

Measurements of organic carbon from the Lower Cretaceous Mowry Shale in Wyoming provide an illustration of the effects that can be obtained using different linear models in the regression. Relations between the distribution patterns and location of Lower Cretaceous hydrocarbon fields in this region can be shown graphically on the models.

TEODORO DÍAZ-GONZALEZ, Gerencia de Exploración, Petróleos Mexicanos, México, D.F., México.

EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION RESULTS OF OFFSHORE EXTENSION OF MEXICAN CRETACEOUS GOLDEN LANE

The Cretaceous Golden Lane reef fields are in northeastern Veracruz state, east-central Mexico. They partly underlie the coastal plain and partly the adjacent submerged continental shelf of the Gulf of Mexico. This paper is concerned mainly with the offshore fields and, more specifically, with a 45-mi-long belt of the Golden Lane reef south of Arrecife Medio field.

For many years several geologists postulated that the spectacular Golden Lane fields are only one segment of an atoll whose eastern part is beneath the continental shelf of the Gulf of Mexico. This working hypothesis led to an extensive and detailed seismic exploration program which, complemented and integrated with the discovery of the fields herein described, confirmed the presence of the postulated atoll. In essence, the atoll is a Middle to Late Cretaceous feature with a maximum north-south diameter of about 85 mi and a minimum east-west diameter of about 40 mi.

The earliest seismic survey was begun in 1957, and the first discovery, Isla de Lobos No. 1-B, was completed on June 28, 1963. Several discoveries have been made since Isla de Lobos; all are on topographic and/or structural highs of middle Cretaceous reef or reef-associated limestone, which generally is overlain unconformably by strata that range in age from Late Cretaceous to Oligocene.

The various offshore fields are discussed from north to south. The Arrecife Medio field, drilled from August 1963 to November 1966, has 3 producers and 5 dry holes. Approximately 1,450 b/d of oil and 444 Mcf/d of gas are produced from the field. Isla de Lobos field—the first offshore discovery—drilled from May 1963 to July 1964, has eight producers. Approximately 7,300 b/d of oil and 1,200 Mcf/d of gas are produced. Tiburón field has been drilled since July 1964, and has 5 producers, 2 dry holes, and 1 well abandoned because of mechanical difficulties. Approximately 2,635 b/d of oil and about 470 Mcf/d of gas are produced. Atún field was discovered in 1967 and is being developed. Of the completed wells, 2 produce only gas, 2 produce oil and gas, and 1 was plugged because it reached the reef below the oil-water contact. This field presently can produce 6,856 b/d of oil and approximately 5,100 Mcf/d of gas.

The following wells are considered as discoveries of fields similar to some of those described. Esturión No. 1 produces 623 b/d of oil and 188 Mcf/d of gas; Bagre No. 1-A produces 950 b/d of oil and 614 Mcf/d of gas; Pez Vela No. 1 found a gas reservoir whose potential was not determined.

The following discoveries were considered noncommercial. Robalo No. 1 produced approximately 180 b/d of oil and 46 Mcf/d of gas; and Tintorera No. 1 produced approximately 55 b/d of oil and an insignificant amount of gas. Three wells found salt water, probably because of a low structural and/or paleo-

topographical position. These are Pulpo Nos. 1-A and 2 and Pargo 1.

ROBERT W. EATON, P. G. Lake, Inc., Tyler, Tex.

REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF LATE JURASSIC DEPOSITIONAL WEDGE, UPPER GULF COASTAL PLAIN OF NORTHEAST MEXICO AND SOUTHERN UNITED STATES

The writer reviews and compares Jurassic stratigraphy and sedimentation within the various Jurassic sedimentation provinces of northeast Mexico and the southern United States. Many of these provinces are being explored actively. Of great importance is the presence or absence of adequate reservoir rock, particularly within the Late Jurassic Smackover-Zuloaga equivalents. Before active exploration can begin, regional studies must be made to determine where porous facies are most likely to be present. Stratigraphic dip sections of the Jurassic section must be made, and the various units correlated. Dip sections cannot be made at random but must be located strategically. Lithofacies maps must be made to show in detail the lateral lithologic changes in the various units. Several producing fields in Texas, Arkansas, and Mississippi are good examples of the types of producing structures which may be expected. Economics and reservoir characteristics of the producing fields must be understood thoroughly before a particular structure or other type of trap is drilled. The understanding of economics and reservoir characteristics can be gained through detailed study of existing Jurassic fields.

W. J. EBANKS, JR., Esso Production Research Co., Houston, Tex., and L. R. HIGH, JR., Dept. Geology, Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio

COMPARISON OF MODERN ISLAND AND MAINLAND SUPRATIDAL-FLAT CARBONATE DEPOSITS, BRITISH HONDURAS

The usefulness of supratidal-flat sediments in paleogeographic reconstructions is decreased by the difficulty in distinguishing between island and mainland deposits. Holocene carbonate sediments in British Honduras form supratidal-flat deposits on shelf-margin islands and on the mainland. The vertical sequence and sedimentary structures of deposits in both areas are similar, reflecting similar modes of formation and physical settings, respectively.

Constituent compositions and the nature of nearby deposits differentiate these island and mainland supratidal carbonates. Shelf-margin islands are associated with backreef coralline sand; fragments of corals and coralline algae are included in some island deposits. Mainland deposits lack these indicators of a shelf-edge environment but contain brackish-water organisms and terrigenous material, such as quartz and clay minerals. Furthermore early diagenetic dolomite occurs only in island sediments. These distinguishing compositional differences, though diagnostic for northern British Honduras, are not absolute. Rather, they illustrate types of characteristics which may be useful environmental indicators in other areas.

In the absence of compositional differences, lateral facies relations may distinguish island and mainland deposits if sufficient stratigraphic control is available. An island interpretation is favored where submarine shelf-lagoon deposits occur between discontinuous supratidal deposits which are separated by several miles,