Well clean-up optimisation using advanced modelling processes





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Presentation Outline

- Why?
- What?

• So what?

Why?

- When a well is drilled and completed, the next step (for production wells or backflowed injection wells) is to "clean-up" the well by flowing (or allowing flow) from the reservoir to the wellbore and producing fluids to surface
- This process depends on a myriad of transient parameters and normally multiphase flow through the reservoir, in to the well and back to surface
- But how do we know:
 - For how long should we clean-up?
 - At what rates?
 - Do we need to gas lift?
 - To a temporary rig or platform or facility?
 - How will the near wellbore and any lower completion flow control impact the clean-up?

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- It is possible to use simple nodal or 1D models however:
 - Continuity of fluid from deep reservoir to well and through completion is missed
 - Phenomena such as heel to toe and in and out flow through the completion are missed or underestimated
 - Formation damage and completion damage are not fully captured
- Fully connected (no nodes or pressure drops employed) 3D finite volume CFD is available to capture all reservoir and well fluid dynamics
 - Reservoir quality (permeability) fully captured
 - Reservoir to well connection fully (two way) coupled
 - Completion geometry fully captured ICDs, ICVs, sand screens, etc.
 - Near wellbore impairment (formation damage and completion damage) can be included (steady state or transient)

Geometry of a single screen joint



Detailed "typical" nozzle ICD geometry



Full flow through completion captured



Overview of pressure profile in 8,000 ft long well



From CFD to well clean-up model

- Well inflow is simulated in CFD at multiple drawdowns
- Inflow profiles (per meter/per foot/per joint as required) generated for each drawdown pressure
- Pressure versus rate plots generated
- Segmented well inflow profile generated for clean-up model
- Look-up table included and used as input during transient well clean-up simulations

Full well inflow profiles at multiple drawdowns





Converted to segment model



"Handshake" - table as input for 1D transient model

	Drawdown (bar)				Mass flow rate (kg/m/h)			
Segment	DD1	DD2	DD3	DD4	Flow 1	Flow 2	Flow 3	Flow 4
1	2.46	9.91	24.79	54.53	5.69	11.12	22.02	34.79
2	2.10	9.57	24.49	54.33	1.05	4.17	10.44	18.20
3	2.01	9.45	24.31	54.01	1.83	8.24	21.10	37.08
4	1.94	9.39	24.27	54.01	1.53	6.80	17.35	30.45
5	1.89	9.35	24.25	54.02	1.21	5.23	13.29	23.30
6	2.06	9.49	24.31	53.94	2.07	9.01	22.92	40.21
7	2.25	9.70	24.57	54.27	1.37	6.12	15.64	27.48
8	2.41	9.89	24.82	54.66	0.48	1.85	4.60	8.02
9	2.49	9.92	24.75	54.37	1.55	7.03	18.00	31.66
10	2.50	9.92	24.73	54.31	1.74	8.14	20.96	36.96
11	2.52	9.95	24.77	54.38	1.52	7.10	18.26	32.20
12	2.54	10.01	24.89	54.64	0.79	3.13	7.80	13.62
13	2.60	10.07	24.96	54.71	0.64	2.28	5.56	9.65
14	2.68	10.14	25.01	54.71	0.73	2.66	6.49	11.37
15	2.70	10.14	24.95	54.54	1.31	5.61	14.21	25.07
16	2.71	10.09	24.80	54.17	2.39	11.31	29.12	51.51
17	2.85	10.28	25.07	54.62	1.23	5.75	14.79	26.11
18	3.05	10.48	25.27	54.81	1.46	6.17	15.58	27.38
19	3.26	10.70	25.52	55.11	1.29	4.92	12.17	21.23
20	3.56	11.00	25.83	55.46	1.34	4.22	9.96	17.06
21	15.90	23.36	38.21	67.90	2.71	4.19	7.15	10.39
22	15.59	23.04	37.89	67.55	4.09	6.26	10.59	15.28
23	2.91	10.37	25.23	54.91	0.71	2.40	5.78	9.99
24	2.36	9.81	24.64	54.28	1.07	4.01	9.88	17.23
25	2.02	9.45	24.23	53.78	1.42	6.57	16.86	29.80
26	1.64	9.06	23.83	53.33	1.69	7.78	19.92	35.20

Example results from 1D transient models



Choke opening sequence

Topside gas and liquid rates during clean-up



Example results



Percentage of base oil in well during clean-up



Key results

- Time required for full well clean-up (circa 10 hours)
- Gas lift requirement
- Comparison between rig and platform clean-up
- Choke opening sequence and risk of low temperature (due to gas lift)
- Optimum fluid sequence prior to clean-up
- Fluid arrival times, temperatures, etc. throughout clean-up

So what?

- Improved prediction of well clean-up verified in real well performance which accurately predicted fluid arrivals to within minutes
- Design of well clean-up operations
- Optimum well inflow modelling with optimum well clean-up modelling
 - Near wellbore and in well impairment properly captured
 - Well completion impact fully captured

• Moving towards fully coupled (two way) transient models

Thank you

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