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# Optimized Shale Resource Development using proper placement of Wells and Hydraulic Fracture Stages

Usman Ahmed

Baker Hughes Incorporated

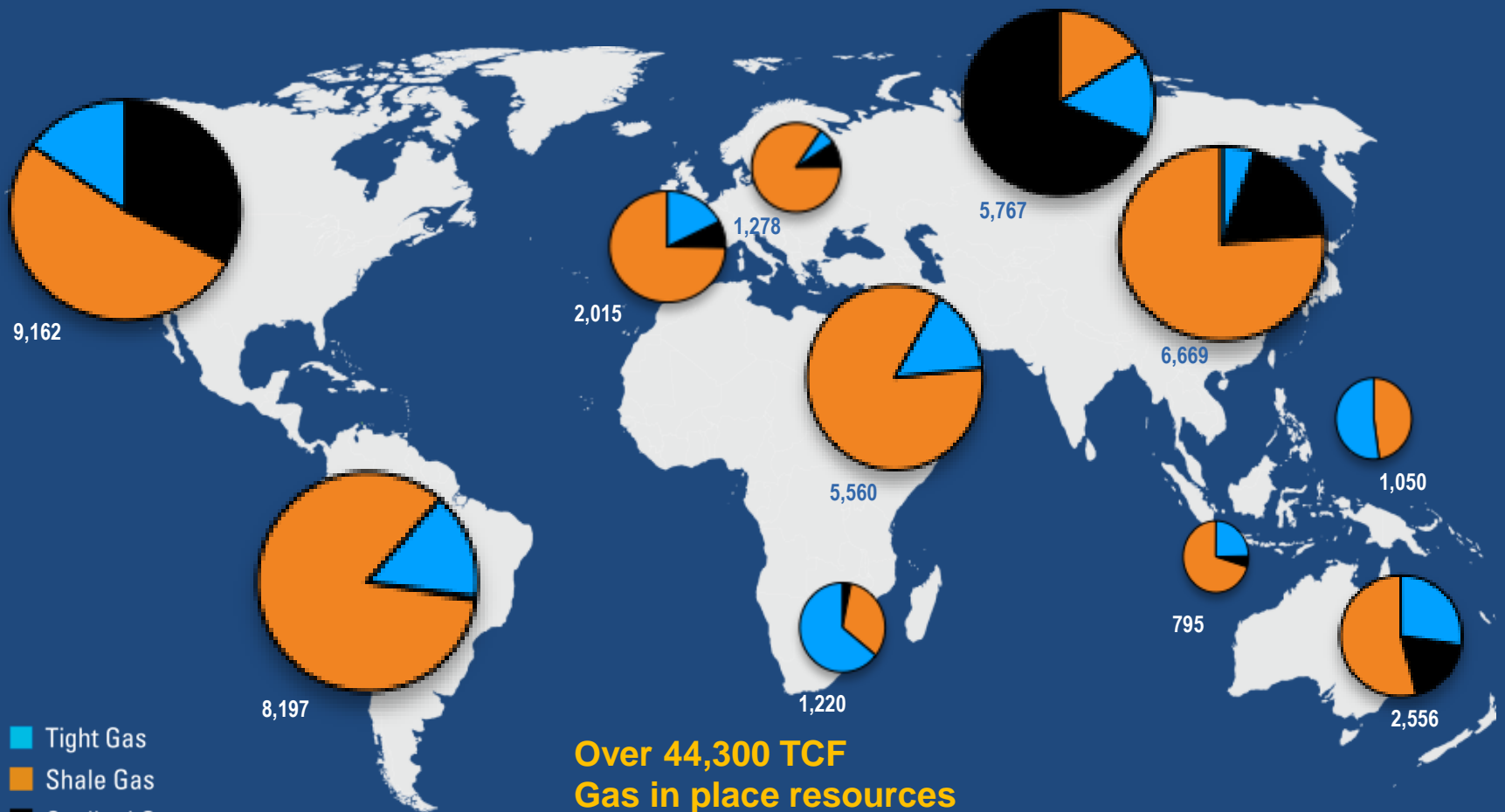
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# Outline

- Illustration of the Prize
- Present trend in Unconventional Reservoir Modeling and it's impact on production
- Challenges the industry face to enhance recovery factor while reducing cost per unit of hydrocarbon recovered
- Where should the future engineers focus?
  - What technologies are there and what are needed in the near future to **optimally place wells** for the enhanced recovery
  - What technologies are there and what the industry needs in the near future to decide the **optimum placement of the hydraulic fracture stages**
- Illustrative field examples and the recommended way forward

# Unconventional Gas Resource: A Global Phenomenon



■ Tight Gas  
■ Shale Gas  
■ Coalbed Gas

Numbers represent TCF of unconventional gas

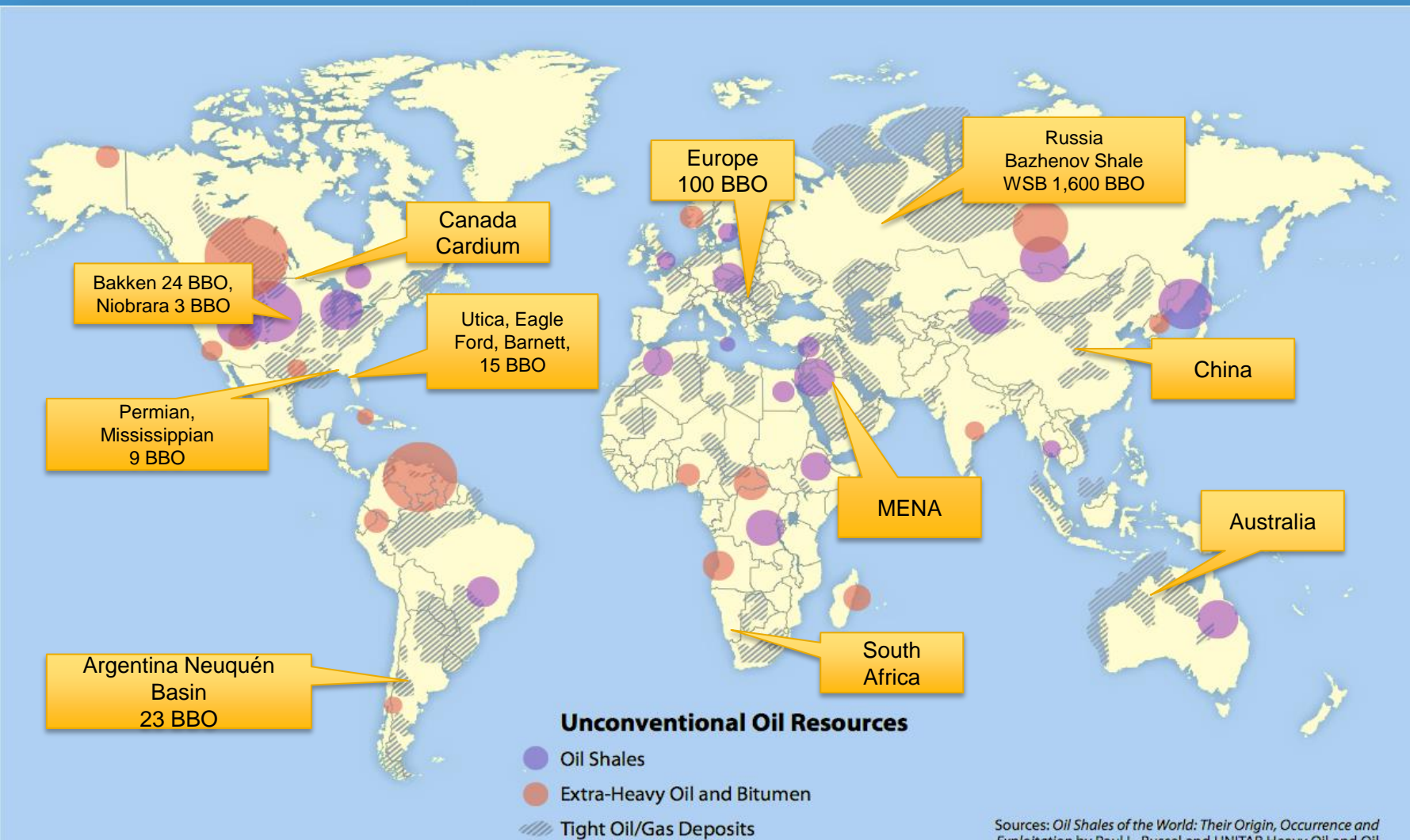
**Pie size to scale**

**Over 44,300 TCF  
Gas in place resources**

Source: Baker Hughes, EIA, SPE 68755,  
Kawata & Fujita from Rogner

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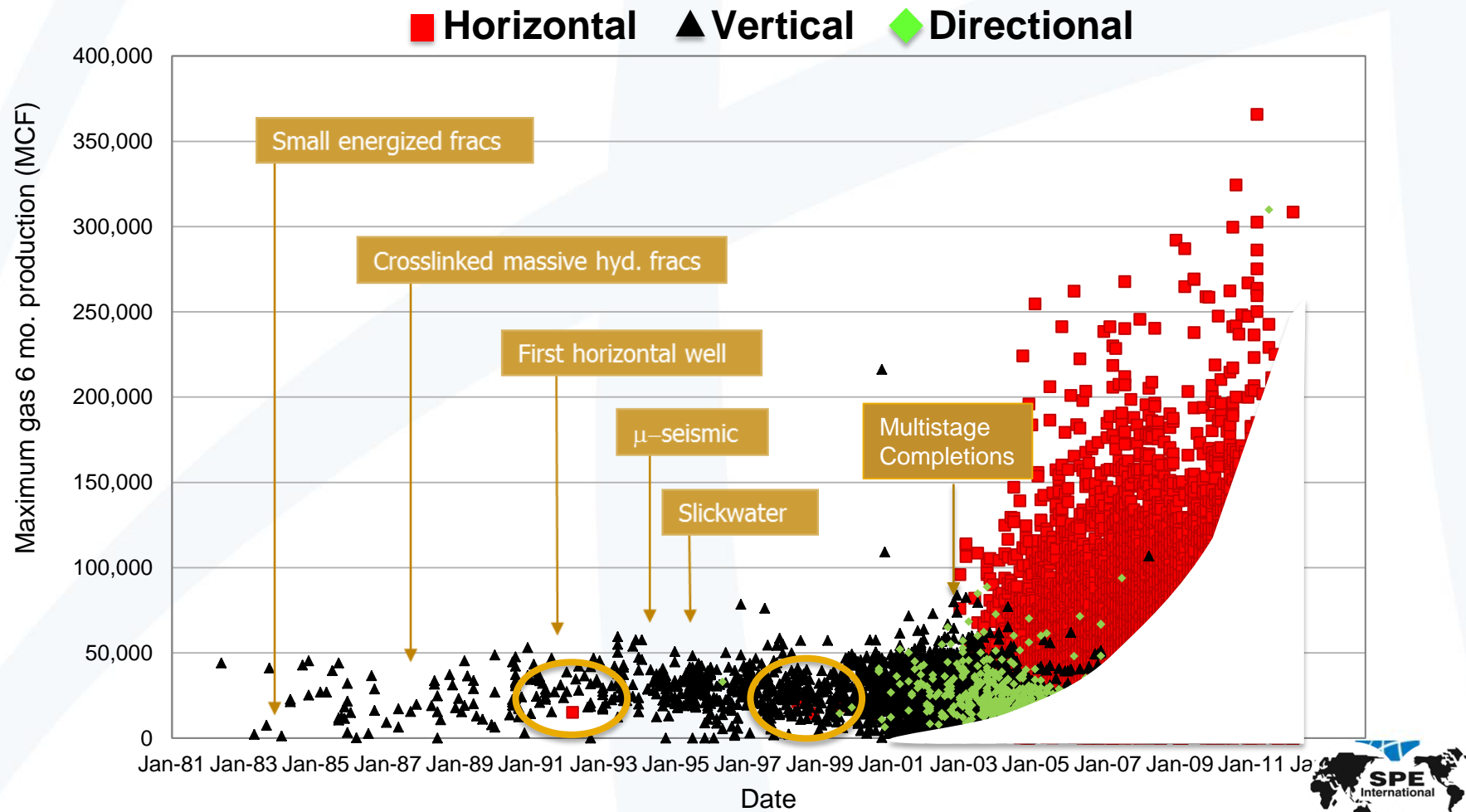
# Unconventional Oil Resources 2-3 Trillion Barrels



Sources: *Oil Shales of the World: Their Origin, Occurrence and Exploitation* by Paul L. Russel and UNITAR Heavy Oil and Oil Sands Database, 2010; Energy Information Administration, *World Shale Gas Resources*, 2011; and Hart Energy

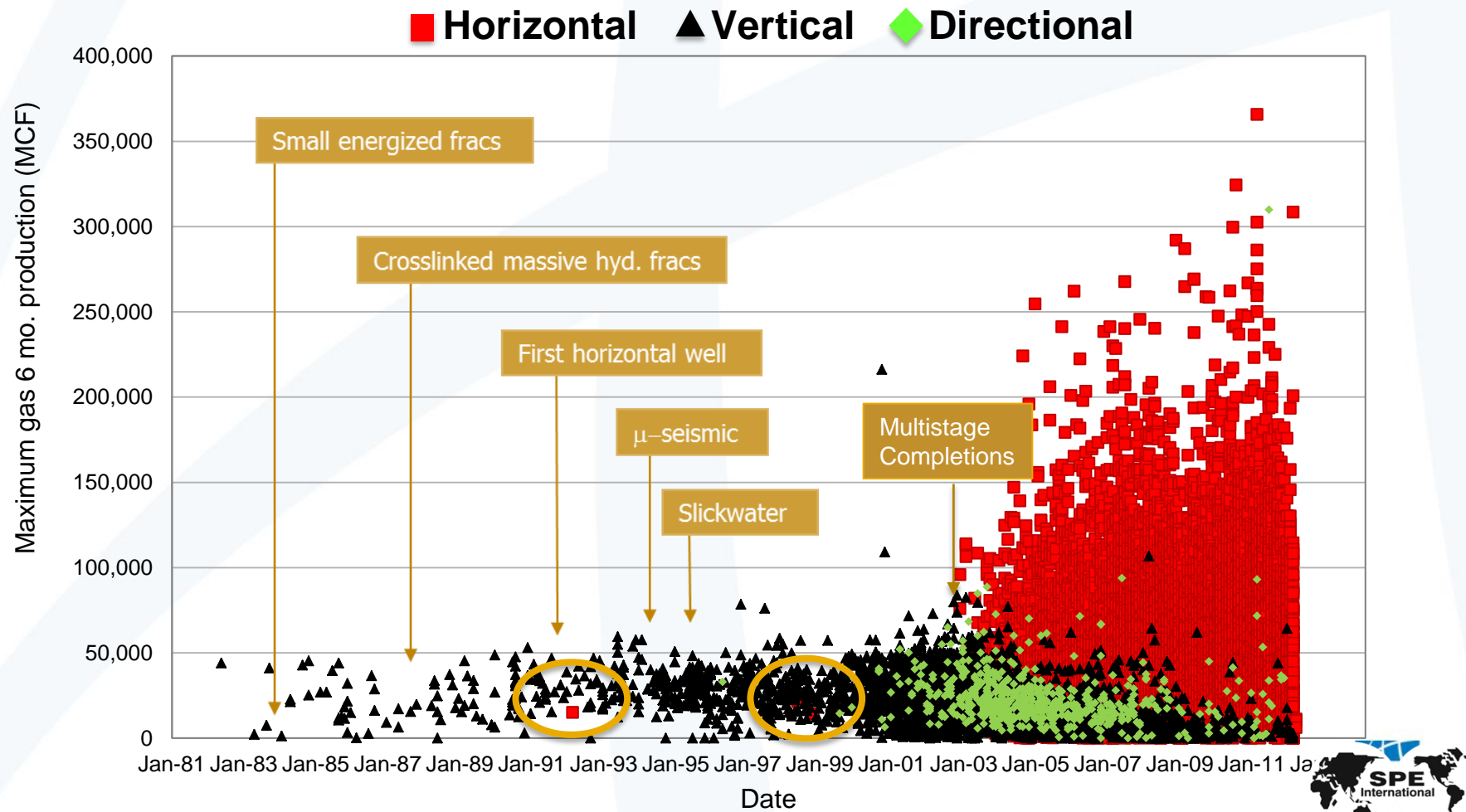
# Unconventional Development – Learning Curve

## Barnett Shale Development



# Unconventional Development – Learning Curve

## Barnett Shale Development



# A Closer Look at the “Shale Revolution”

**70%** of unconventional wells in the U.S. do not reach their production targets\*

**60%** of all fracture stages are ineffective\*\*

**73%** of operators say they do not know enough about the subsurface\*

**Efficiency** and **Effectiveness** are key for Proper Placement of Well and Frac Stage in Sweet Spots

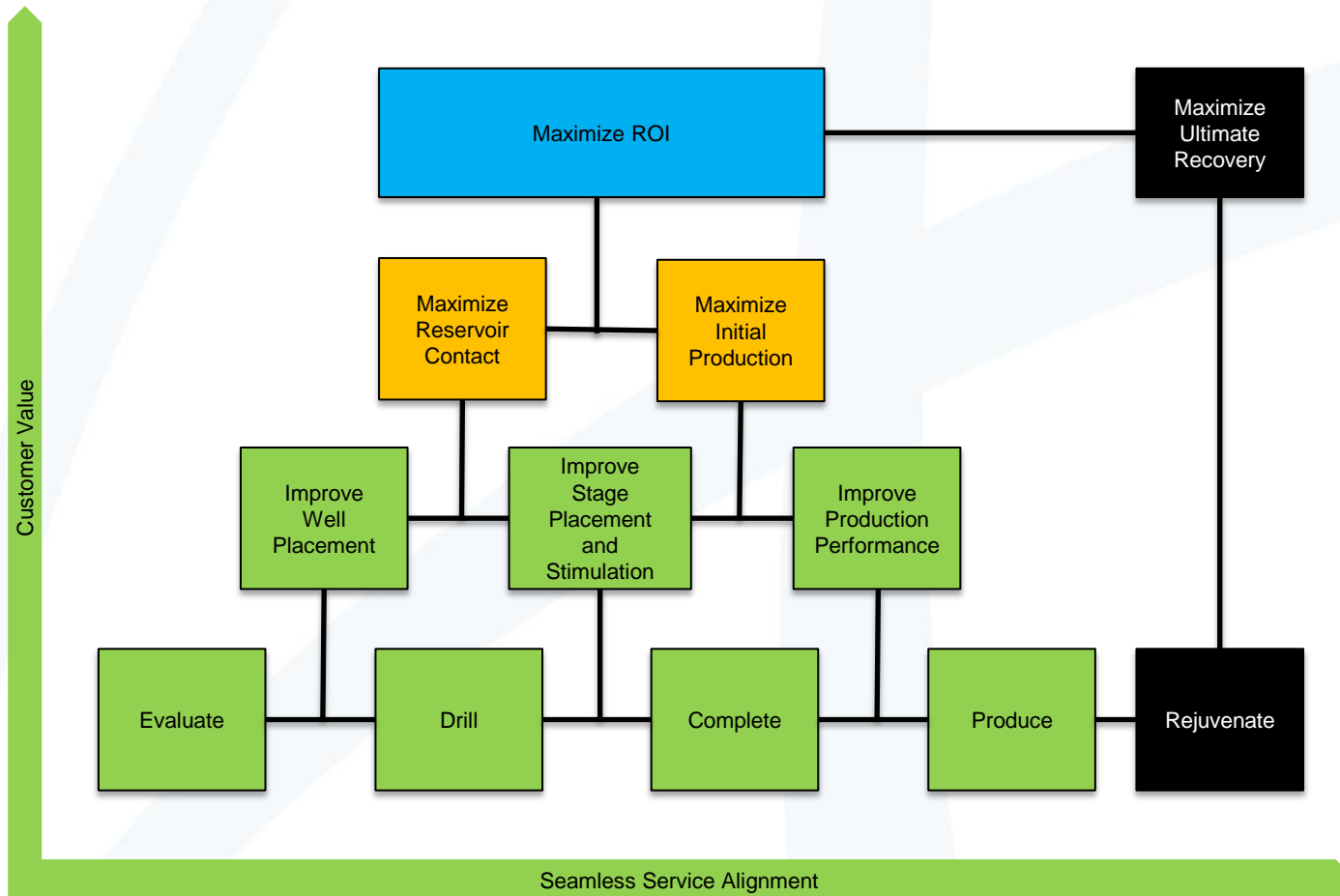
*\*Source: Welling & Company, 2012*

*\*\*Source: Hart's E&P, 2012*



# From Discrete Components To An Integrated Solution

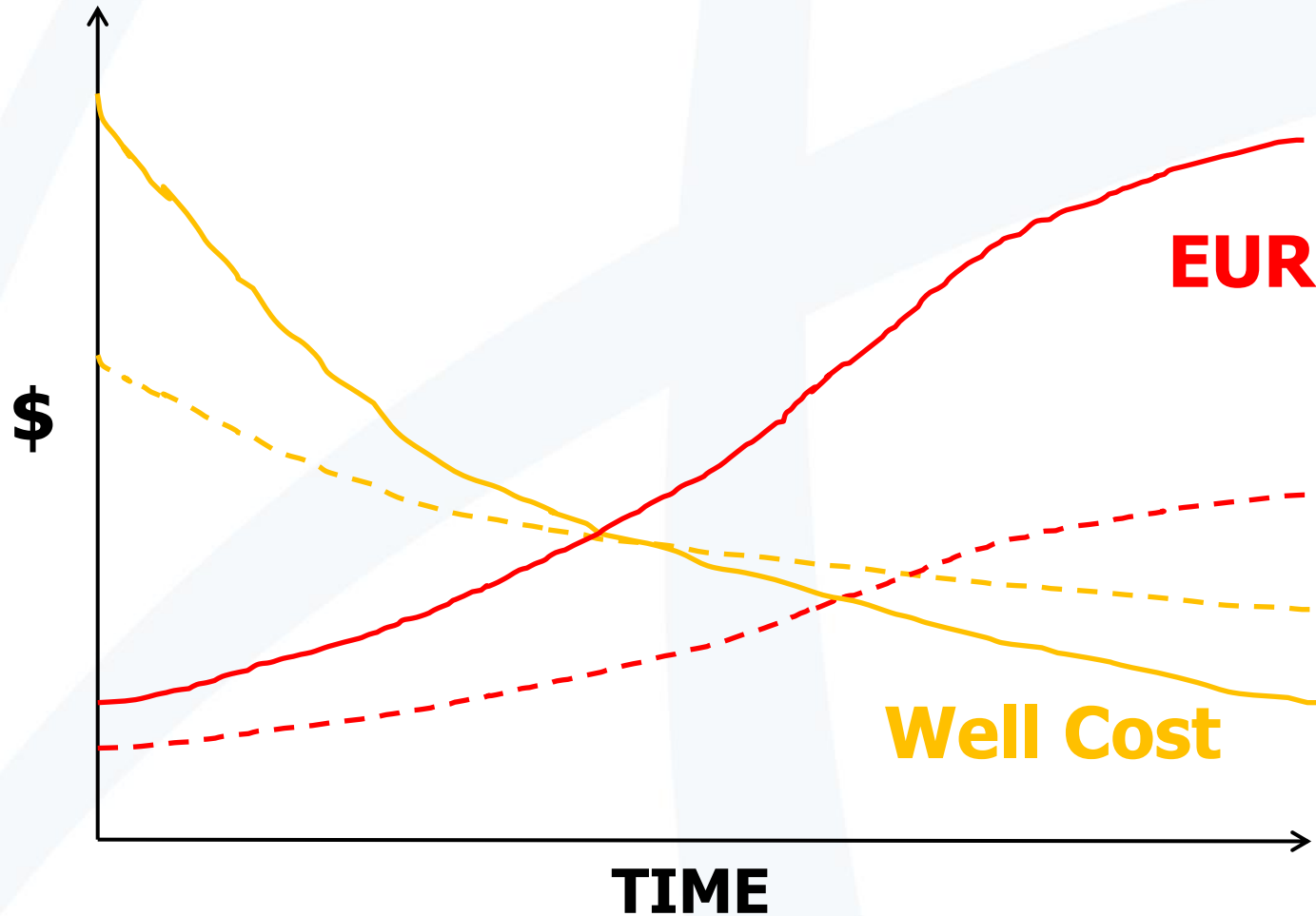
## Unconventional Market Segment



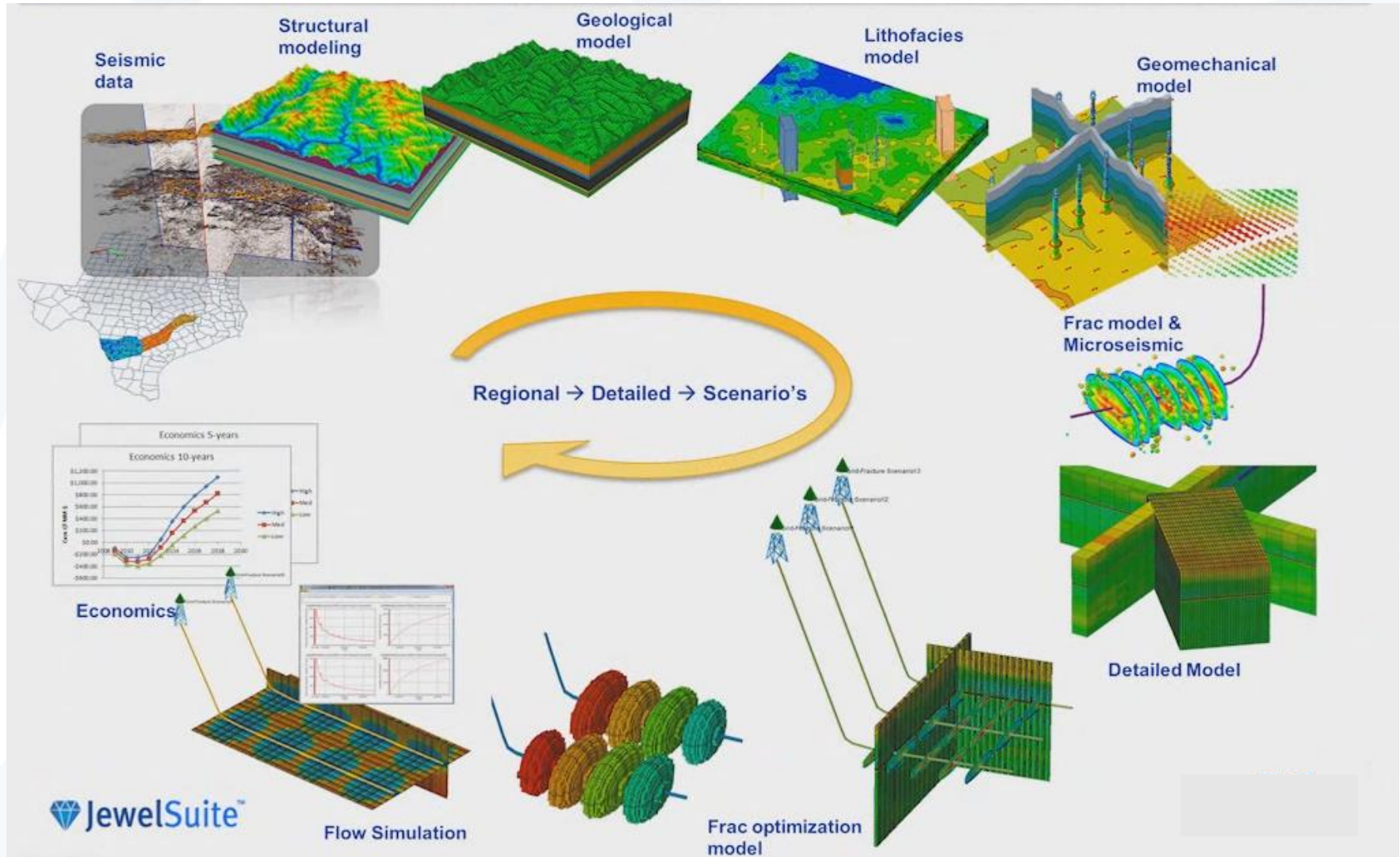
- **Identify sweet spots**
- **Predict performance /EUR**
- **Where to place wells:** Well placement, spacing, drainage area, lateral orientation, and length
- **Which Method of completion:** Open hole, cased hole,
- **Optimal Stimulation design:** Stage placement, number of stages, fluid, proppant, volume
- **Production management:** Flowback, managed rate of production



# Low Cost vs Cost Efficient Development: Implications?



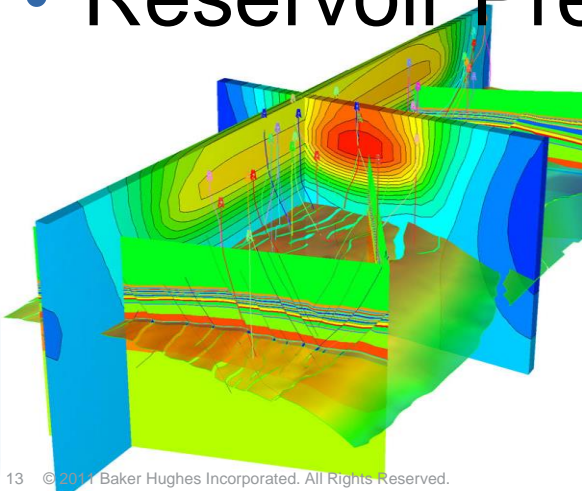
# Unconventional Workflow: How is it Different?



# Moving from Conventional To Shales

## Conventional

- Porosity
- Saturations
- Permeability
- Resource Base
- Reservoir Pressure



## Shales

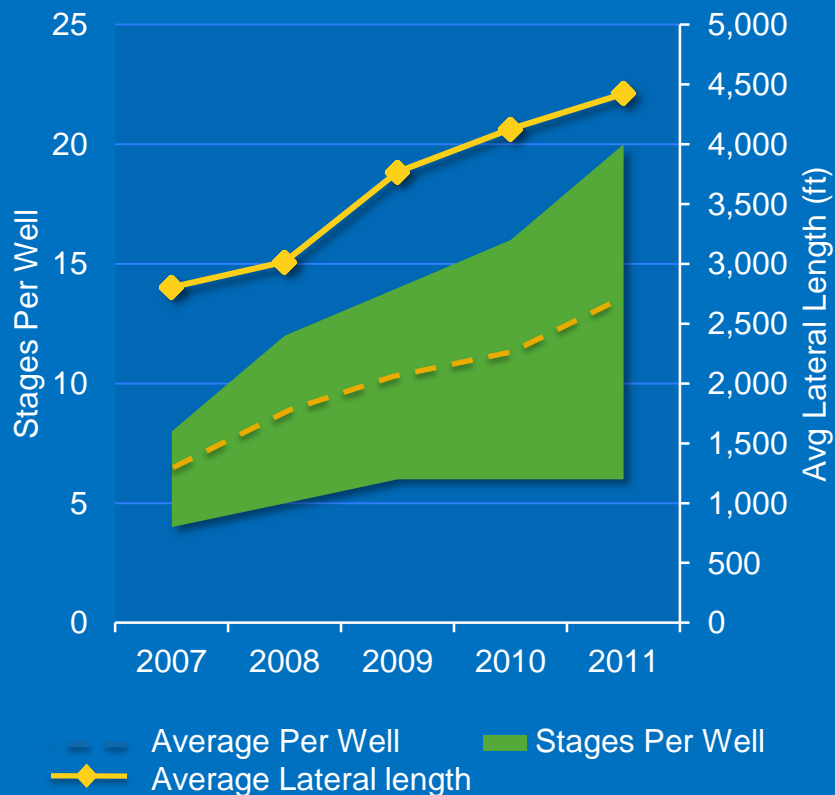
- Reservoir Pressure
- TOC
- Ro (Vitrinite Reflectance) / TM
- Permeability / NF
- Brittleness



# Technology Evolution and Production

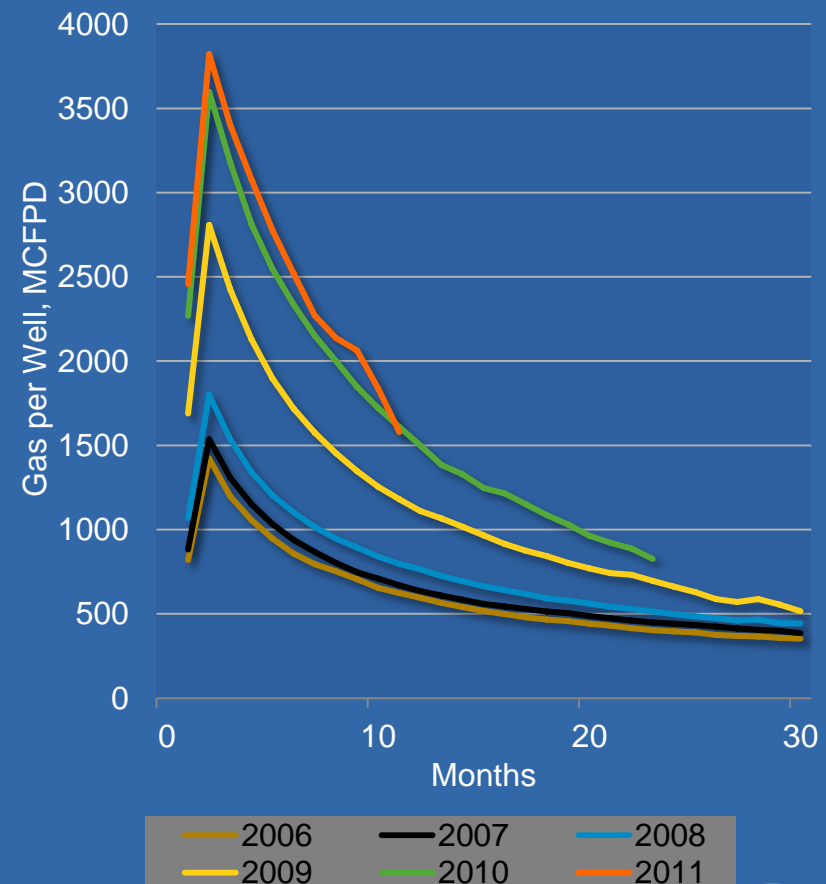
Selected Unconventional Gas Basins, Onshore U.S.

## Horizontal Gas Stages Per Well and Average Lateral Length.



Source: BHI, HPDI, IHS, Company data

## Horizontal Gas Well Average



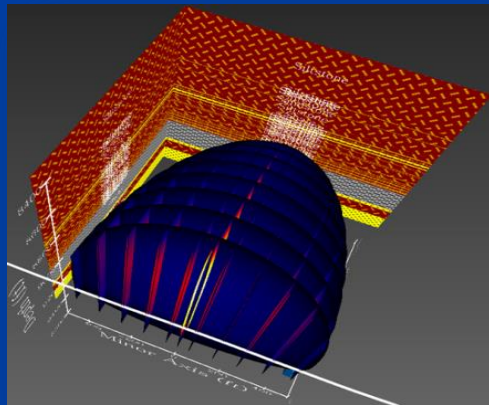
Source: HPDI





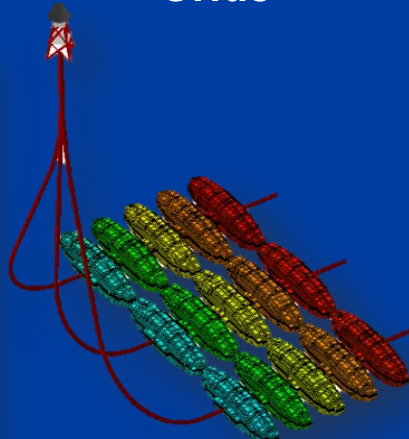
# Three Key Elements To Avoid Sharp Production Decline

## Hydraulic Fracture Model



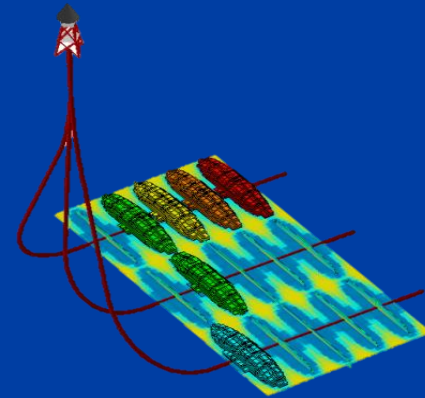
- Single well treatment
- Fracture grid representation
- Geometries and properties

## Reservoir Fracture Grids



- Multiple wells and stages
- Fracture refinement
- Various scenarios

## Reservoir Flow Model

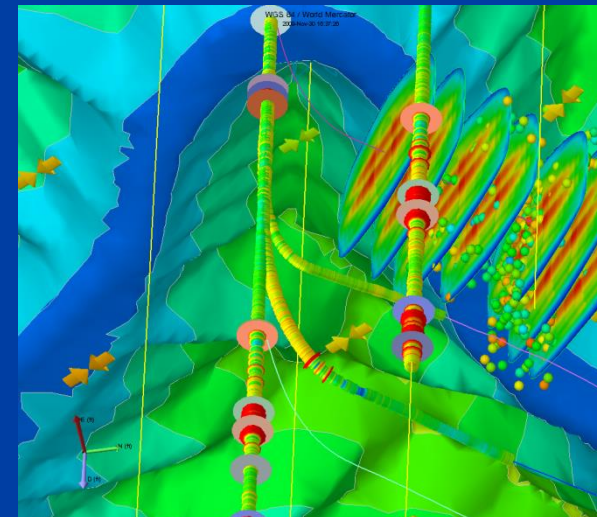
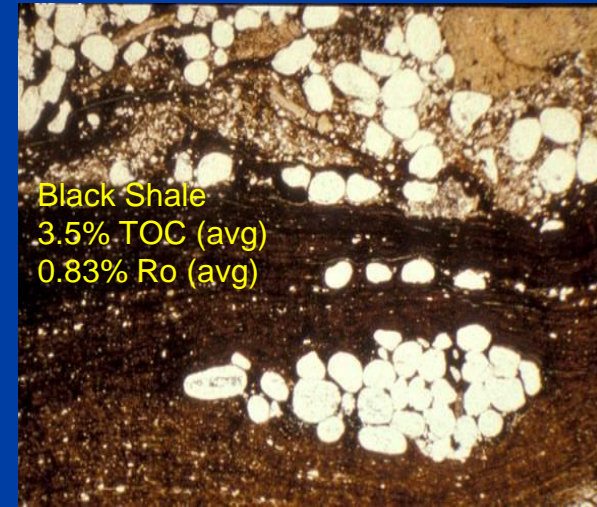


- Fit-for-purpose flow simulator
- Dec curves
- Drainage Scenarios

STIMULATION PERFORMANCE: **REDUCE THE SHARP PRODUCTION DECLINE**

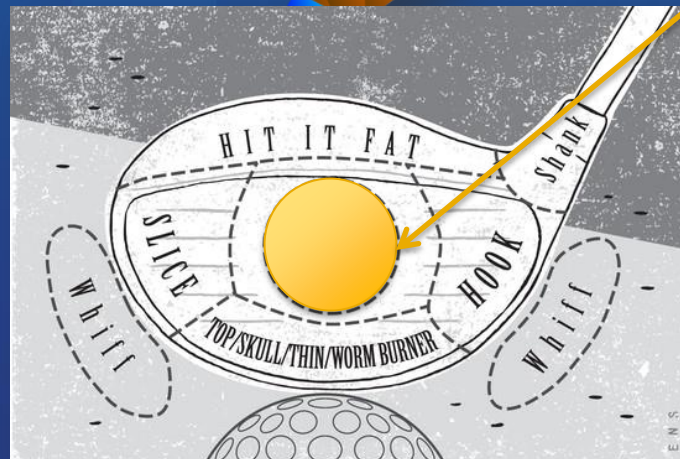
# Shale Reservoir Analysis

- Conventional reservoir modeling & analyses not effective for shale
- Shale reservoirs require new approaches to Analysis & Forecast
- An integrated “shale engineering” approach is required to plan wells, stimulate & forecast long-term production for economic evaluations
- SWEET SPOTS: Well and Frac Stage Locations



# What is a “Sweet Spot”?

- The “Sweet Spot” is where the maximum power is generated with the least amount of effort and vibration .
- The Sweet Spot is important in these sports because we don’t all have perfect swings.
- What does this have to do with unconventional resources?



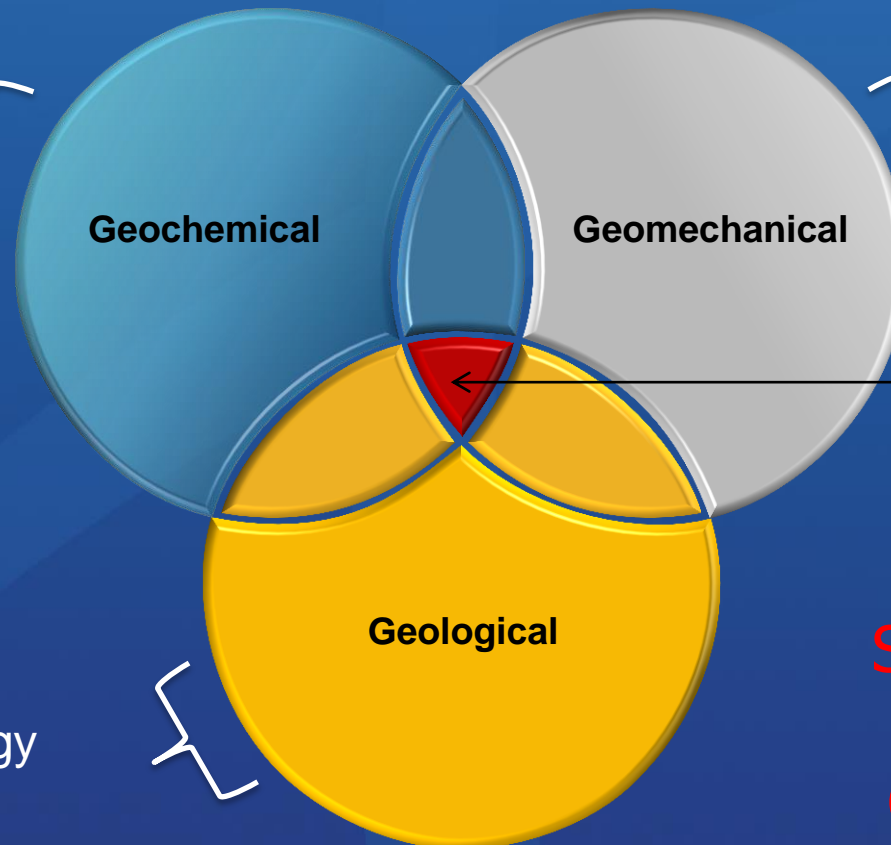


# Unconventional Resources Sweet Spot Characteristics

A “Sweet Spot” or “Core” represents the concurrence of several favorable parameters such as:

TOC  
Kerogen Type  
Fluid  
Thermal Maturity  
Depositional Environment  
(Litho-facies)

Depth  
Thickness  
Lithology/Mineralogy  
Porosity  
Pressure  
(Continued Producibility)

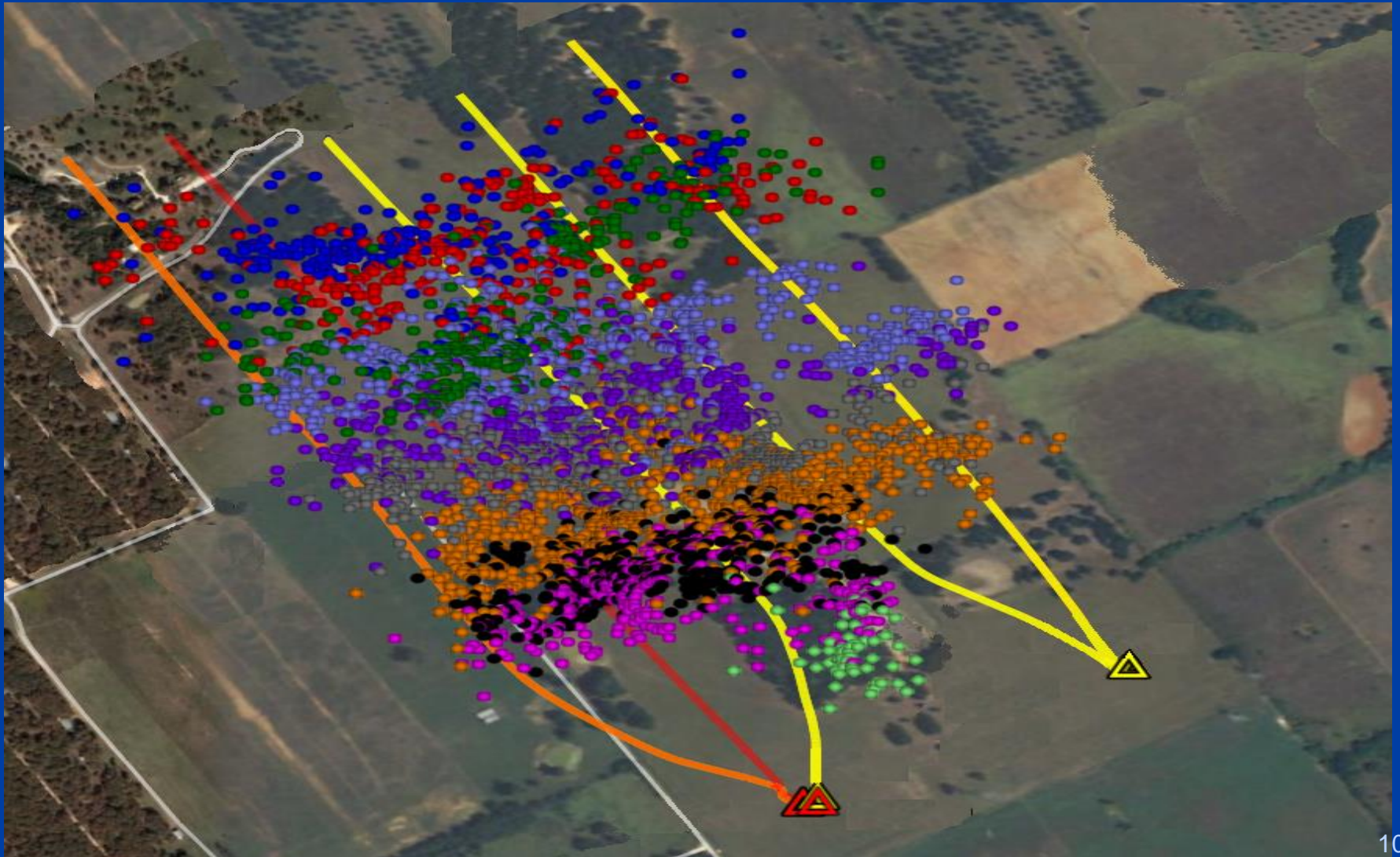


Anisotropy  
Stress Regime  
Fractures  
Faulting  
Brittleness  
(Fracturability)

**Sweet Spot**

**Sweet Spots  
are not  
Contiguous**

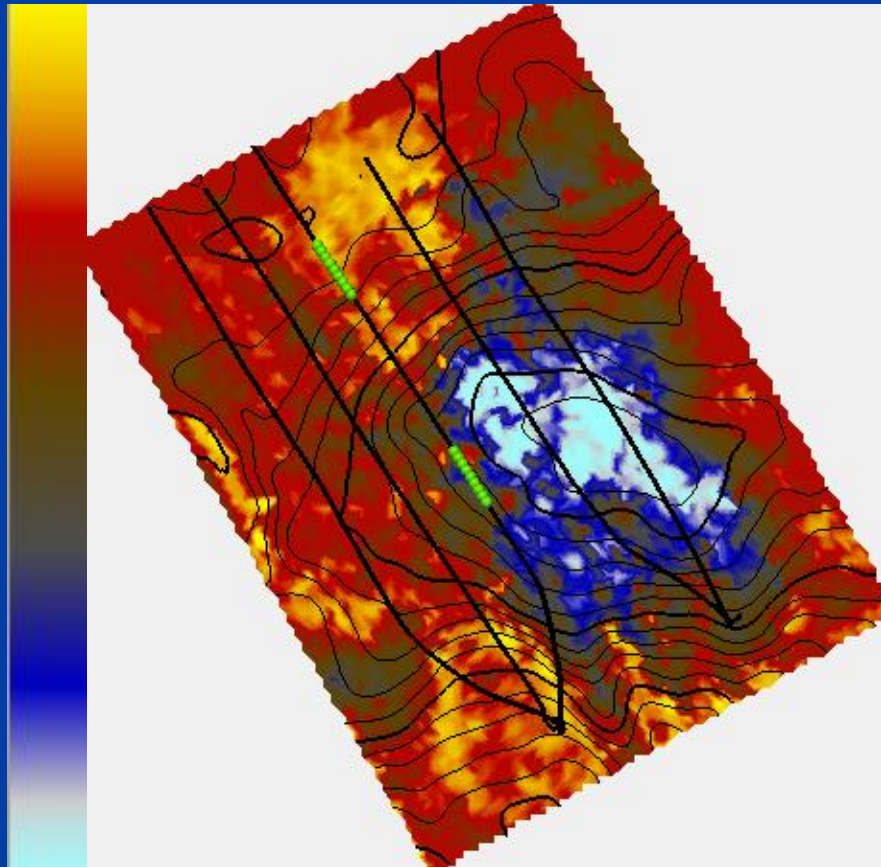
# Can we Identify Optimal Areas For Reservoir Stimulation Before Drilling and Frac'ing?



# Attribute Analysis + Lithofacies = Sweet Spot Identification

Actual Amplitude Formation Top

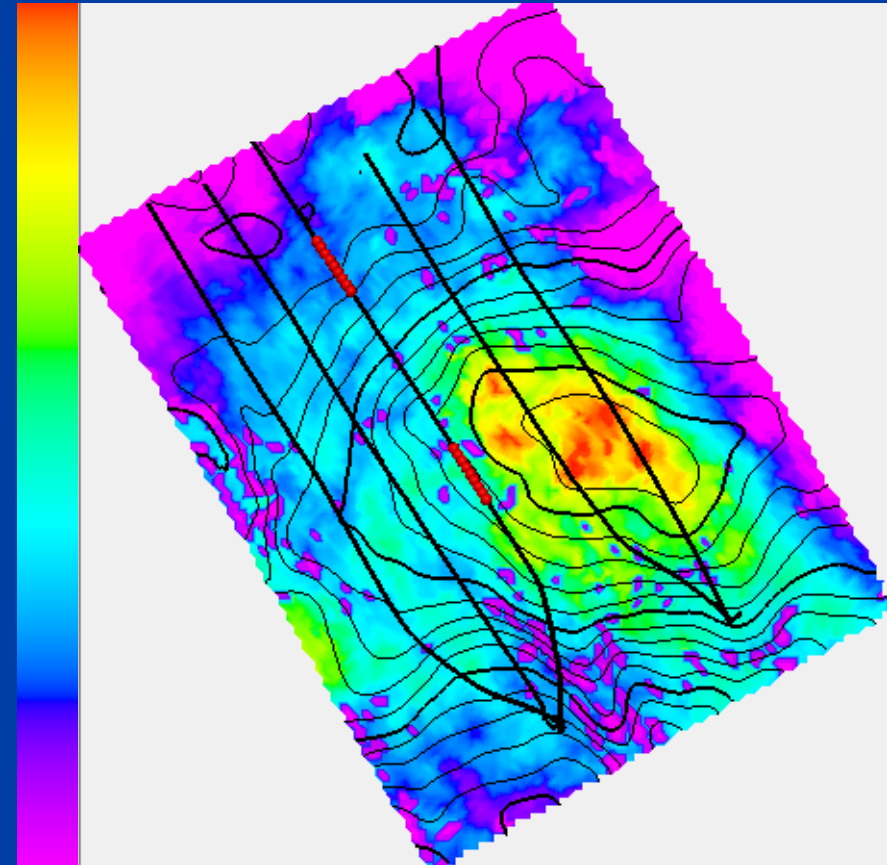
8000



-20000

RMS Amplitude Formation Top

16000

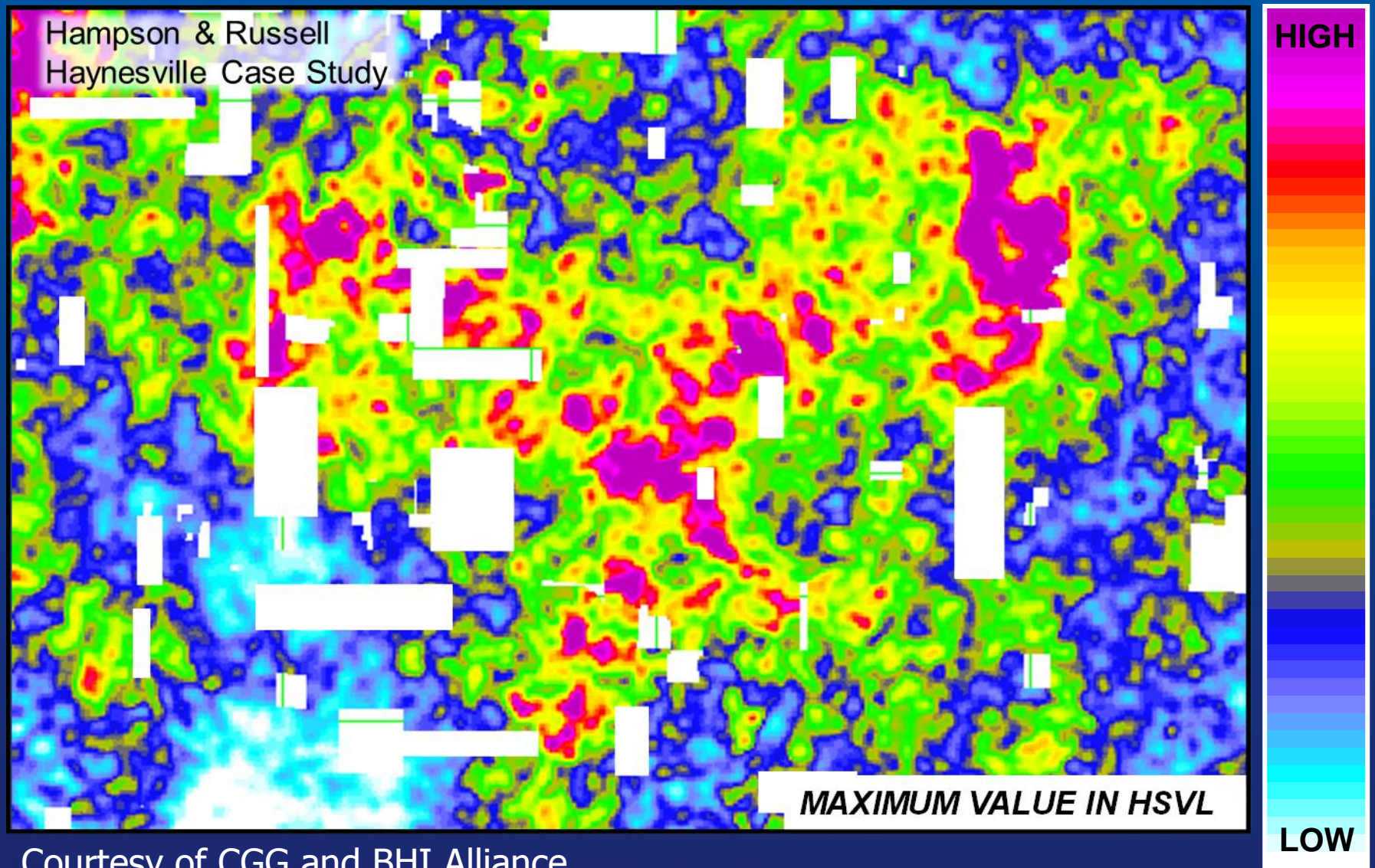


2000

Location of LPLD events are correlative with amplitude anomalies

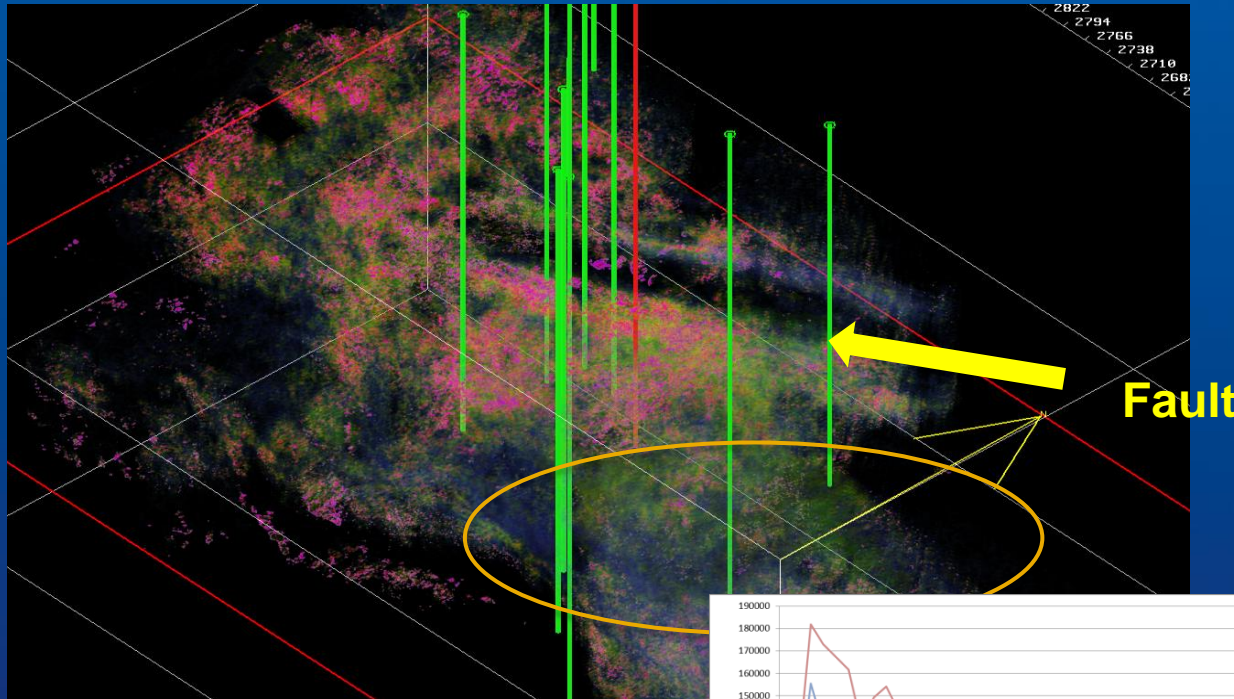


# Multi-Attribute Prediction of TOC (WPCTOC)



Courtesy of CGG and BHI Alliance

# Locating Areas of High TOC in Seismic Volume



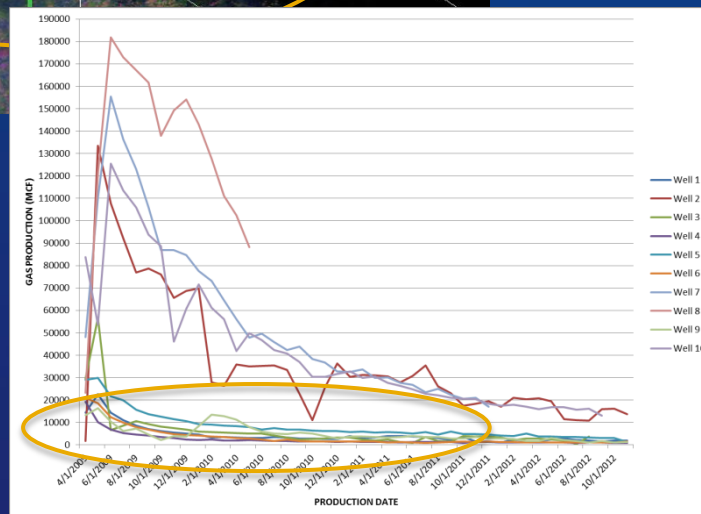
Volumetric View  
of TOC with well  
penetrations

Multiple  
uneconomic wells

Several TOC rich  
areas yet to be  
exploited

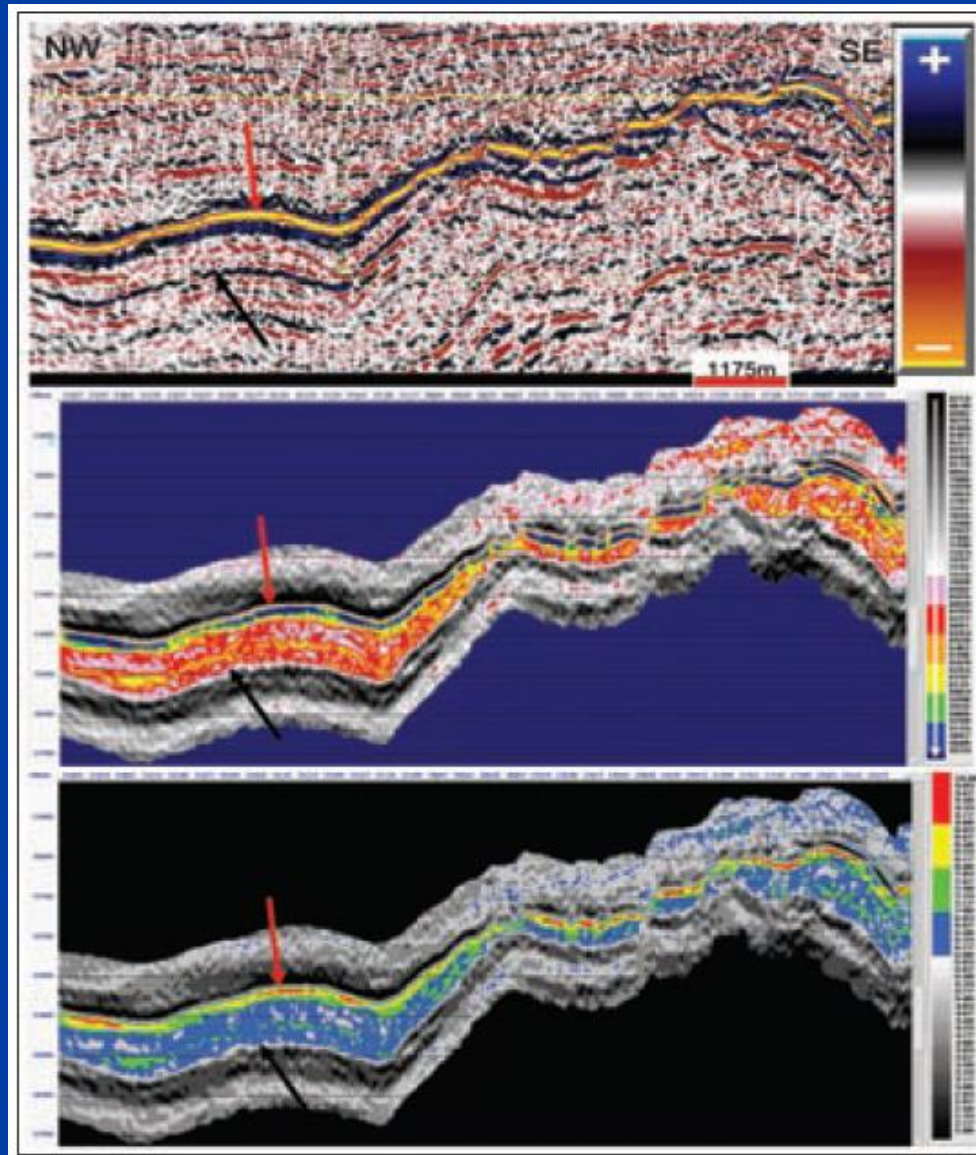


High  
Probability





# TOC (Total Organic Content) Vs. Acoustic Impedance



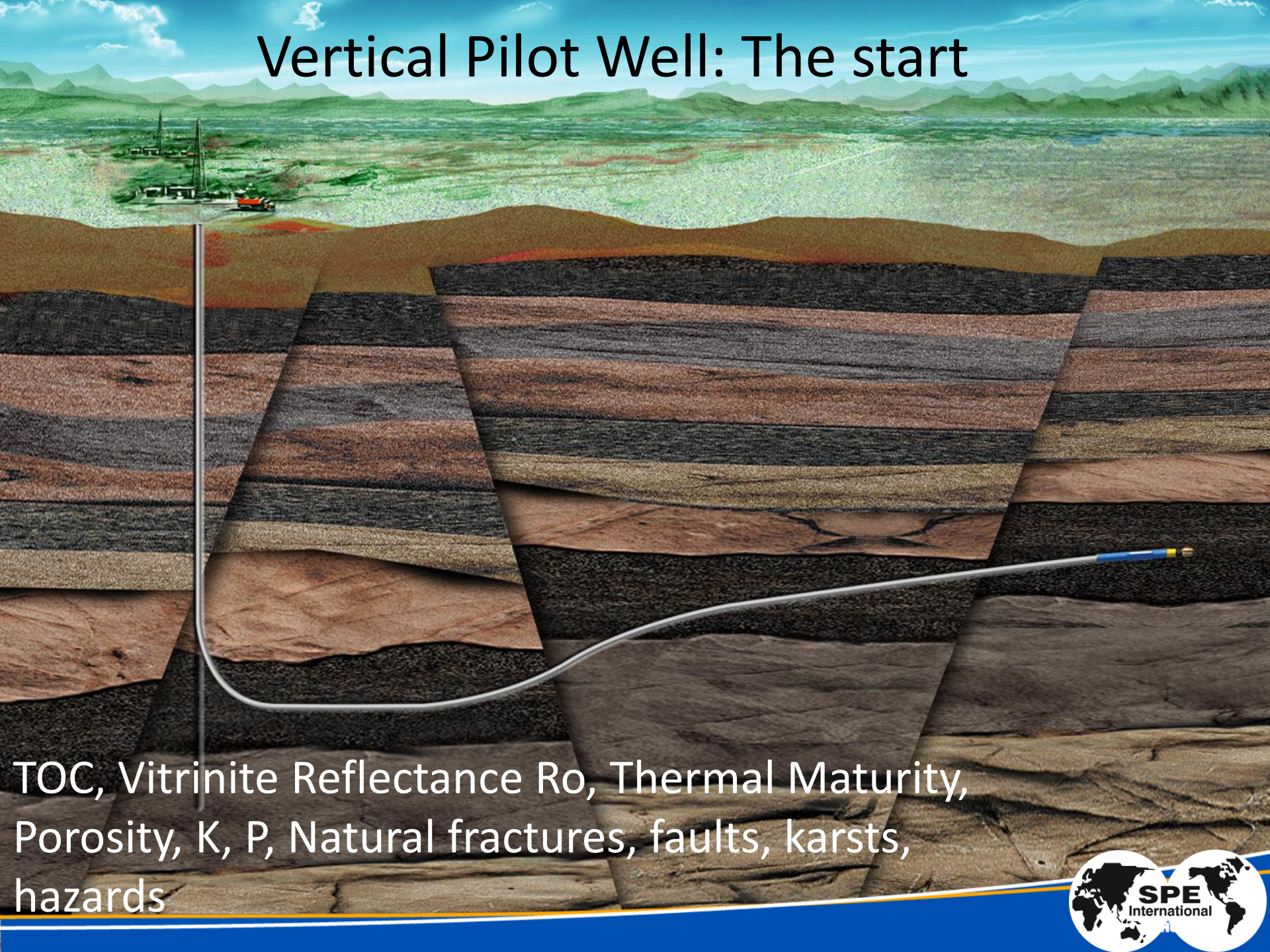
**Lower Acoustic Impedance = Higher TOC and Natural Fractures**

Pictured here (from top), near stack seismic section, Acoustic Impedance section and TOC section through the northern calibration well. The red arrows point at the top of the Spekk Formation and the black arrows point at the base. In the middle Acoustic Impedance section, the acoustic impedance is lower within the Spekk Formation than in adjacent strata, apart from in the shallowest part where the low impedances are due to the shallow depth and not due to organic content. A trend from very low acoustic impedances in the upper part (blue colors) to higher acoustic impedances further down (red and pink colors) is clearly seen within the Spekk Formation. TOC content greater than 6 percent TOC is highlighted in bright colors in the lower figure.

*Graphics courtesy of Statoil Research Center*



# Vertical Pilot Well: The start



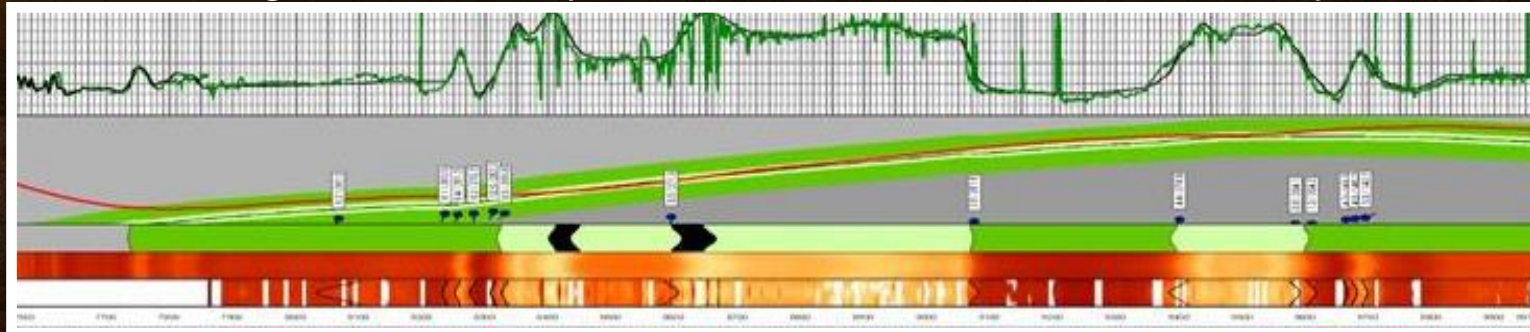
TOC, Vitrinite Reflectance  $R_o$ , Thermal Maturity,  
Porosity, K, P, Natural fractures, faults, karsts,  
hazards



# Moving from Pilot wells to development wells

## Reservoir Navigation Services - RNS (Azimuthal Resistivity & Gamma Images)

Armstrong Co., Pennsylvania – Marcellus Case History



Target for Lateral  
High TOC = only 15ft Thick

### Well Trajectory Planned

- Seismic
- Shale Analysis
- Offset Well Data

### Monitored LWD GR

- Up and Down
- To determine if well approaching formation top or bottom / correct

Follow the high TOC, Ro, BI and Pp path



# Evaluating the Resource and Production Potential

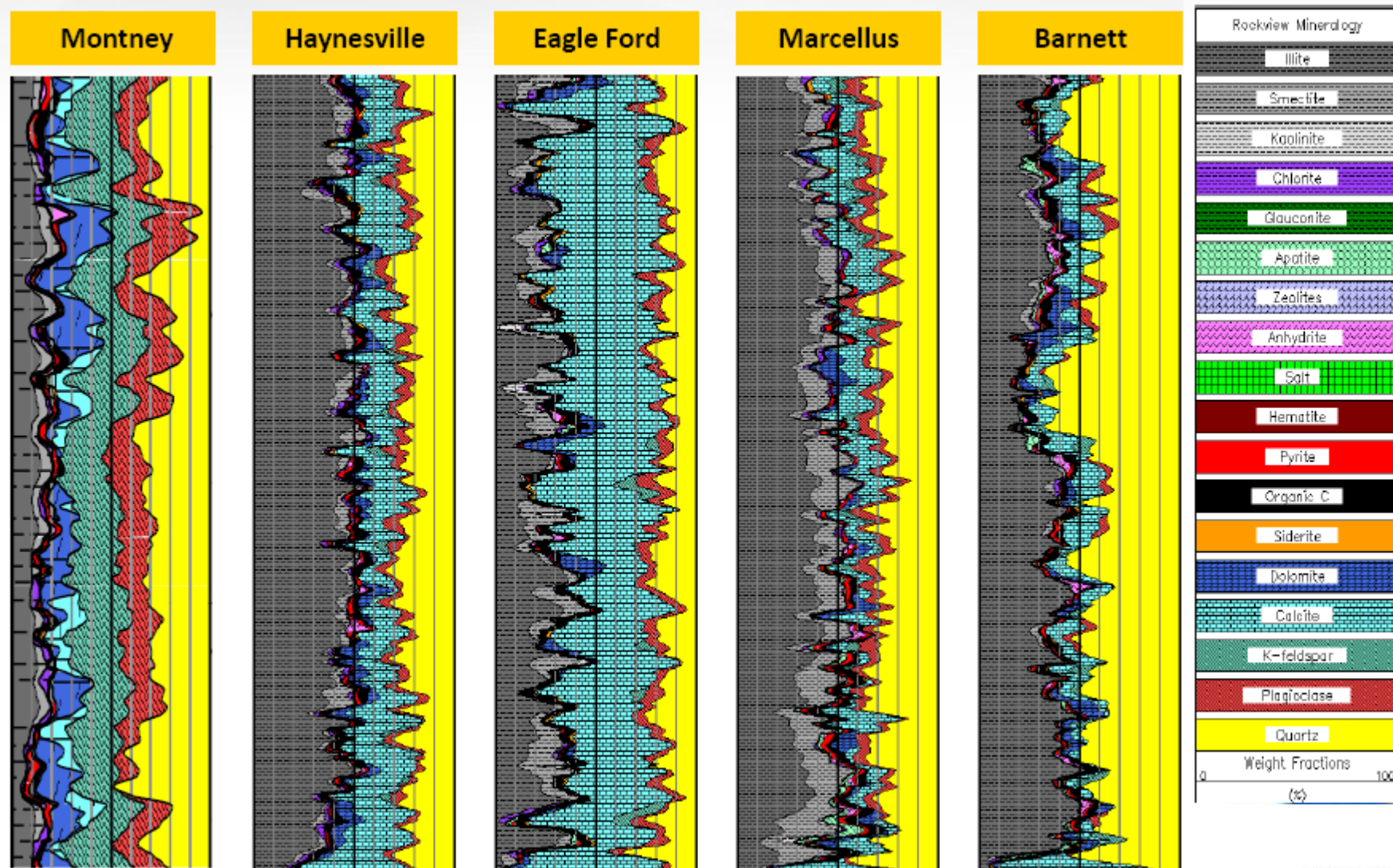
## Resistivity / Density /Neutron

20 Formation Lithology	Spectroscopy	Micro- seismic	Imaging	Large Diameter Coring	Deep Reading Shear Acoustic	Nuclear Magnetic Resonance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Geochemistry</u></li> <li>• Lithology</li> <li>• Mineralogy</li> <li>• Total organic carbon</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Lithology</u></li> <li>• Mineralogy</li> <li>• Th/U for Carbon classification</li> </ul>	Image correlation with lithology and <u>facies</u>	<u>Fracture detection</u>	<u>Core analyses</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geomechanical properties from Wellbore and <u>away from wellbore</u></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Porosity</li> <li>• Independent measure of <u>total organic carbon</u></li> </ul>

### Logging and Core analyses can identify:

- Formation with producible source rock hydrocarbon
- Optimum formations to drill horizontal laterals
  - Optimal placement of frac stages
  - Potential barriers for frac containment
- Mineralogy key component integrated with Geomechanics

# Mineralogy Varies in Shale Reservoirs





# Wellbore Imaging: Fractures, Faults & Geohazards

# WBM Imager



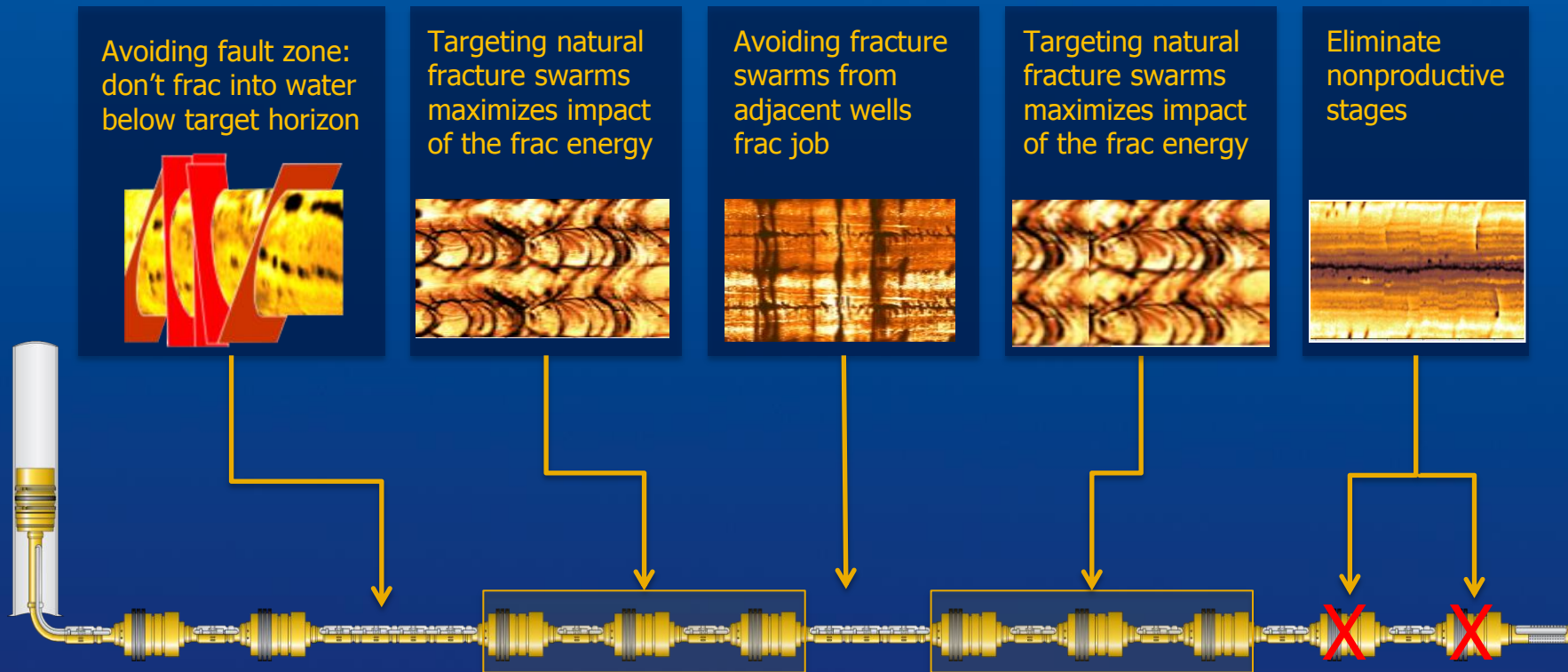
Acquire high-resolution resistivity formation i

# OBM Imager



Acquire high-resolution microresistivity images in oil-based mud system

# High-definition LWD Imaging to Optimize Completions



**Case Histories Show Production Increases above 20 %  
and above 10% in EUR**

# Deep Shear Wave Imaging (up to 70m away)

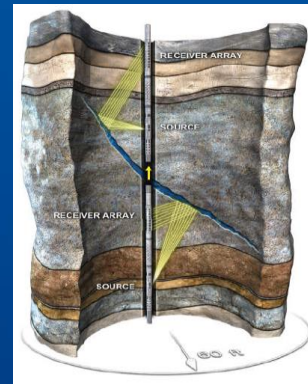
- Methodology

- Filtering direct waves
- Reflected wave stacking
- Reflector strike inversion
- Fullwave data migration

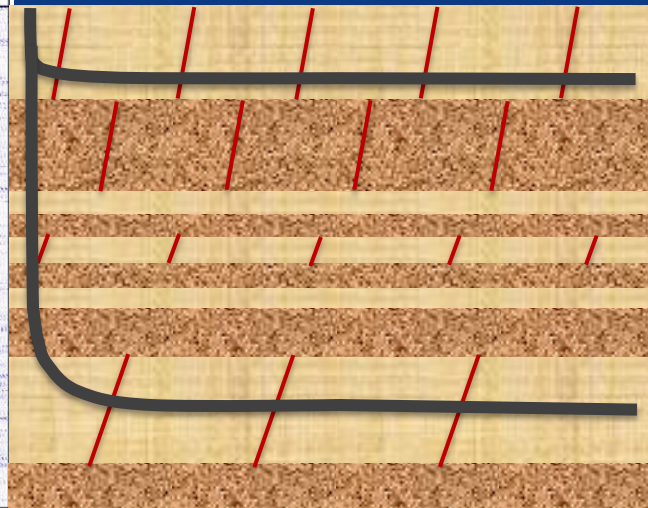
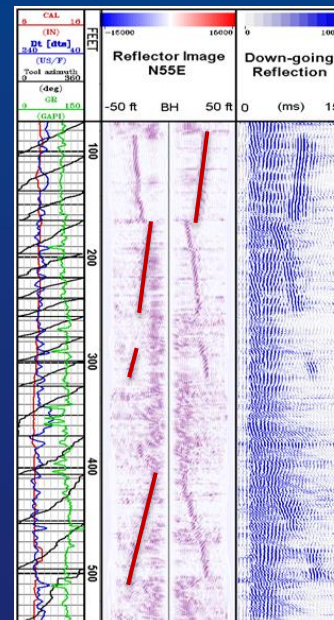
- Benefits

- Illuminate natural fractures up to 70 m away.
- Identify mechanical strata
- Placing laterals

Imaging fractures that intersect the well

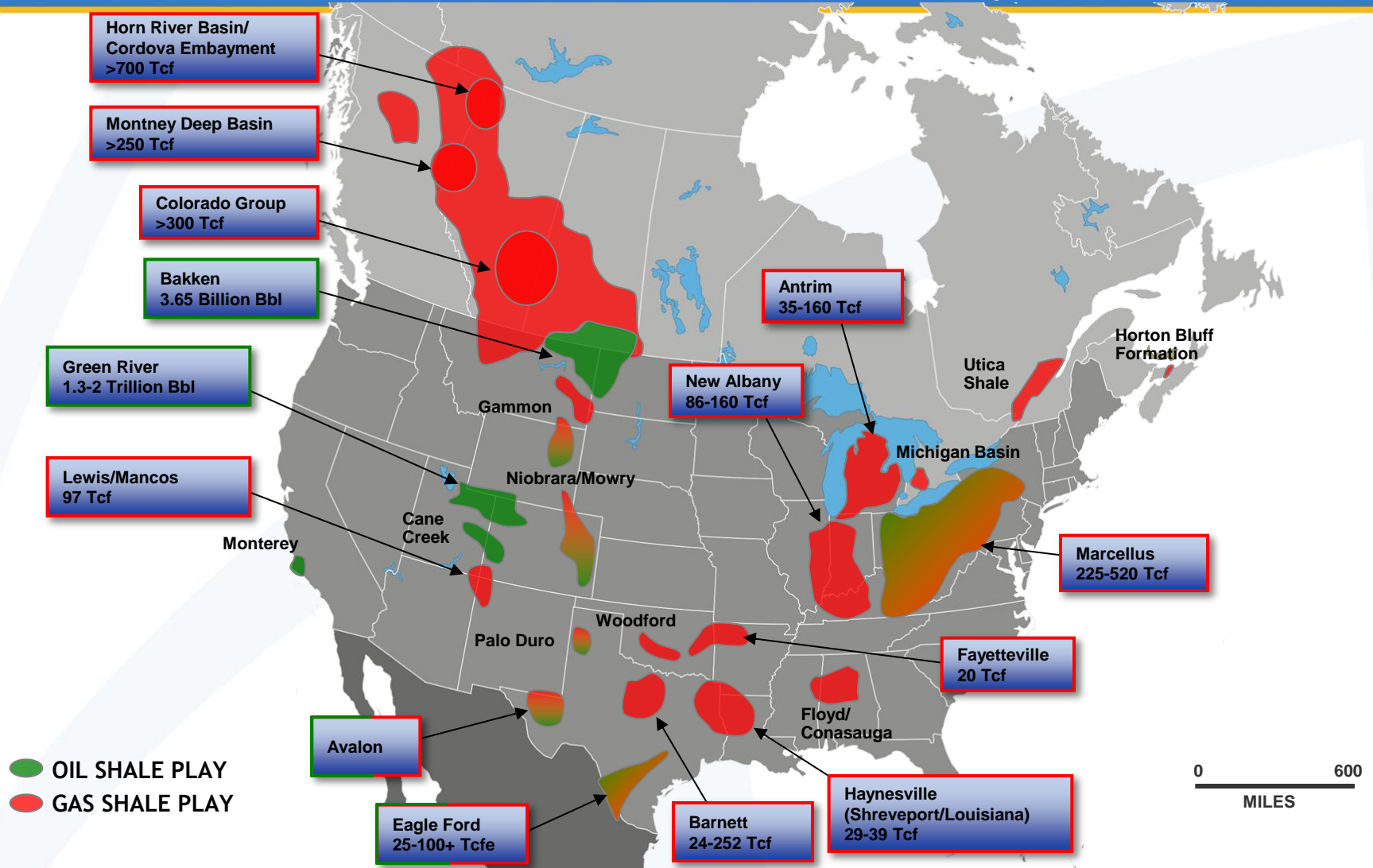


Imaging fractures that do not intersect the well



# The Next 5-10 Years

## ~100,000 Wells, 1-2 Million Hydrofracs



### How Do We Optimize Resource Development?

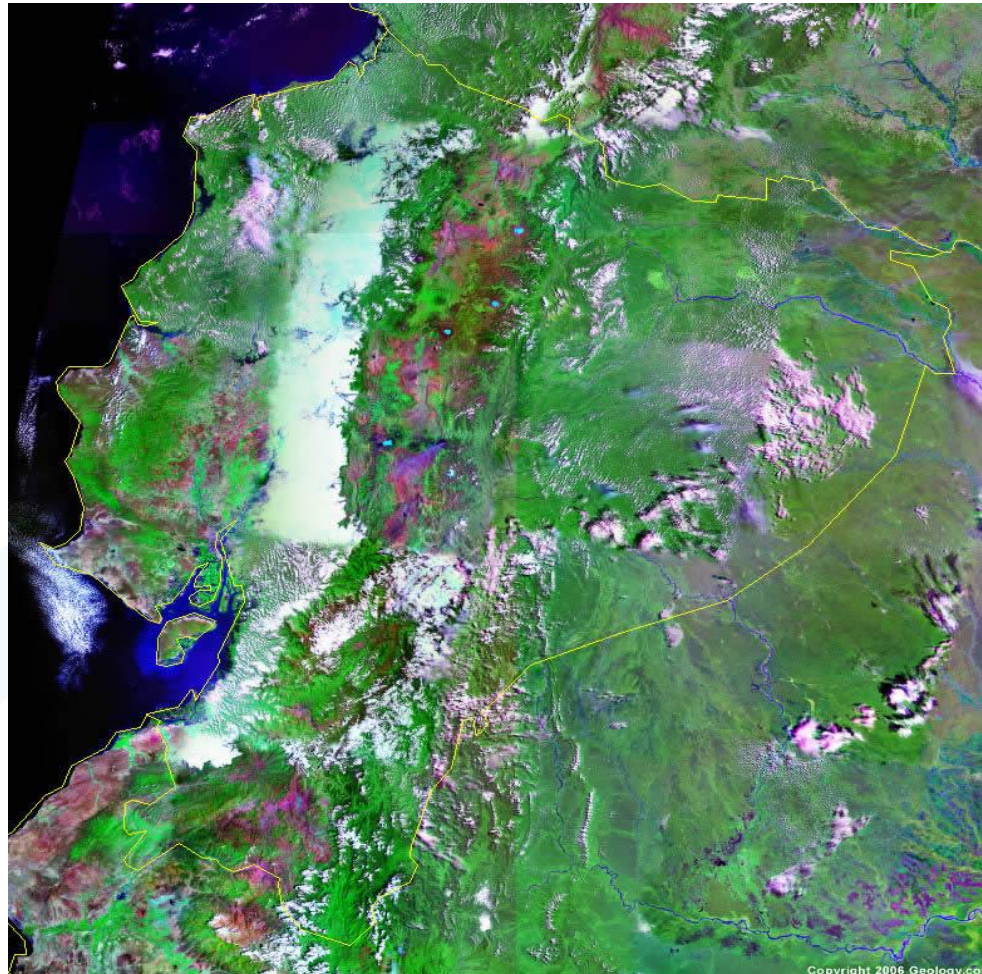


# Outside North America?: The Next 5-10 Years?

## Wells, ? Hydraulic fracs

### Eastern Hm

UK  
Poland  
Russia  
Turkey  
Saudi Arabia  
Kuwait  
India  
China  
Indonesia  
Australia  
Croatia



### Western Hm

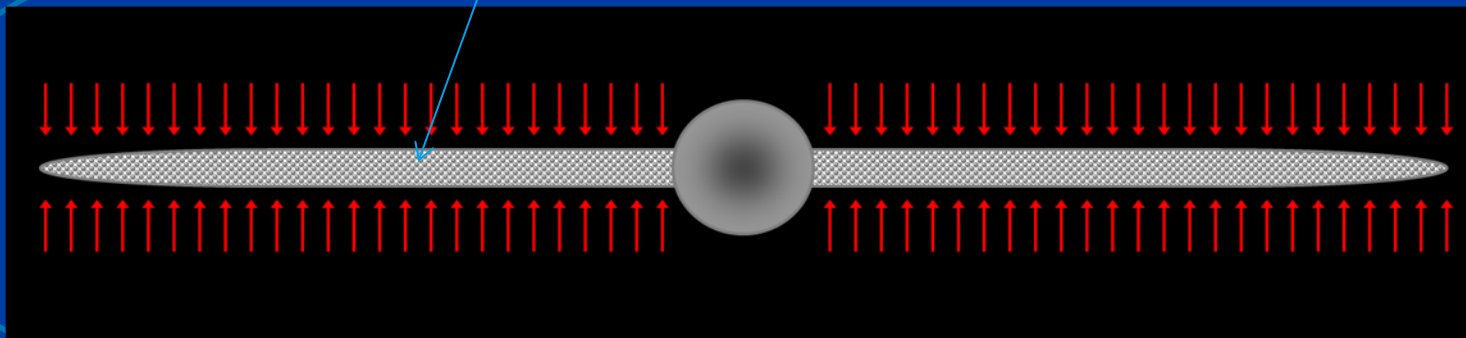
Argentina  
Mexico,  
Colombia  
Venezuela  
Ecuador  
Brazil

**How Do We Optimize Resource Development?**

# Production from Nano-Darcy Rocks?

- Shale Resource has typically permeability in the nano-Darcy range
- Gas / hydrocarbon may move in order of few feet in a year!!
- What mechanism is there then to produce hydrocarbon from such low permeability rocks?
- Creation of a stimulated reservoir volume that has both longitudinal and shear fractures

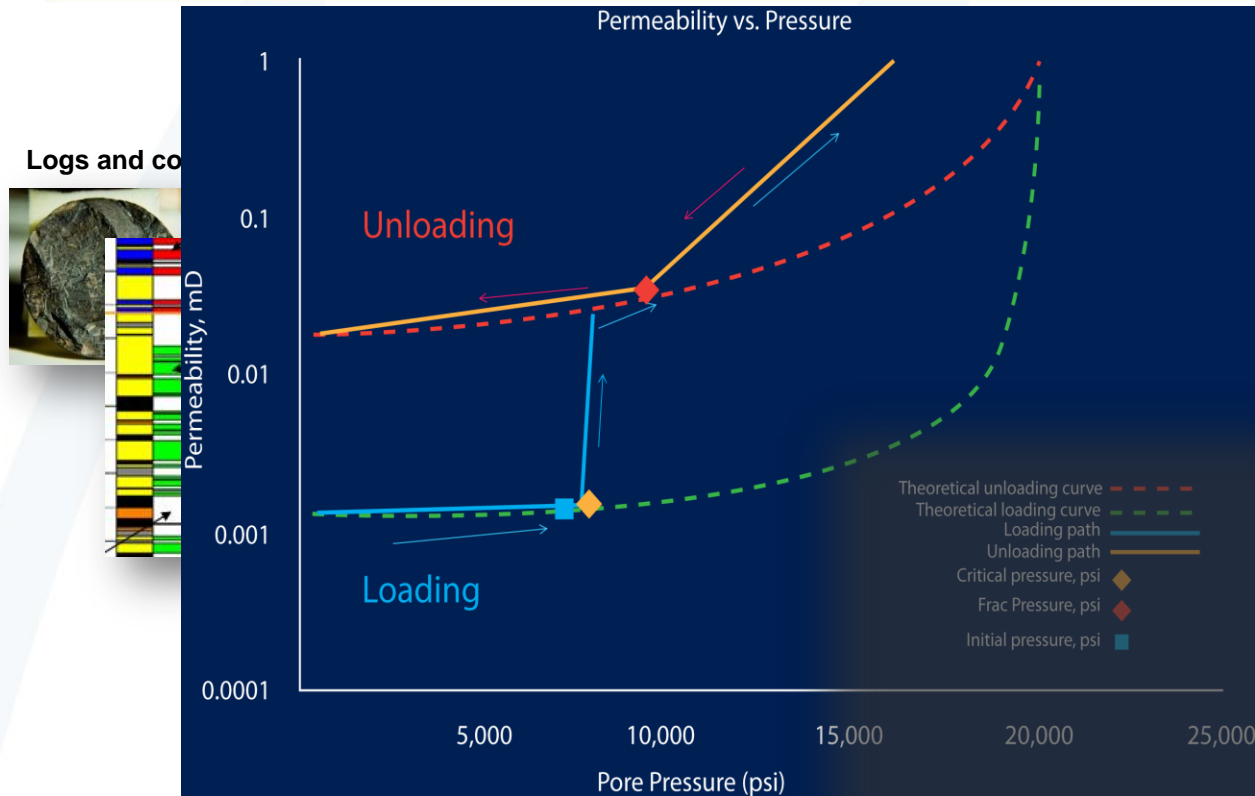
Longitudinal bi-wing fracture



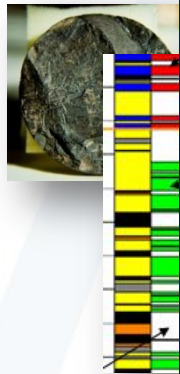
Shear fracture envelope



# From Natural Shale to the Artificial Reservoir

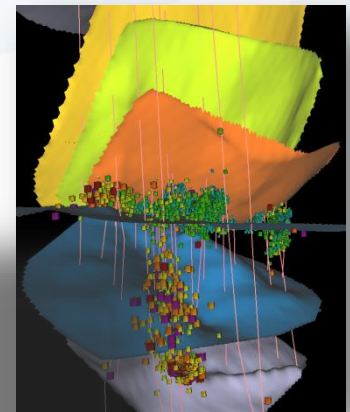
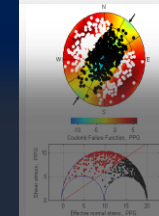


Logs and core



Microseismic Re-processing

Natural  
structure  
permeability  
analysis



## Benefits

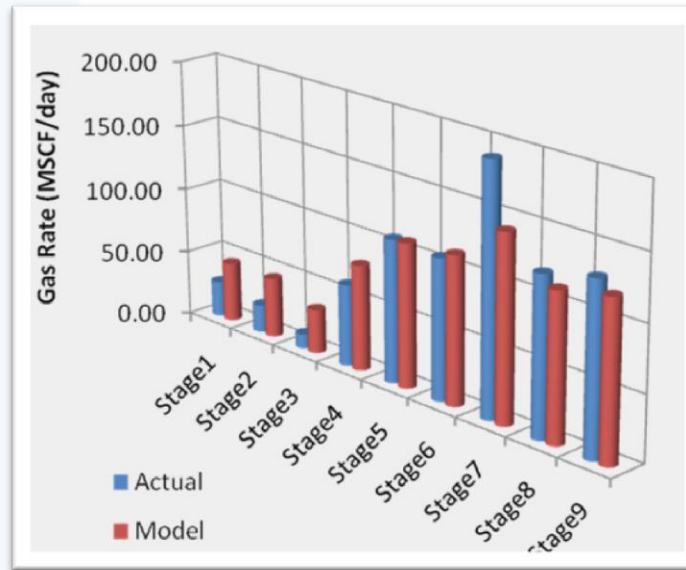
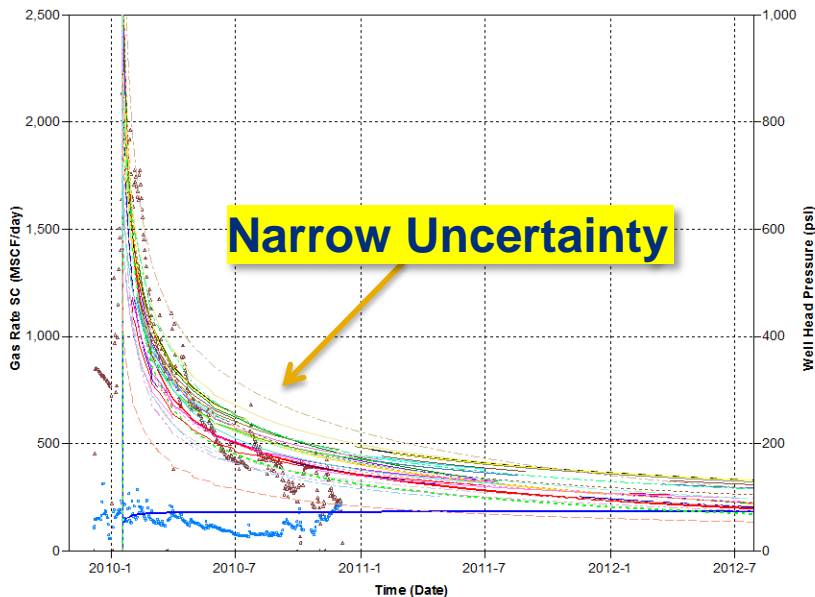
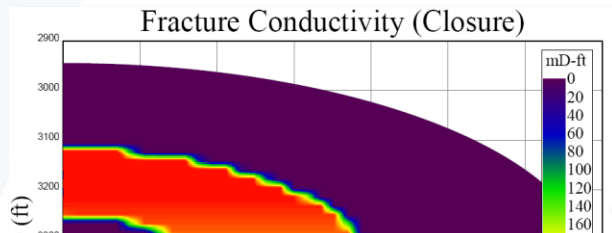
- Enhancing reservoir understanding
- Exploiting modern technology

# Shale Engineering Predictive Model

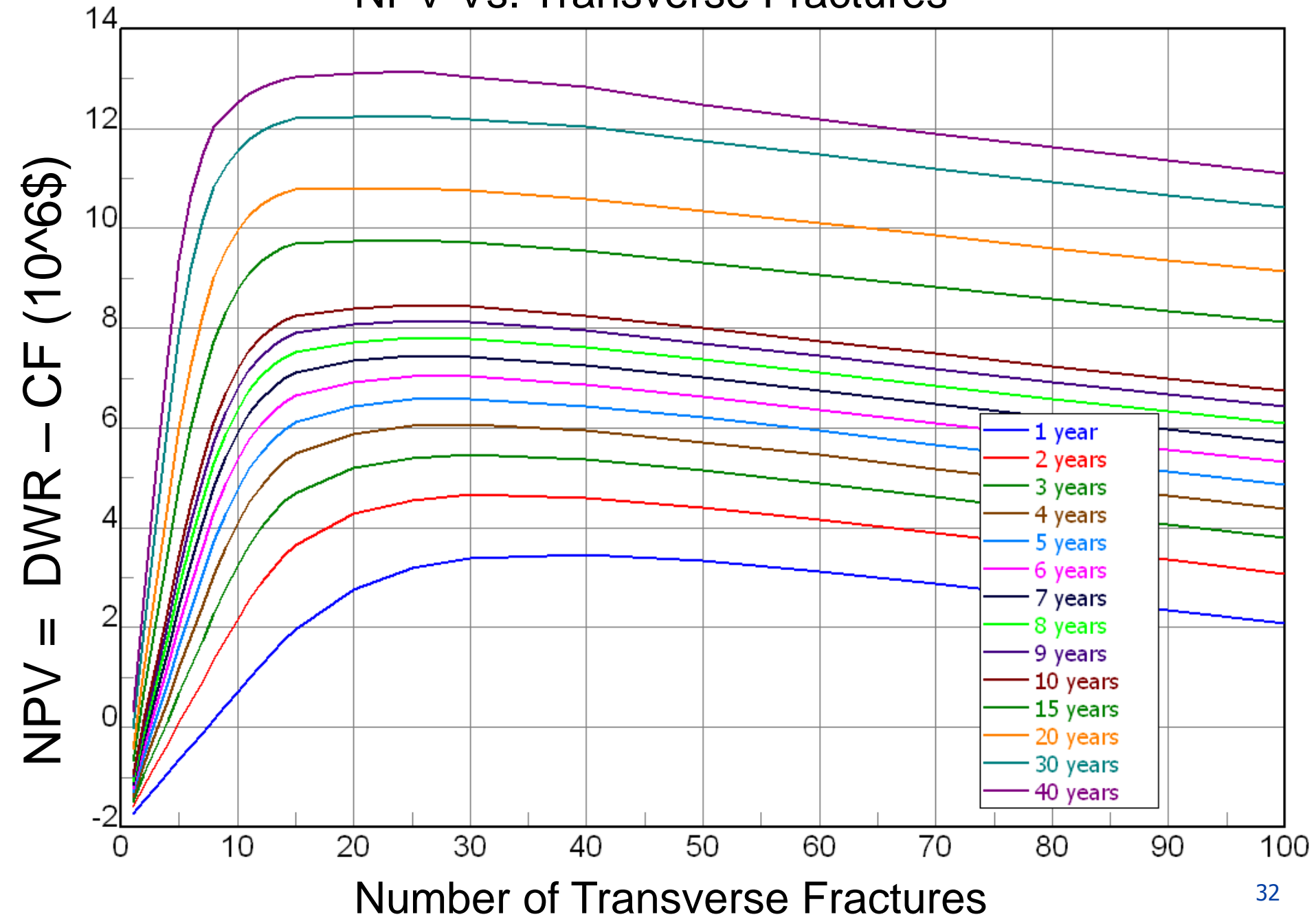
Matched production history and production logging

- ✓ Frac stage contribution match
- ✓ Proppant placement match
- ✓ Well History match

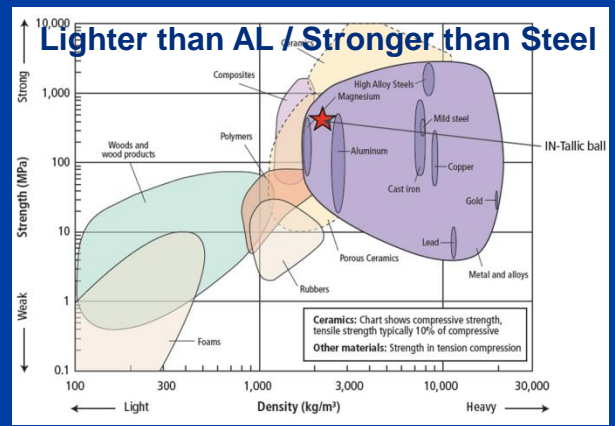
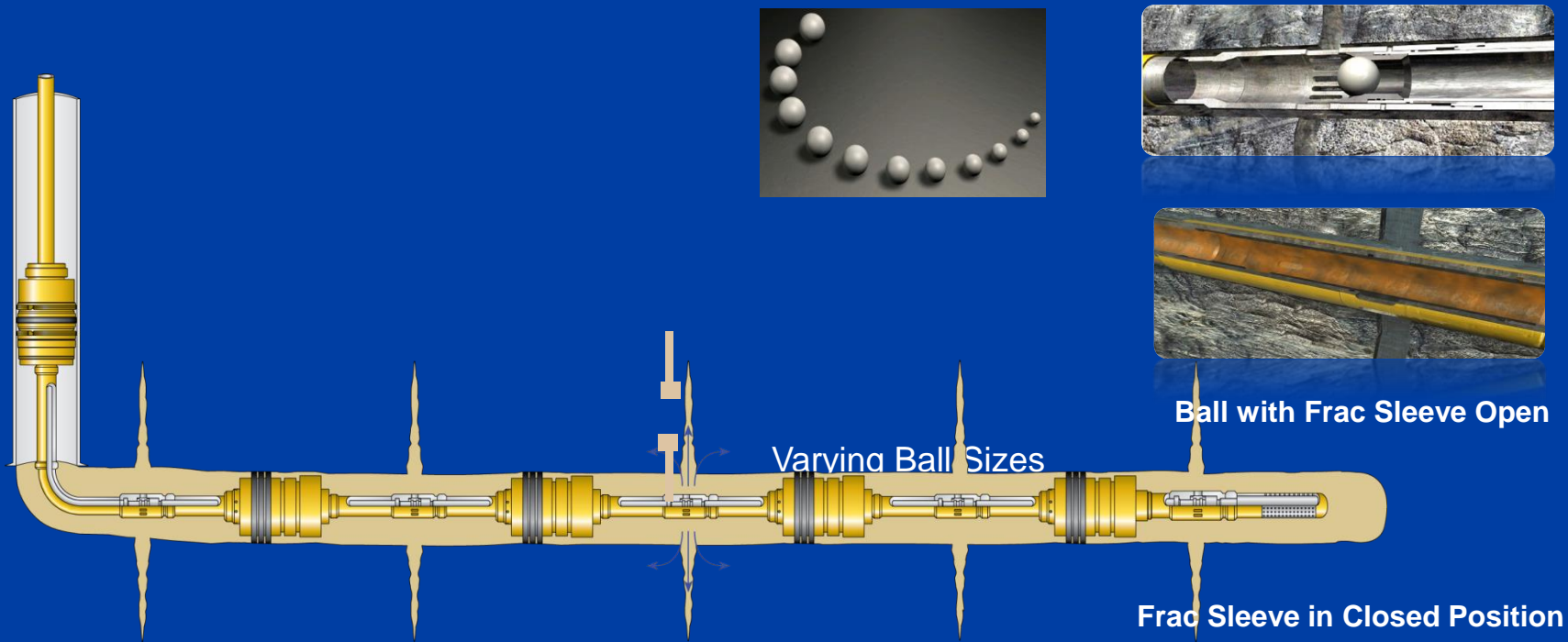
Pressure Drop, psi



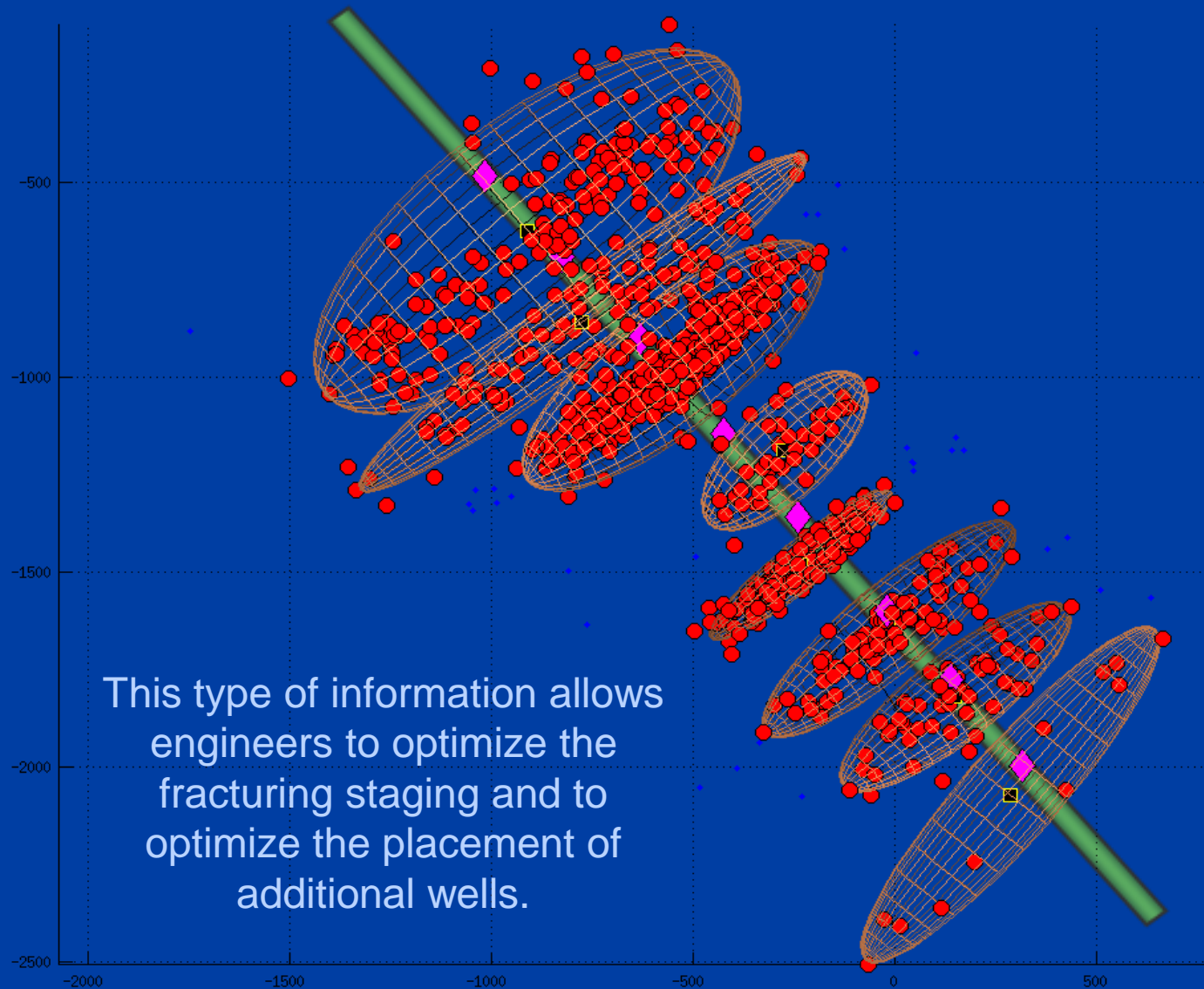
# NPV Vs. Transverse Fractures



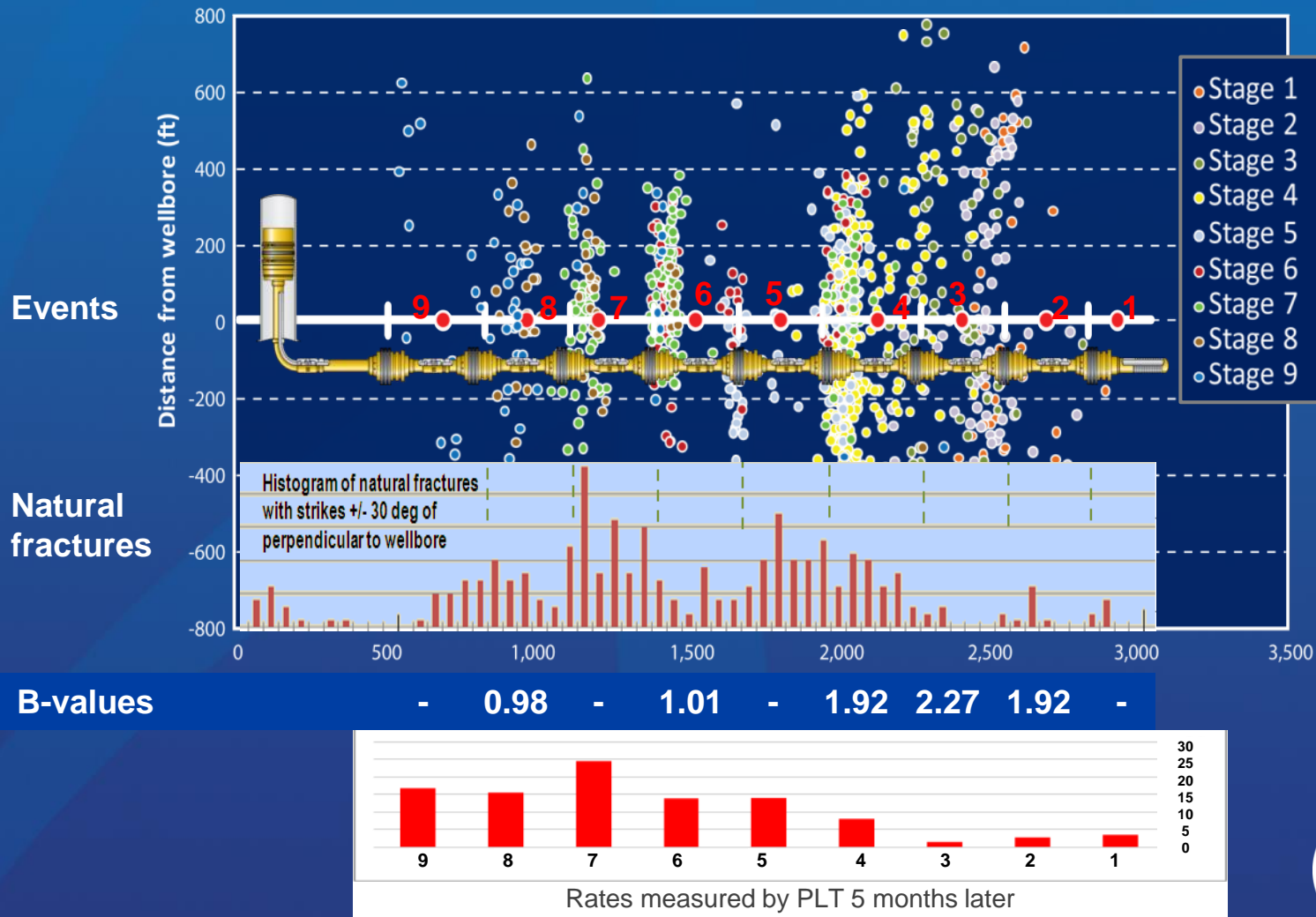
# Ball Activated Sleeve Open / Close Completion System



# Extend and orientation of fractures created



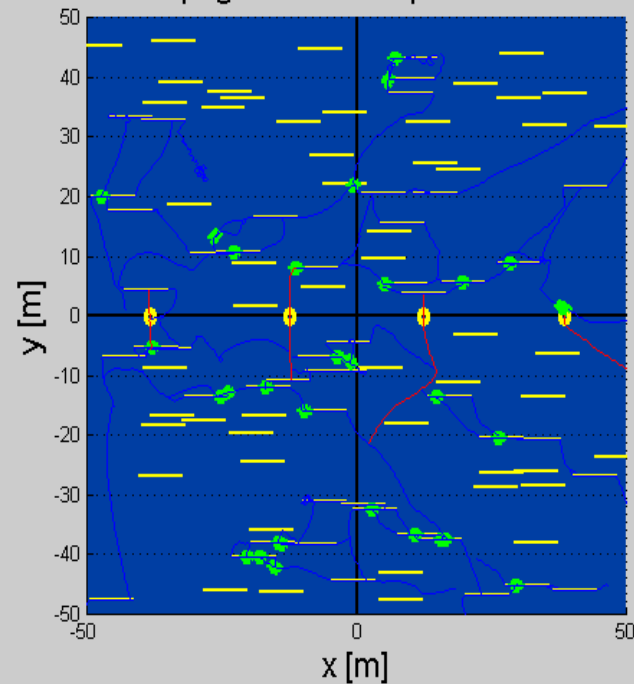
# Relating stage contributions to production: Impact on Field Development Plan





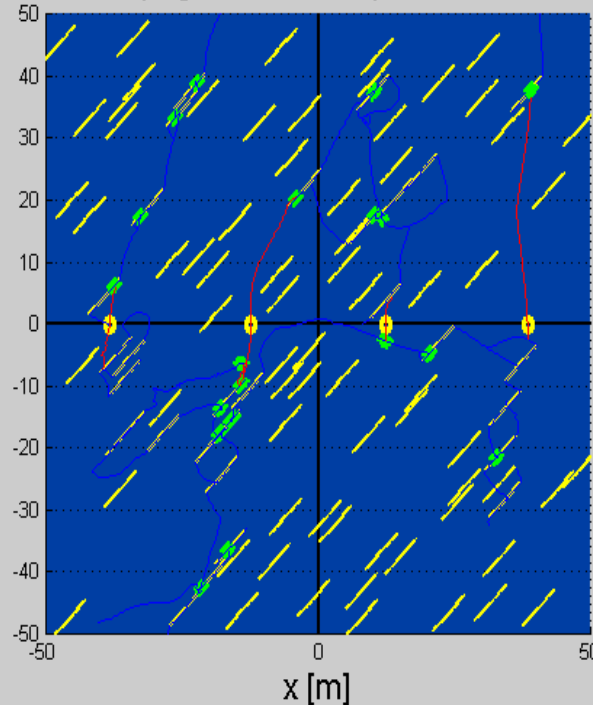
# Fracture Mechanics Based Model

Propagation of multiple fractures



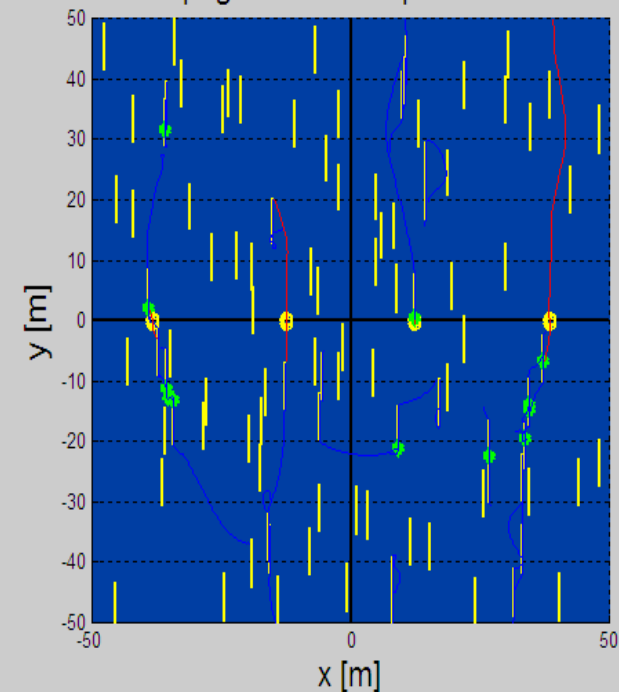
$\sigma_h = \sigma_H$ , NF 100 EW (90°)

Propagation of multiple fractures



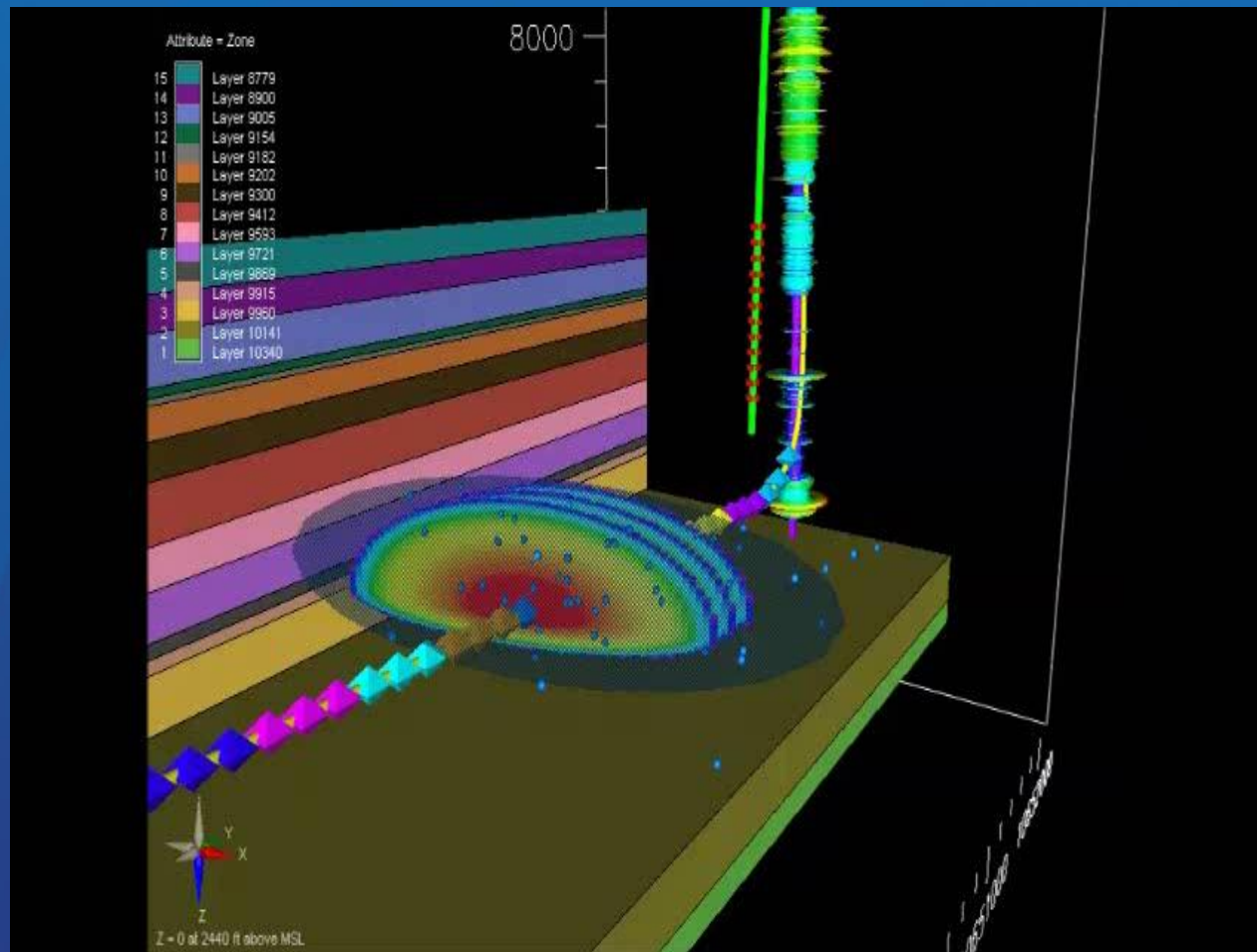
$\sigma_h = \sigma_H$ , NF 100 NS (45°)

Propagation of multiple fractures



$\sigma_h = \sigma_H$ , NF 100 NS (0°)

# Integrated Display



- Well Logs
- Layers
- Fracture Model
- Events
- Real-Time “SRV”





# Concluding Remarks

- Shale resource is not contiguous and no two Shale basins are the same
  - Sweet spot identification is going to be critical (seismic attribute + Lithofacies) for well placement
  - Different shales will require different set of attributes and the associated lithofacies
- Geometric placement of hydraulic fracture stages needs to be replaced by shale productivity based parameters
  - Capitalize on the presence of natural fractures at the well bore as well as away from the wellbore
  - Avoid faults and geohazards

# Shale Technology: A Look Ahead

- Nanotechnology: An Enabler for Multiple Oil & Gas Applications



Production  
Enhancement

Reservoir  
Assessment

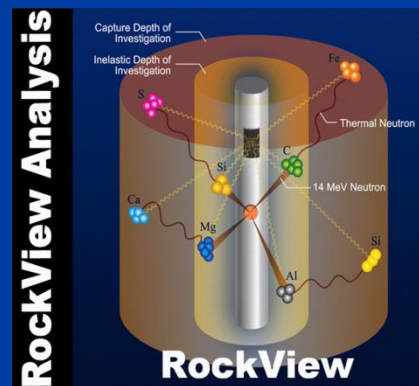
XMACsm



Completion

Formation  
Evaluation

Drilling



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