



In 2022 DUG launched its revolutionary multi-parameter full waveform inversion (MP-FWI) imaging solution. We have since completed over 50 successful projects from all over the world. We are now at the dawn of a new, even more exciting era – an era where elastic least-squares imaging is a reality.

DUG Elastic MP-FWI Imaging is not only a complete replacement for the traditional processing and imaging workflows, it also replaces the subsequent inversion workflow for elastic rock properties.

Elastic MP-FWI Imaging accounts for both compressional and shear waves, handling variations in seismic wave dynamics as a function of incidence angle, including in the presence of high impedance contrasts and onshore near-surface geological complexity. Multiples and converted waves are now treated as valuable additional signal, increasing sampling, resolution and constraining the inverted parameters.

DUG has invested over a decade of R&D to realise this opportunity. Our new Elastic MP-FWI Imaging technology is the product of a multi-year, significant and ongoing R&D effort, which has seen the continuous integration of complete-physics FWI imaging including viscoelasticity, anisotropy and multi-parameter updates. When using the full wavefield for simultaneous velocity model building, rock property inversion and true-amplitude imaging, a multi-parameter solution is a necessity.

As well as three-component reflectivity and velocity, DUG Elastic MP-FWI Imaging determines fundamental rock properties like P-impedance, density and Vp/Vs from field data, without the need for a secondary amplitude variation with angle (AVA) inversion step. DUG Elastic MP-FWI Imaging simultaneously resolves not only subsurface structural features but also quantitative rock property information while avoiding the need for extensive data pre-processing and (post-imaging!) AVA-inversion workflows.

These are very exciting times and our growing band of caped crusaders is excited to share our latest results around the world. On that note we are super excited to introduce Dr Fabio Mancini who's joined our team as Chief Geophysicist for APAC and the Americas!

OUR CAPED CRUSADERS: Tom Rayment | CHIEF GEOPHYSICIST, Fabio Mancini | REGIONAL CHIEF GEOPHYSICIST APAC, AMERICAS



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Traditional processing workflow involves the testing and application of dozens of steps such as deghosting, designature, demultiple and regularisation, which are all designed to overcome the limitations of conventional imaging.

These workflows are complex, subjective, and very time-consuming due to their serial nature and they rely on many assumptions and simplifications. All of these issues impact the output

data quality. The resulting, primary-only

data then undergoes a similarly complex model-building workflow to derive an estimate of the subsurface velocity, which is used for depth imaging. After post-migration processing the pre-stack reflectivity undergoes another workflow to derive rock properties for interpretation. This workflow also relies on simplifications of the actual physics. These workflows mean that projects can take many months to years to complete.



# DUG Elastic MP-FWI Imaging is a unique approach to seismic processing and imaging which turns the traditional paradigm on its head.

It solves the elastic wave equation to derive both relectivity and all three (Vp, Vs, density) of the fundamental rock properties from field-data input - removing the approximations and limitations of the conventional workflows.



Supercharge your legacy data with DUG Elastic MP-FWI Imaging and use the entire wavefield, including all free-surface multiples and converted waves, as high-octane signal. Multiples are normally considered as problematic noise, however they illuminate the subsurface in complementary ways to primary reflections. When imaging with primaries and multiples the subsurface is sampled far more completely, and with a wider range of angles - constraining the inverted reflectivity, rock properties and attenuation.



Comparison of the reflectivity derived with DUG Elastic MP-FWI Imaging using raw field data, versus a conventional LS-RTM workflow using extensively pre-processed input. This legacy dataset was acquired in 2006 on the Australian North West Shelf. This region contains rapidly changing shallow velocity variations due to localised channel features and carbonates.

The MP-FWI imaging results demonstrate an increase in spatial resolution - the channel features, reservoir flat spot, and complex faulting are sharper and more clearly delineated.





## DEFENDER OF THE FLAT SPOT

DUG Elastic MP-FWI Imaging enables simultaneous inversion of reflectivity (3-component, directional, horizontal), P-wave velocity, S-wave velocity, density, P-impedance and S-impedance, providing quantitative interpretation-ready outputs of the highest resolution and amplitude fidelity — using field data input. Simply fantastic!

The updated rock property models show a significant increase in resolution. We can readily identify the reservoir location - a beautifulexample of a flat spot!

BEX MC3D DATASET COURTESY OF DUG MULTI-CLIENT







Here we consider an OBN dataset from the Gulf of America where water depths are approximately 2 km. In the figure above we see a comparison of the downgoing mirror RTM using pre-processed data (top), DUG Acoustic MP-FWI Imaging reflectivity using field-data input (middle), and DUG Elastic MP-FWI Imaging reflectivity using field-data input (bottom). We can immediately see

the improvements that the MP-FWI imaging approaches bring over the conventional RTM with respect to resolution and illumination. The elastic MP-FWI imaging result has obviously produced the superior image around the high-impedance contrast caused by the salt, and the structures beneath it.

Here we see the successful application LOOKS LIKE A JOB FOR... of DUG Elastic MP-FWI Imaging to generate accurate models of P-impedance, Vp/Vs ratio, and Vp directly from the raw field data. These quantities were derived without the need to generate angle stacks for an AVA inversion workflow. **FIELD DATA** 

The Elastic MP-FWI Imaging derived quantities are geologically conformable and show a good match to the available well information. DUG Elastic MP-FWI Imaging removes the subjectivity of traditional workflows with respect to the generation of vital quantitative interpretation attributes.



DATA COURTESY OF SHELL



The Earth is inherently elastic. As data processing has advanced to better honour physics, we have continually refined our ability to understand the subsurface. Here, velocity model updates generated using a conventional workflow and DUG Elastic MP-FWI Imaging were evaluated using a Kirchhoff pre-stack depth migration (KpreSDM), using the fully pre-processed data as input. The figure above compares common-offset-vector KpreSDM snail gathers using the initial velocity model (left), the

conventionally derived velocity model (middle), and the DUG Elastic MP-FWI Imaging derived velocity model (right). The MP-FWI imaging velocity model demonstrates a clear and significant kinematic improvement (gather flatness) and a reduction of jitter due to the azimuthal variations, particularly around the high-impedance contrasts given by the carbonates. The structural imaging improvements from the DUG Elastic MP-FWI Imaging reflectivity are showcased on pages 6 and 7.

PUTTING THE IQ IN QI



In the figure above, three equivalent crossplots of elastic rock properties are compared. The ellipses indicate the expected distribution of the labelled lithology and fluid combinations from statistical rock physics analyses of well log data.

Quantitative interpretation requires true amplitudes and high signal-to-noise ratio. Less scatter translates to less uncertainty. DUG Elastic MP-FWI **Imaging** delivers high-resolution elastic rock property outputs — directly from field data. By eliminating the need for



conventional pre-processing and imaging workflows, and a post imaging AVA inversion workflow, (along with their assumptions/workarounds that ultimately affect the AVA compliance of the data) more certain predictions can be realised.

THE FACT THAT DUG MP-FWI IMAGING IS DELIVERING MATERIAL IMAGING UPLIFTS USING FIELD-DATA INPUT IS VERY POWERFUL. BUT TO COUPLE THIS WITH HIGH-RESOLUTION ELASTIC ROCK PROPERTY OUTPUTS FOR QUANTITATIVE INTERPRETATION IS EVEN MORE EXCITING, PROVIDING IMMEDIATE OPPORTUNITIES FOR NEW SURVEYS AND MAXIMISING THE VALUE OF LEGACY DATASETS.

> MARTIN STUPEL, GEOPHYSICAL MANAGER GEOPHYSICAL PURSUIT INC

Here we compare the elastic rock property well ties from DUG Elastic MP-FWI Imaging (the blue curves on the left) to a conventional processing, imaging and AVA inversion workflow (the red curves on the right). It is obvious that the DUG Elastic MP-FWI Imaging results are a better match to the well.

BEX MC3D DATASET COURTESY OF DUG MULTI-CLIENT



# It's not just about high performance computing (HPC) power. Elastic MP-FWI imaging requires significant, coupled software engineering, geophysical expertise and HPC resources.

Our global network of HPC facilities is backed by our proprietary software solutions, energy-efficient immersion cooling systems and tailored geoscience services. We continue to undertake R&D on all aspects of MP-FWI imaging, both from a geophysical and computer science perspective. Integrated in DUG Insight, **DUG Elastic MP-FWI Imaging** delivers unsurpassed imaging and high-resolution rock properties in greatly reduced turnaround time.



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