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Assessing the Hydrocarbon Prospectivity in the Nigeria Offshore West Delta Using Seismic Volume and Well Log Data

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Abstract

Evaluation of Z-Field prospect located in the western Niger Delta at a shallow water depth of about 100m was carried out using 3-D seismic and well data. The aim of this study is to evaluate the hydrocarbon potential of the target bed (R01A reservoir) using checkshot, seismic and well log data. Results of the structural interpretation revealed extensional tectonics characterized by rollover structures which are bounded by regional and counterregional listric (growth) normal faults. These structural features are associated with normal deltaic progradation and are conspicuous throughout the whole delta province. A key finding of this study is that subsurface structures in the study area lack closure to accumulate hydrocarbon. This is attributed to the small throw of faults relative to sand thickness, causing a significant sand to sand juxtaposition across faults. Consequently, the R01A reservoir is interpreted as wet sand. A lack of amplitude coherence with structure provided additional validation of the interpreted wet sand scenario and above all, increased our confidence on the result.

Keywords: prospect evaluation, seismic and well log data, Niger Delta, structural interpretation, faults, horizons **DOI**: 10.7176/JEES/9-10-06

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1. Introduction

The Niger Delta basin has been the focus of hydrocarbon exploration since 1937 and exploration activities still continues to present day, many decades after first commercial crude oil discovery in 1956 at Oloibiri, Bayelsa State by Shell British Petroleum (Reijers, 2011). By today, the delta is covered by a dense grid of improved 2-D, 3-D and 4D seismic data, following rapid advances in seismic technology, therefore allowing for better imaging of the delta tectono-stratigraphic evolution. Though divided opinions abound on whether or not the Niger Delta is presently a matured hydrocarbon province or a Mid-life Basin, sustained exploratory efforts have continued to produce more discoveries of oil and gas beyond the onshore limits of the delta where early discoveries were made. The deepwater and ultra deepwater portions of the delta have attracted robust exploration interest in recent years and following continuing exploration, current reserves distribution statistics show that majority of proven reserves are located along the Niger Delta River, offshore Bight of Benin, Gulf of Guinea and the Bight of Bonny (Kadafa, 2012).

The study area is located in the Niger Delta Basin. The Niger Delta basin is a prolific hydrocarbon basin located in Southern Nigeria on the West African Atlantic coast and extends into the continental margins of the neighbouring Cameroun and Equatorial Guinea. The delta has a coastline of about 450km, which terminates at the mouth of Imo River (Kadafa, 2012). The Niger Delta Basin covers an area of approximately 300,000km² (Kulke, 1995), with a sediment volume of 500, 000km³ (Hospers, 1965) and a sediment thickness of over 10km in the basin depocentre (Kaplan *et al.*, 1994). About 2,370km² of the Niger Delta area is covered by rivers, creeks and estuaries. An estimated 8600km² is made up of stagnant swamps while the delta mangrove swamp runs through about 1900km², making it the largest mangrove swamp in Africa (Kadafa, 2012).

The Niger Delta is the leading petroleum producing basin in Africa and ranks among the world's most prolific petroleum-producing Tertiary deltas, comparable to the Alaska North Slope, the Mississippi, the Orinoco and the Mahakam deltas (Reijers *et al.*, 1997). Figure 1 shows the location of the delta amongst the world petroleum producing deltas. Locally, the prospect is located in the western part of the Niger Delta Basin in Southern Nigeria and belongs to the conventional offshore domain. The study area is characterized by a shallow water depth of about 100m.

Overall, the Niger Delta Basin accounts for over ninety-per cent of Nigeria's crude oil, condensate and natural gas productions. Presently, petroleum remains the mainstay of Nigerian economy. Revenues accruable from these productions are the primary financier of the country's budget as Nigeria's national budgets are still being predicated on a benchmark price of a barrel of crude oil.

The aim of this study, however, is to evaluate the hydrocarbon potential of the study area using seismic and well data. The key objectives are geared towards prospect definition and evaluation of the study area. This will be achieved through well calibration, seismic interpretation (horizons and faults picking), building of time maps, building of velocity model, performing time to depth conversion and generation of attribute map.

2. GEOLOGY OF THE STUDY AREA

The Niger Delta is situated in the Gulf of Guinea and extends throughout the Niger Delta Province as defined by Klett *et al.* (1997) with sedimentation patterns that reflect response to Basement Tectonism. From the Eocene to the present the delta has prograded south-westward forming depobelts (Figure 1) namely Northern Delta, Greater Ughelli, Central Swamp, Coastal Swamp, Shallow Offshore and Deepwater (Knox and Omatsola, 1989) that represent the most active portion of the delta at each stage of its development. These depobelts form one of the largest regressive deltas in the world with an area of some 300,000km² (Kulke, 1995), a sediment volume of 500,000km³ (Hospers, 1965), and a sediment thickness of over 10 km in the basin depocentre (Kaplan, *et al.*, 1994) The Tertiary section of the Niger Delta is divided into three formations, representing prograding depositional facies that are distinguished mostly on the basis of sand-shale ratios. The type sections of these formations are described in Short and Stauble (1967); Frankl and Cordy (1967) and Tuttle *et al.* (1999). These are from top to bottom, the Benin Formation made up of massive continental, fluviatile gravels and sands, up to 2000m thick; the Agbada Formation that is characterized by interbedded fluviatile, coastal, fluviomarine sands and marine shales measuring up to 5000m thick and the Akata Formation that comprise massive, marine shales or clays with stringers of sands and silt with thickness in excess of 5000m. Together, they form a thick, overall progradational passive-margin wedge.



Figure 1: Niger Delta map showing all the depobelts. (https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Lukumon Adeoti/publication, retrieved on June 27, 2017)

3.0 MATERIALS AND METHODS

3.1 Dataset Used:

3 D seismic and well log data were employed to investigate the prospection of hydrocarbon potential of some wells in the arcuate Niger Delta. The 3 D seismic volume was quality-controlled to determine its phase, frequency content and amplitude spectra. The phase of the data was determined through seismic to well calibrations as zero phase. The frequency content of the seismic volume was examined in order to determine the vertical resolution of the seismic data. Upon the investigation, it was found that the data has a mean frequency (f) of 25Hz at reservoir

interval. An average velocity (v) of 2460ms⁻¹ was also estimated from the sonic log in this interval. With these

parameters, the wavelength (λ) and vertical resolution of the seismic data were determined as follows:

$$v = f\lambda_{(1)}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{v}{f}$$
(2)

Using Equation 2, wavelength was determined from frequency and average to be 98.4m. The value, v represents the interval velocity of the layer, and f is the mean frequency of the seismic data.

The vertical resolution of a seismic data was measured in terms of its wavelength and was estimated to a quarter of the wavelength λ is 25m

of the wavelength
$$\frac{\lambda}{4}$$
 i.e. 25m

A stratigraphic layer can be resolved in the seismic data only if the layer thickness is greater than a quarter of the wavelength (λ). Hence, only a layer with thickness greater than 25m was resolved. However, it was still possible to gain important information below this thickness (25m) through quantitative analysis of the interference amplitude. A bed with $\lambda / 25$ in thickness may be detectable if its thickness cannot be determined from the wave shape. Event tuning - interference between seismic pulse representing the top of the reservoir and the seismic pulse representing the base of the reservoir, illustrated in Figure 2, would be produced by thin-layered reservoirs if the layer thickness is less than 25m. Constructive interference between the top and base of the layer may be observed between $\lambda / 2$ and $\lambda / 4$ as the amplitude increases and becomes larger than the real reflectivity. Similarly, tuning thickness, the maximum constructive interference was observed as amplitude decreases and approaches zero for layer thicknesses within this limits as shown in Figure 2.



Figure 2: Tuning analysis plate showing seismic amplitude as a function of layer thickness for a given wavelength

3.2. Well-to-Seismic Tie

Surface-recorded seismic data compose of the largest database that can be used in reservoir development. However, seismic data have one shortcoming that can limit their usefulness - the reflection events used to map the seismic sequences and the seismic facies that describe the areal and vertical distributions of reservoir and sealing units are measured as functions of seismic traveltime, not as functions of depth. To understand reservoir performance, checkshot analysis was done to fine-tune the boundaries of these units in terms of depth. Thus, the concept of the velocity checkshot established time-depth calibration at the control wells so that surface-recorded seismic images can be reliably converted to the depth images that are needed to do reservoir volumetric calculations. Through checkshot-sonic integration illustrated in Figure 3, corrected sonic logs and accurate time-depth laws were obtained, based upon which impedance and reflectivity logs were computed to generate synthetic seismic traces.

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Figure 3: Checkshot-sonic calibration plate for well A

By using the well logs (sonic and density logs) from the control wells and wavelet extracted in the neighbourhood of each of the control wells or from the seismic volume, synthetic seismogram was generated to establish the desired relationship between seismic reflections and stratigraphy. The generation of synthetic seismogram was based on the convolutional model. This involved creating a reflectivity series in time (from calibrated sonic and density logs) and convolving it with the extracted wavelet plus noise (coherent and incoherent noise)

Mathematically, this can be represented by the expression given in Equation 3:

T = W * R + N

where T is the seismic trace, W is the source wavelet, R is the reflection coefficient and, N is noise (coherent and incoherent noise).

(3)

In order to minimize possible misty due to the poor quality of the seismic volume during seismic to well calibration, a suitable time window was chosen (1000 to 2400ms) to exclude the upper section of the seismic volume where noise was dominant as well as the lower part with weak reflections. As part of the quality control measures, only sonic logs corrected for the effect of drift via calibration with checkshots were used to generate the reflectivity logs. Seismic to well calibration on the two control wells was performed in order to accurately locate geologically relevant horizons before mapping. The seismic calibrations were therefore based on computed synthetics using calibrated checkshot-sonic and density logs from the reference wells, A and B. Four synthetic seismic traces were generated; one each for the two control wells using the wavelet extracted in the neighbourhood of wells and one each using a zero-phased Ricker wavelet at the data's mean frequency of 25Hz. Results of the calibrations showed that those obtained with Ricker wavelet were better than those computed using wavelets extracted at or around each of the control wells. Hence, computing synthetics using both wavelets allowed for comparison of the quality of the seismic to well calibrations. The fairly acceptable calibration obtained from synthetics using the wavelet extracted from the data can be attributed to distortions suffered by the extracted wavelets due to the presence of noise/multiples in the data. As a result, the wavelength is not a good representative of the seismic data. Conversely, Ricker wavelet which is a zero-phased mathematical wavelet does not suffer from similar distortion; hence its wavelength is a good representative of the wavelength of the seismic data. The wavelet extracted at or around well A and the corresponding synthetics is presented in Figure 3. Good seismic to well

calibrations have been achieved with a time shift of 16ms and 21ms respectively. The synthetics also indicated the response for the top of the reservoir as a trough.

Resistivity and Gamma Ray logs were directly plotted on the seismic section to validate calibration as the quality of the seismic section and sonic logs used to generate synthetics are generally bad. Caliper logs indicate that the sonic logs suffer from borehole caving, poor coupling and possibly, cycle skipping.

The synthetics indicated that the top of the R01A reservoir in Figure 4 is trough. The calibration formed the first step in picking events. Horizons interpreted were composed of marine flooding surface and the top of the reservoir to be evaluated. The marine flooding surface was interpreted and picked as peak as indicated by synthetic seismogram. Good seismic to well ties provided an increased confidence in the interpretation. The horizons interpretation of the study area on the 3D seismic volume in Figure 4 is based on well to seismic calibrations.



Figure 4: Seismic section showing interpreted horizons

4.0.Results and Discussion

4.1. Reservoir Structure

The prospect is found to be entrapped in a growth related structure. The trap is a two-way dip against three faults. The main risk associated with this trap is the non-sealing N60 fault. The trap definition is based on interpreted boundary faults that delineate the prospect as displayed in Figure 4. Seismic interpretation of the study area was completed based on seismic to well calibrations. These calibrations indicated that the top of the reservoir is a trough. The structural style of the study area is characterized by regional and counter regional listric growth faults and associated rollover structures. These listric growth faults are mainly structure bounding, therefore forming the boundary faults that delineate the prospect. The structural features are consistent with the faulting pattern conspicuous in extensional zone of the Niger Delta Basin, the location of this study as discussed in several leading publications (Weber, 1971; Evamy et al., 1978; Damuth, 1994).

A key finding of this study is that there is no closure in the study area due to fault seal failure. The N60 fault separating the prospect from field C in Figures 5 and 6 has a small throw (max. 30m) relative to the sand thickness (70m). As a result, there is a 40m sand to sand juxtaposition across the N60 fault. By implication, the reservoir is hydrodynamically connected to downdip of field C which is in the water leg. As no borehole exists in the study area, it is impossible to determine reliably the net-to-gross (NTG) ratio of the reservoir from which additional information could be extracted on any seal possibility by clay smearing and/or cataclastic gouge generation within the fault zone. More so, amplitude extracted from the top reservoir overlaid on structure depth map (Figure 7) indicates that amplitude distribution does not conform to structure. The amplitude expression is rather dispersive and regional in the study. The R01A reservoir is a trough as predicated by the seismic to well calibration. The 500m x 500m grid basis in Figures 8 and 9 are associated with fault sticks as indicated by the red horizon. In other areas, picking of horizons was chosen to be confined by 250m x 250m in order to define the prospect zone. In order to achieve fidelity in horizontal interpretation, marine flooding surface displayed as green on red horizontal surface in Figures 8 and 9 was delineated.

Isochron map was obtained after gridding and thereafter, isopach maps were generated with associated fault polygons. The structural and horizon interpretations are shown in Figures 7 to 13 are the results of the horizon and structural interpretation of the area. The curve in Figure 14 shows a quadratic function, indicating the polynomial time-depth function. However the curve increases proportionally when time and depth increase. The throw of the three faults upon which the closure (1390m) is defined have been calculated indicated on the Depth structure map



of Figure 13. The crest of the structure is located at 1234m.

Figure 5: Top Reservoir Depth Structure Map (m) with fault boundaries, showing the 3 fields and their gas - water contact (GWC), as well as the throw of the faults delineating the prospect



Figure 6: Structural cross-section of the study area



Figure 7: Interpretation with random line from B to A which shows the study area is characterised by regional and counter-regional growth faults which form boundary faults and consequently delineate the prospect.



Figure 8: 3D view of interpreted boundary faults (top) and corresponding display on time slice (bottom), showing delineation of the study area



Figure 9: Crossline 3400m and R01A fault orientation



Figure 10: R.m.s maps of the top reservoir at 100ms divided into two layers. Layer 1 (top) shows that nearly all the amplitude is concentrated on the first layer (at 50ms) and the amplitude wraps around fields A, B and C of Figure 5, against the dispersive amplitudes in the study area while Layer 2 (bottom) shows little amplitude presence at 50ms.



Figure 11: A section of the random line through the reference wells, A and C of fields A and C respectively, showing the separation of the prospect by a regional growth fault into different compartment from well A, field A and into same compartment as well C, field C. The prospect and field C are fairly within the same depth.



Figure 12: Top Reservoir Depth Structure Map (m) with fault boundaries showing the 3 fields, amplitudes variations and Gas - Water Contact (GWC)



Figure 13: Depth structure map showing closure defined at 1390m for computation of Gross Rock Volume (GRV).



Figure 14: Time – Depth Curve : Velocity Model

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4.2.Prospect Evaluation

The trap is two-way dip against three faults. The main risk associated with this trap is the non-sealing N60 fault. The trap definition is based on interpreted boundary faults that delineate the prospect (Figure 13).

4.2.1. Gross Rock Volume Estimation and Petrophysical Definition

Gross Rock Volume (GRV) and petrophysical parameters such as Net to Gross ratio (NTG) and porosity are essential for the computation of hydrocarbon volumes. In this work, Gross Rock Volume (GRV) has been estimated based on the structure depth maps (m) shown in Figures 5 and 13 respectively. By using the available gamma ray log of well B in field C, the Net to Gross (NTG) ratios have been derived for in-place hydrocarbon resource calculations. Other petrophysical parameters are taken from R01C reservoir of Well B which is comparable to the prospect in terms of depth (a depth difference of 45m between the top of R01A in field B and top of the prospect reservoir). A random line through the reference wells, A and B will show that, in terms of morphology the prospect is separated from field A into the same compartment as field C by the N150 regional fault. Well A in field A is at a much shallower level. A section of the random line through the reference wells, A and C of fields A and C respectively, shows the separation of the prospect by a regional growth fault into different compartment from well A, field A and into same compartment as well C, field C. The prospect and field C are fairly within the same depth.

Methods used to obtain the required parameters are briefly illustrated below:

1. The Gross Rock Volume (GRV) is given by:

Gross Rock Volume (GRV) = $A \times h$

(4)

where A is the possible hydrocarbon bearing area = 22.25438km² and h is the gross reservoir mean thickness above the Hydrocarbon Water Contact (HWC) = 70m

GRV = 1557. $806600 \times 10^6 m^3$

Net-to gross ratio was derived from resistivity and gamma ray logs of the analog from field C based on the approach adopted by Ala (2012):

H = Gross reservoir thickness

G = Gross pay thickness

N1 + N2 + N3 + N4 =Net reservoir thickness

P1 + P2 + P3 = Net pay thickness (includes rock above Hydrocarbon Water Contact)

Net-To-Gross ratio, NTG = (N1 + N2 + N3) / G

2. Average porosity (ϕ) ratio of the pore space to total reservoir rock was estimated in view of the fact that, not the entire reservoir is pore spaced. Average porosity of reservoir, R01C of field C is used. This is because the R01C reservoir is assumed in this study as the analog of R01A reservoir.

3. The relative saturation of hydrocarbon to water was also estimated as not all of the pore space contains hydrocarbon, part equally contains water. This fluid parameter is taken from R01C reservoir of field C.

5. The gas Formation Volume Factor (FVF) was obtained from the Pressure-Volume-Temperature (PVT) analysis in the laboratory. This parameter is essential for converting hydrocarbon volumes from reservoir (high temperature and pressure) to stock tank conditions. In this study, FVF of reservoir R01C of field C is equally used since the reservoir is assumed to be the analog of R01A.

6. Recovery Factor of the reservoir R01C reservoir of field C is also used for the volumetric computation.

4.2.2.Recoverable Hydrocarbon Resources

Based on the Gross Rock Volume and the petrophysical parameters already derived, Hydrocarbon (gas) volumes were computed by Deterministic Volumetric Method (DVM). The corresponding values of the parameters (from analog) used for calculations are given below:

Net = 63. 72 m; Gross = 70 m. NTG = 63.72 / 70 = 0.91 (determined using gamma ray log)

Porosity (ϕ) = 25%

Water Saturation (Sw) = 0.2

Hydrocarbon Saturation (Shc) = 1 - Sw = 1 - 0.2 = 0.8

1 / Gas Formation Volume Factor (1 / Bg) = 130

Recovery Factor (RF) = 65%

Then:

- a. Net Pay Volume (NPV) = $GRV \times NTG = 1557.806600 \times 10^6 \times 0.91 = 1417.604006 \times 10^6 m^3$
- b. Net Pore Volume (NPV) = GRV × NTG × ϕ = 1557.806600 × 10⁶ × 0.91 × 0.25 = 354.4010015 × 10⁶m³ c. Net Hydrocarbon Pore Volume (NHcPV) = GRV × NTG × ϕ × Shc = 1557.806600 × 10⁶ × 0.91 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25 × 0.25
- $0.8 = 283.5208012 \times 10^{6} \text{m}^{3}$
- d. Gas Initially In Place (GIIP) = GRV × NTG × ϕ × Shc × 1 / Bg = 1557.806600 × 10⁶ × 0.91 × 0.25 × 0.8× 130 = 36.857704156 × 10⁹m³ = 1301bcf
- e. Recoverable Reserves (RR) = (GRV × NTG × ϕ × Shc × RF) / Bg = 804.70874 × 10⁶ × 0.91 × 0.25 × 0.8× 0.65 × 130 = 23.957507701399 × 10⁹m³ = 846bcf

4.2.3.Risk Assessment

In order to determine geologic success, numerical evaluation of risk has been performed on a play scale by considering the probability of existence of the following imperative geological factors: source rock, reservoir, trap, seal and charge (migration and timing). However, the overall chance of success of the prospect is tied to the following risk:

- Play Chance (%) which is common to all prospects, within the licensed zone
- Prospect Specific Risk (%) primarily due to changes in geology
- The probability of geologic success is obtained by applying a simple mathematical relation:

Probability of Success = $P1 \times P2 \times P3 \times P4 \times P5$

Where,

P1 = Probability of presence of mature source rocks

P2 = Probability of presence of reservoir rocks

P3 = Probability of presence of Traps

P4 = Probability of Seals

P5 = Probability of Timing/Migration; taking into account the probabilities of occurrence of the above factors of play concept.

Modified risk assessment worksheet based on the approach of Otis and Schneidermann (1997) have been produced in Figure 15.

Risk Assessment Computation					
Prob. of	Prob. of	Prob. of Prob. of	Prob. of Seal	Prob. of Timing	
HC Discovery	HC Source	Resv. quality Geomet	ry	and Migration	
0.4	1.0	1.0 1.0	0.4	0.9	
Geological Risk Factor = 1 / Probability of Hydrocarbon (HC) Discovery = 1/0.4 = 2.5					
Probability Factors					
	А	Source Evaluation			
	1.	Presence	1.0		
	2.	Quality	1.0		
	3.	Maturity	1.0		
	В	Reservoir			
	1.	Presence	1.0		
	2.	Quality	1.0		
	C	Geometry			
		Dresence	1.0		
	1.	Quality	1.0		
	2.	Quanty	1.0		
	D	Seal			
		1. Presence	0.4		
		2. Quality	0.4		
	Е	Timing / Migration	1.0		
For any Risk Factor, the weakest element determines the risk					
< 0.30 Risk Factor contains					
0.30 - 0.50					
0.50 - 0.70					
> 0.70					
UnfavourableQuestionableNeutralEncouragingFavourable				ing Favourable	
0.1 0.2 0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7 0.8 0.9 1.0	

Figure 15: Risk assessment worksheet showing qualitative judgments on geologic risk

4.2.4.Risked Resources Estimation

The probability of success (gas discovery) obtained in the risk assessment is given as 0.03456. Estimated risked resources are obtained by multiplying the probability of success (hydrocarbon discovery) by the Original Gas in Place.

Hence Risked Resources= Probability of success \times Gas Initially In Place= 0.13824 \times 1301 bcf = 520bcfAlso, Risked Recoverable Reserves= Probability of success \times Recoverable reserves= 0.13824 \times 846 bcf = 338bcf.

Assuming geologic success, only 520bcf of gas would be recovered from 338 bcf risked estimated gas resources. The summary of deductions from the analysis is given in the Table 1.

Table 1: Volumetric data and hypothetical volumetric estimates for the prospect that would be obtained if there was closure.

Parameter	Value	
Sand	70 m	
Gross Rock Volume (GRV)	$1557.8 \times 10^{6} m^{3}$	
Net-to-gross	91%	
Water saturation	20%	
Gas Formation Volume Factor	65%	
Porosity	25%	
Gas Initially in Place	1301 bcf	
Recoverable reserves	846 bcf	
Risked estimated resources	520 bcf	
Risked recoverable reserves	338 bcf	
Recovery factor	0.0076923076923	

5.0. Conclusion

This study has revealed that there is no closure in the study area due to fault seal failure. The N60 fault separating the prospect from field C has a small throw of 30m maximum relative to the sand thickness of 70m. As a result, there is a 40m sand to sand juxtaposition across the N60 fault. This implies that the reservoir is hydrodynamically connected to downdip of field C which is in the water leg. As no borehole exists in the study area, it is impossible to determine reliably the Net-To-Gross (NTG) ratio of the reservoir from which additional information could be extracted on any seal possibility by clay smearing and / or cataclastic gouge generation within the fault zone. More so, amplitude extracted from the top reservoir and overlaid on structure depth map (Figure 12) indicates that amplitude distribution does not conform to structure. The amplitude expression is rather dispersive and regional. Some basic assumptions have been made in order to determine hydrocarbon volumes that would be obtained had the N60 fault been sealing and closure exist in reality. First, it is assumed that the N60 fault is sealing and therefore closure is hypothetically defined at contour 1390m to close the structure against three faults. Based on this definition, the GRV was computed using SISMAGE. Second, it is further assumed that the fluid type in this reservoir is gas and petrophysical as well as fluid parameters (porosity, hydrocarbon saturation, recovery factor, and gas formation volume factor) required for the volumes calculations were taken from R01C reservoir of field C which is assumed as analog to the prospect. By applying volumetric method, the Gas Initially In Place (GIIP) was estimated at 1301 bcf (Table 1). This volume has a recoverable equivalence of about 846 bcf. Risked estimated resources were equally obtained by multiplying the GIIP by the probability of success (0.4). Similarly, risked recoverable reserves were determined by multiplying the recoverable reserves by the probability of success. Detailed results of the net volumes, gas initially in place, recoverable gas, risked resources and risked recoverable gas are summarized in Table 1

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