



Passive Ranging for Anticollision

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Algorithms and Analytical Thinking



Applied Technologies/Scientific Drilling,
1978-2019

Algorithms and Analytical Thinking,
2020-present

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MWD Survey Misrun Reasons:

- Sensor Failure
- Reference Field Offsets (Magnetic storm, Crustal Anomaly)
- Magnetization of the MWD
- Proximate Well

Extending the multistation with passive ranging to detect proximate wells:

- Mitigate risk
- No new hardware, but need “good” MWD and:
- Reference field monitoring
- Care to demagnetize MWD



Passive Ranging

Monopole model—non-distribution

4 degrees of freedom per pole

More general than dipole

Difference is “unenforceable”

Initial conditions: how to place dipoles??

Start
Here

(Fantastic Poles and Where to Find Them)

Human user picks poles
--or--
Mass search/Algorithm

Pole Model
(number, rough
locations)

Pole Evaluation
(automatic or
by user)

Raw
Data

Ranging Multistation

Refined
Poles
Quality
parameter
s

Calibration

Does its job well and fast, but only
part of the solution

Sensor bias
updates

Magnetic
Field
Model

Pole Search Algorithm

Local field
offsets



A “Traveling Salesman” Problem?

- Lots of local minima: signal loudness vs distortions
- Solution consistent with set of observations on wellpath.
- Order of adding poles: some may block or mask off others.
Locally best pole vs a good set?
- Want minimum # of poles to encompass substance of observed behavior
- Sensitivity vs “ghost” poles



Workflow

- New data acquired
- Examine existing poles consistent with new data: baseline
- Existing poleset “sufficient” vs any new poles needed? Assume new poles are in new spatial area: parse dense set of pole candidates perpendicular to new wellpath section one pole at a time.
- Criteria for choosing: best cost drop, greatest effect, other
- How much to automate: stop when process fails to add pole?
- Lean towards adding too many poles, let user remove extras.
- Are the poles consistent with a well?



Start with some simple examples:

- Use of 60 μ W poles (alternating)
- 30m Spacing
- “Local” straight line wellpaths

What is the fundamental range for acquiring a pole?

Need to reduce uncertainty levels for sensors, reference fields to make this work

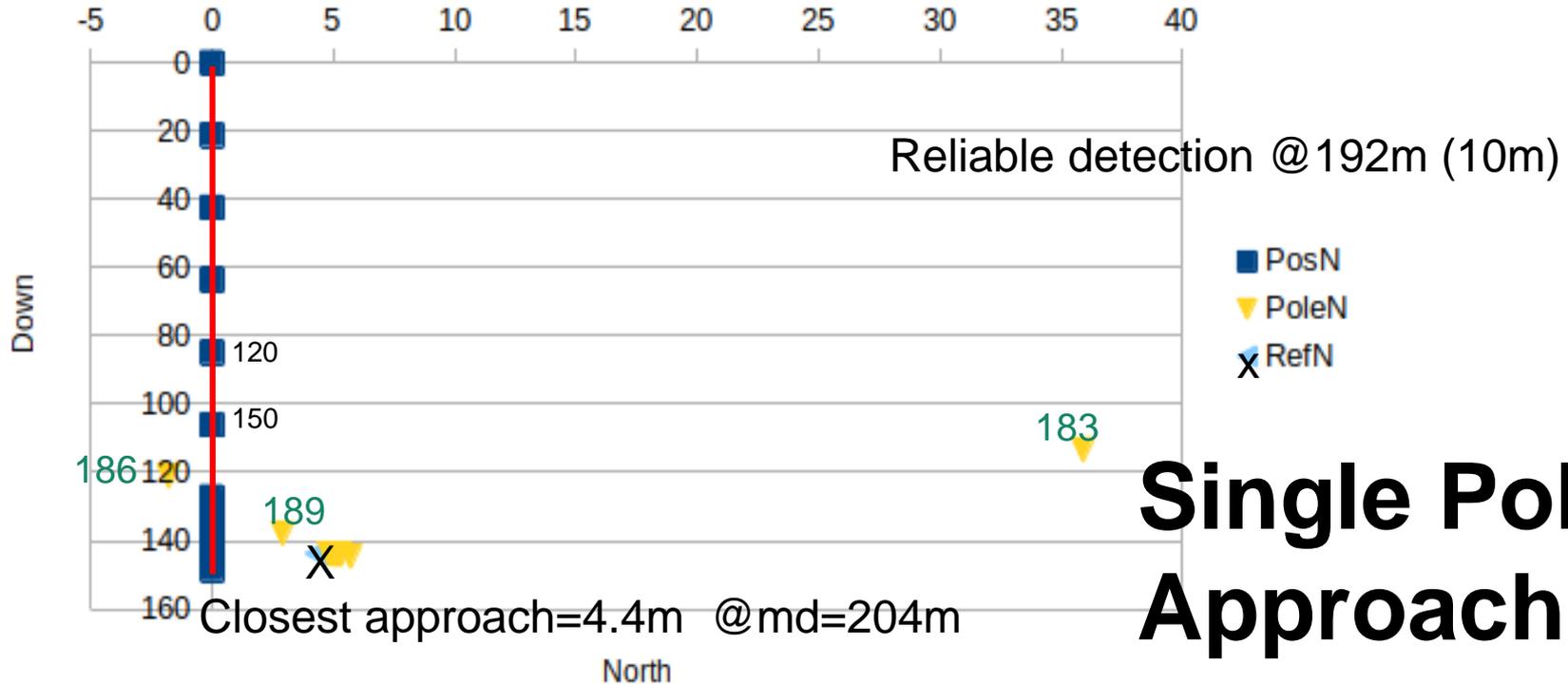
The perceived location of the pole moves as one approaches (this should not be news)

It really helps to go past the point of closest approach (doesn't help anticollision)

Acquiring more than one pole at a time can be messy: farther pole has lower rate of dropoff as you move towards/away



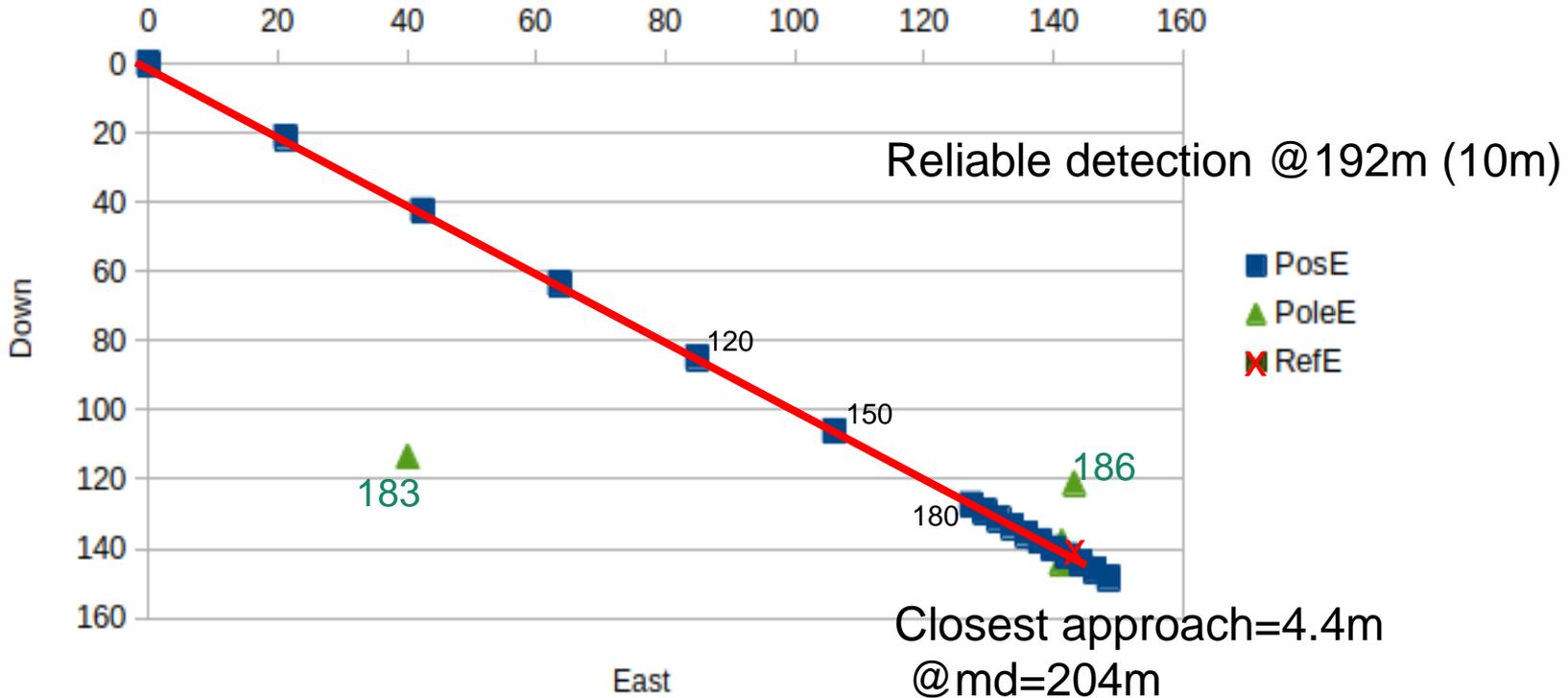
Pole Tracks as Stations Added



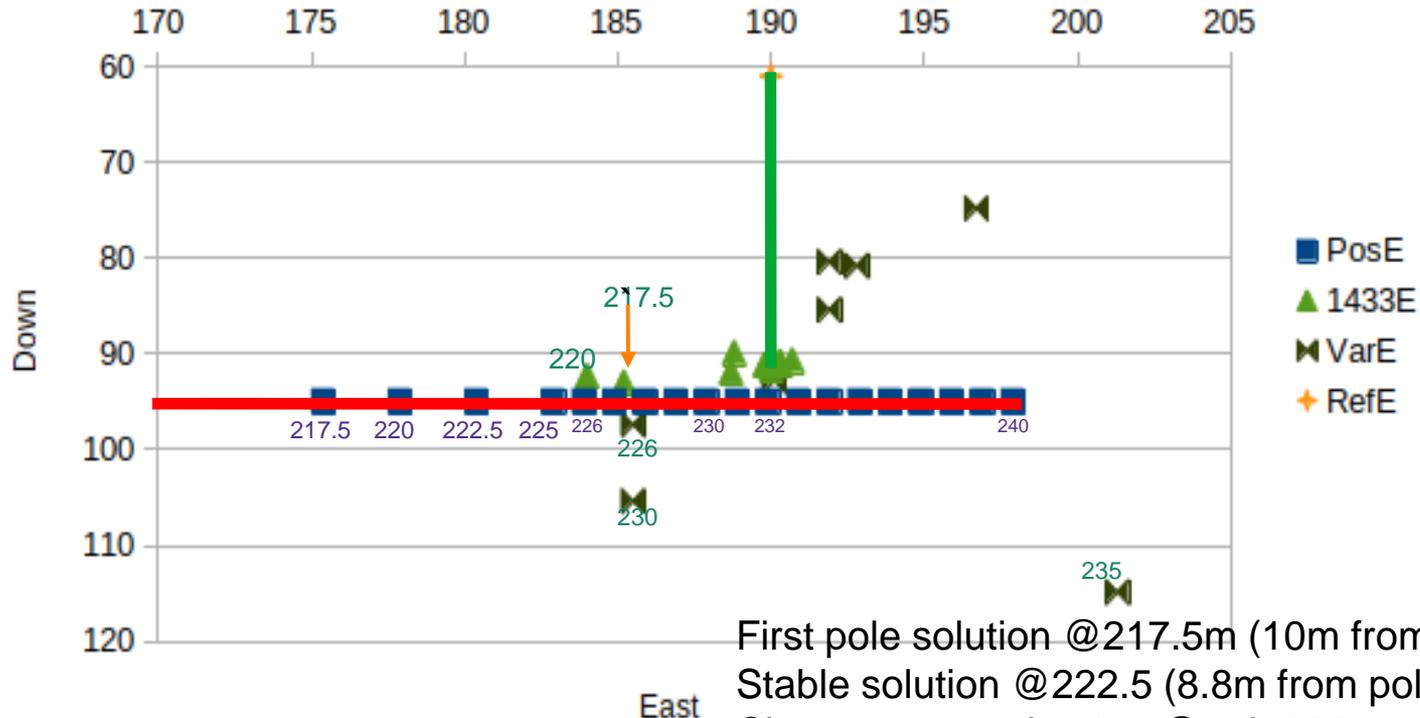
Single Pole Approach



PoleTracks as Stations Added



Pole Tracks with New Stations



First pole solution @217.5m (10m from pole)

Stable solution @222.5 (8.8m from pole)

Closest approach: 4m @md=232m

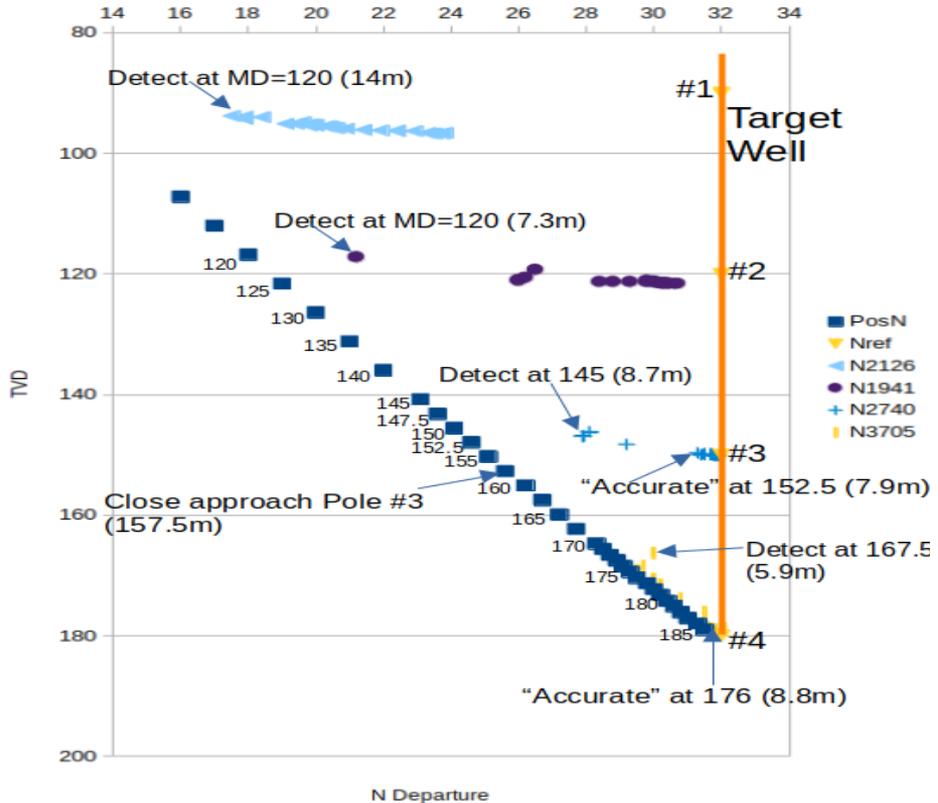


Wellbore Positioning Technical Section

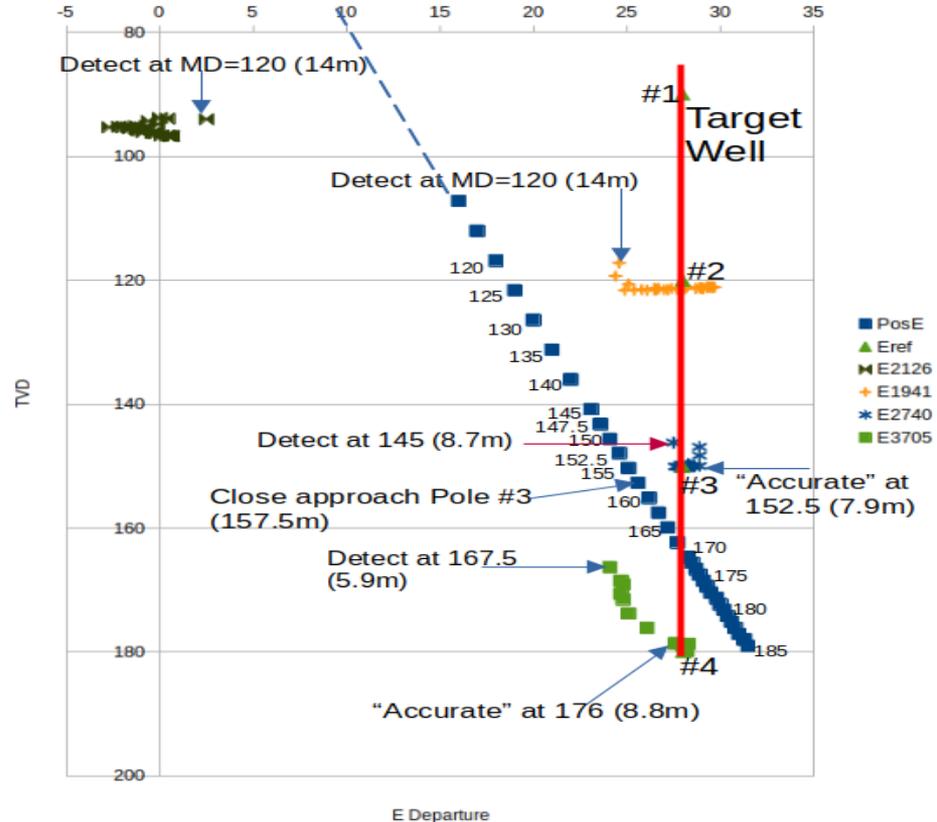


The Industry Steering Committee on
 Wellbore Survey Accuracy (ISCWSA)

Pole Motions with Incremental Data



Pole Motions with Incremental Data





Passive ranging is possible, but not easy: every 50 to 100 nT is critical

Will take a lot of procedural discipline: survey interval, clean MWD

Need to assess probability of detection

Need to figure wellpath from pole record: very difficult to put into optimization