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# Production Optimisation of Conventional & Unconventional Wells with ESP Real Time Data



**Lawrence CAMILLERI**

Production Optimization Advisor  
Artificial Lift Domain Head

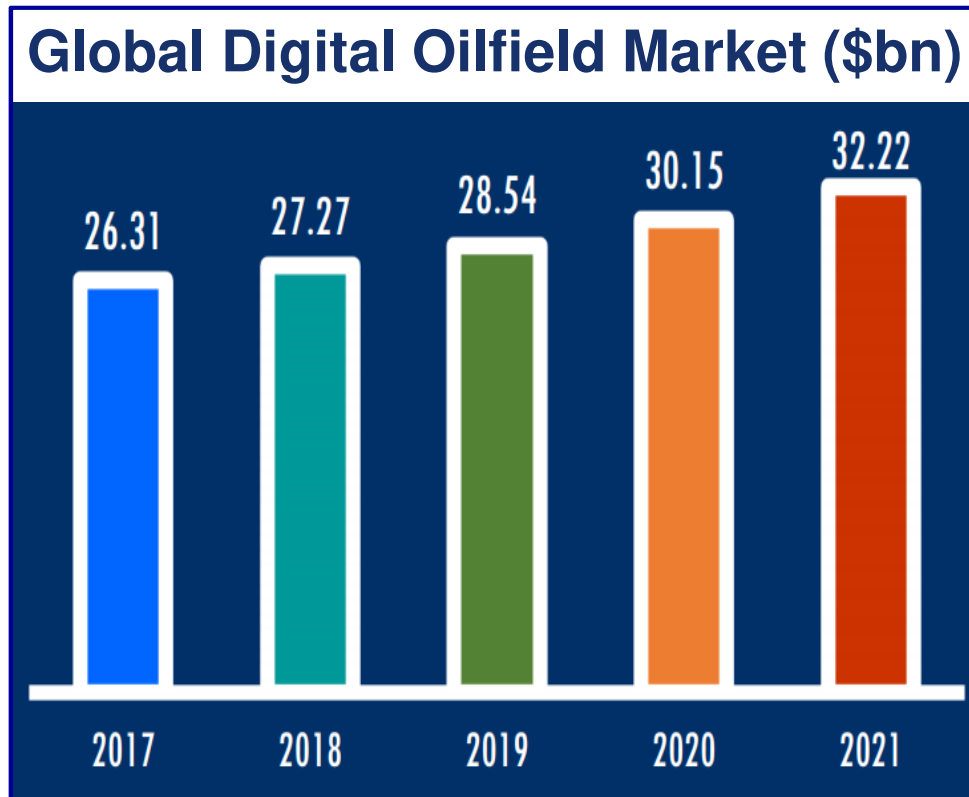
[lcamilleri@slb.com](mailto:lcamilleri@slb.com)



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**Schlumberger**

# The Digital Transformation Is Growing Fast



Global Digital Oilfield Market 2017-2021  
Technavio.com

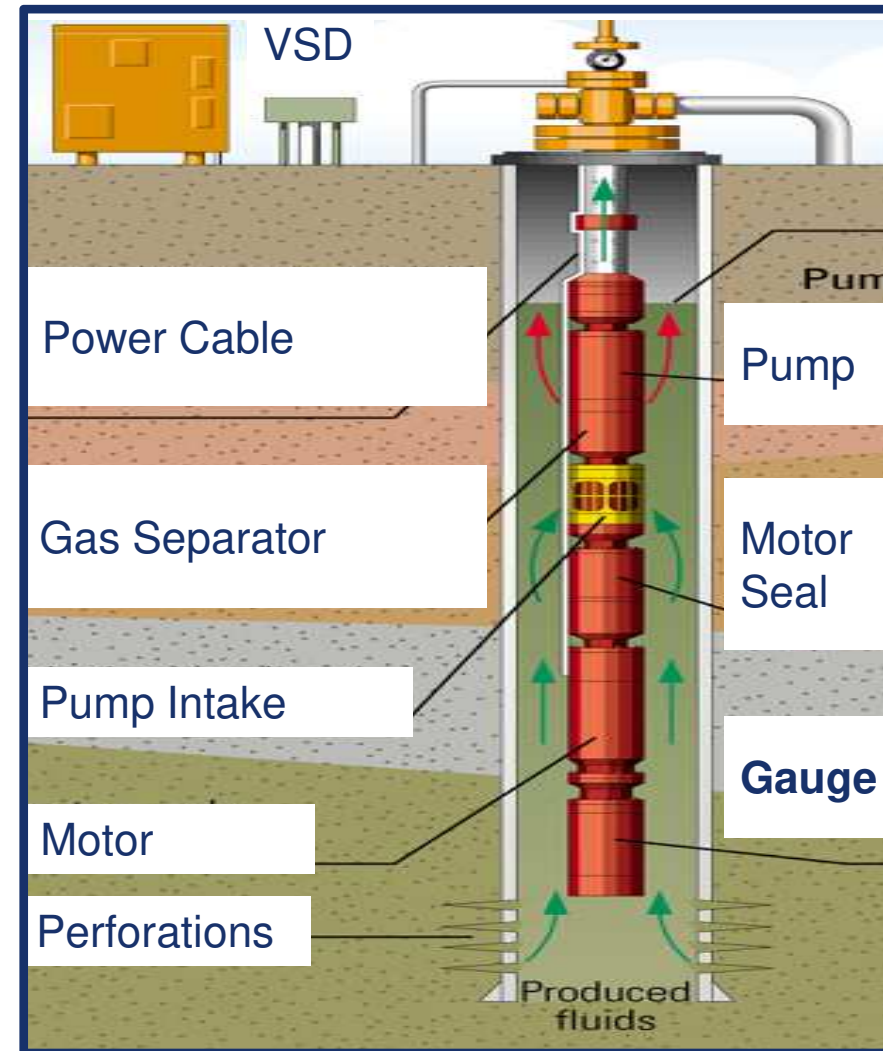
## **Enablers:**

- Declining costs of sensors and data storage
- Rapid progress in advanced analytics (e.g. machine learning)
- Greater connectivity of people and devices
- Faster & cheaper data transmission

# Why ESP Production Optimisation?

- 940,000 producing wells worldwide
- 125,000 (13%) of these wells lifted by ESP
- More than 54% of artificial lift global spend is on ESP (4.8 B\$ out of 8.8B\$ in 2017) with all other types representing less than 23% each.
- More than 30% of production lifted by ESP as it is the lift type with the highest rate

**→ ESP optimization has the biggest impact on both production and AL expenditure**

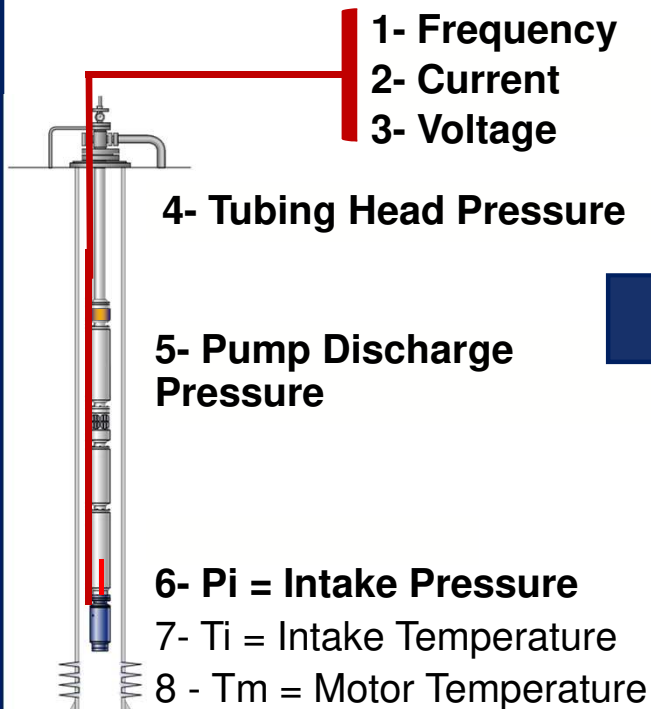


# Operator's View

| <b>BP</b><br>Technology Outlook: 2015                                                                                                                              | <b>Rossneft</b><br>SPE 112238, Real Time Optimisation Approach for 15,000 ESP Wells                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>BP Believes that digital technologies can deliver</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4% Production Enhancement</li> <li>• 13% Cost Savings</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>“Calculations showed economical efficiency of system implementation on 7451 wells out of over 11,000 working ESP wells, with possible annual oil production increase of <u>11 million bbls.</u>”</i></li> <li>▪ This justified the investment of 6400 US\$ per well in automation hardware i.e. Variable Speed Drive, Gauges and real time data transmission</li> <li>▪ <b>Compare potential to actual</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ What is the actual IPR curve? Pr and PI?</li> <li>▪ What could be the PI after possible stimulation?</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |

# Agenda

## Commonly Available ESP Real Time Data



## VALUE OBJECTIVES

1. Uptime
2. Run Life
3. Power Consumption
4. Production Enhancement

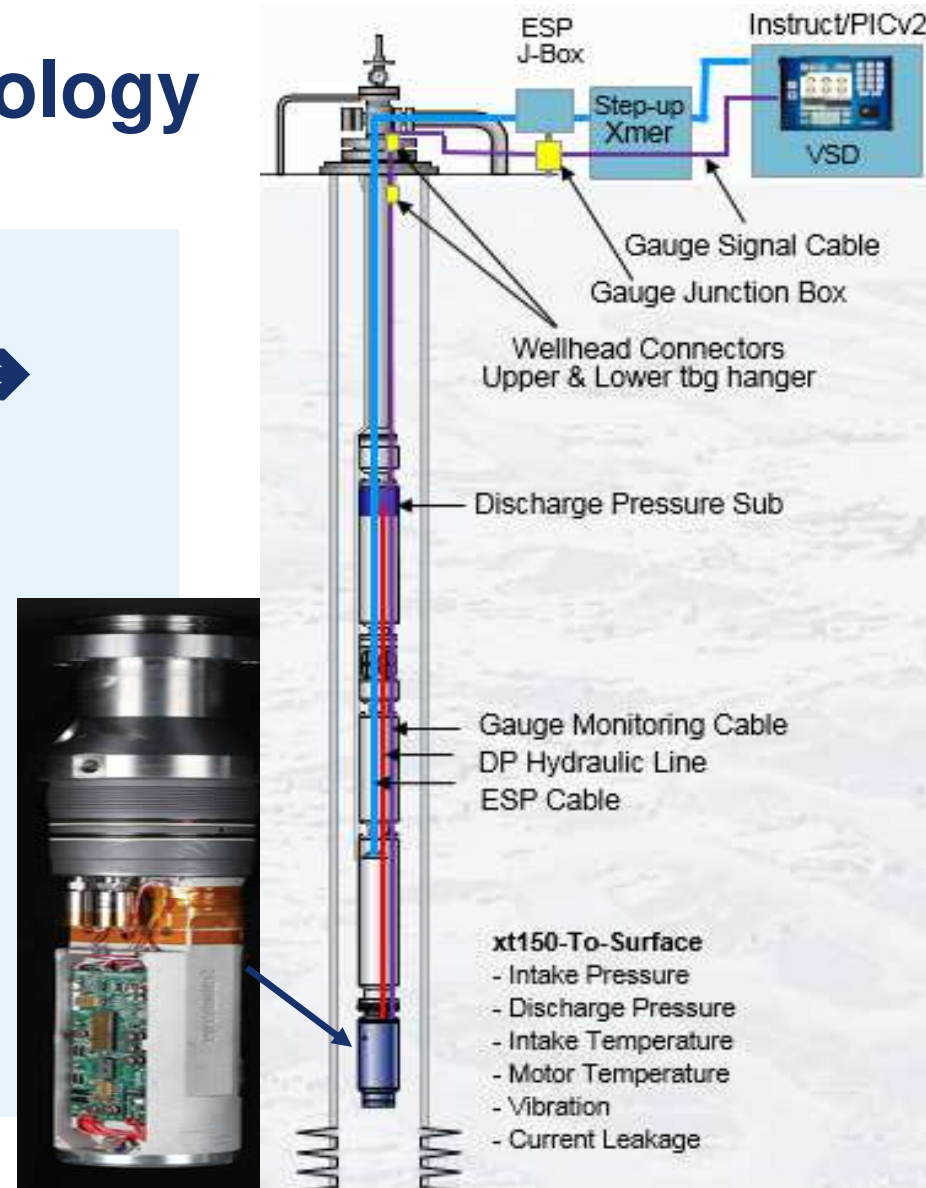
## Generic Concepts:

- Gauge metrology
- Data visualization
- Slow & Fast Loop
- Data to Value Chain
- The importance of high frequency flowrate in addition to pressure data
- ***Compare potential & actual***

# ESP Gauges...mature technology

1. Reliability – MTBF >10 years
2. No need for instrument line → low cost
3. Metrology of ESP gauges
  - Accuracy +/- 5 psi
  - Resolution 0.1 psi
  - Drift 5 psi / year

→ INFLOW ANALYSIS IS POSSIBLE





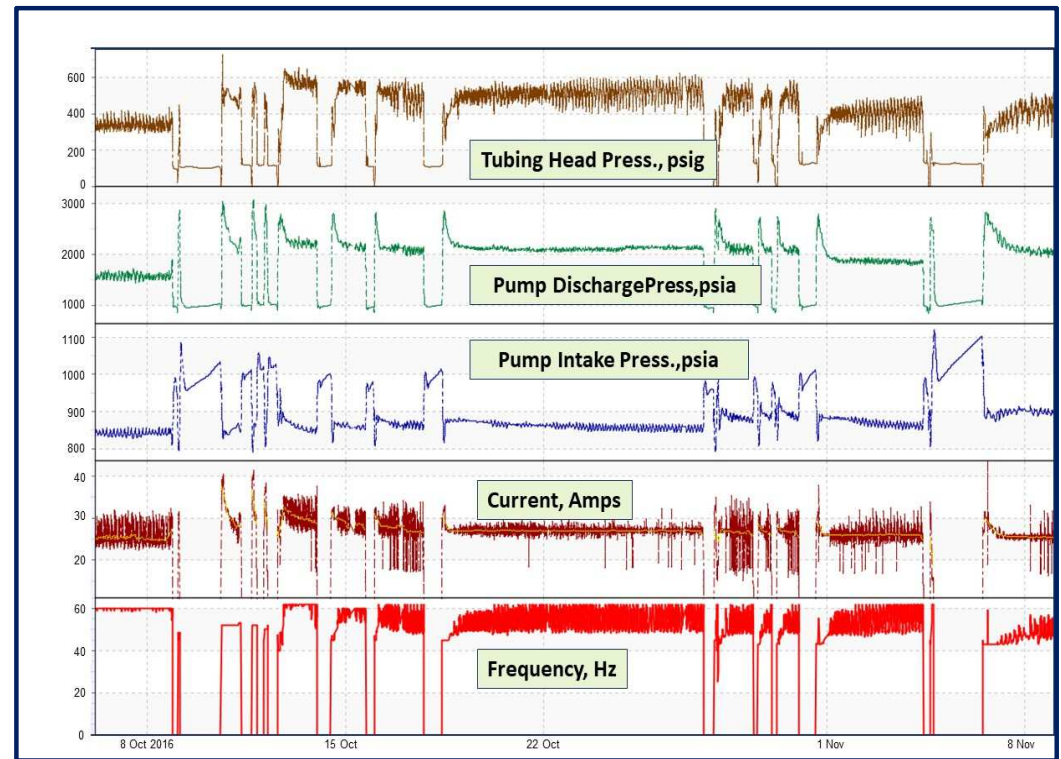
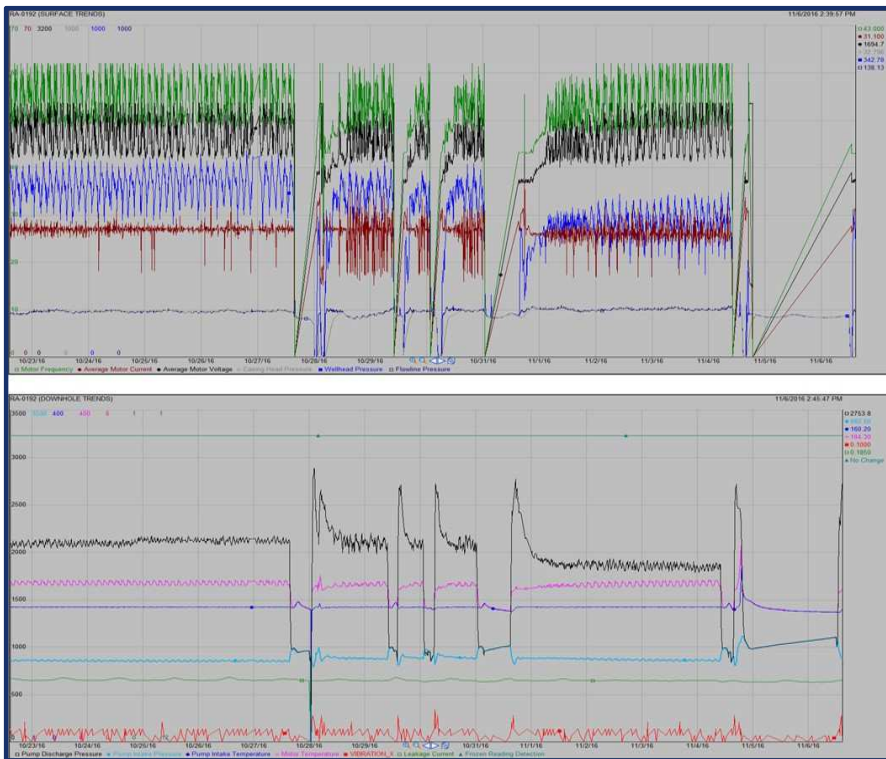
# Data Visualisation → Solution = Multiple Tracks

## **Challenge** = Large Production Sets

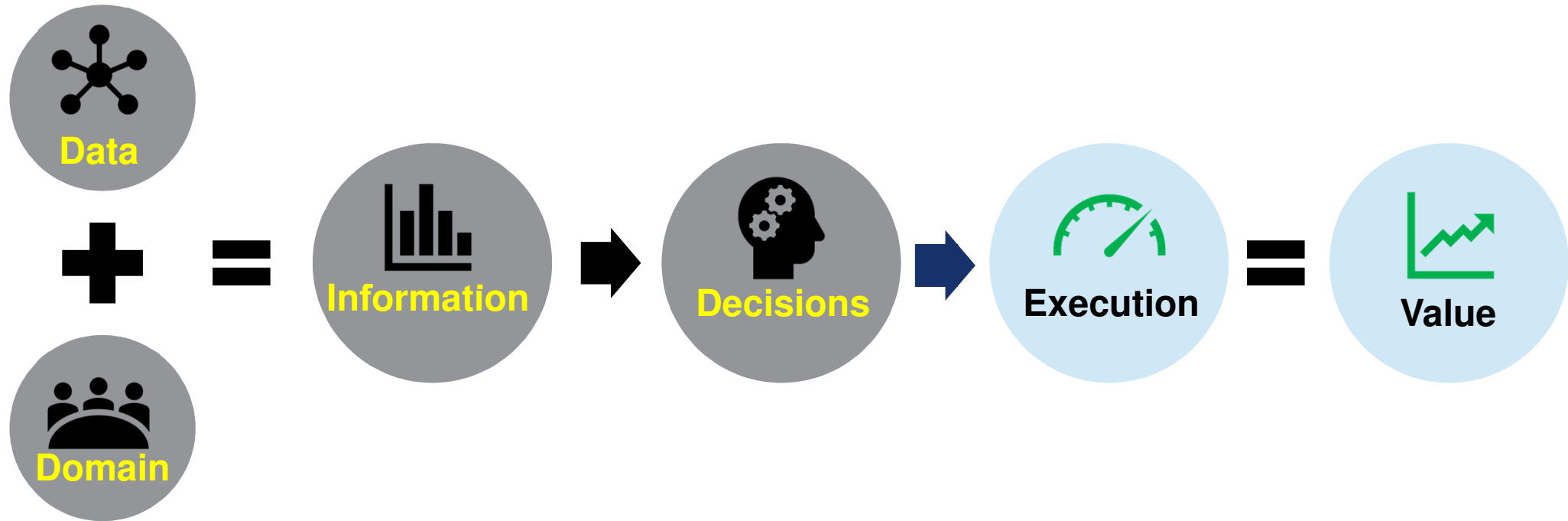
- 6 to 15 analogue signals per well
- 1 million points / year / signal

## **Solution**

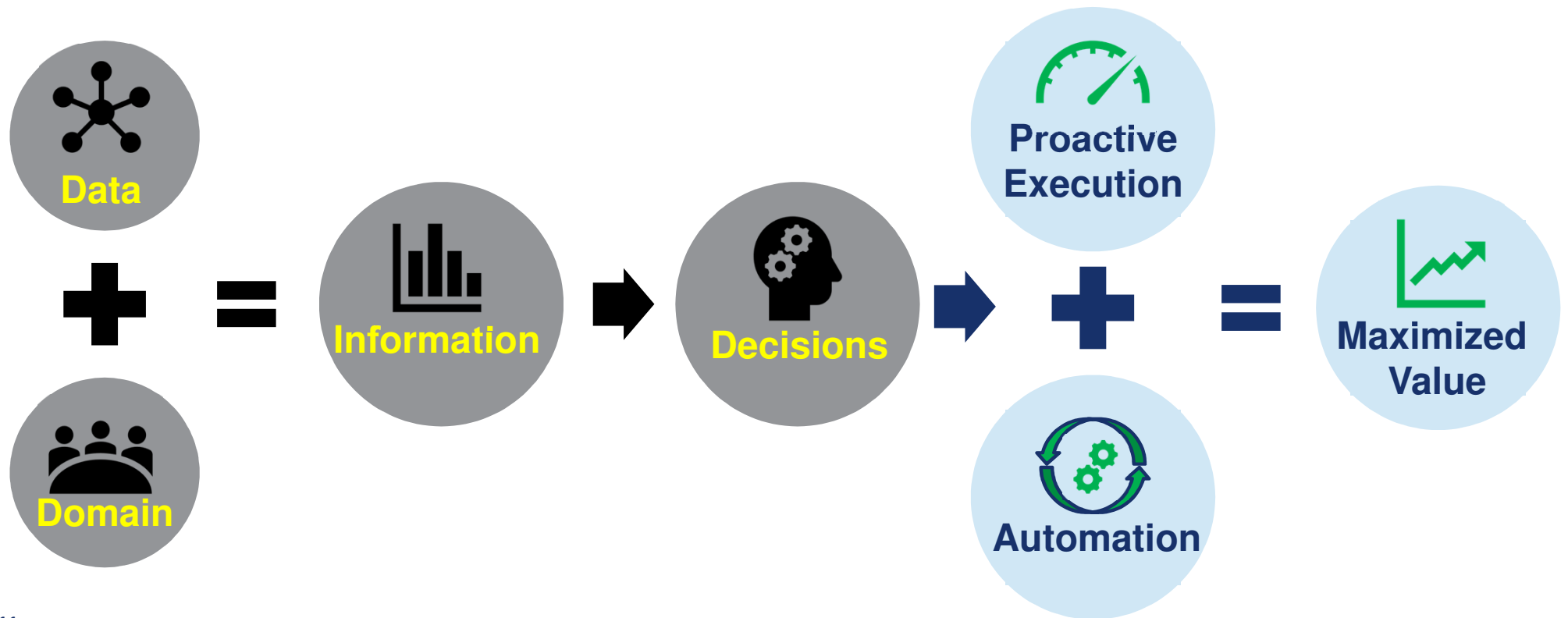
- Separate tracks for signal groups
- User defined filtering



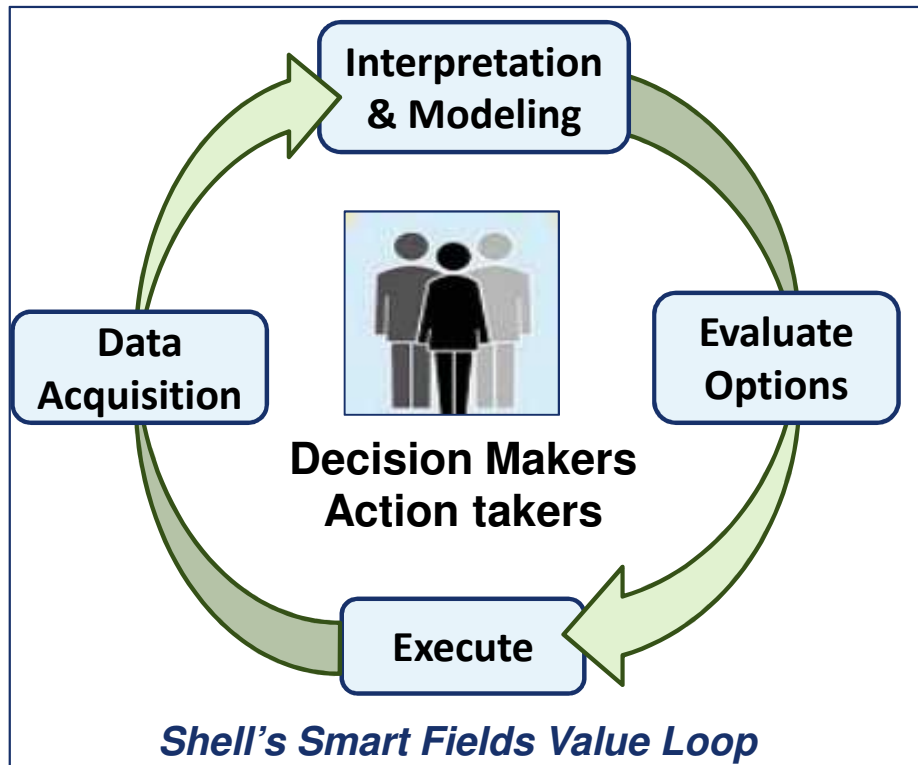
# Data to Value Chain



# How Real Time Data & Automation

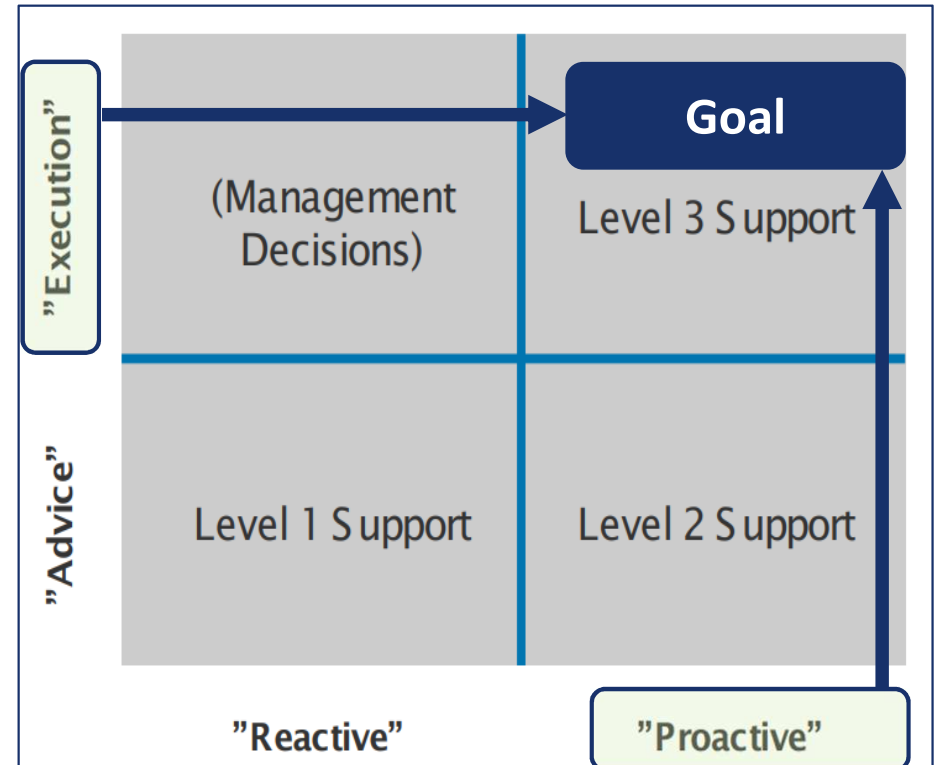


# The Value of Data...



**SPE 127858**

**Perdido: The First Smart Field® in the Western Hemisphere**  
Robert K. Perrons, SPE, Shell International Exploration & Production



**SPE 127730**

**Multi-asset Production Support Centre—Generating Values**  
Kjell Lejon and Karl Johnny Hersvik, Statoil ASA, and Arild Bøe, Epsis AS

## VALUE OBJECTIVES

**1. Run Life**

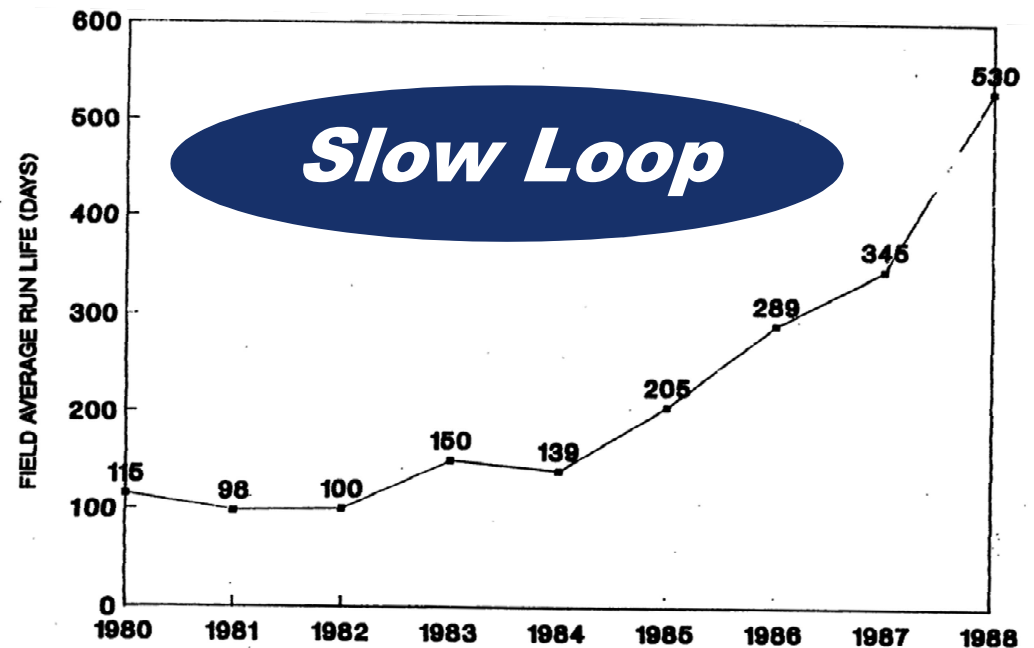
2. Power  
Consumption

3. Uptime

4. Production  
Enhancement

# Measure, Classify and Record.... → *Slow Loop*

- ❑ Run life improvement requires continuous monitoring and failure analysis in the *slow loop* i.e. years as opposed to minutes
- ❑ “Classification” is a key enabler
- ❑ This principle can also be applied to:
  - Uptime Improvement
  - Power Optimisation
  - Production Enhancement



***“Implementation of a comprehensive monitoring and failure investigation system was essential in the optimization of North Kaybob ESP Performance”*** SPE 19379 – ESP Improving Run Lives in the North Kaybob BHL Unit No 1, by C.G. Bowen and R.J Kennedy, Chevron Canada Resources. (1989)

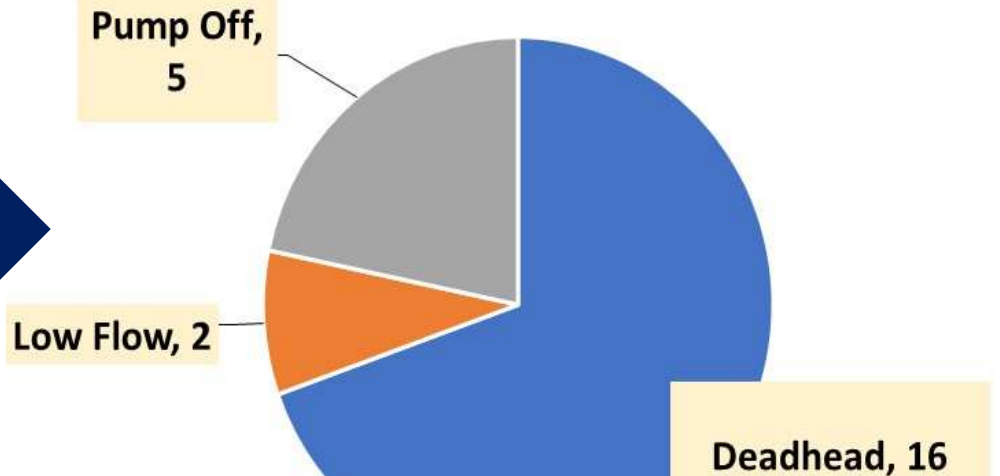
# Example of importance of Classification

Database of stress creating events  
Recording & ***Classification***

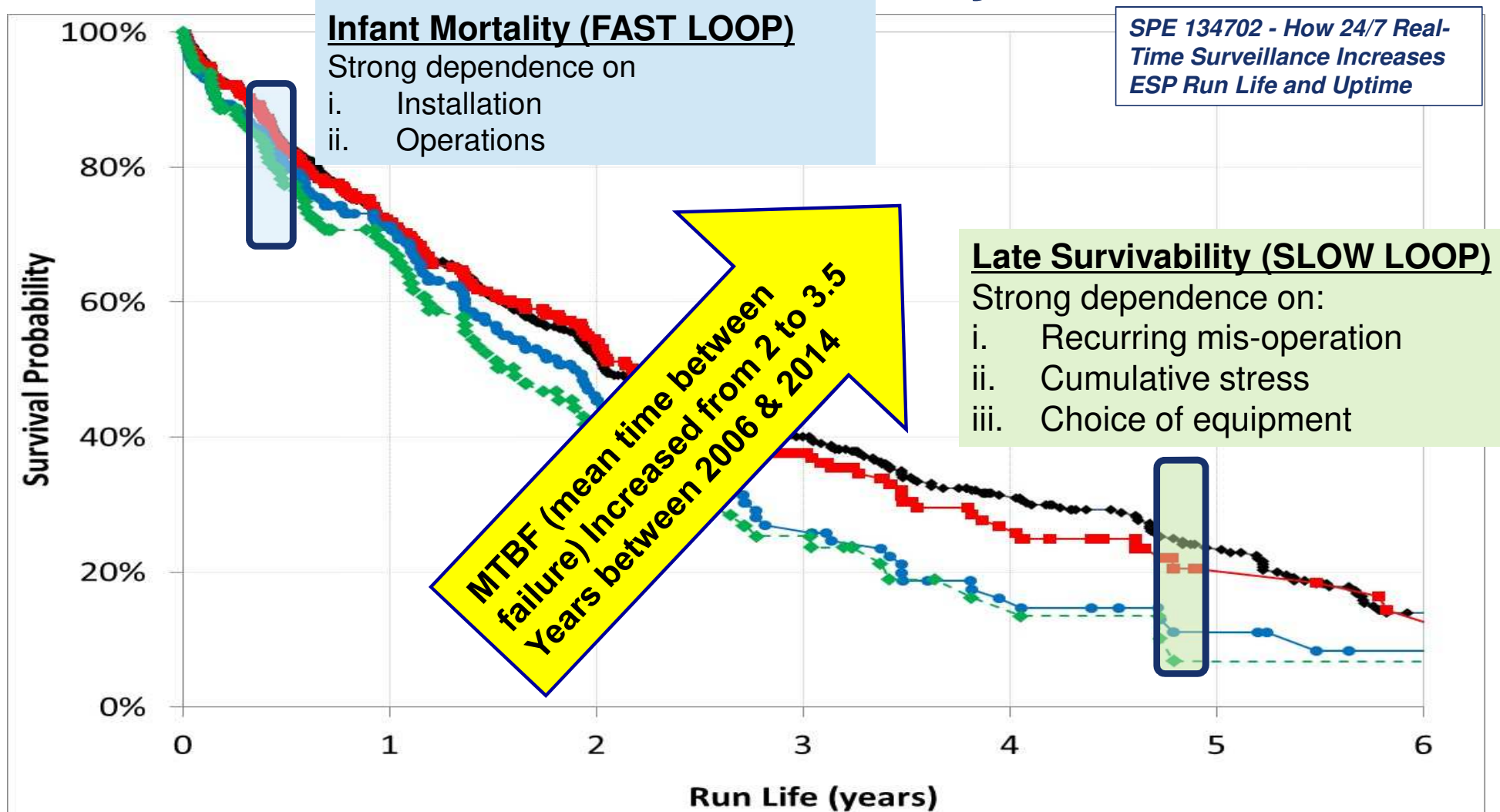
Identify Deadheads as recurring event  
Investigate root cause  
& implement remedial action

| Quest Number    | Date (of SQ Creation) | Well                  | First Symptoms seen    | Classification Code new | Classification Group | Most Probable Cause (Calculation conditions)                  |
|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| 20080303182826  | Mar 03, 2008          | LV 07                 | High Motor Temperature | PE3                     | Procedure Error      | Site Hardware not correctly set-up (PAC/UniConn/ISP etc)      |
| 20080725185922  | July 25, 2008         | LV 07                 | Pressure Data          | GF4                     | Gauge Fault          | Values different from normal operations                       |
| 20080801231434  | Aug 01, 2008          | LV 07                 | High Motor Temperature | LF1                     | Low Flow             | ESP running below minimum speed                               |
| 20080918102020  | Sept 18, 2008         | Since 311             | Average amps           | PE3                     | Procedure Error      | Site Hardware not correctly set-up (PAC/UniConn/ISP etc)      |
| 20081003031852  | Oct 03, 2008          | Since 318             | Intake Pressure        | IN5                     | Information          | ESP running above normal production                           |
| 20081013172029  | Oct 13, 2008          | Since 318             | Intake Pressure        | LF1                     | Low Flow             | ESP running below minimum speed                               |
| 20081014132102  | Oct 14, 2008          | Since 318             | Pressure Data          | GF4                     | Gauge Fault          | Values different from normal operations                       |
| 20081024191752  | May 11, 2008          | LV 07                 | Frozen Data            | GF3                     | Gauge Fault          | Short circuit in MDT                                          |
| 20081027162048  | Oct 27, 2008          | Since 318             | Intake Pressure        | DH3                     | Deadhead             | Partial Restriction above the ESP                             |
| 20081101181332  | Oct 31, 2008          | Since 311             | Intake Pressure        | P01                     | Pump Off             | Isolation valve closed below ESP                              |
| 20081103025329  | Nov 03, 2008          | Since 311             | Intake Pressure        | DH3                     | Deadhead             | Partial Restriction above the ESP                             |
| 20081110174851  | Nov 10, 2008          | T 1763                | Review - Missing Data  | IN3                     | Information          | 11 point documentation (or part of) not sent                  |
| 20081115175948  | Nov 15, 2008          | T 1763                | Review - Missing Data  | IN3                     | Information          | 11 point documentation (or part of) not sent                  |
| 20081117143502  | Nov 17, 2008          | Since 318             | Average amps           | PE3                     | Procedure Error      | Site Hardware not correctly set-up (PAC/UniConn/ISP etc)      |
| 20081117152826  | Nov 17, 2008          | T 1763                | Temperature data       | GF5                     | Gauge Fault          | Failure/issue to Motor Temperature thermocouple               |
| 20081125162826  | Nov 25, 2008          | LV 01                 | Temperature data       | IN5                     | Information          | ESP running above normal production                           |
| 20081128101054  | Nov 28, 2008          | T 1763                | Frozen Data            | DT2                     | Data Transmission    | No communication from Site - Frozen data                      |
| 20081130211612  | Nov 30, 2008          | Since 311             | Temperature data       | IN4                     | Information          | ESP running below normal production                           |
| 20081130220033  | Nov 30, 2008          | Since 316             | Pressure Data          |                         |                      |                                                               |
| 20081221183225  | Dec 15, 2008          | Since 318             | Pressure Data          |                         |                      |                                                               |
| 20090105151030  | Jan 05, 2009          | Since 318             | Intake Pressure        |                         |                      |                                                               |
| 20090109003453  | Jan 07, 2009          | Since 318             | Intake Pressure        |                         |                      |                                                               |
| 20090116164551  | Jan 16, 2009          | Since 318             | Intake Pressure        |                         |                      |                                                               |
| 20090131105352  | Jan 31, 2009          | Since 318             | Average amps           |                         |                      |                                                               |
| 20090204121206  | Feb 04, 2009          | LV 01                 | High Motor Temp        |                         |                      |                                                               |
| 20090205093928  | Feb 05, 2009          | LV 07                 | Intake Pressure        |                         |                      |                                                               |
| 20090205111028  | Feb 05, 2009          | Since 318             | Pressure Data          |                         |                      |                                                               |
| 20090206173402  | Feb 06, 2009          | LV 01                 | VSD Input Voltage      |                         |                      |                                                               |
| 20090209160416  | Mar 02, 2009          | Since 316             | Pressure Data          |                         |                      |                                                               |
| 20090322211608  | Mar 22, 2009          | Since 311             | Frozen Data            |                         |                      |                                                               |
| 20090329111805  | Mar 29, 2009          | Since 316             | Pressure Data          |                         |                      |                                                               |
| 20090405050033  | Apr 04, 2009          | Since 316             | Pressure Data          |                         |                      |                                                               |
| 20090407114102  | Apr 06, 2009          | LV 01                 | Site Hardware not      |                         |                      |                                                               |
| 20090410200031  | Apr 10, 2009          | Since 311             | Intake Pressure        |                         |                      |                                                               |
| 20090417103122  | Apr 17, 2009          | Since 311             | Review - Missing       |                         |                      |                                                               |
| 20090419024008  | Apr 19, 2009          | Since 318             | Frozen Data            |                         |                      |                                                               |
| 20090421142017  | Apr 21, 2009          | LV 07                 | VSD Input Voltage      |                         |                      |                                                               |
| 20090504081449  | May 03, 2009          | All Since             | Frozen Data            |                         |                      |                                                               |
| 20090507024149  | May 27, 2009          | All Since             | Review - Missing       |                         |                      |                                                               |
| 20090615020112  | Jun 15, 2009          | Since 311             | Pressure Data          |                         |                      |                                                               |
| 20090620005912  | Jun 19, 2009          | LV 01                 | High Motor Temperature | DH3                     | Deadhead             | Partial Restriction above the ESP                             |
| 20090620041852  | Jun 20, 2009          | LV 07                 | High Motor Temperature | DH3                     | Deadhead             | Partial Restriction above the ESP                             |
| 20090713114554  | Jul 04, 2009          | Since 311             | Pressure Data          | IN5                     | Information          | ESP running above normal production                           |
| 20090711181010  | Jul 11, 2009          | Since 318             | Frozen Data            | GF7                     | Gauge Fault          | ISPPIC card errors                                            |
| 20090719150440  | Jul 17, 2009          | OR-7                  | Frozen Data            | DT2                     | Data Transmission    | No communication from Site - Frozen data                      |
| 20090728055730  | Jul 24, 2009          | Since 311             | Frozen Data            | GF7                     | Gauge Fault          | ISPPIC card errors                                            |
| 20090728013600  | Jul 26, 2009          | OR-7                  | Frozen Data            | DT2                     | Data Transmission    | No communication from Site - Frozen data                      |
| 20090729030553  | Jul 30, 2009          | Since 316             | Pressure Data          | GF4                     | Gauge Fault          | Values different from normal operations                       |
| 20090815015118  | Aug 14, 2009          | Since 318             | Pressure Data          | DH1                     | Deadhead             | Partial Restriction above the ESP                             |
| 20090928218267  | Jul 01, 2009          | OR-7                  | Pressure Data          | DH3                     | Deadhead             | Partial Restriction above the ESP                             |
| 20090928222011  | Jul 01, 2009          | SE-7                  | VSD Input Voltage      | SE1                     | Surface Electrical   | High/Low Voltage supply power issue                           |
| 20090932205645  | Jul 09, 2009          | OR-7                  | High Motor Temperature | DH3                     | Deadhead             | Partial Restriction above the ESP                             |
| 20091020137328  | Jun 30, 2009          | OR-7                  | Average amps           | PE3                     | Procedure Error      | Site Hardware not correctly set-up (PAC/UniConn/ISP etc)      |
| 20090906035749  | Sep 06, 2009          | Since 318             | Frozen Data            | GF3                     | Gauge Fault          | Short circuit in MDT                                          |
| 20090909015257  | Sep 09, 2009          | Since 316             | Pressure Data          | GF4                     | Gauge Fault          | Values different from normal operations                       |
| 20091016103014  | Sep 16, 2009          | Review - Missing Data |                        | IN3                     | Information          | 11 point documentation (or part of) not sent                  |
| 20090928103105  | Sep 19, 2009          | LV 01                 | Pressure Data          | DH3                     | Deadhead             | Partial Restriction above the ESP                             |
| 200909281222148 | Sep 20, 2009          | OR-7                  | Frozen Data            | DT2                     | Data Transmission    | No communication from Site - Frozen data                      |
| 20091010103146  | Oct 10, 2009          | Since 318             | Pressure Data          | DH3                     | Deadhead             | Partial Restriction above the ESP                             |
| 20091015092918  | Oct 15, 2009          | Since 316             | Pressure Data          | DH3                     | Deadhead             | Partial Restriction above the ESP                             |
| 20091022182826  | Oct 18, 2009          | Since 316             | Average amps           | IN4                     | Information          | ESP running below normal production                           |
| 20091024105843  | Oct 24, 2009          | OR-7                  | Pressure Data          | DH3                     | Deadhead             | Partial Restriction above the ESP                             |
| 20091027223846  | Oct 27, 2009          | OR-7                  | Intake Pressure        | DH3                     | Deadhead             | Partial Restriction above the ESP                             |
| 20091110205146  | Nov 02, 2009          | Since 318             | Pressure Data          | IN6                     | Information          | Temporary step change in Pi and Pd with both parameters for   |
| 20091108173929  | Nov 07, 2009          | OR-7                  | Pressure Data          | DH3                     | Deadhead             | Partial Restriction above the ESP                             |
| 20091112062134  | Nov 11, 2009          | OR-7                  | Pressure Data          | DH3                     | Deadhead             | Partial Restriction above the ESP                             |
| 20091118111435  | Nov 11, 2009          | OR-7                  | VSD Input Voltage      | SE3                     | Surface Electrical   | Loss of input power/voltage                                   |
| 20091114023402  | Nov 12, 2009          | Since 316             | Pressure Data          | GF4                     | Gauge Fault          | Values different from normal operations                       |
| 20091113104810  | Nov 13, 2009          | Since 318             | Pressure Data          | IN5                     | Information          | ESP running above normal production                           |
| 20091114053726  | Nov 24, 2009          | Since 318             | Pressure Data          | DH1                     | Deadhead             | Restriction above the ESP (Up-stream of flowline pressure ind |

enabled by  
**CLASSIFICATION**

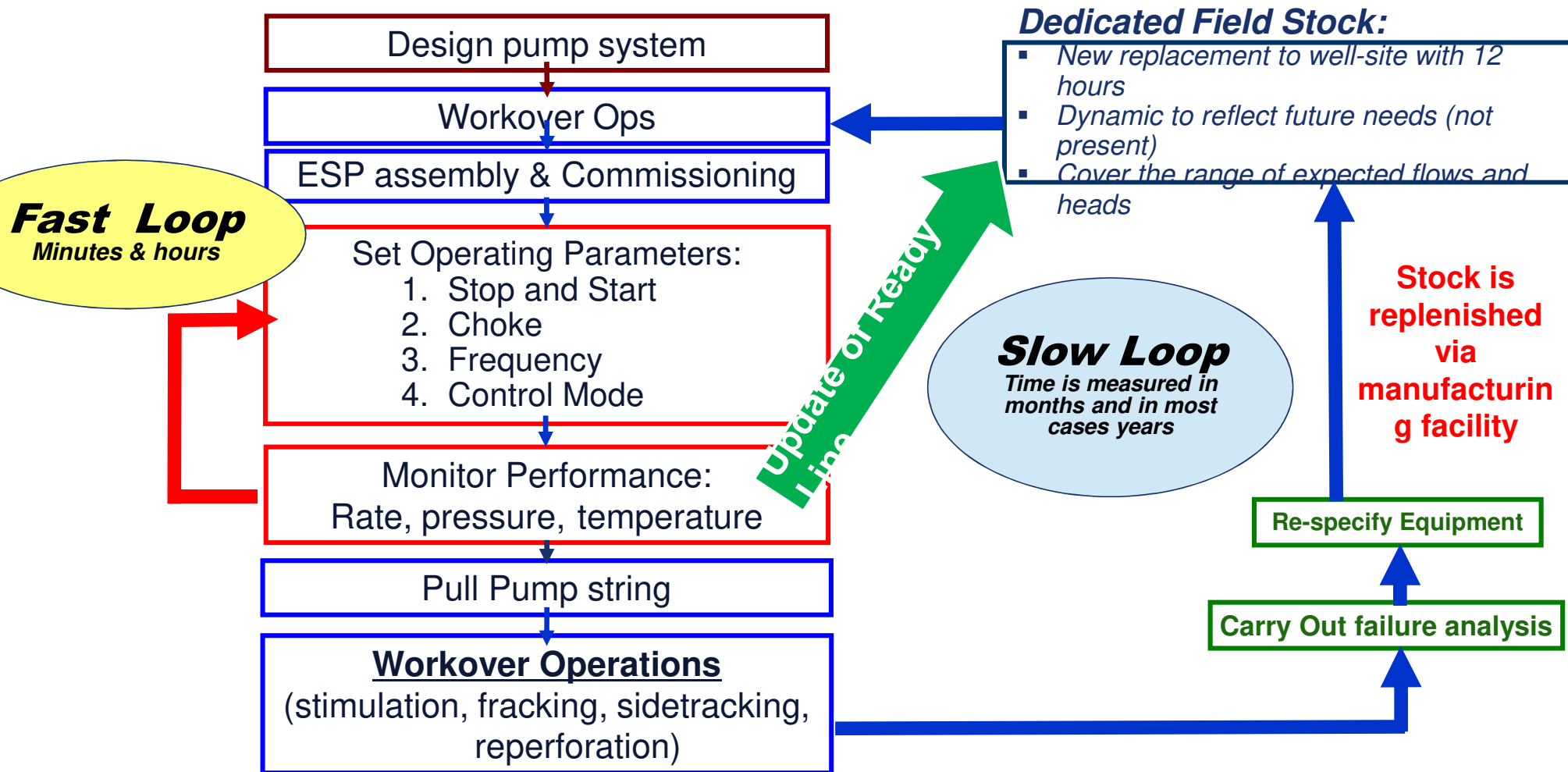


# Run-Life Improvement powered by data

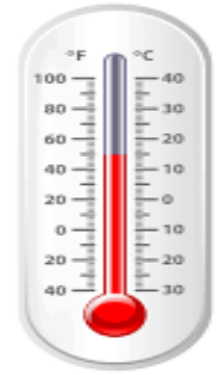




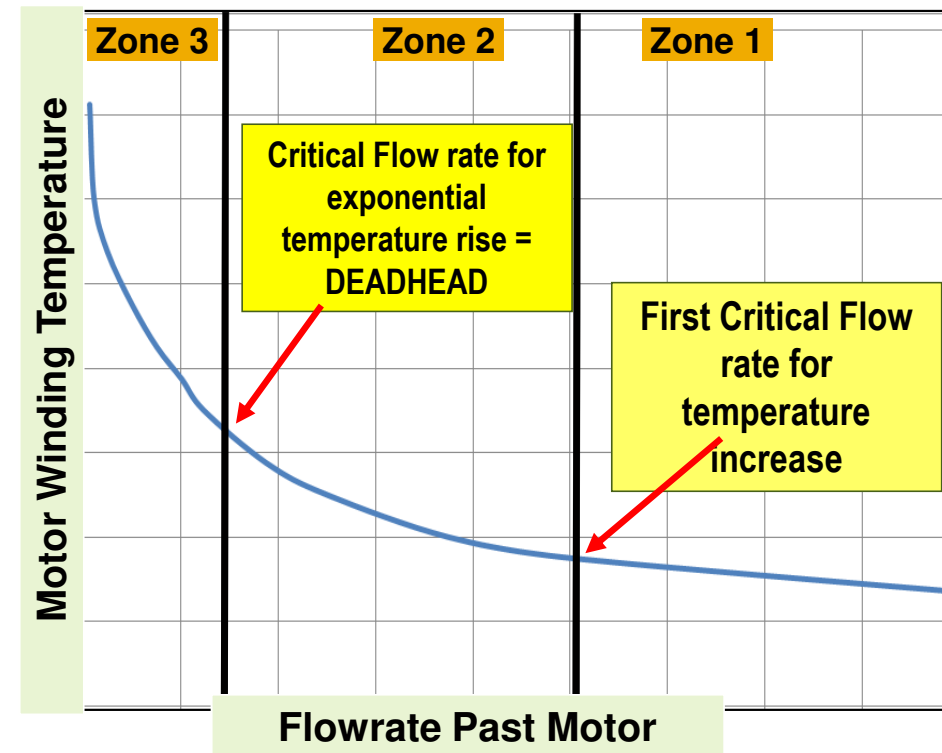
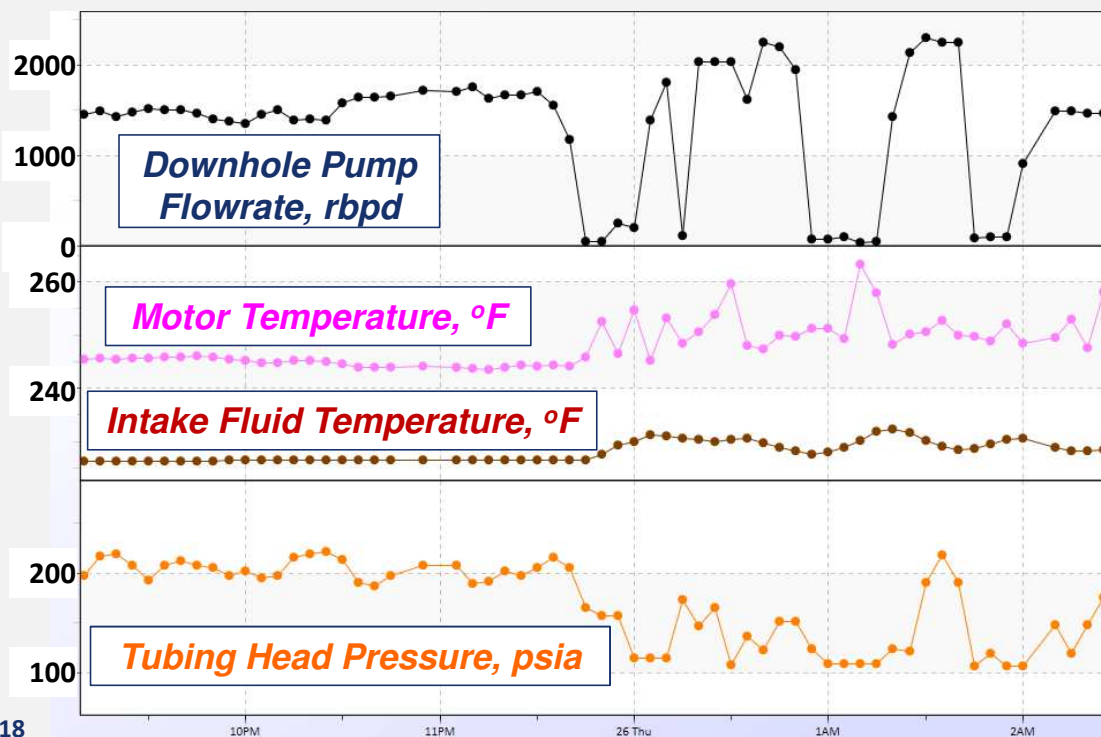
# Slow & Fast Feedback Loops



# Low FLOWRATE → Motor Heat Rise



Heat rise happens fast, within minutes in this example, data sampling is every 5 minutes. Cause here is no flow due to gas degradation in unconventional well.



# Low FLOWRATE → Pump Heat Rise



$$\delta T_{pump} = \frac{Power_{pump}(1 - \eta_{pump})}{C_p \times \rho \times Q}$$



***Note that the localized shaft & radial bearing heat rise is fast due to friction and can happen in minutes ...Analogy: Drill bit tip gets much hotter than the motor...***

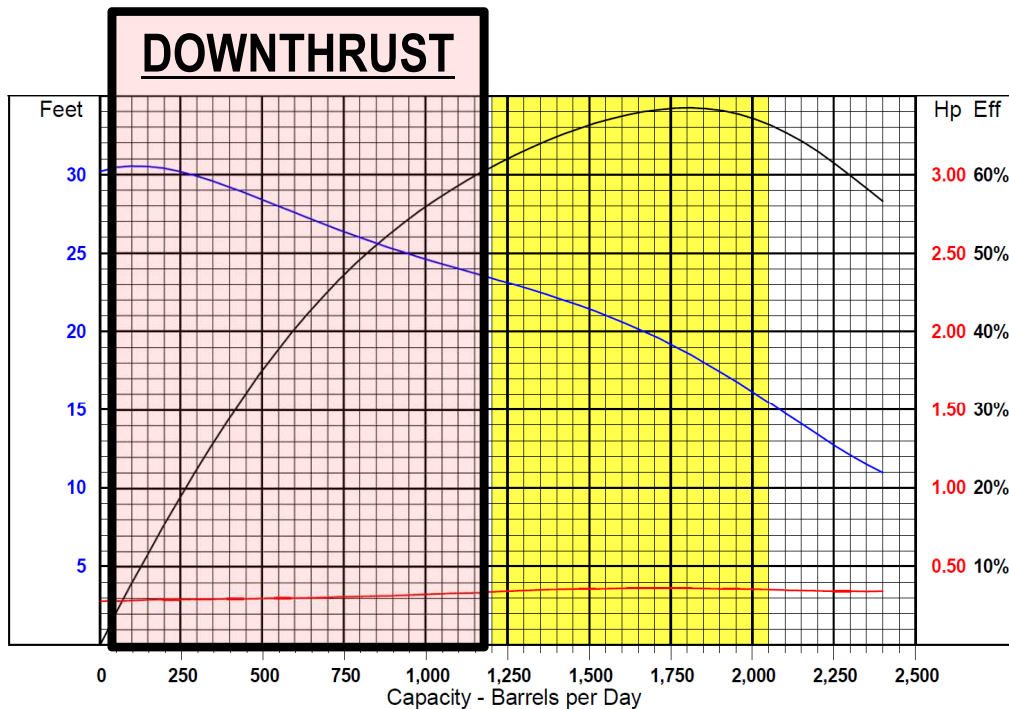
- 1. Galled stage running surfaces**
- 2. Galled or cracked bearings**
- 3. Shaft failure**



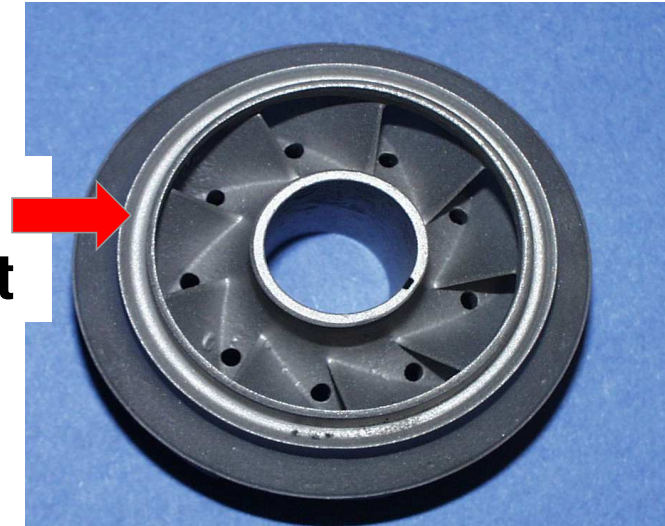
Pump heat rise can be very high, especially on high HP motors where in extreme cases the lead in the cable can melt, Temp > 327 °C

# Low FLOWRATE → Downthrust Mechanical Wear

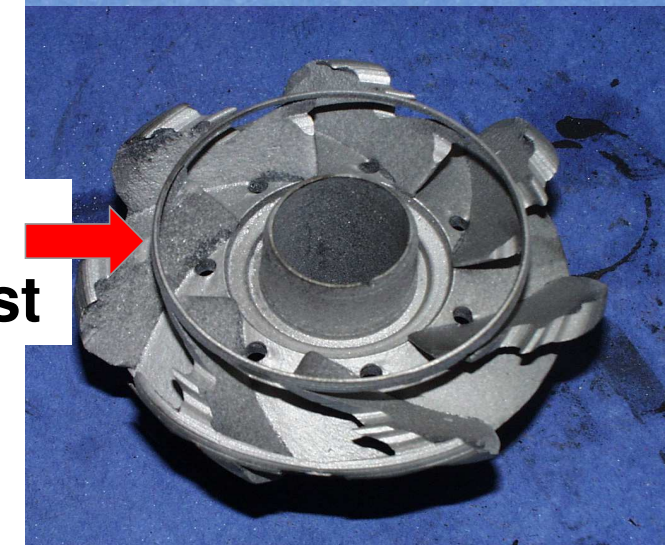
Loss of balance chamber function  
further increases downthrust load  
→ Can fail thrust bearing, thrust  
washers, and stages → Snowball!



**Moderate  
Downthrust**



**Extreme  
Downthrust**



# Pump Flowrate = Real Time Indicator

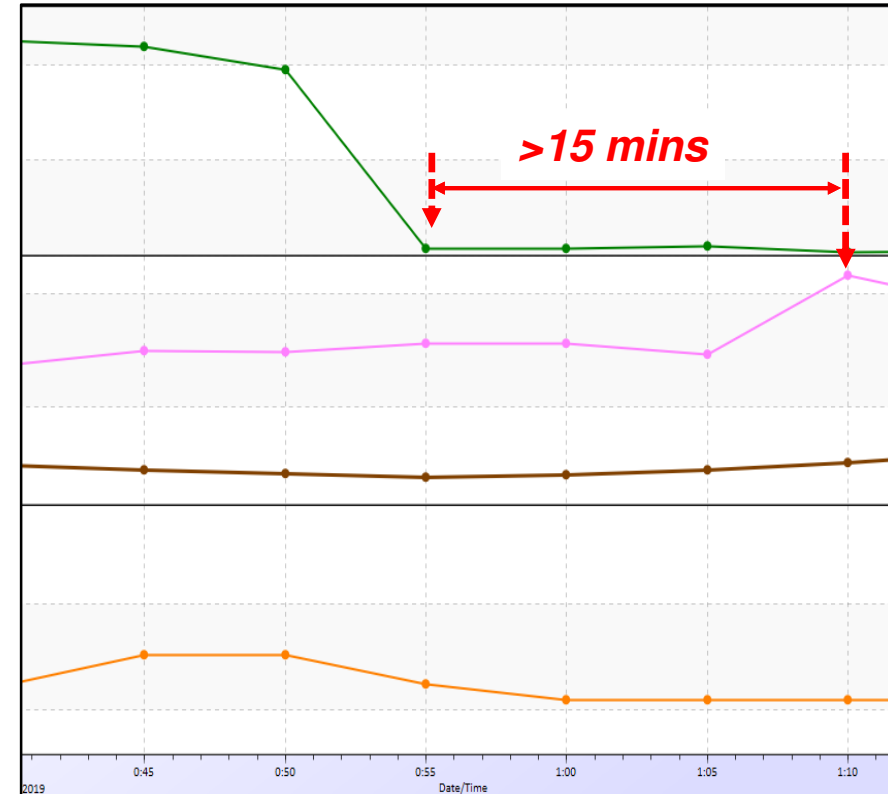
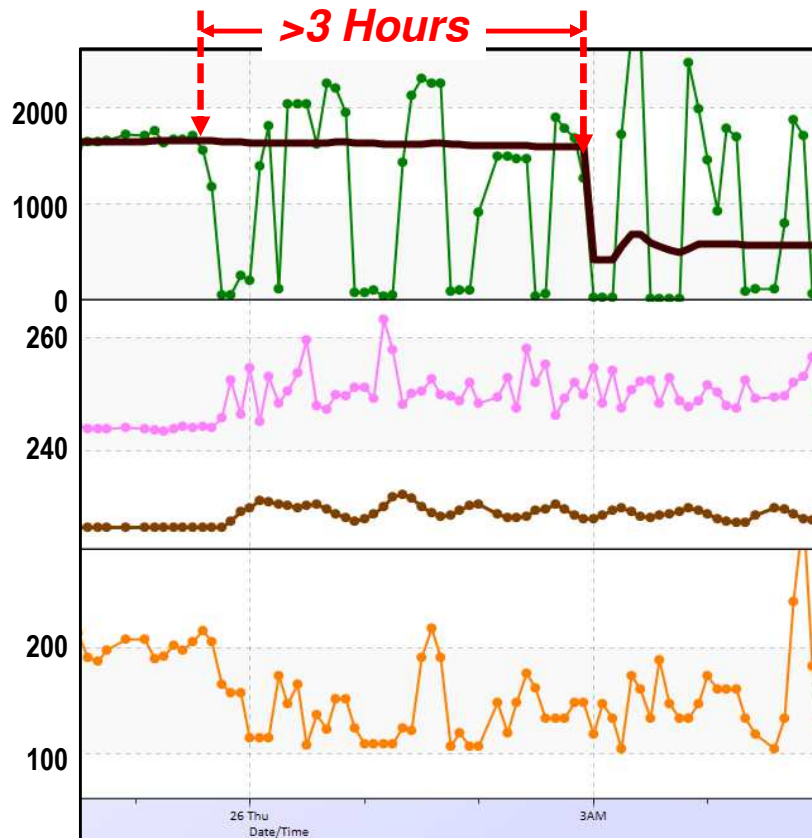
Test Separator lags by  
> 3 hours

Motor Temperature Sensor lags by ~15 mins...

Downhole  
Pump &  
Surface  
Flowrate, rbpd

Motor Temp., °F  
Intake Fluid  
Temp. °F

Tubing Head  
Pressure,  
psia





**Managing pump flowrate is key to minimizing ESP stress, but also...**

**Flowrate is a leading indicator whereas  
Surface Test Separator & Motor  
Temperature Sensors are lagging  
indicators**

## VALUE OBJECTIVES

1. Run Life
- 2. Power  
Consumption**
3. Uptime
4. Production  
Enhancement

# Power Optimisation → Maximise PF x EFF

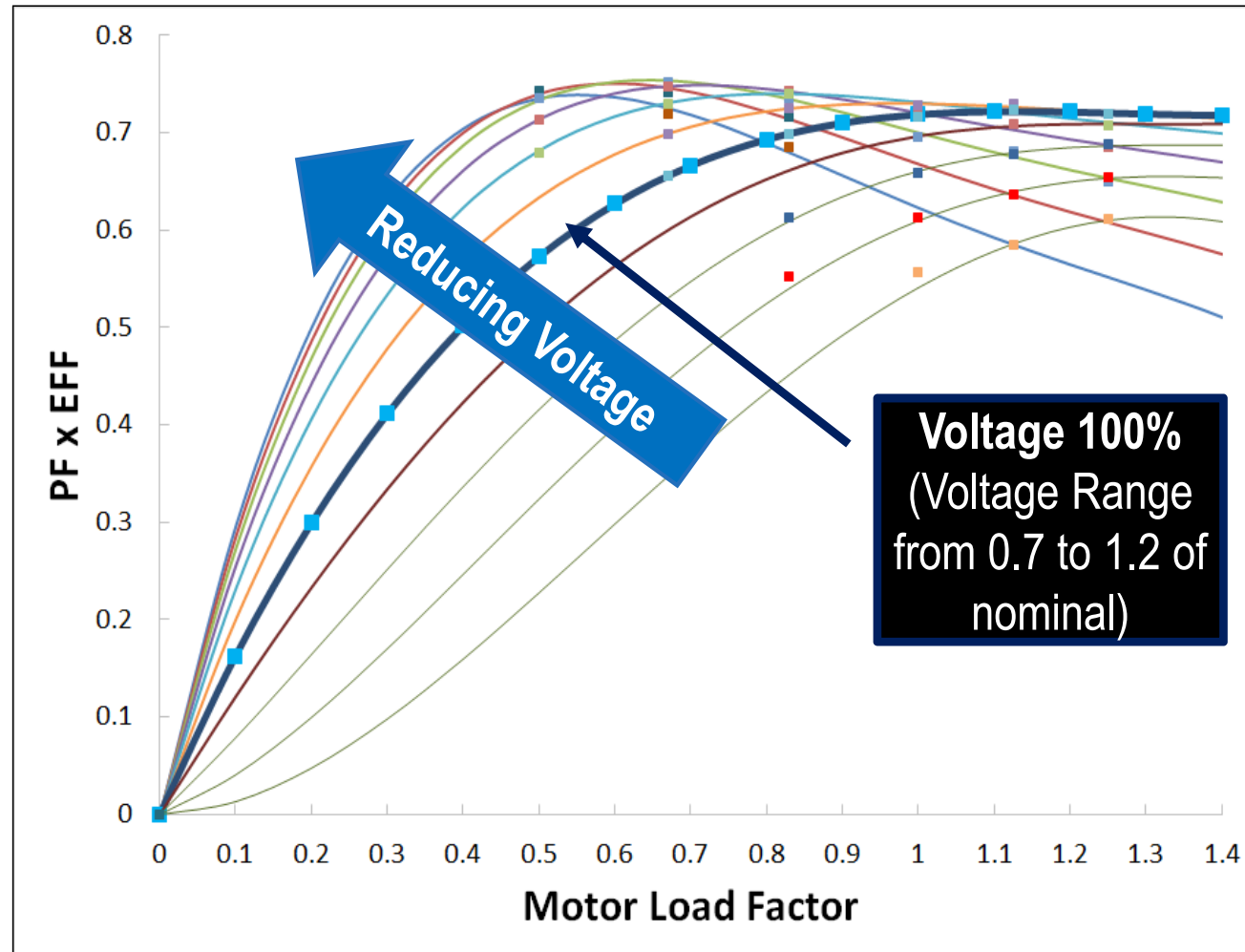
$$\text{Power} = \frac{V \times I \times \text{PF} \times \text{EFF} \times \sqrt{3}}{746}$$

|     |              |
|-----|--------------|
| V   | Voltage      |
| I   | Current      |
| PF  | Power Factor |
| EFF | Efficiency   |

The power equation shows that for a given pump load, when the (PFxEFF) is maximized, the current is minimized.

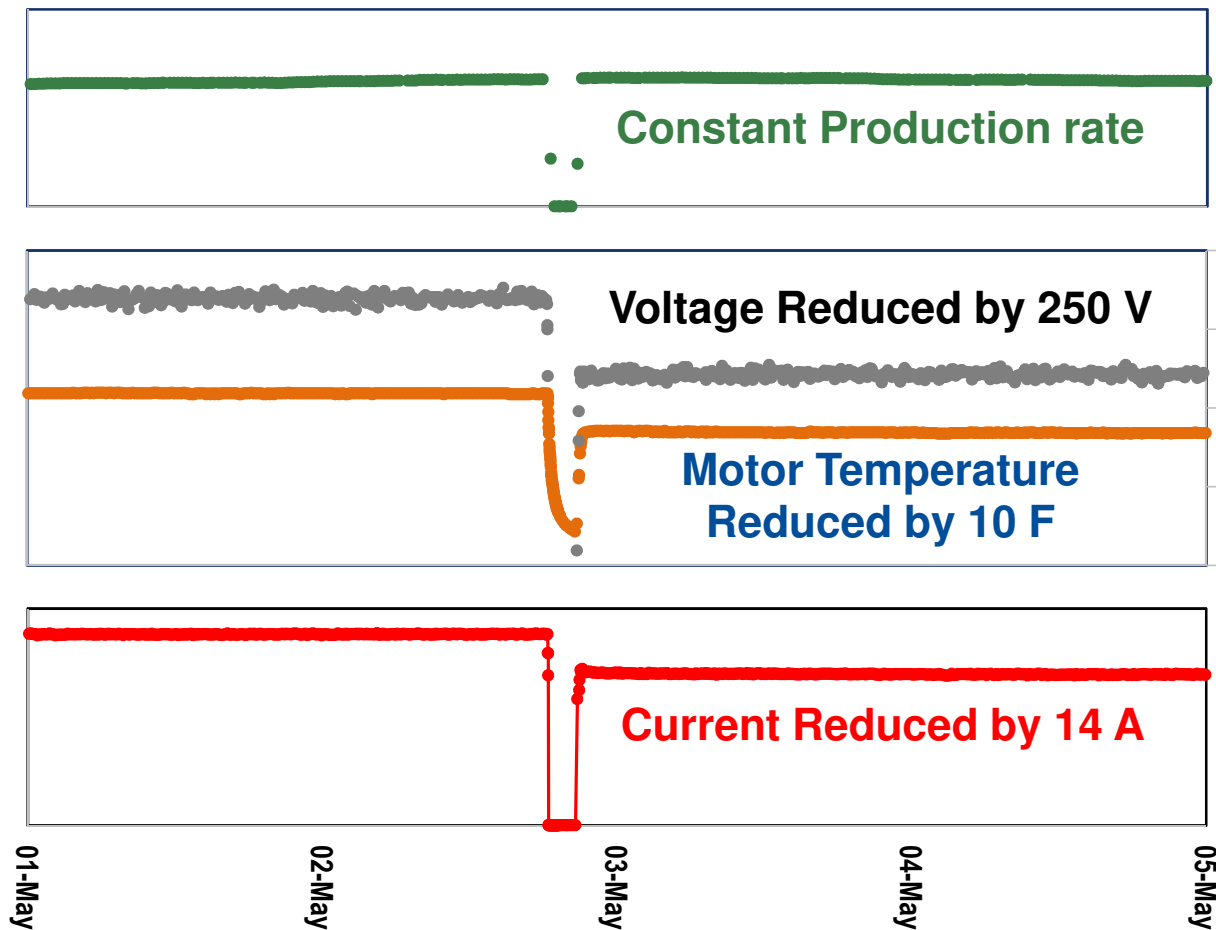
- Minimise Power consumption
- Minimise Motor Temperature, which maximises run life

**This is achieved by controlling voltage**





# ESP Power Optimisation → Double Benefit



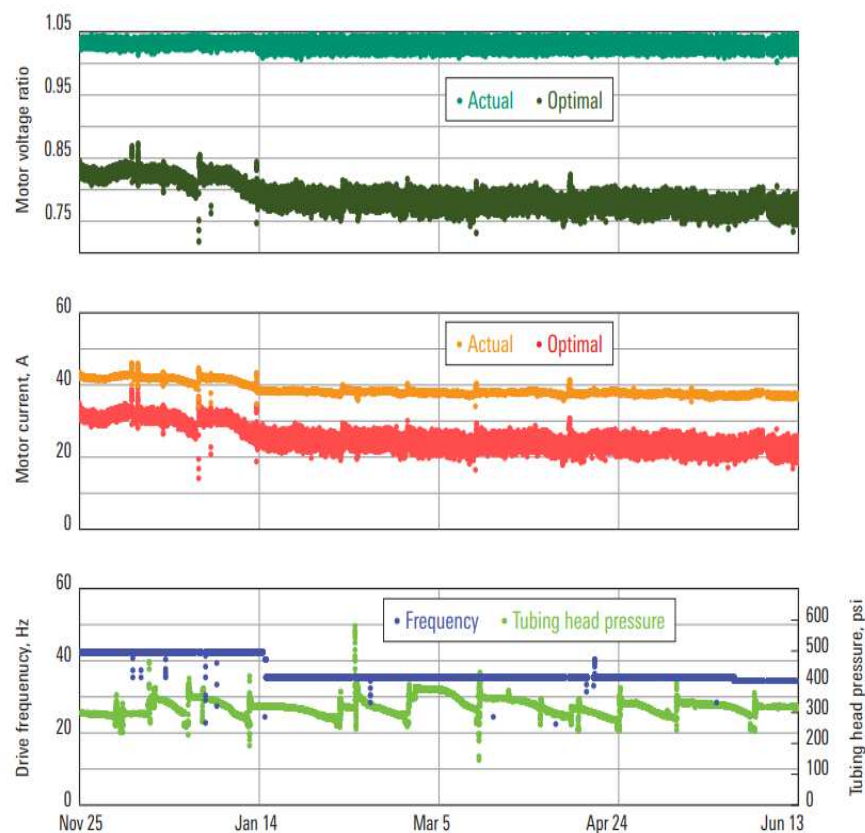
## Reduction in voltage:

- **38% power saving**  
(156 KVA vs 248 KVA)
- Run Life Increase
  - Motor Temperature reduction
  - Motor Voltage reduction

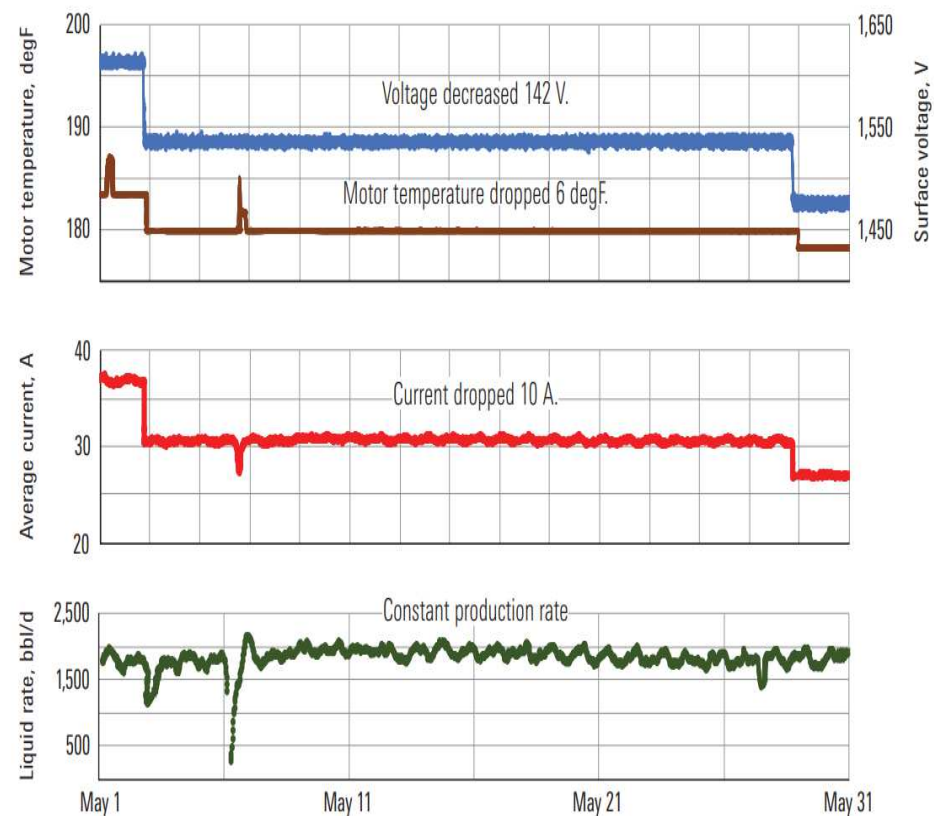
Achieved without any loss in production

# Automation & 2 Way Control

## Compare Potential to Actual



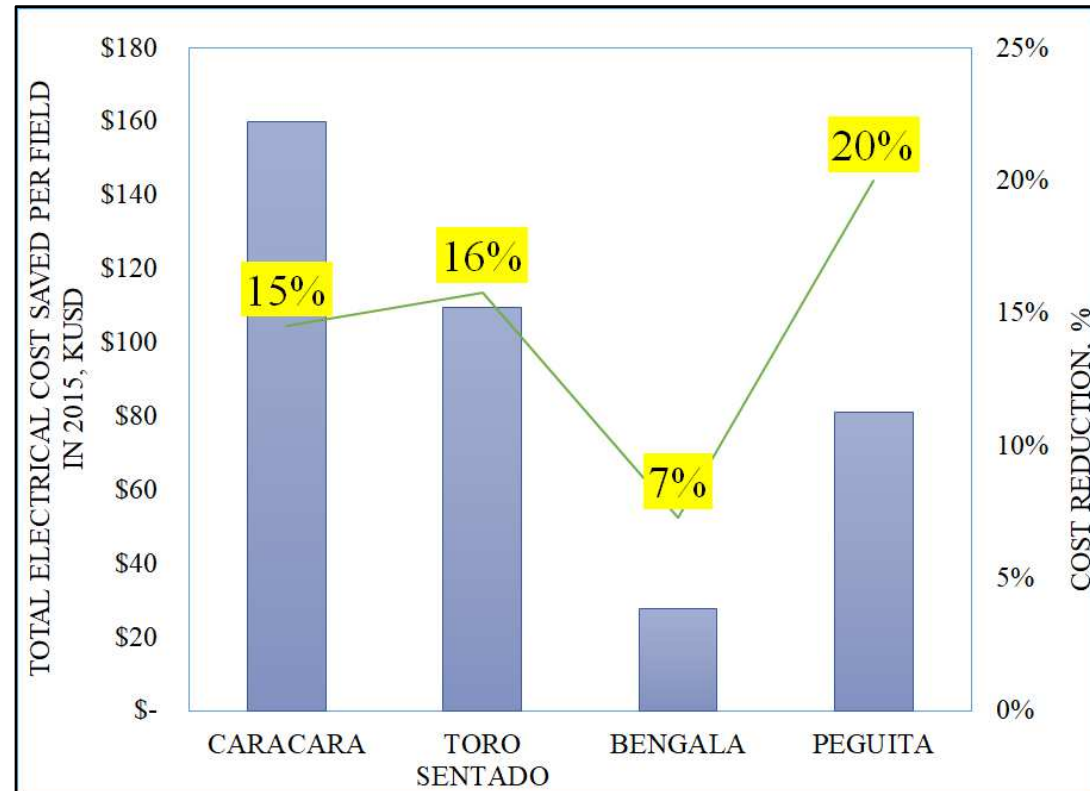
## 2-way control enables “baby steps”



# Cost Reduction – Field Wide Energy Saving

- 24 wells
- Total Power Cost = 2.4M\$ / month
- Saving= 380k\$/month = 14%

- Industry pay-back period on energy savings is between 0.8 & 1.2 years with savings of 30 M\$ in 2010 (source IAC 2017)
- For ESP wells, the pay-back period is zero as real time data is available anyway



**SPE-184006-MS**

**Electrical Cost Optimization for Electric Submersible Pumps: Systematic Integration of Current Conditions and Future Expectations**

A. Nieto, D. Brinez, J.E. Lopez, P. Marin, S. Cabrera, D. Paya, R. Arismendi, Cepsa Colombia. L. Fernandez, J. Villalobos, E. Cifuentes. Artificial Lift, Schlumberger.

## VALUE OBJECTIVES

1. Run Life
2. Power Consumption
- 3. Uptime**
4. Production Enhancement

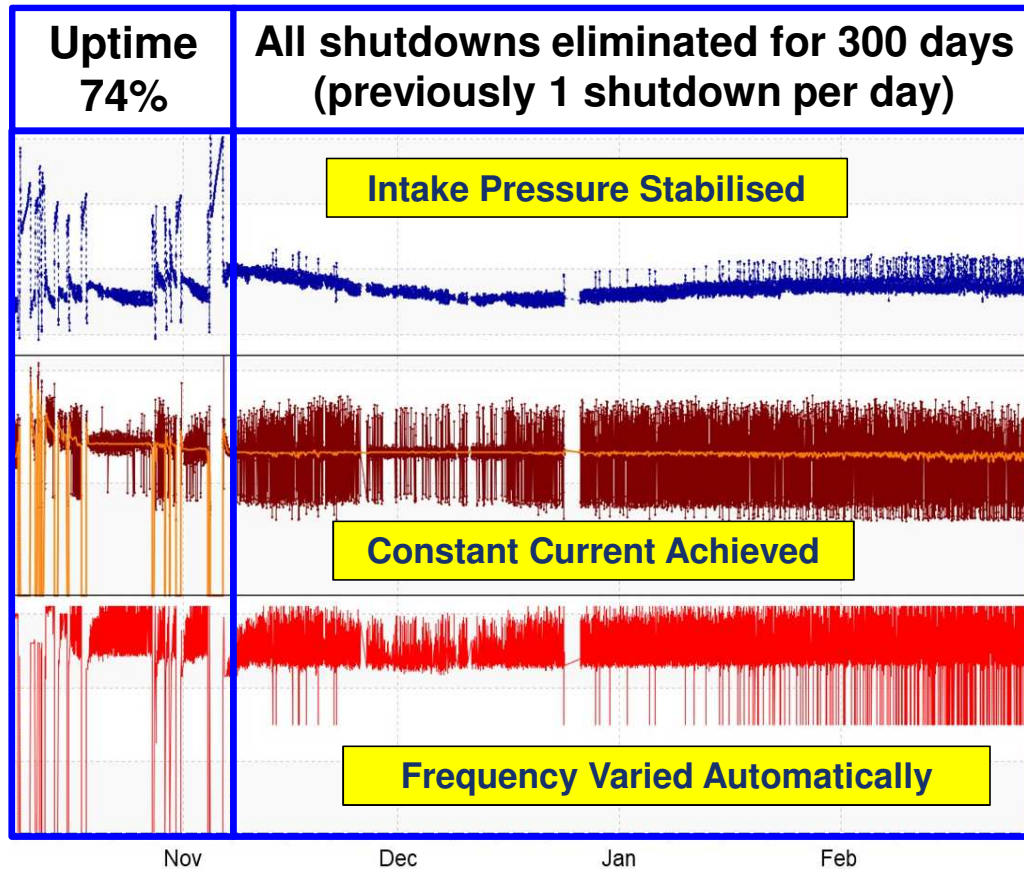
# The Main Causes of ESP Downtime

1. Facility shut-downs e.g. electrical power interruption.
2. ESP stops automatically triggered by the motor controller to protect the ESP from low flowrate / Overheating.

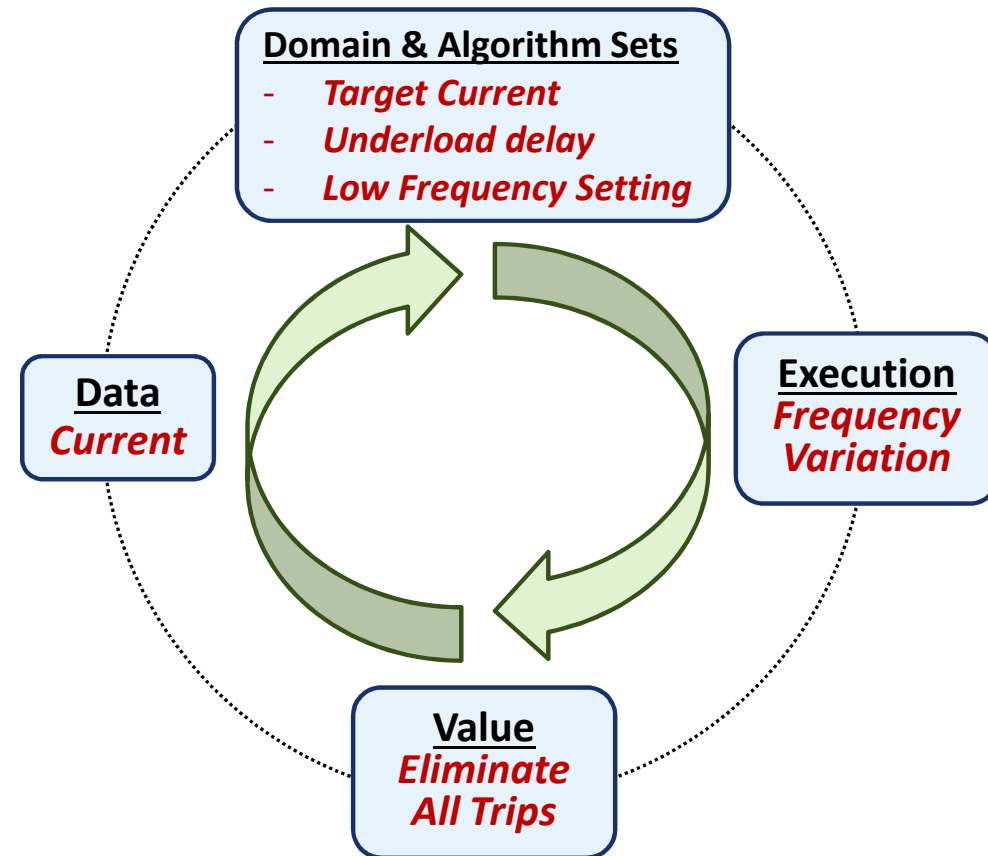
|                     |                                                             |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Deadheading:</b> | Usually caused by inadvertent valve closure                 |
| <b>Pump-off</b>     | Loss of submergence caused by pump rate greater than inflow |
| <b>Gas Lock:</b>    | Gas degradation → low flow → stalling / no flow to surface  |

3. Pump performance degradation due to:
  - Mechanical Wear
  - Free gas
  - Viscosity

# Improving Uptime with FAST LOOP– Gas Lock



Courtesy of SPE-190940-MS; Tuning VSDs in ESP Wells to Optimize Oil Production—Case Studies



# Improving Uptime with FAST LOOP– Pump Off

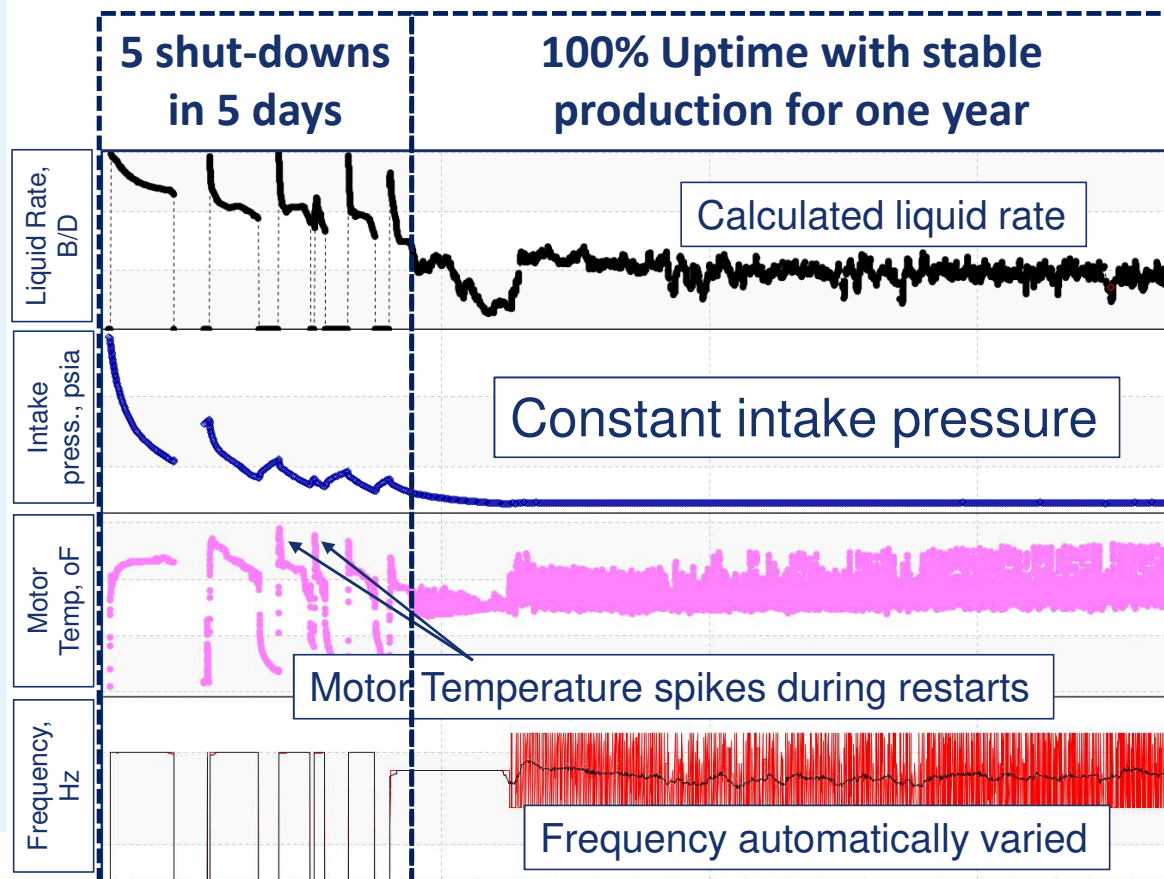
## Challenge:

Low PI well with some gas tripping on underload causing downtime.

## Solution

Constant intake pressure feedback mode → maintains drawdown and avoids tripping.

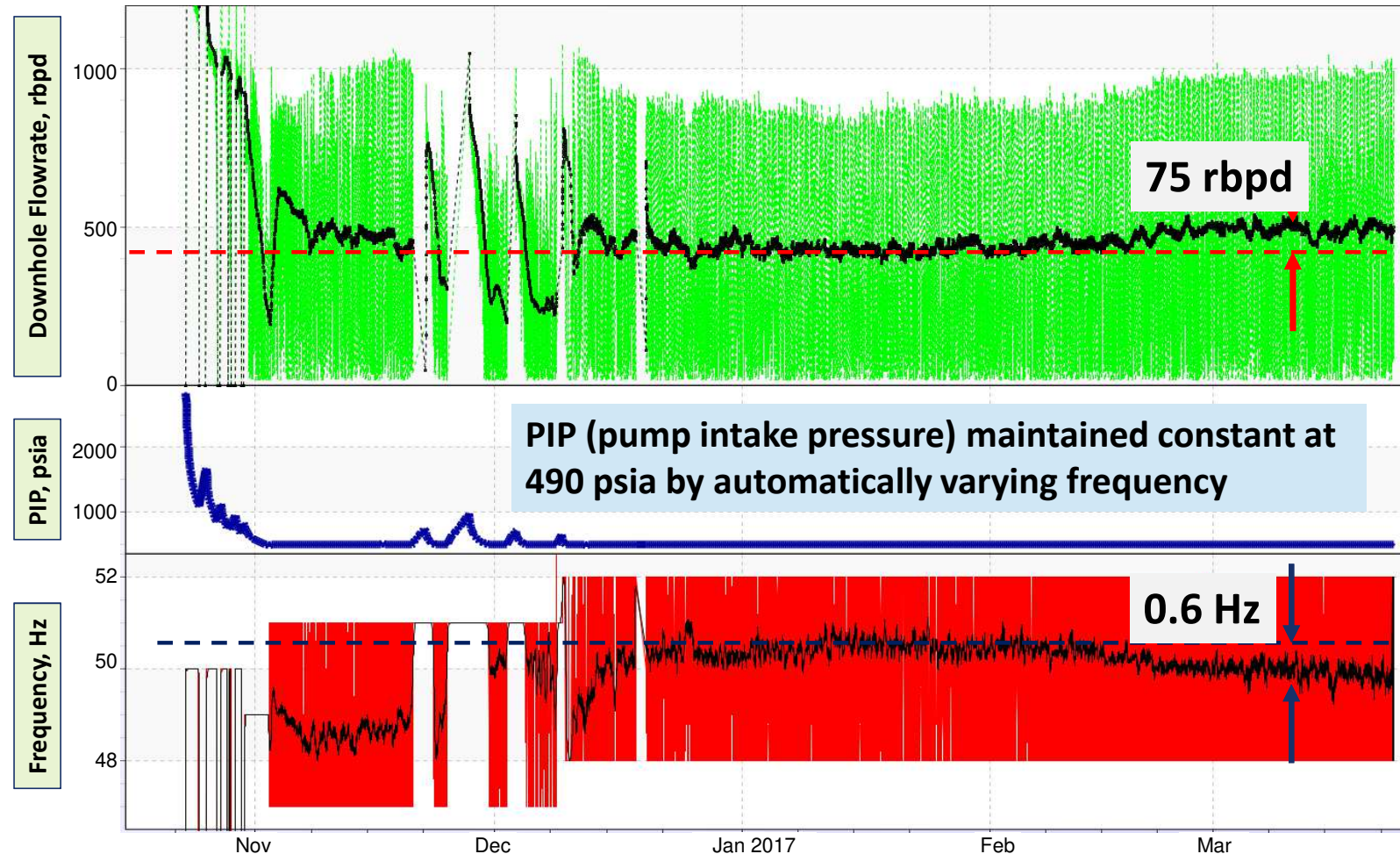
Courtesy of SPE-190940-MS; Tuning VSDs in ESP Wells to Optimize Oil Production—Case Studies





# Inflow Surveillance with Constant PIP Mode

High frequency & high resolution rate measurement enables detection of increase in rate of 75 rbpd despite large variations in rate due to frequency oscillations & production tubing slugging due to liquid loading



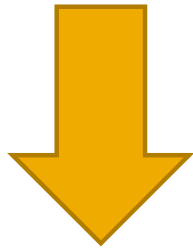


# Measuring Pump Degradation

## *PHI\* - Pump Health Indicator*

Identify degradation :

- Without flowrate or well test
- Use commonly available real-time data



Enables:

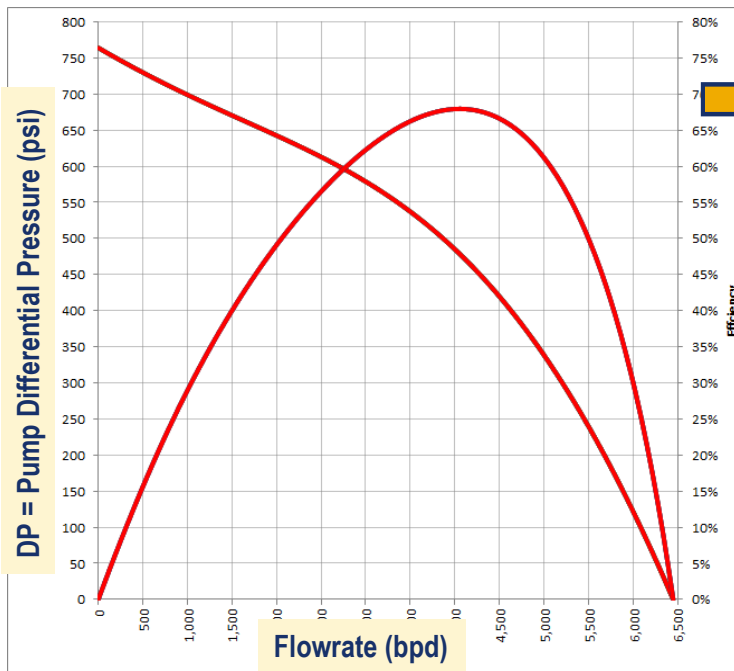
- Monitor Pump Health in Real Time - Downtime can be caused by degradation
- Calibrate Flowrate Models where well tests are not available for calibration

$$\mathbf{PHI} = \frac{\left(\frac{DP}{Power}\right)_{actual}}{\left(\frac{DP}{Power}\right)_{reference}} = \frac{C_{\eta}}{C_q}$$

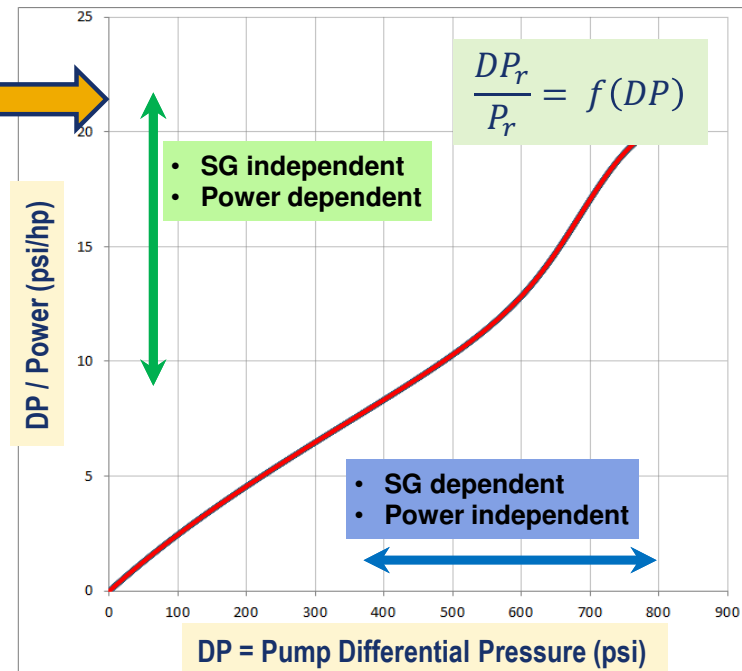
|                              |                                                   |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| $C_{\eta} = \eta_a / \eta_r$ | Efficiency Degradation                            |
| $C_q = Q_a / Q_r$            | Flow Degradation                                  |
| $DP = P_d - P_i$             | Pump Differential Pressure                        |
| Power                        | Pump Absorbed Power<br>= Power generated by motor |

# The Alternative Reference Curve

*Remove dependency on Flowrate & Specific Gravity*



Conventional **WITH**  
Flowrate

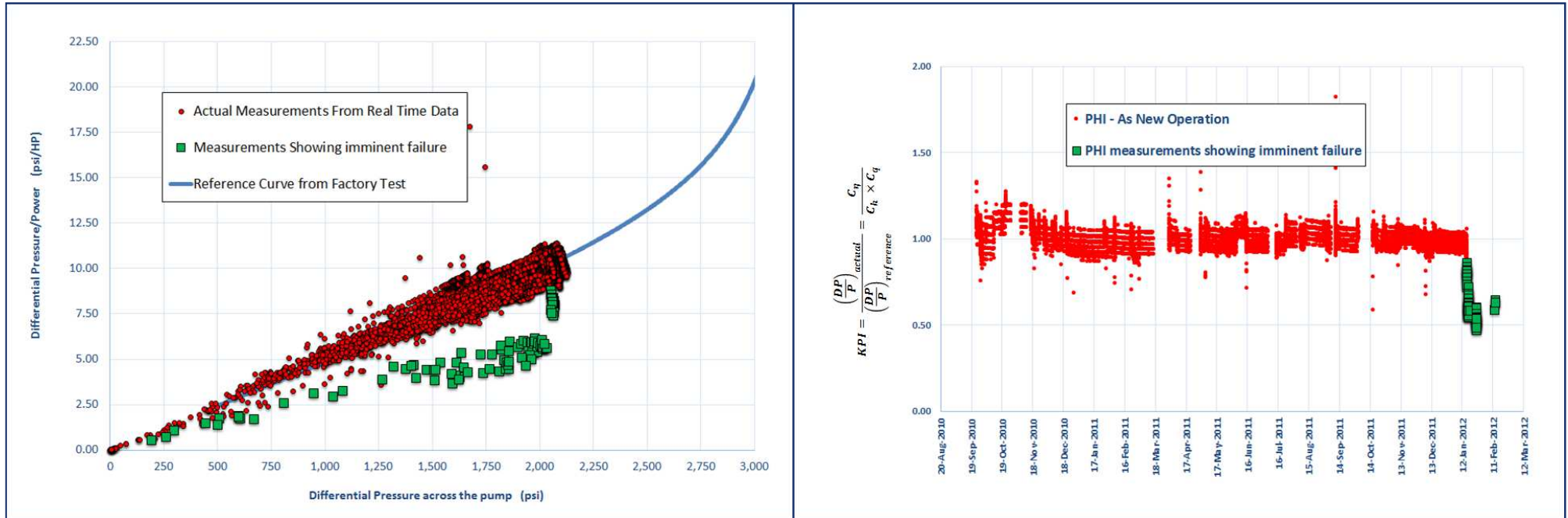


NEW **WITHOUT**  
Flowrate

# Pump Health Indicator (PHI)

## ...independent of flowrate

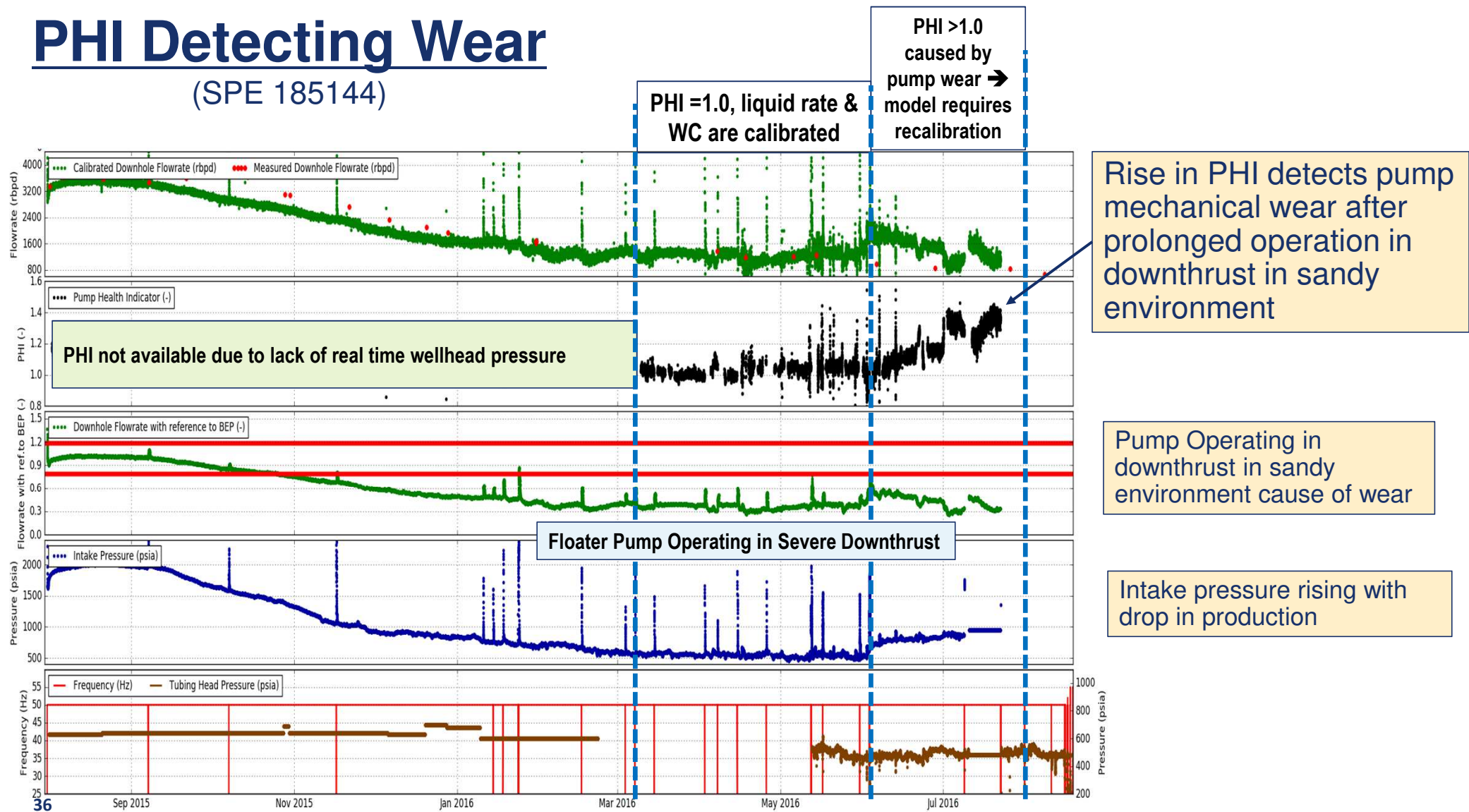
No Degradation for 16 months identified without well test  
i.e. knowledge of flowrate and SG.



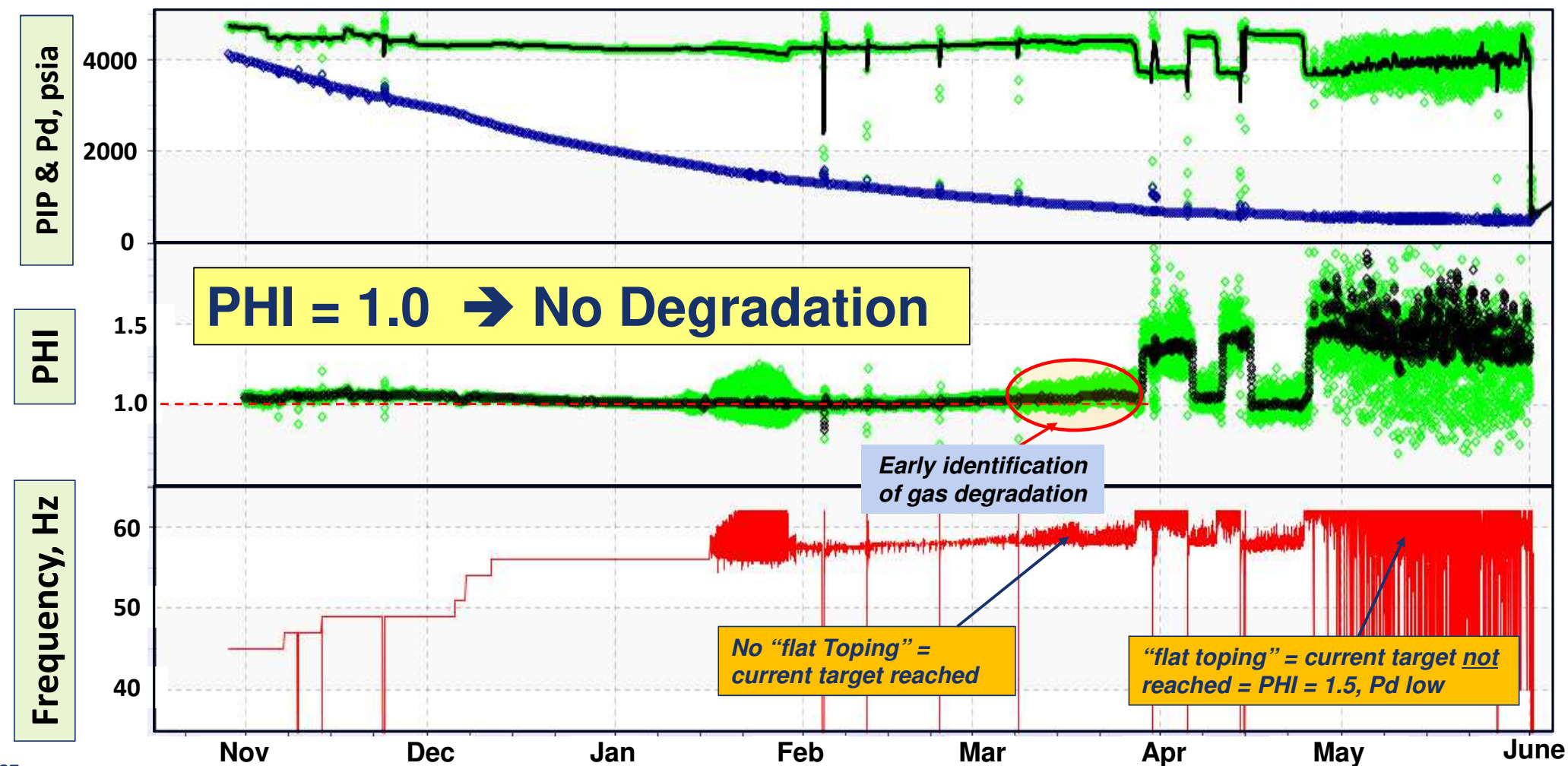
SPE paper 176780

# PHI Detecting Wear

(SPE 185144)



# PHI = Pump health Indicator → Detect Gas Degradation

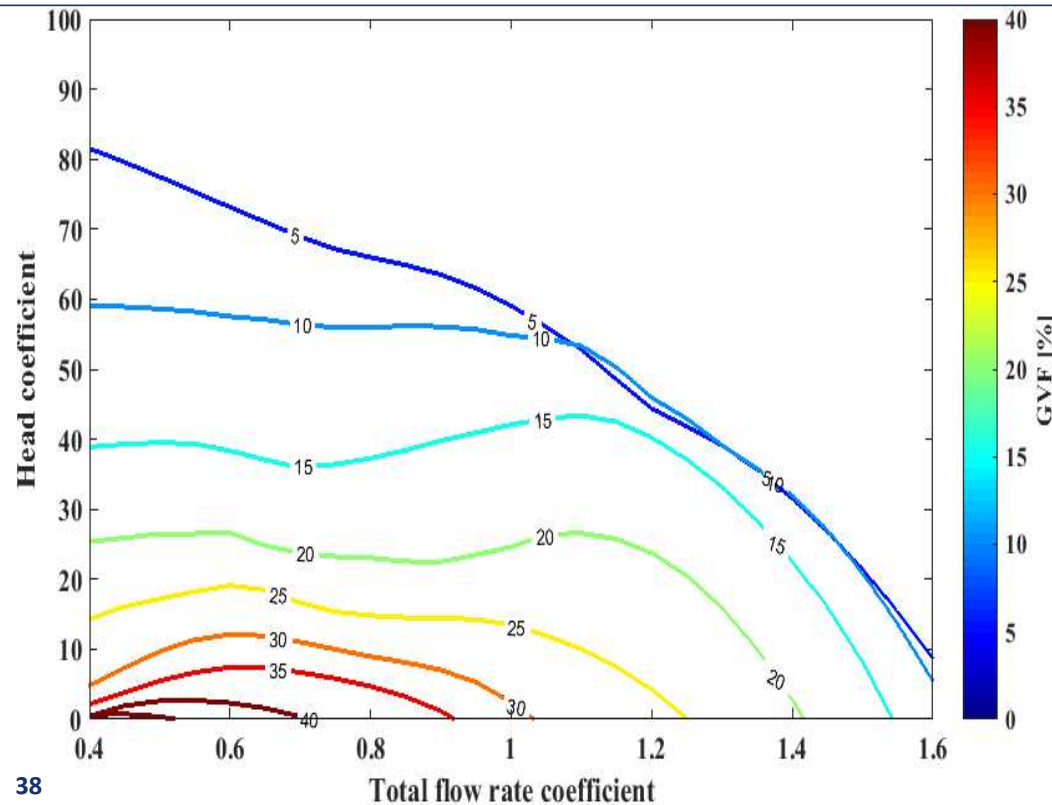




# Increased Gas Degradation at Operating Point < BEP

## Multiple Stages – Schlumberger Test

Less severe as the GVF is lower closer to discharge of pump as gas is compressed



## Single Stage – Tulsa University

*Courtesy of Gamboa, J. and Prado, M., 2012, Experimental Study of Two-Phase Performance of an Electric-Submersible Pump Stage, SPE-163048-PA.*

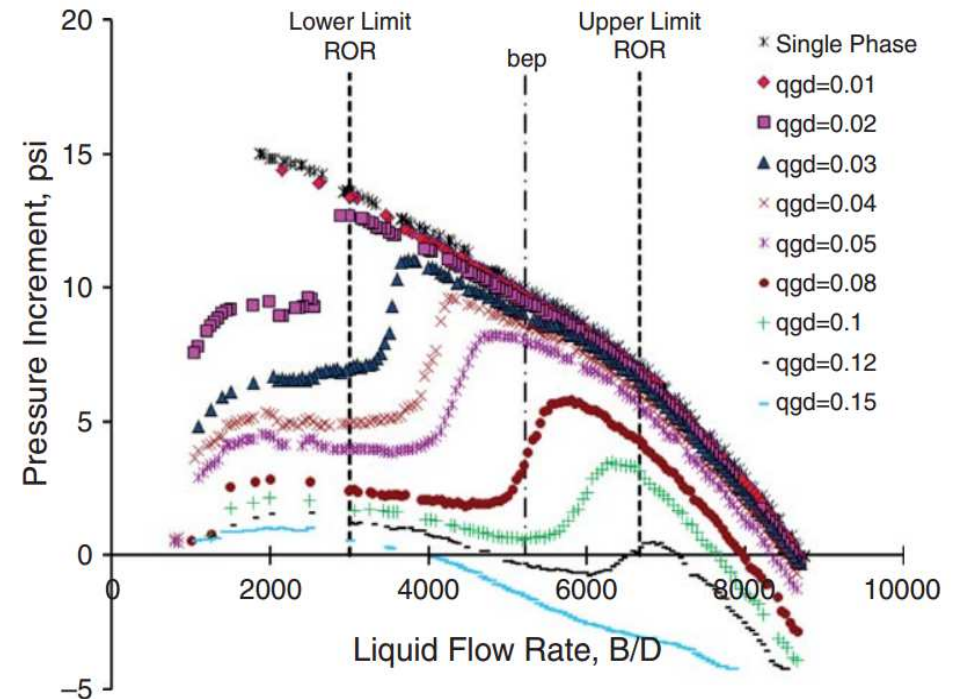


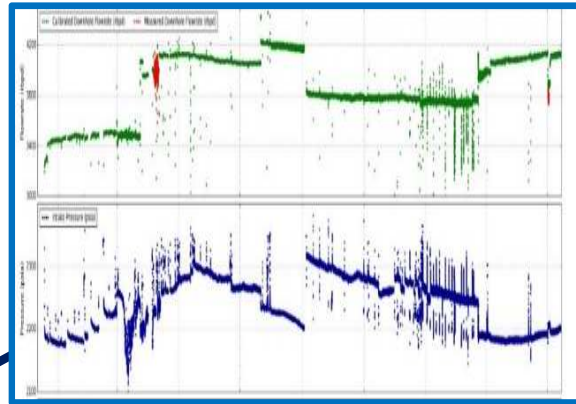
Fig. 1—Mapping performance curves at 3,000 rpm and 150 psig.

## VALUE OBJECTIVES

1. Run Life
2. Power Consumption
3. Uptime
- 4. Production Enhancement**



# The Value of High Frequency Flowrate & Pressure



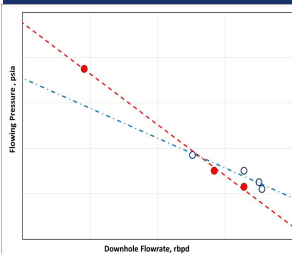
Liquid Rate

Pressure

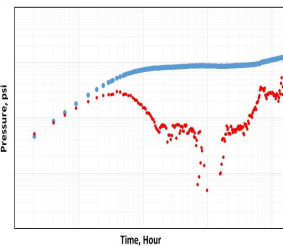
Downhole Measurement with:

- High Frequency
- High Resolution
- High Repeatability

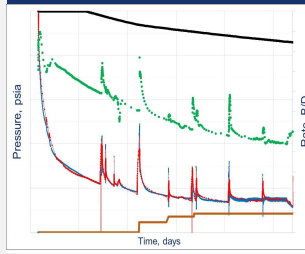
IPR  
on the fly



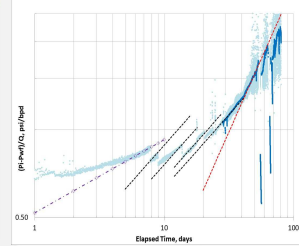
PTA in  
drawdown



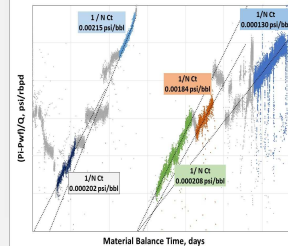
Skin and  
depletion  
evolution



Reservoir  
Flow regime  
(e.g.  
Fractures)



Reserves &  
Drainage  
area  
evolution



Without  
Build-ups

Fast Loop

Slow Loop

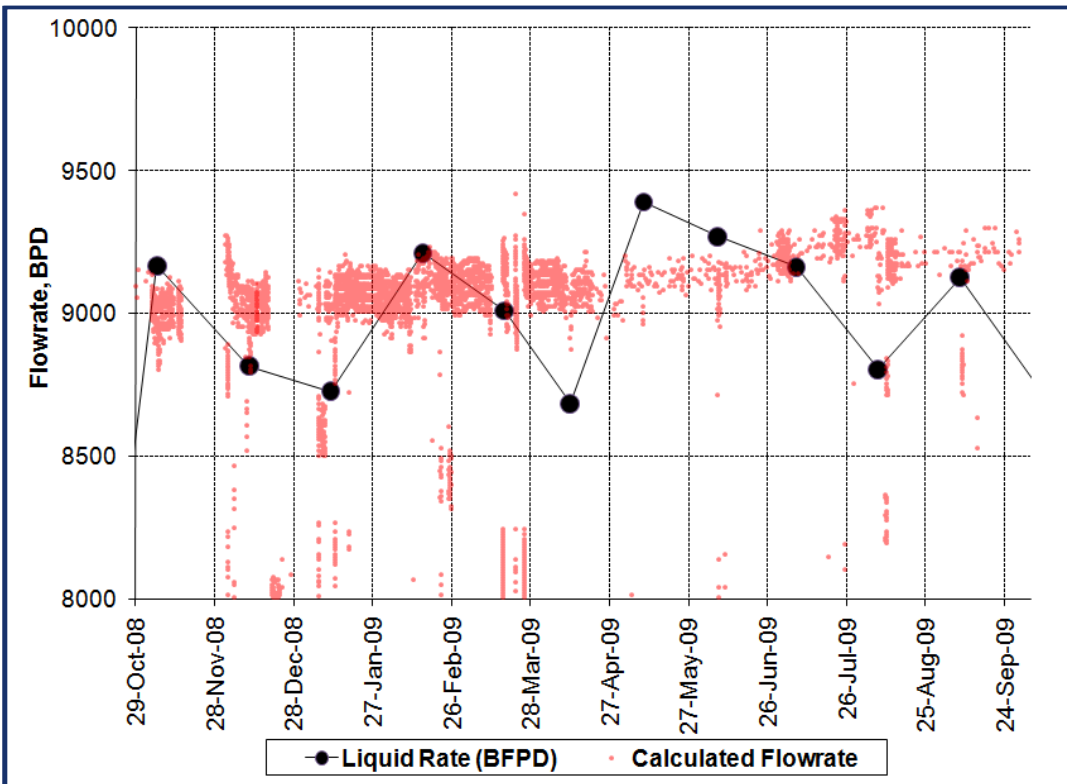
# Flowrate trends....

- High frequency
- High resolution
- High repeatability



**Discernible  
Trend**

***Accuracy not  
required for a trend***



|                      | Liquid rate<br>from test<br>separator | Calculated<br>using real<br>time data |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Frequency            | 1/month                               | 1/min                                 |
| Accuracy             | ±5%                                   | same                                  |
| Resolution           | ?                                     | <100 bbl/d                            |
| Repeatability        | Poor                                  | HIGH                                  |
| Discernible<br>Trend | NO                                    | YES                                   |

# One Possible Method of real time rate estimation...

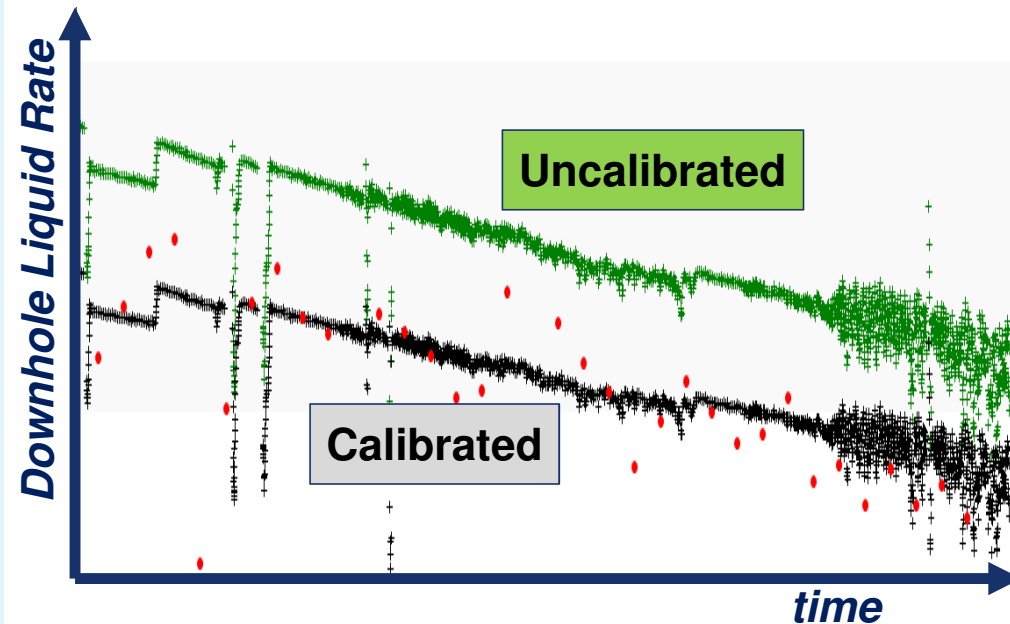
- **High frequency**
- **High resolution**
- **High repeatability**

Pump-absorbed Power = Motor-generated Power

$$\frac{(P_d - P_i) \times Q_p}{58847 \times \eta_p} = \frac{V \times I \times PF \times EFF \times \sqrt{3}}{746}$$

## No need for additional hardware

1. Proven from first principles → Always true
2. Equation is density independent:
  - Valid with changing WC
  - Can handle phase segregation
3. Analytical equation → derivative provides resolution
4. Type Curve → Shape does not change with calibration.
5. Valid across the full range of the pump curve irrespective of pump type.
6. Flow rate measurement at the exact same time as pressure
7. Independent of formation volume factor.



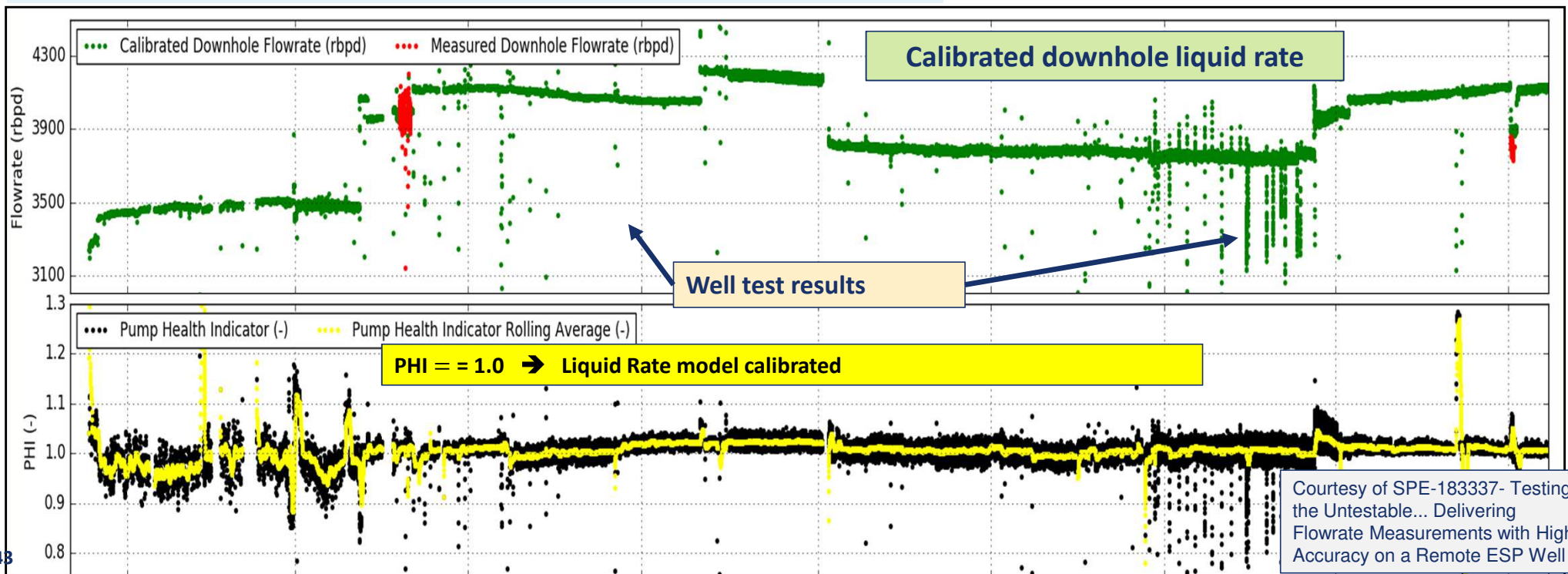
URTEC 2475126 - ESP Real-Time Data Enables Well Testing With High Frequency, High Resolution, and High Repeatability in an Unconventional Well

# PHI Calibration Achieves Rate Accuracy < 2.5%

- Following ESP start-up initial calibration based on PHI (Pump Health Indicator) = 1.0 as
  - Pump is new → no wear
  - Based on PVT → No Viscosity or gas degradation
- If PHI remains constant at 1.0 → calibration is maintained

## Accuracy achieved

- SPE 183337: Accuracy < 2.5%
- SPE 2471526: Accuracy < 1%

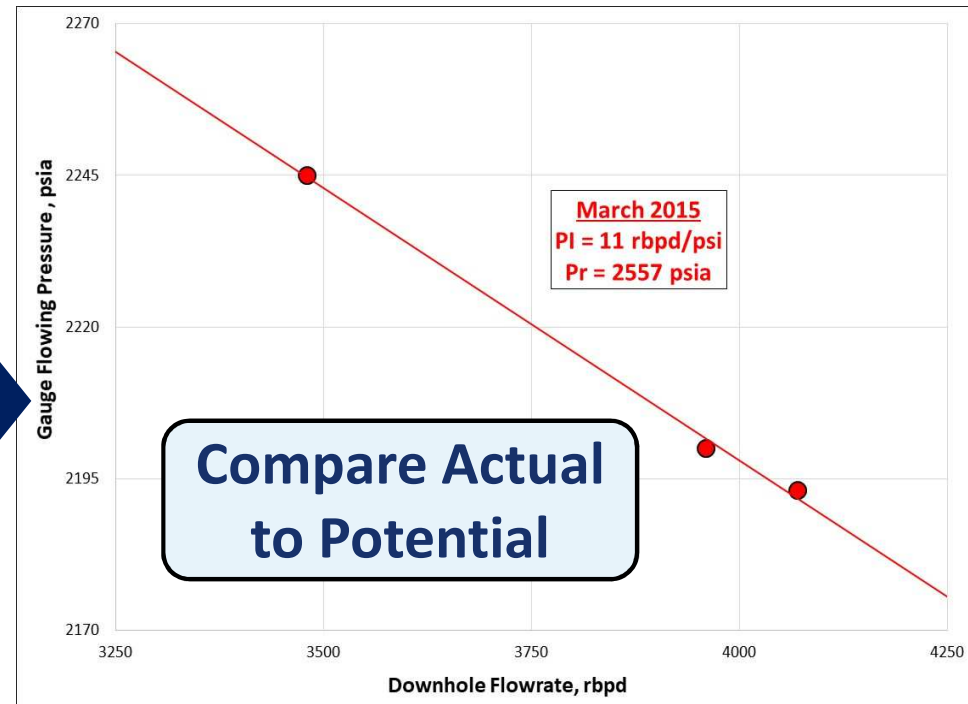
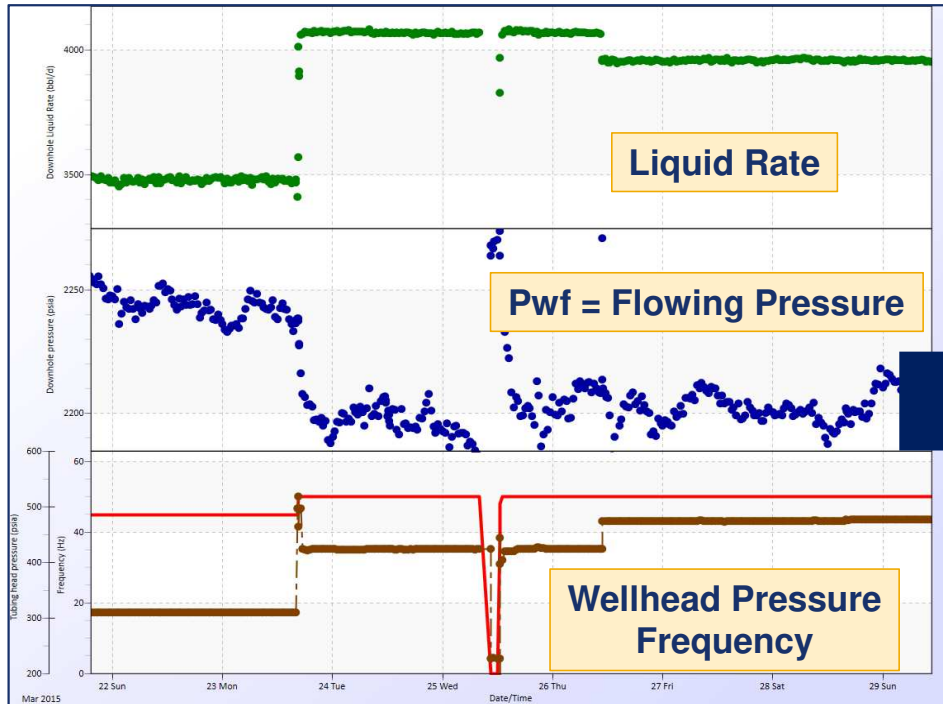


# IPR on the fly without build-ups

Small changes in frequency and wellhead pressure provide multi-rate test opportunities

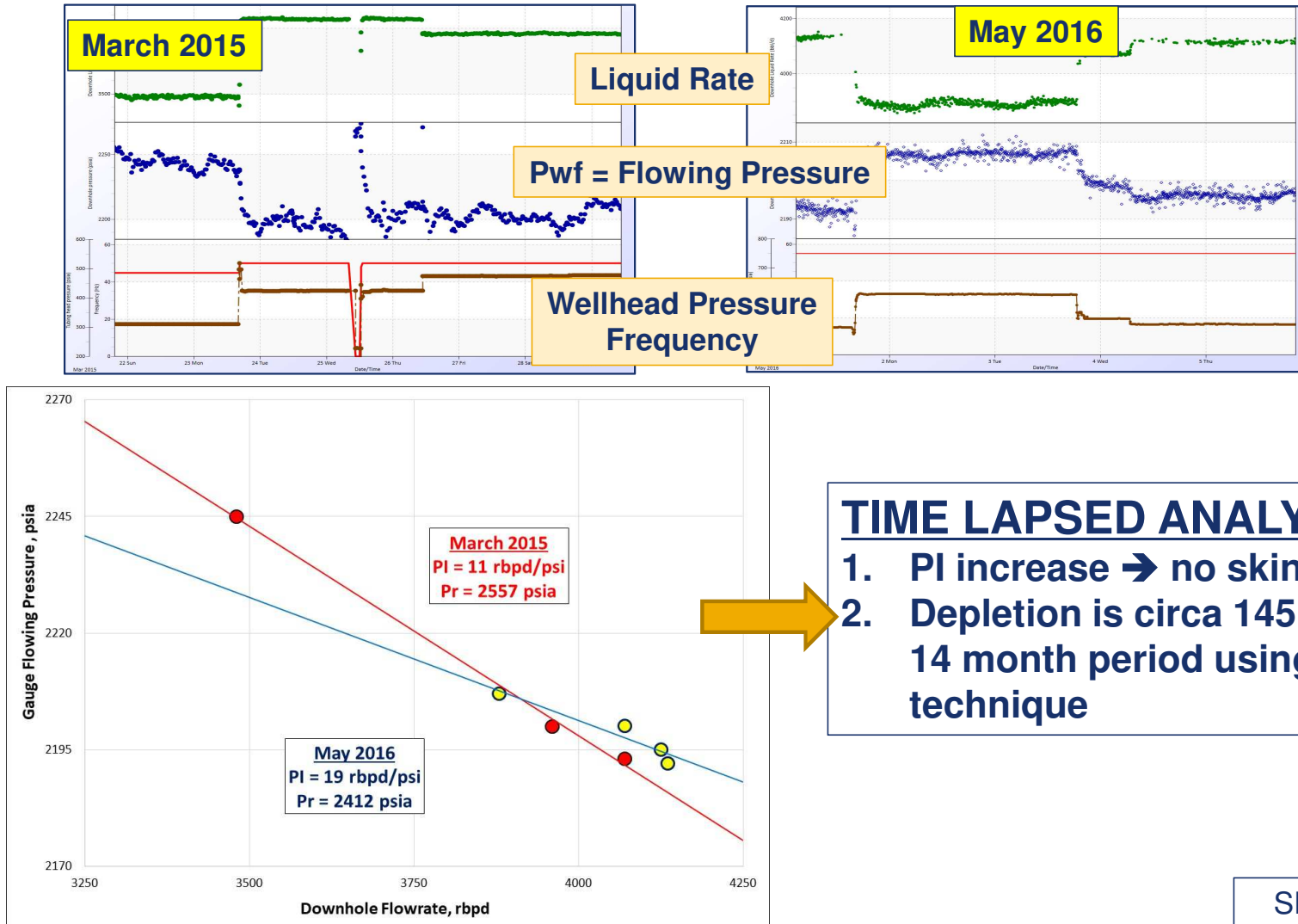
Enabled by flowrate and pressure with:

- High frequency = 1/min
- High resolution = <20 rbpd
- High repeatability



SPE paper 183337

# IPR Measurement on the fly



## TIME LAPSED ANALYSIS

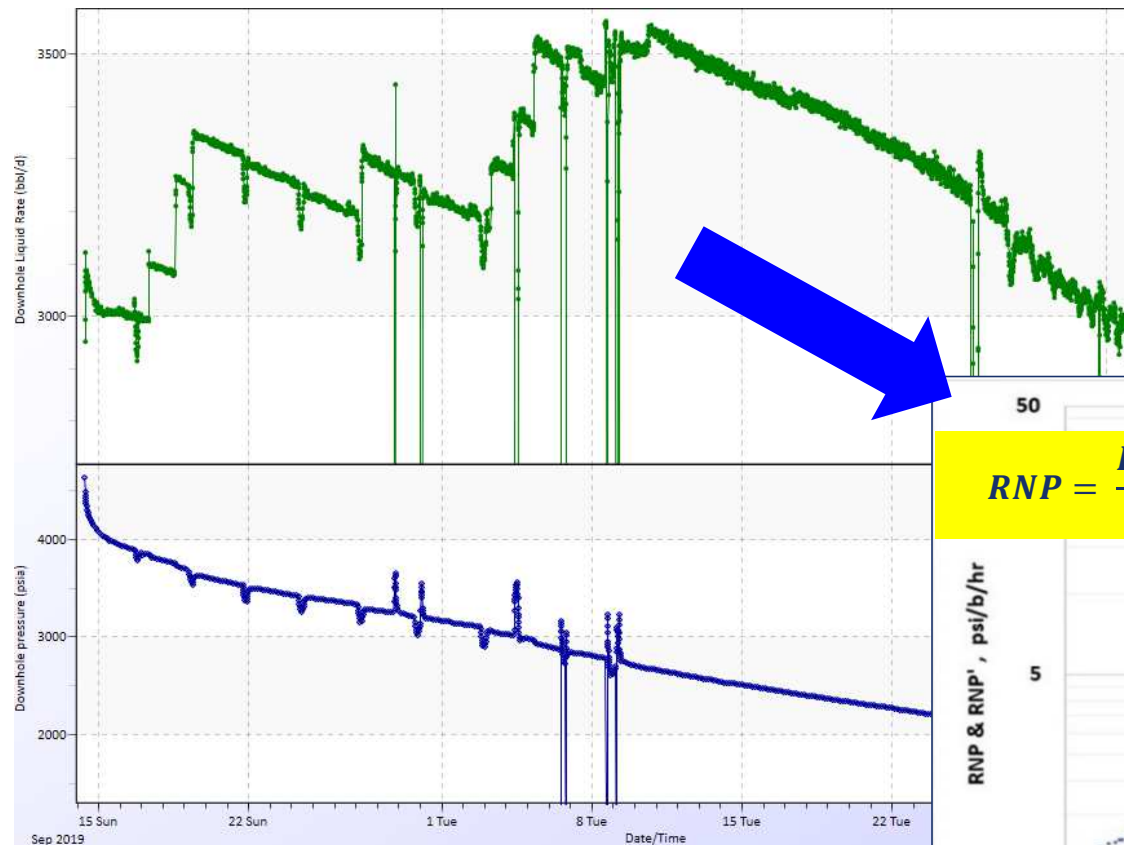
1. PI increase → no skin increase
2. Depletion is circa 145 psi over this 14 month period using SIP technique

SPE paper 183337



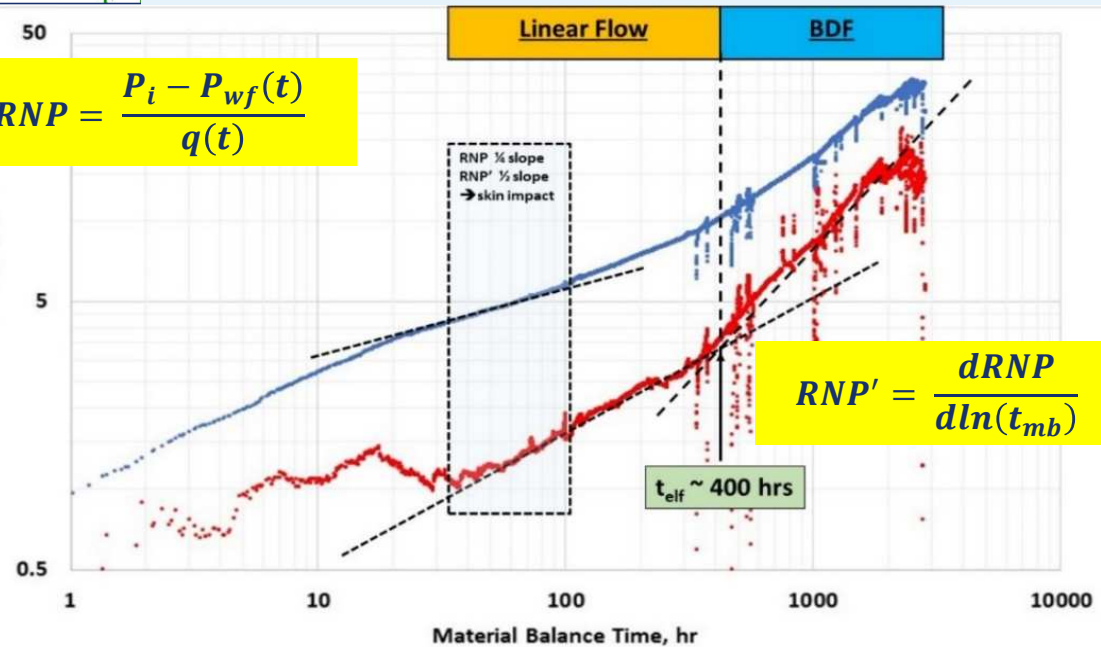
# Rate Normalisation...even with multiple discrete rate steps

Rate normalization is essential to generating a pressure response similar to that resulting from a constant flowrate and removing discrete changes in pressure (common to most commercial PTA and RTA software packages)



$$RNP = \frac{P_i - P_{wf}(t)}{q(t)}$$

RNP & RNP', psi/b/hr

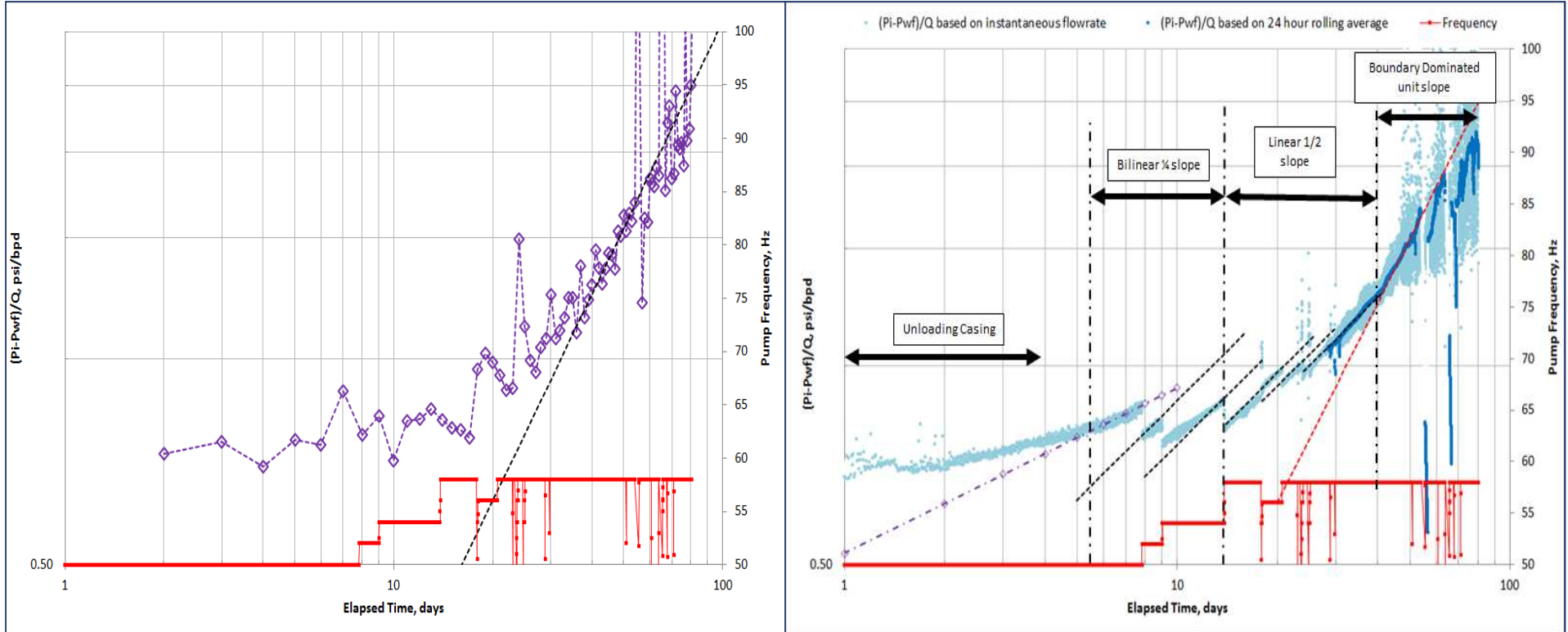




# High Frequency vs. Test Separator Flowrate

One cannot see transient fracture flow regimes with low frequency & low repeatability test separator data, even daily data is insufficient....

Example of a MFHW  
(Multiple Fractured Horizontal Well  
courtesy of Paper URTEC  
#2471526



# PTA (Pressure Transient Analysis) in drawdown

- **Problem Statement:**

- PTA has a huge value for skin and boundary characterization, however traditionally requires build-ups due to lack of downhole transient rate.
- However build-ups are associated with production deferment.
- Also build-ups are rarely long enough to see boundaries.

- **The challenge:** Drawdown PTA is mathematically equivalent to build-ups, however presents the following challenges:

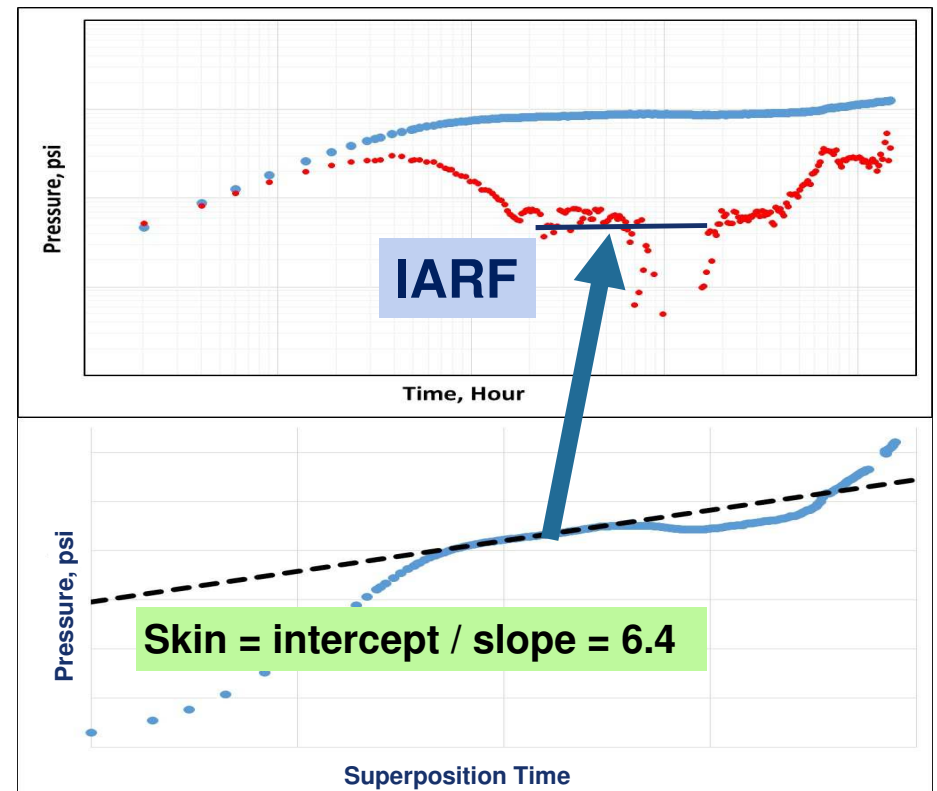
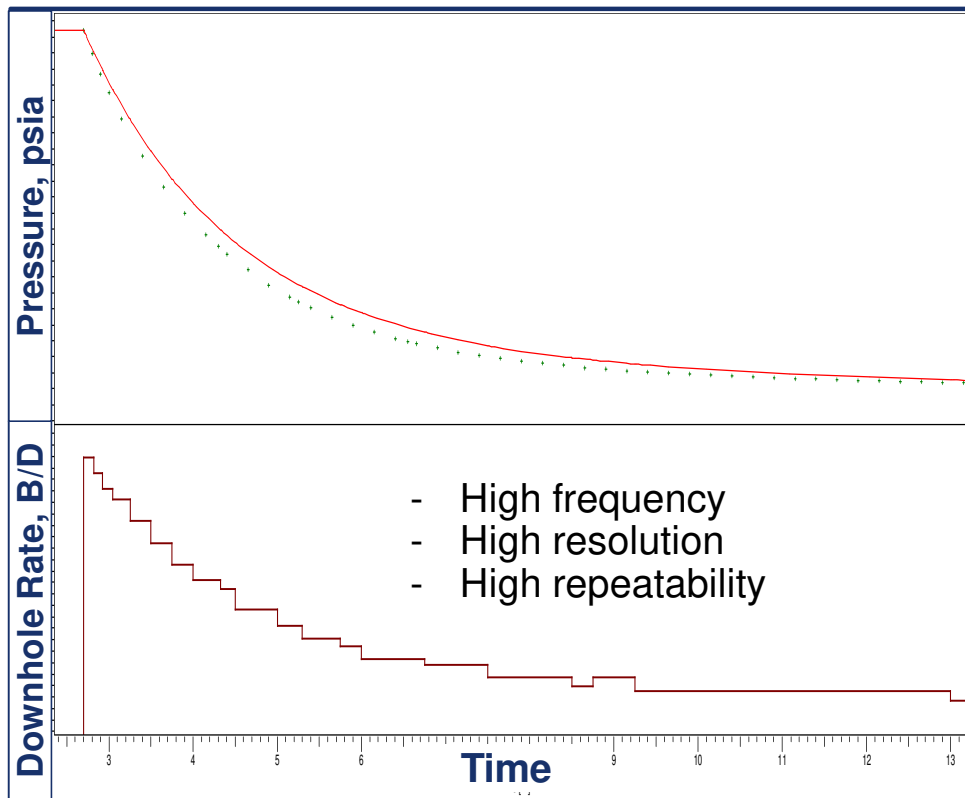
- Requires transient flowrate
- High resolution ESP gauges → Noisy derivative
- Slugging wells

- **The Solution:**

- Virtual flowmetering can provide downhole flowrate with high frequency and resolution
- As flowrate is measured at the same point as pressure, there is no time lag between flow and pressure measurements.
- Superposition time is enabled and provides smoothing
- Drawdown means that one can wait to see boundary conditions.

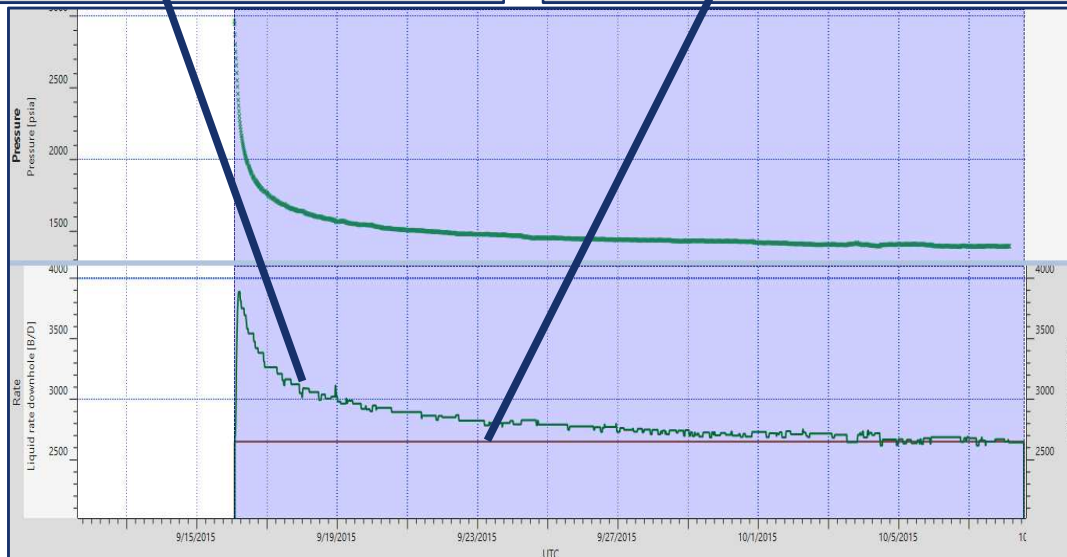
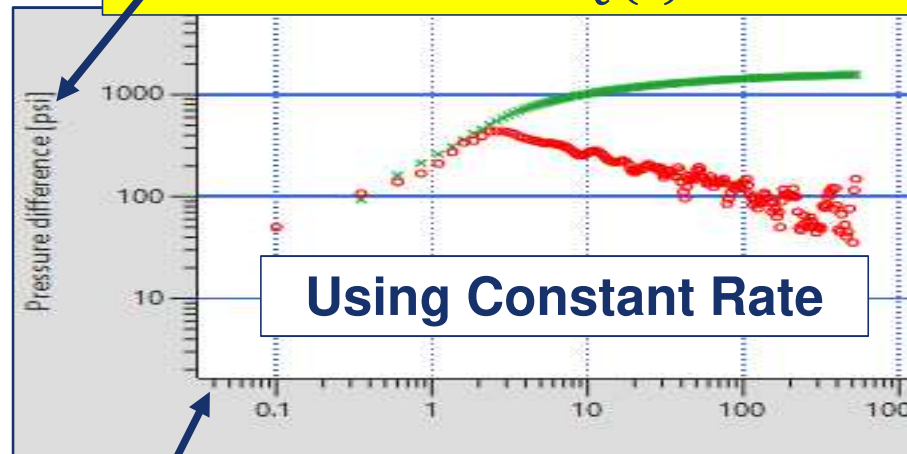
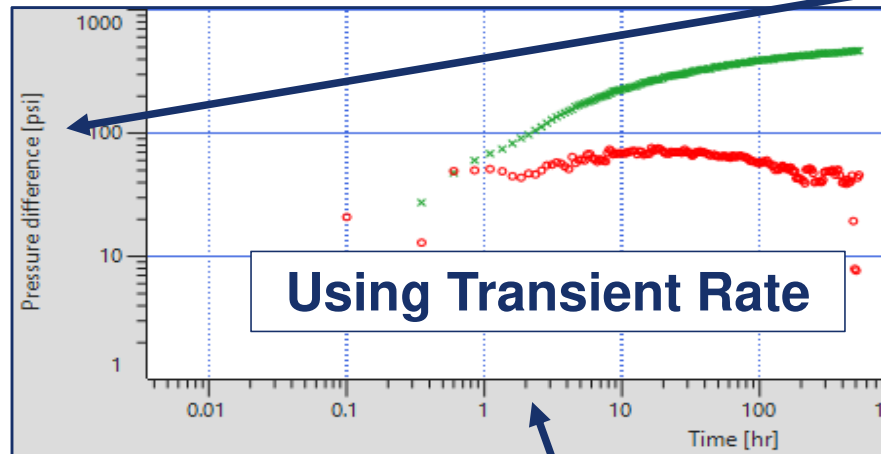
# Measuring Skin with Drawdown

Example from SPE paper 185144 shows how rate data enables use of semi-log. This enables correct identification of IARF (Infinite Acting Radial Flow) and therefore skin measurement.



# Why Transient Rate is so Important...

$$\text{Pressure} = \frac{(P_i - P_{wf}(t))}{Q(t)} \times Q_n$$



# The value of stimulation

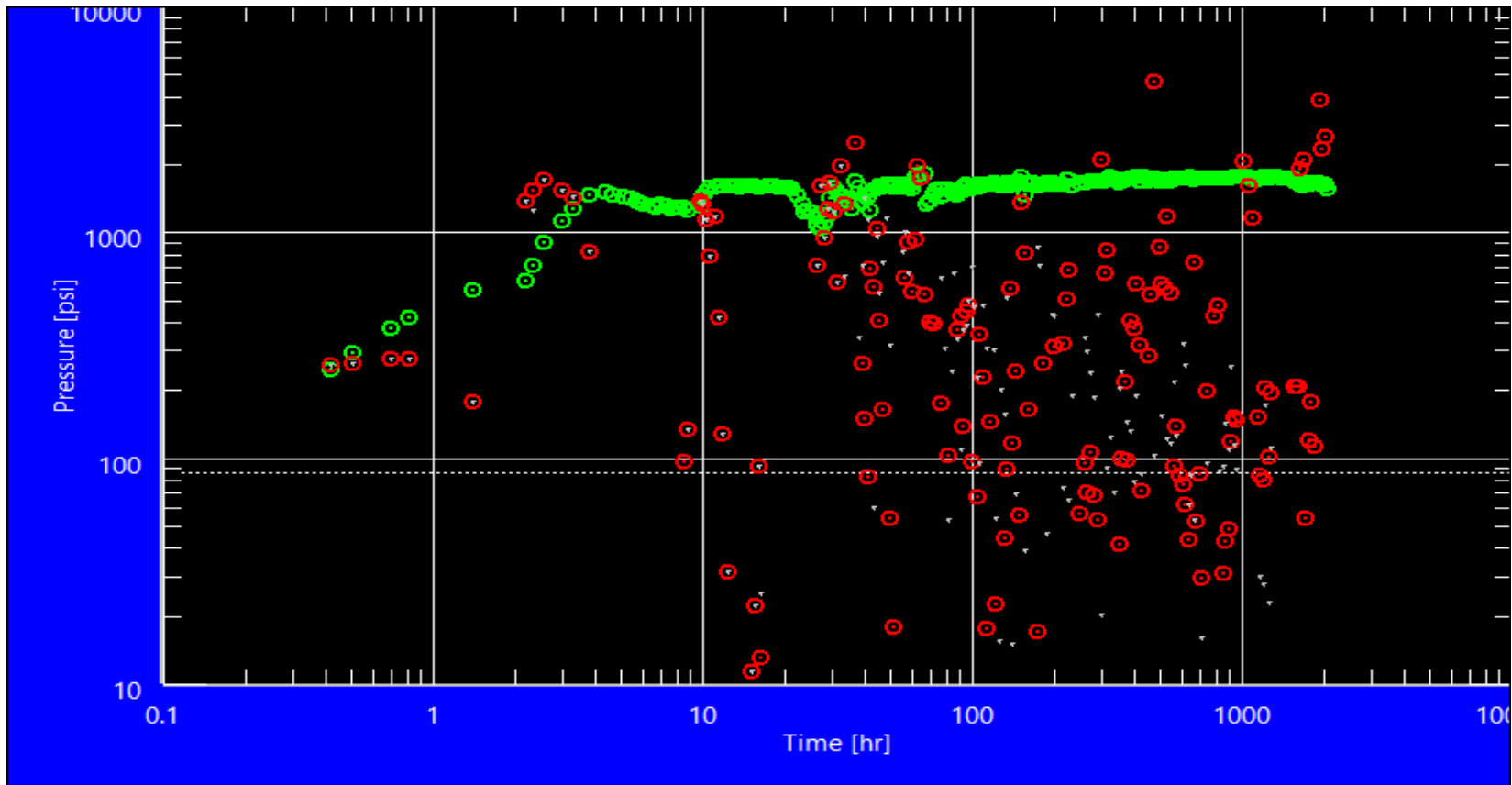
**Compare Actual  
to Potential**

Even where WC (Water Cut) is high and the absolute rate is relatively low, the value of skin remediation is high

|                                             | Before Stimulation | After Stimulation |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Skin                                        | 6.4                | 0                 |
| PI                                          | 1.31 BPD/psi       | 2.21 BPD/psi      |
| Pwf                                         | 740 psia           |                   |
| Liquid Rate                                 | 1232 BPD           | 2089 BPD          |
| Incremental Liquid Rate                     | 0                  | 857 BPD           |
| WC                                          | 95%                | 95%               |
| Incremental Oil Rate                        | 0                  | 43 BOPD           |
| Incremental Annual Revenue<br>@ 50 US\$/bbl | 0                  | 782 k\$           |

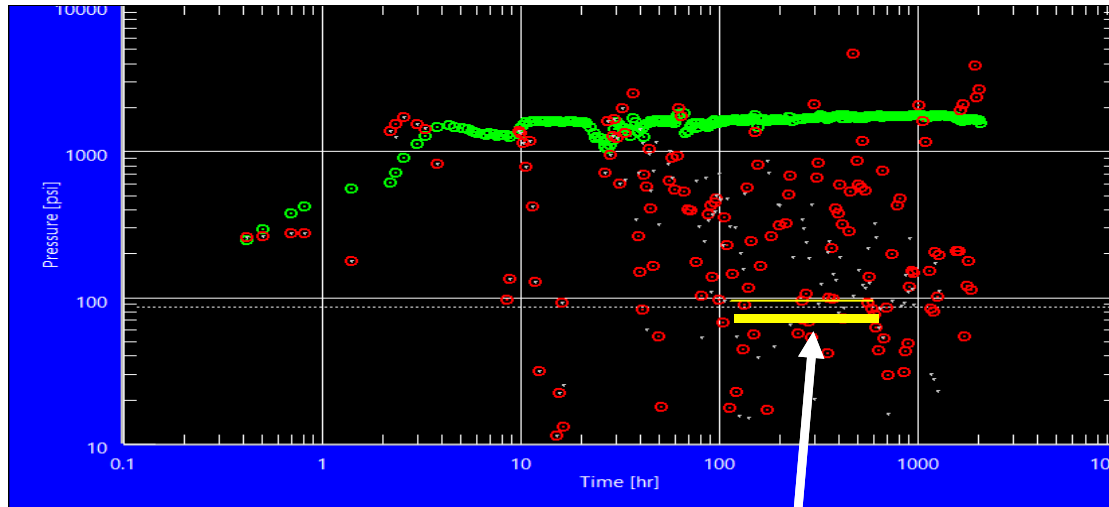
# A common Problem

Derivative is too noisy in drawdown to identify IARF



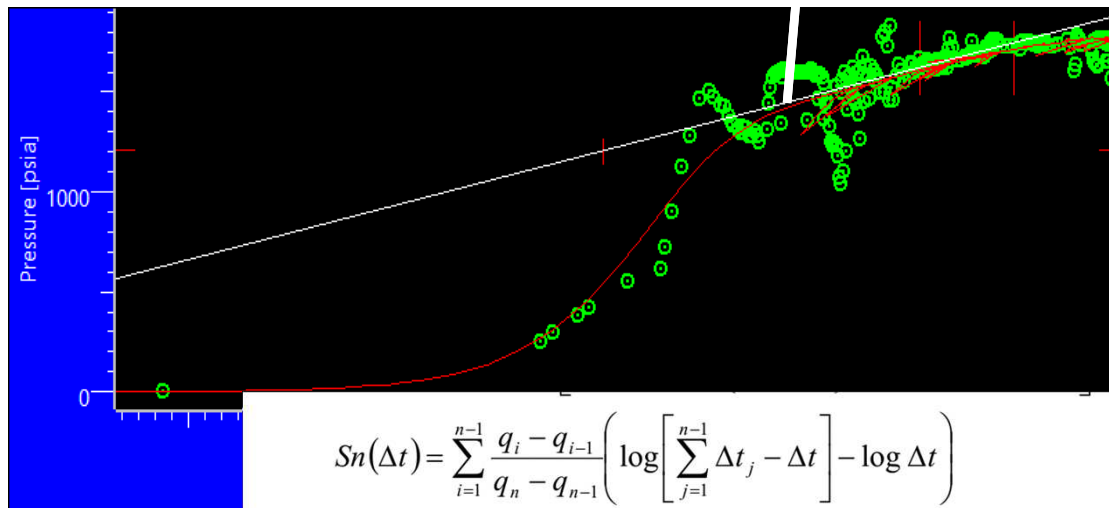
Log-Log plot:  $(p - p_{dt=0}) \cdot Q / [q_n - q_{n-1}]$  and derivative [psi] vs dt [hr]

# IARF identified using semi-log with Superposition time

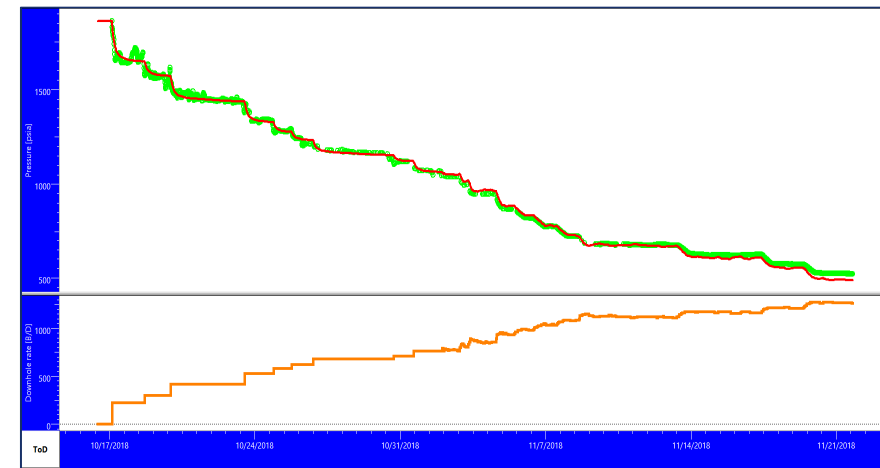


Obtain history match and measure:

- Skin
- Distance to constant pressure boundary

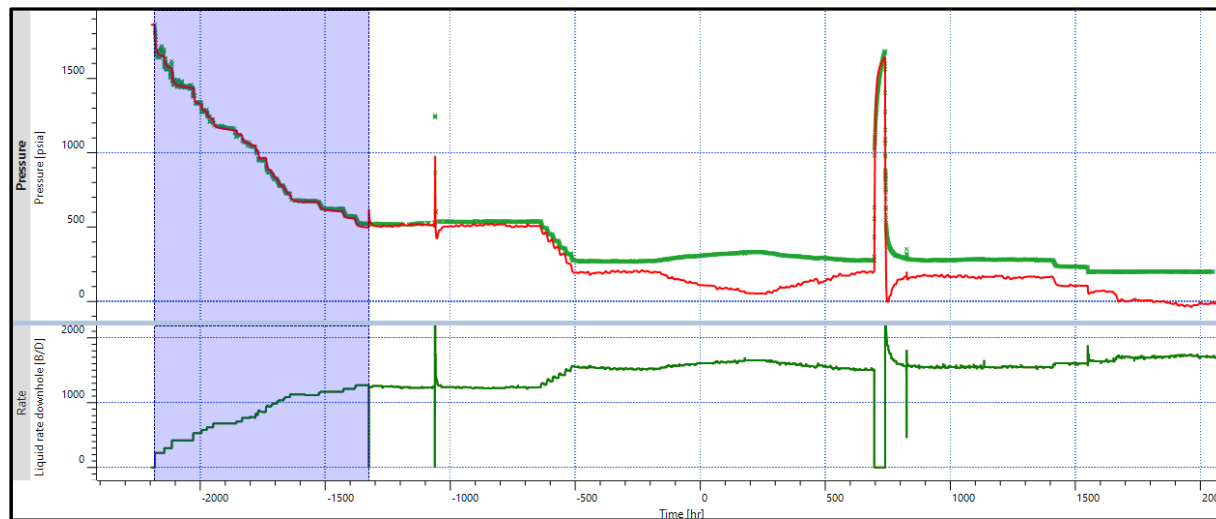
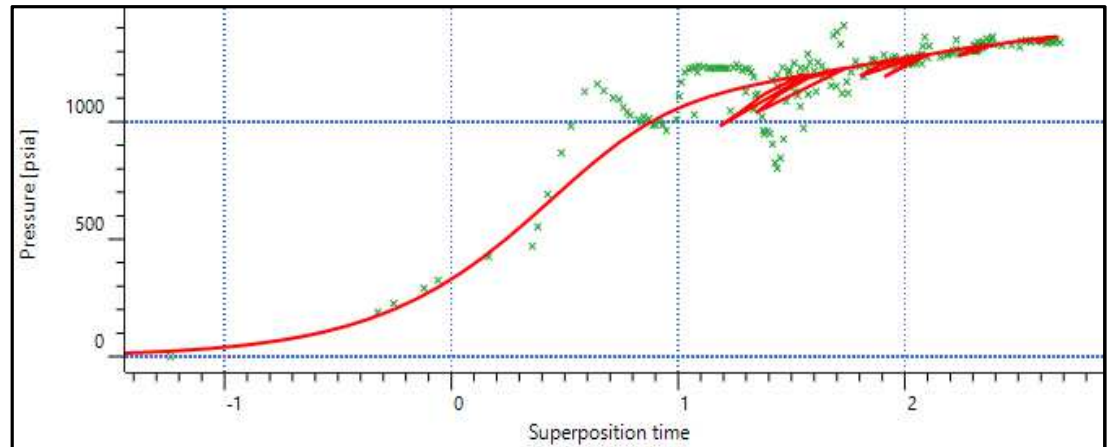
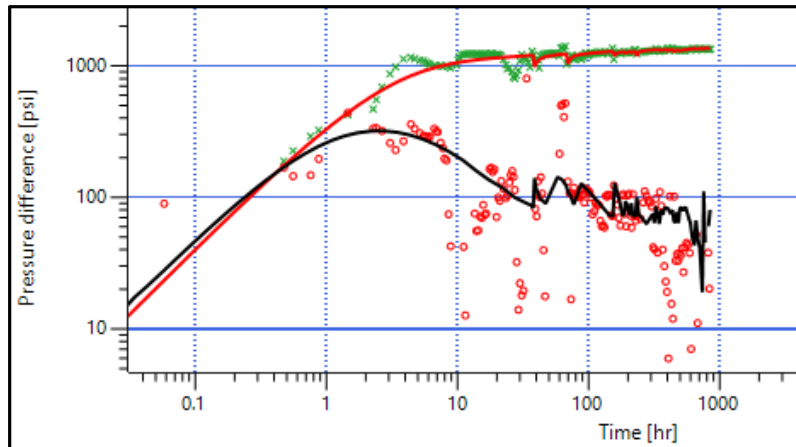


$$Sn(\Delta t) = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \frac{q_i - q_{i-1}}{q_n - q_{n-1}} \left( \log \left[ \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \Delta t_j - \Delta t \right] - \log \Delta t \right)$$

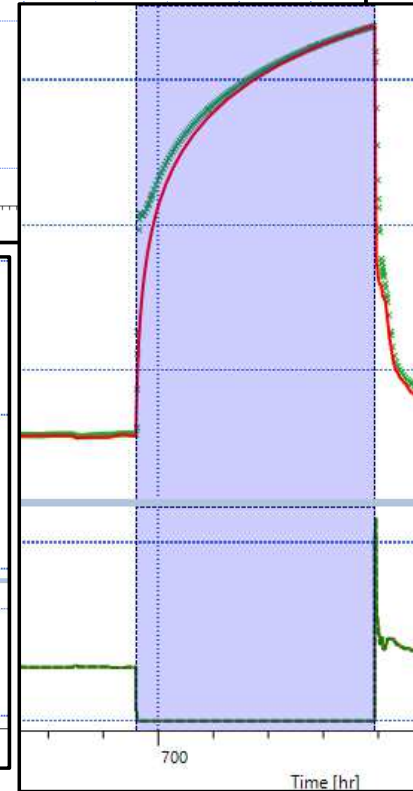
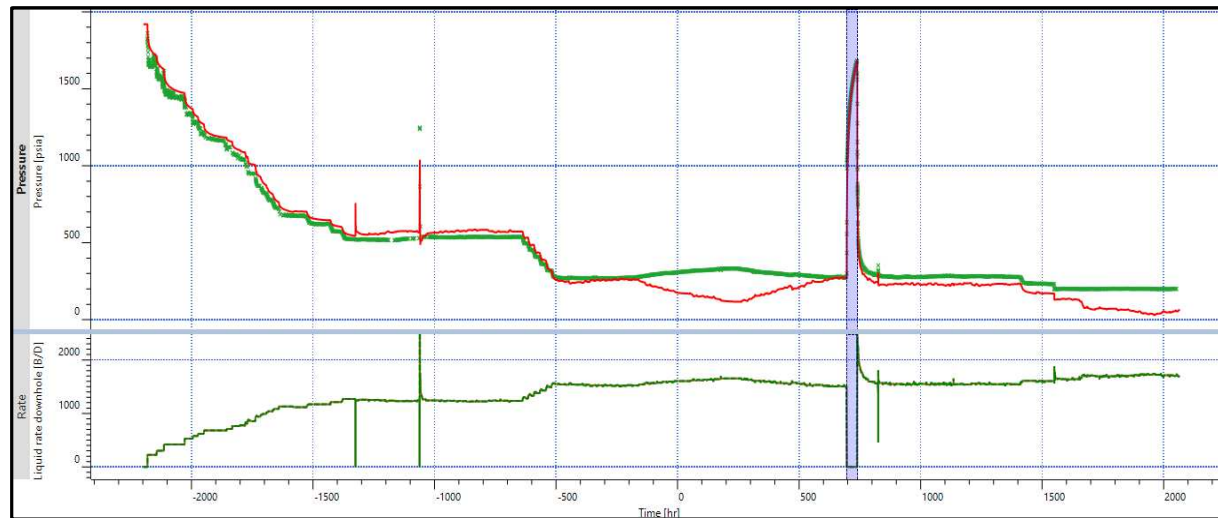
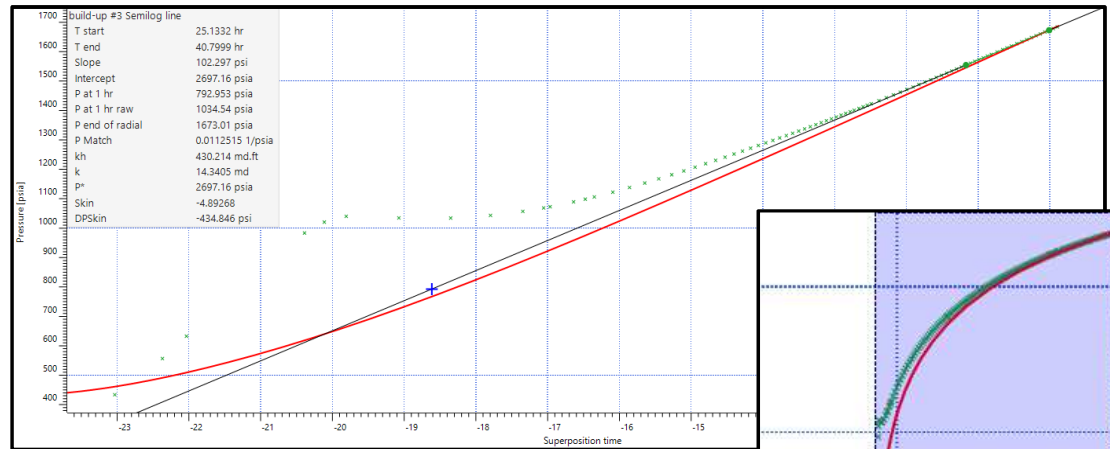
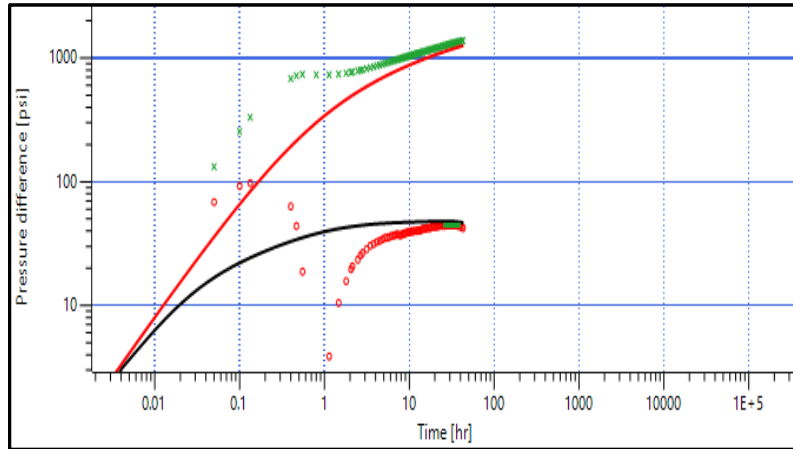




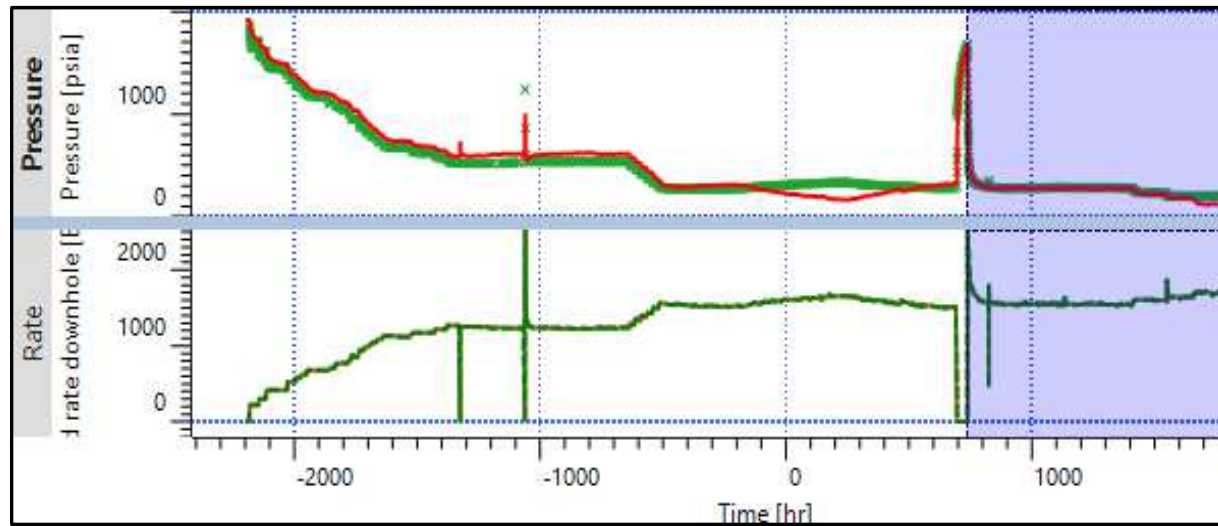
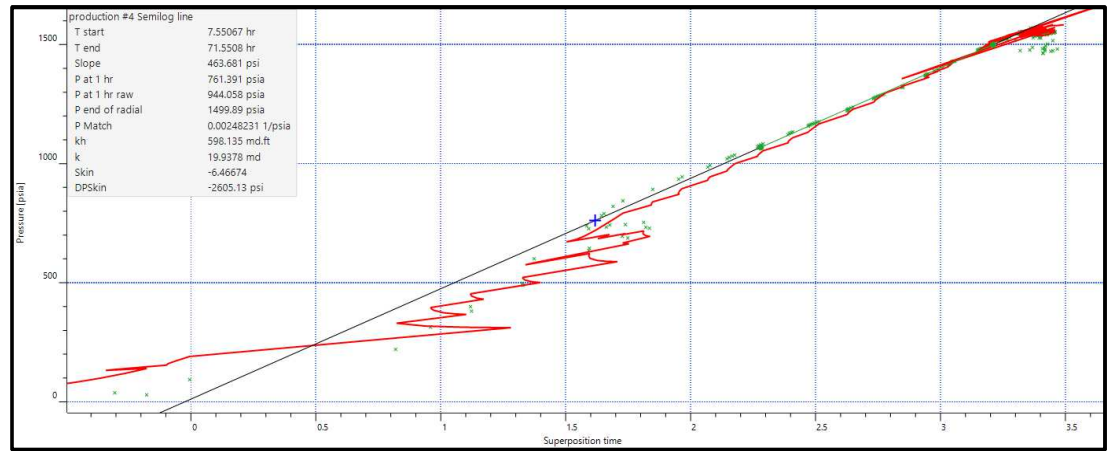
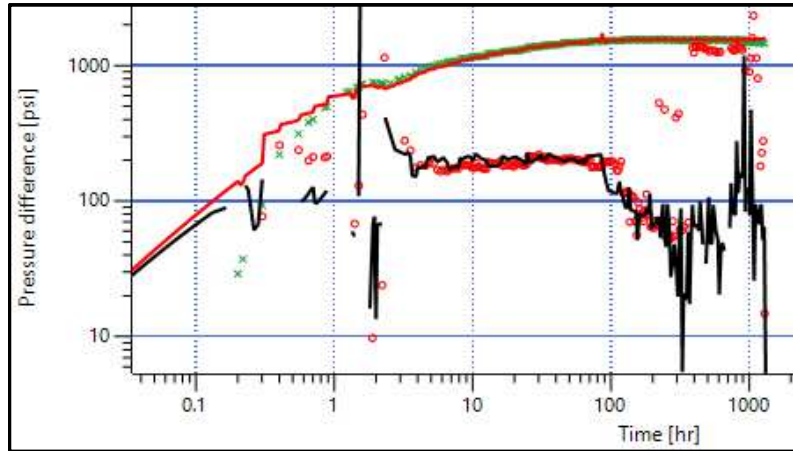
# Initial Drawdown – Skin = 0.7



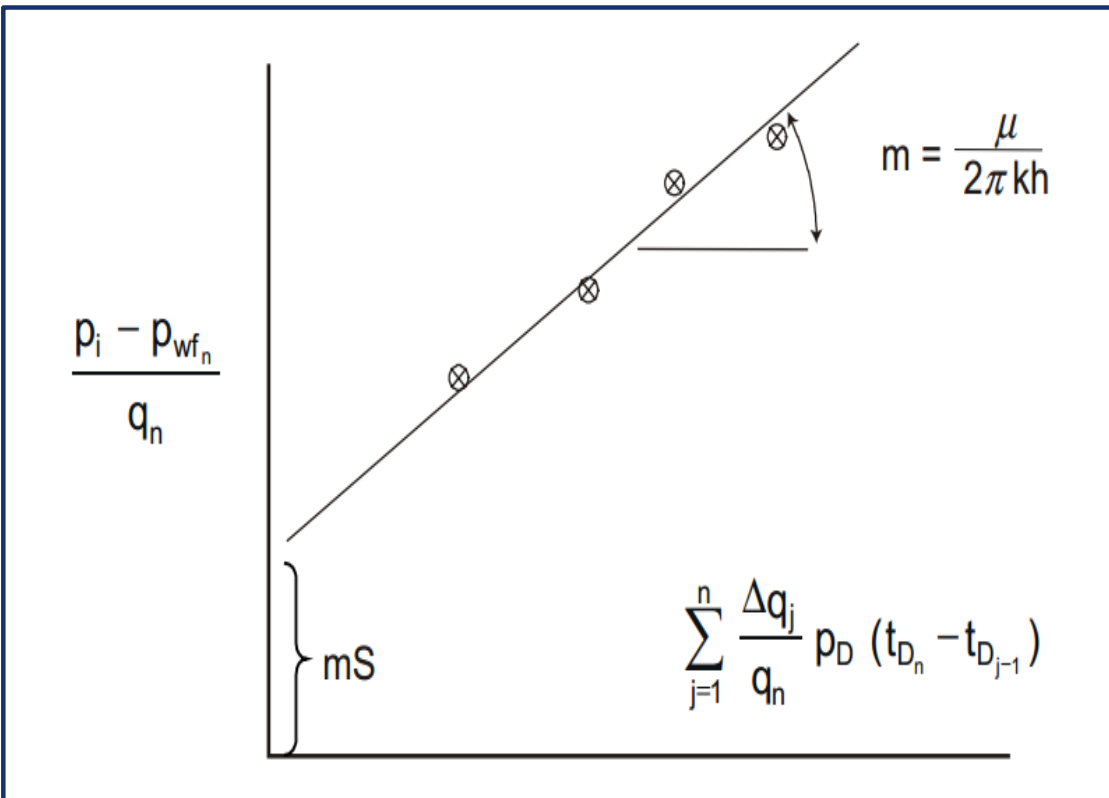
# Build-Up – Skin = -4.3



# Second Drawdown – Skin = - 5.5



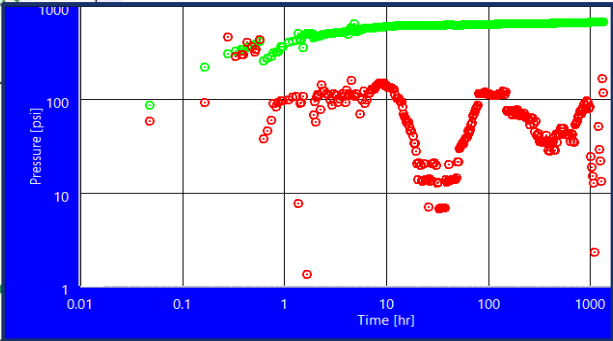
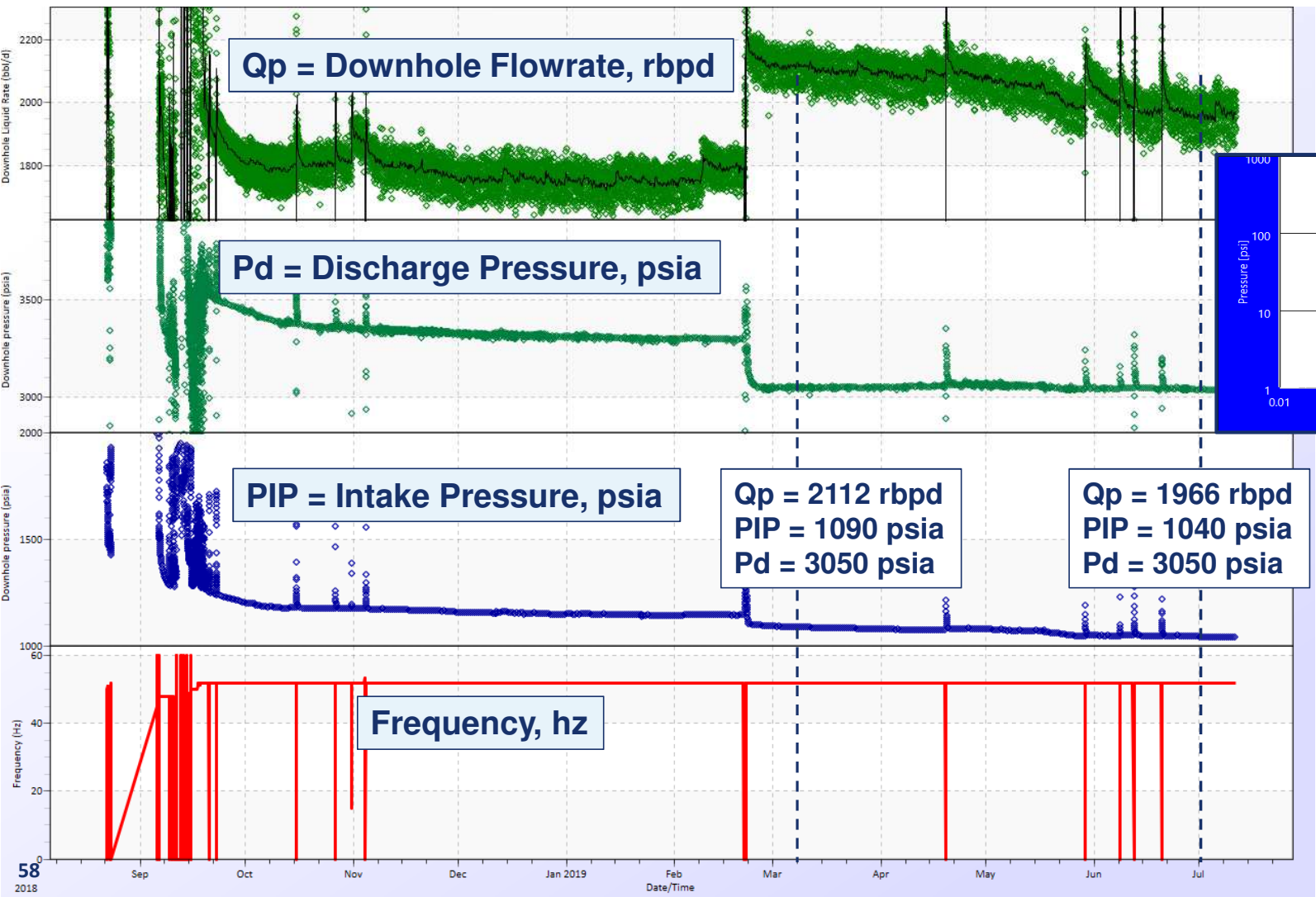
# Why Skin is independent of absolute rate



If rate is inaccurate but with correct trend:

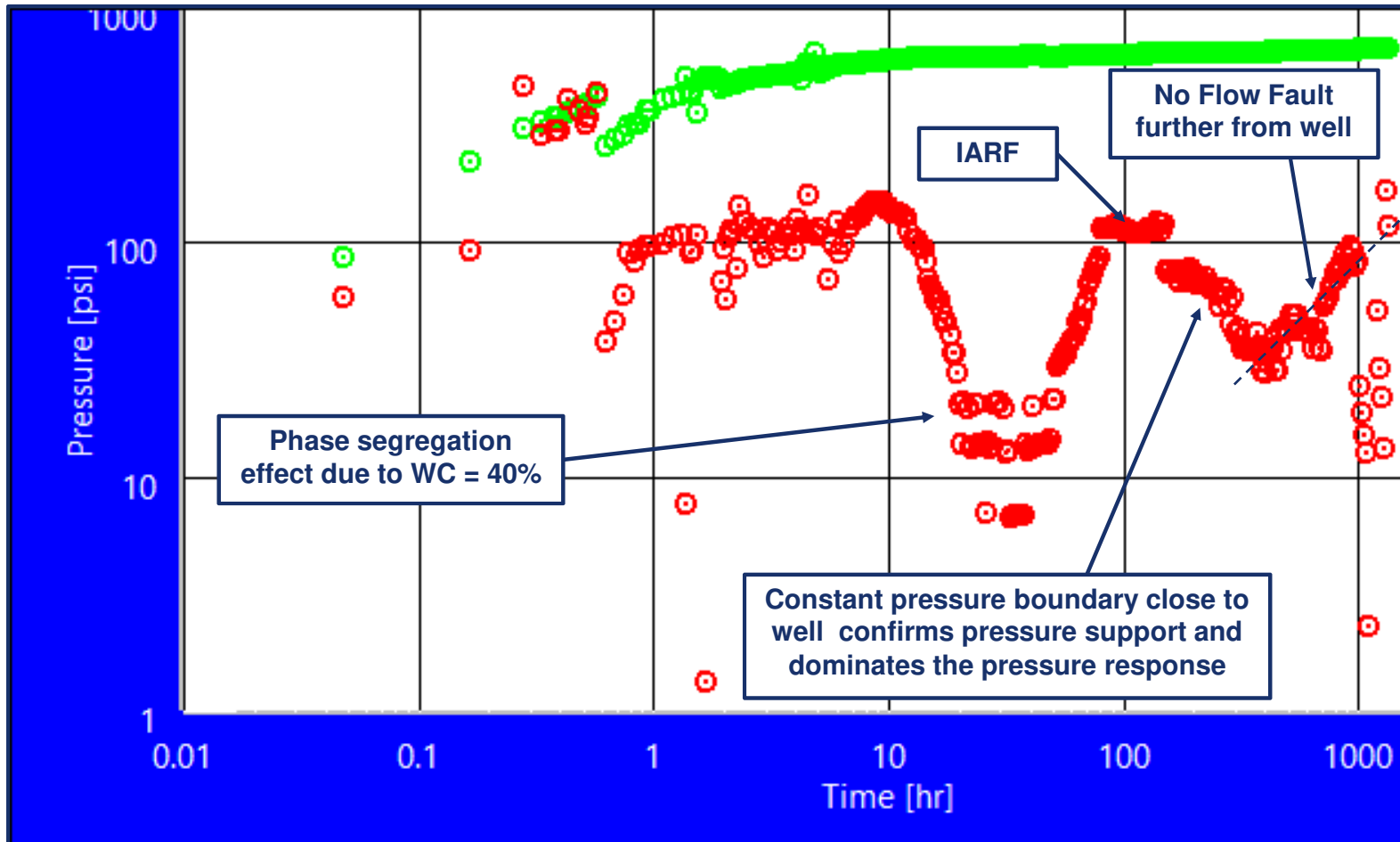
- permeability changes linearly with rate ( $m$ )
- Skin is independent of rate accuracy and only dependent on rate trend.

# Identifying Depletion



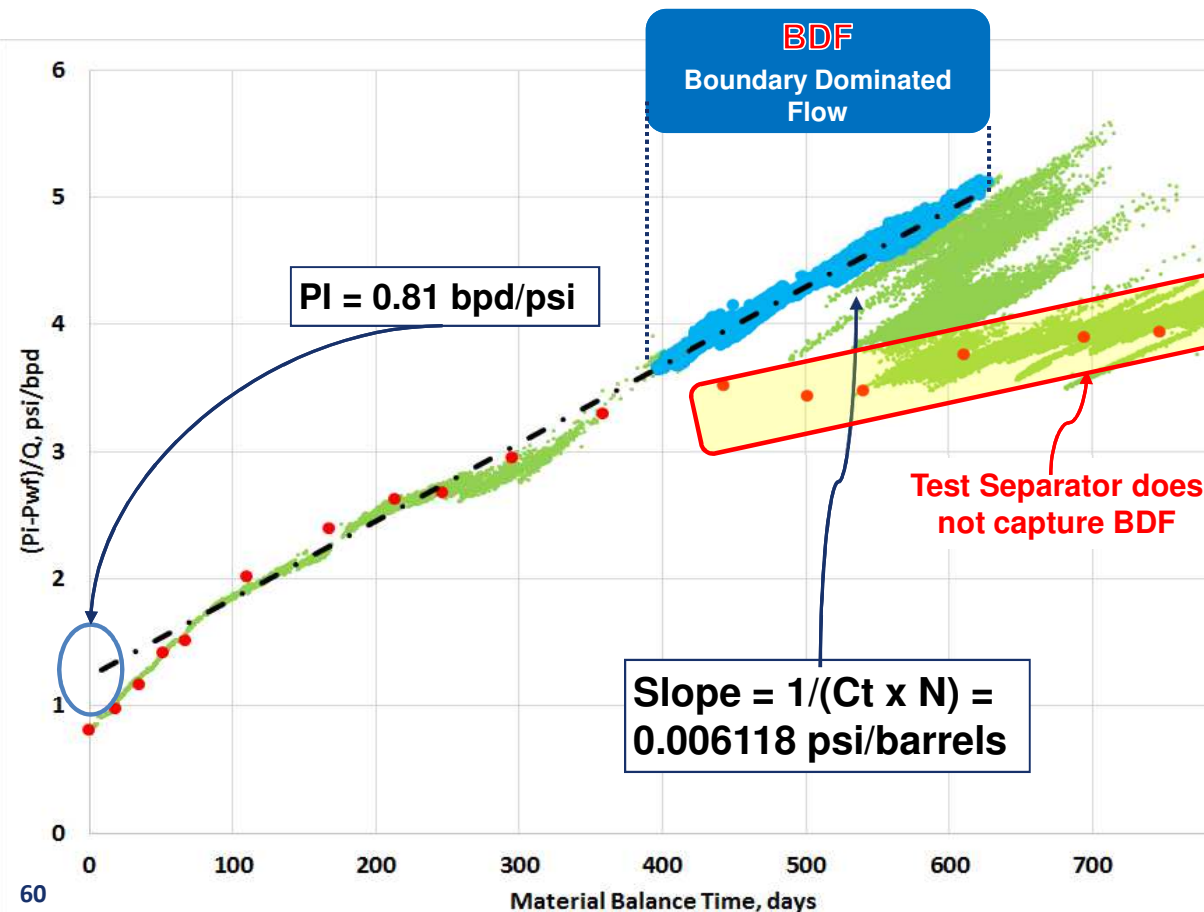
# Confirming no flow boundary with PTA

Would require a 1000 hour  
(40 day) to visualise



# Flowing Material Balance → Reserves & PI

Example from SPE paper 185144



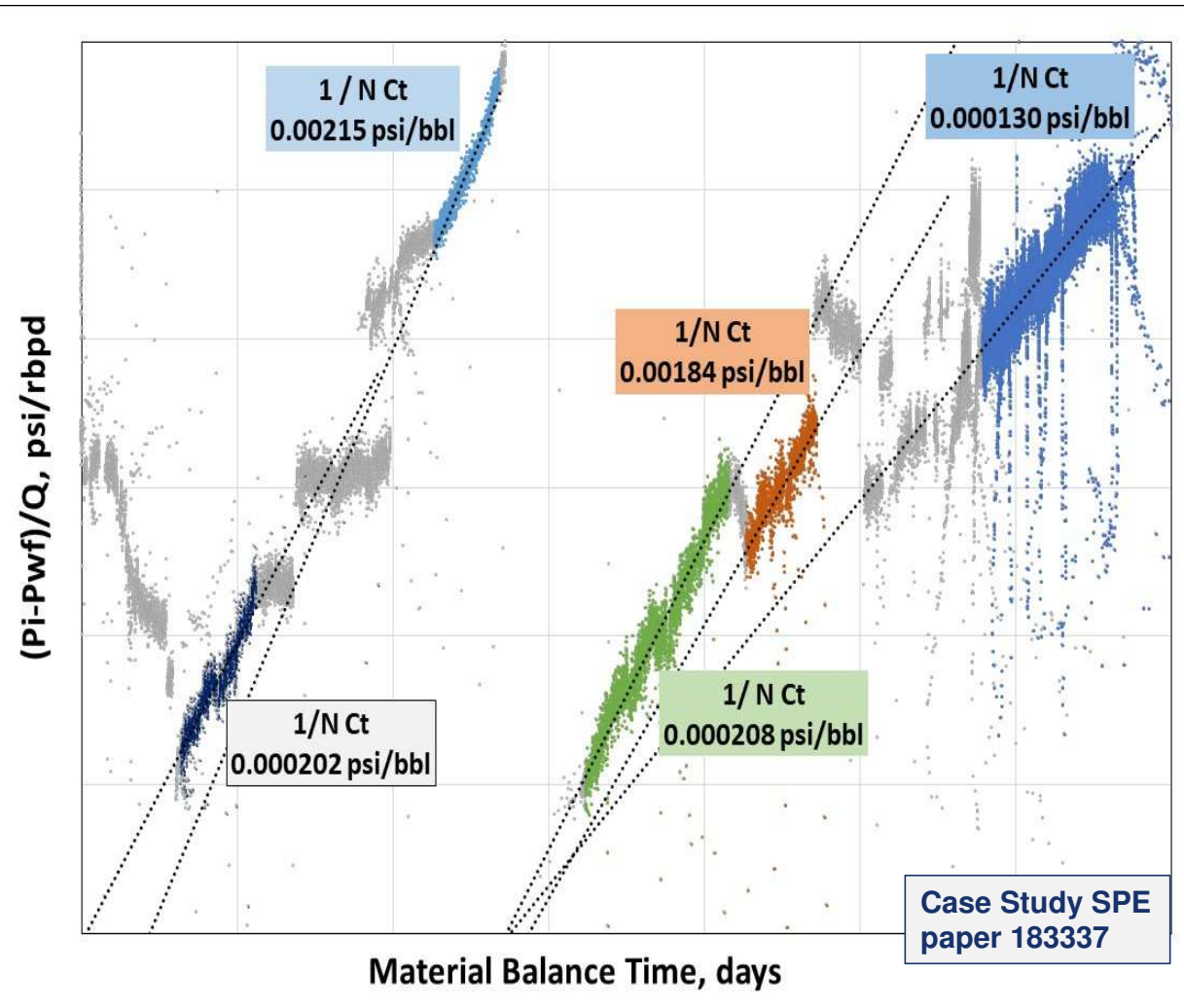
$$\frac{P_i - P_{wf}}{q} = \frac{1}{C_t \times N} t_{mb} + b_{pss}$$

- $t_{mb} = \frac{N_p}{q} = \text{material balance time}$
- $b_{pss} = \frac{1}{PI} = \text{inverse of PI for pseudo steady-state condition}$
- $C_t = \text{compressibility, } 1/\text{psi}$
- **N = Pore Volume (Liquid in place), barrels**
- *Blasingame, T.A. and Lee, W.J., 1986, Variable-Rate Reservoir Limits testing, presented at the Permian Basin Oil & Gas Recovery Conference held in Midland, TX March 13, 1986, SPE 15028*



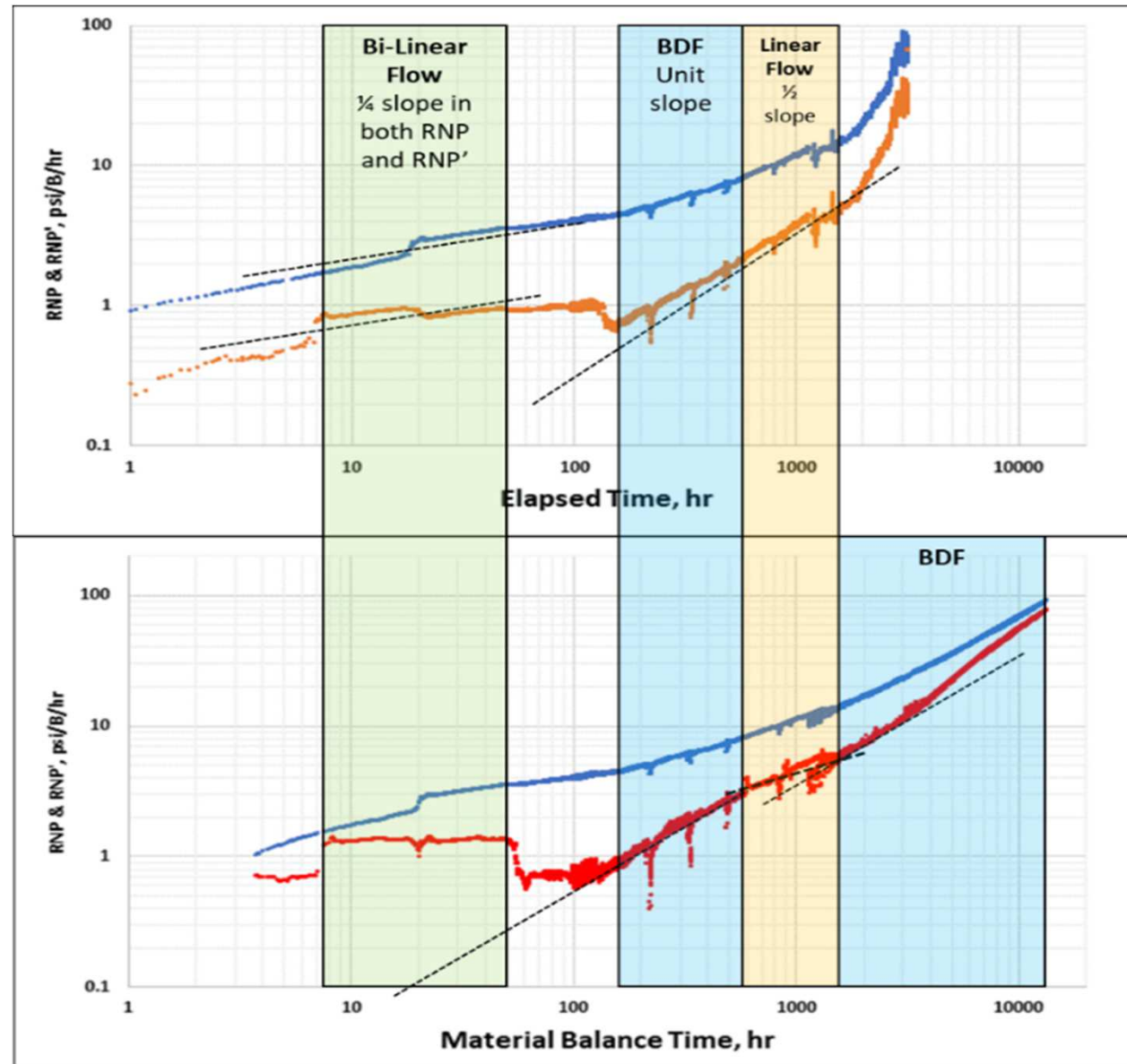
# HCPV (Hydrocarbon Pore Volume) & Drainage Area

- Monitor well drainage area reservoir pressure and evaluate impact of:
  - Drawdown
  - Production rates of offset wells
- In this example, HCPV is increasing, which suggests that the well recovery factor is increasing.
- $C_t$  = compressibility
- $N$  = HCPV

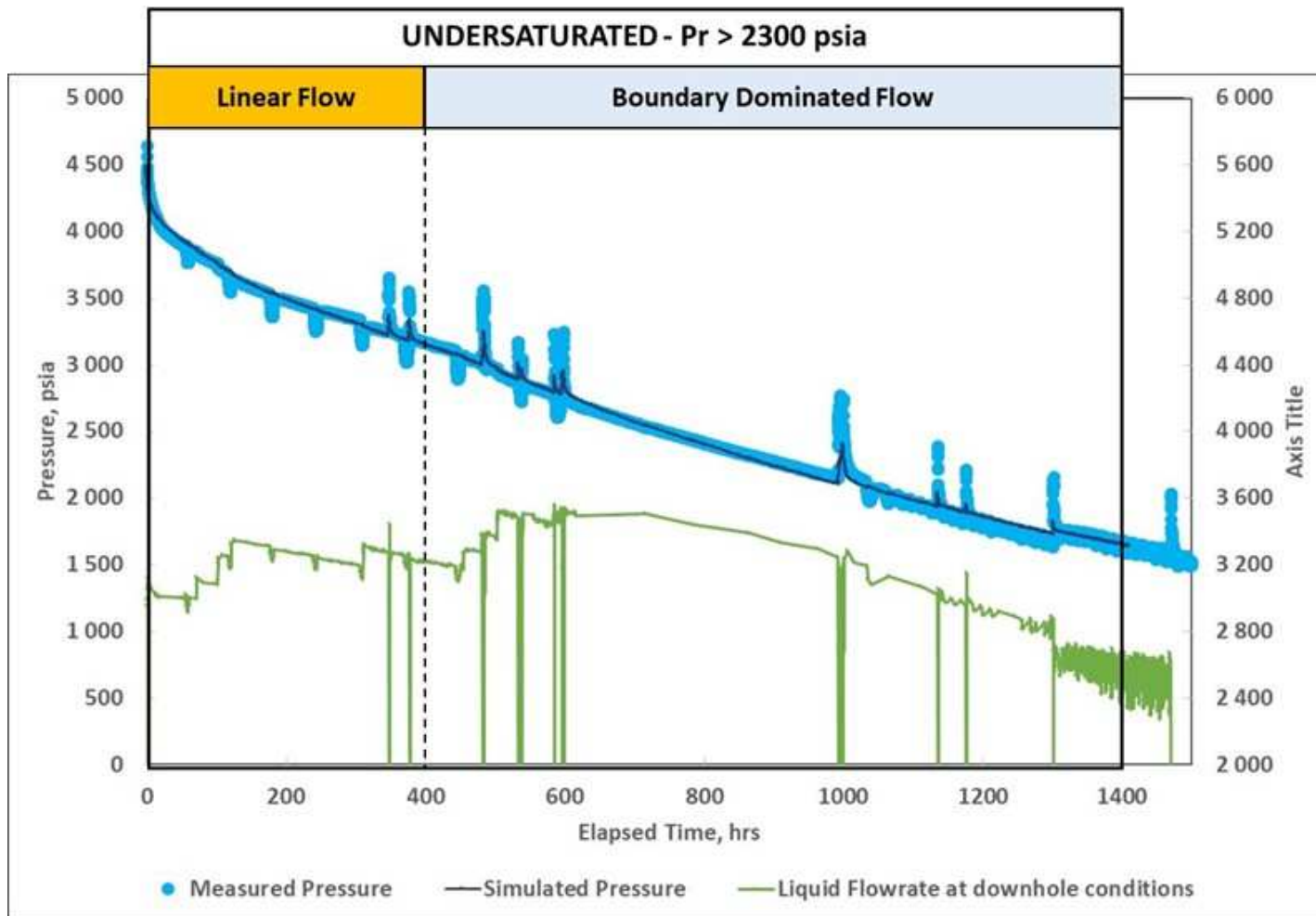


# Flow Regime MFHW Horizontal Well

Rate measurement has enough frequency, resolution and repeatability to calculate derivative without noise in elapsed time! → visualize & confirm bi-linear flow



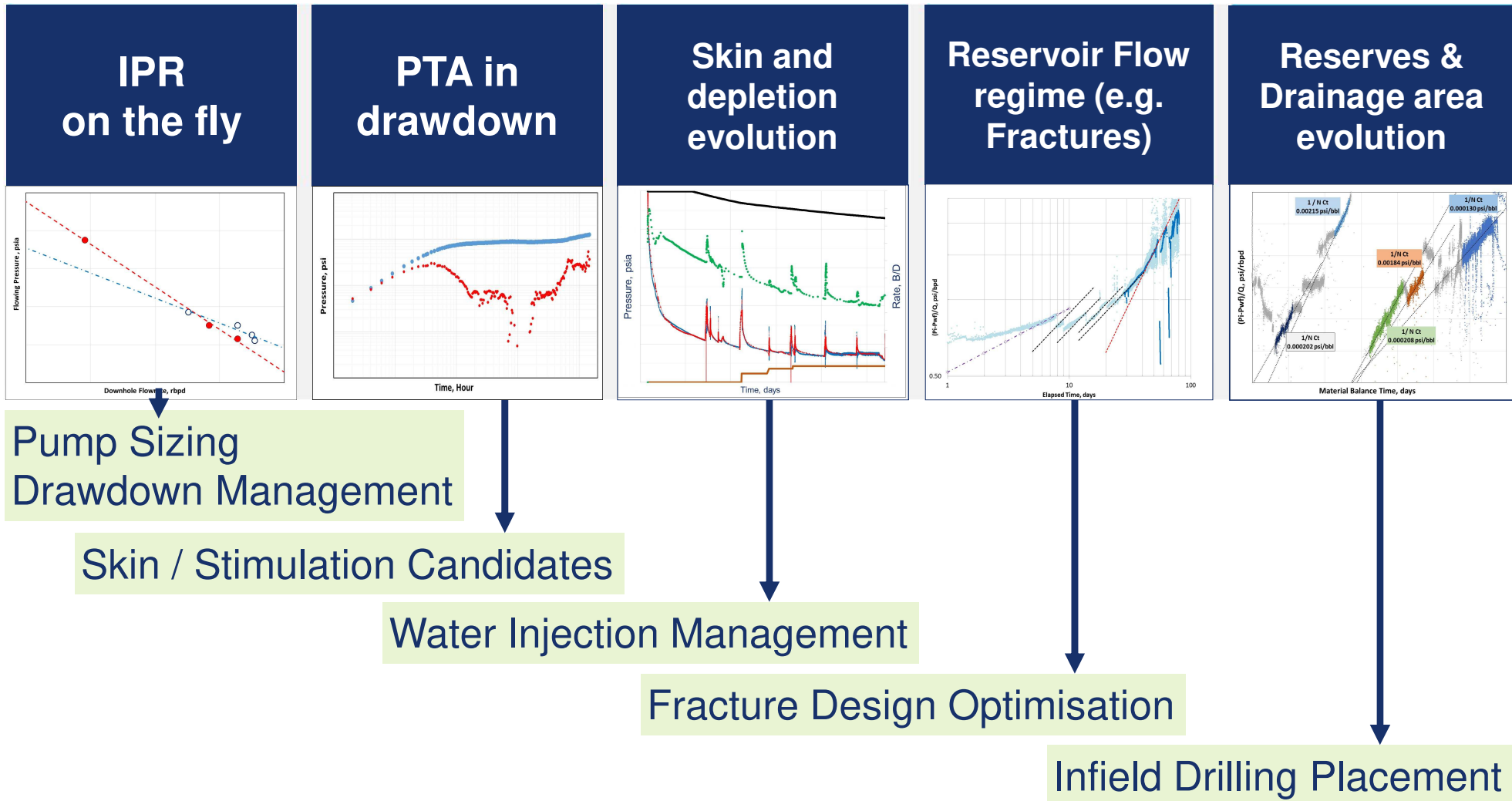
# History Matching....



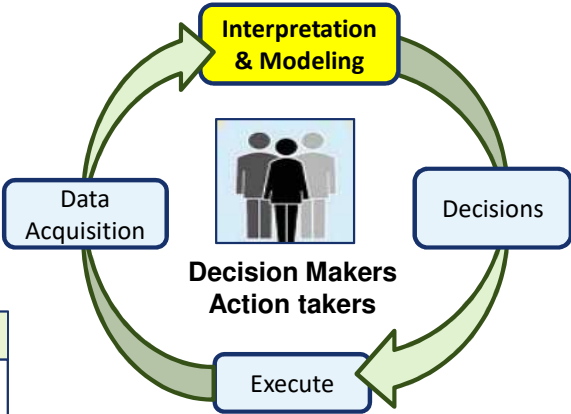
Analytical model yields an excellent match despite numerous step changes in flowrate  
→ testimony to the resolution and repeatability of the downhole flowrate

- Fracture half-length
- Pore Volume
- Permeability
- Skin

# Value = Decisions

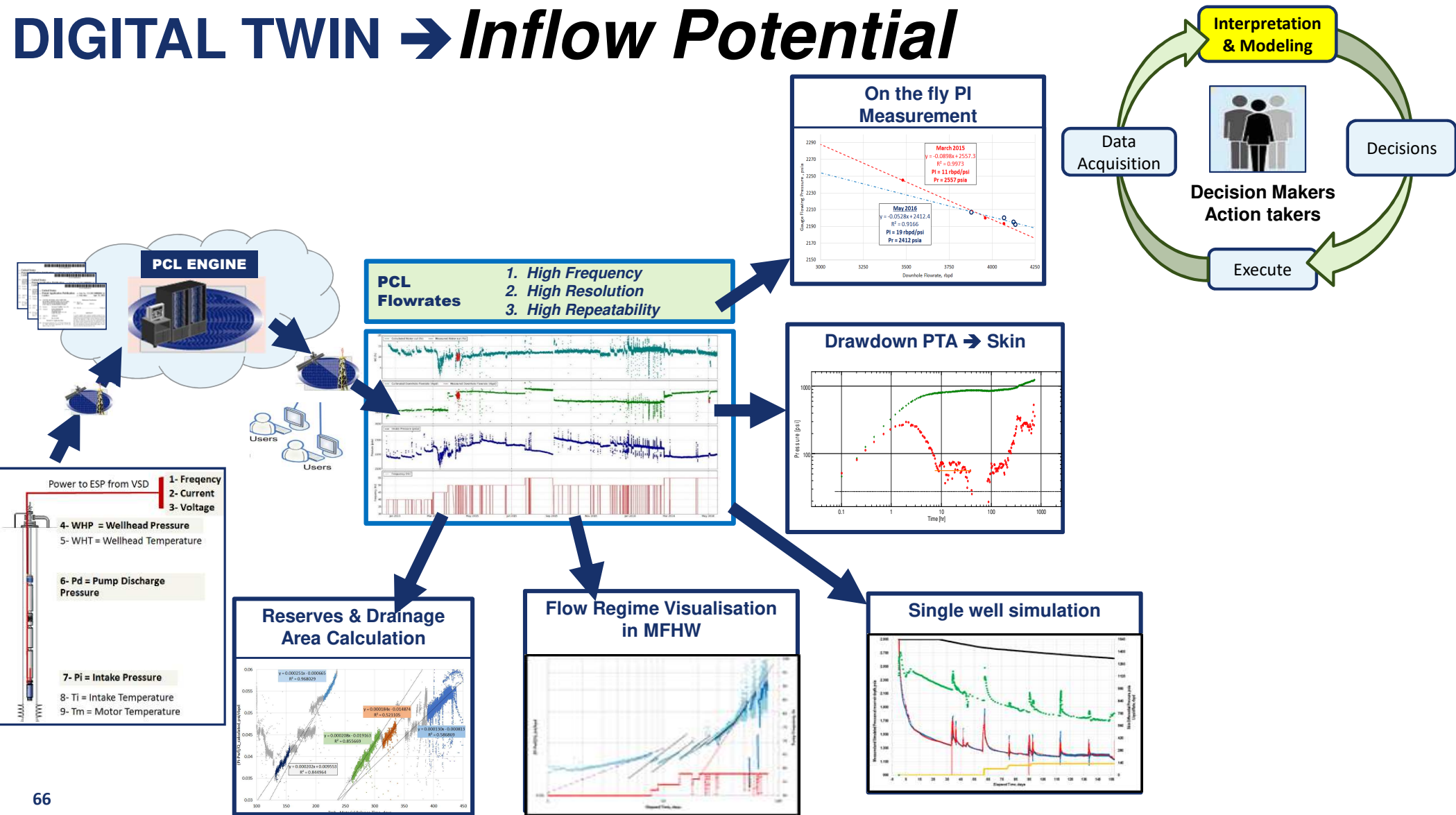


# DIGITAL TWIN → ESP Surveillance

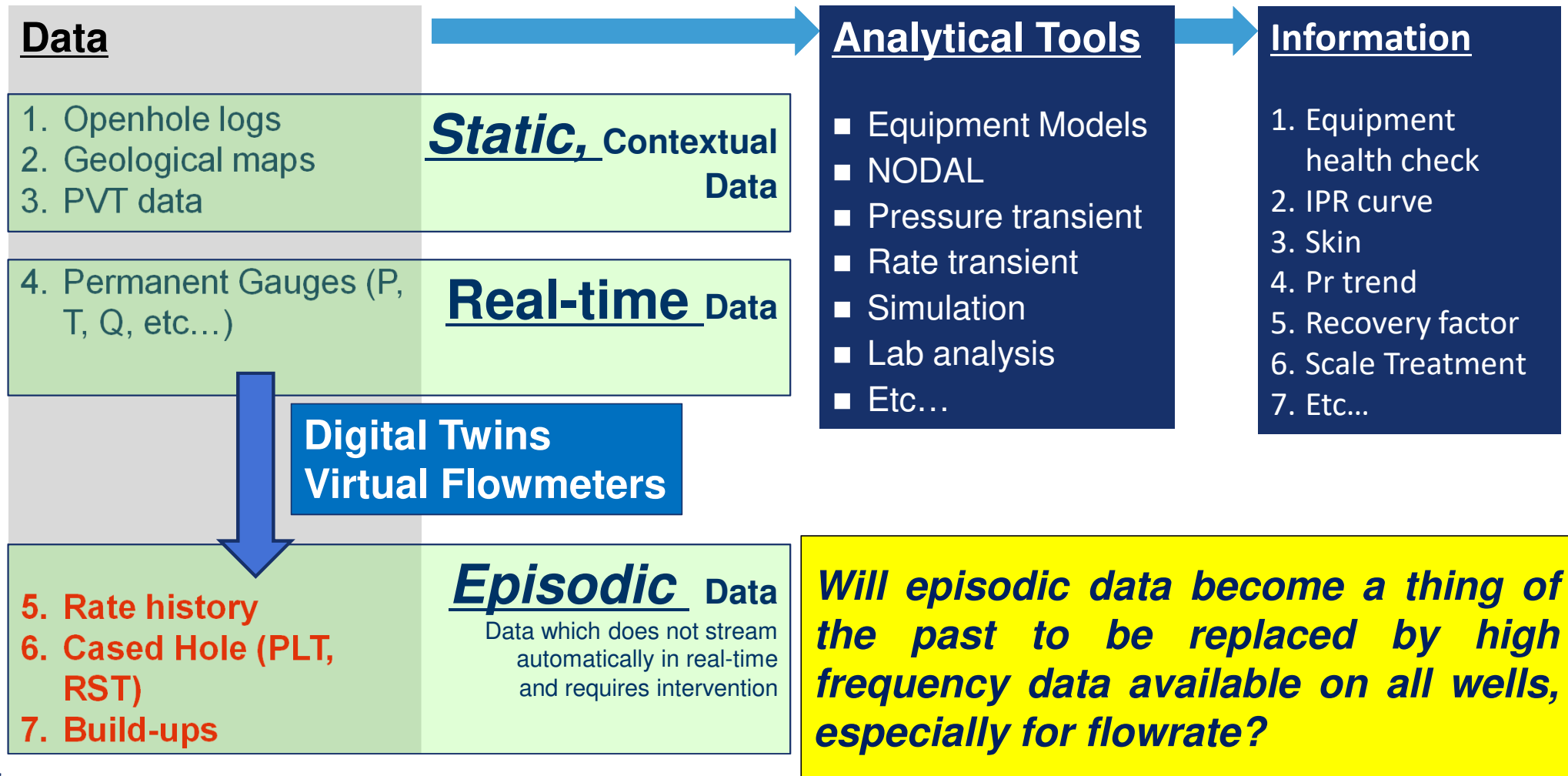




# DIGITAL TWIN → *Inflow Potential*



# Data to Information Map





# Key Take-Aways

## *Real-Time Data drives Production Optimisation*

1. **Uptime and MTBF:** Improved by identifying the cause of trips & implementing remedial action:
  - FAST LOOP = choke, pump speed and/or control settings
  - SLOW LOOP = Changing operating procedures and/or ESP design
2. **Power Optimisation:** Field average power savings of up to 20% are documented with individual case studies showing 40% saving.
3. **Production Enhancement:**
  - **Key Enabler** = high frequency / high resolution liquid rates & pressure data
  - **Value** =
    - IPR Curve on the fly → Establish well potential and update on a regular basis
    - PTA – Identify skin → Stimulation candidates
    - History Matching → evolution of reservoir pressure & skin
    - Flow Regime → fracture protocol Design
    - Monitor evolution of drainage area

# Bibliography

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- Blasingame, T.A. and Lee, W.J., 1986, Variable-Rate Reservoir Limits Testing, presented at the Permian Basin Oil & Gas Recovery Conference, held in Midland, Texas, 13 March. **SPE 15028**
- Camilleri, L., Brunet, L., and Segui, E. 2011. Poseidon Gas Handling Technology: A Case Study of Three ESP Wells in the Congo. Presented at the SPE Middle East Oil and Gas Show and Conference, Manama, Bahrain, 6–9 March. **SPE 141668-MS**.
- Camilleri, L. and MacDonald, J., 2010, How 24/7 Real-Time Surveillance Increases ESP Run Life and Uptime, **SPE 134702** presented at ATCE in 2010 in Florence, Italy.
- Camilleri, L., El Gindy, M., and Rusakov, A. 2015. Converting ESP Real-Time Data to Flow Rate and Reservoir Information for a Remote Oil Well. Presented at the SPE Middle East Intelligent Oil & Gas Conference & Exhibition, Abu Dhabi, UAE, 15–16 September. **SPE-176780-MS**.
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