

Machine Learning and Seismology for Real-Time Decision-Making in Stimulation

1. Cutting-edge application of machine learning, geomechanics, and seismology for real-time decision-making tools during stimulation

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- Subcontractors and/or Participating Organizations: University of California Berkeley
- Project Start and End Date: 4/2024-3/2027

2. Project Objectives and Purpose

Major technical objectives of the project

2.1 Development of a Real-Time Decision-Making Platform

- Data Analysis and Seismic Event Detection.
- Moment Magnitude Calculations.
- Maximum Magnitude Prediction.

2.2. Seismo-Geomechanical Characterization

- Site Characterization.
- Velocity and Geomechanical Models.

2.3. Compliance Technology for Real-Time Data Acquisition

- Data Pipeline Development.
- Server Deployment.

2.4. Risk Assessment and Management Tools

- Geomechanical and Seismological Models.
- Red-Light Shut-In Tool.
- Ground Motion Prediction.
- Nuisance and Fragility Functions.

2.5. Real-Time Simulation and Tool Validation

- Model Calibration and Testing.
- Real-Time Simulations.

The impact of your research and development

- The project contributes to making geothermal energy a more reliable, safe, and efficient renewable energy source, thereby supporting its broader adoption and deployment worldwide.
- Immediate Response
- Improved Safety
- Data-Driven Decisions
- Proactive Risk Mitigation
- Enhanced Prediction Models
- Community Safety
- Infrastructure Protection
- Reduction of Seismic Risks
- Optimization of Geothermal Operations
- Support for Policy and Regulatory Frameworks

3. Technical Barriers and Targets

Technical Challenges and Barriers

- Real-Time Seismic Monitoring: Developing a system for accurate, real-time detection and analysis of seismic events during geothermal stimulations. The challenge lies in processing large data volumes from sensors like geophones and DAS systems.

- Predictive Modeling: Creating accurate models to forecast the maximum magnitude of induced seismic events and ground motions. This involves dealing with uncertainties in geological formations and seismic responses.
- Data Integration: Ensuring the developed tools can integrate diverse data sources and scale across different geothermal sites with varying geological conditions.

Technical Targets

- Real-Time Monitoring Platform: Develop a platform for real-time seismic monitoring.
- Seismic Event Detection: Develop detection algorithms for geophones and DAS.
- Predictive Modeling: Create models to predict maximum seismic magnitude and assess risks.
- Data Integration: Integrate diverse data into a unified database.
- Stakeholder Engagement: Conduct workshops and training sessions.
- Regulatory Compliance: Ensure technologies meet regulatory standards.

4. Technical Approach

Here is our technical approach workflow:

4.1. Data Collection and Characterization

- Building a Seismo-Geomechanical Model

4.2. Real-Time Data Acquisition and Analysis

- Data Pipeline Development
- Initial Event Detection

4.3. Machine Learning and Model Integration

- Machine Learning Algorithms
- Coupled Location Model

4.4. Risk Assessment and Prediction

- Geomechanical Risk Assessment
- Maximum Magnitude Prediction

4.5. Ground Motion and Impact Analysis

- Nuisance and Fragility Functions
- Real-Time Hazard Analysis

4.6. Technology Testing and Validation

We are now working on Sections 4.4 and 4.5, which support the identification of seismic hazard risks to inform management and mitigation strategies.

6. Technical Accomplishments

The project has advanced microseismic monitoring for EGS by implementing a fully automated, ML-based workflow integrating PhaseNet (phase picking), GaMMA (phase association), and ADLoc (event location refinement). These tools were applied across diverse seismic arrays (DAS, geophones, surface stations), with demonstrated robustness in noisy and complex environments.

The table below lists our current technical progress status:

	Task / Sub Task	Aug. 2025 status
Task 1 –	Site Characterization	
Sub Task 1.1 –	FORGE site Seismo-geomechanical state	Completed
Sub Task 1.2 –	Adjacent area properties (population, ground motion, etc.)	Completed
Task 2 –	Developing a compliance technology	
Sub Task 2.1 –	Studying the output in real-time stimulation and potential data pipeline paths	Completed
Sub Task 2.2 –	Assembling the server at the FORGE site	Completed
Sub Task 2.3 –	Data acquisitions pilot (upon performance)	Completed
Task 3 –	Physical models	
Sub Task 3.1 –	Risk assessment geomechanical model	Completed
Sub Task 3.2.1 –	DAS catalogue	Completed
Sub Task 3.2.2 –	Seismic array catalogue	Completed
Sub Task 3.2.3 –	Coupled catalogues	Completed
Sub Task 3.3 –	Real-time red-light SHUT-IN tool for detecting runaway rupture behavior	Tested, waiting for reprocessing results
Task 4 –	Hazard prediction	
Sub Task 4.1 –	Multi-models maximum magnitude prediction	Completed
Sub Task 4.2 –	Ground Motions prediction	Model validation and upgrade
Sub Task 4.3 –	Nuisance Function	Model validation and upgrade
Sub Task 4.4 –	Fragility Function	Model validation and upgrade
Sub Task 4.5 –	Risk of Nuisance/Damage Impact	Model validation and upgrade
Sub Task 4.6 –	Full modules assembly	Waiting for the code upgrade
Task 5 –	Technology testing and evaluation	
Sub Task 5.1 –	Models' validation with the FORGE stimulation database	Waiting for codes upgrade
Sub Task 5.2 –	Real-time simulation demo with the FORGE stimulation database	Waiting for codes upgrade
Sub Task 5.3 –	Running the tool during Real-time simulation	Aligns with the FORGE project progress

7. Challenges to Date

- In the initial timeline we planned to work on this quarter on the 2024 stimulation data. Once the data is released, we conducted our analysis and met the original timeline.

8. Conclusion and Plans for the Future

We are continuing our model development. Action items for the near future include:

- Developing a model for detecting runaway rupture behavior
- Hazard assessing modeling.

9. Geothermal Data Repository

Dvory, N., Lellouch, A., Wygodny, U., Shimony, E., Zhu, W., Song, J., & Zhang, X. (2025). Source Imaging DAS-Based Seismic Event Catalogue ? April 2024 FORGE Stimulation. [Data set]. Geothermal Data Repository. The University Of Utah. <https://gdr.openet.org/submissions/1765>

10. Publications and Presentations, Intellectual Property (IP), Licenses, etc.

Deep Neural Network-Based Workflow for Accurate Seismic Catalog Generation from Low Resolution Seismic Data in Enhanced Geothermal System Operations

X Zhang, W Zhu, RO Salvage, NZ Dvory
PROCEEDINGS, 50th Workshop on Geothermal Reservoir Engineering

Estimating Fault Slip Potential with CNN-Based Deep Learning: Integrating Mohr-Coulomb and Non-Linear Failure Criteria for Advanced Seismic Risk Assessment

XM Zhang, NZ Dvory
59th U.S. Rock Mechanics/Geomechanics Symposium 408 (ARMA 25–0408)

Workshop 4: Seismic Risk and Reservoir Integrity in Enhanced Geothermal Systems: Mechanisms, Monitoring, and Mitigation

NZ Dvory, University of Utah and N Nakata, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.

Advances in Understanding and Mitigating Induced Seismicity in Geo-Energy Systems

No'am Dvory, University of Utah; Katie Smye, University of Texas at Austin; Yves Guglielmi, University of California Berkeley; Ryan Schultz, ETH Zürich

Integrated Deep Learning and Failure Criterion Approaches for Fault Slip Assessment in Enhanced Geothermal Systems.

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2025 AGU Fall Meeting

Picking-free microseismic event location with downhole DAS and geophones

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2025 AGU Fall Meeting