

Numerical Analy of Mass Transform and Fluid Flow on Miscible Fluids

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ABSTRACT

Numerical simulations are employed to investigate the fluid flow and pressure loss in a heterogeneous block within a composite porous medium. The mean permeability of the heterogeneous block is seen to affect the overall effective flux significantly. The heterogeneous parameters of the permeability field, such as the correlation length and variance, affect quite differently. Because of the channeling effects, the effective flux depends strongly on the realization of the permeability for larger correlation length. Under a specific permeability field, higher effective flux results from smaller variances. The influences of the inertial factor are found insignificant within the range of practical interests. For miscible displacements in capillary tubes, the impact of a preexisting wall film on the tip velocity of the displacing fluid finger is analyzed by means of axisymmetric Stokes simulations. The wall film is assumed to have the same viscosity as the displacing fluid, which is less viscous than the displaced fluid. The finger of the displacing fluid is seen to move in a quasisteady fashion, with a tip velocity below the centerline velocity of an equivalent Poiseuille flow. The explanation for this behavior, which is in contrast to our earlier findings for miscible displacements without wall films, lies in the lubricating effect of the wall film. The condition is established for which the displaced fluid moves in a nearly solid body-like motion.

Keywords : Porous medium , Heterogeneous permeability , Effective flux , Correlation length, finger , wall film

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