УДК 622.276(06); https://doi.org/10.37878/2708-0080/2023-6.17 https://orcid.org/0000-0001-5960-5678 https://orcid.org/0009-0007-7746-4670 https://orcid.org/0000-0002-7680-7084

# COMPREHENSIVE FLUID DESCRIPTION THROUGH LUMPING PROCEDURES: FOR KAZAKHSTANI OIL



B. KAIYRBEKOV, 4th year student, bachelor degree, b\_kaiyrbekov@kbtu.kz







J. ISMAILOVA, PhD, Associate Professor, *j.ismailova@kbtu.kz* 

KAZAKH BRITISH TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY Republic of Kazakhstan, 050000, Almaty, Tole Bi str., 59

Reservoir modeling requires a multitude of phase equilibrium calculations, particularly in the context of compositional reservoir simulations. To accelerate these calculations, the many components of the heptane plus fraction should be grouped into pseudocomponents. Moreover, accurate fluid compositions demand extensive laboratory analysis, a process both costly and time-consuming. The exercise of grouping and splitting are important for reservoir modeling.

In our research, we introduce a lumping methodology for fluid characterization, focusing on the unique context of Kazakhstani oil. More specifically, we delve into the Whitson lumping and splitting techniques.

For this study, a sample was taken from the X field, and detailed fluid composition data was acquired through laboratory analysis. We employed both numerical and analytical approaches to study the lumping process. Additionally, we compared our calculations with simulation results. As we navigate the intricacies of fluid characterization, we highlighted the advantages and limitations of lumping procedures and emphasized the effectiveness of Whitson method.

Detailed fluid compositions obtained through laboratory PVT analysis were then compared with the results of simulation using PVTsim software and numerical delumping procedures The results of this work demonstrated the effectiveness of Whitson methods for lumping and splitting procedures for describing Kazakhstani fluids.

**KEY WORDS:** lumping, fluid characterization, modeling, Whitson method, simulation tool, PVTsim, pseudocomponents.



### ПОДРОБНОЕ ОПИСАНИЕ ФЛЮИДА С ПОМОЩЬЮ ПРОЦЕДУР ГРУППИРОВАНИЯ ДЛЯ КАЗАХСТАНСКОЙ НЕФТИ

**Б.З. КАЙЫРБЕКОВ**, студент 4-го курса КБТУ, степень Бакалавр, *b\_kaiyrbekov@kbtu.kz* **А.А. САРСЕНОВА**, магистр наук в области нефтяной инженерии, старший преподаватель, *a.sarsenova@kbtu.kz* 

Д.А. ИСМАИЛОВА, PhD, ассоциированный профессор, j.ismailova@kbtu.kz

КАЗАХСТАНСКО-БРИТАНСКИЙ ТЕХНИЧЕСКИЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ Республика Казахстан, 05000, Алматы, ул. Толе Би, 59

Композиционное моделирование резервуара требует многочисленных расчетов, что приводит к высоким вычислительным затратам. В результате описание флюида, используемое в этих моделях, часто упрощается и включает только небольшое количество компонентов или псевдо-компонентов. Этот процесс упрощения, известный как "лампинг", включает группировку определенных компонентов из композиции флюида. Более того точное определение состава флюида требует лабораторного анализа, что является дорогостоящим и время затратным процессом.

В данной статье представлен описание точного состава казахстанской нефти. В частности, в этом исследовании используются методы групиировки по Уитсону. Компоненты жидкости были высчитаны с помощью процедур группирования.

Для данной была взята проба с месторождения Х. Подробные данные о составе флюида были получены с помощью лабораторного анализа. Мы применили как численные, так и аналитические подходы для изучения процесса лампирования. Кроме того, чтобы сравнить расчеты с результатами моделирования, и проверить эффективность метода Уитсона при группировке псевдокомпонентов нефти. При определении характеристик жидкости, были выделены преимущества и ограничения процедур группирования метода Уитсона.

Подробные составы жидкостей, полученные с помощью лабораторного PVT-анализа, затем сравнивались с результатами моделирования с использованием программного обеспечения PVTsim и численных процедур группирования. Результаты этой работы продемонстрировали эффективность методов Уитсона для процедур группирования.

**КЛЮЧЕВЫЕ СЛОВА:** группирование, характеристика жидкости, моделирование, метод Уитсона, PVTsim, инструменты моделирования, псевдокомпоненты.

### ТОПТАСТЫРУ ӘДІСІ АРҚЫЛЫ ҚАЗАҚСТАНДЫҚ МҰНАЙДЫҢ КОМПОНЕНТТІК ҚҰРАМЫН СИПАТТАУ

**Б.З. ҚАЙЫРБЕКОВ**, Қазақстан Британ техникалық университетінің 4ші курс студенті, Бакалавр деңгейі, *b\_kaiyrbekov@kbtu.kz* 

**А.А. САРСЕНОВА,** мұнай инженериясы саласындағы ғылым магистрі, аға оқытушы, *a.sarsenova@kbtu.kz* 

**Д.А. ИСМАИЛОВА,** PhD, қауымдастырылған профессор, *j.ismailova@kbtu.kz* 

ҚАЗАҚСТАН – БРИТАН ТЕХНИКАЛЫҚ УНИВЕРСИТЕТІ Қазақстан Республикасы, 050010, Алматы, Төле Би к, 59

Резервуардың композициялық құрамын модельдеу процесі көптеген фазалық тепе-теңдіктің есептеулерін қажет етеді. Бұл есептеулерді жеделдету үшін "гептан плюс" фракциясының көптеген компоненттерін псевдокомпоненттерге топтастыру керек. Сонымен қатар, сұйықтықтың нақты құрамын сипаттау үшін зертханалық талдау өткізу қажет. Бұл көп уақытты қажет ететін шығынды тәсіл.



Бұл мақалада қазақстандық мұнайдың сипаттамасын анықтайтын әдіс зерттелген. Атап айтқанда, бұл зерттеуде Уитсонның топтастыру мен бөліну әдістері қолданылады. Сұйықтықтың компоненттері топтастыру процедуралары арқылы бағаланды.

Бұл мақалада X кен орнынан сынама алынды және зертханалық талдау сұйықтықтың құрамы туралы егжей-тегжейлі мәліметтер берілді. Топтастыру процесін зерттеу барысында сандық және аналитикалық тәсілдер қолданылды. Сонымен қатар, біз аналитикалық есептеулерді зертханалық деректермен салыстыру мақсатында және Уитсон әдісі мұнайдың псевдокомпоненттерін топтастыруда тиімді екенін анықтау үшін модельдеу құралдарын қолдандық. Сұйықтықтың сипаттамаларын анықтау барысында, Уитсон әдісінің артықшылықтары мен шектеулерін белгілеп, тиімділігін атап өттік.

Сұйықтықтардың толық құрамдары, лабораториялық PVT талдау арқылы алынды, содан кейін PVTsim бағдарламасы мен аналитикалық процедураларының нәтижелерімен салыстырылды. Бұл жұмыстың нәтижелері Уитсон топтастыру әдістерінің қолдануының маңыздылығын көрсетті.

**ТҮЙІН СӨЗДЕР:** топтастыру, сұйықтықтың сипаттамасы, модельдеу, Уитсон әдісі, модельдеу құралы, PVTsim, жалған компоненттер.

**Itroduction.** Fluid characterization is a fundamental aspect of numerous scientific and engineering disciplines, including petroleum engineering and chemical engineering. Understanding the behavior of complex fluid systems is often essential in fields ranging from petrochemicals to environmental science. However, the intricate nature of fluids can make this a challenging endeavor. In response to this complexity, the concept of "lumping" has emerged as a powerful tool to simplify the description of complex fluid behavior. [1]

Working with a large number of components for compositional reservoir simulation and EOR evaluation is computationally intensive, and the demand for computer storage can become very high. To address this problem, it has been proposed to group/lump the components of a complex EOS model into a smaller number of pseudocomponents. The success of such lumping procedures is dependent on the reduced model's fidelity in reflecting the phase behavior of composition mixtures formed during a displacement operation in comparison to the detailed EOS model. [2]

The current innovation pertains to a technique known as the "lumping" or "pseudoization" method, which involves describing a fluid comprised of several different components by condensing them into a smaller set of constituents [3]. Essentially, there are two major issues related with "regrouping" the original components into a lower number without compromising the equation of state's predictive power [4]:

1. How to choose the pure component groups to be represented by one pseudo component each.

2. What mixing procedures should be utilized to determine the physical parameters of the new lumped pseudo components (e.g., pc, Tc , M,  $\gamma$ , and  $\omega$ ).

Splitting schemes are procedures for dividing heptanes-plus fractions into hydrocarbon groups with a single carbon number ( $C_7$ ,  $C_8$ ,  $C_9$ , and so on), which are described by the same physical properties as pure components. [4]

When using any of the proposed splitting models, three important requirements must be met:

1. The mole fraction of  $C_{7+}$  is equal to the sum of the mole fractions of the individual pseudo components.

2. The sum of the mole fraction and molecular weight products of the individual pseudo components equals the mole fraction and molecular weight product of  $C_{7+}$ .

3. The sum of the mole fraction and molecular weight products divided by the specific gravity of each individual component equals  $C_{7+}$ .

Numerous authors have put forward different methods for expanding the molar distribution patterns of  $C_{7+}$  with respect to mole fraction, taking into account molecular weight or the number of carbon atoms. Generally, these proposed methods rely on the observation that lighter systems like condensates tend to display molar distributions that follow an exponential trend, while heavier systems often show distributions skewed to the left. [4]

In order to solve these problems, there are a lot of methods, such as Whitson's lumping scheme, Pedersen's lumping scheme, Danesh et al.'s lumping scheme, Lee et al.'s lumping scheme, Behras and Stanndler's lumping scheme, and Lee mixing rules were used to calculate the thermodynamic parameters of the lumped group. The results show that the Whitson lumping approach can accurately forecast the phase diagram systems fluid. [5]

### **Methods and materials**

**Laboratory analysis:** The deep sample of reservoir fluid was taken from the X field and was sent to the laboratory of Weatherford-CARE LLP (Aktau) for PVT research. Information on that is provided in *Table 1* - General information.

| Perforation interval                    | 610-617 m                                  |
|---|--|
| Selection point                         | 600 m                                      |
| Sample type                             | Deep oil sample                            |
| Reservoir pressure                      | 53.83 kg/cm^2                              |
| Reservoir temperature                   | 30.22 °C                                   |
| Reservoir oil volume coefficient        | 1.0053                                     |
| Reservoir gas volume coefficient        | 1.0349                                     |
| Gas density                             | 0.00151g/cm <sup>3</sup>                   |
| Compressibility (Z-factor) of oil / gas | 1.083×10 <sup>-4</sup> cm <sup>2</sup> /kg |
| Reservoir fluid density                 | 0.8162g/cm <sup>3</sup>                    |

Table 1 – General Information of deep oil sample

The differential liberation experiment (DLE or DL), also known as differential vaporization, represents a fundamental technique among depletion experiments. The primary results obtained from the DLE experiment include data on the oil formation volume factor, gas-oil ratio (GOR), and oil viscosity. Initially, DLE was developed to simulate the depletion production process within oil reservoirs. [10]

Procedure: A certain volume of reservoir fluid was transferred to a PVT (Pressure-Volume-Temperature) cell. The fluid volume was measured under single-phase conditions and at reservoir conditions. The volume of fluid at saturation pressure was determined for reference. Pressure stages were defined, and the pressure was reduced to the first stage. The fluid was mixed until it reached an equilibrium state, and the total volume of gas and liquid was measured.

The gas at equilibrium was sequentially transferred from the PVT cell to a glass separator, and condensate from the gas was collected. Gas transfer was carried out until complete release from the cell and brought to a single-phase state at that pressure stage. The volume of fluid in the cell under these conditions was determined. The volume of transferred gas was measured under atmospheric conditions and sent for analysis using gas chromatography, following standard procedures. The volume of condensed liquid accumulated in the glass separator was also measured.

The procedure described above is repeated at each pressure stage until atmospheric pressure is reached. The following parameters were calculated as a result of the differential vaporization (DV):

- Reservoir oil volume coefficient;
- Reservoir gas volume coefficient;
- Gas density;
- Gas content at each pressure stage;
- Compressibility (Z-factor) of oil and gas;
- Reservoir fluid density;
- Relative gas density;
- Component composition of the extracted gas at each pressure stage;
- Component composition of the remaining oil.

So, the results are presented in the *Table 1*.

Table 2 – The component composition of the reservoir fluid retrieved from Laboratory analysis

| Component      |                  | Zi, %  | <b>Zi</b> , % | Mi, g/mol | Density, g/ml |
|----------------|------------------|--------|---------------|-----------|---------------|
| Nitrogen       | N <sub>2</sub>   | 0,12   | 0,0012        | 28,014    | 0,808         |
| Carbon dioxide | CO <sub>2</sub>  | 0,001  | 0,00001       | 44,01     | 11,3          |
| Methane        | C <sub>1</sub>   | 0      | 0             | 16        | 0,717         |
| Ethane         | C,               | 0      | 0             | 30        | 0,001342      |
| Propane        | C <sub>3</sub>   | 0,002  | 0,00002       | 44,097    | 0,002019      |
| Isobutane      | i-C <sub>4</sub> | 2,288  | 0,02288       | 58,124    | 0,00251       |
| Butane         | n-C <sub>4</sub> | 0,005  | 0,00005       | 58,124    | 0,5           |
| lsopentane     | i-C <sub>5</sub> | 3,103  | 0,03103       | 72,151    | 0,626         |
| Pentane        | n-C <sub>5</sub> | 2,600  | 0,026         | 72,151    | 0,626         |
| Hexane         | C <sub>6</sub>   | 4,495  | 0,04495       | 86,178    | 0,664         |
| Heptane        | C <sub>7</sub>   | 9,912  | 0,09912       | 96,000    | 0,738         |
| Octane         | C <sub>8</sub>   | 14,982 | 0,14982       | 107,000   | 0,765         |
| Nonan          | C <sub>9</sub>   | 7,527  | 0,07527       | 121,000   | 0,781         |
| Dean           | C <sub>10</sub>  | 6,945  | 0,06945       | 134,000   | 0,792         |
| Undecane       | C <sub>11</sub>  | 5,741  | 0,05741       | 147,000   | 0,796         |
| Dodecan        | C <sub>12</sub>  | 4,841  | 0,04841       | 160,920   | 0,8032        |
| Tridecan       | C <sub>13</sub>  | 4,446  | 0,04446       | 174,983   | 0,8129        |
| Tetradecan     | C <sub>14</sub>  | 3,765  | 0,03765       | 187,934   | 0,7865        |

|                      | 1                | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · |         |         |        |
|----------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|---------|---------|--------|
| Pentadecan           | C <sub>15</sub>  | 3,947                                 | 0,03947 | 205,836 | 0,8254 |
| Hexadecane           | C <sub>16</sub>  | 3,098                                 | 0,03098 | 220,122 | 0,8069 |
| Heptadecane          | C <sub>17</sub>  | 2,678                                 | 0,02678 | 236,948 | 0,8401 |
| Octadecane           | C <sub>18</sub>  | 2,493                                 | 0,02493 | 250,969 | 0,8464 |
| Nonadecan            | C <sub>19</sub>  | 2,132                                 | 0,02132 | 262,991 | 0,8524 |
| Eicosane             | C <sub>20</sub>  | 1,834                                 | 0,01834 | 274,993 | 0,8577 |
| Geneicosane          | C <sub>21</sub>  | 1,615                                 | 0,01615 | 290,995 | 0,8628 |
| Docosane             | C <sub>22</sub>  | 1,389                                 | 0,01389 | 304,996 | 0,8676 |
| Triclosane           | C <sub>23</sub>  | 1,232                                 | 0,01232 | 317,996 | 0,8722 |
| Tetracosanee         | C <sub>24</sub>  | 1,024                                 | 0,01024 | 330,996 | 0,8766 |
| Pentacosane          | C <sub>25</sub>  | 0,924                                 | 0,00924 | 344,996 | 0,8808 |
| Hexacosan            | C <sub>26</sub>  | 0,797                                 | 0,00797 | 358,996 | 0,8849 |
| Heptacosane          | C <sub>27</sub>  | 0,714                                 | 0,00714 | 373,996 | 0,8888 |
| Octacosane           | C <sub>28</sub>  | 0,620                                 | 0,0062  | 387,996 | 0,8926 |
| Nonacosane           | C <sub>29</sub>  | 0,605                                 | 0,00605 | 401,995 | 0,8962 |
| Triacontane          | C <sub>30</sub>  | 0,477                                 | 0,00477 | 416,000 | 0,8997 |
| Gentriacontane       | C <sub>31</sub>  | 0,445                                 | 0,00445 | 430,000 | 0,9031 |
| Dotriacontane        | C <sub>32</sub>  | 0,368                                 | 0,00368 | 444,000 | 0,9064 |
| Tritriacontane       | C <sub>33</sub>  | 0,343                                 | 0,00343 | 458,000 | 0,9096 |
| Tetratriacontane     | C <sub>34</sub>  | 0,251                                 | 0,00251 | 472,000 | 0,9127 |
| Pentatriacontane     | C <sub>35</sub>  | 0,242                                 | 0,00242 | 486,000 | 0,9157 |
| Hexatriacontane plus | C <sub>36+</sub> | 1,999                                 | 0,01999 | 632,257 | 0,9442 |
| Balance              |                  | 100,000                               | 1,000   |         |        |

| Table 2 – The com | ponent composition | n of the reservoir fluid | retrieved from | Laboratory analysis |
|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|----------------|---------------------|
|                   |                    |                          |                |                     |

### Analytical approach:

In this study, we did analytical approach of the Whitson lumping method and compare its results with the output data of simulation in the PVTsim software. In order to compare our data, firstly we have to split and lump input data by calculations.

**Whitson's lumping scheme:** Whitson (1983) presented a regrouping approach in which the C7+ fraction's compositional distribution is restricted to only a few multiple carbon-number (MCN) groups. Whitson proposed that the number of MCN groups required to describe the plus fraction is dictated by the empirical rule:

 $Ng = \text{Int} [1 + 3.3 \log (N - n)]$  (Eq. 1) where Ng = number of MCN groups, Int = integer, N = number of carbon atoms of the last component in the hydrocarbon system and n = number of carbon atoms of the first component in the plus fraction, that is, n = 7 for  $C_{7+}$ .

The final component and C7 molecular weights are utilized to calculate the new molecular weights, which serve as the foundation for the separation process. Separation is performed so that the values of the two corresponding calculated molecular weights are between those of the components associated with the molecular weights of a produced pseudo component:



$$M_1 = M_{C7} \left(\frac{M_{N+}}{M_{C7}}\right)^{1/N_g}$$
(Eq. 2)

where  $(M)_{N+}$  = molecular weight of the last reported component in the extended analysis of the hydrocarbon system,  $M_{C7}$  = molecular weight of  $C_7$  and  $I = 1, 2, \dots, Ng$ .

**Whitson Splitting Method:** Whitson (1983) claimed that the gamma probability function with three parameters can be utilized to characterize the molar distribution of the C7+ percentage. Unlike all prior splitting approaches, the gamma function can depict a larger range of distributions by altering its variance, which is left as a variable. Whitson stated the function in the following way:

$$p(M) = \frac{(M-\eta)^{\alpha-1} \exp\left\{-\left[\frac{M-\eta}{\beta}\right]\right\}}{\beta^{\alpha} \Gamma(\alpha)}$$
(Eq. 3)

with

$$\beta = \frac{Mc_{7+} - \eta}{\alpha} \tag{Eq. 4}$$

where  $\Gamma$  = gamma function.

According to Whitson, the three parameters of the gamma distribution are, and  $MC_{7+}$ . The key parameter defines the form of the distribution, and its value for reservoir fluids typically ranges from 0.5 to 2.5; = 1 yields an exponential distribution. When applied to heavy oils, bitumen, and petroleum dregs, the gamma distribution shows that the maximum limit for is 25 to 30, which statistically approaches a log-normal distribution.

*Figure 1* depicts Whitson's model for various values of the parameter. The distribution is exponential for = 1. The model produces accelerated exponential distributions for values less than one, while values more than one produce left-skewed distributions.



#### Figure 1 - Gamma distributions for C<sub>7+</sub>

(Downloaded from Ahmed, T., «Equation of State and PVT Analysis, Applications for Improved Reservoir Modeling» Gulf Publishing Company, Houston, Texas (2007))

НЕФТЬ И ГАЗ 🛞 2023 6 (138)

According to Whitson, the parameter can be physically interpreted as the lowest molecular weight found in the  $C_{7+}$  fraction. An approximation of the relationship between  $\alpha$  and  $\eta$  is:

$$H = \frac{110}{1 - (1 + 4/\alpha^{0.7})}$$
(Eq. 5)

| n =                | 2                |
|--------------------|------------------|
| $\chi_1 = 0.5858$  | $W_1 = 0.8536$   |
| $\chi_2 = 0.34142$ | $W_2 = 0.1464$   |
| n =                | 3                |
| $\chi_1 = 0.4158$  | $W_1 = 0.7111$   |
| $\chi_2 = 2.2943$  | $W_2 = 0.2785$   |
| $\chi_3 = 6.2960$  | $W_{3} = 0.0104$ |
| n =                | 4                |
| $\chi_1 = 0.3226$  | $W_1 = 0.6032$   |
| $\chi_2 = 1.7458$  | $W_2 = 0.3574$   |
| $\chi_3 = 4.5366$  | $W_{3} = 0.0384$ |
| $\chi_4 = 9.3951$  | $W_4 = 0.0005$   |

Whitson, Anderson, and Soreide (1989) improved on the gamma model by using the «Gaussian quadrature function» to describe the molar distribution of the  $C_{7+}$  fraction.

Figure 2 - Gaussian quadrature function

(Downloaded from Ahmed, T., «Equation of State and PVT Analysis, Applications for Improved Reservoir Modeling», Gulf Publishing Company, Houston, Texas (2007)

Whitson and colleagues describe the following procedure for splitting:

Step 1. Watson or Universal Oil Products (UOP) characterization factor:

$$K_{wC7+} = 4.5579 M^{0.15178} \gamma^{-0.84573}$$
(Eq. 6)

Step 2. Mole fraction (Katz, 1983):

$$z_{cn} = 1.38205 z_{C7+} \exp(-0.25903n)$$
 (Eq. 7)

Step 3. Boiling point, R:

$$T_{bi} = (K_w \gamma_i)^3 = (K_{wc7+} \gamma_i)^3$$
 (Eq. 8)

**Step 4.** Knowing boiling temperature and specific gravity of all components, other characteristics can be calculated using Lee-Kesler correlation. Lee-Kesler correlations, *Tc in* °*R*, *c in psia*:

 $T_{ci} = 341.1 + 811\gamma_i + (0.4244 + 0.1174\gamma_i)T_{bi} + (0.4669 - 3.2623\gamma_i) \cdot 10^{-5}T_{bi}^{-1}$ (Eq. 9)

## НЕФТЬ И ГАЗ 🛞 2023 6 (138)

$$\ln P_{ci} = 8.3634 - \frac{0.0566}{\gamma_i} - \left[ \left( 0.24244 + \frac{2.2898}{\gamma_i} + \frac{0.11857}{\gamma_i^2} \right) * 10^{-3} \right] T_{bi} + \left[ \left( 1.4685 + \frac{3.648}{\gamma_i} + \frac{0.47227}{\gamma_i^2} \right) * 10^{-7} \right] T_{bi}^2 - \left[ \left( 0.42019 + \frac{1.6977}{\gamma_i^2} \right) * 10^{-10} \right] T_{bi}^3$$
(Eq. 10)

Step 5. Acentric factor:

$$If \frac{T_{bi}}{T_{ci}} \le 0.8 \qquad \qquad \omega_{i} = \frac{-\ln(\frac{P_{ci}}{14.7}) + A_{1} + A_{2}T_{bri}^{-1} + A_{3}\ln T_{bri} + A_{4}T_{bri}^{6}}{A_{5} + A_{6}T_{bri}^{-1} + A_{7}\ln T_{bri} + A_{8}T_{bri}^{6}} \qquad (Eq. 11)$$

where  $A_1 = -5.92714$ ;  $A_2 = 6.09648$ ;  $A_3 = 1.28862$ ;  $A_4 = -0.169347$ ;  $A_5 = 15.2518$ ;  $A_6 = -15.6875$ ;  $A_7 = -13.4721$ ;  $A_8 = 0.43577$ 

if 
$$\frac{T_{bi}}{T_{ci}} > 0.8$$

$$\omega_i = -7.904 + 0.1352 K_{wC7^+} - 0.007465 K_{wC7^+}^2 + 8.359 T_{bri} + (1.408 - 0.01063 K_{wC7^+}) Tbri^{-1}$$
(Eq. 12)

In the end, to calculate the molar distribution we use Equation 13.

$$M_{k} = \frac{M_{total}}{Z_{total}} * \frac{1}{\Gamma(\gamma)} X^{\gamma-1}$$
(Eq. 13)

The only unknown in equations above is  $\gamma$ . The range of  $\gamma$  is usually form 0.5 to 2.5. Moreover, in order to compare Whitson lumping method, we choose Lee's lumping and mixing rule (1979). Defining the normalized mole fraction of a component, i, within the set of the lumped fraction, that is  $i \in L$ , as

$$z_i^* = \frac{z_i}{\sum_{i \in L}^L z_i}$$
(Eq. 14)

Equations for calculation of pseudo-physical and pseudo-critical properties of pseudo component by using Lee's Mixing Rules

$$M_L = \sum_{i \in L}^L z_i^* * M_i \tag{Eq. 15}$$

$$P_{cL} = \sum_{i \in L}^{L} [z_i^* * p_{ci}]$$
(Eq. 16)

$$T_{cL} = \sum_{i \in L}^{L} [z_i^* * T_{ci}]$$
(Eq. 17)

$$\gamma_L = M_L / \sum_{i \in L}^L [z_i^* * M_i / \gamma_i]$$
 (Eq. 18)

$$\omega_L = \sum_{i \in L}^L [z_i^* * \omega_i]$$
 (Eq. 19)

$$V_{cL} = \sum_{i \in L}^{L} [z_i^* * M_i * V_{ci} / M_L]$$
 (Eq. 20)

### Numerical approach:

In order to check Whiston lumping method, we compared the results from analytical approach with PVTsim software. **PVTsim** is a simulation tool that can be used across multiple technical fields. You may rely on PVTsim forecasts whether you are looking for fluid qualities deep in the reservoir, in the well, in a subsea pipeline, or on the surface.

### НЕФТЬ И ГАЗ 🌐 2023 6 (138)



Figure 3 - Interface of PVTsim

PVTsim enables reservoir engineers, flow assurance specialists, and process engineers to match fluid characteristics and experimental data by combining trustworthy fluid characterisation processes with robust and efficient regression algorithms. The fluid parameters can be exported in order to generate high-quality input data for reservoir, pipeline, and process simulators.

### **Results:**

### Analytical approach results:

Whitson's method. According to the analytical method of fluid characterization, in our case it is Whitson lumping and splitting method, we get results. In the results, applying methods of Whitson, we get lumped fluid description through analytical methods. Then in comparison with simulation tool, we can observe that output data, especially Molar weights of components and pseudo-components are identical which were be needed to prove.



Figure 4 - Molar distribution (Jamilyam et al., 2023)

НЕФТЬ И ГАЗ 🋞 2023 6 (138)

*Figure 4* is represent the molar distribution graph, which is relative proportions or concentrations of various chemical species or components within a mixture. There is the ratio of molar fraction f(M) to molar weights Mi. In order to determine  $\gamma$ , the splitted C<sub>7+</sub> tail is constructed and density distribution curves with different values of  $\gamma$  are drawn in order to find the best match with the shape of the C<sub>7+</sub>. The range of  $\gamma$  is usually form 0.5 to 2.5. Consequently, the best fit was found for  $\gamma$ . It is equal to 0.5.

Applying Whitson's methods, we obtain a lumped fluid description using analytical techniques. When we compare this description with the output data from simulation tools, we observe that the data, particularly the molar weights of components and pseudocomponents, are identical. This serves as a validation, affirming the precision and reliability of the approach.

| Pseudocomponent  | Zi×Mi  | M (total) | Zi    | Z (total) | <b>Zi</b> , % | <b>Zi,</b> % |
|------------------|--------|-----------|-------|-----------|---------------|--------------|
|                  | 9,516  |           | 0,099 |           |               |              |
|                  | 16,031 |           | 0,150 |           |               |              |
| C <sub>7+</sub>  | 9,108  | 52,400    | 0,075 | 0,451     | 45,107        | 0,45107      |
|                  | 9,306  |           | 0,069 |           |               |              |
|                  | 8,439  |           | 0,057 |           |               |              |
|                  | 7,790  |           | 0,048 |           |               |              |
|                  | 7,780  |           | 0,044 |           |               |              |
|                  | 7,076  |           | 0,038 |           |               |              |
| C                | 8,124  | 55 708    | 0,039 | 0.274     | 27 400        | 0.274        |
| C <sub>12+</sub> | 6,819  | 55,790    | 0,031 | 0,274     | 27,400        | 0,274        |
|                  | 6,345  |           | 0,027 |           |               |              |
|                  | 6,257  |           | 0,025 |           |               |              |
|                  | 5,607  |           | 0,021 |           |               |              |
|                  | 5,043  |           | 0,018 |           |               |              |
|                  | 4,700  |           | 0,016 |           |               |              |
|                  | 4,236  |           | 0,014 |           |               |              |
|                  | 3,918  |           | 0,012 |           |               |              |
| C                | 3,389  | 34 843    | 0,010 | 0.108     | 10 754        | 0 10754      |
| C <sub>20+</sub> | 3,188  |           | 0,009 | 0,100     | 10,754        | 0,10754      |
|                  | 2,861  |           | 0,008 |           |               |              |
|                  | 2,670  |           | 0,007 |           |               |              |
|                  | 2,406  |           | 0,006 |           |               |              |
|                  | 2,432  |           | 0,006 |           |               |              |
|                  | 1,984  |           | 0,005 |           |               |              |
|                  | 1,914  |           | 0,004 |           |               |              |
|                  | 1,634  |           | 0,004 |           |               |              |
| C <sub>30+</sub> | 1,571  | 22,102    | 0,003 | 0,041     | 4,125         | 0,04125      |
|                  | 1,185  |           | 0,003 |           |               |              |
|                  | 1,176  |           | 0,002 |           |               |              |
|                  | 12,639 |           | 0,020 |           |               |              |

#### Table 2 - Lumped fluid description by analytical method



*Table 2* shows us the results of the lumping into pseudocomponents. Based on them, it can be understood that we have grouped our fluid components into four pseudocomponents  $(C_{7+}, C_{12+}, C_{20+}, C_{30+})$ . We obtained them using the analytical method, which is shown above. The table shows the data we need for the following calculation of molecular weight using Equation 13. At the beginning, we calculated the critical properties of each component, then multiplied compressibility factors and molecular weights of each of them. After that we take Z total and M total for next calculation of  $M_k$ .

| C <sub>7+</sub>  | M <sub>k</sub> | 190,86  |
|------------------|----------------|---------|
| C <sub>12+</sub> | M <sub>k</sub> | 264,35  |
| C <sub>20+</sub> | M <sub>k</sub> | 375,15  |
| C <sub>30+</sub> | M <sub>k</sub> | 508,438 |

Table 3 - M. results

Using the analytical method of calculating the  $M_k$ , the following data were obtained (*Table 3*). The calculation took place using Equation 13, after which the results were compared with Lee method and the simulation tool.

$$M_{k} = \frac{M_{total}}{Z_{total}} * \frac{1}{\Gamma(\gamma)} X^{\gamma-1}$$
(Eq. 21)

M and Z totals we obtained from *Table 2*. X is data drom "Gaussian quadrature function" (*Figure 2*).  $\Gamma$  is gamma function.  $\gamma$  is taken from Molar distribution graph which was equal to 0.5 (*Figure 4*). After the simple mathematical calculation, we get Mk for each pseudocomponents.

Lee's method.

| Pseudocomponent | Components | zi      | zl      | Zi*      | МІ  | M,        |
|-----------------|------------|---------|---------|----------|---|-----------|
|                 | C7         | 0,09912 |         | 0,21973  | 21,09404  | L         |
|                 | C8         | 0,14982 |         | 0,332121 | 35,537  |           |
| C7+             | С9         | 0,07527 | 0,45107 | 0,166859 | 20,18991  | 116,1594  |
|                 | C10        | 0,06945 |         | 0,153957 | 20,63024  |           |
|                 | C11        | 0,05741 |         | 0,127267 | 18,7082   |           |
|                 | C12        | 0,04841 |         | 0,176679 | 28,43116  |           |
|                 | C13        | 0,04446 |         | 0,162263 | 176679         28,43116           162263         28,39323 |           |
|                 | C14        | 0,03765 |         | 0,137409 | 25,82378  |           |
| (12)            | C15        | 0,03947 | 0.074   | 0,144051 | 29,6509   | 202 ( 420 |
| C12+            | C16        | 0,03098 | 0,274   | 0,113066 | 24,88825  | 203,6439  |
|                 | C17        | 0,02678 |         | 0,097737 | 23,15864  |           |
|                 | C18        | 0,02493 |         | 0,090985 | 22,83452  |           |
|                 | C19        | 0,02132 |         | 0,07781  | 20,46339  |           |

Table 4 - ML results



|      | C20  | 0.01024 |         | 0.170605 | 46.01500 |          |
|------|------|---------|---------|----------|----------|----------|
|      | C20  | 0,01834 |         | 0,170605 | 46,91508 |          |
|      | C21  | 0,01615 |         | 0,150233 | 43,71692 |          |
|      | C22  | 0,01389 |         | 0,129209 | 39,40832 |          |
|      | C23  | 0,01232 |         | 0,114605 | 36,44382 |          |
| C20+ | C24  | 0,01024 | 0 10754 | 0,095256 | 31,52929 | 224 1245 |
| C20+ | C25  | 0,00924 | 0,10754 | 0,085953 | 29,65361 | 524,1245 |
|      | C26  | 0,00797 |         | 0,07414  | 26,6158  |          |
|      | C27  | 0,00714 |         | 0,066419 | 24,84029 |          |
|      | C28  | 0,0062  |         | 0,057674 | 22,37744 |          |
|      | C29  | 0,00605 |         | 0,056279 | 22,6239  |          |
|      | C30  | 0,00477 |         | 0,115496 | 48,04649 |          |
|      | C31  | 0,00445 |         | 0,107748 | 46,33172 |          |
|      | C32  | 0,00368 |         | 0,089104 | 39,56223 |          |
| C30+ | C33  | 0,00343 | 0,04125 | 0,083051 | 38,03729 | 535,1656 |
|      | C34  | 0,00251 |         | 0,060775 | 28,68571 |          |
|      | C35  | 0,00242 |         | 0,058596 | 28,47748 |          |
|      | C36+ | 0,01999 |         | 0,484019 | 306,0246 |          |

Table 4 - M<sub>L</sub> results

After the analytical approaches from Whitson's and Lee's methods, we compared results with numerical approach. Especially, we use PVTsim simulation tool to calculate molecular weight of each pseudocomponents. The results are shown below

| /ell OILC:            | 36+               | Test                       | V                 | Fluid | CONTAM  |   |
|-----------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|-------|---|---|
| ample EST N<br>istory | IUD               |                            |                   | Text  | MUD LAB   |   |
| Component             | Mol<br>%          | Mol wt                     | Liquid<br>Density |       | put composition in<br>Mol%<br>Weight%                             | Fluid type<br>• Plus fraction<br>• <u>N</u> o-Plus fraction |
| N2<br>CO2             | 0.120             | 28.014<br>44.010           | grenn             |       | Input wa <u>x</u> fraction<br>uid options                         | C Characterized   |
| C3<br>iC4<br>nC4      | 0.002 2.288 0.005 | 44.097<br>58.124<br>58.124 |                   |       | <ul> <li>Save Char/Regres</li> <li>Adjust to Sat point</li> </ul> |   |
| iC5<br>nC5            | 3.103             | 72.151                     | 0.0040            |       | Temperature/ °C   | Cancel  |
| C7<br>C8              | 9.912<br>14.982   | 96.000<br>107.000          | 0.6640            |       | Pressure/bara   | Lumping   |
| C9<br>C10<br>C11      | 7.527<br>6.945    | 121.000<br>134.000         | 0.7810            |       | 100.00  | Interact Param<br>PVT Data                                  |
| C12                   | 4.841             | 160.920                    | 0.7960            | -     |   | Visc Data   |

Figure 5 - PVTsim's data for fluid description



The data from the laboratory work were delivered to the selected fluid section at a certain temperature and pressure (T = 30.22°C and P = 138.00 bar). Then PVTsim simulation tool is autamatically calculated the results of Lumping. When push the button "Lumping", we get results which is shown on *Figure 6*.

| luid                  |          |         |                            |  |  |
|-----------------------|----------|---------|----------------------------|--|--|
| Vell OIL C            | 36+      | Test    | V                          |  |  |
| Sample EST M          | IUD      |         |                            |  |  |
| Adjusted to Sat point |          |         |                            |  |  |
| Composition           |          |         |                            |  |  |
| Component             | Mol<br>% | Mol wt  | Liquid<br>Density<br>g/cmi |  |  |
| N2                    | 0.120    | 28.014  |                            |  |  |
| CO2                   | 1.0E-03  | 44.010  |                            |  |  |
| C3                    | 0.002    | 44.097  |                            |  |  |
| iC4                   | 2.283    | 58.124  |                            |  |  |
| nC4                   | 0.005    | 58.124  |                            |  |  |
| iC5                   | 3.096    | 72.151  |                            |  |  |
| nC5                   | 2.594    | 72.151  |                            |  |  |
| C6                    | 4.485    | 86.178  | 0.6640                     |  |  |
| Pseudo_1              | 54.273   | 192.000 | 0.7801                     |  |  |
| Pseudo_2              | 19.903   | 265.000 | 0.8277                     |  |  |
| Pseudo 3              | 9.376    | 377.000 | 0.8790                     |  |  |
| 130000_0              |          |         |                            |  |  |

Figure 6 – Results from lumping (PVTsim)

We used a numerical approach to calculate pseudocomponents 1, 2, 3, and 4. This approach provided us with the molar weights of each pseudocomponent. Subsequently, we compared these numerical results with the data obtained through an analytical approaches. We have identified that Whitson' lumping method is more accurate calculate the properties of fluid. The comparison revealed that the data from both methods, numerical and Whitson's analytical, were identical, demonstrating the effectiveness of the Whitson lumping method. This consistency in the results confirms that the Whitson method accurately characterizes fluid properties through lumping procedures.

**Discussion.** Based on the data highlighted in *Table 3*, it can be seen that calculations made manually by the analytical lumping approach are very close to the values obtained during numerical approach. There are results from PVTsim software. According to *Figure 6*, we can see the results from PVTsim software and with comparison with analytical method, they showed identical data. Calculations made manually by the analytical lumping approach are very close to the values obtained during laboratory analysis. There are some deviations in the PVTsim program results. However, the same trend of mole fraction range is clearly visible. This comparison confirmed the effectiveness of the modeling approach and validated the accuracy of the results.

In comparison with other methods for lumping, Whitson methods is more accuratly estimate lumping process. For instance, Lee et al. (1982) suggest that  $C_{7+}$  fractions can be grouped into two pseudo-components, which in turn limits the number of pseudo components [9]. What about other correlations, there is also some limitations for lumping, such as the Coats lumping methodology is allows "partial lumping" of original components into several pseudocomponents [9].



In the oil and gas industry, lumping is often used in kinetic models for chemical reactions, phase equilibrium models, and other simulation and modeling tasks. Engineers and scientists must carefully consider the trade-offs between simplification and accuracy when deciding to use lumping procedures, taking into account the specific needs of the project or analysis.

**Conclusion.** The present study pertains a lumping technique that serves two key purposes. Firstly, it enables the estimation of critical properties of both liquid and vapor phases in complex mixtures, which are commonly encountered in real-world scenarios such as oil or gas reservoirs and their production processes. This is achieved by employing a simplified representation that relies on a reduced number of pseudo-components. Secondly, it facilitates the prediction of the detailed composition of fluids produced over time.

We checked the Whitson's lumping and splitting methods to characterize the fluid description. As the result, we totally observed that this method is accurate for splitting and lumping the components for Kazakhstani oil characterization.

This invention is especially valuable in reducing number of calculations during the simulation of underground hydrocarbon reservoir production. Such a model empowers reservoir engineers to significantly reduce the time required for simulating reservoir behavior during production, while still maintaining a high-quality representation of the interactions between different hydrocarbon phases. Additionally, it allows for the creation of detailed compositional profiles, which are vital for tasks like designing and managing surface facilities including separators, treatment plants, transportation systems, and more. Consequently, this innovation has practical applications in both surface and process engineering.

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