

# Pressure-Based Inversion and Data Assimilation System for CO<sub>2</sub> Leakage Detection

Project # DE-FE0012231

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National Energy Technology Laboratory  
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BUREAU OF  
ECONOMIC  
GEOLOGY



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- Sandia Technologies LLC: Kirk Delaune

# Outline

- Benefit to the Program
- Project Overview
- Technical Status
- Accomplishments to Date
- Summary

# Benefit to the Program

- Carbon program goal being addressed: ***Develop and validate technologies to ensure 99 percent storage permanence***
- Project benefits
  - The PIDAS project develops and demonstrates a ***pressure-based, pulse testing technology for leakage detection in carbon storage reservoirs.***
  - Methodologies for **enhancing signal-to-noise ratio** for injection zone

# Project Overview: Goals and Objectives

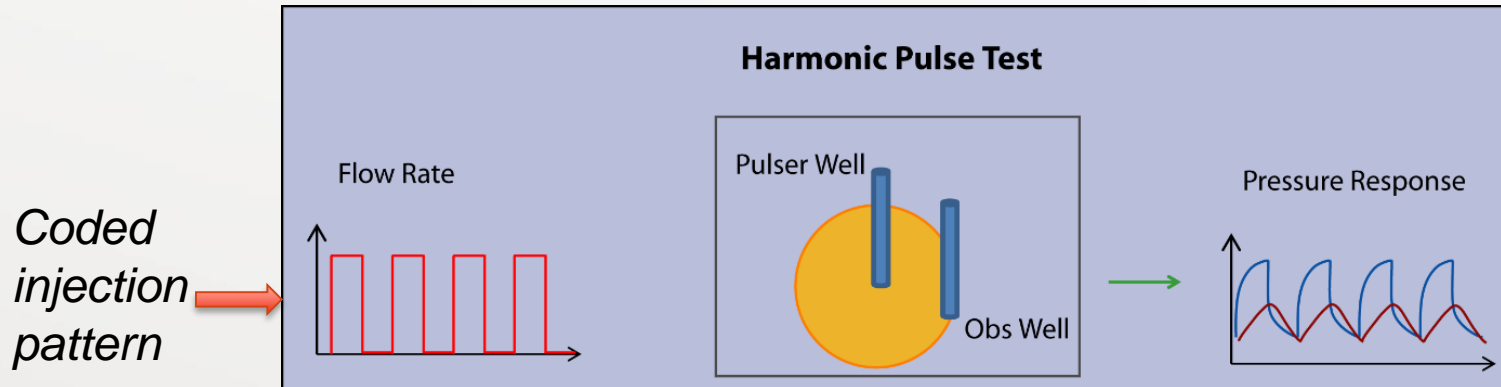
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- Demonstrate the utility of pulse testing for leakage detection
- Develop relevant data analyses and inversion methodologies
- Provide an experimental design tool for CCS operators to apply the technology

# Technical Status

- Task 2: Theoretical and numerical proof of concept studies
- Task 3: Laboratory experiments
- Task 4: Development of inversion and data assimilation algorithms
- Task 5: Field demonstration
- Task 6: Synthesis of results

# Why Pulse Testing?



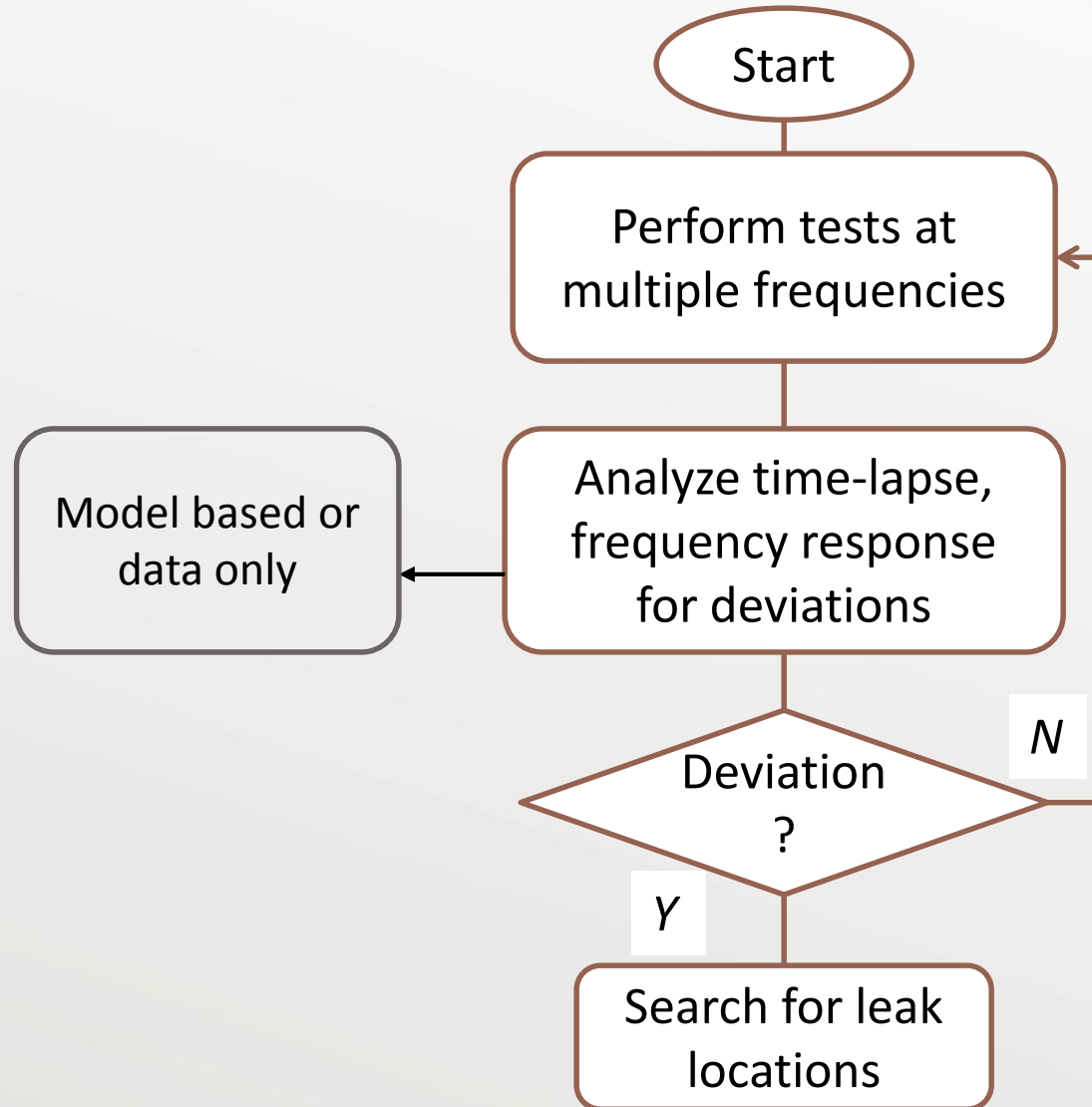
- Has been used for reservoir characterization since 1960s
- Hypothesis: pulse testing as a leakage detection technology for CCS
- Expected advantages over other pressure-based methods
  - An active monitoring method: enhanced signal-to-noise ratio, thus mitigating reservoir noise interference
  - No net injection rate change: little interruptions to nominal reservoir operations

# Pulse Testing: A Renaissance?

| Literature   | Field          | Use                   |
|--|----------------|-----------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Johnson et al. (1966). Pulse-testing: A new method for describing reservoir flow properties between wells. <i>J. Pet. Technol.</i>, 18.</li> <li>Fokker, P. A., and F. Verga (2011). Application of harmonic pulse testing to water–oil displacement, <i>J. Pet. Sci. Eng.</i>, 79(3), 125–134.</li> </ul>  | Reservoir      | Site characterization |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rasmussen et al., (2003). Estimating aquifer hydraulic properties using sinusoidal pumping at the Savannah River site, South Carolina, USA, <i>Hydrogeol. J.</i>, 11, pp. 466–482.</li> <li>Cardiff et al, (2013). Aquifer heterogeneity characterization with oscillatory pumping: Sensitivity analysis and imaging potential. <i>WRR</i>.</li> <li>Guiltinan, E., &amp; Becker, M. W. (2015). Measuring well hydraulic connectivity in fractured bedrock using periodic slug tests. <i>Journal of Hydrology</i>, 521, 100-107.</li> </ul> | Aquifer        | Site characterization |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ferrante, M., and B. Brunone (2003). Pipe system diagnosis and leak detection by unsteady-state tests: 1. Harmonic analysis, <i>Adv. Water Resour.</i>, 26(1), 95–105.</li> </ul>   | Water Industry | Water Leak            |



# How Does It Work?



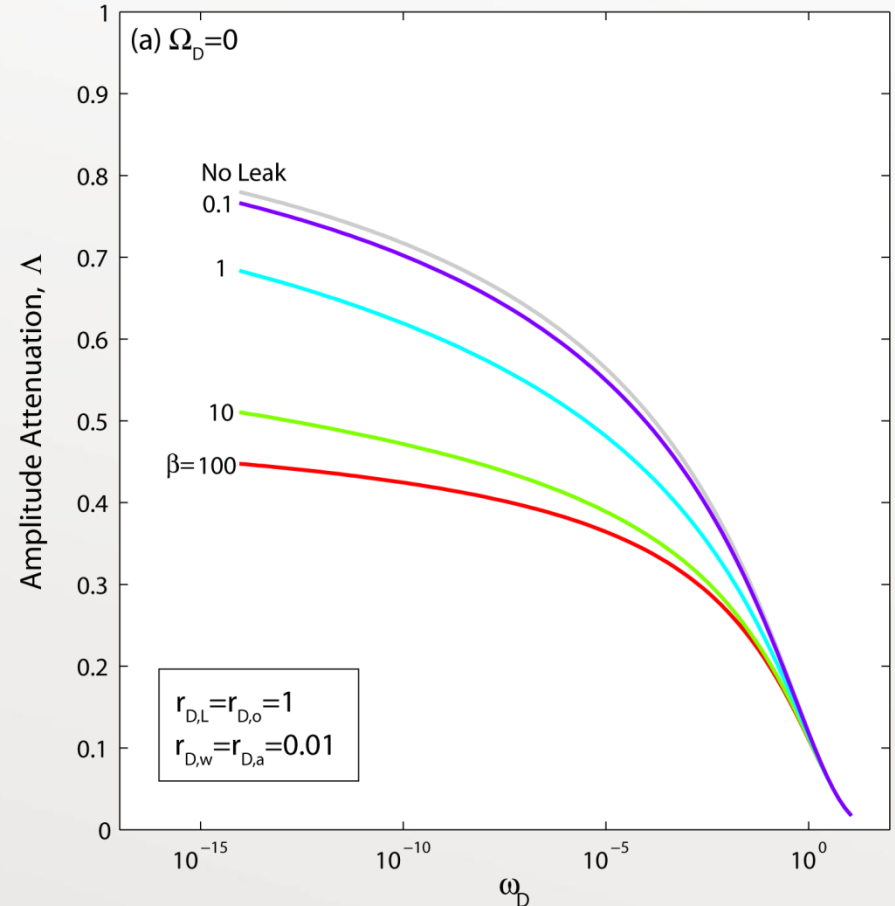
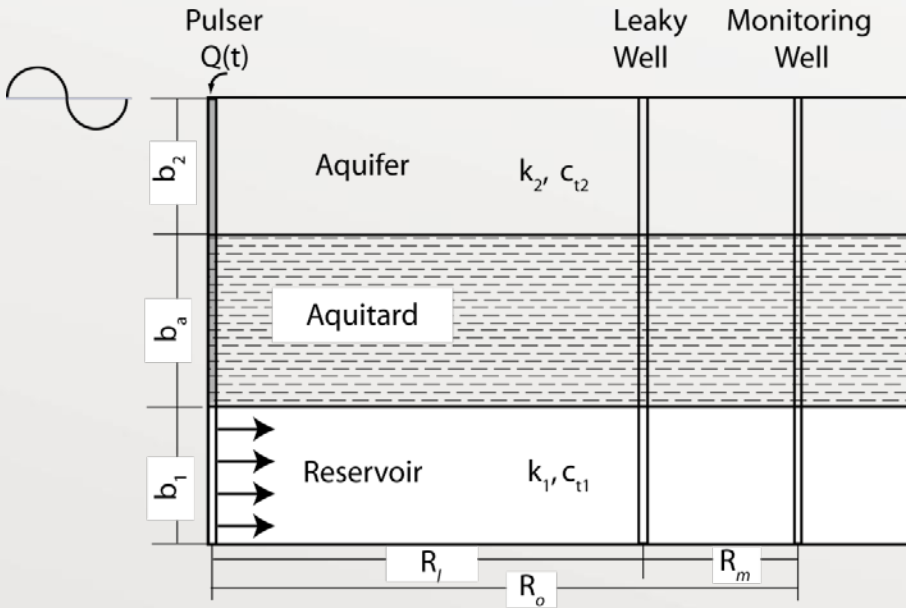
Frequency response function

$$\hat{H}(\omega) = \frac{\hat{P}_{obs}(\omega)}{\hat{P}_{inj}(\omega)}$$

# Proof of Concept [Task 2]

## Amplitude response

### Problem Settings



$\beta$  = Transmissivity ratio between upper and lower aquifer  
 $\Omega$  = Resistance of leaky well to vertical flow

# Analytical Solutions

Governing PDE: 
$$\frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial r^2} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial p}{\partial r} = \frac{f m \alpha_{t,1}}{k_1} \frac{\partial p}{\partial t}$$

Boundary Conditions: 
$$\frac{2pk_1b_1}{m} r \frac{\partial p}{\partial r} \Big|_{r=r_w} = -Q(t) \quad \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} p(r, t) = p_{init}$$

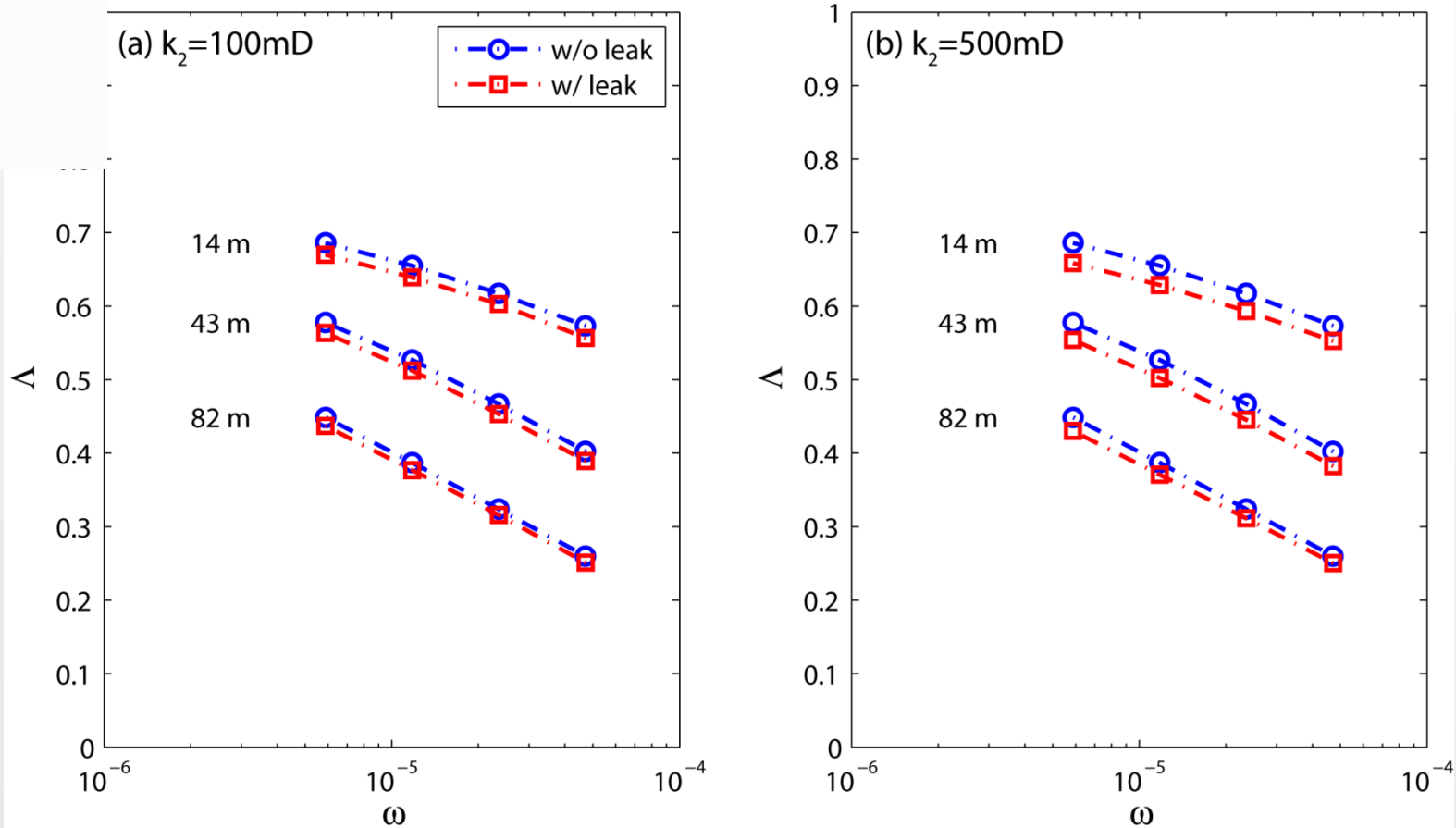
$$q_D = \frac{-K_0(\sqrt{iW_D})}{r_{D,w} \sqrt{iW_D} K_1(r_{D,w} \sqrt{iW_D})} + \frac{K_0(r_{D,a} \sqrt{iW_D})}{r_{D,a} \sqrt{iW_D} K_1(r_{D,a} \sqrt{iW_D})} + \frac{K_0(r_{D,a} \sqrt{aiW_D})}{br_{D,a} \sqrt{aiW_D} K_1(r_{D,a} \sqrt{aiW_D})}$$

$$p_{D,1}^T = \frac{q_D}{r_{D,a} \sqrt{iW_D}} \frac{K_0(r_{D,L} \sqrt{iW_D})}{K_1(r_{D,a} \sqrt{iW_D})} + \frac{1}{r_{D,w} \sqrt{iW_D}} \frac{K_0(r_{D,O} \sqrt{iW_D})}{K_1(r_{D,w} \sqrt{iW_D})}$$

Transmissivity ratio:  $b = k_2 b_2 / k_1 b_1$

Diffusivity ratio:  $a = h_1 / h_2 \quad h = k / f m \alpha_t \quad W_D = \frac{w r_I^2}{h_1}$

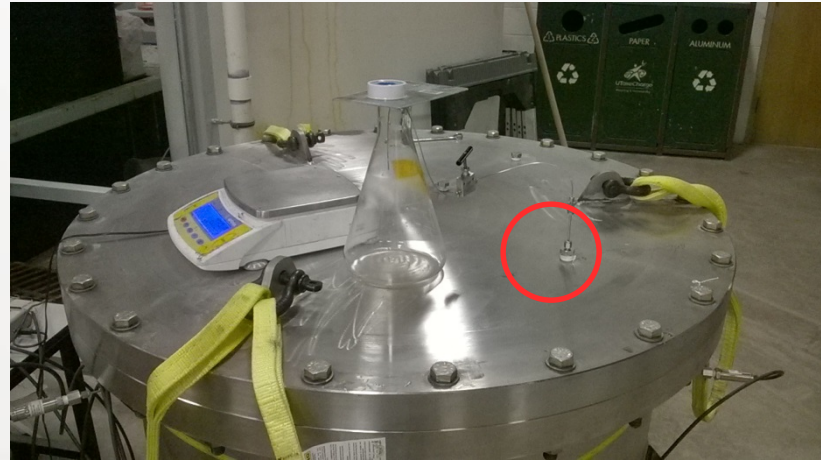
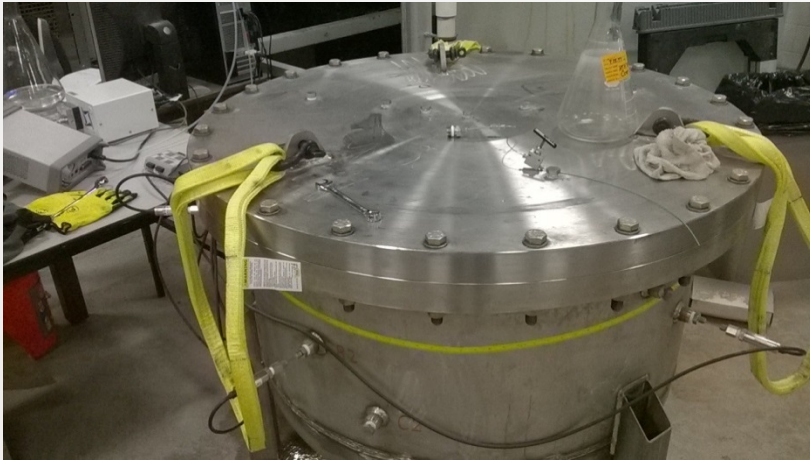
# Multiphase Flow Problem



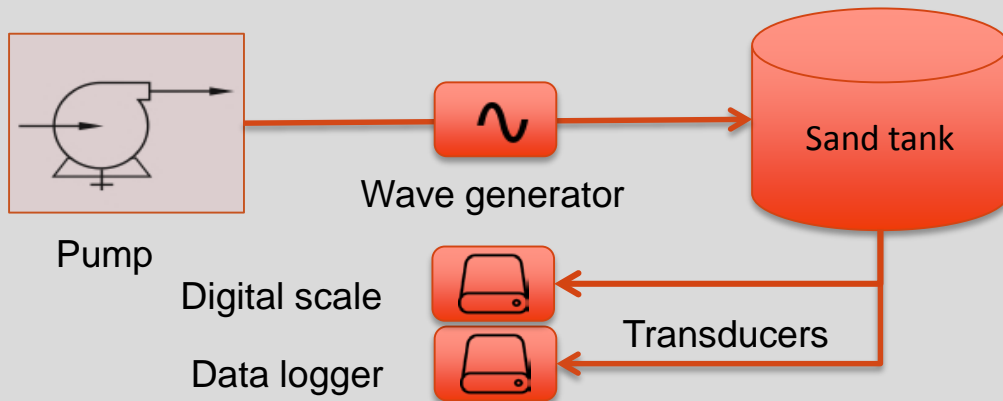
CMG-GEM

# Laboratory Experiments [Task 3]

1-m diameter, 0.75 m tall



Setup

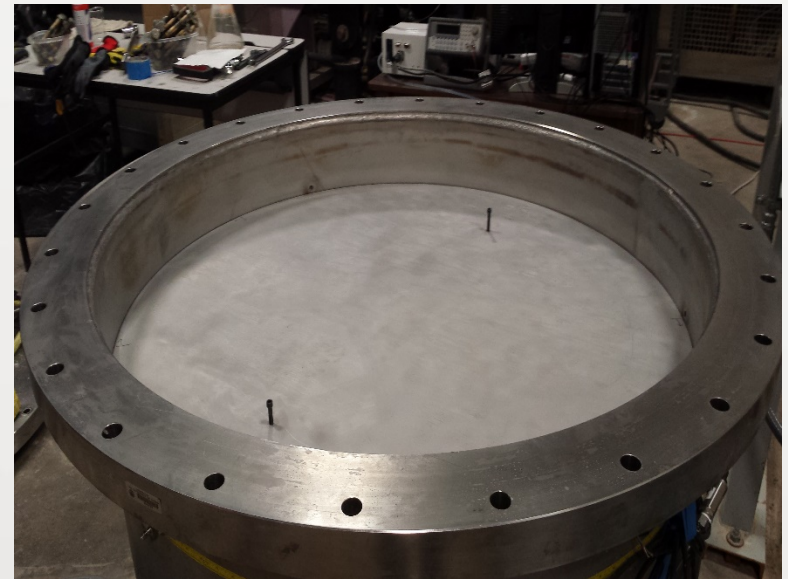
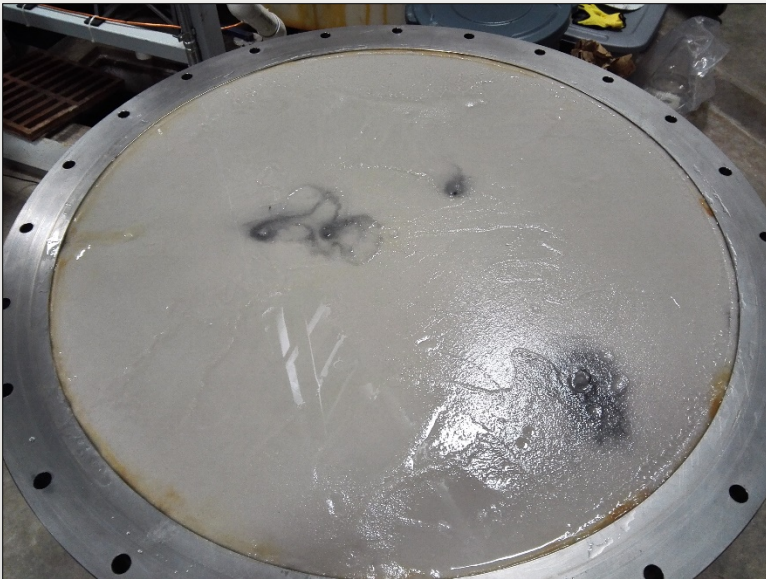


Clay as 'caprock'



## A Mini 3-Layer Repository

Aluminum plate as 'caprock'



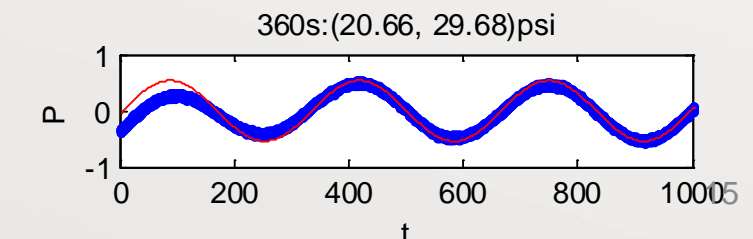
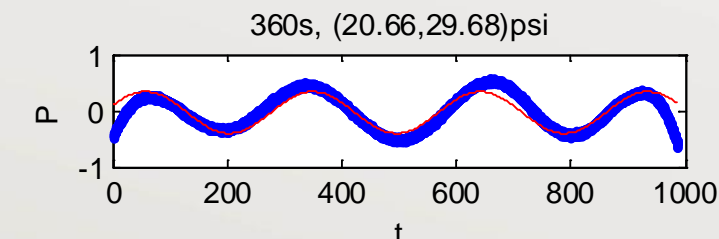
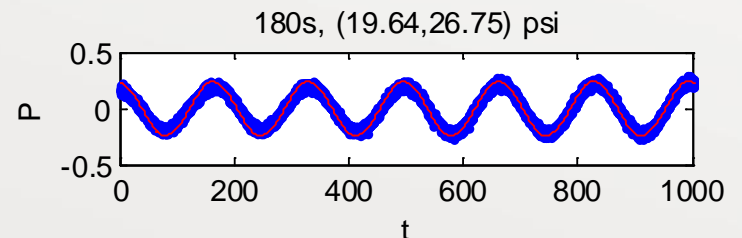
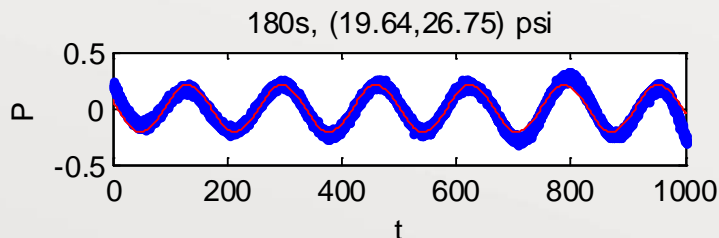
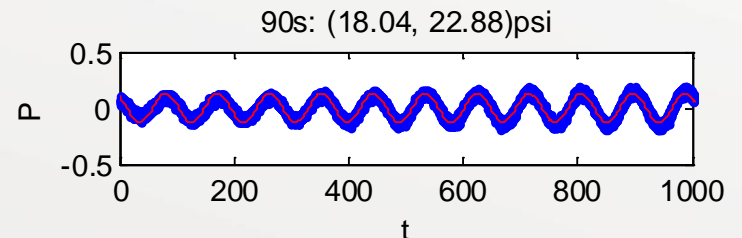
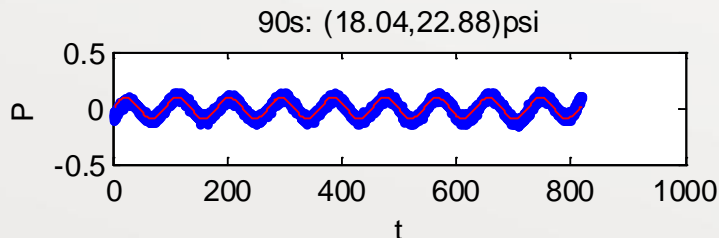
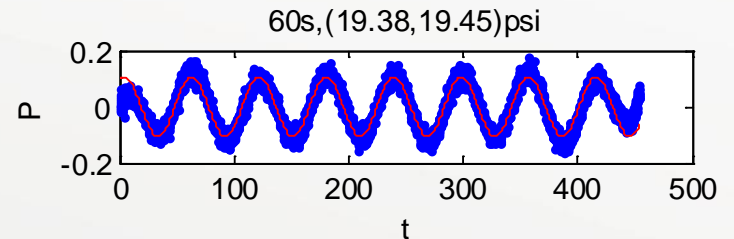
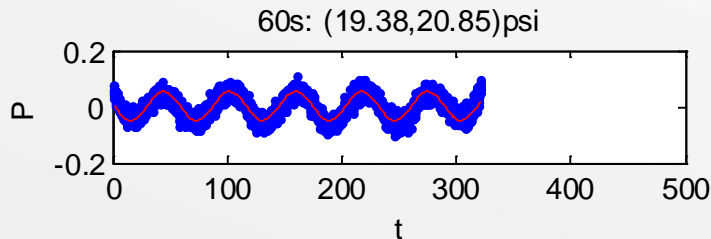
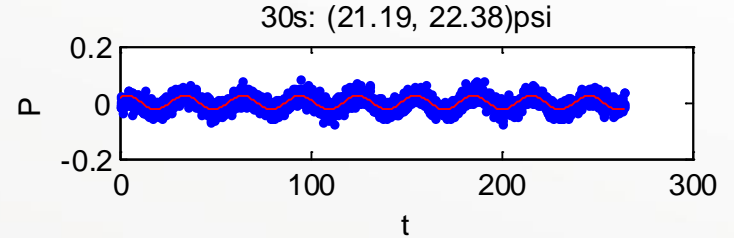
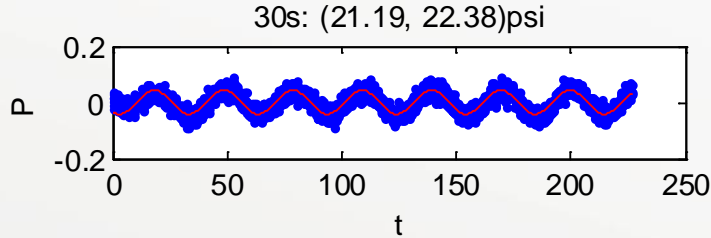
# Time domain

## No Leak

## Leak

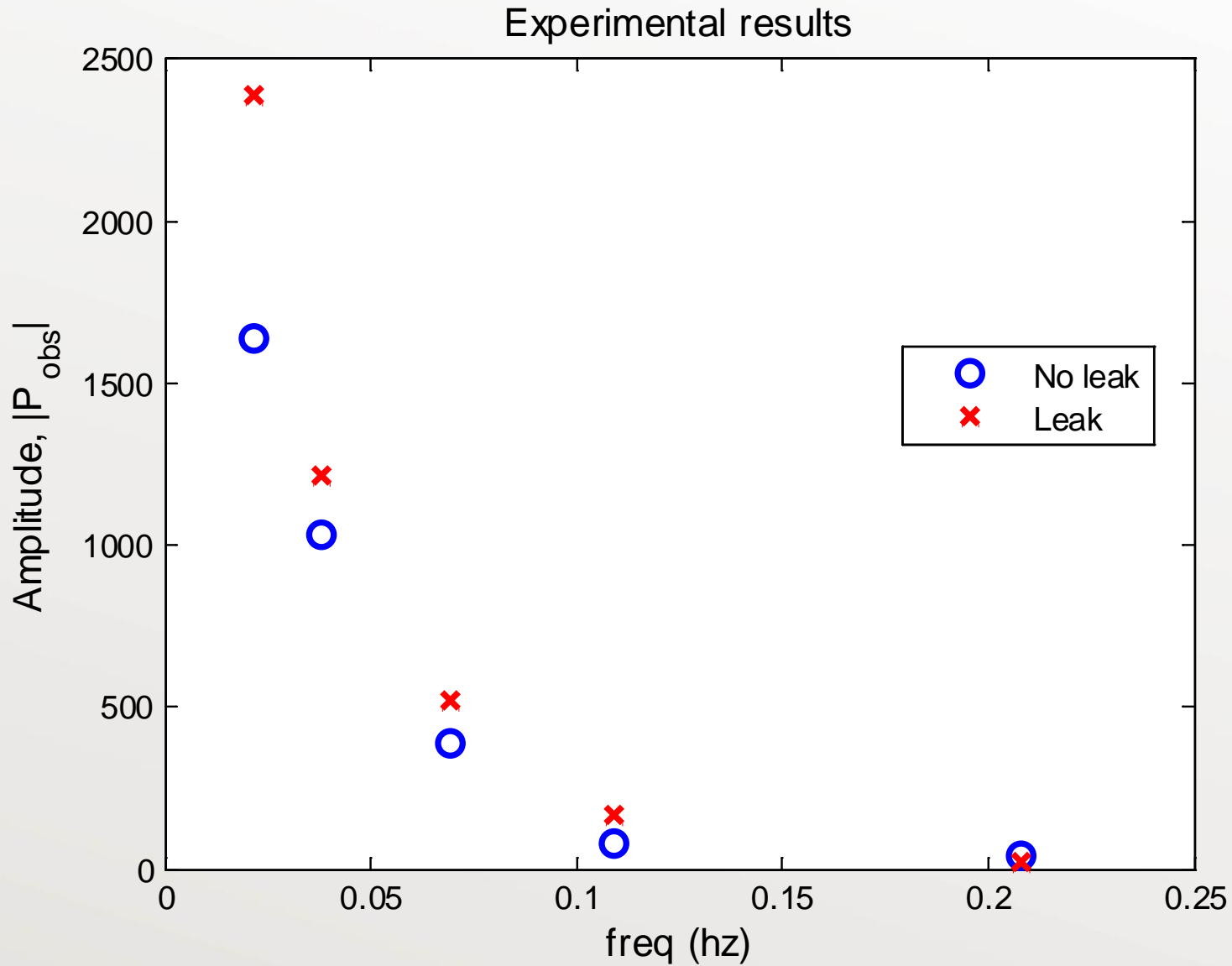
Pulse period ↑

Oscillation ↑



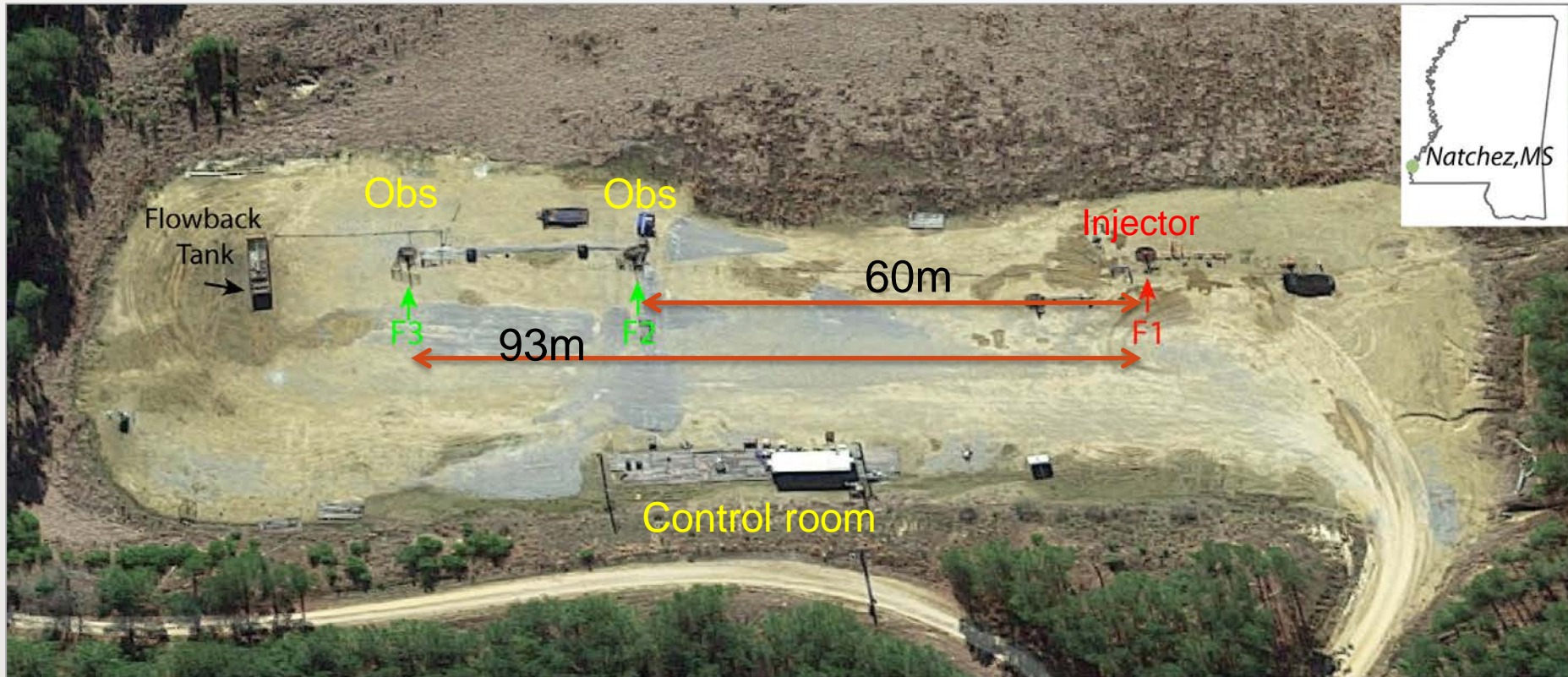
Amplitude shifts due to leak

$$\hat{H}(w) = \hat{P}_{obs}(w)$$





# Field Experiments [Task 5]

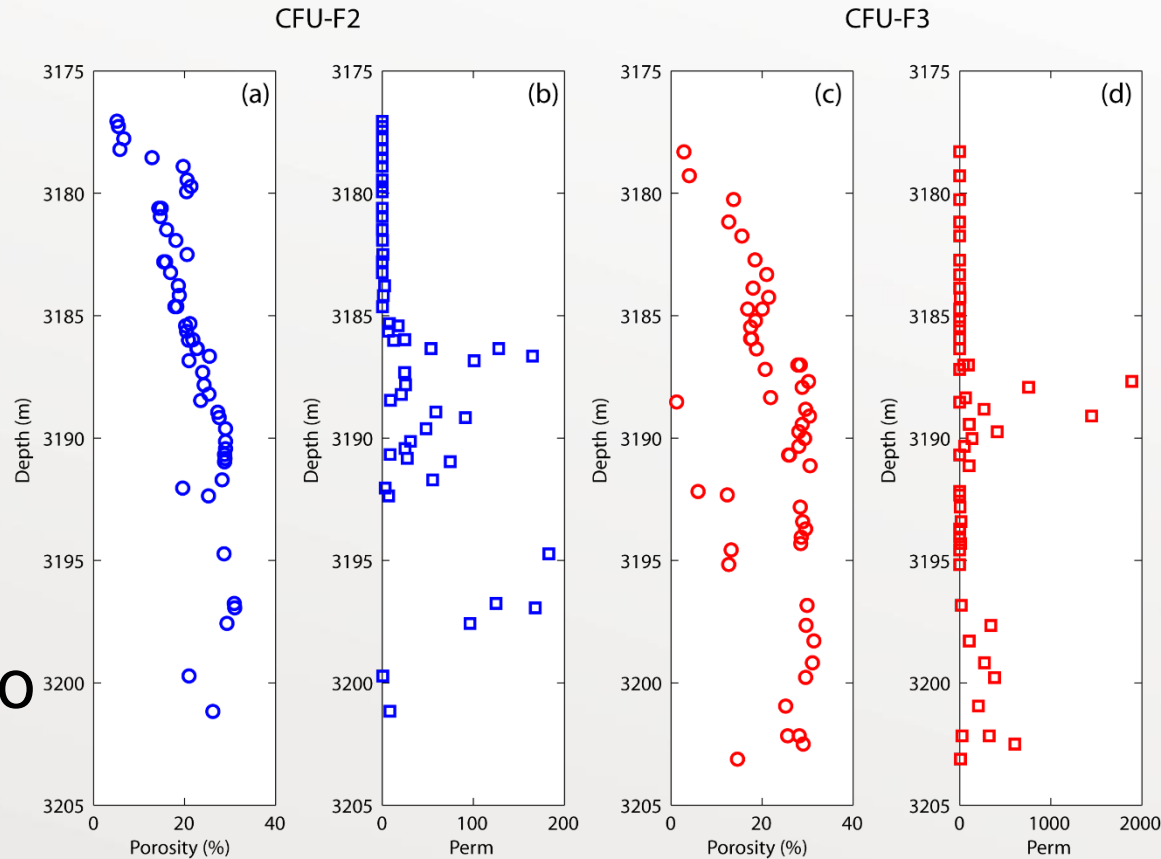


Detailed Area of Study @ Cranfield, MS, January 19-31, 2015

Cranfield, MS, Lon:-91.141°, Lat: 31.564°

# DAS Site

- Lower Tuscaloosa formation
  - Depth 3176 m (10420 ft)
  - Thickness 14-24 m (46-80 ft)
- Heterogeneous fluvial strata
  - Permeability:  $10^{-3}$  to  $10^4$  mD
  - Porosity: 5-35%

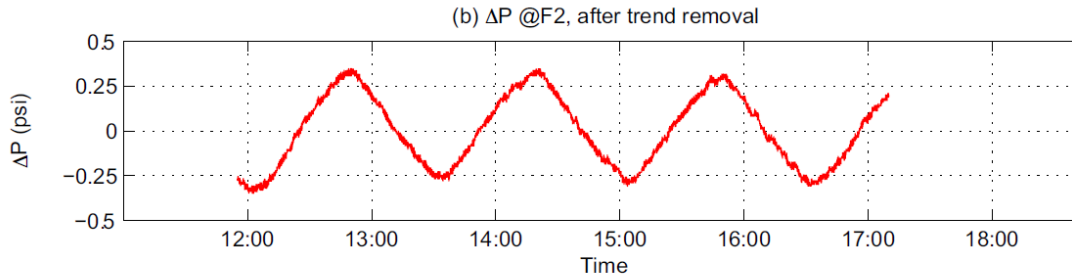
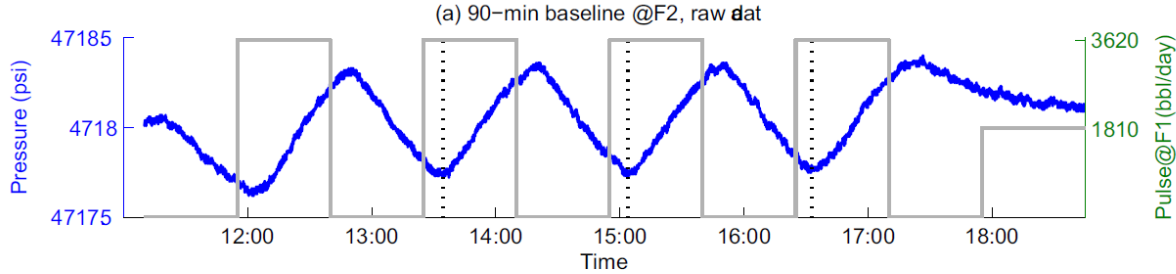


Lu et al, 2012

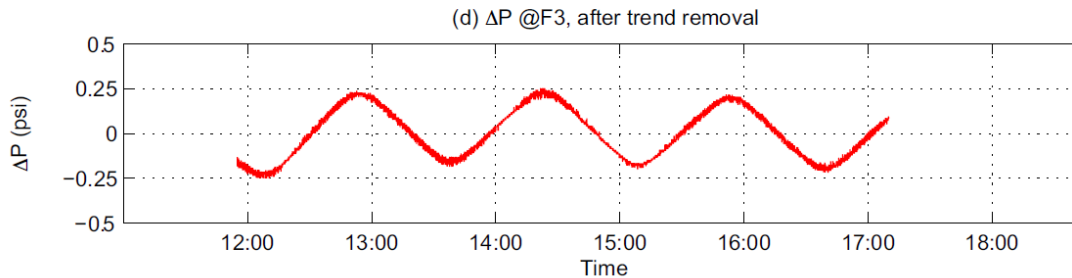
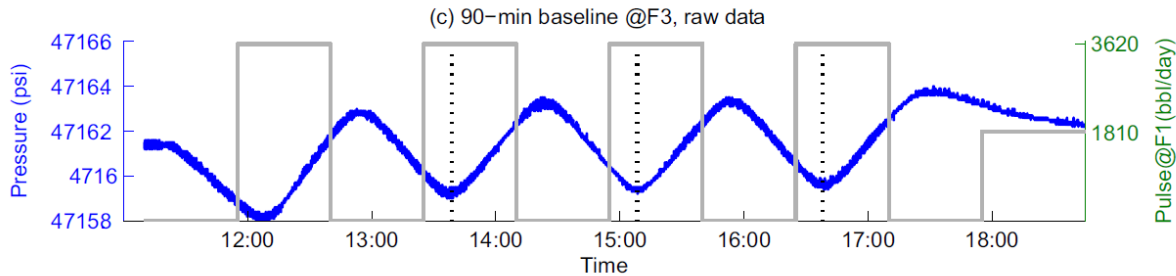
# Baseline Tests

Pulsing Cycle  
= 90min

T



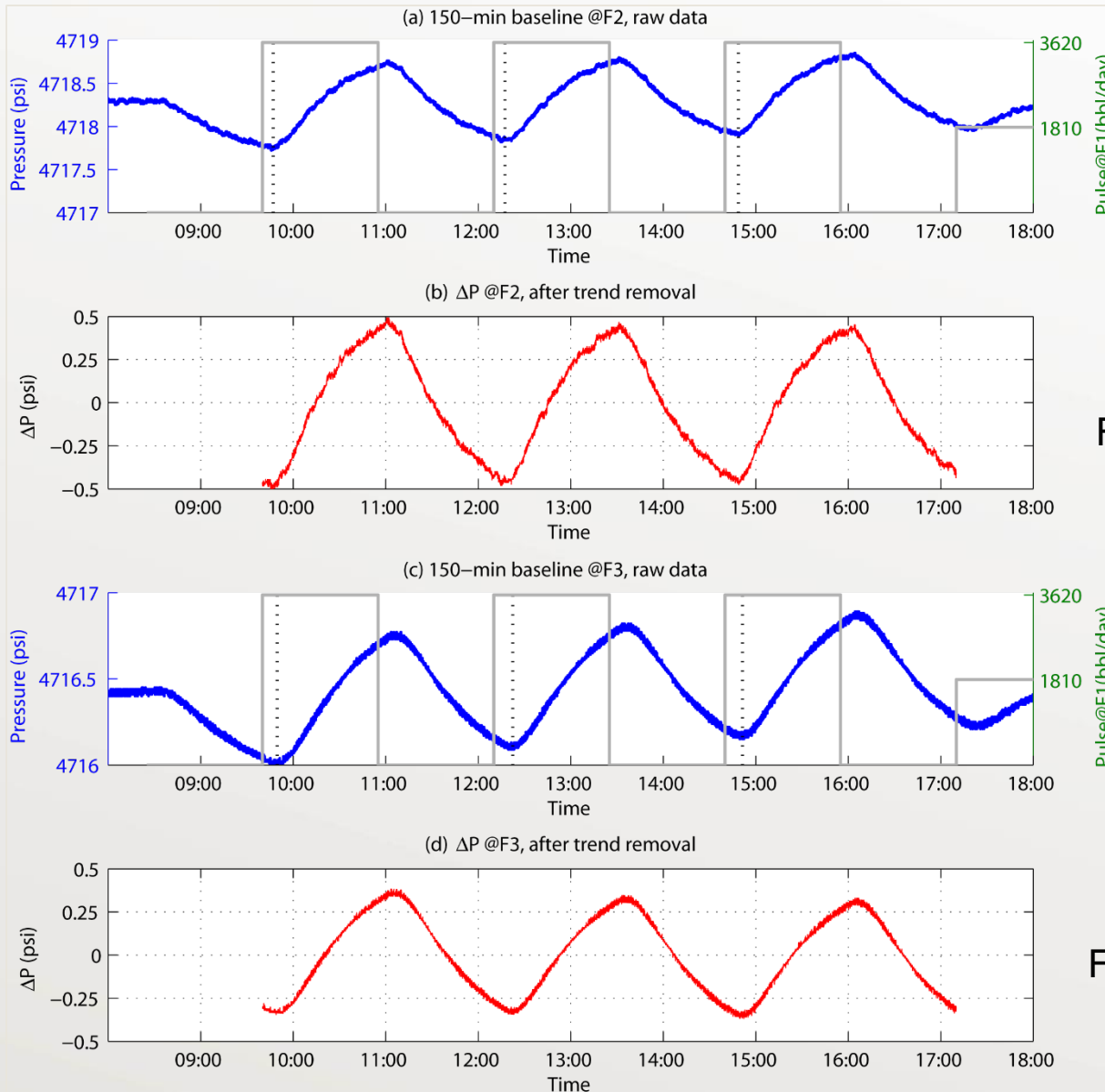
Filtered Time Series



Filtered Time Series

Reservoir  
temperature ~  
128.8 C  
Gauge res: 0.01psi

Pulsing Cycle  
 $T = 150\text{min}$



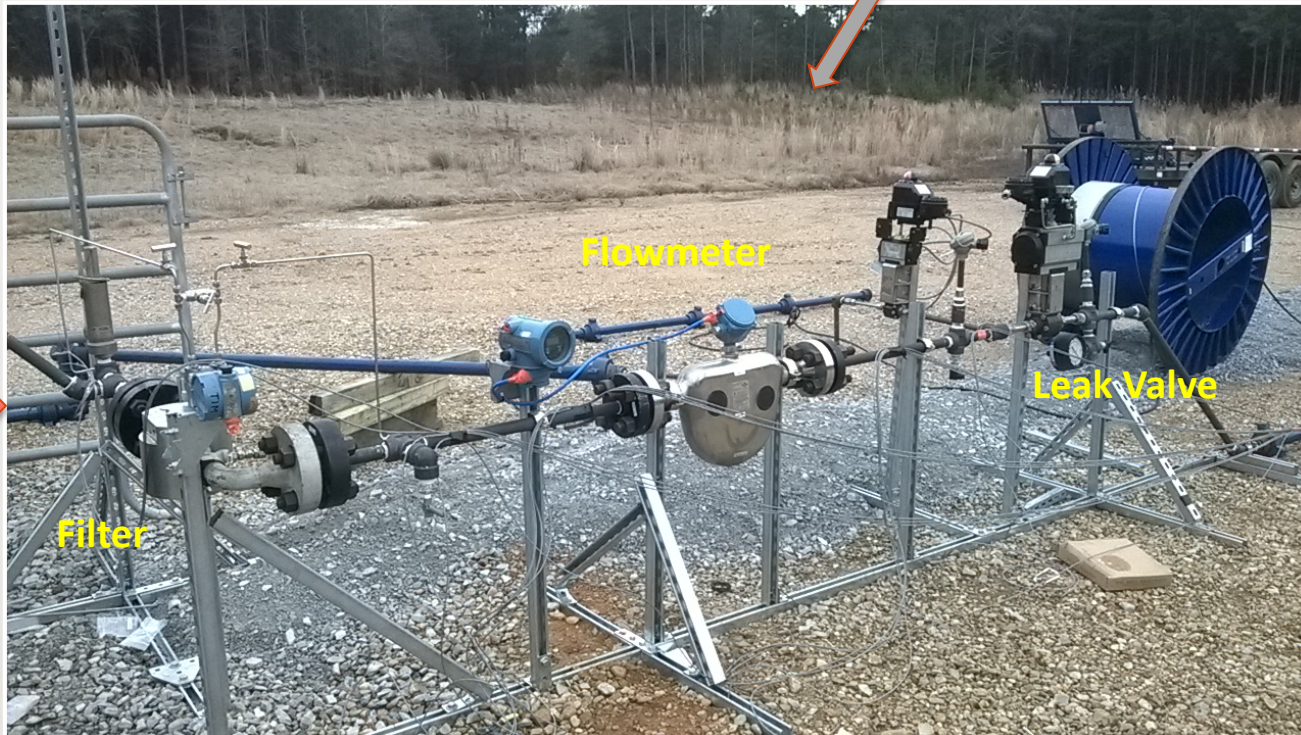
Filtered Time Series

Filtered Time Series

Pulse period  $\uparrow$

Oscillation  $\uparrow$

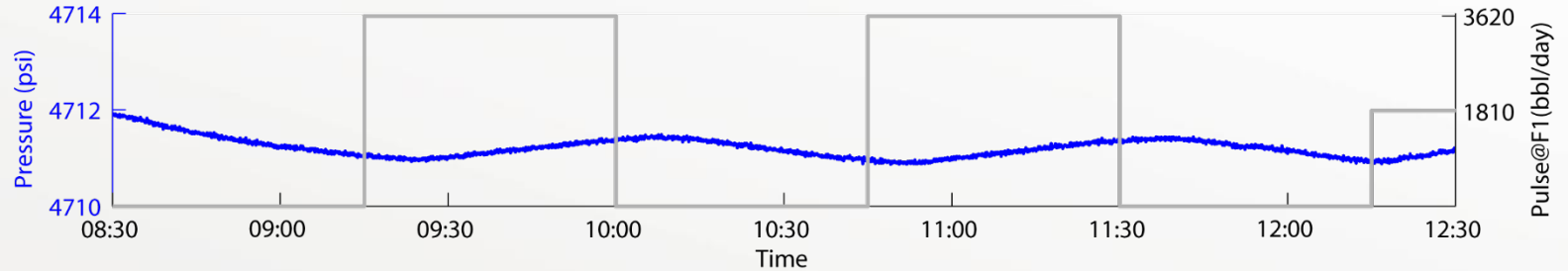
# Leak Experiments



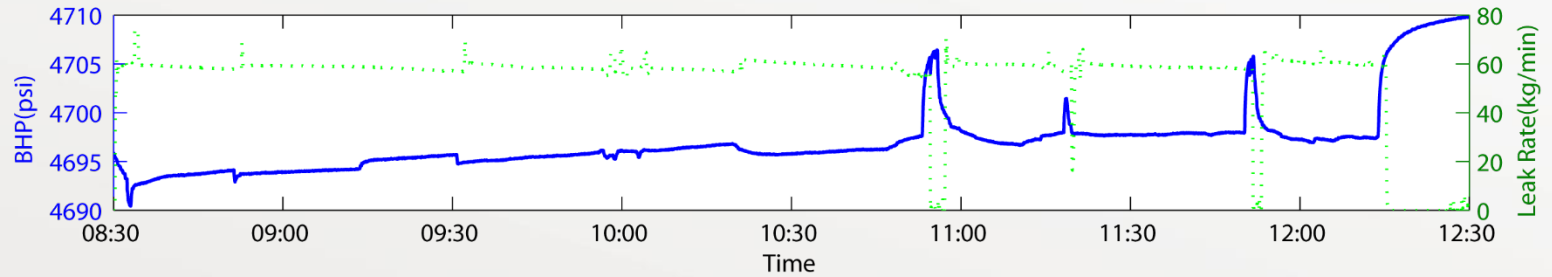
Leak control

# 90-min, leak exp

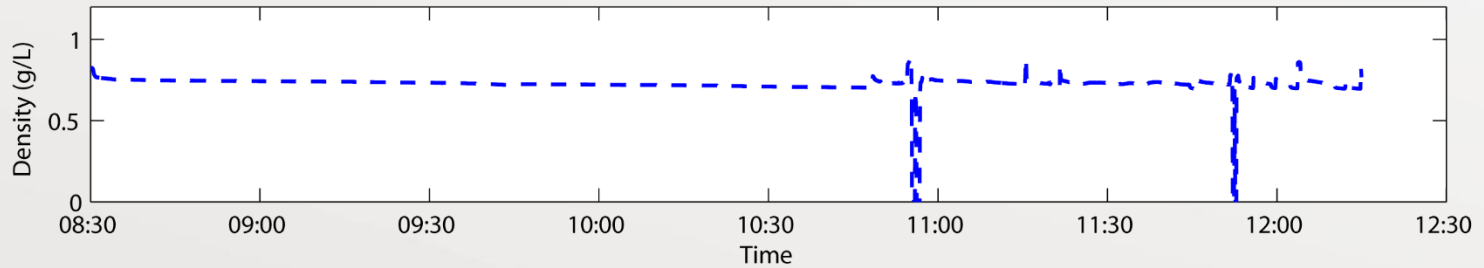
(a) 90-min leak test @F2



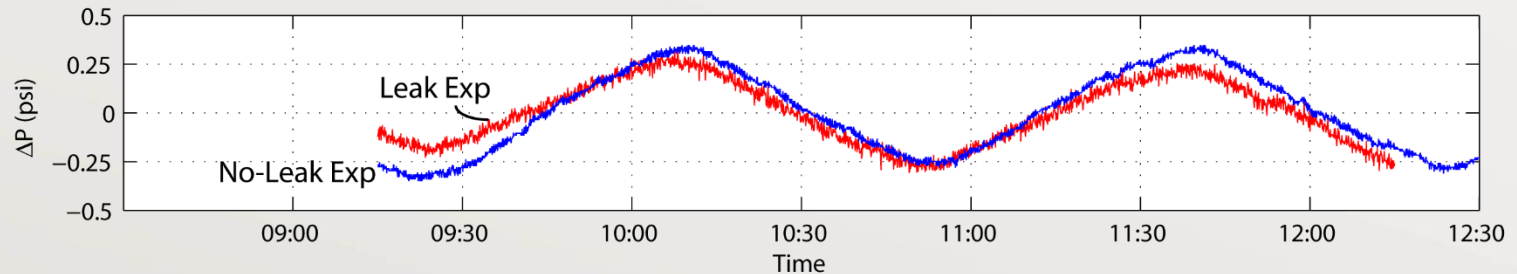
(b) F3 BHP and Leak Rate



(c) Density log

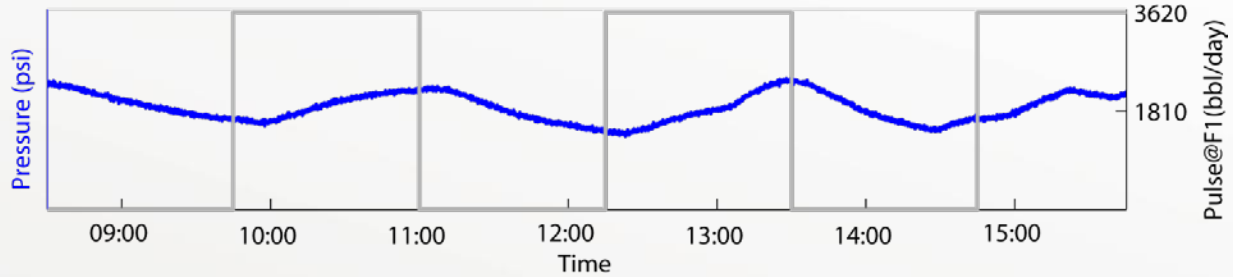


(d)  $\Delta P$  @F2, after trend removal

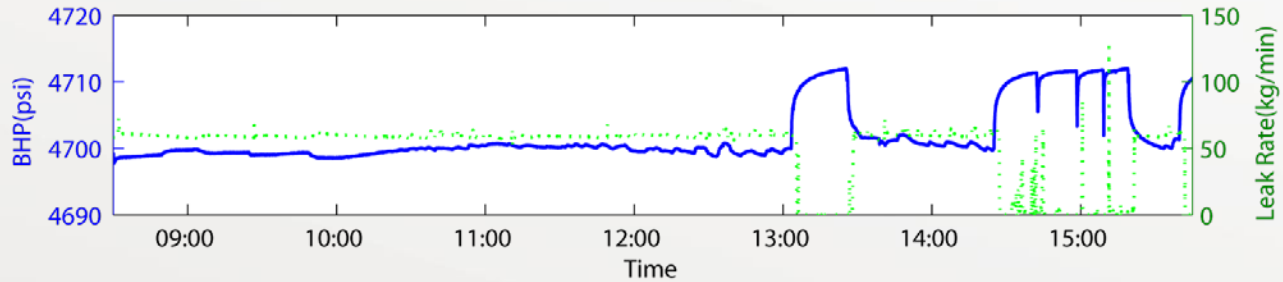


# 150-min, leak exp

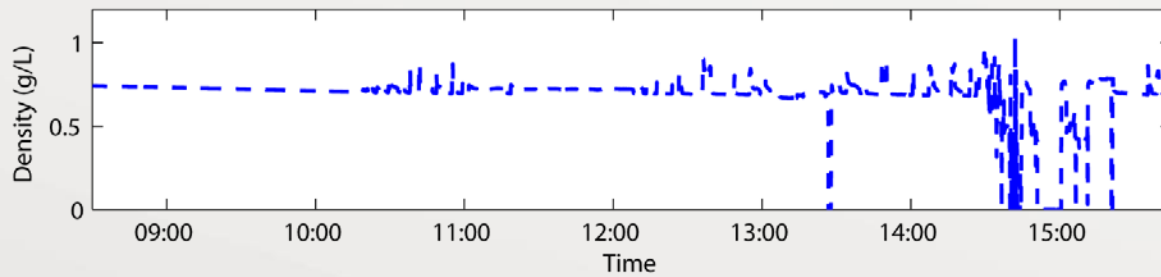
(a) 150-min leak test @F2



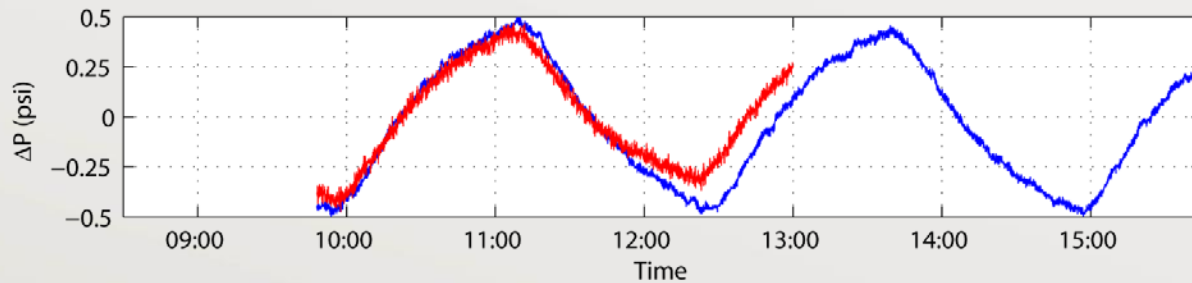
(b) F3 BHP and Leak Rate



(c) Density log



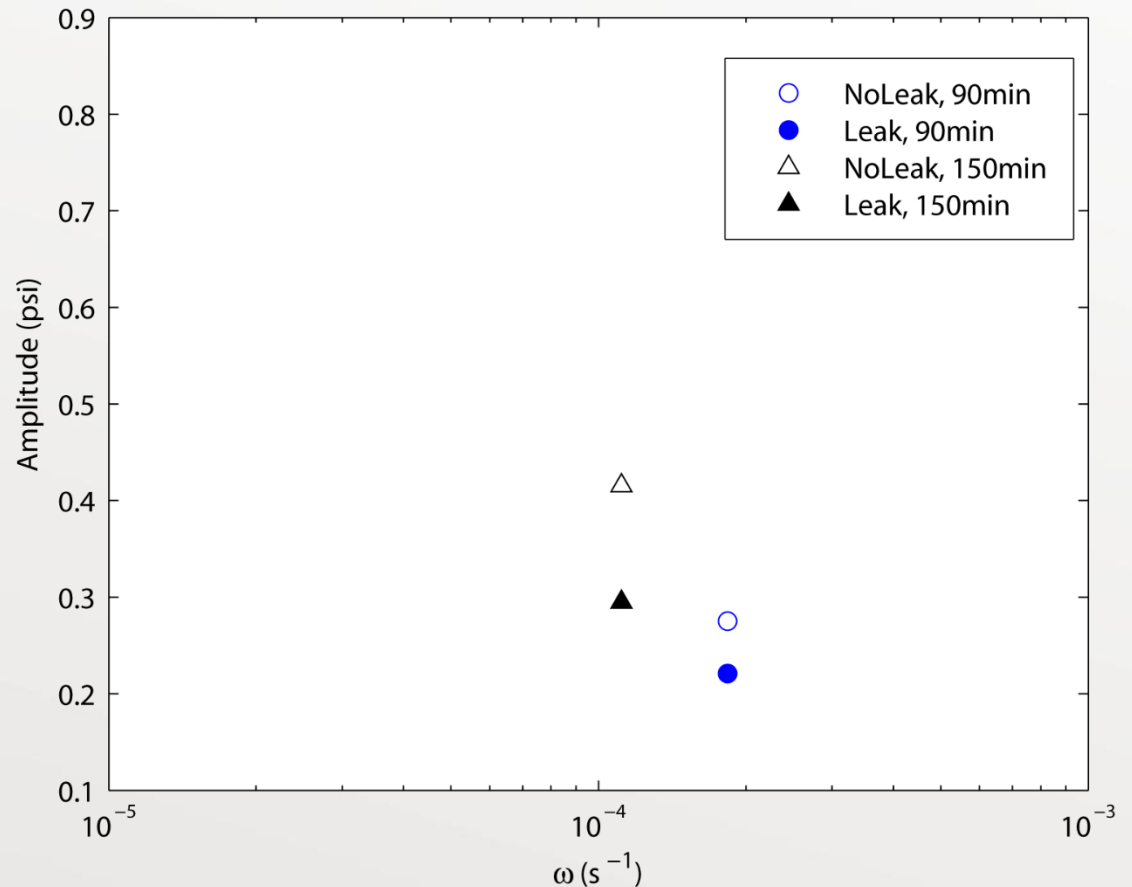
(d)  $\Delta P$  @F2, after trend removal



# Data Only Diagnosis

Amplitude vs. Frequency

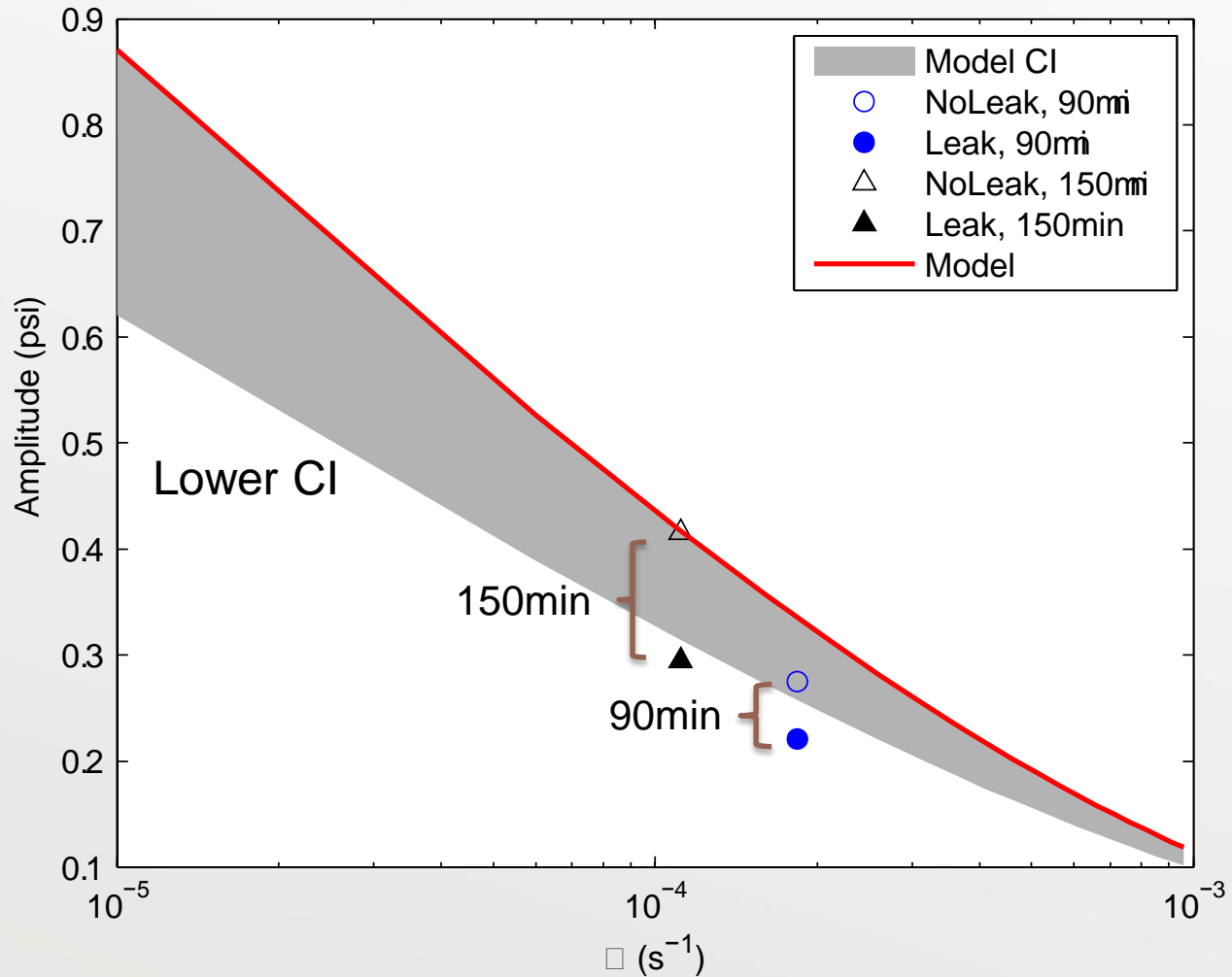
*Leaks caused deviations  
 in signal amplitudes*



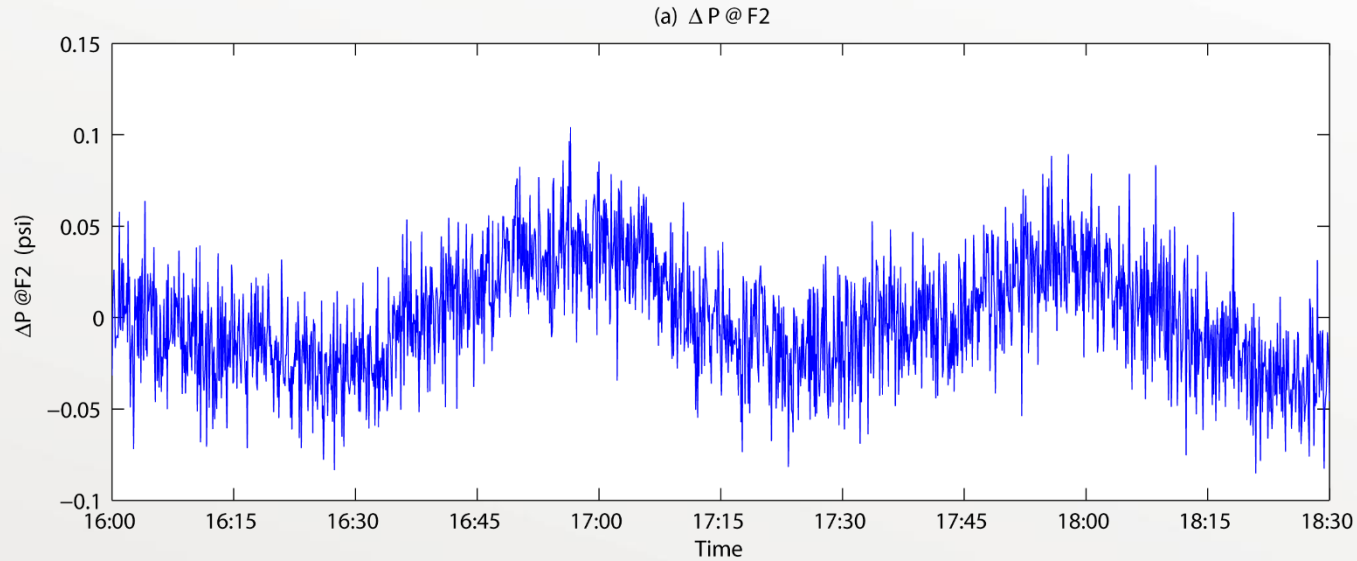
Each experiment yields one data point on the plot 24



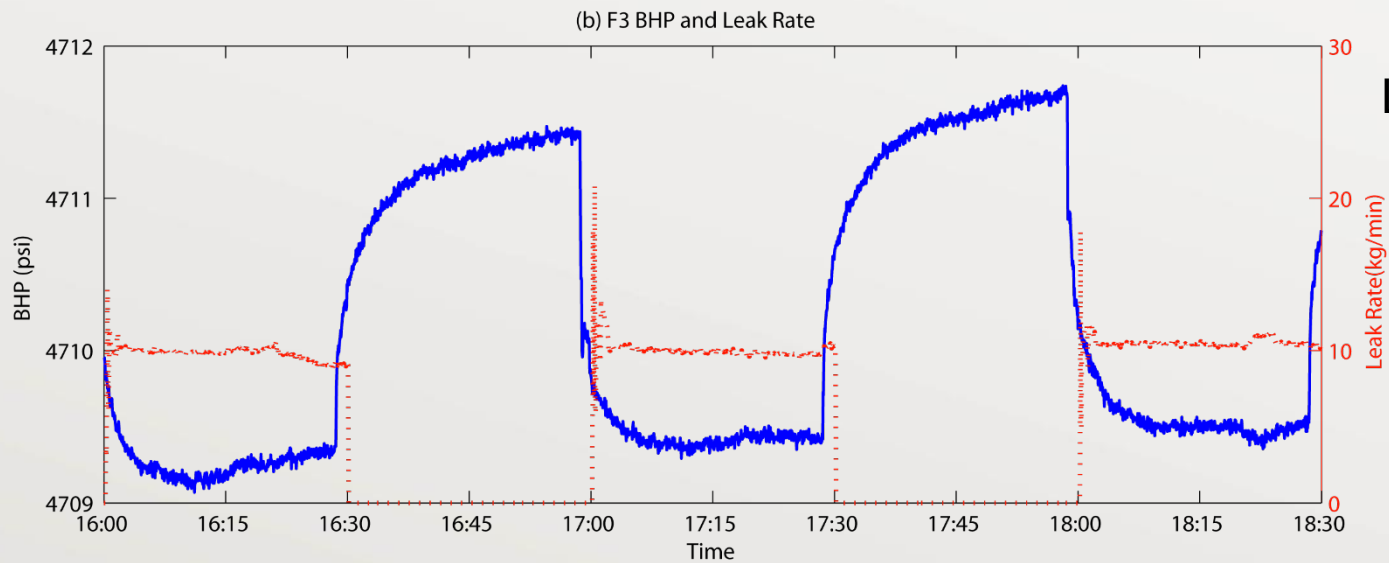
# Anomaly Detection



## Sensitivity Exp



Monitoring well

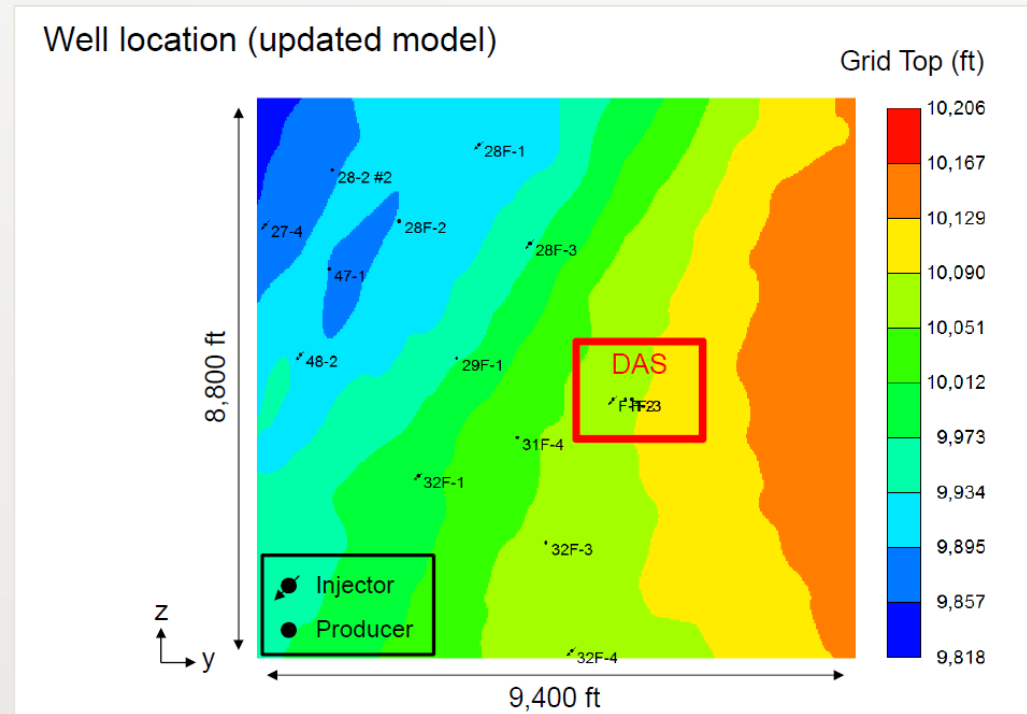


Leak Rate 10 kg/min

# Model-Based Analysis

- Can Cranfield site-scale model reproduce the DAS pulse testing experiments?
  - Updated the existing model by including more wells
  - History matching
  - Refined mesh around DAS

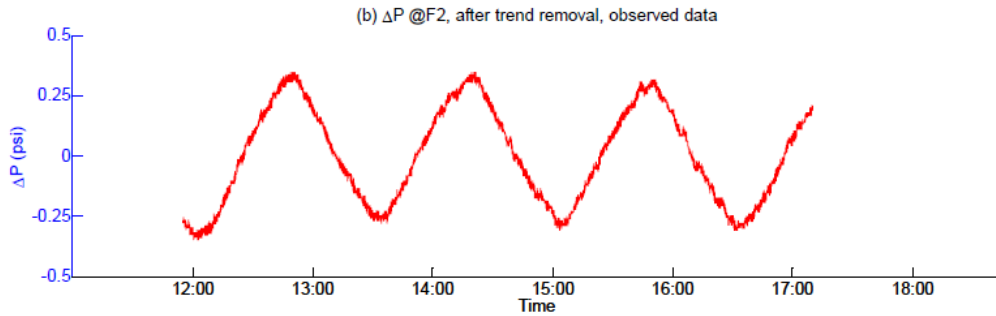
UT IPARS (Integrated Parallel Accurate Reservoir Simulator) Simulation



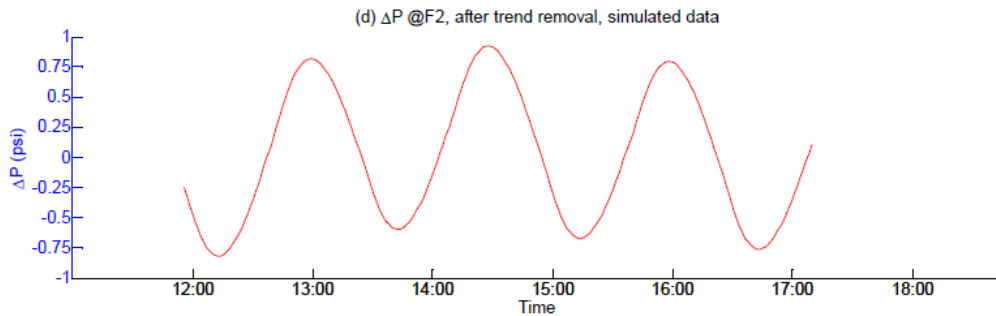
By Baehyun Min

- Day 1 (Jan 19, 2015): BHP@F2: 90-min. experiment without leakage

Observed

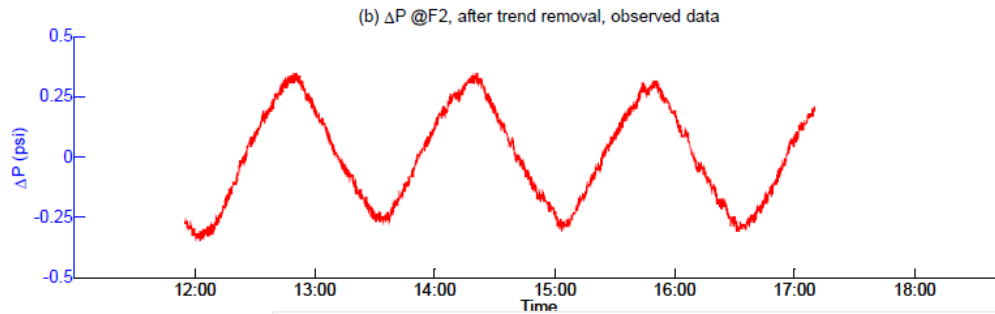


Simulated

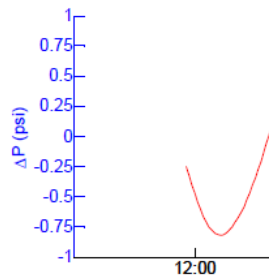


- Day 1 (Jan 19, 2015): BHP@F2: 90-min. experiment without leakage

### Observed

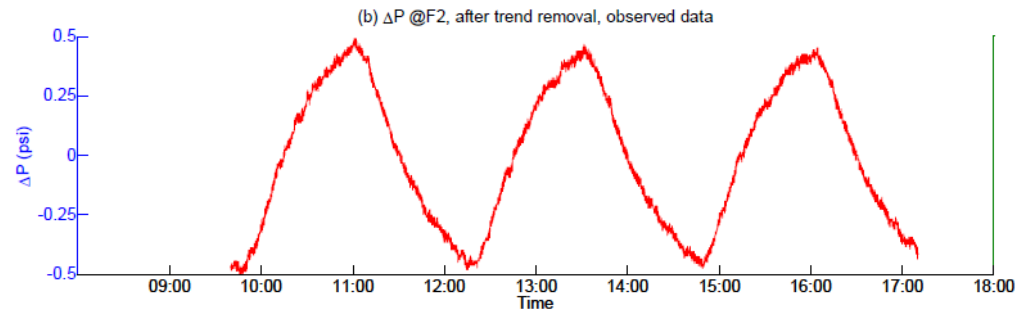


### Simulated

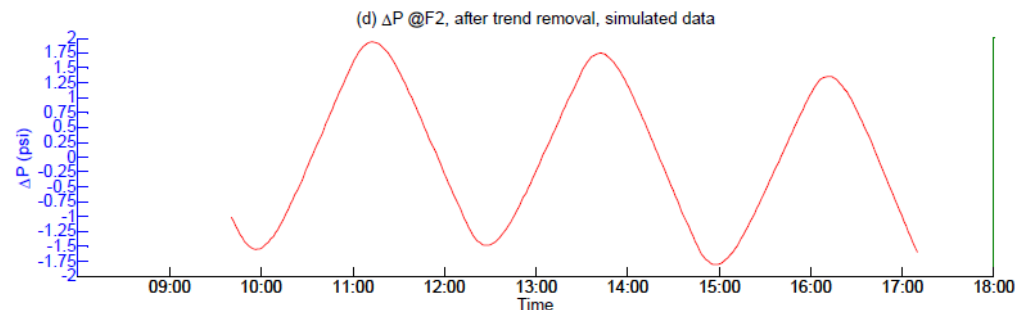


- Day 2 (Jan 20, 2015): BHP@F2: 150-min. experiment without leakage

### Observed

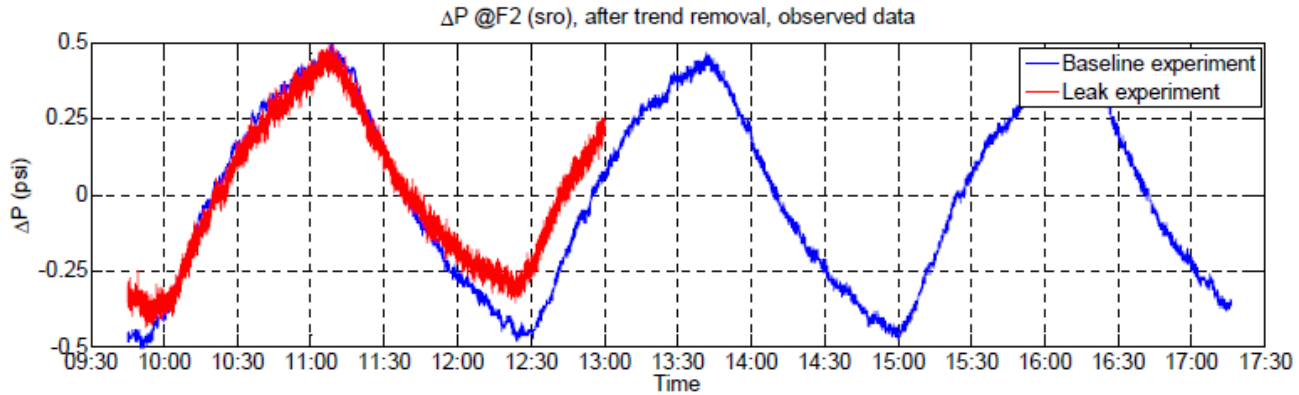


### Simulated

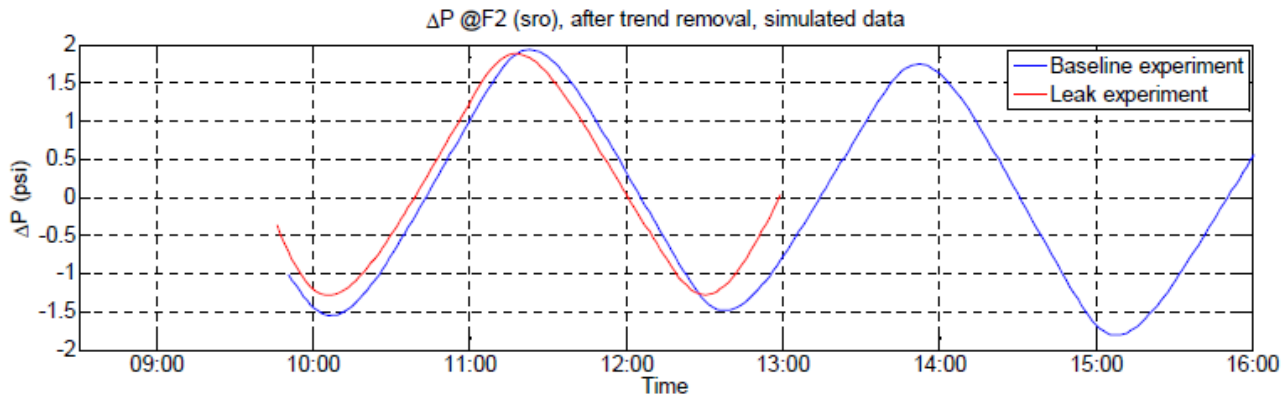


- 150-min. experiment

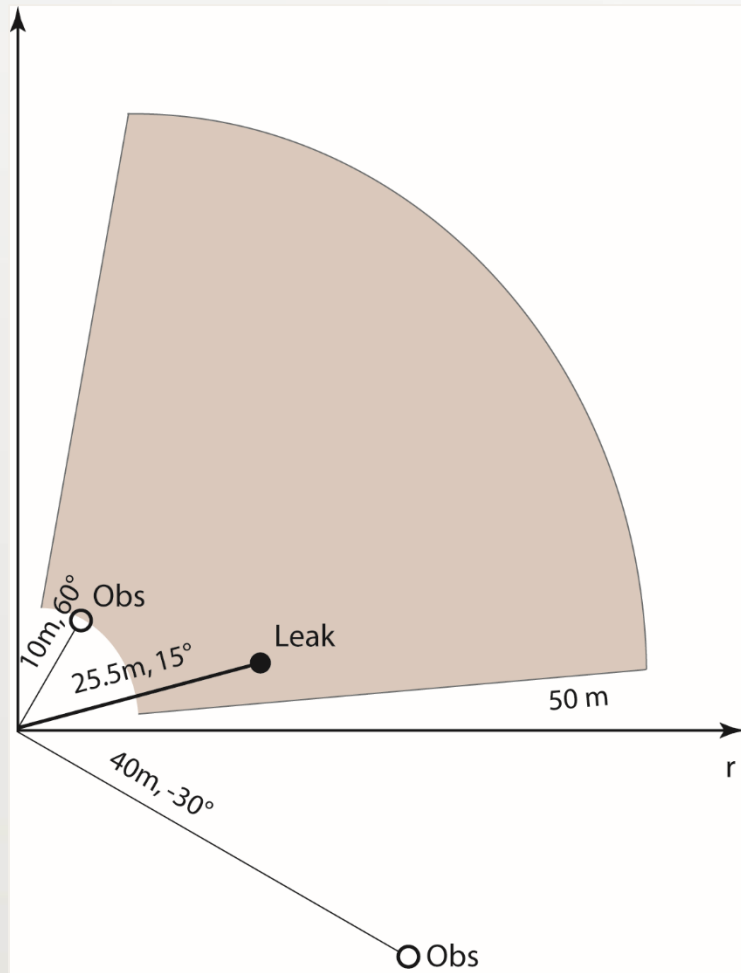
- Observed



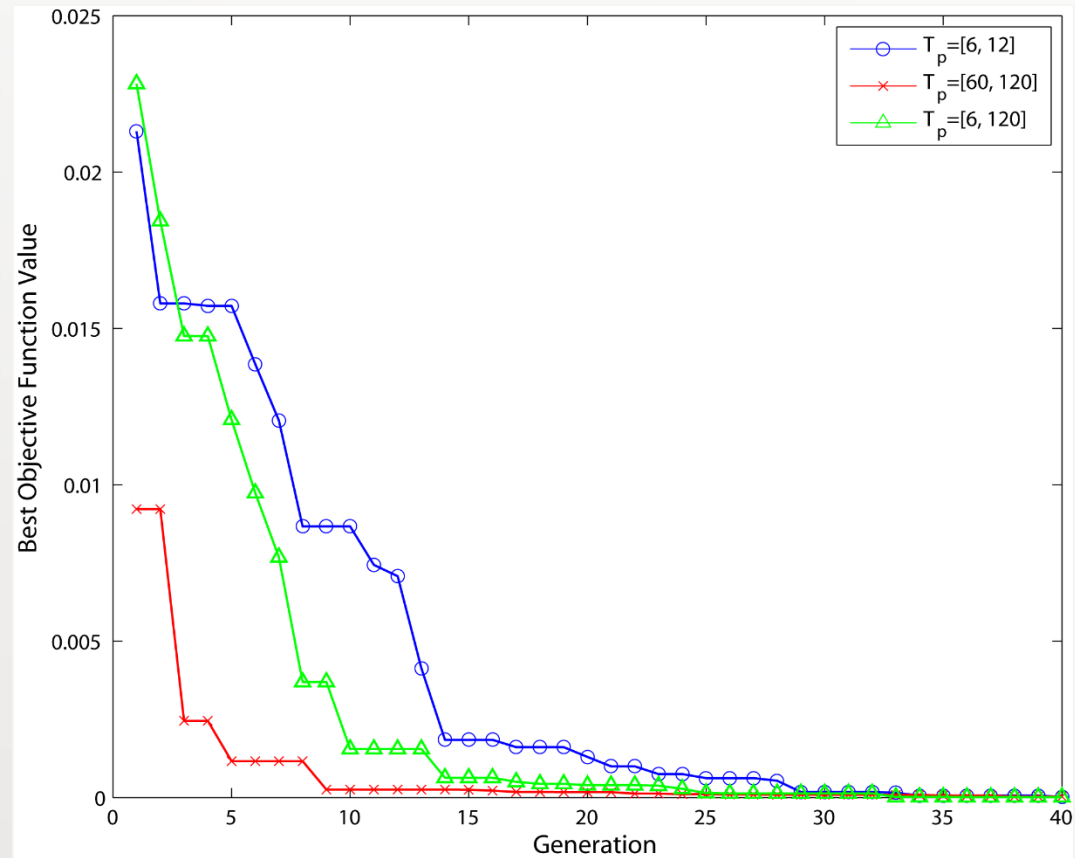
- Simulated



# Leak Location: Global Search



Convergence History



Genetic Algorithm

# Conclusions

- Leaks will modify the system frequency response function and can be detected if an appropriate pulsing period is used
- Longer HPT pulsing periods increase coverage area
- Lower reservoir permeability or, equivalently, higher upper aquifer permeability, favors detection of leakage, if all other parameters are fixed
- The amplitude and phase of frequency response function provide independent information regarding the current system status and can be combined to locate leaky well locations



# Accomplishments to Date

- Task 2: **Theoretical and numerical analyses**
  - Year 1: Established theoretical basis and validated the concept of pulse-testing-based leakage detection numerically
- Task 5: **Field experiments**
  - Year 2: Demonstrated viability of the pulse testing leakage detection technique in the field
- Task 3: **Laboratory experiments**
  - Year 2&3: Performed additional validation tests
- Task 4: **Data assimilation algorithms**
  - Year 2&3: Developing and testing algorithms

# Future Work

- Complete laboratory experiments
- Complete remaining modeling and data analyses
- Provide a toolbox for designing pulse testing experiments

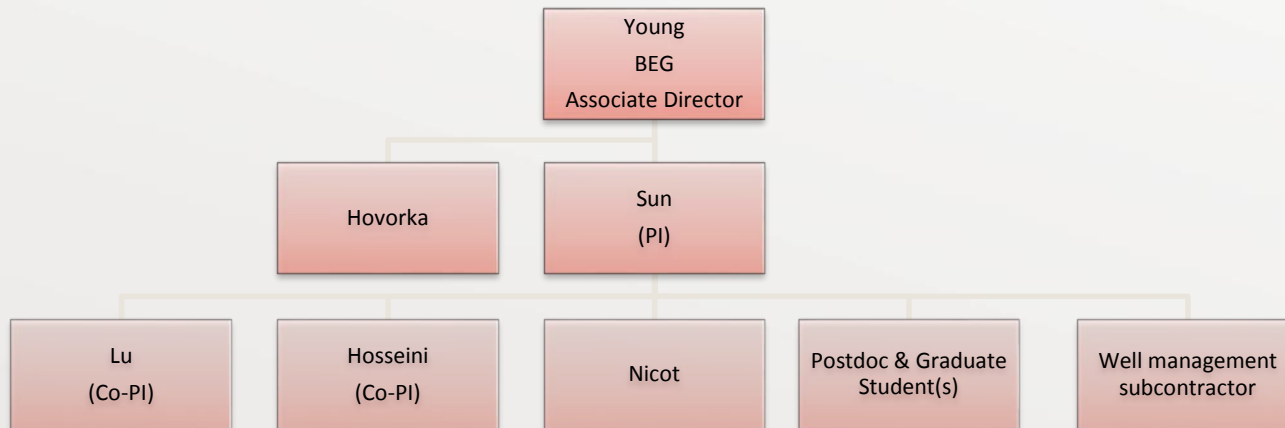
# Synergy Opportunities

- The project developed a cost-effective, pressure-based leakage detection technique that can be incorporated into commercial CCS monitoring plans
- Collaboration with Center for Subsurface Modeling at UT

# Appendix

# Organization Chart

Bureau of Economic Geology, UT Austin  
Gulf Coast Carbon Center



# Gantt Chart

**Table 2. Project Gantt chart**  
 (Numbers in table rows indicate milestones).  
 (Phase I ■ ; Phase II ■)

| Task | Description                      | Year 1 |   |   |   | Year 2 |   |   |   | Year 3 |   |   |   |
|------|----------------------------------|--------|---|---|---|--------|---|---|---|--------|---|---|---|
|      |                                  | 1      | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1      | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1      | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1    | Update project management plan   |        |   |   |   |        |   |   |   |        |   |   |   |
| 2    | Modeling of harmonic pulse tests |        | 1 |   |   |        |   |   |   |        |   |   |   |
| 3    | Lab experiment                   |        |   |   |   |        |   |   |   |        |   |   |   |
| 3.1  | Experiment design and assembling |        |   |   | 2 |        |   |   |   |        |   |   |   |
| 3.2  | Single-phase experiment          |        |   |   |   |        |   |   |   |        |   |   |   |
| 3.3  | Multiphase experiment            |        |   |   |   |        |   |   |   | 5      |   |   |   |
| 4    | Algorithm development            |        |   |   |   |        |   |   |   |        |   |   |   |
| 4.1  | Inversion technique              |        |   |   |   |        |   |   |   |        |   |   |   |
| 4.2  | Data assimilation                |        |   |   |   |        |   |   |   |        | 6 |   |   |
| 5    | Field demonstration              |        |   |   |   |        |   |   |   |        |   |   |   |
| 5.1  | Field site selection             |        |   |   |   |        |   |   |   |        |   |   |   |
| 5.2  | Site access & NEPA determination |        |   |   |   |        |   |   |   |        |   |   |   |
| 5.3  | Field experiments                |        |   |   |   |        | 3 |   | 4 |        |   |   |   |
| 6    | Synthesis of results             |        |   |   |   |        |   |   |   |        |   |   |   |
| 6.1  | Tool user interface development  |        |   |   |   |        |   |   |   |        |   |   |   |
| 6.2  | Technology transfer              |        |   |   |   |        |   |   |   |        |   |   |   |

# Bibliography

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- Sun, A. Y., Kianinejad, A., Lu, J., and Hovorka, S. D., 2014, A frequency-domain diagnosis tool for early leakage detection at geologic carbon sequestration sites. *Energy Procedia*, 63, 4051-4061.
- Sun, A.Y., Lu, J., and Hovorka, S.D., 2015, A harmonic pulse testing method for leakage detection in deep subsurface storage formations. *Water Resources Research*, 51(6), 4263-4281.
- Sun, A.Y., Lu, J., Freifeld, B.M., Hovorka, S.D., and A. Islam, Using pulse testing for leakage detection in carbon storage reservoirs: A field demonstration, *International Journal of Greenhouse Gases Control*. 2016.