



## Successful Leveraging of Human Visual System Modeling and Machine Learning in Computational Seismic Interpretation

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2. Schlumberger Limited, Houston, TX



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**Prof. Ghassan AlRegib** is currently a professor in the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the Georgia Institute of Technology.

He is also Director of the **Omni Lab** for Intelligent Visual Engineering and Science (**OLIVES**) at Georgia Tech.

In 2012, Ghassan was named Director of Georgia Tech's Center for Energy and Geo Processing (CeGP).

Professor AlRegib has authored and co-authored more than 190 articles in international journals and conference proceedings.

He has been issued seven U.S. patents and is a Senior Member of IEEE.



**Ghassan AlRegib**  
Professor, School of Electrical & Computer Engineering  
Georgia Institute of Technology



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Poll Question #1



What is your job title?



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Poll Question #2



Who is your employer?



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Poll Question #3



What geographic region are you from?



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Poll Question #4



How many years of experience do you have?



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Poll Question #5



What is your background?



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Poll Question #6



What background of you have in Signal Processing, Pattern Recognition, and Machine Learning?



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Outline

Webinars

- Overview of Computational Seismic Interpretation (CSI)
- Human Visual System (HVS) Modeling in CSI
  - Gradient of Texture (GoT) on Salt-dome and Listric Fault Interpretation
  - Motion-based Saliency on Salt-dome Interpretation
- Machine Learning (ML) in CSI
  - Weakly Supervised Learning on Seismic Structure Labeling
  - Tensor-based Subspace Learning on Salt-dome Tracking
  - Generative Adversarial Networks (GAN) for Seismic Data Generation
- Conclusions



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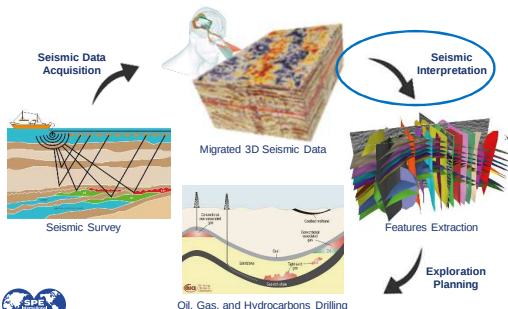
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Hydrocarbon Exploration Procedure

Webinars



Seismic Survey

Seismic Data Acquisition

Migrated 3D Seismic Data

Seismic Interpretation

Features Extraction

Exploration Planning

Oil, Gas, and Hydrocarbons Drilling



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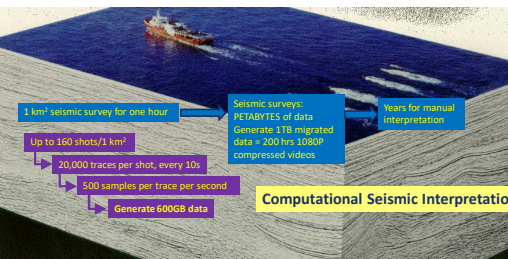
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Computational Seismic Interpretation (CSI)

Webinars



1 km<sup>2</sup> seismic survey for one hour

Up to 160 shots/1 km<sup>2</sup>

20,000 traces per shot, every 10s

500 samples per trace per second

Generate 600GB data

Seismic surveys: PETA-BYTES of data  
Generate 1TB migrated data = 200 hrs 1080P compressed videos

Years for manual interpretation

Computational Seismic Interpretation



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| Computational Seismic Interpretation (CSI) |            |                       |                           |                       |                            |                                |                                |                |               |                       |
|--------------------------------------------|------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| HVS Attributes                             |            |                       |                           |                       |                            |                                |                                |                |               |                       |
| Methods                                    | Attributes |                       |                           |                       | Machine Learning           |                                |                                | Others         |               |                       |
|                                            | Coherence  | GLCM-based Attributes | Gradient of Texture (GoT) | Motion-based Saliency | Weakly Supervised Learning | Multi-Attribute-based Learning | Tensor-based Subspace Learning | Edge Detection | Anti-Tracking | 2D/3D Hough Transform |
| Horizon Picking                            |            |                       |                           |                       |                            |                                |                                |                |               |                       |
| Fault Detection                            |            |                       |                           |                       |                            |                                |                                |                |               |                       |
| Fault Tracking                             |            |                       |                           |                       |                            |                                |                                |                |               |                       |
| Salt-dome Detection                        |            |                       |                           |                       |                            |                                |                                |                |               |                       |
| Salt-dome Tracking                         |            |                       |                           |                       |                            |                                |                                |                |               |                       |
| Channel Identification                     |            |                       |                           |                       |                            |                                |                                |                |               |                       |
| Gas Chimney Identification                 |            |                       |                           |                       |                            |                                |                                |                |               |                       |

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| Outline                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Overview of Computational Seismic Interpretation (CSI)</li><li>• Human Visual System (HVS) Modeling in CSI<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Gradient of Texture (GoT) on Salt-dome and Listric Fault Interpretation</li><li>– Motion-based Saliency on Salt-dome Interpretation</li></ul></li><li>• Machine Learning (ML) in CSI<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Weakly Supervised Learning on Seismic Structure Labeling</li><li>– Tensor-based Subspace Learning on Salt-dome Tracking</li><li>– Generative Adversarial Networks (GAN) for Seismic Data Generation</li></ul></li><li>• Conclusions</li></ul> |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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| Human Visual System                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Human visual system (HVS) is sensitive to<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Texture changes</li><li>– Motions</li><li>– Structures</li></ul></li><li>• Attention models mimic the behavior of human subjects looking at an image or video</li></ul> |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
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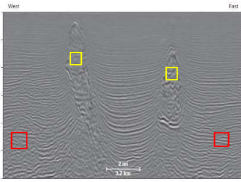
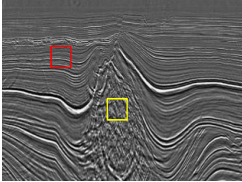
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### Texture Changes

- Texture changes between the inside and the outside of salt domes provide quantitative visual clues that assist geophysicists' interpretation tasks



Texture Difference Inside and Outside the Salt dome [6]

Two Salt Diapirs Beneath the Continental Shelf, Offshore Louisiana [7]

[6] [https://math.berkeley.edu/~sethian/2006/Applications/Seismic\\_texture\\_analysis.html](https://math.berkeley.edu/~sethian/2006/Applications/Seismic_texture_analysis.html)  
[7] Dutten, John B., et al. "The great bendable salt." *Geophysical Research Letters* 15 (1988): 4-17.

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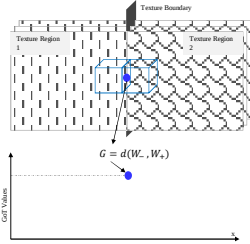
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### Gradient of Texture (GoT)



$G = d(W_-, W_+)$

GoT Values

x

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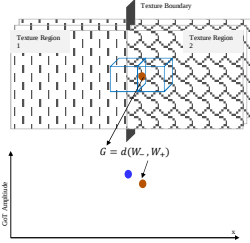
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### Gradient of Texture (GoT)



$G = d(W_-, W_+)$

GoT Amplitude

x

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### Gradient of Texture (GoT)

Texture Boundary

Texture Region

Orientations of Cubes

Cross-section of the Smallest and Largest Neighboring Cubes

$$G[x,y] = d(W_x, W_y)$$
$$G[x,y] = \sqrt{G_x^2 + G_y^2}$$
$$G[x,y] = \left( \sum_{i \in \{x,y\}} \left( \sum_{j \in \{x,y\}} d(W_j, W_i) \right)^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

where  $W_x$  and  $W_y$  denote the neighboring cubes with edge length  $(2n + 1)$ ,  $N$  represents the number of cubes, and  $w_n$  represents the corresponding weights.

Perceptual Dissimilarity Measures

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### Multi-Scale GoT of 2D Seismic Section

A typical seismic inline section

Cube size of 3x3x3

Cube size of 7x7x7

Cube size of 15x15x15

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### Structural Interpretation of Salt Domes

```
graph LR
    V[V] --> G[3D Gradient of Texture GoT]
    G --> T[Thresholding]
    T --> B[B]
    B --> RG[Region Growing]
    RG --> SD[SD]
    SD --> PP[Post-Processing]
    PP --> SD2[SD2]
    SD2 --> SB[Salt-Dome Boundaries]
    SB --> V2[V2]
```

Seed Point Selection

- Automatic
- Manual

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### Dataset: F3 Block in the North Sea

The figure consists of two main parts. On the left, a map of the North Sea shows the location of the F3 Block, with an inset map showing the area's extent. On the right, a 3D seismic volume is displayed, showing the subsurface geological structure. The volume is labeled with 'Indices' and 'Coordinates'.

F3 BLOCK STUDY AREA IN NETHERLANDS NORTH SEA\*

Area shown: 1000 x 1000 m

F3 Block Location in the North Sea

Migrated Seismic Volume

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### Detected Salt Dome

The figure shows a 3D seismic volume of a detected salt dome. The volume is labeled with 'Indices' and 'Coordinates'. Below the volume, two 3D slices of the detected salt dome are shown, illustrating the subsurface structure.

01\_3DGoT\_Delineation.avi

Detected Salt Dome in 2D Seismic Sections

3D slice of Detected Salt Dome

Detected 3D Salt Body

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### Listric Faults

- Listric faults are concave upwards and are identified by either decreasing dip with depth, which flattens out at the bottom of the fault or changes in strata and by variations in texture.

The figure includes a diagram of a listric fault, showing a concave-upward fault structure. Below the diagram, a map of the Stratton Field in Texas is shown, highlighting the location of the listric faults. The map is labeled with 'Stratton Field' and 'Listric Faults'.

Listric Faults [9]

Stratton Field in Texas [10]

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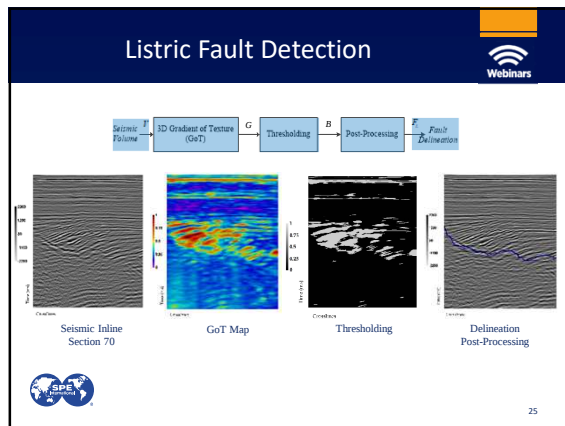
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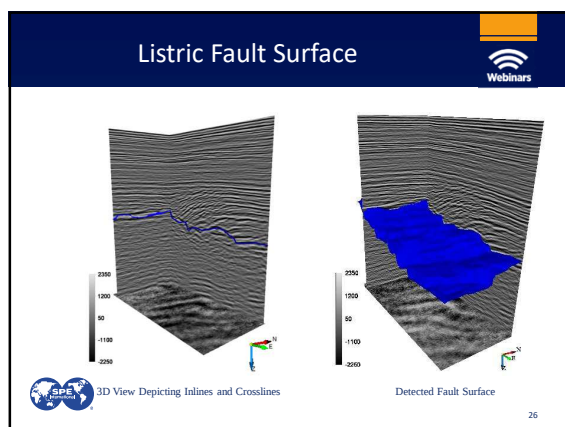
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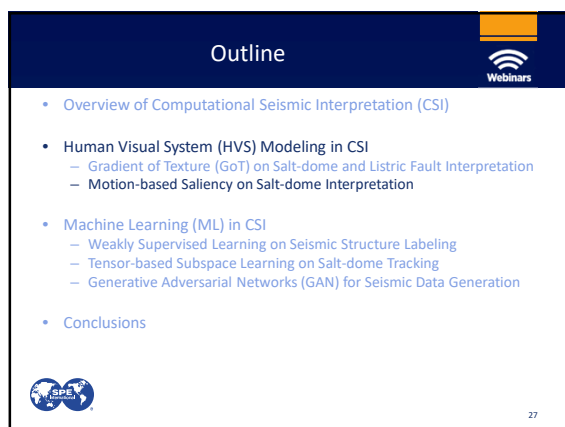
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Motions of Structures Across Seismic Sections

02\_SeismicVolume.avi

03\_SeismicSaliency.avi

Seismic Volume

Saliency Map

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Motion-based Saliency Detection

- Advantages of a FFT-based saliency detection method compared to other detection algorithms
  - Effectively captures temporal and spatial saliency
  - Better computational efficiency
  - Few parameters selection

Geometric Decomposition

A Video Frame

Temporal Energy Distribution

Spatial Energy Distribution

29

[11] Zhiling Long and Ghassan Alibegh, "Saliency detection for videos using 3D FFT local spectra," Proc. SPIE, vol. 9394, pp. 93941G-93941G-6, 2015.

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Motion-based Saliency on Salt-dome Interpretation

Attention Models based on HVS

Detection and delineation of salt domes

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[12] M. Shafiq, T. Alshawi, Z. Long, and G. Alibegh, "SaltS: A New Seismic Attribute For Salt Dome Detection," IEEE Int. Conf. on Acoustics, Speech and Signal Processing (ICASSP), Shanghai, China, Mar. 20-25, 2016.

[13] M. Shafiq, T. Alshawi, Z. Long, and G. Alibegh, "The role of visual saliency in the automation of seismic interpretation," Geophysical Prospecting, 2017.

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```
graph TD; A[04_SeismicVolume.avi  
Original Seismic Volume] --> B[05_SalSi.avi  
Highlighted Salt-dome Boundaries]; A --> C[06_Seismic.avi  
A subset of Original Seismic Volume]; C --> D[07_SaliencyDelineation.avi  
Detected Salt Dome in 2D Seismic Sections];
```

04\_SeismicVolume.avi

Original Seismic Volume

05\_SalSi.avi

Highlighted Salt-dome Boundaries

06\_Seismic.avi

A subset of Original Seismic Volume

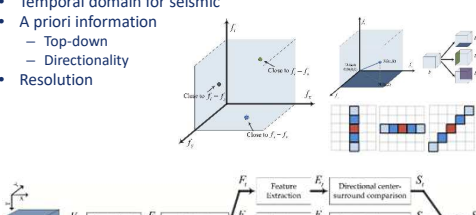
07\_SaliencyDelineation.avi

Detected Salt Dome in 2D Seismic Sections

# Attention Models and Saliency



- Temporal domain for seismic
- A priori information
  - Top-down
  - Directionality
- Resolution





[14] M. A. Shafo, Z. Lang, T. Alhassani, and G. Al-Raghib, "Saliency detection for seismic applications using multi-dimensional spectral projections and directional comparisons," IEEE International Conference on Image Processing (ICIP), Beijing,

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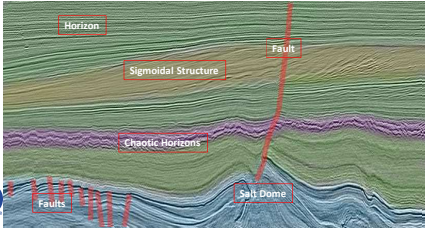
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Seismic Structure Labeling

Webinars

- Ultimately, machine learning would automate the most laborious interpretation tasks.
- The role of the interpreter will then transform from manually doing the interpretation, to *verifying and modifying*, if necessary, the automated interpretation result.





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Labeling of Natural Images vs. Seismic Data

Webinars



car, tree, road, sky



- This is an well known (and difficult) problem in computer vision.
- However, applying this to seismic data brings new challenges.

1. Seismic data is textural in nature and does not have color information.
2. Subsurface structures are characterized by texture, and lack the *clearly defined boundaries* between objects in the natural world
3. Severe lack of labeled seismic data



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### Machine Learning Paradigms

Unsupervised   Reinforcement Learning   Weakly Supervised   Semi-Supervised   Supervised

Recall one of the main challenges is the severe lack of labeled seismic data

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### Weakly-Supervised Learning

input → machine learning model → desired output

pixel-level labels   partial annotation   bounding box   image-level label

full supervision   weak supervision

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### Weakly-Supervised Labeling

- LANDMASS dataset (<http://cegp.ece.gatech.edu/codedata/landmass/>)
- Thousands of automatically retrieved, and manually verified seismic images classified into four classes:

Horizons   Chaotic   Faults   Salt Dome

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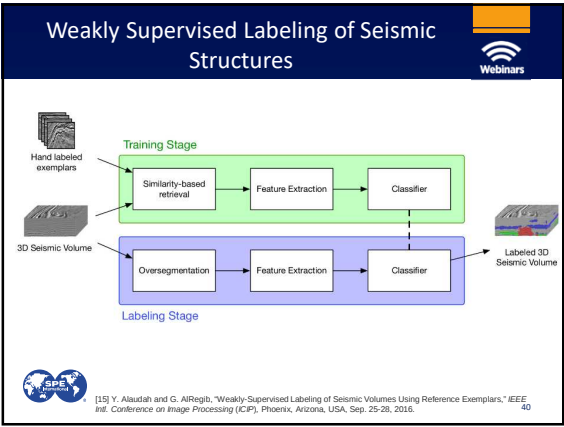
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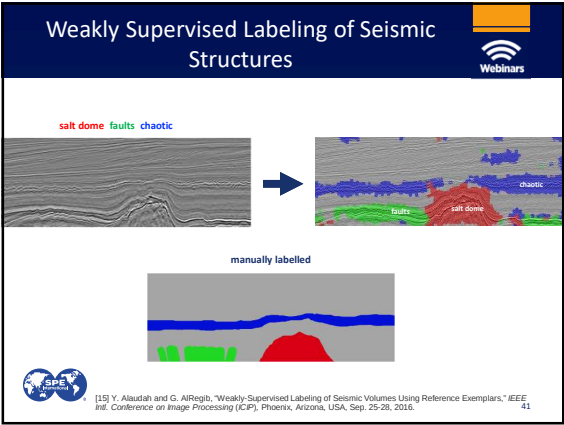
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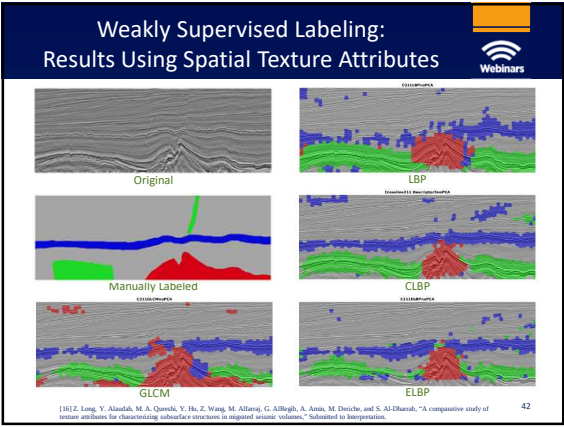
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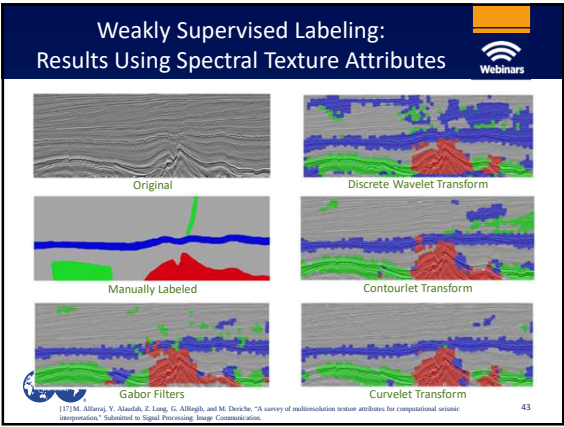
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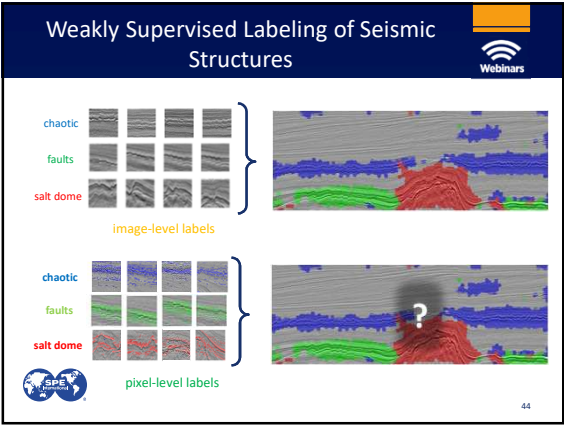
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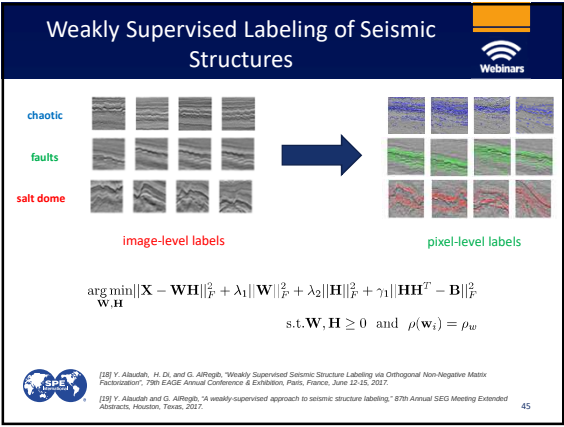
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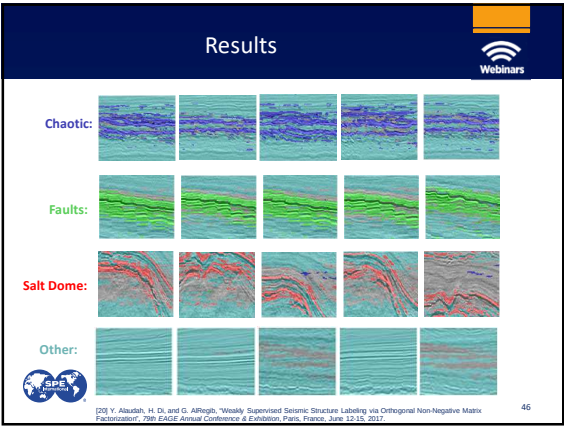
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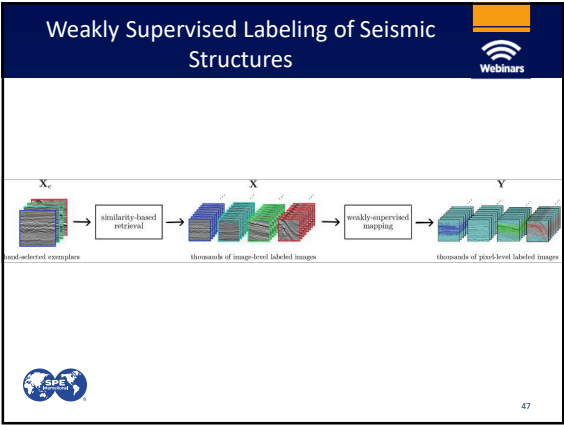
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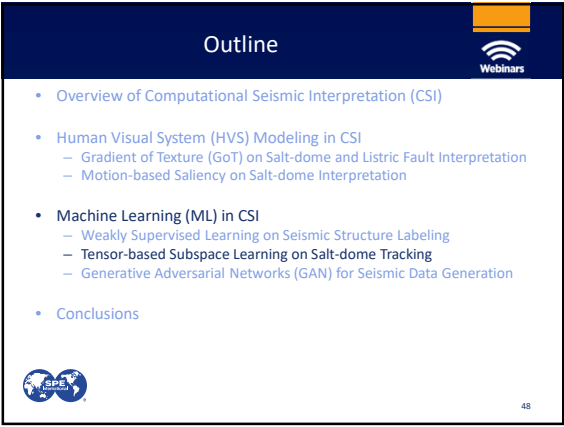
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Tensors: Multidimensional Data

Vector: 1st-order tensor

Matrix: 2nd-order tensor

Volume: 3rd-order tensor

Gait Silhouette Video

Medical Image Analysis

Feature Extraction from Tensors

Involving correlations in all directions

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Tensor-based Subspace Learning

$I_3$

$I_2$

$I_1$

1-mode Unfolding

$I_2 \times I_3$

Dimensionality Reduction (PCA, LPP, ...)

$P_1$

$P_1 < I_1$

1-mode Folding

$I_3$

$I_2$

$P_1$

2-mode Unfolding

$P_1 \times I_3$

Dimensionality Reduction (PCA, LPP, ...)

$P_2$

$P_2 < I_2$

2-mode Folding

$I_3$

$P_2$

$P_1$

3-mode Subspace Learning

$P_3$

Vectorization

$P_1 \times P_2 \times P_3$

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Salt-dome Tracking Using MPCA

Reference Sections w/ Labeled Boundaries

Tensor Generation

Extracting Texture Features

Estimating Tracked Positions

Tracked Salt-dome Boundaries

$I_3$

$I_2$

$I_1$

MPCA

$P_1$

$P_2$

$P_3$

Reference Section

Predicted Section

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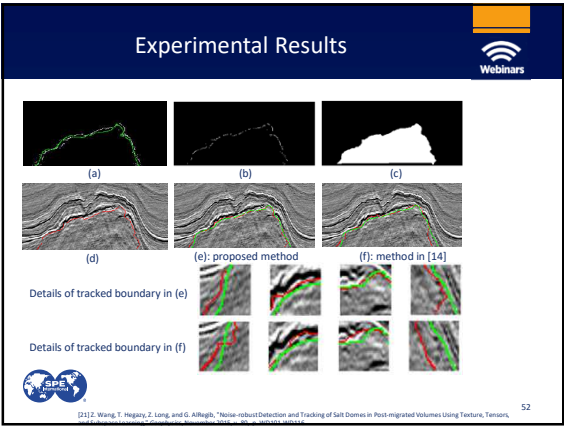
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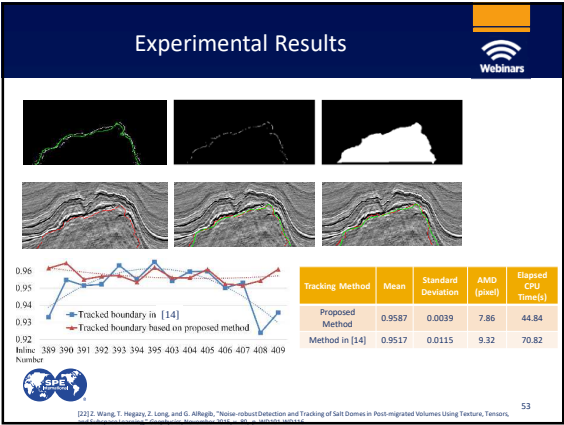
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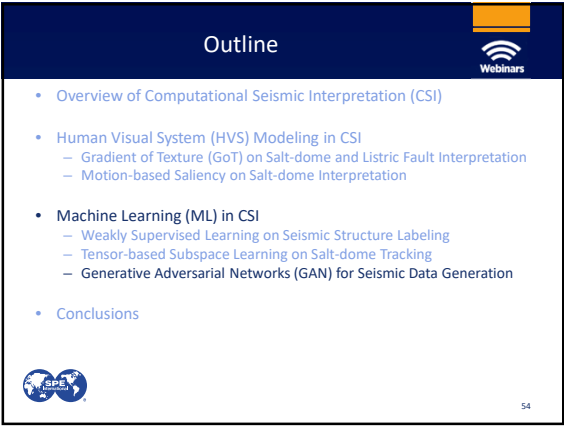
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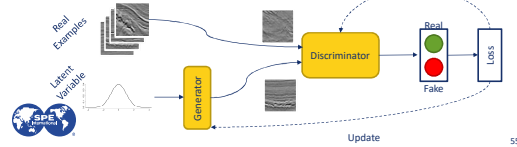
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## Adversarial Networks



- **Adversarial networks** “adopt machine learning techniques in adversarial settings”
- For example, Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs) focus primarily on sample generation from the distribution of the real data instead of estimating the model directly.
  - Two networks competing to achieve a common goal “model estimation”
  - **Discriminator (D)** distinguishes real and fake data.
  - **Generator (G)** takes random input and generates images to “fool” the discriminator.



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## Why Generative Adversarial models<sup>[15]</sup>?



- They can **represent and manipulate high-dimensional probability distributions**.
- They can be **trained with missing data** and can provide **predictions on inputs that are missing data**. (semi-supervised learning)
- Generative models enable machine learning to work with **multi-modal outputs**.
- Many tasks intrinsically require realistic **generation of samples** from some distribution.
- Adversary models **entirely learn from the data**



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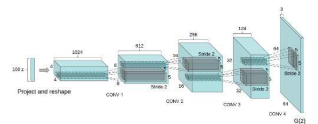
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## Example: DCGAN<sup>[16]</sup>



- Deep Convolutional Generative Adversarial Network
  - The goal is to create a model to synthesize seismic images of different structures, i.e. salt domes, faults, .. , etc.
  - We trained the model using 1000 images for each of 4 classes: Salt, Fault, Chaotic, and Horizons.



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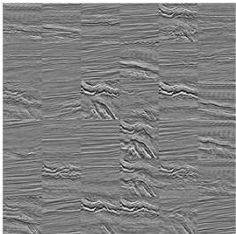
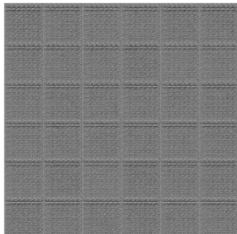
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Seismic Patches Generated by GANs



Initial generated images

Results after 50 iterations for all structures



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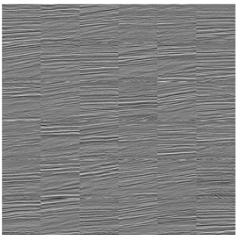
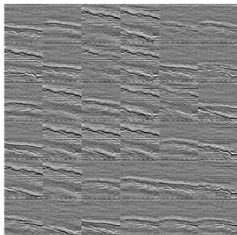
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Sample Patches Generated by Fine-tuning



Results after 20 iterations for Faults

Results after 20 iterations for Horizons



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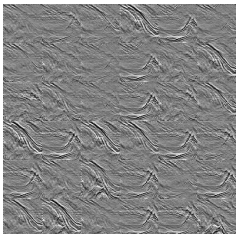
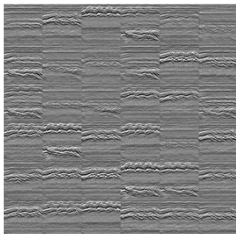
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Sample Patches Generated by Fine-tuning



Results after 20 iterations for Chaotic

Results after 20 iterations for Salt



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Outline



- Overview of Computational Seismic Interpretation (CSI)
- Human Visual System (HVS) Modeling in CSI
  - Gradient of Texture (GoT) on Salt-dome and Listric Fault Interpretation
  - Motion-based Saliency on Salt-dome Interpretation
- Machine Learning (ML) in CSI
  - Weakly Supervised Learning on Seismic Structure Labeling
  - Tensor-based Subspace Learning on Salt-dome Tracking
  - Generative Adversarial Networks (GAN) for Seismic Data Generation
- Conclusions



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Conclusions



- Leveraging the HVS modeling into interpretation is an effective component of CSI
  - using existing HVS models
  - a framework to model a senior interpreter's process
  - useful to design ML algorithms
- Machine learning resurrection is promising for CSI
  - new framework and work flow for the problem using labeling
  - hybrid handcrafted- and data-based models
- Community
  - share codes and results freely
  - share data freely
  - more competitions
  - more visible presence outside the community



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Products



**Publications:** <https://ghassanaregib.com/publications/>

**Software:**

- Seismic Simulation, Survey, and Imaging (S3I)  
The S3I provides an easy MATLAB-based library to simulate seismic imaging and produces synthesized data for any given velocity model to facilitate seismic interpretation and reservoir modeling. More details can be found at <http://csgp.ece.gatech.edu/codedata/s3i/>
- CSI Toolbox  
The Graphical User Interface (GUI) is developed for visualizing, testing, and benchmarking various algorithms for salt dome delineation. It also compares different salt dome delineation algorithms, which have been processed offline. More details can be found at <http://csgp.ece.gatech.edu/codedata/s3i/>
- Cloud Visual Explorer (CLEVER)  
The CLEVER is a cloud-based visual explorer developed in Django for Microsoft Azure. It allows efficient storage and computing resources to probe large datasets even from devices that do not have necessary minimum system requirements to run similar software. More details can be at <http://csgp.ece.gatech.edu/codedata/>

**Datasets:**

- Large North-Sea Dataset of Migrated Aggregated Seismic Structures (LANDMASS)  
The LANDMASS dataset is created for development, testing, and benchmarking of various techniques aimed towards seismic applications such as retrieval, classification, machine learning, etc. It contains 20K+ grayscale images extracted from the public F3 Block dataset, which are auto-labeled with manual verification into four major seismic structures: faults, salt dome, horizon, and chaotic horizon. More details can be found at <http://csgp.ece.gatech.edu/codedata/landmass/>



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