

# Fixed and Floating Offshore Systems



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UNIVERSITY *of* NICOSIA

# Overview

2

- Fixed platforms:
  - Jacket (steel) installations
  - Monopods
  - Compliant towers
  - Guyed towers
- Gravity based platforms
- Tension leg platforms (TLPs)
- Jack-up rigs
- Semi-submersibles
- Spar platforms

# Overview (2)

3

- Floating, production, storage & offloading (FPSOs)
- Drillships
- Floating LNG (FLNG)
- Floating Storage and Regas Unit (FSRU)
- Offshore mooring systems
- Subsea systems

# Salvaging the San Juan sub?

4

- Diesel-electric sub lost Nov. 16, 2017
- Crew: 44 including first female sailor
- Discovered by Ocean Infinity at 3,000 ft
- It is feasible to recover the vessel?
- Probably yes at a cost of \$100m
- Video: Argentina submarine
- Kursk: <https://bit.ly/2QocwT9>
- Dutch Mammoet-Smit



# Offshore O&G seascape

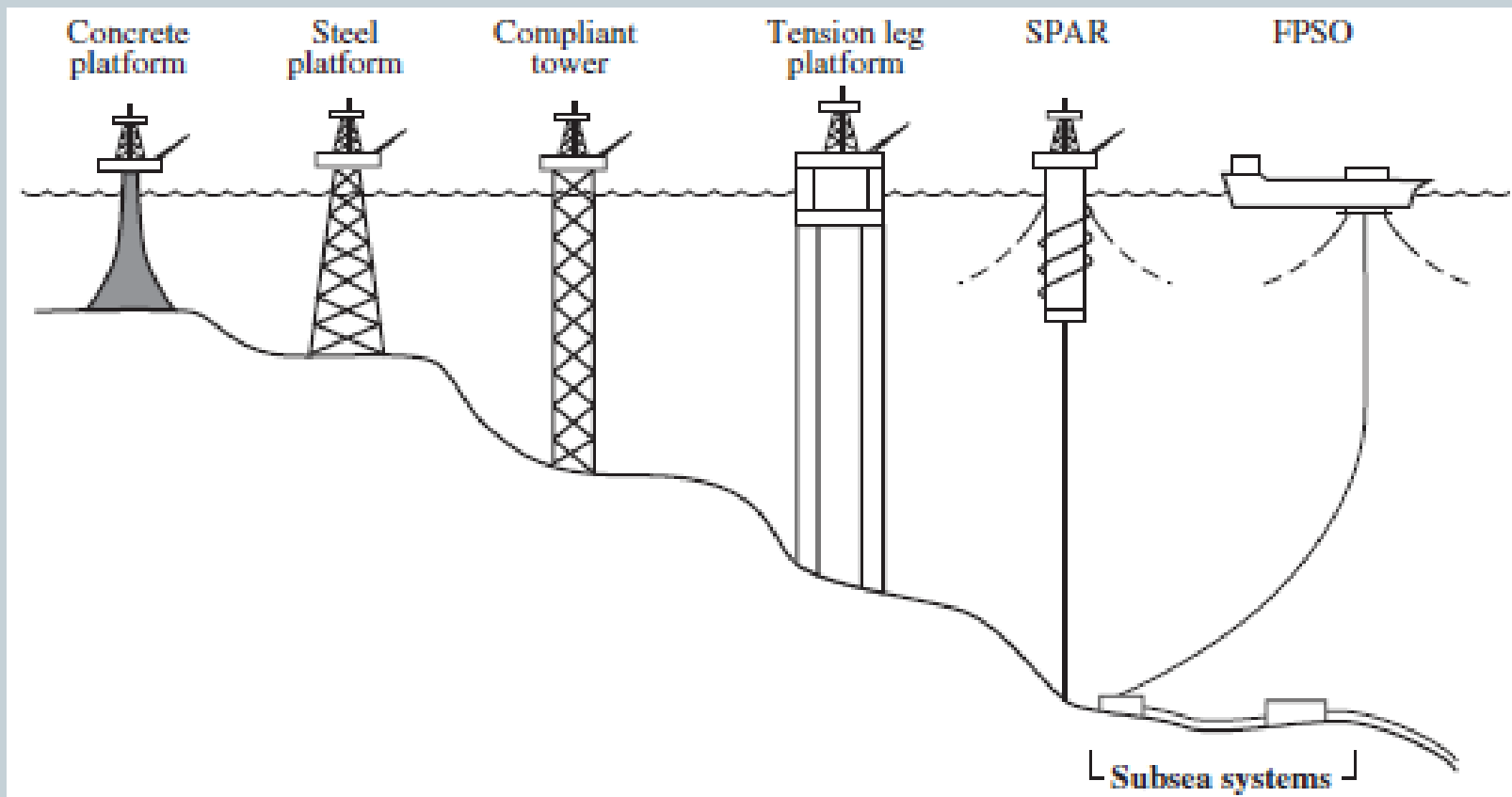
5

- Offshore O&G exploration covers ~7,100 fields in >120 countries
- Offshore platform (fixed, gravity & floating) count: 14,500
- Subsea components amount to ~8,200
- About 30,000 offshore pipelines siphon O&G to shore

# Offshore fields development options

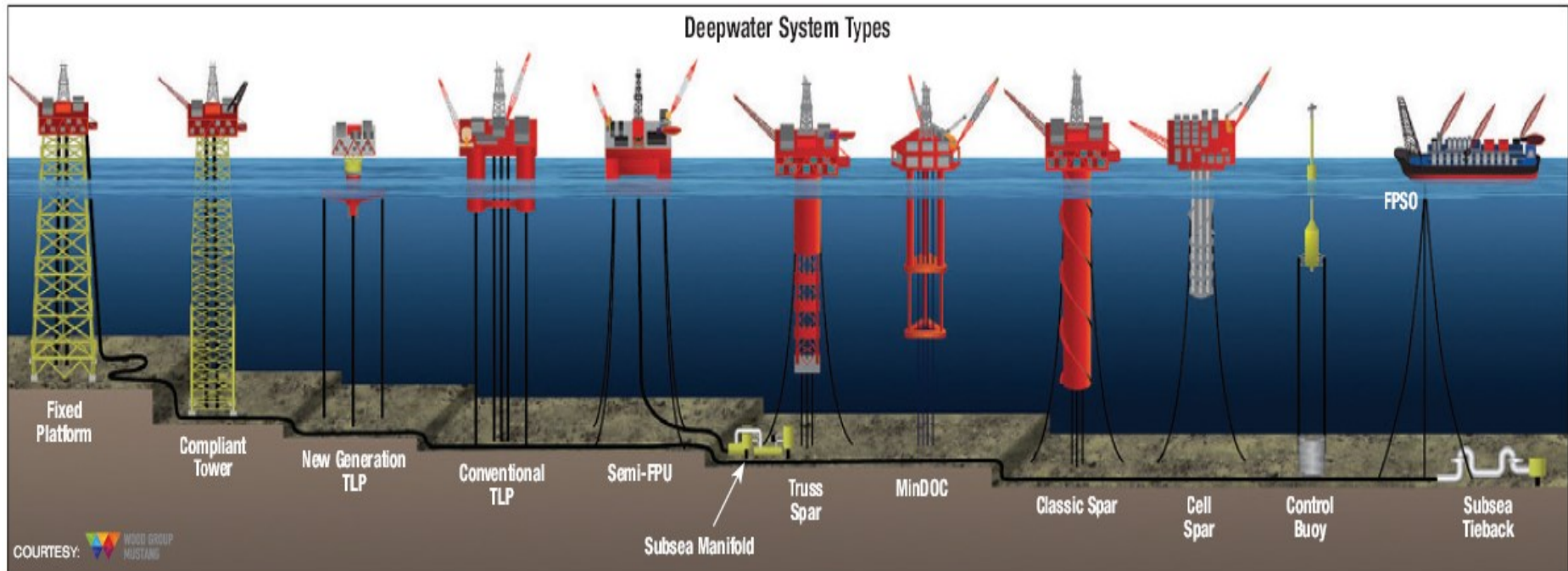
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- Fixed foundations, moored & tethered & subsea installation



# Offshore O&G systems

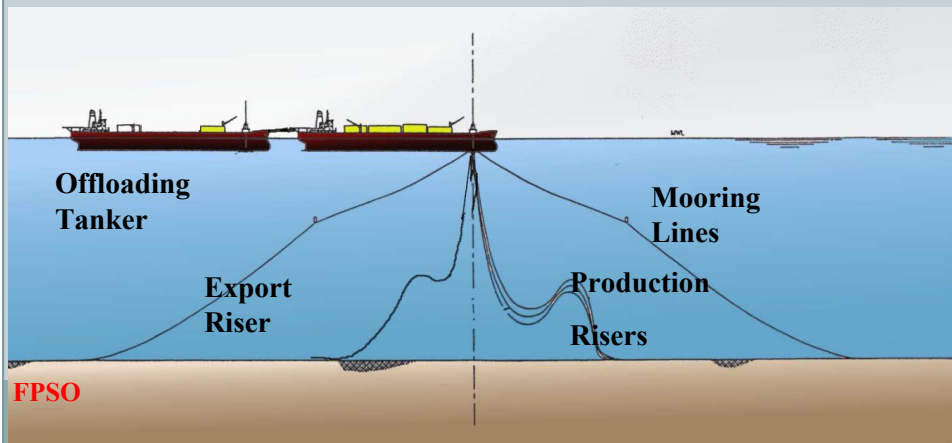
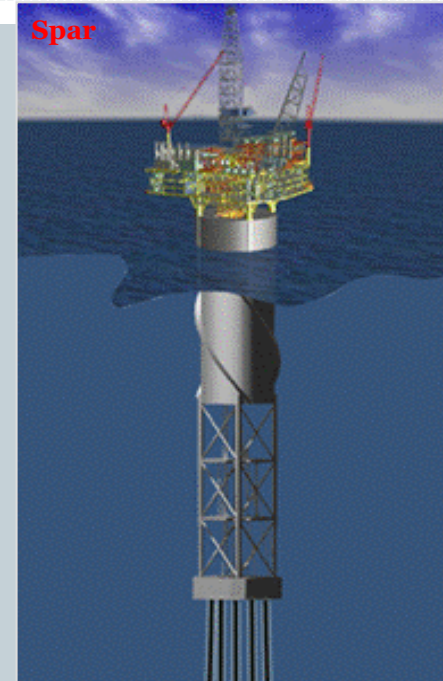
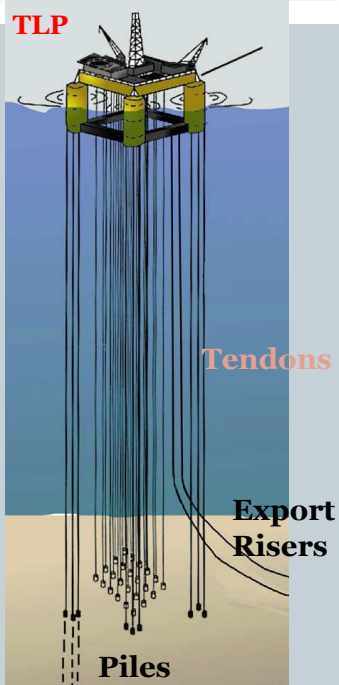
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# Floating Systems Overview

Courtesy: Shell

8

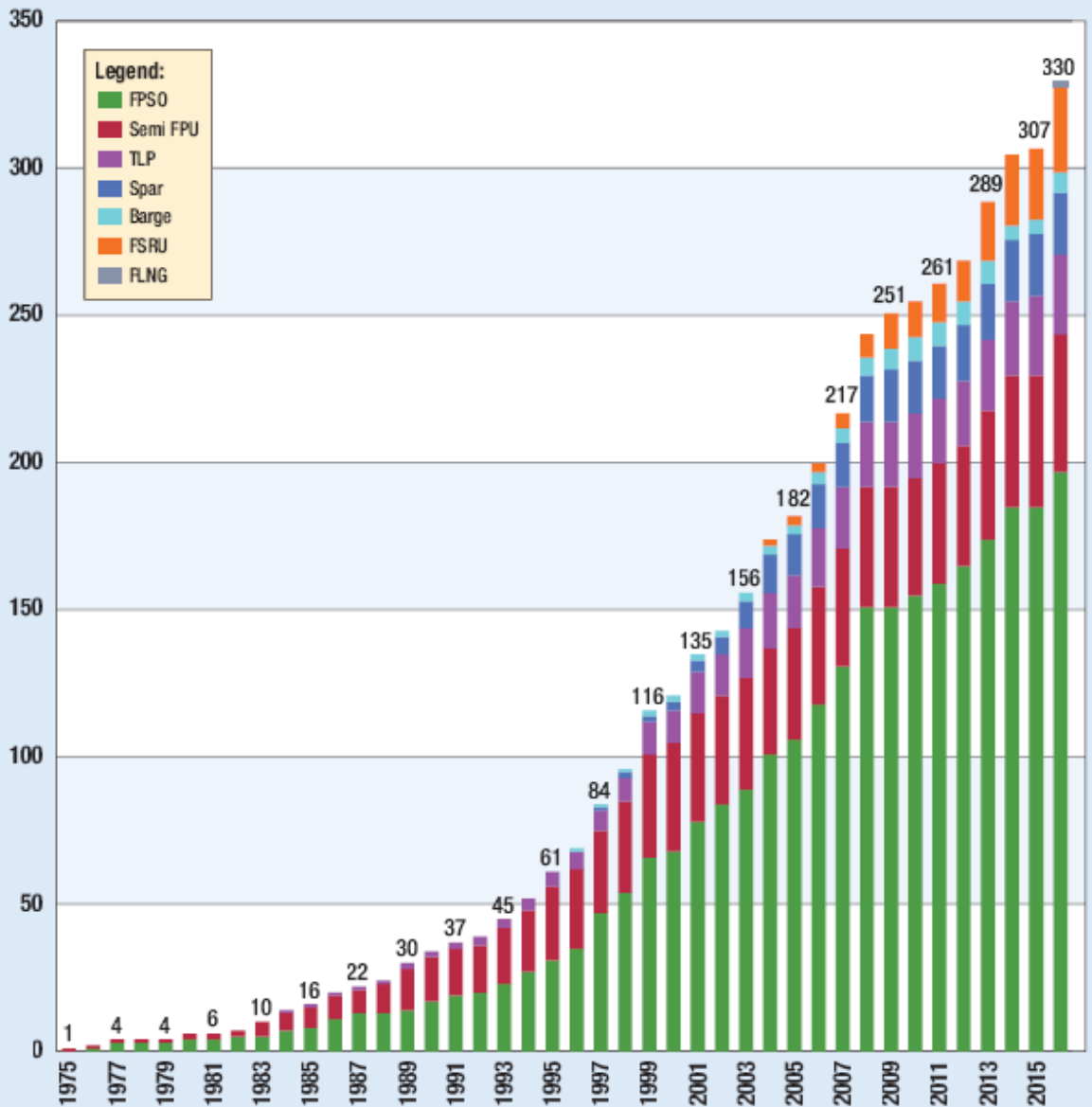




# Production systems

- FPSOs account for most of *floating* offshore oil production systems

Number of Production Floaters in Service or Available at the Beginning of Each Year

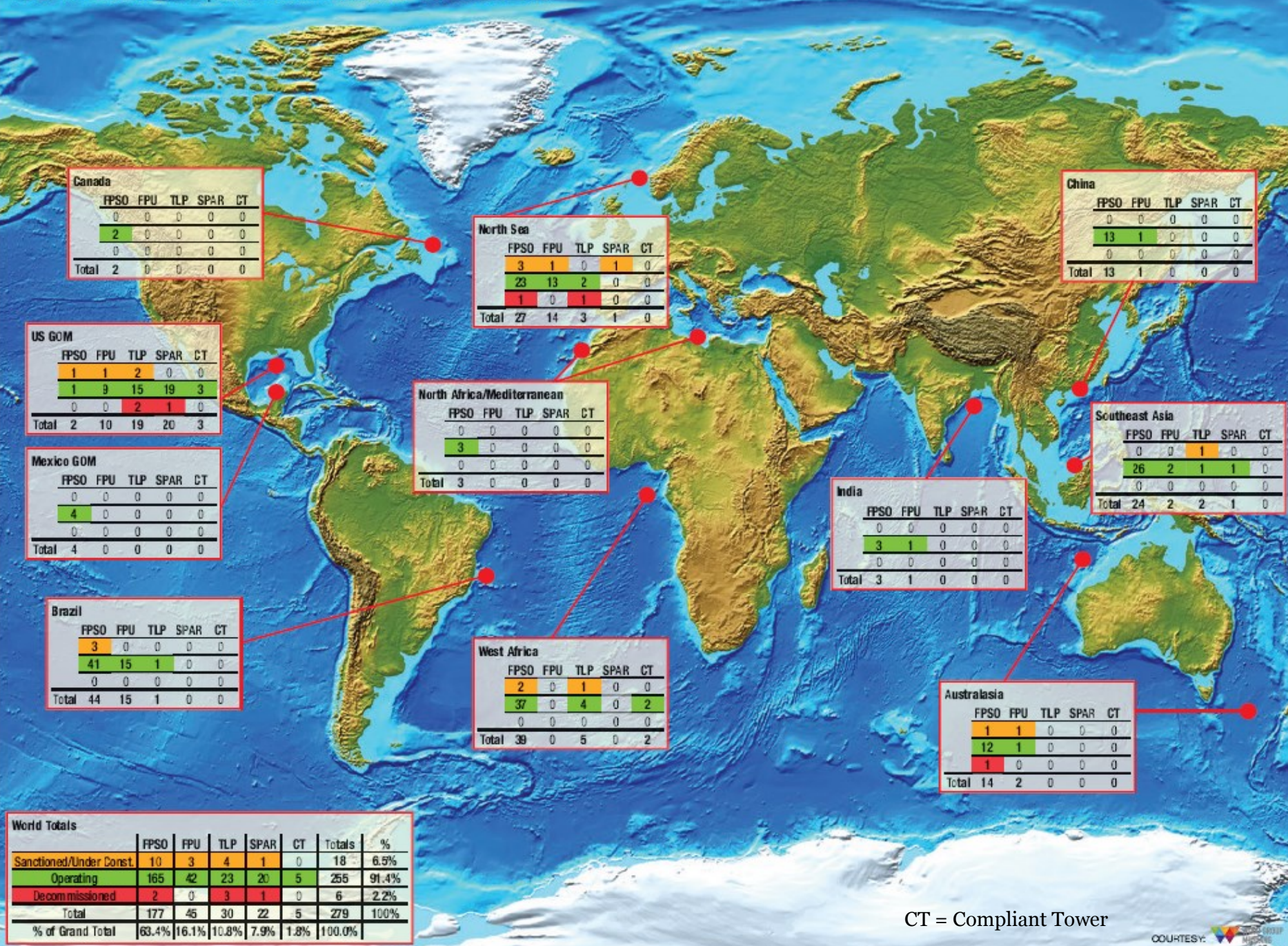


Note: FSRU count excludes regas carriers not in terminal service. Source: IMA World Energy Reports - 2016 Forecast Issue

COURTESY: World Energy Reports LLC



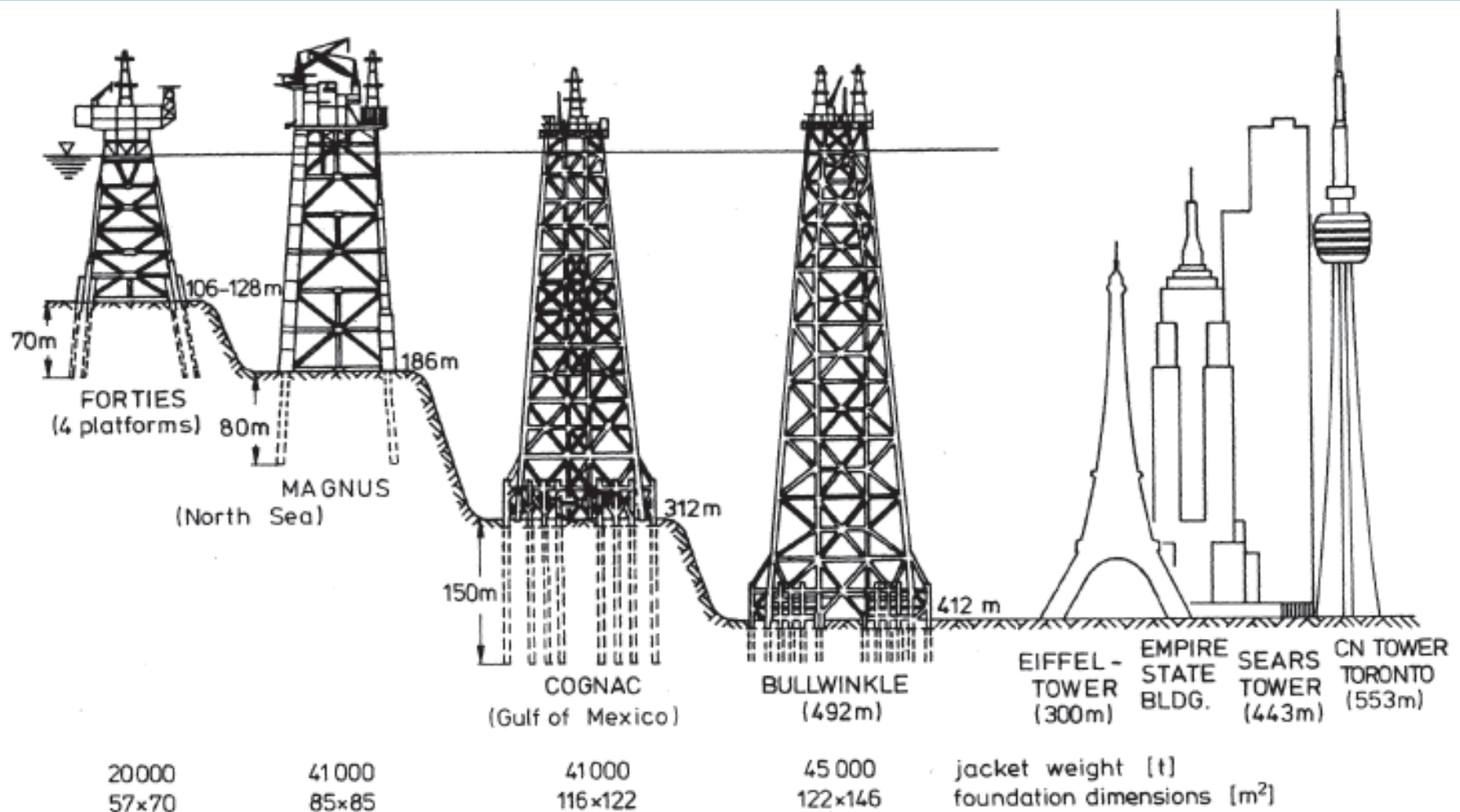
# Worldwide Locations of Deepwater Facilities and Status - As of March 2016





# Fixed platforms

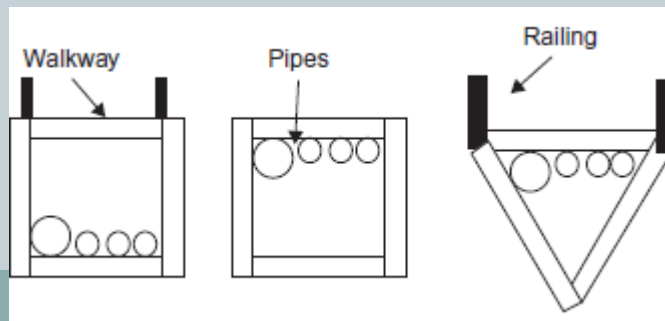
11



# Types of fixed offshore platforms

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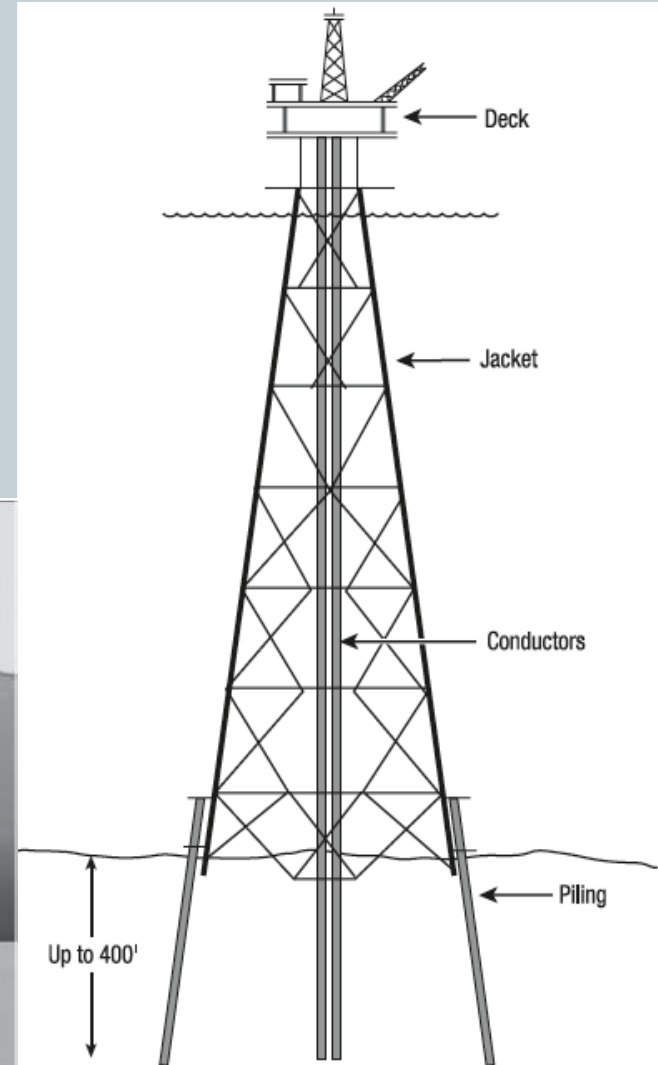
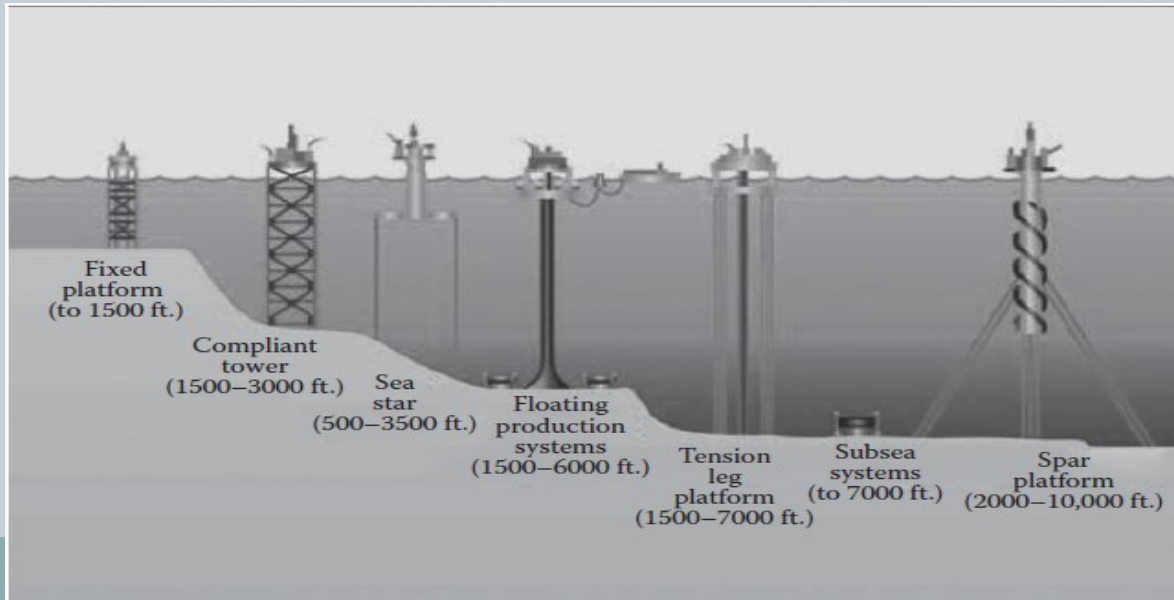
- Drilling/well-protector platforms
- Self-contained platforms (template and tower)
- Production platforms (control rooms, compressors, storage tanks, treating, ...)
- Auxiliary platforms (pumping/compressor stations, oil storage, quarters platforms or production platforms,
- Quarters platforms
- Flare jacket and flare tower platforms
- Bridges
- Heliports



# Jacket platforms

13

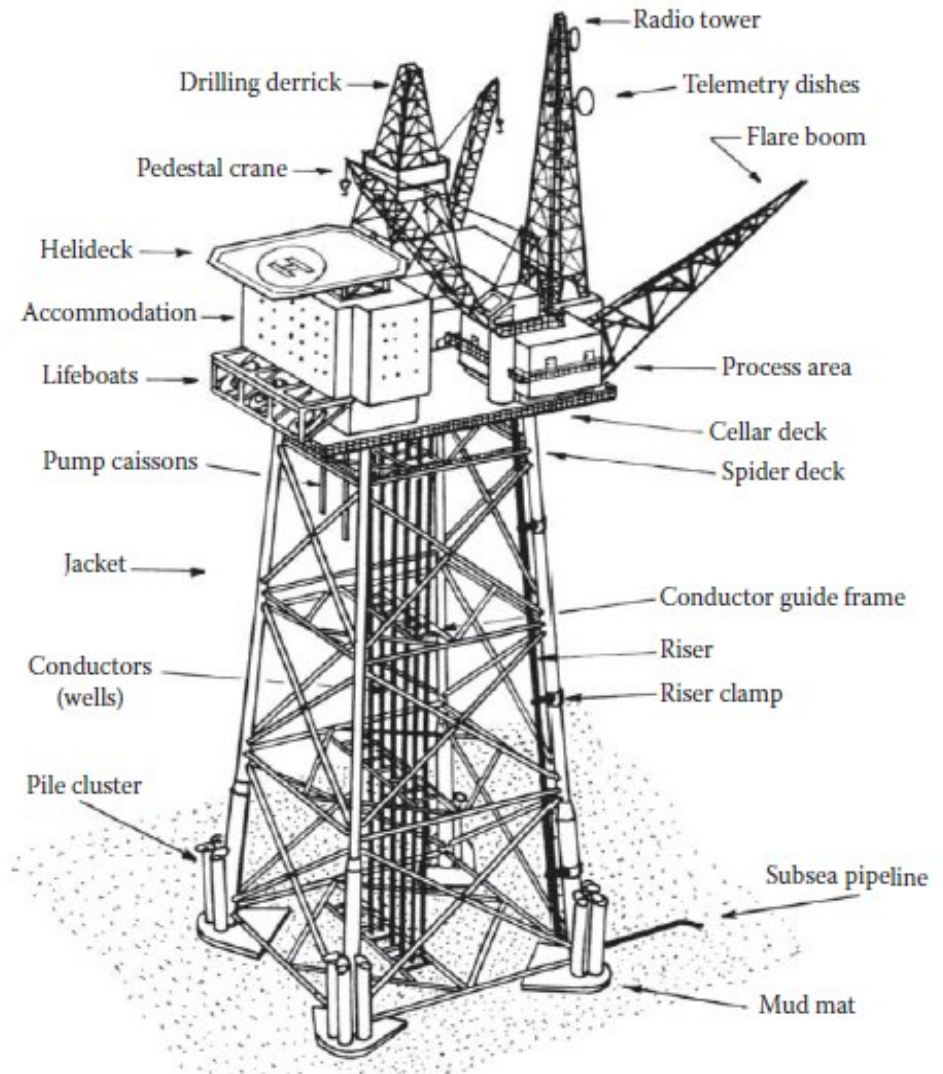
- *Pilings*: steel tubular members secure platform to seabed
- Cylindrical members:
  - Pose less resistance to ocean waves & currents
  - Reduce mass of steel & weight of rig
  - Lower material cost
- Waves should not wet the deck



# Framed offshore structure

14

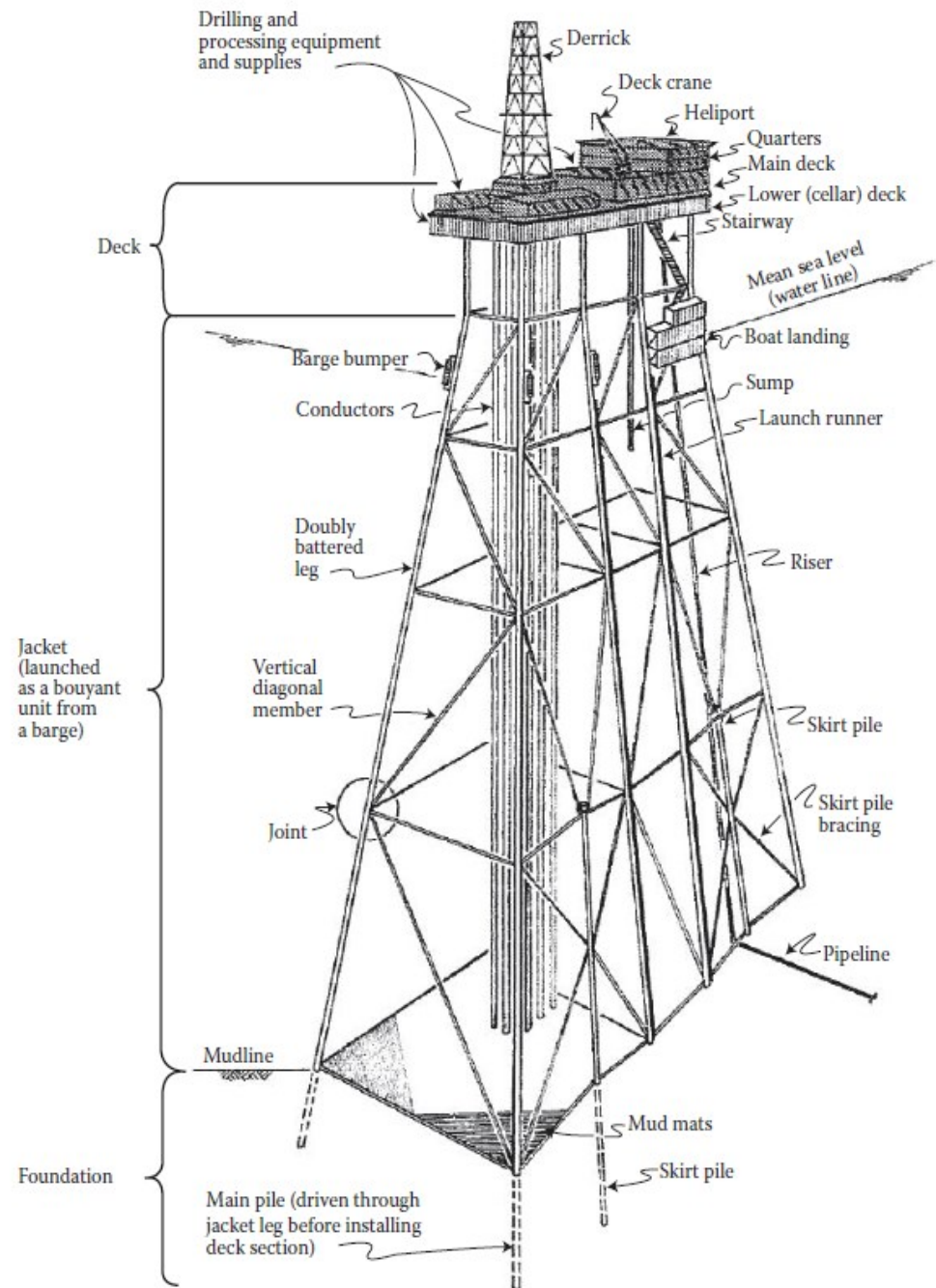
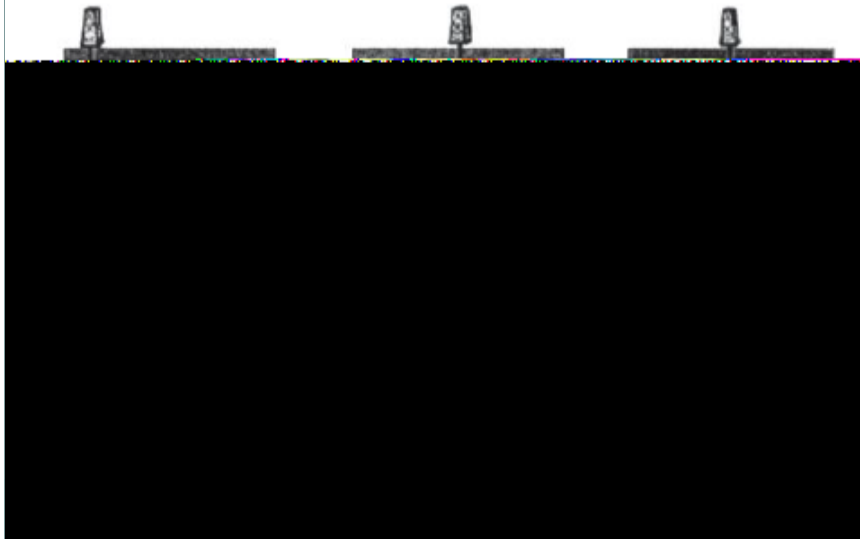
- Limited to water depth of 1,500ft
- Bullwinkle base: 400×480ft
- Pilings: 7ft × 2" × 400ft deep
- 300ft of water: 3000t of steel + 1000t pilings, legs: 54"
- 1,500ft of water: 50,000t of steel + 15,000t pilings, legs,  $d$ : 90", pilings,  $d$ : 75"





- Deck
- Jacket
- Foundation

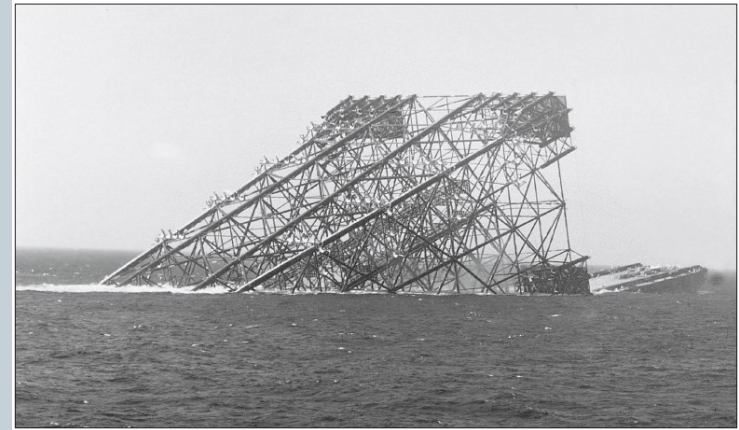
Deviated wells spudded from offshore platforms



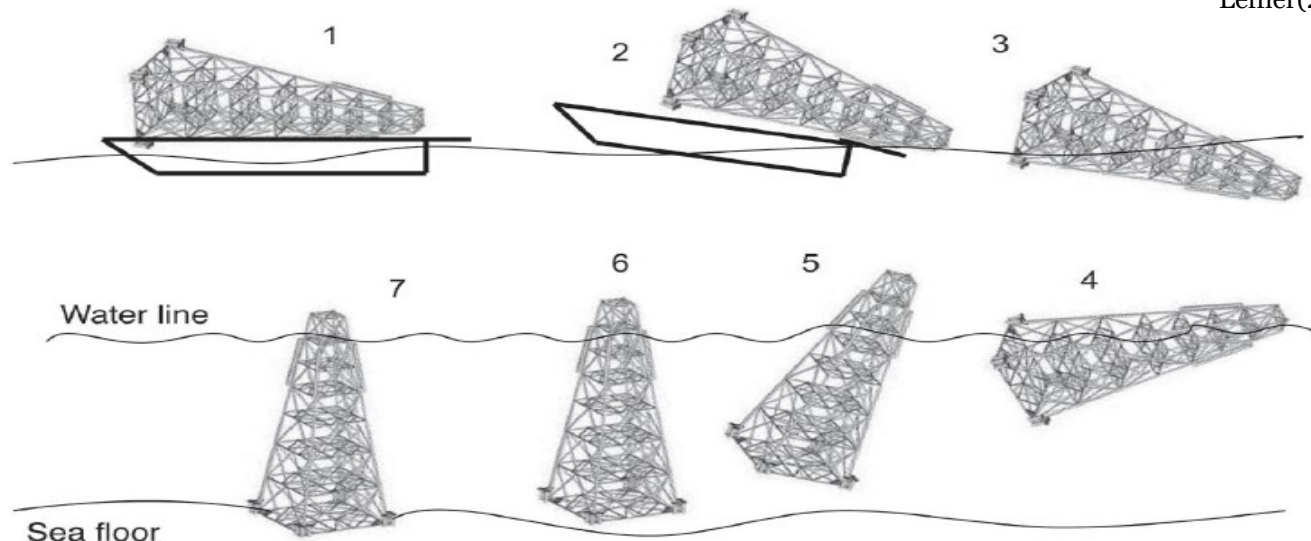
# Installing a jacket platform

16

- Hydraulic jacks or winches move to barge
- Base structure needs to float
- Flooding lower structure to seabed
- Tugs facilitate positioning of jacket base
- Pilings secure platform to seabed



Leffler(2011)

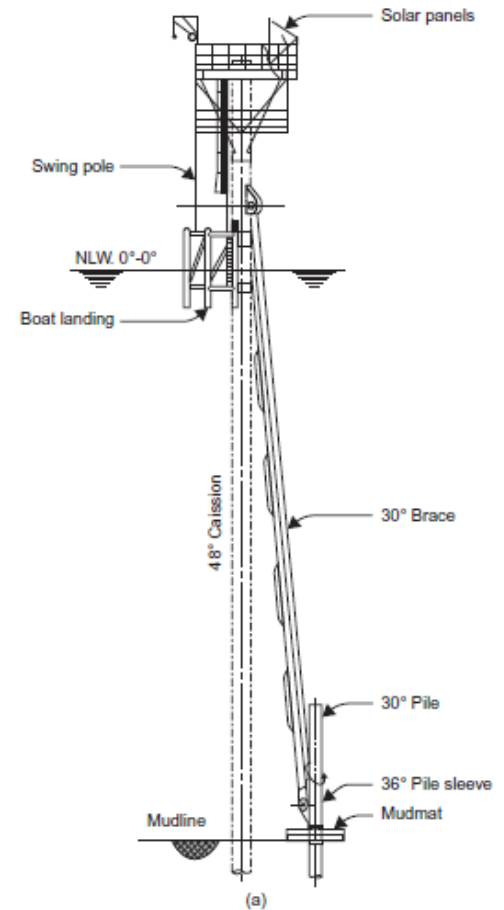




# Mono/tri-pods

17

- Used for single wells
- Low cost solution
- Uses a conductor
- Alternative to wet tree



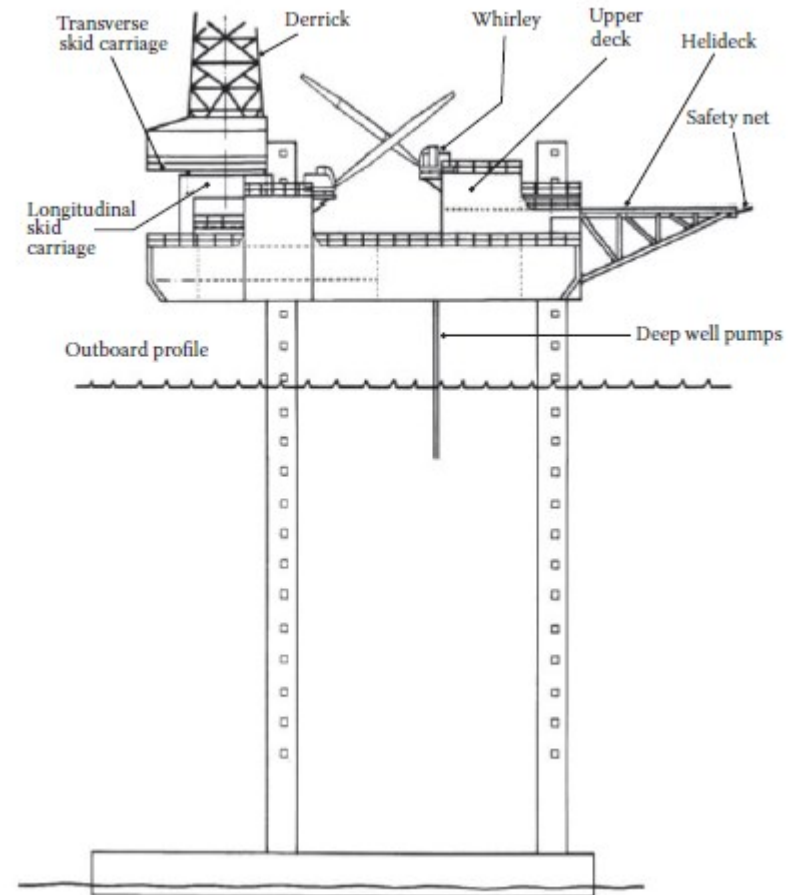
# Jack-up rigs

18

- Mobile platform that rests on seabed
- Make up 60% of MODUs
- MODUs are divided into:
  - Jack-ups with cylindrical legs
  - Jack-ups with truss legs



Mat supported jack-up



# Jack-ups

19

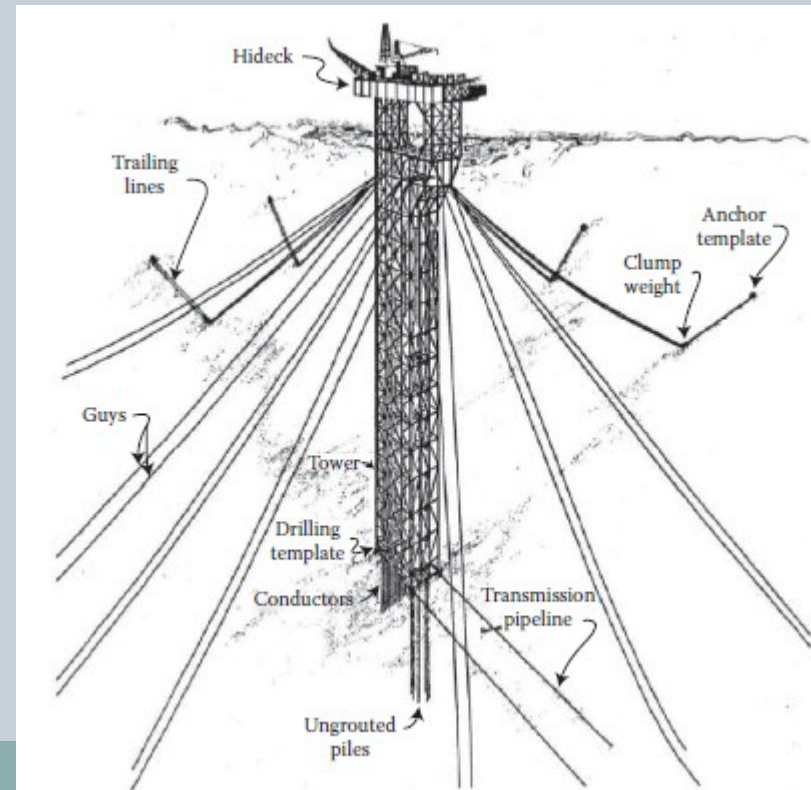
- Legs can enter seabed
- Working depth: 150m-190m
- Generally not self-propelled
- No. of jack-ups: 540 (2013)
- Leg no vary: 3, 4, 6, 8
- Legs powered by hydraulics or motors
- Merits:
  - Good stability due to fixed legs
  - Relatively economical
  - Suitable for different seafloor soils
- Drawbacks:
  - Hard to tow; sensitive to waves
  - Working depth: 0-100m
  - Large legs pose vibration issues



# Guyed towers

20

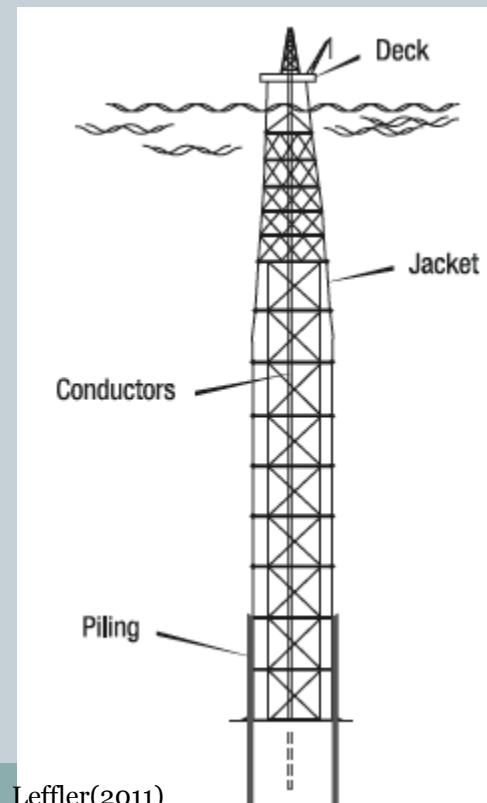
- Fixed platforms in water depth of ~300m
- Clump weights on guy lines allow tower to sway or “comply” with waves
- Made of tubular steel elements
- Dry wellheads installed on platform
- Anchored to seabed with lines



# Compliant towers

21

- Water depth range: 1,000-3,000ft
- Behaves like reed; waves pass thru before structure respond
- Slender base (140ft × 100ft)
- Sway in currents & waves: 10-15ft
- Require less steel than jacket rigs
- Considerable mass & buoyancy at upper zone
- 1,700ft: 30,000t of steel; 7,000t pilings



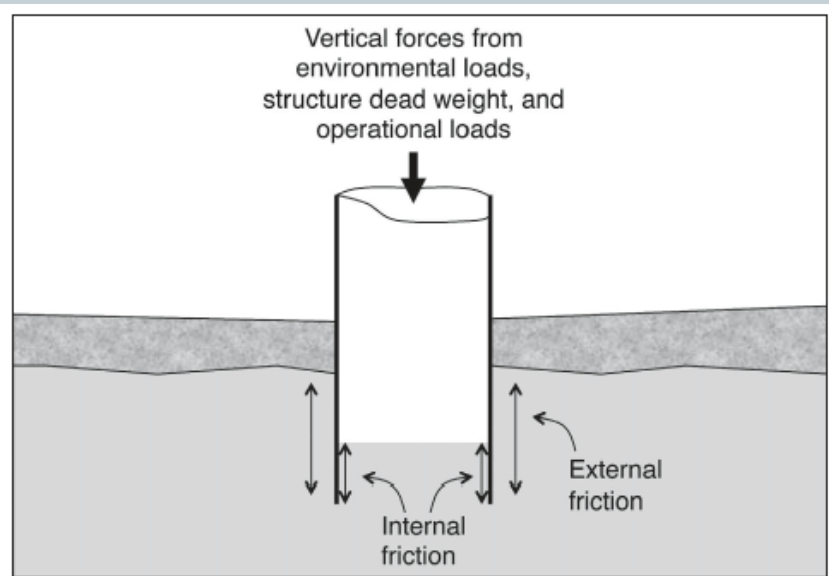
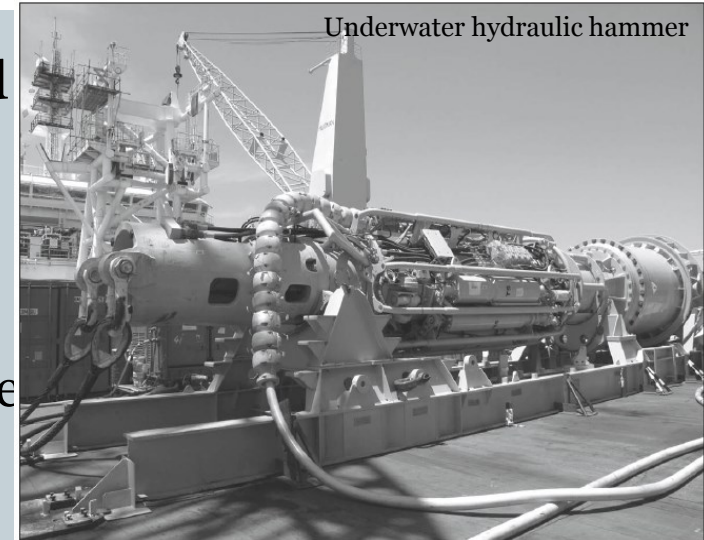
Leffler(2011)



# Pilings

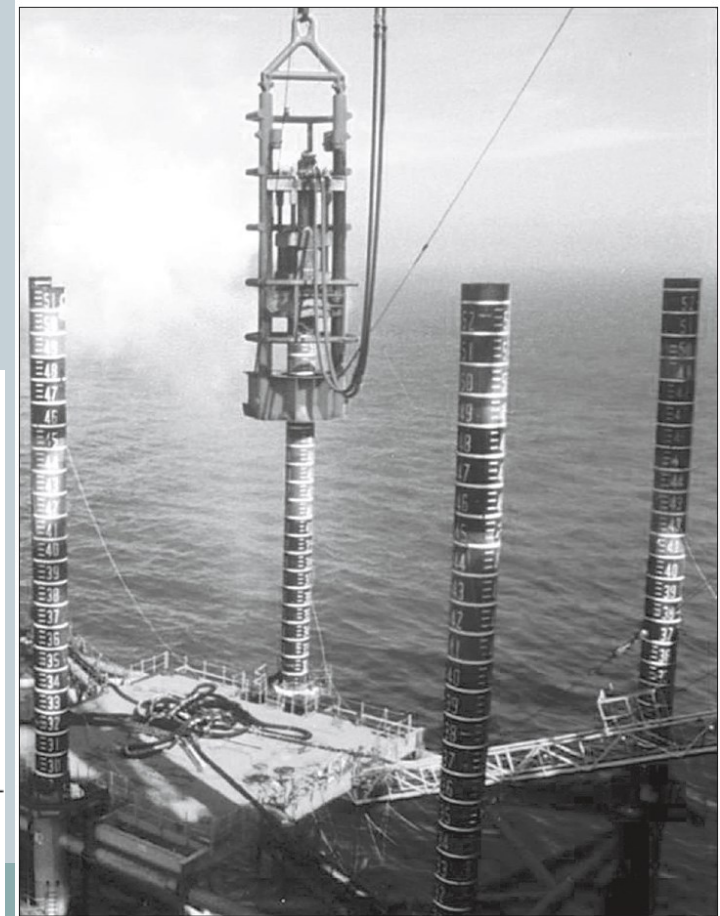
22

- Steel pilings secure fixed structure to seabed
- Depth of pilings extend up to 400ft (130m)
- Pilings driven only during favourable weather



## 23

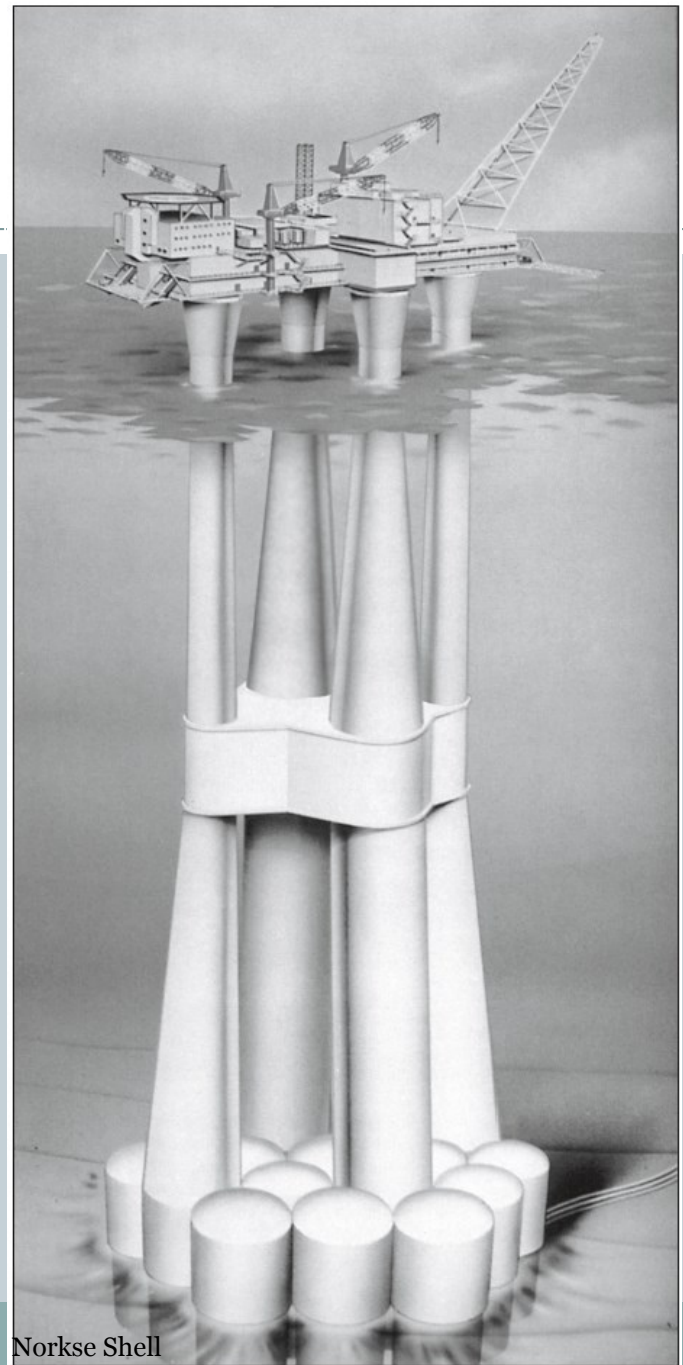
- 
- The diagram illustrates a pile jacket structure. It shows two piles, each labeled "Piling", which are "6-8' in diameter" and "200-400' in length". A "Jacket leg" is shown attached to the side of a pile. The space between the pile and the jacket leg is filled with "Grout". A "Sleeve" is also shown, which is a vertical component that encloses the pile and the jacket leg. The diagram shows the jacket leg and sleeve assembly on both sides of the pile, with grout filling the gaps.



# Gravity based platforms

24

- Emerged in 1970s; made of reinforced or pre-stressed concrete
- Require hard seabed eg, clay
- Secured on site by their sheer weight
- Cumbersome to transport & position
- Require no anchoring

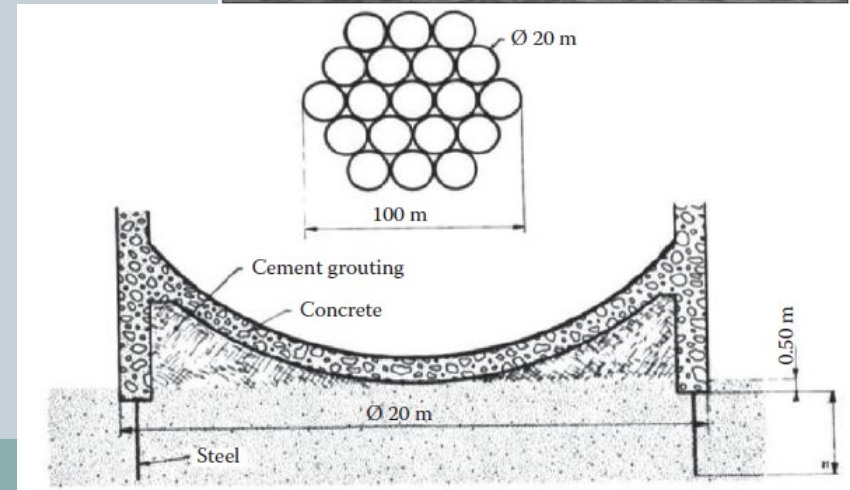
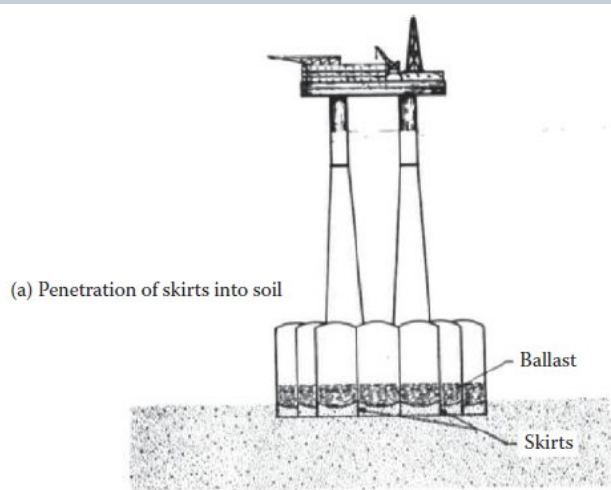




# Gravity based platforms (2)

25

- Steel skirts secure platform to seabed
- Flowlines embedded in concrete legs



# Video

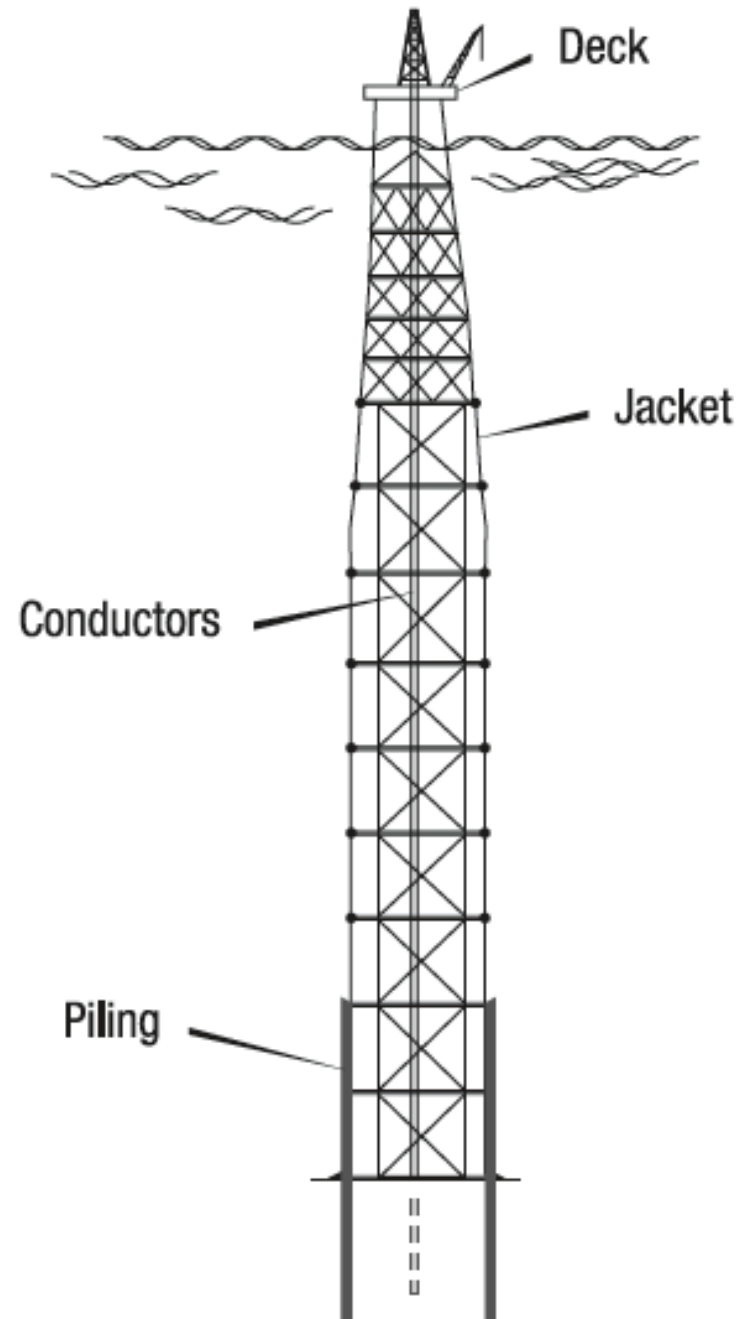
26

- Troll; 20''

# Compliant towers

27

- Can sway 10-15ft off centre in extreme cases
- Since most of “mass” on upper sections, structure is “invisible” to waves
- At  $d > 500\text{m}$  jacket platforms become impractical
- Why?
  - Due to stiff response of the structure



# Black Sea marine expedition

28



# Black Sea shipwrecks

29



# Theory

30

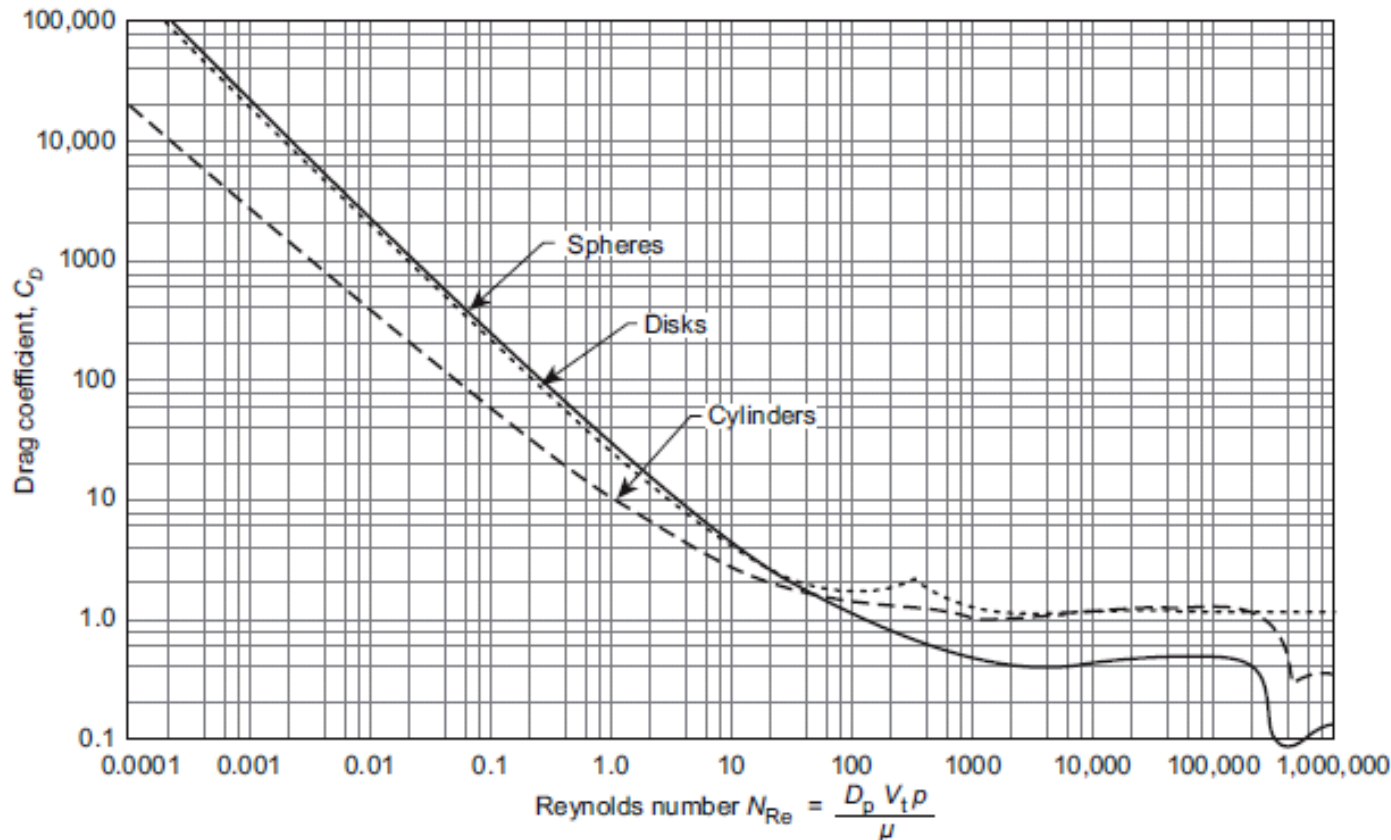
- Theory #3

# Drag coefficient

31

- Drag coefficient ( $C_D$ ) quantifies drag or resistance of an object in a fluid
- $C_D$  emanates from *skin friction* & *form (pressure) drag*

Fig. 1  $C_D$  vs Re#



$C_D$  for  $Re=10^4$

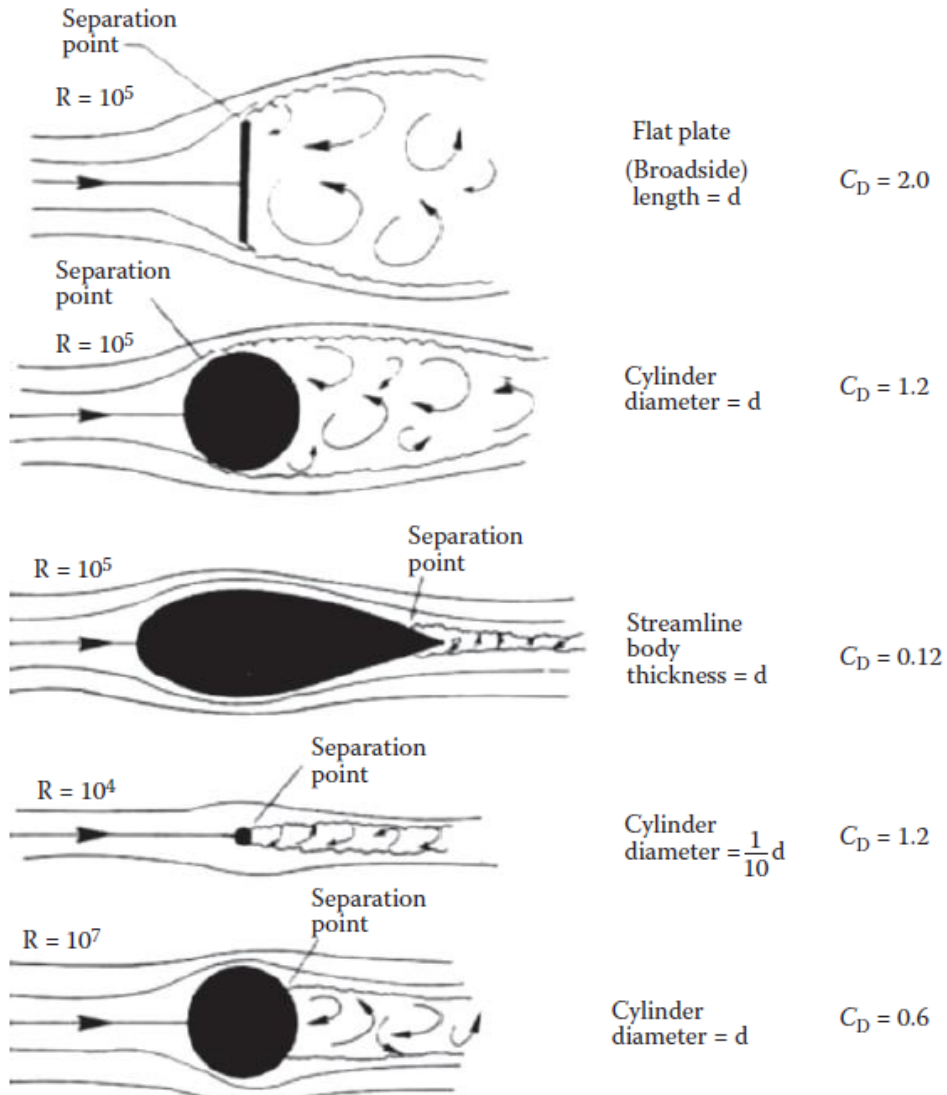
Shape	Drag Coefficient
Sphere	0.47
Half-sphere	0.42
Cone	0.50
Cube	1.05
Angled Cube	0.80
Long Cylinder	0.82
Short Cylinder	1.15
Streamlined Body	0.04
Streamlined Half-body	0.03

Measured Drag Coefficients



# $C_D$ of various shapes @ various Re#

32





# Keulegan–Carpenter number

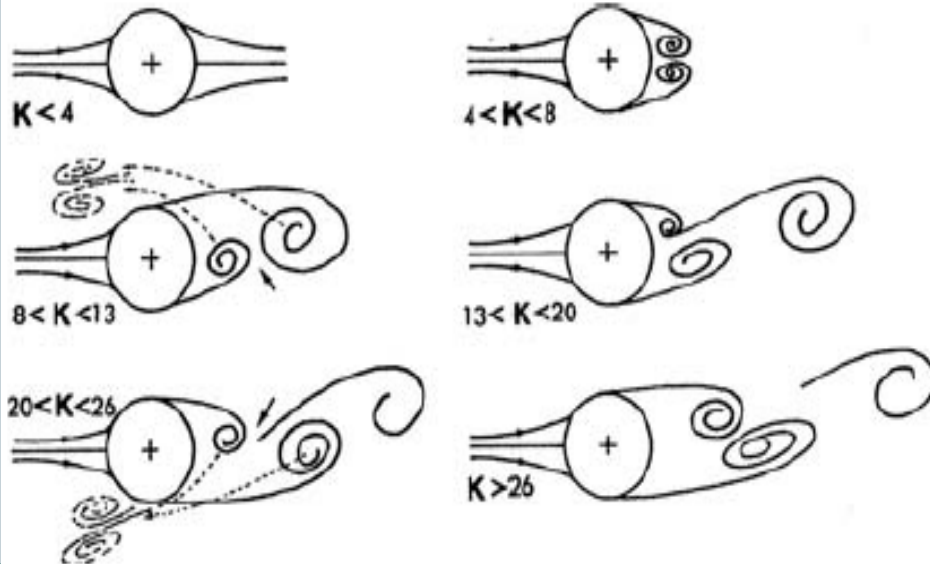
33

- The *Keulegan–Carpenter* number (period number) quantifies the relative importance of drag forces over inertia forces for bluff objects in oscillatory fluid flows

$$K_C = \frac{VT}{L}$$

- Low  $K_C$ : inertia dominates; high  $K_C$  turbulence dominates

Evolution of vortices wrt  $K_C$



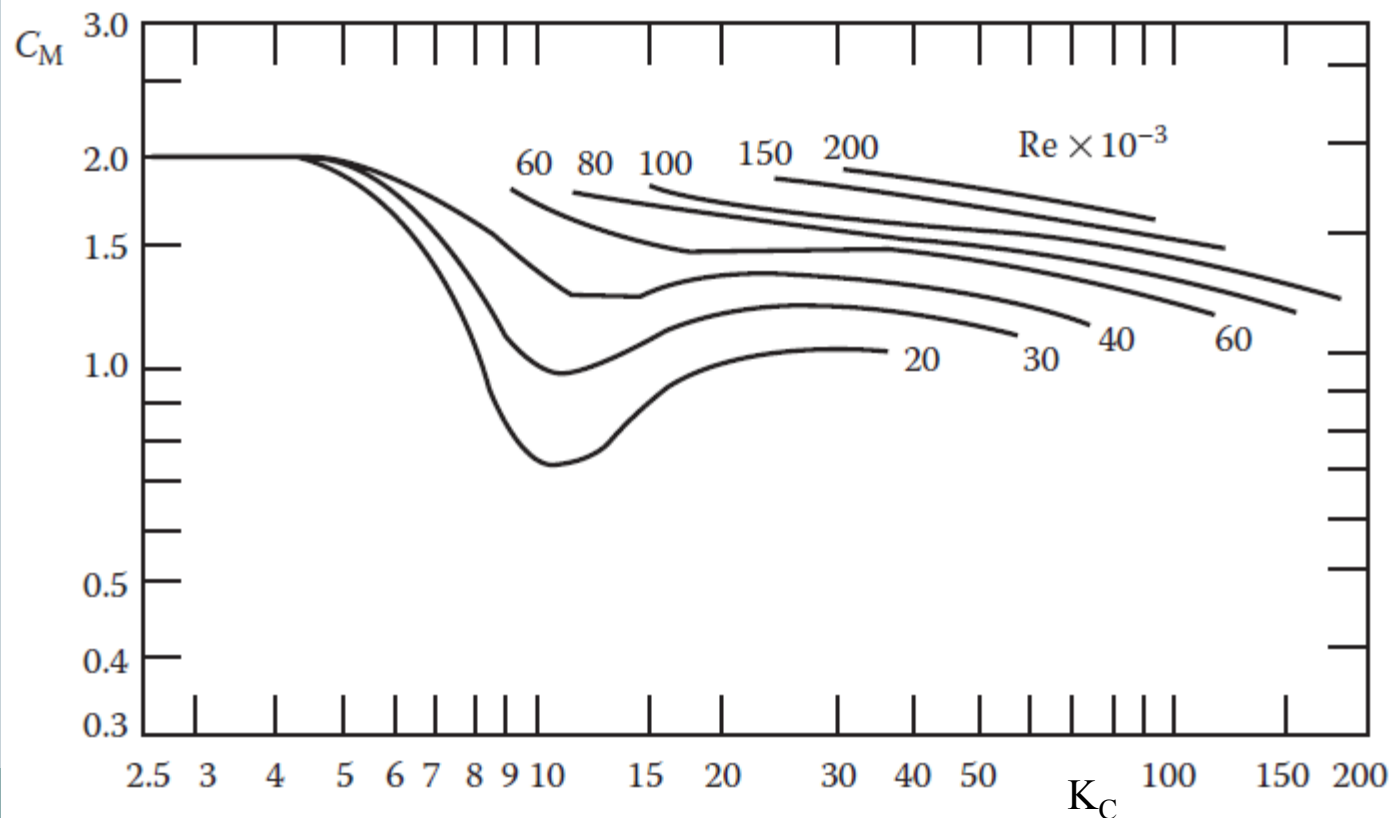
Oseberg platform in NS

# $C_M$ vs $K_C\#$ & $Re\#$

34

- Inertia effects dominate if  $K_c < 10.0$
- Inertia & drag forces significant if  $10.0 < K_c < 20.0$
- Drag forces dominate if  $K_c > 20.0$

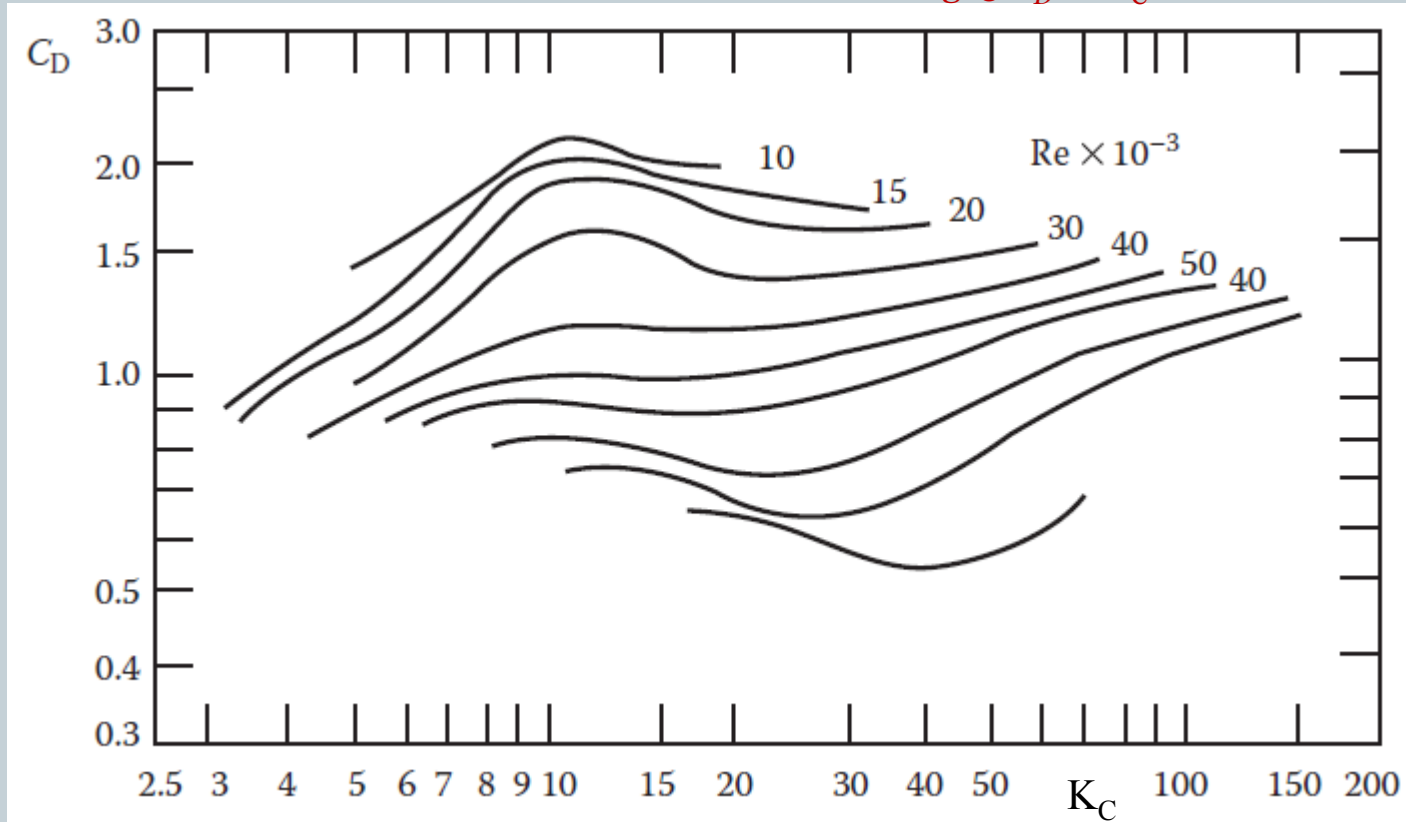
Fig. 2  $C_M$  vs  $K_C$  at various  $Re\#$



# $C_D$ vs $K_c\#$ at various $Re\#$

35

Fig. 3  $C_D$  vs  $K_C$  at various  $Re\#$ s



# Values of $\xi$

(36)

- Recall:

$$\frac{F_{D_{max}}}{F_{I_{max}}} = \xi \left( \frac{H}{D} \right)$$

$$\xi = \left( \frac{1}{4\pi} \right) \left( \frac{C_D}{C_M} \right) \left[ \frac{(2k(H/2 + d) + \sinh(2k(H/2 + d)))}{\sinh(kd)(\sinh k(H/2 + d))} \right]$$

Fig. 4 Values of  $\xi$  vs  $H/\lambda$

	$H/\lambda = 0.03$		$H/\lambda = 0.07$	
$d/\lambda$	$(2k)(d + H/2)$	$\xi (H/D)$	$(2k)(d + H/2)$	$\xi (H/D)$
0.03	0.565	0.847	0.817	0.866
0.07	1.068	0.367	1.320	0.378
0.15	2.074	0.178	2.325	0.187
0.30	3.958	0.105	4.210	0.115
0.50	6.472	0.090	6.723	0.101
1.00	12.755	0.0875	13.066	0.102
$\infty$	$\infty$	0.0875	$\infty$	0.098

# Exercise

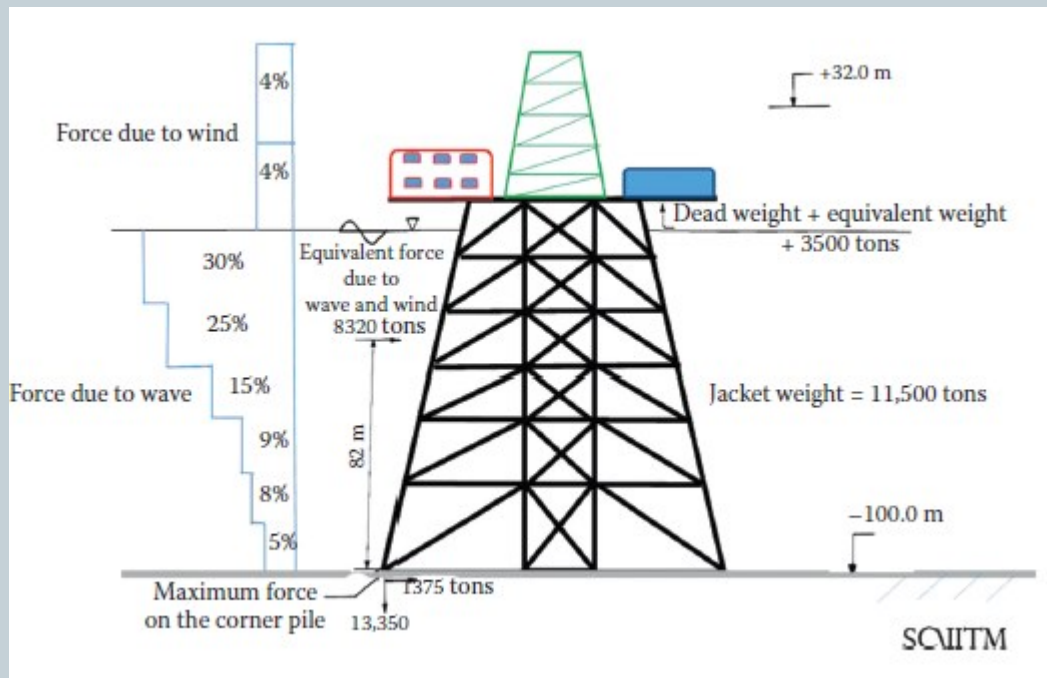
37

- Example#8
- Example#9

# Waves & wind loads

38

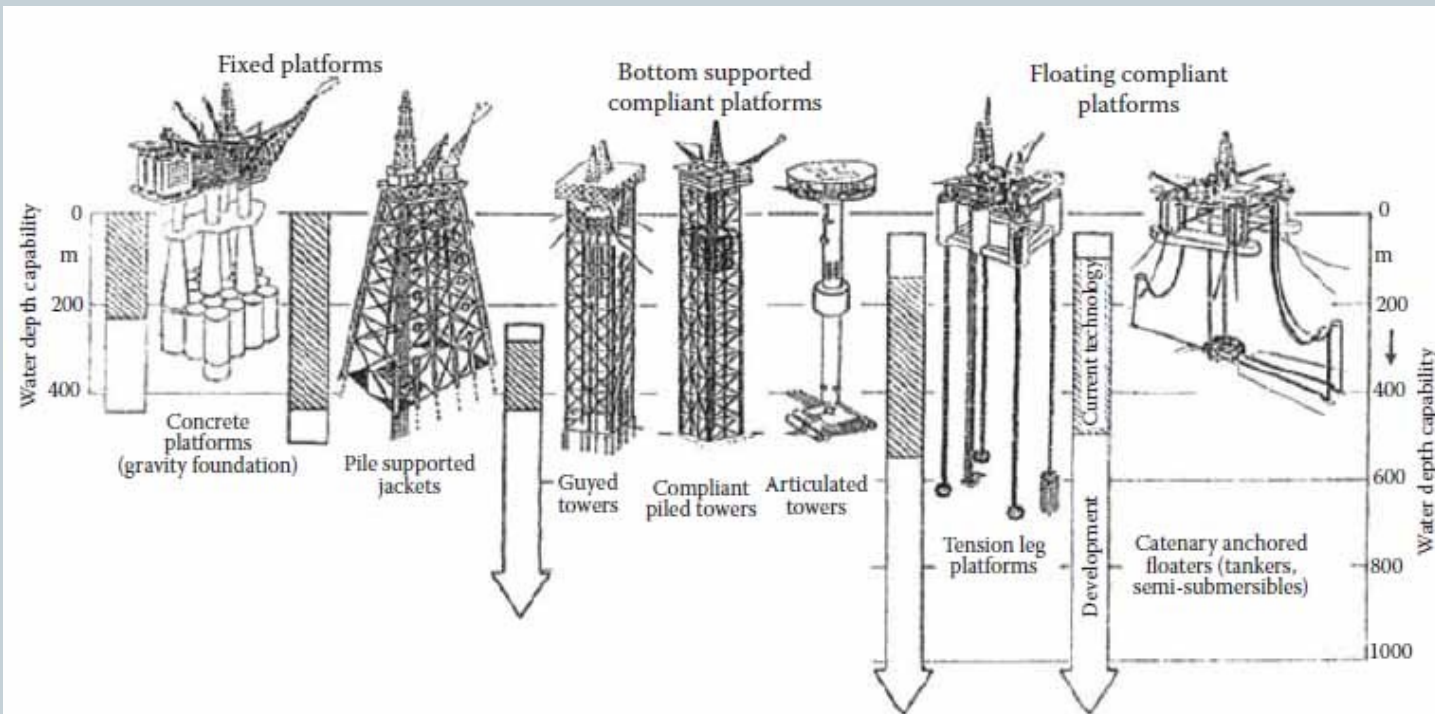
- Wave induced forces outweigh wind related forces



# Floating production systems (FPS)

39

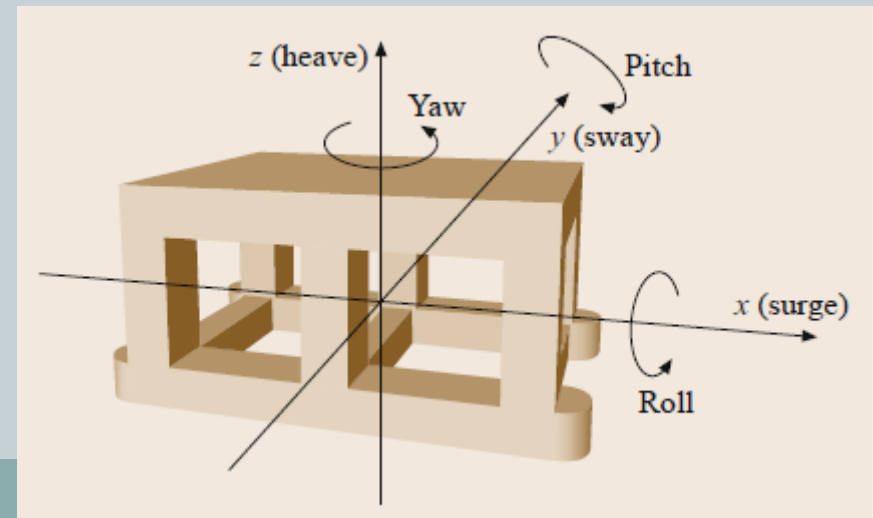
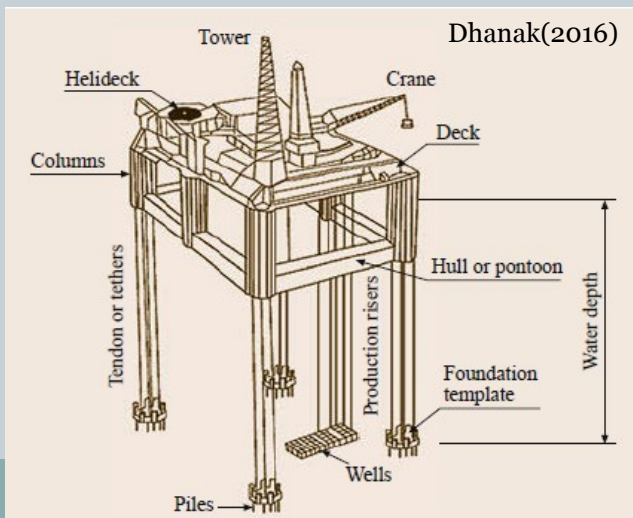
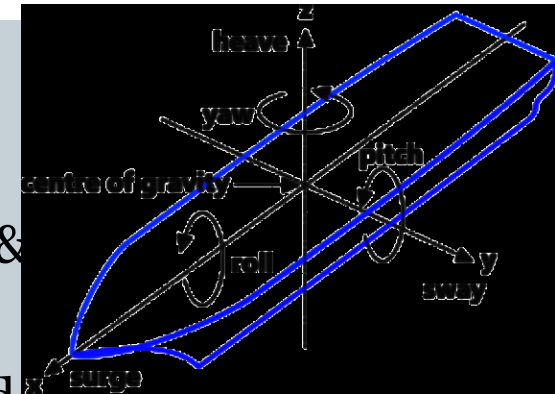
- FPSs (eg floating vessels) present economic & technically viable option
- System can be recycled; lower risk of risky assets
- Quick disconnect during contingencies eg, hurricane, earthquake, ...



# Tension leg platforms (TLPs)

40

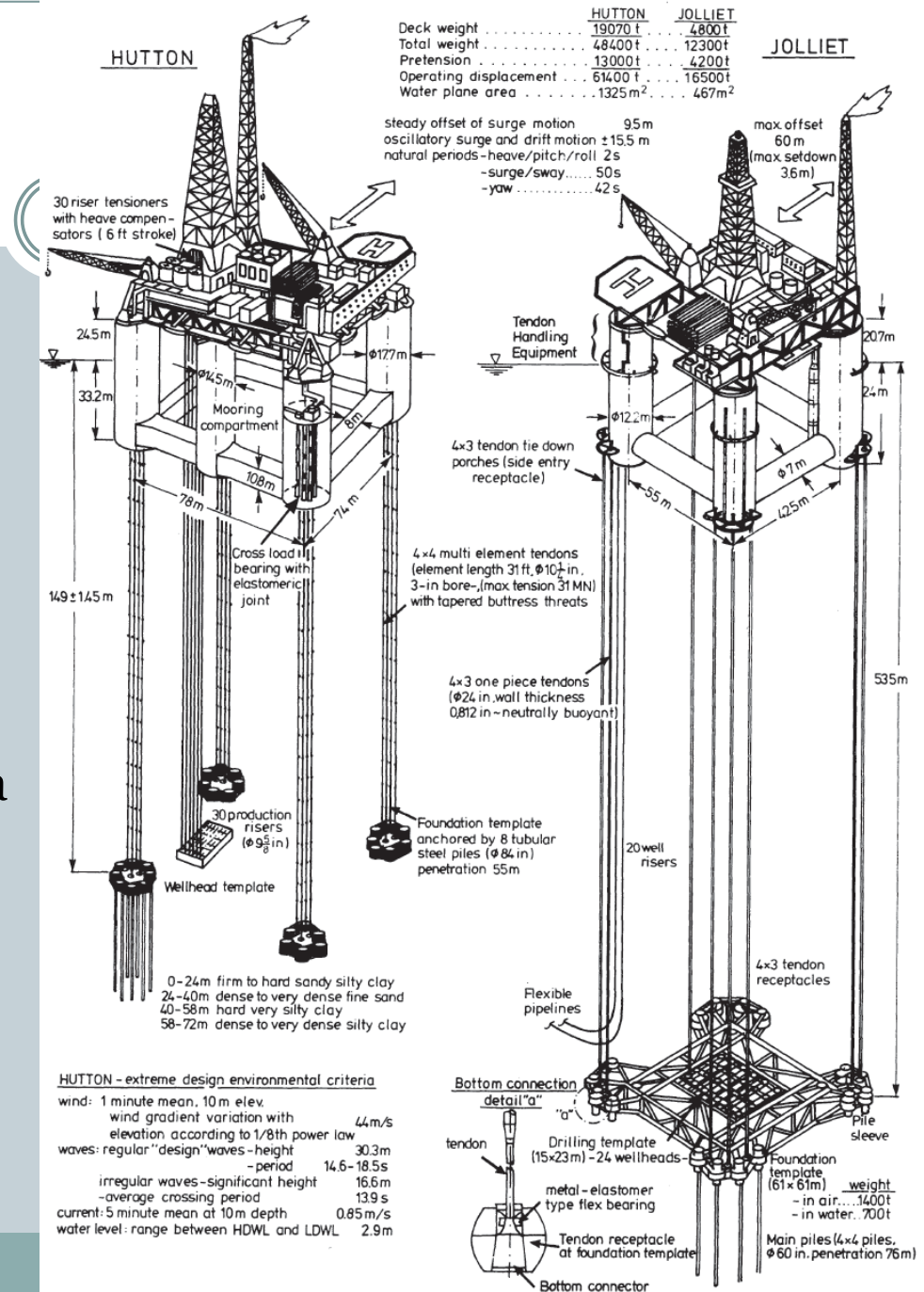
- Vertical tendons hold the platform in place
- Tension in tubular tethers minimizes heave, pitch & roll
- Tendons permit sway, surge & yaw degrees of freedom
- TLPs water depth limit up to 1,500m





# TLPs

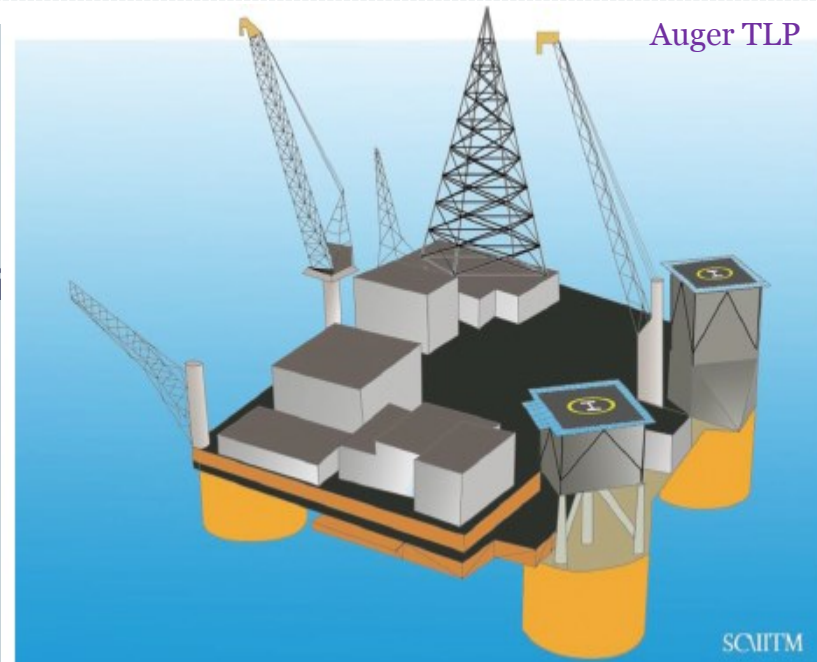
- Tendons resemble drilling collars (26cm (d) × 9.5m (L), bore: 7.5cm, t = 9.25cm)
- Mooring compartment adjusts wire tension
- Steel piles penetrate 55m subsea
- Feature dry trees
- Due to tension TLPs are designed heavier & stronger



# TLPs

42

- Advantages of TLPs include:
  - (i) Mobility and reusability;
  - (ii) Stability (min. minimal vertical motions)
  - (iii) Low cost increase as a function of increasing depth;
  - (iv) Deepwater capability;
  - (v) Low maintenance costs.
- Drawbacks of TLPs comprise:
  - (i) High initial (capital) costs;
  - (ii) High subsea costs;
  - (iii) Fatigue (resonance) of tension legs;
  - (iv) Difficult maintenance of subsea systems;
  - (v) Little or no storage.



# Olympus TLP

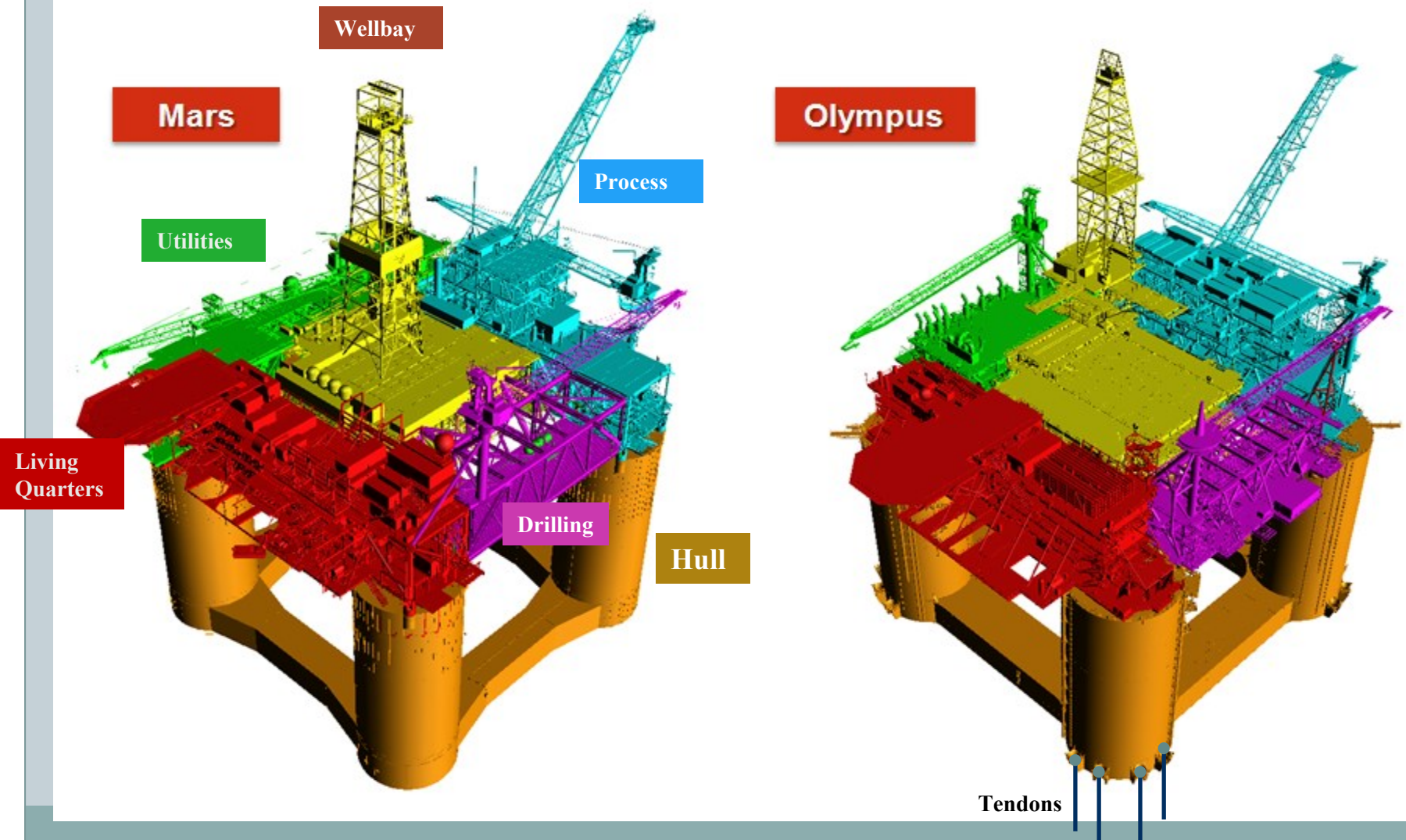
43

- Water depth: ~3,100ft (945m)
- Displacement: 120,000t; 406ft, ~125m tall; column spacing: 250ft, 76m
- Production capacity 100,000 boe/d
- Tendons offer vertical restraint
- Direct Vertical Access (DVA) capability for drilling & production
- Stiff responses in heave, roll & pitch
- Compliant responses in surge and sway
- Limited to  $WD < 1500m$  due to tendon resonance (fatigue)
- [Olympus TLP video \[4m\]](#)



# Olympus & Mars TLPs (courtesy Shell)

44



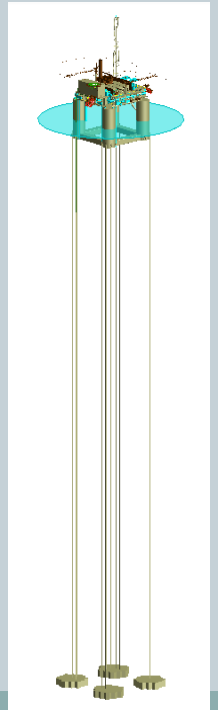
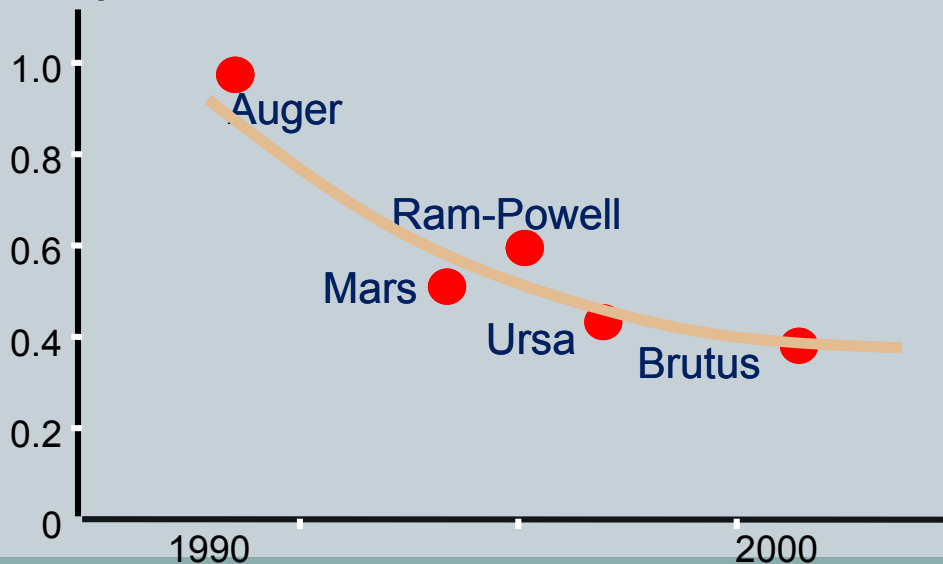


# TLPs learning curve for Shell

45

- Innovations: simplification of hull systems & reduction in hull entry
  - Pre-install tendons
- Learning Curve – lower costs
  - Standardisation & repeatability
  - System improvements (well productivity)

Cost/boe

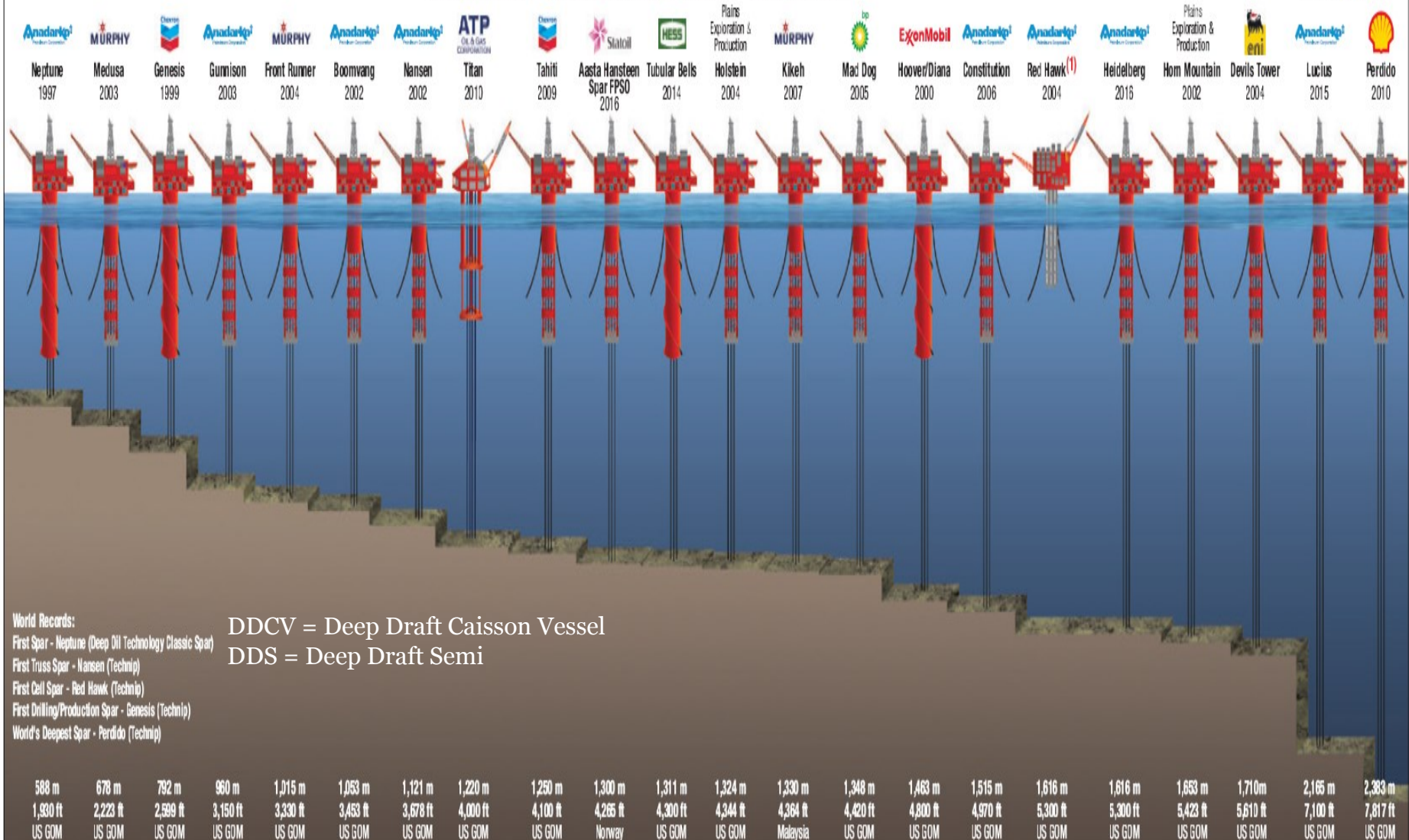




# Spars

Spars, DDFs, DDCVs – Sanctioned, Installed or Operating – As of March 2016

COURTESY: WOOD GROUP MUSTANG



## World Records:

First Spar - Neptune (Deep Oil Technology Classic Spar)

First Truss Spar - Nansen (Technip)

First Cell Spar - Red Hawk (Technip)

First Drilling/Production Spar - Genesis (Technip)

World's Deepest Spar - Perdido (Technip)

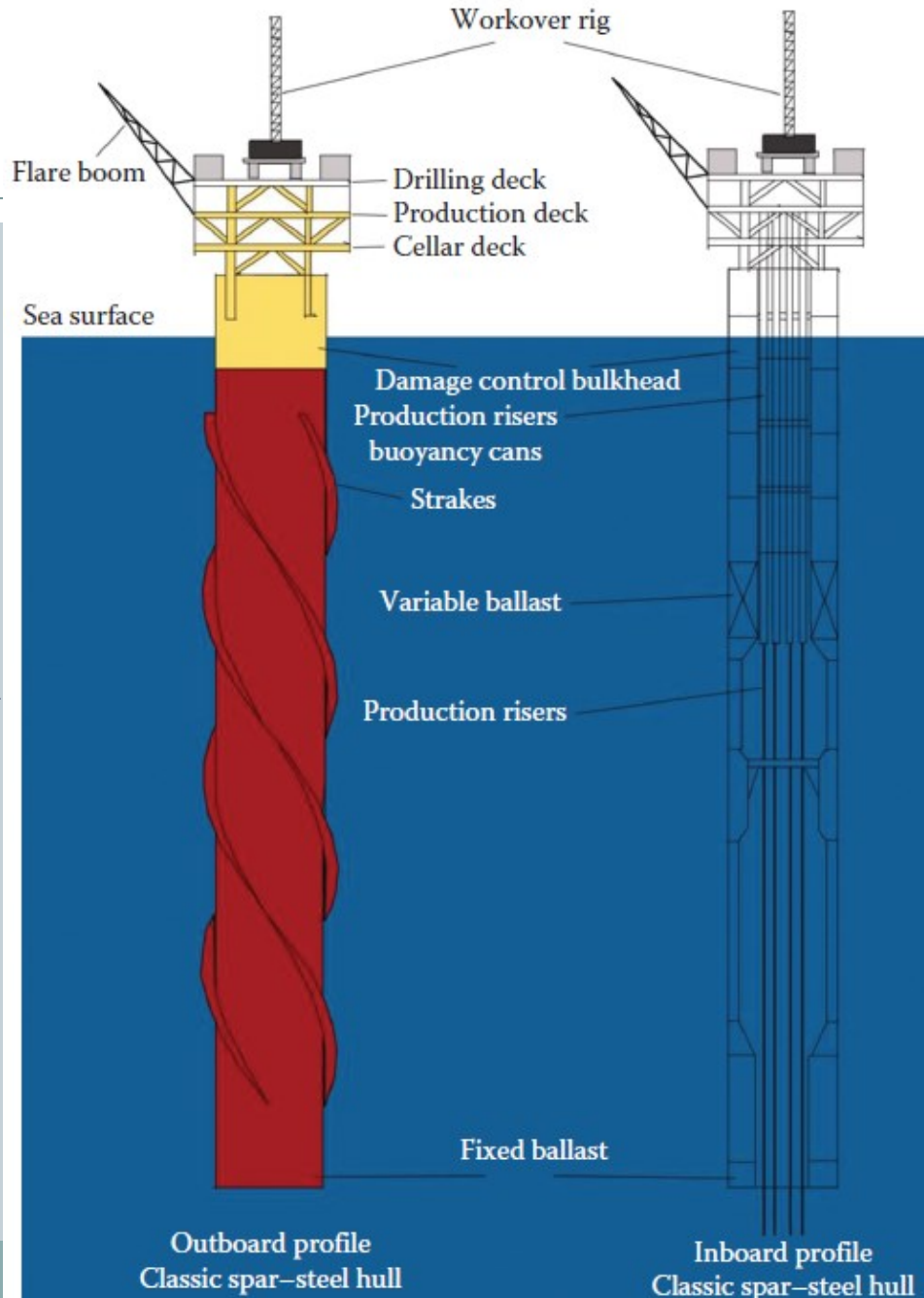
DDCV = Deep Draft Caisson Vessel

DDS = Deep Draft Semi

# Spars

- **Merits:**

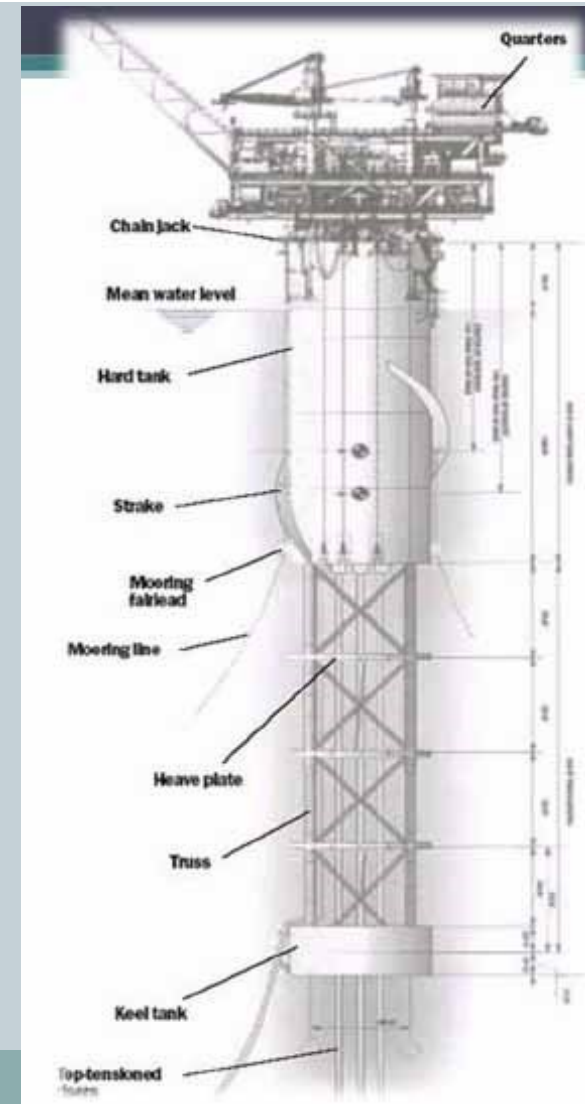
- (i) Made of deep-draft hollow caisson
- (ii) Deep-draft yields low heave & pitch motions
- (iii) Water depth range: 500-3,000m
- (iv) Full drilling & production capabilities
- (v) Dry trees & surface BOP
- (vi) Steel catenary risers
- (vii) Cost insensitive to water depth
- (viii) Relocatable structure
- (ix) Potential of drilling & processing
- (x) +ve GM, COG below COB



# Spars

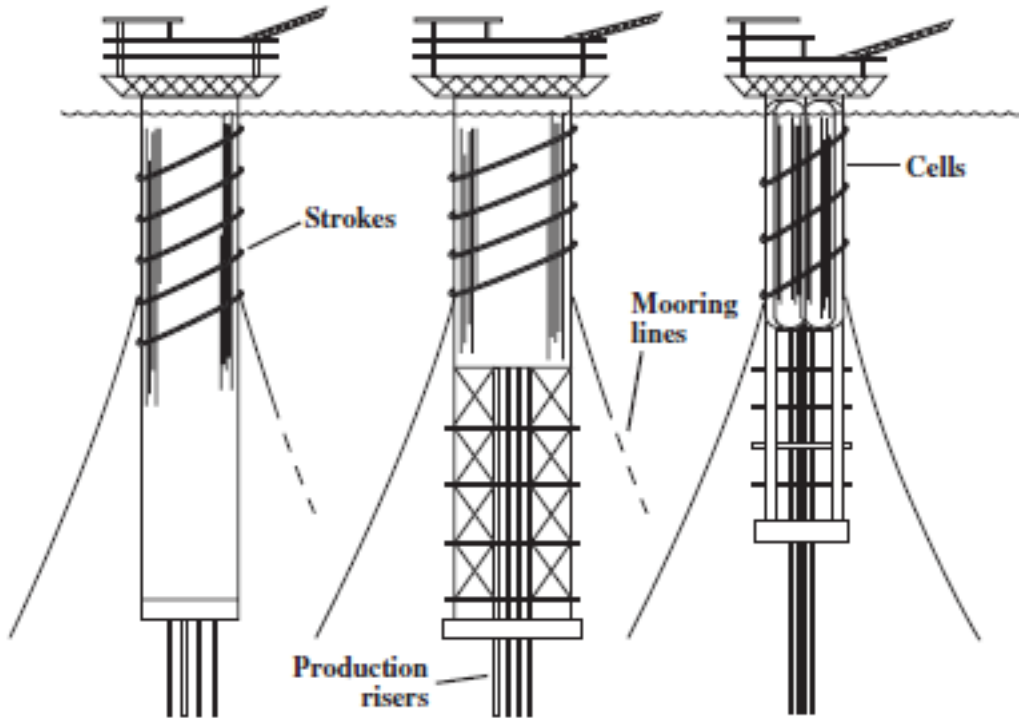
48

- Disadvantages of spars comprise:
  - Open-sea mounting topside to hull;
  - Little storage capacity, tied to pipeline or FSO;
  - Relatively difficulty to transport (mostly built in Finland)
  - Need to damp vortex induced vibrations (VIVs)
- Truss spar is the evolution of the classic spar
- Truss spar consists of:
  - Hard tank provides most of the buoyancy
  - Truss section supports the keep tank to hard tank
  - Keel tank contains fixed ballast & connects export p/lines & flow lines



# Evolution of spars

49



Transportation of Genesis spar hull



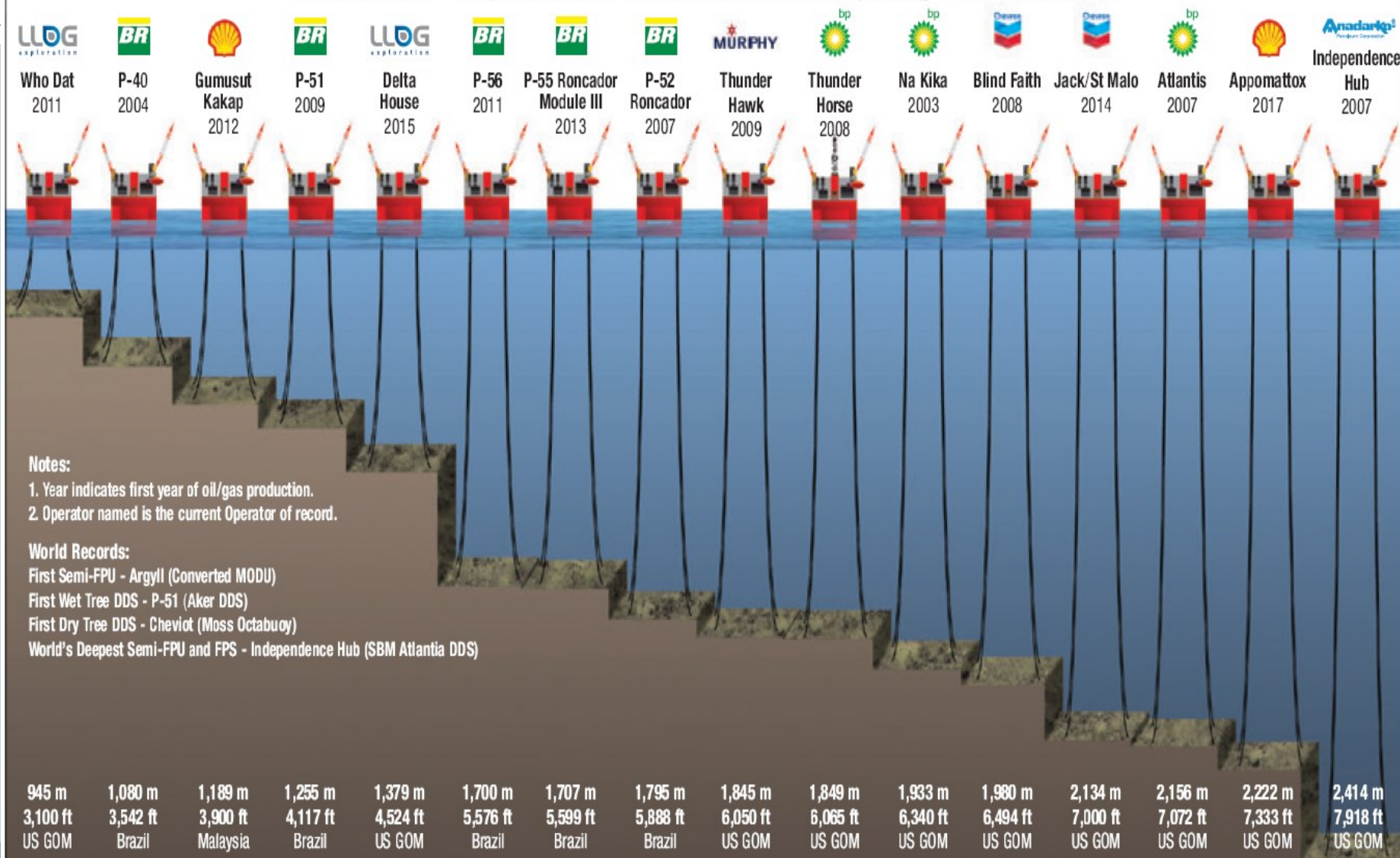
Leffler(2011)



# Semi-submersibles

## Semi-FPS/FPU – Deepest Facilities Sanctioned, Installed or Operating – As of March 2016

COURTESY:  WOOD GROUP MUSTANG



### Notes:

1. Year indicates first year of oil/gas production.
2. Operator named is the current Operator of record.

### World Records:

First Semi-FPU - Argyll (Converted MODU)

First Wet Tree DDS - P-51 (Aker DDS)

First Dry Tree DDS - Cheviot (Moss Octabuoys)

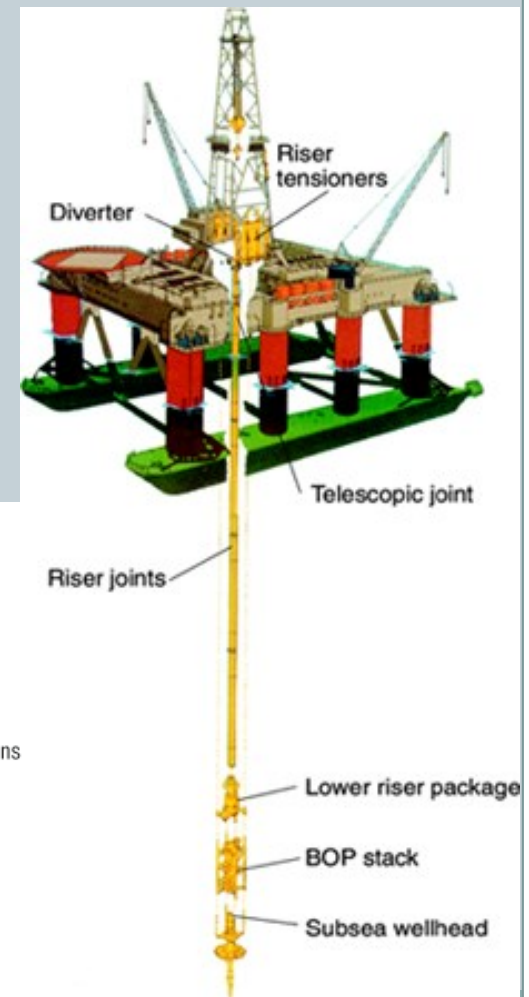
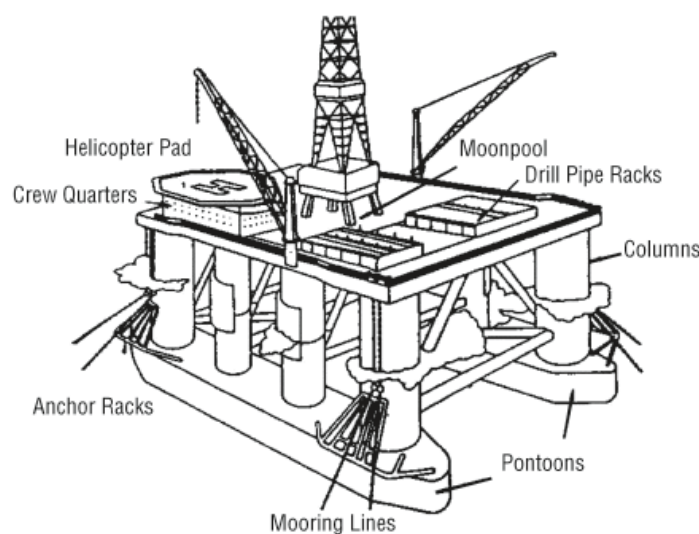
World's Deepest Semi-FPU and FPS - Independence Hub (SBM Atlantia DDS)



# Semi-submersible platforms

51

- Capable of drilling & production operations
- Increased draft provides stability
- Lack propulsion system (longer transit times)
- Require temporary anchoring systems (8 to 12) or dynamic positioning (DP) system
- Towed by tug-boats or dry transport
- Lower rates than drillships (\$4k/d)
- Heave compensators & marine risers protect drill bit
- Operational envelope:  
 $4,000\text{m} < D_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} < 500\text{m}$

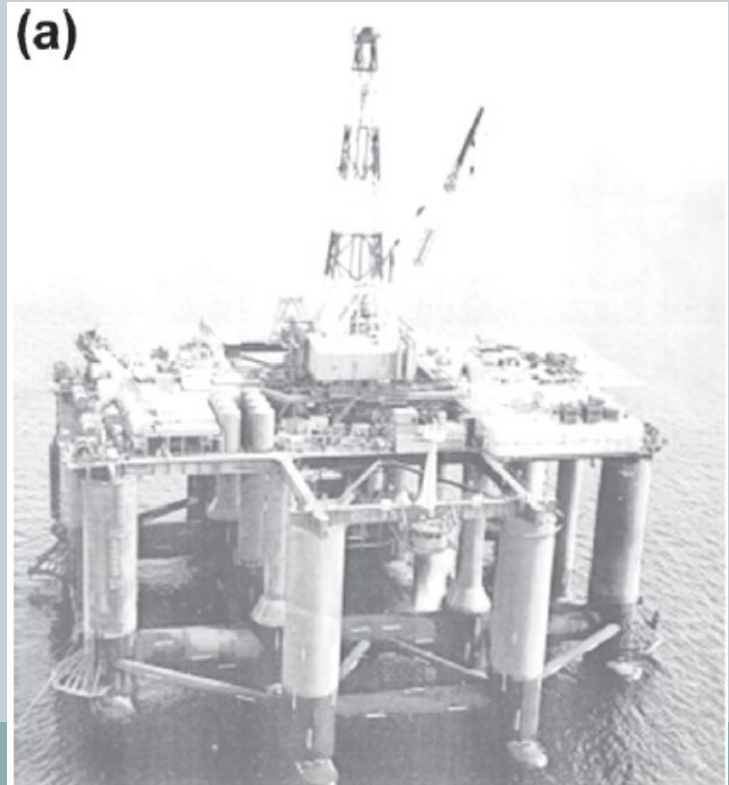


# Floating production systems (FPS)

52

- Either self-propelled or towed to location
- Draft increased by flooding buoyancy tanks
- Kept in position by DPS or mooring system
- Structure built of 4, 6, 8 or more columns
- Merits:
  - Good stability incl. in rough seas
  - Good mobility at small T
  - Large deck area
- Shortcomings:
  - Low propulsion speed  $< 8 \text{ kn}$
  - Expensive to build  $> \$100 \text{ m}$
  - Sensitive to load

(a)



# Blind Faith

53

- Year: 2008
- WD: 6500ft
- $\Delta=40,000\text{t}$
- Chevron & Kerr-McGee
- \$900m
- 65,000 bpd



# Ichty's LNG central processing platform

54

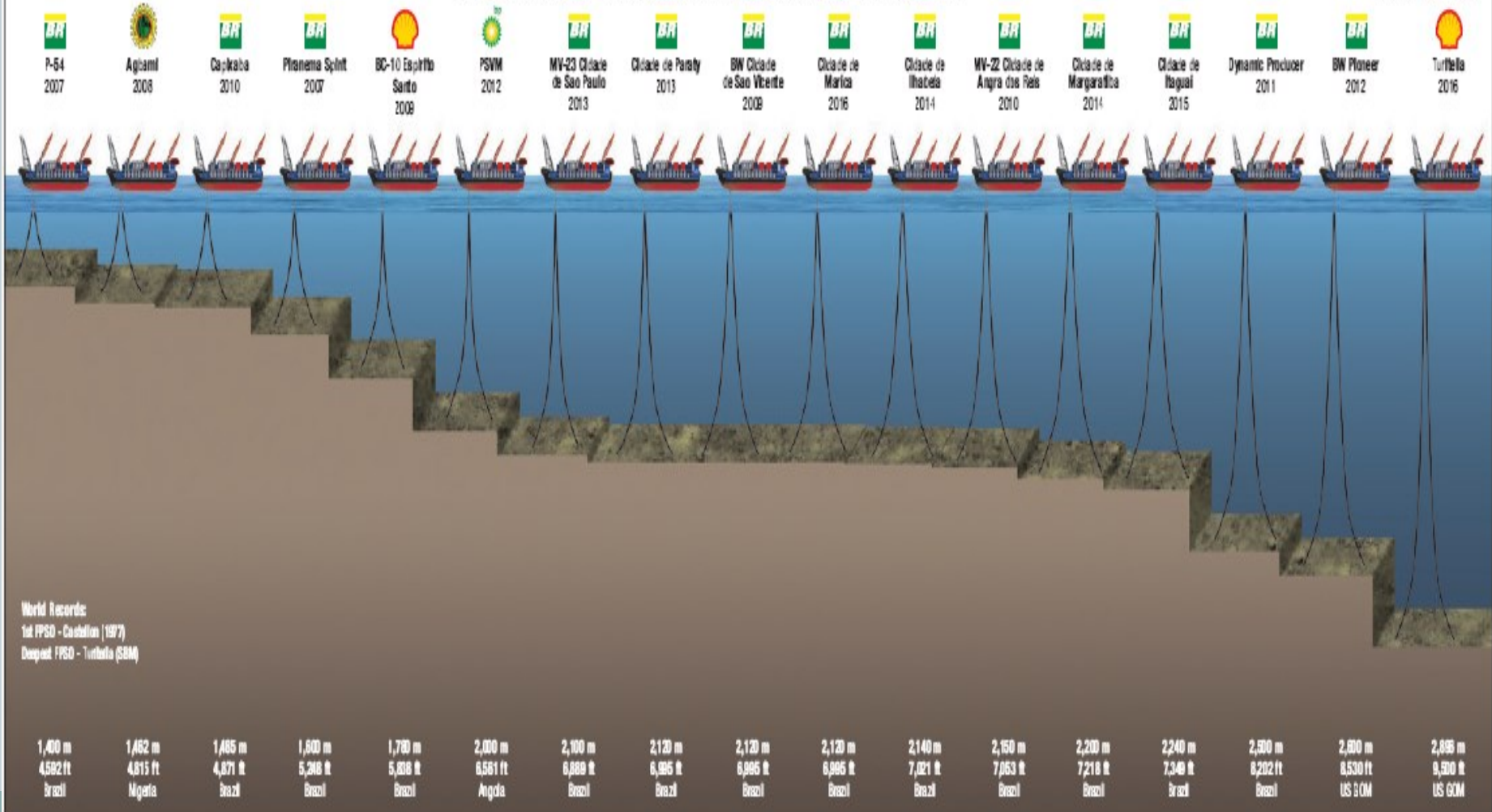
- Video (Ichthys)
- Specs:
  - 8.4 mtpa LNG
  - 1.6 mtpa LPG
  - 100,000 bpd of condensates

# FPSOs

55

FPSO Deepest Facilities – Sanctioned, Installed or Decommissioned – As of March 2016

COURTESY: WORLD ENERGY MAGAZINE

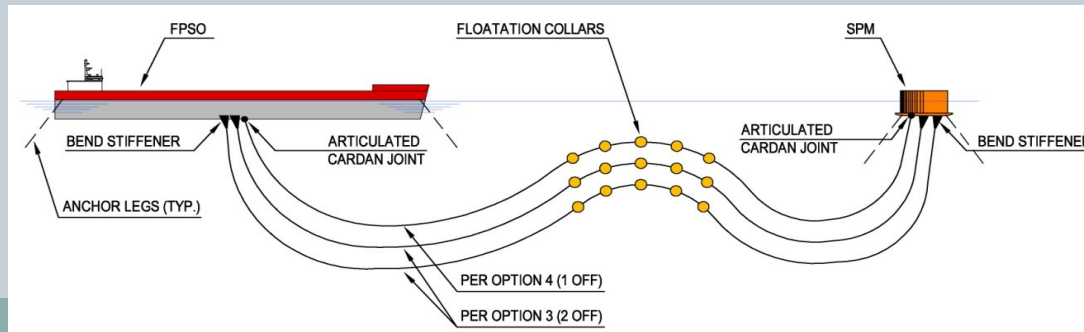
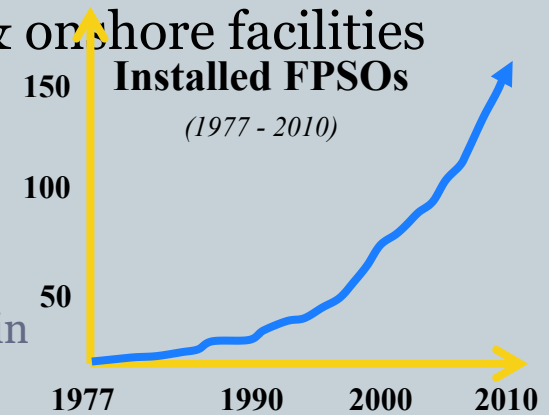




# FPSOs

56

- Storage & offloading alleviates need for pipelines & onshore facilities
- Weathervaning (turret-moored) in other areas
- Newbuild or conversion
- Storage needs:
  - (i) parcel size, (ii) duration of offloading, (iii) oil remaining in tanks (iv) tank inspection in service
- Parcel size: amount of oil offloaded to tanker (1 mbbl for WA)
- Offloading duration: ~24 hrs
- Storage required = parcel size + 4 days of production



# Bonga FPSO

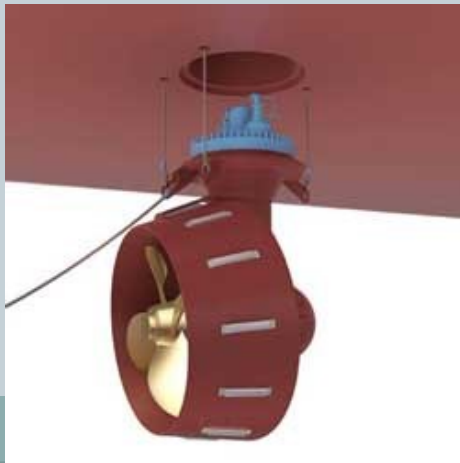
57



# Drillships

58

- Swift transit & manoeuvring characteristics
- Less idle time but more expensive to operate
- Used only for drilling ops
- Retained in place by dynamic positioning (DP) via thrusters
- Energy intensive operations (w/o anchoring)
- Operational water depth = 2,500m
- Dual handling capabilities; centre-line moon-pool
- World fleet ~80 ships | Cost = ~\$600m



# Drillships

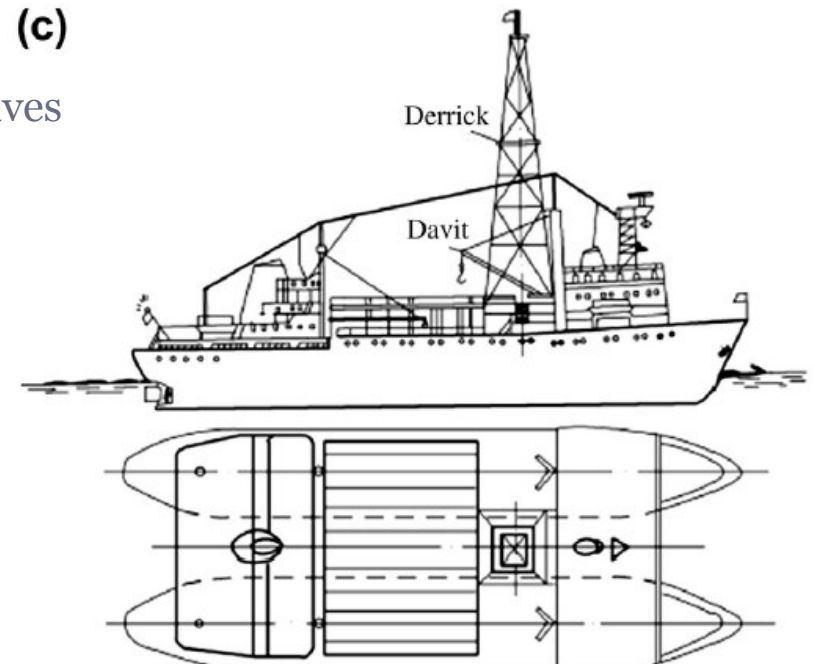
59

- **Merits:**

- Good mobility
- High self-propulsion speed: 8-14 knots
- Large load & storage capabilities
- Water depth value ~6,000m

- **Weaknesses:**

- Shallow draft make drillships sensitive to waves





# Floating LNG

60

- Obviate need for submarine transmission pipeline(s)
- Innovation: onboard liquefaction
- 3.5-5.5 mtpa (2-3tcf)
- Working life: 30-40 yrs
- Issues:
  - LNG sloshing
  - Topsides: equipment miniaturization & access for maintenance
  - Hull: no dry-docking
  - Mooring systems: must not interfere with production & offloading
  - Safety considerations
  - Offloading: sea motions during transfer operations
  - Metocean design conditions: 100-year; 10,000 year load

Courtesy: Royal Dutch Shell





# Prelude FLNG project

61

- Expected to commence operation in 2017; offshore NW Australia
- Capacity: 5.3mtpa (3.6mtpa *LNG*, 1.3mtpa *condensates*, 0.4mtpa *LPG*)
- Construction commenced in Oct., 2012
- FLNG Prelude 1<sup>st</sup> in the world
- Delivery date: 2017
- Cost: \$14 bn
- 600,000 t | Length: 488m
- Hull floated on Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2013
- Build by SHI, S. Korea

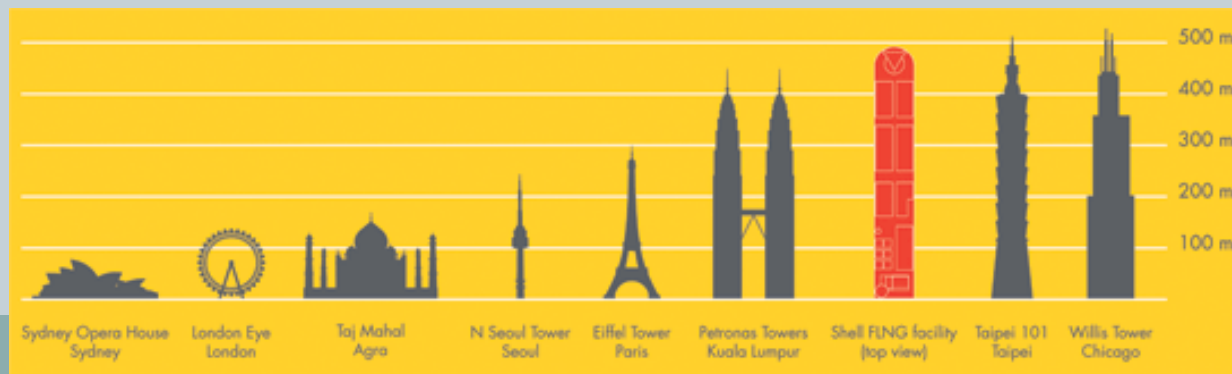


# Prelude FLNG in numbers

62

- **>600** engineers worked on the facility's design options
- **93m** by **30m** the turret secured to the seabed by mooring lines
- **50 tonnes/hr** cold H<sub>2</sub>O to be drawn from the ocean to help cool the NG
- **20-25 years** is the time the Prelude FLNG facility will stay at the location to develop gas fields
- **>200 km** is the distance from the Prelude field to the nearest land
- **175 Olympic-sized swimming pools** could hold the same amount of liquid as the facility's storage tanks
- **6 of the largest aircraft carriers** would displace the same amount of water as the facility

Courtesy: Royal Dutch Shell



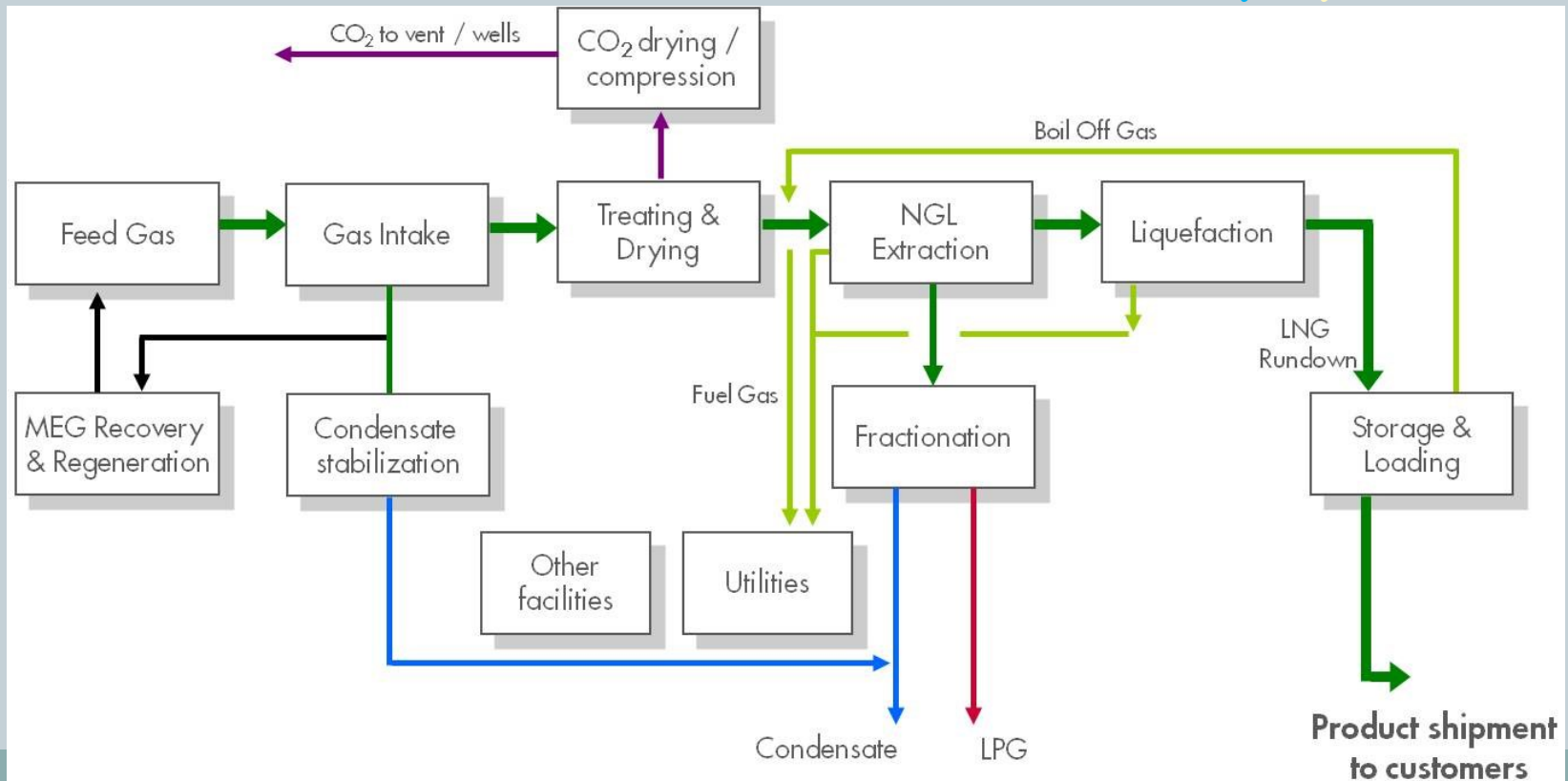
# Floating NG liquefaction

63

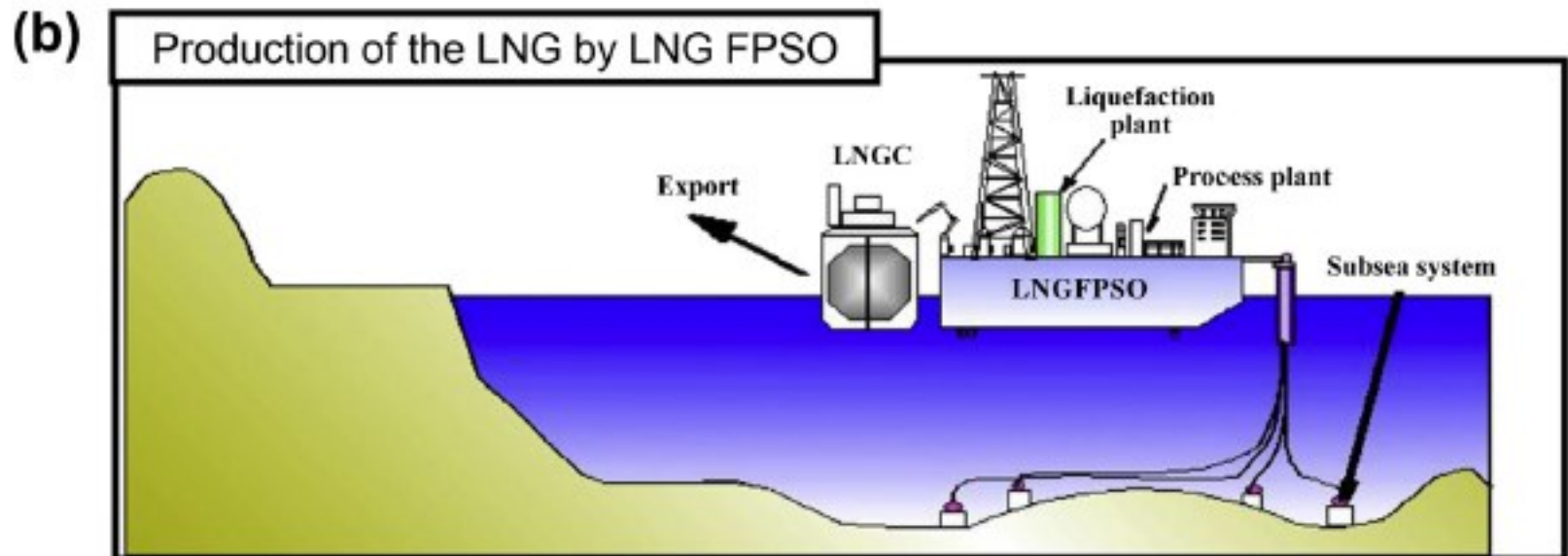
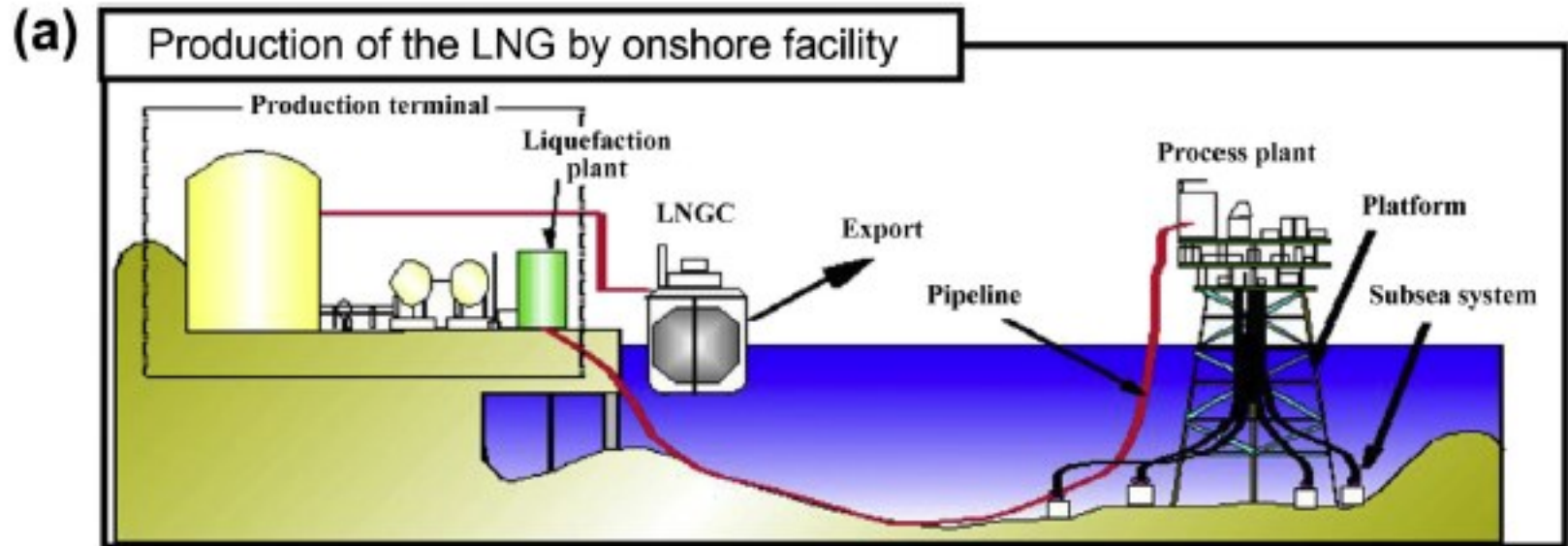
- Fluids:

- $\text{CH}_4$ ,  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_6$ ,  $\text{C}_3\text{H}_8$ ,  $\text{C}_4\text{H}_{10}$
- Condensates,  $\text{CO}_2$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , etc

Courtesy: Royal Dutch Shell



# Onshore vs offshore LNG





# Prelude FLNG project (2)

65



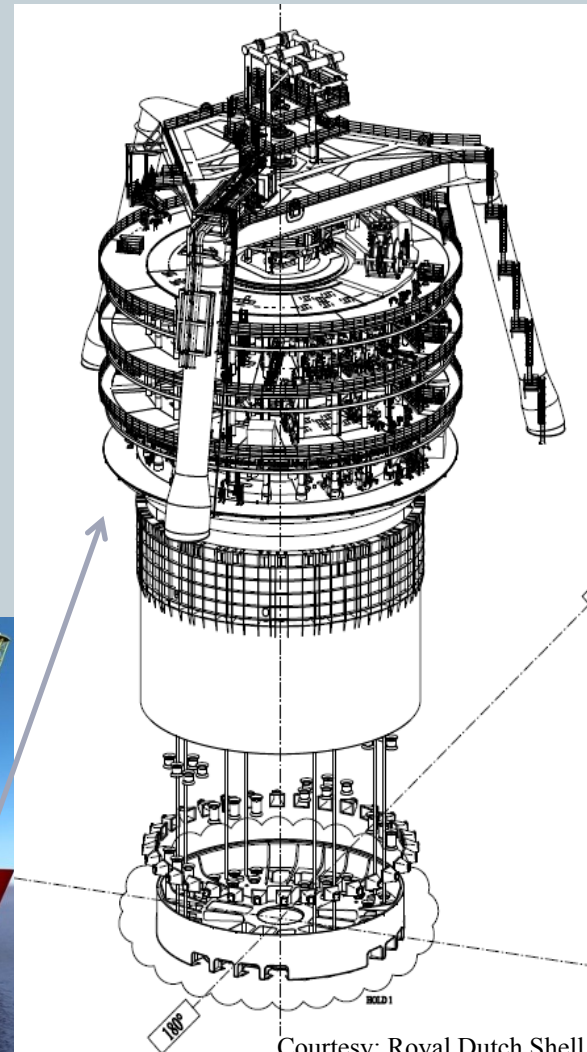
Courtesy: Royal Dutch Shell



# Prelude FLNG turret & mooring system

66

- Turret allows ship to weathervane
- Turret height: 100m, diameter: 26m
- Mass: 11,000 tons
- Mooring provides station keeping 4×4 (16 lines)
- Swivel stack to enable transfer of fluids (gas)



Courtesy: Royal Dutch Shell

# Offshore mooring systems

# Offshore mooring systems

68

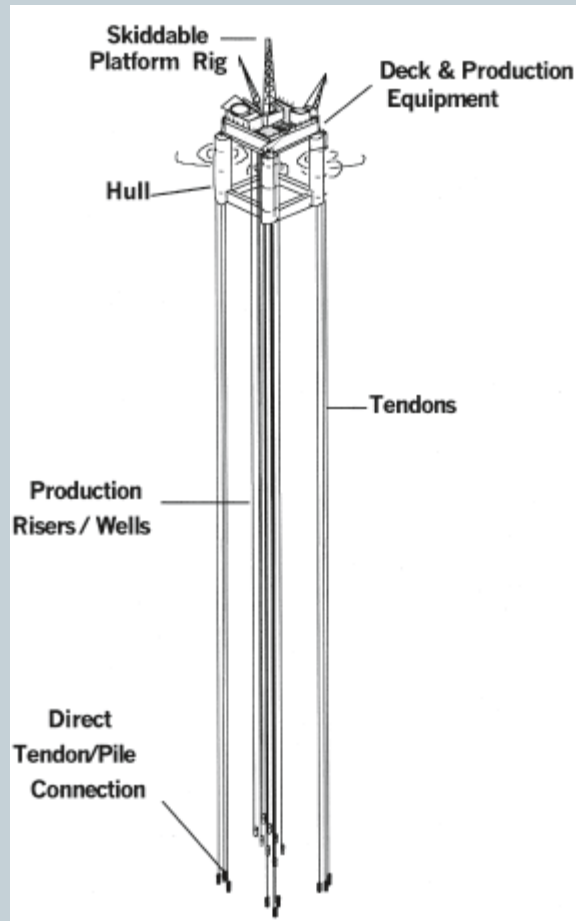
- Objectives: secure floating structure in position with minimal forces
- Two types of mooring systems:
  - **Temporary mooring**: semi-sub, work vessels, dredgers, pipe-laying vessels, ...
  - **Permanent mooring**: TLPs, F(D)PSOs, Spars, FPS, ...
- Classification also based upon:
  - Spread, multi-point mooring (MPM)
  - Single point mooring (SPM)
- Flexibility & tension can be attained by:
  - Line sags due to its weight (eg, chain line)
  - Action of buoyancy on floater and line
  - Material flexibility: nylon, propylene, wire lines, ...
- Traditionally, steel wire rope in the middle & chains at sea bed



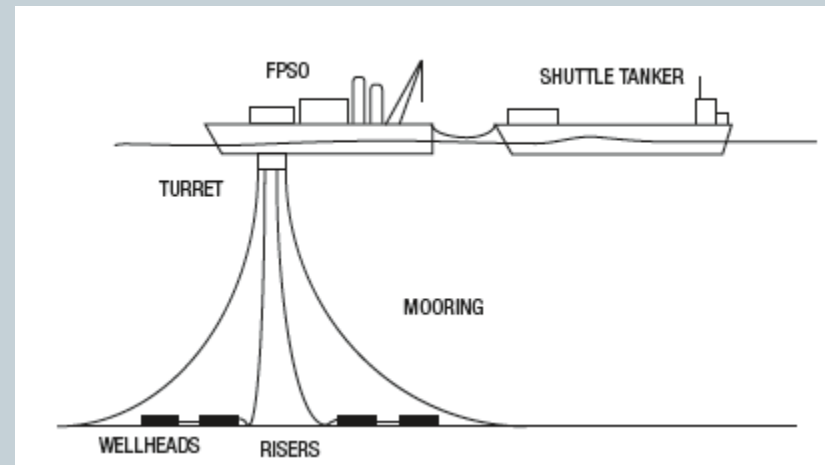
# Line arrangements

69

## Single point tendons



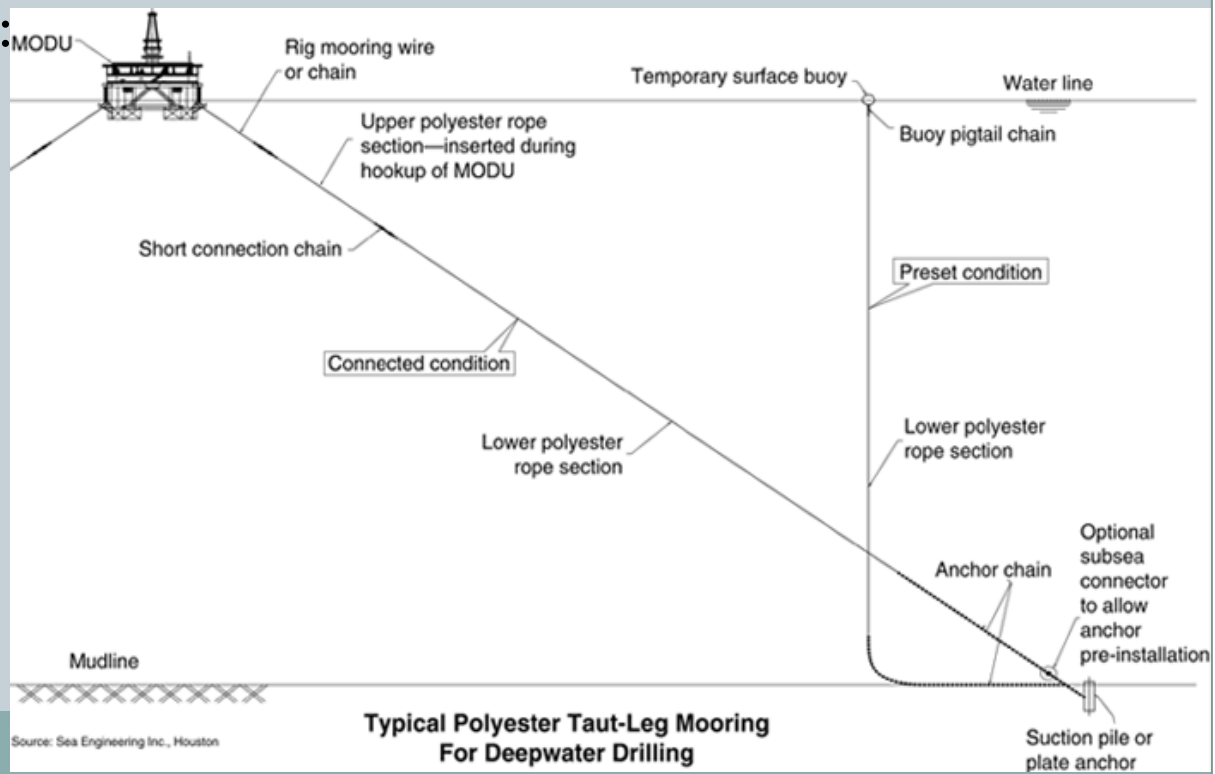
## Spread mooring



# Taut-leg mooring

70

- $D < 100\text{m}$ : chain;  $100\text{m} < D < 300\text{m}$ : wire rope;  $2000\text{m} < D < 3000\text{m}$ : wire + chain;  $D > 2000\text{m}$ : chain, synthetic & wire rope
- Synthetic lines: lighter & more elastic to wire/chain; neutral buoyancy
- But synthetic lines do not [yet] possess the stiffness of metallic ones
- Synthetic lines include:
  - Polyethylene
  - Polyester

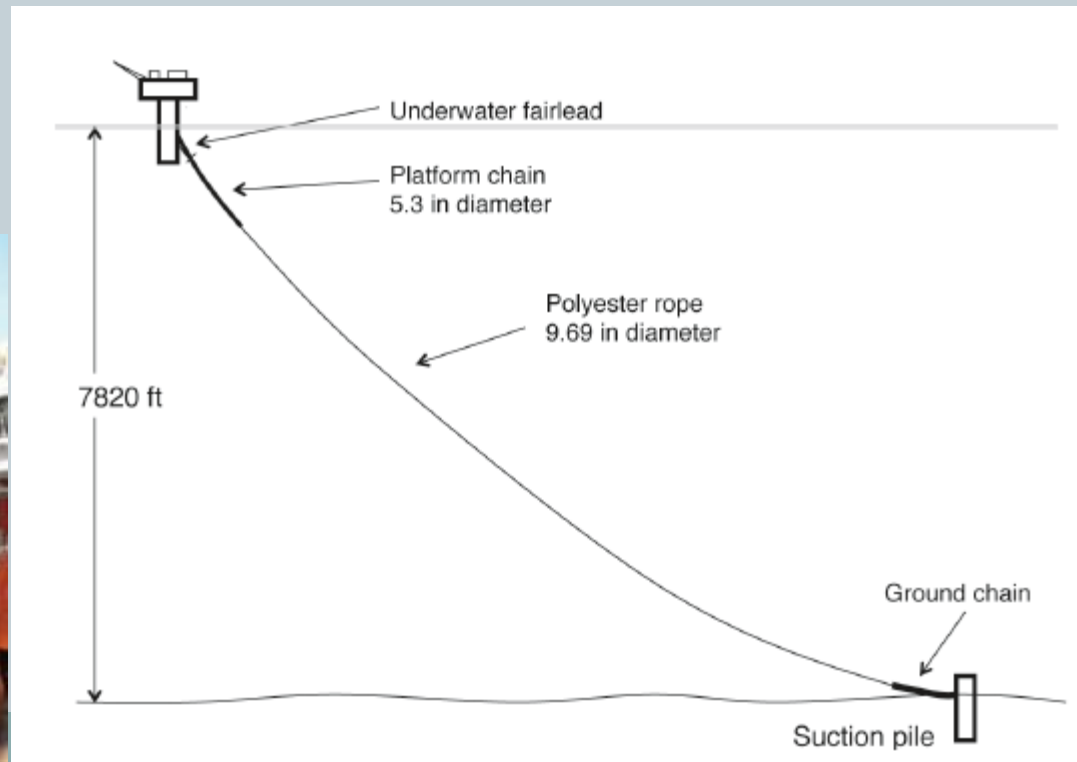




# Perdido spar mooring lines

71

- Line length: 3.2km
- Thickness: 245mm
- Total of 9 mooring lines
- Water depth: 2,450m
- Operation date: 2008



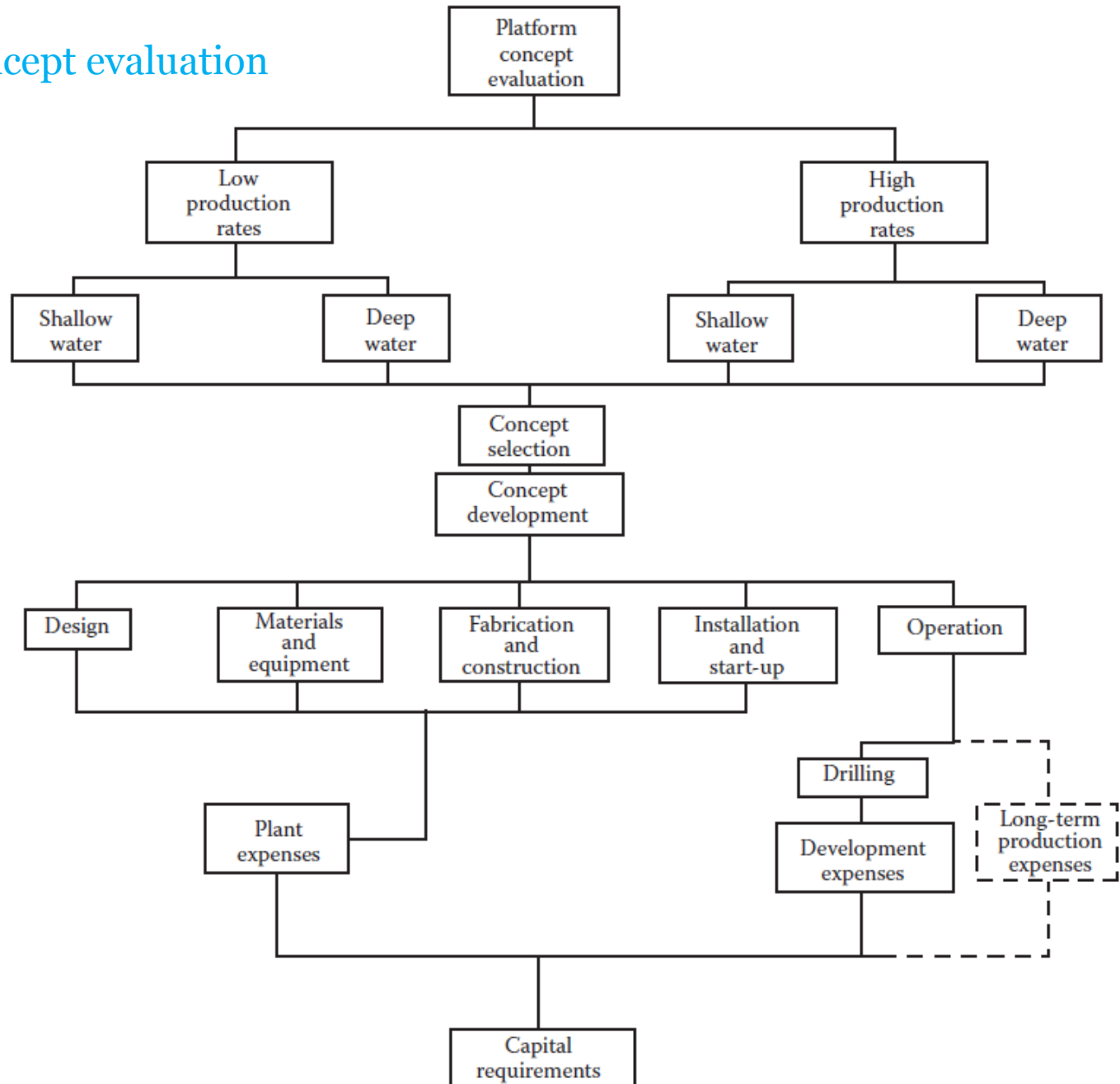
# Polyethylene rope *vs* steel wire

72

- Video



## Platform concept evaluation



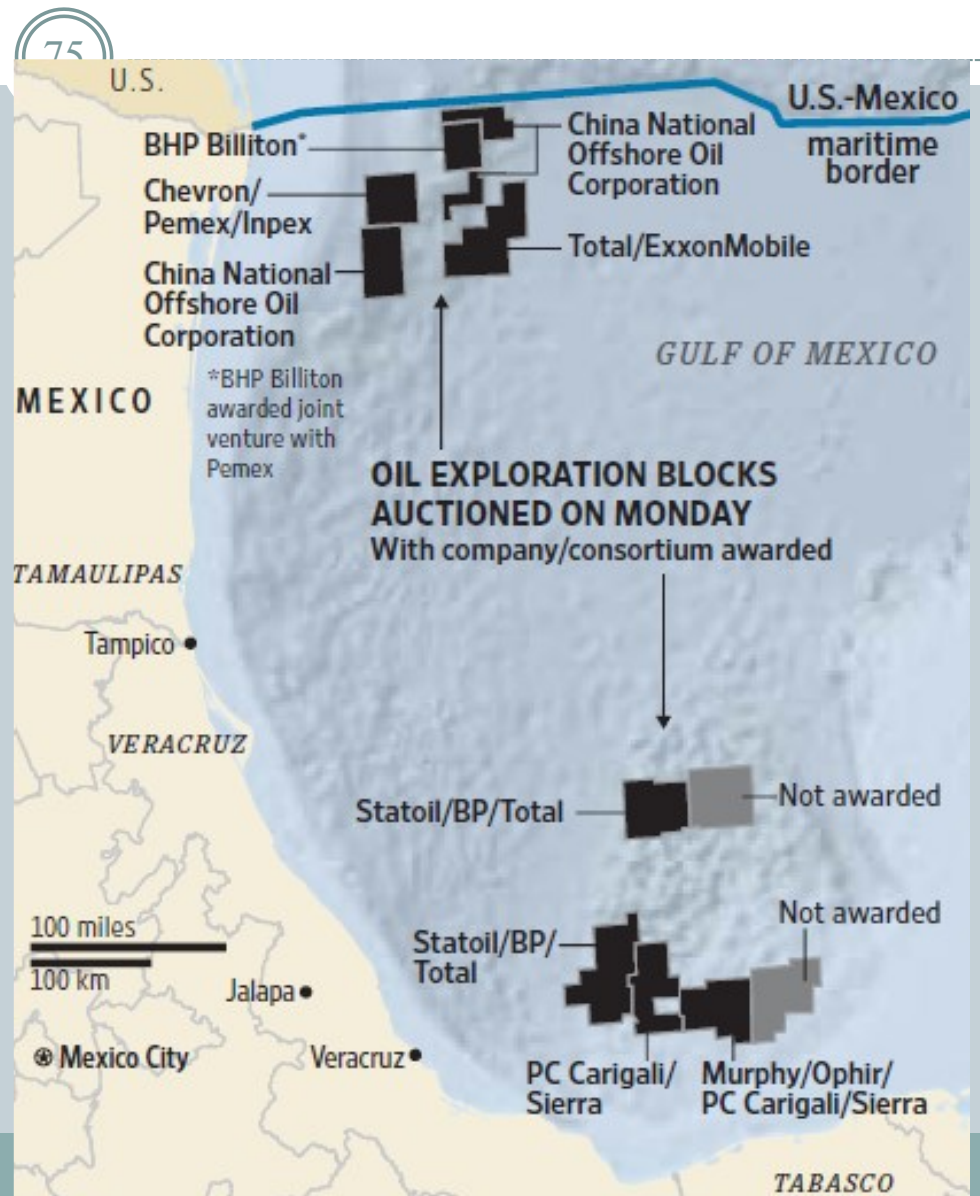
# Theory

74

- Theory #4: Design of offshore structures
- Posted online

# Mexico offshore licensing round

- Awarded 8 out of 10 blocks
- BHP Billiton outbid BP
- Investments: ~\$40bn
- New entrants: CNOOC





# Acknowledgments

76

- Dr. Mike Efthymiou, Shell Netherlands



Thanks for your attention!