



Can a Fractured Reservoir be Characterised without BHI Data? A Carbonate Field Example from the Sicily Channel, Italy

Chris Cubitt ⁽¹⁾, Paolo Pace ⁽²⁾ Claudia Steiner-Luckabauer ⁽¹⁾ and Alberto Riva ^(2,3)

(1) HOT Engineering, Leoben (Austria)

(2) G.E.Plan Consulting, Petroleum Geosciences, Ferrara (Italy)

(3) Department of Physics and Earth Sciences, University of Ferrara, Ferrara (Italy)

Presented By: Dr. C. Cubitt, Jan 18th 2017, Larnaca, Cyprus

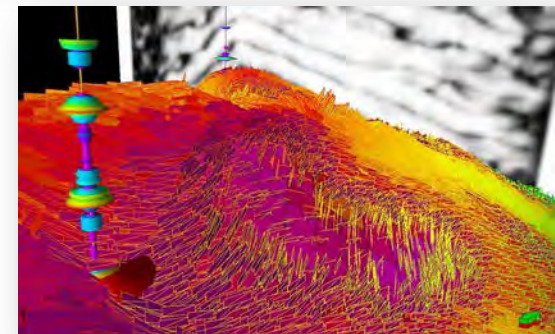
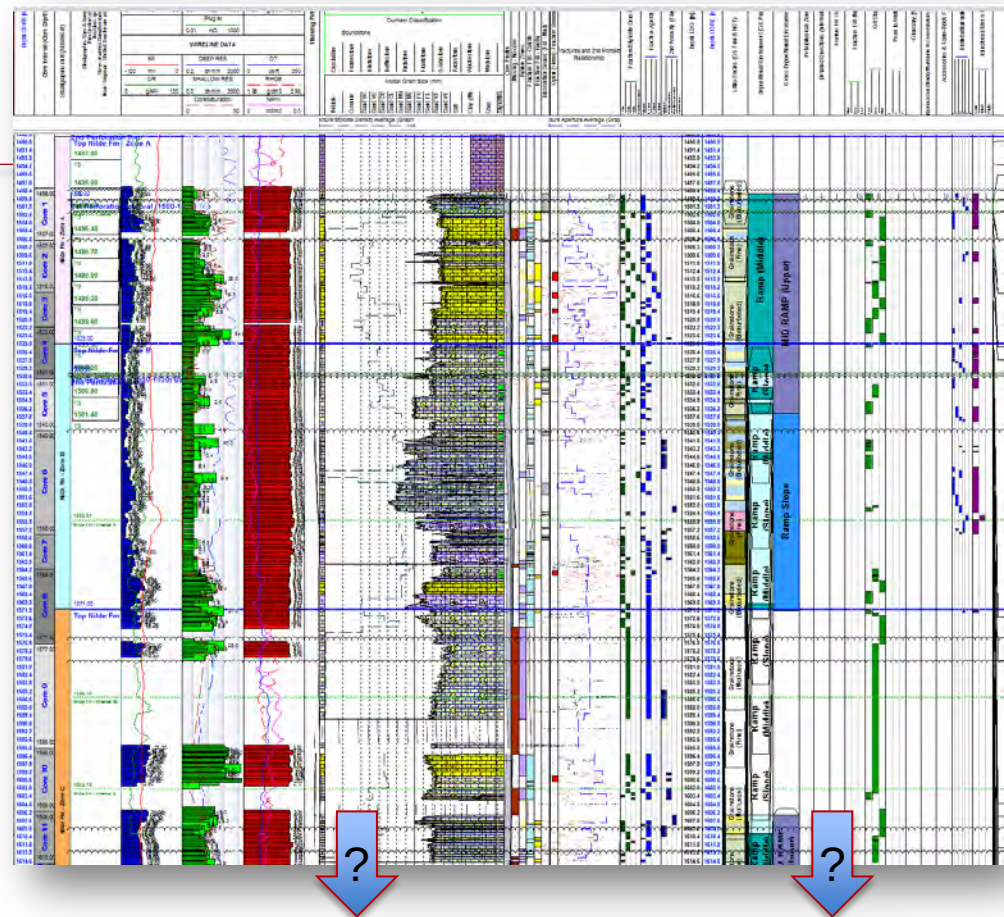


GEPlan Consulting
Petroleum GeoSciences



Agenda

- The premise of the project
- Characterisation
- Analysis
- Discussion
- Conclusions
- Acknowledgements



Note: Generic Petrel fracture model illustrated (from Schlumberger, 2017)

But First, An Introduction

The Problem.....

- More and more the global E&P industry is having to make critical economic decisions using old (early and pre-1990's) and incomplete data sets. Can we still use these data to make these decisions?....

We have to! We no choice.

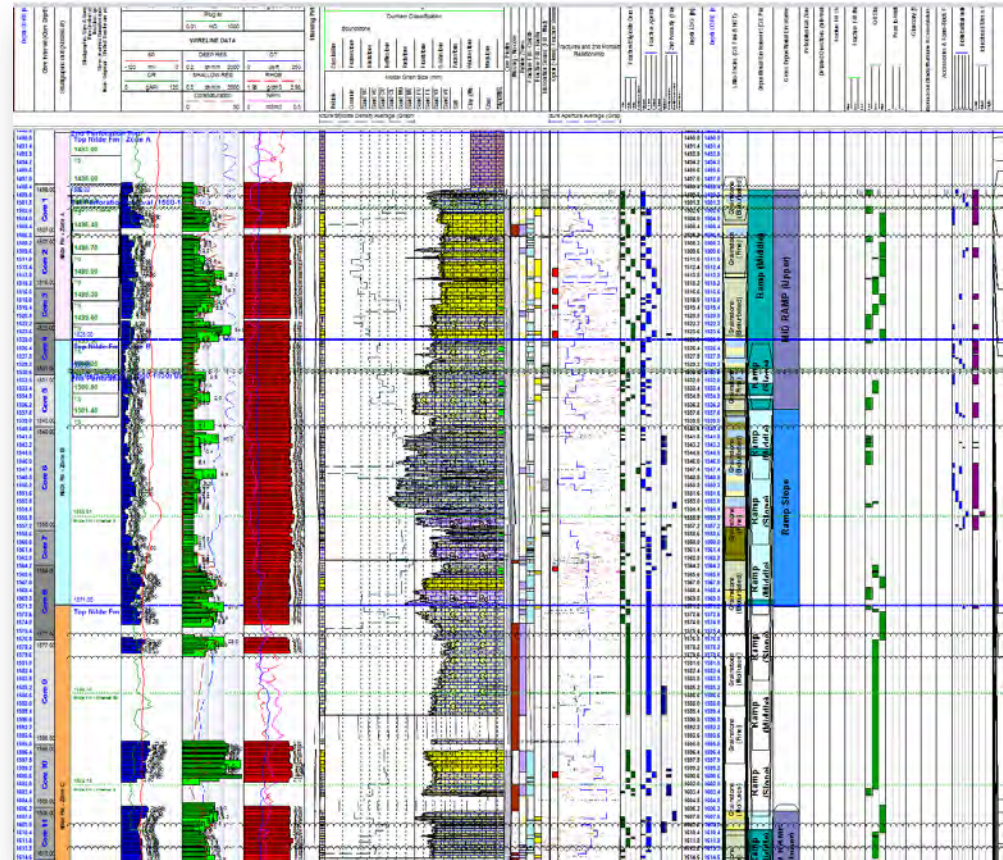
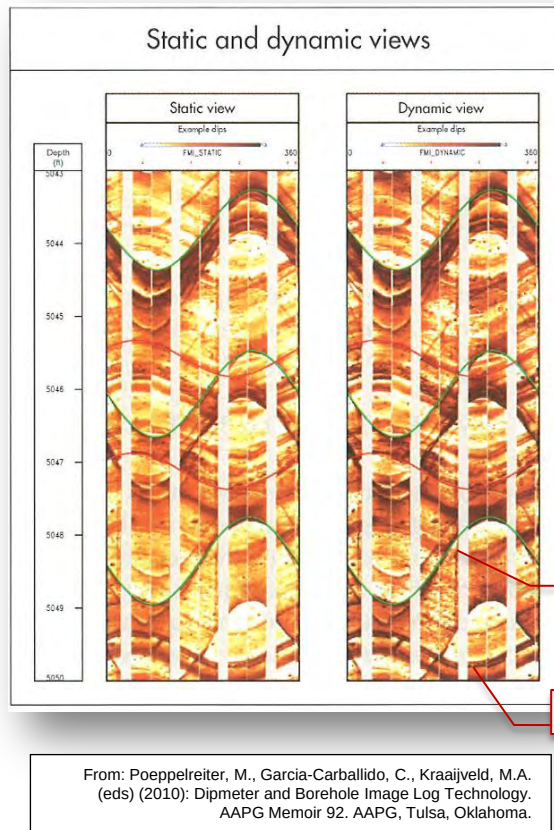
- But can we, for instance, characterise (and maybe model) a fractured carbonate reservoir without critical bore hole image (BHI) fracture data?

Photo Credit: C.Cubitt

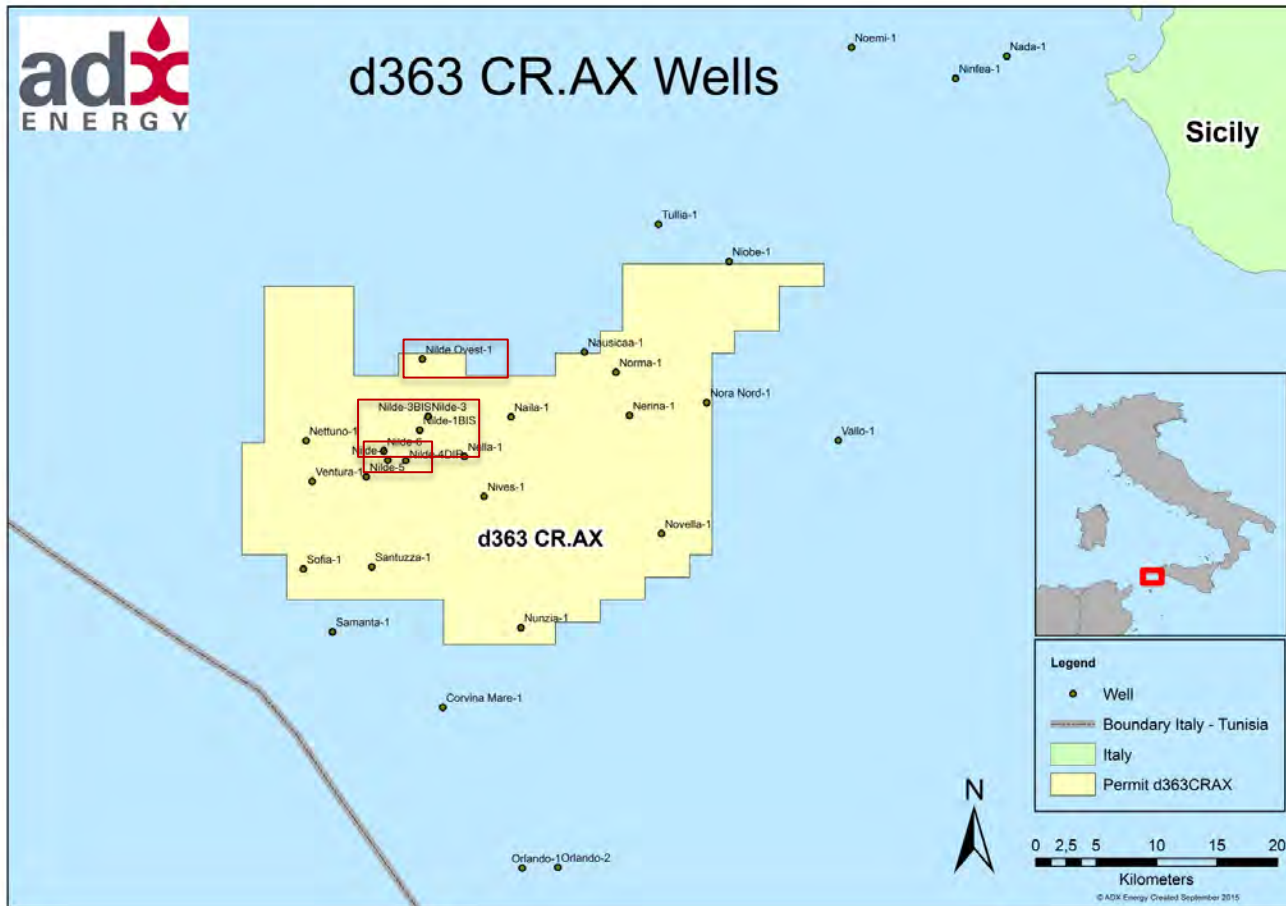


..... Yes We Can.....to a Degree!

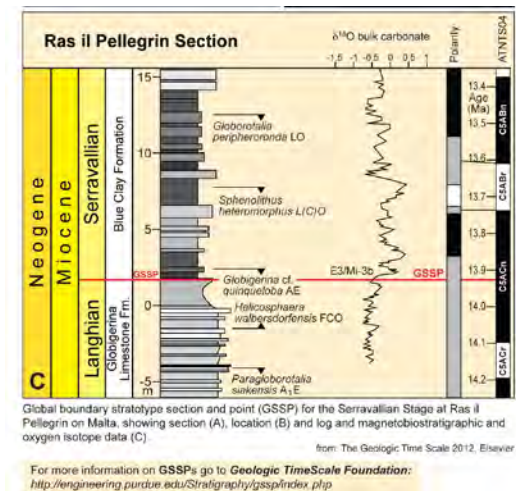
The following presentation and associated abstract outlines just how this can be achieved!



The Case Study Region & Basic Facts

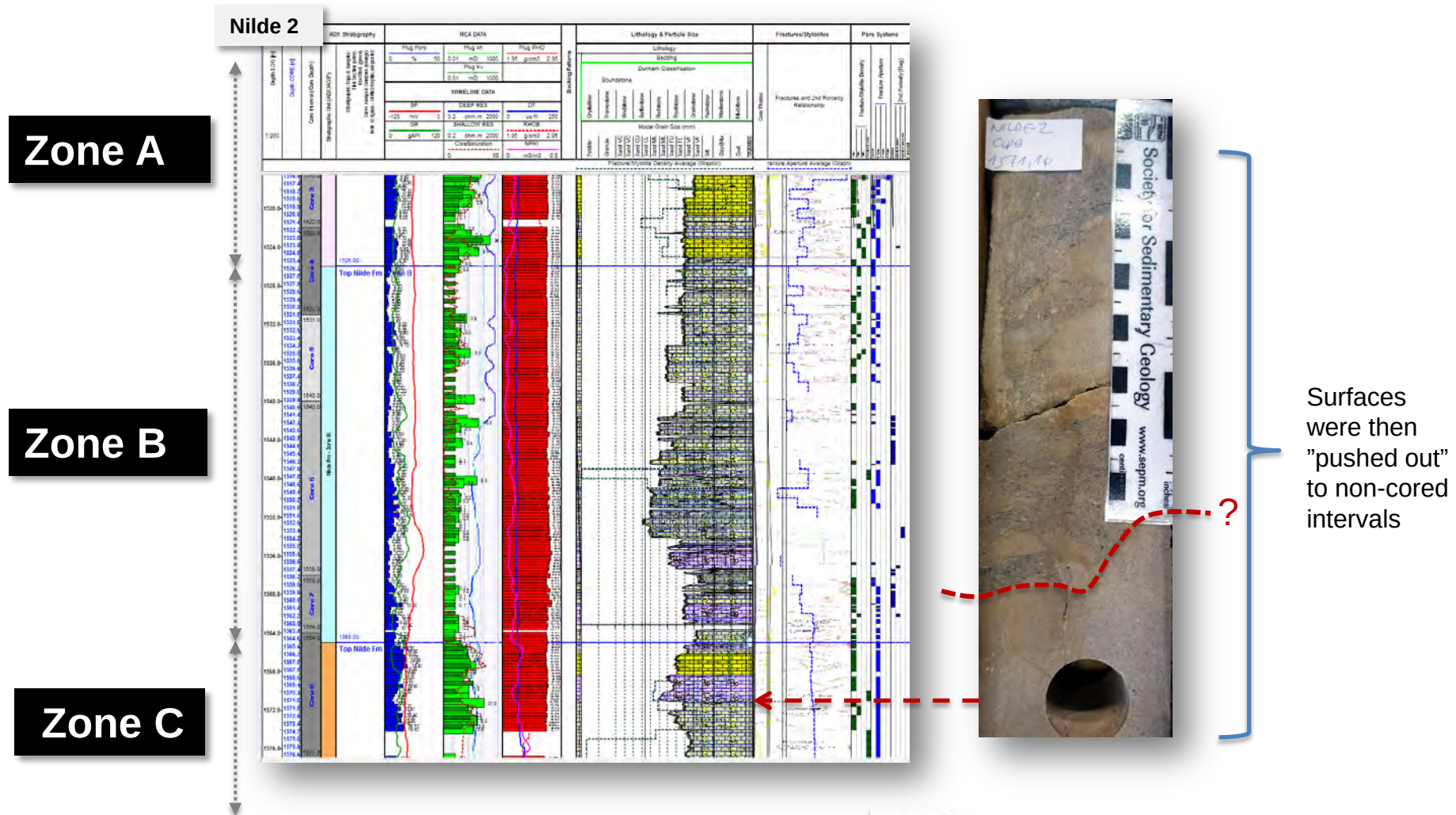


XXX Field reservoirs are mid-Miocene (Langhian-Serravallian) in age located in the Sicily Channel (Italian waters). The field produced for a total of 8 years (early-1980's to 1989).



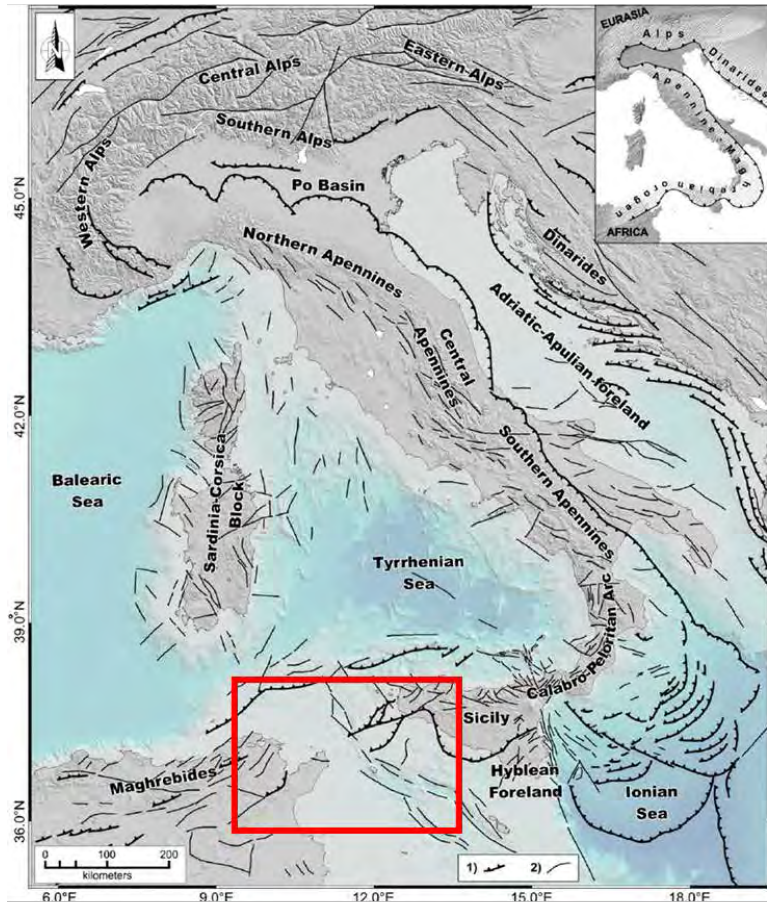
The Case Study Field: Reservoir Stratigraphy

- Core and wireline defined within the regional context

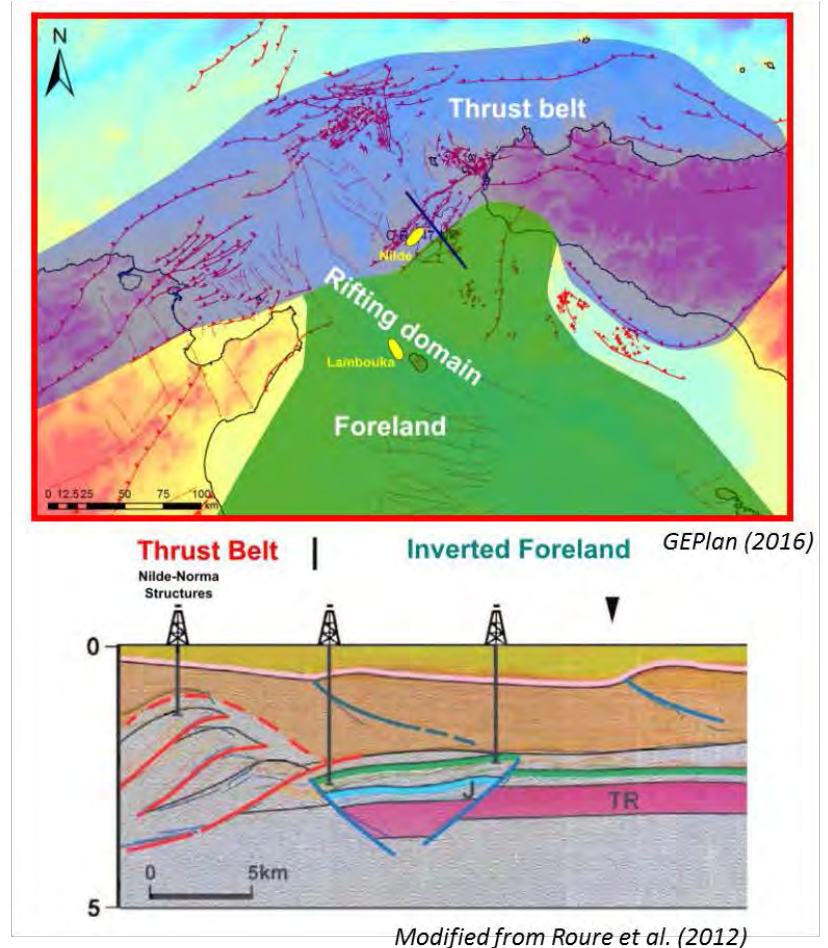


Regional Tectonics

- The northwestern side of the Sicily Channel in the central Mediterranean has been shaped by the occurrence of two independent tectonic processes that overlap each other, the Maghrebides-Apennines accretionary prism and the Sicily Channel rift

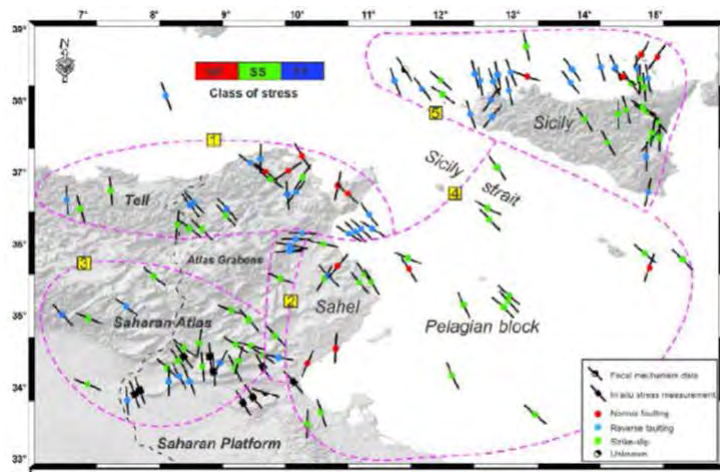


Palano (2015)

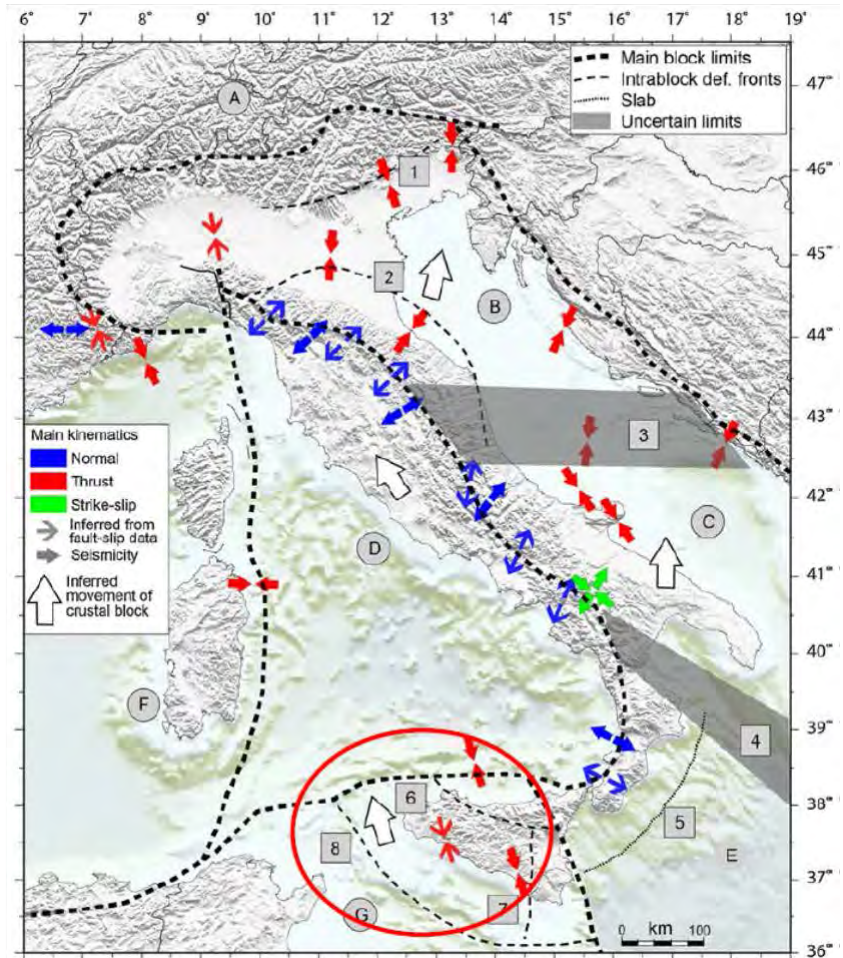
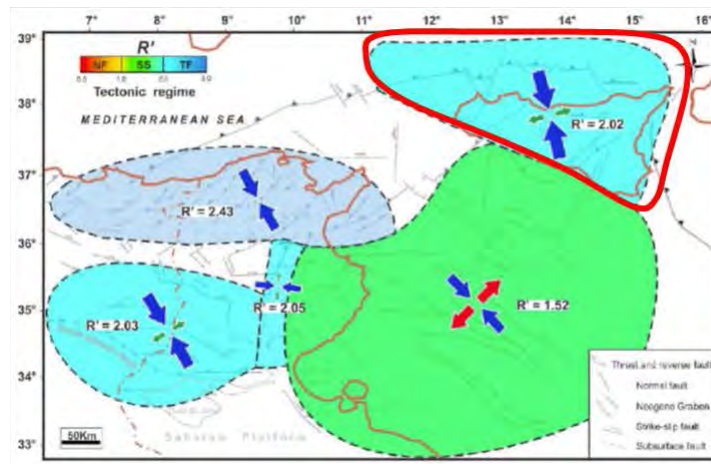


Regional Stress

- The stress orientation (NNW-SSE) can be applied to the case study area



Soumaya et al. (2015)



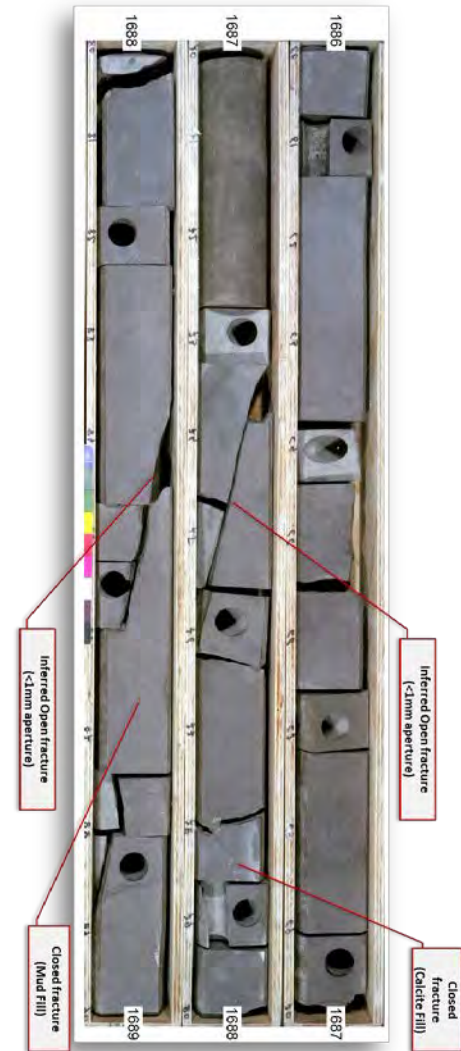
Case Study: Aims

The primary aims

- To ascertain which pore systems dominate the xxx Field reservoir
 - Fractures or vugs (secondary porosity)
- To ascertain the contribution, if any, of the reservoir matrix porosity
- To independently assess key petrophysical assumptions and predictions

The secondary aims:

- To produce a continuous log of fracture density/aperture
- To produce a continuous lithology/oil stain log over the coincident fracture log intervals

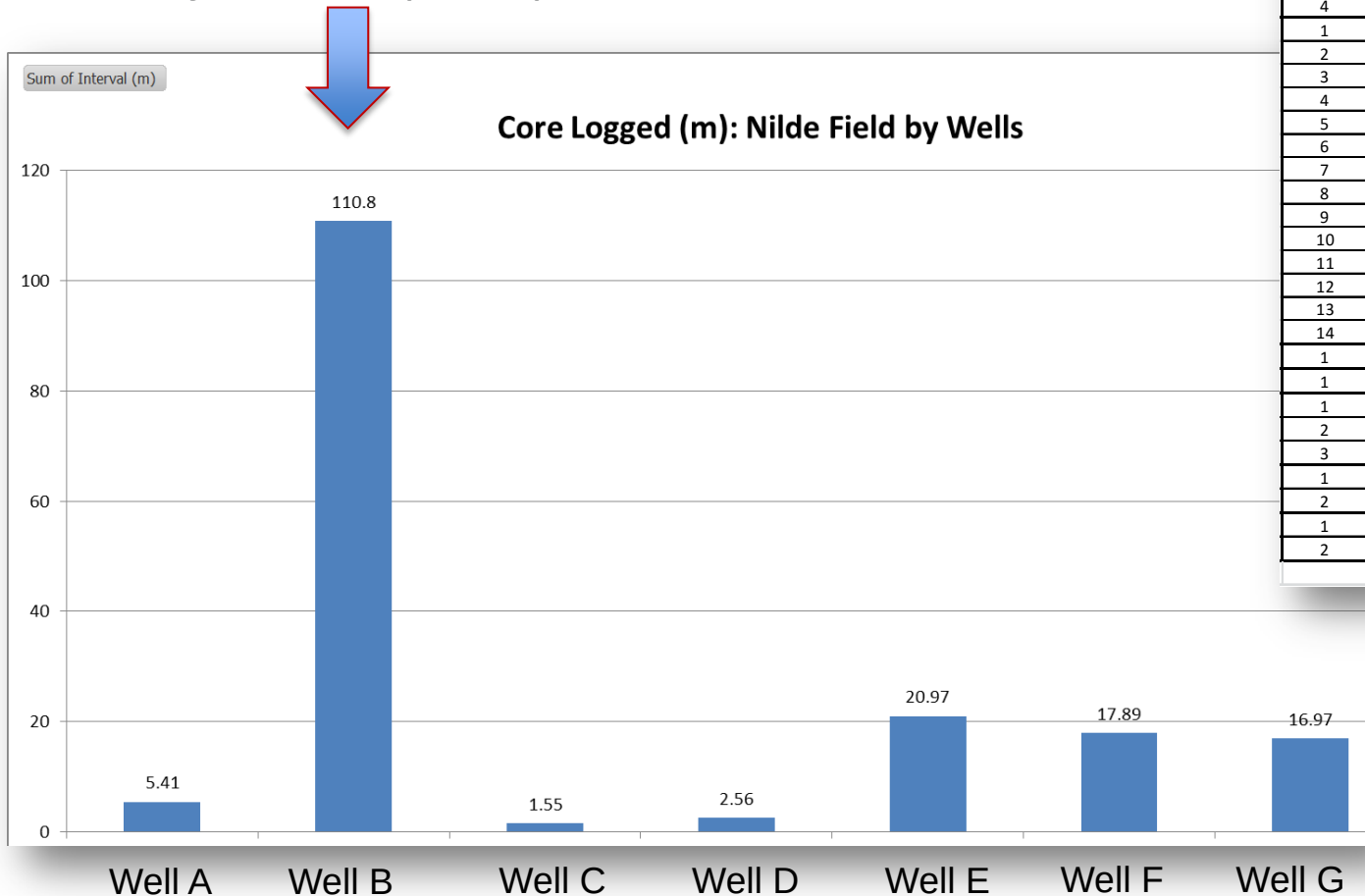


Methods



Methods: Core Logging Metrics

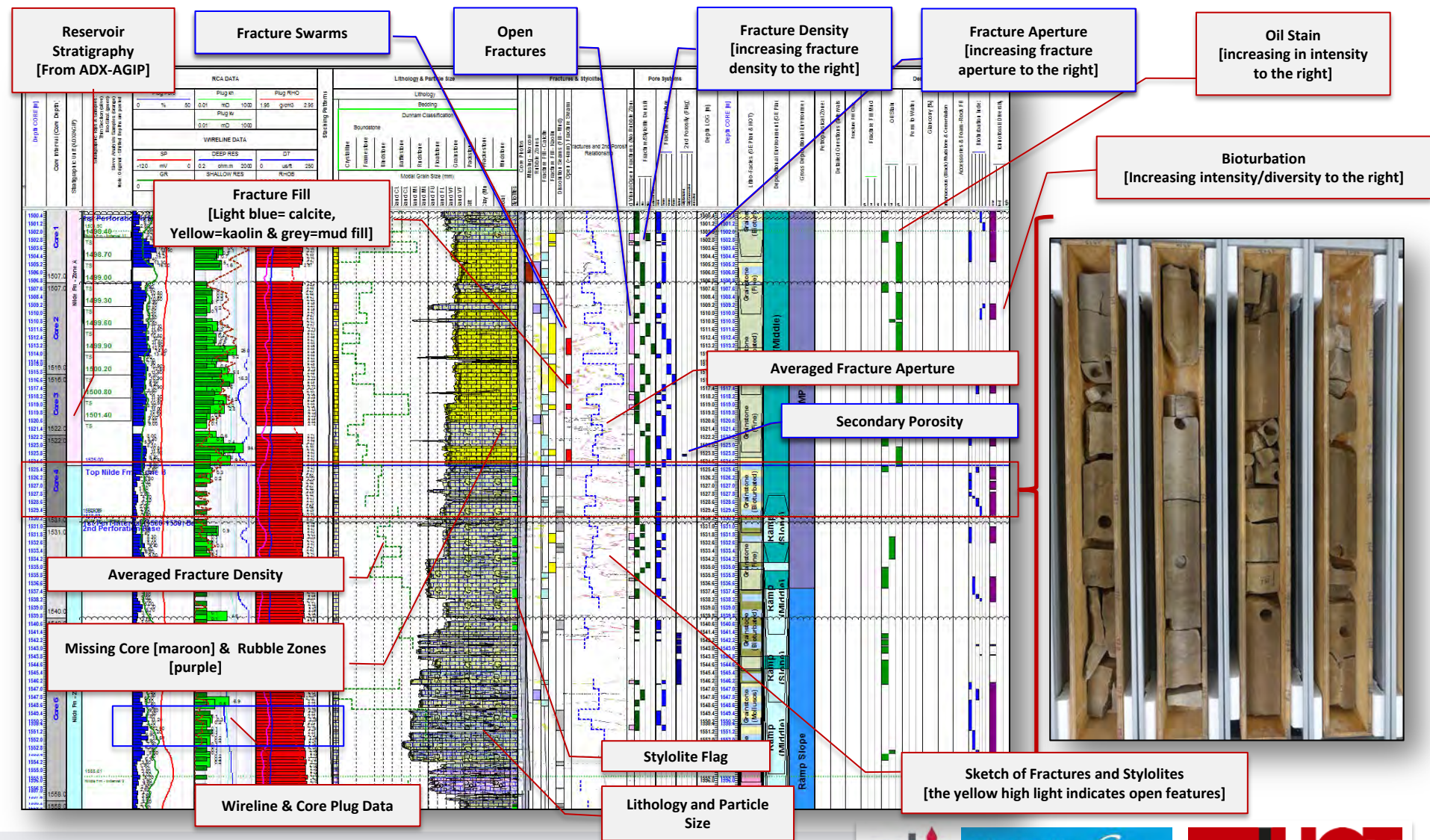
- Approximately 176m of core described
 - Mostly in Well B (~111m)



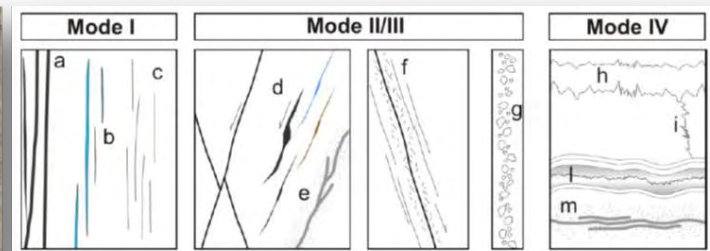
Core No.	Top [m]	Bottom [m]	Thickness [m]	
4	1643.00	1651.00	8.00	Well A
1	1498.00	1507.00	9.00	
2	1507.00	1516.00	9.00	
3	1516.00	1522.00	6.00	
4	1522.00	1531.00	9.00	Well B
5	1531.00	1540.00	9.00	
6	1540.00	1558.00	18.00	
7	1558.00	1564.00	6.00	
8	1564.00	1577.00	13.00	
9	1577.00	1595.00	18.00	
10	1595.00	1606.00	11.00	
11	1606.00	1615.00	9.00	
12	1615.00	1615.40	0.40	
13	1615.40	1620.00	4.60	
14	1958.00	1967.00	9.00	Well C
1	1593.00	1602.00	9.00	
1	1605.00	1608.00	3.00	Well D
1	1603.00	1612.00	9.00	
2	1612.00	1621.00	9.00	Well E
3	1621.00	1630.00	9.00	
1	1680.00	1689.00	9.00	Well F
2	1691.00	1700.00	9.00	
1	1708.00	1717.00	9.00	Well G
2	1717.00	1726.00	9.00	
Total			214.00	

Total available core of which 176m was described in detail

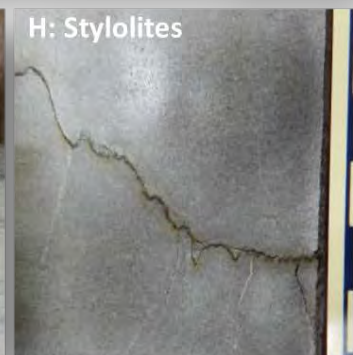
Methods: Fracture Core Logs - A Users Guide



Structural Features Observed in the Core

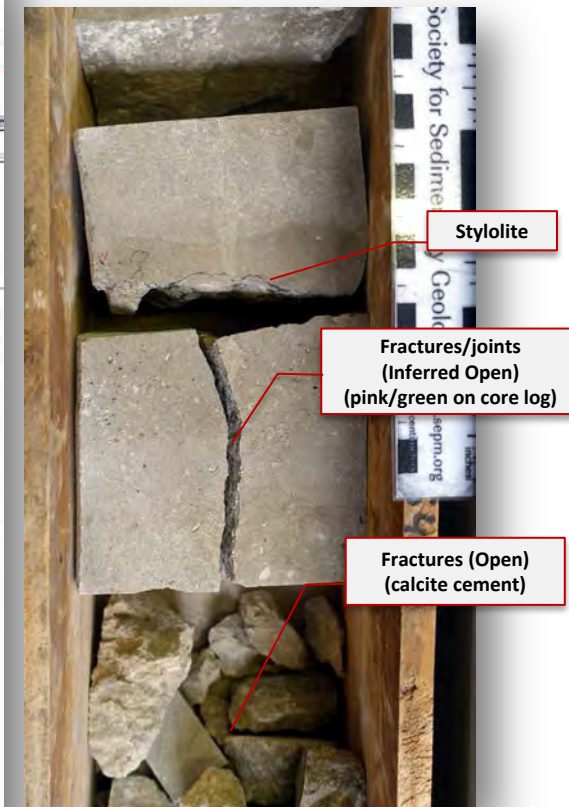
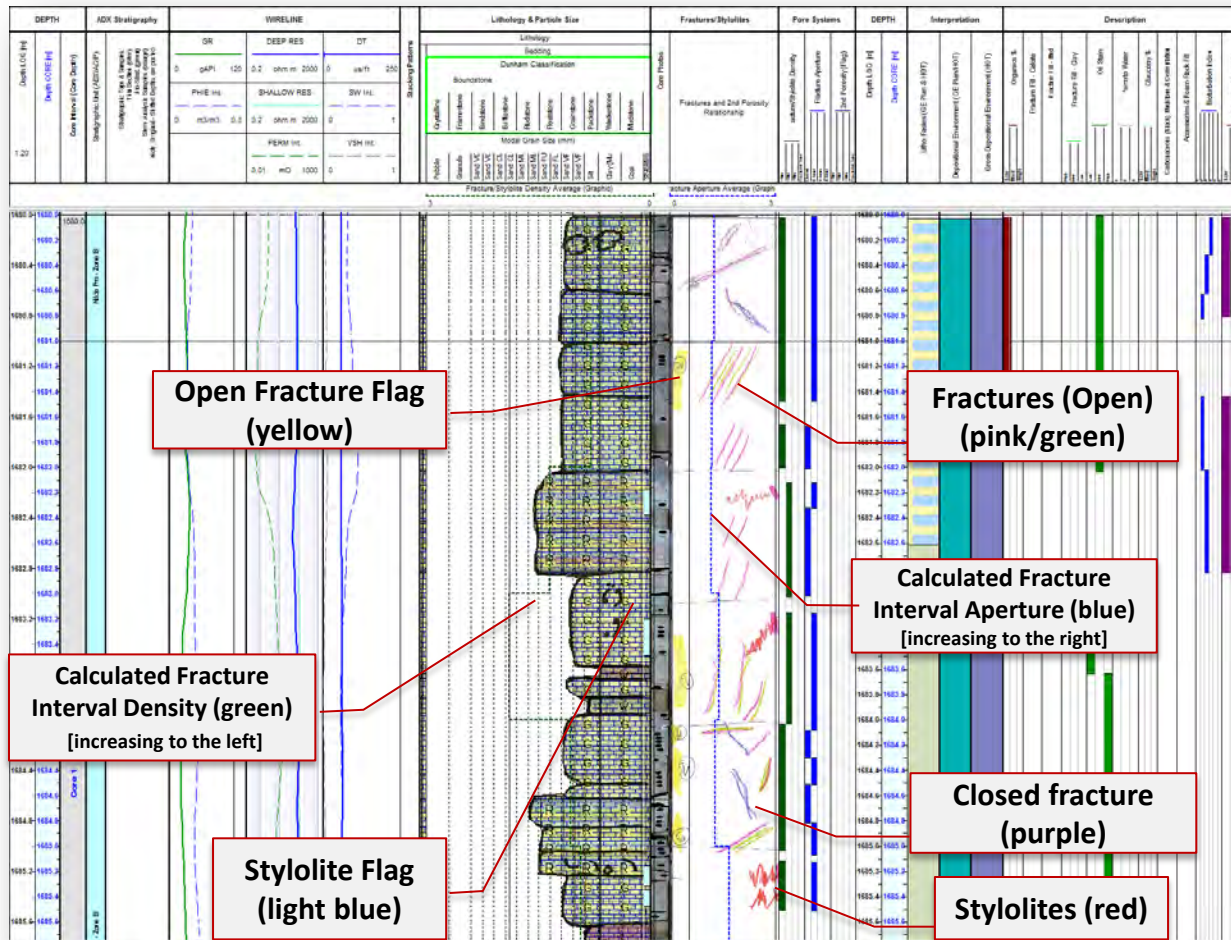


GEPlan (2016)

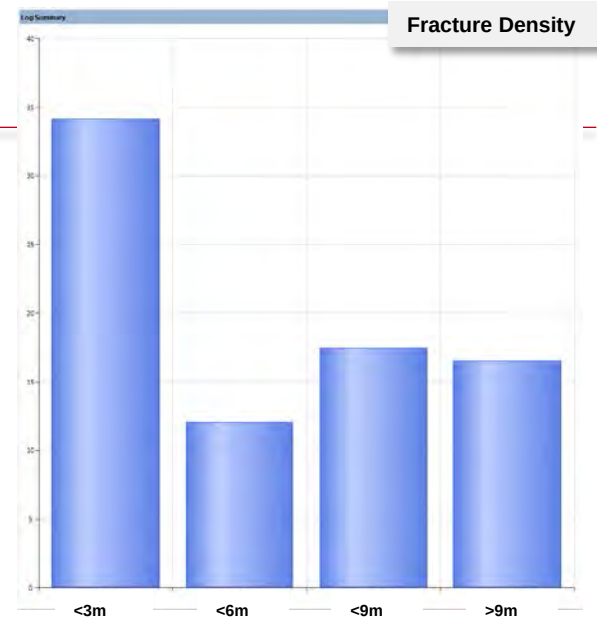


Methods: Core Log Fractures and Stylolites

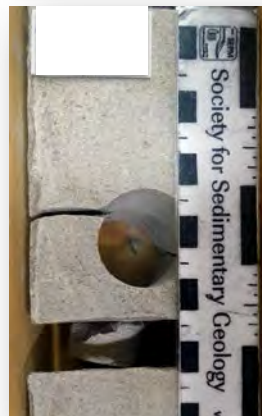
- Sketches show relative location of fractures/stylolites, orientation (core only) and if they are **open or closed**



Methods: Core Log Fracture Density



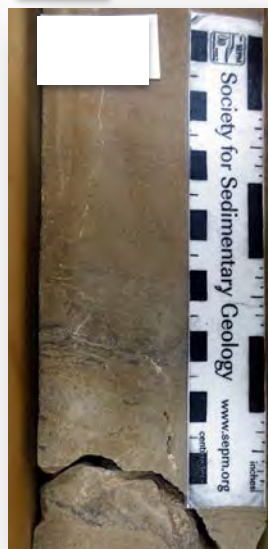
No Fractures



<3/m



<6/m



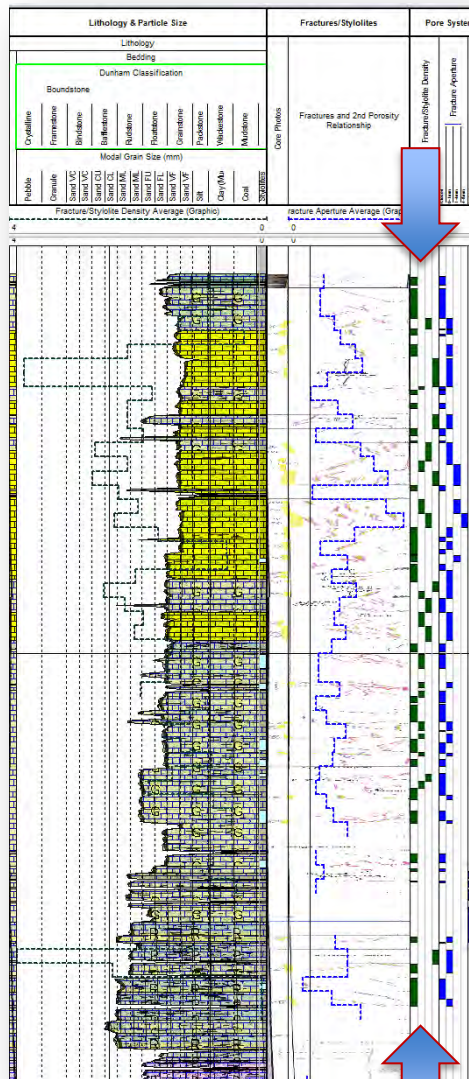
<9/m



>9/m



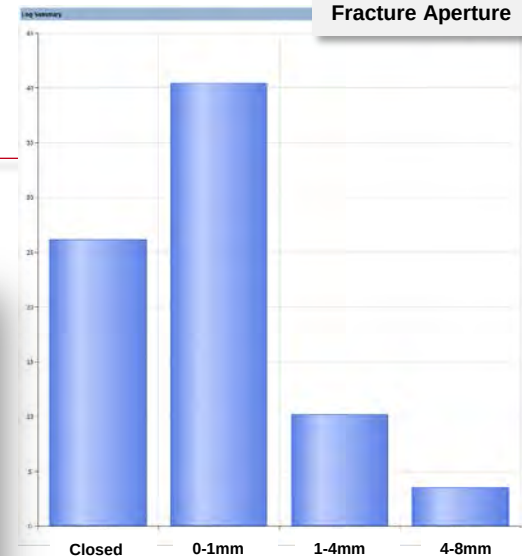
Stylolites



AAPG: Larnaca, Cyprus (January, 1 2017)

Methods Core Log Fracture Aperture

Fracture Aperture



Closed



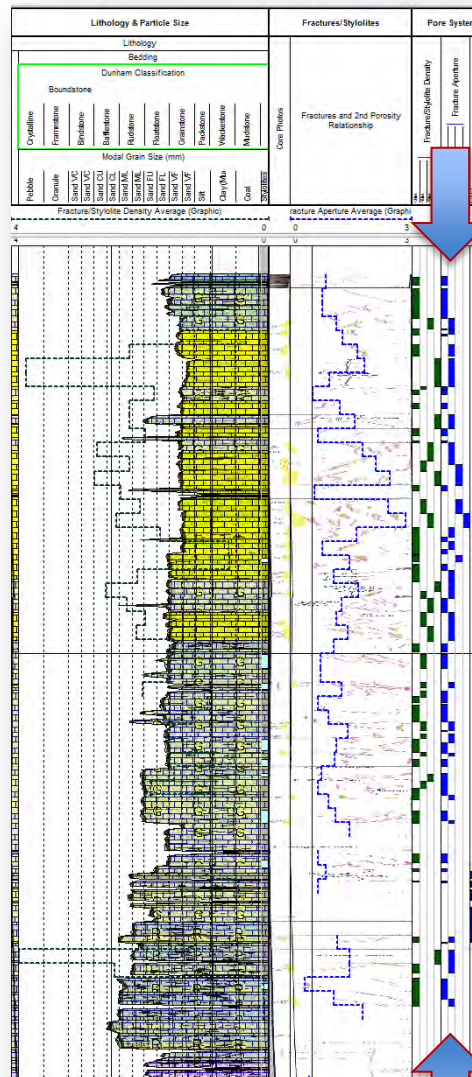
Open: 0 – 1mm



Open: 4 – 8mm

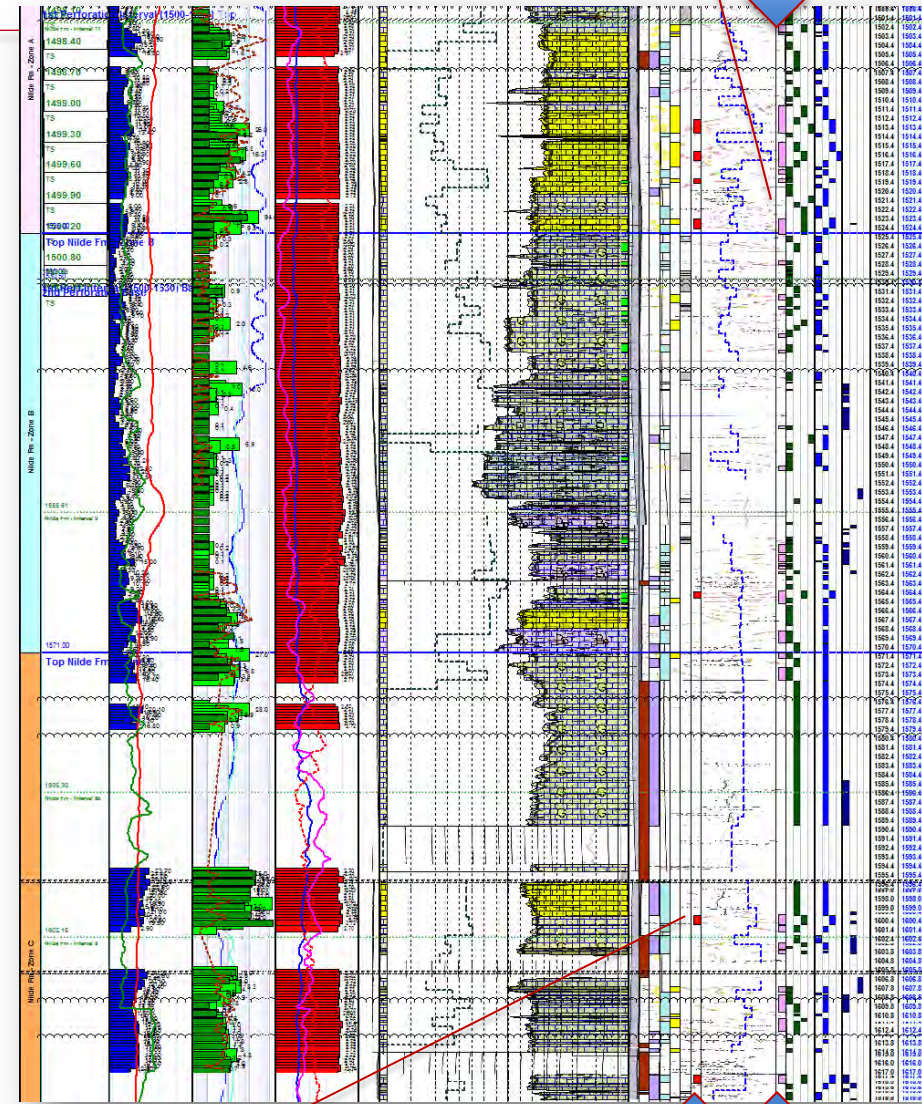


Open: 1 – 4mm



“Rolled Up” Open Fracture Flag: The Key

- All inferred & visible open fractures are flagged (pink). However open fractures in the rubble zones are not counted
- The fractures swarms (shear zones) are counted as open fractures (of course) and can be broken out by looking at the red flag on all core logs



Results & Discussion



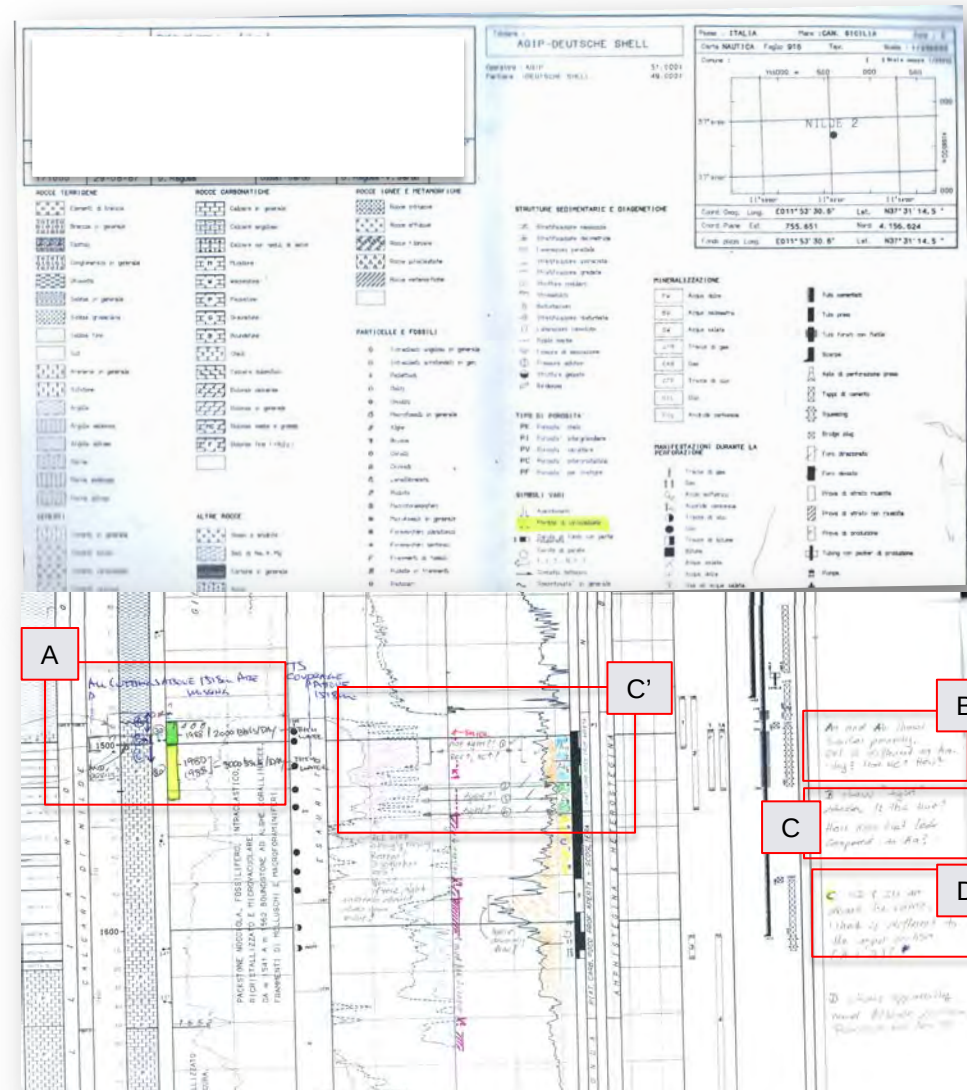
- Can core-based data be used to help define a perceived unconformity at the top of the reservoir?
- Does the wireline (petrophysics) match the core? Can we use the core as an independent check?



Petrophysical vs Core Observations: Summary

Questions

- **A.** Is there a barrier between perforation intervals? *Yes 2-3m of calcite cement was observed in thin section across the upper zone*
- **B.** Reservoir zones Aa and Ab show similar porosity BUT the resistivity is different in Aa. Why? *Lithology change with heavier HC stain in the Aa zone (more shells and less algal material)*
- **C.** Reservoir zone B shows tight streaks (C'). Is this true? *Yes.*
- **D.** ILD and SN have a similar response. What is different to the upper section? (Zones A& B). *The difference corresponds with a lithology change*
- In general the core plug and wireline porosities match well



Stratigraphy: Is there a Physical Expression of Top Reservoir?

Question

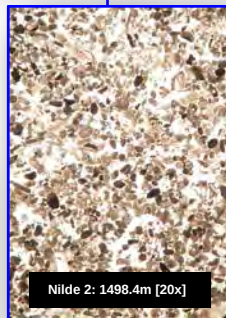
A. Is there a barrier between perforation intervals?

Answer (A): Yes (in Well B at least) where 2-3m of calcite cement was observed in thin section across the upper zone



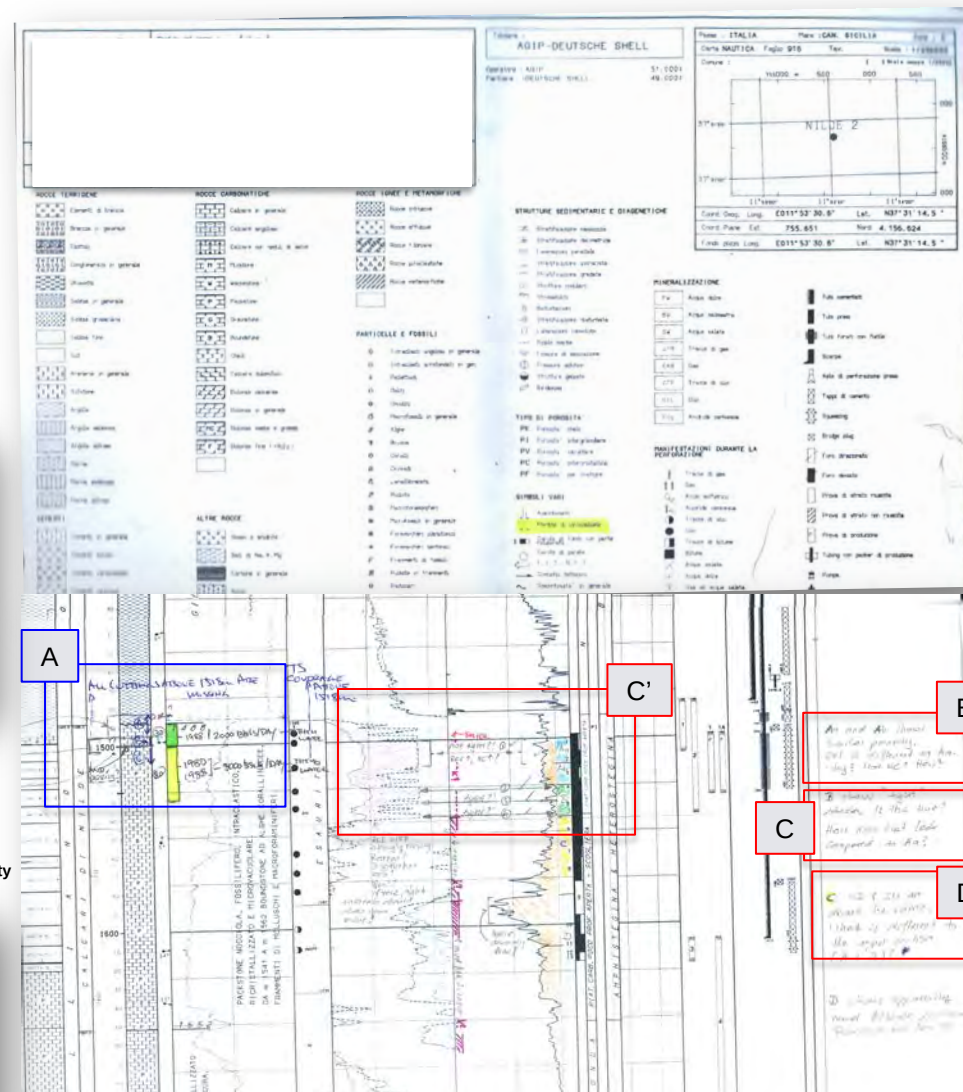
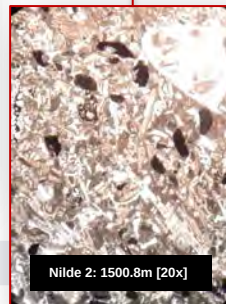
Depth (m)	TS From?	Top Seal or Reservoir	Dominant Framework Component	Dominant Matrix Component	Interpretation	Plug No	Porosity (RCA)	Permeability (RCA)
1485	Drill Cuttings	Top Seal	Pellets	Micrite		N/A	N/A	N/A
1493	Drill Cuttings	Reservoir	Pellets	Micrite		N/A	N/A	N/A
1498	Drill Cuttings	Reservoir	Pellets	Micrite		N/A	N/A	N/A
1498.1	Core Plug	Reservoir	Pellets, forams, shells	Micrite		1	9.5	0.1
1498.4	Core Plug	Reservoir	Pellets, forams	Crystalline	UC	4	0	4.6
1498.7	Core Plug	Reservoir	Forams, algae, shells (min)	Crystalline	UC	7	0.1	9.1
1499	Core Plug	Reservoir	Forams, algae, shells	Crystalline	UC	10	0.1	10.2
1499.3	Core Plug	Reservoir	Forams, shells, bitumen	Crystalline	UC	13	0.1	8.2
1499.6	Core Plug	Reservoir	Red algae, forams	Crystalline	UC	16	0.1	6.7
1499.9	Core Plug	Reservoir	Foram, pellets	Crystalline	UC	19	0.1	3.3
1500.2	Core Plug	U/C Reservoir	Micrite/foram (sparry)	Crystalline/Micrite	UC	22	0	3.3
1500.8	Core Plug	Reservoir	Forams (Heterostegne)	Micrite		28	0.1	5.4
1501.4	Core Plug	Reservoir	Forams, bitumen	Micrite		34	0	2.6

Some calcite cement, low porosity



Calcite cement, no porosity

Some calcite cement, low porosity

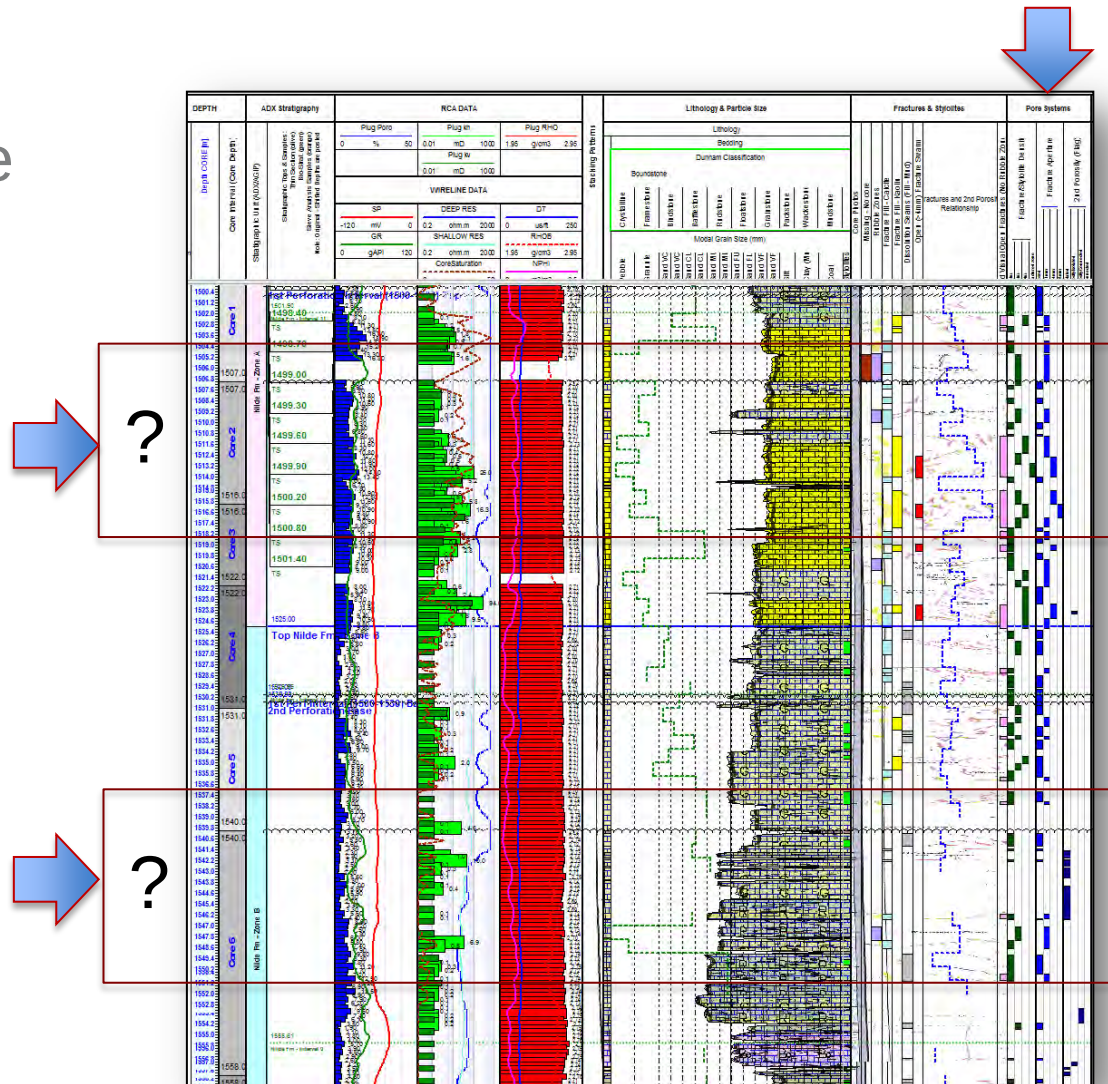


Summary of Results

- **Stratigraphy:** Quick look thin section analysis did reveal a 2-3m thick spar calcite zone that is interpreted to be associated with the top reservoir unconformity
 - **Petrophysics:** The wireline dataset was deemed to be accurately reflecting the nature of the reservoir with core and wireline independently verified.
-
- **Pore Systems:** Matrix porosity was observed throughout with oil stain intensity varying with the matrix porosity. However matrix porosity does not equate with productivity. Productivity is coincident with fracture swarms.
 - **Fracture Characterisation:** It was ascertained that fractures, not vugs (secondary porosity) are the dominant porosity type. Fracture density is related to lithology. Fracture swarms were identified and correlate with the most productive DST/production zones
 - **Core/BHI-Based Fracture Data:** Core-based data used instead of BHI data. However long continuous cored intervals must be used and a detailed, continuous and standardised recording of fractures needs to be made

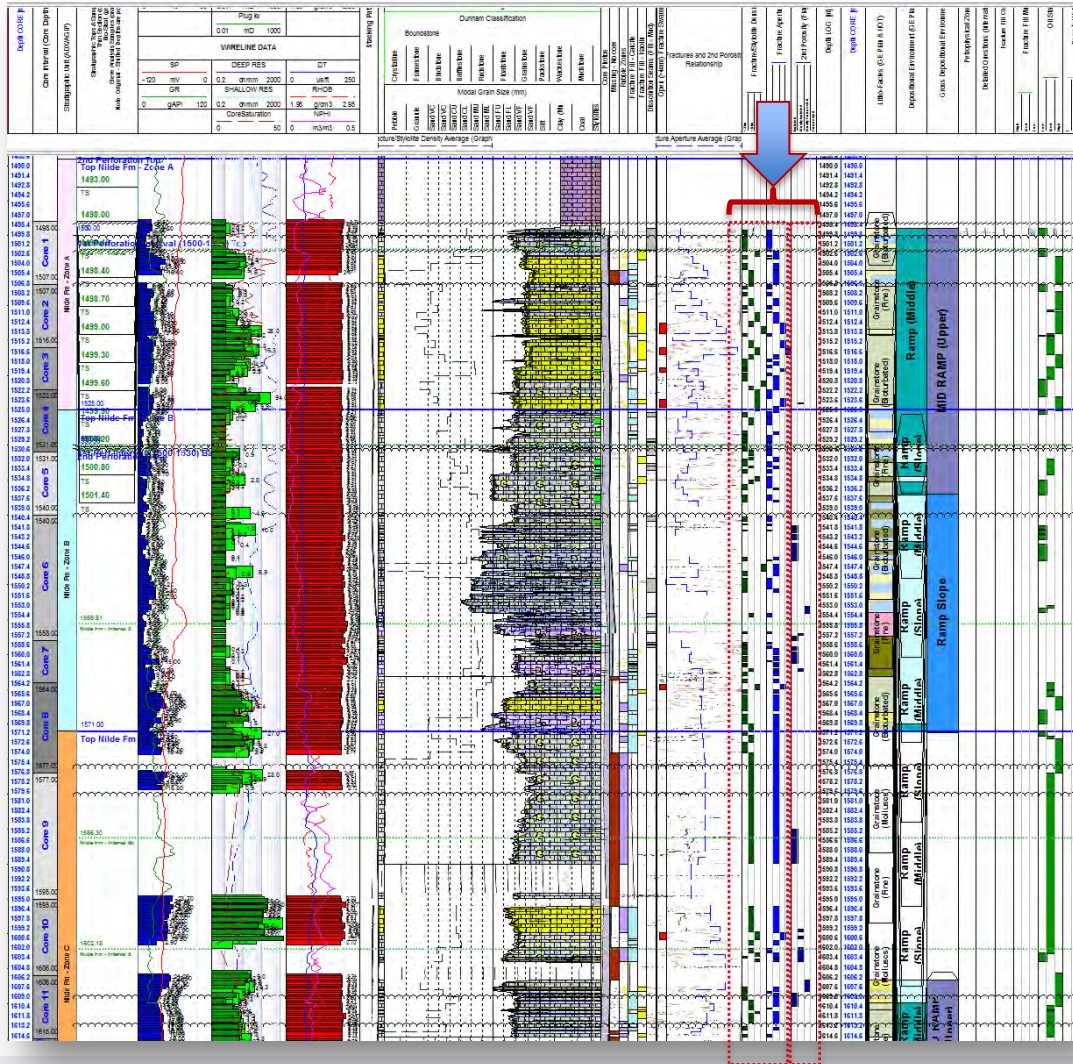
The Premise....

- Can core-based data be used to discriminate between pore systems (in the absence of BHI data)?
- Can we ascertain which pore system(s) is contributing most to production?



Summary - Fracture vs Vugs (Zones A, B & C)

- Fracture dominate, secondary $\emptyset$ is not a significant pore type

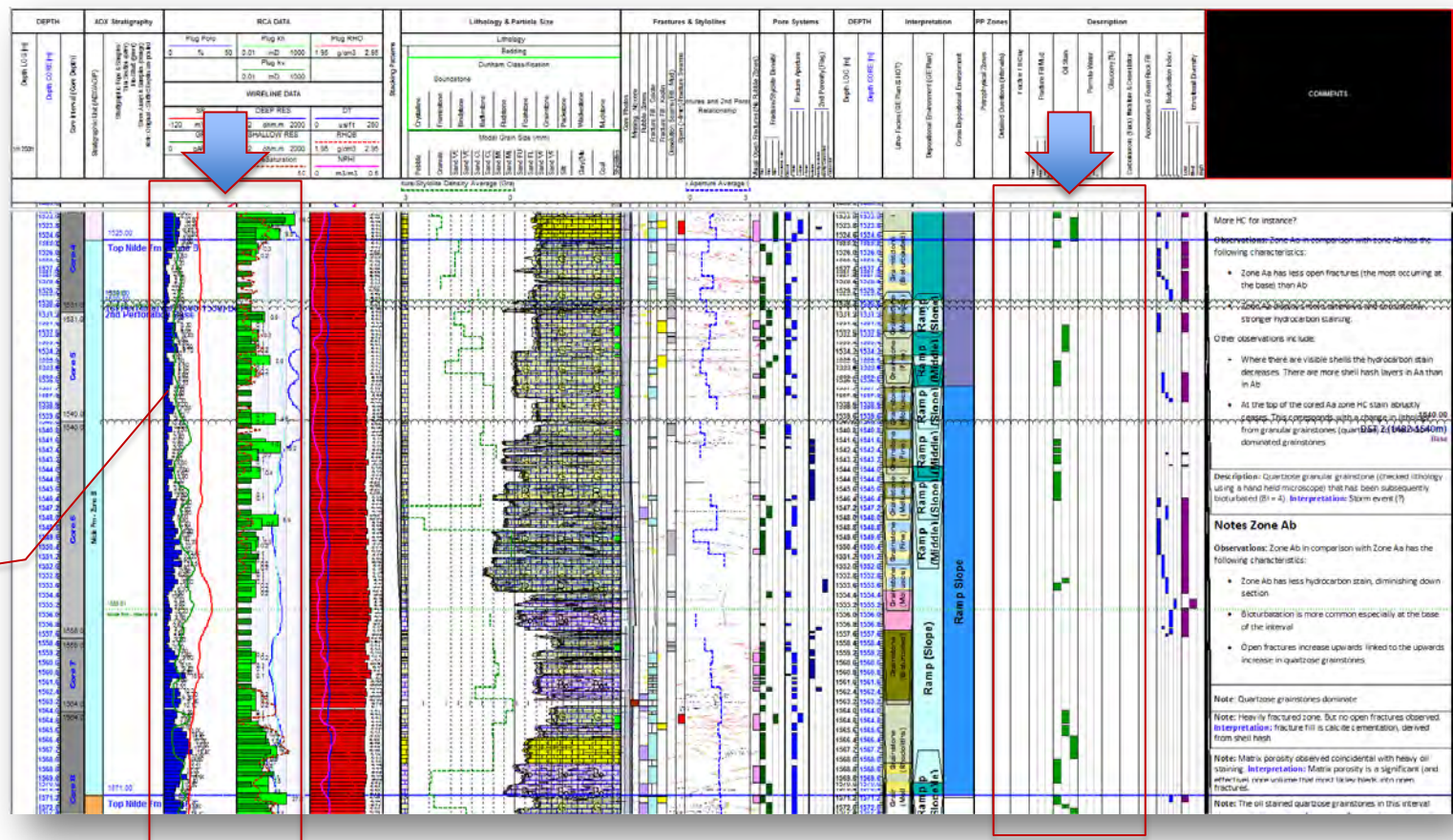


Secondary Porosity



Discussion: Pore Systems - Matrix

- Matrix is not the main productive pore system (from RE observations). However this notion is also reflected in core plug data where the best producing zones correspond with fracture swarms not elevated matrix permeability



Discussion - Reservoir Productivity and Fracture Swarms

- The reservoir engineering investigations focused on the outcomes of key DST's, production history matching and future production scenarios.

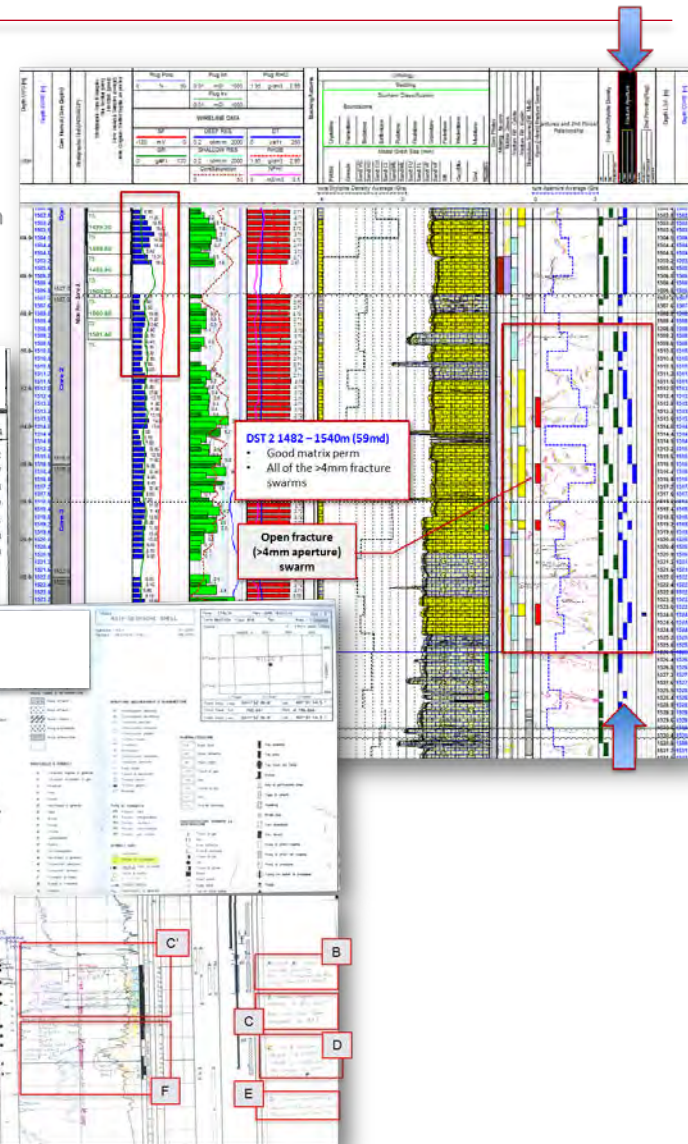
- Petrophysical reviews were undertaken to determine if the early 1980's vintage wireline log data was up to the task of deriving permeability and saturation height modelling.

- Confidence in the wireline data was achieved by investigating log response versus core observations.

- Four fracture swarms sustaining very high permeability

Covers most of Zone A – Less than 3140md (Official ENI Results) pre-acidising. Up to 26md matrix. Contains all of the >4mm fracture swarm zones (red)

DATE: 09/05/85	Q ₀ = 1,150 mscf/d	Δt	$T \cdot \Delta t$	$\frac{\Delta t}{T \cdot \Delta t}$	$\frac{\Delta t}{T \cdot \Delta t}$	$\frac{\Delta t}{T \cdot \Delta t}$
Perforation stabilizer: Q = 27.56 mscf/d						
Spessore anello pag. b = 15.5"						
Porosità $\phi = 0.15$						
Fattore di volume $V = 1.0$						
Viscosità $\mu = 0.410$ cP						
Geopressibilità $\alpha = 0.410$ cP						
Raggio preso $R_p = 0.710$ m						
Perda cumulativa $Q = 5.10$ mscf						
Pseudo tempo spres. $T = 1640$ s						
$T = 1640 \cdot \frac{Q}{Q_0} = 1640 \cdot \frac{1.150}{27.56} = 68.4$ s						
ANALISI DATI DST:						
1) Perdita netta $m = 0.5$ Kg/mq-ciclo						
2) Pressione statica ricavata dalla estrapolazione della curva di q_p all'infinito al tempo $\frac{\Delta t}{T} = 1$						
$p_w = 196.60$ Kg/mq-c.						
3) Capacità produttiva $R_0 = 21.92$ m ³ q ₀ / s						
$q_0 = 3140$ mscf/d						
4) Permeabilità $K = 59$ md						



Fracture Pore Systems: DST 1 (1482 – 1507m) - Zone A

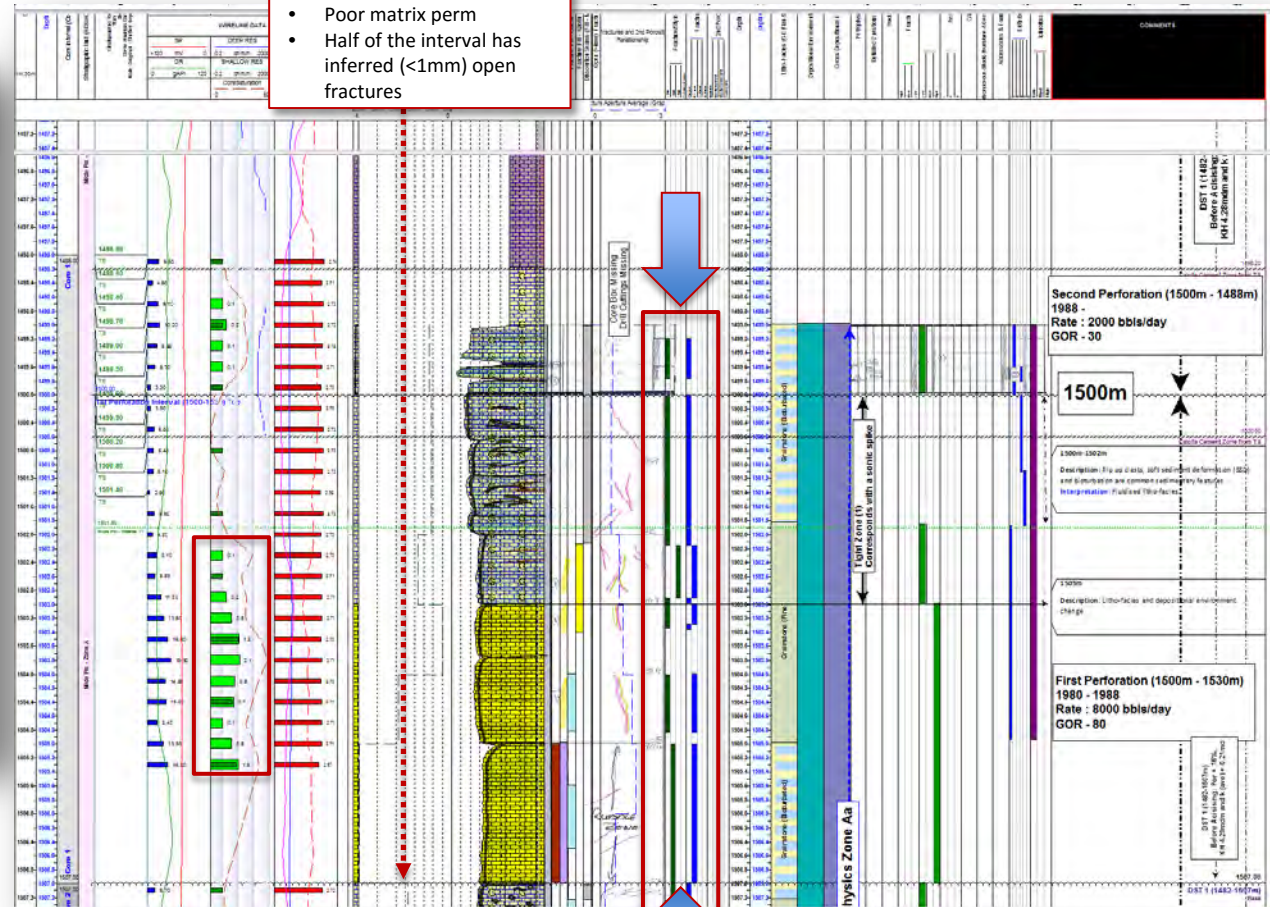
- Covers most of Zone A – Less than **1md** (official results). Pre-acidising. *No fracture swarms* and thus no significant permeability (matrix only).

DST 1 1482 – 1507m (0.21md)

- Poor matrix perm
- Half of the interval has inferred (<1mm) open fractures

DATI:	Δt min	$t + \Delta t$	$\frac{\Delta t}{t + \Delta t}$	P Kg/cm ²
Portata stabilizz. Q = 4,560 mc/g	0	1335	-	54
Spessore netto pay h = 25 mt	10	1345	0,0074	60,5
Porosità $\phi = 16\%$	20	1355	0,015	66,5
Fattore di volume $\beta = 1,28$	30	1365	0,022	70,5
Viscosità $\mu = 2,01$ cp	40	1375	0,029	76,5
Comprimibilità $c = 0,4 \times 10^{-4}$ v/v/a	50	1385	0,036	80,5
Raggio pozzo $r_w = 0,230$ mt	60	1395	0,043	83,5
Prodotto cumulativo q = 4,167 mo	90	1425	0,063	90,5
Pseudo tempo $t_{p,org} = 1440 \frac{q}{Q} = 1335$ min	120	1455	0,082	95
	150	1485	0,10	97,5
	180	1515	0,12	100,5
	240	1545	0,15	105,5
	300	1605	0,19	110
	360	1665	0,22	114,5
	400	1705	0,24	115

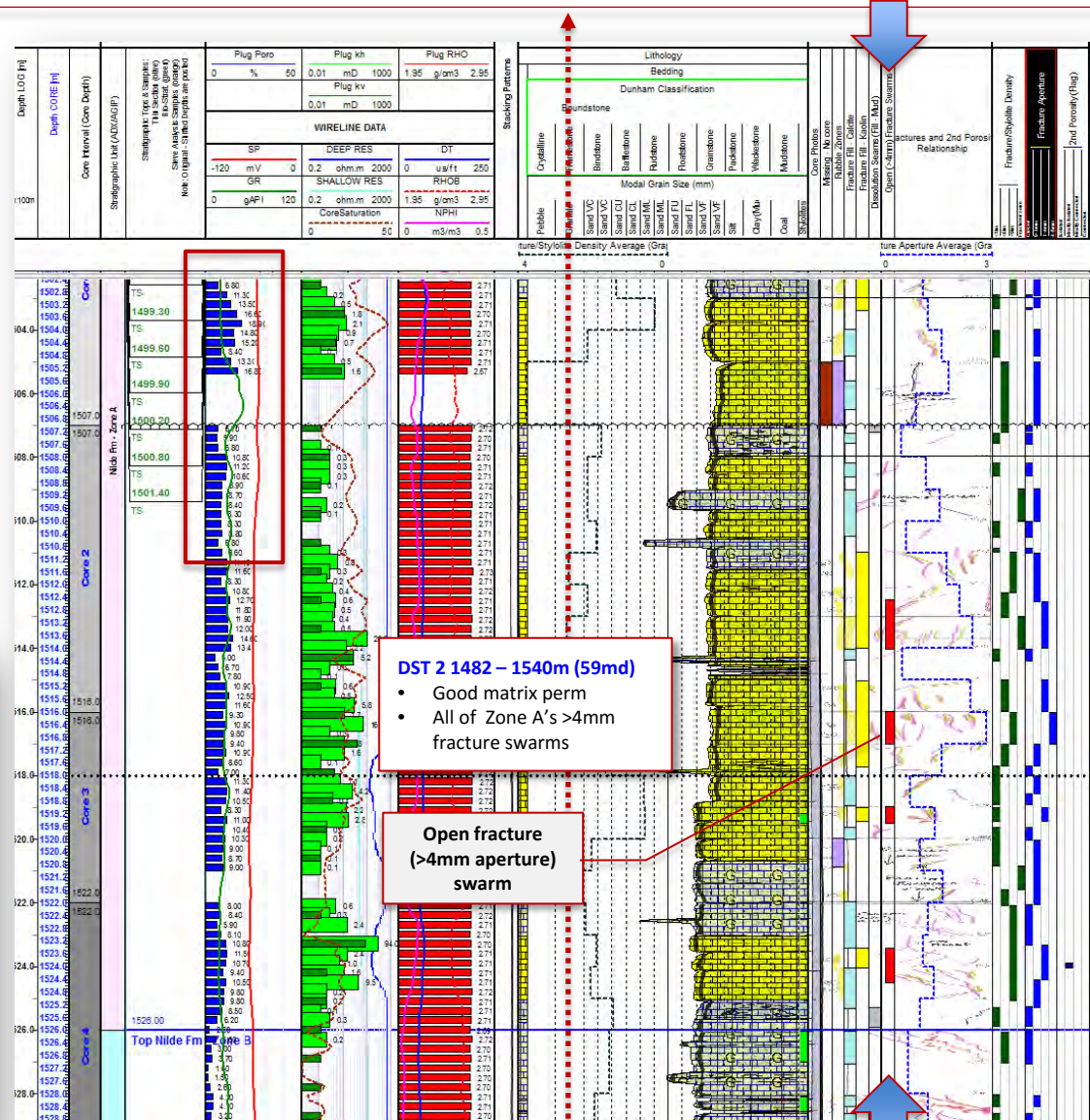
ANALISI RISULTATI:	
1) Pendenza retta $m = -60$ Kg/cm ² ciclo	
2) Pressione statica ricavata dalla estrapolazione della curva di $\frac{P}{t}$ salita al tempo $\frac{\Delta t}{t + \Delta t} = 1$;	
$P_s = 154$ Kg/cm ²	
3) Capacità produttiva $Kh = \frac{21,92 \mu q \beta}{60} = \frac{21,92 \times 2,01 \times 4,560 \times 1,28}{60}$	
$Kh = 4,28$ md x mt.	
4) Permeabilità $K = 0,21$ md	
5) Cicli $n = \log \frac{1,3 \cdot 10^{-5} K t}{\alpha \mu \nu^2} = \frac{1,3 \times 0,21 \times 1335 \times 10^{-5}}{0,16 \times 2,01 \times 0,529 \times 4 \times 10^{-10}} = 3,7$	



Fracture Pore Systems: DST 2 (1482 – 1540m) - Zones A & B

- **HOWEVER Four fracture swarms** sustaining very high permeability
- Covers most of Zone A – 3140md (Kave) (official results) pre-acidising. Up to 26md matrix. Contains all of the >4mm fracture swarm zones (red)

DATA: DST 35	Q _{sc} = 1,160 mc/h	Δt min	$\bar{t} + \Delta t$	$\frac{\Delta t}{\bar{t} + \Delta t}$	P
Portata stabilizzata Q =	27.84 mc/g	0	264	-	131.2
Spessore netto pay h =	58 m	5'	89	0.018	151.7
Porosità ϕ =	16%	10'	74	0.036	135.4
Fattore di volume β =	1.28	15'	79	0.053	155.9
Viscosità μ =	2.01 cp	20'	84	0.070	156.1
Comprimibilità c =	0.4x10 ⁻⁴ v/v/g	60'	324	0.18	156.3
Raggio pozzo r_w =	0.239 m	1700'	2434	0.70	156.3
Produzione cumulativa q =	5.10 ac				
Pseudo tempo erogato t_{pD} =	1440 x 5.10 ² / (27.84 x 1.160) = 264 min				
ANALISI RISULTATI:					
1) Pendenza retta $m = \frac{Q_{sc}}{h \cdot \phi \cdot \mu \cdot c}$					
2) Pressione statica ricavata dalla estrapolazione della curva di $\frac{\Delta t}{\bar{t} + \Delta t} = 1$:					
$P_{st} = 155.60$ Kg/cm ²					
3) Capacità produttiva $Kh = 21.52 \times 10^{-3} \times 27.84 \times 1.28 = 0.50$					
$Kh = 3140$ md m					
4) Permeabilità K = 59 md					



Summary of Results

- **Stratigraphy:** Quick look thin section analysis did reveal a 2-3m thick spar calcite zone that is interpreted to be associated with the top reservoir unconformity
- **Petrophysics:** The wireline dataset was deemed to be accurately reflecting the nature of the reservoir with core and wireline independently verified.
- **Pore Systems:** Matrix porosity was observed throughout with oil stain intensity varying with the matrix porosity. However matrix porosity does not equate with productivity where by historic production intervals are coincident with fractures (swarms).
- **Fracture Characterisation:** It was ascertained that fractures, not vugs (secondary porosity) nor matrix are the dominant porosity type. Fracture density is related to lithology. Fracture swarms were identified and correlate with the most productive DST/production zones
- **Core/BHI-Based Fracture Data:** Core-based data used instead of BHI data. However long continuous cored intervals must be used and a detailed, continuous and standardised recording of fractures needs to be made

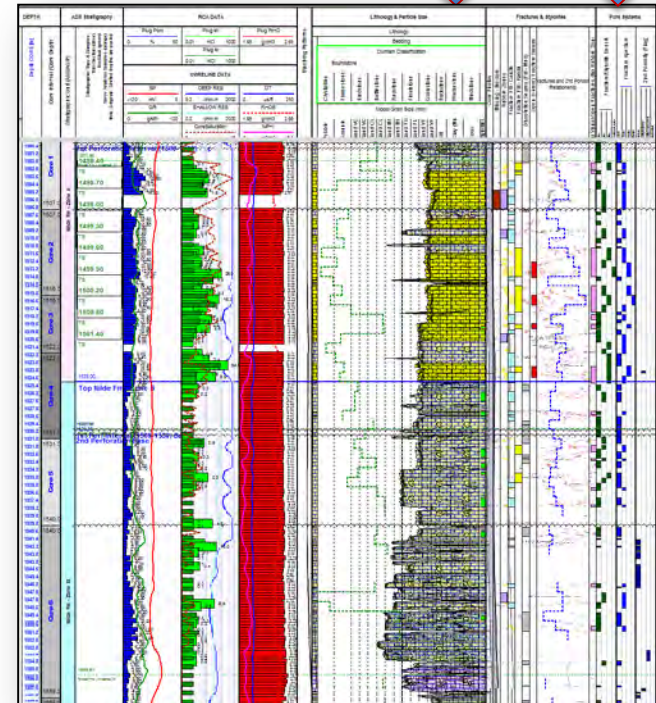
The Premise....

- Can core-based data be used to characterise fracture pore systems in the absence of BHI data?



- If so can we use this data then to analyse fracture relationships:
 - Controls on fracturing

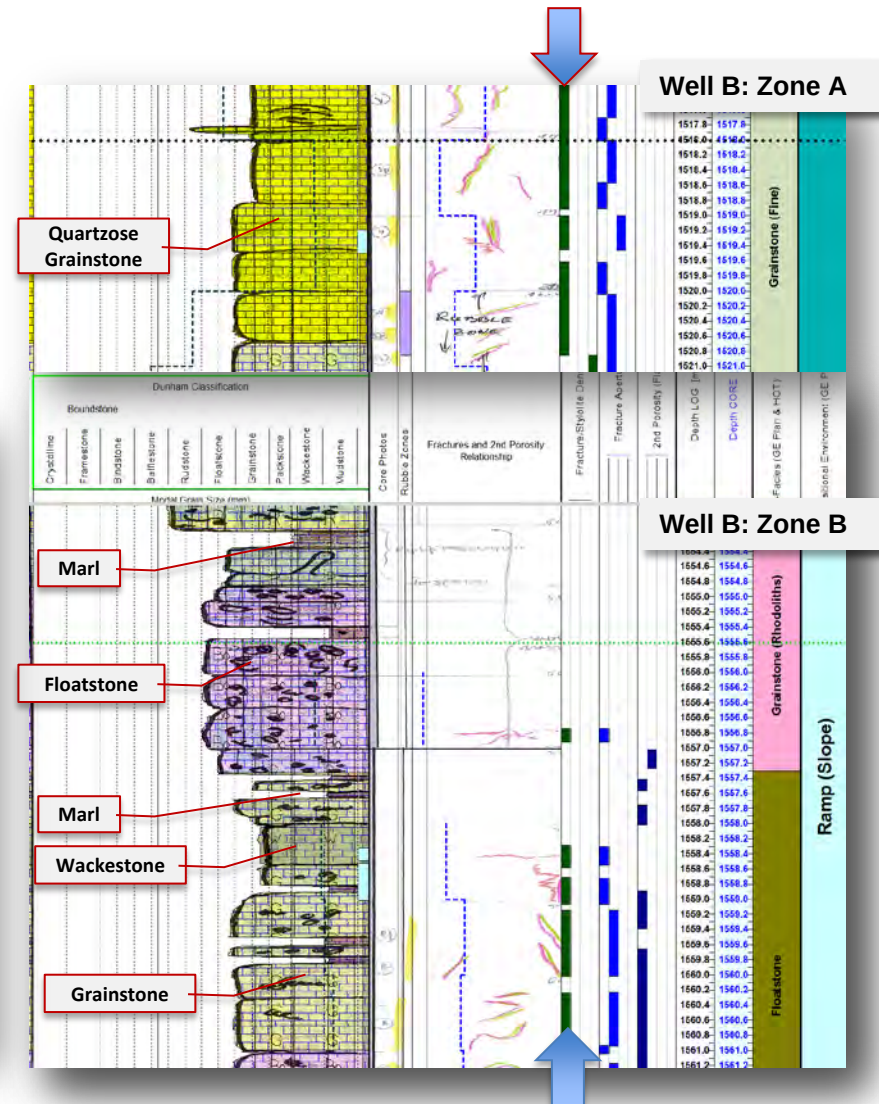
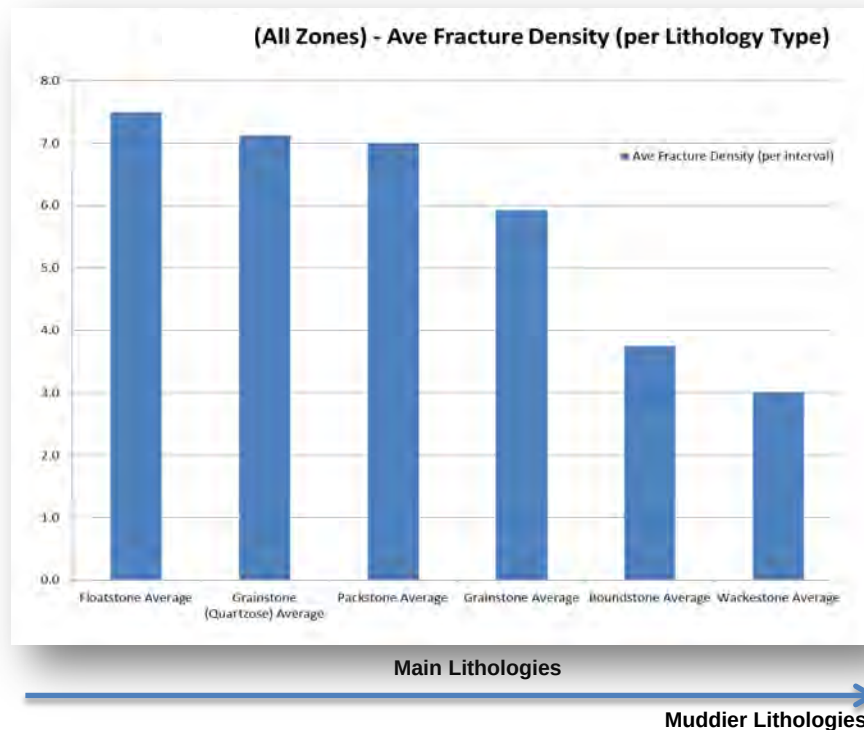
- Can we use the core-based fracture data in our modelling?



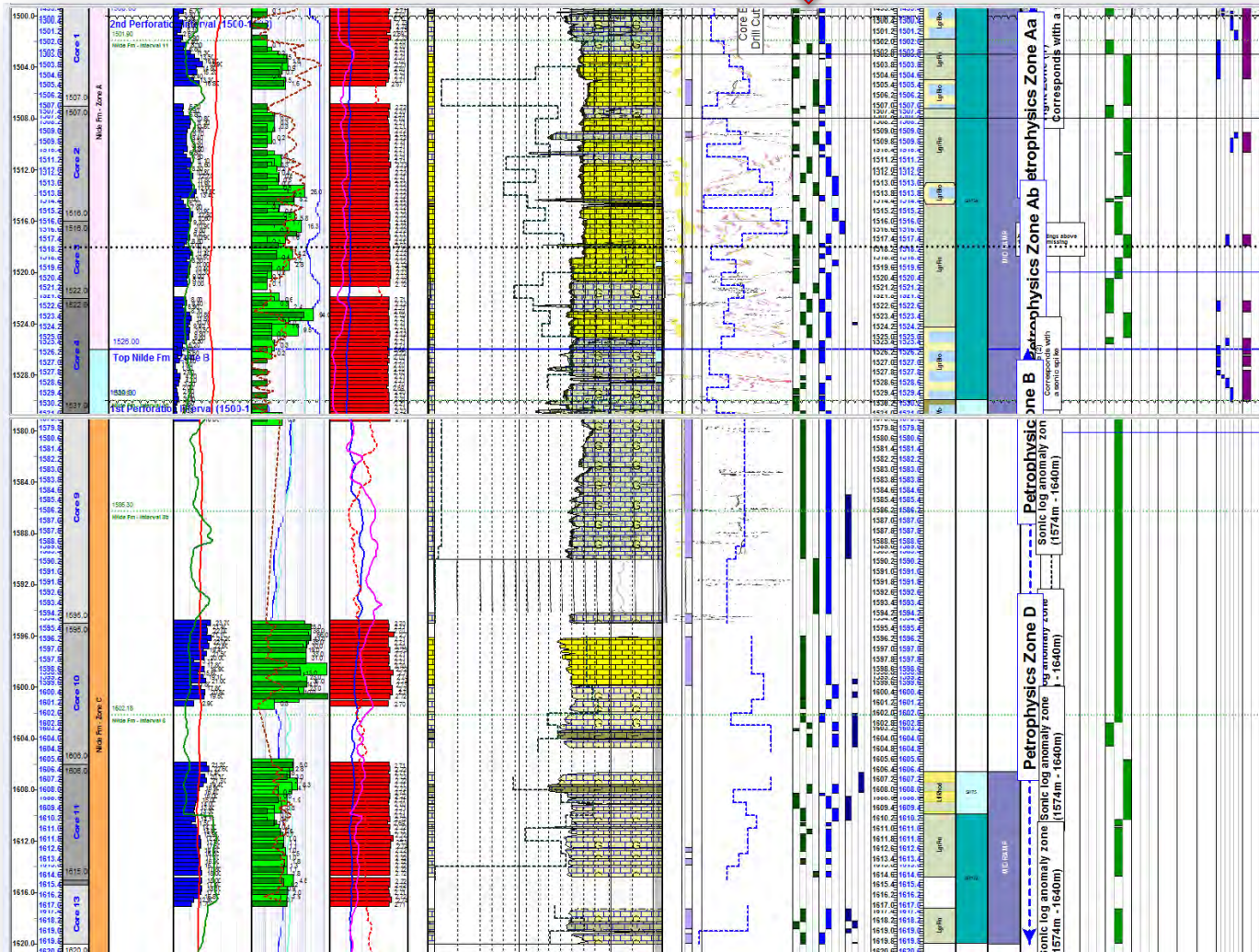
Discussion: Controls on Fractures (All Zones)

- Fracture density (arrowed) appears to be controlled by lithology, whereby the more quartzose and cemented the lithology the more brittle (and fractured) is the rock

Average No. Fractures/ interval



Fracture Characterisation: Zone A vs Zone C – Comparison



Zone A

Analysis reveals that Zones A and C have very similar lithologies and subsequently fracture gradients (apertures).

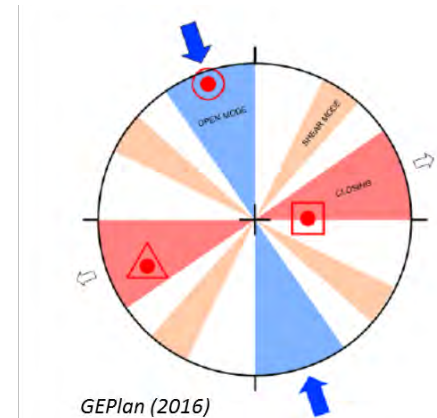
Zone C

Summary of Results

- **Stratigraphy:** Quick look thin section analysis did reveal a 2-3m thick spar calcite zone that is interpreted to be associated with the top reservoir unconformity
- **Petrophysics:** The wireline dataset was deemed to be accurately reflecting the nature of the reservoir with core and wireline independently verified.
- **Pore Systems:** Matrix porosity was observed throughout with oil stain intensity varying with the matrix porosity. However matrix porosity does not equate with productivity where by historic production intervals are coincident with fractures (swarms).
- **Fracture Characterisation:** It was ascertained that fractures, not vugs (secondary porosity) nor matrix are the dominant porosity type. Fracture density is related to lithology. Fracture swarms were identified and correlate with the most productive DST/production zones
- **Core/BHI-Based Fracture Data:** Core-based data used instead of BHI data. However long continuous cored intervals must be used and a detailed, continuous and standardised recording of fractures needs to be made

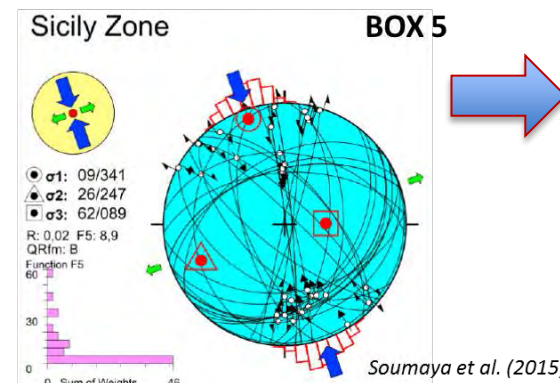
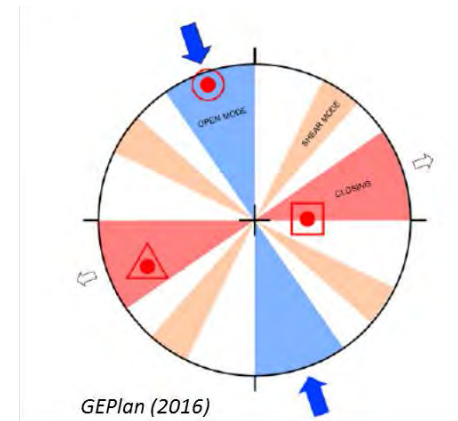
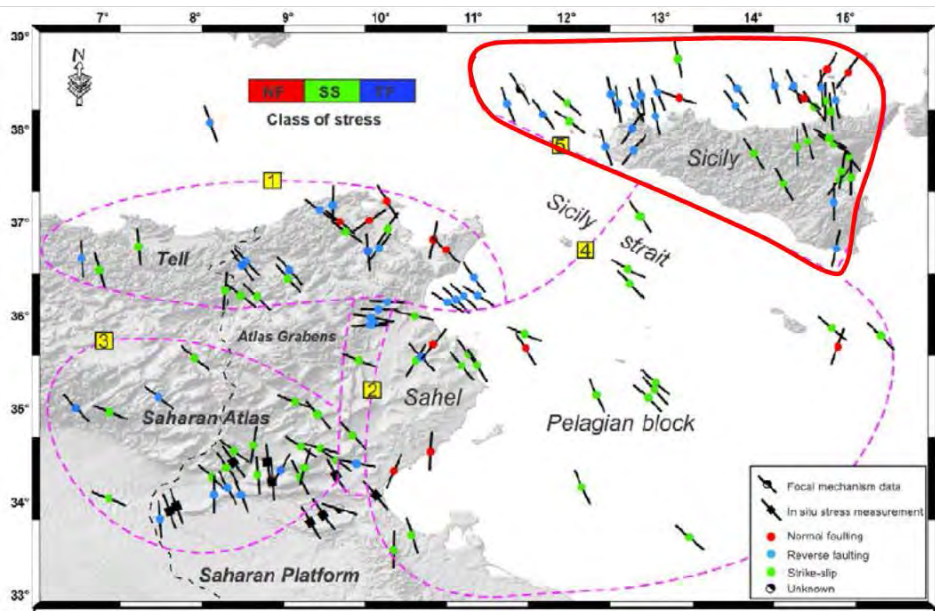
The Premise....

- Can core-based data be used to characterise fracture pore systems in the absence of BHI data?
- If so can we use this data then to analyse fracture relationships:
 - Controls on fracturing
- Can we use the core-based fracture data in our modelling?



Orientating Core-Based Fracture Data Using Regional Trends

- Stress orientation (NNW-SSE) can be applied to the case study field area of the western offshore Sicily. This maximum horizontal stress orientation is also consistent with the general kinematic of the entire central-western Sicily block



Can we now use this knowledge to orientate core based fracture data and use it in modeling?

Orientated Core-Based Fractures as a Model Input?

- The discrete fracture model is currently being built!

Regional
fracture
orientation data



Stratigraphy	Top Depth (m)	Bottom Depth (m)	Interval (m)	Fracture Density	Fracture Density
Zone C	1588.69	1588.98	0.29	0.392157	3
Zone C	1644.09	1644.28	0.19	0.705882	3
Zone C	1644.84	1645.03	0.19	0.588235	3
Zone C	1645.44	1645.68	0.24	0.16	3
Zone C	1645.84	1646.03	0.19	0.16	3
Zone C	1646.16	1646.52	0.36	0.156863	3
Zone C	1647.04	1647.22	0.18	1.68627	6
Zone C	1647.22	1647.95	0.73	0.588235	3
Zone C	1648.27	1648.44	0.17	0.54902	3
Zone A	1499.19	1499.76	0.57	0.901961	3
Zone A	1500.02	1502.15	2.13	0.823529	3
Zone A	1502.15	1502.9	0.75	2.94118	9
Zone A	1502.9	1503.33	0.43	0.352941	3
Zone A	1504	1504.84	0.84	0.54902	3
Zone A	1504.99	1507	2.01	1.64706	6
Zone A	1507	1507.24	0.24	1.29412	6
Zone A	1507.25	1507.55	0.3	0.27451	3
Zone A	1508.19	1508.59	0.4	0.823529	3
Zone A	1508.99	1510	1.01	1.30693	6
Zone A	1510	1510.5	0.5	0.823529	3
Zone A	1510.85	1510.99	0.14	0.705882	3
Zone A	1510.99	1512.26	1.27	2.66667	9
Zone A	1512.26	1513.03	0.77	1.64706	6
Zone A	1513	1514.01	1.01	3.76471	12
Zone A	1514.01	1514.4	0.39	0.823529	3
Zone A	1515	1516	1	2	9
Zone A	1516	1517	1	2.7451	9
Zone A	1517.02	1517.71	0.69	1.52941	6
Zone A	1517.71	1518.92	1.21	0.54902	3
Zone A	1519	1519.45	0.45	0.27451	3
Zone A	1519.62	1520.85	1.23	0.941176	3
Zone A	1520.85	1521.59	0.74	2.49057	9
Zone A	1521.59	1522.08	0.49	1.92157	6
Zone A	1522.08	1525.11	3.03	2.7451	9
Zone B	1525.3	1525.88	0.58	0.196078	3
Zone B	1526.05	1527.04	0.99	1.56863	6
Zone B	1528.03	1528.39	0.36	0.0784314	3
Zone B	1528.62	1529.06	0.44	0.0784314	3
Zone B	1529.05	1529.46	0.41	0	3
Zone B	1529.61	1530.8	1.19	0.941176	3
Zone B	1530.79	1531.48	0.69	1.45098	6
Zone B	1531.68	1532.03	0.35	1.72549	6
Zone B	1532.03	1533.02	0.99	0.941176	3
Zone B	1533.01	1533.27	0.26	1.64706	6
Zone B	1533.28	1534.01	0.73	0	3
Zone B	1534.53	1535.07	0.54	2.94118	9
Zone B	1535.07	1535.56	0.49	1.72549	6
Zone B	1535.58	1536.35	0.77	0.823529	3
Zone B	1537.16	1538.05	0.89	0.54902	3
Zone B	1540.22	1541.14	0.92	0.823529	3
Zone B	1541.3	1541.44	0.14	0.901961	3
Zone B	1542.12	1542.24	0.12	0.470588	3
Zone B	1546.13	1546.52	0.39	0.901961	3
Zone B	1547.05	1548.04	0.99	2	9



Note:

- A predictive dynamic model was built incorporating this core-based fracture data (and other data) whereby history matching was achieved (for the first time in the field's history).
- The production performance was able to be explained.

Note: Generic Petrel fracture model illustrated (from Schlumberger 2017)

Core Based Fracture Data – A Proxy for BHI Data?

- We have been able to characterised fracture, matrix, and secondary pore systems using core-data (standardised continuous core logging)
- We have demonstrated that fractures are the most important production contributor equating this with DST and historical production
- The next step is then to use the fracture data for modelling. We have shown that we can use this core derived data set as if it were a BHI dataset:
 - Yes, core can (and was) used to determine the varying structural features
 - Yes, core can (and was) used for the determination of fracture density and aperture
 - Yes, core can (and was) used to determine cross cutting relationships....
 - Yes, controls on fracturing were able to be discerned from the core-based dataset
- And yes (maybe) as we can try to approximately orient the core-based fracture data according to the regional stress trends
- Can we now use this data for reservoir modelling? Yes we can.....as a guide

Conclusions

- **Stratigraphy:** Quick look thin section analysis did reveal a 2-3m thick spar calcite zone that is interpreted to be associated with the top of the reservoir interval.
- **Petrophysics:** The wireline dataset was deemed to be accurately reflecting the nature of the reservoir with core and wireline independently verified.
- **Pore Systems:** Matrix porosity was observed throughout with oil stain intensity varying with the matrix porosity. However matrix porosity does not equate with productivity. Productivity is coincident with fracture swarms.
- **Fracture Characterisation:** It was ascertained that fractures, not vugs (secondary porosity) are the dominant porosity type. Fracture density is related to lithology. Fracture swarms were identified and correlate with the most productive DST/production zones
- **Core/BHI-Based Fracture Data:** Core-based data can be used to gain BHI styled fracture data. Orientation can be guided by regional stress trends. Long continuous cored intervals must be used and then rendered into the digital world to enable analysis and modelling

Maybe old dogs can learn new tricks!



Acknowledgements

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