The rise of ‘Big Data’ has been characterized by a rapidly increasing availability and diversity of data that will play a role in shaping the future of Geoscience Research and the Hydrocarbon Industry. The Geoscience community has been slow to embrace the Big Data technologies that are revolutionizing other sciences such as the pharmaceutical industry and medical research. Where advances in data acquisition and interpretation technologies are being made in academic Geoscience, progress in uptake has been hampered by unstructured data, stored in silos.

This three day meeting will bring together early career geoscientists with leading industry and academic experts to discuss the opportunities and challenges of Big Data and showcase advances in data collection and interpretation technology. It will present an opportunity to learn and collaborate between Geoscience and Computer Science on the subject of Big Data. This will be an excellent forum for networking and an opportunity for graduate students and young professionals to present their research. The conference offers more experienced hydrocarbon geoscientists new research, ideas and concepts and the chance to add their experience to a panel discussion.

Conference themes
- Opportunities and Challenges associated with Big Data in Geoscience
- Data standards, storage and security challenges
- Novel Approaches to data collection
- Technology Advances in interpretation and reservoir characterization, e.g. virtual geosciences.
- The future role of Big Data in academic and industry Geoscience

The final day of the conference is dedicated entirely to workshops and demonstrations of technology advances in Big Data on a variety of scales, from regional subsurface interpretation, to virtual fieldtrips and virtual outcrops, with special sessions on automated interpretation and artificial intelligence.

A panel discussion on ‘The Future of Big Data’ will be held at the close of the second day.

Keynote Speakers
Liz Wild (Shell)  
Satyam Priyadarshy (Halliburton)  
Nick Richardson (OGA)  
Ed Parsons (Google)  
Garry Baker (BGS Group)  
Steve Garrett (Chevron)  
John Thurmond (Statoil)  
Chris Jackson/Eric Larson (Earth Science Analytics)  
John Howell (University of Aberdeen)

Further information
For further information about the conference please contact:
Naomi Newbold, Conference Office,  
The Geological Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1J 0BG  
T: 0207 434 9944  
E: naomi.newbold@geolsoc.org.uk  
Web: www.geolsoc.org.uk/jwatson18  
Follow this event on Twitter: #jwatson18

Convenors:
Nicole Duffin (Shell UK)  
Caroline Gill (Shell UK)  
John Howell (University of Aberdeen)  
Helen Smyth (Halliburton)  
Isobel Sides (Halliburton)

Conference sponsored by