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APPLICATION OF THE CL-SYSTEMS TECHNOLOGY FOR WATER INJECTION WELLS AT AN OIL AND GAS FIELD

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To date, the development of the oil and gas industry can be characterized by a decline in the efficiency of the development of hydrocarbon deposits. High water cut-off is often caused by water breaking through a highly permeable reservoir interval, which often leads to the shutdown of wells due to the unprofitability of their further operation. In this paper, the application of straightening the profile log technology for injection wells of the Muravlenkovsky oil and gas field is justified. In the course of this work, the results of field studies are systematized. The reasons for water breakthrough were determined, and the main ways of filtration of the injected water were identified using tracer surveys. The use of CL-systems technology based on polyacrylamide and chromium acetate is recommended. The forecast of the estimated additional oil produced was made.

Key words: water cut, straightening the profile log, polyacrylamide, chromium acetate

INTRODUCTION

Currently, the development of the gas and oil producing industry can be characterized by a decline in the production efficiency at a large number of hydrocarbon deposits. Over the past few decades, it is worth mentioning an increased interest of oil companies in the practical application of the advanced high-efficient and cost-effective technologies that ensure the incremental and stable oil production in the hardest geological field conditions [1, 2, 3]. New deposits that have been brought into development are generally composed of low productive, highly heterogeneous and low-permeable reservoirs, oil reserves in them are classified as hard-to-recover with large oil-water and under-gas-cap zones [4, 5, 6]. High water cut is often caused by water breakthrough at the wrong place, this often results in a well shutdown due to the unprofitability of their further operation. Production methods and practices for oil deposits with a conventional waterflooding are likely to be inefficient [7, 8, 9].

Under the current circumstances, only an extensive and widespread introduction of new technologies that significantly increase the efficiency of a conventional waterflooding will enable to reduce the oil production decline rate [10, 11, 12].

The use of technologies which are aimed at straightening the profile log, redistributing filtration flows and reducing water cut is one of the growth opportunities for performance indicators, especially for mature production fields and fields characterized by a large amount of withdrawn produced water [13, 14, 15].

Analyzing the reserves depletion at the Muravlenkovskoye oil and gas field, today the remaining reserves can be classified as generally hard-to-recover. As previously mentioned, a problem of a rapid increase in the water cut of the extracted product occurs at the field due

to such most common factors as lateral coning in conditions of reservoir heterogeneity when using reservoir pressure maintenance systems. In this case, there is a formation of flushed high-permeability zones, which the water is percolated through to the production wells, and areas with a lower permeability remain unaffected.

All the reasons for water breakthrough are divided into two large groups: those related to the well integrity, and those related to the water encroachment of bed.

1. Casing leak.
2. Behind-the-casing flows from below and overlying formations.
3. The water inflow from a water-flooded reservoir that works in conjunction with other oil reservoirs.
4. Joint water and oil influx from a monolithic stratified oil reservoir.
5. The water inflow the zones of oil-water contact, that is, the inflow from the water-saturated underlying interlayers.
6. The inflows of oil-in-water mixtures directly from oil-saturated reservoirs.

Such water inflows are possible from oil deposits with low oil saturation. The mechanism of this process is insufficiently explored. Low oil saturation of the reservoirs can be easily determined through the GIS system. For effective water isolation, it is necessary to comprehensively examine the water-oil flow features, a change in the phase permeability and water content in the product for the processes considered. At the same time, a need arises for special approaches to reduce or restrain water inflows, since oil production is not possible without water production [18, 19, 20].

Frequently, in practice, one is forced to deal with several types of water inflow into the well at once. Often, there can be simultaneous cross flows from the top and bottom horizons, or, along with them, injected water breakthroughs, own water inflows from underlying water-saturated reservoirs, own water inflows from under saturated reservoirs, etc [27, 28, 29].

Below we will consider the case when drowning occurs in highly permeable zones between injection and production wells. The presence of highly permeable zones results in the fact that the displacement front scarcely affects low-permeability oil-saturated zones. For a more complete oil recovery in such cases, it is advisable to take measures to straighten the profile log of injection wells. The creation of hydrodynamic barriers leads to a filtration flows redistribution in the reservoir and an increase in the reservoir sweep efficiency.

Well candidate selection for the profile log straightening

We conducted an analysis of the Muravlenkovskoye oil-field exploitation system for its BS11 production target. On this evidence, we identified a problematic block 12 with significant oil reserves. Based on the outcomes analysis of field geophysical studies and the chemical composition of the produced water, it was proved that a number of production wells of the Muravlenkovskoye field are flooded with injected water. Analysis of tracer studies testifies to the presence of well-flooded zones in the reservoir. These factors lead to premature flooding of the well and necessitate the work in order to straighten the profile log. The feasibility of the profile log straightening was established at injection well No. 886.

Based on the analysis of field geophysical studies results, as well as the water chemical analysis, it was concluded that flooding of almost all observation producing wells occurs because of injected water, behind-the-casing flows from below and overlying water-saturated formations were not discovered.

Let us estimate the pressure communication between injection well № 886 and the nearest production wells. For this purpose, we will analyze the results of indicator studies.

1000 kg of thiocyanate was used as a tracer agent in the form of a dry powder, previously dissolved in 25 m³ of fresh water. Production wells № 843, 844, 865, 939, 940, 2169, 2182, 4137, 4139, 4160, 4177, 4178, 247P were selected as the observation wells.

A total of 553 fluid samples were taken and examined out of 585 planned. The amount of tracer cropped out to the day surface during the entire study period (90 days) was about 29% relative to the injection mass (1000 kg).

The indicator was found in the production samples of all producing wells.

Well № 843 is most affected by injection, towards which the total volume of filtered water was 20% relative to the water produced by it during the study period. Towards

the majority of wells № 4139, 4160, 2169, 939, 940, 844, 4177, 2182, the amount of water filtered in the first 90 days was about 11-16% of their flow rate. Wells № 4137, 4178, 865 (2 ÷ 6%) respond to the injection the least.

The bank area at the close of the study period was 15 358 m². The front is rather unevenly extended relative to well № 886. It is elongated south-westward (№ 4177, 843, 4178) by 106 m. The course of well № 844 seems to be the least depleted. About 70% of the non-recovered tracer proceeds with filtering within the reservoir of interest along the channels with more moderate filtration characteristics, most probably, as part of the displacement frontal advance along the rock matrix.

The first batches of ammonium thiocyanate were recorded in 12-24 hours after the moment of injection for all observation wells, except for № 844, 865, the labeled liquid first approached to its bottomhole in 4-8 days.

Due to the significant remoteness of the observation wells from the injection ones (by an average of 1034 m) and the early tracer off-set practically around the entire ringing, the maximum filtration rates were obtained for most courses.

The mean range of the considered parameter amounted to 49÷818 m / day. Meanwhile, the operation of a few channel blocks was determined in the first half of the study for 5–20 days. The permeability values calculated for flow tubes with abnormal-high conductivity (8÷177 μm²) indicate that they belong exclusively to flooded-out, depleted zones. The filtration velocity distribution over the study object implies its considerable in homogeneity in conductivity. The results obtained indicate that relatively identical velocity ranges are characterized by different filtration systems for individual wells.

The mean calculated permeability of the identified channels was 4.9 μm², which is several hundred-fold higher than the planned level.

Figure 1 (compiled by the authors) shows the established distribution of filtration flows.

Consequently, the results obtained indicate a high-scale development of fissured systems, due to which the hydrodynamic interaction between the injection and recovery zones occurs within the object under study.

As a result of the indicator study carried out in the zone of injection well № 886 of the Muravlenkovskoye field, the following conclusions can be drawn:

1. A good hydrodynamic connection was established between injection well № 886 and all producing wells. The main filtration flows within the area of interest were formed due to the presence of inter layers with abnormal-high conductivity in the productive interval.
2. The mean calculated permeability of the identified channels was 4.9 μm², which is several hundred-fold higher than the planned level of 0.141 μm².

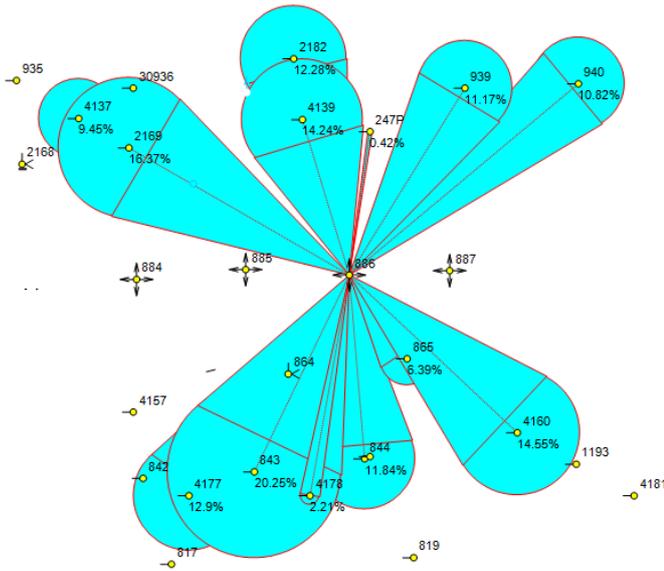


Figure 1: The established distribution of filtration flows within the reservoir of interest

Justification and selection of the profile log straightening technology

With a cross flow in a stratified heterogeneous reservoir, it is desirable to have a water-insulating composition with a singular mobility. If a cross-flow may occur between the layers, then viscous reagents may enter and block low-permeability oil-saturated zones. The treatment philosophy in this case is to advance a water-insulating composition with a water-like viscosity along a highly permeable interlayer to a distance corresponding to high oil saturation in a less permeable interval with local gel sedimentation. The generated water barrier in the interwell space deflects the injected water into the oil zone with a corresponding increase in the flooding sweep.

Gel treatments are the most effective means to control the water filtration channeling through fractures. The benefits of this technology are determined by the possibility of selective filtration through a highly permeable channel with a composition strengthening as the water infiltrates (gel dehydration), which is difficult to implement when working with dispersed and sediment-forming compositions. The insulating properties of a chromium acetate crosslinked polyacrylamide (PPA) gel depend on injection

volume and time, fracture width and length.

Therefore, when conducting an analytical review and generalizing the results of physical-chemical methods implementation at the fields of the Noyabrsk region, we formulated the ways to increase their efficiency: the selection of the best-performing technologies, the cheapest and most technologically advanced reagents, the regional adaptation of technologies.

Table 1 (compiled by the authors) lists the oil growth rate after the application of the profile log straightening methods at the Novogodny field (PJSC Gazpromneft-Noyabrskneftegaz). Based on the tabular indicators, the maximum increase in the oil-production rate is observed after the application of the CL-systems composition (more than 2 times against other treatments). It should be emphasized that injection wells for such treatments were selected with respect to their multiple treatments with standard compositions to straighten the profile log and low response of the surrounding production well stock to the treatment data.

CL-Systems (crosslinked polyacrylamide gel systems) PAA-based compositions with average molecular properties allow for more flexible gelation timing and high filtration selectivity while injecting into a heterogeneous reservoir and, accordingly, have a higher operational benefit when used. In addition, the gel time of the CL-Systems composition heavily relies on temperature [19].

With due regard for the geological and physical characteristics of the BS11 reservoir at the Muravlenkovskoye field (reservoir type, permeability, average water cut, reservoir temperature, etc.), development parameters and screening criteria for the profile log straightening technologies, it may be concluded that the flow deviation technology is most promising one, including injection of crosslinked polymer systems based on a PAA aqueous solution and a CL-Systems crosslinker (chromium acetate).

Thus, the CL-Systems technology based on a PAA aqueous solution with the addition of a crosslinking agent chromium acetate was selected. PAA-based technologies are the most widely used. First of all, unlike other polymer systems, such as hydrolyzed polyacrylonitrile, PAA does not have close restraints on reservoir water salinity and can be effectively applied in Western Siberia with salinity up to 25 g/l, since it provides reliable isolation of water

Table 1: Increase in the oil-production rate after using profile log straightening physical and chemical methods

Method	Number of wells	Increase in the oil-production rate
CL-system	8	2,59
DI+CL system	10	1,12
Hi-vis pill	30	0,86
FDS+Hi-vis pill	6	1,24
WBD+Hi-vis pill	47	1,23
WBD+surfactant+Crosslinked gel+HidrAcid	5	0,77
HidrAcid+surfactant +Crosslinked gel	44	1
Gellant	47	1,19

inflow intervals, while hydrolyzed polyacrylonitrile is effective only when high-salinity water is used. Secondly, we should take note of the stability over time and the presence of the incremental resistance effect which are native to PAA. PAA-based compositions have selective properties due to the preferential molecular absorption in water-saturated intervals. Thirdly, PAA is characterized by a comparably low cost and high technological efficiency. The use of chromium acetate as a crosslinking agent enables to vary the gel time range and rheological properties of the resulting gels within wide limits.

The total production rate of the observation wells amounts to 676,1 t/day as per liquid and 43,9 t/day as per oil. The water cut of the product is 93.03%. It is expected that if the measures for profile log straightening are successful, the permeability in the injection well zone will be amount to 0.141 μm², and the well injectivity will be 177 m³ / day. The working agent will penetrate the unwashed zones and the oil rate will increase. If we assume that all that is injected into injection well № 886 reaches the production wells, then the total daily fluid production rate after successful treatment should come to 574.7 tons / day.

Taking into account such technologies case records at this exploitation target, the mean oil production enhancement should be 10-15%. The average duration of the effect is 7–8 months, and the site should return to its initial ratios afterwards.

The evaluation of technological efficiency is carried out for the entire profile log straightening zone and involves summation of the actual oil and liquid production for all observation wells. The duration of the profile log straightening effect corresponds to the moment when the actual oil production decreases below the calculated oil production base.

Considering high current water cut at the BS11 production target, where the profile log straightening technology is used, the main method for determining the effect is the method of displacement characteristics. When assessing the profile log straightening technological efficiency, the Sazonov water cut curve is the most commonly used:

$$Q_{oil} = a + b \cdot \ln(Q_w) \tag{1}$$

where Q_{oil} , Q_w cumulative oil and liquid uptakes, respectively, tons / day;

a , b coefficients, which are obtained as a result of statistical processing of factual data.

These coefficients can be analytically determined according to the least-square method:

$$a = \frac{(\sum y_i)(\sum x_i^2) - (\sum x_i)(\sum x_i \cdot y_i)}{n(\sum x_i^2) - (\sum x_i)^2} \tag{2}$$

$$b = \frac{n(\sum x_i \cdot y_i) - (\sum x_i)(\sum y_i)}{n(\sum x_i^2) - (\sum x_i)^2} \tag{3}$$

Using the obtained coefficients, a and b , we define the theoretical predicted value of the cumulative oil production in the method considered.

In practical work, in addition to the analytical method, the graphical one has become widely used. Based on the production data, it is necessary to construct a prognostic water cut curve on a coordinate plane and a trend line in this zone [36]. Specifying the volume of fluid production, it is possible to determine the increase in oil production due to the technology described above [37; 38]. Figure 2 (compiled by the authors) represents a dependence diagram of the natural logarithm of the cumulative oil production on cumulative fluid production.

The depicted dependence (see Fig. 2) shows that the effect of the above treatment was obtained, since the prognostic curve for cumulative oil production (trend line in the selected straight-line section) lies below the actual curve after the profile log straightening implementation.

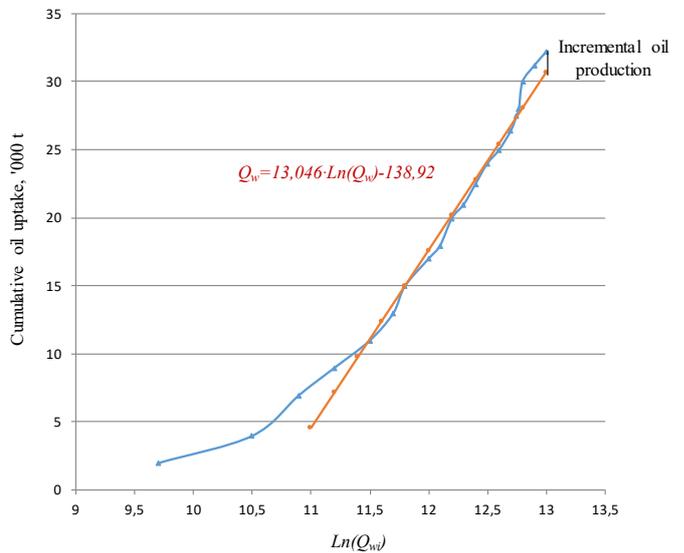


Figure 2: Technological efficiency determination according to the Sazonov method

Let us find the coefficients a and b also using the analytical approach - using the least-square method. For $x_i = \ln(Q_{wi})$ and $y_i = Q_{oili}$ we will denote tabular (production) data. $y_i = a + b \cdot x_i$ is the straight-line equation approximating the field data before applying the profile log straightening technology. The number of points used to plot the trend line is $n=8$. By formulas (2), (3), we determine the coefficients.

$$a = \frac{151,538 \cdot 1172,067 - 96,81 \cdot 1840,95}{8 \cdot 1172,067 - 96,81^2} = -138,925$$

$$b = \frac{8 \cdot 1840,95 - 96,81 \cdot 151,538}{8 \cdot 1172,067 - 96,81^2} = 13,046$$

Thus, the approximation straight-line equation is as follows:

$$Q_{oil} = 13,046 \cdot \ln(Q_w) - 138,925$$

Then we will calculate the prognostic cumulative oil production according to the equation presented in Figure 2, the duration of the effect was about seven months.

$$Q_{cum.oil} = 13046 \cdot 12,92 - 138925 = 29\ 629,32\ t$$

Now we will estimate the cumulative effect from carrying out measures for the profile log straightening at the Muravlenkovskoye field:

$$Q_{e_{ff.oil}} = 32\ 367 - 29\ 629,32 = 2\ 737,68\ t$$

Consequently, in case of successful treatment, the incremental oil production of the 7-months effect will be 2,737.68 tons of oil.

CONCLUSION

Based on the evidence found, it may be deduced that the profile log straightening not only increases the oil recovery factor, but also dramatically reduces the water production and injection volumes, thereby reducing energy consumption for the well production.

According to all of the afore said, it is arguable that the correct use of technologies for the profile log straightening will allow to redistribute filtration flows and use oil reserves in the non-draining reservoir compartments for displacement. Furthermore, it is necessary to be considerate to selecting wells for the profile log straightening, as inappropriate treatment may result in a decline of oil production and deterioration of the filtration reservoir characteristics.

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