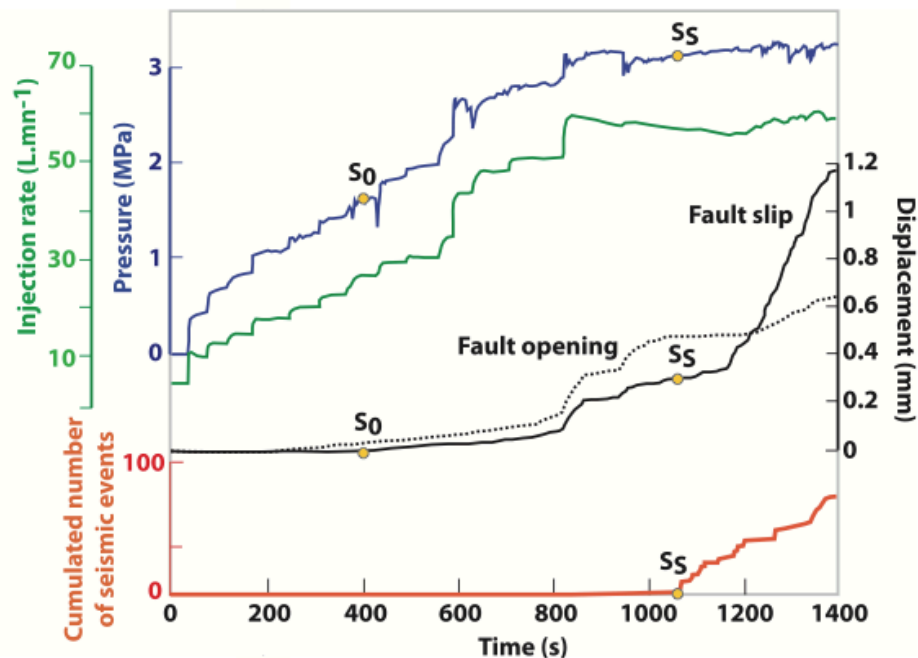
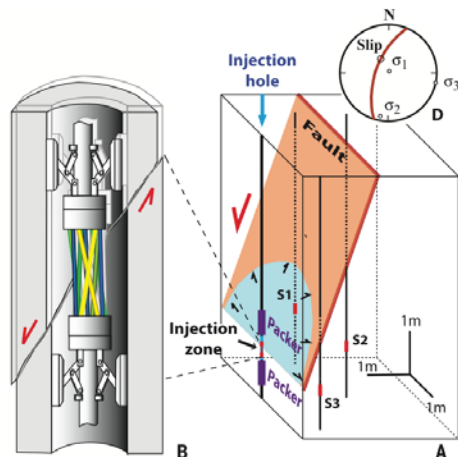
## 10-year goal

Develop the ability to **utilize stress and induced seismicity to control flow paths along reactivated faults and fractures, predicting permeability behavior** with an order of magnitude improvement over current capabilities

# Subsurface Stress and Induced Seismicity **Element**: Relate Stress to Induced Seismicity and Permeability

Element

Relate Stress and IS to Permeability



10-year goal

Develop the ability to **utilize stress and induced seismicity to control flow paths along reactivated faults and fractures, predicting permeability behavior** with an order of magnitude improvement over current capabilities



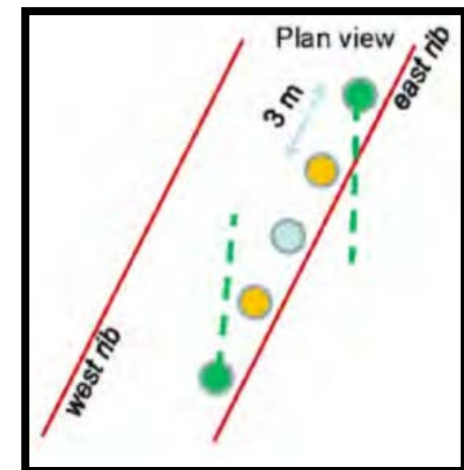
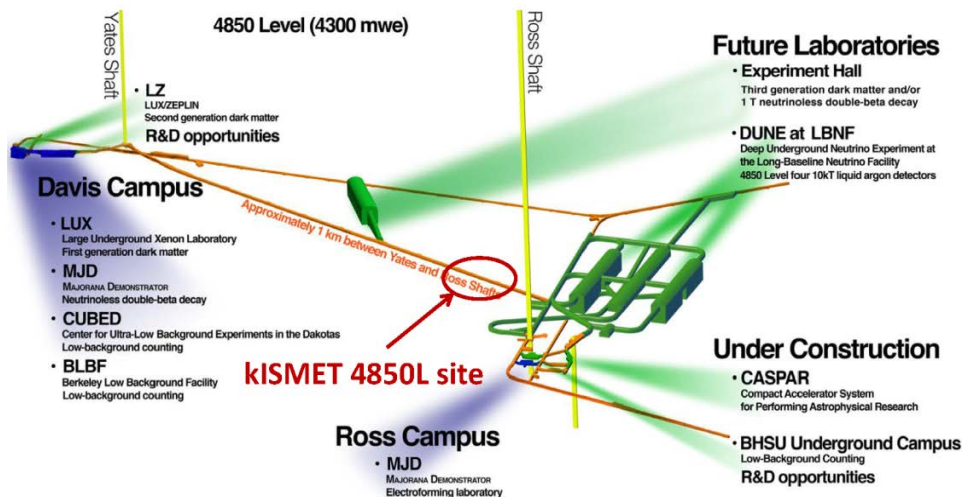
# Activity: Underground facility for testing IS as controlled by stress, rock properties & existing fractures

## KISMET: Permeability and Induced Seismicity Management for Energy Technologies

- Stress measurements and modeling of natural stress state
  - Univ. Wisconsin, Stanford, Golder Associates
- Joint inversion of displacement (GPS/tilt meter) and velocity (seismic) for the 3D stress field.
- Stimulated fault slip experiments to characterize relationship between rock fabric, stress and the evolution of fractures.



# KiSMET @ SURF





# Wellbore Integrity & Drilling Technologies

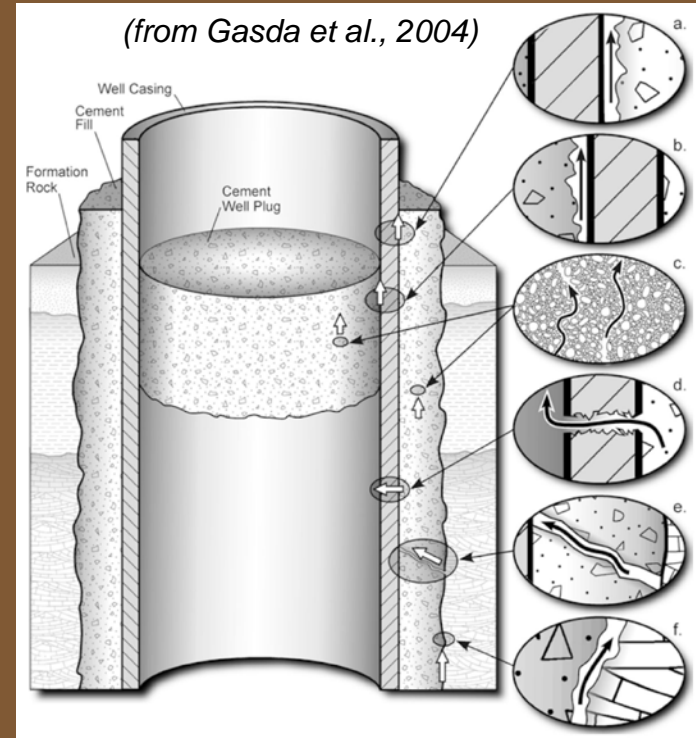
## Motivation and Objectives

### Motivation

- Current well systems may not meet long term integrity needs and these well systems require further advancement to meet goals of SubTER

### Objectives and Goals

- Improve understanding of interaction between well system and natural environment in order to engineer wells that:
  - maintain integrity over decadal time scales
  - facilitate SubTER other pillar goals



Many possible leakage pathways along a well, including:

- between cement and outside of casing
- breached casing
- through fracture in annulus cement
- between cement and rock
- through and around internal wellbore seals



# Example Element: Improved Well Construction Materials

Activity

**Quantify stress / chemical evolution**  
needed for material/process improvements

Activity

**Develop materials and processes**  
that improve well integrity



Year 2  
Goals

- Establish industry partnerships
- Define basis for evaluating performance of candidate materials/technologies
- Perform synthesis and laboratory testing of 5 materials and methods compatible with representative subsurface environments
- Plan for performing field-like deployment

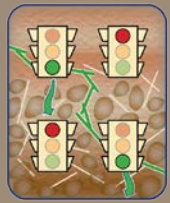
Year 5  
Goals

- Perform field demonstration of candidate systems using **advanced materials** and/or processes that provide, for example, at least a **25% increase in bond strength** for anticipated range of well conditions (100-foot demo wells).
- Establish standards and **protocols for evaluating long-term performance** of well construction materials in representative environments and loading conditions.
- Develop methodologies for understanding the **effect of in situ stress evolution** and other forcing functions on the wellbore sealing system

Year 10  
Goals

Develop or implement economical fit-for-purpose wellbore construction methods across a wide range of applications (e.g., producing wells, disposal wells, monitoring wells, etc.).





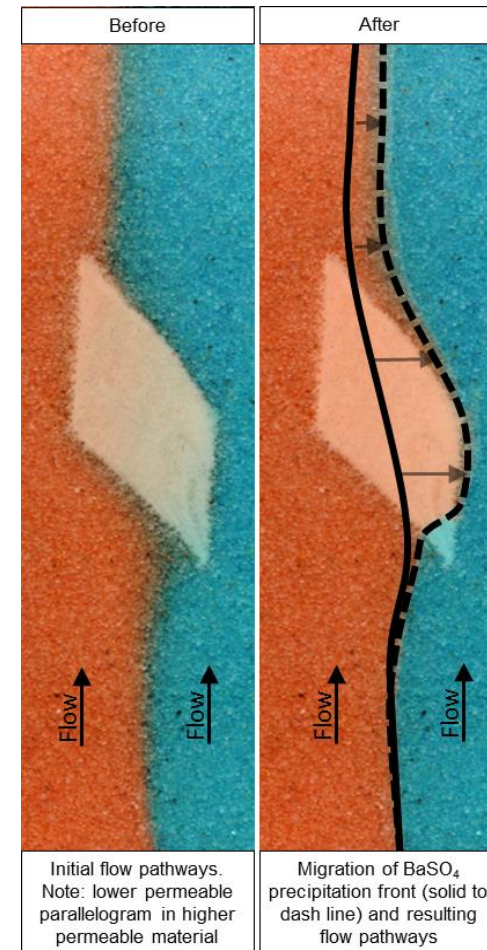
# Permeability Manipulation Motivation & Objective

## Motivation

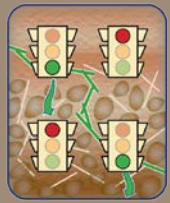
- Methodologies to control permeability, fracture development and fluid flow pathways *with finesse* is missing.

## Objective

- Develop the scientific basis and technologies to **quantify, characterize and manipulate subsurface flow**
- through an integration of physical alterations, physicochemical fluid/rock interaction processes, and novel stimulation methods implemented at the field scale

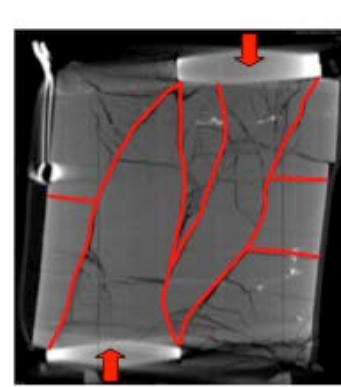


(Fox et al., 2015)

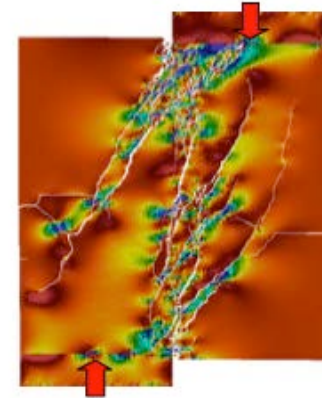


# Example activity: Simulation of fracture networks & flow

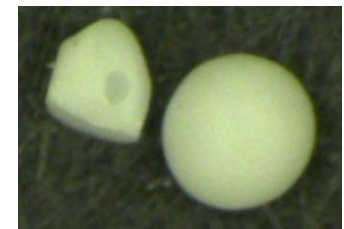
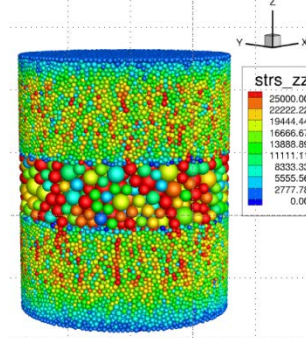
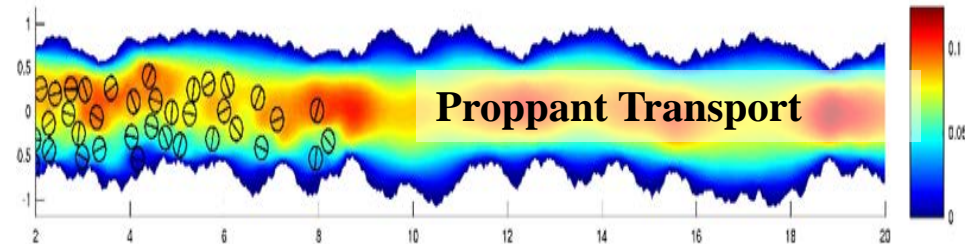
- New numerical methods to simulate fracture initiation, propagation, flow and reactions
- Successful testing at laboratory through field scales



Experimental observations of shale fracturing



Numerical simulation of fracturing

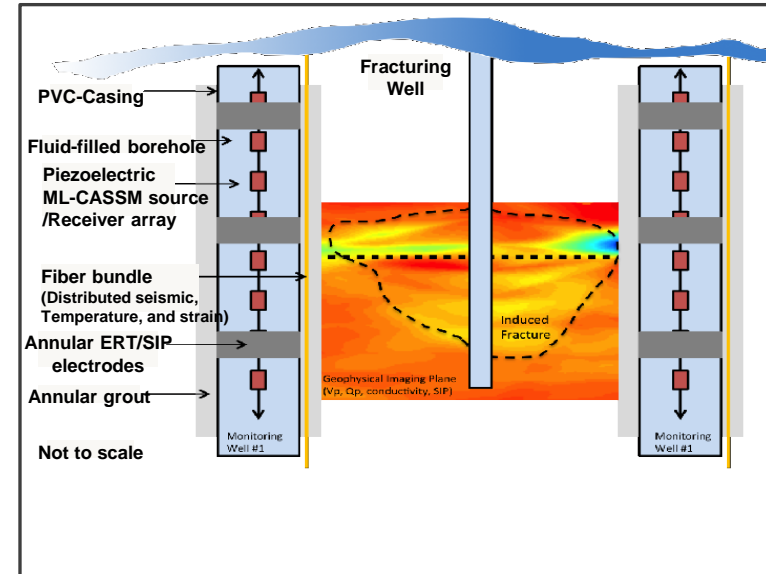




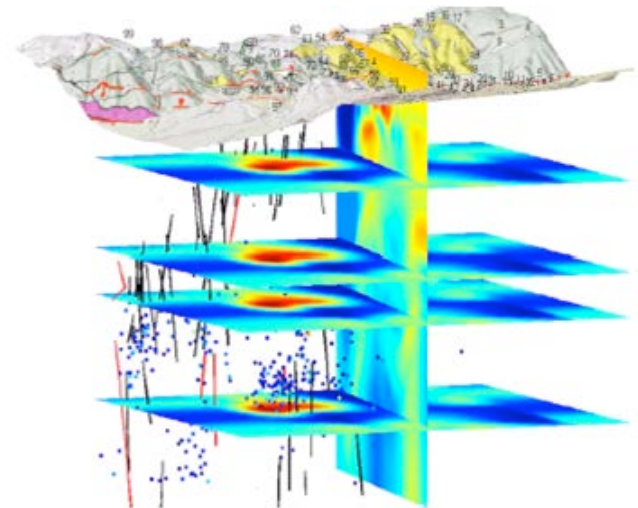
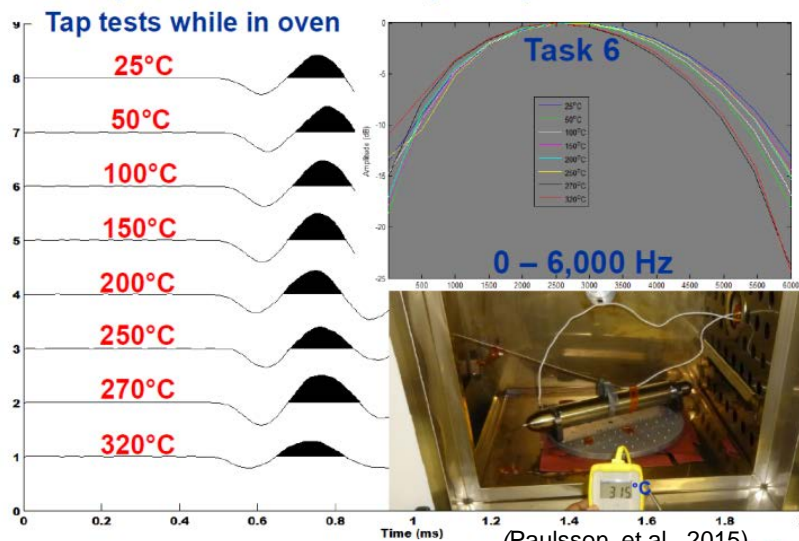
# New Subsurface Signals Objective

Transform ability to characterize subsurface systems by developing new approaches to:

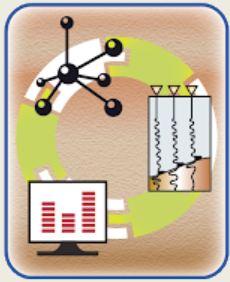
- sense the subsurface
- analyze multiple datasets
- identify critical system transitions
- develop process control approaches



Fiber Optic Seismic Sensor (FOSS) Tests 77°F- 608°F



Newman et al., 2008



**New sensing approaches**

**Integration of multi-scale and multi-type datasets**

**Diagnostic signatures and critical thresholds**

**Adaptive control processes**

**Novel tracers for fracture system characterization and monitoring**

**Advanced Fiber-Optic Monitoring Tools for Seismic & Electrical Detection**

**Example activities**

Identify candidate intrinsic tracers, co-injected tracers, and natural fracture geophysical signatures suitable for pursuit.

**2-year Goals**

Design and construct a fiber-optic point EM vector sensor and distributed EM sensor.

Demonstrate in field the use of improved tracers and natural signals to characterize a field fracture network.

**5-year Goals**

Demonstrate the utility of the enhanced fiber-optic sensing systems for field scale real-time monitoring of fracture behavior.



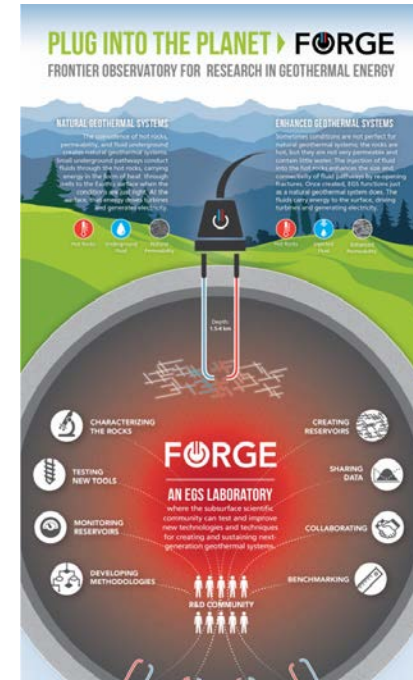
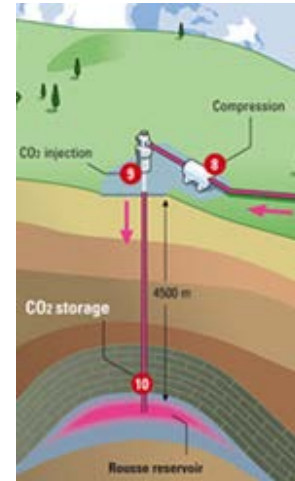
**10-year Goal**

**Identification of diagnostic signatures and critical thresholds through transformative collection and analysis of new subsurface signals.**

# Field Energy Observatories

## Field Energy Observatories Enable:

- In situ testing under controlled conditions -a critical aspect of RDD&D
- Coordination of SubTER activities (common site, materials)
- Community engagement
- Partnership with industry and stakeholders
- Partnerships across projects



Blue Canyon, NM

KiSMET @ SURF

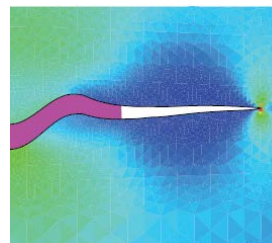
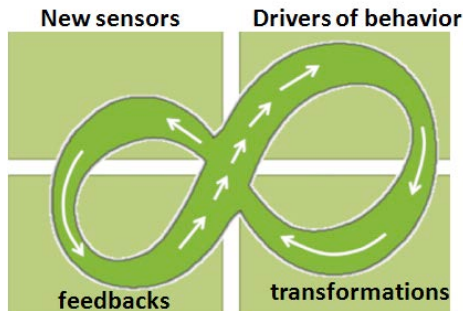


# Fit-For-Purpose Modeling

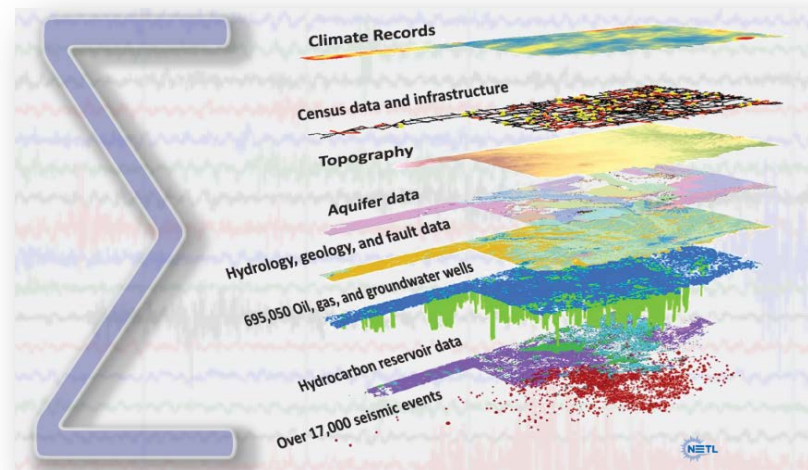
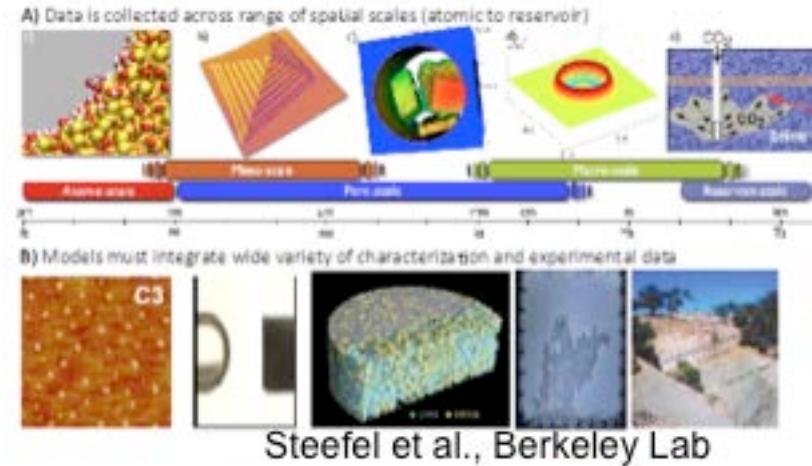
next-generation computational approaches for subsurface control

**Several advances are required. Examples:**

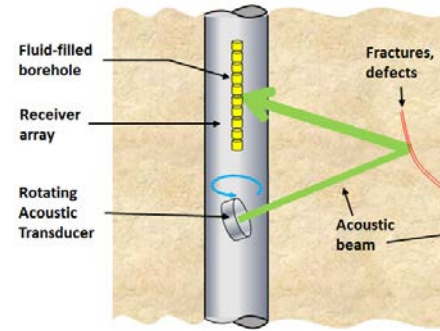
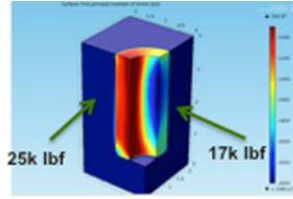
- Modeling **stress evolution** in wellbore environment and in reservoirs
- Accurate simulation of **coupled permeability, fracture propagation, fluid flow** and proppant behavior
- **Anticipate induced seismicity** constrained by diverse datasets
- **Risk assessment** frameworks
- Integrated and **rapid data processing, management, and knowledge** generation from multiple big & diverse datasets
- **Ultra-fast predictions and decision support** – toward decision support using exascale



Fracture propagation using an adaptive mesh scheme [Lew et al. 2013]

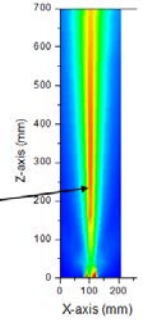


## ➤ Friday AM, H51M

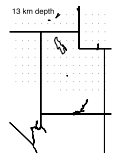
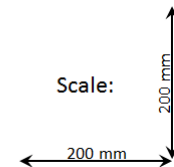
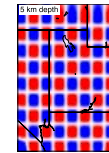
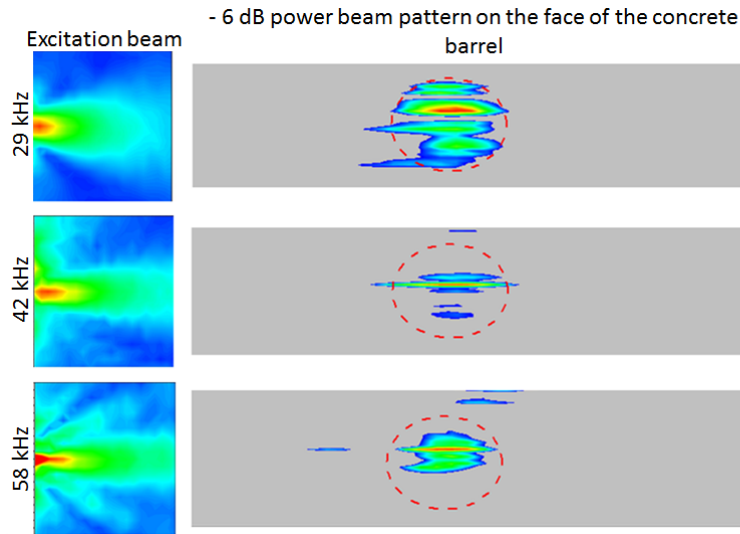


360 degree imaging

Wide band, low frequency  
Collimated beam  
(20-120 kHz)



No side-lobes



# More Information and Next Steps

## Next Steps

- SubTER Industry Roundtable, Feb 2016
- Webinar and Engagements with Universities, 2016
- Pending FY16/17 Budget ~ SubTER Funding Opportunities

## For More Information:

DOE Webpage: <http://energy.gov/subsurface-tech-team>

Natl. Lab Team Webpage: <http://esd.lbl.gov/subter/home/subsurface-team/>

 Twitter: <https://twitter.com/SubTERCrosscut>

 LinkedIn Groups: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/7017263>

 LinkedIn Page: <https://www.linkedin.com/pub/subter-crosscut/106/332/85>

