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(54) Title: PRODUCTION LOGGING INVERSION BASED ON DAS/DTS

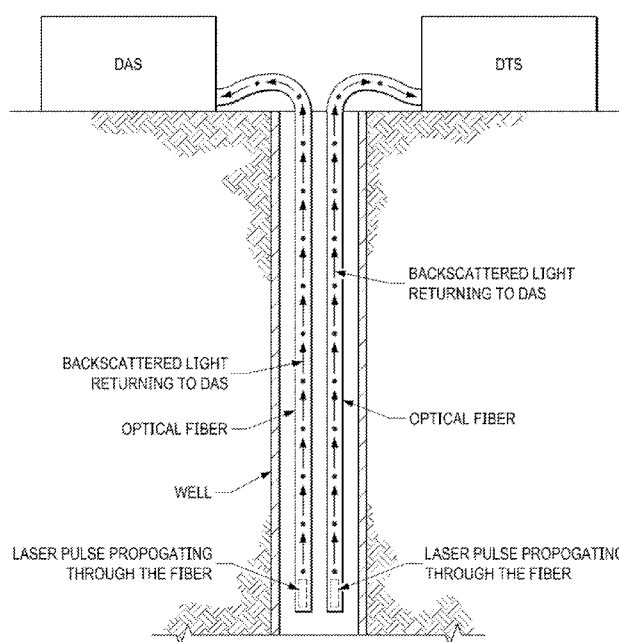


FIG. 13

(57) Abstract: A method of optimizing production of a hydrocarbon-containing reservoir by measuring low-frequency Distributed Acoustic Sensing (LFDAS) data in said well during a time period of constant flow and during a time period of no flow and during a time period of perturbation of flow and simultaneously measuring Distributed Temperature Sensing (DTS) data from said well during a time period of constant flow and during a time period of no flow and during a time period of perturbation of flow. An initial model of reservoir flow is provided using the LFDAS and DTS data; the LFDAS and DTS data inverted using Markov chain Monte Carlo method to provide an optimized reservoir model, and that optimized profile utilized to manage hydrocarbon production from said well and other asset wells.



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PRODUCTION LOGGING INVERSION BASED ON DAS/DTS

PRIOR RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] This application claims priority to US Serial No. 62/665,536, filed May 2, 2018, and incorporated by reference in its entirety for all purposes.

FIELD OF THE DISCLOSURE

[0002] The disclosure relates to well logging techniques used in oil and gas recovery operations. In particular, the method uses Distributed Temperature Sensing (DTS) to measure borehole temperatures and uses Distributed Acoustic Sensing (DAS) to measure borehole flow velocities by tracking temperature slugging signals. A Markov Chain Monte Carlo based stochastic inversion is applied to find the statistical distribution of possible production allocations that fit both the temperature and the velocity measurements. This information is then used in subsequent optimization of reservoir planning and completion, and eventually in stimulation and production of hydrocarbons.

BACKGROUND OF THE DISCLOSURE

[0003] In the development of oil and gas and other similar wells, it is common to utilize well logging surveys to determine the fraction of oil, gas and unwanted water present in the production zone. This data, along with measurements of the fluid flow velocity, porosity, cross-section of the well, pressure and temperature, may be used to determine production rates and other information from each zone of interest in the well. Such data is useful for optimizing the well's production, oil recovery, water shut-off and/or fracturing sequence, in order to achieve better reservoir management and to reduce intervention costs.

[0004] Well logging surveys are performed using logging tools that generally comprise at least one sensor and measure at least one parameter. Logging tools have included spinner type flow meters with attached temperature sensors, which rotate when immersed within a flow stream. However, this type of logging tool has difficulties with mechanical effectiveness. For example, the impeller of the spinner operates on a bearing, which wears and requires frequent inspection and replacement to keep frictional effects from influencing the measurements. Another disadvantage, which increases logging time on the well, is that calibration must be done downhole by making several extra logging runs at various logging

speeds. Additionally, the tool requires borehole cleanup before the survey to prevent sensor damage, which significantly increases the cost. Finally, the measurements are less reliable in horizontal wells due to fluid segregation.

[0005] Fiber-optic sensing technology has been developed in oil industry recently. Compared with electronic based sensing tools, fiber-optic sensing has many advantages. First, all the sensing instruments are at the surface, so there is no power supply, moving parts, or electronics required in the borehole. Also, fiber-optic sensing can provide measurements along the entire fiber length (as long as 10 miles) with a spatial resolution in terms of feet. Thus, it can cover the entire well bore **simultaneously** without having to move the tools. Finally, the diameter of the sensing fibers is usually in the range of millimeters, which can be easily integrated into the existing wireline, coil tubing, or carbon-rod cables, and they can be easily protected to endure harsh borehole environments.

[0006] Optical fibers have thus been used in a variety of logging tools. One technique for substantially instantaneous temperature measurement is fiber optic Distributed Temperature Sensing (DTS) technology. Temperatures are recorded along the optical sensor cable, thus not at points, but as a continuous temperature profile. A high accuracy of temperature determination is achieved over great distances. Typically the DTS systems can locate the temperature to a spatial resolution of 1 m with accuracy to within $\pm 1^{\circ}\text{C}$ at a resolution of 0.01°C . Measurement distances of greater than 30 km can be monitored and some specialized systems can provide even tighter spatial resolutions.

[0007] There are two basic principles of measurement for distributed sensing technology, OTDR (Optical Time Domain Reflectometry) and OFDR (Optical Frequency Domain Reflectometry). In addition, a Code Correlation technology is frequently used that carries elements from both principles.

[0008] OTDR was developed more than 20 years ago and has become the industry standard for telecom loss measurements which detects the Rayleigh backscattering signals, which dominate over Ramen signals. The principle for OTDR is quite simple and is very similar to the time of flight measurement used for radar. Essentially a narrow laser pulse generated either by semiconductor or solid state lasers is sent into the fiber and the backscattered light is analyzed. From the time it takes the backscattered light to return to the detection unit it is possible to locate the location of the temperature event.

[0009] Alternative DTS evaluation units deploy the method of Optical Frequency Domain Reflectometry (OFDR). The OFDR system provides information on the local characteristic only when the backscatter signal detected during the entire measurement time is measured as a function of frequency in a complex fashion, and then subjected to Fourier transformation. The essential principles of OFDR technology are the quasi-continuous wave mode employed by the laser and the narrow-band detection of the optical back scatter signal. This is offset by the technically difficult measurement of the Raman scatter light and rather complex signal processing, due to the FFT calculation with higher linearity requirements for the electronic components.

[0010] Code Correlation DTS sends on/off sequences of limited length into the fiber. The codes are chosen to have suitable properties, e.g. Binary Golay code. In contrast to OTDR technology, the optical energy is spread over a code rather than packed into a single pulse. Thus, a light source with lower peak power compared to OTDR technology can be used, e.g. long life compact semiconductor lasers. The detected backscatter needs to be transformed—similar to OFDR technology—back into a spatial profile, e.g. by cross-correlation. In contrast to OFDR technology, the emission is finite (for example 128 bit) which avoids superposing strong scattered signals from short distances over weak scattered signals from afar, thereby improving the shot noise and the signal-to-noise ratio. Using these techniques it is possible to analyze distances of greater than 30 km from one system and to measure temperature resolutions of less than 0.01°C.

[0011] Unfortunately, the spatial and temporal resolution of DTS measurements is lacking. As DTS spatially averages temperature over approximately 1 meter lengths, it fails to provide highly precise measurements of the inflow temperature of produced fluids. Further, current DTS interpretation techniques and methods are based on visualization of the temperature change in the DTS data log, and are qualitative in nature, at best.

[0012] Distributed Acoustic Sensing or DAS employs a measure of Rayleigh scatter distributed along the fiber optic cable. A coherent laser pulse from an interrogator is sent along the optic fiber and scattering sites within the fiber itself causes the fiber to act as a distributed interferometer with a pre-set gauge length. Thus, interactions between the light and material of the fiber can cause a small amount of light to backscatter and return to the input end, where it is detected and analyzed. Acoustic waves, when interacting with the materials that comprise the optical fiber, create small dynamic density changes, thus affecting the refractive index of the fiber optic cable. These changes affect the backscatter

characteristics, thus becoming detectable events. Using time-domain techniques, event location is precisely determined, providing fully distributed sensing with resolution of 1 meter or less.

[0013] The intensity and phase of the reflected light is measured as a function of time after transmission of the laser pulse. When the pulse has had time to travel the full length of the fiber and back, the next laser pulse can be sent along the fiber. Changes in the reflected intensity and phase of successive pulses from the same region of fiber are caused by changes in the optical path length of that section of fiber. This type of system is very sensitive to both strain and temperature variations of the fiber and measurements can be made almost simultaneously at all sections of the fiber.

[0014] However, different DAS applications and environments have unique characteristics that can create challenges in data analysis, especially when collecting low-frequency data. For example, there is almost always spike noise present resulting from phase errors in the interrogator. In some applications, there is an extremely low-frequency (< 1 mHz) drift signal that affect all channels of the DAS interrogator and can be of greater strength (e.g. intensity) than the signal of interest.

[0015] Installation issues can also lead to interference. If the fiber optic cable used in DAS sensing is not directly coupled to the borehole, as is the case for in temporary installations, there can be noise associated with vibrations in the fiber casing. The vibration noise can be orders of magnitude higher than the signal of interest, thus effectively masking the signals. In thermal sensing applications, significant thermal dissipation, depending on material properties between the fluid and the fiber itself, can be exhibited.

[0016] What is needed in the art are improved methods of well logging for all aspects of oil and gas production. Although well logging is already quite successful, even incremental improvements in technology can mean the difference between cost effective production and reserves that are uneconomical to produce. Ideally, the improved methods would have high spatial and temporal resolution while retaining the ability to provide real time ‘snap shots’ of the production zone’s fluid allocation.

SUMMARY OF THE DISCLOSURE

[0017] We developed a novel method of well logging herein that solely relies on fiber-optic sensing measurements to provide production logging results with uncertainty

estimations. The method uses Distributed Temperature Sensing to measure borehole temperatures and uses Distributed Acoustic Sensing to measure borehole flow velocities by tracking temperature slugging signals. A Markov Chain Monte Carlo based stochastic inversion is applied to find the statistical distribution of possible production allocations that fit both temperature and velocity measurements.

[0018] The method has been verified using synthetic tests. It has been successfully applied on the data collected from an unconventional oil producer. We have also demonstrated that the results can be significantly improved by the implementation of a borehole heater, which increases the temperature differential and improves the signal.

[0019] The invention includes any one or more of the following embodiment(s) in any combination(s) thereof:

[0020] —A method of optimizing production of a hydrocarbon-containing reservoir comprising:

[0021] providing one or more fiber optic cables in a well;

[0022] measuring low-frequency Distributed Acoustic Sensing (LFDAS) data in said well during a time period of constant flow and during a time period of no flow and during a time period of perturbation of flow;

[0023] measuring Distributed Temperature Sensing (DTS) data from said well during a time period of constant flow and during a time period of no flow and during a time period of perturbation of flow;
providing an initial model of reservoir flow using said LFDAS data and said DTS data;

[0024] inverting said LFDAS data and said DTS data using Markov chain Monte Carlo method to provide (or predict) a production profile;

[0025] using said production profile to optimize said well and future wells in said reservoir and produce hydrocarbons from said optimized wells.

[0026] —A method of optimizing production of a hydrocarbon-containing reservoir comprising:

[0027] a) measuring low-frequency Distributed Acoustic Sensing (LFDAS) data in said well;

[0028] b) measuring Distributed Temperature Sensing (DTS) data from said well;

- [0029] c) providing an initial model of reservoir flow with randomized P_i , wherein P_i = a normalized productivity of an i-th perforation cluster;
- [0030] d) repeating step c thousands of times to generate thousands of initial models;
- [0031] e) inverting U and G using a gradient-descent based method, while holding P_i fixed, wherein U is a conductive heat transfer coefficient between the surrounding reservoir and the borehole fluid, and G is a PVT coefficient;
- [0032] f) inverting P_i using a Markov chain Monte Carlo method, while holding U and G fixed;
- [0033] g) repeating steps c-f multiple times to obtain a final model with a lowest misfit;
- [0034] h) repeating steps g thousands of times to obtain a collection of final models;
- [0035] i) evaluating all final models to obtain an optimized production profile of said well; and
- [0036] j) implementing (or using) said optimized production profile to optimize the completion of said well and/or future wells in said reservoir and produce hydrocarbon from said optimized wells.
- [0037] Any method herein, wherein said one or more fiber optic cables are temporarily installed, or preferably are permanently installed.
- [0038] —A method of optimized production of hydrocarbon from a reservoir, said method comprising:
- [0039] providing one or more fiber optic cables operably coupled to one or more interrogators in a well;
- [0040] measuring low-frequency Distributed Acoustic Sensing (LFDAS) data in said well during a time period of constant flow and during a time period of no flow and during a time period of perturbation of flow;
- [0041] simultaneously measuring Distributed Temperature Sensing (DTS) data from said well during a time period of constant flow and during a time period of no flow and during a time period of perturbation of flow;
- [0042] using one or more of equations 1-6 or their mathematical equivalents:

- [0043] inverting U and G using a gradient-descent based optimization while holding P_i fixed;
- [0044] inverting P_i using a Markov chain Monte Carlo optimization;
- [0045] repeating step i-ii) thousands of times to generate thousands of initial models;
- [0046] randomly perturbing P_i of an initial model to create a new model and retaining said new model as a final model if the penalty function ϵ^2 for the new model is smaller than that of an initial model, and otherwise abandoning said new model;
- [0047] repeating step iv for each of said initial models to generate thousands of final models;
- [0048] statistically analyzing said final models to obtain predicted production allocation results;
- [0049] using said predicted production allocation results to produce hydrocarbon production of said well and future wells in said reservoir.
- [0050] —Any method herein, using one or more of equations 1-6 or a mathematical equivalent.
- [0051] —Any method herein, wherein said perturbation of flow is created by opening and closing said well, or where wherein said perturbation of flow is created by heating said well.
- [0052] —Any method described herein, including the further step of printing, displaying or saving the results of the workflow.
- [0053] —Any method described herein, further including the step of using said results in a reservoir modeling program to predict reservoir performance characteristics, such as fracturing, production rates, total production levels, rock failures, faults, wellbore failure, and the like.
- [0054] —Any method described herein, further including the step of using said results to design and implement a hydraulic fracturing program, thereby fracturing the reservoir, or an enhanced oil recovery program or a production plan, thereby producing hydrocarbon.
- [0055] —A non-transitory machine-readable storage medium, which when executed by at least one processor of a computer, performs the steps of the method(s) described herein.

[0056] Hardware for implementing the inventive methods may preferably include massively parallel and distributed Linux clusters, which utilize both CPU and GPU architectures. Alternatively, the hardware may use a LINUX OS, XML universal interface run with supercomputing facilities provided by Linux Networx, including the next-generation Clusterworx Advanced cluster management system. Another system is the Microsoft Windows 7 Enterprise or Ultimate Edition (64-bit, SP1) with Dual quad-core or hex-core processor, 64 GB RAM memory with Fast rotational speed hard disk (10,000–15,000 rpm) or solid state drive (300 GB) with NVIDIA Quadro K5000 graphics card and multiple high resolution monitors. Slower systems could also be used, because the processing is less compute intensive than for example, 3D seismic processing.

[0057] This summary is provided to introduce a selection of concepts that are further described below in the detailed description. This summary is not intended to identify key or essential features of the claimed subject matter, nor is it intended to be used as an aid in limiting the scope of the claimed subject matter.

[0058] “Interference” is used broadly herein to denote anything that affects the signal of the DAS or DTS measurement. This can include vibration, surface noise, seismic noise sources, drifts, and other signal interference mechanisms.

[0059] As used herein, the term “interrogator” refers to an electronic device that transmits a signal, in this case a laser pulse through a fiber optic cable, to obtain and record the response. Measurements of background noise are usually taken to determine baseline for the signal and can be subtracted out for improved signal intensity.

[0060] Any interrogator can be used to collect the DAS and DTS data.

[0061] As used herein, “thermal slugging” refers to a perturbation in temperature that may travel along the wellbore.

[0062] As used herein, a “perturbation in flow” refers to a perturbation in either or both of fluid velocity or fluid temperature that may travel along the wellbore.

[0063] In the context herein, a “cluster” is a point along the well (x) where it is possible for fluid to enter. In completion engineering, it refers to the set of perforations (holes) grouped together.

[0064] As used herein, to “provide” a well or a fiber optic cable in a well does not necessarily imply that a well is contemporaneously drilled and/or fitted with cable, as one could also select a preexisting well and/or cable to start with.

[0065] It is understood that in oil and gas production many independent contractors contribute to the eventual production of hydrocarbon from a reservoir, thus, it is common for different entities to contribute to well logging versus well completion versus well production. Nonetheless, the logging and completion and production activities performed hereunder are clearly for the express purpose of optimizing production, and therefore, be attributed thereto to a single actor even when performed by more than one entity or contractor.

[0066] The use of the word “a” or “an” when used in conjunction with the term “comprising” in the claims or the specification means one or more than one, unless the context dictates otherwise.

[0067] The term “about” means the stated value plus or minus the margin of error of measurement or plus or minus 10% if no method of measurement is indicated.

[0068] The use of the term “or” in the claims is used to mean “and/or” unless explicitly indicated to refer to alternatives only or if the alternatives are mutually exclusive.

[0069] The terms “comprise”, “have”, “include” and “contain” (and their variants) are open-ended linking verbs and allow the addition of other elements when used in a claim.

[0070] The phrase “consisting of” is closed, and excludes all additional elements.

[0071] The phrase “consisting essentially of” excludes additional material elements, but allows the inclusions of non-material elements that do not substantially change the nature of the invention.

[0072] The following abbreviations are used herein:

ABBREVIATION	TERM
SNR	Signal-to-noise
DAS	Distributed Acoustic Sensing
DTS	Distributed Temperature Sensing
AGC	automatic gain control
LFDAS	Low-frequency DAS, < 1Hz, preferably < 0.1 HZ
FFT	Fast Fourier Transform
OTDR	Optical Time Domain Reflectometry OFDR
OFDR	Optical Frequency Domain Reflectometry
MCMM	Markov Chain Monte Carlo
NCS	Number of Clusters per Stage
BFGS	Broyden–Fletcher–Goldfarb–Shanno

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0073] **FIG. 1** DTS measurements and well path for a hydraulically-fractured unconventional oil producer. The temperature is measured during shut-in and stable-production periods. Red crosses indicate the locations of perforation clusters. Dot-dashed line plots the true depth of the well.

[0074] **FIG. 2** Flow velocity analysis using LFDAS signal. Left: DAS response during a well opening event. Right: Velocity estimation using semblance analysis.

[0075] **FIG. 3** Two models with different production allocations but similar flowing temperature. Black dashed line plots the shut-in temperature, crosses show the perforation locations. Black solid line shows the measured flowing temperature, thick gray dashed line depicts the model prediction. Bar is the normalized productivity of perforation clusters.

[0076] **FIG. 4** Results of the synthetic test with even productivity. Upper panel shows the temperature profiles and model predictions. Lower panel shows a statistical box plot of the final models. Dashed line shows the range of 5% and 95% of the models, while gray bars shows 25% and 75%. Red square and green cross are mean and median of the models, respectively.

[0077] **FIG. 5** Same as **FIG. 4**, except the true model is completion dependent.

[0078] **FIG. 6** The averages of perforation cluster productivity per NCS. Left panel is for the even production model and right panel for the NCS-dependent production model. Dashed line defines 5% and 95% range of the final models, while the gray bar defines 25% and 75%.

[0079] **FIG. 7** Inversion results from the real data example.

[0080] **FIG. 8** Comparison between two different random sampling procedures to create initial models: a) the productivity of each perforation cluster is uniformly distributed, b) sampling procedure described in Section 5.1.

[0081] **FIG. 9** Same as **FIG. 4**, except the input R_{bot} is different from the true model and there is no constraint from the DAS velocity measurement ($\lambda = 0$).

[0082] **FIG. 10.** Comparison between the flow velocity distribution R and DAS velocity measurements for the real data example in Section 4. Black lines are individual models and red cross shows normalized DAS velocity measurement: a) initial model

distribution, b) final model distribution without velocity constrain ($\lambda = 0$), c) final model distribution with velocity constrain ($\lambda = 1$).

[0083] **FIG. 11.** An example of a sensing plan to acquire the DAS and DTS data for the production logging inversion.

[0084] **FIG. 12.** Same as **FIG. 4** except a heater is placed at the end of the fiber to heat up the borehole fluid by 5°F.

[0085] **FIG. 13.** Schematic of well with two fiber optic cables therein connected to DAS and DTS interrogators/recorders.

DESCRIPTION OF EMBODIMENTS OF THE DISCLOSURE

[0086] Swan et al. (2017) developed a novel method that uses low-frequency DAS signal (LFDAS), which is sensitive to small temperature variations, to measure borehole flow velocities. This method was able to provide reliable flow velocity measurements for unconventional oil producers, but the results suffered from low spatial resolution and could not provide estimations at a spacing of perforation clusters.

[0087] Temperature measurements have long been used for production logging purposes (e.g., Ramey, 1962; Curtis, 1973). However, it is only applicable for conventional vertical wells, where geothermal gradients are substantial along the well path, and is not reliable for high-deviated horizontal wells due to the solution non-uniqueness (Ouyang, 2006).

[0088] By jointly inverting for DAS and DTS measurements, we can better constrain the production allocation with higher spatial resolution and associated uncertainty analysis. We have done this with Markov Chain Monte Carlo based inversion methods.

1 STATISTICAL PROCEDURES

1.1. MCMC-BASED METHODS

[0089] Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) methods comprise a class of procedures used in statistics for sampling from a probability distribution. By constructing a Markov chain that has the desired distribution as its equilibrium distribution, one can obtain a sample of the desired distribution by observing the chain after a number of steps. The more steps

there are, the more closely the distribution of the sample matches the actual desired distribution.

[0090] When an MCMC method is used for approximating a multi-dimensional integral, an ensemble of "walkers" move around randomly. At each point where a walker steps, the integrand value at that point is counted towards the integral. The walker then may make a number of tentative steps around the area, looking for a place with a reasonably high contribution to the integral to move into next.

[0091] Random-walk Monte Carlo methods make up a large subclass of Markov chain Monte Carlo methods. Random walk Monte Carlo methods are a kind of random simulation of Monte Carlo method. However, whereas the random samples of the integrand used in a conventional Monte Carlo integration are statistically independent, those used in Markov chain Monte Carlo methods are correlated. A Markov chain is constructed in such a way as to have the integrand as its equilibrium distribution.

[0092] Examples of random walk Monte Carlo methods include the following:

[0093] Metropolis–Hastings procedure: This method generates a random walk using a proposal density and a method for rejecting some of the proposed moves. This is sometimes called Metropolis-coupled Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMCMC).

[0094] Gibbs sampling: This method requires all the conditional distributions of the target distribution to be sampled exactly. When drawing from the full-conditional distributions is not straightforward other samplers-within-Gibbs are used. Gibbs sampling is popular partly because it does not require any 'tuning'.

[0095] Slice sampling: This method depends on the principle that one can sample from a distribution by sampling uniformly from the region under the plot of its density function. It alternates uniform sampling in the vertical direction with uniform sampling from the horizontal 'slice' defined by the current vertical position.

[0096] Multiple-try Metropolis: This method is a variation of the Metropolis–Hastings procedure that allows multiple trials at each point. By making it possible to take larger steps at each iteration, it helps address the curse of dimensionality.

[0097] Reversible-jump: This method is a variant of the Metropolis–Hastings procedure that allows proposals that change the dimensionality of the space. Markov chain Monte Carlo methods that change dimensionality have long been used in statistical physics

applications, where for some problems a distribution that is a grand canonical ensemble is used (e.g., when the number of molecules in a box is variable). But the reversible-jump variant is useful when doing Markov chain Monte Carlo or Gibbs sampling over nonparametric Bayesian models such as those involving the Dirichlet process or Chinese restaurant process, where the number of mixing components/clusters/etc. is automatically inferred from the data.

[0098] Unlike most of the current Markov chain Monte Carlo methods that ignore the previous trials, using a new procedure called a Training-based Markov chain Monte Carlo or TBMCMC, the TBMCMC is able to use the previous steps and generate the next candidate. This training-based procedure is able to speed-up the MCMC procedure by an order of magnitude.

[0099] Interacting Markov chain Monte Carlo methodologies are a class of mean field particle methods for obtaining random samples from a sequence of probability distributions with an increasing level of sampling complexity. These probabilistic models include path space state models with increasing time horizon, posterior distributions w.r.t. sequence of partial observations, increasing constraint level sets for conditional distributions, decreasing temperature schedules associated with some Boltzmann-Gibbs distributions, and many others.

[00100] In principle, any Markov chain Monte Carlo sampler can be turned into an interacting Markov chain Monte Carlo sampler. These interacting Markov chain Monte Carlo samplers can be interpreted as a way to run in parallel a sequence of Markov chain Monte Carlo samplers. For instance, interacting simulated annealing procedures are based on independent Metropolis-Hastings moves interacting sequentially with a selection-resampling type mechanism. In contrast to traditional Markov chain Monte Carlo methods, the precision parameter of this class of interacting Markov chain Monte Carlo samplers is only related to the number of interacting Markov chain Monte Carlo samplers. These advanced particle methodologies belong to the class of Feynman-Kac particle models, also called Sequential Monte Carlo or particle filter methods in Bayesian inference and signal processing communities. Interacting Markov chain Monte Carlo methods can also be interpreted as a mutation-selection genetic particle procedure with Markov chain Monte Carlo mutations.

[00101] The advantage of low-discrepancy sequences in lieu of random numbers for simple independent Monte Carlo sampling is well known. This procedure, known as Quasi-

Monte Carlo method (QMC), yields an integration error that decays at a superior rate to that obtained by IID sampling, by the Koksma-Hlawka inequality. Empirically it allows the reduction of both estimation error and convergence time by an order of magnitude.

[00102] More sophisticated methods use various ways of reducing the correlation between successive samples. These procedures may be harder to implement, but they usually exhibit faster convergence (i.e. fewer steps for an accurate result).

[00103] In addition to the above described MCMC based methods, new MCMC methods may be developed and used in the methods herein.

1.2 BFGS-BASED PROCEDURES

[00104] In numerical optimization, the Broyden–Fletcher–Goldfarb–Shanno or BFGS procedure is an iterative method for solving unconstrained nonlinear optimization problems. It belongs to quasi-Newton methods, a class of hill-climbing optimization techniques that seek a stationary point of a (preferably twice continuously differentiable) function. For such problems, a necessary condition for optimality is that the gradient be zero. Newton's method and the BFGS methods are not guaranteed to converge unless the function has a quadratic Taylor expansion near an optimum. However, BFGS has proven to have good performance even for non-smooth optimizations.

[00105] In quasi-Newton methods, the Hessian matrix of second derivatives doesn't need to be evaluated directly. Instead, the Hessian matrix is approximated using updates specified by gradient evaluations (or approximate gradient evaluations). Quasi-Newton methods are generalizations of the secant method to find the root of the first derivative for multidimensional problems. In multi-dimensional problems, the secant equation does not specify a unique solution, and quasi-Newton methods differ in how they constrain the solution. The BFGS method is one of the most popular members of this class. Also in common use is L-BFGS, which is a limited-memory version of BFGS that is particularly suited to problems with very large numbers of variables (e.g., >1000). The BFGS-B variant handles simple box constraints.

[00106] The above described BFGS-based and any newly developed variants thereof can be used in the methods described herein.

2. LOGGING METHODOLOGY

2.1 DAS FLOW VELOCITY ESTIMATION

[00107] DAS signal at very low-frequency band (<0.1 Hz) is very sensitive to small temperature perturbations, which can be used to track convectional thermal slugging during production (Swan 2017). For unconventional oil producers during stable production, the thermal slugging signals could be too small to be detected. As a result, extra well operations or tools have to be involved to create the required signal.

[00108] One method that can be applied on hydraulically-fractured unconventional producers is to repeatedly shut in and open the monitored wells, causing a pressure and/or temperature pulse to travel the well. After the hydraulic-fracturing operation, spatial variations of temperature in the formation near the borehole are created due to the uneven stimulation results (various injection volumes and fracture geometry at each perforation cluster). Thermal spatial gradients start to build up in the well bore during shut-in period through the conduction between the borehole fluid and the surrounding formation.

[00109] **FIG. 1** shows an example of the measured temperature profiles during shut-in period (shut-in temperature) and stable-production period (flowing temperature) of an unconventional oil producer. It is obvious that perforation cluster locations are associated with the local minimums of the shut-in temperature due to the injection of cold fluid. As the well is opened after a period of shut-in, the borehole temperatures are perturbed due to the fluid convection, which can be detected by LFDAS. The signal can be used to estimate flow velocities. The detailed procedure for flow-velocity measurement is described by Swan et al. (2017) and Krueger et al. (2017).

[00110] **FIG. 2** shows an example of the LFDAS signal and the corresponding velocity analysis result.

[00111] Another way to use LFDAS to measure flow velocities is to place a borehole heater at the end of the fiber. The heater is able to constantly perturb borehole temperature during stable production, which creates the thermal slugging signals in LFDAS for the velocity analysis. This method is more ideal because it directly measures flow velocity during stable production, but does require extra tool implementation. The measured flow velocities are served as inputs for the later inversion.

2.2 TEMPERATURE BASED MODEL

[00112] The wellbore is simulated by a 1-D model that satisfies the conservation of mass, momentum, and energy. Ouyang (2006) presented a complete equation sets for a three-phase (oil, water, and gas) example. In this study, we demonstrate the procedure using a simplified single-phase model, which assumes different phases are well mixed in the borehole. This assumption is reasonable for fast-producing oil wells, and the simulation model can be replaced by a more complex multi-phase model if necessary.

[00113] A simplified 1-D wellbore temperature model during stable production can be presented as:

$$vR \frac{dT}{dx} = v \frac{dR}{dx} (T_p - T) + U(T_f - T) + vRG \frac{dz}{dx}, \quad (1)$$

where v is the maximum flow velocity at the heel, R represents the spatial distribution of flow velocities, normalized to the range between 0 to 1. T is the borehole fluid temperature during stable production, T_p is the produced fluid temperature at each perforation location, T_f is the surrounding formation temperature. U is a conductive heat transfer coefficient between the surrounding formation and the borehole fluid, which is determined by formation properties, well completion, as well as the heat capacity of fluid and phase combination. G is the PVT coefficient that describes a fluid temperature change when fluids pressure drop occurs due to lifting. Also, x is the coordinate along wellbore (measure depth) and z is true vertical depth of the wellbore.

[00114] This equation can be solved using a finite-difference approximation:

$$\frac{T_{i+1} - T_i}{\Delta x} = \frac{R_{i+1} - R_i}{\Delta x} \frac{T_p - T_i}{R_i} + \frac{U}{vR_i} (T_f - T_i) + G \frac{z_{i+1} - z_i}{\Delta x}, \quad (2)$$

[00115] For hydraulically-fractured unconventional oil wells, T_p and T_f can be approximated by the borehole temperatures measured after an extended shut-in period. This approximation simplifies EQ 1 to EQ 3:

$$\frac{dT}{dx} = \left(\frac{dR}{dx} + \frac{U}{v} \right) \frac{\delta T}{R} + G \frac{dz}{dx}, \quad (3)$$

[00116] where T is the difference between the temperature measurements during shut-in and stable production periods. This equation provides important insights for the later uncertainty discussion in Section 3.1.

2.3 INVERSION PROCEDURE

[00117] A direct gradient-based inversion of EQ 1 or EQ 3 leads to highly non-unique solutions which are initial-model dependent. **FIG. 3** shows an example that two models with very different production allocations produce almost identical flowing temperatures using EQ 3. Because of this, we adapted an MCMC method to solve the problem stochastically.

[00118] U and G are treated as unknowns, since they are critical parameters in the model and are not usually constrained by laboratory results. U and G are not allowed to change spatially, assuming that there are no spatial variations of formation property, well completion, and fluid phase composition in the section of interest. Perforation cluster productivity is defined as a normalized number between 0 and 1. The flow velocity ratio $R(x)$ can be presented as:

$$R(x) = 1 - (1 - R_{bot}) \frac{\sum_{P_i < x} P_i}{\sum_{i=1}^N P_i}, \quad (4)$$

[00119] where P_i is the normalized productivity of i -th perforation cluster, P_x is perforation cluster location, R_{bot} is the normalized flow velocity at the end of the sensing section, which can be constrained by LFDAS velocity results and assumed to be known. The goal of the inversion is to find a combination of P_i , U , and G that fits both the flowing temperatures measured by DTS and the flow velocities measured by DAS.

[00120] The penalty function ϵ^2 is hence defined as:

$$\epsilon^2 = \|T - T'\|_2 + \lambda \|vR - v'\|_2, \quad (5)$$

where T' is the measured flowing temperatures, and V' is measured flow velocities.

[00121] If the flow velocities are measured during transient periods using the method described in Section 2.1, the total production rate may be different from that during stable production. As a result, the penalty function should be defined as:

$$\epsilon^2 = \|T - T'\|_2 + \lambda \|R - R'\|_2, \quad (6)$$

[00122] where R' is the normalized flow-velocity ratio measured by DAS. In this step we assume the production allocation is the same between the transient period and stable production period.

[00123] We apply an iterative two-step inversion procedure to estimate the unknowns. The parameters U and G are inverted by using Broyden–Fletcher–Goldfarb–Shanno (BFGS) procedure, which is a standard gradient-descent based optimization (Byrd 1995).

[00124] The P_i are inverted using MCMC, which is a random-walk based inversion procedure. For the P_i inversion, starting from the initial model, P_i is randomly perturbed at each iteration step to create a new model. If the value of the penalty function for the new model is smaller than that of the current model, the current model is updated. Otherwise the new model is dropped, and the current model is randomly perturbed again. This process usually repeats thousands of times.

[00125] Thousands of initial models are created randomly (with the procedure described in Section 5.1) and perturbed to obtain a large set of final models. The productivity P_i in each of the final models are then normalized so that the average productivity in each model is 1. Then the final models are statistically analyzed to obtain the production allocation results and uncertainties associated therewith. These results can then be used in continued production of oil, and/or in further optimization of the well and continued production therefrom.

[00126] The entire inversion procedure is described as follows:

- [00127] 1. Generate an initial model with randomized P_i .
- [00128] 2. Invert for U and G using a gradient-decent based method while fixing P_i .
- [00129] 3. Invert for P_i using MCMC while fixing U and G .
- [00130] 4. Repeat step 2-3 multiple times to obtain a final model.
- [00131] 5. Repeat step 1-4 thousands of times to obtain a collection of final models.
- [00132] 6. Evaluate final models using statistical analysis and use that data in well or production optimization.

3. SYNTHETIC TEST

[00133] Two synthetic tests were designed to verify the inversion procedure. In both tests, we used the shut-in temperature in **FIG. 1** as T_p and T_s . We set the normalized flow velocity R_{bot} at the end of the sensing section to be 0.52, U to be $1 \times 10^{-4} \text{ s}^{-1}$, and G to be $7 \times 10^{-4} \text{ }^\circ\text{F}/\text{ft}$. The synthetic flowing temperature was calculated using EQ 3. A uniformly distributed random noise with a peak amplitude of 0.1°F was added. The inversion procedure was applied on the synthetic data and the inverted models were compared with the true model.

3.1 EVEN PRODUCTION

[00134] **FIG. 4** shows the inversion results for a synthetic model where the productivities of all perforation clusters are the same. One thousand final models were calculated using the proposed inversion procedure. Most of the models fit the data equally well, with the standard deviations of the predicted flowing temperatures being very small ($<0.05^\circ\text{F}$). The mean and median values of the perforation cluster productivity of the final models were very close to the true model, with an average error of 7.0% for the means and 7.7% for the medians. As used herein, the “true model” is the model used to generate the synthetic data for the inversion test. It is the true answer of the inversion result.

[00135] The uncertainty of the results—shown by dashed line and gray bar in the box plot—systematically increases towards to heel. This is due to the heel-ward increase of the total flow rate in the borehole, where the relative contribution of individual perforation cluster gets smaller. The uncertainty also increases with a smaller δT , because the flowing

temperature is less sensitive to the perforation cluster productivity where the produced fluid temperature is the same or similar to the borehole temperature.

[00136] The inverted U has a mean value of $1.1 \times 10^{-4} \text{ s}^{-1}$ with a standard deviation of $7.2 \times 10^{-5} \text{ s}^{-1}$. The inverted G has a mean value of $4.4 \times 10^{-4} \text{ }^\circ\text{F/ft}$ with a standard deviation of $3.2 \times 10^{-4} \text{ }^\circ\text{F/ft}$. The estimation of U and G can be improved if more vertical section of the well beyond the heel-most perforation is included. However, the included vertical section has to share the same formation thermal property and well completions as the horizontal section.

3.2 COMPLETION DEPENDENT PRODUCTIVITY

[00137] In this test, we mimicked a situation that there are three completion designs with different number of clusters per stage (NCS) existing in the sensing section. The designs alternated at each stage with the NCS being 7, 5, 3, 7, 5, 3, and 7 from the heel to the toe. We also assumed that in the true model, the productivity depended on NCS, with clusters in 3 NCS stages being 20% more productive than that in 5 NCS stages, and 50% more productive than that in 7 NCS stages.

[00138] **FIG. 5** shows the results of this test. The fitting of the flowing temperature is equally good compared with the previous test, but the prediction of the true model is less accurate, with an average error of 15.4% for the means and 19.8% for the medians. The inverted U in this case has a mean value of $1.3 \times 10^{-4} \text{ s}^{-1}$ with a standard deviation of $7.7 \times 10^{-5} \text{ s}^{-1}$. The inverted G has a mean value of $3.2 \times 10^{-4} \text{ }^\circ\text{F/ft}$ with a standard deviation of $3.1 \times 10^{-4} \text{ }^\circ\text{F/ft}$.

[00139] Although the error for individual perforation clusters was substantial, the productivity differences from various completion designs can be clearly distinguished. The mean values of the perforation clusters with the same NCS were calculated for each final model and are summarized in **FIG. 6**. The dependency of the productivity on the completion designs can clearly be identified after the averaging of the results.

4 REAL DATA RESULT

[00140] We then applied the inversion procedure to real data collected from an unconventional oil producer. The well path, flowing and shut-in temperature profiles are as shown in **FIG. 1**. The fibers used for the DAS and DTS measurements were delivered into the borehole by a carbon rod, which only reached one-third of the horizontal producing

section. The ratio of the total production from the section that is beyond the sensing section (R_{bot}) is assumed to be 52%, which is constrained by the DAS flow velocity measurement (**FIG. 2**). Only the well section with measured depth deeper than 11300 ft was included in the inversion, due to a sudden change of geothermal gradient, which related to the conductivity of the formation rocks, at the measured depth around 11200 ft (**FIG. 1**). The results of the inversion are shown in **FIG. 7**. Unlike the synthetic test results, the results from the real data show some of the clusters producing statistically more than other clusters by a number of times.

5.1 RANDOM SAMPLING PROCEDURE

[00141] We found that a uniformly-distributed random productivity for each perforation cluster cannot efficiently sample all possible production profiles (**FIG. 8A**), because it has little probability of creating long-wavelength signals (a large well section that has larger or smaller productivity). We thus developed a new sampling procedure to generate long-wavelength signals.

[00142] Ten random numbers between 1 and R_{bot} were generated and sorted with a descent order. Together with 1 and R_{bot} , the twelve numbers were assigned as the R value at evenly spaced points within the sensing section, and linearly interpolated for the values in between. P_i was then calculated using EQ 4. This method creates initial models that contain long-wavelength signals. The later random perturbation in the MCMC inversion added short-wavelength signals to the final models. **FIG. 8** shows a comparison of R profiles between the uniform random sampling and our sampling procedure for 1000 initial models. Our sampling procedure covers a much larger range of possible flow rate profiles than the random sampling procedure.

5.2 DAS VELOCITY CONSTRAINT

[00143] For horizontal wells with small spatial temperature gradients, inversion results only based on temperature measurements are highly non-unique, and could be biased. For demonstration purposes, we modified the synthetic test in Section 3.1. While keeping all the inputs the same, we changed the presumed bottom rate R_{bot} to 70%, instead of 52% that the true model had. We also set the weighting parameter λ to zero to eliminate the constraint from the DAS velocity measurements.

[00144] The results, which are shown in **FIG. 9**, are significantly biased from the true model. On the other hand, if the bottom rate R_{bot} is set correctly, the inversion results based only on temperature measurements should be consistent with the flow velocities which are measured independently by LFDAS.

[00145] **FIG. 10** shows the comparison between the flow velocity distribution R , from the inversion results where the velocity constraint is eliminated ($\lambda = 0$), and the DAS measured velocities (normalized) for the real data example in Section 4. The difference between the initial models (**FIG. 10A**) and final models (**FIG. 10B**) demonstrates the constraint of the temperature measurements on the results. It is clear that even without constraint of the velocity measurements (except for the bottom rate), the results based only on temperature measurements are consistent with the flow velocities measured independently by LFDAS. However, the uncertainty of the results can be further decreased by adding the velocity constraint (**FIG. 10C**).

5.3 SENSING PLAN

[00146] In order to efficiently acquire the temperature and the flow-velocity measurements, a proper sensing procedure should be planned before the data acquisition. **FIG. 11** shows an example of the sensing plan. The sensing plan should contain three key components: a long stable production period to stabilize the production flow and measure flowing temperature, an extended shut-in period to measure the formation temperature, and a transient period with a series of opening and closing operations to create the thermal slugging signals for the LFDAS flow-velocity measurements. If a borehole heater is available to create the required thermal perturbations, the transient period in the sensing plan can be removed, as the flow velocities can be measured during stable production.

5.4 UTILIZE A BOREHOLE HEATER

[00147] If a borehole heater can be deployed during DAS recording to create and increase the strength of the temperature signal, the production logging results can be significantly improved. First, the flow velocities can be directly measured by LFDAS during stable production, which are more reliable than the transient-period measurements. Secondly, if the heater is placed near the end of the sensing section, and is powerful enough to raise the borehole fluid temperature at the end of the fiber, the temperature difference between the

flowing temperature and shut-in temperature can be artificially increased to lower the uncertainties of the inversion results.

[00148] FIG. 12 shows the inversion results of the NCS dependent production model in Section 3.2, except here the borehole fluid temperature at the fiber end was raised 5°F by a heater. The heated flowing temperature and the original flowing temperature are inverted simultaneously. The errors of the resulted productivity are 7.5% for both means and medians, which are much smaller than the case without heater (> 15%). Thus, we have shown that adding a heater to raise the temperature by about 5°F significantly improved the reliability of the results.

[00149] The following references are expressly incorporated by reference in their entirety for all purposes.

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- [00158] Van der Horst, et al. (2014). Fiber optic sensing for improved wellbore production surveillance. In IPTC 2014: International Petroleum Technology Conference.
- [00159] Vu-Hoang, D., et al. (2004). A novel approach to production logging in multiphase horizontal wells. In SPE Annual Technical Conference and Exhibition. Society of Petroleum Engineers.
- [00160] US20140358444 Method of Hydraulic Fracture Identification Using Temperature
- [00161] US20170260842 Low Frequency Distributed Acoustic Sensing
- [00162] US20170260846 Measuring downhole temperature by combining DAS/DTS data
- [00163] US20170260849 DAS method of estimating fluid distribution
- [00164] US20170260854 Hydraulic fracture monitoring by low-frequency DAS
- [00165] US20170342814 Production Low-frequency DAS SNR improvement
- [00166] US20180045040 Production logs from distributed acoustic sensors
- [00167] US20180016890 Hydraulic fracture analysis
- [00168] US9347310 Multiphase flowmeter for subsea applications.

CLAIMS

- 1) A method of optimizing production of a hydrocarbon-containing reservoir comprising:
 - a) providing one or more fiber optic cables in a well;
 - b) measuring low-frequency Distributed Acoustic Sensing (LFDAS) data in said well during a time period of constant flow and during a time period of no flow and during a time period of perturbation of flow;
 - c) measuring Distributed Temperature Sensing (DTS) data from said well during a time period of constant flow and during a time period of no flow and during a time period of perturbation of flow;
 - d) providing an initial model of reservoir flow using said LFDAS data and said DTS data;
 - e) inverting said LFDAS data and said DTS data using Markov chain Monte Carlo method to provide a production profile for said well;
 - f) using said production profile to optimize said well and future wells in said reservoir and produce hydrocarbons therefrom.
- 2) The method of claim 1, wherein said perturbation of flow is created by opening and closing said well.
- 3) The method of claim 1, wherein said perturbation of flow is created by heating said well.
- 4) A method of optimizing production of a hydrocarbon-containing reservoir comprising:
 - a) measuring low-frequency Distributed Acoustic Sensing (LFDAS) data in said well;
 - b) measuring Distributed Temperature Sensing (DTS) data from said well;
 - c) providing an initial model of reservoir flow with randomized P_i , wherein P_i = a normalized productivity of an i-th perforation cluster;
 - d) repeating step c thousands of times to generate thousands of initial models;
 - e) inverting U and G using a gradient-descent based method, while holding P_i fixed, wherein U is a conductive heat transfer coefficient between the surrounding reservoir and the borehole fluid, and G is a PVT coefficient;
 - f) inverting P_i using a Markov chain Monte Carlo method, while holding U and G fixed;

- g) repeating steps c-f multiple times to obtain a final model with a lowest misfit;
 - h) repeating steps g thousands of times to obtain a collection of final models;
 - i) evaluating all final models to obtain a production profile of said well; and
 - j) using said production profile to optimize the completion of said well and/or future wells in said reservoir; and
 - k) producing hydrocarbon from said well(s).
- 5) The method of claim 4, wherein said one or more fiber optic cables are temporarily installed.
 - 6) The method of claim 4, wherein said one or more fiber optic cables are permanently installed.
 - 7) The method of claim 1-6, using one or more of equations 1-6 or a mathematical equivalent.
 - 8) The method of claim 1-6, using equations (1), (4) and (5) or (6):

$$vR \frac{dT}{dx} = v \frac{dR}{dx} (T_p - T) + U(T_f - T) + vRG \frac{dz}{dx}, \quad (1)$$

where v is a maximum flow velocity at a heel of said well,

R is a spatial distribution of flow velocity profile, normalized to the range between 0 to 1,

T is a borehole fluid temperature during stable production,

T_p is a produced fluid temperature at each perforation location,

T_f is a surrounding formation temperature,

U is an overall heat transfer coefficient between said surrounding formation and said borehole fluid,

G is a PVT coefficient,

x is the measured depth of the wellbore,

z is the true depth of the wellbore,

$$R(x) = 1 - (1 - R_{bot}) \frac{\sum_{P_i < x} P_i}{\sum_{i=1}^N P_i}, \quad (4)$$

wherein $R(x)$ is normalized flow velocity profile,

wherein P_i is the normalized productivity of i -th perforation cluster,

P_x is a perforation cluster location, and

R_{bot} is a normalized flow velocity at the toe end of a sensing section;

$$\epsilon^2 = \|T - T'\|_2 + \lambda \|vR - v'\|_2, \quad (5)$$

wherein ϵ^2 is a penalty function,

where T' is a measured flowing temperature in the wellbore, and

V' is a measured flow velocity in the wellbore;

$$\epsilon^2 = \|T - T'\|_2 + \lambda \|R - R'\|_2, \quad (6)$$

where R' is the normalized flow-velocity ratio measured by DAS.

9) The method of claim 1-6, using equations (2), (4) and (5):

$$\frac{T_{i+1} - T_i}{\Delta x} = \frac{R_{i+1} - R_i}{\Delta x} \frac{T_{pi} - T_i}{R_i} + \frac{U}{vR_i} (T_{fi} - T_i) + G \frac{z_{i+1} - z_i}{\Delta x}, \quad (2)$$

10) The method of claim 1-6, using equations (2), (4) and (5) or (6):

$$\frac{T_{i+1} - T_i}{\Delta x} = \frac{R_{i+1} - R_i}{\Delta x} \frac{T_{pi} - T_i}{R_i} + \frac{U}{vR_i} (T_{fi} - T_i) + G \frac{z_{i+1} - z_i}{\Delta x}, \quad (2)$$

11) The method of claim 1-6, using equations (3), (4) and (5) or (6):

$$\frac{dT}{dx} = \left(\frac{dR}{dx} + \frac{U}{v} \right) \frac{\delta T}{R} + G \frac{dz}{dx}, \quad (3)$$

where T is the difference between the temperature measurements during shut-in and stable production periods.

- 12) A method of optimizing production of hydrocarbon from a reservoir, said method comprising:
- a) providing one or more fiber optic cables operably coupled to one or more interrogators in a well;
 - b) measuring low-frequency Distributed Acoustic Sensing (LFDAS) data in said well during a time period of constant flow and during a time period of no flow and during a time period of perturbation of flow;
 - c) simultaneously measuring Distributed Temperature Sensing (DTS) data from said well during a time period of constant flow and during a time period of no flow and during a time period of perturbation of flow;
 - d) using one or more of equations 1-6 or their mathematical equivalents:
 - i) inverting U and G using a gradient-descent based optimization while holding P_i fixed;
 - ii) inverting P_i using a Markov chain Monte Carlo optimization;
 - iii) repeating step i-ii) thousands of times to generate thousands of initial models;
 - iv) randomly perturbing P_i of an initial model to create a new model and retaining said new model as a final model if the penalty function ϵ^2 for the new model is smaller than that of an initial model, and otherwise abandoning said new model;
 - v) repeating step iv) for each of said initial models to generate thousands of final models;
 - vi) statistically analyzing said final models to obtain production allocation results;
 - e) using said production allocation to optimize production of hydrocarbon from said well and future wells in said reservoir.

- 13) The method of claim 12, wherein said perturbation of flow is created by opening and closing said well.
- 14) The method of claim 12, wherein said perturbation of flow is created by heating said well.
- 15) The method of claims 1-14, wherein LFDAS uses $<0.1\text{Hz}$.
- 16) A method of logging a reservoir, said method comprising:
 - a) providing one or more fiber optic cables operably coupled to one or more interrogators in a well, wherein said one or more fiber optic cables are permanently installed in said well;
 - b) measuring low-frequency Distributed Acoustic Sensing (LFDAS) data in said well during a time period of constant flow and during a time period of no flow and during a time period of perturbation of flow;
 - c) simultaneously measuring Distributed Temperature Sensing (DTS) data from said well during a time period of constant flow and during a time period of no flow and during a time period of perturbation of flow;
 - d) using one or more of equations 1-6 or their mathematical equivalents:
 - i) inverting U and G using a gradient-descent based optimization while holding P_i fixed;
 - ii) inverting P_i using a Markov chain Monte Carlo optimization;
 - iii) repeating step i-ii) thousands of times to generate thousands of initial models;
 - iv) randomly perturbing P_i of an initial model to create a new model and retaining said new model as a final model if the penalty function ϵ^2 for the new model is smaller than that of an initial model, and otherwise abandoning said new model;
 - v) repeating step iv for each of said initial models to generate thousands of final models; and
 - vi) statistically analyzing said final models to obtain production allocation results from said well.

FIGURE 1

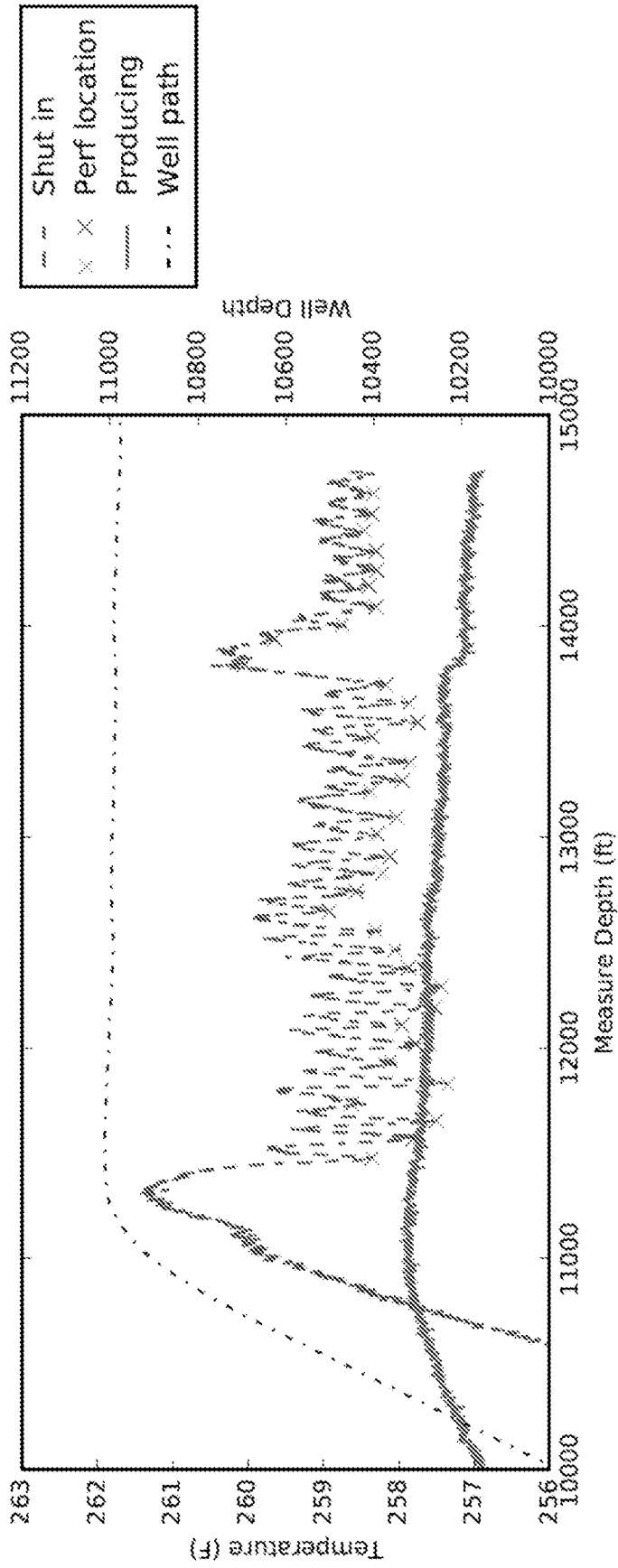


FIGURE 2

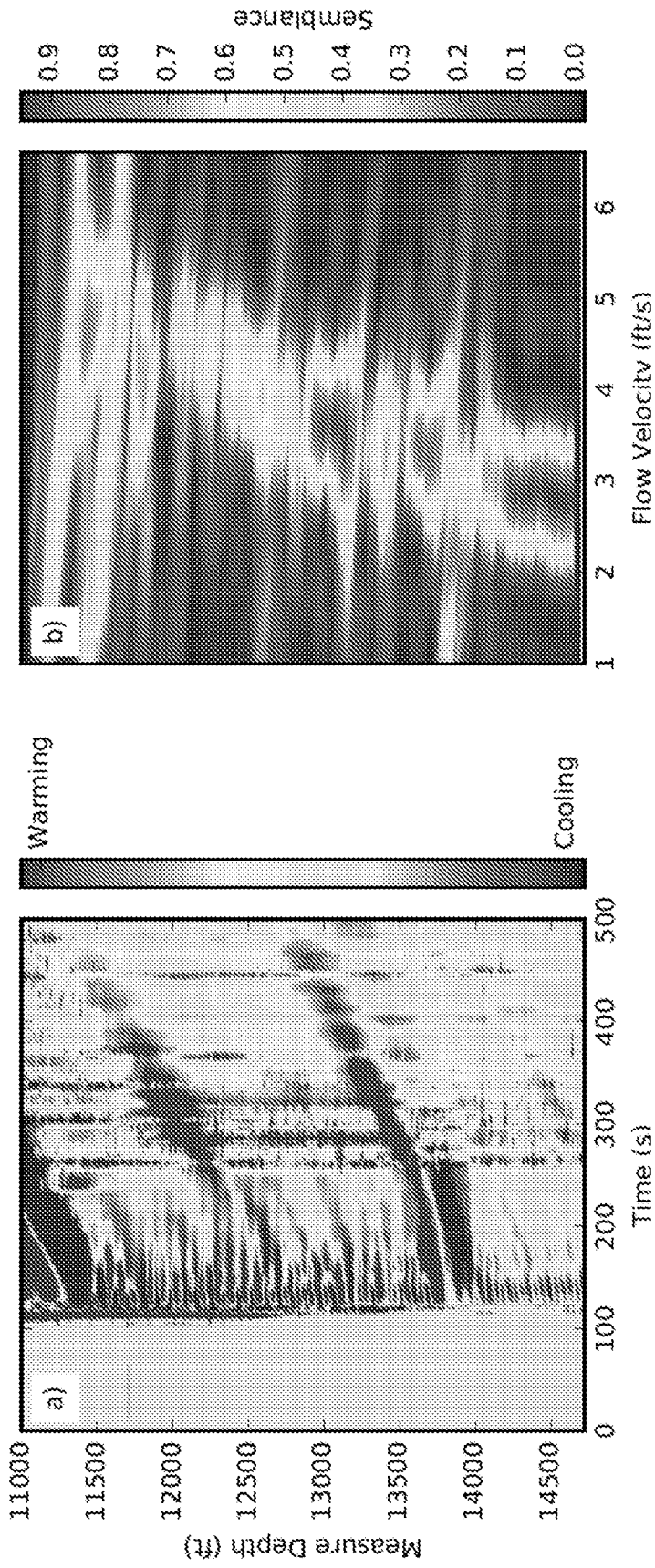


FIGURE 3

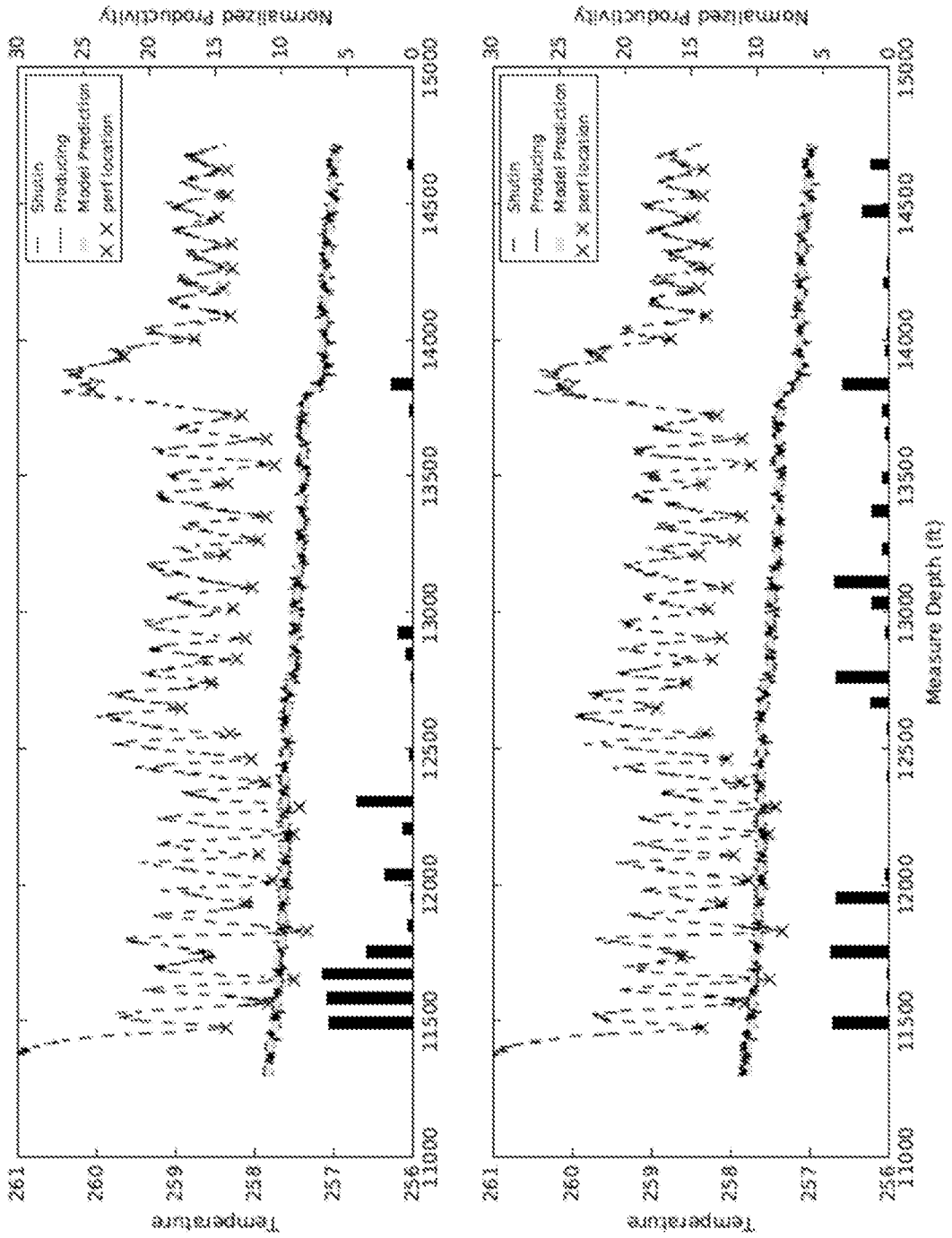


FIGURE 4

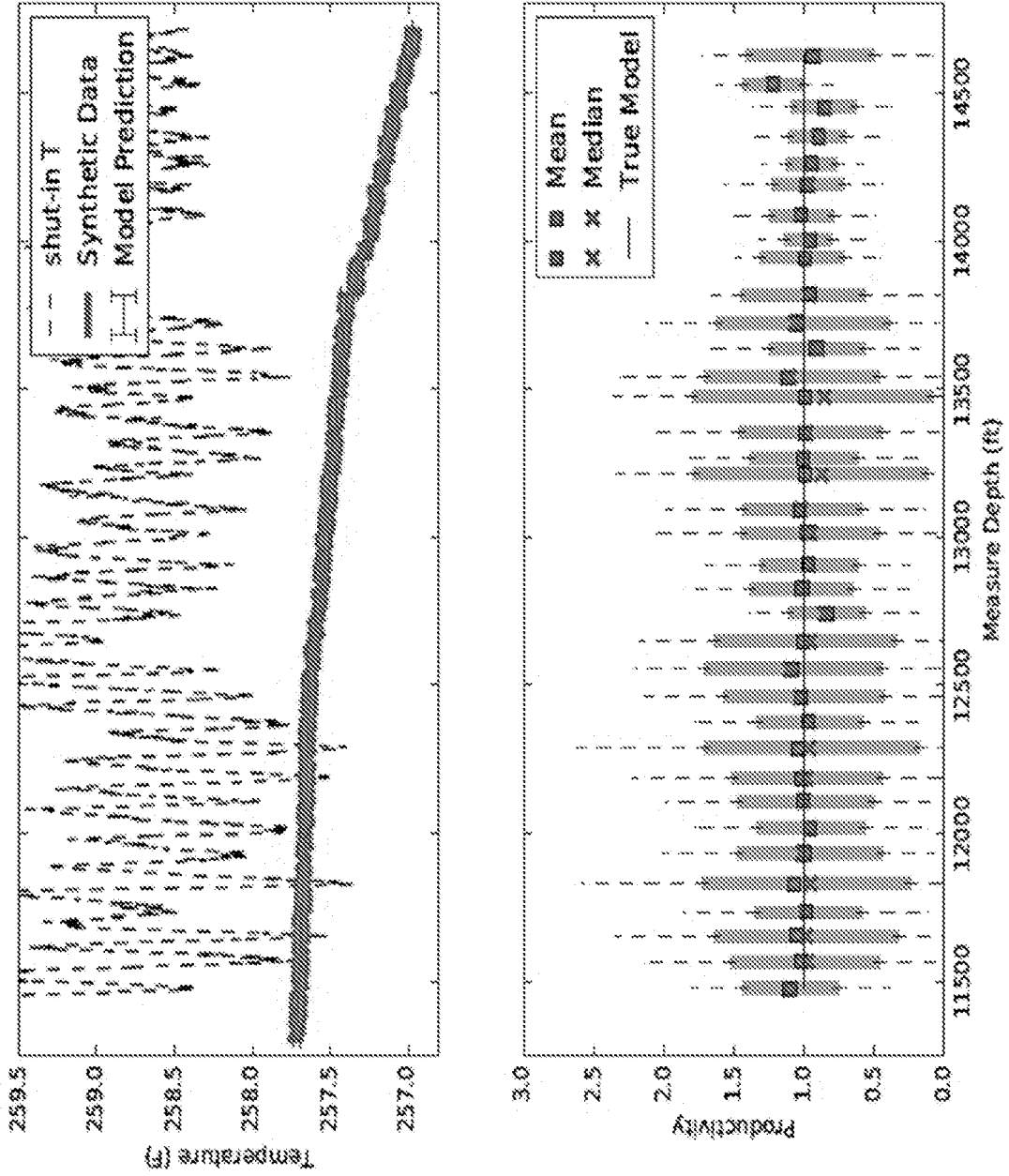


FIGURE 5

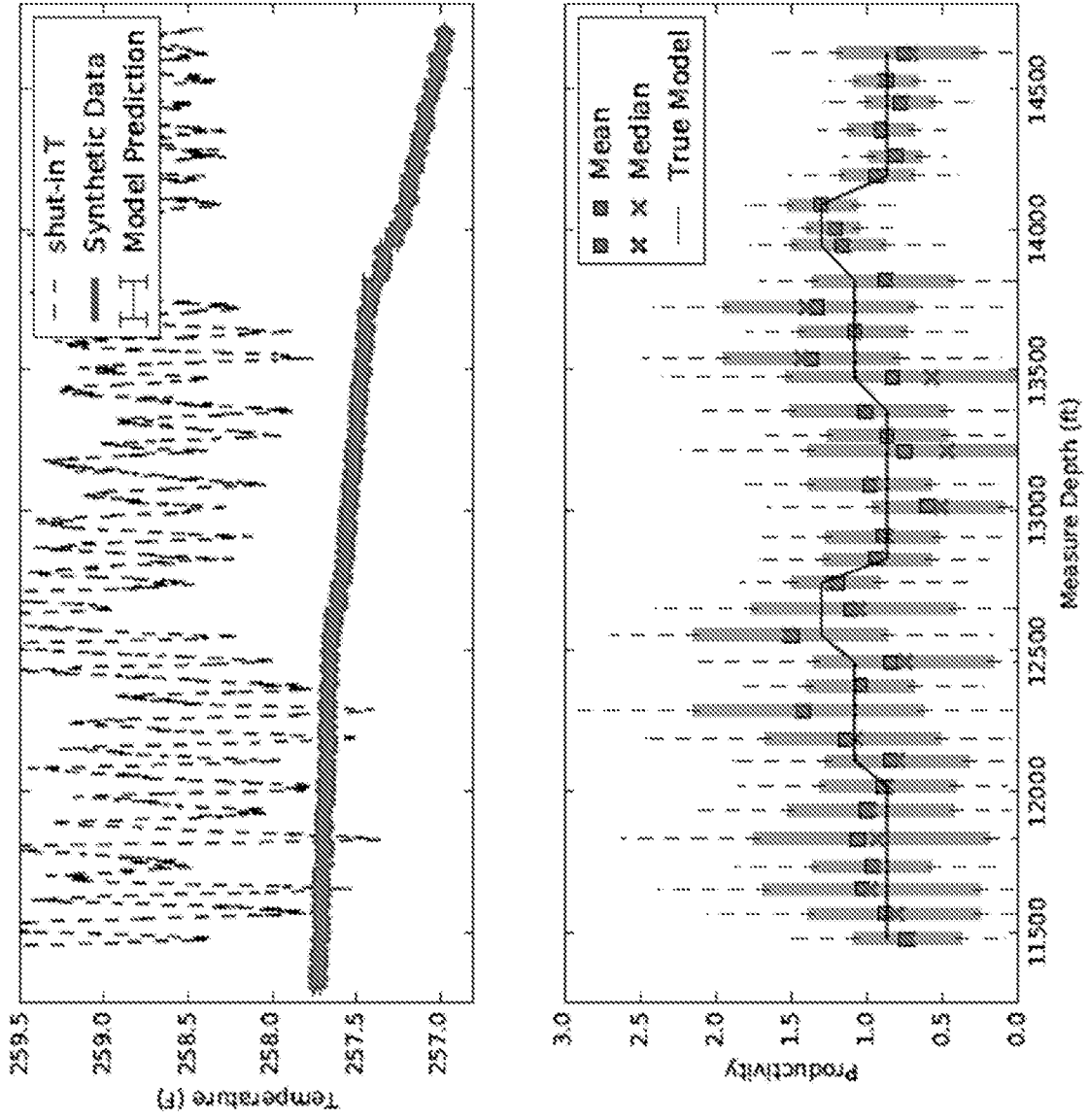


FIGURE 6

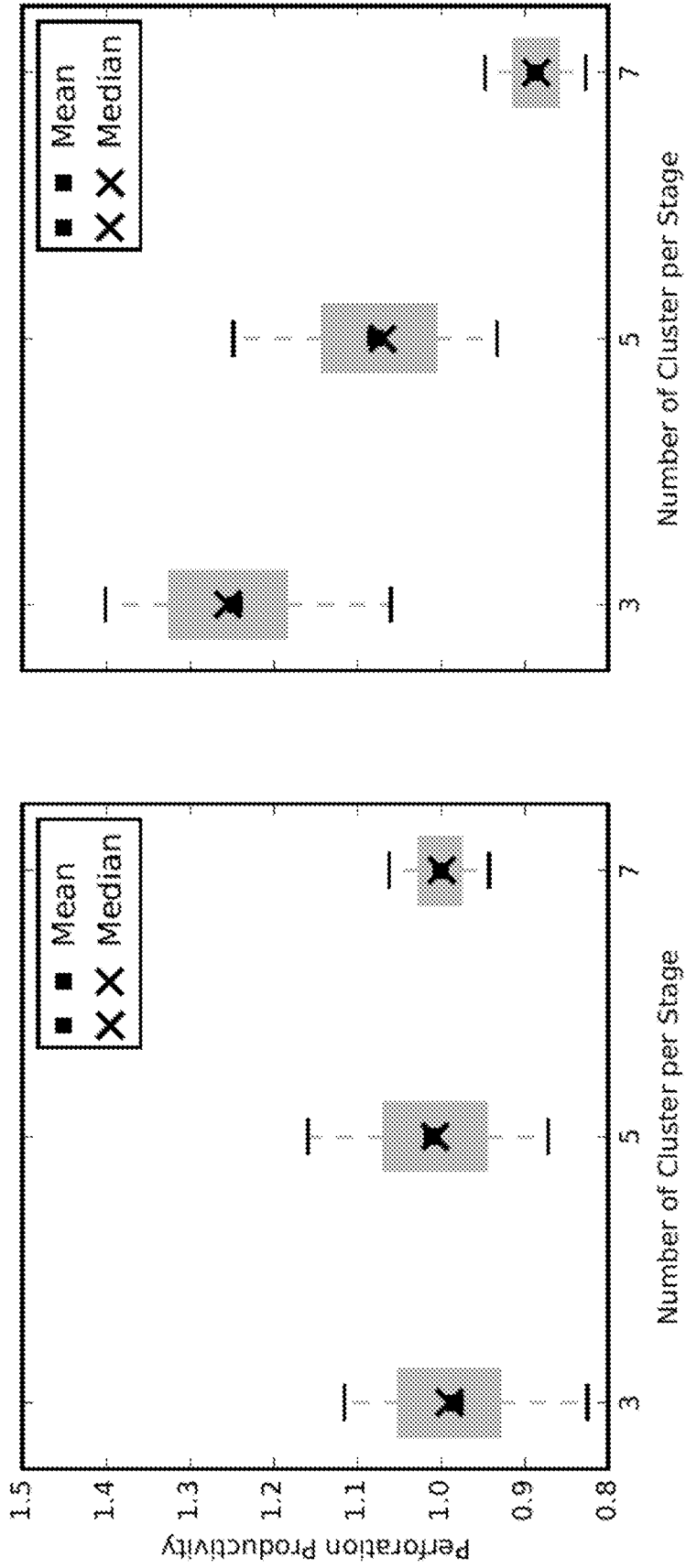


FIGURE 7

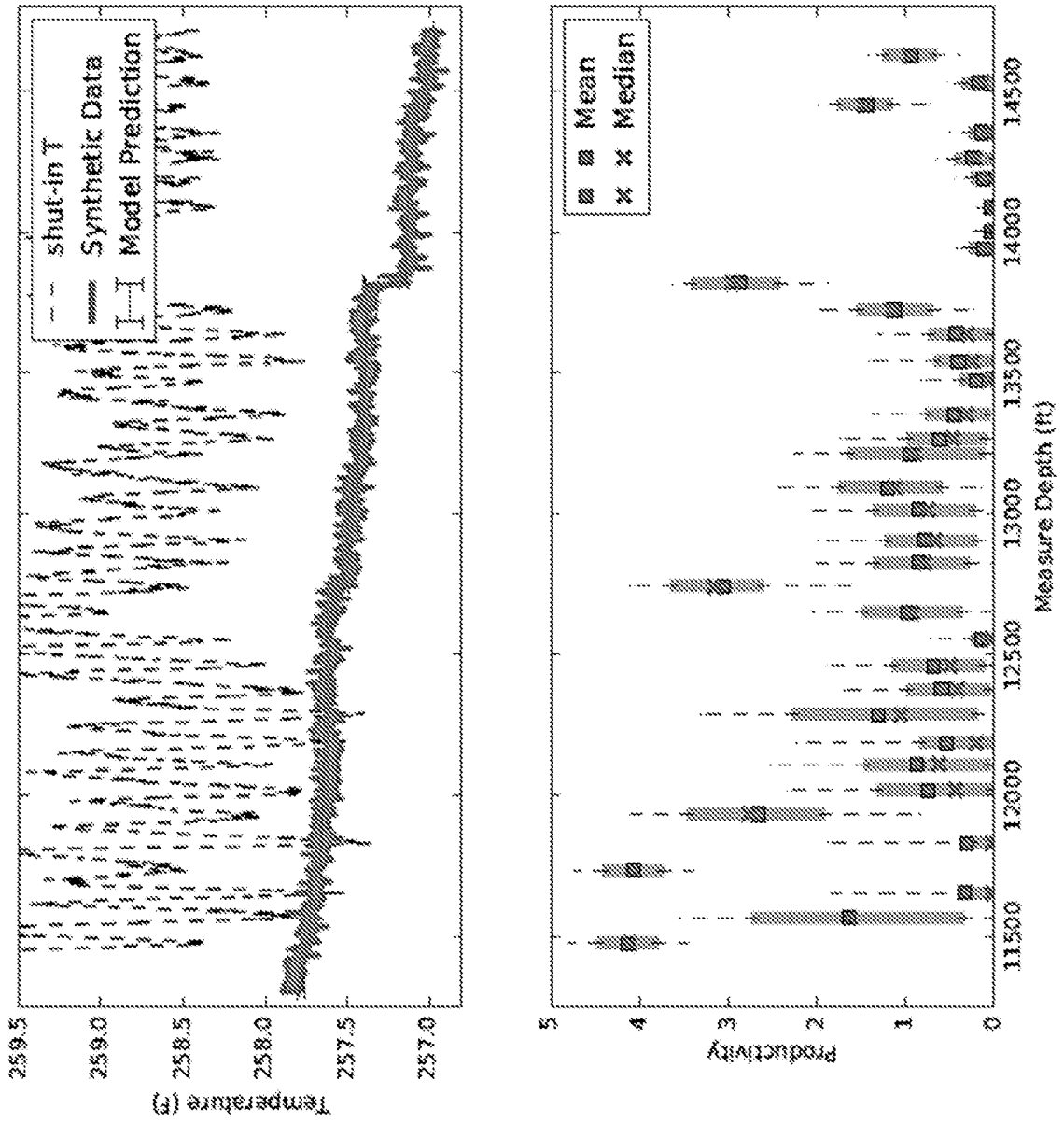


FIGURE 8

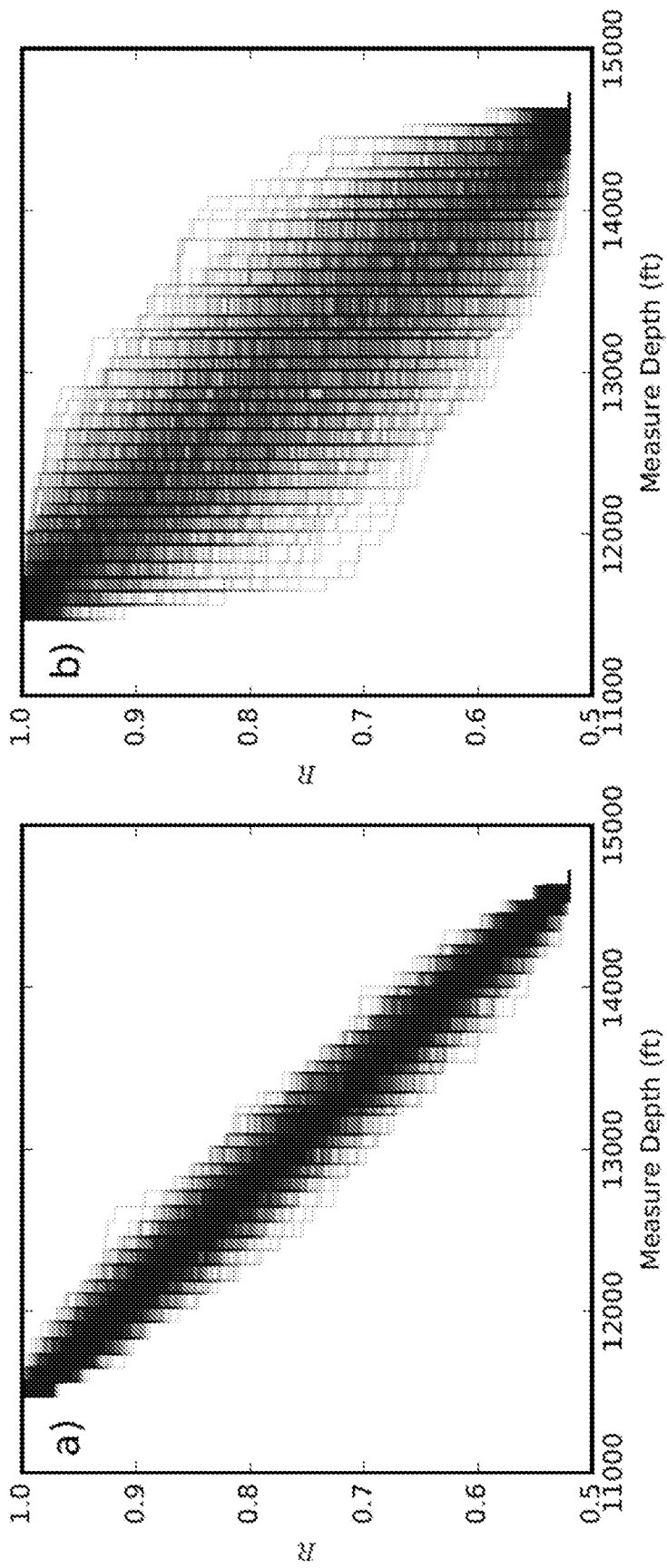


FIGURE 9

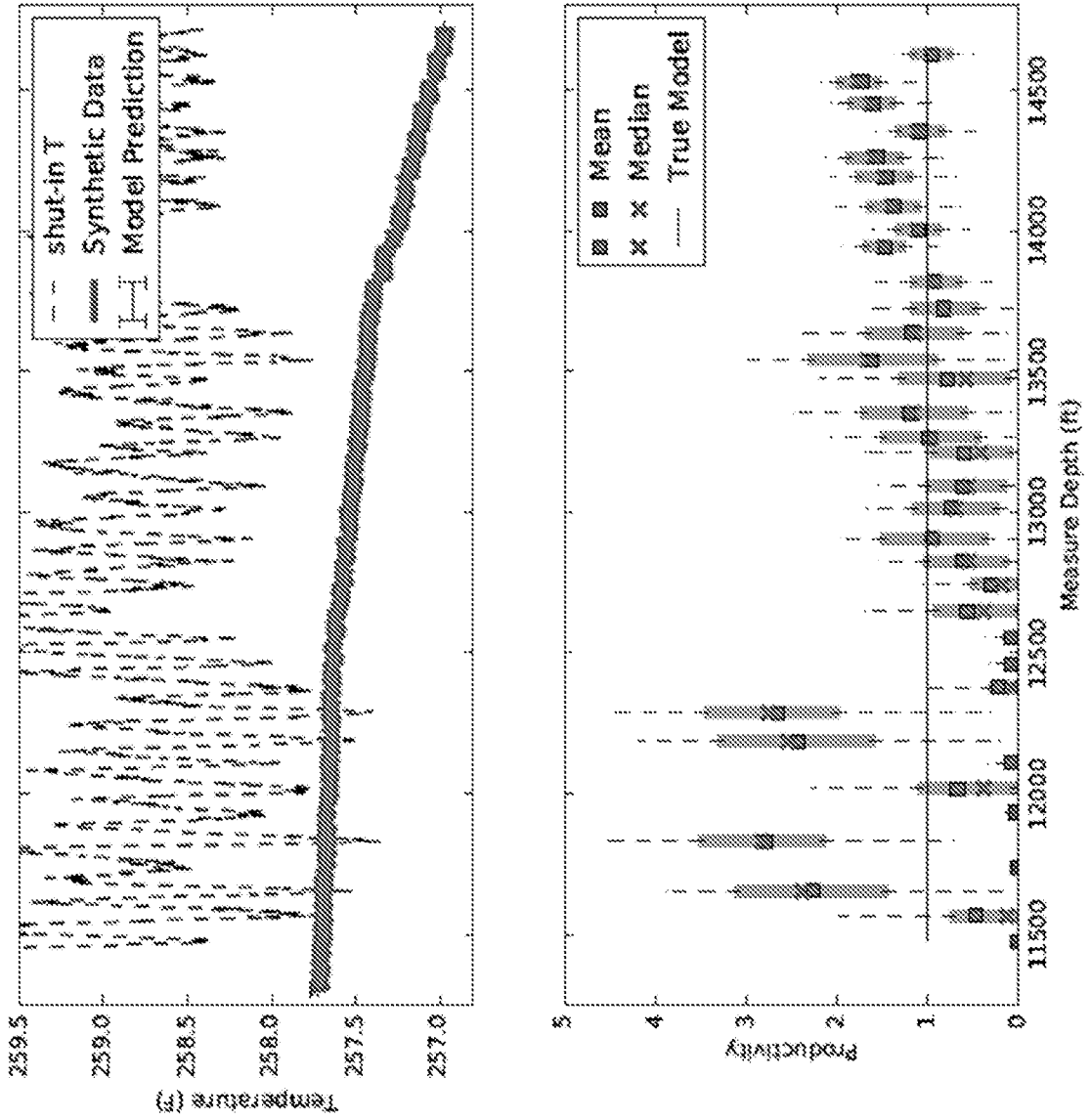


FIGURE 10

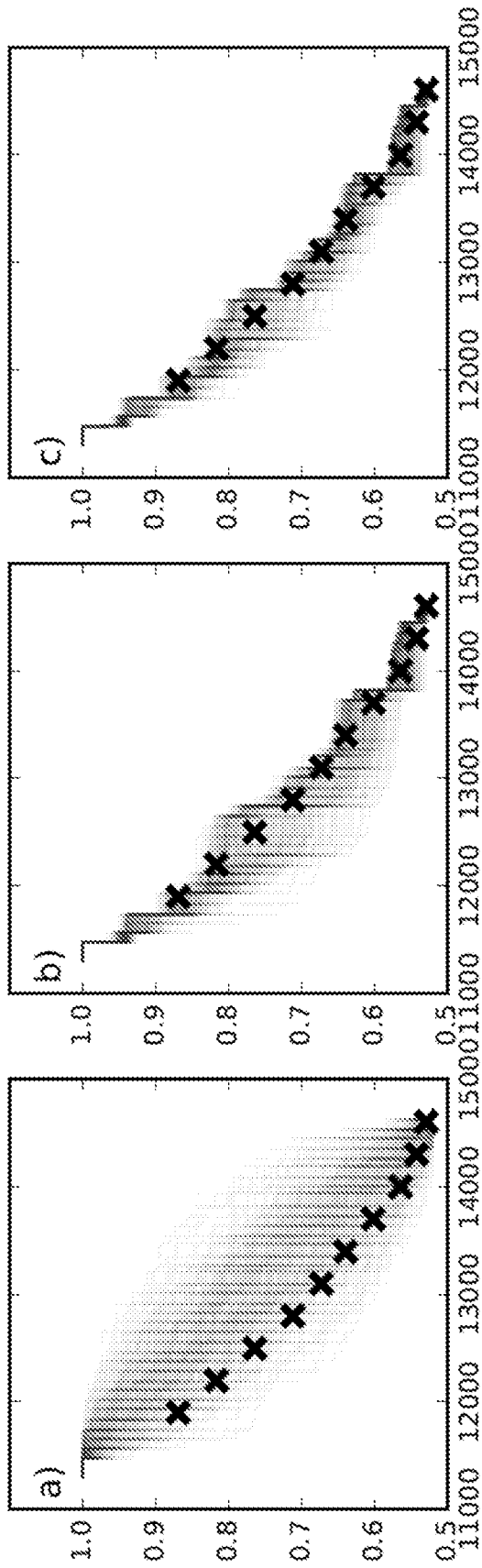
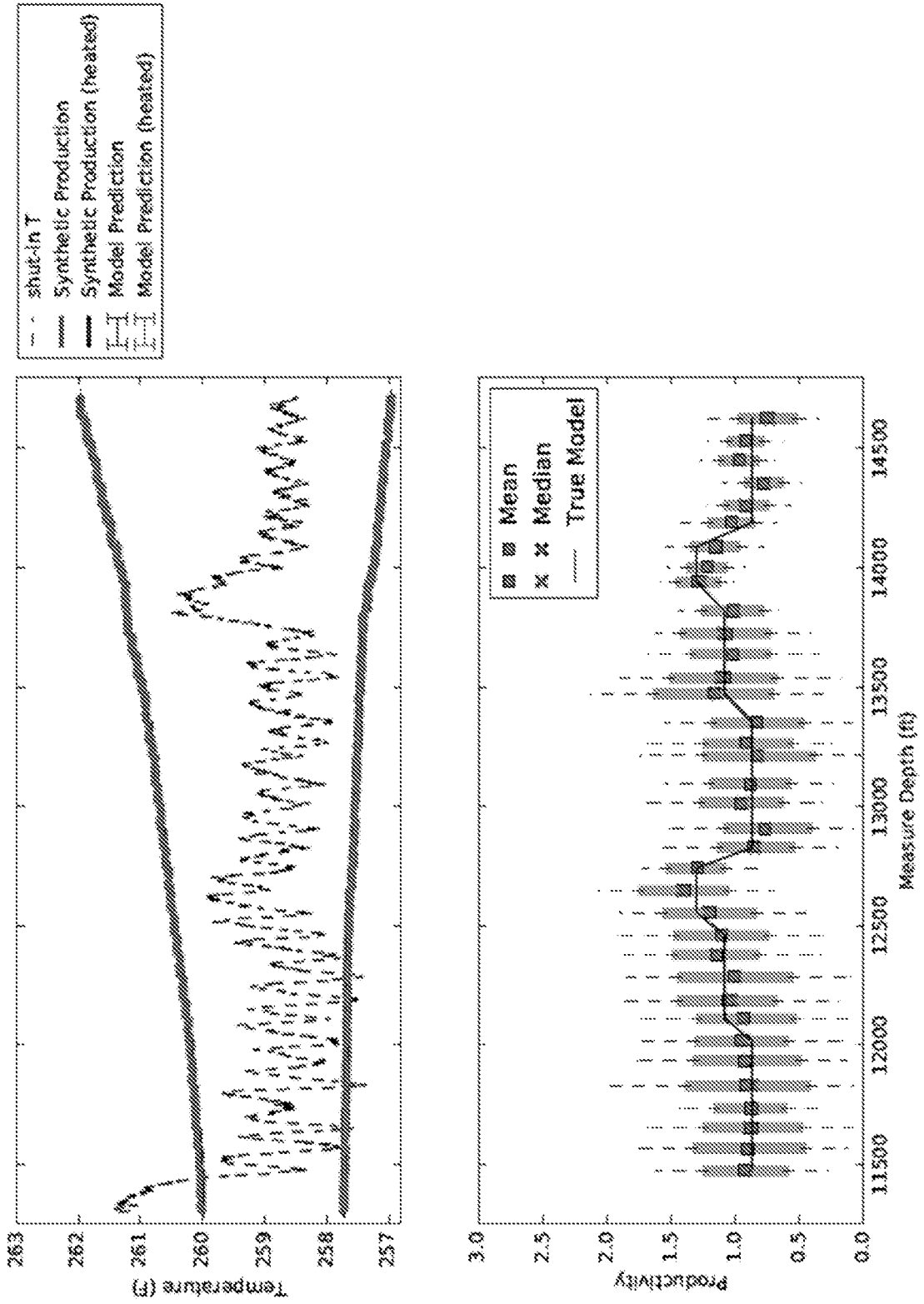


FIGURE 11

<div style="display: flex; flex-direction: column; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="margin-bottom: 10px;">Production</div> <div style="margin-bottom: 10px;">Shut-in</div> <div>Transient</div> </div>	Stable Production	24	hr
	Measure flowing Temperature	3	hr
	Shut-in	24	hr
	Measure Shut-in Temperature	3	hr
	Production	1	hr
	Shut-in	2	hr
	Production	1	hr
	Shut-in	2	hr
	Production	1	hr
	Operation	Duration	

FIGURE 12



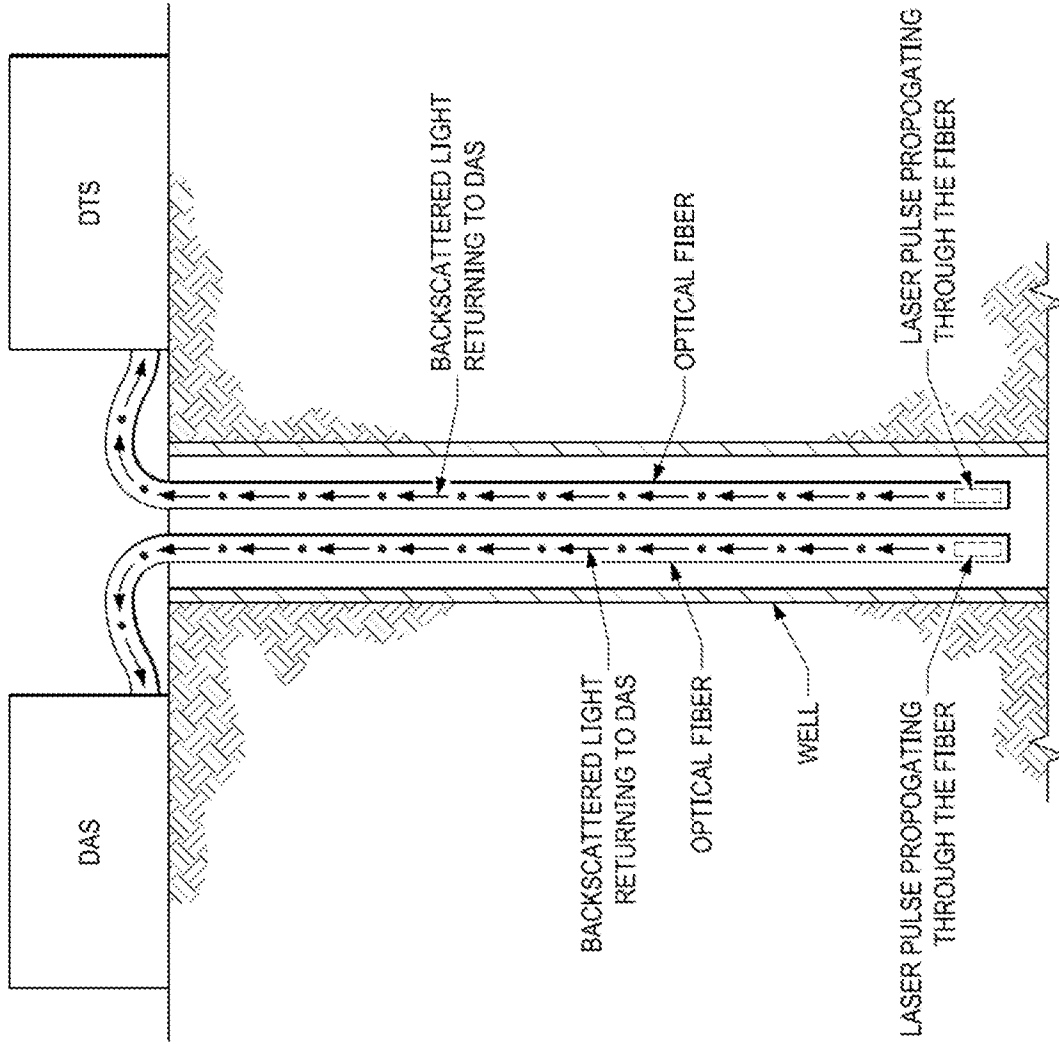


FIG. 13

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US19/30408

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC - G06F 17/50, G01V 1/22, E21B 41/00, 49/00, 43/26 (2019.01)
 CPC - G06F 17/5009, 17/18, E21B 41/00, 49/00, 41/0092, 49/00, 43/26, 47/102, G01V 1/208, 1/226, 1/42, 99/005, G06N 7/00

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)
 See Search History document

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

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

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 2016/0356125 A1 (BELLO, O et al.) 08 December 2016; entire document	1-6, 12-14, 16
A	US 2017/0328181 A1 (PASON SYSTEMS CORP.) 16 November 2017; entire document	1-6, 12-14, 16
A	US 2018/0045040 A1 (CONOCOPHILLIPS COMPANY) 15 February 2018; entire document	1-6, 12-14, 16
A	US 2017/0342814 A1 (CONOCOPHILLIPS COMPANY) 30 November 2017; entire document	1-6, 12-14, 16

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
 "E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date
 "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)
 "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
 "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed
 "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
 "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
 "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
 "&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search
 09 July 2019 (09.07.2019)

Date of mailing of the international search report
22 JUL 2019

Name and mailing address of the ISA/
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Authorized officer
 Shane Thomas
 PCT Helpdesk: 571-272-4300
 PCT OSP: 571-272-7774

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US19/30408

Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:

3. Claims Nos.: 7-11, 15
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.