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Modeling of gypsum precipitation in homogeneous and heterogeneous gas reservoirs

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Modeling of Gypsum Precipitation in Homogeneous and

Heterogeneous Gas Reservoirs

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Abstract

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- 6 Water injection into near dew point gas condensate reservoirs is a common method to delay the
- 7 condensate dropout near the wellbore. Also water can be injected as waste water disposal into the
- 8 depleted gas reservoirs or to increase the oil recovery in primary enhanced oil recovery process.
- 9 All of these processes result in mixing of incompatible injection and formation waters which
- 10 finally causes mineral scale formation. Gypsum is one of the most common mineral scales which
- is precipitated during the mixing of incompatible waters in porous media. This scale can reduce
- 12 the reservoir rock permeability which affects the success of continuous water injection in
- 13 hydrocarbon reservoirs. The mineral scale formation through the porous media can be
- determined if the suitable dispersion coefficient is estimated. Dispersion coefficient is already
- estimated by neglecting the effects of porous media or using unsuitable tracers which might
- affect the rate of scale precipitation. Two main issues have been investigated in this work. The
- 17 first one is the development of an experimental method to measure the dispersion coefficient by
- a proper tracer which has no interaction with the other ions in porous media. The second one is
- 19 modeling the concentrations of ions in porous media by two approaches. In this study the
- standard diffusivity equation and the capacitance approach are used to model the concentration
- 21 profiles for all ions. The results of this work suggest the application of the capacitance model for
- 22 the heterogeneous rocks and the standard diffusivity model for the homogeneous ones.
- 23 Key Words: Water Injection, Dispersion Coefficient, Mineral Scale, Incompatible Waters,
- 24 Diffusivity Model, Capacitance Model

1- Introduction

- Water injection is a common method for pressure maintenance or increasing the hydrocarbon
- 27 recovery. If the mixed injection and formation water are incompatible, their reaction will cause

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