



Cairo University

SURFACE NETWORK MODELING FOR MULTIPHASE FLOW

By

Doaa Abdelwahab Shaker Abdelwahab

A Thesis Submitted to the
Department of Mining, Petroleum, and Metallurgical Engineering,
Faculty of Engineering at Cairo University
in Partial Fulfillment of the
Requirements for the Degree of
MASTER OF SCIENCE
in
Petroleum Engineering

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Under the Supervision of

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Title of Thesis:

Surface Network Modeling for Multiphase Flow.

Key Words:

Surface Production Network; Gathering System; Production or Pressures Constraints;
Network Optimization; Multiphase Flow.

Summary:

The main objective of this work is to develop a surface network program that is capable of modeling the network components from the reservoir to the gathering stations. It has the ability to optimize the production for different applications and optimize several variables at the same time for multiple components. The developed program is verified using many comparison cases with well-known commercial network simulator. The program was then used to simulate and optimize an actual field case.

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Dedication

*To my parents and my beloved sisters.
This humble work is a sign of my love to you.*

Table of Contents

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	I
DEDICATION.....	II
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	III
LIST OF TABLES	V
LIST OF FIGURES	VII
NOMENCLATURE	IX
ABSTRACT	XII
CHAPTER 1 : INTRODUCTION	1
CHAPTER 2 : LITERATURE REVIEW	3
2.1. INTRODUCTION	3
2.2. SURFACE PRODUCTION NETWORK	3
2.3. MULTIPHASE FLOW CONCEPT	4
2.3.1. INFLOW PERFORMANCE RELATIONSHIP	4
2.3.1.1. Vogel`s Method	4
2.3.1.2. Standing`s Method	5
2.3.1.3. Fetkovich`s Method	5
2.3.1.4. Jone`s Method	5
2.3.1.5. Wiggins` Method	5
2.3.1.6. The Klins-Clark Method	6
2.3.2. PREDICTION MULTIPHASE FLOW THROUGH TUBING OR	
FLOWLINE	6
2.3.2.1. Tubing Performance Relationship	7
2.3.2.2. Horizontal or Deviated Tubing or Pipeline Performance Relationship	7
2.3.3. CHOKE PERFORMANCE	9
2.3.3.1. Boundar y Models.....	9
2.3.3.2. Critical Models.....	10
2.3.3.3. Subcritical Models	10
2.4. APPLICATIONS	11
2.5. CONCLUDING REMARKS.....	12
CHAPTER 3 : STATEMENTOF THE PROBLEM, OBJECTIVE, AND	
METHODOLOGY	14
3.1. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM.....	14
3.2. OBJECTIVES	14
3.3. METHODOLOGY	14
CHAPTER 4 : METHODOLOGY AND IMPLEMENTATION.....	15
4.1. INTRODUCTION	15
4.2. MAIN THEORY OF THE MODEL	15
4.3. MODEL CONSTRAINTS AND HOW TO SOLVE	17
4.4. MODEL STRUCTURE	18
4.5. NETWORK APPLICATIONS MODEL	24

4.6.	INPUT DATA.....	24
4.7	OUTPUT DATA.....	25
4.8	POSSIBLE OPTIMIZED VARIABLES	25
4.9	PROGRAM LANGUAGE.....	25
	CHAPTER 5 : RESULTS AND VALIDATIONS.....	26
5.1.	INTRODUCTION	26
5.2.	MODEL VALIDATION	26
5.2.1	COMPONENTS VALIDATION.....	26
5.2.1.1	IPR Validation	26
5.2.1.2	Tubing Validation	27
5.2.1.3	Choke Validation.....	29
5.2.1.4	Flowline Validation	29
5.2.1.5	Separataor Validation.....	31
5.2.1.6	Pump Validation	31
5.2.1.7	Compressor Validation	32
5.2.2	SYSTEM VALIDATION	34
5.3	SURFACE PRODUCTION NETWORK VALIDATION	38
5.3.1	Constraints on Sink and Main Manifold Only	40
5.4	SURFACE PRODUCTION NETWORK APPLOCATION WITH	
	HYPOTHETICAL CASES	55
5.4.1	Case 1: Optimizing Wells Choke Size.....	57
5.4.2	Case 2: Optimizing Wells Cnnection to Manifold with Pressure Setting....	60
5.4.3	Case 3: Optimizing Mainfolds Pressures	64
5.5	DISCUSSION	66
	CHAPTER 6 : FIELD APPLICATION.....	68
6.1	FIELFD CASE	68
6.1.1	Field Case Validation.....	70
6.1.2	Field Case Application.....	73
6.1.2.1	Optimizing Wells Choke Size.....	73
6.1.2.2	Optimizing Wells Choke Size, Manifold Pressures and Flowline	
	Flowline Inner Diameter	76
6.1.2.2.1	Case 1-A.....	76
6.1.2.2.2	Case 2-A.....	80
6.1.2.2.3	Results of Two Cases (Case 1-A and Case 1-B).....	87
6.2	DISCUSSION OF FIELD APPLICATION CASE	87
	CHAPTER 7 : CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	88
7.1	CONCLUSIONS.....	88
7.2	RECOMMENDATIONS AND FUTURE WORK	88
	REFERENCES.....	90
	APPENDIX A: IPR AND VLP MODELS	93
	APPENDIX B: CHOKE PERFORMANCE.....	97
	APPENDIX C: PUMPS, COMPRESSORS AND SEPARATORS	105
	APPENDIX D: USER GUIDE	115

List of Tables

Table No.	Title	Page
Table 4.1:	Input data of model	24
Table 5.1:	IPR validation as a single component	27
Table 5.2:	Wellbore data (TVD and MD).	27
Table 5.3:	Wellbore data	28
Table 5.4:	Tubing validation as a single component.	28
Table 5.5:	Choke size validation [44.5/64] inch.....	29
Table 5.6:	Choke size validation [32/64] inch.....	29
Table 5.7:	Choke size validation [26/64] inch.....	29
Table 5.8:	Flowline input data.....	30
Table 5.9:	Flowline validation as a single component.	30
Table 5.10:	Separator validation as a single component.	31
Table 5.11:	Pump validation as a single component.	31
Table 5.12:	Pump validation of case 1.	32
Table 5.13:	Compressor validation as a single component.	32
Table 5.14:	Compressor validation of case 2.	33
Table 5.15:	Comparison as a system	37
Table 5.16:	Comparison as a component.	38
Table 5.17:	Reservoir data.....	39
Table 5.18:	Well bore data.	39
Table 5.19:	Well bore data.	39
Table 5.20:	Flowline data.	40
Table 5.21:	Well 1 results.....	43
Table 5.22:	Well 2 results.....	44
Table 5.23:	Well 3 results.....	44
Table 5.24:	Results from manifold 1 to main manifold	45
Table 5.25:	Well 4 results.....	46
Table 5.26:	Well 5 results.....	46
Table 5.27:	Well 6 results.....	47
Table 5.28:	Results from manifold 2 to main manifold	48
Table 5.29:	Results from main manifold to separator.	50
Table 5.30:	Results from separator to sink oil.....	51
Table 5.31:	Results from separator to sink gas.....	52
Table 5.32:	Results each component in surface production network.....	54
Table 5.33:	Reservoir data.....	55
Table 5.34:	Wellbore data	56
Table 5.35:	Wellbore data	56
Table 5.36:	Flowline data	56
Table 5.37:	Surface production network constraints case 1	57
Table 5.38:	Wells choke size cases	58
Table 5.39:	Case 1 results.....	60
Table 5.40:	Surface production network constraints case 2	61
Table 5.41:	Case 2 results.....	62
Table 5.42:	Surface production network constraints case 3	64
Table 5.43:	Case 3 results.....	65
Table 6.1:	Reservoir field case data	68

Table 6.2: Wellbore field case data.	69
Table 6.3: Wellbore field case data.	69
Table 6.4: Flowlines field case data	69
Table 6.5: Output data	69
Table 6.6: Field case wells results	71
Table 6.7: Field case Manifolds results	72
Table 6.8: Wells choke sizes	74
Table 6.9: Field case results	76
Table 6.10: Wells choke size and manifolds pressures	77
Table 6.11: Field case results	78
Table 6.12: Wells choke sizes and manifolds pressures.....	81
Table 6.13: Field case results	83

List of Figures

Figure No.	Title	Page
Figure 2.1:	Pressure function concept	5
Figure 2.2:	Upward vertical flow patterns (Reproduced with permission of American of inst. Of Chemical Engineers)	6
Figure 2.3:	Flow pattern in flowline	7
Figure 2.4:	Dependence of choke flow rate on y.....	9
Figure 2.5:	Overview of the Integrated system showing the communication interface .	11
Figure 4.1:	Surface network model	16
Figure 4.2:	Different constraints.....	17
Figure 4.3:	Message to the user	18
Figure 4.4:	Flow chart shows the constraints and how to solve	19
Figure 5.1:	IPR validation as a single component.....	27
Figure 5.2:	Pressure profile for tubing validation as a single component.....	28
Figure 5.3:	Temperature profile for tubing validation as a single component	28
Figure 5.4:	Pressure profile for flowline validation as a single component.....	30
Figure 5.5:	Temperature profile for flowline validation as a single component	30
Figure 5.6:	Pressure profile vs length case 1	31
Figure 5.7:	Temperature profile vs length- case 1.....	32
Figure 5.8:	Pressure profile vs length-case 2.....	33
Figure 5.9:	Temperature profile vs length-case 2.....	33
Figure 5.10:	System components	34
Figure 5.11:	Pressure profile vs depth for tubing as an entire system.....	35
Figure 5.12:	Temperature profile vs depth for tubing as an entire system.....	35
Figure 5.13:	Pressure profile vs length for flowline1 from wellhead to pump	36
Figure 5.14:	Temperature profile vs length for flowline1 from wellhead to pump	36
Figure 5.15:	Pressure profile vs length for flowline2 from pump to sink	37
Figure 5.16:	Temperature profile vs length for flowline2 from pump to sink	37
Figure 5.17:	Surface network system	38
Figure 5.18:	IPR layer 1-well 1	40
Figure 5.19:	IPR layer 2-well 1	41
Figure 5.20:	Pressure profile vs depth for tubing-well 1.....	41
Figure 5.21:	Temperature profile vs depth for tubing-well 1	42
Figure 5.22:	Pressure profile vs length-flowline 1 from wellhead to manifold	42
Figure 5.23:	Temperature profile vs length-flowline 1 wellhead to manifold	43
Figure 5.24:	Pressure profile vs length-flowline 7 from manifold 1 to main manifold .	45
Figure 5.25:	Temperature profile vs length-flowline 7 from manifold to main manifold..	45
Figure 5.26:	Pressure profile vs length-flowline 8 from manifold 2 to main manifold. .	47
Figure 5.27:	Temperature profile vs length-flowline 8 from manifold 2 to	48
Figure 5.28:	Pressure profile vs length-flowline 9 from main manifold to separator	49
Figure 5.29:	Temperature profile vs length-flowline 9 from main manifold to separator	49
Figure 5.30:	Pressure profile vs length-flowline 10 from separator to oil sink.....	50
Figure 5.31:	Temperature profile vs length-flowline 10 from separator to oil sink.....	50
Figure 5.32:	Pressure profile vs length-flowline 11 from separator to gas sink.....	51

Figure 5.33: Temperature profile vs length-flowline 11 from separator to gas sink.....	52
Figure 5.34: Liquid production rate at different component through network.....	53
Figure 5.35: Gas production rate at different component through network	53
Figure 5.36: Results each component in surface production network.....	54
Figure 5.37: Surface production network	55
Figure 5.38: Surface production network constraints case 1.....	57
Figure 5.39: Oil production rates case 1.....	58
Figure 5.40: Gas production rates case 1.....	59
Figure 5.41: Water separated case 1	59
Figure 5.42: Surface production network constraints case 2.....	61
Figure 5.43: Oil production rates case 2.....	62
Figure 5.44: Gas production rates case 2.....	63
Figure 5.45: Water separated case 2	63
Figure 5.46: Optimized surface production network.....	63
Figure 5.47: Surface production network constraints case 3.....	64
Figure 5.48: Oil production rates case 3.....	65
Figure 5.49: Gas production rates case 3.....	66
Figure 5.50: Water separated case 3.....	66
Figure 6.1: Field case.	68
Figure 6.2: Oil production rate-field case.....	72
Figure 6.3: Gas production rate- field case	72
Figure 6.4: Oil production rates.....	75
Figure 6.5: Gas production rates	75
Figure 6.6: Water separated.....	75
Figure 6.7: Oil production rates case 1-A	78
Figure 6.8: Gas production rates case 1-A	79
Figure 6.9: Water separated case 1-A.....	79
Figure 6.10: Cases profit case 1-A	79
Figure 6.11: Oil production rates case 2-A	85
Figure 6.12: Gas production rates case 2-A	85
Figure 6.13: Water separated case 2-A.....	86
Figure 6.14: Cases profit case 2-A	86

Nomenclature

A_1	Cross section area of tubing, ft ²
A_2	Cross section area of choke, ft ²
bhp	Brake horsepower, HP
C_D	Choke discharge coefficient, 0.62–0.90
C	Clearance, which varies from 0.04 to 0.16
C_p	Specific heat at constant pressure, Btu/ lb/ °F
C_v	Specific heat at constant volume, Btu/ lb/°F
C_L	Liquid specific heat constant
DP	Differential pressure, psi
D_c	Choke diameter (64th in.)
d_T	Tubing inner diameter, ft.
d_p	Piston diameter, ft.
d_{pr}	Piston rod diameter, ft.
e	Choke downstream to upstream pressure ratio
e_m	Mechanical efficiency, usually is taken about 0.85
e_v	Volumetric efficiency, is usually taken to be 0.88–0.98
E	Pump efficiency, less than 1
E_k	Kinetic energy
E_p	Polytropic efficiency
f	Friction factor
f_n	Normalization friction factor
F_{wo}	Water to oil ratio
F	Correction factor for pressure drop between stages
g	Acceleration gravity, 32.2 ft/s ²
G_2	Mass flux at downstream, lbm/ ft ² /s
GOR	Gas to oil ratio (scf/ STB)
j	Productivity index, STB/D/psi
h	Thickness, ft
H	Pump head or length, ft
HP	Horsepower, hp
H_{PMM}	Required theoretical compression power, hp/MMcfd
H_p	Polytropic head, ft-lb/lb
H_{pg}	Gas horse power, hp
ΔH_{pm}	Mechanical power losses, usually used as 50 hp
H_L	Liquid holdup
M	Mass influx, lbm/s
MD	Measured depth, ft
m	Mass flow rate, lb
N	pumping speed in strokes per minute
N_s	Number of stages
N_{Re}	Renold number
N_{Fr}	Froud number
n	Polytropic gas exponent
k	Specific heat ratio, C_p/C_v
kr	Relative permeability, md
k_o	Effective permeability of the oil, md

l	Stroke length, in.
$L1, L2, L3, L4$	Transition boundaries
p_{wf}	Bottomhole pressure, psi
p	Pressure, psi
p_r	Current average reservoir pressure, psig
P_{up}	Upstream pressure at choke, psi
P_{down}	Downstream pressure, psi
Δp	Pressure drop, psi
Q_o	Oil rate at p_{wf} , STB/D
$(Q_o)_{max}$	Maximum oil flow rate at zero wellbore pressure, STB/D
Q_g	Gas flow rate, Mscf/d
q_r	Real outlet flow rate, bbl/day
q_{th}	Theoretical outlet flow rate, bbl/day
R_s	Solution gas oil ratio, scf/STB
R	No-slip gas/liquid volume fraction
R_{const}	Gas constant given by $1,544/M_{wa}$ in psia-ft ³ /lbm-R.
r	Compression ratio
r_w	Wellbore radius, ft
r_e	Drainage radius, ft
s	Skin factor
S	Compressor speed, rpm.
TVD	True vertical depth, ft
T_{wf}	Bottomhole temperature, °F
T	Temperature, °F
ΔT	Temperature rise, °F
V	Specific volume at upstream, ft ³ /lbm
V_s	Superficial velocity, ft/sec
V_m	Mixture velocity, ft/sec
WC	Water cut
w	Power required, HP/ MMscf/D
x	Mass fraction
y_c	Critical pressure ratio
y_a	Actual pressure ratio
z	Compressibility factor, psi ⁻¹
Greeks	
ρ	Density lb/cuft
β	Formation volume factor, scf/STB
μ	Viscosity, cp
η_p	Polytropic efficiency
σ	Surface tension at upstream conditions, dynes/cm
θ	Deviated angle
ψ	Liquid holdup correction factor
ρ_m	Mixture density, lbm/cu ft
ρ_n	Non slip density, lbm/cu ft
ρ_s	Slip density, lbm/cu ft
γ	Specific gravity
λ_L	Liquid content

Subscripts

<i>G</i>	Gas
<i>o</i>	Oil
<i>W</i>	Water
<i>L</i>	Liquid

Abbreviations

FL	Flowline
IPR	Inflow performance relationship
M	Manifold
MM	Main manifold
Sep	Separator
Comp	Compressor
WHP	Wellhead pressure
WHT	Wellhead temperature
FWHT	Flowing wellhead temperature
VLP	Vertical lift performance

Superscripts

sc	Standard conditions
tp	Two-phase
1	Upstream
2	Downstream