

# **Overview of Petroleum Recovery Methods**

**József Pápay**

**Visegrád. 2014.11.20**  
**SPE Hungarian Section**



# **Innovative Applications For Stranded Barrels of Oil Conference**

**Visegrád, 20 November 2014**

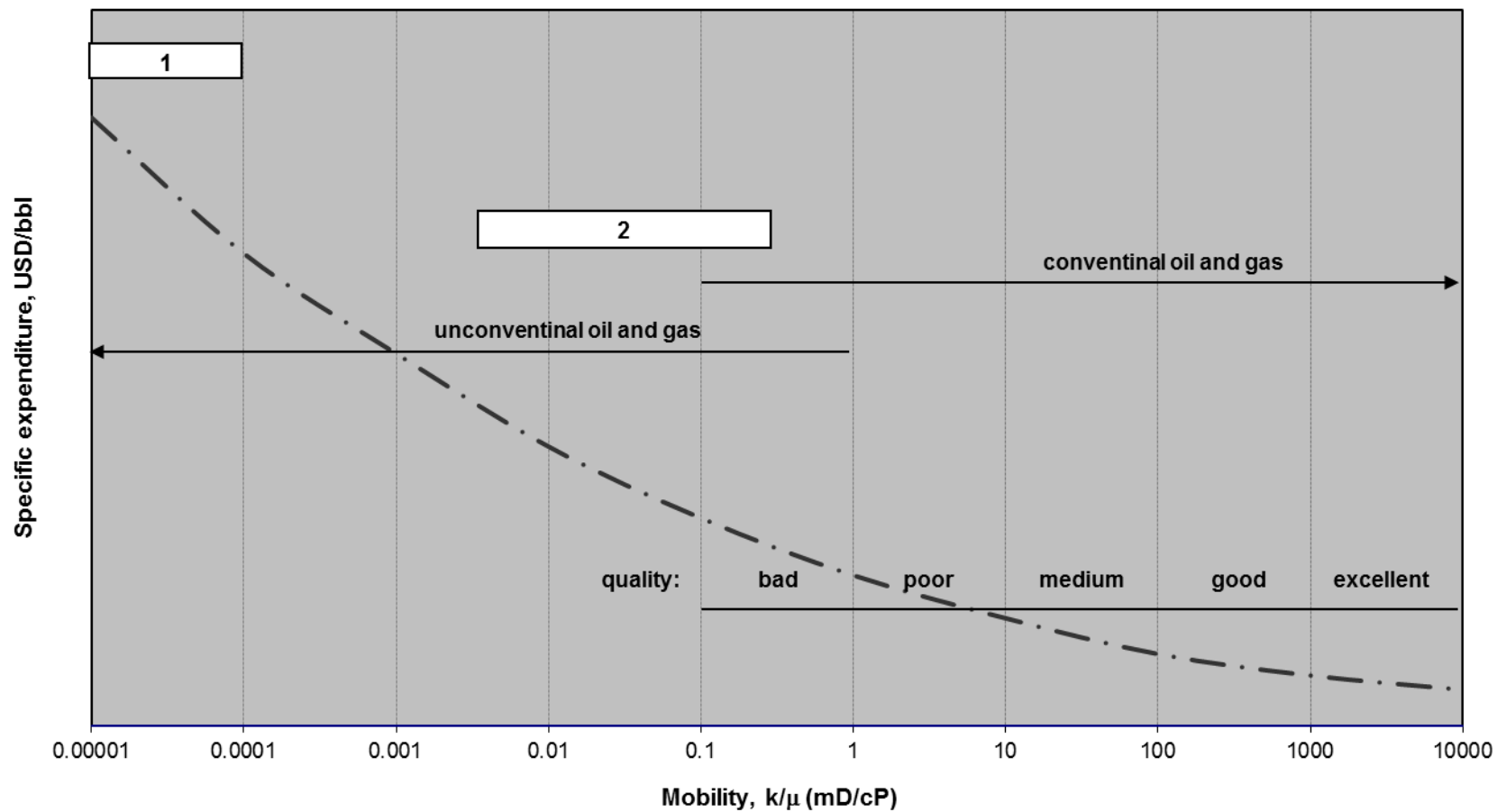
**Society of Petroleum Engineers**

# Presentation is based on:

- Pápay J.:2003. Development of Petroleum Reservoirs -Theory and Practice. Hungary. Akadémiai Kiadó. Pp.(1-940). [www.akademiaikiado.hu](http://www.akademiaikiado.hu)
- Pápay J.:2013. Exploitation of Unconventional Petroleum Accumulations -Theory and Practice. Hungary. Akadémiai Kiadó.Pp(1-361). [www.akademiaikiado.hu](http://www.akademiaikiado.hu)
- Pápay J.:2015. Exploitation of Tight Oil Plays. (Manuscript-under publication).
- IEA (International Energy Agency) Data
- EIA-USA (Energy Information Administration) Data

# Content

- **Classification of petroleum from aspects of recovery**
- **Recovery methods of conventional petroleum**
- **Recovery methods of unconventional petroleum**
- **Recovery factors, estimated recoverable reserves and costs**
- **Predicted US production**
- **Conclusions**



Note: ① - oil shale  
- gashydrate

② - oil sand  
- CBM  
- tight gas and oil  
- shale gas

Relation of mobility and cost

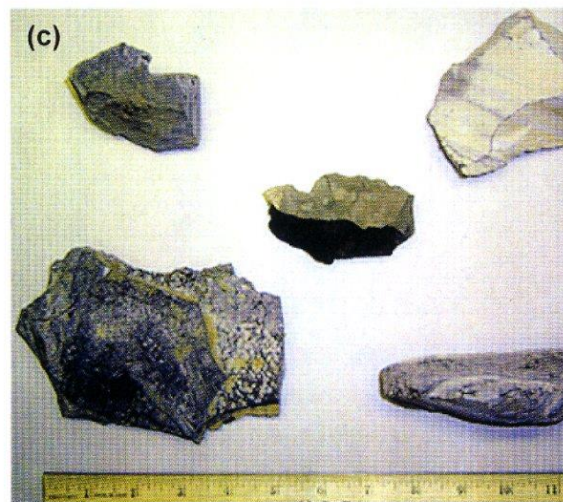
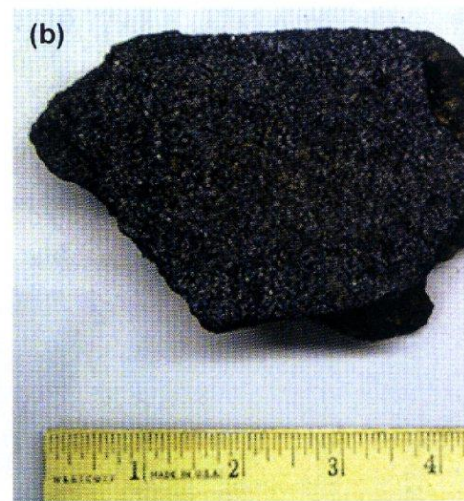
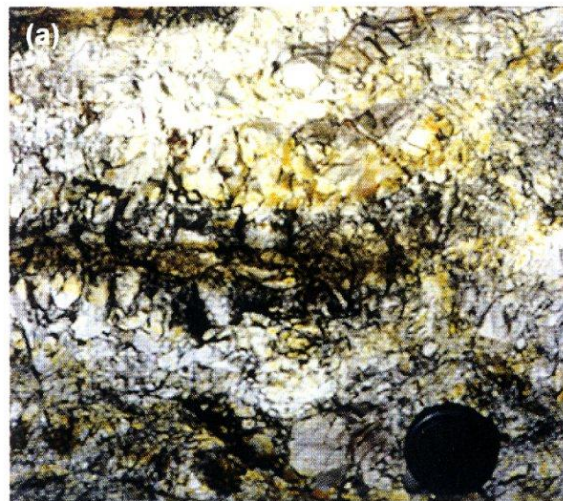
Pápay J.-2008-14

Figure 1



*Figure 1.2. Conventional reservoir rocks and fluids*





*Figure 1.3. Unconventional reservoir rocks and fluids*



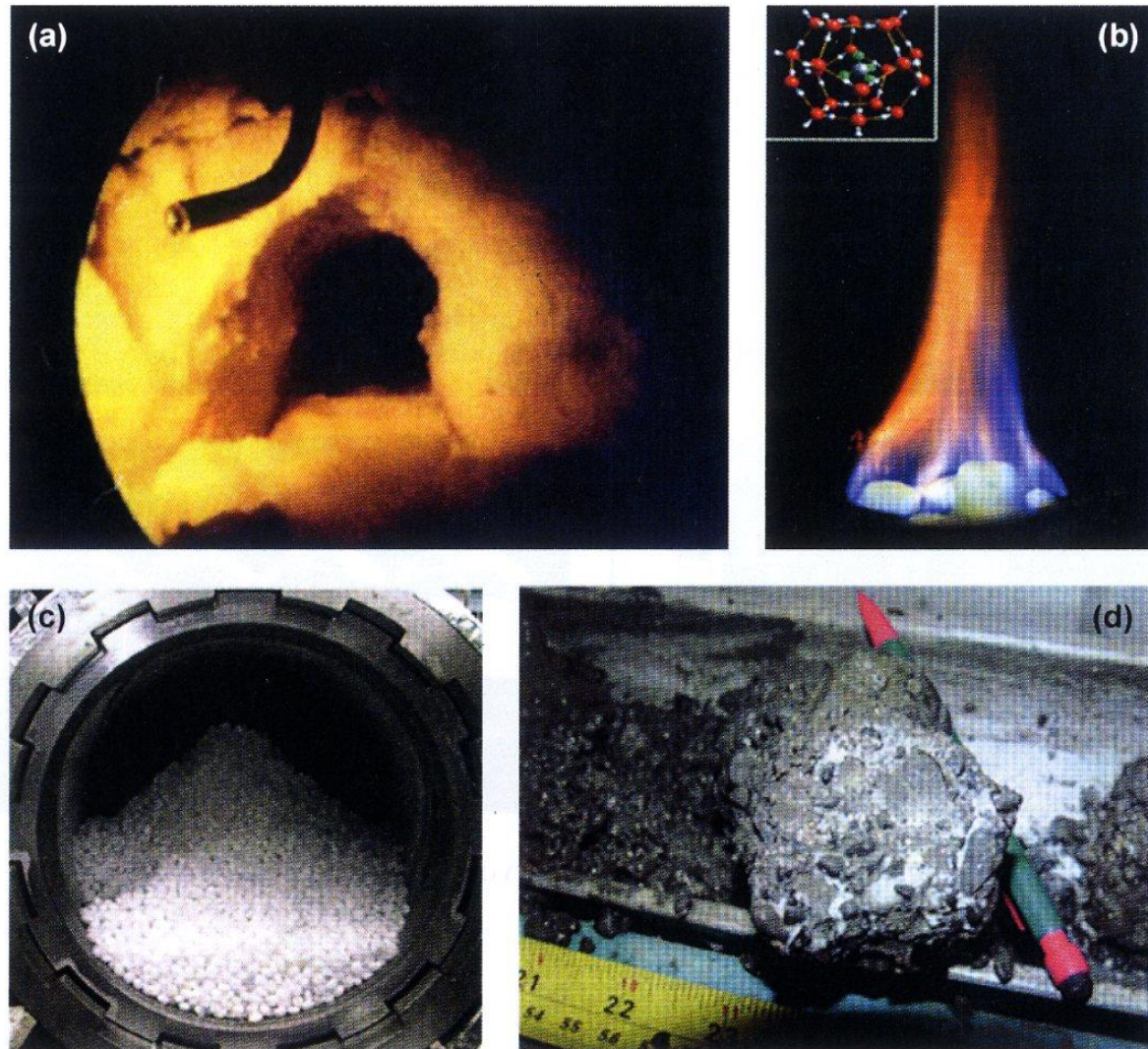


Figure 1.4. Unconventional gas: Hydrate



## Comparition of conventional and unconventional resources - driving mechanisms-

No	Parameters	Convention.		Unconventional						
		oil	gas	oil			gas			
				oil sand	oil shale	tight oil	CBM	tight gas sand	shale gas	hydrate
1	permeability k(p)	- ?	- ?	- ?	+?	++	++	++	++	-
2	viscosity	+	-	++	+	+?	-	-	-	++ (-)
3	mobility	+	+?	++	++	++	++	++	++	++
4	gravity (buoyancy)			- ?	-	-?	+	-	-	-
		++	++	(+)	(+?)	(+?)	(+)**	(-?)	(-?)	(++)
5	relative perm. (multiphase)			+?	-?	+?	-	-	-	-
		++	++	(++)	(++)	+	(+)	(+?)	(+?)	(++)
6	capillarity				-?	+?	-	++	++	-
		+	+	+?	(+)	(+)	(+?)	(++)	(++)	(+)
7	rock compres.				-	+?	-?	+	+	-
		-	-	-	(+)	+	(+)	(+)	(+)	(-)
8	turbulence flow				no flow	+	+?	+	+	no flow
		-	+?	-	(+?)	+?	(+?)	(+)	(+)	(-?)
9	Darcy flow			+?	-	+?	+?	-	-?	-
		+	+	+	+	+	+ -	+ -	+ -	+
10	hydrodynam				-?	+?	+	-	-	-
		+	+	+?	(-)	(-)	(+)	(-)	(-)	(-?)
11	material bal. equation			-	-	-	+	-	-	-
		+	+	(-)	(-)	(-)	(+)	(-)	(-)	(-)
12	adsorption	-	-	-	-	-	++	-	+	-
	drainage area	L	LL	SS S	SSSS SS	SSSS SS	S L	SS S	SSS SS	SSSS SS

Note : \* : original state; \*\* : improved state; - : not; +: yes; -?: probably not;  
+?: probably yes; L: large; S: small

# Content

- **Classification of petroleum from aspects of recovery**
- **Recovery methods of conventional petroleum**
- **Recovery methods of unconventional petroleum**
- **Recovery factors, estimated recoverable reserves and costs**
- **Predicted US production**
- **Conclusions**

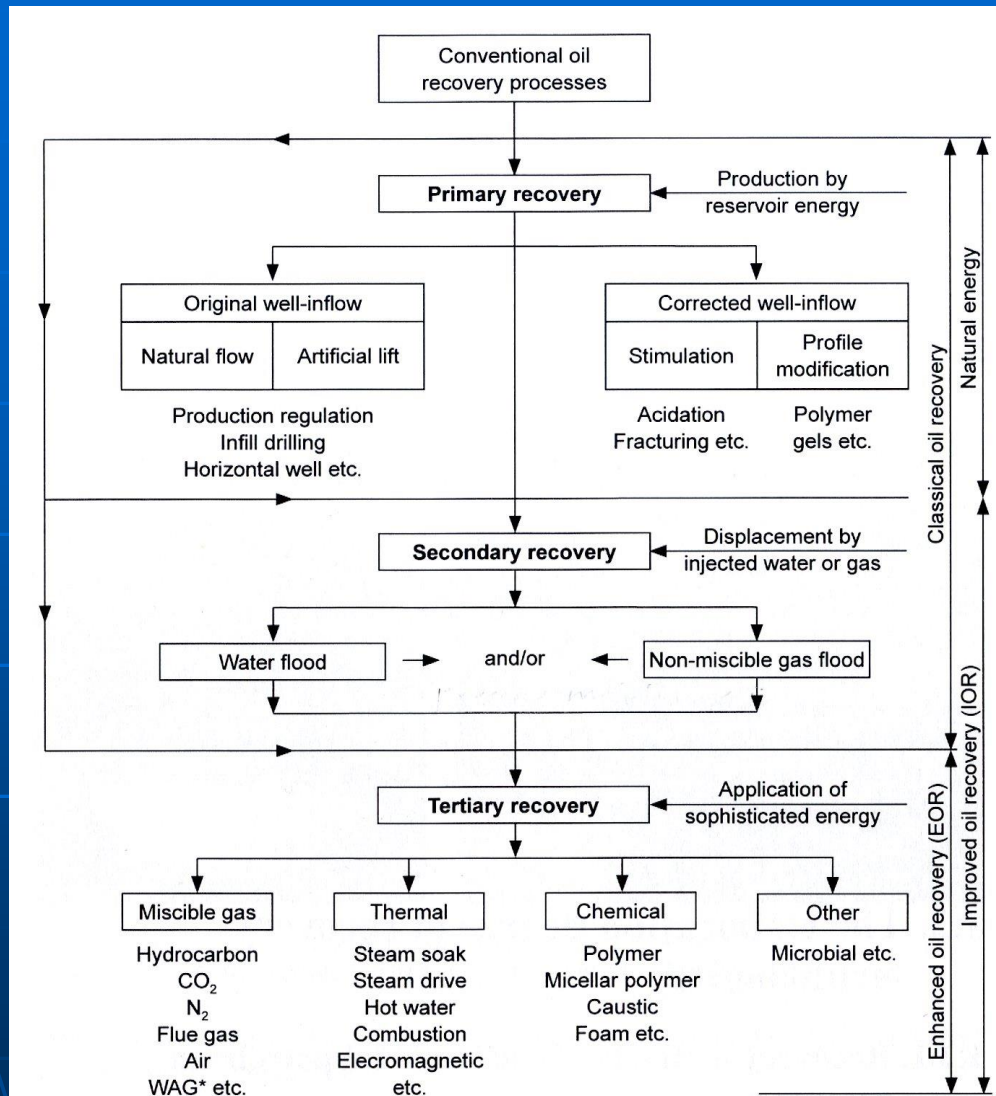


Figure 1.5. Classification of conventional oil recovery processes  
(Source: Pápay J. 2003)



Table 1.3. Screening of conventional oil recovery methods  
(Source: Pápay J. 2005)

Recovery method	Type of rock	S <sub>0</sub> [–]	K [mD]	Depth			Oil viscosity [cP]
				H [ft]	Pr [bar]	Tr [°F]	
Natural depletion (primary)							
Using reservoir energy	NC	> 0.4–0.5	> 0.1–1	NC	NC	NC	< 300 (< 10)
Pressure maintenance (secondary)							
Pressure maintenance with injection of non-miscible fluids	NC	> 0.5–0.6 (0.7–0.8)	> 0.1–1 (> 10)	NC	NC	NC	< 300 (< 10)
Enhanced oil recovery (tertiary – EOR)							
Gas miscible flooding							
First contact (C <sub>3</sub> –C <sub>4</sub> )	(NC)***	> 0.3 (0.7–0.8) [0.8]	> 0.1–1 (> 10)	(NC)	>100	(NC)	< 5 (< 0.5) [0.2]
Multiple contact condensation (C <sub>1</sub> –C <sub>2</sub> –C <sub>3</sub> –C <sub>4</sub> )	NC****	> 0.3 (0.7–0.8) [0.75]	> 0.1–1 (> 10)	(NC)	>150	(NC)	< 5 (< 0.5) [0.5]
Multiple contact vaporization (CO <sub>2</sub> )	NC	> 0.3 (0.7–0.8) [0.55]	> 0.1–1 (> 10)	(NC)	>180	(NC)	< 10 (< 1) [1.5]
Multiple contact vaporization (C <sub>1</sub> , N <sub>2</sub> , flue gas)	NC	> 0.3 (0.7–0.8) [0.75]	> 0.1–1 (> 10)	(NC)	>300	(NC)	< 5 (< 0.5) [0.2]
Thermal flooding							
Steam flooding**	High-porosity sand, sandstone	> 0.4 (0.7–0.8) [0.72]	> 200 (> 1000) [2540]	< 4500 (400–4500) [1500]		NC	< 200 000 > 150 (100–10 000) [4700]
In situ combustion**	High-porosity sand, sandstone	> 0.5 (0.7–0.8) [0.66]	> 200 (> 500)	< 11 500 [3500]		> 100 [135]	< 1000 (10–1000) [1200]
Chemical flooding							
Polymer	Sandstone	> 0.5 [0.80]	> 20 [800]	(NC)	(NC)	< 200 [123]	< 150 > 10 (1*–150) [85]
Micellar polymer	Sandstone	> 0.35 [0.53]	> 20 [450]	(NC)	(NC)	< 175 [95]	< 35 [6]
Caustic	Sandstone	> 0.35 [0.53]	> 20 [450]	(NC)	(NC)	< 200	< 200 [15.5]

Notes: ( ) favorable parameters

[ ] average at present application

\* if the target is “only” to make the reservoir homogenous

\*\* minimum reservoir thickness for steam > 20 ft, for combustion > 10 ft

\*\*\* not very critical

\*\*\*\* not critical

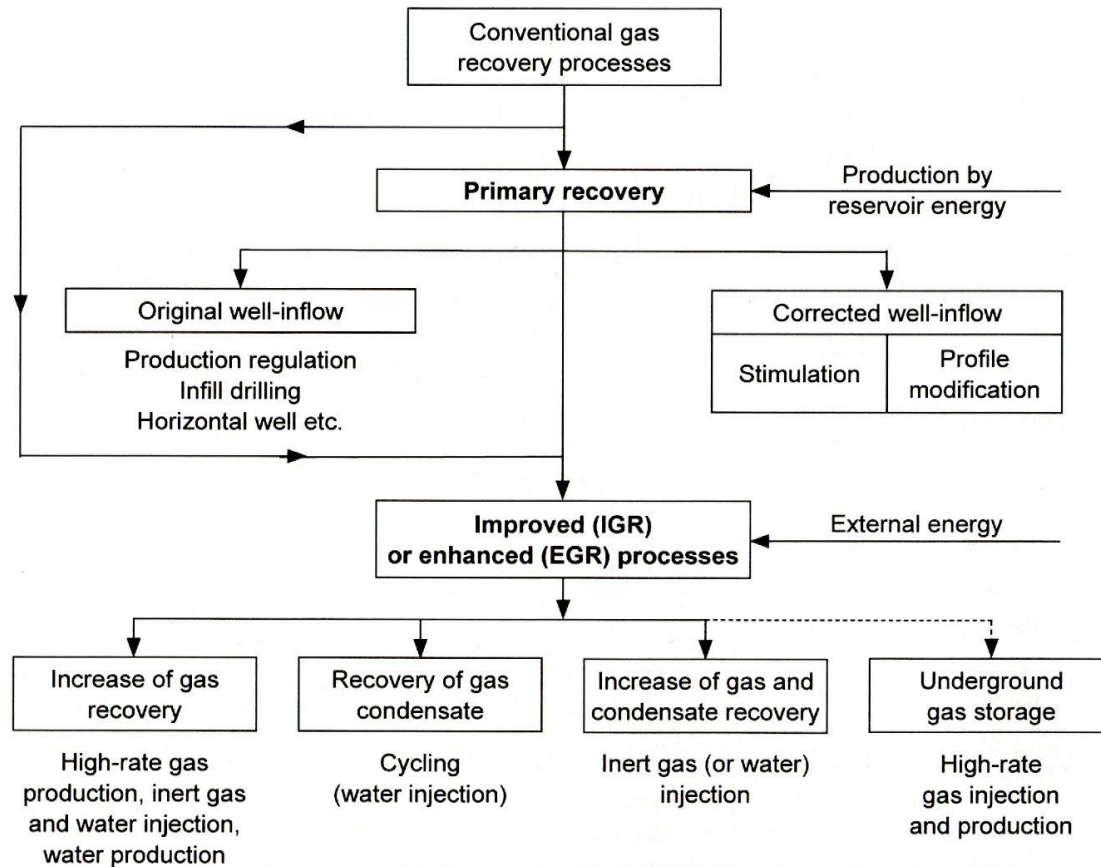


Figure 1.6. Classification of conventional gas recovery processes  
(Source: Pápay J. 2003)

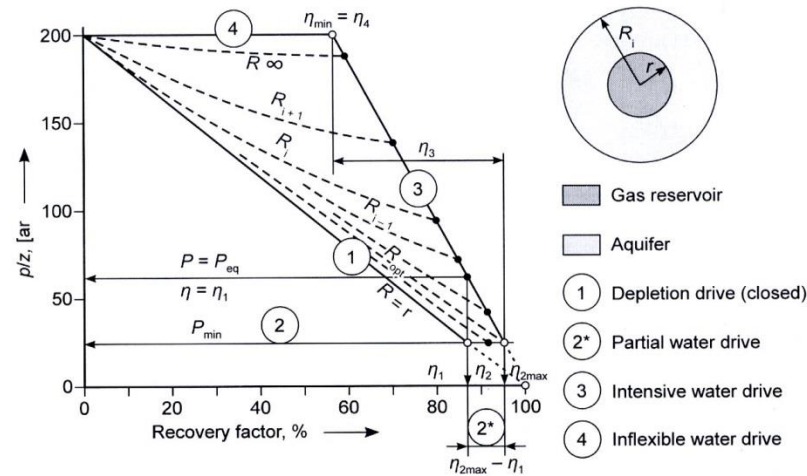


Figure 1.7a. Relation of reservoir pressure and end-point recovery factor for gas reservoir  
(Source: Pápay J. 2003)

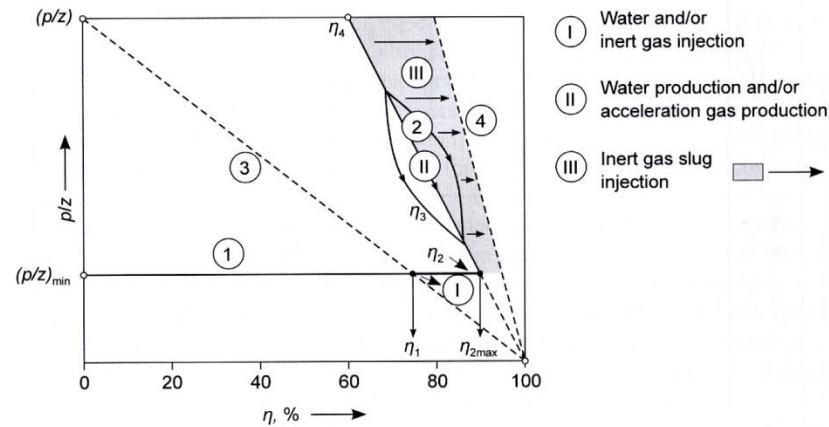


Figure 1.7b. EGR – IGR methods  
(Source: Pápay J. 2003)

The parameters in Table 1.4 are as follows:

- $\eta$ : gas recovery factor at abandonment conditions (-),
- $\eta_v$ : volumetric sweep efficiency of encroached water (-),
- $S_{gi}$ : initial gas saturation (-),
- $S_{gr}$ : residual gas saturation (-),
- $c$ : effective aquifer rock compressibility (1/bar),

as cond.cont.

(g/m<sup>3</sup>)

<100

100-400

>400

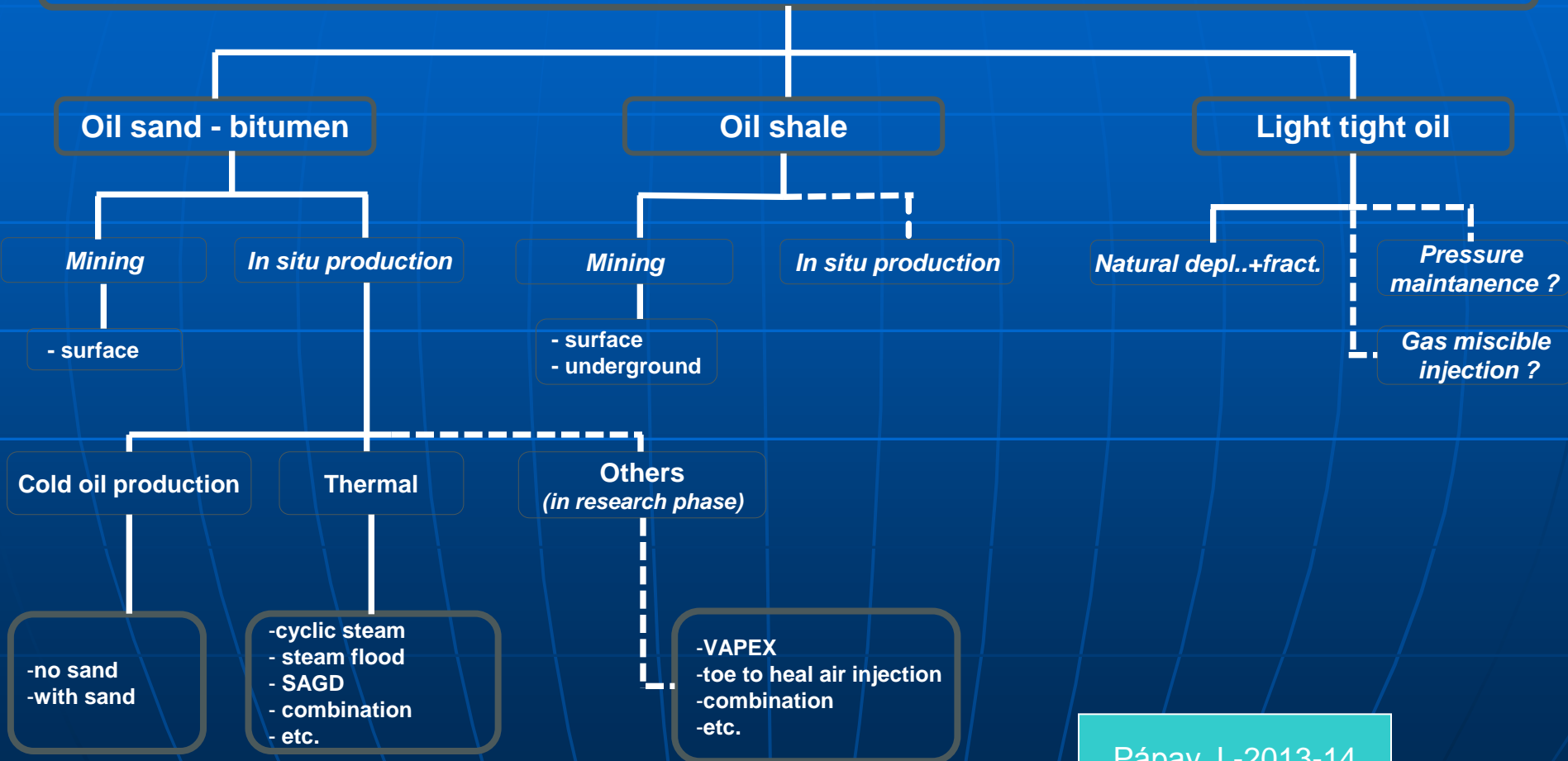
Pápay J.-1997-2003



# Content

- **Classification of petroleum from aspects of recovery**
- **Recovery methods of conventional petroleum**
- **Recovery methods of unconventional petroleum**
- **Recovery factors, estimated recoverable reserves and costs**
- **Predicted US production**
- **Conclusions**
- **Thank You**

# Unconventional oil recovery methods



Pápay J.-2013-14

— is developed

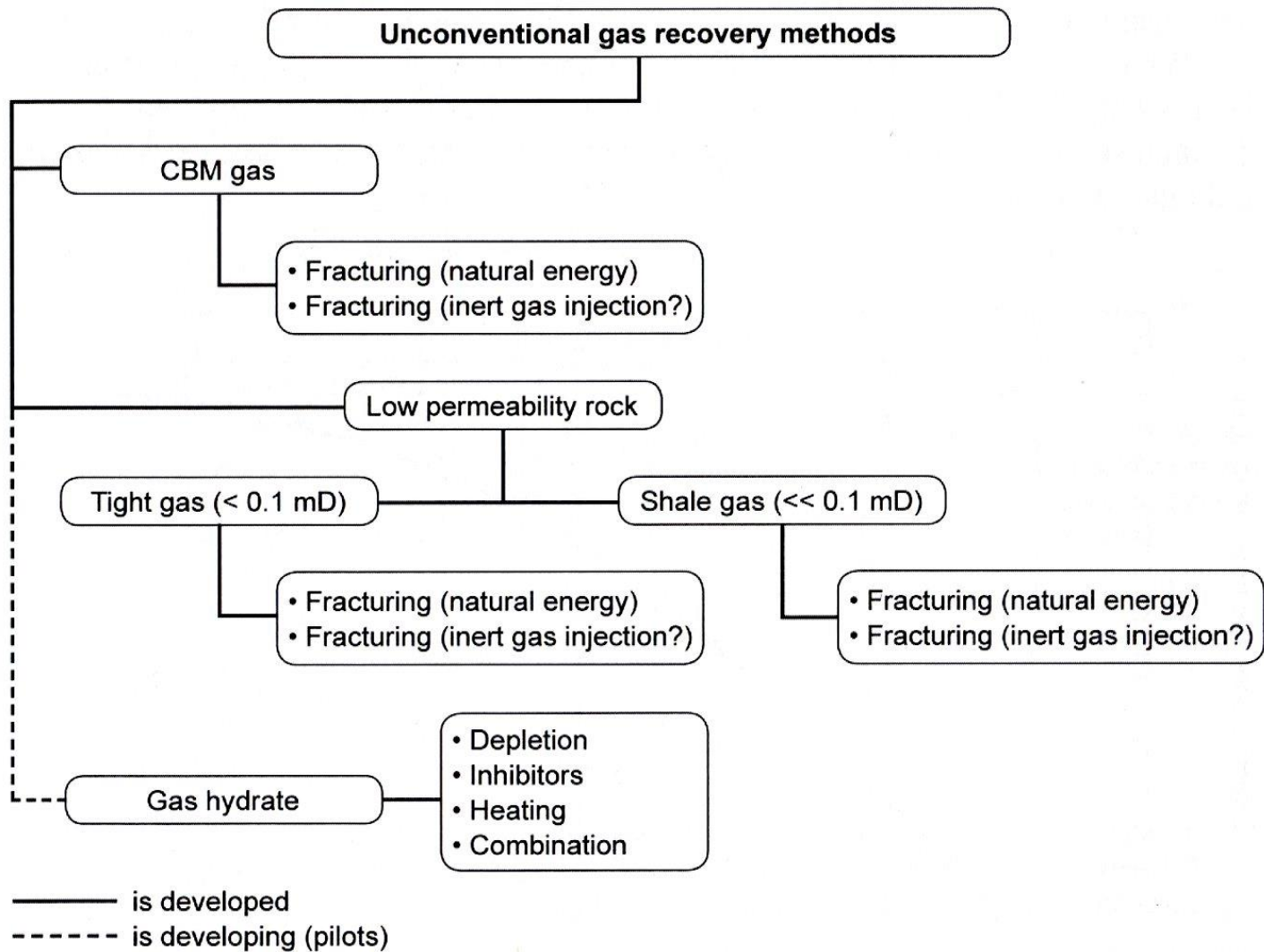
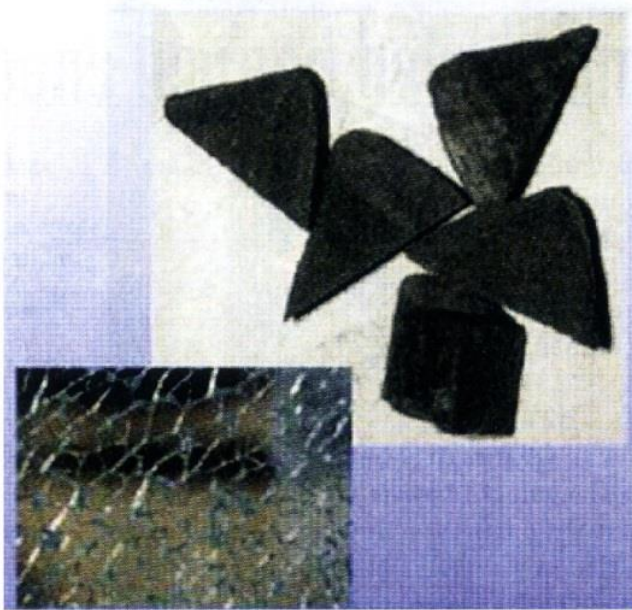


Figure 4.2. Classification of unconventional gas recovery processes



Quartz-rich (brittle)



Barnett shale

Clay-rich (ductile)



Cretaceous shale

*Figure 7.13. Shale mineralogy, stimulation effectiveness.*  
(Source: CSUG 2008, after Kuuskraa V.A. and Stevens S. 2009b)

# Content

- **Classification of petroleum from aspects of recovery**
- **Recovery methods of conventional petroleum**
- **Recovery methods of unconventional petroleum**
- **Recovery factors, estimated recoverable reserves and costs**
- **Predicted US production**
- **Conclusions**

## Recovery factors of different petroleum resources

Conventional petroleum (%)		
	Currently	Expectable (maximum)
Oil	33-35*	45-50*
Gas	75-80*	75-80*
Non conventional petroleum (%)		
Heavy oil & oilsand	(9-32) ** ill. (12-17)***	?
Oil shale	0?	?
Tight light oil	3-7 (min:1-max:10) *****	?
CBM	20-60****	?
Tight gas	10-50****	?
Shale gas	6-50****	?
Hydrate	0?	?

Note: \* world average; \*\* USGS (2003); \*\*\*Soniere A., Lantz F. (2007); \*\*\*\* data of US  
 \*\*\*\*\* (EIA-2013)



*Table 2a. Reserve and rate ratio of oil*

	Conventional	Conventional + unconventional	
Reliability	Reserve / Rate years	Reserve / Rate years	Reserve / Rate years
Proved	43	48	48
Probable	62+7****	88+10****	69+8****
Possible	95	149	104
Reference	*	**	***

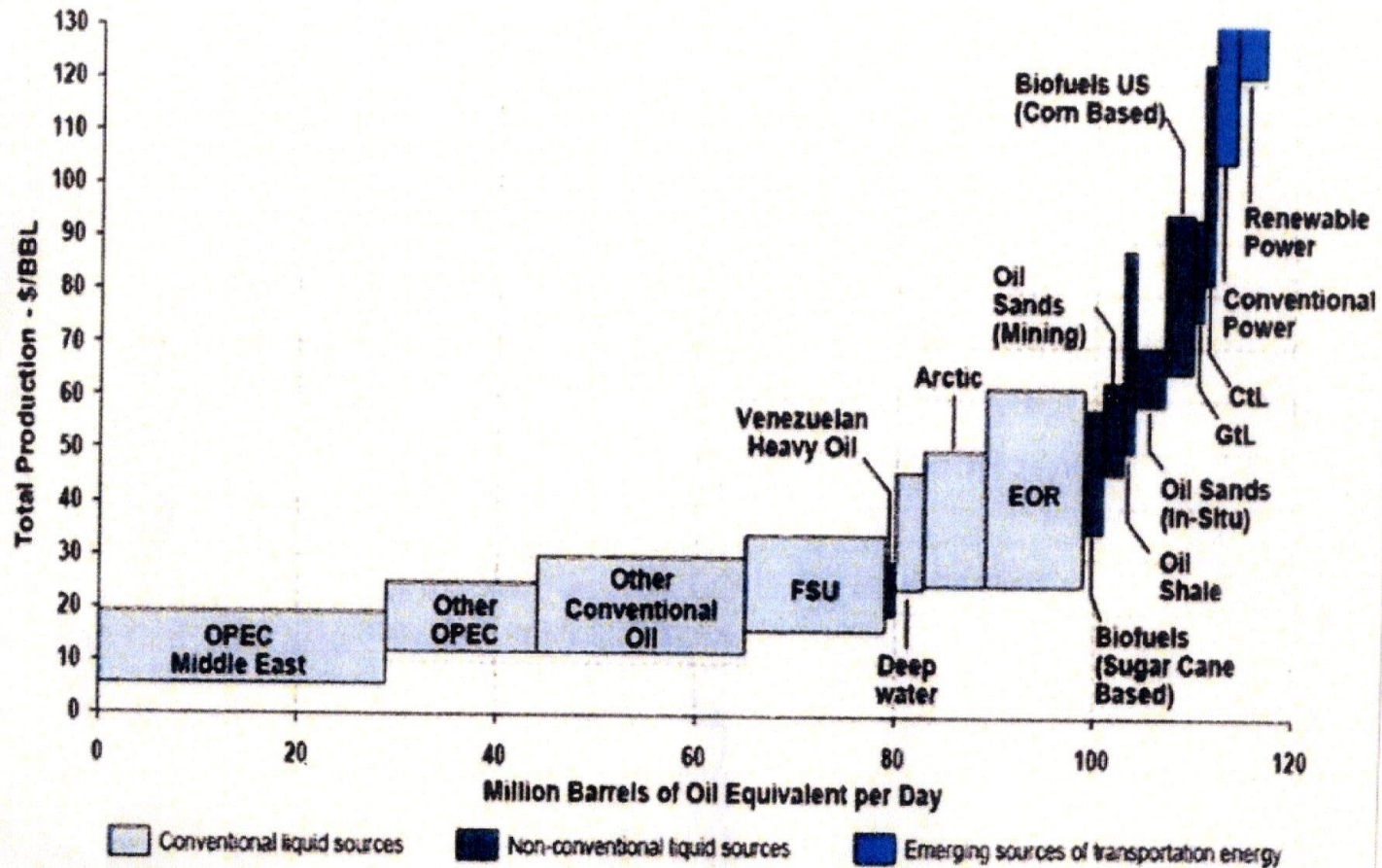
*Notes:* \* USGS (2000), \*\* International Petroleum Encyclopedia (2006), \*\*\* Labastie A. (2010), \*\*\*\* spare (years).

*Table 2b. Reserve and rate ratio of gas*

Reliability	Conventional	Conventional + unconventional	
	Reserve / Rate years	Reserve / Rate years	Reserve / Rate years
Proved	60	60	60
Probable	79+9****	132+15****	155+17****
Possible	115	235	283
Reference	*	**	***

*Notes:* \* EIA (2005), \*\* IEA–WEO (2005 and 2009), \*\*\* IEA–WEO (2009), a new estimation comparing the total volume of  $850 \cdot 10^{12} \text{ m}^3$  (55% conventional gas), \*\*\*\* spare (years).

## Forecasted Transportation Fuels Supply Curve (2020)



Source: Booz Allen Hamilton Analysis  
 Assumed average vs marginal costs; 10% return for conventional and 13% return for unconventional technologies;  
 No subsidies for biofuels; no carbon offset costs; after severance and production taxes

Forrest J.-2011-NPC-USA

# Content

- **Classification of petroleum from aspects of recovery**
- **Recovery methods of conventional petroleum**
- **Recovery methods of unconventional petroleum**
- **Recovery factors, estimated recoverable reserves and costs**
- **Predicted US production**
- **Conclusions**

Table 4. Estimated petroleum production of the world

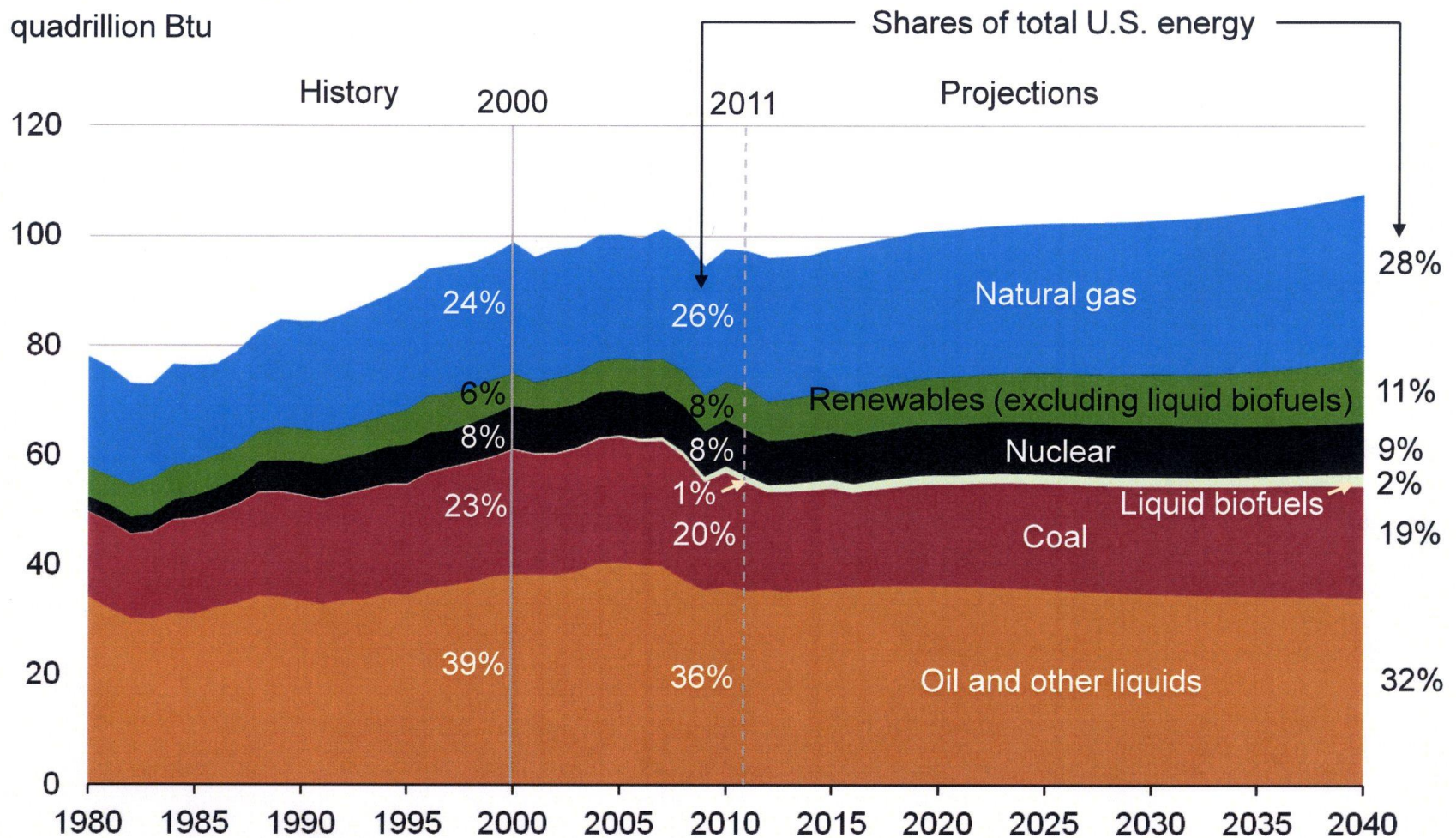
Million to/a

Years	2004	2020	2025	2050	2050	2100
Most likely		7,425	7,650	6,600	5,400	5,075
Maximum	6,189	9,500	9,600	9,400	8,000	7,100
Minimum		6,900	6,100	1,650	1,700	2,000



# U.S. energy use grows slowly over the projection reflecting improving energy efficiency and slow, extended economic recovery

U.S. primary energy consumption  
quadrillion Btu

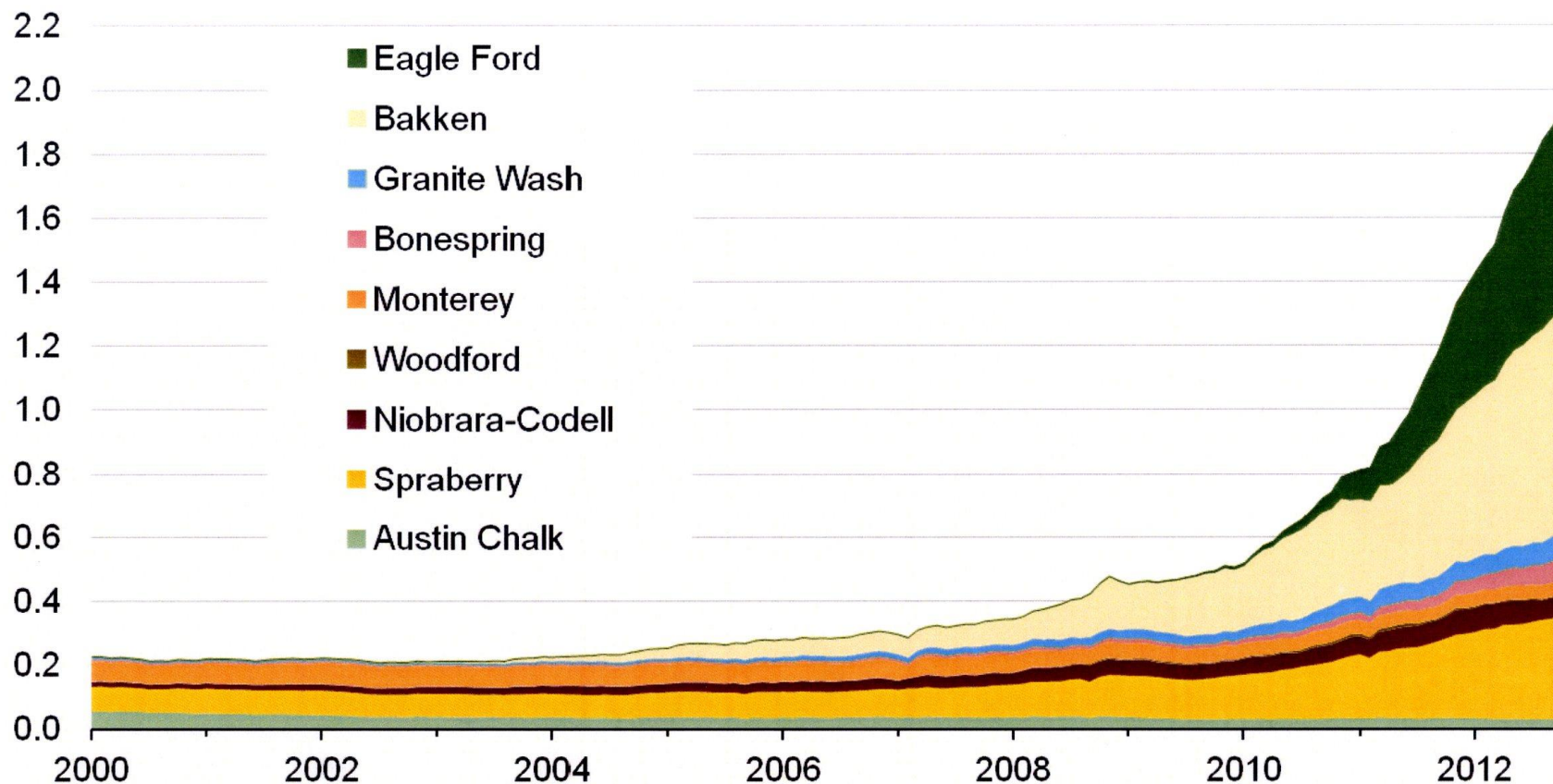


Source: EIA, Annual Energy Outlook 2013 Early Release

Sieminski A.-2013

# Domestic production of tight oil has grown dramatically over the past few years

tight oil production for select plays  
million barrels per day

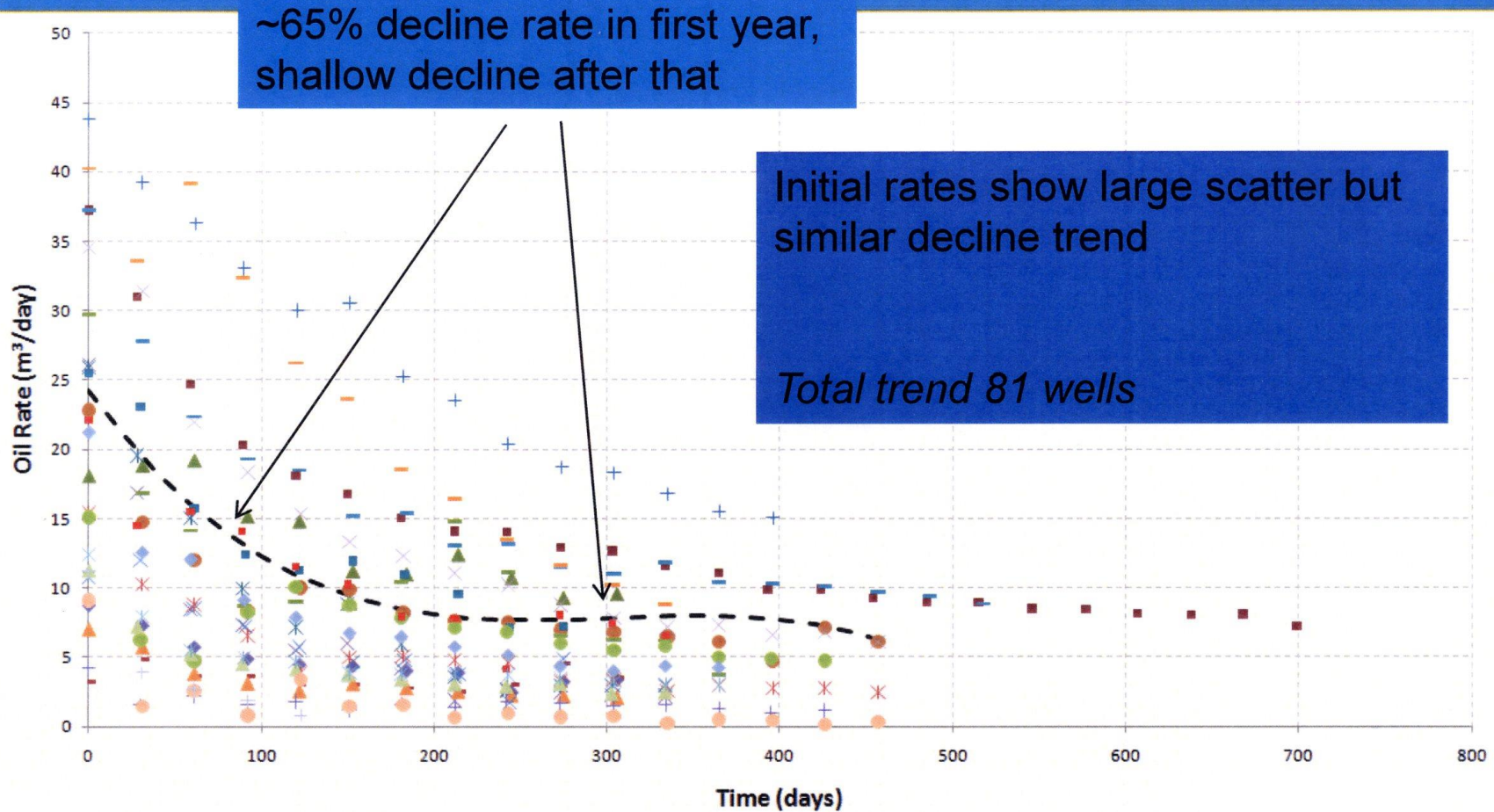


Source: Drilling Info (formerly HPDI), Texas RRC, North Dakota department of mineral resources, and EIA, through October 2012.

Sieminski A.-2013

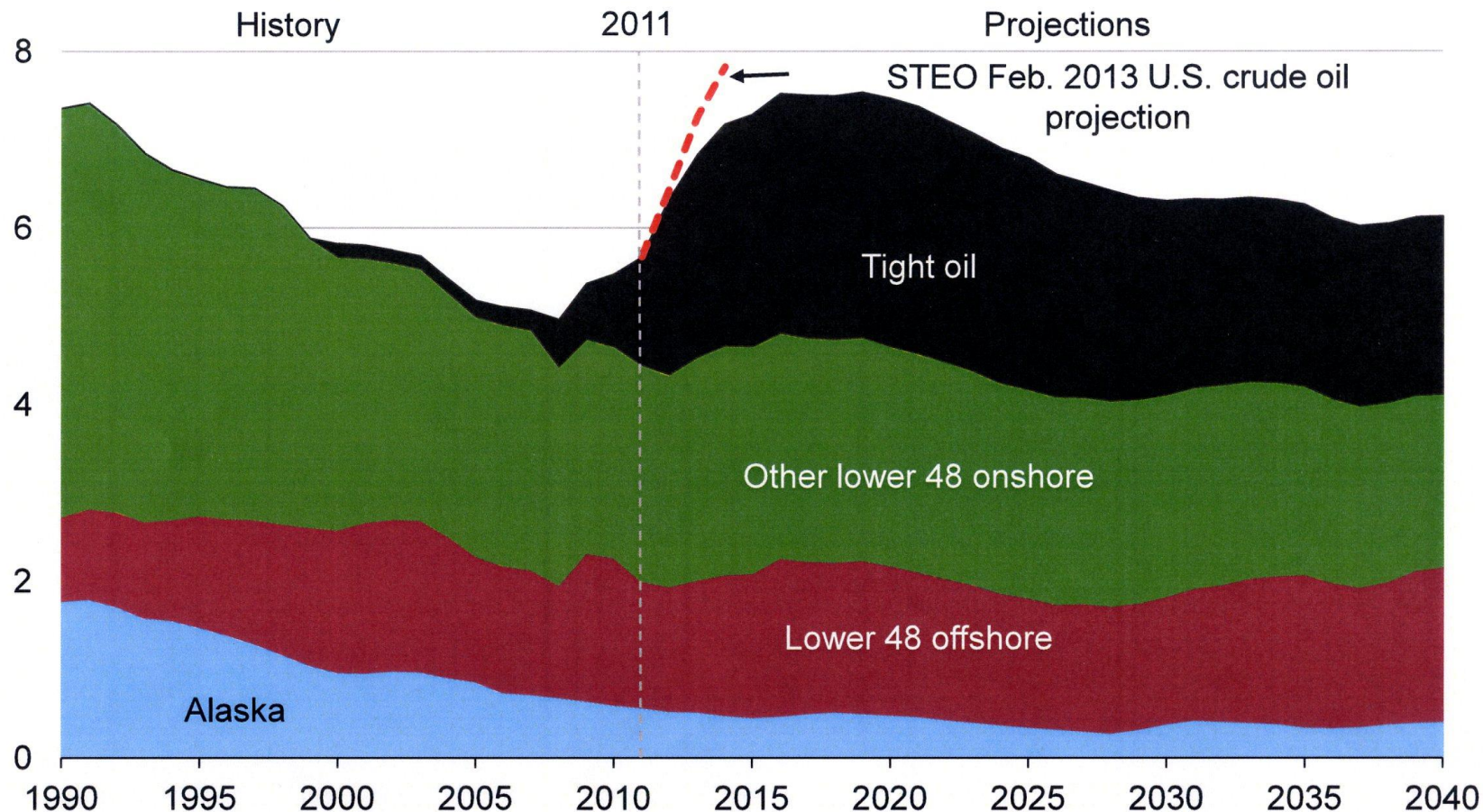


# Sample of Pembina Cardium Multi-Frac'd Wells



# U.S. tight oil production leads a growth in domestic production of 2.6 million barrels per day between 2008 and 2019

U.S. crude oil production  
million barrels per day

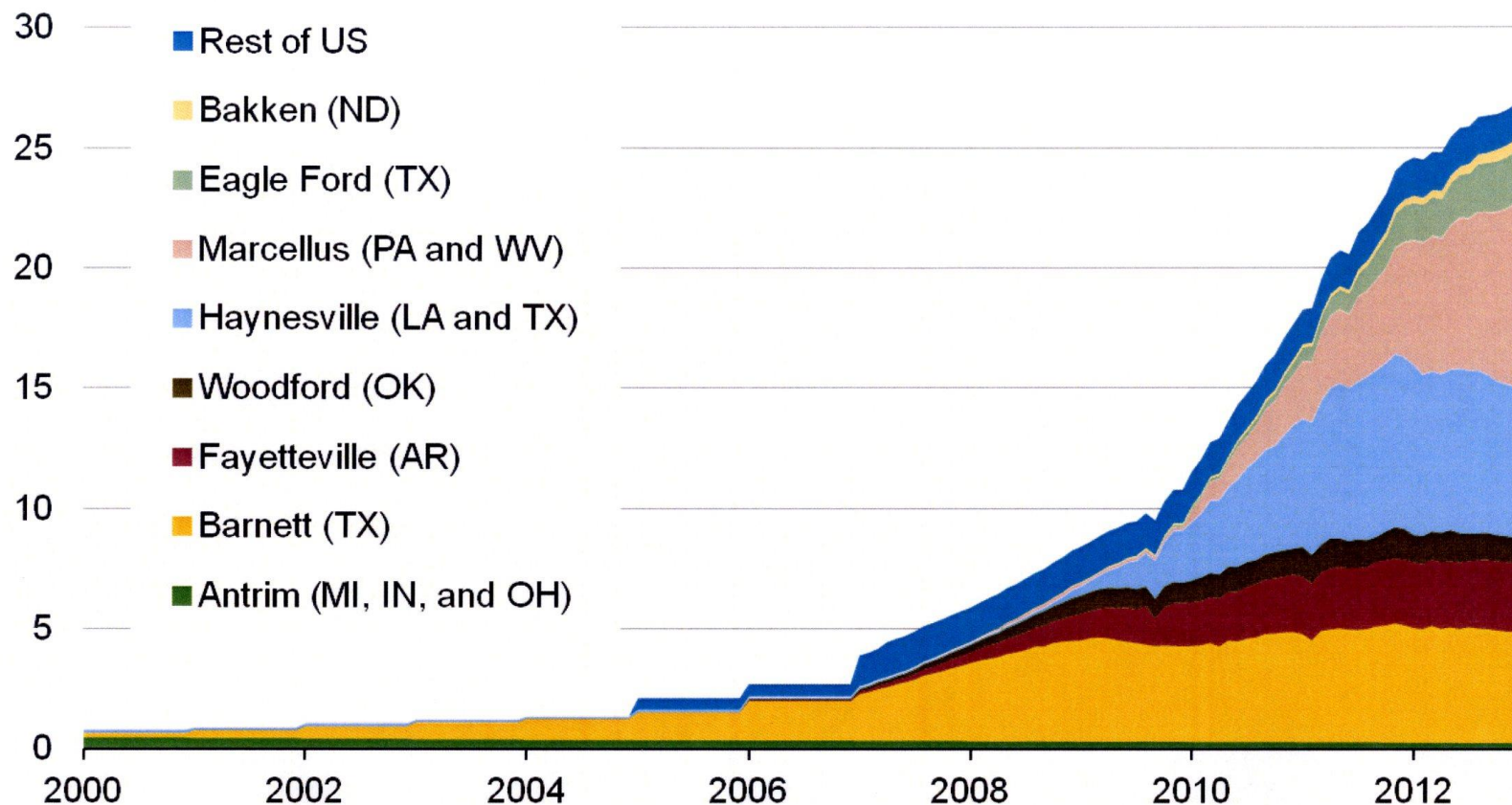


Source: EIA, Annual Energy Outlook 2013 Early Release and Short-Term Energy Outlook, February 2013



# Domestic production of shale gas has grown dramatically over the past few years

shale gas production (dry)  
billion cubic feet per day

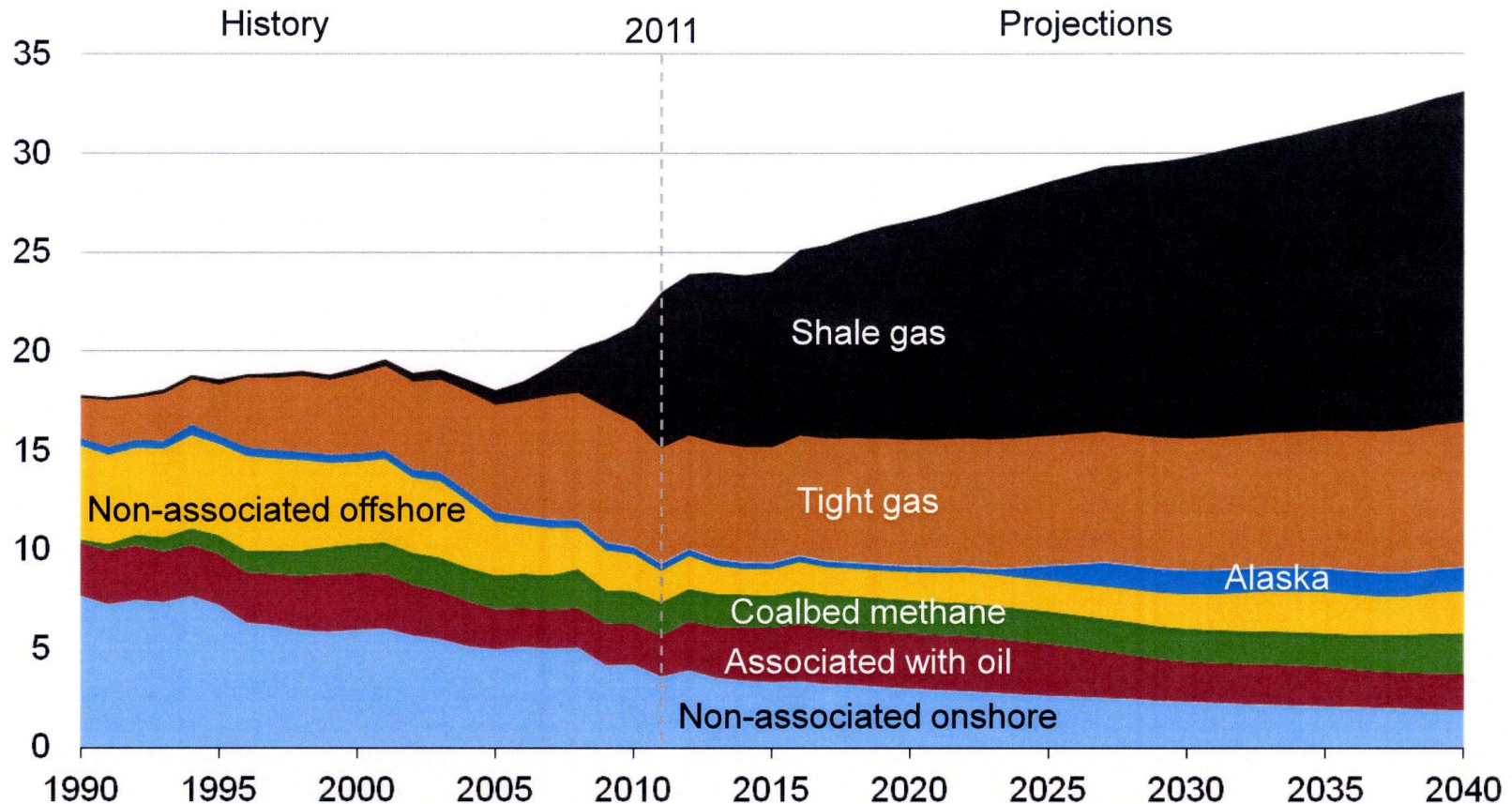


Sources: LCI Energy Insight gross withdrawal estimates as of January 2013 and converted to dry production estimates with EIA-calculated average gross-to-dry shrinkage factors by state and/or shale play.



# Shale gas leads growth in total gas production through 2040

U.S. dry natural gas production  
trillion cubic feet



Source: EIA, Annual Energy Outlook 2013 Early Release

Sieminski A.-2013

An average well in shale gas and other continuous resource plays can also have steep decline curves, which require continued drilling to grow production

million cubic feet per year

2,000

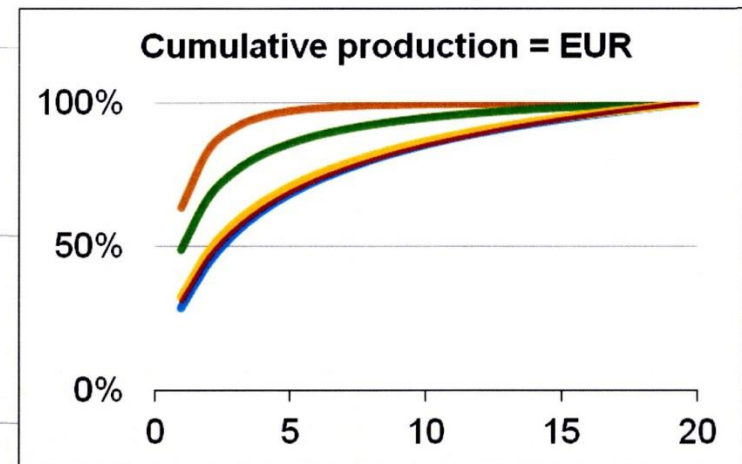
1,500

1,000

500

0

Haynesville  
Eagle Ford  
Woodford  
Marcellus  
Fayetteville



Source: EIA, Annual Energy Outlook 2012

Sieminski A.-2013

# Content

- **Classification of petroleum from aspects of recovery**
- **Recovery methods of conventional petroleum**
- **Recovery methods of unconventional petroleum**
- **Recovery factors, estimated recoverable reserves and costs**
- **Predicted US production**
- **Conclusions**

- An overview is given about the petroleum recovery methods in an integrated way;
- Driving mechanisms of unconventional petroleum production is much more complicated as of conventional one;
- In case of unconventional petroleum accumulations - except oilsands- improved recovery methods are on laboratory or pilot scale only, therefore the recovery factors are low or modest yet;
- Exploitation of unconventional petroleum accumulation is a challenge for petroleum engineers;
- It seems that due to dynamic development of the research and the science the unconventional reserves step by step become conventional ones from the aspect of economy.
- Unconventional petroleum resources are already of primary importance to supply the energy demand

**Thank You**