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Machine Learning Assisted Cement Integrity Evaluation During Plugging and Abandonment Operations

Aberdeen, June 6th, 2023

How it started?

"Permanently plugged wells shall be abandoned with an **eternal perspective**¹..."

- Casing cement shall be verified to ensure a vertical and horizontal seal;
- If casing cement is verified by logging, minimum 30 m cumulative interval with acceptable bonding is required to act as a permanent external barrier.



How it started?

There is room for improvements in the cement integrity assessment



BACKGROUND: TTiLT

Develop a logging tool for the assessment of cement quality through multiple strings of casing (July, 2019 to June, 2022)





NUMERICAL SIMULATION

SYNTHETIC DATA

TOOL

LAB SETUP

BACKGROUND: TTiLT

MACHINE LEARNING TECHNICS: detecting, classifying & estimating severity of flaws in the cement sheath (based on synthetic data: numerical & experimental)



BACKGROUND: TTiLT

Final outcomes of the Project's first phase





BR102021018581A2 BR1020220146861

Publications





Machine learning-based cement integrity evaluation with a through-tubing logging experimental setup Awards



WHY?

AI can improve the P&A process beyond the cement integrity evaluation

RISK BASED REGULATIONS

Different approaches on P&A are welcome by regulators

P&A DESIGN DILEMMA

No high quality data enough to change the approach

HUMAN BASED INTERPRETATION

Data interpretation in P&A is complex, biased and human-dependent

"WITHOUT AI TO QUICKLY SIMULATED SCENARIOS, P&A DESIGN WILL ALWAYS BE THE SAME"

How? P&A Software Platform

Machine learning based, software platform to assist analysts in the interpretation of well logging data and the operator to optimize planning and management of P&A campaigns

Decision-Support Software

Based on Active Learning, benefiting from a dedicated database and interaction with experts

Reliability & Accuracy

Results gain robustness from interaction with an expert and improve continuously as the platform is used

Transparency & Verifiability

Based on **interpretable machine learning** models, results can be cross checked, audited and authenticated

Time Saving

Faster interpretation of logging data as Well as planning & management of P&A campaigns

User-Friendly Interactive Interface

An intuitive graphical interface enabling users to explore different scenarios and select most suitable one

Data Flow

P&A assistant

The modular software will provide not only ML-assisted log interpretations but also optimized P&A campaigns.

Final Considerations

Where we are now

- Building database infrastructure;
- Developing the modules that compound the software (Back-end);
- Starting the development of the Front-end;

Challenges

- Gather quality and representative data to compose the dataset;
- Deal with log file formats;
- Deal with data from different tools;
- Balance the expectations of the market, users, and regulators

Next steps

- Add more data to the database;
- Models' refining;
- Search for partners for validating and/or testing the product;
- Search for partners for collaborations;

we are on it!

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