

ENERGY for the FUTURE

CO₂ as a Commodity for Methane Production from Hydrate Reservoirs

– CCUS Enabler for Efficient, Cost Saving and More Sustainable Oil & Gas Production

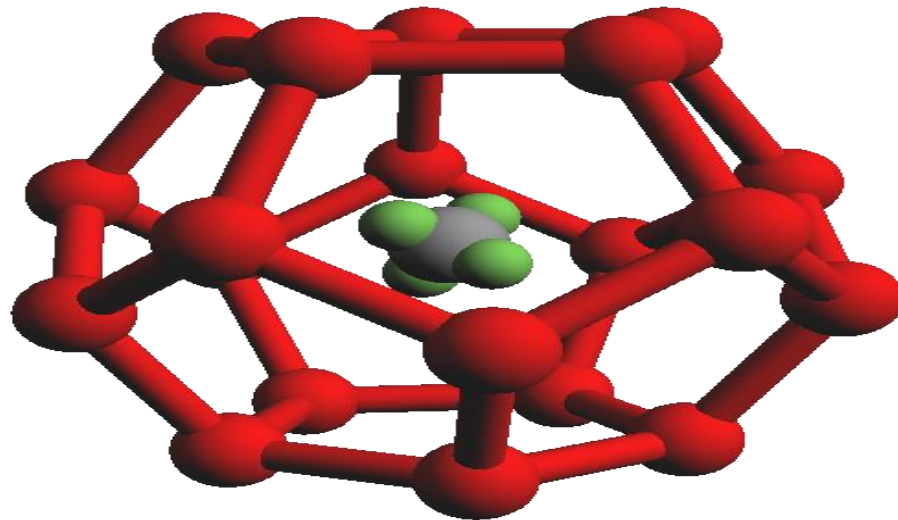
Prof. Arne Graue

Department of Physics and Technology, University of Bergen, Norway

4th Biennial CO₂ for EOR as CCUS Conference, Rice University, TX, USA, Sept. 25-27th, 2019

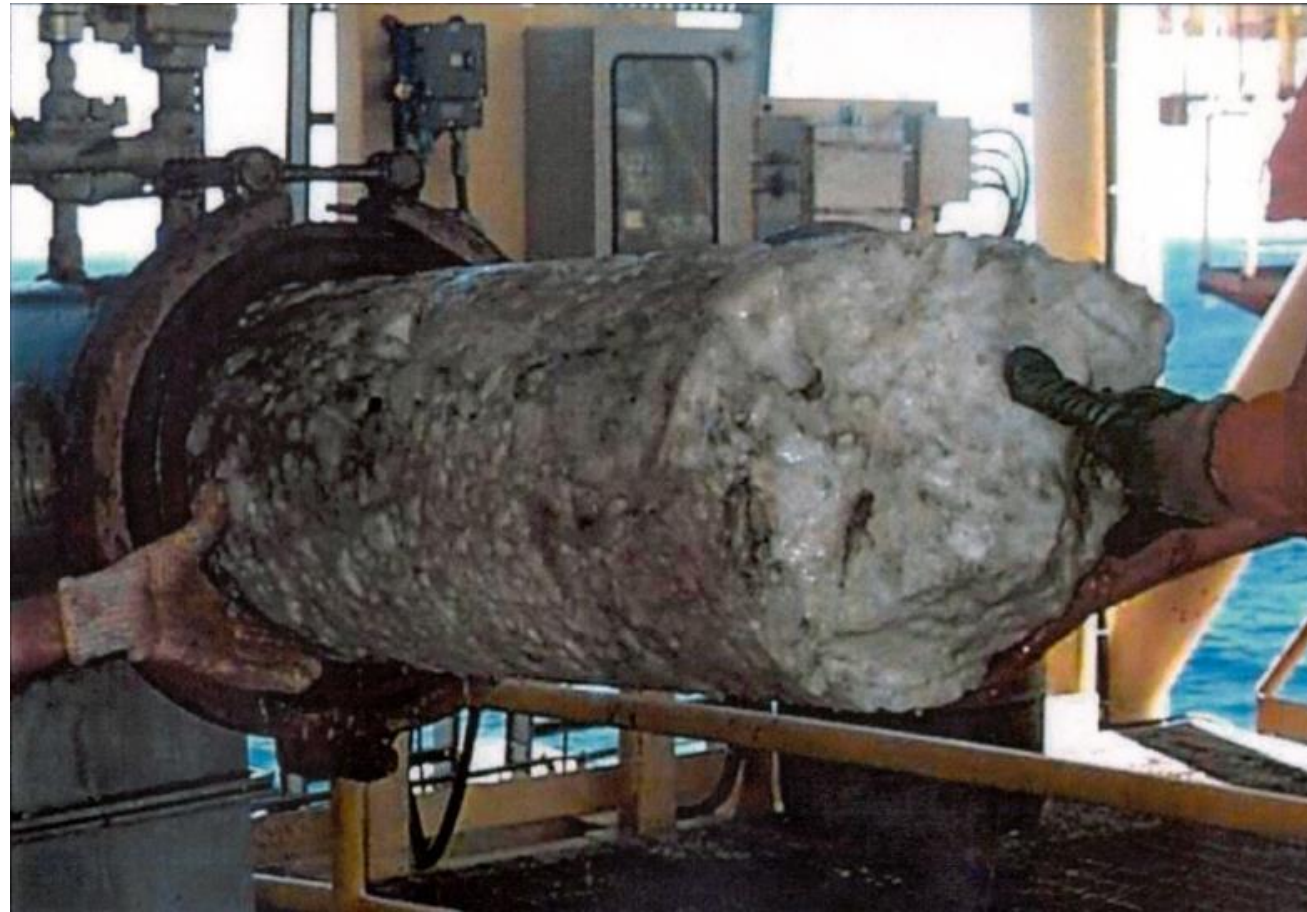
GAS HYDRATES

- Solid state of gas and water where the water molecules form a cavity that encapsulates the guest molecule.



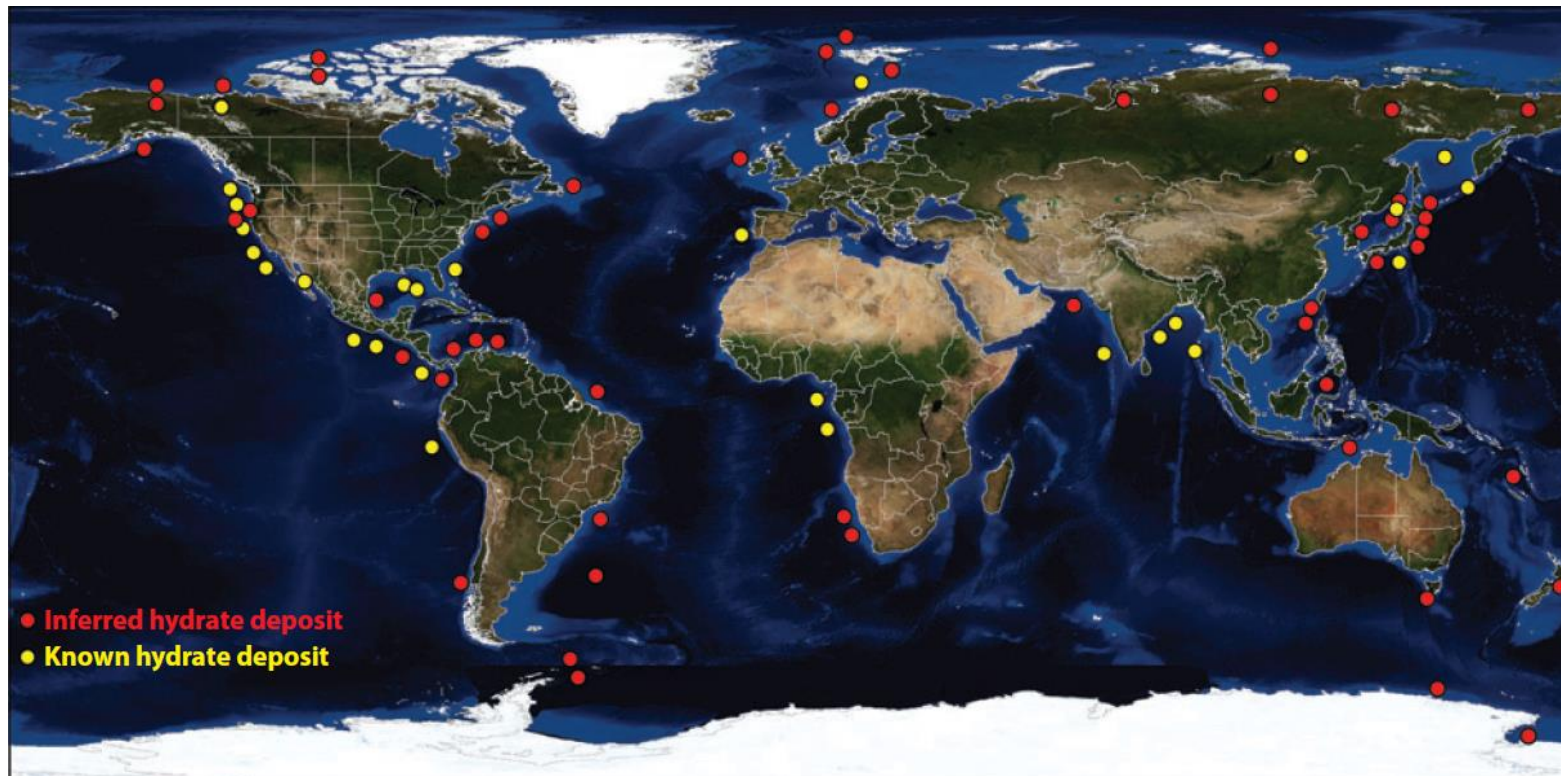
Why are hydrates of interest?

- Initial interest as a curiosity
- Plugging of production and transportation pipelines



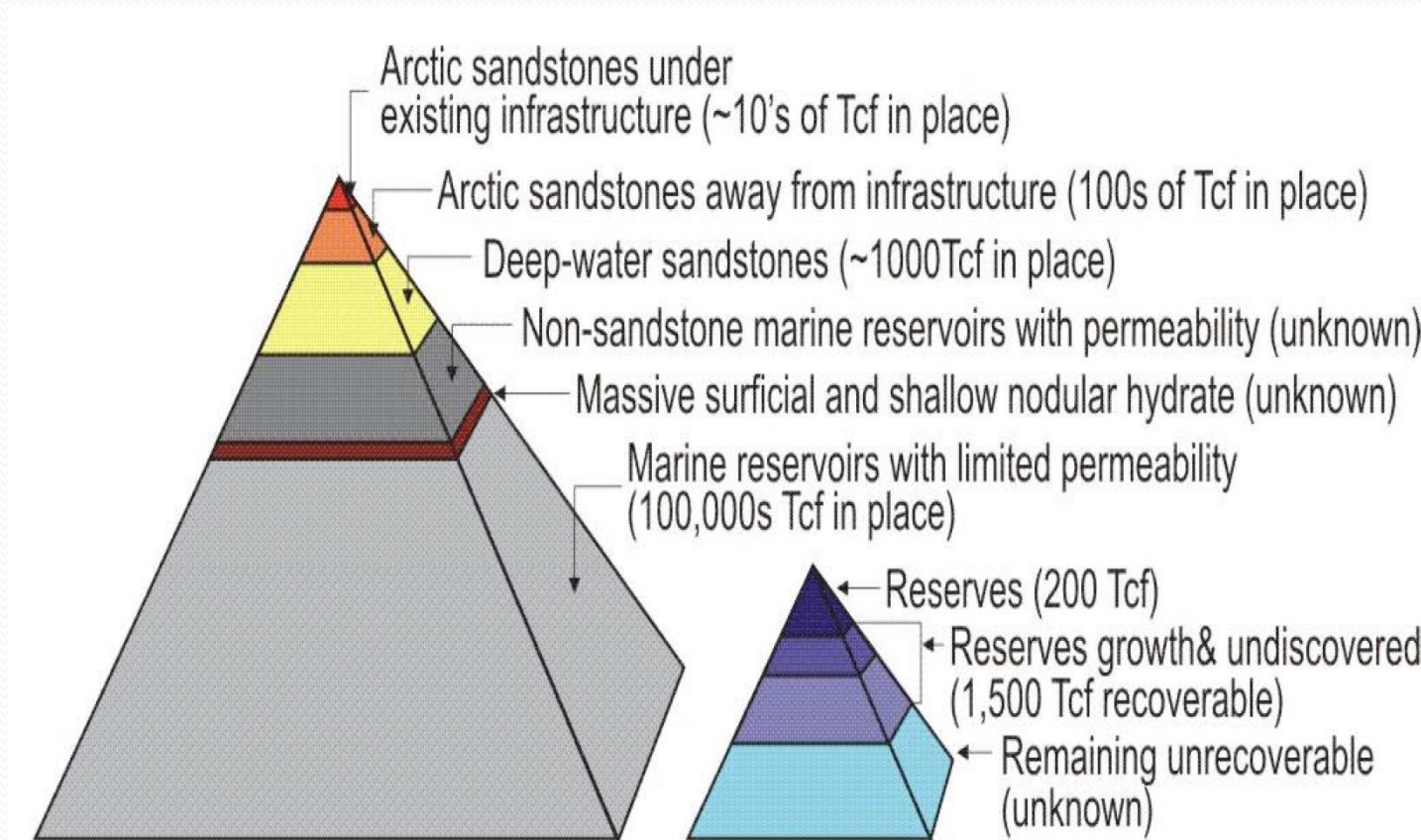
Renewed interest

- Significant amount of energy
 - Permafrost regions
 - Marine environments (high water column)



Hydrate as Energy Resource

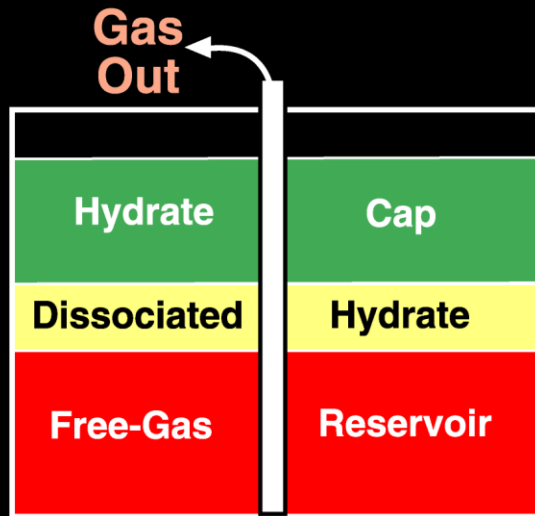
Ref.: *Fire in the Ice*, U.S. Department of Energy • Office of Fossil Energy • National Energy Technology Laboratory



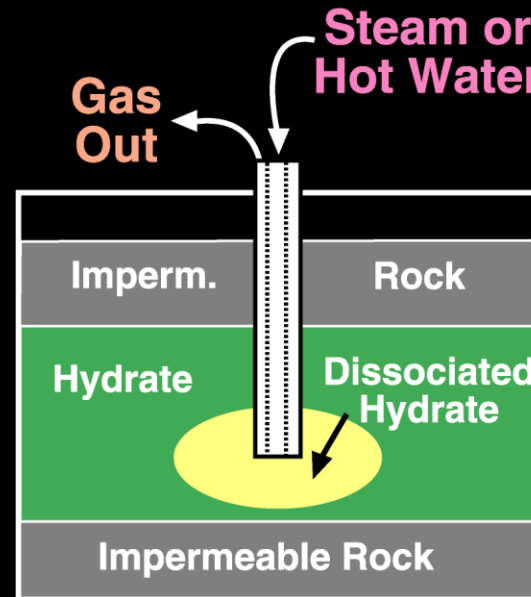
Gas Hydrates Resource Pyramid (left). To the right is an example gas resources pyramid for all non-gas-hydrate resources.

Gas Hydrate Production Methods

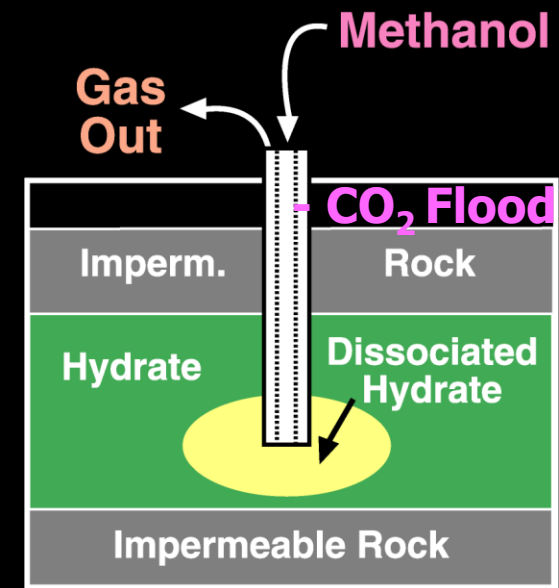
Depressurization



Thermal Injection



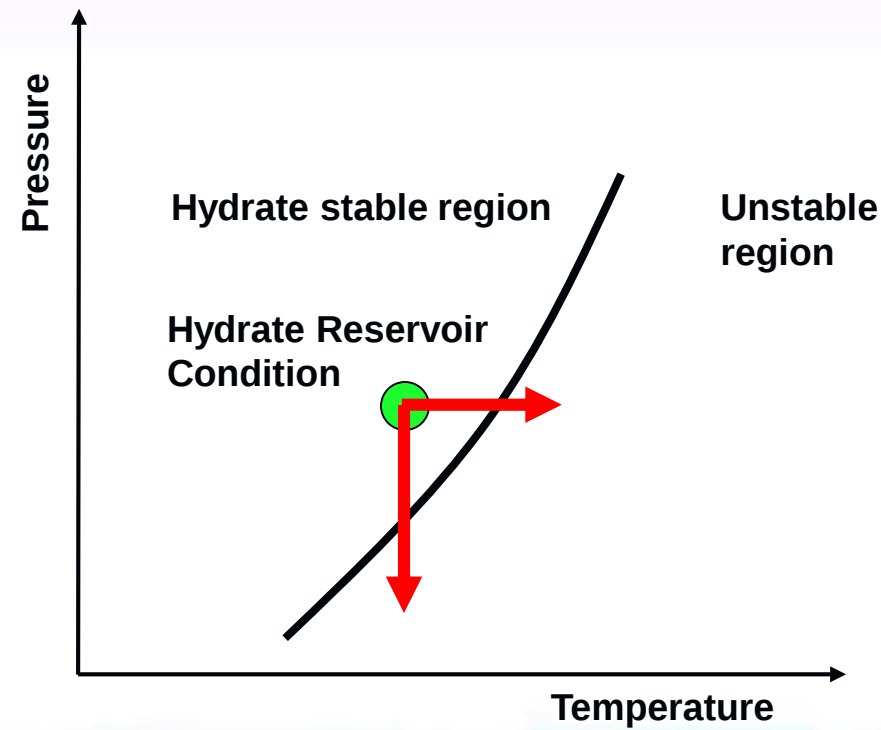
Inhibitor Injection



Modified from "GAS HYDRATES OF NORTHERN ALASKA", January 2005
Evaluation of Alaska North Slope Gas Hydrate Energy Resources: A Cooperative Energy Resource Assessment Project
US Bureau of Land Management, US Geological Survey, & State of Alaska Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys
Bob Fisk, USBLM, Anchorage, Alaska, Tim Collett, USGS, Denver, Colorado & Jim Clough, DGGS, Fairbanks, Alaska

GAS HYDRATE PRODUCTION METHODS

- Move the gas hydrate outside its stability region
 - Depressurization
 - Thermal stimulation
 - Hydrate inhibitors
- **CO₂ exchange**



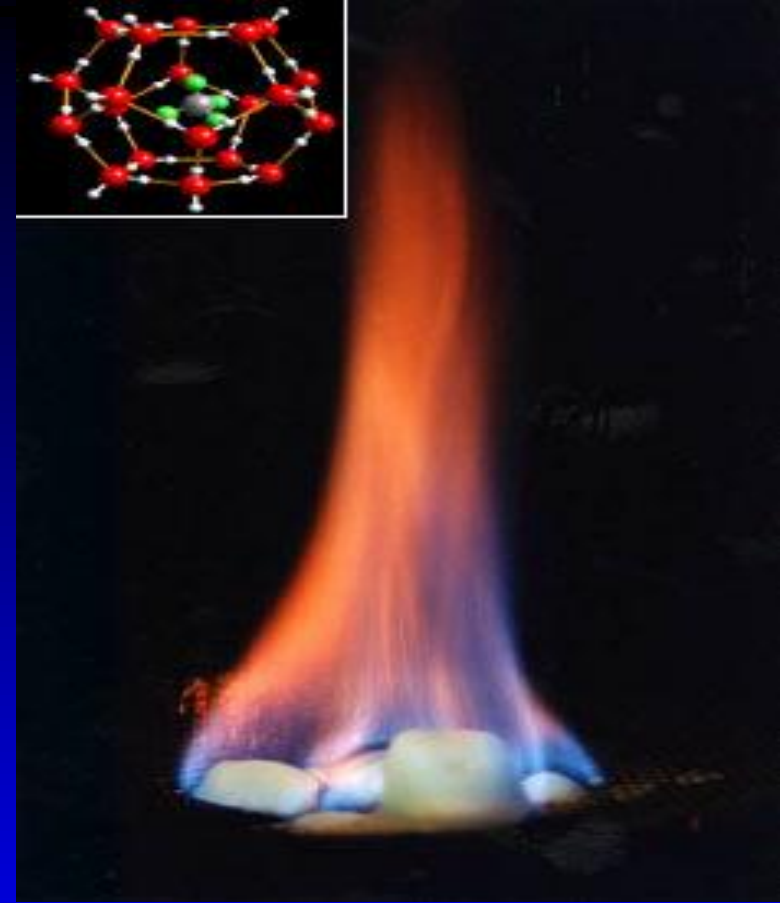
CO₂ Exchange: Project Motivation

- **The amount of energy bound in hydrates may be more than twice the world's total energy resources in conventional hydrocarbon reservoirs; i.e. oil-, gas- and coal reserves**
- **Simultaneous CO₂ Sequestration**
- **Win-win situation for gas production**
- **Need no hydrate melting or heat stimulation**
- **Spontaneous process**
- **No associated water production**
- **Formation integrity**

**CO₂ storage in hydrates
with associated methane
gas production**

Challenge:

**Determine exchange mechanisms during potential
sequestration of CO₂ to produce methane from hydrates**



Three component Phase Field Theory

$$F = \int d\mathbf{r} \left\{ \frac{\varepsilon^2 T}{2} (\nabla \phi)^2 + \sum_{i,j=1}^3 \frac{\varepsilon_{i,j}^2 T}{4} (c_i \nabla c_j - c_j \nabla c_i)^2 + f_{bulk}(\phi, c_1, c_2, c_3, T) \right\}$$

$$f_{bulk} = wTg(\phi) + [1 - p(\phi)] f_S(c_1, c_2, c_3, T) + p(\phi) f_L(c_1, c_2, c_3, T)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_\phi = -M_\phi \frac{\delta F}{\delta c} + \zeta_\phi$$

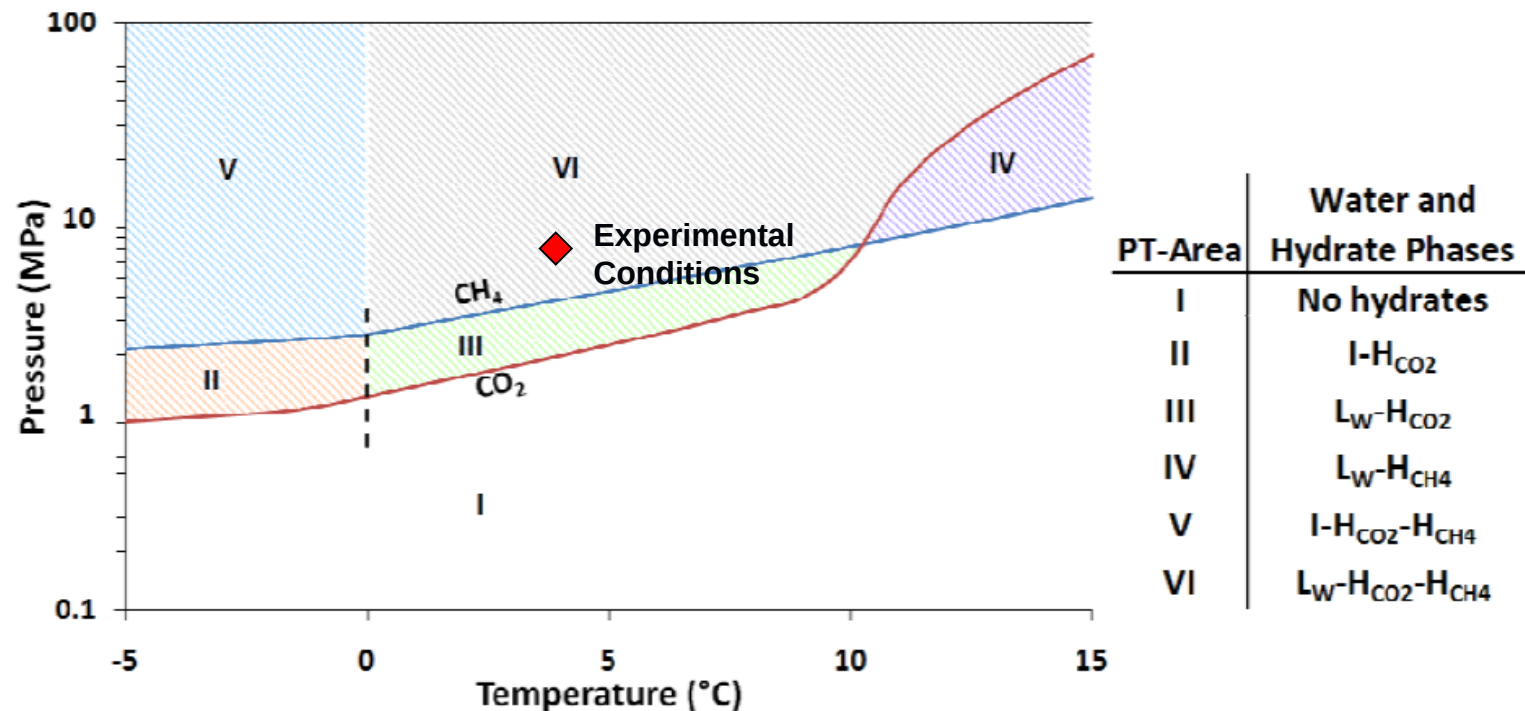
$$\sum_{i=1}^3 c_i = 1$$

$$\mathcal{L}_i = \nabla M_{ci}(c_1, c_2, c_3) \nabla \left(\frac{\delta F}{\delta c_i} - \zeta_i \right)$$

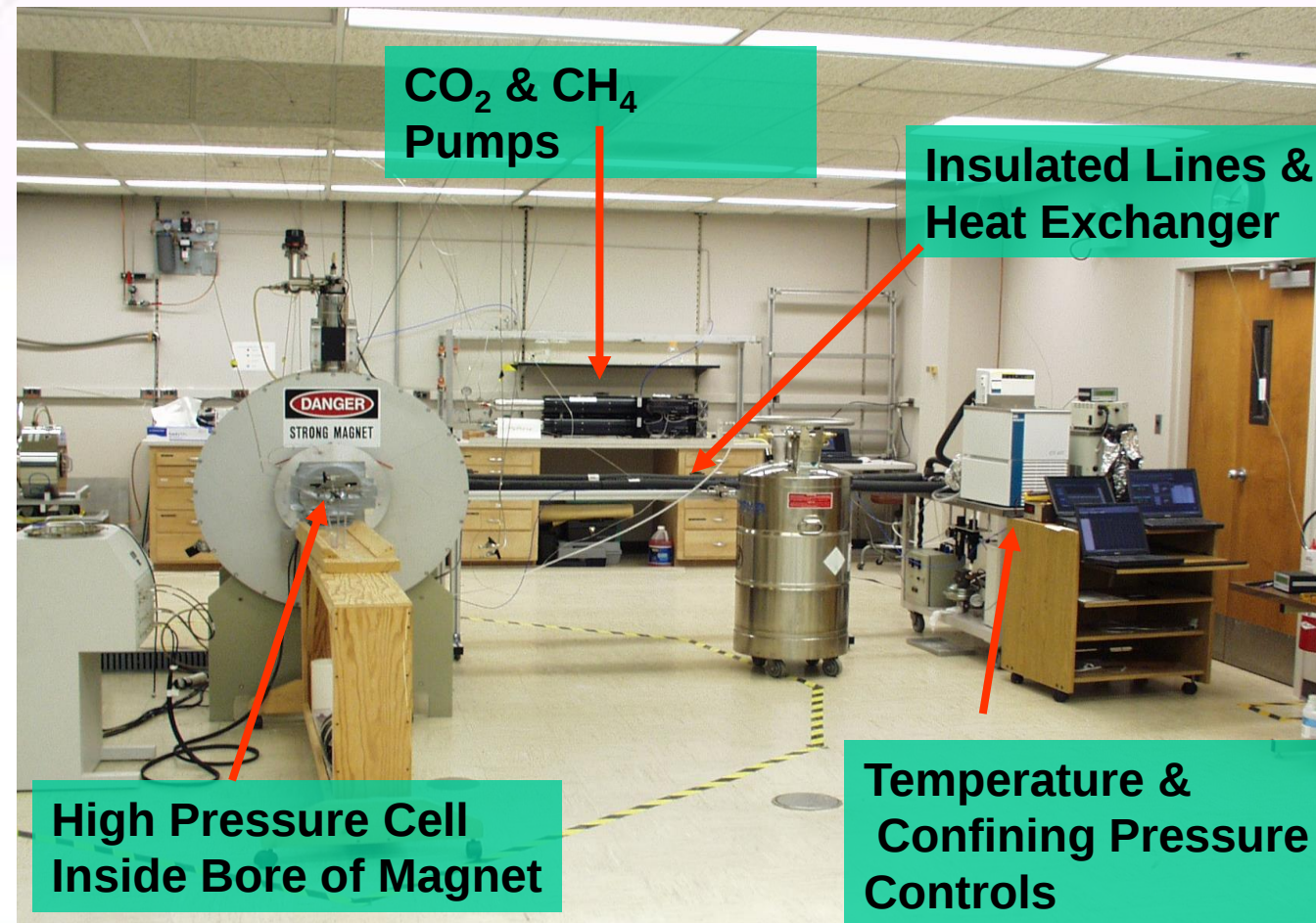
Parameters ε and w can be fixed from the interface thickness and interface free energy. ε_{ij} set equal to ε

CH₄ PRODUCTION INDUCED BY CO₂ INJECTION

- Provides thermodynamically more stable gas hydrate than CH₄



Experimental Setup

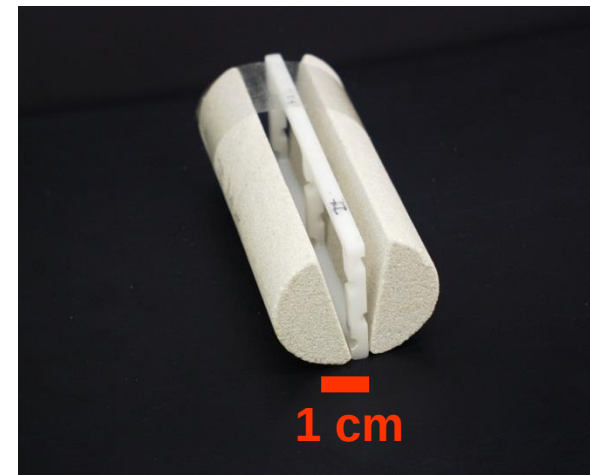


Core Sample Design

Bentheim Sandstone

20-25% porosity, ~ 1.1 D Perm

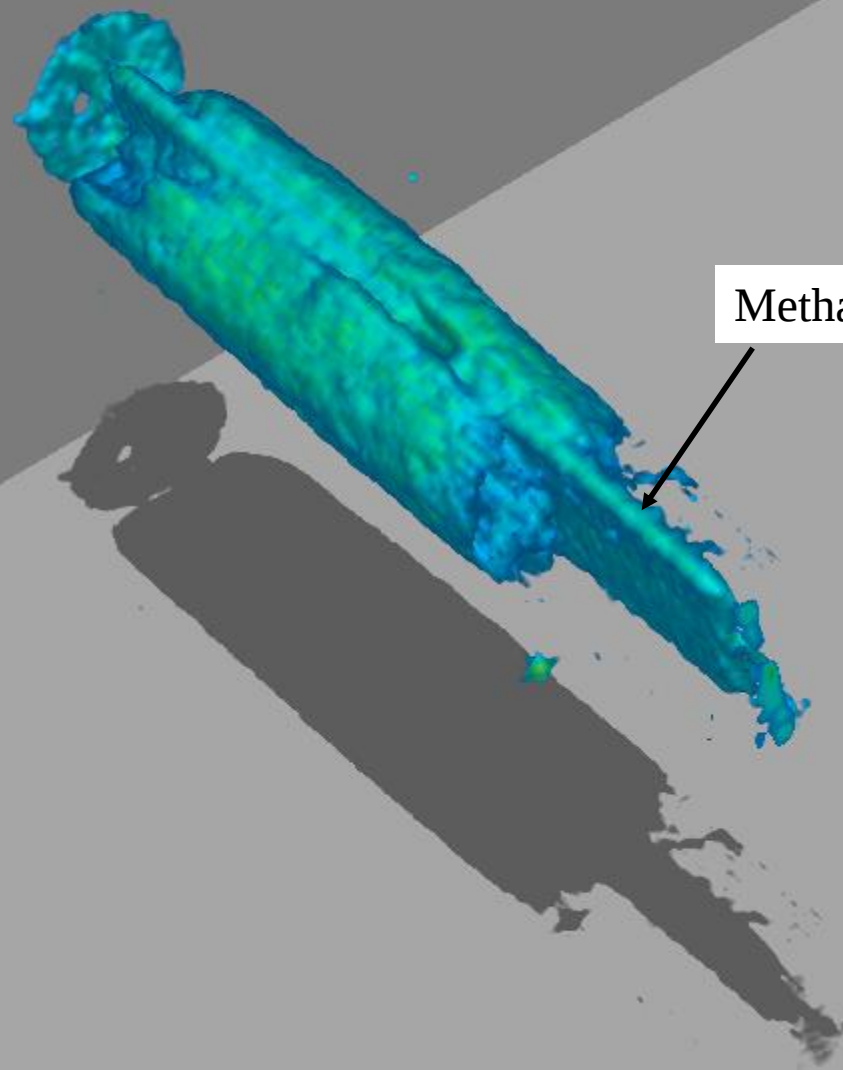
- Whole Core
- Longitudinal Cut With Machined Spacer to Simulate Open Fracture.



Sample – BH-01

Run – 18-14

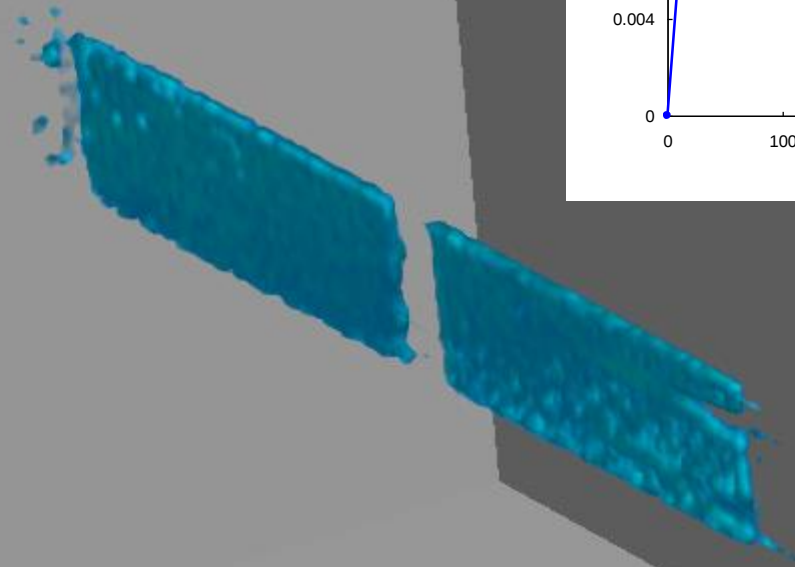
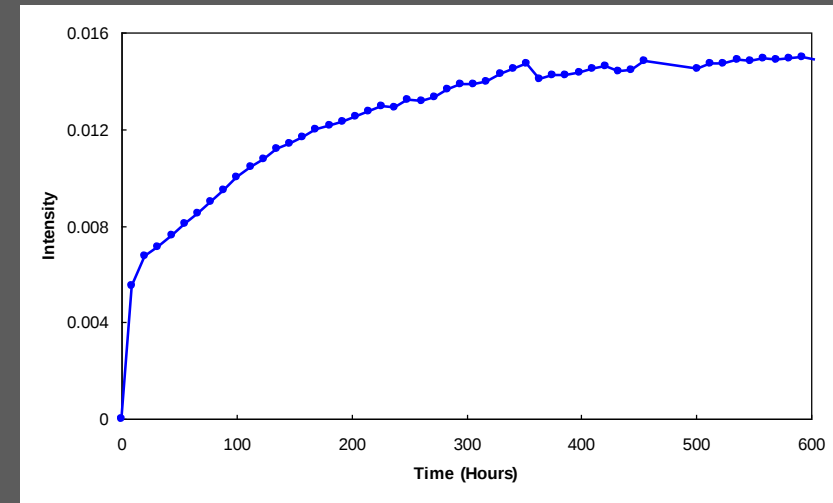
Time – 12hr 50min



Methane in spacer

34b-52

603.9 hrs



CO₂ Storage in Hydrate Reservoirs with Associated Spontaneous Natural Gas Production

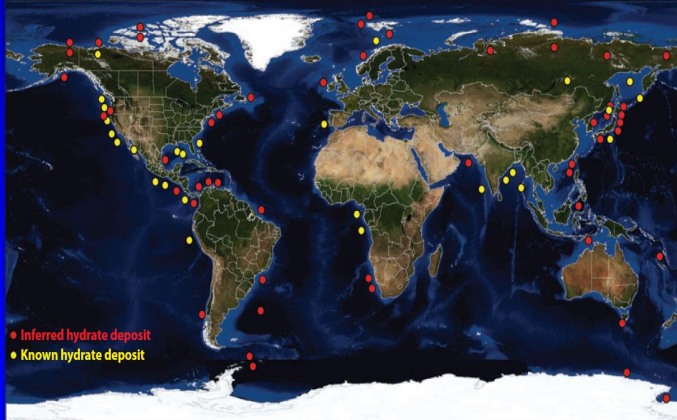
Arne Graue and Bjørn Kvamme, Dept. of Physics, University of Bergen, NORWAY
Funding: ConocoPhillips, Statoil and The Research Council of Norway



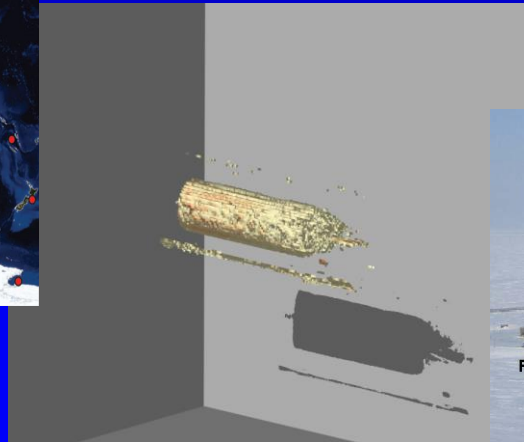
Objectives:

Experimentally and theoretically determine spontaneous methane production when hydrate is exposed to CO₂; with the purpose of CO₂ sequestration.

Methane hydrate reservoirs



In-Situ imaging (MRI) of hydrate formation



Methane production by CO₂ injection in field test in Alaska 2012



Alaska Field Injection Test 2011-2012

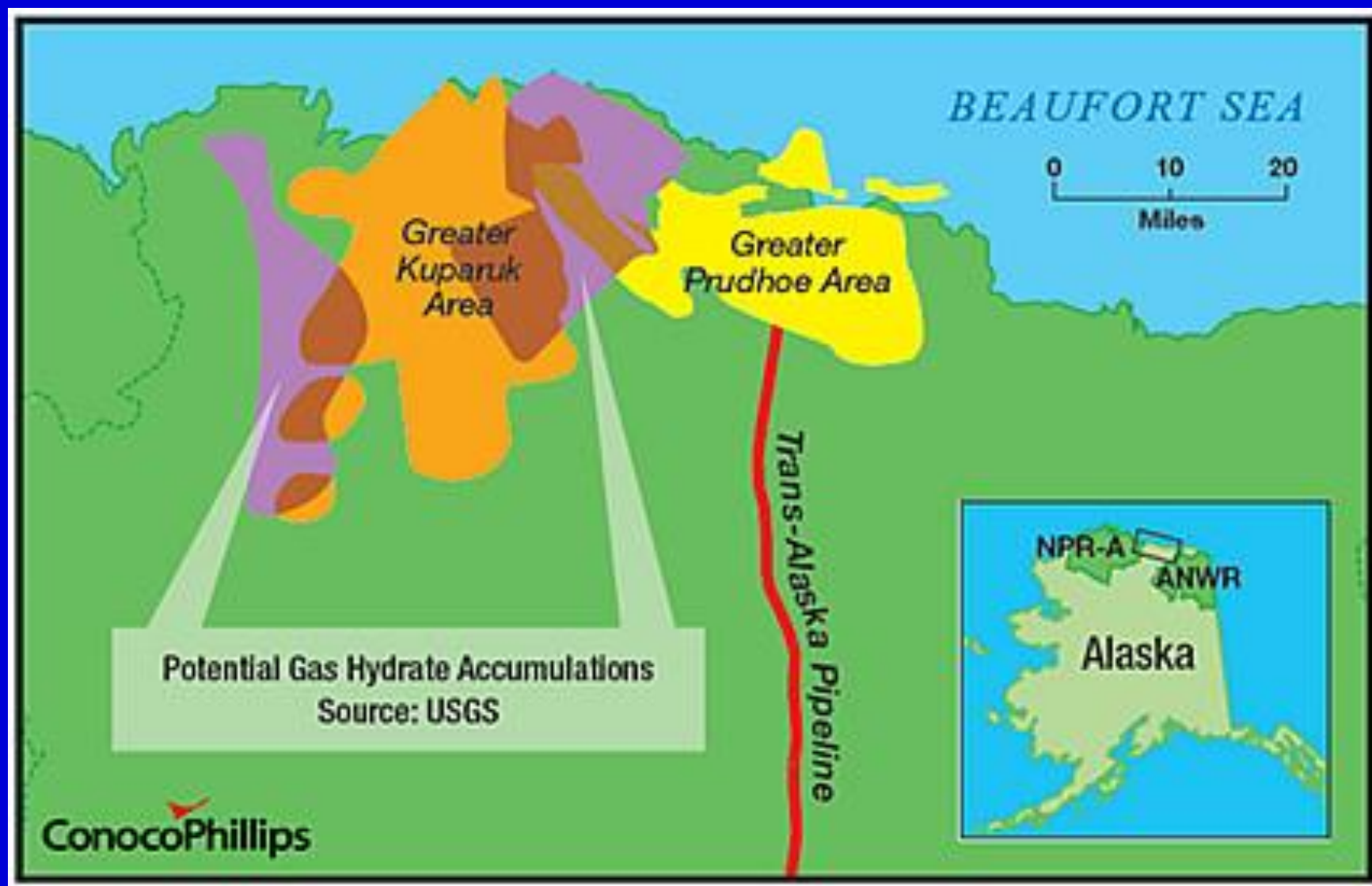
- ConocoPhillips, USDOE and JOGMEC
- US\$ 11.6 mill funding from US DOE, total cost ca. US\$30mill
- CO₂ injection

Summary of Field Test (Injection Test)

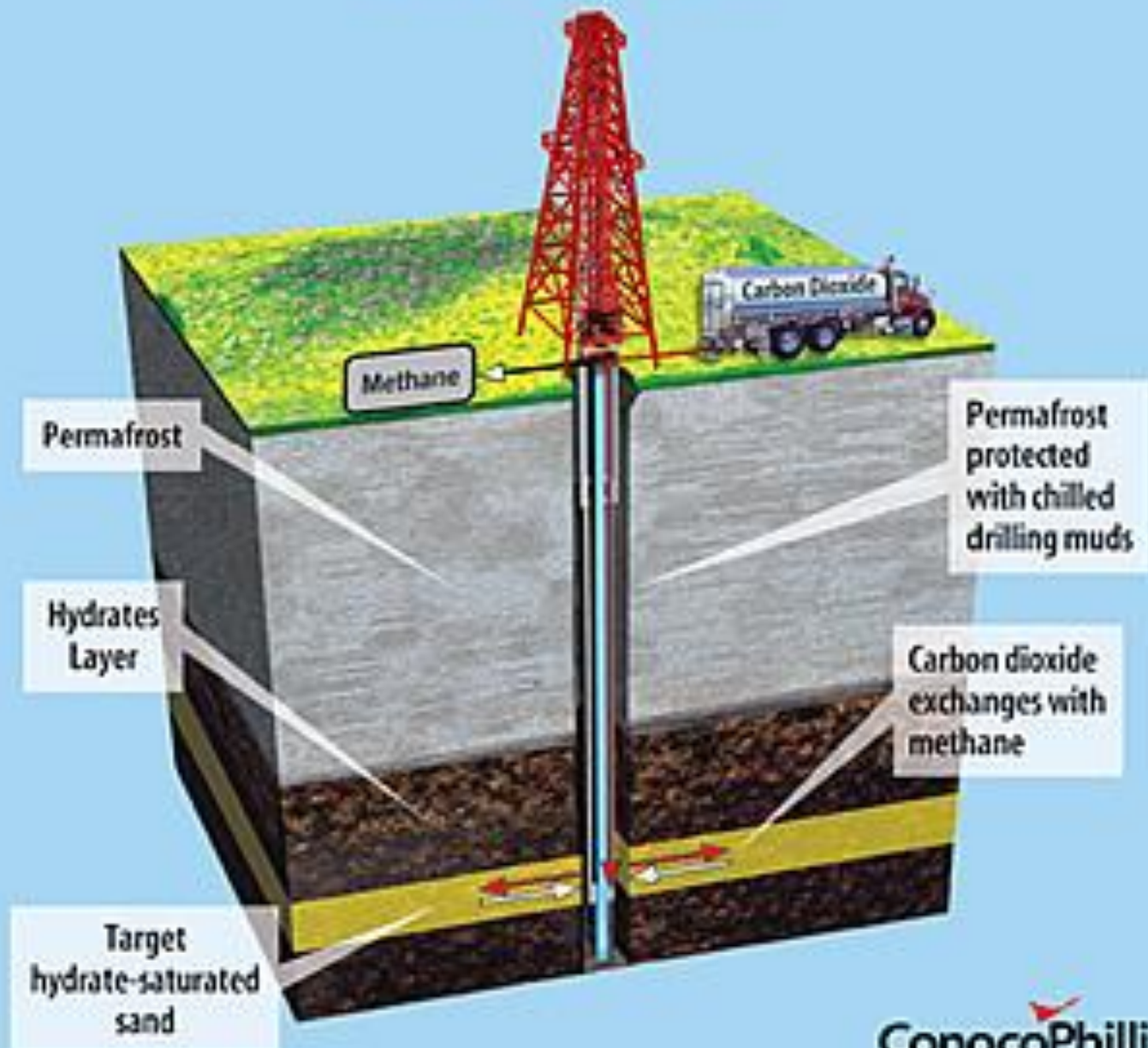
Schedule:

Apr. 2011: Drilling test well (Complete)
 Nov. 2011: Finalizing parameters for the field test
 Jan.-Apr. 2012: Field test

Location : Prudhoe Bay operating unit in Alaska, USA
 Operator : ConocoPhillips Company (COP), through its wholly owned subsidiary, ConocoPhillips Alaska, Inc.
 Investors : The United States Department of Energy (DOE)
 JOGMEC; Japan Oil, Gas and Metals National Corp.



Methane Hydrates Well

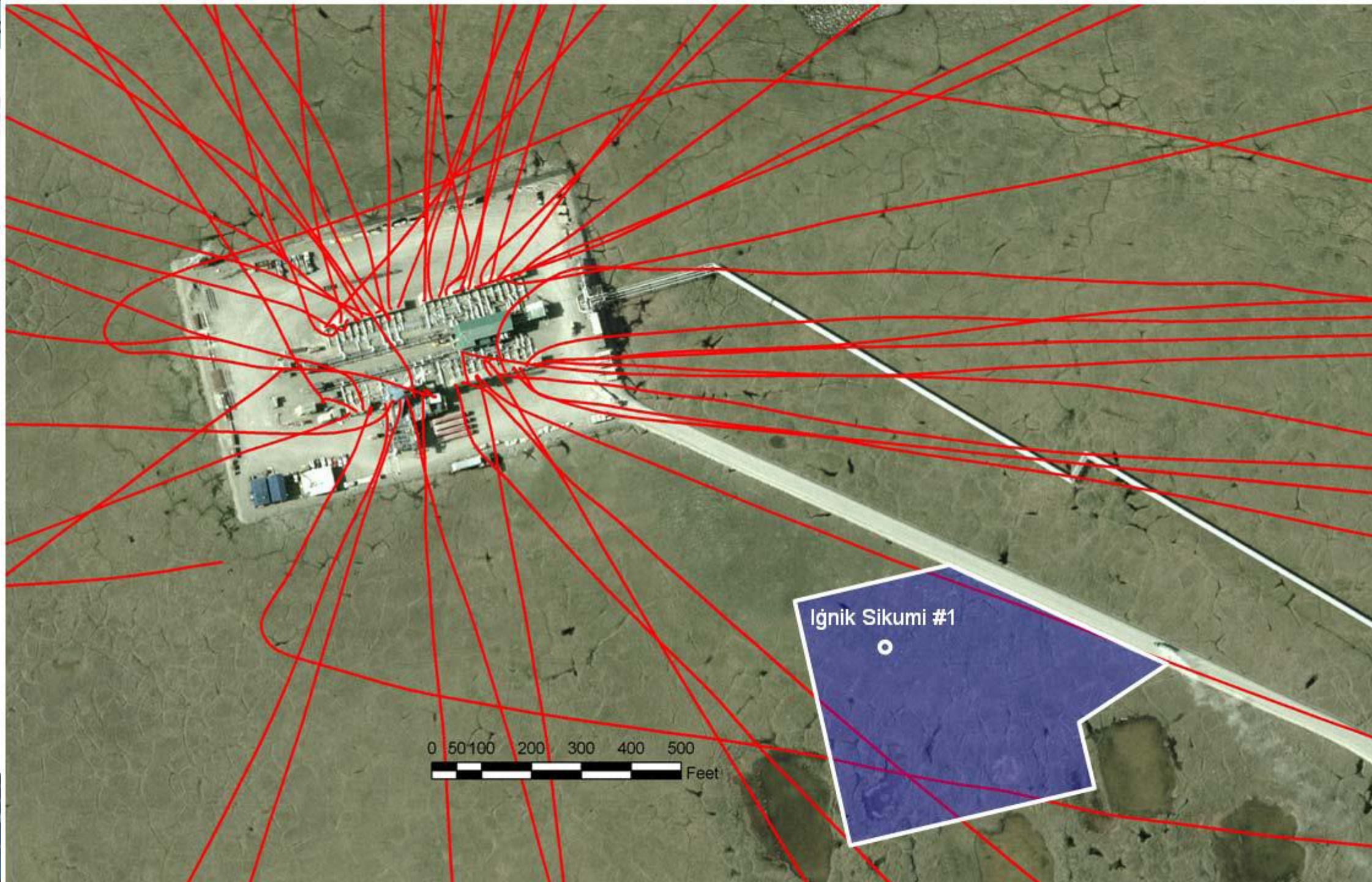


Iñik Sikumi #1

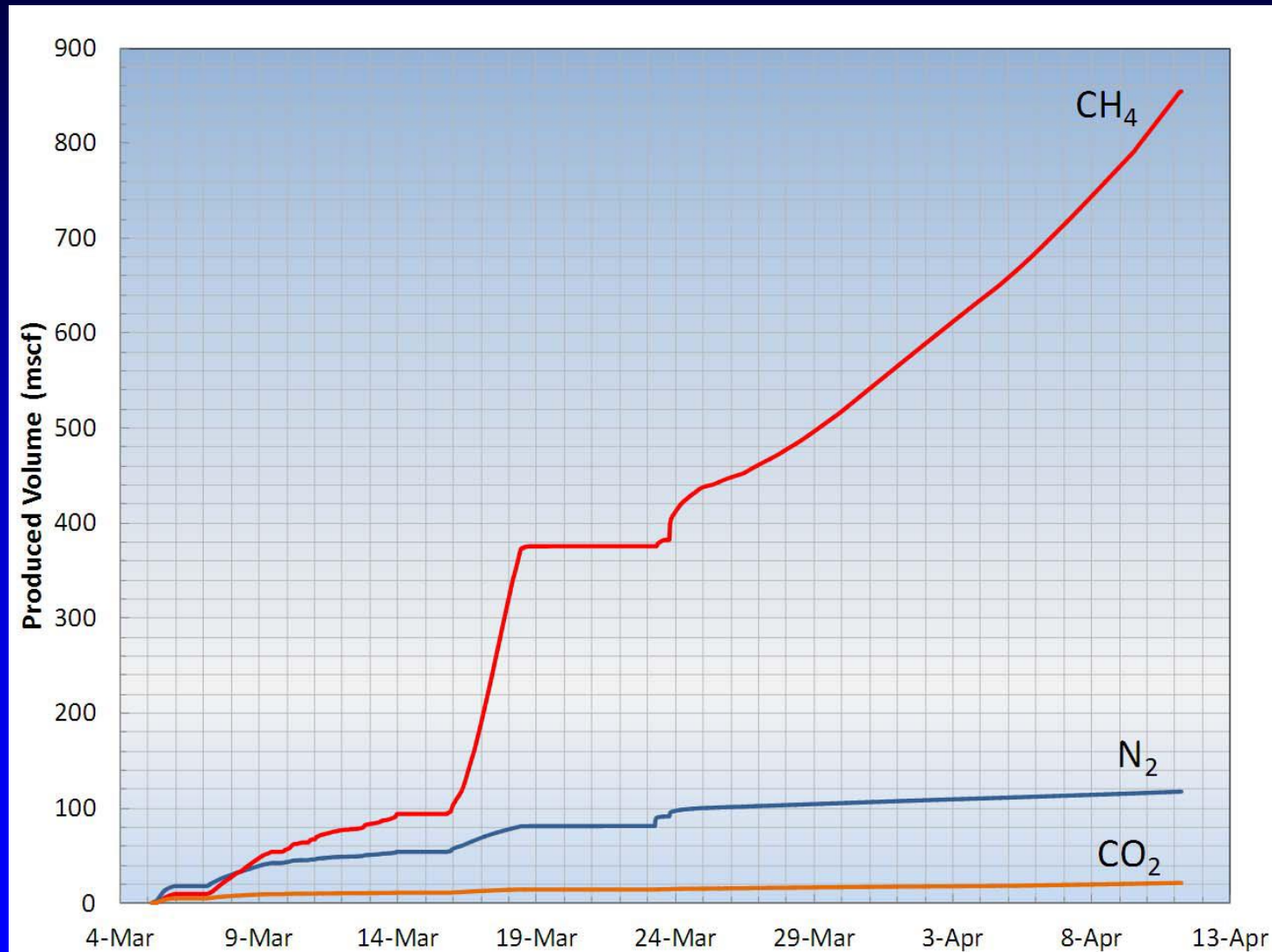
Prudhoe Bay Unit L-pad







Gas Production from the Field Test



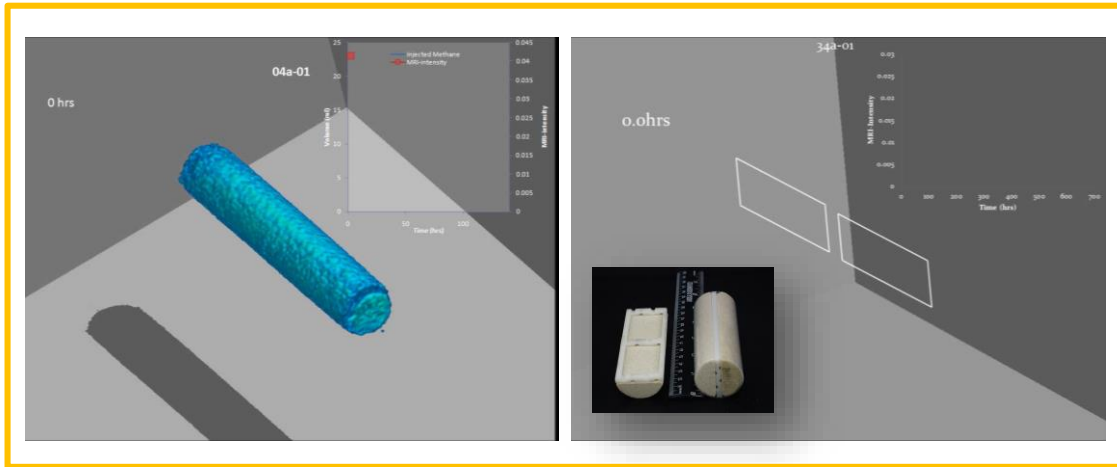
Ignik Sikumi #1 Flowback/Drawdown: Gas composition

Energy for the Future

Gas Production WITH CO₂ Storage in Hydrates

Energy bound in hydrates is more than combined energy in conventional oil, gas and coal reserves

UiB Laboratory Verification of Technology

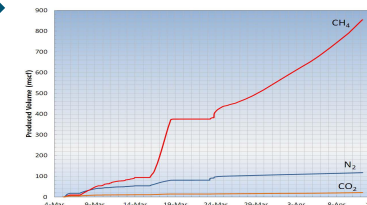
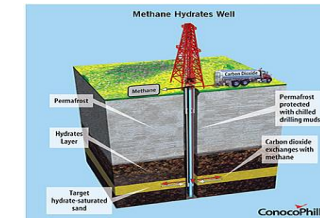


< 10 year
US \$30 mill

Field Verification of UiB Technology

"While this is just the beginning, this research could potentially yield significant new supplies of natural gas."

U.S. Energy Secretary Steven Chu, May 2nd 2012



DOE, ConocoPhillips and JOGMEC at the Iñalik Sikumi test site, Alaska

What are Methane Hydrates?

Methane hydrates are ice-like structures with natural gas trapped inside, and are found both onshore and offshore along nearly every continental shelf in the world.

Excerpt from U.S. Energy Secretary Steven Chu's statement

...to conduct a test of natural gas extraction from methane hydrate **using a unique production technology, developed through laboratory collaboration between the University of Bergen, Norway...** [D]emonstrated that this mixture could **promote the production of natural gas.** Ongoing analyses of the extensive datasets acquired at the field site will be needed to determine the **efficiency of simultaneous CO₂ storage in the reservoirs.**

Summary

Use of CO₂ as a commodity:

Business Case for CO₂ Storage:

- CO₂ EOR
- Integrated EOR (IEOR) with Foam: Carbon Negative Oil Production
- Exploitation of Hydrate Energy: Carbon Neutral Gas Production

Way Forward

New technologies ready for industrial scale implementation:

- Onshore in Permian Basin, USA (80% CO₂EOR, EOR target 137Bbbl)
- Offshore Opportunities: NCS, Middle East, Asia, Africa and Brazil
- International Whole Value Chain CCUS Collaboration Offshore

Thank you!