

---

## **Petroleum Prospects of the Circum-Pacific Region of Eastern China in the 1980s**

**Hu, Jianyi**

**Gan Kewen**

**Xu Shubao**

*Scientific Research Institute of Petroleum Exploration and  
Development  
Beijing, China*

China has become one of the world's major oil producing countries with production in excess of 2 million barrels per day. About 90 percent is from basins, onshore and offshore, within the circum-Pacific structural belts along the eastern margin of

the country. These are mainly grabens and half-grabens, formed in 2 stages: In association with volcanic and magmatic activity and later, due to cooling and contracting of the mantle. Rich organic source rocks were deposited during the first stage and the second was a time of alluvial plain sedimentation. Oil is trapped in rollover anticlines produced by growth fault and salt movement, in reservoirs draped over fault blocks and basement prominences and in stratigraphic pinch-outs within lacustrine clastics. Many of the basins have the possibility of deep Mesozoic objectives and offshore there are extensional back-arc basins where exploration of highly-prospective marine sediments is just now commencing. Because only a few basins of the circum-Pacific provinces have been intensively-explored and yet there are precedence for discovery of giant field-sized oil reservoirs, it must be concluded that an enormous potential will be realized during the 1980s.