Volumetric Source Model to Predict Productivity of Fractured Horizontal Well in Naturally Fractured Reservoirs

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Abstract: To predict productivity of fractured horizontal wells with different completion methods, the flow models of reservoir and hydraulic fractures are developed by utilizing volumetric source idealization, while the models solved by taking orthogonal transformation. Compared to traditional point source functions, volumetric source function has many advantages in properties of function and programming calculation. A practical example of fractured horizontal well of open-hole and cased-hole is simulated, result shows flow rates of two cases have significant difference at early time, since benefit of production of horizontal well; but it also causes additional pressure, which has disadvantage in the productivity. The difference of productivity of fractured horizontal wells with different completion is decided by the interaction of horizontal well’s production and additional pressure drop, which has advantage and disadvantage in the open-hole case respectively. As a result, methods to cause additional pressure drop more seriously such as increasing number, length or conductivity of hydraulic fractures, would reduce the difference; methods to enhance horizontal well’s production such as better reservoir flow capacity, would raise the difference.

Keywords: Cased-hole horizontal well, multiple-fractured horizontal well, naturally fractured reservoir, open-hole horizontal well, productivity, volumetric source model.

1. INTRODUCTION

Hydraulic fracturing is widely employed to improve productivity of horizontal wells. Methods to predict the productivity of fractured horizontal wells become invaluable tools to optimize the hydraulic fracturing and determine productivity of horizontal wells. While main analytical [1-4] and semi-analytical models [5-8] are ignoring the direct flow to horizontal well, which fitted to hydraulic fractured cased-hole horizontal wells. But, for hydraulic fractured open-hole horizontal wells, ignoring the flow to horizontal well will cause tremendous error, especially at early time [9-13].

Since Gringarten and Ramey [14] introduced to solve transient flow problems for the first time, various source functions [5-13] are developed to simulate pressure behavior and productivity of fractured horizontal wells. But most works have been focusing on point source functions which neglected the flow in source and its volume. While Ogunseyna et al. [15, 16] pointed out that source functions have computational problems and the no volume assumption may not be adequate in some specific situations, then revisited the concept of volumetric source and presented a new “solid bar source” model. Amini et al. [17-20] developed distributed volumetric source (DVS) model of homogeneous reservoirs, and validate the applications in vertical well, horizontal well and fractured vertical fractured well with well-known existing solutions. He also demonstrated the application of DVS model in fractured horizontal wells and emphasized advantages of the method of volumetric source. The solution of volumetric source model does not suffer the problem of inherent singularity; pressure can be calculated at any point. Meanwhile, it is more adjustable than point source solutions; the solution is always the same formation, no matter the types of the source.

This study is focused on the derivation and application of volumetric source models in naturally fractured reservoir and hydraulic fractures for open-hole horizontal wells and cased-hole horizontal wells. Unsteady volumetric source model is generalized for fractured reservoir. Then a new steady volumetric source model is employed to calculate pressure drop in hydraulic fractures for finite-conductivity assumption. Both of the two models can be solved through orthogonal transformation. Productivity of fractured horizontal wells for open-hole or cased-hole is calculated by coupling the two models. An example of fractured horizontal well is studied, difference between open-hole case and cased-hole case is illustrated, and factors of hydraulic fractures and reservoir, affecting the productivity are simulated.

2. VOLUMETRIC SOURCE MODEL

2.1. Assumption

The porous media is assumed to be dual-porosity reservoir which shaped as a box with closed boundaries, and size of the reservoir is \((x_{max}, y_{max}, z_{max})\). A volumetric source produces oil in the reservoir with constant rate \(q\), the central coordinate of the source is \((c_x, c_y, c_z)\), and size is \((2w_x, 2w_y, 2w_z)\). Fig. (1) shows the schematic of the system.
2.2. Mathematical Model

In dual-porosity idealizations, Warren and Root introduced the dual-porosity model in term of bulk properties. If $C_x$ denotes an intrinsic property of medium $i=m$ (matrix) or $f$ (natural fractures), then bulk property of medium $x$ is,

$$C_{ix} = C_x V_x$$

where $V_x$ is the ratio of volume of medium $x$, $V_m + V_f = 1$.

Characteristics of the matrix and natural fracture system are incorporated by the storativity $\omega$ and the flow capacity ratio $\lambda$ is defined as,

$$\omega = \frac{(\phi c_x)_{ix}}{(\phi c_x)_{im} + (\phi c_x)_{if}}, \quad \lambda = \frac{k_{ix} L^2}{k_{im}}$$

where $L$ is an arbitrary reference length(m), in this paper $L = (x, y, z)^2$; $\alpha$ is the inter-porosity shape factor (1/m$^2$); $k_x$ and $(\phi c_x)$ are permeability($\mu$m$^{-1}$) and storage(MPa$^{-1}$) of medium $x$.

Dimensionless variables are defined as,

$$P_D = \frac{86.4 k_{ix} L(p_i - p)}{B q_d \mu}, \quad q_D = \frac{q}{q_e}, \quad l_D = \frac{l}{L},$$

$$t_D = \frac{3.6 k_{ix} L}{\mu L^2[(\phi c_x)_{ix} + (\phi c_x)_{xf}]}$$

where $q_e$ is an arbitrary reference production rate(m$^3$/d); $l$ represents coordinate of direction $x, y, z$; $\mu$ is viscosity(mPa·s); $p_i$ is initial pressure(MPa); $B$ is oil formation factor.

Volumetric source model is,

$$(1-\omega) \frac{\partial P_{x0}}{\partial t_D} + \lambda (P_{x0} - P_{Dx}) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 P_{x0}}{\partial x_D^2} + \frac{\partial^2 P_{x0}}{\partial y_D^2} + \frac{\partial^2 P_{x0}}{\partial z_D^2} + \lambda (P_{x0} - P_{Dx}) = \omega \frac{\partial P_{x0}}{\partial t_D}$$

$$(\partial P_{x0}/\partial x_D)|_{x_D=0} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial P_{Dx}}{\partial t_D} = 0$$

where,

$$V_{source,D} = 8w_{x_D}w_{y_D}w_{z_D}$$

$$h(x_D, y_D, z_D) = [H(x_D - c_{x_D} - w_{x_D}) - H(x_D - c_{x_D} + w_{x_D})]x[H(y_D - c_{y_D} - w_{y_D}) - H(y_D - c_{y_D} + w_{y_D})] \times [H(z_D - c_{z_D} - w_{z_D}) - H(z_D - c_{z_D} + w_{z_D})]$$

$H(x-x_0)$ is Heaviside function:

$$H(x-x_0) = \begin{cases} 1 & x > x_0 \\ 0 & x \leq x_0 \end{cases}$$

2.3. Orthogonal Transformation

According to initial-boundary value problem (1)-(5), the boundary value problem of characteristic function is,

$$\frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial x_D^2} + \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial y_D^2} + \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial z_D^2} + \gamma E = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial t_D} \bigg|_{t_D=0} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial t_D} \bigg|_{t_D=t_D^*} = 0$$

Characteristic function of boundary value problem (6)-(8) is,

$$E_{k,n,m}(x_D, y_D, z_D) = \cos \frac{k \pi}{x_D} \cos \frac{m \pi}{y_D} \cos \frac{n \pi}{z_D}$$

Characteristic value is,

$$\gamma = \left( \frac{k \pi}{x_D} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{m \pi}{y_D} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{n \pi}{z_D} \right)^2$$

Norm of characteristic function is,

$$\left\| E_{k,n,m}(x_D, y_D, z_D) \right\|^2 = 2^k 2^m 2^n \frac{\delta_{k=0} \delta_{m=0} \delta_{n=0}}{8} x_D y_D z_D$$

The orthogonal transformation is defined for such a complete orthogonal function system,
\[ \bar{P}_f = T(P_{bd}) = \int_{0}^{\infty} E_{k,n,a}(x_D,y_D,z_D)P_{bd} dV_D \]  

(12)

Where inverse transformation formula is,

\[ P_{bd} = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{a=0}^{\infty} F_{k,n,a} \bar{P}_f \]  

(13)

After orthogonal transformation, the initial-boundary value (1)-(5) can be described as following initial value problem,

\[
\begin{bmatrix}
\frac{dU}{d\tau} = AU + F \\
U|_{\tau = 0} = 0
\end{bmatrix}
\]  

(14)

where,

\[
U = \begin{pmatrix} \bar{P}_f \bar{P}_w \end{pmatrix}, \quad A = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma + \frac{\lambda}{\omega} & \frac{\lambda}{\omega} \\
1 - \omega & 1 - \omega \end{pmatrix}
\]

\[
F = \begin{pmatrix} T[h(x_D,y_D,z_D)] \\
V_{source,D} \end{pmatrix}
\]

2.4. Solutions of the Models

The solution of initial value problem (14) can be expressed as,

\[
U = \frac{(1 - \omega)\omega T[h(x_D,y_D,z_D)]}{\lambda W V_{source,D}}
\]

\[
\int_{0}^{t_D} \left[ \frac{\gamma + \lambda}{\omega} J_1 e^{(\gamma + \lambda)t_D} - \left( \frac{\gamma + \lambda}{\omega} J_1 e^{(\gamma + \lambda)\tau_D} \right) \right] d\tau_D
\]

(15)

where \( W = [(1 - \omega)\gamma + \lambda]^2 - 4\omega^2(1 - \omega) \),

\[
J_{1,2} = -[(1 - \omega)\gamma + \lambda] \pm \sqrt{W} \\
J_{1,2} > J_1
\]

Calculate the integral of Eq. (15)

\[
\bar{P}_f = \frac{T[h(x_D,y_D,z_D)]}{V_{source,D}} R(k,m,n) \]  

(16)

where \( R(\gamma,t_D) \) is a time dependent function that related to storativity and flow capacity ratio,

\[
R(\gamma,t_D) = \begin{cases} 
\frac{(1 - \omega)\gamma}{\lambda}(e^{\gamma t_D} - 1) & \gamma = 0 \\
\frac{(1 - \omega)\gamma}{\sqrt{W}} \left[ \frac{\lambda^2}{\gamma + \lambda} J_1 e^{(\gamma + \lambda)t_D} - \left( \frac{\lambda^2}{\gamma + \lambda} J_1 e^{(\gamma + \lambda)\tau_D} \right) \right] & \gamma \neq 0
\end{cases}
\]

(17)

Apply inverse transformation formula (13), the dimensionless pressure of natural fractures at an arbitrary point \( r_D \)

\[
P_{bd}(r_D,t_D) = q_D A_{source}(r_D,t_D)
\]

(18)

\[ A_{source}(r_D,t_D) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} R(\gamma,t_D)G_{source,k}(x_D)G_{source,y}(y_D)G_{source,z}(z_D) \]  

(19)

where \( A_{source}(r_D,t_D) \) presents the dimensionless pressure at \( r_D \) caused by unit strength source; \( G_{source,k}(l_D) \) is a function defined by properties of the source and boundary of reservoir

\[
G_{source}(l_D) = \begin{cases} 
\frac{2w_0}{l_D} & k = 0 \\
\frac{2\cos\frac{k\pi}{l_D}}{l_D} & k \neq 0
\end{cases}
\]

(20)

Compared to the traditional point source function (First solution in Table 3A) derived by Ozkan et al. [21], volumetric source function Eq. (19) has more clear expression. Furthermore, Ozkan’ point source solution could be diverged, and could only be calculated by transformed formation [22]. The orthogonal transformation employed to derive the volumetric source solution can avoid the complicated numerical inversion of Laplace transformation. All the advantages could simplify the programming calculation.

2.5. Solution for Variable Flow Rate

For the situation that the flow rate \( q \) is time dependent, the solution can be obtained by Duhamel’s principle,

\[
P_{bd}(r_D,t_D) = \int_{0}^{t_D} q_D(\tau_D) \left( -\frac{dA_{source}(r_D,\tau_D - \tau_D)}{d\tau_D} \right) d\tau_D
\]

(21)

The integral and differentiate in Eq. (21) are calculated numerically. Discrete dimensionless time by the step \( \Delta \tau \), Eq. (21) can be calculated step by step. Starting from the first time interval \( [0,t_D] \), Eq. (21) changes to,

\[
P_{bd}(r_D,t_D) = q_D(t_D) A_{source}(r_D,\Delta \tau_D)
\]

(22)

For the j-th time interval \( [t_{D,j},t_{D,j+1}] \), \( j > 2 \), Eq. (21) changes to

\[
P_{bd}(r_D,t_D) = \sum_{i=0}^{j} q_D(t_D - i\Delta \tau_D) A_{source}(r_D,\Delta \tau_D)
\]

(23)

where \( A_{source}(r_D,0) = 0 \).

3. FLOW MODEL OF HYDRAULIC FRACTURE

3.1. Assumption of Flow in Hydraulic Fracture

The length of hydraulic fracture is \( x_F \), height is \( y_F \), width is \( w_F \). The flow in hydraulic fracture is only occurring on the plane of the fracture. Oil from reservoir flows into the well through the hydraulic fracture immediately, the pressure of hydraulic fracture recovers to balance at each time step.

Divide hydraulic fracture into \( M \times N \) segments (M segments in \( x \) direction and N segments in \( y \) direction, both M and N are even). The \( i \)-th segment is denoted as \( F_{source,i} \), where central coordinate is \( (x_i,y_i) \), total rate is \( q_{si} \), volume is \( V_i \), \( V = w_F y_F \times 2w_F y_F \times w_F \). The central coordinate of horizontal well which intersected with the hydraulic fracture is \( (x_w,y_w) \), the volume is \( V_w \)
3.2. Pressure Drop in Hydraulic Fracture

Assume only the i-th segment \( F_i \) flows to the well, the same expressions of dimensionless variables are defined as before, flow model of hydraulic fracture is,

\[
\frac{\partial^2 P_{FD}}{\partial x_D^2} + \frac{\partial^2 P_{FD}}{\partial y_D^2} + q_{FD,i} k \frac{\partial}{\partial x_D} \left[ \frac{V_{source,i}}{x_D} \right] - \bar{h}(x_D, y_D) = 0
\]

(24)

\[
P_{FD}|_{x_D=0} = 0
\]

(25)

\[
\frac{\partial P_{FD}}{\partial x_D}|_{y_D=0,x_D}\neq 0
\]

(26)

\[
\frac{\partial P_{FD}}{\partial y_D}|_{y_D=0,x_D}\neq 0
\]

(27)

where

\[
\bar{h}(x_D, y_D) = \left[ H(x_D - x_{ID} - w_{Fx,ID}) - H(x_D - x_{ID} + w_{Fx,ID}) \right] \times \left[ H(y_D - y_{ID} - w_{Fx,ID}) - H(y_D - y_{ID} + w_{Fx,ID}) \right]
\]

\[
\bar{h}_i(x_D, y_D) = \left[ H(x_D - x_{ID} - w_{ID}) - H(x_D - x_{ID} + w_{ID}) \right] \times \left[ H(y_D - y_{ID} - w_{ID}) - H(y_D - y_{ID} + w_{ID}) \right]
\]

Corresponding to model (24)–(27), define the orthogonal transformation as,

\[
\tilde{P}_f = T_s(P_{FD}(x,y)) = \int_{0}^{\infty} \int_{0}^{\infty} P_{FD} \frac{k\pi}{x_D} \cos \frac{m\pi}{y_D} dx_D dy_D
\]

(28)

Inverse transformation formula is,

\[
P_{FD}(x_D, y_D) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} F_{k,m}(x_D, y_D) \tilde{P}_f
\]

(29)

Where characteristic function of the orthogonal transformation is

\[
F_{k,m}(x_D, y_D) = \cos \frac{k\pi}{x_D} \cos \frac{m\pi}{y_D} y_D
\]

(30)

Characteristic value is,

\[
\gamma_f = \left( \frac{k\pi}{x_D} \right)^2 + \left( \frac{m\pi}{y_D} \right)^2
\]

(31)

Norm of characteristic function is,

\[
\|F_{k,m}\| = \frac{x_D y_D}{4}
\]

(32)

Application of the inverse transformation formula (29), dimensionless pressure in hydraulic fracture is,

\[
P_{FD}(x_D, y_D) = q_{FD,i} R_i(x_D, y_D)
\]

(33)

Where

\[
T_{ij} = \frac{X_{FD}}{k\pi} \left[ \sin \frac{k\pi}{x_D} (x_{ID} + w_{FD,ID}) - \sin \frac{k\pi}{x_D} (x_{ID} - w_{FD,ID}) \right] \times \left[ \sin \frac{m\pi}{y_D} (y_{ID} + w_{FD,ID}) - \sin \frac{m\pi}{y_D} (y_{ID} - w_{FD,ID}) \right]
\]

\[
T_{m,i} = \frac{Y_{FD}}{k\pi} \left[ \sin \frac{m\pi}{y_D} (y_{ID} + w_{FD,ID}) - \sin \frac{m\pi}{y_D} (y_{ID} - w_{FD,ID}) \right] \times \left[ \sin \frac{k\pi}{x_D} (x_{ID} + w_{FD,ID}) - \sin \frac{k\pi}{x_D} (x_{ID} - w_{FD,ID}) \right]
\]

\[
T_{k,i} = \frac{X_{FD}}{k\pi} \left[ \sin \frac{k\pi}{x_D} (x_{ID} + w_{FD,ID}) - \sin \frac{k\pi}{x_D} (x_{ID} - w_{FD,ID}) \right] \times \left[ \sin \frac{m\pi}{y_D} (y_{ID} + w_{FD,ID}) - \sin \frac{m\pi}{y_D} (y_{ID} - w_{FD,ID}) \right]
\]

\[
T_{m,i} = \frac{Y_{FD}}{k\pi} \left[ \sin \frac{m\pi}{y_D} (y_{ID} + w_{FD,ID}) - \sin \frac{m\pi}{y_D} (y_{ID} - w_{FD,ID}) \right] \times \left[ \sin \frac{k\pi}{x_D} (x_{ID} + w_{FD,ID}) - \sin \frac{k\pi}{x_D} (x_{ID} - w_{FD,ID}) \right]
\]

(34)

According to the superposition theory, when all the segments of hydraulic fracture flows to the well, dimensionless pressure of hydraulic fractures is,

\[
P_{FD}(x_D, y_D) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} q_{FD,i} R_i(x_D, y_D)
\]

(35)

4. PRODUCTIVITY OF FRACTURED HORIZONTAL WELL

In this section, productivities of fractured horizontal wells for cased-hole and open-hole are discussed. The main difference is fluids flow to the horizontal well is considered for open-hole case, but not for cased-hole case.

4.1. Productivity of Fractured Cased-hole Horizontal Well

For fractured cased-hole horizontal well, fluids only flow to hydraulic fractures. Assume that there are \( N_H \) hydraulic fractures in the reservoir, the j-th hydraulic fracture is divided into \( (N \times M)^{jth} \) segments, the size is \( (w^j_E, x^j_E, y^j_E) \). Then the reservoir exists \( N_H \),

\[
(N_j = \sum_{j=1}^{N_H} (N \times M)^{jth})
\]

volumetric source, 3-D coordinate of central coordinate is \( (r_{ID}^F, r_{2D}^F, ..., r_{N,D}^F) \), 2-D coordinate is \( (r_{ID}^F, r_{2D}^F, ..., r_{N,D}^F) \). Fig. (3) shows the schematic and flow direction of cased-hole case.
According to the superposition theory, for the \( N_i \) volumetric source situation, dimensionless pressure is,

\[
P_{\mu}^{(m)}(r_{\mu},t_j^{(m)}) = \sum_{s=1}^{N} q_{\mu s}(t_{\nu s}(s)) A_s(r_{\mu},\Delta t_{\nu})
\]

(36)

\[
P_{\mu}^{(m)}(r_{\mu},t_j^{(m)}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N} q_{\mu i}(t_{\nu i}) [A_i(r_{\mu i}(j-1)\Delta t_{\nu}) - A_i(r_{\mu i}(j-1)\Delta t_{\nu})]
\]

(37)

For the \( j \)-th time interval, matrix of each source’s rate is \( q_j = (q_{1D}^j, q_{2D}^j, \ldots, q_{NHW}^j) \), which can be calculated by the following \( N_j \)-order equation system,

\[
(A_1 + A_2)q_j = b_j
\]

Where,

\[
b_j = (P_{nd}, P_{nd}, \ldots, P_{nd})^T - \Delta P_j, A_1 = (a_{mn}^{(1)}), A_2 = (a_{mn}^{(2)})
\]

for \( m, n = 1, 2, \ldots, N_j \), each elements in matrix \( A_1, A_2 \) and vector \( \Delta P_j \) is,

\[
A_{2k} = (a_{mn}^{(2)}(N \times M)^{i(i-1)}(N \times M)^{j(i)})
\]

\[
\Delta P_m = \sum_{s=1}^{N} q_{\mu s}(t_{\nu s})[A_s(r_{\mu s}, 2\Delta t_{\nu}) - A_s(r_{\mu s}, \Delta t_{\nu})]
\]

\[
\sum_{s=1}^{N} q_{\mu s}(t_{\nu s})[A_s(r_{\mu s}, (j-1)\Delta t_{\nu}) - A_s(r_{\mu s}, (j-1)\Delta t_{\nu})]
\]

\[
a^{(1)}_{mn} = A_s(r_{\mu s}, \Delta t_{\nu})
\]

\[
A_{2k} = (a_{mn}^{(2)}(N \times M)^{i(i-1)}(N \times M)^{j(i)}), a_{mn}^{(2k)} = R_s(r_{\mu s})
\]

\[
I = \begin{cases} i & k = 1 \\ \sum_{i=1}^{N} (N \times M)^{i(i-1)} & k > 1 \\ j & k = 1 \\ \sum_{i=1}^{N} (N \times M)^{i(i-1)} & k > 1 
\end{cases}
\]

The matrix of each source’s rate \( q_j \) can be calculated, the total flow rate of the well \( Q_{Dj} \) is,

\[
Q_{Dj} = \sum_{i=1}^{N} q_{ni}^{(j)}
\]

(39)

4.2. Productivity of Fractured Open-hole Horizontal Well

For fractured open-hole horizontal well, productivity of both horizontal well and hydraulic fractures should be considered. Dividing the horizontal well into \( N_{fhw} \) segments, 3-D coordinate of central coordinates of additional volumetric sources are \((r_{N_{fhw}+1}, r_{N_{fhw}+2}, \ldots, r_{N_{fhw}+N_{HW}})\). Fig. (4) shows the schematic and flow direction of open-hole case.

\[
(b_1 + b_2)q_j = b_j
\]

After applying superposition theory, dimensionless pressure of natural fractures is,

\[
P_{\mu}^{(m)}(r_{\mu},t_j^{(m)}) = \sum_{s=1}^{N} q_{\mu s}(t_{\nu s}(s)) A_s(r_{\mu},\Delta t_{\nu})
\]

(40)

\[
P_{\mu}^{(m)}(r_{\mu},t_j^{(m)}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N} q_{\mu i}(t_{\nu i}) [A_i(r_{\mu i}(j-1)\Delta t_{\nu}) - A_i(r_{\mu i}(j-1)\Delta t_{\nu})]
\]

(41)

For the \( j \)-th time interval, matrix of each source’s rate is \( q_j = (q_{1D}^j, q_{2D}^j, \ldots, q_{NHW}^j) \), which can be calculated by the following \( N_j + N_{fhw} \)-order equation system

\[
(b_1 + b_2)q_j = b_j
\]

where,
\( \mathbf{B}_j = (P_{ad}, P_{sw}, \ldots, P_{ad})^T - \Delta \mathbf{P}_j \), \( \mathbf{A}_j = (d_{nm}^{(1)}(N_{z} + N_{y} + N_{z} + N_{y})) \),

\[
\mathbf{A}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} A_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}
\]

for \( m,n = 1,2,\ldots,N_z + N_{ym}, \) each elements in matrix \( \mathbf{A}_1 \) and vector \( \Delta \mathbf{P}_j \) is,

\[
\Delta \mathbf{P}_j(m) = \begin{cases} 0 & j = 1 \\ \sum_{i=1}^{N_z} q_{id}(r_i')[A(r_{ad}, 2\Delta t_j) - A(r_{ad}, \Delta t_j)] & j = 2 \\ \sum_{i=1}^{N_z} \sum_{m=1}^{N_{ym}} q_{id}(r_i')[A(r_{ad}, (j-i+1)\Delta t_j) - A(r_{ad}, (j-i)\Delta t_j)] & j > 2 \end{cases}
\]

\( d_{nm}^{(1)} = A_s (r_{ad}, \Delta t_j) \)

The matrix of each source’s rate \( q_{id} \) can be calculated, the total flow rate of the well \( Q_D \) is,

\[
Q_D = \sum_{i=1}^{N_{ym}} q_{id}
\]

The methods to calculate productivity of hydraulic fractured open-hole and cased-hole horizontal wells are derived by volumetric source functions. It is the basic theory in predicting production optimal designing of hydraulic fracturing.

### 4.3. Comparison between Two Cases

An example is simulated to should the difference between two cases. Horizontal is placed at the central of reservoir, and hydraulic fractures are assumed to be equally spaced along the horizontal well. Table 1 shows the basic parameter values of this simulation.

Before analyzing difference of two cases, we compare the results of volumetric source model with the analytical flow model [1] to show the validity (see Fig. 5). The cased-hole case is employed to accomplish the comparison; and in the calculation of analytical flow model, length horizontal well equals to length of reservoir \( x_c = L_w = 500 \text{ m} \).

As shown in Fig. (6), difference of two cases is obvious only at the beginning. Earlier the flow rate of open-hole case is much greater than other the interference between the sources is not serious to affect productivity of each source, the open-hole case takes advantage the sources of horizontal well.

Fig. (7) indicates ratio of two cases flow rate. Before the 10-th day, the ratio is less than 1, since flow rate of the open-hole case is greater than another. In this time interval, horizontal well has contribution on productivity, it shows the advantage caused by horizontal well. As the contribution of horizontal well cannot offset the loss of hydraulic fracture, the curve keep raising to a highest point (at the 50-th day), which is the disadvantage caused by horizontal well. Time node (55-th day) of the highest point illustrates the duration that horizontal well affects the productivity. Then the curve keeps decreasing to 1, for the existence horizontal well has less effect on production and causes additional pressure drop. The curve is employed to show the difference of two cases, when the curve is smoother, the difference is smaller.

### 5. Influences of Hydraulic Fractures and Reservoir

The comparison of two cases shows mechanisms that cause the difference of productivity: horizontal well’s production and additional pressure drop. Flow rates of open-hole case and cased hole-case are different, degrees of hydraulic fractures and reservoir’s factors affect the productivity are analyzed in the section.

#### 5.1. Factors of Hydraulic Fracture

Figs. (8-10) show the effect of hydraulic fracture’s factors on cumulative productions of two cases for 100 days. As

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<tr>
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<td>( N_w )</td>
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</tr>
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<td>( k_e ) (( \mu \text{m}^2 ))</td>
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<tr>
<td>( k_r ) (( \mu \text{m}^2 ))</td>
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<td>( p_e ) (MPa)</td>
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<td>( k_f ) (( \mu \text{m}^2 ))</td>
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<td>( \mu ) (mPa s)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>( c_f ) (1/MPa)</td>
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<tr>
<td>( \lambda )</td>
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<td>( B )</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \omega )</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>( t ) (day)</td>
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Fig. (5). Comparison of volumetric source model and analytical flow model.

Fig. (6). Comparison between two cases.

Fig. (7). Ratio of flow rate.
illustrated in Fig. (8), when the number is equal or greater than 5, the cumulative productions of two cases do not increase obviously, and difference of two cases is ignorable. When the number is less than 5, the open-hole case has greater cumulative production than another. Fig. (9) shows that the cumulative production of open-hole case is higher the other and increasing conductivity can bring greater cumulative production, but the effects do not obviously as the number do. Increasing the number and conductivity, the curve of open-hole case is above than other, it means the advantage caused by horizontal well has outweighed the disadvantage. Fig. (10) shows that increasing the length of hydraulic fracture improves the cumulative production significantly for both cases, and difference of two cases is ignorable, it indicates that advantage has offset the disadvantage.

Figs. (11-13) show the effect of hydraulic fracture’s factors on the ratio of flow rate. Increasing the number or conductivity of hydraulic fracture, the curve becomes smoother and the time node of the highest point shows up earlier. While as the length of hydraulic fracture increasing, the curve becomes smoother, but the time node shows up later. Because the distances between sources of hydraulic fracture and horizontal well are farther, the elimination effect of horizontal well’ source costs more time.

It is an obvious conclusion that different effect completion methods become inconspicuous when hydraulic fractures control the production, which can be achieved by increasing number, and length of conductivity of hydraulic fractures.

5.2. Factors of Reservoir

Fig. (14) shows the ratio of flow rate changes with different permeability of reservoir. For lower permeability of reservoir, the curve becomes smoother and the highest point shows up earlier. When the permeability is 0.0001 μm², the ratio approach to 1, it indicates the flow to horizontal well could be ignored for low-permeability reservoir.

Figs. (15, 16) show the effects of characteristic parameter on the ratio of flow rate. For larger flow capacity ratio \( \lambda \), the time node of highest point shows up earlier, the curve becomes more abrupt. Where the flow capacity ratio \( \lambda \) is small
Fig. (10). Effect of the length on cumulative production.

Fig. (11). Effect of the number on ratio of flow rate.

Fig. (12). Effect of the conductivity on ratio of flow rate.
Fig. (13). Effect of the length on ratio of flow rate.

Fig. (14). Effect of the permeability of reservoir on ratio of flow rate.

Fig. (15). Effect of the flow capacity ratio on ratio of flow rate.
Fig. (16). Effect of the storativity on ratio of flow rate.

enough, the difference of open-hole case and cased-hole case could be eliminated. Storativity $\omega$ does not have obvious effect on the curves, the curve is a little higher for larger $\omega$.

The difference between the two cases is affected by flow capacity of reservoir. When the flow capacity of reservoir is bigger, production of horizontal well is more significant, and the difference is more obvious.

CONCLUSION

1. New volumetric source models of flow in reservoir and hydraulic fractures are developed and solved by taking orthogonal transformation. By combining two models, the productivity of hydraulic fractured open-hole and cased-hole horizontal wells can be calculated.

2. Compared to traditional point source functions, the volumetric source function has many advantages in many aspects: better property of source function, more adjustable, more convenient in programming calculation.

3. A practical example is simulated to show the difference and mechanisms of open-hole case and cased-hole case. Result show that different completion methods have huge effect on productivity for the production of horizontal wells and the additional pressure drop.

4. The difference of open-hole case and cased-hole case becomes ignorable when the number, conductivity, and length of hydraulic fractures are large enough, or permeability of reservoir and flow capacity ratio is small enough.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors confirm that this article content has no conflict of interest.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This study is supported by the National Science and Technology Major Project of China (Grant No.\, 2011 ZX05022-006-004HZ).

REFERENCES


