

# HYDROCARBON FLUID CLASSIFICATION



<b>Bituman</b>	$4 < ^\circ\text{API} < 10$ $R_{si} \approx \text{negligible}$ $B_o \approx 1.0 \text{ Res. bbl / STB}$ $1,000,000 > \mu > 5,000 \text{ cp}$
<b>Tar or Heavy Oil</b>	$10 < ^\circ\text{API} < 20$ $\text{negligible} < R_{si} < 50 \text{ scf / STB}$ $1.0 < B_o < 1.1 \text{ Res. bbl / STB}$ $5,000 > \mu > 100 \text{ cp}$
<b>Low – Shrinkage Oils: “Black Oils”</b>	$20 < ^\circ\text{API} < \text{low } 30\text{'s}$ $50 < R_{si} < 500 \text{ scf / STB}$ $1.0 < B_o < 1.5 \text{ Res. bbl / STB}$ $100 > \mu > 2 \text{ to } 3 \text{ cp}$
<b>High – Shrinkage Oils “Volatile Oils”</b>	$30\text{'s} < ^\circ\text{API} < \text{low } 50\text{'s}$ $500 < R_{si} < 2,000 \text{ to } 6,000 \text{ scf / STB}$ $1.5 < B_o < 2.5 \text{ to } 3.5 \text{ Res. bbl / STB}$ $2 \text{ to } 3 > \mu > 0.25 \text{ cp}$
<b>Retrograde Condensate Gas</b>	$\text{Middle } 50\text{'s} < ^\circ\text{API} < 70$ $2,000 \text{ to } 6,000 < R_{si} < 15,000 \text{ scf / STB}$ $B_o = \text{not applicable}$ $\mu (\text{condensate liquid}) \approx 0.25 \text{ cp}$
<b>Wet Gas</b>	$^\circ\text{API} > 60$ $15,000 < R_{si} < 100,000 \text{ scf / STB}$ $\mu (\text{condensate liquid}) \approx 0.25 \text{ cp}$
<b>Dry Gas</b>	N/A

## NOTE:

### Canada

“Conventional” Crude Oil = light, medium, and heavy crude oils from the Western Canadian Sedimentary basin  
 Heavy Oil =  $12 < ^\circ\text{API} < 28$   
 Canadian Oilpatch generally do not differentiate between medium and light oil.

### United States

Light Oil =  $^\circ\text{API} \approx 32+$

### World Energy Conference

Medium Oil =  $22 < ^\circ\text{API} < 31$