

New Imaging and CO₂ Storage Technologies for Unconventional Subsurface Reservoirs

Task 1: Enhanced Contrast Agents for CO₂ Monitoring



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Presentation Outline

- Program Focus Area and DOE Connections
- Goals and Objectives
- Scope of Work
- Technical Discussion
- Accomplishments to Date
- Appendix (Organization Chart, Gantt Chart, and Bibliography)

Benefit to the Program

- Program goals addressed:
 - Technology development to predict CO₂ storage capacity
 - Demonstrate fate of injected CO₂
- This research addresses the following Priority Research Directions recommended in the Mission Innovation CCUS Workshop report:

S-1: Advancing Multiphysics and Multiscale Fluid Flow to Achieve Gt/year Capacity

S-4: Developing Smart Convergence Monitoring to Demonstrate Containment and Enable Storage Site Closure

Project Overview:

Goals and Objectives

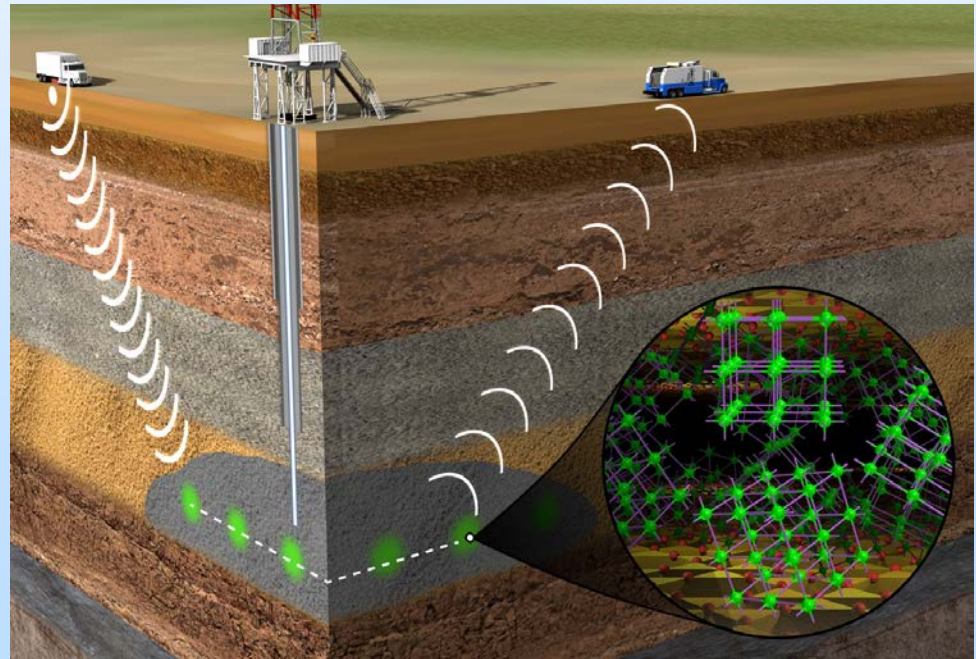
- Goal: Development of geologic storage technology with a near zero cost penalty goal – a grand challenge with enormous economic benefits.
- Objective: Employ a multidisciplinary approach for identifying key sequestration opportunities and for pursuing major research needs in for development of acoustically responsive contrast agents for enhanced monitoring of injected CO₂.

Enhanced Contrast Agents for CO₂ Monitoring

Problem Statement: Current monitoring techniques for detecting and surveying injected fluids and fracture networks suffer from low detection sensitivity and limited volumetric resolution

- Engineering nanomaterials for subsurface injection
- Dispersion in scCO₂ (and other fluids) to form nanofluids
- Detection through conventional seismic imaging

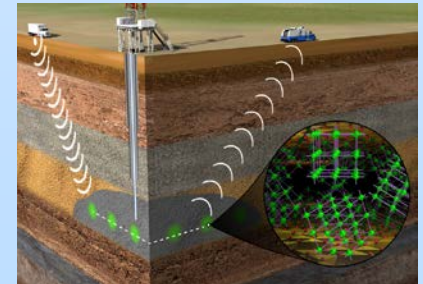
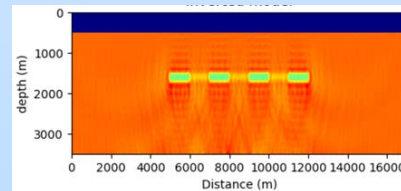
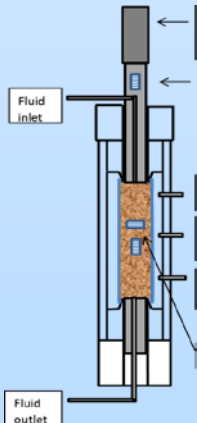
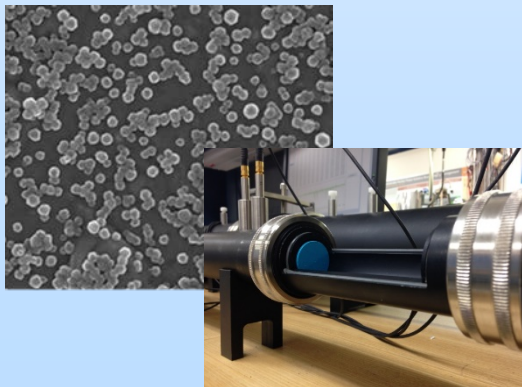
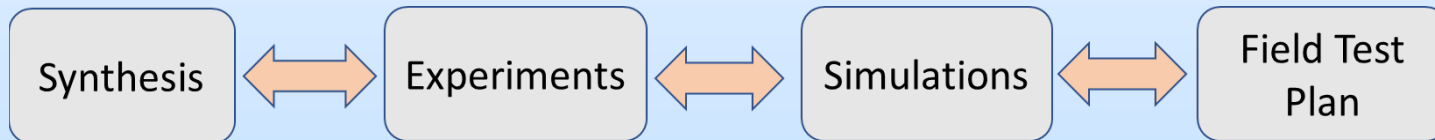
Goal: Develop contrast agents for time-resolved monitoring/mapping of subsurface fluids and fracture networks



Project Overview

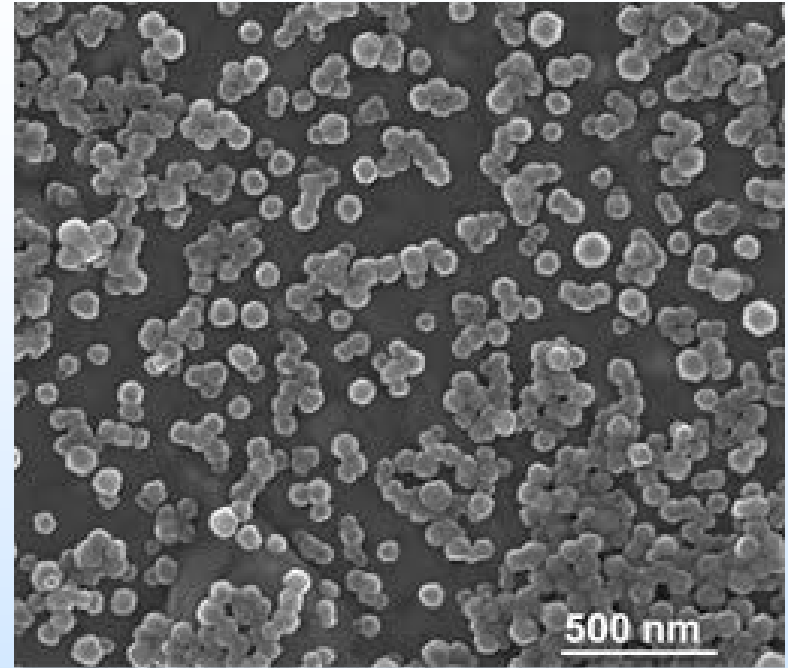
➤ Task 1 – Enhanced Monitoring Agents

- 1.1 Synthesis of acoustically-responsive contrast agents
- 1.2 Laboratory-based core test experiments
- 1.3 Numerical modelling of seismic wave propagation and reflections
- 1.4 Field test plan development



Metal-Organic Framework Nanoparticles

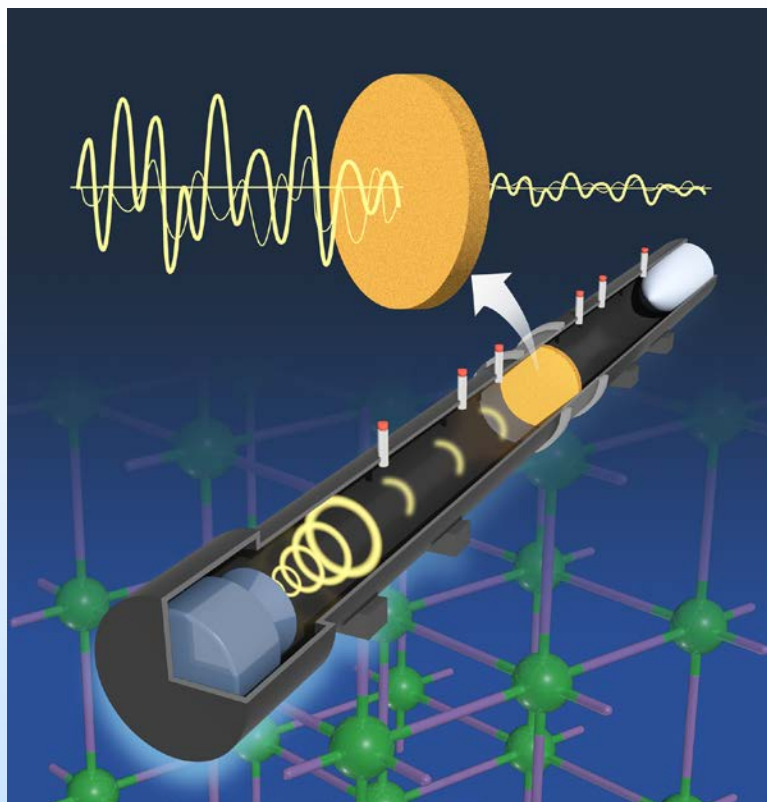
- ▶ Injectable nanoparticles
- ▶ Ultra-high surface area
- ▶ Defect engineering and flexibility modifications
- ▶ Metal-organic frameworks have anomalous low-frequency sound attenuation properties
- ▶ Laboratory geophysical experiments indicate MOF nanofluids alter the elastic and anelastic properties of fluid-bearing rocks
- ▶ These microporous materials may be used as acoustic contrast agents for better resolving subsurface fluids and structures



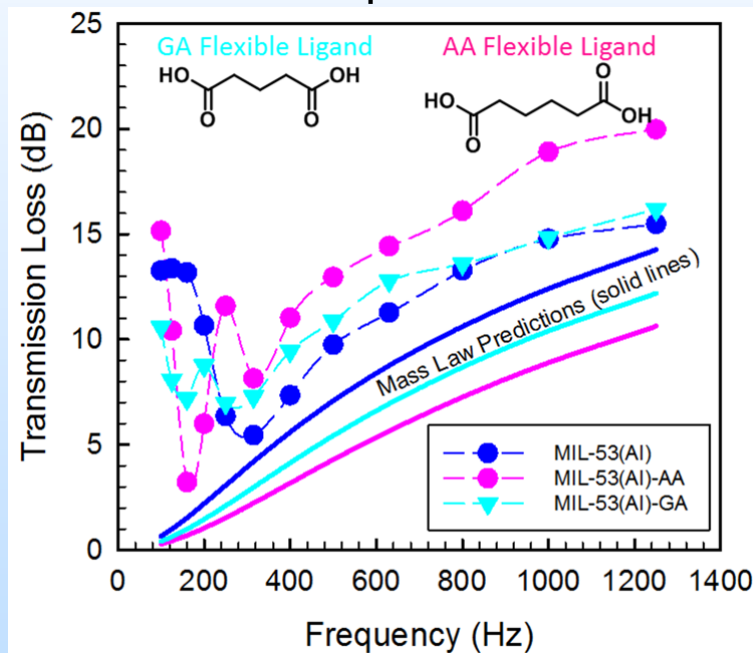
Applications/Significance/Novelty

Our MOF nanofluid approach enhances conventional seismic monitoring by substantially altering the velocity and amplitude of low-frequency waves

MOFs are Acoustic Metamaterials



- Deviation from mass law by MOFs indicate unusual absorptive acoustic properties relative to natural rock materials
- Substitution of flexible ligands glutarate and adipate forms flexible framework MIL-53(Al) and new resonance peaks



Microporous and Flexible Framework Acoustic Metamaterials for Sound Attenuation and Contrast Agent Applications

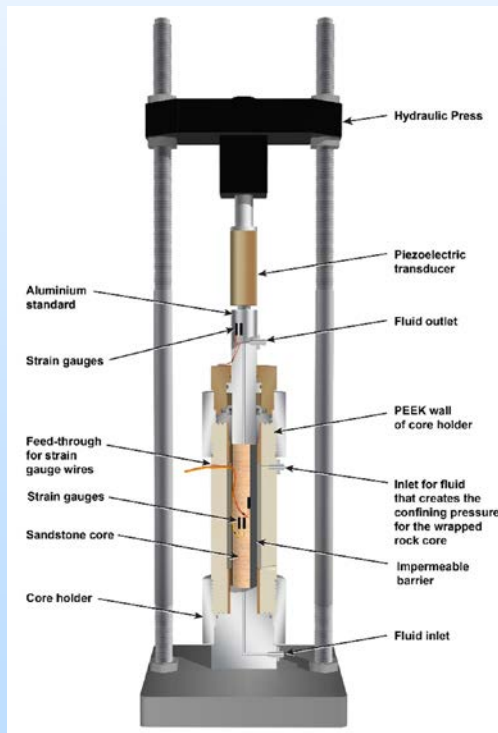
Quin R. S. Miller,^{*,†} Satish K. Nune,[‡] H. Todd Schaefer,[†] Ki Won Jung,^{‡,§} Kayte M. Denslow,[‡] Matthew S. Prowant,[‡] Paul F. Martin,[‡] and B. Peter McGrail[‡]

Engineered flexibility of the framework structure may be undertaken to increase attenuation and tune characteristics for each application

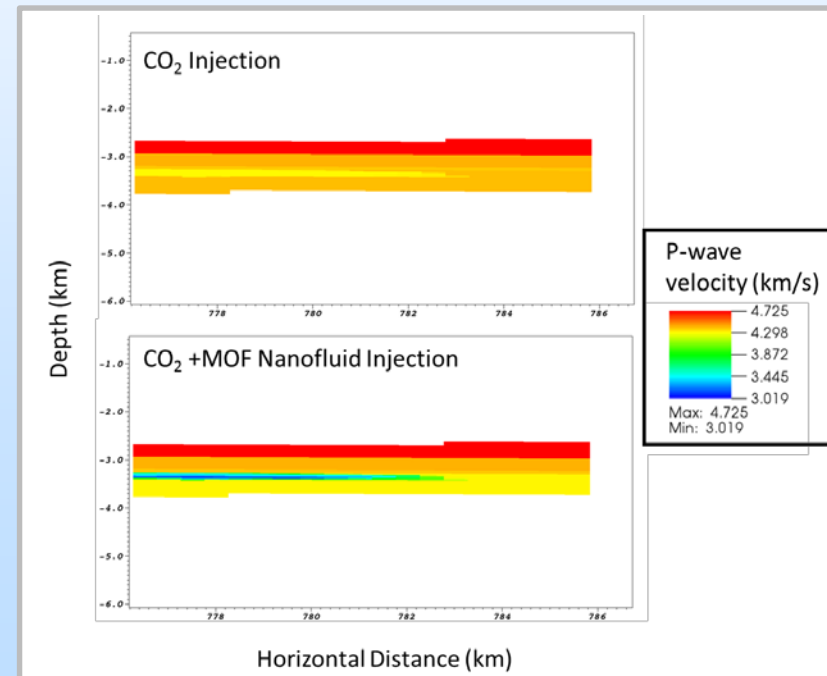
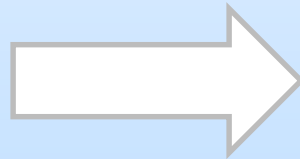
MOFs Influence Elastic and Anelastic Rock Properties

Forced oscillation laboratory technique utilized to measure elastic and anelastic properties of sandstone cores at relevant frequencies (1-100 Hz)

- Reduction in Young's modulus and increase in attenuation due to injection of 0.5 wt% MOF nanofluids (Schaefer et al. 2017 and Miller et al. 2019)

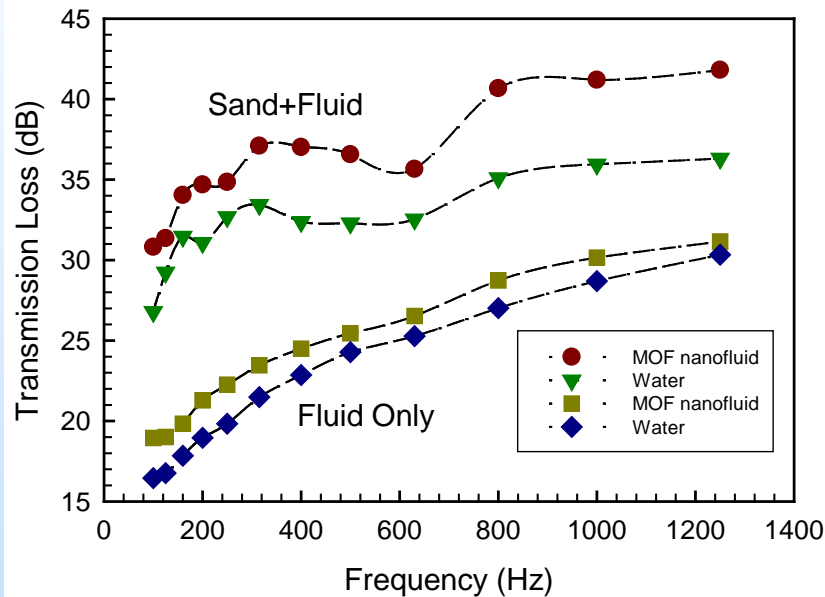
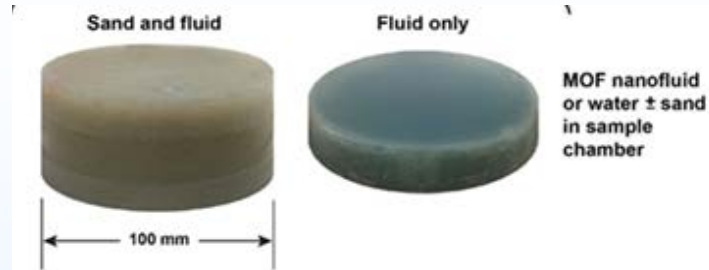


0.2% increase in mass per 5 PV



~30% decrease in P-wave velocity

Mechanistic Insights



Transmission loss experiments confirm that contrast agent nanofluids possess intrinsic properties that contribute to low-frequency attenuation, although the magnitude is small

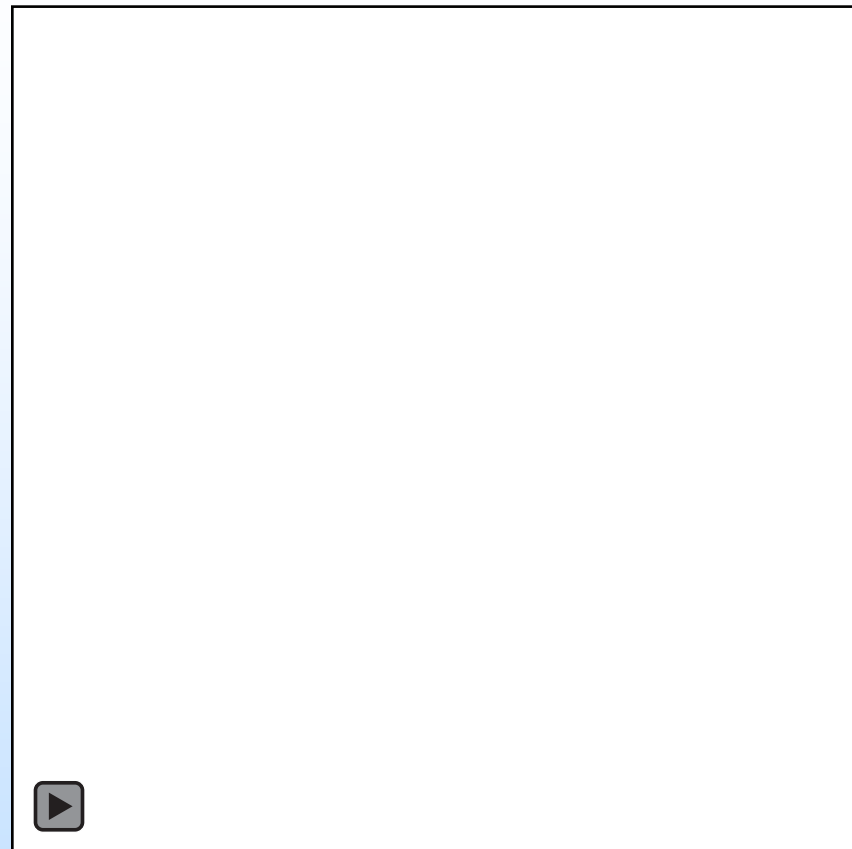
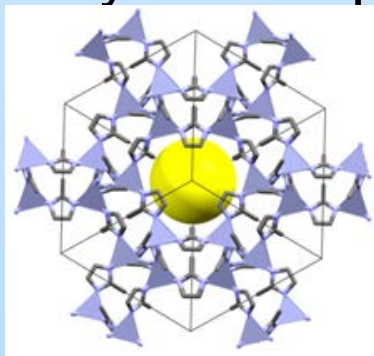
- Changes to Young's Modulus likely due to rock-nanofluid interfacial effects
- A portion of the observed attenuation due to MOF in the bulk pore fluid
- 10X increase in surface area of the rock-fluid-MOF system greatly increases internal reflections, resonances, and scattering of low-frequency waves with only a 0.5 wt% nanofluid concentration
- Wettability alteration or surface charge effects?

MOF Nanoparticle Synthesis

Goals: Rapid production of resilient Zr, Zn, and Fe-based MOF frameworks with high-colloidal stability, some with core@shell structures

Four new nanofluids:

- UiO-66
- Polymer-coated MIL-100(Fe)
- ZIF-8 (three different synthesis procedures)

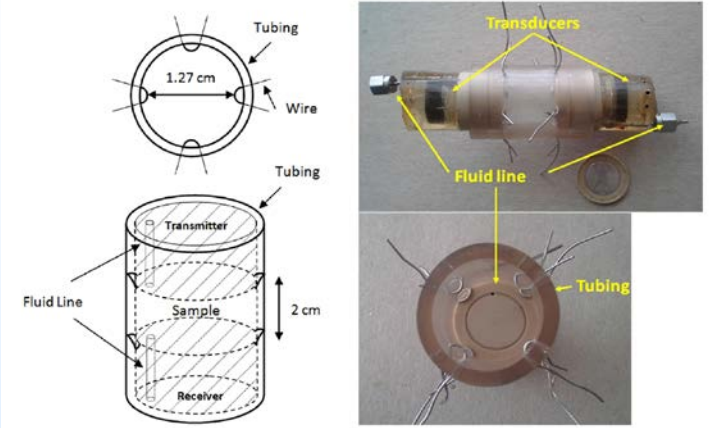


Transformation of nanoZnO to nanoZIF-8 in supercritical CO₂ monitored by high pressure in situ XRD at 60 °C and 90 bar

Ultrasonic and Electrical Properties of MOF Contrast Agent Nanofluids

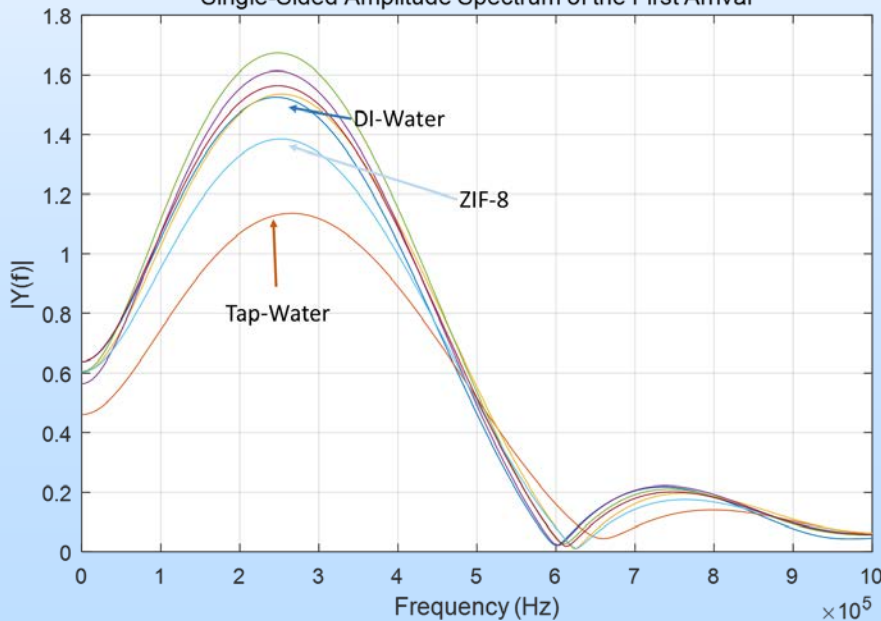


- Evaluated the ultrasonic velocity and attenuation of five MOF nanofluids
- Probed electrical properties of nanofluids, potential for multi-use contrast agents

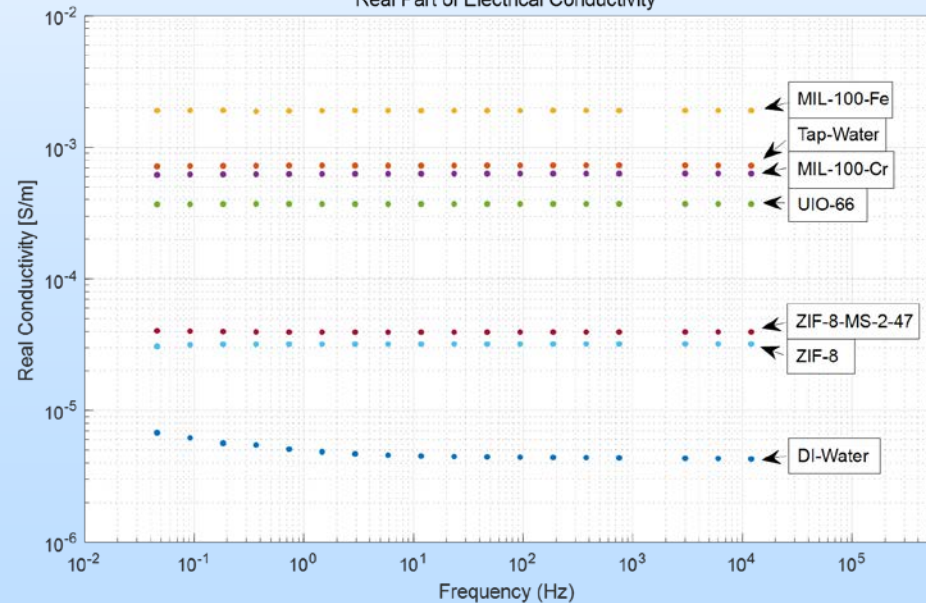


Ultrasonic fluid cell (Pohl, Prasad, Batzle 2018)

Single-Sided Amplitude Spectrum of the First Arrival

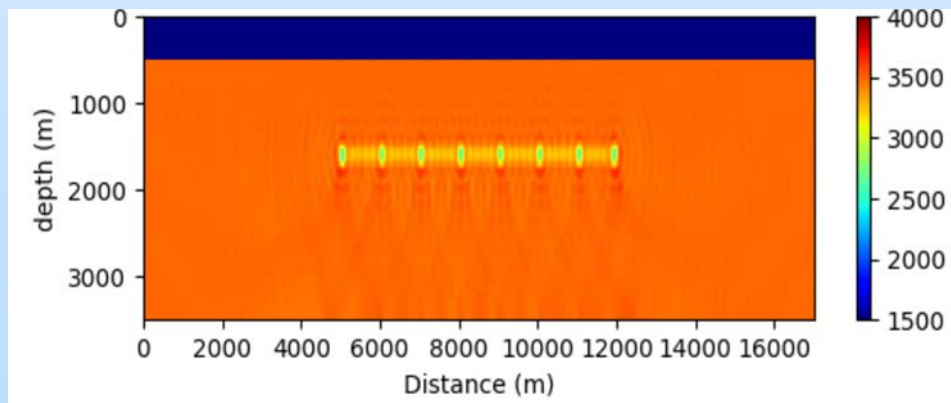
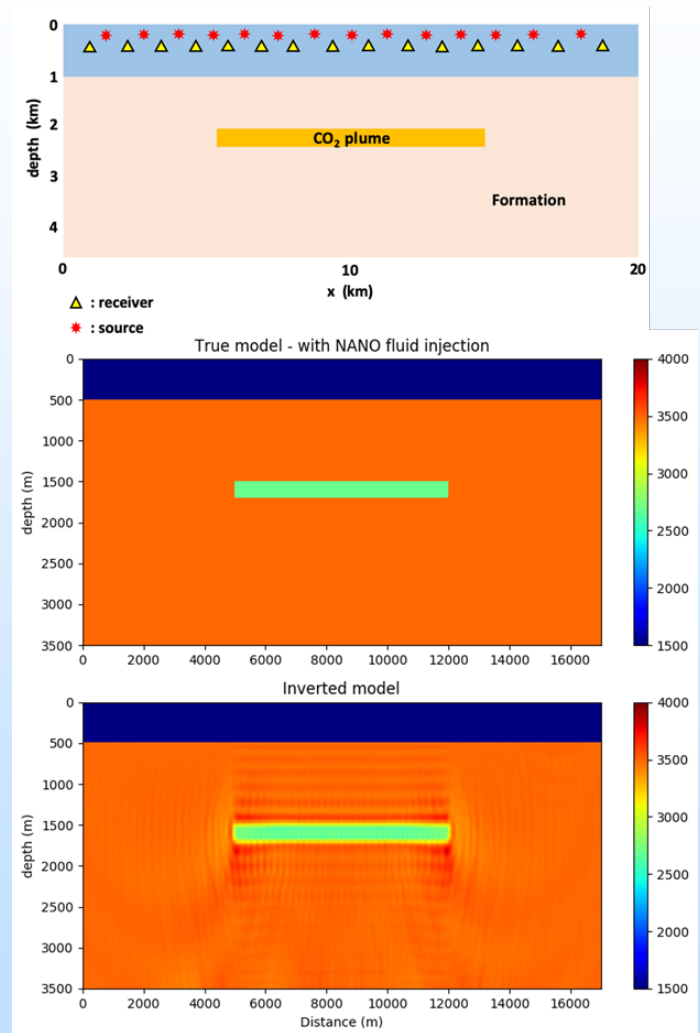


Real Part of Electrical Conductivity

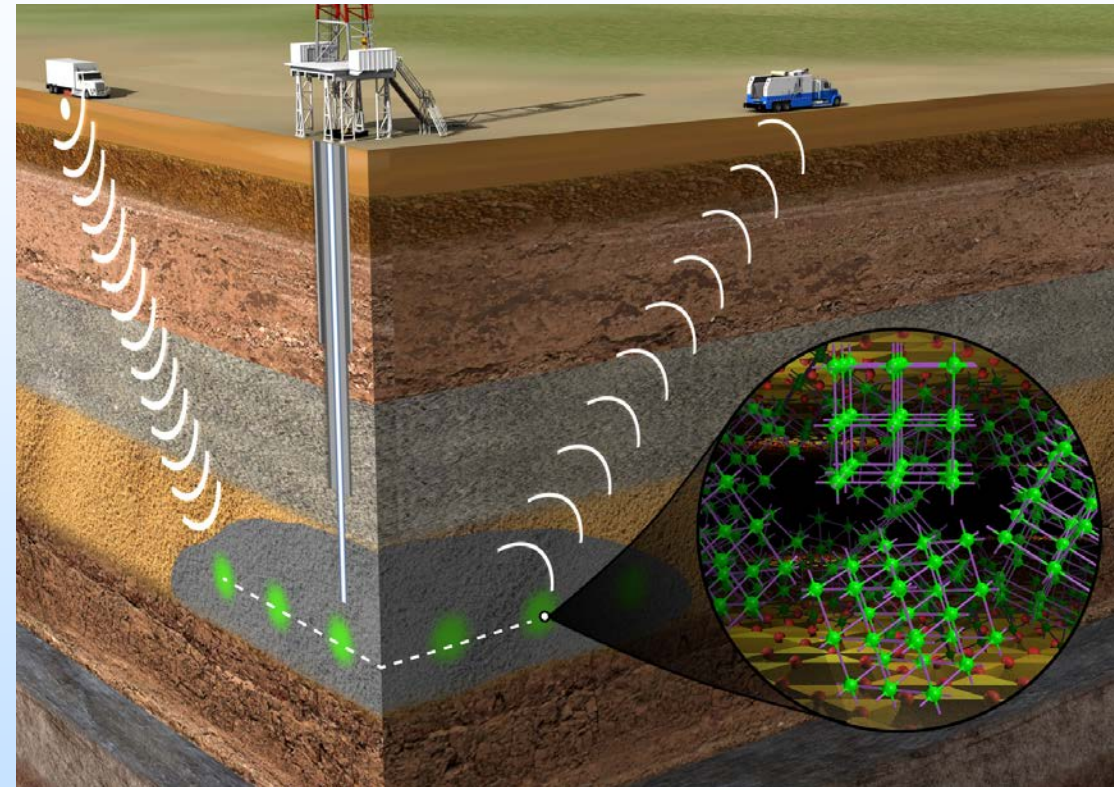


Full-Waveform Inversion Seismic Simulations

- What are the effects of injectates (MOF nanofluids) on wave propagation behaviors (e.g., refraction, reflection, dissipation and attenuation)?
- SEISCOPE simulations used to model seismic wave interactions with H₂O-, CO₂-, and nanofluid-saturated reservoir rocks. This model can incorporate velocity information for the overlying formations, reservoir, and CO₂ plume.
- Continuing FWI simulations to create stepwise complexity in the 2D placement of MOF nanofluids, four injectate spacings (125-1000 m) tested



Multiscale Metamaterials in the Subsurface



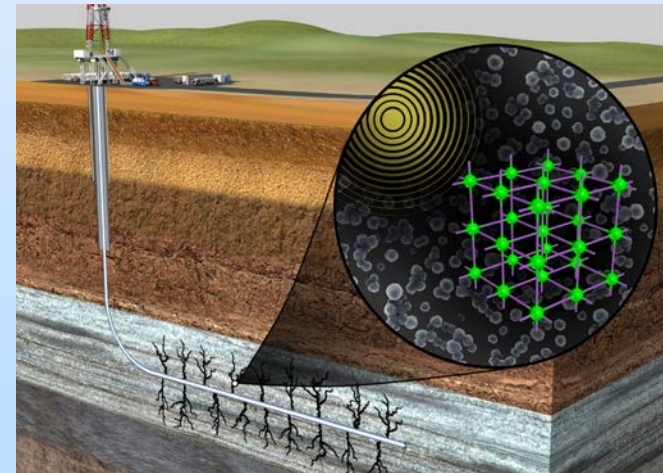
- nm- to km-scale 3D arrays
- Injectable metamaterials key to imposing reservoir-scale periodic structure for seismic wave manipulation
- Emergent properties of metamaterial arrays could include:
 - Resonant periodic structures in the subsurface
 - Acoustic lensing, focusing and amplification
 - Increase in resolution for better delineating spatial relationships of fluids and pore/fracture networks

Critical Parameters for Field Test Plan

- **0.1 wt% MOF nanofluid concentrations**
- **Polymer coatings to ensure colloidal stability**
- **Episodic injection to minimize injected material**
- **Nanofluid alternating gas “NAG” injection to impose periodic subsurface structures**

Ongoing and Future Work

- FY20 focused on optimizing each parameter for a field site of interest, with contrast agent properties (MOF composition/topology and surface coatings) and injection strategies tailored to lithology, formation fluid chemistry, and reservoir structure.
- Identify a field test injection site and industry partner, continue to fine tune field test plan.
- Determine the exact mechanism(s) of seismic wave-MOF interactions via continued experimentation and related forward modelling.
- O&G and GTO synergies



Accomplishments to Date

- First to examine the acoustic properties of MOFs, demonstrated that they are acoustic metamaterials
- Continued developments of nanofluid synthesis procedures, include MOF@polymer and ZnO@ZIF-8 core-shell composites
- Parameterized velocity and FWI seismic models with low-frequency core test results
- Initiated successful ongoing collaboration with Prof. Manika Prasad's research group at CSM
- Demonstrated MOF nanofluids have distinctive electrical signatures
- Work published in ACS Applied Materials and Interfaces and URTeC conference proceedings
- Results presented at AGU, URTeC, and ACS

Acknowledgements



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Manika Prasad, Mathias Pohl, Jyoti Behura

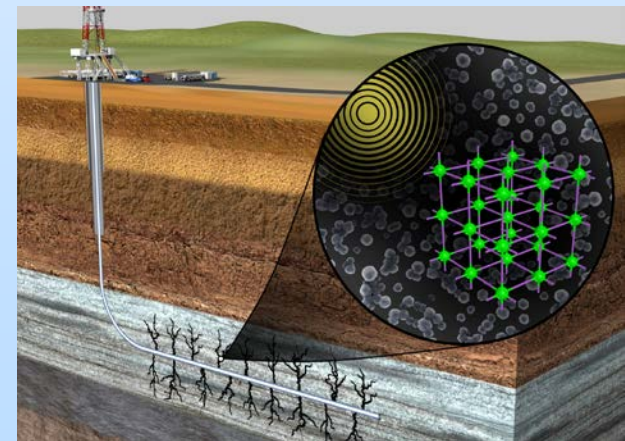
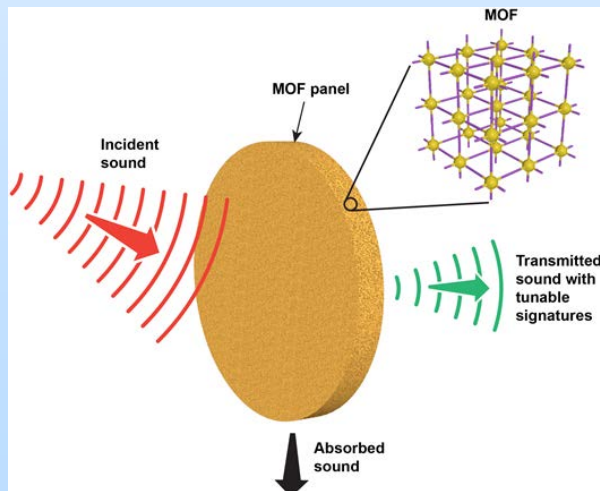


Jeff Burghardt, Piyoosh Jaysaval, Michael Sinnwell, Paul Martin, Matt Prowant, Kayte Denslow, Ki Won Jung, Chris Strickland



Relevant Publications

- 1. Miller, Q.R.S., H.T. Schaefer, S.K. Nune, K.W. Jung, J.A. Burghardt, P.F. Martin, M.S. Prowant, K.M. Denslow, C.E. Strickland, M. Prasad, M. Pohl, P. Jaysaval, B.P. McGrail. **(2019)** “Geophysical Monitoring with Seismic Metamaterial Contrast Agents”. Unconventional Resources Technology Conference (URTeC) Proceedings., DOI:10.105530/urtec-2019-1123.
- Miller, Q.R.S, Schaefer, H.T., Nune, S.K., Jung, K.W., Denslow, K.M., Prowant, M.S., Martin, P.F., McGrail, B.P. **(2018)**. “Microporous and Flexible Framework Acoustic Metamaterials for Sound Attenuation and Contrast Agent Applications”, ACS Applied Materials & Interfaces, 10, 51, 44226-44230
- Schaefer, H.T., Strickland, C.E, Jung, K.W., Martin, P.F., Nune, S.K., Loring, J.S., McGrail, B.P. **(2017)** “Injectable Contrast Agents for Enhanced Subsurface Mapping and Monitoring”, Energy Procedia 114, 3764-3770



Appendix

- These slides will not be discussed during the presentation, but are mandatory

Organization Chart

- Project team has participants that cut across the Energy & Environment and Fundamental Sciences Directorates at PNNL
- Pacific Northwest National Laboratory is Operated by Battelle Memorial Institute for the Department of Energy

Gantt Chart

