

## Resistivity Volumes

### A Seminar by Dynamic Measurement LLC

29 October 2014



### Agenda

- 3:00 Registration and Introductions
- 3:30 The meteorology behind lightning databases
- 3:45 Using lightning databases to explore for natural resources
- 4:00 Calculating resistivity volumes from lightning databases
- 4:45 Examples of resistivity volumes and potential applications
  - Regional and Play Fairway hydrocarbon migration pathways
  - High-grading exploration sweetspots
- 5:15 Anticipated future developments
  - Use with Archie's equation to predict Formation Factor, Porosity, etc.
  - Questions and Answers and Discussion among participants

### Lightning Data Analysis Demonstrates Strikes are Tied to Geology





## CSEM & NSEM

- Offshore
- > 300 foot water depths
- 1,250-A peak output



From: http://www.emgs.com/content/870/Structural-imaging



- Onshore
- < 300 foot water depths
- Average 30,000-A per strike





### Traditional vs. Lighting Resistivity Analysis





### Technical Merit:

- Sections and Volumes
- Evergreen Data
- 16 year database US Canada
- 4 year database worldwide
- Easy to Integrate
- Simple, Patented, & Pending
- **Economic Benefit:**
- 2 month turnaround
- Larger Area Less Expense

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### Area Based Project Pricing 2 Month Project Turn-Around

DML Decima							
Enter Minutes:	17	Enter Seconds:	55	Decimal Calculation:	0.298611111		
DML Area Calculator from Longitude & Latitude Input							
Data Entry Red Cells (decimal longitude & latitude), Calculations/Parameters Yellow Cells, Results Green Cells							
NW Corner Longitude:	-97.30707	W (km)	240.788259	Radius:	6367444.5		
NW Corner Latitude:	32.70707	E (km)	240.788259	M2F:	0.30480061		
NE Corner Longitude:	-97.10707	N (km)	18.702420	F2Mi:	5280		
NE Corner Latitude:	32.70707	S (km)	19.143106	Area (sq km)	4556.379103		
SW Corner Longitude:	-97.30707	W (mi)	149.618588	Carlo alto			
SW Corner Latitude:	30.5404	E (mi)	149.618588	The second se			
SE Corner Longitude:	-97.10707	N (mi)	11.621122		·		
SE Corner Latitude:	30.5404	S (mi)	11.894951	Area (sg mi)	1759.22077		

#### DML Lightning Analysis Project Price Calculator

Enter Area (sq. km.):		Enter Area (sq. mi.):	85,000	Enter Area (acres)	
Area (sq. km)	220,150			Price (\$US):	\$496,992.94

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Acres	Sq. Miles	Price
640	1	\$10,000
4,800	7.5	\$20,000
9,600	15	\$25,000
16,000	25	\$30,000
35,200	55	\$40,000
70,400	110	\$50,000
224,000	350	\$75,000
572,000	800	\$100,000
1,120,000	1,750	\$130,000
12,480,000	19,500	\$300,000
54,400,000	85,000	\$500,000
163,200,000	225,000	\$700,000



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### Dr. Jim Siebert Meteorology & Other Projects:





### Earth: A Self-Repairing Capacitor



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### Lightning Occurs Everywhere, data are available in public and private databases





# 350 million annual Lightning Strikes - a rich database to mine





# 330 Sensors record U.S. lightning strike locations with 100-500 ft (30-150 m) horizontal resolution







### NLDN (National Lightning Detection Network)



- Location
- Time and Duration
- Rise Time
- Peak Current
- Polarity
- Peak-to-Zero
- Density

### Lightning Strike Measurements

Rise-Tim

Reak-to-Zero

**Lightning Density** 





- Peak Current Absolute
- Peak Current Negative
- Peak Current Positive
- Total Wavelet Time
- Wavelet Symmetry
- Rate of Rise-Time
- Surface Resistivity
- Earth Tide Density
- Earth Tide Gradient
- Earth Tide Density greater than 75% of monthly maximum
- Earth Tide Density less than 75% of monthly maximum
- Earth Tide Gradient greater than 75% of monthly maximum
- Earth Tide Gradient less than 75% of monthly maximum
- Density, measurement, or attribute maps by hour, day, month, season, or combinations of any of these (e.g. spring + fall strike density)
- Mixed density, measurement, and attribute maps

## Lightning Strike Calculated Attributes

Peak-to-Zero Central Texas





# Lightning recorded for early storm warning, safety, **insurance**, and meteorological purposes







### Lightning Maps and Natural Resources

Lightning density regionally controlled by meteorology, and locally controlled by terralevis (shallow earth) currents.





Colorado County, Texas: White circles known oil & gas fields; Yellow circles new leads from lightning density.



### Lightning bypasses tall objects to hit geology







### Northwest Texas example: one hour of strikes on 08 March 2008



# One of the only article referencing lightning's relationship to the subsurface: a 1998 American Meteorological Society Article where conclusions included:



"Not expected, however, was the unusually high percentage of Cloud-to-Ground lightning flashes of negative polarity with Imax>75 kA found over the salt waters of the northern Gulf of Mexico, and off the southeastern U.S. coastline. The reason for the large number of intense -Cgs in this region in the clear. While perhaps associated with the high co-ductivity of the underlying saltwater, the fast this pattern tends to extend more than 100 km in and suggests that surface features are not the only causative factor."

"Large Peak Current Cloud-to-Ground Lightning Flashes during the Summer Months in the Contiguous U.S." Lyons, Uliasz, and Nelson, FMA Research, Inc.

## Two Month Project Workflow



Wipro assists with data cleansing, processing and mapping

WIPRO

See Lightning Think



### Vaisala and Wipro Partnerships

- Exclusive worldwide license with Vaisala of Finland to use their data in the NLDN and GLD-360 for natural resource exploration.

• Agreement with Wipro to clean, process, and handle lightning data according to DML specifications





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### H. Roice Nelson, Jr. Seismic Projects:



### Lightning Analysis Defines Stratigraphy





### Lightning Attribute: Rate of Rise-Time

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### Lightning Analysis Interprets Paleochannels and Meander Schrolls





### Lightning Attributes: Surface Resistivity (left) Peak-to-Zero (right)

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### Lightning Analysis Correlates with Fields





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### Lightning Density Map Shows Strikes Cluster



### Clusters Skew Density Map Color; Normalization Improves Displays





### Average Negative Peak Current vs. Peak Current







### Peak Current from Sealy to East Houston





### Peak Current Zoom with LIDAR & Long Point Fault





### Soils Map over GoogleEarth<sup>TM</sup> Map



# Integration with Long Point Fault over Soils over LIDAR over Peak Current over GoogleEarth<sup>TM</sup>





### Geological Significance of Density, Rise-Time, & Peak Current Lightning Attributes



Lightning Attribute	Definition	Geological Attributes	Example	Interpretation	Color Bar	
Density	The average number of lightning strikes located in an IG-6 cell (269 x 153 meter or 881 x 503 feet cells at 30° Latitude).	Used to define lineaments which are associated with faulting. Minor topographic effects are distinguished from geologic influences during interpretation.			2m2 1000 - 750 - 700 - 750 - 700 - 70	
Rise-Time	The time to go from background electrical noise to Peak Current in microseconds, averaged over IG6 cells.	Sees areas with higher resistance such as salt domes and fresh water associated with ponds, rivers, and aquifers. In this example, the blue region in the east, suggests the presence of shallow fresh water.				
Peak Current	The average Peak Current in kiloamps of lightning strikes falling in an IG6 cell.	Sees subsurface resistivity and is largely impacted by the negative lightning strikes. Voltage must be higher to get through depth.			- 23 - 22 - 21 - 20 - 19 - 18 - 17 - 16	

### Geological Significance of Peak Current Absolute, Negative, & Positive Lightning Attributes



Lightning	Definition	Geological Attributes	Example	Interpretation	Color	
Peak Current absolute	The average Absolute Peak Current in kilo amps falling in an IG6 cell.	Sees subsurface resistivity and is largely impacted by the negative lightning strikes. Voltage must be higher to get through depth. Note patterns are different.			- 45 - 40 - 35 - 30 - 25 - 20 - 15 - 10	
Negative Peak Current	The average negative Peak Current in kilo amps falling in an IG6 cell.	Typically sees shallower resistivity, because strikes come at the beginning of a storm and are not as strong.			10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45 50 55 60	
Positive Peak Current	The average positive Peak Current in kilo amps falling in an IG6 cell.	Typically sees deeper resistivity because positive peak currents are associated with the most intense strikes occurring at the end of storms. As these strikes are less frequently, interpolation effects may be noticeable				
### Geological Significance of Peak-to-Zero, Total Wavelet Time, & Wavelet Symmetry Attributes



Lightning Attribute	Definition	Geological Attributes	Example	Interpretation	Color Bar	
Peak-to-Zero	The time to go from Peak Current to background electrical noise in microseconds averaged over IG6 cells.	Good lineaments and is very closely tied to resistivity. Areas with low resistivity have a low P2Z value.				
Total Wavelet Time	The sum of Rise-Time + Peak-to-Zero Time or the Total Wavelet Time (TWT) as recorded by the NLDN.	Similar to Peak-to-Zero because the Peak-to-Zero time is typically larger than Rise-Time and so would be the dominant component of the Total Wavelet Time.			4 800173013431831803802353453281253	
Wavelet Symmetry	The ratio of Rise-Time to Total Wavelet Time. Wavelet Symmetry is inversely related to its Peak-to-Zero contribution.	Lineament patterns may be similar to that of Peak-to- Zero and Total Wavelet Time because the Peak-to-Zero time is typically the dominant component of all three of these lightning attributes			- 30 - 45 - 40 - 33 - 30 - 25 - 20 - 15 - 10	

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### Geological Significance of Earth Tide Density, Greater Than 75%, & Less Than 75% Attributes



Lightning Attribute	Definition	Geological Attributes	Example	Interpretation	Color Bar	
Earth Tide Density	The cumulative tidal effect of the sum of lunar and solar gravity creates earth tides. There are more lightning strikes at high and low earth tides near faults.	It appears more conductive clays in the fault scarps, and disruption of shallow earth, terralevis, currents by faults create more lightning strikes at high and low earth tides.			- 0.6 - 0.4 - 0.2 - 0.0 0.2 0.4 0.6	
Earth Tide Density greater than 75% of the monthly maximum rate	The density of lightning strikes which occur at greater than 75% of the monthly maximum earth tide.	As with each of the lightning attributes there are strong lineaments which are emphasized, like the horizontal and the up to the right at 45° from the bright events in the lower left.			0 Strike_Demity	
Earth Tide Density less than 75% of the monthly maximum rate	The density of lightning strikes which occur at less than 75% of the monthly maximum earth tide.	With this attribute there are strong dipping to the southwest horizontal lineaments at the top of the example area which are not seen on other attributes.			1	

### Geological Significance of Earth Tide Gradient Density, Greater Than 75%, & Less Than 75% Attributes



Lightning Attribute	Definition	Geological Attributes	Example	Interpretation	Color Bar	
Earth Tide Gradient	Earth Tide Gradient is the first derivative of the Earth Tide, or the maximum ebb and flow of the Earth Tide. This attribute is the density of strikes at the gradient.	On several surveys the density of strikes tied to the gradient appears to highlight faults better than other attributes.			- 0.6 - 0.4 - 02 - 0.0 0.2 0.4 0.6	
Earth Tide Gradient greater than 75% of the monthly maximum rate	The density of lightning strikes which occur at greater than 75% of the monthly maximum earth tide gradient.	There are similar patterns to the Earth Tide Gradient and the Earth Tide, although this particular color bar is not very well normalized for data in the example area.			200 - 123 - 123 - 125 - 25 - 25	
Earth Tide Gradient less than 75% of the monthly maximum rate	The density of lightning strikes which occur at less than 75% of the monthly maximum earth tide gradient.	Again, this attribute shows a unique lineament in the top center which appears to be a down to the Gulf growth fault.			Solver Street St	

### Geological Significance of Rise-Time, Rate of Rise-Time, & Surface Resistivity Lightning Attributes



Lightning Attribute	Definition	Geological Attributes	Example	Interpretation	Color Bar	
Rise-Time Central Texas	The time to go from background electrical noise to Peak Current in microseconds, averaged over IG6 cells.	Sees areas with higher resistance. In this example there are 4 ponds in the bottom central part of the map which show up as anomalies, and the river is the curved line in the middle.			P.4.2.8.3.2.36.40.4.4.8.5.2.56.60 rt20140722_jg6p06838	
Rate of Rise-Time Central Texas	Calculated by dividing the Peak Current by the Rise-Time giving results in kiloamps/ms	Appears to be related to shallow fresh water, and was used to make a detailed shallow stratigraphy map.			soo also 7500 2750 RiseRate_ig6p0Rubac	
Surface Resistivity Central Texas	Surface resistivity calculated from P2Z and Peak Current as defined in pending patent.	A sum of the resistivity at all depths beneath the surface location. As with other attributes there are lineaments.			oom2.ee.oo1500m2.ee.oo1 00002.ee.oo1500m2.ee.oo1 csist20140722_res_00_ig6p0Rubac	

### A New Potential Fields Method, Supplementing Gravity & Magnetics





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## Lightning Analysis Gives Quicker Regional Overview





### More details at Play Fairway & Prospect Scales





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### Les R. Denham Geophysical Projects:





### Recorded Lightning Data

- Cloud-to-ground lightning can be measured and recorded
- Lightning measurements have been made for more than thirty years
- A continuous record of essentially all cloud-to-ground lightning strokes in the contiguous U.S.A. and Canada has been made for approximately fifteen years.
- A continuous record of cloud-to-ground lightning strokes worldwide has been made for about four years



### The atmosphere is an effective insulator

The electrical conductivity of air Is 0.3-0.8 \* 10<sup>-14</sup> S.m<sup>-1</sup> (Siemens per meter).

> The effectiveness seen in air's common use separating high voltage transmission lines from the ground, from towers used to support the lines, and from lines carrying different voltages and different phases.

### The earth is much more conductive than air





Rock Conductivity Graph computed for a porous rock with 100% brine saturation using Archie's equation



# Linear increase in number of lightning strikes with local relief, shows atmosphere's insulating limits



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### Tidal Gradient North Texas



Similar to several other studies:

- More strikes at both maximum flood and maximum ebb
- Believe it is because tides open or close faults a little bit and increase conductivity

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### Tidal Gradient in Swampy Area



#### In swamps:

- No strikes at maximum flood or maximum ebb
- Area within a meter of sea level
- Believe tides wash out both biogenic and thermogenic methane
- Most strikes just past half flood



### Tidal Gradient when Strikes Occur





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### Strike Density at High Tidal Gradient







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### Strike Density Wells Vs. Geothermal Gradient <1,500 m (4,920 Feet)



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### Strike Density for Wells) Vs. Geothermal Gradient 1500-3000m (4920-9843 feet





### Strike Density for Wells Vs. Geothermal Gradient >3000 m (>9,843 Feet)

400





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### Lightning Strike Density Vs. Geothermal Gradient for All Wells



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# The Atmospheric Capacitor Plate 1

- The charged thundercloud is one plate of a capacitor
- The other plate of the capacitor is the earth underlying the charged cloud
- The dielectric is the air
- Energy from a lightning strike is converted to heat, partly in the air, but largely in the subsurface

# Plate 2



Dielectric



### Lightning a Dielectric Breakdown

- Lightning occurs when the voltage across the atmospheric capacitor exceeds the dielectric strength of the air.
- Resistance in the atmosphere is very low once the path is ionized.
- Resistance in the subsurface is approximately constant over long periods of time.
- Atmospheric factors vary with each stroke.

# See Lightning Think Dynamic Measurement LLC

### **Relaxation Oscillator**

- The physics of lightning discharge are similar to the physics of a neon-tube relaxation oscillator.
- In each case, voltage builds across a capacitor until an insulating gas ionizes and becomes a conductor



# See Lightning Think Dynamic Measurement LLC

## Lightning Physics

- The atmospheric capacitor is nearly the same
- Just an additional resistance R<sub>2</sub> limiting the current
- R<sub>2</sub> is the resistance between the lightning strike point and the bottom plate of the capacitor



### **Relaxation Oscillator Physics**



- When a relaxation oscillator triggers, the discharge current decays exponentially
- > The rate of decay is given by  $I_t = I_0 e^{-t/RC}$
- If lightning is similar, can we use the decay to measure resistance?
  - ▶ This equation can be rearranged to  $ln(\frac{l_i}{l_0}) = -\frac{i}{RC}$  or  $R = -\frac{i}{ln(\frac{l_i}{l_0})C}$
  - > All we need is the current at two times  $(I_0 \text{ and } I_i)$ , and the capacitance (C) to get the resistance R





### How do we measure Decay

- Lightning measurements do not give this kind of continuous decay.
- We have two values: Peak Current 506 • Peak current 40 • Peak to zero time Current (kA) 50 10 Peak to Zero 0 15 10 20 25 30 Time (microseconds)



### The Available Measurements

- Two points on an exponential curve will define the curve *Peak Current:*
- The maximum recorded current, when decay starts  $(I_0)$

### Peak-to-Zero time:

- The elapsed time from the instant of Peak Current until the recorded signal disappears into the background noise.
- This gives us the time *t*.
- But what is the current  $(I_t)$ ?
- The time for current to decay to a real zero is infinite.
- We need an estimate of the magnitude of the "zero" current (at time *t*) in order to compute resistance.

### What is "Zero" Current? Histogram of peak current for 1.6 million strikes















- Total strikes 1.6 million
- 320,000 less than 10 kA absolute peak current
- 30,400 less than 5 kA absolute peak current
- 13,260 less than 4 kA absolute peak current
- 2,579 less than 3 kA absolute peak current
- 15 less than 2 kA absolute peak current
- "Zero" current assumed to be 1 kA



- Total strikes 1.6 million
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### What About Voltage?

- Resistance is equal to voltage/current.
- Our measurements are of current only.
- But the equation gives a solution with capacitance rather than voltage.
- However, how do we find capacitance?
- Capacitance depends on permittivity, plate area, and plate separation.
- While permittivity is approximately constant and known for air, assumptions for area and separation are needed to solve for resistance.

# See Lightning Think Dynamic Measurement LLC

### The Assumptions

- 1. Voltage is proportional to peak current (within a local area).
- 2. Cloud height is proportional to voltage because the dielectric strength of air is more or less constant.
  - This gives plate separation for the atmospheric capacitor
- 3. The effective capacitor is circular, with a radius proportional to cloud height.
  - This gives plate area for the capacitor
- 4. With over 100 lightning strikes per square kilometer per year in many areas, we can stack results to improve signal-to-noise ratio


### What is Resistivity?

- Resistivity is resistance times cross-sectional area of a conductor, divided by its length; or  $\rho = \frac{R \times A}{l}$
- For the lightning energy dissipating in the ground:
  - The area is very small at the strike point, but increases rapidly
  - The length is very short for discharging the charge close to the strike point, but for points near the edge of the effective capacitor, the length is much greater
- ► For low energy lightning, the resistivity measured is that of rocks close to the surface
- For higher energy lightning, the resistivity measured is an average of resistivities to greater depths.

## Resistivity Maps

### Houston Area



### Milam County







### Resistivity and Depth

- As mentioned above, electrical energy from more powerful strikes is partially dissipated at greater depths.
- So grouping strikes by peak current will give resistivities grouped by depth.

## Determining Resistivity and Depth



- 1. Lightning data is divided into several groups (typically 10) by absolute peak current.
- 2. Each peak current group is divided into small (typically 0.03-0.04 km<sup>2</sup>) cells by latitude and longitude.
  - Not all cells will contain a lightning strike, but some cells will contain more than one lightning strike.
- 3. For each cell in each group, resistivity and depth values are computed from the lightning data.
- 4. For each group a smooth surface is fitted to the depth values and to the resistivity values.
  - At any point in the project area, a number of depth/resistivity pairs equal to the number of groups in 1 can be produced by extracting grid values at that point.



## A Resistivity Trace

- For standard seismic interpretation software, data traces need to be uniformly sampled in time or depth, with the same number of samples in each trace
  - At latitude and longitude for the trace, each depth grid is sampled and each resistivity grid is sampled.
  - Resistivity values are interpolated with depth between these points to give samples at uniform intervals.
- Typical sample interval is 48 meters.
- Typical trace length is 125 samples.
- There is no restriction in sample interval or length beyond those imposed by the SEG-Y format.



### A Resistivity Volume





### **Resistivity Volume Cross-Section**



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## Resistivity Volumes Define Subsurface Resistivity







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# In-Line 580 and Trace 1165 from a Louisiana 3-D seismic survey







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## Animation of Resistivity In-Line Sections





## Animation of Resistivity Cross-Line Sections



## Resistivity Volumes Correlate with Seismic Surveys





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### After First Pass Vertical Calibration, Time-Slice 1000 ms





TIME 1000

(2588 )

¥2

0





# Resistivity-Slice on left and Seismic Time-Slice at 1500 ms on right





TIME 1500



# Resistivity-Slice on left and Seismic Time-Slice at 2000 ms on right





TIME 2000



# Resistivity-Slice on left and Seismic Time-Slice at 2500 ms on right







# Resistivity-Slice on left and Seismic Time-Slice at 3000 ms on right





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# Resistivity-Slice on left and Seismic Time-Slice at 3500 ms on right







# Resistivity-Slice on left and Seismic Time-Slice at 4000 ms on right





TIME 4000

12588

¥:



# Resistivity-Slice on left and Seismic Time-Slice at 4500 ms on right







E Seismic Color Ba

File Controls

-

i Marker

# Resistivity-Slice on left and Seismic Time-Slice at 5000 ms on right





# Giant businesses are built on measuring subsurface resistivity





# DML calculates resistivity volumes at 3-D seismic line & trace spacing anywhere







### Imagine collecting a 3-D seismic survey here!





### Imagine collecting a 3-D seismic survey here!





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## Shallowest Valid Horizon in Resistivity Volume





## RMS Amplitude at Shallowest Horizon





## Total Energy at Shallowest Horizon





## Total Energy 100ms to Shallowest Horizon







## Perspective Displays of Deepest Horizon





### Deepest Valid Horizon in Resistivity Volume





### RMS Amplitude at Deepest Horizon




# Total Energy at Deepest Horizon



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# RMS Amplitude Shallowest to Deepest







# North Houston In-Line Animation



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# George Bush Park Pipeline Arbitrary Animation





## Faults and Salt Domes





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# Electrical Currents (Telluric and Terralevis)





# Resistivity Volumes Complement Velocity Volumes





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# Lightning Data Infinite Grid<sup>SM</sup> Organization





# How this new data type can aid reservoir characterization



- Lightning attribute maps identify lineaments related to faulting
- Lightning resistivity volumes provides an independent view of geology
- Lightning resistivity volumes can be created to match 3-D geometry
- We anticipate a merger of resistivity volumes and lithology predictions from velocity volumes via Archie's equation going forward



# The Business Value of Lightning Analysis



## Scenario 1

## **Company A has a \$2 million seismic budget**

- Where is the optimal location for new seismic?
- Which of the \$2 million worth of spec seismic is best to purchase?

Scenario 2 Company B has millions of acres of leases about to expire

- How do they identify and rank the sweet spots?
- What leases need to be retained?

**ANSWER: Conduct a lightning analysis** 

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10.

# See Lightning, Think DML



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Find out more at http://www.dynamicmeasurement.com

# Thank You!





See Lightning, Think DML!



# AGI Resistivity Sections

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# Lightning Databases: an old & a new geophysical data type

1752 Benjamin Franklin's kite in the Marcellus Shale Resource Play.

1833 First magnetic field measurements.

1920's Seismic refraction & reflection surveys.

1927 Schlumberger's first electrical resistivity well log.

1936 First modern Gravimeter.

1950's Magnetotellurics invented, measuring lightning charged earth currents.

1960's & '70's The first image processing of satellite imagery.

1974 First 3-D seismic survey collected for Gulf Oil.

1982 Landmark Graphics' first stand-alone seismic interpretation workstation.

1997 CSEM (Controlled Source Electromagnetics).

2008 Data mining lightning data as a new Geophysical Data Type.

Each new data type sparked millions of dollars in data sales & services.





# Proven and Patented Technology











