Subsurface Geology Structure

At each stage of a field life cycle raw data has to be converted into information, but for the information to have value it must be influence decision making and profitability.

Methods:

Well-to-Well correlation -- Sequence

Geological Mapping -- Subsurface Geology Research

Contents:

- •Well Correlation
- •Subsurface Structure of Oil and Gas Fields

Practices:

- •Well to Well Correlation
- Geological Cross Section

Chapter 3 Well Correlation

Well correlation is used to establish and visualise the <u>lateral</u> <u>extent</u> and the variation of reservoir parameters. In carrying out a correlation we <u>subdivide</u> the objective sequence into <u>lithologic</u> <u>units</u> and follow those units or their generic equivalent laterally through the area of interest.

By correlation we can establish lateral and vertical trends of those parameters throughout the structure. This will enable us to calculate hydrocarbon volumes in different parts of a field, predict production rates and optimise the location for appraisal and development wells.



Section 1 Stratigraphic Division Unit

Section 2 Stratigraphic Correlation

Section 3 Lithofacies Correlation

Section 4 Oil Bed Correlation

Section 1 Stratigraphic Division Unit

(Field wide)

- I. Rock-stratigraphic unit
- II. Biostratigraphic unit
- III. Sequence stratigraphic unit



Section 1 Stratigraphic Division

Field wide

Rock-stratigraphic unit
Biostratigraphic unit

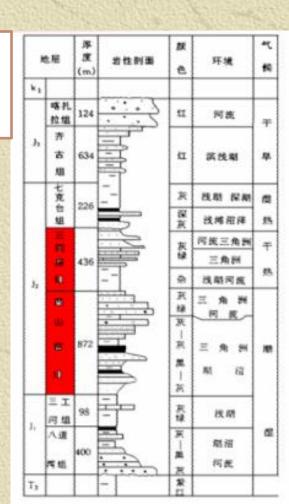
Sequence stratigraphic unit

I. Rock-stratigraphic unit

Rock Stratigraphic Unit is defined by formation lithology feature, has certain thickness and steady around some scope, is bounded by unconformity on the top or bottom.

- •Unit: group, formation, member, bed
 - •Characteristics:
 - 1. Lithology uniform;
 - 2. distribution limited;
 - 3. non-isochron

Mainly used in area with few fossil





Field wide Rock-stratigraphic unit Biostratigraphic unit

II. Biostratigraphic unit

Stratigraphic unit divided by the continuity and periodicity of biological evolution.

•Basic unit: biozone

index fossil

Wide distribution; Evolution fast; Many

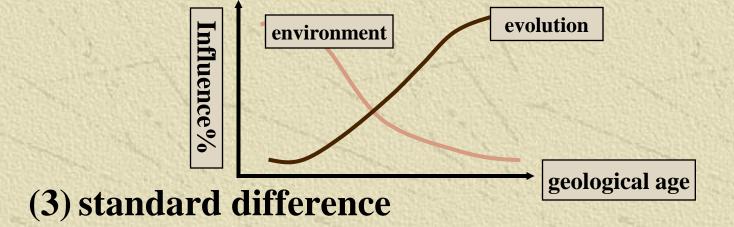
Field wide

Rock-stratigraphic unit
Biostratigraphic unit
Sequence stratigraphic unit

II. Biostratigraphic unit

Reasons for biozone diachronism:

- (1) human factor
- (2) unbalanced biological evolution in time and space





Rock-stratigraphic unit
Biostratigraphic unit
Sequence stratigraphic unit

III. Sequence stratigraphic unit
Sequence include any relatively
conformable of genetic connected
strata, the top and bottom boundary
is unconformities and corresponding
conformities.(Mitchum, 1977).

Sequence,
para sequence sets,
para sequence,
measures ,
layer,
lamina set , lamina



On a larger scale for example in a regional context, seismic stratigraphy will help to establish a reliable correlation. It is employed in combination with the concept of sequence stratigraphy. This technique, initially introduced by Exxon Research and since then considerably refined, postulates that global ("eustatic") sea level changes create unconformities which can be used to subdivide the stratigraphic record.

These unconformities are modified and affected by more local ("relative") changes in sea level as a result of local tectonic movements, climate and the resulting impact on sediment supply. The most significant stratigraphic discontinuities used in a sequence stratigraphic approach are:

- (1) Regressive surfaces of erosion, caused by a lowering of sea level
- (2) Transgressive surfaces of erosion, caused by an increase in sea level
- (3) Maximum flooding surfaces at times of "highest" sea level Relative sea level changes affect many shallow marine and coastal depositional environments.

Sequence stratigraphy integrates information gleaned from seismic, cores, well logs and often outcrops.

In many cases it has increased the understanding of <u>reservoir geometry</u> and <u>heterogeneity</u> and improved the correlation.

Sequence stratigraphy has also proved a powerful tool to predict presence and regional distribution of reservoirs.

Field wide **Section 1 Stratigraphic Division Unit** I. Rock-stratigraphic unit II. Biostratigraphic unit III. Sequence stratigraphic unit

Chapter 3 Well Correlation

Section 1 Stratigraphic Division unit

Section 2 Stratigraphic Correlation

Section 3 Lithofacies Correlation

Section 4 Correlation of Oil Beds

Section 2 Stratigraphic Correlation

Foundation

Based on Rock Record Basis?

▲ sedimentary sequence sedimentary environment and provenance difference in different periods

vertical difference of rock record (vertical division)

▲ same sedimentary environment and period lateral similarity of rock record (lateral correlation)

I.Scope and Range II.Method III. Procedures



1. Global Correlation

Palaeontological and absolute age

2. Regional Correlation

Palaeontological population features

3. Field Correlation

Palaeontological population and combination features, Lithology and sedimentary features

4. Oil Beds Correlation (Chronostratigraphic correlation)

lateral similarity



II. Correlation Methods

- 1. Lithological correlation
- 2. Lithofacies correlation
- 3. Well logging curve correction
- 4. Paleontological correction
- 5. Geochemistry correlation
- 6. Structure correlation
- 7. Clay mineral correlation

1. Lithological Correlation

Use lithology and lithological association, sedimentary cycle to conduct stratigraphic correlation, tracing lateral lithological distribution pattern.

marker bed correction cyclic correlation

1.Llithological correlation

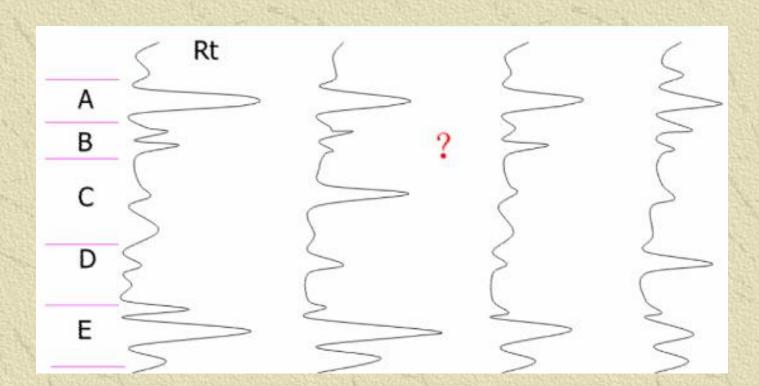
(1) Marker bed correlation

Use regional stable, easily recognized and wide distributed formation as marker bed.

* Marker bed or standard mark is important indicator because it is special lithology which is easy to identify on the profile and logging curve. In most situation, it is isochronous mark such as steady mudstone, thin carbonate rock (limestone and dolomite), oil shale and thin coal bed and so on.

Marker bed

Concept: obvious characteristic, wide distribution, isochronic formation or lithologic interface.





Example

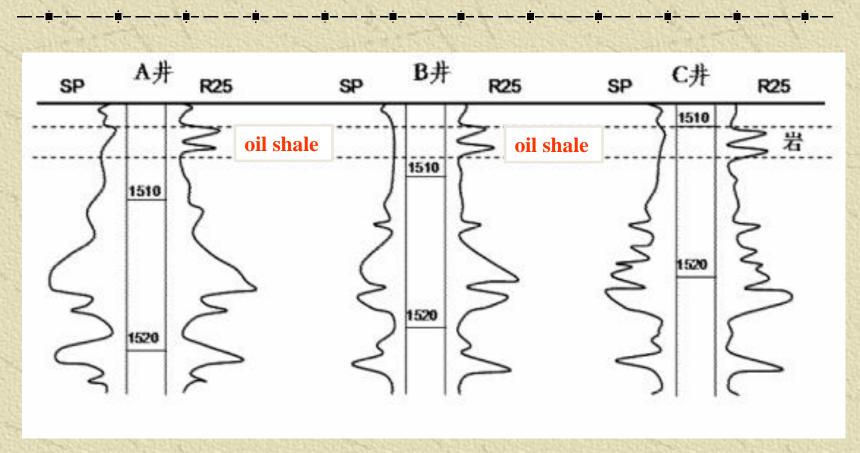
A good datum plane would be a continuous shale because we can assume that it represents a "flooding surface" present over a wide area. Since shales are low energy deposits we may also assume that they have been deposited mostly horizontally, blanketing the underlying sediments thus "creating" a true datum plane.

Isochonism?

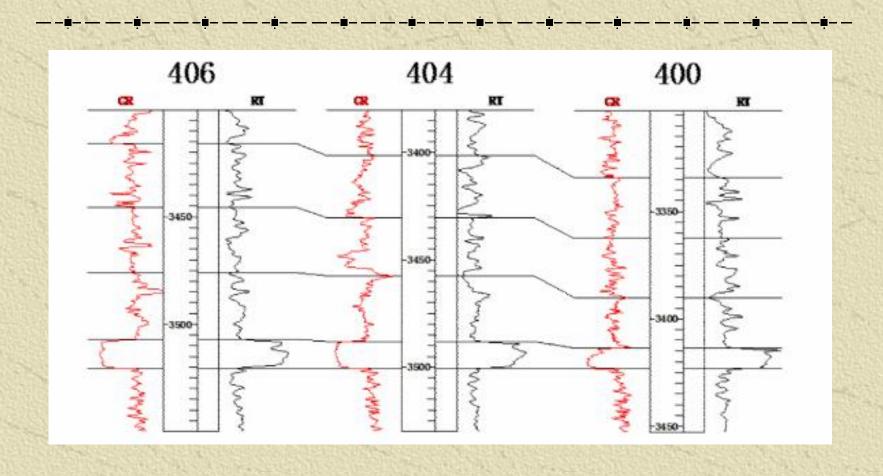
wide sedimentation in the same period

Marker bed associated with flooding

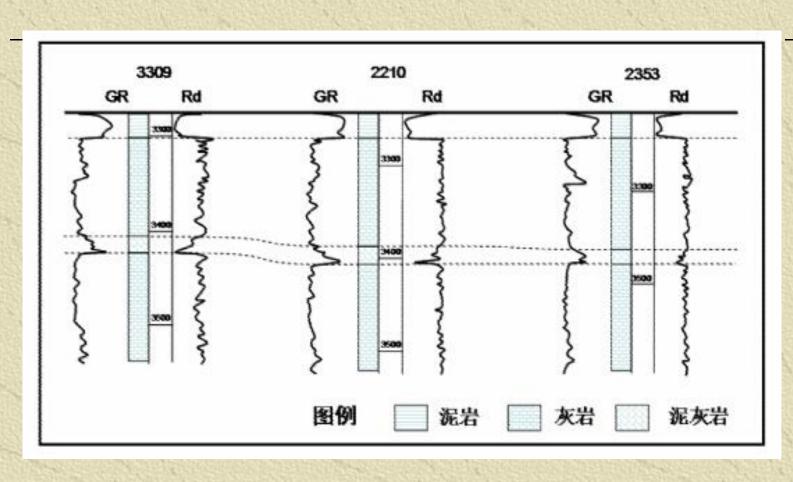
flooding: large-scale rapid transgression of flooding.



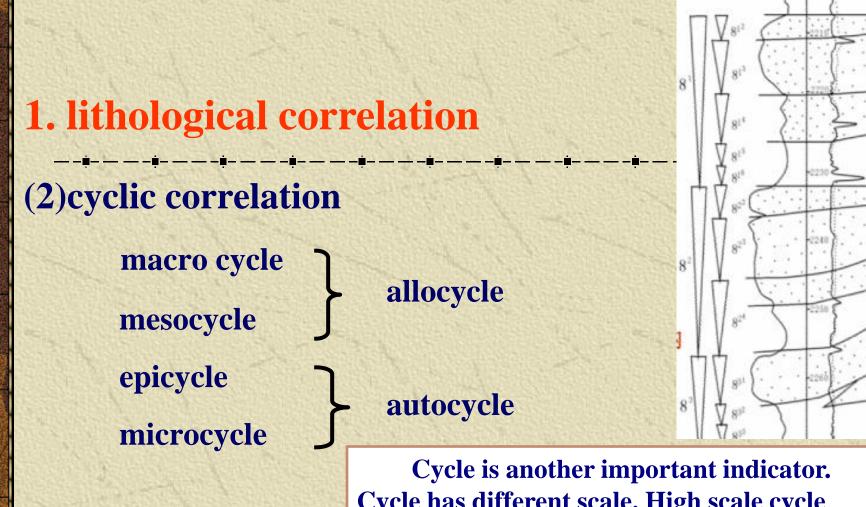
lagoonal facies, lacustrine facies oil shale?



Thin limestone in clastic rock?



Thin bed mud in carbonate rock



Cycle is another important indicator. Cycle has different scale. High scale cycle can be used in large scope, and lower scale cycle in small scope.

We can identify many standard marks and different cycles on the profile by using logging curve.



Lithofacies: the sum of connate deposit in a geomorphic unit Facies sequence----facies analysis and correlation

Applied range:

- (1) Lithology and thickness variation;
- (2) Unconformity and tectonic movement;
- (3) Area with few drilling data

3. Well logging curve correlation

Well logging data including a great amount of geological information are the main sources applied to study formation correlation.

Condition: area with little lithologic variation

Principle: similarity of well logging curve,

or based on stable electrical logo layer.

Method: controlling correlation by long interval curves, then correction layer by layer.

Advantages(1) accurate depth;

(2) continuous well logging of full well section

Common curves: R, SP, GR, Cal



4. Palaeontological correction

identification — statistics — biozone — correlation

5. Geochemistry correlation

Based on microelement content in rock and other kinds of element contents.

V/Ni>1 marine

V/Ni<1 terrestrial

V--Vanadium, Ni-- Nickel

6.Structure Correlation

According to unconformity and parallel unconformity to divide formations and conduct stratigraphic correlation.

7. Clay mineral correlation

II. Correlation methods

- 1. Lithological correlation
- 2. Lithofacies correlation
- 3. Well logging curve correction
- 4. Palaeontological correction
- 5. Geochemistry correlation
- 6. Structure correlation
- 7. Clay mineral correlation

- 1. Correlation Principle
- 2. Correlation Procedures
- 3. Correlation Results



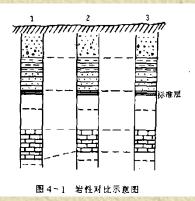
- 1. Correction Principle
- A. Data collection and compilation
- B. in complex study area, establish type well and establish marker bed.

type well:

continuous coring, interval integrity,

No stratigraphic break or degradation

marker



C. notice large-scale facies change

A. Select type well

B. Define markers

C.Select key section

D.Well correlation

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	. 0						

	w1	w2	w3	w4
Α	1612		1615	
В	1650	1640	1655	1660
С	1693	1672	1710	1723
D	1712 1742	1722	1766	1770

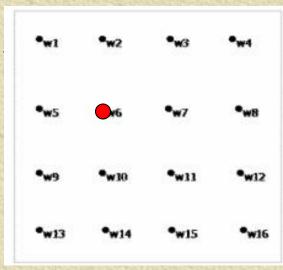
E.Correlation mapping

F. Enclose all profiles

G. Fill uniform Hierarchical data table

A. Select type well

B. Define markers



Select type well or standard well which has high quality data (including wellsite geologic data, well logging data and lab analysis data).

Standard mark and cycle must be analyzed on the standard well profile.

A. Select type well

B. Define markers

C.Select key sections

Select correlation sections

In most case, we will select several the sections which are parallel to depositional direction because of the little change of lithology along the direction.

Meanwhile, we should select several assistant sections which are vertical to depositional direction. It makes network correlation sections for master and assistant sections.

A. Select type well

B. Define markers

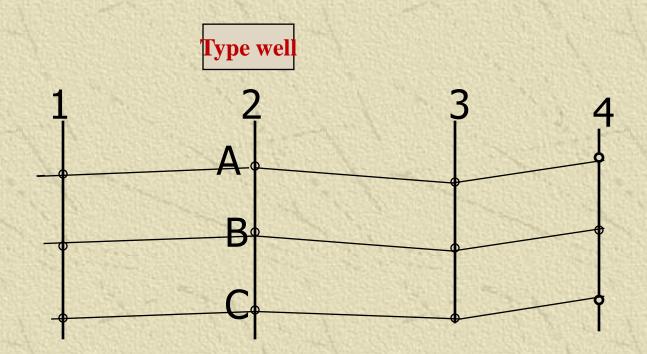
C.Select key section

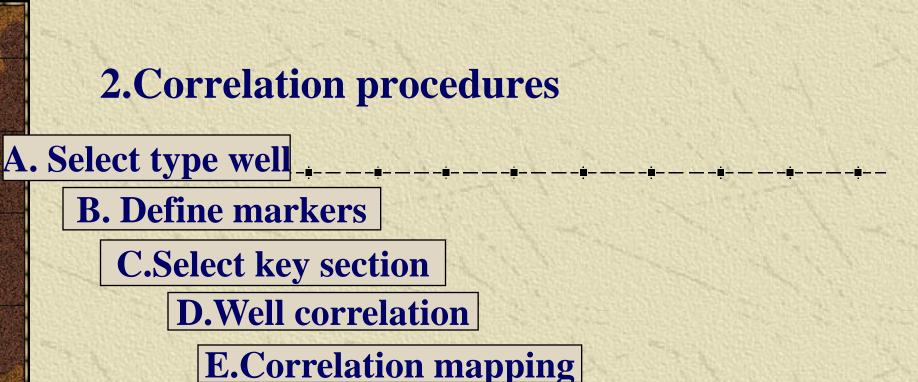
D.Well correlation

correlation will be begun to do starting from standard well from near to far across the master and assistant section.

E.Correlation mapping

correlation will be begun to do starting from standard well(type well) from near to far across the master and assistant section.





We connect correlation line between wells. If we find the change of formation thickness unreasonable, we should inspect correlation from two ways, the first is unreasonable for formation dividing, and the second is we may meet some geologic matter such as fault or unconformity.

If it is the first case, we must be careful to inspect formation dividing.

If it is the second case, we will do analysis of geologic matter other wells. If there is local change, such as formation thickness between two or three wells, we can infer that fault may be. Thus fault point should be determined on the well profile. Meanwhile, different fault point on the different wells will be assembled on the cross section.

We correlate all "events" by comparing the markers and log response. In many instance correlations are ambiguous. Where two or more correlation options seem possible, the problem may be resolved by checking whether an interpretation is consistent with the geological model and by further validating it with other data.

For instance, pressure data that will indicate whether or not sands in different wells communicate.

2. Correlation procedures

- A. Select type well
 - **B.** Define markers
 - C.Select key section
 - **D.Well correlation**
 - **E.Correlation mapping**
 - F. Enclose all profiles
 - G. Fill uniform Hierarchical data table

If all the geologic interpretation is reasonable on the correlation section, all divided data will be recored in the form. This is a correlation results which will be used to do subsurface geology works.



3. Correlation Results

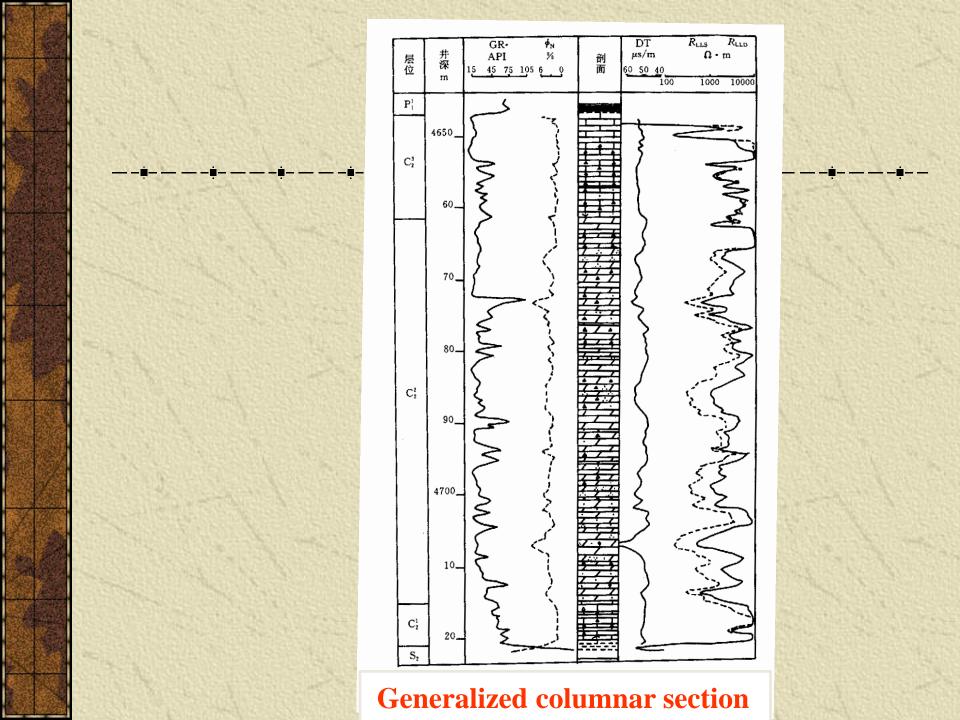
Correlation is a process of geologic study again and again. We can know features of formation distribution, fault, unconformity and facies distribution from correlation.

Master profile:

Using the average thickness of the formation to draw histogram, reflex the abstract lithologic characteristic.

Generalized columnar section:

Profile consisting of sections with the most complete and most obvious curve markers in each formation.



Chapter 3 Well Correlation

Section 1 Stratigraphic Division

Section 2 Stratigraphic Correlation

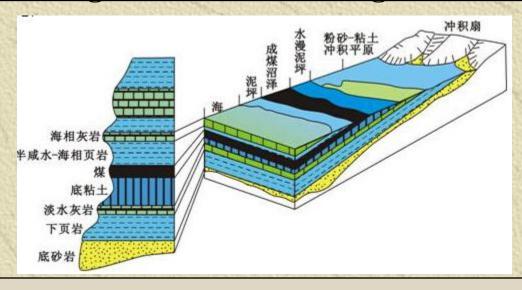
Section 3 Lithofacies Correlation

Section 4 Correlation of Oil Beds

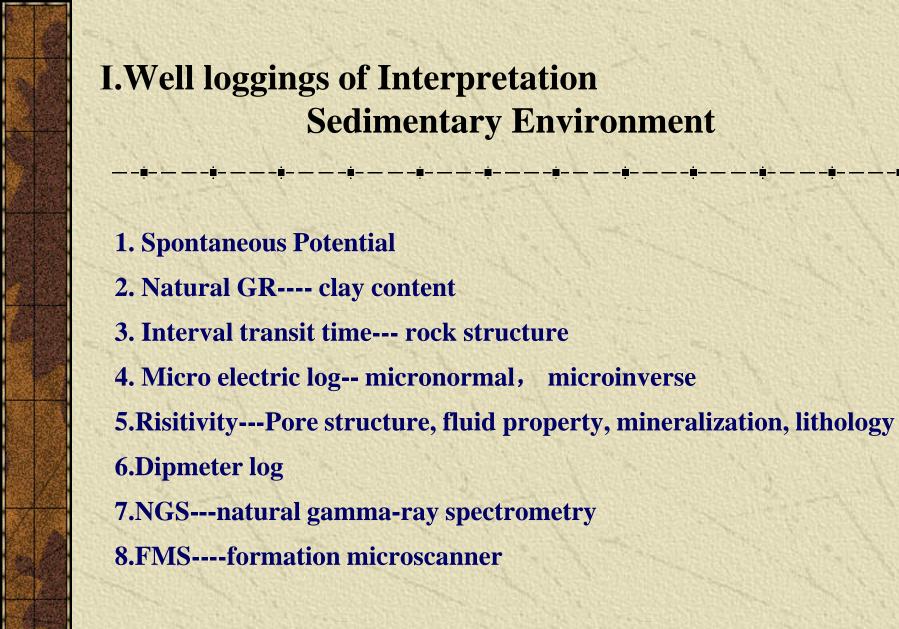
Section 3 Lithofacial Correlation

On the lateral causes similar closely adjacent to phase in a vertical appeared in turn without interval

The vertical progression of facies should be the same as corresponding lateral facies changes



- I. Well loggings of Interpretation Sedimentary Environment
- II. SP Geological Significance



I.Well loggings of Interpretation **Sedimentary Environment**

- 1. Spontaneous Potential
- 2. Natural GR---- clay content
- 3. Interval transit time--- rock structure
- 4. Micro electric log-- micronormal, microinverse
- 5. Risitivity---Pore structure, fluid property, mineralization, lithology
- 6.Dipmeter log
- 7.NGS---natural gamma-ray spectrometry
- 8.FMS----formation microscanner

I.Well loggings

of Interpretation Sedimentary Environment

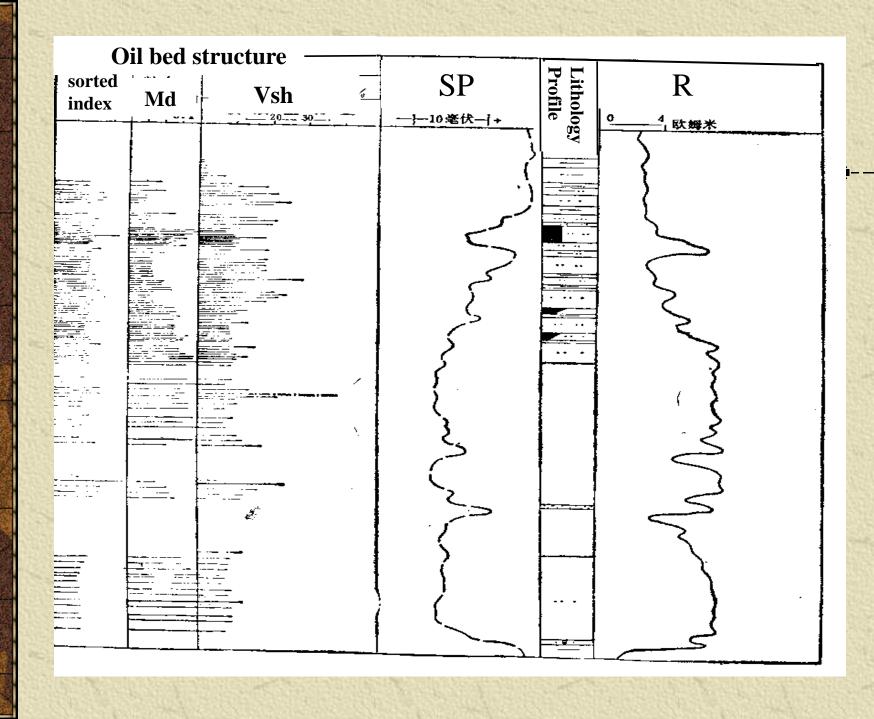
1.SP(Spontaneous Potential)

$$Eda = -k \frac{\lg Rmf}{\lg Rw}$$

Eda: Electrodynamic potential

Eda depends on:

- (1) The difference between the formation water salinity and drilling fluid salinity;
- (2) Pore structure
- (3) Hydrodynamic force



I.Well loggings

of Interpretation Sedimentary Environment

- 2. Natural GR---- clay content
- 3. Interval transit time ---- rock structure Δt ---- Φ
- 4. Micro electric log-- micronormal, microinverse
- 5. R---pore structure, fluid property, mineralization, lithology
- 6. dipmeter log ----direction of dip, dip
- 7. NGS---natural gamma-ray spectrometry
 - ---U(uranium), Th(thorite), K(potassium) → Vsh
 - →Sedimentary Environment
- 8. FMS---formation microscanner



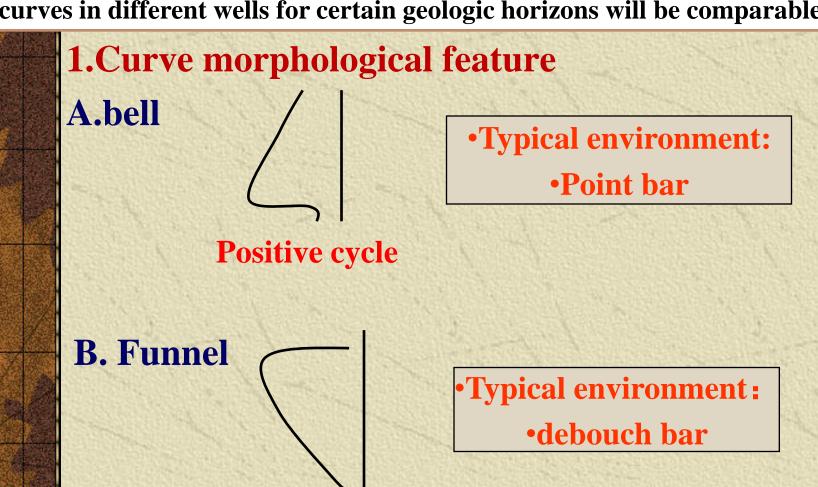
II. SP Geological Significance

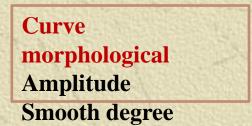
Inverse cycle

Curve morphological

Amplitude

The SP curve is important in geological correlation because the shapes of these curves in different wells for certain geologic horizons will be comparable.

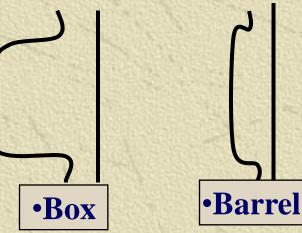




II. SP Geological significance

1. Curve Morphological Feature

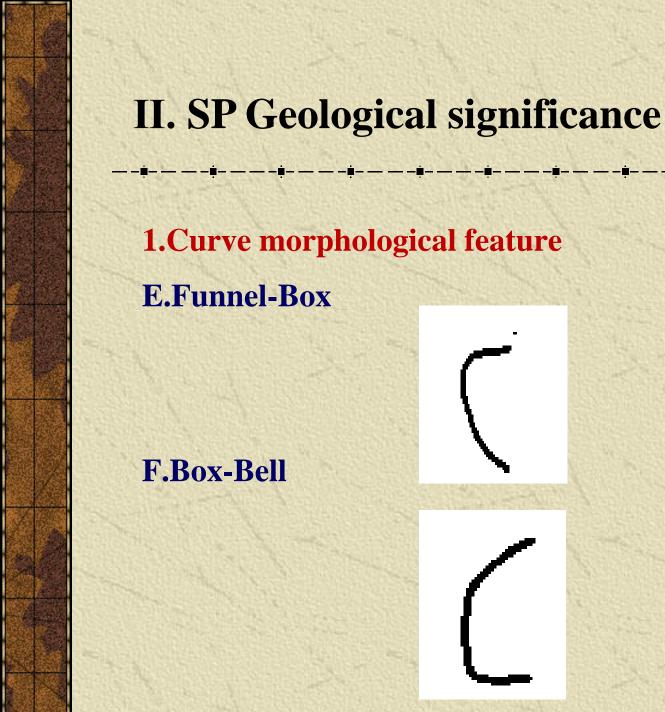
C. Cylindrical



D. Finger



Typical environment:Sand beach



Curve morphological **Amplitude Smooth degree**

1. Curve morphological feature

II. SP Geological significance

Curve morphological Amplitude Smooth degree

2. Amplitude of curves

$$x/h \begin{cases} <1 \text{ low} \\ 1-2 \text{ moderate} \\ >2 \text{ high} \end{cases}$$

$$\Delta SP = \frac{SP - SP \min}{SP \max - SP \min}$$



II. SP Geological significance

Curve morphological Amplitude Smooth degree

3. Smooth degree

- 1. Hydrodynamic energy and provenance supply;
- 2. Reflect one phase sedimentation or multi-phase sedimentation

Section 3 Lithofacial Correlation

Sedimentary facies: is a distinctive rock unit that forms under certain conditions of sedimentation, reflecting a particular process or environment.

Lithofacies: The rock record of any particular sedimentary environment, including rock color, lithological association sedimentary structure and so on.

☐ Interpret sedimentary process, infer sedimentary environment

- *** Individual well facies analysis**
- ***** Lithofacial correlation

Chapter 3 Well Correlation

Section 1 Stratigraphic Division

Section 2 Stratigraphic Correlation

Section 3 Lithofacies Correlation

Section 4 Correlation of Oil Beds



Section 4 Correlation of Oil beds

Oil bed correlation is done on the base of formation correlation. When we are doing oilfield development geologic works, in order to determine development interval and study oil bed heterogeneity, we should do oil bed correlation.



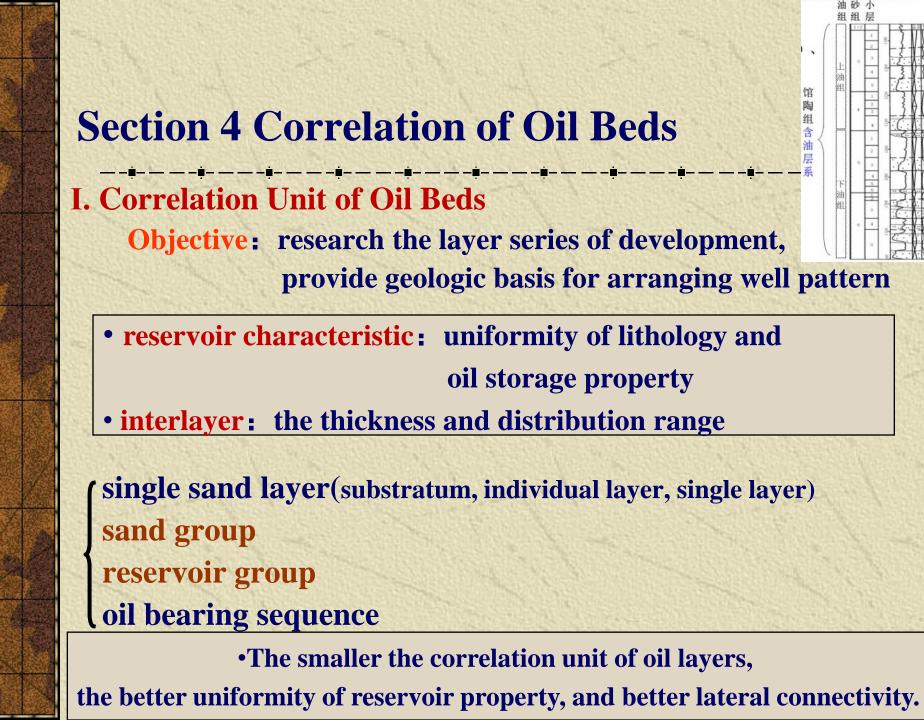
- •Oil layers correlation is the foundation for subsurface geological research in oilfield
- •Understand the spatial distribution pattern by dividing oil layers in each well, and divide oil layers of the same geological time.

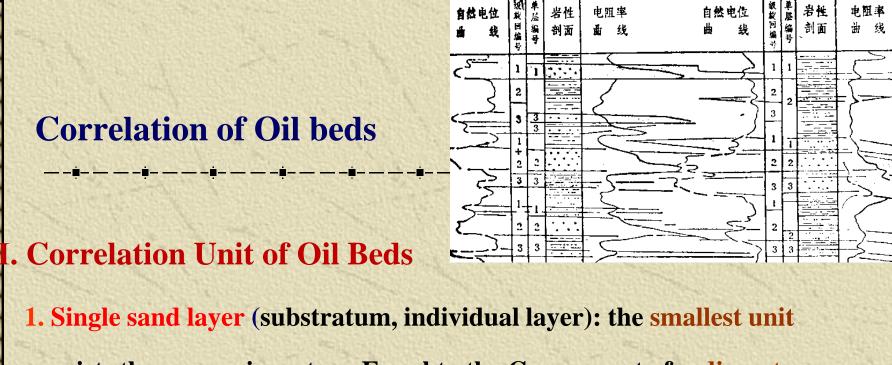
Correlation of Oil layers: the correlation of oil bearing sequence which have been identified in regional stratigraphic correlation in an oil field.

Section 4 Correlation of Oil beds

Correlation of Oil Layers: the correlation of oil bearing sequence which have been identified in regional stratigraphic correlation in an oil field.

- I. Correlation Unit of Oil Beds
- **II. Sedimentary Cycle Graduation**
- **III. Oil Correlation Method**





consists the reservoir system. Equal to the Coarse part of sedimentary rhythm. It has certain thickness and distribution range in the same oil field, and the lithology and oil storage property is uniform within the sand layer. It is divided by interbeds, and area of divided single sand layer is bigger than the connected area between sand layers, Single sand layer do not have independent hydrodynamic system, that is, it can not be independent development unit.



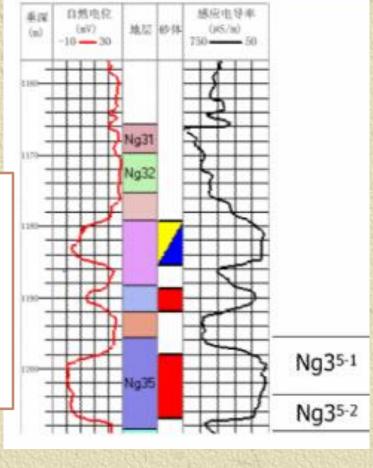
1. Single sand layer(substratum, individual layer)

- **▲** certain thickness and distribution range
- ▲ divided by interbed,

divided area bigger than connected area

Single sand layer is one single bed which may be one microfacies, for example: channel sand, point bar, mouth bar, beech sand, dalta front sheet sand, it make small cycle which contain one microfacies.

Single SP curve shape will be used to determine this small cycle.



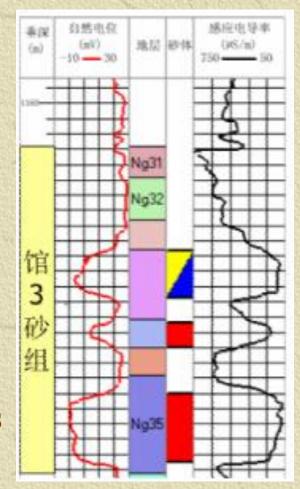
Correlation of Oil beds

---- Stratigraphic unit classification

2. Sand group

- ▲ Composed by adjacent single sand layers.
- **△** Uniform lithology in the sand group
- ▲ Sand groups are divided by steady interbeds

Independent development systems





I. Correlation Unit of Oil Beds

3. Reservoir group: composed of several sand groups with similar reservoir property, the cap and bottom bed is thick impermeable mudstones. Distributed in the same facies, and belongs to the same sedimentary system.

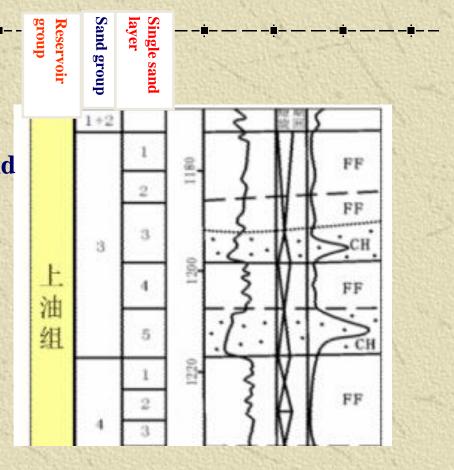
The reservoir group is divided into several independent development systems based on heterogeneity and pressure characteristics.

Correlation of Oil Beds—— classification of stratigraphic units

3. Reservoir group

▲ Composed of several sand groups with similar oil layer property.

▲ The top and bottom is thick impermeable mudstone.



Sand package is assembly of beds which has the same genesis, such as river bed, delta bed and beech or bar bed etc. it make a middle cycle which contain a depositional sequence, such as one delta sequence. We can use SP curve association shape to divide it into progressive, regressive and stacking cycle.



- I. Correlation unit of oil layers
- 4. Oil bearing sequence, oil-bearing series: combination of several reservoir groups, a set of source-reservoir-cap rock association with same sedimentary origin. Within an Oil bearing sequence, the sedimentary origin, oil and water, as well as rock types features are relatively the same.

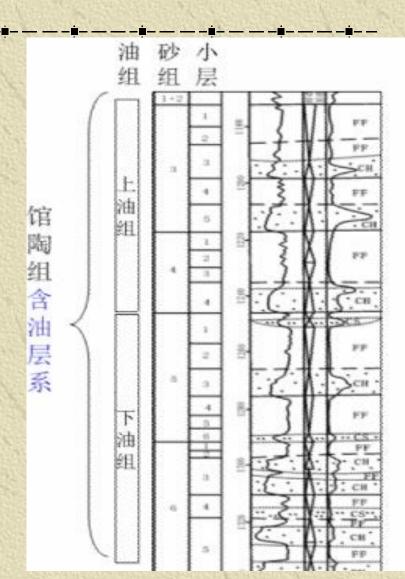


4. Oil bearing sequence

- **a** combination of reservoir groups.
- ▲ Similar sedimentary origin, rock types and oil-water characteristic in the same oil bearing sequence.

Top and bottom surface of reservoir unit is uniform with the stratigraphic-age boundary.

(isochronous)



Section 4 Correlation of Oil Beds

I. Correlation Unit of Oil Beds

single sand layer
sand group
reservoir group
oil bearing sequence

•The smaller the correlation unit of oil layers, the better uniformity of reservoir property, and better lateral connectivity.

Yanqi basin Baolang oilfield

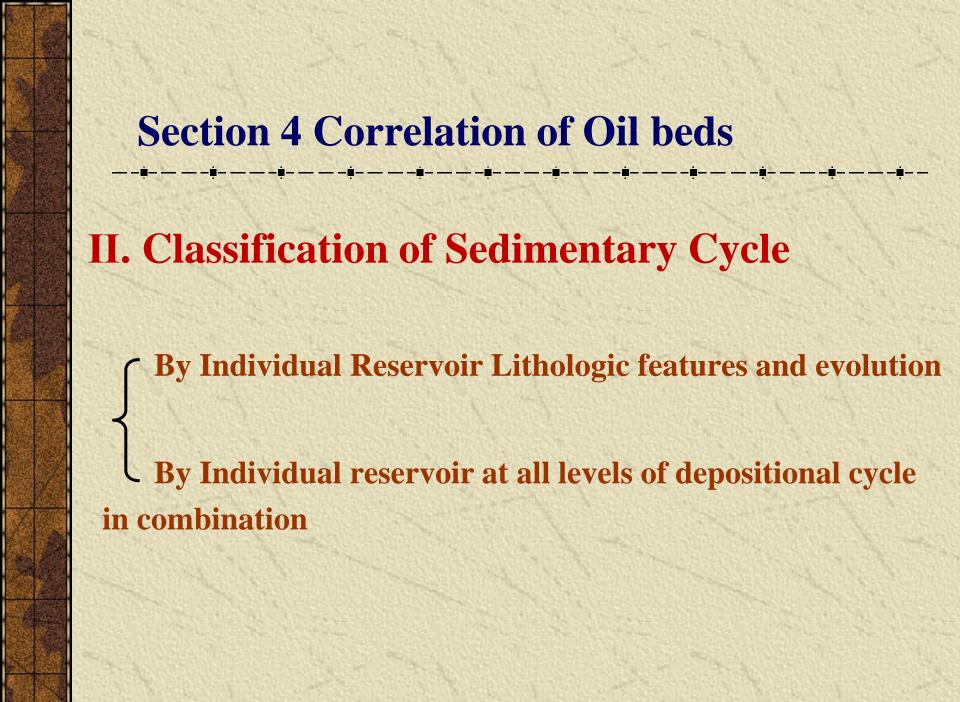
oil bearing sequence

oil group

•I oil group:

•Baozhong block——I1,I2,I3

•Baobei block——I1,I2

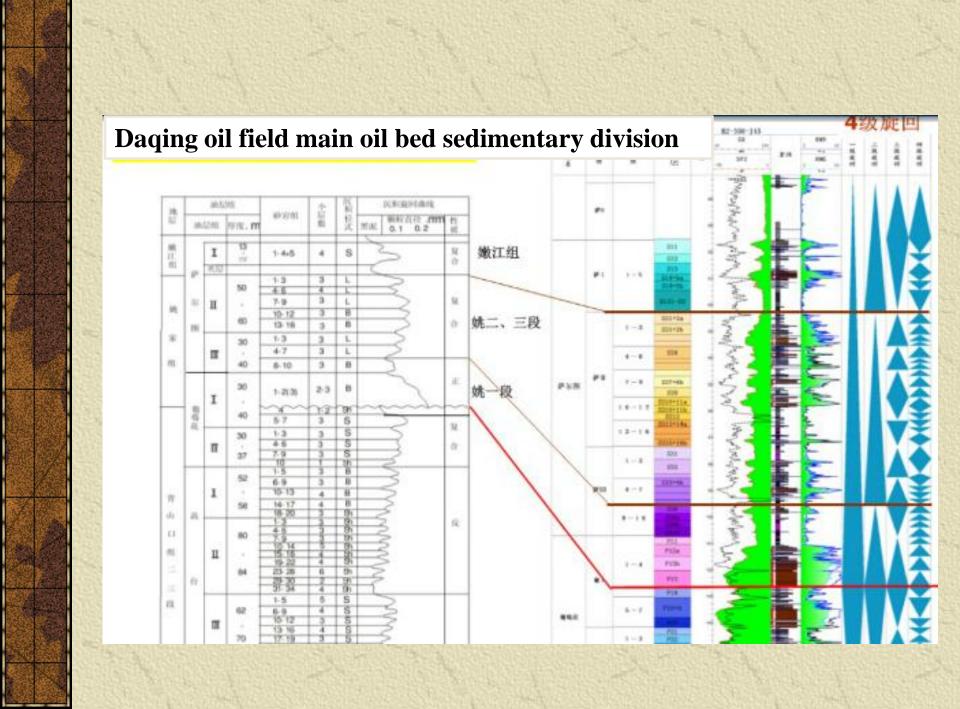


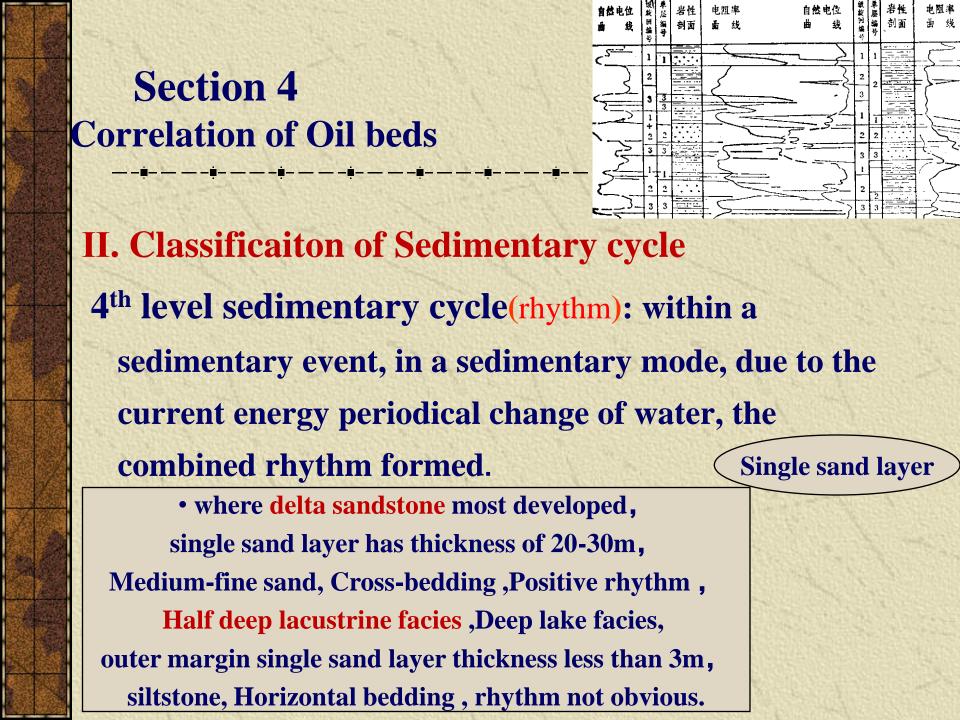
Section 4 Correlation of Oil beds

II. Classification of Sedimentary Cycle

```
4<sup>th</sup> level sedimentary cycle(rhythm)

3<sup>rd</sup> level sedimentary cycle
2<sup>nd</sup> level sedimentary cycle
1<sup>st</sup> level sedimentary cycle
```





Section 4 Correlation of Oil Beds

II. Cassification of Sedimentary Cycle

3rd level sedimentary cycle: within a sedimentary event, continuous deposition by different depositional mode, equal to sand group. Concentrational develoed oil bearing sand stone has certain connectivity, with stable mudstone interlayer, can be the basis for identifying cyclic boundary.

- •Like sand group, oil bearing sand stone has certain connectivity
- •With stable mudstone interlayer



II.Classification of Sedimentary Cycle

2nd level sedimentary cycle: in a uniform sedimentary setting, the continuous deposition composed of multi sedimentary events.
Resemble depositional system or reservoir group.

Section 4 Correlation of Oil Beds

II. Classification of Sedimentary Cycle

1st level sedimentary cycle: within the same petroliferous basins, in a certain period, in different sedimentary backgrounds, the continuous deposition composed of multi sedimentary events and different depositional mode, that is, 1st level sedimentary cycle is formed in a certain period of basin evolution.

II. Classification of Sedimentary Cycle

By Individual reservoir Lithologic features and evolution

By Individual reservoir at all levels of depositional cycle in combination

4th level sedimentary ycle(rhythm)
3rd level sedimentary cycle
2nd level sedimentary cycle
1st level sedimentary cycle

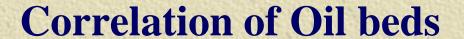


III. Correction Methods of Oil Bed

Correlation process is the same not only to formation correlation but also to oil bed correlation.

cycle-thickness correlation

"cycle comparison and hierarchical controlling"



III. Oil bed correction cycle-thickness correlation

(1) Condition: stable depositional environment

such as lacustrine facies and delta-front facies

(2)Definition: controlled by standard layer or marker, according to the relationship between the order of sedimentary cycle and thickness ratio, conduct correlation step-by-step from large to small till to the single layer.

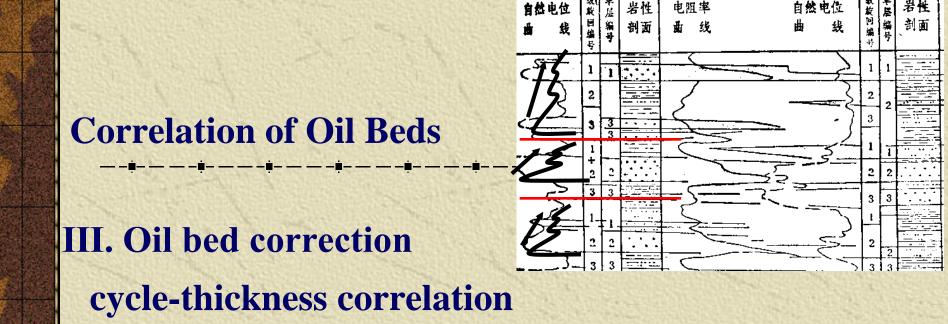
Correlation of Oil Beds

III. Oil bed correction cycle-thickness correlation

(3)procedure:

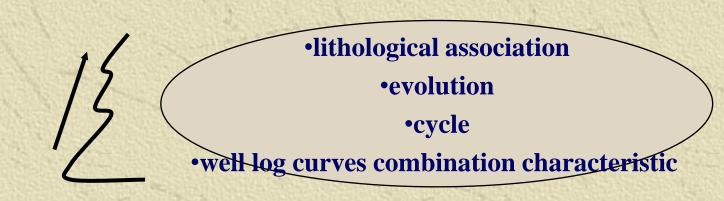
A. use marker and 2^{nd} level sedimentary cycle to correlate reservoir group;

- the distribution of markers
- •2nd sedimentary cycle feature



B.use 3rd level sedimentary cycle ----sand group;

(3)procedure:



III. Oil bed correction cycle-thickness correlation

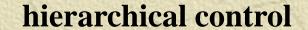
(3)procedure:

C.use 4th level sedimentary cycle, lithology and thickness to conduct time-stratigraphic unit correlation of single sand layer.

- •relative development degree of single sand layer
- stability of mudstone layer

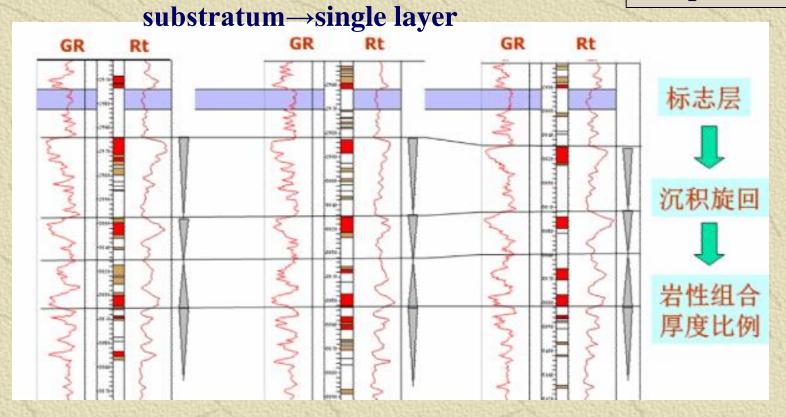
3 rd level sedimentary cycle	4 th level sedimentary cycle	Single layer	lithology		rhythm	Single layer	lithol ogy
M	1	1	• • •	1/5/	2	<u> </u>	
3	3			3	3		

Correlation of oil layers---methods

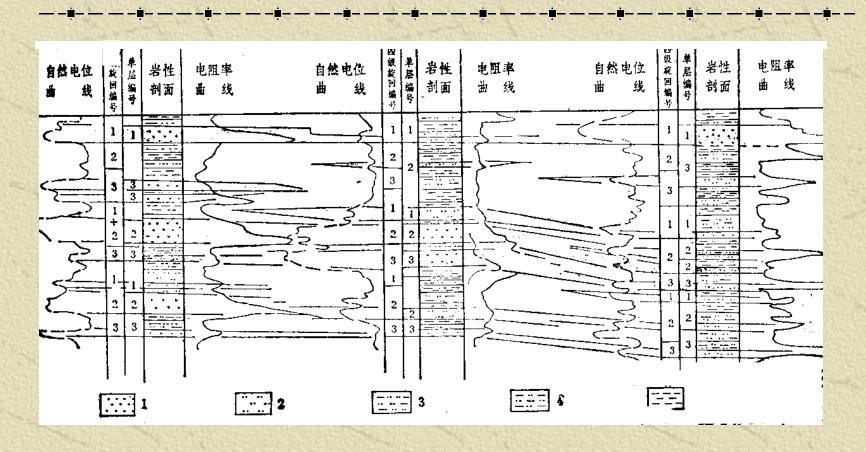


Reservoir group—sand group—

step by step comparison



Correlation of Oil Beds



oil beds correlation map

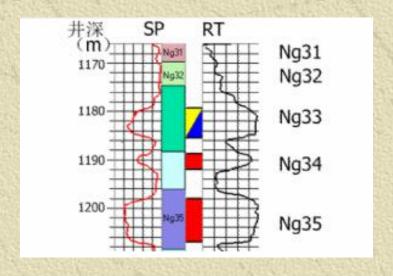
Cycle-thickness correlation:

controlled by standard layer, according to the relation between the order of sedimentary cycle and thickness ratio, conduct correlation step-bystep from large to small till to the single layer.

Correlation of oil layers-methods

Result list

substratum data table



油层组一砂层组		小层	小 层 井 段	砂 岩 井 段	有 效 厚 度 , m		有 效 孔隙度	渗透率
			m	m	一类	二 类	%	
上油组	Ng3	Ng35	1622- 1643	1634- 1634	10		20	125

Section 4 Correlation of Oil Beds IV. Reservoir Characteristic Research 1. Plane graph 2. Profile chart 3. Block diagram, fence diagram 4. Reservoir physical property map

Chapter 3 Well Correlation

Section 1 Stratigraphic Division

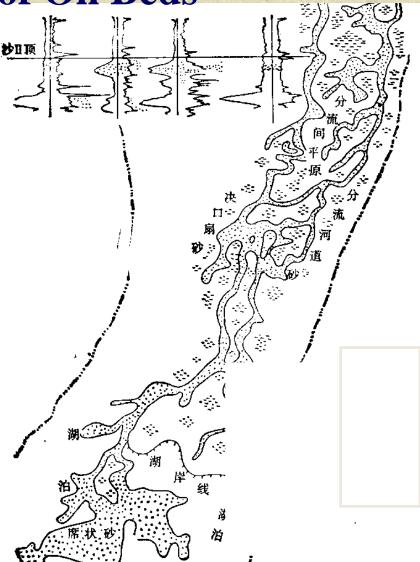
Section 2 Stratigraphic Correlation

Section 3 Lithofacies Correlation

Section 4 Correlation of Oil Beds

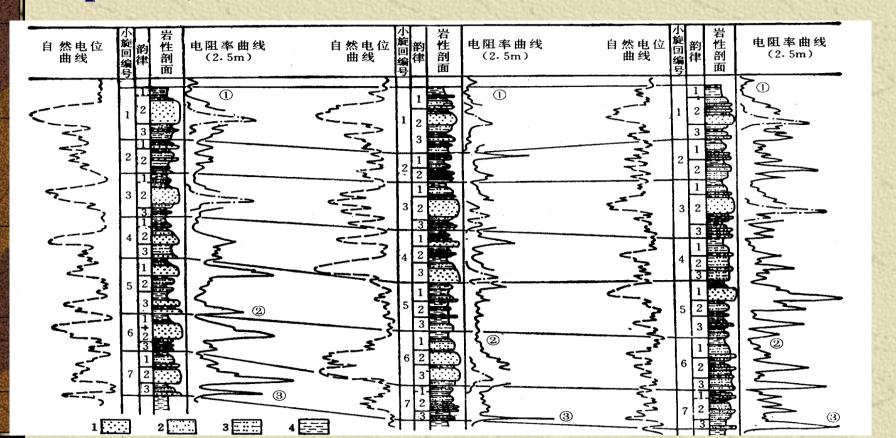
IV. reservoir characteristic resea1.Plane graph

Yao Er in the north of Daqing Oilfield Facies distribtion in the top of third member



IV. reservoir characteristic research

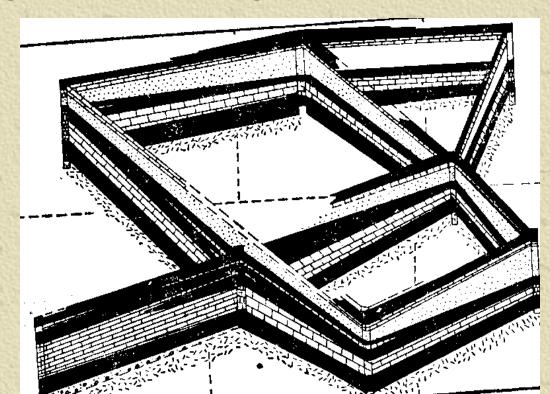
2. profile, section



Correlation of Oil Beds

IV. reservoir characteristic research

3. block diagram, fence diagram



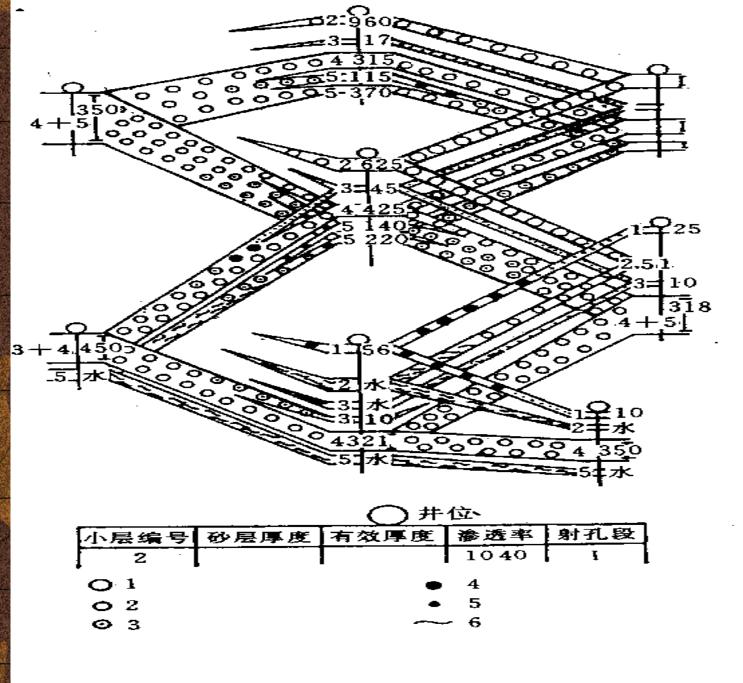
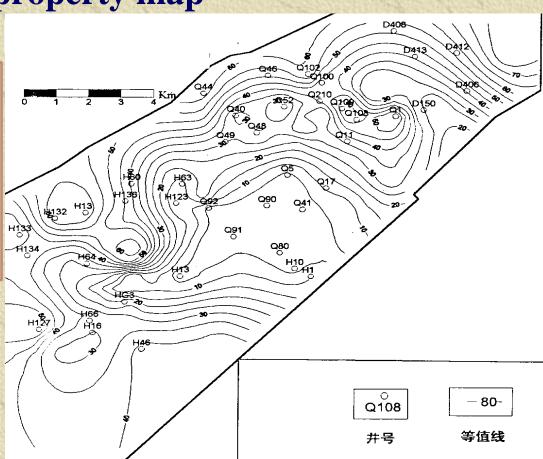


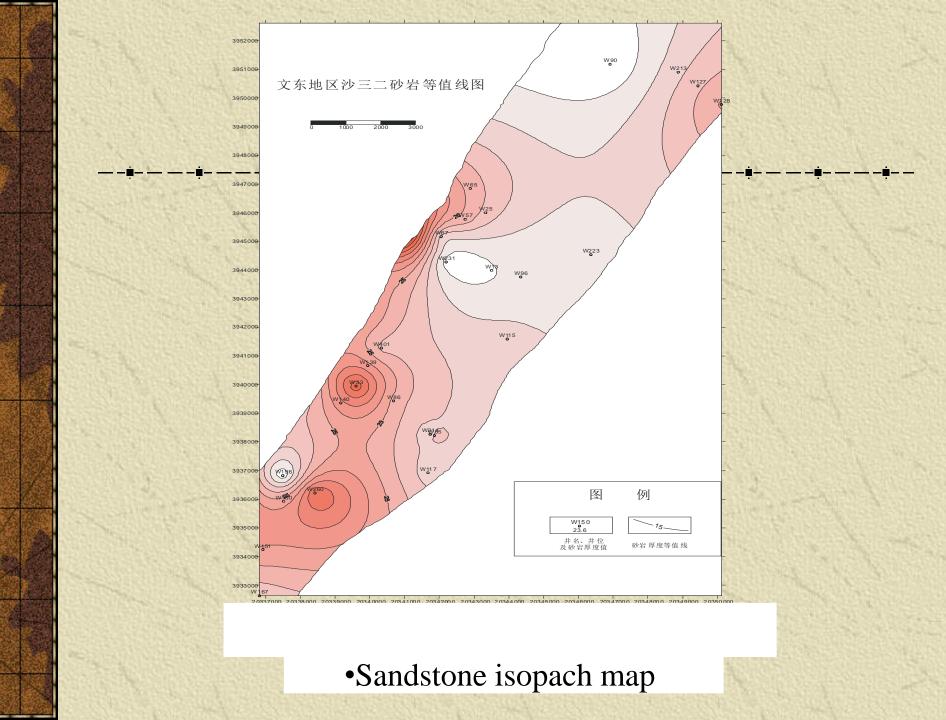
图 4-10 油层连通图

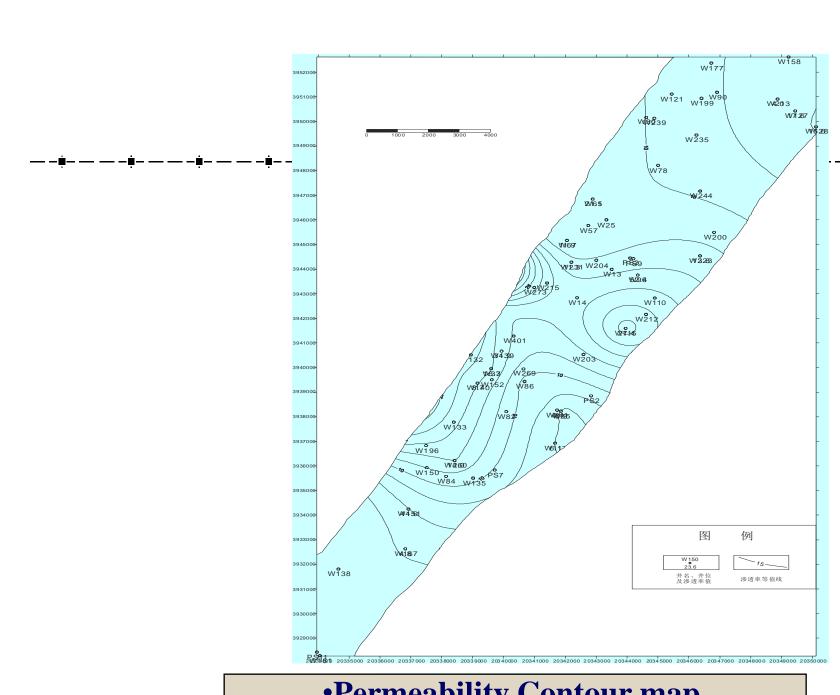
IV. reservoir characteristic research

4. Reservoir physical property map

Reservoir quality maps are used to illustrate the distribution of reservoir parameters such as <u>net sand</u>, porosity or reservoir thickness.







Permeability Contour map

Chapter 3 Well Correlation

Section 1 Stratigraphic Division

Section 2 Stratigraphic Correlation

Section 3 Lithofacies Correlation

Section 4 Correlation of Oil Beds

Comprehensive Questions: What's the main stratigraphic division units for a field wide? **Explain the definition of rock stratigraphic unit?** What's the characteristics of rock stratigraphic unit? **3.** What features of index fossil have? 4. **Explain the sequence stratigraphy unit? 5.** What is the basis of formation correction? **6. Explain the scope of stratigraphic correlation. 7.** Sum the main formation method in an oil field. 8. Analysis the features of marker bed. 9. 10. What are common logging curves to be used correction? 11. Explain the type well or standard well. 12. Describe the correlation procedures 13. How to select correlation sections? 14. What are factors to influence the SP curve? 15. Draw the SP curve morphology of point bar and debouch bar, and explain their sedimentary features. 16. Oil bed correction 17. How to define oil bed correction unit? 18. Analysis the features of single oil method 19. Explain the cycle-thickness correlation method