An Integrated Approach to Identifying Residual Oil Zones in the Cypress Sandstone in the Illinois Basin for Nonconventional CO$_2$-EOR and Storage

Nathan Webb
Nathan Grigsby, Scott Frailey, Leo Giannetta, Kalin Howell, Zohreh Askari, Yaghoob Lasemi
Presentation Outline

• Background
• Geologic Characterization
  – Stratigraphy/Sedimentology
  – Petrography/Controls on reservoir quality
• Petrophysics
  – Archie and Dual Water Methods
  – Interpreting Oil-Water Contacts
  – Applications
• Future Work
• Summary
Thick Cypress Ss Reservoirs

- Thin Oil Reservoirs
  - Residual and mobile oil above brine
  - Fining upward sequence / increasing permeability with depth
  - Difficult to produce economically due to water coning and management

- Nonconventional CO$_2$-EOR
  - Potential Residual Oil Zone (ROZ)
  - High CO$_2$ utilization during CO$_2$-EOR
  - 0.2 to 2.3 Gt saline CO$_2$ storage potential (DOE/MGSC, 2012)
Geologic Characterization
Case Studies: Noble and Kenner West Fields

- Oil fields with successful production from the thick Cypress Sandstone
- Abundant core and log data available for detailed characterization
Case Studies: Noble and Kenner West Fields

- **Noble Cypress**
  - Production = 24 MMBO
  - OOIP = 95 to 110 MMBO

- **Kenner West Cypress**
  - Production = 1.3 MMBO
  - OOIP = 8.5 to 10 MMBO
Noble Correlations

Example Noble Field Cross Section

- Correlated nearly 1,000 logs to map geometry of thick Cypress Sandstone
  - Picked upper/lower contacts, baffles (shales, cements), oil/water contact (OWC)
- Lower part of Ss present over whole field
Noble Maps

- Inverted “V” geometry, up to 170 ft thick, good lateral connectivity - especially in lower part
- ROZ indicators
  - Tilted OWC; Paleo-OWC related calcite cement?
- Conventional reservoir up to 55 ft thick
- Tilted OWC means oil saturation to the SW
Kenner West Correlations

- Similar to Noble Field, but better developed “upper” Cypress Ss lenses
Kenner West Maps

- Thick sandstone trend intersects small dome forming structural-stratigraphic trap
  - OWC tilts slightly to the southeast
Comparison with Xenia East Field

- No thick Cypress Ss oil production from Xenia East, 4 mi south of KW

- Is the thick Cypress Ss only oil productive when there are not reservoir quality “upper” Cypress Ss lenses above?
  - Cypress shales are leaky seals?
Locations of Existing Core

- **Noble Field**
  - Whole core of upper 30-40 ft in two wells
  - Chips/partial core from a handful of old wells

- **Kenner West Field**
  - No cores, but lots of core data

How do we interpret the geology and understand how the reservoir will respond to CO\(_2\) injection?

Rocks!

Now a brief tangent…
Core Samples can reveal general lithology and texture
Sedimentology
## Sedimentology

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facies</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Grain Size</th>
<th>Cross-Set Thickness</th>
<th>% Bioturbation</th>
<th>Depositional Process</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mudstone</td>
<td>Light to dark grey shale, planar laminated, finely bedded and commonly fissioned, commonly sicken-sided and bioturbated, common pyritization; may or may not contain: low silt abundance, carbonateous fragments, pyrite, fenestrate bryozoans, brachiopods, gastropods, crinoids, rare calcite cement</td>
<td>Clay</td>
<td>----</td>
<td>0- 30%</td>
<td>Low energy suspended sediment fall out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silty Mudstone</td>
<td>Light grey shale with homogenous matrix of silt and mud, planar laminated, finely bedded, more or less bioturbated with rare carbonateous debris; may or may not contain: silty interbeds and/or laminations, fenestrate bryozoans, brachiopods, gastropods, crinoids, carbonateous fragments, pyrite, iron-oxide, rare calcite cement</td>
<td>Clay to silt</td>
<td>----</td>
<td>0- 30%</td>
<td>Low energy fine sediment fallout &gt;&gt; low energy periodic sedimentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heterolithic, Lenticular bedding</td>
<td>1-4 cm whitish-grey silty lenses encased in mud or silty mud matrix. lenses commonly contain ripples with clay drapes on foresets, lenses range from thick to thin; may or may not contain: calcite cement, bidirectional ripples, carbonateous fragments, connected sand lenses</td>
<td>Clay to very fine-grained</td>
<td>1-2 cm</td>
<td>0-100%</td>
<td>Low energy fine sediment fallout-without-traction &gt;&gt; higher energy episodic flows</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heterolithic, Wavy bedding</td>
<td>Whitish-grey silt to very fine sand interbedded in equal proportion with grey mud laminations which are commonly wavy, less commonly consists of planar interlaminations, commonly contains ripples with mud drapes defining foresets; may or may not contain: calcite cement, bidirectional or sigmoidal ripples, reactivation surfaces, carbonateous fragments, shaly rip up clasts, rare calcite cement</td>
<td>Clay to very fine-grained</td>
<td>1-2 cm</td>
<td>0-100%</td>
<td>Low energy sediment fallout-without-traction = higher energy episodic flows</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heterolithic, Faser bedding</td>
<td>Grey to dark grey shaly flasers encased in a whitish-grey very fine to fine grained sand matrix, flasers range from bifurcated to wavy to bifurcated-wavy; may or may not contain: calcite cement, asymmetrical or bidirectional ripples, reactivation surfaces, shaly rip up clasts, rare calcite cement</td>
<td>Clay to very fine-grained</td>
<td>1-2 cm</td>
<td>0-40%</td>
<td>Low energy sediment fall-out-without-traction &lt; higher energy episodic flows</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massive Sandstone</td>
<td>Whitish-grey grained massive quartz arenite to sublitharenite with angular to subangular grains; may or may not contain: oil staining, calcite cement, microscopic crinoid fragments, iron-oxide mottles, calcite cement</td>
<td>Very fine to medium-grained</td>
<td>----</td>
<td>0-2%</td>
<td>Bedload dominated sedimentation, deformation post deposition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ripple-bedded Sandstone</td>
<td>Whitish-tan ripple bedded arenite to sublitharenite with angular to subangular grains, commonly bidirectional or asymmetric with laterally migrating or slightly climbing foresets; may or may not contain: oil staining, calcite cement, climbing or sigmoidal ripples, shaly rip up clasts, calcite cement</td>
<td>Very fine to medium-grained</td>
<td>1-2 cm</td>
<td>0-2%</td>
<td>Bedload dominated sedimentation, lower flow regime traction currents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ripple-bedded Sandstone with clay Grapes</td>
<td>Whitish-tan ripple bedded arenite to sublitharenite with angular to subangular grains, commonly bidirectional or asymmetric with laterally migrating or slightly climbing foresets, may or may not contain: oil staining, calcite cement, climbing or sigmoidal ripples, shaly rip up clasts, calcite cement</td>
<td>Very fine to medium-grained</td>
<td>1-2 cm</td>
<td>0-2%</td>
<td>Bedload dominated sedimentation, low energy traction currents with intermittent suspension dominated sedimentation or; low energy unidirectional to bidirectional traction currents with clay filled troughs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planar-bedded Sandstone</td>
<td>Whitish-tan to brown planar bedded arenite to sublitharenite with angular to subangular grains, occasional oil staining, may or may not contain: oil staining shaly-carbonaceous laminations, carbonateous debris, shaly rip up clasts, calcite cement</td>
<td>Very fine to medium-grained</td>
<td>----</td>
<td>0-4%</td>
<td>Low to moderate energy sediment fallout-without-traction (hypopycnal flow?) or; moderate to high energy unidirectional bedload sedimentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cross-bedded Sandstone</td>
<td>Whitish-tan to brown arenite to sublitharenite with angular to subangular grains, frequent oil staining, fine to coarse grained, cross-bedded; may or may not contain: shaly carbonateous laminations, carbonateous debris, shaly rip-up clasts, calcite cement</td>
<td>Very fine to medium-grained</td>
<td>8-60 cm</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>Moderate to high energy unidirectional traction sedimentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conglomerate</td>
<td>Conglomerate with very fine to medium grained sand matrix, commonly matrix supported; may or may not contain: clay clasts, clay laminations, carbonateous fragments, rounded carbonate pebbles, crinoids, brachiopods, gastropods, fenestrate bryozoans, iron staining, and calcite cement</td>
<td>Clay to coarse gravel</td>
<td>----</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>High energy unidirectional traction currents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deformed bedding</td>
<td>Distorted laminations or bedding in a wide range of lithologies, commonly contains slump structures and/or convolute bedding; may or may not be; intense bioturbation</td>
<td>Clay to medium-grained</td>
<td>----</td>
<td>----</td>
<td>Post or syndeposition deformation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pedogenically altered</td>
<td>Variegated (varying from red to green to yellow to grey) lenticular bedding, wavy bedding, or siltstone; may or may not contain: carbonate nodules, carbonateous material, root casts, and slickensides</td>
<td>Clay to silt</td>
<td>----</td>
<td>0-20%</td>
<td>Pedogenesis post deposition</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Integrating Core/Outcrop Studies
Tripp #1 core

- Drilled Sept 6 – 13
- 259 ft TD
  - 25 ft surficial
  - Thin, weathered Barlow Ls
  - 160 ft Cypress Fm
    - 100 ft thick Ss
  - 72 ft of Ridenhower Sh and Ls
- 1 mi from I-57 roadcut, 2-3 mi from Cypress Creek outcrops
Tripp #1 Logs

- **Weatherford**
  - Combo Photo 
    Density/Neutron, Array Induction, Gamma Ray
- **ISGS**
  - SP, Gamma Ray, Single-Point Resistance, 8-16-32-64 inch Normal Resistivity
  - Spectral Gamma Ray
  - Full Waveform Sonic
  - Magnetic Susceptibility
  - Acoustic televiewer
Objectives for Core Processing

- Detailed geologic description/facies analysis
- Identification/quantification of any residual oil saturation
- Porosity/permeability measurements
  - Porosimeter/permeameter, mini-permeameter
- Gamma Ray measurements
- Sampling for petrography and mineralogy

We’re still trying to get a complete core in the basin interior
Depositional Environments

- Interpreted the Cypress Sandstone at Noble Field as part of an incised valley fill system (LST-TST)
  - Erosional base, overall fining upward, coarser grained than Cypress tidal bars
  - Multistory sandstone built through parasequence-scale successive fluvial to estuarine depositional episodes

Wright and Marriott 1993

Dalrymple and Choi 2007
Summary of major facies and attributes for Carboniferous valley-fill sequence

Physical attributes |
--- | --- |
Flaggy, internally ripple bedded, 5 to 50-cm thick, discontinuous clay drapes, current and wave ripples, planed ripples, runnel marks | Fragmentary, abraded stems and wood, Scolicia, Lockeia, Rhizocorallium, Rusophycus, Cruziana, Eione |
Planar laminae to lenticular, wavy, and flaser bedding, well-developed clay drapes, tidal periodicities, current and wave ripples | Upright trees (2-m tall), well preserved foliage, lowest part nonbioturbated, overlain by vertical Lockeia, overlain by horizontal Lockeia assemblage, upper part bioturb. by Asterosoma, Taichichnus, Conostichus |
Vertically accreted laminae to thin beds (10 cm) of silt, thin clay drapes, CRL, tidal periodicities, exposure features (raindrops, rills, drain features), current ripples only | Upright lycopods, calamites, pteridosperms (3-m tall), well preserved foliage, cones, Planichnus, Treptichnus, Haplotochus, Kouphichnium, fish-fin drag marks, tetrapod trackways |
During drier intervals, restricted to paleovalley, during wetter intervals, laterally widespread, splits common in paleovalley, low-sulfur (1.5%) under rhytmities, high-sulfur (>5%) under bioturbated marine roof | Upright trees only in areas of rhythmite roof, upright ferns project into roof faces in areas of silty-rhythmite roof, carbonate diagenetic features, such as coal balls, only in areas of bioturbated marine roof |
Medium grained, basal conglomerates, shoestring geometry, 30-m thick, trough crossbedding at base, tabular-planar cross-bedded at top, clay-draped bedforms at top | Logs in basal conglomerates, fragmented plants and leaf-litter on foresets, nonbioturbated, rare Cochlchnus, Planolites |

Biological attributes |
--- | --- |
Analogue: Bartlesville Ss

- Braided fluvial lower “sheet” sandstone
- Meandering fluvial middle sandstone
- Tidal-estuarine upper facies
Linking Clay Mineralogy to Depositional Environment

- Distribution of early-diagenetic (eogenetic) clay minerals in sandstones is controlled by depositional environment

Controls on eogenetic clay mineral precipitation:

- Relative sea-level
- Sediment supply/sedimentation rate
- Prevailing climatic conditions
- Permeability of sediments during deposition
- Volume of unstable silicates
- pore-water chemistry
- duration of pore-water circulation
- eogenetic clay mineral assemblage
Formation of Eogenetic Kaolinite

• Kaolinite forms as the result of extensive meteoric water dissolution of detrital silicates (e.g. feldspars)
  – Permeable fluvial deposits within incised valleys are subjected to meteoric water-flushing under humid climatic conditions, and thus more kaolinite

• Upper part of the LST is expected to contain progressively less kaolinite towards the TS (Ketzer et al., 2003)
  – Rise in relative sea level ➔ less meteoric water influence
Evidence for Eogenetic Kaolinite

- Microporous, randomly arranged booklets are characteristic of direct precipitation from aqueous Al-rich solution (Keller, 1978)
- No textural relationship with K-feldspar or other clays implies direct precipitation during eogenesis

SEM images of kaolinite booklets from the Cypress at Dale Oil Field
Formation of Later Stage Chlorite

- Chlorite in the Cypress:
  - Forms later, during burial diagenesis
  - Iron-rich grain-coating rosettes
  - Transforms eogenetic minerals

- Structure of the chlorite (based on XRD) indicates diagenetic transformation from a berthierine precursor (based on SEM/EDS)
Depositional environment of Fe-rich grain-coating clays

- Berthierine clay-coatings form in deltaic, estuarine, fluvial and inner-shelf settings associated with areas of river discharge into marine environments in a tropical to subtropical climate
- Could indicate fluvial – estuarine transition

From Morad et al. (2010); modified from Howell and Flint (2003)
Fluvial-Estuarine Transition

Evidence for humid, fluvial-estuarine environment

Upper LST-TS (estuarine): Less kaolinite

Permeable LST (fluvial): More kaolinite

Clay Fraction: Heterolithics

Clay Fraction: Sand
Reservoir Characterization

- Compartmentalized despite being relatively homogeneous
  - Internal flooding surfaces (?)
    - Thin shale interbeds
    - Heterolithic intervals
  - Calcite cements
    - Concurrent with and below OWC

- Noble Field
  - 160+ ft thick Ss
  - 17.0% φ; 438 mD k
    - 28 samples from 7 wells show > 1 D k

- Kenner West Field
  - 100 ft thick Ss
  - 17.7% φ; 99.5 mD k

Returning to our case studies…
Controls on Porosity/Permeability
Controls on Porosity/Permeability

- Depositional environment
  - Higher energy deposits are cleaner and higher reservoir quality
- Hybrid pore system of primary intergranular and secondary porosity from dissolution of grains and cements
  - Long, well-connected pores contribute to the exceedingly high permeabilities
Controls on Porosity/Permeability

- Compaction, quartz and calcite cement occludes porosity in some areas.
- Mature sandstone with limited detrital clay, preserved primary intergranular porosity and possibly some dissolution of cements enhances porosity and permeability.

121592608300; Coen 120; 2612.5'; 16.3% φ; 384 mD k
Petrophysics
Petrophysics

- Calculated water saturation ($S_w$) profiles from logs in Noble Field using two methods:
  - Archie (Resistivity + Porosity logs)
  - Dual water (Resistivity + Porosity logs + microporosity data)
    - Mitigates influence of dispersed clay that produces anomalously high $S_w$ values

![Ideal water saturation profile](image)
# Microporosity Analysis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mineral</th>
<th>Kaolinite</th>
<th>Kaolinite</th>
<th>Chlorite</th>
<th>Illite</th>
<th>Illite-smectite</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Morphology</td>
<td>Booklets</td>
<td>Vermicules</td>
<td>Rosettes</td>
<td>Fibrous</td>
<td>Filamentous webs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occurrence</td>
<td>Pore-filling</td>
<td>Pore-filling</td>
<td>Grain-coating</td>
<td>Pore-filling, bridging</td>
<td>Pore-filling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microporosity (%)</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Determined clay mineral microporosity via scanning electron microscopy and image analysis
• Analyzed results produced by different methods
  • Determined clay microporosity was affecting Archie results

• Interpreted logs to define producing oil-water contact (POWC) and ultimate OWC
  • Mapped thickness of conventional reservoir and potential ROZ
  • Conducted visible cut tests to confirm oil saturation
"White, coarse grained, porous water sandstone, shot with pyrites, angular. Looks like water sand at 2625' but still carrying some oil. At 2628' definite white water sandstone with no show of oil."
Movable Hydrocarbon Index

- Used MHI to compare shallow and deep resistivity to determine if oil has been flushed
- Picked POWC based on MHI
- What oil saturation is producible?
Movable Hydrocarbon Index

- MHI cutoff of 0.4 puts POWC at 2610
  - Any higher would suggest moveable hydrocarbon over whole interval
- What oil saturation is producible?
  - This corresponds to water saturation of 0.65
Application: Kenner West Field

120250249300: Resistivity and SP logs from 1947

120252837200: Porosity, resistivity, and SP logs from 1996
Application: Kenner West Field

120250249300: Resistivity and SP logs from 1947

120252837200: Porosity, resistivity, and SP logs from 1996
Application: Kenner West Field

120252837200: Porosity, resistivity, and SP logs from 1996

- Not perforated in Cypress
- Dual water and Archie water saturation curves created
  - Good agreement
- Maximum water saturation for moveable oil is believed to be 0.65 (based on MHI)
- Upper “conventional” portion is diminished (0.65-0.7 Sw)
- Residual oil down to 2630?
Application: Kenner West Field

120250249300: Resistivity and SP logs from 1947

- Perforated from 2562-2582 and produced from Cypress
- Show of oil on scout ticket down to 2588
- SP to porosity transform developed for geocellular model used to create porosity curve from SP
  - Used Archies Equation to calculate water saturation
- Interval with Sw<0.65 matches show of oil
- Clear ROZ
Application: Kenner West Field

- Group wells by decade and create water saturation models of the 1940s and 1990s
Application: Kenner West Field

- Residual oil present in both models. Better data coverage=better defined in 1940s
Application: Kenner West Field

- Residual oil present in both models. Better data coverage = better defined in 1940s

1940s wells +0.7 cutoff

1990s wells +0.7 cutoff
Application: Kenner West Field

- Conventional reservoir present in the 1940s but not in the 1990s

1940s wells + 0.5 cutoff

1990s wells +0.5 cutoff
Application: Kenner West Field

- Pronounced conventional reservoir
- Yellow/green is moveable oil

- Conventional reservoir diminished but widespread residual oil saturation
Geocellular Modeling

- Built geocellular models to accurately reflect the geology of the Cypress Sandstone at Noble and Kenner West Fields
  - Encapsulated depositional and diagenetic facies
  - Shaly, estuarine facies at the top of the model; thin shale interbeds
- Low porosity calcite-cemented sandstone zones
- Excluding microporosity from total porosity for accurate resource assessment
Regional Resource Estimate

- Correlating logs to refine regional isopach map
- Developing new regional facies map to define CO$_2$ storage resource in the thick Cypress Sandstone
- Analyzing logs around the basin to rind ROZs
- Integrating geology, petrophysics, and reservoir simulation to identify areas with nonconventional CO$_2$-EOR potential
Summary

• Studies of Noble and Kenner West Fields show good quality, conventional reservoirs
  • Tilted OWCs, calcite cement associated with OWC

• Cypress Sandstone is composed of multistory fluvial/estuarine sandstone bodies
  • Homogeneous but still compartmentalized
  • Sedimentological and mineralogical/petrographic studies are critical to understanding geology and controls on reservoir properties

• Petrophysical analysis
  • Significant microporosity affects conductivity of the formation and thus estimates of fluid saturation
  • Petrophysical calculations show saturation below POWC
  • Modeling can predict saturation through a field and show changes through time
Acknowledgments

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• For project information, including reports and presentations, please visit: http://www.isgs.illinois.edu/research/ERD/NCO2EOR


Where will the CO$_2$ Come From?