

14-15 April 2025 | Kuwait City, Kuwait

UNLOCKING HIDDEN POTENTIAL UNVEILING OFF-STRUCTURE PROSPECTS AND RE-EVALUATING BORDERLINE DISCOVERIES



TECHNICAL PROGRAM COMMITTEE

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WORKSHOP OUTLINE

WORKSHOP OVERVIEW

The evolution of hydrocarbon exploration driven by the diminishing accessibility of conventional large-size hydrocarbon traps has compelled national and international oil and gas companies to scrutinize off-structure prospects and near-field undeveloped or unsuccessful commercial discoveries, discerning root causes of their failures. This dual-pronged approach not only enhances chance of commercial success during exploration, but also expedites production and re-evaluation of undeveloped or commercially unsuccessful discoveries respectively, saving valuable time and resources of operators.

These scrutinizes pave the way for fast-tracking exploration to production lifecycle of the off-structure prospects by leveraging their similarities to active fields in terms of geology, low capital expenditure (CAPEX), and seamless integration with pre-existing infrastructure. Off-structure prospects and near-field undeveloped or previously unsuccessful discoveries, which are located near active fields, have proven to be valuable extensions. They have significantly expanded potential exploration areas and resources.

In recent years, the exploration success and tie-back of such off-structure discoveries into production lines have significantly contributed to reserve addition and production rates of many operators in Middle East and elsewhere. Therefore, haring knowledge and lessons learned from these endeavors is crucial for the benefit of the broader community. By discussing real-world examples and case studies, participants will gain a deeper understanding of how these strategies have been successfully implemented and can be adapted to their own projects.

Through a series of facilitated exercises and discussions, workshop attendees will learn techniques for identifying and evaluating these "off-structure" prospects - ideas, technologies, or phenomena that fall outside the mainstream. Participants will explore methods for recognizing the early signals of potentially transformative discoveries and develop strategies for severely assessing their viability and impact. By the end of the workshop, attendees will have a comprehensive toolkit for effectively navigating the complexities of modern hydrocarbon exploration, positioning their organizations for success in an increasingly competitive landscape.

WORKSHOP GUIDELINES

FORMAT

The workshop will be 2 days, consisting of oral presentations, poster presentations and breakout sessions where participants can discuss and investigate a specific theme that is of mutual interest. The first day will feature an inaugural keynote speech by a high-profile professional from the industry.

ATTENDANCE

Registrations are invited from all relevant disciplines with experience and/or knowledge of the subject areas being addressed in the workshop. Registrations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

CALL FOR POSTERS

You are invited to prepare a poster for presentation at the workshop. If you are interested in participating, please send a short abstract to cnavarro@aapg.org by 17 March 2025. All posters will be produced as pull-up banners and delivered by AAPG. There will not be any other format available for poster display.

REGISTRATION TYPES & FEES

Fees are inclusive of onsite documentation, coffee breaks and luncheons.

Non-Member: \$1,575
Join & Save: \$1,575
Member: \$1,375
Committee/Presenter: \$1,275
Young Professional: \$850
Academia: \$500
Student: \$350

*To avail the Member rate you must be an active member of AAPG.

**To register as a Young Professional you must be under the age of 35 with less than 10 years of work experience.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE

To guarantee your seat, please make sure to register by 7 April 2025.

CANCELLATION POLICY

AAPG will refund the tuition, less a \$100 processing fee, if the request is received no later than 30 days prior to the workshop. Cancellations must be made in writing. The registrar will accept cancellation notices by telephone, but all such notices must be followed up by fax or e-mail. No refund will be made for cancellations received less than 30 days prior to a workshop being given. Nonpayment of tuition does not constitute automatic cancellation. If no cancellation notice is received by 30 days prior to a workshop, participants are liable for full tuition. AAPG reserves the right to cancel a workshop if enrollment is insufficient to ensure proper effectiveness. Substitutions for individuals can be made at any time. A paid enrollment may be transferred one time to a future workshop if the request is received prior to the 30-day cut-off date.



DAY 1: MONDAY 14TH APRIL



SESSION 1 – EVOLVING EXPLORATION STRATEGIES OF OFF-STRUCTURE PROSPECTS: A WIDESPREAD OVERVIEW

This session will provide a holistic introduction to the changing landscape of hydrocarbon exploration, especially to off-structure prospects, emphasizing the shift in mentality due to the decreasing availability of easy hydrocarbon traps in well mature basins. Discuss the dynamic nature of exploration and evolving strategies, setting the stage for more focused discussions.

- **Changing Paradigms in Hydrocarbon Exploration:**
 - > Historical perspective and current trends.
 - > Shifting focus from large-size traps to off-structure and near-field prospects.
- **Technological Advancements Driving New Strategies:**
 - > Innovations in geological and geophysical methods.
 - > Role of digital transformation in exploration (AI, machine learning, and data analytics).
 - > stratigraphic traps and formerly marginal reservoirs -poor res quality- now successful due to new unconventional production techniques.
- **Case Studies: Successful Adaptations to New Exploration Strategies:**
 - > Real-world examples from various mature basins across the world.

SESSION 2 – DEVELOPING A CUSTOMIZED FRAMEWORK FOR OFF-STRUCTURE OPPORTUNITIES [INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES & WORKFLOWS]

This session dives into strategies for exploring off-structure prospect discoveries, focusing on customized geological and geophysical (G&G) techniques. Participants will explore advanced technologies, comprehensive risk assessments, and case studies to maximize these prospects. The session aims to equip attendees with practical knowledge and skills to navigate economic conditions effectively and leverage off-structure opportunities for significant commercial success.

- **Geological and Geophysical methods:**
 - > Advanced seismic interpretation techniques, including sequence stratigraphic approach.
 - > Designing exploration programs specific to geological settings and the economic conditions
 - > Geomodelling and reservoir characterization specific to off-structure settings
- **Technological Integration for Enhanced Exploration:**
 - > Use of 3D seismic, magnetic, and gravity surveys
 - > Integration of remote sensing and satellite data
- **Case Studies: Maximizing Potential in Off-Structure Prospects:**
 - > Real-world examples demonstrating successful optimization.
- **Economic Assessments:**
 - > Strategies and techniques for minimizing CAPEX and maximizing utilities of the existing infrastructure.
 - > Cost-benefit analysis of off-structure explorations

DAY 2: TUESDAY 15TH APRIL



SESSION 3 – RE-EVALUATING NEAR-FIELD DISCOVERIES: CASE STUDIES

This session analyzes uneconomic discoveries – geological discoveries with proven hydrocarbon, and highlights the key challenges and tangible outcomes of re-evaluation processes. Emphasize the importance of learning from initial failures and how this analysis contributes to making exploration procedures more cost-efficient.

- **Analyzing Uneconomic Discoveries:**
 - > Identifying common pitfalls and root causes of initial failures
 - > Systematic review of past exploration efforts
- **Case Studies of Successful Re-evaluations:**
 - > Detailed examination of previously uneconomic discoveries that were re-evaluated and developed.
- **Methodologies for converting undeveloped discoveries into cost-efficient development:**
 - > Techniques for minimizing CAPEX and maximizing existing infrastructure.

SESSION 4 – RISK ASSESSMENT WORKFLOWS AND ADVANCEMENTS IN ANALYZING UNCOMMERCIAL OFF-STRUCTURE DISCOVERIES

Explore advanced techniques for analyzing uneconomic discoveries, integrating geo-mechanics, petrophysical analysis, and seismic imaging. Discuss the pivotal role of these technologies in understanding fluid flow, pressure formation, and reservoir compartmentalization. Focus on critical elements of risk assessment and customized workflow in off-structure exploration, addressing economic and geological risks.

- **Economic and Geological Risk Analysis:**
 - > Quantitative and qualitative risk assessment methodologies.
 - > Risk mitigation strategies tailored to off-structure exploration.
- **Customized Exploration Approaches/ workflows:**
 - > Designing exploration programs specific to geological settings and economic conditions.
 - > Utilizing adaptive exploration strategies based on real-time data and analytics.
- **Integrated Approaches in Geo-mechanics, Petrophysical Analysis, Seismic Imaging Innovations, and Fluid Flow & Pressure Cell Analysis**
 - > Advanced techniques for understanding subsurface mechanics.
 - > Petrophysical evaluation estimation and its impact on exploration success.
 - > Enhanced imaging techniques for better subsurface visualization.
 - > Application of 4D seismic in re-evaluating unsuccessful discoveries.
 - > Pressure cell formation and its implications for exploration.
- **Integration of Technologies for Exploration Advancements**
 - > Advanced seismic interpretation techniques.
 - > Geomodelling and reservoir characterization specific to off-structure settings.
 - > Use of 3D seismic, magnetic, and gravity surveys.
 - > Integration of remote sensing and satellite data.
- **The Power of Data Analytics in Concept**
 - > Success technical cases highlighting the transition from data analysis to practical exploration actions.