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# Bridging the Gap Between Drilling and Completions

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The Society is grateful to those companies that allow their professionals to serve as lecturers

Additional support provided by AIME





### My Background

BS Chemical Engineering, University of Oklahoma



#### 12 years international

- Leiden, The Netherlands
- Cairo, Egypt
- Copenhagen, Denmark

#### 7 years with operating companies

- Maersk Oil, Danish Operations
- Chesapeake Energy, Fracturing Services
- Continental Resources, Bakken









### **Presentation Format**



- Define the challenge
- Evolution of technologies
- Establish today's baseline
- What does the future hold
- Conclusions

### The Challenge



Economic development of unconventional reservoirs necessitated the development of leading edge horizontal drilling and well completion techniques.

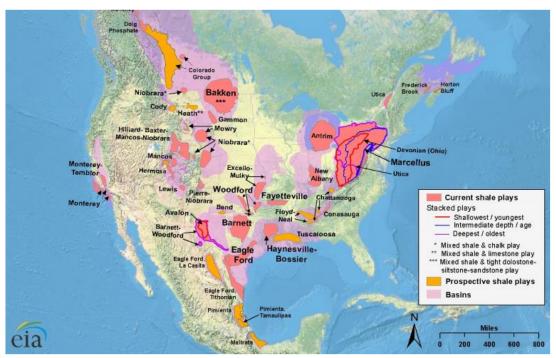


Photo courtesy of US Energy Information Association

### The question for today



# Can we drill longer wells than we can effectively complete?



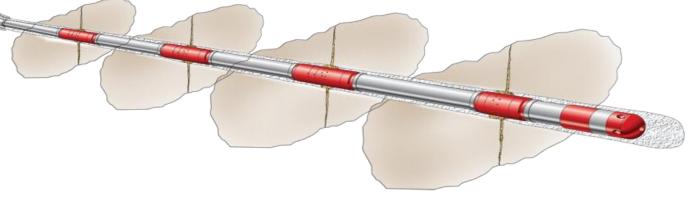


### Scope: Stimulated horizontal wells



#### Horizontal wells...

- Are getting longer and longer
- Require more stimulation stages
- Must be optimized; not just efficient and economical
- Environmental concerns can not be ignored



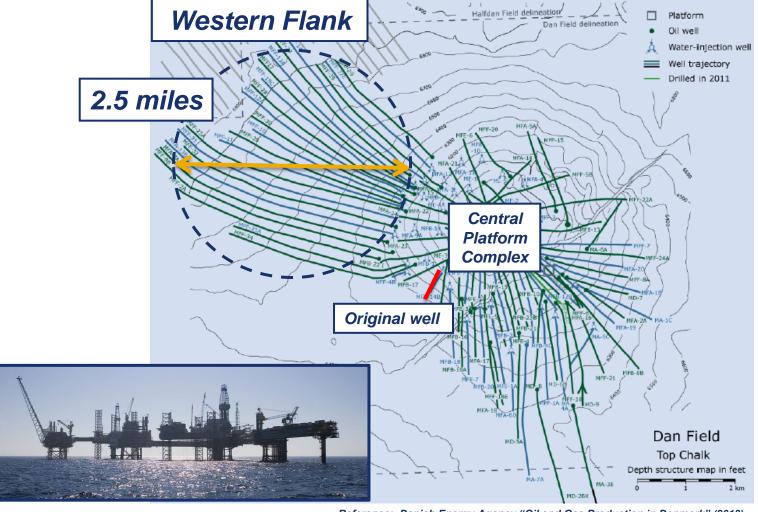
### Let's start with some history





### The Dan Field Today





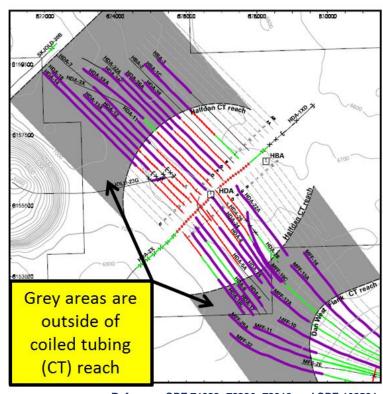
Reference: Danish Energy Agency "Oil and Gas Production in Denmark" (2013)

### Halfdan Field (2000)



### The Challenges

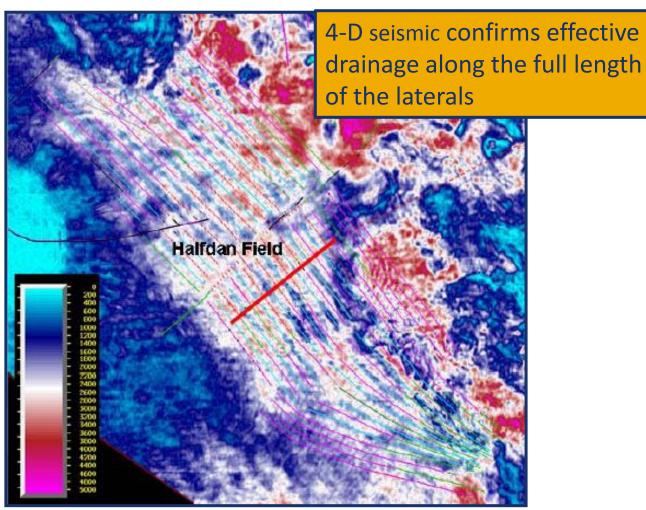
- Thin, flat reservoir requiring stimulation in order to produce at economical rates
- Lateral sections up to 20,000 ft
- > 50% of laterals outside of coiled tubing reach



Reference SPE 71322, 78220, 78318 and SPE 108531

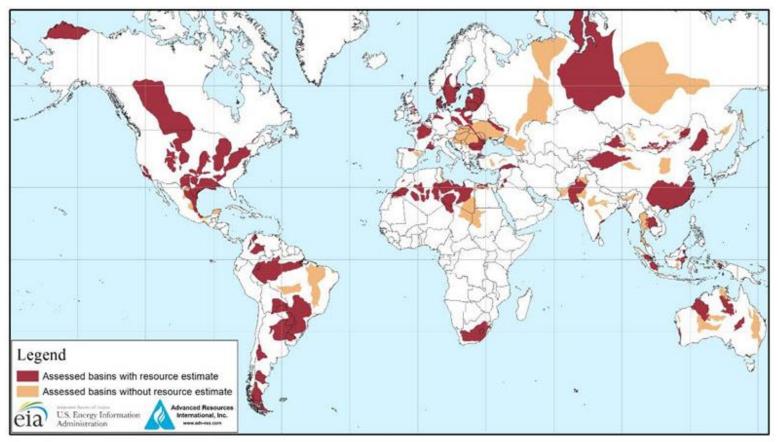
### The Halfdan Field Today





# Unlocking reserves through horizontal drilling and completion technologies



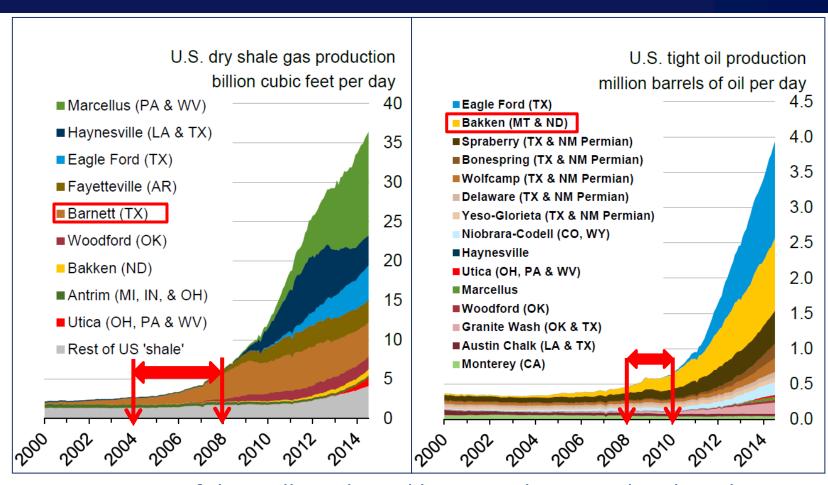


US Energy Information Administration: "Technically Recoverable Shale Oil and Shale Gas Resources: An Assessment of 137 Shale Formations in 41 Countries Outside the United States" (June 13, 2013)

# Source: EIA Energy Infrastructure Summit, September 2014

### Accelerating the learning curve





By 2010, 90% of the wells in the Bakken were horizontal with multi-stage fracs and the operators were preparing to ramp up in the Eagle Ford

# Bridging the gap between drilling and completions

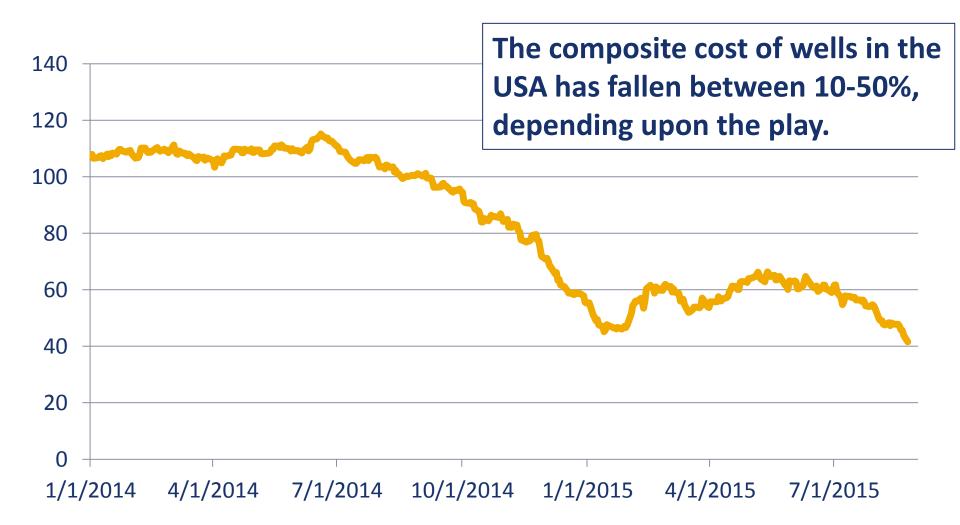


### What are today's challenges?

- Time and money
- Laterals are getting longer
- Availability of materials, especially water
- Public perception and environmental regulations
- Selecting the optimum completion for a given area
- Access to service providers

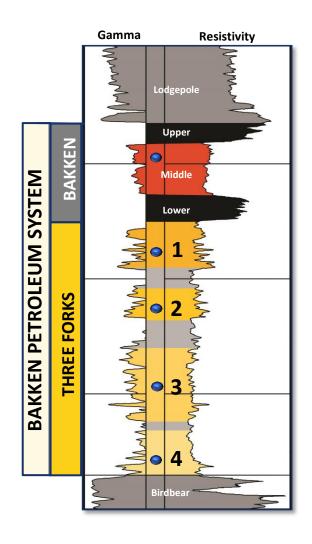


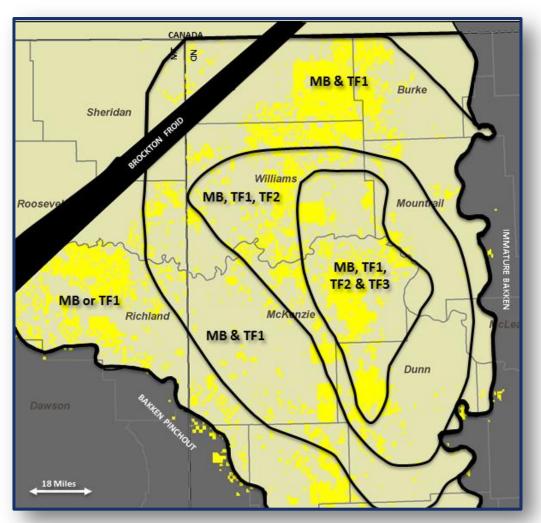
### Brent Oil Spot Price (\$/bbl)



### **Brief Introduction to the Bakken**

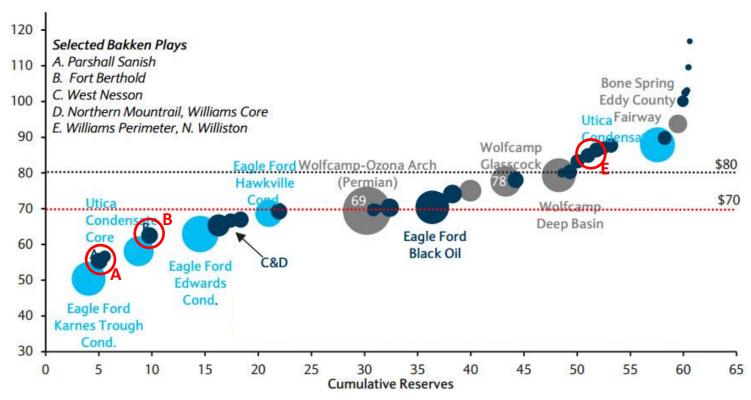






# Tight Oil Breakeven Prices 2014 "High Grading" Example

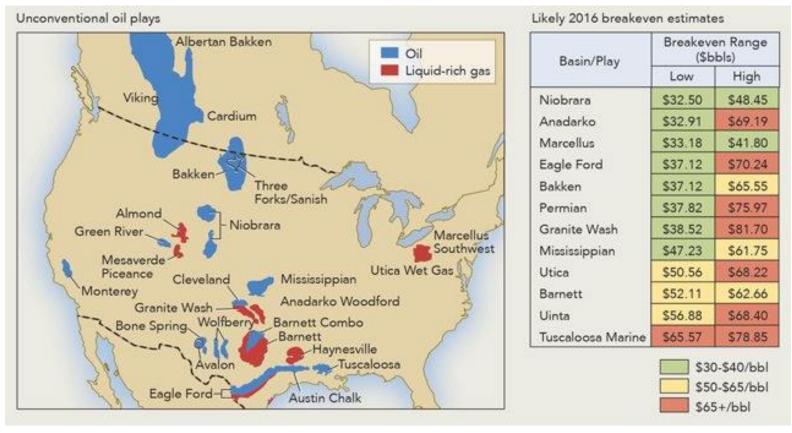




Source: WoodMackenzie, Barclays Research (November 2014)

# Tight Oil Breakeven Prices 2016 "High Grading" Example

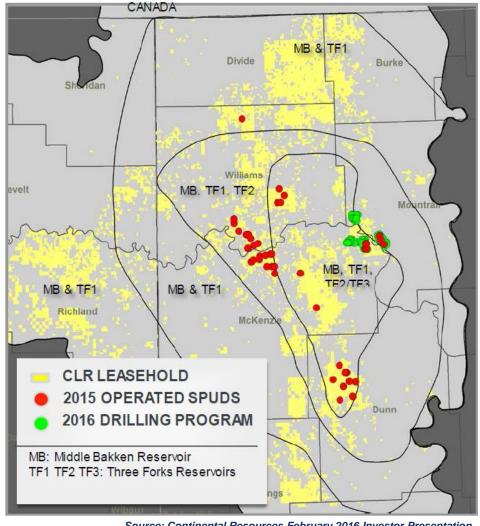




Source: Morgan Stanley, Rystad Energy, EIA, AlexPartners (March 2016)

# Tight Oil Breakeven Prices 2015 vs. 2016 Well Spuds





### What will happen in 2016, 2017?

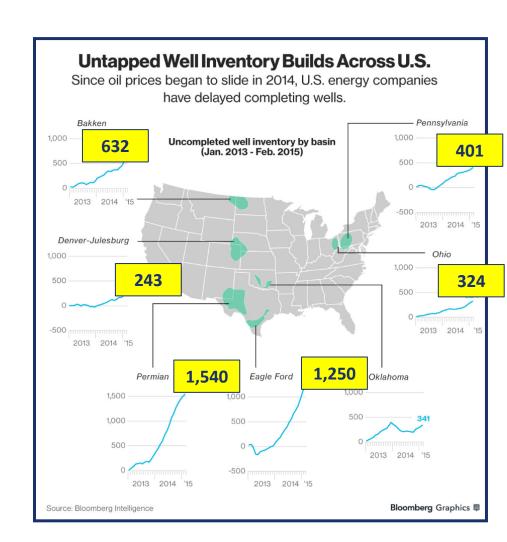


#### **Drilled Uncompleted Wells**

- 4,000 DUCs (~ 2 billion bbl oil)
  - 930 DUCs in Bakken
- 800 less DUCS by year end\*
  - 300,000-350,000 BPD

#### **Important questions:**

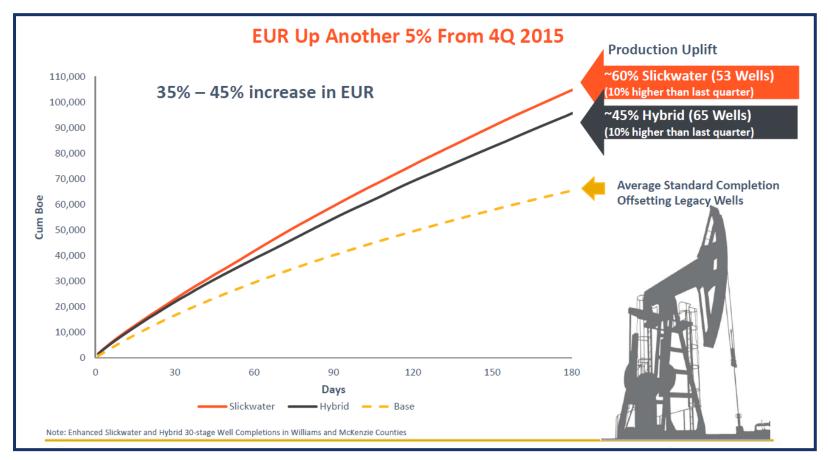
- Where is the opportunity in this challenge?
- How do we prepare for the recovery when it happens?



Oil and Gas Journal (July 4, 2016) page 9

### **Enhanced Completions**

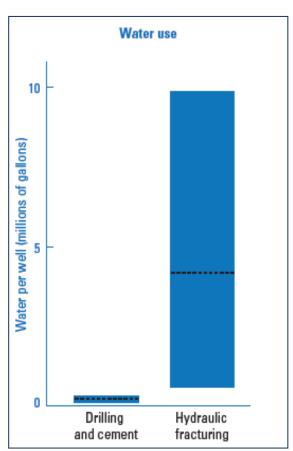




Source: Continental Resources May 2016 Investor Presentation

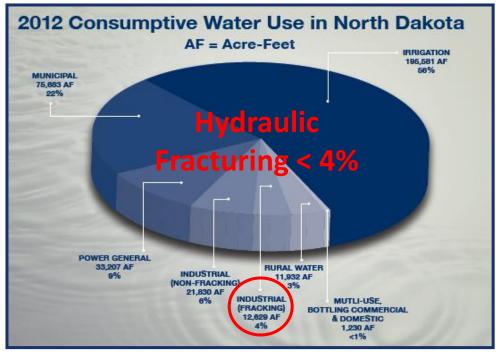
## Water Requirements – Horizontal Wells Drilling vs. Completions





Source: US Geological Survey Fact Sheet 2014-3010 (March 2014)

- Significantly more water is used during completion compared to drilling; however,
- The amount is a small percentage of all industrial water usage



### **Produced Water Recycling Facility**

Reference SPEPOS Panel Session on Water Management for Hydraulic Fracturing, March 2015



#### **Components**

- Produced water storage
- Skim or flocculation
- Treatment to remove organics
- Underground water transfer pipelines

50,000 bbl/day Recycling Capacity and 1,500,000 bbl Useable Storage

#### **Economic Benefits**

- Low OPEX ~ \$0.30-\$0.50/bbl
- Facilities generate revenue
- Minimizes salt water disposal
- 30% reduction in fresh water consumption



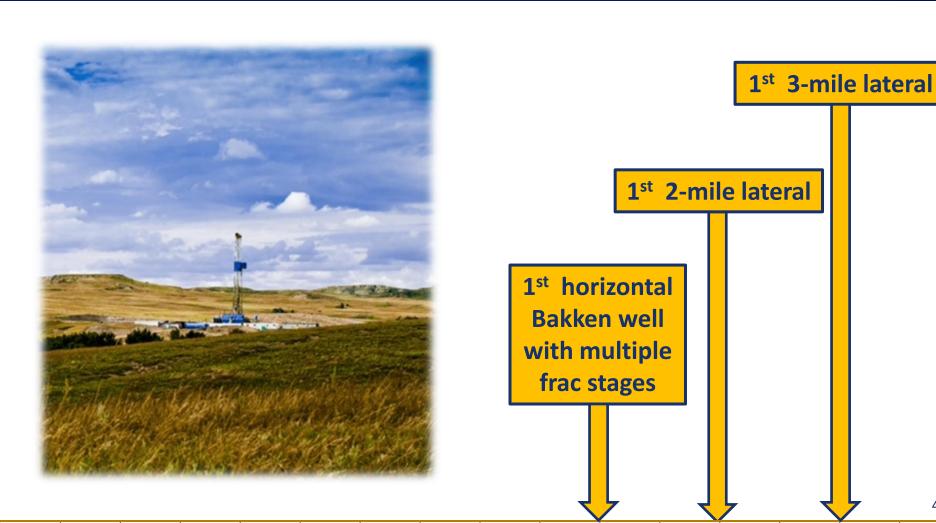
10,000 bbl/day Recycling Capacity and 500,000 bbl Useable Storage

Note: Temporary recycling facilities are available which do not require CAPEX

OPEX is \$2.50-\$3.60/bbl, depending upon produced water quality and throughput

### Pushing the limits of lateral length





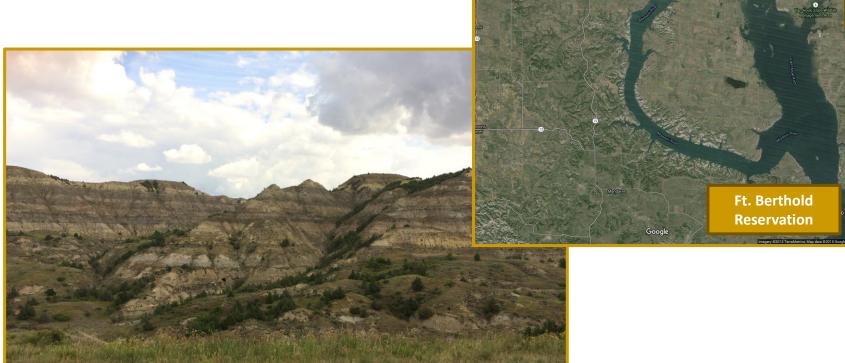
### Drilling Efficiency Gains with Longer Laterals



Parshall Field

### **Challenge:**

- Accessing "offshore reserves"
- Surface constraints



### Drilling Efficiency Gains with Longer Laterals



### **Solution:**

- Directional drilling
- Extended lateral developments



### Chasing the drilling rig

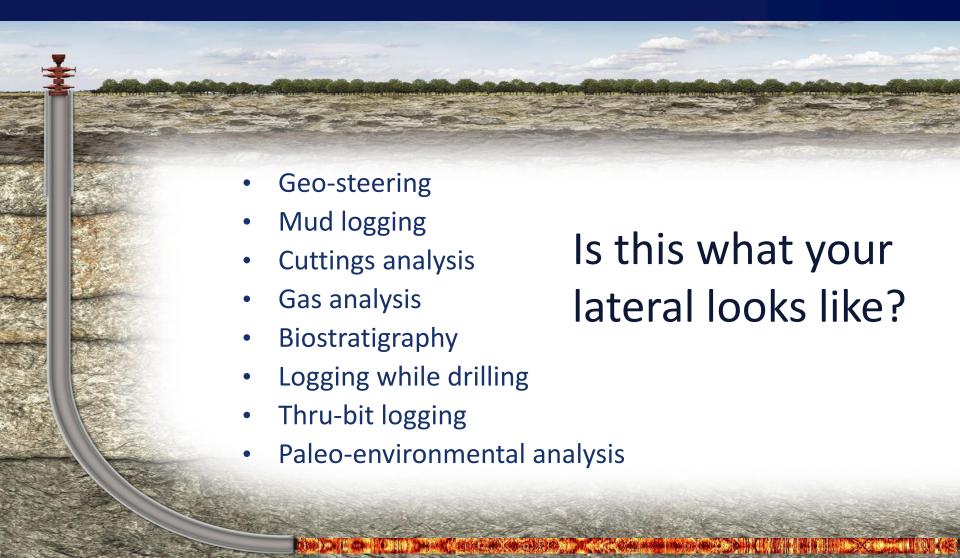


- Steering the lateral
- Where to perforate
- Toe stimulation
- Stage isolation
- Post frac cleanout



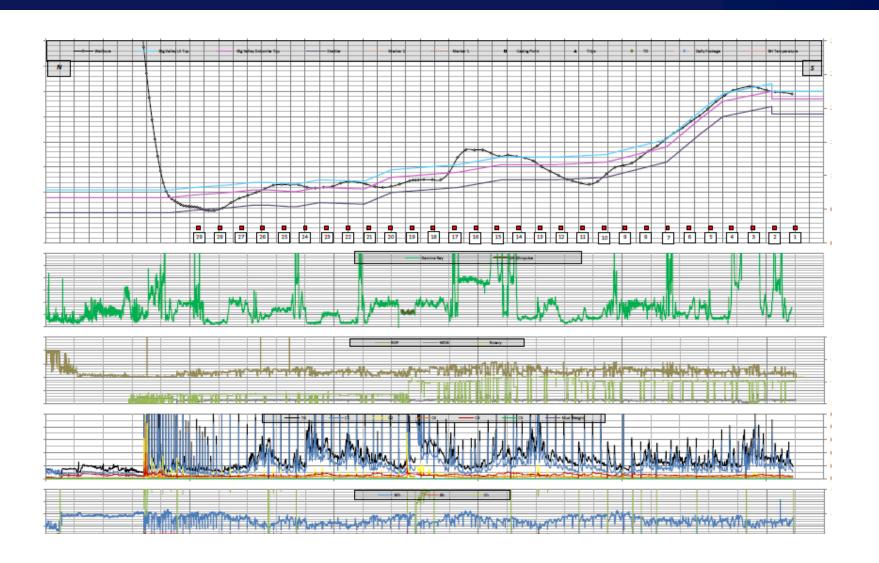
# SPE DISTINGUISHED LECTURER

### Challenge: Steering the Lateral



# SPE DISTINGUISHED LECTURER"

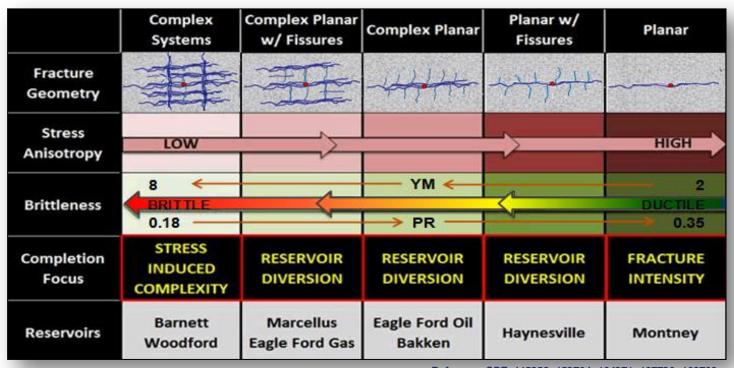
### Challenge: Steering the Lateral





### Challenge: Quantifying rock properties

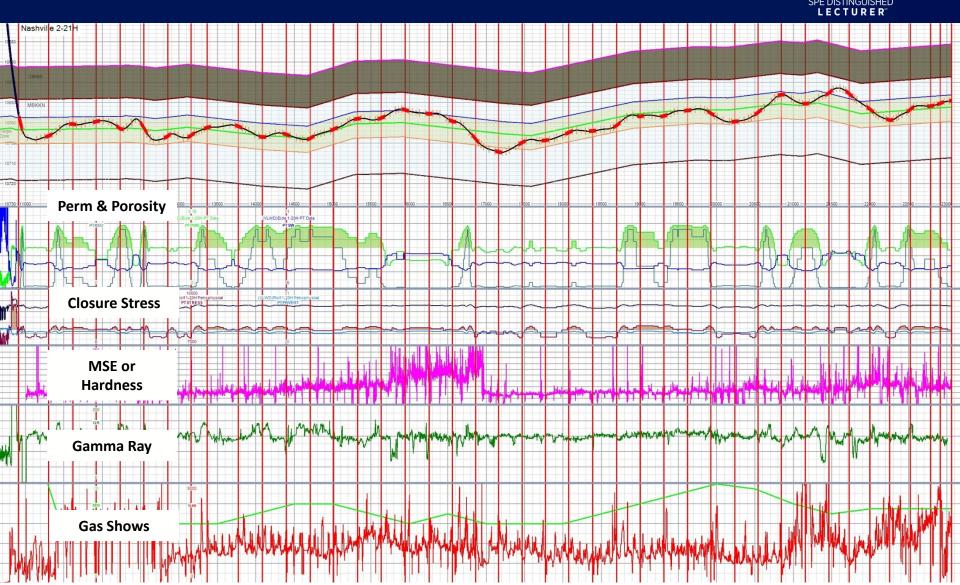
### Is your rock brittle or ductile?



Reference SPE 115258, 152704, 164271, 167726, 168763

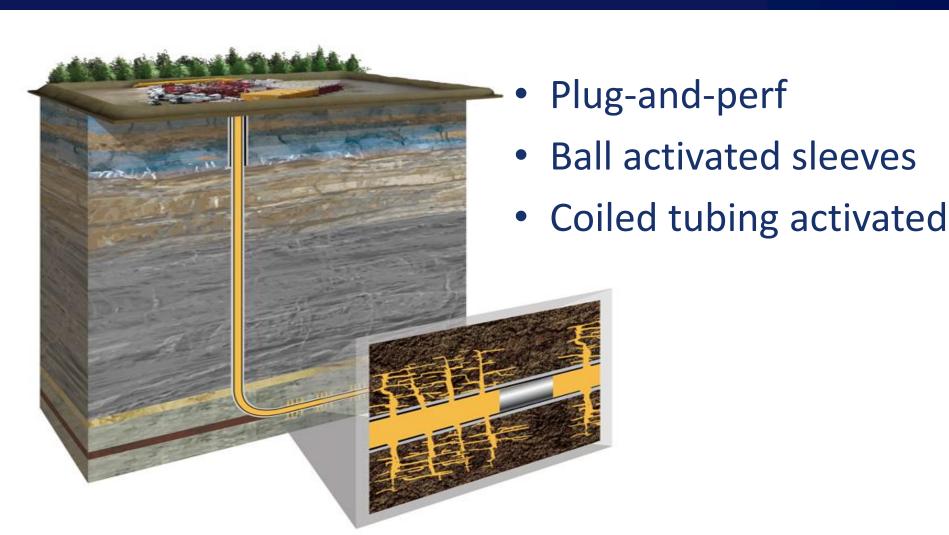
### Challenge: Completing the lateral





### Challenge: Stage Isolation





### Plug-and-Perf Completions



P'n'P; along with "zipper fracturing" reduced completion times significantly



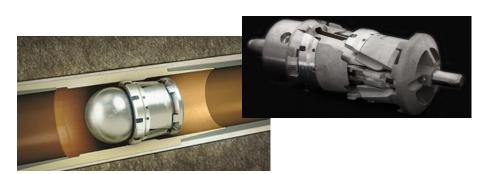
### Challenge: Frac plug mill-out



#### Solutions:

- Larger ID coiled tubing
- Large ID frac plugs
- Dissolvable frac plugs







### Challenge: Reducing Completion Time

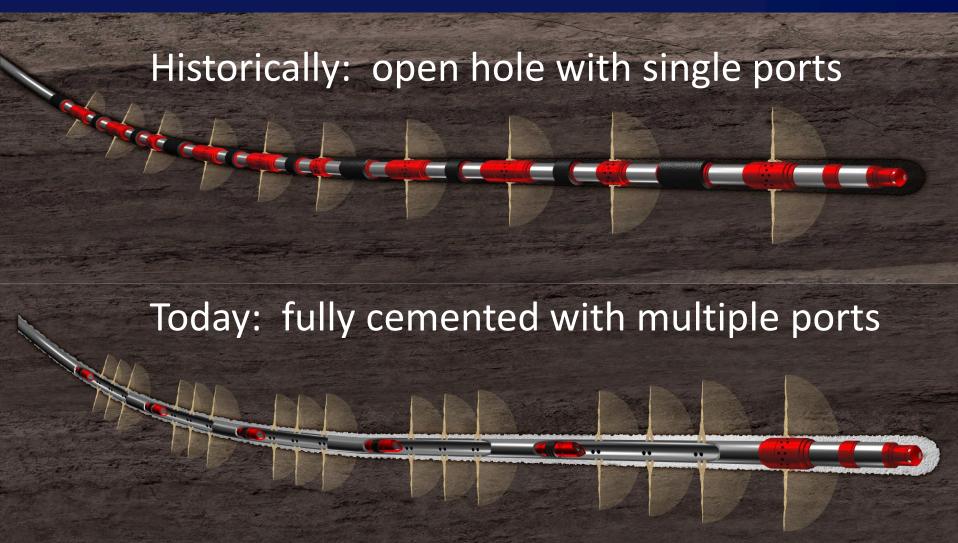




Images courtesy of Halliburton Energy Services

### Ball Activated Sleeves Systems





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### Coiled Tubing Fracturing

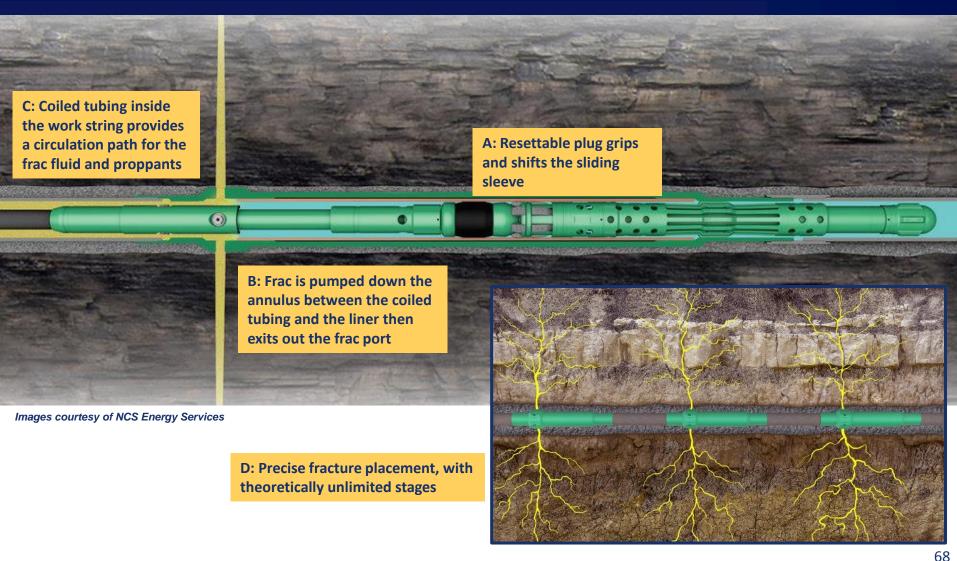


Sleeves are run in the liner, then shifted with coiled tubing during stimulation operations



### **Coiled Tubing Fracturing**





# Full circle in horizontal well completion technologies



Today and Future: Completion technologies developed onshore being applied offshore



#### North Sea:

- Directional drilling
- Extended reach wells
- Horizontal wells with multi-stage stimulations

2000 - 2020

**Unconventionals:** 

- Fracturing technologies
- Completion techniques
- Completion hardware



Onshore conventional reservoirs:

- Tight gas
- Mature fields
- Horizontal wells
  - Austin Chalk, Texas
  - North Slope, Alaska

### Technology sharing



#### Collaborate

- All disciplines: geosciences, drilling, completions, production
- With service providers and other operators
- Accelerate learning curve
  - Learn from both successes and failures
  - Think outside the box when looking for analogs
- Be prepared
  - There will be a shortage of skilled people
  - Keep focus on being effective not just efficient

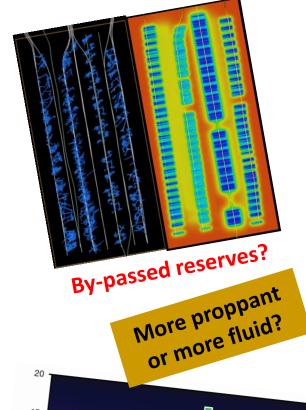
### In conclusion:

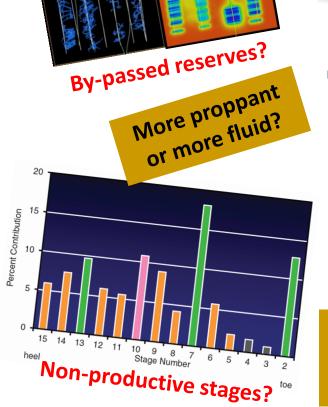


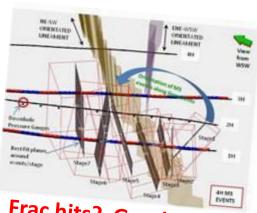
# Does completion technology lagbehind drilling technology?

- Drilling envelope is pushed first
- Completion technology is a fast follower

### What keeps you awake at night?





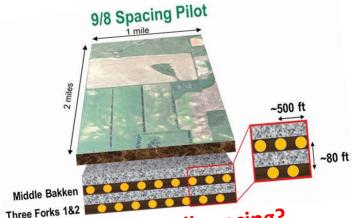


Frac hits? Good or bad?



Where to drill?

**Growing inventory** of drilled but uncompleted wells



Optimum well spacing?

**Plug-and-Perf or Ball-and-Sleeves?** 

