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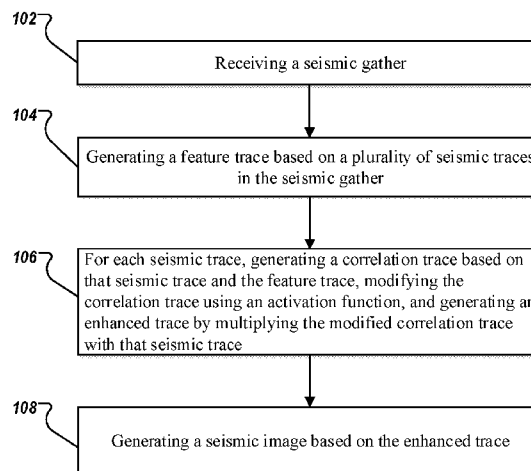


FIG. 1



(57) Abstract: A method of enhancing seismic images includes receiving a seismic gather. The seismic gather includes a plurality of seismic traces. A feature trace is generated based on the plurality of seismic traces in the seismic gather. For each of the plurality of seismic traces in the seismic gather, a correlation trace is generated based on that seismic trace and the feature trace, the correlation trace is modified using an activation function, and an enhanced trace is generated by multiplying that seismic trace with the modified correlation trace.



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ENHANCING SEISMIC IMAGES

CLAIM OF PRIORITY

[0001] This application claims priority to U.S. Patent Application No. 15/952,615 filed on April 13, 2018, the entire contents of which are hereby incorporated
5 by reference.

BACKGROUND

[0002] Seismic data can be collected for a target region including one or more subsurface layers by sending seismic waves to the target region at multiple source locations and recording reflected waves at multiple receiver locations. The seismic data
10 can be used to build seismic images for analyzing subsurface structure and lithology of the target region so that effective oil and gas exploration can be performed.

SUMMARY

[0003] The present disclosure describes enhancing seismic images.

[0004] In an implementation, a seismic gather is received. The seismic gather
15 includes a plurality of seismic traces. A feature trace is generated based on the plurality of seismic traces in the seismic gather. For each of the plurality of seismic traces in the seismic gather, a correlation trace is generated based on that seismic trace and the feature trace, the correlation trace is modified using an activation function, and an enhanced trace is generated by multiplying that seismic trace with the modified correlation trace.

[0005] Implementations of the described subject matter, including the
20 previously described implementation, can be implemented using a computer-implemented method; a non-transitory, computer-readable medium storing computer-readable instructions to perform the computer-implemented method; and a computer-implemented system comprising one or more computer memory devices interoperably
25 coupled with one or more computers and having tangible, non-transitory, machine-readable media storing instructions that, when executed by the one or more computers, perform the computer-implemented method/the computer-readable instructions stored on the non-transitory, computer-readable medium.

[0006] The subject matter described in this specification can be implemented
30 in particular implementations, so as to realize one or more of the following advantages. The described approach reduces undesired components (for example, noise or

unreliable data) in the seismic data and improves signal-to-noise ratios, which enhances the quality of final seismic images.

[0007] The details of one or more implementations of the subject matter of this specification are set forth in the Detailed Description, the Claims, and the accompanying drawings. Other features, aspects, and advantages of the subject matter will become apparent to those of ordinary skill in the art from the Detailed Description, the Claims, and the accompanying drawings.

DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

[0008] FIG. 1 is a flowchart illustrating an example of a computer-implemented method for enhancing seismic images, according to some implementations of the present disclosure.

[0009] FIG. 2 is a diagram illustrating data transformations for enhancing seismic images, according to some implementations of the present disclosure.

[0010] FIGS. 3A and 3B illustrate an enhanced seismic image, according to some implementations of the present disclosure.

[0011] FIG. 4 is a block diagram illustrating an example of a computer-implemented system used to provide computational functionalities associated with described algorithms, methods, functions, processes, flows, and procedures, according to some implementations of the present disclosure.

[0012] Like reference numbers and designations in the various drawings indicate like elements.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0013] The following detailed description describes enhancing seismic images, and is presented to enable any person skilled in the art to make and use the disclosed subject matter in the context of one or more particular implementations. Various modifications, alterations, and permutations of the disclosed implementations can be made and will be readily apparent to those of ordinary skill in the art, and the general principles defined can be applied to other implementations and applications, without departing from the scope of the present disclosure. In some instances, one or more technical details that are unnecessary to obtain an understanding of the described subject matter and that are within the skill of one of ordinary skill in the art may be omitted so

as to not obscure one or more described implementations. The present disclosure is not intended to be limited to the described or illustrated implementations, but to be accorded the widest scope consistent with the described principles and features.

[0014] Seismic data can be collected for a target region including one or more subsurface layers by sending seismic waves to the target region at multiple source locations and recording reflected waves at multiple receiver locations. In some cases, in addition to reflected waves, other types of waves may also be recorded such as direct waves, diving waves, and surface waves. After data processing, reflected waves are remained while other types of waves are removed. The seismic data can be used to build seismic images for providing information of subsurface structure and lithology of the target region to reveal possible crude oil- and natural gas-bearing formations. For example, a seismic source can fire a shot at a source location for a receiver to record the reflected wave. The recorded data at each receiver corresponding to a single shot is called a trace. The trace can include sampled values of the reflected wave by sampling the reflected wave at a regular time interval. In some cases, a collection of seismic traces that share a common geometric attribute (for example, a common acquisition parameter) is called a seismic gather.

[0015] At a high level, the described approach improves seismic traces by reducing undesired components (such as noise or unreliable data) when such undesired components can degrade final seismic images. The improved seismic traces can be used to generate enhanced seismic images for effective drilling of wells or generating drilling parameters to explore oil and gas. In some implementations, one or more seismic gathers are received. Each gather includes multiple seismic traces. For each gather, a feature trace is generated using the seismic traces in that gather. Each seismic trace in that gather correlates with the feature trace to generate a correlation trace that includes a set of correlation coefficients. The correlation trace is modified by applying an activation function to each correlation coefficient. The modified correlation trace is also called a feature map. Each seismic trace is updated by multiplying the original seismic trace with the feature map. Enhanced seismic images can be generated based on the updated seismic traces. By multiplying with the feature map, undesired components in the original trace are reduced.

[0016] FIG. 1 is a flowchart illustrating an example of a computer-implemented method 100 for enhancing seismic images, according to some implementations of the

present disclosure. For clarity of presentation, the description that follows generally describes method 100 in the context of the other figures in this description. However, it will be understood that method 100 can be performed, for example, by any system, environment, software, and hardware, or a combination of systems, environments, software, and hardware, as appropriate. In some implementations, various steps of method 100 can be run in parallel, in combination, in loops, or in any order.

[0017] At 102, one or more seismic gathers are received. Each seismic gather includes multiple seismic traces that share a common geometric attribute (for example, a common acquisition parameter). In some implementations, the received seismic gathers are migrated common image gathers (CIGs), such as angle-domain CIGs (ADCIGs). Each CIG can correspond to a fixed surface location. The received CIGs can be a byproduct of migration and generated by migration algorithms at every surface location in a Cartesian or Cylindrical coordinate system. For example, in a migration process, subsurface offset domain CIGs (ODCIGs) are first generated by correlating source and receiver wavefields with an opposite offset around an imaging point. Linear Radon transformation is then applied to generate ADCIGs from ODCIGs. In some cases, the traces in the CIGs can be a function of time or depth. As understood by one of ordinary skill in the art, the described approach may be applied to other seismic gathers such as ODCIGs, ADCIGs, and common midpoint gathers (CMPs). From 102, method 100 proceeds to 104.

[0018] At 104, for each gather, a feature trace is generated. In some implementations, the feature trace of a gather can be generated by stacking or summing the traces in that gather. The feature trace can also be derived using other methods, for instance, supervised machine learning, or simply importing a feature trace from an external source. The feature trace and the traces in the gather can have a same number of data samples. The feature trace serves as a representative signal for the gather. From 104, method 100 proceeds to 106.

[0019] At 106, for each trace in a gather, a correlation trace is calculated using that trace and the feature trace of that gather. The correlation trace includes a set of correlation coefficients. The correlation trace is then modified by applying an activation function to each correlation coefficient in the correlation trace. The modified correlation trace is also called a feature map. Each trace in the gather has its own feature map. In some implementations, the correlation trace is generated by correlating the original trace

with the feature trace of the gather. The correlation trace can be a function of time or depth. Each correlation coefficient in the correlation trace represents an inner product of a segment of the feature trace and a segment of the original trace. The two segments are selected from the feature trace and the original trace separately, centered at a time
 5 where the correlation coefficient resides. For example, the correlation trace can be calculated by

$$C(\tau) = \sum_{it=\tau-nw}^{\tau+nw} A(it)B(it), \quad (1)$$

where $A(it)$ is the original trace, $B(it)$ is the feature trace, and nw represents a half size of a correlation window. The size of the correlation window is smaller than the length
 10 of the feature trace or the original trace, and can be specified by a user or an algorithm. The number of correlation coefficients in the correlation trace can be the same as the number of data samples in the feature trace and the original trace. In other words, one original trace gather generates one correlation trace gather, and both gathers have the same size.

15 [0020] After calculating a correlation trace for each original trace in the gather, an activation function is applied to the correlation trace to generate a feature map for that original trace. The activation function can be applied to each correlation coefficient in the correlation trace. In some implementations, the activation function can be a sigmoid function (also called a logistic function) or other types of functions such as a
 20 rectified linear unit. Parameters in the activation function can be adjusted for suppressing undesired components in the original traces. For example, the sigmoid function $f(x) = 1/(1 + e^{-x})$ can be used, and the feature map can be generated by

$$f(\tau) = 1/(1 + e^{-C(\tau)}), \quad (2)$$

where $C(\tau)$ is calculated using Equation (1).

25 [0021] After calculating a feature map for each original trace, an enhanced trace is generated by multiplying the original trace sample-by-sample with the feature map. By multiplying with the feature map, undesired signal components in the original trace is reduced. As discussed earlier, the feature trace can be considered as a representative signal or desired signal components of the gather. The correlation coefficients in the
 30 correlation trace indicate resemblance between the original trace and the feature trace. A negative correlation coefficient indicates undesired signal components of the original trace to be suppressed, while a positive correlation coefficient indicates desired signal components of the original trace to be remained. By applying the activation function in

Equation (2), a negative correlation coefficient $C(\tau)$ provides a feature map value $f(\tau) \ll 1$, while a positive correlation coefficient $C(\tau)$ provides a feature map value $f(\tau) \approx 1$. As a result, by multiplying with the feature map, the undesired signal components in the original trace is suppressed by the less feature map value, while the
 5 desired signal components remain.

[0022] The following example further illustrates operations performed in steps 104 and 106. Assume that a gather has 10 traces, denoted as A_1, \dots, A_{10} . Each trace has 100 data samples. For instance, the data samples in the first trace are denoted as $A_1(0), \dots, A_1(99)$, the data samples in the second trace are denoted as $A_2(0), \dots, A_2(99)$, and so
 10 on. A feature trace B for the gather is generated by stacking the 10 traces. The feature trace B has 100 data points, denoted as $B(0), \dots, B(99)$, where

$$B(i) = \sum_{j=1}^{10} A_j(i), i = 0, \dots, 99.$$

The correlation trace for the j-th original trace, denoted as C_j and also called j-th correlation trace, is generated using Equation (1). The j-th correlation trace C_j has 100
 15 data points, denoted as $C_j(0), \dots, C_j(99)$. For example, assume that the correlation window nw equals 20, using Equation (1), $C_j(0)$ and $C_j(20)$ are calculated as

$$C_j(0) = \sum_{i=-20}^{20} A_j(i)B(i) = \sum_{i=0}^{20} A_j(i)B(i) \text{ and}$$

$$C_j(20) = \sum_{i=-20}^{20} A_j(i)B(i),$$

respectively. The j-th correlation trace is further modified by the activation function to
 20 generate the j-th feature map for the j-th original trace, denoted as f_j , using Equation (2). The j-th feature map has 100 data points denoted as $f_j(0), \dots, f_j(99)$, where

$$f_j(i) = 1/(1 + e^{-C_j(i)}), i = 0, \dots, 99.$$

The j-th enhanced trace for the j-th original trace, denoted as E_j , is generated by multiplying the j-th original trace with the j-th feature map. The j-th enhanced trace has
 25 100 data points, denoted as $E_j(0), \dots, E_j(99)$, where

$$E_j(i) = f_j(i)A_j(i), i = 0, \dots, 99.$$

The enhanced trace E_j can have a greater signal-to-noise ratio by reducing undesired signal components in the original trace. From 106, method 100 proceeds to 108.

[0023] At 108, a seismic image is generated based on the enhanced traces. For
 30 example, the enhanced traces in a same gather are stacked to form a final migrated seismic image. The seismic image provides information of subsurface structure or lithology to reveal possible oil and gas formations. Based on the seismic image, oil

wells can be drilled or drilling parameters can be generated or updated for effective oil and gas exploration. After 108, method 100 stops.

[0024] FIG. 2 is a diagram 200 illustrating data transformations for enhancing seismic images, according to some implementations of the present disclosure. The diagram 200 includes an input trace 202 from a gather, where each point 212 in the input trace 202 represents a data sample of the input trace 202. As described in step 106, a correlation trace 204 is generated based on the input trace 202 and a feature trace. Each data point 214 of the correlation trace 204 is generated using multiple data points 212 of the input trace 202 within a correlation window. A feature map 206 is generated by applying an activation function to each data point 214 of the correlation trace 204. An enhanced output trace 208 is generated by sample-by-sample multiplying data points 216 of the feature map 206 with data points 212 of the input trace 202. As illustrated in FIG. 2, the input trace 202, the correlation trace 204, the feature map 206, and output trace 208 have the same number of data points.

[0025] FIGS. 3A and 3B illustrate an enhanced seismic image, according to some implementations of the present disclosure. FIG. 3A illustrates an original stacked seismic image 300a without using the described approach, and FIG. 3B illustrates an enhanced stacked seismic image 300b using the described approach. An arrow 302 in FIG. 3A illustrates an image area degraded by undesired signal components, while an arrow 304 in FIG. 3B illustrates that the same image area is enhanced by reducing undesired signal components using the described approach.

[0026] FIG. 4 is a block diagram illustrating an example of a computer-implemented System 400 used to provide computational functionalities associated with described algorithms, methods, functions, processes, flows, and procedures, according to some implementations of the present disclosure. In the illustrated implementation, System 400 includes a Computer 402 and a Network 430.

[0027] The illustrated Computer 402 is intended to encompass any computing device such as a server, desktop computer, laptop/notebook computer, wireless data port, smart phone, personal data assistant (PDA), tablet computer, one or more processors within these devices, another computing device, or a combination of computing devices, including physical or virtual instances of the computing device, or a combination of physical or virtual instances of the computing device. Additionally, the Computer 402 can include an input device, such as a keypad, keyboard, touch screen,

another input device, or a combination of input devices that can accept user information, and an output device that conveys information associated with the operation of the Computer 402, including digital data, visual, audio, another type of information, or a combination of types of information, on a graphical-type user interface (UI) (or GUI) or other UI.

[0028] The Computer 402 can serve in a role in a distributed computing system as a client, network component, a server, a database or another persistency, another role, or a combination of roles for performing the subject matter described in the present disclosure. The illustrated Computer 402 is communicably coupled with a Network 430. In some implementations, one or more components of the Computer 402 can be configured to operate within an environment, including cloud-computing-based, local, global, another environment, or a combination of environments.

[0029] At a high level, the Computer 402 is an electronic computing device operable to receive, transmit, process, store, or manage data and information associated with the described subject matter. According to some implementations, the Computer 402 can also include or be communicably coupled with a server, including an application server, e-mail server, web server, caching server, streaming data server, another server, or a combination of servers.

[0030] The Computer 402 can receive requests over Network 430 (for example, from a client software application executing on another Computer 402) and respond to the received requests by processing the received requests using a software application or a combination of software applications. In addition, requests can also be sent to the Computer 402 from internal users (for example, from a command console or by another internal access method), external or third-parties, or other entities, individuals, systems, or computers.

[0031] Each of the components of the Computer 402 can communicate using a System Bus 403. In some implementations, any or all of the components of the Computer 402, including hardware, software, or a combination of hardware and software, can interface over the System Bus 403 using an application programming interface (API) 412, a Service Layer 413, or a combination of the API 412 and Service Layer 413. The API 412 can include specifications for routines, data structures, and object classes. The API 412 can be either computer-language independent or dependent and refer to a complete interface, a single function, or even a set of APIs. The Service

Layer 413 provides software services to the Computer 402 or other components (whether illustrated or not) that are communicably coupled to the Computer 402. The functionality of the Computer 402 can be accessible for all service consumers using the Service Layer 413. Software services, such as those provided by the Service Layer 413, provide reusable, defined functionalities through a defined interface. For example, the interface can be software written in JAVA, C++, another computing language, or a combination of computing languages providing data in extensible markup language (XML) format, another format, or a combination of formats. While illustrated as an integrated component of the Computer 402, alternative implementations can illustrate the API 412 or the Service Layer 413 as stand-alone components in relation to other components of the Computer 402 or other components (whether illustrated or not) that are communicably coupled to the Computer 402. Moreover, any or all parts of the API 412 or the Service Layer 413 can be implemented as a child or a sub-module of another software module, enterprise application, or hardware module without departing from the scope of the present disclosure.

[0032] The Computer 402 includes an Interface 404. Although illustrated as a single Interface 404, two or more Interfaces 404 can be used according to particular needs, desires, or particular implementations of the Computer 402. The Interface 404 is used by the Computer 402 for communicating with another computing system (whether illustrated or not) that is communicatively linked to the Network 430 in a distributed environment. Generally, the Interface 404 is operable to communicate with the Network 430 and includes logic encoded in software, hardware, or a combination of software and hardware. More specifically, the Interface 404 can include software supporting one or more communication protocols associated with communications such that the Network 430 or hardware of Interface 404 is operable to communicate physical signals within and outside of the illustrated Computer 402.

[0033] The Computer 402 includes a Processor 405. Although illustrated as a single Processor 405, two or more Processors 405 can be used according to particular needs, desires, or particular implementations of the Computer 402. Generally, the Processor 405 executes instructions and manipulates data to perform the operations of the Computer 402 and any algorithms, methods, functions, processes, flows, and procedures as described in the present disclosure.

[0034] The Computer 402 also includes a Database 406 that can hold data for

the Computer 402, another component communicatively linked to the Network 430 (whether illustrated or not), or a combination of the Computer 402 and another component. For example, Database 406 can be an in-memory, conventional, or another type of database storing data consistent with the present disclosure. In some implementations, Database 406 can be a combination of two or more different database types (for example, a hybrid in-memory and conventional database) according to particular needs, desires, or particular implementations of the Computer 402 and the described functionality. Although illustrated as a single Database 406, two or more databases of similar or differing types can be used according to particular needs, desires, or particular implementations of the Computer 402 and the described functionality. While Database 406 is illustrated as an integral component of the Computer 402, in alternative implementations, Database 406 can be external to the Computer 402.

[0035] The Computer 402 also includes a Memory 407 that can hold data for the Computer 402, another component or components communicatively linked to the Network 430 (whether illustrated or not), or a combination of the Computer 402 and another component. Memory 407 can store any data consistent with the present disclosure. In some implementations, Memory 407 can be a combination of two or more different types of memory (for example, a combination of semiconductor and magnetic storage) according to particular needs, desires, or particular implementations of the Computer 402 and the described functionality. Although illustrated as a single Memory 407, two or more Memories 407 or similar or differing types can be used according to particular needs, desires, or particular implementations of the Computer 402 and the described functionality. While Memory 407 is illustrated as an integral component of the Computer 402, in alternative implementations, Memory 407 can be external to the Computer 402.

[0036] The Application 408 is an algorithmic software engine providing functionality according to particular needs, desires, or particular implementations of the Computer 402, particularly with respect to functionality described in the present disclosure. For example, Application 408 can serve as one or more components, modules, or applications. Further, although illustrated as a single Application 408, the Application 408 can be implemented as multiple Applications 408 on the Computer 402. In addition, although illustrated as integral to the Computer 402, in alternative implementations, the Application 408 can be external to the Computer 402.

[0037] The Computer 402 can also include a Power Supply 414. The Power Supply 414 can include a rechargeable or non-rechargeable battery that can be configured to be either user- or non-user-replaceable. In some implementations, the Power Supply 414 can include power-conversion or management circuits (including recharging, standby, or another power management functionality). In some implementations, the Power Supply 414 can include a power plug to allow the Computer 402 to be plugged into a wall socket or another power source to, for example, power the Computer 402 or recharge a rechargeable battery.

[0038] There can be any number of Computers 402 associated with, or external to, a computer system containing Computer 402, each Computer 402 communicating over Network 430. Further, the term “client,” “user,” or other appropriate terminology can be used interchangeably, as appropriate, without departing from the scope of the present disclosure. Moreover, the present disclosure contemplates that many users can use one Computer 402, or that one user can use multiple computers 402.

[0039] Described implementations of the subject matter can include one or more features, alone or in combination.

[0040] For example, in a first implementation, a computer-implemented method, comprising: receiving a seismic gather, wherein the seismic gather includes a plurality of seismic traces; generating a feature trace based on the plurality of seismic traces in the seismic gather; and for each of the plurality of seismic traces in the seismic gather: generating a correlation trace based on that seismic trace and the feature trace; modifying the correlation trace using an activation function; and generating an enhanced trace by multiplying that seismic trace with the modified correlation trace.

[0041] The foregoing and other described implementations can each, optionally, include one or more of the following features:

[0042] A first feature, combinable with any of the following features, wherein the seismic gather is a migrated common image gather.

[0043] A second feature, combinable with any of the previous or following features, wherein the feature trace is generated by summing the plurality of seismic traces in the seismic gather.

[0044] A third feature, combinable with any of the previous or following features, wherein the correlation trace is generated by multiplying that seismic trace and the feature trace over a window.

[0045] A fourth feature, combinable with any of the previous or following features, wherein the activation function is a sigmoid function.

[0046] A fifth feature, combinable with any of the previous or following features, wherein the modified correlation trace reduces unwanted components in that
5 seismic trace.

[0047] A sixth feature, combinable with any of the previous or following features, further comprising: generating a seismic image based on the enhanced trace; and generating drilling parameters based on the seismic image.

[0048] In a second implementation, a non-transitory, computer-readable
10 medium storing one or more instructions executable by a computer system to perform operations comprising: receiving a seismic gather, wherein the seismic gather includes a plurality of seismic traces; generating a feature trace based on the plurality of seismic traces in the seismic gather; and for each of the plurality of seismic traces in the seismic gather:
generating a correlation trace based on that seismic trace and the feature
15 trace; modifying the correlation trace using an activation function; and generating an enhanced trace by multiplying that seismic trace with the modified correlation trace.

[0049] The foregoing and other described implementations can each, optionally, include one or more of the following features:

[0050] A first feature, combinable with any of the following features, wherein
20 the seismic gather is a migrated common image gather.

[0051] A second feature, combinable with any of the previous or following features, wherein the feature trace is generated by summing the plurality of seismic traces in the seismic gather.

[0052] A third feature, combinable with any of the previous or following
25 features, wherein the correlation trace is generated by multiplying that seismic trace and the feature trace over a window.

[0053] A fourth feature, combinable with any of the previous or following features, wherein the activation function is a sigmoid function.

[0054] A fifth feature, combinable with any of the previous or following
30 features, wherein the modified correlation trace reduces unwanted components in that seismic trace.

[0055] A sixth feature, combinable with any of the previous or following features, wherein the operations further comprise: generating a seismic image based on the enhanced trace; and generating drilling parameters based on the seismic image.

[0056] In a third implementation, a computer-implemented system, comprising:
5 one or more computers; and one or more computer memory devices interoperably coupled with the one or more computers and having tangible, non-transitory, machine-readable media storing one or more instructions that, when executed by the one or more computers, perform one or more operations comprising: receiving a seismic gather, wherein the seismic gather includes a plurality of seismic traces; generating a feature
10 trace based on the plurality of seismic traces in the seismic gather; and for each of the plurality of seismic traces in the seismic gather: generating a correlation trace based on that seismic trace and the feature trace; modifying the correlation trace using an activation function; and generating an enhanced trace by multiplying that seismic trace with the modified correlation trace.

[0057] The foregoing and other described implementations can each, optionally, include one or more of the following features:

[0058] A first feature, combinable with any of the following features, wherein the seismic gather is a migrated common image gather.

[0059] A second feature, combinable with any of the previous or following
20 features, wherein the feature trace is generated by summing the plurality of seismic traces in the seismic gather.

[0060] A third feature, combinable with any of the previous or following features, wherein the correlation trace is generated by multiplying that seismic trace and the feature trace over a window.

[0061] A fourth feature, combinable with any of the previous or following
25 features, wherein the activation function is a sigmoid function.

[0062] A fifth feature, combinable with any of the previous or following features, wherein the one or more operations further comprise: generating a seismic image based on the enhanced trace; and generating drilling parameters based on the
30 seismic image.

[0063] Implementations of the subject matter and the functional operations described in this specification can be implemented in digital electronic circuitry, in tangibly embodied computer software or firmware, in computer hardware, including the

structures disclosed in this specification and their structural equivalents, or in combinations of one or more of them. Software implementations of the described subject matter can be implemented as one or more computer programs, that is, one or more modules of computer program instructions encoded on a tangible, non-transitory, computer-readable medium for execution by, or to control the operation of, a computer or computer-implemented system. Alternatively, or additionally, the program instructions can be encoded in/on an artificially generated propagated signal, for example, a machine-generated electrical, optical, or electromagnetic signal that is generated to encode information for transmission to a receiver apparatus for execution by a computer or computer-implemented system. The computer-storage medium can be a machine-readable storage device, a machine-readable storage substrate, a random or serial access memory device, or a combination of computer-storage mediums. Configuring one or more computers means that the one or more computers have installed hardware, firmware, or software (or combinations of hardware, firmware, and software) so that when the software is executed by the one or more computers, particular computing operations are performed.

[0064] The term “real-time,” “real time,” “realtime,” “real (fast) time (RFT),” “near(ly) real-time (NRT),” “quasi real-time,” or similar terms (as understood by one of ordinary skill in the art), means that an action and a response are temporally proximate such that an individual perceives the action and the response occurring substantially simultaneously. For example, the time difference for a response to display (or for an initiation of a display) of data following the individual’s action to access the data can be less than 1 millisecond (ms), less than 1 second (s), or less than 5 s. While the requested data need not be displayed (or initiated for display) instantaneously, it is displayed (or initiated for display) without any intentional delay, taking into account processing limitations of a described computing system and time required to, for example, gather, accurately measure, analyze, process, store, or transmit the data.

[0065] The terms “data processing apparatus,” “computer,” or “electronic computer device” (or an equivalent term as understood by one of ordinary skill in the art) refer to data processing hardware and encompass all kinds of apparatuses, devices, and machines for processing data, including by way of example, a programmable processor, a computer, or multiple processors or computers. The computer can also be, or further include special purpose logic circuitry, for example, a central processing unit

(CPU), an FPGA (field programmable gate array), or an ASIC (application-specific integrated circuit). In some implementations, the computer or computer-implemented system or special purpose logic circuitry (or a combination of the computer or computer-implemented system and special purpose logic circuitry) can be hardware- or software-based (or a combination of both hardware- and software-based). The computer can optionally include code that creates an execution environment for computer programs, for example, code that constitutes processor firmware, a protocol stack, a database management system, an operating system, or a combination of execution environments. The present disclosure contemplates the use of a computer or computer-implemented system with an operating system of some type, for example LINUX, UNIX, WINDOWS, MAC OS, ANDROID, IOS, another operating system, or a combination of operating systems.

[0066] A computer program, which can also be referred to or described as a program, software, a software application, a unit, a module, a software module, a script, code, or other component can be written in any form of programming language, including compiled or interpreted languages, or declarative or procedural languages, and it can be deployed in any form, including, for example, as a stand-alone program, module, component, or subroutine, for use in a computing environment. A computer program can, but need not, correspond to a file in a file system. A program can be stored in a portion of a file that holds other programs or data, for example, one or more scripts stored in a markup language document, in a single file dedicated to the program in question, or in multiple coordinated files, for example, files that store one or more modules, sub-programs, or portions of code. A computer program can be deployed to be executed on one computer or on multiple computers that are located at one site or distributed across multiple sites and interconnected by a communication network.

[0067] While portions of the programs illustrated in the various figures can be illustrated as individual components, such as units or modules, that implement described features and functionality using various objects, methods, or other processes, the programs can instead include a number of sub-units, sub-modules, third-party services, components, libraries, and other components, as appropriate. Conversely, the features and functionality of various components can be combined into single components, as appropriate. Thresholds used to make computational determinations can be statically, dynamically, or both statically and dynamically determined.

[0068] Described methods, processes, or logic flows represent one or more examples of functionality consistent with the present disclosure and are not intended to limit the disclosure to the described or illustrated implementations, but to be accorded the widest scope consistent with described principles and features. The described methods, processes, or logic flows can be performed by one or more programmable computers executing one or more computer programs to perform functions by operating on input data and generating output data. The methods, processes, or logic flows can also be performed by, and computers can also be implemented as, special purpose logic circuitry, for example, a CPU, an FPGA, or an ASIC.

[0069] Computers for the execution of a computer program can be based on general or special purpose microprocessors, both, or another type of CPU. Generally, a CPU will receive instructions and data from and write to a memory. The essential elements of a computer are a CPU, for performing or executing instructions, and one or more memory devices for storing instructions and data. Generally, a computer will also include, or be operatively coupled to, receive data from or transfer data to, or both, one or more mass storage devices for storing data, for example, magnetic, magneto-optical disks, or optical disks. However, a computer need not have such devices. Moreover, a computer can be embedded in another device, for example, a mobile telephone, a personal digital assistant (PDA), a mobile audio or video player, a game console, a global positioning system (GPS) receiver, or a portable memory storage device.

[0070] Non-transitory computer-readable media for storing computer program instructions and data can include all forms of permanent/non-permanent or volatile/non-volatile memory, media and memory devices, including by way of example semiconductor memory devices, for example, random access memory (RAM), read-only memory (ROM), phase change memory (PRAM), static random access memory (SRAM), dynamic random access memory (DRAM), erasable programmable read-only memory (EPROM), electrically erasable programmable read-only memory (EEPROM), and flash memory devices; magnetic devices, for example, tape, cartridges, cassettes, internal/removable disks; magneto-optical disks; and optical memory devices, for example, digital versatile/video disc (DVD), compact disc (CD)-ROM, DVD+/-R, DVD-RAM, DVD-ROM, high-definition/density (HD)-DVD, and BLU-RAY/BLU-RAY DISC (BD), and other optical memory technologies. The memory can store various objects or data, including caches, classes, frameworks, applications, modules,

backup data, jobs, web pages, web page templates, data structures, database tables, repositories storing dynamic information, or other appropriate information including any parameters, variables, algorithms, instructions, rules, constraints, or references. Additionally, the memory can include other appropriate data, such as logs, policies, security or access data, or reporting files. The processor and the memory can be supplemented by, or incorporated in, special purpose logic circuitry.

[0071] To provide for interaction with a user, implementations of the subject matter described in this specification can be implemented on a computer having a display device, for example, a CRT (cathode ray tube), LCD (liquid crystal display), LED (Light Emitting Diode), or plasma monitor, for displaying information to the user and a keyboard and a pointing device, for example, a mouse, trackball, or trackpad by which the user can provide input to the computer. Input can also be provided to the computer using a touchscreen, such as a tablet computer surface with pressure sensitivity, a multi-touch screen using capacitive or electric sensing, or another type of touchscreen. Other types of devices can be used to interact with the user. For example, feedback provided to the user can be any form of sensory feedback (such as, visual, auditory, tactile, or a combination of feedback types). Input from the user can be received in any form, including acoustic, speech, or tactile input. In addition, a computer can interact with the user by sending documents to and receiving documents from a client computing device that is used by the user (for example, by sending web pages to a web browser on a user's mobile computing device in response to requests received from the web browser).

[0072] The term "graphical user interface," or "GUI," can be used in the singular or the plural to describe one or more graphical user interfaces and each of the displays of a particular graphical user interface. Therefore, a GUI can represent any graphical user interface, including but not limited to, a web browser, a touch screen, or a command line interface (CLI) that processes information and efficiently presents the information results to the user. In general, a GUI can include a number of user interface (UI) elements, some or all associated with a web browser, such as interactive fields, pull-down lists, and buttons. These and other UI elements can be related to or represent the functions of the web browser.

[0073] Implementations of the subject matter described in this specification can be implemented in a computing system that includes a back-end component, for

example, as a data server, or that includes a middleware component, for example, an application server, or that includes a front-end component, for example, a client computer having a graphical user interface or a Web browser through which a user can interact with an implementation of the subject matter described in this specification, or
5 any combination of one or more such back-end, middleware, or front-end components. The components of the system can be interconnected by any form or medium of wireline or wireless digital data communication (or a combination of data communication), for example, a communication network. Examples of communication networks include a local area network (LAN), a radio access network (RAN), a metropolitan area network
10 (MAN), a wide area network (WAN), Worldwide Interoperability for Microwave Access (WIMAX), a wireless local area network (WLAN) using, for example, 802.11 a/b/g/n or 802.20 (or a combination of 802.11x and 802.20 or other protocols consistent with the present disclosure), all or a portion of the Internet, another communication network, or a combination of communication networks. The communication network
15 can communicate with, for example, Internet Protocol (IP) packets, Frame Relay frames, Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) cells, voice, video, data, or other information between network nodes.

[0074] The computing system can include clients and servers. A client and server are generally remote from each other and typically interact through a
20 communication network. The relationship of client and server arises by virtue of computer programs running on the respective computers and having a client-server relationship to each other.

[0075] While this specification contains many specific implementation details, these should not be construed as limitations on the scope of any inventive concept or on
25 the scope of what can be claimed, but rather as descriptions of features that can be specific to particular implementations of particular inventive concepts. Certain features that are described in this specification in the context of separate implementations can also be implemented, in combination, in a single implementation. Conversely, various features that are described in the context of a single implementation can also be
30 implemented in multiple implementations, separately, or in any sub-combination. Moreover, although previously described features can be described as acting in certain combinations and even initially claimed as such, one or more features from a claimed combination can, in some cases, be excised from the combination, and the claimed

combination can be directed to a sub-combination or variation of a sub-combination.

[0076] Particular implementations of the subject matter have been described. Other implementations, alterations, and permutations of the described implementations are within the scope of the following claims as will be apparent to those skilled in the art. While operations are depicted in the drawings or claims in a particular order, this should not be understood as requiring that such operations be performed in the particular order shown or in sequential order, or that all illustrated operations be performed (some operations can be considered optional), to achieve desirable results. In certain circumstances, multitasking or parallel processing (or a combination of multitasking and parallel processing) can be advantageous and performed as deemed appropriate.

[0077] Moreover, the separation or integration of various system modules and components in the previously described implementations should not be understood as requiring such separation or integration in all implementations, and it should be understood that the described program components and systems can generally be integrated together in a single software product or packaged into multiple software products.

[0078] Accordingly, the previously described example implementations do not define or constrain the present disclosure. Other changes, substitutions, and alterations are also possible without departing from the spirit and scope of the present disclosure.

[0079] Furthermore, any claimed implementation is considered to be applicable to at least a computer-implemented method; a non-transitory, computer-readable medium storing computer-readable instructions to perform the computer-implemented method; and a computer system comprising a computer memory interoperably coupled with a hardware processor configured to perform the computer-implemented method or the instructions stored on the non-transitory, computer-readable medium.

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A computer-implemented method, comprising:
 - receiving a seismic gather, wherein the seismic gather includes a plurality of
 - 5 seismic traces;
 - generating a feature trace based on the plurality of seismic traces in the seismic gather; and
 - for each of the plurality of seismic traces in the seismic gather:
 - generating a correlation trace based on that seismic trace and the feature
 - 10 trace;
 - modifying the correlation trace using an activation function; and
 - generating an enhanced trace by multiplying that seismic trace with the modified correlation trace.
- 15 2. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the seismic gather is a migrated common image gather.
3. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the feature trace is generated by summing the plurality of seismic traces in the seismic gather.
4. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the correlation trace is
- 20 generated by multiplying that seismic trace and the feature trace over a window.
5. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the activation function is a sigmoid function.
6. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein the modified correlation trace reduces unwanted components in that seismic trace.
- 25 7. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, further comprising:
 - generating a seismic image based on the enhanced trace; and
 - generating drilling parameters based on the seismic image.
8. A non-transitory, computer-readable medium storing one or more instructions
- 30 executable by a computer system to perform operations comprising:

- receiving a seismic gather, wherein the seismic gather includes a plurality of seismic traces;
- generating a feature trace based on the plurality of seismic traces in the seismic gather; and
- 5 for each of the plurality of seismic traces in the seismic gather:
- generating a correlation trace based on that seismic trace and the feature trace;
- modifying the correlation trace using an activation function; and
- generating an enhanced trace by multiplying that seismic trace with the
- 10 modified correlation trace.
9. The non-transitory, computer-readable medium of claim 8, wherein the seismic gather is a migrated common image gather.
10. The non-transitory, computer-readable medium of claim 8, wherein the feature trace is generated by summing the plurality of seismic traces in the seismic gather.
- 15 11. The non-transitory, computer-readable medium of claim 8, wherein the correlation trace is generated by multiplying that seismic trace and the feature trace over a window.
12. The non-transitory, computer-readable medium of claim 8, wherein the activation function is a sigmoid function.
- 20 13. The non-transitory, computer-readable medium of claim 8, wherein the modified correlation trace reduces unwanted components in that seismic trace.
14. The non-transitory, computer-readable medium of claim 8, wherein the operations further comprise:
- generating a seismic image based on the enhanced trace; and
- 25 generating drilling parameters based on the seismic image.
15. A computer-implemented system, comprising:
- one or more computers; and

one or more computer memory devices interoperably coupled with the one or more computers and having tangible, non-transitory, machine-readable media storing one or more instructions that, when executed by the one or more computers, perform one or more operations comprising:

receiving a seismic gather, wherein the seismic gather includes a plurality of seismic traces;

generating a feature trace based on the plurality of seismic traces in the seismic gather; and

5 for each of the plurality of seismic traces in the seismic gather:

generating a correlation trace based on that seismic trace and the feature trace;

modifying the correlation trace using an activation function; and

10 generating an enhanced trace by multiplying that seismic trace with the modified correlation trace.

16. The computer-implemented system of claim 15, wherein the seismic gather is a migrated common image gather.

17. The computer-implemented system of claim 15, wherein the feature trace is generated by summing the plurality of seismic traces in the seismic gather.

15 18. The computer-implemented system of claim 15, wherein the correlation trace is generated by multiplying that seismic trace and the feature trace over a window.

19. The computer-implemented system of claim 15, wherein the activation function is a sigmoid function.

20 20. The computer-implemented system of claim 15, wherein the one or more operations further comprise:

generating a seismic image based on the enhanced trace; and

generating drilling parameters based on the seismic image.

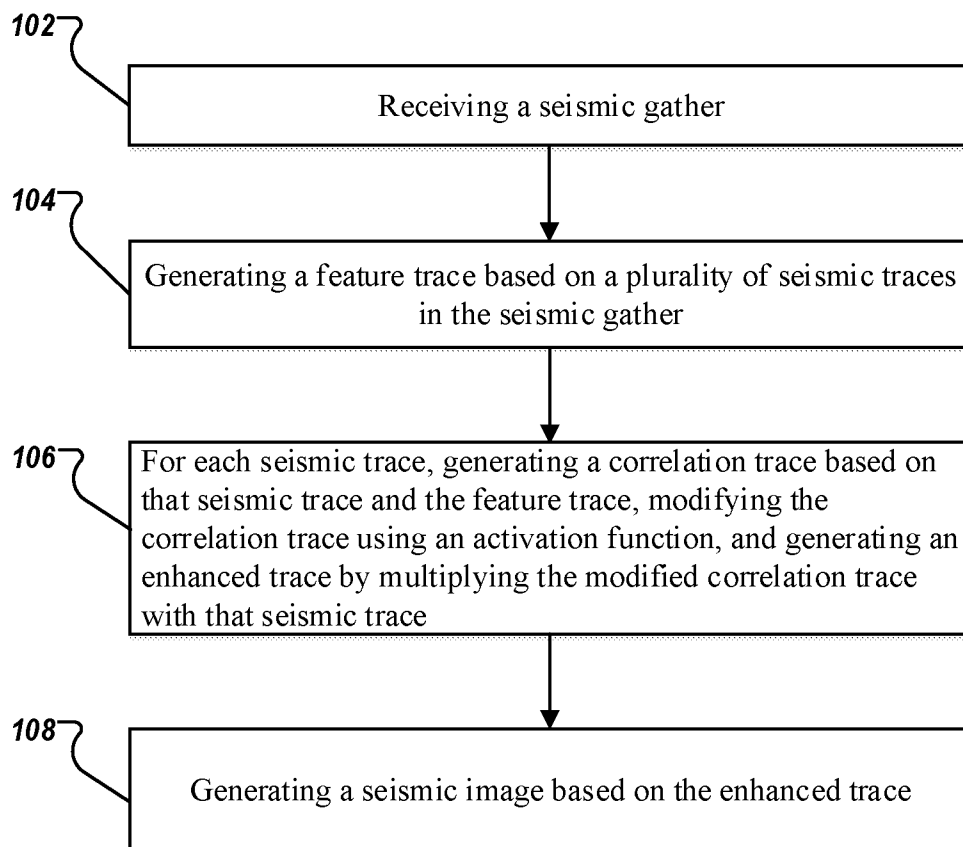



FIG. 1


100

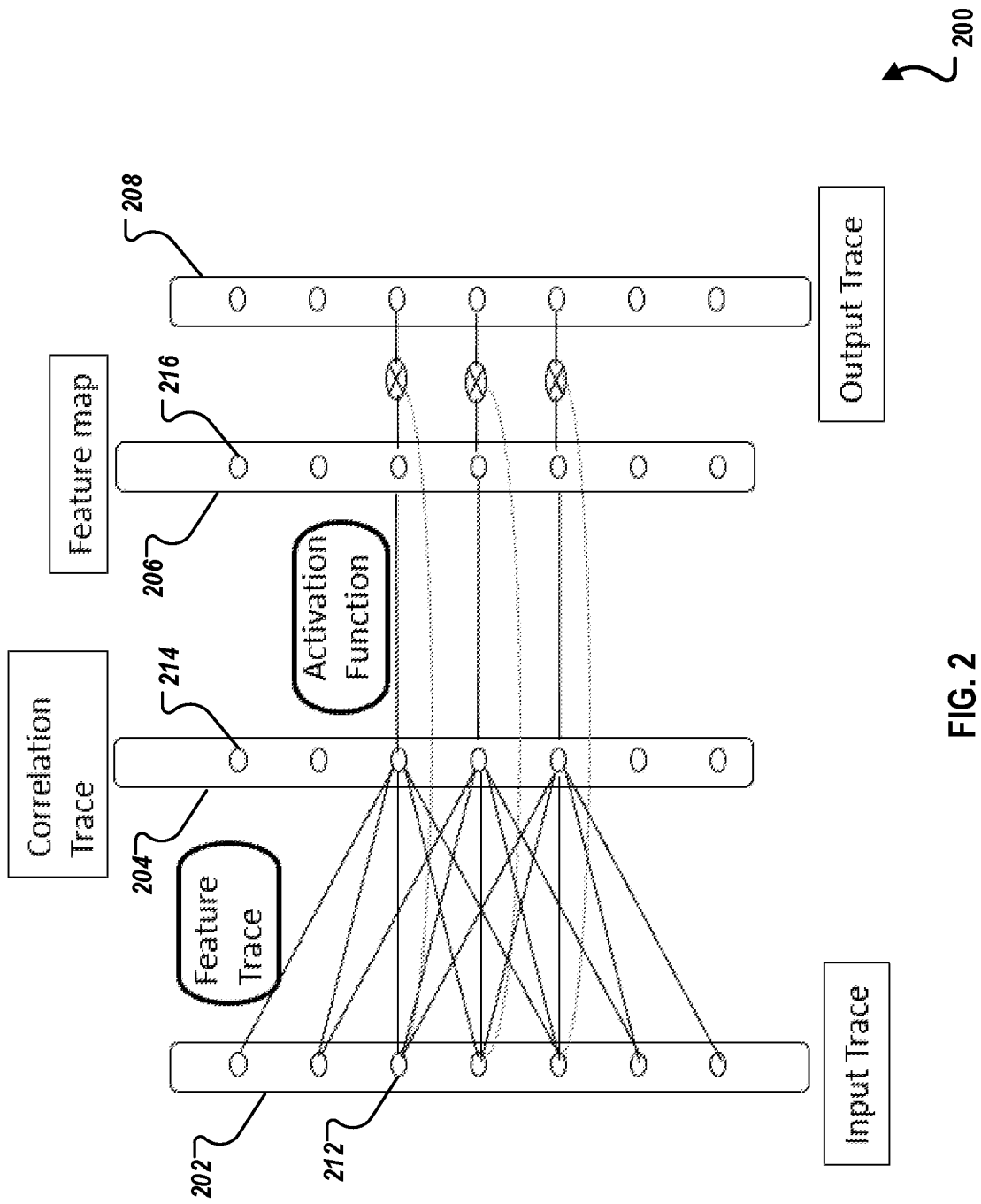


FIG. 2

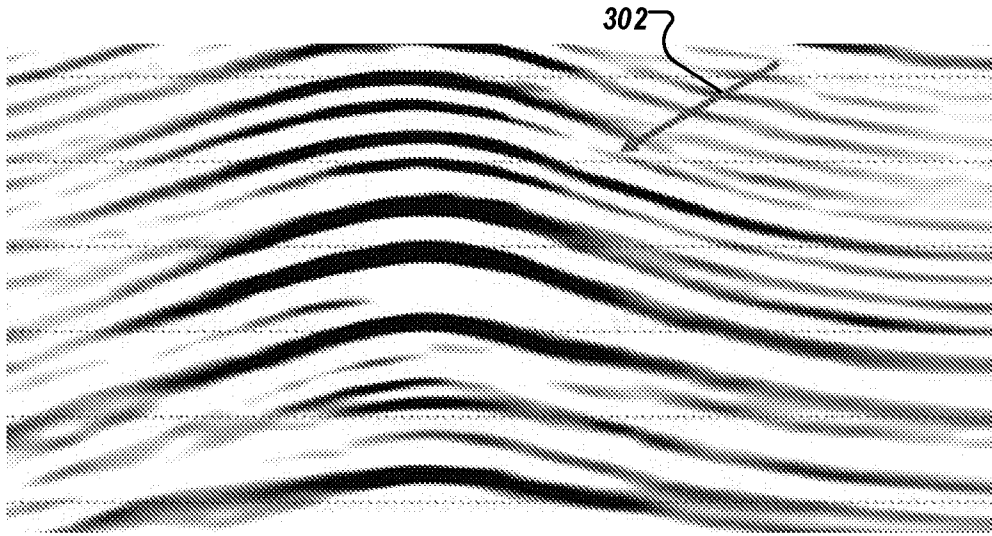


FIG. 3A

300a

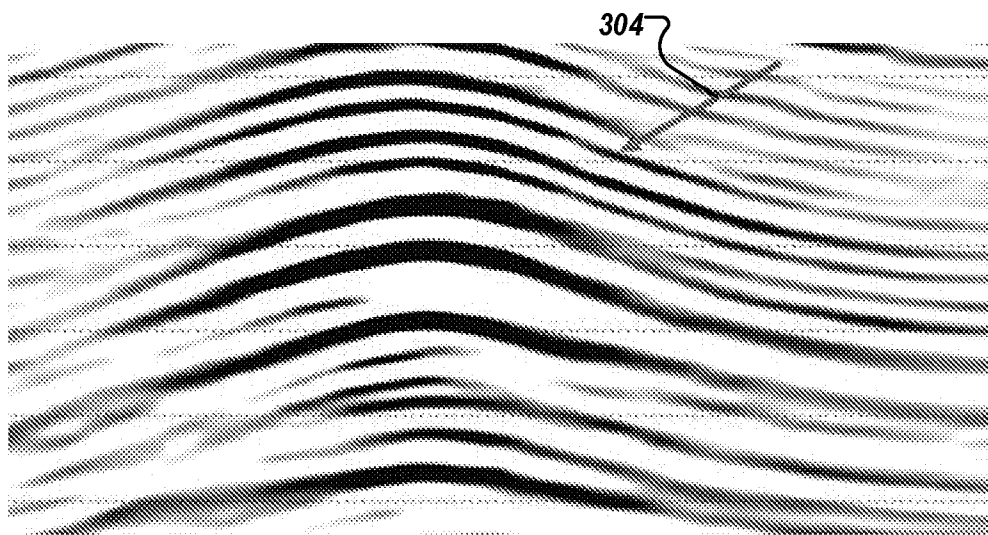


FIG. 3B

300b

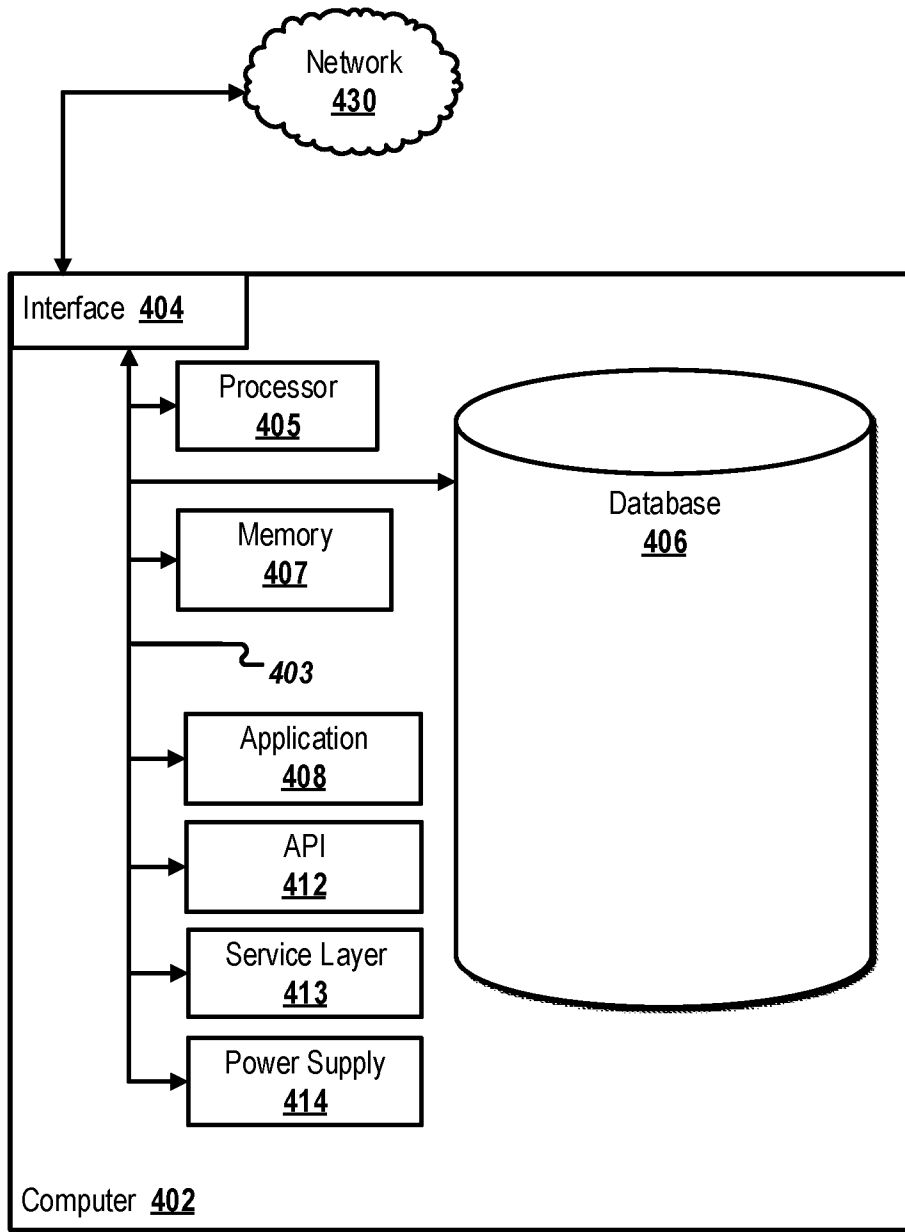


FIG. 4

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/US2019/024763

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
INV. G01V1/36
ADD.

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
G01V

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4 208 732 A (RUEHLE WILLIAM H [US]) 17 June 1980 (1980-06-17)	1-4, 6-11, 13-18,20
Y	figures 1-7 column 1, lines 11-16 column 2, lines 11-40 column 2, line 67 - column 5, line 37 -----	5,12,19
Y	WO 2013/149126 A1 (GECO TECHNOLOGY BV [NL]; WESTERNGECO LLC [US] ET AL.) 3 October 2013 (2013-10-03)	5,12,19
A	figures 1-5 paragraphs [0011] - [0016], [0023] - [0058] ----- -/--	1-4, 6-11, 13-18,20

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search 12 June 2019	Date of mailing of the international search report 26/06/2019
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Name and mailing address of the ISA/ European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Pasquini, Matteo
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/US2019/024763

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>MATTEO GIBOLI ET AL: "Reverse Time Migration surface offset gathers part 1: a new method to produce 'classical' common image gathers", SEG TECHNICAL PROGRAM EXPANDED ABSTRACTS 2012, 1 September 2012 (2012-09-01), pages 1-5, XP055363480, DOI: 10.1190/segam2012-1007.1 pages 1-2</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p>	1-20
A	<p>WO 2016/012826 A1 (CGG SERVICES SA [FR]) 28 January 2016 (2016-01-28) paragraphs [0008], [0023] - [0049], [0065] figures 11-12</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p>	1-20

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/US2019/024763

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 4208732	A	17-06-1980	NONE
WO 2013149126	A1	03-10-2013	EP 2831635 A1 04-02-2015
			US 2015066375 A1 05-03-2015
			WO 2013149126 A1 03-10-2013
WO 2016012826	A1	28-01-2016	US 2017199290 A1 13-07-2017
			WO 2016012826 A1 28-01-2016