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# *Rice University* *World Gas Trade Model*

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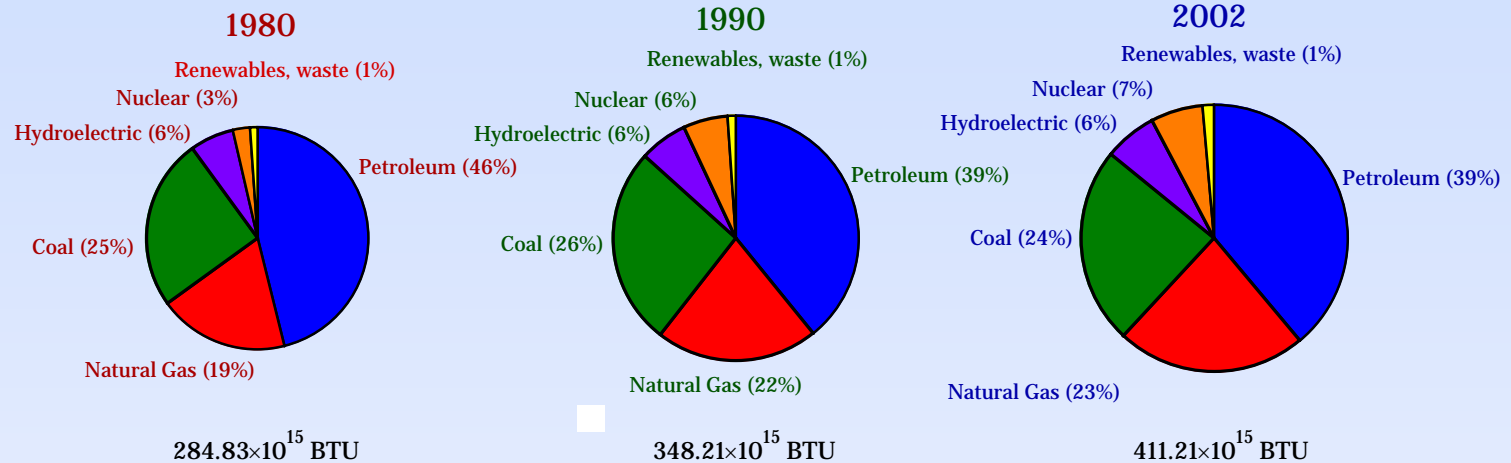
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# Overview and motivation

## ■ Share of gas in primary energy supply is rising:



Source: EIA

- ◆ Environmental pressure for cleaner fuels
- ◆ Pro-competitive deregulation of wholesale electricity markets and the development of CCGT
- ◆ Gas may supply transport fuel needs (GTL, tar sands, fuel cell)
- ◆ Possible contrary influence is that coal gasification, solar, hydro and/or nuclear power could displace gas in electricity generation, perhaps assisted by falling costs of HVDC



# *Overview and motivation*

- World gas supply potential is large, but:
  - ◆ The growth in energy demand in China, India is rapid
  - ◆ Gas share of energy demand is rising in developed world
  - ◆ North American, North Sea reserves are declining
  - ◆ Gas reserves are concentrated in areas remote from markets
  - ◆ Production and transport infrastructure is required
  - ◆ Unstable political regimes may make investments unattractive
  - ◆ Prices need to rise to finance the needed investments
- Russia could be a big supplier of natural gas to both Europe and Asia, making developments there critical
- The Rice World Gas Trade Model (RWGTM) gives a microeconomic framework to examine political and economic influences on the gas market



# *Rice World Gas Trade Model*

- Model framework: *Market Builder* from *Altos Partners*
  - ◆ Calculate *equilibrium* prices and quantities across a fixed number of locations and time periods
    - ❖ In each period, allow gas to be produced or transported until there are no opportunities for profitable spatial arbitrage
      - Transport links transmit prices as well as gas – for example, linking to a high priced market raises prices at the supply node
    - ❖ Producers schedule resource extraction to eliminate profitable (in *net present value* terms) temporal arbitrage opportunities
      - High current prices accelerate depletion, raising future prices
      - Also, if producers *anticipate* high prices in future period  $t$ , they may
        - delay some supply from periods before  $t$ , raising prices before  $t$
        - accelerate investment to exploit those prices, affecting prices after  $t$
        - The arbitrage actions imply actual prices at  $t$  would not rise as much
    - ❖ Price changes affect future as well as current consumer demand
      - For this reason, too, current prices affect future prices
- Model supply data is based on USGS *World Resource Assessment* updated with latest reserve revisions
- Demand forecasts based on EIA *International Energy Outlook* 2004 and IEA *World Energy Outlook* 2002



# Why a world market model?

- The model examines a *world* market of expanding depth and geographical extent
- Transition to a world market could be rapid
  - ◆ An *expectation* of new market dynamics encourages moving away from bilateral trading
    - ❖ More *potential* trading partners lowers the risk of investing without complete long-term contract coverage
    - ❖ A decrease in average distances between suppliers and/or customers increases arbitrage opportunities
- Bilateral contracts can be fulfilled by *swap agreements* as increased market depth increases the number of profitable alternatives
  - ◆ Contracts can be viewed as financial arrangements that do not necessarily constrain physical trades



# *Estimating gas demand*

- Used 23 years of IEA data from 29 OECD economies to relate per capita natural gas demand to:
  - ◆ Level of economic development (GDP/capita)
    - ❖ Following Medlock and Soligo (2001), demand increases less with increased GDP/capita as an economy develops
  - ◆ Prices (wholesale industrial\$/BTU) of natural gas, oil and coal
    - ❖ Estimated impact price elasticities are -0.091, 0.076, 0.024
    - ❖ There is a lagged response to price changes
      - Effects accumulate over time with long-run elasticities that are around 10 times larger than the impact elasticities
- Demand for gas in country  $i$  in year  $t$  is then given by

$$Q_{it} = A_{it} (p_{it}^g)^{-0.091} (p_{it}^o)^{0.076} (p_{it}^c)^{0.024} (Q_{it-1})^{0.92}$$

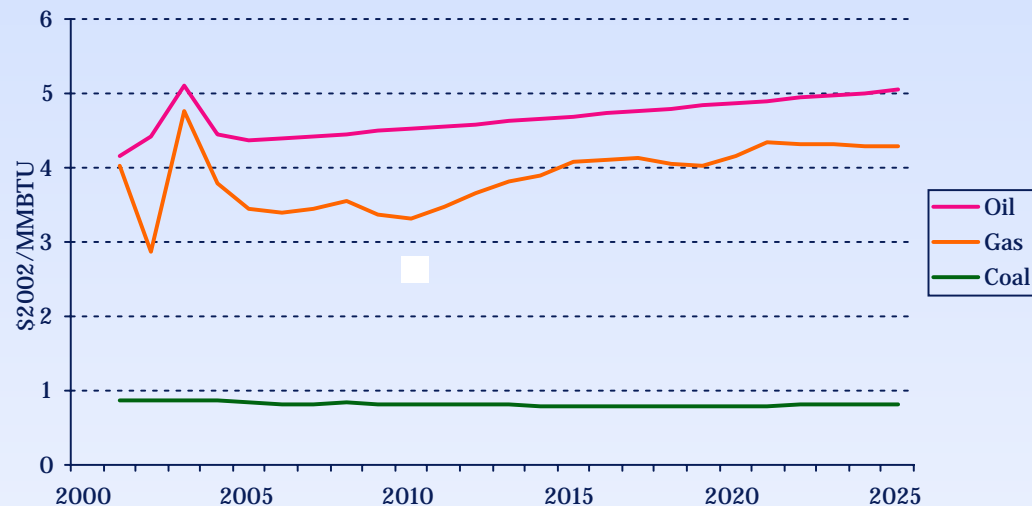
for country and year intercepts  $A_{it}$  calibrated, as discussed below, to reflect the effects of economic and population growth and other country-specific factors



# Calibrating demand growth

- Start with EIA “reference case” forecasts of demand growth based on average expected GDP and population growth rates and the following prices of oil, gas and coal in the US

**EIA Reference Case Prices**



- Carry the price projections forward to 2040, maintaining the oil price growth rate and average inter-fuel price relativities
- Use the RWGTM with 2002 infrastructure to calculate location specific discounts/premiums on the US gas prices and hence projected prices  $p_{it}$
- Choose  $A_{it}$  so the calculated demand at projected oil, coal and gas prices  $p_{it}$  equals the EIA reference case forecast demand in country  $i$  and year  $t$



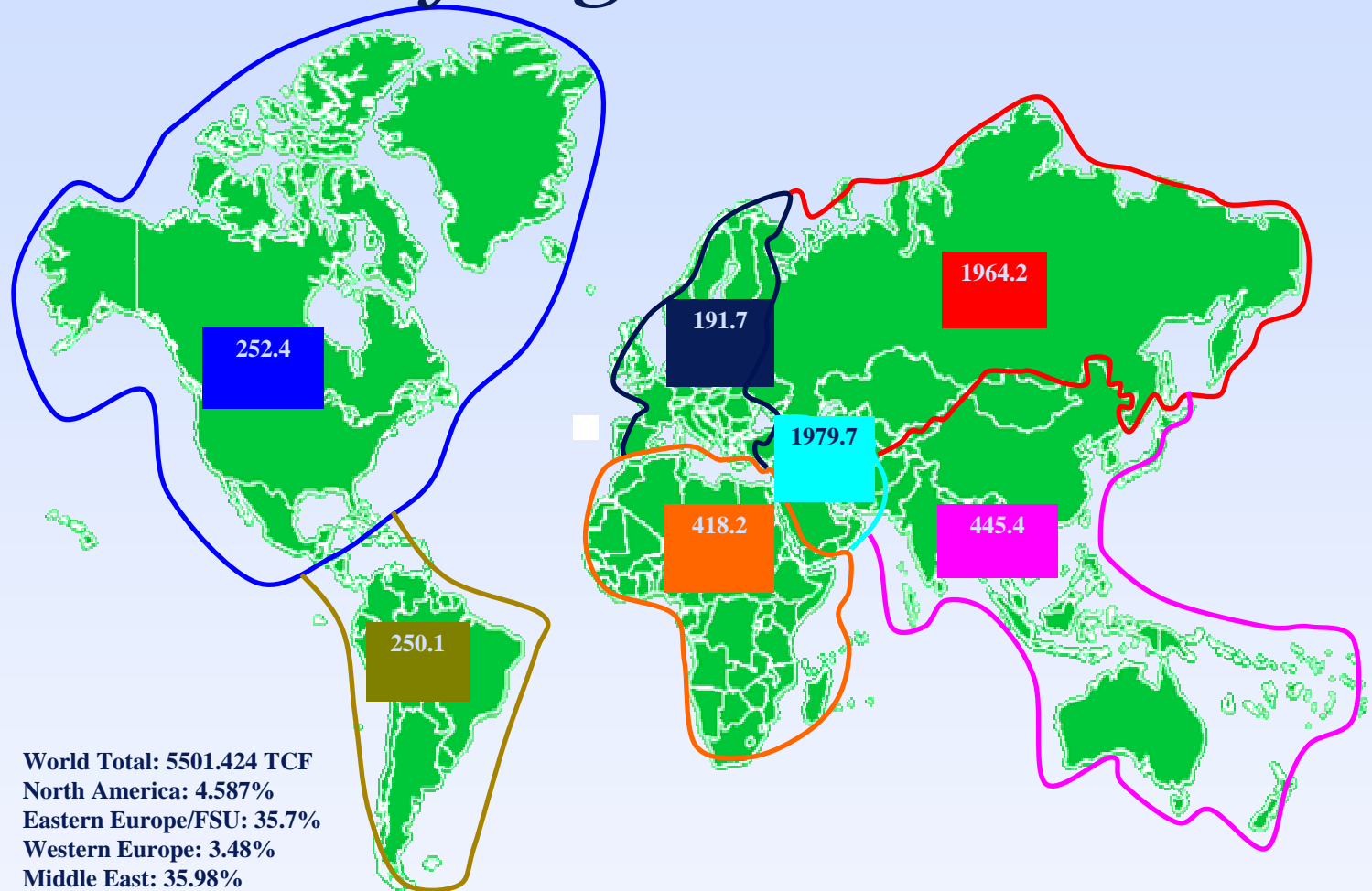
# *Backstop technology*

- Expected future prices affect current supply and price
- Estimated demand elasticity reflects historical substitution possibilities, not potential ones
  - ◆ Technological change is difficult to predict, but
    - ❖ IGCC, nuclear and renewable sources provide alternative sources of electricity supply
    - ❖ DOE says IGCC competitive at \$4 per Mcf of gas
    - ❖ Gasification of coal may also satisfy other uses
- We assume that, starting in 2030, demand is lost to new technologies at prices above \$5 with up to 2.5% lost at \$5.50 and 5% lost at \$10
  - ◆ Each year, the proportion of demand vulnerable to the backstop at each price above \$5 increases until in 2040 all base case demand could be satisfied at a price of \$10





# *USGS proved natural gas reserves by region, 2003*

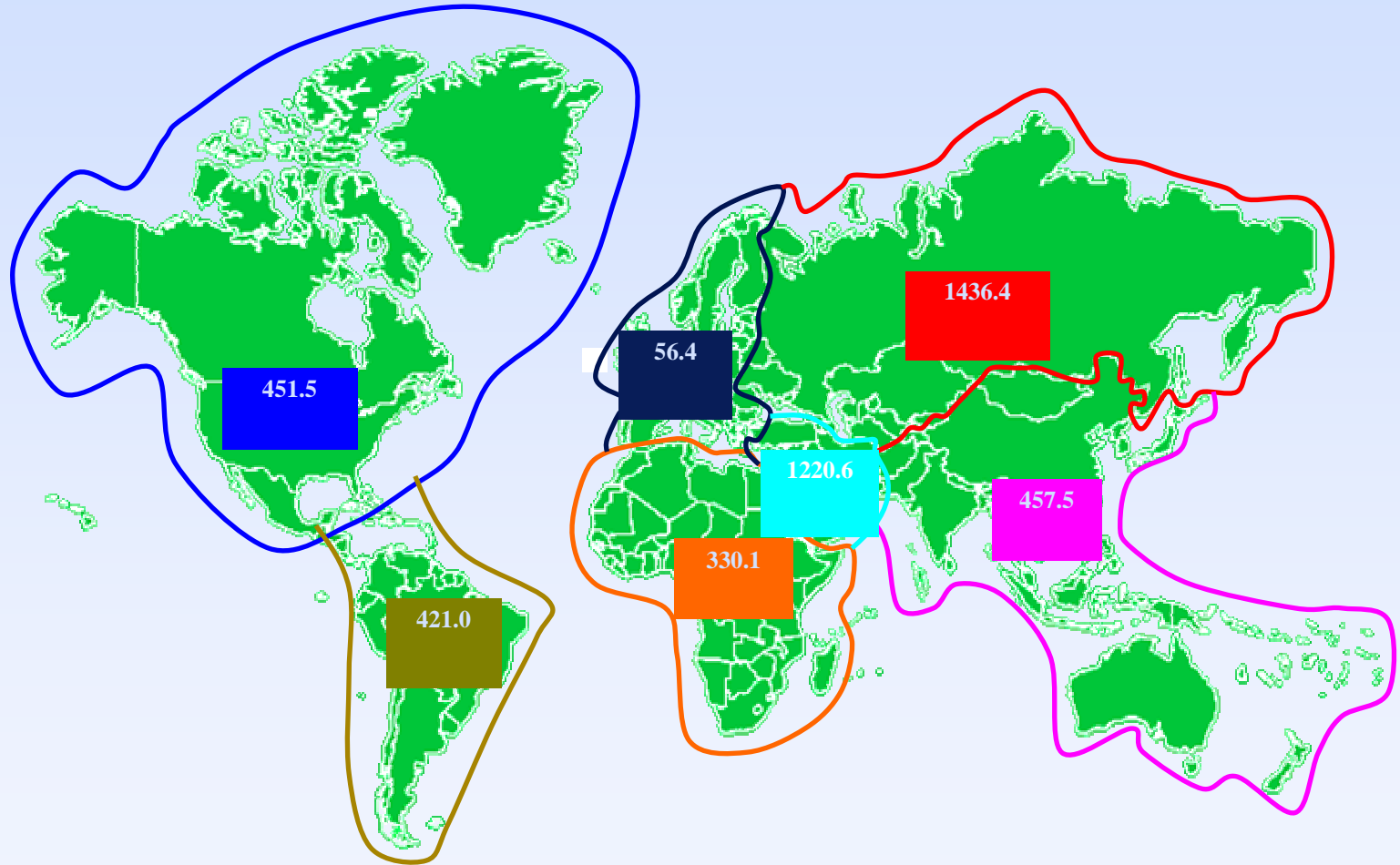


World Total: 5501.424 TCF  
North America: 4.587%  
Eastern Europe/FSU: 35.7%  
Western Europe: 3.48%  
Middle East: 35.98%  
Asia & Oceania: 8.01%  
Africa: 7.6%  
Central/South America: 4.55%

Units: Trillion Cubic Feet  
Source: USGS



# *Undiscovered natural gas by region, 2001 estimates*



Units: Trillion Cubic Feet  
Source: USGS



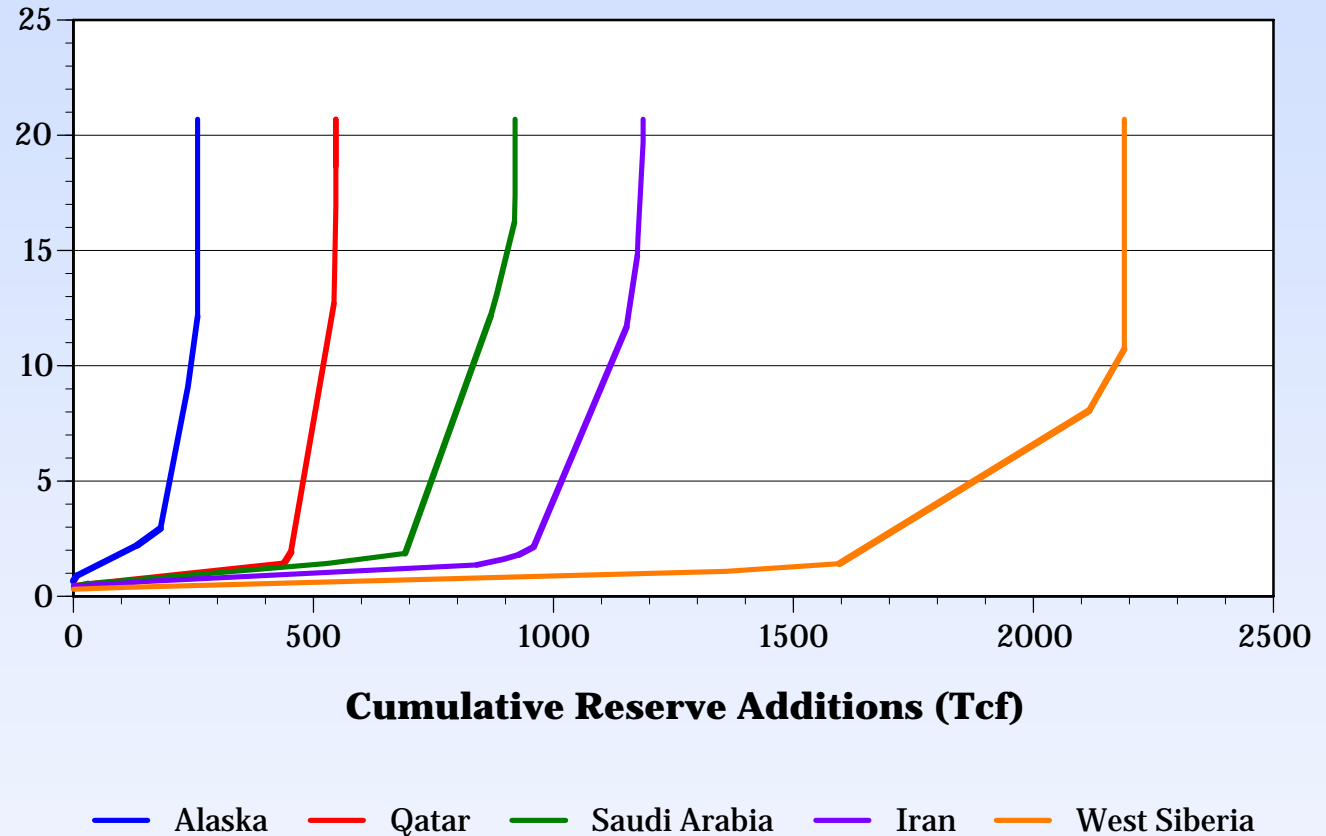
# *More detail on supply*

- Regional resource potential of
  - ◆ associated and unassociated natural gas resources,
  - ◆ both conventional and unconventional gas deposits in North America and Australia (CBM), and
  - ◆ conventional gas deposits in the rest of the worldwas assessed in three categories:
  - ◆ proved reserves (2003 *Oil & Gas Journal* estimates)
  - ◆ growth in known reserves (P-50 USGS estimates)
  - ◆ undiscovered resource (P-50 USGS estimates)
- Cost estimates, based on information for North America and resource base characteristics, include:
  - ◆ capital cost of development as resources deplete, and
  - ◆ operating and maintenance costs
- Supplies isolated from markets, or in areas lacking infrastructure, earn lower rents and are extracted last



# Example cost of supply curves

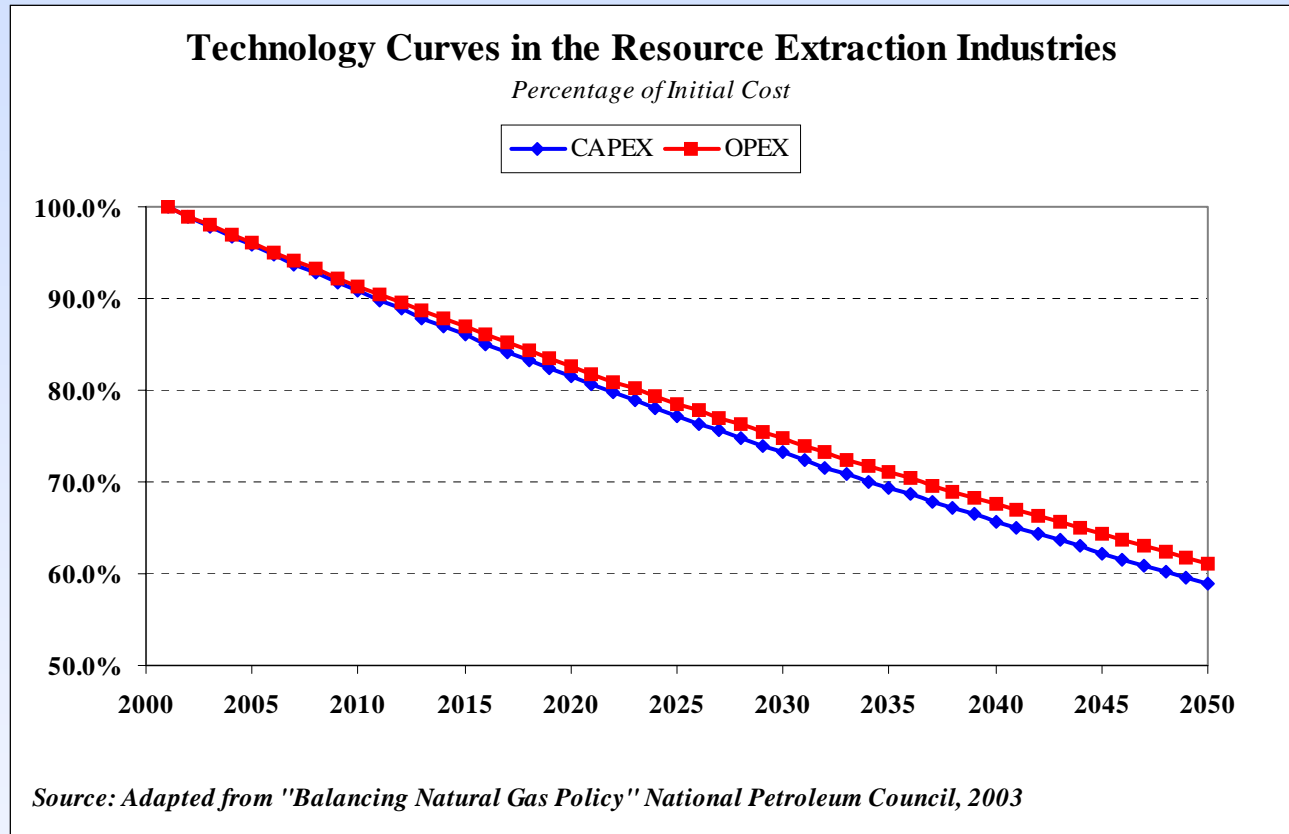
## Comparative Cost of Supply Curves for Selected Regions



Sources: USGS, EIA, author calculations

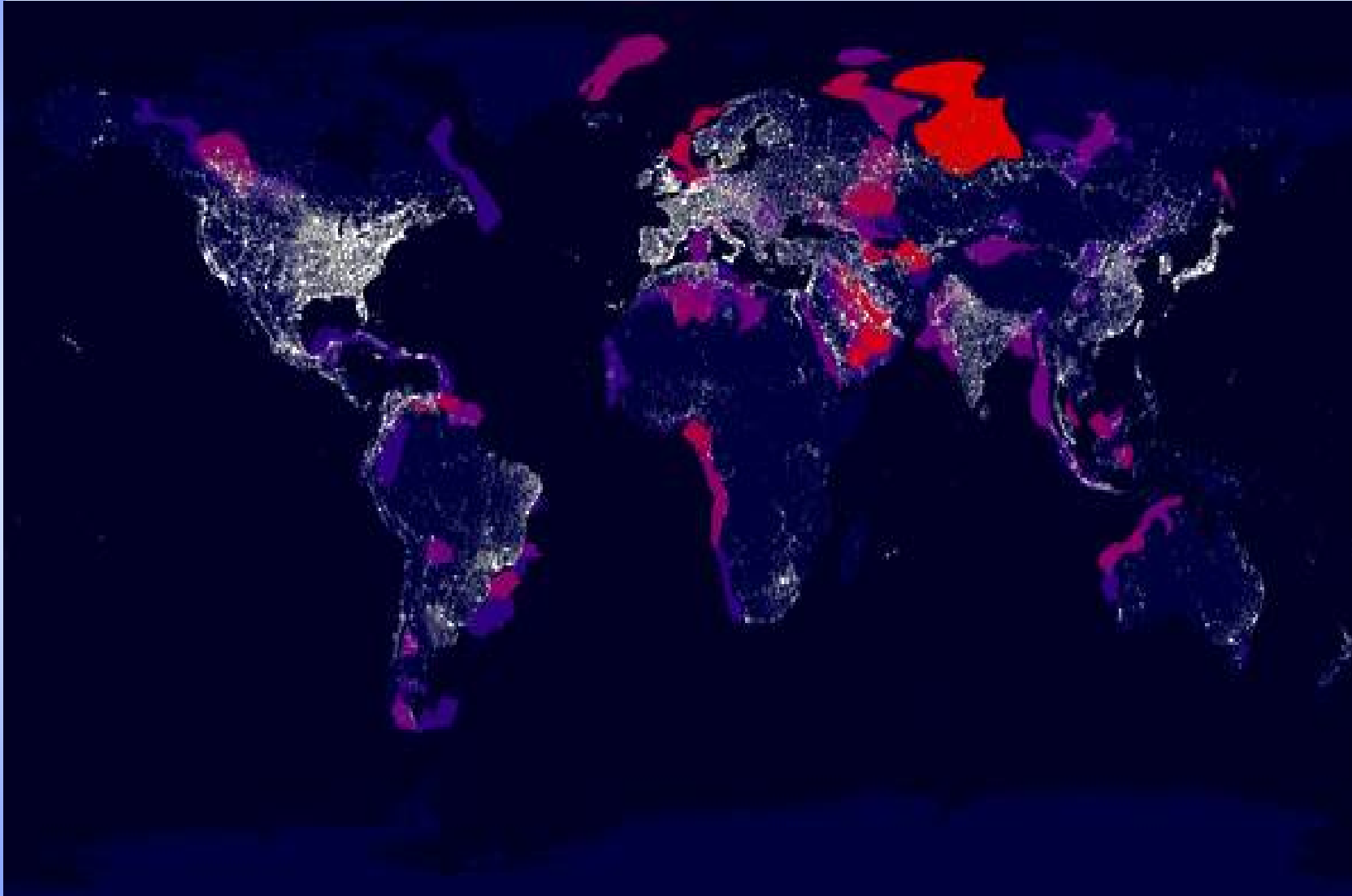


# Technological change in mining





# *Linking supply with demand*



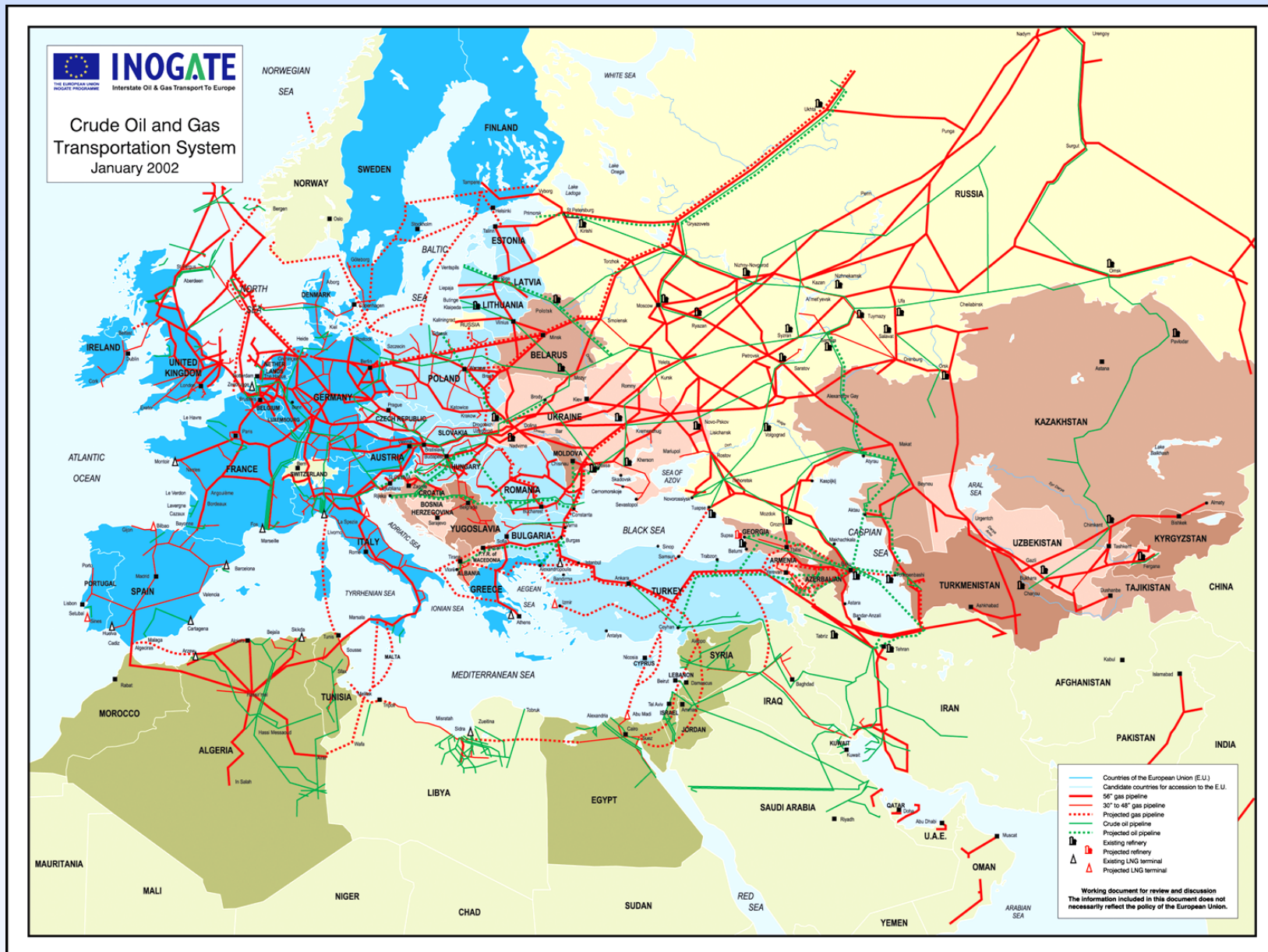


# *Representing transport networks*

- Pipeline networks in North America and Europe are the main transportation systems
  - ◆ LNG is only about 5% of world demand, but is important in Japan & Korea, and increasing in US and Europe
- Aggregate supplies and demands into discrete “nodes”
- Parallel pipes are aggregated into a single link
  - ◆ Ignore minor distribution and gathering pipes
- Transport links are inherently discrete
  - ◆ Allow many potential links
  - ◆ Use a hub and spoke representation for LNG
- Model chooses new or expanded transport capacity from supply sources to demand sinks based on:
  - ◆ capital costs of expansion, and
  - ◆ operating and maintenance costs of new and existing capacity



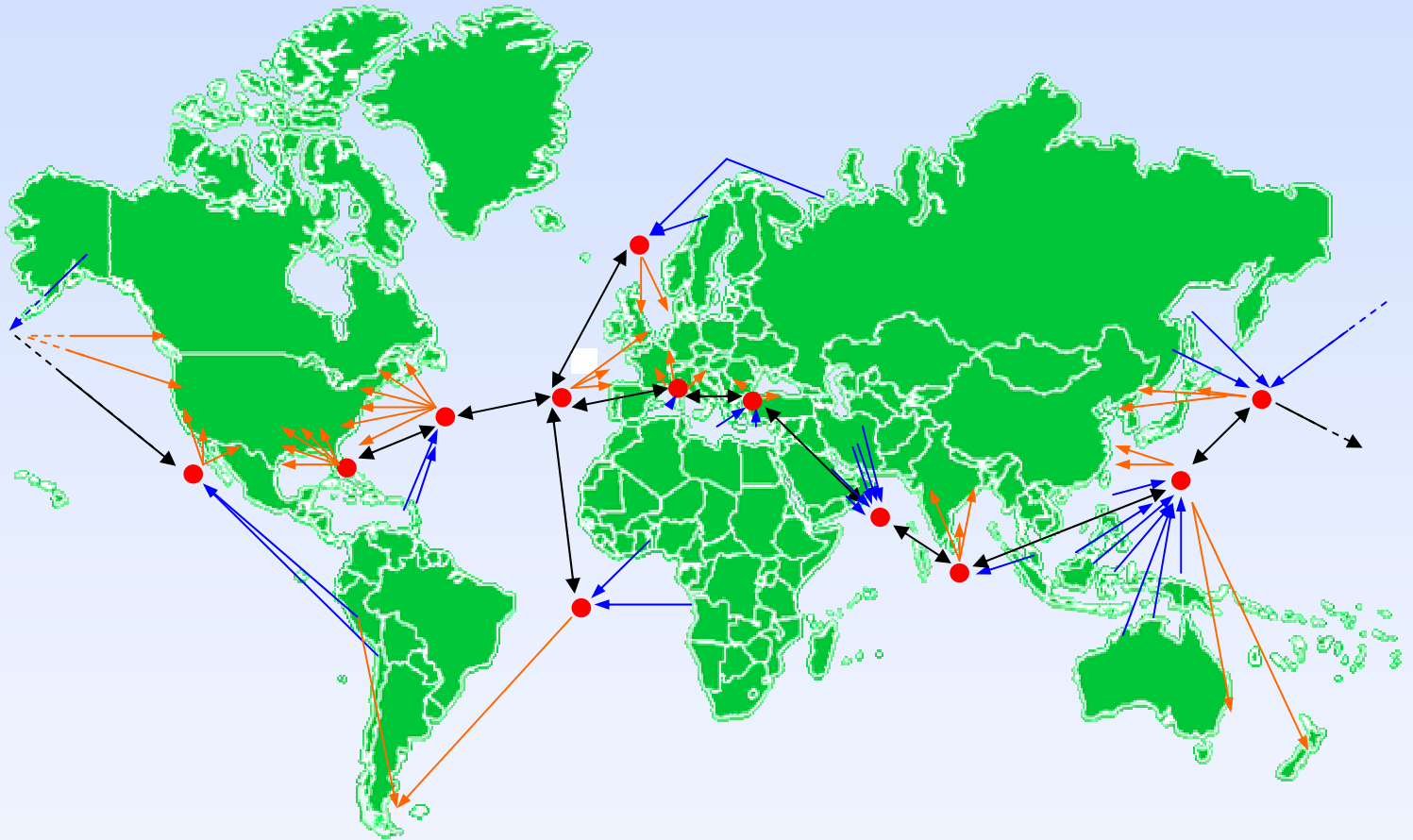
# Pipeline link example







# *LNG transportation network*





# *Pipeline costs*

- EIA published cost data for 52 pipeline projects
- Using this data, we estimated an equation relating specific capital cost (annual cost per unit of capacity) to project characteristics
  - ◆ Project cost is raised by:
    - ❖ Pipeline length
    - ❖ Crossing mountains
    - ❖ Moving offshore or crossing a lake or sea
    - ❖ Developing in more populous areas
  - ◆ Higher capacity reduces *per unit* costs as a result of scale economies



# *LNG costs*

- Consulted a variety of sources (including a 2003 EIA report) and industry contacts
- Liquefaction costs are a fixed cost (\$4.11/mcf/yr) plus a variable feed gas cost (model calculated)
- Shipping costs were based on a data set of estimated lease rates
  - ◆ These were converted to implicit costs of using the hub and spoke network via regression analysis
- Regasification costs vary by location (primarily because land costs vary)
  - ◆ Based on industry, IEA and EIA reports



# *Indicative LNG costs, 2002*

Price required for expansion, including capital costs

Route	Feed gas	Liquefaction	Shipping	Regasification	Total
<b>Trinidad to Boston</b>	\$0.48	\$1.01	\$0.32	\$0.69	<b>\$2.50</b>
<b>Algeria to Boston</b>	\$0.69	\$1.03	\$0.45	\$0.69	<b>\$2.84</b>
<b>Algeria to Gulf of Mexico</b>	\$0.69	\$1.03	\$0.63	\$0.28	<b>\$2.63</b>
<b>Qatar to Gulf of Mexico</b>	\$0.42	\$1.00	\$1.30	\$0.37	<b>\$3.10</b>
<b>NW Shelf to Baja</b>	\$0.44	\$1.01	\$0.95	\$0.33	<b>\$2.83</b>
<b>Norway to Cove Point</b>	\$0.85	\$1.05	\$0.54	\$0.51	<b>\$2.95</b>

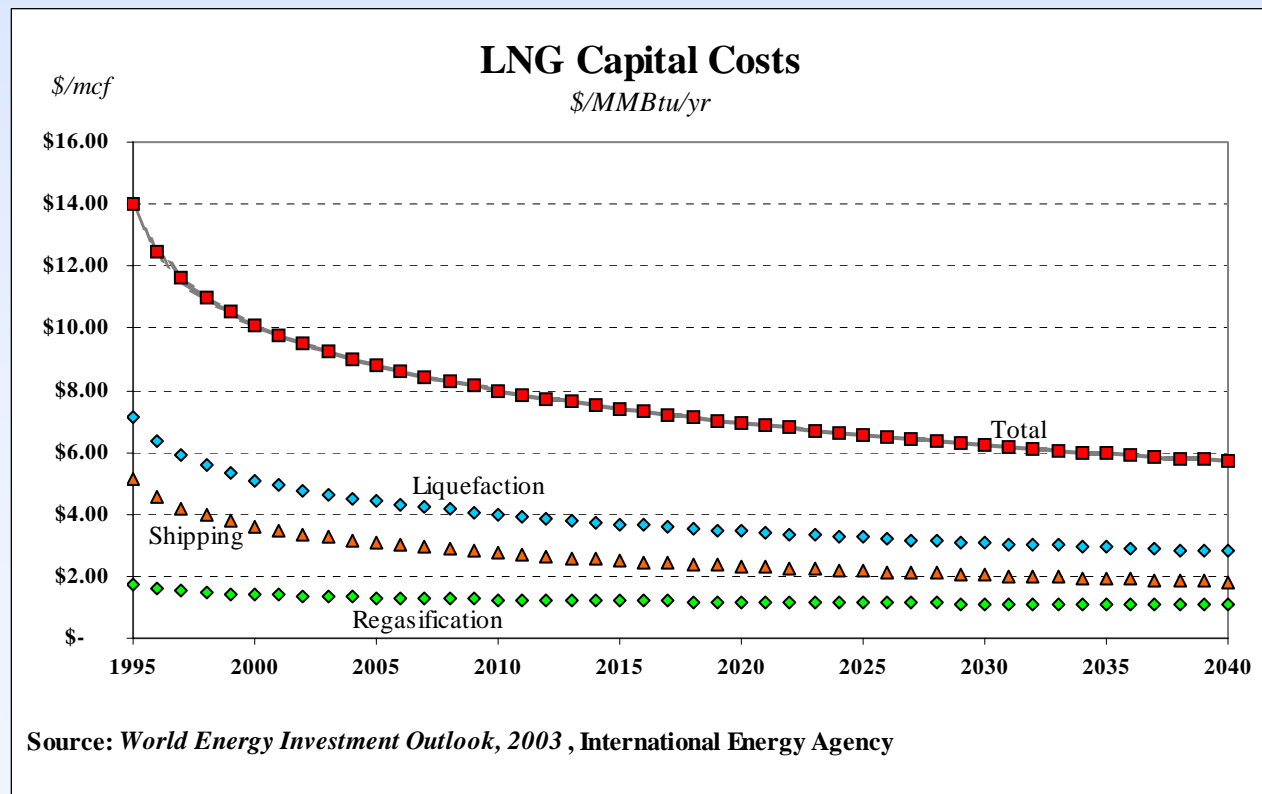
Sources:

1. "The Global Liquefied Natural Gas Market: Status and Outlook" (December 2003), US Energy Information Administration
2. Various Industry Consultant Reports
3. Author calculations



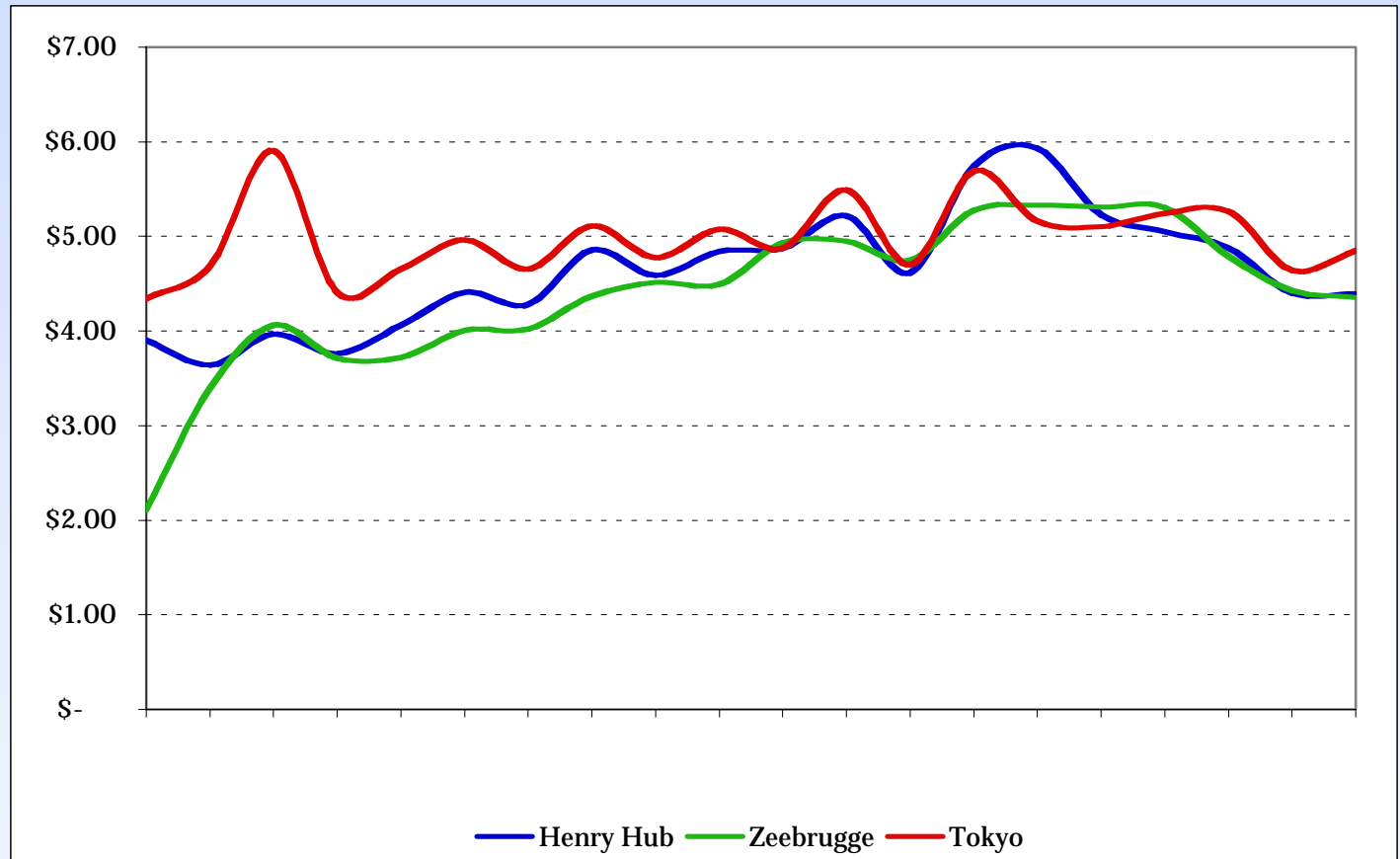
# *Technological change in LNG*

- LNG transport, liquefaction, and regasification capital and O&M costs are expected to decline
  - ◆ Rates of change in the model are based on a statistical fit to WEIO rates



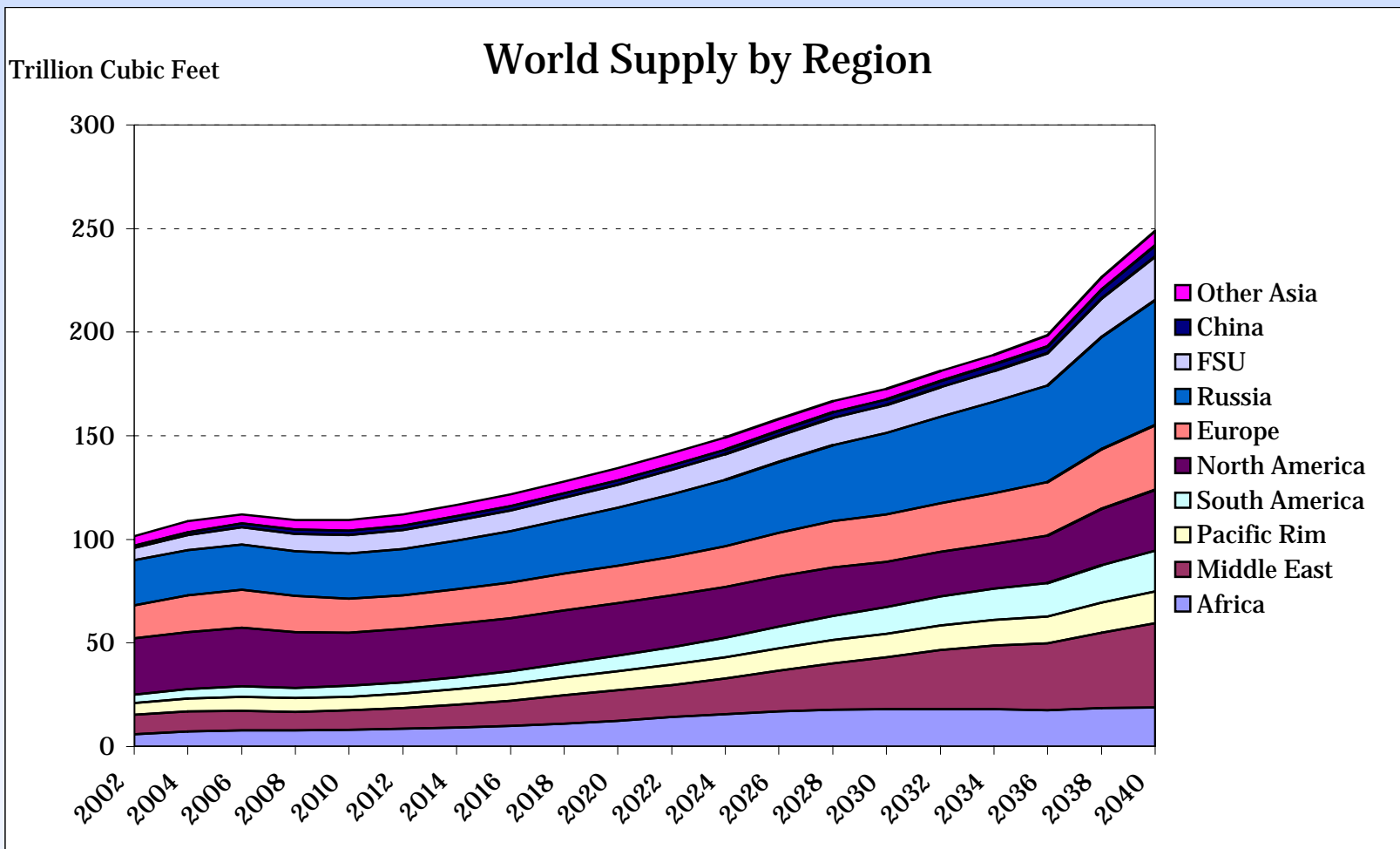


# *Selected price projections*



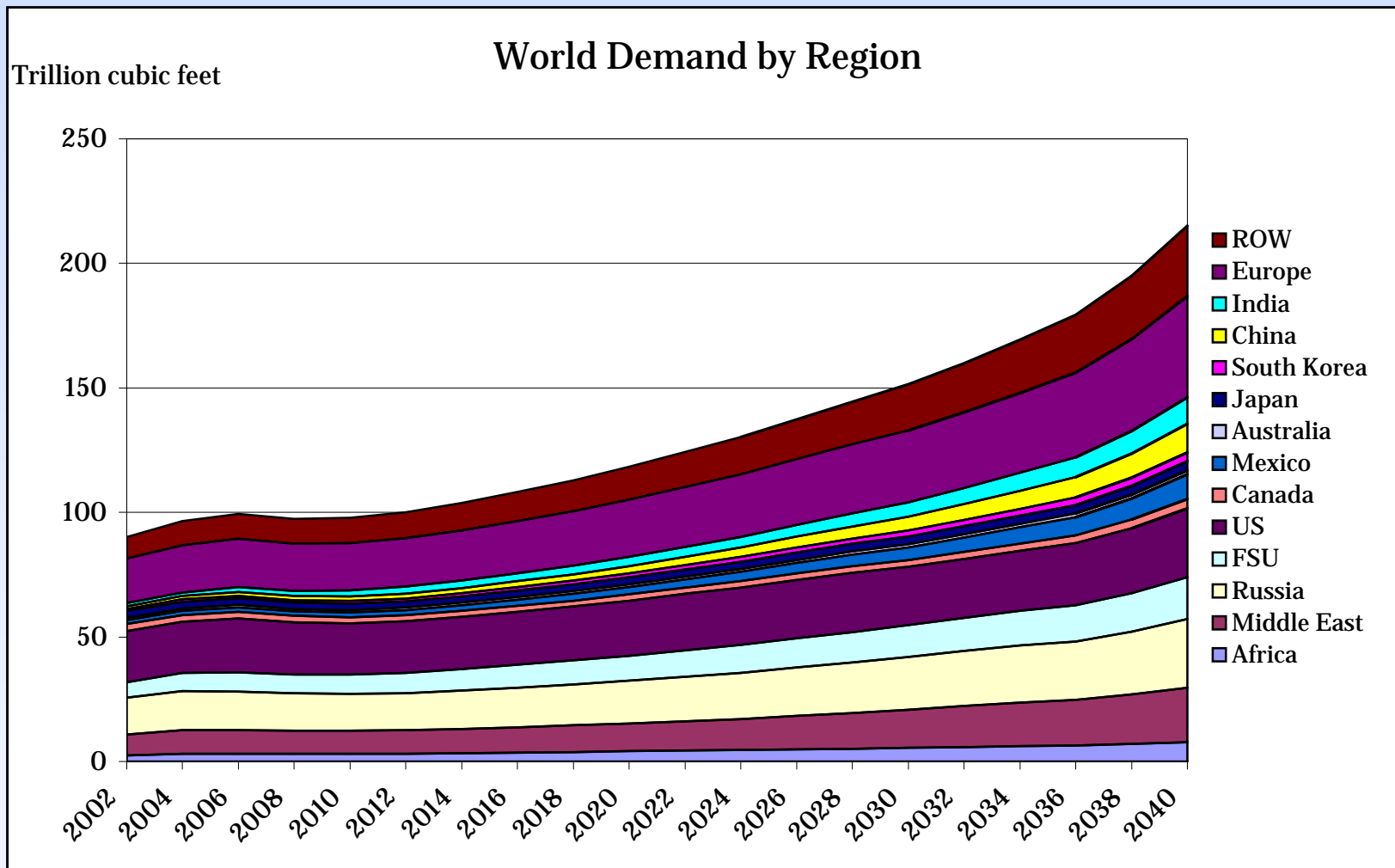


# Supply projections





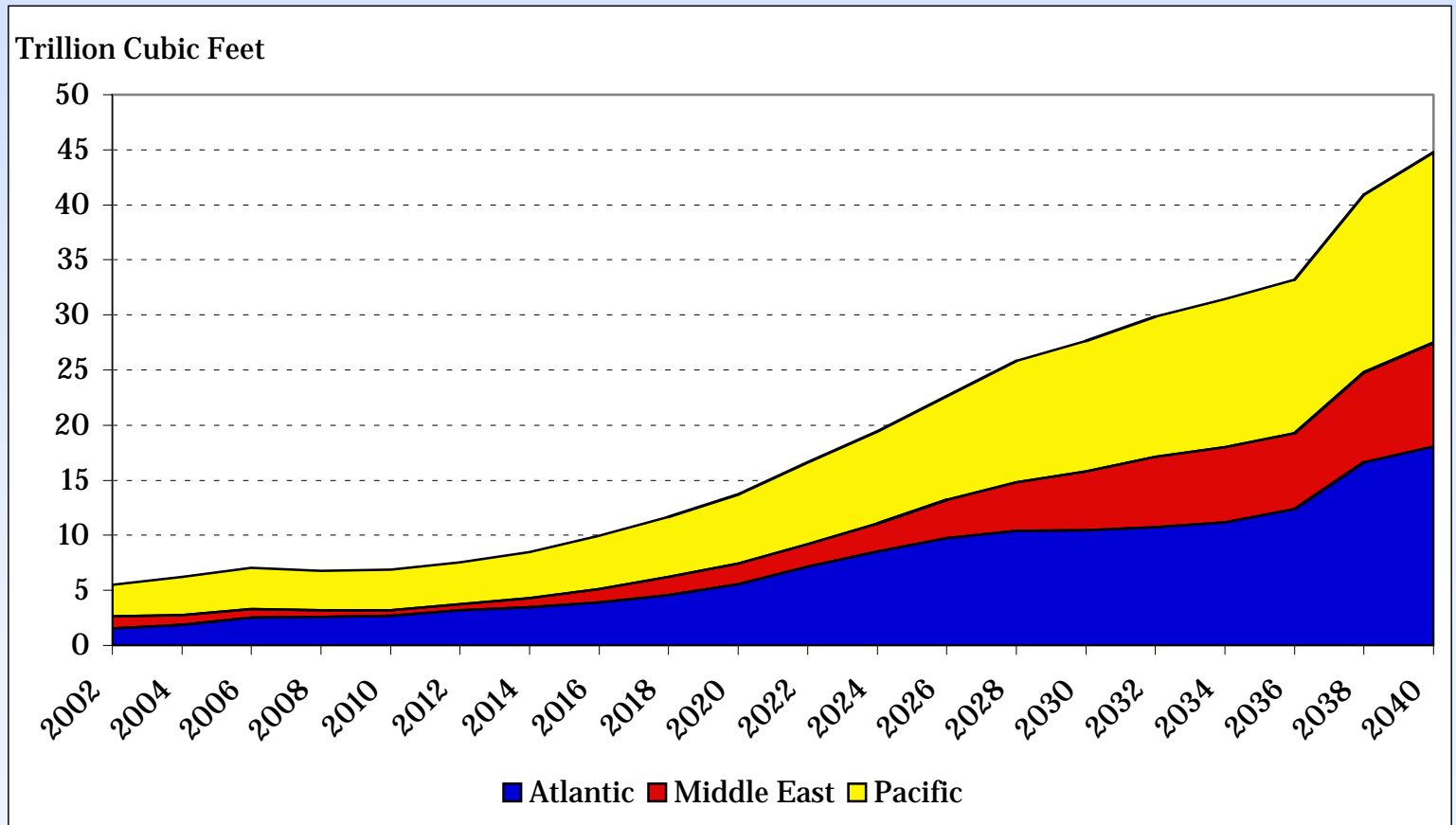
# *Demand projections*





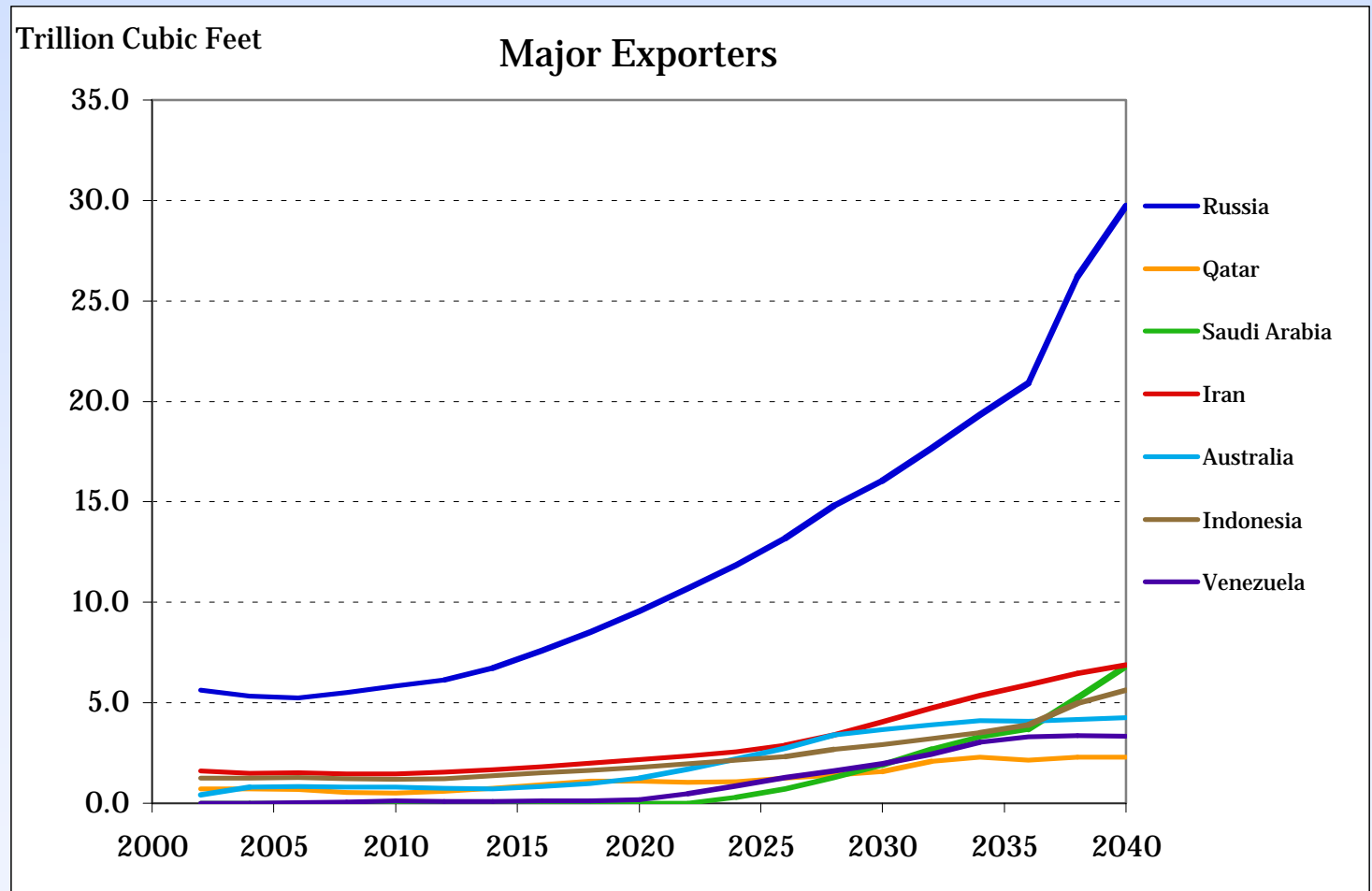


# *LNG share of world supply by source*



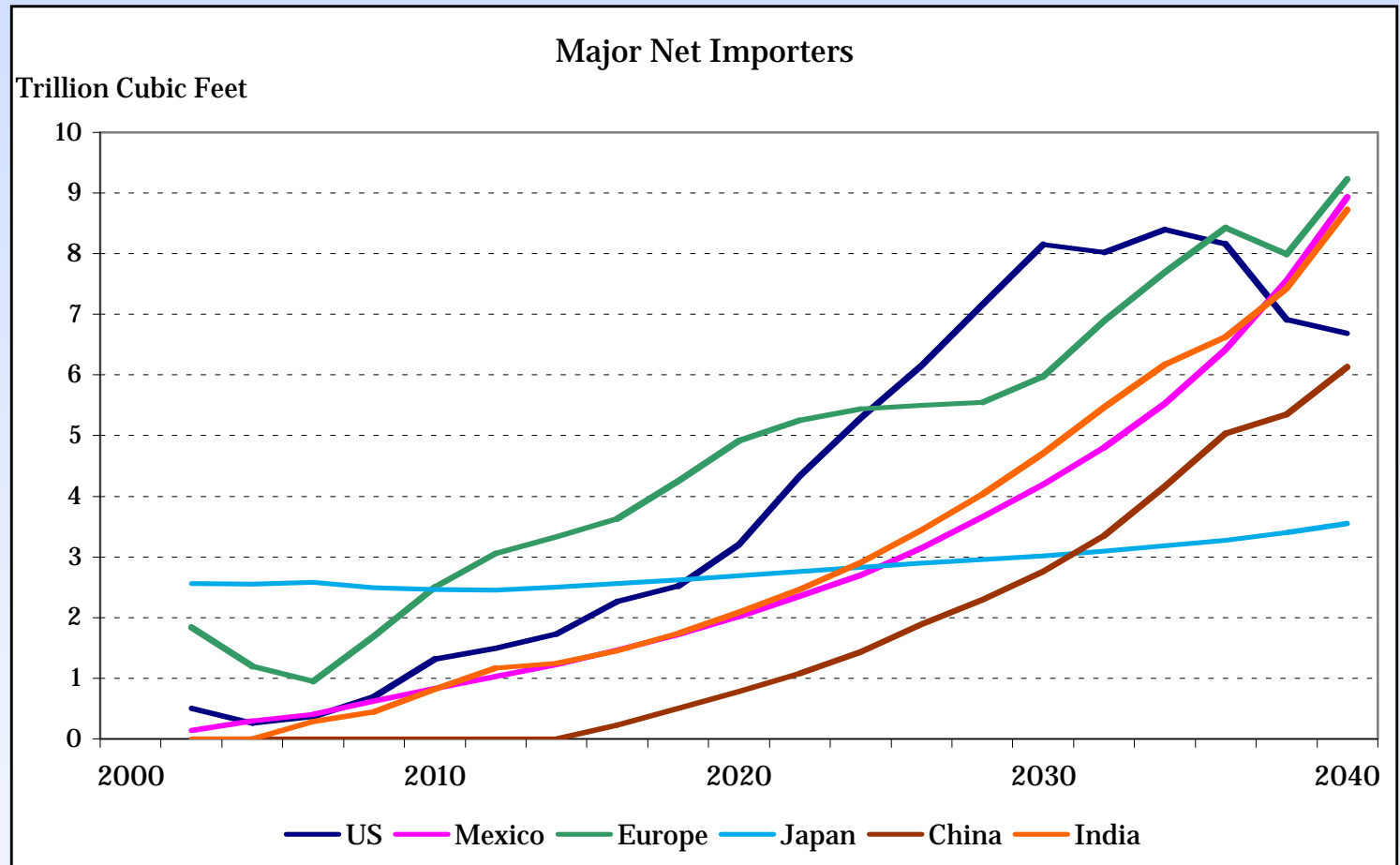


# *Major exporter projections*





# *Major importer projections*





## *Some implications*

- Russia becomes a major force in the global gas market
  - ◆ Russian pipeline gas continues to be important for Europe
  - ◆ Russia also becomes a major supplier of natural gas to China, Korea and Japan
    - ❖ But Japan continues to rely substantially on LNG as the high cost prevents a national gas grid from being built
    - ❖ Ultimately, gas is also piped east from West Siberia
  - ◆ Russia also enters the LNG market possibly supplying the US
    - ❖ “Net back” prices in Russia have to be equilibrated
- North America becomes a major importer of LNG
  - ◆ Gas prices in the US then exceed prices in Japan
  - ◆ Russia, Middle East, Australia retain low gas prices
- The backstop technology is built in Japan, some parts of the US and Europe, Chile but not India or China