

2nd Well Bore Integrity Workshop

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND CITATIONS

The IEA Greenhouse Gas R&D Programme supports and operates a number of international research networks. This report presents the results of a workshop held by one of these international research networks. The report was prepared by the IEA Greenhouse Gas R&D Programme as a record of the events of that workshop.

The international research network on Well Bore Integrity is organised by IEA Greenhouse Gas R&D Programme in cooperation with BP. The organisers acknowledge the financial support provided by EPRI and CMI for this meeting and the hospitality provided by the hosts Princeton University.

A steering committee has been formed to guide the direction of this network. The steering committee members for this network are:

Charles Christopher, BP (Chairman) Bill Carey, LANL Mike Celia, Princeton Darryl Kellingray, BP Rick Chalaturnyk, University of Calgary Idar Akervoll, Sintef John Gale, IEA Greenhouse Gas R&D Programme Angela Manancourt, IEA Greenhouse Gas R&D Programme

The report should be cited in literature as follows:

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Summary Report of

2nd Well Bore Integrity Network Meeting

Date: 28–29 March 2006 Princeton University, New Jersey, USA

Organised by IEA GHG, BP and Princeton University with the support of EPRI



INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH NETWORK ON WELL BORE INTEGRITY

SECOND WORKSHOP Princeton, New Jersey, USA

Executive Summary

The second meeting of this Network was held in Princeton, New Jersey, USA in March 2006. The meeting was again well attended and as well as research groups attracted a considerable number of industry experts who have direct experience with well operations.

There were a number of reports that indicated that well integrity may be a current issue within the oil and gas industry. A detailed study on production wells in the Gulf of Mexico indicated that up to 60% of wells had casing pressure problems, which could indicate that the integrity of the wells had been compromised. Experience from the Permian basin in the USA indicated that when fields were changed over to CO₂ flood that significant remedial work was needed to pull and re cement wells that had not seen exposure to CO₂. It was considered that many of the problems in both the Gulf of Mexico and the Permian basin resulted from poor well completions at the outset. This may be due to cases where the casings were not cleaned properly prior to CO₂ injection and the presence of residual mud in the wells led to poor seals between the cement and the formation and the cement and the casing liner (steel). Similar issues could arise due to too rapid curing of the cement, or poor cement squeezing. Where poor seals occur ingress of saline water from overlying aquifers can results in chlorine induced corrosion of the steel casing liner. The API has recognised this as a major problem and in response it is developing a new set of standards for well completions. A further set of standards for wells in CO₂ floods us also being developed but this is at an early stage.

Laboratory experiments on Portland cement samples have indicated that the integrity of the cement is rapidly decreased in the presence of CO_2 due to chemical reaction. However, when the laboratory samples are compared with samples of cement taken from a well at SACROC (a CO_2 flood in the Permian basin in the USA) whilst some cement degradation is observed it is not as severe as in the laboratory experiments. The conclusion is that the laboratory experiments maybe designed incorrectly (i.e., the conditions are not comparable to field conditions) and may be over exaggerating the problem. Schlumberger have designed a new cement that is resistant to CO_2 attack under laboratory conditions. Whilst the industry people welcome this development, they suggest its higher cost may prohibit its use and they have concerns that it may have other properties that may mean that it seals less effectively in the well casing.

A number of groups including the CCP2 and Weyburn are developing field experiments to monitor CO_2 degradation in the field in individual wells. The results of these experiments, although several years away, are eagerly awaited.

SECOND WORKSHOP OF THE INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH NETWORK ON WELL BORE INTEGRITY

1. Introduction

A number of the risk assessment studies completed to date have identified the integrity of well bores, in particular their long-term ability to retain CO₂, as a significant potential risk for the long-term security of geological storage facilities. To assess how just how big an issue well bore integrity is, a workshop was held in April 2005 to bring together over 50 experts from both industrial operators and from research organisations¹. The workshop identified that ensuring well integrity over long timescales (100's to 1000's tears) has not been attempted before and therefore represents a new challenge to the oil and gas industry. One conclusion from the workshop was that it will probably not be possible to promise a leak-free well since it is well known that conventional Portland cements are degraded by CO₂. Rather, the emphasis should be on designing wells employing state-of-the-art technology which should reduce the risk of CO_2 release. It is unfortunate that some of the most desirable potential storage sites are hydrocarbon fields, which are proven traps and have the economic potential for tertiary enhanced recovery. However, these same sites are also penetrated by numerous wells which could be susceptible to erosion/corrosion. The effectiveness of CO₂ storage at such sites may, therefore, not be as high as originally thought.

The inaugural workshop of the network clearly identified that well bore integrity was a key issue which needed to be addressed further. A number of issues were identified which were:

- The frequency of failure. It was concluded that little data was available from oil and gas operations that enabled failure frequency estimates to be made. This was due to several reasons including commercial sensitivity and inconsistent definitions of failure. However, some estimates could be made; for example if failure was defined as loss of fluids to the surface, then it was suggested that perhaps 1 in 100000 wells may fail in this way. One possible way to obtain information on frequencies would be to approach regulators.
- The mechanism of failure. Several mechanisms have been suggested during the meeting but little is currently known about detailed processes on the small scale that lead ultimately to leakage.
- The consequences of failure. These could be very different depending on rate of CO₂ loss, total amount lost, location of well (populated, onshore, offshore, agricultural land etc).

One of the main conclusions from the meeting was the clear need to establish a research network on well integrity issues to consider such activities further. It was therefore agreed to form an international research network under the auspices of the IEA Greenhouse Gas R&D Programme. The aim of the network was to further our

¹ A report from this workshop has been published. The report is entitled IEA Greenhouse Gas R&D Programme, Report No 2005/12, Well bore Integrity workshop, October 2005.

understanding on the issue of well bore integrity in general and begin to attempt develop answers to the main issues identified. This report provides a summary of the second meeting hosted by Princeton University at the University Campus in Princeton, New Jersey, USA between 28th and 29th March 2006.

2. Network Aims and Objectives of Second Workshop

The international research network on well bore integrity has been established with a five year tenure to achieve its aims. The principal aim of the network is to address the three key issues related to well bore integrity with the objective of: providing confidence for stakeholders that the mechanisms of well bore integrity are understood, that the safety of storage in relation to well bores can be assured because the risks can be identified and that the well bores can be monitored and it is possible to successfully remediate a leak should one occur.

The network set itself the goal of addressing the three key issues which are:

- Understanding the problem There are a number of laboratory based activities that are currently underway but results are yet far from complete. We need to develop our knowledge of they key problems that lead to well failure.
- Monitoring wells Procedures for testing cements and a protocol for well bore Integrity monitoring need to be established.
- Remediating leaks if they arise this is essential to demonstrate that if well failures do occur they can be remediated quickly and with little impact on operator safety and the local environment

The main aim of the second workshop was to focus on developing our understanding of the problem.

3. Workshop Programme and attendees

An agenda was developed (see Table 1) that was designed to produce the following outcomes:

- Review of the current state of knowledge of field based statistics,
- Clarify the current status of laboratory investigations,•
- Follow industry experience in the development of resistant cements,•
- Summarise current experiences of modelling well bore integrity,•
- Identify existing remediation techniques,
- Introduce planned well bore integrity projects.

Brief reviews of the state of the art were given by invited speakers followed by discussions of relevant points, issues and way forward.

Day 1		
Session 1. Introduction		
Welcome/ Safety/ Context	Charles Christopher, BP, John Gale IEA GHG, Mike Celia Princeton	
Session 2. Studies of Well Bore Integrity		
K12-B CO ₂ Injection Site	TNO – Frank Mulders	
North Estes Field in Texas	Chevron – Mike Powers	
Weyburn Well Study	University of Alberta - Rick Chalaturnyk	
MMS Studies on Wells	BP – Walter Crow	
API Activity including Sustained Casing Pressure and Field and Regional Area Studies.	Halliburton – Ron Sweatman	
Session 3. Field Experiences Chair: Daryl Kellingray, BP		
Introduction/Remediation of Wells with Sustained Casing Pressure	Daryl Kellingray, BP	
Advanced Wireline Logging Techniques for Well Integrity Assessment	Schlumberger – Yvonnick Vrignaud	
Repairing Wells with Sustained Casing Pressure	CSI – Fred Sabins	
Dealing with Wells with Poor Annular Integrity	BP – Jo Anders <i>Teleconference from</i> Alaska	
Session 4. Laboratory Studies of CO2 - Cement Reactions Chair: Bill Carey, LANL		
Corrosion of Cement in Simulated Limestone and Sandstone Formations.	Princeton – George Scherer	
Core-flood and Batch Experiments on Carbonation of Casing-Cement-Shale Composites.	LANL – Marcus Wigand	
Quantifying CO ₂₋ related Alteration of Portland cement: experimental approach and microscopic methodology.	Schlumberger – Gaetan Rimmele	

Table 1 – Workshop Agenda

Day 2	
Degradation of Well Cement Under Geologic Sequestration Conditions.	NETL – Barbara Kutchko
Resistant Cement for CO ₂ storage Process.	Schlumberger – Veronique Barlet - Gouedard
Session 5. Modelling Well Bore Integrity Chair: Mike Celia, Princeton University	
Reactive Transport Modelling of Cement- Brine-CO ₂ systems: Application to SACROC	LANL – Bill Carey
Recent developments for a geochemical code to assess cement reactivity in CO ₂ /brine mixtures	Princeton – Jean Prevost
Effect of Well Operations and Downhole Conditions on Cement Sheath	Halliburton – Kris Ravi
A Large-scale Modelling Tool for Leakage Estimation and Risk Assessment	Princeton - Mike Celia
<u>CO2</u> Storage Well bore Integrity Field Study: A CCP2 Proposal	Chevron - Scott Imbus
Session 6. Breakout Sessions - Ensuring Well Bore Integrity in the Presence of CO2	
Introduction to Breakout Sessions	
Reports from Breakout Sessions and Discussion	
Session 7. Summary, Discussion and Close Chair: Charles Christopher, BP	
Concluding discussions, next steps and proposals for next meeting	
End of Meeting	

Table 1 – Workshop Agenda, cont'd

The workshop was attended by some 57 delegates. An attendance list for the second meeting is given in Appendix 1 for reference.

4. **Results and Discussion**

4.1 **Technical Presentations**

The workshop was structured into 4 sessions of technical presentations; the results of each of these sessions are summarized in the following text.

4.1.1 Studies on well bore integrity

Walter Crow of BP presented an overview of a study commissioned by the Mineral Management Service² (MMS) in 2001 that reviewed data on sustained casing pressures (SCP), in wells 8100 wells in the Gulf of Mexico³. The study showed that problems of sustained casing pressure are widespread in the Gulf of Mexico (both on and offshore) with up to 60 to 70% of wells affected. The pressure behind the casing cannot be bled off. Note: these wells have not seen CO_2 rather they are natural gas production wells. Gas flow through the cement matrix is believed to be the main cause of SCP. Causes include gas flow through unset cement and due to cement shrinkage after completion – the latter factor is thought to be a major contributor. Surveillance options for SCP appear to be limited. Remediation by injecting high density brine in the annulus has been attempted with limited success, another approach tried has been to pump high density fluid into the casing but the approach cannot be used in deep wells. The best form of remediation is considered to be elimination of the problem in the first place which would be consistent with the goal of containment for CO_2 .

Questions asked included whether in the light of these results MMS had changed any of their protocols, the answer was no. Other questions focused on what could be the contributory issues, one was felt to be poor mud removal which could lead to gas channeling another was poor cement curing which could lead to poor bonding between the cement and the rock and the cement and the tubing. Overall, it was considered that improved operational practice was needed to overcome this problem. It was noted that in practice leakage is often observed after pressure tests are undertaken. Well pressure tests are standard procedure for wells to be accepted by MMS, but this procedure could be a source of SCP problems. Various ways of overcoming these problems were proposed for instance; the use of foam based cements could be a way of overcome cement shrinkage. Finally, the comment was made that even if you use the best cement in the world you need to get everything right in the well first – then you use the best cement for the formation.

Ron Sweatman from the API⁴ reviewed new practices that they intended to introduce to isolate flow zones. The API activity was stimulated by the results of the MMS study. Statistics from field operations in the Gulf of Mexico indicated that 56% of incidents that lead to a loss of well control were linked to cementing operations. Further some 45% of some 14,927 operational wells in 2004 had SCP problems and

² The Mineral Management Service in Louisiana is the regulatory body responsible for oil and gas and mineral extraction.

³ The study was undertaken by Louisiana State University for the Mineral Management Service.

⁴ American Petroleum Institute

about 33% of the SCP problems were linked to the cementing process. It was noted that in the Gulf of Mexico the leaks are mostly contained and can be remediated, however in Russia where similar problems exist the leaks are not contained. Cementing problems that could cause SCP were:

- Micro annuli caused by casing contraction and/or expansion,
- Channels caused by improper mud removal prior to and during cementing,
- Lost circulation of cement into fractured formations during cementing
- Flow after cementing by failure to maintain an overbalance pressure,
- Mud cake leaks,
- Tensile cracks in cement caused by temperature and pressure cycles.

In API's experience it is not just the cementing process that causes the problem, for instance residual mud in a well may cause problems because it can degrade and cause flow paths. Mud channels are considered to be a serious cause of failure and good mud removal practices are essential to well integrity. Several other root causes listed above may also impair cement sealing in the well annulus between casing and the borehole.

API had now produced a set of standards incorporating best practice and lessons learned to reduce these incidents, API RP-65 part 1 was published in 2001. Part 2 that deals with loss of well control is now out to review and Part three that deals with SCP is under development. Part 3 addresses issues relating to gas containment whether it's CO_2 , H_2S or hydrocarbons. Part 2 will help enforce better drilling and well design practices as well as aiming to improve cementing practices. The API RP-65 publications are destined to become U.S.A. federal regulations by the MMS rule making process and will require operators to consider RP-65 in his drilling plan to get a permit and will also require them to provide data on why they intend to deviate from it. Part 3 will reinforce zone isolation requirements to prevent and thus remediate casing pressure problems. The International Standards Organization is considering adopting API -65 as ISO standard practice.

One promising idea for old hydrocarbon fields that may allow them to become economic and effective candidate sites for CCS projects is based on well integrity testing and remediation technology. This process utilizes proven oilfield technology to locate potential leak paths and/or potentially corrosive zones in order to apply sealing fluid treatments such as deep penetrating water-like sealants that convert over time into effective pressure barriers inside the rock formations surrounding the well bore. The API plans to study the successful well integrity remediation case histories in oil and gas well operations to help develop a set of standards for the process in RP-65 Part 3.

The key question asked was how these rules would be extended to CO_2 geological storage, where there could be thousands of wells which require sealing for 100's of years. Ron replied that for initial operations there will be a need for extensive, monitoring and surveillance until they have the data to set design criteria. He felt that CO_2 could be contained by wells with improved practice and there were ways to remediate wells should they leak.

Michael Power of Chevron reviewed experiences from converting a mature oil field in West Texas⁵ in 1990 to CO₂ injection. The field was discovered in 1929 and was converted from primary production to water flood in 1950's. Some 165 wells had to be modified in Phase 1 of the CO₂ flood. Four different types of well were encountered, but roughly half were open hole injectors⁶ and the other half were cased hole injectors with an average depth of 2750 feet (1250m). Typically the casing extended down to 600 feet (~200m) to isolate any surface sand bodies. There are corrosive aquifer bodies at depths between 700 and 1500 feet (250m to 700m). Of these wells 96 were cleaned out, most had metal liners but some had fibre glass liners. The majority of the fibre glass liners were recovered, whereas only 2% of the metal liners were totally recovered and less than half were partially recovered. All the metal liners showed extensive corrosion below the upper casing layer and this was before CO_2 injection had occurred. The corrosion was considered to be due to chlorine based attack from the brine layers lying at 250 to 700m depth. In reestablishing the wells every effort was made to run a new liner because the costs were considerably less than drilling a new well (\$50,000 compared to \$225,000 at 1990 prices). All wells were washed out with brine first to ensure good completions were achieved. Mike emphasized that cement squeezing is an art not a science. The personnel on site have a big impact on the success rate for completions. The better trained they are the better the well performance. Of the wells they re-completed about 84% had no leaks the others needed further cements squeezes to be sealed effectively and an acceptable pressure fall off test completed. On reflection, he felt that if all the wells had been cemented from the surface downwards then they would have had a better chance of reusing them. It was noted that personnel need to be aware of the issues of handling CO_2 . For instance freezing can occur when lines are blown down and ice plugs can form that can trap pressure.

Comments - Mike closed by saying that before Chevron sold the field they plugged all the old wells, to reduce any future liability. Rick Chalaturnyk made the point that this work showed that we should not underestimate the effort needed to reconvert old oil fields to CO_2 storage.

Well integrity studies at the Weyburn field were reviewed by Rick Chalturnyk from the University of Calgary. As part of the Weyburn Phase I project a database of wells on the Weyburn field has been developed. Operations at the Weyburn field go back to the 1950's and in Saskatchewan records of these operations and the wells drilled are kept by the state government. This should make it easy to build a historical data base that can be related to well operational history. However many of these records leave something to be desired and it was found to be difficult in many cases to populate the data base with the required detailed for many wells. For instance between 1956 and 1961 126 wells were drilled at Weyburn , however for nearly one quarter of the wells the types of drilling slurry used cannot be discerned from the records. Between 1966 and 1967 a further 6 wells were drilled and again 50% of the records are incomplete. The work in Phase I focused on getting as much data as possible into the database which has involved inputting statistics on 100's of wells. Data on failure modes is limited; other work indicates that the main failure mode for wells is cement micro annulus leaks. At Weyburn all the CO₂ injection wells were

⁵ The field concerned was the North Ward Estes Field in Ward County, Texas.

⁶ Many of the open hole completions were stimulated by dropping nitro-glycerine down the holes to fracture the rock.

cemented to the surface, typically these were class G cements with 2% calcium chloride. There are many abandoned wells will have a cement plug in them but are not cemented to the surface. In Saskatchewan, production wells are not cemented through the cap rock, this is a cost issue not a safety one. In the Weyburn final phase they are developing an analytical model to enable them to predict ph changes and the effect of acid attack on well integrity. The final phase will also aim to undertake some verification work on the data base and compare with field experiments to determine well failure predictions.

Questions addressed the issue of CO_2 breakthrough at the producers since these are not fully cemented through to the cap rock it was felt these were a likely pathway for CO_2 escape. Rick felt this was an issue but at Weyburn there are multiple cap rocks and multiple overlying aquifers so leakage was unlikely to be observed. One issue raised was if there was a protocol for well abandonment in Saskatchewan, which there was. Rick also added that there are several wells due for abandonment at Weyburn and they hope to sample these in the Final Phase.

Frans Mulders of TNO presented results from a study on a CO₂ injection well at the K-12B gas field in the Dutch sector of the North Sea. The well, which was formerly a gas production well, was reconfigured as a CO_2 injector in February 2005. The injected CO₂ is dried prior to injection, water concentrations are at parts per million (ppm) levels. The reservoir temperature is 127° c, the gas contained 13% CO₂ and the produced water 190,000 ppm chlorides which are harsh conditions for a stainless steel well. The well is deviated and has two "dog legs" in it. After one year of injection a caliper analysis was conducted on the well to assess the condition of the production tubing. The inspection showed that pitting of the well had occurred at a depth of around 7000 to 8000 feet (3181m to 3636m). The pit depth was significant and suggests about 25% of the tubing has been eaten away. It is noted that this depth corresponds with a geometry change in the well where there are the two sharp angled turns or "dog legs" in the well. The pitting had increased significantly in the year of CO₂ injection. It was, therefore, inferred this could be the result of CO₂ corrosion or erosion due to hard cables in thee well or a summation of both corrosion and erosion mechanisms.

Questions and comments were directed at the cause of the pitting. The severity of the dog legs was postulated as one cause, the other that the pitting was the result of chloride induced attack; the chloride present in the production water might have stuck on the tubing and continued to corrode it even after production had stopped. Wet CO_2 corrosion was ruled out, although this was the initial feeling of most participants, because the CO_2 was dried before injection. However, minor traces of water which are still present in the CO_2 can be osmotically attracted by the chlorides and enhance localized corrosion. Another train of thought was that the tubing used, 13 chrome, was fairly soft and that the wire line tools themselves might be the cause of erosion especially around the area of the dog legs. Others felt that the caliper used is a simple tool and results can be misinterpreted. A more accurate tool could be used – Frans replied that they were considering using a video tool. Another line of questioning related to the geological formations around the depth of the pitting, if these were soft chalks that might be the cause of misinterpretation

4.1.2 Field experiences

Darryl Kellingray of BP introduced the second technical session and discussed remediation practices for wells with SCP. He emphasized that SCP indicates that there is a failure in the pressure envelope of the well. SCP is measurable at the wellhead of the casing annulus and so can be monitored. The implications of SCP for CO_2 injection are:

- CO₂ could escape outside the tubing which could lead to a corrosive environment around the well casing,
- Connectivity in the formation could occur allow CO₂ migration to shallower formations,
- The cement in or around the well could be exposed to CO₂ and hence it could degrade.

SCP can be detected by pressure testing or case hole logging. Although the diagnosis is not easy and you always have to go into the well to find the problem. Potential remediation techniques include injecting polymers or cement/polymer combinations. Other options include expandable tubular patches and injection of high density fluids. The issue becomes whether such techniques would be acceptable to regulators.

Fred Sabins of CSI Technologies reviewed field experiences of repairing wells with SCP. A number of features can result in cement sheath failure that can lead to SCP. These include stresses in the well bore, which can occur during pressure tests of the casing and during operational interventions and can occur as a result of thermal cycling. Stresses in the well bore can lead to cement deformation. There are a number of materials that can be used to remediate SCP including micro fine cements and low solid density sealants (polymers, gels and resins). Materials need to be injected or squeezed into the wells. A research project using a polymer has been reported⁷ to significantly reduce SCP, although several treatments were needed. Gels can be used to remediate cement bond failure, tubing and casing leaks etc. There is a reported case of a gel repairing a casing leak which had not been successfully repaired with cement. Resins can also be used to seal casing leaks and SCP as well as for shutting off gas for abandonment. Again, there are case histories of their use where they have successfully sealed gas leaks. Expandable tubulars can also be used; in this case you run in a smaller ID pipe and expand against the existing well. Overall there are a number of products that can be used to remediate SCP, most work but their applicability is situation dependent. There are problems with these techniques; like placing the product, accessing the leaking annuli, the need in cases to cut holes in the liner etc., and there is also an expense associated with their use. Many of these options are good short term solutions but we are not sure about their long term sealing potential. Also we cannot be sure if such techniques they would be acceptable to regulators. It is likely that we will still need cements. There are several new cements available which are ultra fine and can be injected into smaller pores but we are not sure about their long term resistance. The ultimate option is a well work-over, these will be expensive but at least you have a degree of confidence that they will seal.

⁷ SPE Paper 91399, Micro-annulus leaks repaired with pressure activated sealant.

Bull heading⁸ can also be used to solve the problem but you may only be bottling up the gas and you might get a down hole leak somewhere.

Questions referred to the use of expandable packers for leakage remediation, it was felt that this was not standard industry practice to apply them in this way and this may not be acceptable to promote them for this application. Also the limited life of polymers was questioned, 4 years at 400° c was quoted, which may make them inappropriate for this remediation purposes

Yvonnick Vrignard of Schlumberger discussed the tools that his company had developed for logging well integrity. These tools can be used for isolation assessments or assessing the integrity of the piping. Tools for isolation assessments include sonic logging, pulse echoe techniques and annulus scanning. Acoustics are the most commonly measurement used. Piping assessments can use mechanical evaluations such as calipers, ultrasonics and electromagnetic techniques. All techniques are employable down hole. All the techniques have strengths and weaknesses but can be used in combination to determine well integrity.

Joe Anders of BP summarized their experience on well performance. BP has 2100 wells in the North Sea but 21,000 wells on the North Slope of Alaska. Based on their experience metal corrosion is more of a problem than cement. If you get a good cement completion then the well normally works well. On the North Slope, they have some pretty severe conditions with both high CO₂ and H₂S contents and large temperature variations. BP's approach to well integrity is that it is not just a drilling issue and they have a lot of staff employed on well integrity operations. In part this is brought about by ecological sensitivity in the Artic region. These staff are all certified and there are set procures and documentation on well bore performance. BP has experienced SCP on wells on North Slope and as many as 500 wells could be affected, about 120 of these wells are still operating but over 300 are no longer suitable for operation. Common failure occurrences on the North Slope are erosion, well subsidence⁹, leaking elastomers and external corrosion. Joe summarized by setting out a number of points that he thought were relevant to long term well integrity, which were:

- A good cement completion is essential,
- Elastomer problems and casing corrosion are problems that occur after well completion,
- Tubing needs to be replaced at 5-20 years intervals and after 3 replacements you should plug and abandon the well.

⁸ Bull heading is an intervention technique where you forcibly pump fluids into a formation, usually formation fluids that have entered the well bore during a well control event. Though bullheading is intrinsically risky, it is performed if the formation fluids are suspected to contain hydrogen sulphide gas to prevent the toxic gas from reaching the surface. Bullheading is also performed if normal circulation cannot occur, such as after a borehole collapse. The primary risk in bullheading is that the drilling crew has no control over where the fluid goes and the fluid being pumped down hole usually enters the weakest formation. In addition, if only shallow casing is cemented in the well, the bullheading operation can cause well bore fluids to broach around the casing shoe and reach the surface. This broaching to the surface has the effect of fluidizing and destabilizing the soil (or the sub sea floor), and can lead to the formation of a crater and loss of equipment and life.

⁹ Well subsidence is a particular feature of operations in Artic regions and is not typically found elsewhere.

For long term integrity he felt it was essential to know how old wells have been plugged and abandoned. To abandon a new well he would recommend pulling the tubing and casing, then cement all the way to the surface, but that will need a lot of cement. Of course the issue of abandoned wells is a big one, one question that needs to be faced is do you go back and reseal all old abandoned wells to ensure their integrity?

4.1.3 Laboratory experiments

Four presentations were given on laboratory experiments on Portland cement samples. George Scherer of Princeton University. George considered the greatest leakage risk is acid flow between the well casing and the cement rather than through the cement itself. Any reservoir model that can be used to predict leakage must to be able to predict the composition of brine in an aquifer that will come into contact with the cement in the well. Then we need to consider how the cement responds to the acidic brine, which is the focus of his laboratory work. This will enable you to model the brine in the annulus and determine how quickly the leak increases. Cement samples exposed to brine solutions in flow-through laboratory experiments showed that different layers were formed. An outer orange brown layer in which the calcium in the cement sample was heavily depleted a narrow white transition layer where calcium depletion was occurring and an un-reacted central grey layer. On removal the outer layer was found to have little or no mechanical integrity. Sensitivity studies indicated the calcium depletion was strongly accelerated by lower ph and higher temperatures¹⁰. It was considered that under typical conditions for a sandstone formation at 1km depth the rate of attack on cement would be 2-3 mm per month, assuming fresh acid was flowing over the cement. Batch experiments indicate that the depth of attack is diffusion controlled. Even under diffusion control the attack is evident in cement samples within weeks under typical conditions for a sandstone formation. The attack however is much less rapid in limestone formations. The rate of attack also slows as the layers develop, which could infer that a protective calcite layer is developing. Efforts to model the batch experiment data will now commence.

Marcus Wigand from LANL outlined the results of several experimental laboratory studies performed on well bore cement. These experiments were designed, in part, to understand the implications of observations of carbonation in SACROC¹¹ cement samples obtained from a well with 30 years of CO₂-exposure. Batch experiments and flow through experiment were performed on dried and water-saturated, intact and fractured cement cores using supercritical carbon dioxide (SCCO₂) at in-situ reservoir conditions. During these experiments the diffusion rate of SCCO₂ into the cement and the reactivity of the different cement phases were determined. Additionally geophysical and mechanical properties of the well bore cement before and after exposure to SCCO₂ were measured. The results indicated that the porosity decreased and compressive strength and density increased due to the reaction with SCCO₂. The

 $^{^{10}}$ The range of conditions tested were,: pH 2.4 to 3.7 and temperature 20^0c to 50^0c

¹¹The SACROC unit was the first miscible CO_2 flood in the Permian Basin. The SACROC Unit, which was developed by Chevron, covers 50,000 acres and was formed to optimize secondary and tertiary recovery of oil in the Canyon Reef, a Pennsylvanian age reservoir. The reef has an average porosity of 4% and mean permeability of 19 millidarcies. It initially had 3 billion barrels of oil in place and has recovered 1.4 billion barrels to date.

reaction of the hydrated cement phases (portlandite and calcium silicate hydrates) with $SCCO_2$ resulted in the formation of calcite (CaCO₃), aragonite¹², vaterite¹³, and dolomite (CaMg(CO₃)₂). The SCCO₂ migrated into the Portland-based cement several millimeters. The decrease in porosity was a result of calcium carbonate replacing portlandite. Precipitation of amorphous SiO₂ formed a low-permeability barrier impeding further movement of SCCO₂ into the cement. Flow-through experiments on fractured cement core resulted in partial healing in some regions and an opening of the fracture due to calcite precipitation in others. All results indicated the well bore cement kept its integrity and showed no signs of dissolution. The goal of future experiments will be the study of migration behavior of SCCO₂ along the cap rock/cement and casing/cement interfaces.

Questions concerned the impacts of variables on the experiments. When asked if the water saturation has an impact on the reactions of cement phases with the $SCCO_2$ - the answer was yes. Also whether the Hassler-type core holder caused compaction of the sample and self healing to occur which may explain the differences observed in these experiments and those at Princeton? – the answer was yes with the comment that the idea behind using a Hassler core holder was to simulate in-situ reservoir conditions whereas the experiments performed at the University of Princeton were performed at atmospheric pressure. The source of the magnesium for the dolomite formed was questioned; Marcus Wigand pointed out that the experiments were performed under in-situ reservoir conditions and the source for the magnesium could be the brine which had a composition comparable with the formation water of oil reservoirs of the Permian Basin¹³.

Gaëtan Rimmelé presented the work that Schlumberger had been doing on the alteration of Portland cements by CO_2 . The work was aimed at obtaining a better understanding of the alteration processes for Portland cement that occur in a CO_2 environment and under down hole conditions. High pressure tests on Portland cements indicated that carbonization was occurring again forming calcite, vaterite and, aragonite. Porosimitry experiments indicated that a rapid decrease in porosity occurred in the cement samples after 8 hours of exposure. The decrease peaked around 500 hours of exposure and then increased again. The porosity decrease occurred around the rim of the sample initially and then gradually moved inwards as exposure time increased. Effectively this was tracking the carbonation front in the sample. The results were interpreted as showing that dissolution of $Ca(OH)_2$ occurred quite rapidly throughout the whole sample. This was followed by a sealing effect as carbonation occurred which was followed by precipitation, which caused the increase in porosity. The carbonization reaction therefore does not continuously plug the

 $^{^{12}}$ Aragonite and vaterite are both polymorph CaCO₃, i.e. they are both different mineral forms of calcium carbonate.

¹³ ¹³ The Permian Basin is a sedimentary basin largely contained in the western part of the U.S. state of Texas. It reaches from just south of Lubbock, Texas, to just south of Midland & Odessa, extending westward into the southeastern part of the adjacent state of New Mexico. It is so named because it has one of the world's thickest deposits of rocks from the Permian geologic period. The greater Permian Basin comprises several component basins: of these, Midland Basin is the largest, Delaware Basin is the second largest, and Marfa Basin is the smallest. The Permian Basin extends beneath an area approximately 250 miles wide and 300 miles long.

cement. It was suggested that this work identified the need for the development of a CO_2 resistant cement.

Questions again generally concerned the validity of the experimental process. For example, there was some concern about how the carbonic acid got to the centre of the cores if the permeability was only a few mDarcy, the answer was that there was no flowing water but the samples were immersed in water before testing.

Barbara Kutchko, outlined the results of high pressure laboratory tests on cement that NETL were undertaking. She emphasized the need for such work by stating that there were 1.5 million deep holes in Texas alone, of these 360,000 wells were active and registered with the Texas railroad commission. Barbara stressed the need to understand how cement degrades in the presence of CO_2 charged brines. Tests were undertaken on a Class H¹⁴ cement at temperatures ranging from ambient to 50^oc and from atmospheric pressure to 4400 psi (303 bar). The cement was prepared in accordance with API specifications and hydrated for 28 days by immersion in 1% NaCl solution. When exposed to an aqueous phase saturated with water the typical soft outer orange layer was observed on the cement sample which was calcium depleted and with a lower mechanical integrity. Further work will now be undertaken to look at the effect of binders (such as bentonite and fly ash) on cement degradation.

Veronique Bartlet-Gouédard of Schlumberger presented on their work on the development of a CO_2 resistant cement. For long term zonal isolation Portland cement was not favoured because it was not stable in CO_2 environments. This issue she felt was not adequately addressed by current industry specifications. Schlumberger were developing a standard laboratory procedure to assess CO_2 resistant cements and were looking at the long term modeling of the cement –sheath integrity. Their work on CO_2 resistant cement was focused on: finding a durable material that would reduce the amount of portlandite in the cement. In addition, it was felt to be important to have a low water content in the cement system and the cement slurry needed to have a large density range. Their initial tests on a CO_2 resistant cement that they had designed were very positive. The CO_2 resistant cement tested demonstrated little carbonation and was stable under laboratory conditions for 3 months. Note: comparable tests on Portland cement showed that extensive degradation had occurred in similar time scales.

Questions referred to the availability of this new cement, which was quoted as October 2006, and to the properties of the cement. In response, the audience was told that permeability resistance in cement was not sufficient on its own, that chemical resistance was needed. Also the addition of silica (up to 30-40% by wt.,)

¹⁴ Class H cement is cement marketed for use in wells in Texas. It has high sulfate-resistance, is used from surface to depths down to 8,000 feet (3600m) when special properties are not required. It can also be used with accelerators and retardants to cover a wide range of oil well depths and temperatures. The cement is produced to API Standard 10A - Specification for Cements & Materials for Well Cementing 23rd Edition 2002. This standard specifies requirements and gives recommendations for eight classes of well cements, including their chemical and physical requirements and procedures for physical testing. This standard is applicable to well cement Classes A, B, C, D, E and F, which are the products obtained by grinding Portland cement clinker and, if needed, calcium sulfate as an interground additive. The standard is also applicable to well cement Classes G and H, which are the products obtained by grinding Portland cement clinker with no additives other than calcium sulfate or water.

was not sufficient on its own because this still left a lot of free lime which can react with the $\rm CO_2$.

A general comment was made after the laboratory presentations, which was: that all of the presentations indicated that in the field all the wells in Texas would have been destroyed in a matter of days due to exposure to CO_2 . However, in practice there is still a lot of cement in the wells after 30 years of operation. This disparity between laboratory experiments and field conditions needed to be addressed.

4.1.4 Modeling results

Mike Celia of Princeton University introduced the session by briefly summarizing what had been presented earlier. The laboratory experiments had shown various degrees of degradation of Portland cement when exposed to CO_2 and a lot of differences in behaviour. How do we make sense of this and compare these results to the field cases? This is the role of modeling to allow us to compare the different approaches.

Bill Carey of LANL, then outlined the work they were doing on reactive transport modeling of cement –brine - CO_2 systems. The work was aiming to simulate the cement carbonation observed in a sample of cement removed from the SACROC field that had been exposed to CO_2 for thirty years. Where CO_2 saturated brine had diffused along a porous zone along the cement-shale interface. In addition, the work was also modeling the laboratory studies by Princeton, presented earlier by George Schrer. Initial results indicate that diffusion based models can capture the key elements of cement degradation. The results indicate that the behaviour of the cement–brine- CO_2 system is a function of tortuosity¹⁵ and reaction rate. However, to allow the atmospheric pressure laboratory experiments to be modeled significantly higher reaction rates and tortuosity factors are needed to explain the depth of penetration observed compared to the field sample. Next steps will be to try and translate cement degradation into effective leak rates.

Bruno Huet from Princeton University presented the work they were undertaking to develop a geochemical code to enable them to model cement reactivity in CO_2 /brine mixtures. Bruno stressed the need for a coupled geochemical transport model to allow them to model multi phase transport along potential high permeability pathways in well bores and the model cement degradation through contact with CO_2 rich brine solutions. Currently the work was looking to incorporate data such as homogeneous chemistry and temperature effects into the code and reaction kinetics. Future work will aim to incorporate multiphase transport flow, using PU flash and then undertake 2D simulations to model CO_2 flow up the well bores.

Kris Ravi of Halliburton discussed the physical effects that will need to be considered when modeling well bores. SCP was induced due to a number of operational shortcomings. In particular, careful attention to hole cleaning and cement slurry placement during well installation should significantly reduce SCP. Well operations such as pressure testing, hydraulic stimulation, production and injection and down

¹⁵ Tortuosity is the single most important characteristic of flow through porous media that determines several flow and transport phenomena. For unsaturated media, tortuosity factor (ta) is defined as the ratio of the specific air-water interfacial area of real and the corresponding idealized porous medium.

hole conditions particularly if chemicals are present as well as pressure and temperature in the well can also affect SCP. Several post drilling operations can affect the integrity of the well. These can include:

- Cement slurry hydration leading to hydration volume reductions
- Completions which can cause pressure decreases inside the well casing
- Pressure testing which can cause pressure increases inside the casing
- Hydraulic fracturing again can lead top pressure increases,
- Production which can lead to pressure/temperature increases inside the tubing

Laboratory experiments performed by Halliburton indicate that in cases such operations can lead to damaged cement sheaths, or debonding between the casing and the cement sheath or between the rock and the cement.

Mike Celia of Princeton provided the final lecture on large scale modeling of leakage along wells. Princeton University has developed a semi-analytical model. The components of the model consist of: an injection plume evolution code, a leakage dynamics code a post injection redistribution code and a code to establish leakage via wells. The model has been tested using a field situation in the Wabamun lake area of the Alberta basin near Edmonton. The area has a large number of CO₂ sources and would be an ideal region for CO_2 storage. The area has been extensively drilled. Initial simulations are based on assumed permeability data, part of the discussion was aimed at eliciting from the experts in the audience the key data that should be included in the model and trying to find source data that could be used in the model. Modeling art this scale presents a challenge, but a challenge that needs to be addressed especially in areas of high drilling density like the Alberta basin where they are many wells and many geological layers all of which need to be included in the model. Along side the modeling programme Mike advocated the need for a comprehensive experimental programme of to determine the important properties of existing wells that need to be modeled so that leakage can be predicted.

4.2 Breakout Groups

Three breakout groups were planned to address the following issues:

Group 1 – Historical well bore integrity issues

This group was led by Stefan Bachu (AUEB) and Mike Celia (Princeton). The remit of the group was to consider historical well integrity issues and how well integrity issues are identified. The group aimed to synthesise what we had learnt and identify gaps or additional issues that need to be addressed

The group focused its discussions on all existing wells; they also felt it was important not to forget about integrity issues with wells that have noting to do with CO_2 . The group felt that it needed to remember that old wells were drilled shallower than current wells, and we have a pretty good knowledge of depth of drilling versus time. This information puts constraints on the age of wells we need to worry about –the location/existence of many older wells may not be known. The group also felt it needed to consider the well integrity situation globally, but recognizing geographical (historical) differences for instance in North America and the North Sea and other parts of the world.

The group noted the following issues regarding the integrity of historical wells:

- 1. The question was raised if there is a 'history' of well construction technology and practices, in easily accessible form? Such information could give a snapshot/synopsis, including statistics that might be useful when designing well characterisation/monitoring/remediation plans?
- 2. It was acknowledged that well analysis will have to be a central component of site characterization and selection. Inherent issues here are:
 - How many off-set wells will be reached by the CO₂ plume?
 - Also there is an economic issue will all/some wells have to be remediated a priori?
- 3. Can we assign broad classifications to wells? If we can then we can group 'like' wells and therefore have a simpler categorization for historical wells? Issues to be considered include:
 - What set of parameters should we assign to each of the well categories?
 - We need to link the well categories with (statistics of) properties/characteristics of the wells (for example, permeability, etc.) But we do not know what statistical properties/characteristics exist and which are significant?
- 4. How to obtain representative information will be a big issue. There is the usual problem of how to access records that exist in the oil industry. Some potential sources of information include: surface casing vent flows (inside casing), gas migration (outside casing) and SCP. It was noted that it is not obvious how best to use this information, or if there are other measurements that could be done to help us understand the behaviour and properties of old wells. Regulators in various countries track this kind of information and this information needs to be accessed. Well blowouts data might be another valuable source of information however it was noted that most land-based well blowouts are reported but not published.
- 5. It was felt that it could be valuable to examine catastrophic releases of CO_2 and other fluids (natural gas) to understand the limits of possible risk and damage.

Other points noted included

- The importance of modern well testing tools to identify problems in wells needs to be considered.
- It was pointed out that in the future CO₂ wells will be purpose designed for that activity, whereas existing wells will not.
- We must not forget about water wells, which can be important in many regions (at least secondarily) as leakage conduits in shallow zones, but also can be important as possible monitoring opportunities.
- Integrity includes seals more generally, not just the wells, but wells are likely to be much higher risk than seals.

Group 2 – Well bore materials and mechanisms of attack.

This group was led by Bill Carey (LANL) and Darryl Kellingray (BP). The remit of the group was to consider what we know about well bore materials and how they are

attacked by CO_2 . The group aimed to synthesise what we had learnt and identify gaps or additional issues that need to be addressed

As far as well bore materials were concerned, we know that Portland cement reacts rapidly with CO_2 and that most additives such as fly ash and silica flour don't help with mechanical integrity. For monitoring cement integrity, cement sheath evaluation/surveys important and pressure and SCP history data would also be helpful in identifying problems.

As far as the casing is concerned, steel and elastomers are as important to consider as the cement, since the steel will go first. One question raised, however, is that if the well is abandoned and casing is surrounded by cement, perhaps casing issues may not a problem. We know that erosion control measures can affect casing quality and pipe connections are weak points for attack

Clearly abandonment procedures are very important to the long term integrity of a well. Well intervals that aren't cemented may actually collapse with time, mud logs for the evaluation of formation damage, but we do not know if damage around well bore matters. How much of the abandoned well is cemented will be a big issue as will finding the old abandoned wells on fields.

Another important issue that needs to be known is how previous well operations could have affected the wells integrity?

As far as mechanisms of attack are concerned the location of the attack by CO_2 will be a factor. Attack on the cement from the bottom of the well should pose less of a problem if we have 10 m of cement will it really degrade all the way through in a timescale that we need to worry about? It is likely that micro annuli in the cement may always be present which is important because this will contribute to the scale of the attack.

Questions that we need to address are:

- What is the most aggressive CO₂-brine attacking fluid?
- How wet is the CO₂? Because we can't displace the oil we probably can't displace all of the water.
- Does the cement develop a low permeable deposition zone that "protects" the cement?
- Can reservoir choice help pacify the CO₂?
- Are other components of CO_2 stream e.g. H_2S or hydrocarbons, may be important
- The nature of reservoir may be important, wells in traps concentrate the CO₂ and pressurize formation may be more at risk than wells in open migrating systems
- Can we depend on cement as the ultimate barrier, as the pipe doesn't offer protection?
- Do fractures heal or open with CO₂ flow?

Information that would be helpful would be a survey of actual leaks-to-surface of CO_2 along with costs of work-overs and SCP data records

In summary the group felt that overall a poor cement job is probably the most fundamental issue determining well integrity. If we get a poor cement job maybe we need to focus on other materials like the steel first. Also, we need an accelerated test methodology to be able to predict degradation in wells.

Group 3 – Well bore integrity experiment

Group 3 were led by Charles Christopher(BP) and Rick Chaltaurnyk (University of Calgary). The group were given the remit of designing an experimental programme to assess well bore integrity.

The aim was therefore was to select a well and determine if CO_2 has attacked it. The group approached this activity in a step wise manner. The steps considered were:

- How do we choose a well?
- How do we characterise it?
- What do we do to the well?
- What do we do with samples?
- What modelling and simulation is needed?

As far as well selection was concerned we need to decide whether you select a producer or an injector? For CCS operations we will only use injectors, but old producers converted to injectors will likely be main source of problems

Wells selected should have the following features:

- Access is required,
- It should be scheduled for abandonment, but should still be controllable,
- Need to consider reason for abandonment, i.e. it should have failed a mechanical integrity test or watered out,
- Good history historical data must be available, particularly on issues such as type of cement used, production history and mud cleaning. Petrophysical analyses would be beneficial,
- If the well had SCP,
- Whether other well types are also available with different characteristics,
- A minimum to 4 to 4.5" diameter to get widest range of tools available.

Well characterisation - non destructive - tests could include the following

- Logging suite logs (tubing then casing)
 - Mechanical, sonic and electromechanical
- Fluid analysis
- In well micro-seismic (active source)
- Casing analysis
- Video camera
- Gas analysis

Well Intervention tests could include

- Sidewall cores multiples
 - Next to aquitards, aquifer
- Kick off cores multiples
- Tracers to identify flow paths in cement
- Pulse tests (cross well)

- Collect fluid samples from various formations
- Hydrojeting out a vertical large slot of tubing and casing
- Special sampling conditions need to be considered to preserve samples
- Core preservation

Sample analysis would include:

- Petrographic and geochemical (water, core etc.,) & mechanical/thermomechanical analyses
- Micro mechanical strength
- CAT scans on cores
- Cement analysis
- Metallurgical analysis
- Elastomers packers etc.,
- CO₂ reaction kinetics cement , rock

The next step would be to find a suitable well that has been exposed to CO_2 . Options considered included: Penn west/Weyburn in Canada, Tea pot dome and Sheep Mountain in the USA and a Petrobras well in, Brazil

4.3 Large scale projects

At the end of the day Scott Imbus from Chevron presented the outline of a field study that was being prepared by CCP2. An integrated CO_2 well bore integrity field study is proposed to assess well condition, and document and model the degradation processes and rates in the well. The data will then be used to simulate future well

The study would comprise the core of a more "comprehensive well integrity program" and the basis for new, cost-effective well designs and remediation and intervention techniques.

Major tasks include:

- Well selection & evaluation
- Well sampling, analyses & experiments
- Model construction with history match
- Forward simulation
- Engineering solutions

Scott invited the participants at the workshop to provide ideas and recommendations for the study.

This study was in part stimulated by the results from the previous well bore integrity meeting held in Houston in 2005.

5. Summary

Charles Christopher of BP summed what had been achieved at the meeting. The task before us concerns risk management and risk reduction. We need to convince the regulators that CCS is safe. To do that we need to assess areas of risk and we know that well bores pose a major risk issue.

This group can play a role by bringing together statistical and mechanistic data that the modelers can use to tell what the long term risks are. But we also need more samples and in particular cement samples from wells that have been exposed to CO_2 and from some that have not. We especially need more samples because we see a disconnect between the results pf laboratory experiments which indicate very rapid cement degradation and field experiments where degredation is much less marked. We need to be able to resolve these differences.

Another option is to ask the operators to use cement that is resistant to CO_2 . However they will be reluctant to use a new material because they have years of experience with Portland cements and we need to prove to them that there is an issue that needs to be resolved.

Regarding the steel degredation observed in Texas can corrosion inhibitors be used to protect the steel, but is this an issue if we get a good cement job?

6. Key Conclusions

The key conclusions that can be drawn from the meeting are:

- 1. There is clearly a problem with well bore integrity in existing oil and gas production wells, worldwide. The main cause of this problem appears to be poor cementing practices. This problem has been recognized by the industry and new standards are being introduced to reduce this problem in the future. However, this leaves a legacy of old wells in oil and gas fields which may need extensive reworking be fore they can be considered suitable for use in CCS operations and to ensure their long term integrity.
- 2. It is established that cement can be degraded by CO₂, however the degree of degradation observed in laboratory tests and from the limited field samples available show large differences. Laboratory experiments infer that the cement in the wells will be degraded in a matter of days, whereas field data shows some degradation has occurred but nothing like as severe. More field based samples are required and better correlation between reservoir conditions and the laboratory experiments are needed.
- 3. Whilst cement is one issue, potential corrosion problems with the steel casing and elastomer failures should not be overlooked as possible causes of leakage in wells. Improved well completion practices may help by reducing CO₂-brine access to the metal casing, by improving cement integrity within the well. However, for the long term i.e. after abandonment it might be best to remove the tubing and fully seal with cement.
- 4. New CO_2 resistant cements are now coming onto the market, but we need to establish cost issues and the suitability of these cements to provide good casing and rock seals in real applications.

Issues to be considered in the future include:

- Well abandonment practices for long term CO₂ containment,
 Well monitoring procedures,
 Results from field experiments.

Appendix 1. Delegates List

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Day 1	
Session 1. Introduction	
Welcome/ Safety/ Context	Charles Christopher, BP, John Gale IEA GHG, Mike Celia Princeton
Session 2. Studies of Well Bore Integrity Chair: Rick Chalaturnyk, University of Alberta	
K12-B CO ₂ Injection Site	TNO – Frank Mulders
North Estes Field in Texas	Chevron – Mike Powers
Weyburn Well Study	University of Alberta - Rick Chalaturnyk
MMS Studies on Wells	BP – Walter Crow
API Activity including Sustained Casing Pressure and Field and Regional Area Studies.	Halliburton – Ron Sweatman
Session 3. Field Experiences Chair: Daryl Kellingray, BP	
Introduction/Remediation of Wells with Sustained Casing Pressure	Daryl Kellingray, BP
Advanced Wireline Logging Techniques for Well Integrity Assessment	Schlumberger – Yvonnick Vrignaud
Repairing Wells with Sustained Casing Pressure	CSI – Fred Sabins
Dealing with Wells with Poor Annular Integrity	BP – Jo Anders Teleconference from Alaska
Session 4. Laboratory Studies of CO2 - Cement Reactions Chair: Bill Carey, LANL	
Corrosion of Cement in Simulated Limestone and Sandstone Formations.	Princeton – George Scherer
Core-flood and Batch Experiments on Carbonation of Casing-Cement-Shale Composites.	LANL – Marcus Wigand
Quantifying CO ₂ .related Alteration of Portland cement: experimental approach and microscopic methodology.	Schlumberger – Gaetan Rimmele

Day 2	
Degradation of Well Cement Under Geologic Sequestration Conditions.	NETL – Barbara Kutchko
Resistant Cement for CO ₂ storage Process.	Schlumberger – Veronique Barlet - Gouedard
Session 5. Modelling Well Bore Integrity Chair: Mike Celia, Princeton University	
Reactive Transport Modelling of Cement-Brine- CO ₂ systems: Application to SACROC	LANL – Bill Carey
Recent developments for a geochemical code to assess cement reactivity in CO ₂ /brine mixtures	Princeton – Jean Prevost
Effect of Well Operations and Downhole Conditions on Cement Sheath	Halliburton – Kris Ravi
A Large-scale Modelling Tool for Leakage Estimation and Risk Assessment	Princeton - Mike Celia
CO ₂ Storage Well bore Integrity Field Study: A CCP2 Proposal	Chevron - Scott Imbus
Session 6. Breakout Sessions - Ensuring Well Bore Integrity in the Presence of CO2	
Introduction to Breakout Sessions	
Reports from Breakout Sessions and Discussion	
Session 7. Summary, Discussion and Close Chair: Charles Christopher, BP	
Concluding discussions, next steps and proposals for next meeting	
End of Meeting	

Wellbore Integrity Workshop: Introductory Remarks

Michael A. Celia Princeton University









Princeton University
Outline

- Safety Moment
- Overview of Princeton University and CMI
- Comments on the Workshop





- Exit out back of room, turn left, go up stairs and out doors.
- Fire Alarm: Very loud siren

Princeton University

- Small university in central New Jersey
 - Approximately 4,500 undergraduate students
 - Approximately 2,000 graduate students
- Founded in 1746
- School of Engineering and Applied Science is one of the Professional Schools at Princeton.
- Princeton Environmental Institute formed in 1992.
- Carbon Mitigation Initiative began in 2001.







Carbon Mitigation Initiative at Princeton







THE PERFUP ENVIRONMENTAL PRIZE LEGIURES FOR 2003

PRINCETON ENVIRONMENTAL INSTITUTE AND PRINCETON UNIVERSITY PRESS present

> Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior University of Minnesota

WEDNESDAY = MARCH 29

Stochastic Niche Theory, Neutrality, and the Centrels of Invasion and Community Assembly

THURSDAY MARCH 30

The Coexistence Paradex: Ecological and Evolutionary Modanisms for Earth's Biodiversification

FRIDAY = MARCH 31

Biodiversity, Renewable Biofuels, and Ecosystem Services: A Path Toward Energy and Environmental Sustainability

> ALL LECTURES ARE AT 8 P.M. IN FRIEND CENTER 101 A reception will be held in the Friend Center after each lecture

Well Tubing Intergrity K12-B6 North Sea

Multifinger Caliper Analysis Results

TNO | Knowledge for business



Frans Mulders

Location of K12-B





K12-B Compartments

- Single well compartment
- CO₂ injector and gas producers







Field Geometry and Well Locations



Well K12-B6 - Geometry



Well K12-B6, North Sea

Well K12-B6 - Conditions

- In February 2005 the gas production well K12-B6 has been modified into a CO₂ injection well
- The reservoir temperature is 127 °C
- The original gas composition in the reservoir is sweet natural gas with 13% CO₂; no significant amounts of H₂S are present
- The production water contains up to 190.000 ppm chlorides
- For stainless steel these are very harsh conditions
- At the injection start and after one year of operation the condition of the production tubing has been inspected by caliper analysis



Princeton, March 28-29,

Temperatures and Pressures



Well K12-B6, North Sea

Princeton, March 28-29, 2006

Measurements: Multi-Finger Caliper Log



Well K12-B6, North Sea



Example of CO₂ corrosion





Pit depth relative to tubing thickness in 2006...







... and compared to 2005



11 Well K12-B6, North Sea



Relative metal loss in 2006 and 2005





Pit depth relative to collar thickness



13 Well K12-B6, North Sea

Princeton, March 28-29, 2006



Possible Mechanisms

- Corrosion, eventually enhanced by
 - "splash zone" effect
 - high concentration of chloride-ions from the formation water
 - Metal particles in the injection fluid causing galvanic effects
- Damage of the passive oxide layer of the relatively weak chrometubing by relatively hard cables in the well

• Overtorque

Combinations of corrosion or erosion mechanisms usually cause a dramatic increase in the rate of metal loss compared to the summation of separate mechanisms



Princeton, March 28-29, 2

14 Well K12-B6, North Sea

Acknowledgements

- GDF Production Nederland B.V. and partners
 - EXPRO North Sea
 - DRC
- Dutch Government (CRUST, CATO)
- European Commission (FP6, CASTOR, CO2GEONET)
- K12-B partners





North Ward Estes Converting Wells In A Mature West Texas Field For CO² Injection

Michael Power, Monte Leicht, and K.L. Barnett SPE 20099 March 1990







Injection Stages North Ward Estes Field CO₂ Flood - Stage I



Stage III

Stage I

Stage II



Four Types Of Wells Encountered

- **1. Nitro Shot Open Hole Injectors (60** Wells)
- **2. Open Hole Injectors (36 Wells)**
- **3. Cased Hole Injectors With Plugback**

Requirements For Zonal Isolation (15 Wells)

4. Cased Hole Injectors With No Plugback Requirements (54 Wells)



Chevron



NWE CO² Project Liner Fishing Statistics

Open Hole Injectors36Nitro Shot Hole Injectors60Total Open/Shot Hole Injectors96Average Depth +/- 2750'-Average Open Hole Length 300' - 400'



Wellbore Clean Out – 96 wells (fishing challenges)

Wells With FG Liner/Metal Outer Liner...8 Wells With 2 Metal Liners......33 Wells With 1 FG Liner.....25 Wells With 1 Metal Liner.....30













Recovery with Spear & Grapple

33 FG Liners – 24 Full Recovery (73%)

96 Metal Liners – 47 Partial Recovery (49%) – 91' AVG – 2 Full Recovery (2%)



Recovery With Burning Shoe And Washpipe

Used on 66 Wells – 65% Recovery Per Run Average Clean Out – 4.8 Days



Fishing Results

•Attempted clean out of 96 open hole wells

•90 cleaned out for injection

6 wells required sidetracking








Casing Evaluation & Repair

- Casing Inspection Logs 20 wells confirmed consistent problems
- Squeeze Cementing 31 wells; improved success from 55% to 84%
- Excavation and topside replacement 17 wells excavated/repaired from 10' to 80'



Casing Remediation with Cement

- •High Volume/Low Pressure (3-6 BPM w/200-500psi) utilize 2 slurry method
- •Low volume/High Pressure (1/8- 1BPM w/800-1300psi) use single slurry
- Hesitation squeezing
- •Extensive testing (i.e. rheology, pump time, compressive strength timeline)
- •Batch mixer and pressurized mud balance



Improving Cementing Success

- 1. Slurry Design ensure cement & additive quality; understand correlation of rheology & compressive strength properties
- 2. Tools cement retainers & packers; plug cutters, cementing heads
- **3. Technique** hesitation squeezes; balanced plugs; stair step pressure
- 4. Personnel knowledgeable & patient



Consequences Of Unsuccessful Squeezes

 Run A Liner - \$50,000 - \$60,000
 Drill A Replacement Well - \$225,000
 Plug And Abandon - Loss of Injection Support To Offset Producers



Tubing Recovered From Converted Wells

Joints Inspected - 11,299 Inspection Results <u>Yellow Blue</u> <u>Green</u> <u>Silver</u> <u>Red</u> 5629 641 1285 887 2857 (49.8%) (5.6%) (11.4%) (7.9%) (25.3%)



Tubing Recovered And Reconditioned For Injection Use

Yellow Band 4160 Joints

Blue-Green Band 1509 Joints

5669 Joints Reused As Injection Tubing

= 59.7% Of Rec. Tubing

Percentage of Authorized Days and Funds versus Project Timeline







CO2 Safety Issues

A slight increase in temperature can dramatically increase the pressure of CO2. Employees have to be aware of shutdowns and what temperature increases can do to their CO2 process, and must have proper relief systems in place.

CO2 can be extremely corrosive if it contains any moisture.

• CO2 will freeze during pressure drops. When bleeding down lines employees must be aware of the possibility of the formation of ice plugs and trapped pressure.

• C02 will impregnate most rubbers, must have a management of change process for something as simple as changing O Rings to ensure like and kind replacement

• Pressurized CO2 lines inside of a city limit will be under the jurisdiction of the DOT



Back Up Slides

© Chevron 2005 DOC ID

24



Stimulation 15% NEFE HCL Scale Dissolving Solvent XYLENE Micellar Solvent





2nd IEA Well Bore Integrity Network Meeting 28– 29 March 2006 Princeton University



Well Integrity Studies at the IEA Weyburn CO₂-EOR Monitoring and Storage Project

Rick Chalaturnyk University of Alberta









Weyburn Setting









Weyburn CO₂ Storage System







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Wells in Phase 1a

Tб





Statistics







Elements of Well Integrity Cement...

Failure Mode	Probability
Packer leak	2.0 10-17
Major packer failure	1.5 10-15
Injection tubing leak	2.7 10-17
Major injection tubing failure	2.1 10 ⁻⁸
Cement micro-annulus leak	2.1 10-0
Confining zone(s) breach	8.8 10 ⁻¹⁰
Inadvertent injection zone extraction	6.6 10 ⁻⁷

from Clark, J.E., An overview of injection well history in the United States, American Institute of Hydrology, 4th USA/CIS Joint Conference, Cathedral Hill Hotel, San Francisco, California, November 9, 1999.









Elements of Well History Impacting Hydraulic Integrity









Well Integrity Assessment



DETAILED SCHEMATIC FOR OIL WELL





rei

UWI

Partners in Geological Storage Research



DETAILED SCHEMATIC FOR WATER INJECTION WELL



RESEARCH COUNCIL

Richneleg



UWI

DETAILED SCHEMATIC FOR WAG INJECTION WELL



POL

UWI

Partners in Geological Storage Research



RESEARCH

COUNCIL

DETAILED SCHEMATIC FOR ABANDONED OIL WELL





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ptrc

Richneleg

RESEARCH

COUNCIL

DETAILED SCHEMATIC FOR CO₂ INJECTION WELL





TCL

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COUNCIL

DETAILED SCHEMATIC FOR CO₂ PRODUCTION WELL





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Abandoned Wells





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101141800613W200	
Spud Date:	5/19/1957
Period:	1956-1967
Туре:	VCAL
Purpose	OIL WELL (ABANDONED)



UWI

Casing

Size

(mm)

273.00

Cementing

Casing

Size

(mm)

139.70

H-40

18.10

Cementing

101121800613W200	
Spud Date:	2/8/1957
Period:	1956-1967
Туре:	VCAL
Purpose	(ABANDONED)

on	Fluid Type	Cement Vol. (tonnes)	Slurry Vol. (m3)	1100.0	
J-55	1463.60	53			
Grade	Length (m)	JTS	Thickness (mm)	900.0	
Informati	ion			700.0	Intermedia
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on	FIUID Type	(tonnes)	(m3)	500.0	
i na	Elstiel True e	Compative	Churren) (ed	500.0	
H-40	98.50	10			
Grade	Length (m)	JTS	Thickness (mm)	300.0	
nation				100.0	
	Grade H-40 Mr-40 Mr-40 Grade J-55	ration Grade Length (m) H-40 98.50 on Fluid Type %CACL2 LEAD Information	mation Grade Length JTS (m) (m) H-40 98.50 10 ion Fluid Type Cement Vol. (tonnes) %CACL2 LEAD 200 SACKS Information (m) JTS (m) Grade Length JTS (m) J-55 1463.60 53	Ination Grade Length JTS Thickness (m) (mm) (mm) H-40 98.50 10 ion Fluid Type Cement Vol. Slurry Vol. (fonnes) (m3) %CACL2 LEAD 200 SACKS 5.66 Information (m) JTS Thickness (m) (mm) (mm) (mm) J-55 1463.60 53	mation 100.0 Grade Length JTS Thickness (m) (m) (mm) H-40 98.50 10 300.0 ion Fluid Type Cement Vol. Slurry Vol. 500.0 (fonnes) (m3) 506 500.0 700.0 Information (m) (mm) 700.0 900.0 Grade Length JTS Thickness 900.0 J-55 1463.60 53 53 500.0 500.0

H-40 Recorded in Wellfile

18.10 Computed from data in Wellfiel



UWI

101081200614W200	
Spud Date:	11/17/1957
Period:	1956-1967
Туре:	VCAL
Purpose	OIL WELL (ABANDONED)



UWI

Casing

Casing

101140700613W200	
Spud Date:	9/19/1957
Period:	1956-1967
Туре:	VCAL
Purpose	OIL WELL (ABANDONED)



Mud removal (Weyburn)

MOBIL OIL OF CANADA, LTD. 5-24 Petroleum Engineering Department DAILY WELL HISTORY WILL: 11,0, South Baloh X-14-18 CASING: 10 ' Landed at 301,00 C/1 200 sacks plus 2% Cac12 Elev. KB: 1915' 5 ^{1/2} Landed at 4777,12' CA 350 cu ft RexLite plus 2% Ge1	Typical drilling – completion data (Wellbore drilled in 1950's)
Ran 148 joints, 92", 15.9% 98 Saker float shoe on bottom of on top of first joint. Ean 4 in middle of shoe fount and of Gasing landed at 27 And 70 Casing landed using Cameraon (Casing landed using Cameraon (Casing landed using Cameraon (Casing landed using to water from Bowl. Ras tubing to water from Ran 151 joints of 2 7/8" EUS to	<pre>L, TAC, Mge 2 J-55, 8 thd/in first joint. Baker float collar B&W latch on centralizers, one as on collars 2,3 & A. per wint on joints, 2,3,4,5,5 7,120 K.B. Cemented with 350 cu h at 7:35 AV with 1200 psi. A slips in a Compron casing an casing with oil. whine, 6.5%, J-55, Ege 2, 8thd/in Compron tobles band and a Fall.</pre>





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COUNC

Drilling, Completion,... Reports and Wellfile Information

Saskatchewa Energy and M Sedimentary (in lines Seodaia	1914 Hamilton Sirk Regina, Canada SAP 4V4 Telephone (306)78	ret 7-2550	Please Note: Horizo Submit 4 copies to (ontal wells require separat Geodata Division within 1 r	e forms submitted (month of Finished (93 F Y g	for each leg. Drilling Date.	F	inished Drilling Repor
WELL IDENTIFICATION Surface location K.B. Bay, 535.30 T.D. IDABHY 1447 ECONOMIC OBJECTIVE C. Strangraphic O Gas	m Grd. Elev m [Log]	OFFICIAL LSD SEC! TWP 역 0 () · 53! (55 · 53! (55 · 53! (55 · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	WELL NAME PC IRGE. M W/XI I/4 W/2 0 1 m Soud Date 1 1 i P.B.F.D. I/4/2 1 ELL TYPE Hantl Multi 1 Gas lejection Steam injection Steam injection 1	P ET AL WEYBUS STIA Bottom Location VA NO CA PRESENT STATUS Dry & Abandoned Curreleted & Opere	ZAL MALIT OC SS LOC. X LSS 1 37 9 sting Date 93 00 MOLE MOLE Stra Depth 31 156.5 200 144.2	1-11 - (p - 1) DISEC! TWP. AGE 1 oi 6 14 0 DA 6 14 Rig Releas Kick Of Point CASING Size Deput 129.1 54	4 WZ W/X S T W/Z 0 Sed 95 0 Mass per unit ienoth 5 J Z 2 J 2 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	R H Horizonta O OA C IS Contrac acker Depth	al Well: Leg # tar. $SIMMONS DAILUNG$ m ment & Additives $SOIOC + 3Z CaCl_2$
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1956-1961 Wells









1966-1967 Wells








Height of Annular Cement Column







75 Pattern Well Distributions (for June PCSM)









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More Statistics....

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Mud removal (Weyburn)





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<u>STO 33%</u>

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Cement Degradation – Acid Attack Class G Cement - Analytical



pH - DIMENSIONLESS







Acid Attack Mechanisms (Weyburn)



Process modelling CO₂ flow in wells



Well Integrity Assessment Methodology





relay o





Cement Transport Properties -Analytical



<u>Abandoned Wells</u> – (1956-1967) Plug & annulus cement degrade similarly.

Permeability at 2000: **10** ⁻¹⁴ m².

Permeability at 2100: **10** ⁻¹³ m². Aging, mechanical, temp. effects are not large. Meanly leaching.

Permeability at 3000: **10** ⁻¹¹ m². Degradation to amorphous silica.

Oil Wells, Water Injectors & WAG Injectors

(1956-1967) Plug & annulus cement degrade independently *Annulus*

Permeability at 2000: **10** -14 m².

Permeability at 2035: **10** ⁻¹² m². Mechanical & thermal effects, although (leaching) important. Permeability at 3000: **10** ⁻¹¹ m². Degradation to amorphous silica.

Plug: Installed 2035, length 8 m, state of the art

Permeability at 2035: **10** ⁻¹⁶ m².

Permeability at 3000: **10** ⁻¹⁵ m². Chemical degradation (aging). Better cement quality and only the bottom is exposed.

CO2 Injectors and Producers - Age: 1998-2001) Plug & annulus cement degrade

independently

Annulus

Permeability at 2000: 10 -17 m².

Permeability at 2035: **10** ⁻¹⁵ **m**². Mechanical & thermal effects, although (leaching) important. Permeability at 3000: **10** ⁻¹² **m**². (Affected during operational life of well)

Plug: Installed 2035, length 8 m, state of the art

Permeability at 2035: **10** - ¹⁶ m².



Permeability at 3000: **10**⁻¹⁵ **m**². Chemical degradation (aging). Better cement quality and only the bottom is exposed.

Oil & Water Injection Wells







WAG Injection Wells







Abandoned Wells



Partners in Geological Storage Research







The Performance Assessment Challenge – Lots of Wells!!!

IEA Weyburn CO₂ Monitoring and Storage Project













Alberta/Sask Reg.'s

Abandonment Options for Wells not Penetrating Oil Sands

(thermal cements are used in most options for wells penetrating oil sands)

- <u>Option 1</u> Setting a Bridge Plug
- 1. Set plug < 15 m above the completion zone
- Alberta
- 2. Pressure test plug at 7000 kPa (1000 psi) for 10 minutes
- 3. Cap with 8 m of Class "G" cement or 3 m of hydromite

Option 2 – Setting a Cement Retainer

- 1. Set plug 15 m above the completion zone
- 2. Pressure test plug at 7000 kPa (1000 psi) for 10 minutes
- 3. Cement squeeze into completion zone

LOTS OF OPTIONS

- 3. Pressure test plug at 7000 kPa (1000 psi) for 10 minutes
- 4. Plug must extend 15m above and below completion zone

Option 5 – Setting a Cement Plug

- 1. Set plug 15 m above and below completion zone
- 2. Confirm cement plug top
- 3. Pressure test plug at 7000 kPa (1000 psi) for 10 minutes

A well that is to be abandoned after production casing has been set and:

- there is a danger of fluid communication through annular cement; or
- the well produces enough gas to be called a gas well









Abandonment: Alberta Guide 20







NONTHWEST TENSITION ISS



Guide 20 – Gas Migration Test

 The licensee must conduct a gas migration test in the required test area to determine if gas is detectable outside the outermost casing string. As required in ID 2003-01, a licensee must check all wells in the required test area (see Figure 12) for gas migration prior to surface abandonment. Although not 2 requirement, the EUB believes all wells should be tested for gas migration prior to abandonment.











Provingent Technolog









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Dtrc

Overview of Report to MMS

"Diagnosis and Remediation of Sustained Casing Pressure in Wells" July, 2001

Walter Crow / BP

Conclusions of Report

Background

- Study conducted by Louisiana State University for Mineral Management Service (MMS) – 2001
 - Data from Gulf of Mexico wells
- Evaluated the approach to resolve SCP by <u>hydrostatic</u> <u>balance</u> of the fluid in the casing annulus with formation pressure
- Reviewed two methods to increase hydrostatic gradient:
 - "Bleed and Lube" method mulitiple cycles of bleed off pressure (gas) and inject kill weight fluid - limited success
 - "Casing Annular Remediation System" (CARS): Flexible tube inserted through casing valve to circulate fluid – shallow depth access limits use

Conclusions of Report

Context for Gulf of Mexico Study

- SCP widespread: 11,500 casing strings in 8100 wells
 - Gas migration through the cement shoe(s)
 - Tubing leak to the casing annulus
 - 90% of cases can be controlled with casing strength (as long as at least one string maintains a seal to atmosphere)
- Surveillance options limited
 - Limited log capability to detect source and length of channels

<u>Relevance</u>

- Does not address CO₂ as a cause or contributor to SCP
- Historically, the solution is a remedial measure using a fluid barrier

Conclusions of Report

- Lack of direct access is problematic for remedial treatment of annuli
- Rig repair for outer casing annuli <50% effective because of limited injectivity to channel for cement placement.

Cement design not conducive to travel through small channels

- Process to kill SCP by lubrication
 - Best results when casing annulus fluid and kill fluid are immiscible
 - Water-based mud containing gel becomes viscous in contact with brine – (most wells drilled with this type of fluid)

Well Integrity Context

- Drilling systems include <u>hydrostatic</u> and <u>mechanical</u> barriers
 - > Hydrostatic fluid under primarily circulating conditions
 - Surface BOP and cement shoe provide "mechanical" seal
- Production systems typically are only mechanical
 - > Wellhead
 - Cemented annuli

Testing & Analysis of SCP

- Bleed and monitor pressure if SCP is present or if pressure changes
- Diagnosis required on all annuli if any one of them has SCP
- Repair required if:
 - > SCP exceeds 20% of internal yield
 - > Cannot be bled to 0 psi through a $\frac{1}{2}$ " valve in 24 hrs
- Mechanisms of gas migration
 - > Matrix permeability of cement
 - Interfacial channeling through microannulus

Diagnosis of SCP

- Statistical analysis of one field showed trend similar whole Gulf of Mexico
- Gas flow through unset cement matrix is believed to be major cause of SCP

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- Analysis can be simplified if unknown parameters limited to:
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 - Formation pressure

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- Bleed small volume of gas/fluid; inject high density brine
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 - Only partially reduced SCP
 - Pressure cycles sometimes increased casing pressure
- Experimental Tests
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 - Water-based drill mud (with gel) flocculates when exposed to brine kill weight fluid

Removal of SCP – Casing Annulus Remediation

- Casing Annulus Remediation System (CARS)
- Insert circulation tube through casing valve
 - Pump high density fluid through small diameter tube
 - Depth limit <1000 feet of penetration in field cases</p>
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MMS Study on Sustained Casing Pressure

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- Elimination or control of SCP consistent with goal of CO₂ containment
 - SCP = risk of pollution to ocean water and environment
- Should hydrostatic control be considered a permanent or long-term well integrity barrier for CO₂ storage?
 - > Increase in bottomhole pressure due to gas injection

Overview of Diagnosis and Remediation of SCP

Questions?


New API Practices to Isolate Flow Zones

By

Ron Sweatman, Chairman of API Work Group

Presented at

2nd Well Bore Integrity Network Meeting

Princeton University

28-29 March, 2006

Organised by:







Presentation Summary

- API Work Group on Flow Prevention and Remediation
- Studies of SWF, LWC and gas flow causes
 - >120 studies reviewed & 34 referenced in Part 2
 - 14 MMS & operator reports on LWC incidents
- API RP-65 on Preventing & Remediating Flows
 - Parts 1 and 2 overviews for Annular Flows
 - Part 3 scope for Casing Pressure (SCP/APB/TCP)
 - Best practices and lessons learned
 - Pending MMS regulations for APD (Application for Permit to Drill)
 - Cost Benefits
- API RP-90 on Casing Pressure Management

API Work Group on Prevention & Remediation

- Started summer of 2000
- 57 organizations
- 114 members
- MMS Challenges to Work Group
 - Study how to reduce LWC incidents and CP
 - Publish improved zone isolation practices
 - Help reduce cases and risk of LWC and CP
 - Lead effort to prevent annular flows & migration
 - Recommend remediation practices

Annular Flow & Casing Pressure Study

"New API Practices for Isolating Potential Flow Zones During Drilling and Cementing Operations"

SPE 97168 & JPT January 2006

By Moss Bannerman, Chevron; Jerry Calvert, Consultant; Tom Griffin, Griffin Cement Consulting LLC; Joe Levine and John McCarroll, MMS; Dan Postler, Devon Energy; Andy Radford, API; Ron Sweatman, Halliburton

Shallow water and/or gas flow through the annulus



High Costs of Loss of Well Control Incidents

56% of LWC incidents (19 of 34) in 1996-2001 period linked to cementing operations

LWC by MMS & # wells by Spears



OCS Events	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
LWC vs.	4 of	5 of	7 of	5 of	9 of	10 of	6 of	5 of	4 of	4 of
wells drilled	1185	1274	1246	1242	1412	1516	1119	1075	965	~966



Figure from "A Review of **Sustained Casing** Pressure (SCP) Occurring on the OCS" by Bourgoyne et al (March 2000)

Gulf of Mexico wells with <u>contained</u> SCP reported by MMS on 2-17-03 (15,773 active wells)

(% wells changes by old well abandonment & new wells drilled)



~33% of SCP wells linked to the cementing process

Work Group Charges

- Prepare API RP 65 (Part 1—published 2002)
 - Study SWF event prevention in deepwater
 - Recommend zone isolation process
- Prepare API RP 65 (Part 2—in review)
 - Study LWC event prevention
 - Recommend zone isolation process
 - All offshore wells
- Prepare API RP 65 (Part 3—in process)
 - Study SCP and TCP prevention and remediation
 - Recommend zone isolation process
 - All wells

API RP-65 Part 1

- Potential SWF event consequences
 - Loss of well integrity:
 - Hole enlargement/collapse
 - Casing damage
 - Pressure communication
 - Seafloor craters, mounds, crevasses
 - Loss of templates
 - Pollution
 - Gas hydrate destabilization

Studies of Deepwater SWF in GoM (Costs in Millions USD)

Study of wells in known SWF areas	123 wells in 1998 report	106 wells in 1999 report
SWF Remediation Costs	\$137	\$116
SWF Prevention Costs	\$30	\$59
Total Costs	\$167	\$175

1. Data from study reports by Mark Alberty with BP and published in several papers including OTC11971.

2. The 106 wells is a subset of the 123 wells studied.

SWF Challenges

- PP $\sim =$ FP
- Narrow mud weight window
- Seawater drilling fluid
- Riserless drilling wellhead flow control
- ROV-only observation
- Batch-set conductor/surface casing proximity
- Cold water temperature

Best Practices

- Site selection for minimal SWF
- PWD and resistivity tools
- ROV to check flow
- Swift reaction to contain flows
- Mud for flow control
- Pad mud before casing
- Special cement slurries



Lessons Learned

- PP control at first indication of SWF
- Zones drilled UB not isolated with cement
- Delayed control of SWF jeopardizes the well
- Cement must be designed to control SWF
- Mechanical barriers alone may not seal long term

API RP-65 Part 2 Objectives

- Control of flows and losses <u>MAINTAIN OVERBALANCE</u>
 - Prior to, during & after cementing operations
- Prevention of LWC incidents in the short term
- Help prevent casing pressure & loss of well integrity (long term)

Gas migration through mud channels in cement

LWC Incident Characteristics

Based on 14 of 19 Cases Linked to Cementing:

- Immediately after cementing surface casing
- Failure to maintain HH and overbalance
- Mudline hanger
- Cleaning cement out of annulus
- Lost or partial circulation lowers TOC
- Cement slurry not designed for gas control
- Mud removal/ZI practices inadequate

Well Design and Drilling Practices – Part 2

- Flow-potential evaluation
- Optimize well plan & design
 - PP, FG, MW analysis
 - Annular clearances for ECD control
 - Drill a smooth, non-spiraling hole
 - Control/isolation of flow/loss zones
 - Wellbore cleaning
 - Primary/secondary barrier designs
 - Contingency plan
 - Communication to personnel

Well Design and Drilling Practices – Part 2

- ID potential flows/losses
- Mechanical barriers vs. HH
 - Seal set after WOC
 - Place seal top of zone
- Cementing practices
 - Hole/pipe geometry
 - Narrow flow paths
 - Drilling fluid removal
 - Casing hardware
 - Engineering design
 - Slurry design and testing

- Post-cementing operations
 - Stable HH
 - WOC decision tree
 - Top job
- Post-job evaluation
- Leakoff tests
 - LOT
 - FIT

"Zone Isolation to Prevent & Remediate Casing Pressure"

Addresses CO₂, H₂S, & Hydrocarbon Containment

- Preventive Practices During Drilling & Completion
 - ✓ Well Planning & Design also refers to API RP-90
 - ✓ Diagnostics to Find SCP Source Zones & TCP Traps
 - ✓ SCP Source Zone Permeability Barriers
 - ✓ Mechanical Barriers
 - ✓ Cementing Barriers
 - ✓ Well Integrity Testing (Pipe, Shoe, Lap, Packer, etc.)
- Remedial Practices for Workovers & Abandonment
 - ✓ SCP Diagnostics During Production
 - ✓ Annular Sealing Methods and Materials
 - ✓ SCP Source Zone Permeability Barriers

RP-65 Part 3: Example Study & Peer Review



Pulsation Technology Application reported by Lang, K.: "March: Production Optimization: Pulsation improves cementing results," article in Hart's E&P, March 2003

In 2006, the MMS may publish a proposed rule incorporating API RP-65 Part One

"Cementing Shallow Water Flow Zones in Deep Water Wells."

MMS would require RP-65 practices to approve APD

and

The International Standards Organization wants to adopt API RP-65 as an ISO Standard Practice

Annular Flow Costs vs. RP-65 Benefits (estimated USD per well)

Loss of well control and SWF incidents Remediation ranges ~\$1,600,000 to >\$100,000,000 RP-65 prevention cost benefits Helps save remediation cost Prevention ranges ~\$240,000 to \$1,540,000 Casing pressure (SCP and TCP) Management averages ~\$100,000 each year Remediation ranges ~\$100,000 to >\$2,000,000 RP-65 prevention cost benefits Helps save management and remediation Costs Prevention ranges ~\$50,000 to \$280,000

API RP-90

"Annular Casing Pressure Management for Offshore Wells"

- Well Planning & Design also refers to API RP-65
- Pressure Containment Design Considerations
- Maximum Allowable Wellhead Operating Pressure
- Detection and Monitoring of SCP and TCP
- Diagnostic Testing
 - Determines Severity & Need for Remediation
 - SCP Pathways & Source Zones (more in RP-65 Part 3)
- Well Barriers and Barrier Elements
- Casing Integrity Pressure Testing
- Record Keeping
- Risk Analysis Considerations



Helping You Get The Job Done Right.®

Questions, Suggestions, and Comments are Welcome

Key Cementing Parameters for Shallow Water Flow Hazards in Deep Water					
Parameter	Recommended Criteria	Max Points	Plan Score	Performance Score	Actual Value
	Site Selection				
Site Selection	Site is analyzed to minimize potential for flow by Appendix A or equivalent process	10			
	Total	10	0	0	
	Critical Fluid Parameter	S			
Gel Strengths of Pad Mud @ BHT	10 second, 10 minute and 30 minute gels all < 25 lb/100 ft ²	4			
Density	Sufficient to control flow	4			
Fluid Loss	Pad Mud <15 API	2			
	Total	10	0	0	
	Critical Well Parameter	S			
Hole Diameter	Hole diameter is a minimum of 3.0 inches greater than the casing outer diameter	2			
Clearances	Wellhead/cased hole inner diameters are a minimum of 1 inch greater than casing/casing connector outer diameter at all points in the wellbore.	2			
Rathole	Rathole is filled with mud with density greater than cement	2			
Flows	Action is taken to kill flow as soon as encountered	8			
End of inner string	Within 80 feet of shoe	2			
	Total	16	0	0	

Critical Operational Parameters					
Lost Circulation	Full returns are maintained and fracturing initiation pressure is not violated at any time while running pipe or during conditioning and cementing	3			
Static Time	Pressure test lines before conditioning and < 5 minutes of non-circulation				
	Total	5	0	0	
	Critical Displacement Efficiency Parameter	s			
Mixing and Placement Rate	Circulation rate in annulus before and during cementing meets mud removal criteria established by computer simulation	3			
Centralization	Optimized for mud removal through SWF zone	3			
Spacer	Optimized density and volume for 500 feet annular fill	2			
Fluid compatibility tests	Compatible	2			
Mud Conditioning Volume	> 1 Annular Volume	3			
Well control	There is no flow before or during conditioning and cementing	5			
Pipe Movement	Pipe is moved to enhance mud displacement	2			
	Total	20	0	0	

Critical Cementing Fluids Parameters					
Temperature for Cement Testing	Temperatures established by measurement and/or thermal modeling software	5			
	Compressible slurries are used	5			
	Gel strength development meets maximum time requirements	4			
	Reduced fluid loss slurries are used	2			
Slurry Design	WOC criteria established and followed	4			
	Cement density appropriate for well conditions	3			
	Slurry stability (Free fluid, sedimentation and foam stability meet criteria)	3			
Blend verification	According to quality plan (vendor's or operator's)	3			
Cement Top	Returns of cement are observed at mud line and calculated top of high performance cement is above SWF zone	3			
Rheological Relationships	Friction pressure of each laminar flow fluid is greater than the fluid it is displacing in all parts of the hole.	3			
	35	0	0		
	Critical Cementing Equipmen	t			
Cement Mixing Equipment	Computer assisted density controlled mixer or batch mixer	2			
Nitrogen Injection (foamed cement)	Automated, process controlled injection equipment	3			
Foamer and nitrogen at proper ratio	Within 10% of design	4			
Bulk cement delivery	No mixing constraints or interruptions due to bulk delivery problems	3			
Density Control	+/- 0.2 lb/gal	4			
	Total	16	0	0	
	SHEET TOTAL	112	0	0	

Costs to Prevent SWF by Alberty (Per Well Average Cost Based on 106 wells)

MWD/PWD (in RP)	\$20,000
24/26" Casing (not in RP)	\$500,000
Pilot Holes (optional)	\$300,000
SWF Cement (in RP)	\$200,000
Riser <mark>(in RP)</mark>	\$500,000
Well Planning (in RP)	<u>\$20,000</u>
TOTAL EXPENSE / Well	\$1,540,000

NOTES: 1. Expense may vary depending on conditions.

2. Details in paper "The Business and Financial Impact of SWF on Deepwater Operations," by Mark Alberty, BP presented at 1999 Int'l Forum on Shallow Water Flows in League City, TX.

WG Members Represent Organizations (#)

- Oil & Gas Operator Companies (20)
- Offshore Operators Groups (2)
- Drilling Contractors Association (1)
- Independent Operators Association (1)
- Petroleum Technology Transfer (1)
- Government Regulators (1)
- Industry Standardization (3)
- Drilling Contractors (3)
- Cementing Services (3)
- Cement Manufacturers (1)
- Consultants (8)
- Drilling Fluids (2)
- Research / Technical Services (5)
- Well Control (4)
- Wellhead Manufacturer (1)
- Universities (1)

Work Group Members Are Liaisons to:

- MMS **12. PTTC** 1. 2. IADC 13. **ISO** 3. DEA 14. DeepStar 4. IPAA **15. SWF/Geohazards JIP** 5. **API SC-10 on Cementing API SC-13 on Drilling & Completion Fluids** 6. **API Deepwater Operations Steering Committee** 7. 8. **API Executive Committee**
- 9. CEA-140 (MMS JIP on SCP Cement)
- 10. OOC SCP Group on RP-90
- 11. OOC (Offshore Operators Committee)

Conclusions of Report

Background

- Study conducted by Louisiana State University for Mineral Management Service (MMS) – 2001
 - Data from Gulf of Mexico wells
- Evaluated the approach to resolve SCP by <u>hydrostatic</u> <u>balance</u> of the fluid in the casing annulus with formation pressure
- Reviewed two methods to increase hydrostatic gradient:
 - "Bleed and Lube" method mulitiple cycles of bleed off pressure (gas) and inject kill weight fluid - limited success
 - "Casing Annular Remediation System" (CARS): Flexible tube inserted through casing valve to circulate fluid – shallow depth access limits use

Conclusions of Report

Context for Gulf of Mexico Study

- SCP widespread: 11,500 casing strings in 8100 wells
 - Gas migration through the cement shoe(s)
 - Tubing leak to the casing annulus
 - 90% of cases can be controlled with casing strength (as long as at least one string maintains a seal to atmosphere)
- Surveillance options limited
 - Limited log capability to detect source and length of channels

<u>Relevance</u>

- Does not address CO₂ as a cause or contributor to SCP
- Historically, the solution is a remedial measure using a fluid barrier

Conclusions of Report

- Lack of direct access is problematic for remedial treatment of annuli
- Rig repair for outer casing annuli <50% effective because of limited injectivity to channel for cement placement.

Cement design not conducive to travel through small channels

- Process to kill SCP by lubrication
 - Best results when casing annulus fluid and kill fluid are immiscible
 - Water-based mud containing gel becomes viscous in contact with brine – (most wells drilled with this type of fluid)

Well Integrity Context

- Drilling systems include <u>hydrostatic</u> and <u>mechanical</u> barriers
 - > Hydrostatic fluid under primarily circulating conditions
 - Surface BOP and cement shoe provide "mechanical" seal
- Production systems typically are only mechanical
 - > Wellhead
 - Cemented annuli

Testing & Analysis of SCP

- Bleed and monitor pressure if SCP is present or if pressure changes
- Diagnosis required on all annuli if any one of them has SCP
- Repair required if:
 - > SCP exceeds 20% of internal yield
 - > Cannot be bled to 0 psi through a $\frac{1}{2}$ " valve in 24 hrs
- Mechanisms of gas migration
 - > Matrix permeability of cement
 - Interfacial channeling through microannulus

Diagnosis of SCP

- Statistical analysis of one field showed trend similar whole Gulf of Mexico
- Gas flow through unset cement matrix is believed to be major cause of SCP

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- Analysis can be simplified if unknown parameters limited to:
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- Should hydrostatic control be considered a permanent or long-term well integrity barrier for CO₂ storage?
 - > Increase in bottomhole pressure due to gas injection

Overview of Diagnosis and Remediation of SCP

Questions?

Exploration & Production Technology

nn

delivering breakthrough solutions



Daryl Kellingray Princeton 28 March 2006





Session 3. Field Experiences Chair: Daryl Kellingray, BP			
12.00 - 12.30	Introduction/Remediation of Wells with Sustained Casing Pressure Daryl Kellingray, BP		
12.30 - 13.30	Lunch		
13.30 - 14.00	Advanced Wireline Logging Techniques for Well Integrity Assessment Schlumberger – Yvonnick Vrignaud		
14.00 - 14.30	Repairing Wells with Sustained Casing Pressure CSI – Fred Sabins		
14.30 - 15.00	Dealing with Wells with Poor Annular Integrity BP – Jo Anders Teleconference from Alaska		
15.00 - 15.30	Break		

Possible Causes of Annular Pressure





- A Production/Injection Packer
- **B** Tubing Failure
 - Casing Failure
 - Cement
 - D1 Channel
 - D2 Low top of cement
- E Wellhead Leak
 - Fractures & Faults

What is Sustained Casing Pressure (SCP)



- Occurs in non structural casing strings of wells, it is measurable at the wellhead of the casing annulus. Rebuilding to at least the same pressure when bled down.
- It is not due to temperature or pressure applied from surface to the well.
- Is documented to occur in over 8000 wells in GOM (11,000 casing strings).
- Records indicate four uncontrolled well flows caused by SCP.

SCP on well indicates there is a failing in the pressure envelope of the well.

Implications of SCP for CO₂ Injection



- Escape of the injection fluid outside the tubing possibly resulting in a corrosive environment for production casing
- Connectivity in the formation permitting migration of injection fluids to shallower formation (or into an uncemented annulus).
- Exposure of cement to CO₂ from tubing through casing or via movement in formation

Diagnosis of Sustained Casing Pressure

bp

- Pressure Testing
- Cased Hole Logging
 - Temperature Logs (hot spots due to flow from deeper formations)
 - Noise Logs (signature of flow behind pipe)
 - Injection of tracers (Borax / Radioactive) and subsequent logging of position
 - Oxygen activation using pulsed neutron
 - Downhole cameras and visualisation tools
 - Callipers

Most cased hole logs are good for tubing but can only assess production casing during a workover when tubing is removed.

Cement polymer combinations

Material for remediating SCP - Polymers

- Polymers
 - Acrylic monomer grouts
 - Crosslinked low molecular weight polymers
 - Sealants used for wellheads and pin hole leaks (e.g. Sealtite and Deepseal)





Polymerizing Sealant Process

EPT Which are considered long term seals ?

Material for remediating SCP – Other solutions



Expandable tubular / patches

 High density viscosified kill fluids (e.g. Calcium Bromide)
 lubricated into the annulus





- Cased hole remediation system for casing repair, perforation shut-off, corroded casing,
- Blank pipes coupled with expandable screens
- Product principles What is Sandaband™
- SAND for ABANDonment •
- Sand+Titania disposal Microsilica (to particle gel) Water +Additives, to make a **permanent slurry** without excess water nor segregation
- No pollution
- Patented world wide





- Primary 'cementing' "Sandamix"
- LCM and formation fracture gradient improvement
- Etc.



Others

- Sandaband
- *?

EPT Would these be acceptable to regulators ?

Materials for mitigating SCP - Cementitious

bp

- Hydraulic systems
 - OPC/Pozzolanic Cement Blends
 - Slag and slag cement blends
 - Microsilca / cement blends
 - Ultrafine blends

Cement	Max particle size (microns)	Average particle size (microns)	Fineness (sqcm/g)
Ultrafine systems	15	5	>9000
Class C	50	20	4700
Class G	90	25	3300
Class H	120	30	2200

 Non OPC systems (e.g. Phosphates, Ceramicrete)

Which of these have long term resistance to exposure to CO_2 ? What are the mechanical properties at pressure and temperature ? EPT

Deployment – Rig Workover

bp

Pull tubing using a rig results in high intervention costs

- Permits replacement of corroded tubing
- Installation of solid expandable liners to repair corroded casing
- Cement squeezes using high and low pressure techniques with a retainer to squeeze off channels behind casing



Solid expandable liner

Cement retainer used to apply squeeze pressure to force cement into channels / fractures







Annular Bullheading

Bullheading cement or other treatment directly into the annulus from surface.

- Requires annular injectivty and fracturing of formation
- Could trap pressure beneath previous shoe Risking underground flows





Spotting high density or sealing materials using a Casing Annulus Remediation System (CARS) • Has limited depth into annulus, may require lubricating heavy fluid in bleeding off light fluid



Rig less Intervention



Coiled Tubing

Significantly reduced cost compared to a rig workover, however, limited application to cure sustained casing pressure. Application limited to tubing and production casing annulus. Can be used to repair poor zonal isolation as a consequence of poor reservoir isolation.



Application in large annuli ?

Wireline deployable remedial annulus packers



Conclusions



- Incidence of wells with poor integrity is high
- Many possible causes, diagnosis not always easy or low cost
- Many options available for remediation but uncertainty about durability of the approach and resistance to CO_{2.}
- In some areas annular bullheads not permitted
- Problems with casing integrity may involve a full workover with significant cost (\$>100K per well onshore)
- Subsequent presentations to examine some of the options and well experiences.



Advanced wireline logging techniques for well integrity assessment

Yvonnick Vrignaud Well Integrity Product Champion – Wireline – Clamart, France Schlumberger



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An asterisk is used throughout this presentation to denote a mark of Schlumberger. Other company, product, and service names are the properties of their respective owners.



Outline

Isolation assessment

- Sonic CBL-VDL and attenuation
- Pulse-echoe technique
- Scanning of the annulus material

Piping assessment

- Mechanical
- Ultrasonic
- Electromagnetic Flux leakage and Remote-field eddy currents



Sonic Omnidirectional evaluation



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CBL-VDL Applications

Strengths

- Work well in most well fluids, tolerate corrosion
- Respond to solidity (shear coupling)
- Qualitative cement-formation bond from VDL
- Mapping tools identify broad channels

Weaknesses

- High CBL amplitude can be ambiguous
- liquid microannulus (shear coupling lost)
- Channels of contaminated cement and/or light cement
- Sensitive to Fast formation
- Extremely sensitive to eccentering



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Sonic attenuation

Strengths vs. Amplitude measurements

- Insensitive to Fluid changes
- Less sensitive to eccentering
- Ift measurement insensitive to fast formation
 Operating
- Must have fluid in the well
- Plan for pass with & without pressure (if micro annulus suspected)
- Need to know cement characteristics

Strengths vs advanced evaluation tools:

- Dry micro-annulus
- Relative insensitivity to casing damage/corrosion
- Qualitative VDL for formation to annulus bond

Weaknesses :

- Channeling
- Wet microannulus



Pulse-echoe evaluation

To provide azimuthal cement evaluation

- Ultrasonic tool operating between 200 and 700 kHz.
- Full casing coverage at 1.2 in. (30 mm) resolution
- using rotating transducer

Measuring the acoustic impedance (Z) of the material in the annulus by sending an ultrasonic pulse and measuring the decay of the reflections using a single rotating transducer. [Z = $\rho \times V_p$]





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Pulse echoe Applications

	Pulse-Echoe	CBL/VDL
Resolution	5 -10 deg. x 1.2 in.	360 deg. x 3 ft
Well bonded cement	Cement	Cement
Very light cement	Low contrast [special processing if debonded]	Low contrast from mud
Dry microann. Debonded cement	Dry microann. /gas (special processing)	Good/fair bond
Wet microann.	Slightly affected	Ambiguous (pressure)
Mud layer	Channel	Ambiguous
Contaminated cement	Low-Z cement	Ambiguous
Mixed lead/tail cement	Mixed Z (lead/tail)	Ambiguous
Mud channel	Channel	Ambiguous
Gas channel	Gas channel	Cement/ambiguous
Formation bond	Not seen	VDL qualitative
Outer casing/ fast formation	Slightly affected	Strongly affected
Casing condition	Very sensitive	Slightly sensitive
Mud attenuation	< 12 dB/cm/MHZ	No limit

 OC
 Casing

 Cement

 Channel

 <td

Strengths

Identifies channels (directional)

Include Pipe wear information

Weaknesses

- Requires continuous fluid medium
- Sensitive to dry microannulus
- Reacts to immediate vicinity of casing outer diameter

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Annulus Scanning

Combines Pulse-echoe measurement with flexural attenuation in casing to have :

- Improved evaluation of lightweight and contaminated cements
 - Casing centralization imaging







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Annulus width imaging



Analysis of flexural waveforms can:

Provide estimate of geometry orCement velocities [Vp , Vs]



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Limitations

Echo amplitudes affected by many factors outside the casing, including

- Casing centering
- Cement attenuation
- Formation contrast
- Formation roughness









Casing Centralization

Double string of free pipe





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Cement Sheath



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Applications

Ability to observe degradation of cement thickness, properties vs time [Z, Vp,Vs...]



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Mechanical evaluation of corrosion

Individual Caliper Movements are converted to voltages that are calibrated to give independent radius reading.

Strengths:

- High accuracy
- Ease of deployment
- High radial resolution
- Wide range of tool ratings available
- All media possible

Weaknesses:

- Limited coverage
- Only internal corrosion
- Scale sensitive
- Not imager of pin-holes



 Depth:
 3149.500

 Min Rad:
 2.371

 Ave Rad:
 2.386

 Max Rad:
 2.406

 Extern:
 2.600

 Intern:
 2.350

 Max Loss:
 21.522

 Ave Loss:
 13.777

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Ultrasonic evaluation of corrosion

Different transducers have a different focus and resolution

Strengths:

- Ideal for wear measurements
- Can be used for metal loss and holes/pits
- Accuracy
- 100% coverage
- Internal & external corrosion

Weaknesses:

- Requires fluid
- Single casing/piping
- Can be limited by internal scale build-up



Electromagnetic evaluation of corrosion

Flux leakage techniques rely on variations of Magnetic flux:

Strengths:

- Best suited to detect pitting, corrosion patches and holes
- Any fluid/gas

Weaknesses:

Insensitive to gradual casing wear = Do not allow corrosion rates to be derived

<u>Remote field eddy current</u> techniques rely on proportionality between remote field phase shift and metal thickness/magnetic permeability/conductivity

Strengths:

- Multiple casing strings
- Any fluid/gas
- Best suited for large-scale corrosion, large holes and vertical splits
- Insensitive to most scales [non magnetic, non conductive]
- Can be corrected for magnetic permeability variations

Weakness:

Will not detect extremely small holes

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Comments ?

Discussion topics possible :

- Planned experiments with large time scale
- Specific needs for the CO2 storage facilities for techniques/monitoring of the well integrity
 - Strengths and weaknesses of each technology in use

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Session 3. Field Experiences Chair: Daryl Kellingray, BP			
12.00 - 12.30	Introduction/Remediation of Wells with Sustained Casing Pressure Daryl Kellingray, BP		
12.30 - 13.30	Lunch		
13.30 - 14.00	Advanced Wireline Logging Techniques for Well Integrity Assessment Schlumberger – Yvonnick Vrignaud		
14.00 - 14.30	Repairing Wells with Sustained Casing Pressure CSI – Fred Sabins		
14.30 - 15.00	Dealing with Wells with Poor Annular Integrity BP – Jo Anders Teleconference from Alaska		
15.00 - 15.30	Break		

Possible Causes of Annular Pressure





- A Production/Injection Packer
- **B** Tubing Failure
 - Casing Failure
 - Cement
 - D1 Channel
 - D2 Low top of cement
- E Wellhead Leak
 - Fractures & Faults

What is Sustained Casing Pressure (SCP)



- Occurs in non structural casing strings of wells, it is measurable at the wellhead of the casing annulus. Rebuilding to at least the same pressure when bled down.
- It is not due to temperature or pressure applied from surface to the well.
- Is documented to occur in over 8000 wells in GOM (11,000 casing strings).
- Records indicate four uncontrolled well flows caused by SCP.

SCP on well indicates there is a failing in the pressure envelope of the well.

Implications of SCP for CO₂ Injection



- Escape of the injection fluid outside the tubing possibly resulting in a corrosive environment for production casing
- Connectivity in the formation permitting migration of injection fluids to shallower formation (or into an uncemented annulus).
- Exposure of cement to CO₂ from tubing through casing or via movement in formation

Diagnosis of Sustained Casing Pressure

bp

- Pressure Testing
- Cased Hole Logging
 - Temperature Logs (hot spots due to flow from deeper formations)
 - Noise Logs (signature of flow behind pipe)
 - Injection of tracers (Borax / Radioactive) and subsequent logging of position
 - Oxygen activation using pulsed neutron
 - Downhole cameras and visualisation tools
 - Callipers

Most cased hole logs are good for tubing but can only assess production casing during a workover when tubing is removed.

Cement polymer combinations

Material for remediating SCP - Polymers

- Polymers
 - Acrylic monomer grouts
 - Crosslinked low molecular weight polymers
 - Sealants used for wellheads and pin hole leaks (e.g. Sealtite and Deepseal)





Polymerizing Sealant Process

EPT Which are considered long term seals ?

Material for remediating SCP – Other solutions



Expandable tubular / patches

 High density viscosified kill fluids (e.g. Calcium Bromide)
 lubricated into the annulus





- Cased hole remediation system for casing repair, perforation shut-off, corroded casing,
- Blank pipes coupled with expandable screens
- Product principles What is Sandaband™
- SAND for ABANDonment •
- Sand+Titania disposal Microsilica (to particle gel) Water +Additives, to make a **permanent slurry** without excess water nor segregation
- No pollution
- Patented world wide





- Primary 'cementing' "Sandamix"
- LCM and formation fracture gradient improvement
- Etc.



Others

- Sandaband
- *?

EPT Would these be acceptable to regulators ?

Materials for mitigating SCP - Cementitious

bp

- Hydraulic systems
 - OPC/Pozzolanic Cement Blends
 - Slag and slag cement blends
 - Microsilca / cement blends
 - Ultrafine blends

Cement	Max particle size (microns)	Average particle size (microns)	Fineness (sqcm/g)
Ultrafine systems	15	5	>9000
Class C	50	20	4700
Class G	90	25	3300
Class H	120	30	2200

 Non OPC systems (e.g. Phosphates, Ceramicrete)

Which of these have long term resistance to exposure to CO_2 ? What are the mechanical properties at pressure and temperature ? EPT

Deployment – Rig Workover

bp

Pull tubing using a rig results in high intervention costs

- Permits replacement of corroded tubing
- Installation of solid expandable liners to repair corroded casing
- Cement squeezes using high and low pressure techniques with a retainer to squeeze off channels behind casing



Solid expandable liner

Cement retainer used to apply squeeze pressure to force cement into channels / fractures







Annular Bullheading

Bullheading cement or other treatment directly into the annulus from surface.

- Requires annular injectivty and fracturing of formation
- Could trap pressure beneath previous shoe Risking underground flows





Spotting high density or sealing materials using a Casing Annulus Remediation System (CARS) • Has limited depth into annulus, may require lubricating heavy fluid in bleeding off light fluid



Rig less Intervention



Coiled Tubing

Significantly reduced cost compared to a rig workover, however, limited application to cure sustained casing pressure. Application limited to tubing and production casing annulus. Can be used to repair poor zonal isolation as a consequence of poor reservoir isolation.



Application in large annuli ?

Wireline deployable remedial annulus packers



Conclusions



- Incidence of wells with poor integrity is high
- Many possible causes, diagnosis not always easy or low cost
- Many options available for remediation but uncertainty about durability of the approach and resistance to CO_{2.}
- In some areas annular bullheads not permitted
- Problems with casing integrity may involve a full workover with significant cost (\$>100K per well onshore)
- Subsequent presentations to examine some of the options and well experiences.



Repairing Wells with Sustained Casing Pressure

Fred Sabins CSI Technologies



Discussion

- State of Industry today
- Root Cause
- Identification and Location
- Materials
- Placement and special tools

Industry/CSI

- MMS regulations - Producing wells Abandoning wells Research projects Ability of cements to prevent SCP - Well conditions that contribute to SCP New Material development
- Designing and support of field jobs for SCP

Possible Causes of Annular Pressure



- Production/Injection Packer Leak
- Tubing Failure
- Casing Failure
- Cement
 - D1 Channel
 - **D2** Low top of cement
- Wellhead Leak
- Fractures & Faults

Cement Sheath Failure

- Stresses in wellbore
 - Pressure test of casing
 - Interventions
 - Thermal cycling
- Cements can deform with stresses
 - Repeated cycling
 - Magnitude of stresses
 - Condition in well restraint
- Low Density Cements/Surface Pipes

Materials for SCP

- Non setting weighted systems no experience
- Sealants (low solids)
 - Polymer systems
 - Gel Systems
 - Resins
- Microfine cement systems
- Drilling requirements

Techniques

- Perf and squeeze
- Squeeze down back side
 - Bull head
 - Small string
- Pump and fall
- Mill and balanced plug
- Dump bailer
- Coiled tubing- Controlled Volume

Seal Tite

- Crosslinking Polymer
- Requires injection
- Requires differential pressure/shear
- Deformable polymeric material

Case Histories

- SPE paper 91399 "Microannulus Leaks Repaired with Pressure-Activated Sealant"
- Research Project
 650 md before
 - 1.6 md after
- W & T casing leak
 - Over 1000 psi build up in 3 hours
 - Several treatments
 - 75 psi after 43 days

Gel Systems

- Mixed as low viscosity fluid
- Crosslinks at downhole conditions
 Controllable set time
- Robust ringing gel
- High viscosity but no drillout



Gel Systems' Uses:

- Leaking Liner Sleeves
- Failure or Poor cmt bonds
- Perforation or Fracture of water zones

- Tubing and Casing Leaks
- Channels behind pipe
- Perforation abandonment

Case History

 Casing leaking gas Cement job unsuccessful 10 bbls of Gel with fibers - Work string used for placement - Hesitation squeeze 200 psi - 8 bbls of fluid out Shut in for 8 hours - Washed out casing

Resin System

- Special Properties (Ultraseal R Patent Pending)
 - High compressive strengths/shear bonds/tensile strengths
 - Non Shrinking/Water Tolerant
 - Cures at 40 F to 350 F
 - Total Liquid System
 - Penetrates small channels/micro-annulus
 - Controlled Pump Times and Set Time
 - Density from 7 ppg to 16.5 ppg
 - Drills out easily

Applications for Resin

- Shut off of gas for abandonment or SCP
- Seal leaking packers
- Shut off gravel pack
- Pressure seal for Annulus or pipe
- Casing leaks

Case History

- Gas leaking from two annuli
 - Make several cuts in both pipes
 - Run acid wash
- Pump 5 bbls of Resin in at surface
 - Allow to fall to top of bridge plug
 - Put 200 psi above gas pressure build up for 24 hours
- No gas pressure or bubbles at surface

Special Control Volume Displacement System

The TTS Series 5200 Controlled Volume Displacement System (CVDS) is designed to remedy this problem. The CVDS utilizes a series of polished ID tubulars to hold fluid volume. The system's design allows for spotting of a specific fluid volume at a specific location in the well.



Conclusions

- Many products/methods are used for SCP
- Most products can work depending on situation
- Key finding source and applying right product
- Problems:
 - Accessing gas in many annuli
 - Placing product rigless, coil, etc
 - Putting holes/cuts in pipe
 - Placement and drillout
 - Expense

Geological Storage of CO2

Evaluating the Risk of Leakage

Injection & Leakage

Reservoir model must predict composition of brine that comes into contact with cement



From Canadian CO2 Capture and Storage Roadmap Strawdog, Bill Gunter, Alberta Research Council

Potential Leakage Routes

Greatest risk is from acid flow through annulus



Injection, Transport & Leakage

Model of injection & transport

What is the fluid that reaches the cement?
Experimental study of cement corrosion
How does cement respond to acidic brine?
Model of acidic brine in annulus
How quickly does a leak increase?
Corrosion of Cement (Andrew Duguid, Mileva Radonjic, GWS)

Cement paste with 0, 6, or 12 % bentonite

Flow-through experiments to find maximum reaction rate

Batch reactions to study transport control

Field samples from Teapot Dome

 \Box High *P* & *T* studies with NETL

Simulate Teapot Dome cement recipe

Flow-Through Experiment (Continuous fresh acid)

Acidified brine passes over rod of cement
 Provides maximum rate of reaction (*i.e.*, no limitation from saturation of solution or diffusion of reaction products)



Flow-Through Experiment (Continuous fresh acid)

□ Sandstone formation: pH 3, 50°C



Composition Maps

- Calcium removed from outer layer
- Silicon slightly depleted
- Iron unchanged

Iron

Silicon

Calcium



X-ray Maps

Provide data for detailed testing of models





X-ray map for calcium in a sample reacted at 20C-pH2.4

Quantitative Profiles

 Calcium is gone from outer layer

 This layer is so soft that it washes off



Distance from Surface (mm)

Flow-Through Experiment (Continuous fresh acid)

Corrosion is strongly accelerated by
 lower pH
 higher temperature





Flow-Through Experiment (Continuous fresh acid)

Under typical conditions of a sandstone formation at ~1 km depth, the rate of attack would be roughly 2 - 3 mm per month if fresh acid flowed over the cement



Composition of Effluent

Water exiting reactor shows initial rise in calcium as acid attacks cement

 Subsequent exponential drop may reflect
 protective effect of white calcite layer

> Consistent with plateau in permeability



Analyzing Effluent

Most of drop in Ca²⁺ results from decreasing area of unreacted core (see black dots)

 Probable increase in solute content at interface (but not diffusion control)



Batch Samples: Cement in Stone

Cement (25 mm) in 55 mm disk of stone (Berea sandstone or Salem Limestone

 Acidified brine penetrates radially (faces sealed)

Rate of attack varies with distance from surface



5.5 cm

Batch Experiments

Cement-in-Stone samples sealed between sheets of teflon and plates of stainless steel





Batch Experiments

Samples immersed in jugs with CO2 bubbling and brine with controlled pH





Batch Experiments

- Plastic jugs containing samples are stored in large vats at controlled temperature (23 & 50°C)
- Tanks of brine maintain pH and CO₂ content
- Composition and pH of outflow monitored



Batch Experiments (Static acidic brine)

Sandstone + Cement
 23 & 50°C
 pH 3, 4, 5



Distinct reaction rim after exposure (pH 3, 23°C)



One Month



Two Months



Three Months

Batch Experiments (Static acidic brine)

Limestone + Cement
23 & 50°C
pH 5, 6, 7



Higher pH and dissolved calcium content reduces rate of attack (no reaction rim yet)



One Month



Three Months



Six Months

Permeability of Batch Samples

Sandstone samples show 10-fold increase in 1 month

Equivalent to hole 0.4 mm in diameter

Limestone shows little change



Batch Samples: Cement in Stone

- Acidified brine
 penetrates radially
 (faces sealed)
- Rate of attack varies with distance from surface
- Expect diffusion control, corrosion depth $\propto t^{1/2} / r$



Non-linear Corrosion Rate

□ Shape of curves suggests diffusion control (23°C)



Diffusion-Controlled Corrosion (pH 3, 23°C)

Depth of attack initially diffusion controlled

 Collapses against Boltzmann
 variable, t^{1/2} / r

Depth seems to plateau after -300 µm penetration



Diffusion-Controlled Corrosion (pH 4, 23°C)

Depth of attack initially diffusion controlled

Collapses against Boltzmann variable, $t^{1/2}/r$

Depth seems to plateau after -300 µm penetration



√t/r (√mo / mm)

Diffusion-Controlled Corrosion (pH 5, 23°C)

- Depth of attack initially diffusion controlled
 - Collapses against
 Boltzmann
 variable, t^{1/2} / r

(mm)

Depth seems to plateau after ~300 µm penetration



∫t/r (∫mo / mm)

Diffusion-Controlled Corrosion (23°C)

Data for all pH's show common trend

Collapse against
 Boltzmann
 variable, t^{1/2} / r

 Depth seems to plateau after -300 µm penetration



Diffusion-Controlled Corrosion (50°C)

- Depth of attack initially diffusion controlled
 - Collapses against
 Boltzmann variable,
 t^{1/2} / r
- Depth seems to plateau after ~550 µm penetration



Diffusion-Controlled Corrosion

- Depth of attack initially diffusion controlled
 - Collapses against
 Boltzmann variable,
 t^{1/2} / r
- Depth seems to
 plateau after -3-500
 µm penetration at
 both temperatures





\Box Roughly \sqrt{t} , some spikes when pH adjusted



Time (days)

Kinetics of Release

- Total release must be corrected for removal of samples at intervals (1, 2, 3, 6, 12 months)
- Release rate seems to show increase at long time
- Consistent with
 transition to linear
 kinetics



Kinetics of Release

- Total release must be corrected for removal of samples at intervals (1, 2, 3, 6, 12 months)
- Release rate seems to show increase at long time
- Consistent with transition to linear kinetics



Conclusions

- Reaction rate is fast several mm per month under steady flow of acidic brine
- Even under diffusion control, attack is evident within weeks under conditions characteristic of sandstone formation
 - Much less rapid attack in limestone
 - Rate of attack slows as layers develop
 - Protective calcite layer?
- Quantitative data will permit modeling of attack in annulus
 - Begin by modeling batch experiment

Core-flood and Batch Experiments on Carbonation of Casing-Cement-Shale Composites

Marcus Wigand, J. William Carey, W. Kirk Hollis, John P. Kaszuba

Los Alamos National Lab

Reid Grigg and Bob Svec

New Mexico Tech



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OUTLINE

- Introduction
- Batch experiments
- Core flood experiments
- Future projects



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Wellbore integrity



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Batch experiments

- Rate of CO₂ diffusion
- Mineralogical and chemical changes
- **Development/calibration of reactive** transport codes
- Mechanical integrity
- Effect of water content/availability on extent of carbonation



The World's Greatest Science Protecting America



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Core flood studies of fractured wellbore cement in contact with the cap rock



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Studies of fractured wellbore cement in contact with the cap rock FRACTURE





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Geochemical reactions at the interface between cap rock and wellbore cement





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Geochemical reactions at the interface between cap rock and wellbore cement



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Geochemical reactions at the interface between "steel casing" and wellbore cement



EXPERIMENTAL SETUP: Pore pressure 2880 psi Confining pressure 3800 psi Temperature 54°C Brine / SCCO₂ injection





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FUTURE WORK



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Future Work: Study of micro-fractures at the interface between cap rock and wellbore cement





Future Work: Casing-Cement and Limestone-Cement Reactivity

Interface steel casing / wellbore cement





Interface reservoir rock / wellbore cement





Thank you very much for your attention !





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Quantifying CO₂-related Alteration of Portland Cement

Experimental Approach and Microscopic Methodology

Gaëtan Rimmelé, Olivier Porcherie, Véronique Barlet-Gouédard, Schlumberger

Bruno Goffé, Ecole Normale Supérieure, Paris

2nd Well Bore Integrity Network Meeting 28–29 March 2006, Princeton University





Introduction

> Carbon Capture and Storage application requires long-term well bore integrity

> A major risk: CO_2 leakage through well bore annulus

 \rightarrow major concern about cement isolation properties and durability

 ➢ Find appropriate cementitious material fulfilling isolation conditions
 → need a better understanding of Portland cement alteration processes in CO₂ environment and <u>under down hole conditions</u>





Experimental Procedure



IADC/SPE 98924: Mitigation strategies for the risk of CO2 migration through wellbores V.Barlet-Gouédard, G.Rimmelé, Schlumberger, B.Goffé, CNRS/ENS*, O.Porcherie, Schlumberger



Experimental Procedure



→ Diphasic system

TEST CONDITIONS: P=280 bars T=90°C





Pressure Release System

Setup for CO2 Testing



Controls and Electronics



Low and High Pressure CO2 Supply



Reactor (oven removed)



Reactor (oven in place)



Support for samples



Samples in place



How do we quantify cement alteration?

- Chemical and mineral composition of matrix before and after CO₂ attack:
 - Thickness of the alteration front
 - > XRD analyses
 - SEM-EDS analyses
- Characterization and visualization of matrix porosity and/or permeability:
 - Mercury Intrusion Porosimetry measurements
 - SEM-BSE image analyses
 - Variation of %water loss versus square-root-of-time measurements
- Fluid analysis:
 - ➢ pH variation
 - ➢ Water production
- Evolution of physical properties before and after CO₂ attack :
 - Weight and dimensions variation measurements
 - Compressive strength measurements



Carbonation of Portland Cement



Reactions involved $CO_2 + H_2O \Rightarrow H_2CO_3 \Rightarrow H^+ + HCO_3^ Ca(OH)_2 + H^+ + HCO_3^- \Rightarrow CaCO_3 + 2H_2O$ $C-S-H + H^+ + HCO_3^- \Rightarrow CaCO_3 + silica gel$ $CaCO_3 + H^+ + HCO_3^- \Rightarrow Ca(HCO_3)_2$ $Ca(HCO_3)_2 + Ca(OH)_2 \Rightarrow 2CaCO_3 + 2H_2O$





Carbonation of Portland Cement





Alteration of Portland Cement



Alteration of Portland Cement







Alteration of Portland Cement











Alteration of Portland Cement Cutting plane 5 mm t = 523 h





Complete carbonation after 6 weeks



Evolution of the Alteration Front in both fluids



s : ratio between the alteration front surface and the whole core surface



Mercury Intrusion Porosimetry





Microstructural characterization and analyses

- → SEM observations
- → Local chemical profiles (Quantitative EDS device)
- → Local porosity profiles (BSE image analysis)
 - Binarization of initial grey-scale SEM-BSE images
 - Measurement of proportion of the black part













Microstructural characterization and analyses





















Amorphous silica



After 3 months

Schlumberger

Translation of the carbonation front (CF) and dissolution front (DF) towards the core of samples

φ(inner part) decreases:
 φ filled by neoformed
 carbonates



 Increase of φ: dissolution of neo-formed carbonates or/and CSH?



Conclusion

> Alteration of Portland cement:

- efficient process in both CO₂ fluids

- complex series of fronts in both CO_2 fluids \rightarrow favours its degradation

➢ Evolution of porosity by MIP measurements → total porosity of cement by BSE image analyses → local porosity through samples

(1) very fast (first hours) dissolution of $Ca(OH)_2$ throughout the whole sample

- (2) sealing stage by carbonation
- (3) dissolution stage (increase of the global porosity after 3 months of attack)

 \rightarrow carbonation does not continuously plug Portland cement

> Requirement of a new CO_2 resistant system

➔ Véronique Barlet-Gouédard's presentation!



Degradation of Well Cement Under Geologic Sequestration Conditions



Barbara Kutchko^{1,2} Brian Strazisar¹ David Dzombak² Greg Lowry²

¹U. S. Department of Energy National Energy Technology Laboratory

²Carnegie Mellon University

Wellbore Integrity Network Meeting March 29, 2006





Why should we be concerned about existing wellbore integrity?



- Over 360,000 active oil/gas wells registered with the Railroad Commission of Texas
- Estimated 1.5 million total deep holes in state of Texas (over 5 wells per square mile)



Degradation of Well Cement Under Geologic Sequestration Conditions

Objective:

- To determine the effect of exposure to CO_2 on the physical and chemical properties of cements under geologic sequestration conditions.
- How does degradation depend
 on conditions?
 - -Temperature
 - –Pressure
 - -Salinity





Cement Cure Conditions

Class H

- Prepared according to API
 Recommended Practice 10B
- Hydrated for 28 days submerged in 1%NaCl solution

T = 50°C	T = Ambient
P = 4400 psi *1300 m	P = 4400 psi
T = 50°C P = Atmospheric	T = Ambient P = Atmospheric




CO₂ - Sequestration Exposure Experiments







Descriptor - include initials, /org#/date

Results – Class H Neat

• Top (Headspace: water saturated CO₂)

- Visible grey on surface
- Rough texture

• Bottom (Aqueous phase saturated with CO₂)

- Visible orange on surface
- Smooth texture
- Soft, weak







Descriptor - include initials, /org#/date





500 µm



Chemistry of carbonated attack

1. Carbonation

Acid attack on calcium hydroxide: Ca(OH)_{2 (s)} + H₂CO_{3 (aq)} \rightarrow CaCO_{3 (s)} + 2 H₂O

Degradation of Calcium-Silicate-Hydrate: C-S-H + $H_2CO_3 (aq) \rightarrow CaCO_3$ + amorphous silica gel

2. Bicarbonation

 $CaCO_{3 (s)} + H_2CO_{3 (aq)} \rightarrow Ca(HCO_3)_{2 (aq)}$



Results of Various Cure Conditions – Before Exposure





HTLP



Effect of Cure Conditions on HTHP Degradation



HTLP



Depth of Degradation Headspace vs. Aqueous Phase



Aqueous Phase: 9 days HTHP CO₂ exposure Aqueous Phase: 61 days HTHP CO₂ exposure Headspace: 61 days HTHP CO_2 exposure



Progression of Degradation at HTHP – Aqueous Phase



9 days ~200 µm N≣TL

23 days ~330 µm

61 days ~430 μm 90 days ~440 µm

Degradation of Class H with 6% Bentonite



•Bicarbonation leaves behind "Popcorn" crystals of calcite in isotropic matrix of silica gel

-Act as sand grains rather than binding agent.

-New binding agent is now the decalcified silica gel



Conclusions (so far...)

- Importance of simulated geologic sequestration conditions
 - -HTHP cure
 - Increased hydration
 - Smaller, more evenly distributed CH crystals
 - Lower rate of attack
 - -Exposure to CO₂ gas phase
 - -Exposure to CO₂ saturated aqueous phase

Degradation of cement

- Mineralogical changes
- Mechanical changes
- Progresses with time



Future Work

- Continue with longer exposure times
- Exposure of cement with additives
 - -Bentonite
 - -Fly ash

• Different exposure conditions

- -Temperature
- -Pressure
- -Salinity



Acknowledgements

George Scherer

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- Princeton University

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- Chevron Texaco, Sr. Advisor - Cementing

Glen Benge

- Exxon Mobile, Drilling - Technical Applications

Niels Thaulow

- RJ Lee Group, Sr. Cement Advisor

CO₂ Resistant System

V.Barlet-Gouédard, G.Rimmelé, O.Porcherie, Schlumberger, B.Goffé, CNRS/ENS*

2nd Well Bore Integrity Network Meeting 28–29 March 2006, Princeton University





CO₂ Resistant system

- Motivation and Approach
- Methodology
- Comparison between Portland cement and the new carbon dioxide resistant system
- Conclusions and Future





Motivation and Approach

- CO₂ underground storage
 - The most effective way
- Long-term zonal isolation
 - Portland cement not thermodynamically stable in CO₂ environments.
 - Not adequately addressed by industry specifications
- Develop standard procedure/method
 - > A laboratory qualification of resistant cements
 - The long-term modeling of cement-sheath integrity

28–29 March 2006 Princeton University



Schlumberger

Measurements of chemical attack

- pH of fluid in equilibrium with samples
- Physical parameters:
 - weight
 - density
 - compressive strength
 - porosity





Portland Cement

Alteration of Portland cement:

- efficient process in both CO₂ fluids
- complex series of fronts in both CO_2 fluids \rightarrow favours its degradation



CO₂ Resistant System

- Chemistry effect : selection of a durable material to reduce Portland amount
- Special system with low water
- Slurry to have a large density range (12.5 ppg and 17 ppg)



Kinetic tests with CO₂ resistant System



2 days



1 week

6 weeks Schlumberger

280

28–29 March 2006 Princeton University

Evolution of weight and density with time



Compressive strength evolution

Portland Cement



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Copressive strength evolution CO₂ Resistant System



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Evolution of Porosity

Portland Cement



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Evolution of Porosity

CO₂ Resistant System



28–29 March 2006 Princeton University Schlumberger

CO₂ Resistant System validation



Princeton University

Conclusions and Future

- A new methodology to simulate downhole conditions
 - Procedure validation
 - Reproducible and repeatable
- Portland cement
 - A very effective process following a diffusion law
 - An initial sealing by carbonation then a dissolution stage
- CO₂ Resistant System
 - Homogeneous pattern with a limited carbonation threshold: good mechanical behaviour over a wide density range
 - Stable in both CO_2 fluids up to 3 months
 - IADC/SPE 98924: Mitigation strategies for the risk of CO_2 migration through wellbores
- Accelerated ageing method

28–29 March 2006 Princeton University





Thanks for your attention!

Questions?



Reactive Transport Modeling of Cement-Brine-CO₂ Systems

Bill Carey, Peter Lichtner, Rajesh Pawar, and George Guthrie, Jr.

Earth and Environmental Sciences Los Alamos National Laboratory

2nd Wellbore Integrity Network Meeting March 2006 Princeton University





Outline

- Cement Behavior
 - Field observation
 - Laboratory investigations
- Numerical Simulation
 - Reactive transport code
- Comparison to SACROC
- Comparison to Duguid/Scherer experiments
- Missing elements



Cement Degradation: Carbonation

- Grout-Shale Grout-Casing Interface Interface Shale Hydrated Cement Casing Decrease in porosity Decrease in permeability Increase in strength Reduction of pH of pore fluid **Fracture Flow** May allow corrosion to occur at casing interface Matrix Diffusion Carbonation-induced shrinkage Formation of cracks (potentially) filled with carbonate) Interface Flow Interface Flow Reduction of casing/cement and/or cement/caprock interface integrity Loss of structural integrity at ultimate carbonation state
 - CaCO₃ + amorphous silica, alumina, and ferric hydroxides
- Important factors controlling rates of carbonation
 - Saturation and relative humidity
 - Water/Cement ratio
 - Age of cement

Field Studies: SACROC



- **Discovered 1948**
- 54,000 acres •
- **3 billion BBLS original oil** • in-place
- 13th largest in North America



Reaction Textures at SACROC



Numerical Analysis of Cement Degradation: FLOTRAN

- Two-phase multicomponent reactive flow and transport
 - Mass & energy conservation
 - Single and dual continuum formulations
 - Darcy's law for two-phase liquid-air system
 - Aqueous speciation (Debye-Hückel and Pitzer)
 - Kinetic formulation of solid reactions
 - Mineral solid solutions implemented as stoichiometric species
- 1-D diffusion of CO₂-saturated brine into cement
- Idealized cement: 38% C-S-H (x_{SiO2}=0.36, Ca/Si = 1.78), 15% portlandite, 14% monosulfate, 3% hydrogarnet (30% porosity)
- Ideal shale: 20% illite, 7% quartz, 1% kaolinite 1% calcite, 1% dolomite (70% porosity)
- C-S-H solid solution based on experimental solubility data

C-S-H Solid Solution Model Endmembers: $Ca(OH)_2$ and SiO_2 Mol-fraction $X_{SiO2} = 1 / (1+R)$, R = Ca/Si

Lippman Variable: $\log(a_{Ca^{2+}}a_{OH^{-}}^2 + a_{SiO_2})$

Excess Mixing Model:

$$G^{E} = x(1-x)RT[a_{0} + a_{1}(x - (1-x)) + a_{2}(x - (1-x))^{2}]$$

Parameter Estimation: $\mu_{Ca(OH)2}, \mu_{SiO2}, a_0, a_1, a_2, (a_3)$





Ca/Si Ratio


Simulation of SACROC Cement Carbonation



Phase	Gray Zone	
Amorphous	Major	
Portlandite	15-58%	
Calcite	0-28%	
Katoite	22-26%	
Brucite	3-9%	
Ettringite	3-4%	
Friedel's Salt	2-4%	
Halite	9-32%	
Phase Orange		

Phase	Orange Zone
Calcite	44%
Aragonite	8%
Vaterite	33%
Halite	13%

- 30 years exposure to CO₂
- CO₂-saturated brine diffuses along porous cement-shale interface zone
- Initial cement porosity 30%; initial interface 70% porosity





Secondary Phases



Bulk Composition



Variables

Case	Cement	Shale	Tort.	Other	
32	0.3	0.7	0.0004		
40	0.3	0.3	0.0004		
42	0.3	0.09	0.0004		
34	0.3	0.7	0.004		
35	0.3	0.7	0.00004		
36	0.3	0.7	0.0004	No SS	
37	0.3	0.7	0.0004	No SS or SiO ₂ (am)	
38	0.3	0.7	0.0004	Rates/100	
39	0.3	0.7	0.0004	Rates * 100	
44	0.3	0.7	0.0004	Species dependent diffusion	





Effect of Tortuosity





Effect of Reaction Rate



Species Dependent Diffusion



Simulation of Duguid/Scherer Experiments

- Similar setup to SACROC simulations
- 1-D diffusion of acid-CO₂ solution
- Initial cement porosity 30%
- Bounded by a single fluid-only node (100% porosity)
- Varied tortuosity and reaction rates to achieve qualitative agreement with mass-loss from rods









Volume Fraction





Conclusions

- Diffusion-based models capture key features of cement degradation
- System behavior is a sensitive function of tortuosity and reaction rate
- Much higher (1000X) rates and much higher tortuosity (100X) necessary to explain depth penetration of 1 atm acid experiments
 - → pH typically accelerates rates \propto pH^{0.5}
 - Tortuosity strong function of age, w/c
- Model sensitivity to pH primarily in rates, not effects
- Confining pressure may allow reaction products
 to precipitate in place (orange zone)



Cement Issues

- Use numerical modeling to integrate experimental observations at various temperature, pressure, and fluid/rock with field constraints
- Translation of cement degradation into effective leak rates:
 - Fracture versus matrix vs annulus flow
 - Self-sealing or self-propagating interfaces
- Interplay with casing corrosion
- Geomechanical studies limited (fracture development and propagation, micro-annuli)

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Tortuosity vs Reaction Rate

Tortuosity	High	Low
Rates		
Fast	Steep reaction front, low penetration	Steep reaction front, deep penetration
Slow	Variable mineralogical profile	Uniform Profile





Cross-Section Through Well-Bore: 49-6







Air-Permeability Measurements of Cement and Shale in milliDarcy



Measurements courtesy of Bob Svec, New Mexico Tech

Development of a geochemical code to assess cement reactivity in CO2/brine mixtures.

Bruno Huet, Andrew Duguid, Richard Fuller, Jean Prevost, George Scherer (Princeton University) Contributor: Jim Johnson (LLNL)



Introduction

Background:

Provide a solution for the reduction of global warming associated with the increased CO_2 content in the atmosphere.

Storage of CO2 in deep geological formation:

- depleted oil and gas reservoir,
- deep saline aquifer.

Objective of this work:

Assess the reliability of the CO2 storage with time.

1. Reliability of geological formation limited by the presence of engineered high permeability path (well bores).

2. Degradation of casing materials (steel, cement) may increase the CO2 leak with time.

Coupled modeling and experimental approach

Sketch of a typical abandoned oil well





Three main mechanisms (P, T dependent):

- 1. Multiphase transport within annulus: aqueous phase and CO_2 rich phase (supercritical/liquid/gas)
- 2. Reactivity of cement : CO2 brine (pH=3), cement pore solution (pH=13)
- 3. Interface behavior: coupling of 1. and 2.

Sealing or widening of the annulus ?

→ Need for a coupled geochemical transport model

Princeton University 03/29/2006



Chemistry approach

Batch experiments simulation:

- Flush of cement with CO2 saturated sea water.
- ✓ Cement = Portlandite + Jennite + Ettringite + Monosulfoaluminate
 + dissolved NaOH (0.25M)
- \checkmark Sea water = NaCl (0.5 M), CO₂ (1 bar)





Reactive Transport of Ions in Cement-Based Porous Material [1]:

1. <u>Transport of aqueous species (for each ion):</u>



2. Local equilibrium:

Heterogeneous reactions: $e.g. Ca(OH)_{2} \Leftrightarrow Ca^{2+} + 2 OH^{-1}$ $\sum_{j=1}^{N_{c}} v_{ij} \left(Log(\gamma_{j}) + Log(C_{j}^{0} + \sum_{k=1}^{M} v_{jk} \Delta S_{k}) \right) + Log(K_{fi}) = 0 , i \in \{1, M\}$

[1]: E. Samson and J. Marchand, Université Laval, Québec, Canada G1K 7P4



Cement chemical behavior in pure de-ionized water

Mineral profile (after 6 days):

I. Diffusion term, II. Electrical coupling term, III. Activity correction term





Cement chemical behavior in pure de-ionized water

Mineral profile (after 4 months):





Current and Future Work

- Integrating homogeneous chemistry
- ➤ Temperature
- Improved description of C-S-H (logK = f (Ca/Si)
- Reaction Kinetics (needed for CSH with low Ca/Si ratio)

Coupling with multiphase transport (PU flash)
 2D – simulations of CO₂ leak up the wellbores





HALLIBURTON

Sustained Casing Pressure

Cement slurry

- Hole cleaning
- Prevent losses
- Cement slurry placement

Cement Sheath & Casing

- Well operations
- Downhole conditions



Effect on Cement Sheath & Casing

• Well operations

- pressure testing
- hydraulic stimulation
- production
- Injection
-
- Downhole
 - Chemicals
 - CO₂
 - chlorides
 - pressure
 - temperature

•





Well Events After Primary Cementing

- Cement slurry hydration
 & hydration volume reduction
- Completions

& pressure decrease inside the casing

Pressure testing

& pressure increase inside the casing

Hydraulic fracturing

& pressure increase

Production

& pressure/temperature increase inside tubular



Temperature Simulation



HALLIBURTON
Damaged Cement Sheath



Resilient Sheath – No Damage





avi file



Material Strength and Deformation



Analysis



Stresses in Cement Sheath



Distance from the Center of the Casing (in)









Effect of Acidic CO₂ Solution



*140°F, 1% aqueous Na_2CO_3 solution acidified to pH 2 with H_2SO_4 in a sealed chamber to generated CO_2

Cement Sheath

Curing

hydration volume reduction

Mechanical properties

- Young's modulus
- Poisson ratio
- Tensile strength
- Plasticity parameters



Summary

- Cement slurry
 - Hole cleaning
 - Prevent losses
 - Cement slurry placement
- Cement Sheath
 - Well operations
 - Downhole conditions



Large-scale Modeling of Leakage along Wells

Michael A. Celia Princeton University

<u>Collaborators:</u> Stefan Bachu (*Alberta EUB*) Jan Nordbotten (*U. Bergen and Princeton U.*) Sarah Gasda (*Princeton U.*) Dmitri Kavetski (*Princeton U.*)





Worldwide Density of Oil and Gas Wells



From IPCC SRCCS, 2005

Potential CO₂ Migration and Leakage Paths



Components of the Semi-analytical Model

Injection plume evolution

- Similarity solution (Significant buoyancy; JFM Paper)
- Radial Buckley-Leverett type solution (Viscous domination; TiPM Paper)
- Includes drying fronts (JFM Paper)
- Leakage Dynamics (ES&T, GHGT-7, and WRR Papers)

Post-injection Redistribution

- Transition solution (Tech Note)
- Later-time similarity solution (standard)
- Upconing around Leaky Wells (Tech Note)





Injection well

Abandoned wells



Distribution of Existing Wells in the Wabamun Lake Area



Probability Distribution for Well Permeabilities



Leakage Plumes in Bottom Layer (Run #1)



Figure 2: Plume migration in the layer above the injection formation after 32 years of injection. The x-y axes denote the spatial domain, centered on the injection site. The plumes are indicated by circles scaled by the plume size.

Histogram of Leakage over 600 Simulations





- Simulations need to be able to in include many wells and many geological layers.
- A Semi-analytical model allows Monte Carlo simulations for risk assessment.
- A comprehensive experimental program is needed to determine important properties of existing wells.

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Location:00/10-05-052-2W5



Down-Hole Stratigraphic Model for the Lake Wabamun Area, Alberta,

Pre-Cretaceous Unconformity to Surface

continued...

Location:00/10-05-052-2W5



Down-Hole Stratigraphic Model for the Lake Wabamun Area, Alberta,

> Basement to Pre-Cretaceous Unconformity

What do we know?

- Injection Location
- Injection Rate
- Fluid Properties
- Formation Properties (k, φ, S_{res}, ...)
- Location and Depth of Existing Wells within Plume Radius
- Status of Existing Wells within Plume Radius
- Cemented Intervals along Existing Wells
- Physical State of Well Materials
- Hydraulic Properties of Well Materials (k_{bulk}(t))

Do we need to identify this distribution? If so, how??



Leakage Plumes in Bottom Layer (Run #2)



Leakage Plumes in Bottom Layer (Average)



General Similarity Solution (1)



$$-2\pi r\varphi \frac{\partial (H-h)}{\partial t} = \frac{\gamma_1}{1-S_{res}} \frac{\partial Q_w}{\partial r}$$

$$-2\pi r \varphi \frac{\partial (h-i)}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{1-S_{res}} \frac{\partial Q_{cw}}{\partial r} + \frac{1-\gamma_2}{1-S_{res}} \frac{\partial Q_c}{\partial r} + \frac{1-\gamma_1}{1-S_{res}} \frac{\partial Q_w}{\partial r}$$

$$-2\pi r \varphi \frac{\partial i}{\partial t} = \frac{\gamma_2}{1 - S_{res}} \frac{\partial Q_c}{\partial r}$$

$$\gamma_{1} = \left[1 + \frac{\beta_{1}S_{res}}{(1 - S_{res})(1 - \beta_{2})}\right]^{-1}$$

$$\gamma_2 = \left[1 + \frac{(1 - \beta_1)S_{res}}{(1 - S_{res})\beta_2}\right]^{-1}$$

General Similarity Solution (2)





















