Geothermal Energy Lab

Drilling and Completions

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Source: newoilrigs.com

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Source: mudpumps.org



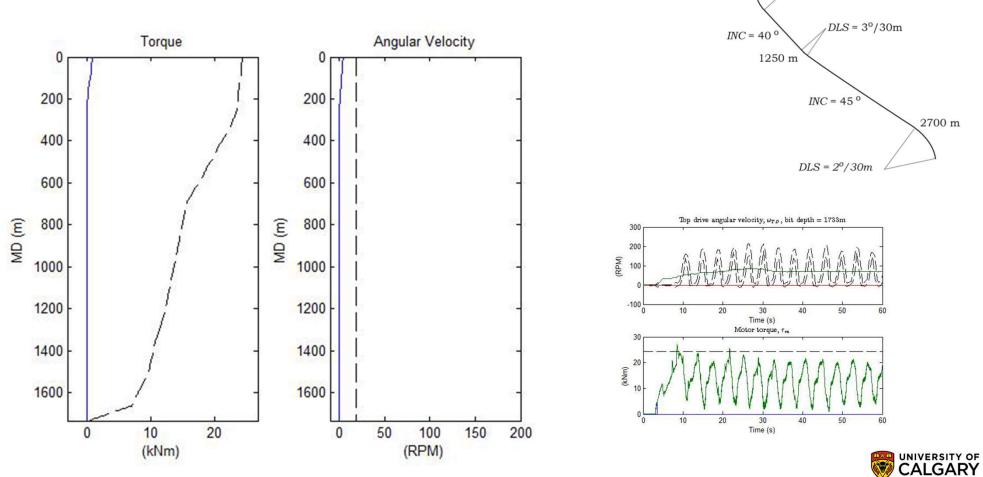
Modified from reelwell

What is the current state of the art?

- Inexpensive and fast wells in sedimentary basins: 5km long wells in two weeks
- High pressure and high temperature (HPHT) wells with surface pressures over 15 ksi (100 Mpa) and flowing surface temperatures above 350°F (177°C)
- Autodrillers with energy based (MSE, in wide use) or optimum seeking controllers (experimental)
- Automated vibration mitigation systems

- Real-time estimation of bottom hole conditions (experimental)
- Real-time automated drilling fluid rheology
- Automated formation detection and bit wear estimation (experimental)
- Wellbore intersection and ranging technologies
- Well plans to optimize reservoir contact and minimize wellbore stresses



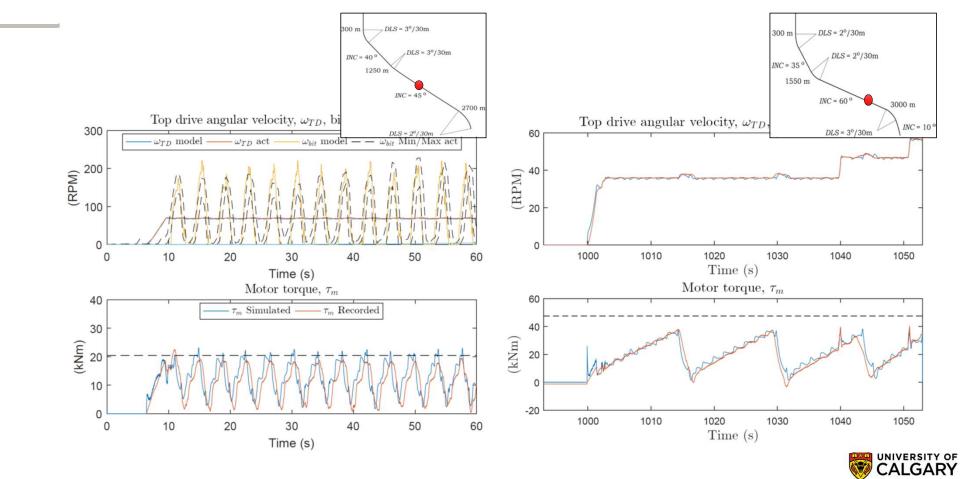


 $DLS = 3^{\circ}/30m$

300 m

Drilling Dysfunction – Stick-Slip

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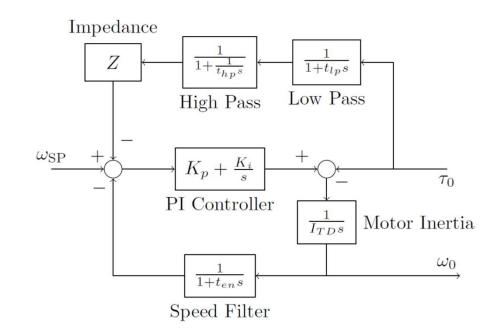


Stick-slip Mitigation Control

Top Drive Speed Control:

- 1. Stiff speed control
- 2. Tuned PI control

- 3. Impedance Matching control
- 4. Feedforward control (*experimental*)
- 5. Model Predictive / Machine Learning Based control (*experimental*)



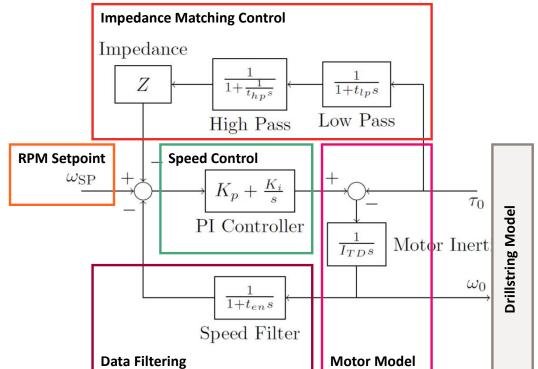


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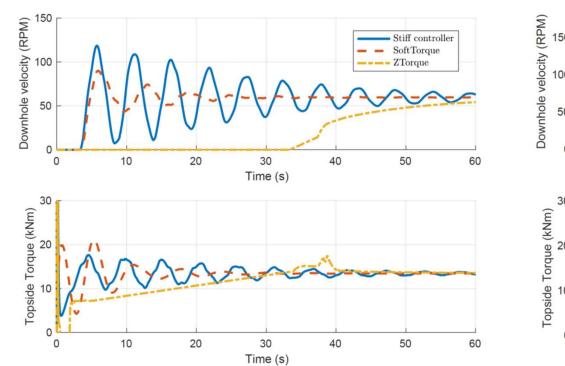
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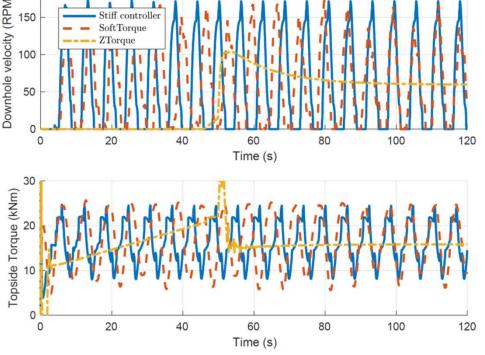
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Stick-slip Mitigation Control





Gaps in Knowledge & Technology

- High Pressure / High Temperature electronics
 - Standard oilfield electronics are only rated to 175°C
- Thermal stresses on borehole equipment
- Thermal effects on hoop stress and rock strength
- Thermal cycling of equipment, casing and cementing
- Hard-rock drilling & optimization
 - Equipment

- Drilling tools
- Hydraulic and fluid designs





Surface Data Collection

RPM, Torque, Hookload, Pumprate, Pressure, Flow, etc

Real time – typically recorded at 1-10Hz **Often Asynchronous**

Real time – technologies exist, but are often cost prohibitive

Latent data — widespread use of mud pulse telemetry (seconds to transmit data with typical bit rates of up to 1kbps)

Stored data - stored memory tools can record days worth of high frequency data

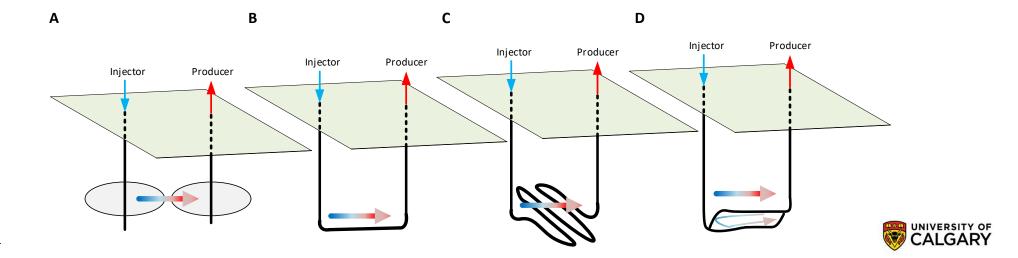


Downhole Data Collection RPM, Torque, Weight-on-bit, Pressure, Vibration, etc



Well Designs

- Open vs. Closed Loop Geothermal
 - Thermal reservoir as a battery
- Well steering and intersection
- Thermal efficiency & thermal energy recovery factors



Casing Programs

