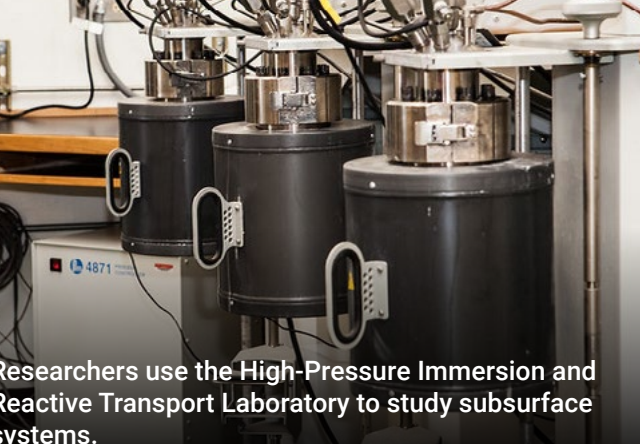




R&D Applications

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Researchers use the High-Pressure Immersion and Reactive Transport Laboratory to study subsurface systems.

Unconventional Resource Prediction Using Machine Learning

Research Highlights

Research Reduces Risk in Tertiary Oil Recovery and In-Situ Critical Minerals Recovery

Strengths in modeling and artificial intelligence (AI) allow NETL to enable American energy security in oil and natural gas and critical minerals recovery. Through measured information that quantifies how a system works or responds to an event compared to known technical principles, researchers can evaluate system economics to develop estimates of reservoir reserves. The models and scans can help increase domestic oil supplies while reducing environmental and safety risks.

Foamed Wellbore Cement for Deepwater Conditions

NETL completed an assessment report regarding foamed cement for offshore wells. Foamed cements are ultra-low density systems that are usually employed in formations unable to support the pressure exerted by conventional cement slurries. The work will help to bridge the gap between cement as tested in a laboratory and the cement that is pumped in field applications. Ultimately, this research provides industry with the knowledge needed to ensure the safe operation of deep and ultradeep offshore wells.

The National Risk Assessment Partnership (NRAP) Reduces Uncertainty and Cost

NETL led the creation of NRAP's suite of open-source risk assessment tools for fluid migration and wellbore integrity, which have been adopted by more than 100 domestic and international stakeholders, including industry, universities and regulators. These tools are widely used for subsurface project planning, particularly in storage and resource development. NRAP's work reduces uncertainty in risk and liability, decreases costs for operators, and expedites risk evaluation.

Subsurface Trend Analysis (STA) Method and Tool

The STA workflow uses deep learning and AI-informed image segmentation to predict and analyze subsurface and offshore conditions. The STA has demonstrated the ability to extract and accurately label images with 90% to 95% accuracy, improving subsurface property analysis for resources, geohazard predictions and real-time drilling risk reductions. This information increases safety and efficiency of operations while reducing risk and cost.

Publications

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- Mark-Moser, M., Miller, R., Rose, K., & Bauer, J. (2020). Subsurface Trend Analysis domains for the northern Gulf of Mexico. <https://doi.org/10.18141/1606228>.
- Pantaleone, S., Choisser, A. C., Marcelli, O., Rose, K., Morkner, P. (2024). Prospective Seal Name Catalog for U.S. Sedimentary Basins V1.0, <https://edx.netl.doe.gov/dataset/prospective-seal-name-catalog-for-us-sedimentary-basins>, DOI: 10.18141/2311187.
- Wang, Z., Dillmore, R. M., & Harbert, W. (2020). Inferring CO₂ saturation from synthetic surface seismic and downhole monitoring data using machine learning for leakage detection at CO₂ sequestration sites. *International Journal of Greenhouse Gas Control*, 100, 103115. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijggc.2020.103115>.

NETL is a U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) national laboratory dedicated to advancing the nation's energy future by creating innovative solutions that strengthen the security, affordability and reliability of energy systems and natural resources. With laboratories in Albany, Oregon; Morgantown, West Virginia; and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, NETL creates advanced energy technologies that support DOE's mission while fostering collaborations that will lead to a resilient and abundant energy future for the nation.



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