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- (81) **Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available):** AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.
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(54) **Title:** SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PREDICTING FLUID FLOW IN SUBTERRANEAN RESERVOIRS

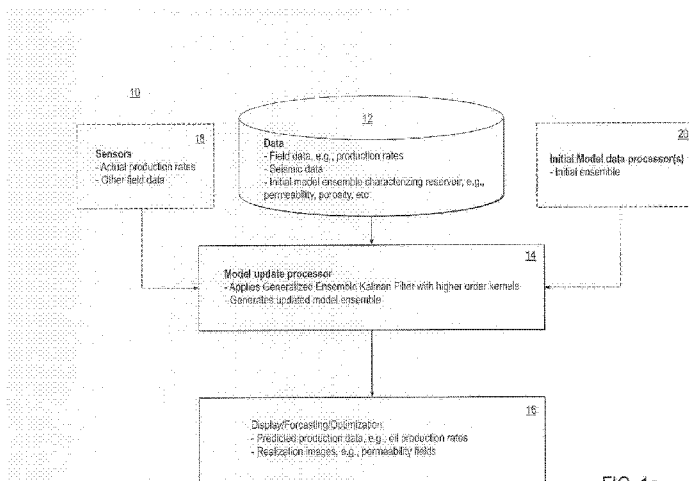


FIG. 1a

(57) **Abstract:** A reservoir prediction system and method are provided that use generalized EnKF using kernels, capable of representing non-Gaussian random fields characterized by multi-point geostatistics. The main drawback of the standard EnKF is that the Kalman update essentially results in a linear combination of the forecasted ensemble, and the EnKF only uses the covariance and cross-covariance between the random fields (to be updated) and observations, thereby only preserving two-point statistics. Kernel methods allow the creation of nonlinear generalizations of linear algorithms that can be exclusively written in terms of dot products. By deriving the EnKF in a high-dimensional feature space implicitly defined using kernels, both the Kalman gain and update equations are nonlinearized, thus providing a completely general nonlinear set of EnKF equations, the nonlinearity being controlled by the kernel. By choosing high order polynomial kernels, multi-point statistics and therefore geological realism of the updated random fields can be preserved. The method is applied to two non-limiting examples where permeability is updated using production data as observations, and is shown to better reproduce complex geology compared to the standard EnKF, while providing reasonable match to the production data.



A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER*F15D 1/00(2006.01)i, G06F 19/00(2006.01)i*

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)

F15D 1/00; E21B 34/16; E21B 43/12; F04D 27/00; G01N 11/00; G01N 19/00; G01V 1/28; G06G 7/48; G06T 7/20

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

Korean utility models and applications for utility models

Japanese utility models and applications for utility models

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

eKOMPASS(KIPO internal) & Keywords: program, predict, non-gaussian, kalman

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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Y	See Abstract, Fig. 1, 2, P3-5	2-6,10-15
Y	EP 1975879 A2 (MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC CORPORATION) 01 October 2008 See Abstract, Claim 1	2-6,10-15
A	US 4969130 A1 (WASON; CAMERON B. et al.) 06 November 1990 See Abstract	1-15
A	US 5992519 A1 (RAMAKRISHNAN; TERIZHANDUR S. et al.) 30 November 1999 See Abstract	1-15
A	JP 02-286899 A (INOUE MASAHIRO) 27 November 1990 See Abstract	1-15
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A	US 2002-0016703 A1 (CLAIRE BARROUX) 07 February 2002 See Abstract	1-15

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

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Information on patent family members

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