



Distributed Fiber Optic Sensing: The Current State of Oil & Gas Applications and Their Value

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Prepared for the SPE Webinar on Distributed Fiber Optic Sensing Applications (May 16, 2017)



1



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Dennis Dria is president and petroleum technology advisor for Myden Energy Consulting, PLLC (2010-present). He has over 35 years' experience in the oil & gas industry, in a combination of upstream and downstream oil and gas R&D and E&P operating division positions; including 9 years with the Standard Oil Company and 21 years with Shell.

Dennis earned his BS in Physics and Mathematics from Ashland University and his PhD in Petroleum Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin. He is author or coauthor of 26 US patents and 15 technical publications and is a contributing editor to the current SPE Petroleum Engineering Handbook.

He is a Distinguished Member of the SPE and a 2011-2012 Distinguished Lecturer on the topic of "E&P Applications of Fiber-Optic Technologies."



2



Distributed fiber-optic sensing in O&G

Focus on

- Upstream - development and operations
- In-well deployment

Why choose FOS is useful

What FOS can do for us



3

Why should we talk about fiber-optic sensing?



- No down-hole electronics
 - High temperature
 - Reliability
- Real-time monitoring capability
- Multiple sensing options
 - Temperature, Pressure, Strain and Acoustics
- Well design may limit intervention
 - Build in RT surveillance capability
 - Production logging
 - Well-bore seismic
 - Permanent FO installation: life-of-field monitoring



4

What can fiber-optic sensing do for us?



Manage / optimize asset performance

- Thermal recovery management
- Production/reservoir performance optimization
- Injection management
- Stimulation management
- Well integrity
- Geophysical mentoring
- Seismic



5

What can fiber-optic sensing do for us?



Thermal recovery projects

- Thermal flood injection optimization
- Reservoir performance

Production performance optimization

- Inflow profiling – where does the production comes from
- Gas and water breakthrough

Injection management

- Injection profile & control
- Out-of-zone injection



6

What can fiber-optic sensing do for us?


Stimulation management

Acid (matrix) stimulation optimization

HFS (hydraulic fracture stimulation)

- Diversion
- Frac geometry
- Well spacing



7

What can fiber-optic sensing do for us?


Well integrity

P&A considerations (e.g. pressure isolation)

Sand management

Geophysical mentoring

Reservoir strain

Compaction/subsidence management

Cap rock integrity

Seismic

Borehole

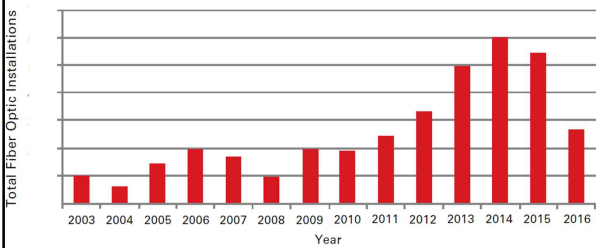
Well to well

microseismic



8

Fiber Optic Installations per Year

Total Fiber Optic Installations

Year

2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016



SEAFOM vendor survey, graphic courtesy of Eric Holley, Halliburton

9

Fiber Optic Installations



More than 4000 permanent fiber-optic installations

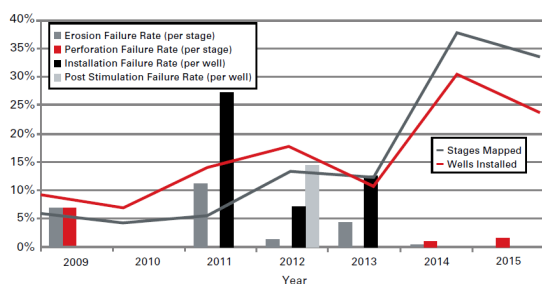
- > 3500 onshore
- > 600 offshore (dry tree)
- > 20 subsea (wet tree)



SEAFOM vendor survey

10

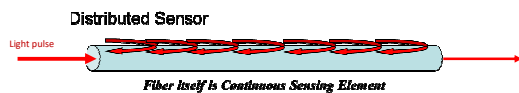
Fiber Optic Installation History Failure Rate by Mechanism



"Fiber-Optic Evaluation for Unconventional Assets: Eight Year Overview"
White Paper, courtesy of Eric Holley & Halliburton

11

Fiber Optic Sensing – How is it done?



Fiber itself is the sensor

Back-scattered light carries information

Distributed sensing options:

DXS X = **T**emperature, **A**coustics, **S**train

X = **P**ressure, **C**hemical

being developed or early prototype



12

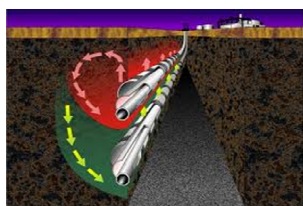
Fiber Optic Sensing – Getting It into the Well Conveyed on casing & production tubing, inside Coiled Tubing



Cable being clamped to casing/production tubing

13

Fiber Optic Sensing – Getting It into the Well (Semi-) Permanent Installation of Coiled Tubing



- FO cable is pulled or injected into string of coiled tubing
- CT is used as a means to get the cable to proper sensing depth in the well
- Common use: SAGD installations (e.g. Alberta)

* Courtesy of William Shroyer & SageHider

14

Thermal Recovery Applications



Diatomite steam flood* (one field/operator, California)

- One of three producers will have FO
- 275 installed out of 400 targeted
- Surveillance of steam expansion - improve reservoir-wide performance

SAGD** (Canada)

- Steam chamber monitoring
- Sub-cooling monitoring/ closed loop feedback & control

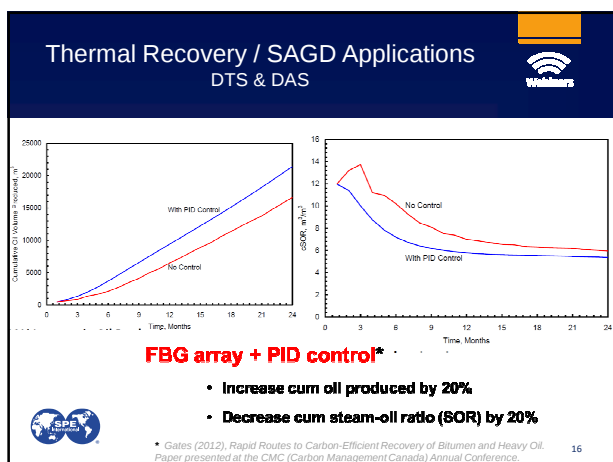
Strain monitoring for integrity

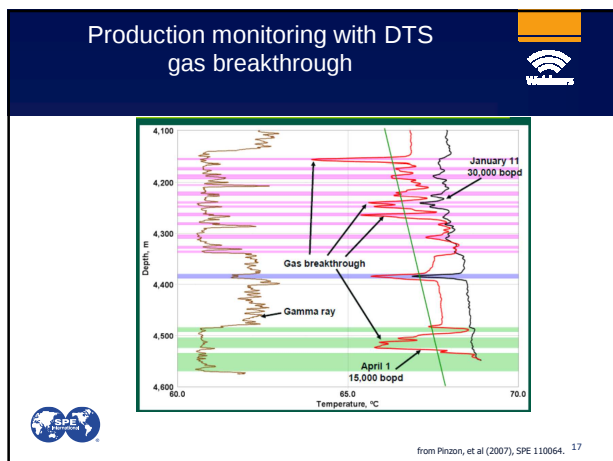
- Correlate compaction rates with steam volume injected

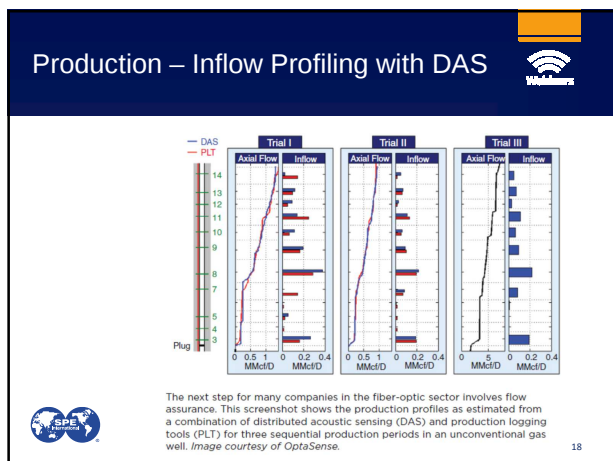


* Dria, personal notes from 2015 SPE Workshop on DFOS, Napa.
** 2016, comments from a major service company: "several hundred per year, typically"

15



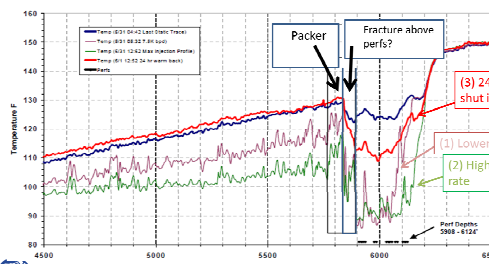




Injection Monitoring – water disposal well

DTS behind casing, monitor for out-of-zone injection

- stabilized temperature profile to indicate injection profile
- warm back to watch for out-of-zone frac

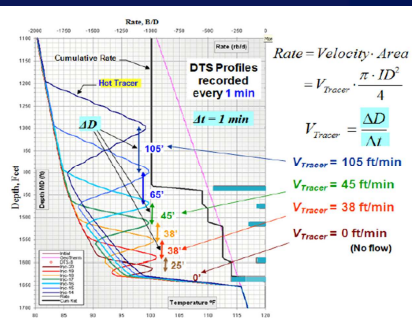


from Huckabee, SPE 118831 (2009)

19

Injection Profiling

DTS "thermal tracer"



Rahman, et al., SPE 144138 (2011)

20

Smart Injector optimization

DAS and DTS

injection distribution - flow control valves

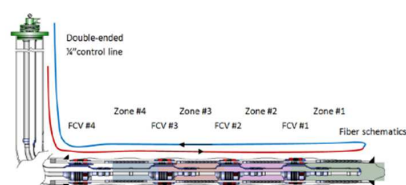


Figure 1—Schematic of the smart injector well with four isolated injection zones with Flow Control Valves (FCV) and a double ended fiber optic cable inside the 1/2\"/>

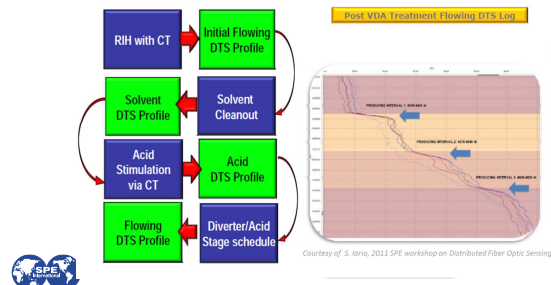
from van der Horst, et al. (2015) SPE 175211

21

Acid stimulation monitoring workflow for real-time optimization



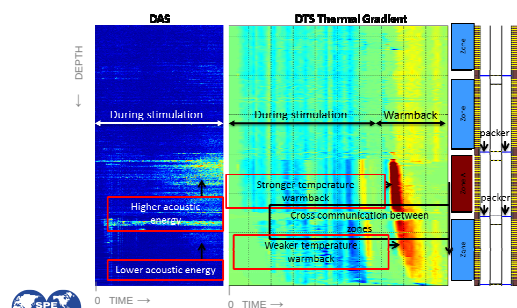
Methodology of DTS use in Val d'Agri field - Italy



22

DAS & DTS to monitor acid stimulation

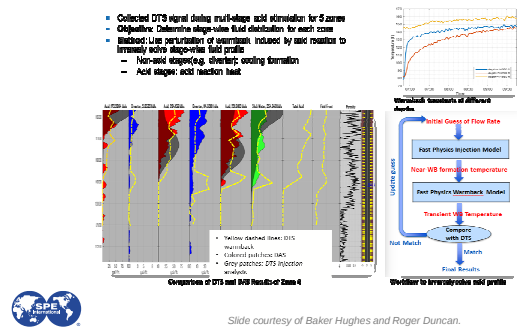
Fluid placement & distribution – cross communication



23

Acid Stimulation Profiling - Workflow

DTS & DAS



Slide courtesy of Baker Hughes and Roger Duncan.

24

One Cable, Many Measurements Unconventional Reservoir "Life of Field"



	Pre-Frac	Frac	Post-Frac	Flow Back	Production
DTS	Geotherm Acquisition, cementing monitoring, perf monitor	Thermal Tracer - Cluster Injection profile	Warm Back: injection profile, fluid entry points, Cross flow; SRV est. (long-term warm back)	Frac fluid placement; stimulation eff.; stage isolation evaluation	Production profile: stimulation effectiveness, cluster & frac stage producibility
DAS	Microseismic*; offset well fracs; offset well mechanical activities; VSP	Mechanical diagnostics, injection profile, MS* frac mapping	Cross flow	Frac fluid placement; Stimulation effectiveness	Production profile: stimulation effectiveness, frac stage producibility



25

The potential benefits are out there



Reported results* from major and independent operating companies

For example: In one Eagle Ford well,
 10 of 14 stages showed interstage communication
 Diverter response was fairly inconsistent

Multi-Basin look back **

Communication seen in ~ 40% of frac stages
 Average pumped volume leaked per stage: 40-45%
 Increasing to more than 3-4 perf clusters → non-uniform fluid distribution



26

Reported results* from major and independent operating companies



Significant value:
 Understanding and optimizing *individual well performance*

Greatest value:
 Extracted learnings used in *new wells/fields*

Calibrate models
 Optimize HFS (increase frac efficiency/reduce cost, stimulate more stages)
 Increased reservoir understanding → greater EUR

*Gustavo Ugueto & Paul Huckabee (2015) "Application Fiber Optic Technology for Well and Reservoir Management", SPE Webinar broadcast 26 February.

Gustavo Ugueto (2015) "Perforation Cluster Efficiency, Insights form Fiber-Optic Diagnostics" presented at the SPE Workshop on Distributed Fiber Optic Sensing, 11-13 August, Napa, California USA.

*Stan Cullick (2014) "Fiber Optic Fracture and Production Monitoring in Midland Basin Vertical Stacked Pay" presented at the 2014 SPE Workshop on Distributed Fiber Optic Sensing, August 12-14, San Diego, California.

*Trey Lowe (2015) "Fiber-Optic Sensing: The New Must-Have Tool for Unconventional Field Development" keynote presentation at the 2015 SPE Workshop on Distributed Fiber Optic Sensing, 11-13 August, Napa, California.



27

Maximize the Value of FO Monitoring: Integrate with multiple measurements



Model (predict)

Measure

- FO, ...

Compare measured with model

Calibrate/update model

Optimize using calibrated model

- NPV, IP, 1 year cum prod, etc.

Permanently installed fiber-optic sensing

- Cased/completed
- Borehole packer isolated
- RA and MHA traces**
- Fluid pressures
- Production

Wireless and wireless technologies

- Permanent downhole gauges
- Wireless downhole sensors

Intervention-based monitoring (logging)

- Fiber optic logging

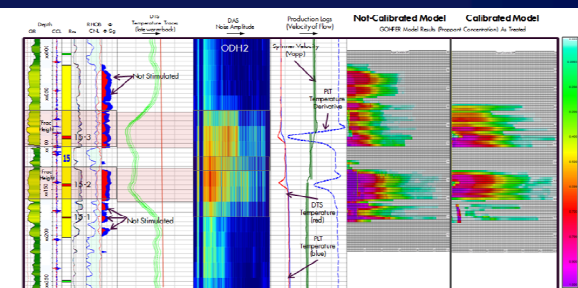
Production logs

- Wireline
- Drill bit
- Coiled tubing conveyed
- Tractor conveyed

28

from "Design of DTS/DAS Well Installations"
(Shroyer & Gholi, 2017)

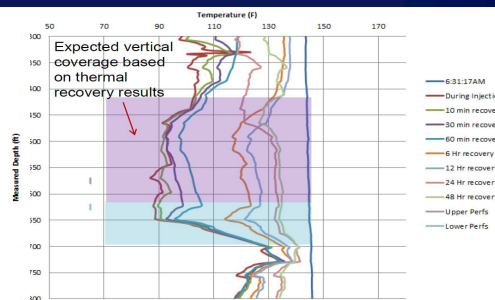
Hydraulic Fracture Stimulation optimization use data to constrain or calibrate physical models



From Ugueto, et al. (2014) SPE 168605: comparison between Not-Calibrated and Calibrated GORFER modeling results

29

DTS used to validate frac model (Midland Basin, Texas)



*Stan Cullick (2014) "Fiber Optic Fracture and Production Monitoring in Midland Basin Vertical Stacked Pay" presented at the 2014 SPE Workshop on Distributed Fiber Optic Sensing, August 12-14, San Diego, California.
**Cullick, et al. (2014) SPE 168992 presented at the 2015 SPE Liquids Rich Conference, Midland, Texas.

30

"Take-Aways from Fiber Installation" (Midland Basin)



Stimulation

Stimulations are effectively treating targeted zones.

- All perforated intervals are open
- DTS Data indicates that ALL plugs held - no out of zone fluid

Stimulation designs, operations and pre-models delivered planned stimulations

- DTS shows fracture heights can have more vertical coverage per stage - spread across perf clusters.

Slickwater Fracs and Gel Fracs have similar fracture heights at wellbore

Modeling

Models match observed heights - lends confidence to predicted geometry

Production

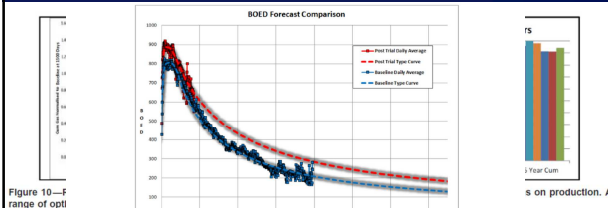
DTS data analytics provides zonal profile data over about five months

DTS modeling sensitivity and uncertainty analysis performed



*Stan Cullick (2014) "Fiber Optic Fracture and Production Monitoring in Midland Basin Vertical Stacked Pay" presented at the 2014 SPE Workshop on Distributed Fiber Optic Sensing, August 12-14, San Diego, California.
**Cullick, et al. (2014) SPE-168992 presented at the 2015 SPE Liquids Rich Conference, Midland, Texas.. 31

"Geo-engineered" Wells – Eagle Ford FO a significant information source

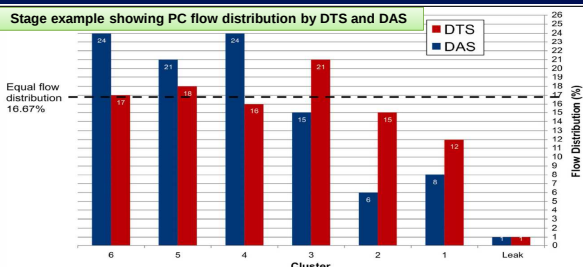


Field results* showed ~ 15% uplift for average field type curves, using optimized well/completion design



* Cadwallader, et al. (2015), SPE-178667/JURTeC: 2171506. 32

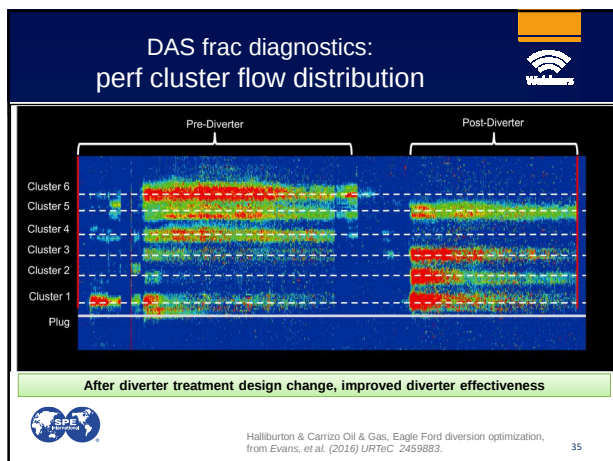
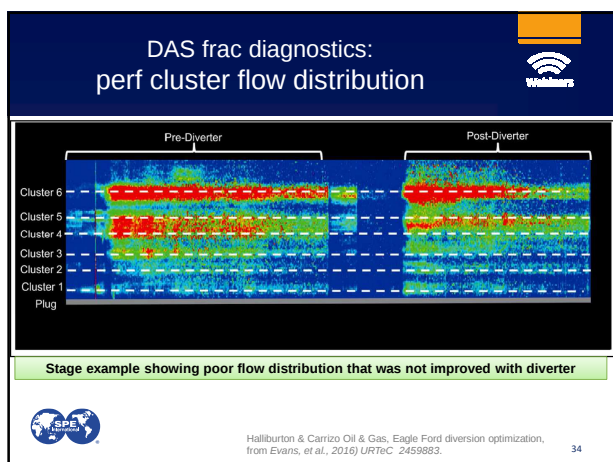
Fiber-optic frac diagnostics: perf cluster flow distribution



DTS flow distribution by warm-back analysis
DAS flow distribution by proprietary flow analysis



Halliburton & Carrizo Oil & Gas, Eagle Ford diversion optimization, from Evans, et al., 2016 JURTeC: 2459883. 33



Distributed Strain Sensing measures shape change downhole

- Measurements:
 - Local axial strain and curvature
 - Total compression, transverse displacement, shape change over any spatial interval.
 - Evolution over time, rates of deformation
- Applications:
 - Detect and monitor lithological deformations (compaction, shear planes, etc)
 - Calibrate geophysical models
 - Relate near well-bore changes to water & steam injection programs
 - Optimize voidage replacement programs for produced reservoirs
 - Early detection and classification of mechanical well integrity issues



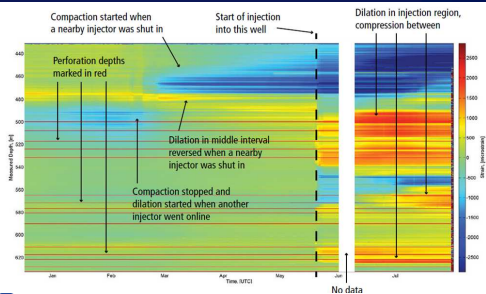
DSS cable on spool



DSS cable on casing

Slide courtesy of Baker Hughes and Roger Duncan. 36

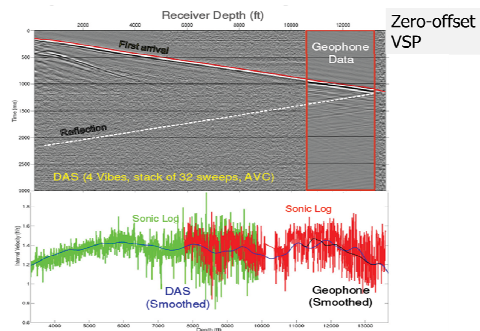
Real-Time Geophysical Monitoring Compressive & Tensile Strain



Slide courtesy of Baker Hughes and Roger Duncan.

37

In-Well Seismic DAS acquisition



With permission: SEG 2011, J. Mestayer, et al

38

In-Well Seismic Multi-offset DAS acquisition

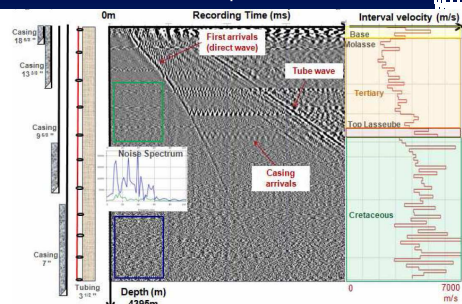


Figure 4 Rousse-1 well completion (left). Single sweep record at well head location (middle) and derived velocity profile after 20 sweep stacking (right)

From Barberan, et al. (2012) EAGE Conference & Exhibition / SPE EUROPEC.

39

Microseismic Monitoring

Event Location Using Multiple Sensor Locations

- Detection of low frequency, high magnitude (>1.5) microseismic events initiated at reactivated faults.
- Geolocation using 1 component (1C) sensor possible using shaped array localization

Slide courtesy of OptaSense.

40

Temporary Deployment - Fiber Optic Sensing

Intervention methods – similar to logging

Coiled tubing with fiber

Small diameter coil/semi-stiff composite rod with fiber

Wireline: Hybrid fiber-optic/electric cable

- Vertical deployment alone or with logging tools
- Tractored down, frequently with logging tools

Slick line with integral fiber, often with memory PLT or P/T gauge

- DAS & DTS
- Production Logging
- Sand Detection
- Leak Detection
- Borehole seismic

41

Summary

Many advantages of DFOS

Real-time, Life-of-Field Applications

Applications in virtually every reservoir/production scenario

Unique information provided in real-time

Information allows design change to optimize a process

Information used to optimally control operations

42
