# Well Testing For G&G guys (and gals)

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## What is Well Test Interpretation?

- Looking at squiggly lines in pressure and/or rate data to divine what's happening in the completion and/or reservoir
- A science?
- A religion?
- Both?
- Maybe it's just a tool to aid in understanding the well/reservoir?

# Well Testers Agree (Usually) On

- Skin
- Perm (kh)
- The model we used for the analysis is right until we're proven wrong
  - If wrong, blame the data
  - If data's good, blame fluid and/or rock properties
- We're always right → You need to change Your model

## What is Permeability?

- The ability of the rock to flow fluids
- A measure of the cross-sectional area of the connected pores in a rock.
- Permeability is a variable. It can change!
- It allows you to calculate what your well SHOULD be producing.

## What is Skin?

- A reduction in POTENTIAL flowrate caused by ANYTHING, aka an additional resistance, or pressure drop, to overcome.
  - Damage
  - Non-Darcy effects
  - Partial perforation
  - Plugging
- Just a Fudge factor extra pressure drop in the near wellbore region.

# What is Damage?

- Reduction in POTENTIAL flowrate caused by reservoir or foreign material.
  - Drilling mud
  - Plugging with fines
  - Clay swelling
  - Compaction
  - Perforation damage
- Damage can be reduced!

## Common Terms (and what they really mean)

- Wellbore Storage :
  - Something at the beginning of the test that I don't understand and can't explain – err, if I stimulate a well & improve the completion, I change the Wellbore Storage without changing the volume of the well bore...but, no one's going to ask...
- Non-Uniqueness:
  - Something at the end of the test that I don't understand and can't explain – err, there's a good chance that I'm wrong but can't admit it...just too many unknowns & not enough equations...what's a fancy word I can use for this so I'm still the smartest person in the room (be sure to pat self on back)?

## More Terms...

- Condensate Banking:
  - Something in the middle of the test that looks like liquid dropped below the downhole gauge...Oh, crap! I rented them the gauge & they're going to do the "blame the gauge" trick...hmmm, it <u>IS</u> a gas condensate well...
- Phase Re-segregation:
  - Well...that's weird...what can I call that?
- Smoothed Data:
  - I couldn't get a model to match it, so I "fixed" the data

# State of the Art What We Do Now

- Set Capillary Entry Pressure to Zero
- Derive Diffusion Equation
- Guess a Fixed Reservoir Boundary
- Assume Flow Field is Initially Connected —
- Compute Solution
- Smooth Real Data and Make a Comparison
- Guess Again

## A Bit of Controversy:

#### ISN'T LOOKING AT THE MAP FIRST...Just...

#### **CHEATING?**

Does Blind Mapping Increase the Validity of the Model?

## What if...

- Instead of performing mathematical manipulation with the data and pre-setting the boundaries, we:
  - Apply Thermodynamic Constraints (1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Law)
  - Include the Higher Order Terms in the Diffusivity Eqn
  - Include the Concept of Threshold Pressure (pressure drop required to initiate flow from a pore)
  - Treat the System Like a Mass Transfer/Energy Dissipation Process

#### R&D Session: Blind Energy Map (After Many Beers...)

- A Closed Solution
- Running Volumetrics don't have to reach PSS to get a volume
- More Accurate Permeability-Thickness
- More Accurate Distances to Limits
- Differentiate between Faults, Strat-outs & Gas-Liquid Contacts
- Relative Position of Limits to Each Other
- A Map You can show the G&G guys without getting laughed out of the room

## Blind Energy Map – Example 1 From pressure/rate data ONLY

...Now, let's meet with the G&G team

This is the point to begin integration of Well Testing & Seismic.



Nel

#### Is This One or Two Reservoir Compartments ?



#### **Conclusion:**

- The reservoir compartments are <u>NOT</u> connected
- The study improved operator's geological interpretation
- ODSI evaluated 18 BFC of gas in place; the well produced 12.7 BCF (depletion drive; high compressibility rock)
- Once the 'Top' compartment was depleted, the operator side-tracked to the 'Bottom' compartment and encountered virgin pressures



# Questions?

- How Long to Generate Results? 2-5 days
- How Much? <\$35,000 plus data acquisition costs
- Besides the Pressure & Rate Data, What do You Need?
  - Logs
  - Core/SWC data
  - Fluid Properties
  - Completion/Wellbore Diagram
  - <u>NOT Your Map</u>

# Full Study – Example 2

- Working Session with G&G Team
- Well Test Analysis Performed
- Energy Map Generated
- Overlay made of Energy Map
- Energy Map compared to Geologic Map
- Back to the G&G workstation...
- New View of Geology

• Reservoir Boundaries, types of boundaries and shape of the reservoir were identified **from pressure/rate data only** 







#### Comments:

 Boundary 1 and Boundary 2 appeared parallel to each other (Observed linear flow on the pressure data)









#### Blind Energy Map – Example 2 Final Reservoir Area/Shape













# Back to the Geophysical Workstation

The Next Step is to Review the Seismic Data Looking for Amplitude Events along the Edge of the Energy Map.







#### SW



3

Filename: 259223; aftest:hp750c









Filename: 261770,gftesthp750c@crusher:eden3d\_new\_06.cgm Date: 01-01-23 08556 Panel 1 of 1







Tename: 259615;stheachp750c@crusher.eden3d\_new\_05.cgm: June: 01-01-23 08520





#### NW

#### SE

Onte: 01-01-23













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# Conclusions...

- Well Testing generates fairly consistent values for skin & perm...and mostly arguments about everything else
- If done independently (without seeing the geologic image first), the credibility of the well test analysis can be improved
- Well Test Analysis can initiate a re-evaluation of the geologic interpretation & Vice Versa
- Best practice: Work separately until the G&G team and the Well Testers have independent models/maps; then work as a team with both sides being willing to change