Analysis Report for AP-070

Analysis of the H-12R Pumping Test Conducted From 4/20/15 to 4/22/15

AP-070: Analysis Plan for Hydraulic-Test Interpretations

Task Number 4.4.2.3.1

Authors:

Dale O. Bowman, II, 6932

HydroResolutions LLC

Technical Review:

Matt Thomas, 6932

Repository Performance Department

9/17/15

QA Review:

Shelly Nielsen, 6930

S. M. Stoller Corporation

Management Review:

Christi Leigh, 6932

Repository Performance Department

9/18/2015 Date

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1. Introduction

This report discusses the analyses of hydraulic tests performed in the Culebra Member of the Rustler Formation (Figure 1) at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) site at the H-12 well pad (Figure 2). These analyses were performed in accordance with the Sandia National Laboratories (SNL) Analysis Plan for Hydraulic-Test Interpretations, AP-070, Revision 2 (Beauheim, 2009). The computer code used for analysis was nSIGHTS (n-dimensional Statistical Inverse Graphical Hydraulic Test Simulator), version 2.50. A detailed description of the approach followed in these analyses can be found in Beauheim et al. (1993, Appendix B) and Roberts et al. (1999, Chapter 6).

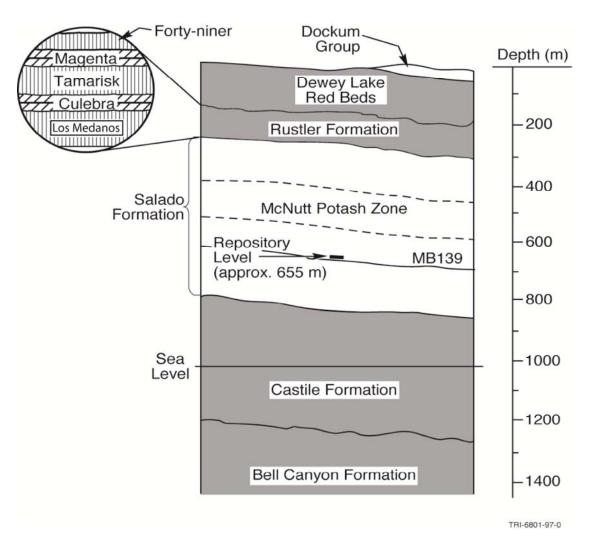


Figure 1. WIPP stratigraphy.

2. Test and Analysis Procedures

Four purge tests were performed in the H-12R replacement well on 8/28/14, 10/22/14, 12/10/14, and 2/19/15 for the purpose of removing non-formation water and obtaining water quality samples. These purges removed a total of 1014 gal. of water from the H-12R well. Analysis of the first purge indicated that the well could sustain approximately a 0.25 gpm pumping rate for a 48 hour test. Purge test analyses (Section 3.1.1) show the initial fit of the data and its corresponding aquifer parameter estimations. We note that this was just a preliminary fit used solely for guidance for the full test and its model parameters do not represent the final aquifer parameter estimates. The location of the H-12R well pad in the WIPP well network is shown in Figure 2. Pumping test analyses included the fitting of Cartesian pressure data, pressure change, and pressure derivative (log-log diagnostic) as described by Bourdet (1989).

All the nSIGHTS test simulations incorporated pre-test pressure records of various durations as "history" periods where the observed pressures were specified in the simulations.

Test analysis involved finding the values of the fitting parameters that produced the best-simulated matches to the pressure data collected during the constant-rate test and subsequent recovery period. In addition to the formation properties of interest (principally transmissivity (T)), tubing string radius and wellbore skin were also included as fitting parameters in the pumping-test analyses so that nSIGHTS could exactly match the amount of wellbore storage observed during the test. The main objective of this analysis is to estimate T for subsequent use in T-field generation and WIPP performance assessment calculations, and to validate the construction of the replacement well against analyses conducted on data from the previous Culebra well on the H-12 wellpad. Correlation between estimated T values and the other fitting parameters reported in Appendix B would be of interest if these correlations resulted in large uncertainty in the estimated T values, however, is relatively small, so any correlation between T and other fitting parameters is not of concern.

The uncertainty quantification method applied to the analyses in this report is a process referred to as *perturbation analysis*. In this process, preliminary analyses are performed in which a reasonable fit is obtained to the specified constraints defined in the nPre configuration file. The resulting values of the fitting parameters are the *baseline solution* set – a single value for each fitting parameter that provides a satisfactory fit to the data (*satisfactory* being a judgment call on the part of the analyst). Perturbation analysis begins by assigning a plus/minus range corresponding to the parameter space one wishes to investigate to each of the baseline fitting-parameter values. These plus/minus fitting-parameter ranges for each analysis are listed in Appendix B. Starting at the baseline value, the fitting parameters are randomly perturbed to fall somewhere within their assigned ranges and are then optimized from these random starting points. The objective of perturbation analysis is to sample the parameter space adequately and locate all of the minima within the parameter space. By definition, the parameter-space minimum that provides the best quantitative fit to the data, measured in terms of the smallest unweighted sum of squared errors (SSE), is the *global minimum* (assumed true solution), and the other minima are referred to as *local minima*. Local minima are effectively localized depressions in the

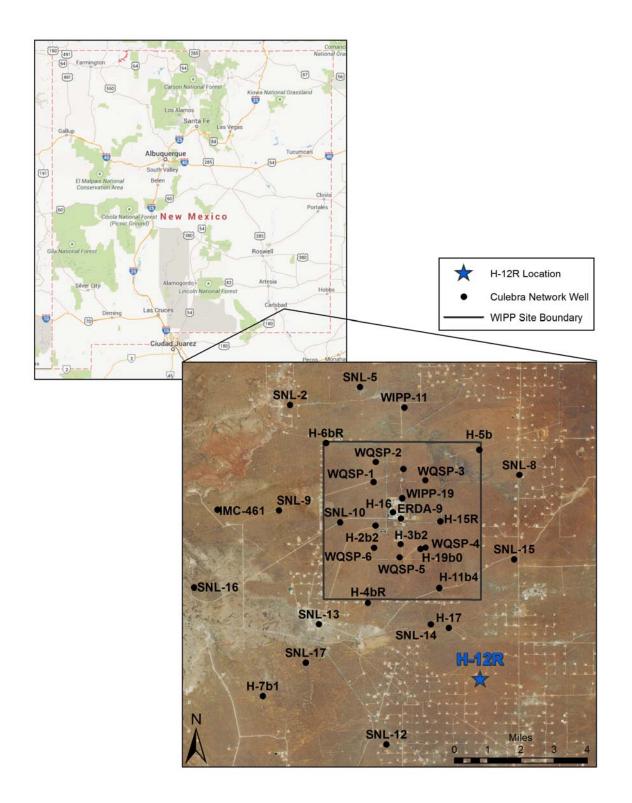


Figure 2. Location of the H-12R Culebra well located on the H-12 wellpad. The H-12R pumping well is designated by a blue star.

parameter-space topography that trap the inverse regression algorithm during its attempt to find the global minimum – the smallest unweighted SSE. If multiple data types are included in the match, e.g., if pressures, pressure derivatives, etc., are matched simultaneously, then the weighted SSE values for each component are combined and the overall goodness-of-fit measure is denoted in nSIGHTS as the *fit value*.

Five hundred perturbation/optimization runs were performed for each of the analyses discussed in this report. A visual assessment of parameter-space plots for each fitting variable and a visual assessment of the fits themselves were all used to determine the value of the "fit discriminant". The fit discriminant is used to reduce the perturbations under consideration to only those within the best-fit minimum, and sufficiently close to be subjectively considered "acceptable" fits. All perturbation results for which the fit value was less than the fit discriminant were deemed acceptable solutions and are included in the final range of reported values for each fitting parameter. In some cases, the original baseline solution may not fall within the global minimum defined through perturbation analysis. The final number of satisfactory perturbation results for each test is reported in the Section 3 figure captions.

3. H-12R Analysis Results

Discussions of H-12R and associated test analyses are given below. A summary of the T estimates obtained from perturbation analysis of each test is shown in Table 1. The full range of T values from which the statistics in Table 1 are derived is presented as a scatter plot in the sections below and a full listing is contained within the nPost configuration file for each analysis.

Table 1. Culebra Transmissivity and Storativity Estimates.

					· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
H-12R Test	Mean S (fixed values)	Geo. Mean T (m²/s)	Log Geo. Mean T (m^2/s)	Log Min. $T (m^2/s)$	Log Max. $T (m^2/s)$	Variance $(m^2/s)^2$
Purge 1	7.92E-06	1.11E-07	-	-	-	-
Pumping Test	7.92E-05	1.53E-07	-6.81455	-6.87282	-6.76143	1.02E-18

3.1. H-12R

The Culebra interval of well H-12R was drilled and completed between 7/12/2014 and 7/24/2014. The well was drilled to a depth of 865 ft with the Culebra interval screened from 820 ft to 846 ft. At the Culebra, the inner diameter (ID) of the well is 4.31-in and the pump is hanging on 1.59-in ID tubing. The siting and creation of the H-12R well was based on the need to replace the previous H-12R well in support of hydrologic testing and monitoring of the Culebra Dolomite south of the WIPP site. A physical description of the well is detailed in Figure 3.

Four purge tests and a pumping test were initiated in the Culebra at H-12R between 8/28/14 and 4/22/15. The first purge test was analyzed to gain insight on the hydraulic parameters associated with the replacement well to better frame the pumping rate and duration for the final pumping test. The other purges were designed to reach stabilized water quality parameters. The simulation for the purge test consisted of a history period prior to drawdown and a recovery period once purging concluded. The data and model used in the analysis is shown in Figure 4.

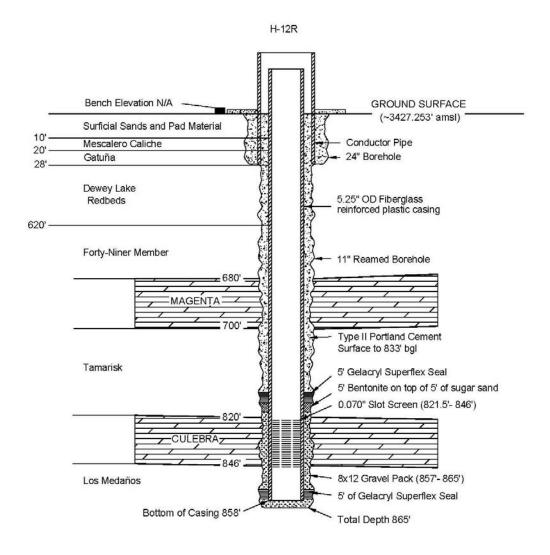
A ~893 gallon pumping test was conducted in the Culebra at H-12R from 4/20/15 to 4/22/15. The simulation of this pumping test consisted of a history period that extended partially after pumping began, a drawdown period, and a recovery period. The data acquired for the test is shown in Figure 5.

The H-12R nSIGHTS simulations each consisted of three sequences. The details of each sequence, i.e., start/end time, pressure, etc., are specified in the H-12R.nPre file and are listed in Appendix B.1.

The specified H-12R conceptual models were chosen because they were the simplest models consistent with the available information that produced an acceptable fit to the data; acceptable by consensus of the modeler and an associate modeler. The model used was in infinite-acting, radial systems with a variable T, wellbore storage, two image wells, and a negative, time-dependent skin. Storativity and skin specific storage estimates were very poorly constrained so they were held as constants in the final model fit.

A gravel pack surrounding the screened portion of the well and localized fracturing likely account for the existence of negative skin with respect to *T* estimates. The skin is likely time dependent due to continued physical development of the well, blockage of the well screen, and unknown blockage in the gravel pack by the sealant in the well screen.

The static formation pressure of the well seemingly drops every time a pumping test is conducted in the Culebra. This would indicate pumping in a discreet, rather than a traditionally assumed continuous aquifer. The initial model had a close radial boundary was first attempted to fit the pumping test data with no success. The idea that boundaries were affecting the aquifer response was still sound, but a second method, implementation of no-flow boundaries, produced better model results. To apply this effect, two image wells were implemented in the model which decreased model error (fit value) by orders of magnitude. The range of *T* values derived from this analysis is shown in Figure 6. The *T* estimates gained through this analysis are described in the preceding Table 1.



NOTE:

- Depths in feet below ground surface/level unless otherwise noted.
- 2. Not to scale.

H-12Rasbuilt1/JBP/09-09/15

Figure 3. H-12R well configuration during testing.

3.1.1 Purge Test Analysis

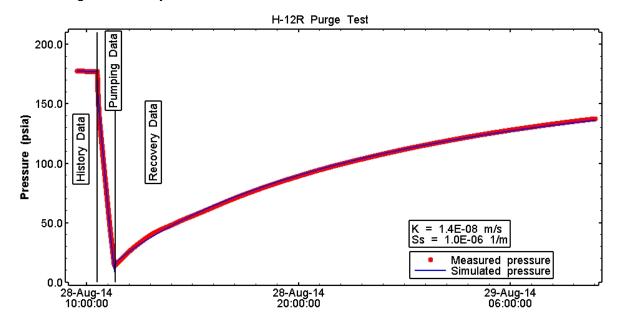


Figure 4. Pressure data and model fit of the first Culebra purge test in H-12R.

3.1.2 Pumping Test Analysis

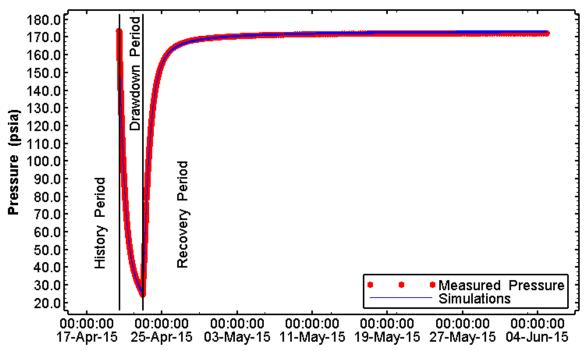


Figure 5. Pressure data and 184 model fits of the final Culebra pumping test in H-12R.

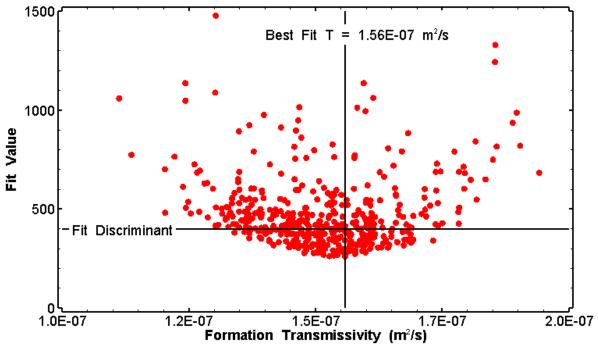


Figure 6. X-Y scatter plot showing the transmissivity parameter space derived from the H-12R perturbation analysis with fit discriminant and best fit values.

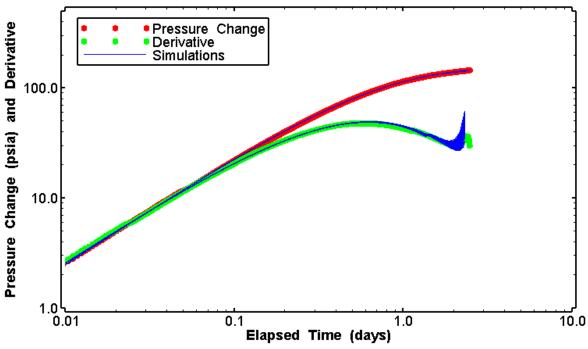


Figure 7. Log-log plot showing 184 simulations of the H-12R drawdown period pressure change and derivative response.

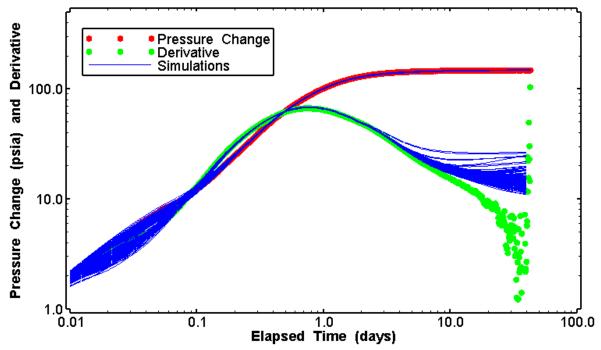


Figure 8. Log-log plot showing 184 simulations of the H-12R recovery period pressure change and derivative response.

A brief note needed to be added that the data, prior to model fitting was thinned. The purpose of the thinning was to lower the modeling run time while still retaining the pressure-change characteristics of the test. Using the full data set, the perturbation analysis contained in this report would require 52 days of processing time. By thinning the data, the processing time was reduced to approximately 7 hours. Figure 9 displays the original data and the overlying thinned data to demonstrate the reduction and the pressure characteristic retention.

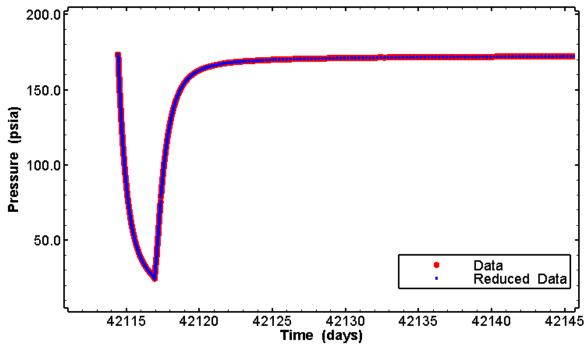


Figure 9. A plot comparing recorded pressure data and the reduced pressure data used for the modeling process.

4. References

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Appendix A – H-12R Hydraulic Test – 4/20/15 to 4/22/15

Well	Date and Time Start DAS	Date and Time Stop DAS	Date and Time Start Test	Date and Time Stop Test	Borehole Diameter (in)
H-12R	4/20/15 10:35	4/22/15 11:00	4/20/15 11:00	4/22/15 10:52	4.31

Inside Tubing or Casing Diameter (in)	Culebra Interval (ft bgs)	Fluid Density (g/cm³)	Field Notebook	Data Source Report(s)
2.155	820-846 (26 ft)	1.104	WSWT-17	N/A

Appendix B – nSIGHTS Listings

nPre/64 2.50

Version date 25 June 2012 Listing date 08 Sep 2015

QA status non-QA Open Source

Config file C:\SANDIA_PROJECTS\WIPP_wells\Culebra\H-12R\H-12R_RR_X.nPre

Control Settings

Main Settings

Simulation type Optimization
Simulation subtype Normal
Phase to simulate Liquid
Skin zone? yes
External boundary Fixed Pressure

Liquid Phase Settings

Aquifer type Confined
Aquifer horizontal permeability Isotropic
System porosity Single
Compensate flow dimension geometry yes
Leakage None

Test Zone Settings

Test zone volume can vary no
Test zone compressibility can vary no
Test zone temperature can vary no
Default test-zone temperature 20.00 [C]
Solution variable Pressure
Allow negative head/pressure yes

Parameters

Formation

Formation thickness	26.000	[ft]
Flow dimension	2.0	[]
Static formation pressure	Optimization	
Minimum value	160.000	[psi]
Maximum value	180.000	[psi]
Estimate value	173.791	[psi]
Range type	Linear	
Sigma	1.00000E+00	
External boundary radius	1000000	[m]
Formation conductivity	Optimization	

Minimum value Maximum value Estimate value Range type Sigma Formation spec. storage	1.00000E-12 1.00000E-02 2.12834E-08 Log 1.00000E+00 1.00000E-04	<pre>[m/sec] [m/sec] [m/sec]</pre>	
Skin			
Radial thickness of skin Minimum value Maximum value Estimate value Range type Sigma Skin zone conductivity Skin zone spec. storage	Optimization 1.0E-05 5.0 0.5373267 Linear 1.00000E+00 f(t) point 1.00000E-05	[m] [m] [m]	
Fluid			
Fluid density Fluid thermal exp. coeff.	1104.00 0.00000E+00	[kg/m^3] [1/C]	
Test-Zone			
Well radius Tubing string radius	2.155 2.0	[in] [in]	
Numeric			
<pre># of radial nodes # of skin nodes Pressure solution tolerance STP flow solution tolerance</pre>	250 50 1.45038E-11 1.58503E-11	[] [] [psi] [USgpm]	

f(**x**) **Points Parameters**

Skin zone conductivity

Points type	f(t)	
Time #1	Optimized	
Minimum	3638684160.000000	[day]
Estimat	3638778790.733000	[day]
Maximum	3638901024.000000	[day]
Y value#1	Optimized	
Time #2	Optimized	
Minimum	3638901024.086000	[day]
Estimat	3638904358.843000	[day]
Maximum	3638904480.000000	[day]
Y value#2	Optimized	
Time #3	Optimized	
Minimum	3638904480.086000	[day]
Estimat	3638907846.087000	[day]
Maximum	3638910441.600000	[day]
Y value#3	Optimized	
Time #4	Optimized	

Minimum Estimat Maximum Y value#4 Time #5	3638910441.686000 3638935500.425000 3638995200.000000 Optimized Optimized	[day] [day] [day]
Minimum Estimat Maximum Y value#5	3638995200.863999 3639316146.217000 3639427200.000000 Optimized	[day] [day] [day]
X opt range type X opt sigma	Linear 1.00000E+00	
Y opt minimum value Y opt maximum value Y opt range type Y opt sigma	1.00000E-12 1.00000E-05 Log 1.00000E+00	<pre>[m/sec] [m/sec]</pre>
Parameter curve type	Linear	

Calculated Parameters

Formation

Minimum

Transmissivity Minimum Maximum	min/max 7.92480E-12 7.92480E-02	[m^2/sec] [m^2/sec]
Storativity	7.92480E-04	[]
Diffusivity	min/max	
Minimum	1.00000E-08	[m^2/sec]
Maximum	1.00000E+02	[m^2/sec]
Skin Zone		
Transmissivity	f(t)	
Storativity	7.92480E-05	[]
Diffusivity	f(t)	
Skin factor	f(t)	
Test Zone		
Open hole well-bore storage	7.48871E-07	[m^3/Pa]
Grid Properties		
Grid increment delta	min/max	
Minimum	0.06128	[]
Maximum	0.08402	[]
First grid increment	min/max	
Minimum	3.19455E-01	[m]
Maximum	4.79878E-03	[m]
Skin grid increment delta	min/max	
Minimum	0.00000	[]
Maximum	0.09236	[]
Skin first grid increment	min/max	

Information Only

2.04063E-07

[m]

Maximum	5.29621E-03	[m]
Skin last grid increment	min/max	
Minimum	2.04100E-07	[m]
Maximum	4.45936E-01	[m]
Increment ratio	min/max	
Minimum	7.16369E-01	[]
Maximum	2.35119E+04	[]

Sequences

Sequence: H_01

Sequence type	History	
Start time	42114.416667	[day]
Duration	0.049303	[day]
Time step type	Log	
First log step	1.15741E-07	[day]
# of time steps	250	
Type	Curve	
Wellbore storage	Open	

Sequence: F_01

Sequence type	Flow	
Start time	42114.465970	[day]
Duration	2.485420	[day]
Time step type	Log	
First log step	1.15741E-07	[day]
# of time steps	250	
Type	Fixed	
Fixed value	-0.247	[USgpm]
Wellbore storage	Open	

Sequence: F_02

<u>-</u>		
Sequence type	Flow	
Start time	42116.951390	[day]
Duration	43.048610	[day]
Time step type	Log	
First log step	1.15741E-07	[day]
# of time steps	250	
Type	Fixed	
Fixed value	0.0	[USgpm]
Wellbore storage	Open	

Test Zone Curves

Curve object to use	P_Curve
Curve type	Pressure
Start sequence	н_01
End sequence	н_01
Curve time base	Test
Curve Y data units	[psi]
Curve Y data is log 10	no

Simulation Results Setup

Output ID Output type Pressure capture type Output units	DAT Pressure Test Zone [psi]	
Output ID Output type Flow rate output type Output units	DAT Flow Rate Well [USgpm]	
Output ID Output type Pressure capture type P_S_01[1] operation Type Fixed radius P_S_01[2] operation Type Optimized radius optimization ID Minimum value Maximum value Estimate value Range type Sigma P_S_01[3] operation Type Optimized radius optimization ID Minimum value	P_S_01 Pressure Superposition + Pressure Constant 0.054737 - Delta P Optimized P_S_01[2] 2.0 1000 67.1701016 Linear 1.00000E+00 - Delta P Optimized P_S_01[3] 1.0	[m] [m] [m]
Maximum value Estimate value Range type Sigma Output units	1000 72.0335999 Linear 1.00000E+00 [psi]	[m] [m]

OutputFiles

XY Forward Output

Write file ? yes
C:\SANDIA_PROJECTS\WIPP_wells\Culebra\H-12R\Post\H-12R_sim.nXYSim
Run ID Run#1
If file exists Overwrite
Output data AutoSimData

Optimization Output

Write file ? yes
C:\SANDIA_PROJECTS\WIPP_wells\Culebra\H-12R\Post\H-12R_sim.nOpt
Run ID Run#1
If file exists Overwrite
Write residuals ? no
Write Jacobian ? no
Write covariance matrices? yes

Optimization Setup

Algorithm	Simplex
Calculate confidence limits ?	yes
Covariance matrix calculations	1st Order
Fixed derivative span ?	no
Fit tolerance	1.0000E-05
Parameter tolerance	not used
<pre># of optimized variables</pre>	15
Formation conductivity	OK
K_s.T[01]	OK
K_s.T[02]	OK
K_s.T[03]	OK
K_s.T[04]	OK
K_s.T[05]	OK
K_s.V[01]	OK
K_s.V[02]	OK
K_s.V[03]	OK
K_s.V[04]	OK
K_s.V[05]	OK
P_S_01[2]	OK
P_S_01[3]	OK
Static formation pressure	OK
Radial thickness of skin	OK

Fits to Optimize

CompositeFit OK

Calculated Parameters Included

of calculated variables included 0

Suite/Range Setup

of suite/range variables

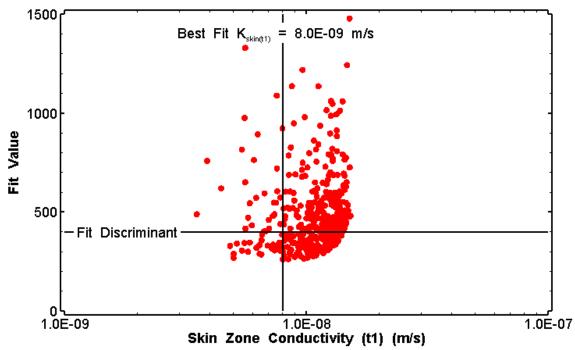


Figure B-1. X-Y scatter plot showing the skin conductivity parameter space for the first time span derived from H-12R perturbation analysis with the fit discriminant and best fit values.

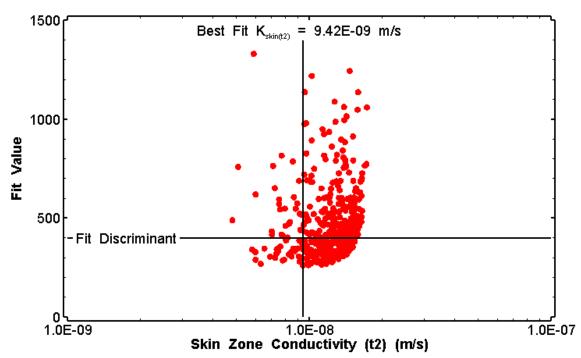


Figure B-2. X-Y scatter plot showing the skin conductivity parameter space for the second time span derived from H-12R perturbation analysis with the fit discriminant and best fit values.

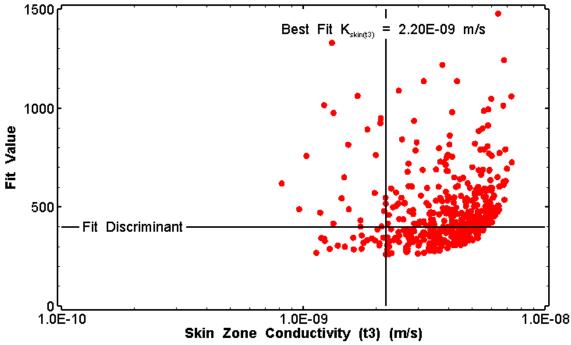


Figure B-3. X-Y scatter plot showing the skin conductivity parameter space for the third time span derived from H-12R perturbation analysis with the fit discriminant and best fit values.

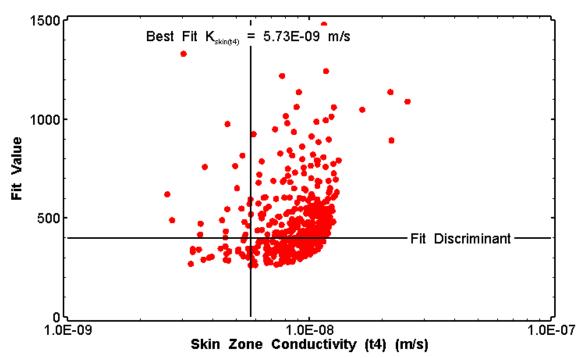


Figure B-4. X-Y scatter plot showing the skin conductivity parameter space for the fourth time span derived from H-12R perturbation analysis with the fit discriminant and best fit values.

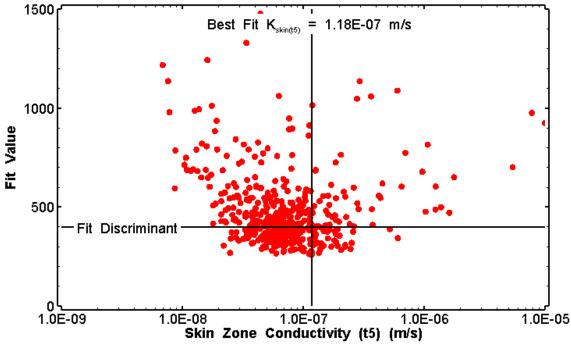


Figure B-5. X-Y scatter plot showing the skin conductivity parameter space for the fifth time span derived from H-12R perturbation analysis with the fit discriminant and best fit values.

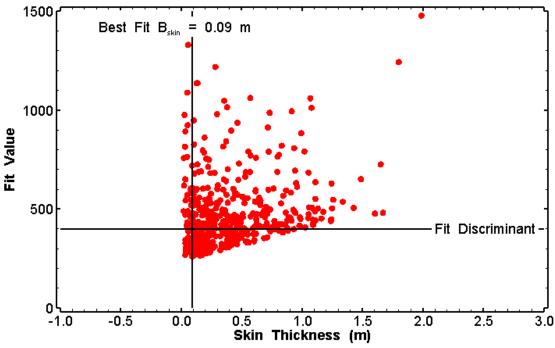


Figure B-6. X-Y scatter plot showing the skin zone thickness parameter space derived from H-12R perturbation analysis with the fit discriminant and best fit values.

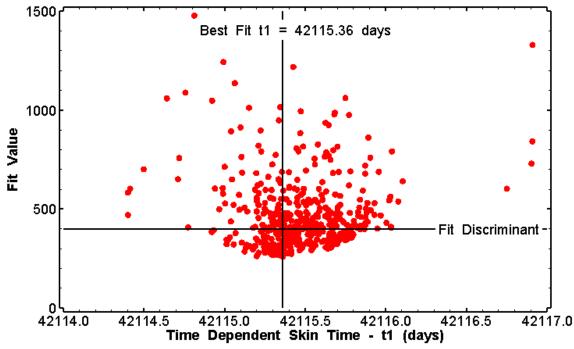


Figure B-7. X-Y scatter plot showing the first time dependent skin time parameter space derived from H-12R perturbation analysis with the fit discriminant and best fit values.

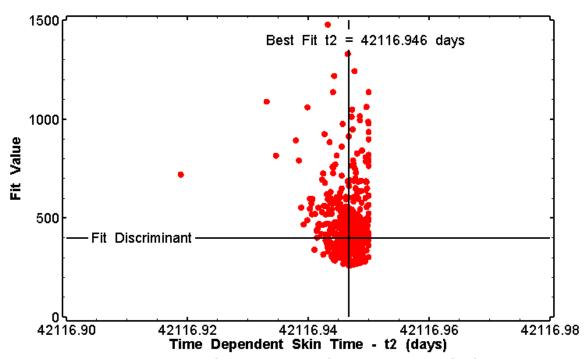


Figure B-8. X-Y scatter plot showing the second time dependent skin time parameter space derived from H-12R perturbation analysis with the fit discriminant and best fit values.

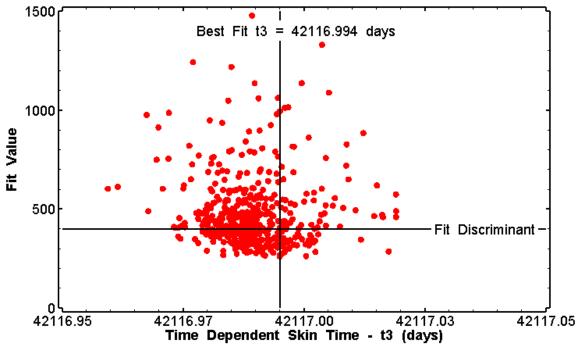


Figure B-9. X-Y scatter plot showing the third time dependent skin time parameter space derived from H-12R perturbation analysis with the fit discriminant and best fit values.

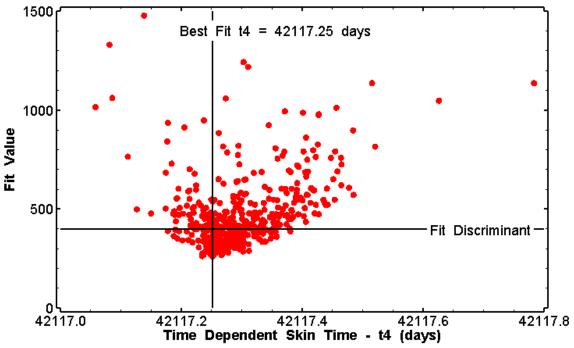


Figure B-10. X-Y scatter plot showing the fourth dependent skin time parameter space derived from H-12R perturbation analysis with the fit discriminant and best fit values.

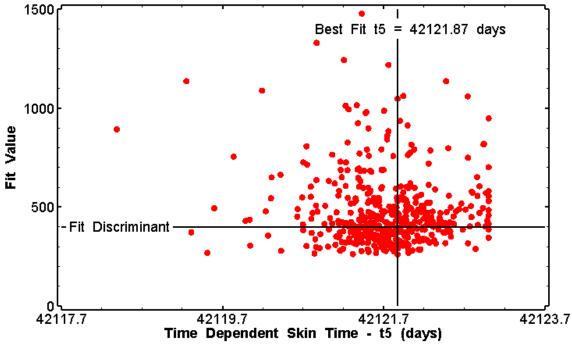


Figure B-11. X-Y scatter plot showing the fifth dependent skin time parameter space derived from H-12R perturbation analysis with the fit discriminant and best fit values.

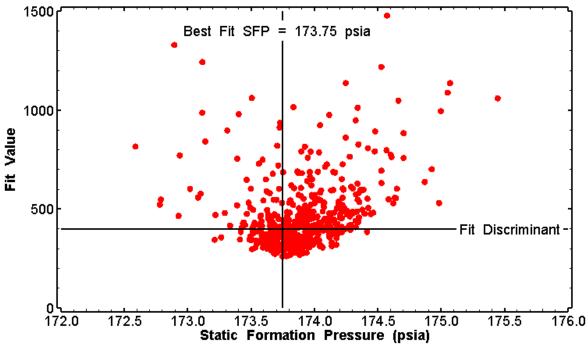


Figure B-12. X-Y scatter plot showing the static formation pressure parameter space derived from H-12R perturbation analysis with the fit discriminant and best fit values.

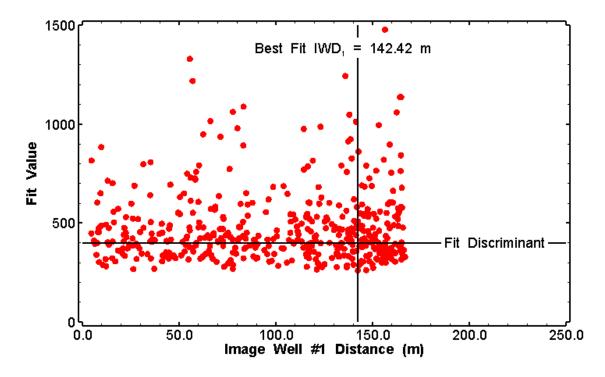


Figure B-13. X-Y scatter plot showing the image well #1 distance parameter space derived from H-12R perturbation analysis with the fit discriminant and best fit values.

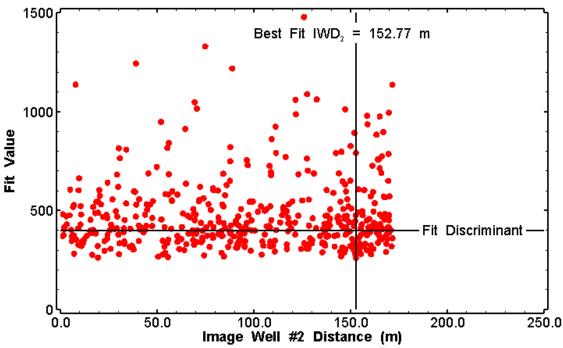


Figure B-14. X-Y scatter plot showing the image well #2 distance parameter space derived from H-12R perturbation analysis with the fit discriminant and best fit values.

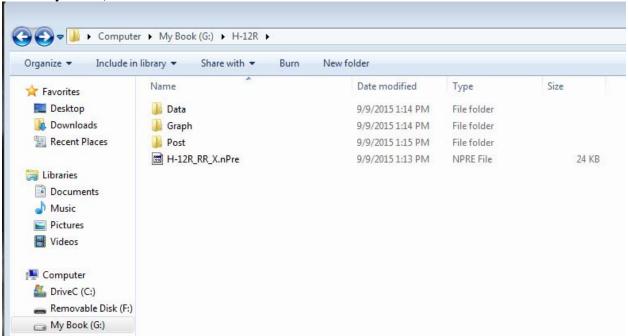
Appendix C – File Directories

Associated files can be found in the Solaris Directory -/nfs/data/CVSLIB/WIPP_EXTERNAL/AP070.

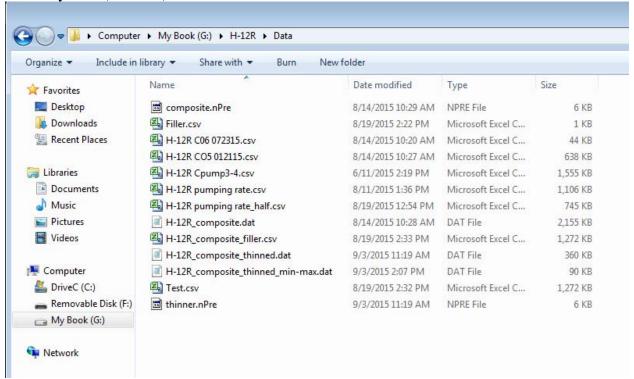
Table C-1. File descriptions.

File Extension	Function/Use
<filename>.nPre</filename>	Files used for initial well test analysis.
<filename>X.nPre</filename>	Files used to generate perturbation analysis of .nPre results.
	Post-processing files used to visualize .nPre and perturbation
.nPost	analysis.
.nOpt	Optimization data used for post processing in .nPost files.
<filename>.nXYSim</filename>	Simulation data used for post processing in .nPost files.
<filename>FieldData.nXYS</filename>	
im	Field data used for post processing in .nPost files.
.jpg	Graphic output from .nPost files.
.csv,.xls, .dat	Data files used as input for .nPre files.

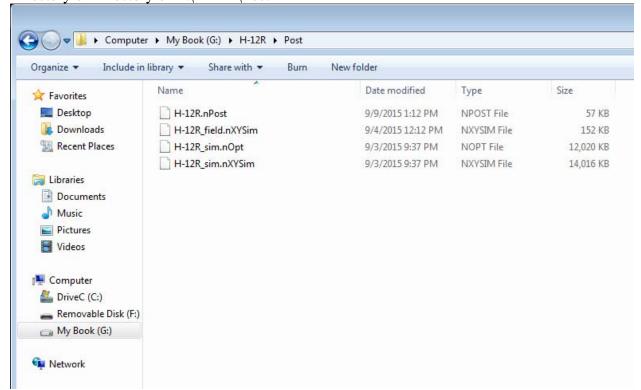
Directory of G:\ H-12R



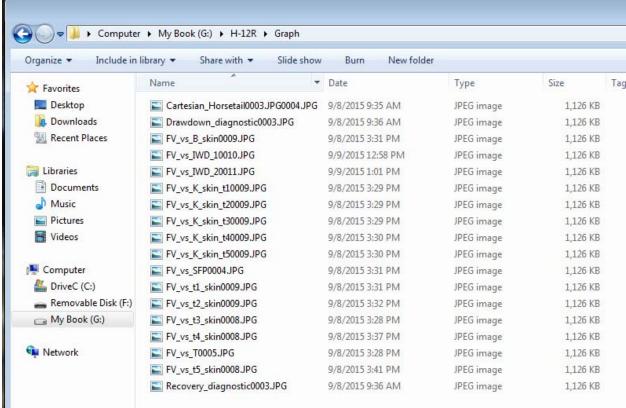
Directory of G:\ H-12R \Data



Directory of Directory of E:\H-12R\Post



Directory of E:\H-12R\Graphs



Acknowledgements

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