RESERVOIR CHARACTERIZATION OF THE HIBERNIA FORMATION, JEANNE D'ARC BASIN, GRAND BANKS, NEWFOUNDLAND

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ERKAN FIDAN



# RESERVOIR CHARACTERIZATION OF THE HIBERNIA FORMATION, JEANNE D'ARC BASIN, GRAND BANKS, NEWFOUNDLAND

by

# **ERKAN FIDAN**

A thesis submitted to the
School of Graduate Studies
in partial fulfilment of the
requirements for the degree of
Master of Science

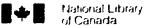
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# **ABSTRACT**

The offshore Hibernia oil field, discovered in 1979, 315 km (195 mi) southeast of St. John's, Newfoundland, has estimated recoverable oil of 83 million m³ (525 million bbl) Sediments of the Hibernia oil field occur within the northeast trending Jeanne d'Arc rift basin (JDB), which records two rift phases, each followed by a period of post-rift thermal subsidence. Reservoir sands in the Hibernia oil field were deposited during the second intense episode of rifting between Callovian and Early Aptian times.

The Hibernia Formation is Berriasian to Valanginian age and accommodates 85% of the recoverable oil in the Hibernia oil field. The formation is encountered within the average depth interval of 3,400 and 4,200 m. Sandstones of the Hibernia Formation were deposited in a fluvially-dominated deltaic complex and are composed of very fine- to coarse-grained, partially argillaceous quartzarenites and sublitharenites. Porosities (φ) range between 4% and 24.2% and permeabilities (k) between 0.01 mD to 9860 mD.

This study, of petrographic lithofacies, log character and response, and engineering data, evaluates Core Lab statistical analysis of porosity and permeability to define "hydraulic flow units" and Canadian Hunter's methodology of petrographic analysis to relate to flow units. Development of drainage character is a crucial process for maximizing hydrocarbon production. Permeability is a crucial parameter which defines the rate of fluid flow, and separate flow units in a reservoir. Permeability is highly variable as

a complex function of petrophysical and depositional properties which must be identified on the scale of microscopic lithofacies and macroscopic facies associations. "Hydraulic flow units" of the Hibernia Formation reflect highly variable plug permeability data.

Definition of flow units by means of k-\$\psi\$ cross plots distinguish broad variations

Three general k- $\phi$  clusters can be defined using k- $\phi$  cross plots. A concept of "Enhanced Textural Maturity Index (ETMI)" relating sorting and roundness is developed. The ETMI shows strong correlation with permeability. "Reservoir Quality Zones (RQZ)" are defined based on facies analysis, SEM/EDS, thin section petrography, and k- $\phi$  attributes. Anomalies contributing to a scattered data pattern are addressed. It is shown that facies architecture of the reservoir (i.e., the "mix" of lithofacies) is critical to effective interpretation. Integrated log suites and RQZ permit estimation of average horizontal permeability ranges in uncored sections when the availability of drill cuttings is restricted or non-existent. By using RQZ as a template in the Hibernia Formation a multi-parameter reservoir modelling and cell characterization in the model can be achieved.

Individual depositional models have inherent k- $\phi$  relationships. The assemblage models in the stratigraphic package and overprinting of diagenetic effects serve notice that neither geological nor engineering data can be left out of the equation if accurate characterization is to be expected.



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The completion of this study would not have been possible without love and support of my son, Arman, my wife Sandra, and my family in Türkiye. That's why, this thesis is dedicated to them.

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# I - INTRODUCTION

The Hibernia oil field was discovered offshore in 1979 approximately 315 km (195mi) east-southeast of St John's in the Grand Banks (Figure 1).

Following the discovery of Hibernia P-15 by Chevron, nine subsequent wells were drilled between 1980 and 1984 to delineate the field (Table 1). Information from those ten wells revealed that 58 metres of oil-bearing Upper Jurassic/Lower Cretaceous-aged sands were estimated to contain 83 million m³ (525 million bbl) of recoverable crude oil (Hurley et al. 1992). Primary reservoir sands containing 85% of the recoverable oil are in the Berriasian-to Valanginian-aged Hibernia Formation (Hurley et al. 1992). Conventional core descriptions indicate that the Hibernia Formation occurs at an average depth of 3,700 m (12,200ft) and was deposited through fluvially-dominated distributary channels in a deltaic complex (Hurley et al. 1992).

The Hibernia oil field is located in the Jeanne d'Arc basin (JDB) which is one of the several Mesozoic rift basins along the west Atlantic passive margin. The JDB is a north-northeast trending asymmetric half-graben (Driscoll and Hogg 1995). Intense drilling activity in the basin has resulted with the acquisition of 465 km² (180 mi²) three-dimensional seismic data (Hurley et al. 1992). Core plugs of the Hibernia Formation were analysed and the reservoir has been differentiated into hydraulic flow units by Core Laboratories for the Hibernia Management and Development Company (HMDC).

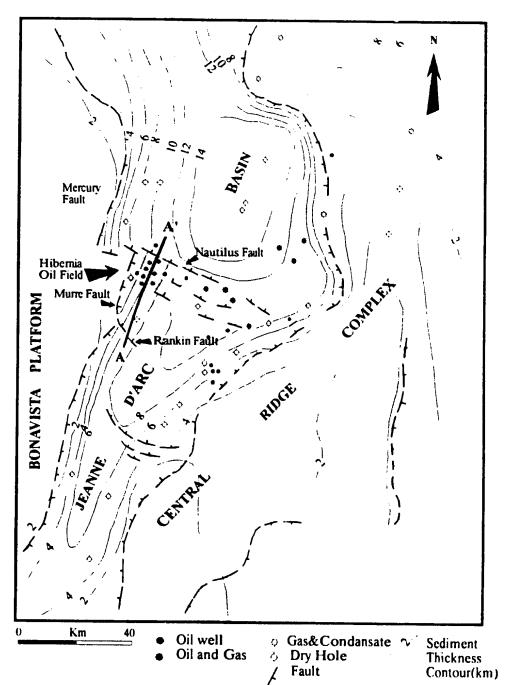


Figure 1 The Hibernia oil field and sediment thickness map of Jeanne d'Arc Basin (JDB) (modified after Brown et al. 1986). Note the northeast extending geometry of the JDB.

Well	Location	Spud Date	Total Depth (m)	Water Depth (m)	Clssfc.	Describ.	Penetration Interval into Hib Form. (m)	Shale Equivalent of Upper Zone (m)	Cored Interval (m)	DST Analysis
P-15(#60)	46 44'59.98"N 48 46'51.18"W	1979-05-27	4,406.8	80.2	Expl.	Abndn.* disc.well	3,439-3,939	3,439-3,743	None from Hibernia F.	Yes
O-35(#65)	46 44'54.92"N 48 49'53.74"W	1980-01-01	4,788.5	79.6	Del.	Abndn.* oil well	3,326-4,210	3,326-3,913	None from Hibernia F.	None in Hib.F.
B-O8(#67)	46 47'06.36"N 48 45'29.87"W	1980-03-19	4,435.5	82.9	Del.	Abndn. oil well	3,185-3,651	3,185-3,477	3,479 6-3,497 8 3,554 2-3,559 2 3,606.0-3,613 5 3,613.5-3,628.0	Yes
G-55(#74)	46 44'17 07"N 48 53'10.75"W	1980-12-11	3,460.1	76.5	Del.	Abndn. oil well	None	None	-	•
K-18(#76)	46 4734.69"N 48 4717.05"W	1981-02-26	5,039.3	78.3	Del.	Abndn. oil well	3,413-3,859	3,413-3,686	3,796.9-3,819.4 3820.0-3,866.7	Yes
J-34(#82)	46 43'33.84"N 48 50'13.00"W	1981-11-29	3,711.8	78.3	Del.	Abndn. oil well	3,630-3,711.8	3,630-3,711.8	None from Hibernia F.	None in Hib.F.
1-46(#87)	46 45'40.74"N 48 51'17.20"W	1982-12-18	3,435.7	78.7	Del.	Abndn. oil well	None	None	-	-
B-27(#92)	46 46'11.21"N 48 48'28.34"W	1983-08-08	4,380.0	80.5	Del.	Abndn. oil well	3,467-3,977	3,467-3,781	3,841.0-3,854.0 3,854.5-3.914.8	Yes
K-14(#93)	46 43'39 83"N 48 47'36.18"W	1983-08-09	4,462.0	79.9	Del.	Abndn. oil well	?-4,089	?-3,840	3,848.4-3,973.7	Yes
C-96(#95)	46 45'10.19"N 48 44'35.77"W	1984-01-21	4,420.0	80.8	Del.	Abndn. oil well	3,467-3,984	3,467-3,784	3,865.2-3,868 5 3,869.7-3,958 9	Yes

\*Expl.: Exploration, Del.: Delineation, Abndn. Disc. well: Abandoned discovery well

Table 1: Wells in The Hibernia Oil Field (CNOPB 1990).

#### 1.1- THESIS OBJECTIVES

Different stages of deposition and burial, physical compaction, deformation, and cementation result in varying degrees of internal petrophysical inhomogeneity in all types of hydrocarbon reservoirs (Finley and Tyler 1986). Vavra et al. (1991) stated that in many clastic reservoirs pore structure and reservoir quality are primarily controlled by grain size and textural maturity (sorting&roundness) of sediments. Furthermore, diagenetic processes such as quartz cementation and formation of pore-lining and pore-bridging clays also modify pore structure and decrease reservoir quality.

The term "permeability" in this study always refers to horizontal permeability unless stated otherwise.

Conceptually, "flow zones" in a given reservoir are definable flow paths with measurable drainage characteristics. Drainage capability and fluid flow rates in reservoirs are controlled by permeability. Permeability, as described by Koederitz et al. (1989) "is a measure of the ease with which fluid can flow through [a rock]." Permeability is an end product of porosity, pore connectivity grain size distribution, textural maturity, sedimentary structures, abundance of cements and carbonaceous material, clays and accessory mineral attributes, and diagenetic influences. Evaluation of the permeability—ontrolling mechanisms is a crucial process for hydrocarbon production. Therefore, the objectives of this study are:

- Evaluate permeability-controlling mechanisms in the Hibernia Formation by core, log, SEM-EDS, and thin section analyses.
- 2. Describe zones having internal resemblance and potential similarity for fluid flow

- 3 Assess the reservoir delineation of hydraulic flow units defined for HMDC by Core Laboratories, Calgary.
- Assess lithofacies and pore characterization by the procedures of Canadian Hunter Ltd. (Sneider et al. 1984).
- 5. Integrate the engineering data, lithofacies descriptions, SEM/EDS processes, thin section petrography and log responses in order to create a high resolution model of geological attributes and actual reservoir quality zones in the Hibernia Formation.

#### 1.2- METHODOLOGY

1). The cores are archived in the Canada Newfoundland Offshore Petroleum Board's (CNOPB) core storage in St. John's, Newfoundland.

Five of the ten wells in the Hibernia oil field were cored in the Hibernia formation (Table

Characterization of lithofacies in this study is based on the Canadian Hunter approach (Sneider et al. 1984; Hietala 1991) which combines core descriptions, log interpretations, thin section petrography and SEM/EDS-coupled processes. The first phase of this study involved thorough examination of 386 m (1266 ft) of core. Grain size logs were recorded, lithofacies and palaeo-environments were described and interpreted for each of the five Hibernia wells; Appendix 1). Core depth corrections and correlations were performed between gamma ray and grain size logs in order to identify the exact locations of core plugs on log suites (Appendix 2). Facies associations were then superimposed on the gamma ray logs. A field cross section was drawn in order to display the dominance of channel

successions in the framework of the reservoir. Core plug-lithofacies distributions were determined. Porosity-permeability windows of each lithofacies were graphed in semi-log format (Appendix 3).

A set of facies-representative rock chips were collected from the walls of core plugs where permeability and porosity values were available. These cuttings were subjected to Scanning Electron Microscopy imaging. Along with the SEM microphotographs, elemental analyses in point and surface scanning modes were performed by an energy dispersive x-ray spectrum analyzer (EDS)(Appendix 3). Mean elemental percentages were calculated and plotted against permeabilities (horizontal)

Dye-impregnated thin sections of the cuttings were provided by HMDC. Only minor additional thin section preparation was required. Petrographic analyses were performed under transmitted and reflected lights. Mineralogical framework and diagenetic attributes were described as well as pore/pore throat plugging, permeability-reducing features.

Finally, complete thin section descriptions, SEM microphotographs, EDS elemental analyses, core and log descriptions, and porosity/permeability data were combined in order to determine reservoir quality zones within the reservoir. These results were compared and correlated with the analytically-determined hydraulic flow unit determinations by HMDC so that optimum delineation of reservoir could be assessed (Appendix 5).

#### 1.3- PREVIOUS WORK

# 1.3.1- Statement of the problem:

For many years, porosity-permeability distributions in a reservoir system were characterized by the following equation (Slingerland et al 1994):

laule-			
юдк-	-aψ+υ	***************************************	1

Prediction of permeability in eq.1 is not always reliable (Amaefule et al. 1993; Gardner and Albrechtsons 1995). By regression analysis, only the mean values of permeability are obtained Lower values are overestimated and higher values are underestimated (Rogers et al. 1995).

Permeability is a unique parameter which principally determines the rate of flow into the bore hole. In order to understand how a reservoir will drain into a well, delineation of separate flow paths has to be performed. Although porosity is a primary factor in the generation of permeability, perplexing influences of other petrophysical properties can have control over fluid flow through porous media. Figure 2 is the cross plot of porosity-permeability distribution in Hibernia C-96. It is evident that for any specific porosity, permeabilities cover a broad range. Such drastic permeability variations within the range of a single porosity value may reflect the effects of rock properties in addition to grain size. Therefore, for effective reservoir characterization, relationships between rock properties and permeability have to be addressed.

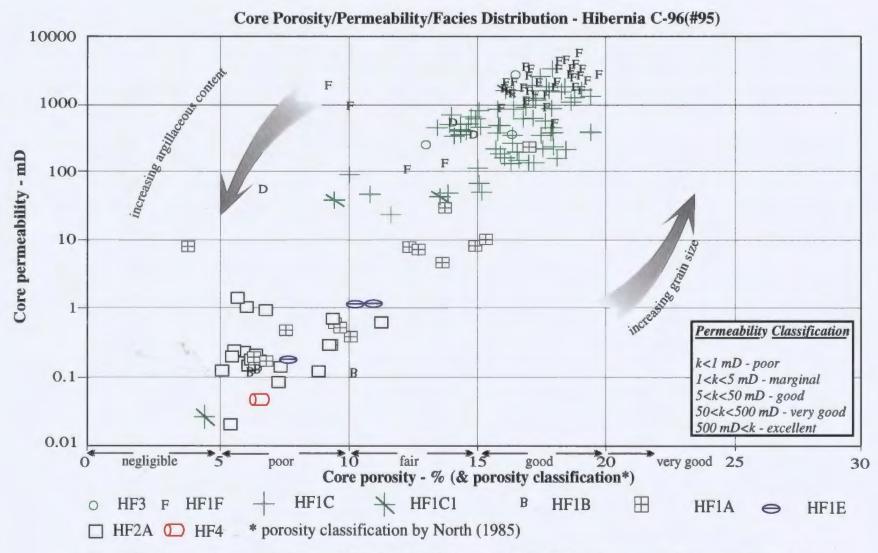


Figure 2: Composite porosity/permeability/facies relationship in the plugged sections of the cored interval of Hibernia C-96(#95).

## I.3.2- Analytical hydraulic flow unit zonation:

## 1.3.2.1- Modification of Kozeny-Carman equation (KCE) by Amaefule et al. (1993)

Amaefule et al. (1993) stated that the mean hydraulic flow unit radius (r<sub>mh</sub>) concept is crucial to correlate porosity, permeability, and capillary pressure with the hydraulic unit.

Kozeny (1927) and Carman (1937) initially assumed that reservoir rock is formed as a bundle of capillary tubes which have a common mean hydraulic radius,  $r_{mh}$ . The  $r_{rh}$  can be addressed as

$$r_{mh} = \frac{\text{Volume Open to Flow}}{\text{Wetted Surface Area}} = \frac{\pi r^2 h}{2\pi rh} = \frac{r}{2}$$

where r is the radius and h is the height of the capillary tube.

Kozeny (1927) and Carman (1937) combined the Hagen-Poiseuille and Darcy equations in order to define single phase laminar flow in a capillary tube.

$$k = \frac{r^2 \phi_c}{8\tau}$$

where k is permeability;  $\phi_c$  is effective porosity;  $\tau$  is tortuosity. In order to match tortuosity properties of "the representative elementary volume (REV)" of reservoir rock with flow in the proposed capillary tube, Lake (1989) assumed that "the travel time of a fluid element in a capillary tube is equal to that in a REV". Tortuosity by Lake's definition (1989) is equal to "the squared ratio of the capillary tube length to REV length;  $(L_c/L)^2$ ." The value of tortuosity is variable, being between 1 and 10 in most permeable media, and is most frequently encountered in the range of 2-5.

Substitution of r<sub>mh</sub> in equation 3 gives

$$k = -\frac{\Phi_e}{2\tau^2} \left( -\frac{r}{2} \right)^2 = \frac{\Phi_e r_{mh}^2}{2\tau^2}$$

The relationship between the  $r_{mh}$  and the surface area per unit grain volume ( $S_{gs}$ ) and  $\varphi_c$  can be addressed as

$$S_{gv} = -\frac{2}{r} \left( \frac{\varphi_e}{1 - \varphi_e} \right) = \frac{1}{r_{mh}} \left( \frac{\varphi_e}{1 - \varphi_e} \right)$$
 5

Substitution of equation 5 in equation 4 yields

$$k = \frac{\Phi_e^3}{(1 - \Phi_e)^2} \left( \frac{1}{2\tau^2 S_{ge}^2} \right) \dots 6$$

2 is the value of the shape factor  $(F_s)$  for a circular cylinder in the equation 6,  $F_s\tau^2$  is described as *Kozeny constant* which is "a variable constant which varies between hydraulic units, but is a constant in a given unit" (Amaefule *et al.* 1993) Value of the Kozeny constant may change from 5 to 100. Redefinition of eq 6 in terms of the Kozeny constant results in the Kozeny Carman Equation (KCE):

$$k = \frac{\Phi_e^3}{(1-\Phi_e)^2} \left( \frac{1}{F_s \tau^2 S_{gv}^2} \right) \dots$$
 7

Rearrangement of eq.7 gives

$$\sqrt{\frac{k}{\Phi_e}} = \frac{\Phi_e}{1 - \Phi_e} \times \frac{1}{(\sqrt{F_s})\tau S_{gs}}$$
 8

where permeability is in µm<sup>2</sup> and effective porosity is a fraction. From this equation, Amaefule et al. (1993) defines a "Reservoir (Juality Index" (ROI) as

$$RQI = 0.0314 \sqrt[4]{\frac{k}{\Phi_e}} \frac{(mD)}{mD}$$

<sup>\* 0.0314=</sup>conversion factor of permeability from \( \mu m^2 \) to ml).

Amaefule *et al.* (1993) designated the porosity component of equation 8, which is the ratio of pore volume-to-grain volume, to be normalized porosity  $(\phi_7)$ 

$$\Phi_{r} = \frac{\Phi_{c}}{1 - \Phi_{c}}$$
 10

and defined the component  $1 \div (\sqrt{F_s}) \tau S_{gv}$  as "Flow Zone Indicator" (FZI). Substituting FZI, RQI and  $\phi_z$  in eq.8 gives RQI =  $\phi_z \times FZI$  or as a logarithmic function:

FZI is the y-intercept of a 45° angle line to the x-axis on a logRQI/logφ<sub>z</sub> crossplot when φ<sub>z</sub> equates to 1. Points that lie on a line having the same FZI are interpreted to have the same flow zone φ/k characteristics and are therefore defined as being part of a single hydraulic flow unit. Thus, determination of FZI in cored intervals allows the identification of lithologies with similar FZI values. However, FZI is a parameter which represents rock properties other than porosity. Since a reliable calculation of FZI is not possible in equation 8, the RQZ-φ, cross plot permits the assignment of an FZI value to a given unit. Lithologies with similar FZI are then grouped as separate zones of flow by using univariate FZI frequency histograms.

## 1.3.2.2. Application of KCE to the Hibernia Formation

Gardner and Albrechtsons (1995) reported that FZI values of core plugs were calculated for cored sections of the Hibernia Formation by using the RQI =  $\phi_z$  x FZI relationship. A univariate frequency histogram of calculated FZI values (Figure 3) identified FZI clusters which were subdivided into five groups (hydraulic flow units = HU) with the following cutoffs:

FZI range: 15.27-23.25 (HU1)

" : 7.52-15.27 (HU2)
" : 3.43-7.52 (HU3)
" : 1.887-3.43 (HU4)
" : 0-1.887 (HU5)

All data points occurring within each of these FZI intervals are assigned to the corresponding hydraulic units. The highest FZI range (HUI) represents the best reservoir quality and HU5 corresponds to the poorest quality. A composite crossplot of core porosity and permeability from all of the cored Hibernia wells (Figure 4; HU-superimposed) displays wide permeability ranges within each of the hydraulic units.

As this present study will show, this HU zonation process by means of mathematical and statistical applications reflects the geological rock properties of the system. Each HU defines porosity and permeability ranges which are too large in effective reservoir description

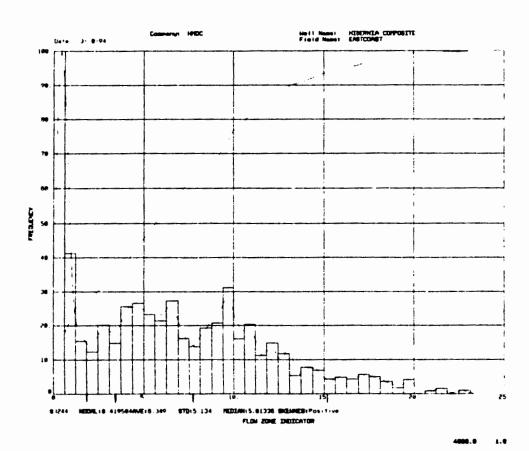


Figure 3: Univariate FZI frequency histogram showing five major FZI cut-offs assigned to different hydraulic units (HU) in the Hibernia Formation (From Gardner and Albrechtsons 1995).

# Porosity vs Permeability - Hibernia Composite

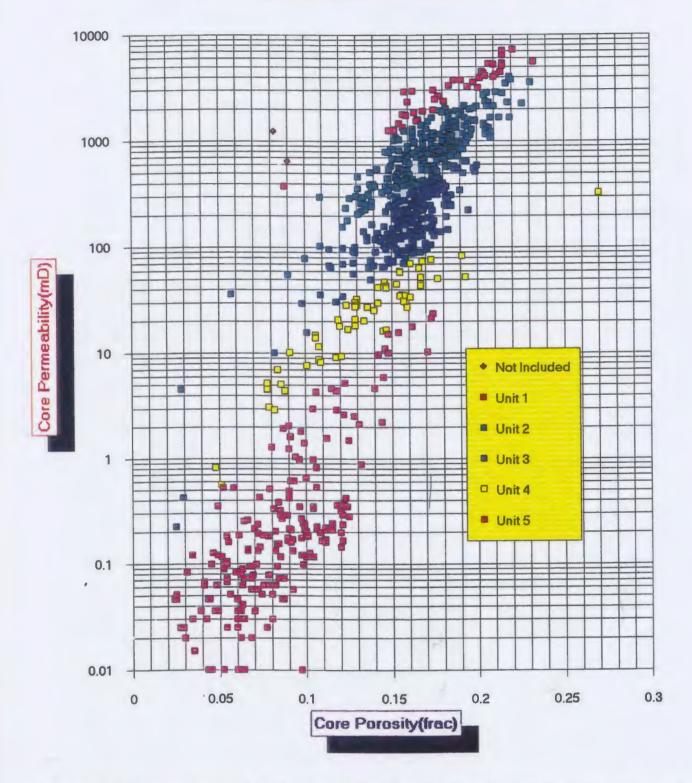


Figure 4: HU-superimposed distribution of the φ/k data in the Hibernia Formation. Note the wide porosity and permeability ranges within each of the HU (From Gardner and Albrechtsons 1995).

#### II - REGIONAL GEOLOGY

#### II.1- TECTONIC SETTING:

## II.1.1. Tectonic History and Stratigraphy of the Jeanne d'Arc Basin:

The Hibernia oil field is located on the Grand Banks, offshore Newfoundland in the Jeanne d'Arc Basin (JDB). The eastern coast of Canada underwent convergent tectonism during the Paleozoic when the Avalon basement was deformed during the Caledonian and the Hercynian orogenies (Welsink et al. 1989, Tankard and Welsink 1989; Tankard and Balkwill 1989) Consolidation of the Pangean supercontinent took place in the Permian. The JDB lies within those Precambrian to Paleozoic metasedimentary and crystalline rocks of the Avalon basement (Tankard et al. 1989). The geology of the JDB was primarily controlled by pre-Mesozoic basement structure

According to Tankard et al. (1989) the opening of the North Atlantic from south to north started with a Triassic rifting episode and lasted for over 100 million years. The entire rifting cycle occurred within four main phases. The stratigraphic record of the JDB highlights all of the four rifting episodes (Figure 5) (Sinclair 1988; Hiscott et al 1990; Abid 1996).

- Rift climax in the Late Triassic and the culmination of rifting during the Early Jurassic (Deposition of the Eurydice, Argo, and Iroquois Formations).
- Deceleration of the subsidence rate during the Middle Jurassic. Separation of Africa
  from Nova Scotia started in this episode and lasted until the Late Jurassic (Deposition
  of the Downing, Voyager, and Rankin Formations). Organic-rich calcareous

- Kimmeridgian shales of the Egret Member deposited during this phase of rifting are the source of hydrocarbon in the Hibernia oil field (Powell 1984, Fitzgerald 1987, von der Dick 1989).
- 3. A second intense rifting phase lasted about 45 million years between the Late Jurassic and the Early Aptian. Reservoir sediments of the Jeanne d'Arc, Hibernia, Catalina, Ben/Nevis and Avalon Formations were deposited during this intense rifting activity Separation of the Grand Banks and the Iberian crustal plates also took place within this episode.
- 4. A post rift thermal subsidence phase started during the Late Aptian and has lasted to present day during which time Tertiary sediments were deposited (McAlpine 1990). Decrease of thermal energy resulted in the vertical and horizontal sagging of the sediments. Within this last episode Dawson Canyon and Banquereau Formations were deposited. Europe separated from Greenland and North America in the Late Cretaceous. The combined thickness of the syn-rift and post-rift sediments (Figure 1) is approximately 14 km. in deep portions of the basin (Grant et al. 1986).

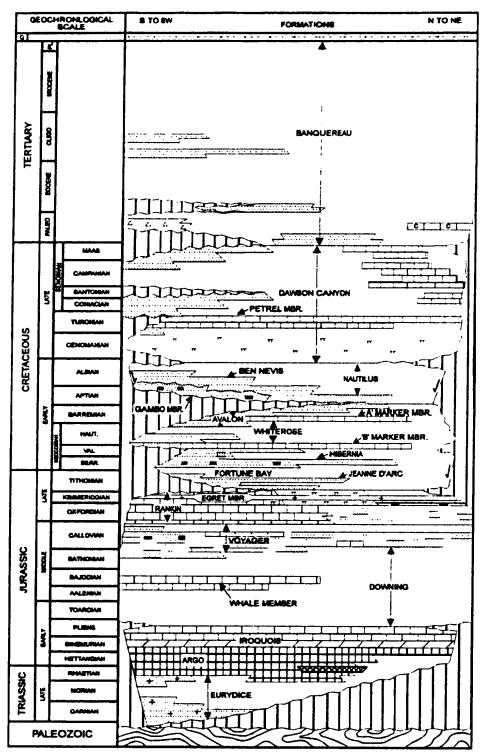


Figure 5: Generalized stratigraphy of the Jeanne d'Arc Basin. Early Cretaceous sands are the hydrocarbon reservoirs. The white intervals represent shale/mudstone (Sinclair 1993 and Abid 1996).

# II.1.2. Geologic setting of the Hibernia Oil Field:

The JDB is a north-northeast extending rift basin formed by a complex listric fault geometry (Figure 1). The basin is surrounded by the Bonavista Platform to the west, the Avalon uplift to the south, and the Central Ridge Complex to the east and the northeast

The Hibernia oil field is located at the western margin of the basin, and as Soliman (1995) points out, it formed as a roll-over anticline of the Rankin growth fault (Figure 6). The oil field is constrained by the Murre fault to the west and by the Nautilus transform fault to the north (CNOPB 1986). The Hibernia Formation occurs at depths varying between 3,477 m and 4210 m (Figure 7a,b,&c). The structural character of the oil field is controlled by complex fault geometries. Ten wells were drilled in the oil field of which eight penetrated the Hibernia Formation (Table 1). G-55 to the southwest and the western well 1-46 did not penetrate the Hibernia Formation. B-08 is structurally the highest well where a gas-oil interface was encountered at 3,544 m. depth. Since the remaining wells are structurally lower than B-08, this gas-oil interface was initially accepted as a field-wide contact (Hurley et al. 1992). However, oil-water contacts have since been determined to occur at various depths Multiple hydrostatic relationships reflect the complex fault block structure of the JDB (CNOPB 1986). Fluid properties in the oil field are also controlled by the fault block structure. According to Handyside and Chipman (1983), reservoir fluid properties are separated into two non-communicating fluid zones:

<sup>1-</sup> B-08 fault block: Saturated crude oil (API 40.0°) with a gas condensate cap containing a liquid content of ~180 STB/MMSCF overlaying the oil layer.

<sup>2-</sup> P-15 fault block: Undersaturated crude oil (API~35.0°)

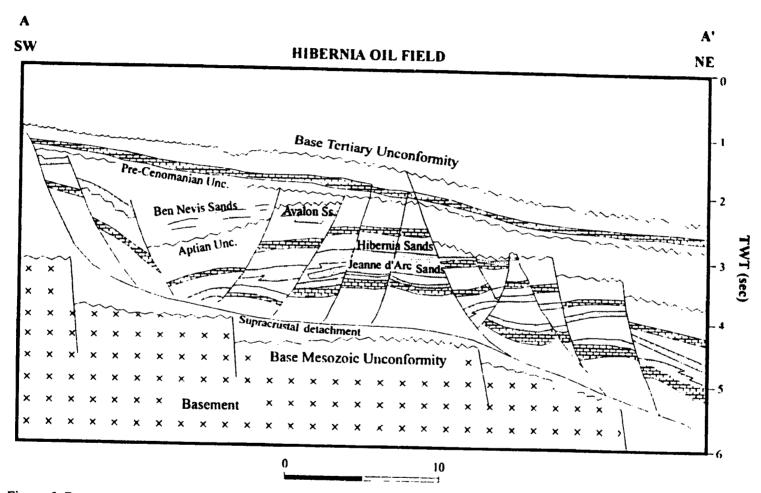


Figure 6: Basement structure and post-Mesozoic evolution of the Hibernia oil field. Supracrustal detachment was generated by the basin-bounding Rankin fault. For the location of the seismic line, see figure 1 (from Tankard et al. 1989).

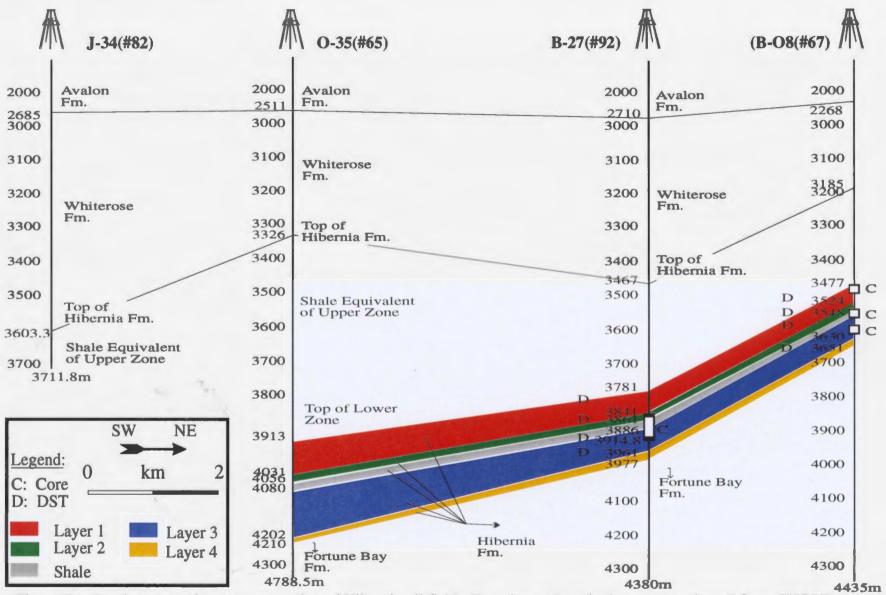


Figure 7a: Southwest-northeast cross-section of Hibernia oil field. Zonation and geologic tops are adopted from CNOPB (Schedule of Wells 1990). Depths (meters) are measured from K.B.

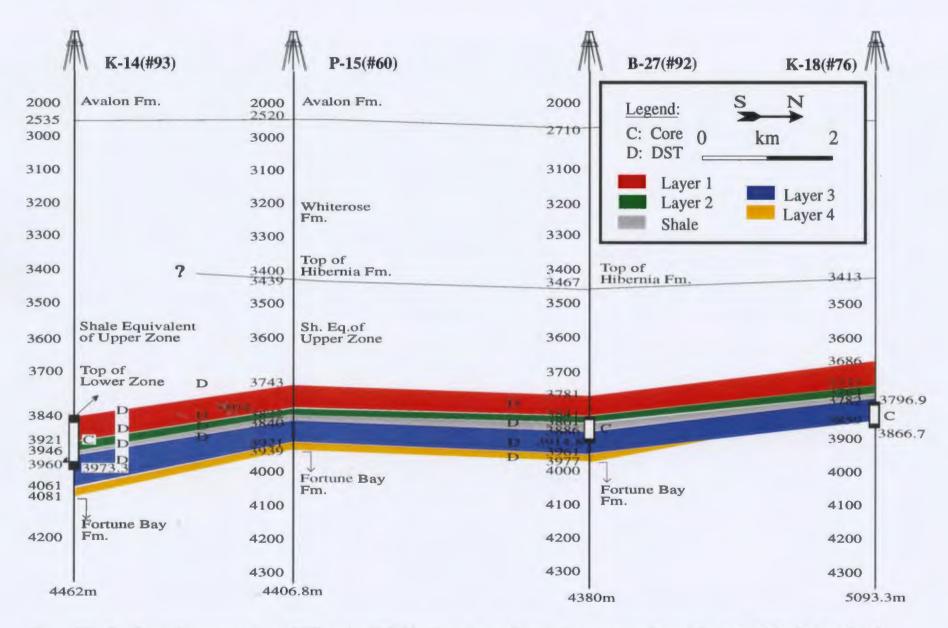


Figure 7b: South-north cross-section of Hibernia oil field. Zonation and geologic tops are adopted from CNOBP (Schedule of Wells 1990). Depths (meters) are measured from K.B.

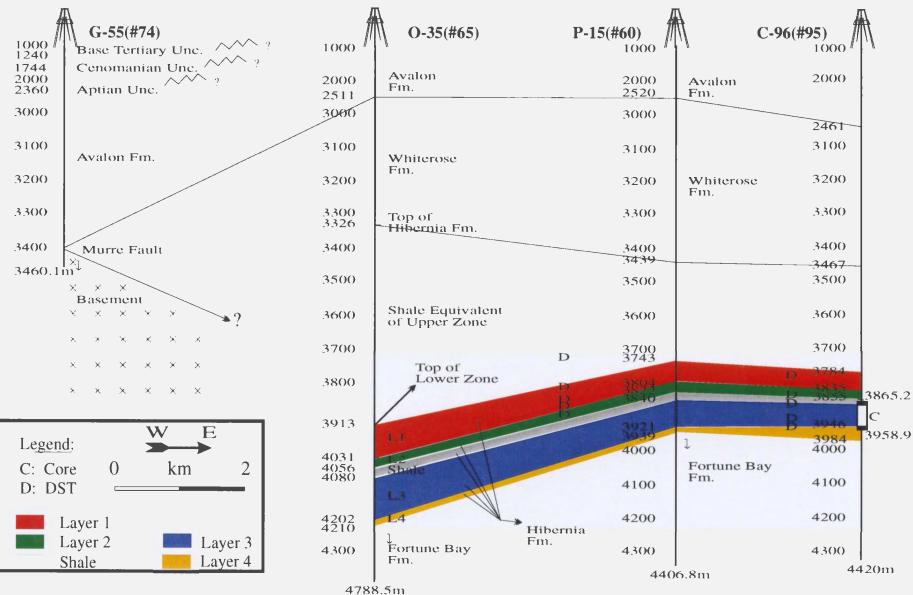


Figure 7c: West-east cross-section of Hibernia oil field. Zonation and geologic tops are adopted from CNOPB (Schedule of Wells 1990). Depths (meters) are measured from K.B.

#### II.2- DEPOSITIONAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE HIBERNIA FORMATION

Interpretations of the conventional cores in the Hibernia Formation, integrated with wireline log suites, reveal that the sandstones of the Hibernia formation were deposited in a
fluvial-deltaic distributary channel system with minimal tidal and marine influence (Hurley et al. 1992). During fault-controlled subsidence, the Avalon Uplift rose on the southern side
of the oil field (Sinclair et al. 1994). Clastic detritus in the Hibernia Formation was derived
in part from the Avalon Uplift which rose on the southern side of the JDB during the faultcontrolled subsidence (Arthur et al. 1982; Brown et al. 1986; Hurley et al. 1992; Sinclair et
al. 1994). A secondary sediment source is the western Bonavista Platform (Figure 1) (Brown
et al. 1986). Since tectonically-induced slopes and the faults that formed along individual
asymmetric blocks are the major forces inducing sediment transfer, Murre fault within the
Hibernia oil field had profound influence on sediment transportation and deposition of the

Hibernia Formation lithologies, Berriasian to Valanginian in age, are composed dominantly of very fine to coarse-grained, argillaceous sandstones containing local rafted carbonaceous material (Arthur et al. 1982). The average sediment thickness of the Hibernia Formation is approximately 200 metres. Calculated core porosities range from 4% to 24.2% while core permeabilities vary between 0.01 and 9860 millidarcies. The best reservoir quality displaying the highest porosity/permeability distribution, occurs in thick, sandstone lithofacies of distributary channels. Interstratified silty and shaly sandstones, mudstone and shales formed in crevasse splay, levee, overbank, flood plain, abandoned channel, marsh and marine bay

palaeo-environments which possess poorer reservoir quality with very low permeabilities (average 1 mD). Hurley et al. (1992) suggested that the major vertical components of deposition reflect repetitive cycles of fluvial sedimentation starting with channel sands at the base, upward-fining grain size and finally drowning of the delta complex, where mudstone, interstratified silty and shaly sandstone lithologies become dominant

### III - CONVENTIONAL CORE DESCRIPTIONS

#### III.1- INTRODUCTION

Finley and Tyler (1986) described a facies as "a three-dimensional body of rock having an environmental origin that can be inferred from a set of characteristics including external geometry, internal geometry, sedimentary structures, lithology, organic content, stratigraphic relations, and associated sedimentary facies." Sedimentary lithofacies containing vertical and lateral heterogenities should be analyzed in small successive intervals (Hurst and Rosvoll 1991). Lithofacies, as used in this study, are based on the physical, textural, structural, mineralogic, organic, and petrographic elements of the core, in the context of Finley and Tyler's definition. There is no depositional environment interpretation involved in the designation of these lithofacies. Emphasis has been put on describing those features of lithofacies which control the flow properties of rocks. Locations of the cored sections and correlation of gamma ray log responses are presented on the cross section of the field (Pocket).

A summary of the distinguishing features of the Hibernia lithofacies, and the lithofacies coding system, is presented in table 2.

Facies	Definition	Av.Grain Size	Bedding	
HFIA	Convoluted&wavy bedded ss*	very fine	1 ~ N	Facies Coding System  I "as in HF1A" stands for vcU = 1410-2000 \( \mu \) mL = 250-350
HFIB	Crossbedded&carbonaceous ss	fine		ss-dominated facies $vcL = 1000-1410 \mu$ ft = 177-250 $vcL = 1000-1410 \mu$ ft = 125-177
HFIC	Crossbedded&oil-stained ss	medium lower	∠ ^ =	interstratified silt/sand/shale facies 3 "as in HF3" stands for
HFICI	Medium-grained sands with high clay & rip-up clasts	medium lower	⊕ ∠ <b>6</b> ⊌	conglomeratic sands Burrowing
HFID	Poorly-consolidated sands	medium-coarse	_	4 "as in HF4" stands for loose shales&soil zones 5 "as in HF5" stands for \theta \thet
HFIF	Coarse-grained basal ss	coarse	<b>-</b> <u>/</u> (?)	shelly/churned shales 6 "as in 11F6" stands for
HF3	Conglomeratic bimodal ss	pebbly medium-coarse	<b>—</b> 🕞	coaly/carbonaceous sands
HFIE	Rippled&wavy bedded carbonaceous ss	very fine-fine	<b>*</b> √ <b>-</b> ≈	Sedimentary Structures
HFIE	Horizontally-laminated carbonaceous ss	very fine-fine	© <u>F3</u> % ≈ _	☐ Horizontal bedding
HFIG	Argillaceous slightly-cemented ss	silt-very fine	> √ ≈	Convolute bedding  Ripple xbedding  Climbing ripples
HF6	Coaly&carbonaceous ss	fine	•	<ul> <li></li></ul>
HF2A	Slightly-burrowed silty/shaly ss	silt-clay	tright ≈ V	≈ Wavy bedding
HF2B	Lenticular bedded, moder burrowed silty/shaly ss	silt-clay	华星人等	Pyrite growth Vertical carb. material
HF2C	Well-burrowed silty/shaly ss	clay-silt	+ 7	Siderite growth C Churned  Ball&pillow structure ' Plant root tube
HF4	Loose carbonaceous shales&soil zones	clay	, ⊕ £3×	Ball&pillow structure ' Plant root tube  Rip-up clast
HF5	Shelly/churned&well- burrowed shales	clay		ss sandstone curb curbonaceous; moder moderate

Table 2: Hibernia lithofacies and some of their descriptive features For detailed facies successions, refer to the grain size logs in Appendix ??.

#### III.2- FACIES GROUPS IN HIBERNIA SANDSTONES

#### III.2.1- Sandstone-dominated facies:

#### III.2.1.1. Lithofacies HF1A - Convoluted and wavy-bedded, very fine-grained sands

HF1A (Figure 8 and 9a) consists of very fine-grained (62-125 μ), consolidated, and light grey quartz sandstone. None to trace amounts of carbonaceous stringers and rare quartz veins are observed. Trough and lenticular crossbedded units are commonly described. Convolute bedding and wavy bedding are sporadically encountered. The sands of HF1A contain rare siderite nodules.

HF1A is commonly encountered in association with coarser-grained sandstones; usually occurring at the upper portion of fining-upward sequences in all of the cored Hibernia wells.

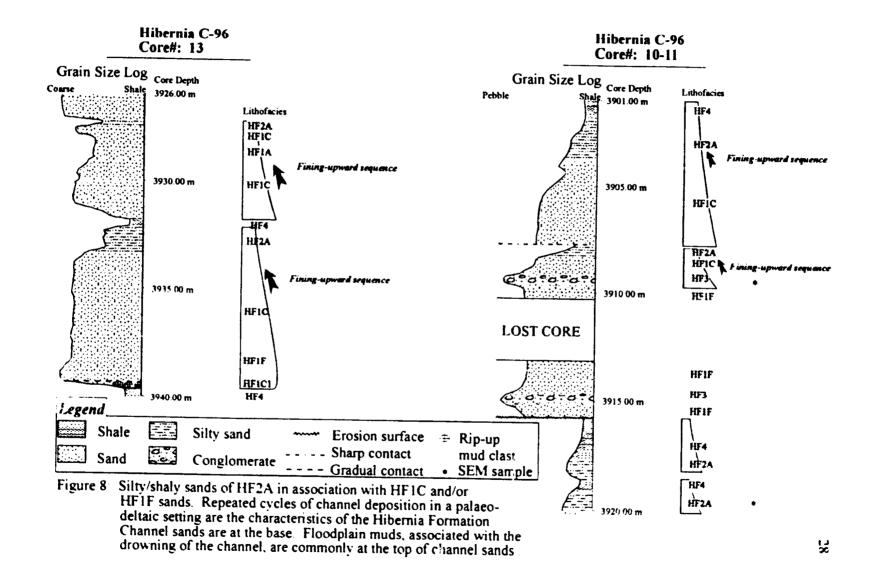
#### III.2.1.2. Lithofacies HF1B - Carbonaceous fine-grained sands

HF1B (Figure 8 and 9b) is composed of very fine- to fine-grained (62-125  $\mu$ ) quartz sandstones containing carbonaceous material. The lithology is well-consolidated and slightly oil-stained. The hydrocarbon content of the HF1B sands prevents precise identification of faintly crossbedded sections. Local rafted carbonaceous material is rare but present.

Sandstones of HF1B are encountered in all five of the cored Hibernia wells and are found in association with coarser medium-grained HF1C sands and very fine-grained HF1A sands producing typical fining-upward log cycles.

#### III.2.1.3. Lithofacies HF1C - Crossbedded and oil-stained medium-grained sands

HF1C is composed of upper fine- to lower medium-grained (125-350  $\mu$ ), well-consolidated quartz sandstones containing faint and locally-concentrated ripple crossbeds, and



rare horizontally-laminated sections commonly disguised by the dark-brown coloured hydrocarbon component of the lithology (Figure 9c). Locally-concentrated carbonaceous rafted material is present.

The lithofacies HF1C represents the most commonly encountered lithology within the examined sections. All of the cored Hibernia wells contain HF1C in association with the other sandstone-dominated facies (Appendix 1, grain size logs). Figure 8 shows that the HF1C sands are either a part of a sand-dominated body stacked in a fining-upward trend or occur with sharp and erosive boundary with the underlying strata.

#### III.2.1.4. Lithofacies HF1C1 - Medium-grained sands with rip-up clasts

Lithofacies HF1C1 (Figure 9d) is composed of upper fine-grained to lower medium-grained quartz sandstones (125-350 µ). Although HF1C1 sandstones are encountered in association with HF1C and their grain sizes are very similar, abundant mudstone rip-up clasts distinguish HF1C1 from HF1C (Figure 8). Sands in this facies are sideritic, hydrocarbon-odoured, well-consolidated and rarely contain carbonaceous material. No bedding type, except a few faint crosslaminated intervals, is observed.

HF1C1 sands are few and are always encountered in association with HF1C sands and HF4 shales (refer to grain size logs, appendix 1).

#### III.2.1.5. Lithofacies HF1D - Poorly-consolidated medium- to coarse-grained sands

Quartz sandstones of HF1D (Figure 9e) are upper medium upper- to coarse-grained (350-2000 µ), light to dark grey in colour, poorly-consolidated, carbonaceous, and hydrocarbon-odoured but not oil-stained. Due to their very loose texture, no depositional features and

structure characteristics were preserved

Facies HF1D is encountered in most of the cored wells. In almost all cases, HF1D sands produce a grain size log pattern with an upward-fining trend where grain size decreases to the size of HF1C sands (grain size logs, appendix 1).

#### III.2.1.6. Lithofacies HF1F - Coarse-grained basal sands

HF1F (Figure 9f) is composed of coarse-grained quartz sands (500-2,000  $\mu$ ). The lithology is grey to dark brown coloured depending on the degree of hydrocarbon saturation. The lithology is poorly- to moderately-consolidated with local zones of very loose texture. Therefore, sedimentary structures are very poorly-preserved. Only a few faint crosslaminated intervals are recognizable. The HF1F sands have low clay content.

HF1F sandstones are observed only in Hibernia B-O8 and C-96 at the base of sand bodies (Figure 8). They represent the coarsest fraction observed in the fining-upward trends which produce associations with finer-grained sands of HF1C or basal channel lag conglomeratic sands of HF3.

### III.2.1.7. Lithofacies HF3 - Conglomeratic bimodal sands

Lithofacies HF3 (Figure 9g) consists of pebbles and medium- to coarse-grained quartz sandstones that are thinly-bedded and commonly found as the basal lithology in channel sequences where they form sharp lower boundaries with the underlying strata (Figure 8). They are bimodal with sand size and pebble size components. The sand size mode is the supporting interpebble matrix of the lithology. Rare and locally-concentrated sideritic nodules, poor sorting, poor-to moderate consolidation and rare rafted organic material are

evident characteristics of HF3. HF3 sands and conglomerates contain no visible hydrocarbons and do not exhibit any depositional bedding structure. However, they are distinctively separated from underlying shales and soil zones by scoured and erosive sharp interfaces (see the grain size log of Hibernia K-14; depth interval=3863-3858m; appendix 1).

HF3 was identified only in Hibernia C-96 and Hibernia K-14 in association with overlying coarse-grained sands of HF1F or crossbedded sands of HF1C.

# III.2.1.8. Lithofacies HF1E - Carbonaceous, rippled and wavy-bedded sands

Very fine- to fine-grained (62-250 µ) quartz sandstones constitute the facies HF1E (Figure 9h). The lithology is well-consolidated, and hydrocarbon-odoured. Ripple-cross-laminated, lenticular, wavy and horizontally-bedded intervals are sporadic. Horizontally-concentrated organic material is present.

The facies HF1E is encountered at various depths in Hibernia B-08, C-96, K-18 and B-27 (grain size logs, appendix 1). In general, the thickness of the facies is variable between 10 cm. to 1-2 m. In grain size logs, HF1E sediments commonly generate associations with medium-grained sands of HF1C or interstratified sand, silt and shaly facies of slightly-burrowed HF2A or flaky and organic matter-rich shales of HF4.

### III.2.1.9. Lithofacies HF1E1 - Horizontally-laminated, carbonaceous sands

Very similar to the facies HF1E, HF1E1 (Figure 9i) is composed of well-consolidated and very fine- to fine-grained quartz sandstones. Some ripple crosslamination, lenticular and convolute bedding are evident. The most abundant structure is horizontal lamination. Regular coupling of dark grey/light grey-coloured laminae is distinctive. Darker laminae are

very rich in organic material. Sideritic nodules in the sediment are rarely encountered.

Facies HF1E1 is observed in four cored Hibernia wells other than K-14. The carbonaceous sands of HF1E1 are always found in association with medium-grained reservoir sands as shown in the grain size log for core 9 of Hibernia B-27 (Appendix 1). In general, thickness of the facies does not exceed one metre. The upper contact of facies HF1E1 produces sharp interfaces with the overlying relatively coarser-grained sands.

# III.2.1.10. Lithofacies HF1G - Argillaceous&slightly carbonate-cemented very finegrained sands

HF1G (Figure 9j) is argillaceous and very fine-grained quartz sandstone (<62 microns) with <10% silt content. Rare carbonate cementation and bioturbation, locally-concentrated faint burrowing, well consolidation and rare rafted wood material are the main features of HF1G. In addition, vertical plant root casts and a 3-4 cm. thick coal zone are observed. Except for a few convoluted beds and wavy bedding, no other sedimentary structure is evident.

HF1G is one of the most rarely encountered facies occurring only in Hibernia B-27 between the core depths of 3,865.10 and 3,874 00 m (see appendix 1). HF1G formed gradational contacts with the underlying HF2A and overlying HF2C interbedded sand, silt, and shales.

### III.2.1.11. Lithofacies HF6 - Coaly fine-grained sands

Fine-grained quartz sands of HF6 are poorly-consolidated and very carbonaceous. Coal constitutes approximately <20% of the facies (Figure 9k). Slight oil stain, abundant rafted

organic material, normal-graded beds, and very rare convoluted and wavy bedding are recorded. HF6 coaly sands are encountered solely in Hibernia B-27 (core depth interval: 3,846.73-3,849.34 m; appendix 1). They form associations with the medium-grained, oil-bearing sands of the facies HF1C.

# III.2.2- Interstratified sandstone, siltstone and shale facies:

# 111.2.2.1. Lithofacies HF2A - Slightly-burrowed silty/shaly sands

Lithofacies HF2A (Figure 91) consists of well-consolidated interbedded shally siltstone and very fine-grained quartz sandstone. The lithology is slightly-burrowed/bioturbated, highly-contorted and poorly-sorted. Convolute and wavy bedding are the most common deformation-related structures. Load casts, climbing ripples and lenticular bedding are sporadically observed.

HF2A is found in contact with either medium-grained oil-wetted sands of HF1C and coarse-grained sands of HF1F or carbonaceous soft, flaky shales of HF4 (Figure 8). The HF2A lithologies generally occur at the top fraction of the fining upward sequence.

Interbedded shaly silt and sandstones of HF2A are observed in all five cored wells of the Hibernia formation (grain size logs; appendix 1).

# III.2.2.2. Lithofacies HF2B - Lenticular-bedded and moderately-burrowed silty/shaly sands

Well-consolidated, very fine-grained quartz sands, shales and siltstones are the major lithological constituents of HF2B (Figure 9m). The main difference of this facies from HF2A is that the lenticular beds and horizontal lamination are the abundant features of HF2B.

Moderate burrowing is sporadic. Wavy and convolute bedding, rare ripple lamination are present. Locally-concentrated and well-developed horizontal lamination becomes distinctive in parts of HF2B (grain size log of Hibernia K-18; appendix 1). Interstratified sediments of HF2B are generally found in association with coarser-grained sands of the fining-upward trends, HF4 shales and interstratified sediments of HF2A and/or HF2C.

# III.2.2.4. Lithofacies HF2C - Heavily-burrowed, bioturbated muddy/silty sands

Shaly and silty very fine-grained quartz sandstones of HF2C are well-consolidated, bioturbated and well-burrowed (Figure 9n). Rare shell fragments are locally clustered in some sections of the facies. Horizontally-laminated layers are rarely occurring. Some carbonaceous material is present. Deformation structures such as convolute bedding and wavy bedding are widespread.

#### III.2.3- HF4 - Loose and carbonaceous shales/soil zones:

Soft and flaky shales of facies HF4 are commonly encountered in all five of the Hibernia wells. They are carbonaceous, occasionally sideritic and dark grey to black in colour (Figure 90). There is no indication of rafted carbonaceous material. The lithology rarely possesses a coaly texture. HF4 is encountered in association with interstratified claystones and/or channel sands (Figure 8). Associated soil zones in HF4 shales are commonly found as zones of "subaerial exposure" where well-preserved plant roots also occur (see grain size logs; appendix 1). HF4 shales display gradational contacts with underlying strata whereas the upper contact is frequently sharp and erosional where HF1C and HF1F sands or HF3 conglomerates erosively overlay the boundary.

# III.2.4- HF5 - Shelly, churned and well-burrowed shales:

Well-burrowed, churned, slightly- and locally-sideritic, grey-coloured shales of the facies HF5 (Figure 9p) are well-consolidated as opposed to the loose texture of the HF4 shales. Clusters of shell fragments sporadically encountered in this facies indicate the lithology was deposited under a marine influence.

HF5 shales were encountered only within Hibernia B-O8 and K-14 cores (refer to grain size logs; appendix 1). They occur over thirteen metres of a continuous interval in K-14 where the lower contact is gradational with interstratified claystones and the upper contact is very sharp and erosional with the sands of the fining-upward cycles.

#### HL3- INTERPRETATION OF ALL LITHOFACIES

Palaeo-environmental interpretations of the Hibernia formation have been contributed by Brown et al. (1986).

Brown et al. (1986) separated the Hibernia Formation into two main zones: the Main Hibernia Zone (MHZ) and the Upper Hibernia Zone (UHZ) separated by a gradational boundary. The MHZ consists of sand-dominated and stratified lithologies. MHZ sandstones are divided into three lithofacies "the M-sandstone facies", " the M-sandstone/mudstone facies" and "the M-mudstone facies". The UHZ is composed of quartzarenites interbedded with mudstone and siltstones which are recorded as serrate gamma ray log patterns and are grouped in two main facies; "the U-sandstone facies" and "the U-mudstone facies".

Brown et al. (1986) described the crossbedded, very coarse to very fine-grained M-sandstone facies as distributary channel deposits (DCD). DCD sandstones possess fining-upward trends with sharp and sometimes erosional basal and gradational upper contacts Interbedded sandstone, siltstone and mudstone facies of M-sandstone/ mudstone facies are interpreted as (flood plain) crevasse splay, crevasse channel fill and natural levee deposits, due to the presence of abundant rippled beds, soft sediment deformation structures, common horizontal bedding and laminated sands. The M-sandstone/mudstone facies displays a serrated log pattern and is always found associated with the M-sandstone facies. The M-mudstone facies contains a high degree of bioturbation, sideritic nodules, local carbonaceous stringers, local shell fragments and common soft sediment deformation are described as "interdistributary bay or lacustrine" deposits. The M-mudstone are always overlain by either DCD or flood plain facies.

Brown et al. (1986) also observed fining-upward cycles in U-sandstones. However, U-sandstones are more thinly-bedded than M-sandstones. Local coarsening-upward trends are also visible. In addition, crossbedding occurs in smaller scale. Bioturbated, shelly and locally-laminated U-mudstone facies is interbedded with the U-sandstone lithofacies. Therefore, the upper zone is described as "deposits of shallow, upper delta front environment, on the seaward sloping margin, adjacent to a lower deltaic plain" produced under increasing marine influence.

In a very similar sense, Hurley et al. (1992) interpreted the palaeo-environments of the Hibernia Formation and the adjacent strata. In their interpretation, deposition started with

delta front sedimentation at the base of the formation overlying prodeltaic shales of the Fortune Bay Formation. A complex thick delta plain sequence consisting of distributary channel, levee, crevasse splay, flood plain, bay, marsh and abandoned channel deposits and a medial shale marker overlie delta front deposits. These delta plain deposits correspond to the Main Hibernia Zone classification of Brown *et al.* (1986). Thinly-bedded sandstones of small scale coarsening-upward cycles overlying the delta plain sequence are interpreted as a bay and thin crevasse splay sequence. This latter sequence represents the increased influence of marine sedimentation and therefore corresponds to the Upper Hibernia Zone of Brown et al.

Three cross sections of the Hibernia Formation (southwest-northeast, south-north, and west-east (Figure 7a,b,&c) in the Hibernia oil field) illustrate another approach to subdivision of the unit into 4 layers. Zonation and geologic tops are adopted from the interpretation of CNOPB (Schedule of Wells 1990). The thinnest layer (4) is the deepest zone in the Hibernia formation and was only cored in Hibernia C-96. Examination of layer 4 cores indicates that shales and slight coarsening-upward trends constitute this zone (see grain size log of Hibernia C-96 at 3939.7-59 m; appendix 1).

Layer 3 of the Hibernia formation was intensively cored. Therefore, the greatest range of visual evidence derived through core analyses are present in this segment of the reservoir. Layer 3 mainly contains the fining-upward cycles of the channel deposition consisting of thick bodies of sandstones and rare basal conglomerates. Interstratified sandstone/ siltstone/ shales, mudstone and shale lithofacies are rarely described in this section.

Cores of the medial shale, layer 2 and layer 1 reflect a decreasing influence phase of the delta deposition, where sandy channel bodies begin to get thinner and the interstratified lithologies and the shales become more abundant (grain size log of K-14; appendix 1)

Lithofacies HF3, HF1F, HF1D, HF1C1, HF1C, HF1B, and HF1A provide greater detail to the lithologic variation and form fining-upward trends in all of the five cored Hibernia wells. These facies form and regular log responses with very sharp, either erosive (see Hibernia K-18 at 3830-3860m, appendix 1) or gradational basal contacts with the underlying strata and usually produce gradational boundaries with overlying lithologies. The very coarse to very fine-grained sandstones in this group of facies corresponds to the distributary channel deposits (DCD) of Brown et al. (1986) produced in a delta plain environment. Although the high hydrocarbon content of DCD facies prevents precise identification of the characteristic sedimentary structures, high angle cross stratification, including trough and lenticular crossbedding, is observed. Migrating channels can produce large-scale crossbedded signatures during the migration of channel bars (Hurley et al. 1992). HF3 conglomerates overlying scoured and eroded surfaces are probably coarse-grained lag deposits formed at the base of the distributary channel system. Rip-up mud clasts encountered within the HF1C1 sands are commonly observed in association with the underlying shales of HF4 from where the mud clasts were originated. Zones of rip-up mud clasts are reported to form tight zones in sandstones (Kramers et al. 1989) where the magnitude of permeabilities are reduced. Therefore significant permeability reductions in the HF1C1 sands are expected.

Very fine to fine-grained sandstones of lithofacies HF1E and HF1E1 containing ripple

crosslamination, horizontal, convolute and wavy bedding overlie DCD sandstones. The sedimentary structures and the sequence of deposition indicate that the HF1E and HF1E1 sands mark fluvial levee deposition.

Slightly-burrowed, highly-deformed and-thinly interbedded sandstone, siltstone and shales of HF2A generally overlie crossbedded, upward-fining sandstones of the delta plain deposits and underlie soft, flaky, and carbonaceous shales of HF4 which occasionally contain rootlets and soil zones. HF2A, therefore, can be described as floodplain deposits formed by channel abandonment (Hurley et al. 1990) and corresponds to the M-sandstone/mudstone facies of Brown et al. (1986), whereas the HF4 shales represent marsh/swamp deposition with occasional soil zones where subaerial exposure zones were identified. Increasing bioturbation and degree of burrowing, the interstratified character of the sands, silts, and shales, and abundant soft deformation structures of HF2B, HF2C, and HF5 record interdistributary marine bay deposition. Lithofacies HF2B and HF2C are commonly found in association with DCD sands, HF4 shales and interbedded HF2A sediments.

Reineck and Singh (1973) described fine rhythmically-laminated sandy and muddy sediments separated by sharp contacts as "rhythmic bedding produced from tidal changes." The rhythmic bedding in HF2B records the effects of tidal working. Moderate burrowing provides evidence for marine influence in the related sections of the cores. However, rhythmites are solely encountered in K-18 in a thickness of <2 m (gr. size log of K-18; app.

1). Thus a restricted tidal influence in the northeast portion of the oil field can be concluded.



Figure 9a: Very fine-grained sands of HF1A are encountered Figure 9b: Well-consolidated, fine-grained quartz sandstones with the fine-grained sands of HF1B in finingupward sequences (3,797.25 m, Hibernia K-18).



of HF1B are slightly oil-stained (3,807.50 m, Hibernia K-18).



Figure 9c: Oil-wetted, upper fine- to lower medium-grained reservoir sands of HF1C constitute the main pay in the formation (3,935.70 m, Hibernia K-14).



Figure 9d: Elongate rip-up mud clasts are abundant in the lower medium-grained sanstones of HF1C1 (3,939.50 m, Hibernia C-96).



Figure 9e: Carbonaceous, quartzitic, medium- to coarsegrained sands of HF1D. Sedimentary structures are not preserved (3,869.70 m, Hibernia K-14).



Figure 9f: Quartzitic basal sandstones of HF1F are coarsegrained. No evident structure other than a few faint crossbeds is observed in the lithology. HF1F sands are found in the bases of fining-upward cycles (3,923.2 m, Hibernia C-96).



Figure 9g: Pebbly and bimodal sands of HF3 are basal lag sediments which form the base of fining-upward cycles. The photo shows the HF3 lithology in association with medium-grained sands (3,909.40m, Hibernia C-96).



Figure 9h: Ripple cross lamination and abundant carbonaceous zones are evident in the very fine- to fine-grained sandstones of HF1E (3,622.18 m, Hibernia K-18).



Figure 9i: Coarbonaceous and horizontally-laminated sands of HF1E1 also contain ripple cross lamination and lenticular sand beds (3,820.1 m, Hibernia K-18).



Figure 9j: Argillaceous very fine-grained sands of HF1G contain vertical plant roots. A coaly bed is present at the top of the section. HF1G occurs only in Hibernia B-27 (3,874.9 m).

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Figure 9k: Very carbonaceous, poorly-consolidated finegrained sands of HF6 are also recorded only in Hibernia B-27 (3,848.4 m).



Figure 91: Slightly-burrowed, churned, contorted and interstratified sandstone, siltstone and clayshales of HF2A. The lithology is encountered in association with coarser sandstone facies as the top member of fining-upward cycles (3,919.2 m, Hibernia C-96).

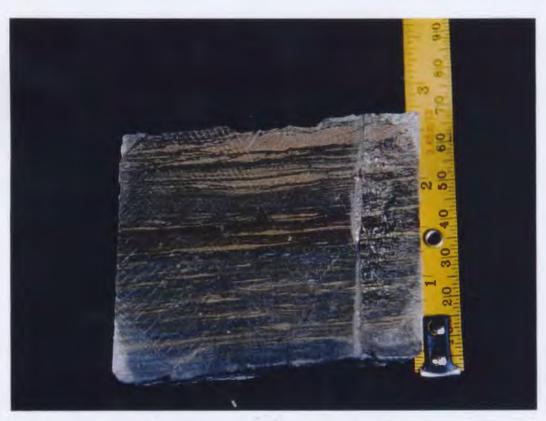


Figure 9m: High shale content and lenticular sand lenses are characteristics of HF2B (3,624.9 m, Hibernia B-O8).



Figure 9n: Bioturbated, heavily-burrowed, and interstratified silt, shale and sandstone of HF2C (3,879.6 m, Hibernia B-27).



Figure 90: Carbonaceous, loose shales of HF4 are frequently exposed as soil zones. Upper boundaries of HF4 shales are commonly truncated by coarse-grained sands ("soil zone", 3917.4 m, Hibernia C-96).



Figure 90: Carbonaceous, loose shales of HF4 are frequently exposed as soil zones. Upper boundaries of HF4

Figure 9p: Shales of HF5 contain shell fragments (3,950.8 m, Hibernia C-96).

#### IV - SEM MICROPHOTOGRAPHY AND EDS ELEMENTAL ANALYSIS

#### IV.1- METHODOLOGY

29 samples were selected for microphotography and elemental analyses of the 16 Hibernia lithofacies. Locations of the SEM/EDS-treated specimens are marked on the grain size logs of the cored intervals in appendix 1. Specimens with freshly broken rough surfaces are assumed to represent the actual reservoir rock and rock properties. Sample cuttings were initially carbon-coated and sealed along the stub-sample interface with silver paste and silver paint in order to prevent electrical overcharging which causes interference during the photography processes. The samples were then gold-coated in an Edwards \$150A Sputter coater in order to increase the precision of the photography.

The double-coated cuttings were examined in a Hitachi S570 Scanning Electron Microscope at an accelerating voltage of 20 kV. X-ray analyses were performed in beam spot mode with a Tracor Northern 5500 Energy Dispersive X-ray analyzer equipped with a Microtrace silicon X-ray spectrometer, Model 70152. Spectral resolution was 145 eV Detector positioning gave an effective take-off angle of 30 degrees (C.Emerson-MUN, personal communication 1995).

Element concentrations were calculated using Tracor Northern's software package "SSQ", Standardless Semi-Quantitative Analysis which modelled and subtracted the background, measured peak intensities, and then provided analysis of samples without standards, using a ZAF correction program to calculate element percentages. Secondary electron images were

recorded on Polaroid Type 665 Positive/Negative films. Standard X100 magnification was used for each sample. Suites of X100, X300, X700 and X2,000 times magnified images were used to identify mineral types, and porosity attributes. Elemental analyses acquired in surface-scan mode at X100 mag. were accepted as being representative of the whole specimen (Table 3) and were plotted against permeability in order to correlate the abundance of certain mineralogy with the flow properties of the reservoir (Figure 10a-10j). For the same purpose, Si/Al ratios were calculated and plotted against permeability.

The coding procedure of the samples in the analyses is as follows:

Plug Name-Facies segment#-magnification code-location of beam spot analysis (i.e., SP102-HF1A'1-A-1)

Magnification Codes: A=X300 mag. A1=X700 mag. A2=X2000 mag.

# IV.2- STANDARDLESS SEMI-OUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS (SSQ)

# IV.2.1- Analyzing irregularly-shaped bulk specimens and geometric effects:

Rock specimens that were used in SSQ analysis do not meet the geometrical requirements of ideal specimens. The ideal specimen concept is restricted to those that are flat and mounted at known angles to the electron beam and the spectrometer (Goldstein *et al.* 1981). Irregularly-shaped rock specimens are influenced by "geometrical effects" which are divided into three major groups as mass, absorption, and fluorescence effects (Goldstein *et al.* 1981). The fluorescence effect has relatively less influence on analysis.

In the mass effect, electrons may escape from the sides and the bottom of the specimen

resulting in decreased intensity of readings. In the absorption effect, the absorption of an electron beam proportionally increases with the length of the absorption path in the particle. For rough-surfaced bulk samples, the length of the absorption path can vary as a function of "electron beam placement" and "particle size" (Goldstein et al. 1981). The fluorescence effect is only significant when minor heavy elements in a light matrix composed of C, O, Al, Si are in the area of interest. Heavy elements in a specimen may produce x-ray lines that are close to the absorption edges of the surrounding elements. Therefore, up to 20% of detected intensities may be derived from the fluorescent x-rays.

In order to minimize geometrical and fluorescence effects, working distance, column voltage and gathering time were standardized by being kept the same. Standardized procedure and associated EDS analyses were used for comparative petrography that has defined relative petrophysical changes between analyzed targets (Gies et al. 1992). Clays, framework, and accessory grain mineralogies were identified by integrated examination of photomicrographs and spectrums. As Gies et al. (1992) stated, the advantage of the SEM/EDS combination over X-ray analysis is that the analyzed feature, it's morphology and distribution can be observed and more precise mineral identifications can be acquired.

### IV.2.2- Non-detectables and pseudo-detections:

An SEM/EDS analyzer is designed to obtain detections from the elements with atomic number (Z) above 11 (>Sodium)(Welton 1984).

Drilling fluids may contain dispersant polyphosphates (SAPP, Calgon, Barafos, TSPP - thinning agents) to control viscosity of mud (Chilingarian and Vorabutr 1983). Although the

components of the invaded drilling mud could have had effect on P detections, P, S, and Cd detections in the analyses are not real. Emission lines of coating agents, silver and gold overlap with P, S, and Cd energy levels and generate pseudo-detections of those elements.

### IV.2.3- The analysis

Table 3 provides depth and porosity/permeability information about the samples which were elementally-analyzed and photographed by SEM/EDS combination. Locations of the samples are marked on grain-size logs of the five Hibernia wells (see appendix 1). Mineral identifications were performed by a comparative approach using Welton's (1984) petrography atlas.

# IV.2.3.1. Standard comparator spectra

In order to avoid repetitious presentations of similar mineral detections, representative chemical compositions and typical spectra collected from the encountered mineralogies in the EDS analyses are presented in table 4 and figure 11a-e. These spectra represent standard EDS responses acquired from different spots in different specimens. Beam-spot mode analyses can acquire element concentrations from either a single or many different mineral types depending on the electron beam magnitude and the size of the crystals or grains in the analyzed surface. Estimates for dominant mineral type(s) were determined based on the spectra and atomic weight percentages of detected elements, and visual identification of mineral(s) in photomicrographs.

Sample Code	Well	Depth (m)	Por-%	k (mD)	Mg	Al	Si	K	Ca	Fe	Cr	Na	Cl	P*	Ti	S*	Cd*	SVAL
P269-11F1A	K-14	3,910.25-10.50	9.20	0.61	0.25	10.57	74.59	2.50	0.00	7 04	0.00	0.18	0.23	4.64	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.06
SP102-HF1A	K-18	3.797.12-97.34	12.80	15.30	0.56	4.77	69.41	0.51	0.22	6.23	0.03	1.26	0.11	10.15	0.96	581	0.00	14.66
P218-HF1B	K-14	3,874.78-75.08	14.60	44.00	1.68	6.96	62.95	1.94	3.37	2.10	0.07	1.99	1.03	11.63	0.12	8.04	0.04	10.38
SP102-HF1B	B-O8	3,624.17-24.30	12.30	52.70	0.84	4.64	73.69	0.59	1.47	0.63	0.12	1.36	0.59	9.73	0.34	5 88	0.15	15.98
P85-HF1C	C-96	3,881.56-81.92	16.50	1,480.00	0.77	3.98	68.55	2.34	0.50	0.69	0.01	1.56	1.94	10.35	0.78	8.54	0.00	17.24
P315-HF1C	K-14	3,935.56-35.89	21.40	2,030.00	0.18	3.08	82.39	1 14	0.00	0.50	0.00	1.05	3.29	8.30	0.07	0 00	0.00	26.75
SP249-HF1C	K-18	3,855.75-55.94	18.60	615.00	0.45	6.49	80.02	1.41	0.55	1.77	0.01	0.60	0.63	7.19	0.88	0.00	0.00	12.33
SP99-HF1C1	C-96	3,894.55-94.80	4.60	0.03	0.45	11.97	68.40	1 44	0.00	4.45	0.06	0.79	0.25	6 08	0.02	6 10	0 00	5.71
P208-HF1C1	K-14	3,862.43-62.75	14.20	0.32	1.57	11.63	59.77	3.58	0.29	2.80	0.13	2 26	2.72	8.73	0.44	6.06	0.07	5.14
P347-HF1D	K-14	3,869.12-69.36	19.40	4,640.00	0.00	1.09	78.14	0.63	0.00	0.80	0.00	0.00	0.43	8 18	1.46	8 34	0 94	33.78
P349-HF1D	K-14	3,869.60-69.83	22.50	9,710.00	0.93	4.64	78.80	1.37	0.53	0.92	0.15	0.87	0.88	9.35	1.98	N/A	N/A	17.00
SP74-HF1F	B-08	3,606.18-06.29	19.30	1,290.00	0.00	2.94	68.38	0.00	0.00	1.85	0.00	0.00	0.00	13.57	1 10	11 23	0.94	23.26
P160-11F1F	C-96	3,923 08-23.44	18.50	2,780.00	1.52	4.02	59.55	0.71	0.95	0.11	0.07	2.52	0.97	16.46	0.03	8.10	3.84	14.80
P134-HF3	C-96	3,909.28-09.48	13.20	238.00	0.22	3.60	77.31	1.67	0.30	1.20	0.07	1.32	4.82	7.19	2.33	0 00	0.00	21.50
P345G-HF3	K-14	3,962.42-62.70	13.50	273.00	0.62	5.63	73.07	0.75	0.21	2.28	0 05	1 14	0.95	8.58	0.17	6.59	0.00	12.99
SP277-HF1E	B-27	3,905.76-05.85	13.30	8.85	0.50	5.88	70.05	1.77	0.70	1.67	0.00	0.69	2.30	9.34	0.43	6 57	0 10	11.91
P145-HF1E	K-18	3,822.18	13.00	29.60	2.87	6.18	59.23	1 00	0.48	0.90	0.21	3.48	1.41	13.85	0.37	9.45	0.59	9.59
P137-HF1E1	K-18	3,820 00-20 18	5.20	0.13	1.86	19.44	55.95	6.56	0.45	6.24	0.13	1.90	0.87	4 24	2 37	0 00	0.00	2.88
SP244-HF1E1	B-27	3,893.12-93.32	7.90	0.14	0.15	5.46	55.01	10.73	8.14	1.73	0.00	0.00	12.98	5.95	N/A	0 00	0.00	10.07
SCA29-HF1G	B-27	3,873.06-73 20	11.70	0.42	1.60	9.94	67.15	2 65	0.05	4.29	0.07	151	0.65	6.74	0.53	4 66	0 15	6.76
SP162-HF6	B-27	3,847.53-47.66	13.80	145.00	0.61	4.78	71.16	0 80	0.08	2.39	0 00	1.39	0.70	10.31	0.37	731	0 10	14.89
P147-HF2A	C-96	3,919.15-19.44	11.40	0.62	2.20	15.31	56.18	3.85	021	2.80	0.10	2.70	1.30	8.60	1 03	5.44	0.30	3.79
P219-HF2A	B-27	3,874 19-74 40	. 10.90	0.45	3.28	8.36	46.89	1.83	0.39	2 30	9.40	4.25	1.37	17.44	1.03	12.46	0.00	5.61
SP235-HF2B	B-27	3,884.64-84.86	7.50	0.06	0.61	9.88	79.58	2.88	0.05	2.55	0.00	0.00	0.18	3.68	1.22	0.00	0.00	8.05
SP103-HF2B	B-08	3,624 83-25 00	3 50	0.09	0.60	18.49	65.24	3.34	0.08	3.03	0.10	0.99	0.18	6.48	111	000	0.00	3.53
3,806.3-HF2C	K-18	3,806 38	! N/A	N/A	0.87	17.96	54.47	4.27	0 42	5 68	0.00	1.19	0.00	8 14	121	281	0.00	3.03
SP228-HF2C	B-27	3,879.57-79.67	90	0.93	0.87	19.89	56.19	7 23	0 29	7.01	0.05	0.73	0.00	5 20	2 54	0.00	0.00	2.83
3,912 9-HF4	B-27	3,912 90	N/A	N/A	1.22	13.56	61.46	3.56	119	2 42	0 00	1 55	0 42	8 09	0.68	5 85	0.00	4.53
3,945 45-HF5	K-14	3,945 45	N/A	N/A	0.48	14.91	54.64	3 97	0.00	4 88	0.00	4.43	8 14	4.72	0.74	3 09	() () <del>(</del> )	3.66

NA = Not Available, Mag. = Magnification, Por. = Porosity, \* = "not real"-pseudo-reading.

Table 3. Element detections (%) were acquired in surface-scan mode at standard X100 magnification

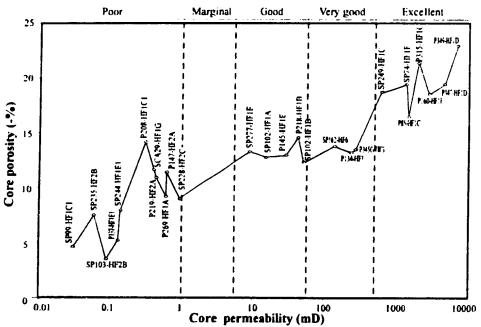


Figure 10a: Composite porosity-% - permeability relationship of the SEM/EDS-

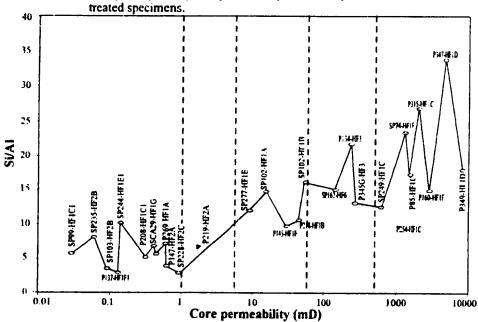


Figure 10b Composite Si/Al ratio - permeability relationship of the SEM/EDS-treated specimens.

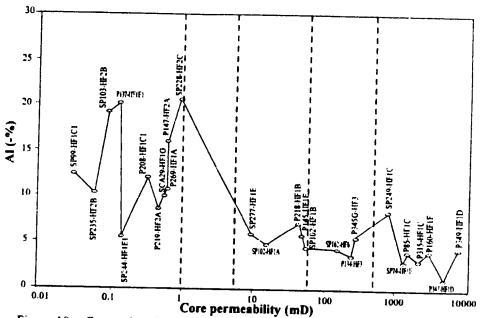


Figure 10c: Composite Al (%) - permeability relationship for the SEM/EDS-treated

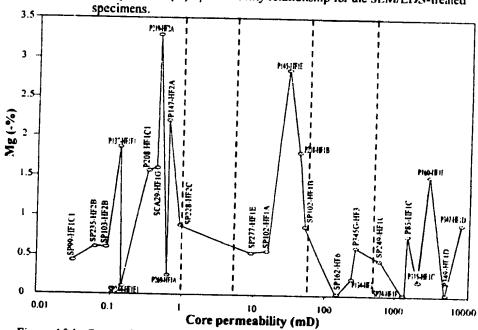
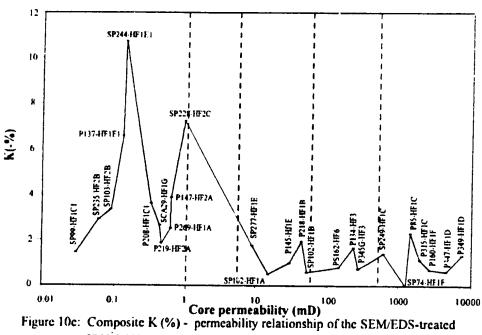


Figure 10d: Composite Mg (%) - permeability relationship for the SEM/EDS-treated specimens.



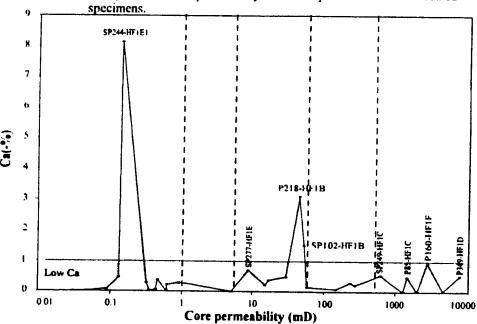
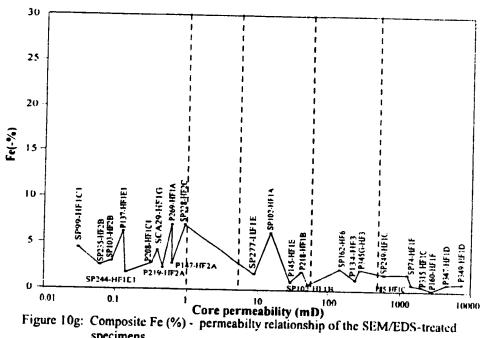


Figure 10f: Composite Ca (%) - permeability relationship of the SEM/EDS-treated specimens.



specimens.

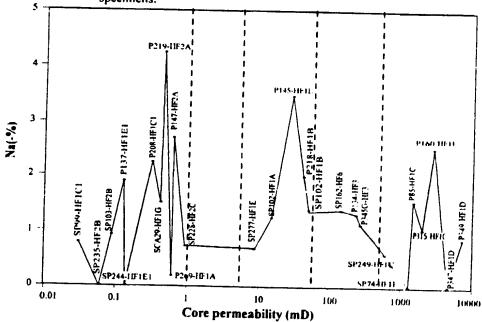
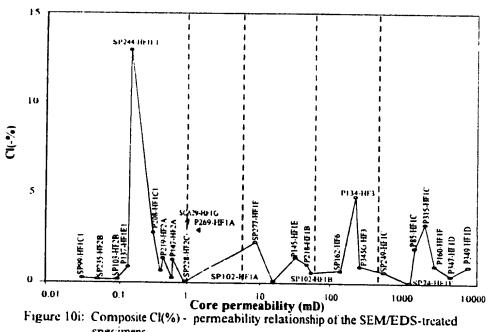


Figure 10h: Composite Na (%) - permeability relationship of the SEM/EDS-treated specimens.



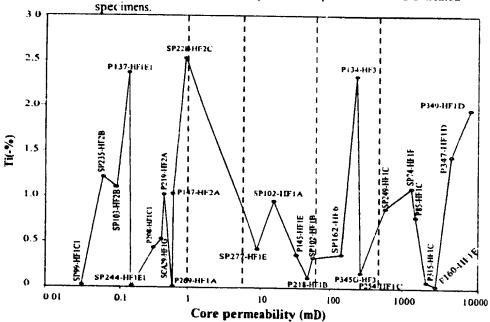
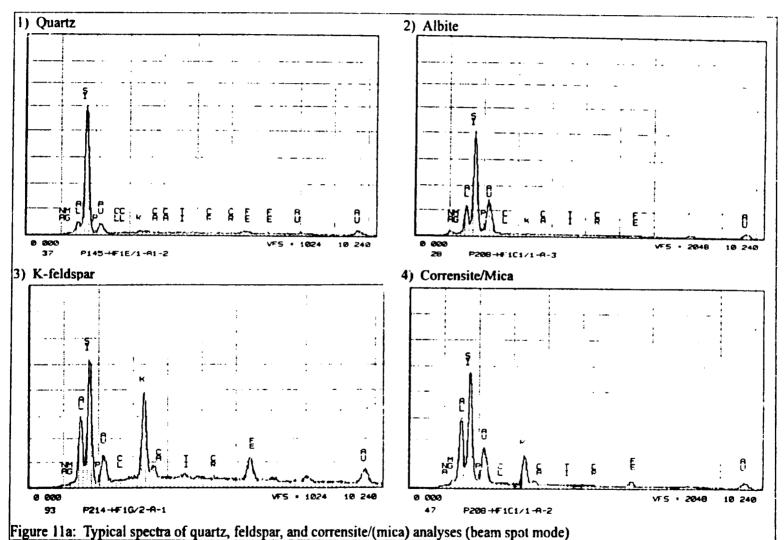
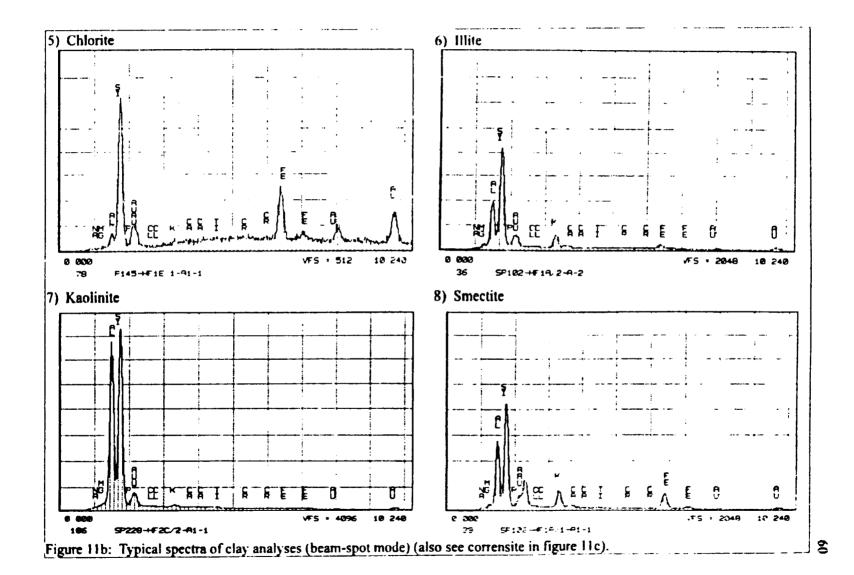


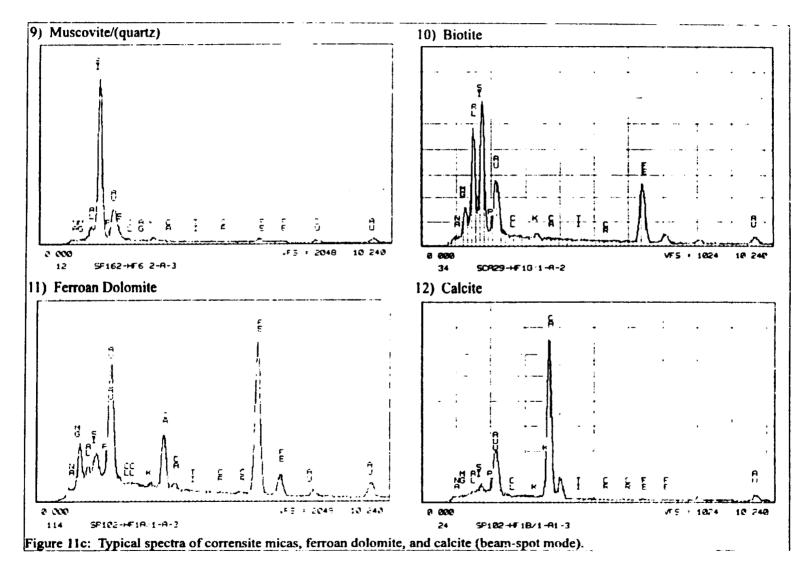
Figure 10j: Composite Ti(%) - permeability relationship of the SEM/EDS-treated specimens.

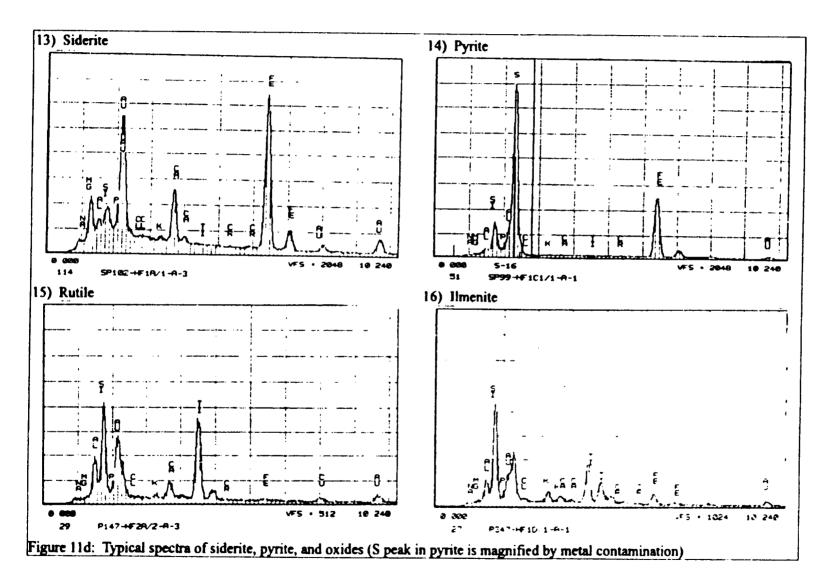
Table 4: Chemical groups and formulas of the EDS-detected minerals during SEM/EDS coupled processes. Standard spectra of the following elemental combinations are presented in figure 11a-e.

SILICATES/Silica	
Quartz	SiO <sub>3</sub>
Feldspars	
Albite	Na(AlSi <sub>3</sub> O <sub>2</sub> )
K-Feldspar	KalSi <sub>1</sub> O <sub>0</sub>
Plagioclase feldspar	$Na(AlSi_1O_g) - Ca(Al_iSi_1O_g)$
Clays	
Chlonte	(Mg, Al, Fe) <sub>12</sub> [(Si, Al) <sub>3</sub> O <sub>20</sub> ] (OH) <sub>16</sub>
lilite	$K_{1,1}, Al_{1}[S_{12_{a_{0}}}, Al_{1,1}, O_{20}] (OH)_{i}$
Kaolinite	$Al_4[Sl_4O_{10}]$ (OH) <sub>k</sub>
Smectite	(1/2Ca, Na),, (Al, Mg, Fe), [(Si, Al), O),
Corrensite	Chlonte - Smectite
Micas	
Biotite	$K_{\gamma}(Mg, Fe)^{*2}_{6.4}(Fe^{*1}, Al, Ti)_{0.7}[Si_{6.5}Al_{7.5}O_{20}](OH, F)_{4}$
Muscovite	K, Al, [Si, Al, O <sub>20</sub> ] (OH, F)4
CARBONATES Calcite	CaCO
Dolomite	CaMg(CO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>
Ferroan Dolomite/Ankerite	Ca(Mg, Fe*2 , Mn)(CO <sub>1</sub> ) <sub>1</sub>
Siderite	FeCO,
SULPHIDES' Pyrite	FeS <sub>2</sub>
OXIDES/Rutile	TiO;
Ilmenite	FeTiO,









# IV.2.3.2. SEM/EDS analyses of the Hibernia lithofacies

#### IV.2.3.2.1. Introduction

The objectives of performing high magnification SEM photomicrography and EDS elemental analyses on the Hibernia lithologies are as follows:

- Identification of complex clay mineralogy, cement materials, diagenetic attributes, and minor additional mineralogy.
- 2. Visual assessment of pore morphologies, pore space, and connectivity relationships.
- Determining relationships between the abundance and distribution of pore-controlling mechanisms and lithofacies groups.

Representative SEM photomicrograph suites referred of the Hibernia lithofacies are presented in figure 13-35 at the end of this chapter. Geochemical descriptions are performed based on Degen's (1965) interpretations. In order to see the described minerals in the beam spot mode analyses, use the coding system (numbers show the locations of beam-spot analysis) introduced in the section "IV.1-" and refer to the appendix 3.

# IV.2.3.2.2. Pore space/connectivity-controlling mechanisms

## IV.2.3.2.2a. Quartz overgrowths

The most commonly observed, pore-reducing component within the sand-dominated lithofacies is the authigenic quartz overgrowths. Abundances of quartz overgrowth crystals display a distinct distribution pattern within those lithofacies:

 In the less argillaceous and porous sands in the fine to coarser grain sizes (HF1B, HF1C, HF1D, HF1F, HF3, and HF6) larger crystal forms (~width=100 μm; figure16b&19c) and individual grain and crystal surfaces maintain their smoothness

2. In the argillaceous sands of very fine to lower medium grain size (HF1C1, HF1G, HF1E, HF1E1) micro size (~width 3-4 µm; figure 20d), but numerous crystals coalesce to produce overgrowths, and overgrowth rims forming stepped pore surfaces. The micro quartz overgrowths display a honey comb-like structure in HF2A sample formed by the dimpling effect of bunched crystal te minations (Figure 33c). The smoothness of the framework grain surfaces was significantly disrupted.

Authigenic pore-lining and grain-coating clays, especially smectite, blocked quartz nucleation in some instances resulting in partially-grown quartz overgrowths (HFIB and HFIC) (Figure 15c and 19c). Similar results were reported earlier by Pittman et al. (1992) IV.2.3.2.2b. Authigenic kaolinite

Authigenic kaolinite booklets were observed to occur in two major forms:

- 1. Isolated, discontinuous booklets
- 2. Pore-lining and pore-filling, continuous rims.

Isolated booklets were identified in porous, lower medium (mL)- to coarse-grained sands of HF1C (Figure 17), HF1D (Figure 23) and HF3 (Figure 27) where they formed discontinuous clusters without disrupting pore connectivity. SP249-HF1C, P349-HF1D, and P345G-HF3 exhibit lower Si/Al ratios as a result of the presence of the clays but permeability is not diminishing.

Pore-filling (Figure 21d) and pore-lining kaolinite (Figure 32c&d) were observed as continuous clay rims which effectively reduced the visual pore connectivity of the HF1A,

HF1C1, HF1E, HF1E1 and HF6 lithofacies.

### IV.2.3.2.2c. Authigenic chlorite

Chaotic texture of authigenic chlorite in the form of blades perpendicular to the underlying grains was identified in the argillaceous sands of HF1C1(Figure 20), HF1E1 (Figure 30), and HF1G (Figure 31). Authigenic chlorite was observed to form grain coats and ragged/irregular grain surfaces and rough pore walls in the HF1C1, HF1E1, and HF1G specimens where high permeability reductions can be expected.

Authigenic chlorite was not identified in the interstratified shale facies (HF2A, 2B, and 2C) and shales of HF4 and HF5 in association with poor porosity.

### IV.2.3.2.2d. Authigenic smectite and illite

Smectite was commonly described in all of the porous, very fine to coarse-grained sandstone lithofacies and was not detected in tighter (less porous) argillaceous sands and interstratified shale lithologies. Authigenic smectite was identified in the form of pore-lining (Figure 17d) and pore-bridging structures (16b) where pore connections and available pore space were reduced.

Relative to smectite, authigenic illite was less frequently encountered in the sample examinations. Solely HF1B and HF1E (Figure 29d) specimens yielded illite detections in the beam-spot mode. Illite formed in fine clay rims around pores in HF1B and HF1E where pore space reductions remain insignificant.

## IV.2.3.2.2e. Carbonate cements

Calcareous cement is not common in the Hibernia sandstones. Two major carbonates

were determined in the specimens.

- 1. Siderite cement and nodules: Siderite was detected in the beam-spot mode analyses performed on intergranular, pore-blocking cement (Figure 32b). Detection of siderite cement is sporadic in HF1A, HF1B, HF1C and HF6. The presence of low abundance siderite cement is restricted to the very fine- to lower medium-grained sands. Rare siderite nodules were only identified in the very fine-grained sands of HF1A (Figure 13c).
- 2. Calcite and dolomite cement: Calcite cement was detected only in the fine-grained lithofacies of HF1B and HF1E1 (Figure 16b). Surface scan analyses of these samples yielded overall higher Ca detections (Table 3&Figure 10f) than background levels of the other lithofacies. Dolomite cement was detected only in lithofacies HF1B, in a minor fraction.

#### IV.2.3.2.2f. Detrital micas

Detrital muscovite and biotite were determined as two common constituents of the fine-to very fine-grained argillaceous sands and interstratified shales of HF2A, HF2B, and HF2C (Figure 14c). HF1C1 specimens were identified as exceptions to this grain size-abundance of mica pattern where the overall argillaceous material content of the HF1C1 specimens is greater. Other than this exception, the coarser-grained sands of HF1B, HF1C, HF1D, HF1F, HF3, and HF6 contained trace amounts of mica.

### IV.2.3.2.2g. Additional minor mineralogy in argillaceous content

Feldspars, anhydrite, halite, rutile, ilmenite, sylvite were sporadically determined without

any specific pattern in the lithofacies Rare sylvite detections were obtained in local and isolated forms in the specimens from Hibernia K-14 (P208-HF1C1; appendix 3; figure 20c). Well records report KCL-gel polymer mud systems were used in the drilling of the Hibernia Formation in K-14 (Well Summary 1983). This mud probably account for the sylvite occurrence. Secondary anhydrite laths and well-developed halite cubes were identified solely in P85 of the facies HF1C (Figure 18c). Anhydrite was described in aggregate form with intergranular clays which could be precipitated from the invaded mud, as well. Trace amount of rutile and ilmenite were detected only in the coarse-grained sands and conglomerates of HF1D, HF1F, and HF3.

### IV.2.3.2.3. Interpretation of the SEM/EDS acquisitions by using φ/k crossplot

A combined lithofacies, core porosity, and permeability crossplot of core plug data display distinct data clusters, as well as scattered data points (Figure 12). The findings of the SEM/EDS-coupled analyses superimposed on this cross plot highlight the influence of certain diagenetic attributes on porosity and permeability. This crossplot allows us to determine different data packages possessing specific textural and diagenetic properties. The following conclusions can be drawn from the crossplot:

- 1. Argillaceous material including mica increases with the decreasing grain size.
- Quartz overgrowths are larger and form individual grains in fine-to coarser-grained sandstones. The abundance of large overgrowths increases with the increasing grain size and decreasing argillaceous content.
- 3. Small (micro) quartz overgrowths are abundant in very fine- to fine-grained

- lithologies and their abundance decreases with the increasing grain size and decreasing argillaceous content.
- 4. Authigenic kaolinite booklets are in an isolated and discontinuous form in the coarser-grained sands and do not significantly affect the flow properties of the related lithologies. Pore-filling and continuous authigenic kaolinite booklets are more commonly observed in the very fine-to fine-grained sandstones and are effective in pore reduction.
- 5. Authigenic chlorite is a significant compenent of those specimens in the porosity range of 10-15 % and the permeability range of 0.1-1 mD. The abundance of chlorite does not reflect a distribution related to grain size. Chlorite bearing specimens have fair porosities, yet they remain tight. This shows that authigenic chlorite can principally disrupt pore connections and cause significant permeability reductions while the overall absolute porosity does not change. Moreover, chaotic-textured authigenic chlorite increases surface friction and the resistance of the pore surfaces because the blade-like crystals grow perpendicular to the underlying grains.
- 6. Siderite cement and authigenic illite appears to decrease the porosity of the very fine- to lower medium-grained sandstone lithofacies.
- 7. Calcite cement is observed in fine-grained sands of HF1B and HF1E1
- 8. Authigenic smectite was determined to be scattered without any distribution pattern.

  Therefore, smectite component of the lithofacies is not presented in the crossplot.
- 9. The identified features and patterns represent only the findings of the SEM/EDS analyses. Resolution and extrapolation of the patterns and trends identified in figure 12 can be improved by increasing sampling density over the whole range of lithofacies.

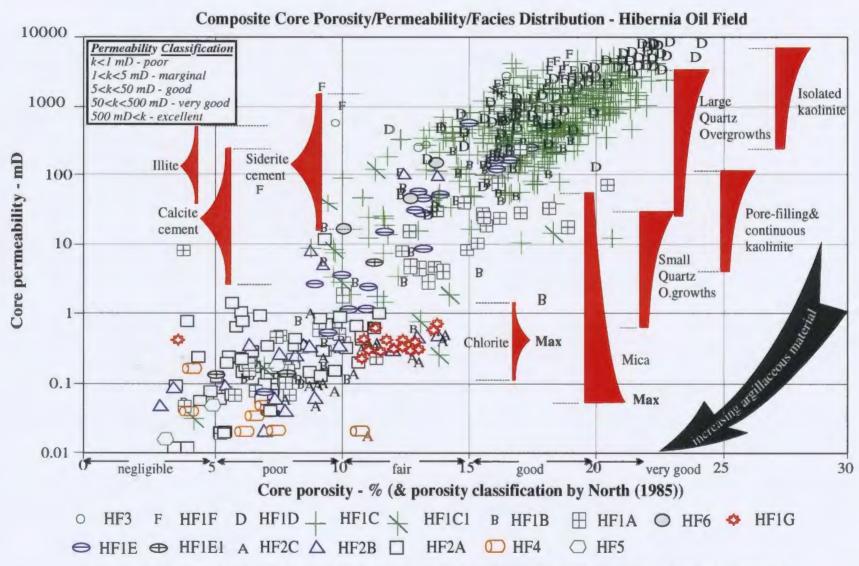


Figure 12: SEM/EDS-derived mineralogic and diagenetic attributes show relative abundances of porosity & permeability-influencing factors. Thickest part of each bar indicates relative maximums (Max).

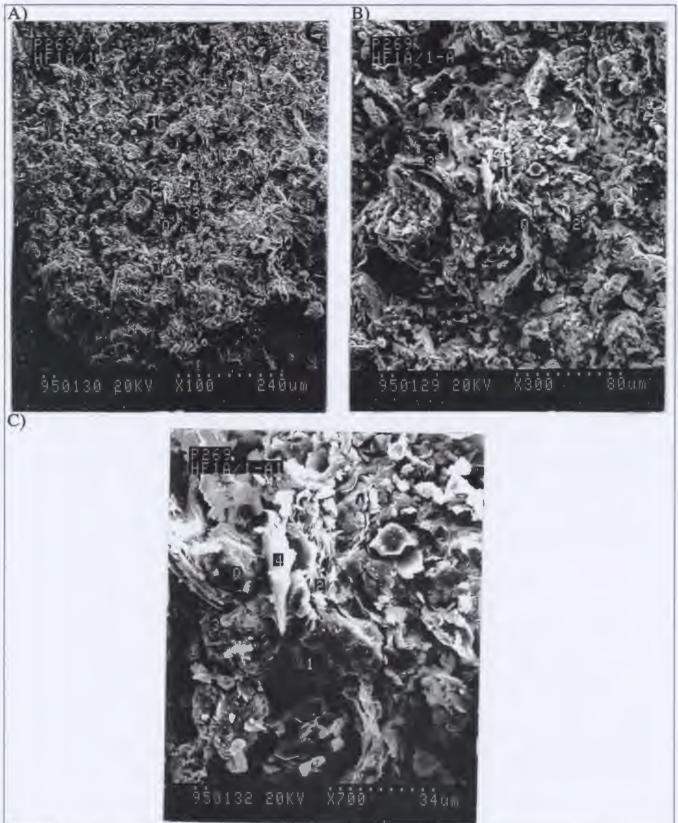


Figure 13: This specimen of HF1A is more argillaceous than SP102-HF1A. Elongated flaky minerals are muscovite. Siderite cement and smectite are the primary constituents as well as detrital quartz (Appendix 3).

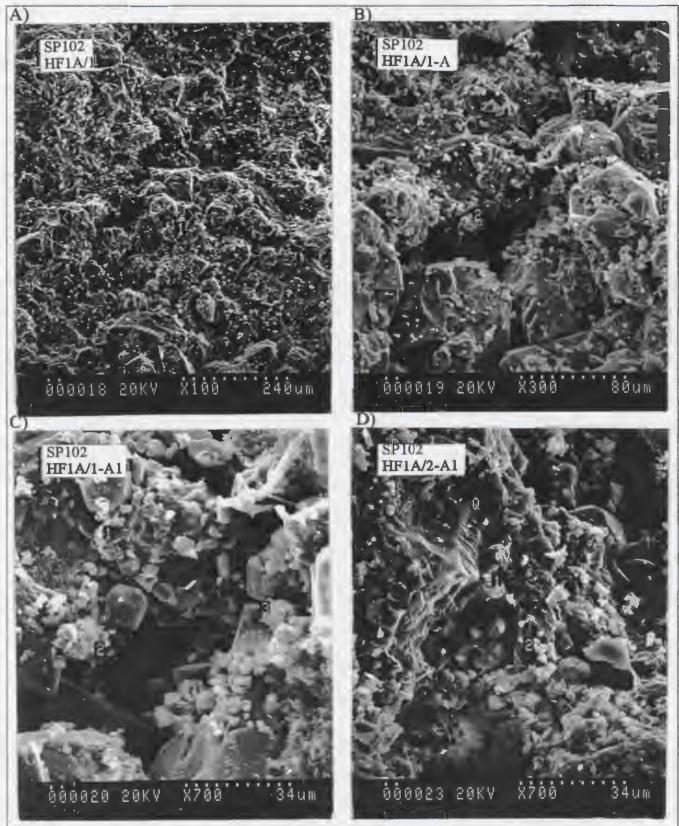


Figure 14: Very fine-grained sands of HF1A contain micro quartz overgrowths and pseudo hexagonal kaolinite booklets (14D). Smectite was also detected in point "1" in 14D.

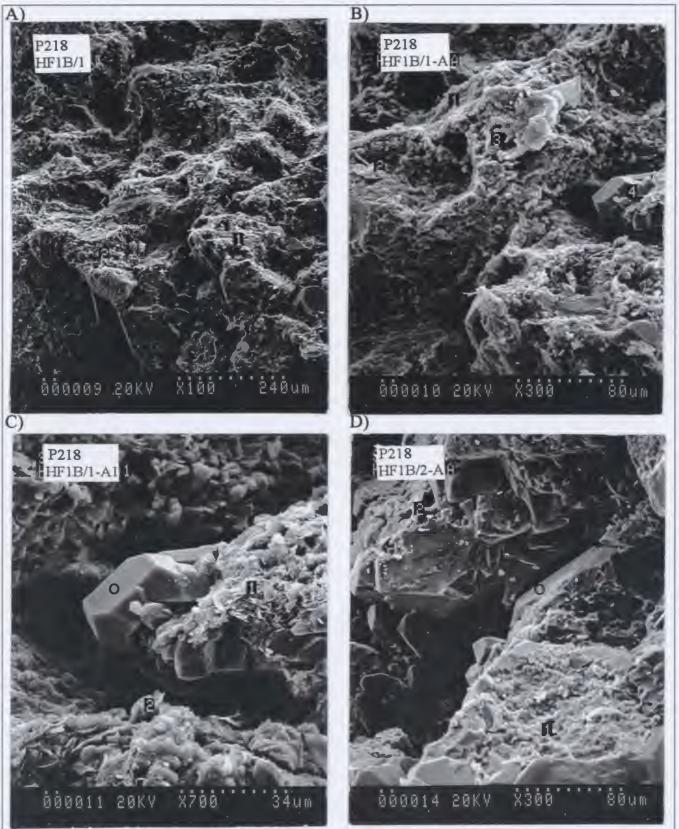


Figure 15: 15b and 15c are the magnified surfaces marked with arrows on 15a. 15d is taken from a different location. Quartz overgrowths (O) can be readily recognized at any magnification. Smec./Illite cluster is identified by the EDS of P218-HF1B/1-A1/1 (Appendix 3).

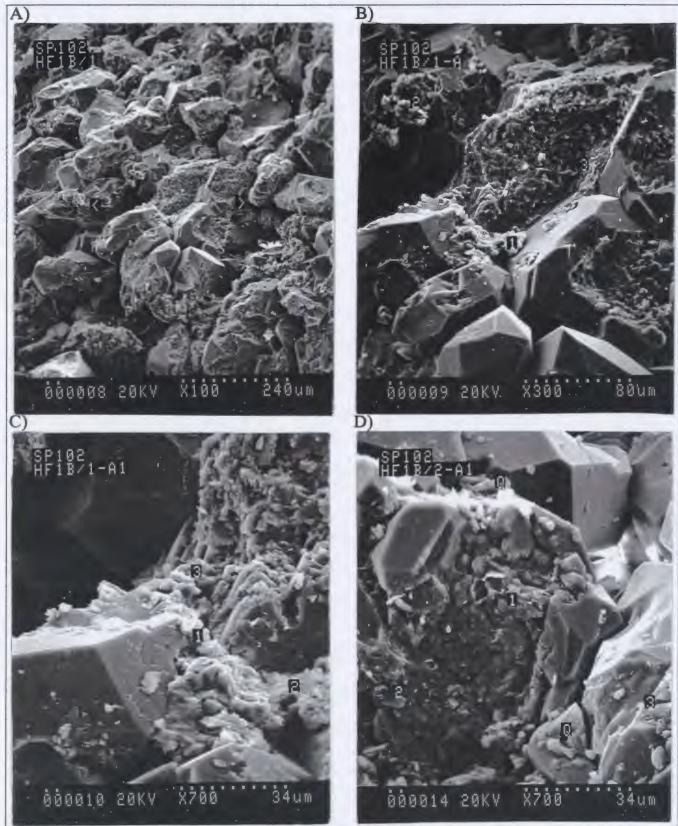
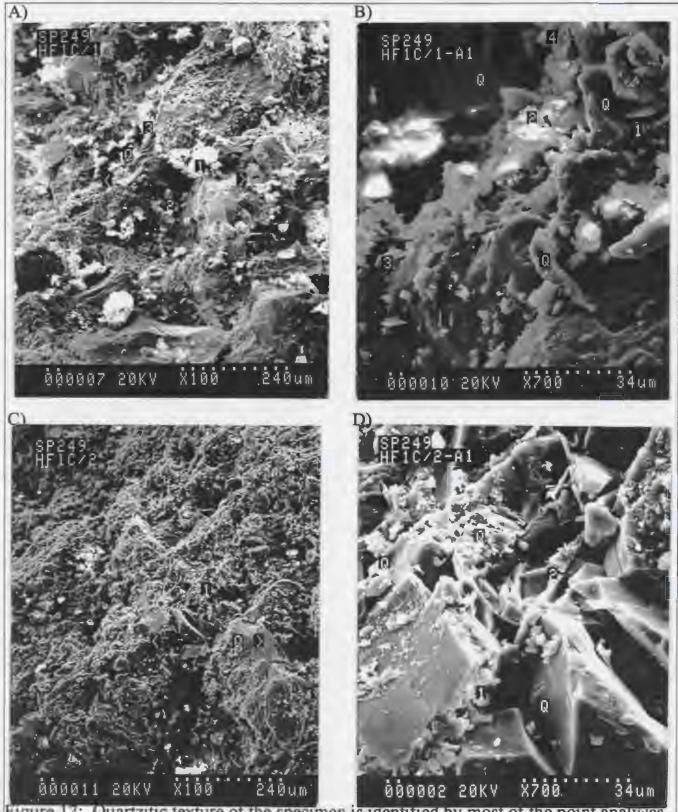


Figure 16: Euhedral quartz overgrowths can be readily observed at any magnification. Calcite was distinctively defined by the analyses 1-A-1, 1-A-3. 1-A1-1, 1-A1-2, and 1-A1-3 (refer to appendix 3). A smectitic cluster marked with 1 in 16b was also identified.



(Appendix 3). Siderite cement is detected in 17a, at the spot marked with "2".

Quartz overgrowths are well-developed. Authigenic smectite is determined at the rim of detrital grain in 17d ("1"). Well-preserved pores are evident in 17d.

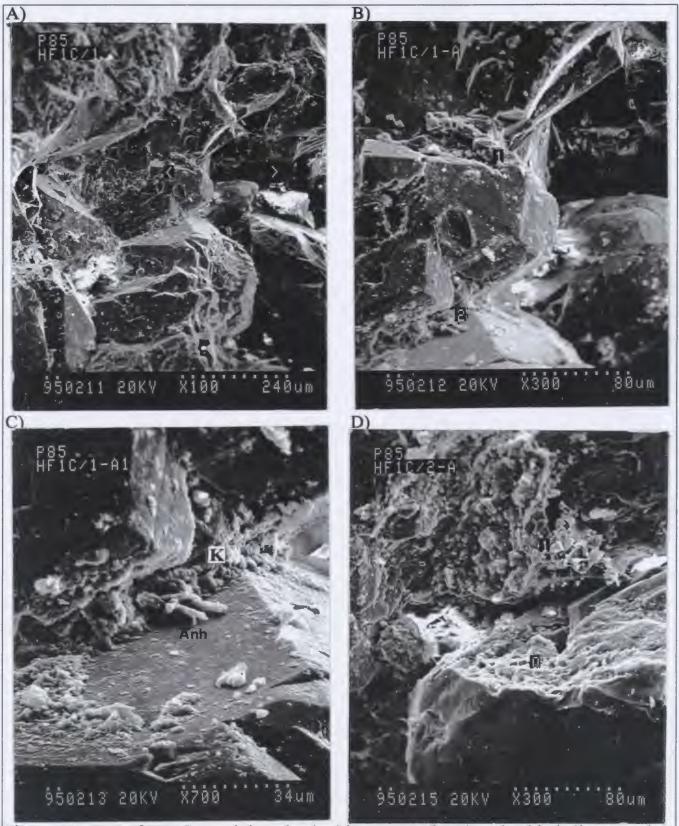


Figure 18: P85 of HF1C, precipitated anhydrite centre of 18c) and cubic halite crystal ("1" in 18d) are identified in this specimen. Anhydrite (Anh.) is in aggregate form with kaolinite (K) producing intergranular cement. The cement is local and ineffective on permeability (Table 3)(Drilling mud invasion (?)).

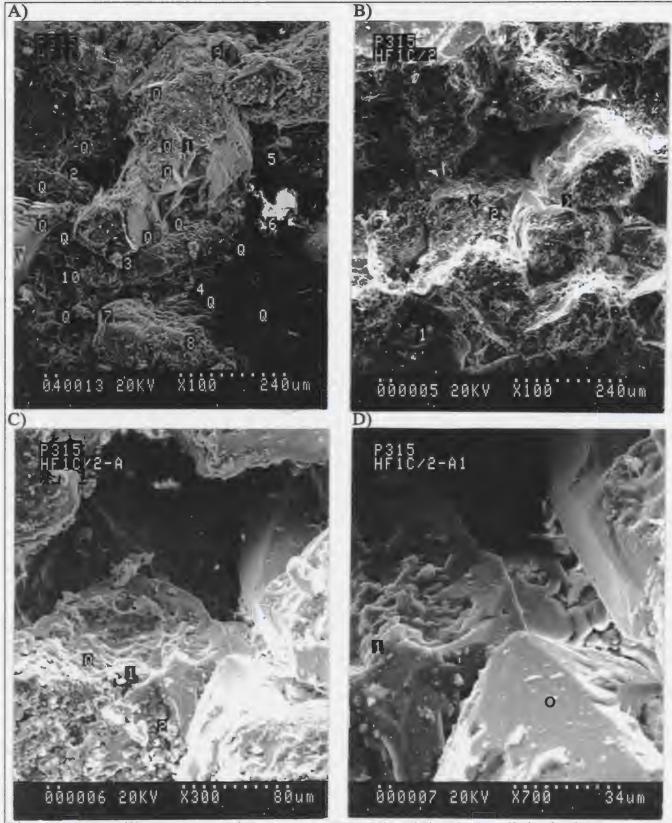


Figure 19: Argillaceous material content of P315 is minimal. Kaolinite is the most common clay spotted in 19A (/1-3, /1-5, /1-6, /1-7, /1-8 and /1-10; table 7& app.3). Smectite is also defined in the second surface segment at X300 mag. ("1" and "2"in 19c) (O=Overgrowth)

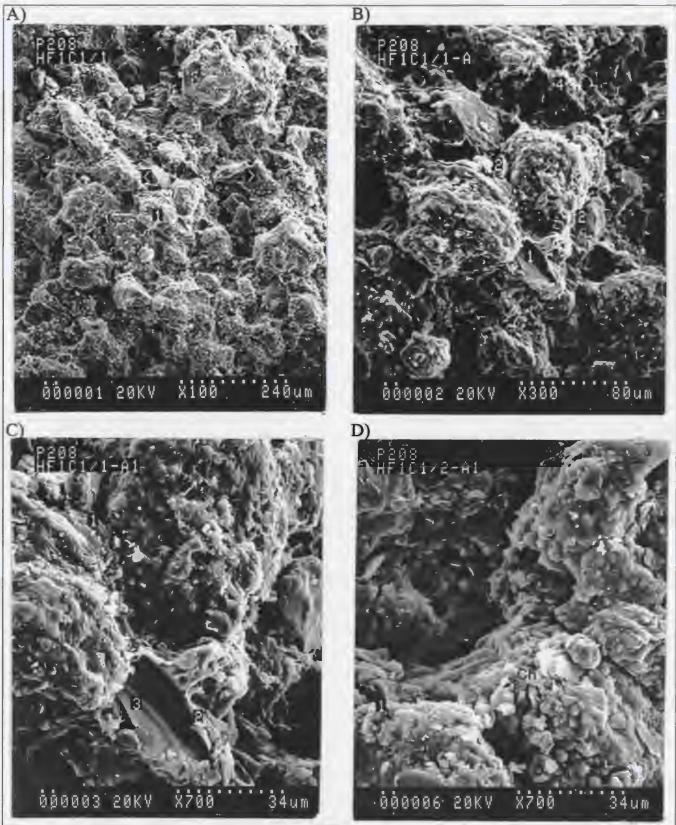


Figure 20: X100, X300, and X700 mag. SEM photomicrographs of P208-HF1C1.

Depression surface marked with "3' in 20c is the surface of a sylvite mineral precipitated from invaded drilling fluids. Micro size quartz overgrowths (O) are common (20d). Chlorite (CH) is evident (20c).

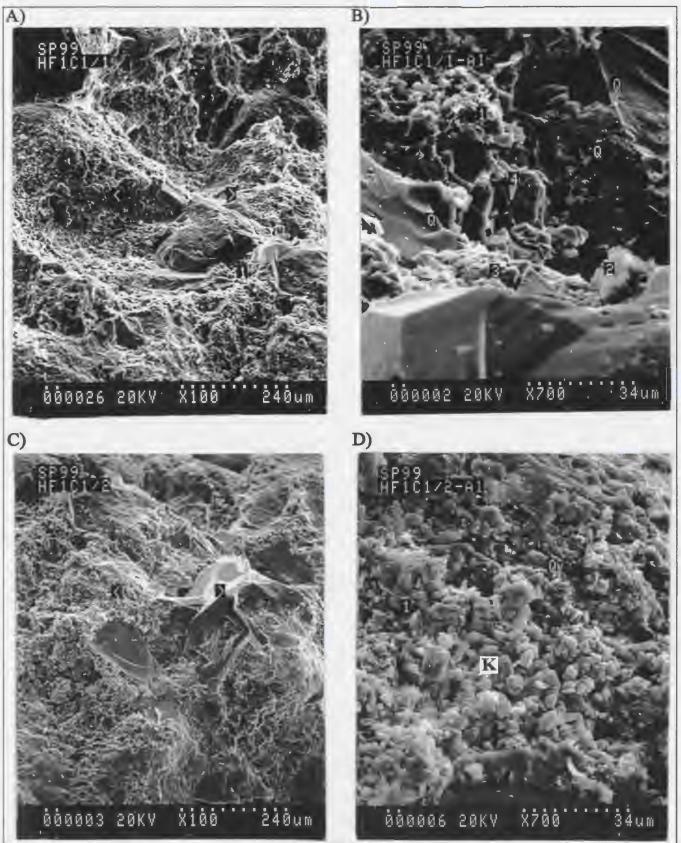


Figure 21: SP99 is more argillaceous than P208-HF1C1. Quartz overgrowths are larger in size (width>34µm; 21b) than in P208. Well-developed kaolinite booklets (K) are readily recognized in 21d. Clay clusters also contain minor smectite. Spot "3" in 21b yielded pyrite detection (Appendix 3).

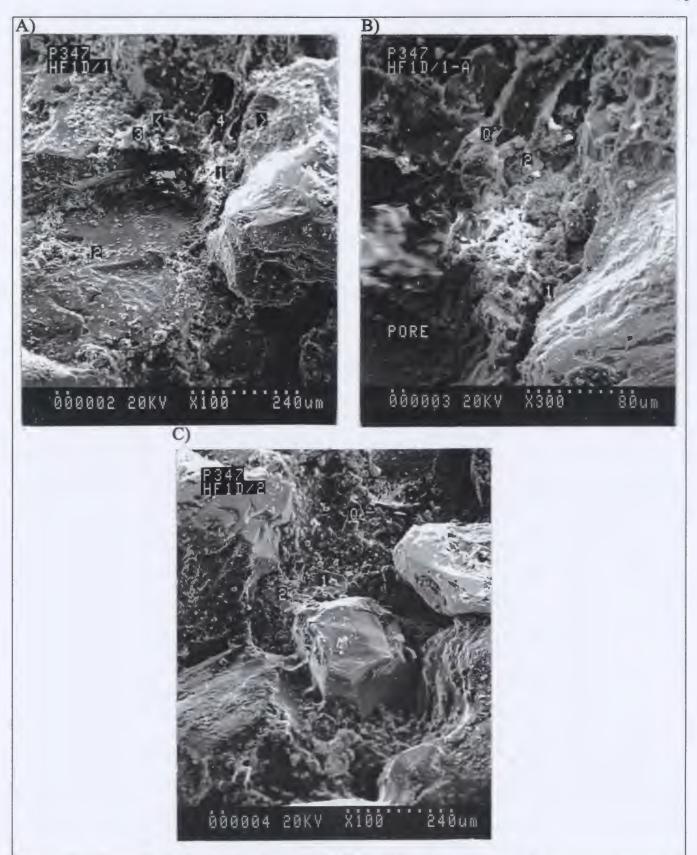


Figure 22: Ilmenite is determined at point "1" in 21b where cluster of clay-sized material obstructs pore connections. Two shades of gray on the central grain in 22c shows quartz overgrowth boundary (Appendix 3).

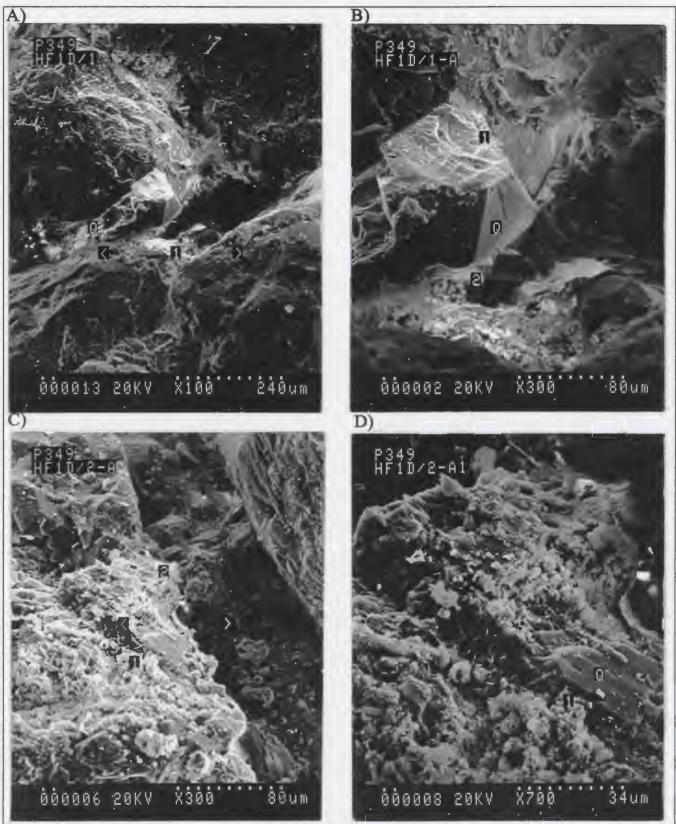


Figure 23: Quartz overgrowths and isolated kaolinite boooklets are the evident features of P349-HF1D. Neither of these features are effective reducing the available pore-space and pore connections. Permeability of the specimen is maximum among the lithologies (k=9710 mD; table 3; appendix 3).

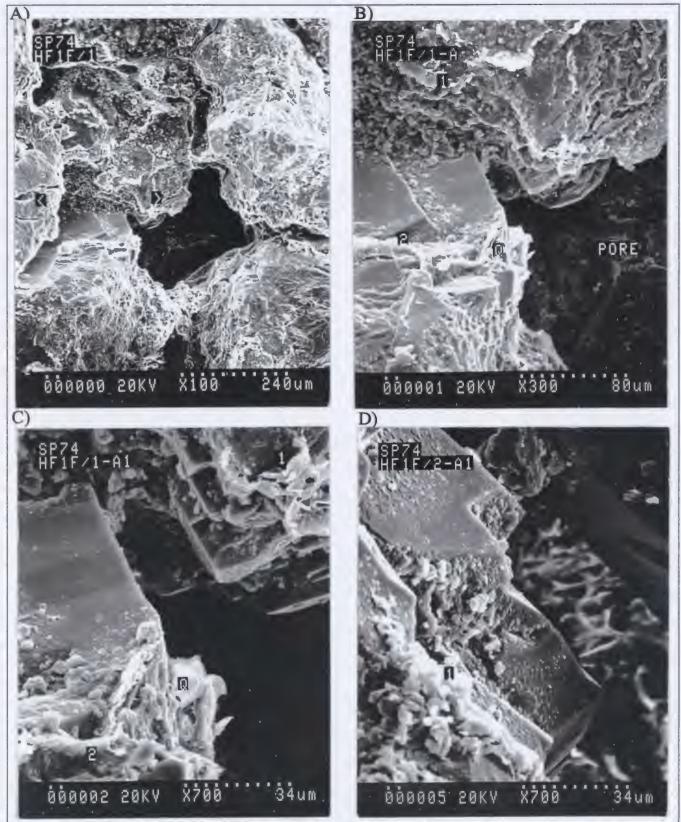


Figure 24: In all four photographs, well-developed and large quartz overgrowths are the major permeability-reducing component. Ilmenite is detected at point "1" in 24b. Other beam-spot analyses yielded quartz, biotite and smectite responses (Appendix 3).

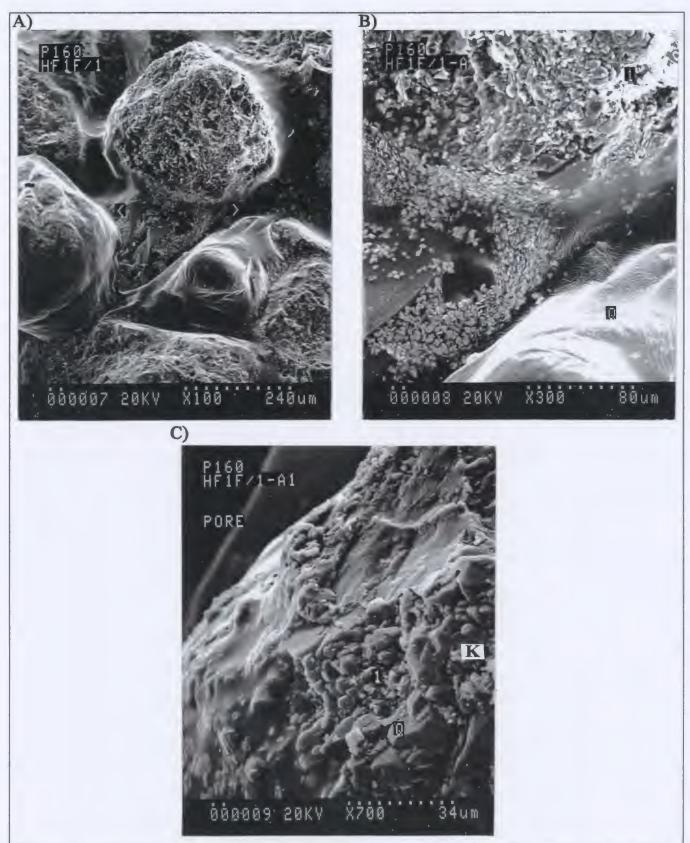


Figure 25: Smoky sections are due to silver contamination. Very fine-grained material in the centre of 25b is sputtered gold coat. Quartz overgrowths (O) are pore-occupying features in 25a and 25c. Sample was rotated before taking 25c in order to avoid electrical charging. K=Kaolinite (Appendix 3)

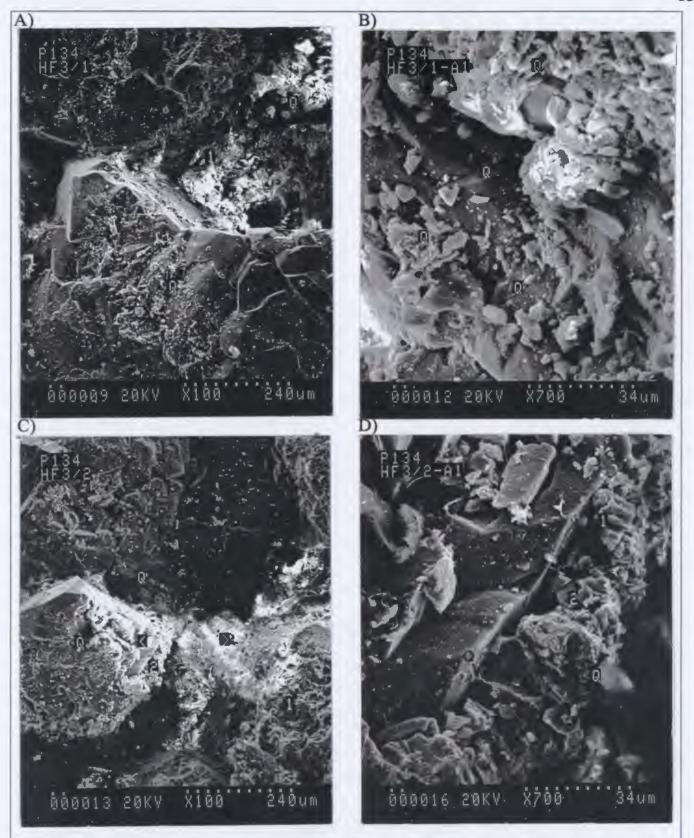


Figure 26: Smectite-rich clay mineralogy is observed in 26b (point "1"). Analysis of dust-sized particles in 26b yielded quartzitic detections (Q). Material surrounding the overgrowth in 26d consists of rutile, sylvite, and quartz. Bridge-like features in 26d are quartz silicifications (Q).

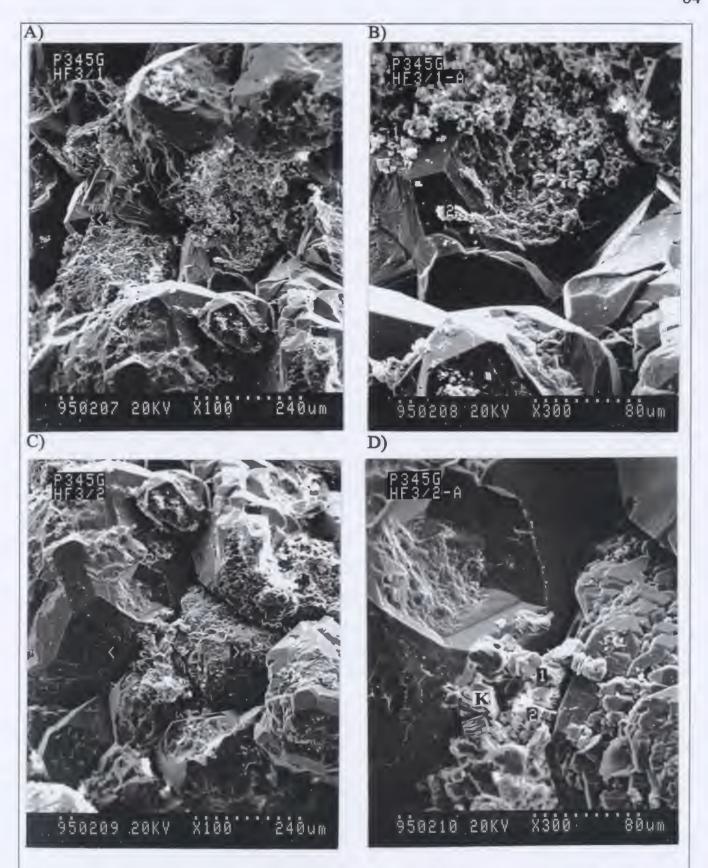


Figure 27: Quartz overgrowths and kaolinite booklets are well-developed. Blend of pyrite and smectite was determined at point "2" in 27b. Poorly-sorted texture of the lithology is evident in 27a and 27c (Appendix 3).



Figure 28: Argillaceous nature of the speecimen is evident with rich clay-sized particle content (28a). Quartz silicification formed well-developed overgrowths (O) (28c). Detrital mica flakes (M) are seen at the left side of 28b. Biotite/smectite detection was acquired in "1" in 28c. (Appendix 3).

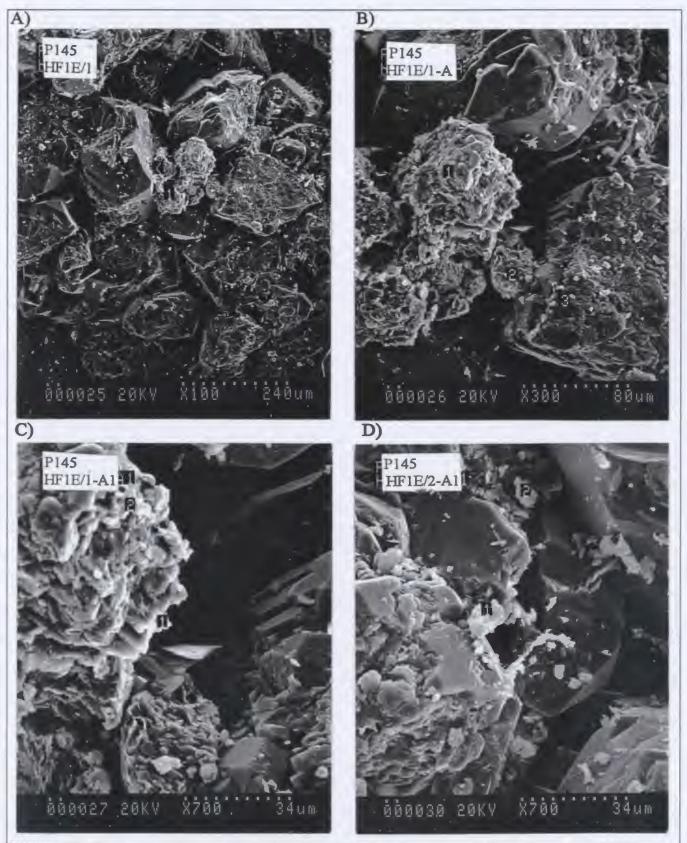


Figure 29: Pore connections are better developed and preserved than those in SP277-HF1E. Grain with ragged-surface in the centre of 29a is quartz. 29c shows that the irregular face of the grain is made up of various quartz overgrowths (O). Major clays are chlorite ("1" in 29c), and illite ("1" in 29d)(Appendix 3)

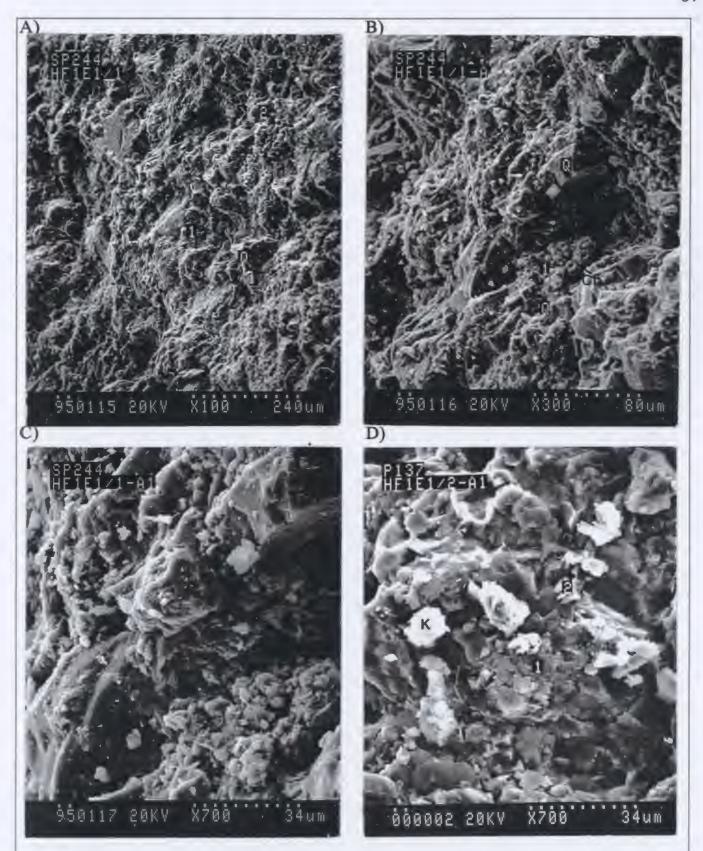


Figure 30: Diagonally-oriented bedding planes are evident in 30a. Argillaceous nature of the facies is complex. Clays and micas are the primary components of the argillaceous matrix. Pore connections and flow path in both of the specimens are disrupted (K=Kaolinite, Ch=Chlorite)(Appendix 3).

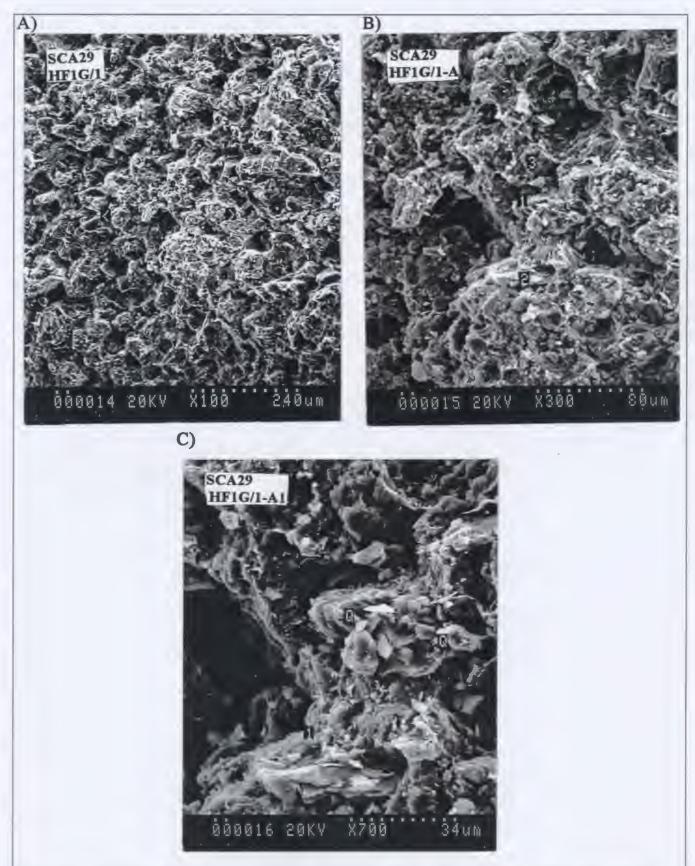


Figure 31: Grain-coating, pore-blocking chlorite (Ch) is the primary component of the clay-rich aggregates in the specimen. Detrital mica ("1" in 31b), albite ("1" in 31c) and rare quartz overgrowths are also observed (Appendix 3).

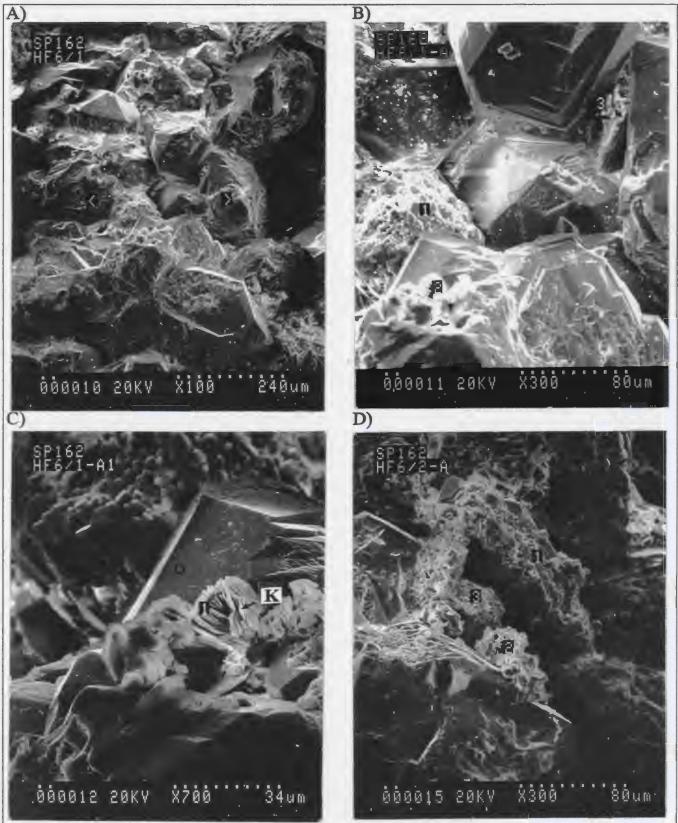


Figure 32: Detrital grains of SP162-HF6 are subrounded. Quartz overgrowths, kaolinite booklets and intergranular siderite cement are the pimary features in 32b ("1", "2" and "3"). Arc-like feature in 32d is muscovite-rich also is composed of quartz and kaolinite (O=Overgrowth, K=Kaolinite) (Appendix 3).

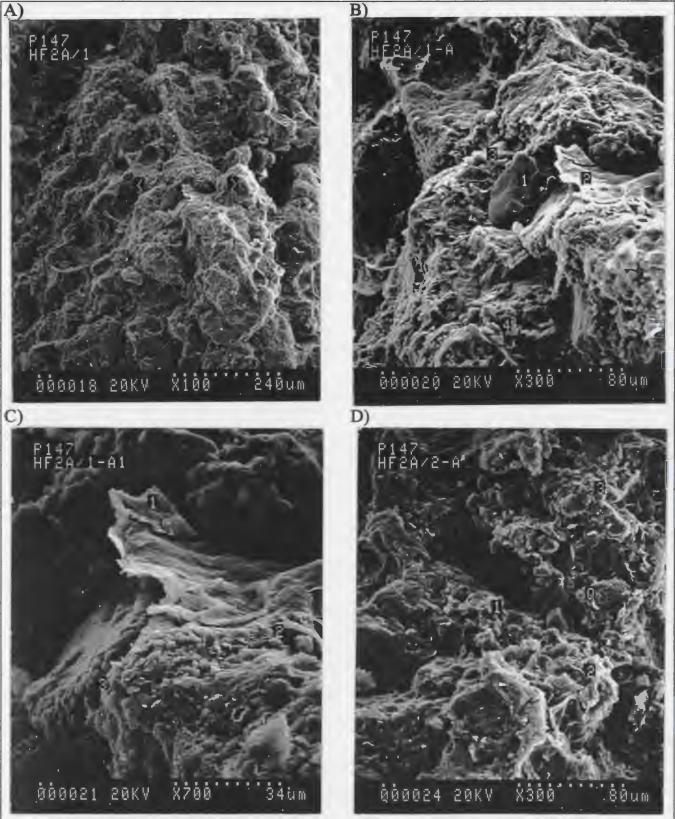


Figure 33: Argillaceous and micaceous nature of the specimen is evident in all photos. (Mica flake="1" in 33c). Well-developed micro quartz overgrowths (width~<5µm) are dominant in bottom-left portion of 33c. Chlorite is sporadically detected.

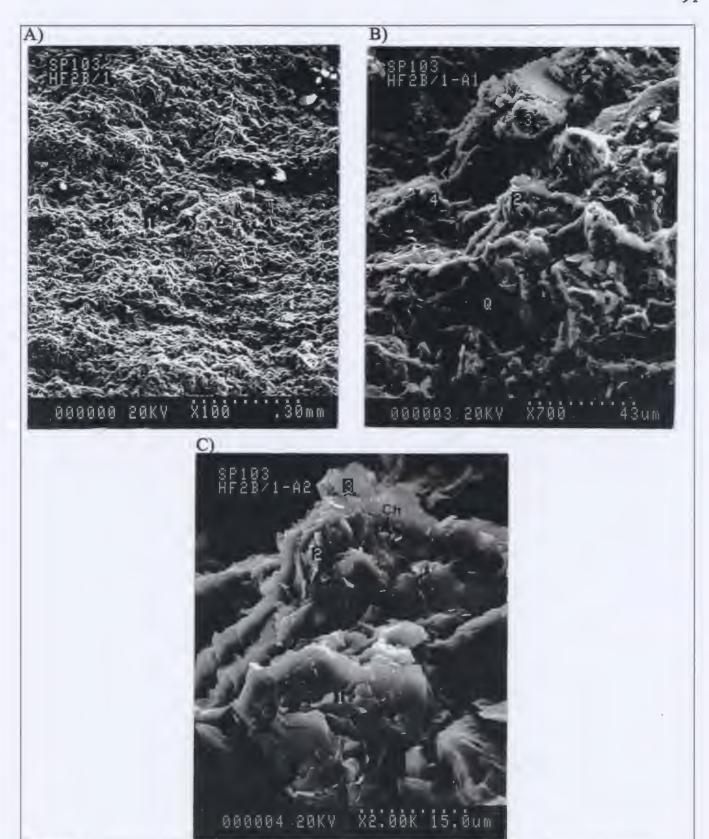


Figure 34: SP103-HF2B is more argillaceous than HF2A specimen. Clay- and micarich character of the specimen yielded very complex elements detections in the SSQ analysis. Kaolinite is identified at point "3" and "4" in 34b. X2,000 mag. helped to visually identify chlorite (Ch) in the argillaceous clusters (Kaolinite="3" in 34b, Muscovite="1" in 34c, Ch=Chlorite)(Appendix 3).

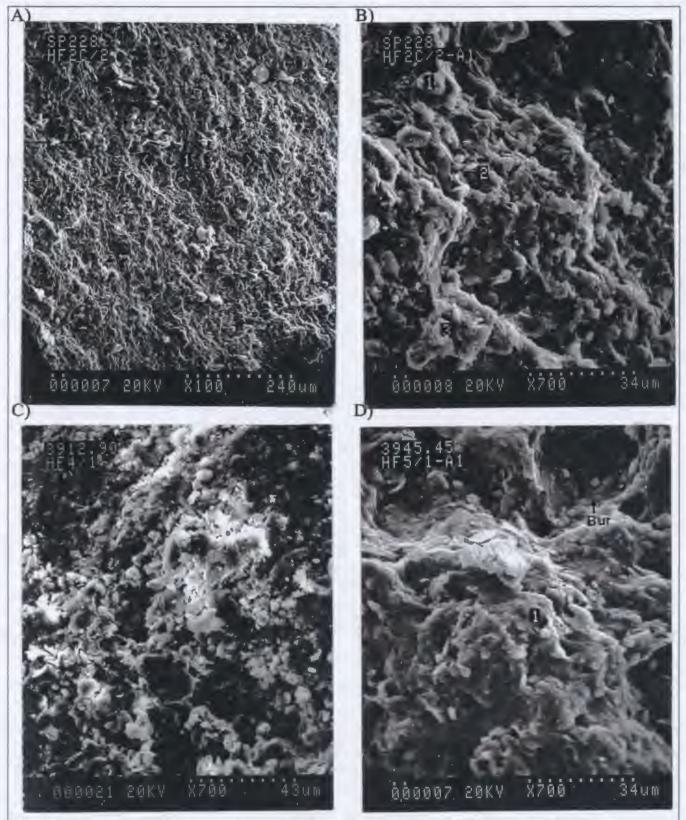


Figure 35: Argillaceous component is aboundant in SP228-HF2C, 35a&b. Element detections have become extremely complex in this facies where only muscovite ("1" in 35a) and kaolinite ("1" in 35b) were identified. Loose texture of the HF4 and consolidated HF5 shales are in 35c&d. Burrows in HF5 (Bur) are well-documented in 35d (Upper right portion of 35d)(App.3).

#### V - THIN SECTION PETROGRAPHY

#### V.1- INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVES

Thin sections examined in this chapter were provided by HMDC. Sample locations are marked on the grain size logs in appendix 1. Examinations were performed under plane-polarized and cross-polarized lights. Depths, flow properties and petrographic characteristics identified in the analyses are presented in tables 18a and 18b.

The primary lithologies of the reservoir-forming rocks in the oil field are the sandstones of the Hibernia Formation. In this study, Folk's (1980) classification of sandstones and sediment maturity is used. A majority of the sandstones occur in quartz arenite-sub litharenite range. For sorting and roundness, comparators developed by Pettijohn *et al.* (1973) were accepted as reference material. Specific mineral identifications were performed on the basis of standard comparator photos of Adams *et al.* (1984).

The objectives of these thin section examinations are

- 1. Describe grain size, sorting, and roundness attributes of the lithofacies
- 2. Identify major and minor mineralogies
- 3. Determine depositional and diagenetic attributes affecting pore structures
- 4. Address the relationships between the identified parameters and permeability.

Based on these objectives, the degree of sorting and roundness was determined for each sample. Numerical codes were assigned for every sorting and roundness level (Table 5) A concept of "Enhanced Textural Maturity Index (ETMI)" was developed and calculated as

a function of sorting and roundness. *ETMI*, when graphed against permeability, shows that the degree of sorting and roundness is proportional to permeability. The crossplot also highlights the relative influence of permeability-reducing factors (Figure 48)

Sorting Roundness	VA	VA-A	A	A-SA	SA	SA-SR	SR	SR-R	R	R-WR	WR
P	l <sub>o</sub>	, 1.5 <sub>n</sub>	2,,	2.5 <sub>rt</sub>	3,,	3.5 <sub>r1</sub>	4,,	4.5,	5,,	5.5	6,,
Р-М	1.5,	2.25	3,1	3.75 <sub>rl</sub>	4.5 <sub>n</sub>	5.25 <sub>r1</sub>	, 6 <sub>r2</sub>	6.75	7.5,2	8.25	9 <sub>r2</sub>
M	2,,	3,,	4,	<b>5</b> <sub>il</sub>	6,,	7,,	8,,	9,,	10,,	11,	12,
M-W	2.5 <sub>s1</sub>	3.75,	5,,	6.25	7.5 <sub>r1</sub>	8.75 <sub>n</sub>	10,1	11.25	12.5	13.75	15,2
w <sub></sub>	35	4.5,,	6,,	7.5,	9,	10.5 <sub>n</sub>	12,	13.5	15 <sub>rt</sub>	16.5	18,2
W-V.W	3.5 <sub>st</sub>	5.25 <sub>st</sub>	7,,	8.75 <sub>s1</sub>	10.5,1	12.25 <sub>0</sub>	· 14 <sub>a</sub>	15.75	17.5	19.25	21
VW	4,,	6 <u>,,</u>	8,,	10,	12,	14,	16,	18,	20	22	24

Roundness: VA:V.Angular, VA-A:V.Angular to angular, A: Angular, A-SA: Angular to subangular,

S.4: Subangular, S.4-SR: Subangular to subrounded, SR: Subrounded, SR-R: Subrounded to rounded,

R: Rounded, R-WR: Rounded to well-rounded, Sorting: WR: Well-rounded, P: Poorly-sorted, P-M: Poorly to moderate, M: Moderate, M-W: Moderate to well, W: Well, W-V.W: Well to v.well, VW: V.well

Table 5: Calculated "ETMI" values by the numerical codes assigned for degrees of sorting and roundness. Duplicate numbers are separated from each other by subscripts. Subscript letters ("s" o "r") represent the dominance of sorting or roundness for a given specimen. Secondary subscript; as in 4.5, increases with the increasing dominance of either sorting or roundness. i.e. 4.5, represents well-sorted and VA-A while 4.5, stands for poorly-sorted and SR-R. Subscripts do not change the way ETMI values are plotted in figure 48.

## V.2- DESCRIPTIONS

## V.2.1- Petrography of the sand-based lithofacies:

## V.2.1.1. Lithofacies HF1A

This lithology is very fine-grained sublitharenite (SP102, figure 30, table 6a). Major components of the lithology are mono-crystalline quartz, mud pellets rich in igneous particles, igneous and lithic rock fragments. Grain size variations highlight that the sample is poorly-to moderately-sorted and angular to sub angular, and is texturally mature to submature. Minor minerals are mica, plagioclase and detrital clays in the form of mud pellets. Intergranular clays are a pore-plugging factor but abundant quartz overgrowths cause the main grain interlock and pore space-reduction. Orientation of grains reflects the laminated nature of the specimen. Porosity is substantially primary. Very rare oversized pores are suspected to be secondary.

#### V.2.1.2. Lithofacies HF1B

The sandstones of HF1B (Table 6a; figure 37) are composed of fine-grained monocrystalline quartz which is slightly coarser than HF1A sandstones. In both thin sections the sandstones are sub-angular to sub-rounded, and moderately-sorted, and thus can be classified as texturally mature sublitharenites. Additional major constituents are monocrystalline quartz, lithic rock fragments and detrital clays. Minor components are mica, calcite, polycrystalline quartz, rare pyrite and plagioclase. The matrix is mainly composed of clays, however, calcite cementation becomes significant, especially in SP102 Widespread quartz overgrowths and pore-lining clays are also observed. Quartz overgrowths appear to

be more effective in SP102 than in P218 while grain-coating clays (chlorite?) are identified in P218

Secondary pores were rarely observed where corroded serrate edges of quartz grains produced oversized voids. Pore enlargement can be explained by dissolution of calcareous intergranular cement.

#### V.2.1.3. Lithofacies HF1C

Primary reservoir sandstones of facies HF1C were examined in 4 thin sections from tiree different wells (Table 6b).

Medium-grained sands of HF1C have a common mineralogical framework in all three specimens. The major rock forming mineral is monocrystalline quartz constituting an average of >95% in all four. Thus, HF1C mainly is a quartzarenite (Figure 38). Minor components of the mineral framework are mica grains, very little feldspar, calcite and lithic rock fragments.

HF1C quartzarenites are subrounded to rounded and moderately- to well-sorted. SP249 has relatively greater amount of quartz overgrowths than the other three. The least amounts of overgrowth was determined in P315 where the highest permeability among the four HF1C specimens was measured.

Very low percentages of kaolinite (~<1%) together with subtle amounts of pore-lining authigenic clays (~<1%) are observed in all four thin sections. The only variation is that the authigenic clay content in the pore system of SP249 is slightly higher than for the other remaining samples. In diagenetic evolutionary order of pore-plugging material, quartz

Facies& Plug#	Well	Depth (m)	Φ-%	k-mD	Major minerals	Minor minerals	Roundne is	Sorting	ЕТМІ
HFIA SP102	K-18	3797.12 - 97.34	12.8	15.30	Monocrys, qtz*+ LRF+IRF	Mica-plag.+ detrital clays		Poor - Moder	3.75
HF1B SP102	B-O8	3624.17 - 24.30			Monocrys, q17+ LRF+kaolinite	Mica+calcite+ plag.+pyrite+ poly. qtz	SR*	· Moder.	8.00
HF1B P218	K-14	3674.78 - 75.08	14.6	44.00	Monocrys. qtz+ LRF+kaolinite	Mica+calcite+ plag.+pyrite+ poly. dtz+chert	SA - SR	Moder.	7.00.
HF1C1 P207	K-14	3861.62 - 61.92		17.10	Monogrys, qtz+ IRF+clays	Poly, qtz+mica+ chert+calcite+ feldspars	SR	Moder.	8.000
HFIC1 P208	K-14	3862.43 - 62.75	14.	0.32	Monocrys, qtz+ IRF+clays	Poly, qtz+mica+ chert+calcite+ feldspars	SA	Poor - Moder.	4.50.,
HF1D P347	K-14	3869.12 - 69.36	19.4	4640	Monocrys, qtz	Poly. qtz+LRF- pyrite	R <sup>*</sup>	Moder Well	12.50
HF1D P349	K-14	3869.60 - 69.83	777	9710	Monocrys. qtz	Poly. qtz+LRF+ pyrite	R - WR	Well	16.50
HF1F P160	C-96	3923.08 - 23.44	כ אנ.	2780	Monocrys. qtz	Poly. qtz+LRF+ matrix material	R	Moder. - Well	12.50
HF1F SP74	B-O8	3606.18 - 06.29	191	1290	Monocrys, qtz	Poly, qtz+LRF+ rare detrital clays	SA - SR	Moder. - Well	8.75a
HF3 P345G	K-14	3962.42 - 62.70	13.5	273	Mono/Poly. qtz+ LRF+chert	Mica+clays+ pyrite+IRF	SR	Poor - Moder.	6.00a
HF3 134	C-96	3909.28 - 09.48	1127	238	Mono/Poly, qtz+ LRF+chert	Mica+kaolin.+ pyrite+IRF	SR	Poor - Moder.	6.00a
HF1E P145	K-18	3822.18	13.0	29.60	Monocrys. qtz	Detr.clays+mica LRF+IRF+Plag.	SA	Poor - Moder.	4.50//
HF1E1 P137	K-18	3820.00 - 20.18		0.13	Monocrys, qtz+ LRF	Biotite+plag.+ clays	۸	Poor	2,00.
HF1G P203	B-27	3865.27 - 65.59	13.2	0.67	Monocrys. qtz+ LRF+clays	Mica+feldspar calcite cement	A-SA	Poor - Moder.	3. <b>7</b> 5a
HF6 SP163	B-27	3847.80 - 47.99	12.8	49.30	Monocrys, qtz+ LRF+IRF	Chert+mud pellets+mica	SR	Moder.	8.00.
HF6 SP164	B-27	3848.39 - 48.49	10.2	17.00	Monocrys. qtz+ LRF+IRF	Chert+mica (?)+ Organic matter	R	Moder.	10.00.
HF2A P97	C-96	3892.08 - 92.34	5.7	0.24	Silt with sand and abundant clays		VA*	Poor	1 00.
HF2A P147	C-96	3919.15 - 19.44	11.4	0.62	Silt with sand and abundant clays		V۸	Poor	1,00%
HF2B SP103	B-O8	3624.83 - 25.00	3.5	0.09	Silt with sand an rare calcite co	SA - SR	Poor	3.50,,	
HF2C P198	B-27	3864.15 - 64.35	10.8	0.23	Silt with sand a	SA	Poor	3.00₁2	

<sup>\*</sup> A:Angular, SA:Subangular, SR:Subrounded, R:Rounded, WR:Well-rounded, Moder:Moderate, Monocrys. qtz:Mononcrystalline quartz, LRF:Lithic rock fragments, IRF:Igneous rock fragments Poly. qtz:Polycrystalline quartz, plag:Plagioclase, kaolin:Kaolinite

Table 6a: Relationship between ETMI and other rock characteristics of facies other than HF1C. (For calculated ETMI values, see table 5)

Facies	Plug#	TS#	Well	Core Depth (m)	Ø (%)	k(mD)	Type	Major Minerals >95%	Minor Minerals	Roundness	Sorting	ETMI
HFIC	SP249	79	K-18	3855.75-55.94	18.6	615	QA .	Monocryst. qtz	LRF+AC	SR-SA	Moderate	7.1
HF!C	85	812	C-96	3881.56-81.92	16.5	1480	QA	Monocryst. qtz	LRF+AC (kaol.) +mica+feldspar (<1%)	SR-SA	Moderate- well	8.75a
HFIC	254	760	K-14	3804.70-04.90	19.4	1370	Q۸	Monocryst. qtz	Polycrys, qtz+ Lithic and igneous rock fragments	SR	Well	120
HFIC	315	773	K-14	3935.56-35.89	21.4	2030	Ų۸	Monocryst, qtz	LRF and mica +calcite (<<%1)	* R-SR	Well	13.5

<sup>\*</sup> TS#: Thin section number, QA: Quartzarenite, LRF: Lithic rock fragments, AC: Authigenic clay, SR: Subrounded SA: Subangular, R: Rounded, kaol.: Kaolinite, k: Permeability, \$\mathcal{Q}\$: Porosity

Table 6b: Relationship between ETMI and other rock characteristics of HF1C specimens determined by thin section petrography. (For calculated ETMI values, see table 5)

ETMI = Sorting constant x Roundness constant

overgrowths precipitated before pore-lining clays formed. Some over-sized pores, especially in P315, suggest that the dissolution of either grains or some of the fine matrix material might have produced secondary porosity. Rarely-occurring serrate edges of some of the quartz grains also mark the grain dissolution.

#### V.2.1.4. Lithofacies HF1C1

This lithology is fine- to lower medium-grained sublitharenite composed of monocrystalline quartz, metasedimentary rock fragments, and detrital, chlorite-rich mud pellets (Table 6a; figure 39). Hydrocarbon residue is locally found trapped in some isolated pores. Minor additional mineral components are polycrystalline quartz, mica, micro porous chert, rare calcite (<1%) and feldspars. The grains of plug 207 are subrounded and moderately-sorted, while 208 displays a more subangular and poorly- to moderately-sorted textural framework. Neither P207 nor P208 have substantial amounts of quartz overgrowth that would significantly affect the permeability. However, clay-rich and argillaceous matrix, and intergranular mud pellets disrupt the pore connections. Due to the highly complex assemblage of argillaceous material, identification of clay types is not possible by means of thin section analysis.

#### V.2.1.5. Lithofacies HF1D

Examined thin sections of the HF1D lithology have similar mineral framework (Table 6a)

Medium- to coarse-grained sandstones of HF1D are dominantly clean quartzarenites

composed of over 95% monocrystalline quartz grains (Figure 40) Minor constituents are

polycrystalline quartz, very low percentage of lithic rock fragments (~1%), and trace amounts

of pore-lining clays and pyrite

Plug 347 is rounded and well-sorted. Although plug 349 is also well-sorted, its roundness is higher (well-rounded). Both sandstones are very porous and the pore connectivities have established high permeabilities.

Quartz overgrowths occur rarely. The pore system is partially hydrocarbon-stained.

Preferential alignment of minor detrital clays within pores indicate infiltrated geopetal fill.

#### V.2.1.6. Lithofacies HF1F

Thin sections of P160 from Hibernia C-96 and SP74 of Hibernia B-O8 are examined as representatives of HF1F (Table 6a). Coarse- to very-coarse-grained quartzarenites are rounded, moderately- to well-sorted and composed mainly of monocrystalline quartz (Figure 41a&b). In addition, the remainder of the particles are polycrystalline quartz, lithic rock fragments and a matrix material composed of very fine-grained sands, kaolinite, mica, calcite, plagioclase and igneous rock fragments. Very fine-grained matrix material is always located on the same side of the pore system, just as geopetal fill would have formed after the infiltration of ground waters. Pore-lining authigenic clays are encountered in both samples. Pore-lining clays cause porosity reduction in both SP74 and P160. Quartz overgrowths are rare in both specimens

Identified pore-reducing mechanisms remain relatively ineffective in the quartzarenites of HF1F where both of the specimens possess high porosities and permeabilities.

#### V.2.1.7. Lithofacies HF3

Bimodal conglomeratic sandstones of HF3 are represented by plug 345G of Hibernia K-14

and plug 134 of Hibernia C-96 (Table 6a). Both samples are composed of poorly- to moderately-sorted and subrounded sublitharenites containing pebbles (Figure 42). Major constituents of the sand-sized component are monocrystalline and polycrystalline quartz, lithic rock fragments and chert. Minor constituents of the lithofacies are mica, clays, very rare pyrite crystals, and igneous rock fragments. Most of the clays are authigenic and occur in a pore-lining form.

The lithology is porous; however, pore connections are poorly-developed. Abundant quartz overgrowths have resulted in are significant grain interlocking. Intergranular lithic rock fragments, pore-lining clays and very fine-grained matrix material composed of mostly quartz grains also decrease pore interconnection.

#### V.2.1.8. Lithofacies HF1E

This lithology is a quartzarenite consisting mainly of very fine- to fine-grained monocrystalline quartz (Table 6a). Ripple cross lamination (Figure 43a) and horizontal laminae determined during core description are also evident in the thin section. Minor components of the mineral framework are lithic and igneous rock fragments and detrital clays Intergranular matrix is micaceous (Figure 43b).

Sorting is poor to moderate and roundness is angular to sub-angular. Silicification on quartz grains exists but is not abundant. Intergranular detrital and pore-lining authigenic clays are the important pore space-reducing components, while precise identification of clay types is not possible.

#### V.2.1.9. Lithofacies HF1E1

HF1E1 is a sublitharenite which mainly contains monocrystalline quartz and lithic rock fragments (Table 6a). Parallel lamination is identified in the form of alternating very fine-grained/muddy and fine-grained (relatively coarser) layers (Figure 44a&b). Very fine-grained muddy laminae and quartz overgrowths occupy the intergranular system of the lithology. Overall, the monocrystalline framework grains are angular and poorly-sorted. No visual evidence for porosity is observed. The lithology is very carbonaceous and is intermixed within the clay-rich argillaceous laminae.

#### V.2.1.10. Lithofacies HF1G

This lithology is a silt sized to very fine-grained sublitharenite with the major mineral components of monocrystalline quartz, lithic rock fragments, and detrital clays mixtures (Table 6a; Figure 45a&b). Minor components are mica, feldspars, and calcite. Clay types are difficult to determine due to the highly-mixed abundant argillaceous texture. The lithology is poorly- to moderately-sorted, angular to sub angular. Carbonate cement identified during the core descriptions is readily observed as intergranular stained red patches. Quartz overgrowths are in negligible abundance. Rare pores are in isolated forms where they do not produce pore connections.

#### V.2.1.11. Lithofacies HF6

HF6 consists of organic material-rich, fine-grained sublitharenitic sandstones containing monocrystalline quartz, carbonaceous stringers, coal, micaceous igneous fragments, and detrital mud pellets (Table 6a; figure 46a&b). Minor additional constituents are chert,

polycrystalline quartz, rare mica flakes and detrital ciays. Quartz overgrowths are present but not abundant. The lithology is moderately-sorted and subrounded Pores are well-preserved. Organic nodules are ubiquitous and partially occupy the pore space. There is no evidence for any type of bedding.

#### V.2.2. Petrography of the interstratified sand/silt/claystone facies\*:

\* Due to the highly argillaceous, shaly and silty texture, thin section photographs of all three interstratified lithologies displayed close similarities. Therefore, only the photograph of HF2A specimen is presented as the representative of HF2A, HF2B, and HF2C...

#### V.2.2.1. Lithofacies HF2A:

HF2A was examined in P97 and P147, both being from Hibernia C-96 (Table 6a) Both samples are composed of silt, shale and very fine-grained sandstones which are poorly-sorted and very angular (Figure 47). Observed highly contorted texture of both samples could be the result of the deformation structures or bioturbation determined during the core descriptions. Grain size variations fluctuate under the control of bedding structures. Due to the highly blended nature of the lithology identification of different types of detrital clay other than rare kaolinite booklets becomes difficult. No visual porosity is evident. The matrix is composed of mica-rich igneous rock fragments, clays, pyrite and rare calcitic cement.

## V.2.2.2. Lithofacies HF2B

HF2B is characterized by a thin section of SP103 of Hibernia B-O8 (Table 6a) The lithology is very silty, shally sublitharenite containing monocrystalline quartz, lithic and igneous rock fragments. Minor additional components forming the fine-grained matrix material are clays, mica, rare calcite and pyrite

The sample is parallel-laminated. Two distinct laminae, one coarser than the other, were identified. The grains of the coarser-grained laminae are well-sorted and subangular to subrounded within the coarser lamination. However, in overall view, sorting is very poor and the degree of grain roundness is subangular to subrounded.

Quartz overgrowths are common and appear to reduce intergranular pore space in many parts of the specimen. Authigenic and pore-lining clays are not encountered. Most of the clays are in intergranular form, intermixed with silt particles..

#### V.2.2.3. Lithofacies HF2C

P198 of Hibernia B-27 was analysed for the lithofacies HF2C (Table 6a). The average grain size in the specimen is mostly clay and silt. Intergranular matrix is composed of clays and mica. Rare plagioclase crystals were identified. Grain size variations are high and thus the sorting is very poor. Visible grains are subangular. No visual porosity was identified.

Neither HF4 nor HF5 were examined by thin section petrography technique since both lithofacies are shale.

#### V.3- SUMMARY AND INTERPRETATION OF THIN SECTIONS

#### V.3.1. Summary of thin section petrography:

Summarized information of the analyzed specimens regarding depth, and flow properties, major and minor mineralogies, and textural maturity is presented in table 6a and 6b X10 magnification was the standard in this study as long as the grain size attributes allow us to do so. Standard magnification provided visual and comparative understanding of textural maturity, as well as grain size distribution. Permeability-controlling mechanisms which were earlier introduced in the previous chapter are also evaluated.

## V.3.2- Interpretation and conclusions of thin section petrography:

## V.3.1.2. Permeability - Textural Maturity relationship

Enhanced Textural Maturity Index (ETMI) values (Table 6a&6b) were graphed against permeabilities of the examined specimens (Figure 48). Permeability proportionally increases with higher values of ETMI. An envelope of k/ETMI ranges suggests that two separate trends may exist in the ETMI-permeability relationship. Specimens falling around line A have higher permeabilities than those around line B for a particular ETMI value. The upper portion of the graph is an area of low matrix, clay content, cements, diagenetic pore-reducing components, and permeability-reducing factors. Common permeabilities can range over approximately 4 ETMI units. For instance, the permeability of P254 (k=1370 mD, ETMI=12) is close to the permeability of P85 (1480 mD) which has an ETMI of 8.75. Both are in the same lithofacies (HF1C). The greater abundance of quartz overgrowths identified in P85 may

account for the permeability reduction

The window of "extremely high permeability" contains samples of coarse grained, clean, porous, well-sorted, and rounded to well-rounded quartzarenites. "The high permeability window" includes all samples of HF1C as well as two samples of HF3, the conglomeratic sandstones Bimodal sands of HF3 possess a lower degree of *ETMI*.

"The intermediate permeability" window contains very fine-grained HF1A (15.3 mD), very fine- to fine-grained HF1E (29.60 mD) and HF1B (44.0 and 52.7 mD) samples. Two specimens of HF1C1 (P207, P208) reflect the correlation between the *ETMI* and permeability. An abundance of rip-up mud clasts can affect the quality of sorting. In spite of the lower medium (125-350 μ) grain size of the lithofacies, lower *ETMI* and high argillaceous content reduced HF1C1 permeabilities.

P145 of HF1E (rippled sands) with a permeability of 29.60 mD is grouped within "the intermediate permeability" zone together with the finer-grained sands of distributary channel deposits. P145 is poorly- to moderately-sorted and subangular. Thus it has a low *ETMI* (4.50). However, a lower degree of silicification (relative to HF1E1; laminated sands of HF1E1, of similar character) has maintained optimal permeability. Very low textural maturities (Table 6a), together with very fine to silt size grain attributes maintain lower permeabilities in samples of HF1E1, HF1G, HF2A, HF2B and HF2C.

By using the calculated *ETMI*, porosity and permeability values of the thin sectionanalyzed specimens, three major conclusions can be drawn from figure 49.

1. High ETMI correlates with increasing grain size, decreasing clay matrix, and

decreased influence of k-reducing diagenetic variables. Low ETMI correlates with decreasing grain size, increasing clay matrix and k-reducing diagenetic components.

- 2. ETMI increases proportionally with permeability.
- 3. The general grain size trend is for increase with increasing ETMI. However, contrary to this, the coarsest lithofacies have intermediate ETMI values (HF3, HF1F), as a result of their poorer sorting and roundness attributes (Table 6a) and tendency for higher clay content

Therefore, a high level of sorting and roundness such as will occur at the end of a transportation process long enough to eliminate less stable and finer-grained minerals is one of the major components of a unique permeability-producing system.

# V.3.1.2. Nature of the quartz overgrowths; abundance of quartz overgrowth permeability relationship in thin sections

The paragenetic sequence of diagenesis indicates that the first cementation episode involved the precipitation of silica from silica-rich pore fluids. Quartz overgrowths are reported to be one of the most significant pore space-blocking features in sand-dominated lithologies (McIlreath and Morrow 1990). As Boles and Franks (1979), Hayes (1979), Blatt (1980), Franks and Forester (1984), Galloway (1985), and Brown *et al.* (1986) have pointed out, silica-rich pore fluids can be generated from

- 1. "dewatering of muds during the initial burial and/or meteoric ground waters,"
- 2. "dewatering of deeply buried shales (3-4 km.; 60-120°C) which produce Si'-rich waters released during the smectite-illite transition,"
  - 3. "dissolution of siliceous microflora and microfauna," and

## 4. "pressure dissolution."

Sutured grain interfaces (HF1F) are less frequently observed than regular contacts between quartz grains.

Quartz overgrowths are observed as an important pore volume reducing factor in HF1A, HF1B, HF1C, HF3, HF1E, HF1E1, and HF6 This conclusion corresponds with the SEM/EDS findings recorded the previous chapter (Figure 12) where overgrowths occur in the intermediate ranges of the data set (Figure 49). However, information regarding the size of quartz overgrowths and their relative abundance in the composite graph can not be reliably obtained in two-dimensional resolution of thin section petrography.

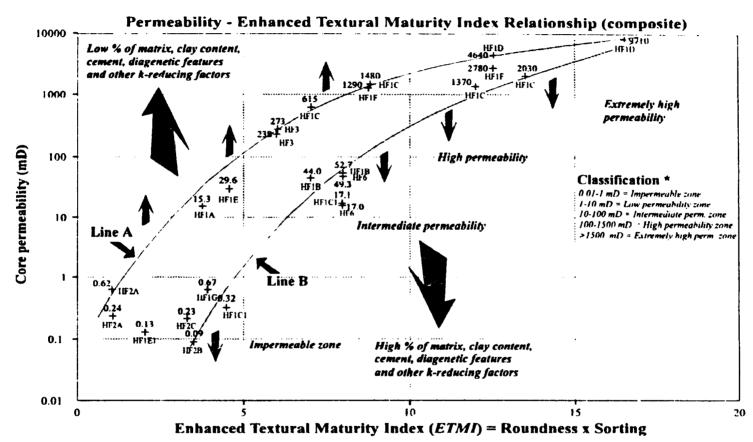
## V.3.1.3. Argillaceous material - permeability relationship in thin sections

Identification of clay types other than kaolinite, regardless of being detrital or authigenic is not possible in thin section. Therefore, the term "argillaceous material" has been used in the context of all the pore-occupying and textured materials including clays, feldspars, mica, mud pellets and aggregates, lithic and igneous rock fragments, and carbonaceous material.

Pore-lining authigenic clays in general are detected in most of the samples. Their abundances have not been quantitatively determined since the argillaceous material has a complex and chaotic character. Detrital clays are more abundantly observed in the lower-medium to fine-grained sands with the amount increasing proportionally to the decrease in grain size. Mica is most abundant within the silt to very fine-grained sand lithologies of HF1A, HF1E, HF1E1, HF1G, HF2A, HF2B, and HF2C. Overall, permeability decreases with the increasing argillaceous content (Figure 49)

## V.3.1.4. Calcite cement - permeability relationship in thin sections

Pore-reducing calcite cement occurs in the intergranular matrix of HF1B, HF1C1, and HF1G lithologies consistent with the findings of the SEM/EDS analyses (Figure 49). The only difference is that the calcareous content of HF1G (refer to core descriptions, chapter III) is identified in thin sections and increased the resolution of the SEM/EDS findings. The most abundant calcite content is observed in HF1B lithologies.



\* Permeability classification is determined based on data clusters and applicable on this graph only.

Figure 48: Increasing roundness and sorting is proportional with the permeability. The graph also highlights the effects of factors other than roundness and sorting. Specimens falling around *line A* have better flow capability than those around *line B* for a common ETMI. This is caused by the greater influence of permeability-affecting agents around *line B*. For instance, 615 mD and 44.0 mD specimens have the same ETMI value (7) but they fall around different lines.

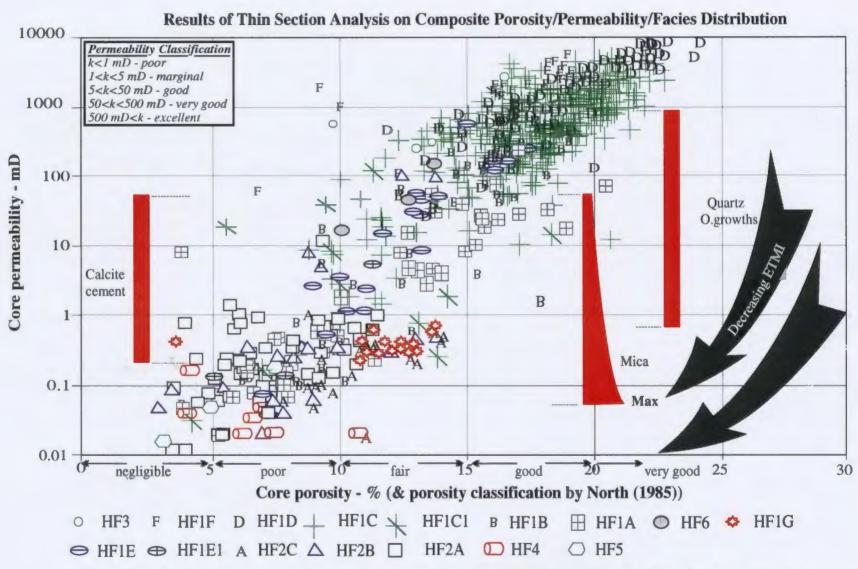


Figure 49: Analyzed HF1F and HF3 specimens have lower ETMI and porosities than HF1D. Two distinct clusters of HF1F and HF1D are evident and coinciding with the *ETMI* attributes (also refer to table 6a&b). Calcite cement is observed in a wider range relative to results of SEM/EDS in figure 12.



Figure 36: Poor to moderate sorting of subangular, fine-grained sands of HF1A.

Widespread overgrowths are distinquished with clay rims on detrital grains.

(SP102 (of HF1A); Mag=X10PP)(k=15.30 mD; Φ= 12.8%)

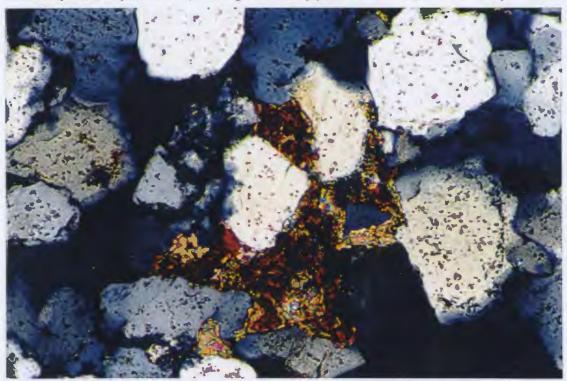


Figure 37: Intergranular calcite cement is locally-concentrated in HF1B. The lithology is fine-grained, moderately-sorted, subangular to subrounded. Overgrowths are common.

(Stained thin section of SP102 (HF1B); Mag=X10XP)(k=52.70 mD; Ø=12.3%)

(Width of both of the pictures=0.64mm; PP=Plain-polarized, XP=Cross-polarized)

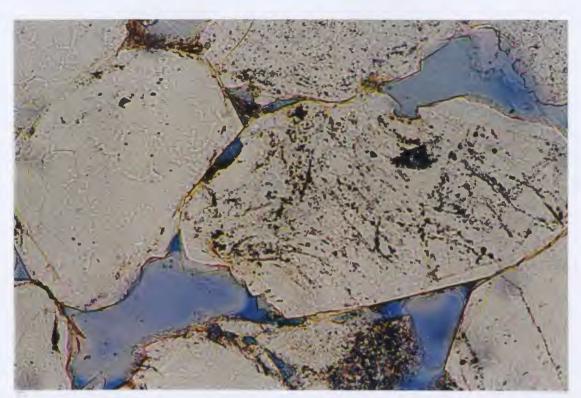


Figure 38: The lithology of HF1C is moderately-sorted, subrounded, and medium-grained.

Quartz overgrowths are evident. Serrate grain edges are rare, presenting

φ-increase by grain and/or matrix dissolution. (SP249; Mag=X10PP)(k=615 mD; φ=18.6%)

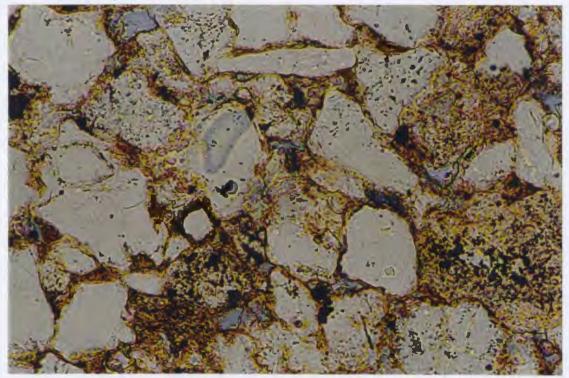


Figure 39: Upper fine-grained sands of HF1C1 are argillaceous, poor to moderately-sorted, subangular to subrounded. Types of abundantly-occurring clays are not clear. Pores are isolated by the matrix.

(P208; Mag=X10PP)(k=0.32 mD; Ø=14.2%)

(Width of both of the pictures=0.64mm)

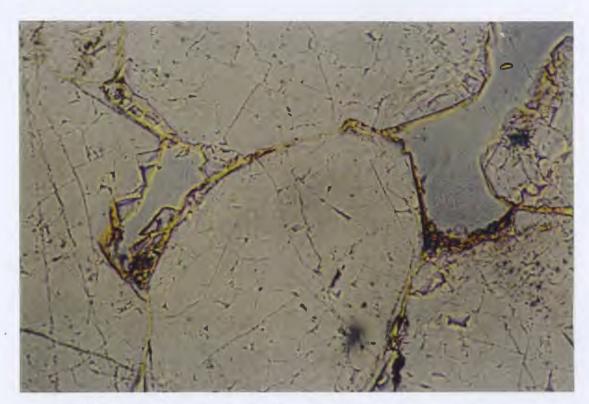


Figure 40: HF1D. High degree of roundness and clean texture of the coarse-grained sands are in favor of high porosity and permeability. Pore connections are well-preserved. Preferential alignment of geopetal fill in pores are ineffective on pore connectivity. (P347; Mag=X10PP) (k=4640 mD; \$\phi=19.4\%\$)

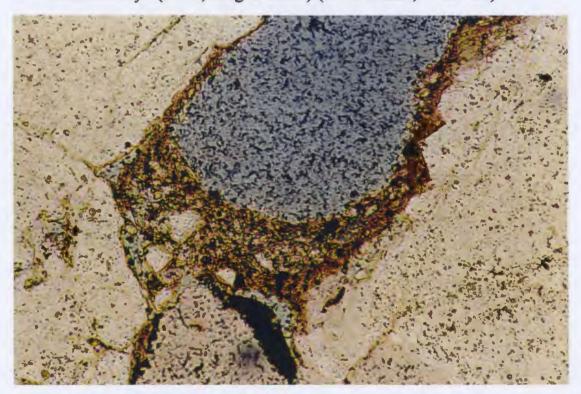


Figure 41a: HF1F. Possible geopetal fill in coarse-grained sands. (P74; Mag=X10PP) (k=1290;  $\phi$ =19.3%)

(Width of both of the pictures=0.64mm)



Figure 41b: **HF1F**. Preferential alignment of possible geopetal fill, good porosity and pore connectivity of the lithology can be observed in lower magnification photo. The lithology is subangular to subrounded, and moderately-sorted. (P74; Mag=X2PP) (k=1290 mD; Ø = 19.3%)

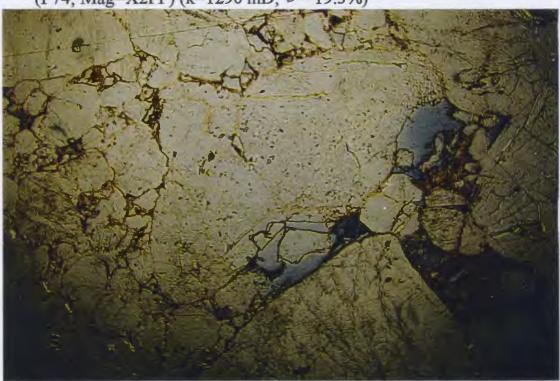
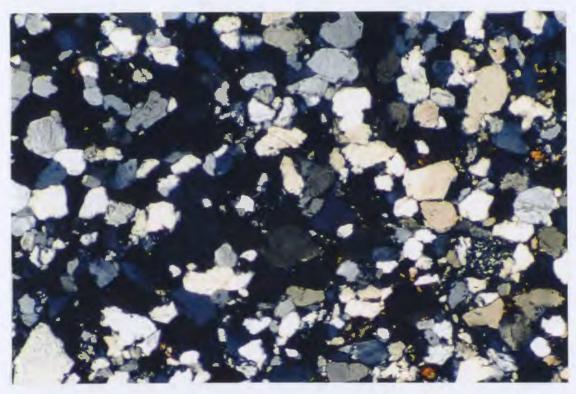


Figure 42: Bimodal character of the lithofacies HF3 is presented with pebbles and very fine to fine grains. Intergranular, kaolinitic clays appear to be depositional. (P134; Mag=X2PP) (k=238 mD; Φ=13.2%)

(Width of both of the pictures=3.2mm)

a) 116



b)

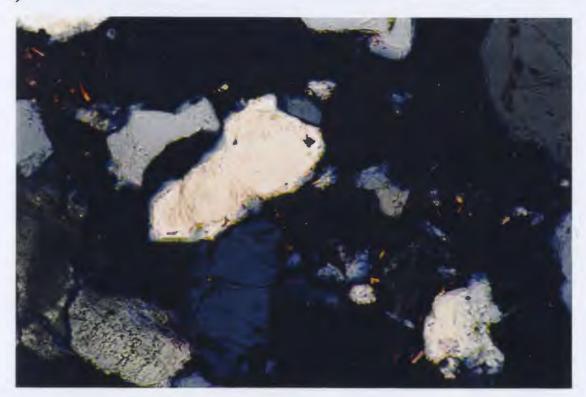
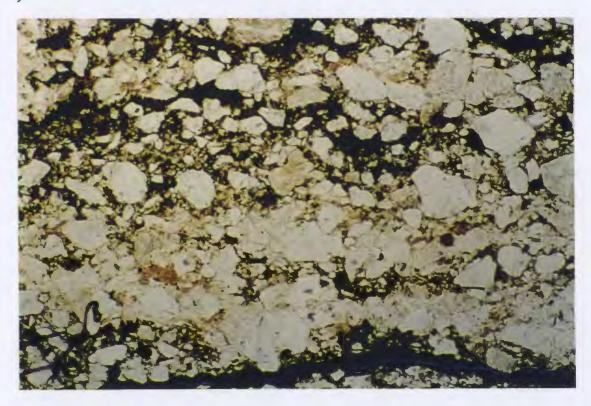


Figure 43a&b: Ripple cross laminated sands of HF1E. HF1E is very fine- to fine-grained, poor- to moderately-sorted, and subangular (43b). Quartz overgrowths and micaceous, clay-rich, and intergranular matrix reduce the porosity. (P145; a): Width of picture=3.2mm; Mag=X2XP: b): Width: 0.64mm; Mag=X10XP)(k=29.60; Ø=13.0%)



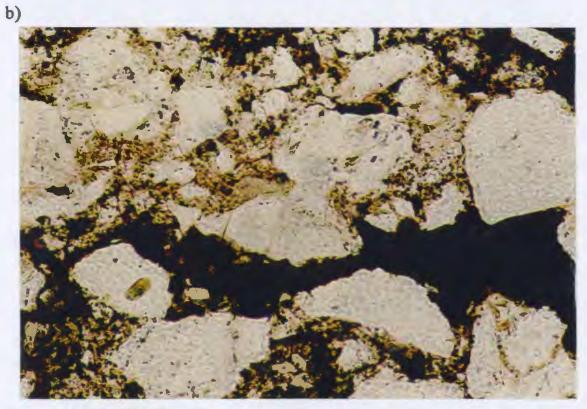
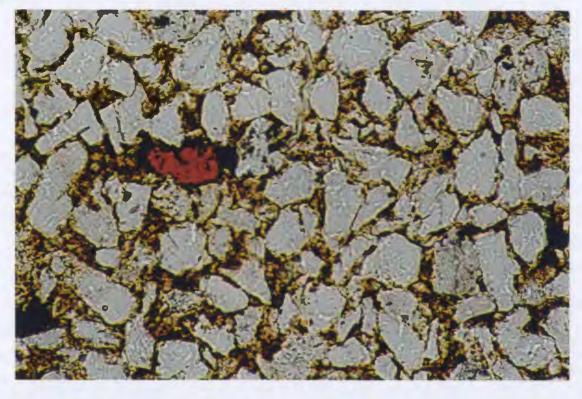


Figure 44a&b: HF1E1. Fine- to very fine-grained, carbonaceous sands are poorly-sorted, angular, and rich in organic matter. Complex intergranular matrix makes the clay types unspecifiable. Quartz overgrowths also reduce the pore space. Parallel lamination, in the form of alternating sand and muddy/carbonaceous zones, is abundant. (P137; a): Width of picture=3.2mm; Mag=X2PP: b): Width of picture=0.64mm; Mag=X10PP) (k=0.13 mD; Φ =5.2%)



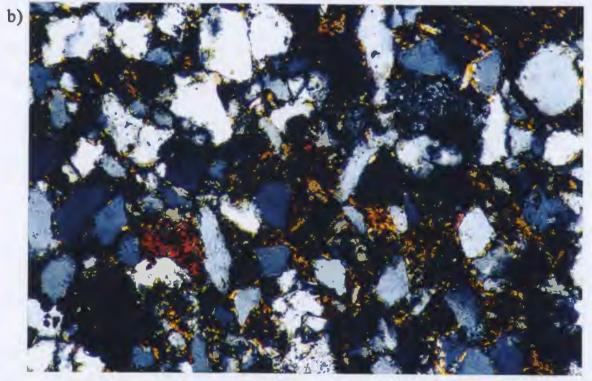
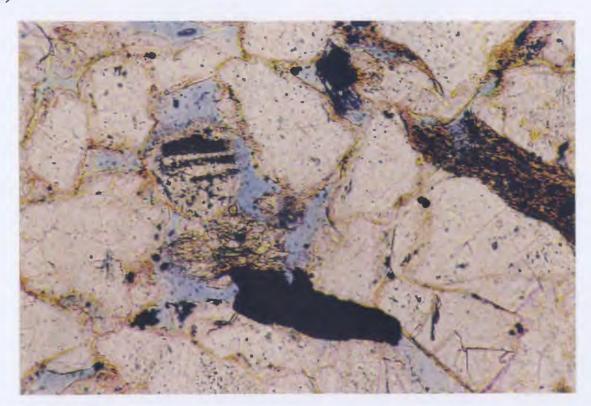


Figure 45a&b: (P203) HF1G photo from were two different locations display a very argillaceous, very fine-grained lithology. Local calcite cement is observed in red stained patches and reduce the porosity. Intergranular matrix is micaceous. The sorting is poor to moderate, and the roundness is angular to subangular. (P203; Mag=a):X10PP&b):10XP)(k=0.67 mD; Ø=13.2%)



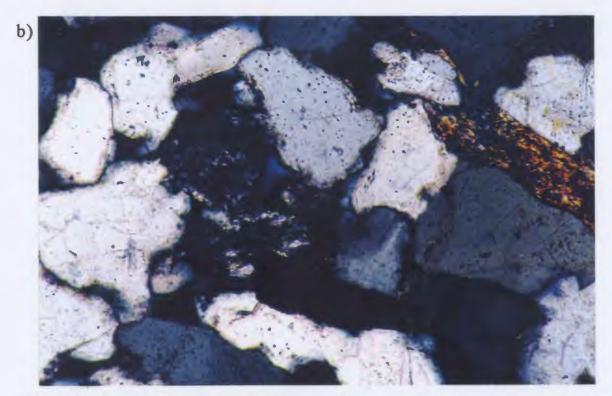


Figure 46a&b: HF6. Fine-grained sands of have well-preserved pores. The lithology is moderately-sorted, and subrounded. Organic material is present in the lithology. Organic material-rich mud pellet is evident in the upper right of the photos. Rare quartz overgrowths are observed in the cross-polar mode. (P164; Mag=a): X10PP and b): X10XP)(k=17.0 mD; Φ=10.2 %)

(Width of both of the pictures=0.64mm)

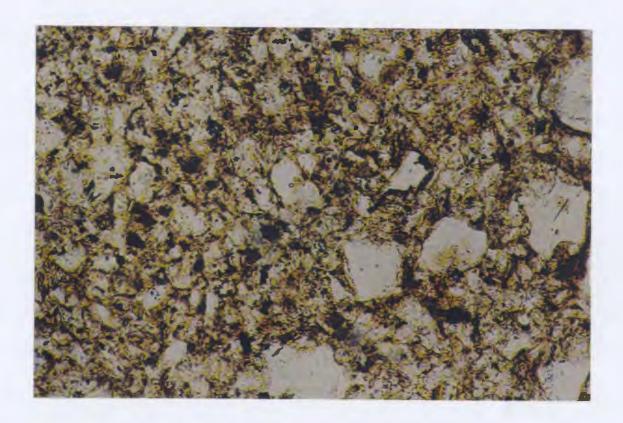


Figure 47: HF2A. Texturally submature lithology consists mainly of very fine sand, silt, and clays. Argillaceous material is abundant. Porosity and pore connectivities are very poor. Quartz overgrowths are rare. Argillaceous matrix material is micaceous. Chaotic texture lithology is controlled by the highly-contorted bedding structures as observed in core. Similar high clay/silt content and submature texture is observed in the thin sections of HF2B and HF2C lithologies. This figure is representative of all three HF2 interstratified lithofacies. (P147; Mag=10PP)(k=0.62 mD; Φ =11.4 %)

(Width of picture=0.64mm)

## VI - INTERPRETATIONS AND APPLICATIONS

## **VI.1-INTERPRETATIONS**

## VI.1.1- Assessment of flow capabilities in hydraulic flow units and lithofacies:

Permeability "is a measure of the ease with which fluid can flow through [rock]" (Koederitz et al. 1989). Permeability is a parameter derived from the integrated effects of porosity, roundness, sorting, cementation, grain size, argillaceous content, and the formation resistivity (function of the way pores are connected). Therefore, permeability is an end product of a complex system, which ultimately defines the optimal drainage points and production rates, permits well completion and perforation design, and identifies future EOR patterns and injection conditions (Alhilali and Shanmugan 1991). As discussed in chapter 1 the enhanced form of the Kozeny-Carman equation (KCE; equation 7) (Amaefule et al 1993) correlates rock properties and porosity in order to define permeability.

Application of the KCE-derived RQI, FZI approach to Hibernia data (Gardner and Albrechtsons 1995) resulted in definition of 5 major FZI clusters (Figure 3) which were ultimately designated to be 5 separate flow units with approximate permeability ranges as follows:

HU	Average k (mD - core)
HU5	0.01-20
HU4	0.5-320
HU3	0.2-650
HU2	4-4000
HUI	400-10000

Figure 4 shows that rocks with the same permeability but different porosities are grouped in separate flow zones. For instance,

k (mD)	φ (%)	HU		
4.8	3	HU2		
4.8	8	HU4		
4.8	9	HU4		
4 8	12	HU5		
4.8	18	HU5		

Since the goal is to identify flow paths with different flow rates, the hydraulic flow unit concept becomes misleading. In reality, the ratio between permeability and porosity (RQI) defines the flow quality of a reservoir, not the separate flow paths. As displayed in the example above, even though the permeabilities are the same, the reservoir qualities differ due to the changes in porosity. Another factor influencing FZI frequency is the fact that hydrocarbon-bearing, porous sands were cored more frequently than other lithologies in the formation. Therefore, sampling density biases the distribution of the frequency modes in the histogram, thereby influencing designations of the hydraulic units in a potentially misleading way. It is obvious therefore that "hydraulic flow units" are not different zones each with their own uniform flow potentials.

In this study, Hibernia lithofacies superimposed on a  $\phi$  vs k crossplot also span wide ranges of permeabilities; ranging from <1mD to millidarcies in the order of thousands (Figure 50). Transitional variations between lithofacies produce wide scatter as well. Consequently, lithofacies analysis by itself is not a method for identifying separate flow paths. It solely distinguishes separate rock quality groups based on other criteria. Integration of the available

data sets obtained from the lithofacies and core plug analyses improves the potential for the identification of actual quality zones in the formation.

## VI.1.2- Integrated interpretation of the Hibernia lithofacies:

Core, SEM/EDS, and thin section analyses have served to characterize features of the different Hibernia lithofacies. Permeability-controlling components, such as grain size, degree of sorting and roundness, abundance of argillaceous, calcareous, and carbonaceous materials, nature of the clays and diagenetic factors have been evaluated by core, log, SEM/EDS analyses, thin section petrography, and detailed cross plotting techniques (Table 7a&b). By integrating findings of each method, a template in the φ vs k was produced (Figure 50)

Figure 50 indicates that increasing grain size is proportional to increasing permeability.

Significant pore space-reductions by quartz overgrowths appeared to bear relationship to grain size and porosity at the time of precipitation. This is consistent with the findings of Berg (1986), McIlreath and Morrow (1990), and Lynch (1996) who evaluated the quartz silicification in sandstone reservoirs. As a result, two distribution patterns were identified

- 1. Large-crystal form of overgrowths (~width=100 μm) in the less argillaceous and porous sands of fine to coarser grain size (HF1B, HF6, HF1C, HF1D, HF1F, and HF3)
- 2. Micro-size crystal form of numerous overgrowths ( $\sim$ width=3-4  $\mu$ m) in the argillaceous sands of very fine to fine grain size (HF1C1, HF1G, HF1E, and HF1E1) which coalesce to produce overgrowth rims forming stepped pore surfaces.

Precise identification of clay types by the thin section analysis is not possible. SEM/EDS-coupled analyses indicate that authigenic smectite occurs ubiquitously in all of porous sands

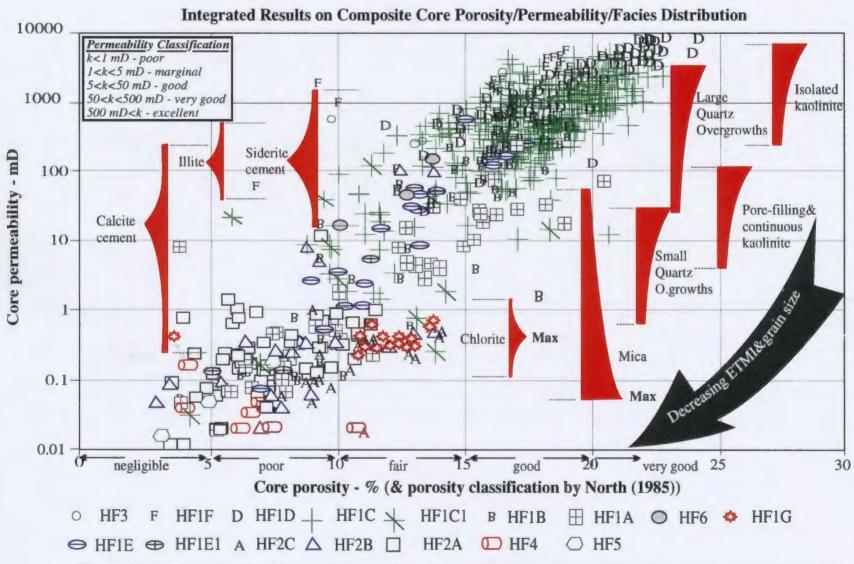


Figure 50: Integrated mineralogic and diagenetic attributes of porosity&permeability-influencing factors derived from core, SEM/EDS, and thin section petrography.

Facies	Definition	Av.Grain Size	k/Ø-reducing	S.Features	Roundness	Sorting	ETMI
Tacics		AV.OTAIII SIZE	agents	5.1 catures	Roundiless	Sorting	Ellan
IIFIA	Convoluted&wavy bedded ssss	very fine	siderite cement& qtz. overgrowth	7 > 1	A-SA	Poor-Moder.	<5
HF1B	Crossbedded&carbonaceous ss	fine	rare calcite cem carb mat &QO	<i>_</i>	SA-SR	Moderate	7-8
HF1C	Crossbedded&oil-stained ss	medium lower	QO&clays	4 N =	SA-R	Moderwell	7-13.5
HFICI	Medium-grained sands with high clay&rip-up clasts	medium lower	Arg.content+chl calc.+mud clasts	⊕ ∠ <b>%</b>	SA-SR	Poor-Moder	4.5-8
HF1D	Poorly-consolidated ss	medium-coarse	rare qtz. overgr		R-WR	Well	15≤
HFA	Basal sandstones	coarse	minor clays	∠(?)	SA-R	Moderwell	8.75-13
HF3	Conglomeratic bimodal ss	pebbly medium-coarse	qtz. overgrowths and clays	Fa	SR	Poor-Moder	~6
HFIE	Rippled&wavy bedded carbonaceous ss	very fine-fine	QO+calc. cem. Car.zones+clays	<b>1</b> √~ ≈	SA	Poor-Moder.	<5
HFIEI	Horizontally-laminated carbonaceous ss	very fine-fine	Chlorite+car. zones+clays	<b>1</b>	A	Poor	<5
IIFIG	Argillaceous slightly carbonate-cemented ss	silt-very fine	Chlorite+calcite	→ ≈	A-SA	Poor-Moder	<5
HF6	Coaly&carbonaceous ss	fine	QO+clays+ car.material	•	R	Moderate	8-10
HF2A	Slightly-burrowed silty/shaly ss	silt-clay	qtz. overgrowths and clays	4 30 = V	VA	Poor	<5
HF2B	Lenticular-bedded, moderately -burrowed silty shaly ss	silt-clay	clays+calcite cem.+qtz.overg.	÷	SA-SR	Poor	<5
HF2C	Well-burrowed silty/shaly ss	clay-silt	abundant clays	4 EN 2	SA	Poor	<5
HF4	Loose/carbonaceous shales&soil zones	clay	N/A	, ● 5×	N/A	N/A	N/A
HF5	Shelly 'churned&well- burrowed shales	clay	N/A	-, e~ Ey	N/A	N/A	N/A

Table 7a: Hibernia lithofacies and some of their descriptive features. For legends and abbreviations, see table 7b

	Sedimentary Structures	Burrowing
	Horizontal bedding	● Coal growth   Slightly-burrowed
	Crossbedding	T Quartzitic - Moderately-burrowed
; <u></u>	Convolute bedding Load cast Normal grading Wavy bedding Arkosic	Ripple xbedding Well-burrowed Climbing ripples Lenticular bedding Shell fragments Rafted carb material
r) <sub>gale</sub>	Pyrite growth	Vertical carb material
it <sub>N</sub> se	Siderite growth	C Chumed
73	Ball&pillow structure	Plant root tube
• 🖫 •	Rip-up clast	Facies Coding System
VA A SA SR R WR Other SS ETM Mode N/A	Angular Subangular Subrounded Rounded Well-rounded  r Abbreviations sandstone I Enhanced Textural Maturity Index er. Moderate Not available	<ol> <li>as in "HF1A" stands for ss-dominated facies</li> <li>as in "HF2A" stands for interstratified silt/sand/shale facies</li> <li>as in "HF3" stands for conglomeratic sands</li> <li>as in "HF4" stands for loose shales&amp;soil zones</li> <li>as in "HF5" stands for shelly/churned shales</li> <li>as in "HF6" stands for coaly/carbonaceous sands</li> </ol>
qtz.ov	~	Grain Size Scale
(QO) Sid.	quartz overgrowth siderite	$vcU = 1410-2000 \mu$ mL = 250-350 $\mu$
	mat.carbonaceous material	$vcL = 1000-1410 \mu$ fU = 177-250 $\mu$
cal. cem.	calcite cement	cU = 710-1000 $\mu$ fL = 125-177 $\mu$ cL = 500-710 $\mu$ vfU = 88-125 $\mu$ mU = 350-500 $\mu$ vfI = 62.88 $\mu$

Table 7b: Legends and abbreviations used in table 7a. The same facies coding procedure has been used throughout the thesis.

 $mU = 350-500 \mu$ 

 $vfL = 62-88 \mu$ 

of very fine to coarse grain size. Authigenic illite was only observed in the fine-grained HF1B and HF1E sands (Figure 50). Pore space reduction by authigenic smectite in pore-lining and pore-bridging forms occurred more effectively than that of illite which crystallized as fine clay rims around the pores.

Authigenic kaolinite was identified in a broader range of the lithofacies than the other authigenic clays. Two types of authigenic kaolinite were described:

- 1. Isolated, discontinuous booklets in the lower medium (mL)- to coarse-grained sands that have minimal to no effect on permeability
- Pore-filling and continuous kaolinite booklets which reduce pore connectivity occurring in very fine- to lower medium- grained sands.

Secondary kaolinite reduces permeability when it is in the form of patches partially or fully covering the pores (Shelten 1979). Isolated and discontinuous authigenic kaolinite booklets identified in the HF1D sands yielded low Si/Al ratios from EDS. Isolated booklets of kaolinite increase Al detection but have little effect on high permeabilities (P349-HF1D k=9710 mD and Si/Al=17)(Figure 10b).

Mud rip-up clasts, which are the characteristics of the HF1C1 lithology, are known to reduce permeability of the zones in which they occur (Cuthiell and Bachu 1991).

Identification of chlorite by thin section petrography is difficult due to highly variable mineral forms unless complementary SEM techniques are used (Wilson and Pittman 1979)

Grain-coating chlorite determined in the SEM/EDS technique reduced pore connectivity by producing grain coats and pore-blocking crystals (HF1C1, HF1E1, and HF1G). The crystal

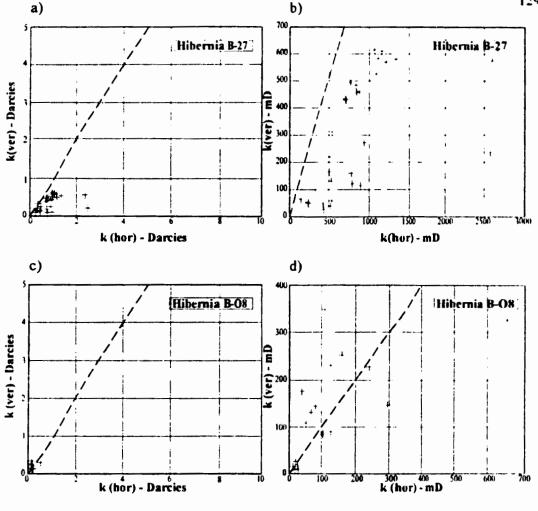
structure of chlorite increases surface friction to fluid flow due to the blade-like crystals standing perpendicular on underlying grains. Therefore lower permeabilities, regardless of grain size of the lithology, are to be expected for sands containing authigenic chlorite. In this regard, on the composite porosity/permeability crossplot (Figure 50) HF1G specimens cluster in the porosity range of 10-13% yet they maintain a permeability range of < 1mD. This is consistent with the finding of Hutcheon (1990) where he indicated that authigenic clays, depending on their abundance, can create ineffective secondary porosity in sandstone reservoirs. Total porosity increases whereas permeabilities can be reduced due to decreased pore connectivity.

Results of thin section and SEM/EDS analysis indicate that calcite cement reduction of available pore space is common in the very fine- to lower medium (mL)-grained sands of HF1A, HF1B, HF1G, HF1E, and HF1C.

Permeability and porosity decreased with the increasing abundance of argillaceous material composed of mica, feldspars, and blend of silts and clays.

## VI.1.3- Assessment of k-reductions by k-vertical (k,) vs k-horizontal (k,) crossplots:

The relationship between k, and kh, highlights the control of sedimentary structures on permeability. Figure 51 illustrates graphs depicting the relationship between vertical and horizontal permeabilities from three Hibernia wells. Lithofacies of the Hibernia Formation contain a wide range of different sedimentary structures (Table 7a&b). Bedding plane orientations and grain size variations, shale laminations and platy minerals such as mica affect the fluid flow depending on their orientation in respect to the direction of fluid flow. They



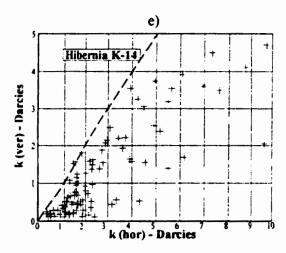


Figure 51: Dashed-lines represent oneto-one correlation interface between horizontal and vertical permeability. Except Hibernia B-O8, k, is lower than k,

Figures 51a,c and e have the same scales for comparison purposes. Magnified scales in figures 51b&d are used to expand the clustered data sets. Hibernia C-96 and K-18 don't have plottable data.

may or may not necessarily decrease horizontal permeability, yet can play an obstructive role on the vertical direction. With the exception of Hibernia B-O8, horizontal permeabilities ( $\mathbf{k}_h$ ) are greater than vertical permeabilities ( $\mathbf{k}_v$ ). Reductions in vertical permeability are induced by depositional features of the lithologies. This situation sets an example showing the significance of textural and depositional settings for fluid flow, especially in the sandstone reservoirs.

Core analysis of Hibernia B-O8 identified a relative scarcity of sedimentary structures of the reservoir sands. As a result **k**, is high (i.e. see core of B-O8 in depth range of ~3,619-3,623 m, appendix 1). Poor consolidation and coarse grain size in the reservoir sands may also contribute to the greater values of **k**, in Hibernia B-O8. Micro-fractures that could act as vertical conduits (North 1985) were not observed in B-O8.

## VI.1.4- Si/Al ratio-permeability relationship:

The EDS Si/Al ratio-permeability crossplot illustrates that Si/Al increases with increasing permeability. As a result, the Si/Al ratio is a significant tool in determining the effects of argillaceous content as a k-controlling mechanism. Gies et al. (1992) used this crossplot to assess permeability relationship in the Montney Formation of NW Alberta.

Specimens with permeabilities less than ~100 mD and whose grain size attributes range from clay to lower medium (mL= $<350\mu$ ) reflect scattered distributions in the k/ $\varphi$  crossplot. The scatter pattern becomes even broader with decreasing grain size. For instance, the fine-grained sands of HF1B and very fine-grained sands of HF1A form two separate clusters of data in figure 50; a) clusters in the "good" and "very good" reservoir quality windows and

b) clusters in the "poor to marginal" quality windows. The major factor placing an HF1A or HF1B specimen into the poor quality section is the abundance of argillaceous material which is consistent with the graph of Si/Al-k in figure 10b.

#### VI.1.5- ETMI-permeability relationship:

Enhanced Textural Maturity Index (ETMI) is a numerical demonstration of the degree of sorting and roundness. Assignment of numerical codes to the ETMI allows us to directly relate the textural quality measurements (sorting and roundness) to permeability

Two separate packages were identified (Line A and line B in figure 48) on the ETMIpermeability crossplot. The relationship between ETMI and permeability is proportional
(Increasing ETMI = increasing k) Specimens falling around line A have better flow
capabilities than those having the same ETMI but falling around line B. For instance, in spite
of having the same ETMI (4.5<sub>rl</sub>), the permeability of P145 of HF1E is 29.6 mD (around line
A) and P208 of HF1C1 has a permeability of 0.32 mD (around line B) This is caused by the
abundant clays (chlorite, corrensite, and smectite) and mica, and rare calcite cement in P208
(also refer to Si/Al-k graph - figure 10b).

As a result, cross plotting *ETMI* against permeability allows us to visualize the control of textural maturity over permeability as well as to highlight the presence of other permeability-reducing components.

#### VI.1.6- Evaluation of the lithofacies and hydraulic flow unit (HU) distributions:

3D graphs of the lithofacies/flow unit (HU) frequencies reveal that a single HU may contain many facies that are distinctly separate from each other (Figure 52&appendix 4). For

example HU5 can be subdivided into 12 lithofacies and HU4 into 9 lithofacies. On the other hand many lithofacies spread over a range of many flow units (e.g. HF1C occurs in all five HUs, HF1D in 4 HUs, etc.; figure 52&appendix 5). These 3D-crossplots also highlight general clusters between lithofacies and HMDC flow units. Coarser-grained sandstones, HF3, HF1F, HF1D, and HF1C are never grouped in the section HU5 designated for the weakest flow. Only HF3, HF1F, HF1D, and HF1C coincide with the highest quality flow unit (HU1). HF1C is the lithology bearing majority of the hydrocarbons in the formation and is mainly clustered in HU2 and HU3. None of the interstratified sandstone/siltstone/shale facies are grouped in HU1 and HU2 whereas they are spread over the remaining flow units.

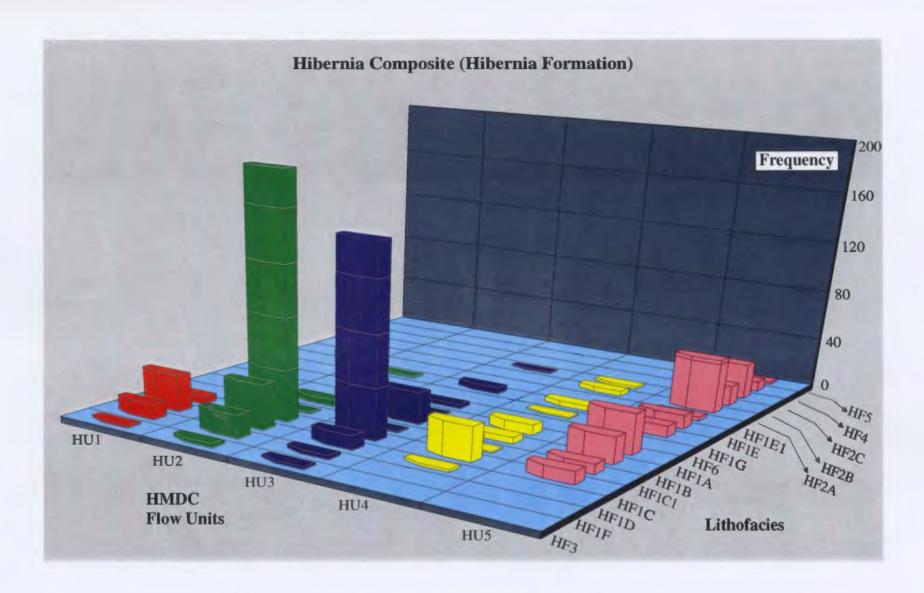


Figure 52: Composite hydraulic flow unit - lithofacies distribution in the Hibernia Formation. Red represents the best and pink represents the weakest flow. Colour designations are adopted from Gardner and Albrechtsons (1995). (For the values of frequancy peaks refer to appendix 5)

# VI.2- INTERPRETATION OF RESERVOIR QUALITY BASED ON MULTI PARAMETER INTEGRATION

# VI.2.1- Identification of the Reservoir Quality Zones (ROZ) in the composite core

As displayed in this study, neither hydraulic flow units (HUs) nor lithofacies adequately distinguish separate quality zones in the composite data. Textural changes in lithologies are gradational. For example, fining-upward trends of channel systems generate scattered data ranges in the composite graph of porosity and permeability (Figure 50). In order to introduce an effective and meaningful interpretation of the data set, the findings of each method used in this study (core, SEM/EDS, thin section and petrography) are integrated. Lithologies possessing similar  $\phi/k$  data, SEM images, textural, mineralogic, and diagenetic characteristics are grouped as subdivisions of a new multi-parameter concept "Reservoir Quality Zone (RQZ)". RQZs can group the specimens of different lithofacies and/or HUs within a specific quality zone. RQZs are the results of the full criteria range ( $\phi$  - k data, depositional structures, grain size, ETMI, Si/Al ratio, mineralogy, diagenetic character, and clay mineralogy) which earlier described lithofacies and HUs. As a result, the composite data set in figure 53 shows 3 general clusters of the data set subdivided into 10 RQZ sub zones. The coding system of RQZs is defined based on the three general clusters, as follows:

Principal Reservoir Zone: This zone corresponds to that segment of the crossplot
 (Figure 53) where the majority of the fine- and coarser-grained sands occur within
 the porosity range of >~13, and permeability range of >~100 mD (RQZ1a,

RQZ1b, RQZ1c, and RQZ1d).

- 2. Transition zone: This zone corresponds to that segment of the crossplot where the majority of very fine- to lower medium (mL)-grained sands occur within the porosity range of ~8-21%, and permeability range of 1<k<100 mD (Figure 53)(RQZ2a, RQZ2a', and RQZ2b).</p>
- 3. Tight zone: This zone corresponds to that segment of the crossplot where the permeability range is <1 mD (Figure 53)(RQZ3a, RQZ3b, and RQZ3c).</p>
  Subdivision of 3 general data clusters into RQZs are performed based on the following characteristics:

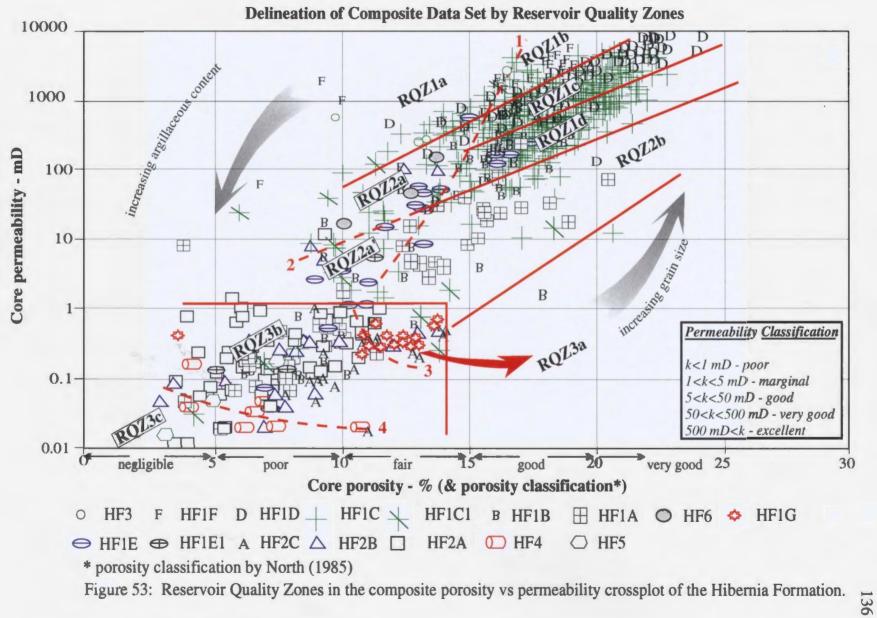
#### VI.2.1.1. Principal Reservoir Zone

#### VI.2.1.1.1. RQZ1a

RQZ1a contains pebbie-sized sands of HF3 and part of lower medium- to coarse-grained sands of HF1F, HF1D, and HF1C where the sorting is poor- to moderate and the roundness is subrounded, resulting in lower *ETM1* values (refer to table 6a&6b). The porosity range of RQZ1a is "fair" and permeability range is "very good" to "excellent". Lithologies in this zone are "clean" in terms of their argillaceous content (Figure 53) and can contain isolated kaolinite booklets, large quartz overgrowths, and rare siderite cement.

#### VI.2.1.1.2. RQZ1b

RQZ1b contains primarily HF1F specimens and part HF1D and HF1C specimens. RQZ1b represents the highest flow quality segment where isolated kaolinite booklets, large quartz overgrowths are observed (Figure 50 and 53). The porosity range of the RQZ1b specimens



is "good" and the permeability range is "excellent" (Figure 53).

#### VI.2.1.1.3. RQZ1c

Primarily HF1D specimens, secondarily HF1C and rarely HF1F specimens constitute the RQZ1c. RQZ1c is characterized by decreased grain size and higher argillaceous content relative to RQZ1b, possibility for siderite cement, authigenic pore-lining illite and pore-filling, pore-bridging smectite. In this zone authigenic kaolinite begins to change its character from being isolated and ineffective to being continuous and pore-filling. The RQZ1c specimens have porosity range of "good to very good" and permeability range of "very good to excellent."

#### VI.2.1.1.4. RQZ1d

The abundant lithology in this zone is the HF1C sands (Figure 53). Argillaceous components, micro size quartz overgrowths (width=~3-4 µ) become more abundant, and calcite cement starts to affect the system. Siderite cement is also effective in this zone. Relative to the other RQZs of the "Principal Reservoir Zone", RQZ1d specimens are in "the good porosity" and "very good permeability ranges" in spite of the increased argillaceous content.

### VI.2.1.2. Transition Zone

### VI.2.1.2.1. RQZ2a

RQZ2a is separated from the other RQZs by a gradual sub-boundary (line 1 in figure 53)

Increased carbonaceous material content is the characteristic of this zone. Calcareous cements, authigenic clays, and higher argillaceous components are higher relative to the zones

of the Principal Reservoir (RQZ1s) segment. The majority of the carbonaceous/coaly sands of HF6 and laminated, carbonaceous sands of HF1E are grouped in RQZ2a. The average range for porosity is "fair" and for permeability "good to very good". Specimens from the lithofacies HF1B, HF1C, HF1D, HF2A, and HF2B are rarely present in this section.

#### VI.2.1.2.2. RQZ2a'

This reservoir quality zone is separated from RQZ2a by line 2 (Figure 53). The main reason for the breakdown is the increased argillaceous content and decreased permeabilities in spite of being in the "fair porosity" range. The average grain size of the carbonaceous sands in this zone is very fine to fine. The abundance of quartz overgrowths decreases to a minimal level whereas calcite cement remains an effective factor in this quality zone. The facies groups in RQZ2a' are the same as those in the RQZ2a. The permeability ranges in this zone are "marginal" and "good".

#### VI.2.1.2.3. RQZ2b

HF2C, some HF1A, rare HF1C, HF1E, and HF1E1 specimens are grouped in this quality zone (Figure 53). The average grain size is very fine to lower medium. Authigenic kaolinite booklets are in the form of more continuous clay rims, thereby reducing pore connectivity. Quartz overgrowths are micro size crystals (width=~3-4 μ) in abundance, generating rough pore walls. Calcite cement, especially in HF1B sands, is another feature of RQZ2b. Porosity range is "fair" to "very good" whereas permeability ranges between "marginal" to "very good".

#### VI.2.1.3. Tight Zone

#### VI.2.1.3.1. RQZ3a

RQZ3a is subdivided from the other RQZs by line 3 (Figure 53). The dominant lithofacies cluster in this tight permeability zone is HF1G where chlorite is identified as the grain-coating authigenic clay component. Chlorite, as described in the section IV.2.3.2.3., can decrease permeability by disrupting pore connections and creating ineffective porosity. The average grain size of the lithofacies in this zone is silt to very fine. SFM photomicrographs and thin section photos of the related lithofacies of the specimens in RQZ3a display a high argillaceous content. Porosity and pore connectivity reduction by calcite cement is significant. The average porosity is "fair", and permeability range is "poor".

#### VI.2.1.3.2. RQZ3b

This quality zone has an extremely mixed internal framework where different lithofacies, especially interstratified lithofacies of HF2A, HF2B, and HF2C are intermixed (between line 3 and 4; figure 53). Clay-rich argillaceous facies as well as interstratified lithofacies with average silt-sized grains mainly occur in RQZ3b. The *ETMI* and the Si/Al ratio values are very low (Table 6a & figure 10b). Porosity of the zone ranges from "negligible to fair" and permeabilities remain in the range of <1mD.

#### VI.2.1.3.3. RQZ3c

This quality zone contains specimens with less than 0.1 mD permeability, and "poor to negligible" porosity (Figure 53). The highest clay content is observed in this group zone.

Although the majority of RQZ3c specimens have silt to clay size grain attributes, larger-

grained lithologies are occur in this zone as well. For example, the average grain size of SP99-HF1C1 is lower medium (250-350µ), a complex blend of clays and micas reduce the flow properties. Shale lithofacies HF4 and HF5 also occur in RQZ3c.

#### VI.2.2- Comparison of the ROZ to the HMDC hydraulic flow units (HU):

The RQZ boundaries and the HU interfaces are superimposed in the composite porosity-permeability cross plot for the Hibernia Formation (Figure 54). In the Principal Reservoir Zone (RQZ1s) the RQZ boundaries and the HU interfaces show close matches. In the Tight Zone (RQZ3s) there is no available differentiation by the means of HU method, whereas the RQZ method subdivides the data set into distinct populations. The sub-boundaries (lines 1&2) based on mineralogic differences are not defined by the HU method.

3D frequency graphs cross-correlating HMDC flow units and Reservoir Quality Zones for the entire Hibernia Formation are presented in figure 55 and appendix 5. Each HU can be subdivided into 3 to 6 different RQZ, thereby contributing to a higher level of resolution.

Both of the methods, as previously indicated, aim to identify reservoir quality sectors rather than separate drainage paths of different flow rates. The HU method is solely built on the core porosity and permeability values. The RQZ method is based on the integration of k/φ, core, log, SEM/EDS, and thin section analyses and therefore, is able to describe subtle differences of lithologies.



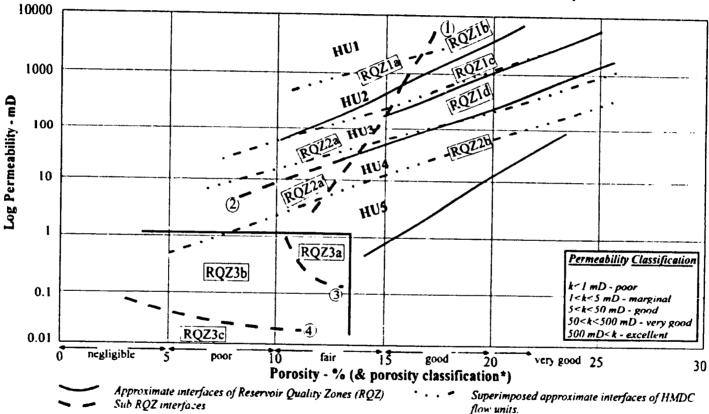


Figure 54: HMDC flow unit and RQZ boundaries do not coincide. Partioning in the lower permeability sectors (good to poor) are defined in more details by RQZ interfaces where only 2 HMDC flow units are described (HU4&HU5). (\* porosity classification by North 1985)

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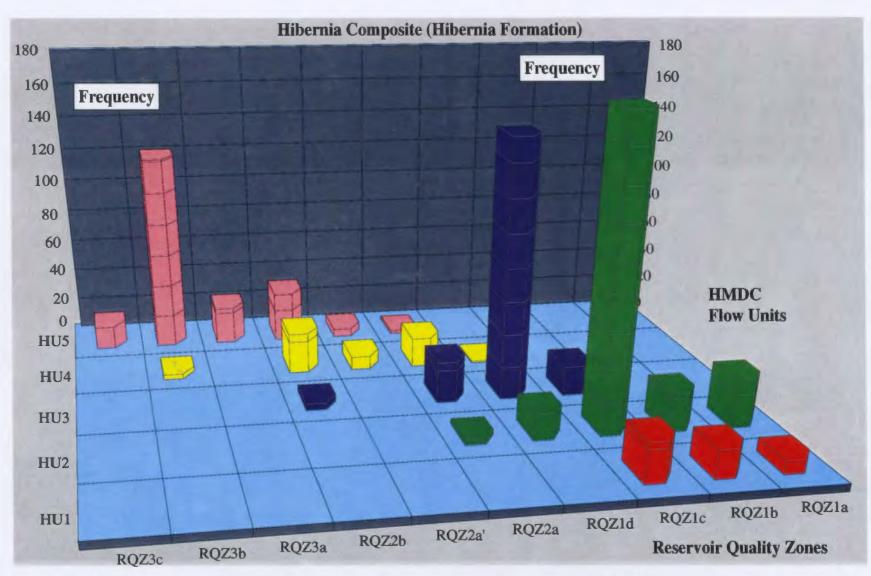


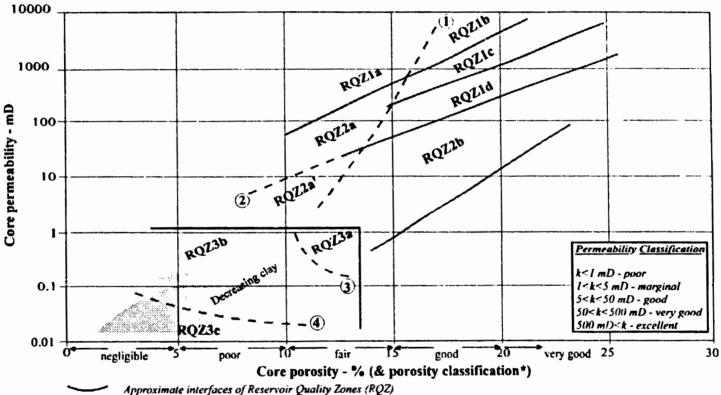
Figure 55: Hydraulic flow unit (HMDC/Core Lab.) - RQZ occurrence frequency graph of the Hibernia Formation. Red is the best quality, pink is the worst quality unit. Colours are adopted from Gardner and Albrechtsons (1995). (For values of the frequency peaks, refer to appendix 5)

#### VI.2.3. Estimation of the ROZ in the uncored sections:

The RQZ template (Figure 56) can be used to estimate permeability in uncored intervals. Porosity of a given unit can be defined by the integrated use of neutron, density, and sonic logs (Schlumberger Educational Services 1991). Rock properties of cuttings (RQZ) can be determined by the integrated approach of rock, SEM, and thin section analyses. From this information, a permeability value or range can be determined for a given specimen.

When the availability of drill cuttings is restricted or non-existent, porosity and clay (shale) content, carbonate cements, carbonaceous zones, coal and tight zones can be identified from logs in order to estimate an RQZ from a porosity - shale %crossplot. The determined RQZ for the indicated log porosity then permits determination of a permeability range for that specimen from the Φ/k crossplot.

#### Reservoir Quality Zones (RQZ) of the Hibernia Formation



Sub RQZ interfaces (line 1,2,3, and 4)

Figure 56: Reservoir Quality Zones (RQZ) of the Hibernia composite core plug data. Composite data is broken into ROZ based on the integration of porosity/ permeability data, facies interpretation, SEM images, SEM/EDS-coupled analyses, thin section petrography and analytically-calculated hydraulic flow units. (\* porosity classification by North 1985)

#### VII - SUMMARY INTERPRETATION & IMPLICATIONS

The Hibernia Formation was deposited as a river-dominated palaeo-deltaic system having abundant distributary channels with minimal marine influence. The main sediment load is distributed within channel complex, as well as in distributary mouth bars where subaqueous levees formed. Crevasse splay deposits occurred with less frequency in the Hibernia Formation. Carbonaceous shales of interchannel marsh sedimentation containing remains of vegetation, rafted material, and coal zones commonly occur in association with the channel sands. Shales in the form of soil zones identify repetitive subaerial exposures formed after the waning of channel deposition. Shales of marsh sedimentation were commonly eroded by coarse-grained to conglomeratic distributary channel sands. Erosion surfaces are marked with basal lag conglomerates, ironstone pebbles and rip-up mud clasts which originated from the underlying shaly strata.

Distributary channel sands in the Hibernia Formation are porous and permeable. Net oil pay, ranging between 29 to 68 m in thickness (Hurley et al. 1992), is mainly concentrated within these channel sands. Therefore, an understanding of the internal geometry of the channel sequences controlling fluid transmittance is essential for prediction of reservoir behaviour during the production phase.

Internal channel geometry is controlled by depositional lithofacies, and by partitioning caused by the influences of interbedded and interstratified levee, and crevasse splay sands, and shale sequences. Distributary channels in the Hibernia Formation possess basal lag

conglomerates (HF3) and/or massive lower medium (mL)- to coarse-grained sands (HF1F, HF1D, HF1C) at their base, where the only evidence of any type of sedimentary structure is faint crosslamination. In general, porosity and permeability decrease upsection within the channel sequences with the increasing abundance of silt and clay interstratifications observed in HF1E, HF1E1, HF2A, HF2B, and HF2C.

Crossplotting core porosity and core permeability data relative to the different lithofacies indicates that the distributary channel sand lithofacies in the Hibernia Formation cluster mainly in "good" to "excellent" permeability windows where porosity ranges between "fair" and "very good." (Figure 53). The gradational upward fining trend typical of the channels applies significant control over porosity and permeability, whereas the basal coarsest sands possess the best flow capabilities. Micaceous, very fine- to fine-grained, and ripple-laminated sandstones (HF1G, HF1A, HF1E, HF1E1) grade into lower porosity and permeability units (HF2A, HF2B, and HF2C). Some very fine-grained sands of HF1s and interstratified lithofacies of HF2s are mainly clustered in the Tight Zone (RQZ3s) suggesting that the shallow water channel-fill sediments deposited during channel abandonment and subaqueous levee and crevasse splay phases generate reduced porosity and permeability relationships. Porosity and permeability-reducing components (Figure 50) are common and are very effective in those sands of channel abandonment levee, and crevasse splay deposits (Figure 50).

Different depositional sequences such as channels, channel abandonments, partitioning by interbedded sequences of levee and crevasse splays, and interbedded shales are correlatable

across the field (Pocket). Most channel sequences have lateral continuity and are correlatable in the cross-section as well. The internal complexities of the channel sequences examined in core reflect consistent depositional patterns where they commonly truncate and erode shaly strata and die out as fining upward sections. Therefore having an understanding of those complexities which are addressed as "k-reducing factors" at the lithofacies scale is the most crucial step for Hibernia reservoir characterization and definition of flow zone distribution.

Neither hydraulic flow units (HUs) nor lithofacies define the boundaries of separate quality zones in the reservoir. Textural variations in fining-upward trends of the channel-dominated deposition produce scattered data points in the composite porosity vs permeability crossplots. The method of "Reservoir Quality Zones (RQZ)" introduces a multi-parameter approach which combines the porosity and permeability data, depositional, textural, mineralogic, and diagenetic rock characteristics and creates a template involving separate quality units in the reservoir (Figure 56). The usefulness of the template is significant. It is based on field wide formation data and therefore provides a strong basis for reservoir modelling and cell characterization in the model. This new method has an enhanced resolution relative to the HU and lithofacies methods and can be used as a template to assign an RZQ, and to estimate a permeability range for a given unit of either cored or uncored sections in the Hibernia Formation.

#### VIII - CONCLUSIONS

- 1. Lithofacies control porosity and permeability variations as a function of their mineralogical, textural, diagenetic, and depositional characteristics. Facies associations and facies stacking resulting from the nature of deposition and the amount of depositional palaeoenergy produce the actual flow zones in the Hibernia Formation with predictable flow properties.
- 2. Channel sands in the Hibernia Formation are correlatable between different wells suggesting that actual "flow zones" which are a function of permeability, and "Reservoir Quality Zones (RQZ)" are also correlatable laterally.
- 3. Both delineation methods, the hydraulic units (HUs) and the lithofacies method (RQZs), create separate reservoir quality zones, <u>not</u> separate flow zones.
- 4. Proposed permeability ranges for the hydraulic flow units (HUs) are too wide to permit an efficient reservoir delineation. Broad FZI cut-offs in the univariate histogram can generate misleading interpretations of the limits of the hydraulic units. The distribution of frequency peaks is controlled by sampling density. The statistical delineation method does not reflect rock and geological attributes, which are so essential for an effective permeability estimation process.
- 5. Distinct clusters of lithofacies occur especially in the Principal Reservoir Zone of the composite porosity vs permeability crossplot of the Hibernia Formation. Scattered lithofacies distribution becomes dominant with decreasing grain size in the Transition Zone and Tight

Zone segment of the graph where gradual transitions in rock properties reduced the accuracy of "reservoir delineation". Therefore, the assessment of permeability-controlling mechanisms which permits to identify "Reservoir Quality Zones (RQZ)" with internal similarity and consistency is essential.

- 6. The RQZ delineation method integrates porosity-permeability data, lithofacies characteristics, SEM/EDS and thin section petrography techniques, and log responses Therefore, this new method is a multi-dimensional process. Similarities in different rock types were assessed and grouped within same RQZs.
- 7. The RQZ method delineates flow data with a higher resolution than the hydraulic unit (HU) approach. Identification of RQZ in the formation has shown that the hydraulic flow unit interfaces neither recognize some of the major boundaries (RQZ3s) nor any of subboundaries of the RQZ method. HU and RQZ interfaces in the Principal Reservoir Zone (RQZ1s) closely correspond to one another where internally less complex channel sands occur. In more complex lithologies ("Transition Zone" and "Tight Zone" lithofacies) HU methods ignore the actual porosity and permeability-affecting rock properties
- 8. In general, hydraulic flow units (HUs) do not introduce any way of assessing geologic factors whereas RQZ makes the geologic components assessable and provides a visual appreciation of the reservoir quality and heterogeneity.
- 9. The RQZ template generated from the core data can be used as a standard comparator to estimate permeability ranges for given units of the uncored sections. Using log-derived volume of shale and porosity it is possible to determine both RQZ for a particular segment

of the formation and a permeability range. Therefore, the RQZ model can be used to predict permeability by using logs, with or without cuttings.

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APPENDIX I- Grain size logs and facies identification of the cored wells of the Hibernia Formation (Hibernia B-27, Hibernia B-08, Hibernia C-96, Hibernia K-18, and Hibernia K-14).

# LEGEND (Legend is modified and/or adopted from Swanson (1981))

#### Lithologies **Sedimentary Structures** Horizontal bedding Crossbedding ∠ (?) Faint Sandstone Convolute bedding Load cast Normal grading Siltstone Wavy bedding Arkosic Pyrite growth Shale E ON Siderite growth Ball and pillow structure O Rip-up clast Conglomerate Coal growth **Ouartzitic** Ripple crossbedding Coal A Climbing ripples Carb. rafted material **Shaly Sandstone** Lenticular bedding Vertical carb, material Churned Silty sandstone Shell fragments **Boundaries** Sharp bound.

Silty shale

# Visual Oil-Show Descriptions

- No oil-show
- (\ HC Odor
- Poor oil stain
- Excellent oil stain

# **Visual Porosity Descriptions**

- ? Not predictable
- Poor (1-5%)
- # Fair (5-10%)
- **Good (10-15%)**
- Excellent (>%15)

# Burrowing

- ⊕' Slightly burrowed
- O Moderately burrowed
- O' Well-burrowed
- λ Plant root tubes

## Palaeo-environments

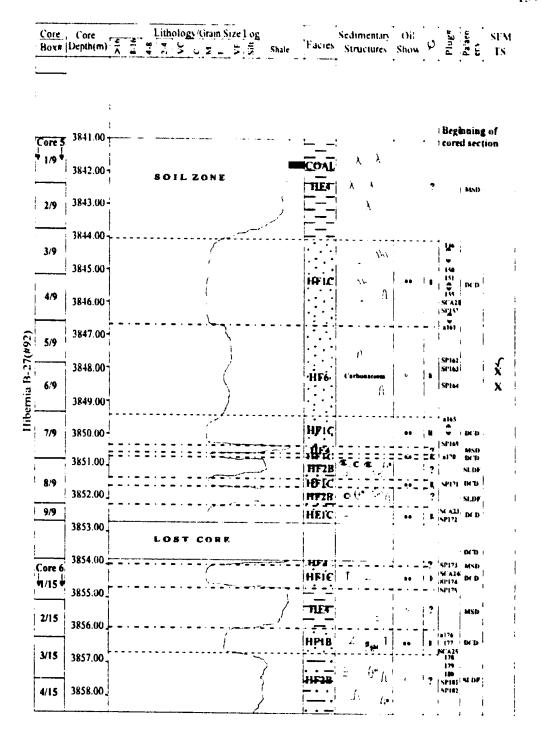
- **DCD** Distributary channel deposits
- LCSD Levee and proximal crevasse splay deposits
- **DFF** Delta front facies
- SLDF Subaquaeous levee of delta front deposits
- MSD Marsh and swamp deposits

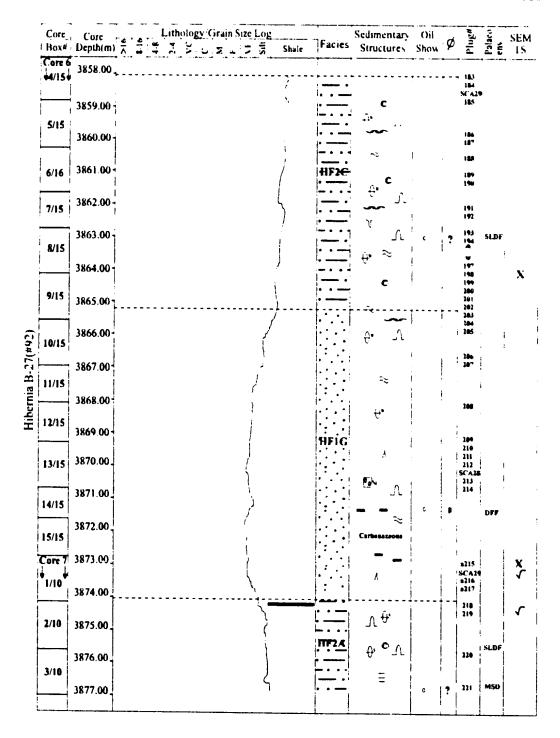
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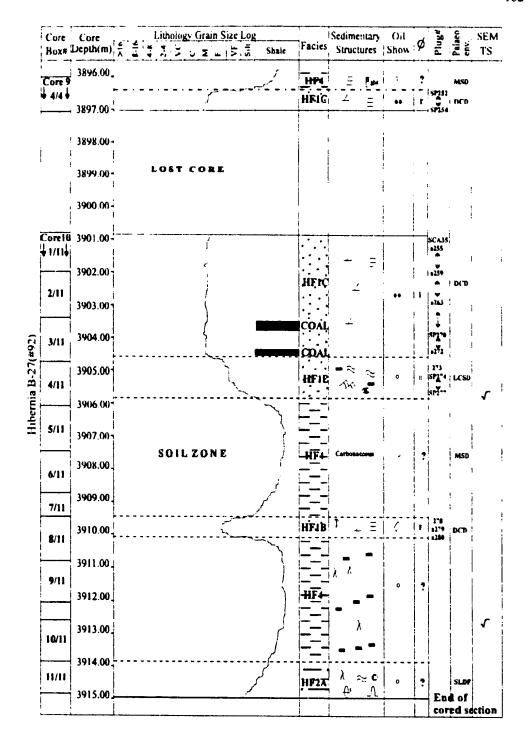
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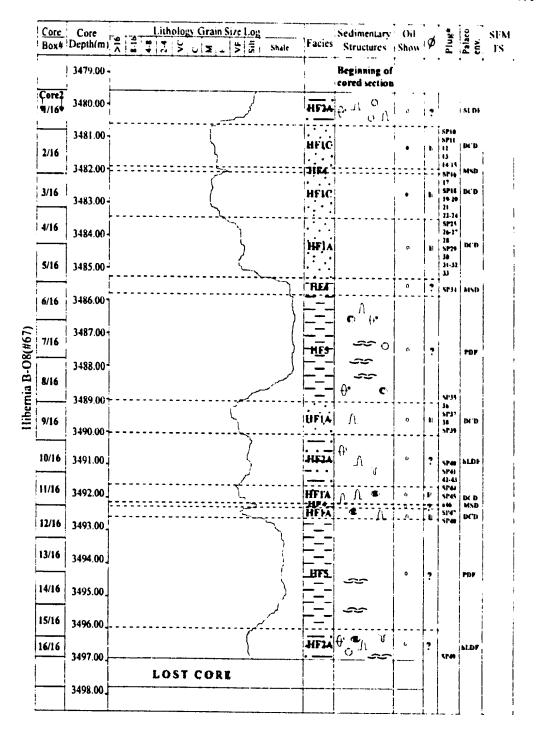
AAAAAAAA AA Erosion surface

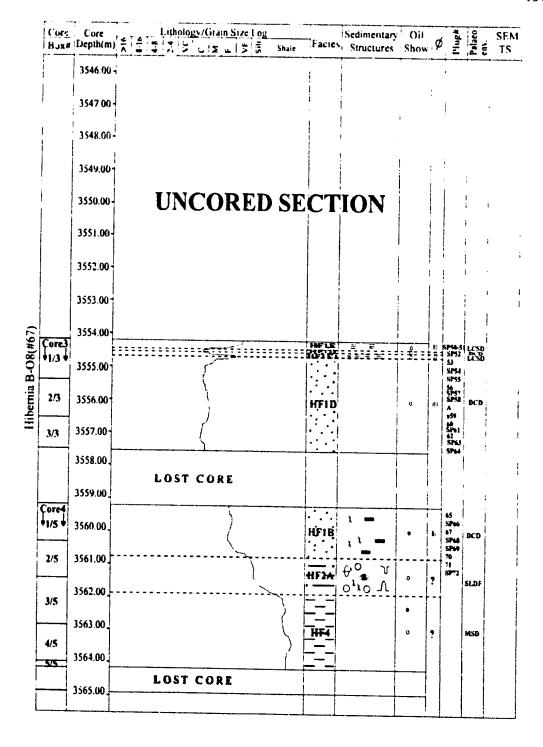


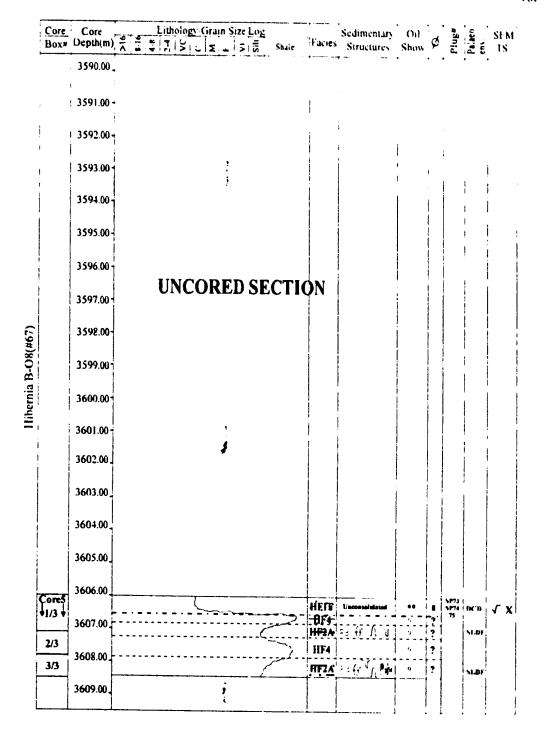


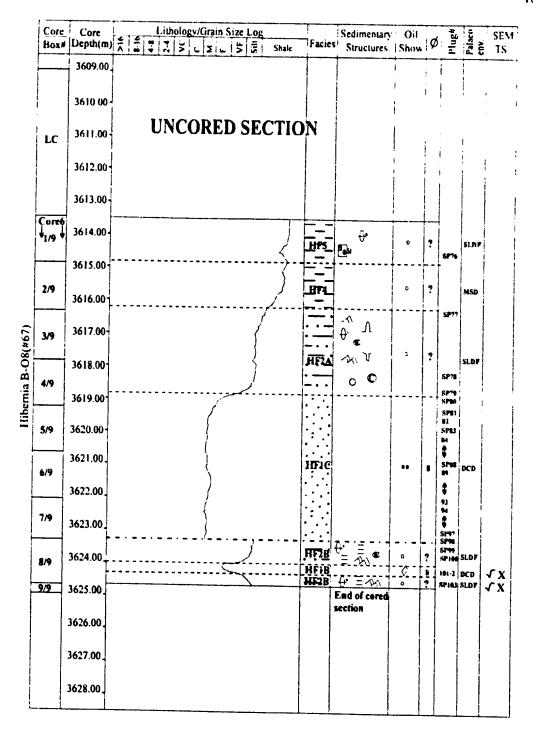
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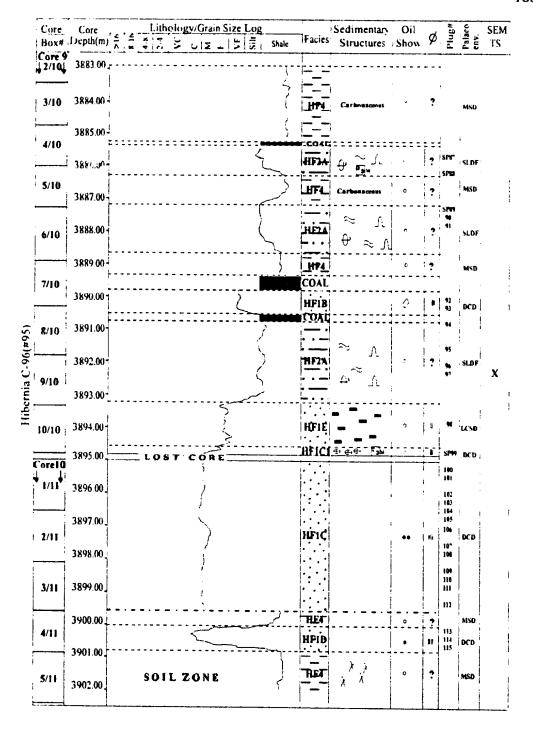


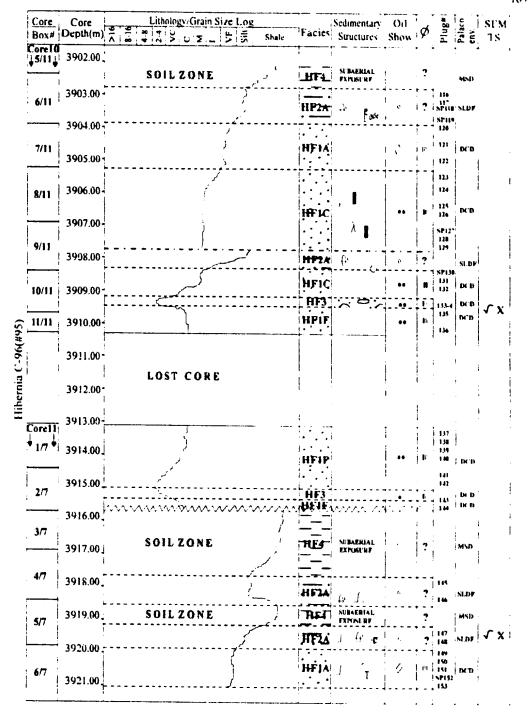


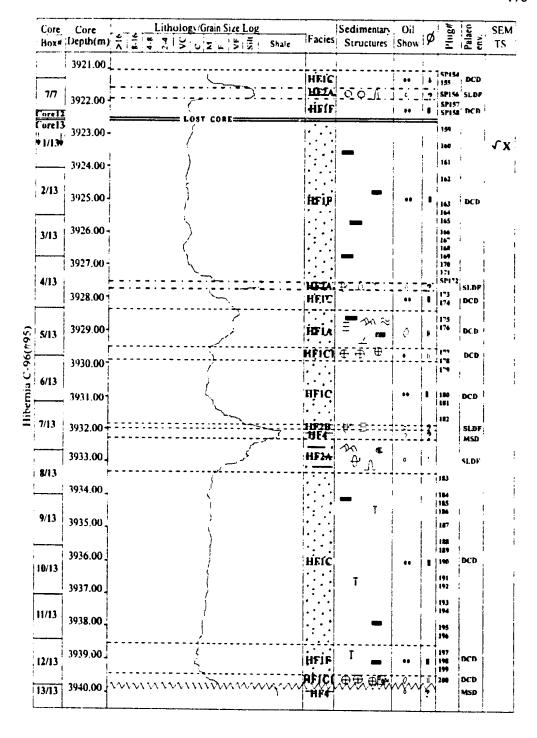




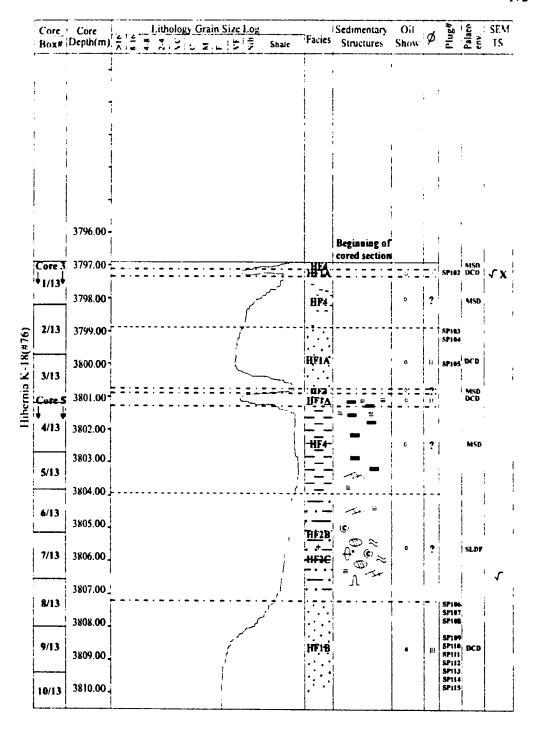
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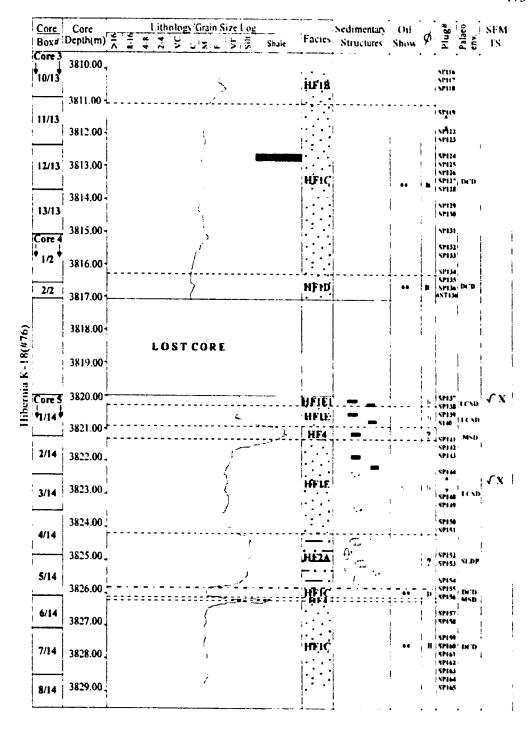


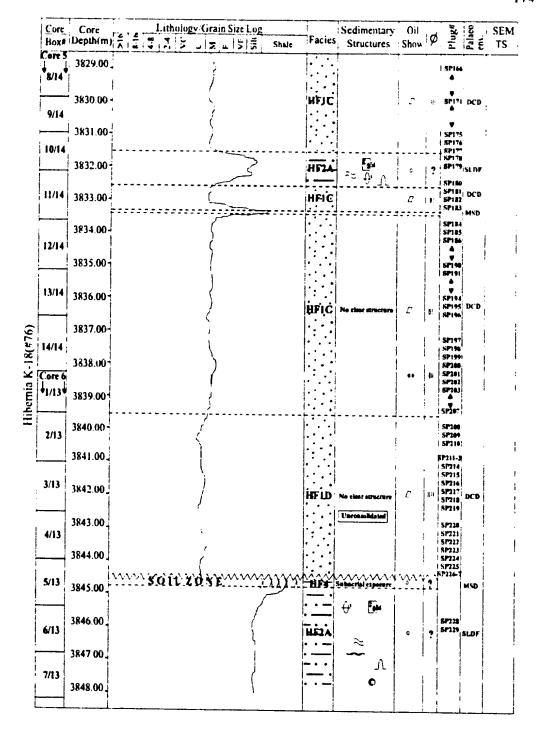




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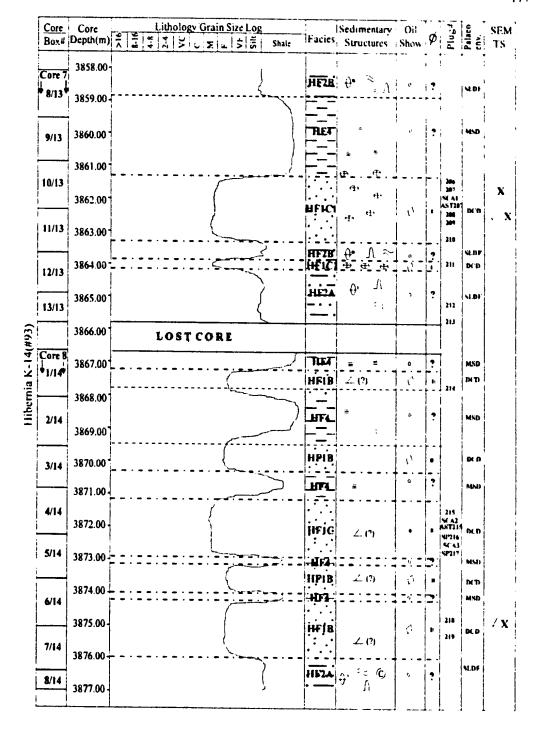


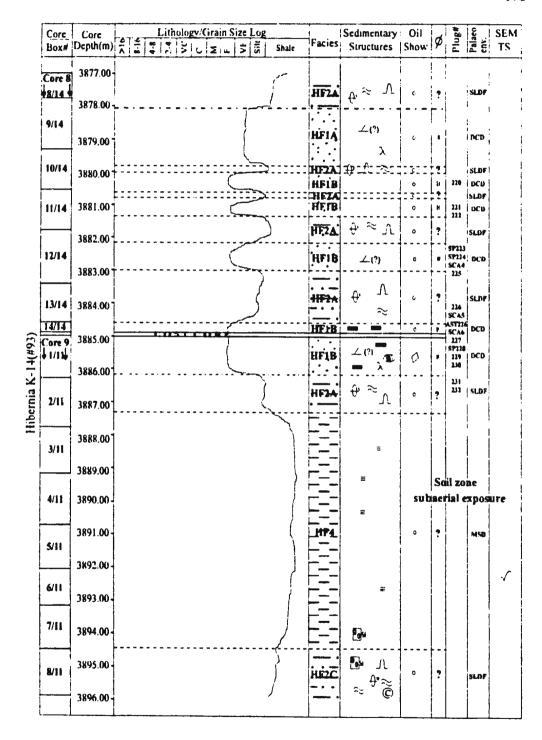


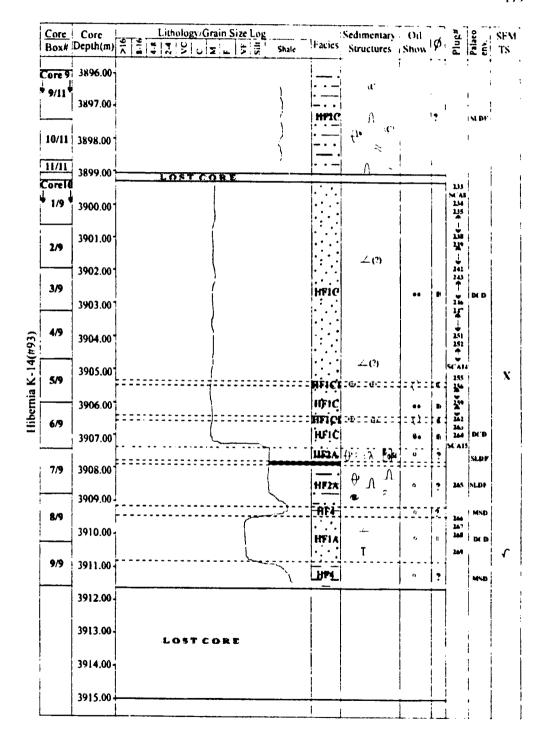


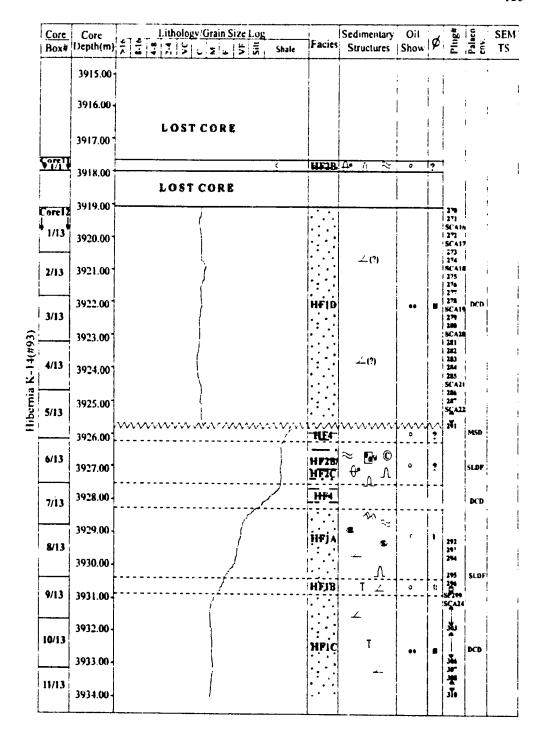
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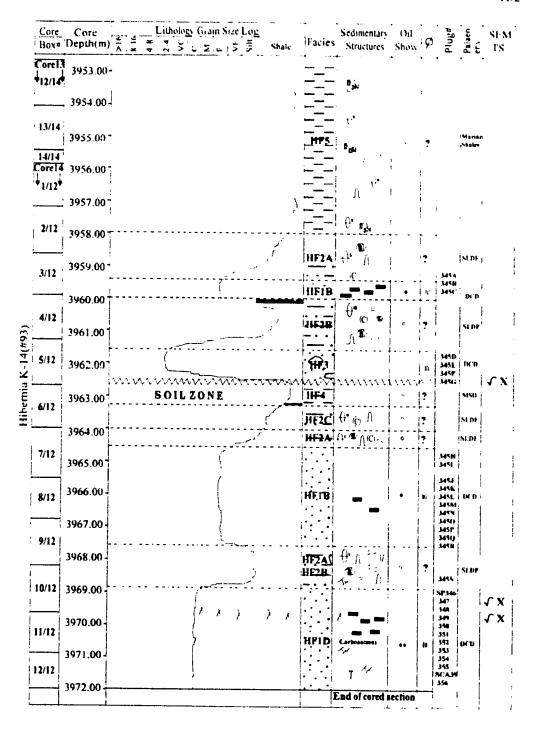






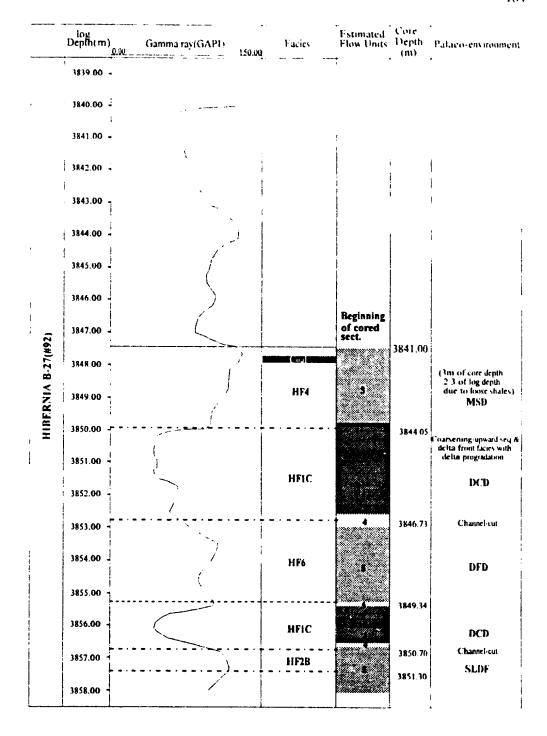


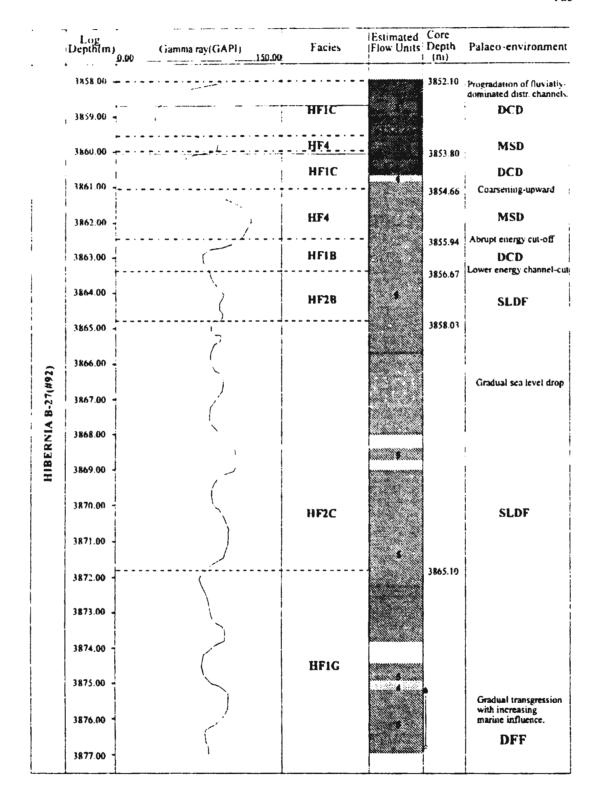
	Core	Core Depth(m)	Lithology Grain Size Log		Sedimentary	 Oıl			SFM.
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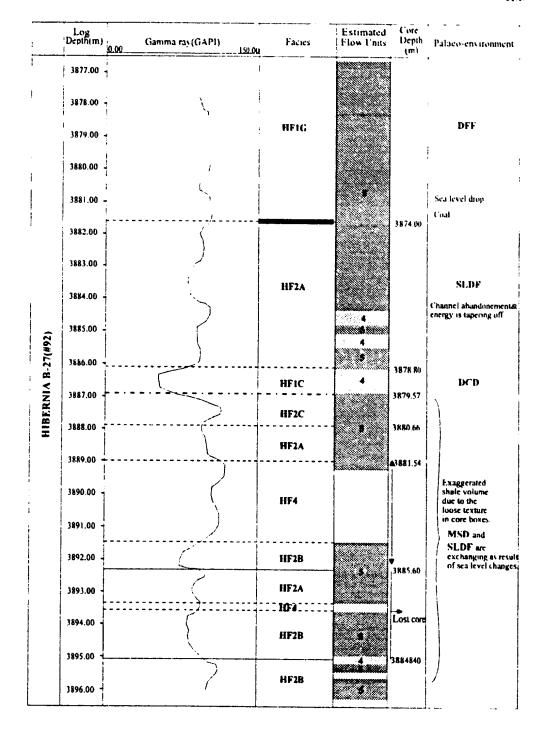


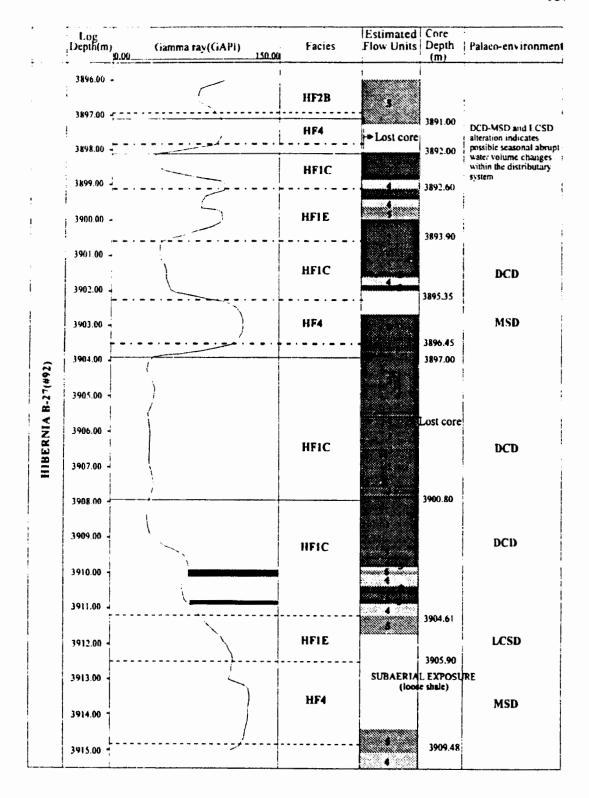
## APPENDIX II

- 1- Deviations between the core and log depths had to be corrected to determine the exact locations of the Hibernia core plugs for correlating the lithofacies associations with the designated hydraulic flow units. Depth deviations were caused by the core units which expand during storage procedure.
- 2- Gamma-ray log of Hibernia B-O8 was not available. Therefore the grain size log of Hibernia B-O8 was with the volume of shale-hydraulic unit composite of HMDC.
- 3- Types of the lithofacies contacts (erosional, sharp, and gradational) in gamma-ray logs are adopted from the grain size logs in appendix I.

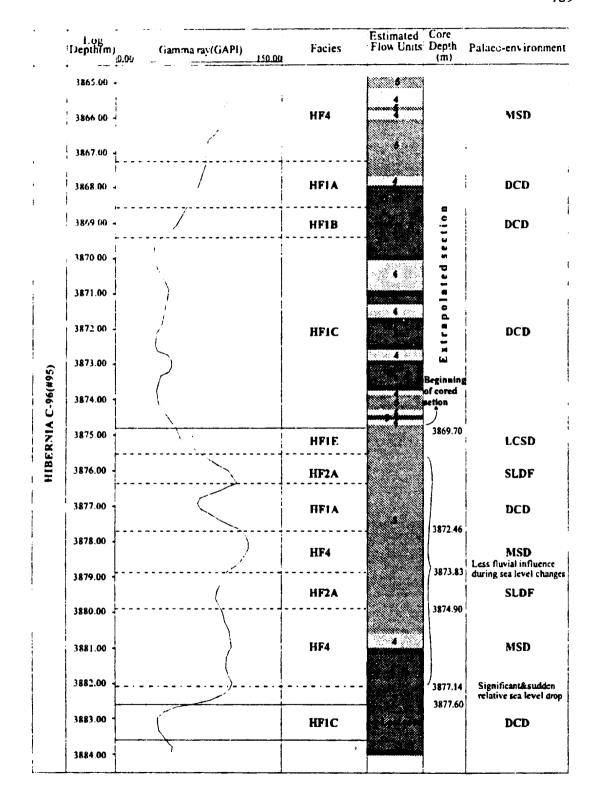


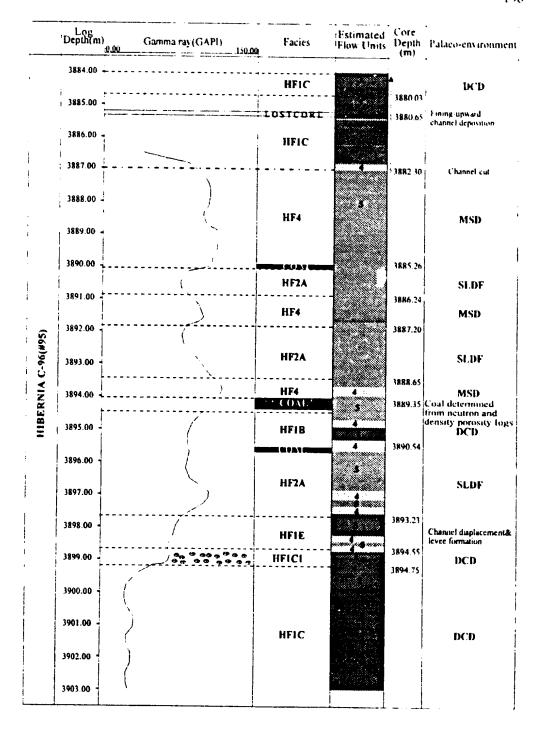


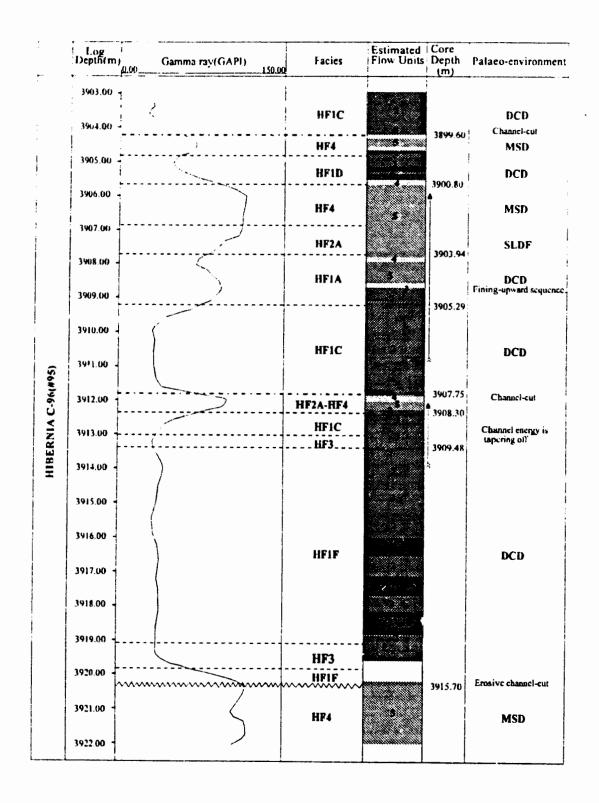


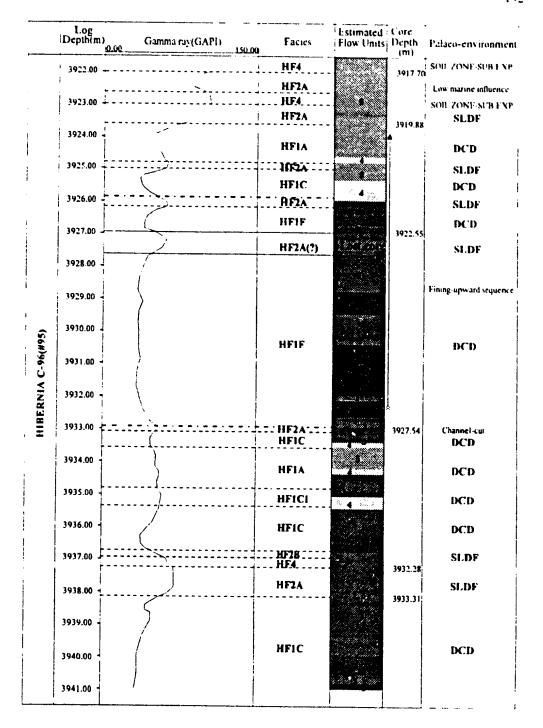


	log Depth(m)	Gamma ray(GA	Pi) 150.00	Facies	Estimated Flow Units	Core Depth (m)	Palaco-environment
i	1 3915 00 -	الرمي		HF4	8		MSD
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1	3918.00			HF4		!	MSD
į	3919.00	(				:	: 
	3920.00		ا	HF2A	•	3913.95	SLDF
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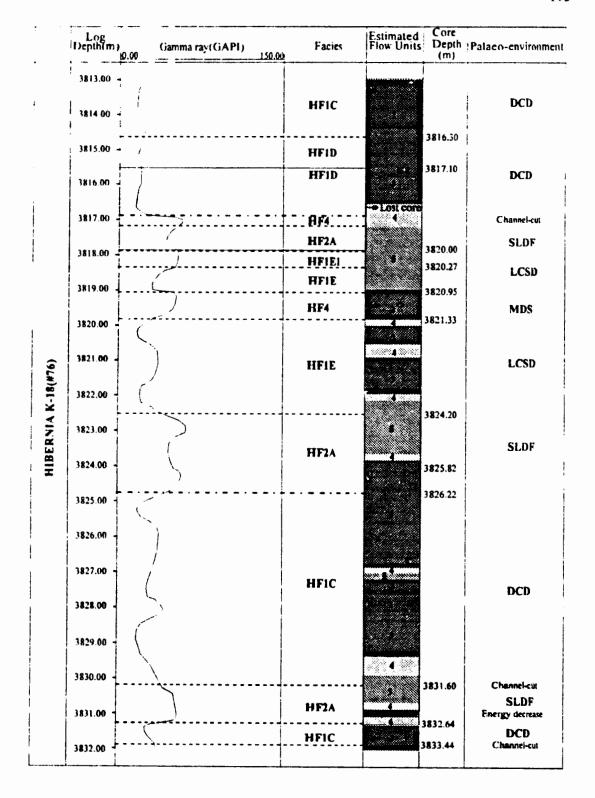


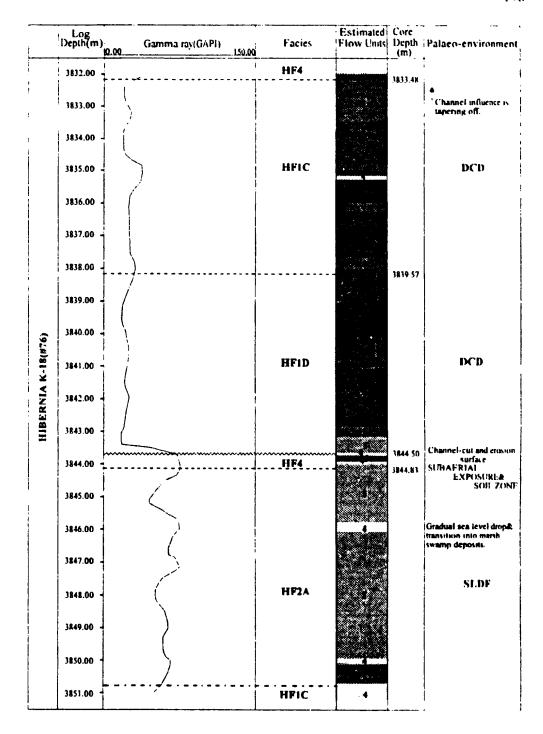




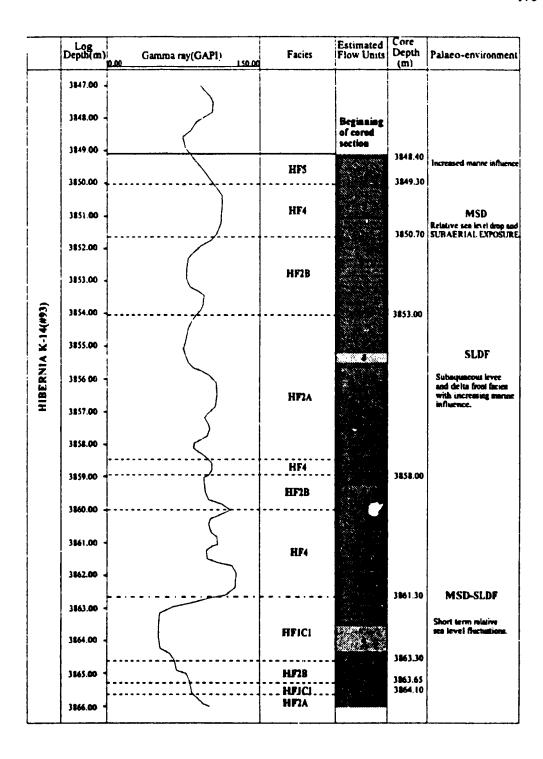
	Log Depth(m)	Gamma ray(GAP!)	Facies	Estimated Flow Units	Core Depth (m)	Palaeo-environment
	3941.00 - 1942.00 -		HFIC- HFIF(?)		3938.52	DCD
:	3944.00		HFIF		3730.32	i i
İ	3945.00		HF4		3939.70 3940.60	MSD
	3946.00		HF2A	4	3941.70	SLDF
	3947.00		HF4		2711.10	MSD
	3949.00		· • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •		3 <del>94</del> 3.50	Sea level changes generate prodeltaic shales, marsh and subaquaeous levee deposits.
C-96(#95)	3950 00 -		HF2A			SLDF
HIBERNIA	3951.00	)	HF4 HF5	+ - - -	3945.48 3946.10 3946.80	MSD SLDF
HBI	3952.00					
	3953.00		HF4			MSD
	3954.00					
	3955.00	(	HF5		3950.80 3951.20	SLDF
	3957 00 -					
	3958.00		HF4			MSD
	3959.00			End of cored section		
	3960.00	`				

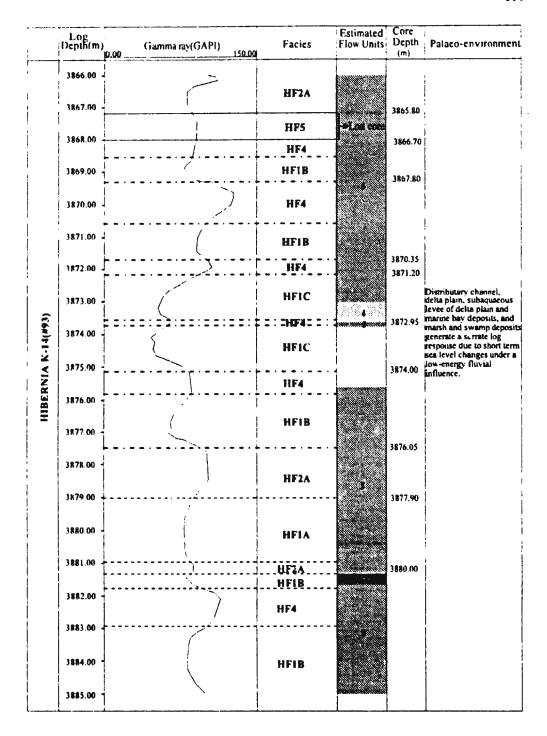
	Log Depth(m)	0.00 Gamma ray(GAP1)	Facies	Estimated Flow Units	Core Depth (m)	Palaco-environment
í	3794.00					Reginning of
ı	3795.00		HFIA		3796 90 3797.34	cored section DCD
	3796.00 -		HF4		3798.87	
	3797.00		HFIA		3170.07	
	3798.00		]		3800.75 3800.90	
	3799.00		HFIA		3801 10	DCD
	3777.00				3MU1 117	
1	3800.00	3	HF4			
! !	3801.60				ļ	MSD
(9)	3802.00			-	3803.95	
HIBERNIA K-18(#76)	3803.00	\$				
RNIA	3804 00 -	,	HF2C			SLDF
HIBI	3805.00				807.21	
	3806.00					
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	3813.00					

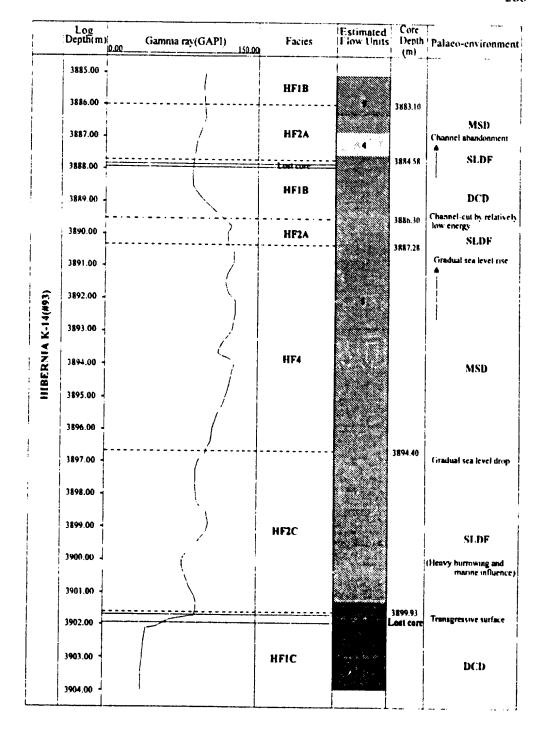


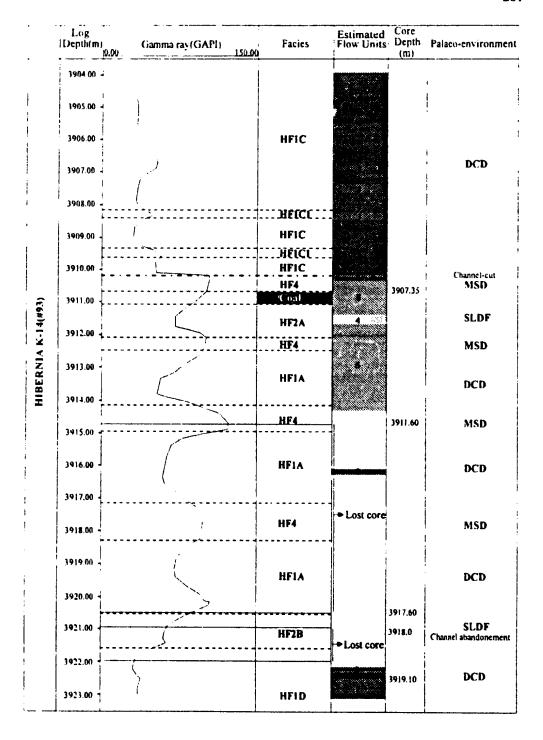


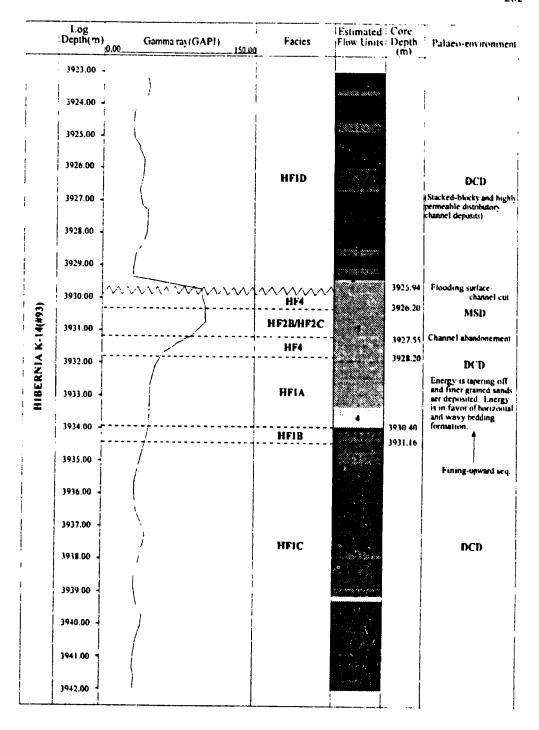
;	Log Depth(m)	0.00 Gamma ray(GAPI)	Facies	Estimated Flow Units	Core Depth (m)	Palaco-environment
1	3851.00		<b>НЕ2В</b> :		3851.75	Abrupt sea level rise and transgressive surface.
İ	3852 00					transgressive surface.
i	3853.00	1	HFIC			DCD
	3854.00					
	3855.00	<u>\</u>			3856.09	:
	3856.00		HF2B	0.0000000000000000000000000000000000000	3857.43	SLDF
	3857.00		HFIC			DCD
	3858.00			-		
(9/	3859.00		HF4		3859.35	MSD
HIBERNIA K-18(#76)	3860.00	Ś	HF2A		1	SLDF
RNIA	3861.00			-	3861.82 3862.25	I MISI
HIBE	3862.00		HF2A		İ	SLDF
	3863.00		HF4		3862.58	MSD
	3864.00	/			3863.74	Marsh-swamp deposits and subaquaeous delta front facies with short
	3865.00		HF2A			term sea level changes.
	1866.00	<u> </u>	HF4		3866.00 3866.7	MSD
	3867.00	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	HF2A UF4	End of cored section.		SLDF MSD
i	3868.00	7	HF2A HF4	- SECULOR.		SLDF
		······································	HF2A	-		MSD SLDF
	3869.00	·····›	HF4			MSD
	3870.00					

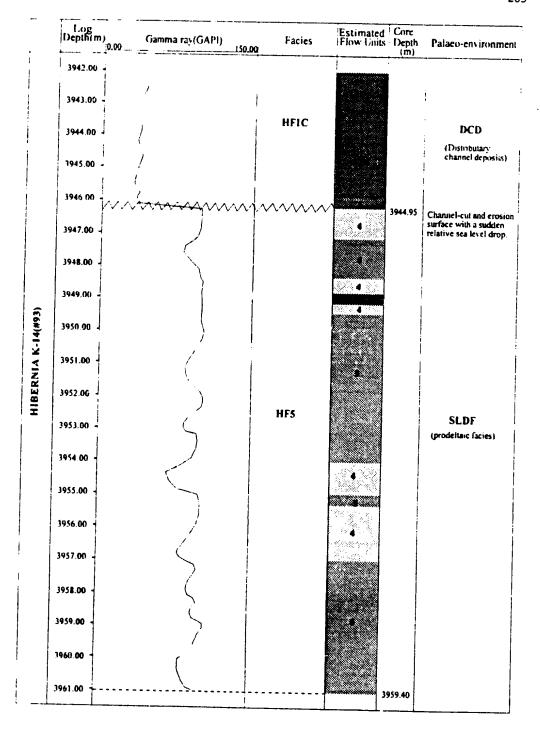


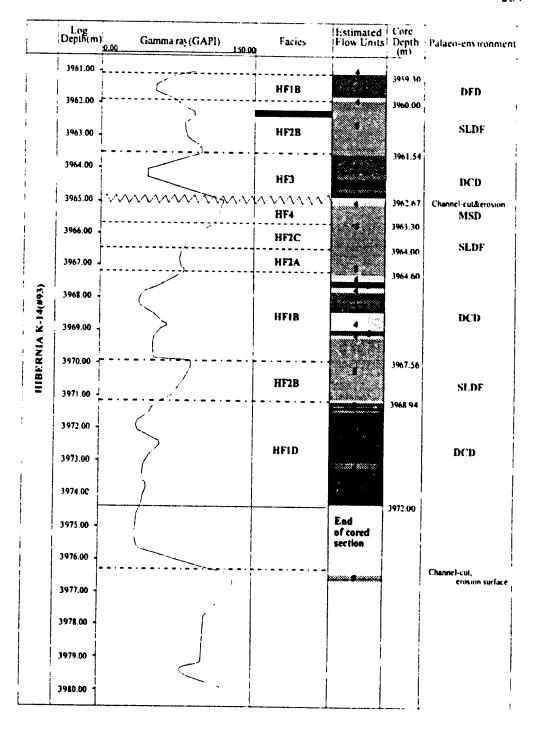












Appendix III: Distinct mineralogies determined by the beam-spot mode analyses during the SEM/EDS-coupled analysis. For sample and analysis coding system see page 49, chapter 4. Min=Mineral, Q=Quartz, K=Kaolinite, Sd=Siderite, Sm=Smectite, I=Illite, M=Muscovite, Bi=Biotite, Dol=Dolomite, C=Calcite, R=Rutile, Syl=Sylvite, Ilm-Ilmenite, Alb=Albite, Pl=Plagioclase

	SF	102-HF1	4	P269-1	HF1A_
	1.A.1	1-A1-3	2-A1-2	1-3	14
Me	0	0	1.34	0.93	0
AI	23.32	0.72	21.45	14.32	4.33
SI	43.99	24.81	53.82	61.81	22.06
K	1.41	0	2.84	9.89	4.04
_Ca_		0	0.76	0.98	0
Fe	0.72	65.97	637	11.04	69.57
Cr		8.50	0.46	0	0
Na	0.12		0.70	1.02	0
_ a_		c!	0.14		0
	13.61		7.08	n	_0
TL	8.61	0	0.30	0	0
s	8.23	0	4.74	0	0
Cd	0	0	0	0	0
Min		SI	Sm/Rr	Sm/Rt	્ય

		P218-	HF1B		S	P102-HF11	3
<del></del>	1-A-2	1-A-3	1-A1-1	2-A-2	1-A-1	1-41-1	1-A1-3
Me	1.36	19.81	1.65	1.31	211_	0.28	2.15
AL	7.11	7.84	24.90	22.79		22.41	3.16
SI	49,54	7.27	40.42	55.79	10.94	47.80	5.34
<u> </u>	6.43	0.64	6	6.59	0.31	1.98	0
<u>Cia</u>	0.77	6.52	0.61	0.67	66.14	18.56	68,85
Fe	1	13.43	8.98	3,43	1.53	0.84	0.94
Cr				0.06	0.13	0.09	0
Na	2.72	9.05	0.36		4.83	0.21	6.03
<u>a</u>	3.03	0.81	0.61	0.45	0.45	0.36	0
P	15.29	8.84	3.03	6.18	1.99	4.6	8.79
TI	0.21	0.07	0.24	0.32	0.21	0.04	0
<u>s</u>	12.32	5.57	12.93	2.36	4.02	2.71	4.74
Cd	0.23	0.15	0.27	0.09	0.23	0.11	0
Min.	1 0+5-	Sd+Dol	Sm/I	, 1	r	C+K	C

3		SP249-HF1C	HFIC			P85-HF1C		1	P315-HFIC	
	1.2	1.41.3	2.01.1	2.41.2	1.A.1	1.4.1	2.A.1	1.3	1.5	2.6.2
Me	2.55	119	0.49	0.07	100	O	10.85	0	2.54	0.71
7	6.63	19.10	2.44	130	1.99	0.08	15.25	132	39.99	29.56
Ø	25.31	63.99	75.02	89.49	R0.19	16.44	12.43	1516	47.88	52.57
¥	0.28	6.31	3.27	0.21	0.64	30.00	134	0.59	0	2.70
5	O	0	0.24	0.11	0.04	19.57	0.3)	1.55	0	0.32
Ēc	61.03	3.01	1.65	0.21	0.15	0.40	101	0	0	0.74
Ö	0.53	0	0.22	0.03	0.18	G	3.10	0	1.79	0.11
ą.	204	0	0.30	0.02	0.41	0	11.91	0	5.80	0.45
D	0.23	0.42	130	0.71	0.70	O	415	0	0	191
•	121	3.62	7.83	7.57	9.70	O	8.00	0	0	8.65
Ħ	0.17	0.36	0.23	0.07	0.04	O	25.44	0	0	0.27
8	o	0	٥	0	5.95	33.51	6.21	0	0	٥
2	a	0	0	0	O	G	0	0	0	O
100	Sidertee	BWCh.	3.50	Opents	Omertz	444	Halife	() pasett	×	SastK.

1 1-A1-3 1 2-A1-1		1
1.84	227 1.84	2.27 1.84
98 4.38	21.98	
68 14.69	47.68	_
33.59	4.06	
25 0.90	0.25 0.90	
40 0.50	3.40	
29 0.08	0.29 0.08	
50 2.88	1.30	
30.09	890	-
5.29	10.68	
03 0.37	0.03 0.37	-
3.90	701	
150	0.16 1.50	
Sylvite	Bloctte Sylvite	$\dashv$

		Р347-Н	F1D		P349-	HFID
	1-3	14	1·A·1	1-A-2	1.A.1	2-81-1
Me	00	2.56	0	0.47	c	0.86
AL	0.18	3.58	9.97	5.33	6.63	J1.92
SI	32.75	10.24	49.02	14.55	52.92	56.10
<u> </u>	31.12	14.56	3.12	10.85		2.05
Ca	0	3.31	2.88	3.72	0	0.10
Fe	0.23	16.65	12.62	18.69	1.33	0.45
Cr	. 0	0		0.67		0
Na	0	6.99		0.91		0.91
a	29.91	34.13		32.85		0.83
P	2.70	2.77		5.32	7.01	6.07
Τı	0.23	0.97	22.03	0.84	32.11	0.02
s	2.85	4.24	1.26	5.80		0
Cd	0.02	0		0		0
Min	Sylvite	Mice+Svl	D=1	Mica+Svl	K+O+R	- Lacitate

	SP	74-HF1F	P160	-HF1F		SP74	-HF1F_	P160-l	IF1F_
	1-A-1	1-A-2	1-A1-2	1-A-1		1-A-1	1-A-2	1-A1-2	1:4.1
Me	0	1.12	1.02	7.87	Na_	0	0	0.54	11.23
_AÎ	0	11.87	19.38	17.79	_0_			0	3.18
Si	29.58	62.14	55.06	17.87		N/A	9.01	4.65	18.95
<u> </u>	0	2.47	3.70	1.63	_Ti_	52.73	1.41	2.22	0.19
Ca	0		0.92	0.84	s	2.51	8.98	8.32	13.39
Fe	15.18	3.01	4.13	0	_0	0	0	0	6.34
<u></u>				0.71	Mis		O+B	O+Sm	K

		P134-HF3			2345G-HF3	
	1-A1-1	2-1	2-A1-1	1-A-1	1-A-2	2.4.2
Me	3.71		0	4.90	3.68	0
_4_	7.62	2.30	0	15.07	3.40	31.30
SI	72.44	24.64	1.54	55.84	3.67	50.19
	1.40	0.60	. 0	1.10	1.34	0
Ca	0.76		0	0	0.18	0_
_Fe	0.43	0	0	0	2443	0.51
Cr.	0	0.03	0	0.70	o	0.54
Na	4.75	21.26	0	5.72	7.90	0
_a_	2.36	50.02	0	1.87	4.56	0
•	6.36	1.15	0	9.06	4.36	10.35
Ti	0.19	0	98.46	0	0.08	0.04
S	0	0	0	5.74	46.40	6.87
C4	0	0	0	0		0
Mb	No rich Sm	О+н	Pottle	0+K(2)	Protec	k'eellalte

	Si	P277-HF1	E		P145-H	FIE	
	1.1	1-A1-1	2-A1-1	1.1	1.4.1	1.41-1	2-A1-2
Me	0.80	1.01	0.92	1.05	0.85	5.86	1,46
Al	31.07	23.54	6.93	7.04	2.02	7.13	14.48
Si	49.64	47.89	73.97	64.10	64.68	31.21	39.45
	0.79	0.99	1.63	137	0.66	0.51	5.04
Ce	0.11	0.25	1.06		0.42	0.2	0.51
-14	0.78	1.82	1.72	0.64	0.30	32.74	1.29
<u> </u>	0.31	0.18	0			0.20	0
Na .	0.59	1.71	1.22	0.85	1.02	8.79	0.68
<u>a</u>	0.73	0.66	0.46	0.73	0.30	1.80	0.61
	8.83	12.46	11.60	15.03	17.87	6.21	20.36
TI	0.02	0.50	0.48		0.23	0	0.66
<u>s_</u>	6.18	8.43		9.20	11.46	4.30	14.91
Ca	0.13	0.16	0		0.19	0.97	0.55

	SP244	-HF1E1	P137-	HF1E1		SP24	4-HF1E1	P137-	HF1E1
	1.1	1-A-1	2-A1-1	2-A1-2		1.1	1-A-1	2-A1-1	2-A1-2
Me	5.63	1.46	3.10	2.66	Na_	6.89	2.36	0	. 0
_4_	7.16	13.62	23.14	26,52		0.26		0	0
SI	8.80	62.03	45.04	53.50	P	2.92	10.07	6.00	1.27
<u> </u>	0.17	4.71	11.57	5.80	TL			1.50	0.80
_Ca_	59.21	1.18			S		. 0	0	0
Fe	8.97	4.56	9.28	8.61	Ca	0	_0	0	0
نس	0	0	0.36	0.84	Min	C	OHM	K/Ob	K/Cb

SCA29-HF1G

		ALTHIO	
	1-A-2	1:A:3	1:A1:1
Me	10.41		1.32
_A	26.55	1.58	18.14
_si_	31.10	#8.69	57.11
- 1	0.79		1.9~
<u> </u>	0.06		0.05
_Fe_	15.62	1.39	0.98
_0_	0.07	0.24	0.04
_Na_	4.44		7.51
_0_	0.60		0.41
	6.47	5.57	7.94
_TL	0		0.08
s	3.79	2.53	4.25
C4	0.10		0.18
Min	Riotite	Quartz	Albite

SP162-HF6

	1-A-2	1.4.3	2-A-1	2-A-2		1-A-2	1·A·3	2-A-1	2.4.2
Mg	0.21	10.24	1.56	1.57	Na_	0.92	11.57	1.60	0.68
AL	27.10	12.08	11.50	23,71		0.54	5.40	1.23	1.49
St	40.71	12.24	59.77	50.54	•	17.25	8.10	11.59	8.68
K	0.42	2.26	3.49	6.17	Ti	0.03	0.39	0.27	0.06
Ca	0.17	1.92	0	0.12	S	12.26	6.81	7.86	5.61
Fe	0	26.39	0.62	1.06		0.20	2.61	0.38	0.32
Cr	_0.18		0.12		Min	ĸ	SI	O+M	K+M_

	P	147-HF2	A	S	P103-HF	2B	S	P228-HF	2C
	1-A-2	1-A1-2	2-A-3	1.41.2	1-A1-3	1-A2-1	2-1	2-A1-1	2-A1-J
Mg	2.77	1.09	.0	1.63	0	0.91	0	0.30	0.39
Al	23.12	12.12	11.03	28.58	38.00	27.92	20.59	35.19	19.37
SI	42.34	20.44	34.62	49.13	56.44	55.27	44.98	58.89	56.33
<u> </u>	6.61	2.40	0	10.31	0.47	7.24	16.02	0.66	3.69
Ca	0.15	5.28	2.65	0.14	0.08	0.10	0.76	0	0.96
Fe	2.16	37.56	0.47	5.18	0.40	1.60	13.54	0.20	1.38
C	. 0	0	0	0	0.10	0.06	1.41		0
Na	3.13	2.70	0	0	0	0.66	0	0	5.10
a	1.14	0.35	0	0	0	0.21	0	0.22	0.32
P	11.10	6.11	3.14	2.70	4.17	5.90	0	4.37	11.45
TL	0.41	0	39.10	2.33	0.35	0.12	2.69	. 0	1.01
S	6.62	4.17	8.98	. 0	0	0	0		0
_Ca	0.44	0	0	0	0	0	0		0
Min	M	Re	PI+D		ĸ	M	M	ĸ	Alb(2)

APPENDIX IV- Core porosity - core permeability/lithofacies distribution crossplots of the Hibernia Formation in 5 Hibernia wells (Hibernia B-27; Hibernia B-08; Hibernia C-96; Hibernia K-18; Hibernia K-14).

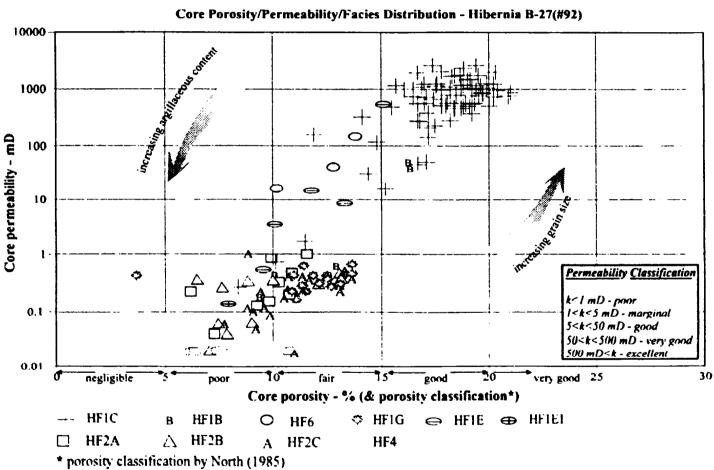
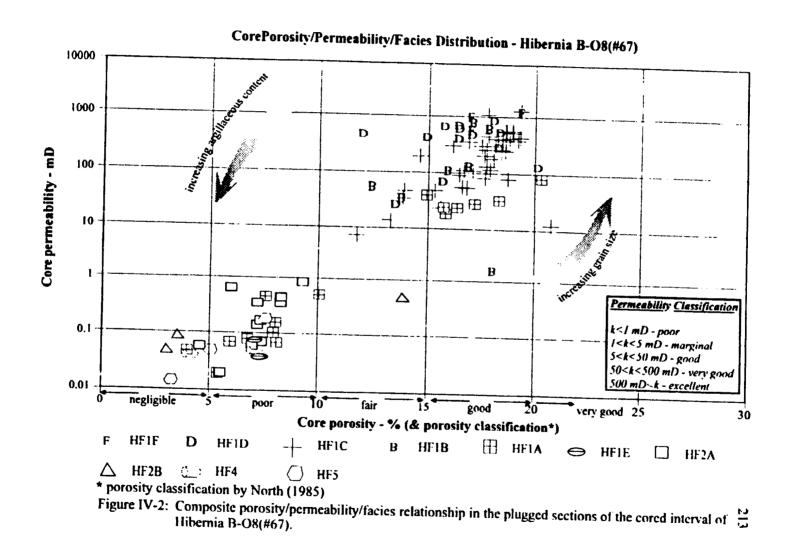


Figure IV-1: Composite porosity/permeability facies relationship in the plugged section of the cored interval of Hibernia B-27(#92).



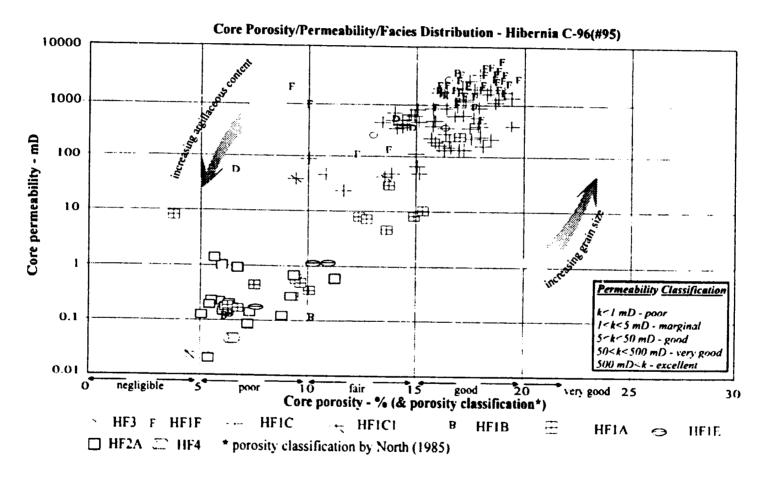


Figure IV-3: Composite porosity/permeability/facies relationship in the plugged sections of the cored interval of Hibernia C-96(#95).

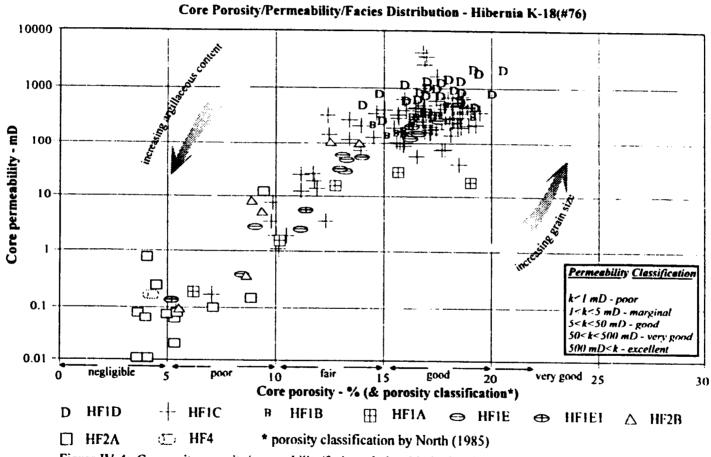


Figure IV-4: Composite porosity/permeability/facies relationship in the plugged sections of the cored interval of Hibernia K-18(#76).

#### Porosity/Permeability/Facies Distribution - Hibernia K-14(#93)

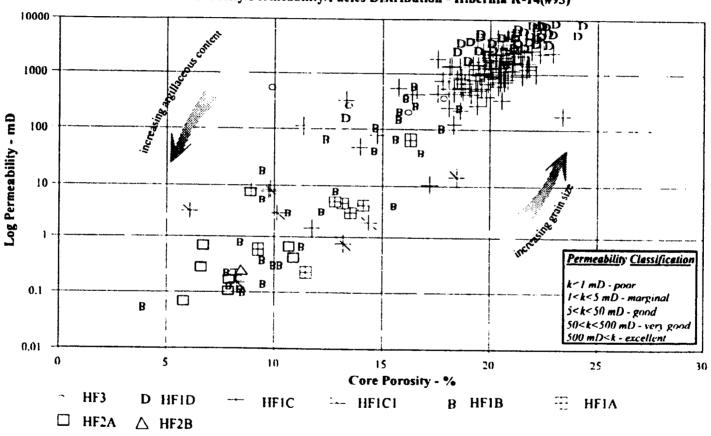


Figure IV-5: Composite porosity/permeability/facies relationship in the plugged section of the cored interval of Hibernia K-14(#93).

#### APPENDIX V- 3-dimensional comparisons of

- a) hydraulic flow units (HU) lithofacies distributions
- b) hydraulic flow units (HU) reservoir quality zones (RQZ)

In the Hibernia Formation.

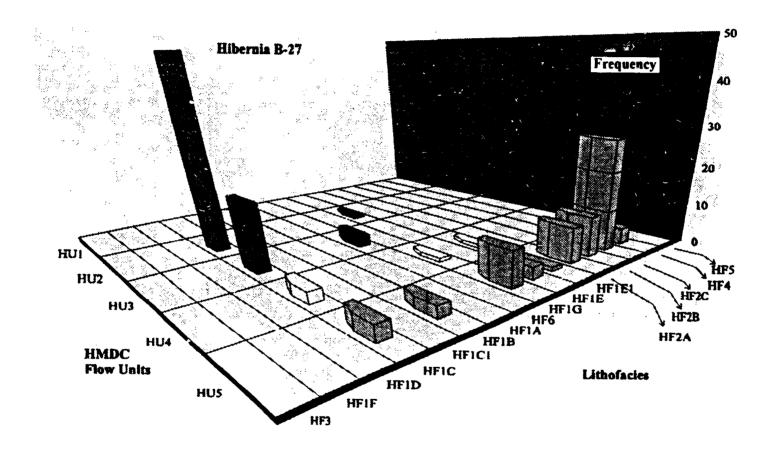


Figure Va-1: Hydraulic flow units - lithofacies distribution of the Hibernia Formation in Hibernia B-27.

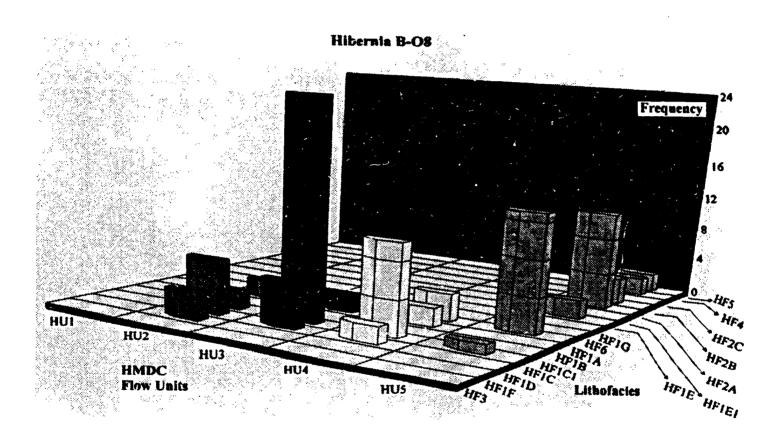


Figure Va-2: Hydraulic flow units - lithofacies distribution of the Hibernia Formation in Hibernia B-O8.

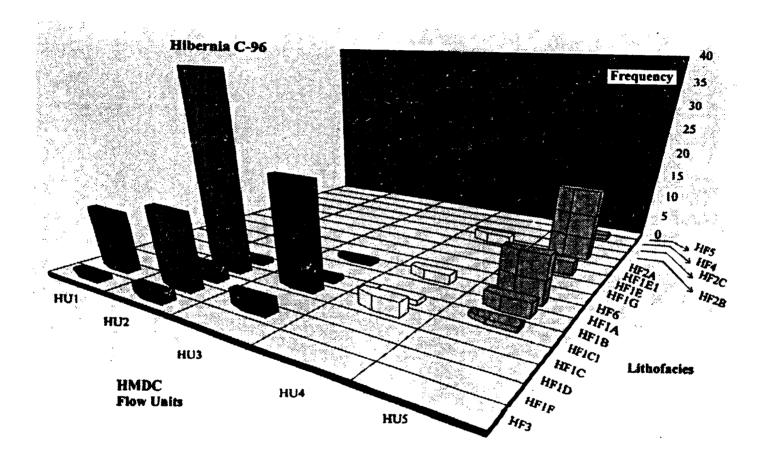


Figure Va-3: Hydraulic flow units - lithofacies distribution of the Hibernia Formation in Hibernia C-96.

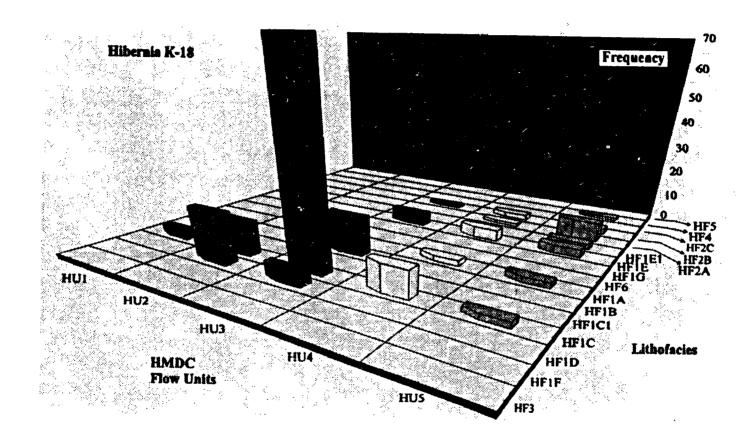


Figure Va-4: Hydraulic flow units - lithofacies distribution of the Hibernia Formation in Hibernia K-18.

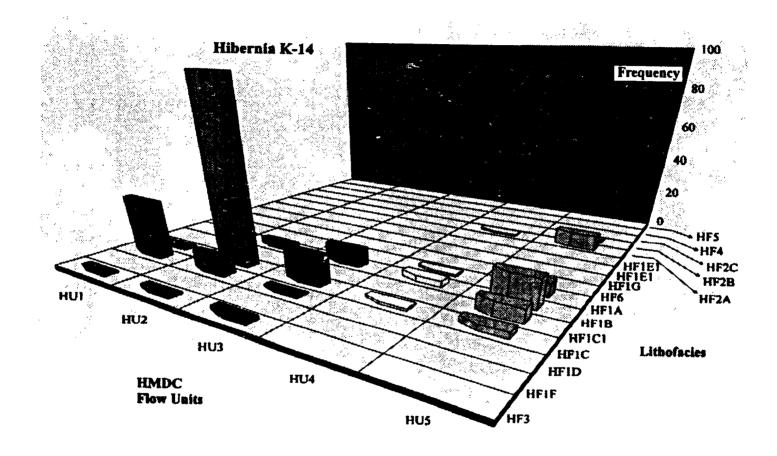


Figure Va-5: Hydraulic flow units - lithofacies distribution of the Hibernia Formation in Hibernia K-14.

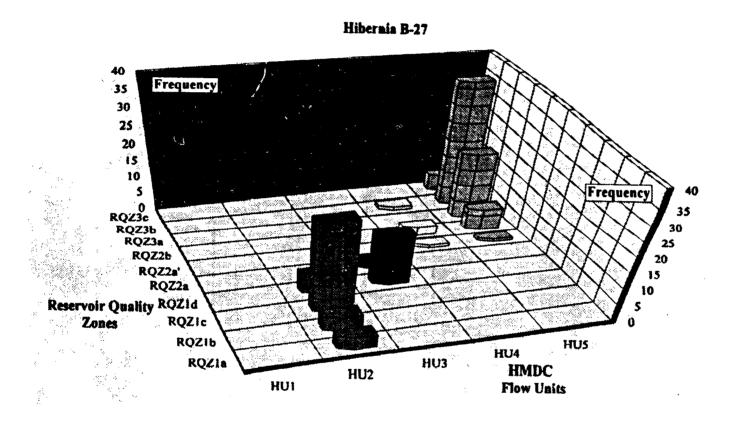


Figure Vb-1: Hydraulic flow units - reservoir quality zone (RQZ) distribution of the Hibernia Formation in Hibernia B-27.

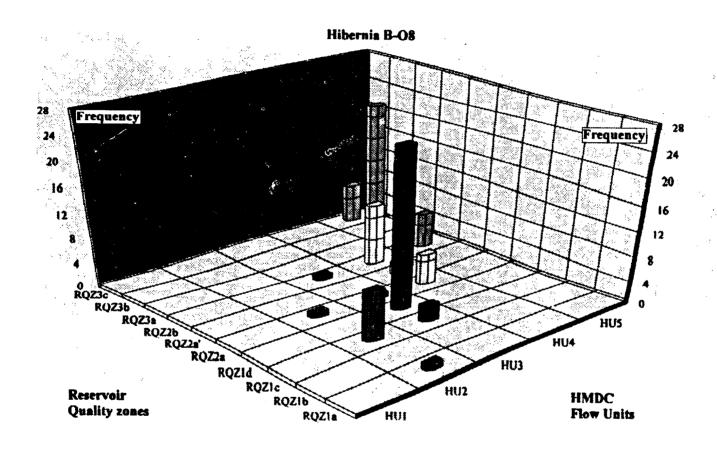


Figure Vb-2: Hydraulic flow units - reservoir quality zone (RQZ) distribution of the Hibernia Formation in Hibernia B-O8.

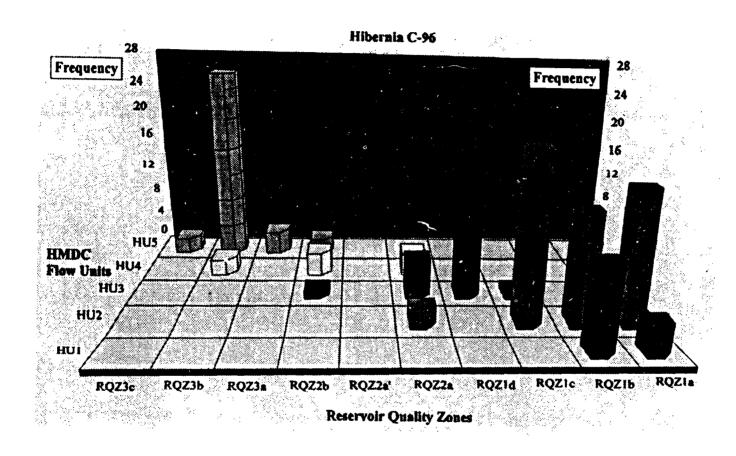


Figure Vb-3: Hydraulic flow units - reservoir quality zone (RQZ) distribution of the Hibernia Formation in Hibernia C-96.

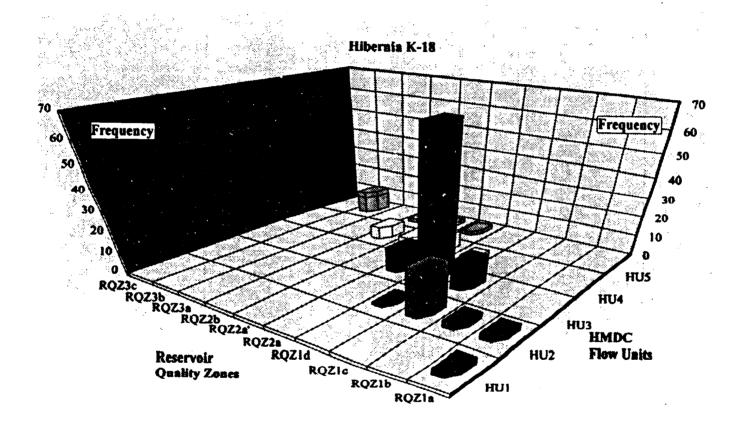


Figure Vb-4: Hydraulic flow units - reservoir quality zone (RQZ) distribution of the Hibernia Formation in Hibernia K-18.

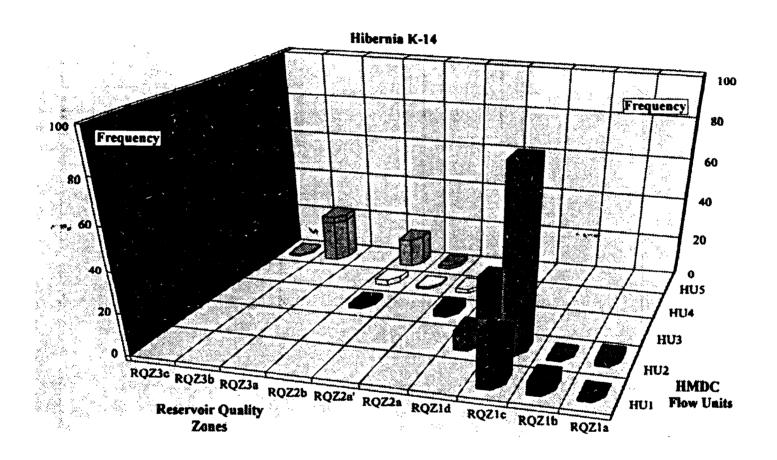
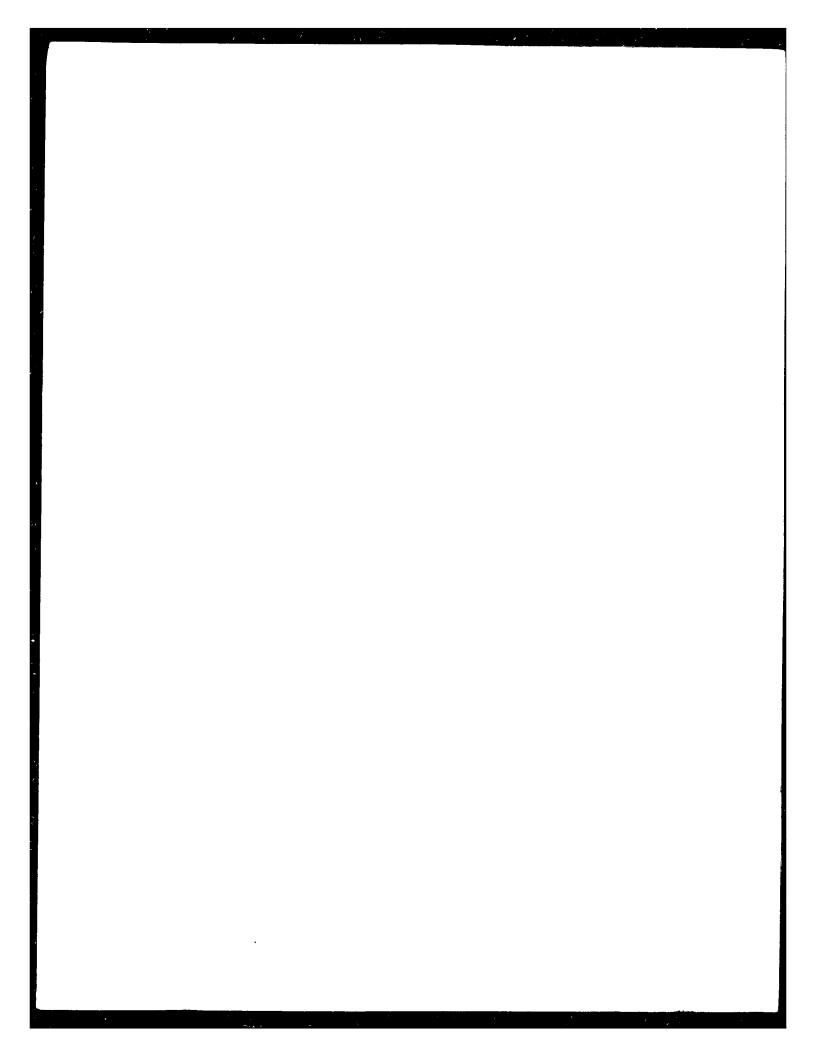
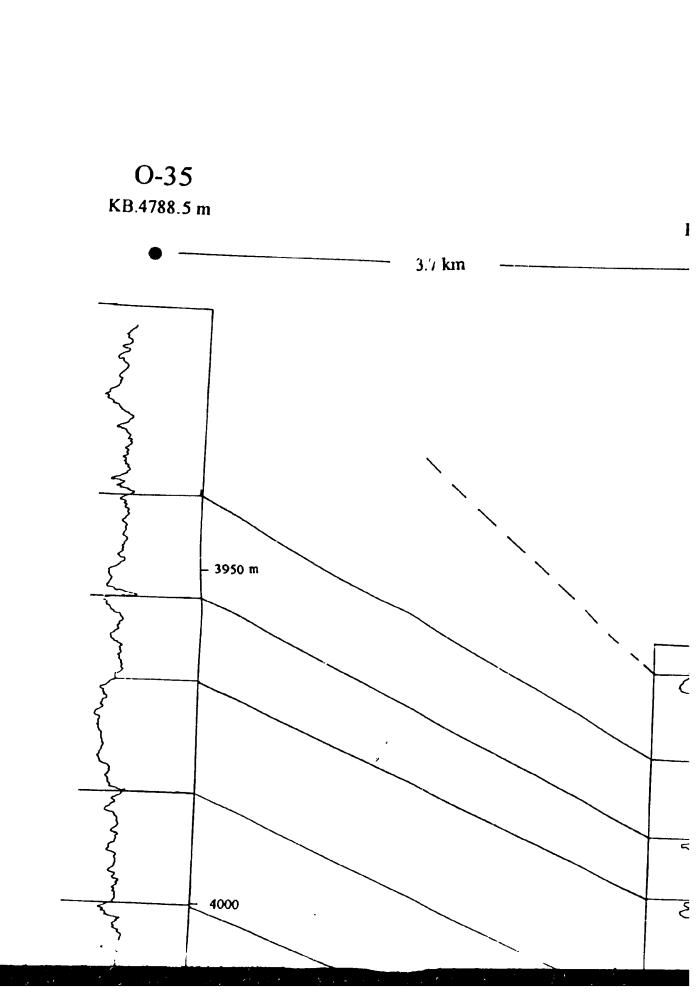


Figure Vb-5: Hydraulic flow units - reservoir quality zone (RQZ) distribution of the Hibernia Formation in Hibernia K-14.



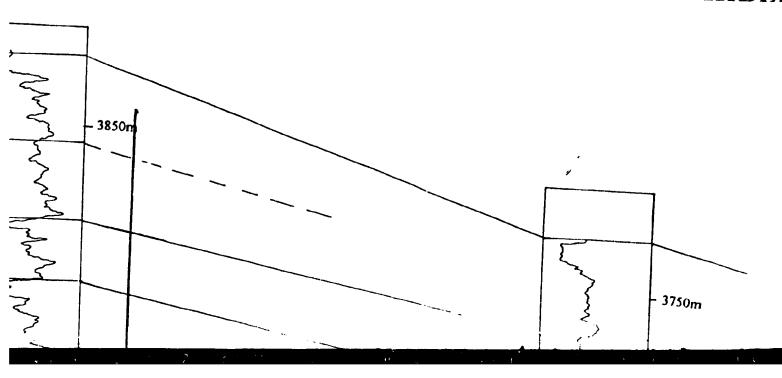


K-14 KB.4462.0 m

P-15 KB.4406.8 m

2.6 km

## HIBER



P-15 KB.4406.8 m

3750m

C-96 KB.4420.0 m

2.9 km

### HIBERNIA OIL FIELD

B-27 KB.4380.0 m

5.3 km \_\_\_\_\_\_ 2.9 km

C-96 KB.4420.0 m B-2 KB.438

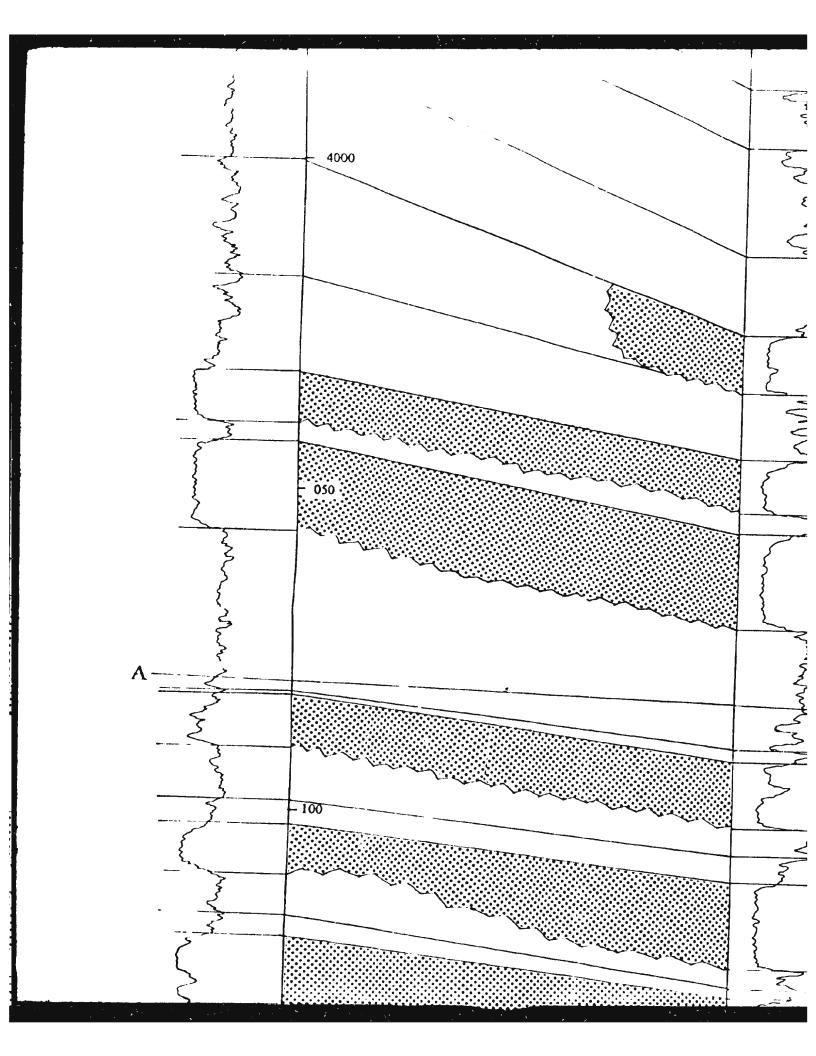
5.3 km

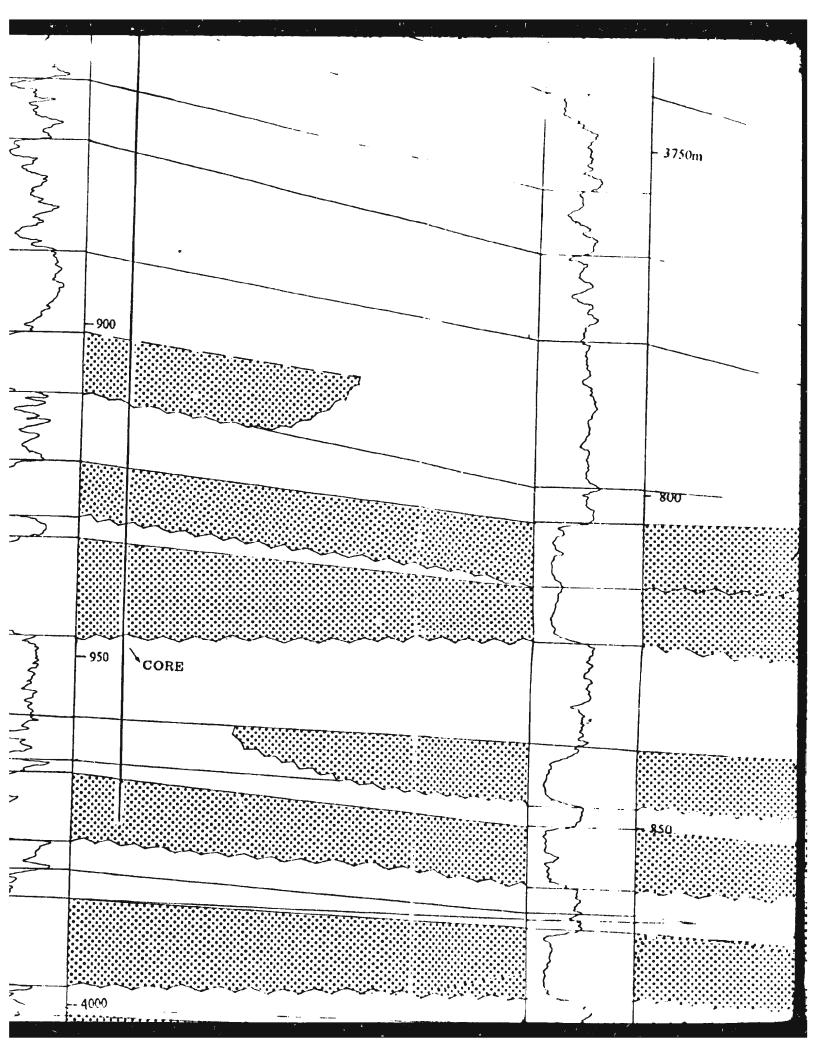
# **FIELD**

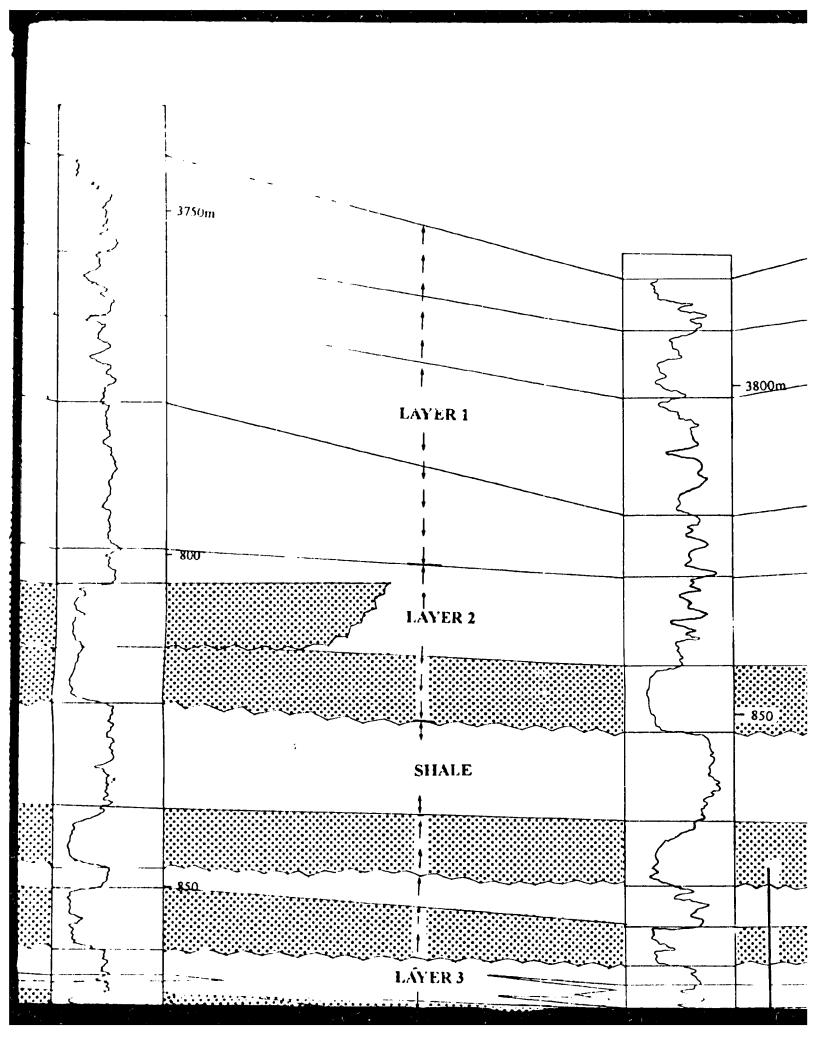
-27 880.0 m

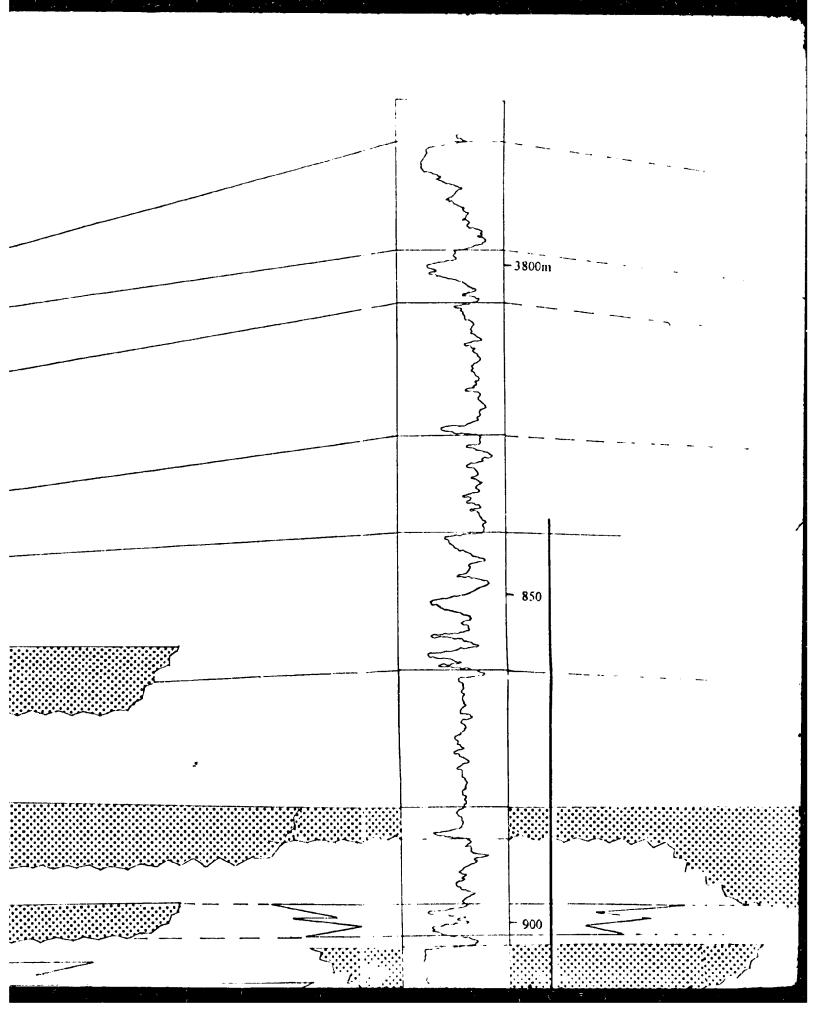
2.9 km

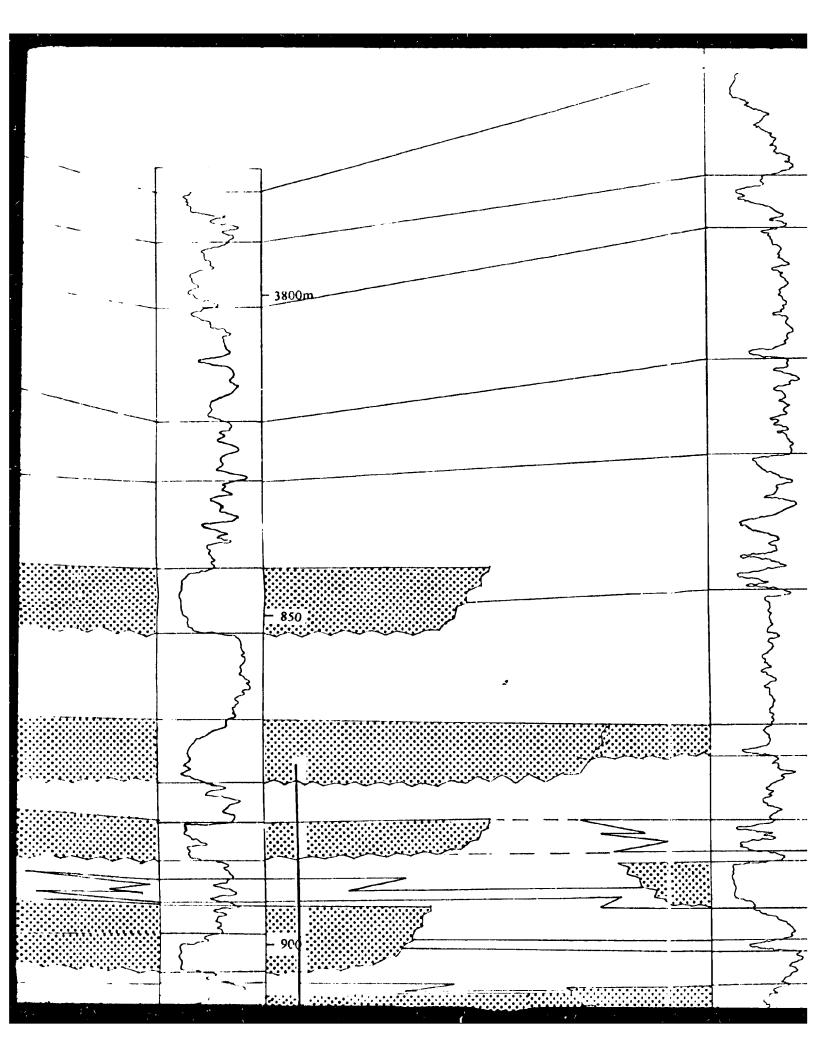
K-18 KB.5093.3m

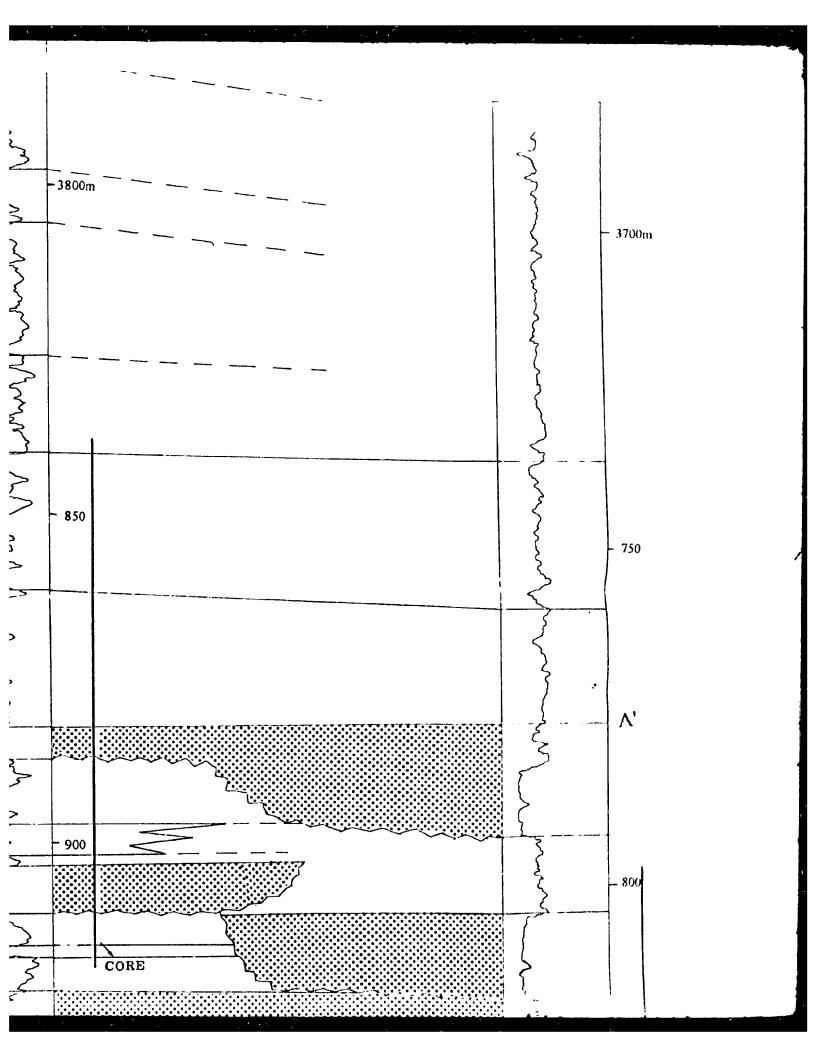


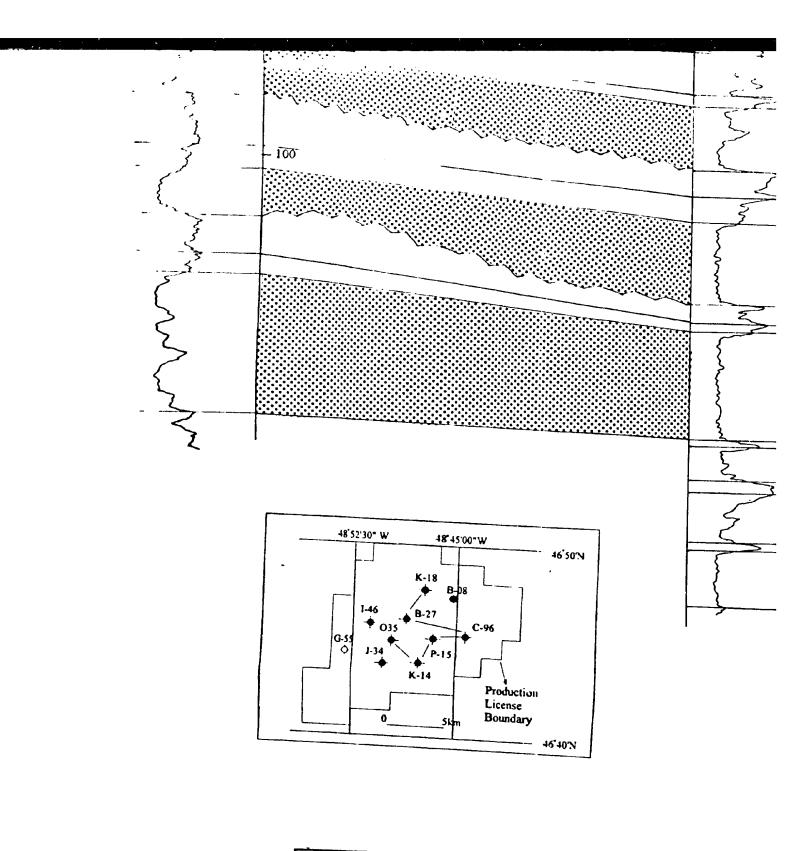


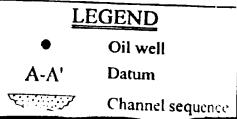


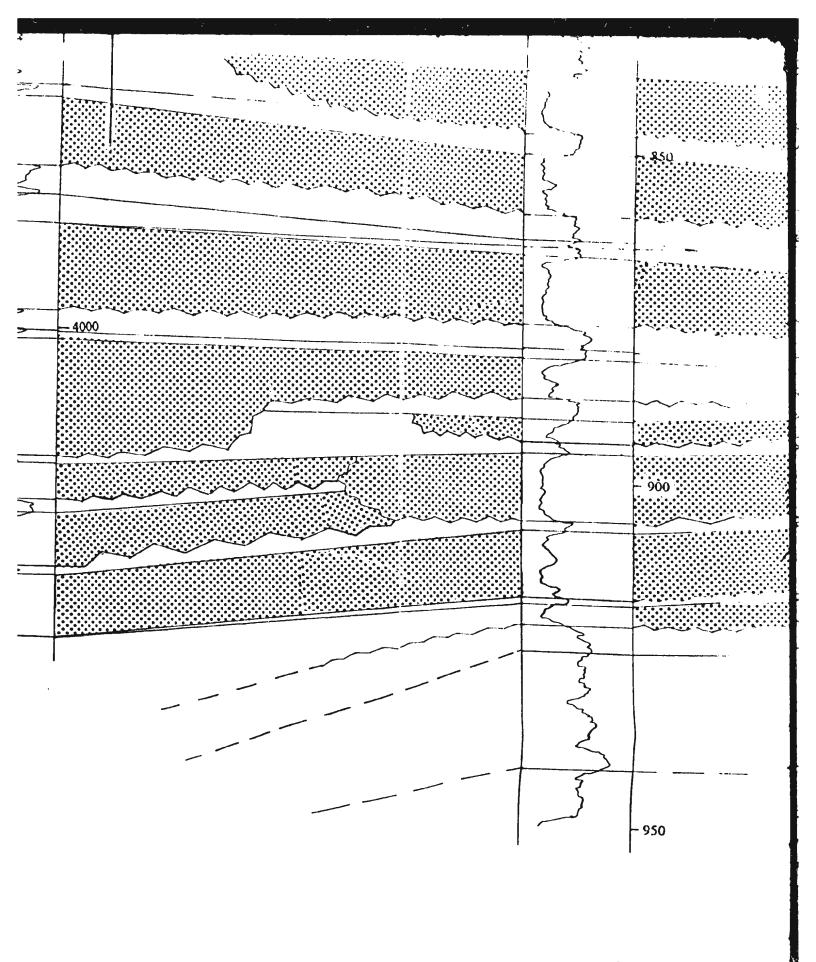


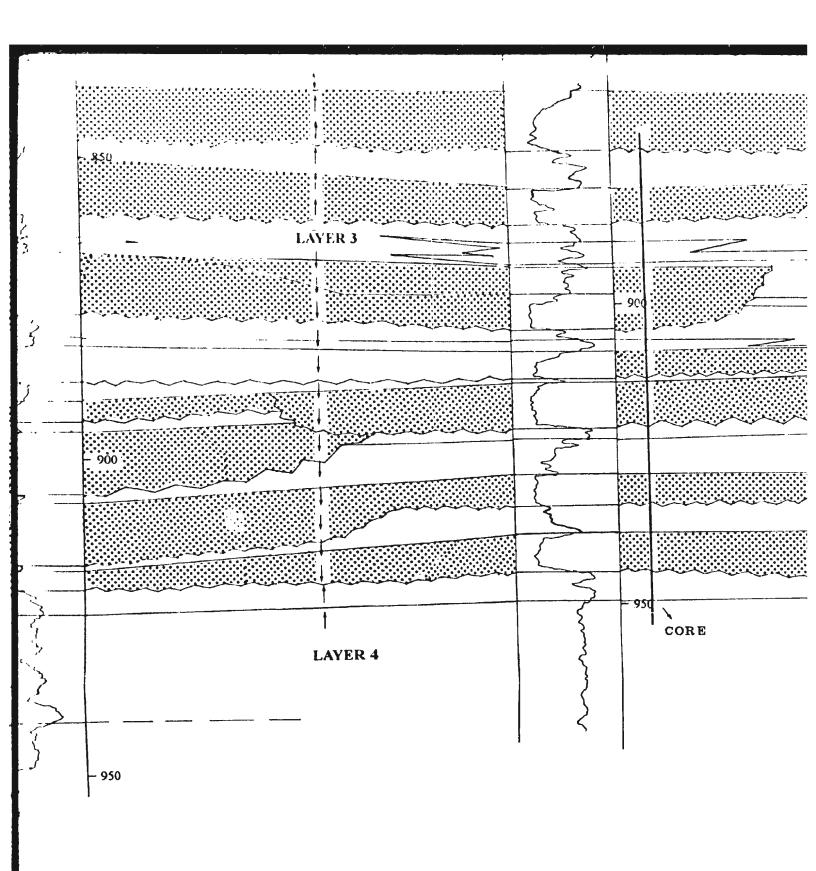




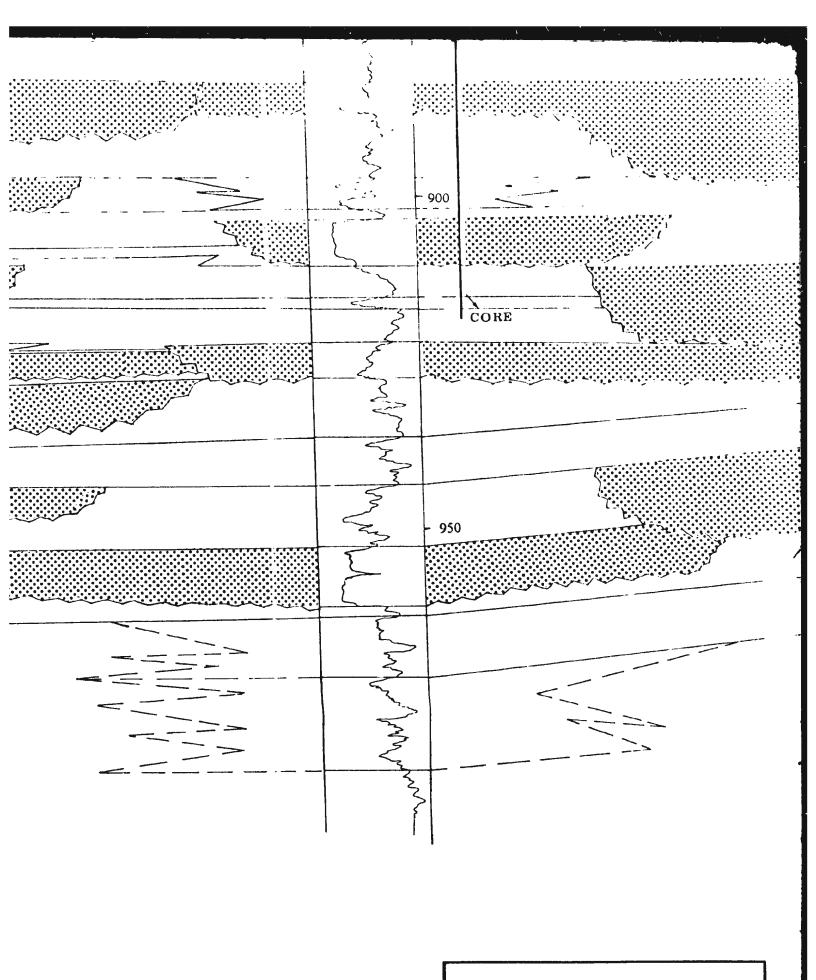


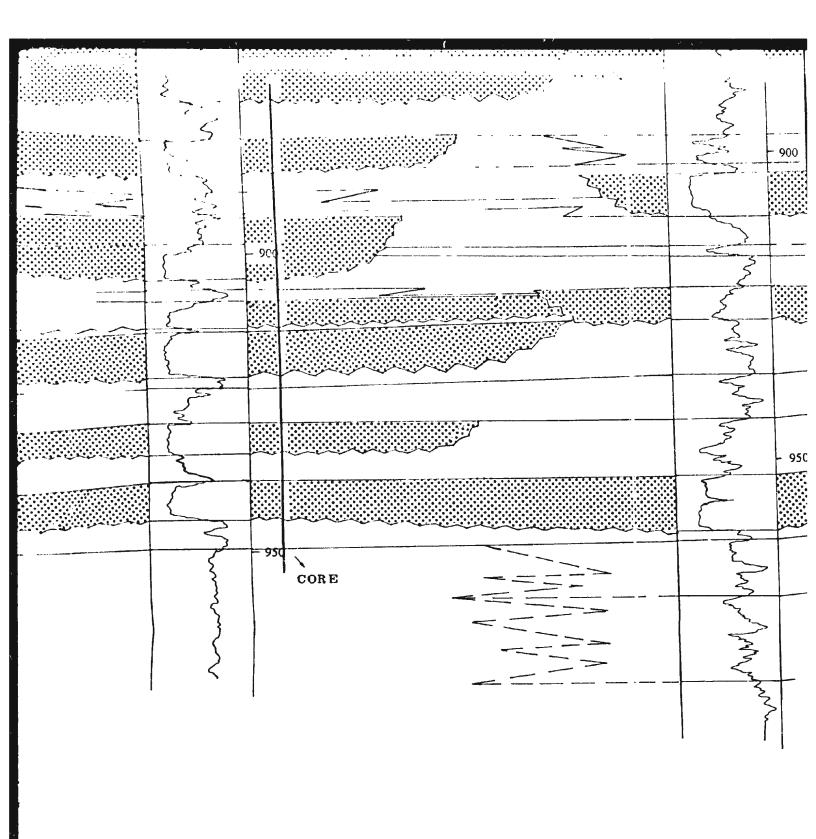




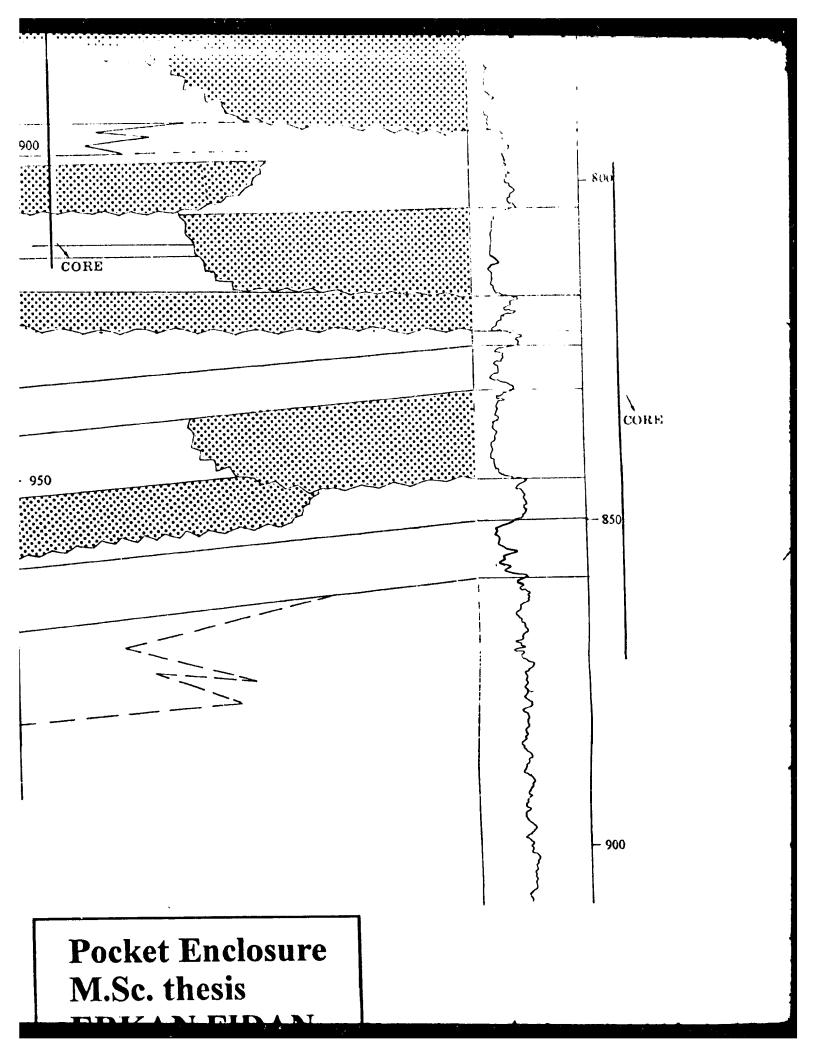


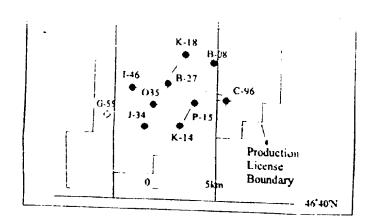
SW-NE CROSS SECTION OF THE HIBERNIA FORMATION HIBERNIA OIL FIELD, GRAND BANKS



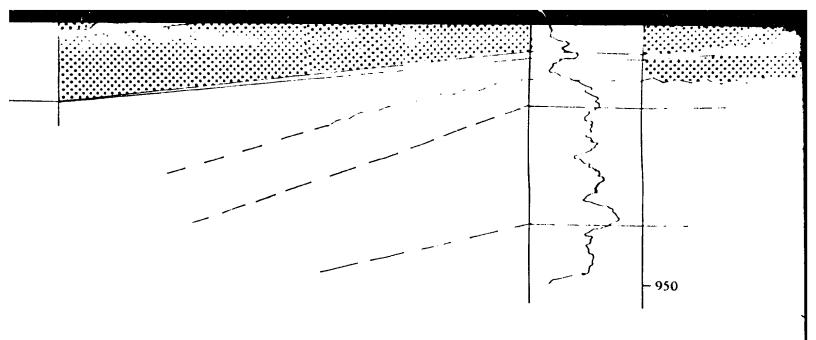


RNIA FORMATION BANKS

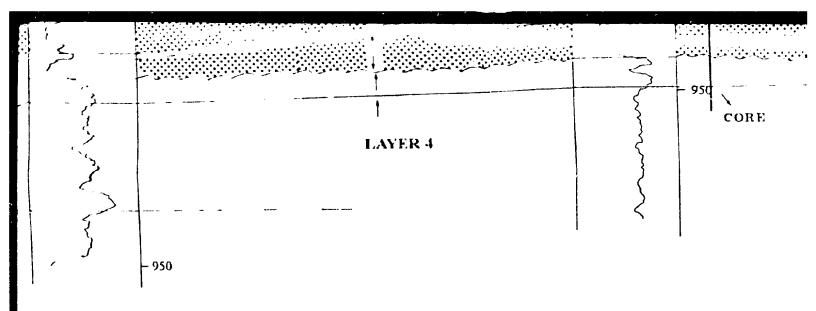




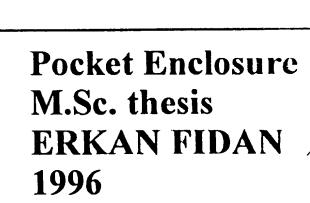
## LEGEND Oil well A-A' Datum Channel sequence Sandstone Boundaries: Erosional b. Sequence b. Undefined b. Indefined closure Defined closure

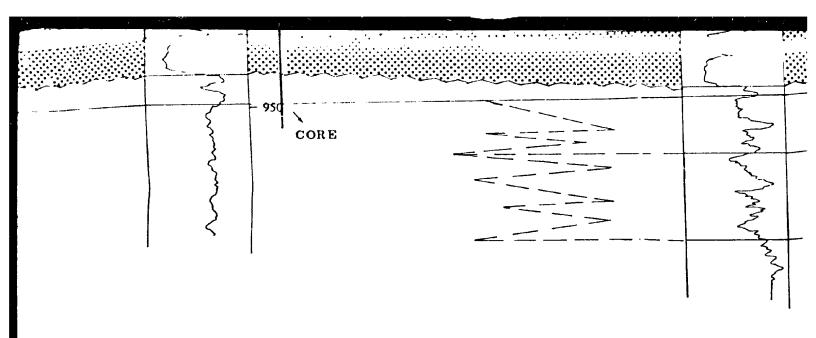


SW-NE CROSS SECT HIBERNIA (

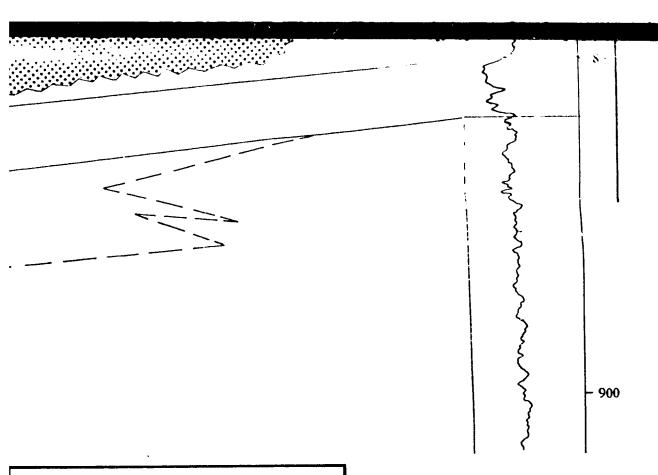


SW-NE CROSS SECTION OF THE HIBERNIA FORMATION HIBERNIA OIL FIELD, GRAND BANKS





RNIA FORMATION BANKS



Pocket Enclosure M.Sc. thesis ERKAN FIDAN 1996



