

PS Syn-Rift Lacustrine Axial Delta Reservoir Quality and its Distribution: New Insight from Sumpur Delta in Singkarak Lake, West Sumatra, Indonesia*

Reybi Waren¹, Endo Finaldhi¹, Enry H. Sihombing¹, Iqbal Fardiansyah¹, Faizil Fitris¹, Habash Semimbar¹, Satia Graha¹, Abdullah F. Talib¹, and Willy R. Paksi¹

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¹Indonesian Association of Geologist (IAGI) – Riau Chapter, Indonesia (iagi.riau@gmail.com)

Abstract

Paleogene syn-rift lacustrine deposits in western Indonesia basins have been recognized as one of the potential reservoirs. Central Sumatra Basin for instance, lacustrine reservoirs have been explored and produced sporadically even though the understanding of its reservoirs both geometry and quality are still inadequate. Similarly, this lack of understanding occurs in Ombilin Basin that has promising exploration target in syn-rift deposit. It is believed that the syn-rift lacustrine reservoirs in both basins will play an important role in further opportunities.

Lake Singkarak, which is situated in West Sumatra, is known as a pull-apart basin in Indonesia that is filled by syn-rift deposits. This basin setting will provide significant information and facts in understanding lacustrine syn-rift reservoirs that will be improved in subsurface analysis in Central Sumatra, Ombilin, and/or other petroleum basins. In addition, Lake Singkarak deposit has been considered holding possible hydrocarbon potential for exploration target. Numerous regional study of Lake Singkarak has been conducted since 1961. The most recent study provided sedimentology facies model, which are alluvial fan, braided river, meandering river, fan delta, shoreline, lacustrine delta, shallow lacustrine, and shelf-slope lacustrine facies. These facies have constructed a fundamental regional understanding of Lake Singkarak syn-rift system. However, detailed analysis on reservoir geometry and quality are unexplored. In order to obtain deep understanding how each reservoir facies distribute in such lacustrine delta or more commonly known as axial fluvial delta environment, detail analysis on modern system in this particular environment have been performed.

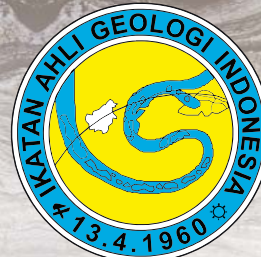
Axial fluvial delta will be represented by Sumpur Delta, which is located in the northern part of Lake Singkarak. Sumpur Axial Fluvial Delta (SAFD) is created in the fault-tip area and parallel to the fault. The fault activities led distinctively of accommodation space or basin geometry and sediment filling in Sumpur Axial Fluvial Delta system.

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Indonesian Association of Geologists
Ikatan Ahli Geologi Indonesia (IAGI)
Riau Chapter

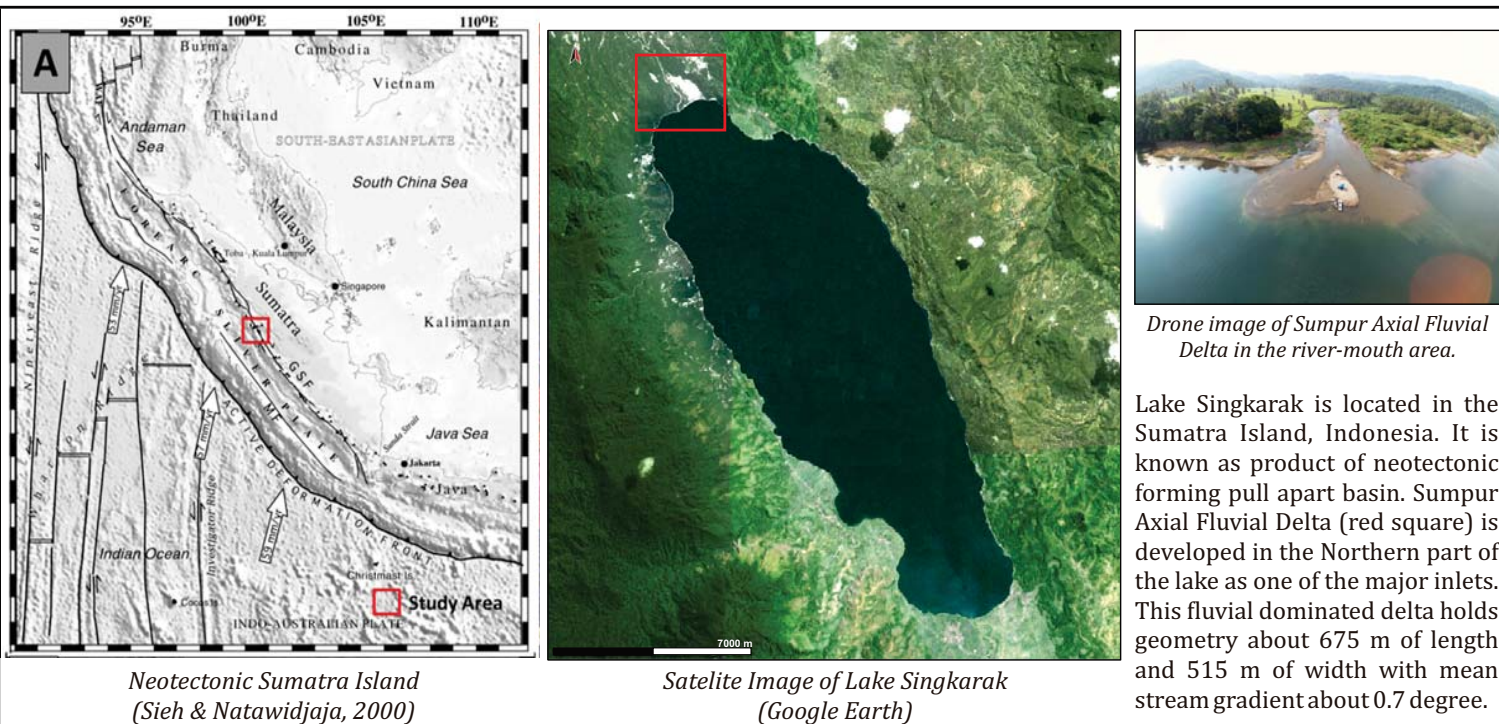
ABSTRACT

Paleogene syn-rift lacustrine rocks in Sumatra basins have been proven as a viable and prolific petroleum system play. Due to active tectonics and confined environment, reservoir distribution and geometry of the Paleogene rock is highly complex. Further complexity results where the lacustrine delta orientation is axial. Finding suitable modern analogues is essential to understand reservoir architecture in the subsurface. A modern system field study of the Sumpur lacustrine delta in Singkarak Lake has been performed by acquiring and analyzing river bed sampling, river-mouth coring, offshore lacustrine sediments grab sampling, and aerial geo-drone photos. This study illustrates how grain texture, recent faunal analysis, depositional facies, and its sequences describe the complexity of potential reservoir geometry and quality distribution, both laterally and vertically.

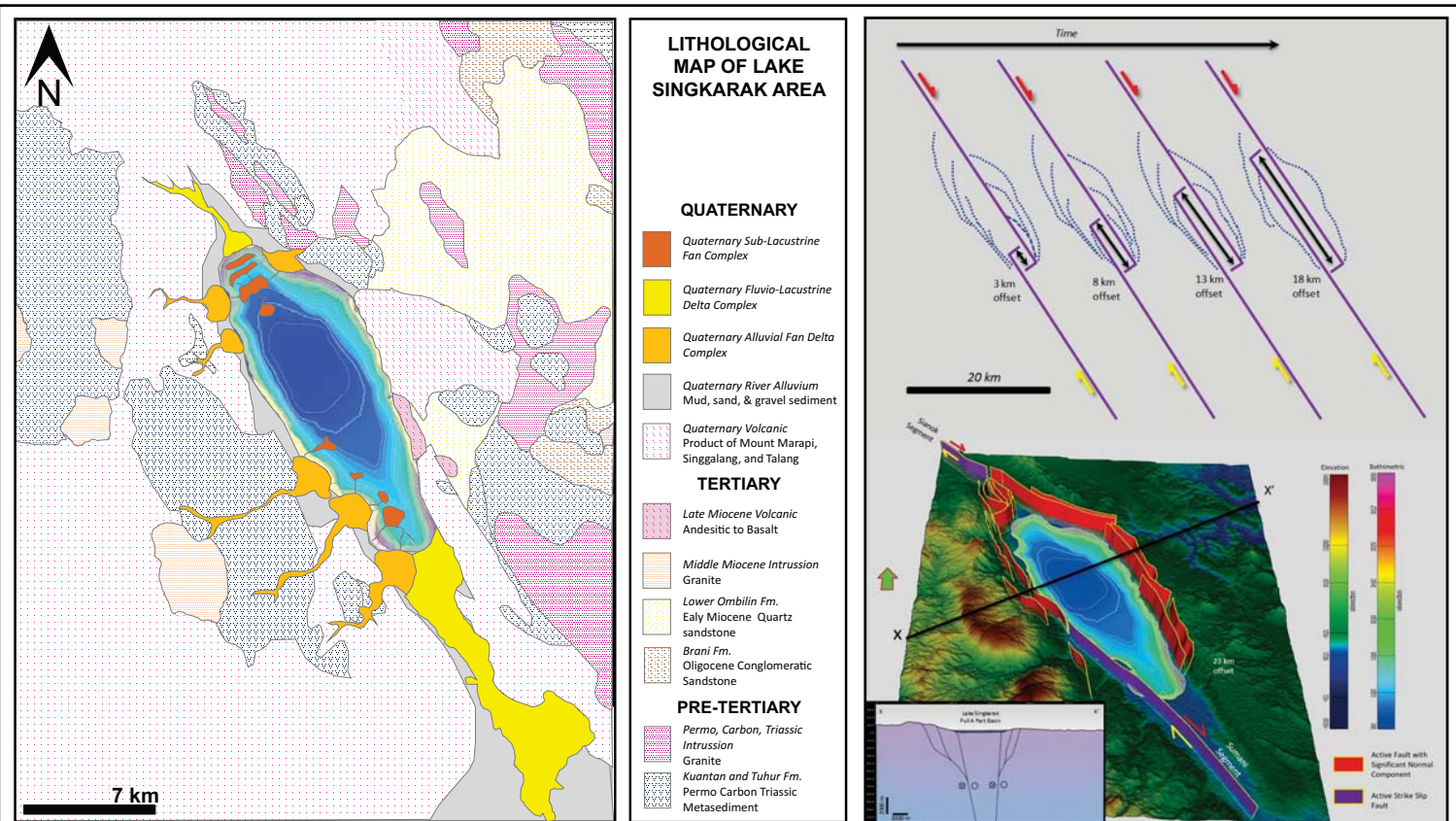
Seven depositional facies have been recognized: fluvial channel (FC), upper distributary channel (UDC), lower distributary channel (LDC), subaqueous distributary channel (SDC), mouth bar (MB), shoreline (SH), and abandoned delta (ABD). According to sand quality and facies geometry perspectives, lower distributary channel facies association (LDC, SDC, and MB) are associated with the most favorable reservoir potential. Lower distributary channels, one of the most promising reservoir, are characterized by granule- to pebble-sized clasts at the basal scouring surface, with cross-stratified very coarse to coarse sand in an overall fining upward facies succession. This facies gradually transitions distally to subaqueous distributary channels, which are dominantly composed of medium to fine grained sand, as the most potential reservoir. In addition, channel width narrows from 28m to 12m as water depth and distance from source increases. Mouth bars, which are characterized by fine to medium grained, very well sorted fabric, sub-rounded to sub-angular grain shaped, and high sphericity, are also categorized as potential reservoirs, although their distribution is somewhat localized. The remaining facies are not favorable as potential reservoirs due to their low quality and localized distribution.

An improved understanding of the heterogeneities within the Sumpur delta depositional system contributes new insights into the Singkarak lacustrine system. We propose a new model of the Singkarak axial lacustrine delta as a result of this study. This model provides facies architecture, the probability of delta evolution, and an improved reservoir analogue, all of which are valuable as reservoir prediction tools to reduce subsurface uncertainty for exploration and development activities in analogues petroleum-rich-system.

INTRODUCTION



REGIONAL GEOLOGY



Regional geology map of Lake Singkarak area (modified from Silitonga and Kastowo, 1995; Kastowo, et. al., 1996) overlaid by quaternary depositional facies Lake Singkarak (modified from Bachtar, et. al., 2015), fault interpretations (modified from Sieh and Natawidjaja, 2000), and bathymetric data (modified from Puslit-limnologi, 2001 op. cit. Emelia, 2009) showing structural controlled of lobates and sediment sources to SAFD.

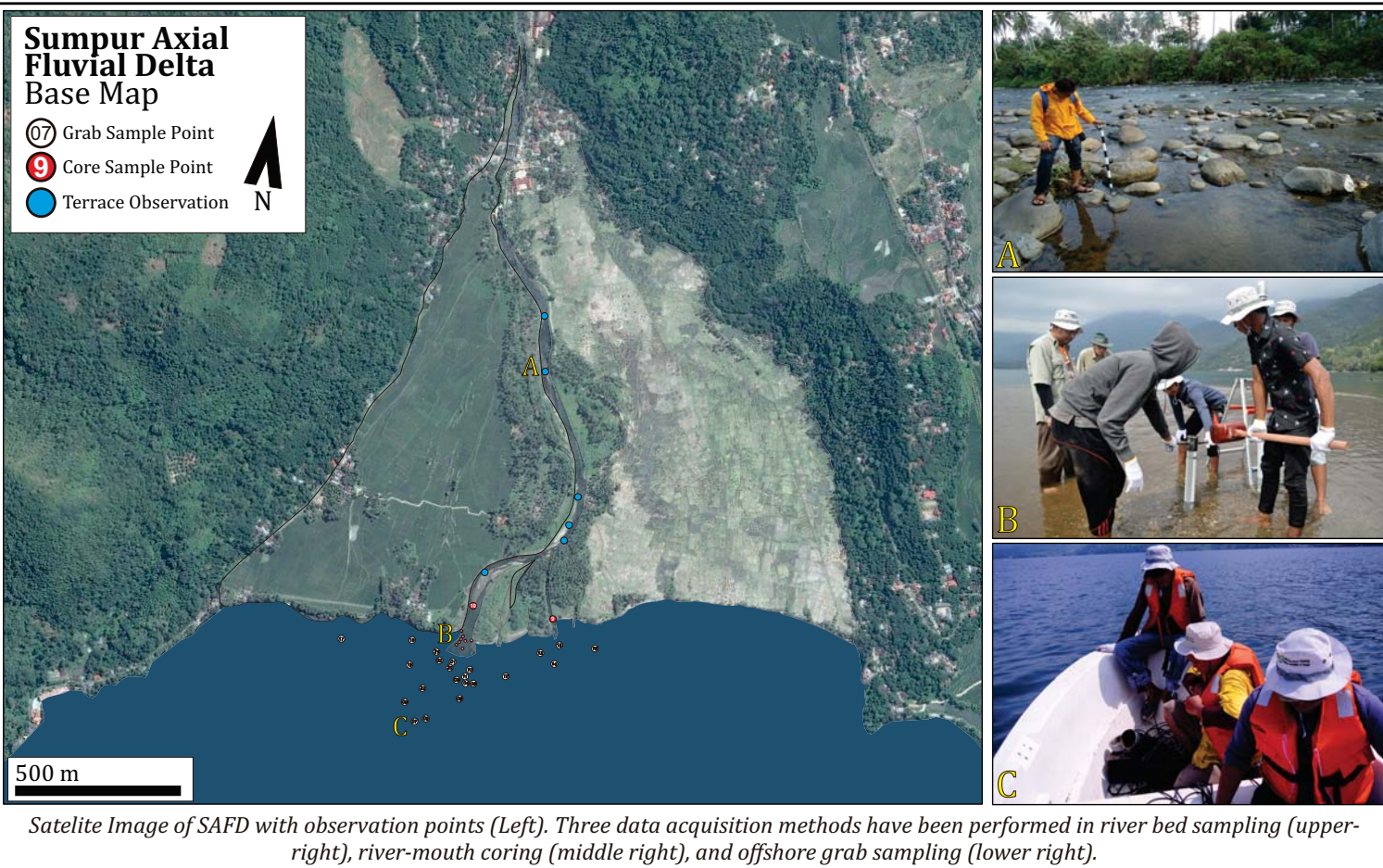
Provenance of Sumpur Axial Fluvial Delta

Lake Singkarak is surrounded by four main lithological ages consist of Pre-Tertiary metasediments and intrusive volcanics, Tertiary extrusive, Quaternary extrusive volcanics, and recent alluvial deposit. The sediments filling the Sumpur Axial Fluvial Delta has provenances from metamorphic rocks of Kuantan Formation, Triassic-Cretaceous granite intrusion, and Quaternary extrusive volcanics of Ranau Formation. These sources of sediments are located in the north-western part of the lake.

Tectonic Control on Sumpur Axial Fluvial Delta

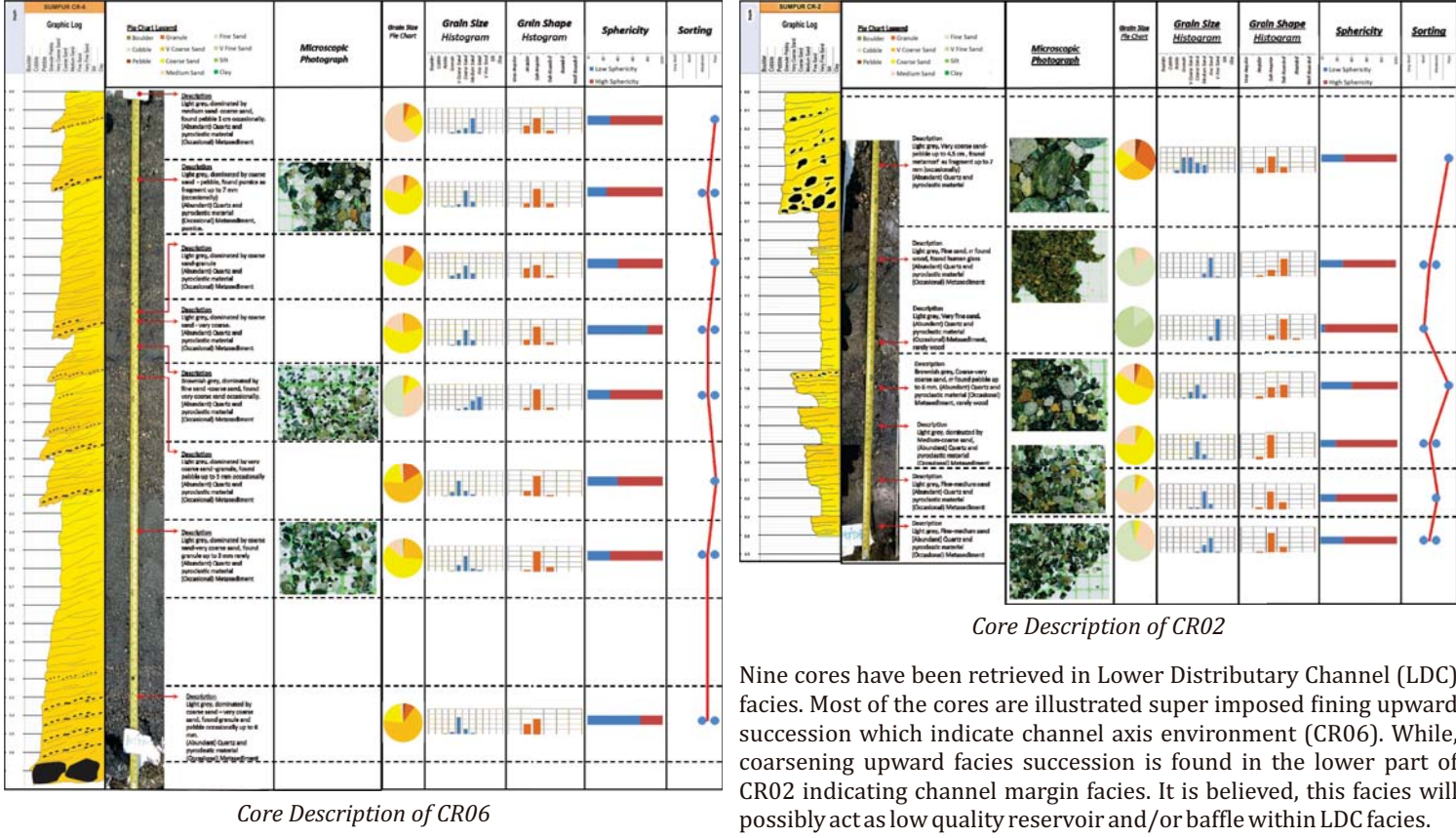
Transensional movement of Sianok and Sumani segments of the Sumatran strike-slip fault system has generated the Lake Singkarak (Bellier and Seberier, 1994 op. cit. Sieh and Natawidjaja, 2000). Faults in Sianok Segment have created the accommodation space or basin geometry and sediment-filling in SAFD.

DATA & METHODOLOGY



To characterize reservoir potential in such complex environment settings, the following methods are used: (1) Delta morphology interpretation from satellite image which is combined with aerial photos by using drone. (2) Sediment texture analysis and depositional facies interpretation of recent sediments from river bed sampling, river mouth coring, surface trenching, and offshore grab samplings to describe various facies characters. In order to support the facies character, available faunal analyses have been performed. (3) Facies geometry mapping by integrating bathymetry data from offshore sampling points and facies data points to illustrate the distribution of potential reservoirs.

Core Description



SUMMARY, DISCUSSION, AND FORWARD PLAN

Summary

- Sumpur Axial Fluvial Delta is a fluvial dominated delta with elongate to irregular lobate geometry that is prograded axially parallel to NNW-SSE faults.
- Sumpur Axial Fluvial Delta is divided into seven depositional facies: a) Fluvial channel; b) Upper distributary channel; c) Lower distributary channel; d) Subaqueous distributary channel; e) Mouth bar; f) Shoreline; g) Abandoned delta.
- There are three favorable potential reservoirs in Sumpur Axial Fluvial Delta: 1) Lower distributary channel facies association (lower distributary channel, subaqueous distributary channel, and mouth bar facies); 2) Shoreline associated with abandoned distributary/delta facies; 3) Sand bar in upper distributary channel facies.
- The Sumpur Axial Fluvial Delta model can be utilized as a viable analogue for reservoir prediction tool in subsurface condition in Paleogene syn-rift lacustrine rocks of Sumatra basins.

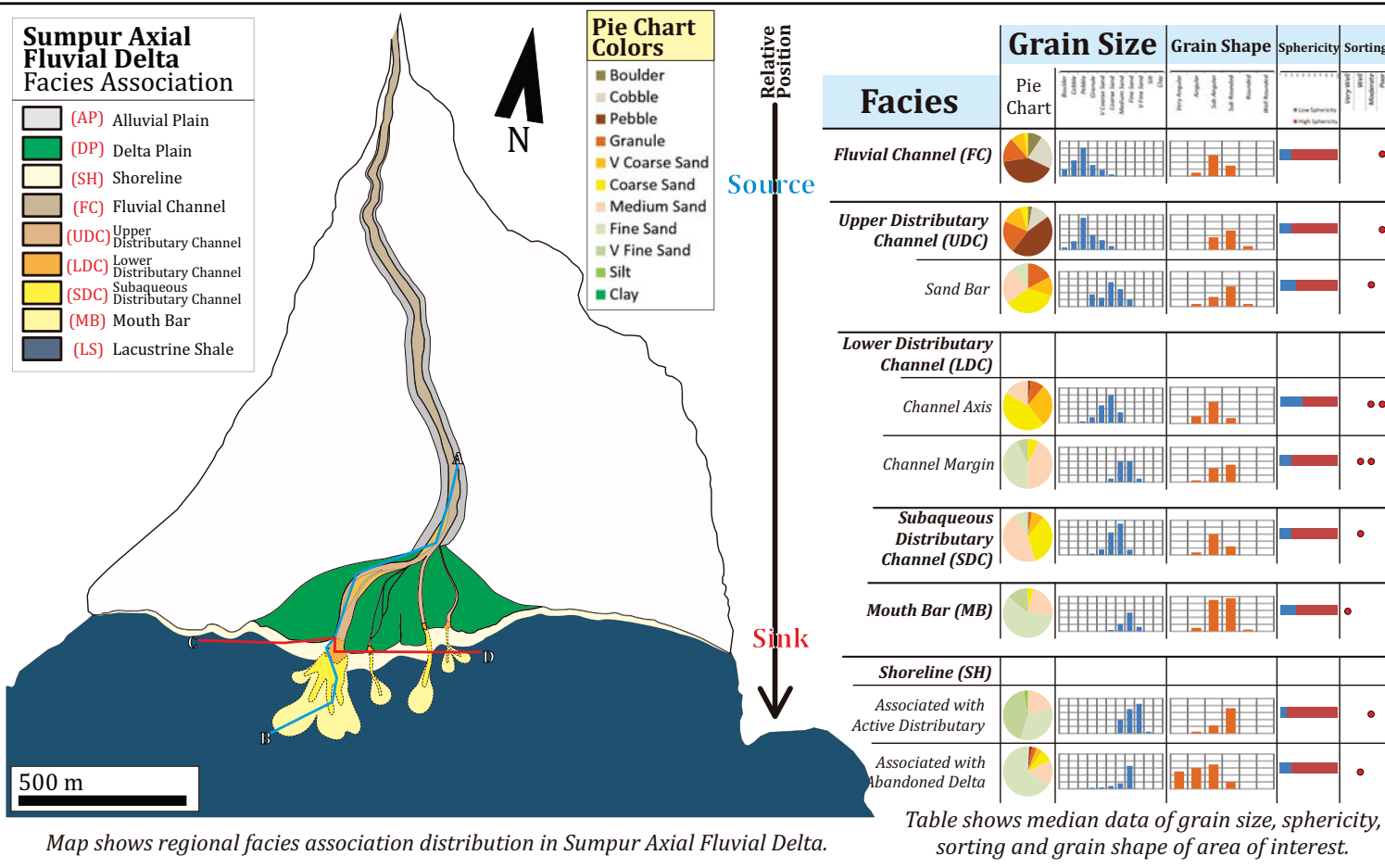
Discussion

We recognize that the size of potential reservoirs in SAFD are not economically attractive. To illustrate that, the largest potential reservoir area is about 64 square meters or 15 acre. However, understanding the cycle of deposition and its reservoir architecture will lead us to know how big the potential reservoir size properly. The regressive phase of Lake Singkarak had led the progradation of SAFD. Consequently, superimposed of progradational stacking pattern creates an opportunity of exploration and development targeting potential reservoir within various depositional cycles. Although it will increase the opportunity in SAFD system, the challenging risk will be centered on how to predict the connectivity between the depositional cycles.

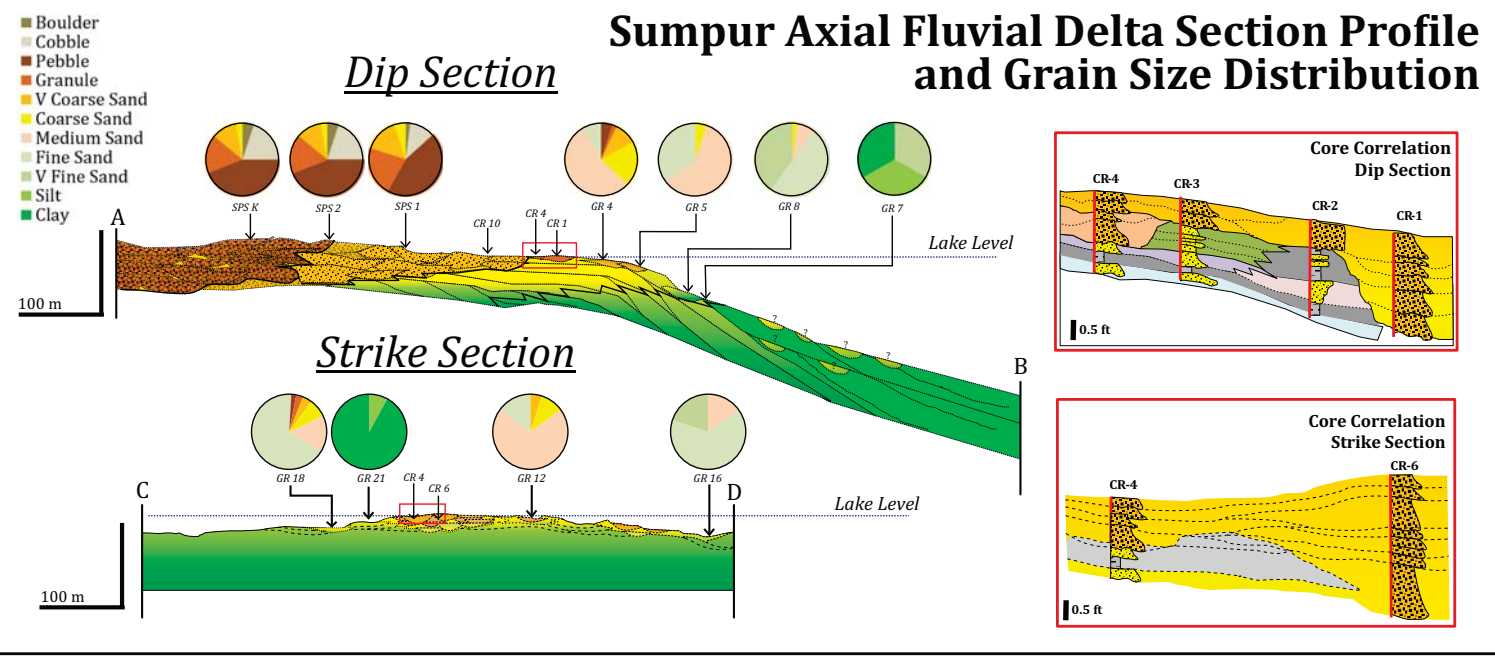
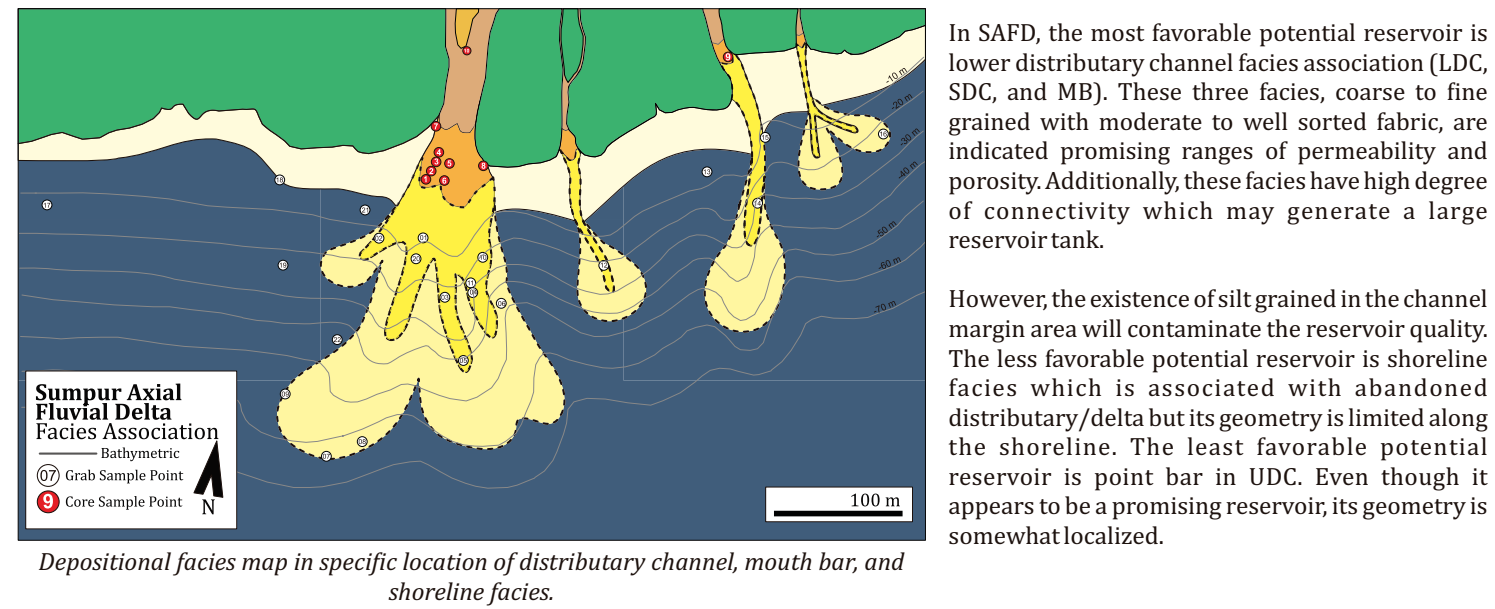
Forward Plan

The Sumpur Axial Fluvial Delta is expected as a feeder to sub-lacustrine fan environment. Therefore, we would like to enhance our knowledge by observing sub lacustrine environment in the near future to understand reservoir geometry in this particular area.

PROPOSED MODEL



There are four main depositional facies association that can be observed in SAFD. First is, Fluvial Plain facies association consists of Fluvial Channel facies (FC). Secondly, Delta Plain facies association contains Upper Distributary Channel facies (UDC) and Lower Distributary Channel facies (LDC). Thirdly, Delta Front facies association consists of Subaqueous Distributary Channel facies (SDC) and Mouth Bar facies (MB). Last facies association is Shallow Lacustrine, consisting Shoreline facies (SH) and Abandoned Delta facies (ABD).



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