

Estimated mud weight window for well bore stability

case study aldinder field well tawakul-1

تقديز وبفذة الطيه األمىت لضمبن إستقزاريت جدار البئز

حقل الدودر البئز (-1tawakul(

Project submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Bachelor of Engineering (Horns) Degree in petroleum Engineering

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Determine mud weight window to overcome wellbore instability Graduation project submitted to college of Petroleum Engineering and Technology in Sudan University of Science and Technology Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for the Bachelor of Engineering (Hones) Degree in Transportation and Refining Engineering

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قبل تعبلى:) اقْزَأْ بِاسِمِ رَبِِّكَ الَِّذِي خَلَقَ)1(خَلَقَ الْإِنِسَانَ مِنِ عَلَقٍ)2)اقْزَأْ وَرَبُِّكَ الْأَكْزَمُ)3(الَِّذِي عَلَّمَ بِالْقَلَمِ (4) عَلَّمَ (لِإِنْسَانَ مَا لَمْ يَعْلَمْ (5) } صرق الله العظيم)

سورة العلق اآليبث)5-1(

DEDICATION

We dedicate this project to: our parents for the love and support they have provided throughout our entire life, they have been there for every decision we have made and help our dreams become reality, friends and their families for help and encouragement. Techers in petroleum engineering department, and specially and to all batch $4th$ petroleum engineering B. tech Students.

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ABSTRACT

The Well bore instability is one of the main problems that engineers meet during drilling. The case study in this research estimated the formation pore pressure and fraction pressure using Eton and ratio mothed. The results show that the stability of wellbore is quite a challenge because of low pore pressure compare to the fracture pressure with an existing of the shallow gas beds. These findings concluded the section of the Blue Nile Basin has to be well cemented and close, although, the drilling fluid has to be at minimum as much of its pressure and density with slow operation speed and prepare to fluid washing process.

التجزيد

عدم استقرارية جدار البئر تعتبر من المشاكل الرئيسية التي تقابل المهندسين اثُناء عملية الحفر

في هذا البحث تم تناول دراسة حقلية لتقدير ضغط الطبقات و ضغط تكسر الطبقات . لإختيار نافذة الطين الأمنة وموضع وطول أنابيب التغليف لضمان إستقرارية البئر باستخدام طريقة إتون والطريقة النسبية ،اظهرت النتائج أن إستقرارية جدار البئر تمثل تحدي بسبب الإنخفاض في الضغط المسامي للطبقات مقارِنة بضغط الكسر للطبقة مع وجود طبقات الغاز الضحلة ،هذة النتائج تضمنت أن المقطع الموجود في حوض النيل الازرق يجب أن يكون مسمتناً بطريقة جيدة ومغلف

مع أن سائل الحفر يجب أن يكون قليلاً بطريقة تعادل الضغط والكثافة مع سرعة عملية منخفضة وان يتم تحضير عملية الغسل بالمائع .

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Chapter One

Chapter One

Introduction

Wellbore stability is a very complex phenomenon. Many factors can affect the stress distribution around a borehole during various drilling processes. The main factors that impact wellbore stability-rock properties, far-field principal stresses, wellbore trajectory, pore pressure, drilling fluid and pore fluid chemical properties, temperature, wellbore equivalent mud weight, and time.

 Rock properties play a vital role in wellbore stability analysis because the wellbore stability occurs on the rock matrix. Rock types, Young's modulus, Poisson's ratio, Biot's constant, rock porosity, permeability, bulk density, cohesive strength, tensile strength and internal friction angle, natural fractures, etc. are parameters that affect wellbore stability performance .Even though rock properties cannot be controlled by drilling engineers, a better understanding of rock properties can help well planners to decrease risk by choosing a different well path or predicting correctly the rock behavior for borehole stability analysis.**(F. Zhang et al., 2016)**.

 There are Several well problems often arise during drilling related to the geomechanics and rock behavior and properties such as circulation loss and this is unplanned event that usually must be fixed before drilling can go on. Circulation losses where tensile failure occurred also may lead to loss of well control, consequential in a blowout, or lead to trouble in cleaning the borehole. Spalling and /or hole closure in case of compressive failure of the rock. Other problem is the Mechanical borehole collapse often happens at low borehole pressures, particularly in shales, chemical effects may induce hole enlargement or collapse. When water-based drilling fluids are used, the shale may react with the mud filtrate (fluid that penetrates the wellbore wall), deteriorating the borehole, hole enlargement, unintentionally induced tensile fractures or difficult directional control incidents. In severe conditions, wellbore instability can increase nonproductive time and create simultaneous frequencies of multiple instability incidents, which potentially can lead to stuck pipe, pack off, and eventual loss of the open hole section. [\(Mondal, Gunasekaran, & K Patel, 2013\)](#page-48-1).

1.1. General Geological Description (Blue Nile Basin):

The Blue Nile basin originated in an area of Neoproterozoic rocks aged about 750Ma that had become a pen plain, possibly during the Paleozoic era (540 - 250Ma). The basin was formed due to rifting during the Mesozoic era (250 - 65Ma). Between the Triassic and early Jurassic, about 300m of fluvial sediments were deposited by rivers and streams. During the Jurassic (200 - 145Ma) the basin was twice covered by an arm of the Indian Ocean for extended periods, creating a lower limestone sediment 450m thick and an upper limestone sediment 400m. In the late Jurassic and early Cretaceous period the basin rose, and the 280m upper sandstone sediments are alluvial or fluvial. In total, about 1.4km of sediment was deposited over the basement rocks in this period. Later, the Afar mantle plume caused volcanic eruptions in the early and late Oligocene (34 - 23Ma), depositing volcanic rocks between $500 \sim 2000$ m thick, with further eruptions in the Quaternary depositing another 300m of rock. (GANI. DS, M. G. ABDELSALAM,2008).

Block-8 is part of Blue Nile basin characterized by very complex geological structure. Seismic cross-sections for Tawakul-1 area are presented in Figures (1–1) explain many major and minor faults, but generally can be divided formations into classes from top to bottom as follows:

- Damazin Formation

- Dinder I Formation
- Dinder II Formation-
- Dinder III Formation
- Blue Nile Formation

Figure (1-1): Tawakul Field Seismic (Mohamed Ishaq,2008)

Surface Layer: The upper section of the borehole starts from surface to top of Damazin formation. Consist of loose sandstone intervals interbedded with thin layers of claystone. The sandstone is fine to coarse grained, subangular to subrounded, poorly sorted and good porosity; sometimes there are traces of mica observed in the cutting samples. The claystone is light to medium grey and brown in color, soft to firm. Due to above description, drilling operation usually face drilling fluid losses problems, especially when drilling conductor hole. (Mohamed Ishaq,2008)

Damazin formation: This formation consists of claystone interbedded with sandstone layers. The claystone is light to dark grey, greenish grey, brownish grey and reddish brown in color and it is firm, minor moderately hard, subblocky to blocky and highly calcareous. The sandstone is unconsolidated, medium to fine grained and poorly sorted. It is noted that the percentage of claystone began in

increasing, therefore it is common to use inhibition system, but this region (surface hole) can be successfully drilled using bentonite system when economic term is considered. The thickness of Damazin formation in this well between 167 To 424m MD and generally in Block-8 is variable from well to other. (Mohamed Ishaq,2008).

Dinder I formation: The upper part of this formation has more or less same percentage of clay stone and sandstone, but toward the base the clay stone is dominated. The clay stone is generally bluish grey in the upper part of the formation and change to become reddish brown to brown toward the base of this sequence. It is generally firm to moderately hard, sub blocky to blocky, silty, sandy in part, trace micro mica and slightly calcareous. The sandstone is coarse to very coarse grained fining downward and becoming silty toward the base of this sequence. It is generally translucent to transparent, unconsolidated, well to moderately sorted, sub rounded to angular, argillaceous matrix at places, traces pyrite at places, traces micromiceous and good to fair porosity. The thickness of Dindir-I formation in this well is between 424 to 1505mMD and generally in Block-8 is variable from well to other. (Mohamed Ishaq,2008).

Dindir-II Formation: This sequence is dominated by clay stone interbedded with thin beds of sandstone at the upper part of the formation and then changes to be only clay stone toward the base of the formation. The clay stone is medium to dark grey, reddish brown to brownish grey, occasionally greenish grey in color. It is firm to moderately hard, sub blocky to blocky, earthy, trace silty, trace micromicaceous and slightly calcareous. The sandstone is translucent to transparent, medium to coarse grained, occasionally fine grained at places, trace very coarse grained, unconsolidated, subrounded to subangular, moderately sorted, locally trace argillaceous matrix and fair porosity. Dinder-II thickness in this well

is between 1505 to 2363m MD and generally in Block-8 is variable from well to other.

Dindir-III Formation: This formation is consisting mainly of clay stone interbedded with very thin layers of sandstone and siltstone. The clay stone is dark to medium grey, occasionally light grey, and trace reddish brown color. 1It is firm to moderately hard, blocky to subblocky, earthy, and occasionally silty at places and slightly to non-calcareous. The sandstone is transparent to translucent, unconsolidated, fine to medium grained, graded to silt stone at places, rounded to subrounded, moderately sorted and fair to good porosity. This formation thickness in this well is between 2363 to 3297m MD and generally in Block-8 is variable from well to other. (Mohamed Ishaq,2008).

Blue Nile Formation: This formation is consisting mainly of clay stone interbedded with thin layers of sandstone and siltstone. The clay stone is dark to medium grey, occasionally light grey, with white traces color. It is moderately hard to very hard, minor firm, blocky, minor subblocky, trace silty and sandy, trace micromicaceous and slightly calcareous. (Mohamed Ishaq,2008).

1.2. Problem statement:

Pore pressure , fraction pressure and well pore stability are significant challenges to exploration drilling particularly in regions featuring weaker rock , or sub salt formations a lack of accurate well pore instability brings many problems such as blow outs , kicks , hole washouts , well pore break out and stuck pipe well pore instability adds to drilling to drill time and increased costs .it is quit challenge at the tawakwl well which is the case of study.

1.3. Objectives:

The main objective is to:

- A- determine formation pore pressure
- B-determine fraction pressure

And the Sub objective:

- A- Estimate mud window
- B- Estimate the proper mud properties to be selected
- C- Estimate the casing seat Position
- D- Estimate the casing length

CHAPTER TWO

Chapter two

Literature review

field Jenny Jimenez, Luz Valera Lara, Alexander Rueda and Nestor Fernando Trujillo (2007) discussed the geomechanical wellbore stability modeling of exploratory wells.

Shams Elfalah Ahmed Alblola (2009) studied greater Bamboo area block 2A of unity in southern Sudan, the study starts by collecting data, evaluating and analyzing, logical arrangement of daily information and the other running operations, run a correlation analyzing, designing, targeting and vise versa to get the optimum. The failure envelope stress, mud pressure and mud weight calculation were done to prevent hole collapse in Bamboo west.

Ali, Assel Mohammed, Abdullah Ali, Mariam (2020) Drilling operations and these problems are usually due to design errors in the drilling column in terms of weights and equipment or deficiencies in drilling fluid functions in terms of design and alignment with earth layers. Thus, the quality of the performance of the drilling fluid directly depends on its physical properties, and usually there are natural problems occur during the drilling process and the main cause for this is the interaction of drilling fluid with the components of these formations. Therefore, this reaction may be positive in terms of the formation of a good mud cake to prevent fluid loss and preservation on well walls, or a negative reaction in terms of loss of drilling fluid inside the stratum and thus cause the collapse of the formation . Carboxylmethyle cellulose CMC plays an important part in terms of forming a mud cake with good specifications and minimizing the loss of drilling fluid, thus harming the well walls from collapse and helping to stabilize it. In this research many experiments were conducted inside to find alternative natural materials for CMC with the same quality specifications and lowest costs. Different samples were used of nano-aluminum as well as coal ash were used with prim lose (mixture) and the results were positive and useful.

Słota-Valim, Małgorzata (2017) Pore pressure and wellbore stability sometimes pose a serious challenge while drilling, especially through rock formations of reduced strength or through intervals where abnormally high pore pressure was formed. Lack of prediction of pore pressure and lack of wellbore stability analysis introduce an element of uncertainty in selection of drilling fluid density. Too low density of drilling fluid can lead to uncontrolled flow of the reservoir fluid to the wellbore (kicks), washouts and occurrence of cavern like structures called

breakouts. On the other hand too high density can lead to formation fracturing and further fluid loss. Therefore wellbore stability loss frequently prolongs the operating time, rising the costs of the drilling and in severe cases may end up well abandons loss. The above mentioned complications can be avoided or greatly reduced by reliable analysis of drilling conditions with the aspects to geomechanical characteristics of drilled rock formations. This study presents the results of analysis of pore pressure performed with the use of commonly used in oil industry methods. The analysis of pore pressure was carried out in almost entire profile of four boreholes drilled through lower Paleozoic shales, deposited in the southern part of the Baltic Basin. In addition wellbore stability analysis was performed in the well with most complete geomechanical input data base. Obtained results helped identifying intervals with elevated pore pressure could pose a risk during drilling operation. Elaborated 1D geomechanical model provides safe mud weight window helping to reduce the instabilities risk and constitute a great tool for geomechanical model validation.

Ahmad, Hafiz Mudaser (2018**)** The successful drilling operation of oil and gas wells required high quality of drilling fluids which can stabilize well formations and able to withstand deep wellbore conditions of elevated temperature. Wellbore formations are mainly composed of shale (soft clay) and are likely to destabilize upon interacting with water. The instability of wellbore is caused by the interactions of water with the formation that results in the swelling of shale. Specialized drilling fluids can overcome this issue by stabilizing wellbore formations.

The use of polymer nan composite as water-based drilling fluid additive enhances the rheological properties, filtration characteristics and borehole stability at hightemperature drilling applications.

Widad Mohd Al-Wardy (2010) Drilling through Nahr Umr shales has been a challenge in many fields in North of Oman due to the weak nature of these shales. Increased difficulty is faced during drilling if the knowledge of the geomechanical parameters is limited especially the in situ stress magnitude and direction in the formation drilled. Problems such as borehole collapse and stuck pipes cause major delays in drilling time due to borehole cleaning and sidetracking in this specific field. This time delay and other recovery measures undertaken has cost huge amount of money that can be significantly reduced if the geomechanical parameters such as rock strength and in situ stresses of Nahr Umr are known. This can be then used to obtain the appropriate mud weight to drill a well in any desired direction in order to minimize borehole failure.

In this paper some problems during drilling the Nahr Umr shales will be discussed. Also, the workflow of building a geomechanical model in order to use it in wellbore stability analysis will be described. The output results will summarize the minimum required mud weight and unconfined compressive strength (UCS) for drilling a well in any direction in a form of lower hemisphere plots.

In this project, we are going to predict the safety mud window by estimateing the pore pressure and fracture pressure using Excel.

CHAPTER THREE

Chapter three

Methodology

There are many methods of calculating pore pressure from Resistivity (Rc) data, the Eaton Method and the Ratio Method. The Eaton Method is used in most sedimentary basins for calculating pore pressure from shale point Rc values. The Ratio Method has been used successfully in sande –shell sequences in the Middle East. (H. Rabia, 2002).

3.1Ratio Method:

The ratio method is much simpler and does not require values of overburden. To calculate pore pressure, use the following formula:

$$
PP = Pn \times (Rcn/Rco) \tag{3.1}
$$

Where:-

PP= Pore pressure (ppg) Pn= Normal pore pressure (ppg) Rco= Observed d exponent Rcn= Normal trendline value of d exponent

3.2Eaton Method:

The Eaton Method is basically simple if we remember the basic pressure relationship σ ov = Pf + σ mat. Rearranging the latter equation as matrix stress equal to σov – Pn, where Pn is normal formation pressure, shows that the Eaton formula uses

1. Record the value of the normal trendline dc (dcn) and observe dc (dco) at the depth of interest. use only dco values from sande shales. Do not use any other lithology dc value.

2. Record the overburden gradient from the overburden plot at the depth of interest.

3. Use the following formula to calculate pore pressure:

$$
PPE = \sigma o v - (\sigma o v - P n) \times \left(\frac{R co}{R cn}\right)^{1.2}
$$
\nWhere:

\n
$$
PPE = \sigma o v - (\sigma o v - P n) \times \left(\frac{R co}{R cn}\right)^{1.2}
$$

Where :

PPE= Eaton's Pore pressure (ppg)

σov= Overburden (ppg)

Pn= Normal pore pressure gradient (ppg)

Rco= Observed value of dc at depth of interest

Rcn= Normal trendline value of dc at depth of interest

3.3 OVERBURDEN PRESSURE: -

 The overburden pressure is defined as the pressure exerted by the total weight of overlying formations above the point of interest. The total weight is the combined weight of both the formation solids (rock matrix) and formation fluids in the pore space. The density of the combined weight is referred to as the bulk density (ρb). The overburden pressure can therefore be expressed as the hydrostatic pressure exerted by all materials overlying the depth of interest:

$$
\sigma \text{o}v = 0.052 \cdot \text{pb} \cdot \text{D} \tag{3.3}
$$

Pp=formation bulk density

D=true vertical depth

Fraction pressure:-

 $FP=PP+(100-150)$ (3.4)

FP=fraction pressure

CHAPTER FOUR

Chapter four

Results and discussion

In this chapter estimating of the pore pressure and fraction pressure. Then Plot the result to estimate the mud window, mud selection, calculate casing set and casing length.

4.1. Data collected:

The following Data obtained from Aldindir field in Blue Nile Basin block (8) tawakkul well (1) Interval gradients are calculated from shallowest to deepest point in the zone. Individual gradients are always calculated to the next deeper point with valid pressure reading (only last pretest to surface).The data that have been collected is as Microsoft excel sheet file which content of log data as show in $table(4-1).$

Table (4.1) collected Data

4.2. Pore pressure and fracture pressure estimation:

Case study calculation use Microsoft excel and stranded by Calculate resistivity trends and To obtain resistivity trend plot Depth VS True resistivity, see figure (41)

Figure (4-1) Depth VS RT-HRLT

Then by using equation (3-1) and the results tabulated in table (4-2) and (4-3)

Table(4.2)Resistivity trend,formation pore pressure ratio and fracture pressure

Table (4.3) overburden stress, pore pressure eaton and fraction pressure

To obtain a correct result and analyses determine the average pressure and running to plot it VS depth .

The table (4-4) show the average pressure and average fraction pressure.

4.3. Discussion:

Estimate the mud window:The figure (4-2) show the safety range pressure (mud window).

Figuer (4-2): mud window

It was noticed that: Pore pressure and mud selection are identical matching that means the formation is very soft, acontamination of drilling fluid exiting of gases.

The safety interval rang of casing set abroxmatly (930-1698)m. The length of th e casing estimated about 768m.

CHAPTER FIVE

CHAPTER FIVE

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

5.1. Conclusion:

Geomechanical modeling is playing an increasingly important role at challenging field development projects since field development decisions are aided by an accurate assessment of well design options that are closely tied to the existing geological and engineering data set.

The lithology of formations in ALdindir field in Blue Nile Basin block (8) tawakul are sand soft with the existing of gas beds.

The safety interval rang of casing set abroxmatly (930-1698) m the length of the casing estimated about 768m Estimated the safety range pressure (mud window).

5.2. Recommendation:

It is recommended to perform some laboratory core measurements for rock strength parameters, to calibrate log data.

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