

# OPPORTUNITY CRUDES: TO PROCESS OR NOT TO PROCESS?

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**HYDROCARBON PUBLISHING COMPANY**

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# OUTLINE

## Part 1

- Definition of opportunity crudes
- Drivers
- Concerns

## Part 2

- Technology solutions
- Refinery approaches
- Future outlooks



# WHAT ARE OPPORTUNITY CRUDES?

- Heavy, sour ( $<26^{\circ}\text{API}$ ,  $>1$  wt% sulfur)
  - e.g., Bachaquero (Venezuela), Maya (Mexico)
- Extra-heavy ( $<15^{\circ}\text{API}$ )
  - e.g., Athabasca bitumen (Canada), Orinoco (Venezuela)
- High-TAN ( $>0.5\text{mg KOH/g oil}$ )
  - e.g., Alba (North Sea), Duri (Indonesia)

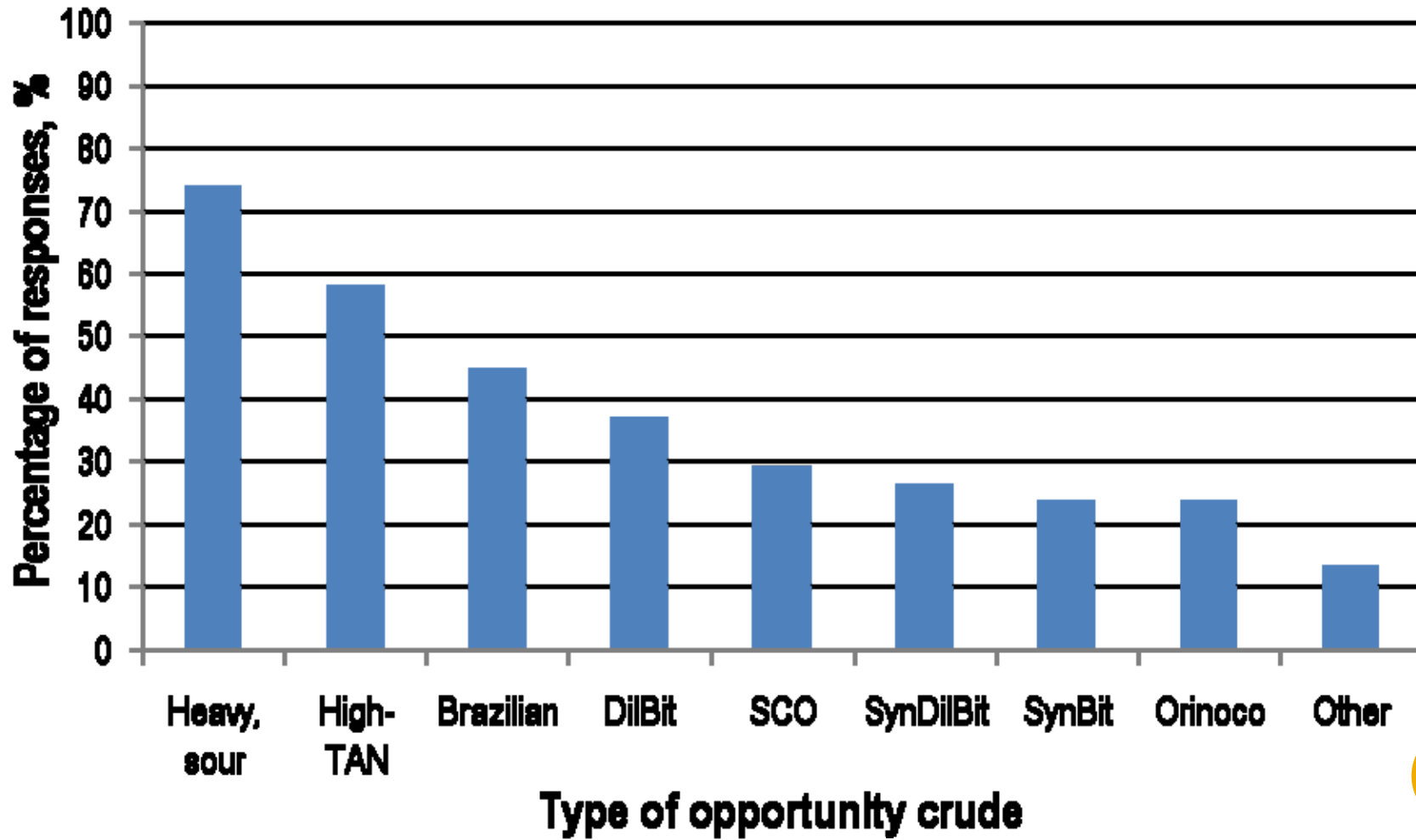


# OPPORTUNITY CRUDES 2011 SURVEY

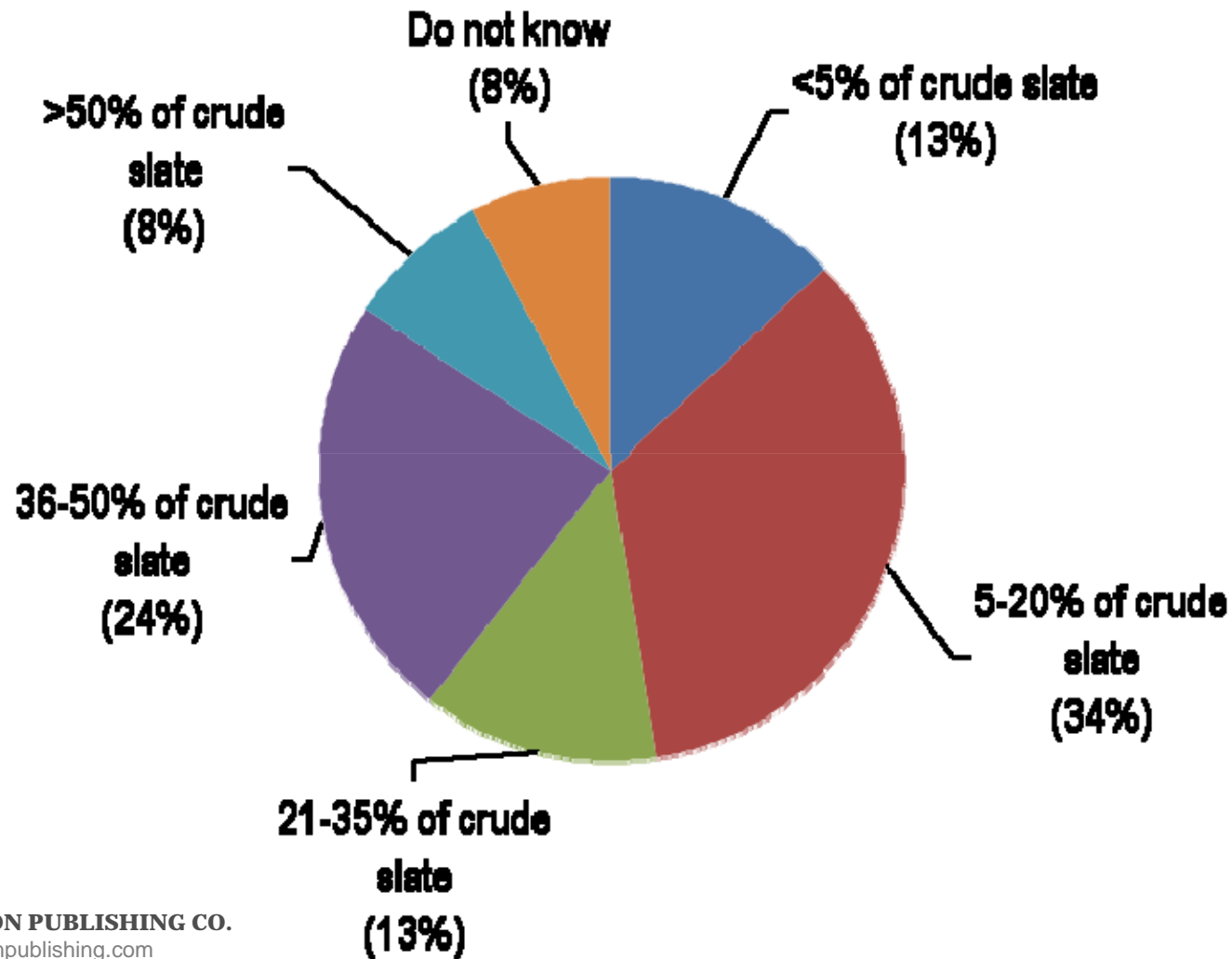
- Timeframe: End of 2010 to early 2011
- Participants:
  - Refineries with capacities >25K b/d
  - Including refineries in North America, South America, Europe, Asia, the Middle East, and Africa



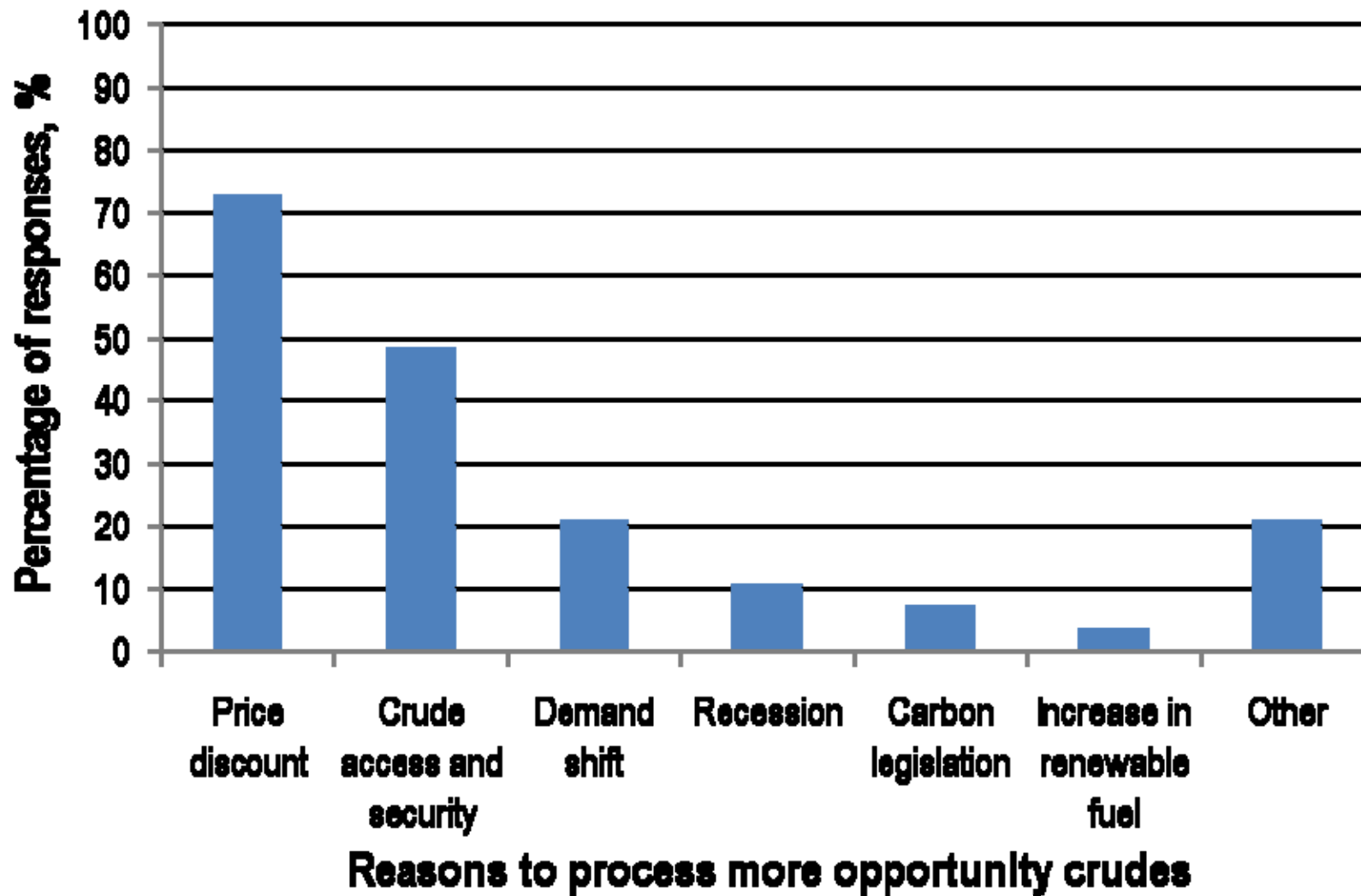
# SURVEY RESULTS: TYPES OF OPCRUDES PROCESSED



# SURVEY RESULTS: AMOUNT OF OPCRUDES PROCESSED



# SURVEY RESULTS: DRIVERS FOR PROCESSING OPCRUDES



# DRIVERS FOR PROCESSING OPCRUDES

## Survey Results

- Lower crude costs
- Accessibility and stability of supply

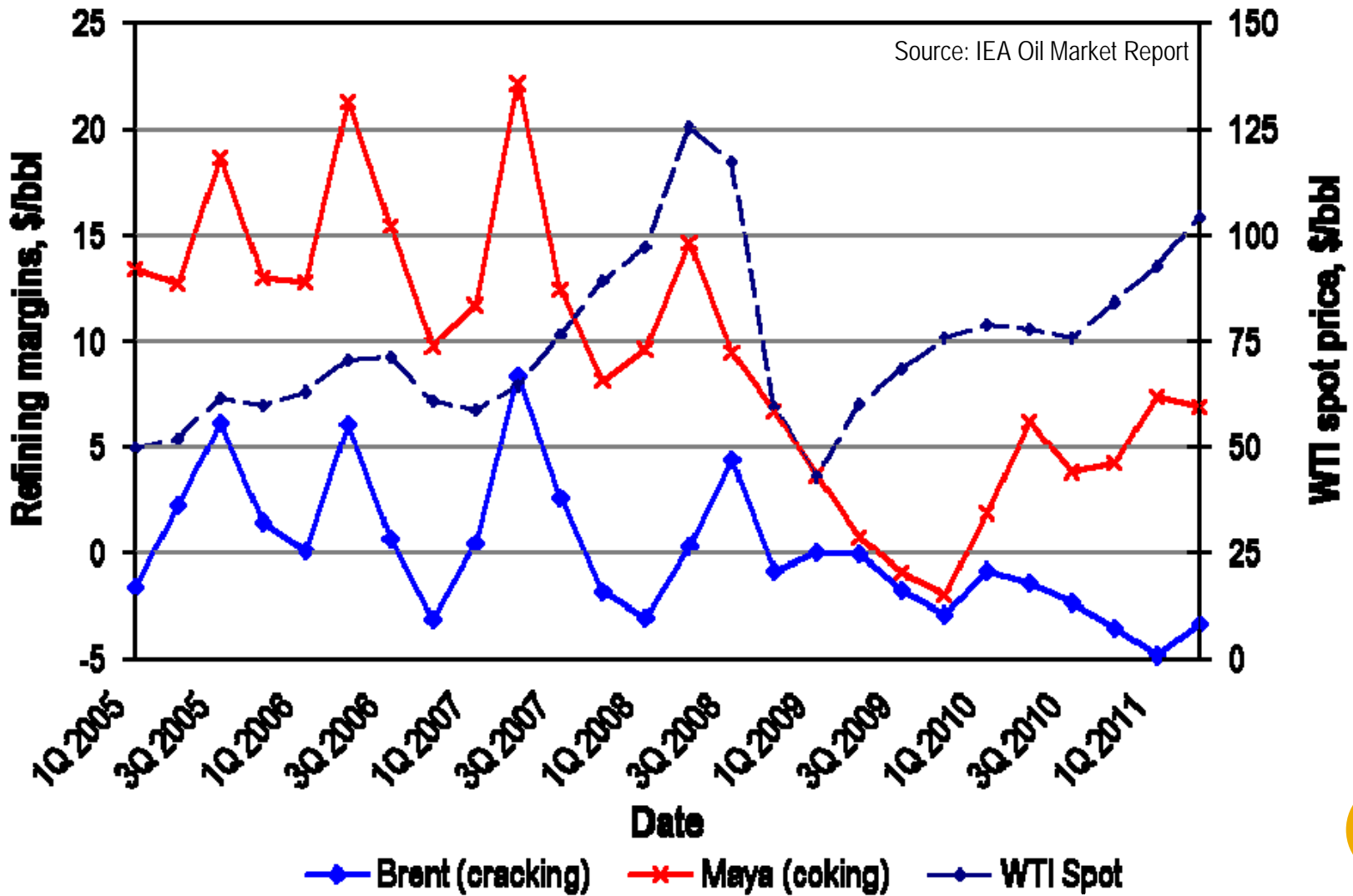
## Additional Drivers

- Higher diesel yield
- Increased propylene production
- Increased coking vs. cracking margins

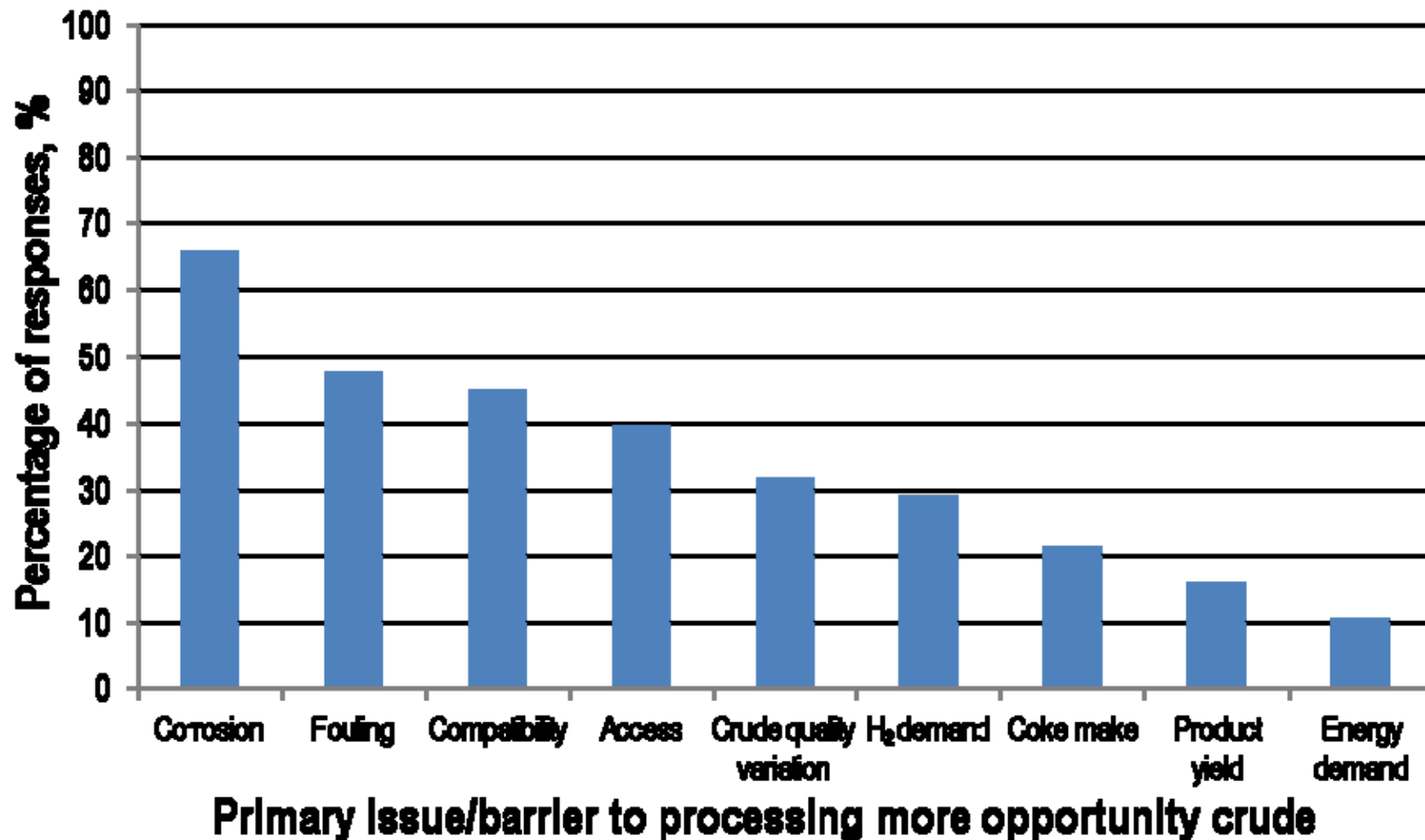




# COKING VS. CRACKING MARGINS



# SURVEY RESULTS: BARRIERS TO PROCESSING OPCRUDES



# BARRIERS TO PROCESSING OPCRUDES

## Survey Results

- Increased fouling and corrosion
- Crude compatibility
- Accessibility of opportunity crudes

## Additional Barriers

- Production of more high sulfur fuel oil
- Increased CO<sub>2</sub> emissions



# TO SUCCESSFULLY PROCESS OPPORTUNITY CRUDES:

- Minimize fouling
- Minimize corrosion
- Convert additional resid material
- Make the products that are in demand
  - Reduce production of high sulfur fuel oil
  - Increase diesel production
  - Consider increasing propylene yield



# SOLUTIONS FOR FOULING

- Maintain flowrates above 5 ft/s in heat exchangers
- Antifoulant chemicals
- Tube inserts
- Install welded plate heat exchangers
- Utilize programs to monitor stability and optimize cleaning schedules

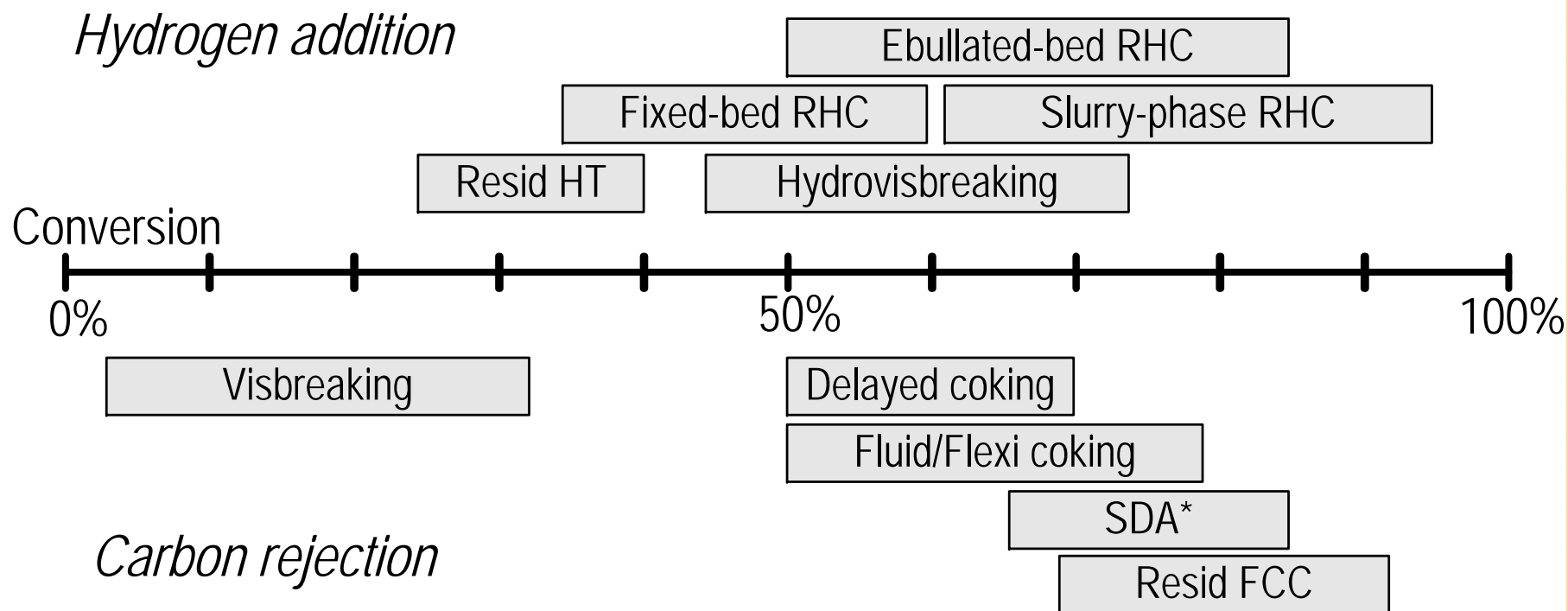


# SOLUTIONS FOR CORROSION

- Monitor desalter operations closely
- Additives
  - Phosphorous vs. phosphorous-free additives
- Upgrade metallurgy
  - Particularly useful in high velocity, turbulent areas
  - Higher Mo content increases resistance to naphthenic acid corrosion
  - Higher Cr content increases resistance to sulfidic corrosion



# TECHNOLOGIES FOR UPGRADING RESID



\*Deasphalting provides physical separation rather than conversion



# OPTIONS FOR HANDLING RESID (1)

- Fluid catalytic cracker
  - Adjust catalyst composition (\$)
  - Add a catalyst cooler (\$\$)
  - Add a resid HT unit to pretreat the feed (\$\$\$)
- Hydrocracker
  - Increase hydrogen partial pressure (\$)
  - Adjust catalyst composition (\$\$)
  - Add an additional HC stage (\$\$\$)





# OPTIONS FOR HANDLING RESID (2)

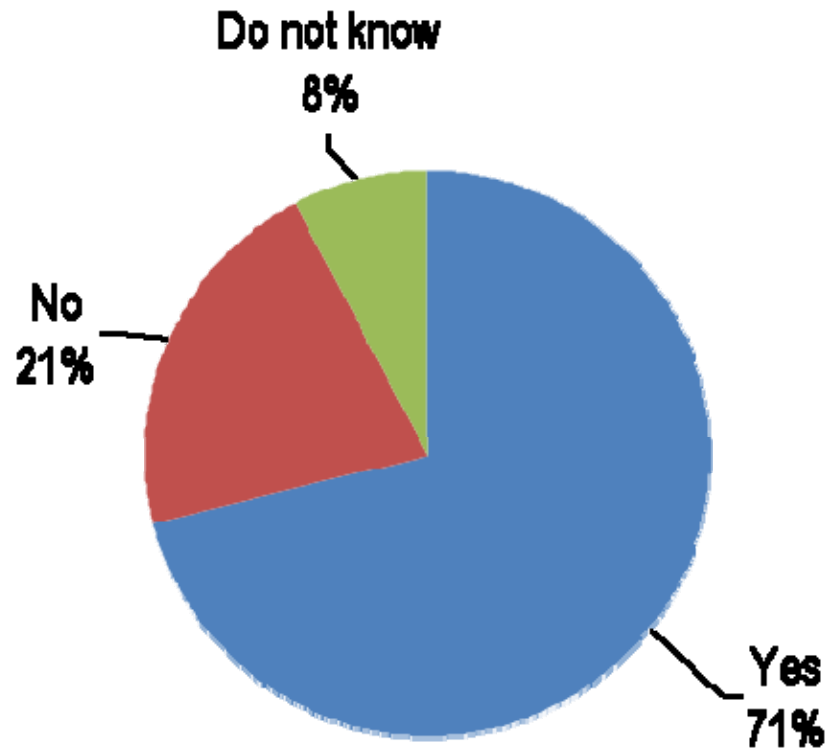
## ○ Coker

- Reduce pressure/optimize temperature (\$)
- Minimize recycle ratio (\$-\$\$)
- Install larger or additional coke drums (\$\$\$)
- Consider an SDA or visbreaker to reduce feed to coker (\$\$\$)



# SURVEY RESULTS: APPROACH TO PROCESSING OPPORTUNITY CRUDES

Has your refinery performed a major revamp to process opportunity crudes?



# TO PROCESS OR NOT TO PROCESS?

## Pros

- Lower crude costs
- Coking margins > cracking margins
- Dieselization trend
- Rising propylene demand
- Growing supplies of unconventional crudes
- Higher worldwide crude demand

## Cons

- Lower demand for HSFO
- Higher processing costs
- Climate change legislation
- Increasing use of biofuels
- Higher vehicle fuel efficiency
- Increasing supplies of shale oil and NG condensates



# FUTURE OUTLOOK

- Opportunity crudes will be an important part of refinery crude slates going forward
- Keys to success include:
  - Proactive measures to reduce fouling and corrosion
  - Maximize diesel production
  - Minimize HSFO yield
  - Increase propylene
  - Monitoring CO<sub>2</sub> emissions



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- Much of the information in this presentation is from HPC's recent report titled *Opportunity Crudes II: Technologies & Strategies for Meeting Evolving Market & Environmental Challenges*
- Special thanks to the following HPC staff:
  - Pat Christensen
  - Thomas Garrett
  - Brett Goldhammer
  - Thomas Yeung



# Opportunity Crudes II: Technologies & Strategies for Meeting Evolving Market & Environmental Challenges

[www.hydrocarbonpublishing.com/Report2011](http://www.hydrocarbonpublishing.com/Report2011)

## Report analyzes:

- Market and legislative conditions affecting opportunity crudes
- Technologies to minimize **corrosion, fouling, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions & HSFO** and to maximize **diesel & propylene**
- Three investment levels:
  - Low cost – primarily operational adjustments
  - Medium cost – revamps and modifications to existing equipment
  - High cost – addition of new process units
- Direct survey results and literature study to identify company strategies
- Specific strategies based on refinery configuration or location

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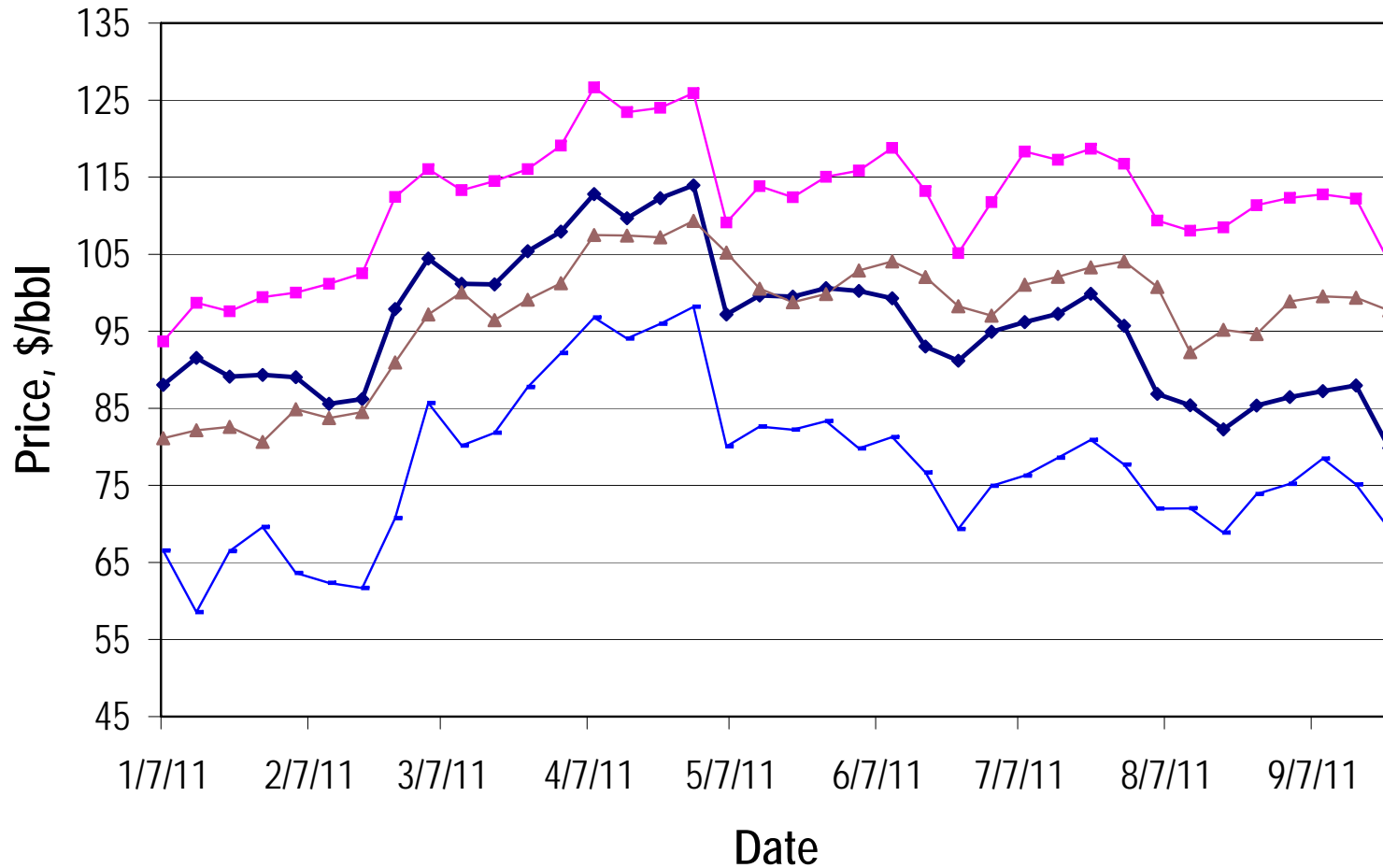


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# CRUDE PRICES

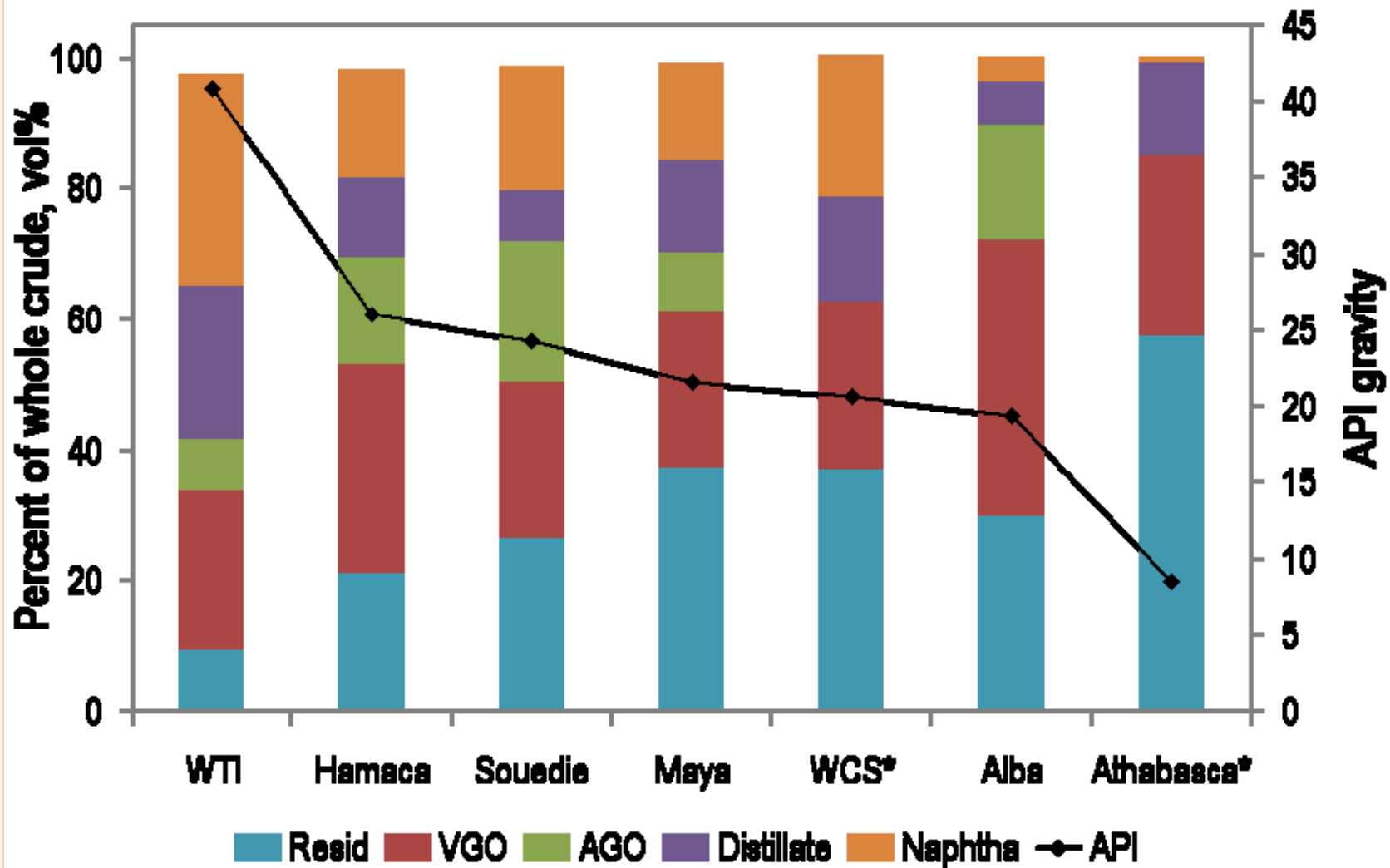


◆ West Texas Intermediate, US 
 ▲ Maya, Mexico 
 ■ Western Canada Select 
 ■ Brent, UK





# HIGHER DISTILLATE PRODUCING FRACTIONS



\*AGO is divided between distillate and VGO