

Russia & US in the Arctic : whether a shift from confrontation to cooperation is (at all) possible...

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**Visiting lecturer’s presentation & debate at the course “Geopolitics of Oil & Gas”,
Columbia University, School of International and Public Affairs,
16 November 2021, online**

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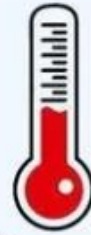
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Арктика

4 млн человек
составляет все население Арктики



83 млрд барр
нефтяные запасы Арктики.
Это **13%** от всех
неразведанных запасов
нашей планеты



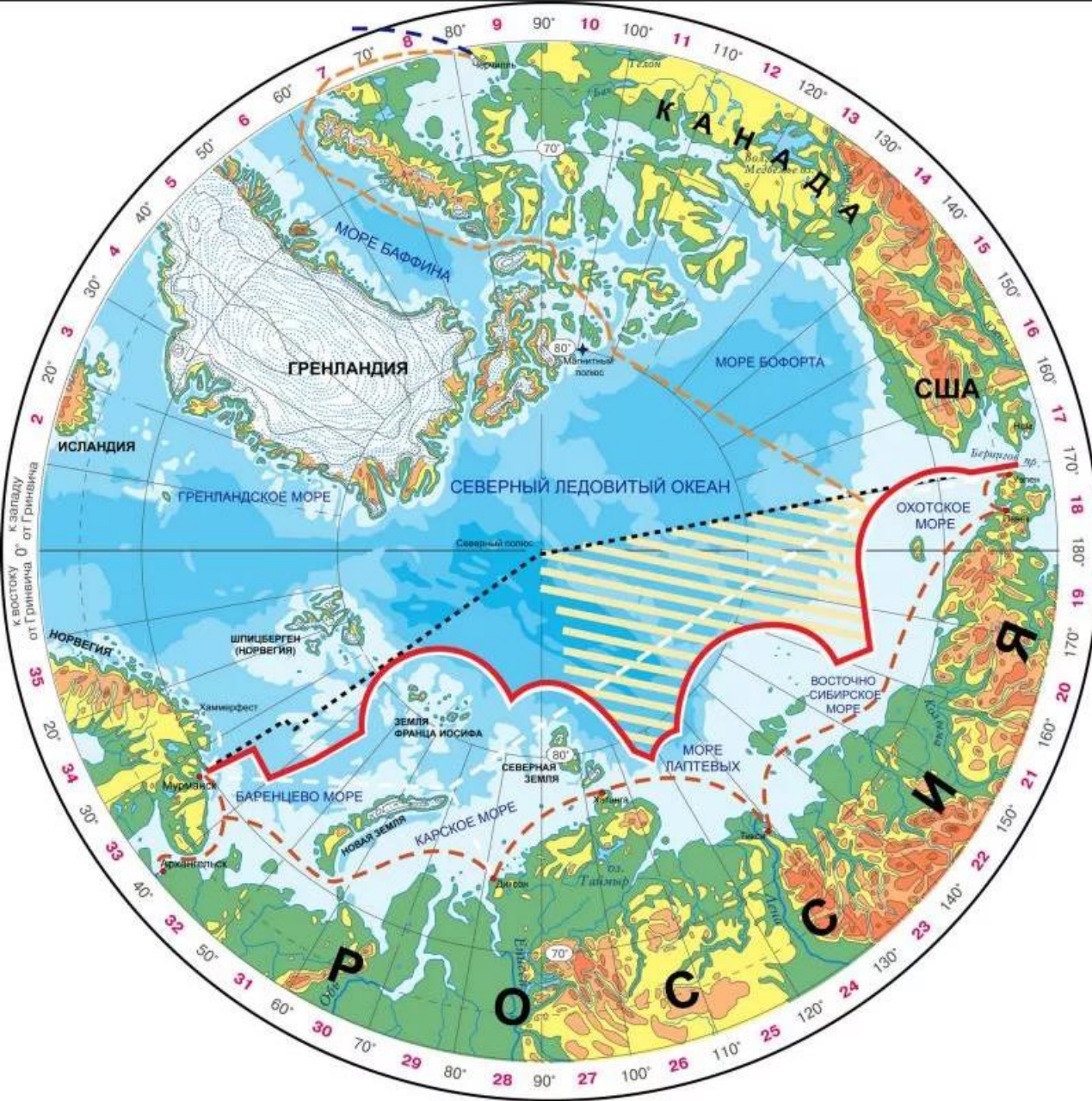
-40 °C
— средняя зимняя температура в арктической климатической зоне

27
млн кв. км
территория Арктики

2/3
площади Арктики

— Северный ледовитый океан и входящие в него моря



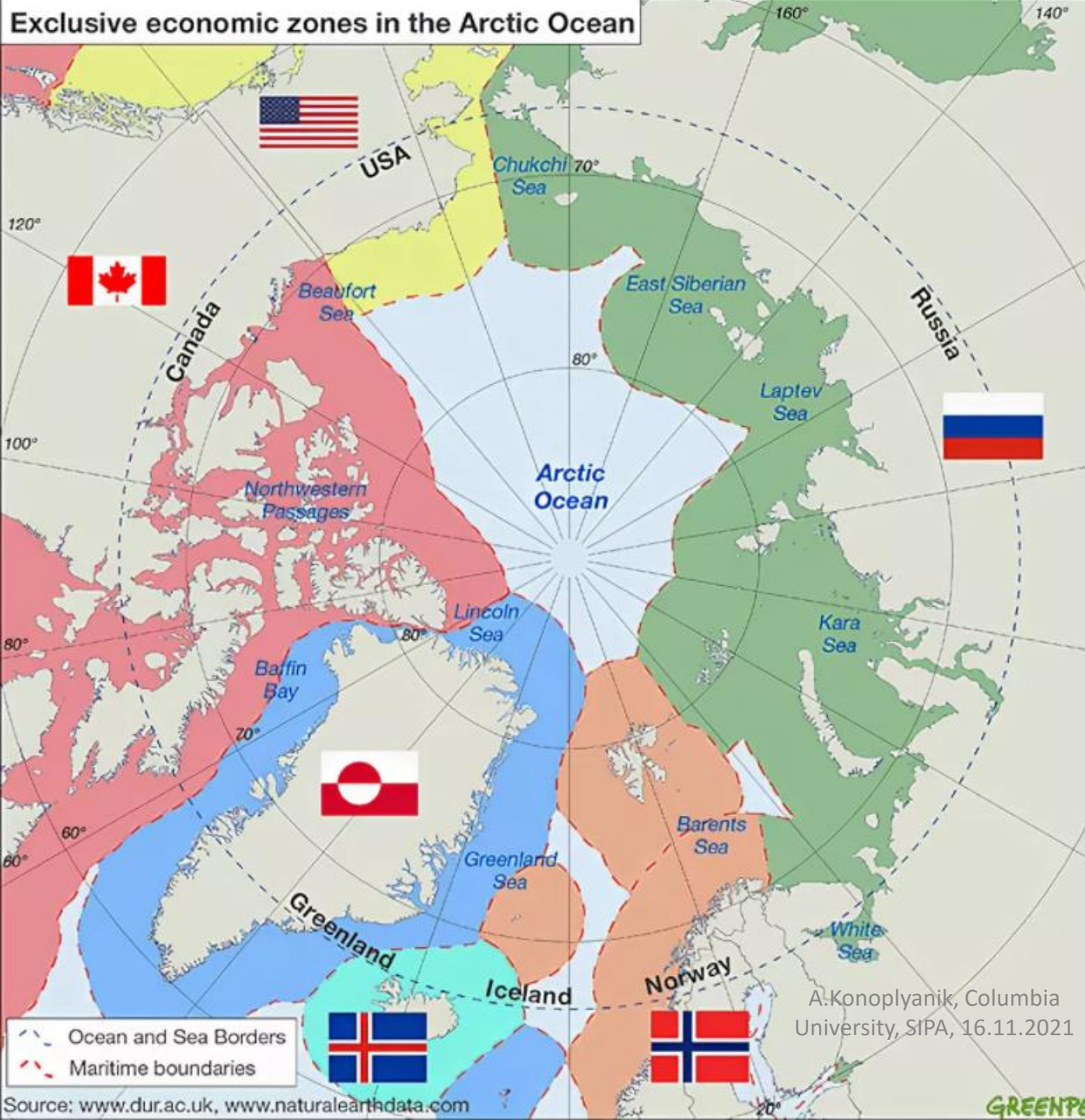


Arctic boundaries



AMAP = специальная комиссия при [Арктическом совете](#) (Рабочая группа Арктического Совета под названием «Программа Арктического мониторинга и оценки -- The Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Programme); **AHDR** = международный Доклад о развитии человека в Арктике (Arctic Human development report)

Exclusive economic zones in the Arctic Ocean



A. Konoplyanik, Columbia University, SIPA, 16.11.2021

Source: www.dur.ac.uk, www.natureanddata.com



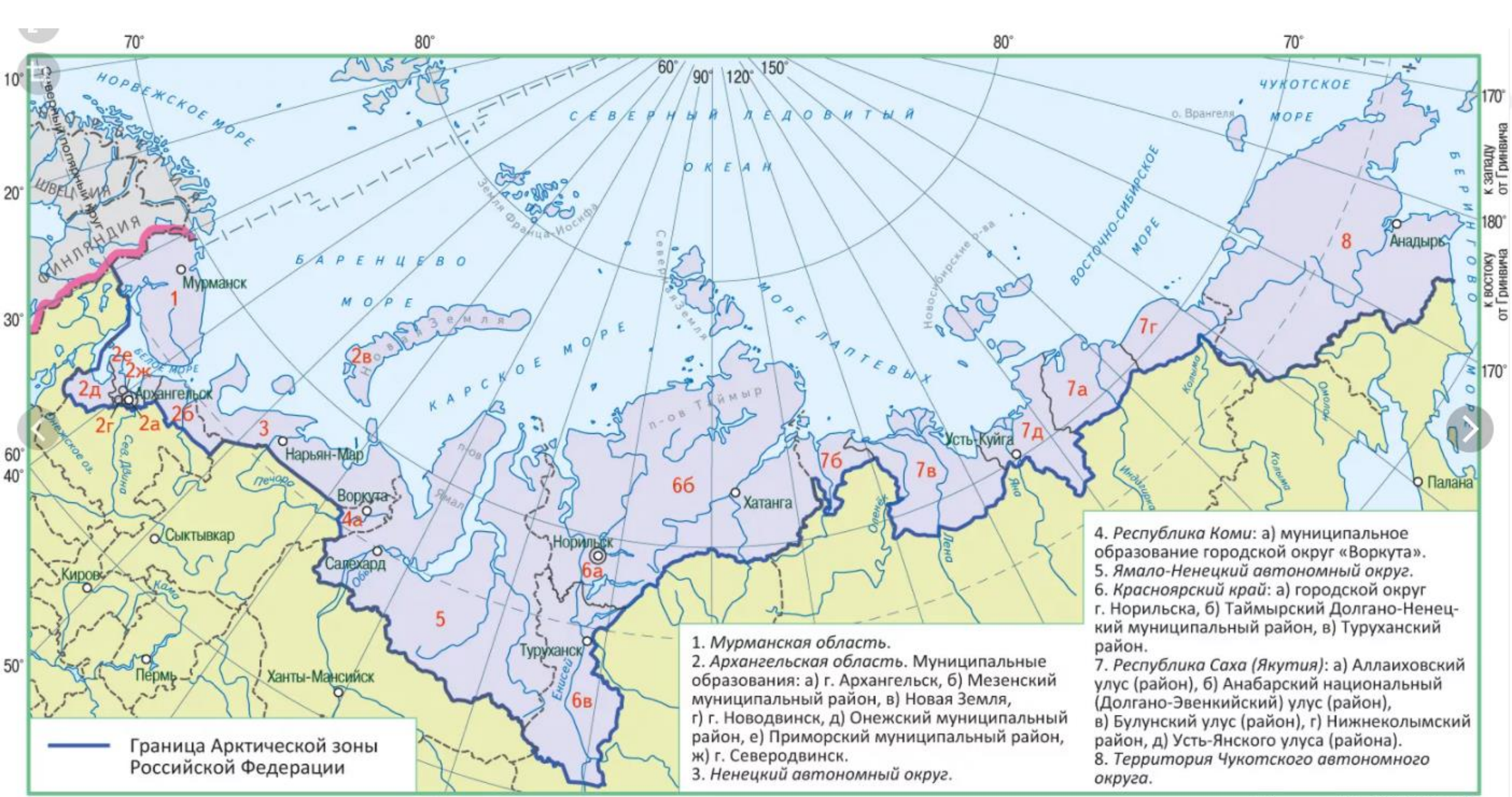
ПРИТЯЖАНИЯ СТРАН НА АРКТИЧЕСКИЙ ШЕЛЬФ

- Зона России
- Зона США
- Зона Канады
- Зона Дании
- Зона Норвегии
- Границы 200-мильной экономической прибрежной зоны

GREENPE

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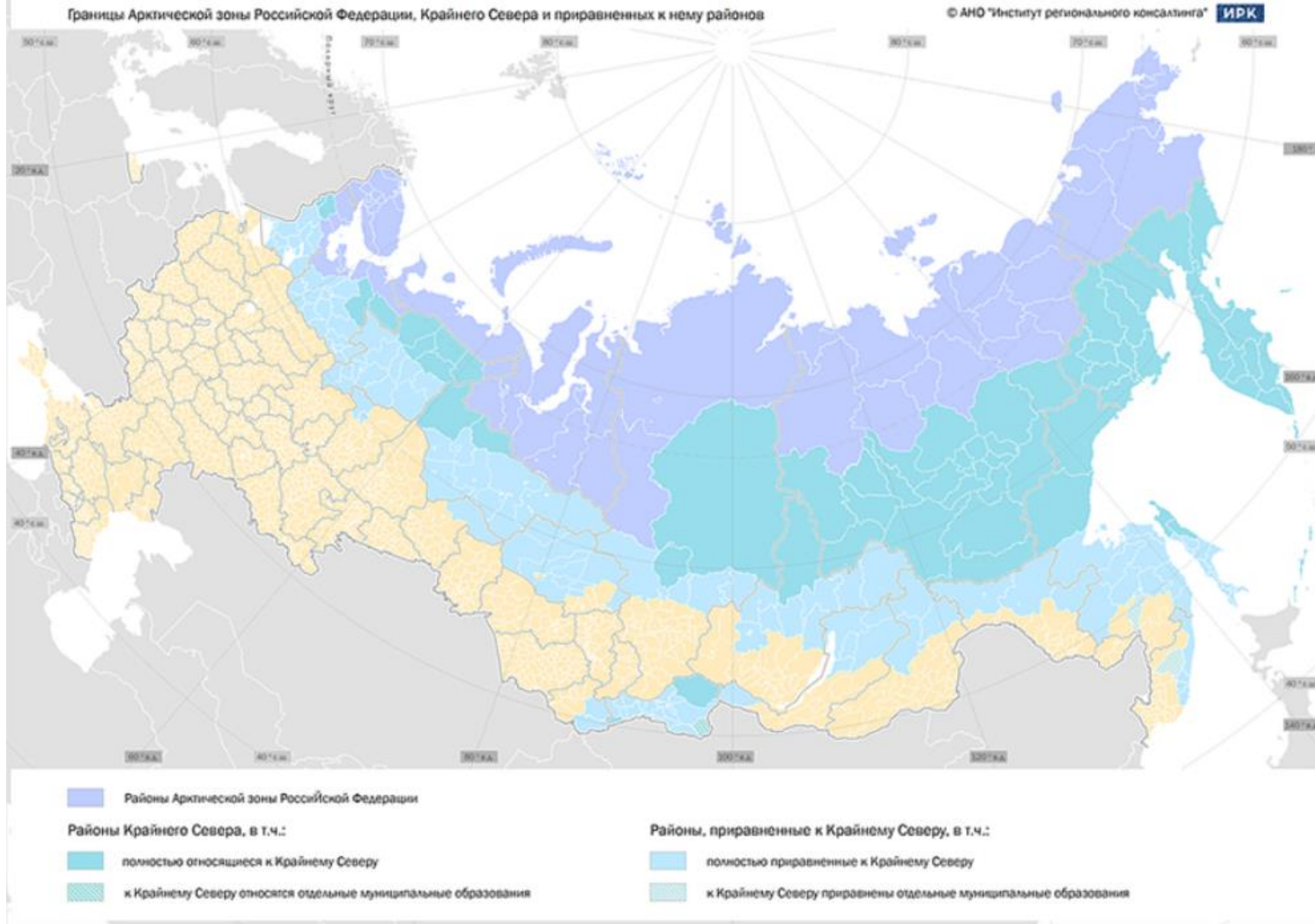
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— Граница Арктической зоны Российской Федерации

1. Мурманская область.
 2. Архангельская область. Муниципальные образования: а) г. Архангельск, б) Мезенский муниципальный район, в) Новая Земля, г) г. Новодвинск, д) Онежский муниципальный район, е) Приморский муниципальный район, ж) г. Северодвинск.
 3. Ненецкий автономный округ.

4. Республика Коми: а) муниципальное образование городской округ «Воркута».
 5. Ямало-Ненецкий автономный округ.
 6. Красноярский край: а) городской округ г. Норильска, б) Таймырский Долгано-Ненецкий муниципальный район, в) Туруханский район.
 7. Республика Саха (Якутия): а) Аллаиховский улус (район), б) Анабарский национальный (Долгано-Эвенкийский) улус (район), в) Булунский улус (район), г) Нижнеколымский район, д) Усть-Янского улуса (района).
 8. Территория Чукотского автономного округа.

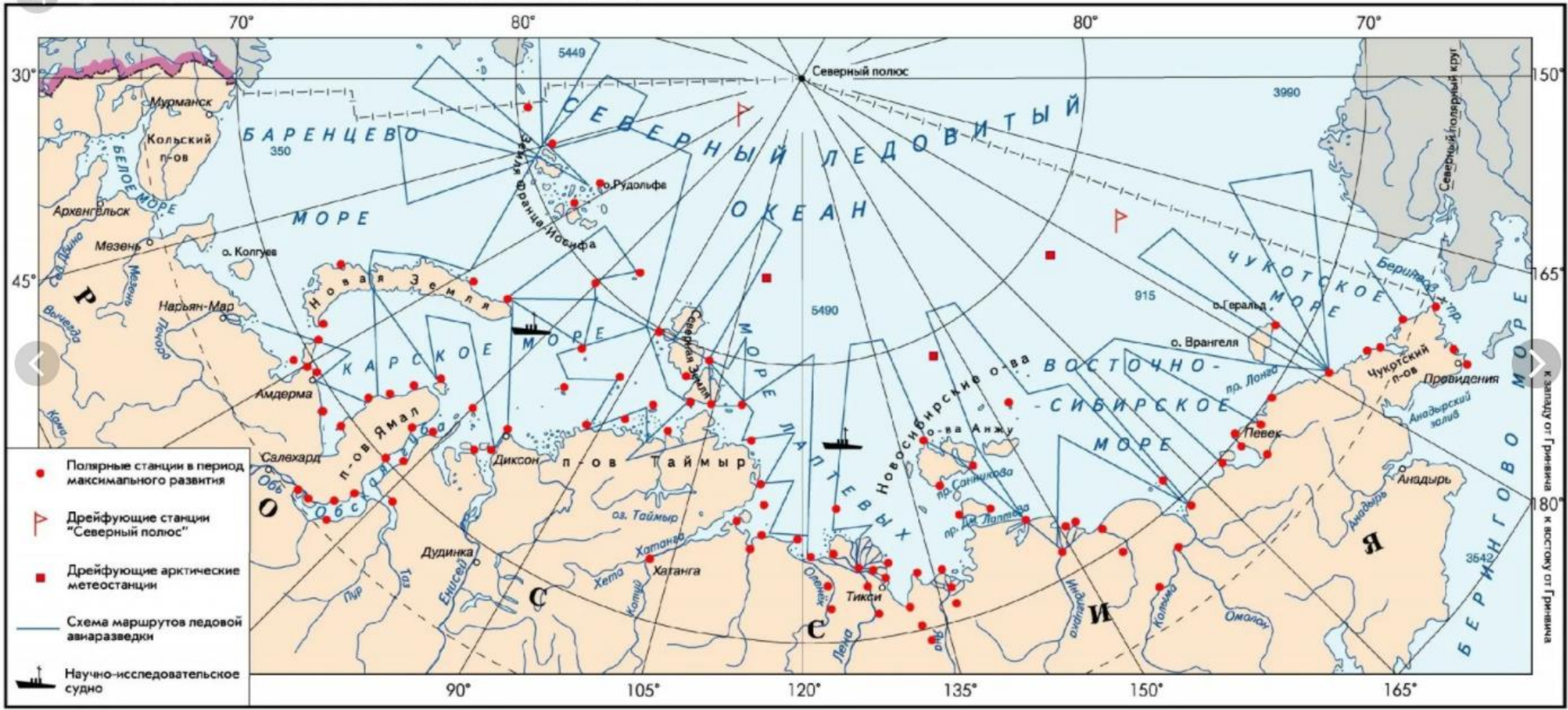


Границы Арктической зоны Российской Федерации в версии от 13 мая 2019 года, в сопоставлении с границами районов Крайнего Севера и приравненных к ним местностей.

A.Konoplyanik, Columbia University, SIPA, 16.11.2021

Источник: <https://www.regionalconsulting.org/single-post/15-05-2019-izmenenie-granic-AZRF>

НАБЛЮДАТЕЛЬНАЯ СИСТЕМА АРКТИКИ в конце XX в.

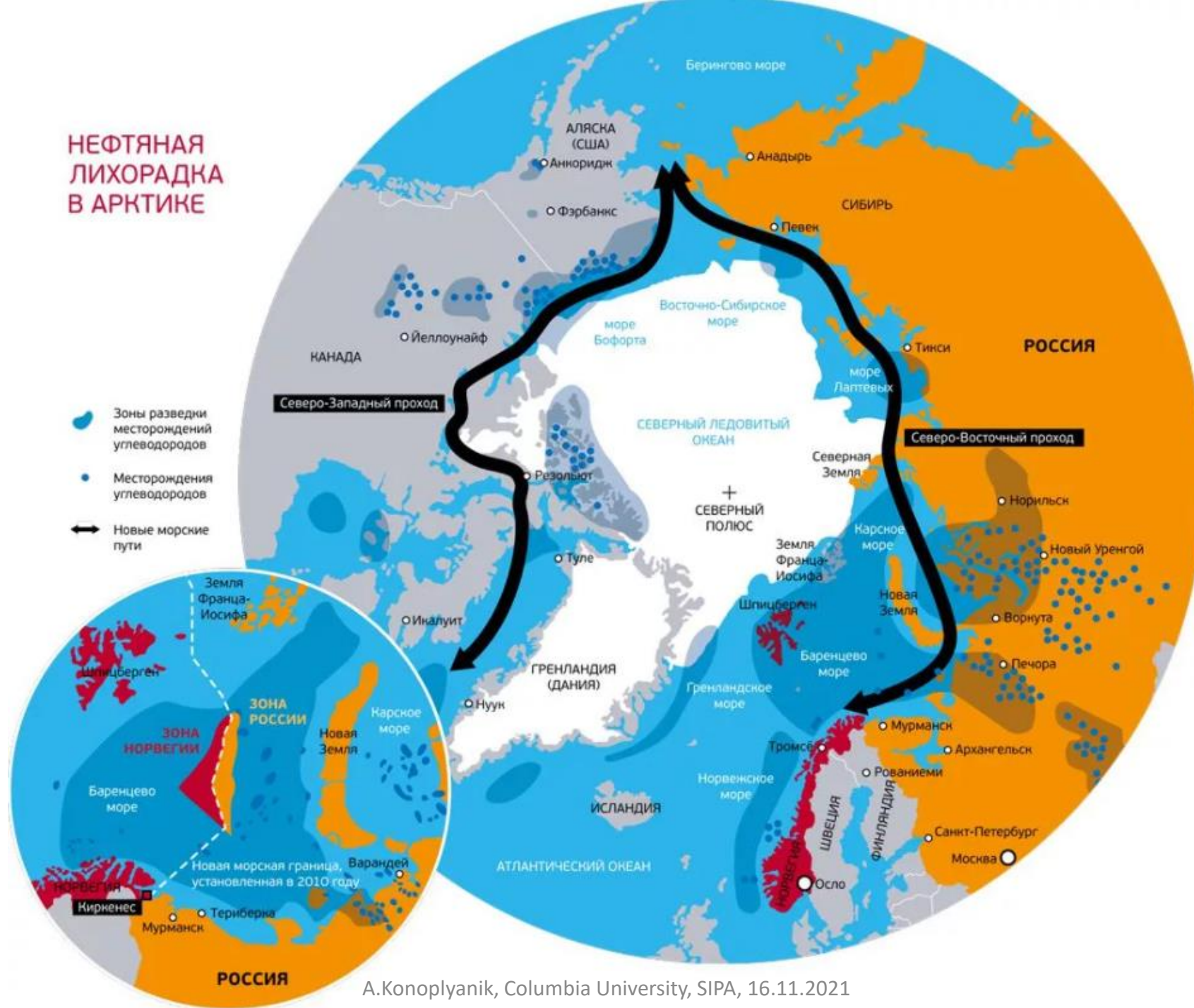


Масштаб 1:25 000 000

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НЕФТЯНАЯ ЛИХОРАДКА В АРКТИКЕ

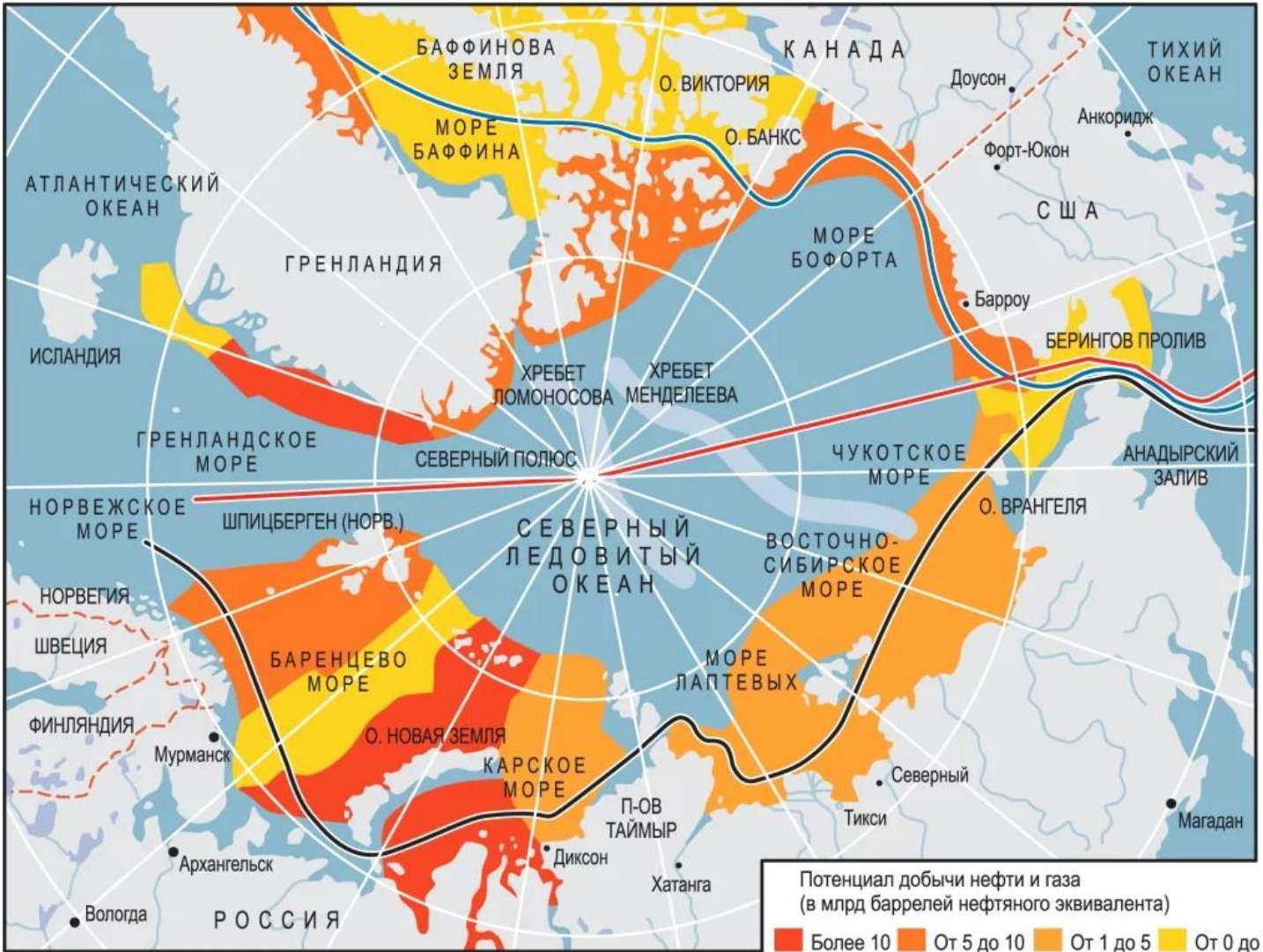
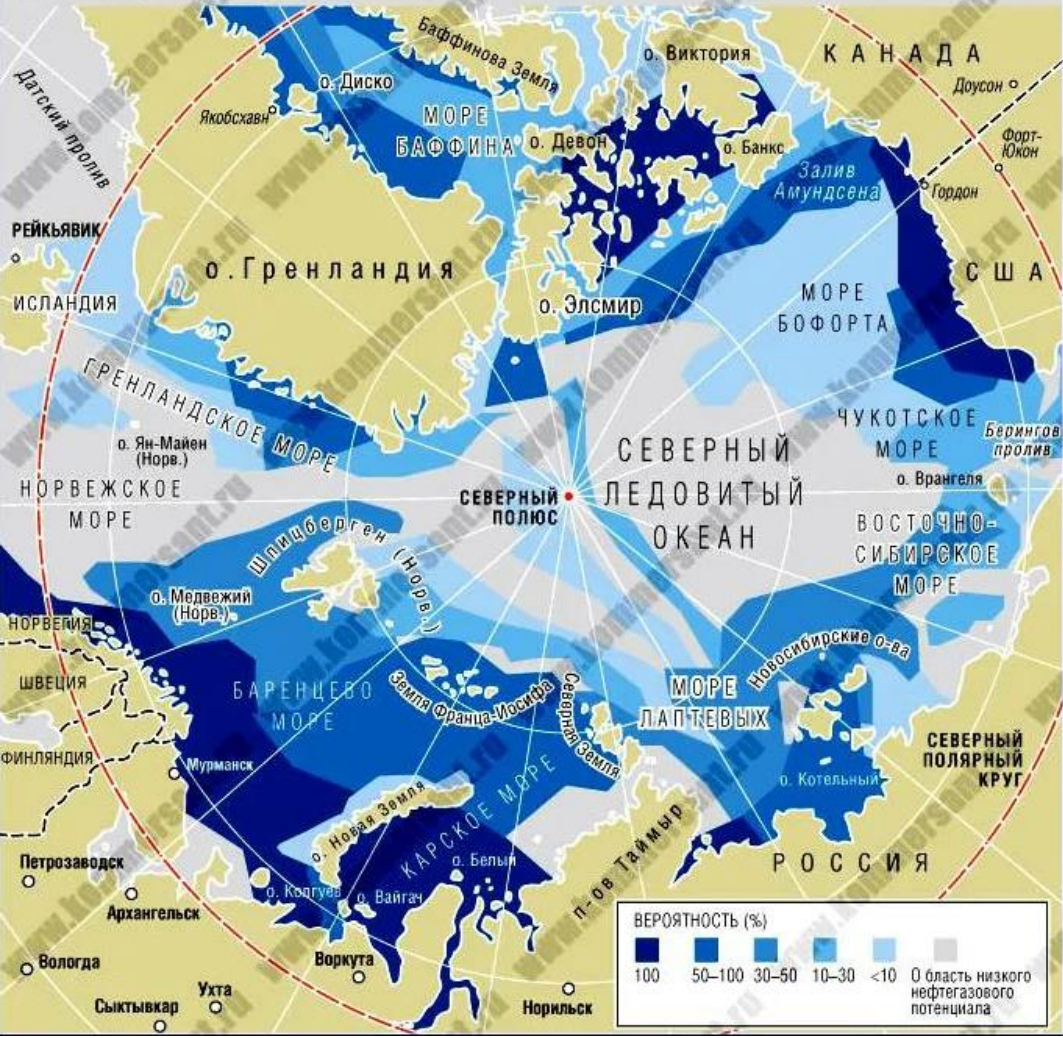


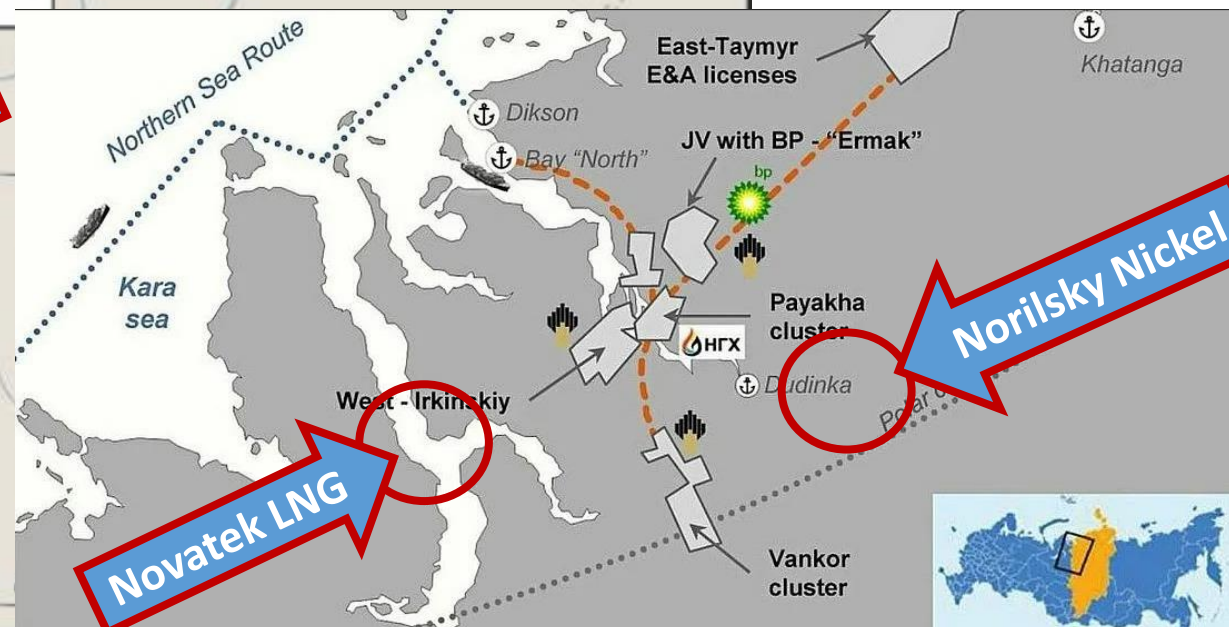
**ОБЩИЕ ЗАПАСЫ НЕФТИ И ГАЗА В НАЦИОНАЛЬНЫХ СЕКТОРАХ АРКТИКИ
(МЛРД ТОНН, УСЛОВНОГО ТОПЛИВА)**



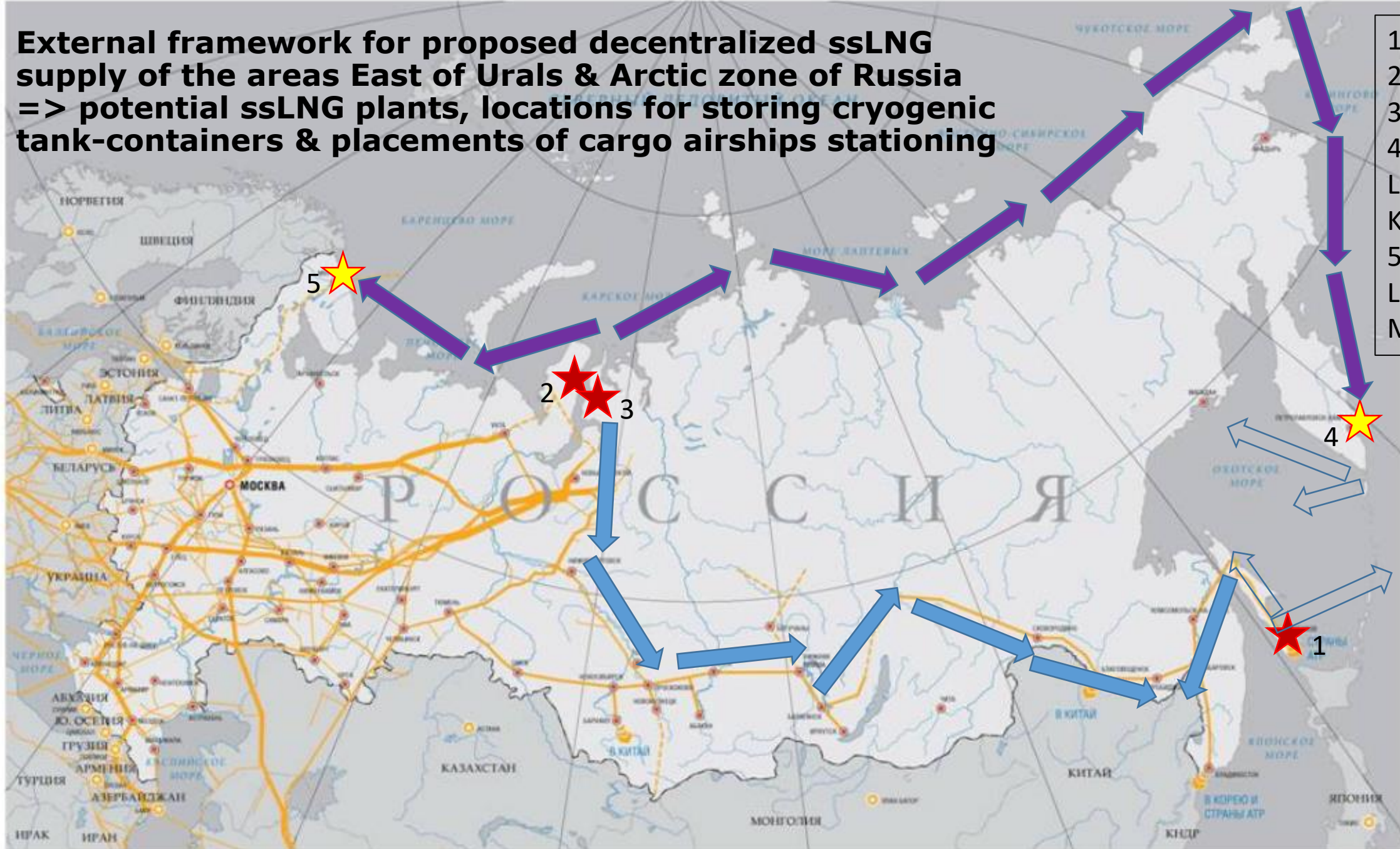
По оценкам национальных энергетических ведомств [2010-2012 гг.]

Вероятное расположение месторождений нефти и газа в Арктике





External framework for proposed decentralized ssLNG supply of the areas East of Urals & Arctic zone of Russia => potential ssLNG plants, locations for storing cryogenic tank-containers & placements of cargo airships stationing



КАРТА СПГ-ОБЪЕКТОВ В АРКТИЧЕСКОЙ ЗОНЕ РОССИЙСКОЙ ФЕДЕРАЦИИ



Source: А.Климентьев. СПГ – ключ к успеху арктической политики. // «Нефтегазовая Вертикаль», 2021, №3-4, с. 73-79 (75).

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Drivers of Russia-US cooperation through post-Soviet period

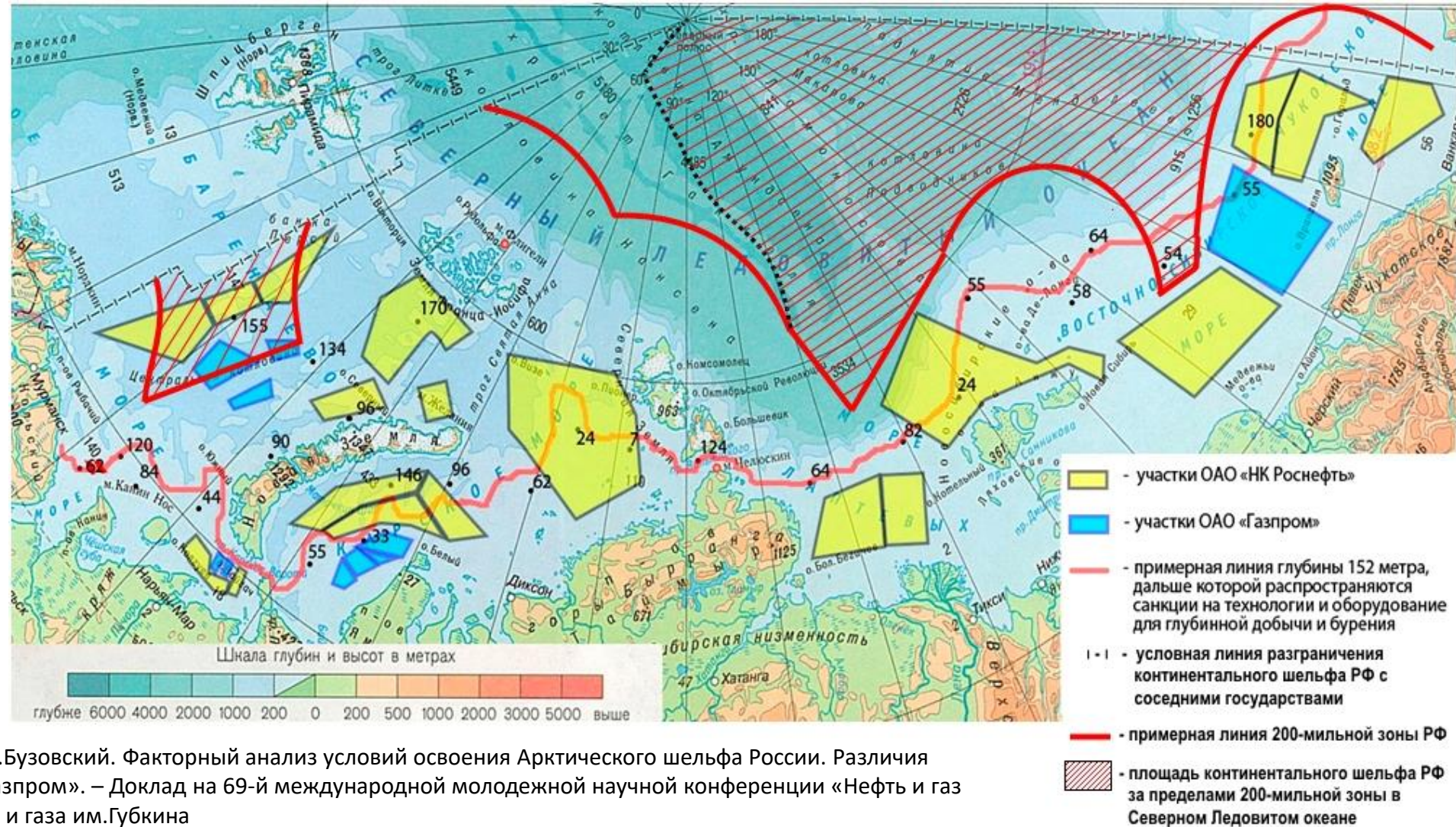
- 1990-ies (beginning of post-Soviet Russia)
 - RUS: Structural/financial crisis of economic transformation => RUS budget deficit => US-driven IMF & WB loans (to support RUS structural reforms)
 - RUS: Access to capital = f (credit rating) => no/costly access to commercial debt financing => FDI in O&G => PSA as a tool for economic recovery of non-oil regions through PSA CAPEX with stable/predictable legal regime in O&G =>
 - Sakhalin PSA projects (incl. US Exxon – Sakh-1, Marathon, McDermott – Sakh-2) as few successful FDI (PSA signed before PSA law came in force)
 - Shtokman “Arctic Star” consortium (incl. US Conoco) planned to operate at the field in 1993 – unsuccessful (license withdrawn to Rosshelf)
 - RUS: Access to US/Western technologies via FDI => US Eximbank (tied loans) + manufacturing firms (Haliburton, Schlumberge)
 - US: Access to RUS vast O&G resources perceived as less-risky alternative to high-risky OPEC oil (different types of risks); access to RUS market with US technologies & standards (to enable long-term dependence on them)
- 2000-ies & 2010-ies (until Crimea/Ukraine sanctions)
 - RUS: from project financing (FDI & PSA) to corporate financing (to channel foreign investors only to buy shares of domestic RUS O&G companies)
 - US as a seller of equipment for recovery of RUS O&G => high oil prices, high revenues & purchasing powers of RUS O&G companies (high price to compensate non-commercial risks)
- 2010-ies (post-Crimea/Ukraine sanctions)-2020-ies (nowadays)
 - Russia-US non-cooperation, increased confrontation... sanctions prevented Arctic development, stipulated “import substitution”
 - BUT: in front of high common danger => US-Russia-KSA cooperation to overcome oil price war of March’2020
- Further on (sometime in the future) ???
 - Russia-US areas of common interest above areas of disagreements [& confrontation?]: joint technological developments for (joint?) Arctic development (Soyuz-Apollo effect)
 - Whether it is possible?

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Distribution of licensing areas in Russian Arctic – and dividing line (by water depth) for implementation of technological sanctions

Where background data is higher (Western areas) – acts technological sanctions, where technological sanctions do not act (Eastern areas) – low background data, incremental demand for exploratory investments, thus financial sanctions acts...



Подготовлено В.Бузовским. Источник: В.Бузовский. Факторный анализ условий освоения Арктического шельфа России. Различия стратегий ОАО «НК Роснефть» и ОАО «Газпром». – Доклад на 69-й международной молодежной научной конференции «Нефть и газ 2015», 14-16.04.2015, Москва, РГУ нефти и газа им.Губкина

Source: А.Конопляник, В.Бузовский, Ю.Попова, Н.Трошина. Влияние антироссийских санкций на освоение нефтегазового потенциала российского арктического шельфа - и развилки энергетической политики России. – Москва, «Восток Капитал», ноябрь 2015, 106 с.

Arctic offshore: different sanctions' effect for shallow and deep water areas : **shallow waters**

- Available achievements of evolutionary STP (cost decrease within “learning curve”), mostly available Western technologies & know-how
- Mostly artificial islands (man-made island, gravity island, ice platforms, caisson footing) or gravity platforms (in low-ice cases) + sub-sea production facilities
- Different investment regimes (PSA vs “tax plus royalty”) provides for different economics of the same technological solutions
- Sanctions has delayed/postponed possible continuation of **today's** development of shallow waters of Russian Arctic with the help of **available** Western/US technologies (f.i. break-off Exxon-Rosneft Arctic JV) => but they thus postponed possible ecological threats & damages & costs overruns

Arctic offshore: different sanctions' effect for shallow and deep water areas : **deep waters**

- Existing technologies for Arctic shallow waters are not appropriate & not adaptable for deep water development – technological breakthroughs are needed
- There are no available technologies anywhere in the world today for safe development of deep water Arctic offshore
- Revolutionary STP is badly needed => justified demand for post-sanctions international cooperation in Arctic development; to start with joint, incl. interstate, fundamental R&D
- Sanctions slowed the speed, narrowed the scale, postponed the beginning of development of deep water offshore projects. Though thus they have lowered ecological risks & presented “window of opportunities” for adaptation of long-term state energy policy with the aim to reconsider risk level of non-pay-back of costly capital decisions & of possible changes/adaptations of priority trends in energy development

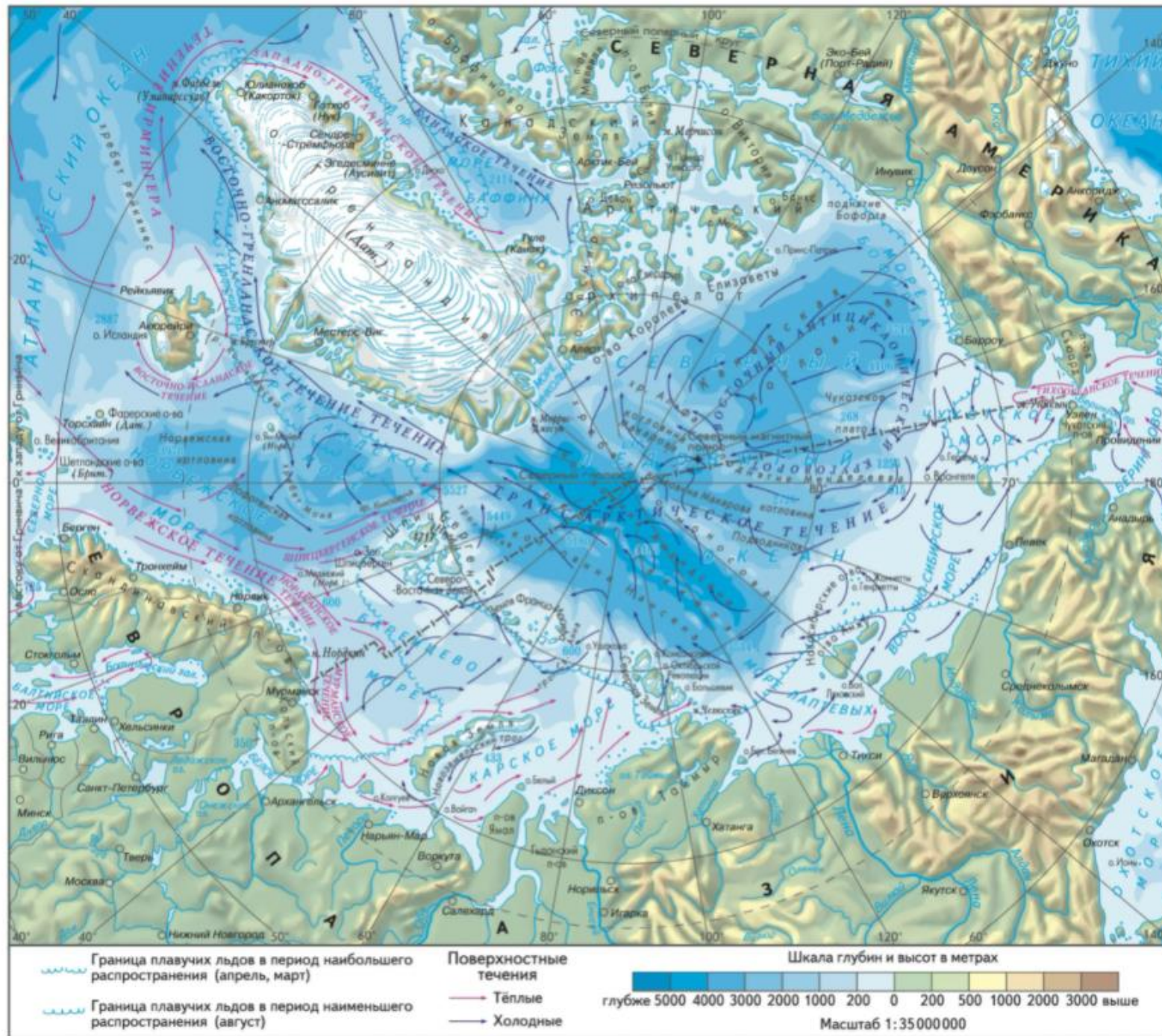
Western sanctions against Russian O&G – or against Western companies themselves?

- Today all Russian Arctic offshore developments have been concentrated within the shallow nearshore areas. They are based on technological achievements of the evolutionary STP which have been adapting to these conditions either Arctic onshore (artificial islands) or Northern offshore (stationary platforms) technologies. As usual, existing Western technological offshore O&G decisions/solutions have been adapted to conditions of Russian Arctic, incl. by secondary use of stationary installations (double profit for Western producers/suppliers).
 - For instance, “second life” as upper derick (after deep modernization) in the Arctic shallow waters:
 - Former Hutton platform (North Sea) for Prirazlomnoye project in Pechora (Barents) Sea, or
 - Former Molikpak platform (Sea of Beaufort) for Sakhalin-2 project (PA-A platform), or
 - Former Glomar Beaufort Sea 1 platform (Sea of Beaufort) for Sakhalin-1 project (Orlan platform).But such solutions do not work for deep Arctic offshore developments.
- **Western sanctions is a “shot in one’s own foot”**: they have closed prospective for the West Russian market of shallow-water Arctic projects, which is a destination/target market today and in the future for existing Western technologies (incl. their re-use), incl. within joint development of Russian Arctic offshore (which has been priority for Rosneft)

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СЕВЕРНЫЙ ЛЕДОВИТЫЙ ОКЕАН



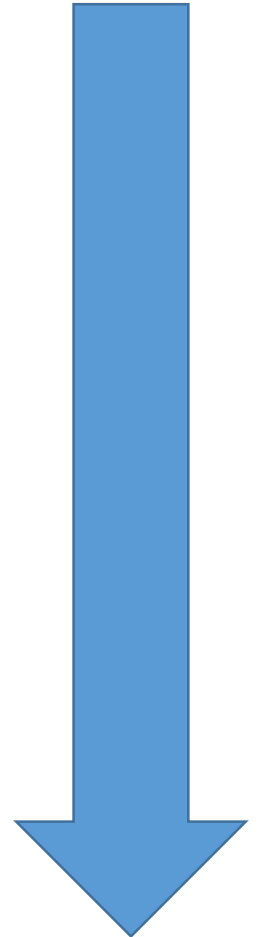
Evolution of offshore O&G production technologies

Adaptation of
«onshore»
technologies

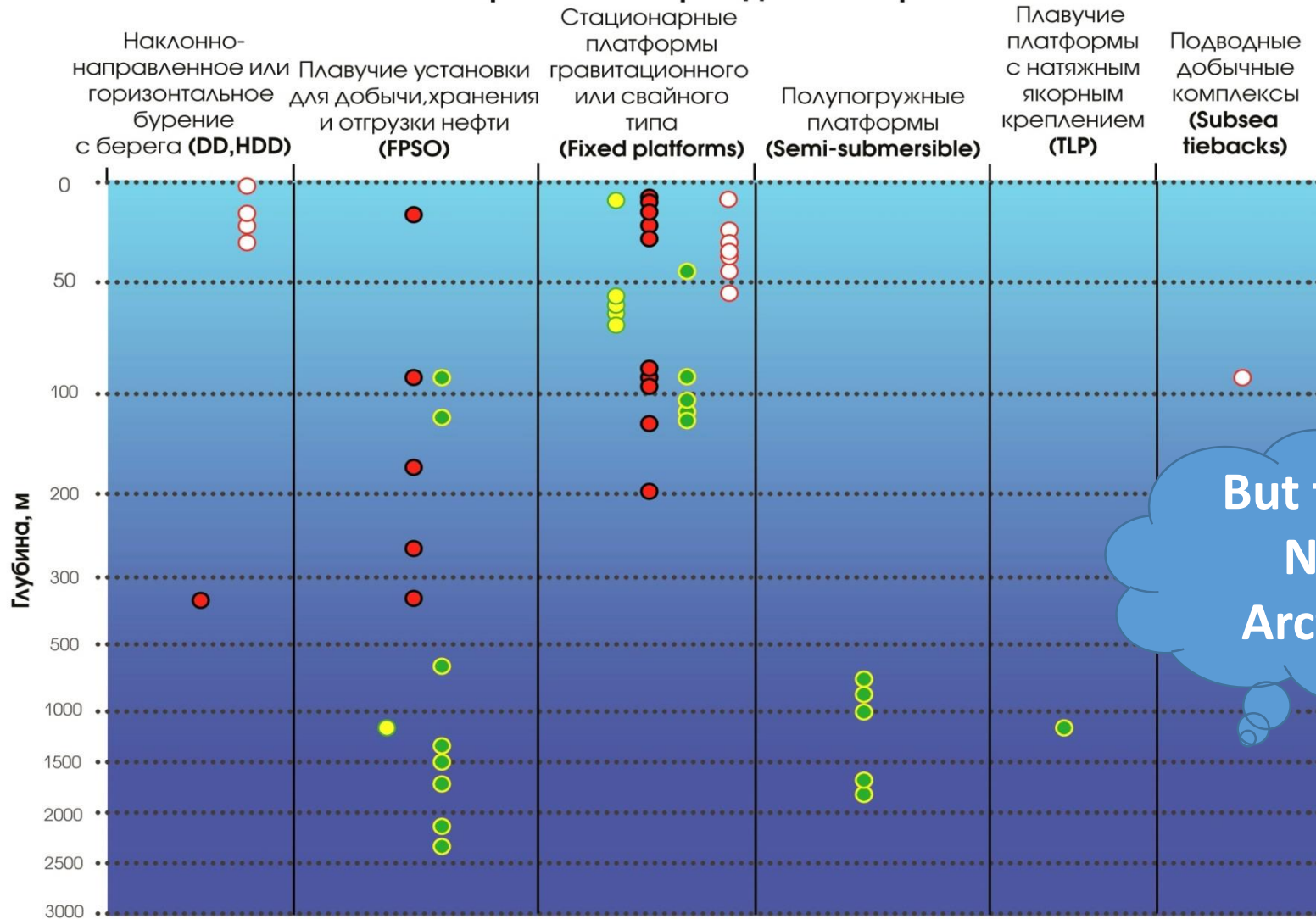
- Piers
- Artificial islands
- Directional & horizontal directional drilling from the shore (DD/HDD)

Specially
developed
«offshore»
technologies

- Stationary/fixed platforms
 - Piled,
 - Gravity
- Semi-submersible platforms & ships
 - Anchored,
 - With system of dynamic positioning,
 - Autonomous fields/plants (LNG)/FPSU
- Sub-sea production units
- ...???



Примеры технологических решений по освоению шельфовых месторождений в странах БРИКС



But this is NOT Arctic!!!

Source: А.Конопляник, В.Бузовский, Ю.Попова, Н.Трошина. Влияние антироссийских санкций на освоение нефтегазового потенциала российского арктического шельфа - и развилки энергетической политики России. – Москва, «Восток Капитал», ноябрь 2015, 106 с.

- Бразилия
- Индия
- ЮАР
- Российская Федерация
- КНР

Составлено В.Бузовским, Н.Трошиной, Ю.Поповой по данным <http://www.offshore-technology.com>; <http://www.subseaiq.com>; <http://www.eia.gov>

Development Arctic offshore – key today’s technological solutions (Skolkovo Energy Center’s view with comments)

- “Development from the shore (HD/HDD)
- Artificial islands (with water depths up to 10-15 meters) (*)
- Sub-sea production units linked :
 - To the shore (if the field is relatively close to the shore)
 - To the floating (if there is no pack-ice) or stationary platform
- Stationary platforms – usually gravity platforms with caisson derrick subbase (under water depths up to 100 meters)» (**)

Source: «Арктический шельф: насколько оптимальна система регулирования в России?» – Энергетический центр Московской школы управления Сколково, сентябрь 2012 г., с.40-41

BUT: (*) up to 30 meters – Molikpak/PA-A (Sakhalin-2)
(**) «...in Arctic conditions subsoil deposits already are not accessible for development with water depths of 40-50 meters ...» (Новиков Ю.Н. Некоторые проблемы изучения и освоения углеводородного потенциала морской периферии России. – «Нефтегазовая геология. Теория и практика», 2012, Т.7, №4, http://www.ngtp.ru/rub/5/68_2012.pdf)

Selection of offshore technologies dependent on water depth (within conditions even if partly close to conditions of Russian Arctic offshore)

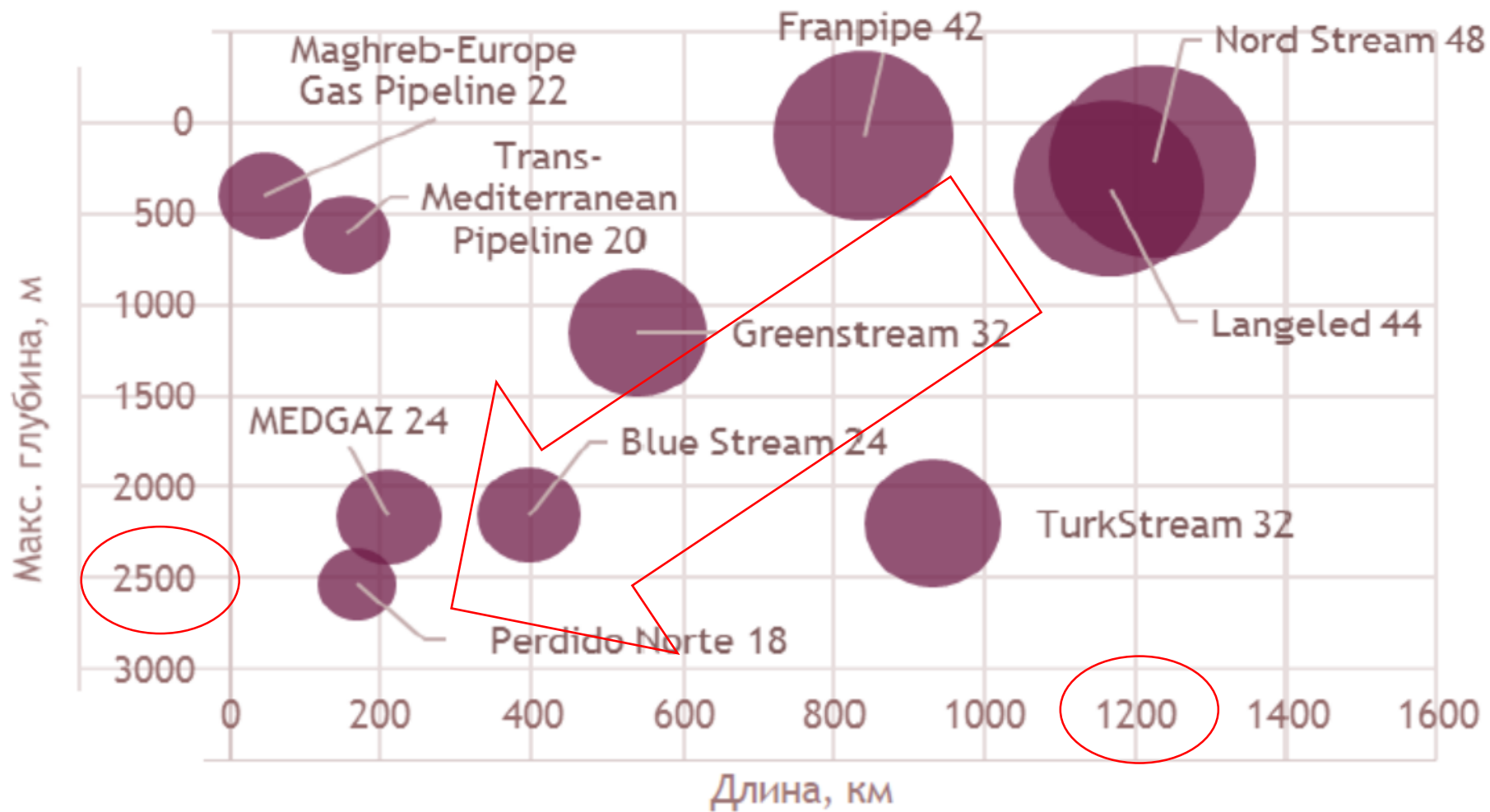


Source: А.Конопляник, В.Бузовский, Ю.Попова, Н.Трошина. Влияние антироссийских санкций на освоение нефтегазового потенциала российского арктического шельфа - и развилки энергетической политики России. – Москва, «Восток Капитал», ноябрь 2015, 106 с.

Similar conditions with Russian Arctic offshore have only **5 US projects in the Sea of Beaufort**. Norway (incl. in Barents Sea), UK, Canada have not such a severe conditions which are non-comparable with Russian Arctic offshore

Составлено В.Бузовским, Н.Трошиной, Ю.Поповой по данным официальных отчетов компании BP, официального веб-сайта Норвежского Нефтяного Директората

Сравнение основных параметров отдельных морских газопроводов



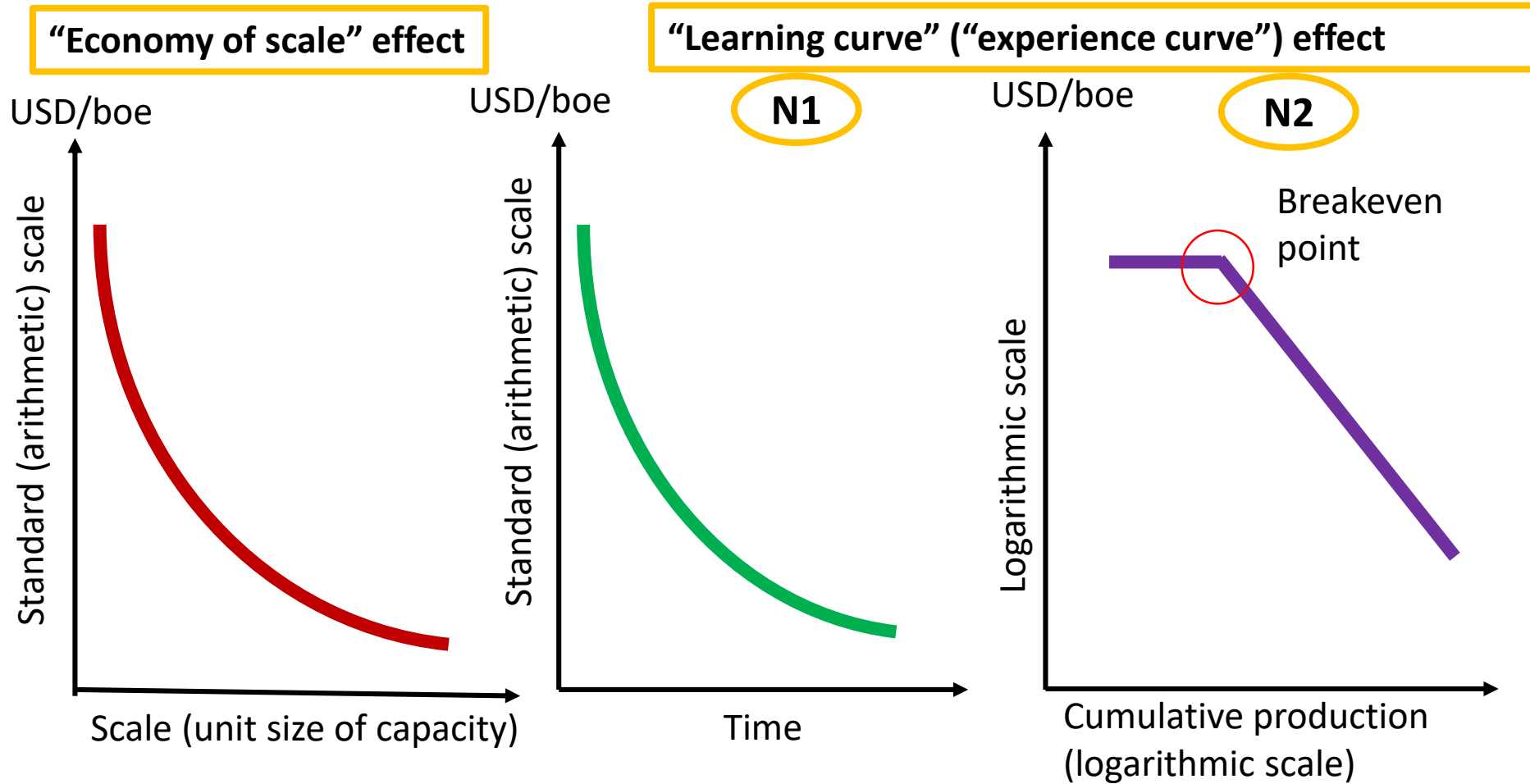
Источник: Информационный [сайт](#) проекта «Турецкий поток»

Источник: Аналитический центр при Правительстве РФ. Энергетический Бюллетень №83, апрель 2020, с.25

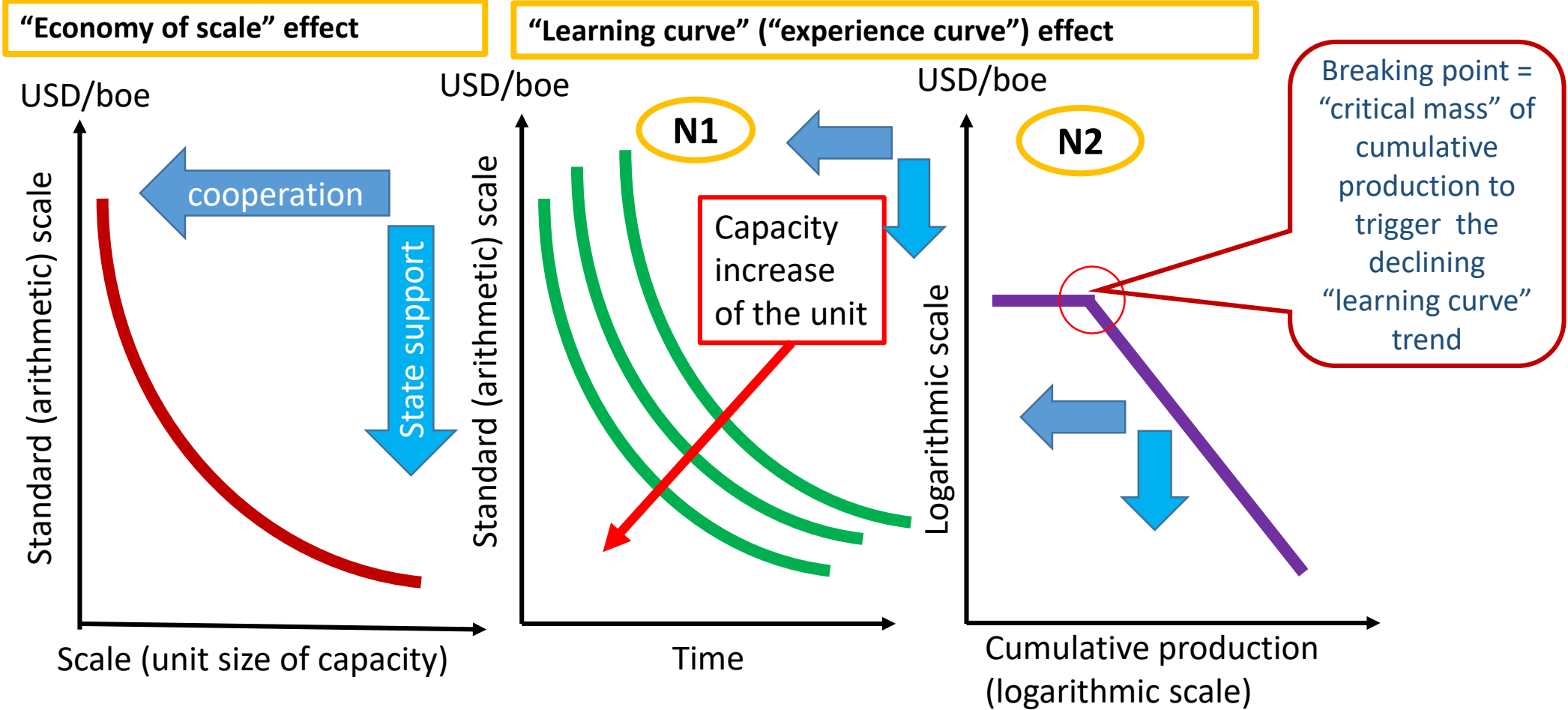
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Tree types of cost curves (1)

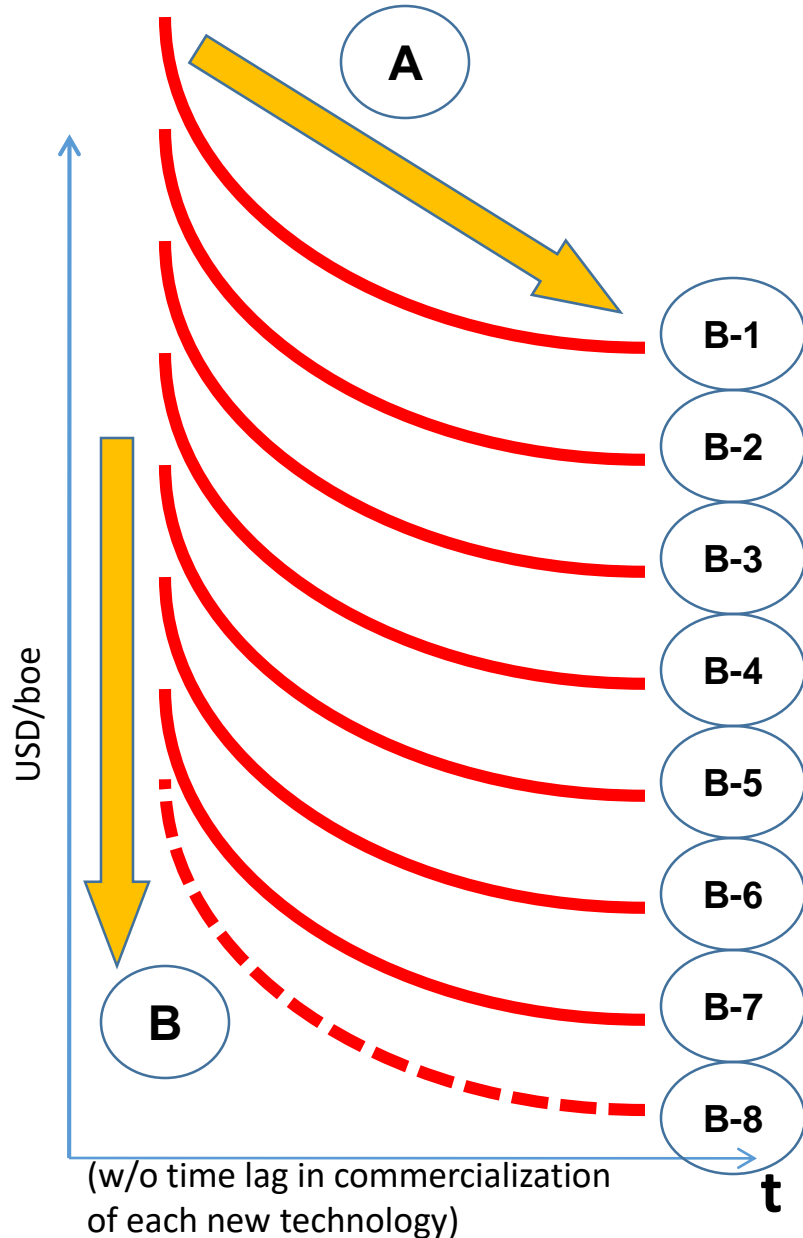


Three types of cost curves (2)



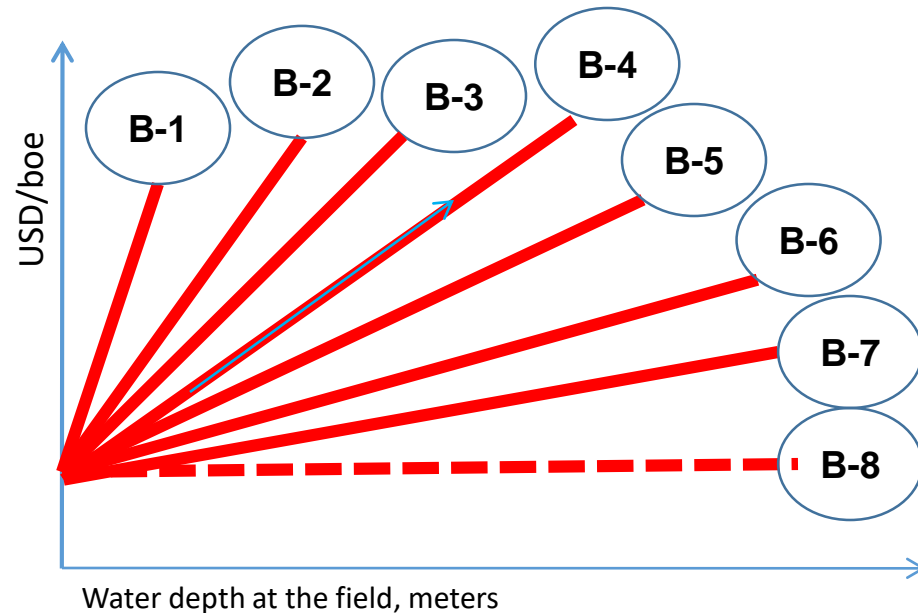
«Learning curves»: Evolutionary & Revolutionary STP

A: Evolutionary STP (moving through the learning curve for the given technology)
B: Revolutionary STP (moving from one to another learning curve by breakthrough technologies)



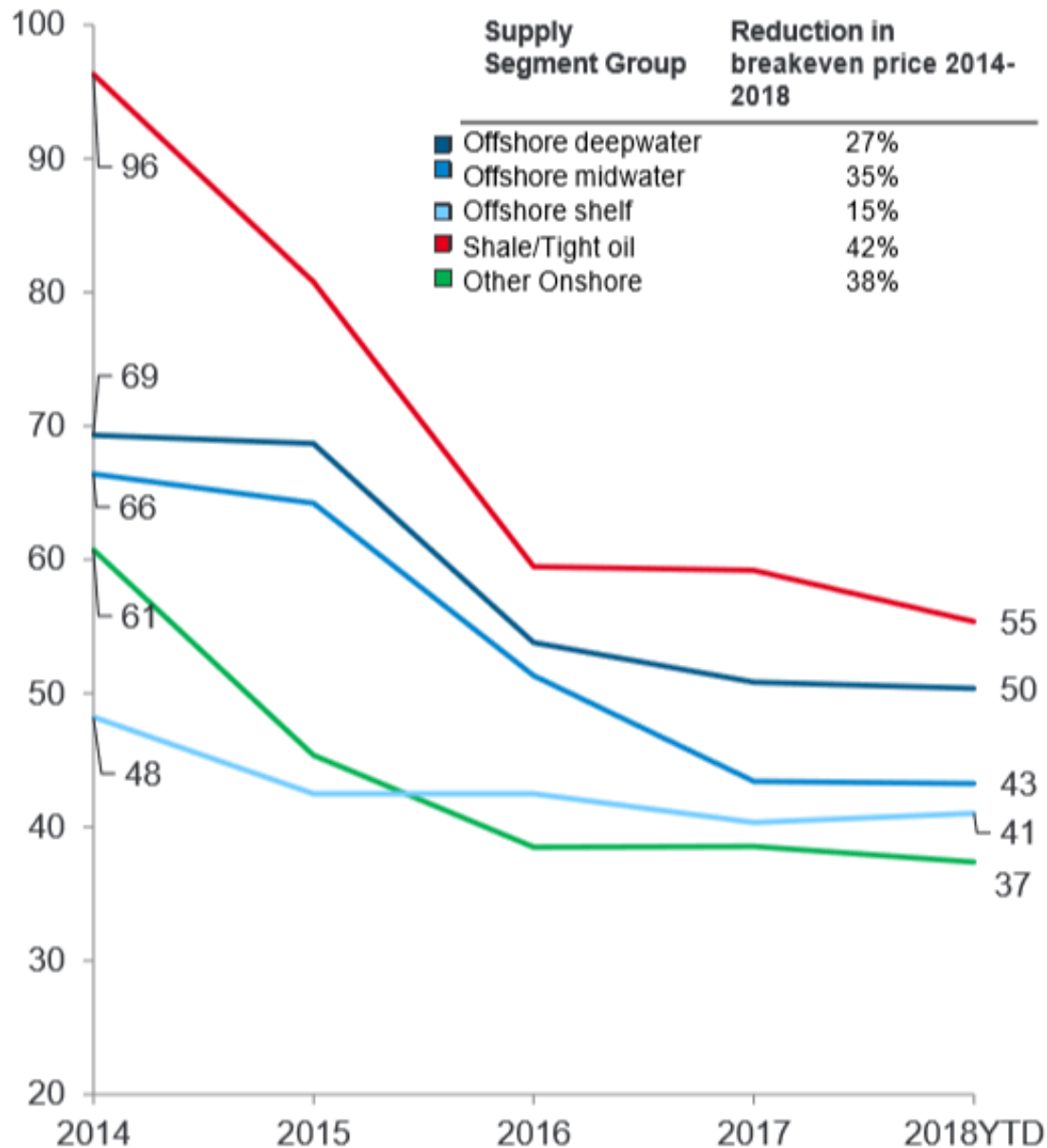
Offshore production technologies:

- B-1:** piers (supply lines from the shore), HD/HDD from the shore
- B-2:** artificial islands
- B-3:** stationary/fixed platforms (piled, gravity)
- B-4:** semi-submersible platforms, anchored (TLP)
- B-5:** semi-submersible platforms & ships with dynamic positioning systems
- B-6:** FPSU, floating LNG & regaz plants,
- B-7:** sub-sea well completion/sub-sea production units
- B-8:** non-platform sub-sea/sub-pack ice offshore production of full cycle ???



Development in Brent breakeven oil prices

USD per barrel



Rystad Energy: examples of some "learning curves" in petroleum industry, 2014-2018

Источник: Артём Чен (Старший Аналитик, Департамент энергетических рынков, Rystad Energy). МИРОВЫЕ РЫНКИ НЕФТИ СОСТОЯНИЕ ПЕРСПЕКТИВЫ И РИСКИ В УСЛОВИЯХ ВОЗРАСТАЮЩЕЙ КОНКУРЕНЦИИ ПРОИЗВОДИТЕЛЕЙ. (слайд 11) // Конференция «Глобальные и локальные рынки нефти, газа и нефтепродуктов», Москва, 20.09.2018 (<http://oilandgasforum.ru/archive/?id=1138>)

In Russia robots are developed to work at the water depths up to 6 thousand meters

- Moscow,. 20.07.2016. INTERFAX.RU – Bureau “Rubin” has created autonomous unmanned underwater vehicles (AUUV) for special tasks at deep water depths.
- Created complex of mobile **AUUV “Yunona”** which can obtain survey and exploratory mission at the water depths of **up to one thousand (1000) meters**
- Prototype model of **AUUV “Klavesin-2R-PM”** can obtain survey and exploratory mission at the water depths of **up to six thousand (6000) meters** is constructed and has been passing preliminary testing phase
- Source: <http://www.interfax.ru/world/519565> (20.07.2016)

In the Arctic deep-water division has been deployed which will undertake not only defense but also non-defense tasks

- At the Northern Navy deep-water division has been deployed. It employs **small-scale nuclear deep-water stations** (SSNDWS) capable to work at the depths of **up to six thousand (6000) meters**. It also employs submarines-holders of such SSNDWS, and a number of robotic underwater complexes.
- Source: https://nangs.org/news/technologies/v-arktike-razvernuli-glubokovodnuyu-diviziyu-kotoraya-budet-reshat-ne-tolko-voennye-no-i-grazhdanskiye-zadachi?utm_source=newsletter_1210&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=n-d-n (11.04.2018)

Russia will create in Arctic a drilling sub-sea complex for geologic exploration

- **Moscow, 03.08.2018 – RIA Novosti.** Russian shipbuilders will before end-September 2019 construct prototype model and will test drilling complex for deep-water geological exploration **at the see-floor of the Arctic Ocean ...**
- The project was ordered by Rubin Central Construction Bureau – one of the world leaders in submarine construction & leading Russian shipbuilding bureau of underwater technics. Drilling complex is to be placed at the research (scientific) submarine as technological equipment for deep-water geological exploration in the Arctic seas. Complex destined for **drilling wells up to 5 (five) meters depth in soft and packed soil, and also up to 0,25 meters in rocks**, and for collection of core samples.
- The works are undertaken within State programme “Development of shipbuilding and technics for offshore fields exploration for 2013-2030”. To Autumn 2017 were prepared characteristics of unique robotic complexes able to conduct fully autonomous **underwater and under pack-ice exploration & development of O&G fields at the sea-bottom of the Arctic Ocean**: energy system for autonomous energy supply of technical facilities for sub-sea O&G fields development, ..., underwater drilling complex to fulfill **all set of works for sub-sea construction of exploratory & exploitation wells**.
- Source: RIA Novosti <https://ria.ru/science/20180803/1525904388.html> (03.08.2018)

Conclusion

- Arctic is a common space with high natural sensitivity – same as climate, it has multinational consequences of individual nation's actions in Arctic
- Arctic increases our interdependency among other similar facets
 - Like “Broader Energy Europe” is expanding to “Common Eurasian energy market” united by common fixed immobile capital-intensive long-distant diversified large-scale infrastructure => the fundament for interdependency
- Technological cooperation in R&D (technology, ecology, climate, economics, ...) to minimize negative effects on Arctic with continued & expanded involvement of its resources for sustainable economic growth & humans prosperity
- Deep offshore Arctic not as area of potential military conflicts & zone of military threats (area for nuclear submarines) but for non-defense technological cooperation & mutual economic challenges

Thank you for your attention!

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