



# **The use of borehole image interpretation in characterising cement nodules and associated nodule-bound micro-fracture distribution in the Mauddud Formation, North Kuwait**

Nicolas Foote<sup>1</sup>, Daniel Clay<sup>1</sup>, Meriem Bertouche<sup>1</sup>, Sabry Abd El-Aziz<sup>2</sup>,  
Chao Chen<sup>2</sup>, Raja Ramalingam<sup>2</sup>, Gahdeer Boland<sup>2</sup> and Mohamed Helmy<sup>3</sup>

1. Badley Ashton and Associates Ltd
2. KOC
3. Shell Kuwait Exploration and Production

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Geoscience Consultancy

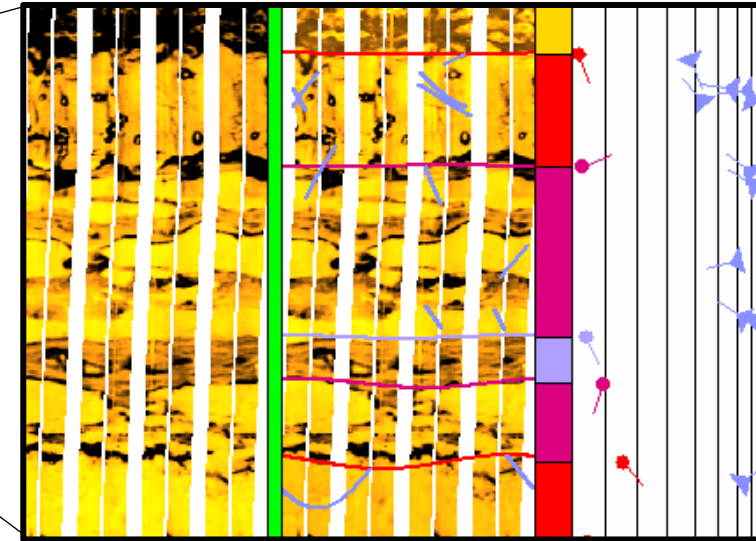
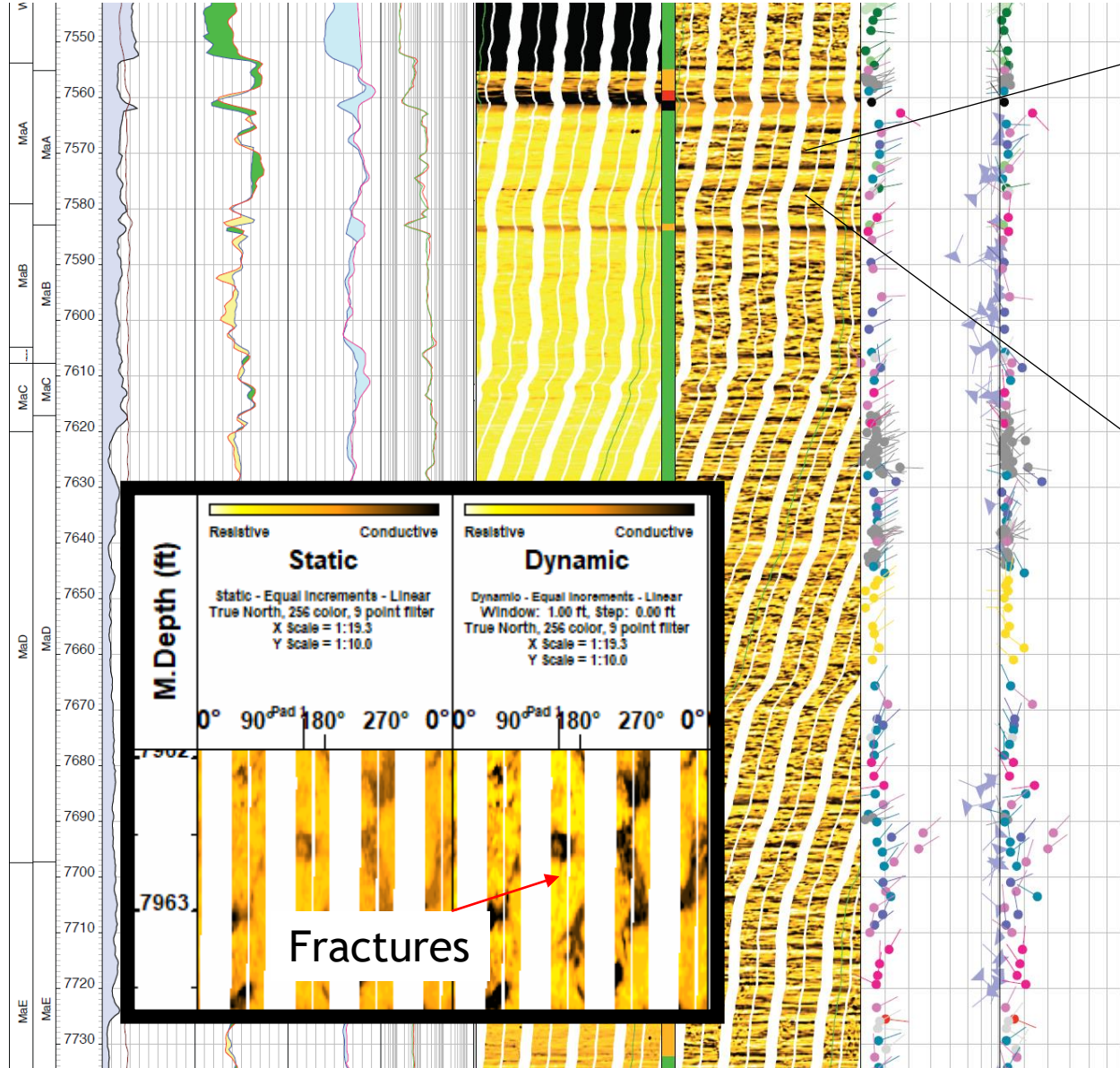


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# Aims of the study



- ▶ Minor variation in wireline log response across the carbonate succession
- ▶ Interpretation of cement and nodule distribution challenging
- ▶ BHI allows detailed description of the reservoir outside of the cored interval



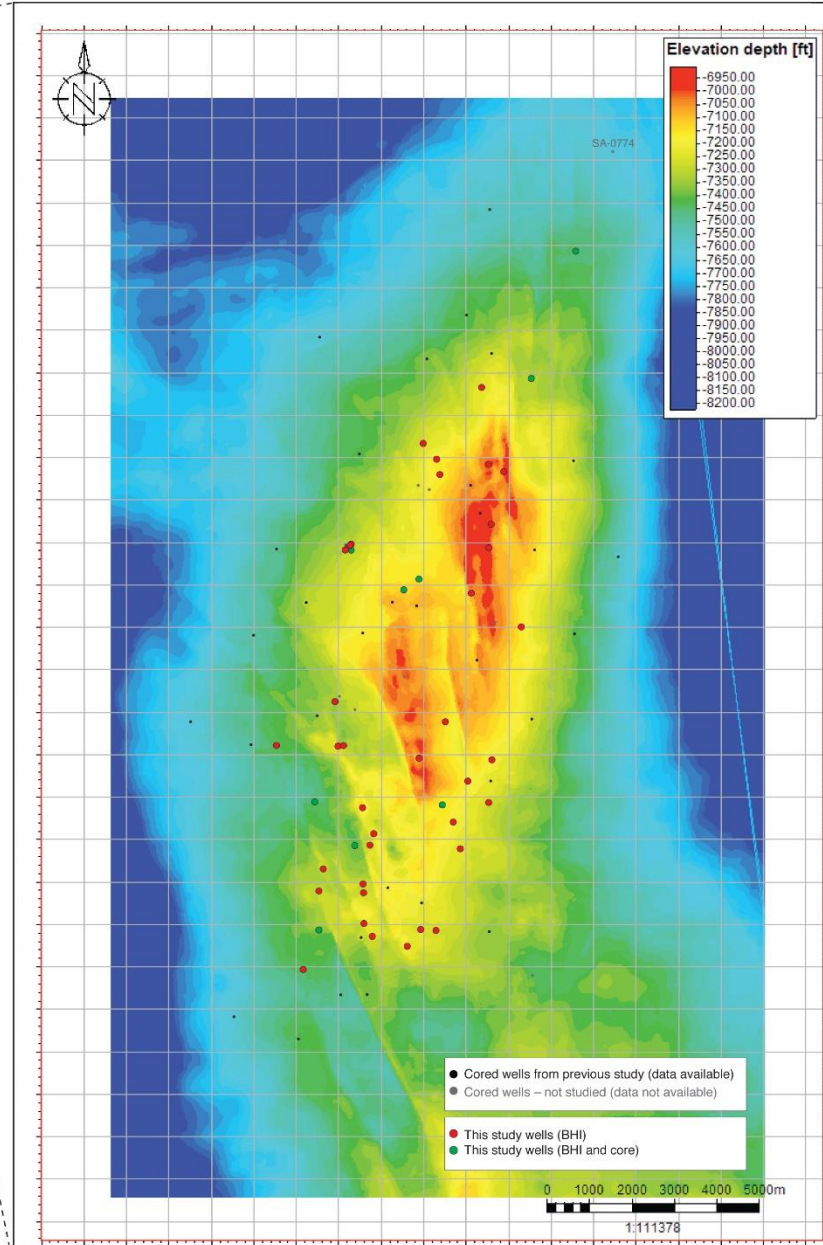
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Age		Stage	Formation	
Cretaceous	Upper	Maastrichtian	Tayarat Formation	
			Qurna Formation	
		Campanian	Hartha Formation	
			Sadi Formation	
			Coriacian	Khasib/Mutriba
			Turonian	
	Cenomanian	Mishrif Formation		
		Rumaila Formation		
		Ahmadi Formation		
	Lower	Albian	Wara Formation	
			Mauddud Formation	
			Burgan Formation	
			Shuaiba Formation	
Aptian		Zubair Formation		
			Barremian	



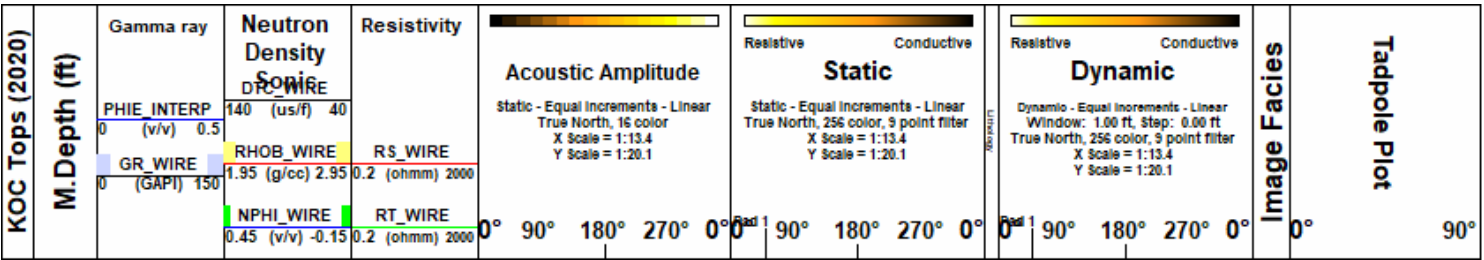
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	6	CBIL	Provided	Moderate
	7	FMI	Badley Ashton	Good
	8	STAR&CBIL	Provided	Good
	9	STAR&CBIL	Badley Ashton	Good
	10	STAR&CBIL	Badley Ashton	Poor
	11	STAR&CBIL	Badley Ashton	Poor
	12	STAR&CBIL	Provided	Good
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	44	STAR&CBIL	Provided	Moderate
	45	FMI	Provided	Good
	46	FMI	Provided	Good
	47	FMI-HD	Provided	Good

# Image facies scheme

CARBONATE	CEMENTED	<div>Cemented Limestone</div> <div>Coarse/Dense Resistive Mottles</div> <div>Coarse Resistive Mottles with Fine, irregular mottles</div>
	NODULAR	<div>Medium/Moderate Density Resistive Mottles</div> <div>Fine to Medium Cryptic Resistive Mottles</div> <div>Fine Resistive Mottles</div> <div>Banded</div>
		<div>Angular Resistive Mottles/Speckles</div> <div>Conductive Mottles - Bioturbated</div>
CLASTIC		<div>Massive Sandstone</div> <div>Laminated Sandstone</div> <div>Mottled Sandstone - Bioturbated</div> <div>Massive Mudrock</div> <div>Laminated Mudrock</div> <div>Mottled Mudrock - Bioturbated</div>

- ▶ The image facies scheme groups limestone image characteristics into cemented and nodular categories facilitating large scale analysis whilst also maintaining a highly descriptive scheme
- ▶ Examples of image facies showing the key sedimentological and structural observations from BHI that can be extrapolated into uncored intervals are presented in the next few slides

# Cemented limestone



Core to log shift = 10.5ft  
7627ft dd

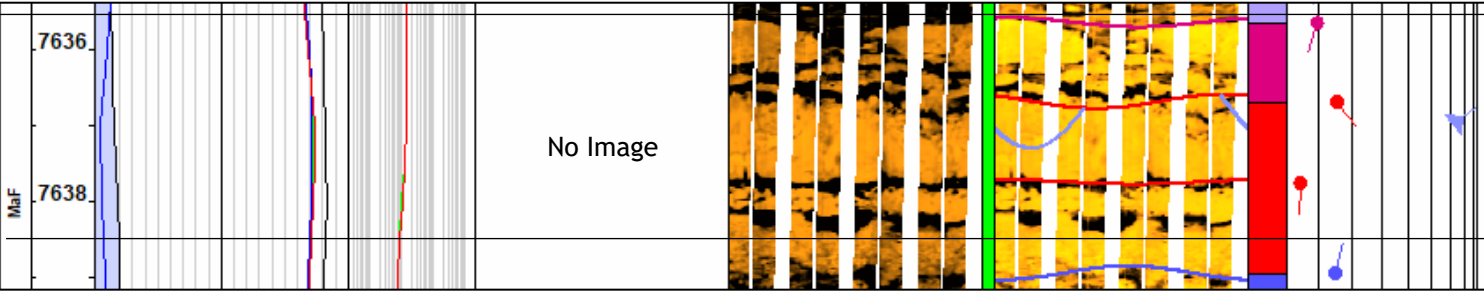


## Cemented limestone (rLc)

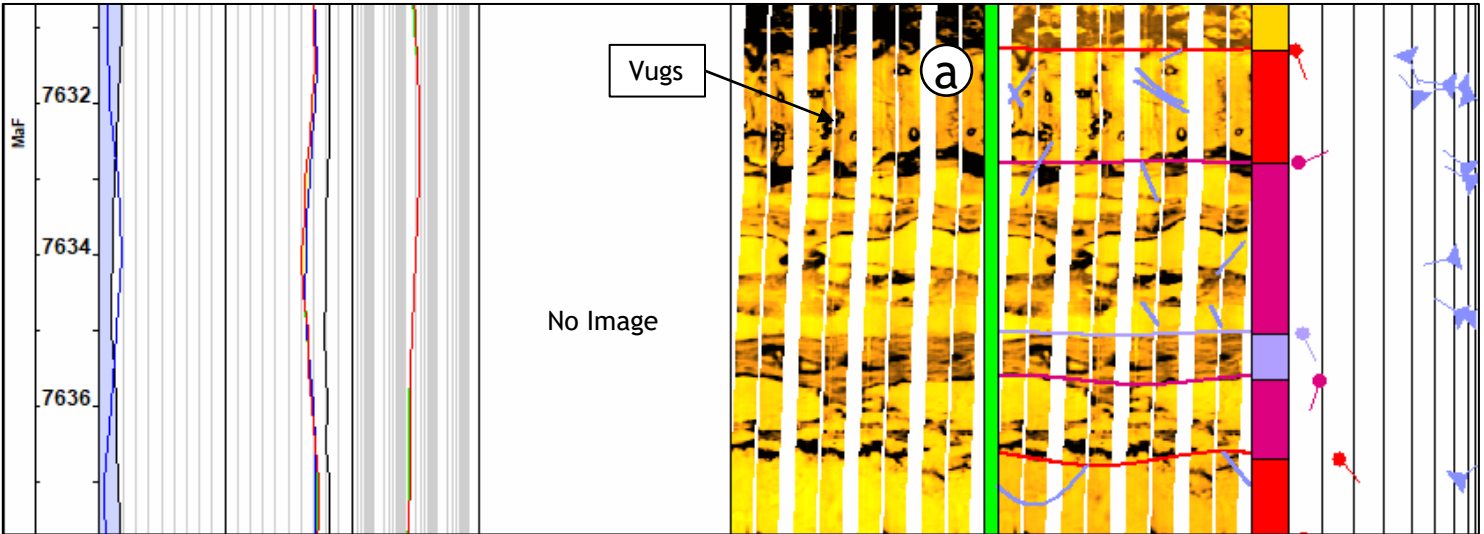
**BHI Character:** Expressed as a highly resistive, borehole-spanning image facies that is typically in the foot to deci-foot scale. Microfractures are readily seen in this image facies as well as conductive mottles which are interpreted to be vugs (a).

**Conventional Log Character:** Log response is often variable, however, a relative low GR and closed 'limestone' N/D response is typical. Slight increases in wireline resistivity logs are observed.

**Core Character:** This image facies in core corresponds to a fully cemented limestone, with some potential bioturbation imprint still visible. Microfractures in cemented sections of core are common and are seen at much higher densities than in image due to the different resolutions of the two datasets.



1:20 Scale

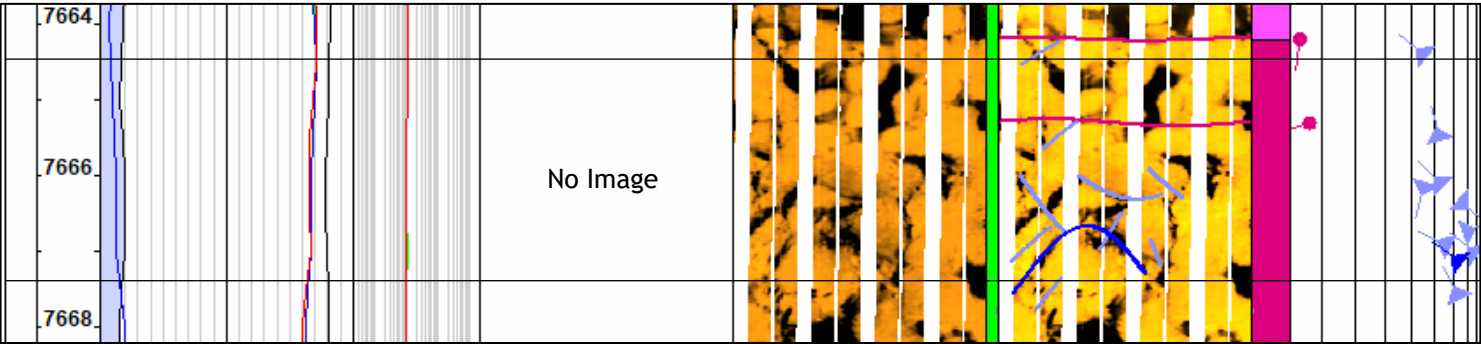
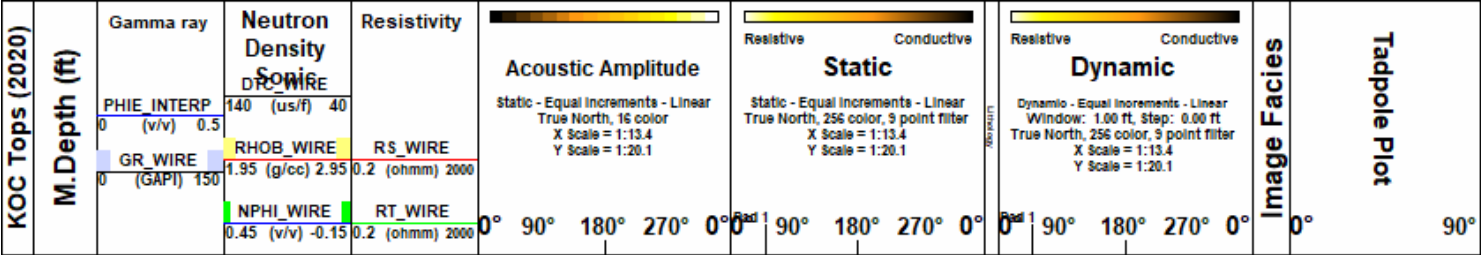


1:20 Scale

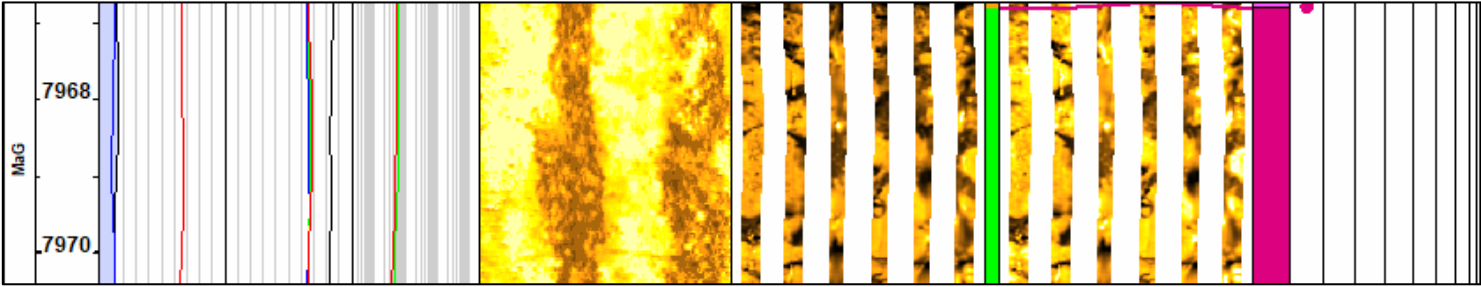
7630ft dd



# Coarse/high density resistive mottles



1:20 Scale



1:20 Scale

Core to log shift = 9.5ft  
7655ft dd



7657.7ft dd

## Coarse/high density resistive mottles (rLcm)

**BHI Character:** Constantly large resistive mottles, often tightly packed with conductive gaps between. Microfractures are readily seen in this image facies.

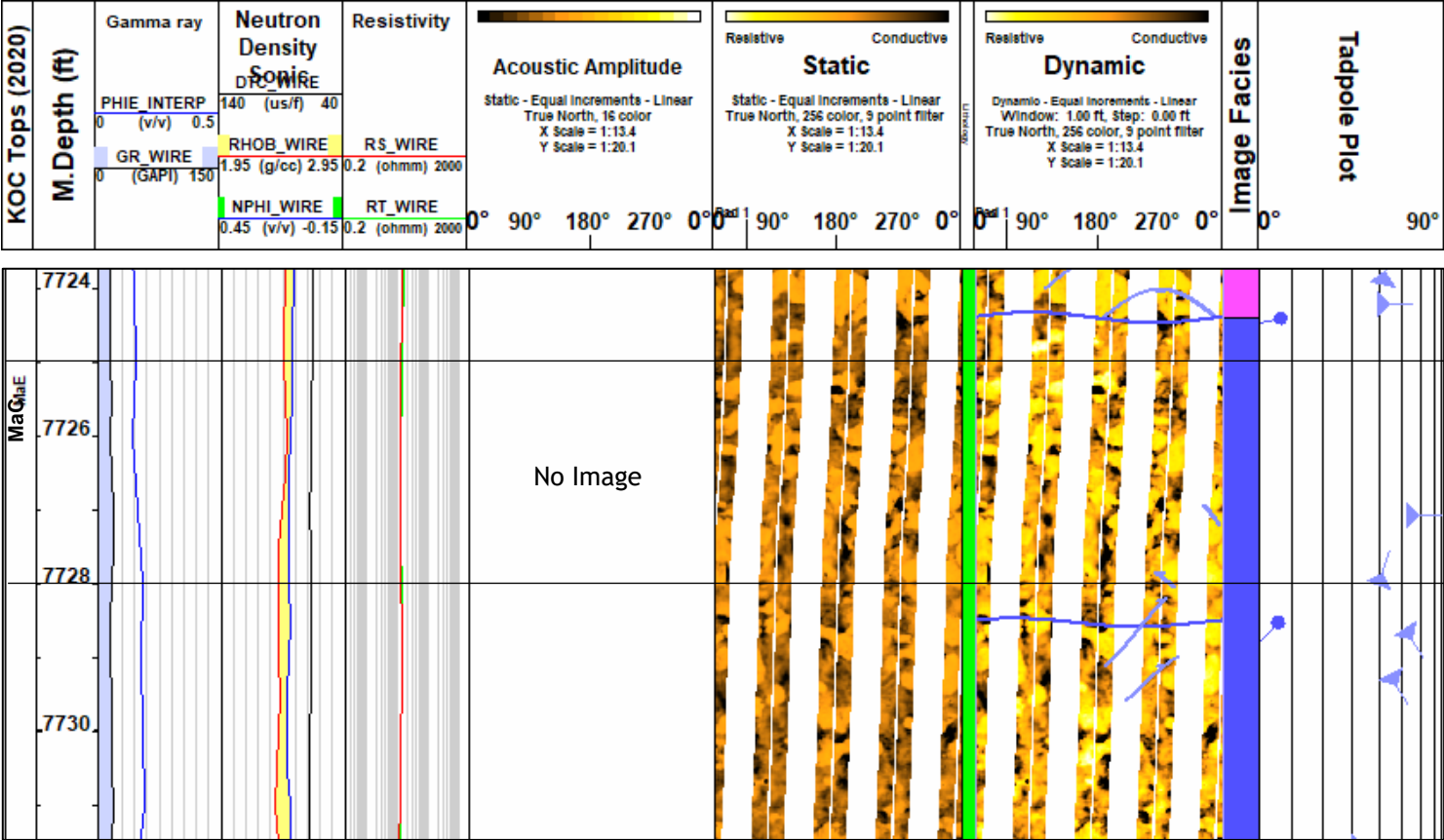
**Conventional Log Character:** As with the cemented limestone image facies, log response is variable, however, a relative low GR and closed 'limestone' N/D response is typical. Slight increases in wireline resistivity logs are observed.

**Core Character:** This image facies in core is expressed by abundant, coarse cemented patches with some preserved porosity. In some instances, conductive seams in the image facies correspond to clay seams.

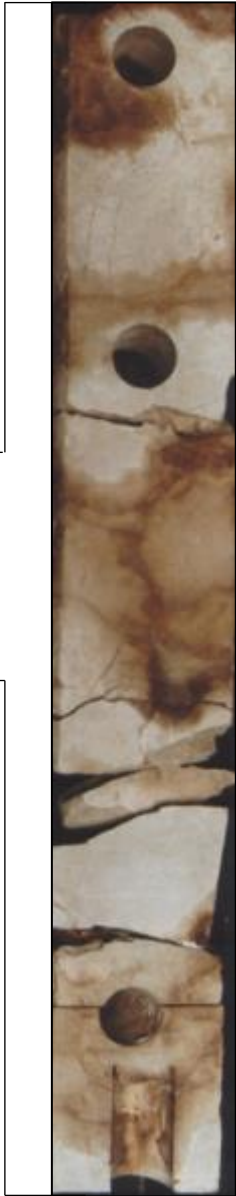
Oil stained fracture, non-continuous conductive fracture in BHI

# Medium/moderate density resistive mottles

Core to log shift = 5ft 7720ft dd



1:20 Scale



## Medium/moderate density resistive mottles (rLmm)

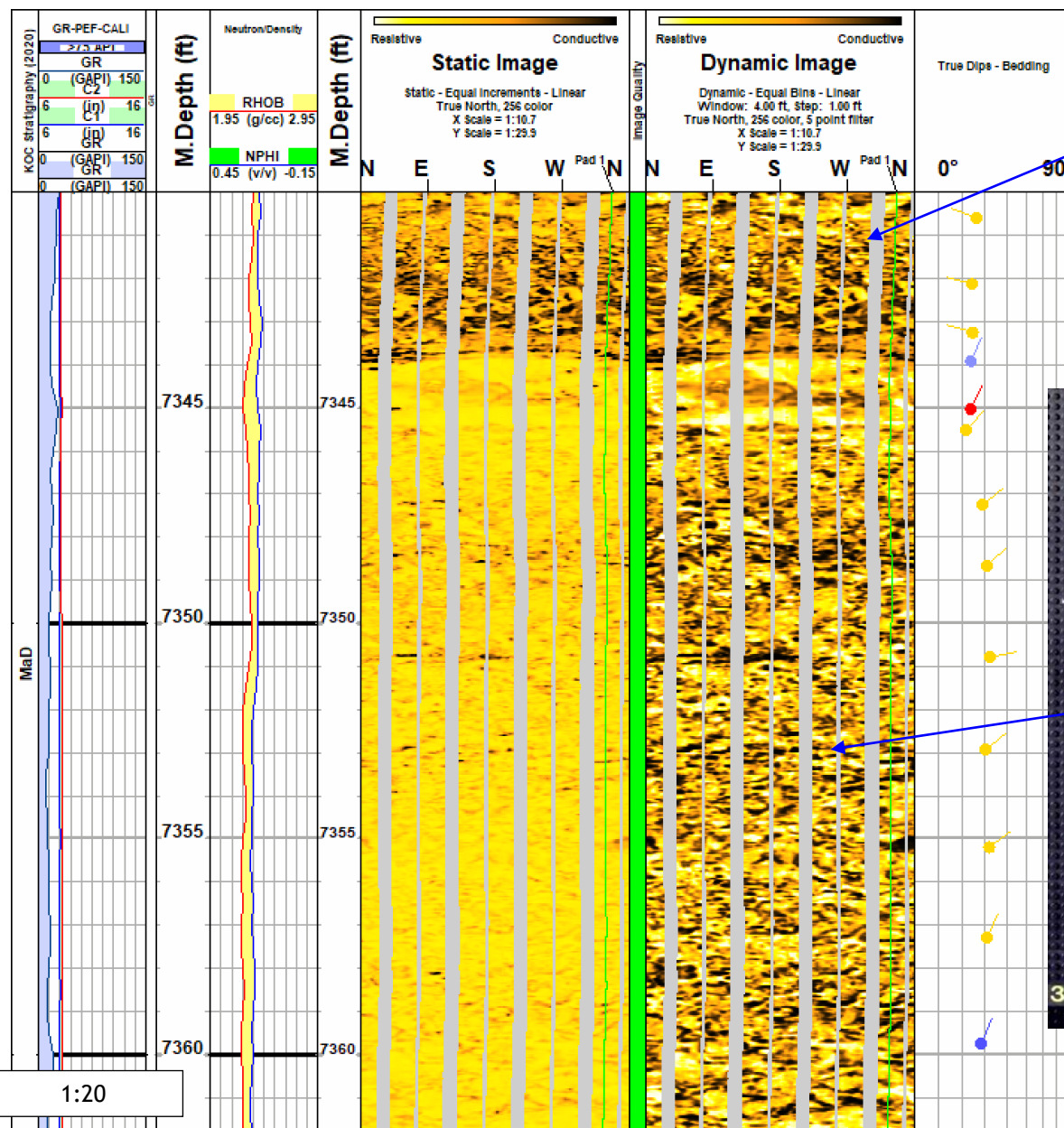
**BHI Character:** Medium size resistive mottles often with conductive space observed between them as a result of moderate nodule density. Microfractures are observed and mostly bound in resistive mottles.

**Conventional Log Character:** As with the cemented limestone image facies, log response is variable, however, a relative low GR and closed 'limestone' N/D response is typical.

**Core Character:** In core, resistive mottles are associate to heavily cemented limestone. Inter-nodular areas are commonly more porous and oil stained. Microfracturing is observed in these cemented nodules which are also oil stained.

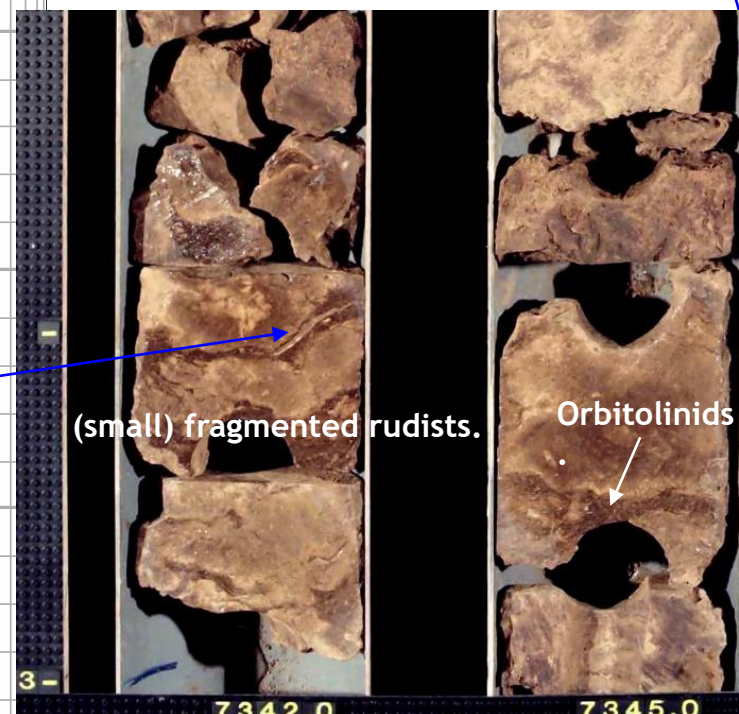


# Angular mottling - Rudists/skeletal fragments

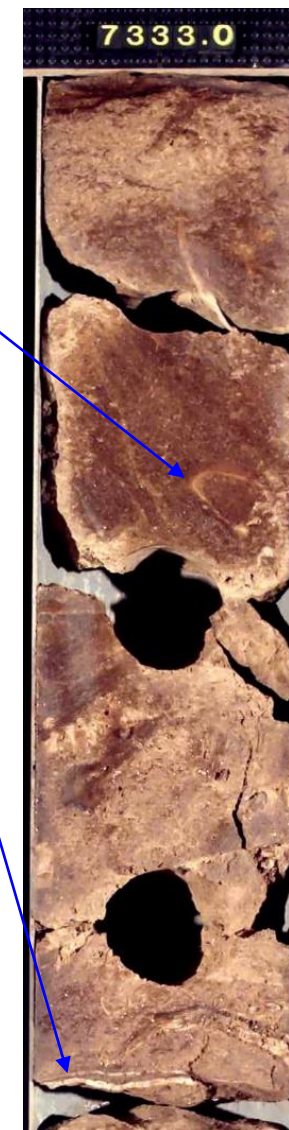


Abundant cm-scale (up to 8cm) rudist fragments in clean packstone/floatstone.

7345-7359ft: common (small) fragmented rudists:

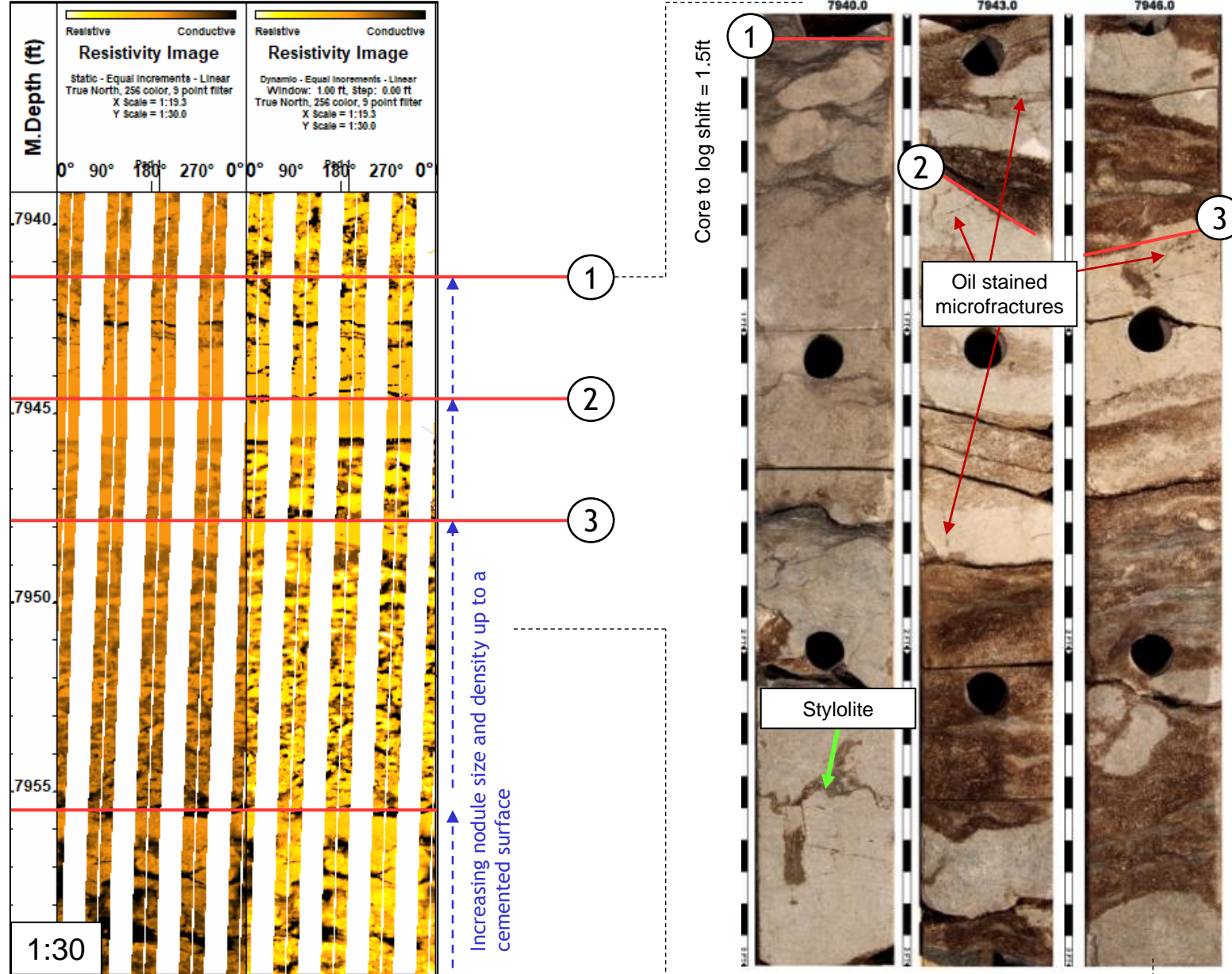


Rudists decrease in abundance downwards.



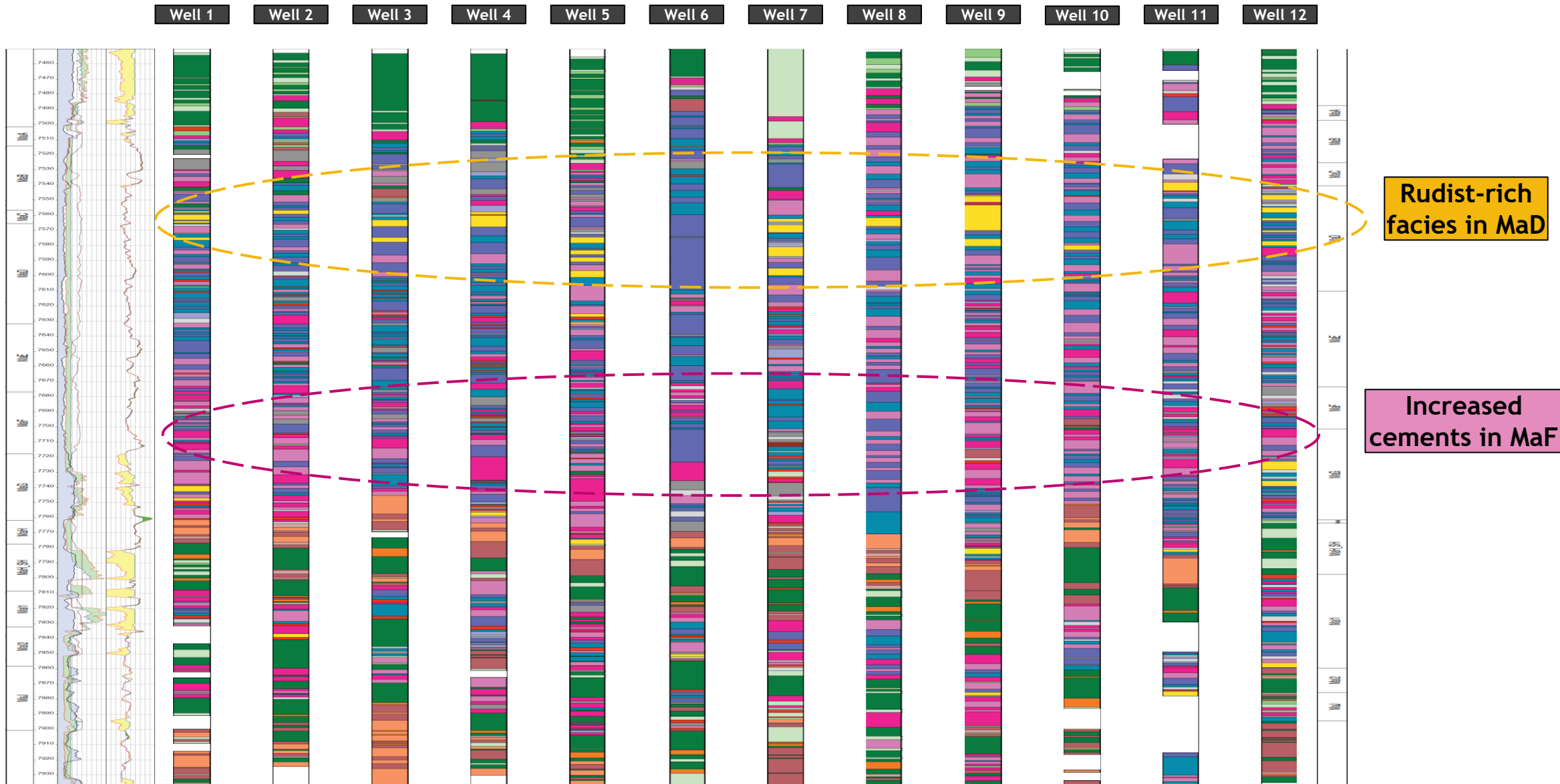


# Cemented layers - MaF example

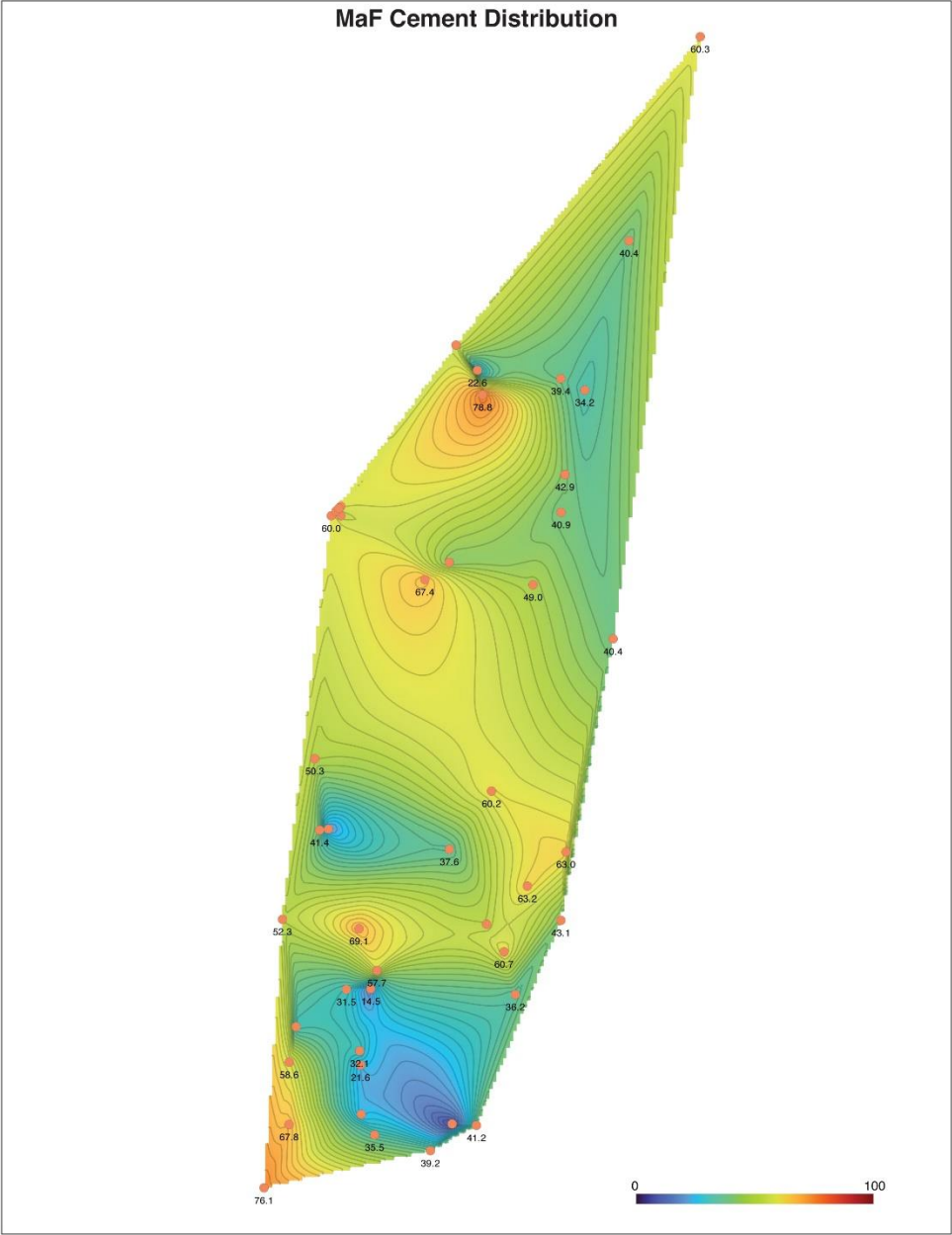
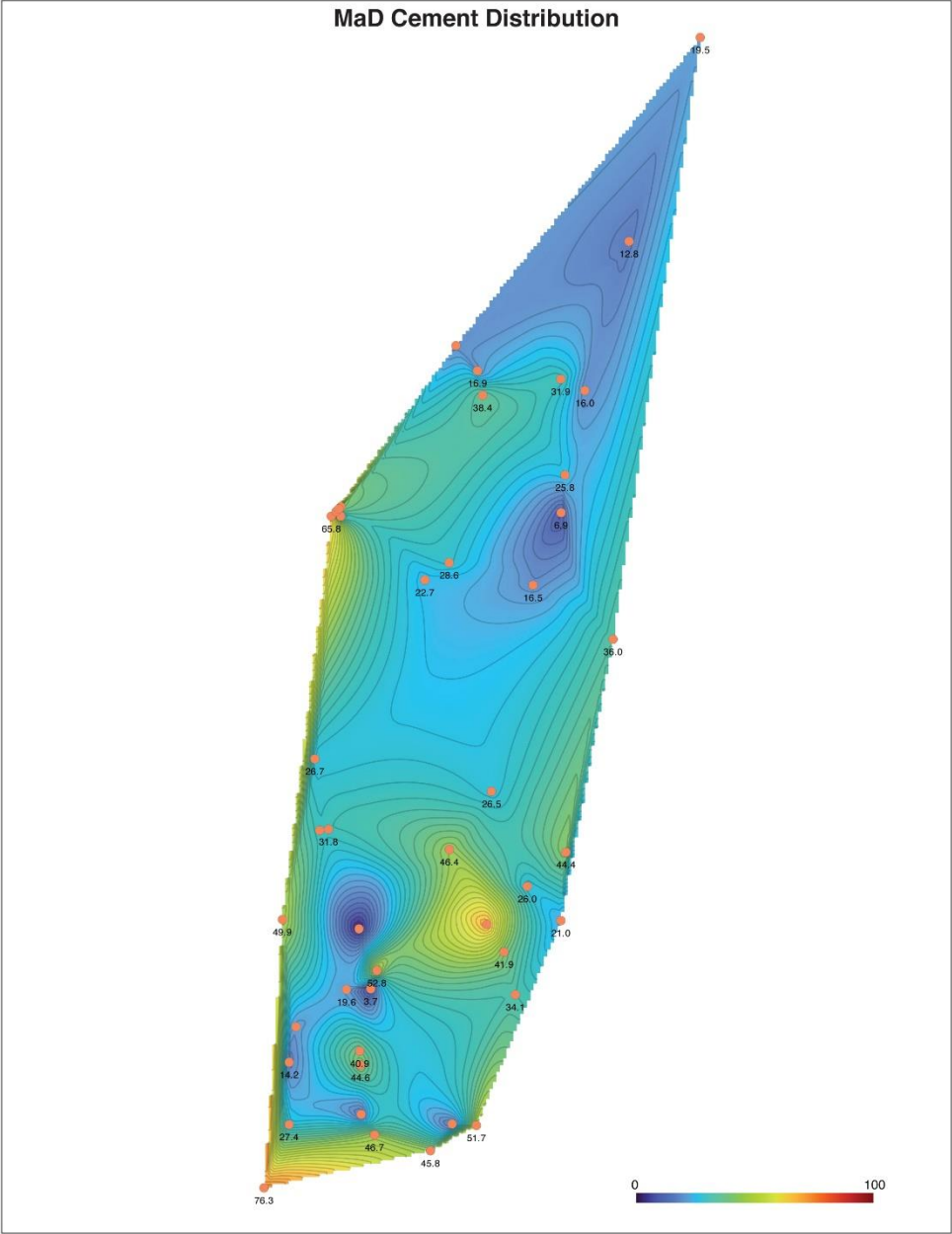


- ▶ Cementation clearly has an impact on hydrocarbon flow within the Mauddud. Microfractures are observed, in this core example within the MaF below image resolution, however, none appear to cross-cut the full cemented section
- ▶ Core calibration shows differential oil staining associated with this cementation trend
- ▶ Identification of these image facies in BHI has been used to characterise reservoir heterogeneity as seen in Figure 5 and summarised on the next slide with the distribution of micro-fractures in this context also explored

# Image facies distribution

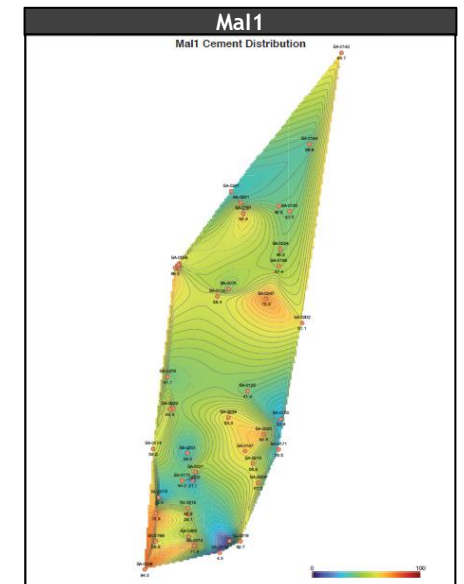
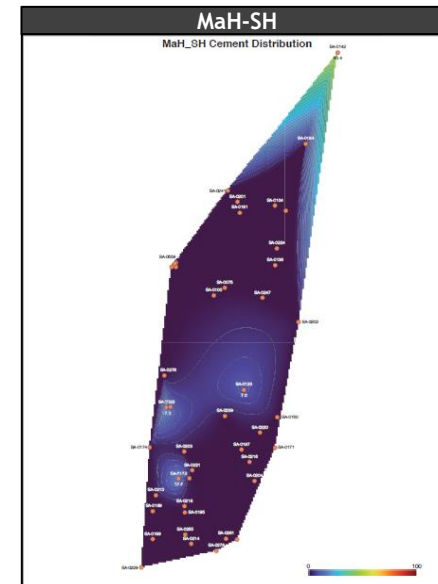
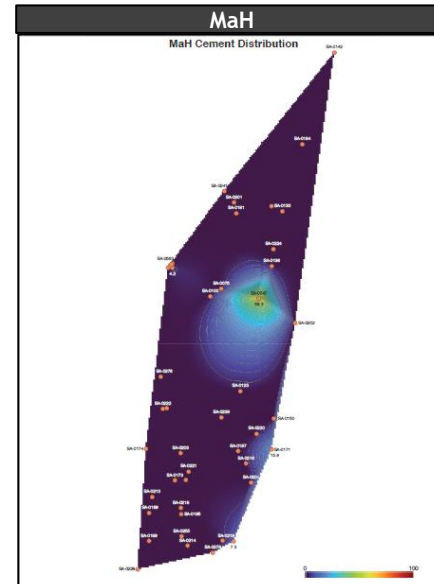
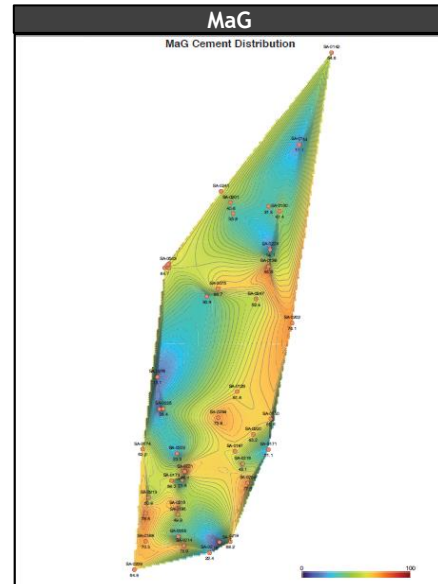
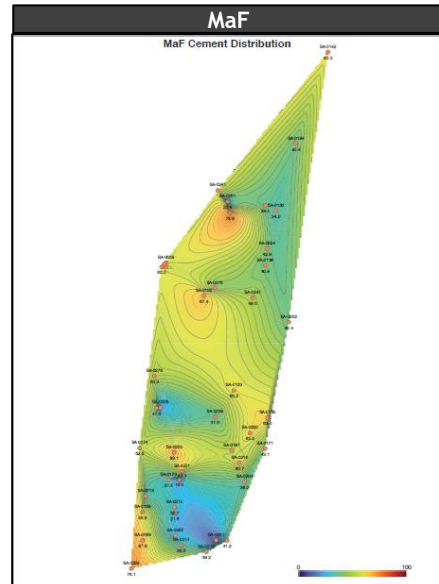
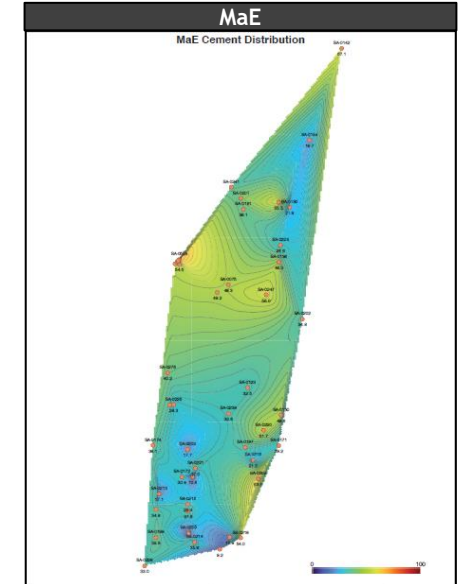
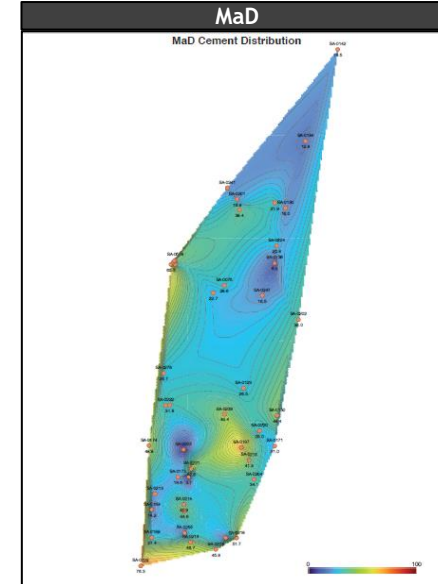
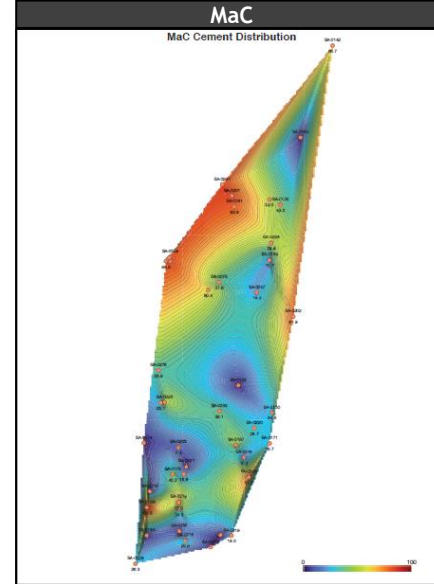
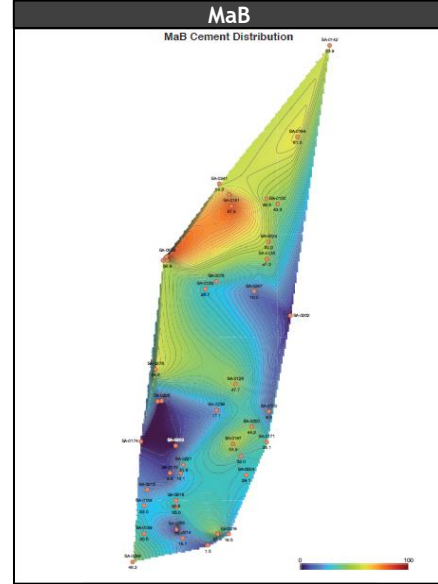
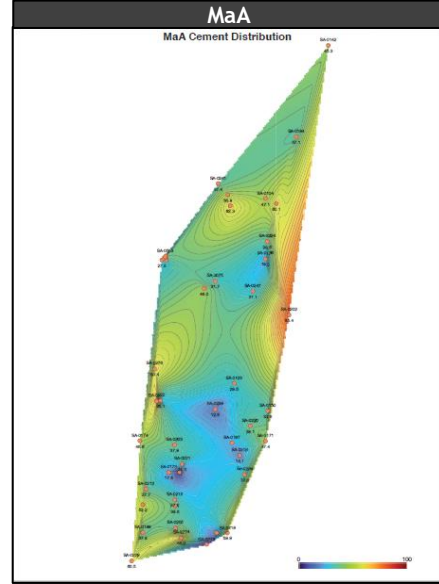


# Cement distribution maps

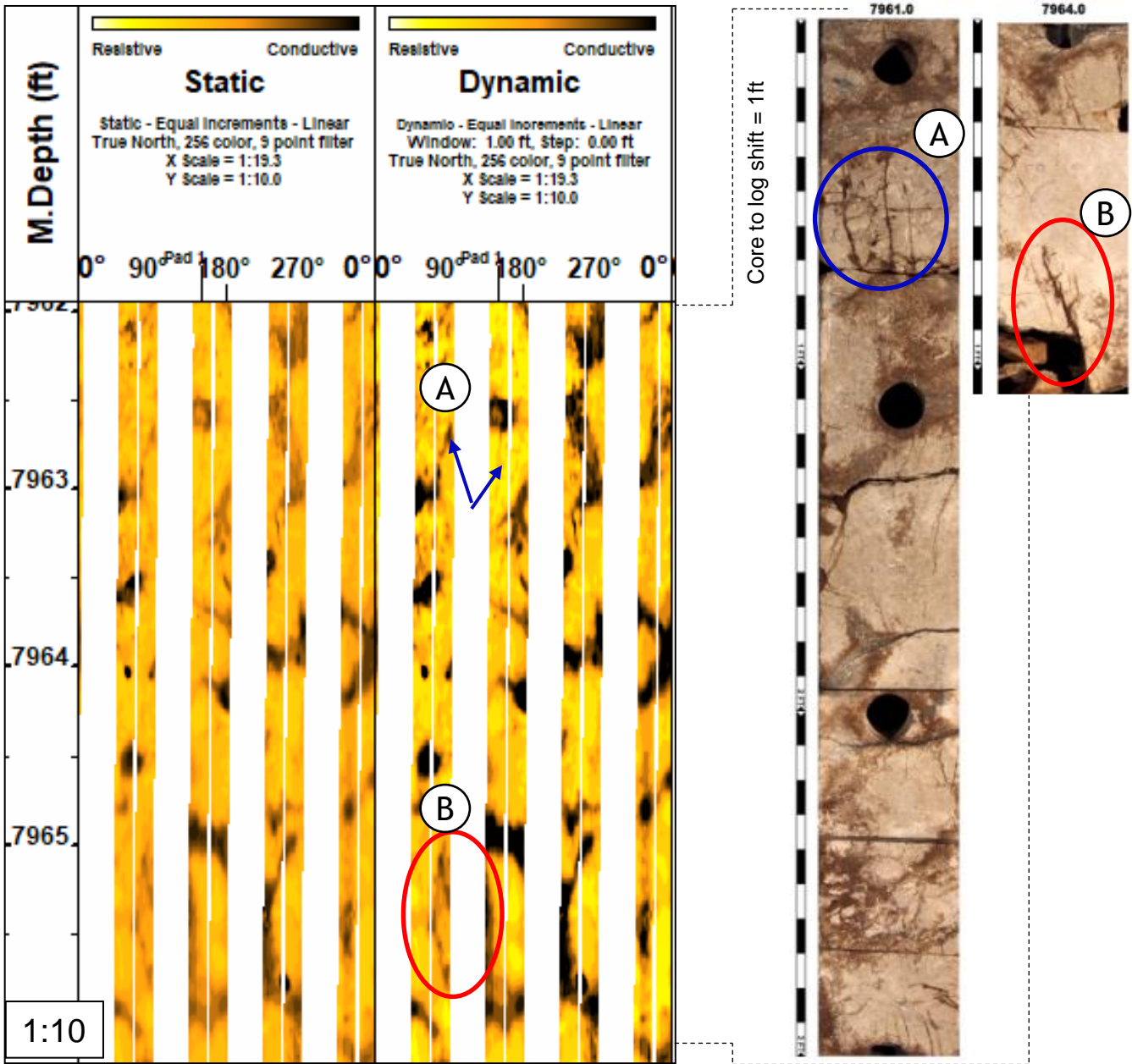




# Cement maps per reservoir layer



# Microfractures - core calibration

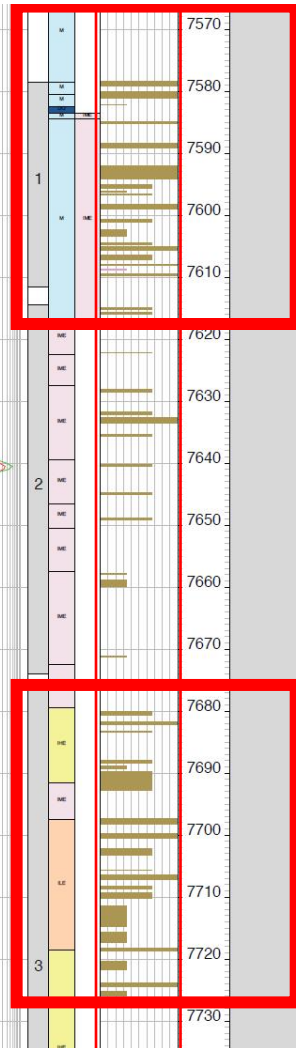


- Core observations show oil stained fractures cross-cutting cemented nodules
- In this core example, these are well connected and provide conduits for flow
- These microfractures are picked out in BHI enabling orientation of the network
- The high density of microfractures seen in core is not reflected in BHI
- Observations of BHI show clusters of microfractures preferentially occurring in cemented and coarse/dense image facies as well as some nodular cemented image facies



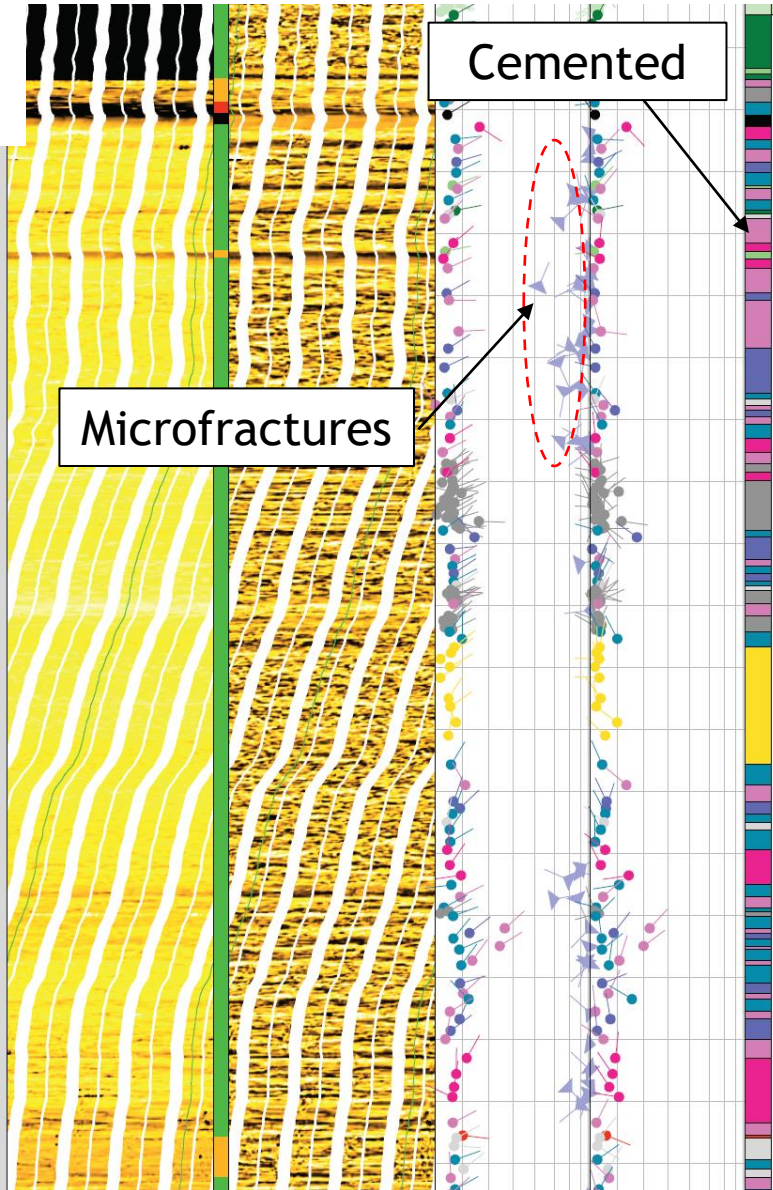
# Core vs BHI microfractures fracture density

Core based  
density  
microfracture

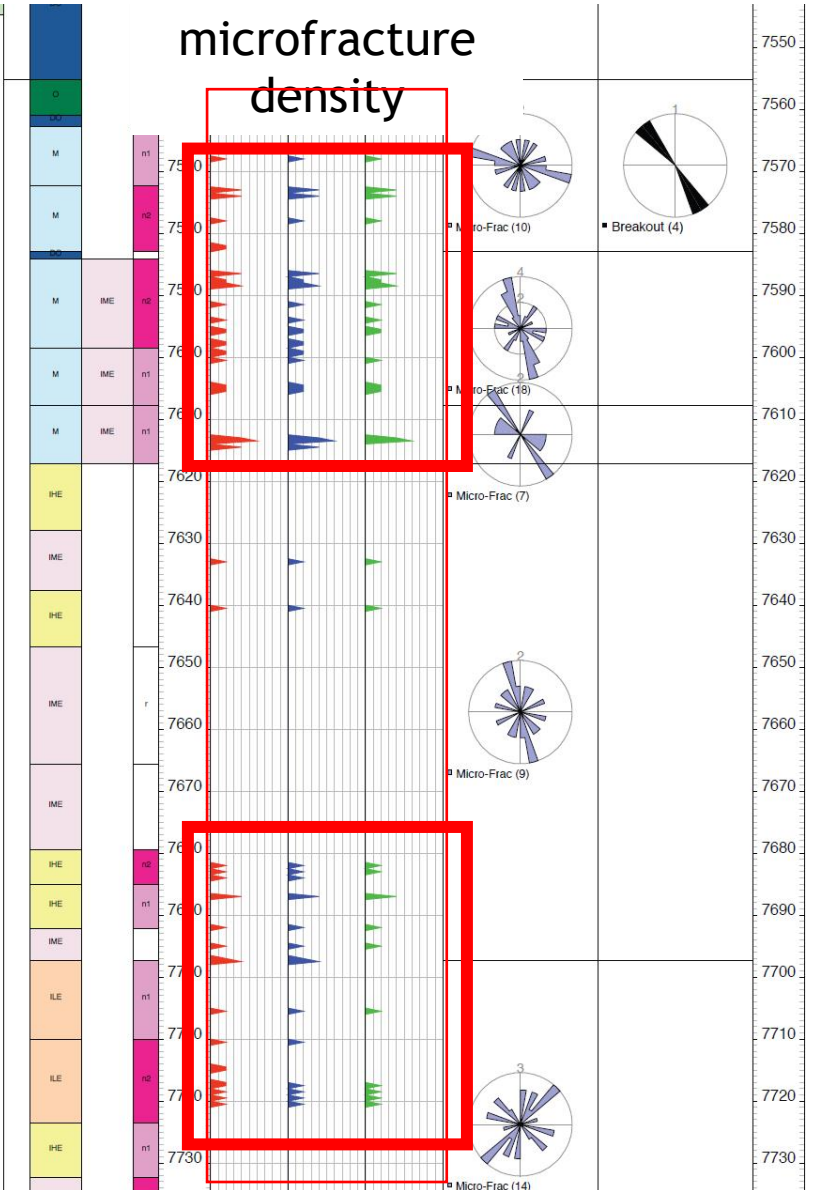


Microfractures

Cemented

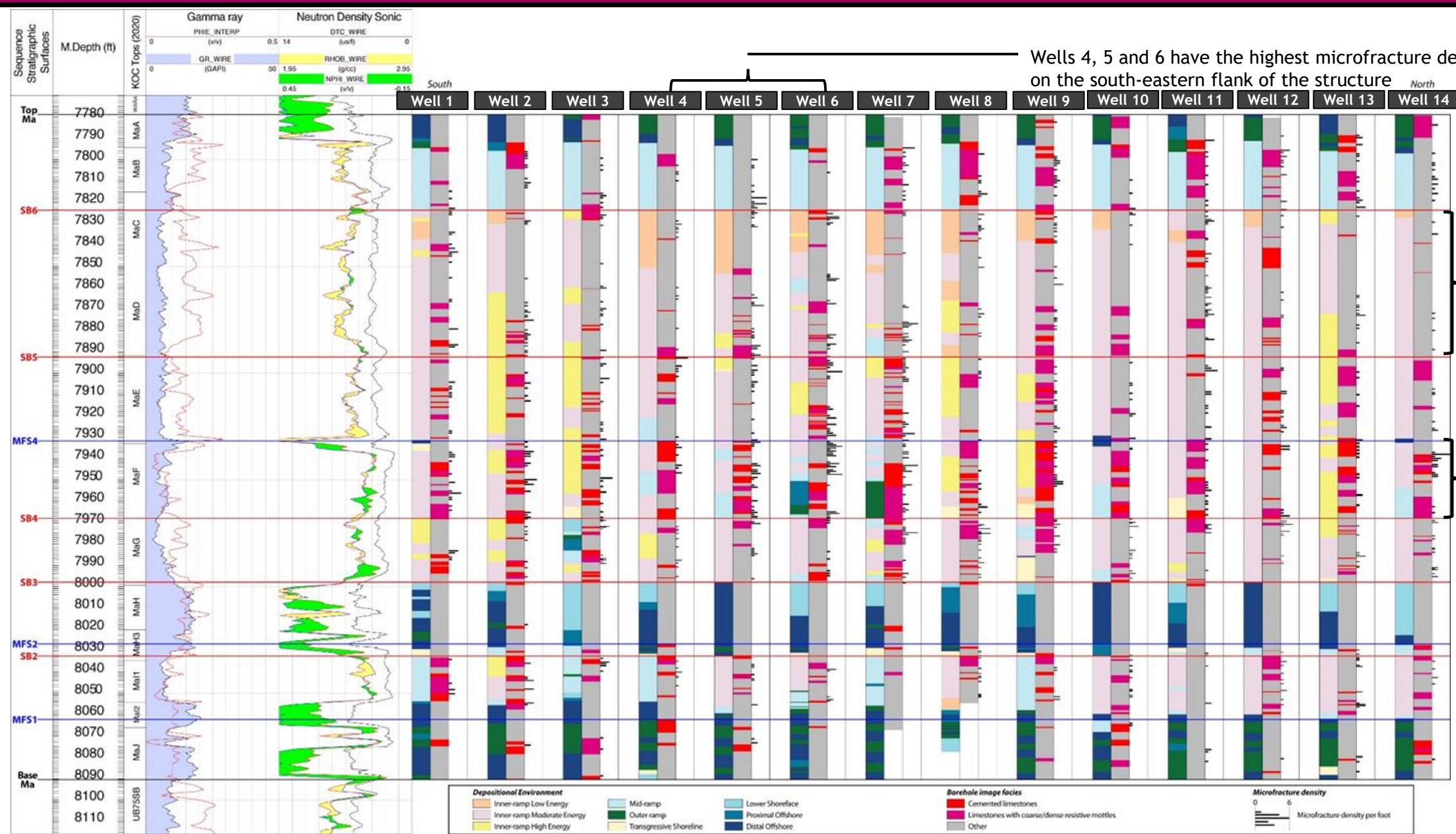


BHI based  
microfracture  
density





# Cemented zones and microfracture distribution



Wells 4, 5 and 6 have the highest microfracture densities, located on the south-eastern flank of the structure

Microfracture density in the MaC and MaD is low aside from in more cemented sections

The MaF has a greater concentration of the two most cemented image facies as well as an increase in microfracture density

- ▶ The cement distribution may have a link to sedimentology which is still being studied
- ▶ Clear relationship between amount of cement and frequency of microfractures
- ▶ In the upper intervals of the Mauddud fracture frequency is greatest on the flanks of the field where cement is more intense
- ▶ Microfractures are more common at the crest of the structure in the lower intervals (MaF and MaG) where cement is more pervasive
- ▶ Primary porosity in the crest of the structure is preserved, although nodule bound microfractures have the potential to increase secondary porosity where cementation is more pervasive