

# Structural Uncertainty Evaluation



# Gross Rock Volume (GRV)

$$\text{HIIP} = \frac{\text{GRV} * N * G * \Phi * (1 - S_w)}{\text{FVF}}$$

**Gross Rock Volume is the most significant factor in estimating in-place hydrocarbons**

We cannot measure directly GRV, only infer it from other measurements

We have no samples of the trap pre-drill (Quirk, Technical forum)

We can be sure our map before drilling an exploration prospect is not entirely correct (10% - 1% chance the trap is bigger than closure model), (Quirk, Technical forum)



# Gross Rock Volume (GRV) Uncertainties

- **Pick Uncertainty**

- correlation of pick to geology (well tie/phase)
- change of impedance laterally causing pick position to change
- picking accuracy/smoothing by interpreter

- **Contouring Uncertainty**

- 2D seismic does not define minima/maxima
- 3D seismic may be smoothed
- choice of algorithm

- **Depth Conversion Uncertainty**

- Velocity model selection
- Incorporating Stacking Velocity (STKV) data

STKV are inaccurate (imprecise and biased) without any calibration, but densely sampled.

They can constrain a lateral trend.

Often (especially in frontier exploration areas) STKV are the only source of information.

**GRV uncertainty can be estimated using GEOSTATISTICAL realisations (stochastic simulation) of Depth Conversion > unbiased evaluation**



# Geostatistical Approach (1)

This approach is routinely used in Resource assessment by some of the major companies (such as Eni) through proprietary softwares internally developed.

Some Service Company (such as Earth Works) offers either their expertise in this methodology or their dedicated softwares.

It is possible to use the same approach using **Petrel**.

Can be used to estimate GRV in (1) prospects, (2) appraisal well planning and (3) fields

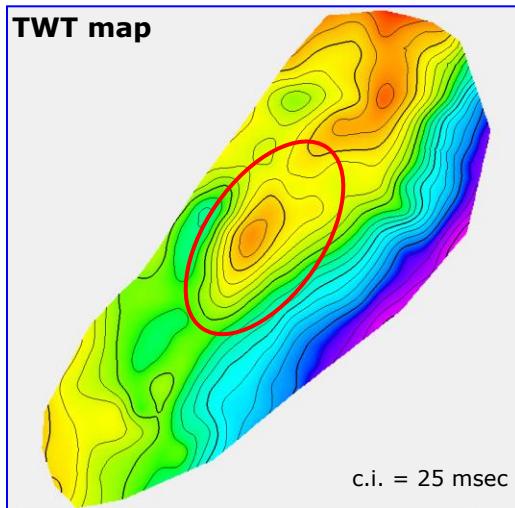
- 1) No wells
- 2) Isoprobability map (one control point)
- 3) Control points (wells)

# Geostatistical Approach (2)

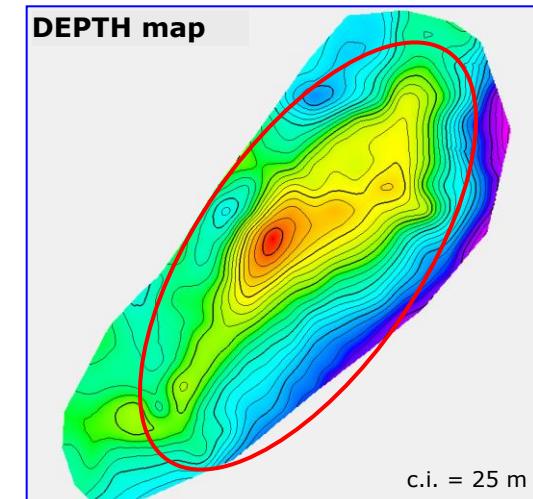
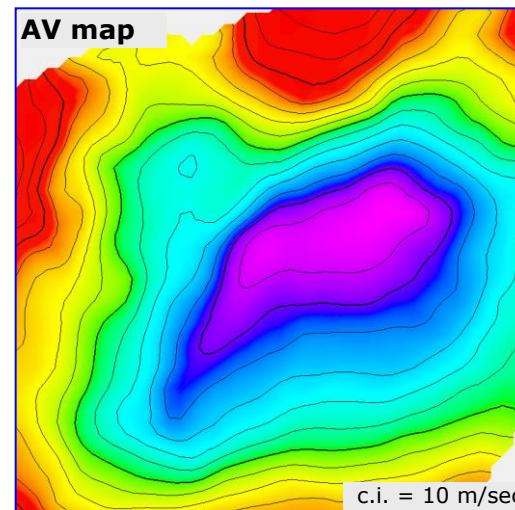
- Krige well velocities (where available) with stacking velocities
- Create multiple velocity map **realisations** (tied to wells);
- Combine with time map to create multiple (isoprobable) depth **realisations** and calculate resulting GRV's;
- Create cumulative GRV probability plot for input to resource assessment



# Structural Uncertainty (GRV) Evaluation

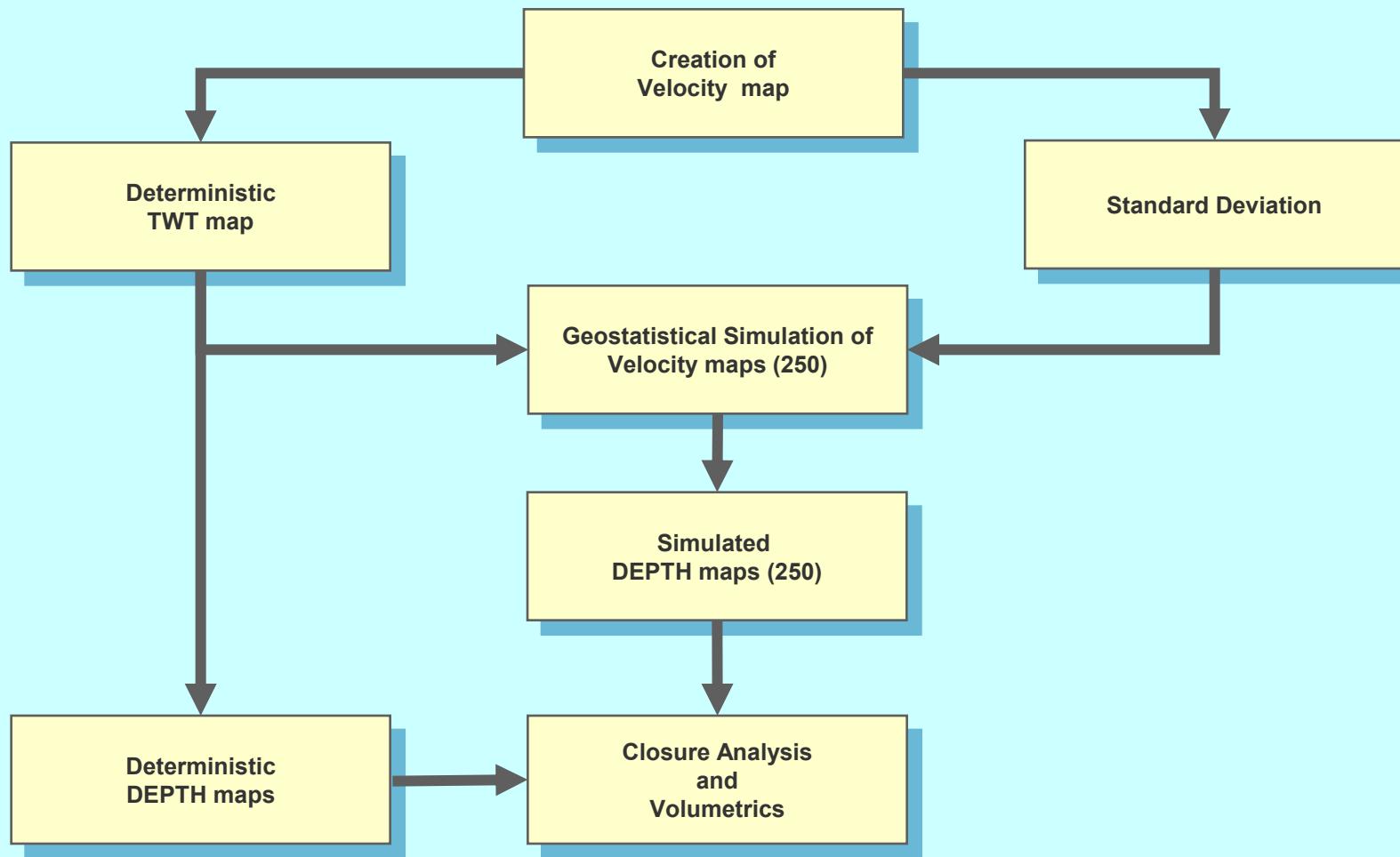


Even if a proper velocity approach is chosen and the best depth image is obtained, still there is significant uncertainty associated with the velocity field, that can have a huge impact on the volumes

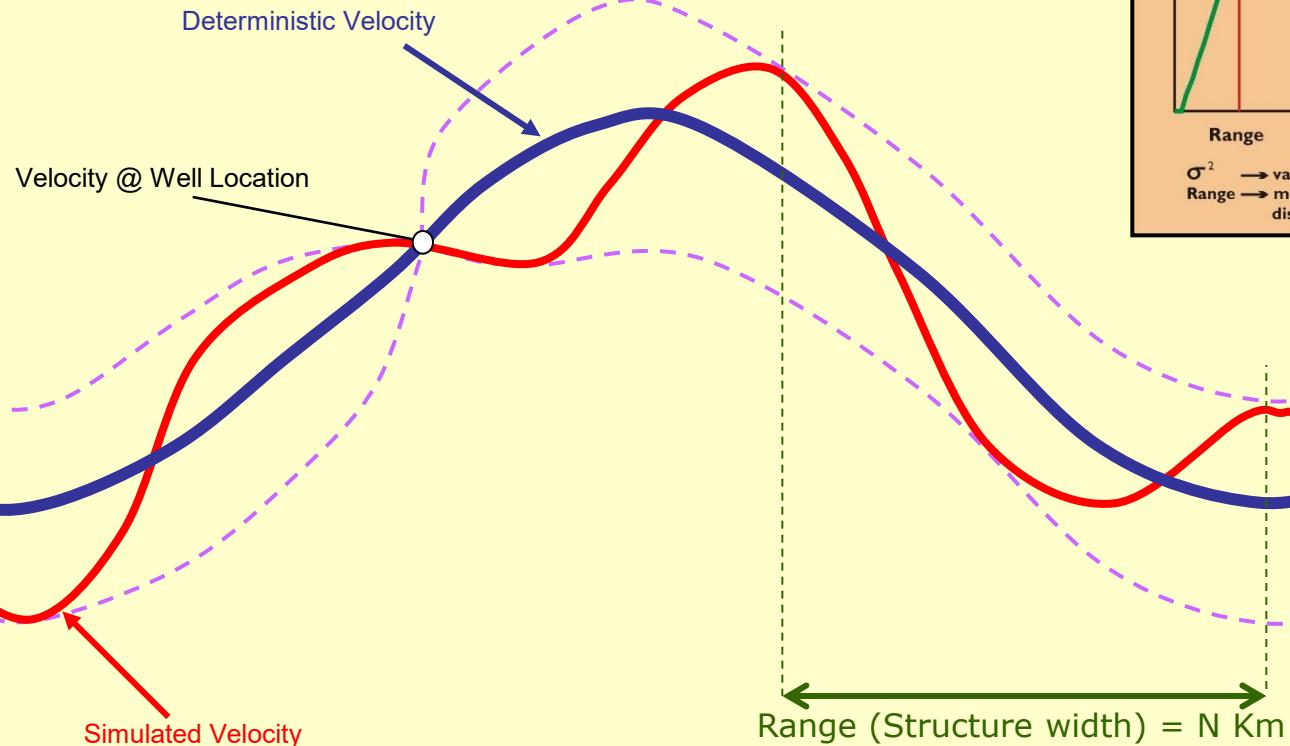


The velocity model can have a big impact on the area of the closure and thus on volumetrics. It is crucial then to evaluate the Uncertainty related to the Depth Conversion.

# Flowchart

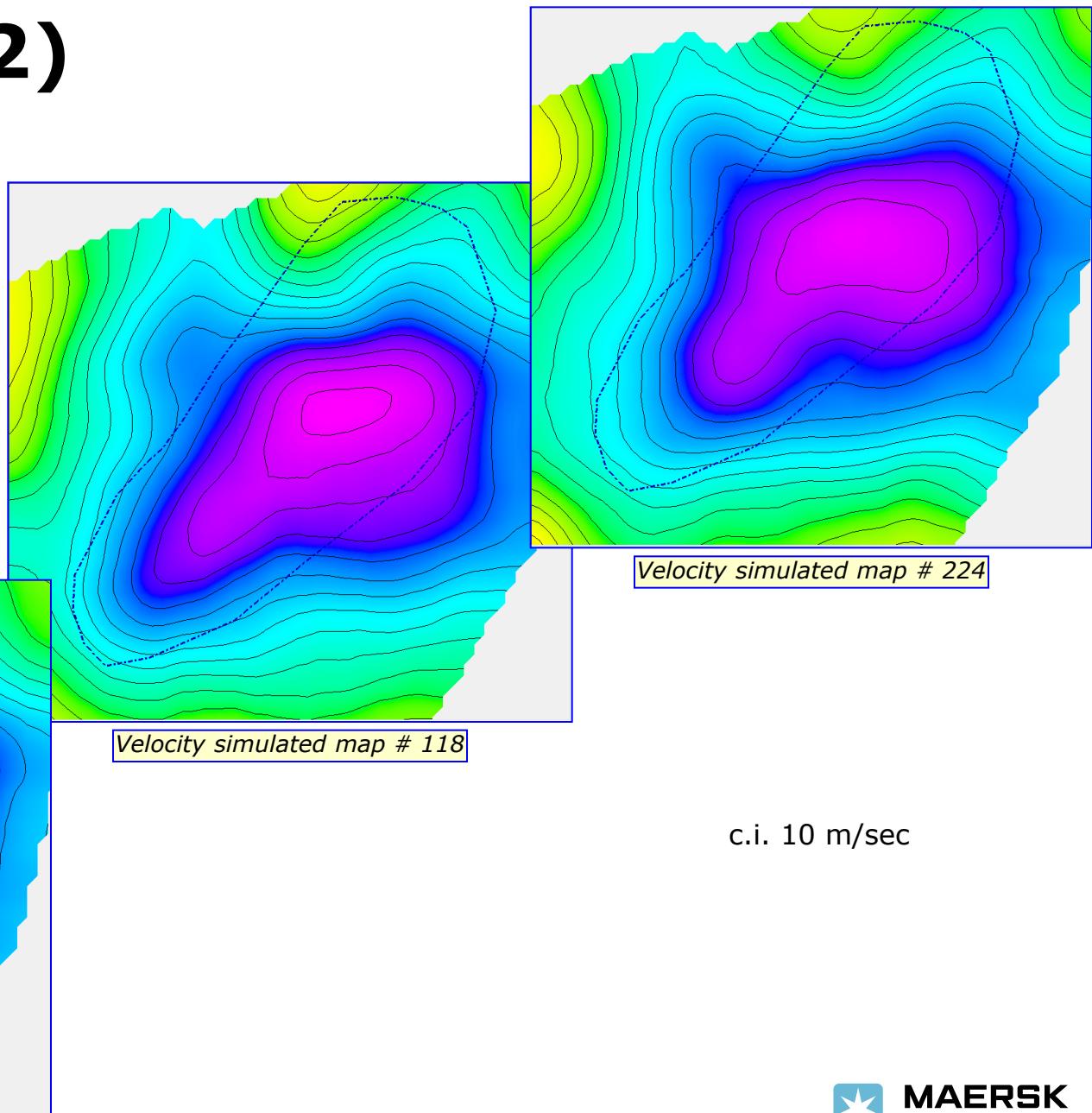


# Concepts (1)



# Concepts (2)

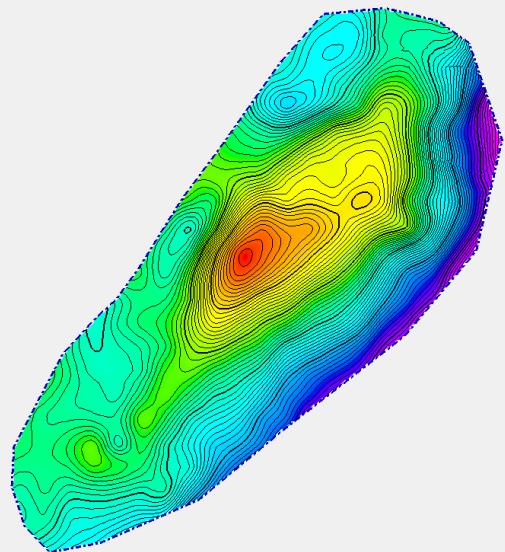
## VELOCITY MAP SIMULATIONS



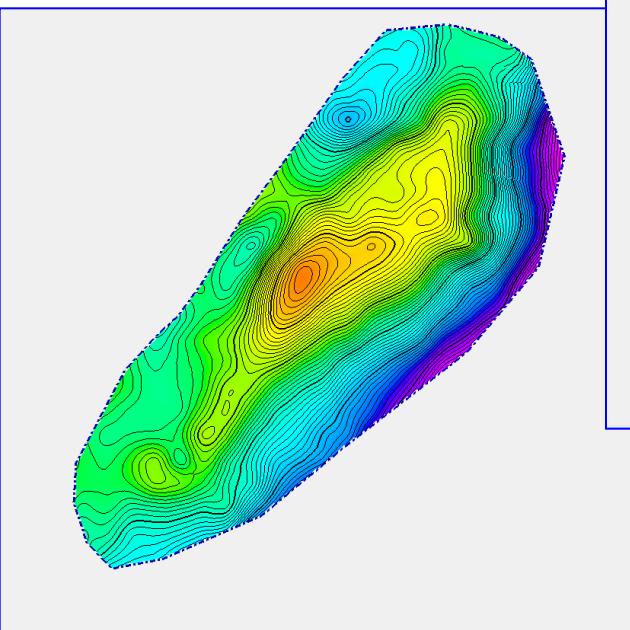
# Concepts (3)

## DEPTH MAP SIMULATIONS

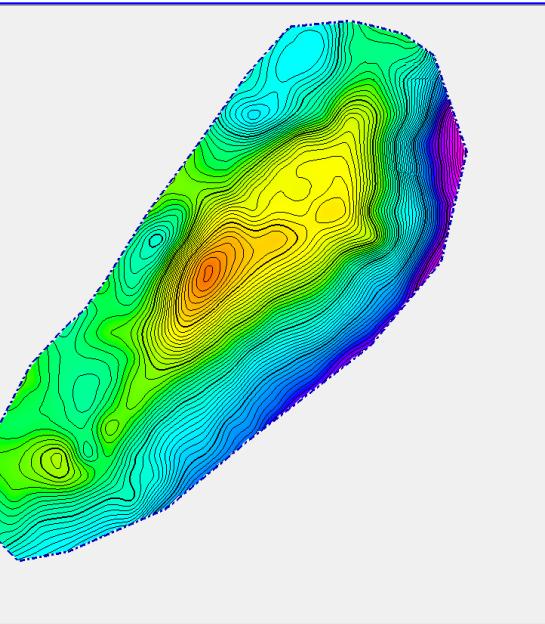
*Depth simulated map # 19*



*Depth simulated map # 146*

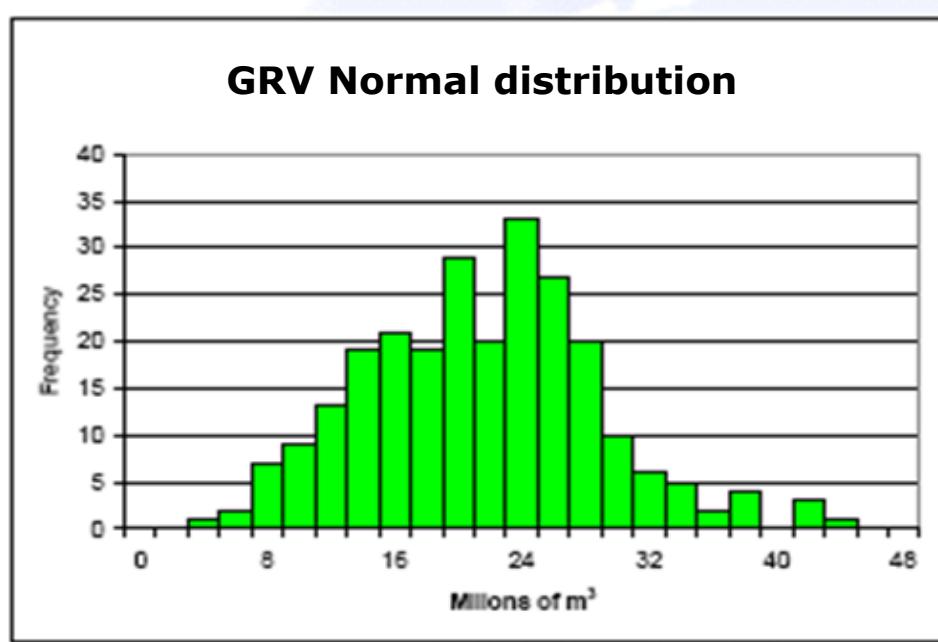


*Depth simulated map # 242*



c.i. 10 m

# Concepts (4)



m³ millions			
P10	13,29	Min	5,73
P25	17,26	Max	44,01
P50	22,59	Median	22,59
P75	27,07	Mean	22,48
P90	31,40	St.Dev.	7,33

## VOLUMETRICS

# Petrel Workflow

# Petrel workflow (1)

**Step 1 >>**

TWT = Deterministic TWT map  
ITM (Isoprobability Total map) = 0  
IUM (Isoprob. Utility map) = 0

start

For N from 1 to **250**

**Step 2 >>**

AV map<sup>n</sup> = simulated AV map (AV deterministic map, **43 δ**)

Depth (simulated) map<sup>n</sup> = TWT\*AV map<sup>n</sup>/2000

Depth (simulated) map<sup>n</sup> = eliminate outside POLYGON defined around the structure

**Step 3 >>**

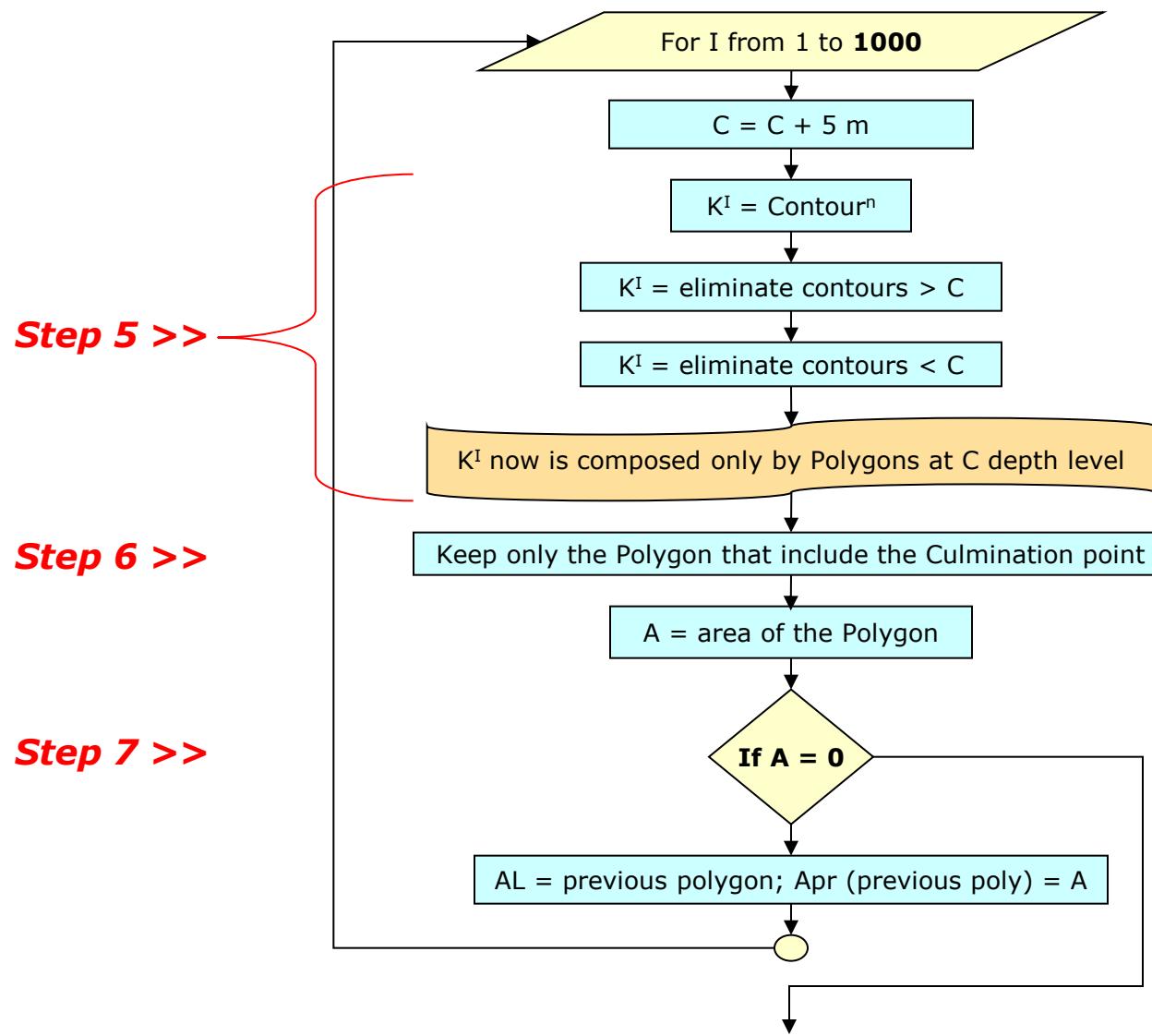
Extract the Highest point of the Depth map<sup>n</sup> > Culmination

C = Culmination + 5 m

**Step 4 >>**

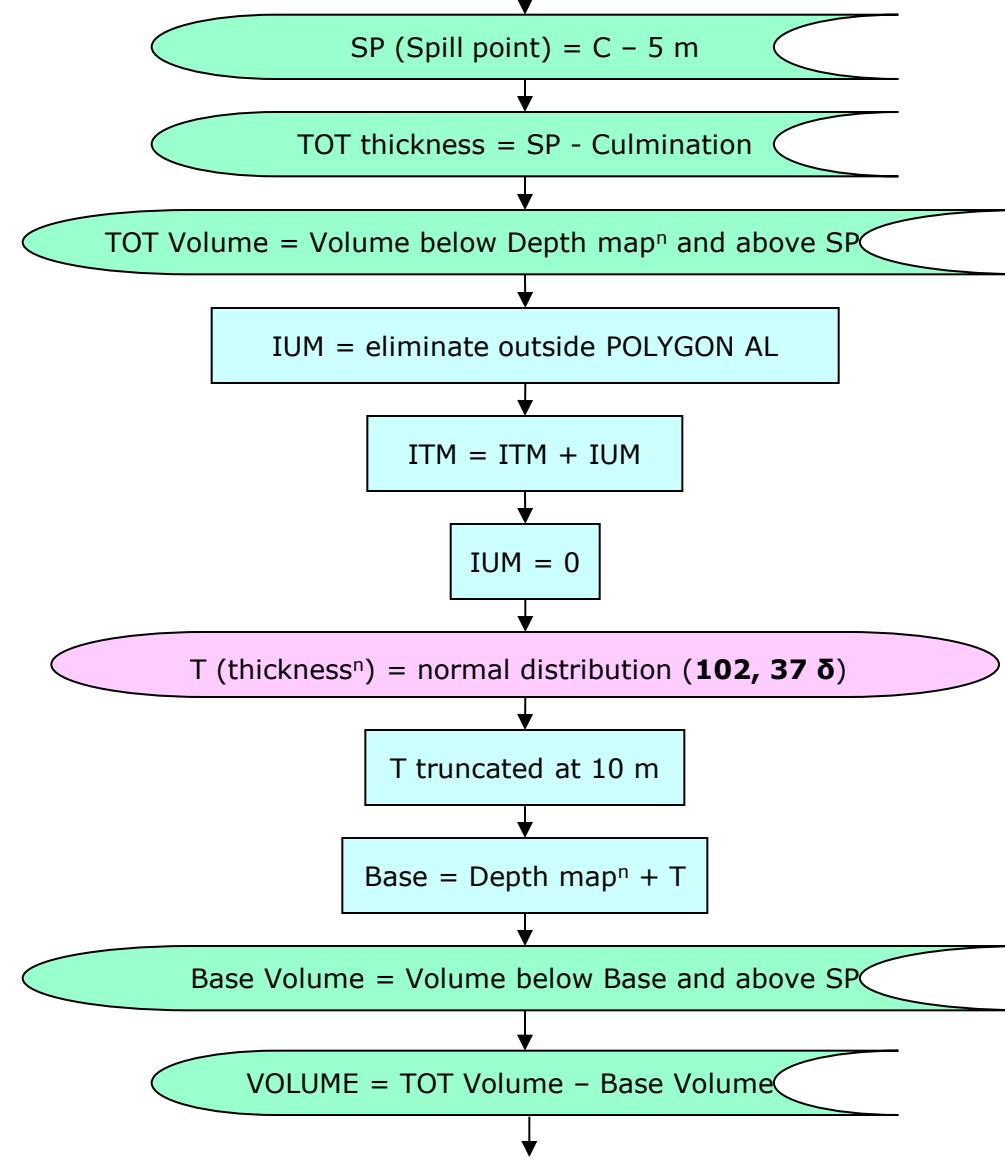
Create contours from Depth map<sup>n</sup> with **5 m step > Contour<sup>n</sup>**

# Petrel workflow (2)

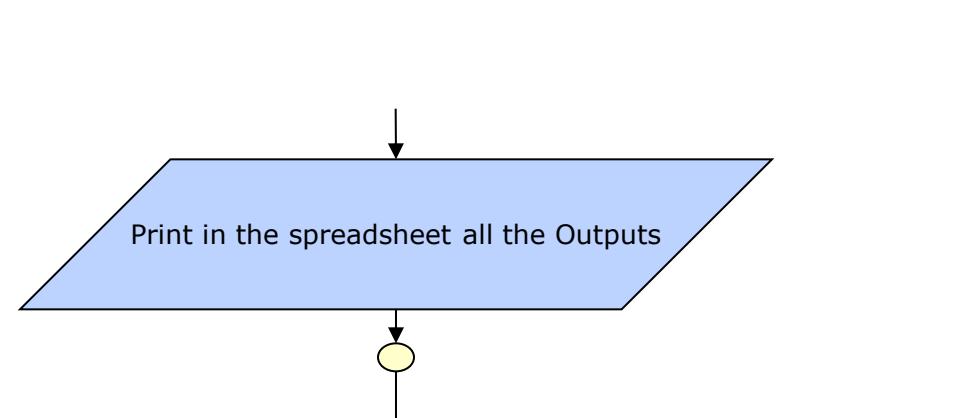


# Petrel workflow (3)

**Step 8 >>**



# Petrel workflow (4)



# Petrel – **Step 1** (Velocity maps creation)

16 AV simulated map creation: for each node in the map calculates a random value by a gaussian distribution  
17 with Z as mean and Constant as standard deviation  
18   $Z = \text{Normal}(Z, \text{Constant})$    Variable Q Constant:

The deterministic AV map is the mean and the Standard Deviation is fixed at 43 in this case.

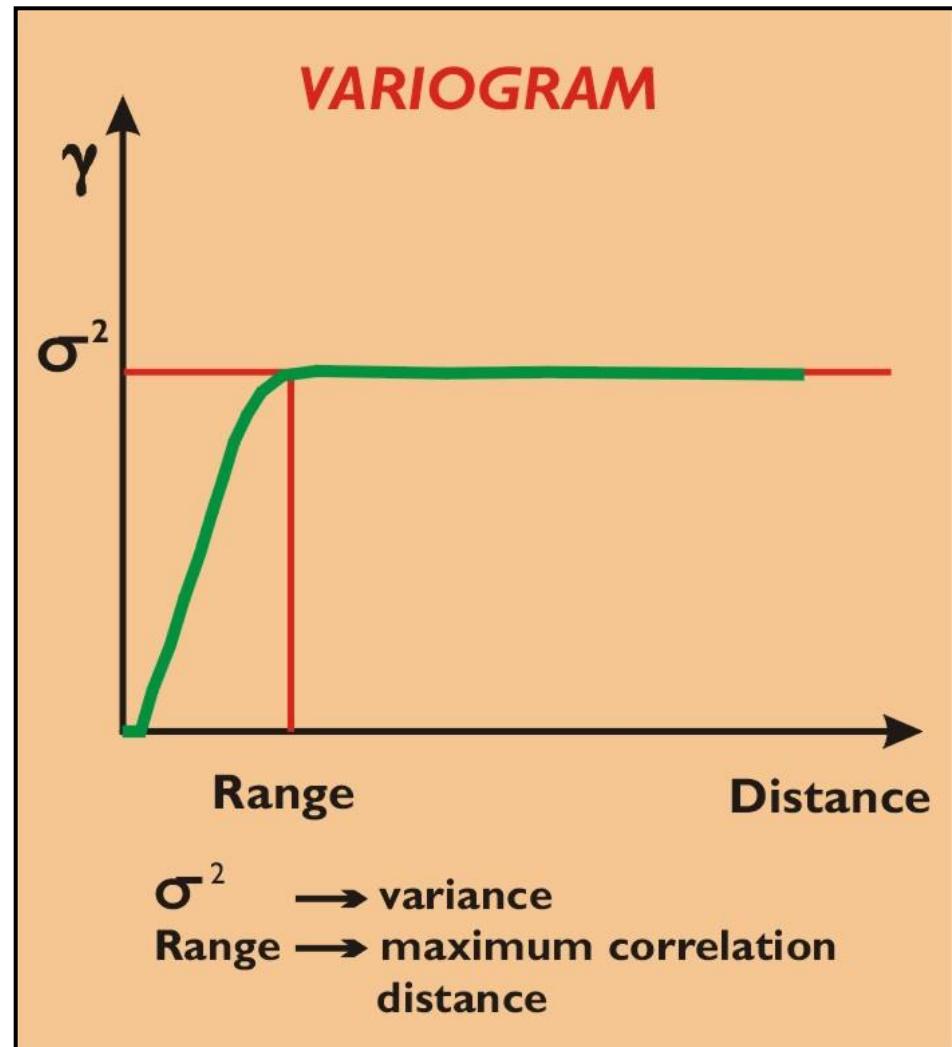
( $\sigma$ ) **standard deviation** is the ***critical factor*** in defining the range of the map. The Standard Deviation can be evaluated analysing geostatistically the input data (semi-variogram).

# Variogram: Theory

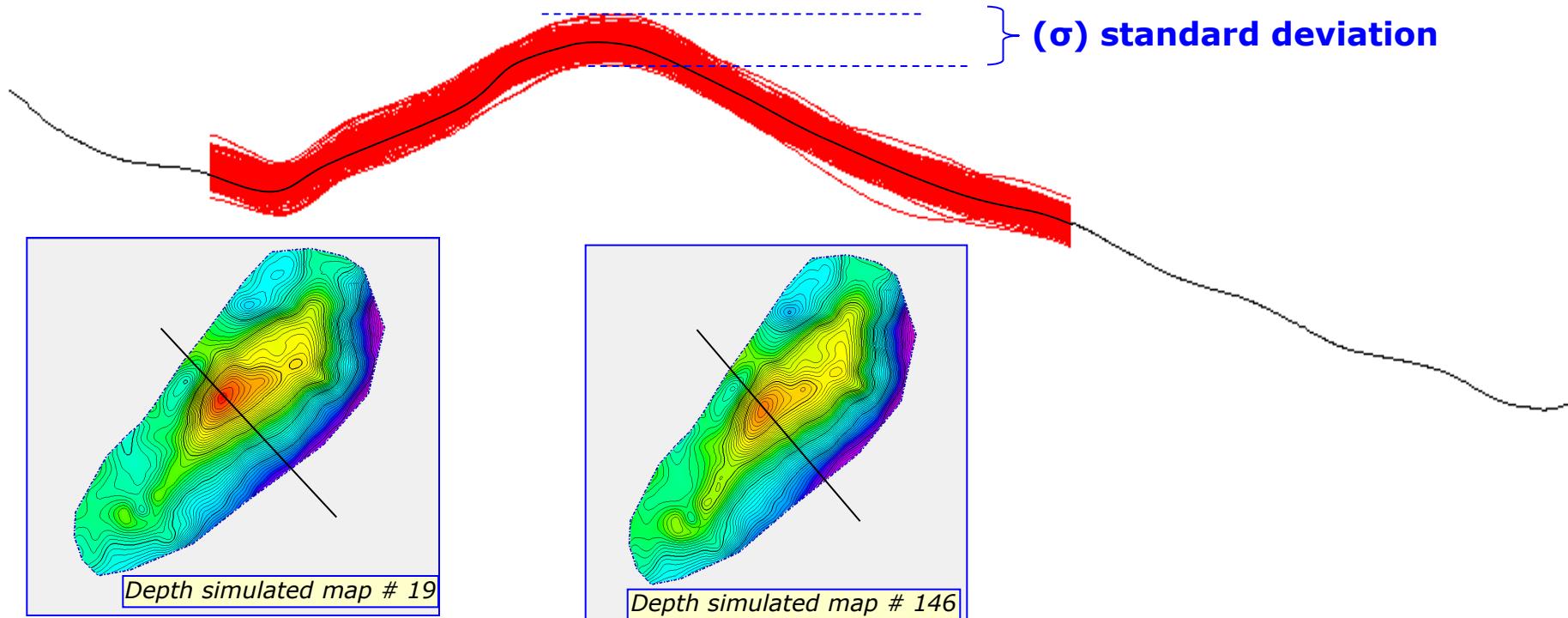
**Spatial Correlation** = two observations are spatially correlated if when the two data are close to each other they are more likely to have similar values than when they are far apart.

The most traditional geostatistical tools that allows to model this kind of spatial correlation is the (semi)variogram: this is a function of the distance between two observations that gives the average *lack of correlation* between these two measured values, the higher is the variogram at given distance, less correlated (similar) are the observations.

- **Range** = the observations are "not correlated" beyond this distance
- **Sill** = constant value at which the variogram reaches the range; Variance of the Input Data ( $\sigma$  = standard deviation)
- **Nugget** = no correlation at zero distance (random noise)
- **Slope at the origin** = depends on the type of variogram (Exponential, Spherical or Gaussian)



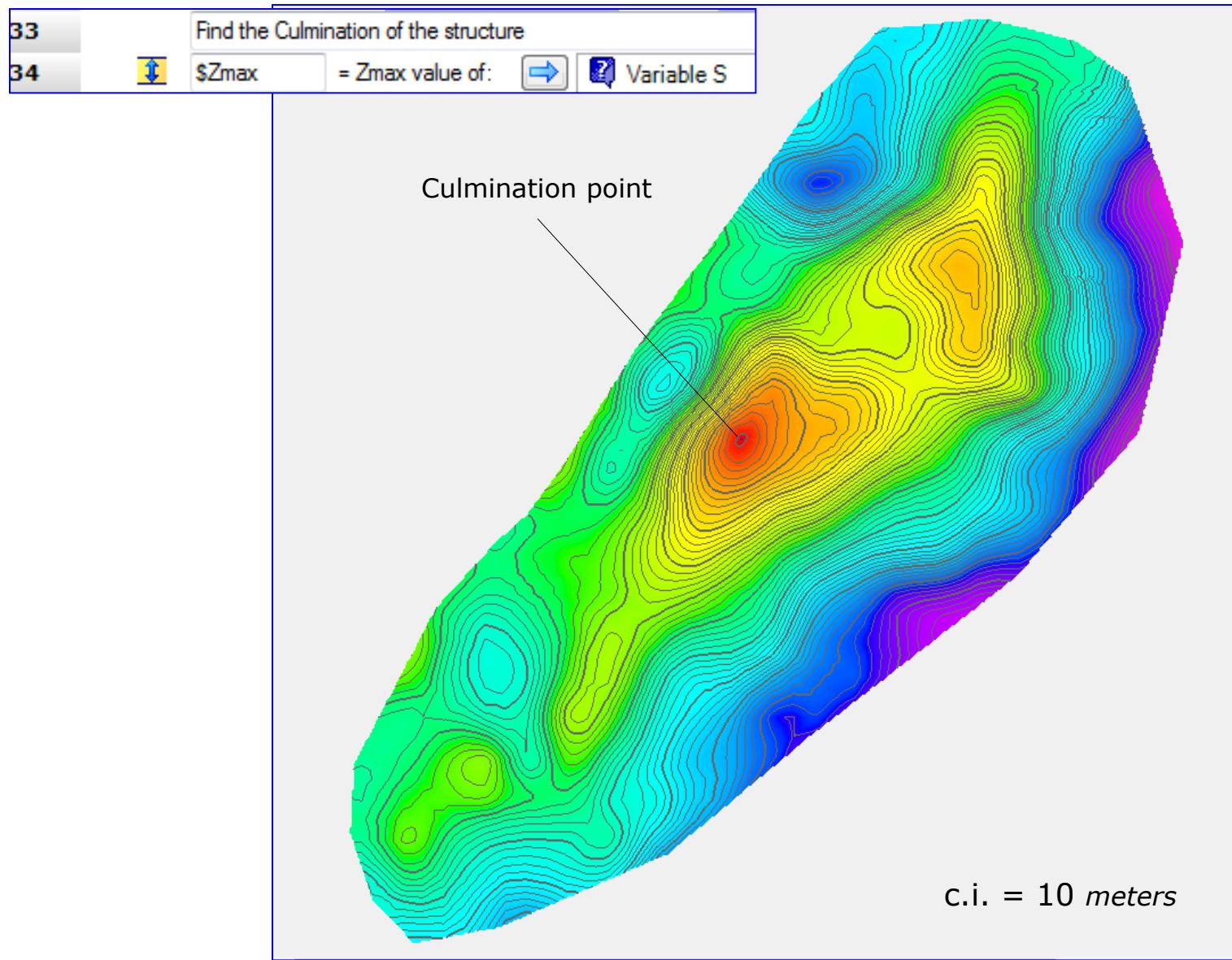
# Petrel – *Step 2* (Depth maps)



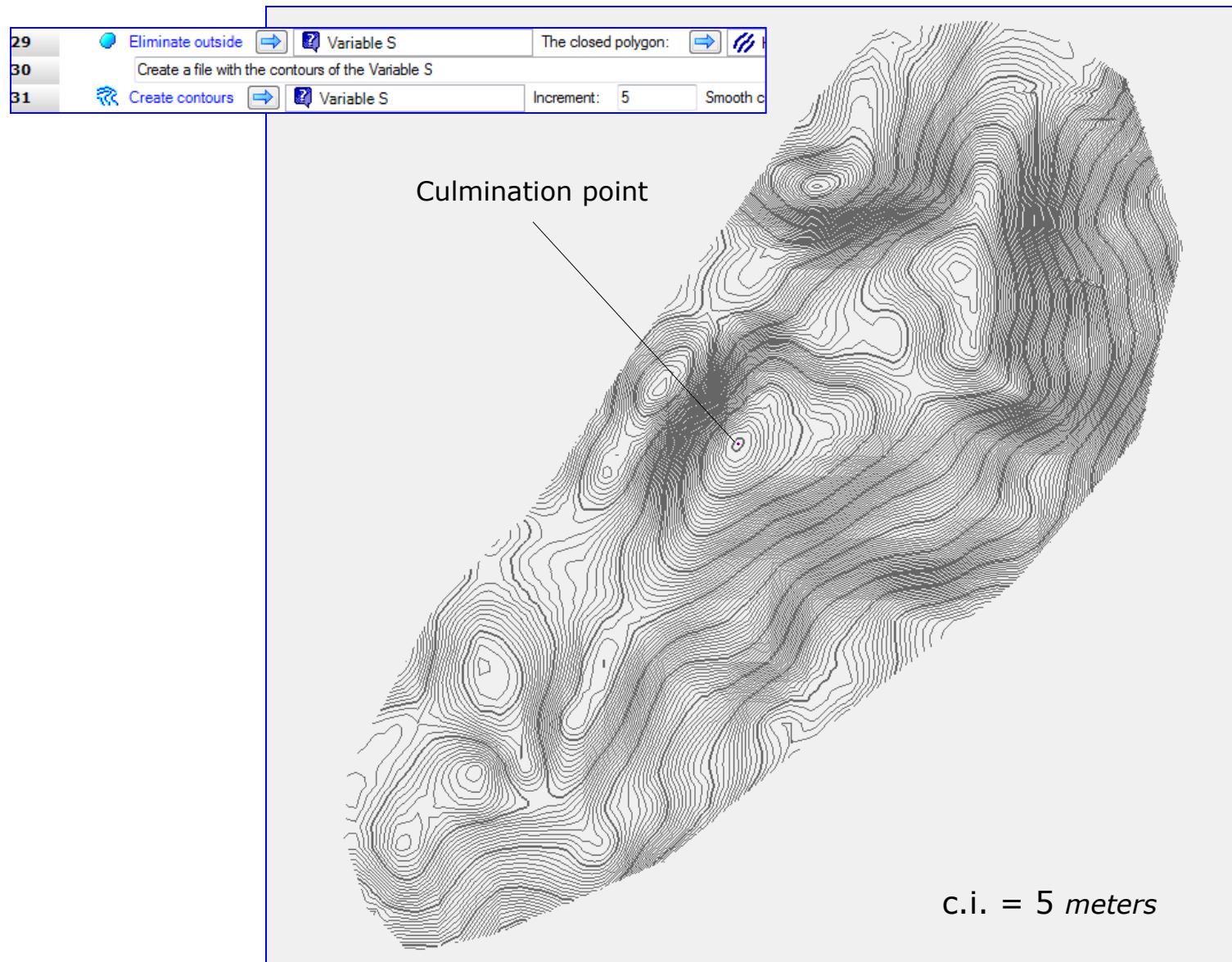
20	Get calculator name	\$AV		Variable Q
21	Get calculator name	\$TWT		Variable M
22	Get calculator name	\$Depth		Variable S
23	It calculates a Depth simulated map (s) form TWT deterministic map and AV simulated map (s) > 250 maps			
24	Surface calculator	Use filter	<input type="checkbox"/>	Expression or file: \$Depth=\$TWT*\$AV/2000



# Petrel – *Step 3* (Culmination point)



# Petrel – *Step 4* (Contours creation)

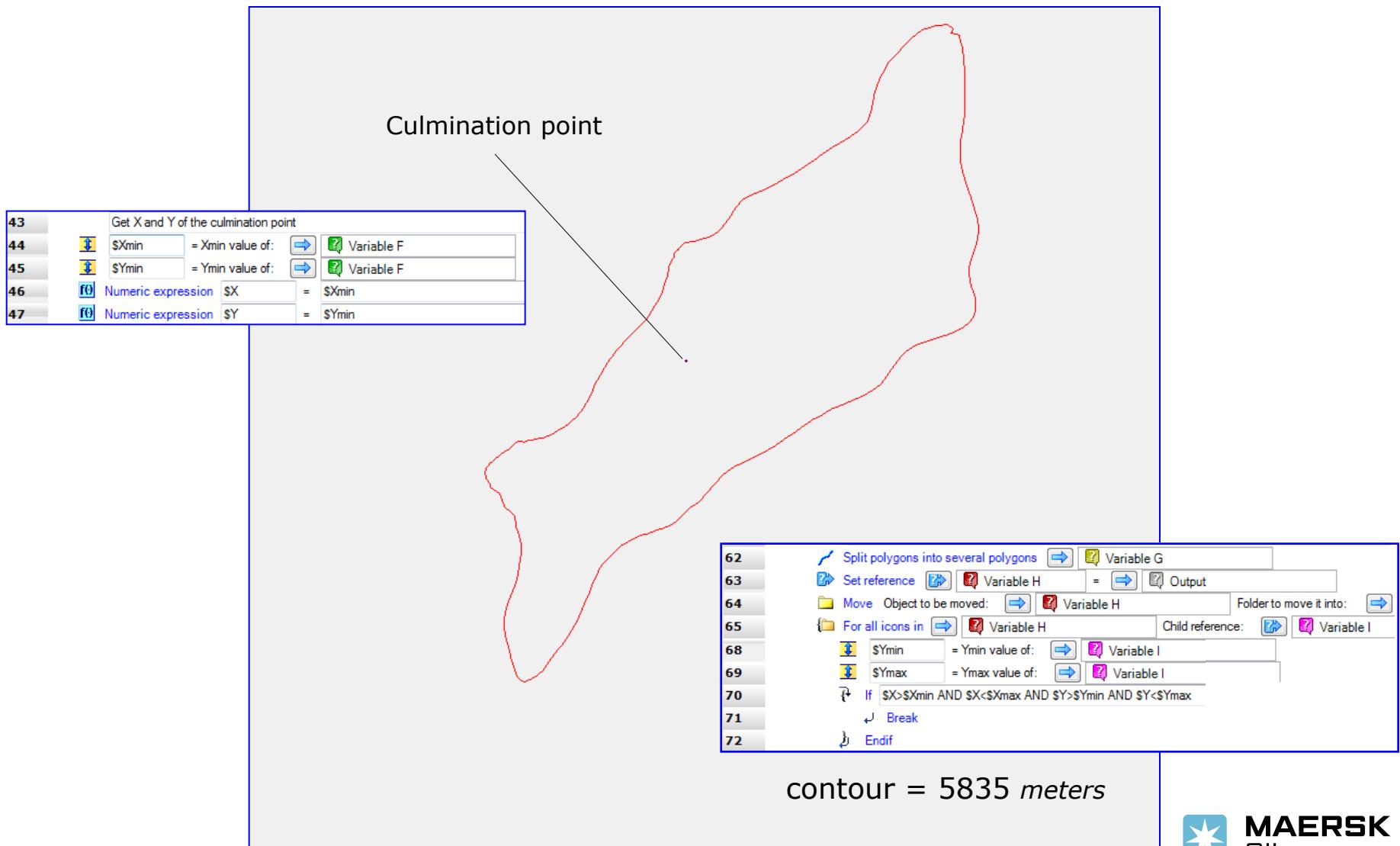


# Petrel – *Step 5* (One contour, $N$ meters)

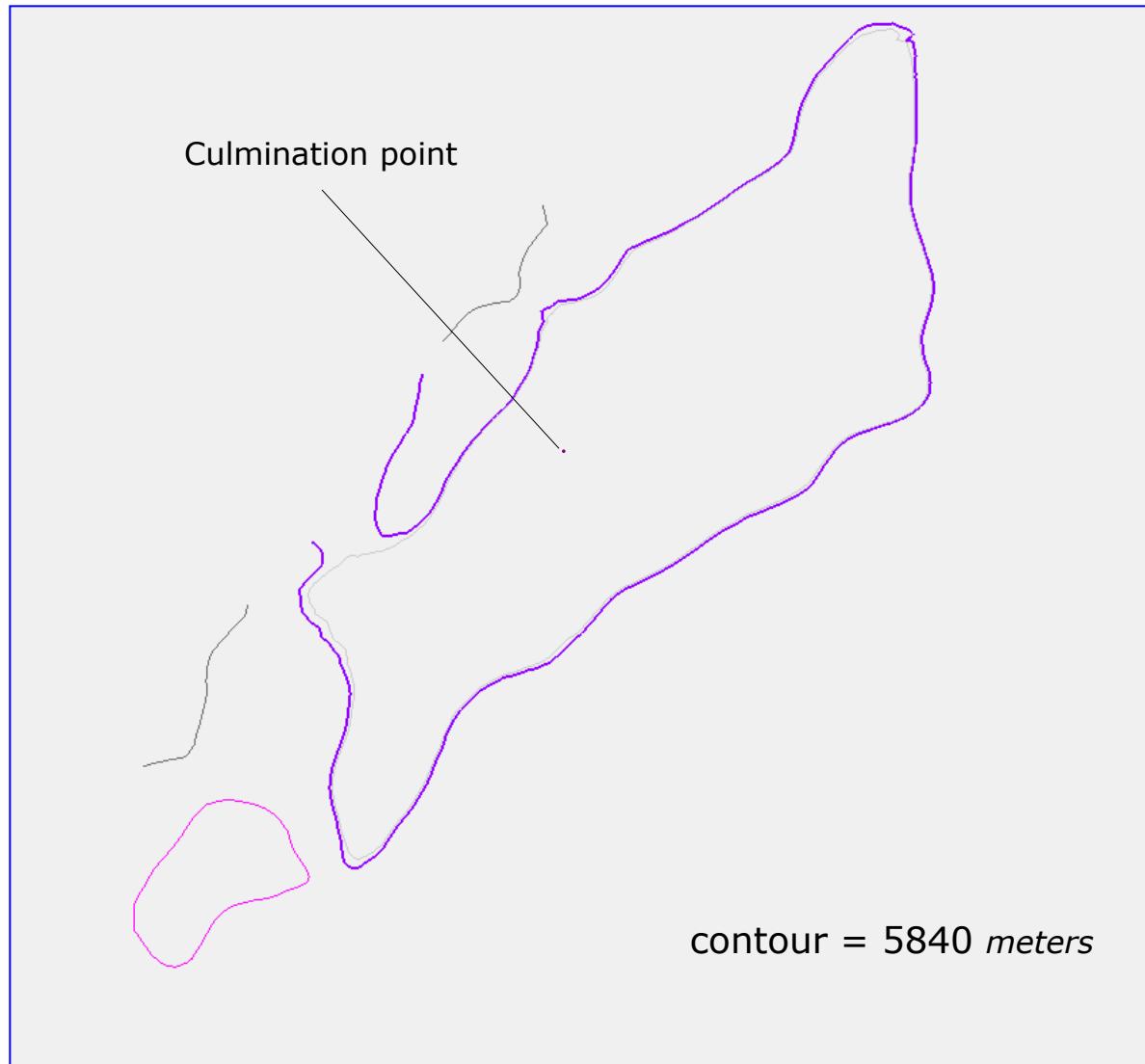
The figure shows a geological model in Petrel. A specific point on a contour is labeled "Culmination point". Below the model, a text box contains the text "contour = 5835 meters". To the right, a script editor window displays the following code:

```
50  ⌂ Loop Variable: $I From: 1 To: 1000
51  This loop has to be run for an undefined number of steps.
52
53  1000 is just a number big enough to check all the polygons (contours) from the top to the spill point.
54  ⌂ Copy A reference subject: ⌂ Variable G = ⌂ Variable E
55  ⌂ Numeric expression $C = $C-5
56  ⌂ Eliminate where Z > Constant ⌂ Variable G Constant: $C
57  ⌂ Eliminate where Z <= Constant ⌂ Variable G Constant: $C-5
      Variable C is made now by just 1 contour. Each step increase the polygon depth of 5 meters
```

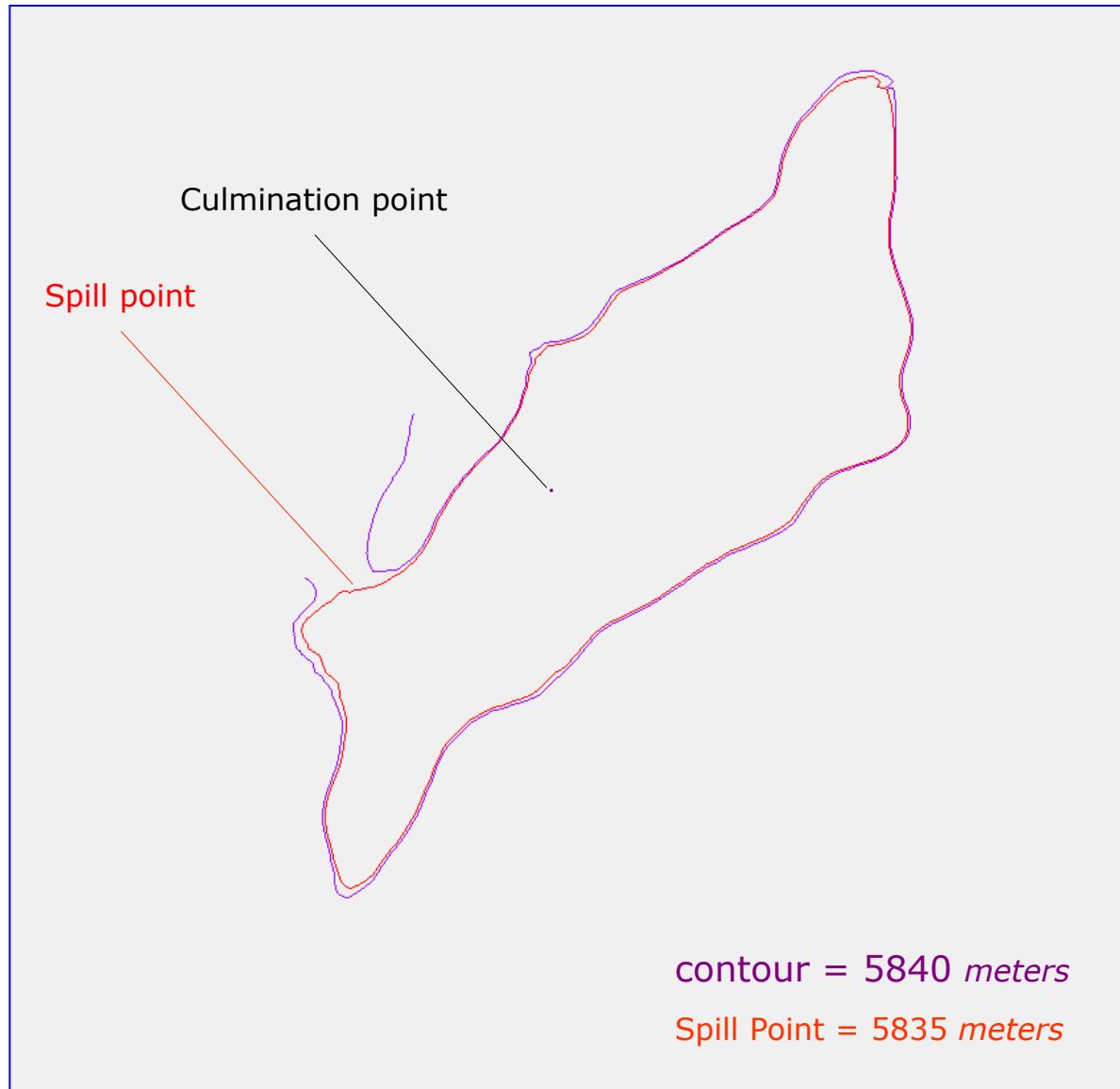
# Petrel – **Step 6** (Keep only the polygon containing the Culmination point)



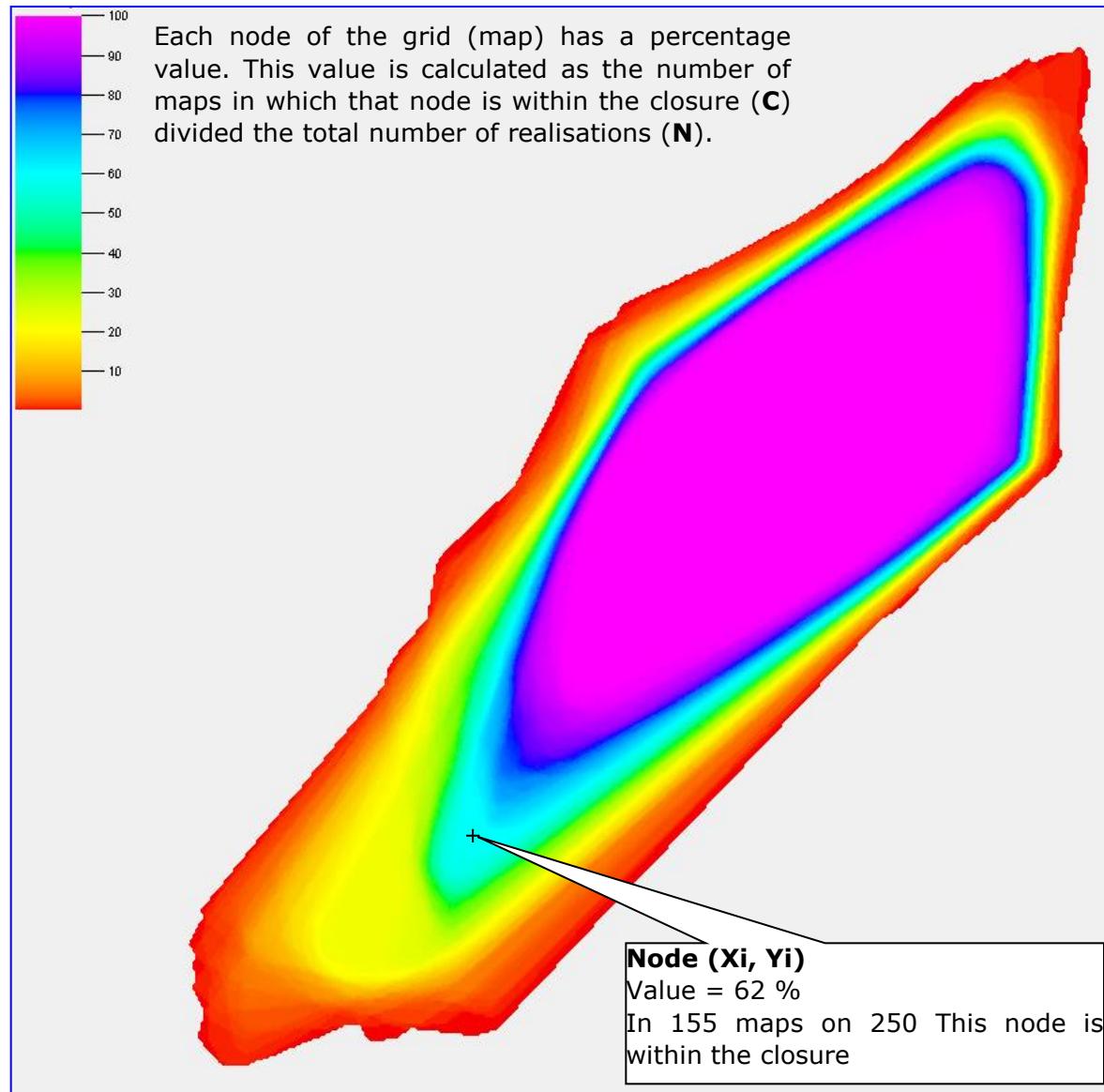
# Petrel – **Step 7** (If Area of that polygon is zero, then the contour is open)



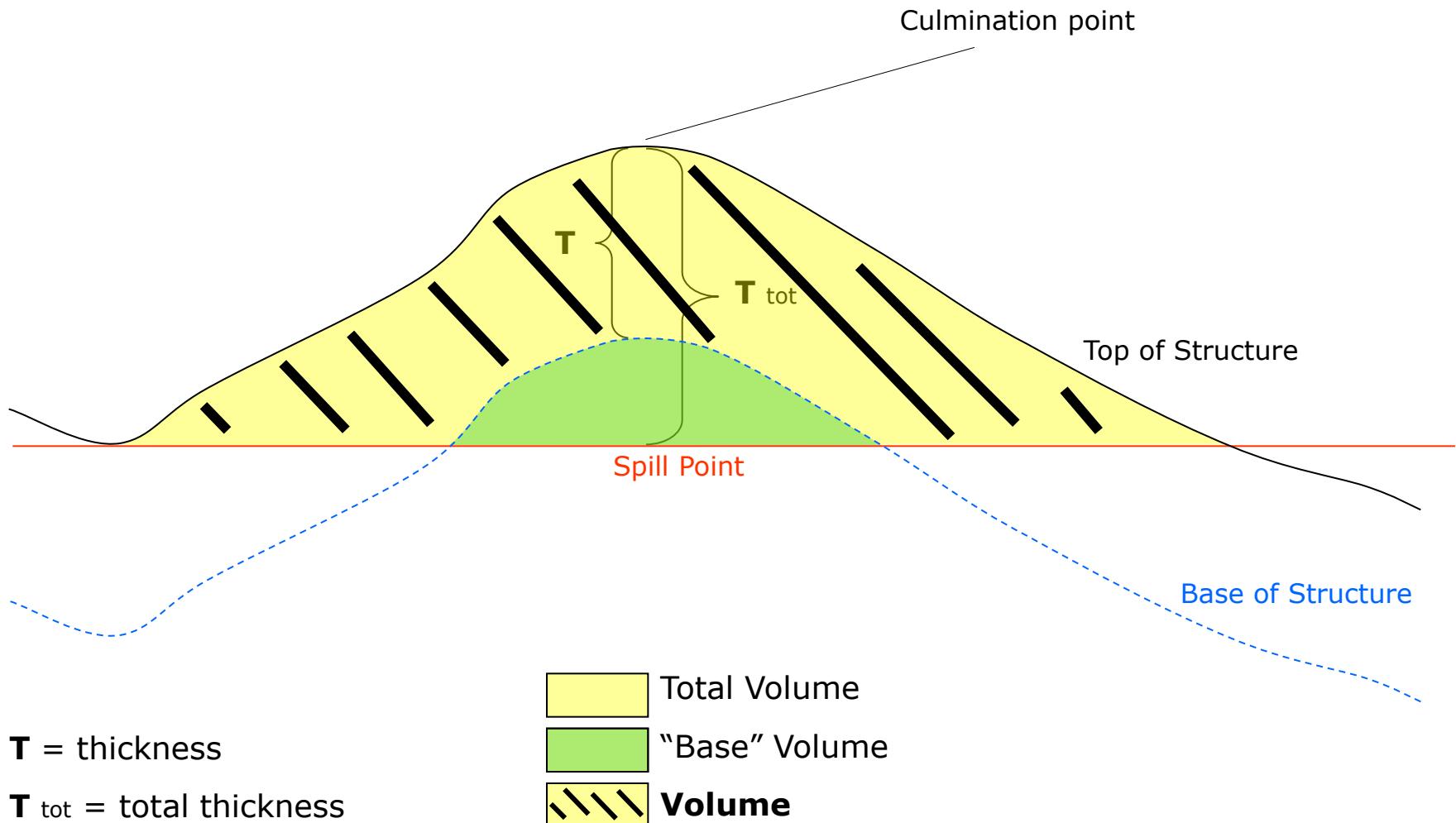
# Petrel – ***Step 8a*** (Calculation – Spill Point)



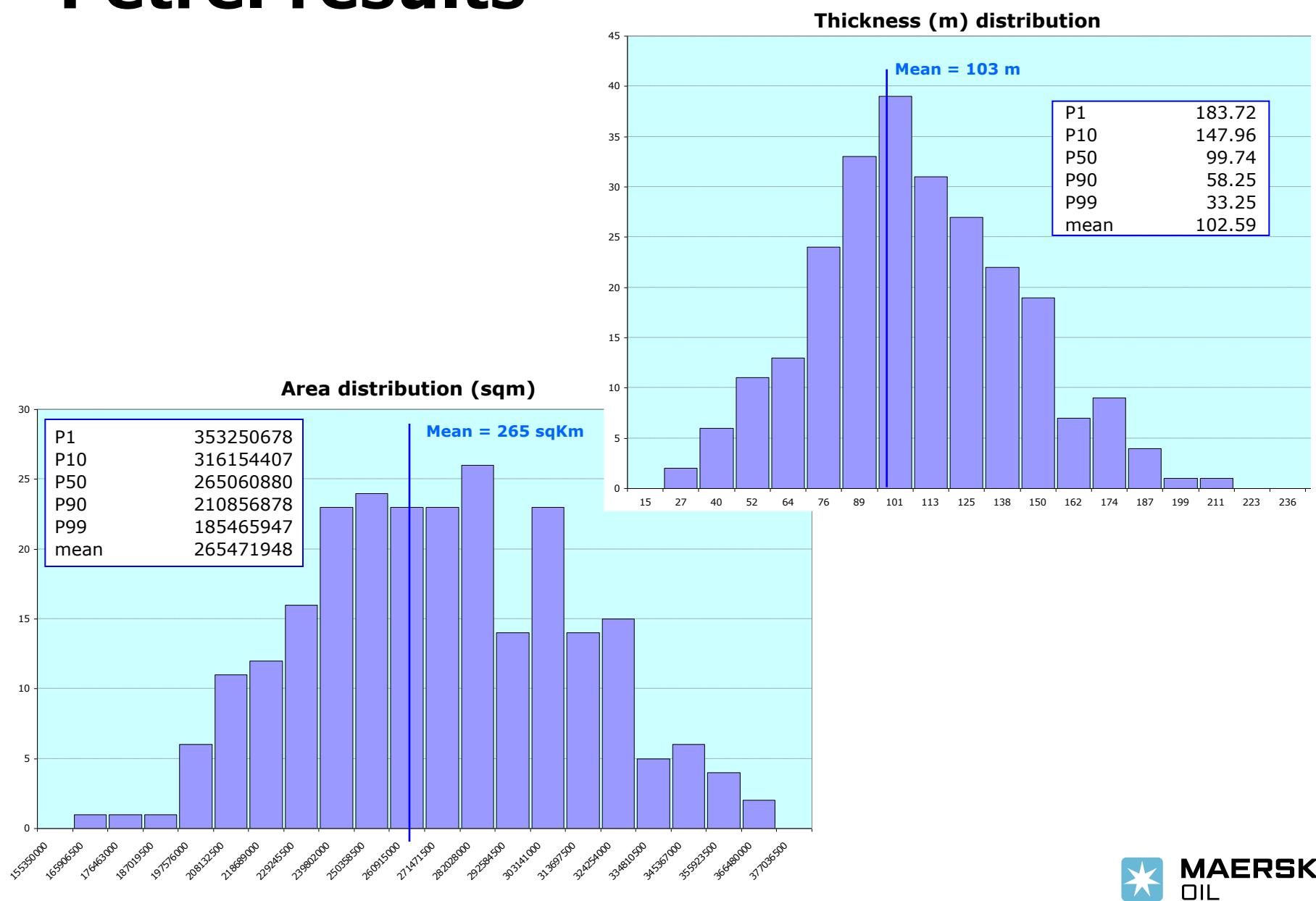
# Petrel – *Step 8b* (Isoprobability map)



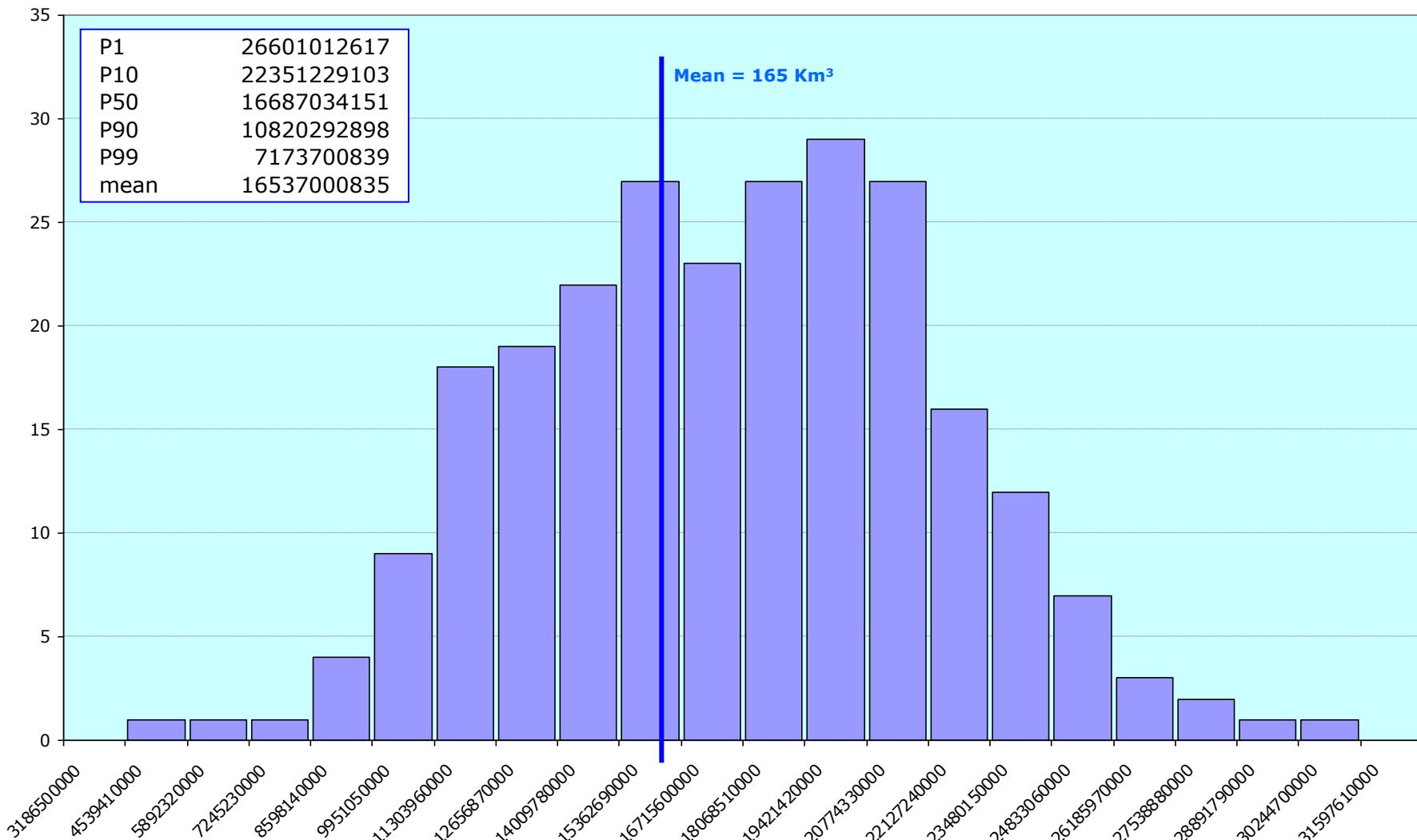
# Petrel – *Step 8c* (Calculation)



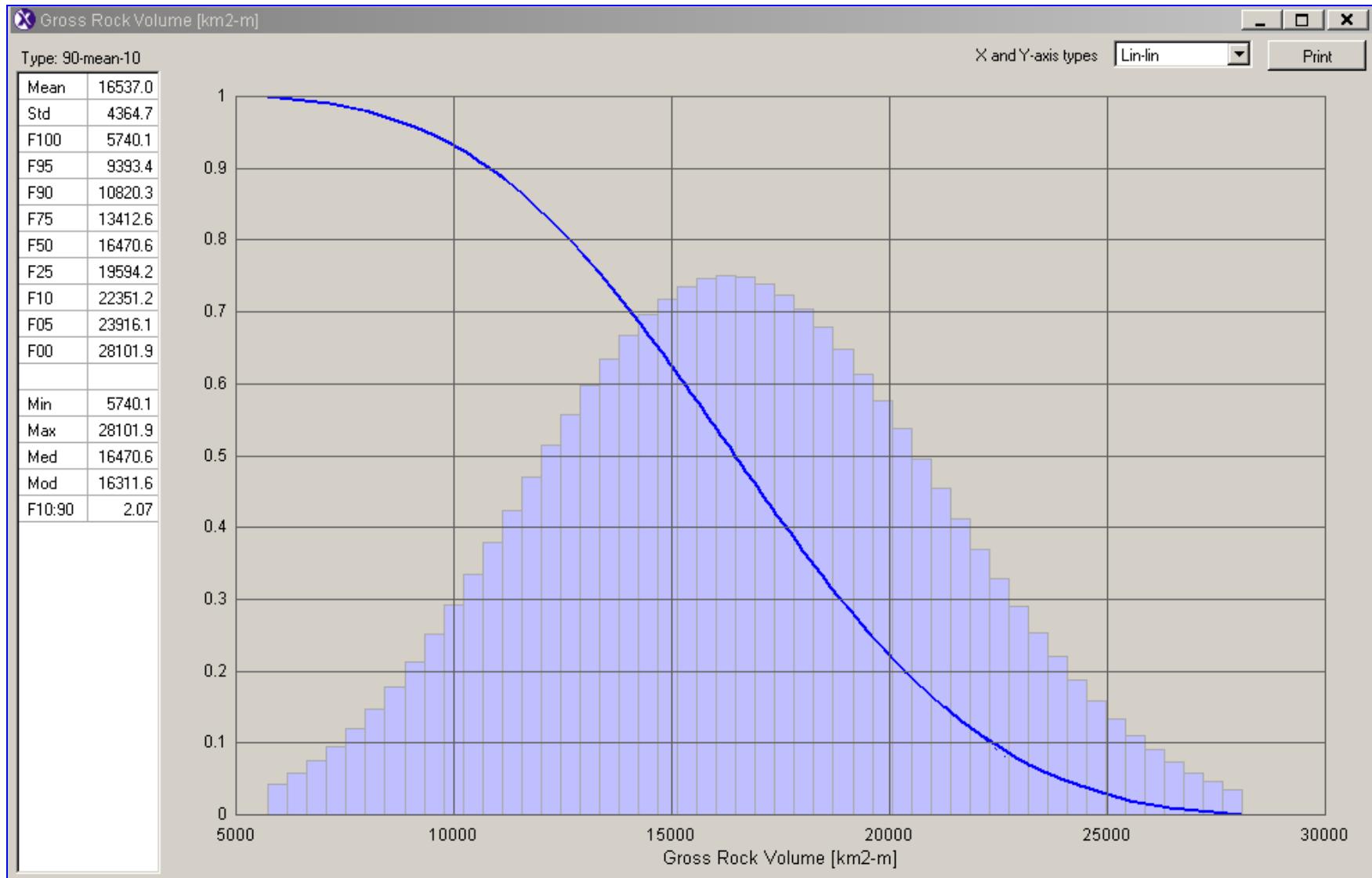
# Petrel results



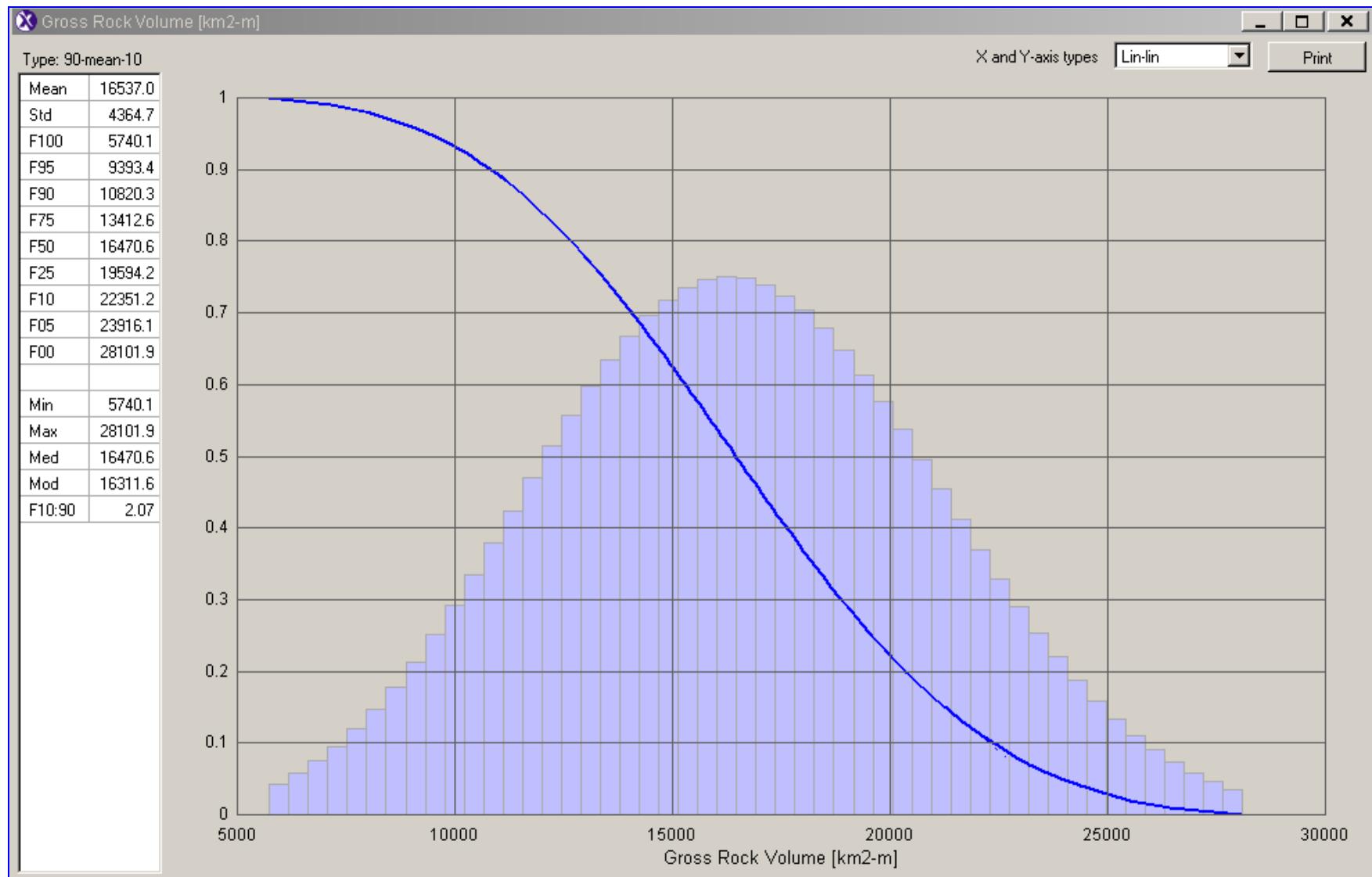
# Petrel results (GRV – m<sup>3</sup>)



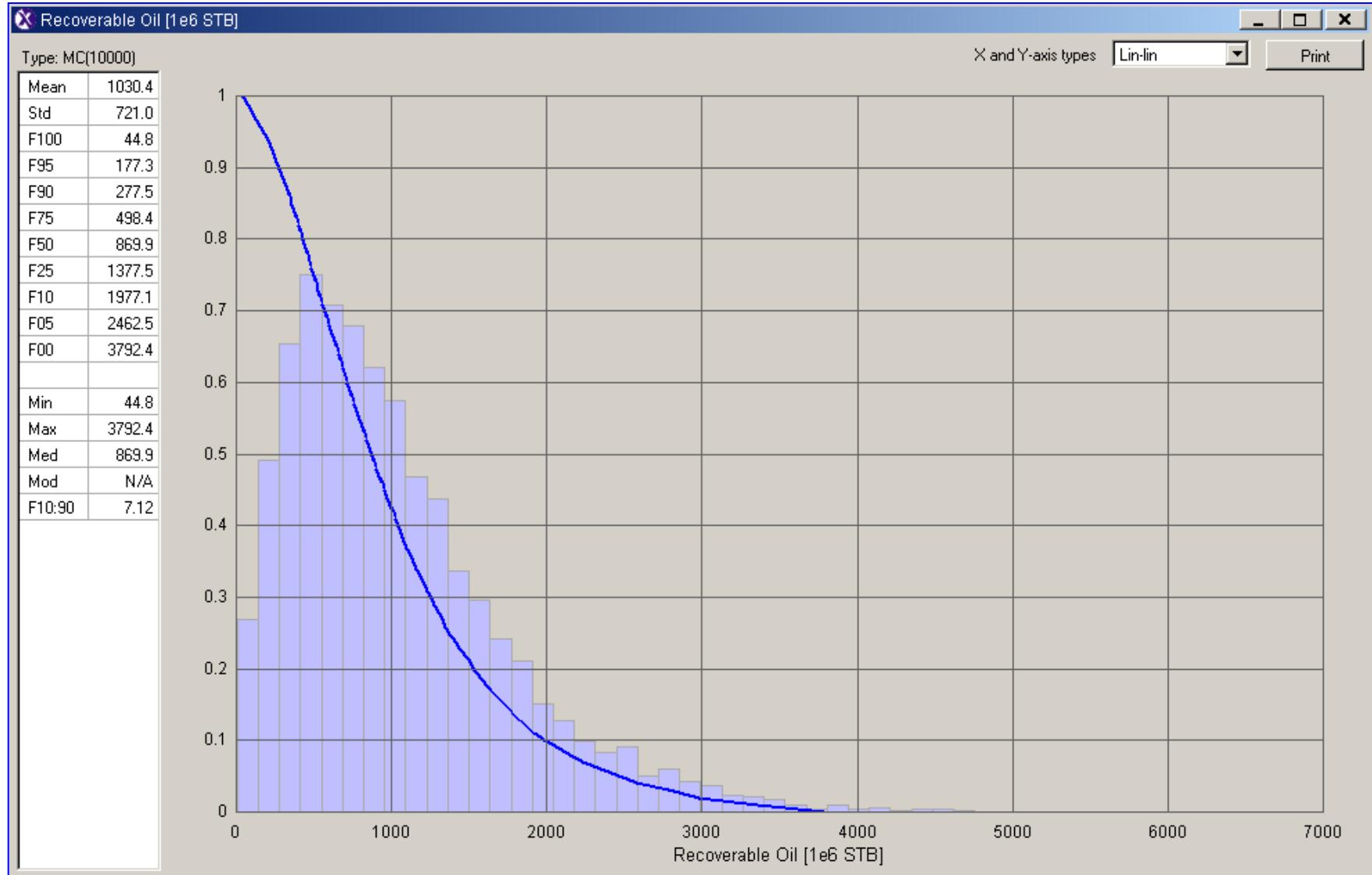
# GRV (Km<sup>2</sup>\*m) in GeoX



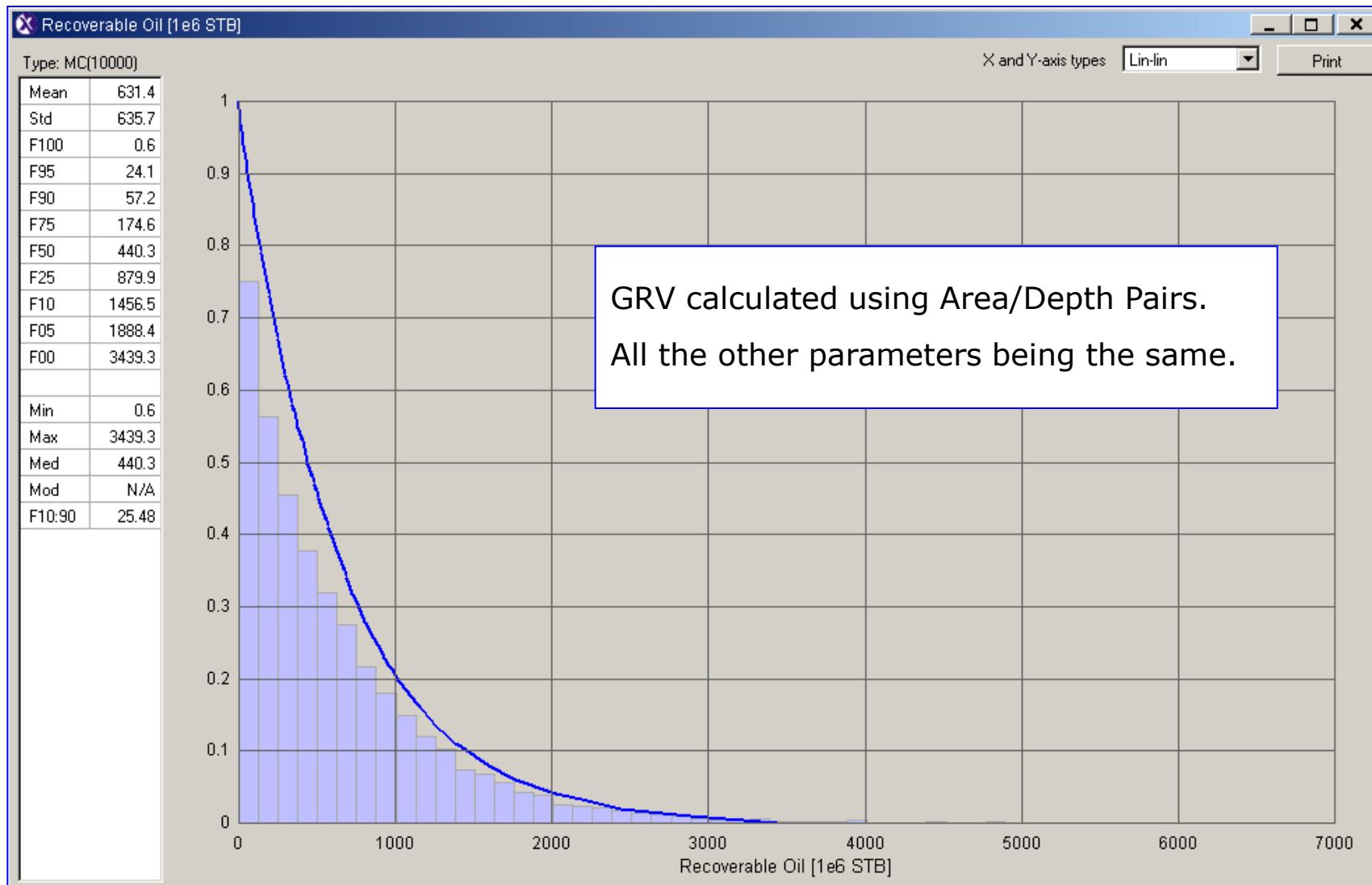
# GRV (Km<sup>2</sup>\*m) in GeoX



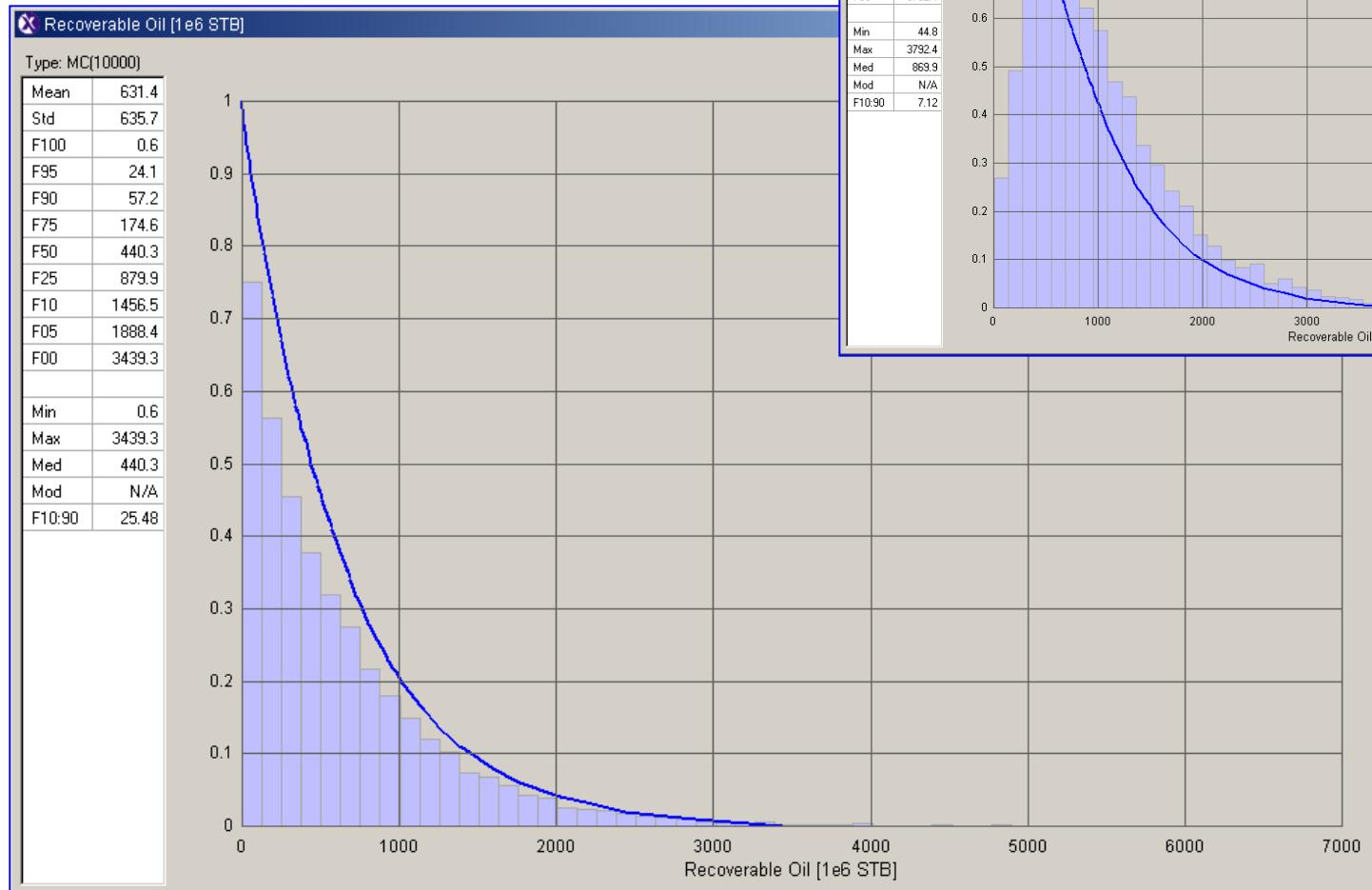
# Recoverable Resources in GeoX



# Area/Depth Pairs



# Petrel simulations vs. Area/Depth Pairs



# Open problems

- Faults position
- Compartmentalization (fault sealing)
- Connectivity

**ANY SUGGESTION ???**



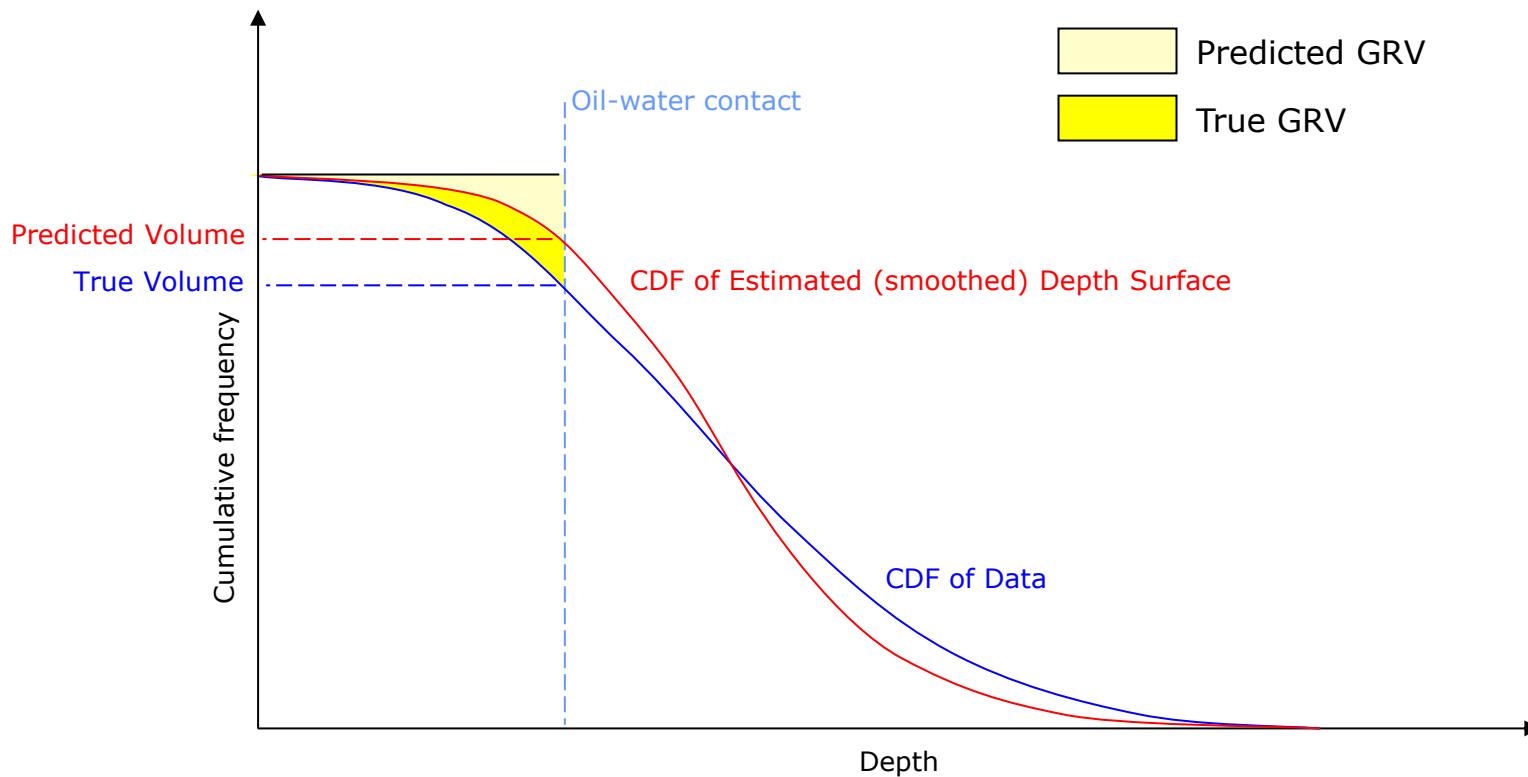
# **Back-up**

# Spillpoint and Degree of Fill

- Spillpoint: cannot be determined from a “deterministic” map
- Moving the spillpoint shallower on a “deterministic” map is really changing the degree of fill. It is not reflecting the uncertainty of the structure such as would be obtained by contouring it differently
- Moving the spillpoint deeper than the lowest closing contour on a “deterministic” map is a contradiction because the structure would spill, hence the arbitrary extrapolation of area/depth curves



# Smoothing of the Cumulative Distribution Function (CDF)



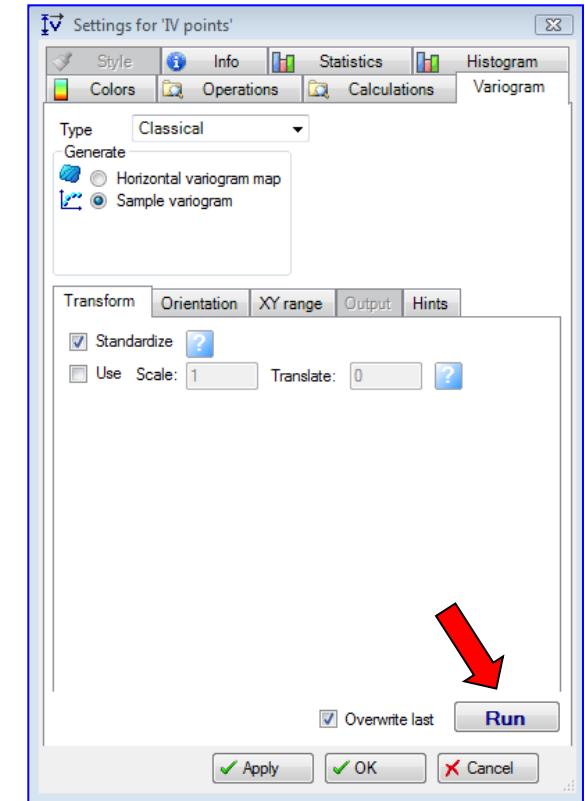
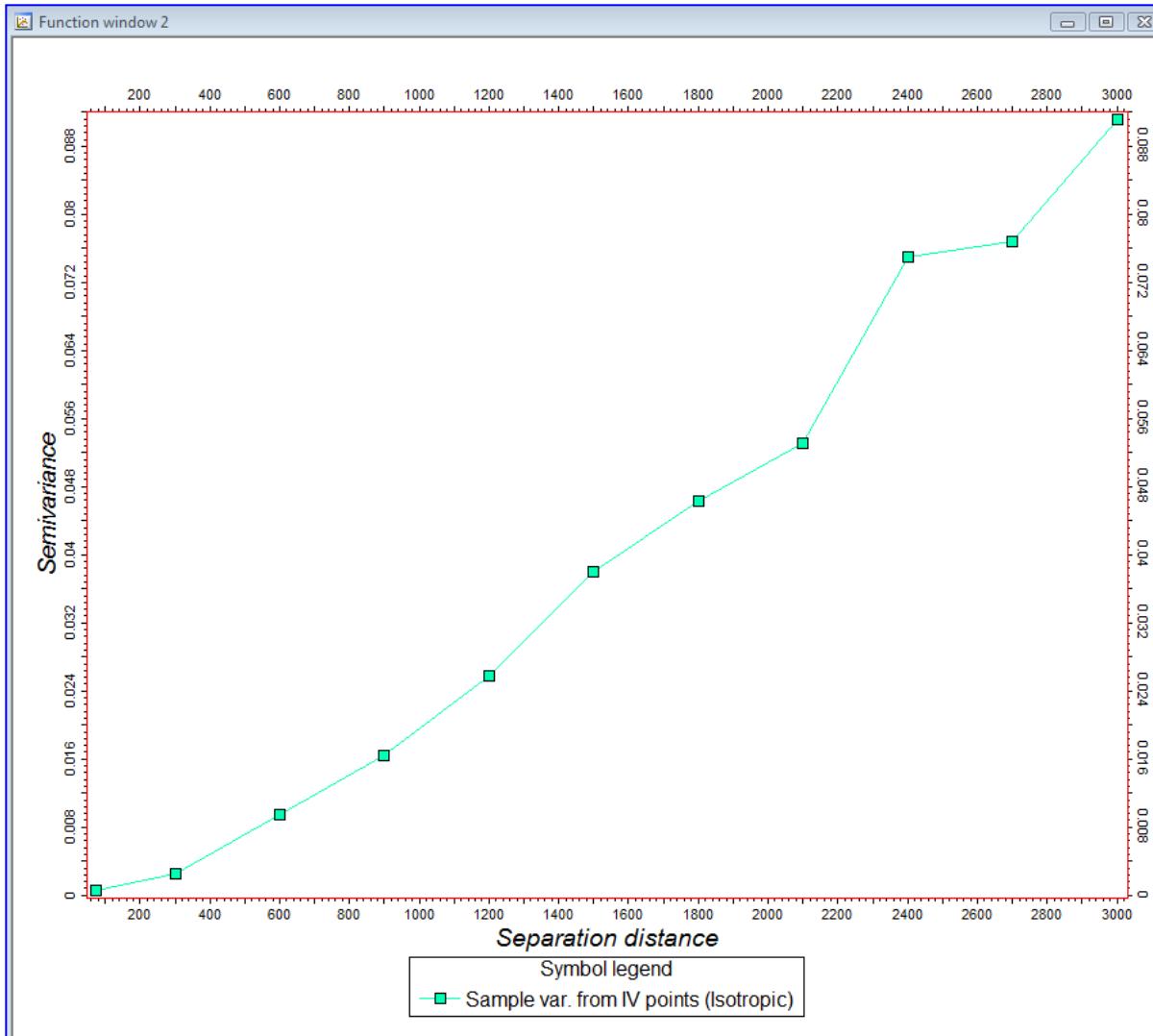
**Consequence of smoothing > Volume generally underestimated**

**The estimation is biased**

**Kriging is unbiased – positive and negative errors cancel out of average**

# Geostatistical Analysis (1)

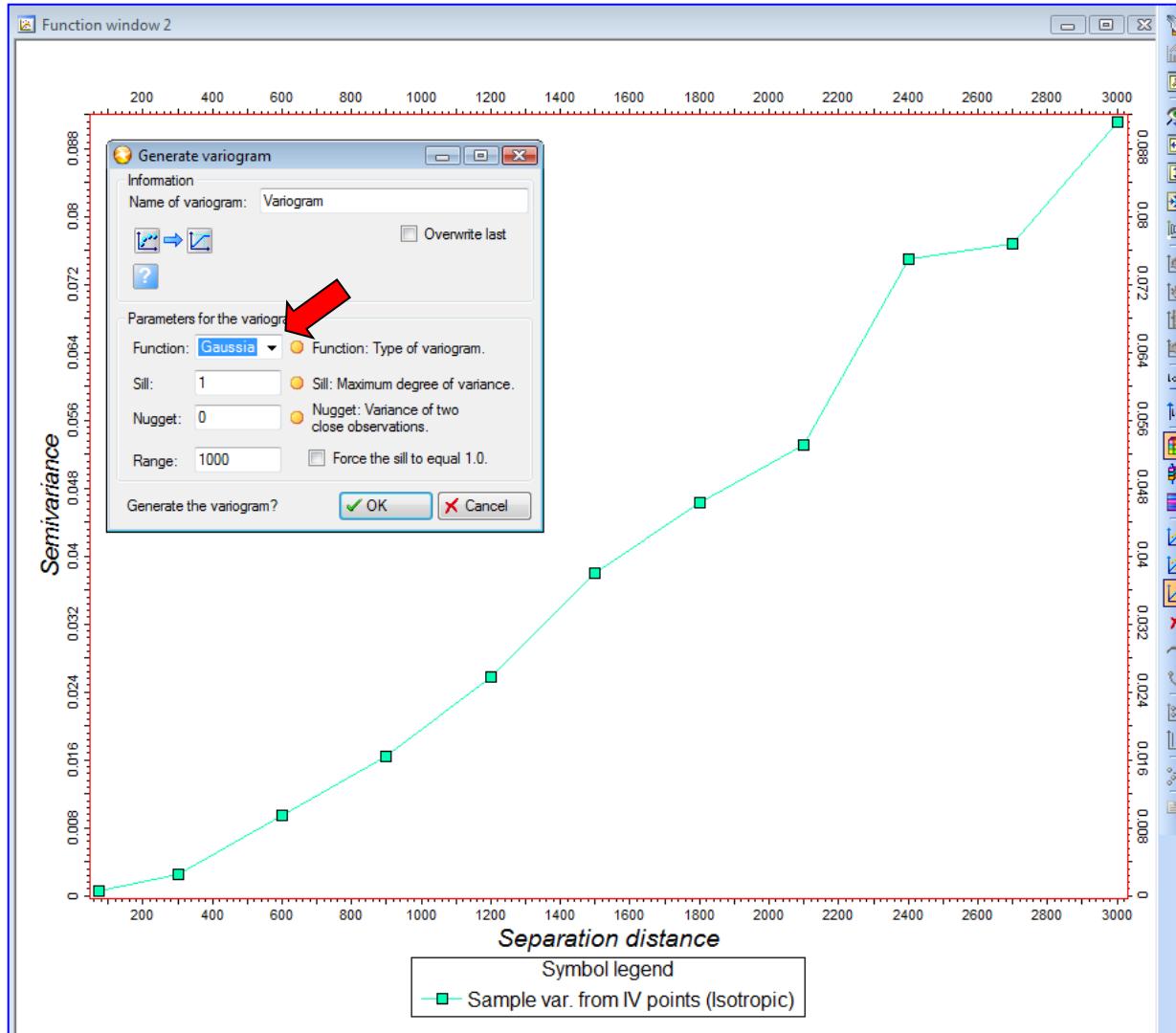
## Experimental Semi-Variogram



Open the Variogram tab in the setting window of the IV points and run it. The spatial correlation of the input data is calculated.

# Geostatistical Analysis (2)

## Theoretical Semi-Variogram



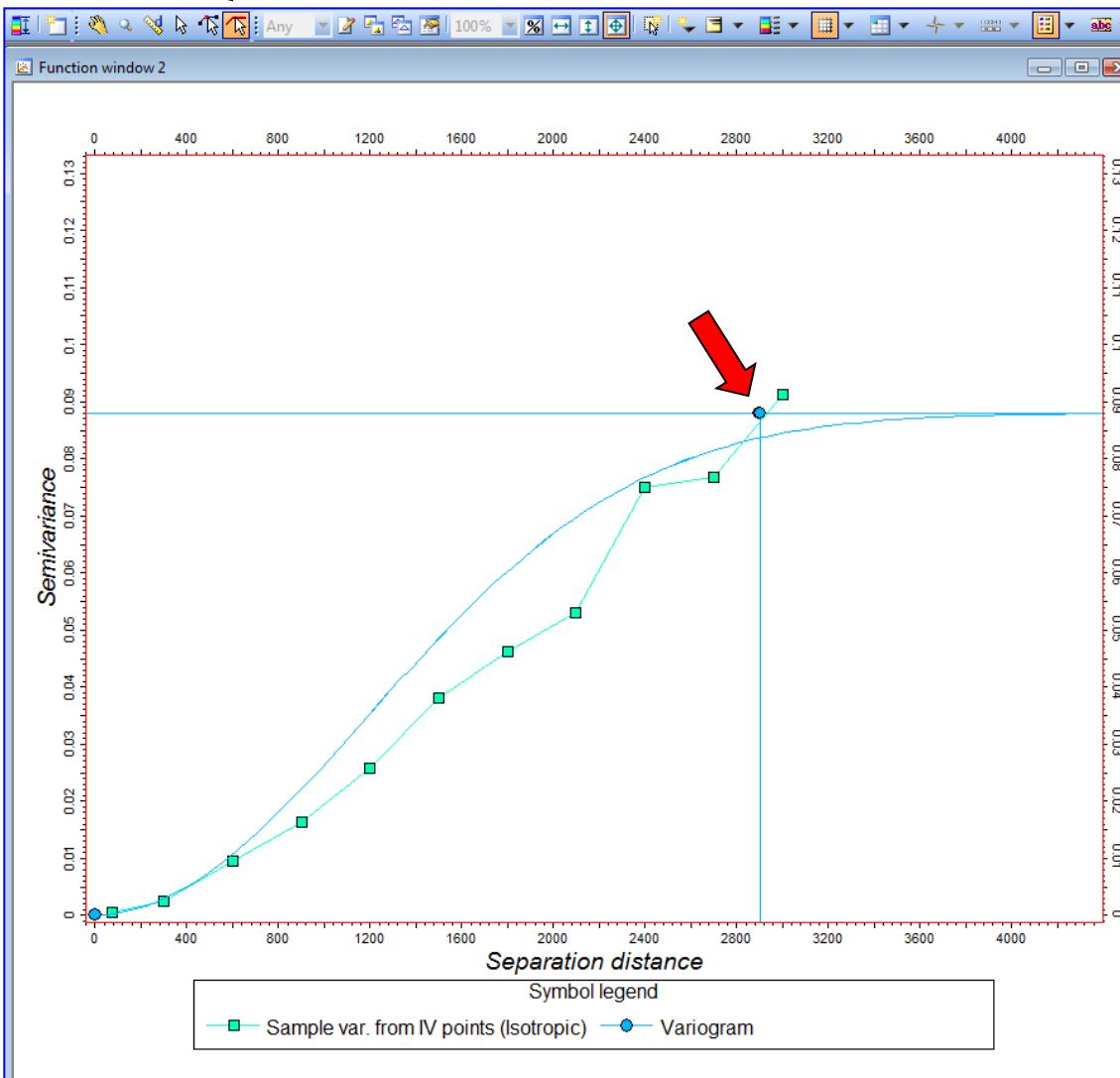
Create a NEW Variogram and set initial parameters. The main choice is between the type of Variogram:

- 1) Gaussian
- 2) Exponential
- 3) Spherical

Select the one that better reproduce the experimental trend.

# Geostatistical Analysis (3)

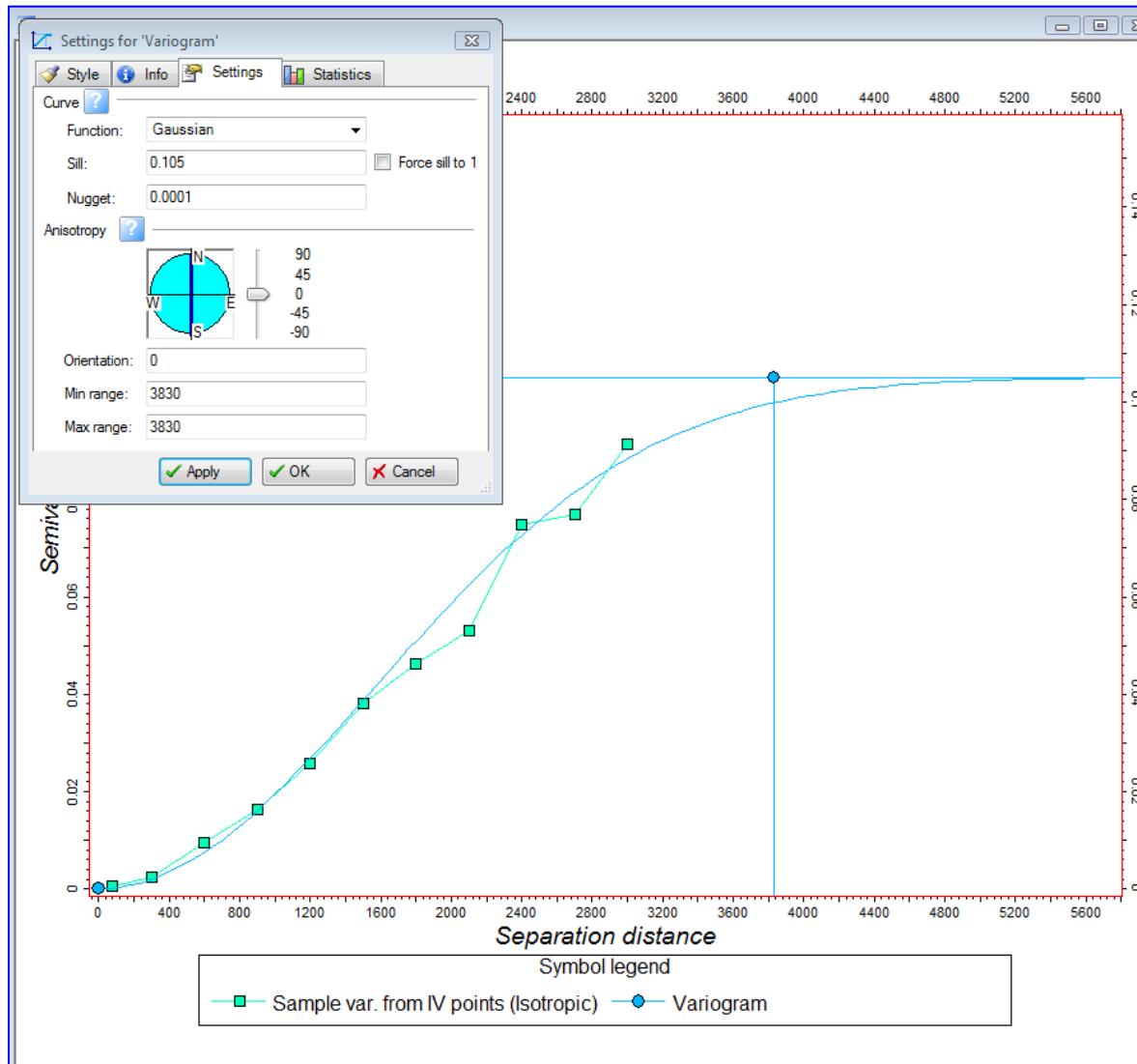
## Theoretical Semi-Variogram



Fit the theoretical Variogram to the experimental value using the tool indicated by the red arrow and drag the blue point.

# Geostatistical Analysis (4)

## Theoretical Semi-Variogram



Finalize the parameters:

- 1) Range
- 2) Sill
- 3) Nugget