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A importância da interpretação sísmica para o sucesso na exploração de hidrocarbonetos

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THE IMPORTANCE OF SEISMIC DATA FOR THE SUCCESS OF HYDROCARBON EXPLORATION

A IMPORTÂNCIA DA INTERPRETAÇÃO SÍSMICA PARA O
SUCESSO NA EXPLORAÇÃO DE HIDROCARBONETOS



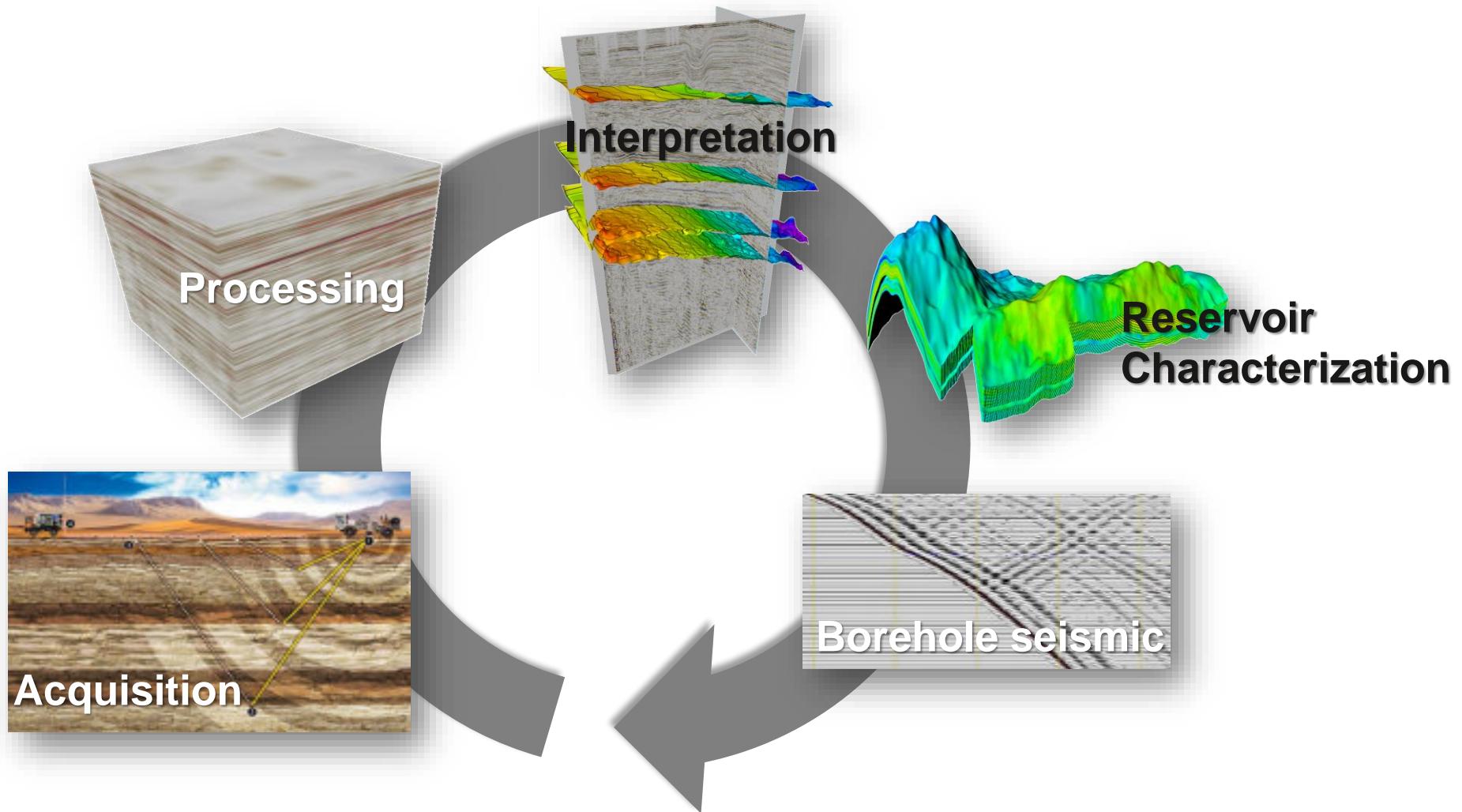
Seismic interpretation is the **science** (and **art**) of **inferring the geology** at some depth from the processed seismic record. (...) requires that the interpreter draw upon his or her geological understanding to pick the **most likely interpretation** from the many “valid” interpretations that the data allow.

The seismic record contains two basic **elements for the interpreter** to study. The first is the **time of arrival of any reflection** (or refraction) from a geological surface. The actual depth to this surface is a function of the thickness and velocity of overlying rock layers. The second is the **shape of the reflection**, which includes **how strong the signal** is, what **frequencies** it contains, and how the frequencies are distributed over the pulse. This information can often be used to support conclusions about the **lithology** and **fluid** content of the seismic reflector being evaluated.

The interpretation process can be subdivided into three interrelated categories: **structural**, **stratigraphic**, and **lithologic**. Structural seismic interpretation is directed toward the creation of **structural maps of the subsurface** from the observed three-dimensional configuration of arrival times. Seismic sequence stratigraphic interpretation relates the pattern of reflections observed to a model of cyclic episodes of deposition. The aim is to develop a **chronostratigraphic framework of cyclic**, genetically related strata. Lithological interpretation is aimed at determining **changes in pore fluid, porosity, fracture intensity, lithology**, and so on from seismic data. **Direct hydrocarbon indicators** (DHI, HCIs, bright spots, or dim-outs) are elements employed in this lithologic interpretation process.

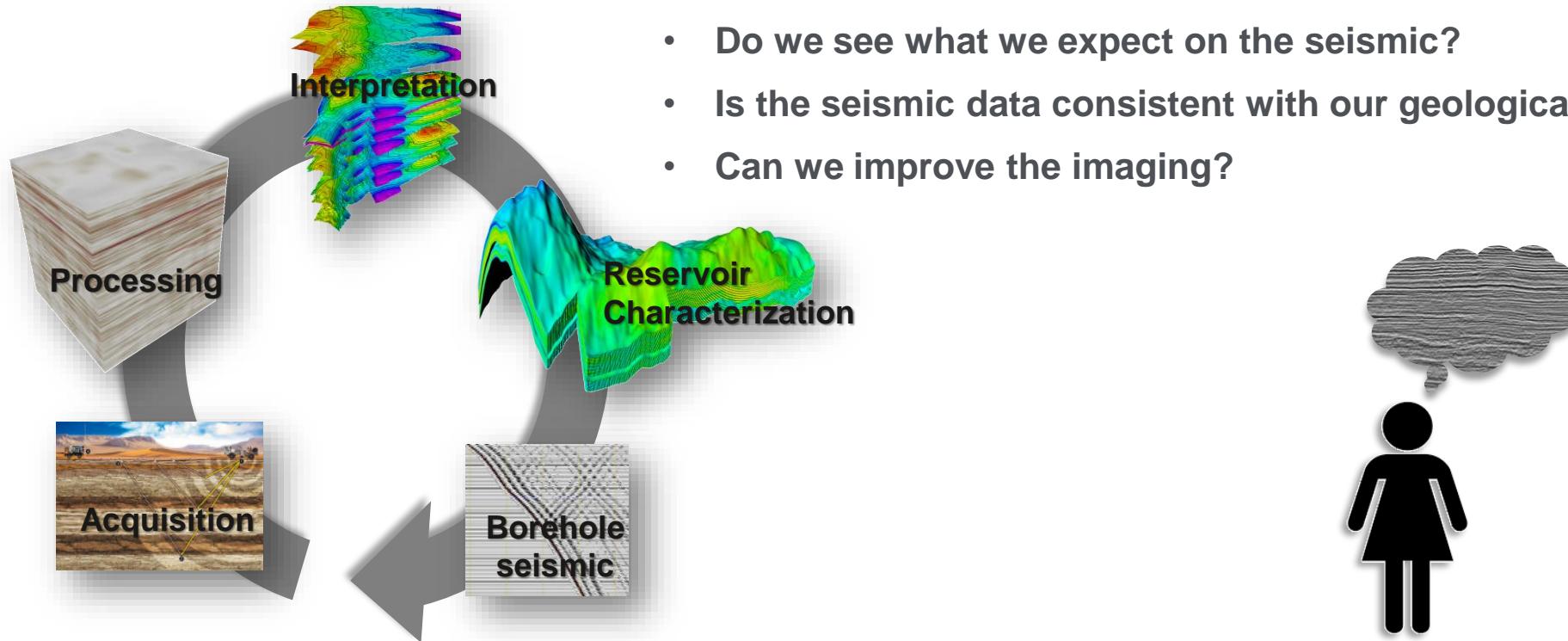
www.wiki.aapg.org

MAKE THE MOST OF SEISMIC DATA



FOLLOW THE SEISMIC FLOW

Seismic interpretation starts before acquiring seismic



FOLLOW THE SEISMIC FLOW

Acquisition

Generation and recording of seismic data

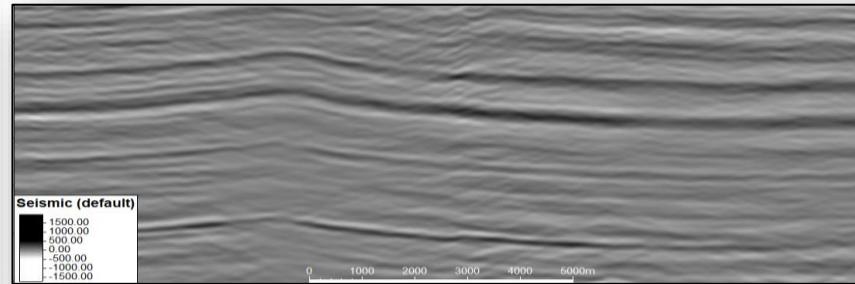


Mozambique Oil & Gas: Spectrum starts multi-client 2D offshore seismic survey (www.mozambiqueminingpost.com)

- High signal-to-noise ratio recorded
- Appropriate resolution
- Ensure that ground roll, multiples and diffractions can be minimized, distinguished and removed through processing

Processing

Enhancement the signal to noise ratio and removal of artifacts in the signal

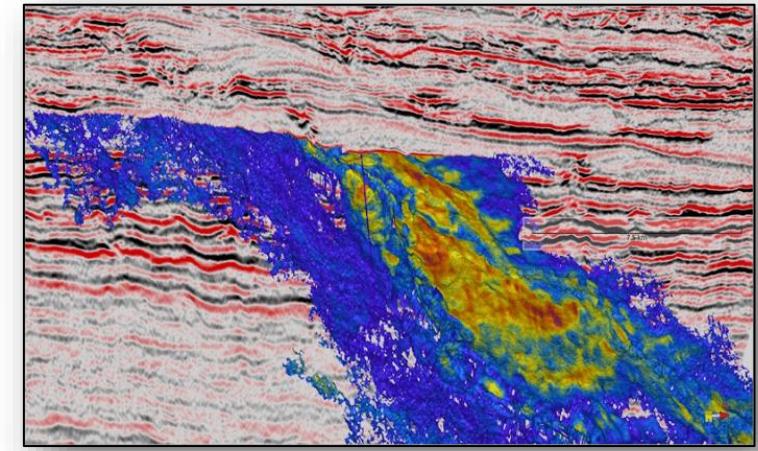


Caeiro, M.H. et. al (2020) Insights Of Processing Early-outs From New High-quality 3D Seismic Data For Exploration Prospective: A Land Case Example From Abu Dhabi, SPE-202822-MS

- Deconvolution: improves temporal resolution by collapsing the seismic wavelet to approximately a spike and suppressing reverberations on some field data
- Stacking: attenuate uncorrelated noise significantly, thereby increasing the S/N ratio
- Migration: collapses diffractions and moves dipping events to their supposedly true subsurface locations (imaging process)

Interpretation

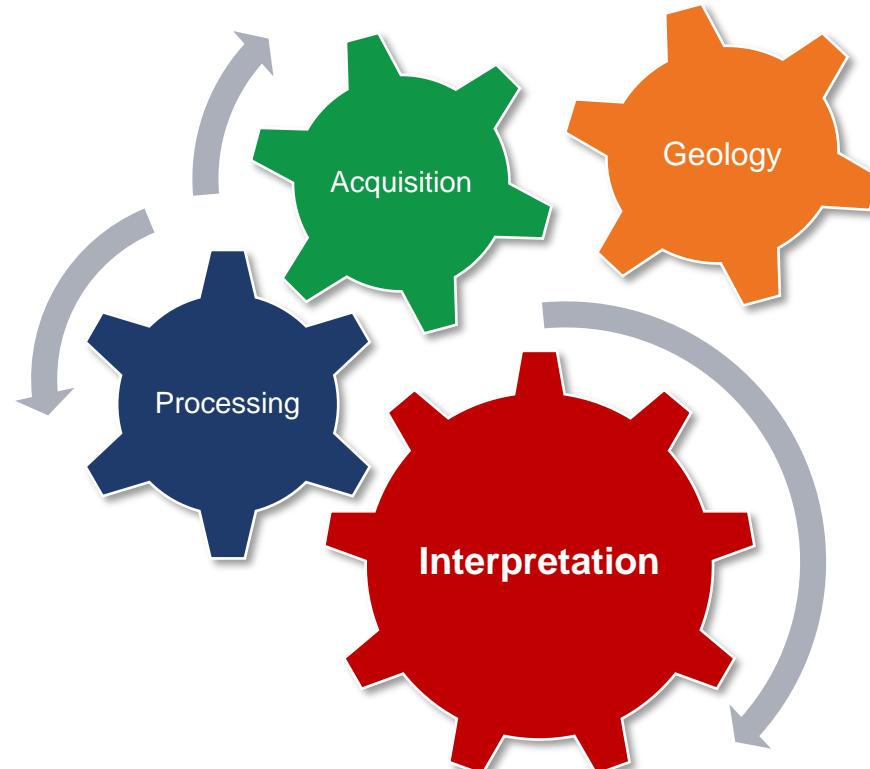
Extraction of subsurface geologic information from seismic data



www.ingeoexpert.com

FOLLOW THE SEISMIC FLOW

COLLABORATION

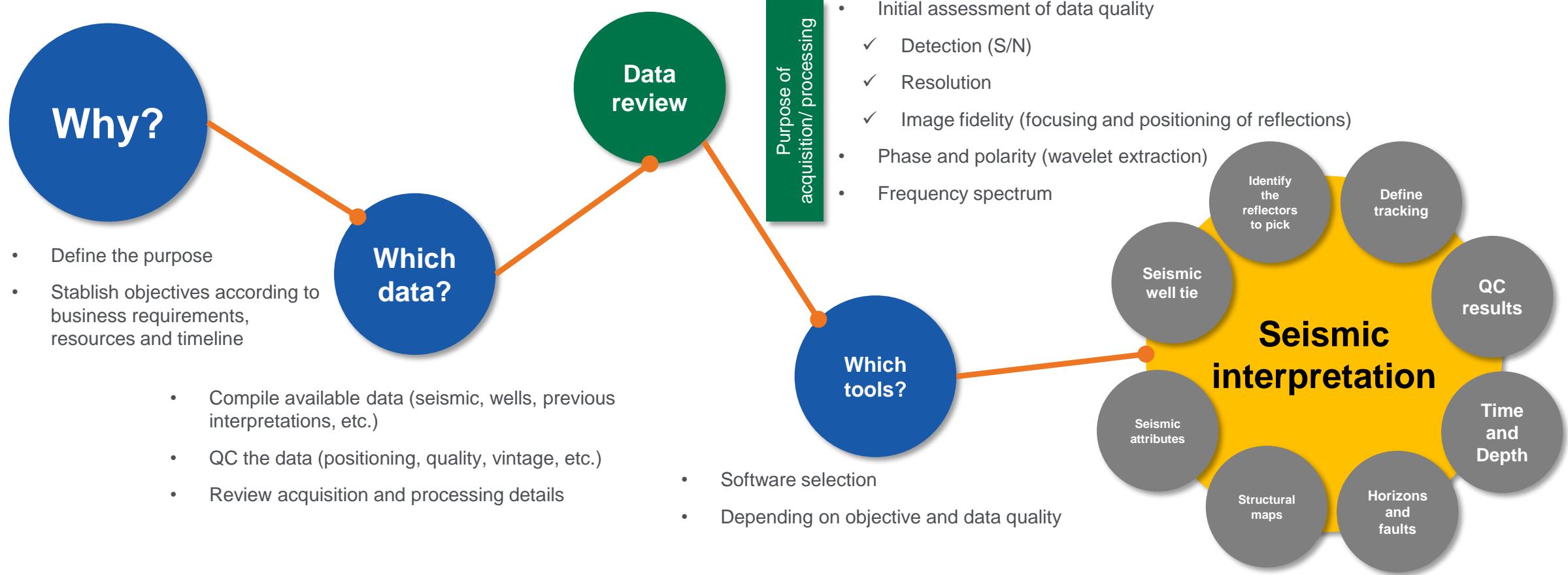


- Participate in the processing project **meetings**
- Assure the **high quality** of the final products in terms of imaging for seismic interpretation and AVO/amplitude for advanced reservoir characterization
- Provide **advice** in terms of **quality control** from user perspective during the full processing sequence, including the analysis of **Fast-Track** products
- Provide **required data** for processing (well logs, markers and **intermediate interpretations**)
- Strong **integration** during the depth migration/tomography stage

Successfully obtain an high quality and fit for purpose product

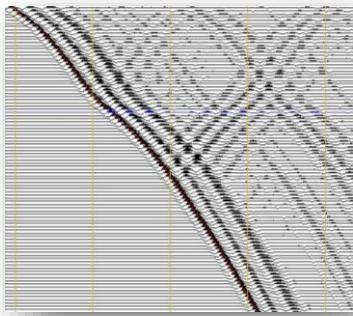
SEISMIC INTERPRETATION

Efficiency for successful and timely achievement of project objectives

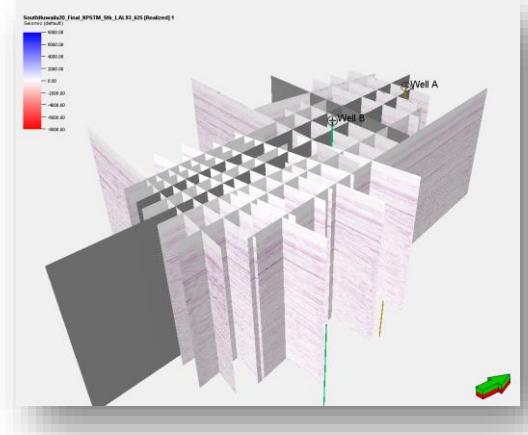


MULTI DIMENSIONAL SEISMIC DATA

- Seismic plays a determinant role especially for integrated reservoir exploration studies, when the well data is limited and we should make the most from the available seismic data to predict reservoir architecture and properties among the wells



1D seismic profile



2D seismic lines

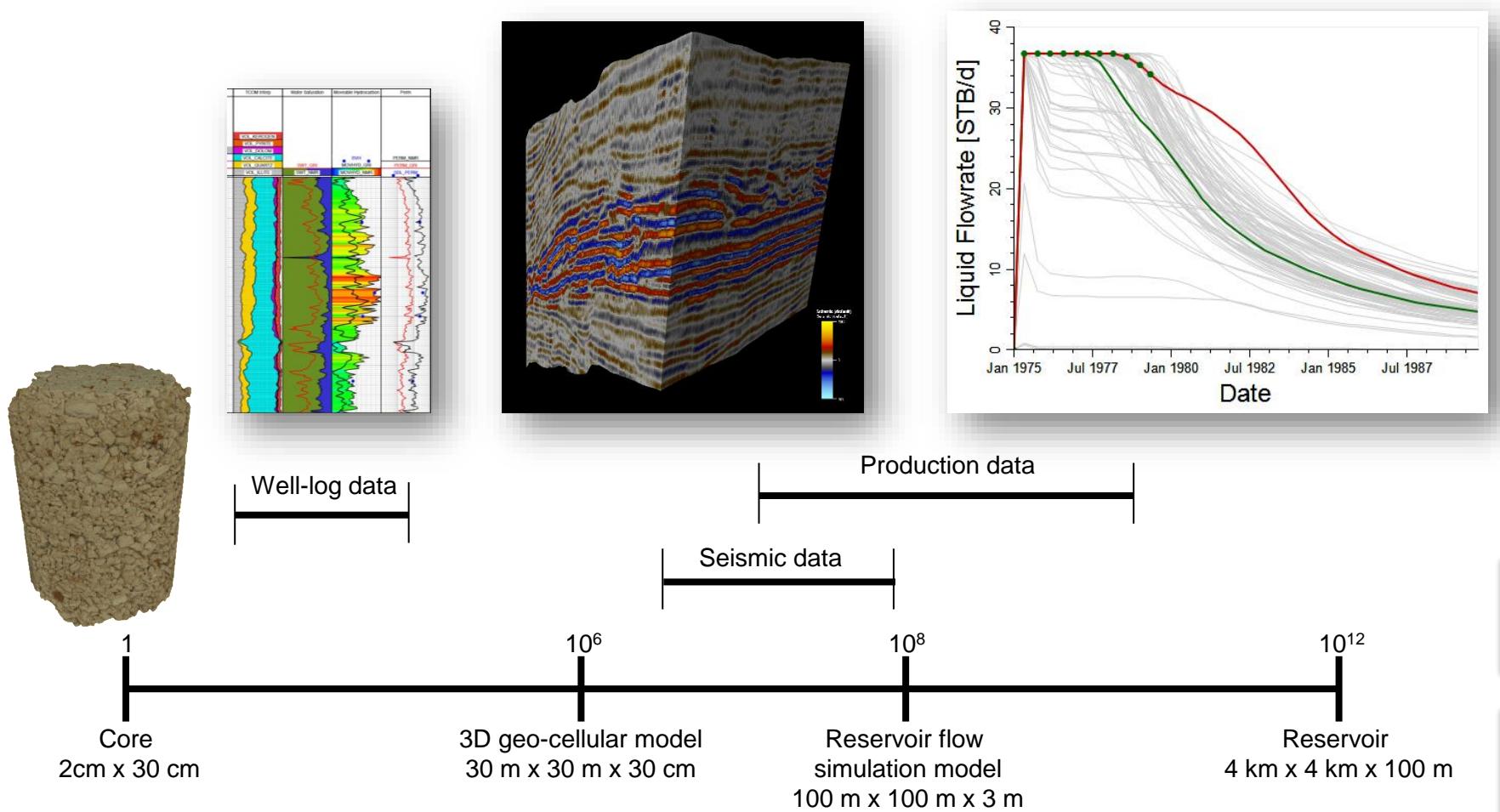


3D seismic volumes



4D seismic
time lapsed volumes

INTEGRATION OF DIFFERENT SCALES



MAKE THE MOST OF HYDROCARBON EXPLORATION

Seismic Quality

Seal characterization

Deep imaging

Unconventional Reservoirs

Shallow Targets

Tight reservoirs

Remote Areas

Clastic reservoirs

Low relief

Stratigraphic traps

Small closures

Deep Targets

Cost efficiency

Gas

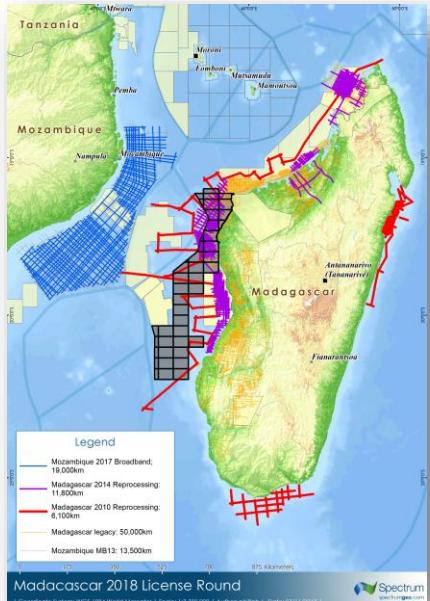
EXPLORATION OVERVIEW



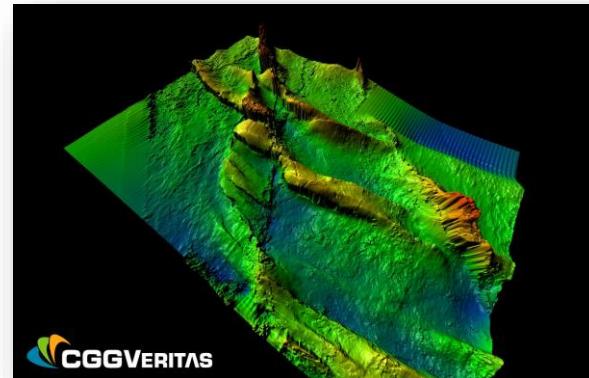
Illustrative example of the Exploration funnel

SEISMIC INTERPRETATION DURING EXPLORATION STAGES

Regional Understanding

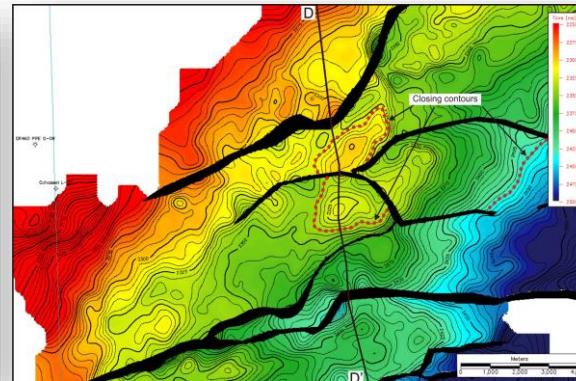


Play Characterization



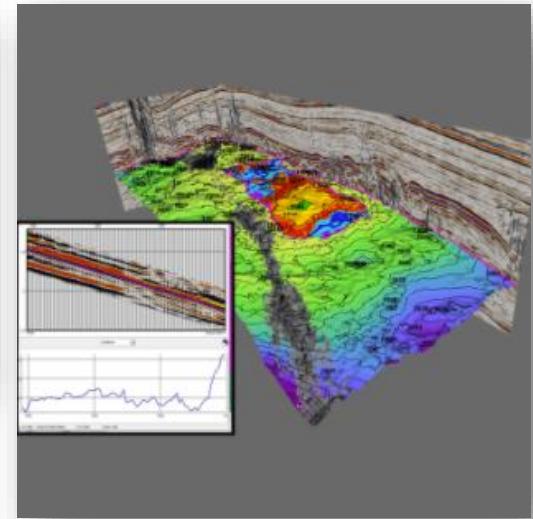
Regional disconformity / sequence boundary,
deepwater Niger delta (seismicatlas.org)

Lead identification



Potential Reservoirs and Traps
(callforbids.cnsopb.ns.ca)

Prospect Maturation



Fluid contact finder (www.dgbes.com)

Compelling Evidence for Oil Offshore
Angoche, Mozambique
(www.spectrumgeo.com)



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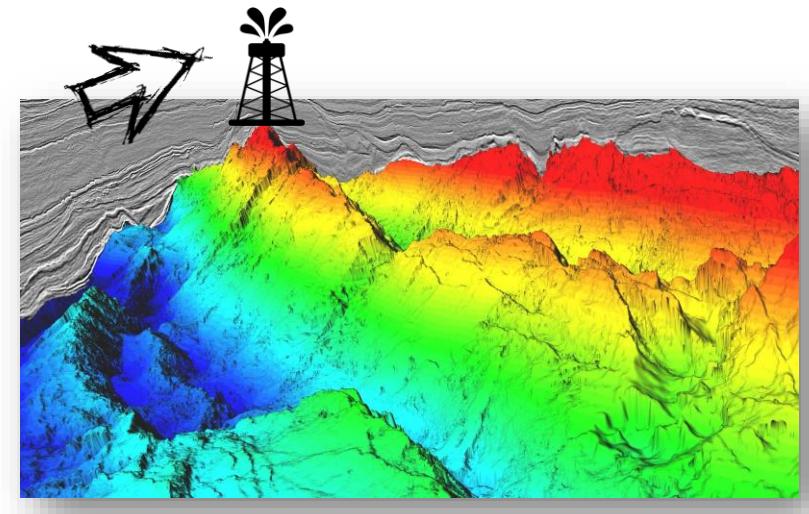
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WHY DO WE DO SEISMIC INTERPRETATION?

To make better decisions!

- Build an accurate model of subsurface geology
- Identify favorable hydrocarbon reservoir characteristics

Reduce the exploration risk by providing a more accurate and precise well placement for a more efficient hydrocarbon exploration



cgg.com

THE IMPORTANCE OF SEISMIC DATA FOR THE SUCCESS OF HYDROCARBON EXPLORATION

EXEMPLIFIED BY CASE STUDIES



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USING 2D REFLECTIVITY DATA TO PERFORM SEISMIC 3D RESERVOIR CHARACTERISATION

APPLICATION TO THE EVALUATION OF AN OIL EXPLORATION LOWER CRETACEOUS PROSPECT

Caeiro, M.H. and Neves, F., 2018, Using 2D Reflectivity Data To Perform Seismic 3D Reservoir Characterisation. Application To The Evaluation Of An Oil Exploration Lower Cretaceous Prospect, AAPG Carbonate Reservoir of the Middle East & their Future Challenges



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CASE STUDY

- The key uncertainties of this exploration target are mainly related with the **trapping** and the **reservoir spatial continuity**, namely because the only seismic available in the area are 2D seismic lines

Exploration Target

- Thin porous zones of limestone sand dolomites
- Preserved as alternating porous and dense zones
- Total gross thickness reaches 1,000 ft in the area of interest

Gas Discovery

MOTIVATION

Understand and describe exploration targets
(in early exploration stage)

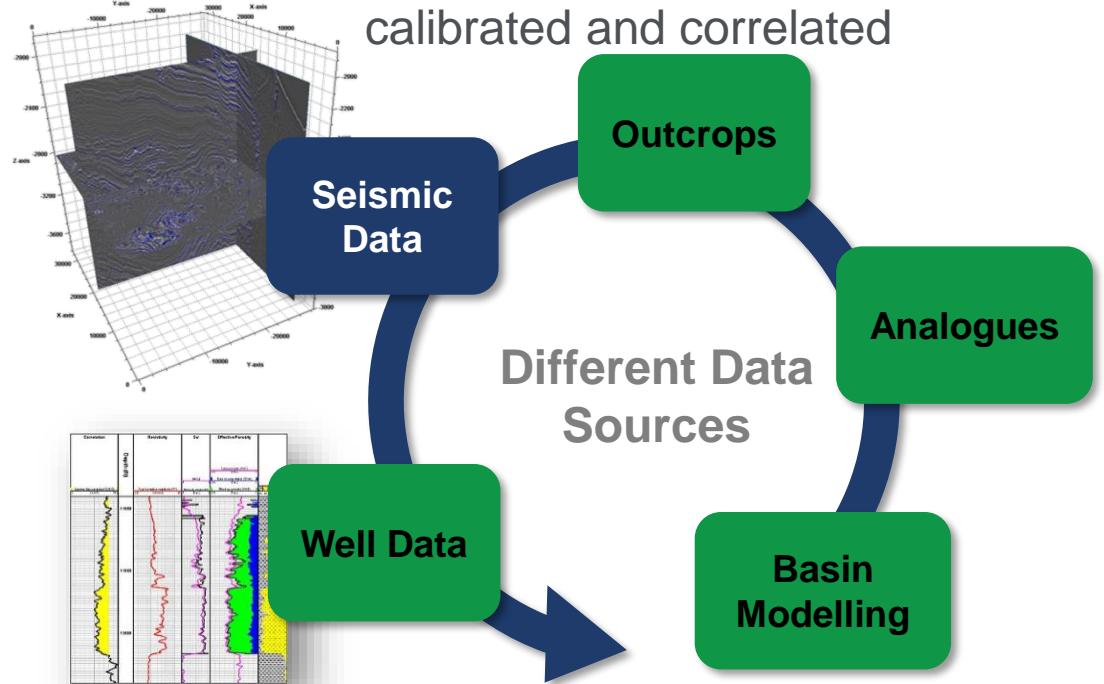


3D Qualitative and Quantitative Seismic Interpretation

- Better evaluation of the exploration potential
- Definition of new leads
- Delineate prospects

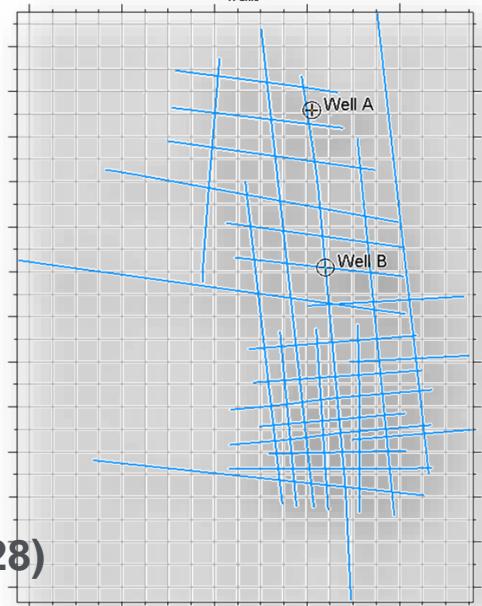
Data Integration

All the data available that may have quality to describe the reservoir must be integrated, calibrated and correlated



CHALLENGE AND OBJECTIVE

- Data availability
 - Few 2D seismic lines only
 - 2 wells



2D seismic lines (28)

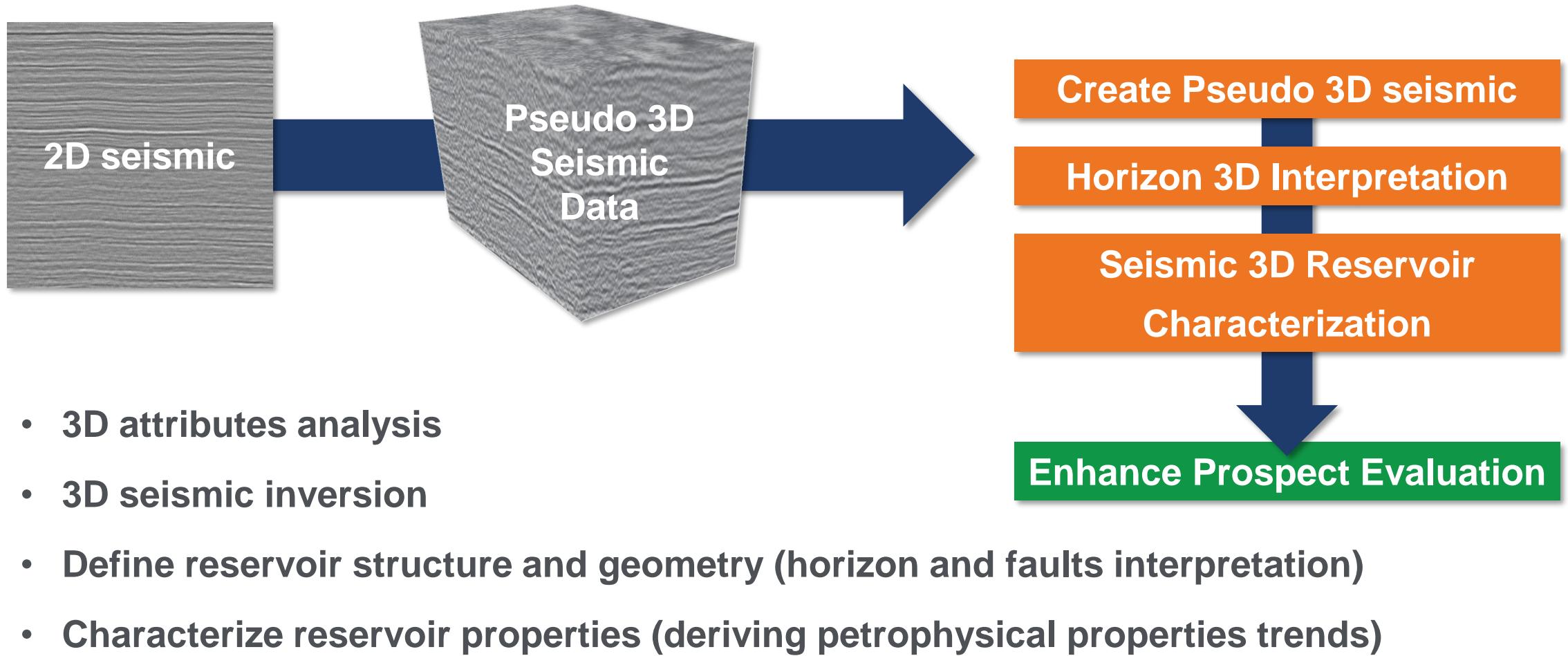
1,500 km²

Line density: 1.5 to 2 km (South part) and
3km (North part)

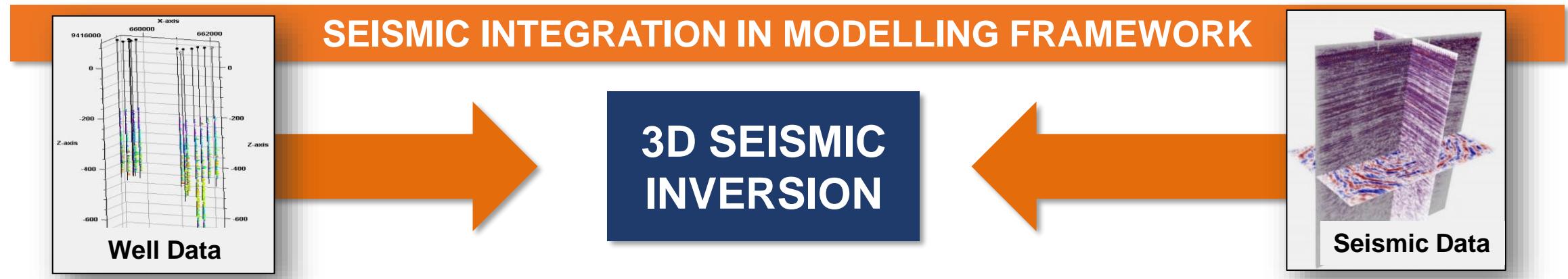
Seismic plays a determinant role especially for integrated reservoir exploration studies, when the well data is limited, and we should make the most from the available seismic data to predict reservoir architecture and properties among the wells

Evaluate the incorporation of 2D seismic data to do horizon interpretation and assess seismic characterization workflows designed for 3D

PROPOSAL



SEISMIC 3D RESERVOIR CHARACTERISATION



Transform seismic data into reservoir rock properties

Translate the complexity and heterogeneity of the subsurface geology

3D seismic driven models

Reservoir lateral heterogeneity

Increasing the spatial resolution

Improvement of reservoir description

Reduce uncertainty at distances far from the drilled well locations

Better identification of prospective areas

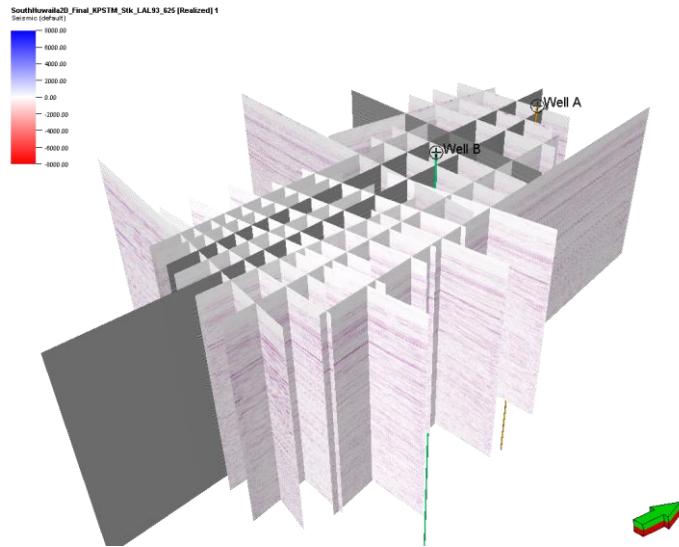
Leads identification

Prediction at undrilled areas



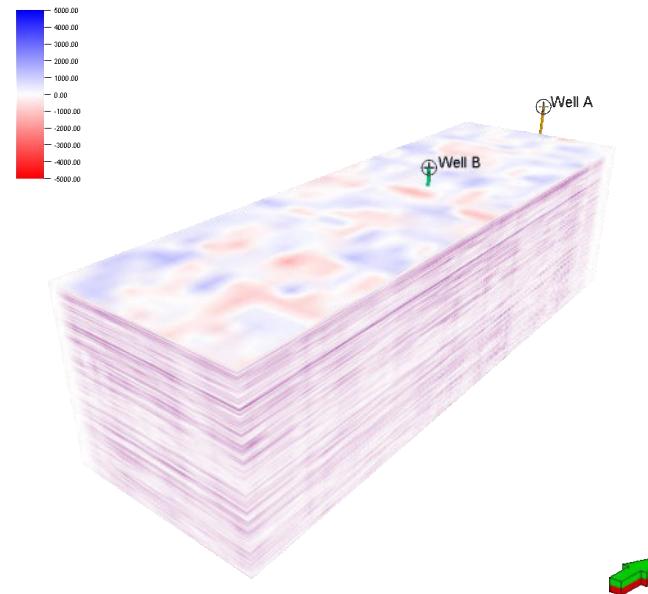
CASE STUDY

2D seismic lines



- Legacy 2D seismic lines
- 5 vintages (1980s and 1990s)
- Recently reprocessed, balanced and tied

Pseudo 3D seismic volume



Interpolated 2D seismic lines

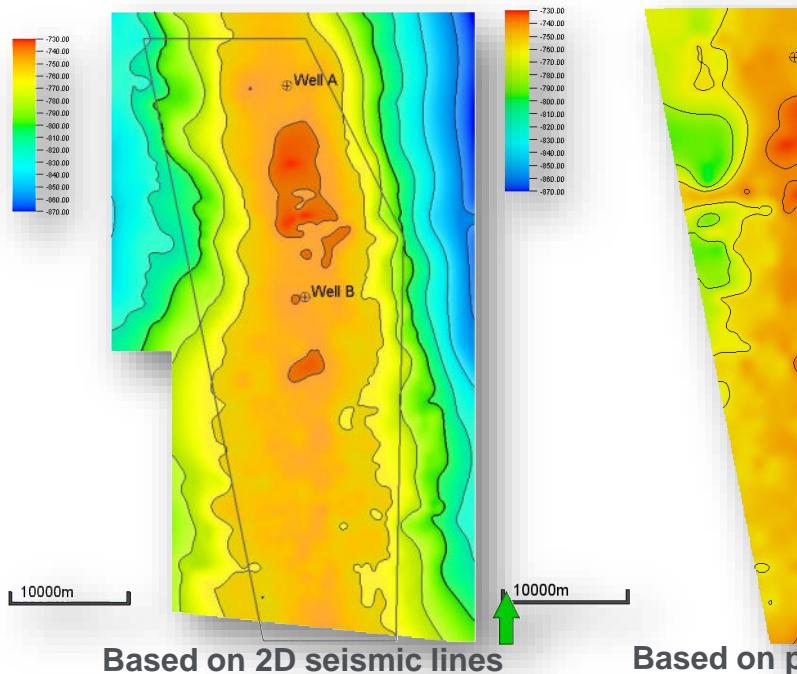
using a commercial software where the algebraic interpolation is a special type of polynomial defined by multiple sub-functions for averaging between the lines

RESULTS

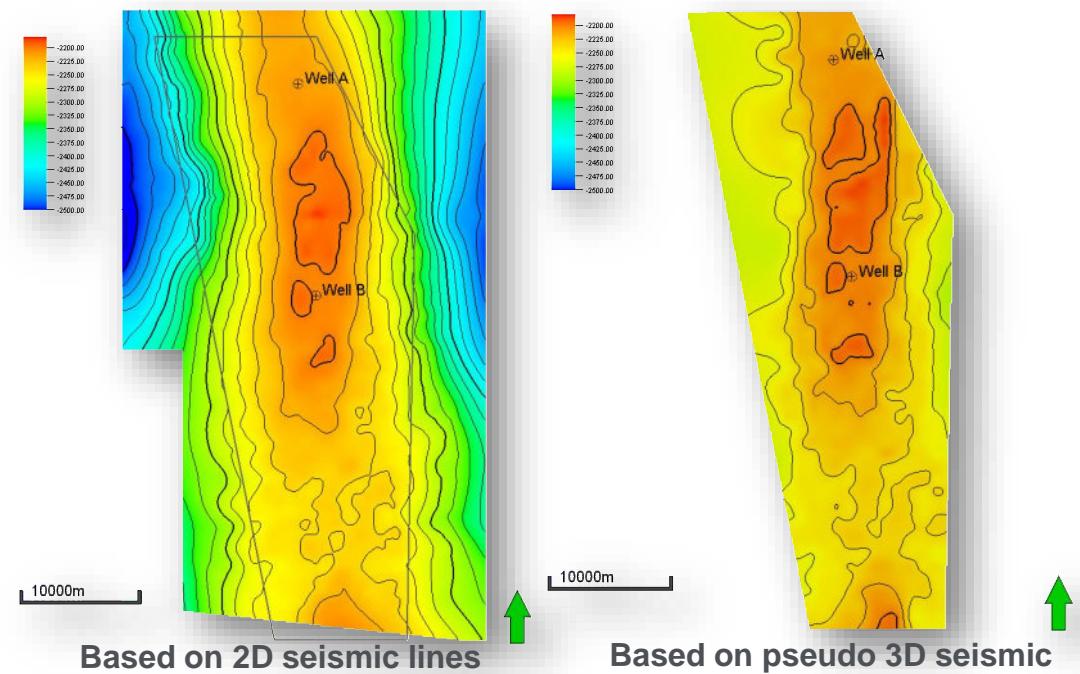
Horizon interpretation and mapping

- Increase interpretation efficiency by using 3D interpretation tools and mitigate the limitations of 2D seismic interpretation

Shallow Target

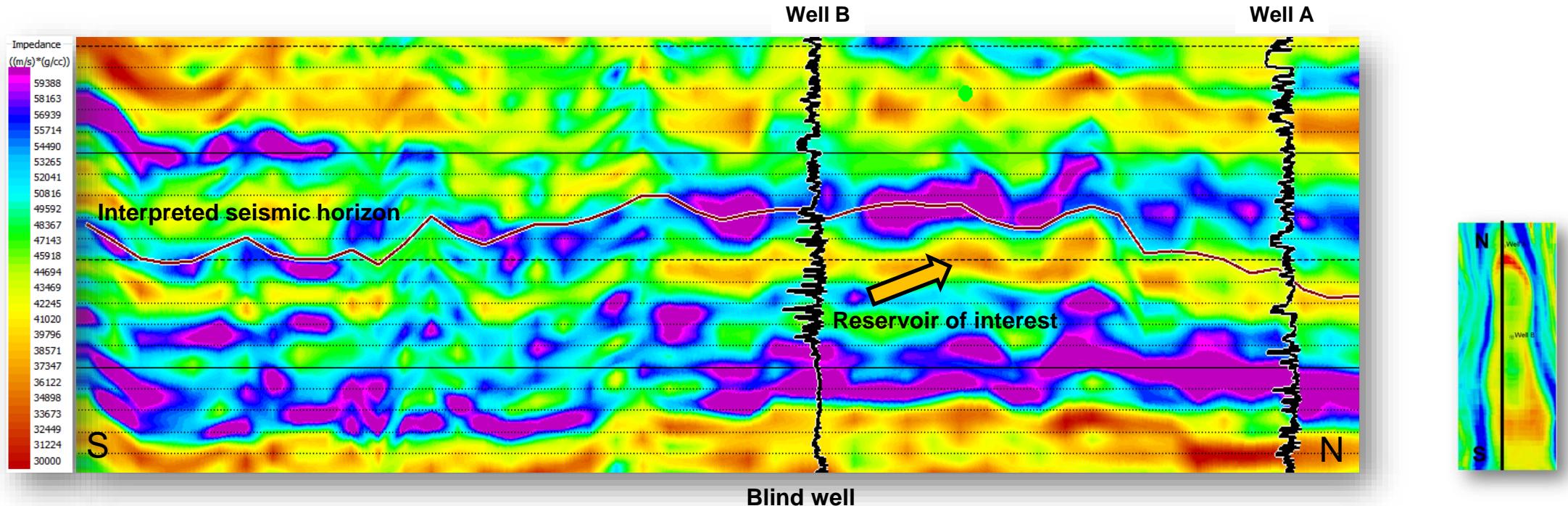


Deep Target



RESULTS

3D Seismic Reservoir Characterization

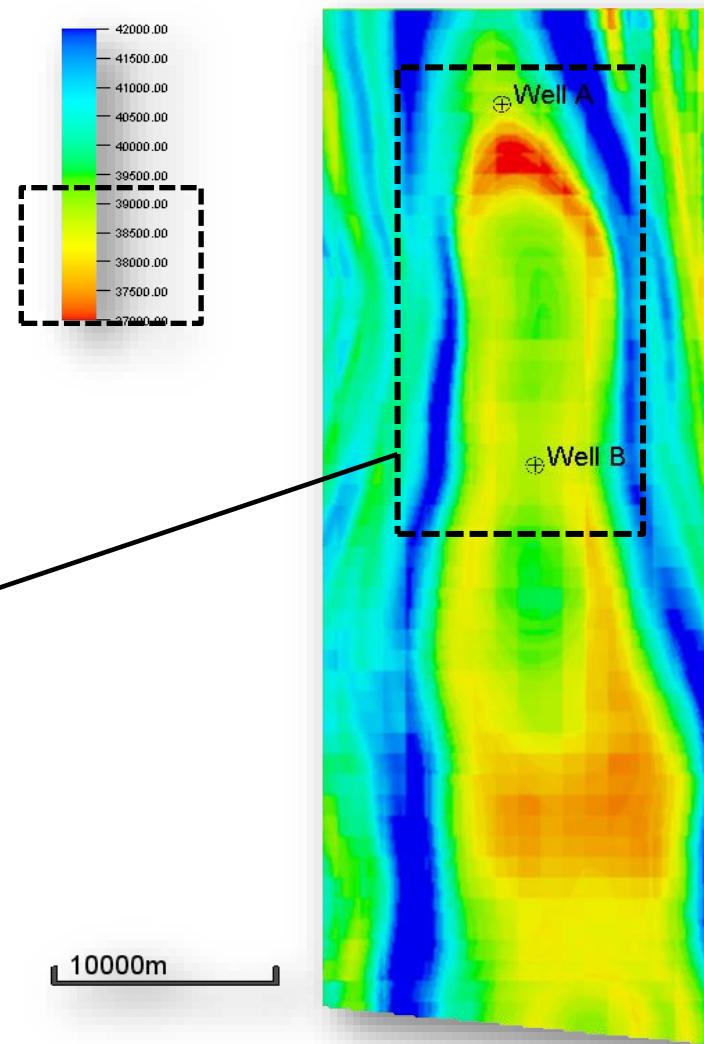
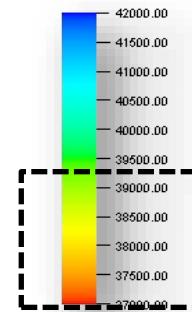
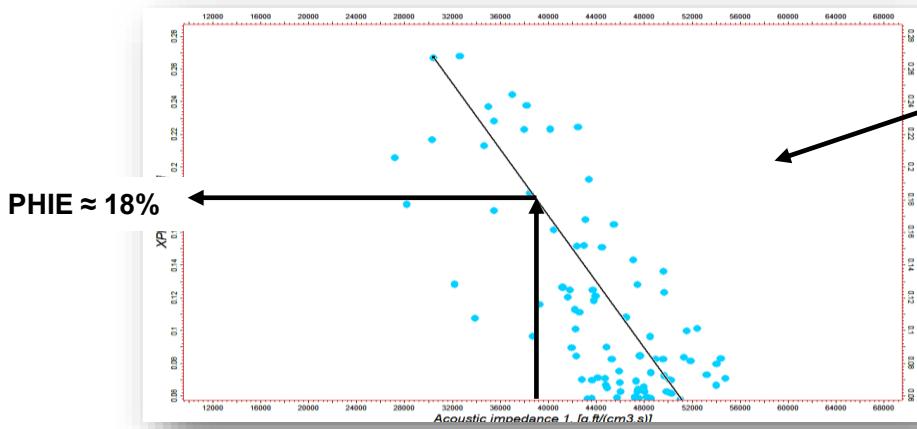


- Observed lateral discontinuity of the acoustic impedance model → indication of local variation of reservoir properties
- Pair seal/reservoir showing large acoustic impedance contrast

RESULTS

3D Seismic Reservoir Characterization

- Expected good reservoir properties in the crest of the structures
- Observed lateral variability, possible related with a combined structural/stratigraphic trap



REMARKS

- A major advantage of using a pseudo 3D seismic reflectivity volume is that it **allows the incorporation of 2D seismic data into advanced 3D seismic reservoir characterisation workflow**, such structural interpretation and characterisation of reservoir quality
- The **horizon interpretation** and computation of **3D seismic attributes** are more efficiently performed by using a pseudo-3D reflectivity volume
 - These steps are crucial for prospect evaluation stage, namely for geological modelling, volumetric estimation and risk analysis
 - The P impedance model is a good indicator for the reservoir continuity distribution, specially when only limited well data is available and can be integrated into a geological modelling workflow

SEISMIC RESERVOIR CHARACTERISATION FOR HORIZONTAL WELL PLANNING

**A FIELD CASE STUDY OF AN UNCONVENTIONAL UPPER JURASSIC
RESERVOIR ONSHORE UAE**

Caeiro, M.H., AlKobaisi, A. and Neves, F. , 2017, Seismic Reservoir Characterisation for Horizontal Well Planning: A Field Case Study of an Unconventional Upper Jurassic Reservoir Onshore UAE, ADIPEC, SPE – 188700 – MS



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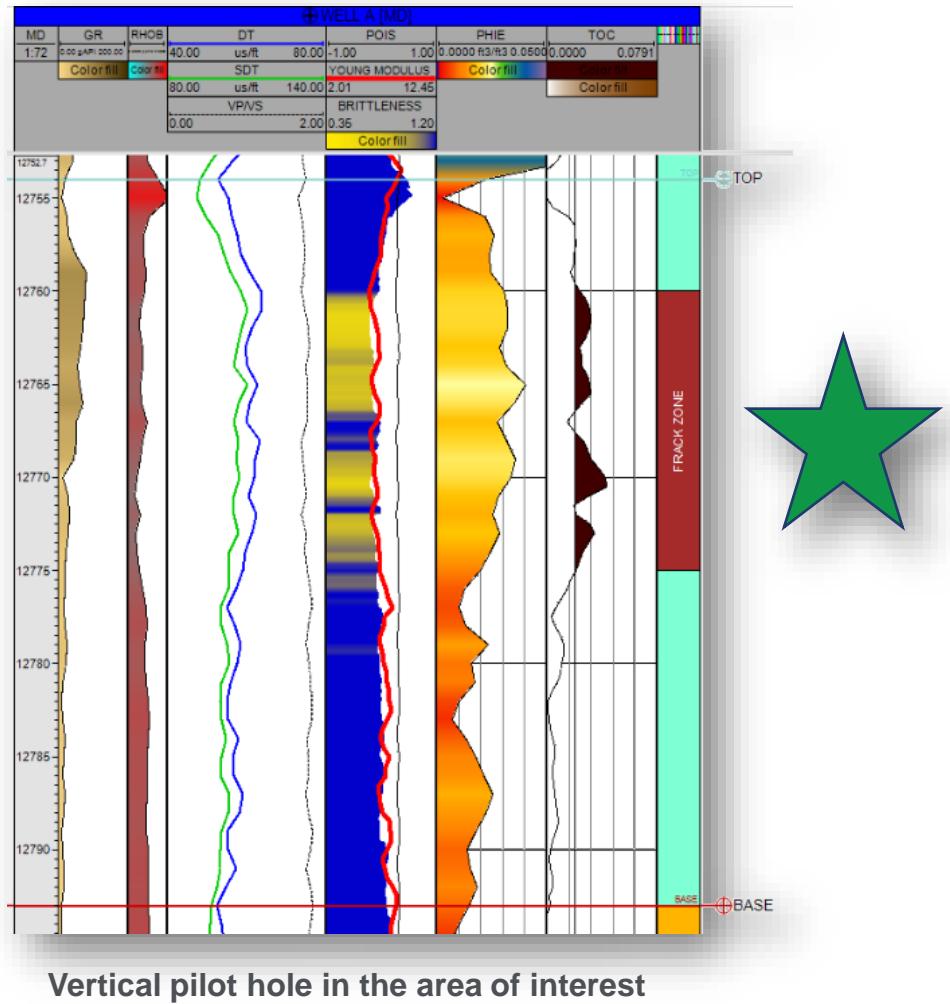
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CASE STUDY

- Exploration potential for **gas** from **unconventional reservoirs**
- Targeting tight carbonates
- Deep potential
- Evaluate the unconventional **hydrocarbon potential** and identify **sweet spots** for optimum well placement and horizontalization



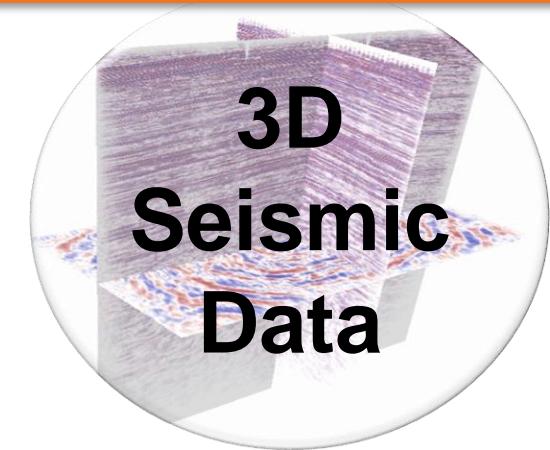
CHALLENGE AND OBJECTIVE

Exploration of complex and non-conventional hydrocarbon reservoirs

Definition of suitable zones for hydraulic fracking

Well drilling decisions and planning

wellbore stability, frackability and drilling direction



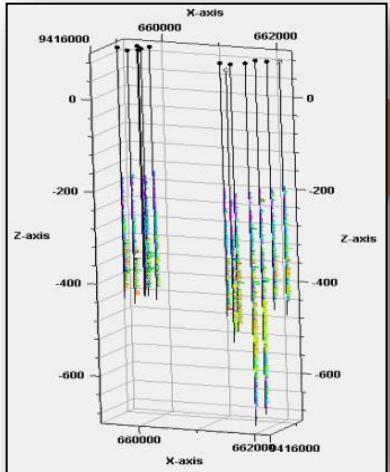
3D information
More spatial resolution

3D geomechanical reservoir behavior
derived from seismic data

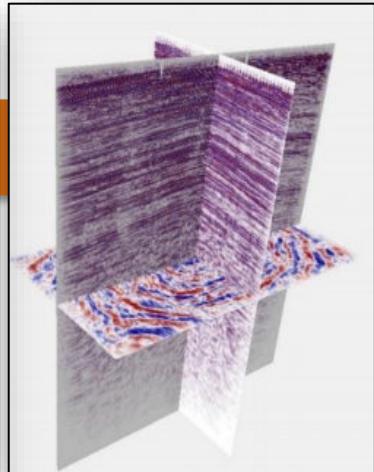


PROPOSAL

Include Seismic Data as part of the Modelling Process



Well data
(1D)



Seismic Data
(3D)



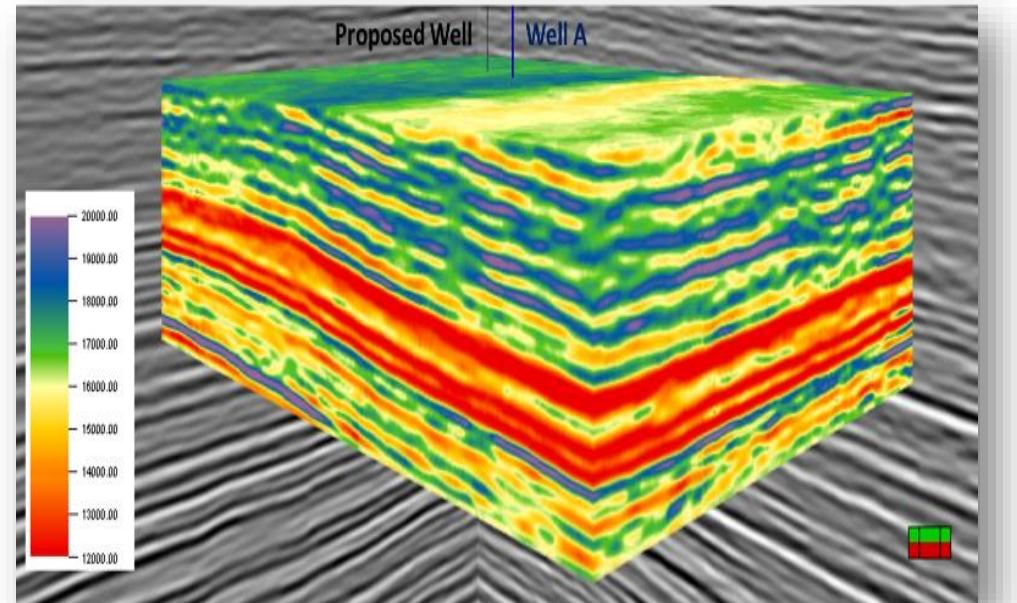
3D Seismic driven
Geomechanical Model

- Increases the spatial resolution
- Reduces uncertainty at distances far from the drilled well locations
- **Unlocks the potential of constraining a 3D geomechanical model at distances far from the drilled well locations, which is very useful for planning the direction of horizontal wells**

METHODOLOGY

1. Inverting 3D seismic reflectivity data to impedance

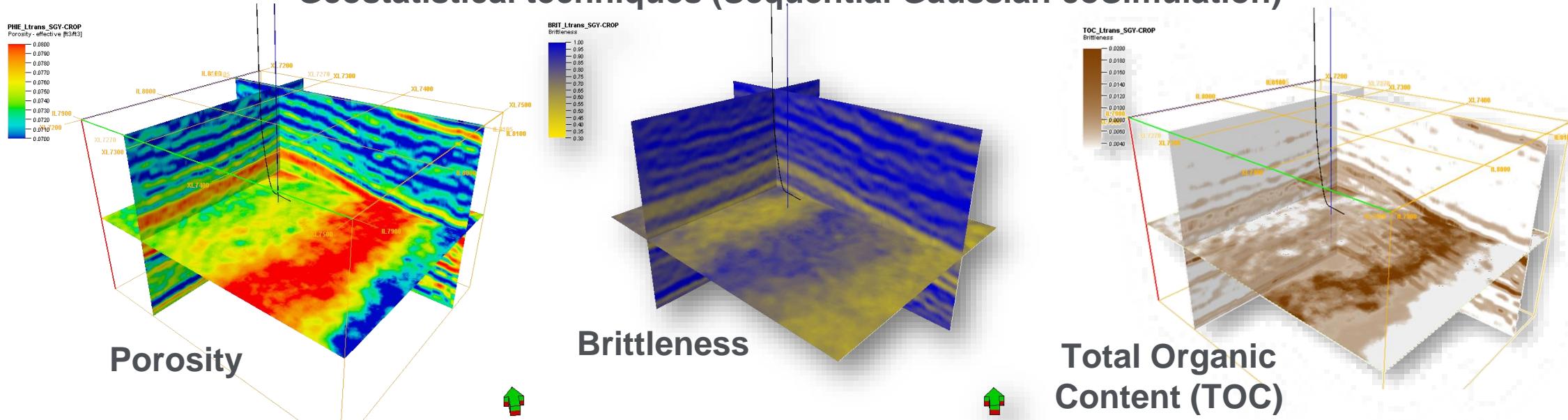
- Estimate lateral variability
- Characterisation of heterogeneity
- Predict reservoir geomechanical behaviour,
very useful for the characterisation of
complex and unconventional reservoirs



METHODOLOGY

2. Computing seismic derived models for reservoir and geomechanical properties

Geostatistical techniques (Sequential Gaussian coSimulation)

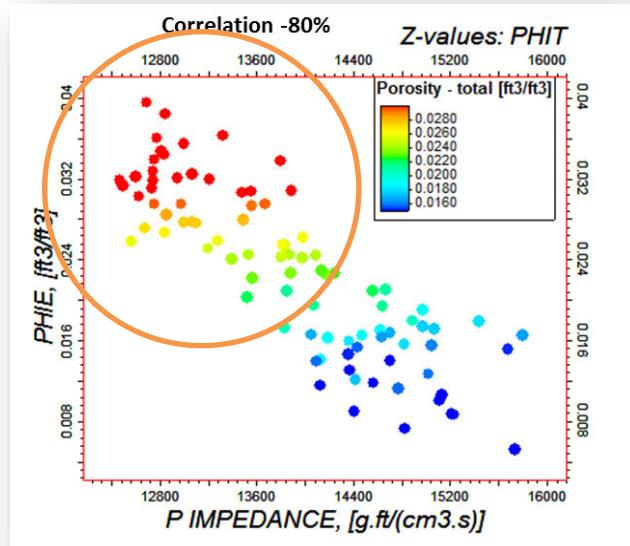


- Helpful to characterise tight reservoirs
- Useful for defining a horizontal well trajectory

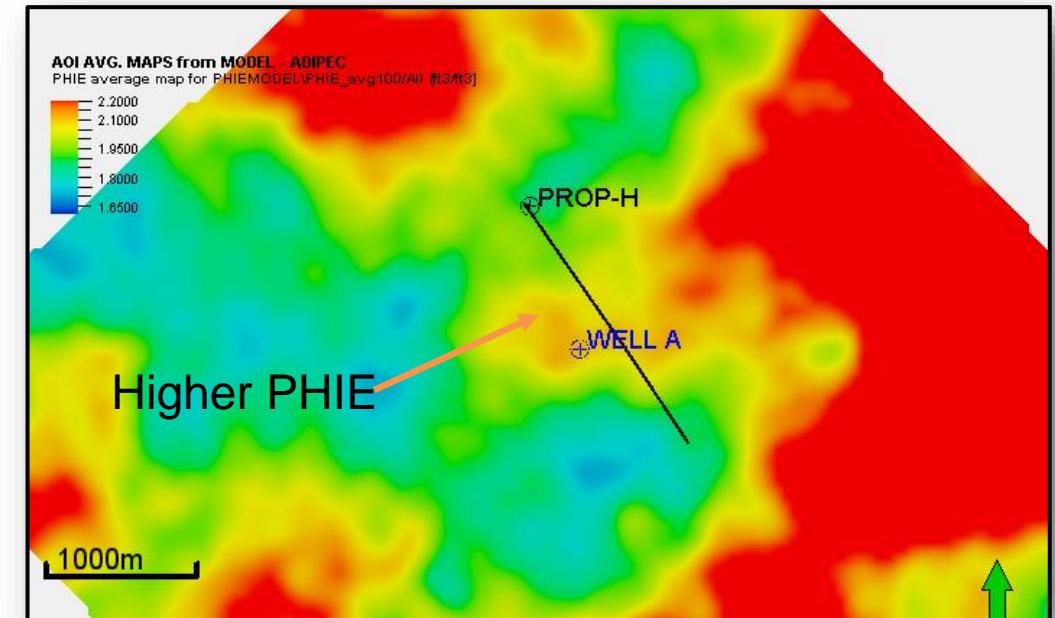
RESULTS

Porosity

- *Reservoir quality indication*
- High correlation between Total Porosity (PHIT) and Effective Porosity (PHIE)
→ clean carbonates, with no clay content



From drilled wells

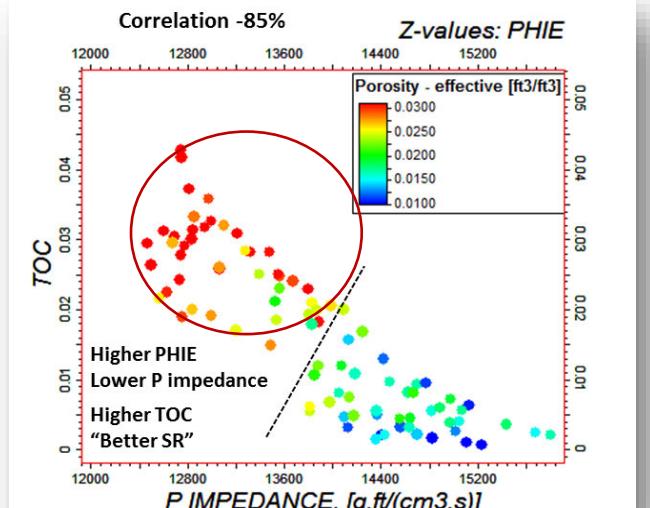


Average map of the interest zone

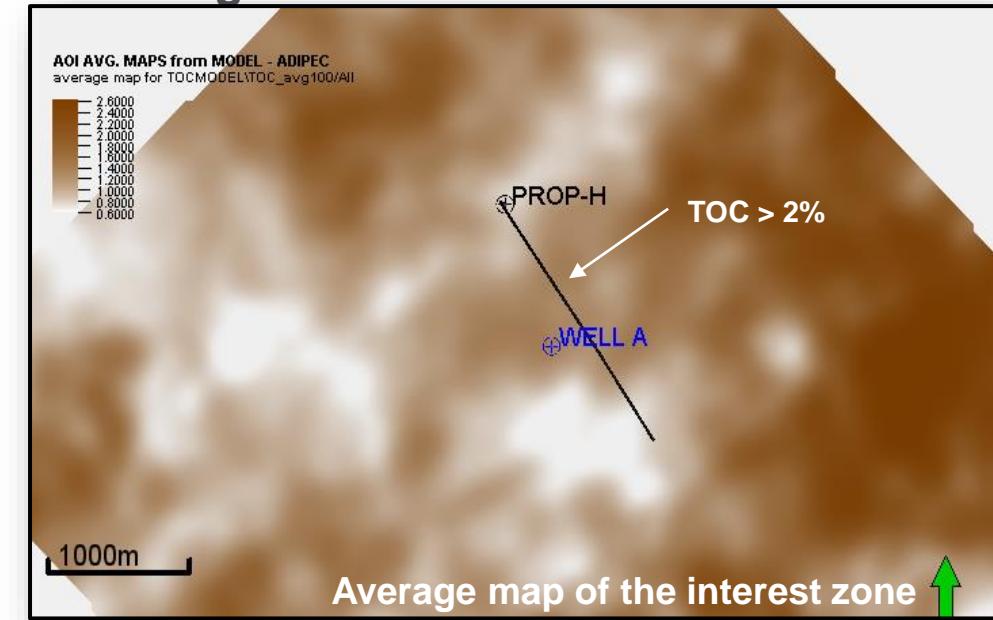
RESULTS

Total Organic Content

- The high potential zone corresponds to *high organic matter content*
- Represents source richness
- Organic-rich poses to less density and lower velocity
→ acoustic impedance (AI) decreases with the increasing of TOC content



From drilled wells

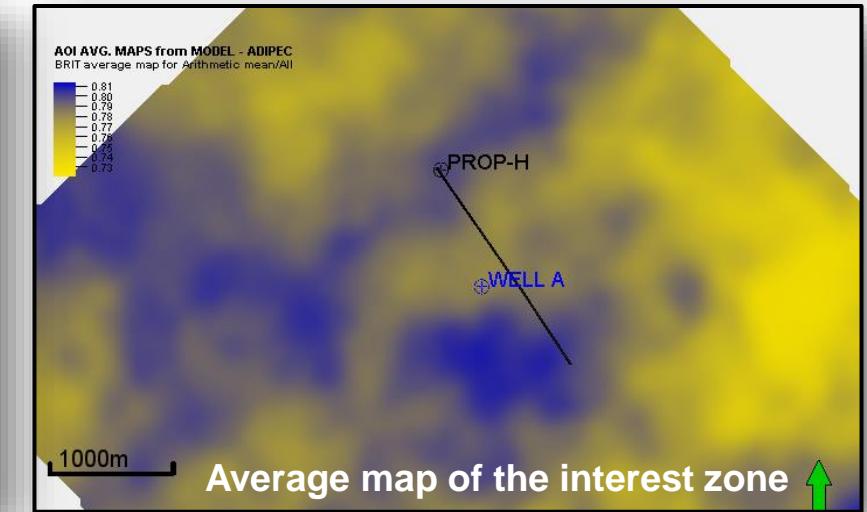
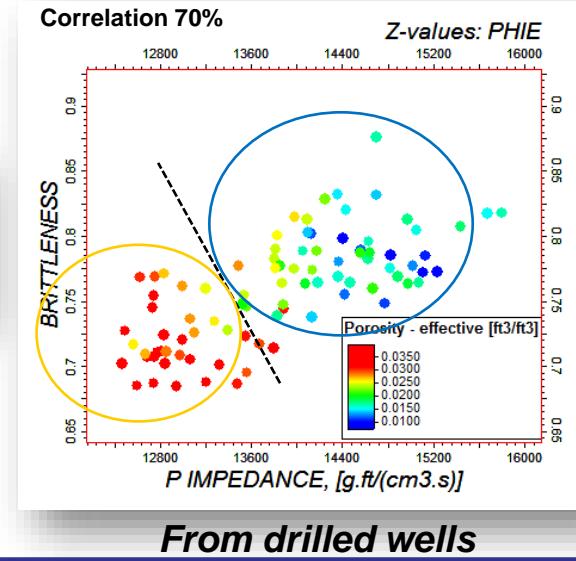
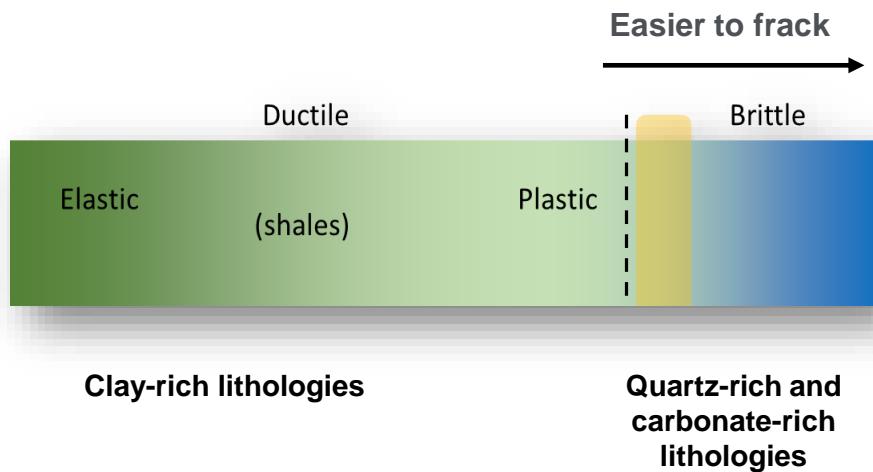


Average map of the interest zone

RESULTS

Brittleness

- Describes the deformation behaviour of the rock when it is subject to stress
- Indication for completion quality *and fracking characteristics*
- Defined based on elastic parameters
- The experience from other wells drilled previously in other parts of Abu Dhabi, indicates that the suitable fracked interval has a brittleness range is identified in yellow

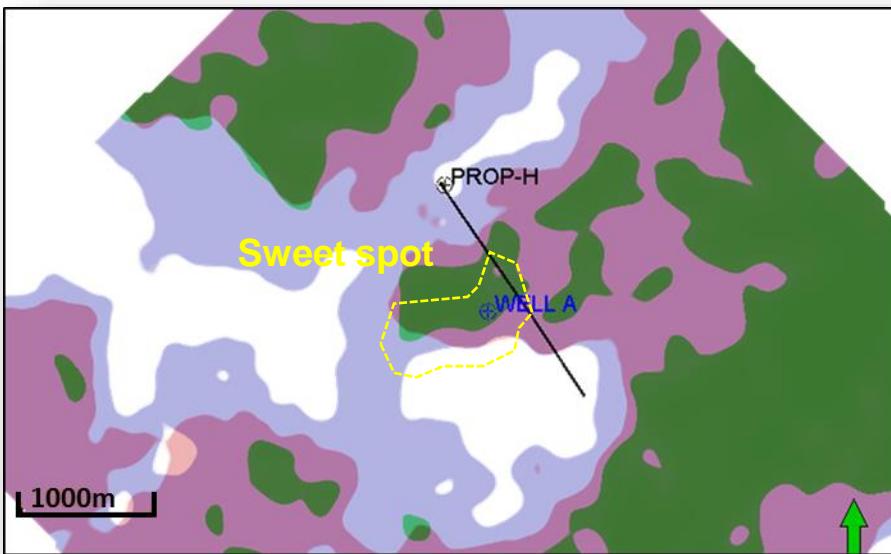


From drilled wells

RESULTS

Sweet Spotting

- Combination of porosity, TOC and brittleness models derived from seismic and wells as image tools for decision making
- The proposed horizontal well is crossing a sweet spot area that simultaneously includes good reservoir quality, high organic matter content and shows good frackability characteristics



REMARKS

- The obtained results highlight the importance of integrating **seismic characterisation** as a relevant supporting factor for the **predicting of sweet spots** and in the **drilling decision** making process (appropriate well placement and trajectory)
- Favourable geologic characteristics and rock-physical properties can be derived from seismic reservoir prediction technologies, such as **seismic inversion**, in order to help in the **characterization of unconventional reservoirs**
- The applied methodology validates the use of seismic derived reservoir and completion quality models as an **additional instrument in the definition of a horizontal well trajectory** in a tight/unconventional deep gas target

CHASING MIDDLE CRETACEOUS STRATIGRAPHIC TRAPS IN OFFSHORE ABU DHABI BY INCORPORATING 3D SEISMIC DATA INTO MACHINE LEARNING METHODOLOGY

Caeiro, M.H., Neves, F. and Taher, A., 2018, Chasing Middle Cretaceous Stratigraphic Traps in Offshore Abu Dhabi by Incorporating 3D Seismic Data into Machine Learning Methodology, ADIPEC, SPE – 192657 – MS



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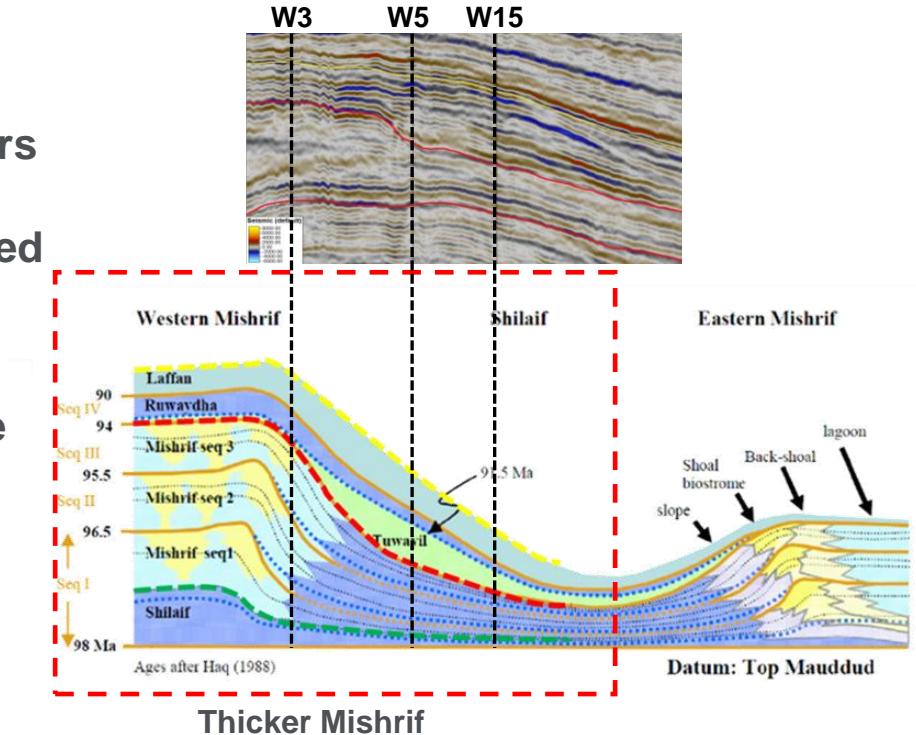
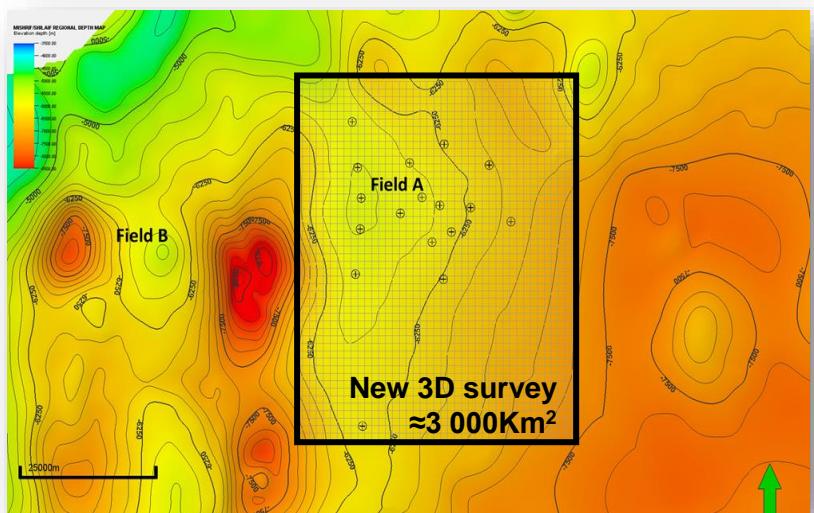
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CASE STUDY

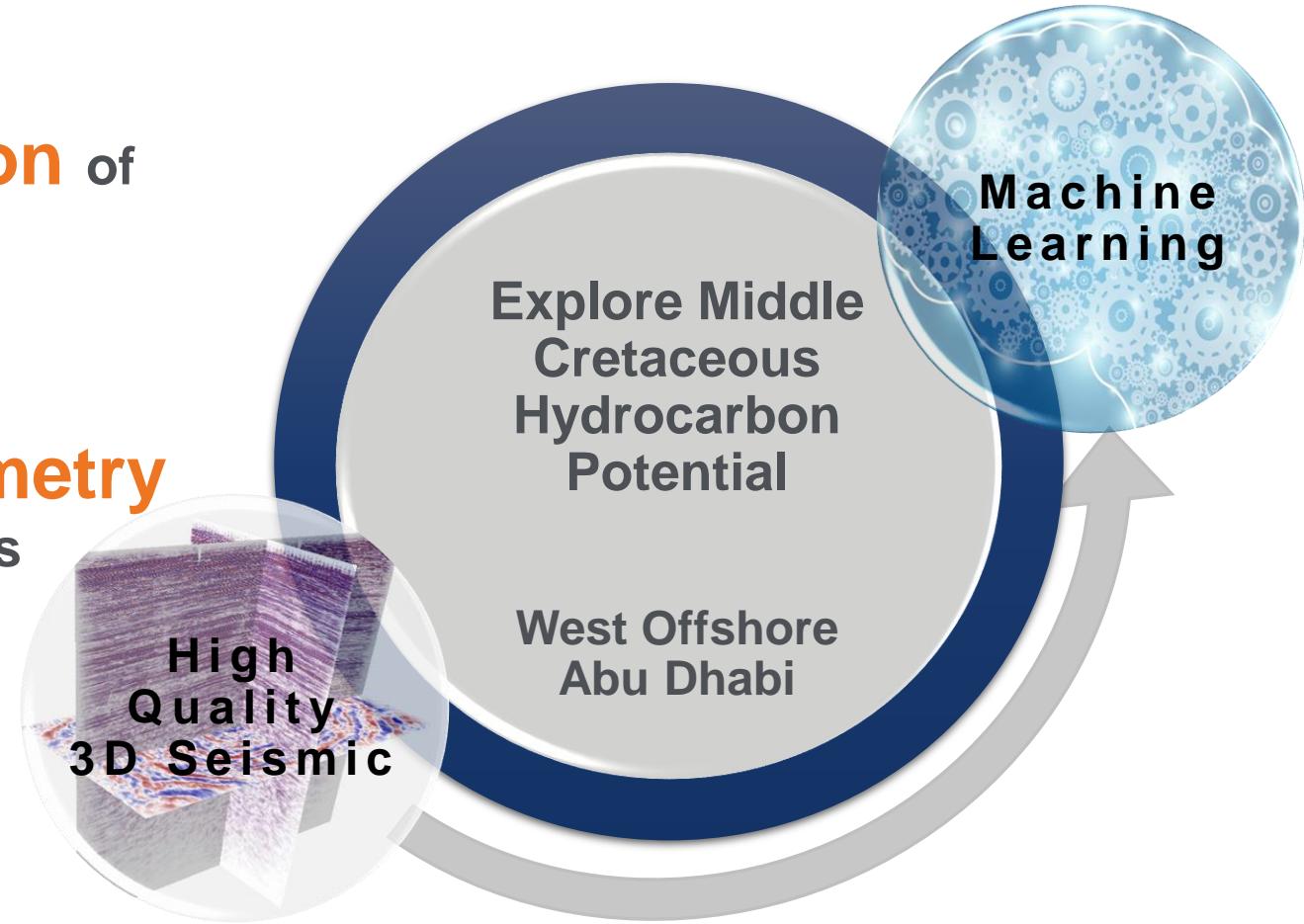
- **High-fold 3D seismic survey**
- **Long offset (6,000 m)** in order to properly image deep reservoirs
- **Broadband seismic (2-150Hz)** for higher resolution and detailed interpretation results
- **Full azimuth** to improve seismic quality image and incorporate anisotropy
- PSTM and PSDM
- **Offshore area**
- 17 wells



Mishrif comprises the progradational shelf margin facies, which are time equivalent to the corresponding Shilaif basinal facies

CHALLENGE AND OBJECTIVES

- Perform **structural and stratigraphic interpretation** of the play
- Infer **reservoir quality**
- Characterise the **internal geometry** of the stratigraphic reservoir and its **seismic lithofacies**
- Analyse source rock maturity based on new seismic



PROPOSAL

MACHINE LEARNING AS A DISRUPTIVE TECHNOLOGY FOR EVALUATING PLAY EXPLORATION POTENTIAL



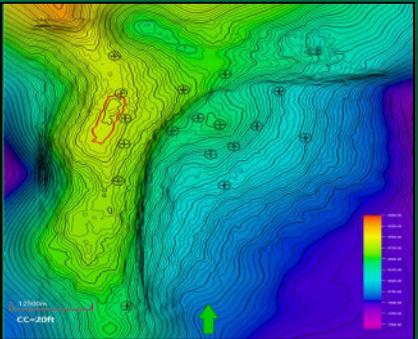
Subsurface characterization for hydrocarbon exploration

- Appraise different plays in a **faster, robust and reliable** manner
- Deal with several types of information and **large 3D seismic data**
- **Multidisciplinary** and multi-scale data integration
- Learn by themselves from these data
- Assist in **interwell pre-drill estimates** and associated **uncertainties in a semi-automated context**
- Extract **more value** from available data
- Improve the interpretation of complex geological features
- Enrich the knowledge by compiling and expand the rich database of subsurface models
- Mitigate exploration risks
- Reduce operation costs and enhance performance by **making better decisions**

METHODOLOGY

New high quality 3D seismic data (PSTM and PSDM)

Structural Interpretation

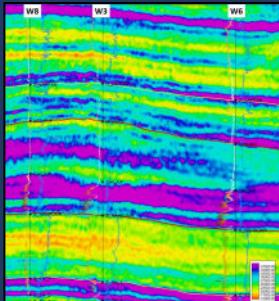


Identify structural closures

Analyse charge/maturity

Map source rock

Seismic Inversion



Identify reservoir internal

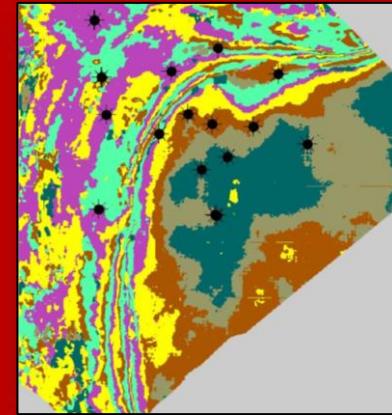
geometry

Infer about reservoir quality

Capture lateral variability of

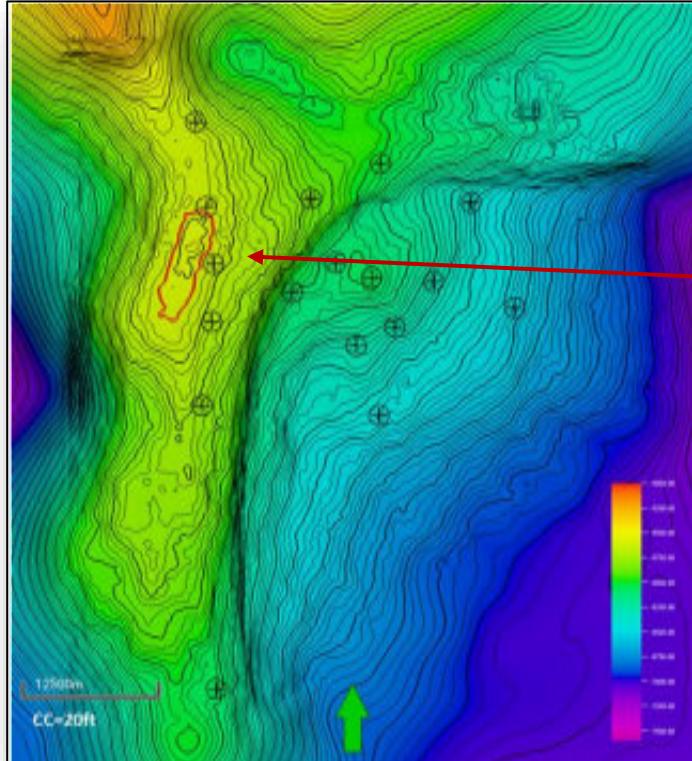
the reservoir

Seismic Waveform Classification



Map and discriminate seismic
lithofacies

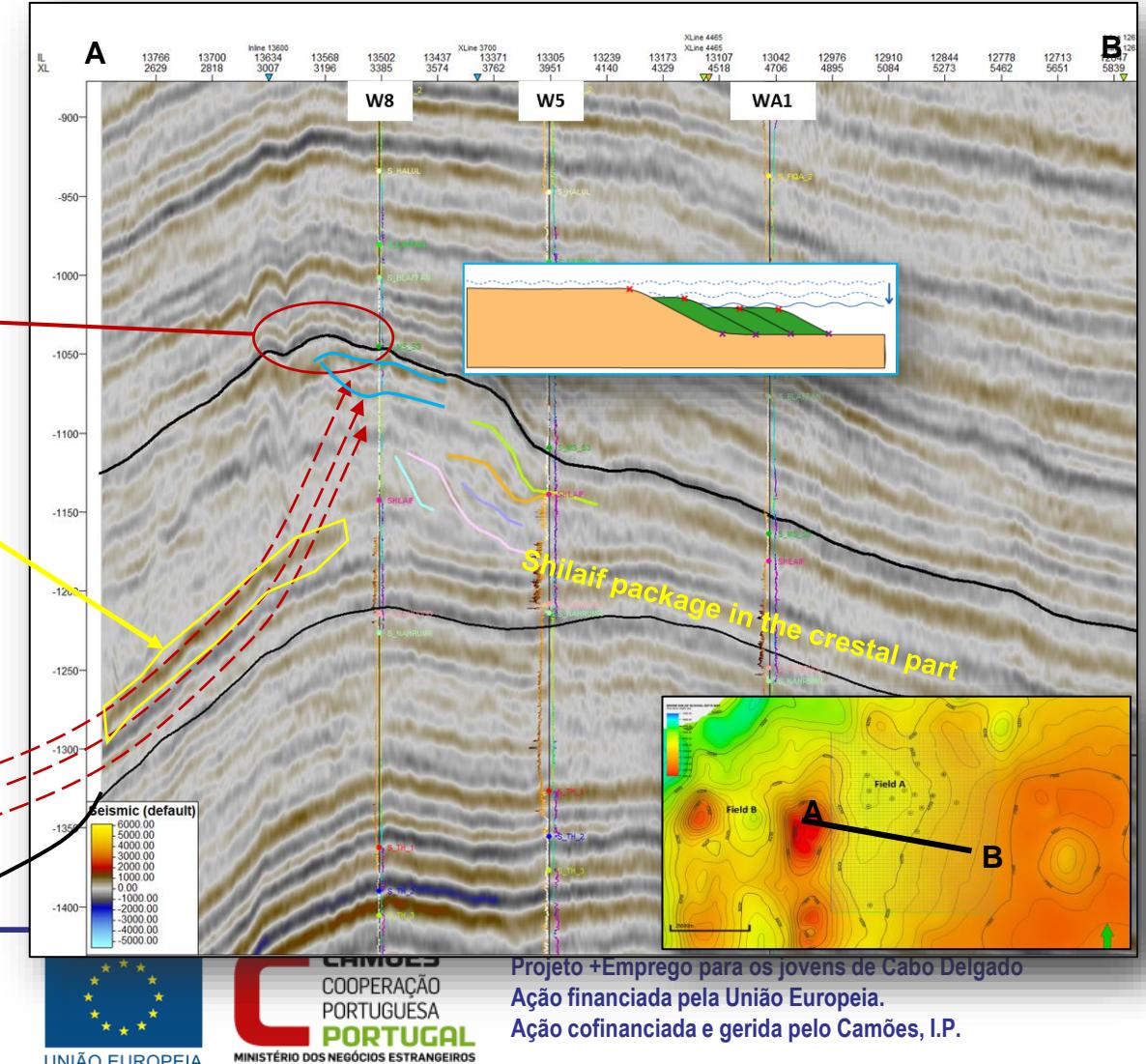
LEAD IDENTIFICATION AND SOURCE ROCK MATURITY ANALYSIS



Area of potential:
combined
structural and
stratigraphic trap

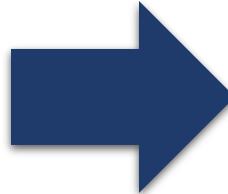
Brightening event of
Shilaif (possible
related with source
rock maturity)

Shilaif
Syncline

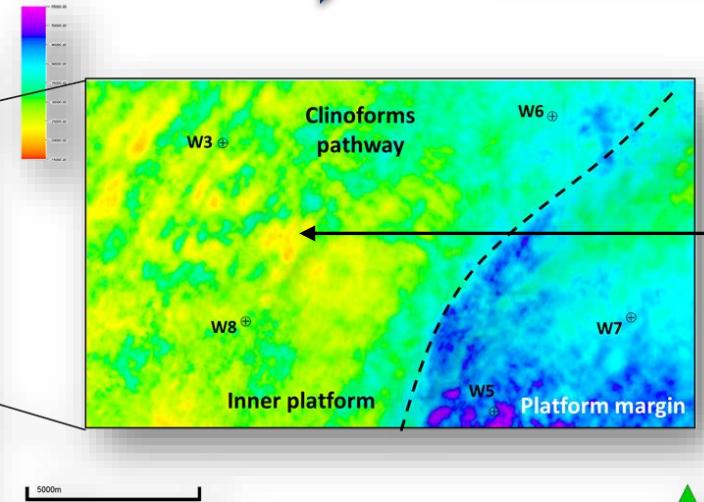
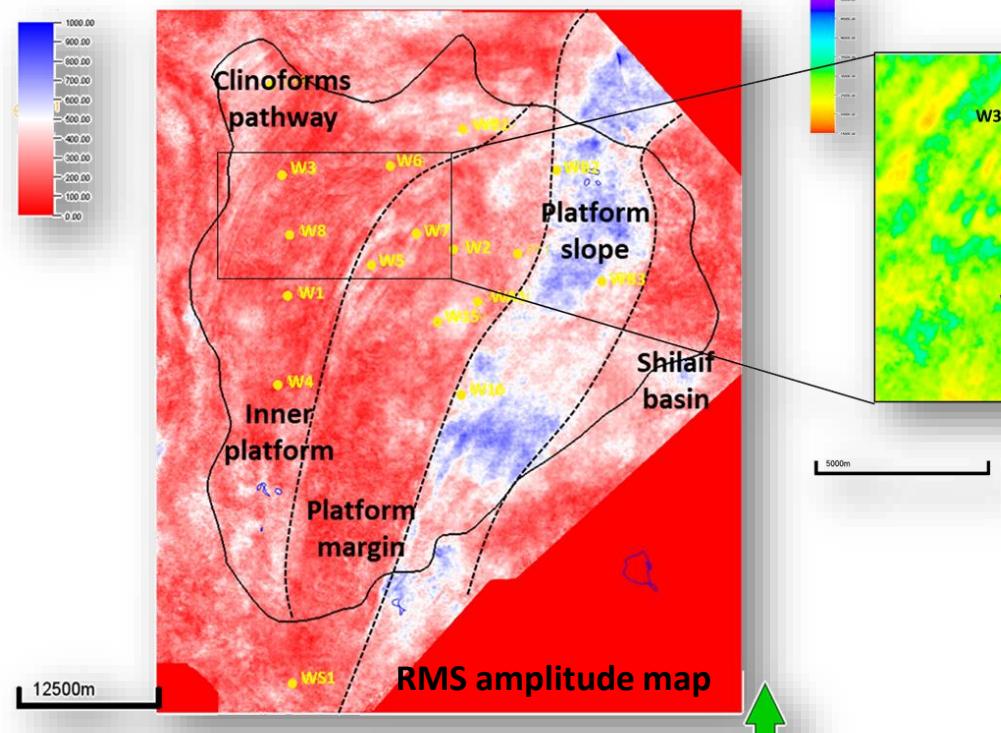


SEISMIC RESERVOIR CHARACTERISATION

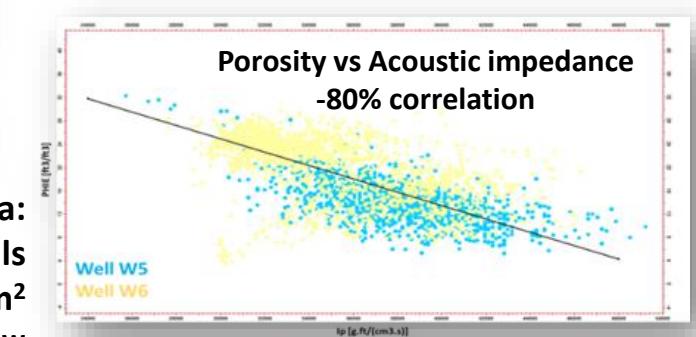
- Assess reservoir presence and quality
- Characterize reservoir internal geometry



Seismic Inversion

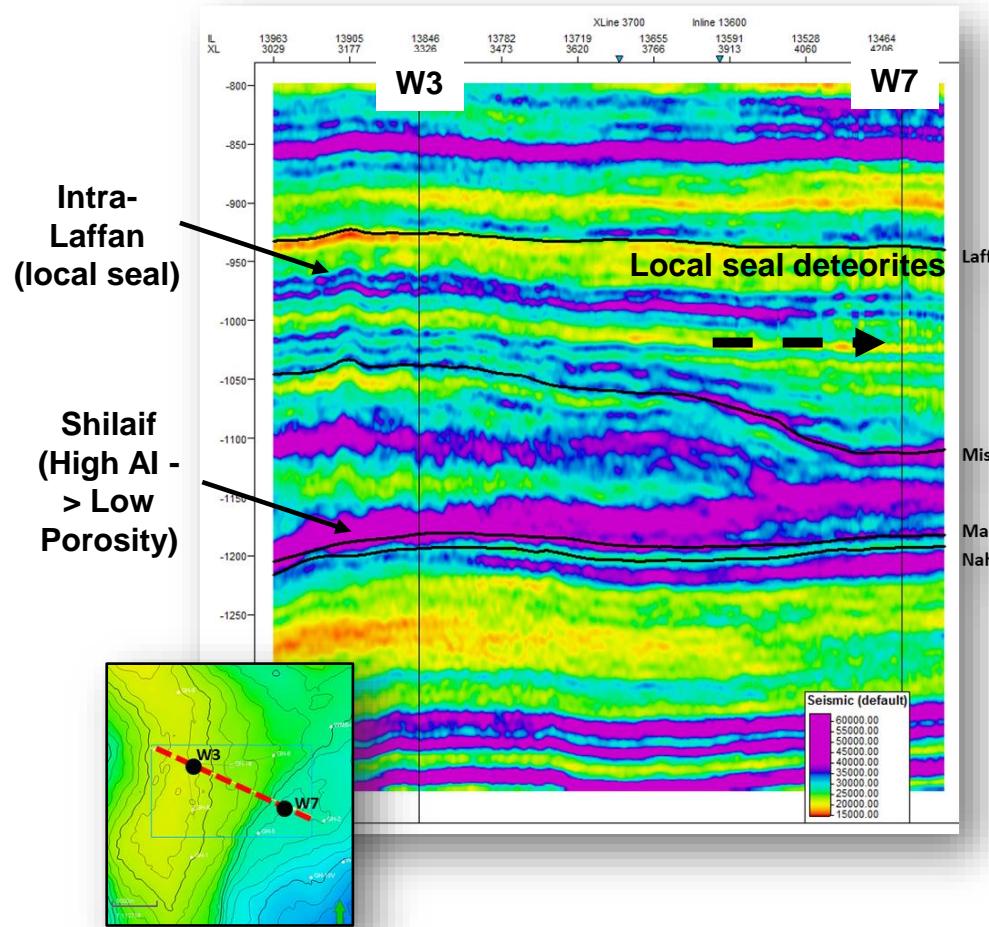


Inversion study area:
5 wells
200km²
600ms of vertical window

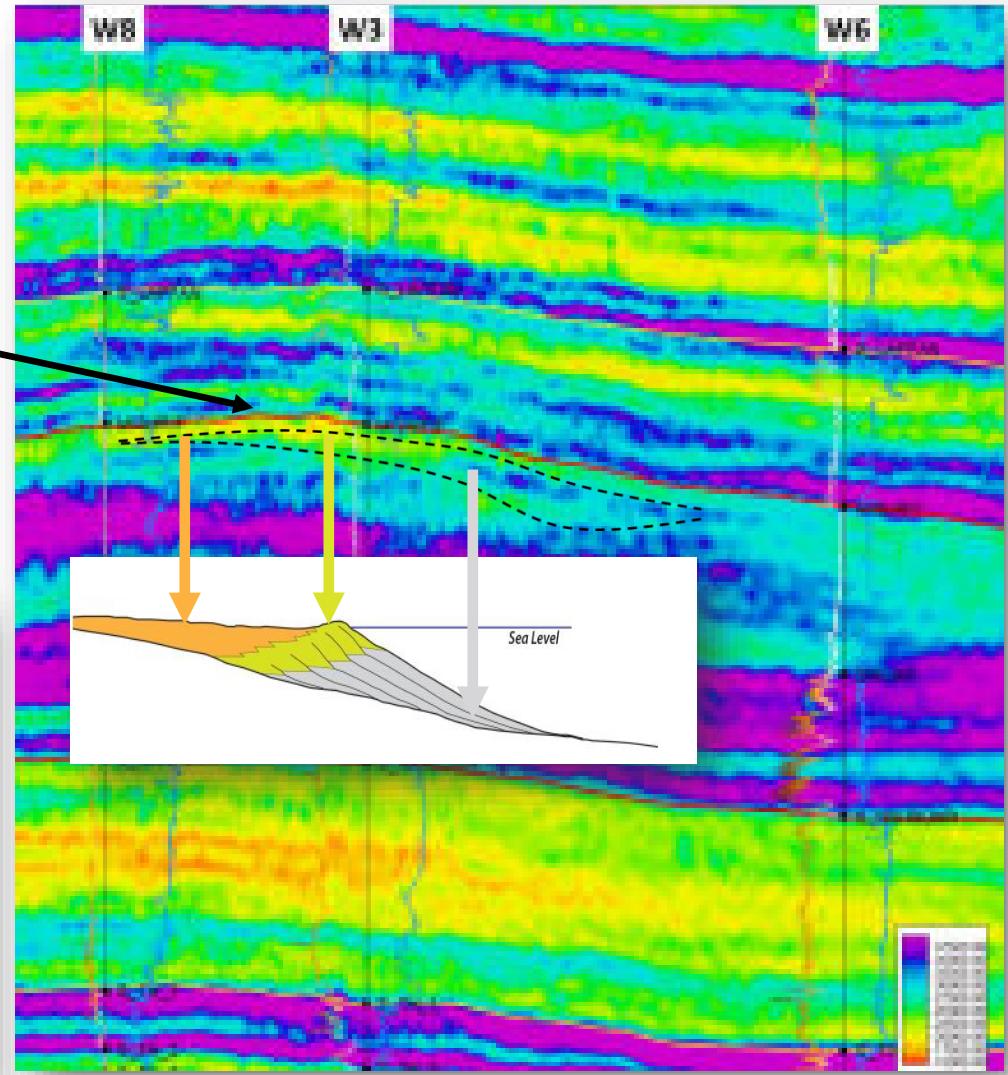
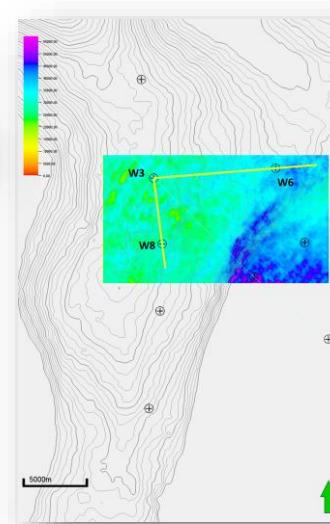


Identification of
clinoforms pathway in
the inner platform

SEISMIC RESERVOIR CHARACTERISATION

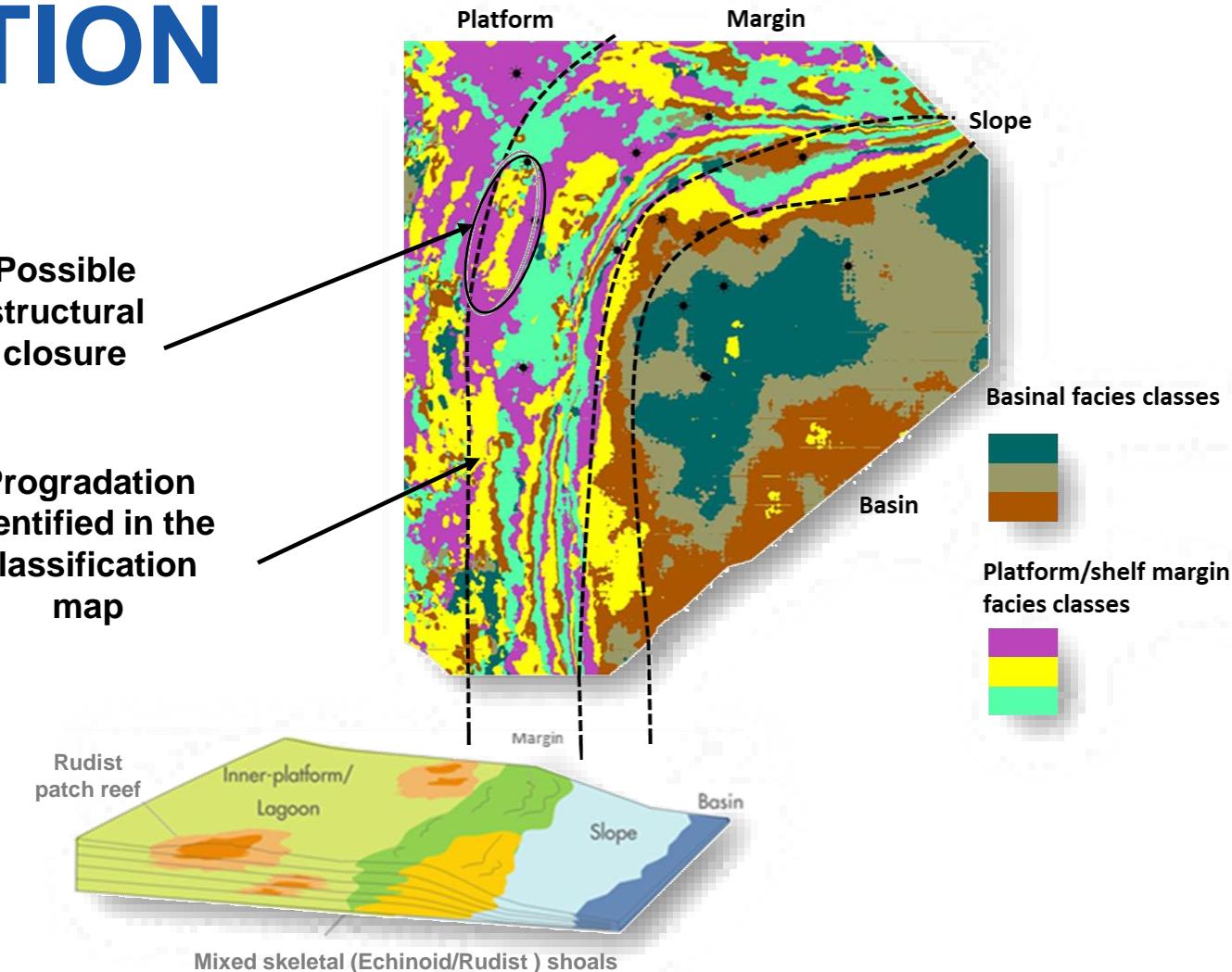


Cliniforms: lateral variation in their geometry and reservoir properties



SEISMIC RESERVOIR CHARACTERISATION

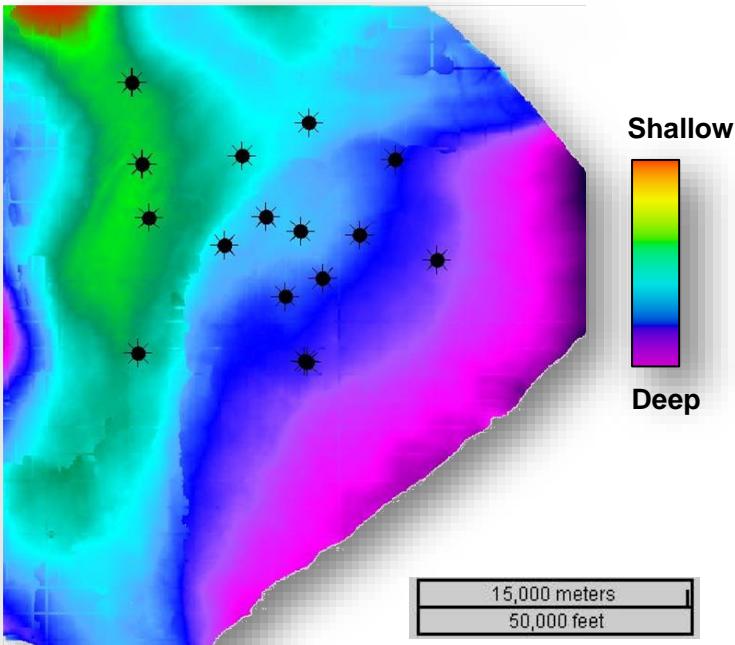
- Unsupervised waveform classification
 - data driven results
- Using PSDM depth seismic volume
- 6 classes
- Possible to distinguish between basinal and shelf margin facies
- Seismic lithofacies map is consistent with the prevailing conceptual depositional model for the area of study



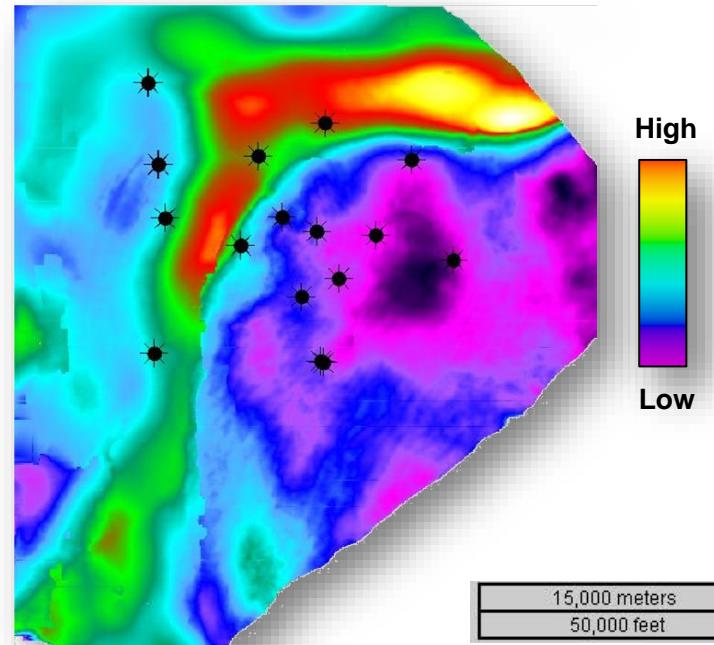
SEISMIC RESERVOIR CHARACTERISATION

More discrimination
Better imaging of the lithofacies variation
Benefit for decision making about well placement

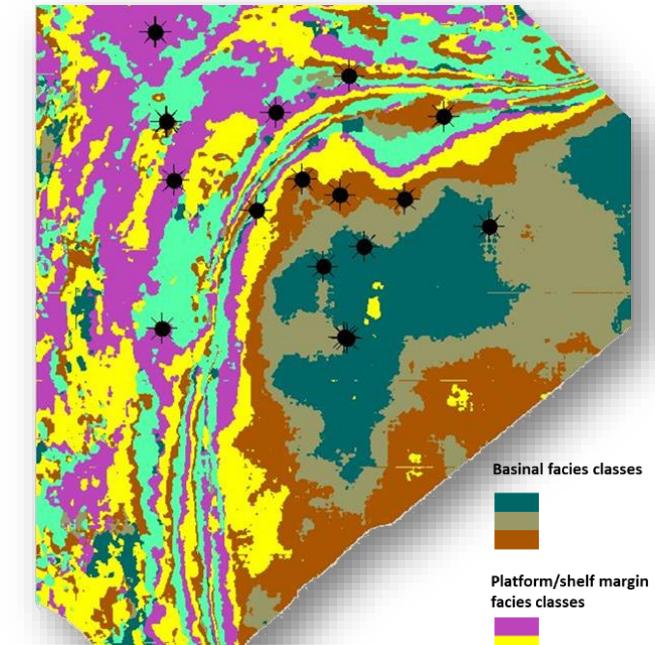
Time structural map



RMS amplitude



Seismic classification map



REMARKS

- Identification of a **structural closure** in the west part of the field and Identification of good potential of mature source rock in the Shilaif synclines located in the west most side part of the field (more accurate depth) using **3D PSDM data interpretation**
- Assessment of **reservoir geometry** and quality by **seismic inversion**: captured the cliniforms lateral variation in their geometry and **reservoir properties**
- Generation of **seismic lithofacies map** using Seismic Waveform Classification - **unsupervised machine learning algorithm**

LOOKING INTO THE DEEP: SEISMIC RESERVOIR CHARACTERIZATION FOR UNDERSTANDING THE OFFSHORE EARLY PERMIAN CLASTIC RESERVOIRS IN ABU

Caeiro, M.H., AlKoabisi, A., Parra, H., Tavares, J. and Lopez, D., C., 2020, *Looking Into the Deep: Seismic Reservoir Characterization for Understanding the Offshore Early Permian Clastic Reservoirs in Abu*, ADIPEC, SPE – 202997 – MS



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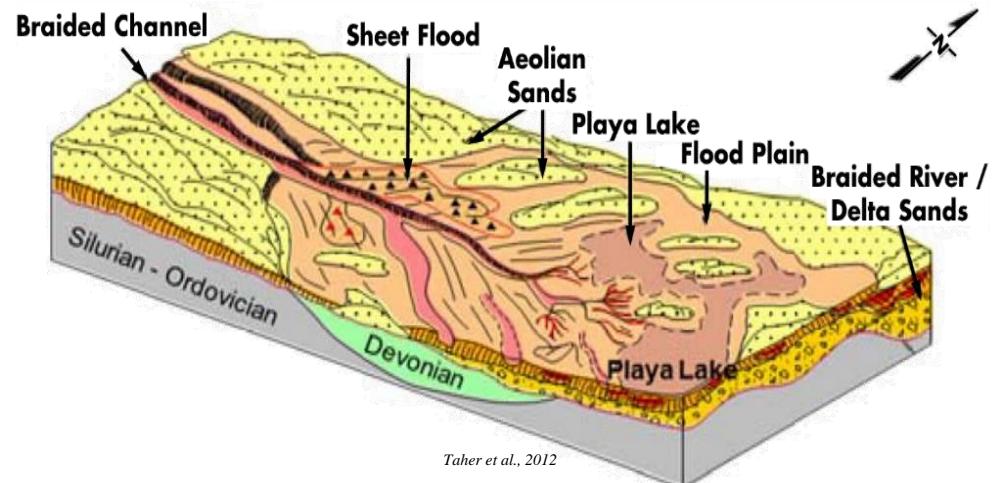
UNIÃO EUROPEIA



Projeto +Emprego para os jovens de Cabo Delgado
Ação financiada pela União Europeia.
Ação cofinanciada e gerida pelo Camões, I.P.

CASE STUDY

- Offshore Deep Clastic Reservoirs (Early Permian)
- Exploration for potential Sweet Gas Reservoir
- Mainly consists of distal braid plain sandstones, characterized by aeolian and sabkah facies with minor fluvial units
- Compaction is affecting reservoir quality
- Braided channels
- 2 wells
- New high quality 3D seismic survey (Ocean bottom cable– OBC)



CHALLENGES AND OBJECTIVES

Increase of domestic and global demand for gas

Permian Clastic formations – H₂S free

Siliclastic deposits of the Unayzah formation

Understanding Deep Reservoirs

Pre-Stack Seismic Inversion

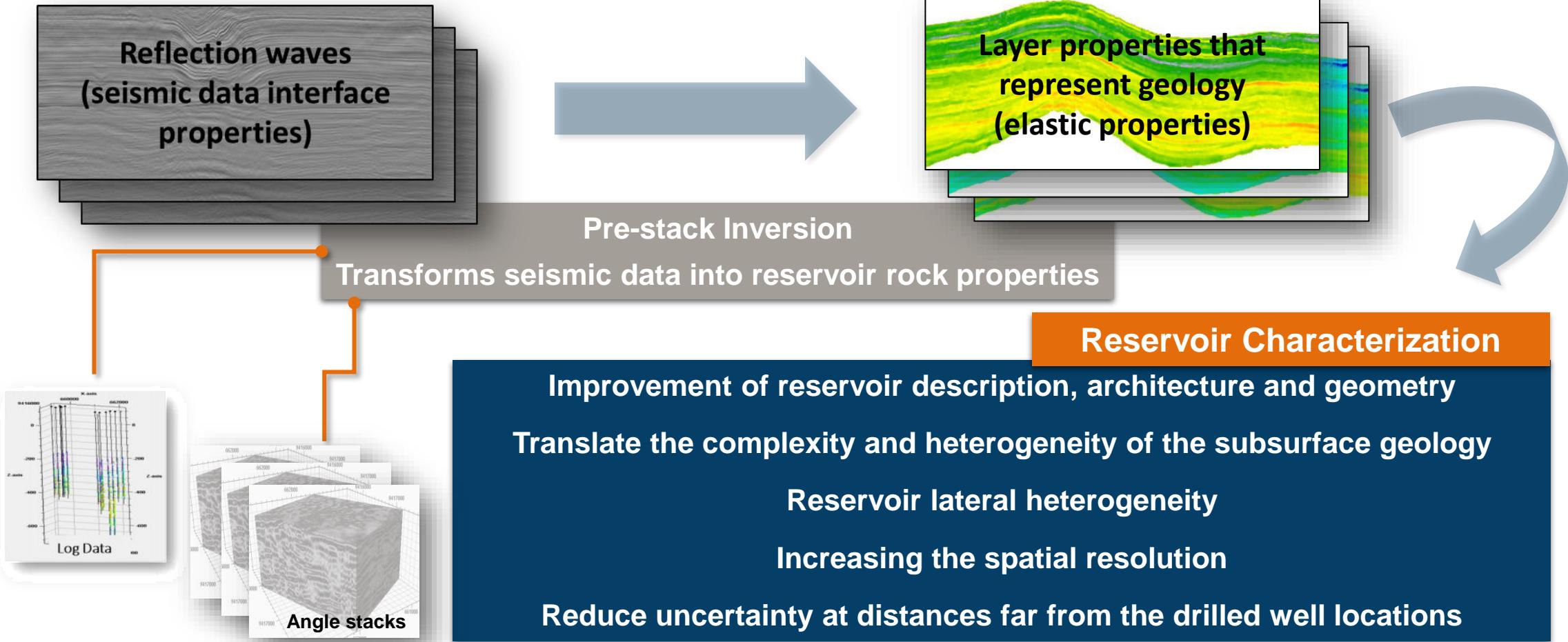
Offshore Abu Dhabi

Full azimuth, long offsets high-quality 3D OBC

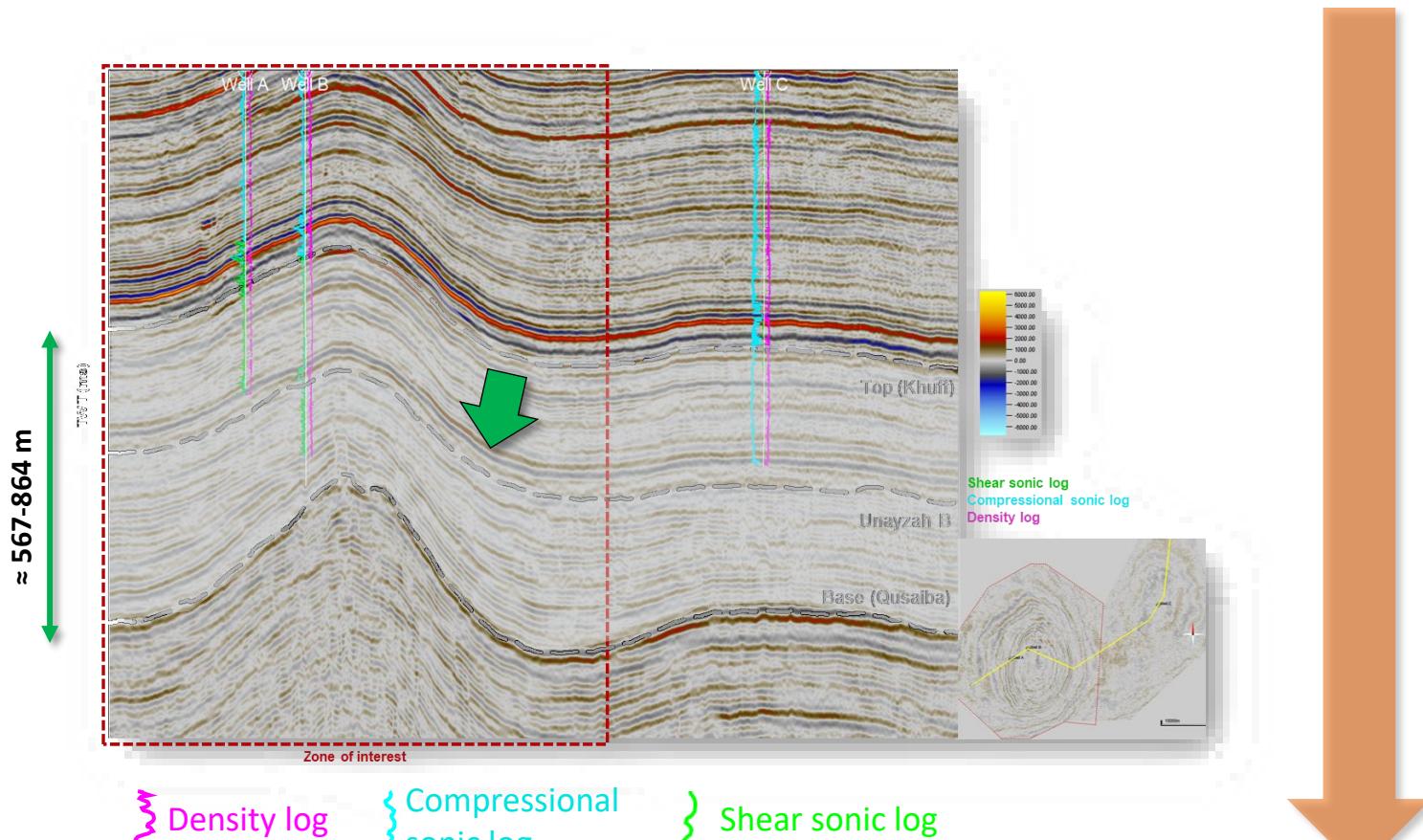
Reservoir geometry & reservoir properties

Potentially optimize future exploration and appraisal activities

METHODOLOGY: PRE-STACK INVERSION



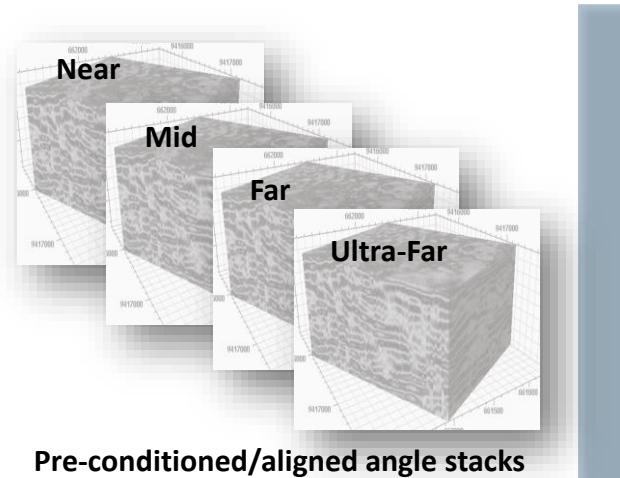
PRE-STACK INVERSION



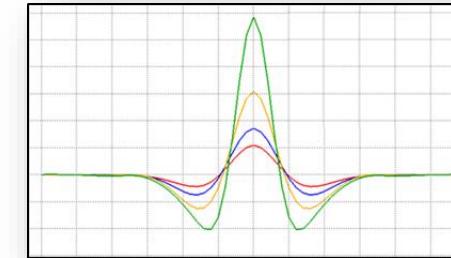
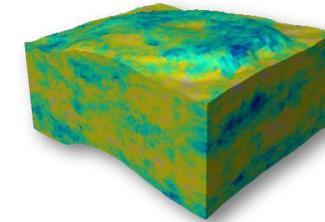
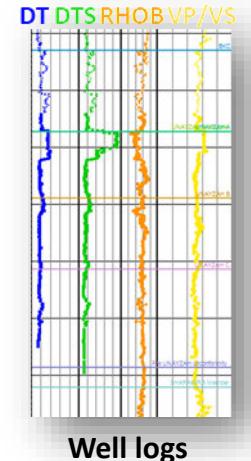
- Define the purpose
- Study area definition (vertical and lateral) & data QC
- Petro-elastic cross-plotting and rock physics
- Partial angle stacks alignment
- Seismic-well tie and synthetic correlation
- Wavelet extraction
- Low Frequency Model (LFM) building
- Inversion analysis

Run Seismic Inversion!

PRE-STACK INVERSION



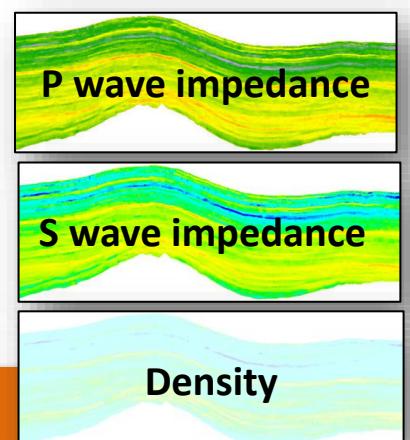
Relatively true
amplitude four partial
angle stacks up to 40°



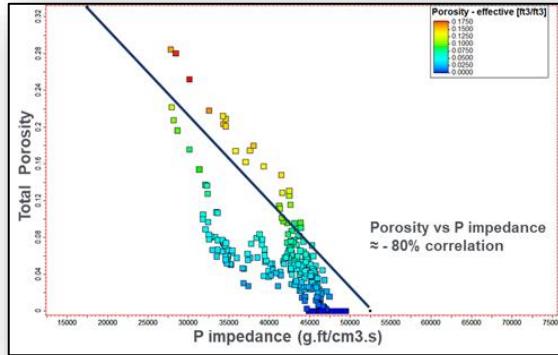
Deterministic Pre-stack Inversion Amplitude versus Angle (AVI)

- AVO (amplitude versus offset) or AVI effects the assumptions underlying standard full-stack seismic inversion are often not fulfilled
- The reflections observed in the seismic data are related to variations in both P-impedance and S-impedance
- S-impedance is not affected by pore fluids

Multiple impedance attributes



PETRO-ELASTIC PLOTS

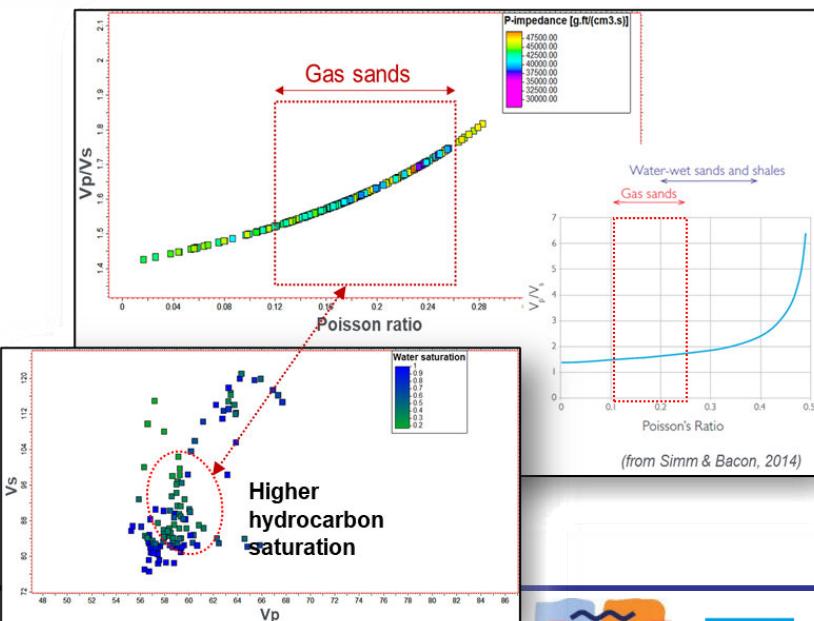


P impedance is inversely correlated with porosity → higher porosity values are expected when low P impedance is modeled



P impedance volume obtained from seismic inversion can be used as a proxy to estimate porosity

Observed from the wells



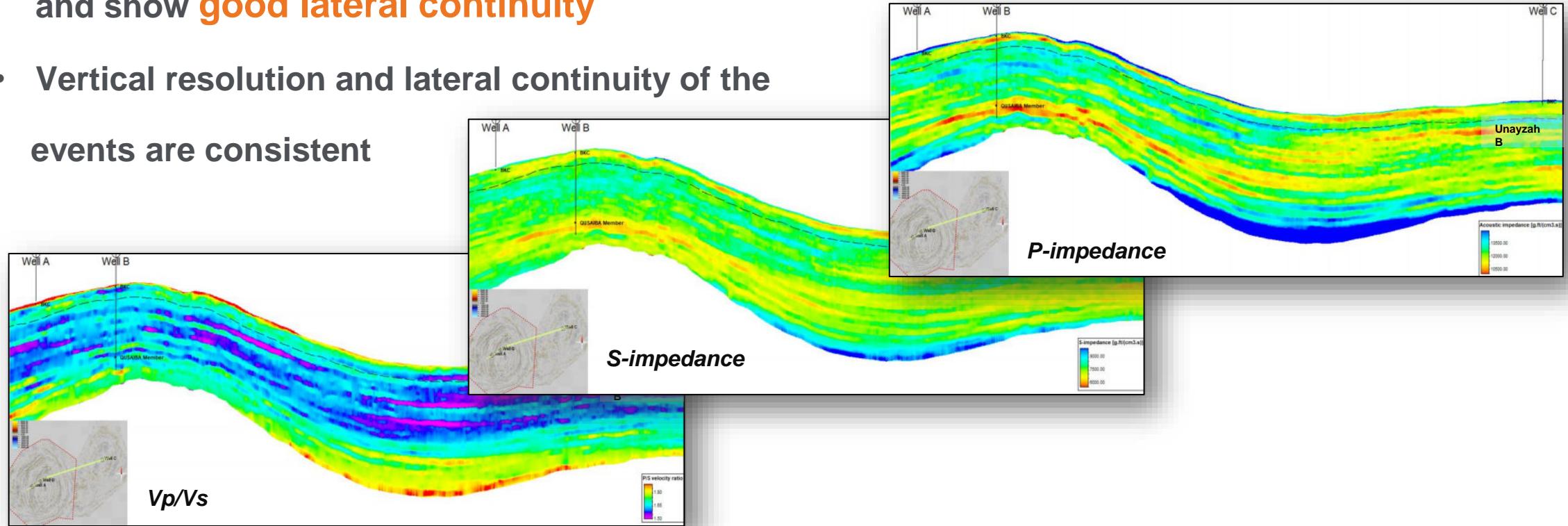
Lower V_p and slightly higher V_s are expected in rocks containing compressible fluids (oil and, especially, gas)



Hydrocarbon sands will have a lower Poisson's ratio than water-bearing sands

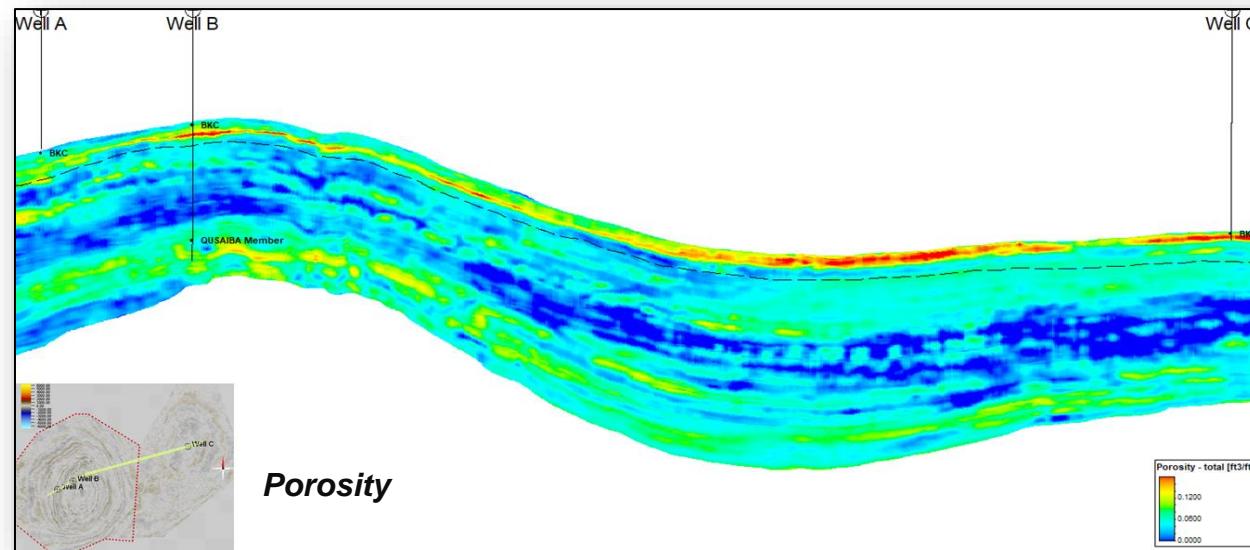
RESULTS: INVERSION OUTPUTS

- The **elastic properties** derived from seismic reflectivity data (P-impedance, S-impedance and V_p/V_s) benefitted from the **good seismic coherency of reflectors** and signal to noise ratio and show **good lateral continuity**
- Vertical resolution and lateral continuity of the events are consistent



RESULTS: DERIVED POROSITY MODEL

- Several ways to estimate petrophysical properties from seismic inversion outputs (e.g., linear regression, geostatistical methods, multi-linear regression, neural networks processes, etc.)
- In this work, neural networks Deep Feed-forward Neural Network (DFNN) were applied

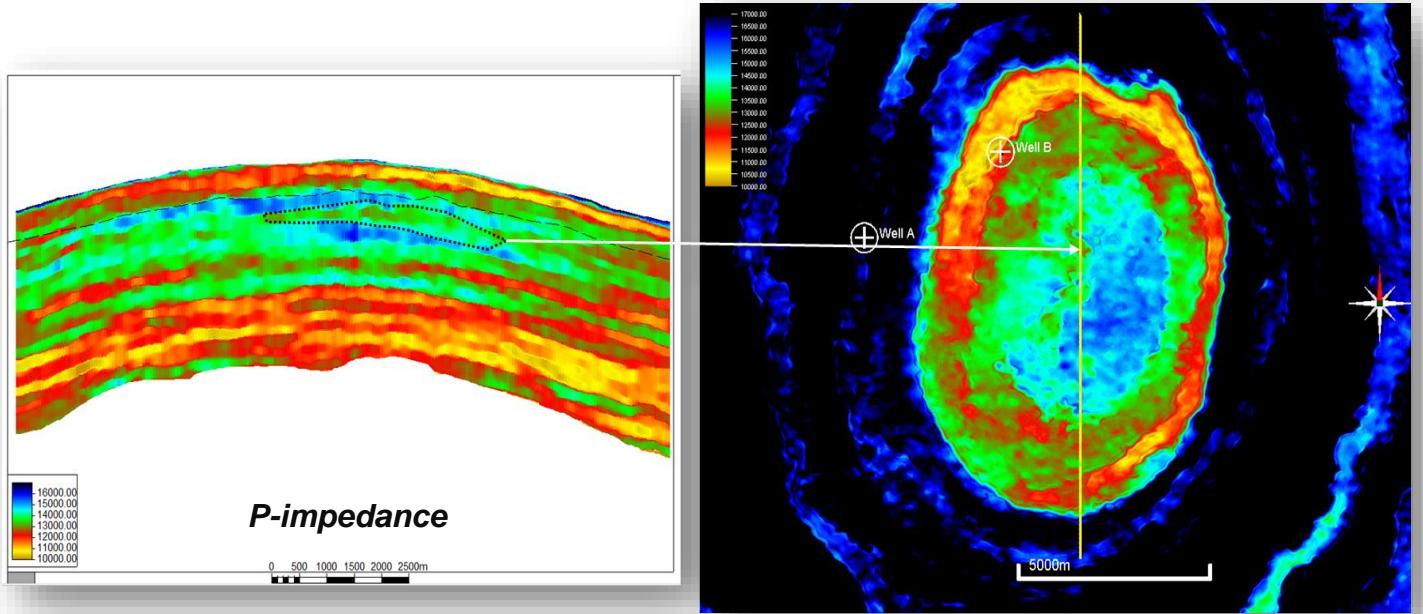


RESULTS: DO WE SEE CHANNELS?

- Channels systems are likely to contain hydrocarbons because they form depositional settings in which sand is transported
- Channelized features have been identified at the well locations through the analysis of core and sedimentological studies

And away from the wells?

- Seismic inversion results are valuable dataset for the identification of the geometrical shape of the channels



REMARKS

- Contribution of pre-stack seismic inversion results in improvements to the characterization of **deep clastic gas reservoirs in offshore** Abu Dhabi
- The inverted elastic models are useful for both **reservoir property characterization**, such as porosity, but also for reservoir geometry, namely the identification of **channelized features**
- **High quality 3D seismic** data unlock the limitation of using legacy 2D/3D seismic data to perform seismic inversion → wide-ranging reflectivity quality and angles **improved AVO** at very far offsets

TAKE HOME MESSAGE

More knowledge → Better decisions → Less cost → More success!!

We can always extract value from the data we have available
The work has to be purpose driven

Advanced techniques by themselves are not enough to assure good quality results
Not so good data quality doesn't mean we cannot do anything with it

High data quality allows the application of advanced and efficient workflows

Create value and drive efficiency

THANK YOU!



Mark Bentley, Associate Professor at Heriot-Watt University, [LinkddIn](#)