



An Introduction to Hydrocarbon Geology & Exploration
Oil & Energy and the Petroleum Industry - Part 3
Rocco Imperatore
Perugia, October 2016



- World oil reserves
- Supply and demand
- Prices
- Petroleum legislation and licensing
- The exploration and production industry cycle



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- World oil reserves



Units

- 1 barrel(bbl), the oil standard unit, = 159 liters: ~ 6.3 bbl make 1 m³
- 1 foot³ (cuft), the gas standard unit, = 28 liters: ~ 35.3 cuft make 1 m³
- 1 Bcf gas (B = Billion, "Giga") = ~ 28,3 M m³ (M = Million, "Mega")
- Statistics that often combine oil and gas (e.g. consumption or production) many time make reference to "boe", "barrel of oil equivalent"
- The equivalence is based on the energy produced, referred to a barrel of "reference" oil
- 1 Bcf gas equals 0,17 Mbo
- Production is measured in bopd (barrels oil per day, usually thousands, K) and scufd (standard cubic ft per day, usually M)
- A very good oil well produces 10K bopd

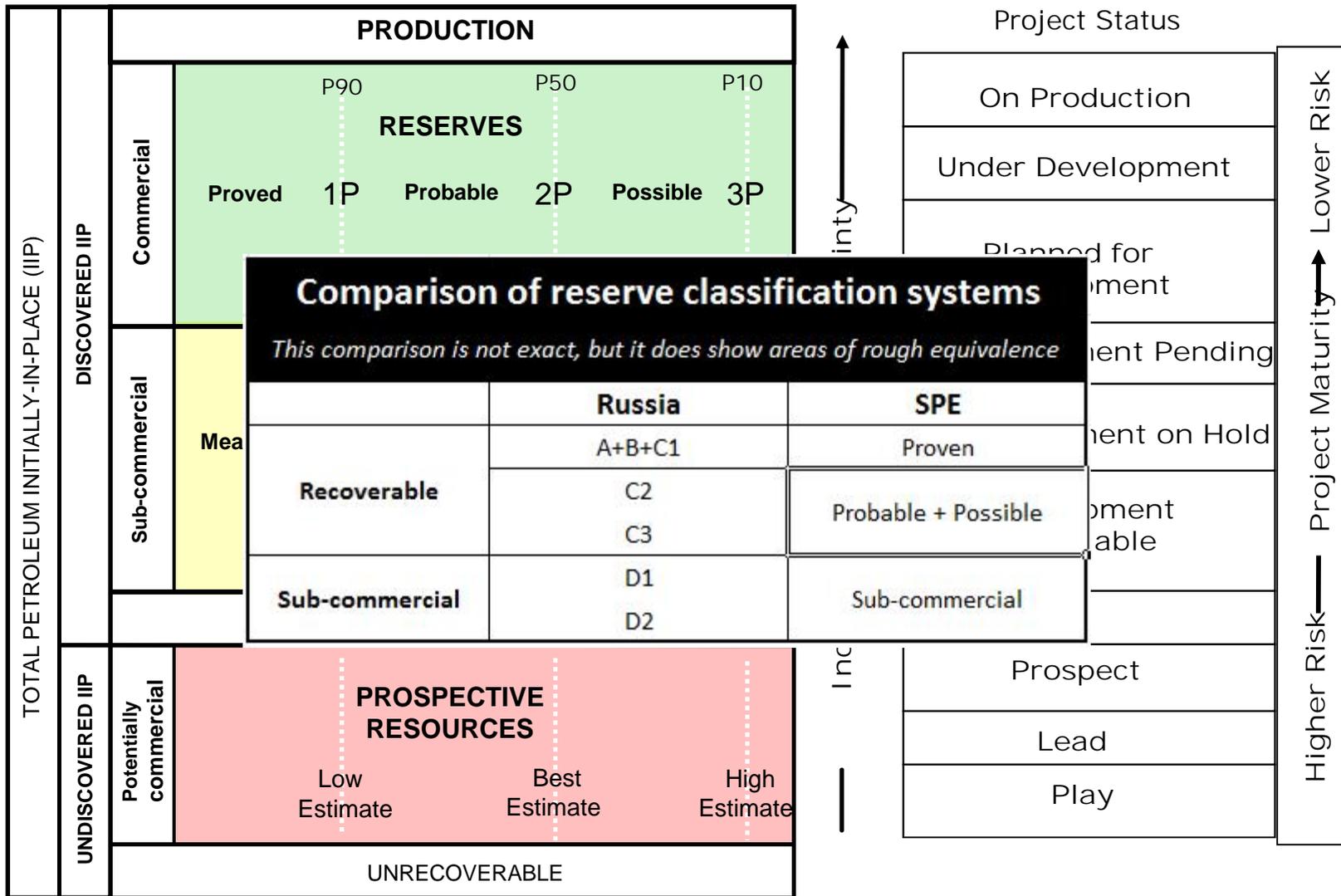


Definitions

- A field is a measured accumulation that has been proved capable of profitably producing HC's
 - (RECOVERABLE/CONTINGENT RESERVES)
- A prospect is a defined geological structure, yet to be drilled, that based on sound information, is believed to be potentially capable of profitably producing HC's (a "possible" or "potential" field)
 - (PROSPECTIVE RESOURCES)
- A lead is an indication of the possible presence of structure that, with more and better information, may be upgraded to the "prospect" status



Resources Classification (SPE/WPC/AAPG/SPEE)



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← Range of Technical Uncertainty →

Definitions

- OOIP (Oil Originally In Place), GOIP (Gas OIP) refer to volumes of HC's (in bbl, cuft, m³), at standard conditions, contained in a geological structure prior to the beginning of production; they are "fixed" values, although subject to errors and uncertainties
- Recovery factor refers to the ratio (in %) between the amount of HC that can be extracted from a structure with current technology and the relevant HOIP.
- Recoverable reserves refer to the fraction of HOIP (at standard conditions) that can be profitably extracted from a field with consolidated technology (they are a "variable", subject to technological progress and market conditions) .
- Contingent resources are discovered HC volumes that are not economically exploitable at present conditions (technical, economic, political, corporate).
- Prospective resources are estimated volumes associated with undiscovered accumulations. These represent quantities of petroleum which are estimated, as of a given date, to be potentially recoverable from oil and gas deposits identified on the basis of indirect evidence but which have not yet been drilled. This class represents a higher risk than contingent resources since the risk of discovery is also added.



Orders of Magnitude

- Oil/gas field are considered:
 - “large” if $> 50 \text{ Mbo}$ RR
 - “major” if $> 100 \text{ Mbo}$ RR
 - “significant” if $> 200 \text{ Mbo}$ RR
 - “giant” if $> 500 \text{ Mbo}$, i.e. $3 \text{ Tcf}_{\text{gas}}$ ($\approx 85 \text{ Bm}^3$) RR
 - “super-giant” if $> 1 \text{ Bbo}$, i.e. $6 \text{ Tcf}_{\text{gas}}$ ($\approx 170 \text{ Bm}^3$) RR



How Much Oil there Was and What's left?

- There is no agreement on figures
- "Reserves" estimate are unreliable for "political" reasons
- Prices and improving technology require continuous updates
- USGS estimates are arguable
- Industry-fed Data Bases (IHSE) are the only source
- Explorers and Production engineers have different approaches (HOIP vs depletion)
- New discoveries probability vs unknown petroleum systems (plays)

DISCOVERED: 1,618Bbbl
YET-to-FIND: 182Bbbl
PRODUCED: 613Bbbl
YET-to-PRODUCE: 1,005Bbbl
Campbell, 1998

Cumulative Oil Production: 952Gbbbls
Remaining recoverable: 2,029Gbbbls
Ultimate Recov. RESERVES: 3,000 Gbbbls
USGS 2004



Ultimate Reserves Estimates

Past Oil Predictions			
Date of Forecast	Source	Forecast Date of Conventional Peak	Assumed Ultimate
1972	ESSO	"Oil to become increasingly scarce from the year 2000"	2100 Gb
1972	Report for the UN Conf. on Human Environment	"likely that peak production will have been reached by the year 2000"	2500 Gb
1974	SPRU, Sussex University	n/a	1800-2480
1976	UK Dept of Energy	Peak: "about...2000"	n/a
1977	Hubbert	Peak: 1996	2000 Gb (Nehring)
1977	Ehrlich et al.	Peak: 2000	1900 Gb
1979	Shell	"...plateau within the next 25 years."	n/a
1979	BP (Oil Crisis...again?)	Peak (non-Communist world): 1985	n/a
1981	World Bank	"...plateau around the turn of the century"	1900 Gb
1995	Petroconsultants	Peak: 2005	1800 Gb
1997	Ivanhoe	Peak: 2010	~ 2000 Gb
1997	Edwards	Peak: 2020	2836 Gb
1998	IEA: WEO 1998	Peak: 2014	2300 Gb ref. case
1999	USGS (Magoon)	Peak: ~ 2010	~ 2000 Gb
1999	Campbell	Peak: ~ 2010	2000 Gb (inc. polar deep)
2000	Bartlett	Peak: 2004 or 2019	2000 or 3000 Gb
2000	IEA: WEO 2000	Peak: "Beyond 2020"	3345 Gb (from USGS)
2000	2000 US EIA	Peak: 2016-2037	3003 Gb (from USGS)
2001	Deffeyes	Peak: 2003-2008	~ 2000 Gb
2002	Smith	Peak: 2011-2016	2180 Gb
2002	'Nemesis'	Peak: 2004-2011	1950-2300 Gb equiv.

"Ultimate" means "total", prior to production start"

All attempts are based on pre-unconventional "shale" concepts

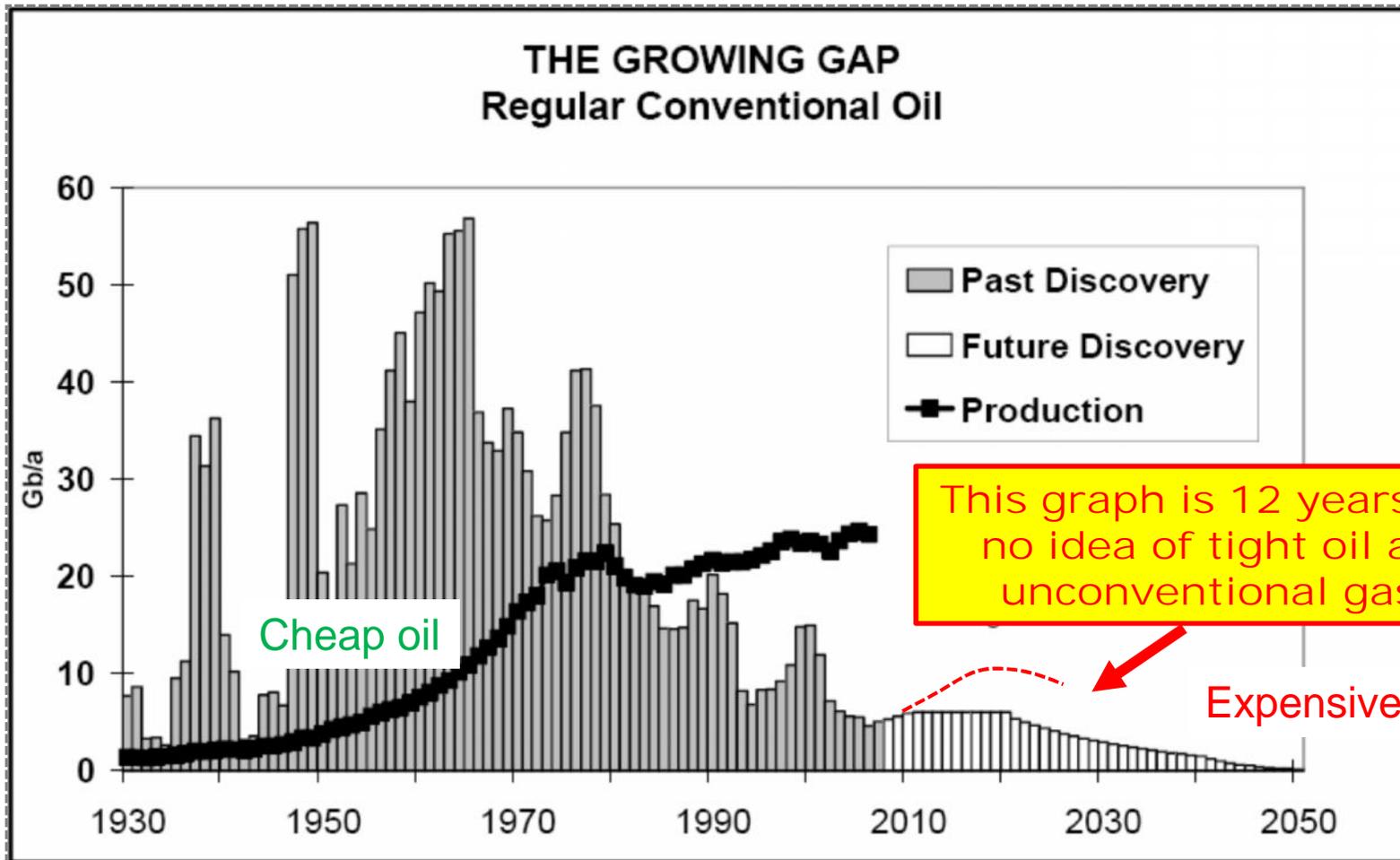
Modified from: [Wolf at the Door](#)



Oil Consumption

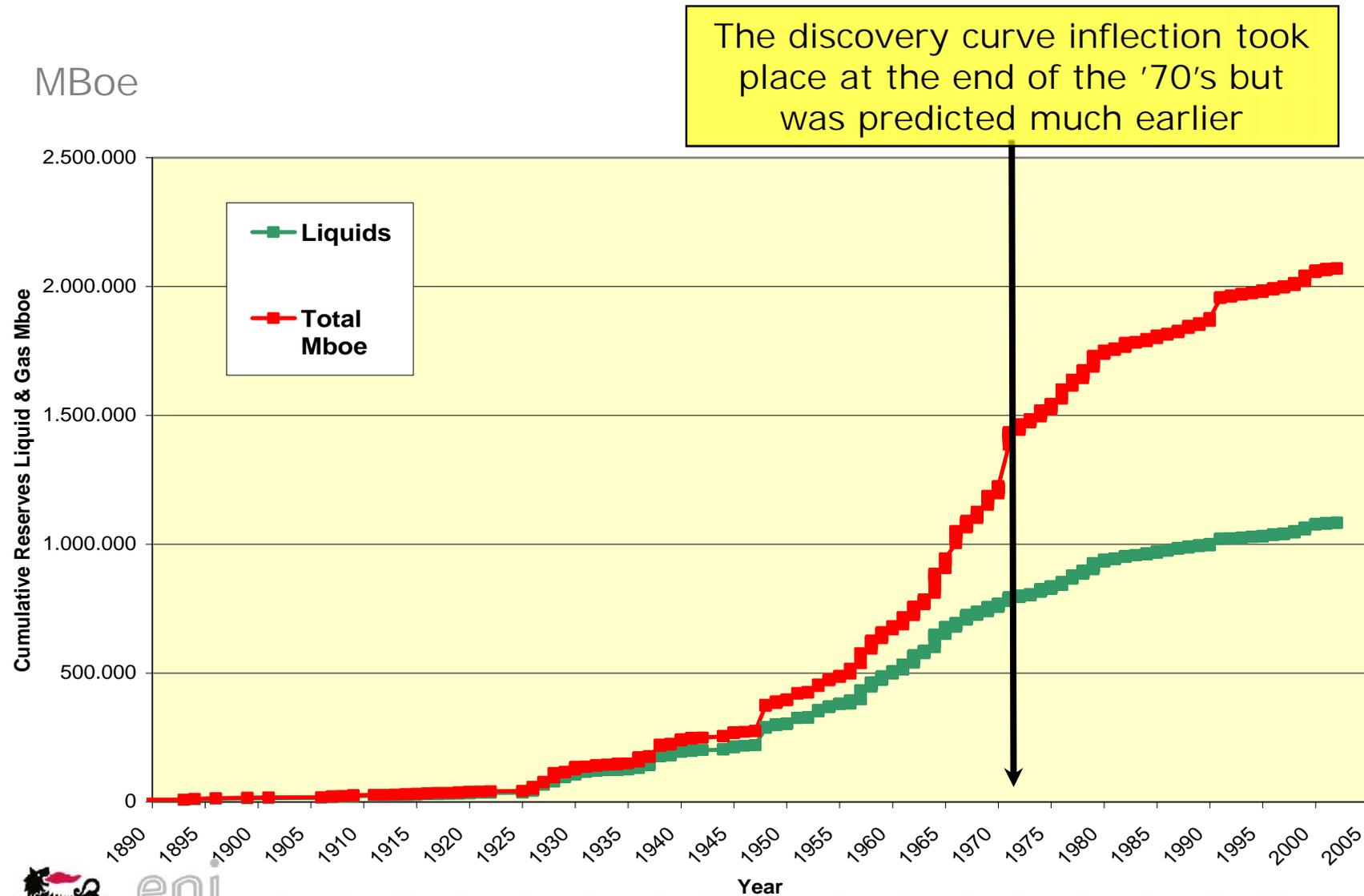
- Today, we consume 6 boe more than we find
- Most of the oil we use was discovered decades ago

<http://www.monbiot.com/>



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The Decline of Giant Discoveries



The discovery curve inflection took place at the end of the '70's but was predicted much earlier

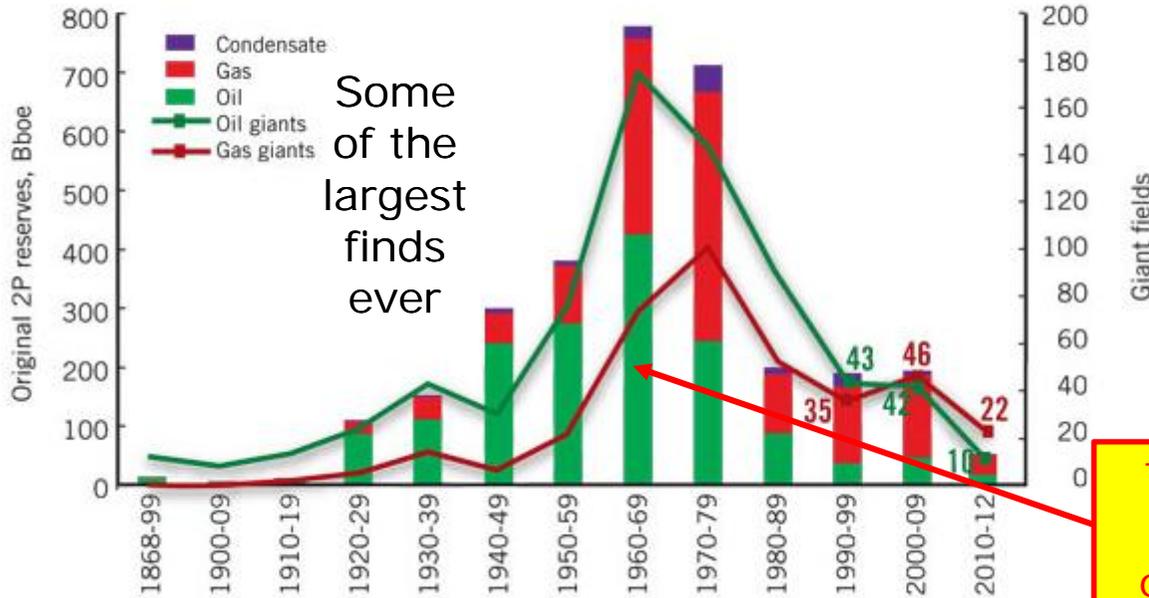


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HISTORICAL DISCOVERY OF GIANT FIELDS

The Decline of Giant Discoveries

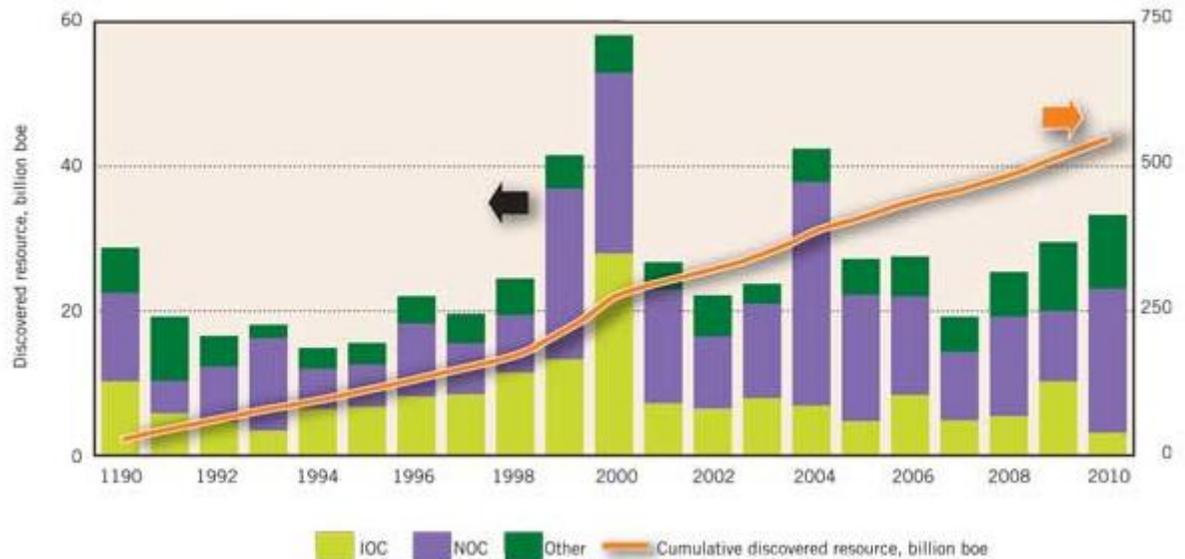
FIG. 1



The effect of technological improvements (seismic, offshore exploration tools)

WORLDWIDE DISCOVERIES OVER THE LAST 20 YEARS

Notice the increasing role of National Oil Co's



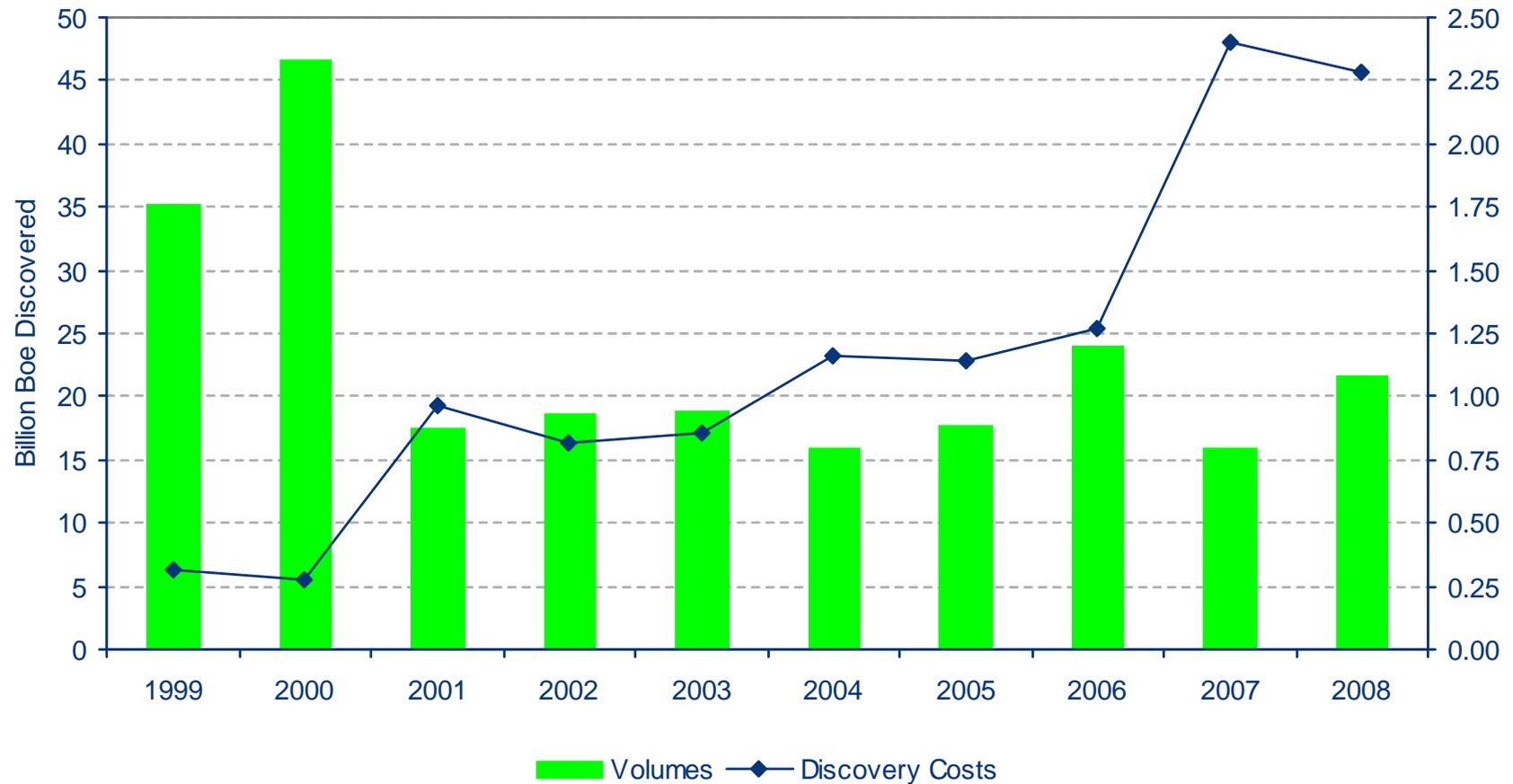
Source O&G J



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The Decline of Cheap Discoveries

Exploration keeps delivering resources (at increasingly higher costs)



Source: WoodMackenzie



Your Future Professional Scenario

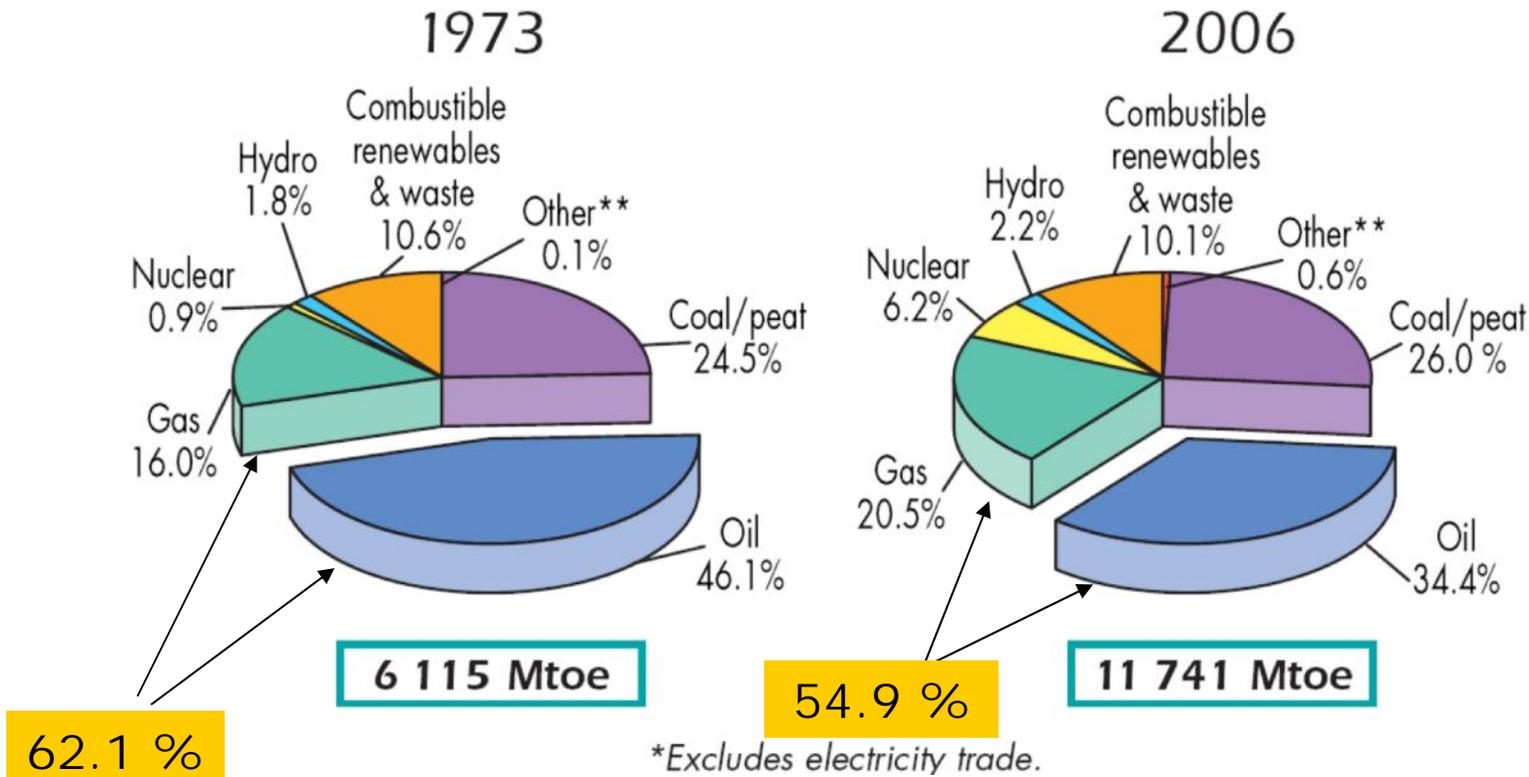
- Oil and gas demand is not going to decrease in the mid term
- Industry targets (large fields) and geology (a lot of small fields left) head opposite, but the search for smaller resources may provide an interim solution
- If prices goes up again and conventional oil remains valuable, new explorers will be called to look for increasingly difficult, smaller and subtler traps but...
- ... not on “unconventional” resources (the long term future may be there, but now the low oil price does not help): different locations, different geopolitical scenarios

Source: OPEC, IEA, AAPG, ASPO and (*) <http://www.monbiot.com/>



Where Did Our Energy Come from?

1973 and 2006 fuel shares of TPES*



Source IEA

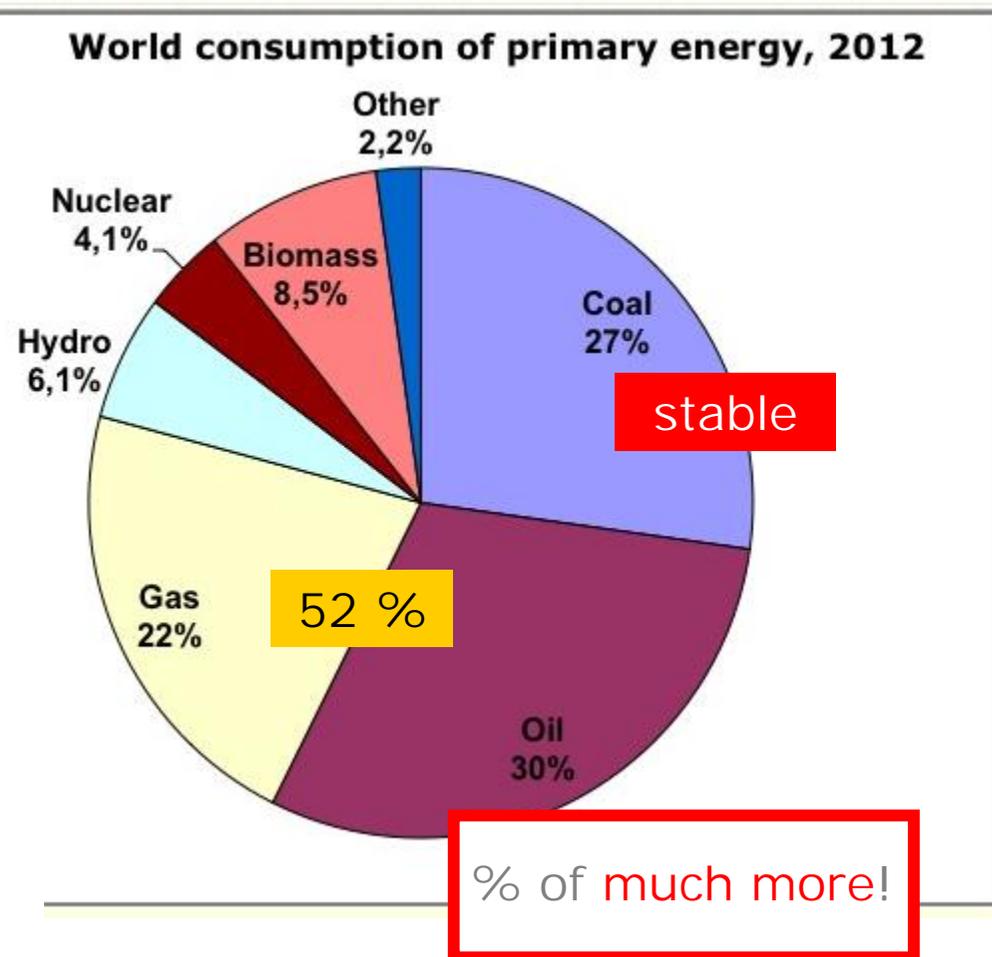
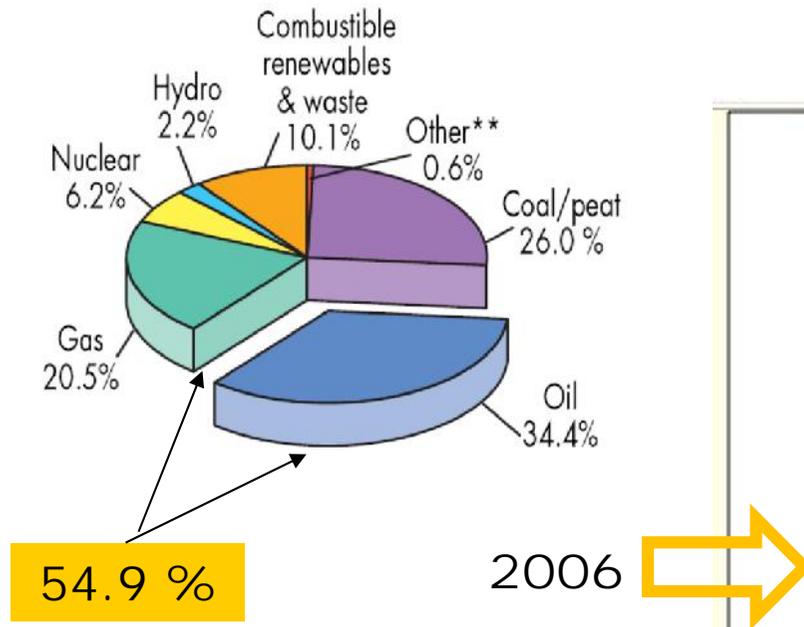
* Prior to 1994 combustible renewable & waste final consumption has been estimated.

**Other includes geothermal, solar, wind, heat, etc.



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...and Where It Comes from Today

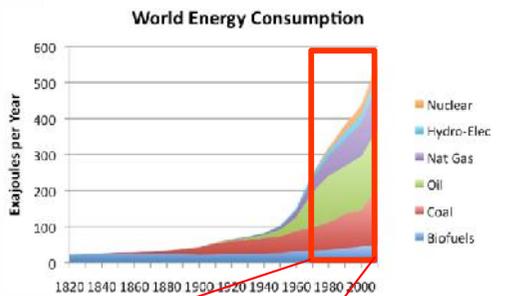
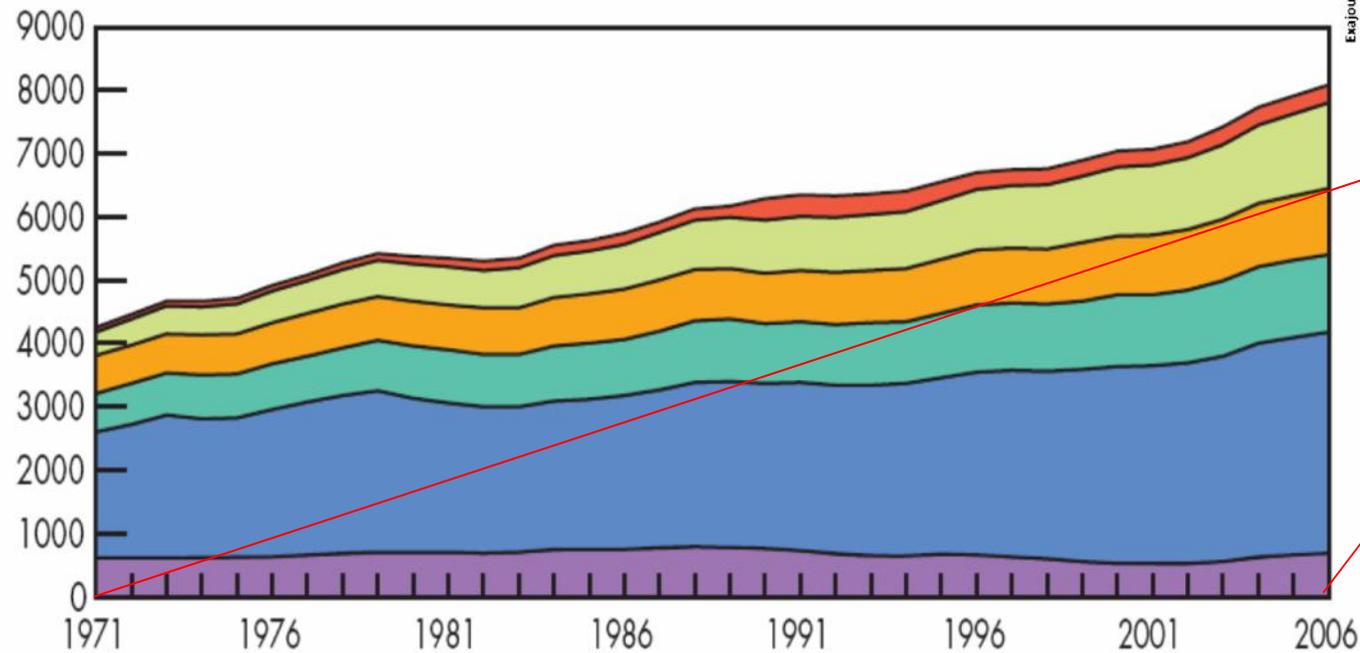


- Still the same? Not quite:
- Renewables catching up
- Will nuclear keep declining ?
- ... demand is increasing



Recent Past Energy Consumption Trend Perception

Evolution from 1971 to 2006 of world total final consumption by fuel (Mtoe)



Source IEA

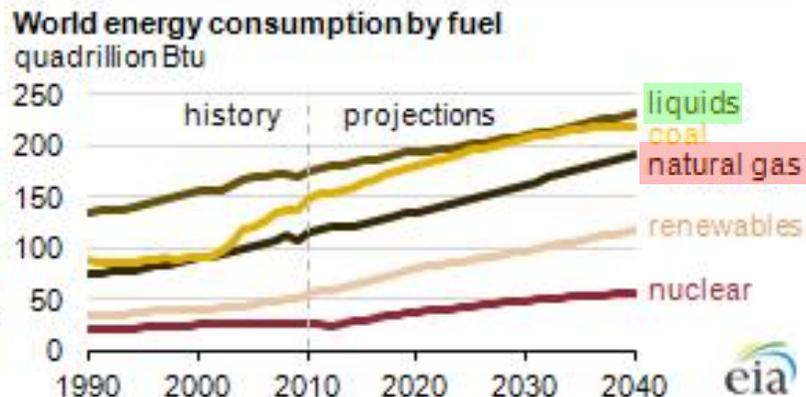
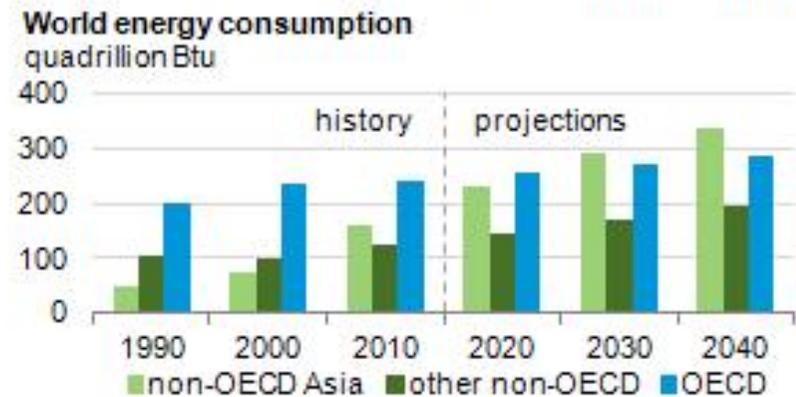
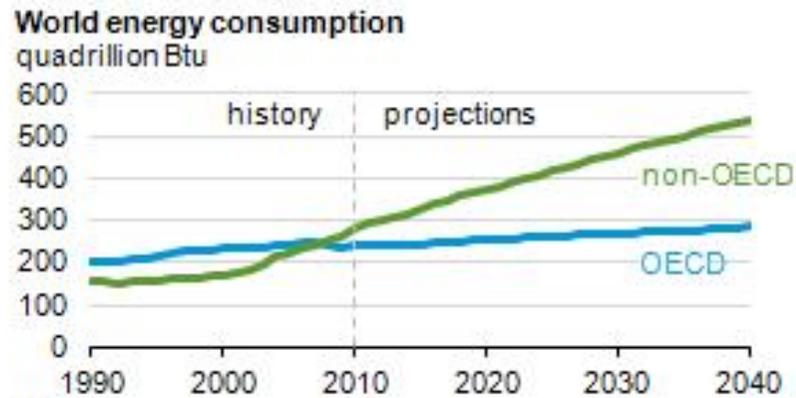
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**Other includes geothermal, solar, wind, heat, etc.



Demand Grows Unevenly

EIA projects world energy consumption will increase 56% by 2040

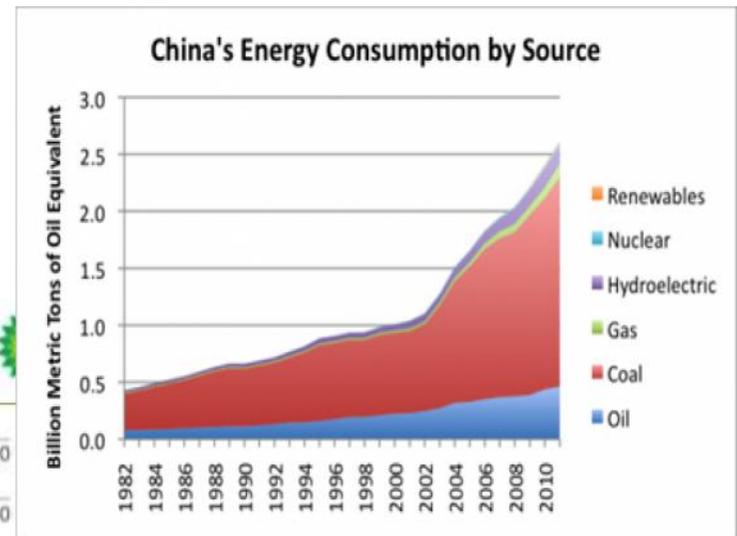
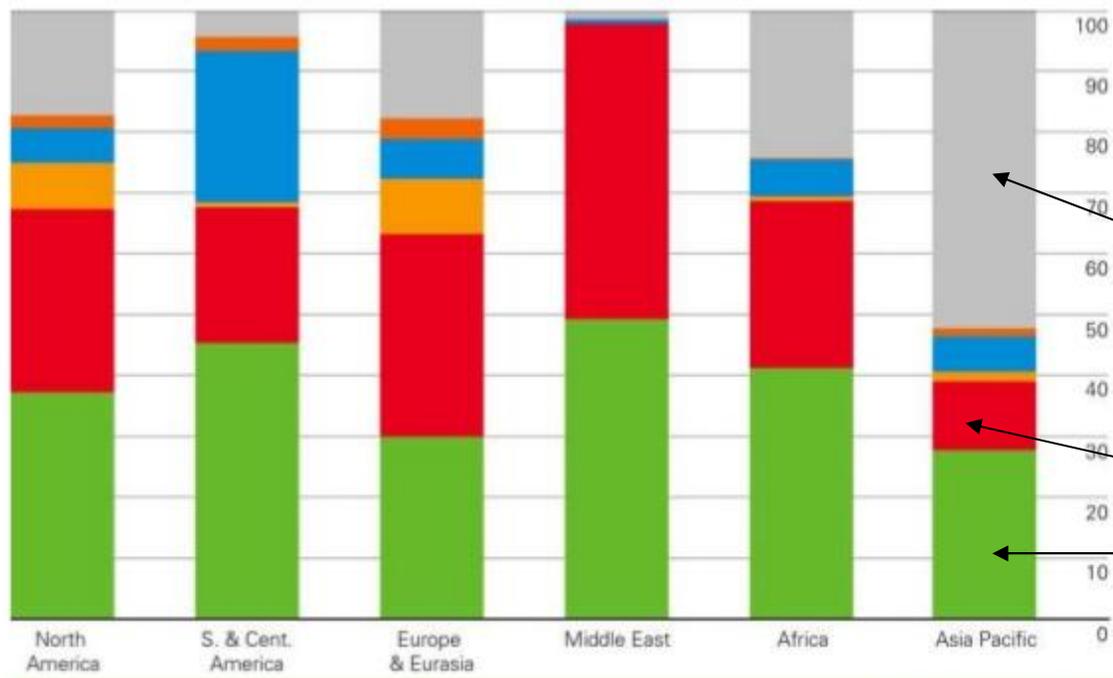


Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, [International Energy Outlook 2013](#).



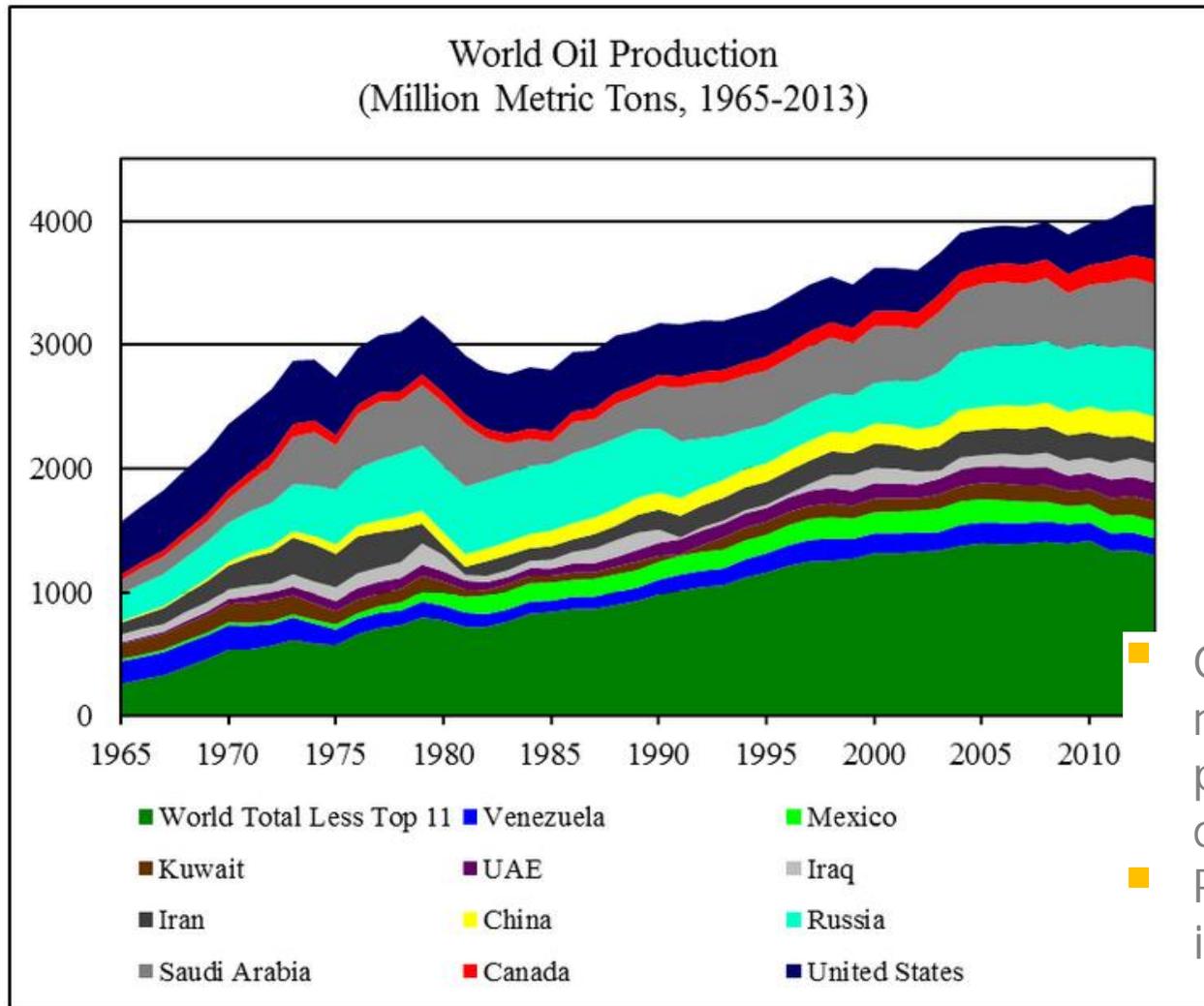
Energy Consumption Sources Are Different

Primary energy regional consumption pattern 2012
Percentage



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Is Oil Production Growing Too?



- Global production is raising at a lowering pace (will it start declining?)
- Production is declining in many areas



Peak Oil

O&G production peak is around the corner (2008)-2012-2020?

What do we mean by "peak oil"?

Peak Oil (Colin Campbell) is " the maximum rate of the production of oil in any area under consideration, recognizing that it is a finite natural resource, subject to depletion"

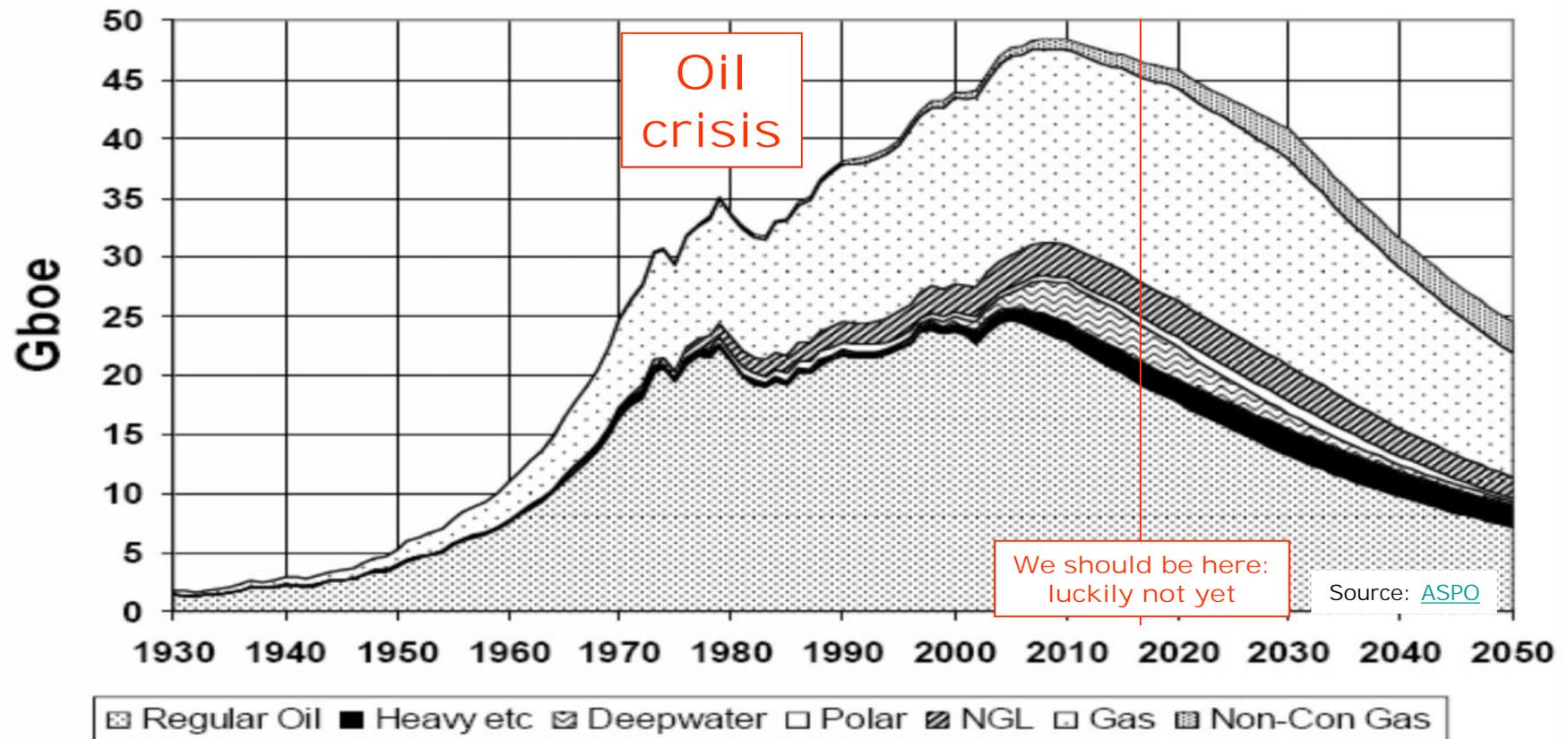
Source: [ASPO](#)

www.peakoil.net



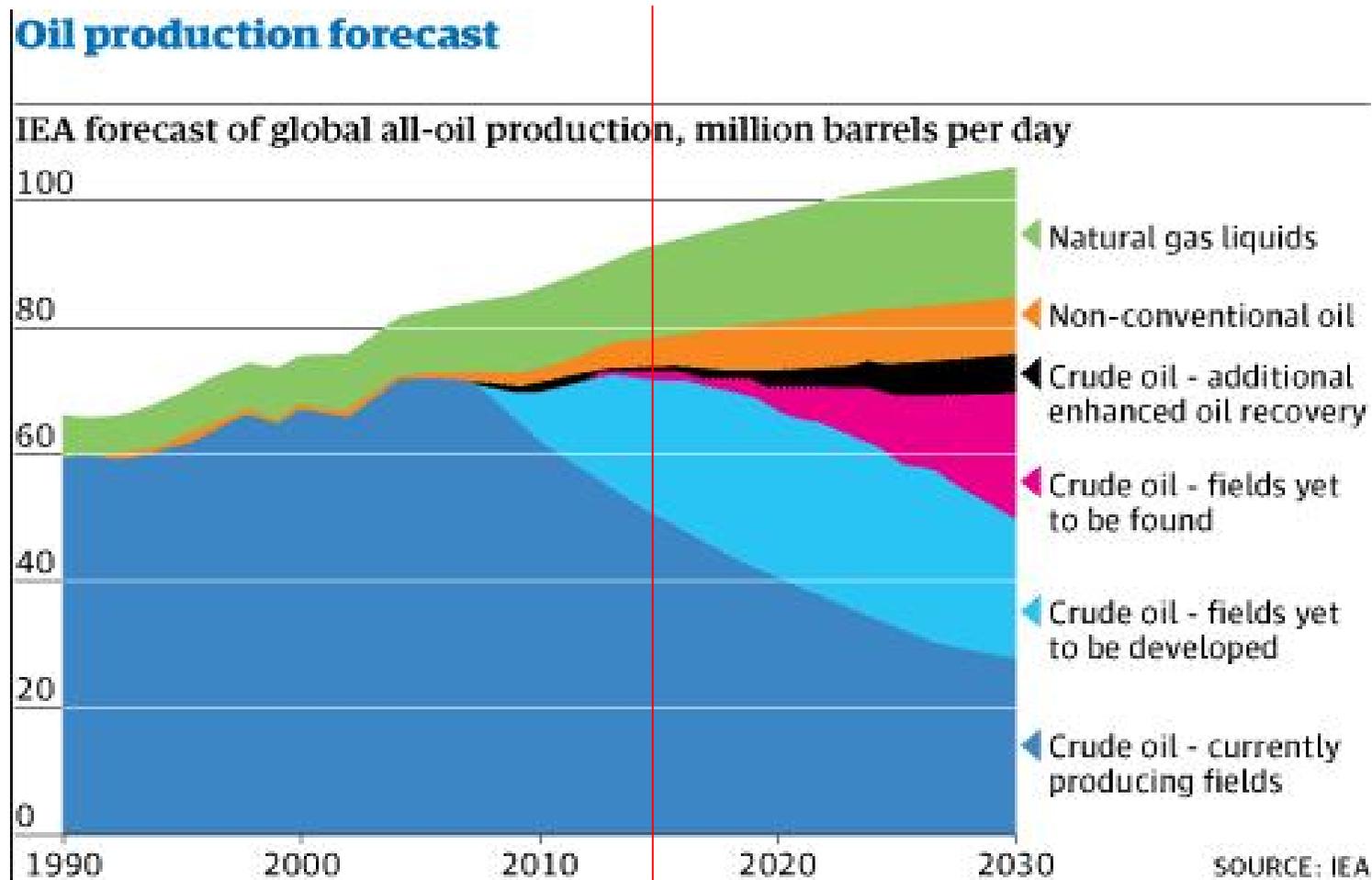
Commonly Assumed Projection (Old but Still Used)

OIL & GAS PRODUCTION PROFILES 2007 Base Case



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What the Industry Can Do

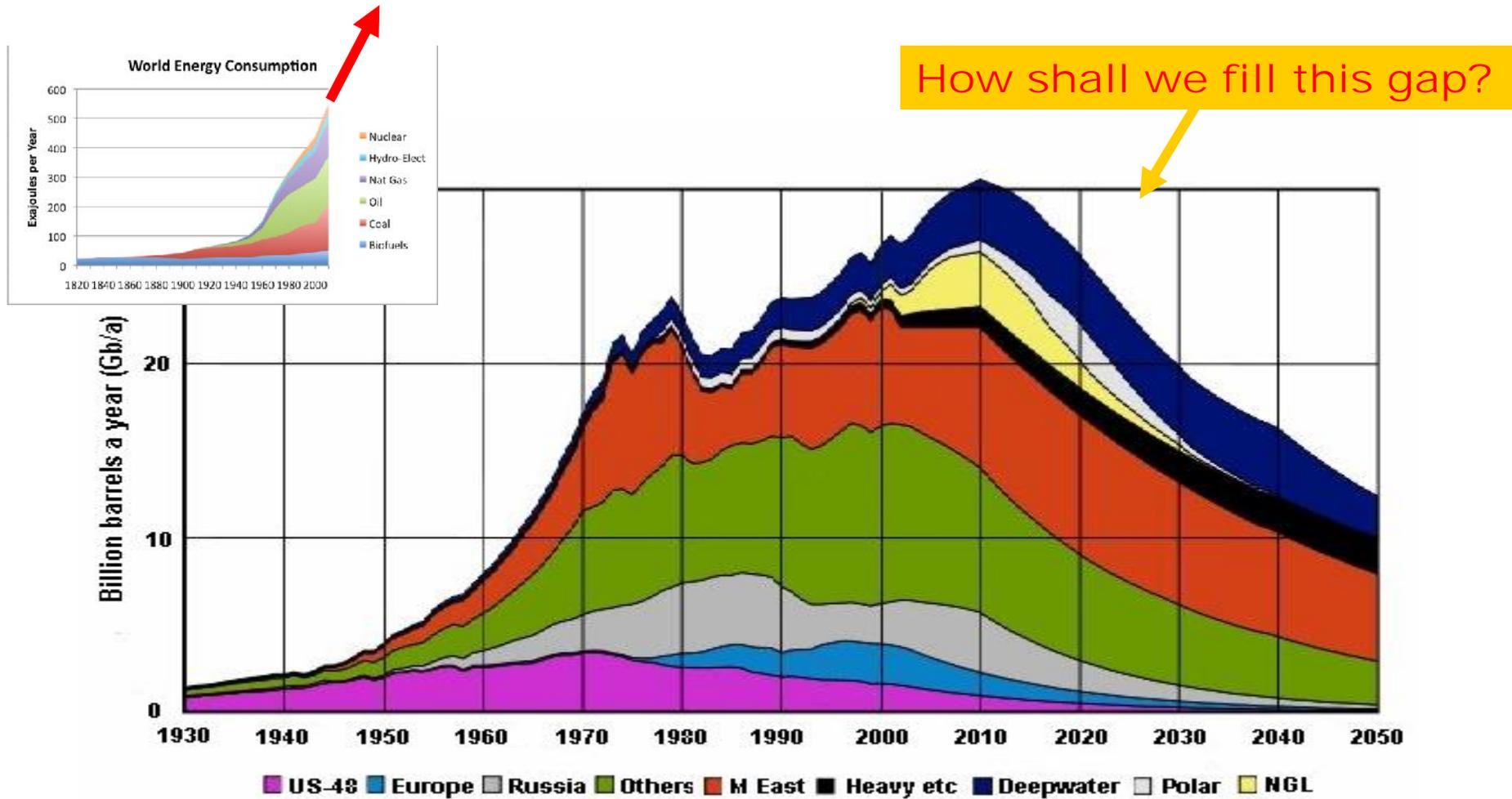


Peak is continuously shifted and still to come



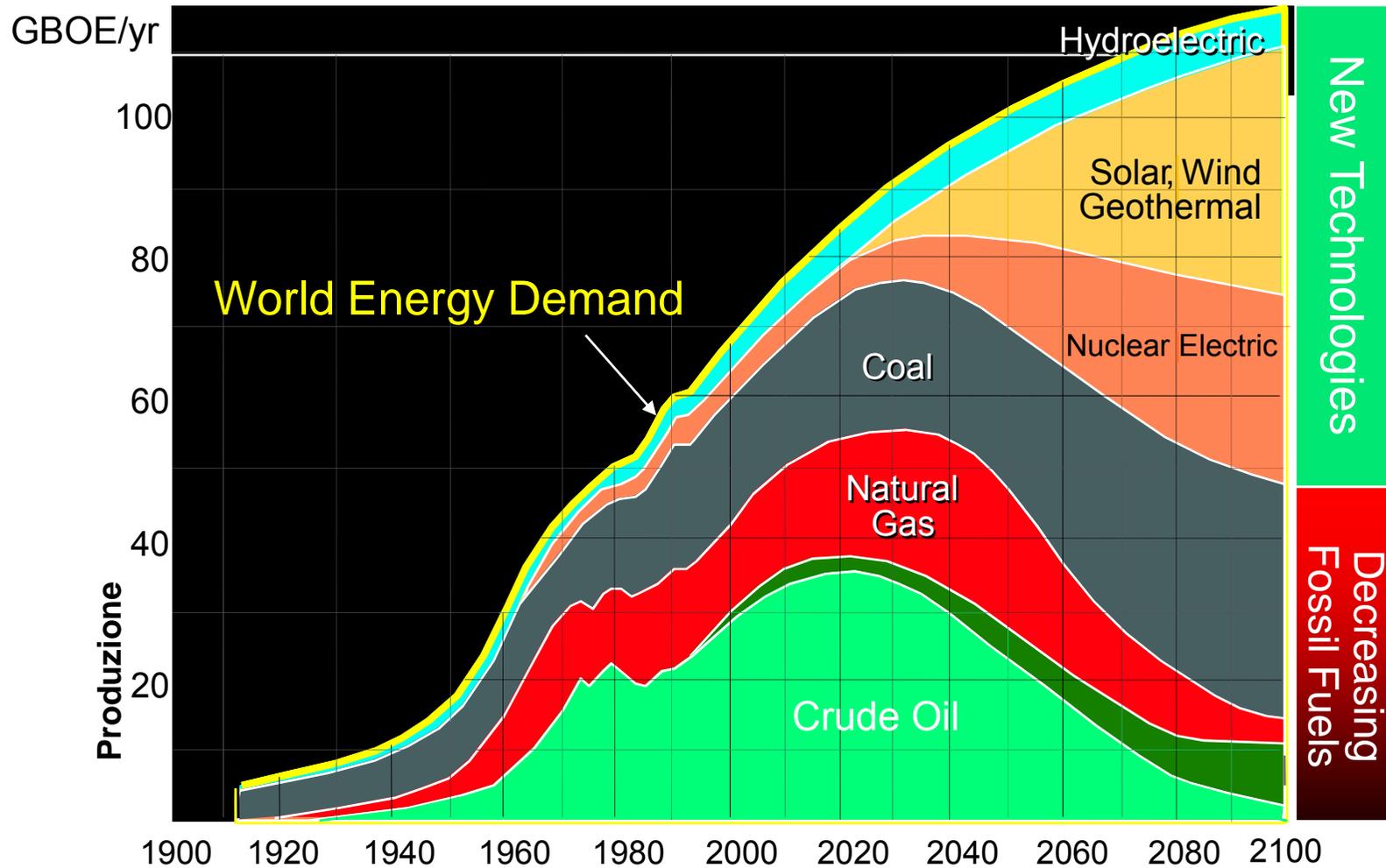
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Future Energy Gap: a Commonly Assumed Projection for O&G



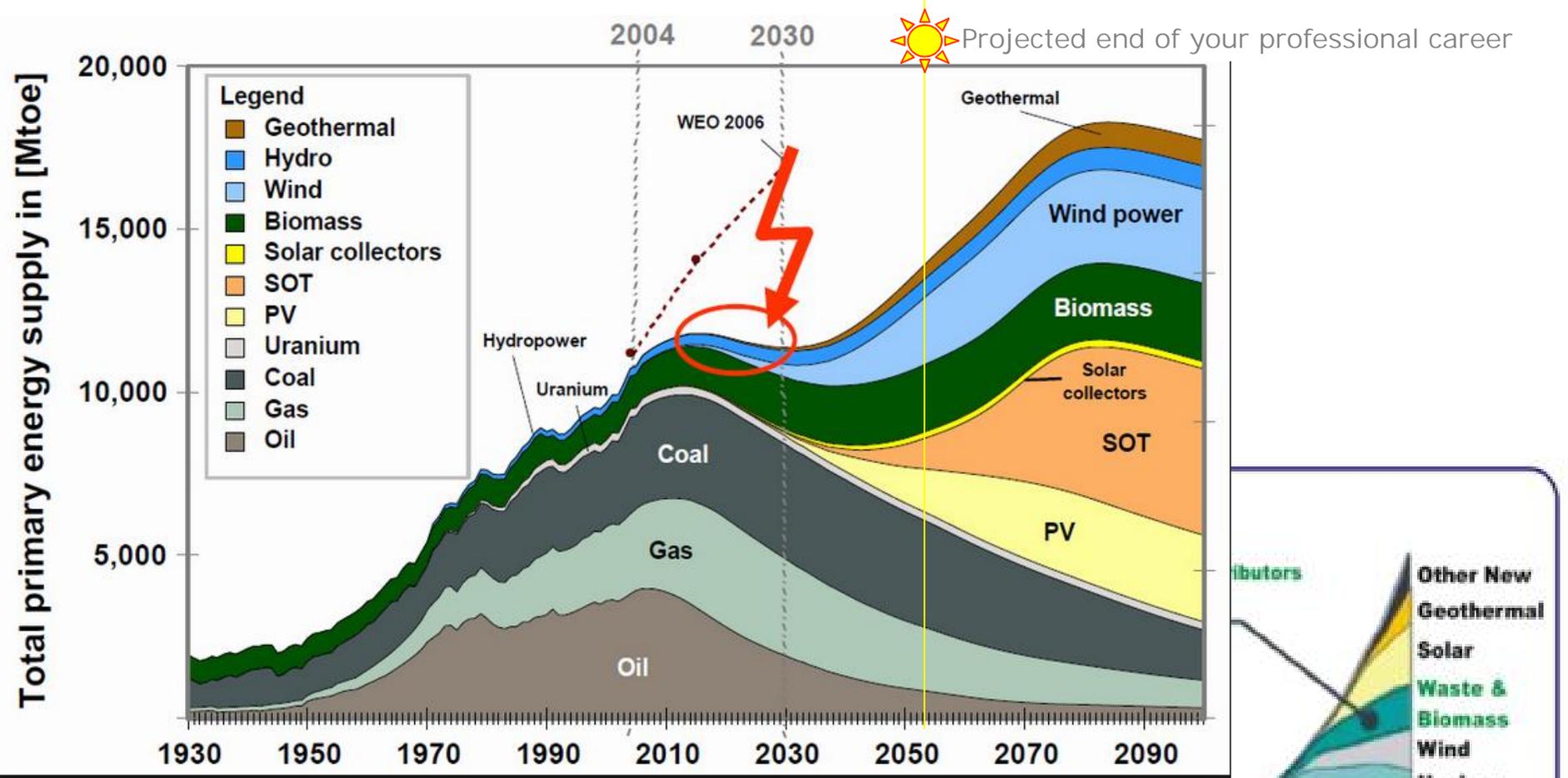
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A Commonly Proposed Vision (ca 2006)



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Updated Versions (Research vs Industry)

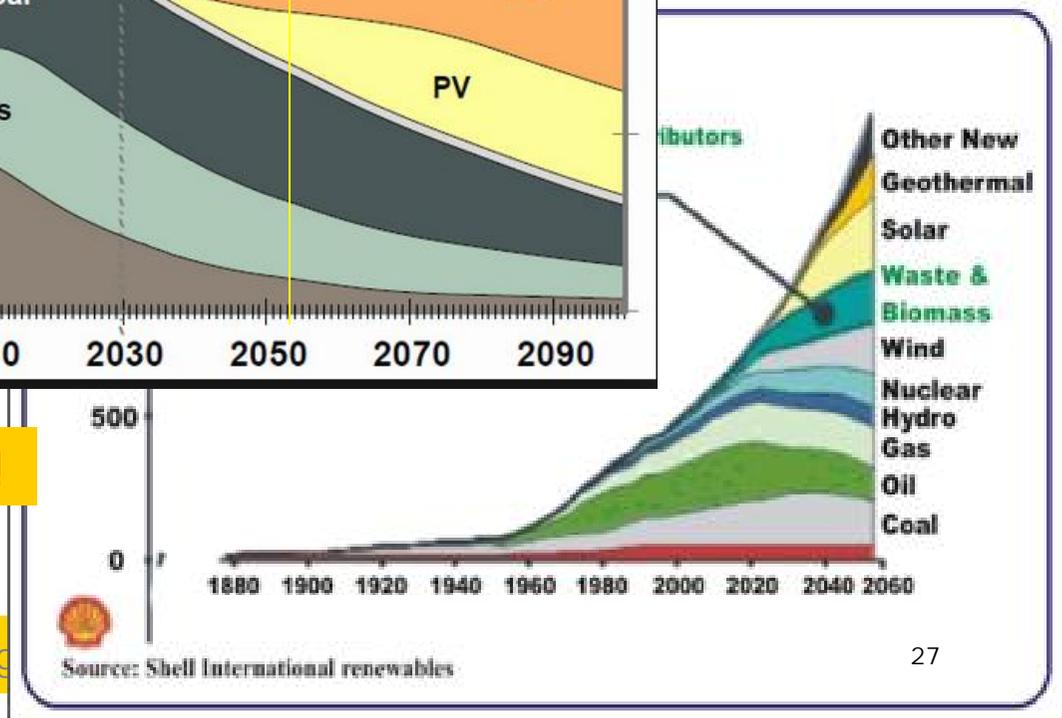


Peak in 2020? 4 years to go!



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Peru



Source: Shell International renewables

Finding New Oil and Gas Resources

- The “pillars” of future oil and gas (energy) supply are:
 - Additions to and better recovery of existing fields
 - New discoveries (many and small?)
 - Unconventional resources (very large, but difficult to produce)



Source: P.H. Stark, K. Chew, and Bob Fryklund, IHS
at International Petroleum Technology Conference, 4-6 December 2007, Dubai, U.A.E.

What Are Unconventional Resources?

- OIL
 - Heavy oil
 - Extra heavy oil
 - Tar and bitumen
 - Bituminous shale
- GAS
 - Coal (coal bed methane)
 - Low K reservoirs (tight reservoir)
 - Gas shales
 - Hydrates (feasibility being tested)

- Unconventional resources outclass conventional ones, but are still in their technological infancy (or maybe their teen age)



The Availability of Unconventional Resources

- The estimated in place volumes of bitumen, heavy oil and bituminous sands and shales are about 7 times larger than the estimated remaining oil
- Equally, unconventional gas resources (excluding hydrates) are 4 to 5 greater than the estimated remaining gas
- Great technical challenges to economically extract and refine them without compromising the environment

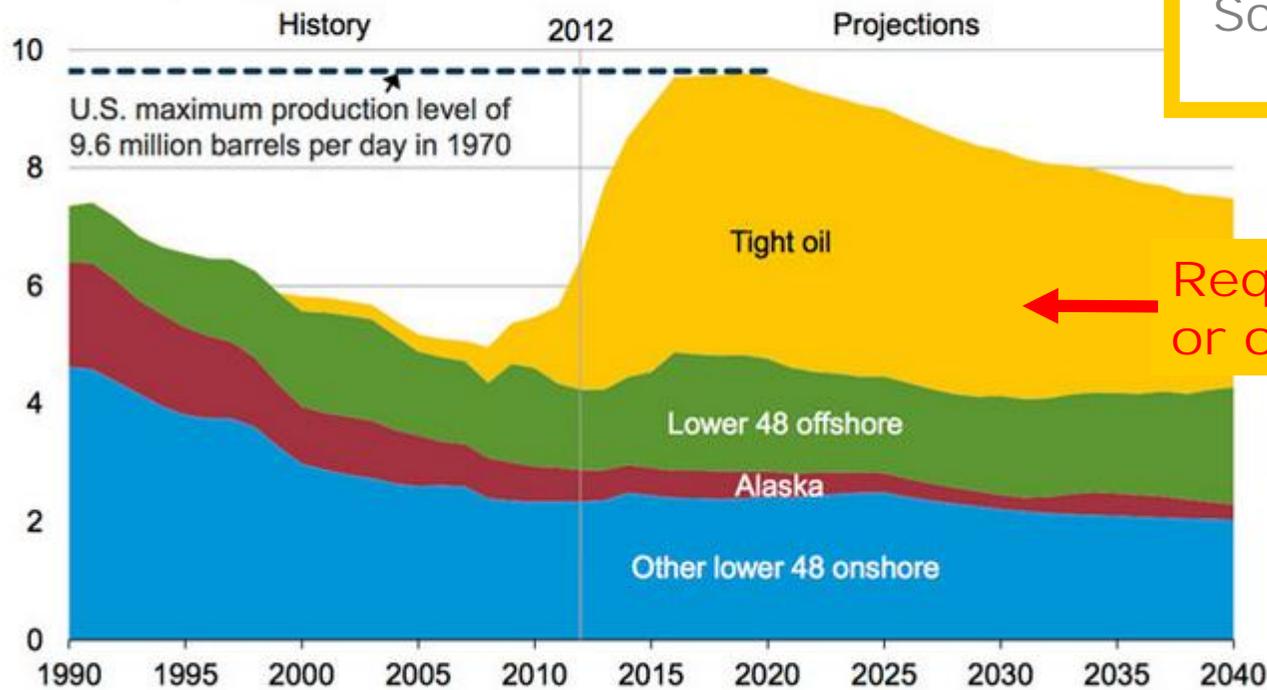


Source: P.H. Stark, K. Chew, and Bob Fryklund, IHS
at International Petroleum Technology Conference, 4-6 December 2007, Dubai, U.A.E.

The Effects of Unconventional Resources Can Be Seen

Growing tight oil and offshore crude oil production drive U.S. output close to historical high

U.S. crude oil production
million barrels per day



Source: EIA, Annual Energy Outlook 2014 Early Release

Will it be applicable worldwide?
So far works in the US only

Requires fracking or open cast mining

Oil prices fall has stopped the rise



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Major Facts and Issues

A hydrocarbon province is said "mature" when only the small field tail is left to find

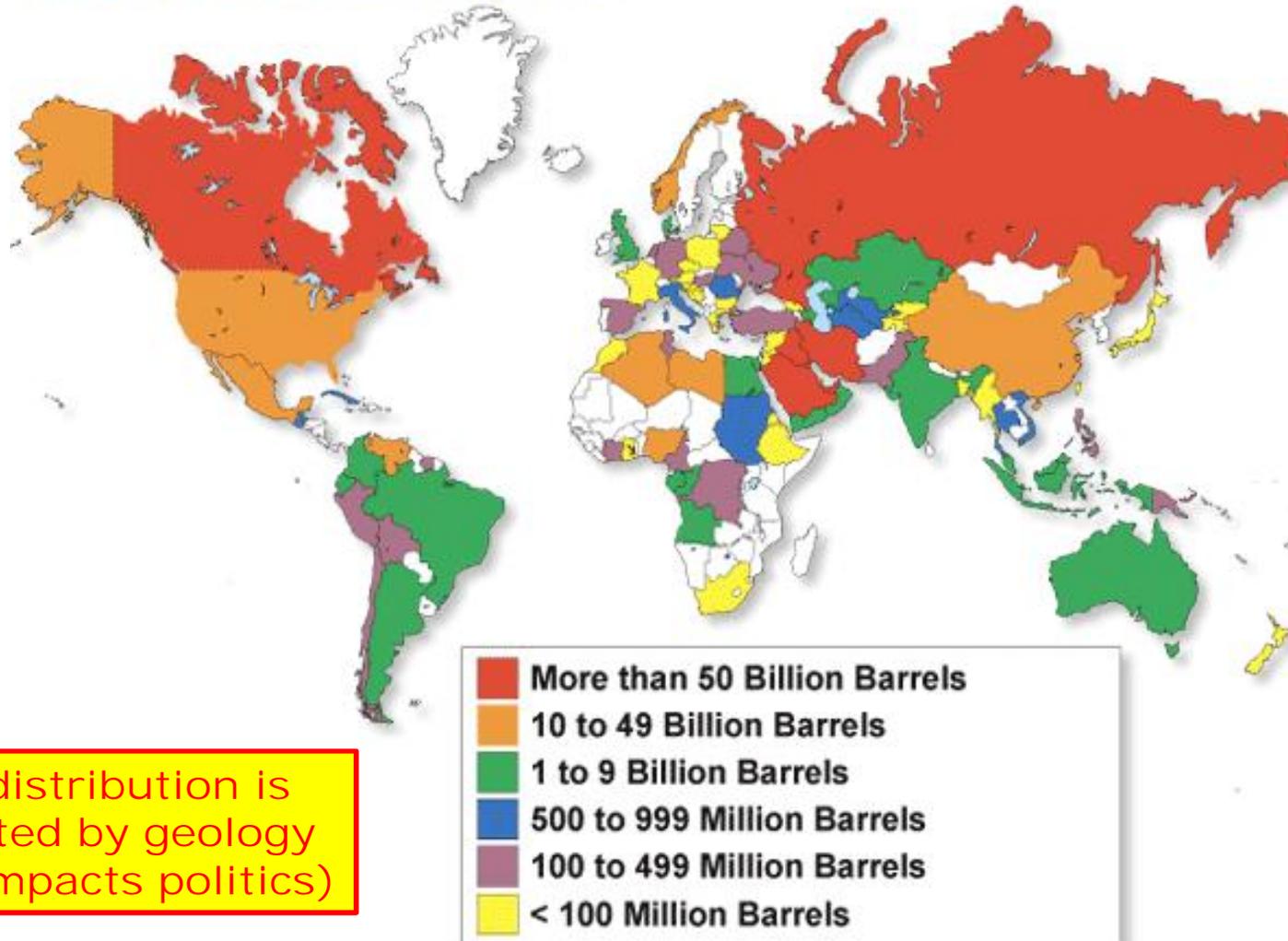


- Imbalance of geopolitical HC reserves distribution
 - Nearly 65% ca. of known HC reserves sits in "Giants Fields" (900* out of 30,000)
 - About 60% of known HC reserves is in the Middle East
 - About 50% of HC consumption occurs in N. America & Europe (**)
 - Consumption in the Far East is dramatically growing
- Frontier vs mature sedimentary basins
 - The largest fields of any given area are discovered at an early stage, most have been found decades ago
 - 450 sedimentary basins out of 1000 are believed to be "mature"
 - All known HC provinces are approaching maturity
 - Frontier areas require yet difficult technological solutions and higher price scenarios



World Oil Reserves Distribution (2004)

World Oil Reserves, 2004



HC distribution is dictated by geology (but impacts politics)



Source: Oil & Gas Journal, "Worldwide Report," December 22, 2003

World Proven Reserves (Oil)

Distribution of proved oil reserves in 1992, 2002 and 2012 Percentage



- Middle East
- S. & Cent. America
- North America
- Europe & Eurasia
- Africa
- Asia Pacific

RESERVES are VARIABLE entities !



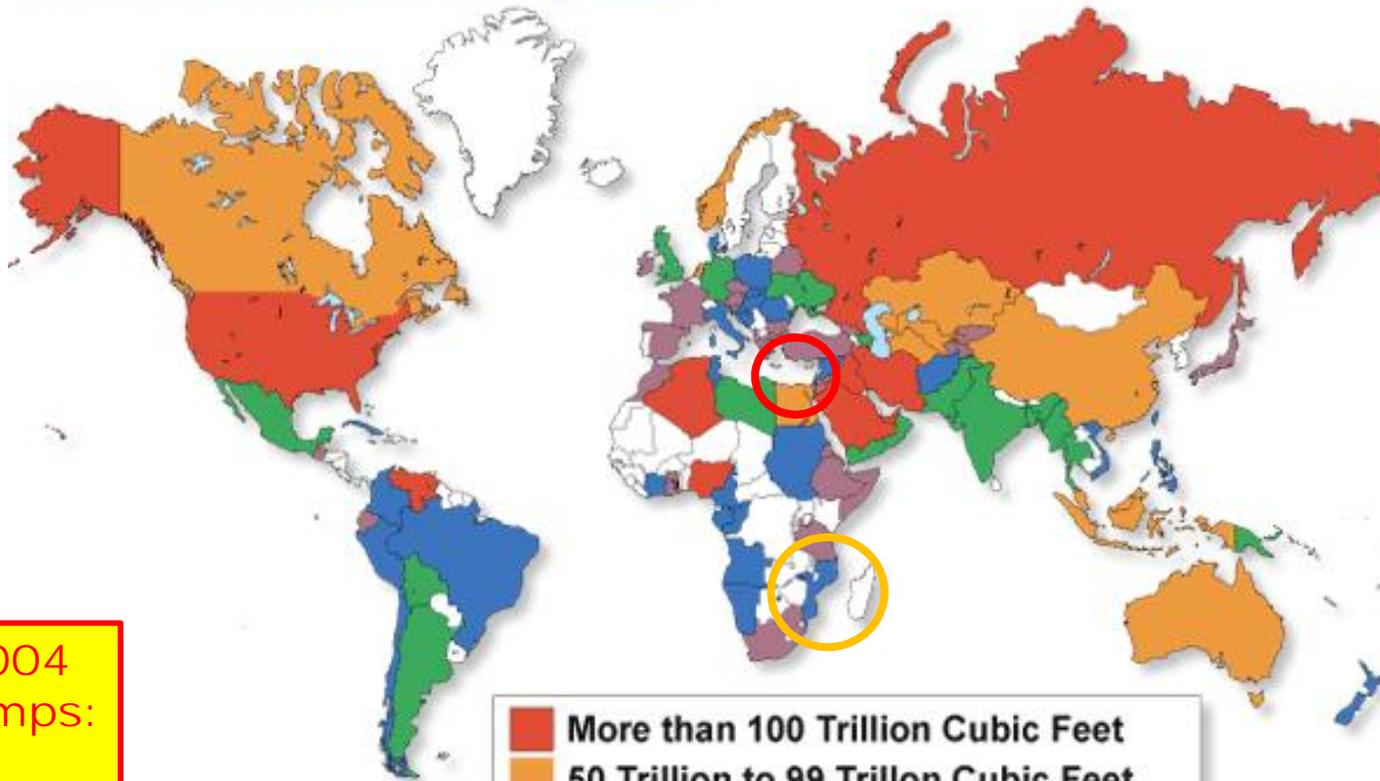
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BP 2013

World Gas Reserves Distribution (2004)

World Gas Reserves, 2004



Post 2004
class jumps:
Eni
discoveries



Source: Oil & Gas Journal, "Worldwide Report," December 22, 2003

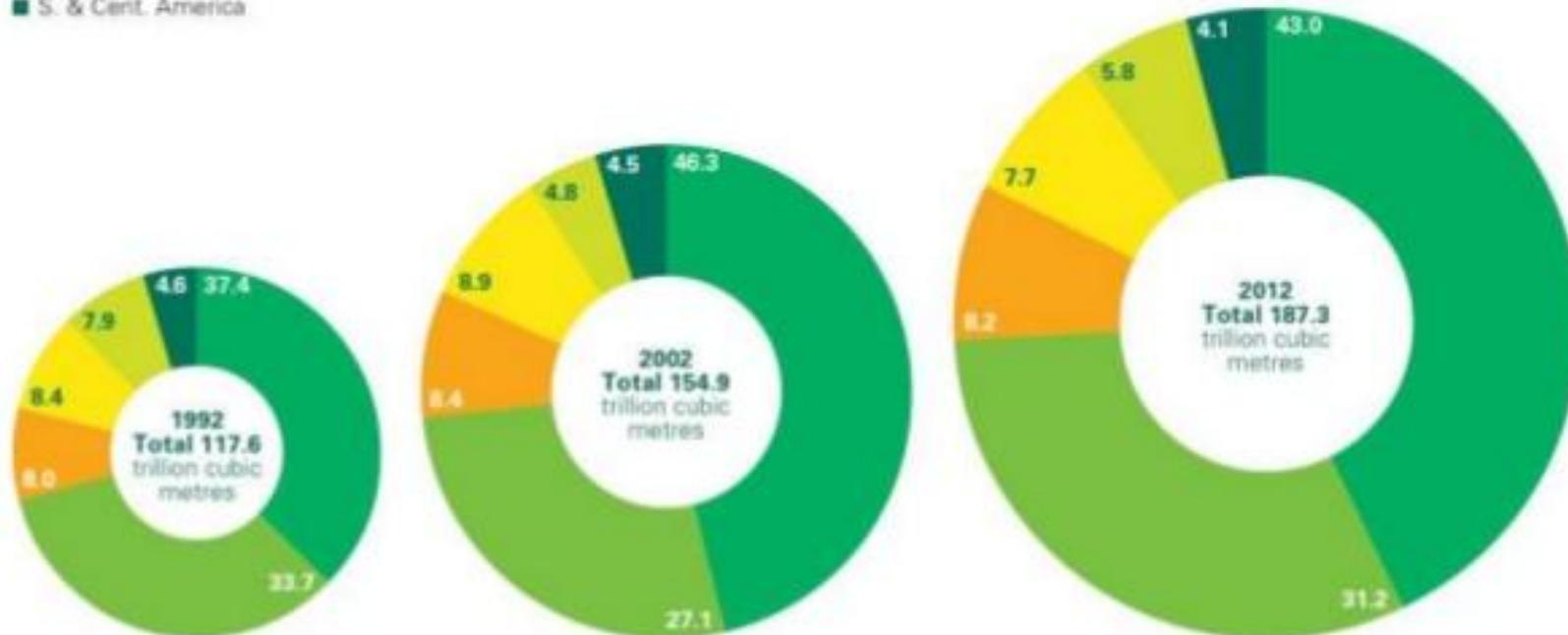
World Proven Reserves (oil)

Distribution of proved gas reserves in 1992, 2002 and 2012 Percentage

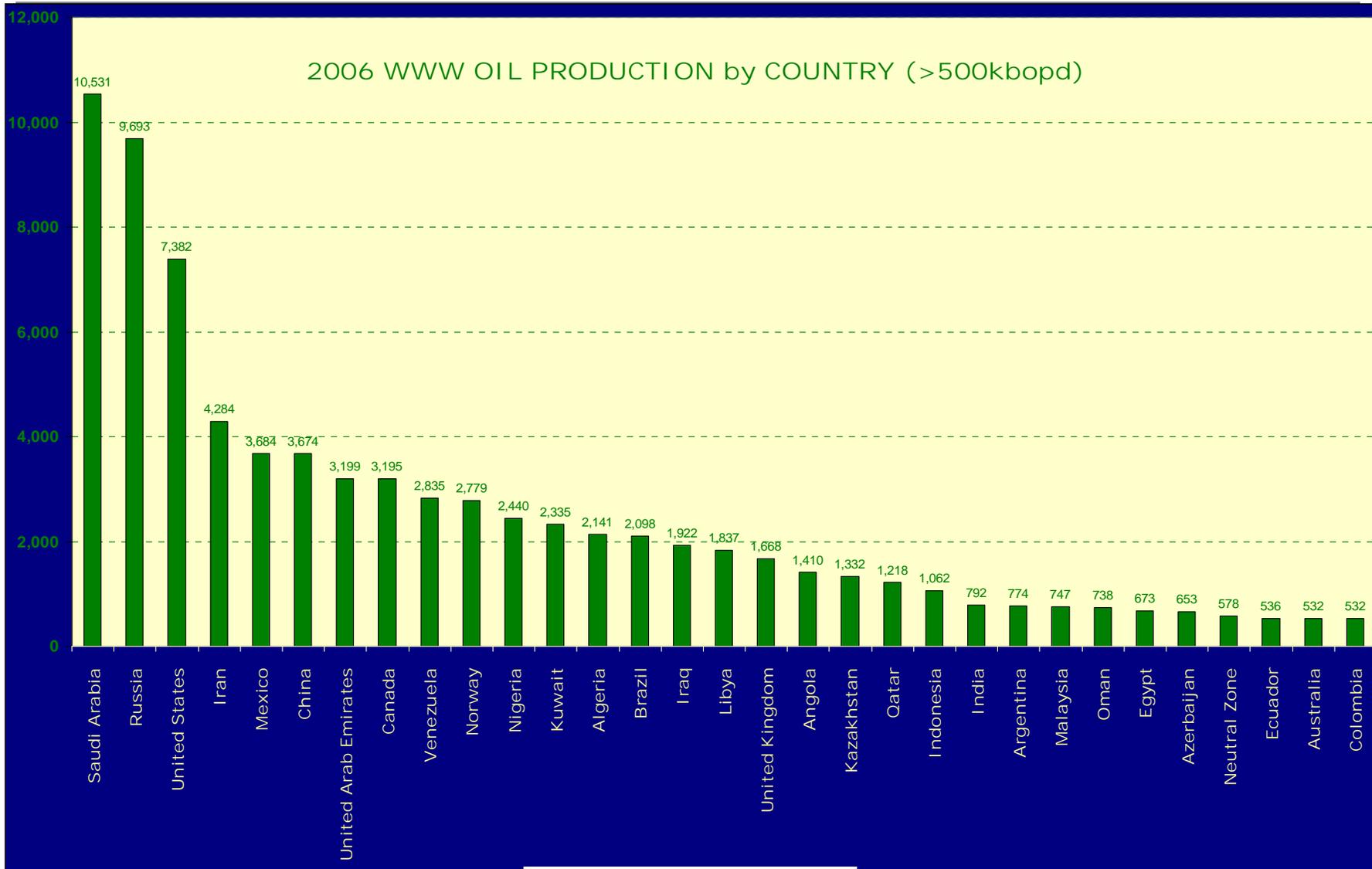


- Middle East
- Europe & Eurasia
- Asia Pacific
- Africa
- North America
- S. & Cent. America

RESERVES are
VARIABLE
entities !



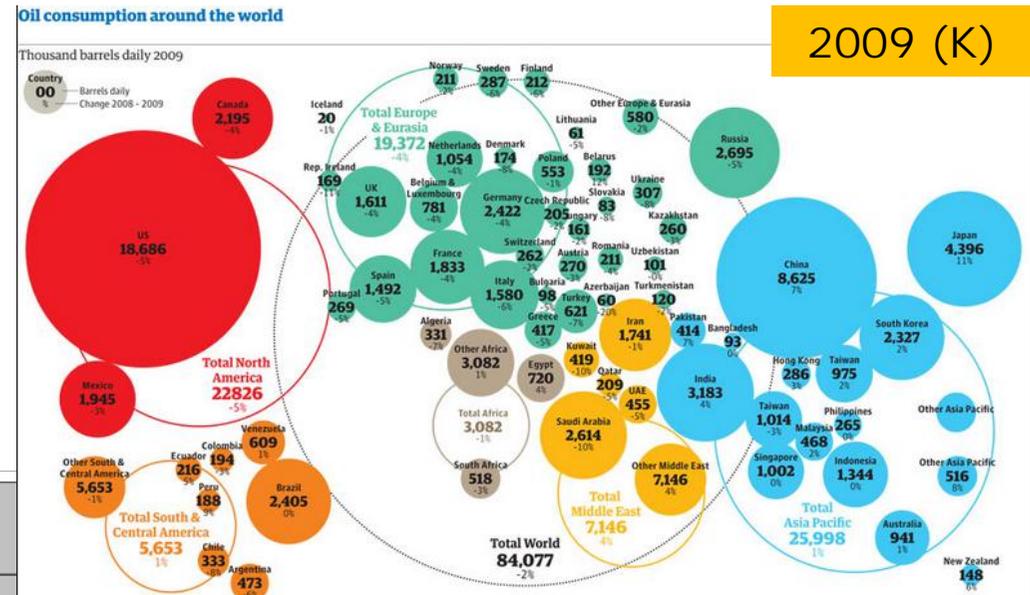
World Production by Country (2006)



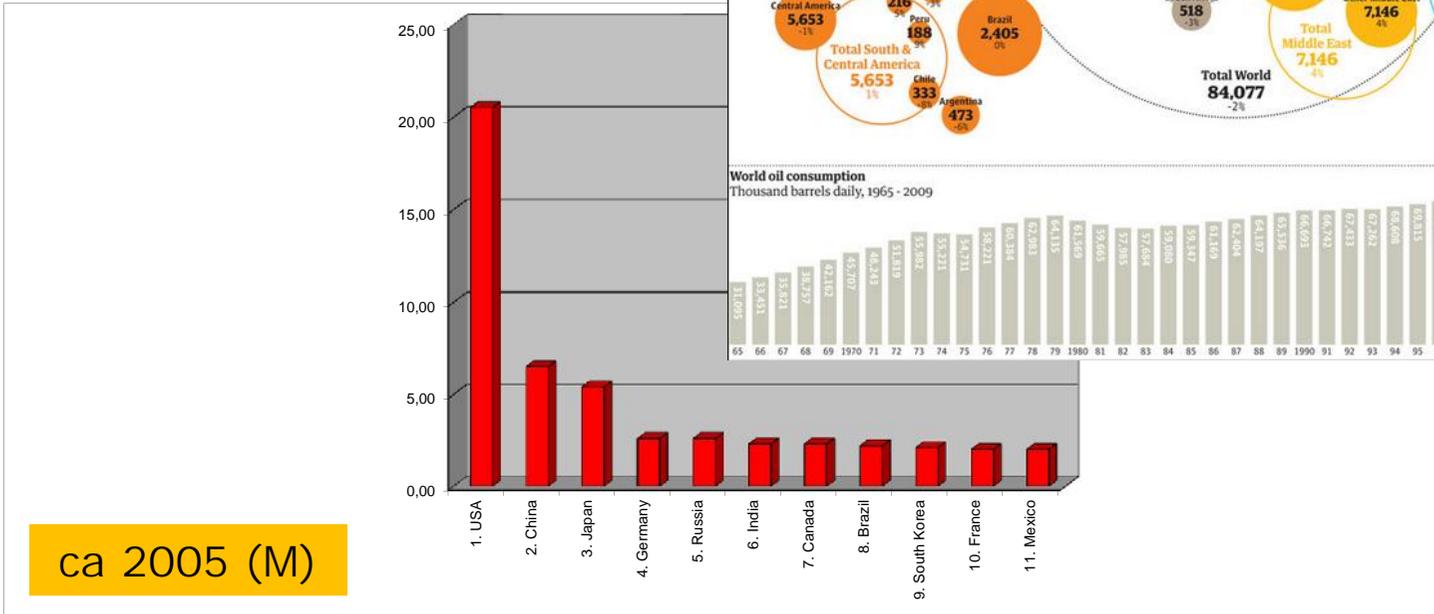
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ENI, World Oil and Gas Review 2007

Consumers (Bopd) – per Country



2009 (K)



ca 2005 (M)



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2008 Oil Reserves, Production And Consumption

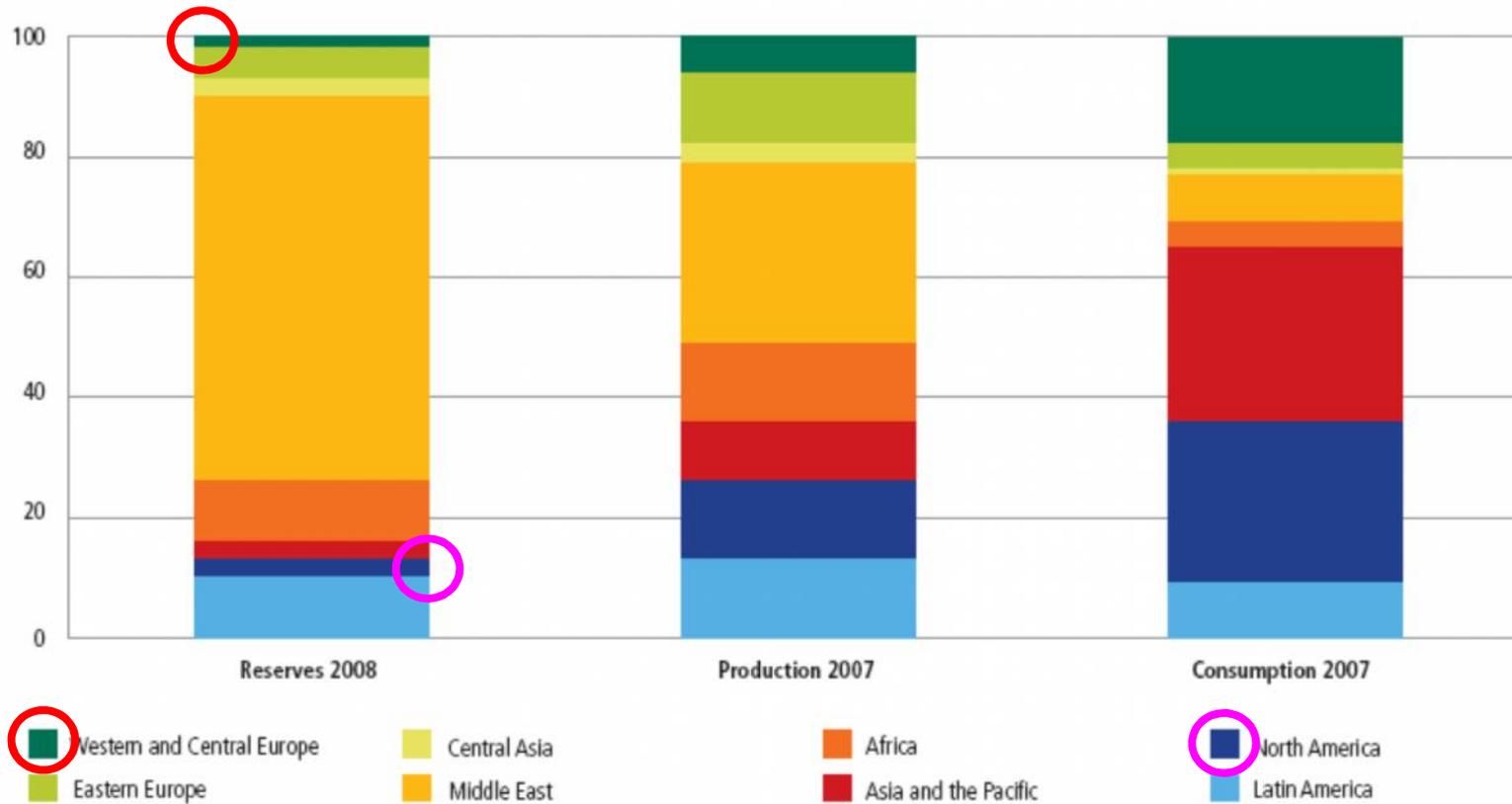
OIL IN THE WORLD

Reserves, production and consumption

(percentage)

Riserve, produzione e consumo

(valori percentuali)



ENI, World Oil and Gas Review 2008



2008 Natural Gas Reserves, Production And Consumption

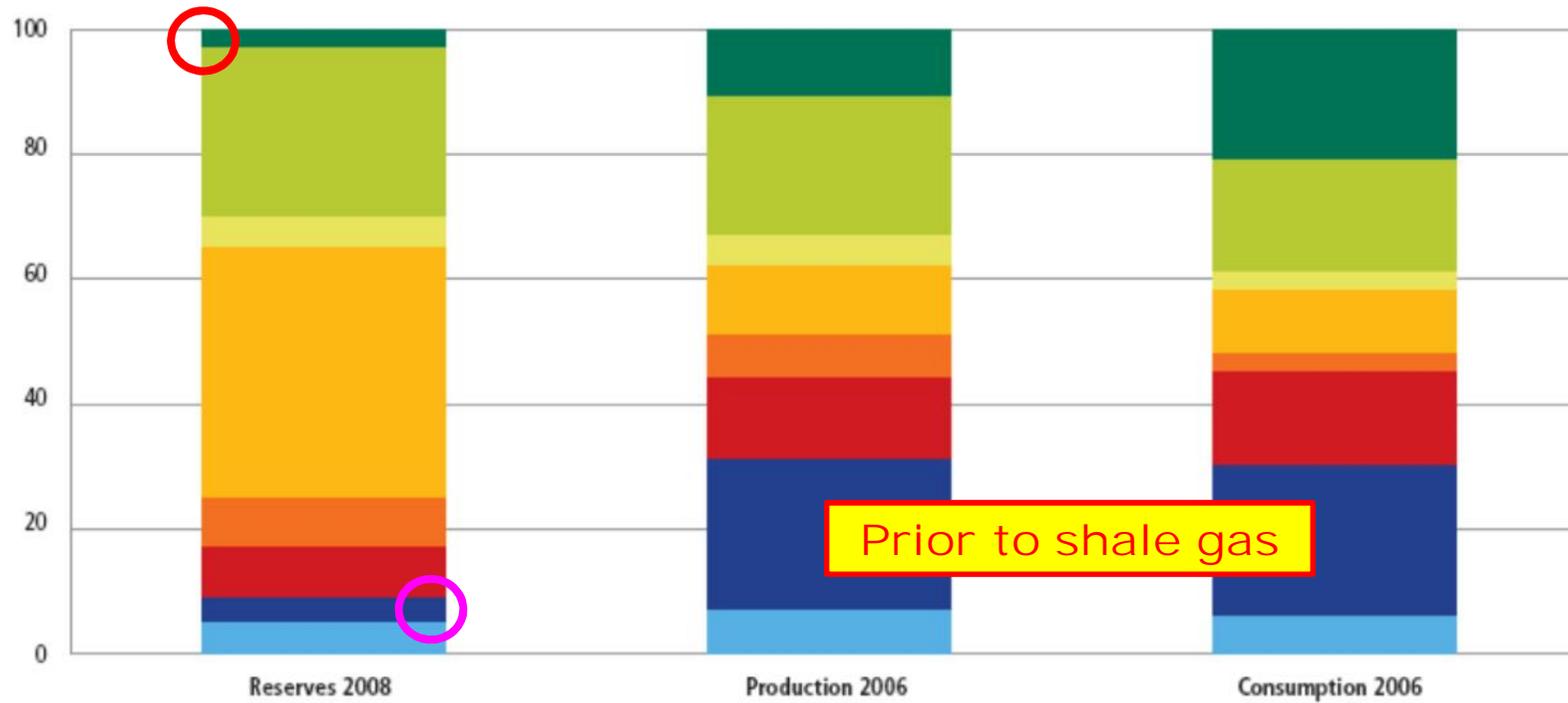
NATURAL GAS IN THE WORLD

Reserves, production and consumption

(percentage)

Riserve, produzione e consumo

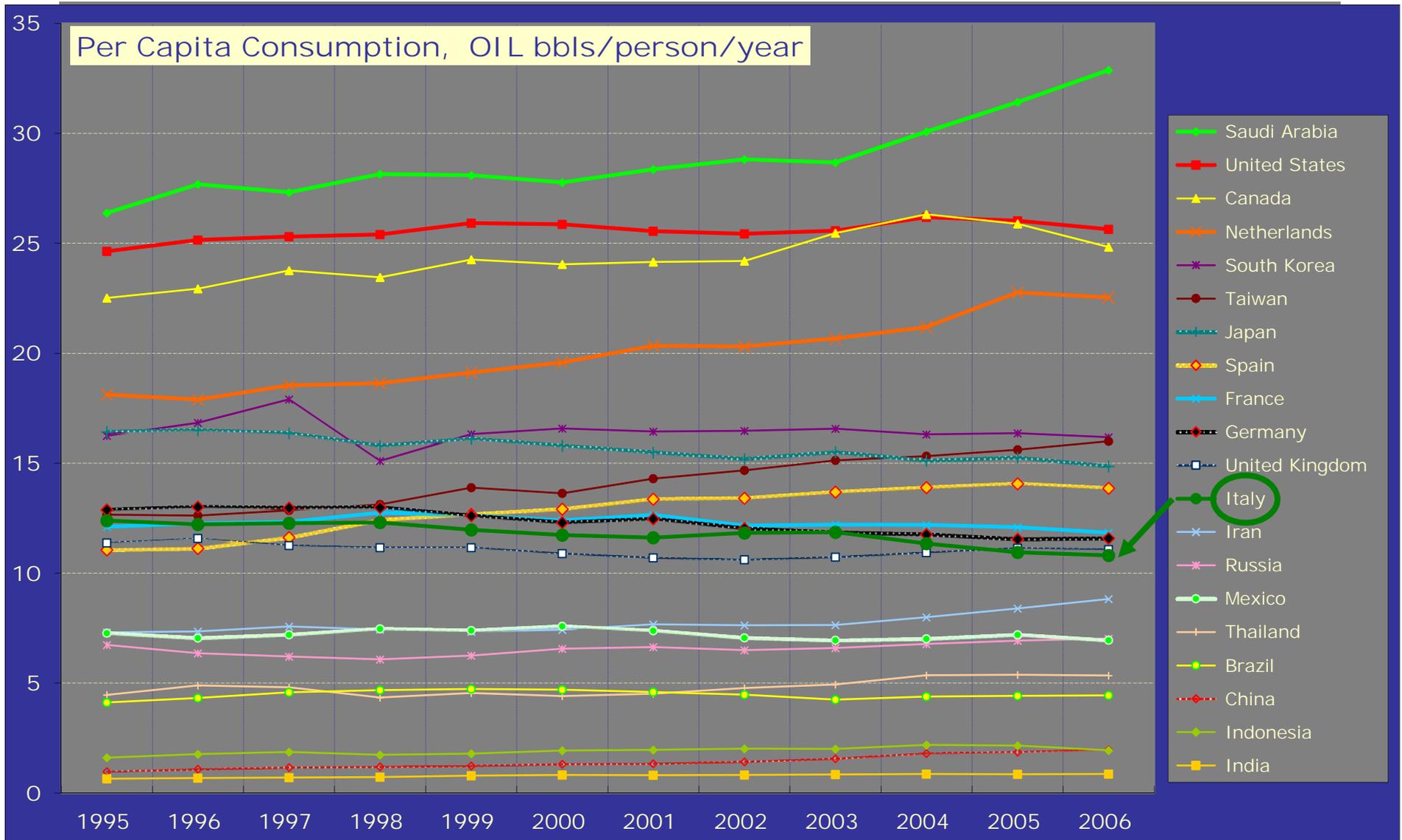
(valori percentuali)



ENI, World Oil and Gas Review 2008



Consumers



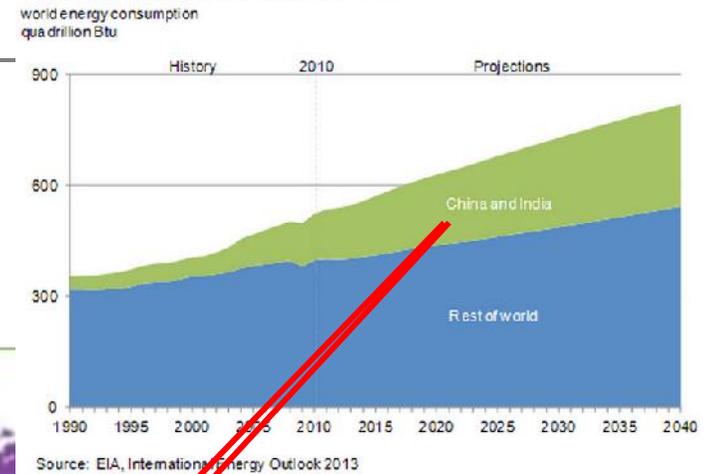
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Consumers – per Capita

Primary energy consumption per capita 2012 Tonnes oil equivalent



Figure 1. China and India account for half of the world increase in energy consumption through 2040



BP 2013



Consumption: Summary

- Each dweller of the Earth consumes 4.9 bo/year on average, but there are abyssal differences
 - 18.3 boe/yr in developed Countries vs 0.74 boe/yr in underdeveloped ones, 25 fold less.
- In detail, differences are greater:
 - In Nord America per capita consumption averaged 25.6 boe/yr in 2007
 - In 2007 US and Canadian citizens consumed twice as much as EU's, nearly 12 times as China's and 37 times as Nigeria's
- The world average pc consumption increased from 4.7 bo/yr in 2000 to 4.9 bo/yr in 2007.
- In developed Countries this indicator grew in developing Countries (from 2.0 boe/yr to 2.6 boe/yr in 2006) and remained stable in the richest and poorest Countries

ENI, World Oil and Gas Review 2008



- Prices



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Perugia, October 2016

Aurina Valley- Sud Tirol 44

Prices

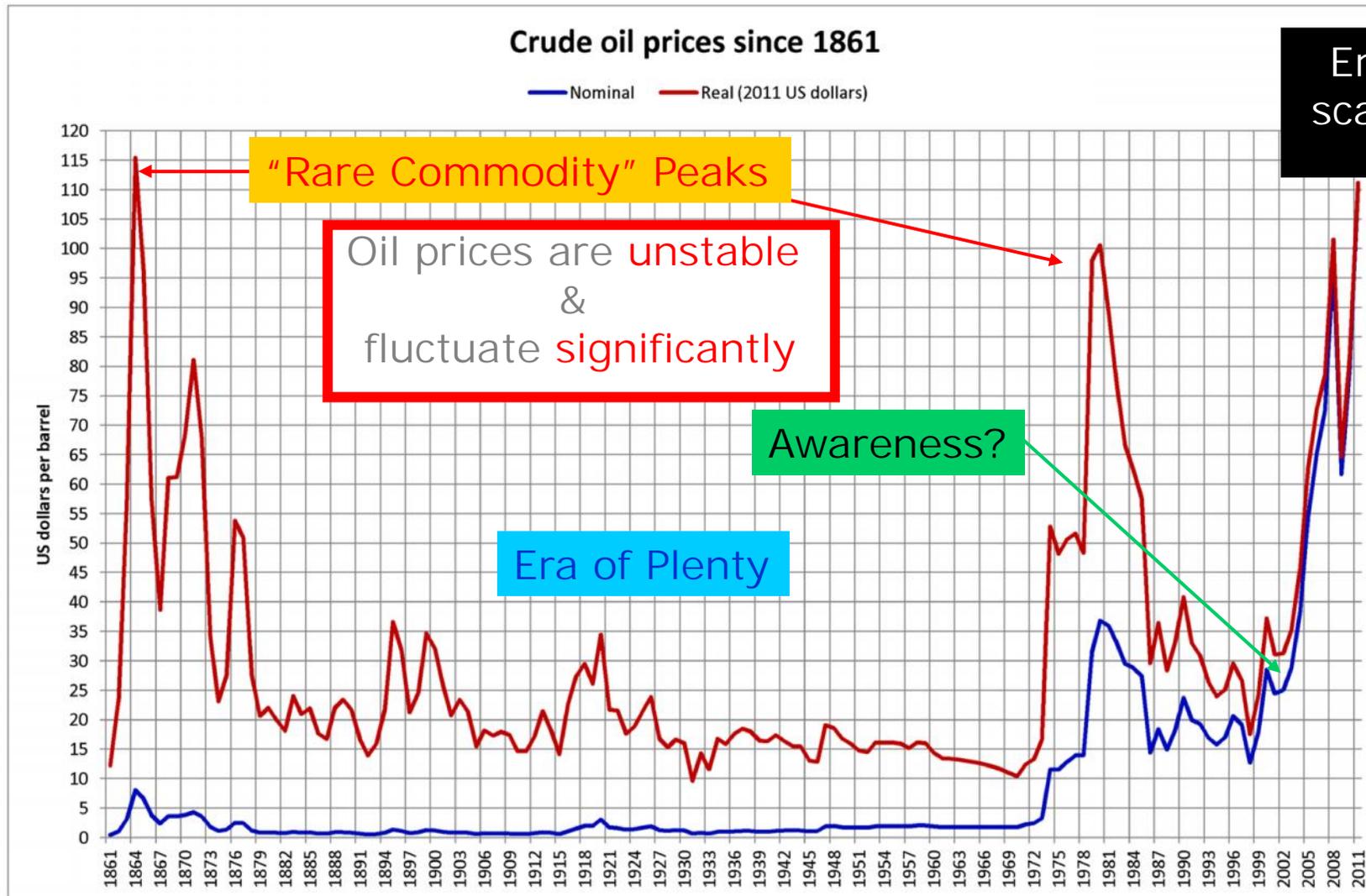
- Oil price is one of the most important factors in world economy
- Oil price certainly is the most important factor impacting on the Oil industry
- It determines capitalization, profits, finance availability (investments) and projects feasibility
- Ultimately, it affects the amount of available energy resources, as it

Defines Reserves

ENI, World Oil and Gas Review 2008



Prices (historical)



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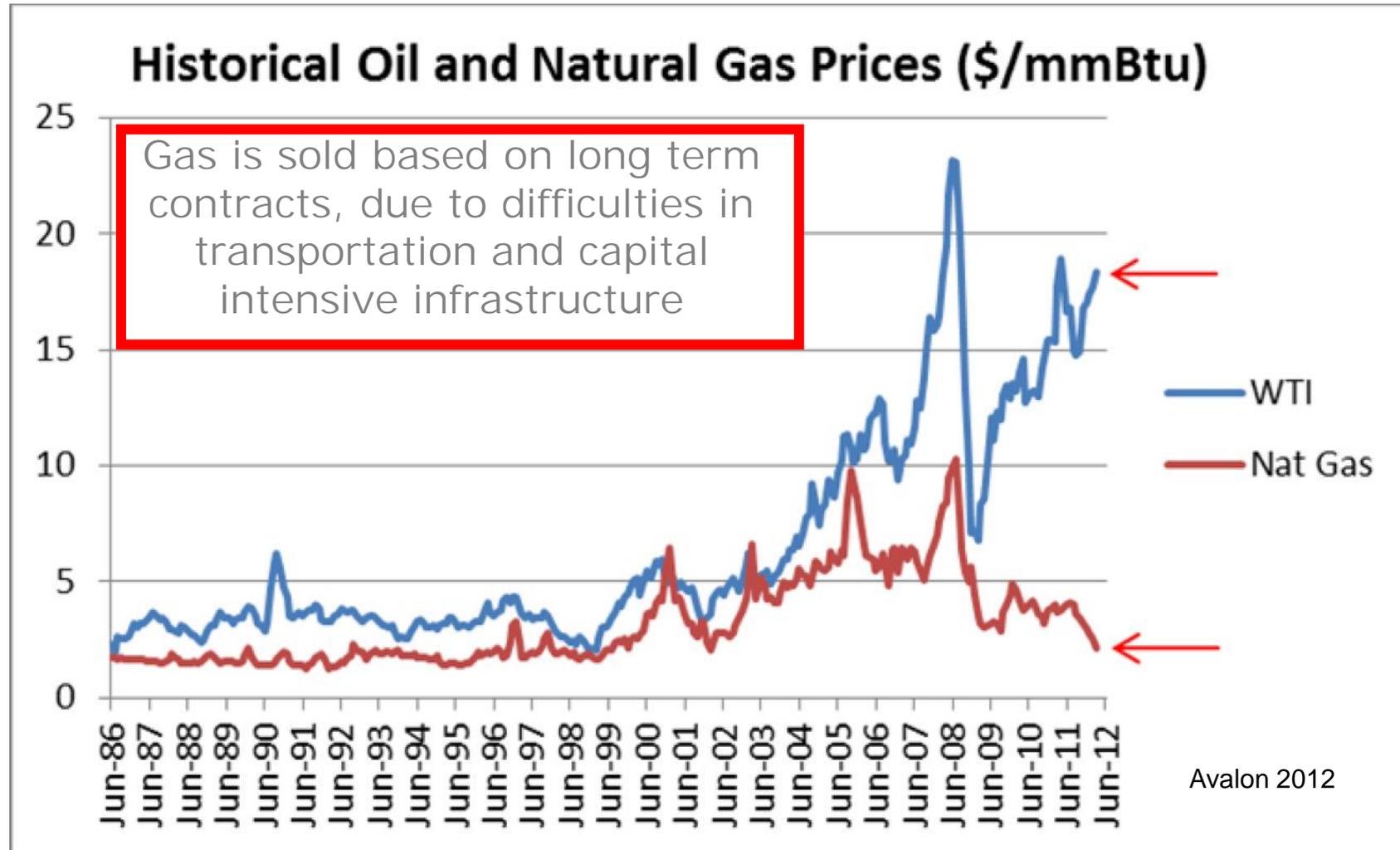
World Politics, Economy and Prices

Oil prices and political events are **not always** correlated. Speculation and commercial strategies **matter**.



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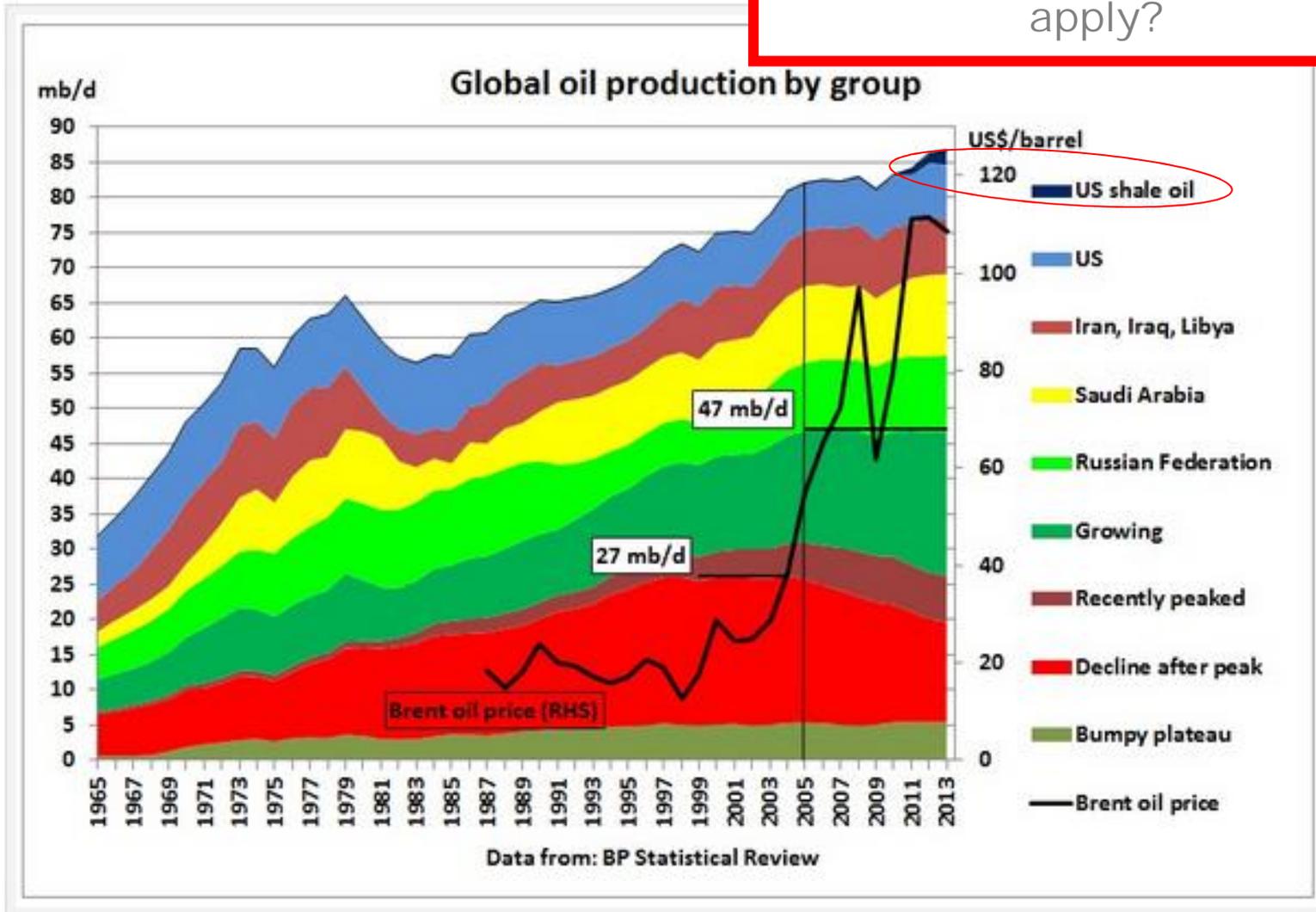
Oil and Gas Prices are Poorly Linked



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Production vs Price

Does the "Supply and demand" rule apply?

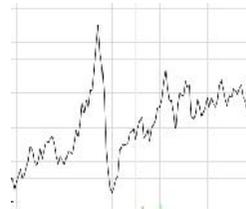


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Oil and Gas Journal

Perugia, October 2016

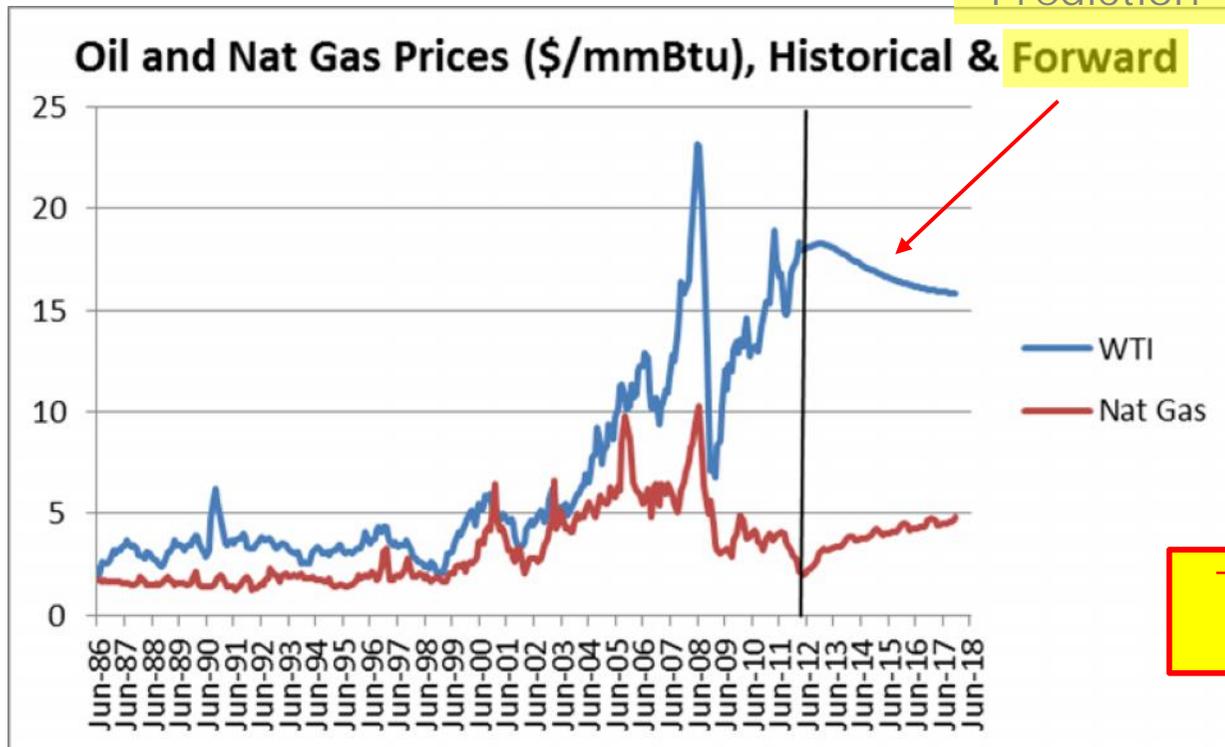
Are Long Term Prices Predictable?



Actual

Prediction

Forward



NO, contrary to industry needs.

Development of new fields takes years and requires huge investments (B\$).

Returns must be proportionate.

Planning is mandatory, difficult and much caution is required.

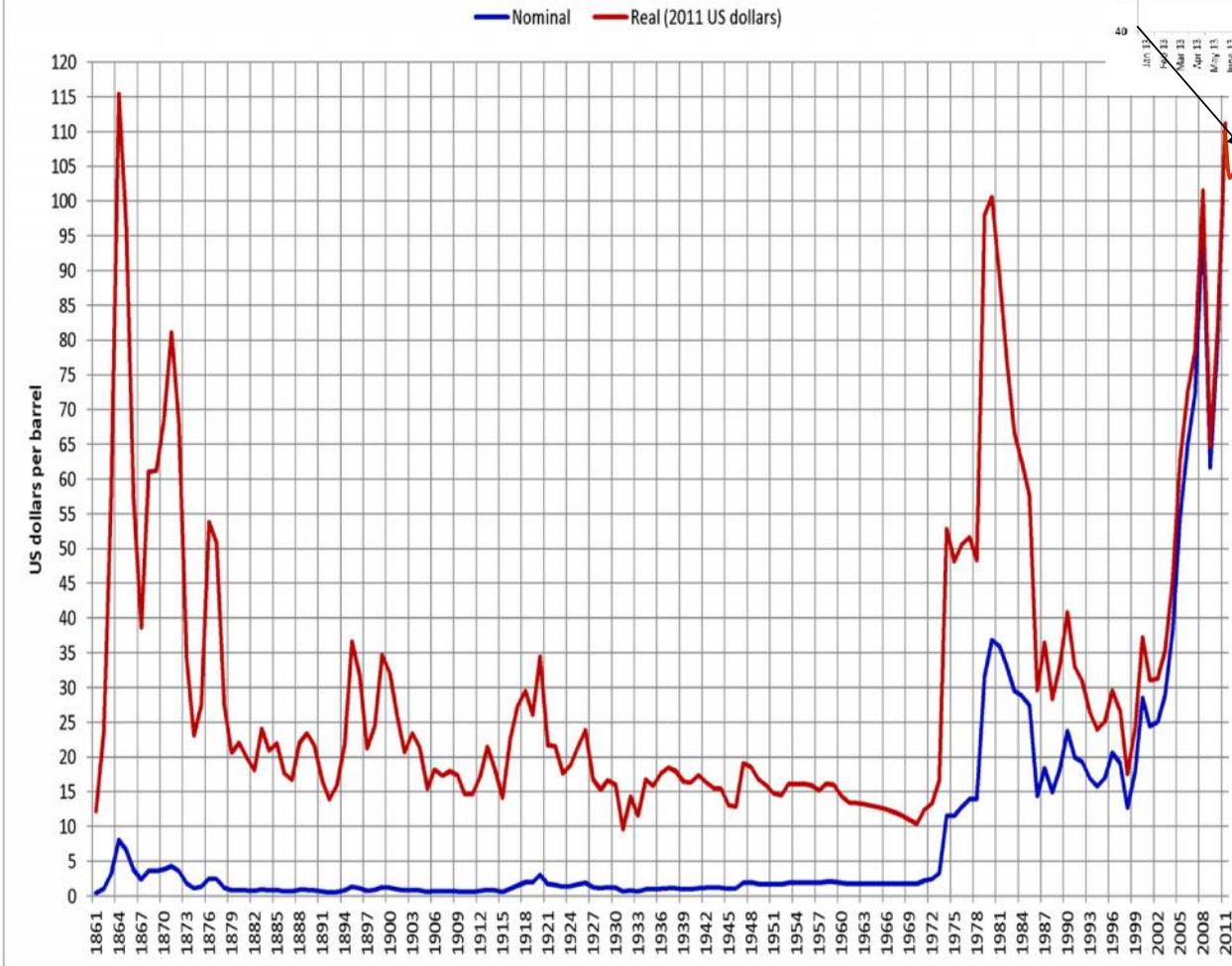
This graph was prepared for the 2014 seminar!



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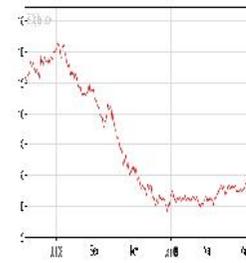
Today's Oil Prices

Crude oil prices since 1861



2012 prediction

Sept 2015

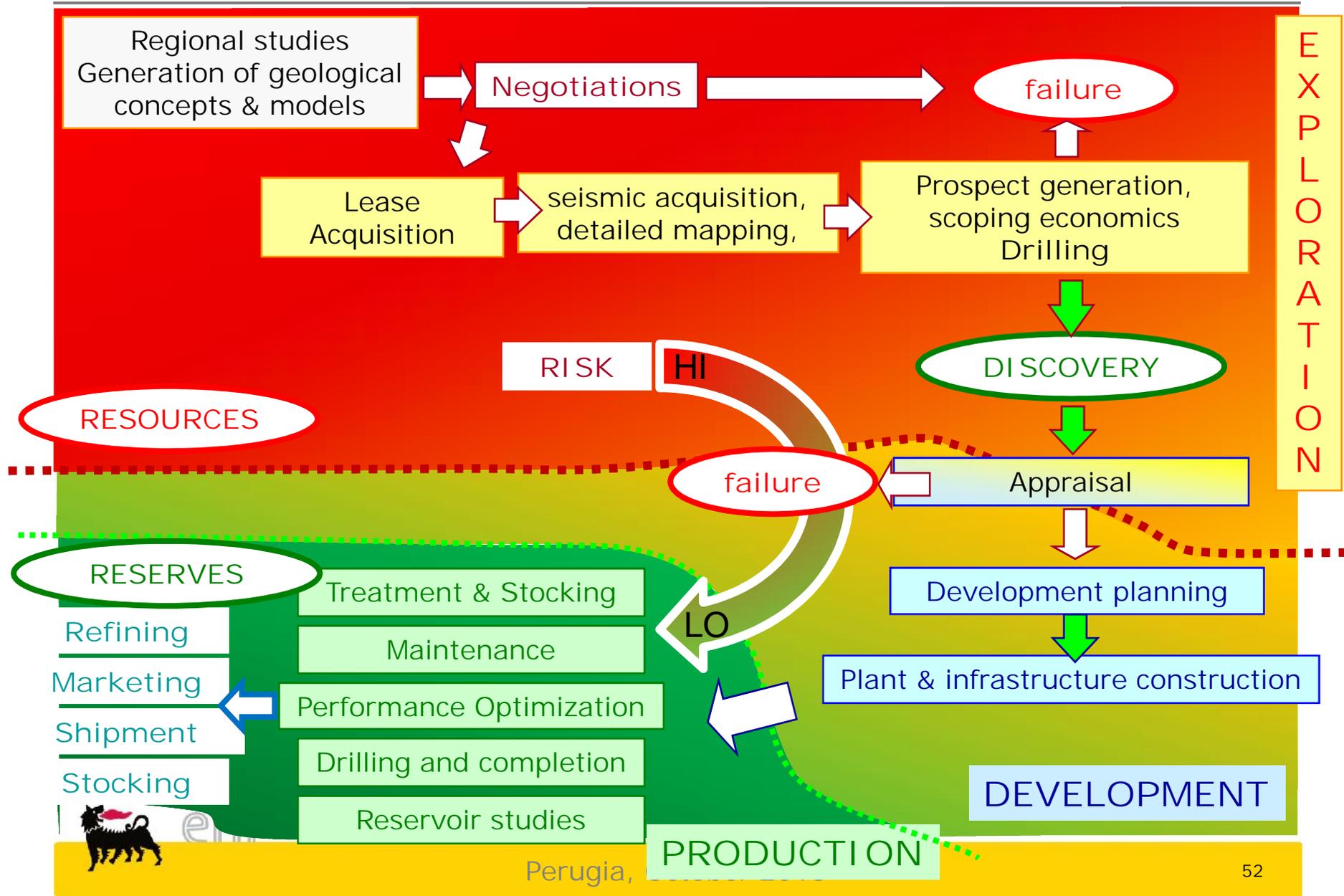


2008: 80% drop in 5 months



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Upstream vs Downstream Activities



- Petroleum legislation and licensing



The Oil Companies

- An “integrated” Oil Co:
 - Searches for new oil fields (“explores”)
 - Prepares discovered fields for exploitation (“develops”)
 - Extracts oil and gas from the subsurface (“produces”)
 - Processes crudes (“refines”)
 - Sells raw and refined products (“markets”)
- Not all Co’s are integrated
 - Some may just explore
 - Others mainly produce
- Major Co’s invest huge amounts of money in R&D to improve their performance and gain competitive edges
- Exploration, development and production are commonly referred to as “Upstream”
- Refining, petrochemistry and marketing are commonly referred to as “Downstream”
- Oil Co’s may be classified by size (Major, Independents...) or Capital (Public, State, Mixed)

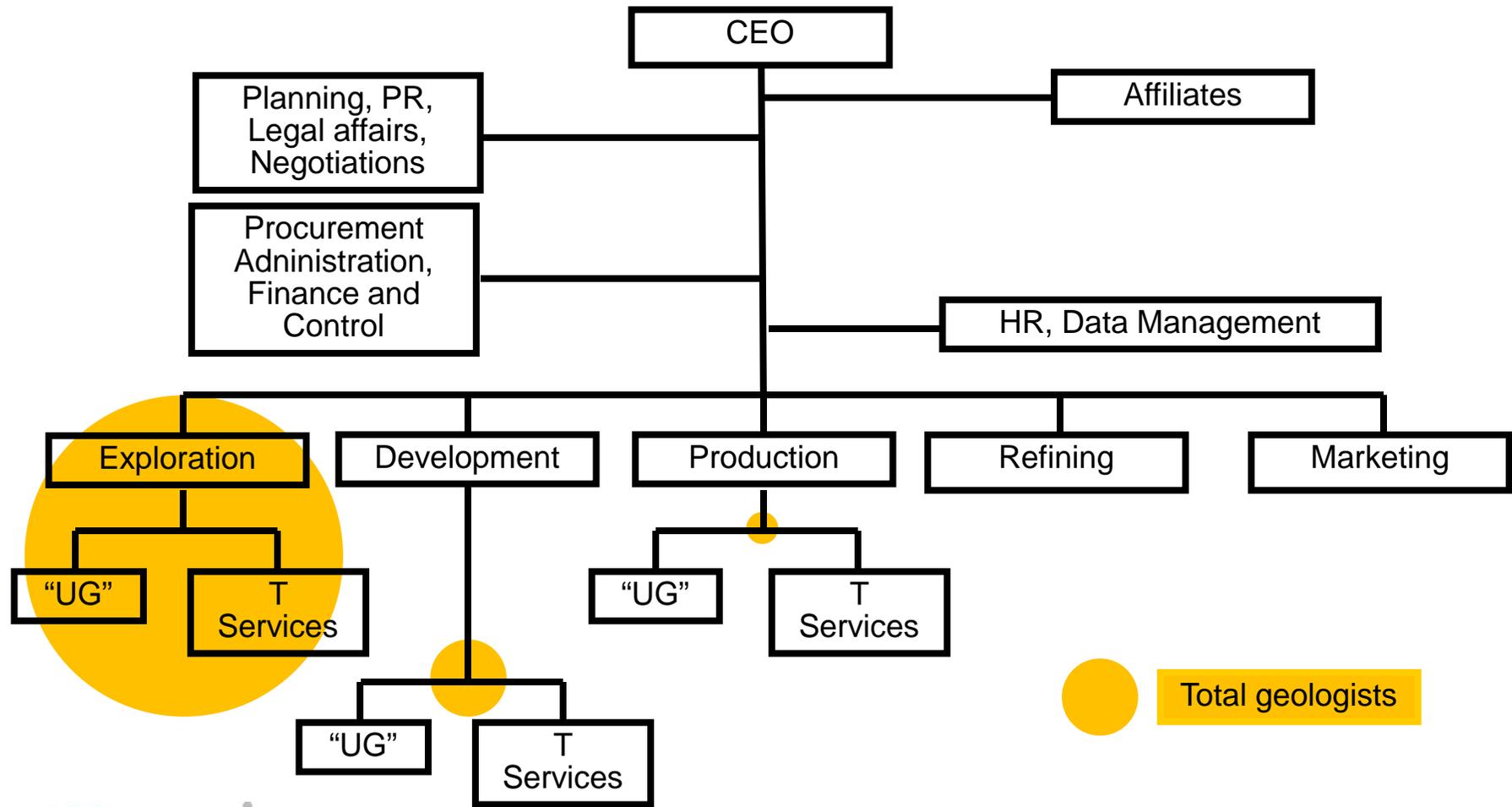


Contractors and Service Companies

- In the oil industry, many activities are “outsourced” to external contractors
- Typical examples are seismic acquisition and processing, drilling, logging, environmental studies but also petrology, log interpretation (petrophysic), geochemistry or stratigraphy may be outsourced
- Some contracting companies may be international industrial groups, larger than their clients (Halliburton, Schlumberger, Baker-Huges, Fugro-Robertson, Saipem, Transocean, etc.)
- Some companies carry out operations assistance (well site assistance), sampling
- Service companies collect upstream and downstream data and produce statistics and market analyses (IHSE; Wood-McEnzie)
- Other Companies (e.g. Neflex, Robertson, JMJ, ISIS ...) produce geological studies
- Many geologist (both junior and expert) are employed in all of the above



Organization Sketch of an Integrated Oil Company



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General Organization of an Exploration Division

- In most Co's, the "Exploration Division" is given the task of finding new resources, to enhance or keep the Company's value by replacing produced reserves and ...
- "Finding" can sometimes mean "buying" known resources
- Resources may be searched for in licensed areas (defined exploration) or in open areas and acreage controlled by competitors (new ventures)
- Exploration is mainly carried out in town offices (HQ-based or overseas) but activities in labs, drilling sites, offshore platforms are also common (and in the field, now rarely)



What does “Exploration” Mean?

- “Exploration” is a set of coordinated activities that stems out of different disciplines, sciences and technologies - not only geology – aiming at discovering new oil and gas volumes that could be exploited in a “reasonable” future with an economic return
- To explore, one needs to understand and carefully map the present day subsurface structure of an area, understand its evolution in time, locate the areas where HC’s may be generated, locate and accurately map the structures in which they may be preserved, estimate their volumes, evaluate the chances that our prediction have to be correct...
- ... in order to estimate their potential economic returns and allow to objectively evaluate the soundness (and the probability of success) huge money and resource investments needed to drill exploratory wells (the ultimate way to discover oil and gas)



What does “Exploration” Mean?

- Exploring does not only mean “studying” a certain area
 - It also means acquire and manage data
 - Geological surveys, sampling campaigns
 - Design and acquisition of geophysical surveys
 - Seismic data processing
 - Well data
 - Laboratory studies
 - Seeps, remote sensing
 - Managing contracts
 - It is also about obtaining and keeping titles in good standing, hence
 - Relate with Governments and Agencies
 - Negotiate and deal with other Companies
 - Strategic planning
 - Market studies
 - Understand the operating geopolitical and economic environment
- ... hence interact with complex realities that may be culturally very far from our common background of “geologists”



From Another Point of View ...

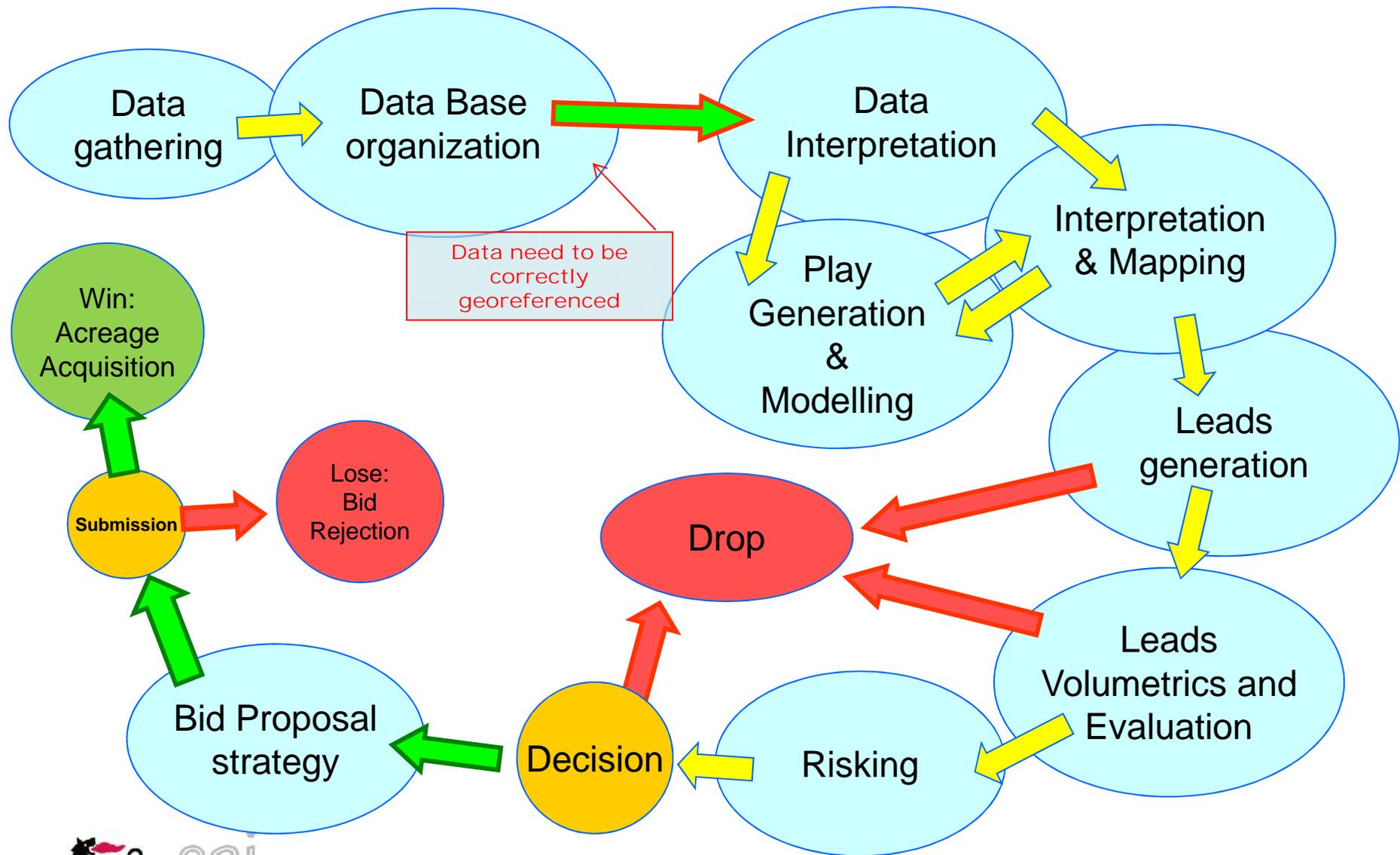
- Within the oil industry, it least capital intensive activity (if compared to development and production) but nevertheless it requires investments in the order of tens to hundreds M\$...
- ... but it is the riskiest of all, more prone to failure than success, for which it is more difficult to access the necessary finance
- It is a cyclic activity, subject to market (price) fluctuations
- It is not pure science but a practical activity founded on science, the results of which are largely dependent on the \$ invested
- In the medium-long term it is an absolutely necessary activity with no valid substitutes



- The exploration and production industry cycle

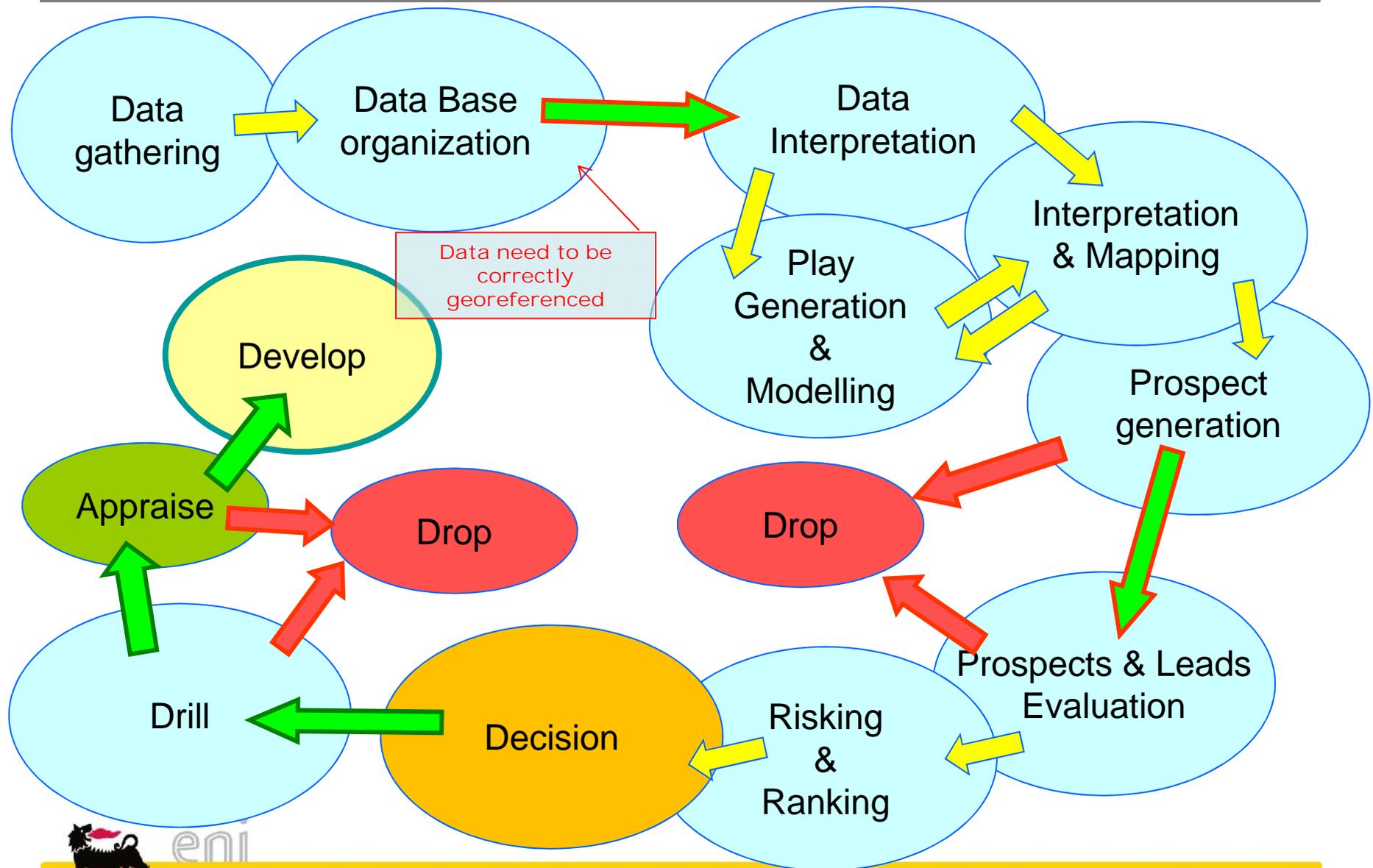


Work Cycle (New Venture- licence acquisition)



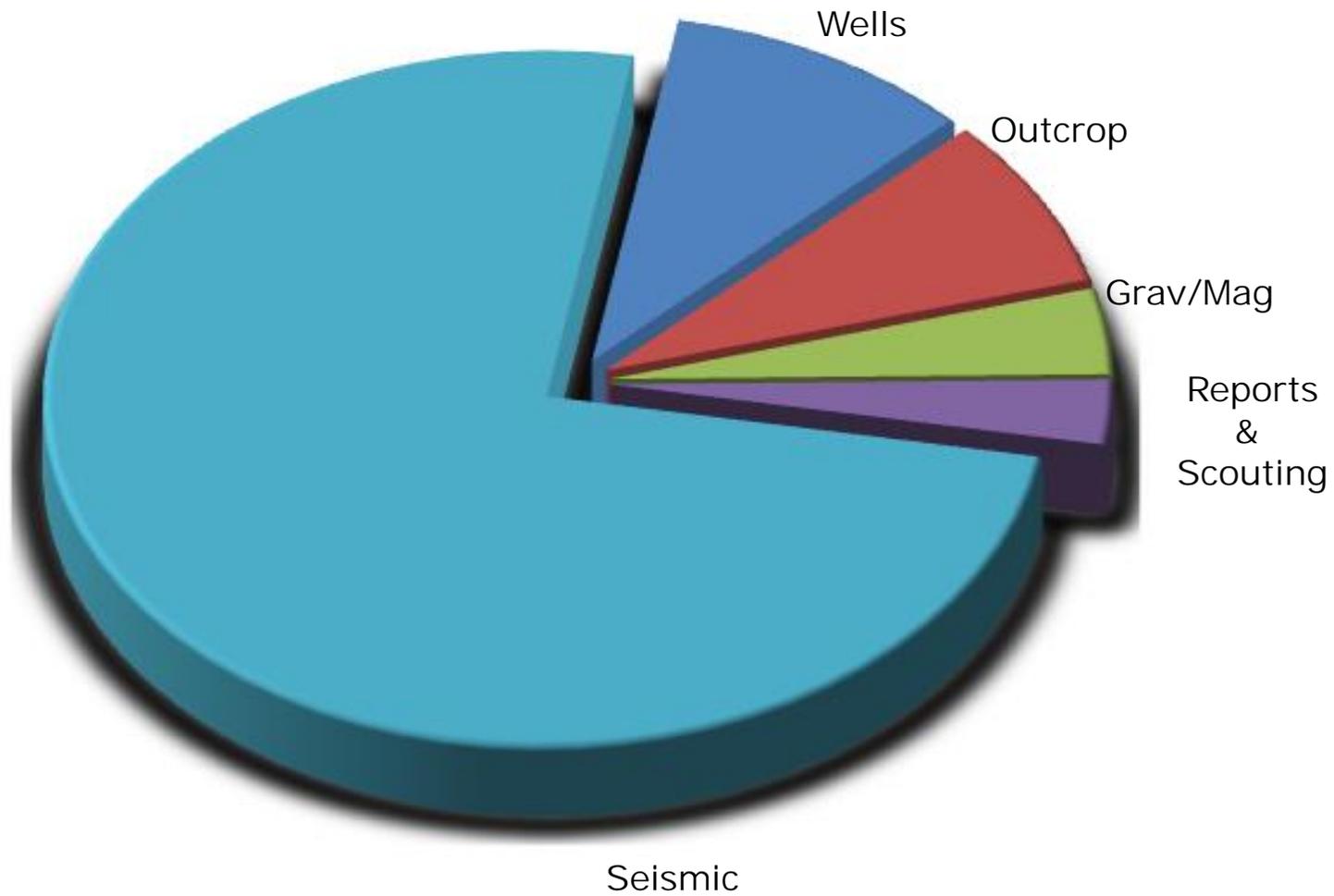
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Work Cycle (Defined Exploration – Licence Life)



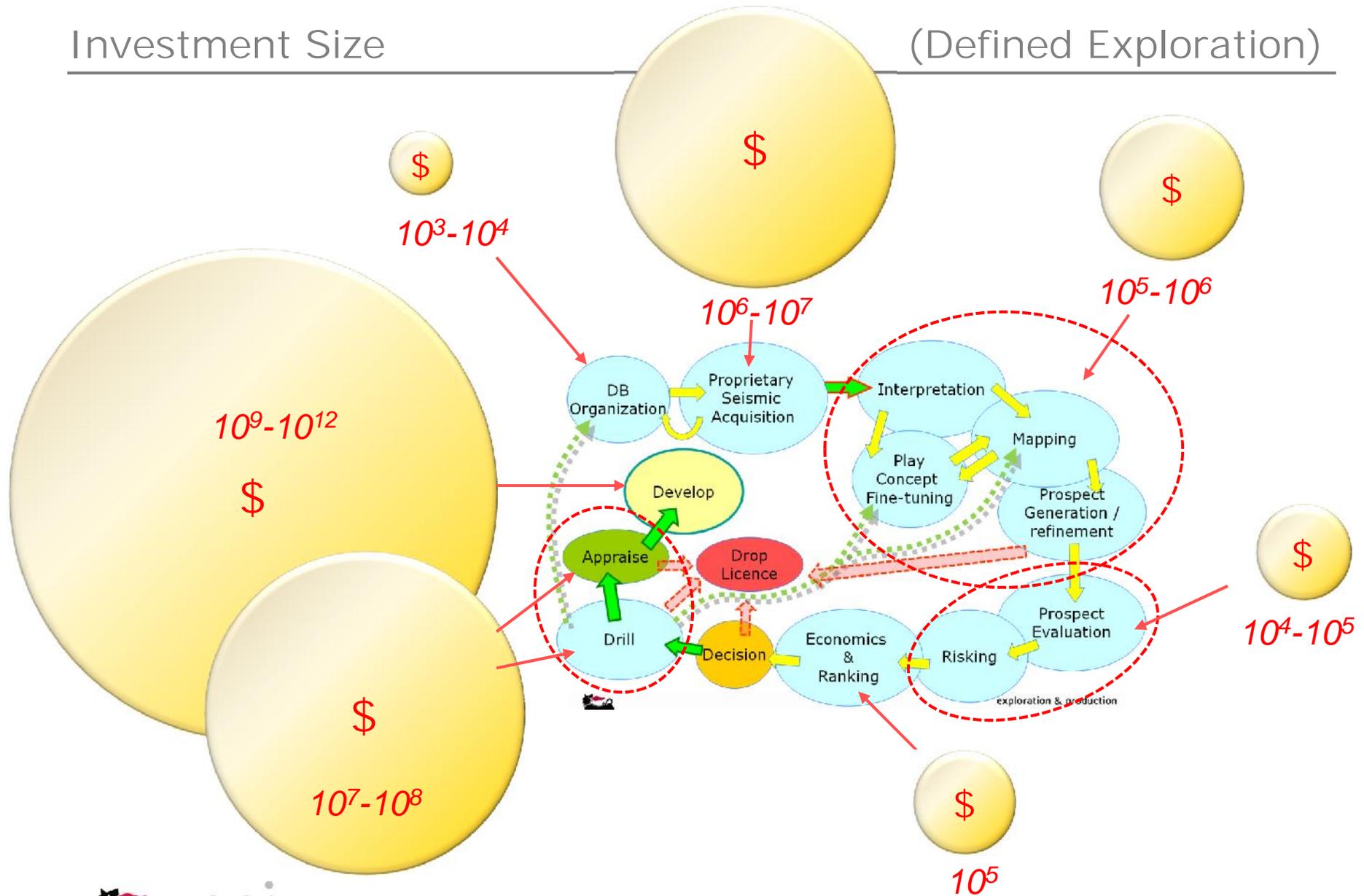
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Weight of tool (Prospect Generation)



Investment Size

(Defined Exploration)



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