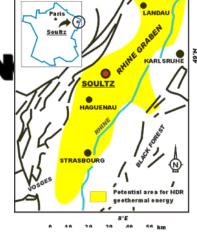
#### content

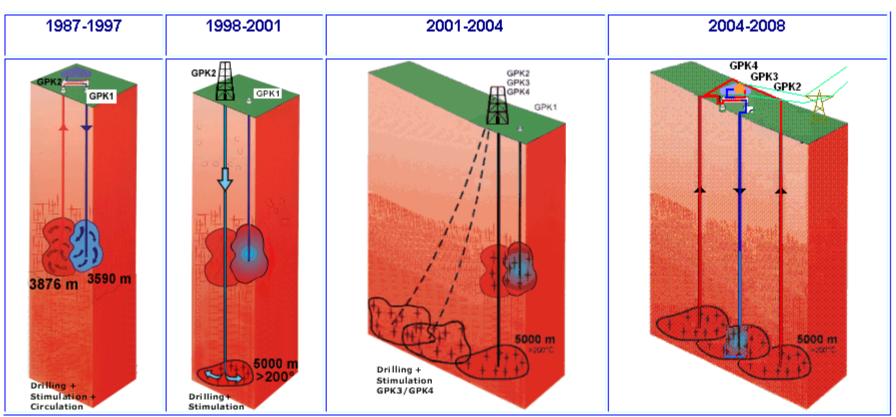
- Solicited events
- Best practices before Basel
- Unsolicited events
- •GEISER
- Future directions



# **Enhanced Geothermal Systems**

- •EU research project > 20 years
- •3 wells > 5 Km deep
- Comprehensive Fracturing programe
- •3MW<sub>el</sub> Power via ORC plant





(www.soultz.net)

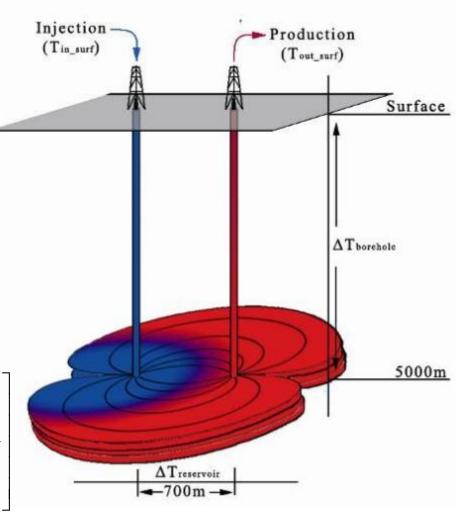


#### Subsurface Heat exchanger relies on fracture

**Streamline approach** for fracture flow (Pruess and Bodvarsson, 1983; Heidinger et al., 2006)

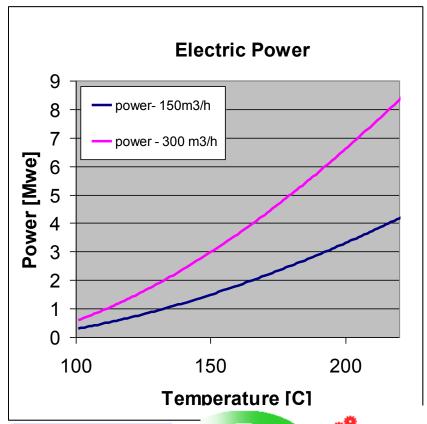
> Area of fractures (A) and flow rate (Q) and Number of fractures (N) primarily relate to the sustainibility in time of the high temperatures.

$$T_{out\_res} = T_G - (T_G - T_{in\_res})erfc \boxed{ \frac{\sqrt{c_G \lambda_G \rho_G}}{c_F} \left( \frac{Narea_{Seg}}{(Q_{seg})} \right)}{\sqrt{t - tdel}} }$$



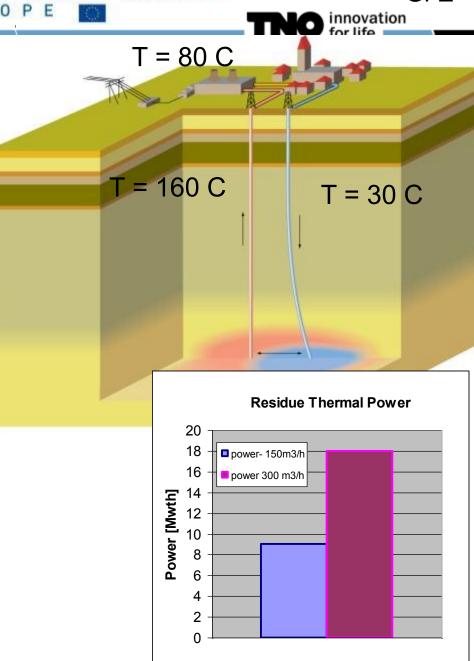
**BRGM** 

# Electricity Production (T, flowrate, depth)



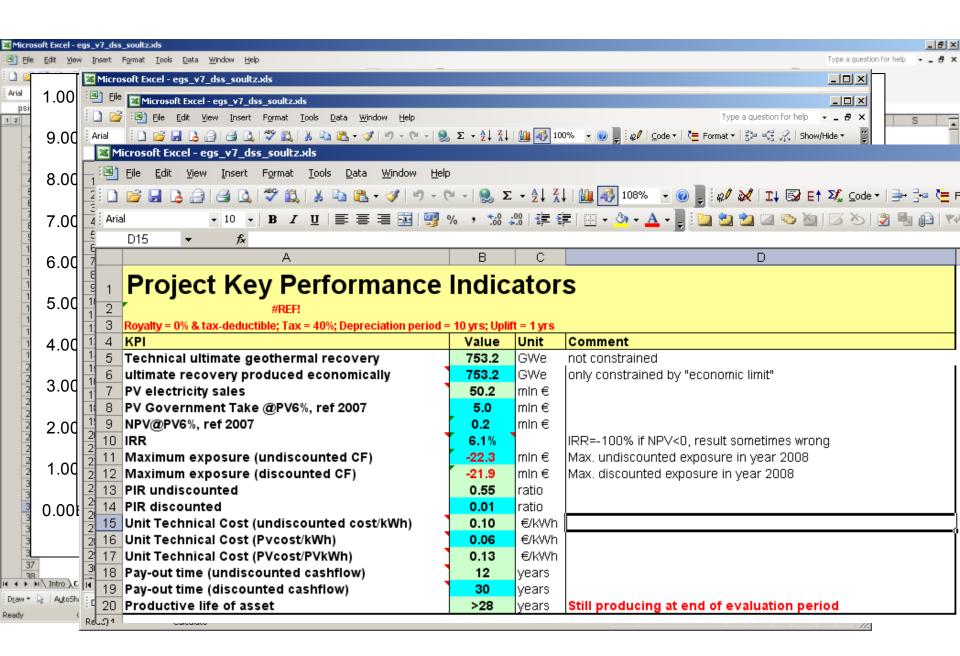






#### FAST ANALYTICAL MODEL for EGS, EXCEL

http://engine.brgm.fr/DecisionSupportSystem.asp

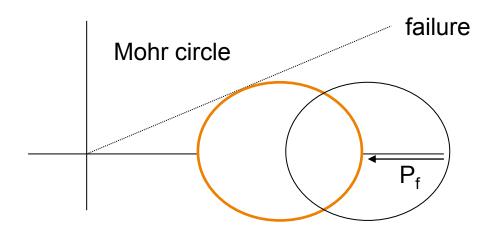


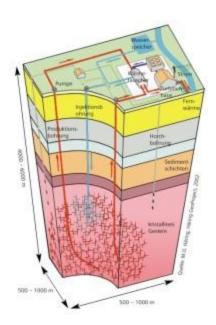




# Mechanisms of induced seismicity in EGS

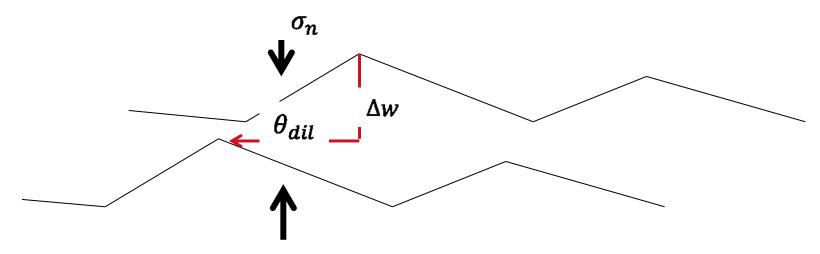
- Mechanisms of shear failure (Majer et al., 2007)
  - ▶ Pore pressure ↑ Effective normal stress ↓
  - ➤ Temperature ↓ → contraction → reduction of static friction
  - Injected volume → stress perturbation
  - Chemical reaction may reduce coefficient of friction





# Sollicited Induced seismicity

EGS operations relies on generating permeability through shear fractures.



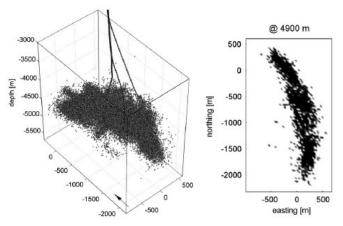
Through massive fluid injection typically 50l/s over various days



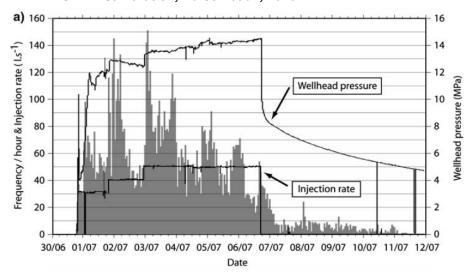
Basel injection rate



# Seismicity in EGS reservoirs – related to shear faulting



GPK 2 stimulation, Baisch et al., 2010

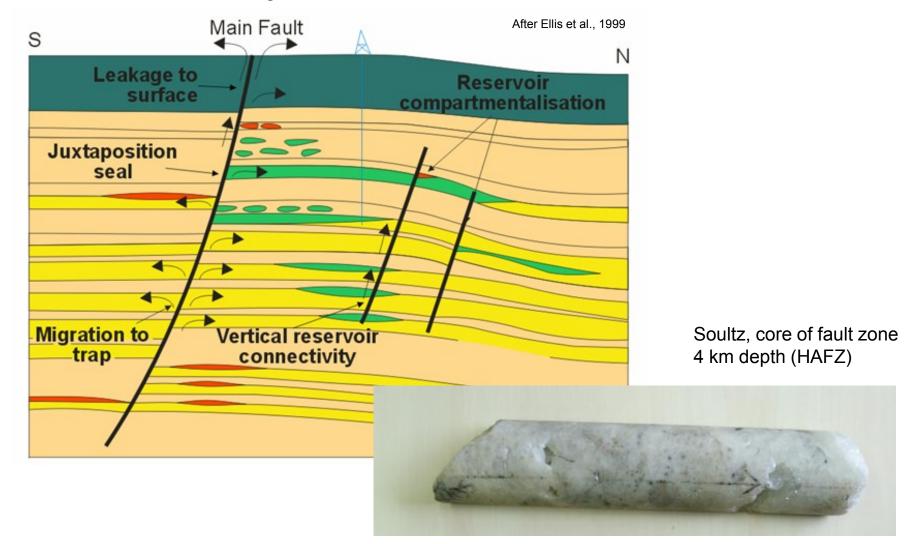


GPK 2 ,Cuenot et al., 2008

- Starts immediately after injection
- Cloud reaches ~100 m in a few days
- Pre-existing tectonic features large influence (alignment of seismic cloud)
- > 100's -100,000's of events
- > 90% M<sub>L</sub><1 ...
- ... but a few 'large' events
  - > Soultz: M 2.9, Basel M 3.4
- Seismic activity dependent on injection
- After injection stops, seismicity decays gradually
- Flow rates in the order of 20l/s

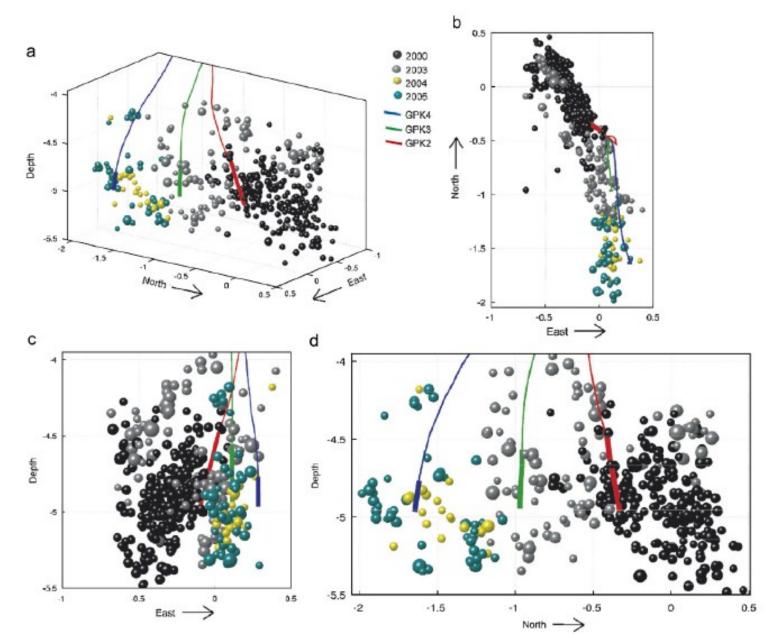


#### Active faults allow hydro-thermal conduit zones

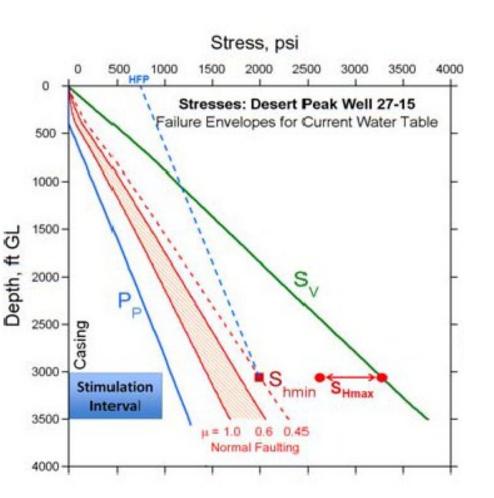


**GFZ** 

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#### Stress characterization (minifrac or Leak off pressure)



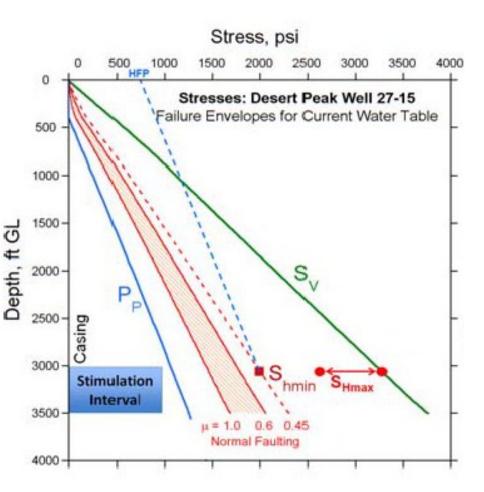
Extensional setting

Sv = effective burial stress

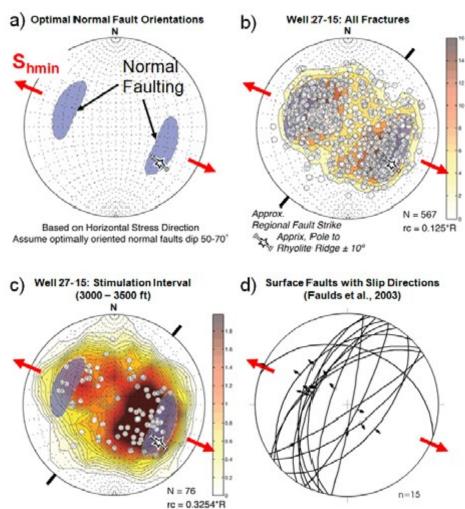
Figure 3: Magnitude of the least horizontal principal stress, S<sub>himn</sub>, from the minifrac in well 27-15. The vertical stress, S<sub>V</sub>, and formation fluid pressure, P<sub>p</sub>, were calculated as described in the text. The dashed lines indicate the range of S<sub>himn</sub> at which frictional failure would be expected on optimally oriented normal faults for coefficients of friction, μ, ranging from 0.6 to 1.0. The dashed blue line is the borehole pressure (at ambient formation temperatures and fluid densities) at which a hydraulic fracture should start to propagate at the top of the planned EGS stimulation interval, corresponding to a wellhead hydrofrac pressure (HFP) of ~750 psi.



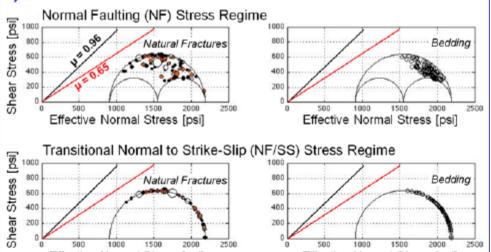
### Stress characterization (minifrac)



#### fracture characterization (outcrop, fmi)

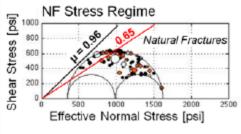


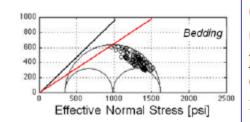
#### a) Current Water Table



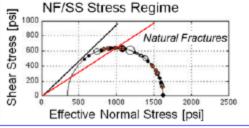
#### c) Wellhead Pressure 400 psi

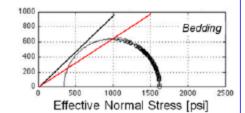
Effective Normal Stress [psi]





Effective Normal Stress [psi]



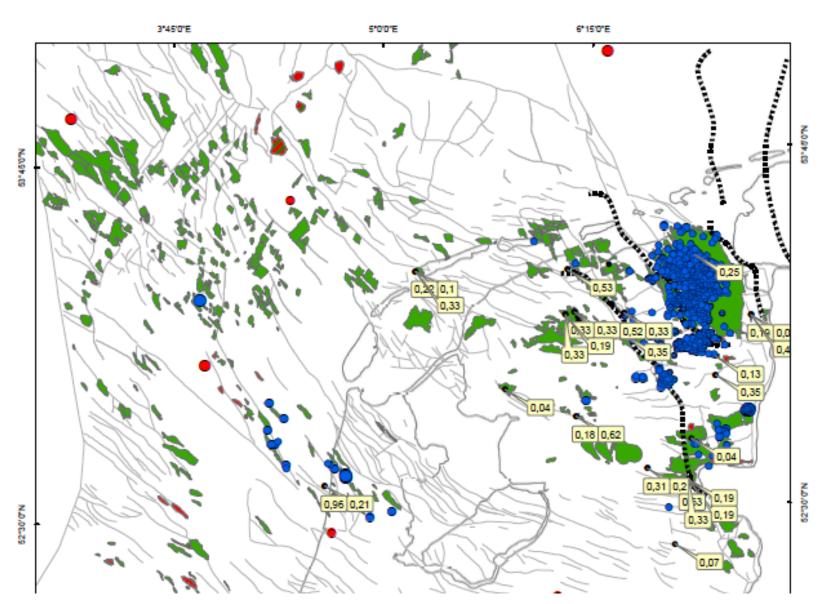


At current fluid pressures, analysis of the propensity for frictional failure shows that both natural fractures and bedding/foliation should be frictionally stable within the planned stimulation interval, for either a NF or NF/SS stress regime (Figure 5a). This agrees with the previous observation that differential stress (S<sub>V</sub> - S<sub>hmin</sub>) at this location is too low to result in pervasive frictional failure on optimally oriented normal faults for typical laboratory friction values (Figure 3). However, as the ambient water level in well 27-15 is raised and wellhead pressures increased from 200 to 400 and finally to 600 psi, this analysis shows that more and more fractures within the stimulation interval fall within the frictional failure envelope bounded by the lines for  $\mu$ = 0.65 and 0.96 (Figures 5 b, c and d). By the time a wellhead pressure of 600 psi is reached, a significant number of the natural fractures within the stimulation interval fall within or beyond this failure envelope (Figure 5d), suggesting widespread frictional failure. By plotting the ratio of shear to effective normal stress on fractures as a function of depth for a wellhead pressure of 600 psi, it can be seen that the greatest density of fractures with a high tendency for slip (especially large-aperture fractures) exists within the siliceous rhyolites above about 3300 ft GL (Figure 6).



GFZ

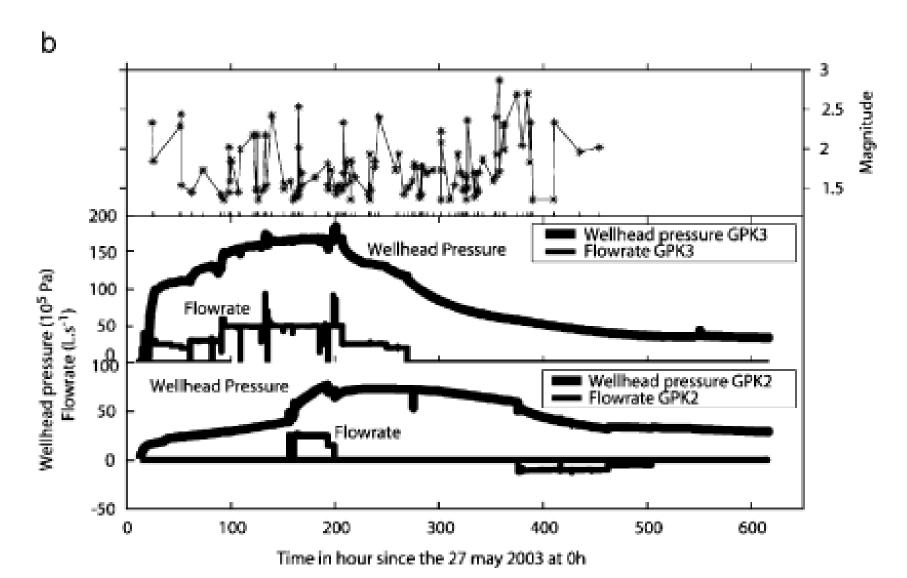






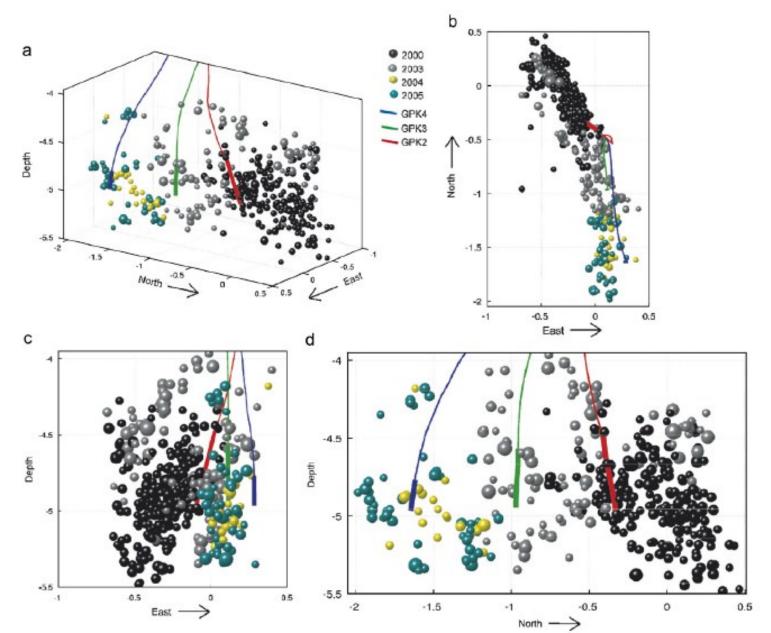
**GFZ** 

# Soultz – maximum Magnitude 2.9 in GPK3 stimulation



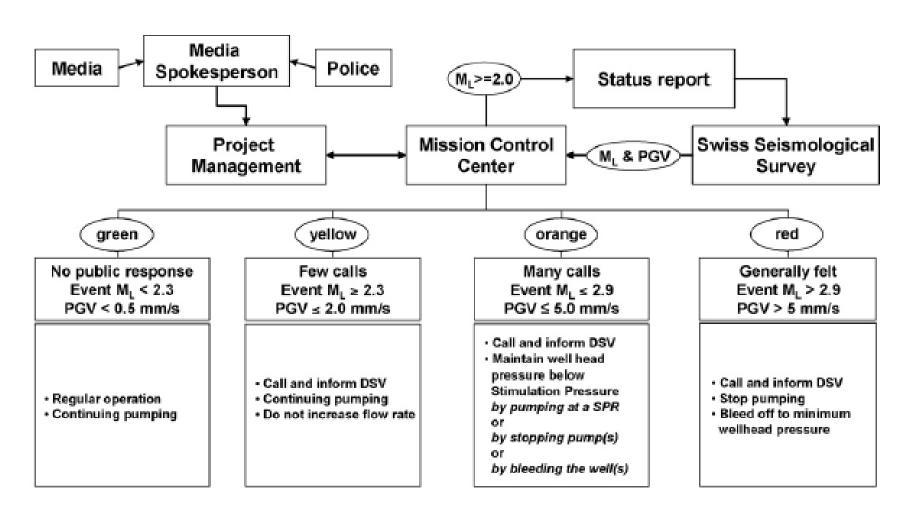
3FZ

nnovation for life





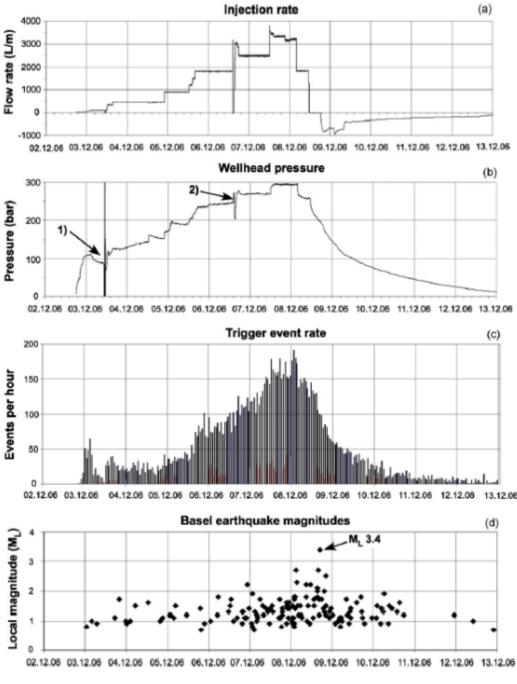
# (Static) Traffic light system basel





## **BASEL**

- Very similar as Soultz
- However M<sub>L</sub>>2.9 so shut-in
- After shut-in M<sub>L</sub>=3.4 occured



Haering et al., 2008

## This posed a major problem.....

- Over 6 mln damage claims
- Project developer had promised M<sub>L</sub><3</li>
- Largest historic EQ north of the alps (estimated M=7) occurred close to Basel in 1356 and destroyed the city

#### guardian.co.uk

News | Sport | Comment | Culture | Business | Money | Life & style | Tr

News > World news > Switzerland

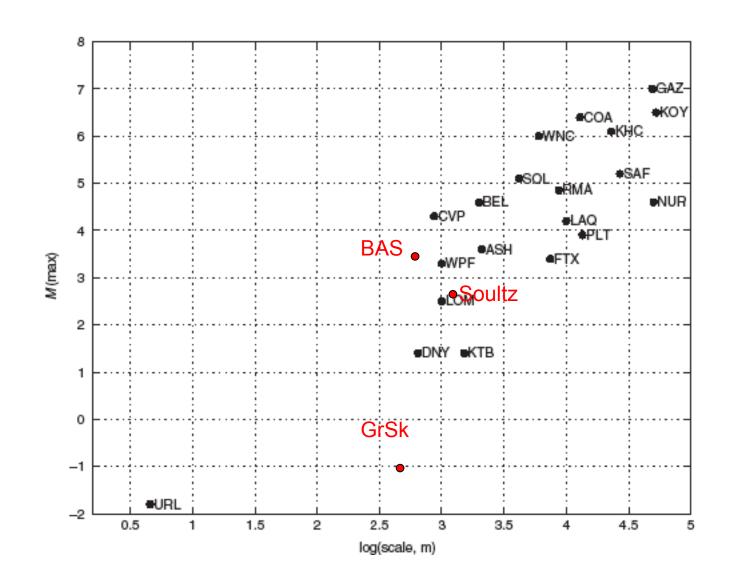
Swiss geothermal power plan abandoned after quakes hit Basel

Designer of 'hot rocks' scheme under city on a fault line could face jail over damage to property



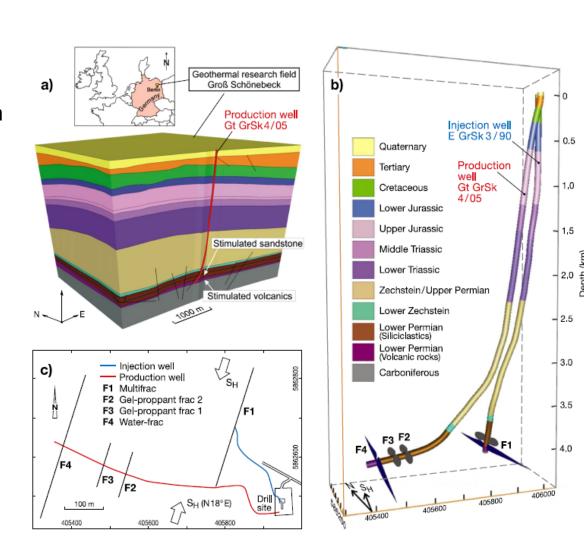


#### Can we make more reliable EGS?

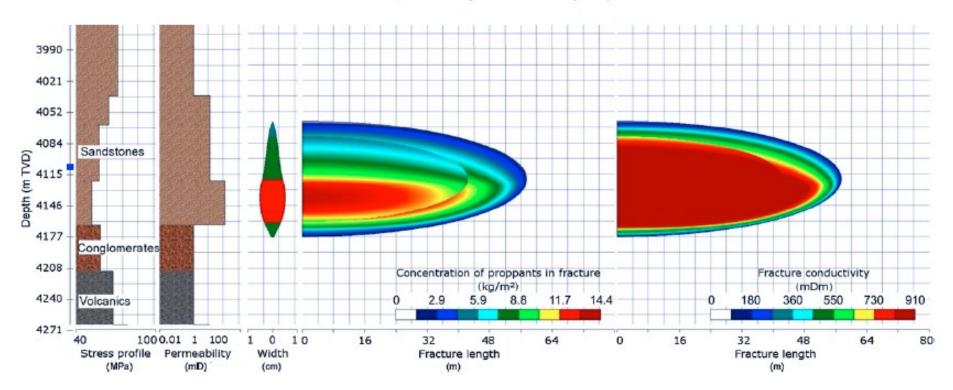


The stress magnitudes in the Dethlingen sandstone at 4.1 km depth were determined to be  $S_V$ =78 - 100 MPa from density logs,  $S_H$ =98 MPa (at N18E) estimated from transitional form of stress regime from normal faulting to strike slip faulting, and  $S_h$ =55 MPa from leak-off tests in both wells. In the volcanic section, mainly the minimal principal horizontal stress is different and is equal to  $S_h$ =72 MPa.

During stimulation, the strongest microearthquakes (with  $M_w \le -1$ ) occurred on a pre-existing fault, which theoretically was relatively critically stressed. The strike and dip of this fracture plane are  $17^{\circ} \pm 10^{\circ}$  and  $52^{\circ} \pm 10^{\circ}$  SE respectively.



#### G. Zimmermann, A. Reinicke / Geothermics 39 (2010) 70-77





# Geothermal Engineering Integrating Mitigation of Induced SEismicity in Reservoirs

# The European GEISER project

David Bruhn (GFZ Potsdam)

Ernst Huenges (GFZ), Kristjan Agustsson (ISOR), Arno Zang (GFZ), Xavier Rachez (BRGM), Stefan Wiemer (ETH), Jan Diederik van Wees (TNO) & Philippe Calcagno (BRGM)

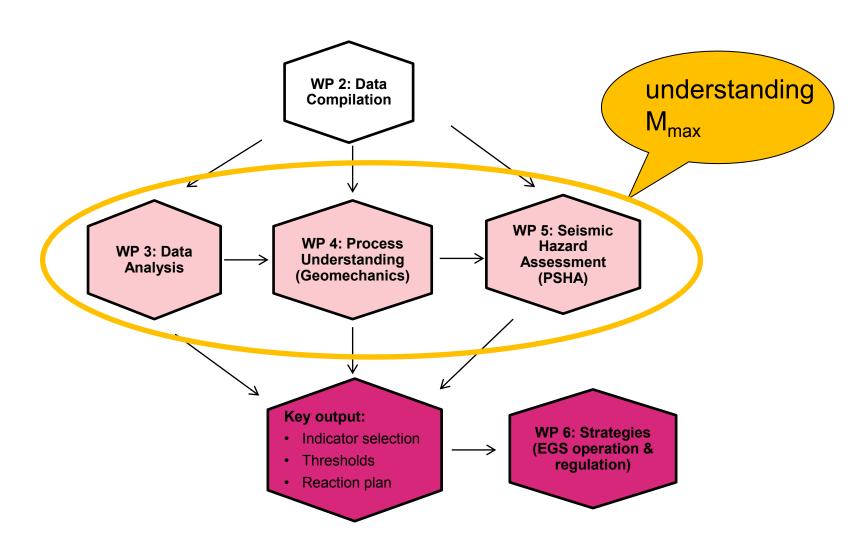






# **GEISER Project**

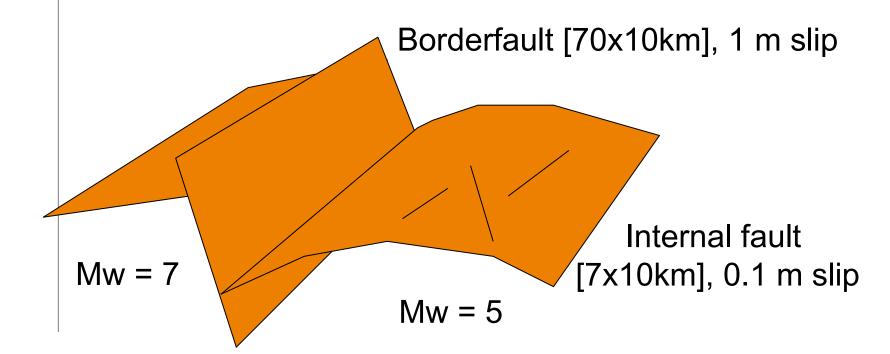
Workflow: Understanding Induced Seismicity





What is the relation with magnitude and surface slip

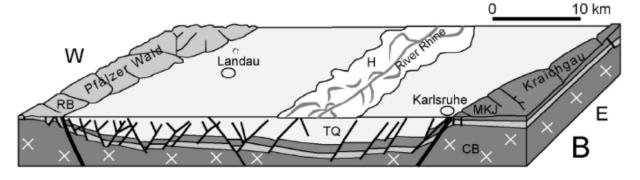
Hanks and Kanimori (1979)  $M_w = 0.67 \log(M0) -10.7$ 





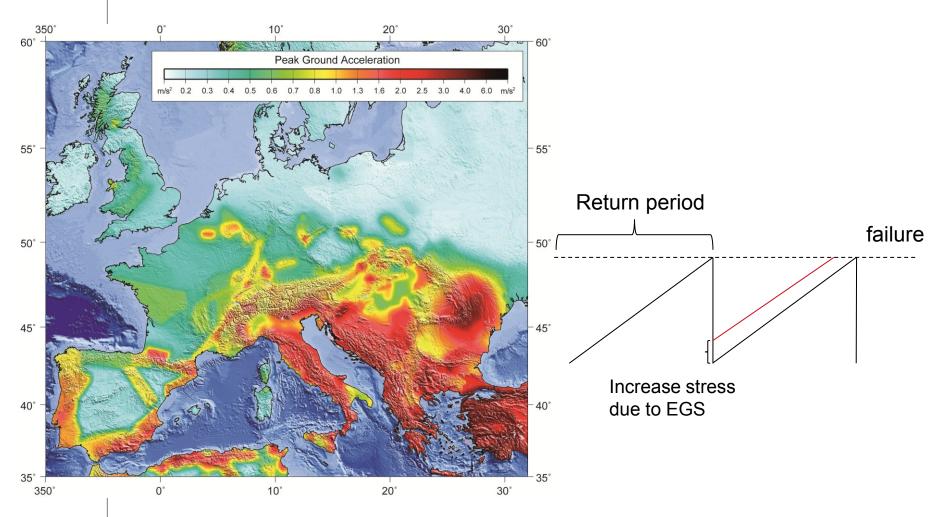
M=7, 70x10 km fault, 1m displacement
M=6, 30x5 km fault, 0.4m displacement
M=5, 15x5 km fault, 0.15m displacement

Big earth quakes Located at Mapped Major faults



→ stay away from seismically active faults

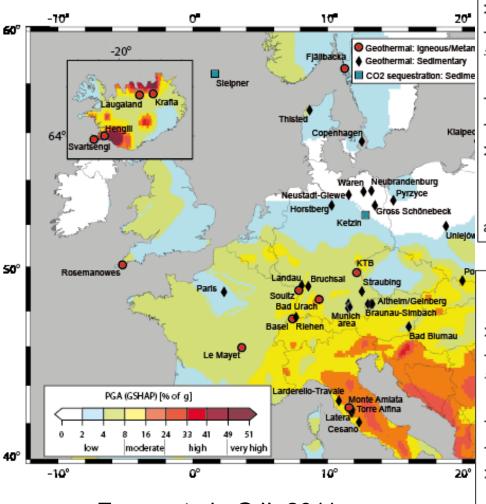




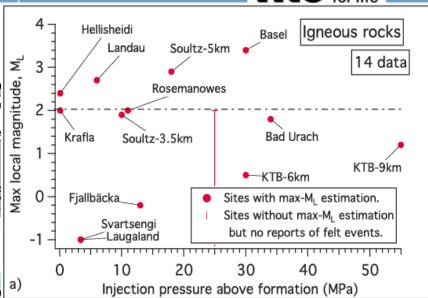
Seismic Hazard Map of Europe as part of the Global Seismic Hazard Map (Giardini et al., 2003; Grünthal et al., 1999). The map depicts the seismic hazard as Peak Ground Acceleration (PGA, ms<sup>-2</sup>) with 10% probability of exceedence (or a 90% chance of non-exceedance) in 50 years, corresponding to a return period of 475 years (source GFZ, oliver Heidbach)

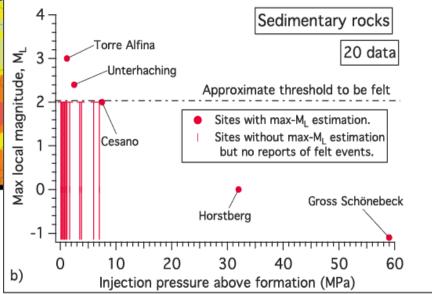
innovation for life

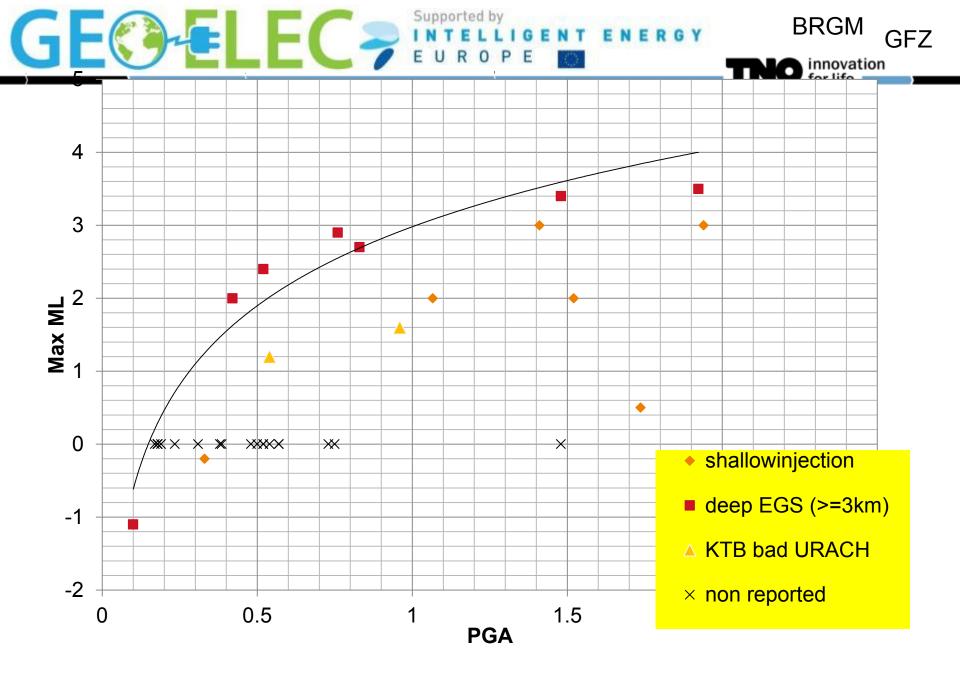
# Data analysis



Evans et al., GJI, 2011

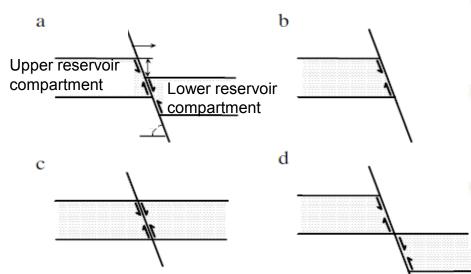


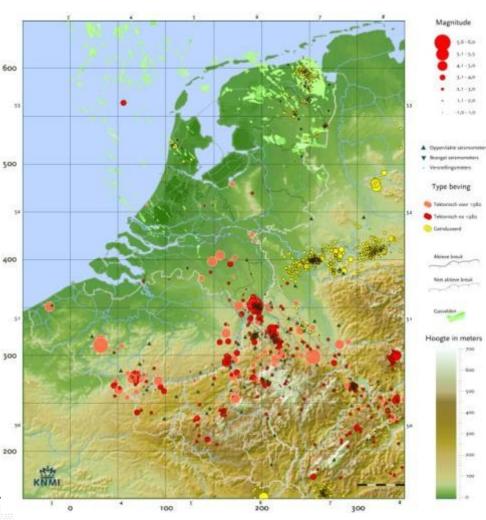




# Induced seismicity in the Netherlands

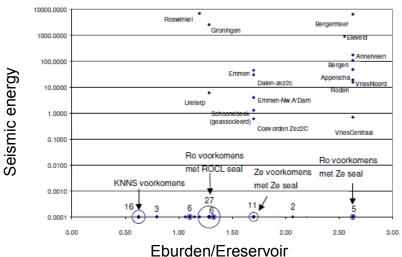
- In the north of the Netherlands
- From 1986
- 748 recorded induced events (up to 09-2011)
- (recorded) MI=-0.75 to MI=3.5
- associated with gas depletion: differential compaction: different from EGS

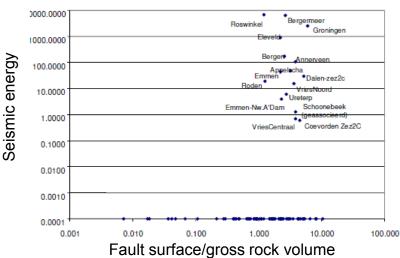






# Deterministic seismic hazard: 'traffic light model'





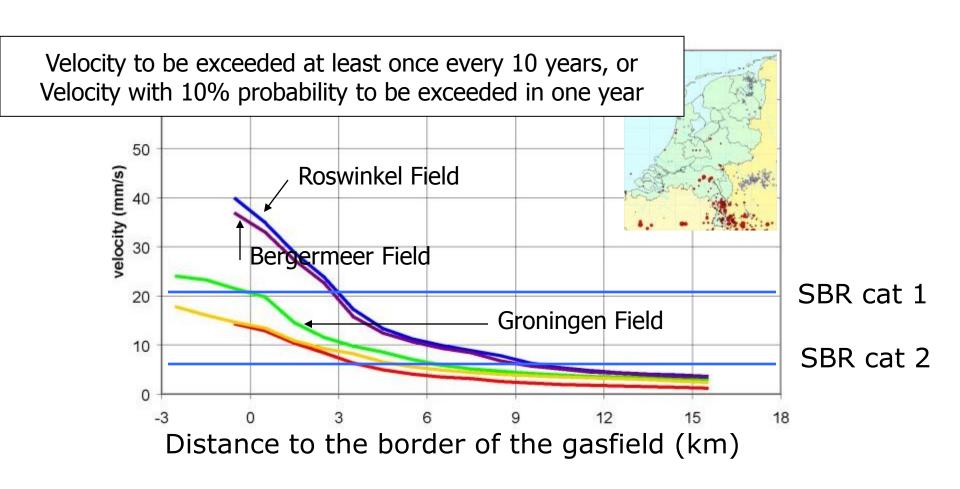
Van Eijs et al., 2004

Reservoirs with associated seismicity P=1 (16)	
DP>72 (81)	B>0,98 and E>1,34: Ph=0,52+/-0,10 (12)
	B>0,98 en 0,93< E < 1,34: PI=0,10 +/-0,05
	B<0,98 and/or E<0,93 P=0 (33)
DP<72 (27)	P=0 (27)

- ➤ Update in progress (2011)
  - 11 new fields with associated seismicity
  - no events in P=0 category
  - 7 in Pl, 4 in Ph
- ➤ Note: different use of traffic light, p≠0 assessment in production plan needed
- ➤ Link WP 5.1

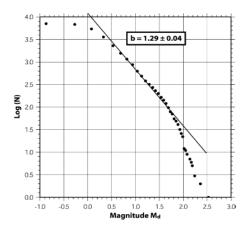


# Probabilistic seismic hazard: peak ground velocity probability of exceedance



# Desciptive models used in seismology

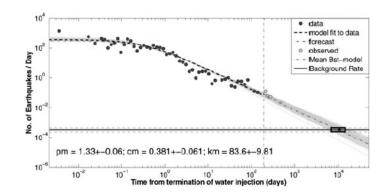
#### **Gutenberg-Richter law**



 $\log N(m_i > m) = a - bm$ 

b-value indicates the ratio of small to large events, a is a measure of the productivity

#### Omori-Utsu law (for aftershocks)



$$\lambda(t, M_c) = \frac{k(M_c)}{(t+c)^p}$$

t time since mainshock, c & p empirical parameters,  $k(M_c)$  function of number of events with  $M>M_c$ 

Both laws observed in EGS. They are used in statistical analysis





# The Epidemic Type Aftershock Sequence (ETAS)

- > Each event triggers its own child-events (Ogata, 1988).
- Aftershock rate of an event → Omori-Utsu
- > Number of aftershock related to M mainshock
- > Aftershock distribution Gutenberg-Richter
- -Background seismicity λ0 + sum of rate of aftershock λi of an event with magnitude Mi at time t>ti (self-exciting point process)
- -c and p parameters from the Omori-Utsu law
- -K and α describe productivity of the sequence
- -Mmin magnitude of completeness or cutoff magnitude

$$\lambda(t) = \lambda_0 + \sum_{i:t < t_i} \lambda_i(t)$$

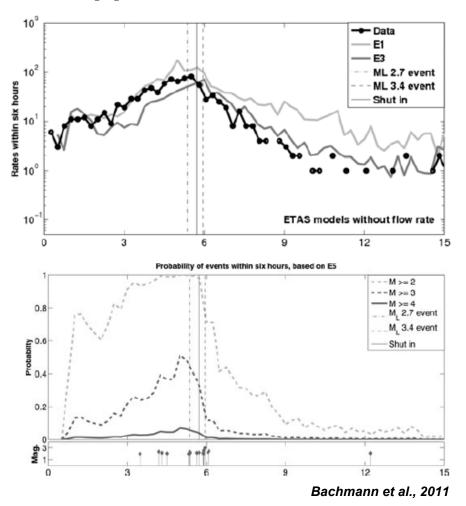
$$\lambda_i(t) = \frac{K}{(c+t-t_i)^p} 10^{\alpha(M_i - M_{\min})}$$

All parameters can be found by data fitting (maximum likelihood)





# **Application ETAS to EGS**



- observed seismicity rates
  in the December 2006
  injection experiment in
  Basel (pseudo-prospective)
- Each 6 hrs parameters are updated to give 'real-time' forecast for the next 6 hr
- Seismicity rate of M<sub>w</sub> = 0.9-3.5 is modeled





## Statistical models: alternative to physics-based?

Bachmann et al. (2011)

- Well understood and well tested
- Catalogue input data available near real-time
- Relatively simple model to explain complex physical phenomenon
- ➤ Output seismicity rate → hazard estimates
- But no physical basis

innovation





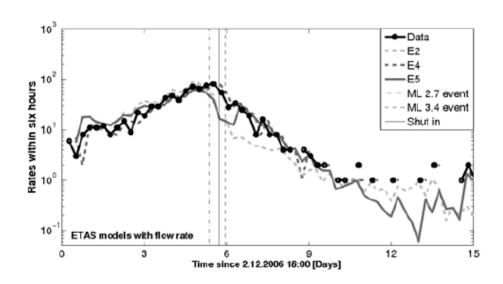
## Integrated models: Including injection rate in ETAS

Bachmann et al. (2011)

$$\lambda(t) = \lambda_0 + \sum_{i:t < t_i} \lambda_i(t)$$

$$\lambda_i(t) = \frac{K}{(c+t-t_i)^p} 10^{\alpha(M_i - M_{\min})}$$

$$\lambda_0(t) = \mu + c_f F_r(t)$$



Bachmann et al., 2011

#### Background is modified to include injection rate

Better fit than models without injection rate

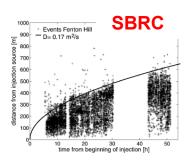


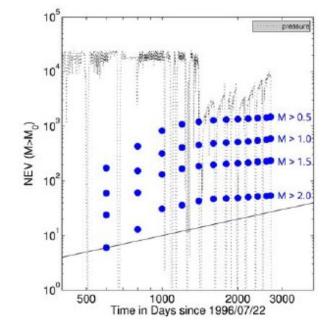


Shapiro et al. (2007)

#### Seismicity dependent on injection rate

- Authors try to incorporate injection properties in probability calculations via the SBRC model
- Pre-existing fracture network assumed
- Each fracture has a criticality C (pore pressure change required for failure)
- Failure if C(r)≤ p(t, r)
- a simple probability density distribution for C is assumed...





Shapiro et al., 2007

#### Predicted number of events

..resulting in number of events:

$$N_{ev}(t) = \frac{q\,\xi t}{C_{\text{max}}}$$

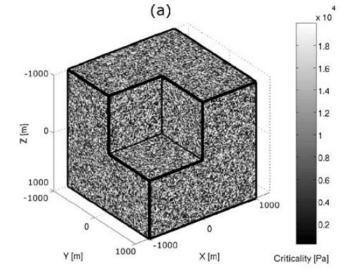
 $q = 4\pi p_0 DR$  ( $p_0$  pressure at the well, D hydraulic diffusivity, radius borehole)

(from solution of p(r,t) in SBRC)

*ξ: volume concentration crack* 

t: time since injection

*C<sub>max</sub>: maximum criticality* 



Example distribution criticality (Rothert & Shapiro, 2007)

Number of events dependent on injection pressure, well radius, D and  $Cmax/\xi$  (defined as  $F_t$ , tectonic potential)

GR law → Probability

$$\log N_{>M}(t) = \log[4\pi p_0 RtD/F_t] - bM + a$$

#### Seismogenic index

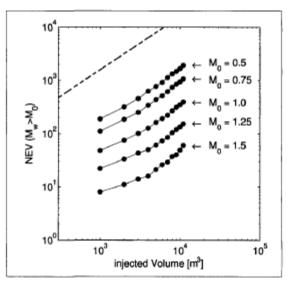
Shapiro et al. (2010) number of events proportional to injection volume Probability Shapiro et al. (2007) is rewritten as

$$\log N_M(t) = \log Qc(t) - bM + a - \log(F_t S)$$

- Qc(t) cumulative injected volume
- > S: poroelastic storage coefficient
- Ft concentration pre-existing cracks

#### Seismogenix index:

$$\Sigma = a - \log(F_t S)$$



Shapiro et al., 2010

independent of injection parameters, **indicative of tectonic state at a specific site** (larger  $\Sigma$  = larger probability of significant magnitude events)

#### Probability of large events at Basel

▶ Basel → high seismogenic index

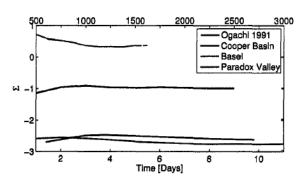
Poisson distribution → probability event with magnitude >M in time interval (0,t):

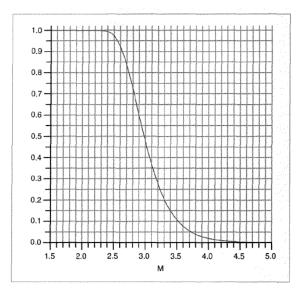
$$P(0, M, t) = \exp(-N_M(t))$$
$$= \exp(-Qc(t)10^{\Sigma - bM})$$

eg. for Basel 97% chance on M>2.5 during injection period

Post-injection seismicity?

Earthquake triggering?





Shapiro et al., 2010



#### Stress changes to seismicity rates

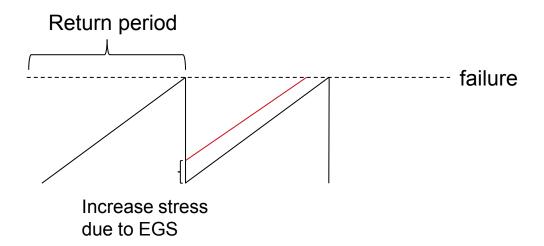
- Coulomb stress change, changes in normal stress, shear stress and pore fluid pressure
- Dieterich 1994 Rate-and-state friction based model
- Stress changes can be translated to seismicity rates
- But difficult model, many input parameters uncertain
  - Tectonic stressing rate
  - Background seismicity
  - Constitutive parameters

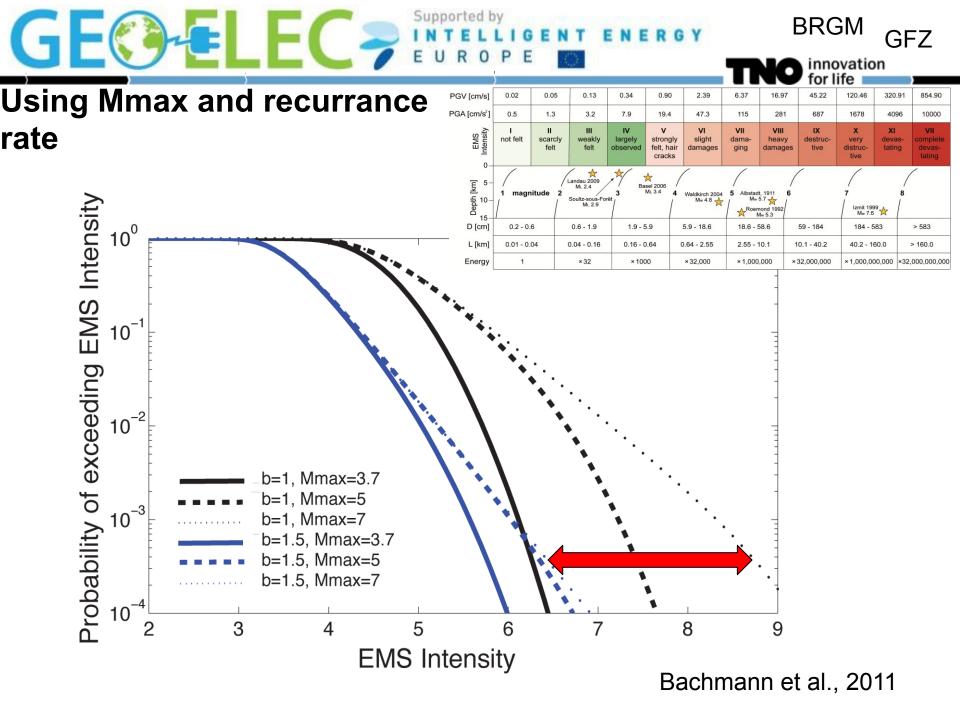




## Maximum magnitude

- > Tectonic events: always large Mmax (MI=6-7) over large return period
- > EGS => decrease in return period large event





## The in-depth physics based view

WHITE PAPER on physical processes and key parameters

#### **Authors**

- T. Kohl, M. Schoenball, E. Gaucher (KIT)
- J-D. van Wees, P. Fokker (TNO)
- A. Zang, O. Heidbach (GFZ)

Title

"Induced seismicity in geothermal reservoirs: physical processes and key parameters"

#### Outline

Context and scientific background

Models related to seismicity observation

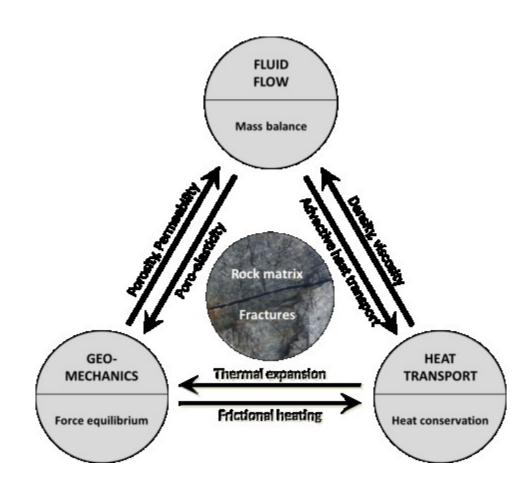
Physics-based models of induced seismicity process (M. Schoenball)

Case studies: Soultz-sous-Forêts & Gross-Schoenebeck

Key parameters and way forward

## Coupled processes

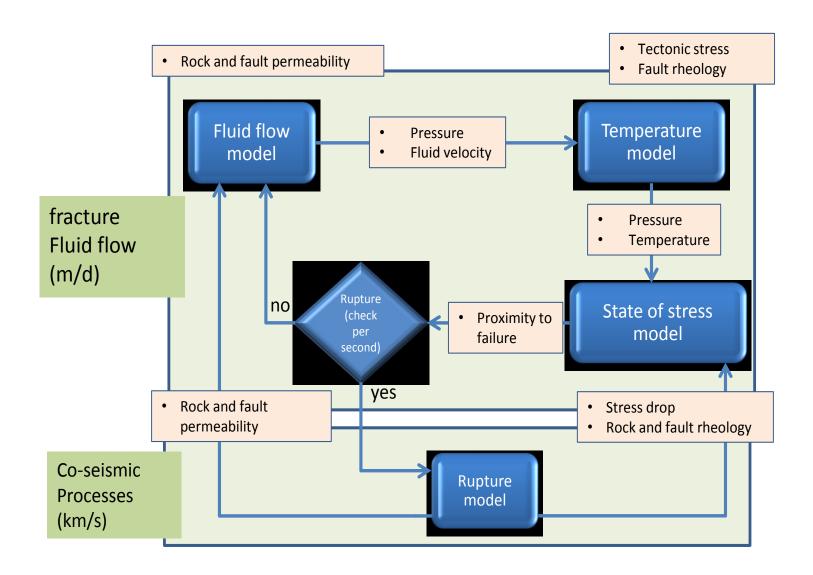
- IS in geothermal reservoirs results from interaction of
- > Fluid flow
- Heat transport
- Geomechanics
- Deterministic models have been developed to answer part of these interactions



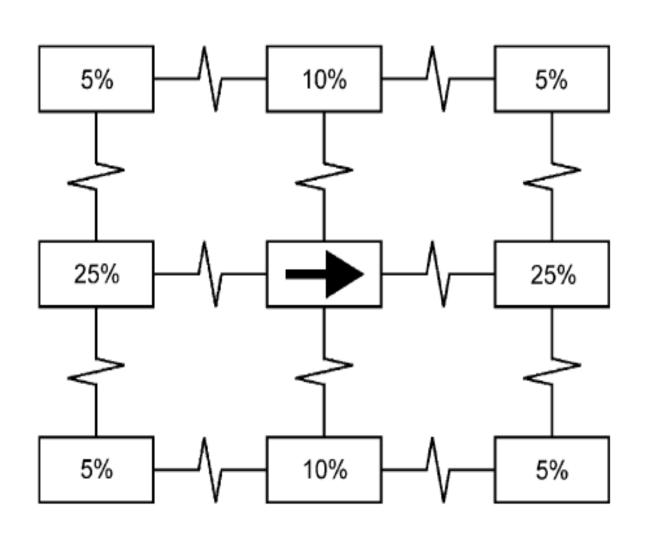




## Physical models



#### Very Simplified Rupture model (Baisch et al., 2010)



### Rupture model

(Baisch et al., 2010)

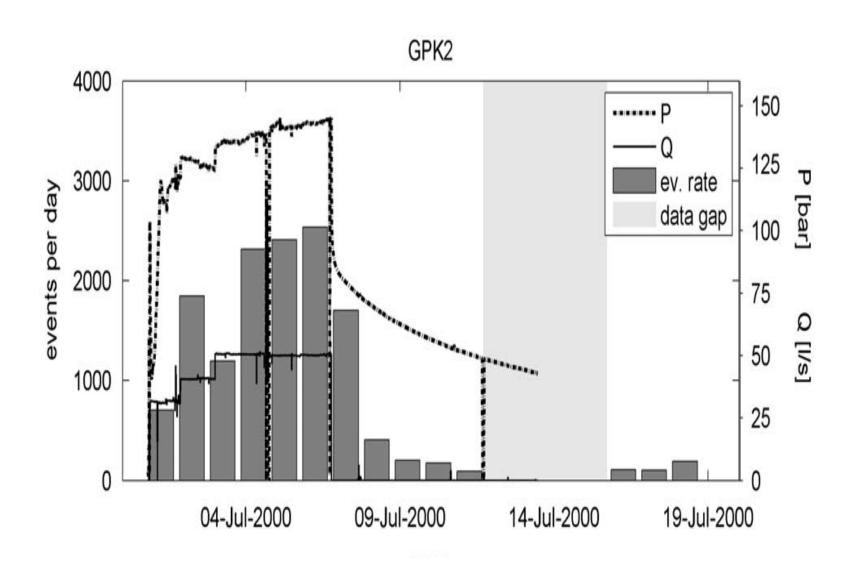
**Stressdrop** transfer to Neighbouring patches

**Stressdrop** can trigger other pathes → avalanche

Stress drop 3-30bar

Stress drop related to shearstrain→ opening of fracture→ 10-20% increase of transmissivity

#### Soultz





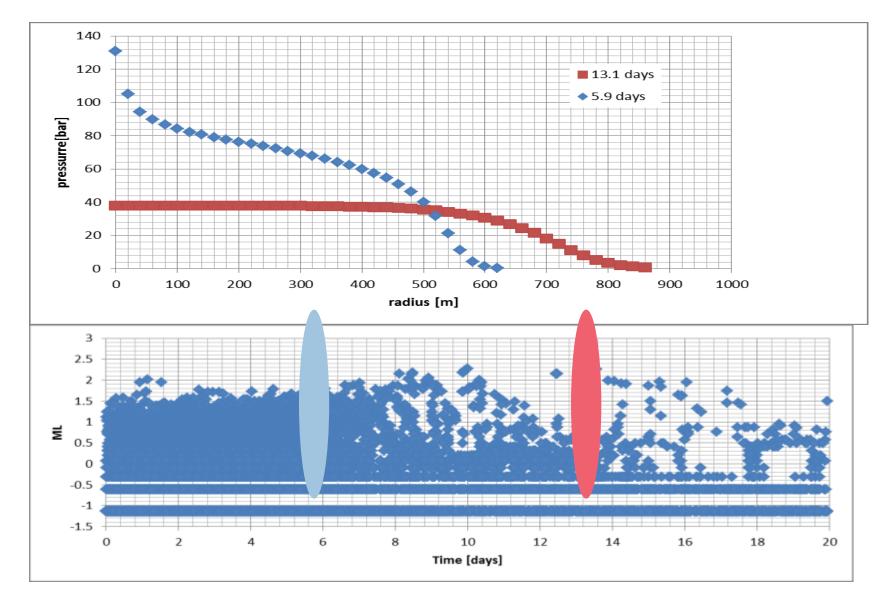


#### parameters

Parameter	Symbol	Value	Units
Initial transmissibility	T	10	mDm
Storage coefficient	S	5e-9	m/Pa
Dyn. viscosity	μ	2.4e-4	Pa s
Width	h	1	mm
Well radius	rw	0.1	m
Stress drop	$\Delta \tau$	1	MPa
Sampling interval	$\Delta t$	1	S





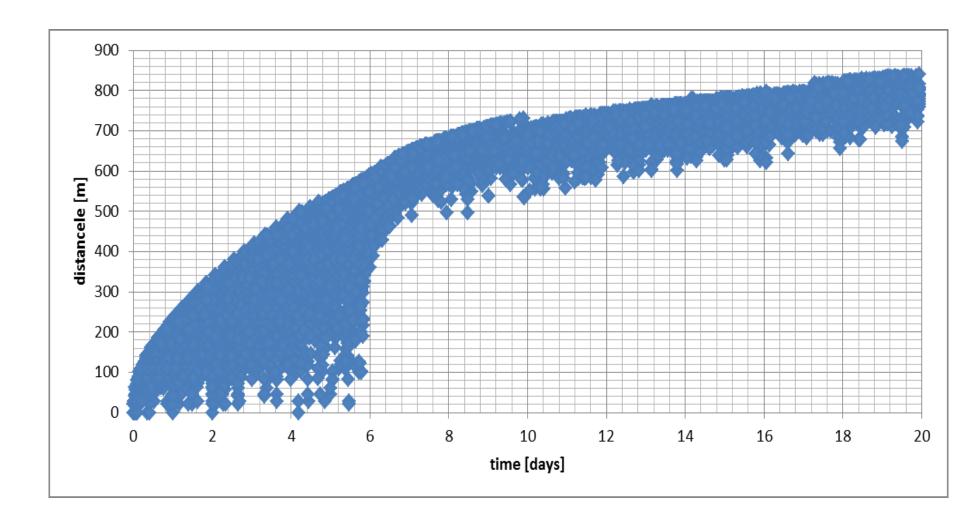








#### Kaiser effect



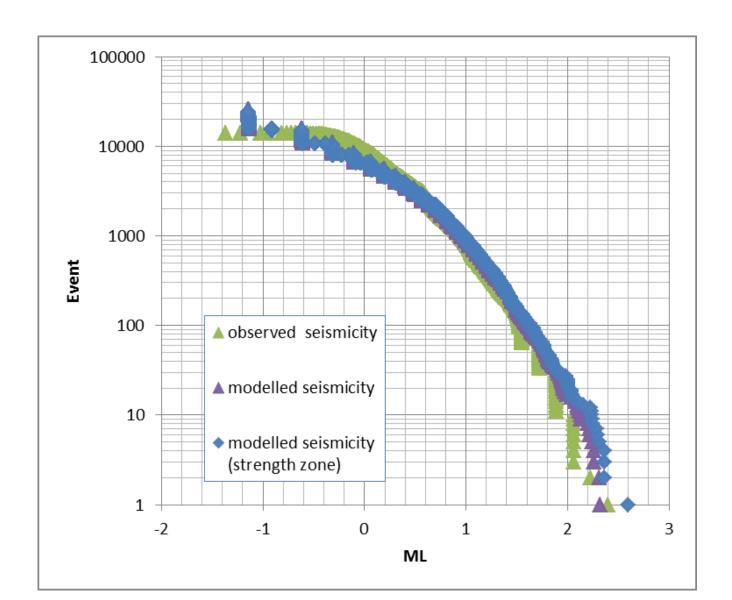


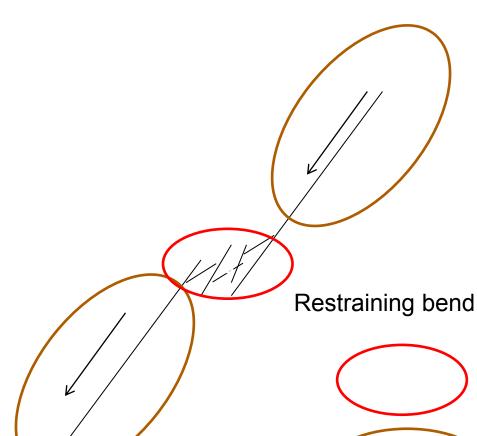


GFZ



## Strength zone with large stress drop- not realistic



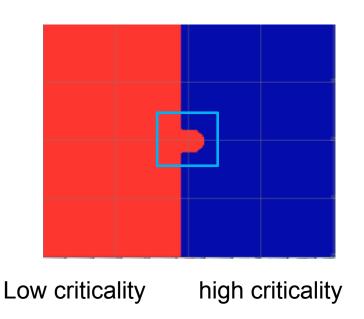


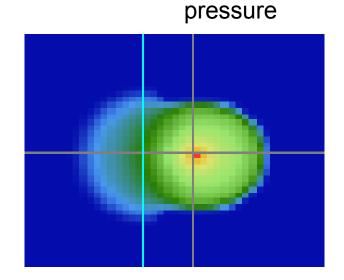
Heterogenity in stress drop (depth dependent) relative to stress criticallity (dependent on natural stress and fault geometry and rheology)

Asperity → high criticality

Low Criticallity (high PGA)

Larger stress drop than proximity to failure (Baisch et al., 2010) model





Stress drop == 1 Mpa

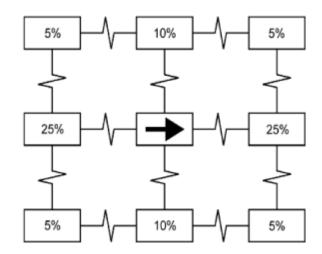
#### Improvements baisch and voros model

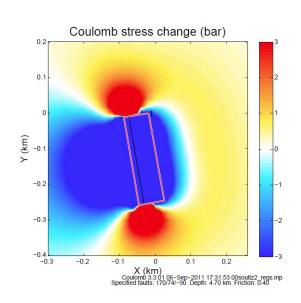
- Limitations:
- Kernel limits stress transfer to next patch only
- Large stress drops cannot be transferred over larger distance
- Strong lateral attenuation



#### Improvements:

- Full stress transfer kernel required
- Adopt okada kernel of BEM
- Instead of stressdrop use static and dynamic friction (rate and state)





## Progress in THM modelling in +/- continuous media

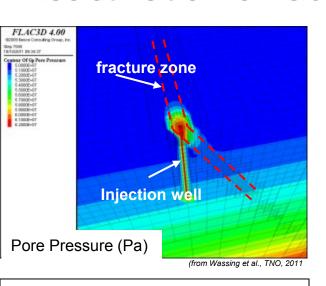
- Coupled modeling of fracture reactivation in EGS reservoir (TNO)
- → Development of a new tool for modelling the coupled response and reactivation of pre-existing fracture (FLAC3D, extended with fracture code [reactivation, no creation])

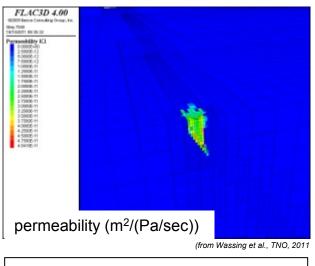
#### Focus on:

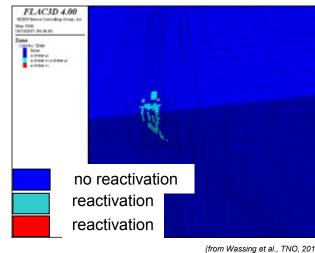
- → reactivation of natural fracture network in low permeability rock
- → role of pore pressures & temperatures in relation to permeability enhancement and seismicity
- Application: Soultz-sous-Forêts



#### Reactivation of fault zone







pore pressures in fracture zone 7.5 hours after start injection

permeability increase in fracture zone 7.5 hours after start injection

reactivated fractures in fracture zone 7.5 hours after start injection

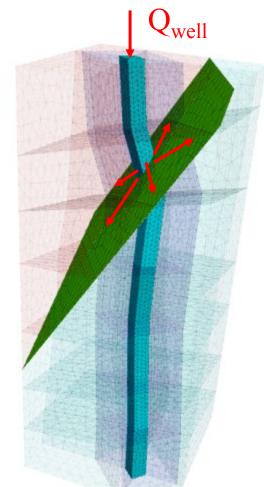
- **Tool** will help investigating the relations between injection rates, permeability enhancement and fracture reactivation potential
- → Work planned: Further code extension for modelling temperature effects



## Progress in (T)HM modelling in fractured media

Study of fault segment 3D network during hydraulic stimulations (BRGM)

- → 3D DEM approach, with a specific (T)HM coupling
  - → Deformable and impermeable blocks
  - → Flow takes place only in fault zones
  - → HM coupling. Permeability increase due to associated dilation effect during sliding and/or due to opening of a fault zone due to stress redistribution
  - → THM coupling. Thermal convection by the fluid within the fractures. Thermal exchanges between the fluid and the rock mass. Ability to account for thermal stresses

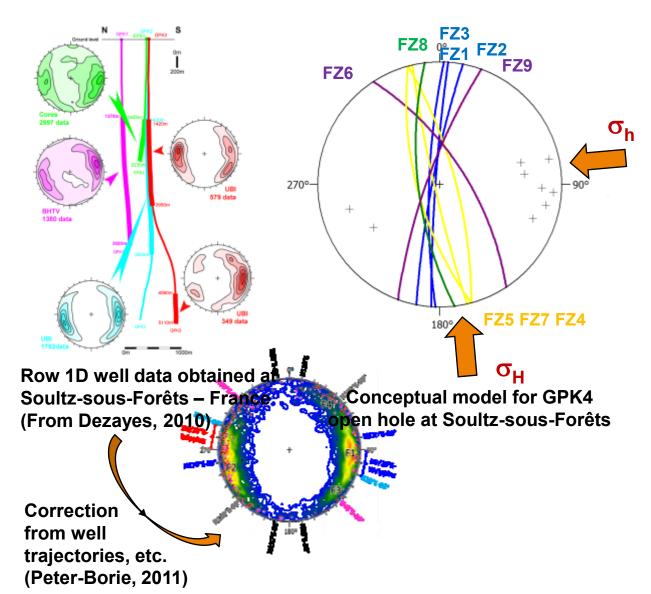


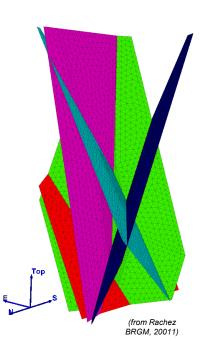


**GFZ** 



## 3D Fracture network geometry ⇔ Modeling

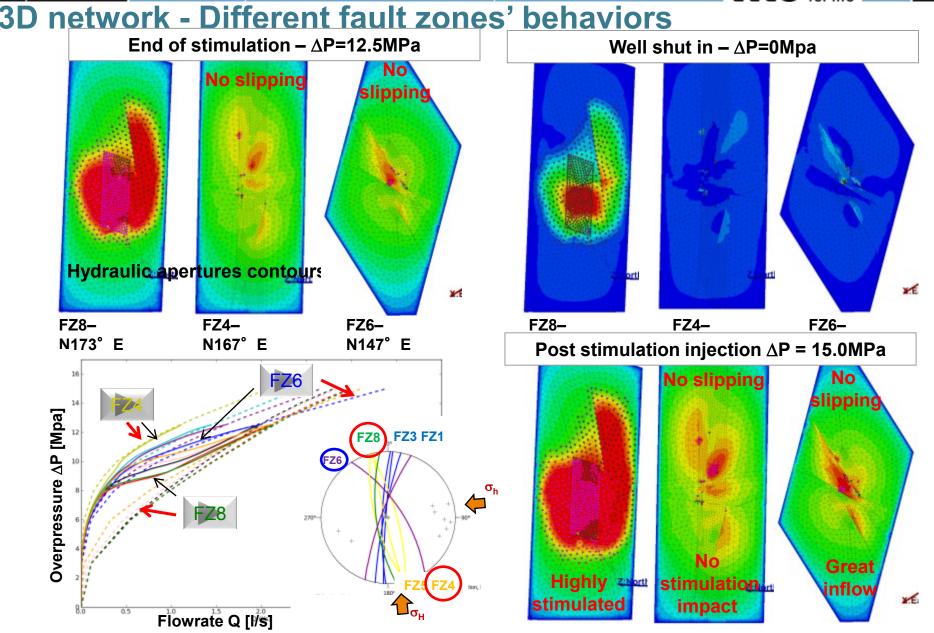




Numerical model (DEM)

**GFZ** 







# Spatial differentiation in Parameters and processes

geology Structure rheology Tectonics
Stress
Earthquakes

Natural Recurrence MMAX

Pressure diffusion

(Rate of) stress Change Induced M

uncertainty



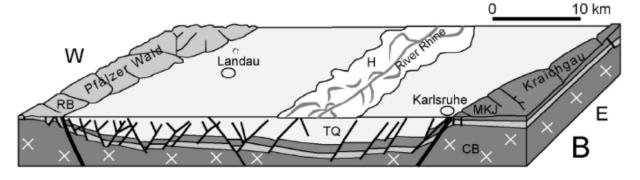


Mmax=7, 70x10 km fault, 1m displacement

Mmax=6, 30x5 km fault, 0.4m displacement

Mmax=5, 15x5 km fault, 0.15m displacemen

Big earth quakes Located at Mapped Major faults



→ stay away from seismically active faults

#### **GEISER**

# т6.5 Provide boundary conditions for regulatory guidelines

(TNO, ETHZ, KNMI, INGV, ISOR)

Regulatory guidelines are needed both prior to any operations, when licenses need to be given, and during operations, when seismicity may appear. The goal is to provide guidelines to help regulators in devising seismic hazard assessment specifications for the selection, licensing and long-term operation of EGS sites and for injection operations in different geological settings. A clear distinction will be made between guidelines for exploration and drillling licensing, where decisions must be taken on the basis of a priori information when little is still known about the reservoir, and guidelines for operations, when measurements are building up the knowledge gradually.







# Task 6.5: key components to be connected in the regulatory guidelines for seismic hazard: a Dutch View

Regulations for licensing and operations (exploration, drilling&stimulation, operations)

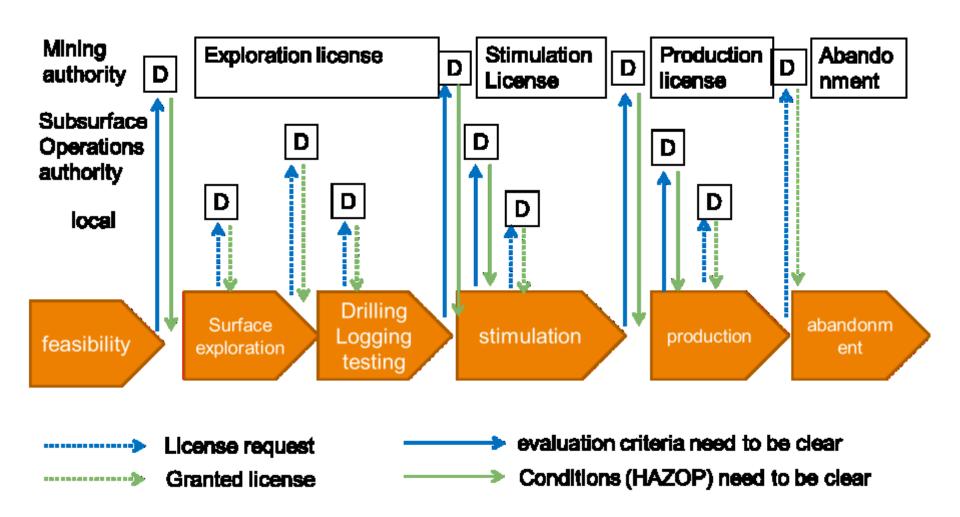
Best project practices (US) and technical state-of-the-art (GEISER)

flexibility and freedom to adapt to advancement in understanding in KEY processes (GEISER and beyond)

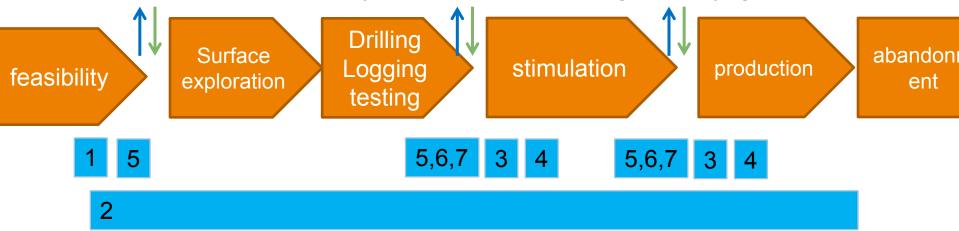
And leave technical details to project developers



#### Project Workflow orientation:regulatory decision tollgates



#### T 6.5: Provide boundary conditions for regulatory guidelines



## Connect for conditions and criteria to US PROJECT BASED protocol (Maier et al., 2012)

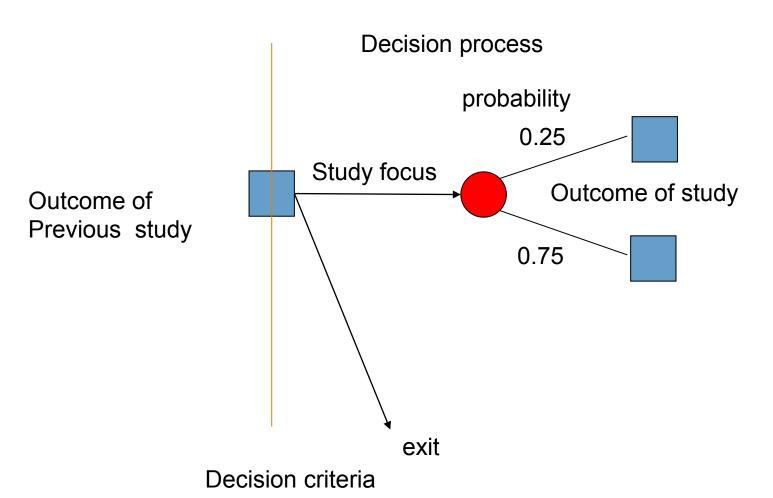
- 1) Perform a preliminary screening evaluation
- 2) Implement an outreach and communication program
- 3) Identify criteria for ground vibration and noise
- 4) Establish seismic monitoring
- 5) Quantify the hazard from natural and induced seismic events
- 6) Characterize the risk from induced seismic events
- 7) Develop risk-based mitigation plans

- What can we expect from GEISER and how can we use the US protocol
  - Licence criteria and conditions
  - Technical recommendations for operations
    - > seismic hazard assessment → methodology and key parameters for a priori site specific assessment → expected level of seismicity in conjunction with impact, to be included in license requests
    - Seismic monitoring and Dynamic traffic light
      - Dynamic because it includes a prediction of seismicity based on key parameters and monitoring sofar. Treshold ML to stop operations is related to predicted value, not observed ML (US protocol recommends 0.9 difference)
      - It allows for validation of a priori assumption during stimulation





#### **Decision Process**

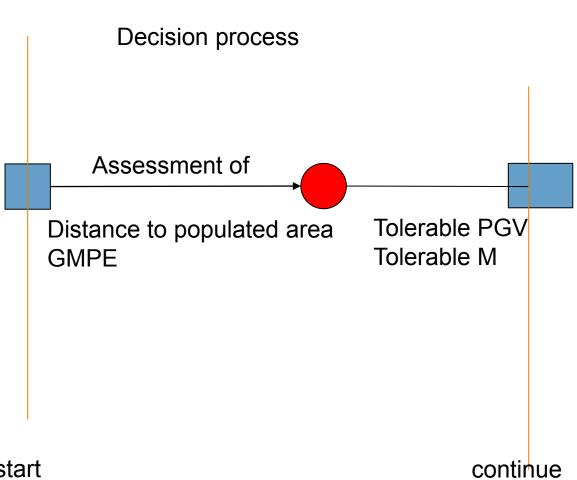








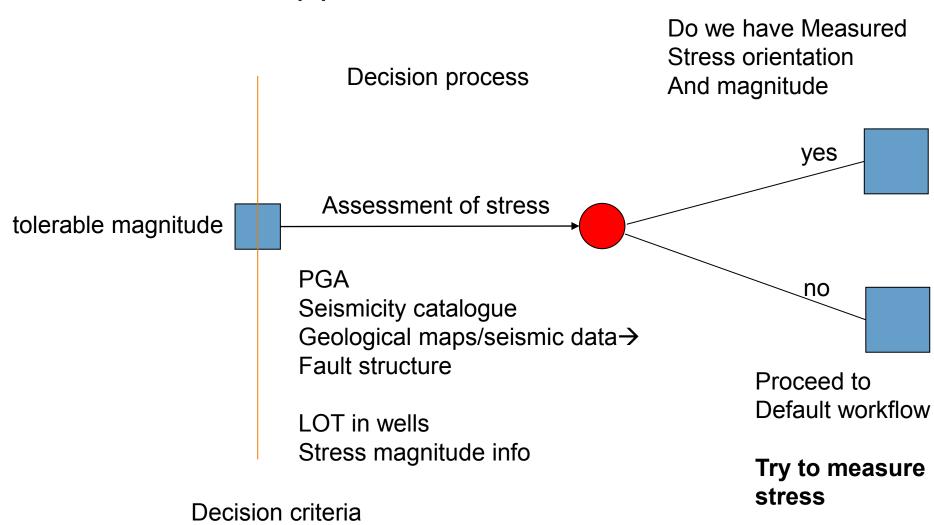
#### **Decision Process (1)**



start



#### **Decision Process (2) –**







## Decision Process (3) – measured stress

Is it critically stressed (normalized ST/ $\mu$ eff>0.7) Use conservative  $\mu$ eff= 0.6 (30 degrees friction angle) for volume of 5x5x5 km

In case we have
Measured
Stress orientation
And magnitude

Yes – proceed to default workflow

Goto low risk workflow

#### **Decision Process (3) –**

Default workflow

Geological maps/seismic data

Possible with more seismic (sedimentary cover)

Possible with VSP (crystaline)

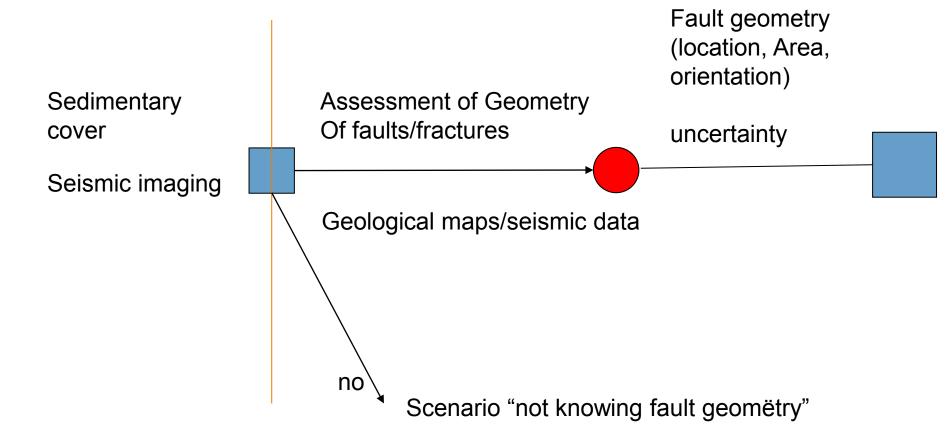








# Decision Process (3) – fault geometry

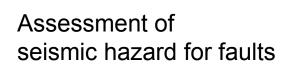


# Decision Process (3) – risk of faults

- Slip-Tendency (ST, *fault rheology + stress*)
- Fault rheology from neotectonic studies
- Recurrence rate and MMAX on faults (ST+faultarea+PGA)

Fault geometry (location, Area, orientation)

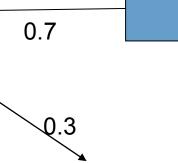
uncertainty



Seismicity catalogue Tectonic stress loading rate Neotectonic studies Fault rheology

## Conceptual

Recurrence rate MMAX of faults



Data not good enough



#### **Decision Process (3) - modelling**

Predicted seismicity catalogue

Stress change (x,y,z,t)

p(Mtolerable) = f(GR seismicity, fault MMAX)

Simulation of operation

Fault geometry

Fault rheology

uncertainty

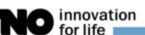
Gemechanical model Pressure diffusion Rupture dynamics

Or

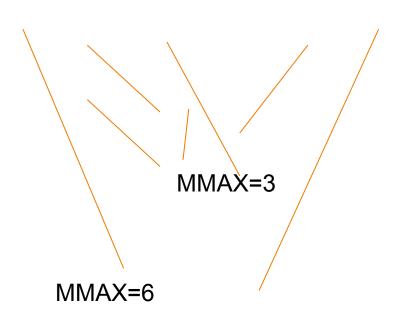
PSHA simple models/coulomb stress change

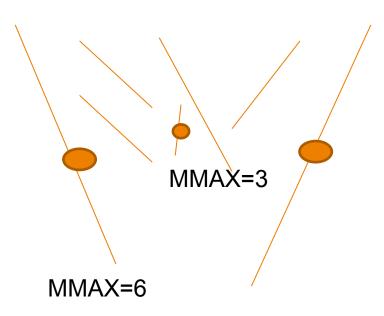






# Matching concepts in seed and fault populated models (inverse power-law of fault dimensions)





BRGM G



Dynamic traffic light

system: prediction of

seismicity based on key

parameters and

monitoring sofar.

Treshold ML to stop

operations is related to

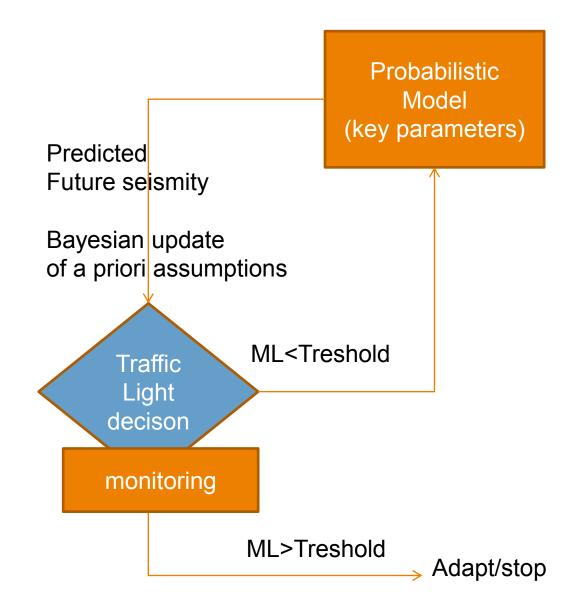
predicted value, not

observed ML (US

protocol recommends

0.9 difference)

Model based/PSHA



#### **Summary**

- What are key parameters ?
- Which are the most important?
- How can they be practically be used for a) Real-time tools to monitor the evolution of induced microseismicity and b) boundary conditions for regulatory guidelines
- What are remaining gaps and research needs?