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Message from the Vice President of Technology

by *Tom Fate*

The 2005 Symposium is less than five months away! The Technical Committee has reviewed and ranked 110 abstracts. We have selected 40 abstracts for presentation as a paper, 20 abstracts for alternate papers and 30 abstracts for presentation as posters.

The alternate papers will be published in the 2005 Proceedings and some will be selected for presentation if any of the selected papers are unable to be published or presented.

All of the papers, alternates and posters (extended 6 page abstracts) will be published in the proceedings. The number of posters and alternate papers for 2005 has been increased compared to the numbers from previous Symposiums. ChevronTexaco has agreed to pay for the additional cost of the printing of the Alternates and Posters.

At the 2004 Symposium in Abu Dhabi, I challenged the SCA Members to make the 2005 Symposium in Toronto a truly International Symposium. The membership has responded and we received abstracts from 19 countries. To ensure a good representation from all of these countries, the decision was made to extend the number of posters and

alternate papers, so more people and expertise from around the world could be represented. We accepted at least one abstract from each country that sent in abstracts.

The final written paper (presented papers and alternates) and extended abstract for posters are due to be sent to the Technical Committee for review by April 29, 2005. The review and editing process will take 4 to 6 weeks and then the papers and poster abstracts will be sent to the printers.

The one day workshop; *Emerging and Unconventional Resources: Gas Hydrates, CO2 Sequestering and Heavy Oil Sands*; is being organized. We have invited several top researchers in the areas of interest for the workshop. A final agenda will be posted on the SCAWeb in early June.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you in Toronto!



In this issue of SCA News...

by **Andrew Cable, Editor**

Welcome to this Spring issue of SCA News. Today on SCAWeb I noticed 110 downloads of the December issue of SCA News. Current membership is just under 600, so the downloads represent about 18% of the membership. Of course I have downloaded many copies. (Only joking I don't want to be accused of vote rigging!). There is plenty of scope for increased readership. It is my plan to increase technical contributions and also to provide news from the regions. So I need your future support...

In this issue of SCA News, Tom Fate gives the current status on this years technical programme. There are a colossal number of Abstracts this year and the technical committee are very busy. Marios Ioannidis has details of the conference venue on pages 3-4. This is sure to whet your appetite for the 2005 Symposium. Dan Maloney has several topics for your attentions on pages 5-6. Please reply to Dan directly on these issues and nominations. We also have news from one of our European Directors and the first announcement of a half day workshop for the SCA Norwegian membership.

In my first December issue of SCA News I introduced "From the Membership" by SCA Members. Two of our members Dr Eric Withjack and Dr Odd Hjelmeland have been honoured with very distinguishing awards from Industry (see p.8). I am sure everyone in the Society would agree that Eric and Odd are to be congratulated, and what inspiring publicity for our Profession. Also from the Membership are technical contributions from Jack Orr (of Corex,

Aberdeen) and a joint contribution from Dan Maloney (ConocoPhillips) and Olga Vizika (IFP). Jack's contribution I am hoping will promote some debate from the membership and hopefully we can air some (more) views on the issue of capillary pressure and resistivity measurements. Dan and Olga reflect on their own experience and provide a brief overview of CT in-situ saturation technology.

Each summer a special issue of *SPWLA Petrophysics* is dedicated to core analysis. The 2005 issue will feature the best five papers from the Abu Dhabi Symposium. Each of these papers will undergo one final edit and peer-review before inclusion in this special issue. The SPWLA require submissions for their special issue by early-June to give the editor of *Petrophysics* enough time to collate the special Jul-Aug issue. If you would like to assist with the peer review please contact me no later than 30th April.

I had an opportunity back in January to present 'Advance Reservoir Studies' to the London Petrophysical Society (which is a local Chapter of the SPWLA founded in 1973). It was my first visit to the Geological Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London. I have to say I enjoyed giving the presentation more than any. The venue is steeped in history, the 17th Century architecture with oak-panelled walls, stunning oak-floors and historical portraits of societies former great-minds and heroes furnish the walls. I felt proud that afternoon.

More about Burlington House from the editor on the back page...

From the VP Arrangements

by *Marios Ioannidis*

Preparations are underway for the 2005 International Symposium and Workshop of the Society of Core Analysts in Toronto, Canada. This is an exciting time for the local organizing committee, as we prepare to receive our colleagues and friends from around the world.



All Workshop and Symposium functions, except for the Awards Dinner, will be held at the **Grand Hotel & Suites**. This boutique hotel of just 177 guest rooms will be mostly occupied by SCA delegates, creating a private and cosy atmosphere. A group rate of \$CAN 189 has been established for a confirmed block of 100 rooms (15% tax extra; single/double occupancy). This rate **includes a Full Buffet Breakfast** served at the Citrus restaurant. These reservations and rates will be held until July 15th, 2005. For the convenience of SCA Symposium delegates, a **hotel reservation website** has been set up www.regonline.com/23323. Exhibition will be held in the York room and foyer (approx. 2100 sq. ft), which can accommodate 14 booths, each 10 ft wide. Floor plans will be posted at the SCA website soon. Symposium

registration will be handled through the SCA Shop www.scaweb.org/catalog.



The Awards Dinner will take place at **Casa Loma** www.casaloma.org. This famous Toronto landmark combines architectural elements of the Norman, Gothic and Romanesque styles and is surrounded by beautiful gardens. Casa Loma is the former estate of Sir Henry Pellatt, prominent Canadian financier, industrialist and military man. Sir Pellatt and his wife Lady Mary built their dream castle in the years between 1911 and 1914. The Casa Loma castle and gardens have been reserved for the exclusive use of SCA delegates.



Exciting opportunities exist for the Symposium delegates and

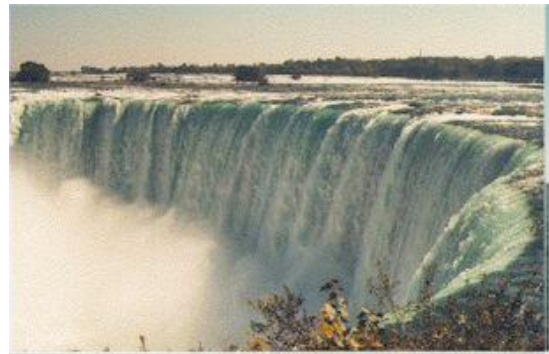
accompanying persons to explore Toronto at a time when the weather is great and the city is brimming with interesting events!

Built on the shores of lake Ontario, one of the five Great Lakes, Toronto and its greater metropolitan area is home to over four and a half million people. Acclaimed as one of the most diverse cities in the world, Toronto offers numerous world-class attractions, many of which are easily accessible to the Symposium delegates since they are within a walking distance or a short subway ride from the hotel.



Toronto's most exclusive retail district is located in the Bloor/Yorkville area (a five minute subway ride from the hotel), where international retailers offering high fashion designs, eclectic boutiques, fine crystal and china shops, art galleries and superb restaurants are all available in the village-like atmosphere of **Yorkville and Hazelton Lanes**. Also close to the hotel, the great mall of **Eaton Centre**, modelled after the Galleria in Milan, provides more shopping opportunities. Whether it is a visit to the **CN Tower**, the world's tallest free-standing structure, a visit to **St. Lawrence Market**, considered by Food and Wine magazine to be one of the world's 25 best food markets, a visit to the **Royal Ontario Museum** www.rom.on.ca, Canada's largest

museum and one of the top 10 in the world, a visit to the **Hockey Hall of Fame**, or a waterside promenade at Toronto's **Harbourfront**, there is something for every taste! An exhaustive tourist information package, is being prepared and will become available to Symposium delegates in due time. Stay tuned for the next SCANews...



Finally, an optional field trip to the **Niagara Falls and Gorge** will expose participants to the excellent views of the Silurian succession in this area, while also providing an opportunity to better appreciate the more recent geologic history of this world-famous tourist site. Development of abundant secondary porosity in the youngest of these Silurian strata has led to the formation of productive oil and gas reservoirs in the subsurface of southwestern Ontario, and also important regional groundwater aquifers in the Guelph-Cambridge area. Sturdy footwear, a hat and suitably protective clothing (for sun or rain) are strongly encouraged as we will be outdoors for most of the day. The trip is scheduled for Friday, August 26th, leaving from Grand Hotel & Suites in Toronto.

Make your hotel reservations and register soon! We look forward to seeing you all in Toronto!

A Message from the Past President

by ***Dan Maloney***

Dear Colleagues,

I have several topics that I would like to call attention to in this message – amendment of the SCA by-laws, 2005 SCA technical achievement award, and call for nominations for 2006 SCA Officers. I will end with a few words of appreciation to colleagues that contributed greatly to the success of last year's symposium.

Amendment of the SCA By-Laws

For several years, the SCA Board was cognizant of the need to revise the organization's by-laws. Last year, a committee studied the by-laws and proposed amendments. The SCA Board agreed with the proposal, and initiated the process of seeking approval to amend the by-laws. The approval process includes presenting the proposal to SCA members, gaining approval from the membership, and then gaining approval from the SPWLA, our parent organization. Amendments were described in SCANews (August 2004), on the SCA web site home page, and within the by-laws page of the SCA web site. Members voted in favour of amending the by-laws in September, 2004.

The final step of the approval process was to send proposed amendments to the SPWLA Board with a petition requesting approval. We need SPWLA approval to amend our by-laws because we are an SPWLA chapter-at-large. The SPWLA Board was receptive to our proposal. However, our by-laws don't ideally conform to the SPWLA model that must be used by SPWLA Chapters. Not

a big problem - the SPWLA by-laws allow for Chapters to deviate from the SPWLA model to some degree to facilitate self-governance, but our by-laws lacked three items that must be in SPWLA Chapter by-laws:

- A preamble.
- A clause stating "Should the Chapter be dissolved for any reason, any remaining funds and assets will be donated to the SPWLA Foundation to be used for educational purposes."
- A security of information clause "None of the technical information arising from the meetings and discussions can be considered confidential. It is the responsibility of each person to contribute or withhold information according to the authorization delegated to him by his company or institution. The statements and opinions expressed by a contributor should not be construed as an official action or opinion of the Society of Petrophysicists and Well Log Analysts, Inc. or SCA."

Because these three items must be in all SPWLA Chapter by-laws, they were added to our proposed amendments and sent back to the SPWLA Board for consideration. The SPWLA Board approved the amendments on December 27, 2004. We will post the amended by-laws on the SCA web site soon.

2005 Technical Achievement Award

The SCA annually presents its Technical Achievement award to an individual deemed by the SCA Board of Directors to have made outstanding contributions

to the advancement of core analysis technology. The award is the SCA's highest honour. The Awards Committee, chaired by the immediate Past President, is responsible for recommending candidates for this award to the SCA Board. The Awards Committee values your input. If you would like to nominate a candidate, please send an e-mail to Daniel.R.Maloney@ConocoPhillips.com.

Call for Nominations – 2006 SCA Offices

The Nominating committee, chaired by the immediate Past President, is responsible for recommending candidates for SCA offices to the Board. The Nominating Committee values your input. If you would like to nominate a candidate, please send an e-mail to Daniel.R.Maloney@ConocoPhillips.com.

Self-nominations are encouraged. It bears saying that the simplest way to increase your involvement within the SCA is to let us know that you would like to be more involved!

Final Words about the 2004 Symposium

Attendees of the 2004 SCA Symposium in Abu Dhabi agree that it was a great success. Thanks are expressed to Bob Smits, Waddah Al Hanai, Ali Al Habshi, Olga Vizika, Abby Matteson, Yogi Vindum, Stayc Feil, technical and arrangements committee members, and a host of others for their attention to details and thorough planning. Our Symposium in Abu Dhabi was a unique experience. I look forward to returning there again!

With best regards,
Dan Maloney
SCA Past President



Dan Maloney (centre) with Waddah Al Hanai (left) and Ali Al Habshi (right).

From the SCA Regional Directors

ANNOUNCEMENT

First Local Norwegian SCA Meeting. 20th May 2005 in Trondheim.

There are several institutions and companies in Norway that are active in core analysis and flow studies in porous media. However, we have few forums to meet both professionally and socially apart from the annual SCA Symposium.

We have therefore taken the initiative to organise the first local SCA meeting in Norway. It will take place at Statoil's R&D center in Trondheim on Friday 20th May.



Statoil R&D Centre, Trondheim

It is planned as a half day meeting and lunch. A detailed program has not yet been made and we invite each one of you to propose studies and results for presentation and discussion.

This is a first announcement and all Norwegian members (60) will be mailed directly with a final program and invitation. If there is sufficient interest, similar meetings will be held at other locations at a later stage.

For proposals and questions please contact:-

Jon K Ringen (Statoil, Stavanger)
SCA European Director; jkr@statoil.com

And,

Ivar Erdal (ResLab, Trondheim);
ivar@reslab.no

From the Membership
by ***SCA Members***

“Engineers Week provides an opportunity to recognize the many accomplishments of America’s engineers and the positive impacts they have on the quality of life.” a quote from President George W. Bush’s Presidential Message for National Engineer’s Week (The White House, Feb. 20th –26th, 2005). In keeping with this annual event, engineering organizations throughout the United States take the opportunity to applaud exemplary achievements through public recognition.

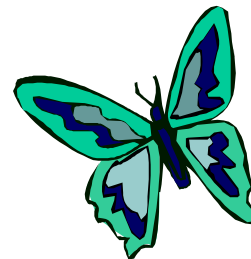
From Southern California, we are pleased to announce that our regional director, Dr. Eric Withjack, was recently awarded the Technical Achievement Award of the Orange County Engineering Council. The award was presented at a gala dinner held at the famous Disneyland Hotel in Anaheim, California (Feb. 26th, 2005).



Dr. Eric Withjack, awarded the Technical Achievement Award of the Orange County Engineering Council.

This recognition was based on the development of technology to combine the methods of x-ray computed tomography and NMR for 3-phase fluid

saturation determination in reservoir rock cores. Details of the approach are given in paper SPE 83467, presented at the joint SPE/AAPG Western Regional Meeting (May 2003). Eric is currently working as a consultant for Plains Resources, a mid-sized independent oil company. He provides reservoir engineering expertise for exploiting the San Vicente and Beverly Hills oilfields under Los Angeles. He received his B.S. from Norwich Univ., an M.S. from Syracuse Univ., and his Ph.D. from Rutgers Univ. (1974), all in mechanical engineering.



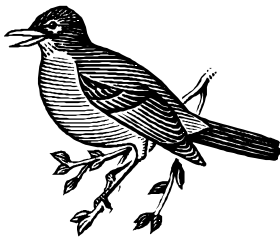
Ernst & Young’s Entrepreneur Of The Year 2004 in the service category goes to...Dr Odd Hjelmeland.



venstre: Thomas Borgen, Fokus Bank gir Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year, kategori tjenester, til Odd Hjelmeland.

Odd (RHS) collecting his prize from Thomas Borgen, Managing Director of Fokus Bank.

Odd is the CEO of ResLab, and many of you will know Odd from his attendances at the SCA Symposiums and of course his interesting and articulate after dinner speech at the Abu Dhabi Gala Dinner. Odd was awarded this considerable honour late November at a dinner presentation ceremony in Oslo, beating off stiff competition from all over Norway. In typically modest style during his acceptance speech, Odd dedicated the prize to the efforts of all of the staff at ResLab, confirming "that this is not only a one-man prize, but that the teamwork of ResLab is the underlying reason for the prize. This teamwork has now led to this prestigious prize, which we may all be proud of"



Resistivity Index and Capillary Pressure measurements
by Jack Orr, Corex (UK) Ltd.

Jack has thirty years core analysis experience, initially starting with Core Laboratories (London, Algeria & Aberdeen), three years at Corex (UK) and nearly twelve years at Robertson Research International Limited. Jack is now back with Corex (UK) following their acquisition of Fugro-Robertson Aberdeen laboratory last year.

The standard laboratory methods for measuring resistivity index and capillary pressure have been changing over the years as petrophysicists and reservoir engineers are demanding that measurements be made at conditions more representative of the reservoir.

Traditionally, these measurements have been made on water-wet porous plates, using cleaned, water-wet core samples, to ensure that good capillary and electrical contacts are maintained. In a water-wet sample, a continuous film of formation brine is maintained around the rock grains, even at irreducible water saturation, S_{wi} . This allows a continuous conduit for the electrical current to flow through the sample. Electrical continuity is maintained throughout the test as the sample is de-saturated, giving consistent results for a suite of samples from the same facies. Formation Factor, which is the base parameter from which all other electrical measurements are derived, must, by definition, be measured on a fully brine saturated water-wet sample.

However, since few reservoirs are fully water-wet, results obtained from water-wet samples are not often fully representative of the reservoir. If, on the other hand, these tests are made on samples whose wettability is the same as the reservoir (mixed-wet or oil-wet, perhaps) then there is a strong possibility that electrical continuity will be lost sometime during the test, as more and more brine is removed from the sample during de-saturation. The reason that contact is sometimes lost, is that, a sample which is not water-wet will tend not to have a continuous film of brine throughout the sample's pore structure, and will, instead, have pockets of brine, cut off from others, during de-saturation and brine removal. For this reason, the accepted convention for many years has been that these measurements would be made on water-wet samples.

Now, engineers are asking for these measurements to be made using samples as close as possible to reservoir

wettability. This is of course the way forward. However, I would advise caution in our approach to these measurements and, as the laboratory methods change, I would urge that we all adopt stringent scientific controls on any new techniques we undertake. Any single scientific experiment which undertakes to move one variable and measure the changes in more than one other variable must be challenged. For the same reason that we need at least two simultaneous equations to solve for two unknowns, we also need two separate, but linked, experiments to have confidence in our being able to measure the changes in two variables.

For several years, Core Analysis service companies have been asked by some oil company engineers to try to simulate the filling up of a trap with hydrocarbon, by making resistivity index and capillary pressure measurements in the following way:-

1. Completely clean the core sample to remove all hydrocarbons. This will tend to render it water-wet.
2. Measure Formation Factor at ambient and overburden.
3. Place sample in a coreholder at reservoir temperature and reservoir effective overburden pressure with a water-wet porous plate at the outlet end of the coreholder.
4. Inject dead crude oil at the inlet end of the coreholder at a fixed low pressure until any changes in the saturation and resistivity of the sample have stabilised. Measure Resistivity Index.
5. Increase the injection pressure to a new fixed higher value and wait, once again for stabilisation. Once again, measure Resistivity Index.

6. Continue injecting crude oil at increasing fixed pressures until at least eight Resistivity Indices have been measured.

7. Use all above data to plot the overall Resistivity Index plot and the Capillary Pressure plot.

8. Derive saturation exponent "n" from the gradient of the Resistivity Index plot.

The above experiment is moving one variable (pressure) to measure the changes in three variables: saturation, resistivity index and wettability. At all of the intermediate points during this test, the wettability has the potential to change somewhere between water-wet and whatever the reservoir wettability is. It is impossible to measure the wettability at each stabilisation point in this one experiment.

One of the assumptions made in the above experiment is that when the saturation and resistivity index have stabilised at each particular pressure point, then the sample must be at the same wettability as the reservoir was when it was at this same saturation while it was filling with hydrocarbon. Yet we don't know how long it took to fill up. It may have been days, years, decades, millennia or some other period of time. It stretches credibility to make such an assumption.

Also, the engineer is looking for an accurate measurement of the saturation exponent "n" of the reservoir as it is today. If we inject crude oil at reservoir temperature into a water-wet sample, the sample will start the ageing process and the n values for the early data will be for a water-wet reservoir, while the values for the late data will be that for a

reservoir whose wettability is closer to the reservoir wettability. So, early and late data might be incompatible with each other.

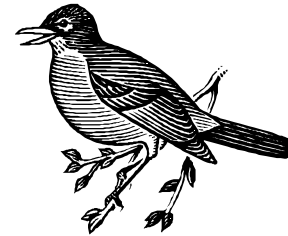
I can think of only one approach to the above experiment, which could possibly be acceptable to any serious researcher. That is to break the test into four steps. The first is to make the measurements at room temperature and reservoir effective overburden, by injecting mineral oil into a water-wet sample and thus achieving an initial resistivity index. The second is to age the sample to restore reservoir wettability. The third is to establish residual oil saturation and the fourth is to measure resistivity index again, this time by injecting crude oil at reservoir conditions of temperature and pressure.

To try to do these four steps in one is not a good scientific research approach. There are too many variables to measure in one step. This leads to educated guesses and assumptions which is not good science.

On a slightly different but related subject, the Continuous Injection resistivity index measurement developed by Shell Research in Rijswijk, produces a resistivity index plot by a different method. Mineral oil is injected, at a fixed very low flow rate of one pore volume in fourteen days, into a cleaned and brine saturated core plug sample. Brine is produced from the outlet end through a water-wet porous plate. Throughout the test the resistivity index, brine saturation and pressure are continuously monitored and recorded. The extreme low flow rate of the oil allows the fluids within the core to constantly redistribute themselves so that the resistivity measurement is never skewed. The pressures are never

stabilised at any point during the test as flow is continuous, and the flow rate is so low that the pressure seldom rise much above zero until shortly before the end of the test, when it rises very steeply as the pressure of the oil builds up against the water-wet porous plate. The applied pressure is not a true capillary pressure. In reporting continuous injection resistivity measurements, Corex refer to the applied pressure as "pseudo capillary pressure".

Thanks Jack for this interesting article. Please address any replies to the SCA Editor and I will pass these onto Jack.



CT Imaging

by Dan Maloney (ConocoPhillips)

When I heard that Eric Withjack was awarded the Orange County Engineering Council of Southern California's Technical Achievement Award for his work on combined CT/NMR 3-phase saturation measurements, two thoughts came to mind. The first was to congratulate Eric for this achievement. The second was to reflect on benefits of sharing knowledge and ideas.

I remember, about 16 years ago, watching a film that Eric made from x-ray CT images of a flood sweeping through a block of rock. The audience was spellbound. Watching the flood progress through the rock was incredible. Inferences and explanations were unnecessary – you could see saturation

change in response to the flood. Eric was not the only person using CT for core work at the time, but I think that little film inspired the audience to think seriously about benefits of in-situ saturation measurement and imaging.

Although many labs now have some sort of device (CT, MRI, gamma ray scanner, linear x-ray scanner, etc.) to quantify saturation distribution in cores during core floods, that wasn't the case 15 to 20 years ago. Back then, unless you worked for a major oil company, the only CT scanner you were likely to see was at the local hospital. I'm reminded of the many trips that my boss at the time, Matt Honarpour, made to the Bartlesville hospital to CT scan cores. Matt had an arrangement with the hospital that permitted him to scan cores late at night when the scanner was typically idle. The late night crew at the hospital saw Matt so often that they thought he worked there. You couldn't run a long-term core flood at the hospital, though, because there was always the chance that the scanner would be needed to support diagnosis of emergency room patients. The illuminating results of people like Eric were instrumental in ultimately convincing management to acquire a CT scanner for the lab.

Although various imaging devices are commercially available, we typically use such devices in ways that were not envisioned by their manufacturers. For example, in medical x-ray imaging, a typical goal is to qualitatively assess whether something looks normal or abnormal. We, on the other hand, are interested in both qualitative and quantitative measurements, so the nuances of these technologies are particularly important. With some of the

medical equipment, the user is never expected to want to optimize some of the adjustable parameters, so the optimization process isn't described in books or manuals. Those in our industry that detail their approaches and rationalizations provide a great service that reduces the time for others to make meaningful measurements and to make additional contributions.

CT Imaging

by Olga Vizika (Institut Francais du Pétrole)

The dependence of all the petrophysical properties on the internal structure characteristics of the core and on the way the fluids are distributed and flow within it has been recognized very early. However, contrary to other sciences, concerning the characterization of the porous space and the flow and distributions of fluids in porous media any observation has been for a long time impossible without not only disturbing but completely destroying the object of study.

Then some pioneers suggested that CT-scanner could provide images of the porous space and non-destructively identify characteristics of the internal structure like presence of dense regions, fractures/fissures or major heterogeneities. The CT-scanner for its capacity to give qualitative information of the 3-D internal structure of the rocks has been rapidly adopted by the scientific and technical community in core analysis as a valuable tool for sample selection. The transition from the qualitative CT-scan images to the quantitative information on rock densities, porosities, and saturation distributions was not too far.

From the miscible tracer flow to the multiphase flows CT-scan gave a unique insight in the flow mechanisms and the displacement patterns. A major emphasis has been put on the improvement of the accuracy of the measurement and the acquisition speed. Special standardization techniques and methods to calibrate CT-scan results for application on core sample materials have been developed. Two and three-phase flow experiments performed under CT-scan monitoring invalidated previous strong assumptions about uniformity or continuous evolution of local saturation profiles. They demonstrated that core scale artefacts can lead to significant errors in the interpretation of experimental data. They showed the impact of the local heterogeneities on the fluid distributions. They are presently used to calculate local capillary and transport properties and to evaluate in a reliable way uncertainty of the measurement on the plug scale. CT-scan has been used in the investigation of the flow inside fractures and in highly heterogeneous media as the reservoir carbonates. The formation damage onset by drilling fluids through spontaneous or forced imbibition mechanisms has also been explored under near reservoir conditions.

The Society of Core Analysts has been very sensitive to this progress. Many of the above mentioned pioneers are SCA members, and many SCA publications have been devoted to breakthroughs or new applications concerning the CT-scan use.

Before finishing I would like to add a word about the computed microtomography. Recent advances promise three-dimensional images of the pore space and the fluids flowing in it with a spatial resolution of the order of 1 micron. High resolution descriptions of the pore structure, of the mineral distribution and of the fluid interfaces will provide all the data needed to the understanding of the effect of pore structure, pore space tortuosity and interconnectivity, local wettability and heterogeneities on the macroscopic petrophysical properties. These data will constitute the basis for the development and validation of predictive models and high resolution flow simulators.

Congratulations to all those who make us dream with innovative research results and especially to Eric for being one of the pioneers in this difficult and challenging field.

“END-POINT...”

End-point is introduced to SCANews by your new Editor for ‘miscellany’. Please feel free to make future contributions...

It would be a fine achievement indeed if in some areas of *Special Core Analysis (SCAL)* and the more *Advanced Reservoir Studies* the SCA membership could reach professional consensus and adopt industry wide ‘best practice’. Alas

we do not live in an ideal world, but the SCA does provides a forum to make these aspirations happen. I did observe at the Abu Dhabi Symposium, that it can be difficult for the less familiar faces to express their perspectives and experiences at the Q&A following oral presentations. It takes some courage at first, but I would encourage everyone to

contribute. The Technical Committee and particularly the 'Session Chairs' should be on on-the-look out for these 'new faces', and perhaps some of the 'older faces' can step-aside (once in a while) if new faces have made a bold step to contribute.

In the headlines recently...

ChevronTexaco Press Release Today (4th April) ChevronTexaco announced their agreement to acquire Unocal. The stock and cash transaction is valued at \$18billion. ChevronTexaco production and proved reserves are expected to increase by more than 15%.

BP Texas City Refinery Manager Provides Update on Explosion Don Parus reports how words cannot express the feelings of the people of BP and the sadness felt by BP & Texas City. There were 14 fatalities and more than 70 who received medical treatment. Some people were still unaccounted for. The fire at the company's isomerisation plant unit occurred about 13:20 23rd March and extinguished 15:22. The cause of the explosion and fire is not known.

DEVEX 2005 The Production & Development Conference & Exhibition featuring subsurface techniques to enhanced recovery 18th-19th May at the Aberdeen Exhibition & Conference Centre. This year's event incorporates the DTI Seminar on Increased Oil Recovery and also features a special workshop on Heavy Oil.

PESGB International Conference Petroleum Geoscience Collaboration 30th-1st December 2005 The Geological Society, Burlington House, London (Abstracts by 30th June).

Society of Petrophysicists and Well Log Analysts (SPWLA) 46th Annual Logging Symposium, New Orleans, Louisiana, USA is being held 19th -22nd June.

...More on Burlington House, also home to the Royal Academy of Arts. The house was completed 1664-1668 by Sir John Denham (Charles II's Surveyor of the Office of Works). For the 1st Earl and Countess of Burlington. Burlington House was purchased by the government in 1854 and the academy granted a 999-year lease in 1867. The building has served, and still does, as the HQ of various learned societies housed within the courtyard. If you get an opportunity to visit The Geological Society at Burlington House...then I can highly recommend that you go.

Thanks to all contributors in this issue of SCA News. The Next SCA News will be issued in August. If you would like to make a contribution please send me your article(s) by 22nd July.

I hope you have enjoyed this Spring issue of SCA News (and the Spring icons I downloaded courtesy of Microsoft). I am conscious of the fact that this is a worldwide publication, and so you will have to enjoy my NW European perspective of the Seasons!



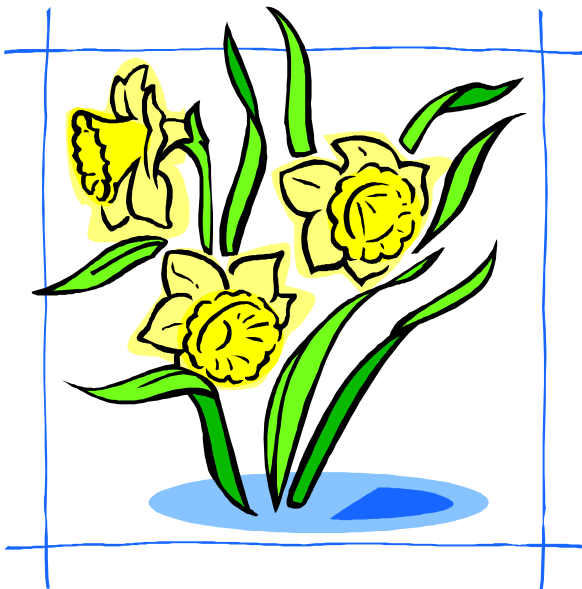
Spring is very much in evidence in my home county of Dorset and this is no more symbolised than by the 'Daffodil'.

Hot on the heels of the daffodil are primroses, bluebells (best seen in the woodlands) and later the iris which heralds the beginning of summer...

No jokes in this issue of SCAN News, but from Alistair Beaton's tongue-and-cheek observations, 'Stress in the Workplace':-

When you are experiencing stress in the workplace, there is nothing more soothing than herbal tea. Make the tea in a large mug, add a generous spoonful of organic honey, then pour the contents over the desktop PC of the person who has been getting up your nose.

'Too Busy' Your mind is like a motorway. Sometimes it can be jammed by too much traffic. Avoid the jams by never using your mind on a Bank Holiday weekend.



"I wander'd lonely as a cloud That floats on high o'er vales and hills, When all at once I saw a crowd, A host of golden daffodils, Beside the lake, beneath the trees Fluttering and dancing in the breeze" from The Daffodils by William Wordsworth 1770-1850